

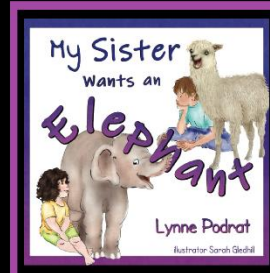
Author Lynne Podrat!
Proud Recipient Of Gold Awards!

Gold From The National Association Of Nonfiction Authors
For Book 'Listen To Me'.

Genre: Down Syndrome, Sibling Relationships,
Biographies Of People with Disabilities And Memoirs.

Gold From Literary Titans For Book 'My Sister Want An Elephant'.
Genre: Elephants, Zoo.

Available In Print and Kindle At Book Marketing Global Network.com



Listen To Me

**How my Down
syndrome brother
saved my life**



A memoir by Lynne Podrat



Thirteen-year-old Lynne watched her parents wrestle with the fact that their newborn baby Bruce, her new brother, had been born with Down syndrome. Over the years, Lynne struggled to ensure that Bruce would be included as part of the family and vowed to protect him from a young age, while also making sure that her nine-year-old brother, David, was not also left behind amidst the chaos. Even as time passed and Lynne went off to college, she learned that her baby brother was still not safe from being given away.

This is the story of Bruce, most loving being imaginable, and the love he inspired in Lynne to fight for the unity of her family. Lynne, David, and Bruce maneuvered the trials of life together, thus cementing their unwavering commitment to each other as siblings. By turns funny and heartbreaking, Listen to Me is a story about being brave, finding your voice, and becoming not who you thought you were, but who you were meant to be all along.

@lynnepodratwrites

<https://www.facebook.com/lynnepodrat>



Listen To Me: How My Down Syndrome Brother Saved My Life by Lynne Podrat

This memoir was written to honor my youngest brother's influence over my life, the good, the bad, and the ugly, of living with a Down Syndrome sibling. It tells the story of the children of my family, despite our parents' frailties, remaining committed to each other through life's many changes and separations. Who I am today is directly related to who I needed to become.

Review by LLF: 5.0 out of 5 Stars Insightful and Inspirational. At times heart-wrenching, always heart-warming. Lynne Podrat's brutally honest memoir, *Listen to Me: How My Down Syndrome Brother Saved My Life* is a deeply personal account of a family whose guilt and fear is washed away by the endless love and total selflessness of a child with down syndrome. So many lessons to be learned. Everyone should take time to read this insightful and most-inspirational story. Well Done!

Review by Bill Tate: 5.0 out of 5 Stars. Belief in oneself and unconditional love. There are many lessons to be learned from this memoir by Lynne Podrat. Early in her story she demonstrates the importance of sticking to one's convictions, doing what one knows to be right. Throughout her childhood, Lynne shows her willingness to do this, often at the objection of parents and others in positions of authority. And over the course of her lifetime, this consistent pattern of choosing the virtuous path has led to an unbreakable bond of loyalty amongst her extended family and closest friends. Central to her story is her unconditional love for her younger brother Bruce, who was born with Down syndrome. Her absolute commitment to his well-being is reciprocated by not only his love for her, but a love of life that enables him to flourish, to be the best he can be. As a result, the whole community of relatives, neighbors, and caregivers are inspired to become better versions of themselves. Readers of "Listen to Me" will surely find themselves examining their own lives, their relations with those they cherish, and perhaps take steps to strengthen those relationships. Many worthwhile lessons to be learned from Lynne's story, with the power of belief in oneself and unconditional love being foremost.

Review by luvtoread: 5.0 out of 5 Stars "Listen to me!" After reading this story, you will never again hear that phrase without thinking of Brucie, a child born with Down Syndrome. Although his parents were obviously overwhelmed at the idea of raising this handicapped child and chose to institutionalize him, he was 'saved' as a member of his family by his older siblings. This book is the tale of his life and was written by his sister, who insisted at a young age that Brucie mattered.

Her devotion to him and the bonding she encouraged within his extended family are revealed in the story of an innocent boy who grew to be warm, loving, fun, easily pleased, and extroverted to the point of being a valued friend to everyone he met. His later caregivers loved him and were devoted to both him and his family. Those warm relationships continue to this day.

Many people are still uncomfortable with those that are different from them. This story leaves us with the knowledge that those who are 'different' can enrich our lives in so many ways, and that caring, on so many levels, makes the world a better place. I had tears in my eyes as I closed the book.

Review by Cindy Freifeld: 5.0 out of 5 Stars. Touching and loving story of the love between a brother and sister. *Listen to Me How my Down Syndrome Brother Saved My Life*. This is a beautiful, touching story how a young girl saved her Down syndrome brother, whom she loved at first sight, from a life of being placed in an institution to having a very loving amazing life with people who were caring, supportive, and compassionate to his needs. I have been ignorant when I would see a person with Down Syndrome. I would feel sorry for them and think how hard their life must be for them and their family. The truth is they are all very special and deserve the best possible life. I found this relationship between sister and brother to be touching, loving, trusting and mutual respect. This book was beautifully written by Lynne Podrat. I only hope this is not the last we hear from this talented author and hope there are many more to come.

Review by Kristen Smigelski: 5.0 out of 5 Stars. An important read. This is a beautiful story of sibling love. Lynne shares her fierce desire to have her differently abled brother included and kept a part of the family

in a time when special needs individuals may not have been. Her stories are humorous, heartwarming, and honest. After reading this book my wishes are that I had been able to meet Bruce and we, as a society, learn that differently abled individuals are so much more than their diagnosis and need to be included and appreciated for what they bring to the world.

Review by Pat Backley: 5.0 out of 5 Stars. A well written and emotional book. A very moving and well written account of a life well lived and the impact it had on others.

Product Details:

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Publisher: Lynne Podrat (August 19, 2021)

Andi Cuba (Illustrator)

Sandi Wissinger (Editor)

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Sibling Relationships

Biographies of People with Disabilities

Down Syndrome

Memoirs

Amazon Print:

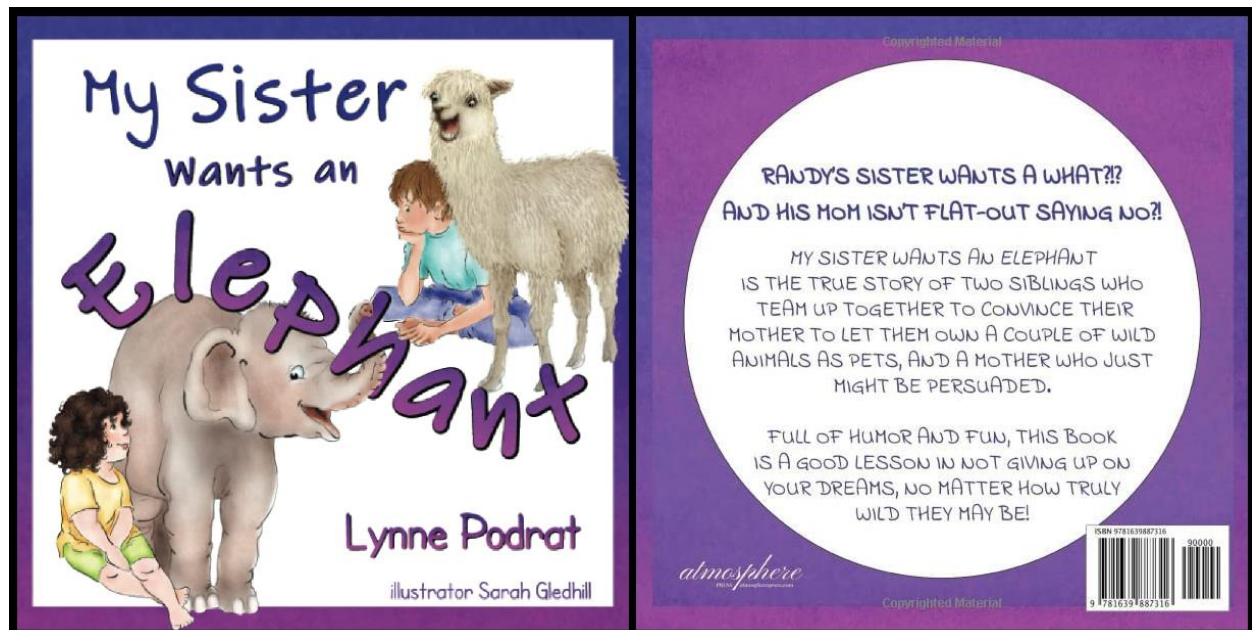
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Kindle:

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My Sister Wants an Elephant by Lynne Podrat

Randy's sister wants a WHAT?!? And his Mom isn't flat-out saying no?!

My Sister Wants an Elephant is the true story of two siblings who team up together to convince their mother to let them own a couple of wild animals as pets, and a mother who just might be persuaded.

Full of humor and fun, this book is a good lesson in not giving up on your dreams, no matter how truly wild they may be!

Review by Alan and Emily: 5.0 out of 5 Stars. An adorable story for children who love animals and zoos or tales of other children. Eleven-year-old Randy has wanted a soft, fuzzy llama forever, and every year his Mom says, "No." But this year, something is different! This year, his baby sister Jerica asked for an "elfant," and Mom did not instantly say, "No." If there is hope for Jerica's elephant, there must be hope for Randy's llama, too!

My Sister Wants an Elephant is an adorable children's story of a boy who teams up with his little sister to try to convince their mother to agree to two improbable pets. It's a fun tale of persistence and compromise, based on a true story! As a fellow elephant enthusiast, I was cheering Jerica and Randy on in their sweet endeavor.

There are beautiful color illustrations throughout the book by Sarah Gledhill, who creates especially lovely images of the animals, perhaps honed during the many years her family spent in Africa.

Ms. Podrat's family story is perfect for children who love animals and zoos or tales of other children. There is a hint of a possible sequel involving a long trip and The International Fund for Animal Welfare, which is mentioned in this book, so I will be keeping an eye on this author.

Review by Cindy Freifeld: 5.0 out of 5 Stars A delight for all to read. My Sister Wants An Elephant is a charming, funny book. Randy and Jerica beg their mother for almost impossible gifts, to have a llama and a baby elephant as pets. This book teaches you to never give up on your dreams. The love and determination of a mother to make her children's dreams come true. Does she succeed? You have to read the book to find out. The book is beautifully illustrated which makes it even more delightful. I highly recommend this book for young children and for those who still have the young kid hiding inside.

Reviewed by Courtnee Turner Hoyle for Readers' Favorite: 5.0 out of 5 Stars. Wild Animals Abound.

My Sister Wants an Elephant by Lynne Podrat sees Randy, an eleven-year-old boy, wishing for a llama. His sister, Jerica, asks their mother for an elephant. The children press their mother for their chosen pets, practicing their pouts, and they receive them. Even though the children do not see their elephant and llama roaming in their backyard, their mother finds a way to allow them access to llamas and an elephant.

My Sister Wants an Elephant is about a surprising compromise. Amazingly, it is based on a true story. Told from the viewpoint of eleven-year-old Randy, the story is sure to be a hit with young readers. The mother, Lynne Podrat, was able to secure time with llamas for her son Randy by arranging for him to help with their care on a nearby farm. Additionally, she fulfilled her dream of getting close to a Siberian tiger and her daughter's wish for an elephant by making donations and adopting them from the Philadelphia Zoo.

Being true gave more life to the story, and my children were delighted with the end of the story when they learned that Randy and Jerica were real people. The illustrations were light, and the snapshot of

Randy and Jerica added a bit of humor to the story. My Sister Wants an Elephant would be a great addition to any bookshelf but should also be in libraries, as it benefits organizations like the International Fund for Animal Welfare, which rescues and cares for wildlife.

Review by Bruce H Podrat: 5.0 out of 5 Stars. Wild Animals; What!! What a wonderful compromise for both children even of different ages. Makes me wish to be young again so I too may never give up on my dreams. Just noticed this book won Gold for February 2023 from Literary Titans. I wanted to share what this prestigious award entails.

"Our literary awards are given to books and authors that have astounded and amazed us with unique writing styles, vivid worlds, complex characters, and original ideas. These books deserve extraordinary praise, and we are proud to acknowledge the hard work, dedication, and writing skill of talented authors. The Literary Titan Gold Award is bestowed on books that we found to be perfect in their delivery of original content, utilizing fresh themes to convey innovative ideas, and deftly uses elegant prose to transform words into expertly written literature."

Product Details:

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Sarah Gledhill (Illustrator)

Language: English

Elephants

Zoo

Amazon Print:

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/1639887318>

Kindle:

https://www.amazon.com/Sister-Wants-Elephant-Lynne-Podrat-ebook/dp/B0BR4J4S1H/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Customer Ratings:

https://www.amazon.com/Sister-Wants-Elephant-Lynne-Podrat-ebook/dp/B0BR4J4S1H/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=#customerReviews



About The Author: Lynne Podrat graduated from the Pennsylvania State University and then spent fifteen years in the Fashion Industry as an Assistant Buyer and Department Manager with Bloomingdales Department Store before returning to school to receive her educational degrees from Arcadia University and Gynedd Mercy. A retired educator and Administrator from the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania School District, she taught English, literature, composition, and history in elementary and secondary schools. She

has secretly been a writer and poet her whole life but has only recently chosen to share those talents with the world. Lynne now lives with her husband in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, spending winters dragon boating and summers hiking the Rockies in Vail, Colorado where her heart sings.

Lynne is the proud recipient a Gold Award for both books, Gold from the National Association of Nonfiction Authors for Listen to Me and Gold from Literary Titans for My Sister Want an Elephant.

Amazon Author's Page:

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