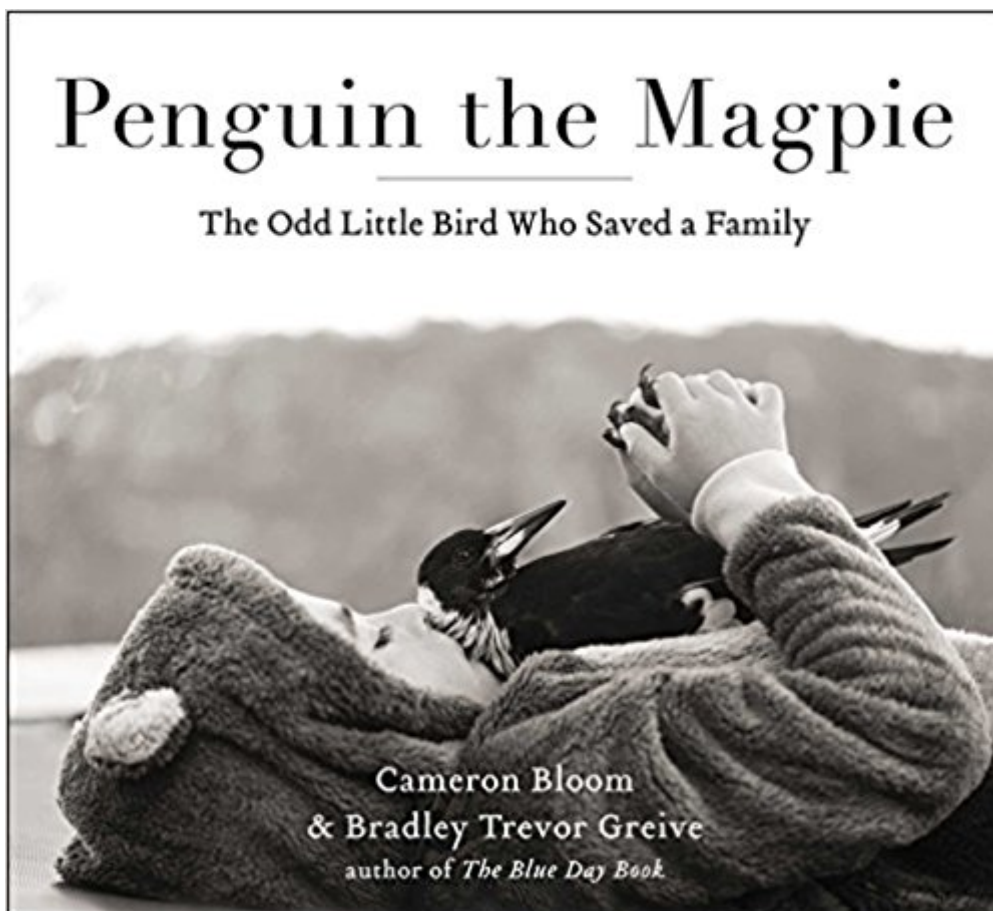


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# Penguin The Magpie: The Odd Little Bird Who Saved A Family



## Synopsis

Penguin the Magpie is the extraordinary true story of recovery, hope, and courage as one injured bird and her human family learn to heal and celebrate life, featuring the gorgeous photography of Cameron Bloom and a captivating narrative by New York Times bestselling author of *The Blue Day Book* Bradley Trevor Greive. People around the world have fallen in love with Penguin the Magpie, a global social media sensation, and her adventures with her human family. But there is far more to Penguin's story than meets the eye. It all begins when Sam, Cameron Bloom's wife, suffers a near fatal fall that leaves her paralyzed and deeply depressed. One of their three sons, reeling from the tragic accident, discovers an injured magpie chick abandoned after she had fallen from her nest. The boys name the bird Penguin, for her black-and-white plumage. As they nurse Penguin back to health, the incredible joy, playfulness, and strength she exudes fortify the family and especially lift Sam's spirits. Penguin's resilience demonstrates that, however bleak things may seem, compassion, friendship, and support can come from unexpected places ensuring there will always be better days ahead. This plucky little magpie reminds us all that, no matter how lost, fragile, or damaged we feel, accepting the love of others and loving them in return will help to make us whole.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"PENGUIN THE MAGPIE is a triumph that will make your heart soar." (Sy Montgomery, author of *The Soul of an Octopus*) "A unique and remarkable insight into a family dealing with tragedy

and "finding their way through it with love, courage, and hope." (Naomi Watts) "A gorgeous book." (Good Housekeeping) "Exquisite beyond words." (Goodreads) "A breath-taking book. Beautiful in content, spectacular in photos. The connections that Sam and her family make through love reveal a triumph of the human and of the bird spirit. A spectacular, uplifting and exquisitely beautiful book." (Lynne Cox, author of *Grayson and Swimming in the Sink*) "Animals can be such loyal friends! Caring and bonding are ancient animal traits indeed, which we share with other species. This is a remarkable story of human suffering and a rescued bird who returns the love she received." (Frans de Waal, author of *Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?*) "This beautiful, profound, life-changing book carries the message that wild birds have a depth of emotion, intelligence, individuality, and personality with which they can communicate empathetically and profoundly with people. I find myself returning to this healing story again and again to marvel at and be inspired by the gorgeous souls of Penguin the Magpie and her human family." (Stacey O'Brien, author of *Wesley the Owl*) "A wonderful story of the interconnections that are possible between wild animals and people and the vital role that nature plays in human life and healing." (Bernd Heinrich, author of *Mind of the Raven*) "From the instant Penguin tumbles from her nest down to the pavement, this book embodies the discovery of how another being can bring new depth and meaning to our lives, even in the darkest times. Through nuanced photographs and unassuming prose, it reveals an insight both familiar and fantastical—hope and healing are within our grasp when we look beyond ourselves." (Vint Virga, DVM, author of *The Soul of All Living Creatures*) "Written from the heart and exquisitely illustrated with striking photographs, *Penguin the Magpie* is an emotional journey from the depth of adversity to the height of accomplishment. Traversing this rugged ground reveals the world of a special bird and her connection to a family unwilling to fail. Laid bare are the mutual and life-changing bonds that form between birds and people." (John M. Marzluff, author of *Gifts of the Crow and Welcome to Subirdia*) "Here we see to the angels that come in the form of animals and the human animals that recognize them as such. Sam Bloom and her family remind us that when we take care of others we heal ourselves. A truly beautiful story. There are odd little birds out there for all of us—we just have to take the time to see them." (Tracey Stewart, author of *Do Unto Animals, A Friendly Guide to How Animals Live, and How We Can Make Their Lives Better*) "A book that will make everyone's heart soar." (Daily Telegraph) "In this sweet story of love and resilience, a wild bird becomes the one cure for a broken human heart." (Mark Obmascik, author of *The Big Year*) "*Penguin the Magpie* is a truly unique and deeply moving book and that it shares an important message of love, resilience and hope. This beautifully crafted

work. It combats the stigma that there is no life after sustaining a spinal cord injury and it proves that we can find inspiration, empowerment and joy in the most unlikely places and when we least expect it. With stunning photographs, an extraordinary true story and a searingly honest portrayal of life after paralysis, this book addresses that while life may not be perfect, we can all find happiness, purpose and love even during the most challenging times. As Dana Reeve once said, "find the joy inside the hardship," the Bloom family takes readers on a journey of how they celebrated the small, yet important wins and ultimately reclaimed their future thanks to an unlikely feathered hero. On behalf of the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation we are proud to be associated with this wonderful book and we are grateful to the authors, Cameron Bloom and Bradley Trevor Greive, and the publisher, Atria Books, for donating a percentage of every book sold to support our work to find cures for spinal cord injury." (Peter Wilderotter, President & CEO, Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation) "Be brave. Be open-minded. Be kind. Be forgiving. Be generous. Be optimistic. Be grateful for the many unexpected lessons you will learn. Find the joy inside the hardship. It's there. I assure you. And, too, be open to inspiration from unlikely sources." (Dana Reeve)

Cameron Bloom began his career as a surf photographer at the age of fifteen. Since then his editorial and travel images have been featured in many international publications. Cameron is also the award-winning cinematographer of Surrender, which was screened at the London Art Fair. Bradley Trevor Greive became a publishing sensation after the release of The Blue Day Book in 2000. He has since sold more than 25 million books in over a hundred countries. In 2014 he was awarded the Order of Australia for his service to literature and wildlife conservation.

I wish everyone could read this book! It would open your heart. How many hearts do you know that don't need at least a little more opening? All of us have been wounded or maimed, or been a target. Read this. Let this ragged little bird smooth down your own feathers or prove to you that you don't have to look like a movie star to be a Truly Great Human Being...

This book is an absolute treasure. We are warned as readers we will laugh and cry and we do. But the message that this world belongs to us all is clear. My only criticism is that the format of the book doesn't lend itself to Kindles. I'm going to buy at least one hardback for myself as well. Well done Bloom family, and well done Penguin!

Superb and endlessly charming, touching, and joyous photos of the love between a wounded bird and a wounded family. Direct and honest, this is the story of a cruel accident, resilience, and the love and strength which helped a family deal with crisis. 'On a wing and a prayer', and with incredible photos, you, too, will fall in love with this beautiful family.

Let me first start by stating that I am a bird lover - but this book was far beyond that. I was extremely moved by this story of love, family, compassion and perseverance. The story itself intrigued me but after receiving it and reading it I bought 4 more for family and friends. The photos are amazing and the story will move you to tears - but they will be tears of love, happiness and hope!

I was thrilled to receive this book in the mail today. I just finished reading it and am in tears but also filled with joy and awe at the beautiful journey and inspirational story it tells. The photography is phenomenal and powerful! This is a true story about courage, hope, and never giving up - no matter how bad things get! I would buy a copy of this book for all my friends if I could!

A beautiful story of how we grieve during times of loss and how the love of family and a quirky little bird has the power to bring joy and purpose back into your life.

Inspiring, amazing and very sweet. Wonderful photographs of a very unusual bird.

This was a very warm story and the photos are beautiful throughout. A very great reminder of the bond that can develop between humans and animals if we take the time, and of how it can change the lives of each.

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