



Portfolio Reviews & Manuscript Critiques

An Illustrator's Regard

Portfolio reviews and picture book critiques with award-winning illustrator and author Brian Karas are available during the Saturday, May 2 SCBWI France Atelier. Bring 15 of your best illustrations and/or a dummy and get feedback on your work. Or, bring 2 copies of the first 750 words of a picture book manuscript (properly formatted!) and get an illustrator's perspective on how to make your story better.

After looking at your art work, dummies or manuscript and getting a feel for your style, Brian will offer an assessment and propose ways you can develop your skills.

- ◆ For artwork, he tends to study all of the pieces before commenting.
- ◆ For dummies, he'll be looking at the project as a whole and how the images work with and enhance the text.
- ◆ For manuscripts, this will mean envisioning the story with the images in place and seeing how the text could be part of a dynamic, visual book.

Expect honest and plain spoken reviews to help you move your work forward. Brian has said, "It doesn't help anyone if I give false praise -- though I try to focus on the strong points of the work and encourage artists to explore those directions."

Brian Karas is the prolific and versatile illustrator and writer of many children's books including the New York Times Best Illustrated Book *Are You Going to Be Good?*, *Atlantic*, an American Library Association (ALA) Notable Book, *Saving Sweetness* by Diane Stanley, and the Boston Globe/Horn Book Honor title, *Home on the Bayou*.

The New York Times describes his work as "... depicted in a childlike style that belies the sophistication of the drawings. Exquisite and moving in its subtlety."

For more information about Brian, visit www.gbriankaras.com.

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