

# Sun Bread

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Winter's gray chill has set in and everyone misses the sun-especially the baker. So she decides to bring some warmth to the town by making sun bread. And as the bread bakes, rising hot and delicious, everyone comes out to share in its goodness. Everyone, including the sun itself. With a lilting, rhyming text, colorful illustrations, and a recipe for baking your own sun bread, this tasty treat from the illustrator of the best-selling *Abuela* is just right for all ages to enjoy.

Elisa Kleven writes and illustrates picture books because she's never outgrown a deep childhood urge to enter a magical world. To date, she has written and illustrated 13 books and illustrated 15 others, including her School Library Journal Best Book, *Puddle Pail*, which also features the crocodile brothers, Ernst and Sol; her New York Times Best Illustrated Book, *Sun Bread: The Lion and the Little Red Bird*; and *The Paper Princess*. Elisa and her family and live in Albany, California.

PreS-K-A wintry village inhabited by a variety of unlikely creatures is the setting for this rhyming tale about how the efforts of a humble baker restore the sun to a chilled world. Bellicose bears, argumentative monkeys, a lachrymose pig, and a depressed giraffe are among the distressed animals pictured. It's not until the town's baker, an innovative little dog, bakes a smiling bread in the shape of the sun that the residents have reason to rejoice and hope. As they share in the feast, their bodies as well as their spirits are so lightened that they rise into the sky. There they make such a joyful noise that the long-slumbering sun is awakened. The baker somehow intuits that it wants some of his special loaf and the happy villagers share it with the celestial body. Sunlight is restored to the Earth and returns the next day for the little baker's promised sun bread and buns. A recipe is included. This sunny tale is marred by an uneven rhyme scheme and awkward phrasing. The story also suffers from a certain incongruity and lack of logic as well. Why are tropical animals depicted in such an alien environment? Why does the sun want to eat sun bread? Kleven's characteristically charming folk-art-inspired collages far outshine the text in this instance.

Rosalyn Pierini, San Luis Obispo City-County Library, CA

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#### Other Books

*Hittite Local Cults*, An innovative translation and analysis of Hittite local festivals and of their economic and social dimensions for students and scholars This English translation of the Hittite cult inventories provides a vivid portrait of the religion, economy, and administration of Bronze Age provincial towns and villages of the Hittite Empire. These texts report the state of local shrines and festivals and document the interplay between the central power and provincial communities on religious affairs. Brief introductions to each text make the volume accessible to students and scholars alike. Features: Critical editions of Hittite cult inventories, some of which are edited for the first time, with substantial improvements in readings and interpretations The first systematic study of the linguistic aspects of Hittite administrative jargon An up-to-date study of Hittite cult images and iconography of the gods Michele Cammarosano currently leads a Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft-funded project on Hittite cultic administration at Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg. His research interests focus on cuneiform palaeography and Hittite religion.

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ... of bread for Daily bread (i 1-12) the Storm God of Ligh[tning (and) the Sun Goddess of] Arinna [... has] been fi[xed] as follows: [...] The dai[ly] (offering of) loaves of offering for the Storm God of Lightning and the Sun bread [."