



A NOTE FROM AUTHOR Burleigh Mutén

Emily Dickinson loved children.

She never retreated from the neighborhood children. They loved to play in her yard, pretending to be Gypsies and pirates. Dickinson delighted in their fantasies and on occasion joined this little group of “bandits,” supplying them with treats, showing interest in their play, and giving them her unconditional love.

A few of these children grew up to be writers and told tales of their cherished neighbor. The Emily they described was no hermit. She was the respectful, playful, and treasured adult whom the children could never forget.

Miss Emily introduces children to the friendly and mischievous Emily Dickinson. Whenever I teach Dickinson to youngsters, it is this welcoming side of her that makes them want to know more. I hope you enjoy this glimpse into the personality behind one of America’s favorite poets.



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