

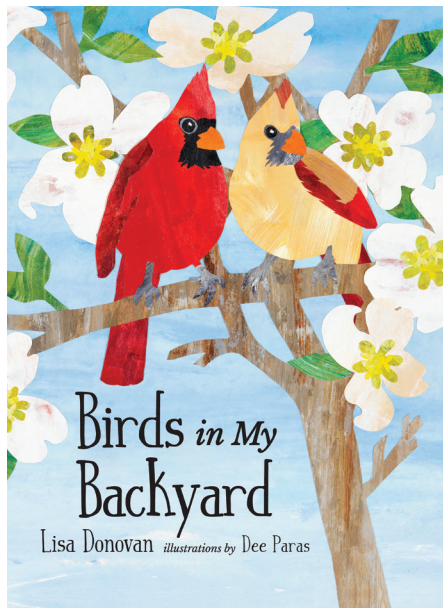
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New Children's Book is For the Birds

PITTSBURGH – Sometimes the best show is just outside your window. That's what first-time author Lisa Donovan discovered, and she began writing about what she observed. The result is **Birds in My Backyard**, a whimsical introduction to a variety of birds for young children up to age 7.

Donovan recalls, "Bluebirds were 'on guard' on my roof top. Crows flew away at the slightest sign of me at the window—as if they were guilty of something. Geese sounded like car horns. Turkey families came bounding up to the feeders twice a day for their meals. I loved the different personalities."

The book describes 23 birds in light verse accompanied by colorful illustrations. Robins "go fishing for worms in the grass." Hawks "play with breezes." And Blue Jays "boss other birds." The story begins with the birds' Dawn Chorus and ends at dreamy dusk.

Donovan adds, "The beauty of bird watching is that it's non-tech. Kids do not need headphones or screens. Simply looking outside is the way to begin."

Illustrator Dee Paras created collages of hand-painted papers to bring each bird to life on the page. And for readers who want to learn more, the book features information about the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania and the National Aviary in Pittsburgh.

Birds in My Backyard premiered at the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania's headquarters at Beechwood Farms Nature Reserve in Pittsburgh.

Birds in My Backyard may be purchased on LDonovanBooks.com. The retail price is \$16.99.

Lisa Donovan grew up in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Grove City College. She received an M.A. in Professional Writing from Carnegie Mellon University. After working in communications for various companies and clients, she volunteers – and looks out the window.

For more information about **Birds in My Backyard** or to plan a book event, contact Lisa Donovan at 845-641-8544 or LDonovanBooks@gmail.com.

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