

One of Us

Peggy Moss

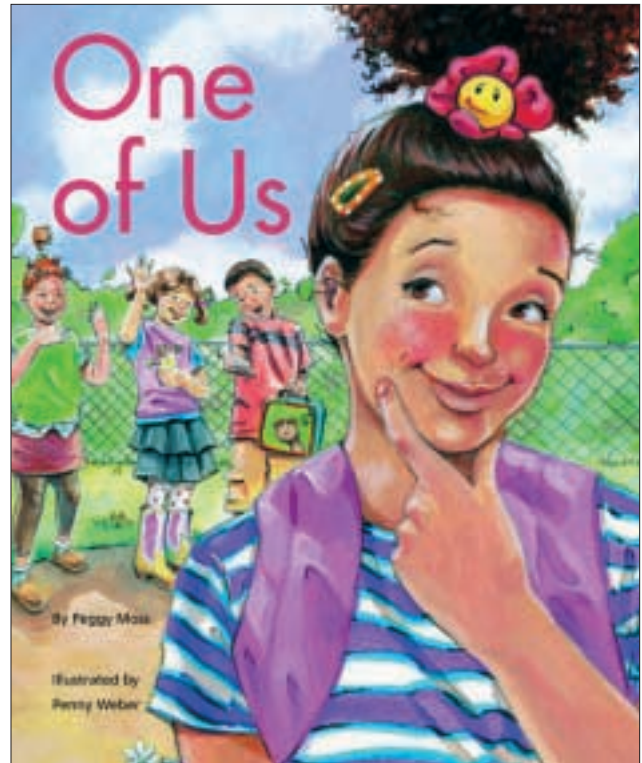
Illustrated by Penny Weber

Publication Date: June 1, 2010

Hardcover, \$16.95; ISBN 978-0-88448-322-9

9 x 10, 32 pages, illustrations; Children / Grades 2-6

- “With humor and heart, *One of Us* explores the stress of peer pressure and what is truly lost when we try to fit in. Its simple, powerful message: true friends respect what makes you who you are. This is a terrific conversation starter for parents and teachers, and a must-read for kids.” —**Rachel Simmons**, author of *Odd Girl Out* and *The Curse of the Good Girl*
- “Truth sings off every page of this plucky picture book. With its generous heart and lively illustrations, *One of Us* is easily one of my favorites.” —**Carrie Jones**, author of *Need and Love (and Other Uses for Duct Tape)*



“You are one of us,” Carmen tells Roberta on her first day at a new school. Roberta gladly sits with the rest of the straight-up-hair girls, until she hears they don’t play on the monkey bars. Roberta loves the monkey bars and leaps at the chance to swing with the monkey-bar posse, until she hears they don’t carry flowered lunchboxes. Roberta moves from group to group, just trying to be herself, until it seems she doesn’t fit in anywhere. Then Roberta discovers some kids just like her—everyone’s different and they like it that way!





"I am a trumpet-playing girl who likes baseball and car racing and ballet," Anna said.
"I love building things and spicy food and origami and bowling," Jason said.
"I like spicy food," Roberta said. "I love baseball, but I'm not crazy about ballet."
"Perfect," Jason said.
"But we aren't the same," Roberta said.
"That's the best part," Anna said.

* "Classifying is an important elementary school skill, but when it comes to people, emphasizing one label over another can separate instead of connect. We long for our children to see that celebrating and accepting uniqueness is a key to building unity. With joyful, vibrant illustrations and a brilliantly understated message, *One of Us* is the perfect read aloud for families and classrooms who care about diversity."

—*Mitali Perkins, author of **Bamboo People** and **Secret Keeper***



Peggy Moss, author of *Say Something* and *Our Friendship Rules*, worked as an assistant attorney general in Maine in the civil rights unit and as associate director of the Center for the Prevention of Hate Violence. Peggy now works with schools to prevent bullying and teasing. She has provided workshops to students and teachers from kindergarten to the college level in Maine, Tennessee, Toronto, and points in between, helping students and educators create school environments that feel safe for everyone. A freelance writer, Peggy lives in Toronto with her husband and two daughters.



Penny Weber has worked as a mural painter, greeting-card illustrator, and portrait artist. Her children's books include *On My Way To School*, written by the children of Tanzania and published by First Person Publishing, and *Amazingly Wonderful Things*, to be released in early 2011 by Raven Tree Press. Penny lives on Long Island in New York with her husband and three children and their cat Tiger.

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