

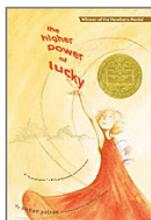


Susan Patron

Susan Patron is a lover of stories. As a librarian of 35 years, she has spent countless hours reading stories. Beginning in 1991, she began publishing stories of her own, although she has been writing stories for most of her life. When you read her work, you can tell that she has a deep love of stories, as her characters are real and the stories are relatable.

Patron has the ability to draw one into the fold of the story early with clear, crisp language. The setting for her Hard Pan series is so well described, you feel as if you are right beside Lucky. Her connections with the characters become your connections. It is a true testament to her writing breadth that she has successfully published in a wide variety of genres and formats, from realistic and historical fiction and autobiography to picturebooks.

Selected Bibliography



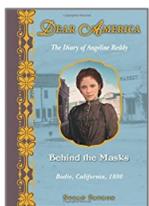
The Higher Power of Lucky (2006). In this Newbery award winner, Lucky has reached rock bottom. Things could not possibly get worse. The only solution is to run away from Hard Pan, California and start a new life with her dog, HMS Beagle, and her survival kit backpack. Eventually, Lucky finds her higher power, which she learned about while eavesdropping on an Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. Lucky's friends and family finally find her. Read more about Lucky, her friends Miles and Lincoln, and their adventures, in *Lucky Breaks* (2009) and *Lucky for Good* (2011).



Maybe Yes, Maybe No, Maybe Maybe (2008). PK is the middle sister, with the weight of the world and her sisters sitting on her shoulders. Megan is a teenager, sulky and challenging. Rabbit is young and worried about starting Kindergarten. PK is stuck, feeling like she has nothing special, not wanting anything to change. When their mother decides to move the family to a bigger apartment, PK has to soul-search to discover what really matters.



Dark Cloud, Strong Breeze (1994). Patron's masterful language and Peter Catalanotto's beautiful illustrations draw readers into this story. Daddy has locked his keys in the car! Thankfully the locksmith can help, but the locksmith needs a guard for his shop. The guard, a dog, agrees in exchange for warm shelter from the storm, and the list goes on. The very resourceful daughter is able to get everyone what they need.



Behind the Masks (2012). Patron's first historical fiction explores the Gold Rush in California in 1880. As part of the Dear America series, Patron weaves an intriguing tale of Angeline Reddy. When her father is declared murdered, Angie does not believe it. Instead, she begins to investigate, along with the help of some friends and a ghost.

Selected Awards

- Newbery Award 2007 (*The Higher Power of Lucky*)
- American Library Association Notable Books (*Maybe Yes, Maybe No, Maybe Maybe; The Higher Power of Lucky; and Lucky Breaks* for the audiobook)
- School Library Journal Starred Reviews (*Five Bad Boys, Billy Que and the Dustdobbin; Bobbin Dustbobbin; Dark Cloud Strong Breeze; and Maybe Yes, Maybe No, Maybe Maybe*)

Links of Interest

- Susan Patron's Website: <http://www.susanpatron.com>
- Simon & Schuster's Website: <http://www.simonandschuster.com/authors/Susan-Patron/28434352>
- Interviews
 - Author Turf Interview: <http://authorturf.com/meet-award-winning-author-susan-patron-2/authorinterviews>
 - Children's Literature Council of Sothern California Interview: <http://www.susanpatron.com/interviews.html>

Susan Patron is a member of USBBY. Why not join her?



This featured author profile was prepared by Bettie Parsons Barger, October 2016.