

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# CHAINED

by Lynne Kelly

The touching story of a boy and an elephant who have a friendship stronger than any lock, shackle, or chain.

Ten-year-old Hastin's sister has fallen ill, and his family must borrow money to pay for her care in the hospital. To work off the debt, Hastin leaves his village in northern India to work in a faraway jungle as an elephant keeper. He thinks it will be an adventure, but he isn't prepared for the cruel circus owner. The crowds that come to the circus see a lively animal who plays soccer and balances on milk bottles, but Hastin sees Nandita, a sweet elephant and his best friend, who is chained when she's not performing and punished until she learns her tricks perfectly. With the help of Ne Min, a wise old man who seems to know all about elephants, Hastin protects Nandita as best as he can. Still he wonders—will they both survive long enough to escape?

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

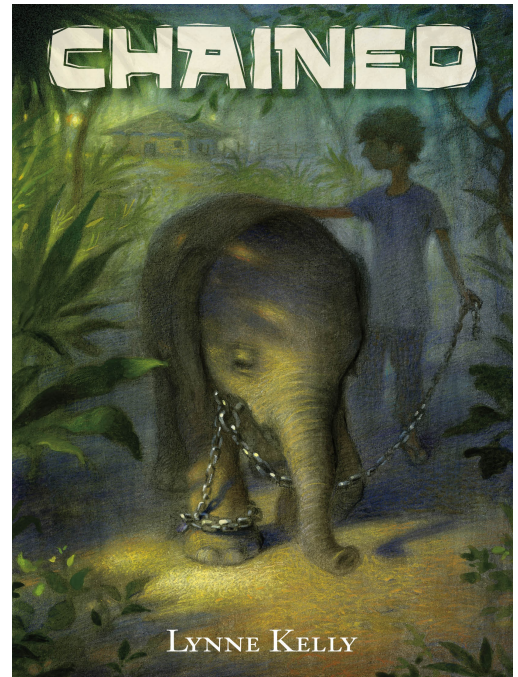
Lynne Kelly is a writer of novels for children and young adults and a sign language interpreter in the Houston, Texas area. CHAINED is her first novel.



“Kelly’s fine debut brings the jungles of India to life.”  
~ Kirkus Reviews

“Lynne Kelly has written a story that unwraps the heart and asks it to be brave, loyal, and above all, kind.”

~ Kathi Appelt, Newbery Honor winner and New York Times bestselling author of *The Underneath* and *Keeper*



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