



The Truth of Me

Patricia MacLachlan

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

The Truth of Me

Patricia MacLachlan

The Truth of Me Patricia MacLachlan

Patricia MacLachlan, Newbery Medal–winning author of *Sarah, Plain and Tall*, is celebrated for making emotions accessible to children through her gentle writing style. She brings this gift, as well as her talent for writing about families, to the chapter book *The Truth of Me*.

The Truth of Me tells the story of Robbie, who loves spending time with his grandmother Maddy. Robbie loves the stories Maddy tells, and also how wild animals trust her enough to come right up to her.

But Robbie has always felt as if something is missing in his life--his parents don't always act like they love him. Maddy helps him understand that an experience his mother had long ago is at the heart of the problem in his family. With this knowledge, Robbie finds the courage to try to make things right.

This poignant story celebrates how our unique "small truths" make each of us magical and brave in our own ways.

The Truth of Me Details

Date : Published June 25th 2013 by Katherine Tegen Books

ISBN :

Author : Patricia MacLachlan

Format : Kindle Edition 133 pages

Genre : Childrens, Middle Grade, Family, Fiction, Realistic Fiction, Juvenile, Animals

 [Download The Truth of Me ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online The Truth of Me ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online The Truth of Me Patricia MacLachlan

From Reader Review The Truth of Me for online ebook

Alyson (Kid Lit Frenzy) says

A very special story about a boy, his dog, and some very special adults (grandmother, and a doctor/friend), coming of age, and lessons of life - will make a very nice read aloud. No dogs dying in this one.

Sally says

Robbie is an only child. His parents are musicians, his mom a violinist, his dad a conductor/composer, and Robbie feels like he is sometimes overlooked. His parents travel during the summer and Robbie gets to spend the summer with his grandmother, Maddy. Maddy is a fun grandmother. Once they had doughnuts for dinner! Maddy's specialty is being able to communicate with animals. This magic is experienced on a camping trip.

A sweet story. I thought this might be a good partner books with "The Wild Robot."

Christopher says

Not bad! Patricia MacLachlan, well-known for her Newbery Medal winner Sarah, Plain and Tall, has written a sweet little story here. It's not deep, but I certainly appreciated how she tried to discuss the amount of time parents spend with their kids.

Jessie says

Another poignant and beautiful story by PM. I enjoyed it for personal reasons, for it's poetic nuances and for its kind understanding of the characters. Seriously though, her books are my fandom. While reading this book I was excited to reread it! #nerdalert

I'm looking forward to reading all of her oeuvre and rereading them until I know them by heart. Her stories are that good!

Kristen says

This is a super short read--I read it on my Kindle and it felt more like a short story. Which made me a little sad, because I think it has some wonderful characters (I love Grandma Maddy and Dr. Henry) and an important theme (feeling unloved by your family). Definitely meant for younger readers, but I would have loved a longer, more fleshed out version.

Goshen PL Childrens says

A wonderful story about Robbie, who finds that staying with his grandmother helps him find out who he really is.

Alysha says

Short & sweet. About a boy's relationship with his dog, his grandma, his mom, the forest, & his own heart.

Weirdly, this is my first Patricia MacLachlan. I've never read "Sarah, Plain & Tall" (I know, I know!). I chose this one to talk to my kids' book club about, since it's on the Massachusetts Children's Book Award List. It's heartwarming & I got teary-eyed, but it didn't make any sort of lasting impression on me. It felt more like a short story than a novel.

Sue says

Patricia MacLachlan knows how to write a beautiful story.... she has a real sense of Robert's feelings about his parents and their leaving on a concert tour and also the specialness of his relationship with his grandmother..

Brenda says

The Truth of Me is a gentle story. I was thinking about how all Patricia MacLachlan books make me feel calm. I like how they just make me stop and think. Robert is going to stay with his grandmother while his musician parents are on tour. That's great with Robert because it means he'll be spending each day with his two summer best friends; Ellie, his dog and Maddy, his grandma. She is special.

Maddy has powers all her own. Powers that other people don't have.

Jack and Lizzie (Robert's school time best friends) know this, too. They have met Maddy.

"Maddy had gifts," says Lizzie.

"Do you mean magic?" I ask.

"No. Gifts," says Lizzie. "That's different. Remember when she was here and the birds came down from the trees to see her?"

"And a fox came?" says Jack. "It came right up to her? The animals seem to know that she is safe."

"They want to be close to her," says Lizzie. "That's her gift. They trust her."

During the summer, Robbie (what Maddy calls him) discovers a bit about his gifts and a bit about the truths that make him who he is. It's nice to know what makes you a special person in the world. I wonder what your small truths are.

Susan says

Patricia MacLachlan has done it again, simple, sweet, and true. Every one of her books has brought me to tears. This one hadn't and I didn't think it would. And then came the last page, she got me again.

The subtitle: "About a boy, his grandmother, and a very good dog." And that is it. A summer with his

grandmother and Robbie comes to understand his world a little bit better.

Marcia says

A beautifully written, touching story of a boy who doesn't not feel loved by his parents. He spends time with his wonderful grandmother and her friend, and comes to realize some truths about his life. Patricia MacLachlan is a master of word craft, and the sparse, eloquent prose is to be savored.

Josiah says

You won't get many long novels from Patricia MacLachlan. Her 1986 Newbery Medal winner, *Sarah, Plain and Tall*, is one of the shortest books to ever receive the award, at only fifty-eight pages in most editions. To tell an emotionally lasting story in the brief space Patricia MacLachlan takes for her books, one must be a keen purveyor of feeling, feeling that bleeds between the lines when words cannot convey the full truth of a life story played out authentically. This is the watermark of Patricia MacLachlan's writing, creating a foundation of emotion leading up to the greater truths one can just barely touch, but never grasp, no matter how many blocks are cemented upon the foundation. There is much to be felt that can't be explained concretely in any of life's most rewarding ventures, but the answers can usually be glimpsed, if only for a fleeting moment.

Robbie has felt like an unnecessary appendage in his family for some time. His mother and father are concert violinists, accomplished enough for their eccentricity (especially that of Robbie's mother) to be seen as a mark of genius, and droves of aspiring musicians show up at their door to audition anytime an opening in their group needs filling. Robbie's parents are so involved in the lively and challenging music scene, there isn't much time left to spend with their growing son, to show or even tell him they love him. So Robbie isn't *too* sad when he's sent to spend the summer with his grandmother, Maddy, harmlessly addled as his parents believe her to be. Maddy spins the craziest, strangest, most entertaining stories one could possibly believe about her escapades with animals in the wild, but true or not, she has her neighbor Henry (who also happens to be her unofficial boyfriend) around to help supervise, alleviating any concern from Robbie's parents.

Robbie can learn from Maddy's words, and he can learn from Henry's low-key wisdom, but most of all he learns from the casual respect given freely between himself, Maddy and Henry. Does it matter if Maddy's outlandish tales about cavorting with wild animals are true? Does it matter if Henry believes them, or can a lack of belief be no stumbling block to their relationship if Henry doesn't let it be, if his understanding of truth allows him to see Maddy's stories for the truth they definitely contain, whether or not the events described in them actually happened? There may be absolute truths in life that shouldn't be bent, but there is also the truth of fiction, and it is indeed a powerful truth. For the influence Charlotte A. Cavatica has had down through the generations on every reader of *Charlotte's Web* who recognized they, like Wilbur the pig, were not truly "Radiant", but nonetheless needed a friend like Charlotte to love them unconditionally and be willing to give themselves up for them, whether or not they could ever possibly deserve such eternal loyalty; for those whose heart shattered into a thousand pieces at the tragedies endured by Georgie Burgess in *A Lottery Rose*, hardship heaped upon hardship until the weight would crush most seven-year-old boys, but not Georgie; for everyone who has sweated and convulsed at the dizzying stress Connor Lassiter went through while fleeing for his life from a Juvenile Authority determined to deactivate the famous Akron AWOL in *Unwind*; these characters and more, having affected the lives of billions, are as real as the family living next-door. "We all have our truths, Kiddo," says Henry on page thirty-one of *The Truth of Me*. "Some are big truths. Most times they're small truths. But those stories are Maddy's truths." To understand the truth of

fiction, to see there can be as much veracity in a made-up story as in a factual recounting of a documented occurrence, is to free oneself to experience the full import of literature, or film, or story in any capacity by which it is delivered. The right fiction presented at the right time can do as much to change hearts as the biggest events in human history. As Robbie comes to adopt the relaxed outlook on life of Maddy and Henry, he sees, too, that there may be more to his mother's apparent emotional indifference toward him than he knows, and it isn't so bad having a great violinist for a parent. Especially when one has a Maddy and a Henry for backup. If we learn as much as Robbie does in this story—and it is my wish for everyone who reads it that they do—then *The Truth of Me* will be an experience that feeds the soul and lightens one's emotional load. How can one ask more of a book than that?

I love Robbie, whose quietly sweet presence made it easy for me to spend many moments in pause reflecting on what I was reading as the paragraphs passed beneath my eyes. With those introspective moments in mind, I want to thank Patricia MacLachlan for conceptualizing this story and putting in the effort to set it down on paper. It did good things for my heart. It made me smile. It gave me hope, and insight into myself, those closest to me, and even the people I don't know if I will ever understand. Not every book does all that. I would give two and a half stars to *The Truth of Me*, and that rating was close to rounding up to three. There isn't a person on earth who couldn't benefit from picking up this book and giving it a thoughtful read, and that is the best recommendation I know how to make.

Jennifer says

I read this book with my youngest son after seeing it on the Massachusetts Children's Book Award List. It was a quick read and we both really enjoyed the story. It is about a boy named Robert who is spending some time at his grandmother's house while his parents are performing in a concert tour. Robert feels disconnected from his parents but really feels an attachment to Maddy (his grandmother), Ellie (his dog) and Henry (Maddy's friend.) During this story Robert learns some "small truths" about himself and about his family as well.

<http://366andmore.blogspot.com/2017/0...>

Makayla Rehbein says

I'm going to tell you about the book *The Truth of Me*. It's about a family who lives by the woods and the mother owns her own band. So one day the mother and father had to leave because mother had a concert and had to be with the group that was in her band. The two kids had to stay with their grandmother madly why the their parents ahead to leave. A few days after the parents left Henry wanted to go to the woods so they went and they also took Ellie the dog. Madly his grandmother was making supper at the woods with a fire and all a suddenly she fell over a log. Henry was getting more woods for the fire and he looked back and say his grandmother laying on the ground so he rusted over there and tried to help her get up but she couldn't. Then Henry looked back and there was a black bear staying there so he didn't move. So why he was sitting there by his grandmother he called Ellie over to him. Then he wrote a note and tied it to Ellie's collar and told her to go get Dr. Robert for help. Robert did not want to leave grandmother by herself. So Ellie took off after Dr. Robert over the hills then a little bit later here come Ellie and Robert. Then Robert was moving grandmother ankle around and foot to see if it was broken he told Henry that it was broken and that he was going to make a splint for her tell tomorrow when they could get to the hospital. Tom is honey's neighbor who lives down the street from him and he lost his dog. So honey took Ellie down to Tom so Tom could see Ellie seen he lost his dog. Tom was happy to see Ellie then Henry and Ellie left after a little bit because it was

making toms blood pressure to go sky high because he was petting Ellie. By makayla

Caryn says

I adored this book! It was a quick read, but so much delight packed in to this lovely book. Easy for a younger child to read, but I am not sure they would truly understand the relationship between the boy and his mother. So sad, yet so beautiful. The ending brought tears to my eyes. I will be sharing this book with the counselor at my school to possibly help those students who feel unloved and unwanted.
