



Kathy Dye

Author and Inspirational Speaker

LIFE IS OUR STORY.


Kathy Dye is a retired elementary school teacher who holds a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction. After teaching creative writing for several years, Kathy developed an even stronger passion for becoming a writer. Kathy brings her insight of many years teaching children in school, leading Bible classes, as well as being a mother and grandmother.

Kathy's first published book, *A Song in Her Heart*, was written after she witnessed the devastating effects of Alzheimer's disease on her mother. Kathy and her siblings searched for ways to connect with their mother and discovered that music was the best form of communication.

Kathy donates 10% of all book proceeds to the Alzheimer's Association.

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BOOK DESCRIPTION AND APPLICATIONS

Beautifully written and illustrated, this story takes you through the full life of Josie who was born with *A Song in Her Heart*. Josie shared her song with everyone she met and believed everyone has a song to share.

This book was written about the author's mother who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. Kathy and her siblings were delighted to discover they could still connect with their mother through music. *A Song in Her Heart* demonstrates how music affects the lives of not only Alzheimer's patients but also those around them.

Over 6 million people in the United States are affected by Alzheimer's disease. Discussing this topic with children who have loved ones diagnosed with the disease can be a daunting task. *A Song in her Heart* was written to help adults generate conversations with children about Alzheimer's and what it means to have a song in your heart. Allow children to ask questions and help them understand our greatness is not always about being the best, but being who you are and sharing our gifts with others in the simplest of ways.

EVENTS

It would be my privilege to come to your school function, home school, or community group and speak. I can read and discuss my book, *A Song in Her Heart*, or speak on topics that you feel you need.

Topic Ideas

- Book Signing and Discussion
- The Stages of Writing
- How to Get Children Excited for Writing
- Helping Children Discover the Song in Their Own Hearts

In some presentations I may use drama. You can also meet my alter ego, Gertie, who likes to entertain with everyday humor. Learn more on my website.

Visits are available for both school assemblies and individual classrooms. Events are free of charge, and I reserve the right to promote and sell my books. I will provide fliers for presales for book signings. Preferred locations are within 100 miles of Evansville, Indiana.

I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

 *Kathy Dye, Author*

TESTIMONIAL

I have known Kathy for many years and have had the privilege of seeing her teach children in her creative writing classes. Kathy's passion for writing and love for creating characters shines through to both inspire and entertain her students. She is planting seeds for generations of writers to come.

– Melissa Sears,
Retired Elementary School Teacher



AUTHOR INTERVIEW



Why did you write this book?

A Song in Her Heart was originally inspired by patients from an Alzheimer's care home. Women in this group could no longer remember loved ones' names, but they could still play the piano, dance, and sing the words to familiar songs. This fascinated me, so I based my writing on them. The original story was revised several times, but it just wasn't what I was looking for.

My mother developed Alzheimer's a few years ago. It is hard to see those you love slip away. She eventually forgot our names, and she grew quiet. My brother lived close to the nursing facility, and his family would visit each Sunday. They would sing hymns and mom would remember all the words. She would sing loud, and she looked at peace. This was a beautiful time when we could all connect with her again.

Mom showed us all that we can share our song in simple ways through the life we live. I wrote this book to honor her and help others find the song in their heart.

When did you know you wanted to write?

I began writing many years ago through my journals. I would write messages for ladies' groups, skits, short plays, and Bible Studies. Poetry was therapy for me.

In 2016 I moved out of my elementary classroom and began a writing program through our Title I. I taught creative writing for K- 5th grade classrooms. One of our extensive projects each year was to write a book. My students would often tell me I ought to write a book as well. I agreed but felt I didn't have the time. So, after retiring, I began to take some writing classes and jumped right in!

