



Robin Friedman

“I’ve wanted to be a writer since I was little — I wrote tons of stories when I was younger about talking squirrels and girls with pigtails.”

Robin Friedman was born in Israel and first came to the United States when she was five. Her family moved from Brooklyn to Staten Island, and finally settled in Marlboro, New Jersey, where she graduated from college and learned to make Big Macs at the local McDonald’s. Although she still lives in New Jersey, she no longer works at McDonald’s. “And believe it or not, I have never once been tempted to reveal the secret sauce recipe.”

Growing up, Robin knew she loved to write, but it wasn’t until after earning a master’s degree in education from Princeton, attending a year of law school, and working as an editor at Walker and Company, that she finally tried it as a career. Working as an editor meant she had to read a lot, and every time she read a good manuscript she’d say to herself, “I should have written that!” For the next two years she wrote picture books that kept returning to her mailbox rejected. So she decided to try writing something else—novels.

In 2000 Robin’s first novel, *How I Survived My Summer Vacation* (Front Street-Cricket Books), was published. Subsequently she has published three more books, *The Silent Witness* (Houghton-Mifflin), *The Girlfriend Project* (Walker and Company), and *Nothing* (Flux/Llewellyn Worldwide).

Robin is currently a newspaper editor in New Jersey, where she lives with her husband, Joel, and their cats, Peppercorn and Peaches.

Books by Robin Friedman



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An Israeli immigrant's journey to become a "real" American

Roxanne just wants to be a normal American girl with a normal American family. But with her mother back in Israel and her father working long hours as a cab driver in Manhattan, Roxanne and her sister, Gayle, have to fend for themselves. Things change, though, when Liat moves into town. Liat challenges Roxanne's assumptions about what it means to be cool, and what it means to be American.