

Press Release



Get to know Gooney Bird Greene!

- [Gooney Bird Greene](#)
- [Gooney Bird and the Room Mother](#)
- [Gooney the Fabulous](#)

by [Lois Lowry](#)

illustrated by [Middy Thomas](#)

- [About the Books](#)
- [About the Author](#)
- [About the Illustrator](#)

About the Books

Meet Gooney Bird Greene, the star of three laugh-out-loud chapter books written by two-time Newbery medalist Lois Lowry and illustrated by Middy Thomas. A precocious second-grader with a talent for storytelling and solving problems in creative ways, Gooney Bird Greene has been embraced by reviewers, teachers, and, most of all, children.

Gooney Bird Greene

"That rare bird in children's fiction: one that instantly becomes an amusing and popular favorite." — *Kirkus Reviews*

"A laugh-out-loud chapter book."— *Booklist*

"Lowry displays a keen understanding of how second-grade classrooms operate . . . [Gooney Bird] is a fine storyteller but her message to her classmates — that they, too, have stories to share — is a good one." — *Horn Book*

In this first book about Gooney Bird Greene, acclaimed author Lois Lowry introduces young readers to the concepts and elements of storytelling. By demonstrating some of the simple techniques that reveal the extraordinary in everyday events, *Gooney Bird Greene* will encourage the storyteller in everyone.

Gooney Bird and the Room Mother

"Larger than life and with a heart as big as her personality, Gooney Bird Greene will elicit gales of laughter, along with sighs of appreciation . . . in this second winning, tongue-in-

cheek outing." — *Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

"Celebrates the enthusiasm and vitality of an exceptional kid, and readers and listeners alike will clamor for more." — *The Bulletin*

In her second literary appearance, Gooney Bird is back with more "absolutely true" stories to tell, more tips for her fellow aspiring storytellers, and a few challenging vocabulary words to share, too.

Gooney the Fabulous

"Full of new vocabulary words and information about fables . . . A must for Gooney Bird fans." — *School Library Journal*

"Lowry nicely individualizes her characters and gets readers interested in their problems."
— *Booklist*

Mrs. Pidgeon has been reading Aesop's fables to her second-grade class. What's a fable? Well, it's a story that has animals as characters, and it teaches you something important, and . . . Once again it is Gooney Bird Greene who knows how to turn lessons into fun!

About the Author

Lois Lowry is known for her versatility and invention as a writer. She is the author of more than thirty books for children, including the popular Anastasia Krupnik series. She has received countless honors, including the Newbery Medal for two of her novels, *The Giver* and *Number the Stars*.

About the Gooney Bird Greene books she says: "Gooney Bird Greene is the child I wish I could have been, because I was a terribly shy, self-conscious child [and] I envied desperately those children who were outgoing and self-confident . . . Each book focuses on a different teaching device. In the first book, Gooney teaches the class how to tell stories, and the second one deals with words. I have in my mind several other things that this unusual and very outgoing, self-confident child can give to the whole class and her teacher. These books are fun to do."

Ms. Lowry divides her time between Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a farmhouse in Maine. To learn more about Lois Lowry, visit her Web site at www.loislowry.com.

About the Illustrator

Middy Thomas is a native Mainer. Though she was raised and educated in Maine, she has lived and traveled in many of the states, Central America, and abroad — mostly with a paintbrush in hand. She does many different things in art, from painting to printing to sculpture. She also teaches art. In addition to illustrating the books about Gooney Bird Greene, she has done the cover art and illustrations for several books.