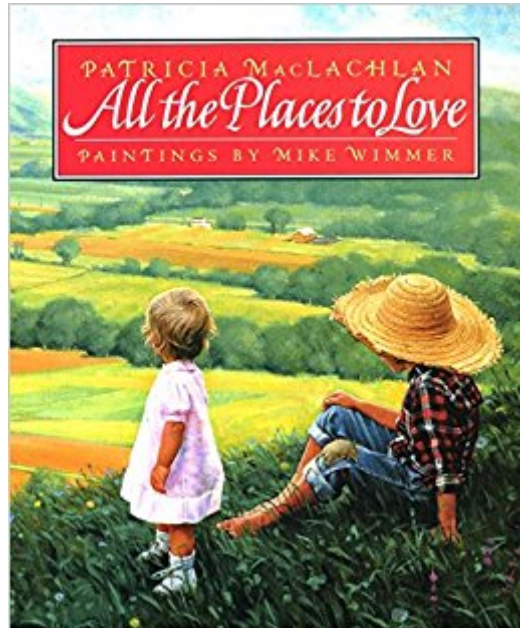




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# All The Places To Love



## Synopsis

A picture book celebration of love by the Newbery Medal-winning author, Patricia MacLachlan, with luminous paintings by Mike Wimmer. Within the sanctuary of a loving family, baby Eli is born and, as he grows, learns to cherish the people and places around him, eventually passing on what he has discovered to his new baby sister, Sylvie: "All the places to love are here . . . no matter where you may live." This stunning picture book is the perfect gift for parents of a new baby. "This loving book will be something to treasure."

Booklist "The quiet narrative is so intensely felt it commands attention. . . . a lyrical celebration."

Kirkus Reviews

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 920L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; 1st edition (April 22, 1994)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060210982

ISBN-13: 978-0060210984

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.3 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 87 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #36,141 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life #37 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Farm Life #67 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

MacLachlan's characteristically resonant language and Wimmer's majestic paintings affectingly celebrate the natural world and the family. Told in the voice of a child who lives on a farm with his parents and grandparents, the author's poetic narrative opens on the day of the boy's birth, when his grandmother holds him up to the open window, "So that what I heard first was the wind. / What I saw first were all the places to love: / The valley, / The river falling down over rocks, / The hilltop where the blueberries grew." The child introduces readers to the spots that each person in his family

loves best: for his mother it is the hilltop where the sky is "an arm's length away

Kindergarten-Grade 3-"Where else can the soft sound of cows chewing make all the difference in the world?" asks Eli's grandfather about the barn he loves. There are other places on the farm that each family member finds special: the valley, the meadows, the hilltop where the blueberries grow, and the river falling over rocks. As young Eli recounts them simply and warmly, these places become living keepsakes that form a homage to their way of life. The ties of family members to one another and of family to farm are captured in the sweet, pastoral illustrations realistically painted in Norman Rockwellian style. The language has MacLachlan's signature spareness filled with emotion and sensitivity. As in her *Three Names* (HarperCollins, 1991), the personal reflections are heartwarming and touching. While Eli waits in the barn with his grandfather, the arrival of a new baby reaffirms the continuity of generations as Sylvie's name is added to those carved on a barn rafter. The use of questions such as: "Where else does an old turtle crossing the path make all the difference in the world?" help make the story relevant for young readers. Who else but MacLachlan could carry this off so lovingly. Julie Cummins, New York Public Library Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc.

One of our favorites when my children were younger. Encouraged our family to pay more attention to All of Our Favorite Places. Brought special comfort to a child that went away to college when we sent her a small bottle of sand with an attached banner that read All the Places to Love. She knew exactly where the sand came from and with it a flood of special memories.

With breathtaking, ethereal watercolor portraits and simplistic yet eloquent language, Patricia McLachlan (the author of *Sarah, Plain and Tall*) spins a charming narrative of family, dreams, hope, and beauty. A young boy recalls how his family clings to home and the promise the land brings forth through sustaining life in their valley. Not merely a picture book, but also a concise allegory about the path that connects one generation to the next. One that will be cherished by all and is perfect for facilitating meaningful discussions, especially with little ones. This book is really a most precious treasure!

My favorite children's book ever! Exquisite pictures coupled with artful words that remind us of everything beloved: family, belonging, home.

I am a teacher, so I love children's literature. With that said, this has become one of my favorites. I heard it recently in a professional development and immediately wanted to buy it for my classroom and my daughters at home. It's a lovely story, full of imagery both through text as well as illustration. The plot details a family and their love of both special places in their lives as well as each other. It's a beautiful story for a read aloud and one children of many ages as well as adults enjoy.

Fun story to read

I can't say enough good things about this book. The pictures are lovely and the story is so great. My kids borrowed this thing so many times from our local library I decided to purchase my own copy. Such a great book when a new baby is expected into the family. It is a wonderful book. GET IT!

All the Places has been a favorite now in our family for over two years. I've given it to several friends as gifts, and for many of them, it has become a favorite, too. When my older child was two, and I started to go to the library regularly, I was aghast at what I found in the children's section. Too many picture books had dumbed-down language, ugly pictures, or both. This book is a gem: the language is beautiful, and so is the art. In fact, I like the art so much that I might buy another copy of the book, and cut it up to frame some of the pages! This is a book I don't mind reading 100 times - and I bet I've read it more than that, as both my 2-year-old and my 4-year-old request it as a favorite out of our huge collection of children's books. Definitely one of our top 10 choices!

We love this book that we have owned for years. The paintings are beautiful and look like photographs. So, when we needed a gift for friends who had a new baby, we were excited to give them a copy of All the Places to Love. We were disappointed that some of the prints in the new book are off color. Some of the pictures seem to have too much red in them, giving them a pink look. Otherwise, great book.

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