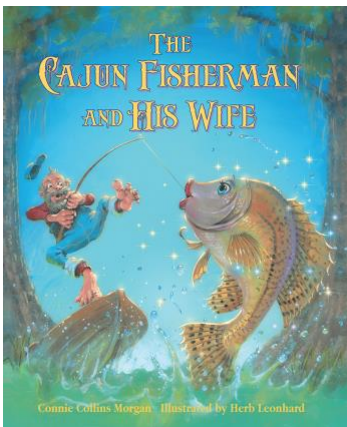
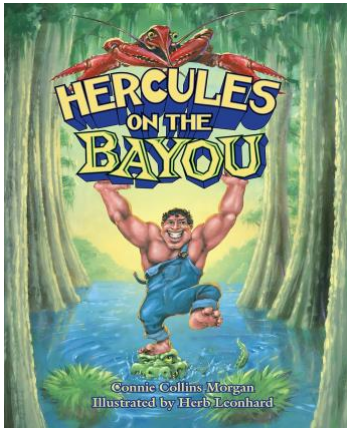
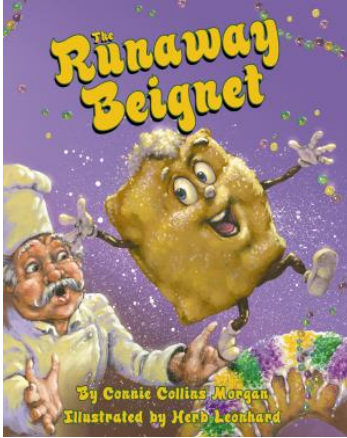




Connie Collins Morgan  
Children's Author



# Press Kit

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# Author Bio

## Connie Collins Morgan

**Connie Collins Morgan**, a distinguished-ranked educator and author of three children's books, has more than twenty-five years of elementary education experience creating high-quality learning environments for children. Her books, *The Runaway Beignet*, *Hercules on the Bayou* and *The Cajun Fisherman and His Wife*, have received praise and recognition from Kirkus Reviews and School Library Connection & reVIEWS+. Her children's story, *The Runaway Beignet*, topped Pelican Publishing's top 10 best-seller list after its release. All three of Morgan's books celebrate Louisiana folklore and are steeped in south Louisiana traditions.

Connie grew up in a French-speaking culture in Lafayette, Louisiana. She earned a Master of Fine Arts in Children's Literature from Hollins University and a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, now the University of Louisiana. When Connie's not writing, she spends time with her family and friends enjoying life. Visit her at [conniecollinsmorgan.com](http://conniecollinsmorgan.com).



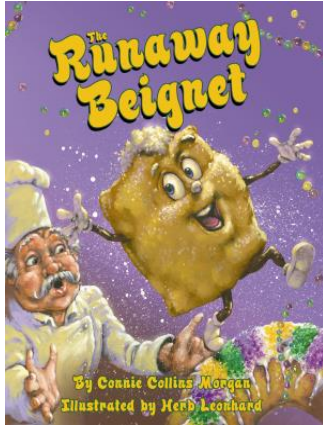
### Author Contacts

- Email: [concollinsmorgan@gmail.com](mailto:concollinsmorgan@gmail.com)
- Phone: 443-812-5901
- Author Website: <http://www.conniecollinsmorgan.com/>
- Pelican Publishing Author Site: <http://www.pelicanpub.com/products.php?cat=1710>

### SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/conniecollinsmorgan>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ConnieCMorgan>
- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/conniecmorgan/>
- Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/~e/B00EWBJKMC>
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/connie-collins-morgan-6b773830/>
- Goodreads: <https://www.goodreads.com/goodreadscomconniecmorgan>

# Book Blurbs & Trailers



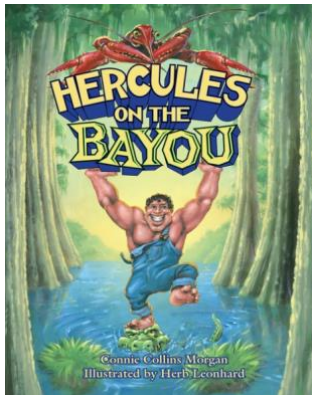
## *The Runaway Beignet*

“Believe you me, I’m gonna get away! You not gonna taste this little beignet!”

In this confectionary folktale adaptation, a lonely baker gets his wish when he sprinkles magic sugar on a beignet and it comes to life. The little beignet boy runs away but is in danger of being eaten by the hungry people of New Orleans. He leads a wild chase through the French Quarter, visiting famous sights along the way. This delightful book, with wacky illustrations and a sassy refrain, will run straight into readers' hearts.

### **Book Trailer:**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0LDhqluXtbM&feature=youtu.be>

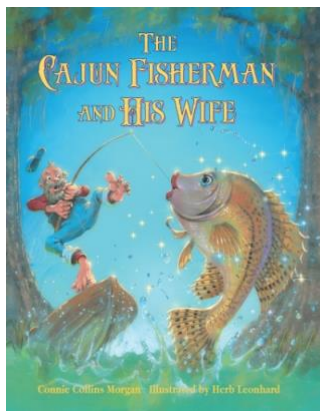


## *Hercules on the Bayou*

*Hercules on the Bayou* celebrates the rich culture of the French-speaking people in south Louisiana. The story stirs together myth and culture and is steeped in Louisiana traditions. Sent down to the hot and humid bayou from his kingdom in the clouds, Hercules performs four daring labors to escape the immortal queen's wrath. Woven into the Labors of Hercules are mini pourquoi tales revealing elements unique to the Louisiana region including “Why do mosquitoes buzz in people’s ears,” and “How did crawfish boils began?” Written by an award-winning children’s educator, this adventure will have you shouting “Aiye!” from start to finish.

### **Book Trailer:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z\\_H-8leQ3zk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_H-8leQ3zk)



## *The Cajun Fisherman and His Wife*

In this Cajun take on a Brothers Grimm classic, one wonders if you can ever have too much of a good thing? When fisherman Paul catches a talking fish, it promises to grant him a wish if he lets it go. As proof, the enchanted *sac-à-lait* piles crawfish into his boat and Paul returns home with his reward. Paul’s wife dreams up progressively outlandish demands each time he returns home. Eventually everyone learns that you must be careful what you wish for if you want to hang on to what’s really important. Readers of all ages will delight in this soon-to-be classic Cajun tale!

### **Book Trailer:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52APEpochLM>

The Runaway Beignet

ISBN – 9781455621859

Hercules on the Bayou

ISBN – 9781455619122

The Cajun Fisherman and His Wife

ISBN – 9781455619122

Publisher – Pelican Publishing Company

# Book Reviews

## *The Runaway Beignet*

- ***Baton Rouge, Louisiana Parents Magazine***  
<https://www.brparents.com/article/may-2018-books.html>
- ***SmartBooksForSmartKids.com***  
“[\*The Runaway Beignet\*](#) is a super creative twist on the story of *The Gingerbread Man*. This folk tale has a terrific message about generosity and about serving others selflessly in need.”
- ***Best Kids Books About New Orleans***  
<http://www.booktomato.net/new-blog/2016/7/11/gzamht5akcef99jt1dr6ls37b14vko?fbclid=IwAR3CA3sFXpdPpxLI9HYysfxN3xOdr8smxNAHbIhXW8P6fSM-zzPTIa48zwM>

## *Hercules on the Bayou*

- ***School Library Connection & reVIEWS+*** August/September 2016  
“This is a delightful blending of Cajun folklore and Greek mythology. In this story, Hercules is hidden by ‘the queen’ in Louisiana where he is raised by local Cajun folk, Claude and Claudette. The story carefully refers to Zeus and Hera only as ‘the king’ and ‘the queen,’ avoiding any need to delve deeper into explanations. Hercules quickly grows strong and is relied upon and loved by all of the locals. The jealous queen sets various tasks before Hercules, which the author cleverly blends with traditional pourquoi tales like ‘Why do mosquitoes buzz in our ears?’ and ‘When did crawfish boils get started?’ Bright, colorful illustrations bring the story to life, and a glossary in the back describes some of the Cajun and mythological terms.”

## *The Cajun Fisherman and His Wife*

- ***Kirkus Review*** November 2017  
“A familiar folk tale collected by the Brothers Grimm, transplanted to the bayou...this is a rollicking rendition, particularly well-suited to reading aloud.”

# Promotional Flyers

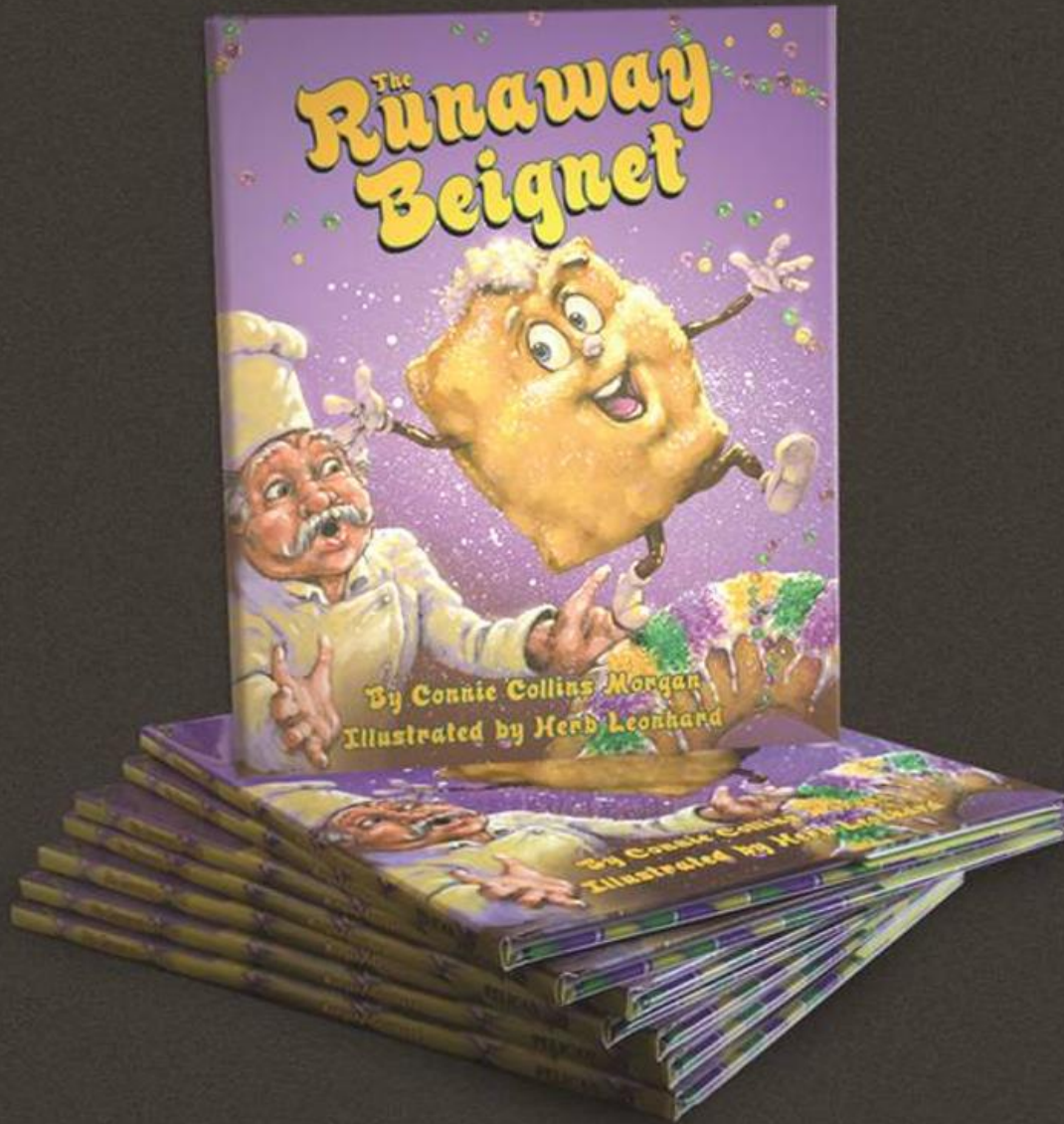
## Printable 8.5" x 11" Flyers

The following three pages contain printable 8.5" x 11" flyers that may be used to advertise events featuring author Connie Collins Morgan.

### DIRECTIONS:

1. Print desired flyer
2. Write the date and time for the event on the flyer
3. Display the flyer to promote the event

Pelican Publishing Company presents



"Believe you me, I'm gonna get away! You not gonna taste this little beignet!"

## Book Signing & Presentation

DATE:

TIME:

Connie Collins Morgan  
CHILDREN'S AUTHOR



# Pelican Publishing Presents



**Connie Collins Morgan**  
CHILDREN'S AUTHOR

**Book Signing & Presentation**

DATE:

TIME:

Hercules meets his biggest challenge yet...  
The Louisiana swamps!

# THE CAJUN FISHERMAN AND HIS WIFE



**Connie Collins Morgan**

CHILDREN'S AUTHOR

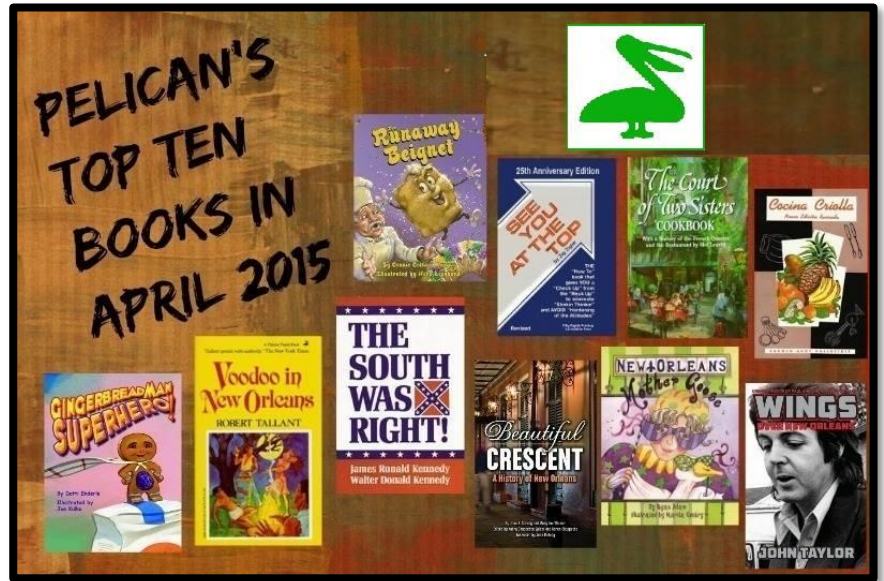
Book Signing & Presentation

DATE:

TIME:

# Promotional Materials

## *The Runaway Beignet Makes Pelican's Top Ten List*



**New Orleans,  
Louisiana  
Book Signing**

Readathon draws budding bibliophiles to Frederick's Curious Iguana bookshop. Connie Morgan shares her book bringing the Runaway Beignet to life with help from the audience.

The Frederick News-Post January 2015



# ***Hercules on the Bayou*** **Book Launch**

## **Book Launch Trailer:**

<https://www.facebook.com/27867525902151/videos/633641936791373>

## **Hercules Photo Booth**



## **Louisiana Book Festival** **Interactive Author Presentation**





New Orleans  
French Quarter  
Book Signing

Maryland Barnes & Noble Book Signing



# Interview Resources

## Possible Student Interview Questions:

- Why did you want to become an author?
- Describe how you use the writing process.
- What was the hardest part of the entire writing process for you?
- How long does it take you to write a book?
- How did your books get published?
- Could you address how you and the illustrator collaborated?
- Where do you get your ideas for your stories?
- How did you become a writer?
- Which of your books is your favorite? Why?
- What do you like to do when you're not writing?
- What advice would you give an aspiring writer?
- Impromptu questions from the children

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## Q & A

1. Name something about which you are passionate.  
*I'm passionate about my faith in God.*
2. What do you like doing in your free time?  
*In my free time, put me anywhere with my family and I am happy!*
3. Was there any message that you wanted to leave your readers from the story *The Runaway Beignet*?  
*There are several themes the reader can find within the story, such as generosity is a gift. Marcel's selfless character teaches us to be generous with our thoughts, our words and our actions. Marcel put the needs of others ahead of his personal gain. The text states, "Many believed Marcel could have been rich had he not given his pastries to the poor. He even wandered the cobblestone streets feeding beignets to hungry pigeons." Being generous not*

only enhances the life of another but our own as well. At the end of the story, the pigeons reciprocated Marcel's generosity by returning the beignet boy to him.

4. Can you tell us one favorite fan memory?

I've been fortunate to speak with many children who are very positive and supportive of my books. One incident that comes to mind happened in the New Orleans French Quarter with an adorable five-year-old little girl. She came to my table where I was promoting books and looked up at me with wide-opened eyes and said, "Wow, are you a real author?" I knelt beside her and said, "Yes, I am a real author. But do you know what is more important than that - I am a teacher!"

5. Where is your favorite place to be in the world?

Believe it or not, my favorite place to be is at home, surrounded by my family.

6. What is your favorite color? Why?

My favorite color is green because it represents life; such a priceless gift.

7. What is your favorite type of food?

Any type of Cajun food – Aiyee!