



The Little Plum Tree

Written by Sarah Wallas Reidy and illustrated by Bill Young

Follow a beautiful plum tree through changing seasons ... when suddenly a seedling sprouts into the little plum tree. The little plum tree grows, and grows and eventually learns that she can be independent and strong.

This is a very special story based on a book by Sarah's grandmother, Lee Wallas, a Clinical Social Worker and published author of two books, ***Stories for the Third Ear*** and ***Stories That Heal***.

This story is adapted from her book of hypnotic stories entitled ***Stories for the Third Ear*** (W.W. Norton and Company, 1985).

"It was always my hope that I could adapt each of her fables for a younger audience, honoring her memory while providing empowering stories to children."

- Sarah Reidy

"As the new publisher of Sarah's work, I can personally testify that she has indeed realized her desire..."

*The night I proofed her work, I read **The Little Plum Tree** to my five year old, along with a stack of other submissions. And it just so happened to be the anniversary of his father's passing... after I finished reading and it was time for lights out, I asked,*

'Which one did you like best?' Gabe said, 'The one about the tree...'

I was shocked... 'Not the one with the jellyfish, or spaceship, or dogs?' I asked again to be sure... 'Yeah, I liked them too, but I like the tree the best of all!' he answered (even without artwork or pictures).

Well, the next day when sharing his reaction with Sarah, she then told me that Lee Wallas created this anthology for grown-ups dealing with different adjustment issues. "The Little Plum Tree" is

the first of many stories included in her grandmother's book, many being about animals and other whimsical characters.

When I asked, 'Tell me more,' Sarah explained that her grandmother's stories were created to allow clients to deal with issues in a non-threatening way through metaphorical tales. The story of "The Little Plum Tree" was originally intended for adults with Separation Anxiety Disorder.

*Wow! **The Little Plum Tree** not only came to us on a very special anniversary... it was like an angel's message assuring us that we're doing okay... and I thank Lee Wallas and Sarah for that."*

- Rochelle O'Neal Thorpe

About the Author

Sarah Reidy, who was born in Boston, MA and grew up in York and Portland, ME, graduated from the University of Vermont with a B.A. in Psychology and from Boston University with a Master of Social Work degree. Before Sarah had children, she worked as a Social Worker in a public elementary school as well as for several non-profit organizations. A nature lover as well as a freelance writer, Sarah has written for online and print publications about green practices for the workplace and for the home.

The Little Plum Tree is Sarah's first children's book, inspired not only by her grandmother's published works but also her appreciation for the planet and all living things. Sarah, her husband, and two kids live in Gorham, Maine.

About the Illustrator

Bill Young resides in Philadelphia, PA, where he also attended the Hussian School of Art to obtain an Associates Degree. For the past 30 years Bill has created several illustrations for comic books and news publications. His talents range from comic to realism and his mediums from computer graphics to fine arts paintings in watercolor and acrylics.

His dream is to stop the printing press, as his day job is working in a print shop, to become a full-time artist with a lucrative career.

Publisher

Wiggles Press was founded in March 2009. Its objective is to provide multicultural literature for young readers created by first-time writers and illustrators. This year Wiggles has grown its authorship from one to twelve new writers with a promising Spring Catalog.

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