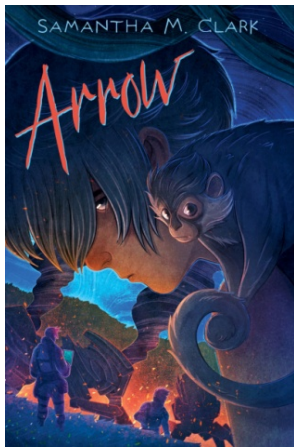


# Media Kit: **ARROW** by Samantha M Clark

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- ~ Middle-grade fantasy fiction for ages 8 and up
- ~ Release date: June 22, 2021
- ~ Publisher: Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster
- ~ Cover: designed by Laurent Linn and illustrated by Justin Hernandez
- ~ ISBN: 9781534465978 (hardcover), 9781534465992 (ebook)
- ~ Topics: Environment, Deforestation, Friendship, Acceptance, Disabilities, STEM

**Description:** *Mad Max meets Jungle Book.* Arrow, a 12-year-old boy with a limb difference, has been the only human living in a magically hidden rainforest his whole life. When the magic starts to deplete, people from the arid outside world discover the forest, setting off a chain of events that force Arrow to make a devastating choice: Be accepted by his own kind or save the only home he's ever known.

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## Praise for **ARROW**

“Through the observations of an unusual narrator—the Guardian Tree—readers will be immersed in Arrow’s magical rainforest home. Strong yet vulnerable, curious yet wise, Arrow risks everything to protect all that he knows and loves. **ARROW is a compelling adventure about resilience, hope, and learning to trust your own heart.**” ~Lynne Kelly, award-winning author of *Song For a Whale*

“Narrated by an ancient tree who counts years as rings and feels the emotions of forest creatures in her roots, **ARROW is a richly imagined fable** about the need to connect with people of divergent tribes...and thereby heal a wounded planet. Clark blends fantasy and science into a lush and timely tapestry that enlightens and enchants.” ~Susan Fletcher, award-winning author of *Journey of the Pale Bear*

*Trade reviews pending*

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## Author Bio

Samantha M Clark is the author of the award-winning *THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST* (Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster), which was translated into three languages. Her newest middle-grade novels are *ARROW* (out June 22, 2021, from Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster) and *AMERICAN HORSE TALES: HOLLYWOOD* (out June 29, 2021, from Penguin Workshop/ Penguin Random House). Samantha lives with her husband and two funny dogs in Austin, Texas, and is the Regional Advisor for the Austin chapter of the Society of Children’s Book Writers & Illustrators, where she mentors other writers.

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## Full Description for ARROW

**From the author of THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST comes a lush and timely tale about a boy who's grown up as the only human in an enchanted rainforest and what happens when people from the outside world discover his home.**

Arrow, a 12-year-old boy with a limb difference, has grown up as the only human in a lush, magical rainforest that's closed off from the rest of the world. He was raised by the Guardian Tree, the protector of the forest, which uses the earth's magic to keep it hidden from those who have sought to exploit and kill it. But now the magic veil is deteriorating, the forest is dying, and Arrow may be the only one who can save it.



Arrow has never seen another human until one day, a man in a small airplane crash-lands in the forest. Then, a group of children finds their way in, escaping from their brutal, arid world where the rich live in luxurious, walled-off cities and the poor struggle for survival.

The Guardian Tree urges Arrow to convince the trespassers to leave by any means necessary. Arrow is curious about these newcomers, but their arrival sets off a chain of events that leave him with a devastating choice: be accepted by his own kind or fight to save the forest that is his home.

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## Author's Note About ARROW

I was born in Guyana, and although my family had to leave when I was young because of political problems, the country has always had a big part of my heart, especially the Amazon. I still remember going into the rainforest (or the "interior", as it's known to the Guyanese) when I was 10, all the sounds and smells and the smiles of the Amerindians living inside. This memory was part of my inspiration for writing ARROW.

The book began when a boy with a limb difference who lived in a tree popped into my head. I wondered why this boy would be living in a tree, and I thought about my time in the rainforest. Then I saw a TED Talk by ecologist Suzanne Simard about how trees communicate and how mother trees protect their offspring as well as the other trees and plants around them. Out of these things and the constant sound of trees being torn out of the earth in my neighborhood to clear space for yet another gas station, ARROW was born.

Once I got the idea, ARROW proved to be challenging to write for many reasons. But throughout the process, I learned so much more about our world and our forests. All the magic in the story is entirely based on science. I'm immensely grateful to have had amazing people helping me with this book, including my cousins who still live in the interior, Amerindians in Guyana who protect the Amazon, and people from the disabled community who made sure Arrow's limb difference is represented accurately.

I loved writing this story and it taught me a lot. It's set in a future that I hope will never happen, a future when mother trees must hide their forests to survive. I hope ARROW gives readers a new look at our natural world.