



## Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell (Christy Ottaviano Books)

By Tanya Lee Stone

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In the 1830s, when a brave and curious girl named Elizabeth Blackwell was growing up, women were supposed to be wives and mothers. Some women could be teachers or seamstresses, but career options were few. Certainly no women were doctors.

But Elizabeth refused to accept the common beliefs that women weren't smart enough to be doctors, or that they were too weak for such hard work. And she would not take no for an answer. Although she faced much opposition, she worked hard and finally when she graduated from medical school and went on to have a brilliant career proved her detractors wrong. This inspiring story of the first female doctor shows how one strong-willed woman opened the doors for all the female doctors to come.

*Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?* by Tanya Lee Stone is an NPR Best Book of 2013

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## **Editorial Review**

From [Booklist](#)

**\*Starred Review\*** Women not able to be doctors? There's a crazy thought! Yet one woman had to be first. Stone and Priceman combine their considerable talents to tell the story of Elizabeth Blackwell, who fought the scorn, the sneers, and the barriers on her way to becoming a physician. Priceman's always active art works particularly well here, beginning with her depiction of young Elizabeth, who liked to explore and was willing to take on both fights and challenges. As an adult, prompted by a friend who wished for a woman doctor, Blackwell decided to apply to medical school—and so the rejection began. Once accepted, she was treated abysmally by her fellow students, until she proved herself smarter than any of them. The gouache- and india-ink artwork, featuring rich colors accented by heavy lines, delights. Whether it's a landscape tilted on its side, smaller vignettes that take Elizabeth from waking to sewing circle to tea and back to bed, or a flurry of No, no, no, no . . . swirling around a spread, the pictures feel like poetry in motion. They highlight Stone's almost staccato text, short and snappy, easy to read yet full of information about both Blackwell and her times. The extended author's note will further intrigue readers. Grades K-3. --Ilene Cooper

## **Review**

"Here's a refreshing introduction to a regularly but often dryly cited female 'first'." *?The Horn Book*

"Stone presents the highly readable and detailed story of a girl who is sure to inspire aspiring young doctors." *?School Library Journal*

"Staccato text, short and snappy, easy to read yet full of information about both Blackwell and her times." *?Booklist, starred review*

"A bracing, vivacious account of a pioneering woman." *?Kirkus*

"[a] smart and lively biography of Elizabeth Blackwell." *?Publishers Weekly*

"A short, incisive biography. . . . The cameos of action, matched by full-page pictures, make the history accessible. A must for library shelves." *?Booklist, starred review on Elizabeth Leads the Way*

"This biography brims with upbeat energy as the spirited woman sets out to change the system--an energy amplified by Rebecca Gibbon's bright folk art-styled pictures." *?The Washington Post on Elizabeth Leads the Way*

"[This book] fires up readers with a portrait of the 19th-century feminist Elizabeth Cady Stanton. . . . The sometimes informational tone is animated and energized by Gibbon's plentiful vignettes and paintings, rendered in a vibrant folk-art style." *?Publishers Weekly on Elizabeth Leads the Way*

"Through words and pictures that work together and an emphasis on ideas and personality rather than factoids, this well-conceived introduction is just right for a young audience." *?School Library Journal on Elizabeth Leads the Way*

"In lively prose well-matched by Gibbon's irrepressible images, Stone tells the story of suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton. . . . A fine introduction for very young readers to the woman and her key role in American

history.” ?*Kirkus Reviews on Elizabeth Leads the Way*

#### About the Author

**Tanya Lee Stone** loves to write about women pushing boundaries where no woman has before, in books like *Elizabeth Leads the Way*, *Almost Astronauts*, and now *Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?* Her work has received such accolades as the ALA Robert F. Sibert Award, SCBWI Golden Kite Award, Bank Street's Flora Steiglitz Straus Award, and the Jane Addams Children's Book, Boston Globe-Horn Book, and NCTE Orbis Pictus honors.

**Marjorie Priceman** has twice received Caldecott Honors, one for her illustrations in *Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin!* and one for *Hot Air: The (Mostly) True Story of the First Hot-Air Balloon Ride*, which she both wrote and illustrated. She lives in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

#### Users Review

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##### George Hartzell:

This *Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell* (Christy Ottaviano Books) book is just not ordinary book, you have after that it the world is in your hands. The benefit you will get by reading this book is definitely information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This *Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell* (Christy Ottaviano Books) without we understand teach the one who examining it become critical in contemplating and analyzing. Don't be worry *Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell* (Christy Ottaviano Books) can bring whenever you are and not make your case space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it within your lovely laptop even cellphone. This *Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell* (Christy Ottaviano Books) having excellent arrangement in word along with layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

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##### Sean Bass:

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doing something is easily to understand. The article author was did a lot of exploration when write the book, hence the information that they share to you personally is absolutely accurate. You also will get the e-book of Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors?: The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell (Christy Ottaviano Books) from the publisher to make you far more enjoy free time.

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