



About the Author

Jacqueline grew up learning early that imagination can be a safe place to land. During a difficult childhood marked by family upheaval, she discovered that stories, creativity, and make-believe worlds could turn even the hardest days into something gentler. While her early years brought challenges that left lasting marks, they also sparked a determination that carried her through high school, college, and into a lifelong mission: helping children feel seen, valued, and inspired.

Jacqueline studied at Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where she self-designed her degree in Communication through Children's Literature. Her dream was simple but powerful — to make reading joyful and accessible for young children, especially those who might otherwise slip through the cracks, as her beloved brother Jimmy once did. Her imagination blossomed in unexpected ways. Growing up with a single parent and a troubled brother, Jacqueline often turned chores and responsibilities into whimsical adventures, creating characters and stories out of everyday objects. That playful spark never left her; her inner child remains bright and present, guiding her storytelling with warmth, humor, and boundless creativity.

Life brought heartbreak as well — the loss of her brother, her father, her mother's illness, and the grief of miscarriages. Yet even in sorrow, Jacqueline found a way to transform pain into hope. When her mother's cancer returned, Jacqueline replaced the words "when I die" with "when you turn into a butterfly," planting the seed that would one day become *Butterfly Dreams* and the entire *Miss Daisy Series*.

Today, Jacqueline is the proud mother of two special-needs adult daughters and the grandmother of twin granddaughters. She has been married to her husband for 47 years, and together they have weathered life's storms with compassion, humor, and grace. Her soft heart extends to children, families with special needs, and anyone navigating grief or loss. She strives to bring comfort where she can, offering the same gentle presence she once needed herself.

Through every misfortune, disappointment, and obstacle, Jacqueline has chosen resilience. Her stories are filled with kindness, imagination, and the quiet belief that even the smallest wings can carry us to extraordinary places. Without her lived experiences — the painful ones and the magical ones — the *Miss Daisy Series* would never have taken flight.