



Kathryn Lasky

“I want young readers to come away with a sense of joy for life. I want to draw them into a world where they’re really going to connect with these characters.”

Kathryn Lasky was born on the prairie—but not in a little house. She grew up in the suburbs of Indianapolis, Indiana. “But,” says Kathy, “Indiana is a prairie state and it is very flat. So it still counts. Besides, it sounds better to say ‘I was born on the prairie’ than, ‘I was born in the suburbs.’”

It was Kathy’s mother who encouraged her to become a writer. She said, “Kathy, you love words. And you have such a great imagination. You should be a writer.”

“My mom,” Kathy says, “always thought I was the best, even when teachers didn’t. She thought I was smart when teachers didn’t. She would say in parent/teacher conferences, when they told her I wasn’t listening or paying attention, ‘Kathy is thinking of other things. She is very creative. Let her be.’”

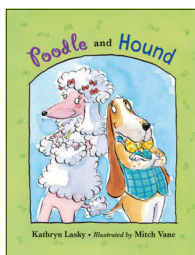
So eventually, Kathy became a writer. After college she wrote for magazines and worked as a teacher. Her first book, *I Have Four Names for My Grandfather* (Little, Brown), featured photographs by her husband, Christopher Knight. Since then, she has written a variety of books—from historical fiction to picture books to nonfiction, including *Beyond the Burning Time* (Scholastic), an ALA Best Book for Young Adults; *The Man Who Made Time Travel* (Farrar, Straus & Giroux) an Orbis Pictus Honor; and *Sugaring Time*, a Newbery Honor book (Aladdin).

When doing research for a book, Lasky usually begins in the children’s room of the public library. “I love doing research,” she says. “It’s really fun. It’s like a treasure hunt—my responsibility as a writer for authenticity and accuracy does not vary whether the character is real or fictional.”

Kathy lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with her husband.

Visit Kathryn Lasky online at www.kathrynlasky.com.

Books by Kathryn Lasky



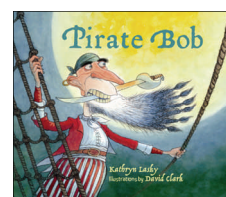
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