



Random House Children's Books presents . . .

Dana Reinhardt



Photo Credit: © 2006 Chelsea Hadley

“**W**hen your writing is going well it's like being in a private room with all your characters and the stories they have to tell. But sometimes, if you're not careful, and sometimes even if you're as careful as you can possibly be, you get closed out of that room, and you spend your days knocking on the door and doing everything you can to coax it open again.”

—Dana Reinhardt

Dana Reinhardt's debut novel, *A Brief Chapter in My Impossible Life*, a moving story of fate and love, received three starred reviews.



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About the Author

Dana Reinhardt grew up in a family of storytellers. Her older brothers would tell her elaborate lies that she almost always believed. Her father would take her for long walks in the neighborhood whenever something life changing was occurring, either privately or in the world at large, and he would talk her through the events in a thoughtful and elegant way.

She spent summers with her grandparents, and at night her grandmother would put her to bed with stories about the boyfriends of her youth.

And her mother shoved books into her hands, books she often didn't want to read because her mother had given them to her, and that is how children tend to be about the books their mothers love, but inevitably, she would read them, and more often than not, she would love them every bit as much as her mother insisted she would.

When Dana sits down to write, the stories of her family come back to her, and she tries to keep all aspects of their storytelling in mind. She tries to be a good liar, because she believes that telling elaborate lies and telling them well is the cornerstone of writing. She believes that good young adult novels should have events that shake the protagonists to their cores, should involve a romantic entanglement or two, and ultimately, should be the kinds of books that you can't put down even if your mother is the person who thrust them upon you.

Dana lives in Los Angeles with her husband and two daughters, who so far love the books that she has given to them, but they are only two and five.

For more information about Dana Reinhardt, visit her Web site at www.danareinhardt.net

Praise for:

A BRIEF CHAPTER IN MY IMPOSSIBLE LIFE

★ "Superbly crafted."

—*School Library Journal*, Starred

★ "A moving first novel . . . readers will quickly become absorbed."

—*Publishers Weekly*, Starred

★ "An outstanding first novel by an enormously talented writer."

—*Klatt*, Starred

"Fabulous debut."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

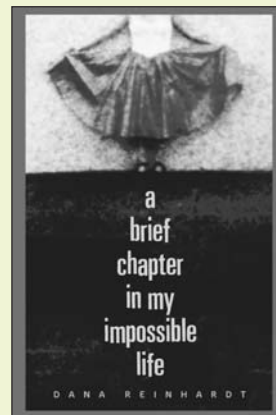
"[The] story is developed with skill, attention to detail, and poignancy."—*Booklist*

Book List



HARMLESS

Ages 12 up • Wendy Lamb Books
978-0-385-74699-1
(0-385-74699-7)
GLB: 978-0-385-90941-9
(0-385-90941-1)



A BRIEF CHAPTER IN MY IMPOSSIBLE LIFE

Ages 12 up • Wendy Lamb Books
978-0-385-74698-4
(0-385-74698-9)
GLB: 978-0-385-90940-2
(0-385-90940-3)

• A Texas Tayshas High School Reading List Title