

JOHN F. BLAIR, PUBLISHER

Praise for Donald Davis, author of *Tales from a Free-Range Childhood*

"I could have listened all morning to Donald Davis.... His stories often left listeners limp with laughter at the same time they struggled with a lump in the throat."

—Wilma Dykeman, *The New York Times*

"...A well-told true story is comfort food for the soul, and Davis's book [*Tales from a Free-Range Childhood*] is nourishing."

—Mark Danowsky, *Foreword Reviews*

"[Davis's] nostalgic tales are filled with the stuff of fondly remembered boyhood, from braces to broken bones, from enforced babysitting to trips to the grandparents' farm. There's a little drama here but lots that is sweetly good-natured and often quite funny. Davis operates in the tradition of the late Jean Shepard (*A Christmas Story*), though without Shepard's occasional saltiness. Indeed, a bit more of the acerbic would have been welcome, but it also would be inconsistent with the warm-hearted tone that works well for this homespun raconteur."

—Michael Cart, *Booklist*

"From the photo on the cover...to the strings of hilarious and touching stories, Donald Davis takes us on a journey. This is not just his story, however, as a master storyteller, he not only tells you about himself, but also strikes familiar notes that reach into each listener's memory bank."

—Diane Brandley, *New York Journal of Books*

"To hear Donald Davis tell these stories is a delight. To read these stories is an adventure. You are transported not only to his childhood but to yours as well. Each story sparks memories. Donald is a master of finding the story and humor in everyday life and taking you along for a joyful ride."

—David Holt, four-time Grammy Award-winning storyteller and musician

"Every time Donald Davis shares a story, he creates a miracle—a miracle of laughter, pure joy, and love."

—Jimmy Neil Smith, founder and president, International Storytelling Center, Jonesborough, Tennessee

"Is Donald Davis coming?" is the question I'm asked most frequently about the Timpanogos Storytelling Festival. This collection of stories will show you why."

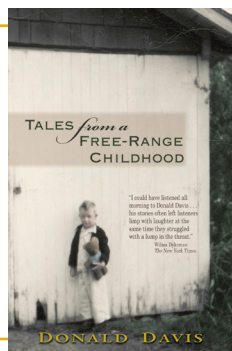
—Janet Low, founding committee member, Timpanogos Storytelling Festival, Orem, Utah

"As I read Donald's stories, his family, neighbors, and hometown felt authentic and genuine. I found myself reliving my own memories through the ups and downs, the laughter, the tears, and the childhood drama of everyday life. This is a must-read if you want to take a journey through childhood."

—Ellen H. Munds, executive director, Storytelling Arts of Indiana

Awards

- National Storytelling Network's Lifetime Achievement Award
- Anne Izard Storyteller's Choice Award
- ForeWord Magazine Gold Book of the Year for juvenile fiction
- Storytelling World Awards
- South Carolina Middle-School Young Reader's Award
- Young Adult Library Services Association Award
- Parents' Choice Awards (Gold Title)
- National Parenting Publications Gold Award
- Publishers Weekly Listen Up Award
- AudioFile Earphones Award
- Audio Publishers' Association Audie Finalist



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