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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BENJI AND THE 24 POUND BANANA SQUASH**

By Alan C. Fox

Illustrations by Eefje Kuijl

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**BENJI AND THE 24 POUND BANANA SQUASH**  
**By Bestselling Author Alan C. Fox Teaches Children**  
**About Patience, Love, And Perseverance**

**In This Charming, Garden-to-Table Story, A Very Determined Benji**  
**Learns How To Grow The Biggest Banana Squash Ever**

Have you ever wanted to achieve something so much that you were willing to dedicate yourself to a project for months on end? That's what Benji did when he decided to grow the world's biggest squash in **BENJI AND THE 24 POUND BANANA SQUASH** (Clavis Publishing; October 2017) by bestselling author Alan C. Fox with illustrations by Eefje Kuijl. This garden-to-table story teaches children about patience, love, and perseverance.

It all begins when Benji plants the squash seeds that he saved from the summer before, way in the back of the garden. He carefully nurtures and waters them, but for awhile, nothing happens. Then suddenly one day, the tiny sprouts start pushing through the soil and Benji begins to see his hard work pay off. He continues to care for his plants – and they grow big and strong. When the first gigantic banana squash is ready to be harvested, he picks it and struggles to carry it into the house. His dad weighs the squash – twenty-four pounds! – and takes a picture of Benji holding his king-size vegetable. But the best part comes when Benji's mom cooks the squash with butter and brown sugar, so everyone in the family can gather and enjoy a delicious feast.

More

“Like all of my books for adults, **BENJI AND THE 24 POUND BANANA SQUASH** is based on a real-life event that happened when I was eight. I decided to tell the story, because I wanted to share the joy I experienced when I grew – what I thought was – the world’s biggest banana squash,” explains Fox. “I hope this book will inspire children and show them the value of patience and perseverance as well as the pleasures of growing their own fruits and vegetables to share with family and friends.”

**BENJI AND THE 24 POUND BANANA SQUASH** is the first in a series of illustrated books by Alan C. Fox. The next book will be available in Spring 2018.

#### **About the author**

Alan C. Fox is an entrepreneur, philanthropist, relationship expert, and the *New York Times* bestselling author of three books for adults: **PEOPLE TOOLS, PEOPLE TOOLS FOR BUSINESS**, and **PEOPLE TOOLS FOR LOVE AND RELATIONSHIPS**. Alan is also the publisher of the poetry magazine, *Rattle*, and the founder of a charity that works to maximize the potential of youth as well as the founder of an organization that encourages young people to become active in helping others. Alan lives with his wife in Los Angeles, California. To learn more, visit Alan’s website: [alancfox.com](http://alancfox.com)

Eefje Juijl, a graduate of the School of the Arts Utrecht, creates colorful illustrations for children's books, magazines, postcards and more. Eefje lives in The Netherlands with her partner Philip, her son Guus, daughter Fien, and their dog Jip.