



About Jeanne McNaney

Author of *Miracle in Sumatra*



Growing up with a household full of dogs, cats, birds and turtles, Jeanne McNaney's love for animals developed at an early age. One special moment enriching that love was the birth of her West Highland Terrier's puppies. Even at 10, Jeanne appreciated the beauty of God's creation. Now with children of her own, Jeanne realizes that all she wants for them is to be able to grow up in a safe, clean and healthy world.

In her new children's book, *Miracle in Sumatra: The Story of Gutsy Gus* (Ovation Books, October 2009, 978-0-9814534-6-0, \$16.95), Jeanne teaches children about wildlife conservation and endangered species preservation. The story takes place in the jungle of Sumatra, home to an endangered species of orangutans. When trappers capture his mom and dad, Gus, a brave young orangutan, must fight to save his family, his friends and his home.

Jeanne was born and raised in Bardonia, N.Y., a small hamlet in Rockland County. After moving to Greenwich, Conn., in 1982, she graduated from Greenwich High School before spending a year at the prestigious Loomis Chaffee. She attended Ohio Wesleyan University, where she studied Zoology and then went on to receive her Bachelor of Science in veterinary technology and behavioral science, graduating magna cum laude, from Mercy College in 1995.

Jeanne spent two years as the northeast regional sales and marketing coordinator for Showtime Networks before pursuing her passion as a veterinary technician. A few years later, she studied as an applied behavioral analysis therapist for autistic children while working as a special events coordinator for UST, Inc. She now considers being a nurturing wife and mother as her number one job.

"My children teach me every day about the joy of living in the moment and how precious childhood is," Jeanne says. "They see such wonder in the universe and see things so innocently that I realize that they are truly our teachers."

Jeanne currently resides in Old Greenwich, Conn., with her husband and three young children. Her first children's book, *The Legend of Honey Hollow* (Ovation Books, January 2009), introduces children to environmentalism and the dangers of global warming. She has served on the board of Pathways, Inc., which provides housing for mentally ill adults. She currently sits on the board of governors for the We Are Family Foundation and is an active volunteer with the Old Greenwich School.

About the Illustrator

French artist David Cochard has been a freelance illustrator since 1996. He received his Masters of Art at the University of Paris VIII and became chief designer of *Le Goinfre*, an award-winning comic fanzine. Currently residing in Argentina with his wife, Sandrine, David runs his own illustration company, *Ilustra World*.