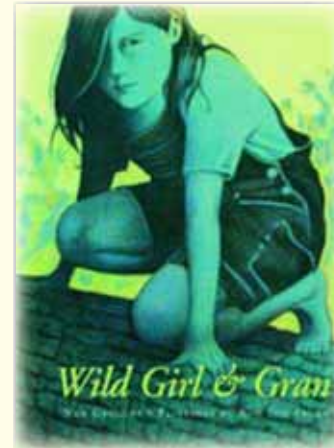


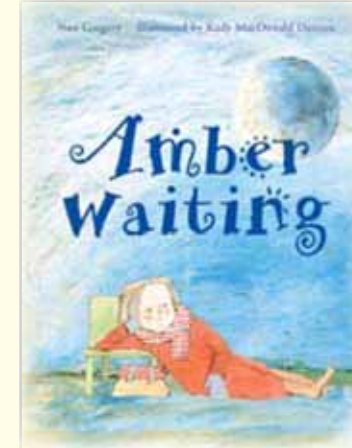
Nan and her dog, Lady

# ●●●●Nan Gregory

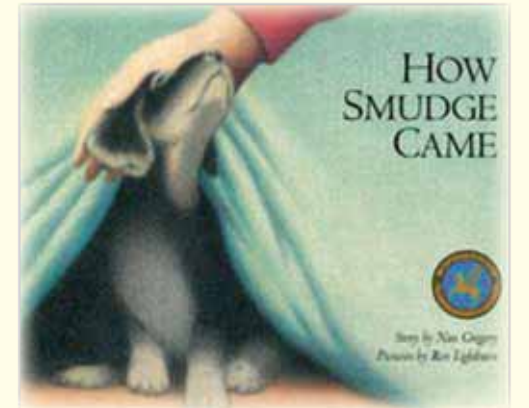
✓ Vancouver, BC



97808889952218, hc  
97808889953642, pb  
World  
Picture Book, Generational Story,  
Dealing With Death  
CLA Book of the Year for Children  
Award, CCBC Our Choice starred  
selection, Resource Links Best  
in Canadian Resources, IBBY  
Canada Outstanding Canadian  
Picture Book, Alberta Children's  
Book of the Year shortlist, Alberta  
Book Illustration of the Year  
shortlist



97808889952584, hc  
97808889953628, pb  
World  
Picture Book, Family Story  
IBBY Canada Outstanding Canadian  
Picture Book, ALA Booklist Best  
Book—Editor's Choice, Chocolate  
Lily Award shortlist, Christie Harris  
Illustrated Children's Book Award  
shortlist



97808889951617, pb  
World ex. AU, JP, KR, film  
Picture Book, Disabilities, Relationships,  
Friendship  
Mr Christie's Book Award Gold Seal, ABA  
Children's Pick of the Lists, Sheila A. Egoff  
Children's Literature Prize, Editor's Choice—  
Booklist/BookLinks, Washington Children's Choice  
Picture Book Award, 3rd Place

Nan Gregory has been a professional storyteller since 1984. She tells stories in schools, libraries, museums, theatres, art galleries, nursing homes and hospitals across Canada and the United States, as well as in Japan and New Zealand. Nan also writes stories; her first book, *How Smudge Came*, was published in 1995. "As an oral storyteller, you must love your audience, you must have a passion for your story, and you must have a delight in performing. As a writer, you must love the mythical reader you write for. You must also have a passion for creation, a good imagination, a thirst for long periods of daily solitude, the ability to weather loneliness, drive and persistence, an understanding of structure, drama and shape, and a love of language.

feeling!" Occasionally, Nan faces writer's block. "If I'm really stuck on one project, I usually let it sit for a while and work on something else. Over the years I've built up a collection of half-, quarter-, eighth-, sixteenth-finished projects (I call them 'stories in the ditch'), and if I'm not making headway with my main obsession, I'll putter through my bits and pieces and see if I can get one of them going."

Nan would like readers of *How Smudge Came* "to feel that they can be a hero like Cindy—persistent, and with a strong sense of justice—and to understand that people can love and help one another, no matter what their circumstances."

"The start of a book is just like needing to sneeze and not being able to. But finishing? A story, whole and shapely? Characters who live? Words that sing? Now that's an accomplishment. A glorious



Nan dances the Hokey Pokey with the students during a school visit





# ●●●●Dean Griffiths

www.deangriffiths.com ✓ Vancouver Island, BC

Dean Griffiths was born at King's Daughters Hospital in Duncan, British Columbia, on August 12, 1967. He grew up in the Cowichan Valley on Vancouver Island with his parents, Valri and Gordon, one brother and two sisters.

As a child, Dean was more interested in drama than in drawing, until he discovered comic books. From then on, he knew he wanted to be an artist. However, he struggled with Art in school and even failed it in Grade 10. He worked in computer graphics for two years before finding himself at the drawing board again. He was encouraged by peers and established illustrators to keep drawing. Eventually, that encouragement paid off, when his submitted sample material inspired a phone call from a publishing house. "I remember my mom woke me up and told me the good news, and after some coffee and a couple of aspirin, I phoned a friend and we went out and celebrated," he recalls. "And to hold the finished book in your hands is what illustrators live for, that incredible feeling of accomplishment. I love it!" Dean was signed on to illustrate his first children's book, and has been illustrating children's books ever since. "By far the best part about being an illustrator is being able to do something you love, which should be the main motivation for anything one does...but I guess the worst part is a stream of all-nighters whilst in the throes of a rare illness (which has actually happened to me)."

Since comics were what inspired Dean to pursue a career in illustration and art, he has been following the industry closely. He believes that now is an exciting time for comics and animation. "It seems that people are more open to all sorts of unique styles and ways of telling stories that weren't there when I was a teenager," he says. "Just as when I was a kid, there is great stuff and crappy stuff. I was heavily inspired by *Asterix* and Japanese cartoons like *Starblazer's*, so it's cool to see the North American market opening up for things other than the standard superheroes."

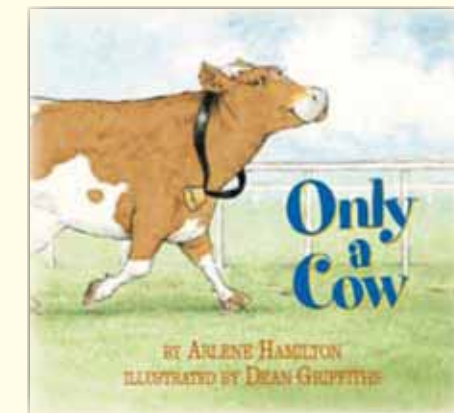
Dean says he wants to be remembered as someone who has produced work that inspires others to want to pursue their dreams, even if they fail Art class.



Illustration from Only a Cow



Dean's cats, Tinker and Jax

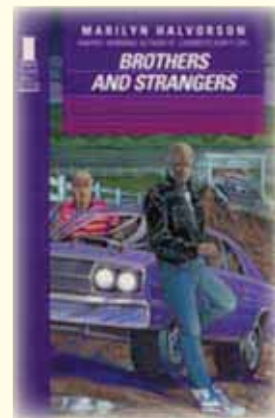


9781550418712, hc  
World ex. KR  
Picture Book, Humour, Tenacity

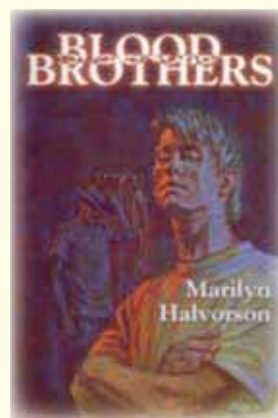


9781550416824, hc  
9781550417043, pb  
World ex. KR  
Picture Book, Overcoming Fears, Self-Esteem, Bully Issues  
Resource Links The Year's Best, OLA Blue Spruce Award shortlist, Chocolate Lily Award shortlist, Tiny Torgi PrintBraille Award shortlist, CCBC Our Choice selection

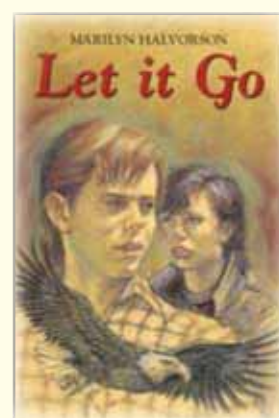




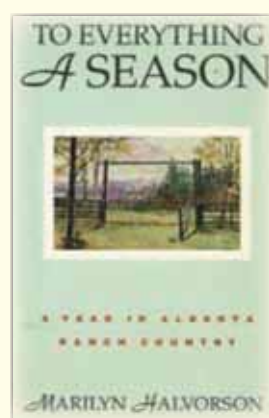
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9780773674523, mm  
World ex. RO  
Ages 12+, Adventure,  
Family Issues



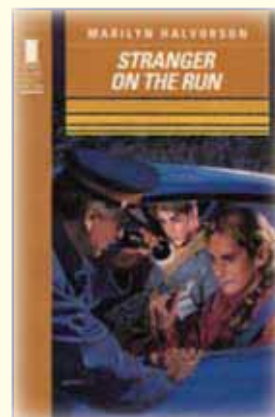
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World  
Ages 12+, Family Issues,  
Illness  
OLA Red Maple Award  
shortlist



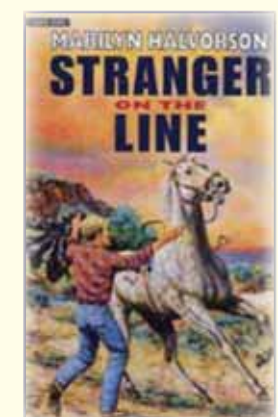
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World ex. US, FR, SE  
Ages 12+, Cowboy Story



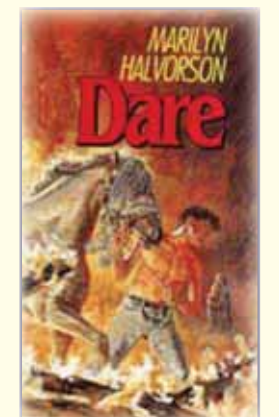
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World  
Ages 12+



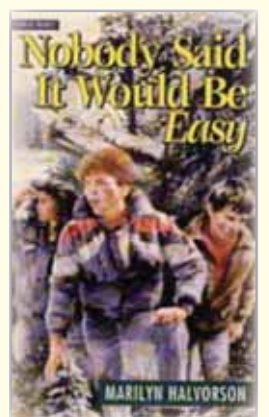
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9780773674714, mm  
World  
Ages 12+, Adventure,  
Crime, Coming of Age



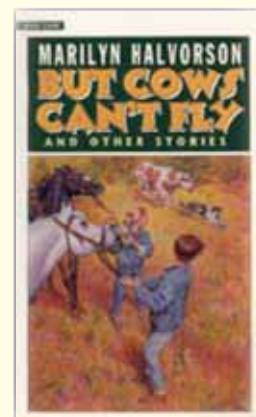
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World  
Ages 12+, Adventure,  
Western Life, Horses



978077367240, mm  
World ex. DK, FR  
Ages 12+, Cowboy Story,  
Coming of Age



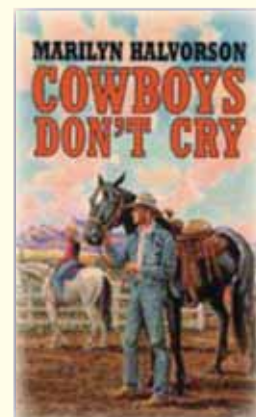
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World ex. GB, SE, US  
Ages 12+, Adventure,  
Coming of Age



9780773674035, mm  
World  
Ages 12+, Adventure,  
Coming of Age



9780773674257, mm  
World ex. FR  
Ages 12+, Family Issues,  
Western Life



9780773674295, mm  
World ex. GB, DE, NO,  
SE, US, FrC, film  
Ages 12+, Family Issues,  
Western Life

# ●●●●Marilyn Halvorson

✓ Sundre, AB

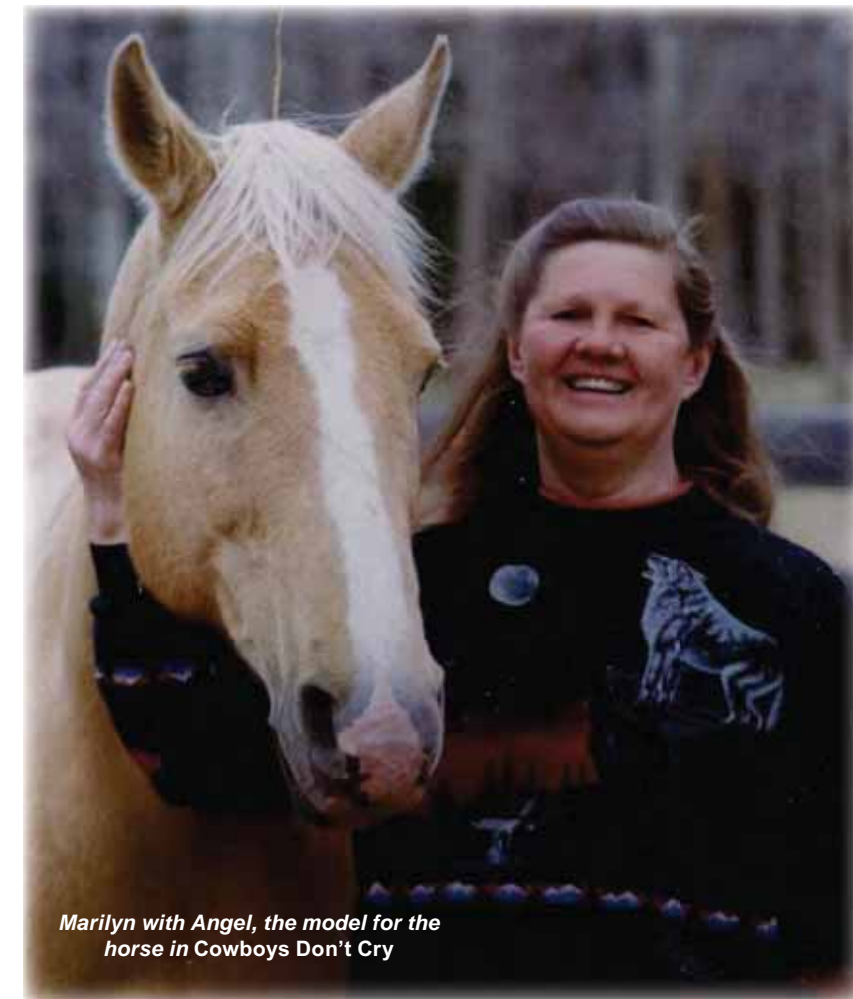
Although she isn't much of a dancer, singer or athlete, Marilyn Halvorson has notable talents. "I am a pretty fair horsewoman, handle cattle well, and am a fairly knowledgeable amateur naturalist." She is also known to be messy, unconventional, shy, funny and reliable. And she has a love for ranching country that shows up in her writing. Marilyn maintains a sound and simple philosophy: "I write about what I love."

Marilyn created the characters of Steve and Beau (*Blood Brothers*, *Brothers and Strangers*) based on inspiration from her students and experiences with horses. Marilyn also allows inspiration to take its course. "Usually if I have writer's block, I don't write. Ideas come unbidden while feeding the cows or cutting the grass, while sitting in front of the computer scares them away."

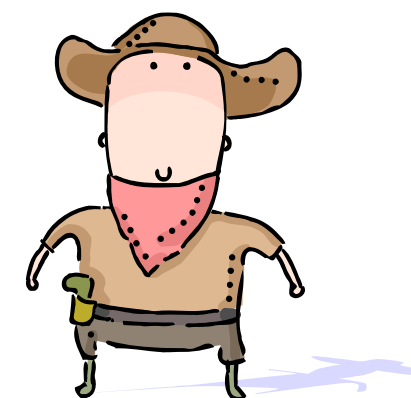
Marilyn's favourite books include Margaret Mitchell's *Gone with the Wind*, which she rereads every few years. Marilyn hopes to "live a life that leaves a light footprint on the land, to do a little good, and to make the world a kinder place for all animals, great and small."

Here Marilyn describes her perfect day:

My perfect day would be in summer. I would be awakened by the local yellow-bellied sapsucker pounding out a message on my old TV antenna. I would greet my five housecats and possibly enjoy a moment of pure bliss watching Qwilleren, my Himalayan-Siamese, lie in the sunshine, every long platinum hair tipped with light. Then I would make some coffee and, with the two dogs as escorts, do the early-morning yard inspection to see what new flower has bloomed. Then I might take a little ride on one of badly behaved horses and admire my herd of cows as they graze on rich green grass. After that I might actually do a little work, perhaps weeding the garden. As I work in the yard, I might be distracted by the spectacular song of a rose-breasted grosbeak and finally locate it high in a nearby treetop. A friend would phone and we would arrange to have supper in my favourite restaurant. Evening would find me watching the setting sun distilled to pure gold through a filigree of spruce branches. Then I would read for



a while, write in my journal, and watch a big yellow moon rise before I drifted off to sleep. Oh, yes, an added treat would be a publisher's phone call begging to offer me a contract to write a book on anything I wanted!





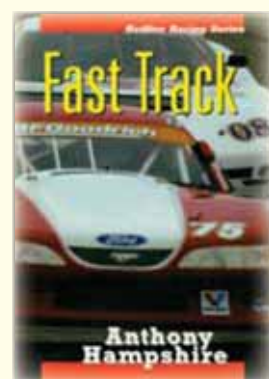


Youth fiction can be a powerful experience for young readers,” Anthony says, “but I find that a good deal of it contains characters who are amoral, devious and self-serving. There remains a need to introduce young readers to characters who choose to do the right thing, rather than the easy thing.”

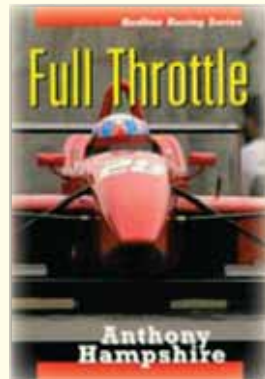
As a school principal, Anthony regularly guides and mentors students. “I firmly believe that true learning builds skills and understandings that are of real interest, personal importance and lasting benefit to the student.” About Eddie Stewart, the protagonist of his RedLine Racing Series, Anthony says: “Eddie usually describes, understands and reacts to events as an adult, but he still retains much of the innocence and wonder of youth. Eddie has my sense of humour and a strong competitive edge, coupled with great determination to earn his success.”

Anthony has raced cars at the regional and national amateur levels across western Canada for 10 years, and says he often feels safer in a race car than commuting on the freeway in a regular car. “It is comforting to know that none of your competitors on the track is eating breakfast, shaving or closing a deal on the cell phone as they slide sideways at 120 kph,” he says.

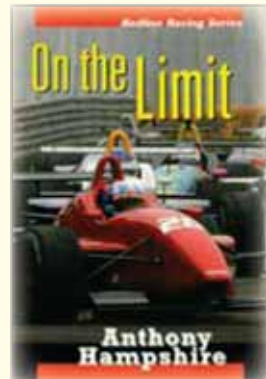
Anthony grew up in Calgary and London, England, and describes both cities as “vibrant.” “Calgary’s energy and optimism are always there,” Anthony says. “It’s a place for change, work and new things. By contrast, I’m impressed with London’s atmosphere of worldly experience and lived history.” Anthony now resides in Millarville, at the foot of the Rockies, where he plans to write the next installment of the RedLine Racing Series. “For the next book I’m working on a NASCAR story line, likely set at the Daytona 500. I plan to explore how rapid and enormous success affects Eddie and the other central characters, particularly in how they deal with the tension between public celebrity and personal integrity.”



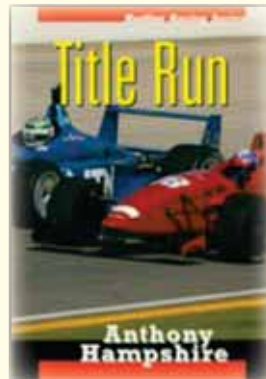
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World  
Grade 5+, Car Racing,  
Short Chapters,  
Adventure, Good for  
Reluctant Readers



9781550415643, pb  
World  
Grade 5+, Car Racing,  
Short Chapters,  
Adventure, Good for  
Reluctant Readers



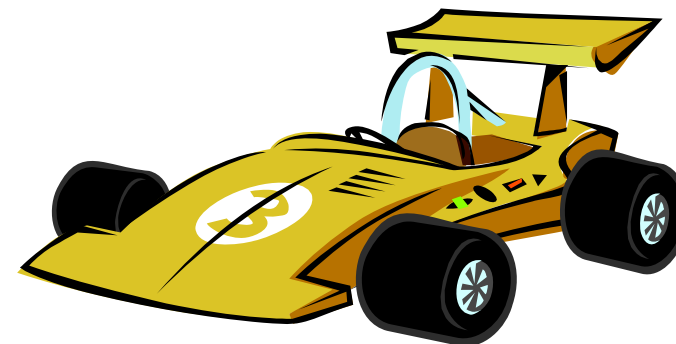
9781550415681, pb  
World  
Grade 5+, Car Racing,  
Short Chapters,  
Adventure, Good for  
Reluctant Readers



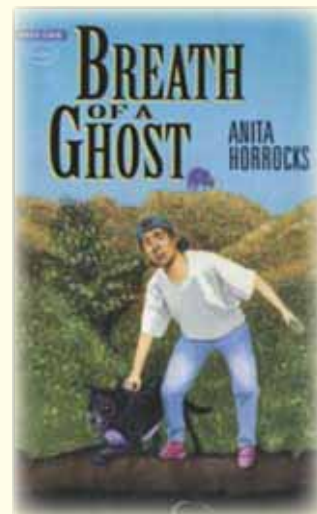
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World  
Grade 5+, Car Racing,  
Short Chapters,  
Adventure, Good for  
Reluctant Readers



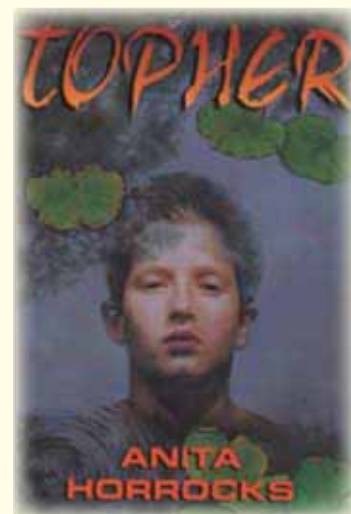
9781554550272, pb  
World  
Grade 5+, Car Racing,  
Short Chapters,  
Adventure, Good for  
Reluctant Readers



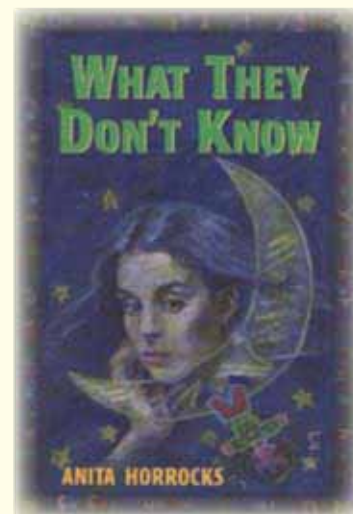




9780773674530, mm  
World ex. film  
Ages 12+, Family Issues,  
Dealing With Death, Mystery  
Alberta Book Award for  
Children's Literature shortlist,  
New York Public Library Books  
for the Teen Age, Manitoba  
Children's Choice Award  
shortlist



9780773760929, pb  
World ex. film  
Ages 12+, Family Issues, Mystery  
Alberta Book Award for Children's  
Literature, Golden Eagle Children's  
Choice Award Runner-up,  
Hackmatack Children's Choice  
Award shortlist, Manitoba  
Children's Choice Award shortlist,  
CCBC Our Choice starred  
selection



9780773760011, pb  
World  
Ages 12+, Mystery, Coming of Age  
Alberta Book Award for Children's  
Literature, OLA Red Maple Award,  
New York Public Library Books  
for the Teen Age, CCBC Our Choice  
starred selection

# ●●●●Anita Horrocks

www.anitahorrocks.ca ✓ Lethbridge, AB

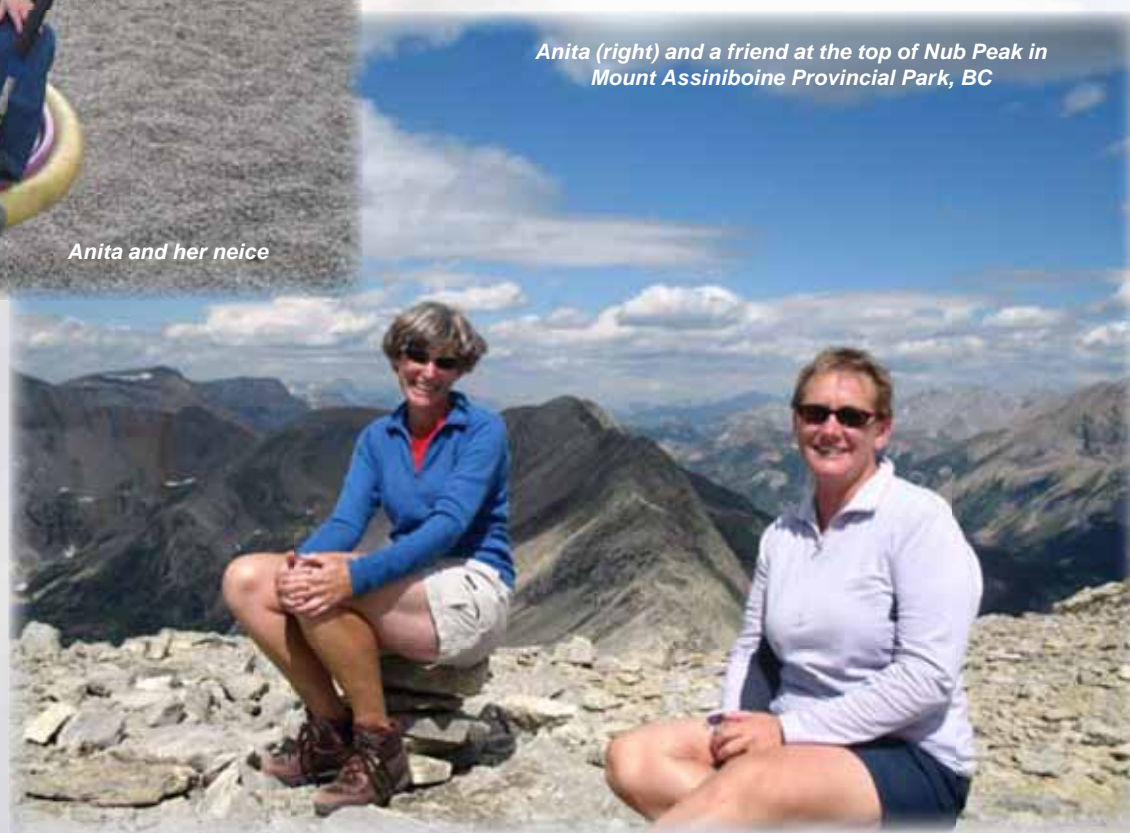
Anita at a rest stop on the way back from Crypt  
Lake in Waterton Lakes National Park



Anita and her niece

**“I’ve always been a fiction fan. When I was growing up, there was very little Canadian fiction available, at least compared to the wealth of stories out there now.”**

Anita (right) and a friend at the top of Nub Peak in  
Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park, BC



Anita Horrocks was born and raised in the small prairie town of The Pas, Manitoba. She grew up a very avid reader, listing C.S. Lewis's *Chronicles of Narnia* and Robert McCloskey's *Homer Price* as among her favourite childhood books. She found there was very little available in way of Canadian fiction, a problem she would later rectify.

After earning diplomas in ecological sciences and print journalism, Anita worked as a freelance writer while studying to complete her B.A. in English. When her first book, *Breath of a Ghost*, was published, Anita was thrilled. “I lost my breath. I jumped in the car, drove over to a nearby park where I knew my husband was flipping burgers for a staff barbecue, and showed him the letter. I just couldn’t wait to share the news with the person who had believed in me from the beginning. I think I literally jumped for joy.”

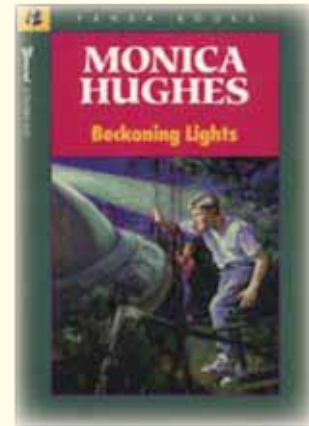
Anita still finds she is learning a great deal about writing as both a craft and an industry. “The first thing I learned about publishing a book is that it requires a lot of patience,” she says. “I still can’t open a finished book without that bittersweet feeling of knowing that I will find a good deal in the finished

text that I will wish I’d written differently.” Writing fiction, Anita claims, is the most challenging job she has ever had, but also the most rewarding. “To write stories for children,” she says, “is one of the most significant things I could do with my life. To greet fans, respond to questions, sign autographs and simply celebrate with young readers...amazed me, the fact that I’d written something that connected in such a powerful way with so many young people.”

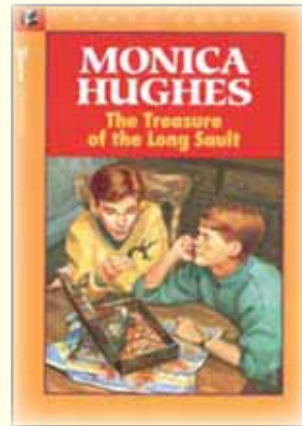
Anita is an enthusiastic golfer, gardener, quilter and archaeologist. She recently began working part-time at the local library, an experience that has introduced her to several useful reference tools. “I expect the new tools I’m learning to use are going to be a big help in the research I need to do for my writing,” she says.

One of her goals is to balance her part-time job at the library with writing and physical health. “Staying physically healthy and mentally healthy is becoming a more important goal as I grow older,” Anita says, especially now with grandchildren to keep her active. “I love chasing them in the backyard and rolling around on the grass, giggling.” Anita and her husband live in Alberta.

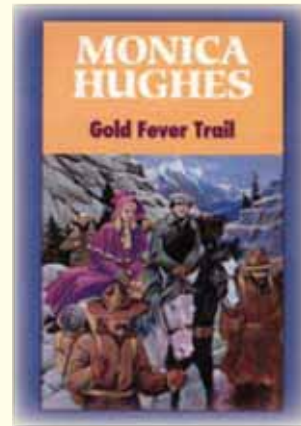




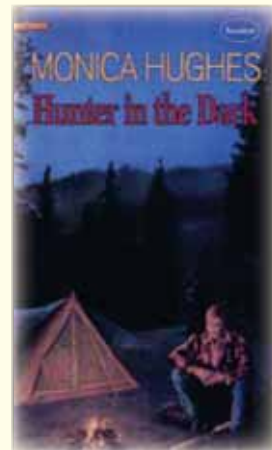
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8-12, Fantasy/Science Fiction,  
Adventure



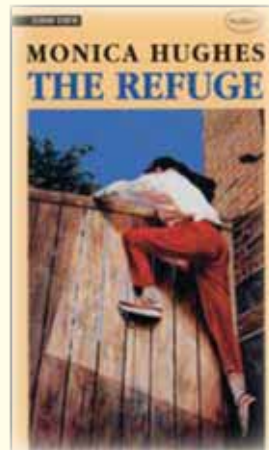
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World  
Middle Grade Fiction, Ages  
8-12, Historical Fiction



9780773672796, mm  
World  
Middle Grade Fiction, Ages  
8-12, Historical Fiction,  
Adventure, Klondike Gold  
Rush



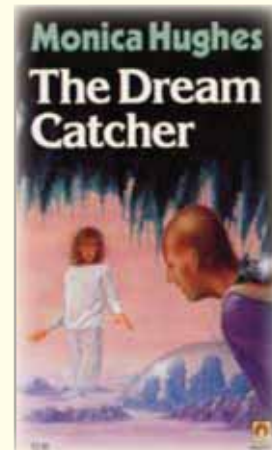
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Survival  
Canada Council Children's  
Literature Award, Silver  
Feather Award (Germany),  
Boeken Leeuw (Book Lion,  
Belgium)



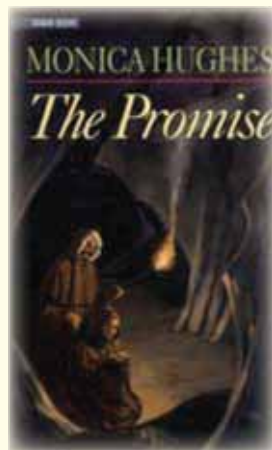
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Eng. CA  
Ages 10+, Coming of Age,  
Family Relationships



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Eng. CA  
Ages 12+, Coming of  
Age, Friendship, Native,  
Suspense



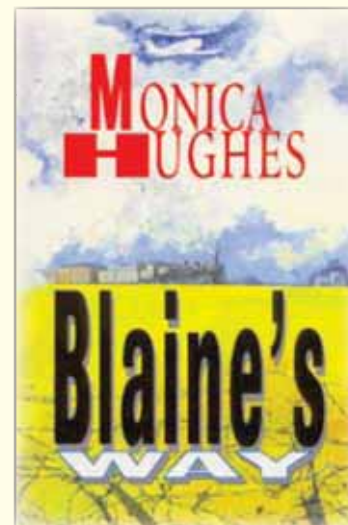
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World  
Ages 10+, Science Fiction,  
Adventure, Suspense



9781550051049, pb  
9780773674080, mm  
Eng. CA  
Middle Grade Fiction,  
Ages 8-12, Fantasy,  
Adventure



9781550050554, pb  
CA only  
Middle Grade Fiction,  
Ages 8-12, Fantasy,  
Adventure, Sequel to *The  
Promise*



9781550419344, pb (new cover)  
9780772515643, pb  
9780773674455, mm  
Eng. CA  
Ages 12+, Growing up during the  
Great Depression & WWI

# ●●●● Monica Hughes

November 3, 1925-March 7, 2003 ✓ Edmonton, AB

Monica Hughes was the award-winning author of dozens of books, short stories and articles for children and young adults. In her long and successful career she was the recipient of two Governor General Awards and the Vicky Metcalf Award. Her books have been translated into 15 languages.

Monica was born in Liverpool, England, in 1925. As a child, she dreamed of one day becoming a writer, and would tell stories to her younger sister at bedtime. She wrote several adult books and stories, it was not until she discovered books written for young people that she realized she wanted to write for a younger audience.

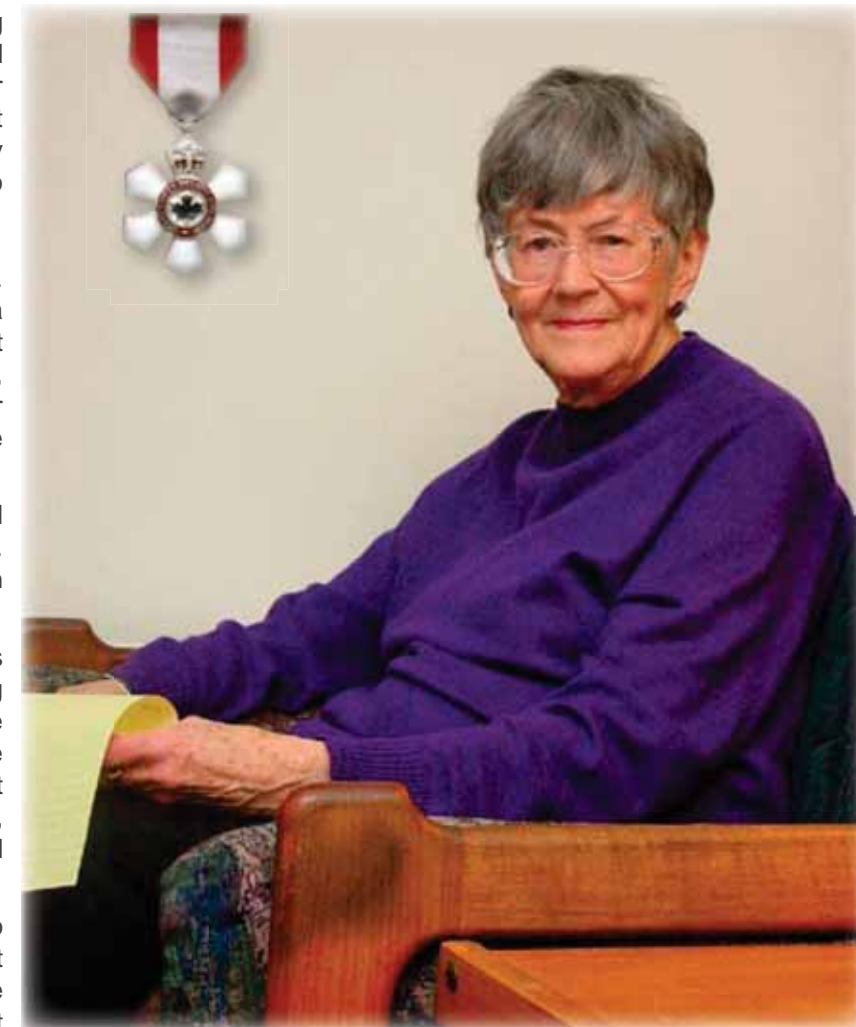
Monica immigrated to Canada in 1952 and settled in Edmonton, Alberta, where she continued writing. Her first book, *Gold Fever Trail*, was published in 1974.

Monica wrote several novels in various genres, but is best known as the first science-fiction writer for young readers in Canada. She wrote about issues that were important to young adults—issues they could relate to. She was also very active with organizations that promoted social justice and freedom of expression, such as Development and Peace, PEN Canada and Amnesty International.

Monica always devoted at least half of each day to writing, and would not leave her workspace without putting something to paper. She once said there were so many ideas buzzing around in her head that sometimes she felt as if her mind was an airport with ideas waiting to land.

On August 31, 2002, Monica received the Order of Canada, the country's highest civilian honour.

Monica died in Edmonton on March 7, 2003. She was 77.





# ●●●●Sharon Jennings

www.sharonjennings.ca ✓ Toronto, ON



Sharon Jennings started writing when she was five years old—poems for birthday presents and plays for backyard productions. She cites Pierre Berton's *The Secret World of Og*, which she read when she was in Grade 1, as one of her biggest literary influences.

As a child, Sharon dreamed about becoming an actress. "I wanted to be a famous actress and live in Hollywood," she says. "I still hanker for that life, but now I'd love to do Shakespeare on small stages." As a writer, Sharon takes a dramatic approach to her books. "I become the characters," she says. "I live inside the story."

After receiving a Master's in English, Sharon went back to school and earned two diplomas in Speech Arts from the Royal Conservatory of Music. "I had always been involved in theatre groups as a child and young adult, and I did think about pursuing a career in acting," she admits.

Sharon started in the world of publishing as an editor of high school textbooks. When she found out that the publishing house was looking for unpublished stories for a new series, she went home and started writing.

Sharon has written several children's books, including *Priscilla and Rosy*, and *Priscilla's Paw de Deux*. She describes the inspiration for the characters in this series: "Priscilla became a rat because I wanted her to be able to behave badly. The story wouldn't have been received very well if I had a real child sticking out her tongue, slamming doors, kicking furniture and offering her friends up to a cat as bait. Then I gave these poor rats very sophisticated Victorian names: If they had to live in a gutter, they deserved a bit of elegance in their lives. *Priscilla's Paw de Deux* came about when I took my daughter to buy her first pair of pointe shoes. I suddenly had a vision of a rat as a prima ballerina. I couldn't wait to get home and start writing."

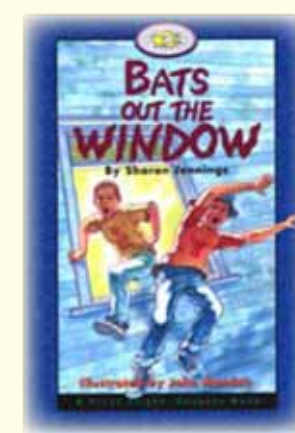
In addition to writing children's books, Sharon teaches writing at Ryerson University in Toronto.



9781550416442, pb  
World  
Grade 3+, Chapter Book, Mystery



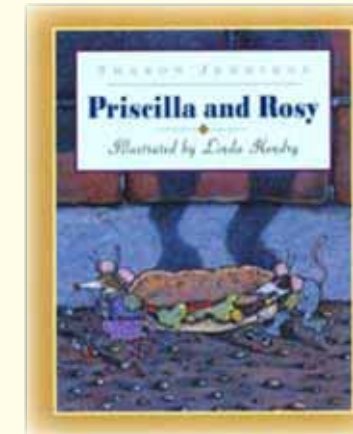
9781550417234, pb  
World  
Grade 3+, Chapter Book, Mystery, Ecology



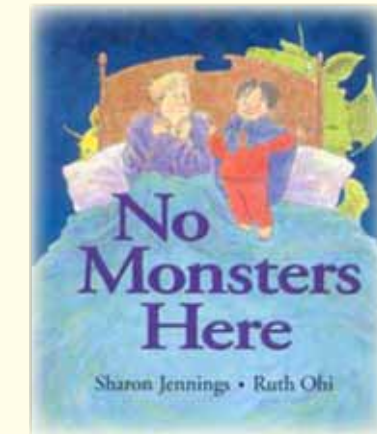
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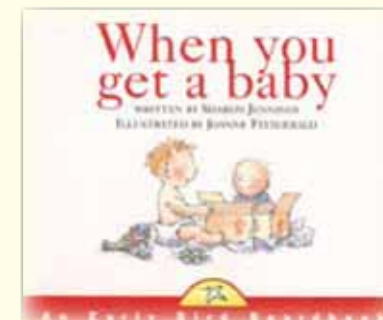
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World  
Picture Book, Friendship  
Mr. Christie's Book Award Gold Seal, ABA Children's Pick of the Lists, Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize, Booklist/ Book Links Editor's Choice, Washington Children's Choice Picture Book Award shortlist



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9781550419337, pb  
World  
Picture Book, Friendship  
Mr. Christie's Book Award Silver Seal, Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award for Illustration Honour Book



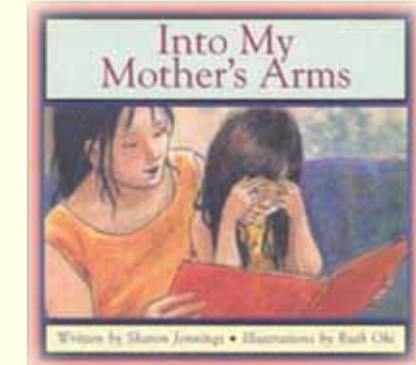
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9781550417890, pb  
World ex. KR, Heb. in IL  
Picture Book, Overcoming Fear  
CCBC Our Choice selection



9781550417029, bb  
World  
Board Book, Preschool



9781550414059, hc  
9781550417852, pb  
World  
Picture Book, Generational Story, Family Relationships  
OLA Blue Spruce Award



9781550418002, pb  
World ex. KR  
Picture Book, Family Relationships

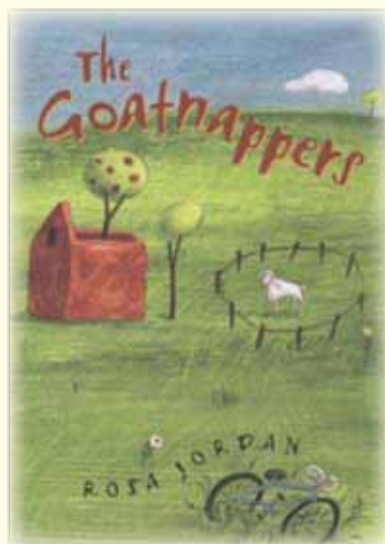




Rosa skiing in BC



9781550419320, pb  
CA only  
Ages 9-14, Discrimination  
& Prejudice, Social Issues  
OLA Silver Birch Award  
finalist, OLA Red Maple  
Award shortlist, Chocolate  
Lily Award shortlist,  
Kansas State Reading  
Circle Recommended  
Reading List



9781554550173, pb  
CA only  
Ages 9-14, Family  
Relationships, Adventure,  
Social Issues

# ●●●●Rosa Jordan

✓ Rossland, BC

**R**osa Jordan's nominations are not confined to literary awards. In addition to being nominated for the Silver Birch Award, Red Maple Award and Chocolate Lily Award, she was also up for the Daytime Emmys three times.

**Q** How did you become interested in writing as a profession?

**A** I began writing because I am easily bored, and because I like stories; thus it was natural to avoid boredom by making up stories. Also, it cost almost nothing, needing only a pencil and paper. I did not consider writing as a profession until I became an adult. I did it just for fun. I still do it just for fun.

**Q** Has your perception of being a writer changed since you became a published author?

**A** No. Writing is what I do. Publishing is what other people do. Publishing is like somebody else putting icing on a cake I baked. I like the sweet taste of getting a book published, but I enjoy more the part I get to do. I used to think I wasn't a "real writer" if I hadn't been published. Then I realized that a "real writer" is somebody who writes, just like a real skier is somebody who skis.

**Q** How did it feel to see your work adapted to film?

**A** Thrilling and annoying. Thrilling because a movie is larger than life, and it's like seeing your characters come to life. Annoying because some of the characters do not look like they did in your imagination. Also, when a writer's work is turned into a movie, the moviemakers can change anything they please and often do, whether you like it or not. They can put words in the characters' mouths that you know they would never say. They can even change the title. Book publishers are more respectful, and don't change anything without the author's permission.

**Q** How has your world travel influenced your writing?

**A** It has helped me understand, on a very deep level, how much more alike people are than different. But it has also taught me that you have to work at getting past the differences, because that's usually what you notice first.

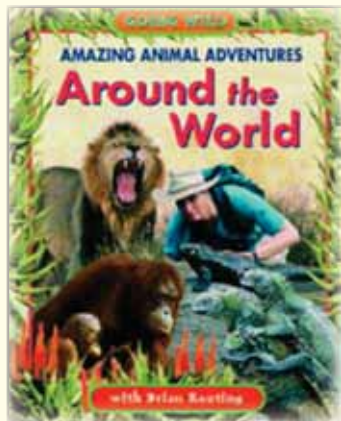
**Q** What do you hope readers will come away with after reading *Lost Goat Lane* and *The Goatnappers*?

**A** First, that everybody has problems, including kids, and often the adults in the kids' lives don't know about their problems or don't know how to help, so the kids are pretty much on their own trying to solve them. Which is okay because kids, if they are smart about it, can solve their own problems. Second, it's a lot easier for everybody, kids and adults, to work together and help each other. Third, people who are very different, maybe much younger or much older, or from a poor family or a different culture, can also become good friends we can trust if we take time to get to know them and treat them with respect, and do not put them down just because they are different.

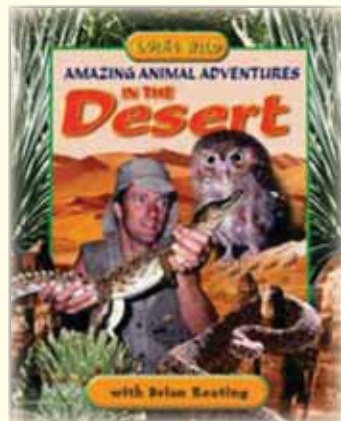


Rosa cycling in Cuba

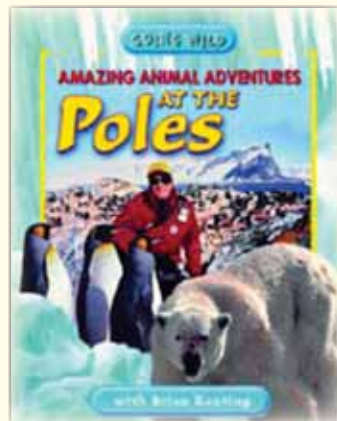




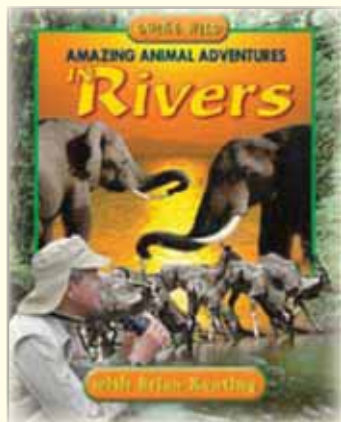
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Free teachers' guide available at  
[www.fitzhenry.ca](http://www.fitzhenry.ca)  
**World**  
Grade 4+, Non-Fiction, Science,  
Ecology, Animals, Habitat,  
Adventure  
OLA Silver Birch Award shortlist,  
Red Cedar Award shortlist



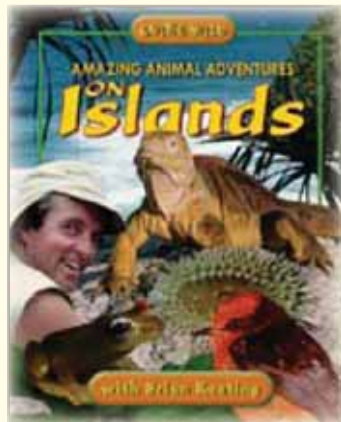
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Adventure  
CSWA Science in Society Award  
shortlist



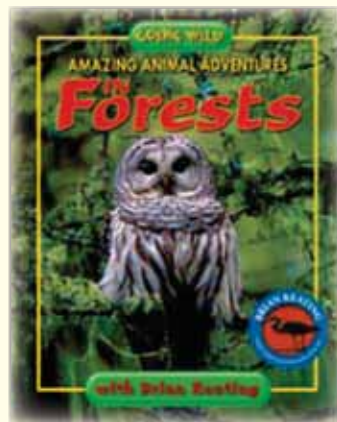
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**World**  
Grade 4+, Non-Fiction, Science,  
Ecology, Animals, Habitat,  
Adventure  
CSWA Science in Society Award  
shortlist



9781894856881, hc  
9781894856898, pb  
Free teachers' guide available at  
[www.fitzhenry.ca](http://www.fitzhenry.ca)  
**World**  
Grade 4+, Non-Fiction, Science,  
Ecology, Animals, Habitat,  
Adventure



9781894856584, hc  
9781894856591, pb  
Free teachers' guide available at  
[www.fitzhenry.ca](http://www.fitzhenry.ca)  
**World**  
Grade 4+, Non-Fiction, Science,  
Ecology, Animals, Habitat,  
Adventure



9781897252123, hc  
9781897252130, pb  
Free teachers' guide available at  
[www.fitzhenry.ca](http://www.fitzhenry.ca)  
**World**  
Grade 4+, Non-Fiction, Science,  
Ecology, Animals, Habitat,  
Adventure



One of Brian Keating's favourite places to visit is the Zambezi River. Having first seen the richness of its wildlife over 20 years ago, Brian returns every second year or so. "Walking through the riparian forest near the Zambezi is like walking through a perfectly manicured English park. The trees are browsed as high as an elephant can reach, and lovely, soft, yellow grass grows among the trees. Troops of baboons and at least four species of antelope surround you. And if you stand on top of a termite mound and do a 360-degree survey with binoculars, you can probably count a dozen different species of large vertebrates, including elephants and lions."

Brian's interest in nature and wildlife started in his childhood. He collected birds' nests, abandoned hives, animal skeletons, and other natural items to create his own natural history museum. Brian was fascinated by how different animals live together in ecosystems. Now, Brian is the director of Conservation Outreach at the Calgary Zoo, where every day he can exercise his curiosity about the natural world. Leading trips called "Zoofaris" to wild spaces all over the world, and speaking to school-aged and adult groups alike about wild animals and nature, Brian has reached thousands of people with his infectious enthusiasm for nature.

On his many trips to Africa, Brian spends as much time as possible observing elephants, which he considers one of the most interesting animals to

# ●●●● Brian Keating

✓ Calgary, AB



**Named "Environment Hero of the Year" in 2005 by *Readers Digest* Magazine**

watch. "They walk with such grace. They carry their bulk with such magic. They're like grey ghosts floating through the forest or through the savanna. They're always interacting with each other, always pushing each other around."

With his books, Brian hopes to share his enthusiasm with the next generation. "I want kids to become excited about nature. I believe that it is through that excitement that they will become strong conservationists with appropriate ethical attitudes. I believe that if kids can develop an interest in nature, they will also love it and respect it. Better decisions about nature will result from the better adults that these kids will become."

Brian's commitment to conservation projects keeps him busy—whether he is fulfilling his duties as honorary chief of an African village, developing a wildlife sanctuary, building the conservation fund at the Calgary Zoo, or leading wilderness trips. "I just have a very deep passion for wild areas and wildlife. My life's focus has been to explore wild areas and to watch wildlife in order to figure out ways to see that they continue to exist."



# ●●●●Joy Kogawa

✓ Toronto, ON



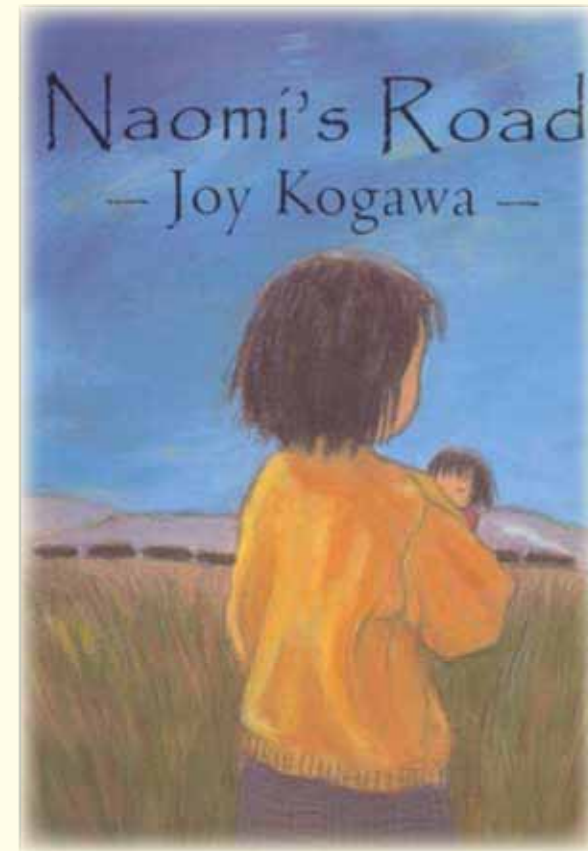
Joy Kogawa is known for her profound and moving writing, particularly about the experiences of Japanese-Canadians during and after World War II. Her novels, poetry and essays have won numerous awards and honours.

Joy was born in Vancouver in 1935. As a second-generation Japanese-Canadian, Joy suffered many racial hardships, especially during World War II when Japan was considered an enemy of the West. "The effect of racism goes on down through the generations," she says, "and is a very terrible thing." Joy and her family were evacuated to Slocan, B.C. and later relocated to Coaldale, Alberta. During that time, Joy lost herself in the world of literature. She cites Louisa May Alcott's *Little Men* as one of a handful of books that stayed with her while she and her family were moved around. "I think *Little Men* taught me to love strangers and helped me to have an open heart," she says.

Joy studied at the University of Alberta, the University of Toronto, the Anglican Women's Training College and the University of Saskatchewan. She taught elementary school in Coaldale for a year. To Joy, friendship is one the most important things in life. She even advises people to make friends with their enemies. Joy also values trust in her friends, and considers trust to be one of the important aspects in personal relationships.

Joy was very actively involved in seeking redress from the Canadian government on behalf of all Japanese-Canadians who, under the War Measures Act of 1942, lost their property and possessions. She also seeks restitution for the internment of thousands of Japanese-Canadians during World War II. She likes to remain optimistic in the struggle, but, she says, "racism is still very much with us. It feeds on fear."

Joy was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 1986.



9781550051155, pb

CA only

Grade 4+, Historical Fiction, Japanese Internment during WWII

Joy has received many honours:

Member of the Order of Canada, 1986  
 Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, University of Lethbridge, 1991  
 Fellow of Ryerson Polytechnical University, 1991  
 Doctor of Letters, Honoris Causa, University of Guelph, 1992  
 Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, Simon Fraser University, 1993  
 Urban Alliance Race Relations Award, 1994  
 Grace MacInnis Visiting Scholar Award, 1995  
 Doctor of Divinity, Honoris Causa, Knox College, University of Toronto, 1999  
 Lifetime Achievement Award, Association of Asian American Studies, 2001  
 Doctor of Letters, Honoris Causa, University of British Columbia, 2001  
 The NAJC National Award, National Association of Japanese Canadians, 2001  
 Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, Queen's University, 2003  
 Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa, University of Windsor, 2003  
 Joy Kogawa Day, Vancouver, November 6, 2004  
 Naomi's Road, the opera, commissioned by Vancouver Opera, 2005  
 Order of British Columbia, 2006



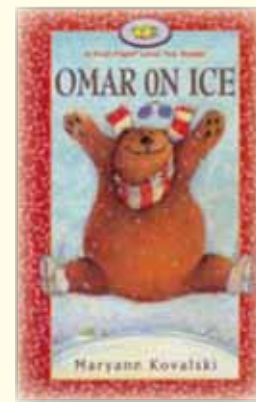




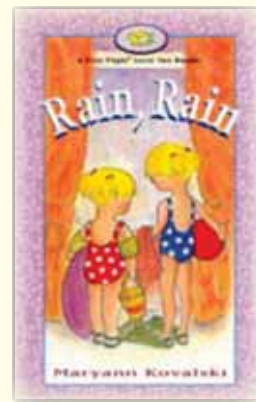
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World  
Reader, Level 2,  
Rhyming Story



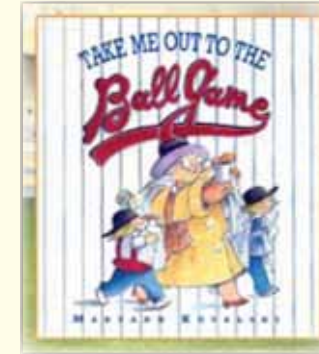
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9781550415407, pb  
World  
Reader, Level 2,  
Fanciful



9781550414097, hc  
9781550414073, pb  
World ex. KR  
Reader, Level 2, Self-  
Esteem



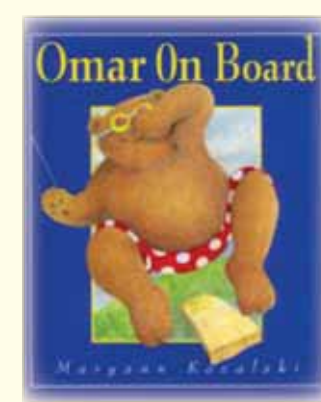
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Reader, Level 2,  
Generational Story,  
Imaginative



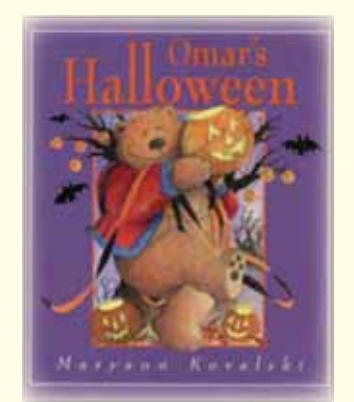
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9781550418996, pb  
World  
Ages 4+, Picture Book, Rhyming  
Text



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9781550417838, pb  
World ex. KR  
Ages 5+, Picture Book, Self-  
Esteem  
Mr. Christie's Book Award  
shortlist, TD Grade One Book  
Giveaway Winner



9781550419184, hc  
9781554550333, pb  
World ex. KR  
Ages 5+, Picture Book, Self-  
Esteem  
OLA Best Bets



9781550415599, hc  
World  
Ages 5+, Picture Book, Concept

## ●●●●Maryann Kovalski

www.maryannkovalski.net ✓ Toronto, ON

Maryann was born and raised in the Bronx, where she was entranced by the jagged shape of the New York skyline. "For me it was like the Emerald City in *The Wizard of Oz*," she says.

Maryann graduated from the School of Visual Arts. Soon after graduating, she left New York. "New York was in a dreadful state at the time," she explains. "The economy was awful, there were few jobs, certainly not enough to keep an illustrator alive. A friend said she was driving to Montreal in March, would I like to come?"

The moment she saw Montreal, Maryann knew she wanted to live there. "The beauty of Montreal took my breath away as we drove through it. I said, 'I have to live here. I don't know how, but I have to.' That fall I went there."

Maryann's move to Montreal at the age of 21 was bold. "In my family, no girl left home before marriage, and to leave the country? Scandalous! My father didn't speak to me for many months. And I knew only one person there, and had \$200 in my pocket."

But Maryann adjusted, and continued to work as being an artist. "There are so many artists whose work thrills me: off the top, modernists like Jasper Johns, Max Ernst, impressionists, collage artists like Joseph Cornell." Her understanding of being an illustrator has changed through her professional career. "I guess when I was young I thought being an artist meant making whatever pictures you wanted, in any way you wanted. I didn't realize that there are a lot of people an illustrator must please: publisher, art director, editor and sometimes marketing." But creating children's books is still her dream job.



Illustrations from Omar's Halloween



Illustration from Rain, Rain





# ●●●●Vladyana Krykorka

✓ Toronto, ON

Vladyana Krykorka is a prolific artist/illustrator of over 20 picture books for children including, *Orphans in the Sky*, *Silver Moon*, *The Polar Bear's Gift*, *The Twelve Months*, and *A Grain of Sand*.

Vladyana was raised in Prague, where she studied art privately for many years. She attended a high school that specialized in art, then moved to Canada, where she graduated from the Ontario College of Art. Vladyana worked as an art director for a business publication for several years, and also illustrated textbooks. The transition to picture books was easy and obvious. "I love books and I love art," she says. "It seems to be a perfect combination."

Vladyana maintains that a good illustrator must not only be able to draw and paint, but also create the atmosphere of the story. The illustrative style of *The Twelve Months*, for example, complements the narrative of the old Slavic Cinderella story, which is

not well known in North America. *Silver Moon* was another compelling work, one which Vladyana calls her "life project." "*Rusalka* is my favourite opera and a beautiful fairy tale. I asked my son Ian to adapt the libretto into a children's story, and I started to paint. I must say that it was my greatest achievement to see it published. (And I had the great pleasure of working with my son, the writer.)"

Vladyana's love for Inuit culture has sparked several journeys to the Arctic, where she paints, photographs and gets to know the people and their land. She also paints the animal life, most notably Nanook—a polar bear—which she used as the model in *The Polar Bear's Gift*.

In her spare time, Vladyana likes to travel, read, garden, paint, draw, create hand-painted clothing and spend time at the beach near her cottage in Georgian Bay.

Vladyana and Michael Kusugak  
in Rankin Inlet



9780889952911, hc  
World  
Picture Book, Native Legend  
Canadian Toy Testing Council's Great Books for Children, Alberta Children's Book Award shortlist, Alberta Book Illustration of the Year shortlist



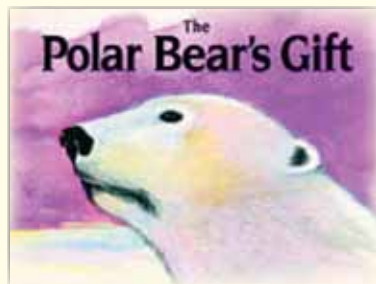
9781550051544, pb  
World ex. DK  
Picture Book, Fanciful Storytelling World Award Honor Title



9781550418019, hc  
World  
Picture Book, Poetry, PK Page



9781550416848, hc  
World  
Picture Book, 3 Stories, Dvorak, History CCBC Our Choice selection



9780889952201, pb  
World ex. DK, KR  
Picture Book, Native Legend



# ●●●●Kim LaFave

www.klafave.com ✓ Roberts Creek, BC

Ask Kim LaFave about his greatest professional achievement and you can hear the modesty in his response. "I don't really consider anything my greatest professional achievement, maybe somebody else would have an opinion," he says. "But I am always impressed when someone remembers a book I did 20 years ago."

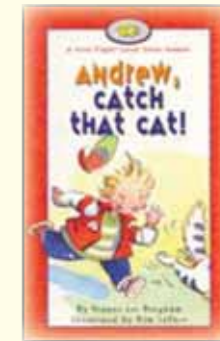
Since illustration has long been part of his identity, he's not really surprised to find himself in the world of children's literature. "It's just a natural progression," LaFave says. "Drawing is something I've always done, from entertaining myself as a child, to art school, to my interest in fine art, and to my current career. Even though it gets tough sometimes, I've never really imagined doing anything else."

Kim combines both computer and more traditional techniques to create his unique style. He alters his hand-drawn illustrations using programs such as Photoshop. The results are digital images that are both clean and tranquil.

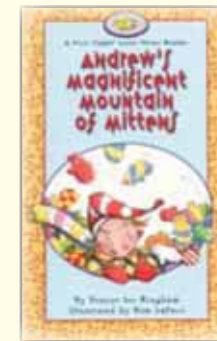
Kim appreciates the freedom that comes with being a freelance illustrator, and is grateful that he gets to work for publishers almost exclusively, instead of sharing his time with the advertising business. "Working for commercial clients is similar to working in children's books in many ways," he explains. "They're both collaborative efforts, whether I'm working with an art director or whomever. But working on my children's book projects allows me more time for thinking and refinement." The flexibility also lets him find time for his two other passions: gardening and sailing.

Although he started his career in Toronto, spending 15 years there, Kim says it always felt temporary. His heart was always at his west coast hometown. "I loved Toronto, my time there was fabulous. But my blood pressure is down in Roberts Creek."

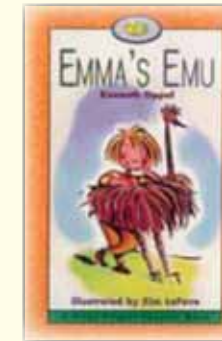
LaFave's characters are often invigorated with his own personality and childhood experiences. "I think of how I reacted to things when I was a kid. Nellie from *A Bumblebee Sweater* was just a wonderful loose cannon; it's usually me I'm drawing, some aspect of me."



9781550414110, hc  
9781550414134, pb  
World  
Reader, Grade 1+,  
Humour



9781550413977, hc  
9781550413892, pb  
World  
Reader, Grade 1+,  
Humour



9781550415247, pb  
World  
Reader, Chapter Book,  
Grade 2+, Humour,  
Animals



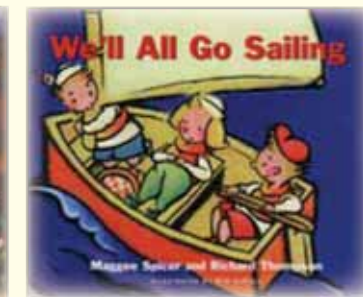
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Governor General's  
Award for Children's  
Illustration nominee



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Picture Book, Concept, Lyrical Text



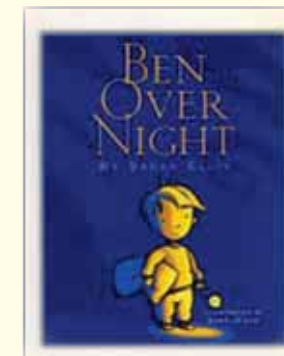
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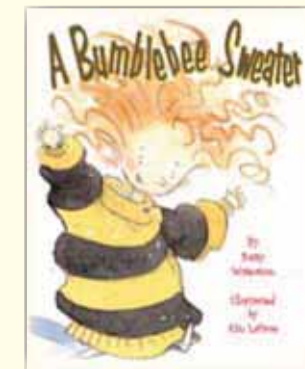
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Picture Book, Concept, Lyrical  
Text  
Mr. Christie's Book Award Silver  
Seal



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Picture Book, Self-Esteem,  
Sibling Kindness  
Mr. Christie's Book Award  
Silver Seal, Tiny Torgi  
PrintBraille Award shortlist,  
Shining Willow Award shortlist



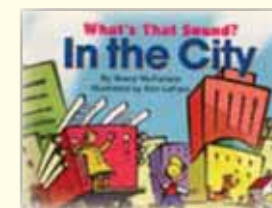
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Picture Book, Overcoming  
Fear, Validation, Self-Esteem  
OLA Blue Spruce Award  
shortlist, Chocolate Lily Award  
shortlist, OLA Best Bets



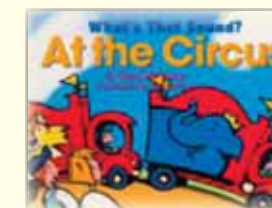
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World  
Picture Book, Humour, Family



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World  
Board Book, Concept,  
Lyrical Text



9781550418125, bb  
World  
Board Book, Concept,  
Lyrical Text



9781550419597, bb  
World  
Board Book, Concept,  
Lyrical Text



9781550419573, bb  
World  
Board Book, Concept,  
Lyrical Text





Julie with husband, Patrick, in the Galapagos Islands

# ●●●●Julie Lawson

[www.canscaip.org/bios/lawsonj.html](http://www.canscaip.org/bios/lawsonj.html) ✓ Victoria, BC

Julie Lawson is not afraid to tell a good lie. She confesses to a childhood habit of making up fantastic stories to create the illusion of having a more adventurous life. Julie sees fiction writing, particularly material inspired by the experiences of youth, as “creative lying, so you can relive certain moments and change the outcomes.”

Julie is an avid traveller. “Container ship travel is a blissfully slow way to get from one place to another. Picture this: free run of the ship, hearty meals, outside cabin (actually a 3-room suite), no other passengers, pool and exercise room, friendly crews, port calls from 6 to 24 hours and, best of all, time to read and write with no distractions.” Trains and railroad history play a role in Julie’s travels as well. Her grandfather worked for the Canadian Pacific Railway, and Julie took many childhood trips via rail to visit family members. As husband Patrick is a model railroad enthusiast and enjoys photographing trains, Julie has spent holidays following the mainline through various regions of British Columbia.

When Julie is not travelling or teaching, she is at her desk in Victoria. She writes in a space that is “bright and airy, and close to the kitchen and coffee pot!” Her window offers an enviable view of Victoria’s legislative buildings, evergreen trees, Mt. Baker, and the Inner Harbour. In the summer, Julie carries her work a few blocks to the beach. Her strategy is to “find a good log to lean against and ‘log on,’ with manuscript and pen in hand.”

Julie finds the process of writing both challenging and fulfilling. “The worst thing is getting writer’s block, feeling you’ve exhausted all hopes of ever having another idea. Or when you’re writing and your ‘inner critic’ keeps butting in and telling you it’s lousy. The very worst thing is being interrupted when you’re totally immersed in your character’s life.” The best part of writing, Julie says, is “the satisfaction of writing a good sentence, the joy of seeing characters come to life on the page, the thrill of seeing the finished book for the first time, and later reading letters from kids who have enjoyed it.”



Julie with the sea lions in the Galapagos Islands



9781550051414, pb  
World  
Picture Book,  
Imaginative Text



9780773728820, hc  
9780773757172, pb  
World  
Picture Book,  
Chinese Legend,  
Dragons  
Ruth Schwartz  
Award shortlist, CLA  
Book of the Year  
Award shortlist,  
NAPPA Award for  
Folklore



9780773758919, pb  
World  
Grade 4+, 1st of  
Trilogy, Time Travel,  
Historical Fiction  
CNIB Torgi Award  
shortlist, OLA Silver  
Birch Award finalist



9780773759428, pb  
World  
Grade 4+, 2nd  
of Trilogy, Time  
Travel, Historical  
Fiction  
IODE Violet  
Downey Book  
Award shortlist



9780773760912, pb  
World  
Grade 4+, 3rd of  
Trilogy, Time Travel,  
Historical Fiction  
OLA Silver Birch  
Award finalist,  
Red Cedar Award  
shortlist



9780773728974, hc  
World  
Picture Book,  
Chinese Mythology



# ●●●●Martine Leavitt

✓ High River, AB



**M**artine Leavitt has attained literary success with *Heck Superhero*, which was a finalist for the Governor General's Award in 2004, and *Keturah & Lord Death*, which was a finalist for the National Book Award in 2006.

**Q** As a child, your family moved from city to city quite a bit. How did you adjust to the constant changes?

**A** I didn't. I became quite maladjusted. But I was able to channel my experience and my knowledge into something creative because it made me a more compassionate person, which in turn made me write more compassionate characters.

**Q** Which of your fictional characters would you say reflects you the most?

**A** I am all of my characters, the good ones and the bad ones. I don't think any writer can write a believable character unless the writer is that character in some way or form.

**Q** You write everywhere, in buses and lunchrooms. Do you wish you had time to write in relaxing environments?

**A** It's my dearest wish. I would love to write in more relaxing environments, but writing on a bus or in a lunchroom is not as distracting as one would think.

I have seven children, and when they were younger they were all running around at home. After working around that, I got used to all distractions. But I think I'm going to have a little bit of free time this summer to write, which I am very excited about. I'm glad I'll have time to think about what my next book is going to be and how I am going to approach it.

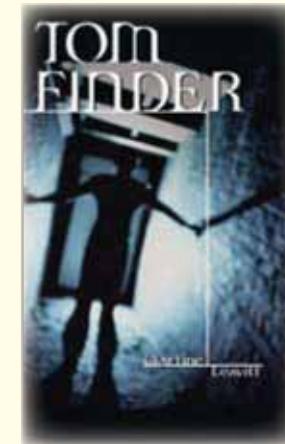
**Q** What drives you to write?

**A** I've been thinking about that a lot lately. I write for lots of reasons: money, recognition, and the hope that I might change the world someday. But most of all, I would say it is the fun of writing. When I was younger I wrote a play and it was great fun. The best reason of all to write is playfulness.

The other thing that drives me to write is my memories of reading from childhood. Remember that first book you fell in love with as a kid? You pressed that book up against your chest and wished it would never end. No one falls in love with a book like a child does. That is what drives me to write.

**Q** What do you want your children to learn from you?

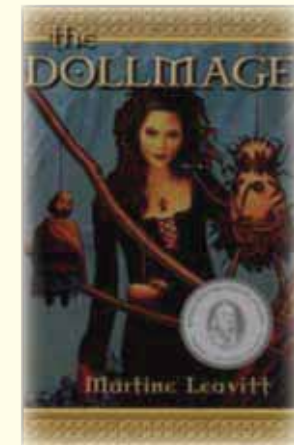
**A** That life is about being happy and that you can choose to be happy even if difficult circumstances come up that you can't control.



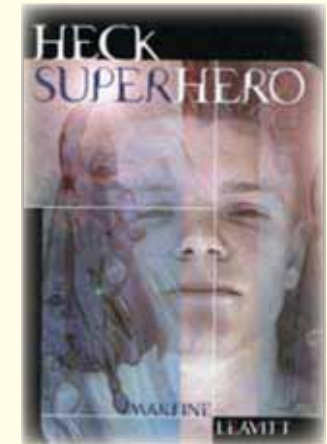
97808889952621, pb  
World  
Ages 12+, Coming of Age, Survival  
Mr. Christie's Book Award, ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year Award finalist, Benjamin Franklin Award for Juvenile-Young Adult Fiction, R. Ross Annett Award for Children's Literature nomination, OLA White Pine Award shortlist, CLA Young Adult Book of the Year Award shortlist, OLA Golden Oak Adult Literacy Award shortlist, CCBC Our Choice Citation



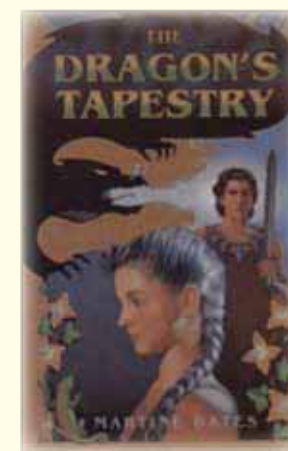
97808889953703, pb  
Eng. CA  
Ages 12+, Fantasy, Medieval Setting, Historical  
National Book Award finalist



97808889952331, pb  
World  
Ages 12+, Fantasy  
Benjamin Franklin Award for Juvenile-Young Adult Fiction nomination, ALA/YALSA Best Books for Young Adults Selection, CCBC Our Choice selection



97808889953000, hc  
97808889953338, pb  
Eng. CA  
Ages 12+, Coming of Age, Relationships, Art  
Governor General's Award finalist, Quill & Quire BfYP Top Five Selection, CBC Radio One Sounds Like Canada Recommended Title, Alberta Children's Book of the Year Award, Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award nomination



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World  
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97808889950955, pb  
World  
Ages 9-14, Science Fiction/Fantasy, Book 2 in the Marmawell Series



97808889951846, pb  
World  
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Aubrey swimming with a sea lion in the Galapagos Islands

# Wayne Lynch & Aubrey Lang

www.waynelynch.ca ✓ Calgary, AB

Wayne Lynch is one of Canada's best-known and most widely published wildlife photographers. Aubrey Lang has written for several magazines, has four books to her credit, and has co-authored four nature documentary scripts for television. Together, they operate the Lang and Lynch stock photography business and work as a team in the field on wilderness photography assignments.

How did you develop an interest in nature and animal behaviour?

Wayne has been interested in nature since childhood. As a boy of 10, he would sit in the woods for hours hoping to see animals. Aubrey enjoyed walking in the woods and spending time alone in the forest at her family's cottage north of Ottawa. On one of their first dates, Wayne took Aubrey to see a pair of eastern screech owls that were roosting in the city. The date was a big success.

How did you move from your regular day jobs into your current lifestyle of extensive travel, writing and photography?

Wayne started photographing when he was in second year medical school in Ottawa. Aubrey bought a camera and they had many enjoyable weekend outings photographing. While Wayne was still practising emergency medicine, he started to write articles about wildlife for regional and national nature magazines. In 1979, when we were both 31 years of age, we decided to take a couple of years off from medicine to work as freelance nature writers and wildlife photographers. We never went back to medicine.

With 14 books in the series, how do you keep Nature Babies exciting for both you and the reader?

It's always exciting to discover the intimate details of another creature's life. After all, humans are one of the youngest creatures on Earth with an evolutionary history of a mere million years or so. What about a barn owl that has been on the planet for 20 million years, or a leatherback sea turtle that has been here for 100 million years? It seems obvious that anyone with a stitch of curiosity would find such creatures interesting to read about.

What do you want young readers to learn from your books?

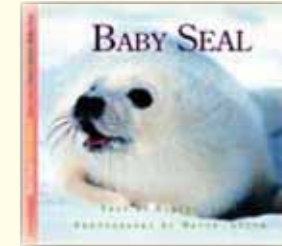
The lives of wild creatures are filled with complexity, tragedies, challenges and conquests. Wild animals can be fierce in defending themselves, but also tender in caring for their young.

What do you want to be remembered for?

Writing accurate science that is accessible and entertaining to read. With our photos, we strive to give the reader intimate glimpses into a world few of them have seen.



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World  
Information Storybook, Science,  
Animal Story, Habitat, Ecology



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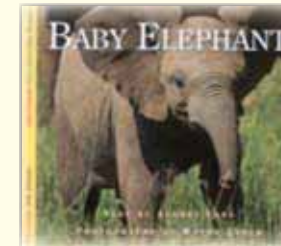
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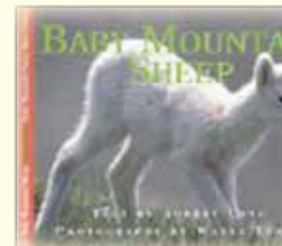
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Animal Story, Habitat, Ecology



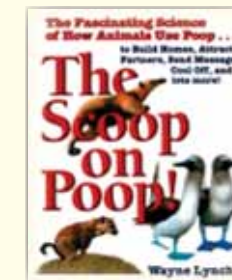
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Animal Story, Habitat, Ecology



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9781894004596, pb  
World  
Ages 8-12, Non-Fiction,  
Science, Humour, Habitat,  
Animals

Wayne cools off a leatherback sea turtle in Trinidad.



Aubrey hangs out with a pair of Emperor penguins.



Wayne with a nesting leatherback sea turtle in Trinidad

