

One for the Murphys by Lynda Mullaly Hunt



Here is a little background information about our First Chapter Friday title and its creator. Feel free to add your own notes and thoughts in the bottom box.

What's It About?

In the wake of heart-breaking betrayal, Carley Connors is thrust into foster care and left on the steps of the Murphys, a happy, bustling family. Carley has thick walls and isn't rattled easily, but this is a world she just doesn't understand. A world that frightens her. So, she resists this side of life she'd believed did not exist with dinners around a table and a 'zip your jacket, here's your lunch' kind of mom. However, with the help of her Broadway-obsessed and unpredictable friend, Toni, the Murphys do the impossible in showing Carley what it feels like to belong somewhere. But, when her mother wants her back, will she lose the only family that she has ever known?

Do you like the musical Wicked? This book mentions it (and it's songs) several times. How about basketball? Firemen? Giraffes? They are in this book too!

AR Reading Level: 3.4

Who Wrote It?

Being the youngest of five children, I can fend for myself pretty well, I was a tomboyish girl who loved skateboarding, climbing trees, playing baseball, and seeing everything there was to see on my bicycle. As a grown up, my first job was as a teacher. When my daughter was born, I left teaching to be home with her. After her brother joined us and I realized that I was finding Sesame Street to be genuinely stimulating, I told my husband that I was joining a writers group at the local bookstore. I did and the rest is history! Although I never scribbled in journals as a kid, I'd write song lyrics about the things



that bothered me. For example, my brother, Michael Eric, died shortly before his 4th birthday. I wrote songs about him for years. To learn more, head to www.lyndamullaly hunt.com.

Lexile Level: 520L

I want to read this book: YES / NO $\square^{\Diamond \square}$ WHAT I THINK $\Diamond \square$

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