



## Four Seasons of Patrick

*Susan Hughes*

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It's the start of winter, and Patrick is beginning to feel crowded out of his own family. His father's friend, Linda, and her seven-year-old daughter, Claire, are coming for dinner again. By the time spring arrives, not only is Patrick's father planning to marry Linda, but she and Claire will be coming to live with them at the summer's end. That just won't do. So Patrick comes up with a big idea. He'll build a tree house where he can stretch out his arms and breathe. But wait. Will his father allow it? Where will he find the perfect tree? Who will give him a hand with the construction? And, most importantly, will his own tree house really be the hideaway he hopes for, especially from the irritating Claire?

As the autumn season arrives, Patrick discovers some surprising answers to these questions — and learns a little about the meaning of family.

"There are nearly a 500,000 stepfamilies in Canada. Toronto author Susan Hughes' book, which reflects the four seasons and Patrick's transitions, is intended for children seven and up. It also teaches empathy, acceptance and the true meaning of family."

### **Reviews:**

"This gentle story touches on themes of being a younger brother, a friend, and a son as well as how to handle life situations that include the death of a parent, embarking on a new family unit with a step-parent and step-siblings, and on learning about how to be more generous with your relationships in a family. Each of these aspects is carefully written into a simple narrative of the passing of a year and how Patrick feels and thinks about his world. Readers will enjoy the kindness and learning experiences that Patrick faces and hopefully will learn how they, too, can be just as kind and welcoming when life changes dramatically.

### **Rated "E" for Excellent"**

-- *Resource Links Magazine*

-- *Waterloo Region Record*

"Given the staggering amount of 'broken' families, this is really a great book for kids. It deals with the loss of a parent as well as learning to accept a new one. It covers most family paradigm changes. Kids will enjoy the frolicking and play and sympathize with Patrick."

-- *literarylitter.blogspot.ca*

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### From reader reviews:

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#### **Kathleen Elder:**

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#### **Lynda Alford:**

Are you kind of active person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your time to upgrading your mind proficiency or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are receiving problem with the book as compared to can satisfy your short period of time to read it because all of this time you only find publication that need more time to be read. Four Seasons of Patrick can be your answer as it can be read by a person who have those short free time problems.

#### **Jack Bemis:**

In this particular era which is the greater particular person or who has ability in doing something more are more special than other. Do you want to become certainly one of it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time not much but quite enough to possess a look at some books. One of many books in the top listing in your reading list will be Four Seasons of Patrick. This book that is qualified as The Hungry Hillside can get you closer in getting precious person. By looking right up and review this guide you can get many advantages.

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