



Sunday, October 9, 2011

Dear Dr. Farb,

*I wanted to send you a personal thank you for the presentation of your book at the Children's Museum yesterday. My 15 year old daughter Madison is doing a presentation on you and your book in November for one of her major home school projects.*

*We thoroughly enjoyed getting to meet you, and visit with you and have an opportunity to hear you read selections from your book. I wanted to thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness towards Madison as you signed her book. I had never met you personally but had read extensively about your philanthropic endeavors in Houston and around the world. I knew you would be a wonderful woman with a gentle spirit and a servant's heart. I so appreciate the role model that you are for all women young and old. You are so beautiful on the outside but also warm and beautiful on the inside. There were three generations of us at the museum yesterday- my mom who is in her late 70's, I in my 50's and Madison in her teens and we were all touched by your grace, poise and kindness to everyone you encountered.*

*I believe that all women need strong and successful role-models. I hope that you realize what a difference that you are making in the lives of the young and old. I just retired from 29 years of running my own private school for young children in Clear Lake. The down turn in the economy and the NASA layoffs hit our community hard and the parents of the children that we serve were no longer able to afford to send their children to our school, so I find myself needing to "redefine" my purpose in life. In the process of doing this, I am encountering many women each day like myself who have raised their children, had professional careers and now must find productive ways to invest themselves in the lives of others. We all want to make a difference in our world. We just need to find a productive way to use our talents and our time. Your life is an incredible example of someone who has been able to do just that.*

*I admire you for taking the time to write a children's book about Lucas and Max both of whom you obviously love very much and to whom you are deeply devoted. In the book, you have given us a glimpse*

*into what I am sure is a very personal and private part of your life. You have made it seem as if you are our neighbor and friend next door. The illustrations in your book are remarkable and beautiful.*

*I too share your passion for writing. As a teacher, I had the privilege of writing two early childhood curriculum books which were published by Gryphon House, and in years past, I had written 26 children's stories to enhance and encourage the vocabulary development of young children. But, because of a busy schedule and lifestyle, I had tucked these stories away in my closet and left them to begin collecting dust. I do not possess the artistic talents that you do, so after completing the text for the books, I had begun trying to illustrate them and had met with great frustration. After seeing you yesterday, I was encouraged to retrieve them from their resting place and begin working on them again. There is nothing so exhilarating as writing especially for children. Just as you are doing, it is my hope to take my love of children and love of writing and utilize my storytelling talents to make a difference in the lives of little ones who are just learning to read.*

*Thank you so much for being an inspiration to my daughter who is just starting out in life. Yesterday, you encouraged Madison to pursue her dreams and reach for the stars and without knowing it at the same time; you also were an inspiration to me to continue to pursue my dreams while positively impacting the lives of those around me.*

*Thank you so much for caring, sharing and giving so much of yourself to others. You really helped to brighten our little corner of the world.*



*Dr. Kay Hastings and Madison*



Madison Hastings & Dr. Carolyn Farb