



Lena

Lena with her brother Mats

ABOUT LENA SHIFFMAN:

Lena was born and raised in Sweden, a country rich in story-telling. She grew up reading the wonderful books about *Pippi Longstocking*, *The Children of Noisy Village* and many other books by Swedish author Astrid Lindgren. When she was seven, she was given a book of Hans Christian Andersen's Fairy Tales, and spent hours creating her own pictures for the stories that she read. She has now been illustrating children's books for more than twenty years.



Lena's early work

Her first book, *Keeping a Christmas Secret* written by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor, received a Christopher award in 1989. Since then she has illustrated many magazines and books, such as *My First Book of Words*, and numerous *Hello Readers* for Scholastic Inc., including the book *Dancing with Manatees*, which has sold more than half a million copies in countries all over the world—even as far away as China. Other books include: *When I lived with Bats* and *Playing with Dolphins*, both written by Faith McNulty. *Ocean Waves & Other Tales* and *Playdates & Other Tales* by Helen H. Kimbrough are two of her most recent books.

Lena attended Spectrum Institute of Commercial Art in NJ, and later studied at The Parsons School of Design and the Art Students League in New York City. She is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators and a former council member of the Rutgers University Council on Children's Literature.



Sketches & ideas

Currently, she works as an art instructor for Hunterdon Museum of Art in Clinton, the Somerset Art Association in Bedminster, the Zimmerli Art Museum in New Brunswick and for Hunterdon County Parks & Recreation, in Lebanon, New Jersey. She is comfortable teaching young or old and is inspired by her students' passion for the arts.

"When I'm not illustrating or teaching art, I enjoy visiting schools to share my passion for children's books. I love being an illustrator and hope to be an inspiration to children—young and old—who love books as much as I do." Lena Shiffman.

For more about Lena visit her website at: www.lenashiffman.com



Contact Lena:

If you are interested in:

- School Visits
- Workshops/classes
- Ordering books
- Comissioning an illustration

Please contact Lena directly:

shiffmanlena@gmail.com