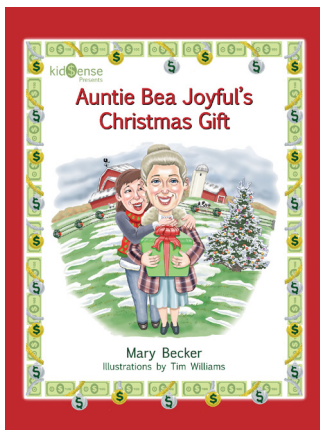


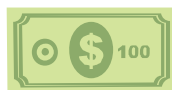
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contact:** mary@marybeckerbooks.com**Concerns About the Economy Could Wreak Havoc
on 2022 Holidays, BUT Atlanta Author's Book Series Offers A Fun
Way to Discuss Spending with Kids & Manage Holiday Expectations***Kid\$ense Series Makes it Easy to Have Important Financial Conversations with Young Readers*

Alpharetta, GA – Research shows that by age nine, children begin cementing their financial habits. With changes in our economy and the increasing emphasis placed on material goods in this age of social media and amped-up advertising, it's becoming more important than ever that children develop skills to carry into adulthood and be able to make smart financial decisions.

The Kid\$ense series currently is made up of three books. *The Debt Monster*, *The Dazzling Dollar Dude*, and *Auntie Bea Joyful's Christmas Gift*, each featuring the I. O. Lots family, who—together with a cast of other colorful characters—learn how to better manage their money while still enjoying the good things in life.

After conquering some financial bad habits learned from her youth, Mary Becker—mother, grandmother, and author—has made it her mission to give parents tools to have financial conversations with their children in a fun and engaging way. “Growing up, my mother and I didn’t have conversations about money and spending habits. Because of not developing good habits in my youth, in adulthood I met the ‘debt monster,’ and it was not a pleasant experience. Being a mom of seven, I know how important, but also how difficult it can be, for parents to have engaging methods to teach their children smart habits and values in a way that holds the children’s attention. My goal with the Kid\$ense Series is to provide them helpful tools to teach sound financial habits in a fun way.”

All three books in the Kid\$ense series—*The Debt Monster*, *The Dazzling Dollar Dude*, and *Auntie Bea Joyful's Christmas Gift*—are available on Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com.

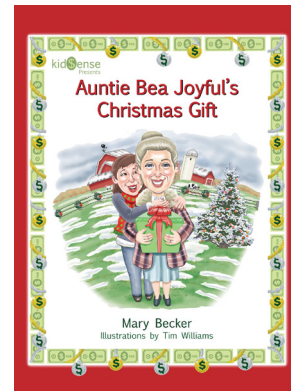
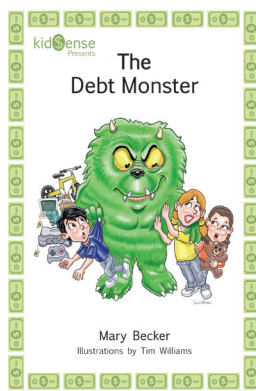


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Mary Becker's kid\$ense Series

Presents

Mary Becker's Kid\$ense series was developed by the mother of seven to help children learn good financial habits at a young age. Research shows that children start to cement their spending behaviors as early as age nine, so it's critical to develop good habits early. With fun illustrations, rhyming, and colorful characters, children will get wrapped up in the stories of *The Debt Monster*, *The Dazzling Dollar Dude*, and *Auntie Bea Joyful's Christmas Gift* without even realizing they're learning valuable skills along the way. Each book features the I. O. Lots family, allowing young readers to develop a connection to the characters as they read.



The Debt Monster message to the I. O. Lots family is to avoid the materialistic culture that surrounds us. The story teaches children the difference between a “want” and a “need,” promotes the value of delayed gratification, and illustrates the benefit of being content with what we already have. With that knowledge, *The Dazzling Dollar Dude* and Ms. Two-Cents-Worth visit the I. O. Lots family and provide a G.S.S. money-handling system to follow, helping them become financial superheroes. In *Auntie Bea Joyful's Christmas Gift*, the I. O. Lots family and Miss Holly Days have the opportunity to share their newfound knowledge with Auntie Bea Joyful and help her have a wonderful Christmas, while also learning how to change her spending habits.

The Debt Monster: Paperback \$6.99 (ISBN: 978-1-61005-762-2);
Hardcover \$16.99 (ISBN: 978-1-6653-0545-7);
eBook \$2.99 (ISBN: 978-1-61005-763-9)

The Dazzling Dollar Dude: Paperback \$6.99 (ISBN: 978-1-61005-759-2);
Hardcover \$16.99 (ISBN: 978-1-6653-0546-4);
eBook \$2.99 (ISBN: 978-1-61005-760-8)

Auntie Bea Joyful's Christmas Gift: Paperback \$12.99 (ISBN: 978-1-6653-0535-8);
Hardcover \$22.99 (ISBN: 978-1-6653-0536-5)

All three books in the Kid\$ense Series are available on:
[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [BarnesandNoble.com](https://www.barnesandnoble.com). Wholesale orders available via Ingram.

Biography of Mary Becker



Mary Becker is a happy wife, a proud mother of seven, a grandma who lavishly loves her grandchildren with attention, and a lifelong fan of Dr. Seuss. It was back in fifth-grade English class that she first discovered her love of writing. That was also the year she discovered how fun it can be to spend money! Many years and purchases later, after a personal confrontation with her own debt monster, she has created the Kid\$ense Series featuring the I. O. Lots family. Her books are written to help children develop both sound financial habits and a love of reading, while also providing an easy opportunity for parents to

have financial conversations that can sometimes be difficult to initiate. When Mary isn't typing away, she loves baking cakes (except for the inedible one she served to company), gardening (when the weeds have already been pulled), and frolicking with her two dogs while watching her cat nap.

Readers can follow along with the latest news and events for Mary and her books at www.MaryBeckerBooks.com.

And for money-saving ideas and fun videos, be sure to "Like" and "Follow" her page on Facebook: [Mary Becker Author](#)

Author Mary Becker is available for interviews.

To schedule an interview please email mary@marybeckerbooks.com.





Q & A with KidSense Series Author, Mary Becker

Tell us a little about yourself. My name is Mary Becker. I'm a Midwesterner at heart, a Southerner by choice, and a lifelong fan of Dr. Seuss. My husband, Tom, and I are high school sweethearts and have been married for fifty-one years. We have seven children and seven grandchildren.

How did you become an author? Way back in fifth grade, I discovered I loved to write, especially rhyming tales. Many years later, after making some poor financial choices, I met the debt monster, and writing that rhyming story helped me vent my frustrations.

What are the titles of your books in this series? The first book I wrote is *The Debt Monster*. It's followed by *The Dazzling Dollar Dude* and then *Auntie Bea Joyful's Christmas Gift*.

Tell us about them. The books chronicle the I. O. Lots family as they learn to become financially savvy. In the first book, they discover a wise lesson regarding making financial choices. In the next book, now that the family has learned about debt, they meet the Dazzling Dollar Dude who teaches them how to wisely manage their money. And in *Auntie Bea Joyful's Christmas Gift*, the I. O. Lots family and Ms. Holly Days teach Auntie Bea how to change her spending habits and still have a wonderful Christmas.

What inspired you to write them? Being a mom of seven, I have great empathy for today's parents and the responsibility of working yourself "out of a job" by instilling strong character and values. I hope these books will help parents do just that.

Which of your characters is your favorite and why? Auntie Bea Joyful is my favorite character, probably because I love Christmas so much! Like so many people, she's fallen victim to the trap of holiday overspending but learns that by managing holiday expectations, you can have a wonderful celebration without the January onslaught of credit card debt. She's a lovable character who makes it easy for parents to discuss holiday expectations with their children.

What is your hope for your books? I hope parents will use these books to begin financial conversations with their children. Research shows that by age nine, children begin cementing their financial habits. By teaching responsible habits during childhood, the groundwork is laid for making better financial decisions as adults, when the consequences of their choices can be much higher.

Are your books educational? Yes. Besides the financial lessons, each of my books contain discussion questions to help get valuable conversations started, a grade-level Dolch sight word list to reinforce beginning readers' knowledge, and a glossary.

What is your next project? I am working on a story about entrepreneurship and finances, along with inspiring children to find their passion and not be afraid to fail.