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**~ Bio – Kelley McMorris – Illustrator of My Brother’s Story ~**

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***My Brother’s Story***

A Blackwater Novel

Written by Allen Johnson Jr.

Illustrated by Kelley McMorris

ISBN 978-1-933725-37-6

208 Pages ~ Hardback ~ Retail \$14.99

**Nashville, Tenn.** – Kelley McMorris was born in San Francisco, California. From the time her hands were strong enough to hold a crayon, she loved drawing and could be found spending hours and hours at her desk, drawing pictures of ballerinas, unicorns and mermaids. A voracious reader, Kelley particularly loved vintage fairy tale books illustrated by Golden Age illustrators such as Edmund Dulac and Arthur Rackham.

During college, Kelley studied abroad for a semester at Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan, and received her BA in Japanese from San Jose State University. After graduation, Kelley pursued her passion and turned to drawing as a career, and enrolled in the graduate program at the Academy of Art University.

Her digital and pencil work is influenced by Julie Dillon, Jason Chan, Dan Dos Santos and Hayao Miyazaki movies, among others. She graduated with her MFA in illustration in 2013. Her work has been featured in Applied Arts, ImagineFX, Leading Edge magazine and the SCBWI bulletin. Clients include Cricket, Lifeway and Annie's Publishing.

Kelley won the 2013 SCBWI Student Scholarship and the Applied Arts Student Awards.

Kelley also collaborates with her husband on their independent game studio, Siege Games. In 2012 they ran a successful Kickstarter to help fund their current video game project, “Crea,” which is now in beta testing and is scheduled for release in late 2013.

In her spare time, Kelley enjoys gnawing on sticks. In the rare moments not dedicated to drawing or gnawing, Kelley enjoys reading cooking, knitting and sleeping. She is represented by Shannon Associates, and her work can be viewed at [www.kmcmorris.com](http://www.kmcmorris.com).