

9781550417821, pb
World
Ages 10+, Fantasy, Mystery
OLA Red Maple Award shortlist, Golden Eagle Book Award Runner-up, CCBC Our Choice selection, Learning Resources Best of the Best Reading List Choice, Rocky Mountain Book Award shortlist, Manitoba Young Readers' Choice Award shortlist



9781550419290, hc
World
Ages 10+, Fantasy, Mystery



Q Cora Taylor is the author of 14 books, which have been published in several languages around the world. She was raised on her grandmother's farm in Saskatchewan, where she grew up reading and dreaming of being a writer.

Q How did you get into writing? What did you do before you became a writer?

A I always wanted to be a writer, at least from an early age when I gave up the ambition of being a movie star. I was an only child on a farm which I divided up into countries and I pretended I was a lot of different people depending on which country I was in.

Q What are the best and worst parts about growing up on a Canadian farm?

A The best part is the freedom a child has—lots of room for imagination. I could wander in the woods and fields, ride my horse or play with my 26 cats or hitch up my dog to my sleigh in winter or swing from the rafters in the machine shed. It was great! Can't think of anything bad except having to leave to go to high school.

Q What was your inspiration for *On Wings of a Dragon* and *On Wings of Evil*?

A I'd always wanted to write "pure" fantasy, and when doing a stint as writer-in-residence at Jane Franklin College in Hobart, Tasmania, I decided that living in a place where the sun shone from the north was the ideal place to start. I loved dragons and figured they'd always gotten bad press, and I'd always love flying dreams.



Q What would you say to kids who hate reading?

A Reading takes more concentration than TV or video games. Try doing without TV and computers. Farm kids in my day didn't have a problem—books were the outlet. In the wintertime I was always being told to "get my nose out of that book and out and get some roses in my cheeks!" I used to smuggle books out under my parka and huddle outside reading until I nearly froze. Parents didn't encourage reading in those days, if you were lucky they put up with it. Maybe we need to ban reading so kids have to sneak around to do it!

●●●●Maxine Trottier

www.maxinetrottier.com ✓ Port Stanley, ON

Maxine Trottier is a prolific writer of books for young people. She was born in Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan, on May 3, 1950. As a child, such books as *Through the Looking Glass*, and *Treasure Island* were favourites. "Treasure Island terrified and thrilled me when I was little," she says. "It's probably why I spent so much time sailing...and writing has become my own 'down the rabbit hole' adventure."

When she was 10 years old, Maxine and her family moved to Windsor, Ontario. In 1974 she became a Canadian citizen and started working as a teacher. She spent 31 years as an educator in elementary classrooms, guiding children toward literacy. As a teacher, she began writing children's picture books. "They are an essential part of an elementary classroom," she says. "I wanted to become part of that process. I was always a hands-on sort of teacher, and so bringing the bits and pieces of each book to school for sharing was a natural extension of my second career." The students in her class got to see each creative step in her work as she evolved her stories. They saw the rough copies, and were also among the first to view the finished book.

Maxine's books cover a wide range of characters, settings, and situations. She admits the writing process is not always easy. "Struggling for inspiration

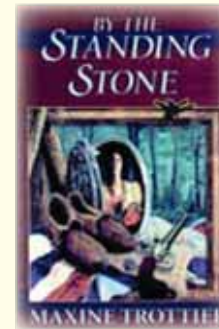
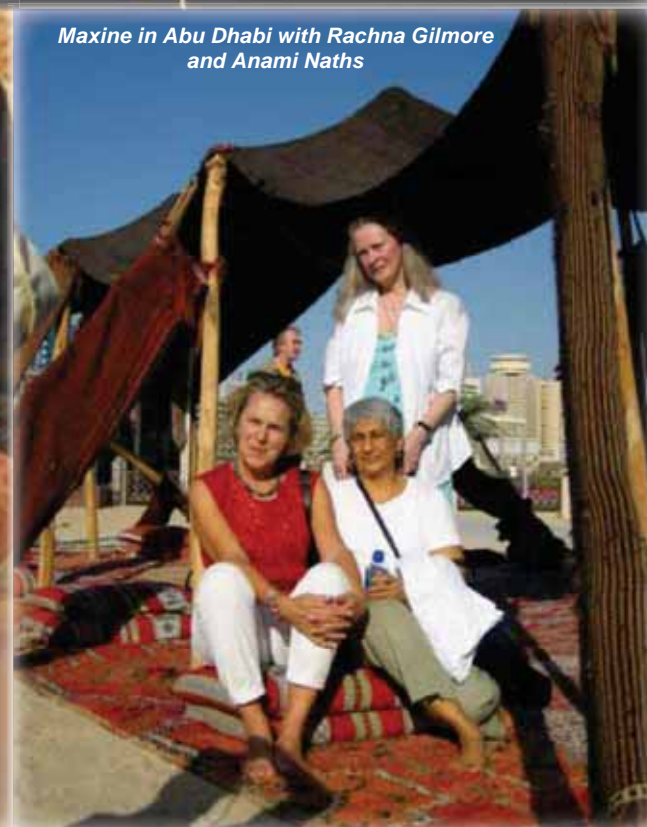
is an extremely painful and often fruitless activity," she says. "It is far better to leave your mind open to ideas and they will come. I find walking outdoors to be the perfectly mindless sort of activity that relaxes the imagination and lets in the ideas."



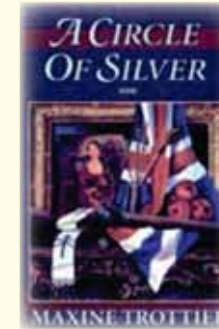
Maxine in Abu Dhabi with Rachna Gilmore and Anami Nath



Maxine's husband, Bill, holding their dogs. Ceilidh is in his right hand, Moon in his left.



9780773761384, pb
World
Ages 12+, Historical Fiction, American Revolution



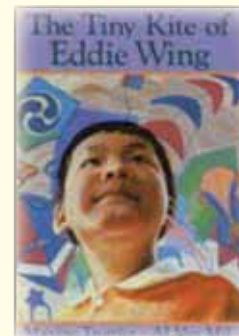
9780773760554, pb
World
Ages 12+, Historical Fiction, 1760s Coming to America



9780773762282, pb
World
Ages 12+, Historical Fiction, War of 1812



9780773731011, hc
World
Picture Book, Immigration, Historical Fiction



9780773728653, hc
9781550051384, pb
World ex. US
Picture Book, Generational Story
CLA Book of the Year Award for Children, FWTAO Writers' Award



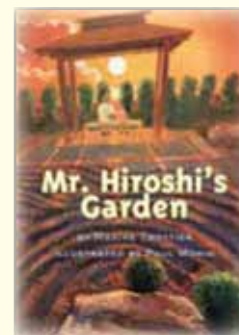
9780773732780, hc
World
Picture Book, Historical Fiction



9781550051032, pb
World
Picture Book, Historical Fiction, Louis Riel
Shining Willow Award shortlist



9780773729698, hc
World
Picture Book, Historical Fiction, Anna Pavlova



9781550051520, pb
CA only
Picture Book, Historical Fiction, Japanese Internment During WWII
White Raven Award, Storytelling World Honor Title, Notable Book, Social Studies Children's Books Council



9780773761414, pb
World ex. KR
Picture Book, Native, Legend
Hackmatack Book Award shortlist



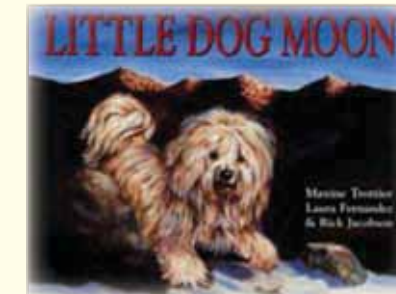
9781550418088, pb
World ex. DK, KR
Picture Book, Historical, Art



9781550051476, hc
World
Picture Book, Historical, Circle Story



9780773761001, pb
World
Picture Book, Generational Story, Prairie Setting
Notable Book, Social Studies Children's Book Council Children's Choice selection



9780773732209, hc
9781550051605, pb
World ex. DK
Picture Book, Historical Fiction, Tibetan Story

●●●●Diane Tullson

www.dianetullson.com ✓ Vancouver, BC



Diane Tullson is the author of four novels, including *Blue Highway* and *Edge*.

Q How does your background in English literature, journalism, creative writing, and editing affect the way you approach your writing?

A My background in English literature gives me an eye for metaphor, while my background in journalism makes me seek spare prose. The combination creates a layered story that is not heavy to read. As for my background in editing, not until the first draft is done does the editor side of my brain go to work on the manuscript and ask the hard questions: does the story line work, are the characters plausible, is this story really written or do I just think it is?

Q What drives you to write?

A I want to write something good, something that endures, something that makes a difference. This is what drives me to write.

Q If you were not a writer, what would you do for a living?

A If I weren't a writer, I'd be a college instructor. Or I'd sell something. Sales and writing have some common attributes: creativity, problem solving and a relentless quest to overcome rejection.

Q How do you write dialogue in a way that's interesting to your teen readers?

A Dialogue moves the story forward, and in my stories, like most teen fiction, I use a lot of dialogue. The characters talk about what is happening in the story, and if I've done my job, that story is interesting, something the reader can relate to.

Q Do you have any observations or advice for parents of teenagers?

A The teenage mind is like a new blade, and a teenager really does know it all. They do. They are new to the adult world, yes, and their parents

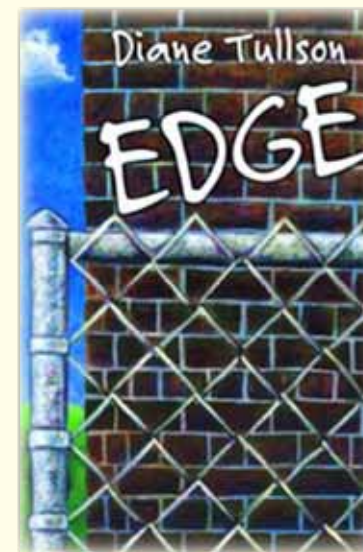
have the benefit of greater wisdom, but the teenager doesn't want to hear it. What most teens want to hear is their own story, their own life, told in a way that makes sense to them, not their parents.

Q What do you hope readers come away with from your books?

A I hope readers come away from my books with the feeling that their time was well spent and that they'd like to read another of my books.

Q What do you want to be remembered for?

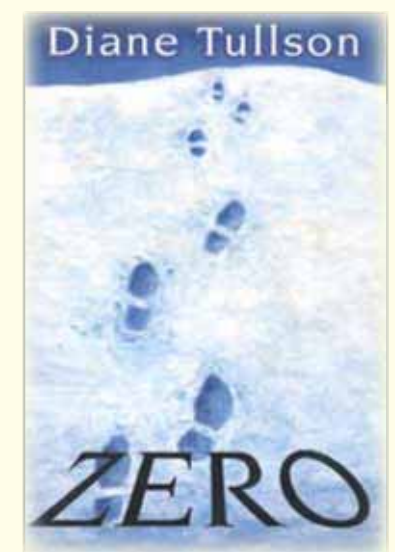
A I want to be remembered for ruffling a few feathers and for loving well.



9781550051421, pb
World
Grade 7+, Coming of Age, Making Choices



9781550051247, pb
World ex. DE
Grade 7+, Coming of Age, Alcoholism, Health
OLA White Pine Award shortlist, Stellar Book Award shortlist



9781550419504, pb
World
Ages 14+, Health Issues, Eating Disorders, Friendship

●●●●Kirsti Anne Wakelin

www.kirstiwakelin.com ✓ Vancouver, BC



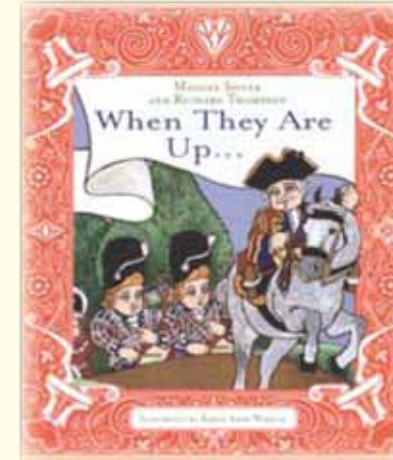
Kirsti at four years old with her first pony, Duffy

Growing up in a family in which art was part of everyday life, Kirsti has art in her blood. Although her artist grandmother was an early influence and coach, however, Kirsti didn't consciously choose the path of an artist. As she describes her career now, "It feels like the wind sort of blew me in that direction and here I am."

Although she wanted to be a veterinarian or a forensic entomologist, Kirsti ended up enrolling in a design and illustration course in college. "In my first year of art school, I was fortunate to meet a wonderful editor, Ann Featherstone." From that meeting came Kirsti's first picture book illustration job, *A Pod of Orcas: A Seaside Counting Book*. Wandering the shorelines of Vancouver and West Vancouver to capture the setting for the book, "I was bitten by a seal pup at that beach while attempting to secure it for rescue for my uncle, who runs a seal rehabilitation centre at the Vancouver Aquarium. I still have a little scar."

In her home studio, which she jokingly admits is a "short commute," Kirsti works through a detailed process to create her illustrations. After reading and digesting the manuscript for about a week or so, Kirsti works on thumbnail sketches and character development. After developing storyboards, she begins developing her rough illustrations. She cleans up the drawings and places text, then she submits her work for the publisher's approval. The next steps involve redrawing, redrawing and redrawing as well as painting, painting and painting to create finished paintings.

Besides being a book illustrator, Kirsti is also a graphic designer and commercial illustrator. In her spare time, Kirsti enjoys travelling, gardening and throwing dinner parties for friends. She also claims to "kick butt on the animal related questions in Trivial Pursuit." For aspiring freelance artists, Kirsti offers this advice: "You know, there's so much advice I have, and at the same time it's all useless because sometimes the best tips are the ones you figure out on your own during your artistic and personal development. And I believe those two things are linked. Oh, and redraw, redraw, redraw...and be interested."

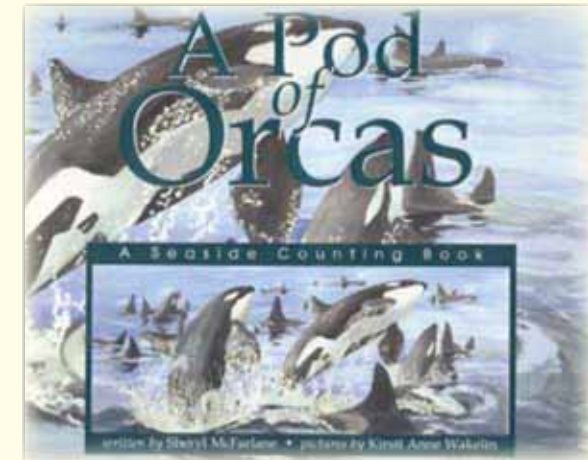


9781550417074, hc
9781550417098, pb

World

Picture Book, Lyrical Text

Chocolate Lily Book Award, Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize



9781550416817, hc
9781550417227, pb

World

Picture Book, Concept, Numeracy, Nature

Chocolate Lily Award shortlist, Chosen by the BC government as a title to support their literacy initiative. Every kindergarten child in the province will receive this book in a family literacy package.



Kirsti in Isle of Skye, Scotland



●●●●Eric Walters

www.ericwalters.net ✓ Mississauga, ON



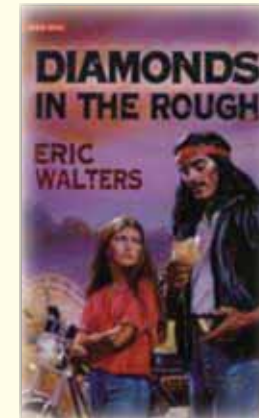
Eric has published more than 40 books for kids—all of them bestsellers and many of them award winners. One of his greatest joys has been his work with kids, especially during his 13 years as an elementary school teacher. What's most fulfilling about teaching kids, Eric says, is "seeing them grow, change, discover, become who they are."

In 1993 Eric began writing novels for his Grade 5 students as a way of encouraging their interest in reading and writing. He wrote about the school, the community and even some of his students. Each day he read aloud to his class, and at the end of the year, one of his students suggested that he try to get his manuscript published. That manuscript became his first book, *Stand Your Ground*.

Eric writes in many genres, from historical fiction to chapter books, sports books and mysteries. Often his stories include themes from Eric's background

in education and social work and his commitment to humanitarian and social justice issues. Eric hopes his readers, like his children, "understand how important it is to try to help people along the way."

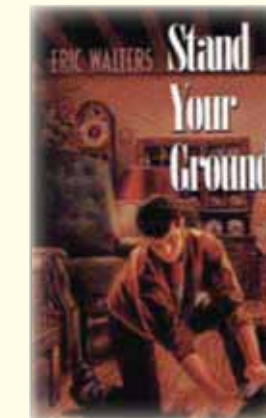
When he holds a finished book in his hand, Eric feels a rush of different emotions—"satisfaction that the book is completed, joy that I can move on to another project, sadness that I can no longer talk to the characters and that the story is no longer just mine." His advice to aspiring writers: "The same advice I'd give to somebody who wants to be a professional basketball player. Play ball—write. Listen to your coaches—teachers. Watch good players—read good books." Eric is encouraged by what he sees happening in Canadian children's and YA literature. "We are now seeing children and young adults as capable of understanding complex, often difficult situations."



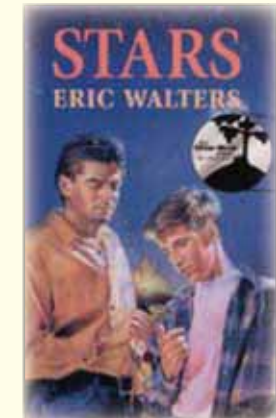
9780773674707, mm
World ex. film
Grade 7+, Coming of Age,
Social Issues, Reading
Level 4.2
Red Cedar Award shortlist
CCBC Our Choice
selection



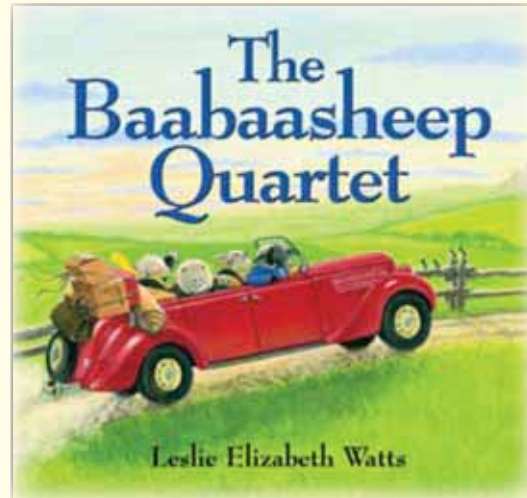
9780773733039, hc
9780773674851, pb
World ex. NL, JP
Grade 6+, Bully Issues,
Disabilities, Reading Level
4.2
OLA Red Maple Award,
Snow Willow Award,
Manitoba Young Readers'
Choice Award shortlist



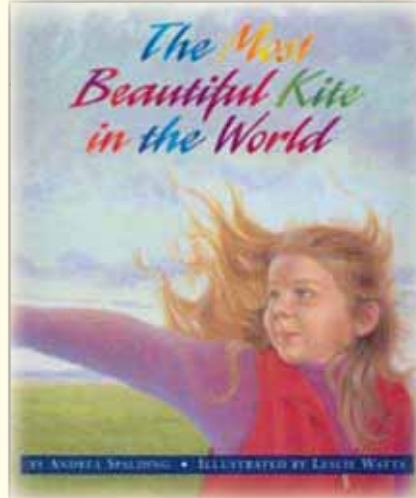
9780773674219, mm
World ex. FR
Grade 7+, Coming of Age,
Family Issues, Reading
Level 4.8
OLA Silver Birch Award
shortlist, Blue Heron Award
shortlist



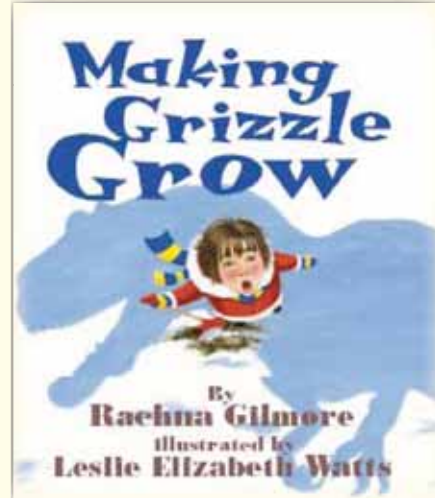
9780773674479, mm
World
Grade 7+, Coming of Age,
Social Issues, Reading
Level 4.6
OLA Silver Birch Award,
Blue Heron Award,
CCBC Our Choice
selection, Manitoba Young
Readers' Choice Award
shortlist



9781550418903, hc
World
Picture Book, Humour
Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award for Illustration



9781550418057, pb
World ex. KR
Picture Book, Relationships, Family



9781550418859, hc
World
Picture Book, Fanciful, Dinosaurs



illustration from The Baabaasheep Quartet

●●●●Leslie Elizabeth Watts

✓ Stratford, ON

Leslie Elizabeth Watts is a prolific writer and illustrator. Her book, *The Baabaasheep Quartet*, won the Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award in 2006 for its illustrations.

Q How did you get into illustration and develop your style?

A I decided when I was in kindergarten that I wanted to be a children's book writer and illustrator. I drew and painted regularly as a child and continued to do so through school, although I did not receive formal training. I didn't even take Art in high school. My style has developed naturally. I haven't tried to force it. The technique I use, egg tempera, seems to determine the way my illustrations look.

Q What is your favourite subject to draw?

A I don't have a favourite subject. Besides illustration, I also paint still life, portraits and landscapes. All of these inform, to some degree, my children's book illustrations. That sort of sustained work helps to keep me observant.

Q Was there a point in your career when you wanted to do something different?

A No. Illustrating is hard work, but so is any job. I am always trying to become better, so that challenge keeps me going.

Q What inspires your illustrations?

A The simple answer is, of course, a great story. However, lately I have found myself inspired by a desire to bring more colour, contrast and movement into my work. I have begun to look harder at the illustrations themselves and a little less intensely at the world around me.

Q What is your preferred illustrating technique?

A I start with pencil drawings, trace these onto heavy cotton watercolour paper, and paint with egg tempera, which is made of egg yolk, water, and dry pigments. These are mixed on a flat palette and applied in many layers until the desired intensity and form are achieved.

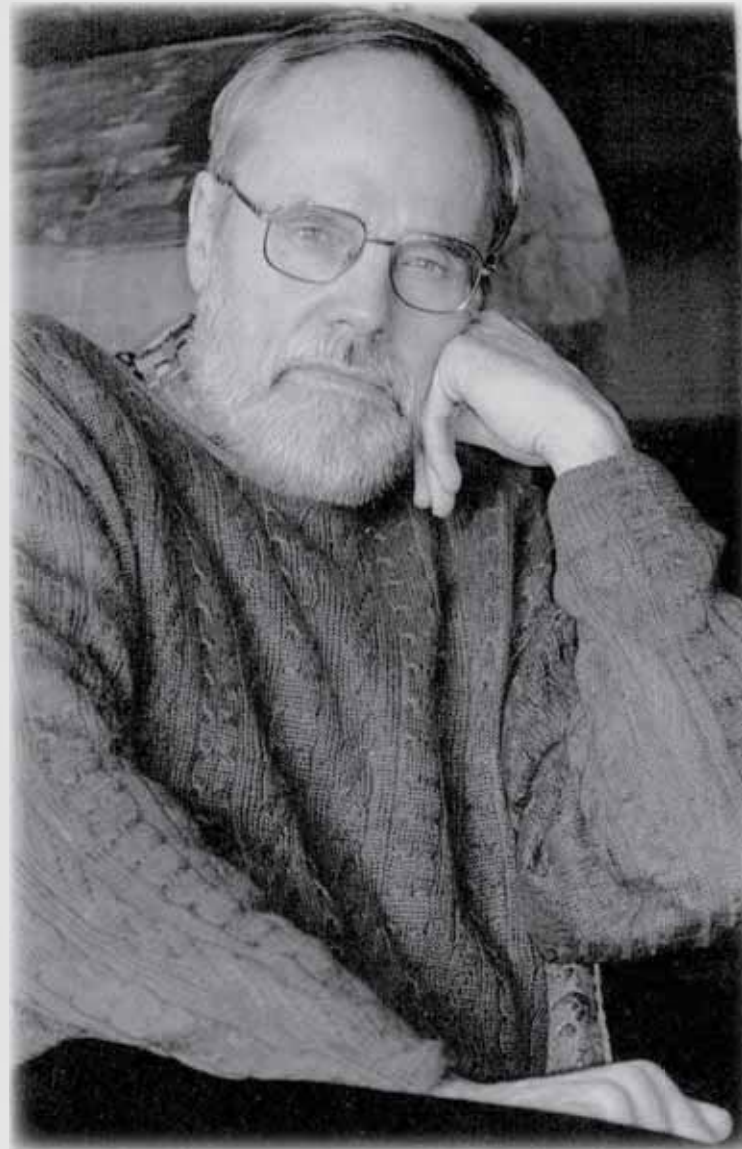


Q What are you most proud of as an illustrator?

A Receiving the Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award for *The Baabaasheep Quartet* in 2006. I had been illustrating books for twenty years, and I finally felt as if I was really getting somewhere.

●●●●Rudy Wiebe

✓ Lethbridge, AB



Rudy grew up on a bush farm in a Saskatchewan town. By the fourth grade, he had read such epics as *Les Misérables* and *David Copperfield*. William Faulkner, Leo Tolstoy, Robert Kroetsch, Flannery O'Connor and W.G. Sebald are his favourite authors because of their ability to recreate their homeland, wrestle with faith and explore particular places.

Rudy and his family moved to the community of Lethbridge, Alberta, when he was 12, where the differences between country and city life were immediate. "One big difference was that I came to a huge school, and it was no longer possible to be alone the way I was on our isolated farm," he says. "There were people living and working around us everywhere, all the time."

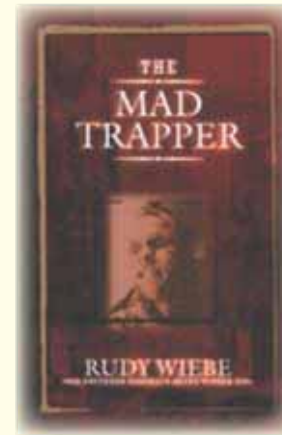
For *Hidden Buffalo*, Rudy was inspired by two things: "the Cree story of the creation of the buffalo by the Creator, and the geography of the place surrounding Sounding Lake—the delightful Neutral Hills, the lake itself, and the magnificent formations of the Red Deer River Badlands to the south."

Rudy teaches creative writing. "The delight of superb storytelling spreads like the roots of a poplar tree, branching out, growing up strong, everywhere," he says. Some of the advice he passes on to his students—as well as all aspiring writers—is to read without ceasing, and above all, write and rewrite and rewrite again. When asked what he enjoys most about writing children's fiction, Rudy says, "shaping a story into the fewest possible words, reading the story aloud, and showing the pictures to a circle of spellbound children."

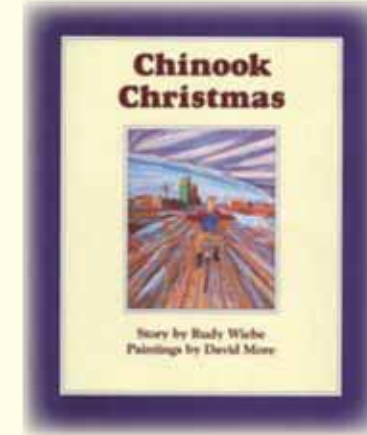
Rudy has won major literary awards in his career, including two Governor General's Awards, and, most recently, the Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction.



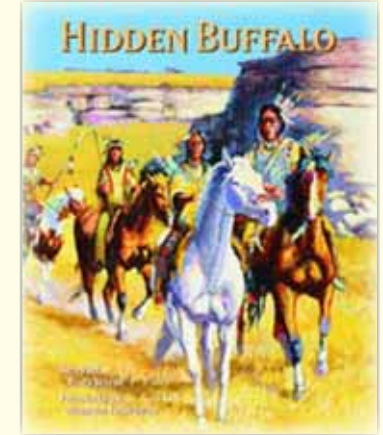
Rudy Wiebe has won the 2007 Charles Taylor Prize for Literary Non-Fiction.



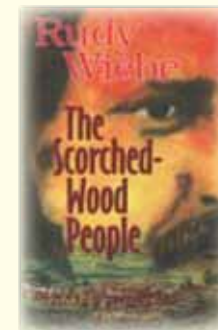
9780889952683, pb
World
Ages 12+, Adventure



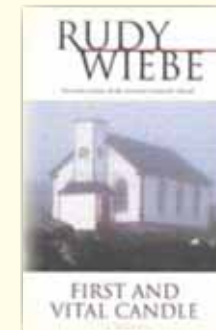
9780889950863, pb
World
Ages 12+, Picture Book, Older Readers



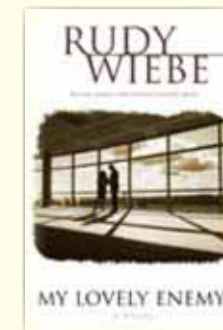
9780889953345, pb
World
Picture Book, Native Studies
ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year Award shortlist, Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award Notable Title, Alberta Children's Book of the Year Award, Alberta Book Illustration of the Year shortlist, CCBC Our Choice selection



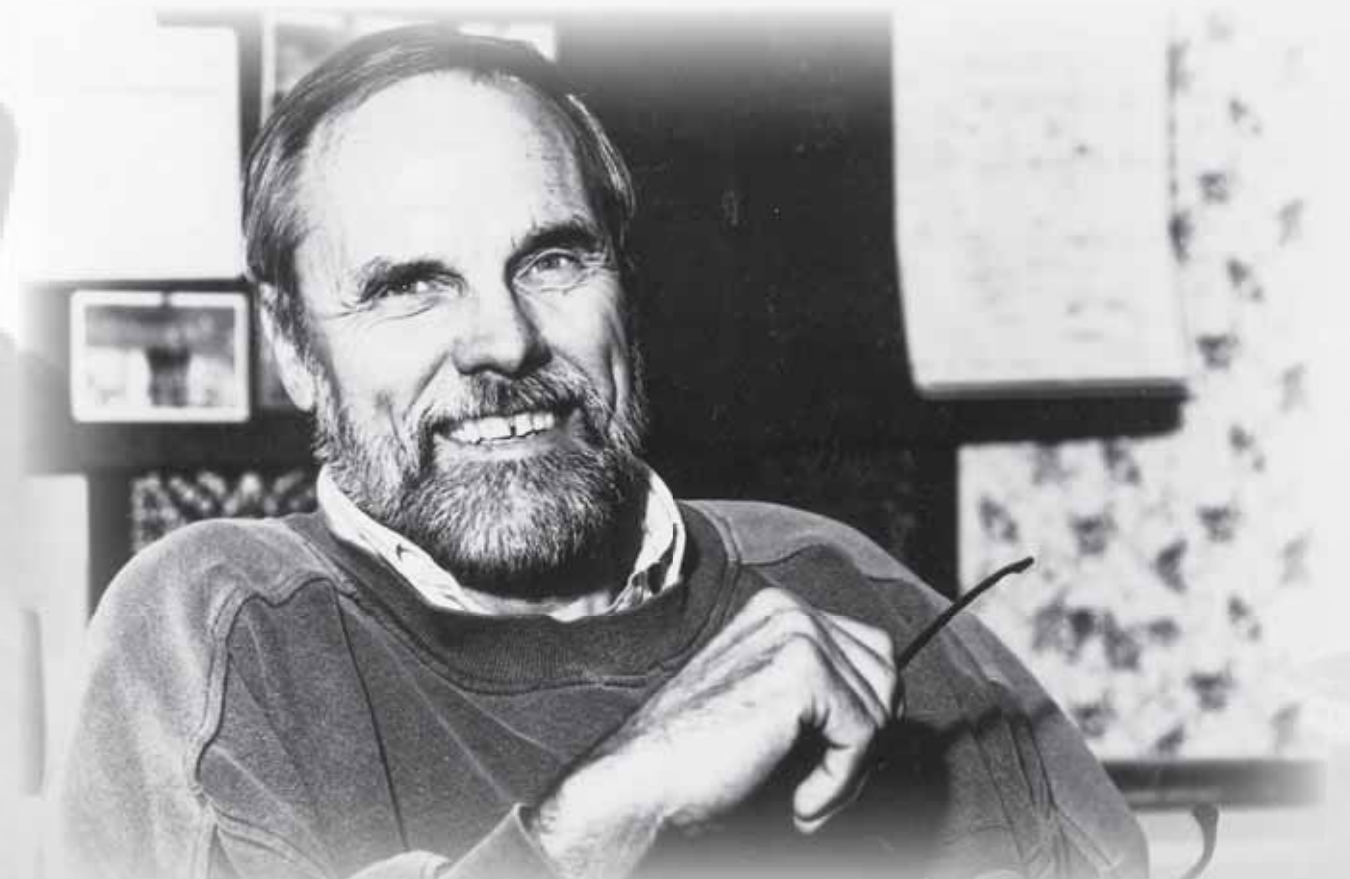
9781550413236, pb
World
High School/Adult,
North West Rebellion,
Louis Riel/Gabriel Dumont



9781550413250, pb
World
High School/Adult



9781550413274, pb
World
High School/Adult





Budge receiving the Order of Canada Medal from Governor General Adrienne Clarkson

●●●●Budge Wilson

✓ Northwest Cove, NS

Budge Wilson was born and educated in Nova Scotia, but spent many years in Ontario before returning home in 1989. She has enjoyed a varied professional life as a teacher, commercial artist, fitness instructor, photographer and writer. But in her late 40s her near vision started to blur, and she found she was no longer able to take good pictures. It was around this time she began to pursue writing, enduring rejections for six years before finally getting published. The key, she says, is patience. “A lot of patience was required. But when it all came together, I discovered that I loved the work.”

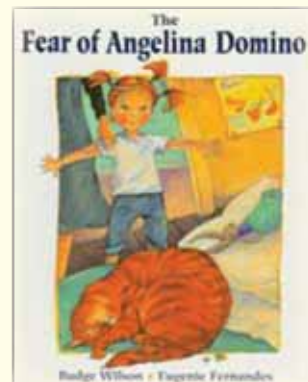
Budge loves the writing process, and is extremely interested in incorporating people’s emotions into the characters in her stories—writing characters that people can relate to. “One interesting trend I am finding in children’s literature is that adults are starting to discover the pleasure to be derived from reading a lot of well-written and insightful YA books,” she says. “Because they enjoy remembering their own youth, and also come to a better understanding of their own children.” These kinds of books are frequently referred to as “crossover books”—crossing over from one readership to another. Budge participates in readings, talks and workshops in Canada and around the world (most recently in Lahr, Germany, Mexico City and Guadalajara).

Budge has begun writing the official prequel to *Anne of Green Gables*, which was commissioned to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the publication of that book. It is a project she is very excited about.

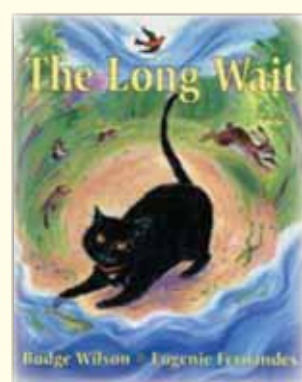
Budge has won many honorary awards, and several of her books have been translated to television and radio. Since publishing her first book in 1984, she has published over 32 books, with translations in 10 languages and 13 countries. In 2003, Budge Wilson was presented with the Mayor’s Award for Cultural Achievement in Literature in Halifax, Nova Scotia. In 2004 she was made a Member of the Order of Canada.



Budge and husband, Alan, in Northwest Cove



9780773761209, pb
World
Picture Book, Fear of Animals
CCBC Our Choice selection



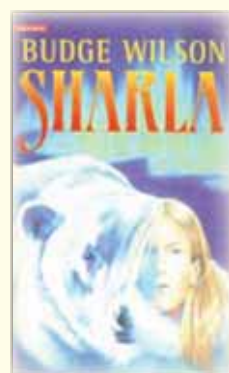
9780773730212, hc
World ex. AU/NZ book club
Picture Book
CCBC Our Choice selection



9780887845031, pb
9780773673632, mm
World ex. US, AU, IT
Ages 12+, Short Stories,
Coming of Age, Female
Point of View



9780773674561, mm
World ex. US
Ages 12+, Short Stories
Thomas Raddall Fiction
Award shortlist



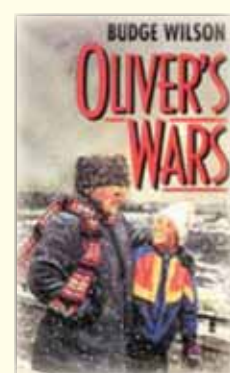
9780773674677, mm
World
Ages 12+, Adventure,
Coming of Age, Ecology
Issues
CAA Lilla Stirling Award,
CCBC Our Choice
selection



9780773673489, mm
World
Ages 12+, Coming of
Age, Told Through Diary
Entries
CAA Mariana Dempster
Award, CCBC Our
Choice selection



9780773674233, mm
World
Ages 12+, Short Stories,
Relationships
City of Dartmouth Book
Award shortlist, CCBC
Our Choice selection



9780773755086, pb
9780773674165, mm
World
Ages 8-12, Bully Issues,
Adversity, Relocation &
Adjustment
Ann Connor Brimer Award,
City of Dartmouth Book
Award shortlist, CCBC Our
Choice selection

Janet Wilson

www.janetwilson.ca ✓ Eden Mills, ON



A Usually I feel stuck and uninspired when I'm not working. Once I've forced myself to start painting, then I get inspired. I work on many paintings at the same time so if one is bothering me I put it away. After a few days, when I look at it again with a fresh eye, the solution is often obvious.

Q What is your advice to aspiring illustrators?

A Be an electrician or a dentist or a teacher. That way you'll have money, holidays and a pension. Then you will have fun illustrating as a hobby on evenings, weekends and when you're retired. You don't choose to be an artist—it chooses you. If you do have a choice, then I think you should choose to be employed. If you don't have a choice, then you must be prepared to be a starving artist.

Q What do you want your children to learn from you as a mother?

A I want them to always replace the empty roll of toilet paper. This is very important to me. It shows kindness, decency, thoughtful consideration for others, and an important sense of duty, work and responsibility.

Q What are your top three priorities?

A Can I have four? My husband, my two sons and my grandson. If they count together as family, then I would add community and art.

Janet Wilson is an award-winning illustrator of children's books.

Q Who is your favourite artist?

A My favourite artist is my son Cory. When he was five he knew that he wanted to draw Bugs Bunny—but the real way and not by animators who pretended to be Chuck Jones, the original creator. Cory attended a high school with a good art program, and after he graduated from the Sheridan College animation program he had many offers for jobs in Hollywood. But the one he accepted was with—you guessed it—Chuck Jones.

Q You found your first assignment as an illustrator to be more challenging than you expected. Has it gotten easier as you work on more books?

A No, it hasn't become easier, but now I don't have an expectation that it will. The more experience I have, the greater my feeling that I don't know what I'm doing. But also with more experience, I have greater confidence that I can figure out what I'm doing.

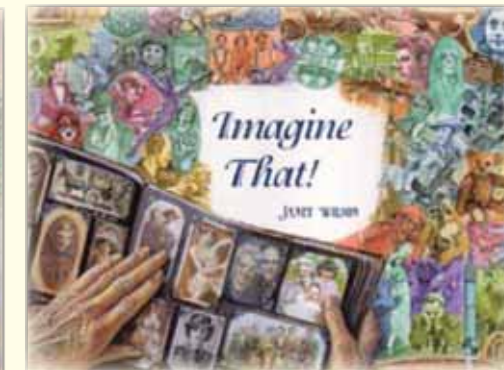
Q What do you do when you feel stuck or uninspired in your work?



Illustration from *In Flanders Fields*



9780773762046, pb
World
Picture Book, Homeless Cat Finds a New Home



9780773732216, hc
World
Picture Book, Non-Fiction & Fiction, Overview of 20th Century, Capsule Information



9781550051391, pb
World
Picture Book, Dealing with Death, Health Issues (AIDS)



9781895555707, hc
9780773758377, pb
World ex. US
Ages 5+, Picture Book, Pioneer Life
Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Award, Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Award, Ruth Schwartz Award



9780773730182, hc
World ex. US
Ages 5+, Picture Book, Pioneer Life



9781550051445, hc 10th Anniversary Edition
9780773729919, hc
9780773759251, pb
World
Picture Book, Poem by John McCrae, World War I
OLA Silver Birch Award, IODE Book Award, Resource Links The Year's Best, CLA Honour Book for Text, CLA Honour Book for Non-Fiction, Information Book Award, White Ravens Selection, Red Cedar Award for Non-Fiction, IRA Teachers' Choice Book, New York Public Library Books for the Teen Age



Janet with 21 HIV AIDS orphans in Kwazulu Natal, South Africa

●●●● Frieda Wishinsky

✓ Toronto, ON

Frieda Wishinsky is the critically acclaimed author of over 30 books. Here she talks about pivotal moments in her life as a writer.

Q As a special education teacher for over 20 years, did you ever learn any important lessons from your students?

A I learned how much persistence pays off. I also saw how all of us have areas of strength and weakness and those are different for everybody.

Q What were your first impressions of Toronto when you moved with your husband from New York in the '70s?

A Toronto seemed sprawling, clean and quiet. I know the quiet part sounds strange but remember I grew up in New York with constant noise. Toronto was also starting to become a multicultural city and new restaurants, shops and foods were adding buzz and pizzazz to the city. I liked all of that.

Q What were some favourite books that you checked out of your local library as a kid?

A I loved fantasy. Books like *Mary Poppins* and Edgar Eager's *Half Magic* intrigued me. I loved the idea of finding a whole new world behind a door or under a hole. I liked biographies, too.

Q Your childhood experiences have been the material for some of your books. What is your advice to kids?

A Every day is a story. Actually every hour is a story. Write your own stories in your own way. The best stories come from true experiences and feelings, mixed with imagination.

Q How do you overcome writer's block?

A I read. I talk to other writers. I take a walk. I write something, anything. I believe that if you're looking for a story, it will come. It's magic. You just have to relax and let the magic happen.

Q Who is your favourite character in your books?

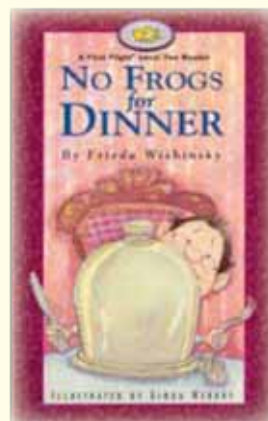
A Many of my characters are a little me, a little someone I know and a little pure imagination, so I don't have a favourite. I love them all.

Q Who is your favourite author?

A I have many favourites but here are three. For kids stuff: Kate DiCamillo and Kevin Henkes. They have unique styles, a real voice and humour. For adult books: Jane Austen. She has a strong, subtle sense of how people behave.



9781550416820, hc
9781550417043, pb
World ex. KR
Picture Book, Overcoming Fear, 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



9781550415193, hc
9781550415216, pb
World
Reader, Chapter Book, Self-Esteem
Toronto Public Library
100 Best Canadian
Children's Books, CCBC
Our Choice selection

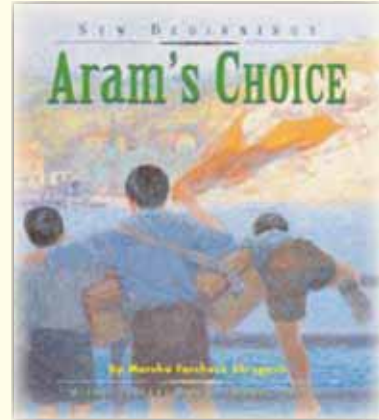


9781550415292, pb
World
Reader, Chapter Book, Bully
Issues, Self-Esteem

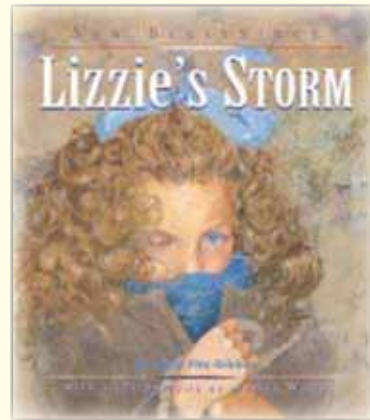


●●●●Muriel Wood

✓ Toronto, ON



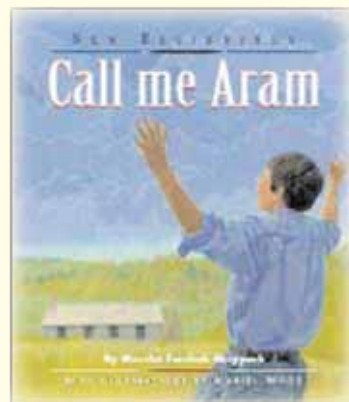
9781550413526, hc
9781550413540, pb
World
Grade 3+, Chapter Book,
Immigration, Social Issues, Adversity
OLA Silver Birch Express Award
shortlist, Resource Links Best Book,
CCBC Our Choice selection



9781550417951, pb
World
Grade 3+, Chapter Book, Immigration,
Historical, Adversity
Chocolate Lily Award shortlist



9781550417128, hc
9781550417142, pb
World
Grade 3+, Chapter Book, Native,
Immigration



9781554550005, hc
9781554550012, pb
World
Grade 3+, Chapter Book,
Adjustment & Relocation, Social
Issues



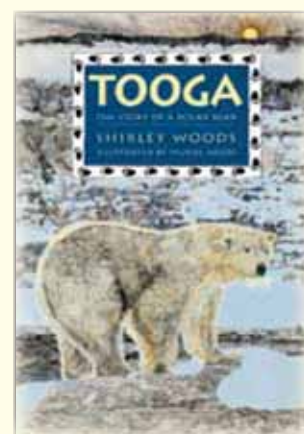
Linear drawing from Call Me Aram



9781550416954, hc
9781550416978, pb
World
Picture Book, Pioneer, Family Issues
Grant MacEwan Award Honourable Mention,
CCBC Our Choice selection



9781550416718, hc
World
Grade 6+, Pioneer Stories,
Immigration
Grant MacEwan Award
finalist, CAA Exporting
Alberta Award, CAA
Children's Short Story
Award, CCBC Our Choice
selection



9781550418989, hc
9781550419009, pb
World ex. KR
Grade 3+, Early Chapter Book,
Science, Habitat, Life of a
Polar Bear
CCBC Our Choice selection,
Alberta Children's Choice Book
Award shortlist

Muriel Wood is the accomplished and prolific artist/illustrator of such critically acclaimed books as *Old Bird*, *Scared Sarah*, *Lizzie's Storm*, *Apples and Angel Ladders* and *Tooga: The Story of a Polar Bear*. She is best known for the accurate historical detail in her illustrations. She uses picture references in as many libraries as she can find to ensure historical accuracy in her illustrations.

As a child, Muriel's favourite book was always "the next book." This love for the world of literature has followed her into her adult years. She says her favourite character out of all her illustration work is "always in the next book I'm illustrating." Muriel always delves into the book or illustration she is working on, adopting the drawing as an almost flesh-and-blood creation.

Muriel graduated from the Canterbury College of Art and began illustrating children's books in 1964. She cites William Blake as one of her favourite artists, as his work instilled in her some of the confidence she carried into her art. Later in life, as an experienced artist and illustrator, she tried to instill that confidence in other aspiring illustrators as a teacher of art. Muriel also enjoyed nurturing her students' originality and see their talent develop firsthand when she taught illustration at the Ontario College of Art for 10 years.

Muriel has created designs that have appeared on stamps, in film and on book jackets. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking and spending time with her family. She makes her home in Toronto.



Illustration from Aram's Choice



●●●● Shirley Woods

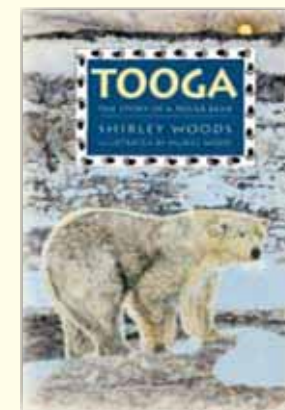
✓ Mahone Bay, NS

Shirley Woods retired from business so he could spend more time doing the things he loves best: writing and being outdoors. He developed a love of nature from his father, who was an enthusiastic and knowledgeable outdoorsman. "We lived on the outskirts of a city, so my playground was mostly uninhabited woodland. My love of dogs—as well as animals and birds—started when I was a small boy. At that time, my best friend was a large black Labrador named Soot."

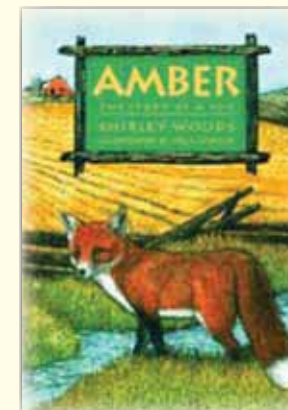
Shirley includes his passion for animals and nature in his children's books. He has written a number of books about various animals: a deer mouse (*Pip: The Adventures of a Deer Mouse*), a coyote (*Black Nell: The Adventures of a Coyote*), a raccoon (*Kit: The Adventures of a Raccoon*), a fox (*Amber: The Story of a Red Fox*), a beaver (*Jack: The Story of a Beaver*) and a polar bear (*Tooga: The Story of a Polar Bear*). For the most part, Shirley tries to write books featuring animals

that are misunderstood. "All the species I write about have suffered at the hands of humans, and most of them have also suffered from bad press in the form of inaccurate and negative information circulated by the media and word of mouth." Shirley wants to try to educate his readers about nature and animals as well as entertain them. "Children have open minds and a thirst for knowledge," he says. "They also have an innate ability to tell whether something rings true, or if it is false. My books are written for the animals (to the children), and it pleases me to be able to tell young readers the facts about the challenges faced by our indigenous species. After all, the children of today will be the movers and shakers of tomorrow—and hopefully they will do something to protect these species in the future."

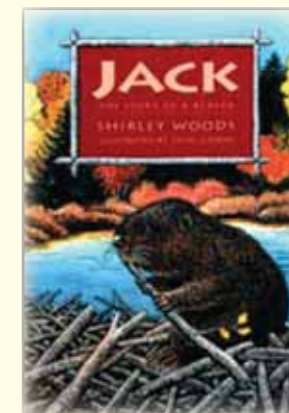
Shirley has written several adult non-fiction books, but says his main interest now is writing for children and educating them. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.



9781550418989, hc
9781550419009, pb
World ex. KR
Grade 3+, Early Chapter Book, Science, Habitat, Life of a Polar Bear
CCBC Our Choice selection, Alberta Children's Choice Book Award shortlist



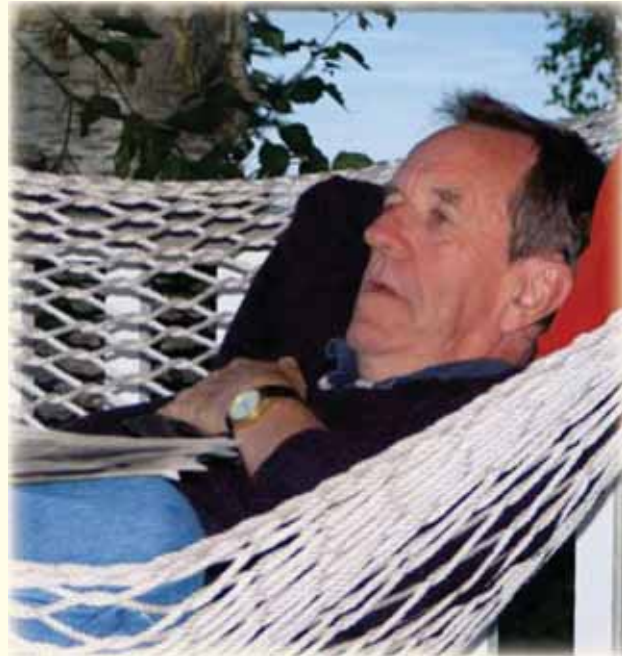
9781550418118, hc
9781550418101, pb
World ex. KR
Grade 3+, Early Chapter Book, Science, Habitat, Life of a Fox
Diamond Willow Award, Red Cedar Book Award shortlist, Snow Willow Award shortlist, CCBC Our Choice selection, Children's Crown Award shortlist



9781550417333, hc
9781550417357, pb
World ex. KR
Grade 3+, Early Chapter Book, Science, Habitat, Life of a Beaver

Children's Editors

●●●●Peter Carver ✓ Rockwood, ON



A former high school teacher, Peter has worked in the Canadian publishing industry for 30 years as an editor, a publisher, the publications editor for the Canadian Children's Book Centre and the co-ordinator of the annual Children's Book Week. Since 1986, he has been the editor of children's books and YA fiction for Red Deer Press.

As an editor, Peter would like to be known as "someone who helped contribute to the body of work that is Canadian children's and teen literature. And every word of those four is important to me. *Canadian*—because it's vital that we have a rich body of material that comes out of this country, out of our national sensibilities. *Children's and teen*—because they are the most important of all readers. If we can't bring children to the written word, we'll have made a fatal slip in the job of maintaining a cultural heritage that is distinctive on this planet. *Literature*—because excellence is simply the only standard that can apply to reading for this audience."

For the past 20 years, Peter has been mentoring aspiring writers in his Writing for Children courses at George Brown College in Toronto, and "not a small number of those students are among the most exciting authors on the bookshelves today." In 2007, Peter received the Claude Aubry Award, which is given to an individual for distinguished service within the field of children's literature.

Peter left Red Deer Press in June 2007. We all wish him continued success.

Children's Editors

Ann Featherstone ✓ Victoria, BC ●●●●



Ann Featherstone is a highly successful editor of children's literature at Fitzhenry & Whiteside. She was also the pioneer of the children's publishing program for Orca Book Publishers, starting their children's line from scratch.

Ann entered the industry as an editor in 1989. Before that, she was a buyer in a large independent bookstore, where she saw a real need for children's books about the West Coast. So when she had the opportunity to work for a small publisher and initiate a line of children's books, she leapt at the chance.

Since then, children's literature has become her specialty: everything from picture books to young adult novels. Her advice to aspiring editors is to read as broad a spectrum of books as possible, especially bestsellers and award-winners. She also suggests you find your favourite genre and start analyzing what makes the great books of that genre so great.

When she needs to take a break from her work, Ann often visits bookstores to see what is new and current on the market. Ann loves bookstores, and says that if she hadn't gotten into editing, she probably would have bought her own small bookstore.

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