



Deborah C. Mortimer

Attorney • Author • Diverse Literature Advocate

**"There is no agony like bearing an untold story inside you."
— Zora Neale Hurston**



About Deborah C. Mortimer

Short Bio:

Deborah is a trademark attorney and former homeschool parent with a passion for writing. Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Deborah was inspired by her son, as well as her young nieces and nephews to turn her passion for writing short stories and poems into crafting children's books. She is also the founder and owner of Leap Forward Publishing, LLC, a book publishing imprint dedicated to developing and promoting books that focus on diversity and representation in children's literature.

Long Bio:

Deborah is a trademark attorney and former homeschool parent with a passion for writing. Born and raised in Brooklyn, New York, Deborah was inspired by her son, as well as her young nieces and nephews to turn her passion for writing short stories and poems into crafting children's books. Understanding the importance of representation in children's literature and the need for diversity, Deborah is driven by her vision of bringing stories that feature relatable, inspiring, and diverse characters not only to the children in her life, but to children everywhere. Deborah's debut book, 'Zorah and the Very Big Question', was released in June 2021 and is the first in the Zorah book series, which follows six-year-old Zorah on her journey to understanding the world around her. The second book, 'Zorah the...Brave?' will be released in Fall 2024. Deborah also released 'When You Give a Girl a Puppy...' in 2022 which was featured on Ryan Reynolds's new show 'Bedtime Stories with Ryan'. 'Summer Island', which is a Caribbean adventure to meet her father's family, was released in 2023.



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Titles:

Zorah and the Very Big Question
Hardcover: ISBN: 978-1-7366770-0-1

When You Give a Girl a Puppy...
Hardcover: ISBN: 978-1-7366770-6-3

Summer Island
Hardcover: ISBN: 978-1-7366770-9-4

Publisher: Leap Forward Publishing
Target Audience: Ages 4-10
Available at leapforwardbooks.com
Amazon and online everywhere
books are sold.
Contact for wholesale discount on
bulk orders and trade distribution
info.

Deborah is the founder and owner of Leap Forward Publishing, LLC, a book publishing imprint dedicated to developing and promoting books that focus on diversity and representation in children's literature. She has appeared on several podcasts and has been a guest speaker, speaking about brand development and protection for authors and diversity and representation in children's literature. She's also a member of SCBWI (Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators), NAWBO (National Association of Women Business Owners), and is a financial and active member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated.

"Representation is not only important to ensure that children see themselves in the world, but so that all children see, learn about and appreciate those who are different from them."

- Deborah C. Mortimer

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OVERCOMING CREATIVE HURDLES