

This Free E-Book is brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

Somebody Stole My Book

By Patricia Gatto

Somebody Stole My Book by Patricia Gatto

Someone Stole My Book

Patricia Gatto ©2004 All Rights Reserved.

Joyful Productions

At a recent library presentation, a woman stole our book. Not the copyright, not the story, but a single copy of our children's book. Another person might view this as a compliment. The book has enough value for someone to steal it, but I disagree. I don't believe it's a compliment, nor do I view this action as a crime, but instead, I think it's a testament to this woman's character. Sadly, she missed the message of our presentation.

Library presentations serve as our personal gift to the community. We devote our time to promote literacy and share our anti-bullying strategies to benefit the children. My husband and I speak about friendship and trust. We read, sing, play guitar and talk to children about confidence and self-esteem. When we present at smaller venues, such as a library, everyone receives a goody bag, bookmark and free cassette. Even if they don't purchase a book, we make sure no child will go home empty-handed.

A woman I'll call Sue, approached me after our presentation. With her son by her side, Sue explained, "I don't have any cash on me, but my son just loved your book. Bullying is such an important topic." Her son confirmed his mother's statement with a smile and nod of his head; however, it was the look in his eyes that melted my heart.

Sue promised to send a check immediately. She told me she is a teacher, and she wanted to share the book with her class. "You did a wonderful job with the story. The fantasy held his interested, but he also got the message," she said as she wrote down her contact information. "Oh, by the way, can you sign this for me?"

So, in exchange for an autographed copy of our book, a cassette, bookmark and a goody bag, I received Sue's promise and her contact information, scribbled on the back of our business card.

Somebody Stole My Book

When the check did not arrive, I gave Sue the benefit of the doubt. I waited an extra week, and then attempted to contact her. When she did not respond, I let the matter go. Maybe Sue stole our book because she couldn't afford to buy it. Maybe her motherly instinct to give her son something outweighed her common sense.

But what saddens me is that Sue just didn't get it. If she did, she would have realized that all she had to do was ask. We would have gladly given her a free copy of our book if it meant that much to her son. In fact, if Sue told us she and her son were hungry we would have feed them. If she told us she didn't have enough gas in her car to get home, we would have filled her tank. But instead, she lied.

Sue might have stolen our book, but she didn't steal our faith or commitment. You see, Sue might not get it, but there is a chance her son does. Maybe, that little boy doesn't have many books. Maybe,

when that little boy reads our book, he will be entertained. Perhaps he will remember our message, or share the story with another child. Maybe, just maybe, our book will inspire him to read more, or more importantly, help him to hold his head high if he comes face to face with a bully.

I can only hope for that little boy's sake, that his mother's intention was pure, that this was an isolated incident. If Sue conducts her life with a chip on her shoulder, lying, cheating and feeling entitled, what chance does her child have?

If she could not afford to purchase a book for her child, Sue had other options. Of course, she could have told the truth, borrowed the book from the library, or reached out to a local chapter of First Book.

First Book is a national non-profit organization. It's sole purpose is to promote literacy and to give children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books. According to the statistics on their website, in the last three years alone, First Book has provided more than 20 million new books to children in need throughout hundreds of communities nationwide.

Patricia Gatto and John De Angelis are the authors of MILTON'S DILEMMA, the tale of a lonely boy's magical journey to friendship and self-acceptance. As advocates for literacy and children's rights, the authors speak at schools and community events to foster awareness and provide children with a safe and healthy learning environment. For more information, please visit Joyful Productions at <http://www.joyfulproductions.com>

Top 5 Baseball Speedsters

By Kevin Bourassa

5. Joey Gathright– Tampa Bay Devil Ray(OF, Minors)

Joey Gathright has been called the fastest player in the league, he's even been called the fastest man in the world, but he hasn't yet received big-league playing time. Gathright could be that guy, who gets to the 100 SB mark. He'll have to wait however with a crowded list of OF's on Tampa Bay. Joey

Gathright is so fast, so athletic that he can jump over a car... the long way. "But I can't do it anymore," Gathright said. "It's in my contract. I'm not allowed to jump over cars anymore. Can't jump fences, either." Gathright could get a call to the majors sometime in 2004. Steals projection this season: 45, between Minors and Majors.

4. Rafael Furcal– Atlanta Braves(SS)

If Rafael Furcal got more SB opportunities he could easily steal 50+ bases in a single season, but the Braves don't send him enough. Furcal stole 25 bases last year, and was caught stealing just twice. With Furcal's speed, he should get twice as many steals as he did last season. In 2000, Furcal stole 40 bases, so why aren't they sending him now? SB aside, Furcal showed his speed last season when he scored 130 runs in the Braves leadoff role, good enough to place him 3rd in the majors. With some of the big-name sluggers gone from Atlanta, the Braves need to find a new way to produce runs, and Furcal will be a key part in that. Steals projection this season: 40

3. Carlos Beltran – Kansas City Royals(OF)

Carlos Beltran stole 41 bases last season, and was only thrown out 4 times. That's a ration of 10 steals per 1 time being thrown out, and thats an amazing ratio. Beltran can not only run the basepaths well, but he hit 25 HR, batted in 100 RBI and batted .307 last season. Carlos Beltran is an all-around fantasy god. He should steal more bases this season, because he missed 20 games last season due to injuries. Carlos Beltran is a 4–10 pick overall, and he won't disappoint you with his speed. Steals projection this season: 55

2. Juan Pierre – Florida Marlins(OF)

Pierre led the leagues in SB last season, so why isn't he the top speedster? Well he did get CS 20 times. Pierre is on a Florida team that loves to run, 5 Florida hitters stole double-digit bases last season, and Pierre was their leader. Batting at the top of the order, Pierre would get on base and then he would proceed to try to steal second. Pierre attempted a steal about once every 3–4 times he got on base. Pierre's fantasy value skyrocketed last season, and he should get around the same amount of steals this season as he did last year. Steals projection this season: 58

1. Carl Crawford – Tampa Bay Devil Rays(OF)

So you might be asking, why Crawford over Pierre or Beltran? Carl Crawford stole 55 bases last year,

in his first full season, Crawford stole 55 bases and was CS 10 times. That's 5.5 SB per 1 CS, which is a whole lot better than Juan Pierre's ratio. Crawford should only improve his speed over the next few seasons, in which his whole team will be improving around him. In his best season Crawford could steal 70+ bases and score 120+ runs. Steals projection this season: 63

Kevin Bourassa is a writer for

Top 5 Baseball Speedsters
Someone Stole Your Commission
Buyers Guide For Mailboxes
The Old Fashioned Books Vs. Free Audio Books
Does your Book Cover Pass the "Ignore" Test?

Vegetarian Recipe Book
The Big Book Of Cookie Recipes
Dream Psychology
The Great Big Book of Internet Marketing
The First and Second Adam



This Free E-Book has been brought to you by Natural-Aging.com.

[100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment](#)
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!