

Lyme Disease Is No Fun: Let's Get Well!

Does your child have Lyme disease? Does he or she feel alone and not know what to expect from family and friends? In line with the Lyme Disease Association's long tradition of helping children, it has published a book for children 8-12 who have Lyme disease. Entitled *Lyme Disease Is No Fun: Let's Get Well!*, the book is written by Mary Wall MS Ed, CCLS, a Columbia graduate student, and is edited by Colleen M. Smith, a peer-review medical journal production editor and Johns Hopkins grad—each has battled Lyme disease as a child. Author Amy Tan has written the back cover note.

Ms. Wall wrote the book because of her own experiences with the disease. "I couldn't understand why the doctors thought I would want to miss almost two entire school years and pretend to be in pain. I remember being at my sickest point and sitting in a wheelchair in front of a doctor. He looked at me, shook his head and said, 'Mary, why don't you want to go to school?' I was so frustrated, all I could do was cry."

The book presents a brief history of Lyme disease and ticks, diagnosis and treatment, missing school due to Lyme disease, and feelings about the disease. Information is included on LDA's LymeAid 4 Kids fund which has available monies for children with Lyme without insurance coverage for the disease. Proceeds from the sale of the books will go to support the national nonprofit LDA's Lyme disease programs—education, prevention, research funding, and patient support.