

Zhenjun Liu

Picture Book Illustrator and Artist

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Picture book illustrator and children's book producer with more than 20 years of experience in narrative illustration and publishing. Creates expressive characters, atmospheric environments, and carefully paced visual sequences, supported by research, drawing, watercolor, acrylic, and colored pencil. Published work spans literary picture books, historical narratives, and stories addressing childhood, memory, conflict, and cultural heritage.

SELECTED RECOGNITION

- **2026** — 3×3 International Illustration Show No. 23, Professional Show: Bronze Award and Merit Award for *The Flight of a Bullet*; Merit Award for *The Great Golden Dragon*.
- **2025** — *The Little Lion's Diary* shortlisted for the China Publishing & Media Journal 2025 Book List.
- **2019** — Chen Bochui International Children's Literature Award, Picture Book category, *The Flight of a Bullet*.
- **2018** — Selected for *The White Ravens*, *The Flight of a Bullet*.
- **2018** — Selected for the Bologna International Children's Book Fair China Original Illustration Exhibition, *The Flight of a Bullet*.
- **2015** — IBBY Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities, Dingding and Dangdang series.
- **2021** — 5th China Government Award for Publishing, *Beautiful China: Picture Books from Our Hometowns*.
- **2022 and 2024** — Bing Xin Children's Book Awards, Picture Book category, for *Sister's Slope* and *Ye Xian: The Chinese Cinderella*.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Independent Picture Book Illustrator and Children's Book Producer | 2007-Present

Founder, Lao Dujiang Illustration Studio

- Develop picture books from visual research and character studies through storyboarding, sequential illustration, and final artwork.
- Collaborate with authors, editors, and publishers on literary, historical, and educational projects for young readers.
- Publishing collaborators include China Children's Press & Publication Group, Qingdao Publishing House, and Hope Publishing House.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

The Grassland Mother: The Story of Duoguima | 2025

Jieli Publishing House

The Little Lion's Diary | 2025

China Children's Press & Publication Group | Written by Huang Yu

A Promise Worth a Thousand Pieces of Gold | 2024

Qingdao Publishing House

Danyi Shun Mu | 2024

Qingdao Publishing House

Ye Xian: The Chinese Cinderella | 2024

Hope Publishing House

The Great Golden Dragon | 2023

China Children's Press & Publication Group | Written by William Lindesay

The Flight of a Bullet | 2018

China Children's Press & Publication Group | Written by Bai Bing

Dingding and Dangdang | 2012-2013

China Children's Press & Publication Group | Seven-volume series by Cao Wenxuan

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- **2022** — Expert reviewer of textbook illustrations, Curriculum and Textbook Research Institute, Ministry of Education, China.
- **2020-2021** — Member of the selection and recommendation review committee for children's picture books, Ministry of Education, China.
- **2017-2021** — Final judge, Illustration category, My Book House, My Dream children's writing and drawing competition, China.

EDUCATION

Central Academy of Fine Arts | 2018

Advanced Program in Comprehensive Material Painting Language, Oil Painting Department

CREATIVE FOCUS

Picture book illustration • Visual storytelling • Character and environment development •
Research-led artmaking • Traditional mixed media