

In My Own Words

By Wendy Watson

I was two years old when my parents moved from New York City to a farm in Vermont. I immediately fell in love with rural New England. By the time I was four, I knew I wanted to be a writer and an artist---just like my parents and my grandparents. As soon as I could read and write, I began to concoct and illustrate stories that were inspired by the life around me. I submitted my first book dummy and manuscript to a publisher when I was eight years old. The story was about a farmer rabbit who wore overalls and lived in a tiny Vermont village.

That book was rejected! But I persevered, and my career as a writer and artist finally began. Many of my early books were rooted in my rural New England childhood. Later I branched out, and began working with stories based on other cultures. I still love to write and illustrate stories. And my work is still inspired by the people, animals and landscape around me.