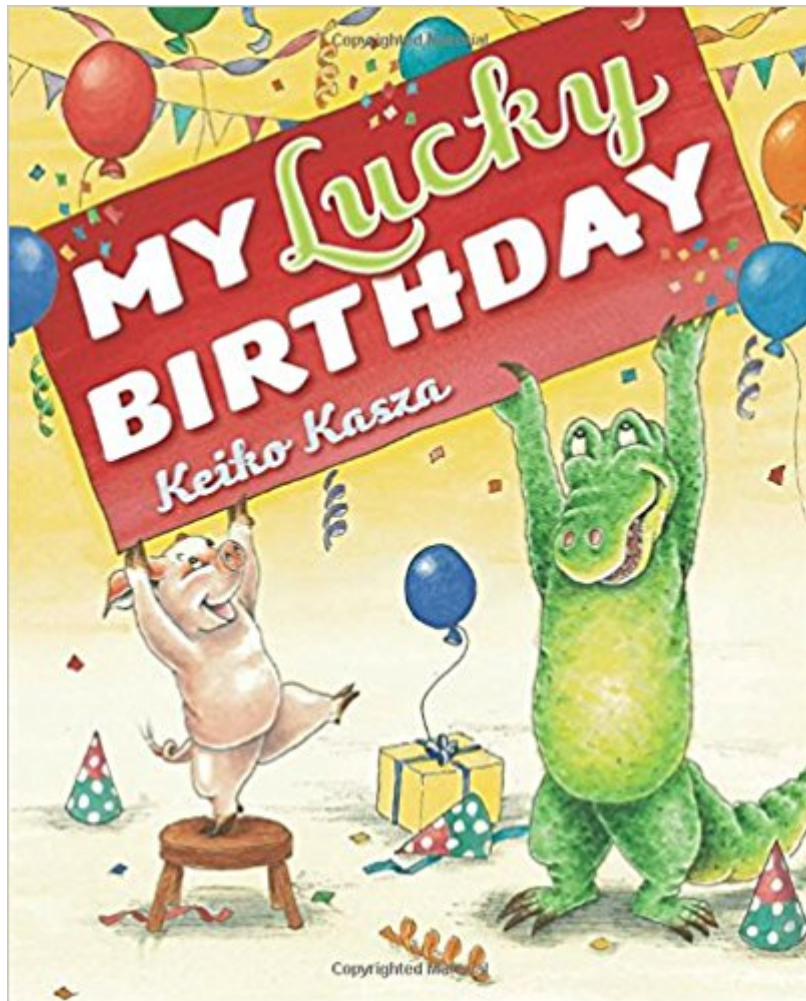




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My Lucky Birthday



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Synopsis

A hilarious trickster tale companion to the story time hit *My Lucky Day*. Just as Alligator Al is planning the perfect birthday dinner for himself, there is a knock on his door. It's a delicious-looking piglet! "How lucky!" But as Al prepares his feast, the piglet makes some suggestions. Shouldn't Al have a big birthday cake? Piglet can tell him how to make one. And wouldn't the celebration be more fun with fancy decorations and party guests? Piglet would be happy to ask some friends to come over. Al is so lucky that Piglet is there to help...or is he? Could Piglet have a clever party trick up his sleeve? Fans of trickster tales, rooting for the underdog, and the proven crowd favorite *My Lucky Day* will be thrilled to see who turns out to have the luckiest birthday of all.

Book Information

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

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Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 2-The cunning pig from *My Lucky Day* (Putnam, 2003) is back, and the hapless victim of his tricks this time is Alligator Al. It's Al's birthday, and he considers himself quite lucky when a little porker knocks on his door looking for his friend, Freddy. It's Piglet's birthday, and there's going to be a party. Strange, thinks Al. "Who's Freddy? And who has the same birthday as me?" That should have been his first clue. However, Al only sees "the [birthday] dinner of his dreams" standing at his front door. In a flash, he has Piglet bagged up and ready to be cooked. Piglet convinces Al that he deserves a big birthday cake. Al takes the bait, and bakes a nice cake for himself. But what's a party without awesome decorations, asks Piglet. So, Al decorates with balloons and ribbons and a

banner. Furthermore, Al shouldn't celebrate alone, says Piglet. "Shall I invite my friends?" A houseful of tasty piglets would just about be the "luckiest birthday ever" for Al, so he concedes. Piglet's friends aren't tasty pork chops, however. Rhino, Hippo, Wild Boar, and Gorilla are so big and scary that Al runs off, leaving Piglet to celebrate his luckiest birthday ever. The final page connects this story to Piglet's earlier lucky day, leaving readers to wonder who will become Piglet's next victim. The illustrations are done in gouache, and although they are typical of Kasza's style, they lack the visual charm of the art in *A Mother for Choco* (Putnam, 1992), for example. Nevertheless, this trickster/comeuppance story is a fine addition to picture-book collections.-Roxanne Burg, Orange County Public Library, CA

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Alligator Al believes he's received the best birthday gift ever when he opens his door to find a piglet caller, who would make a tasty meal. But the piglet, who shares Al's birth date, proves to be a smart little guy. First, he postpones his demise by making various suggestions to Al about other party essentials, including a cake, decorations, and, of course, invitations to more guests. Greedy Al assumes those guests will be more piglets and is stunned to find that a rhino, a hippo, a boar, and a gorilla show up. Instead of Al getting to pig out, the piglet gets to celebrate his own birthday, courtesy of the cake, decorations, and his friends. Kasza (*My Lucky Day*, 2003; *Silly Goose's Big Story*, 2012) illustrates her delightful plot with colorful cartoons that feature a vibrant watercolor palette and expressive, anthropomorphic characters. Piglet models clever self-preservation techniques, but he also leads the cleanup after the party and names the toy gator he receives as his gift after his disappointed host. Preschool-Grade 1. --Francisca Goldsmith

Many years ago I had the pleasure of meeting the author and have collected every one of her books. This year while reading to the first graders I must say I had not read any of her books to them. A little boy told me that he had just gotten *My Lucky Day* out of the school library. So, I promptly ordered her new book which was a sort of sequel to *My Lucky Day* and then wrote to the author. She was wonderful and said that she first thought of writing *My Lucky Day* at the conference where I saw her. Her new book measures up to all of her books. They are a joy to read aloud to the kids and they usually have some sort of moral which you can discuss with the kids. I printed out her reply and gave it to Timmy who knew that this was HIS lucky day.

We really really LOVE Kaszas books. Especially, the piggy ones. Our favorite being "My Lucky

Day". This book "My Lucky Birthday" gave us a continuation of that book "My Lucky Day". It was just as funny and a good read, but not nearly as amazing as the first. That said it is still worth reading and I would love to see more piggy books. I have a three year old who loves these books and we have been reading them since he was two. I highly recommend.

We followed up with this book after purchasing the My Lucky Birthday book (also another all-time fave). This is such a witty, comical tale of 2 animals: Al and the piglet. Illustrations are so whimsical and the story is quick, but so much fun! Our toddler loved this book and we hope yours will as well!

We love Keiko Kasza! This book was just as fun as the others we've read of hers; and each I've read, I find I must own. Has her typical, hilarious, surprise ending, which delights children. Received squeals and laughter when I read it to my son's kindergarten class.

This is one of my favorite authors as a speech pathologist and a mother of two. This title along with My Lucky Day are some of my favorite books. It's great for developing prediction skills, sequencing skills and inferences. This is one clever little pig.

I love books by this author, fun story and beautiful illustrations. I often buy them for children. This one is for a little boy who turns 5 on New Years Day..

Wasn't the hit I expected it to be with my four year old grandson but maybe he needs to grow into its humor.

Great companion book to My Lucky Day!

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