



Anna the Storm-Water Drain Cat

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**By
Stella Barton Day**

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Grades K-2



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Greensboro Author Releases New Children's Picture Book About a Neighborhood's Storm-Water Drain Cat

Paws and Claws Publishing author Stella Barton Day has always loved children and pets, especially cats and dogs. All of her life she's owned pets. Her intriguing children's picture book incorporated those two loves. Her husband had always encouraged her to write a book, so she finally did. The resulting charming book illustrated how one little girl could make a difference in the life of a feral cat that lived in a storm-water drain. The involvement of many adults in the neighborhood reinforced the positive values of working together for the common good, problem solving as a group, and ensuring an affirmative outcome for a worrisome situation. Stella's book is reminiscent of neighborhoods years ago.

GREENSBORO, NC—OCTOBER 8, 2016—Stella presented Anna, the cat living in the storm-water drain, from the beginning of the book. The cat was perfectly content with her home in the drain. Lilly and others in the neighborhood fed Anna food and treats to take good care of her.

However, one day something went decidedly wrong. The cat meowed repeatedly and wouldn't stop. No matter what Lilly did, the meowing persisted. Lilly turned to her neighbors for help. Some of the older women brought food, but to no avail. Anna continued meowing unhappily. Fathers in the neighborhood tried unsuccessfully to lift the storm-water drain's lid, which wouldn't budge.

Then everyone in the neighborhood came and put their heads together to come up with a practical solution. Three days later, Anna was still meowing. A big daddy came to her assistance. We won't spoil the ending for book buyers and readers, but it's sure to delight everyone.

Jennifer Tipton Cappoen's lighthearted, colorful artwork and cover design give readers and listeners alike a close look at Lilly and her family, as well as others in their neighborhood. During the problem-solving meeting, the artist's colorful speech bubbles present a number of good alternatives for helping Lilly.

Both the text and the fun artwork in Stella's book reinforce positive aspects of neighborhood togetherness and compassion. This is a story that just might resonate with a lot of readers simply because there are feral cats living in storm-water drains in many neighborhoods. As long as there are feral cats, this will be bound to be the case.

Anna the Storm-Water Drain Cat is an affirming, modern look at people in a neighborhood working together. It features a little girl having fun with her siblings and knowing that she's helped an animal. The creative artwork shows readers the song that Lilly wrote and sang for Anna as well as Lilly's family and the neighborhood feral cat loved by all. This uplifting story offers real-life feral-cat experiences, neighborhood lessons, and family memories that children will enjoy reading over and over again.

This book is available from the following distributors online: BarnesandNoble.com and Amazon.com. Retailers, please send inquiries to info@pawsandclawspublishing.com