

VOLUME 3

*Miss Brenda's*

**BEDTIME  
STORIES**



**This book is lovingly  
presented to**

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**By:**

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**On this special occasion**

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**Date:**

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VOLUME 3

*Miss Brenda's*  
**BEDTIME  
STORIES**

**BRENDA WALSH**

*Based on*  
**True Character-Building Stories  
for the Whole Family!**



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# DEDICATION



Linda Johnson, Brenda Walsh, Ken Micheff, Cinda Sanner, Jim Micheff

## Brothers and Sisters

When I count my blessings, I always thank God for my precious brothers and sisters who God has allowed me the privilege of growing up with. I can't imagine what life would be like without their love and support. No matter what project God is asking me to do, or what circumstance I am facing, they are right there beside me, encouraging, strengthening, and supporting me every step of the way. They are not only my family, my best friends, my support team, my closest social network, and my prayer partners, but most importantly, my spiritual mentors! I know I can count on them no matter what! They truly are, "the wind beneath my wings!"

We have played together, laughed together, cried together, faced tough times together, and through it all—loved each other! I feel blessed to be a part of the *Micheff family*, where our parents raised us not only to love Jesus and accept Him as our personal Savior, but also to share His love with others. It is an added blessing that in our adult years, God has brought us together to work for Him. All five of us are in full-time ministry!

It is with heartfelt love that I dedicate volume three of *Miss Brenda's Bedtime Stories*, first to my Lord and Savior, and then to my precious sisters and brothers, Linda, Cinda, Jim, and Ken. I love you with all my heart and am looking forward to the day when we will all be gathered together at Jesus' feet!

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Dr. Kay Kuzma

I want to thank Dr. Kay Kuzma for all her hours and hours spent editing *Miss Brenda's Bedtime Stories*. She is one of the most generous, kind, and talented people I know and these stories would not have been the same without her! I admire and respect her professionalism, creative writing skills, and her loving service for others. Her love for our Lord and Savior shines through in all she does. She has blessed my life in so many ways and I thank God for the gift of her friendship.

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Brenda Walsh".

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## Author Appreciation

I want to personally thank each of these best-selling authors for their generous contribution of stories. It is truly an honor and privilege to include them in this book. Each author was personally selected to be a part of *Miss Brenda's Bedtime Stories* because of their creative and professional writing style, incredible talent, and love for Jesus! To each of them, I extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks!



Doug Batchelor



Karen Collum



Kenneth Cox



Jim Gilley



Karen Holford



Linda Johnson



Kay Kuzma



Charles Mills



Seth Pierce



Kay D. Rizzo



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Nancy Van Pelt

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---

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Mary Le Grice  
Gail Logan

Ron Reese  
Jeff, Kari, and Levi St. Clair  
David Stewart  
Bob Willett





# ABOUT “MISS BRENDA”



**Brenda Walsh** is a vivacious, loving, and generous Christian with a heart for ministry and a burning desire to share the love and joy of Jesus. When she started praying, “Lord, use me in a special way,” God did! And the resulting amazing miracle stories have been an inspiration to thousands across the world who have heard her dynamic presentations or read her attention-grabbing books. Her message is one of encouragement and hope to those who want to be used by God. Hearing Brenda is truly a life-changing experience, whether it’s at a women’s ministries retreat, a prayer conference, a church-based weekend event, or a children’s ministries seminar.



Photo taken by: John Lomacang

Miss Brenda & Maxwell

Brenda is best known as “Miss Brenda,” the producer and host of *Kids’ Time*, a popular daily children’s program on Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN). She is also a frequent guest on the 3ABN *Today* program, cooking and singing with her sisters, Linda and Cinda. Together they have authored vegan vegetarian cookbooks and recorded several gospel CDs. Brenda also has her own solo CD, *My Wonderful Lord*.

Brenda is the author of *Battered to Blessed*, her life story of being a victim of domestic violence, and *Passionate Prayer*, which features her own personal stories of answered prayer. She has also co-authored several books with her friend Kay Kuzma.



Photo taken by: ccgraphicedesign.com



Photo taken by: ccgraphicedesign.com

In addition to ministering to others, Brenda is a registered nurse, interior decorator, and floral designer. Brenda is married to Tim Walsh, has two grown daughters, Becky and Linda Kay, and two grandsons, Michael James and Jason Patrick.

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# INTRODUCTION

**S**tories can have power to touch us and change us. They can help us understand what another person is feeling and help us see things from a new perspective. They can help us understand “Why?” and see the reasoning behind “Be careful!” They can help us learn lessons without having to suffer from making mistakes! That’s why Jesus taught by telling stories. He knew that stories help us understand.

This book is full of stories told for the same reasons. So much effort, love, and prayer have gone into collecting and preparing *Miss Brenda’s Bedtime Stories!* Based on true stories contributed from people around the world, each one has been written especially for Miss Brenda by beloved and best-selling authors (and some written by Miss Brenda herself!). They are sure to be loved by children and treasured by parents and grandparents and all who read them.

Brenda has shared these stories to help kids everywhere develop strong characters, understand important lessons, and most important, learn to be a good friend of Jesus. These pages are full of stories that are heart-touching, soul-searching, fun-filled, adventurous, and meant to be shared!

May these stories bring laughter to the eyes, wisdom to the mind, and understanding to the heart of everyone who hears them. And may there be a double blessing of peace and joy to each grown-up who takes a few precious moments to share them with a child.



*Be sure to collect all five volumes of*  
**Miss Brenda’s Bedtime Stories!**





# Black Jellybeans

Gail's family was pretty careful about what they ate. Mom baked whole wheat bread and prepared good, healthy soups and casseroles, with not too much cheese, milk, sugar, or salt. As Dad said, "There's nothing better than the good Lord's fruits and vegetables just the way He made them." So desserts and snacks were usually apple wedges, crispy carrots, or raisins and walnuts. But once in a while, on Saturday night, the family would play games together and have a special treat.

Gail's favorite treat was jellybeans. She loved the pinkish-red strawberry ones and rosy-red cherry ones. They were especially good if you ate them with a lemony-yellow one. But her most favorite ones were the licorice-flavored black jellybeans. The rest of the kids knew how much Gail loved them, so they usually ate all the beautiful colored ones—leaving the black jellybeans for Gail.





# Black Jellybeans

One Saturday night, after putting the games away, Dad announced, “Time for bed, kids. We’ve got to get up early tomorrow so you can get your weekend chores done before the church picnic at the park. ‘Early to bed . . . early to rise, makes kids healthy, wealthy, and wise!’” The children laughed. Dad was always coming up with his version of some famous saying to emphasize what he wanted them to do. Then he turned to Gail and handed her the bowl of leftover jellybeans. “Gail, would you take the jellybeans to the kitchen and put them in the cupboard, please? And don’t eat any more.”

She took the bowl Dad handed her and headed toward the kitchen. Just as she was ready to put the jellybeans in the cupboard, she noticed that there were a lot of black jellybeans on the top of the pile! Wow! They looked so good.

She looked around to make sure no one was watching her. She was alone. Since no one was looking, she knew exactly what she was going to do—take a few more black jellybeans.

Gail picked out one black jellybean and shoved it quickly into her mouth. *Ummm!* It was so good that she had to have another. She picked out a couple more and shoved them into her mouth. Then another! Pick and shove. Pick and shove. Soon she couldn’t fit anymore jellybeans in

her mouth, so she carefully put the bowl in the cupboard and sneaked quietly down the hall to her bedroom with her cheeks bulging. She hoped no one would see her or talk to her because there was no way she could answer with her mouth stuffed so full!

When she got to her room she sat down on her bed and chewed and swallowed, chewed and swallowed. Her mouth was so full that it was difficult to swallow. Finally, the last of the black jellybeans went down her throat and she crawled into bed. She knew she should say her prayers, but what would she say? All she could think about were those black jellybeans her dad told her not to eat. They hadn’t tasted nearly as good as she had imagined. Over and over in her mind she could hear her dad’s voice saying, “*Don’t eat any more.*” She had not only





# Black Jellybeans

disobeyed her dad, which made her feel guilty enough, but she had taken something that didn't belong to her. She felt like a thief—and that made her feel even worse.

She picked up a book and started leafing through the pages trying to make herself forget about the jellybeans. But the more she tried, the more her conscience hurt—and the more her stomach began to feel queasy. It felt like all those jellybeans were playing soccer in her tummy. She put down the book and pulled the covers over her head. She turned to one side, then the other. She tried hard to go to sleep. She shut her eyes tight and counted to ten forwards. Then she counted to ten backwards.



But nothing seemed to work. She just couldn't get comfortable. And all the time the soccer match in her tummy was making her feel worse and worse. She tossed and turned, turned and tossed, and tossed and turned some more.

Finally, she knew what she had to do. She quietly got out of bed, tiptoed down the hall, and slowly opened the door to her parents' room. She felt her way over to her dad's side of the bed.

"Dad," she whispered. "Dad, are you awake?" No answer. "DAD," she called a little louder right into his ear.

Dad woke up with a start and reached out to her. "What's wrong, Gail? Are you OK?"

"No, Dad. I disobeyed you and now I can't get to sleep."

"What do you mean you disobeyed me? What did you do?"

"Dad, after you told me to put the jellybeans away, I picked out the black ones and ate them." With her admission, Gail started to sob as the whole story tumbled out. "I can't go to sleep because I disobeyed you and

# Black Jellybeans

stole the jellybeans and ate them and now I feel sick.”

Dad gave her a big bear hug. “Well, honey,” he said, “I think you have learned a good lesson about obedience. I love you and I forgive you. Jesus loves you and He will forgive you too. Let’s go back to your room and ask Him right now.” So Gail and her dad knelt together by her bed and prayed to Jesus, asking Him to forgive her for disobeying. Gail immediately felt better. Dad tucked her back into bed, gently kissed her forehead, and said, “I’m proud of you, sweetie.”

“I love you, Dad,” Gail responded as Dad turned out the light.

Now that her conscience was clear, the black jellybean soccer match was over . . . and with a smile on her face she fell fast asleep! ■

*Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.*

—James 5:16, NLT