

## Lee Wardlaw Children's Book Author



Lee Wardlaw is the author of more than two-dozen award-winning books for children and teens. Where does she get the ideas for so many books?

“From my own life,” says Lee. “*Corey’s Fire* is based on my family’s experiences when our house burned down in a wildfire. The idea for *Dinosaur Pizza* came from my childhood love of bologna-mustard-and-potato chip sandwiches). Adopting three cats from our local animal shelter led to my newest book *Won Ton*. And my years as both a student and teacher gave me lots of creative material for my novel *101 Ways to Bug Your Teacher!*”

Lee wrote her first book in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and continued to write poems, stories and plays all through elementary school. In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Lee and three of her friends formed a rock ‘n’ roll band called The Shooting Stars, with Lee playing guitar and writing many of the songs the girls performed.

Lee graduated with honors from Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo, with a B.A. in education, and taught school for five years before deciding to write full-time. She recently received her AMI Primary Diploma from the Montessori Institute of San Diego and will earn her M.Ed. from Loyola College of Maryland in 2011. She still enjoys teaching, and does numerous presentations each year for students, teachers, librarians and parents at schools, libraries and conferences.

Lee lives in Santa Barbara, California, with her husband, teenaged son and three cats. For more information about Lee and her books, visit her website: [www.leewardlaw.com](http://www.leewardlaw.com).