

DOWN ON FRIENDLY ACRES SERIES
BOOK REVIEWS

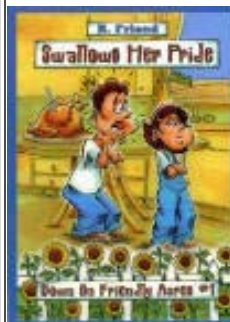
**Introducing our friend, my friend and soon to be your friend
– R. Friend**

R. FRIEND – SWALLOWS HER PRIDE

By R. Friend

Seeds of forgiveness

On R. Friend's sixth birthday, her brother, Duane, calls her a bad name. Ronda wants to return the favor. But Grandma Brombaugh always says, "If you can't say anything nice about somebody, don't say anything at all." Losing all self-control, she ends up getting in a fight with Duane while they both slop the hogs.



The fiasco that follows turns into trouble for both of them. Ronda and Duane end up in their own little corners. Baby sister, Diane, destined to be an angel, looks on with the eyes of a hawk and the ears of an elephant. And Grandma Brombaugh, an undercover angel, explains the importance of swallowing your pride.

This story is guaranteed to keep you in stitches (don't forget to breathe) as Duane and Ronda demonstrate how forgiveness requires you to swallow your pride.

(Click on book cover to read sample chapter)

R. FRIEND – TIME OUT AT HOME

By R. Friend

Seeds of patience

Ronda's in trouble again. Duane's still in turkey trouble. And Ronda's afraid he's turning into one – *beard, snood & wattle!* It's a good thing Grandma Brombaugh, the undercover angel, is back too!

Ronda's intentional trouble comes after hitting what would have been the winning home run until Duane tags her *out at home*. Ronda returns the favor by swinging her bat getting Duane *out at home*. That action lands Ronda in *time-out at home* due in part to "Miss Hawkephant's" declaration, "Wonda did it on porpoise!"

Out of patience, Ronda finds herself in her teeny, tiny corner's time out chair. As lights blink on and off in her head, Ronda takes to heart Grandma's advice, "*Patience is the best remedy for any trouble!*"



This series, guaranteed to keep you in stitches, also guarantees you'll discover how Duane finally gets the turkey out of his mouth. "Wattle" you waiting on? *Get reading!*

(Click on book cover to read sample chapter)

R. FRIEND – HATS OFF TO HEROES

By R. Friend

Seeds of kindness



Where's Diane? In an 1850's farmhouse, she could be anywhere! Ronda's looked everywhere. Her baby sister, Diane has disappeared. She needs a hero!

Ronda's father is a hero – an American hero! During World War II, Sergeant Harold Eugene Friend was awarded the Bronze Star for "great courage and devotion." After the war, Harold married an aspiring nurse, Jean Brombaugh, who becomes her family's special hero.

Eight-year-old LeAnne Taylor is a hero, too. Affectionately nicknamed **Sunshine**, LeAnne courageously faces her own battle. Inspired by Grandma Brombaugh to *spread rays of love, joy, and hope*, the Friends create a *Sunshine Basket* for their friend. Diane gives "*fwum da boddum*" of her heart as Ronda and her father tend to a secret garden. In the end, Sunshine treasures the three F's – *family, faith, 'n friends*.

Guaranteed to make you laugh and cry, this heartwarming story takes its "hats off to heroes." May it inspire us all to sow random acts of kindness for everyday heroes!

(Click on book cover to read sample chapter)

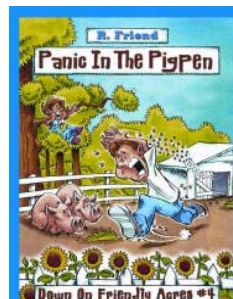
R. FRIEND – PANIC IN THE PIGPEN

By R. Friend

Seeds of perseverance

Ronda's in the kitchen as towels flap, birds fly, and feathers flail. Chaos continues when Snowball's persistent pursuit of dining on a delicious meal turns the family barn cat into a "*catcupine*." Pandemonium breaks out or as Diane, "*Miss Hawkephant*", calls it - "*panda moments*."

Farmer Friend's *heyday in the hay field* and the cousins' genuine *piggyback rodeo* teach everyone that there is a *time to hold on* and a *time to let go!* The Friends' frenzies end as Duane finds himself *in a pickle*. Hiding in a pig hut, Duane is unaware that he's set to *stir up* a hornet's



nest – *literally*.



This book is overflowing with perseverance, patience, persistence, pigs, and plenty of *in a pickle* pandemonium moments. It is guaranteed to tickle your funny bone, lift your spirits, and make memorable, magical moments.

When your perseverance is tested, remember what Grandma Brombaugh always says: "When you're under pressure or in a pickle, don't panic in the moment! Keep on holding on, never give up, and persevere to the very end!"

(Click on book cover to read sample chapter)

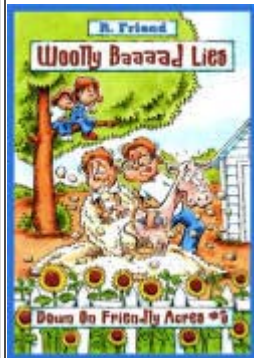
R. FRIEND - WOOLLY BAAAD LIES

By R. Friend

Seeds of Honesty

Duane sets a trap. Ronda smells a rat as her brother's mischievous behavior yields him an afternoon of punishment – *babysitting his favorite sister*. Ronda's wild and wacky idea leads to more tomfoolery as she persuades Duane to help create a masterpiece of art involving cute and cuddly farm animals posing precariously for a portrait in the parlor.

The cuckoo clock strikes two as the duo find themselves in more than *doo-doo*. In quite a quandary, Duane *tells the truth* as Ronda *stretches the truth* until it's not the truth at all! There's no pulling the wool over the undercover angel's eyes. Grandma Brombaugh's advice: "*Lies stretch and grow then in a blink, start to spread, smell, swell and stink! Truth told time and time again – with honesty you always win!*"



Will Billy Bob the BedBug, Ronda's new "*imaginary friend*," convince her that *honesty is the best policy*? Will telling the truth pay off as an unfortunate accident occurs while Ronald shears a sheep?

This story is guaranteed to be *woolly great!* Don't miss a *bleat* – I mean beat!

(Click on book cover to read sample chapter)

New Release and New Series:

"PU You Stink"

by R. Friend

This thirty-two page picture book is the first in our "Wild and Wacky Animal Tales" series. "P.U. You Stink" highlights the character trait of teamwork and is a must read for families who love to laugh! "Penelope the Pig, Sparky the Skunk,



and Sheriff Stinkbug, along with their stinky family members, team up to defeat the evil foxes, Eeeny Meeny, Miney and Moe. Those three conniving carnivores head to Hawg Heaven Farms to eat the piggies. The scuffle that unfolds in the pigpen only serves to validate the moral of the story - The family that stinks together - sticks together! AR quizzes will be available for this book in about a month.



(Click on book cover to see sample artwork)

PARENT, TEACHERS, AND CHILDREN'S THOUGHTS & REVIEWS!

My name is Missy. I very enthusiastically purchased your book the other day and read it to my 2 children (8 and 5 yr. old boys) Saturday night. They were so excited about the book as well as I. We are all anxiously awaiting to see if Duane ever got that turkey out of the back of his throat. We also made peanut butter fudge which was a fun treat after reading the book (Yummy!) and are planning the rolls for one of our dinners this week. I just wanted to say that I felt your book was very inspiring. My 8 year old made progress as well. He actually said after the book was over, "Mom, so when I get upset with my brother then I can just eat a cookie and swallow my pride and it won't bother me to say sorry." I was impressed. It takes a lot to impress an 8 year old, or at least my 8 yr. old. Just wanted to drop a line and say thanks for the book and thanks for being a wonderful writer for young children. The story was great, the lesson was great, and I love that real family experiences were used in the book. The children and I also loved reading the passage about you and being able to relate to you as a small child. How inspiring! Great job and can't wait for the next book.

Melissa Weidle

Jacob likes me to read to him but he's usually playing or fiddling around when I read to him. I must say this book grabbed his attention from the beginning. Jacob loved the first book! He did not want me to stop reading it. We finished it last night and his first question was, "is the turkey still stuck?"

I just order the other 3 and I can't wait to get them. I wanted to let Ronda, without the h, Friend know what a wonderful job she has done to capture my son's attention and mine. Great book!! The series will make great presents for the kids in our lives.

Sincerely,

Kim Henderson

"My daughter recently purchased your book R. Friend Swallows Her Pride. We have just finished reading your book and loved it. I appreciate your wholesome stories and wonderful values in your book. Thank you for bringing your family to life for the kids. It was truly a great book to read."

Sincerely,

Dianna Roberts

"Today I met a wonderful author named Ronda Friend. She actually grew up just ten minutes away from my house on a farm in the 50's and 60's. She has worked with children for over 30 years, and has always loved children's books. She decided to write a series of books based on her life growing up on the farm. Each book offers a lesson (ex. patience, kindness, honesty, etc.), teaches vocabulary (actually shows dictionary entries in the text AND encourages children to look up words they don't know!), and includes at least two songs, two poems, two of her grandmother's favorite recipes, and photographs of her family members, as well as hilarious illustrations and fun historical facts. And fun fonts help to encourage reading with expression!"

The books are early chapter books. Ronda started her own publishing company, and does not sell her books in stores. She has sold over 60,000 copies of her books, basically by word of mouth!

I bought two sets of her books at a craft show today. I came home and read two of them already, and am excited to read the next two. (The third one is titled "Hats Off to Heroes" and is about her father being in the War -- for you military families.)

No... She's not paying me to tell you all this! Ha, Ha! I just really am impressed with the books. They're fun to read, and they teach kids about the good old days. There are so many lessons to be learned in these books!

Check her out. Let me know what you think!"

Joni Ramsey