



## Down in the Belly of the Whale

A contemporary story about family and friendship for fans of Eleanor Porter and L.M. Montgomery.

Harper Southwood is a teenage girl who can sense when people *will* get sick—but so what? She can't predict her best friend's depression or her mother's impending health crisis. Being helpful is all Harper ever wanted, but she feels helpless in the face of real adversity. Now, she's got a chance to summon her courage and use her wits to fight for justice. Laugh and cry along with this irrepressible, high-spirited teen in her journey of self-discovery, as she learns that compassion and internal strength are her *real* gifts, her true superpower.

### About the Author: **Kelley Kay Bowles**

Kelley Bowles Gusich writes young adult novels under the pen name Kelley Kay Bowles. Kelley taught high school English and drama for twenty years in Colorado and California, but a 1994 diagnosis of multiple sclerosis has (circuitously and finally) brought her to the life of writer and mother, both occupations she adores and dreamed about way back when she was making up stories revolving around her Barbie and Ken dolls. Her debut novel, cozy mystery *Death by Diploma* (pen name Kelley Kaye), was released by Red Adept Publishing on February 2016, and is first in her *Chalkboard Outlines®* series.

Kelley has two wonderful and funny sons and an amazing husband who cooks for her. She lives in Southern California.

To learn more about Kelley, visit [www.kelleykaybowles.com](http://www.kelleykaybowles.com). Follow her on social media @KelKay1202. Tag #HarpersPower.

ISBN-13: 9780998084473

Publication Date: May 5, 2018  
235 pages

Galleys: <http://netgal.ly/rs9Oxo>

Press kit: <http://bit.ly/2zPI4B0>

Published by Aionios Books  
AioniosBooks.com

Contact:  
Gerardeen M. Santiago, Ph.D.  
publisher@AioniosBooks.com  
760.500.1137

---

### Advance Praise:

"Lively and fun, yet still grounded and full of depth . . . real and three dimensional . . . a wonderful book that cleverly explores some powerful and painful emotions." —Victor Catano, best-selling author of *Tail & Trouble* and technical director at the Conservatory of Dance at Purchase College

"Tackles sensitive social issues with heartfelt emotion and tender wit . . . [an] inventive, revelatory novel." —Kathleen Gerard, author of the novels *The Thing Is*, *In Transit*, and *Cold Comfort*

"Real and relatable . . . You quickly find yourself rooting for [Harper] . . . captivating." —Brian S. Leon, author of *Havoc Rising*

"Reminds us that life can hit hard no matter where we are in it, and our strength and charity will have more to say about how we handle those hits than the number of years we have behind us . . . [This] is *Ordinary People* for a new generation." —Jason Parent, author of *What Hides Within* and *Seeing Evil*

"Humorous and harrowing, romantic and revealing, and an honest true-to-life lesson about being a teenager in this most interesting of times." —Shawn Clingman, English/drama teacher and director, Grand Junction High School.

"Harper Southwood is the girl I wouldn't have given a second look at when I was in high school, but look back on as an adult with regret at passing up the chance to get to know her." —Ira Creasman, high school librarian

"The most important aspect is the messages that it conveys. . . . To be brave, even when you do not think you cannot be; you belong even when you think you do not." —Timmie Quitugua, librarian