

**Connie Nordhielm Wooldridge**  
*Author*

Connie Nordhielm Wooldridge is the author of five picture books and a young adult biography about the life of writer Edith Wharton. For many years, she has also been a regular contributor to Highlights and Cricket magazines. Her first book, *Wicked Jack* (Holiday House, 1995), an adaptation of a well-known folktale, is now a multi-media presentation featuring a classical music score and animation by the book's illustrator Will Hillenbrand. It is also an IBook with narration by Connie.

*The Brave Escape of Edith Wharton* (Clarion Books, 2010) was named an "Editor's Choice" by **The New York Times** – "Any dreamy or bookish girl who once loved 'Harriet the Spy' should immediately take up this lively new biography." (August 10, 2010).

Her most recent title, *Just Fine They Way They Are* (Boyd's Mills/Calkins Creek, 2011), is described by **Kirkus Review** as "folksy, but panoramic...with a real rhythm to it... capturing the surging, ever-evolving nature of the country's transportation network." As an added feature for educators and home school instructors, Wooldridge offers extensive lesson plans for *Just Fine They Way They Are* on her website, [www.conniewooldridge.com](http://www.conniewooldridge.com).

Connie attended Mount Holyoke College and the University of Chicago graduate school, where she received a double Masters degree in library science and education in 1977. While in Chicago, she was Editor Zena Sutherland's editorial assistant for *The Bulletin for the Center of Children's Books* and served on the American Library Association's Newbery-Caldecott Committee and the Notable Books Committee, which compiles a list of the best children's books published each year.

Connie's catalogue:

*Just Fine They Way They Are* (Calkins Creek, March 1, 2011); Richard Walz, illustrator  
*The Brave Escape of Edith Wharton* (Clarion Books, 2010)  
*Thank You Very Much, Captain Ericsson!* (Holiday House, 2005); Andrew Glass, illustrator  
*When Esther Morris Headed West* (Holiday House, 2001); Jacqueline Rogers, illustrator  
*The Legend of Strap Buckner* (Holiday House, 2001); Andrew Glass, illustrator  
*Wicked Jack* (Holiday House, 1995); Will Hillenbrand, illustrator

Connie Nordhielm Wooldridge and her husband live in Indianapolis, Indiana. They have four grown children and a growing number of grandchildren.

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