

From Mangroves to Marshes: Melodin Trammel's Children's Stories Featured at BIBF 2026

Explora Books featured three children's titles by Melodin Trammel at the 32nd Beijing International Book Fair (BIBF), held June 17–21, 2026, at the China National Convention Center (CNCC) in Beijing.



Vancouver, British Columbia Jul 30, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Presented throughout the fair's 40th-anniversary edition, the books formed part of Explora Books's international showcase of independent authors and introduced Trammel's stories of coastlines, marshlands, and harbor life to a global

publishing audience. Drawing over 1,700 exhibitors from 82 countries and regions, this year's fair brought together major international publishers alongside independent voices from around the world. Within that setting, Trammel's children's books introduced young readers stories shaped by changing tides, journeys away from home, and the quiet reassurance of finding their place again.

This year's BIBF unfolded under the banner "Together for a Shared Future of Publishing," with the United Arab Emirates serving as Guest of Honor under the theme "Community and People." That emphasis on connection and shared experience echoed throughout Trammel's series, whose young characters come to understand change, relationships, and identity through encounters in the natural world. Organizers also noted that science- and nature-themed titles now make up around 29 percent of China's children's book market, placing Trammel's work relevant within the fair's active conversations.

Among the books on display, *In the Mangroves* served as the emotional anchor of the collection. The story follows Bobby, a young manatee living along Florida's Gulf Coast, as he struggles to adjust after the arrival of his baby sister, Anna. Feeling overlooked as his family's attention shifts, Bobby slips into open water, where unexpected friendships and an encounter with an injured manatee challenge him to see himself differently. His eventual return home becomes less about adventure than about recognition, as Bobby and his family understand what had gone unspoken between them.

Discussion prompts accompanying each chapter encourage readers to continue those conversations beyond the story itself. By inviting children and adults to reflect together, the book extends its themes of belonging, communication, and emotional growth into shared reading experiences. That approach closely mirrors discussions at BIBF's World Children's Book Forum, where publishers and educators explored how children's books can support emotional and cognitive development.

The two other titles in the series rounded out the exhibit. *Kora's Harbor Adventures* follows Kora, a young purple river tugboat learning to navigate a crowded harbor, guided by the veteran tug Old Red and challenged by the deep-sea tug D.B. as she develops confidence through patience, practice, and the willingness to ask for help.

Hidden in the Marsh turns to the sandhill cranes of Palmetto, Florida, where Charles, a reserved young crane searching for a mate, steps in to protect a neighboring family from a predator. Inspired by real observations in the wild, the story reflects on patience, trust, and the unexpected ways relationships take shape over time.

Across all three books, Trammel combines vivid, nature-grounded storytelling with reflection tools designed for shared reading—an approach that found an attentive audience at a fair increasingly shaped by conversations about what children's publishing can offer its youngest readers.

Melodin Trammel writes from her own experiences as a mother, and that perspective remains visible throughout the series. Her books are written for two readers at once: the child entering the story and the adult reading beside them.

At BIBF 2026, those parallel reading experiences—child and adult, story and conversation—found an international stage.

[*In the Mangroves*](#), [*Kora's Harbor Adventures*](#), and [*Hidden in the Marsh*](#) are available on Amazon and other major online bookstores.

About Explora Books

Explora Books is a book marketing firm located in the heart of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The company specializes in self-publishing and marketing, taking pride in its exhaustive research and creative strategies that provide wider avenues for aspiring authors to gain recognition for their works. Explora Books aims to guide authors through the complexities of self-publishing, offering convenient solutions to navigate this process. The firm fosters and redefines creativity and innovation, setting new industry standards. Explora Books is dedicated to empowering authors globally.



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