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**BRAND NEW *DIARY OF A WIMPY KID BOOK #14: WRECKING BALL*
BY JEFF KINNEY RELEASES WORLDWIDE ON NOVEMBER 5 WITH
SMASHING, FAMILY-FRIENDLY INTERACTIVE AUTHOR TOUR**

The Wrecking Ball Show swings across the Midwest
in a Diary of a Wimpy Kid branded tour bus

New York, NY (September 12, 2019)—Amulet Books, an imprint of Abrams Children’s Books, will launch the much-anticipated *Diary of a Wimpy Kid #14: Wrecking Ball* on November 5, 2019, with an imaginative, kid-focused, and family-friendly interactive experience from global bestselling author Jeff Kinney. *The Wrecking Ball Show* is jam-packed with opportunities for fans to build their own cartoons, smash the trivia competition, manufacture some dance moves, and collapse with laughter, and will be performed in Houston, Austin, Oklahoma City, Wichita, St. Louis, Omaha, and Minneapolis, in partnership with local independent bookstores. Beloved author, illustrator, and creator Jeff Kinney will host *The Wrecking Ball Show*, which will travel the Midwest on a Diary of a Wimpy Kid branded coach tour bus.

The Wrecking Ball Show is the new iteration of this innovative, interactive style of book tour. In November 2018, thousands of fans across the East Coast enjoyed the debut of *The Meltdown Show* to celebrate the publication of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid #13: The Meltdown*, which became the bestselling children’s book of 2018.

Dedicated to reaching fans across an array of venues, Jeff will appear at stores at three additional US cities over the course of his 2019 tour: Barnes & Noble in Dallas, Books-A-Million in Des Moines, and Costco in Kansas City. He will also visit children at several elementary schools throughout his tour.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid books are published in 74 editions in 62 languages. As part of his continuing mission to reach children across the world, Jeff will also visit seven international countries this fall, meeting fans in the United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Bulgaria, Greece, and France.

In addition to *The Wrecking Ball Show*, which will be performed in seven cities across the US, the *Wrecking Ball* promotional campaign includes major national and social media advertising; retail promotions across every major channel of distribution in the marketplace; targeted educator and librarian outreach; and the Greg Heffley balloon at the annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Fans are eagerly awaiting *Wrecking Ball*, the fourteenth installment in the series, in which an unexpected inheritance gives Greg Heffley’s family a chance to make big changes to their house. But they soon find that home improvement isn’t all it’s cracked up to be. Once the walls come down, all sorts of problems start to crop up. Rotten wood, toxic mold, unwelcome critters, and something even more sinister all make Greg and his family wonder if the renovations are worth the trouble. When the dust finally settles, will the Heffleys be able to stay . . . or will they need to get out of town?

“I am thrilled to be going back on the road in November to revisit the Midwest,” said Jeff Kinney. “This year, our interactive stage show is going to be over the top, with an exciting demolition theme. I look forward to building new memories by sharing this year’s show with fans new and old!”

“Jeff Kinney’s newest book in the phenomenally successful Diary of a Wimpy Kid series, *Wrecking Ball*, is sure to break new ground as well as continue to smash sales records around the country and the world,” said Michael Jacobs. “We couldn’t be happier to help bring Jeff’s vision, humor, and love of reading and books to millions of kids, parents, librarians, and caregivers.”



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Along with the highly anticipated fourteenth book in the series, ABRAMS' Wimpy Kid publishing program will also release *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Best Friends Box*, a box set containing *Diary of a Wimpy Kid #1* and *Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid*, and *The Wimpy Kid 2020 Wall Calendar*.

More than 200 million copies of the books in the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series have been sold globally. Published in 2007, the first book was an instant bestseller and has remained on the *New York Times* bestseller list since its publication and through the release of the thirteenth book, for more than 672 weeks total. The *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* spinoff book *Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid* was published in April 2019 and was an instant #1 *New York Times*, *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Publishers Weekly* bestseller in the US, and reached #1 in every country in which it was published.

About the Author

Jeff Kinney is a #1 *New York Times* bestselling author and a six-time Nickelodeon Kids' Choice Award winner for Favorite Book for his Diary of a Wimpy Kid series. Jeff has been named one of *Time's* 100 Most Influential People in the World. He is also the creator of Poptropica, which was named one of *Time's* 50 Best Websites. He spent his childhood in the Washington, D.C., area and moved to New England in 1995. Jeff lives with his wife and two sons in Massachusetts, where they own a bookstore, An Unlikely Story. For more about Wimpy Kid visit wimpykid.com.

About ABRAMS

Founded in 1949, ABRAMS was the first company in the United States to specialize in publishing art and illustrated books. The company continues to publish critically acclaimed and bestselling works in the areas of art, photography, cooking, craft, comics, interior and garden design, entertainment, fashion, and popular culture as well as narrative non-fiction and new works of fiction for adults; children's books ranging from middle grade to young adult fiction to picture books to board books. ABRAMS creates and distributes brilliantly designed books with the highest production values under the following imprints: Abrams; Abrams ComicArts; Abrams Image; Abrams Press; The Overlook Press; Abrams Books for Young Readers; Amulet Books; Abrams Appleseed; and a gift and stationery line, Abrams Noterie. ABRAMS also distributes books for Booth-Clibborn Editions, Cameron + Company, Alain Ducasse Édition, Getty Publications, Lucky Spool, Ludion, The Museum of Modern Art, Obvious State, SelfMadeHero, Tate Publishing, V&A Publishing, and The Vendome Press.

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