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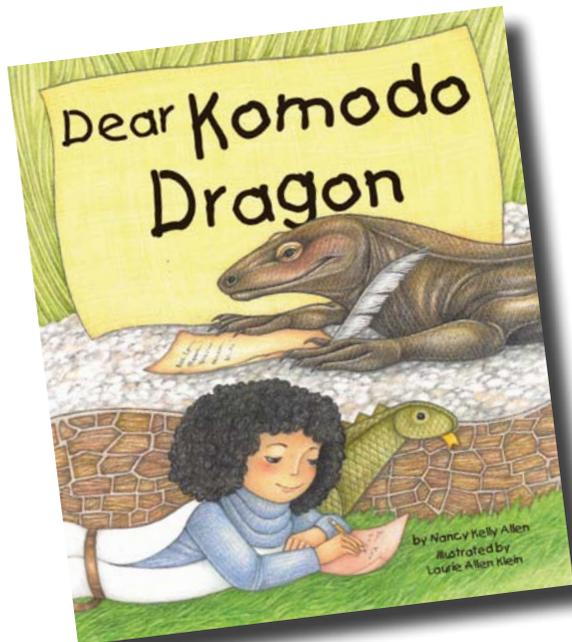
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**Press Release**

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## *Letters from a Dragon*

*Author Nancy Kelly Allen releases new picture book*

Kids are sometimes the best inspiration to a writer, and that is just the case with Nancy Kelly Allen's latest picture book *Dear Komodo Dragon* releasing from Arbordale Publishing on February 10th.

Having just admired "Big Man" the resident Komodo dragon at the Louisville Zoo, Allen kept the giant lizard in the back of her mind for a story. The idea sparked only a few days later when a young student said that she liked receiving letters. A Komodo dragon pen pal, what a clever book idea!

Allen began writing and after pulling the two ideas together through carefully researched Komodo dragon facts, the book was born. Illustrator Laurie Allen Klein put her own personal touches on the story through detailed, colored pencil illustrations.

In the story, Leslie dreams of growing up to be a dragon slayer one day. She wants to learn more about dragons, so she befriends a real Komodo dragon as her pen pal. Komodo then writes Leslie detailed letters of what life is like living on his island and some of the pitfalls of being a large hungry lizard. In the end, Leslie sees that her friend and other Komodo dragons need her help and should be saved not hunted.

As a retired school librarian turned author, Allen has read and written countless books for children spanning a variety of subjects. For *Dear Komodo Dragon*, Allen dove into research and found oodles of interesting info about the animals that just wouldn't fit into the story. The appended "For Creative Minds" section is a great place to dive into more information about the book's scaly subject for more of these facts.

Klein has illustrated everything from cards, to books, and even large murals. Each of her books includes special personal touches that can lead readers on a hunt to find hidden treasures within her detailed art.

Readers will find *Dear Komodo Dragon* in hardcover (9781607184492, \$17.95), paperback (9781607184607, \$9.95), ebook (9781607184829, \$6.95) and dual-language, read-aloud, and interactive ebook (9781607184997, \$6.95). A Spanish language edition *Querido Dragón Komodo* is available in paperback (9781607184652, \$9.95), ebook (9781607184874, \$6.95), and dual-language, read-aloud, and interactive ebook (9781607185185, \$6.95). All formats are available from local booksellers and online retailers beginning February 10, 2018.