

Broadway spent years to write, illustrate, publish book

Jasmine Peebles 11:05 p.m. CT Nov. 22, 2014



(Photo: contributed)

With the vibrant personality that Rosemary Broadway has, it makes perfect sense that she's a children's author. The Montgerian has had her first book, "A Superhero for God," published this year by Archway Publishing, a division of Simon & Schuster.

Based off an innocent outburst from one of her seven grandsons during a church service, the book teaches the idea of God's love, forgiveness, and the mission for us all.

Although she initially started writing and illustrating the story to preserve the story for her grandchildren, Broadway realized that the theme of her book could become a beneficial message to others.

"As I got into it, I realized this is not just my grandson's story," she said. "This is anybody and everybody's story because what person hasn't said something or done something that they wished they could take back. So the story is about God using you in spite of it: God forgiving you if you would and using you for his purposes."

Ironically, the writing process, something usually difficult for authors, was fairly simple for Broadway. She ran into the most difficulty while illustrating the book.

"I would not know what to do," she admitted with a chuckle. "I would not know how to illustrate the cover, I would not know how to illustrate the first page. I didn't know how to do this or how to do that. So I would pray about it and just wait until I got some kind of inspiration. That's one reason it took me so long."

It took Broadway two and a half years to completely finish her book before she was able to focus on getting it published.

But here she ran into a major snag.

"One thing happened to me that was pretty traumatic and really could have put an end to my book. I had gotten everything together, put the words with the pictures, and sent it off to my publisher," she said.

But the publisher informed her that her illustrations of her grandsons wearing superhero costumes could not be used due to copyright infringement.

But Broadway was undeterred.

She ended up contacting Marvel Comics, DC Comics, and Lucasfilm to ask for their permission. Ultimately, she only received DC Comics', which allowed her to use an illustration of Batman and Superman. Still this was major accomplishment for a local author.

Broadway's book has gotten a great reception since its publication earlier this year. She has been invited to New York City, Nashville, Tennessee, and Louisville to promote her book and has had several book signings in Montgomery.

Her book is available on barnesandnoble.com, booksamillion.com, and amazon.com. It can also be ordered from major retail bookstores and can be checked out at all 11 branches of Montgomery's City-County Public Library system.

When asked if she planned on writing another book, Broadway grinned.

"I have been asked if I will ever write another book. The answer is: I don't know," she said. "I never really intended to write this one, and this one is not really finished. The rest of the story is still to be written, but it is not to be written by me. It is to be written by the reader. This is a story that has no ending. It is everyone's story and the sequel is only determined by the reader's response."

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