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It was there that Chris would meet his future wife, Lisa Morrison, a fellow art student who was also obtaining her degree in education. Chris graduated from the University of Michigan in 1972 with a degree in sculpture and attended the Rhode Island School Of Design to further his studies in sculpture. In 1972, Chris and Lisa got married and Lisa started working as an elementary school art teacher within the Providence school system. While sculpting was Chris primary passion he also began to draw pictures, which he felt were of little importance. Lisa, who frequently used picture books in her classroom, brought Chris' drawings to her friend David Macaulay, who at the time was an illustrator and author. Upon seeing the drawings Macaulay persuaded Lisa to show them to his editor Walter Lorraine. Lorraine was very impressed with the drawings; however instead of having Chris illustrate others' stories he encouraged him to write his own.

Chris began to set some time aside to work on what would become *The Garden of Abdul Assai*, which was published in 1979. In 1980, he was awarded the Calotte Honor Medal for *The Garden of Abdul Assai*. Since then Chris has written and illustrated 17 books of his own, and also illustrated three books for Mark Helpline. Three of Chris' books have also been turned into motion strictures. Chris has been awarded medals for his work including two Calotte Medals for *Jungian*, and *The Polar Express*. For his work on *The Garden of Addable Assai* he was awarded the Boston Globe Horn Book Award. He received a Calotte honor for *The Polar Express* and *The Mysteries of Harris Burdock*. In 1982, Chris was awarded the National Book award for *Jungian*, and he has been awarded the Regina Medal for his lifetime achievement of children's literature.

In 1991, Chris and Lisa welcomed their first daughter, Sophia, into their lives. In 1995, their second child, Anna was born. Chris errantly lives in Providence, Rhode Island with his wife Lisa, and their two daughters. Chris' studio is on the third floor of their house where he continues to create children's literature with his most recent book, Queen of the Falls, being published in 2011. Written Analysis of Chris Van Allura's Work A reoccurring theme within Chris Van Alluras work is the occurrence Of magic, and the impossible. In Profundity! , a little sister gets hypnotized to believes she is a dog, and in The Garden of Abdul Assai a dog gets turned into a duck.

Jungian is a book about a board game where whatever happens in the game happens in real life. The Catarrh game board is actually found in the same box as Jungian, but instead of going to the jungle the player goes into outer space. Ben's Dream and Just a Dream have main characters that are taken too far off places in their dreams. The crew, in The Wretched Stone, gets turned into monkey by staring at a stone. The boy in The Polar Express goes to the north pole to meet Santa.

The only books that didn't contain any sort of magic were Queen of the Falls, based on actual historic facts and Two Bad Ants which is about two ants who go on a hunt for sugar. Catarrh, Profundity! , and Jungian, all revolve around the interaction between bigger billing and younger siblings. Within these books, the oldest is always put in charge of the youngest while the parents are out.

The older siblings feel pestered by the younger ones, yet it's not until the magic happens that they realize how much they love their little sibling. The

illustrations within Chris Oval Algebras books are mostly done as pencil sketches; a majority of his illustrations are in gray or sepia. During the sass's Chris began to experiment with using color for the illustrations of his books, although by the 199(Yes he had gone back to his artistic roots. The font he uses in his works is all the name, and all of his books are roughly the same size. With the exception of Profundity! The jacket art of his stories have the title and then a ' framed' picture with his name at the bottom.

Book List Written and Illustrated Book Titillated | Genre | Grade Level |

Synopsis | Theme | The Garden of Abdul Assai 1979 | Modern Fantasy | K-3 A little boy is watching his neighbor's dog when a local magician turns him into a duck.