

Losing David

by

Joan A. de Bruin



An 11-year-old girl, grieving the death of her younger brother, escapes into a magical forest with her brother's ghost, a shape-shifter aunt, and a forest fairy trapped inside the body of a Christmas tree angel doll—a magical threesome tasked with saving the three worlds of Earth, Middle Kingdom and The City of Light from the evil destruction of the witch Haggi and her two sisters.

Loosing David (Mediacs, 2018), a young adult fantasy novel written and illustrated by Joan A. De Bruin, was inspired by Joseph Campbell's exploration of mythology's patterns and archetypes, the stories of our collective human unconsciousness.

Available on Amazon.com in paperback and eBook formats.

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Joan A. de Bruin is an author and illustrator who taught and lectured at colleges, universities and private schools throughout Southern California. A former director of the Los Angeles Craft & Folk Art Museum, Ms. de Bruin produced and directed educational conferences, festivals and art exhibitions in the Los Angeles Unified School District and Orange County Unified School District. She is also the founder of the Creative Art Bridges (artbridgesgallery.com) and a bilingual arts-integrated educational program for the San Gabriel Valley School District.

Losing David (Mediacs, 2018) was inspired by *The Hero's Journey*, Joseph Campbell's seminal exploration of the structure and characters of mythology—the patterns and archetypes which flow from our collective human unconscious and inform all story-telling.

Ms. de Bruin has written and illustrated two other works of fiction for 9-12 year-olds: *Yoda, The Daring, Dauntless, Darling Cat* (Mediacs, 2014), and *Rosebud, the Cat Who Lost her Nine Lives*. *Yoda* was inspired by the true story of a cat cured of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) by a neurofeedback therapist. *Rosebud* (Mediacs, 2018), written and illustrated with Douglas R. Decker, is a preteen fantasy about the ramifications of bullying. Ms. De Bruin is now writing and illustrating another fantasy for 9-12 year-olds, *Clyde Upside-Down Penbourne* or *The Fall of a Hero*, a story about a boy and his heroes.

The author is also working in collaboration with Victoria Ibric, M.D., the director of Pasadena's Neurofeedback Institute, on a collection of client stories, *Singing in the Brain; Success Stories from the Private Files of a Neurofeedback Therapist*.

Ms. de Bruin's art has been exhibited at the Downey Museum of Art; Charles Bowers Museum of Art; California State University, Long Beach, and in the California Governor's offices. Her work is also held in private collections on the East and West Coast and in Beijing. She has also worked with New York artist Red Grooms on his Egyptian sculpto-pictorama, and on educational programs with the artists Christo, Luis Jimenez and David Hockney.

Ms. de Bruin lives in Alhambra, CA, and is available for media interviews and bookstore signings.

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For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

***Losing David*, a preteen fantasy by author/illustrator Joan A. de Bruin, is published by Mediacs, a New York City publisher**

An 11-year-old girl, grieving the death of her younger brother, escapes into a magical forest with her brother's ghost, a shape-shifter aunt, and a forest fairy trapped inside the body of a Christmas tree angel doll—a magical threesome tasked with saving the three worlds of Earth, Middle Kingdom and The City of Light from the demonic destruction of the witch Haggi and her two evil sisters.

“*Losing David* was inspired by Joseph Campbell’s exploration of mythological patterns and archetypes,” says author Joan A. de Bruin, “the stories which flow from our collective human unconsciousness.

“My original intention was to write a sweet 1950s story about a little girl, her younger brother and their parents. But after watching Dr. Phil and Oprah sensitively help family members process the loss of a child and sibling, I decided to address the issue of grieving in a story about a magical journey of hope that restores a family’s harmony and peace.

“As I wrote *Losing David*, I selected those classic archetypes that best suited my 11-year-old heroine’s journey—magical objects, a ghost-brother, supernatural guides and forest fairies, a beautiful shape-shifter, animal-spirit companions, an ancient King of the Middle Kingdom and a coven of monstrous devil-witches.”

Losing David has been reviewed favorably by educators and psychologists who help children cope with the loss of a family member, and by general readers. Now available online in both paperback and eBook formats, it will soon be available in bookstores throughout the country. For more information about the author and her published work, please visit [Joan's Amazon Author's Page](#).

Joan A. de Bruin is an author and illustrator who taught and lectured at colleges, universities and private schools throughout Southern California. A former director of the Los Angeles Craft & Folk Art Museum, Ms. de Bruin produced and directed educational conferences, festivals and art exhibitions in the Los Angeles Unified and Orange County Unified School Districts. She is also the founder of a bi-lingual arts-integrated educational program for the San Gabriel Valley School District and [Creative Art Bridges](#), a virtual online gallery for established artists.

A film treatment based on *Losing David* and written by Jim Bergman is now being marketed to film production companies. Mr. Bergman is the president of [Mediacs](#), a New York City-based small press, and the co-author of *Graffiti Warriors: Bama and Pistol*, a feature film optioned by Benaroya Pictures. Mr. Bergman’s co-author, Gerard Brown III, wrote the iconic hip-hop movie, *Juice*.

Ms. de Bruin is available for media interviews and bookstore readings.