

The **READ TO ME** Planet

Sharing the love and joy of reading aloud

A Read To Me International Publication

Winter 2006

TALK STORY

By Linda Kauhane

“What big teeth you have!” exclaimed *Little Red Riding Hood* to a furry animal she found in her bed. After more than 50 years of life, I have yet to find a furry animal of any kind in my bed. However, this storybook remark elicits fond memories of reading the book *Little Red Riding Hood* numerous times with my younger brother and sister when we lived in Massachusetts as children.

We lived in the town of Mansfield in an old-style New England house on twenty acres of land. Stanley Dill, our Irish grandfather, had built a sailing boat in the basement, where we sometimes hid, especially when we were in really big trouble.

All of us kids would sit in our boat for hours. We pretended to escape from grandma and grandpa into a deep blue sea far, far away. But, carefully hidden away in a wall pocket down in the basement, in a secret cranny, were: *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Charlotte's Web*, and, of course, my favorite book of all, *The Owl and the Pussy Cat*.

Depending on the book of the day, we would dress up accordingly. My brother Randy loved to wear grandpa's dirty old construction hat. The sawed-off top of our mother's old mop became his hair under that silly hat. Randy had one of our grandfather's corn pipes, too. He made sure we knew *he* was the captain of our ship. My sister Lisa and I took turns being pussycats. Our outfits consisted of winter gloves, old T-shirts, furry snow hats, and dark sunglasses. Our grandmother's best door runners were our tails. If my mother had known we had hidden some of her best bras in the basement, we would have been in even bigger trouble.

Flash forward some 40 years. I now live on the island of Molokai, and there are lots of boats parked in the Kaunakakai Harbor, but none like our beloved grandfather's boat in the basement. What hasn't changed is the pleasure I get from books.

Now, my brother and sister live on the mainland, but my neighbors have four young daughters who consider me family and call me “Auntie Linda.” Auntie Linda loves reading her favorite books with these lovely children under the shade of a huge mango tree. Hopefully, her little friends will remember Auntie Linda for how she made them feel when she read to them and, when they grow up, share similar moments with the children in their lives.

Aloha,
Auntie Linda



Linda Kauhane during her make-believe days of being a Red Cross nurse.



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President's Message



My mother, who is suffering from a severe case of memory loss, has not lost one thing: her ability to say "Thank you." For as simple a task as preparing her a meal of oatmeal and toast, she will always say "Thank you for the delicious breakfast." Indeed, it would be unforgivable for me, given my upbringing, not to express my appreciation to all who help make our organization a success.

We are fortunate to have many friends who support us: volunteers, board members, donors, funders, partners, and others providing services to families and children. During this season, when we think of those nearest and dearest to us, we wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to all.

In Suzanne Bloom's picture book, *A Splendid Friend, Indeed*, Bear attempts to read and write and think, and he is interrupted each time by Goose. In this charmingly illustrated book, which we dedicate to each of you, a very simple message emerges: "You are my splendid friend. My splendid friend, indeed."

Thank you for being such splendid friends, for making our work a joyful one.

May you enjoy a New Year filled with peace, joy, and prosperity!

Warmest aloha,



During this new year, remember to give that child in your life the gift of reading. Books inscribed with a personal message are gifts that last a lifetime, and books read to that special someone in your life creates lasting memories!



PREL

A NEW RESOURCE FOR YOUNG READERS

By Kavita Rao and Julian Heinz

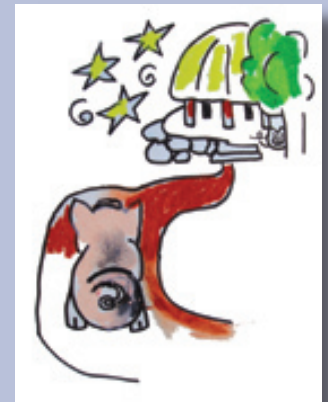
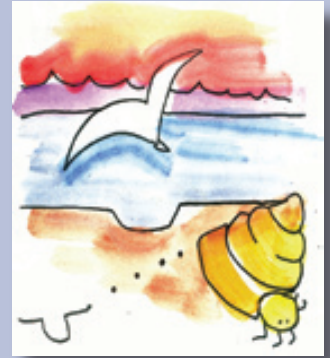
An ant makes plans to go on a fishing trip. A little pig gets lost on the way home. Two youngsters find a shiny shell as they walk along the beach. These are just a few of the characters and stories on the Pacific Language Early Readers website from Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL), available at www.prel.org/products/re_earlyreaders/index.html. The Pacific Language Early Readers, also available on CD-ROM, include 10 stories appropriate for young pre-K to 3rd grade readers in English and nine Pacific languages: Carolinian, Chamorro, Chuukese, Kosraean, Marshallese, Palauan, Pohnpeian, Samoan, and Yapese. The stories are richly illustrated and focus on themes familiar to Pacific island children. The website also includes audio recordings of the stories in most of the languages.

Using the Pacific language versions along with the English versions, parents and teachers can help students build vocabulary in both languages. The stories can be printed out and used to build a text-rich environment in the classroom or at home, encouraging students to read. The audio files provide a powerful learning tool to accompany the text of the books. Students can listen to the books as they read text on the screen or the printed page.



The Pacific Language Early Readers website is the most recent early-literacy tool created by PREL, a Hawaii-based nonprofit that works to improve education in Hawaii and the U.S.-affiliated Pacific islands. PREL's activities include undertaking research to identify effective educational practices and helping local and state education agencies meet the requirements of federal and other mandates, such as the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. Using information gleaned from its research and that of other organizations, PREL creates educational programs and curricula, provides training to teachers on proven educational practices, and distributes information via high-quality print and multimedia products.

To learn more about the Pacific Language Early Readers, contact Jackie Burniske at (808) 441-1392 or burniskj@prel.org



If you have or service Pacific island children, PREL offers educational materials and resources to enhance their learning on its website free of charge at www.prel.org

Giving Thanks



GIVING THANKS FOR AN AMAZING YEAR

As we welcome the New Year, we would like to take some time to reflect on the year that has passed and extend a very warm and heartfelt thank you to all our wonderful sponsors, volunteers, partners and donors for helping make 2006 such an amazing and incredible year for Read To Me International.

2006 Sponsors

Read To Me International would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations in 2006:

Major Donors

Hawaii Pizza Hut, Inc.
Hawaii State Department of Education

- Alexander & Baldwin Foundation
- Barnes & Noble, Inc.
- The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Inc.
- Hawaii Book and Music Festival
- Hawaiian Telcom
- Hawaiian Tug & Barge
- Jerry's Jades & Gems
- Kahala Mall
- Starr Seigle Communications
- StarrTech Interactive
- Sukamto Foundation

2006 Volunteers

Read To Me would like to thank the countless individuals who have made a difference by donating their time, energy and resources to assisting our programs, projects and special events. Although we are unable to name every single one who has supported our efforts, we hope all will realize how much they have touched the lives of the children and families Read To Me has serviced.

Read To Me Representatives on the Neighbor Islands

Read To Me would like to acknowledge and give special thanks to the following individuals whose dedication and volunteer efforts have helped countless families across the state experience the love and joy of reading aloud. We are grateful for their tireless service and personal leadership in the community and for extending Read To Me's mission throughout the islands of Hawaii.

- Evelyn Togashi – Read To Me Representative on the Big Island
- Joan Chong – Read To Me Representative in Kona
- Janice Bond – Read To Me Representative on Kauai
- Christie Pentak – Read To Me Representative on Molokai

We would also like to extend our special thanks to our board members for yet another year of their wonderful support and service.

Volunteers for Programs & Projects

Read To Me would like to thank the following individuals for their support and contributions in our programs and outreach efforts:

- Jean Akin and Carolyn Emoto – volunteers in RTM's Prison Literacy Project
- Bettina Mehnert – layout and design artist for RTM's quarterly newsletters



Giving Thanks

- Joyce Garrigus and her students from Hawaiian Mission Academy – volunteers providing labeling and sorting assistance for RTM's quarterly newsletters
- Brenda Powell and members of the Emblem Club – volunteers preparing packets for RTM's Books for Babies Project
- Kathleen Baoy and Edward Maruyama – volunteers providing administrative and clerical assistance
- Billie Keawekane Beer, Dr. Michelle Ebersole, Debbie Fujimoto, Helen Hemmes, Diane Mahoney, Charlene Masuhara, Wilma Matsumura, Karen Mitsuyoshi, Arlene Miyake, Bridgette Salzman, Roger Sheetz, Jenny Yoshizumi – volunteers in RTM's presentations on the Big Island

Volunteers for Special Events

Read To Me would like to thank the following individuals, as well as many others who are unnamed, for their participation and assistance in the following events:

- **2006 Run & Read for Literacy on March 12, 2006** – Wally Amos, Ed Kaahea, Dave Lancaster, John Waihee IV, Harlan Yuhara, and all the volunteers who participated
- **10th Annual Kahala Mall Keiki Fair on September 9, 2006** – All the volunteers who participated, including staff of Blockbuster Inc.
- **Grandparents' Day at Ala Moana Center on October 21, 2006** – Mary Matayoshi and Earl Miyamoto for their support and participation
- **Bling Fling on October 28, 2006** – Zale Okazaki for her support and contribution
- **Kauai Keiki Storybook Festival on October 28, 2006** – Janice Bond, committee members, guest readers, performers and all the volunteers who participated
- **Holiday Gift Wrapping at Barnes & Noble Ala Moana Center from December 16-24, 2006** – Carrolyn Emoto, Rae Higa, Courtney Mizuno and Joy Sakamoto for their support and participation

2006 Partners

Read To Me would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the following organizations for their wonderful support and collaboration, without which our programs, services and events would not attain the same level of success and impact. We thank them for sharing our vision and mission.

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| • Barnes & Noble | • Kona Community Hospital |
| • Castle Medical Center | • KTA Superstores |
| • Good Beginnings Alliance | • North Hawaii Community Hospital |
| • Hawaii Pizza Hut | • North Hawaii Drug Free Coalition |
| • Hawaii Self Storage | • PACT Kaneohe Community Family Center |
| • Hilo Medical Hospital | • PBS Hawaii, Ready To Learn |
| • The Honolulu Advertiser | • Queen's Medical Center |
| • Ka Lei Eggs | • Rotary Club of Hilo |
| • Kahala Mall | • Rotary Club of Honolulu Sunrise |
| • Kaiser Permanente Moanalua Medical Center | • Tripler Army Medical Center |
| • Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children | • Wahiawa General Hospital |
| | • Windward Community College |

To all whom we have listed, including many whom we did not, including donors, thank you again for all your support. Our best wishes for an awesome New Year in 2007. Mahalo!



KINGS, QUEENS, PRINCES AND PRINCESSES

By Liane Akana

Last October, I was treated to a parade of little princesses decked out in all their Halloween finery. They twirled, curtsied and pranced about, careful not to topple their tiaras.

It got me thinking about the timeless intrigue of kings, queens, princes and princesses, and how stories of royalty have been passed from generation to generation in the form of written fairy tales. Today, while children satisfy their craving for royalty through Disney movies and the like, there are books that speak of royalty through traditional fairy tales, fractured fairy tales, and just plain stories.

Author-illustrator Tomie dePaola, in his delightful chapter book, *26 Fairmont Avenue*, provides an autobiographical account of a trip to see Walt Disney's version of *Sleeping Beauty* and describes the anger and disappointment he experienced when he realized the departure the movie took from the book version of the story. Tomie got it all right when he exclaimed, "Mr. Walt Disney hadn't read the true story!"

Whether you read the story or see the movie first, you will want to know how the true story goes. Treat your princes and princesses to a royal feast with our favorite stories about kings, queens, princes and princesses. And may you all live happily ever after!

Demi. *King Midas and the Golden Touch*. New York: Simon & Shuster, 2002. A classic story of King Midas and what happens when his wish that everything he touches turns to gold comes true.

Munsch, Robert. *The Paper Bag Princess*. New York: Annick Press Ltd., 1980. A clever story about a smart, brave, liberated princess who saves the day—and the prince, too!

Takayama, Sandi. *The Prince and the Li Hing Mui*. Honolulu: The Bess Press, Inc. 1998. A Hawaiian adaptation of the Princess and the Pea, describing how an unwitting suitor passes the test for the hand in marriage of the Princess Li Hing Mui.

Thaler, Mike. *Cinderella Bigfoot*. New York: Scholastic, 1997. As the title may intimate, a story with a refreshing departure from the image of the perfect princess.

Wilcox, Leah. *Falling For Rapunzel*. New York: Puffin Books, 2005. A hilarious story illustrating what happens when communication between Prince Charming and Rapunzel goes haywire and everything is thrown down except Rapunzel's hair.

Wood, Audrey. *King Bidgood's in the Bathtub*. New York: Harcourt Brace and Company, 1985. A rollicking fun story of King Bidgood, who retires to the bathtub and refuses to get out; as much fun to read as it is to look at.





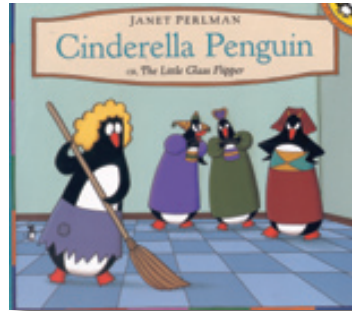
Winter Craft

CINDERELLA/CINDERFELLA PENGUIN CUPS

By Pat Mizuno

The winter season in Hawaii reminds me that although we do not experience a season with snow and extreme cold, there are ways that we celebrate the season in our own unique way.

The winter months bring back memories of a time when my daughter Courtney was a young child. She loved reading the story *Cinderella Penguin* by Janet Perlman, and we would wonder what it was like to live in a cold climate and play in the snow. We would celebrate winter by eating shaved ice on a warm day in December or January, and we would drink hot cocoa at night as part of our winter ritual. Now that she is older and attending college where there is snow and extreme cold, she celebrates winter by playing in the snow, snowboarding or sliding down large snow-covered hills on cafeteria trays. She and her friends end the evening by eating pancakes and drinking hot cocoa.



To celebrate winter with her, I think I'll send her a copy of *Cinderella Penguin* to read aloud to her friends on a cold winter night. Meanwhile, now that she is no longer here, I will read *Cinderella Penguin* to the students I work with, and we will culminate our reading with these snowy-day treats to eat after I've read the story.

Penguin Cups

Supplies Needed:

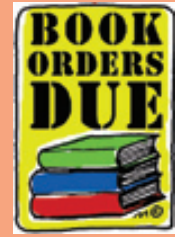
- One styrofoam cup
- Black, white, yellow and assorted colored
- Two wiggly eyes

Instructions:

1. Cut out one penguin body, including the feet, out of black construction paper and one stomach piece out of white construction paper. Cut one beak out of yellow construction paper and a bowtie or hair ribbon out of colored paper.
2. Glue the stomach piece on the penguin body; then, glue the beak and bowtie (for boys) or hair ribbon (for girls) onto the penguin's body.
3. Attach wiggly eyes to the penguin face, and glue the completed penguin body to the styrofoam cup.
4. Fill cup with Snowy-Day Treats by mixing one box of frosted Cheerios, one bag of miniature marshmallows, one bag of shredded coconut and (this is optional) one bag of yogurt-covered raisins or nuts, and have each child put a scoop of Snowy-Day Treats in their penguin cup to eat as a snack.



Pat Mizuno is the Title I Coordinator at Liliuokalani School and the Even Start Coordinator at Likelike Elementary School.



Save Money
AND
Raise Funds for Read
To Me!

By visiting the Read To Me website, www.readtomeintl.org and purchasing books through the amazon.com link, you can get great discounts on books and help Read To Me International raise funds for its projects.

For every book purchased through the Read To Me website, amazon.com will donate 5-10% of the purchase price to Read To Me International.

The site offers book lists and reviews for all types of children's literature and parenting resources.

Check it out!





Use GoodSearch.com and each time you search on this search engine powered by Yahoo! you'll help raise funds to support our mission. Go to www.goodsearch.com and enter Read To Me International Foundation as the charity you want to support. For every search you do, you'll be helping to donate a penny. Start searching on GoodSearch.com today!



Upcoming Events

COME JOIN US!

Experience Moonlight Magic on March 1, 2007

Read To Me is having its first wine, pupu and silent-auction fundraising event on March 1, 2007 at the Kapiolani Community College from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Sponsored by Ka Lei Eggs, the theme of the evening is “Moonlight Magic,” and all proceeds will benefit Read To Me. Tickets are priced at \$100 each. For more information or to purchase tickets, please call (808) 955-7600.

Read To Me Conference on June 28 – 29, 2007

Save the dates! This eagerly anticipated two-day conference at the Hawaii Convention Center will feature renowned children's authors/illustrators, Mem Fox and Rosemary Wells. Join our read-aloud advocates and child-development specialists, educators, and parents for two fun-filled and inspirational days of learning and interaction. Registration fee includes a continental breakfast and a fabulous lunch on both days. For more information or to register, please call (808) 955-7600.

- Early Registration** ————— \$175 (through May 15, 2007)
- Regular Registration** ————— \$200 (May 16 – June 6, 2007)
- Late Registration** ————— \$225 (June 7 – June 22, 2007)

Registrations after June 22, 2007 will be on a space available basis, please call (808) 955-7600 to inquire. Walk-ins will not be accepted.



Mem Fox



Rosemary Wells



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