

**Suggested Interview Questions
for Lucine Kasbarian, author of
The Greedy Sparrow: An Armenian Tale**
(Marshall Cavendish, April 2011)

1. How did you learn of this tale and what made you want to retell it?
2. Your retelling ends differently from the popular version of the tale. Why?
3. Is the illustrator Armenian? How did you find her?
4. What relevance does this tale hold for children (and adults)? What, if anything, can it teach them?
5. What does this tale tell us about Armenians and their culture? What significance do you feel folktales possess?
6. Some people believe that writers should abandon the retelling of folk tales as passé or old fashioned. How do you feel about that?
7. How did you find a publisher for this tale?
8. What was most interesting part of the book publishing process?
9. What attracted you to writing and publishing? How does publishing run in your family? (How many relatives work in the publishing field, and in what capacity?)
10. Your first book was published more than 10 years ago. Why did it take so long to publish your second book?
11. What did you read when you were growing up, and what do you wish you had? Whom do you admire in the literary field of folklore?
12. What role did or does the Armenian press play in your career?
13. Are there any publishing misconceptions you'd like to dispel?
14. What advice do you have for Armenians who want to break into publishing, and for aspiring book writers who want to find an agent or publisher?
15. Future plans?

The Greedy Sparrow: An Armenian Tale
Retold by Lucine Kasbarian; Illustrated by Maria Zaikina;
Publisher: Marshall Cavendish Children; **Pub. date:** April 2011;
ISBN - 13: 978-0-7614-5821-0; **LOC:** 2010018172;
Genre: Trade reinforced hardcover illustrated children's picture book – folktale;
Description: A sparrow receives kindness from strangers and repays each act of kindness with a trick to get more, but at last, in a surprising twist, the sparrow is back with his original problem.
Price: \$17.99 US; \$20.95 CANADA;
To order: Marshall Cavendish Corporation, Toll free: 800-821-9881;
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