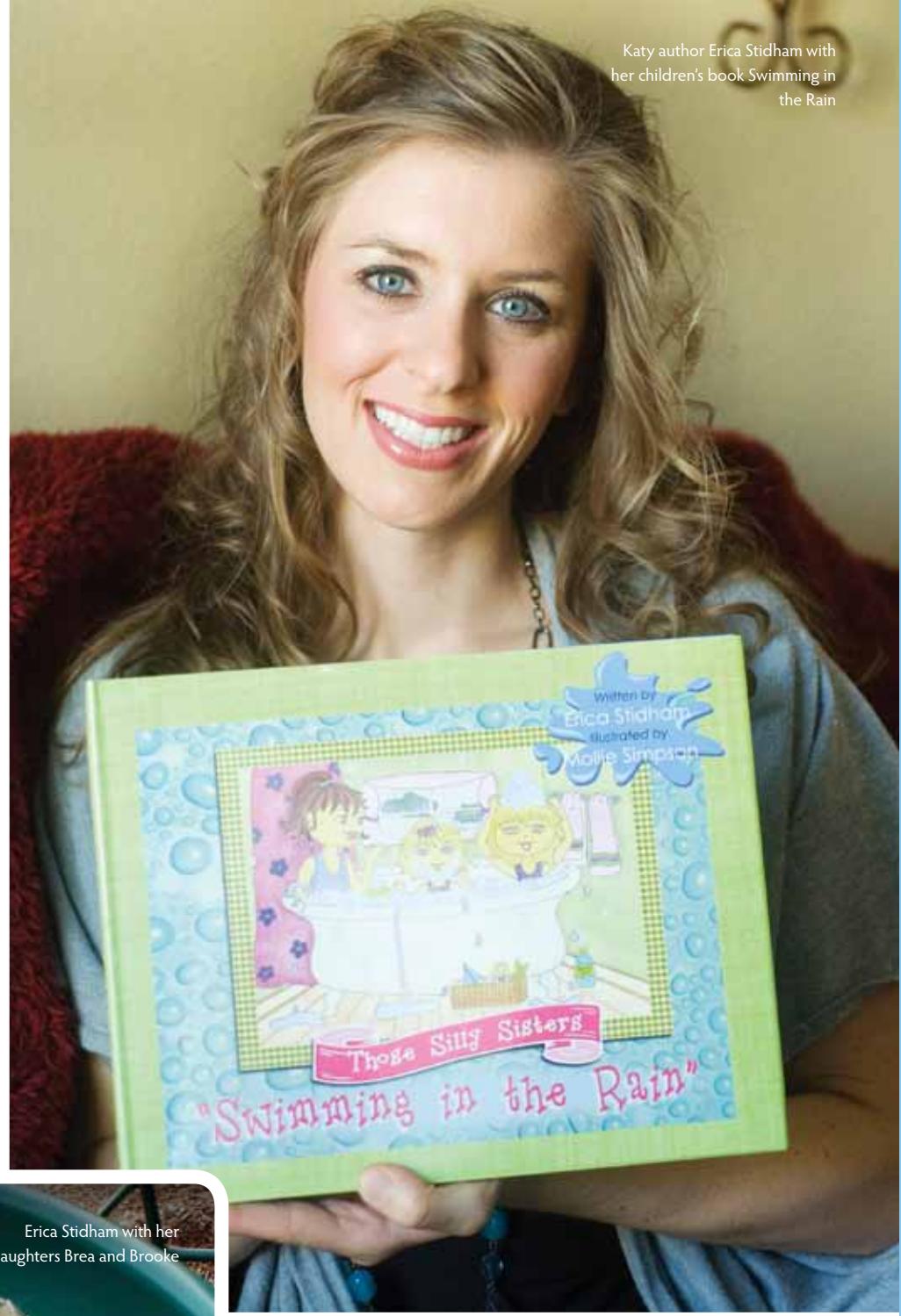


# Those Silly Sisters

**Katy Author  
Erica Stidham  
Publishes Children's  
Book Series Inspired  
by Her Daughters**

*Written by Natalie Cook Clark  
Select Photography by Marisa Hugonnott*



Erica Stidham with her daughters Brea and Brooke



Katy is bustling with creative talent and a rich writing community. The area is home to many passionate and successful writers, making a name for themselves and placing Katy on the map in the world of publishing. *Katy Magazine* invites you to meet local author Erica Stidham and learn about her inspiring tale of living her dream as a writer.

## For Her Daughters

Where does Stidham get her inspiration from for her whimsical children's books? Simple, from her girls. As a mom who loves to celebrate everyday activities and find the beauty in them, she came up with a plan to share the fun things she does with her girls with other moms. As the

author of the *Those Silly Sisters* series, Stidham combines fun stories with a recipe and a craft. Children currently can enjoy the most recent book in the series, *Swimming in the Rain*, along with a craft and recipe. "This helps families to really capture the moment," she explains.

## A Love of Literature

Stidham has always loved to write. "I've blogged for a while and followers loved the stories of my little girls," she says. The mother of two has a background in teaching, so writing for children was a natural fit. She also loves to read and write inspirational books.

Erica enjoys being able to give parents a tool to create a memorable moment with their children. She was fortunate to grow up with parents who gave her a wonderful childhood and is thrilled that she can help parents do the same through her books. The second book in the series, *Those Silly Sisters: Comfy Cozy Tea Party* recently became available this past fall.

## The Write Stuff

The Katy and northwest Houston community has greatly contributed to her writing success. "As an active member in Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS), I saw the need for inspirational literature for children," Stidham shares. She also enjoys speaking to students at local schools.

There are many writers in Katy trying to make it in the growing and challenging publishing world. Stidham has met aspiring authors who've told her that they've written a book. "You must take that next step," she encourages others. "If the manuscript is collecting dust on a shelf, it will never be in a bookstore."

She also points to reading as being key to making it in the publishing industry. Stidham takes time to read books from a wide range of genres. So while it is important to know your genre, it is also important for aspiring authors to know what works, just as in any other industry. With her positive children's book series flourishing, Stidham is writing a successful future as a talented Katy author. KM

NATALIE COOK CLARK enjoys freelance writing and learning more about her hometown of Katy.



Now Available

## *Those Silly Sisters Swimming in the Rain*

*Swimming in the Rain* by Erica Stidham is the latest book in her series, *Those Silly Sisters*, featuring sisters Katie and Claire, who love a good adventure. When their mom plans a special day of fun for them, they wake up excited. But with rainy weather muddling their adventurous plans, they must use their creativity to turn a day indoors into a day of wonderful memories.

Stidham's dynamic duo also comes to life in the first book of the *Those Silly Sisters* series, *Comfy Cozy Tea Party*. The whimsical tale follows Katie and Claire as they turn an ordinary autumn day into a uniquely magical adventure.

## About the Author

Erica Stidham enjoys life in Katy with her husband and two daughters, from whom she drew inspiration for the two sisters in her book series. She loves telling stories with positive lessons and values woven into each. A native of Houston, she graduated from Texas A&M University. After college, she moved to Florida with her husband and taught school for several years.



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