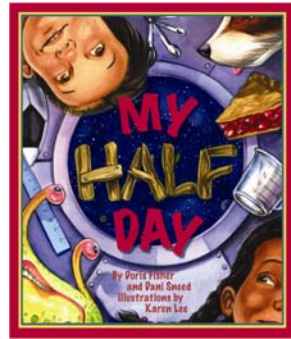
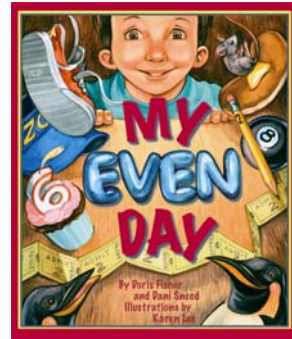
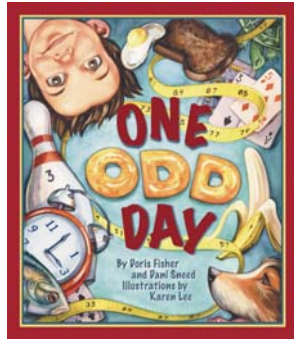
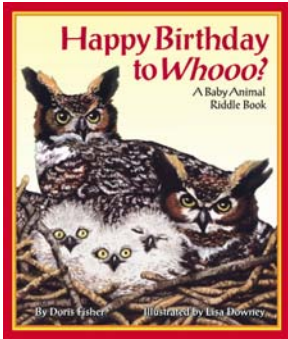


A Conversation with Doris Fisher *author of Happy Birthday to Whooo?,* *One Odd Day, My Even Day and My Half Day*



Why did you write *Happy Birthday to Whooo?*

When I read a baby could weigh 5,000 pounds and still be called a baby, I knew I had to come up with a way to intrigue readers with the whopper blue whale baby!

What are the most frequently asked questions you encounter as an author?

It seems the audience wants more animals to guess in this riddle book when I finish reading it.

What gets your creative juices flowing?

Reading unusual facts, names or articles; playing with words and their arrangement with each other; wacky rhyming poetry; and of course the best motivation of all – a deadline for a finished manuscript draft!

What tips do you have for parents who wish to help their children learn more about animals?

Go the zoo, the library, farms and pet stores. Often an unusual outing is more memorable than the standard, such as the snake house or watching the sea lions perform. The circus, rodeo and aquariums are also wonderful introductions to the varied world of animals.

So, why do you write children's books?

I knew from the age of 10 that I wanted to be a kindergarten teacher. There was no doubt. And reading six stories a day to classes was a great way for me to hear the rhythm, flow and character appeal in picture books. Many children's writers might also write novels, but not me. I'm a short, sweet and to the point kind of author! I love picture books, which are really miniature masterpieces!

What has been the most rewarding or challenging aspect of writing your books?

I think the most rewarding times for me after Sylvan Dell accepted my books for publication have been meeting Donna and Lee and finding out just exactly how well they treat “their” authors. The number of books sent to us for promotion, to have on hand and for ourselves, is just amazing. They are always willing to help, time willing and do so in a friendly atmosphere all the way around.

If another editor and publisher choose one of my books for their list, I hope I will be treated as well as I have been with Sylvan Dell. I rather doubt it will be quite so phenomenal, though.

Want to continue the conversation? Schedule an interview!

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