How to Write an Effective Review Request Plus My Swipe File!

Asking for reviews for your book can be difficult!

Tips when writing your review request to a book blogger:

- If it's a book blogger, follow their review request policy on their site.
- Offer a giveaway. If an e-book/print book, specify if national or international contest. Don't give away your new release, but know sometimes you must. Offer swag, a unique prize related to your book, or a gift card to an online bookseller.
- Offer to write a guest post that their audience would enjoy.
- Let them know the review formats you have available.
- Explain why your book might be a good fit for them and/or their blog audience to know about (similar genres, themes, age-range of other books they read and review.).
- Include all the information about your book: title, summary, publish date, online links.
- Contact them a minimum of 8 weeks before your book releases to give them time to read and review by your release date.
- Include your website/blog links.
- Include your book cover in the body of the email, no attachments.
- Include 1-2 blurbs or other early reviews if you have them.
- Include a brief bio.
- Thank them for their time and consideration (and be sure to thank them when they review, share the review, and tag them).
- Follow up with them politely just once after your book has published, if they have not posted a review, to see where they are in reading and reviewing.
- An honest review can be a brief paragraph. Show them examples of your book reviews (if you have some) or comparable other books, a time frame to post their review, or online sites to where they can post. Be sure to thank them and share their review.

Tips of what NOT to do!

- Don't send anyone your book without permission!
- Don't send a mass email to book blog reviewers. Personalize each one.
- Don't insist they review. Book bloggers do not get paid to review. They get many requests! Give them a reason to want to read your book (good fit, giveaway, guest post, similar to other books they've reviewed and liked, flexible time frame, etc.)

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Sample of review request email:

Subject: Request for book review + guest post from blogger/Amazon reviewer

Hello Amy,

(personalize if you know them or they've reviewed other books of yours before)

My first contemporary middle-grade novel, *Loon Cove Summer*, will be released in hardcover, paperback, and eBook on May 06, 2025, by Wild Trail Press. Steeped in courage, grief, and conservation in a powerful lakeside adventure, I think it would be a great fit for your readership.

Would you be interested in reviewing it at your convenience to post on your blog sometime this May? I can provide an advanced reader copy in e-book format as a PDF or an e-pub. If you prefer a print copy, I can provide a paperback copy. I'd also love to include an interview/guest post for your blog and excerpt of *Loon Cove Summer* plus a $50 Barnes & Noble gift card giveaway (running May 6-13, 2025). I would greatly appreciate your honest review posted as well with online booksellers and Goodreads.

Here is the summary of Loon Cove Summer:
This summer, 13-year-old Sarah Richardson is determined to get her life unstuck. Her goals? Swim in the lake again. Protect the loons. Stop aching for her mom. Volunteering at a wild bird rescue center is a bright spot - especially when she meets Theo, a boy who shares her passion for nature and conservation. However, life at her family's Maine campground is shifting. A potential move threatens her home. Her dad might be dating Theo's aunt, a wildlife researcher. Grief over her mother's death resurfaces in painful new ways. To reclaim her voice, Sarah finds bold inspiration in her late mom's Appalachian Trail journal and sets out on a solo wilderness trek. As Sarah's world unravels, her daring journey becomes more than just an adventure—it's a test of courage, heart, and what it really means to find your place in the wild and in the world.

My personal connection to Loon Cove Summer:
Loon Cove Summer is a love letter to my childhood. Like Sarah in the story, my family also owned and operated a campground by a lake in New England, and it was a magical place to grow up.

Praise for Loon Cove Summer:
"An original and fun read from start to finish, Loon Cove Summer is an inherently compelling and skillfully crafted story that showcases author Donna Galanti's distinctive and narrative driven storytelling style. With its unexpected plot twists and deftly crafted characters, this thoroughly 'kid friendly' action/adventure novel is especially and unreservedly recommended." – Midwest Book Review

"A warm-hearted novel, Loon Cove Summer shows how being open to new possibilities and connections can be a powerful remedy for grief. Readers will love the multi-generational cast of characters. Maine provides a rich setting for this charming novel that balances profound loss with humor and hope."– Kate Allen, author of *The Line Tender*

"*This funny and heartfelt novel with a cast of witty eccentrics reminded me that sadness and hilarity can walk hand-in-hand. As sparkling, refreshing, and mysterious as a Maine lake in summertime*." – Cathy Carr, author of *365 Days to Alaska*

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(Letter cont'd)

Audience:
- Nature and science lovers
- Outdoor adventure seekers
- Readers of survival stories
- Fans of environmental causes
- Youth in bereavement

Book information:
Grade Level: 3 - 6
Hardcover: ISBN-13: 978-1-7363162-7-6 $23.99
Paperback: ISBN-13: 978-1-7363162-6-9 $14.99
eBook: ISBN-13: 978-1-7363162-8-3 $5.99
Publisher: Wild Trail Press (May 6, 2025)
Reading level: middle-grade, 8 - 12 years
Book Tip Sheet to Download : http://www.donnagalanti.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/LoonCoveSummerSellSheet2025.pdf

Where book is available:
Amazon: https://amzn.to/3PgqDjo
Barnes and Noble: https://bit.ly/3ZY9cZW
Bookshop: https://bit.ly/3W3zk4t
On Goodreads: https://bit.ly/3W0M0Zy
Donna's website: https://www.donnagalanti.com/loon-cove-summer/

About Donna Galanti:
Donna Galanti is the author of two middle-grade series of books, *Unicorn Island* and *Joshua and the Lightning Road*. She has lived in fun locations including England, her family-owned campground in New Hampshire, and in Hawaii where she served as a U.S. Navy photographer. Donna is an avid outdoor adventurer and nature lover. She volunteers for the Old-Growth Forest Network and the National Audubon Society. When Donna's not wandering the woods seeking magic and wonder, you can usually find her biking or kayaking. For more information on her books, school visits, and events, visit her at: www.donnagalanti.com.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration!

Yours Truly,
Donna Galanti

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