



# Young author as cool as the other side of the pillow

By Rich Freedman  
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**K**. Patrice Williams has had meticulous clients before. Never like Myles L. Hall, however. But she gives the author some slack.

Myles is, after all, her 9-year-old son. And a talented one at that.

The Vallejo Charter School fourth-grader has already penned six books, with one — “The Fuzzy Pillow” — about to be the first released publicly on Amazon.com.

At \$12.99 a pop, it sure beats standing on the corner selling lemonade.

Yes, the precocious lad with the big smile has, apparently, found his niche. That's if he doesn't become a race car driver or president.

The kid just loves to read. And, obviously, write. And that's what he did back in Tiffani Reed's first-grade class. His books that feature illustrations of himself — “Going to School,” “In My Box,” “My Warm Spaghetti,”

“Eating an Insect,” and “My Dad” — will all soon be produced by Mom's own Vallejo company, 1-2-3 Target Marketing.

Not that there aren't a lot of deep breaths and heavy sighs.

“He is pretty particular and fuzzy,” Williams said, managing a laugh. “You give him time frames the book's going to be released and he wants to know why we're late, why we're behind on schedule and when we'll be back on schedule, which is interesting since he hasn't funded the project.”

Yes, the author is beyond his years, his mom said.

“To be 9 and to be that particular about how everything is dotted,” his mom said. “Even with some editing changes, he'll say, ‘You've changed my words.’ The pickiness is so funny.”

It was earlier this week right after school ended when student and Mom sat on a shaded hill near the entrance to the school and talked

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Young Vallejo author Myles Hall, 9, pauses either for a breath or to collect his thoughts as he is interviewed outside Vallejo Charter School, where he is a fourth grader. His mother, K. Patrice Williams, right, is amused by her son's interview technique, which wanders from subject to subject as many fourth graders do.

## Author ...

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about the student's animated life.

Talking is what first worried Myles' parents when he took his sweet time to utter his first words.

“He took a long time to start talking,” Williams said. “He would be looking at our mouths, so we knew he was understanding. But when he did start talking...”

Myles smiles. He knows. “I talk too much,” he shrugged. “Even when he sleeps, he's talking,” Momma Williams added.

And he'll bounce from subject to subject. Makes sense for a kid named after the late improvising trumpet master, Miles Davis.

“If you don't ask him questions, he'll just go,” his mom warned.

Fair enough. NASCAR? Myles knows where the races are and when Elving? He likes it though

speeding through clouds doesn't allow for much sight-seeing. Bugs? Oh, he's gulped a few. But not intentionally.

“That was probably like in pre-school. I don't think anyone remembers,” Myles said. “I was like 3. It's so disgusting. I left food on my bed and ants were all over it. I tried to get 'em off and actually ate one.”

Uh, just one?

“OK, fine. A couple,” Myles said.

Quick switch to his writing. Yes, it started as an assigned journal. “A Fuzzy Pillow” was the first.

“It was so, so good,” Myles said. “I read it to my class, to the other first-grade classes, to the principal.”

It amazed his mom. Her son didn't even have a fuzzy pillow. It was all via his creative mind.

“I was like, ‘How did you figure out how to write like this?’ His words were so descriptive. And it

got him excited about how he was reading it to us. If it got him excited, I wondered if other kids would get excited, too.”

So the Myles Publish Co. was born and with it came a website, [www.myleshall.com](http://www.myleshall.com). Williams has her team of illustrators do all the drawings. Myles is fine with them. “It seems like it's me,” he said.

The books are recommended for ages 0 to 6 — “As a mother, you can read them to your baby,” Williams said — which makes Myles too old for his own books.

The progress of the boy wonder has been apparent in the last three years, his mom said.

“He's gotten more creative,” she said. “He's not completely way out, but it's interesting to see how his writing has evolved. The level of his writing is more mature and he's more mature.”

Myles is perhaps different from other kids in one big way.

“He loves coming to school,” his mother said