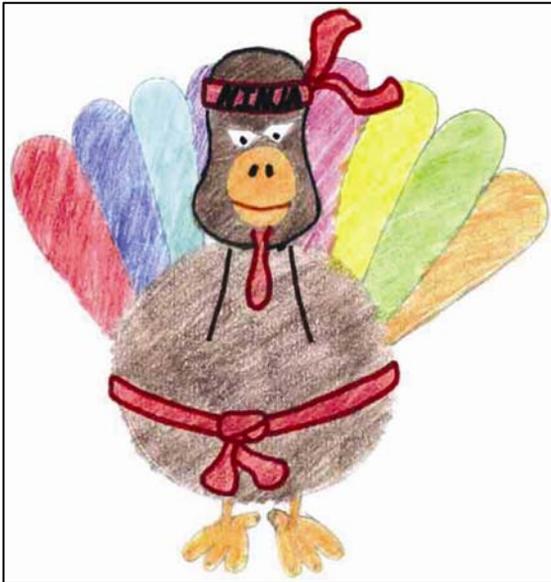


# Twelve Upon A Time...

**November:  
'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving**



**Bedside Story Collection Series**

**Written by Edward Galluzzi, PhD**

**Drawings by: Adam, Sarah, Sharon and Hannah Bocik**

**CCB Publishing, British Columbia, Canada**

Twelve Upon A Time...  
November: 'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving  
Bedside Story Collection Series

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**Twelve Upon A Time...  
November:  
'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving  
"A Keepsake Book"**

**Presented With Love To**

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**Presented With Love By**

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**Date**

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## Acknowledgements

I wish to express my appreciation to Joe and Ellen Bocik, my neighbors and friends. Their children's contribution of 144 drawings appear in the 12 monthly chapters of the original black and white third edition book, *Twelve Upon a Time...* Each chapter is now part of a new 12 book "Bedside Story Collection Series" and the drawings that appear in each book are printed in the wonderment of color. Each monthly story is unique and illustrated by children whose interpretation of the words help tell the stories, as seen through their eyes.

These colored drawings were created by Adam Bocik (age 12), Sarah Bocik (age 10) and Sharon Bocik (age 7). I also wish to

thank Hannah Bocik (age 7 months) for her singular drawing, which appears in the December book. All their drawings represent the genuine imagination only children can bring to life. Their drawings enrich each of the 12 stories and provide parents and their children an enriching experience told beyond the words. Enjoy each of the 12 books in this "Bedside Story Collection Series." Pleasant dreams!

## Introduction

This is the eleventh book in a **12** book "Bedside Story Collection Series" spanning across the **12** months of the year. Each of the **12** bedside stories is reprinted in color from the author's black and white third edition book *Twelve Upon A Time...* Each monthly story is unique and illustrated by the original drawings of children whose interpretation of the words can only be seen through their eyes.

This bedside story and all the stories are written to further the imagination of children and to strengthen the parent and child bond through the sharing of heartwarming, silly, absurd and believably impossible tales.

Stay tuned for all **12** of the "Bedside Story Collection Series".

'Twas the night before Thanksgiving and all through the home, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse did roam.

It was a cold and wintry night as fall days were long out of sight. Adam, Sarah, Sharon and Hannah lay huddled on the family room rug, wrapped in their blankets all cozy and snug. And even Tigger was purring beside them wondering what those turkeys were doing above him.

Their parents, Ellen and Joe, were busy as

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bees, roaming 'round the kitchen preparing stuffing and cranberries. All of the stuffing they placed by the chimney with care in hope that **Ninja Turkey** soon would be there!

Sarah, Hannah, Sharon and Adam could hardly wait and it wasn't long before they finished their supper plate. They were excited as could be awaiting a visit from that grand turkey. **Nothing** else filled their minds as the evening approached just in time. They headed to bed with sleepy eyes, yawning in turn unable to keep awake even if they tried.



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Soon they remembered what they forgot and ran down the stairs clippity-clop. Hannah, Adam, Sharon and Sarah ran to the kitchen to get what they knew was missin'. Joe and Ellen smiled as their children hung up stockings and left turkey seed without anybody talking.

Now Sharon, Adam, Hannah and Sarah ran back upstairs in hopes that Ninja Turkey would soon be there. They were sleeping just fine, dreaming of sugar plum turkeys and leaving their cares behind.

Joe and Ellen walked up the stairs to check on their charges in the cold night air. They saw their children were huddled together and twined, all comfy and looking like sleeping angels with faces divine.

Sharon, Hannah, Adam and Sarah were



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sleeping just fine with nothing as usual on their minds. Sharon was laughing and dreaming of being tickled while Sarah was mumbling, as she was always fickle. And Adam was forlorn as he often was in the middle of his sisters' scorn. Mom and dad left their children alone, satisfied that they were safe in their cozy home. They went to bed and quickly fell asleep for it had been a long day of preparing Thanksgiving treats.

The night air was cold and crisp; the evening wind was even brisk. The snowman stood guard all alone outside the family home. The children rolled it with special care as each of them gave the snowman something of theirs. Sarah gave up her stocking cap dangling a puffy ball in back. Adam borrowed his father's pipe as the snowman's mouth



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gripped it tight. Sharon at first could think of nothing, but then decided to share her shirt buttons. Hannah gave it a tie with all sorts of colors pleasing to the eye.

Then all of a sudden, the children arose with a shudder. They heard noise downstairs and for a moment were scared. Hannah, Sarah, Adam and Sharon then rubbed their eyes in hopes of seeing a big surprise.

They hurried up and ran downstairs all the time wondering what might be there. Then what to their eyes should appear, but a sleigh being pulled by 10 tiny turkey-deer. And driving the sleigh was a bird quick and lively, they knew in a dash it was **Ninja Turkey!**

He left the sleigh with a leap and a bound, greeting the turkey-deer as he jumped to the ground. He was dressed all in feathers and

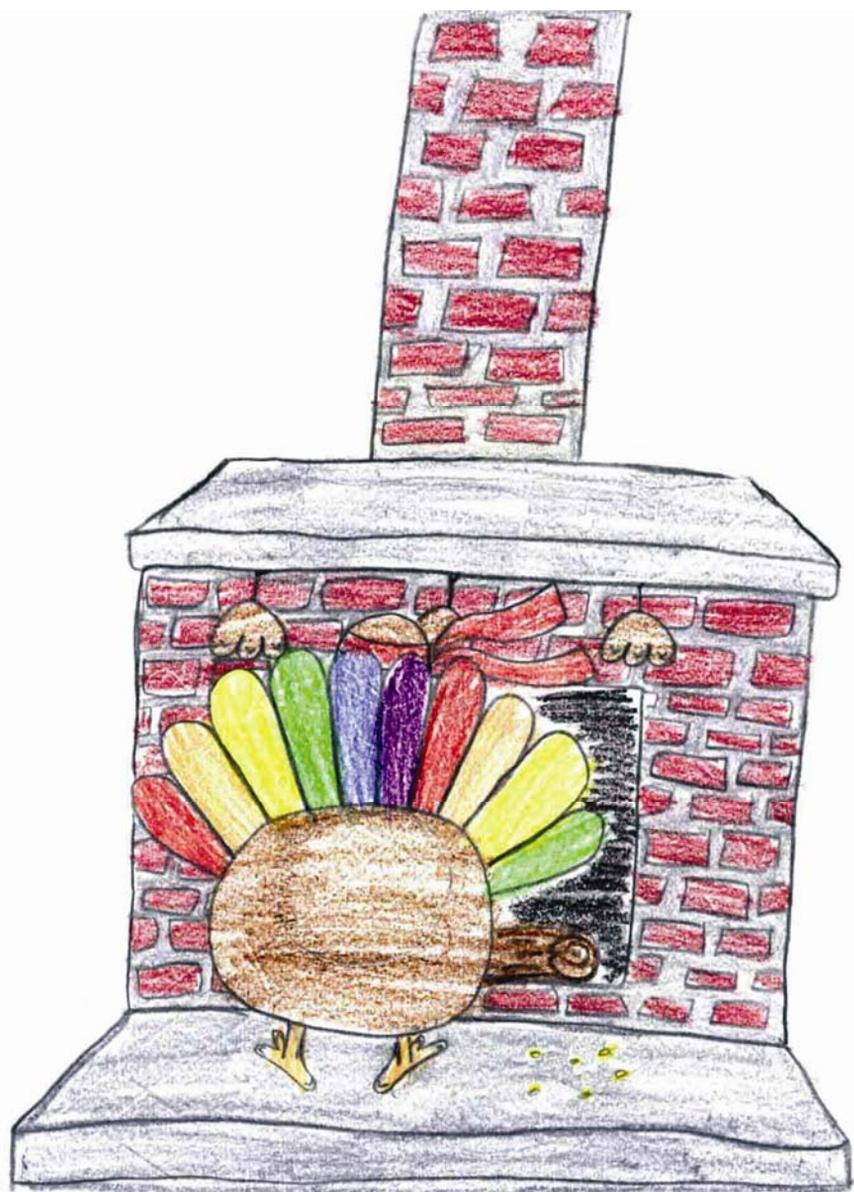


*November: 'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving*

made a gobbly sound that jiggled his belly that was fat and round.

Ninja Turkey saw the seed by the fireplace and ate it quickly at a fast pace. He gobbled here and gobbled there and soon was heard gobbling everywhere.

Ninja Turkey stopped pecking and got real busy as the kids stared with their eyes now as big as Frisbees. Hannah, Sarah, Adam and Sharon stood as quiet as could be so as not to disturb Ninja Turkey. They rubbed their eyes and gazed in wonder, expecting Ninja Turkey to fade like thunder!



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They watched and watched and watched and watched; even Tigger couldn't help but gawk and gawk. Kids and cat and cat and kids, they all stood together as they hid. Nobody moved and nobody dared, they just stood there and stared and stared.

Sharon, Sarah, Hannah and Adam could only guess what the grand turkey would be doing next. He stuffed a little turkey in the stockings left with care and then headed toward the family stairs.

Adam, Hannah, Sarah and Sharon panicked real quick and even Tigger took off lickety split. They ran up the stairs and headed for their room, afraid that Ninja Turkey would see them real soon.

Sarah, Sharon, Hannah and Adam were covered in blankets as Ninja Turkey trotted by with his giblets. They peeked from under the covers to see what they could see, but nowhere in site was that grand turkey. They wanted to move but did not dare in case that big bird might still be there.

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The children looked and stared and even Tigger peered out from nowhere. Then all of a sudden what should appear, but that Thanksgiving turkey of the year. The kids were surprised as they saw a thing; it was that turkey on their ceiling.

He walked upside down across their room and headed toward their window with a zoom. Sharon, Hannah, Adam and Sarah said "goodbye" and "take care" as Ninja Turkey scratched his feathered hair.

He turned with a jerk and a twinkle in his eye, then gobbled some stuffing before gobbling "goodbye." He zoomed out of the window toward his sleigh where 10 tiny turkey-deer were at bay.



*November: 'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving*

Off Ninja Turkey went and he was on his way, as the kids' vision of the Thanksgiving bird fade. But they heard him say with glee, "Gobble, Bobble" and "Tee-Hee-Hee!"

As Ninja Turkey flew out of sight, Adam, Sarah, Sharon, and Hannah heard him say, "Happy Thanksgiving to all and to all a good night!"



## *About the Author*

As a doctorate level practitioner serving school children for more than 35 years, Edward Galluzzi became keenly aware that children and their parents often had in short supply what families needed the most: open communication and sharing time together. The *Bedside Story Collection Series* was written to provide families a moment here and a moment there to come together and share heartwarming, silly and believably unbelievable tales.

The stories are tied typically to the main holiday or theme of each month, more or less. The characters in the stories are based on what children relate to most... animals and other children. There are also over 100 colored drawings sketched by children ranging from 7 months to 12 years of age. The stories from my imagination and the drawings from theirs come together to stimulate the imaginations of children and open a whole new world for parents and their children to share.

That is my gift to your family. Time for sharing... time for laughing... time for talking... time for each other. Not once upon a time, but *Twelve Upon A Time...*

## ***Stay tuned for all 12 of the Bedside Story Collection Series***

***January: Bronto's Visitors from Another Time*** follows the adventures of a family back to the time of prehistoric dinosaurs and their search for the time portal that began their misadventure on New Year's Eve.

***February: Surprised by a Secret Admirer*** explores the growing friendship between two children and their special celebration of Valentine's Day.

***March: Goggy and His Pot of Gold*** unfolds in the legendary country of Iarland in the town of Glocy Nora where children search for a leprechaun and his pot of gold.

***April: The Great Festival of Rabbunia*** follows the adventures of children to the mythical land of Rabbunia where they celebrate the Great Festival with the inhabitants of Rabbunia.

***May: The Mother's Day Surprise*** tells the story of how children and animals strive to surprise a special mom on Mother's Day.

***June: Memories in Five Balloons*** is a story of how a family survives with the death of their father and how they keep alive his memories each Father's Day.

***July: Furlly and Kurly Color the Flag*** celebrates the birth of our country by visiting the woman who knitted our flag on our first birthday.

**August:** *The Yad Gnihton Taerg* on the Mirror Planet celebrates the “Yad Gnihton Taerg” on the mirror planet Tenalp in the central city of Rorrim, a celebration that occurs just once every 500 years.

**September:** *The Underground Adventure* shares the heartwarming story about animal friends who want to make the end of summer a special one for their human friends before going back to school.

**October:** *Trick or Treat with Bitty the Bat* looks at the tradition of Halloween through the eyes of creature friends.

**November:** *‘Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving...* is a Thanksgiving story that unfolds in rhyme.

**December:** *The Magical Cane to Christmas’ Journey* celebrates the warmth of the holiday season with a family whose children share the Christmas’ past of their parents through the magic and wonder of a special candy cane.

***Other Books by the Author  
Published by CCB Publishing***

***Mirror, Mirror at 1600 D.C.***

ISBN 978-0-9810246-1-5

The role of the Presidency is complicated more than enough for Elizabeth Ashton without the added political burden of being the first woman elected to this high office in America. She is delighting her supporters and converting readily her critics when she is kidnapped while attending a fundraiser. The unfolding plot is a matter of survival—not only personal survival, but also hanging in the balance is the endurance of the Presidency and democracy in America. The missing President must be recovered—dead or alive.

## ***Beginnings***

ISBN 978-1-926585-10-9

*Beginnings* is based on the lives of Greg and Charly that propels the reader on an emotional roller coaster, as events unfold in their lives, including the more absurd and humorous aspects of life. *Beginnings* traverses the singledom lives of Greg and Charly and bring them together. The global benchmarks that help define them and a people unfold for each decade of their lives. We all encounter collectively many beginnings and beginnings of the end. We share them for they are part of what we call the human condition. Greg and Charly experience many beginnings and beginnings of the end—some predictable, some unexpected. Some beginnings are critical moments in our lives as they forever change us for better or worse—they bring us together or tear us apart. They are intimately tied to human relationships as they strengthen or weaken the stuff that binds us. The beginnings that impact on Greg and Charly unfold in the pages to come. Yet, these are not necessarily unique experiences and readers will relate to their own beginnings and beginnings of the end. However, I am getting ahead of myself. I would like to tell about the circumstances of my world just before my beginning and the woman of my life, Charly . . .

## ***Side Stepping the Rules: Broken or Not***

ISBN 978-1-926918-18-1

There are many books about the dating relationships of men and women written by women, but men write few. Well, take heart, for now is the parody book that presents the sensitive man's guide for escaping the clutches of the woman who thinks she's Mrs. Right. And it must work because it seems like the author has been single forever!!!

