

## MEDIA ALERT

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### Fighting bullies with the help of *Moon*

Award-winning children's book author Janet Ruth Heller arrives in Chicago area July 23-31

#### HOW THE MOON REGAINED HER SHAPE

"I based *How the Moon Regained Her Shape* (Sylvan Dell Publishing, 2006) on bullying that I experienced when I was a child," said author Janet Heller. "I was a new student at an elementary school. One girl taunted me every day during recess: 'You're so skinny I can see right through you.' I was shy and did not know what to do about my problem. I wrote my book to help other bullied kids." Influenced by Native American folktales, this fascinating story deals with bullying, self-confidence, and understanding the phases of the moon. After the sun insults and bullies her, the moon gets very upset and disappears - much to the chagrin of rabbits who miss their moonlight romps. With the help of her friends, the moon gains more self-confidence each day until she is back to her full size.

#### AWARDS

- 2007 Gold Medal, Moonbeam Children's Book Award
- 2007 Publishers Marketing Association Ben Franklin Award
- 2007 International Reading Association / Children's Book Council Children's Choices
- 2006 Book Sense Summer Reads Pick
- 2006 Original Art Exhibition Selection for illustration
- Georgia Children's Book Award Finalist

#### MEET JANET

- Ph.D. in English Language and Literature from the University of Chicago
- Currently an assistant professor for the English Department at Western Michigan University
- Founding mother of *Primavera*, a literary magazine based in Chicago
- Some TIPS for parents of children dealing with bullies: 1) Point out to children that when someone insults them with cruel words, these words do not make the insult true. 2) Teach children that no matter how big, strong, or popular someone is, he or she does not have the right to hurt our bodies or our feelings. 3) If bullying occurs at school, talk with teachers or with the principal. 4) And Janet has many, many other suggestions, too!

#### GET IN ON THE ACTION

Take advantage of Janet's expertise and schedule an interview today! Contact Sylvan Dell publicist, Sara Dobie, at [SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com](mailto:SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com) or (877) 958-2600.

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