

Wendelin Van Draanen



Photo Courtesy of the Author

“**T**hrough writing, I open up my heart and soul in ways I never could in everyday life. The joy, the pain, the wonder, and the loneliness I felt in growing up meld into stories, which I hope will help kids believe in themselves and have compassion for those around them.”

—Wendelin Van Draanen

Wendelin Van Draanen is the winner of the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Children's Mystery Book for *Sammy Keyes and the Hotel Thief* and the Christopher Award for *Shredderman: Secret Identity*.

About the Author

Books have always been a part of Wendelin Van Draanen's life. Her mother taught her to read at an early age, and she has fond memories of story time with her father, when she and her brothers would listen to him read.

Growing up, Van Draanen was a tomboy who loved to be outside chasing down adventure. She did not decide that she wanted to be an author until she was an adult. When she tried her hand at writing a screenplay about a family tragedy, she found the process quite cathartic, and from that experience, turned to writing novels for adults. Working as a classroom teacher, she soon stumbled upon the joys of writing for children.

Feedback from her readers is Van Draanen's greatest reward for writing. "I love it when a kid tells me that a book of mine changed their life. It doesn't get any better than that," she says. Van Draanen hopes to leave her readers with a sense that they have the ability to steer their own destiny—that individuality is a strength, and that where there's a will, there's most certainly a way.

Wendelin Van Draanen lives with her husband and two sons in California.

More information about Van Draanen and her books can be found at www.randomhouse.com/kids/vandraanen

Praise for:

SHREDDERMAN: SECRET IDENTITY

★ "Hilarious. . . . Kudos to Van Draanen for delivering a character-driven series that's spot-on for middle-graders and great for reluctant readers."

—*Booklist*, Starred

SWEAR TO HOWDY:

★ "Van Draanen masterfully portrays the changing attitudes of 12-year-olds oblivious to the possible consequences of their actions. . . . A deceptively simple narrative, funny at the outset but realistic in its consideration of some very serious issues."—*Booklist*, Starred

FLIPPED:

★ "Van Draanen has another winner in this eighth-grade 'he-said, she-said' romance told in alternating chapters by two teens who describe how their feelings change about themselves and each other."

—*School Library Journal*, Starred

SAMMY KEYES AND THE SEARCH FOR SNAKE EYES:

★ "Van Draanen offers such an explosive combination of high-stakes sleuthing, hilarity, and breathlessly paced action that it's impossible to turn the pages fast enough."

—*Kirkus Reviews*, Starred

Book List

CONFESSIONS OF A SERIAL KISSER

Ages 12 up • Alfred A. Knopf
HC: 978-0-375-84248-1 (0-375-84248-9)
GLB: 978-0-375-94248-8 (0-375-94248-3)

RUNAWAY

Ages 10 up • Alfred A. Knopf
HC: 978-0-375-83522-3 (0-375-83522-9)
GLB: 978-0-375-93522-0 (0-375-93522-3)

SWEAR TO HOWDY

Ages 10 up • Alfred A. Knopf
HC: 978-0-375-82505-7 (0-375-82505-3)
GLB: 978-0-375-92505-4 (0-375-92505-8)
PB: 978-0-440-41943-3 (0-440-41943-3)

FLIPPED

Ages 10 up • Alfred A. Knopf
HC: 978-0-375-81174-6 (0-375-81174-5)
GLB: 978-0-375-91174-3 (0-375-91174-X)
PB: 978-0-375-82544-6 (0-375-82544-4)
• A *School Library Journal* Best Book of the Year
• An ALA/YALSA Popular Paperback for Young Adults
• An IRA-CBC Children's Choice
• An IRA-CBC Teacher's Choice
• A New York Public Library Best Book for the Teen Age
• A California Young Reader Medal Award Winner
• A Nevada Young Readers Award Winner
• A South Carolina Junior Book Award Winner
• A Virginia Young Readers Program Award Winner

SHREDDERMAN

Illustrated by Brian Biggs
Ages 7-10 • Alfred A. Knopf

SHREDDERMAN: SECRET IDENTITY

HC: 978-0-375-82351-0 (0-375-82351-4)
GLB: 978-0-375-92351-7 (0-375-92351-9)
PB: 978-0-440-41912-69 (0-440-41912-3)
• A *Booklist* Editors' Choice
• A *Book Links* Lasting Connections
• A Christopher Award Winner

SHREDDERMAN: ATTACK OF THE TAGGER

HC: 978-0-375-82352-7 (0-375-82352-2)
GLB: 978-0-375-92352-4 (0-375-92352-7)
PB: 978-0-440-41913-6 (0-440-41913-1)
• A Delaware Diamonds Award Winner

SHREDDERMAN: MEET THE GECKO

HC: 978-0-375-82353-4 (0-375-82353-0)
GLB: 978-0-375-92353-1 (0-375-92353-5)
PB: 978-0-440-41914-3 (0-440-41914-X)

SHREDDERMAN: ENEMY SPY

HC: 978-0-375-82354-1 (0-375-82354-9)
GLB: 978-0-375-92354-8 (0-375-92354-3)
PB: 978-0-440-41915-0 (0-440-41915-8)

sammy KEYES

Ages 10 up • Alfred A. Knopf

SAMMY KEYES AND THE HOTEL THIEF

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• An Edgar Allan Poe Award Winner
• An ALA/YALSA Popular Paperback for Young Adults

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GLB: 978-0-375-92349-4 (0-375-92349-7)

SAMMY KEYES AND THE DEAD GIVEAWAY

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GLB: 978-0-375-92350-0 (0-375-92350-0)
PB: 978-0-440-41911-2 (0-440-41911-5)

SAMMY KEYES AND THE WILD THINGS

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GLB: 978-0-375-93525-1 (0-375-93525-8)