

## Jack Hyman

Jack's Fun Facts note in our Address Book:

My most recent book is "BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS." It is a children's chapter book which is also being made into a musical. It is currently in rehearsals and is scheduled to open in NYC later this year (2016). I will happily & proudly make sure a production is done in San Antonio at some point.

"About Jack" from his web site: <http://jackghyman.com/index.htm>

I began writing in High School and had my first play performed (directed by me and cast with friends, of course!) the summer after graduation. I continued through college, writing for two different college newspapers.

After moving to New York City (and because I had been a competitive gymnast for many years) I supported myself by coaching gymnastics for kids. Through that connection, I was hired to write for and perform on the long running PBS-TV Children's Show, BLOOPY'S BUDDIES.

During this time I submitted some of my other writing work to the Cable television show "The Islanders" and was hired as one of the writers for the show. After penning several episodes, I turned my abilities back to playwrighting. New York productions of my plays have included MAKING A SCENE, DOUBLE OR NOTHING, THE PLUMBING CHROMOSOME, SEX ON THE BEACH, THE IVY LEAGUE, and PERSPECTIVE, a play that made it into The New York Times for its "significant commentary" on 9/11.

I was fortunate to land a stint with ESPN as a "writer who spoke gymnastics," thereby sending me all over the world to write and Associate Produce "Postcard" segments of several World Gymnastics Championships.

Later, I began writing Children's stories. And that has led to the completion of my first full-length chapter book, BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS.

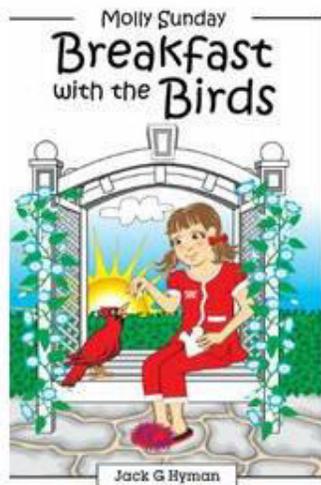
Two novels, LADY E, for adults, and MUSCAVADO, for middle grade, are in progress as is the book for a new Broadway Musical. More of my work can be seen in PRINCETON TOTS MAGAZINE, MONOLOGUES FOR MEN WRITTEN BY MEN, edited by Gary Garrison and Michael Wright and RIVERSEDGE, a Literary Magazine.

Additionally, in NYC, writing plays led me into directing, another love of mine. I directed the World Premier production of Joe Pintauro's MURDER BY CHOCOLATE. Later, I was asked to adapt and direct, for the stage, Terrence McNally's teleplay ANDRE'S MOTHER, starring Julie Wilson. I've had the pleasure of directing at Ensemble Studio Theatre, NY Repertory Theatre, The Art & Work Ensemble, The Harbor Theatre, West Bank Theatre, and many others. And soon, I will be directing the wonderful play, POSING, by Patrick Askin.

I grew up in San Antonio, a great city. I went to College in Boston, another great city. And I moved to New York. Yup, great cities just seem to be in my blood. And yet, I consider myself a small town boy. Go figure!

"Like" Jack's Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/breakfastwiththebirdsmusical/>

See page 2 to read the Kirkus review of "BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS."



## BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS

by Jack G. Hyman

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### KIRKUS REVIEW

A little girl rescues a wounded bird, discovering both the joy and responsibility of caring for and letting go her new best friend in this debut chapter book.

Molly, almost 9 years old, lives for Sundays, the day she wakes at dawn and has breakfast in the backyard with the birds. Her mom and dad call her Molly Sunday in tribute. She and her little brother, Fred, or Ferd, as she calls him, who's 6, live with their veterinarian parents but have no interest in owning any pets. That is, until they both witness a cardinal with a broken wing take a tumble from the top of Ferd's treehouse in their backyard. From that moment on, the race is on to be the best caretaker of the injured bird, dubbed "Flappy" by Molly. Ferd is quickly intimidated, but Molly finds her niche in watching over Flappy. From adding vitamins to his water to trying to sneak a kiss without being pecked, Molly loves her new job. She becomes so enamored she even causes a rift between her and her best friend when she tries to keep Flappy completely to herself. Molly and Ferd learn many lessons during their short time with Flappy, far beyond just how to care for him. The cardinal teaches the duo how to empathize and how to be better friends. When it's time to let Flappy go, Molly must learn the true meaning of the old adage, "If you love something, set it free." Hyman channels both Molly's and Ferd's voices with ease; both leap off the page with the realistic highs and lows of boisterous children. The fast tempo and brightness of the prose makes for a quick, joyful read. Lovers of Mary Pope Osborne's Magic Tree House series will delight in this reality-based, exuberant chapter book. The inconsistent appearance of the illustrations may be due to the fact that various friends of the author drew them, but the artwork still adds character to each chapter.

A solid debut from a promising author, fit to be read aloud or devoured by young readers.

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<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/jack-g-hyman/breakfast-with-the-birds/>