

DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: HOT MESS ACHIEVES UNPRECEDENTED GLOBAL SUCCESS—THE #1 RELEASE FOR ALL BOOKS ACROSS ALL MAJOR MARKETS

Hot Mess Turns the Page on Declining Sales in Middle-Grade Category

NEW YORK, NY [November 5, 2024]—Amulet Books, an imprint of Abrams Children’s Books, announced today that Jeff Kinney’s latest installment in the internationally beloved Diary of a Wimpy Kid series, *Hot Mess (Diary of a Wimpy Kid Book 19)*, has achieved #1 bestseller status across all major markets and sales channels in its first week of release. The book has secured the coveted **#1 position** on every major bestseller list, including:

- The *New York Times* Bestseller List
- *USA Today* Bestseller List (across all categories)
- Amazon Bestseller List
- Target Bestseller List
- UK Top 50 (overall and kids)
- *Toronto Star*’s “Children and Young Adult” Bestseller List (Canada)
- *The Globe and Mail*’s “Juvenile” Bestseller List (Canada)
- IndieBound Bestseller List
- BookScan Overall Bestseller List

First-week sales have significantly exceeded expectations, with remarkable growth compared to the previous release, *No Brainer (Diary of a Wimpy Kid Book 18)*. Circana Bookscan reported a collective double-digit increase in sales across reporting accounts.

“The success of *Hot Mess* across all markets demonstrates the enduring appeal and growing strength of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series,” said Andrew Smith, SVP and Publisher of Abrams Children’s Books. “Jeff Kinney continues to captivate readers worldwide, and these results reflect the passionate engagement of fans around the world and across multiple generations.”

The book’s success spans multiple retail channels, with nearly all major retailers reporting significant increases over previous release numbers, reinforcing the series’ position as a global publishing phenomenon.

Kinney wrapped up a sold-out tour schedule in the US across 14 major markets, including New York, Boston, Chicago, and Detroit, where thousands of middle-grade children and their families experienced the new book, *Hot Mess*, come to life with a stage show inspired by the book. In the show, Kinney enlists the help of the audience members to open a restaurant. Kids and families get involved in the act and are hired as waiters and line cooks to compete in interactive games from taste testing to barefoot grape stomping to balancing inflatable meatballs.

Kinney was also the subject of unprecedented national media for a new children’s book release in the middle-grade category with appearances and coverage including: *The Today Show*, *The Kelly Clarkson Show*, SiriusXM, *People*, *Parents*, the *Boston Globe*, *Publishers Weekly*, and many other national and regional broadcast and print placements across the country.

About *Hot Mess (Diary of a Wimpy Kid Book 19)*

Hot Mess was released on October 22, 2024, in hardcover, ebook, audio, and 27 foreign editions. In *Hot Mess*, pressure is building for Greg Heffley, who discovers that when you mix heaps of family, a tiny beach house, and sweltering heat, it's a recipe for disaster in this sidesplitting story that is the funniest Wimpy Kid book yet!

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 later moved to New England, where he and his family own a bookstore, An Unlikely Story, in Plainville, MA. 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 nonfiction 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; Megascope; Surely Books; Abrams Image; Abrams Press; The Overlook Press; Cernunnos; Abrams Books for Young Readers; Amulet Books; Abrams Fanfare; Abrams Appleseed; Magic Cat; and Abrams Calendars. ABRAMS also distributes books for Booth- Clibborn Editions, Bungie, Alain Ducasse Édition, Éditions de La Martinière, Editions BPI, Enchanted Lion Books, Familius, Getty Publications, Global Golf Group, Lucky Spool, Milky Way Picture Books, Red Comet Press, Taunton Books, The Museum of Modern Art, SelfMadeHero, Skittledog, Tate Publishing, V&A Publishing, and The Vendome Press.

Follow along online:

TikTok: @wimpykidofficial • X: @wimpykid • Instagram & Facebook: @diaryofawimpykid
WimpyKid.com • #wimpykid • #wimpykidhotmess