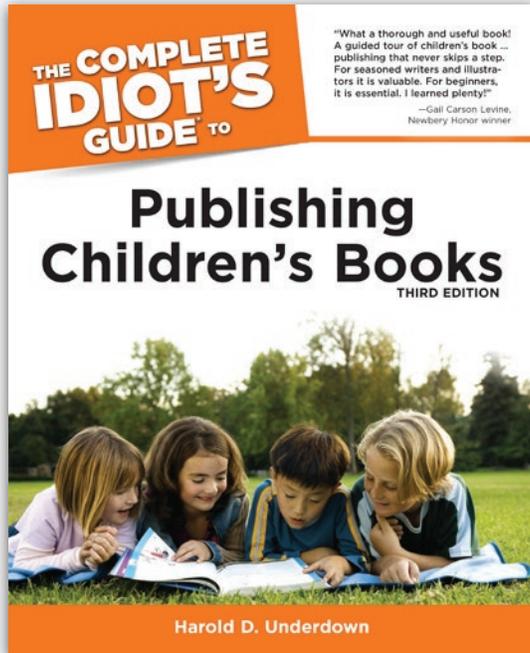


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Harold D. Underdown is an independent children's book editor and a contributing editor to *Children's Writer's and Illustrator's Market*. Previously, he was editorial director of the Charlesbridge trade program, and he has also worked at picturebooks, Orchard Books, and Macmillan. He speaks at conferences, provides editorial services to publishers and authors, and maintains a website of writer's resources, underdown.org. Mr. Underdown lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Children's book publishing is one of the most specialized publishing genres—and one of the most difficult to break into. And what's more, authors and illustrators today don't just want to know how to write or illustrate picture books—they want to know how to become the next J. K. Rowling! With the success of mega-hits such as the Harry Potter series, along with the visual appeal of picture books, authors and illustrators are clamoring to get involved and often get bogged down in an unfamiliar world of submissions, editors, agents, contracts, and marketing.

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