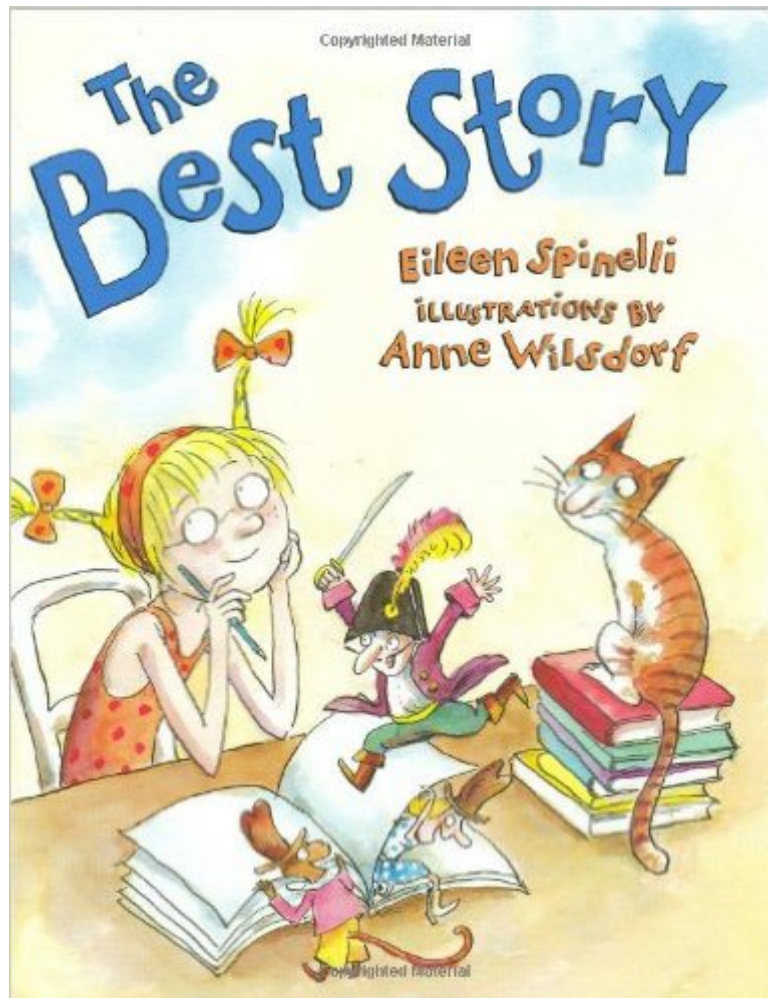


The book was found

# The Best Story



## Synopsis

The best story is one that comes from the heart. The library is having a contest for the best story, and the quirky narrator of this story just has to win that rollercoaster ride with her favorite author! But what makes a story the best? Her brother Tim says the best stories have lots of action. Her father thinks the best stories are the funniest. And Aunt Jane tells her the best stories have to make people cry. A story that does all these things doesn't seem quite right, though, and the one thing the whole family can agree on is that the best story has to be your own. Anne Wilsdorf's hilarious illustrations perfectly capture this colorful family and their outrageous stories in Eileen Spinelli's heartfelt tale about creativity and finding your own voice.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 390L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Dial Books; 5.4.2008 edition (May 29, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0803730551

ISBN-13: 978-0803730557

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 0.4 x 10.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (53 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,257 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Books & Libraries](#) #9 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Multigenerational](#) #11 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World](#)

Age Range: 6 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 3

## Customer Reviews

When we first saw this book at the library this week, the author's name did not sound familiar to me. After reading *The Best Story*, we will definitely be on the lookout for more Eileen Spinelli books! *The Best Story* is a tale of a young girl who wants to enter a story writing contest at her local library. She goes home determined to write a fabulous story and win the grand prize. This book is about her realization that all the help she tries to get from her family members does not help her create a fabulous story. In fact, only when her mother says, "I think the best story is one that comes from the

heart. Your own heart." does she realize the true purpose of creating a story of her own. I love the fact that the author never says whether the girl wins the contest or not. Because that's not the point! The point is that she created a work of art from within. My daughter loves to write and illustrate her own books. I enjoy reading them, because I know that even though they may not be the next best seller, they have a little piece of her in each page. I really like this book, and I'm so happy that we stumbled on it. What a great way to encourage your child to "create from within"! Sometimes our children sadly look to others (family, their peers, teachers, etc.) for ideas when it comes time to create or make decisions. I hope that somewhere along the way, I encourage my children to look to themselves for inspiration.

Eileen Spinelli, a master of capturing the poignant moments in children's lives has done it again with, *The Best Story*. The girl, seeking the advice of all family members, is writing a story to submit to The Red Brick Library story contest. None of the advice produces the story she can believe in until her mother suggests that, the best story, is one that comes from your heart. The author doesn't name the girl, nor give us the results of the contest which makes us think about what is important in life. Ellen Nathan

I gave it 5 stars because there wasn't any more to give! This is our first Eileen Spinelli story and I want to give her a hug! This is a powerful story that I think EVERY child should hear! It could just be the experiences I'm having with my own children, but sometimes curriculum (not the fault of the teachers) puts too much emphasis on grammar and structure in K-2nd grade writing to make the "Best Story", that I think it's hard for these young minds to let out all of their wonderful and creative writing. Thank you Eileen Spinelli, for sending the message to write what's inside of you in such a darling and fun way!

Eileen Spinelli does herself proud in this wonderful little story about a girl who has to write an essay and is not sure what to write. This is a great read aloud for children who are learning to write narratives.

I use this book for Kindergarten, First, Second and Third grades to help stimulate their desire to write. The humor is just enough to set off the beautiful advice from Mom (Eileen). I love it!!

I used this in the classroom when I taught writing to elementary students using the writers workshop

format. I also found that other teachers wanted to borrow it too when I was a coach for writers workshop.

I bought this book for my daughters's first grade class. They really loved this book. It fit in perfectly with all the writing s they have to do in class.

I plan to use this book on the first day of school! I think it will show them that they do have ideas about things to write and, hopefully, they will be able to jot down some topics of things they love after listening and discussing this story!

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