

GWEN MACKINNON'S parents are dreadful. Truly, deeply, impressively dreadful. So Gwen's not upset when she's foisted onto her never-before-seen Uncle Matthew for two weeks. Especially when it turns out he has a peculiar—yet charming—dog named Pumpkin.

Things take a turn for the weird when Gwen makes a discovery in the local library. A discovery that involves tiny creatures with wings. And no, they're not birds. They're called Lahdukan. But why can only Gwen and the youngest children gathered for story time see them?

The Lahdukan insist that Gwen is destined to help them find a new home. But how can a girl as unwanted, uncourageous, and generally unheroic as Gwen possibly come to the rescue? Pumpkin has a few ideas. . . .

JEANNE BIRDSALL'S first book was *The Penderwicks*, which won the National Book Award and was a *New York Times* bestseller. Four other Penderwicks novels, all of which received glowing accolades and were *New York Times* bestsellers, followed to round out the series. She is also the author of several picture books and a chapter book. Her time is taken up with writing, gardening, and two wackadoodle dogs.

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Listening Library

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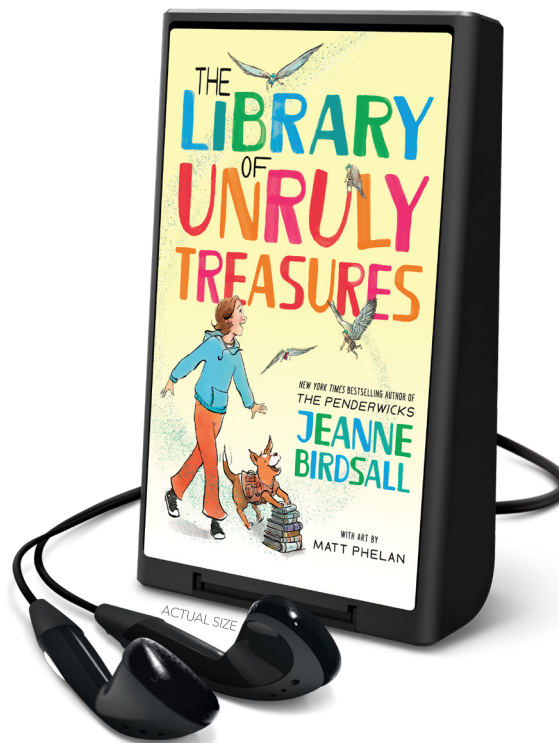
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