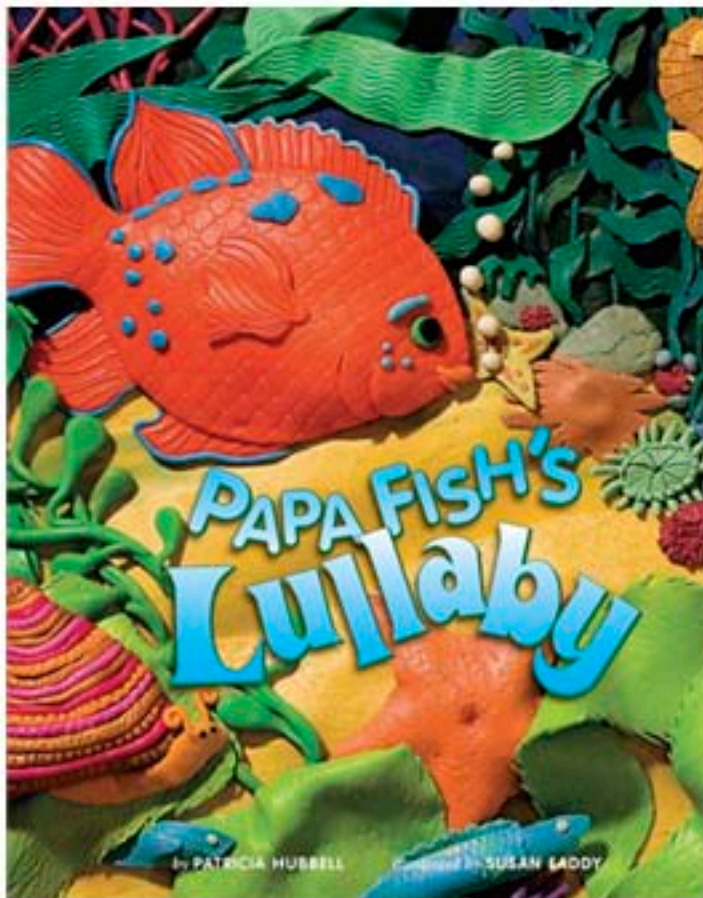


Sunday, 05/06/07

Dream of an underwater adventure before bedtime

Author Patricia Hubbell's lulling rhymes may serve as the basis for the new children's book *Papa Fish's Lullaby* (Northword Books, \$16.95), but it's the illustrations by Nashville-based clay artist Susan Eaddy that account for much of this bedtime story's appeal. Each of the book's full-color spreads consists of a magnificent marine tableau made entirely from clay — a painstaking creative process that results in considerable payoffs for the reader.

The text follows a young fish as he makes his way through the ocean back to his father, with Eaddy's bright, wonderfully textured vistas capturing a mix of seahorses, seals, geese, whales and other creatures. Her use of sculptural materials creates a palpable sense of depth in each illustration, and the vibrant hues of blue, green, orange and purple only add to the illusion that the scenes are popping off the page. As bedtime tales go, this one has the simple lyrical appeal of a Margaret Wise Brown volume and the involving visual excitement of an *I Spy* searching game.



Eaddy will read from and sign copies of *Papa Fish's Lullaby* 6 p.m. Thursday at Davis-Kidd Booksellers, 2121 Green Hills Village Drive. For more information, visit www.susaneaddy.com.

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