



## Reviews and Comments

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**“May each of your acts of caring kindle a light in another to reach out and make a difference in someone’s life. It is my hope that this story will be the spirit that sparks that desire.”**

– Muhammad Ali, from the foreword of *The Biggest and Brightest Light*

“An education beyond the classroom that emphasizes the concept of helping others and a quintessential example of service to others...a must read for every child, parent, and educator in America!” – Art Johnson, Ph.D., Superintendent, Palm Beach School District

“Charming, inspiring...*The Biggest and Brightest Light* ought to be required reading in every kindergarten and first grade in America!” – John Rosemond, syndicated columnist, author, and child psychologist

“Amanda’s gift of caring for her teacher is a gift for us all! Her story tugs at your heart, makes you feel good and inspires children to want to help others. A beautiful experience for children and adults to share...” – Ellen Rosenberg, author

“*The Biggest and Brightest Light* helps us all learn a wonderful lesson gracefully and gently. The clear and simple message that even a small child can make a profound difference in the lives of others has meaning for both the child and adult reader. Once again, the power of caring triumphs.”  
– Caring Institute, Washington, DC

“Way beyond beautiful! This splendidly illustrated book is used in our district to support the teaching of character and promote a sense of empathy among our students, while integrated within our curriculum.” – Mara Zapata, Ph.D., Director of the Partnership for Character Education, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

“The wonderful true story of Amanda Perlyn’s gift of caring for her teacher is told in this charming picture book written for elementary school teachers. It should be required reading for every child.”  
– Michele Borba, Ed.D., author and recipient of the National Educator Award

“Deeply impressed by the story and your dedication to kids and character development.”  
– Marvin Berkowitz, Ph.D., Sanford N. McDonnell Professor of Character Education, St. Louis, MO

“A charming story.” – Colin L. Powell

“The heartfelt story of *The Biggest and Brightest Light* inspired our elementary school to adopt the book as our theme last year and focus on service-learning. Faculty, parents, and especially the children embraced the concept of helping others.” – Amanda Miles, Ph.D., Principal of Coral Park Elementary School, Coral Springs, FL

“A very moving story and one that deserves to be shared with many!” – Cathryn Berger Kaye, author and National Service Learning Consultant

“A rich and meaningful treasure about the greatest treasure anyone can share. More than gifts or pleasantries, *The biggest and brightest Light* is love, compassion, and the warm feeling one gets from helping someone in need, a lesson that bears remembering in this timeless tale about making a difference.” – Midwest Book Review

“Out of all the gifts I received for being teacher of the year, yours was the most special.”

– Sally Murphy, Bradford County Teacher of the Year

“Simply wonderful...inspires helpers as well as families to serve.” – Dr. Adolph Brown, psychologist, author, and motivational speaker, Virginia Beach, VA

“A warm and fuzzy tale that gives children and adults a real understanding of the joy of giving to others.”

– Editor’s Choice, South Florida *Sun-Sentinel* newspaper

“Palm Beach County School District approved *The Biggest and Brightest Light: A True Story of the Heart* as appropriate reading for elementary school students.” – South Florida *Sun-Sentinel* newspaper

“Refreshing to see a book depart from the traditional implication of a message through characters—often animals—and offer opportunities to assist this young age group in developing compassion and empathy by identifying with a real person.” – South Florida *Parenting Magazine*

“The story made me feel like helping ten thousand people, including the homeless.”

– Jaguariah, 4th grader, Deerfield, FL

“Beautifully written and illustrated... truly addresses compassion and charitable giving.”

– Barbara Wynne, Publisher, *Indy’s Child*

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart for sharing your children’s story with us.”

– Allison Schley, Wisconsin teacher

“What a tender work of love...not only will this book touch your heart, but, over and over again it reminds us that one small gesture of kindness can last a lifetime!!! Beautifully written and wonderfully illustrated...a must read for all ages.” – Suzie Entel, mother, Lake Placid, FL

“I read this book with my Grandma Patti. I really loved the pictures. Amanda got such good ideas to make Dr. Malko happy when she was sad. I like to make people happy, too. I will think about his book for my whole life. My favorite thing is to read books and I will always remember this one. Thank you for writing it.” – Lauren Berman, age 5

“I hope to instill this caring spirit with both of my daughters.” – Ana Gravier, parent, Miami, FL

“The most special book we have received.” – Maggie Dickenson, Palm Beach Literacy Coalition

“Great tale with a message for the young and old.” – Rabbi Merle Singer, Boca Raton, FL

“An annual read in our guidance classes.” – Kevin Smith, Counselor at Hatcher Elementary School, Ashland, KY

“I really enjoyed your story. It showed me to be kind.” – Shirleen Queen, 3rd grader

“Your book is great, sweet, sad, happy, and very cool to read.” – Audrey, 5th grade student

“Simply fantastic...what a wonderful addition to children’s literature.” – Temi Levy, parent, Atlanta, GA

“Our great grandchildren love your book and read it over and over.” – Jean Brodsky, great grandmother, Plantation, FL

“I get the chills every time I read the book...an amazing story.” – Ellen Hildebrand, college student, Chicago, IL

“Thought provoking and beautifully illustrated.” – Gillie Fitzpatrick, mother, London, England

“Most rewarding.” – Linda Hooper, Principal, Whitwell Middle School, Whitwell, TN (*Paper Clips* movie)

“This book is great...can’t wait to share it with my boys.” – Chandra Bill, News Anchor, West Palm Beach, FL

“Thoroughly enjoyed reading your book...what a great message!” – Ronda Friend, children’s author and professional storyteller

“That little girl taught me something about service and love. It is a story that needed to be told.” – Jeff Singer, NASDAQ executive, New York, NY

“Wonderfully beautiful book...illustrations are both evocative and skillfully beautiful.” – Christopher Marley, grandparent, Kent, England

“Lovely story...I was touched by it.” – Kristie Fink, Community of Caring National Office, Salt Lake City, UT

“It is never too early to teach this important lesson...book is perfect!” – Nancy Berkowitz, grandmother and teacher, Washington, DC

“A great way to begin a life long conversation about how even six-year-olds can help others.” – The Dunn family, Miami, FL

“So touched...inspirational...may your beautiful story touch the lives of many children and adults who have love to give.” – Ronni Molinari, Delray, FL

“Fantastic and inspirational!” – Sophie Meeson, The Clabile Trust, Surrey, England

“My daughter loves, loves, loves the book and I wanted to let you know what a profound impact it had on her.” – Leslie Rossman, Open Book Publicity, Oakland, CA

“Thank you for the gift of this story!” – Kevin Adler, Executive, Relay Sports and Event Marketing, Chicago, IL

“A work of great love, passion, and determination.” – Lois Pope, LIFE Foundation, Delray Beach, FL

“Loved everything about it...the story was beautiful!” – Julie Hildebrand, Pearson Education, Upper Saddle River, NJ

“Demonstrates how good character can impact children’s lives in special ways.” – Kim Williams, Palm Beach County District Character Education Committee, Palm Beach, FL

“Inculcates the notion that regardless of age, circumstances or stations in life, anyone can make a difference in someone’s life. A wonderful edition to character education programs in our country, state, and nation.” – Esther Bulger, Chair, Character Education, School District of Palm Beach County, FL

“When I help someone, I feel proud and good. The story made me want to help everyone.”

**Aundrea DeSue, 2nd grader, Jacksonville, FL**

“This heartwarming book is a beautiful and true story that will inspire parents and children alike. It is an effective tool in helping children to understand how to help others. It is rare to find a book such as this that appeals to all generations and it will definitely become a treasured gem in any child’s book collection.” – **Katie Cooper, mother, London, England**

“Cleverly written children’s book full of teachable moments...gentle and heart-warming. Parents, teachers, and other professionals working with children will find this book to be a useful tool for facilitating discussions about the value of giving and other important life lessons.” – **Dr. Rick Brodsky, child psychologist, New York**

“Inspirational for anybody, of any age, and a wonderful reminder that nobody is too young to help others. We all need a little reminder of the power of giving!” – **Brooke Russ, attorney, St. Louis, MO**

“A truly inspiring piece of children's literature. ...a wonderful tool for helping parents introduce to their children the essentials of generosity and the joy of giving to others. As an elementary school teacher, I've been able to incorporate this fantastic story into our character education program. Between the vivid illustrations and Amanda's heartwarming journey, this children's book is a true gem to be cherished for years to come.” – **Julie Brown, teacher, Bethesda, MD**

“If somebody needs help I have to help them because the book says to.” – **Tatiana, 4 ? yrs**

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