

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

It always amazes me the inspiring shifts that take place in an author when their story is ready to be told, and what life events move them to finally put pen to paper. Bernice Ranalli has written a truly moving account of growing up with her developmentally delayed brother. She doesn't at all shy away from exposing her own coming-of-age pain and struggles, individually and as Paul's sister. Bernice's courageous and candid sharing of her private journey will often tug at your heart strings. For some readers, it will be even more personal, and you will know that you are not alone in your challenges.

One of the things that makes *Paulie and Me* extra touching are the beautifully translated letters written by her Dutch immigrant mother that were penned when Bernice and her siblings were young. Every word exudes love and pride for all her children.

The foundation of this book though, is the revelation of the deep bond Bernice has with her older brother Paul. In the Introduction, she speaks of the painting by Alfred Joseph Casson called *The White Pine*. Bernice sees herself as the smaller of the two trees and Paul as the larger pine. I think she stands as tall as her brother, both in their own unique way. As a reader, I admire them both. As publisher of *Paulie and Me*, I'm honoured to partner with Bernice to bring this thoughtful narrative to life.

Sheri Andrunyk

Publisher, Author, Mentor, Speaker

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