

SHARON FUJIMOTO-JOHNSON

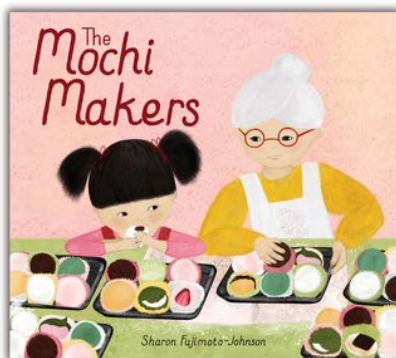
CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHOR-ILLUSTRATOR

ABOUT SHARON FUJIMOTO-JOHNSON

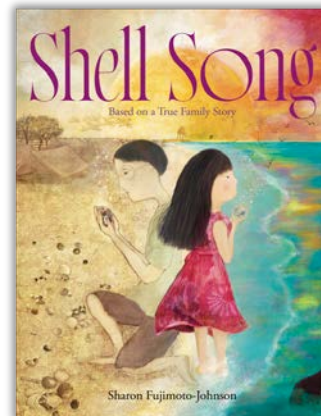
Sharon Fujimoto-Johnson is a children's book author-illustrator and fourth generation Japanese American. She grew up in both America and Japan. She now lives in California in a house filled with three generations of family, two languages, and countless books and art supplies.



Her books include THE MOCHI MAKERS (Simon & Schuster/Beach Lane Books, 2024), a gentle and joyous “storytelling treat” (Kirkus Reviews, starred review) and SHELL SONG (Simon & Schuster/Beach Lane Books, 2025), inspired by the seashells her grandfather collected in a Japanese American incarceration camp in Hawai'i during World War II.



★ Kirkus Reviews, starred review



Website: www.sharonfj.com

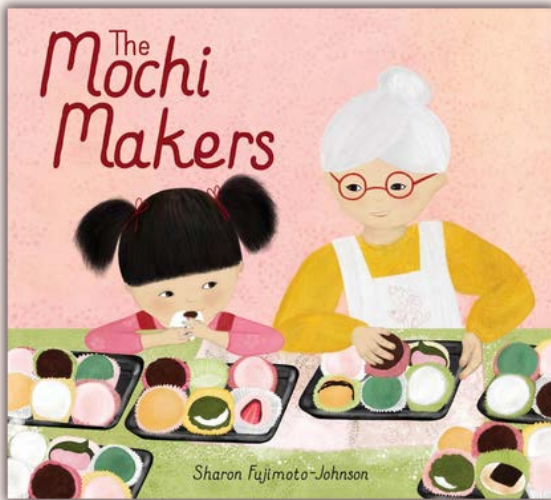
Email: sharonfj@gmail.com

Instagram: [@sharonfjart](https://www.instagram.com/sharonfjart)

Agent: Anne Moore Armstrong at The Bright Agency

THE MOCHI MAKERS

PICTURE BOOK



***The Mochi Makers* by Sharon Fujimoto-Johnson**

Publisher: Simon & Schuster/Beach Lane Books

Publication: March 19, 2024

Length: 40 pages

Trim: 11" x 10"

ISBN13: 9781665931540

Age range: 4-8

Retail: USD\$18.99



Kirkus Reviews, starred review

ABOUT THE MOCHI MAKERS

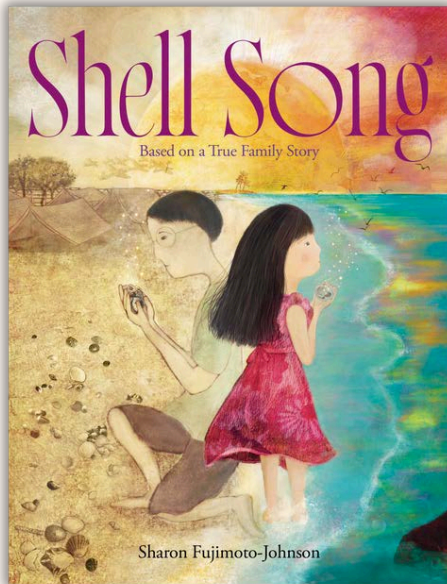
"Each step of this tasty story glows with joy and kindness, punctuated by rich sensory language.... A storytelling treat to be savored among family." – *Kirkus Reviews, starred review*

A girl and her grandmother spend the day making mochi together in this gentle and joyous story celebrating family, tradition, and the memories that matter most. It's a recipe that's been passed down for generations. Obaachan brought it with her when she first came to America from Japan and now, Emi is about to become her family's newest mochi maker!

- **2025 Georgia Children's Book Awards finalist** (Mary Frances College of Education, University of Georgia)
- **2025 Golden Poppy Awards finalist** (California Independent Booksellers Alliance)
- **Cooperative Children's Book Center CHOICES 2025** (School of Education, University of Wisconsin - Madison)
- **Best Books of 2024** Center for the Study of Multicultural Children's Literature

SHELL SONG

PICTURE BOOK



Shell Song by Sharon Fujimoto-Johnson

Publisher: Simon & Schuster/Beach Lane Books

Publication: April 15, 2025

Length: 48 pages

Trim: 8.5" x 11"

ISBN13: 9781665938679

Age range: 4-8

Retail: USD\$19.99



ABOUT SHELL SONG

Based on the author's true family history, this picture book about Japanese American incarceration in Hawai'i during World War II is a moving tribute to the importance of finding and collecting pieces of hope, big or small, even in the darkest of times.

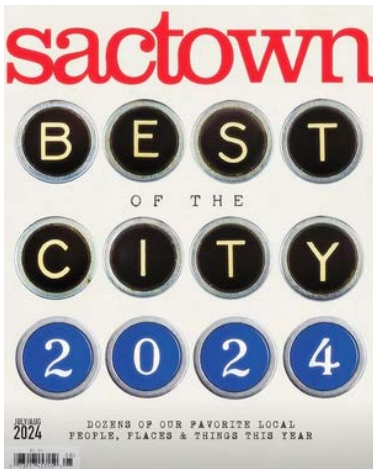
Grandfather loved music, seashells, and the sound of the ocean in Hawai'i. But when war came, there was no more music. And in this war, there was no kindness for anyone who looked Japanese. Taken to an island prison, Grandfather passed many long, lonely days away from his family searching for tiny seashells. He collected the shells, labelled them, and saved them with care. His collection has been passed down to his children and grandchildren, and now, author-illustrator Sharon Fujimoto-Johnson tells the story of her grandfather and his shells.

“Both a story of historical memory and family through generations and a cautionary tale, *Shell Song* will be enjoyed by children and by their parents and grandparents alike.”

— BRIAN NIIYA, DENSHO

PRESS

ABOUT SHARON FUJIMOTO-JOHNSON & HER BOOKS



Sactown Magazine: "A Hunger for Healing"

A Roseville cancer survivor reflects on the restorative power of writing and illustrating her debut children's tale, *The Mochi Makers*. In this case, a picture book is worth a thousand words.

Style Magazine: "Spotlight on Local Illustrators"

"A picture book, though seemingly simple and small, is a work of art created by an author-illustrator, or author and illustrator, plus an entire team of people."

Kirkus Reviews, starred review

"*The Mochi Makers*: a storytelling treat to be savored among family"

Behind the Book: *The Mochi Makers*

"So much of this story takes place in Obaachan's kitchen, so I wanted to include elements that one might find in a typical Japanese American kitchen—such as my own kitchens."

APPEARANCES

SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS

2024 Davis Cherry Blossom Festival

2024 American Library Association Annual Conference

2024 Tomodachi Gakko 40th summer camp

2024 Lincoln Library Book Festival

2025 Oshogatsu Festival at the Japanese American National Museum

2025 “Mochi Madness” at the Buddhist Church of Florin

2025 AAPI Joy at the Los Angeles Public Library

2025 Sacramento Book Festival

Many bookstores and schools

