Ten Cents A Pound

NHUNG N. TRAN-DAVIES
ILLUSTRATED BY JOSÉE BISAILLON

A mother’s sacrifice for the sake of her daughter’s future

Ten cents a pound is what I’ll earn, To buy these books and set you free.

A young girl is torn by her desire to stay home with her family and the familiarity of their village, and her desire to go to school and discover the world beyond the mountains that surround them. Every time the girl insists that she will stay, her mother repeats that she must go—that there is more to life than labor in the coffee fields. Their loving exchange reveals the struggles and sacrifices that they will both have to make for the sake of the young girl’s future. The sweet, simple text captures a mother’s love and her wish for a life of opportunity for her daughter.

NHUNG N. TRAN-DAVIES is a physician and advocate for social justice through education. Her family came to Canada as refugees from Vietnam in 1979, and in 2013 Nhung founded the Children of Vietnam Benevolent Foundation. She spoke at the UN’s International Organization on Migration in Geneva as part of their “I am a Migrant” campaign to help reduce hate speech and promote tolerance. Nhung and her family live outside of Edmonton, Alberta.

JOSÉE BISAILLON has illustrated more than 20 picture books and has produced numerous editorial illustrations. Her work has received recognition from Applied Arts, American Illustration, and The Society of Illustrators. She has been shortlisted twice for Canada’s Governor General’s Literary Awards. Josée lives near Montreal, Québec with her family.

Stolen Words

MELANIE FLORENCE
ILLUSTRATED BY GABRIELLE GRIMARD

“Florence’s tender text soothes the harsh reality of having Native language stolen while attending one of Canada’s former residential schools for Indigenous children. Unforgettable.” —Kirkus STARRED REVIEW

“Highly Recommended.” —CM Magazine

A young girl helps her grandpa regain the Cree language taken from him as a child.

Children’s Fiction Ages 6-9 $17.95 ISBN: 978-1-77260-037-7 Full color, hardcover with jacket, 24 pages, 8.5”x8.5”

For other Indigenous themed books see p.10
The Promise
PNINA BAT ZVI AND MARGIE WOLFE
ILLUSTRATED BY ISABELLE CARDINAL

Two brave sisters whose promise to “always, stay together” helped them survive Auschwitz

The night that Rachel and Toby’s parents are taken away by the Nazis, they give their young daughters three gold coins with the instructions to “use these wisely to help save your lives.” They also asked the girls to promise that they will always stay together.

This compelling true story follows the sisters as they confront the daily horrors of Auschwitz, protecting one another, sharing memories, fears, and even laughter—always together. But when Rachel becomes ill and is taken away by Nazi guards, likely forever, Toby risks her own life and uses the well-hidden gold coins to rescue her little sister.

PNINA BAT ZVI is a journalist and radio host based in Tel Aviv. She, her brother, and sister are Rachel’s children.

MARGIE WOLFE is a publisher of books for adults and children in Toronto. She and her sister Helen are Toby’s daughters.

ISABELLE CARDINAL has been an illustrator for 17 years. Her style emerged through the years as her own original way of doing digital collage. Using mostly a collection of Victorian era photos, her own textures, photos and drawings, her work has a unique and mysterious feel. She lives in Trois-Rivières, Quebec.
Fania’s Heart

ANNE RENAUD

ILLUSTRATED BY RICHARD RUDNICKI

A tiny birthday card, crafted against all odds within the confines of Auschwitz

Ten-year-old Sorale discovers a tiny heart-shaped book among her mother’s belongings. Its pages are shaped like four-petaled flowers, upon which are written words in languages Sorale does not understand. Who wrote these words? Where did the heart come from? Why has her mother never mentioned this tiny book before?

_Fania’s Heart_ reveals the true story of the crafting of the heart, against all odds, within the confines of Auschwitz, and of the women of immeasurable resilience, courage, and loyalty who risked their lives for Sorale’s mother, their friend.

ANNE RENAUD has a penchant for stories that have a historical slant. She has written on the topics of Pier 21, the Empress of Ireland, and the Canadian Tulip Festival. She has also written several children’s picture books, in both English and French, including _Mousseline vole au vent_, _Missuk’s Snow Geese_, _Amande Lavande_, _Les Pierres d’Emma_, and _Mr. Crum’s Potato Predicament_. Anne lives in Westmount, Quebec.

RICHARD RUDNICKI is an award-winning picture book illustrator, an author, and a painter. Most of his picture books are about subjects from Canadian history. He conducts workshops in painting, drawing, and illustration, gives illustrated talks, and takes private students. He lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

To Look a Nazi in the Eye

A teen’s account of a war criminal trial

KATHY KACER WITH JORDANA LEBOWITZ

“With living survivors seen through the eyes of a contemporary teen, the Holocaust is made present... 72 years after the liberation of the death camps, this immediacy is vital.” —Kirkus Reviews

The true story of nineteen-year-old Jordana Lebowitz’s experience attending the war criminal trial of Oskar Groening – the “bookkeeper of Auschwitz” – in 2015.

Teen Nonfiction Ages 13+
$13.95
ISBN: 978-1-77260-040-7
Paperback, 256 pages, 5.5”x8.25”
Mr. Mergler,
Beethoven, and Me

DAVID GUTNIK
ILLUSTRATED BY MATHILDE CINQ-MARS

An elderly piano teacher takes a young music student under his wing and changes her life

Not long after arriving in Canada from China, a young girl and her father bump into a kind old man at their local park. They have no idea that he has been teaching young people music for over fifty years. Mr. Mergler can hear music in a way that most of us can't, and he knows that this little girl has a talent that, with encouragement, will grow into something magical. He offers to give her music lessons, a gift that will tie them together forever.

This story is inspired by events in the life of Daniel Mergler—a wonderful musician who loved to teach and whose generous spirit inspires author and journalist David Gutnik to this day.

DAVID GUTNICK makes radio documentaries for CBC/Radio-Canada. Over the past 30 years he’s done stories on former child slaves in Togo, secret religious services in Beijing, and ballet dancers in an American maximum-security prison. He also writes about art and trains for Ironman triathlons. David lives in Montreal, Quebec with his wife and dog, and has a grown daughter and stepson.

MATHILDE CINQ-MARS is a graduate of the Université de Strasbourg in visual arts. She works as a freelance illustrator for many publishers and magazines. She lives in Trois-Rivières, Quebec, with her daughter.
Krista Kim-Bap

ANGELA AHN

*All Krista wants is to figure out the three F’s: food, family, and friends…*

Krista and Jason have been best friends since preschool. It never mattered that he was a boy with reddish-brown hair and she was the “Korean girl” at school. Now in fifth grade, everyone in their class is preparing their Heritage Month projects. Jason has always loved Krista’s Korean family, and particularly her mom’s cooking, but Krista is conflicted about being her school’s “Korean Ambassador”. She’s also worried about asking her intimidating grandma to teach the class how to make their traditional kim-bap. Combine that with her new friends pulling her away from Jason, and Krista has a lot to deal with this year!

Author Angela Ahn wrote this story with her own daughter in mind, believing that all kids should have the chance to find themselves reflected in a book.

ANGELA AHN is a former high school English and social studies teacher. She worked in the Canadian public system as well as for two years in Hong Kong teaching English as a Second Language. She later went back to school to earn a Masters of Library and Information Studies from the University of British Columbia. Angela worked in all types of libraries, but only discovered the joy of children’s literature when she had her own children. She has been at home with her family for the last 10 years in Vancouver, British Columbia.
When We Were Shadows

JANET WEESE

Walter and his family stay one step ahead of the Nazis, hiding to save their lives

The true story of Walter and his Jewish family, who were hidden from capture in the Netherlands throughout the Second World War. The story spans Walter’s life from six to fourteen and is accented by Walter’s letters, first as a child to his grandparents, and later, sharing memories with his granddaughter.

We learn of the strangers who shelter Walter and his family, the Resistance who risked their lives to see them to safety again and again, and of the Hidden Village, a community in the forests of Holland that hid more than 100 people. Throughout we see the courage and resilience of a boy faced with unimaginable hatred and terror.

“This is more than an account of one boy’s wartime experience. It is a story of human resilience, the power of family, and the kindness of strangers even in the most extreme situations.”—Rona Altrows, author of At This Juncture

JANET WEESE has been writing since she was nine years old. A retired teacher, she spends her time creating children’s picture books, reading, walking, writing letters, cycling, and traveling. She lives in Calgary, Alberta.


YOU MIGHT ALSO LIKE:

The Ship to Nowhere: On Board the Exodus
RONA ARATO

★ A Sydney Taylor Award Notable Book for Older Readers

Rachel and her family, along with thousands of other Jewish refugees after the Holocaust, board the Exodus – a ship bound for Palestine – on a journey that they hope will bring them to safety and a new home.

A Holocaust Remembrance Book for Young Readers. See p.14-15
A Fist Around the Heart
HEATHER CHISVIN

Two sisters are forever impacted by the events of their childhood in Russia

The story of Anna Grieve and her fragile older sister, Esther, begins in Russia in the 1880s. The vicious persecution of Jews has come to such a point that the girls’ mother makes the decision to send her children to Winnipeg with her wealthy employers. Her intention is to join them, but the sisters never see her again.

Frightened and cut adrift, each girl reacts differently to her new family in North America. Esther’s beauty and glamorous lifestyle hide the fact that she may be losing herself to mental illness. Anna, who is the only one who knows that her sister is suffering, spends her life torn between taking care of her and escaping her. As soon as she can, Anna leaves for New York and makes a new life as a women’s rights activist with an illegal contraceptive business in Manhattan, but her bond with Esther never loses its grip.

When Anna receives the unexpected news of Esther’s death on “If Day”, an unusual day in WWII history when a simulated Nazi attack took place in Winnipeg in order to raise funds for the war effort, she immediately returns to Canada. Only she can piece together what really happened all those years ago in Russia, why their mother never came for them, and what role “If Day” might have played in Esther’s untimely death.

HEATHER CHISVIN is the daughter of Russian immigrants who moved to Winnipeg to avoid the pogroms of the early 20th century. She is a former newspaper and magazine journalist, a radio and television documentary producer, an advertising copywriter, and a teacher at the Ontario College of Art and Design. This is her first work of fiction. She lives in Port Hope, Ontario.

Tale of a Boon’s Wife
FARTUMO KUSOW

Idil has grown up as the adored daughter in a privileged family. She worships her father, a high-ranking official in the Somali army, and all that he represents. But as she matures and watches her parents’ marriage unravel, her father’s image tarnishes. When Idil falls in love with gentle Sidow from the lower-class Boon tribe, their love is not only taboo, it is doomed.

Author Fartumo Kusow fled her country just as its years-long civil war was starting. In her novel she resurrects the world she left behind at a moment of immense conflict, a people in the throes of radical change but still bound by a rigid social hierarchy and a deeply enforced suppression of women.
White Gloves Off
The Grassroots Work of the Ontario Committee on the Status of Women

Compiled by Lorna Marsden and Elizabeth Atcheson

Pushing for change in times of inequality

During the 1970s and 1980s, after the Royal Commission on the Status of Women made its far-reaching recommendations, the volunteer Ontario Committee on the Status of Women went head-to-head with the Ontario government of Premier William Davis to fully implement equality for women in Ontario. Areas of concern were in employment, pay and benefits, child care and reproduction rights, education and training, family law, pensions, politics and the civil service, and human rights generally.

Members of this committed organization tell the stories of how they came together, how they organized and lobbied for change, how they collaborated with other groups, how the issues changed, and what the work means for women in Ontario today.

Lorna Marsden, a sociologist and university leader, and Elizabeth Atcheson, a lawyer active in the campaign for women’s constitutional equality, joined the Ontario Committee on the Status of Women as young women, and with its members and through its work, learned critical lessons in women’s rights and how to lobby for them.

Fairly Equal: Lawyering the Feminist Revolution
Linda Silver Dranoff

Lawyer, activist, and former Chatelaine legal columnist Linda Silver Dranoff details how she and a generation of women lawyers, supported by a larger feminist movement, championed the rights of Canadian women and families.

Marion Dewar: A Life of Action
Deborah Gorham

Beloved Mayor of Ottawa and life-long advocate for human rights, Marion Dewar most likely never thought of herself as a radical, but she broke stereotypes in a radical way. Her advocacy for resettling refugees – she helped bring thousands of Vietnamese “Boat People” to Canada – resonates today more than ever. Her legacy is a wonderful example of public life.