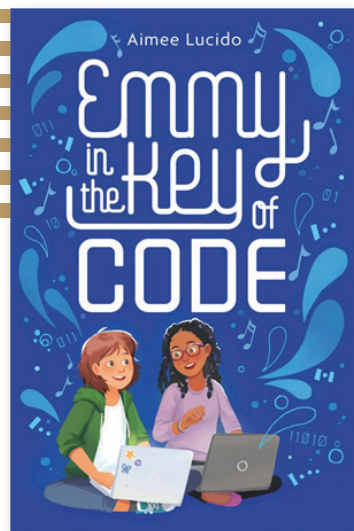# Aimee Lucido

Author • Speaker • Software Engineer

Aimee Lucido is an author, global speaker, former software engineer, and cruciverbalist (crossword maker) who loves words and has been telling stories her entire life. The author of EMMY IN THE KEY OF CODE and RECIPE FOR DISASTER, Aimee likes to use hybrid writing techniques to tell stories about kids who themselves fall in the in-between—not quite one thing and not quite the other. Aimee has spoken to thousands of kids and adults on three continents over the course of her career.

Aimee's experience as an author, software engineer, and crossword maker will leave your audience excited about the unique ways they can define who they are and the countless paths they have available to them for their futures. Aimee will talk about her own life living in the in-between—part writer, part computer coder, part poet, part puzzler, part Jewish, part not—and will talk about how in software engineering "or" also means "and." Aimee's talks are equal parts informative, interactive, fun, and funny. She incorporates games, giveaways, call-and-response, read-alouds, and she knows she's done her job if she can make her audience laugh at her own failures, just the way she hopes they can laugh at their own.

> "Aimee's books flew out so fast after her talk that we had to order more! The feedback from the students and teachers has been wonderful!"

> "I never remember anything that the authors say at these talks, but I'm going to remember what you said today"

> "Many students have shared that they feel a little less anxious about college and all the choices they need to make after the "inclusive or" reminder that you provided"

Author Visits

Live in the Land of "Inclusive Or"
(Interactive presentation, intended for grades 3-12)

Kids are so often asked the question "What do you want to be when you grow up?" This question, as phrased, seems to require a single answer: software engineer OR author OR public speaker OR crossword puzzle maker OR musician. But life tends to sit much more comfortably in the world of "and." The good news is that in computer science the word "or" doesn't mean "pick just one." Because in computer science "or" automatically includes "and." In this talk, Aimee will discuss the concept of "inclusive or" and how by embracing "inclusive or" our lives become infinitely more exciting, dynamic, and fulfilling (30 minutes of presentation, 15 minutes of Q&A, optional 10 minutes of music identification game).

Jew-Ish
(Interactive presentation, intended for grades 3-12)

What does it mean to be Jewish? Does being Jewish mean going to temple every Saturday? Does it mean keeping kosher and fasting on Yom Kippur and eating challah on Shabbat? Is being Jewish something you're born into, or is it something you choose? In this talk, Aimee will discuss about her experience growing up "Jew-ish," her decision to embrace her own Judaism later in life, and the road that led to the publication of her novel RECIPE FOR DISASTER (30 minute presentation and 15 minute Q&A).

Anything Can Be Poetry
(Interactive presentation and/or workshop, intended for grades 3-12)

Both EMMY IN THE KEY OF CODE and RECIPE FOR DISASTER play with the notion of what poetry can be. EMMY IN THE KEY OF CODE creates poetry out of the coding language Java, and RECIPE FOR DISASTER creates poetry out of recipes. But who says poetry stops there? Poetry can be made from anything that includes words, sounds, or images, and in this presentation, Aimee will deep dive into all the cool things that poetry can be (30 minute presentation, optional 30 minute writing exercise, 15 minute Q&A).