

Orca Book Publishers

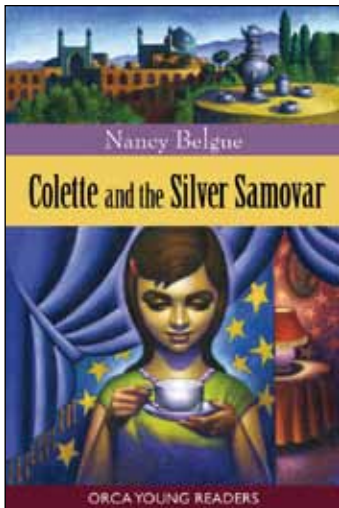
*Rights Catalogue—Young Readers
Core Titles*



ORCA BOOK PUBLISHERS
Reaching More Readers

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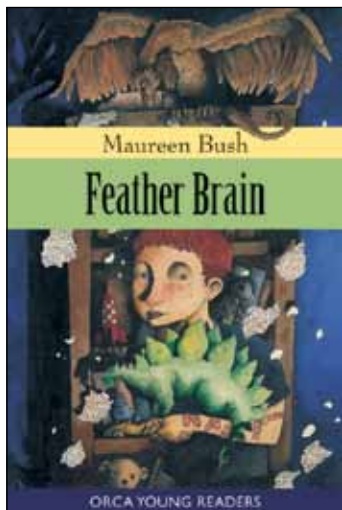
Colette and the Silver Samovar

Nancy Belgue

You don't have to believe a prophecy for it to come true.

Colette Faizal isn't superstitious, so she doesn't worry when a fortune-teller advises Colette's mother to "watch for the unexpected." But when her father announces he is going back to Iran, her mother is hurt in a car accident and Colette is sent to live with the grandparents she's never even met, everything the mysterious woman predicted seems to be coming true. As Colette struggles to bring her family back together, she tries to hold on to the last thing the fortune-teller told her: "You will know how to handle what lies ahead."

Resource Links the Year's Best selection
Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection



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Feather Brain

Maureen Bush

Holy herbivore! The beast is alive!

Lucas has dinosaurs on the brain, but he's a little short on friends. When he gets a new book on how to make model dinosaurs, he's inspired to make one immediately. He's not so inspired by his new dinosaur-making kit: all the box contains is a test tube of clear liquid and a few instructions. But when he mixes the liquid into his papier-mâché goop, he gets much more than he bargained for, including the most unlikely friend.

Silver Birch Express nominee
Hackmatack nominee
Rocky Mountain Book Award nominee
Sunburst Award honorable mention
Golden Eagle nominee
Red Cedar nominee
OLA Best Bets selection
Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

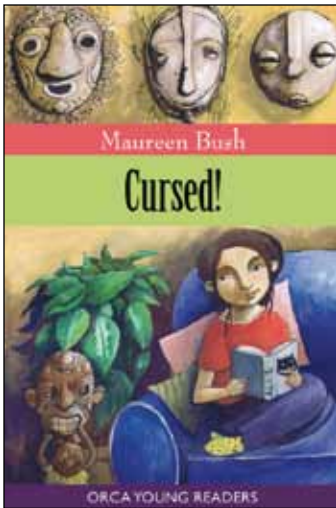
"Bush grabs the reader from the first page and pulls us quickly into a lively adventure."
—*Canadian Teacher Magazine*



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Cursed!

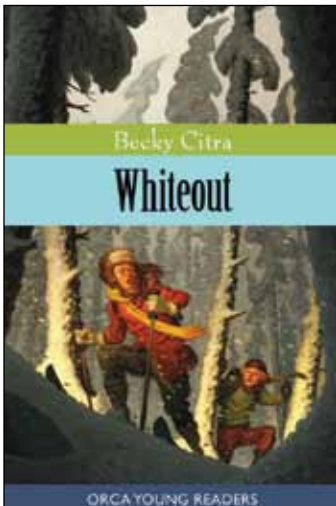
Maureen Bush

Imagination can be your worst enemy or your best friend.

Jane is terrified of the masks hanging along her grandmother's stairwell, and even more scared of the Spirit Man in her grandmother's bathroom. After a week of avoiding him during a summer visit, she finally summons the courage to face him, minutes before leaving for the trip home. But her moment of triumph marks the beginning of a year of trouble for Jane and her family, trouble only Jane (and the Spirit Man) can fix.

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

"Bush's story offers readers the opportunity to live vicariously through Jane's journey to self-discovery and, further, experience a thrilling sense of obtaining confidence by overcoming obstacles. Highly Recommended." —*CM Magazine*



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Whiteout

Becky Citra

Bad weather turns Robin's world upside down.

Robin can hardly wait for her cousin April and her Aunty Liz to come to the ranch for Christmas. When a devastating car accident sends Aunty Liz to the hospital for several months, Robin can't help but be overjoyed to learn that April will live with Robin and her family while her mother is recuperating. But April has changed, and Robin must deal with April's growing anger and resentment at being forced to leave her injured mother and her life in the city. Then Robin's little sister, Molly, disappears during a blizzard, and Robin and April's friendship faces the ultimate test.

Chocolate Lily nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

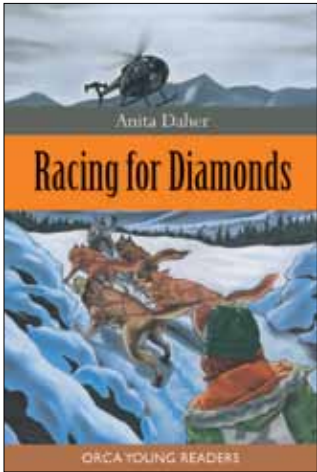
"The strength of *Whiteout* lies in the depiction of Robin as a typical pre-teen, too self-absorbed and too immature to understand or comprehend the real pain and dislocation being suffered by her cousin April...The second strength of this novel...is the setting in the beautiful and unspoiled BC interior which provides a great location for nature on the grand scale, contrasted with human frailties. Recommended." —*CM Magazine*



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Racing for Diamonds

Anita Daher

Jaz lives in the small northern community of Destiny and is a new member of the Junior Canadian Rangers. Her divorced parents argue a lot, and Jaz hopes if she wins a dog-mushing derby, they will be so proud of her they will stop arguing. But the derby would be a lot more fun if she wasn't paired with Colly, an older boy who is a more experienced JCR.

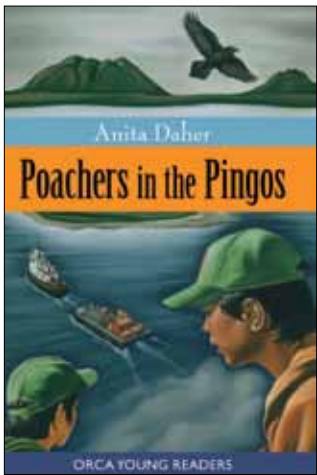
On the derby trail all Jaz's newfound skills, her will to survive and her ability to get along with Colly, are put to a life-and-death test.

Hackmatack nominee

Diamond Willow nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

World Rights Available (ex – North America)



Poachers in the Pingos

Anita Daher

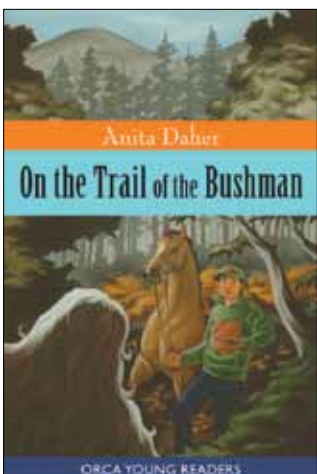
When Junior Canadian Rangers, Colly and Jaz, visit Colly's uncle on Canada's Arctic coast, they are quick to discover something is amiss. Someone has been hunting gyrfalcons, the official bird of the Northwest Territories. Could it be poachers? During a pretend emergency, Colly and Jaz put two and five together and end up in a terrifying race for their lives!

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

"For children who enjoy a bit of escapist fiction with a solid whodunit element, this book fits the bill. Recommended."—*CM Magazine*

"A well-written and suspense-filled mystery for children...An excellent addition to a family, school or classroom library." —*Resource Links*

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On the Trail of the Bushman

Anita Daher

Junior Canadian Ranger Tommy Toner has a terrible secret. During the annual JCR summer camp in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, he plays a prank which has unexpected and destructive results. Ashamed and afraid of what people will think, he keeps quiet, even though the guilt eats away at him. Tommy and his old friends Colly and Jaz team up to take part in a JCR competition at camp. They decide to search on horseback for the legendary Bushman, a Sasquatch-like creature who has been sighted near Whitehorse. But is the Bushman real or is he simply a terrifying creature of myth and legend? What Tommy and his friends discover puts all their lives in danger, and only the truth can save them.

"A pleasing page turner. Recommended." —*CM Magazine*

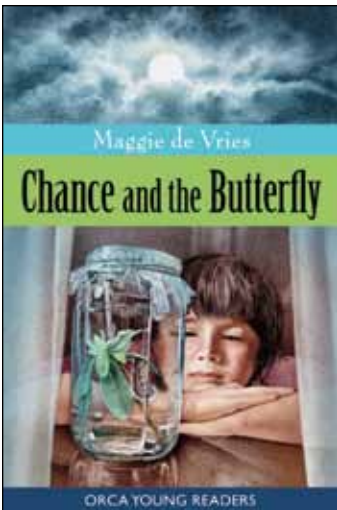
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Chance and the Butterfly

Maggie De Vries

Chance learns the importance of letting go.

Every time Chance turns around, he gets in trouble. In school, he can't sit still. Reading is hard and math is harder, but anything to do with science fascinates him. When his class starts raising butterflies from caterpillars, Chance is hooked. School is suddenly fun again, but when he decides to take his caterpillar home, he learns that loving something often means letting it go.

BC Book Prize nominee

Diamond Willow nominee

Silver Birch nominee

Chocolate Lily nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection

OLA Best Bests selection

"*Chance and the Butterfly* will touch the hearts and minds of those who experience it."
—*CM Magazine*



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Somebody's Girl

Maggie De Vries

There's more to family than shared DNA.

Martha knows she is adopted, but she's well-loved and popular, at least until her mother gets pregnant and she feels her parents' attention start to shift. Upset and confused, Martha lashes out at—and loses—her friends. She also makes no secret about her annoyance at being forced to do a school project about sturgeon with Chance, a difficult boy whose foster parents are family friends. To add insult to injury, Martha's birth mother announces that she is getting married and moving away. Now Martha isn't number one in anybody's life. When her mom goes into labor prematurely, Martha realizes that she needs to figure out a way to be a better friend and daughter, and a great sister.

Diamond Willow nominee

"The story is beautifully written, and Martha and Chance are particularly authentic and robust, though even minor characters are deftly drawn. Although the book has a strong appeal to those interested in fiction about open adoptions, it deserves a wide audience because it is so well told." —*School Library Journal*

"De Vries looks at the world through a child's eyes and in doing so, she captures the essence of childhood." —*Cracking the Cover* blog



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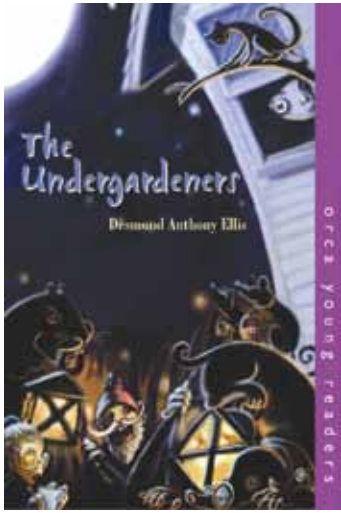
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The Undergardeners

Desmond Anthony Ellis

A boy discovers an incredible community beneath his backyard.

Mouse is small for his age and tired of being teased about it. Then one night he discovers, much to his surprise and delight, that he fits perfectly (well, almost perfectly) into the Undergarden, a subterranean world beneath his backyard. Mouse befriends the Undergardeners—and helps them keep their existence safe from the dangerous world uptop. All that, and he never has to change out of his pajamas!

“A little mystery and a little humor...This is a story that can and will be enjoyed by many children. Recommended” —*CM Magazine*

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Belle of Batoche

Jacqueline Guest

The story of the Riel Rebellion from a Métis point of view.

Belle, an eleven-year-old Métis girl, and Sarah both want the coveted job of church bell ringer. An embroidery contest is held to award the position, and Sarah cheats. Before Belle can expose her, the two are caught up in the advancing forces of General Middleton and his troops as they surround Batoche in the 1885 Riel Rebellion. The church bell disappeared that day and remains missing to this day.

Red Cedar nominee
Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection

“An extremely fine work of historical fiction. Highly Recommended.”
—*Canadian Book Review Annual*

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Secret Signs

Jacqueline Guest

Will the secret signs lead Henry to his father?

The Depression has ruined Henry Dafoe's life: his father has left the family farm to look for work, his mother is sick and now she's decided to send Henry to Nova Scotia to work on his uncle's fishboat. But Henry has other ideas. He runs away from home to join his father, which proves more difficult than he imagined. Alone and scared in a strange city, he befriends an old hobo named Clickety Clack, who agrees to take him to find his father. As they make their way across the country, Clickety Clack teaches Henry about the secret signs that hoboes use to communicate with each other.

Hackmatack nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection

"Young readers...will be treated to a good adventure story and a bit of history as well. Highly Recommended." —*Canadian Book Review Annual*



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The Great Bike Rescue

Hazel Hutchins

To track down a bike thief, you've gotta think like one.

The summer is off to a lousy start when Levi's bike is stolen from outside the corner store. He feels even worse because he didn't lock it. But when his best friend Riley's locked bike is stolen the very next day, the boys are determined to get both of them back. When they discover there has been a string of bicycle thefts in the area, the friends hatch several plans to find the culprit. There are so many potential suspects—Steve Morrow and his gang, the tattooed guy who sits at the bus stop, the owners of the secondhand-bike store. There's also Emily Grimshaw, Levi's childhood nemesis, who keeps popping up and showing a peculiar interest in the thefts. Does she really want to help or is she involved somehow? And will Levi and Riley ever see their beloved bikes again?

Silver Falchion Award finalist

R. Ross Annett Award nominee

Rocky Mountain Book Award nominee

Hackmatack Children's Choice Award nominee

Silver Birch Express Award nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

Diamond Willow nominee

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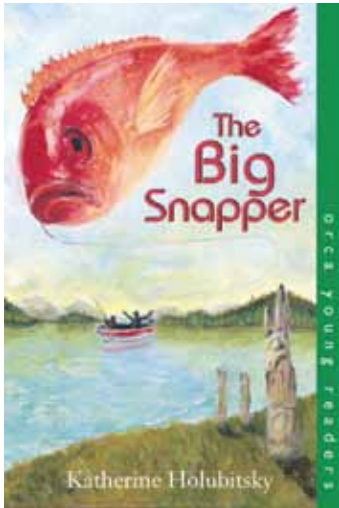
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The Big Snapper

Katherine Holubitsky

Tall tales help Eddie understand the world.

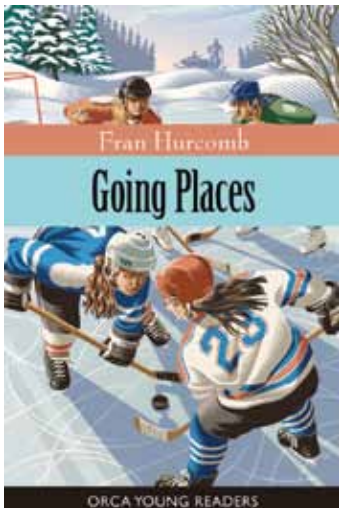
Ten-year-old Eddie lives with his mom and grandparents in a small cabin on the Queen Charlotte Islands. A year earlier, Eddie's dad took the ferry to the mainland and never returned. Eddie loves going fishing with Granddad and listening to his tall tales about the big snapper. Eddie believes if they catch such a fish, it might change his family's fortune. When Granddad falls ill and must go away for treatment, Eddie worries that he too may not come back.

Silver Birch nominee

Diamond Willow nominee

R. Ross Annett Award nominee

Resource Links the Year's Best selection



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Going Places

Fran Hurcomb

Scandal on a ski-doo.

Twelve-year-old Jess and her friends have been playing hockey with the boys in Fort Desperation, Northwest Territories, since they were six years old. They'd like to start a girls' team in their community, but is tiny Fort Desperation ready for it? Somebody is trying to scare them off through acts of vandalism. Not only do Jess and her friends have to organize a team, find a coach and learn to play together, they have to unmask the Hockey Vandal. Can they do it before the Vandal destroys their team's hopes?

Silver Birch Express nominee

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

"An inspiring story about achieving goals, finding pride, and building community. Absolutely delightful." —Carol Morin, *CBC News: Northbeat*



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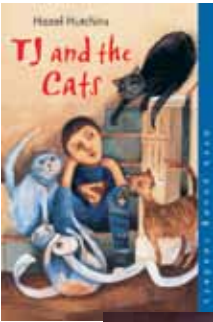
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The TJ Series

Hazel Hutchins

TJ and the Cats
 TJ and the Haunted House
 TJ and the Rockets
 TJ and the Sports Fanatic
 TJ and the Quiz Kids

From her home in the mountain town of Canmore, Alberta, **Hazel Hutchins** has written over forty books for children of all ages. She gives lively presentations at schools and libraries across Canada.

Silver Birch nominee

Red Cedar nominee

Shining Willow nominee

Tiny Torgi Audio Award nominee

Hackmatack nominee

Golden Eagle nominee

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection

Canadian Toy Testing Council Great Books selection

"The book is an unpretentious charmer, just like its hero, and is a solid read for anyone aged seven and up." —*St. Albert Gazette*

"An all-around crowd pleaser by one of our nation's most prolific authors. Recommended." —*CM Magazine*

"The humour is catchy and one cannot help but cheer for the underdog." —*Resource Links*

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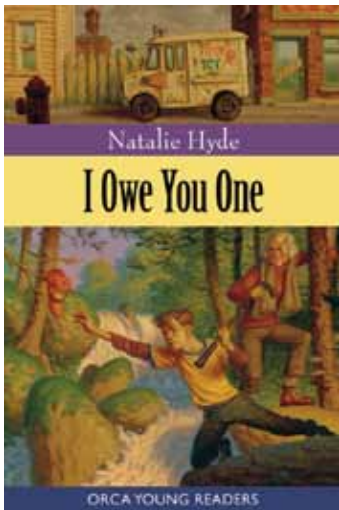
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I Owe You One

Natalie Hyde

Is it okay to use dynamite to pay back a debt?

After almost drowning in a swollen creek, Wes wonders if what his friend Zach says is true: Wes owes a life debt to the old lady who rescued him. It doesn't help that Wes keeps hearing his dead father's voice saying things like, "A man pays his debts, Wes," and "A man always treats a woman with respect, Wes." But how does a guy go about paying back a life debt anyway? And what if it involves a transmission tower, an ice-cream truck and a few sticks of dynamite?

CYBIL Award nominee

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

Silver Birch Express Award nominee

"It is seldom that a text written simply, for younger readers, makes me both giggle and tear up. Natalie Hyde has created characters with humorous traits, realistic flaws, and yet a sense of integrity and community that restore one's faith in people." —*Resource Links*

"Quirky but believable characters populate the small Canadian town, giving a yesteryear feel to a modern story." —*Booklist*



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Jake Reynolds: Chicken or Eagle?

Sara Leach

Jake insists he's not crying wolf.

Eleven-year-old Jake Reynolds wants to save seal pups from the talons of bald eagles, protect his little sister Sierra and confront the wolf he is sure stalks Hidalgo Island. But his best friend Emily calls him a chicken, comforts Sierra when she falls and doesn't believe the wolf exists. Even as Jake hears howling in the night, part of him hopes Emily is right; he may dream of being a hero, but he is terrified by the thought of running into a wolf. When Jake leads Emily into the woods in search of adventure, he finds more than he bargained for—and discovers things about himself that he never knew existed.

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

"A heart-pounding climax and a very satisfying resolution to his fears. Information about living in harmony with the environment is seamlessly incorporated." —*Booklist*

"Introduces concepts about friendship, family responsibility and conserving natural spaces. Recommended." —*CM Magazine*



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Birdie for Now

Jean Little

By helping a small, abused dog, Dickon transforms himself.

Dickon wasn't happy in his old home or his old school. He hopes that in his new neighborhood he will meet children who never knew his old, hyper self, who will like him for who he is now. And he hopes for a dog of his own. Dickon's mother calls him Birdie. She feeds him milk from a teddy bear mug. She worries if he's out of her sight for a moment and she knows how filthy and vicious dogs can be. Dickon is delighted to discover that the Humane Society is right on the other side of the fence behind the new house, but only by disobeying his mother will he ever get close to a real dog.

Red Cedar nominee

CLA Book of the Year for Children nominee

ASPCA Henry Bergh Award nominee

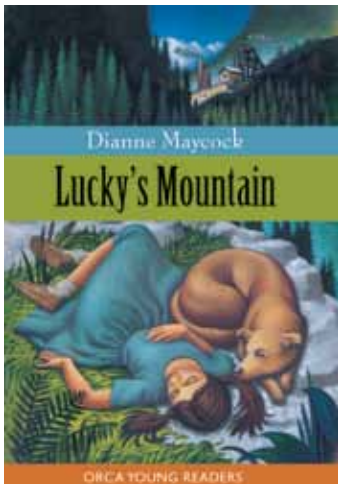
Canadian Toy Testing Council Great Books selection

Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

"A satisfying and heartwarming story." —*School Library Journal*

"Fast-paced action and lively dialogue transport readers through conflict, challenge, suspense, and satisfactory resolution." —*Quill & Quire*



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Japanese—Asunaro Shobo

Lucky's Mountain

Dianne Maycock

What's so lucky about a three-legged dog?

The year is 1935 and Maggie Sullivan's world has fallen apart. Maggie has grown up in a close-knit mining community perched atop a mountain in British Columbia. But now her father has been killed in a mine explosion and she is being forced to leave the only home she has ever known. To make matters worse, she must also leave behind her best friend Lucky, the three-legged dog that was a special gift from Pa.

Silver Birch nominee

Chocolate Lily nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

"A fast moving book...[with a] spunky heroine. Recommended." —*CM Magazine*



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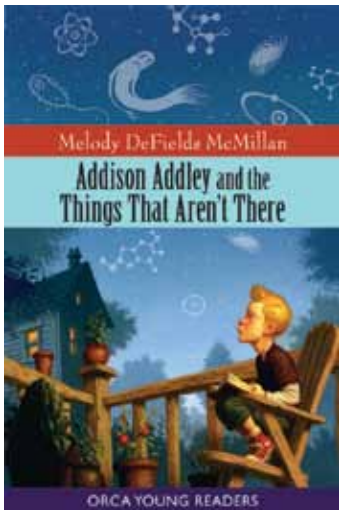
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Addison Addley and the Things That Aren't There

Melody DeFields McMillan

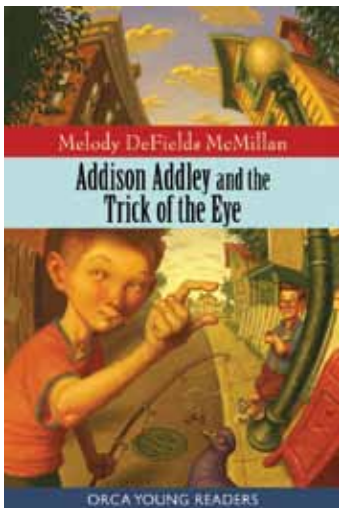
Addison + Public Speaking = Disaster

Addison Addley hates math. He hates public speaking too. Actually, he hates anything that involves work, but he only has a couple of weeks to write and memorize his grade five speech. The problem is, he can't think of a single topic. When he finally comes up with an excellent idea for a speech, it almost writes itself, but it's his poor math skills that make speech day unforgettable.

Silver Birch nominee
Resource Links the Year's Best selection

"An excellent read for young children." —*Resource Links*

"McMillan has aptly drawn on her teaching background to create a believable, imaginative boy... Her word choice and descriptive language blend to create a pleasurable read-aloud story for the classroom." —*CM Magazine*



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Addison Addley and the Trick of the Eye

Melody DeFields McMillan

Addison learns the difference between perspective and illusion.

Addison's mother wants to sell their comfortable old house and move into a townhouse in a new development across town—a shoe box near a shoe factory, Addison calls it. As usual, Addison's brain goes into overdrive as he tries to solve two problems: first he must get his mother to see their old house in a new light, and then he must figure out who is responsible for a rash of neighborhood break-ins that make his mother feel unsafe. With the help of his friend Sam, he puts his own unique spin on optical illusions (and home decor) and ends up surprising everyone, even himself.

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

"Once again McMillan's teaching background has facilitated her talent of blending a fascinating variety of scientific principles with an exciting plot and engaging characters. Highly Recommended." —*CM Magazine*

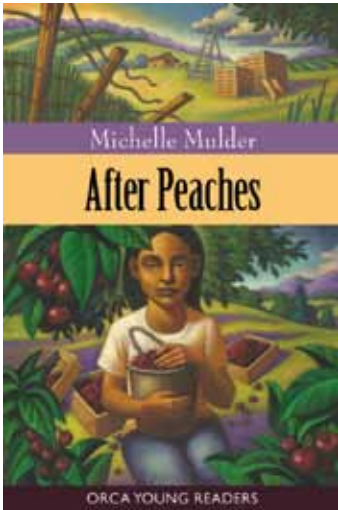
"Readers will...enjoy the fun activities, with the scientific explanations behind optical illusions and magic tricks accessibly conveyed." —*Booklist online*



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Korean—Pulbit Media

After Peaches

Michelle Mulder

Silence is not always golden.

Ten-year-old Rosario Ramirez and her family are political refugees from Mexico, trying to make a new life in Canada. After being teased at school, Rosario vows not to speak English again until she can speak with an accent that's one hundred percent Canadian. Since she and her parents plan to spend the whole summer working on BC fruit farms, she will be surrounded by Spanish speakers again. But when her family's closest friend Jose gets terribly sick, Rosario's plans start to unravel. Neither Jose nor Rosario's parents speak English well enough to get him the help he needs. Like it or not, Rosario must face her fears about letting her voice be heard.

Rocky Mountain Book Award nominee
Bolen Books Children's Book Prize nominee
Chocolate Lily nominee
Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

"Written in first person with clarity and understanding, this chapter book reflects the experiences and emotions of the many immigrant children who work to fit in despite sometimes feeling ill at ease in their new countries." —*Booklist*



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Ten Thumb Sam

Rachel Dunstan Muller

Not even Magic Max can turn Sam into a circus star.

Sam Stringbini, the youngest son in a family of circus performers, is living every kid's dream, except for the fact that he is no good on the high wire, trapezes freak him out and magic mystifies him. When the Triple Top Circus is threatened by repeated acts of sabotage, Sam is the number one suspect. To clear his name, Sam enlists the help of his cousin, Harriet, and discovers that, while he may never be a sword-swallower or a lion-tamer, he just might be able to save the circus.

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection
Resource Links the Year's Best selection

"An absolutely delightful book." —*Resource Links*

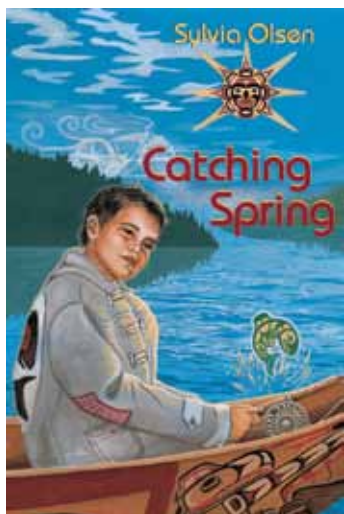
"A cute, cozy mystery for young readers. Recommended." —*CM Magazine*



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Catching Spring

Sylvia Olsen

How can Bobby enter the upcoming fishing derby with no money, no boat and no time?

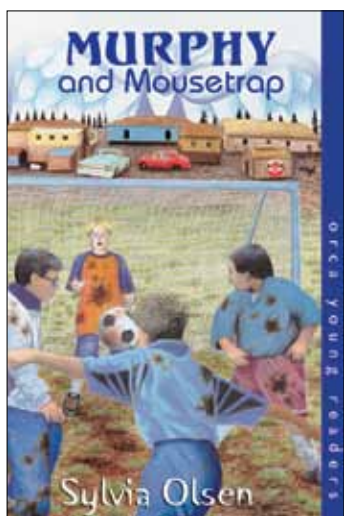
The year is 1957, and Bobby lives on the Tsartlip First Nation reserve on Vancouver Island where his family has lived for generations. He loves his weekend job at the nearby marina. He loves to play marbles with his friends. And he loves being able to give half his weekly earnings to his mother to eke out the grocery money, but he longs to enter the up-coming fishing derby. With the help of his uncle and Dan from the marina his wish just might come true.

Red Cedar nominee

Diamond Willow nominee

Chocolate Lily nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection



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Murphy and Mousetrap

Sylvia Olsen

Murphy and his cat, Mousetrap, never expected to end up back on the reserve.

Murphy's mother has just moved him and their cat, Mousetrap, back to the reserve in Port Alberni. Although he belongs to the Nuu-chah-nulth Nation, Murphy is sure that he won't fit in, and he worries about Mousetrap, who has always been an indoor cat. When a bunch of local boys drag him to their soccer practice, put him in goal and pelt him with balls, he believes that his worst fear has come true. However, he seems to be discovering a new talent at the same time. And perhaps he has misjudged. Being a light-skinned city boy thrust onto a reserve far from the city is not easy, but maybe Murphy has what it takes.

Chocolate Lily nominee

Diamond Willow nominee

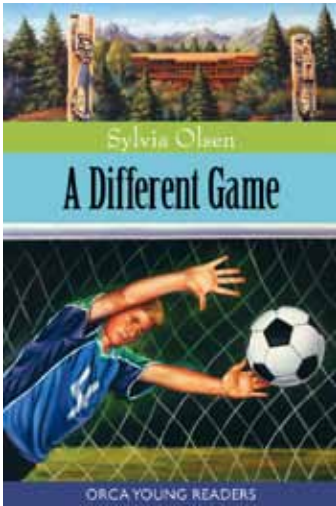
Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection



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Transatlantic Agency

Amy Tompkins
2 Bloor St. E., Suite 3500, Toronto, ON, M4W 1A8, Canada
Telephone: (416) 488 9214 · Fax (416) 488 4531
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A Different Game

Sylvia Olsen

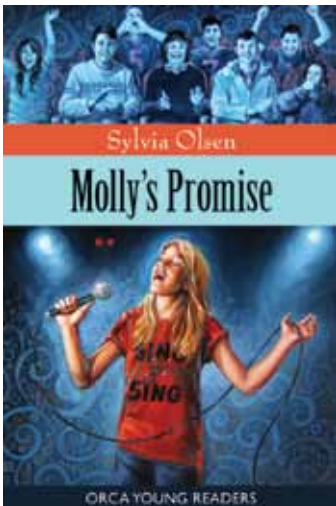
For Murphy and his friends, the playing field is no longer level and the goalposts have been moved.

In this sequel to *Murphy and Mousetrap*, Murphy and his three friends, Danny, Jeff and Albert, are making the transition from the tribal elementary school to the community middle school. They are all trying out for the middle school's soccer team, and they're pretty confident that The Formidable Four will all make the team. But once the tryouts begin, Albert, the tribal-school superstar, plays like a second stringer. Murphy's new friend, Molly, is determined to help the boys find out what's wrong with Albert, but when they discover the truth, they realize that Albert is playing a whole different game.

Silver Birch Express nominee

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection



World Rights Available
(ex – North America)

Molly's Promise

Sylvia Olsen

Some promises are hard to keep.

When Molly learns a talent competition is coming to town, her friend Murphy (*A Different Game*, *Murphy and Mousetrap*) becomes her manager. Molly is certain she is a good singer—she has been singing in her head for as long as she can remember. She doesn't sing out loud because of a promise she made to herself. Years ago, Molly vowed that her mom would be the first one to hear her sing. The only problem is, Molly knows nothing about her mom, who left when Molly was a baby. With the talent competition only weeks away, she has to decide whether to break her promise to herself and let her voice out into the world, or wait for her mother's uncertain return before singing for anyone else.

Diamond Willow nominee

"In this small book with a lot of story packed into it, readers will enjoy the high drama...[and] relate to Molly's uncertainty as she tries something completely new." —*School Library Journal*

"An accessible, easy-to-read text with surprising depth...Deals quietly with issues like race, class, various kinds of sickness, and how families differ...Many readers will identify with and enjoy Molly's story." —*Resource Links*



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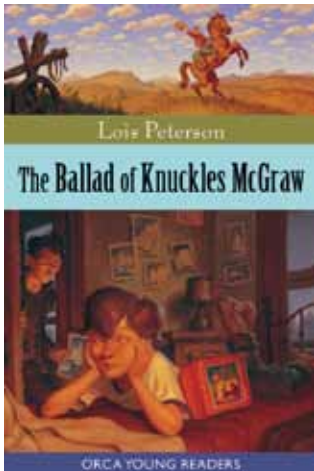
Transatlantic Agency

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The Ballad of Knuckles McGraw

Lois Peterson

After eight-year-old Kevin Mason's mother abandons him, he takes refuge in his fantasy of becoming Knuckles McGraw, a tough cowboy roaming the plains on his legendary horse, Burlington Northern. But instead of riding the range, Kevin is stuck in a foster home with a pierced and tattooed teenager named Ice and a mute girl named Breezy.

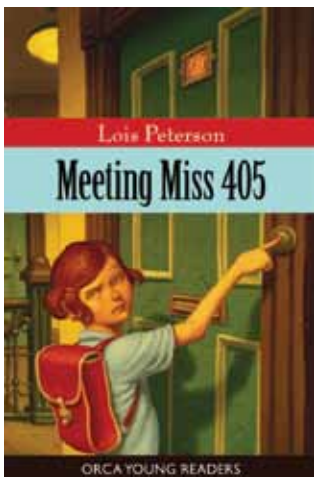
Chocolate Lily nominee

Silver Birch Express nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

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

World Rights Available (ex – North America)



Meeting Miss 405

Lois Peterson

Life is hard enough for Tansy with her depressed mom away indefinitely and her dad making a mess of things at home. But then Dad sends her down the hall to a wrinkly old babysitter named Miss Stella, who Tansy hates on sight. Miss Stella has a unique perspective on life, to say the least, but with the help of her best friend Parveen, Tansy gradually learns to manage all the changes in her life and make unexpected new friends in the process.

Chocolate Lily winner

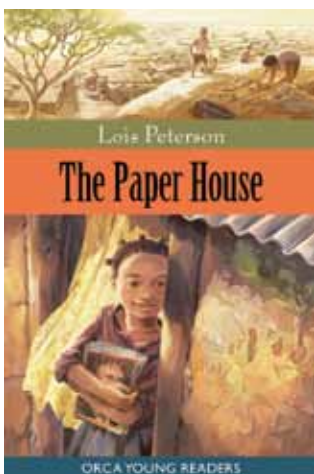
Silver Birch Express nominee

Diamond Willow nominee

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

World Rights Available (ex – North America)



The Paper House

Lois Peterson

Life is hard for ten-year-old Safiyah in the Kibera slum outside Nairobi. Too poor to go to school, she makes a meager living for herself and her grandmother Cucu by selling things she finds at the garbage dump. After using scavenged paper to fix up the inside of the hut, Safiyah starts a mural on the outside. As word of the paper house spreads, Safiyah begins to take pride in her creation. When Cucu collapses after a fire, Safiyah stays at the hospital to help care for her grandmother. While Safiyah is away, her friend Pendo works on the mural, which upsets Safiyah. But when Pendo attracts media attention to the paper house, Safiyah and her grandmother are given a chance of a better life.

Chocolate Lily nominee

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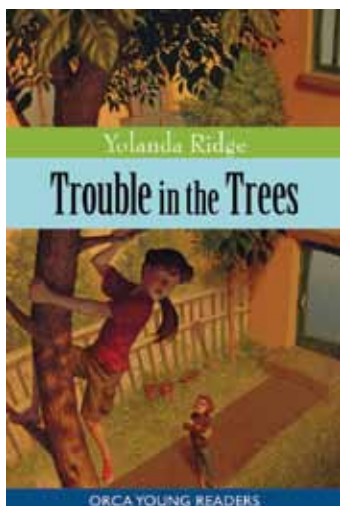
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2 Bloor St. E., Suite 3500, Toronto, ON, M4W 1A8, Canada

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Trouble in the Trees

Yolanda Ridge

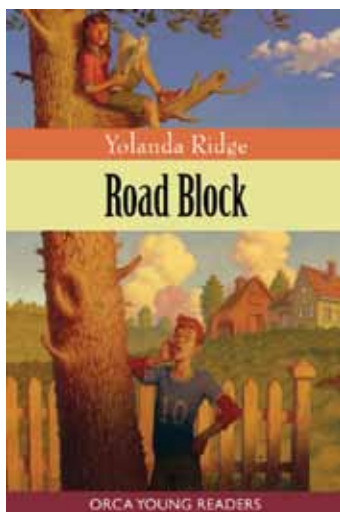
If Bree wants to keep climbing, she'll have to go out on a limb.

Eleven-year-old Bree is happiest when she's climbing the trees at Cedar Grove, her urban townhouse complex. She's the best climber around, even better than an older boy, Tyler, who drives her crazy with his competitiveness. When Ethan, a younger boy, falls from a tree and hurts his elbow, the neighborhood council bans all tree-climbing in Cedar Grove. If Bree chooses to ignore the bylaw, her family could be kicked out of their home, so she vows to change the rule instead. After giving a presentation to the Neighborhood Council, she realizes this is not a battle she can win on her own, but rallying the Cedar Grove troops is more difficult than she imagined.

CYBIL Award nominee
Resource Links the Year's Best selection

"Bree is a great role model for young girls who want to try different things, and make their communities a better place to live." —*Resource Links*

"Bree is a likeable and round character, and her voice rings true as a child frustrated with the world of adults. All the child characters are distinct, and Ridge brings an honesty to their conversations and thoughts. Recommended." —*CM Magazine*



World Rights Available
(ex – North America)

Road Block

Yolanda Ridge

Progress comes at a price that may be too high for Bree's family.

In this sequel to *Trouble in the Trees*, it's the end of grade six and Bree plans to spend the summer hanging around her townhouse complex in Vancouver, climbing trees with her friends. But her parents have other plans for her; she is going to Ontario to stay with her grandma who lives on a farm "in the middle of nowhere." A farm that is about to be destroyed by a superhighway unless Bree can stop it. Convinced that saving the land will end her grandma's unhappiness, Bree tries to rally cousins and neighbors, but instead of finding help, Bree uncovers some shocking things about her relatives. The more Bree gets to know about her extended family and their farm, the more complicated everything becomes. If she isn't able to save the farm, can she at least manage to save her family?

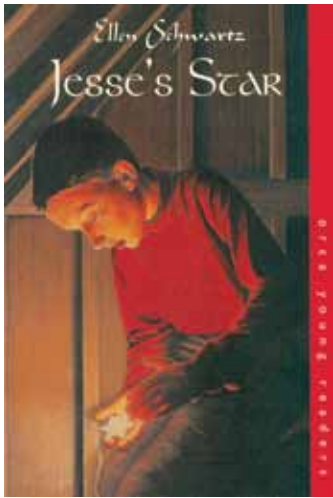
"[Its] strong plot and believable characters make it a very likeable novel indeed." —*CM Magazine*



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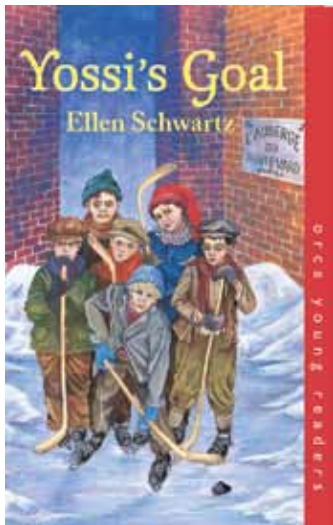
Jesse's Star

Ellen Schwartz

What drove a boy and his family to emigrate to Canada?

Jesse's project about his immigrant ancestors is due tomorrow and he hasn't started. In a last-ditch effort to find some information about his great-great grandfather, Yossi, Jesse rummages through the mess in the attic until he finds a little battered travel case and a Star of David. At first it looks plain and unimportant, but as he holds it in his hand, the star begins to glow. Jesse is in for the surprise, and adventure, of his life as he finds himself becoming the star's first owner, his own great-great grandfather.

Now a boy in Russia in the 1880s, Yossi lives in a little village, watched over by thieving soldiers who hate the Jewish community and often raid their crops before they can be stored for the winter. The whole village prays for the opportunity to slip away from their Russian keepers and escape to Canada, a land where they can be free. And nobody, even his parents, think Yossi is old enough to be of any help. But Yossi is out to prove them all wrong. If his plan works, he will set the whole village free. And he must do it alone.



World Rights Available
(ex – North America)

Yossi's Goal

Ellen Schwartz

Yossi dreams of playing hockey—but he has no skates.

Yossi Mendelsohn works hard to help his family survive after they flee Russia to find a better life in Montreal. He sells newspapers and carries bundles from the garment factory. Yossi longs to play “le hockey” with the French boys, but he has no skates. When his father falls ill and his sister and her fiancé organize a walkout at the factory, Yossi's dream of lacing on skates seems farther away than ever.

Chocolate Lily nominee

Silver Birch nominee

Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection

“Boys will enjoy this engaging fast-paced novel. Highly Recommended.” —*CM Magazine*

“Believable, engrossing and provides numerous opportunities for exploring the difficulties of immigrants.” —*Canadian Teacher Magazine*



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Seconds

Sylvia Taekema

When it comes to cross-country running, Jake does everything right. He eats all the right foods, trains like crazy and reads articles about running in his spare time. There's nothing easy about running, but the hardest part for Jake is that, at the end of the day, Spencer Solomon always wins first place. Determined to take the lead for once, Jake continues to push himself even more. His rigorous training schedule leaves no time for friends, family, pizza or joking around. When Jake is invited to join the Diamond Running Club, he thinks he's found an opportunity to train harder. Instead, with the help of his coach, Jake begins to rediscover what he used to love about running in the first place.

Silver Birch Express Award nominee
Diamond Willow nominee

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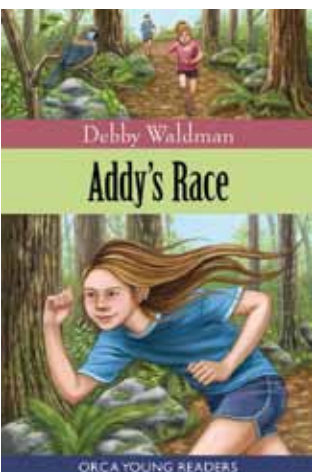
The Last Loon

Rebecca Upjohn

Spending Christmas holidays in the wilderness with his ex-con aunt Mag is not Evan's idea of a good time. What's worse is that everyone he meets—even his new friend Cedar—is making a big deal about a loon that is hanging around on the lake. Why should Evan care about a dumb bird? When he discovers that the loon will die without help, he realizes he does care, but rescuing the wild bird turns out to be whole lot harder, and more dangerous, than he expected.

IODE Jean Throop Book Award—Toronto Chapter
Silver Birch Express nominee
Resource Links the Year's Best selection

“A beginning chapter book with a good story and a clear environmental agenda.”—*Kirkus Reviews*
World Rights Available (ex – North America)



Addy's Race

Debby Waldman

Addy has worn hearing aids for as long as she can remember. Her mother tells her this makes her special, but now that Addy's in grade six, she wants to be special for what she's done. When Addy joins the school running club to keep her best friend, Lucy, company, she discovers she is a gifted runner. Lucy isn't, which is problematic. Further troubles surface when Addy gets paired on a school project with Sierra, a smart, self-assured new classmate who wears a cochlear implant. Addy is surprised to discover hearing loss is all they have in common—and a shared disability is not enough of a foundation for a friendship. More importantly, Addy comes to understand that she is defined by more than her hearing loss. She has the power to choose how people will see her, and she does.

Hackmatack nominee

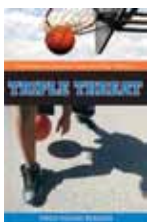
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The Eric Walters Basketball Series

Eric Walters

Three on Three
Full Court Press
Hoop Crazy
Long Shot
Road Trip
Off Season
Underdog
Triple Threat
Boot Camp
Home Team

Eric Walters began writing in 1993 as a way to entice his grade five students into becoming more interested in reading and writing. At the end of the year, one student suggested that he try to have his story published. Since that first creation, Eric has published nearly seventy novels. His novels have all become best-sellers and have won over eighty awards. Often his stories incorporate themes that reflect his background in education and social work and his commitment to humanitarian and social-justice issues. He is a tireless presenter, speaking to over 70,000 students per year in schools across the country. Eric lives in Mississauga, Ontario, with his wife and three children.

Rocky Mountain Book Award winner

Best of the Best North of the 49th

Red Cedar nominee

Resource Links the Year's Best selection

Canadian Children's Book Centre Our Choice selection

Canadian Children's Book Centre Best Books selection

"Eric Walters is an extremely competent writer...[His characters] work and play hard, are considerate of others, [and are] full of confidence and enthusiasm...Fans of the series will be pleased to have another story about Nick and Kia. Recommended." —*CM Magazine*

"Walters' text is approachable for all readers beginning to feel comfortable with chapter books." —*Quill & Quire*

"The reading is easy and fast paced and basketball fans will love the excitement of the competition." —*Resource Links*

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