

# Elva Resa Publishing

Quality resources by, for, and about military families

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## NEW BOOK RELEASES

Countdown Books Release in English and Spanish, March 18, 2025

Picture books help families stay connected during deployment



ISBN 979-8-88752-029-2 *Countdown 'til Daddy Comes Home* (English)

ISBN 979-8-88752-033-9 *Contando los días hasta que llegue papá* (Spanish)

ISBN 979-8-88752-030-8 *Countdown 'til Mommy Comes Home* (English)

ISBN 979-8-88752-034-6 *Contando los días hasta que llegue mamá* (Spanish)

**Author:** Kristin Ayyar

**Translator:** Gabriella Aldeman

**Publication Date:** March 18, 2025

**Publisher:** Elva Resa Publishing  
[ElvaResa.com/Countdown](http://ElvaResa.com/Countdown)

**Format:** 8"x10" paperback, 32 pages

**Retail Price:** \$15.95 each

**Case Quantity:** 50

**Distributed by:** Military Family Books  
[MilitaryFamilyBooks.com/Countdown](http://MilitaryFamilyBooks.com/Countdown)

(St. Paul, MN)—Elva Resa Publishing has acquired world rights to a set of popular deployment countdown picture books by Kristin Ayyar. The English hardcover editions were originally self-published by Ayyar in 2013 and 2016. Elva Resa will release four updated paperback editions March 18, 2025, customized for a dad or mom being away from home, available in English and Spanish.

In *Countdown 'til Daddy Comes Home*, a young boy waits for Daddy to come home from a trip. To make their separation easier, his family creates rituals to stay connected and count down the days 'til Daddy comes home. *Countdown 'til Mommy Comes Home* presents a similar story, while Mommy is away.

Responding to growing requests for Spanish language picture books for military kids, Elva Resa is releasing simultaneous Spanish editions of each version: *Contando los días hasta que llegue papá* and *Contando los días hasta que llegue mamá*, translated by Elva Resa's award-winning senior Spanish editor, Gabriella Aldeman.

Especially meaningful for military kids who have a deployed parent within any service branch, or for kids with a parent who is a frequent business traveler, each book includes additional ideas for countdown activities as well as discussion questions in the back to help parents and children talk about separations and stay connected while apart.

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An Air Force spouse for more than 24 years, Ayyar guided her family through many of her husband's deployments. She says, "I hope that sharing our rituals through these stories helps children maintain a special connection to their parents who have to be away from home for any length of time."

Elva Resa's senior artist, Brenda Harris, updated the original artwork throughout, including custom lettering for the covers. As she reviewed the final layouts, Harris says, "I suddenly had a memory of my dad returning from a deployment. I clearly remember cleaning and making signs. I remember wondering if he'd be different. It brought tears to my eyes. I'm so happy to help get these books out there for kiddos to be reminded it will all be okay."

#### About the author and translator

**Kristin Ayyar** is the mother of three wonderful children, is an avid volunteer in her community, and was an Air Force spouse for over 24 years. Her books *Countdown 'til Daddy Comes Home* and *Countdown 'til Mommy Comes Home* are based on her family's experiences and are filled with rituals that she and her children followed when her husband was traveling the globe or deployed overseas.

**Gabriella Aldeman** is a Panamanian American author and translator and Elva Resa's primary Spanish translator and editor. She translated *El propósito de Estrella: Una misión militar* by Krista Betcher and the Spanish editions of Teri Weber's Operation Aviation™ series, which includes the picture books *Vuela con Maytai*, *El Tanquecito*, and *La Misión de Alce*. Gaby's picture books include *Paula's Patches* and *Squawk of Spanish*.

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ELVA RESA PUBLISHING LLC is an award-winning, mission-driven, traditional independent publisher based in St. Paul, Minnesota, specializing in quality resources by, for, and about military families. ElvaResa.com, MilitaryFamilyBooks.com

**MEDIA:** Please contact Elva Resa PR at 651-357-8770 or pr@elvaresa.com.

Available in English and Spanish. Ages 4-8.

All four countdown books will be released in paperback March 18, 2025, available everywhere books are sold. The new editions are based on Ayyar's self-published English hardcovers released via Mascot Books in 2013 (Daddy) and 2017 (Mommy).

Available now for preorder at **MilitaryFamilyBooks.com/Countdown** in cases of 50, bulk packs of 200, and single copies. *Bulk preorders placed by February 15 arrive in time for April's Month of the Military Child.*

Direct sales support military family programs. Order online (MilitaryFamilyBooks.com), send purchase requests to [orders@elvaresa.com](mailto:orders@elvaresa.com), or call 651-357-8770.

#### More information:

About the books: <https://ElvaResa.com/Countdown>

Author Kristin Ayyar: <https://ElvaResa.com/author-artist/Kristin-Ayyar>

Translator Gabriella Aldeman: <https://ElvaResa.com/author-artist/Gabriella-Aldeman/>

JUV039050 JUVENILE FICTION / Social Themes / Emotions & Feelings  
JUV013060 JUVENILE FICTION / Family / Parents  
FAM055000 FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / Military Families

Fecha de publicación 18 de marzo de 2025.

### Sobre los libros

Ediciones disponibles:

*Countdown 'til Daddy Comes Home* (inglés)

*Contando los días hasta que llegue papá* (español)

*Countdown 'til Mommy Comes Home* (inglés)

*Contando los días hasta que llegue mamá* (español)

Escrito por Kristin Ayyar, traducción de Gabriella Aldeman.

*De 4 a 8 años.*

*Un niño espera a que su papá/mamá regrese de un viaje. Para que la separación sea más fácil, su familia crea rituales para mantenerse en contacto y contar los días que faltan para que papá/mamá regrese a casa. Ideal para niños militares que tienen un padre/madre desplegado o niños que tienen un padre/madre que viaja frecuentemente por negocios. Incluye preguntas para que padres e hijos hablen de las despedidas y de cómo mantenerse en contacto mientras están separados.*

### Sobre la autora

**Kristin Ayyar** es madre de tres hijos maravillosos, voluntaria entusiasta en su comunidad y esposa militar de la Fuerza Aérea por más de 24 años. Sus libros *Contando los días hasta que llegue Papá* y *Contando los días hasta que llegue Mamá* se basan en las experiencias de su familia y están llenos de rituales que ella y sus hijos siguieron cuando su esposo viajaba por el mundo o estaba desplegado en el extranjero.

### Sobre la traductora

**Gabriella Aldeman** es una autora y traductora panameña estadounidense y es la principal traductora y editora al español de Elva Resa. Tradujo *El propósito de Estrella: Una misión militar* por Krista Betcher y las ediciones en español de la serie Operación Aviación de Teri Weber, que incluye los libros ilustrados *Vuela con Maytai*, *El Tanquecito* y *La misión de Alce*. Entre los libros ilustrados de Gaby figuran *Paula's Patches* y *Squawk of Spanish*.

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