



NIMBUS PUBLISHING

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CHILDREN'S CATALOGUE 2019

Nimbus Publishing is the largest Canadian book publisher east of Toronto. Our office is in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

We produce approximately 50 new titles a year on a range of topics, including: picture books, fiction, and non-fiction for children, memoir and literary non-fiction, social and cultural history, nature photography, politics, and biography. In 2005, we introduced our successful fiction imprint, Vagrant Press. Several novels have since been optioned for film.

In 2012, Nimbus Publishing was awarded the Retail Council of Canada Small Press Publisher of the Year Award.

In 2017, *Publishers Weekly* named Nimbus Publishing one of North America's fastest-growing independent publishers.



3660 Strawberry Hill Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3K 5A9 Canada

Tel: +1 902-455-4286
Toll-free: +1 800-646-2879
customerservice@nimbus.ca

General Manager: Terrilee Bulger (tbulger@nimbus.ca)
Rights Manager: Emily MacKinnon (emackinnon@nimbus.ca)

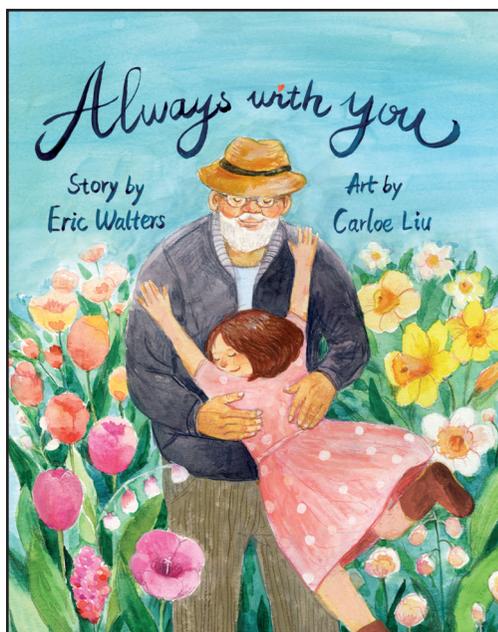
The 101st book from acclaimed children's author Eric Walters!

With gentle watercolours and real fold-out letters, Always With You is a timeless story about grief, growing up, and discovering that those we love never truly leave us.

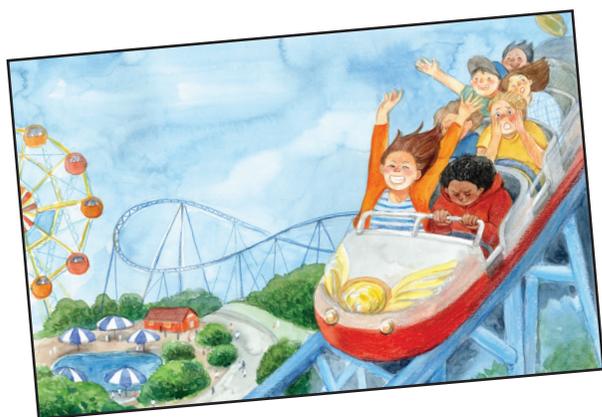
Published: Spring 2019

Age range: 3–7

Rights available: World

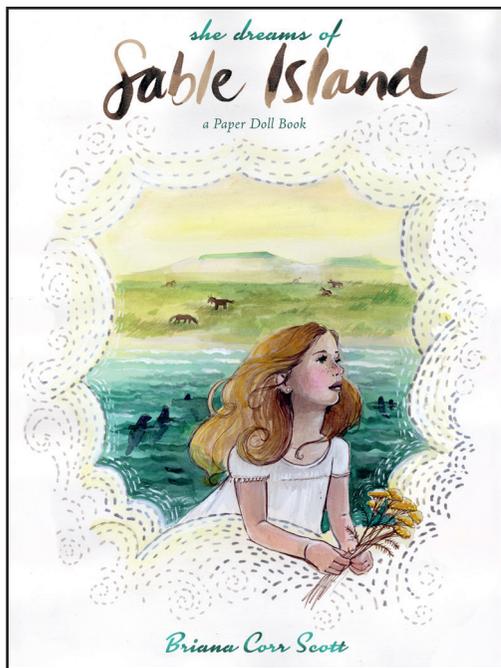


“Emily woke. On her night table, a letter was propped against her grandfather’s picture. Her name was printed in pencil crayon the way only her grandfather did it, with each letter a different colour. He was always so kind and funny and silly...and now he was gone. Carefully, she picked up the envelope and opened it...”



In this poignant story, we follow young Emily who has recently lost her grandfather. As she grows, she discovers a series of letters he left behind for her, offering grandfatherly advice at life’s most pivotal moments: first day of high school, graduation day, her wedding, and ending with the birth of her own child.

Each letter is lovingly signed “Always with you,” providing Emily comfort and love at each stage of her life.



*“The island is a crescent
At last it comes in view
A moon eclipsed by ocean
White sands against dark blue.”*

*Horses come to greet her
As she stands on mounds of sand
Where nature lives unguarded
Where creatures rule the land.”*

Published: Spring 2019

Age range: 3–7

Rights available: World

In the middle of the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Nova Scotia, Sable Island is home to herds of wild horses, many species of birds and plants, and the largest grey seal colony in the world. It is known around the world for its dangerous coast and the hundreds of ships that have wrecked there.



This wonderful read-aloud poem is perfect for bedtime, and the fact-filled exploration will ignite curious readers who dream of adventuring to one of the most remarkable—and untouched—landscapes. **Includes a paper doll and clothes!**



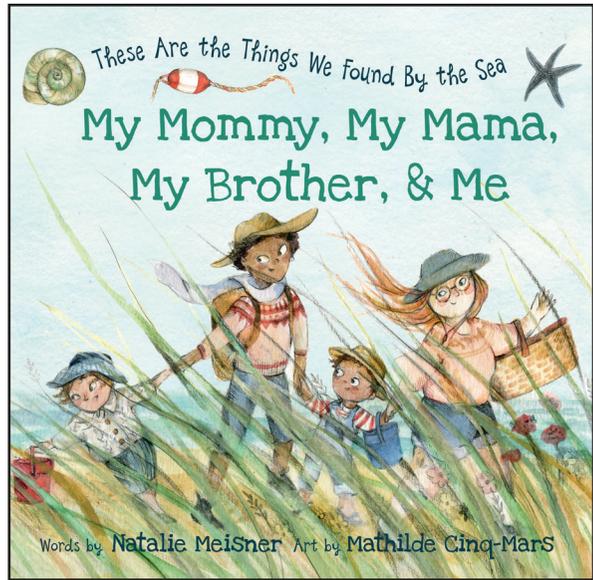
*“And these are the things
we find by the sea, my
Mommy, my Mama, my
brother, and me.”*

*A gentle, poetic ode to
beachcombing and the
seaside life featuring a
biracial, two-mom family.*

Published: Spring 2019

Age range: 3–7

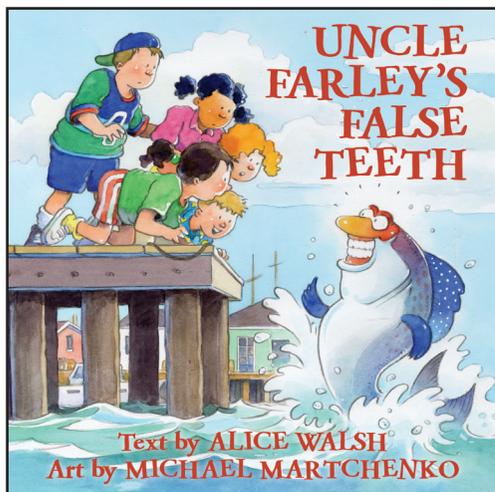
Rights available: World



Living by the sea offers myriad charms for the two young brothers in this ode to beachcombing. When the fog disappears, the path to the city’s beach beckons, with all the treasures it leaves behind: shells, rocks, lobster traps, buoys, fused glass, urchins, a note in a bottle. But best of all is all the neighbours the family meets along the way.



With glorious watercolours by renowned Quebec artist Mathilde Cinq-Mars, the illustrations capture the warmth and magic of time spent with family. Sure to be an instant classic with families of all shapes and sizes.



*From the illustrator of
Canadian classics like
Robert Munsch's
The Paperbag Princess
and
Thomas's Snowsuit*

Published: Spring 2019

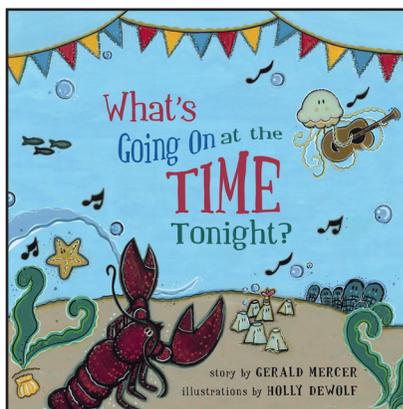
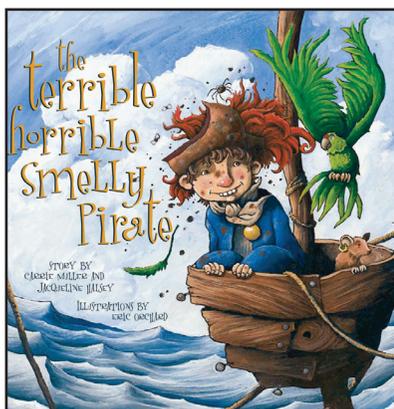
Age range: 4–8

Rights available: World

Every afternoon, Uncle Farley takes a three-hour nap. And every afternoon, he pops his false teeth out of his mouth and into a glass of water. One day, Morgan decides she'll steal them to show her friends. But while they're on the wharf oohing and ahing, Morgan accidentally drops Uncle Farley's teeth into the ocean! She thinks they're gone forever until she sees a fabulous fish...with a fabulous set of teeth in its mouth.

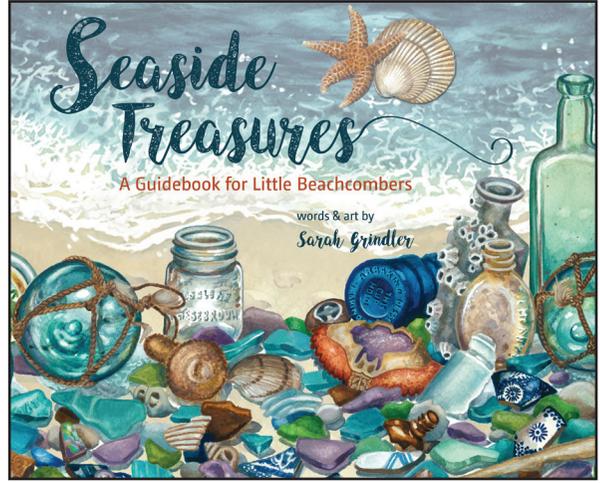
Morgan and her friends pool their resources to get the teeth back—Ian's dad is a fisherman, Zakiya's mom is a dentist, Markee's dad is a police officer—but the fabulous fish just won't spit them out. Will Morgan be able wrangle Uncle Farley's false teeth back before he wakes up?

Related interest from our backlist:



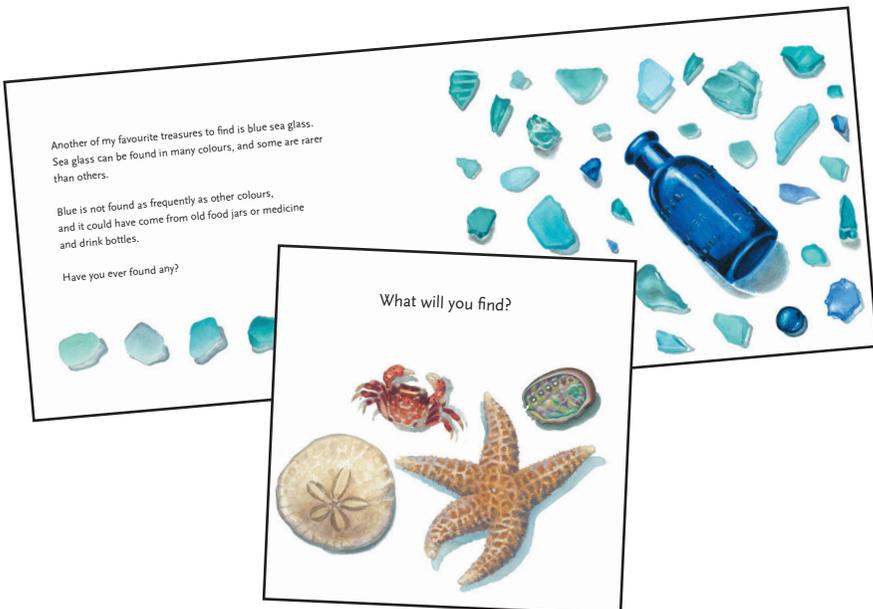
*A non-fiction guide
to all the wonders
that wash up
on the sand, from
sea glass to artifacts.*

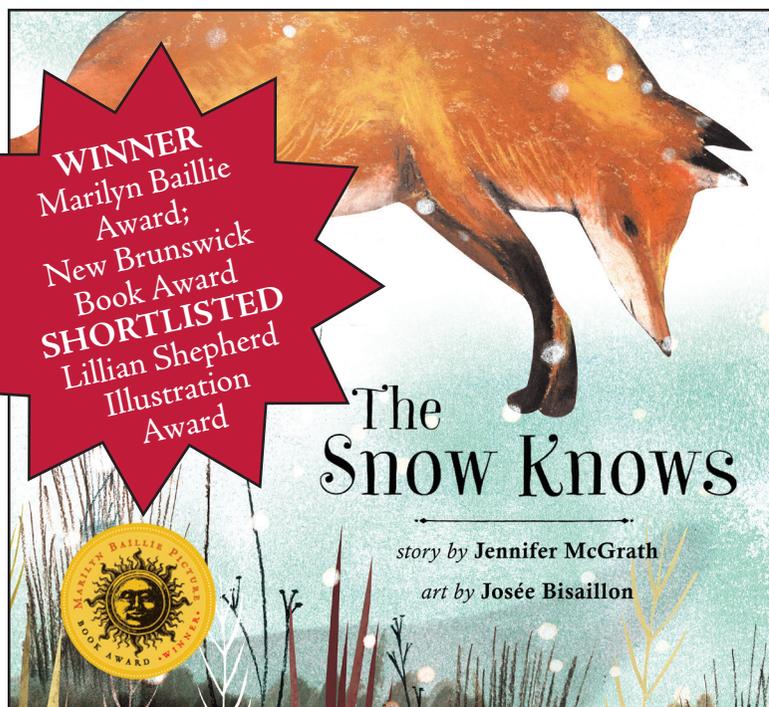
Published: Spring 2019
Age range: 4–8
Rights available: World



An essential beach-combing handbook for kids. With helpful advice, like “make sure no one’s home!” before taking a snail shell, and fascinating facts, like how sea glass is formed and where glass fishing floats come from.

Author and illustrator Sarah Grindler’s images are vivid and realistic, showing readers what to look for by the ocean—from purple sea urchins (that otters love to munch on) to mussel shells, sand dollars, and every colour of sea glass—and encouraging all of us to imagine where those treasures may have come from.





Published: Fall 2016

Age range: 2–4

Rights available: World, excl. French Canadian

*“The snow knows
where the rabbit goes.
It knows the hush-shush
of the owl’s wing.”*

This lyrical prose poem introduces readers of all ages to animals both domestic (a tabby cat by the wood stove) and wild (a slinking lynx; a choir of coyotes), celebrating wilderness and outdoor play.

The hide-and-seek illustrations by celebrated paper collage artist Josée Bisaillon will have readers young and old searching the pages for clues as to what creatures will appear on the next page.

*“That feeling of anticipation
—of pure excitement—is my
favourite part of Christmas.*

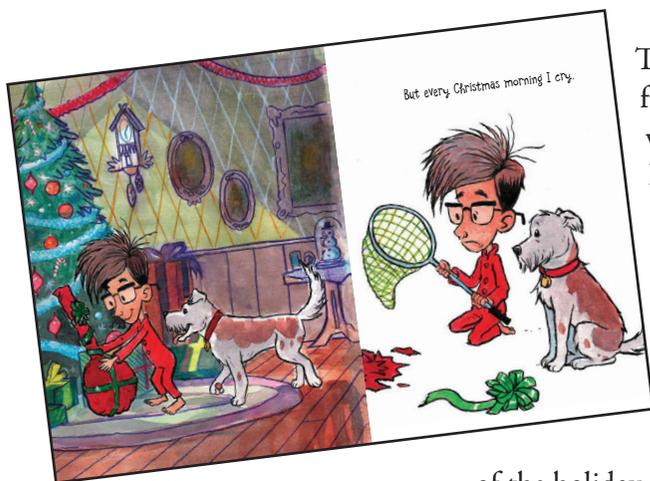
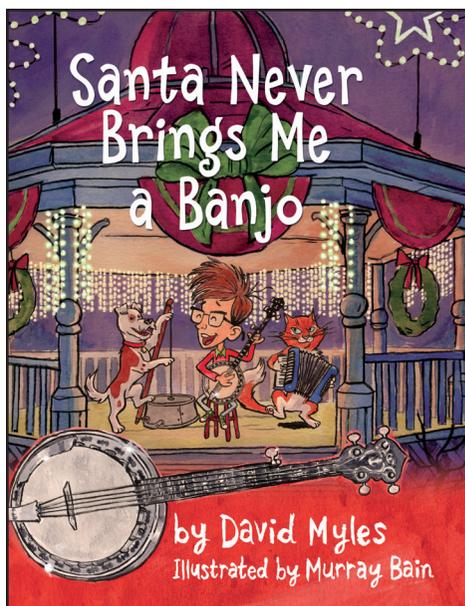
*My hope is that I’ve captured a
bit of that joy in these pages, and
passed it along to you.”*

—David Myles

Published: Fall 2018

Age range: 4–8

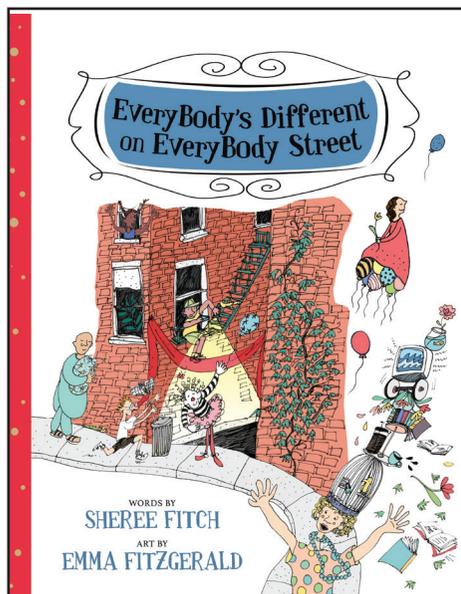
Rights available: World,
excl. Canadian French



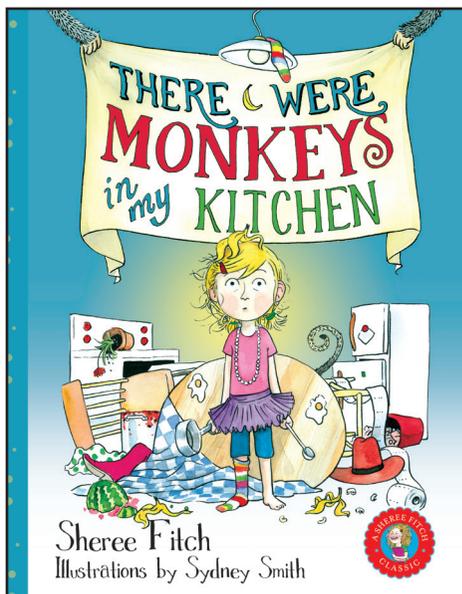
The celebrated holiday song from multiple-award-winning musician David Myles is now available as a bright and fun picture book. Young David writes frantic letters to Santa every year requesting a banjo, but to no avail.

Follow the ups and downs of the holiday season with David, his furry friends, and his family, as he pines for his most-wished-for gift.

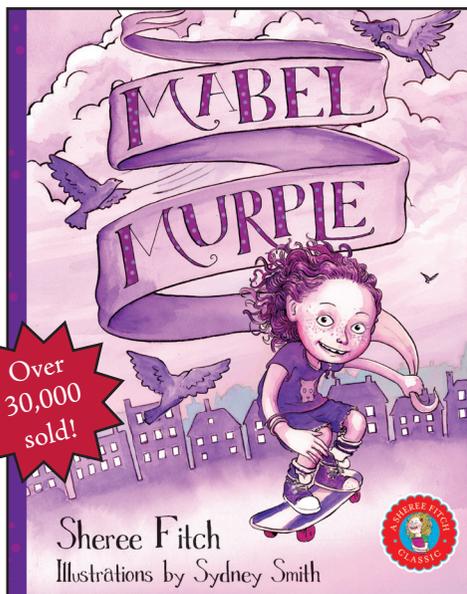
Featuring illustrations from the animation studio that created the song’s well-loved music video, a special holiday message from David, and original sheet music for those who wish to play along, *Santa Never Brings Me A Banjo* is sure to inspire many a holiday singalong.



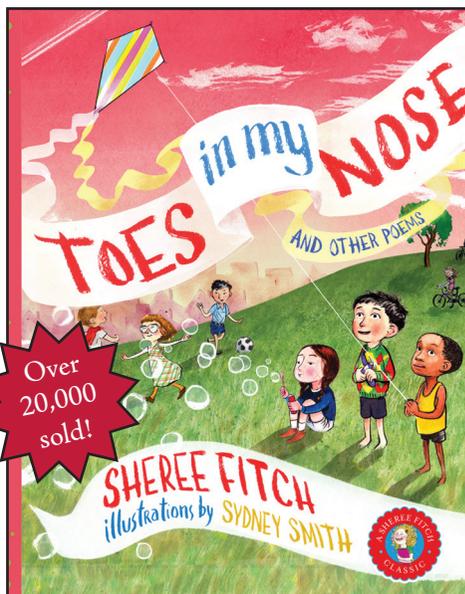
Published: Spring 2018
Age range: 4–7
Rights available: World



Published: Spring 2013
Age range: 4–8
Rights available: World



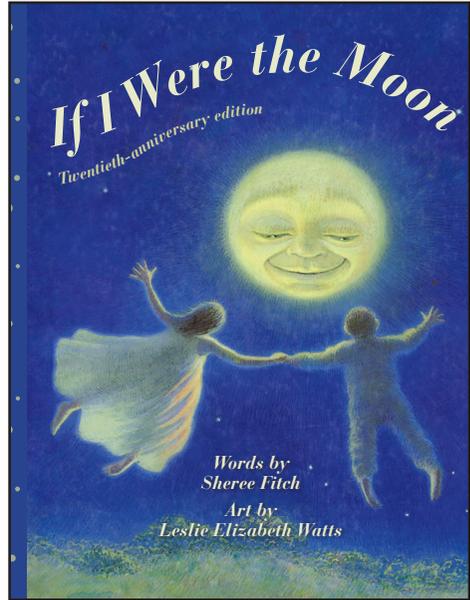
Published: Fall 2011
Age range: 4–8
Rights available: World



Published: Fall 2012
Age range: 4–8
Rights available: World

*“If I were the moon
I’d shine down my light
Right into your bedroom
To warm up the night.”*

*If I were the ocean
I’d sail you away
Then bring you back home
At the end of the day.”*



Published: Spring 2019

Age range: 2–4

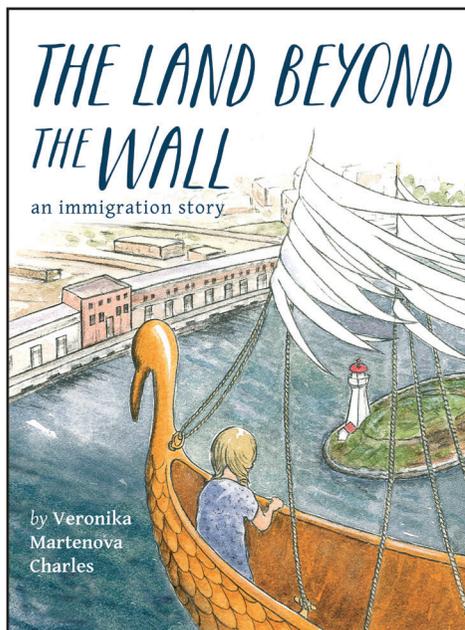
Rights available: World

Follow a young girl into her imagination where she becomes an ocean, a tree, a flower, a snowflake—fantasy worlds that she openly and joyously wants to share with the listener. It’s a book full of action and movement—dancing, sliding, sailing, climbing—but it is, at the same time, soft and peaceful.

The illustrations by Leslie Elizabeth Watts thoughtfully mirror Fitch’s lyrical text and add magic and colour to the world Fitch invites us to share. Watts’ colours are bright, warm, and inviting, and will tempt the reader and listener to explore again and again.



Sheree Fitch is affectionately known as Canada’s “female Dr. Seuss.” Her books have won the Mr. Christie Award for Children’s Book of the Year, the Vicky Metcalf Award for an Inspirational Body of Work in Children’s Literature, among many others. She is also a fierce advocate for early literacy.



“Given the abundance of stories about refugees and immigration released over the last couple of years, it might seem that [The Land Beyond the Wall] is simply another among the throng. But it is something different: a very personal, fairy-tale tinged story based in part on the author’s own experience.”

—Quill & Quire

Published: Spring 2017

Age range: 4–9

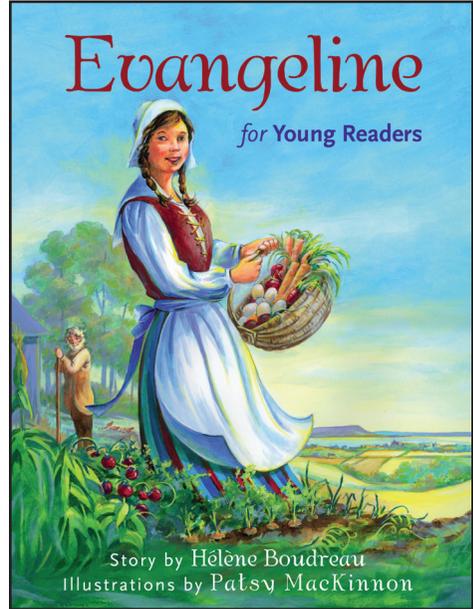
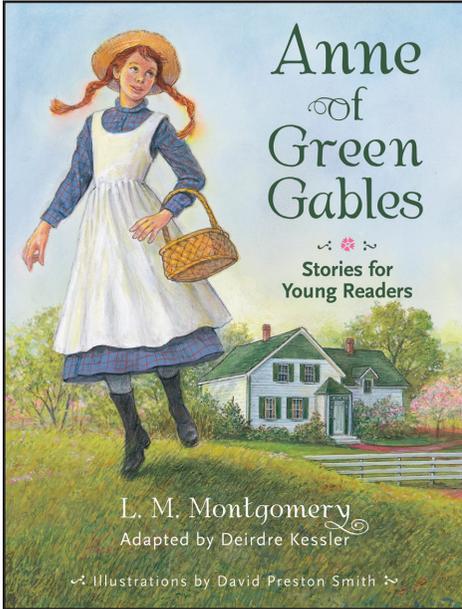
Rights available: World

Emma lives on the grey, cold side of the Iron Curtain, where people speak in whispers and no flowers grow. On the other side of the wall there is happiness and colour, but she can never go there.

One day, Emma’s parents disappear and she is sent to live with her miserable Aunt Lily. She disapproves of Emma’s drawing and dashes her niece’s dream of becoming an artist. That is, until a strange boat arrives to whisk her away, and Emma leaves her lonely, drab world behind forever.

Emma arrives in a strange land where she cannot speak the language, and discovers her voice through art. *The Land Beyond the Wall* is a beautifully rendered allegory that uses magic realism to confront the harsh realities of immigration and the universal struggle of finding one’s place in the world.

Veronika Martenova Charles grew up in Prague, Czechoslovakia. When her grandmother put a stop to her drawing classes, she became a singer instead. After her dramatic immigration to Canada, she studied art at university and became an award-winning author and illustrator.



Published: Spring 2008
Age range: 6–9
Rights available: World

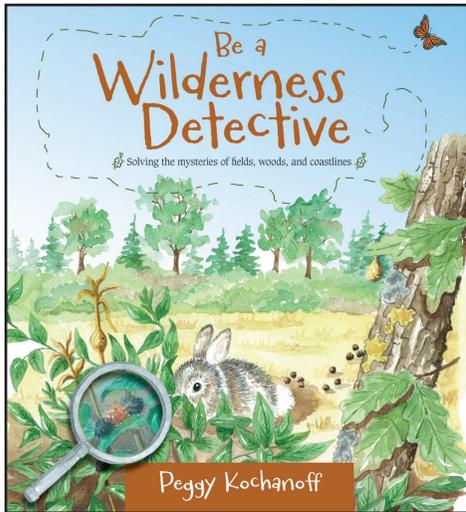
Published: Spring 2013
Age range: 6–9
Rights available: World

Anne Shirley is hot-tempered, melodramatic, impulsive, accident-prone, and one of the best-loved literary characters in the world. From her feud with Gilbert Blythe to her near-drowning in a pond, to the infamous “incident” with the currant wine, Anne’s adventures come to life for a whole new generation.

With 28 colourful, historically accurate illustrations, this book will delight readers too young for chapter books, but nonetheless enthralled by the enduring appeal of Lucy Maud Montgomery’s timeless classic.

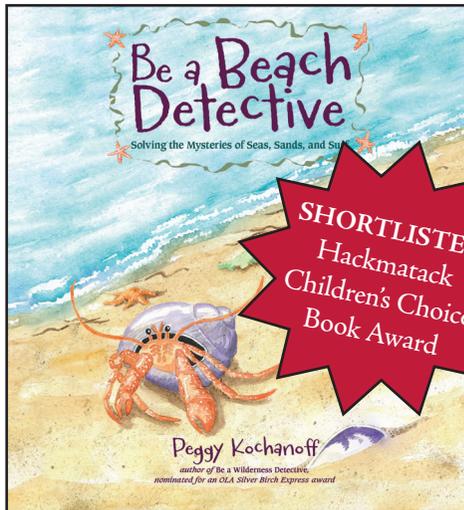
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow’s epic poem * vang line* (originally published in 1847) tells the story of two young people deported from beautiful Acadie just before they are to be married, and their search for each other that lasts the rest of their lives.

The tragic story of Evangeline and Gabriel is now available for a new generation. In simple prose true to Longfellow’s original poem, H el ene Boudreau describes the Utopian village of Grand-Pr e, the traumatizing Deportation, and Evangeline’s relentless search for her one true love.

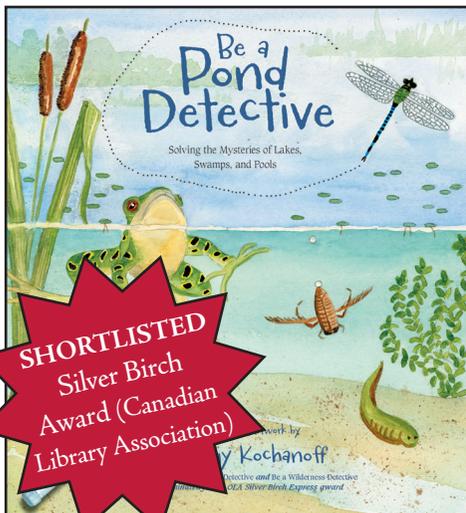


Published: Spring 2013
Rights available: World, excl. Chinese

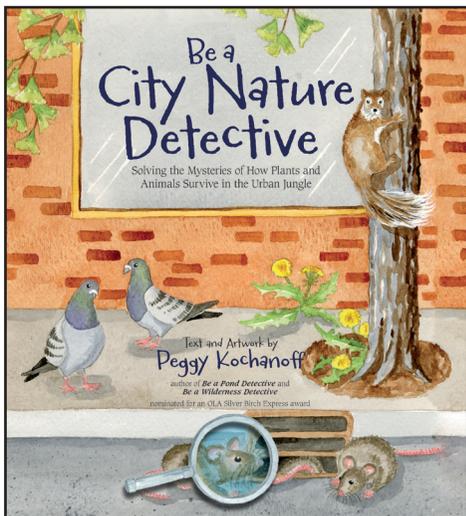
"Be a Weather Detective" coming fall 2019



Published: Spring 2015
Rights available: World, excl. Chinese



Published: Spring 2016
Rights available: World, excl. Chinese



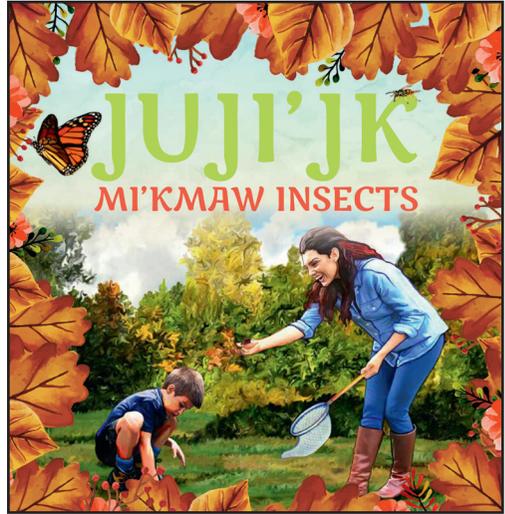
Published: Spring 2018
Rights available: World

A vividly illustrated picture book featuring over 40 common bugs and insects, including a pronunciation guide and additional resources.

Published: Spring 2019

Pages: 40

Rights available: World

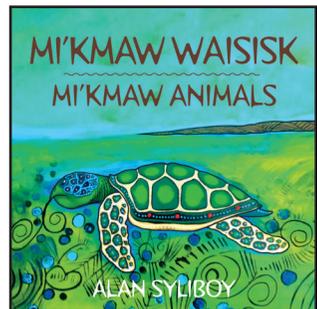
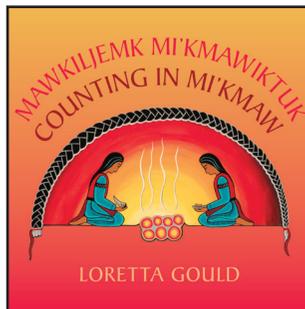
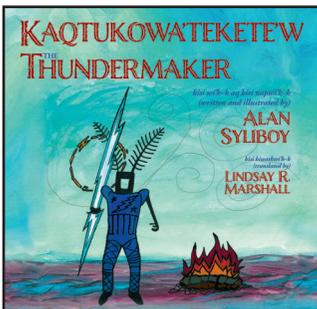


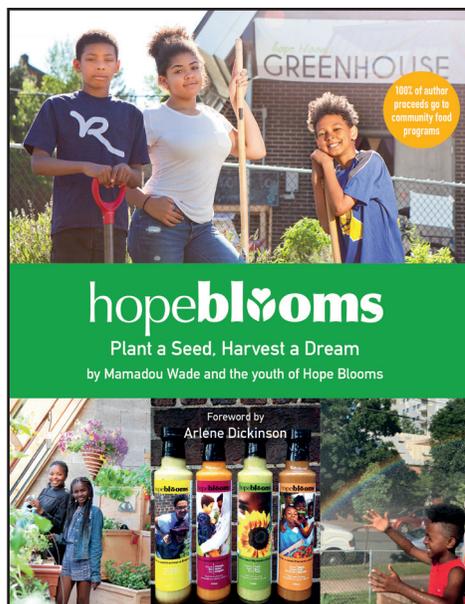
The English language is noun-based, referring to people, places, and things. *Juji'jk*, an illustrated bilingual guide to over 40 common bugs and insects, showcases the beautiful verb-based Mi'kmaw language.

Featuring vibrant digital paintings from Mi'kmaw artist Gerald Gloade and concise, fascinating descriptions, *Juji'jk* will have you searching out “the one that looks like a little owl” (moth) and “the one that sings to you before she bites you” (mosquito).

Created to promote and preserve the Mi'kmaw language, this book includes a pronunciation guide, a Mi'kmaw–English matching game, a glossary of terms, and a child-friendly version of the Smith-Francis orthography.

Other bilingual books about Mi'kmaw culture:





Back in 2013, a team of young kids from Hope Blooms presented on CBC TV's popular reality investor series, Dragon's Den.

They went in asking for a \$10,000 investment to help meet the growing demand for their home-grown herb salad dressings, the Hope Blooms kids brought tears to the eyes of several Dragons and went home with four contributions of \$10,000 each.

Published: Fall 2018

Age range: 10–12

Pages: 128

Rights available: World

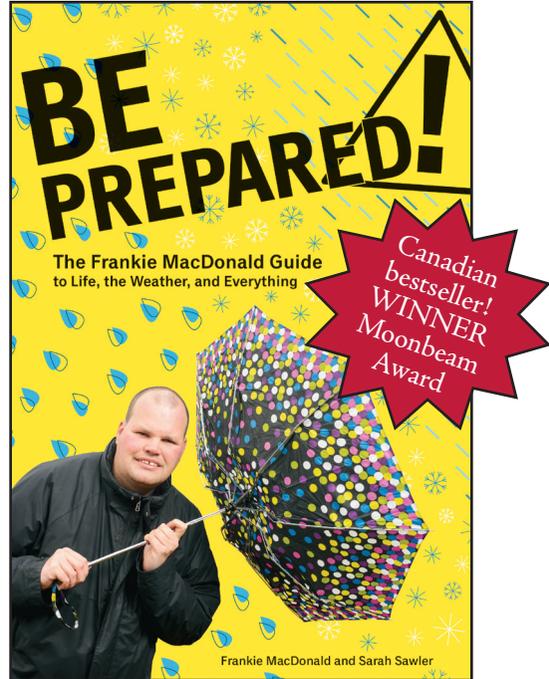
There is an old saying that it takes a village to raise a child, but the youth of Hope Blooms, an inner-city initiative that engages at-risk youth, have found that sometimes it takes the children to raise the village.

Jessie Jollymore, a dietitian who has worked in inner city health for 15 years, witnesses the challenges people face every day with food insecurity, isolation, discrimination, and poverty. An idea bloomed: create sustainable, youth-driven business by growing local food, creating and selling products, and mentoring youth to become leaders of change. This led to over 50 youth ages 6 to 18 leading the way in growing over 3,000 pounds of organic produce yearly for their community, building innovative outdoor classrooms, and launching a successful salad dressing enterprise, with 100% of proceeds going back to growing more food for the community, and scholarships for youth.

In this inspiring, vibrant book, the youth behind Hope Blooms tell the story of the social enterprise they built from the soil up. Includes youth's words of wisdom, stories, original recipes, and poetry, and over 75 colour photos.

“Throughout Be Prepared!, we learn about how [Frankie] turned his interests and obsessions into a kind of success and fame no one could’ve predicted.

And that’s what makes this book so great: part-science guide, part life guide, it prepares you for a lot more than you might expect.”
—OwlKids Magazine



Published: Spring 2018

Age range: 7–10

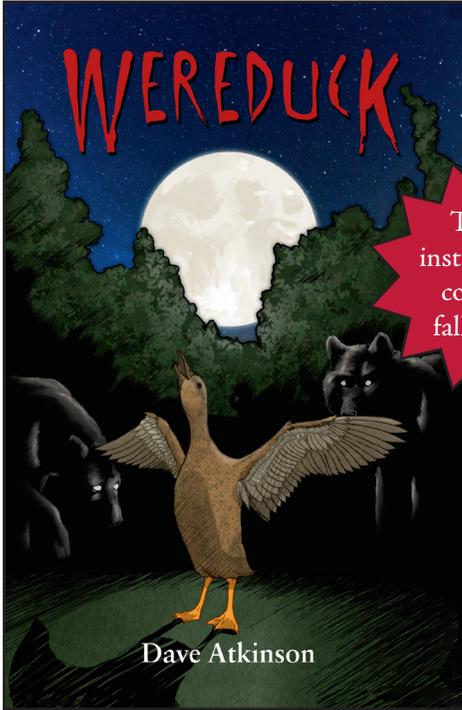
Pages: 48

Rights available: World

Frankie MacDonald is an autistic amateur weatherman and a veritable YouTube sensation: he has over 190,000 followers, and his weather reports and comedy videos regularly receive hundreds of thousands of views and shares. His signature earnest style and catchphrase—“be prepared!”—have proved enormously popular around the world.

This brand-new book, starring YouTube’s favourite weather reporter Frankie MacDonald and written by author Sarah Sawler, shares stories from Frankie’s early years growing up with autism, along with facts about all things sunny, rainy, snowy, and stormy. Ever wonder how clouds are formed, or how meteorologists can predict the weather? Let Frankie be your guide!

Filled with pictures, graphics, charts, and advice from Frankie himself, this book has everything you need to Be Prepared for all kinds of weather.



Third
installment
coming
fall 2019



Published: Fall 2014

Pages: 142

Rights available: World

Kate's family has told her that on her thirteenth birthday she'll hear the "Whooooo" call of the moon, and howl back, and become a werewolf just like them. But she doesn't want to be a werewolf. She's always felt more like a...duck.

On the night of her thirteenth birthday, Kate stands near her family's cabin and hears the moon calling, but it sounds like more of a "whooo?" as in "who are you?" and Kate does what she's always wanted to do—she quacks. Funny and irreverent.

Published: Fall 2016

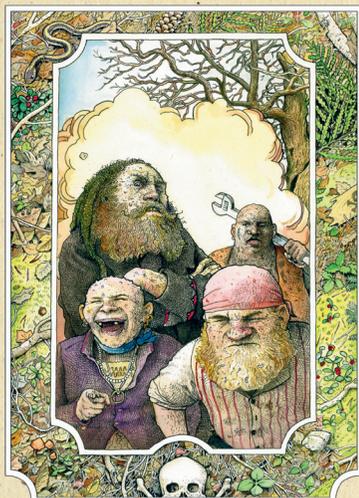
Pages: 184

Rights available: World

Kate's family has been uprooted thanks to a fellow werewolf, Marcus, selling them out to a sleazy tabloid journalist. When Kate discovers her great-great-grandmother's recipe "Cure for Werewolf," she can't help but wonder—is it really possible? Could she one day resist the call of the moon? Could her family be free from the constant threat of exposure?

When Marcus's son, John, books a desperate train journey at the full moon, the ancient recipe and its arcane ingredients are put to the test.

The Dread Crew PIRATES OF THE BACKWOODS



KATE INGLIS
ILLUSTRATIONS SYDNEY SMITH

Published: Spring 2010
Pages: 196
Rights available: World

When Eric Stewart starts finding mysterious objects in the woods near his house, marked with the unmistakable sign of a pirate's skull and crossbones, he does what any young boy would do: he becomes a pirate hunter. He tracks the land pirates, collecting evidence of their junk-scraping and mayhem, but never manages to catch sight of them. But one day, all signs of the pirates completely vanish.

Little does Eric know that friendly old Grampa Joe next door is harbouring pirates in his own backyard!

Flight of the Griffons



KATE INGLIS
ILLUSTRATIONS SYDNEY SMITH

Published: Spring 2014
Pages: 288
Rights available: World

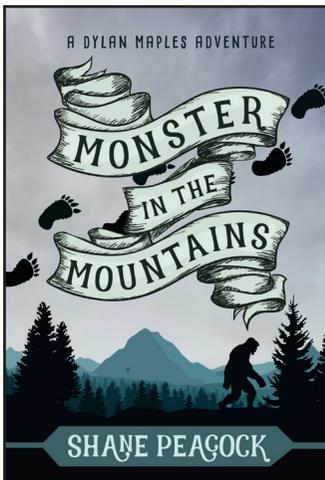
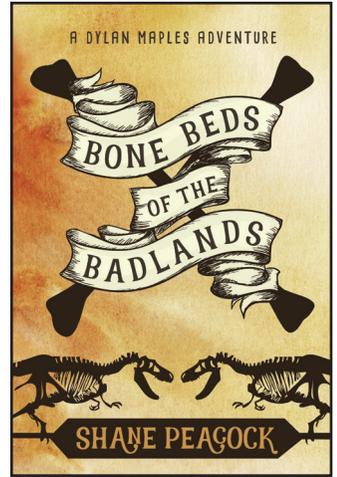
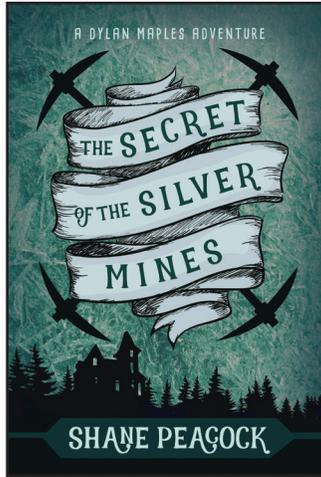
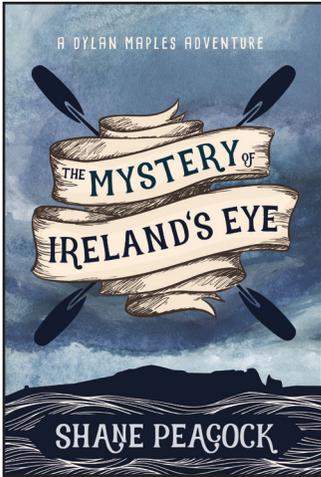
Hearing-impaired Missy is co-opted by the head of the pirate union to spy on a blacklisted pirate crew that has fallen off the radar: the Griffons. Nobody is sure what the Griffons are doing, though rumours abound of the havoc they wreak in the name of Mother Nature. With pluck and ingenuity, Missy finds her way aboard their airship, and starts spying.

But the Griffons are not anything like she expects, and Missy quickly learns that there may be more to these renegade pirates than meets the eye.

DYLAN MAPLES ADVENTURE SERIES

Adventure just has a way of finding Dylan Maples. With each novel set in a different part of Canada, follow along as Dylan gets tangled up with an intriguing cast of characters and an array of thrilling events.

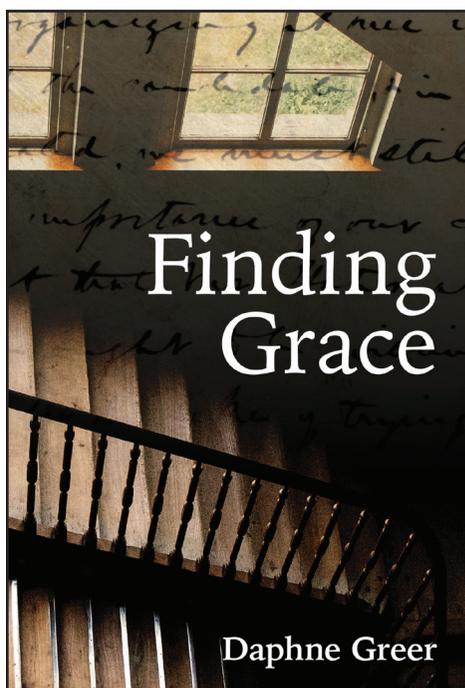
From mysterious mines to lonely islands and dangerous deserts, these fast-paced adventures will appeal to even the most reluctant of readers. Action packed and reminiscent of the Hardy Boys, these are must-read books for kids of all ages.



“A compelling work of historical fiction that is a poignant family drama. Although readers are only briefly introduced to Dotty, she is nonetheless a beautifully realized character. [...] The multi-layered plot is intricately woven and well paced.”

—Atlantic Books Today

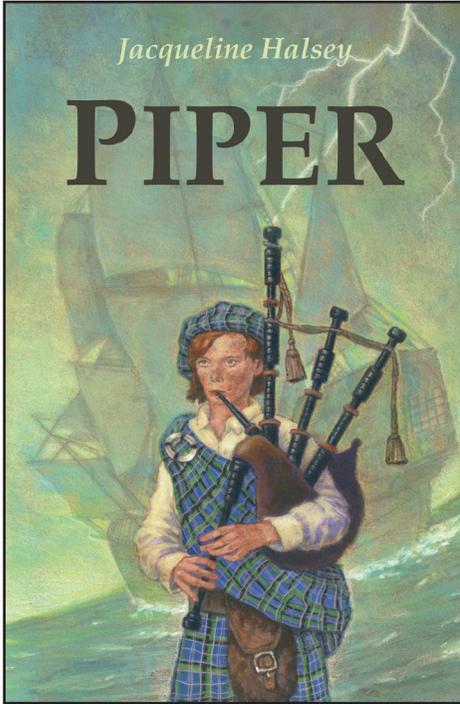
Published: Fall 2018
Pages: 160
Rights available: World



Abandoned on the steps of a Belgian convent as a baby, thirteen-year-old Grace has grown up among the nuns. But her days as a caretaker and companion for her older sister, Dotty, have come to a sad end with Dotty's death. Now Grace is living among the girls who attend the convent's boarding school—the very same girls who taunted and bullied her sister for having Down syndrome.

Grace desperately wants to know who left her at the convent; she wants a family and to not feel alone in the world. When Grace finds a three-decades-old diary from the 1940s in the convent library, her interest in the history of the convent is also piqued. Terrible things happened in the little village of Tildonk, Belgium, when the Nazis arrived, and terrible things happened to the mysterious girl who wrote the diary.

Unravelling the mystery of the diary ultimately means unravelling the secrets of Grace's life, which are more complicated than she ever imagined. Loosely based on the author's own experiences at this very convent school, *Finding Grace* is an emotional look into the lives of girls in the strict world of convents, both in the 1940s and the 1970s, from the author of *Silver Birch*—shortlisted *Jacob's Landing*.



“Highly recommended.”
—Canadian Review of Materials

“At a time in which immigration, particularly by boat, is a topic of debate in many countries, Piper invites comparison between the historical experiences of Highland Scots and the current experiences of other groups around the world.”

—National Reading Campaign

Published: Spring 2018

Pages: 162

Rights available: World

It’s 1773 and twelve-year-old Dougal Cameron and his whole family are set to sail away from their Scotland home aboard the tall ship *Hector*. When tragedy strikes, the family must decide whether or not to make the trip without Dougal’s father. Once the ship departs, Dougal is drawn to the haunting sounds of the lone piper on-board. (The instrument, while still illegal in their homeland at the time, was brought aboard to keep spirits up.)

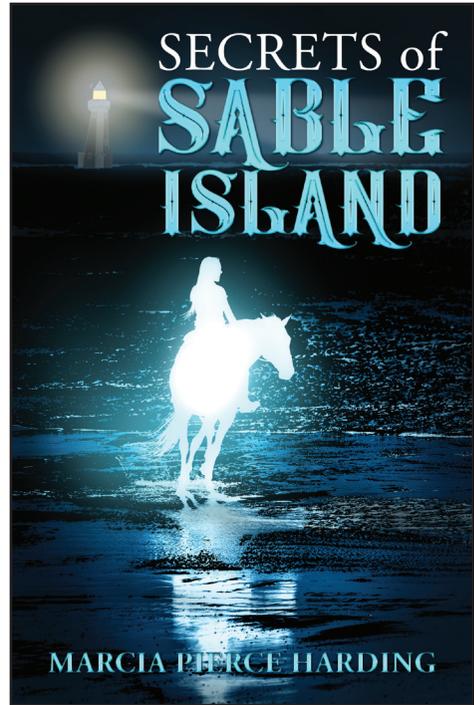
When a violent storm knocks the *Hector* two weeks off course, Dougal’s dream of becoming a piper has to take a back seat to keeping his three little sisters alive.

Author Jacqueline Halsey spares no detail in this riveting story of the brigantine that brought the first Scottish immigrants to Canada, focusing on its difficult journey, and the strong-willed and determined individuals who risked it all.

“Children will learn about the history of Sable Island’s life-saving stations in a story that expresses the island’s nature—wild, mysterious, and exciting.”
—Sable Island Institute

“This exciting novel will delight any young reader who loves mystery or history! This was an enjoyable novel full of intrigue.”
—Resource Links

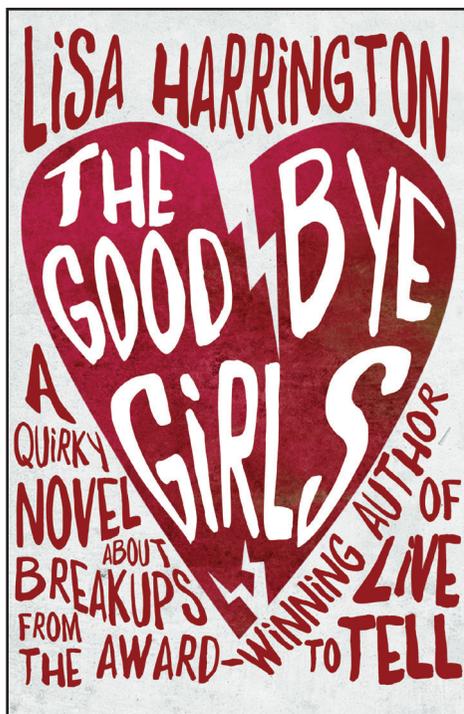
Published: Spring 2018
Pages: 216
Rights available: World



After a vicious storm aboard ship, fourteen-year-old Caleb is tossed into the Atlantic Ocean. Frightened and alone, he finds himself nudged awake. He’s been recovered by one of Sable Island’s legendary wild stallions and is given shelter by a mysterious stranger, Norse, who is secretly living on the mysterious and isolated island in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean.

As Caleb recovers and gets to know his strange rescuer, learning the art of scrimshaw, storytelling, and survival, he wonders how he’ll manage to remain on the island he’s come to love. When he befriends the ghostly girl who rides bareback over the dunes, he knows he must do whatever he can to save her, and himself.

A heartwarming and captivating adventure set on the infamous isolated sandbar that has fascinated so many, and featuring original illustrations, *Secrets of Sable Island* will leave young readers spellbound.



“...a fun story that should appeal to any teen with an entrepreneurial streak. The sister relationship rings true, with the perfect meld of long-simmering animosity and fierce loyalty.” —Booklist

*“There’s a lot to like about The Goodbye Girls: it’s topical, doesn’t take any easy outs, and it’s a fast, un-sentimental read—whether you’re in high school or just remember it well.”
—Quill & Quire*

Published: Spring 2018

Pages: 248

Rights available: World

The students at Lizzie’s high school are notoriously terrible at breakups. Forget awkward conversations—they’re dumping each other via text. Inspired by the terrible breakups around her, sixteen-year-old Lizzie, strapped for cash and itching to go on the school’s band trip to New York City, teams up with her best friend, Willa, to create a genius business: personalized gift baskets—breakup baskets—sent from dumper to dumpee.

“The Goodbye Girls” operate in secret, and business is booming. But it’s not long before someone begins sabotaging the fledgling company, sending impossibly cruel baskets to seemingly random targets, undermining everything Lizzie and Willa have built and jeopardizing their anonymity.

Soon family, friendship, and a budding romance are on the line. Will Lizzie end up saying goodbye to the business for good?

“Lisa Harrington is the Queen of Dialogue. Her words pull you into the teenage world with an effortless, snappy sense of humour, and realistic portrayal of the ups and downs of friendships and family. She makes writing look easy.”

–Daphne Greer,
author of *Jacob’s Landing*

Published: Spring 2019

Pages: 248

Rights available: World



Just as fourteen-year-old Lucy is starting to figure out life after her mom’s death, her dad ships her off to Cape John, her mom’s hometown, for the summer. Worse, she has to live with her nutty great-aunt Josie, who doesn’t cook edible food or suffer fools.

Soon Lucy meets Colin, freshly moved from the West Coast, who’s digging an enormous hole in his new yard. He spends every day digging deeper in protest of his family’s unilateral decision to move to this tiny oceanside community. As Colin digs in the ground, Lucy digs through her family’s history, and eventually both of them uncover a shocking truth.

The Big Dig asks big questions of its readers: Are secrets ever okay? What defines a family? And can we ever really know our parents? Lisa Harrington’s light and funny voice blends seamlessly with Lucy’s grief, creating an authentic and riveting emotional landscape.



Butterflies Don't Lie

B. R. MYERS

Published: Fall 2014

Pages: 272

Rights available: World

Sixteen-year-old Kelsey wants to make this summer unforgettable by (hopefully) seducing her crush, Blaine. Armed with romance advice articles, Kelsey tackles true love with scientific precision, including getting a job at the restaurant that overlooks the yacht club where Blaine teaches sailing. But the new kitchen guy quickly gets under Kelsey's skin. Determined to follow through with her original goal, Kelsey ignores her growing attraction to Luke, certain he's not the guy for her. When she manages to get Blaine's attention, she suspects the magazines have it all wrong.



GIRL ON THE RUN

B. R. MYERS

Published: Fall 2015

Pages: 336

Rights available: World

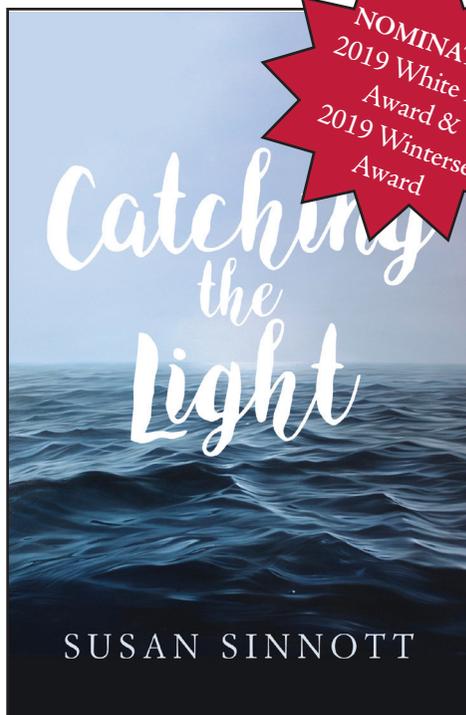
When seventeen-year-old track and field star Jesse Collins's dreams of a full scholarship are shattered after the sudden death of her dad, she leaves home to work as a summer camp counsellor to escape the nosy stares in her small town...and her own secret guilt. After a mix-up at registration, she's put in charge of a boys' cabin, and the head counsellor, Kirk, predicts she won't last the first two weeks. In the midst of fending off four twelve-year-old boys who are hell-bent on mortifying her and a growing attraction to Kirk, Jesse finds the inspiration to run again from an unlikely source.

“Catching the Light is a tale of how people on the fringes of society, either by upbringing or accident of fate, try to overcome their circumstances. It is a story of human interconnections, and a deeply touching one.”

–Paul Butler

“The writing is lovely, and I truly cared about the outcome for these characters. Catching the Light is a notable debut and a very worthy read.”

–About A Book [blog]



Published: Spring 2018

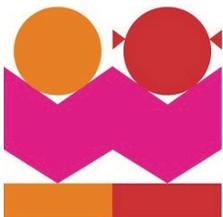
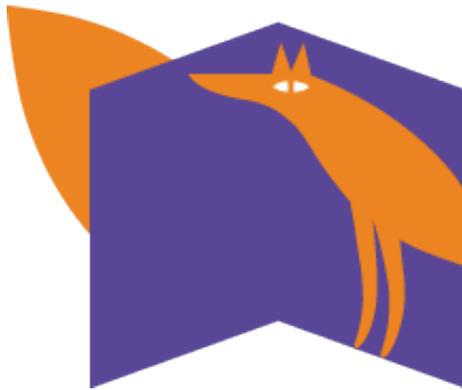
Pages: 288

Rights available: World

The kids call her “Lighthouse”: no lights on up there. In a small town, everyone knows when you can’t read. But Cathy is just distracted by the light and lines and artistry of everyday life. She is a talented artist growing up in tiny Mariners Cove and yearns for acceptance. She dreams of enrolling in art school, but getting there will be a struggle.

Hutch Parsons is everything Cathy is not: charismatic, popular, smart. Overflowing with energy, he is confident in his plans for the future. But one icy evening his world is upended and those plans are swept away. Now he must face a different life and his own struggle.

Dancing between points of view, *Catching the Light* explores the ordinary lives of two extraordinary people through middle school, high school, university, and beyond. With gorgeously lyrical language and a strong sense of place, this tender novel announces a bright new voice in Canadian fiction.



**BOLOGNA
CHILDREN'S
BOOK
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