

Join Ruthie B. Goose as she pursues her dream to fly 37,901 feet, higher than any bird has ever flown. This fun read is loaded with quirky characters, exciting adventures, and silly riddles. Perfect for elementary and middle school kids.

Ruthie B. Goose - Birth of the Legend

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Ruthie B. Goose Birth of the Legend



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by
**Ruthie
and Jeff Baker**

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This is the story of a little bird and her big dream...

CHAPTER 1

A Very Special Day

November 18th is a very special day in our house. You see it is the birthday of our pride and joy Ruthie B. Goose. November 18th may be the day of her birth, but August 16th is the day her legend was born!

I'm her dad and this is her story.

It was a cool fall day in Central Park in the heart of New York City. The leaves had already fallen from the trees but it had not yet snowed. The blaze of colors that had decorated Central Park just a few weeks prior had given way to the grayness that comes with the arrival of winter.

Our house nestled high in an old oak tree in the middle of Central Park was in complete chaos. My wife, Mrs. B. Goose, was on pins and needles getting everything ready for the baby's arrival.

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During the last few weeks all of our friends had been welcoming their bundles of joy. Not us. We were still waiting. We just continued to wait and wait for our little one to break through its shell. Each day came news of another arrival in our community. Ours was just stubborn and didn't want to hatch and join our happy home. I think little Ruthie B. was nice and comfortable there in her egg and she just wasn't ready to come out and join our world.

"Don't fret, my dear," I said to my wife as she finished making the baby's new bed in the far corner of the family room. "I know today is the day. I feel it," I said.

"You've said that every day for the past sixteen days," my wife said. "I'm getting tired of your feelings and my tushie is getting tired of sitting on that egg. The day is almost over and still nothing. I wonder what she is waiting for."

Just then, I felt a strange commotion just below me and a sudden kick to my tushie! You see, I was sitting on that egg, giving my wife a break, when I felt a little kick to my rear

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end. I quickly arose to see a little foot, with four perfect webbed toes, poking out of that white and brown speckled egg.

“Hurry! Hurry!” I frantically called to my wife, who was still in the other corner of the room. “It’s time!!! The baby is finally here!!!”

My wife came running, faster than I had ever seen her move. She zipped left, jumped right over my favorite stool and landed right at the spot where the egg was resting.

“You were right! Today is the day! Today is the day that I become Mommy and you become Daddy. Today is truly a very special day!” my wife said.

Just how special, well we’d discover that sooner than we’d ever have dreamed.

CHAPTER 2

Spreading Her Wings

During the first year of a young bird's life they learn to do many things. They learn how to feed themselves and how to play and interact with others; however the most special thing they learn is how to fly on their own.

The most important day in every young bird's life is the first day they fly on their own. When a young bird first spreads its wings, begins to flap them up and down and leaves the ground on their own, well it's truly a momentous day. There is no feeling quite like it! Every bird remembers their first flight and Ruthie B. Goose's first time was no different. Okay, you caught me... it wasn't just different, it was historic! Ruthie's first flight was the start of something truly special, the first step in the birth of the legend.

Ruthie's first flight happened accidentally on the night of July 4th.

Central Park was crowded with birds from all over the city. Pigeons flew in from the Bronx, seagulls from Coney Island and robins from Queens. They all came to see the special fireworks display. Birds of all shapes and sizes were flocking to the park, seeking a great vantage point to view that night's spectacular fireworks show.

Since November, Ruthie B. had grown from a fuzzy little baby chick into an adventurous young girl. Her feathers filled out to a pretty snow-white, her beak was a brilliant orange-yellow (with a little brown freckle on the tip) and her wings were becoming more powerful every day. By July 4th she was able to leave our tree with our help, but still

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couldn't fly on her own. This wasn't a result from a lack of trying.

"Like this Daddy?" she asked as she spread her wings as wide open as she could.

"Yes, just like that little one," I said.

"And do I flap them up and down together like this or one at a time just like this?" she questioned as she spun herself quickly to the left losing her balance and falling on her side.

"That's enough practicing for today dear," my wife said trying to control her giggling. "Why don't you go out to the limb and your father will take you down to watch the fireworks show with your friends?"

Ruthie hated having to be helped up and down our tree but her desire to see the fireworks show and spend some time with her friends far outweighed her desire to keep learning how to fly.

"Let's go Daddy. Those fireworks are coming soon and I want to catch up with the guys," Ruthie said.

"Ok little one. Hold on tight," I said as she hopped on my back. "You are getting a little heavy for your old dad to be picking you up."

"Oh Daddy, stop being so silly, I'm the same size today as I was yesterday," she said.

"Yes, but I'm a day older," I said.

We slowly glided down to the brick wall behind our tree. I dropped her off and made my way back home.

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“Have a good time. Mommy and I are going to watch the show from our branch. I’ll be back to pick you up after the show.”

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