

# Orca Book Publishers

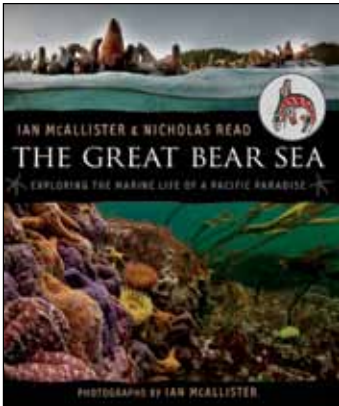
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*Reaching More Readers*

**Transatlantic Agency**

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### World Rights Available

(ex – North America)  
Paperback with flaps  
Full-colour photos  
128 pages · ages 8-14

# The Great Bear Sea

## Exploring the Marine Life of a Pacific Paradise

Ian McAllister and Nicholas Read  
Photographs by Ian McAllister

*Explore the relationship between the Great Bear Sea and the rainforest it nourishes.*

Following up the success of their first two books about the Great Bear Rainforest, *The Salmon Bears* and *The Sea Wolves*, Ian McAllister and Nicholas Read take readers on an expedition into the wondrous and mysterious underwater world of the Great Bear Sea. This amazing part of the northeast Pacific Ocean is home to some of the planet's mightiest and most beloved residents: whales, sea lions, dolphins, orcas, sea otters and wild salmon. Filled with spectacular images of this largely unknown part of the world, the book also explores the uncertain future of the Great Bear Sea in this age of climate change, overfishing, pipelines and oil tankers. Can a rainforest full of rare spirit bears, fishing wolves and great grizzlies survive without a Great Bear Sea to feed and nourish it?

**Green Earth Book Award nominee**

**Information Book Award nominee**

**Red Cedar Book Award nominee**

**Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize nominee**

**VOYA's Perfect Ten list**

**Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection**

**Resource Links the Year's Best selection**

"What sets *The Great Bear Sea* apart from other books of its ilk...is the bumptious energy of its writing. Its spirit is that of two little boys, roaring around the seashore and calling to each other to see the latest cool thing. A chatty, avuncular style and gift for accessible metaphors... sometimes explode into sheer joy...The enthusiasm is contagious. Also distinctive is the book's design. Unobtrusive text layout and a restrained use of sidebars make room for stunning photographs...This is a book to read all the way through, to appreciate the big, amazing picture and serious message." —*Quill & Quire*, starred review

"Generous quantities of excellent nature photos include engaging close-ups of otter and seal faces, dramatic shots of humpback whales and other finny mammals breaching, and particularly dazzling close-ups of sea stars and other residents of intertidal zones. Along with plenty of eye candy, though, the whole notion that a rainforest ecosystem doesn't stop at the shoreline makes this particularly valuable for students of ecology and environmental conservation. A handsome, well-designed introduction." —*Booklist*

"There's an incredibly strong sense of place in the images and sensory detail in this presentation... The book does a superb job of underlining the interconnectedness of life in the entire Great Bear Rainforest ecosystem—including the sea—and leaves readers with a certainty that this unique and spectacular place deserves our interest, our respect and our efforts to keep it intact. Highly Recommended." —*CM Magazine*

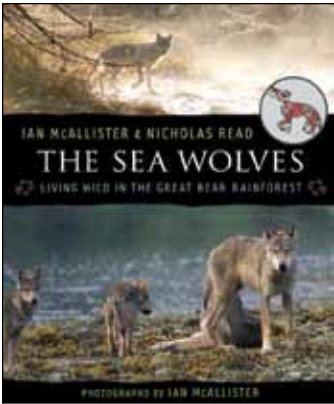


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# The Sea Wolves

## Living Wild in the Great Bear Rainforest

Ian McAllister and Nicholas Read  
Photographs by Ian McAllister

*These unique wolves swim like otters and fish like bears!*

**T**he *Sea Wolves* sets out to disprove the notion of “the Big Bad Wolf,” especially as it is applied to coastal wolves—a unique strain of wolf that lives in the rainforest along the Pacific coast of Canada. Genetically distinct from their inland cousins and from wolves in any other part of the world, coastal wolves can swim like otters and fish like the bears with whom they share the rainforest. Smaller than the gray wolves that live on the other side of the Coast Mountains, these wolves are highly social and fiercely intelligent creatures.

Living in the isolated wilderness of the Great Bear Rainforest, coastal wolves have also enjoyed a unique relationship with man. The First Nations people, who have shared their territory for thousands of years, do not see them as a nuisance species but instead have long offered the wolf a place of respect and admiration within their culture.

Illustrated with almost one hundred of Ian McAllister’s magnificent photographs, *The Sea Wolves* presents a strong case for the importance of preserving the Great Bear Rainforest for the wolves, the bears and the other unique creatures that live there.

**Red Maple nominee**

**Rocky Mountain Book Award nominee**

**January Magazine’s Best Books of 2010 selection**

**Lane Anderson Award finalist**

**Library Media Connection Editor’s Choice selection**

**OLA Best Bets selection**

**Resource Links the Year’s Best selection**

**VOYA’s Nonfiction Honor List**

**Canadian Children’s Book Centre Best Books selection**

“A warm, informative introduction to a distinct strain of wolves that inhabit the British Columbian coast...In succinct, conversational language, the authors present attention-grabbing facts...[and] McAllister’s highly expressive, close-up photos of the beautiful animals hunting, lounging, and nuzzling will easily draw browsers.” —*Booklist*

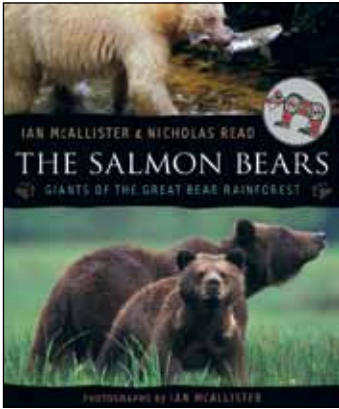
“This extensive, informative text is illustrated with remarkable photographs taken by McAllister...They show the lush, old-growth forest and rocky shoreline and a variety of animals that share this habitat, but the wolves are the stars: at rest, at play, on the prowl and catching fish...Fascinating and useful.” —*Kirkus Reviews*



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# The Salmon Bears

## Giants of the Great Bear Rainforest

Ian McAllister and Nicholas Read  
Photographs by Ian McAllister

*Great bears need a great rainforest to survive.*

**E**xtensively illustrated with Ian McAllister's magnificent photographs, *The Salmon Bears* explores the delicate balance that exists between the grizzly, black and spirit bears that inhabit the last great wilderness along the central coast of British Columbia and their natural environment. Key to this relationship are the salmon that are born in the rivers each spring, who then go out to sea as juveniles and return as adults to spawn and die, completing a cycle of life that ensures the survival of not only their own species but also virtually every other plant and animal in the rainforest.

In clear language suitable for young readers, the authors describe the day-to-day activities that define the lives of these bears through the four seasons. But this is also very much the story of the Great Bear Rainforest—a vast tract of land that stretches from the northern tip of Vancouver Island to the Alaska border and contains some of the largest stands of old-growth forest left on the West Coast. *The Salmon Bears* focuses on the interconnectedness of all life in the rainforest and makes a strong case for the importance of protecting this vital ecological resource.

**CYBIL Award nominee**

**Silver Birch Non-fiction Award nominee**

**BC Book Prize—Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize nominee**

**OLA Best Bets selection**

**Quill & Quire Best of the Year selection**

**Resource Links the Year's Best selection**

**Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection**

"This excellent book...[has] a sprightly narrative that takes the reader through a year in the life of a bear...The illustrations for this book, a plentitude of photographs...are nothing short of gorgeous." —*The Globe and Mail*

"[An] evocative look at the big bears of the Great Bear Rainforest of British Columbia, and an intriguing investigation of its ecological pattern of dependency...Superbly readable, informative, and attractive, this book provides a clear picture of a pristine environment and its major inhabitants." —*School Library Journal*

"A thoroughly enjoyable and enlightening read. The text's kid-friendly, informal tone helps steer the way through a mass of information...*The Salmon Bears* shines a spotlight on a precious national treasure and makes an impassioned case for protecting its future." —*Quill & Quire*



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# Passover

## Festival of Freedom

Monique Polak

*There's more to Passover than prayers and matzo.*

**D**uring Passover, Jews are reminded of how, more than three thousand years ago, their ancestors emerged from slavery to become free men and women. Bestselling author Monique Polak explores her own Jewish roots as she tells the Passover story, which reminds us that the freedom to be who we are and practice our religion, whatever it may be, is a great gift. It also teaches us that if we summon our courage and look out for each other, we can endure and overcome the most challenging circumstances. Enlivened by personal stories, *Passover* reminds us that we can all endure and overcome the most challenging circumstances.

*Passover* is the first in a series of books called Orca Origins that will examine ancient traditions kept alive in the modern world. Other books in the series will cover Ramadan, Chinese New Year and Diwali.

### Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

"While this title in the Orca Origins series explains the holiday of Passover, it also goes further. In the introduction, Polak remembers her associations with the holiday while growing up in Montreal, mostly through friends' seders...The sections in which the Holocaust survivors remember is both chilling and moving...Kids' holiday rituals and personal stories make for an interesting mix. Illustrated with many color photos, this unique take on an ancient holiday should resonate with readers." —*Booklist*

"An overview of the holiday of Passover is elaborated with personal narratives, the story's connection to the Holocaust, and various Seder customs practiced in several countries around the world...A plethora of photographs, informational sidebars, drawings, and recipes break up the substantial yet enlightening text. Good supplementary material to increase the holiday's meaning and currency for older children." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"A must-have title, whether readers are already knowledgeable about the holiday's history and rituals or learning about them for the first time...Highly recommended for all ages." —*Jewish Book Council*

"The book is written in a very readable text accompanied by black and white and colour historical and contemporary captioned photographs...A great complement to a study of religious customs and multiculturalism...Highly recommend[ed]." —*Resource Links*

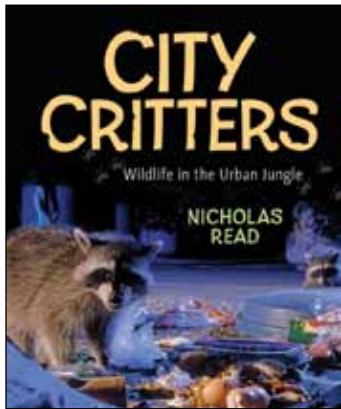
"With numerous sidebars, photographs, recipes, drawings and short facts, the book...is bound to teach youngsters and adults alike how important it is to celebrate the holiday in their own way." —*The Canadian Jewish News*



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## City Critters

### Wildlife in the Urban Jungle

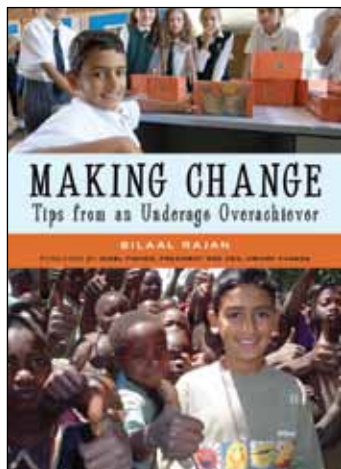
Nicholas Read

**W**hen we think of wild animals, we don't immediately associate them with the cities we live in. But a closer look soon reveals that we share our urban environment with a great many untamed creatures. Heavily illustrated with color photographs throughout and full of entertaining and informative facts, *City Critters* examines how and why so many wild animals choose to live in places that, on first glance at least, seem contrary to their needs.

How do those deer, raccoons, squirrels, skunks, coyotes, crows, gulls and geese—not to mention the alligators, eagles, otters and snakes—manage to survive in the big city? What special skills do city critters have that many of their wilderness cousins lack? Why have they developed these skills? And what are our responsibilities in ensuring that these animals can continue to share our city lives?

#### Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books starred selection

"A thought-provoking investigation of the growing number of animals sharing urban environments with humans... Illustrated with numerous color photographs, Read demonstrates how human developments affect animals' abilities to thrive and survive, and leaves readers with plenty of food for thought." —*Publishers Weekly*



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176 pages · ages 9–13

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## Making Change

### Tips from an Underage Overachiever

Bilaal Rajan

Foreword by Nigel Fisher, President and CEO of unicef Canada

**F**undraising wunderkind Bilaal Rajan shares his tips for effective fundraising, using examples from his own amazing life to show how it can be done—and how you can have fun doing it. The second part of the book is a section entitled Eight Principles to Maximize Your Full Potential, which includes exercises to help you identify and attain your dreams.

**Bilaal Rajan** started fundraising at the age of four, when he sold clementines to raise money for the victims of an earthquake in India. Since then he has raised funds for children in Southeast Asia, Haiti and Africa. In March 2005, Bilaal became the UNICEF Canada Child Representative. He continues his fundraising efforts while attending school and traveling the world spreading his message of hope. Bilaal lives in Toronto, Ontario, with his parents.

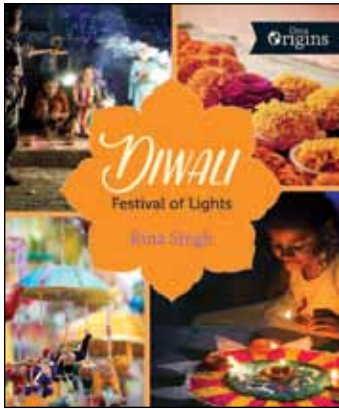
"[Bilaal] is humble, smart, hardworking, respectful and an example both to adults and children alike... although the book focuses on guiding youth in their fundraising efforts, adults could also learn much." —*CM Magazine*



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# Diwali

## Festival of Lights

Rina Singh

*Light up your world with the magic of Diwali.*

**D**uring Diwali, Hindus, Sikhs and Jains celebrate the legends and stories that describe the triumph of good over evil and justice over oppression. Critically acclaimed author Rina Singh explores her Indian roots as she tells the Diwali stories, which remind us that eventually light will prevail over darkness.

Enriched by personal stories and spiced with festive recipes, including two by acclaimed chef, Vikram Vij, *Diwali: Festival of Lights* brings to life the holiday's traditions, food and rituals and takes you on a journey to see how this festival is celebrated around the world!

*Diwali* is the second book in the Orca Origins series, which examines how ancient traditions are kept alive in the modern world.

**Red Cedar Book Award nominee**

**Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Books of the Year**

"Provides a remarkably comprehensive look at the origins of the Hindu festival of lights...The intimate tone and vibrant photographs make this book an enjoyable and informative read from start to finish. Young readers will love the photographs, and older ones will appreciate the joy and concept of a celebration of light." —*Booklist*

"This sophisticated volume incorporates information about the major Indian religions; Hindu, Sikh, and Jain Diwali traditions; and Indian immigration to the U.S., Canada, and the Caribbean... An exceptionally valuable resource." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"A standout volume...an excellent introduction to Diwali and Indian culture, highly recommended for all geography collections." —*School Library Journal*

"Written in a very readable text accompanied by colourful historical and contemporary captioned photographs...This book would be a great compliment to a study of religious customs and multiculturalism...I would highly recommend it for inclusion in school and public libraries." —*Resource Links*

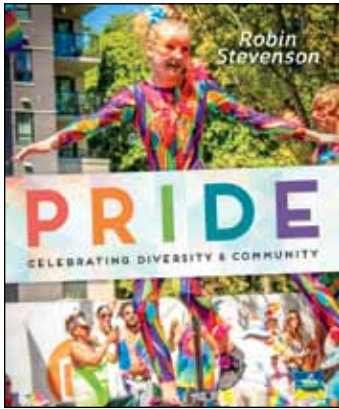


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120 pages · ages 9-13

# Pride

## Celebrating Diversity & Community

Robin Stevenson

*We are family.*

**F**or LGBTQ people and their supporters, Pride events are an opportunity to honor the past, protest injustice, and celebrate a diverse and vibrant community. The high point of Pride, the Pride Parade, is spectacular and colorful. But there is a whole lot more to Pride than rainbow flags and amazing outfits. How did Pride come to be? And what does Pride mean to the people who celebrate it?

**ALA Stonewall Honor Award**

**USBBY Outstanding International Book Award**

**PNBA Book Award nominee**

**Red Maple nominee**

**OLA Best Bets selection**

**Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award nominee**

**Information Book Award nominee**

**Red Cedar Book Award nominee**

**Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize nominee**

"LGBTQ culture and rights are covered through the prism of Pride in this timely work...Using Pride as a way to talk about LGBTQ gives the information a new slant...The appropriately rainbow-themed design features plentiful photographs, both black-and-white and color, in a lively design...This attractive work will be welcomed by readers searching for guidance and hope." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"Solid non-fiction...As useful and appealing as this book will be to a general audience, there will be another group of readers seeking it out with more focus. Not every kid, even in this country, lives in a joyous climate of acceptance, and books are often a place where they find information and community. Much of this is provided in the form of individual vignettes. These stories, sad and happy, are where vulnerable preteen kids may see themselves." —*Quill & Quire*

"This timely, attractive and cheerful book will engage any student from middle school and beyond... Extremely well designed...The writing is clear and completely straightforward, addressing the intended reader honestly and without talking down at all. The writer portrays the LGBTQ community as normal and welcoming, powerful and inclusive, the way most Canadians, especially students, view it today. This book is a must-buy for all schools in Canada." —*Resource Links*

"A fantastic achievement, a book that gives serious attention to often ignored groups within LGBT history...What makes this book suitable and relevant to young readers is the emphasis that Stevenson places on youth involvement in contemporary and historical celebrations and activism. A number of the personal accounts and quotes throughout the book are also from young people. This is an incredibly detailed account, considering the short page count, and Pride should be shelved in school libraries and classrooms alike as a more contemporary companion to Ken Setterington's *Branded by the Pink Triangle*. Highly Recommended." —*CM Magazine*

"Informative...Positively festive in its attitudes and outlook, this book more than lives up to the word celebrating in its subtitle." —*Booklist*

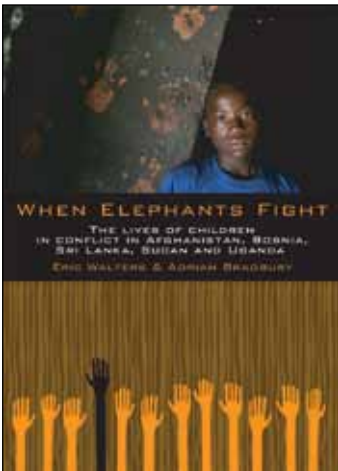


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## When Elephants Fight The Lives of Children in Conflict in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda

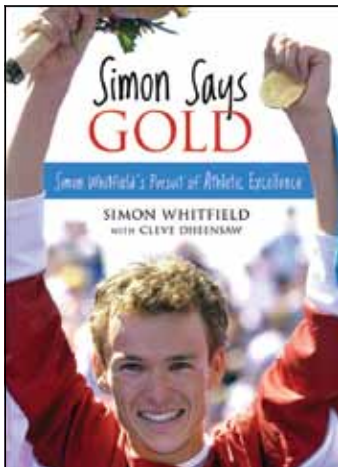
Eric Walters & Adrian Bradbury

**W**hen elephants fight, it is the grass that suffers. This ancient proverb of the Kikuyu people, a tribal group in Kenya, Africa, is as true today as when the words were first spoken, perhaps thousands of years ago. Its essence is simplicity—when the large fight, it is the small who suffer most. And when it comes to war, the smallest, the most vulnerable, are the children.

*When Elephants Fight* presents the stories of five children—Annu, Jimmy, Nadja, Farooq and Toma—from five very different and distinct conflicts—Sri Lanka, Uganda, Sarejevo, Afghanistan and the Sudan. Along with these very personal accounts, the book also offers brief analyses of the history and geopolitical issues that are the canvas on which these conflicts are cast.

**Canadian Children's Book Center Best Books starred selection**  
**Resource Links the Year's Best Selection**

"Bradbury's personal experience with children in northern Uganda lends credence to these narratives, and readers will share his sympathies with these innocent victims." —*Kirkus Reviews*



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128 pages · ages 10+

## Simon Says Gold Simon Whitfield's Pursuit of Athletic Excellence

Simon Whitfield with Cleve Dheensaw

**F**rom the moment Simon Whitfield burst onto the world stage at the Sydney 2000 Summer Games, as triathlon's first Olympic champion, his winning personality and stellar athletic abilities have enthralled and inspired young people around the globe.

In *Simon Says Gold*, Whitfield describes his personal journey to Olympic glory as he recounts not only that glorious day in Sydney, but also the anguish of failing to repeat as Olympic champion in Athens in 2004, and his dramatic comeback at the Beijing 2008 Games, when his exhilarating race to a silver medal enthralled millions of fans around the world. Simon's stories of the highs and lows of his running career will captivate readers young and old, but his real message—that the simple pursuit of excellence is its own reward—will also inspire and motivate. Not everyone can be an Olympian. Simon Whitfield believes that true greatness is in performing to the best of one's ability. The reward is in the effort, not the outcome.

**Chocolate Lily nominee**  
**Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection**

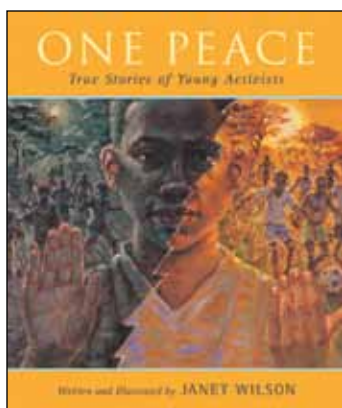
"[Simon's] honesty about his failures and uncertainty, as well as the dizzying excitement of victory, provides the drama in this action-packed biography." —*Booklist* online

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# One Peace

## True Stories of Young Activists

Janet Wilson

*Children can change the world.*

*“We can’t change the whole world alone, but if I can teach people that if you put your hand in mine and little by little we join more hands, maybe we can construct a new world.”*

—Farlis Calle, age 15, Colombia

**O**ne peace celebrates the “Power of One,” and specifically the accomplishments of children from around the globe who have worked to promote world peace. Janet Wilson challenges today’s children to strive to make a difference in this beautifully illustrated, fact-filled and fascinating volume of portraits of many “heroes for today.”

Canadian Craig Kielburger, who started Free the Children to help victims of child labor at the age of twelve, has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize. Farlis Calle, forced to identify the body of a young friend—a victim of her country’s civil war—started the Colombia Children’s Movement for Peace. At age ten, Kimmie Weeks, a refugee from the Liberian civil war, came within a whisper of being buried in a mass grave. Almost miraculously he survived and vowed to make a difference in the lives of other children. At thirteen he established Voices of the Future, Liberia’s first child rights advocacy group. Other portraits feature the accomplishments of children from Sarajevo, Japan, the United Kingdom, Cambodia, Afghanistan and the United States. These moving testaments to the courage and initiative of youth will inspire readers young and old.

**Janet Wilson** is an award-winning artist and author. Her awards include Best Illustrated Book in the United States in 2004 for *Jasper’s Day*, Canadian Information Book of the Year for her artwork in *In Flander’s Fields*, and she is the first non-Native artist to be awarded the Native Reading Week Award for her illustrations in *Solomon’s Tree* (Orca, 2002).

**Canadian Children’s Book Centre Best Books selection**

**Red Cedar nominee**

**Hackmatack nominee**

**Information Book Award winner**

**Rocky Mountain Book Award nominee**

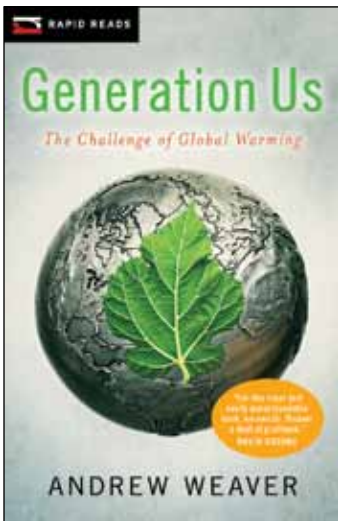
**Smithsonian Notable Book for Children selection**



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Adult nonfiction

# Generation Us

## The Challenge of Global Warming

Andrew Weaver

*Global warming is not so much an environmental problem as an economic and social problem.*

In clear and accessible language, *Generation Us* explains the phenomenon of global warming, outlines the threat it presents to future generations and offers a path toward a solution to the problem.

The reality of global warming has long been accepted within the scientific community, yet it remains a hotly debated topic at the political and social level. Why is this? Is it the fact that the ultimate effects of global warming will not be felt in our lifetimes? Do we really feel no moral responsibility for future generations? Dr. Weaver, one of the world's leading experts in the field, contends that, just as humans have been responsible for creating the problem of global warming, we must also be the solution.

**Dr. Andrew J. Weaver** is professor and Canada Research Chair in climate modeling and analysis in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, University of Victoria. He was a lead author in the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. He is also the author of *Keeping our Cool: Canada in a Warming World* (2008).

### Green Earth Book Award nominee

“A simply-worded, accessible explanation of climate change science, of the potential impacts of climate change, what we can do about it, and the reasons why we should care...Never until reading this book and talking with Weaver have I thought of global warming as an empowering issue, but that's one of Weaver's talents: communicating the subject of climate change afresh.”  
—*Focus Magazine*

“Weaver, one of Canada's top climate scientists, offers a discussion of the complexities of global warming, a discussion which is both concise and comprehensive...Teachers and students in senior high (grades 10 through 12) science, geography, and environmental science courses will find this is a useful resource, and senior high school libraries will probably want to acquire more than one copy for their collections. Highly Recommended.” —*CM Magazine*

“*Generation Us* is like a climate change CliffNotes...This is a short, succinct, clear and readable rendering of the science—followed by a passionate appeal for us all to move from ‘Generation Me’ (which really seems to have outlasted its stylishness) to Generation Us, in which we start taking seriously the opportunity we have to mitigate the climate damage that we have already inflicted on future generations...For someone coming to this topic without any science background, *GenUs* is a perfect introduction—and as such is an important addition to the climate library.” —*DeSmogBlog.com*

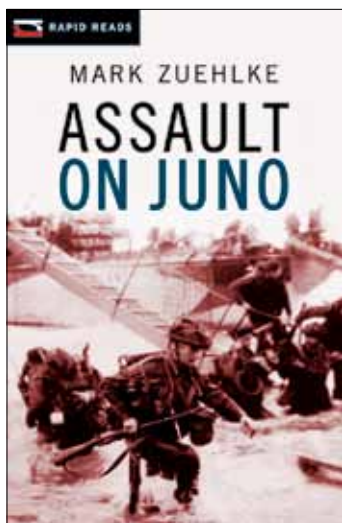


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## Assault on Juno

Mark Zuehlke

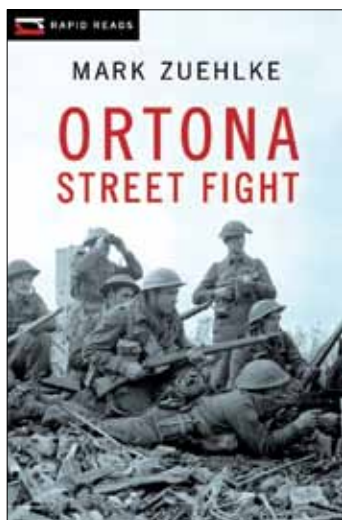
**D**awn, June 6, 1944. This is D-Day, the long-awaited Allied invasion of German-occupied Europe. The Allies will storm five beaches. One is code-named Juno Beach. Here, 14,500 Canadians will land on a five-mile stretch of sand backed by three resort towns. The beach is heavily protected by a seawall, barbed wire, underwater obstacles and hundreds of mines. Behind these defenses a heavily armed German force waits inside thick concrete pillboxes and deep trenches that bristle with machineguns and artillery pieces.

About 3,500 Canadians will lead the way. The fate of the invasion is in their hands. They either break the German defenses or die trying.

With his trademark you-are-there style, acclaimed military historian Mark Zuehlke plunges readers into a vivid and powerful account of the day-long battle that put the Allies on the march toward victory in World War II.

“*Assault on Juno*, a detailed and poignant account of a horrific event, is accurate and well researched. The intended readership should have no trouble with it. It is clearly written and easy to understand. It is suitable for recreational reading, and, in the thoughtful reader, will raise many questions about the futility of war and why so many young men had to die.” —*CM Magazine*

“An admirable monograph on a Canadian military achievement of WWII... This promising series claims to be easy reading, and it certainly has succeeded so far in being accessible to those with limited familiarity with the technicalities of military history, whether Canadian or not.” —*Booklist*



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## Ortona Street Fight

Mark Zuehlke

**D**ecember 20, 1943. Two Canadian infantry battalions and a tank regiment stand poised on the outskirts of a small Italian port town. They expect to take Ortona quickly. But the German 1st Parachute Division has other ideas. For reasons unknown, Hitler has ordered Ortona held to the last man. Houses, churches and other buildings are dynamited, clogging the streets with rubble. Germans with machine guns lie in ambush. Snipers slip from one rooftop to another. The Canadians seem to have walked into a death trap. This is a battle fought at close range, often hand to hand. Casualties on both sides are heavy. In the end, raw courage and ingenuity save the Canadians.

*Ortona Street Fight* is a riveting telling of what is considered one of the most epic battles that Canadian soldiers have ever fought.

“True to the series’ intent, the book is light and fast-paced... Readers new to military history will be genuinely moved by the courage and endurance of the soldiers and will learn about an important chapter in our national heritage.” —*Quill & Quire*

“Zuehlke has an impressive way with battle descriptions and short, easy-to-understand overviews of military tactics and strategy... A good place to start if you want to learn more about the Second World War in Italy and Canada’s contribution to it.” —*Alberta Views*



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