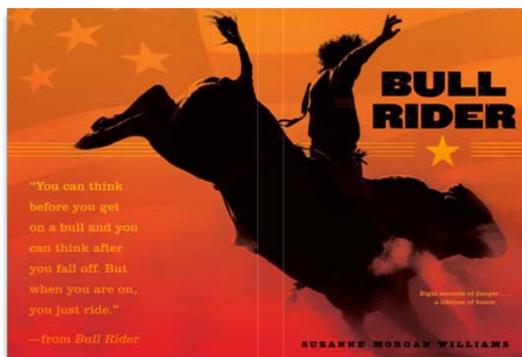


# Suzanne Morgan Williams

## Real Books for Real Kids

Cam O'Mara's big brother Ben is a champion bull rider. When Ben is seriously injured in the Iraq War, Cam turns to bull riding and family traditions to cope with his grief and loss. **Bull Rider** - Available from Margaret K. McElderry (Simon and Schuster), 2009.



This first novel makes the sports details of skateboarding and bull-riding part of the powerful contemporary story of family, community, and work – **Booklist**

The book isn't overtly anti- or pro-war so much as pro the people who are struggling with this difficult change in their lives. This is therefore a gripping read for fans of family dramas, and it's certainly high time that this aspect of the war's consequences received a sensitive and compelling exploration. - **The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books**

*Bull Rider*, vividly captures life on a modern Nevada ranch. . . .(it) is the story of real people, in real situations, that will ring true even if readers have never seen a salt lick, a chute, or the open range. - **Ellen Fockler**, library coordinator, Washoe County School District, Reno, NV

Suzanne Morgan Williams' spare, straightforward prose lets the O'Maras speak their piece on war and sacrifice, family loyalty and courage, and reveals what it means to live in the heart of the modern West. – **Terri Farley**, author of the *Phantom Stallion* series

- ◆ Suzanne Morgan Williams is author of the middle-grade novel, *Bull Rider*, Margaret K. McElderry Books (imprint of Simon and Schuster) 2009, and ten published and one upcoming nonfiction books for children. *Bull Rider* is a Junior Library Guild Selection for 2009, and represented Nevada at the 2008 National Book Festival in Washington DC. *Bull Rider* is on both the Texas Library Association's 2010 Lone Star and Tayshas Reading lists, is a finalist for Nevada Young Reader Award 2011, Missouri's Truman Award and Indiana's Young Hoosier Award. It is on the Bank Street College Best Books of 2010 list and won a Western Heritage Award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City.



Suzanne has been a Nevada Artist in Residence, winner of a Sierra Arts Foundation Fellowship and Nevada Arts Council Grants, and is Co-Regional Advisor of the Nevada Region of Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

A former teacher she has presented to numerous schools, libraries and museums, as well as at teachers', writers', and librarians' conferences. She lives in Reno, Nevada.

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