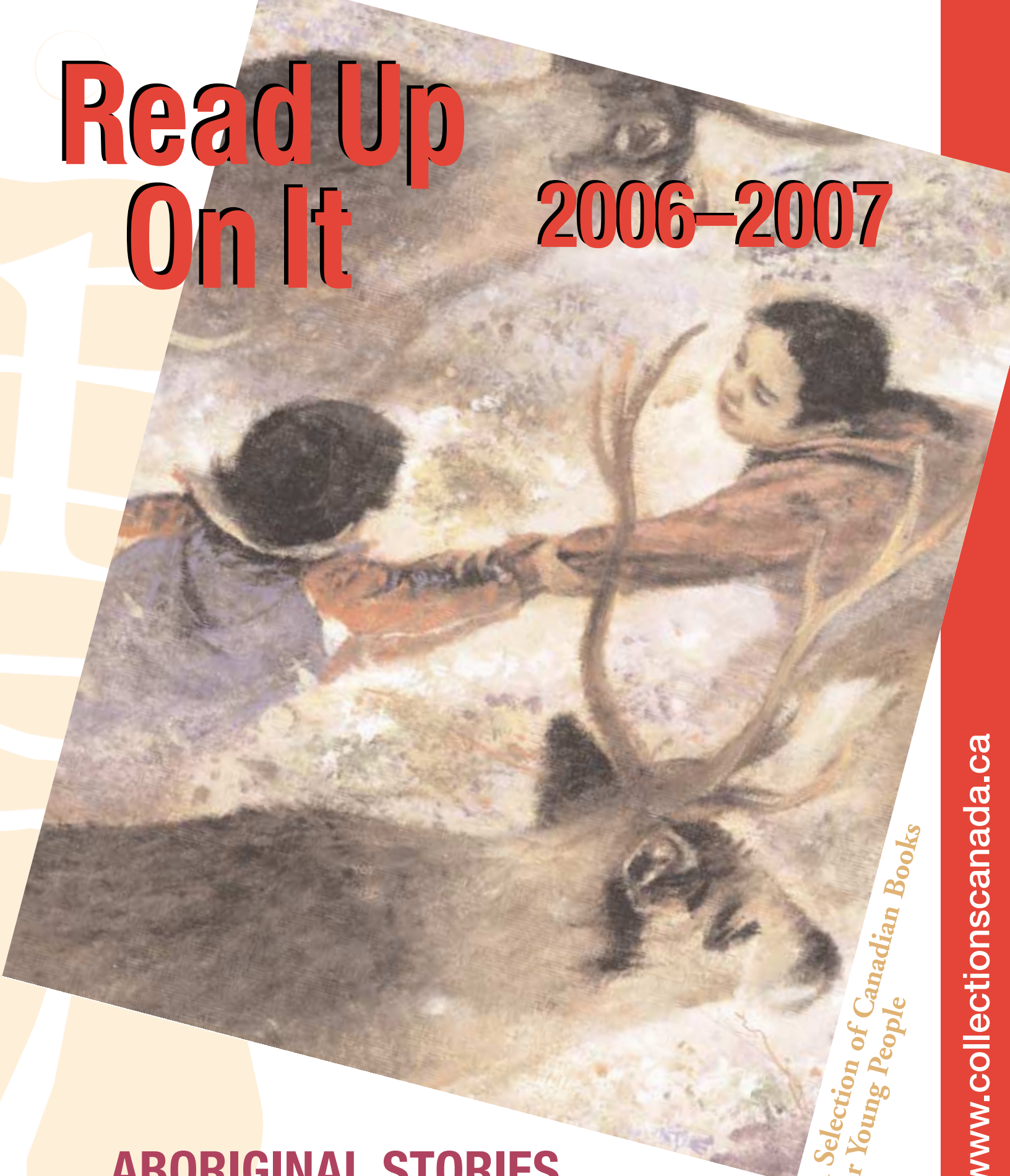


Read Up On It

2006–2007



ABORIGINAL STORIES

*A Selection of Canadian Books
for Young People*

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Read Up On It

**ABORIGINAL
STORIES**



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Tomson Highway (text)

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(Toronto, 2001)

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Jeanne Bushey (text)

published by Red Deer Press
(Calgary, 2004)

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ABORIGINAL STORIES

Many Canadian books for young readers are written, illustrated or recounted by people of Aboriginal background. In addition, a number of non-Aboriginal authors and illustrators collaborate with Aboriginal artists and Elders, drawing inspiration for their own work in children's books. This year, *Read Up On It* showcases Aboriginal stories, making a rich part of Canadian literature better known to children and teenagers.

The books selected for this edition represent a variety of literary genres: novels, historical accounts, legends, biographies, documentaries, comic books and picture books. The historical accounts cover a range of time periods, from early encounters between European explorers and Aboriginal people to the present day. They place traditional and contemporary ways of life of various Aboriginal nations in context and examine the relations between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. Some of the books provide bilingual texts, pairing French or English with a Native language such as Inuktitut, Gitksanimax or Cree.

It is my hope that every reader will take the opportunity to discover an Aboriginal tradition or tale, to use these books for school and community projects, or to get in touch with a local Aboriginal centre to share stories with the Elders.

Josiane Polidori
Head
Children's Literature Service

READ UP ON IT

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TTY: 613-992-6969 or 1-866-299-1699

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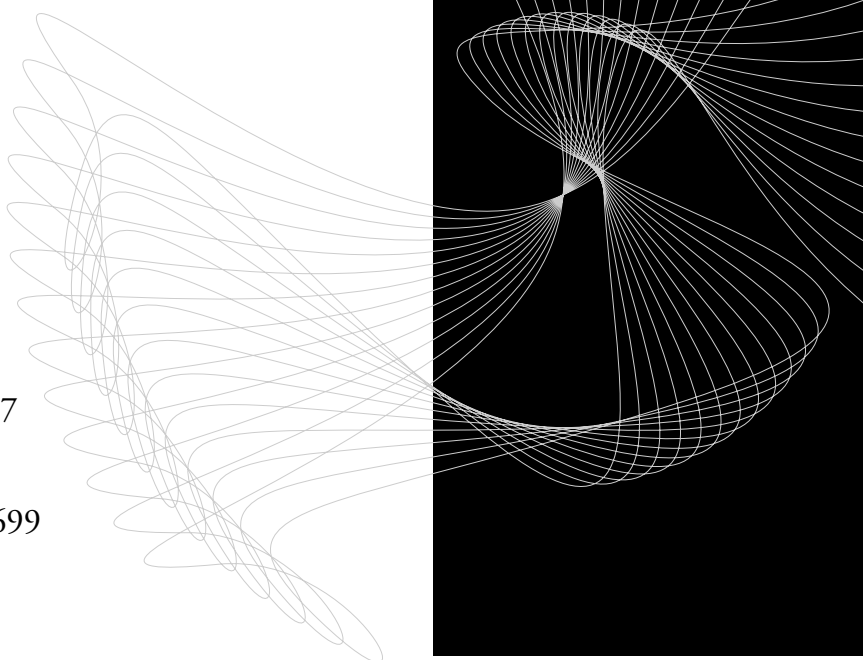
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Read Up On It

Published annually by Library and Archives Canada, *Read Up On It* presents a selection of Canadian books for young readers. Its goal is to make Canadian authors and illustrators better known and to encourage the reading of Canadian children's literature. The books recommended are for beginning readers and teenagers, as well as parents, volunteers and educators who read to young children in nursery schools and daycare centres. Each year, *Read Up On It* reaches 25,000 teachers, librarians, educators and parents who channel the pleasure of books and reading to young people.

Selection Criteria for the 2006–2007 Edition of *Read Up On It*

- Books published in Canada or abroad for which the author or illustrator is Canadian.
- Books available through bookstores, publishers, and public or school libraries.
- Books in English or French that take into account the geographic distribution and multicultural diversity of Canada.
- Books suitable for age categories ranging from 2 to 16 years.
- Books from the following genres: novel, short story, picture book, non-fiction.
- Books in which the high quality text and illustrations interact effectively.

Reading Committee

Frédéric Ouellet, Librarian, Library and Archives Canada

Josiane Polidori, Head, Children's Literature Service, Library and Archives Canada

Daniel St-Hilaire, Reference and Collection Technician, Library and Archives Canada

Children's Literature Service of Library and Archives Canada

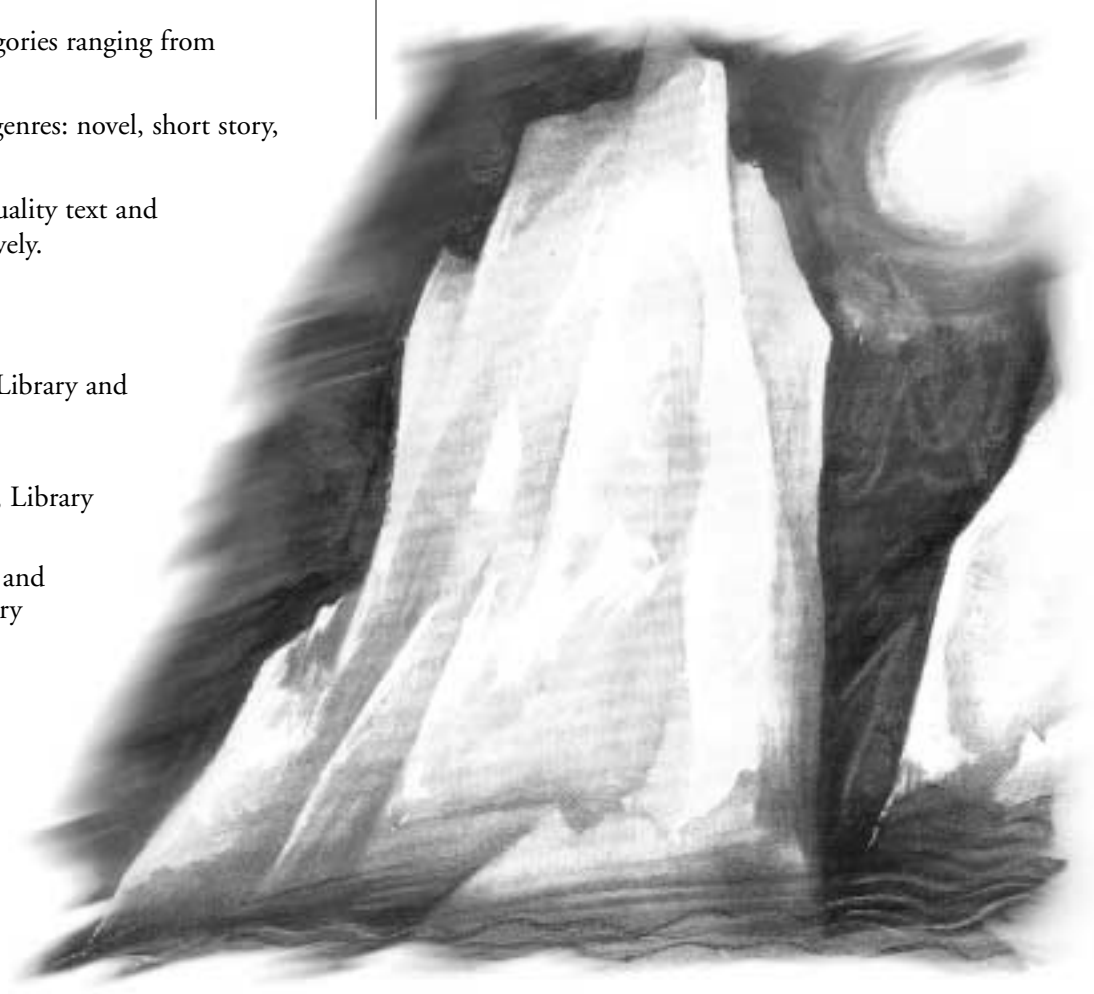
The Children's Literature Service now consists of more than 140,000 items of fiction and non-fiction, published in French, English and other languages. Of interest to children and teenagers up to 16 years of age, this complete collection of Canadian works traces the history of children's books in Canada. A world-class reference collection and a significant collection of literary manuscripts and original illustrations enhance its value as a research collection.

Each year, as part of its reference services and promotion of reading, the Children's Literature Service produces a bilingual annotated bibliography for the Library and Archives Canada *Read Up On It* kit. In addition, the Children's Literature Service provides an outstanding showcase for Canadian children's book publishing, through the presentation of exhibitions on books and manuscripts selected from its collections.

www.collectionscanada.ca/childrenliterature/index-e.html

PIKA: www.collectionscanada.ca/pika/index-e.html

Email: clsslj@lac-bac.gc.ca



Aboriginal Stories

ENGLISH TITLES



ACROSS THE STEEL RIVER
TED STENHOUSE
TORONTO: KIDS CAN PRESS,
2001. 222 P.
ISBN 1553370155
AGES 10 TO 12



The setting is small-town prairie, post Second World War: one street, one railroad track; two schools, Aboriginal and white; one dominant mindset, one subjugated.

Across the Steel River is not simply a mystery. It presents the attitudes of the times about race and uses the language of the day. The frankness of the writing works well, as does the chronology of the novel. All the mystery genre prerequisites are there: a crime, clues for the reader, and an ending that resolves the mystery.

Then, there are the heroes – Will and Arthur. They are best friends who are separated at times by ideology. Will is white; Arthur is Aboriginal. They stumble from time to

time in their friendship, but today, they actually stumble over Yellowfly, an Aboriginal war hero. Yellowfly has been badly beaten.

But by whom? It is certainly not the result of a train clipping Yellowfly, as the local policeman hypothesizes. Arthur suspects local whites. They decide to set out to find Yellowfly's attackers and to get justice for the whole community.

Across the Steel River is a solid read – one that explores bias, class, courage, loyalty and the friendships of youth. –MS

ALL THE STARS IN THE SKY
C.J. TAYLOR
TORONTO: TUNDRA BOOKS,
2006. 42 P.
ISBN: 0887767591
AGES 10 TO 12



In *All the Stars in the Sky*, award-winning Mohawk author and artist C.J. Taylor introduces stories from seven First Nations. In each story, a human or an animal encounters some heavenly creature, which leads to the creation of

stars or other celestial bodies. The Milky Way, according to the Salish tradition, is the spirit of a sacred snow goose who was killed by an unwary hunter. The Ojibwa tale of *Little Mouse and the Magic Circles* introduces White Hawk, a young man attracted to the youngest of the 12 star sisters. An Onondaga tale depicts the Pleiades constellation as dancing children.

These contacts lead to transformation, discovery and also to precious gifts such as the knowledge of fire or the use of clay pots by humans, as described in a Cherokee story. Sometimes, humans are wiser to resist a tempting invitation, such as the one from the Moon in the Inuit tale or in the Blackfoot story, where the gift of magic leggings made of fire could not be contained.

C.J. Taylor's gouache artwork depicts legendary characters and powerful portraits set in beautiful natural landscapes. She sets her paintings in a universe that exists somewhere between the legendary and the natural worlds. –JP

AS LONG AS THE RIVERS FLOW
LARRY LOYIE WITH
CONSTANCE BRISSENDEN
ILLUSTRATIONS:
HEATHER D. HOLMLUND
TORONTO: GROUNDWOOD BOOKS,
2002. 39 P.
ISBN 0888994737
AGES 8 TO 10



As Long as the Rivers Flow is the true story of Larry Loyie, a First Nations child, and author of *The Gathering Tree* and of the new book *When The Spirits Dance* (Fall 2006 release). Larry recounts the summer of 1944, when as a 10-year-old, he was living happily at home with his family in the bush near Slave Lake in northern Alberta.

Larry is the eldest of a family of four children. His grandpa named him *Oskiniko* (Young Man) because he was brave. Through the summer, he learns patience and discipline. He cares for an abandoned baby owl, helps the family to hunt and fish, watches his grandmother make moccasins, and sees her kill a huge grizzly with a single shot.

The summer ends in sadness for Oskiniko, his brothers and his sister when a truck comes

to take them away to boarding schools. They will be taught according to European customs and religions in order to erase their traditional languages and cultures.

An epilogue concerning the history and conditions of North America's residential schools, as well as Loyie family photographs, follow the story. –MDG

CARIBOU SONG
ATIHKO NIKAMON
TOMSON HIGHWAY
 ILLUSTRATIONS: BRIAN DEINES
 TORONTO: HARPERCOLLINS,
 2001. 29 P.
 ISBN 0002255227
 AGES 8 TO 10

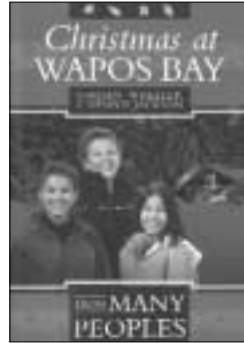


This first book in a trilogy entitled *Songs of the North Wind* introduces us to Joe and Cody, two siblings who love to dance and play the *kitoochigan* (accordion). As they search for the *ateek* (caribou) with their parents in northern Manitoba, something quite magical happens.

This gentle and evocative tale is beautifully illustrated in shimmering oils by Brian Deines. The story is told in English and Cree, giving the reader an authentic sense of place.

Tomson Highway, one of Canada's most important Aboriginal voices, is an award-winning playwright and a Member of the Order of Canada. Brian Deines is an acclaimed artist and photographer who is well known for his beautiful children's book illustrations. Together, they have created a moving tale of northern Manitoba's land, peoples, and customs. –RG

CHRISTMAS AT WAPOS BAY
JORDAN WHEELER AND
DENNIS JACKSON
 REGINA: COTEAU BOOKS FOR KIDS,
 2006, © 2005. 145 P.
 (FROM MANY PEOPLES)
 ISBN 1550503243
 AGES 12 AND UP



Talon, Raven, and their cousin T-Bear are visiting *Mushom* (grandfather) at his cabin in northern Saskatchewan. The children are eager to learn the old ways of surviving on the land from their grandfather.

They are hoping to find enough food for Christmas, since the whole family will be together to celebrate. Unfortunately, after a bad forest fire, the hunting is poor. The children decide to go hunting by themselves. They don't notice the approaching winter storm...

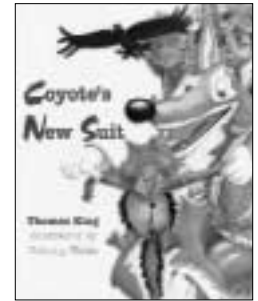
Christmas at Wapos Bay is a modern story about Aboriginal culture. The authors describe the struggle between the pull of the modern and the importance of the "old ways" with sensitivity. This multi-generational story, written by two Aboriginal authors, raises many topical issues, and introduces young readers to a different culture and its customs.

Christmas at Wapos Bay is part of the From Many Peoples series, developed as a celebration of Saskatchewan's Cen-



ennial in 2005. The series features stories from the viewpoints of young people from different cultural groups. –RG

COYOTE'S NEW SUIT
THOMAS KING
 ILLUSTRATIONS: JOHNNY WALES
 TORONTO: KEY PORTER BOOKS,
 2004. 38 P.
 ISBN 1552634973
 AGES 10 TO 12



Coyote is easily persuaded by Raven that his suit is rather ordinary, and sets out to find himself a better suit. He "borrows" suits from Bear, Porcupine, Skunk and several other animal friends. As they discover their missing suits, they are convinced by Raven to help themselves to the human suits hanging on the nearby clothesline. Much confusion follows, and just as we think that Coyote has learned a lesson, Raven again comments that Coyote's suit is just "okay." As the story ends, Coyote is once more eyeing Bear's suit...

This lively tale set "a long time ago when animals and human beings still talked to each other" is illustrated with the vibrant watercolours of Johnny Wales. Thomas King, of Cherokee, Greek and German descent, is a widely published Canadian author, a Member of the Order of Canada, and a recipient of a National Aboriginal Achievement Award. Also a professor of English, he writes for children and adults. –RG

DAUGHTER OF STRANGERS
MARJORY GORDON
 OTTAWA: OBERON PRESS,
 2001. 153 [2] P.
 ISBN 0778011828
AGES 12 AND UP

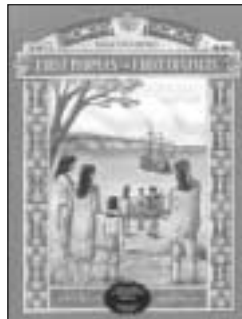


Thirteen-year-old Amy does not like herself very much. She also dislikes being part of her adoptive parents' summer archaeology digs in the Barrenlands. For the last few years, she has thought about asking her Mom to help her find her birth mother, but she has never gone through with it. She feels like a daughter of strangers. Some people give away puppies and kittens, she tells herself; her parents gave her away...

Although she sometimes feels as separate from her adoptive family as she does from her birth family, she feels close to the land. Amy loves the Barrenlands; however, the land has prepared a trap for her. Through her connection to it, she is transported 1,600 years back in history. Once there, she finds that she is still a daughter of strangers, but this time, among the Taltheilei people living in another era.

A glossary, a list of names of Taltheilei characters and their meanings, two maps, and a note about the author complete the contents of this book. The story will resonate with young people who wonder what it would be like to travel back in history to visit the time of their ancestors. -MLP

**DISCOVERING FIRST PEOPLES
 AND FIRST CONTACTS**
DANIEL FRANCIS
 DON MILLS, ONT.: OXFORD
 UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2000. 64 P.
 (DISCOVERY SERIES)
 ISBN 0195414888
AGES 8 TO 10



This book is part of the Discovery Series published by Oxford University Press, which is intended to help students understand a variety of cultures and places worldwide.

Produced as a resource for the classroom or school library, the book looks at the origins of Aboriginal cultures in Canada and surveys the different language groups across the country. It discusses first contacts with Europeans – how settlement began on the East Coast and how exploration and the fur trade brought newcomers to the interior and the North. Also included are lessons on modern day exploration of the oceans and Canada's role in space, and information about current Aboriginal issues such as land claims and self-government.

Each two-page spread in the book deals with one topic. These pages are colourfully illustrated with drawings, photographs and fine art reproductions, and include a box of further lesson ideas and questions for classroom discussion. -MMc

DRAGONFLY KITES
PIMIHÁKANISA
TOMSON HIGHWAY
ILLUSTRATIONS: BRIAN DEINES
 TORONTO: HARPERCOLLINS,
 2002. 32 P.
 ISBN 0002255278
AGES 8 TO 10



Dragonfly Kites, the second book in a trilogy published as *Songs of the North Wind*, was a finalist in the 2002 Governor General's Literary Awards for Illustration in Children's Literature.

Author Tomson Highway, who is a Member of the Order of Canada, writes in a direct, clear style, in English and Cree, to convey the carefree nature of the young Cree siblings as they make up games to pass the time over several of their northern summers. The young reader will experience the excitement and wonder of the many secrets of the land discovered by Cody and Joe, and share in their imaginative games and nighttime dreamworld.

Each moment is special, and yet simple and uncomplicated, just as Brian Deine's large illustrations are full of light and joy, and the wonder of being alive in each moment. The beautiful images vary from wide open, sweeping vistas, to small details of rocks or little animals, or to open joy on the faces of the young children. -MB

THE DREAM CATCHER
THERESA MEUSE-DALLIEN
ILLUSTRATIONS: ARTHUR STEVENS
 TRURO, N.S.: EASTERN WOODLAND
 PUBLISHING, 2000. 8 P.
 (COME LEARN ABOUT
 FIRST NATION CULTURE)
 ISBN 0968632033
AGES 4 TO 8



Matthew presented his friend Dustin with a dream catcher for his birthday. It was specially made for Dustin by Matthew's father using stones and feathers in Dustin's favourite colour: blue. Matthew explained to Dustin that the dream catcher would bring him good dreams. Dustin was very happy since he had been having some bad dreams lately. He was also glad that Matthew had shared a part of his culture with him.

Through her visits to public schools, the author realized that the school system lacked materials and information on Mi'kmaq sharing customs. This prompted her to write a series of seven stories: *The Eagle Feather*, *The Dream Catcher*, *The Sacred Herbs*, *The Medicine Pouch*, *The Medicine Wheel*, *The Talking Circle* and *The Drum*. These stories were published separately by Eastern Woodland Publishing and illustrated by Arthur Stevens. In 2003, Nimbus took over publishing and distribution rights, and released the stories as an anthology. -LS



FOX ON THE ICE
MAHKESIS MÍSKWAMÍHK
E-CÍPATAPÍT
TOMSON HIGHWAY
 ILLUSTRATIONS: BRIAN DEINES
 TORONTO: HARPERCOLLINS,
 2003. 30 P.
 ISBN 0002255324
AGES 8 TO 10



One sunny winter afternoon, two brothers go ice fishing with the rest of their family – mother, father, pet dog, and a sled pulled by eight huskies. They enjoy a picnic of bannock baked over an open fire and broiled whitefish, caught right out of the lake. As they begin their afternoon activities of serious fishing or just dozing, a red fox appears and sparks an adventure.

Since the text is presented in English and Cree, older children will be able to note the differences and similarities between the written forms of both languages. Younger children will appreciate the rich details of the exciting story. They will also be intrigued by the illustrations, which reveal the many colours that light and shadow create on snow and ice.

Tomson Highway is one of Canada's most important Aboriginal authors. He writes plays, novels, and children's books. He was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada in 1994. *Fox on the Ice* is the third book in his *Songs of the North Wind* trilogy. –TD

GOOD FOR NOTHING
 MICHEL NOËL
 TRANSLATION: SHELLEY TANAKA
 TORONTO: GROUNDWOOD BOOKS,
 2004. 322 P.
 ISBN 0888996160
 1ST ENGLISH EDITION
AGES 12 AND UP



This powerful story of life, love, loss and adventure begins with 15-year-old Nipishish, an Aboriginal boy living on a reserve in Quebec. Set in May 1959, Nipishish has just returned from a residential school to find that things have changed. The government has sent in land surveyors who are busy dividing the land. This disruption has caused confusion and worry among the inhabitants.

Feeling lost and trapped on the reserve, Nipishish decides to go to the town of Maniwaki to attend school. Despite this change, he still suffers from feelings of loneliness and isolation, which eventually lead him back to the reserve. Nipishish is an orphan. Not only did he lose his mother at a young age, but his father's

death is shrouded in mystery – a mystery that he must get to the bottom of.

Author Michel Noël brings us back to nature by revealing a world that is grounded, one that is sustainable through animals, trees and rocks. During this journey, as the main character fights to preserve his culture, he must also face everyday teenage struggles. Could Nipishish be the leader that everyone has been waiting for? –MM

**THE HATCHLING'S JOURNEY:
 A BLANDING'S TURTLE STORY**
 KRISTIN BIEBER DOMM
 ILLUSTRATIONS: JEFFREY C. DOMM
 HALIFAX, N.S.: NIMBUS PUBLISHING,
 2003. 30 P.
 (NATURAL HEROES)
 ISBN 155109438X
AGES 4 TO 8

Elen canoes to Kejimikujik Lake with her grandfather for a special ceremony to dedicate the land around it as a Mi'kmaq Cultural Landscape. After the dedication, she travels by motorboat with her cousin Tuma to look for hatchling Blanding's turtles – a protected species in Nova Scotia. Tuma is a university student who is studying these turtles. Elen learns about the turtles' habitat, their nests and eggs; she is especially fascinated to discover that they care for themselves alone after they are born.

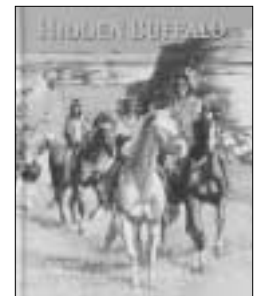
After tracking the path of a small turtle, she remembers her grandfather's words: "If you dig a hole in the forest, you will see that all the trees are holding

hands. That is what we must do." She begins to understand her place in the world and her responsibility toward it and others.

Beautiful, clear, bright, double-page illustrations create a feeling of the wide open spaces described, and the close-ups of people and turtles draw the reader into the story. A special section at the back of the book offers more information on the Blanding's turtle, current efforts to protect this species at risk, and Kejimikujik National Park.

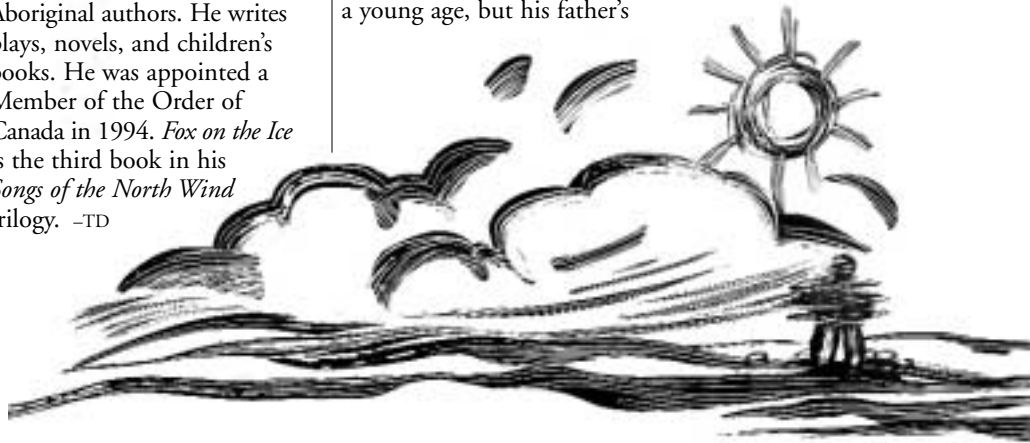
The Hatchling's Journey was shortlisted for the 2004–2005 Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award. –MB

HIDDEN BUFFALO
 RUDY WIEBE
 PAINTINGS: MICHAEL LONECHILD
 CALGARY: RED DEER PRESS,
 2003. 30 P.
 (NORTHERN LIGHTS BOOKS FOR
 CHILDREN)
 ISBN 088995285X
AGES 8 TO 10



The Cree of the Canadian West always hunted bison for their survival. But this particular summer, no one saw any herds on the horizon. With the arrival of the fall, the very survival of the tribe was in danger if no bison were found.

Based on an old Cree legend, *Hidden Buffalo* tells the story of Sky Running, a young Cree who tried to save his people. Hoping to see bison along the river, Sky Running stumbled on a white stone in the unusual shape of a bison. That very night, he had a dream in which he saw enormous herds of



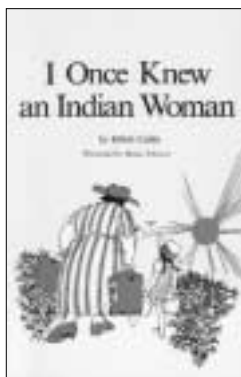
bison grazing south of the Badlands, in enemy territory. In spite of the danger, the entire tribe decided to leave and search for the mysterious place revealed by young Sky's vision.

Honoured for his writing and an Officer of the Order of Canada, Rudy Wiebe demonstrates lyricism and simplicity in telling the story of a people who trust the wisdom of a child to ensure their survival. The original paintings of Cree artist Michael Lonechild give poetic expression to the wild beauty of the Prairies in the fall and illustrate in great detail the life of the Cree people at the end of the 19th century. -DSH

I ONCE KNEW AN INDIAN WOMAN
EBBITT CUTLER

ILLUSTRATIONS: BRUCE JOHNSON
TORONTO: TUNDRA BOOKS, 2000. 69 P.
ISBN 0887760686
AGES 12 AND UP

First published under the title
The Last Noble Savage



An Irish Canadian girl from Montréal spends the summers of the Great Depression in a resort town in the Laurentians. There, she witnesses the interaction between English, French and Aboriginal Canadian cultures and languages. Of all the colourful characters in the little town, the person who makes the biggest impression on the young narrator, and on the reader, is the Aboriginal woman of the title. The author paints a sympathetic portrait

of this individual – a strong personality who, in spite of many misfortunes in her life, finds the fortitude to continue helping those around her. She shows courage and decisiveness and does the right thing at a time of crisis, when everyone else in the town balks from responsibility.

First published in 1967, this autobiographical sketch won first prize in the Canadian Centennial Literary Competitions. The text reflects the period in which it was written and set; the sophisticated, old-fashioned style will appeal to older children and provide insight into Canadian attitudes of the 1960s. The book will be of special interest to those who like Canadian social history or who know of the cottage country around Montréal. -TD

KOU-SKELOWH WE ARE THE PEOPLE: A TRILOGY OF OKANAGAN LEGENDS

ILLUSTRATIONS: BARBARA MARCHAND
PENTICTON, B.C.: THEYTUS BOOKS, 2004. 88 P.
ISBN 1894778189
REVISED EDITION
AGES 8 TO 10



This beautifully illustrated book is a collection of three Okanagan legends. At the request of the Okanagan Elders and in keeping with their traditions, no one person is credited with authorship or ownership of these stories.

“How Food Was Given” describes how food, songs, giving and helping came to be.

It also shows that even the smallest and weakest can contribute and deserves respect – the song of Fly brought Black Bear back to life.

“How Names Were Given” tells the story of how even the most foolish creature was given a purpose in life. The Great Spirit reserved a special job for Coyote: he was to protect the People-To-Be from the monsters that would destroy them.

“How Turtle Set the Animals Free” shows how important it is to learn from your dreams. Turtle had a dream that he should race Eagle. If he won, all the Animal People would go free. If he lost, he would become Eagle’s slave, just like all the other animals. -LS

LIFE IN AN ANISHINABE CAMP
NIKI WALKER

ST. CATHERINES, ONT.: CRABTREE PUBLISHING, 2003. 32 P.
(NATIVE NATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA)
ISBN 0778703738 (BOUND)
ISBN 0778704653 (PAPERBACK)
AGES 10 TO 12



Who are the Anishinabe? Where and how do they live? *Life in an Anishinabe Camp* answers these questions and many others. The 14 chapters of this documentary-style book deal with subjects as varied as clan formation, Anishinabe clothing, food, housing and recreation.

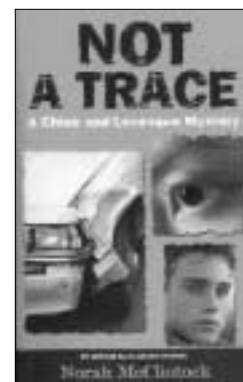
Life in an Anishinabe Camp is part of a collection of works rich in information about the Aboriginal peoples of North America. The many illustrations help the reader assimilate the ideas expressed. A short

glossary and index complete the work.

Niki Walker specializes in the popularization of science topics for school-age children. The prolific publisher Crabtree Publishing has produced a number of her books as part of their series on Aboriginal peoples. -FO

NOT A TRACE
NORAH McCLINTOCK

MARKHAM, ONT.: SCHOLASTIC CANADA, 2005. 236 P.
(A CHLOE AND LEVESQUE MYSTERY)
ISBN 0439957605
AGES 10 TO 12



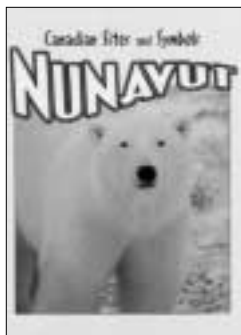
Sixteen-year old Chloe has the bad luck of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. The Aboriginal community, led by David Mitchell, is protesting the building of a golf course on sacred land. Mitchell and the band members end up in altercations with the site developers, Trevor Blake and Bryce Fuller, which indirectly causes Chloe to be injured. Tension climbs when the band barricades the road and the OPP take over the situation. Chloe’s stepfather, Police Chief Louis Levesque, tries to diffuse the situation by reminding the OPP Staff Sergeant in charge to remember what happened at Ipperwash.

Then Chloe finds Blake’s body. All the evidence points to Mitchell as the murderer, but Chloe has doubts; in one of her conversations with Mitchell, he had challenged her by asking “What do you

know about me?" But, David Mitchell had also claimed that he would use any means necessary to defend his people's rights. Is he guilty or is he a convenient scapegoat? By the time Chloe discovers the truth, she is in terrible danger. -LS

NUNAVUT

LINDA ASPEN-BAXTER
 CALGARY: WEIGL EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHERS, 2004. 15 P.
 (CANADIAN SITES AND SYMBOLS)
 ISBN 1553880250
AGES 8 TO 10



Canadian Sites and Symbols is a series of books that enlighten young readers about our country. *Nunavut* presents facts and images about Canada's most recent territorial addition, which came into being April 1, 1999.

Nunavut's land is sparsely populated for such a big territory, and many people know little about its main inhabitants – the Inuit. This book offers readers an interesting glimpse into their culture, language, history and their plans for the future. It also showcases the flora and fauna of the Far North.

Canadian Sites and Symbols books are separated into sections that contain small, precise write-ups on important aspects of the regions being presented. Each section is accompanied by photos, with "Fun Facts" columns throughout and a quiz and a glossary at the end. -MS

ORPHANS IN THE SKY
JEANNE BUSHEY
ILLUSTRATIONS:
VLADYANA KRYKORKA
 CALGARY: RED DEER PRESS,
 2004. 32 P.
 (NORTHERN LIGHTS BOOKS
 FOR CHILDREN)
 ISBN 0889952914
AGES 4 TO 8



Since being orphaned, a young boy and his sister live with their aunt. One day, they are abandoned by the members of their clan who have left for the hunt. They set out to catch up, but miss the ford in the river and must seek shelter while waiting to be rescued.

Time goes by and no one comes, and so the children decide to take things into their own hands. Will they live with their cousin, the seal, or with the caribou? In the end, the orphans decide to live in the night sky, where they find happiness as Brother Thunder and Sister Lightning.



Jeanne Bushey has lived a large part of her life in the Arctic and is very good at sharing her experience with the reader. Her moving story of orphans looking for a home draws the reader into this Far North setting and mindset. Many of illustrator Vladyana Krykorka's works depict the world of the First Nations. Her beautiful illustrations in *Orphans in the Sky* add to the evocative power of this tale. -FO

THE MEDICINE POUCH

THERESA MEUSE-DALLIEN
ILLUSTRATIONS: ARTHUR STEVENS
 TRURO, N.S.: EASTERN WOODLAND PUBLISHING, 2000. 8 P.
 (COME LEARN ABOUT FIRST NATION CULTURE)
 ISBN 0968632041
AGES 4 TO 8



Matthew and his family go on a camping trip. While he is packing, Matthew remembers to bring his medicine pouch. His grandfather gave him the pouch and told him to fill it with things that were special to him. Matthew put

in sacred herbs for prayer, a small feather and a sparkly stone. When they arrive at their campsite, Matthew finds a beautiful bush; he wants it always to be there to enjoy. He takes his sacred herbs out of his pouch and together with his family, he says a prayer to protect the bush. For many years the bush thrives. One year, Matthew sees a smaller bush growing next to it.

Through her visits to public schools, the author realized that the school system lacked materials and information on Mi'kmaq sharing customs. This prompted her to write a series of seven stories: *The Eagle Feather*, *The Dream Catcher*, *The Sacred Herbs*, *The Medicine Pouch*, *The Medicine Wheel*, *The Talking Circle* and *The Drum*. These stories were published separately by Eastern Woodland Publishing and illustrated by Arthur Stevens. In 2003, Nimbus took over publishing and distribution rights, and released the stories as an anthology. -LS

MOUSE WOMAN AND THE MISCHIEF-MAKERS

CHRISTIE HARRIS
ILLUSTRATIONS: DOUGLAS TAIT
 VANCOUVER: RAINCOAST BOOKS,
 2004. 149 P.
 ISBN 1551927519
AGES 12 AND UP
 Originally published:
 Toronto: McClelland & Stewart, 1977.



Christie Harris is considered to have been one of Canada's best authors of juvenile literature. A Member of the Order

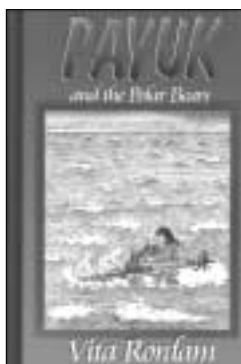
of Canada and recipient of many literary awards, she was a prolific author. She is best known for her works based on Pacific Coast Aboriginal legends – in particular, for her telling of the stories of Mouse Woman.

Mouse Woman is a *narnau* – a spirit being who appears as a mouse or a tiny grandmother. Tait's illustrations in this book portray her in grandmotherly form. She is a good spirit, concerned with helping the young; of particular importance to her is maintaining balance and order in the universe. In the *narnauck* world, she is seen as interfering and as a busybody; however, she feels that her goal of keeping everything fair and equal justifies her actions.

The Mouse Woman stories were originally published during the 1970s in three volumes; they have recently been reissued so that a new generation of readers can enjoy them. This book contains seven of the Harris Mouse Woman legends. –MMc

PAYUK AND THE POLAR BEARS
VITA RORDAM

OTTAWA: BOREALIS PRESS,
2000. 63 P.
ISBN 0888878559
2ND EDITION
AGES 10 TO 12



It is spring along the shores of Hudson Bay. Kinok, Meyonak, their two sons Payuk and Neshoo, and grandmother Nokoom prepare to make the journey back up the Weenusk

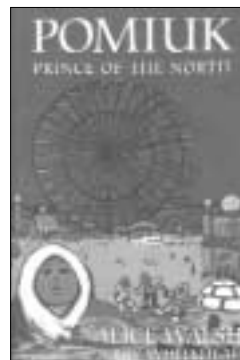


River. Kinok decides to search for more food, while the rest of the family travels upriver. When Kinok does not return, Payuk sets out to look for him. Fate plays with events as the two pass each other without knowing and Kinok returns alone.

Payuk falls through the ice and is carried far out into Hudson Bay on an ice floe. He remains lost to his family for more than a season, and they finally give up looking. Payuk never gives up; he learns to live on his own; he meets polar bears who fish for him; and he befriends a wild dog he names Atim. With the help of the dog and the enigmatic creature Peshew, Payuk is returned to his family.

Payuk and the Polar Bears is told as if it were a Cree legend: the protagonists are presented with obstacles they must overcome and their choices reveal the lessons they learn about themselves and the world. The chapters alternate between Payuk's tale and that of his family. The author's simple line drawings reflect Payuk's young perspective, and her use of Cree words throughout the text adds to the authenticity of the story. –MB

POMIUK, PRINCE OF THE NORTH
ALICE WALSH
ILLUSTRATIONS: JERRY WHITEHEAD
VANCOUVER: BEACH HOLME PUBLISHING, 2004. 58 P.
(A SANDCASTLE BOOK)
ISBN 0888784473
AGES 8 TO 12



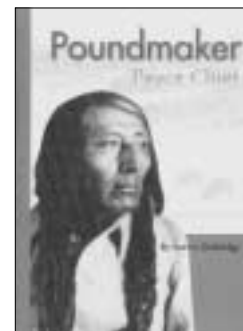
Based on real people and events, this is a story of social and cultural change seen through the eyes of an orphaned Inuit boy named Pomiuk. In the year 1893, Pomiuk travels with his adoptive family and many other Innu from Labrador to participate in the "Eskimo" Village attraction at the World's Fair being held in Chicago.

The story of this journey gives the reader a glimpse into the traditional life and culture of the Aboriginal peoples of Labrador, and also shows the white people's world, with its cities and its scientists, anthro-

pologists and missionaries. It also highlights the excitement and optimism of a world's fair in the early days of electricity.

There are lots of important issues here for children to discuss among themselves and with adults. A glossary adds educational value to the book by explaining Inuit terms and historical references to events and people. The illustrations are by Jerry Whitehead, a Cree artist from the James Smith Band in Saskatchewan, who currently makes his home in Vancouver. His "puzzle pieces," scattered throughout the book, provide an additional level of visual fun and come together at the end to form a stylized map of eastern Canada. –TD

POUNDMAKER: PEACE CHIEF
JOANNE STANBRIDGE
DON MILLS, ONT.: PEARSON EDUCATION CANADA, 2005. 16 P.
(REACHING READERS. CANADIAN BIOGRAPHIES)
ISBN 0131244442
AGES 8 TO 10



Poundmaker, a Saskatchewan Cree born in the early 1840s at Battleford, was only about 44 when he died in 1886. His short life encompassed a turbulent period in the history of Western Canada, one that continues to have repercussions to the present day. How does one explain to seven- and eight-year-olds the diversity of Aboriginal Plains cultures; the complex historical events such as the influx of European settlers; the treaty-making process; the extermination of the buffalo; the

Métis resistance of 1885 and the role of the Cree people in all these events? *Poundmaker: Peace Chief* tackles these questions while maintaining a level and language suitable for young children. Along with 16 pages of text, it presents 14 illustrations reproduced from identifiable historical records, one map, a small glossary, an index and three classroom exercises.

The objective of the publishers in creating the Canadian Biographies series is ambitious: to help children learn about the genre of biography, while reflecting student interest and curriculum requirements in Social Studies, Science and Arts. *Poundmaker: Peace Chief*, under the theme “Making a Difference,” is meant to promote an understanding of the historical content of the book and to encourage reflexion on this information. Adults using this book as a teaching tool should be prepared for thorny questions on what it means to keep promises, on concepts of treason and justice,

and on the contribution of Aboriginal peoples to Canada’s heritage. –MLP

QU’APPELLE
DAVID BOUCHARD
PAINTINGS: MICHAEL LONECHILD
 VANCOUVER: RAINCOAST BOOKS,
 2002. 32 P.
 ISBN 1551924757
AGES 10 TO 12



This book offers a versified retelling of a Cree legend about the Qu’Appelle Valley and the Qu’Appelle River it follows. One lake in the area is Katepwa, which means “river that calls,” and Qu’Appelle is actually a shortened version of *qui appelle* or “who calls?” Although author David Bouchard knew of one version of the legend written by Mohawk poet Pauline Johnson, his own retelling was inspired by the story that

was passed from generation to generation and to him by word of mouth.

It tells of a boy and a girl who became close friends, even before they knew how to walk or talk. Their friendship matured into sacred love. When Ikciv left to follow his fellow warriors, Witonina could not stand being alone. Upon his return to the valley, Ikciv heard a voice calling to him and he cried “Qui appelle?” He knew it was his love calling, and he rushed back, but he was too late for Witonina – she could not live without him.

Michael Lonechild is a Cree artist who was born on the White Bear Reserve. His expansive gouache paintings depict the land of that region in various seasons and the main events of the legend. –JP

THE SACRED HERBS
THERESA MEUSE-DALLIEN
ILLUSTRATIONS: ARTHUR STEVENS
 TRURO, N.S.: EASTERN WOODLAND
 PUBLISHING, 2000. 7 P.
 (COME LEARN ABOUT FIRST NATION
 CULTURE)
 ISBN 0968632092
AGES 4 TO 8



Matthew’s friend Jeremy asked him why he kept herbs in his room. Matthew explained that the sacred herbs are called sweet grass, cedar, sage and tobacco, and that they are used in prayers. Sometimes, the herbs are sprinkled as an offering to the Creator to give thanks; at other times, the herbs are burned in a Smudging Ceremony. The smoke takes their prayers to

the Creator and purifies the body. It is believed that the smoke helps people to think good thoughts, speak good words and walk on good paths.

Through her visits to public schools, the author realized that the school system lacked materials and information on Mi’kmaq sharing customs. This prompted her to write a series of seven stories: *The Eagle Feather*, *The Dream Catcher*, *The Sacred Herbs*, *The Medicine Pouch*, *The Medicine Wheel*, *The Talking Circle* and *The Drum*. These stories were published separately by Eastern Woodland Publishing and illustrated by Arthur Stevens. In 2003, Nimbus took over publishing and distribution rights, and released the stories as an anthology. –LS

THE SHARING CIRCLE: STORIES ABOUT FIRST NATIONS CULTURE
THERESA MEUSE-DALLIEN
ILLUSTRATIONS: ARTHUR STEVENS
 HALIFAX, N.S.: NIMBUS PUBLISHING,
 2003. 52 P.
 ISBN 1551094509
AGES 4 TO 8

The Sharing Circle: Stories about First Nations Culture is a collection of seven stories that feature a young Aboriginal boy named Matthew as the protagonist. Each story highlights a unique aspect of First Nations culture and spiritual beliefs. Matthew becomes a source of information for young readers who want to learn about important Aboriginal artifacts. There is the Eagle Feather used by Native drummers and dancers; the Dream Catcher, which when given as a gift, will help the recipient have good dreams; and the Medicine Pouch, in which items of sacred or special meaning can be carried.

The Sharing Circle is an informative, reader-friendly book. Illustrations by Mi’kmaq artist



Arthur Stevens complement the text and take readers on a visual journey while offering a learning experience. –MS

SKY

PAMELA PORTER

PICTURES: MARY JANE GERBER
TORONTO: GROUNDWOOD BOOKS,
2004. 83 P.
ISBN 0888995636
AGES 12 AND UP



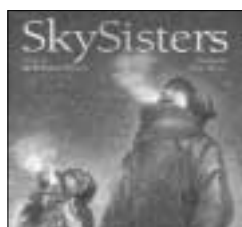
This very touching story is based on real lives and events in the mountains of Montana. A young Cree girl describes her life with her grandparents beginning in 1964, the year the river washes their house away.

Eleven-year-old Georgia Salois lives a quiet life with Paw Paw and Gramma and attends a small, seven-student Cree school. Everything changes when the dam holding back the waters of the creek that runs beside their house breaks and unleashes its terrible destructive force. They narrowly escape with their lives. Forced to ask for help in the white community, and faced with harshness and discrimination, the family pulls together and still finds ways to look to a positive future. Unexpectedly, a fragile foal is deposited on their land in the wake of the rushing waters and its presence brings challenge, hope and joy to the family.

In her first novel for children, Pamela Porter presents Aboriginal traditions and ways of thinking that contrast with the unfair reality that existed for indigenous peoples living in a white world at that time. Despite these circumstances, the young girl's gentle approach to life, persevering nature and closeness to her grandparents make this a beautiful and inspiring story for any young reader. Mary Jane Gerber's soft pencil sketches bring out this gentleness, and the proud faces of the individuals reinforce their quiet strength. –MB

SKYSISTERS

JAN BOURDEAU WABOOSE
ILLUSTRATIONS: BRIAN DEINES
TORONTO: KIDS CAN PRESS,
2000. 30 P.
ISBN 1550746979
AGES 4 TO 8



Allie (Nimise) and her younger sister Alex (Nishiime) are excited this night because it is the time of year for the Skyspirits to come out. The two Ojibway girls head out to Coyote Hill, full of anticipation for the night to come. Along the way, they come upon a rabbit, a deer dashes in front of them and they hear a coyote sing a lonely song.

Speaking in hushed tones, they drink in the myriad of stars and bask in Grandmother Moon's glow. As light snowflakes begin to fall, the sisters join hands and spin about with scarves and hair flying, until they fall into the soft snow, to look up at the night sky. There, they see themselves reflected in the Northern Lights that dance and spin – SkySisters, just like them.

Author Jan Bourdeau Waboose writes in a lyrical, open way to describe the wonder and awe of the girls as they experience the expansive night and the beauty it holds. The story is a mix of the bubbling youth of the sisters, the wild and yet trusting nature of the animals they encounter, and the silence and timelessness of the land and sky. –MB

**WHY RAVEN IS BLACK
LE CORBEAU NOIR EST BLANC
GWI GAN WIHL T'UUTSXWHL
GAAK**

BRENDA WILSON
**FRENCH TRANSLATION:
SOPHIE DODART**
**GITXSANIMAX TRANSLATION:
FERN WEGET**
SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QC:
ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
2002. 24 P.
(ALBUM ILLUSTRÉ)
ISBN 2922691136
AGES 4 TO 8

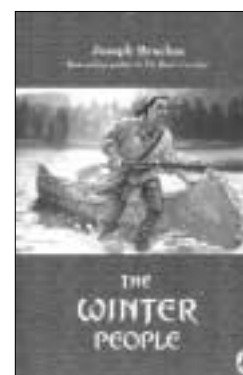


A multilingual retelling of a Tsimshian creation legend in English, French and Gitxsanimax. Grandfather Sky Chief kept all light locked in a box. Curious Raven wanted the glowing box. He managed to convince Grandfather to give it to him. As soon as Sky Chief offered it to him, Raven flew out the smoke hole and opened it. The sun escaped from the box and the day began. No sources are available for this legend.

Black and white traditional motifs frame the text and full colour illustrations are interspersed throughout the story. Éditions du soleil de minuit has a wide selection of bilingual or multilingual books in French, English and Aboriginal languages relating to Aboriginal legends and stories. –JP

THE WINTER PEOPLE

JOSEPH BRUCHAC
NEW YORK: PUFFIN,
2004. 168 P.
ISBN 014240229X
AGES 12 AND UP



Joseph Bruchac retells the events of the cowardly October 1759 attack led by Major Robert Roberts of the Rangers on the Abenaki village of St. Francis, near Sorel, Quebec. The story is told from the point of view of a 14-year-old boy called Saxso. The Abenakis were allied with the French; most had converted to Catholicism and lived in timbered houses. The Chief was warned that the Bostonians were attacking and so he decided to leave with most of the warriors to ambush them. The Rangers attacked the defenceless village; most of the women and children were killed and the buildings were burned with the people still inside. Saxso's mother and sisters were taken hostage and he was wounded in the raid. When he recovered, he followed the Ranger's trail.

Throughout Saxso's perilous journey to rescue his family, he remembered the stories his mother told him of the Winter People. These people became creatures through their insatiable hunger – they would eat but never be filled, and in their greed, they consumed everything and everyone until their hearts were like ice. –LS

Aboriginal Stories

FRENCH TITLES



L'AFFAIRE DU COLLÈGE INDIEN
SYLVIE BRIEN
ILLUSTRATIONS: GIANNI DE CONNO
PARIS: GALLIMARD JEUNESSE,
2006. 151 P.
(LES ENQUÊTES DE VIPÉRINE MALTAIS)
ISBN 207057282X
AGES 10 TO 12



In the first volume entitled *Mortels Noël's*, the reputation of Vipérine Maltais, the extremely clever student, spreads well beyond her boarding school following an attempt on the life of a nun. In *L'affaire du collège indien*, Father Cloridan calls upon the investigative talents of Vipérine Maltais to shed light on a mysterious fire in a boys' school located on the edge of a forest near the village of Saint-Elme.

As part of her investigation, the young Vipérine interrogates witnesses, including the hot-tempered Brother Majorique, two Aboriginal boarders, Bertholin Chamaillard and Menon Saganash, as well as the pharmacist Omer Dumontel and his wife Julienne. Vipérine has a lot to deal with: a ghost, a mystery dating from colonial times, jealousy and a lost inheritance. Vipérine has an endearing personality. A young, intelligent and resourceful orphan, she lives with her

younger sister at a convent run by her great aunt.

Sylvie Brien does justice to the issue of residential schools, and the treatment of Aboriginal youngsters, who were taken from their families and educated far from their relatives and traditions. They were even forbidden from speaking their own language. A great many children suffered cruelty and deprivation in these schools. -JP

L'AFFREUX :
CONTE AMÉRINDIEN
MICHÈLE MARINEAU
ILLUSTRATIONS: GENEVIÈVE CÔTÉ
MONTRÉAL: LES 400 COUPS,
2005. 32 P.
(MONSTRES, SORCIÈRES ET
AUTRES FÉERIES)
ISBN 2895401209
AGES 4 TO 8



After falling headfirst into a river whirlpool, a little girl finds herself in another world where she meets a disgusting creature that she calls L'Affreux.

The villain holds her prisoner in a foul cave, and every day threatens to devour her. In spite of this, her kindness mollifies the beast and a tacit complicity develops between

the two. The story turns into an adventure in which friendship plays an unexpected role.

This talented author charms the reader with *L'Affreux*, an extremely free and interesting adaptation of an Aboriginal tale. Geneviève Côté's magnificent illustrations, with their contrast of soft colours and black, give weight to the tale. The tender and naïve images, done in watercolour, etching and pastel, make a strong impact. *L'Affreux* is the first picture book by Michèle Marineau published by Les éditions les 400 coups. A resounding success! -IB

ALBIN VISITE
LES AUTOCHTONES
TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS:
JULIE R. BÉLANGER
TRANSLATION: BRIGITTE ST-ONGE
SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
2004. 24 P.
(ALBUM DU CRÉPUSCULE)
ISBN 2922691055
AGES 4 TO 8



It is the end of summer and Albin, a young snowy owl who lives in Nunavik, takes a giant step and sets out on his first voyage south. To his great surprise, he discovers civilization, with its mixture of men's voices and children's shouts.

The story gives young children an opportunity to travel with Albin and learn about the way of life of the inhabitants of this far-away land in all seasons. The story also familiarizes children with certain aspects of Inuit culture kept alive by Elders in an effort to pass on their mores and customs to the next generation.

In a short while, winter is over and spring gradually settles in. And spring of course means the season of love. Will Albin meet his mate? A story to follow...

This picture book is accompanied by the highly expressive watercolours of Julie R. Bélanger. It has been translated into the 11 Aboriginal languages of Quebec.

The collection also includes *L'enfant qui rêvait de s'envoler...* -CM

L'ANNIVERSAIRE D'APUTIK
DIANE GROULX
ILLUSTRATIONS: BRENDA WATSON
TRANSLATION: SARAH BEAULNE
SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
2003. 24 P.
ISBN 2922691241
AGES 4 TO 8



Aputik, a young Inuk, is getting ready to celebrate her fifth birthday. While watching television, she is attracted

by an advertisement for a multi-action doll. She mentions it to her mother, who has an even bigger surprise in store for her. For the first time, Aputik is to help gather mussels on the sea ice in preparation for her birthday dinner with all the relatives. To finish this memorable day, her parents give her a unique gift: a doll designed by her great-grandmother to instill the values of her culture. The message the story conveys is that simple things can give great pleasure.

The very attractive water-colours created by illustrator Brenda Watson appear on each page of text, which is simultaneously translated into Inuktitut.

The collection includes *Les familles du Nunavik*, *La grand-mère d'Aputik* and *L'album d'Aputik*. -CM

**L'ARAIGNÉE GÉANTE
MICTA EHEPIKW**

ESTELLE WHITOM
ILLUSTRATIONS: STÉPHANE SIMARD
TRANSLATION: MARTHA NIQUAY
SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
2002. 24 P.
(ALBUM DU CRÉPUSCULE)
ISBN 2922691209
AGES 4 TO 8



“Please bring a personal item to exchange with a friend,” is written on the invitation received by Julien, the main character in this book.

In the clutter of his room, the little boy mutters to himself about having to select one of his toys for the exchange. Then he thinks of a small Venetian mirror. While searching for the item, Julien looks under the bed. He thinks he sees a tiny creature crawling there, maybe even a giant spider. The incident teaches him to overcome his fears – he understands that imagination often plays tricks on us. The amusing conclusion devised by the author should surprise the reader.

This first picture book by Estelle Whittom won first prize in the Concours littéraire Lurelu 2000. The illustrations that accompany the text are conventional and effective. The drawing of a little spider that appears as each page is turned is a plus – its constant presence enhances the graphic design. -IB

LES BOIS MAGIQUES
ANDRÉ NOËL
ILLUSTRATIONS: FRANCIS BACK
MONTREAL: LA COURTE ÉCHELLE,
2000. 95 P.
(ROMAN JEUNESSE)
ISBN 2890214036
AGES 8 TO 10



This first novel, a trilogy which recounts the adventures of two teenagers, is a perfect blend of fiction and history. Added to the historical facts

surrounding Cartier's second voyage are the tribulations of Pierre, and those of Ahonque with the shaman and the deer with magic antlers.

It is 1535, and Pierre, a 12-year-old farmboy, must leave Brittany following a clash with the son of his master. In St-Malo, he hires on as a sailor on Jacques Cartier's ship, *la Grande Hermine*, about to sail to the New World. In Canada, famine is ravaging the Aboriginal village of Achelacy and the shaman is looking for a scapegoat. Eleven-year-old Ahonque, daughter of the Chief, wants to save her people. In the forest, she meets an injured deer and prepares to kill it. However, in exchange for its life, the deer, whose antlers have magic properties, gives her the secret of eternal youth.

Cartier travels from Stadacona to Hochelaga. There he meets Aboriginal peoples who warn him of danger. One of these is Ahonque, whom the Chief gives to Cartier to protect from the shaman's revenge. Pierre and the girl become friends. Cartier returns to Stadacona for the winter. Scurvy is decimating Native peoples and sailors alike. With Pierre's help, Ahonque recovers the deer's antlers to treat the children and discovers an extract for the adults. When Cartier returns to Europe, Ahonque sails with Pierre on the ship.

The illustrations by Francis Back contain powerful and evocative imagery. The novels *L'orphelin des mers* and *Trafic chez les Hurons* complete the trilogy. -HBP



LE CAPTEUR DE RÊVES

MICHEL NOËL

ILLUSTRATIONS: DANIELA ZÉKINA

MONTRÉAL: HURTUBISE HMH,

2002. 76 P.

(COLLECTION PLUS)

ISBN 2894286031

AGES 8 TO 10



When dreams and reality are combined, the time of legends and tales is born. Once upon a time, in an Anishinabe community (part of the larger Algonquin family), a spider was quietly spinning its web on the roof of the tent of two midwives, Nékokum and Mendesh. One day, it jumped to the ground and turned into a spider woman. This magic woman revealed her powers to the two midwives and offered them an amazing gift: a dream catcher in the shape of a spider web. This mysterious object had the power to trap children's nightmares and replace them with sweet dreams. Nékokum and Mendesh decided to share this formidable discovery with all the members of the tribe, and proposed that every child receive a dream catcher at birth.

Michel Noël has written a very beautiful story, in which an Aboriginal myth is recounted and explained with great sensitivity. Daniela Zékina's charming pencil drawings reveal the

fragile beauty of these people and enhance the text. The book also includes questions and activities that allow the reader to evaluate levels of understanding and knowledge of Aboriginal customs. -DSH

CARCAJOU, DÉMON DES BOIS :

CONTE AMÉRINDIEN

GENEVIÈVE MATIVAT

ILLUSTRATIONS:

GÉRARD FRISCHETEAU

MONTRÉAL: ÉDITIONS DE L'ISATIS,

2005. 72 P.

(KORRIGAN)

ISBN 2923234111

AGES 8 TO 10



One winter, the son of the Montagnais man Innu died of starvation. With the help of Tshishe-Manitou, Innu found the courage to overcome his grief in order to save his wife

and younger son from famine. He walked a long way, got lost and was surrounded by a pack of starving wolves. Because Maikan, the leader of the wolf pack, was stronger than the man, he had to obey the wolf. Innu led the wolves to a herd of caribou. They killed as many as they could and the hunt became a real carnage. Innu had broken an unwritten law: killing only to satisfy one's needs, so that the animals could still reproduce.

Although subject to Maikan, Innu manages to shake off the wolf. When Innu wakes up, he finds he has become a wolverine as the result of a spell cast on him by Maikan. Because Innu broke his word with Maikan, he will be under this spell his entire life. To this very day, the wolverine roams the forest and watches its inhabitants. He pursues men who forget that all living things are related and that a balance must be maintained between life and death.

The author-narrator based his story on a Montagnais myth that tries to explain the inexplicable: the origin of the

wolverine and northern societies' long struggle with famine. Without fail, game had to be hunted and cold and darkness overcome. In traditional societies, great importance was given to the men who had exceptional talent for hunting and fishing. These tales recounted their disappointments and super-human accomplishments. -ST

CHASSE EN QIMUTSIK

JOANASSIE SIVUARAÏK

ILLUSTRATIONS: FRANÇOIS GIRARD

SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:

ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,

2003. 46 P.

(DÉFI AUTOCHTONE)

ISBN 292269125X

AGES 8 TO 10

Followed by *Mwakw*

by Konik Flamand



A young Inuk accompanies his father on a hunt by dogsled. The action takes place in Nunavik, northern Quebec. As they travel, his father teaches him the rules, which include encouraging the dogs by shouting. He discovers the tundra and learns to recognize useful reference points. He very much prefers the dogsled to the snowmobile, which is fast but noisy. He learns igloo construction and ice fishing. He encourages children to travel in this non-polluting way, even if he was afraid when the blizzard and the darkness slowed down their return trip.



The short story *Mwakw* plunges us into the mystery surrounding a legendary character who lives in harmony with nature and animals. A stranger, intrigued, tries to circumvent the phenomena that occur in the presence of Mwakw. However, bitter disappointment awaits him because of his lack of confidence in Mwakw.

The illustrations depict the close links between characters, landscape and nature: the bitter cold of the vast northern spaces in *Chasse en qimutsik* and the soft summer breezes in *Mwakw*. –JMB

LE CHEVAL D'ISABELLE
SYLVAIN MEUNIER

ILLUSTRATIONS: PAUL ROUX
HULL, QUEBEC: VENTS D'OUEST,
2002. 145 P.
(GIROUETTE)
ISBN 2895370397
AGES 10 TO 12



This adventure story is about Isabelle, a teenager, who has a passion for horses. She takes riding lessons every Saturday

and spends two weeks in the summer at riding camp. Her greatest desire is to have a horse like the one she sees in her dreams. That very summer on her first night in camp, the great white steed of her dreams appears to her on the edge of a lake. Is this the mysterious ghost horse from the local legend that the camp leader has told her about? Little by little, the horse and the teenager come to trust each other. Throwing caution to the wind, Isabelle decides to ride him. She is immediately carried into a world of fantasy beyond time, where she discovers a marvellous tale in which great love stands up to the forces of evil.

Author Sylvain Meunier began to write novels for young people after winning a Radio-Canada short story contest in 1993. *Le cheval d'Isabelle* is his ninth book. He has been awarded a number of prizes, including the Grand prix du livre de la Montérégie 2003 and the National Book Awards 2003, Littérature jeunesse. He was also a finalist for the Governor General's Book Award in 2005.

The illustrations of Paul Roux enhance the intensity of the story. –HBP

LE COUTEAU MAGIQUE
LOUISE-MICHELLE SAURIOL
ILLUSTRATIONS: BRENDA WATSON
SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
2000. 78 P.
(ROMAN DE L'AUBE)
ISBN 2922691020
AGES 8 TO 10



Jaani, master of a dog team in a small Alaskan village, receives a wonderful gift: Anouk, a sled dog. In spite of complaints from other dogs, Anouk is immediately made lead dog because of her extraordinary flair.

Jaani's sister Liitia enjoys telling stories, which she enhances by tracing shapes in the snow with her ivory knife. Timmiaq, her young cousin, is determined to get the magic knife for himself. He manages to flee with the coveted object, but at what price! Anouk

plays a key role in helping the little boy and uses all kinds of tricks to get the boy out of his predicament. But will the dog team succeed in a second exploit? Timmiaq's life depends on it.

This novella moves rapidly from one event to the next; it captivates the reader from start to finish. Expressive black and white drawings illustrate the chapters.

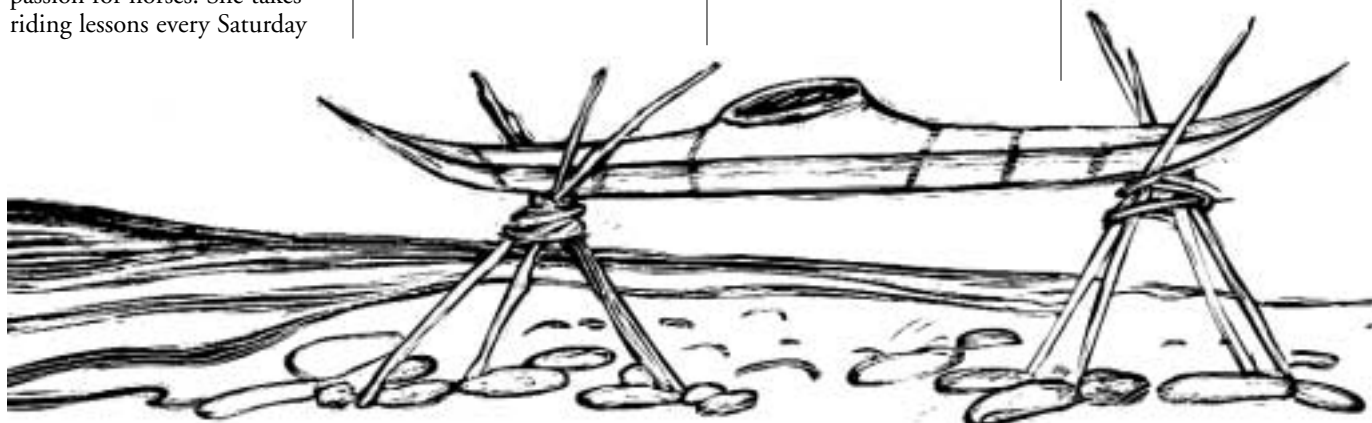
By the same author: *L'équipée fantastique*. –CM

LA CRÉATURE DES NEIGES
KUNAPEU

TEXT AND ILLUSTRATIONS:
STÉPHANE SIMARD
TRANSLATION: JOSÉPHINE BACON
SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
2000. 24 P.
ISBN 2922691012
AGES 4 TO 8



A grandfather tells his grandchildren a story to which he himself was a witness: the story of the *créature des neiges*. Because of severe winter weather, he and two lumberjack friends found themselves holed up in a cabin in the



woods. They had to be very careful to preserve their heat if they were going to survive. For this reason, they hesitated allowing a bizarre stranger who knocked on the door in the middle of the night entry to their hard-to-heat shelter. When a huge terrifying figure came in, they sat him down near the wood stove.

They went back to bed and soon felt the cold creeping into their cabin. The freezing lumberjacks passed out. When they came to, good weather had returned and they were warmed by a spring breeze. It was then that they noticed that all that remained of the ice man who came in during the night were his clothes and a large puddle.

Since all the action of *La créature des neiges* takes place in an enclosed space, the illustrations are of utmost importance. The anxiety felt by the characters is clearly visible in their expressions of fear and incredulity. The images work well with the text in creating a mysterious atmosphere for this short story. -JMB

LA DISPARITION
CHARLOTTE GINGRAS
 MONTRÉAL: LA COURTE ÉCHELLE,
 2005. 159 P.
 ISBN 2890217566
AGES 12 AND UP



On receiving a notebook containing a message written by her dead mother, Viola is both broken-hearted and furious. She flees northward. On the Labrador Express, troubled by painful memories, she meets Nashtash, an Innu girl who is rocking her baby. Arriving in Nitassinan, in the land of the Innu, Viola is welcomed by Nukun, Nashtash's grandmother. The two girls united by chance gradually become friends. Before finding the place where her mother died, Viola must understand Nitassinan.

This novel contrasts the realities and values of two worlds. Both the vast land of forests and rivers and nature devastated by mining companies

are described in this magnificent coming-of-age novel. A glossary and the words to a lullaby sung by Nashtash add to the appreciation of the sounds of the Innu language.

Charlotte Gingras writes novels for teenagers and children. She won the Governor General's Literary Award for Children's Literature for her two novels *La liberté? Connais pas...* and *Un été de Jade*. She also received the Mr. Christie's Book Award for her novel *La boîte à bonheur*. -JP

ÉPIT ET LE GÉANT
GENEVIÈVE MATIVAT
ILLUSTRATIONS: DANIELA ZÉKINA
 SAINT-LAURENT, QUEBEC: ÉDITIONS
 P. TISSEYRE, 2003. 54 P.
 (SAFARI HISTOIRE)
 ISBN 289051868X
AGES 8 TO 10



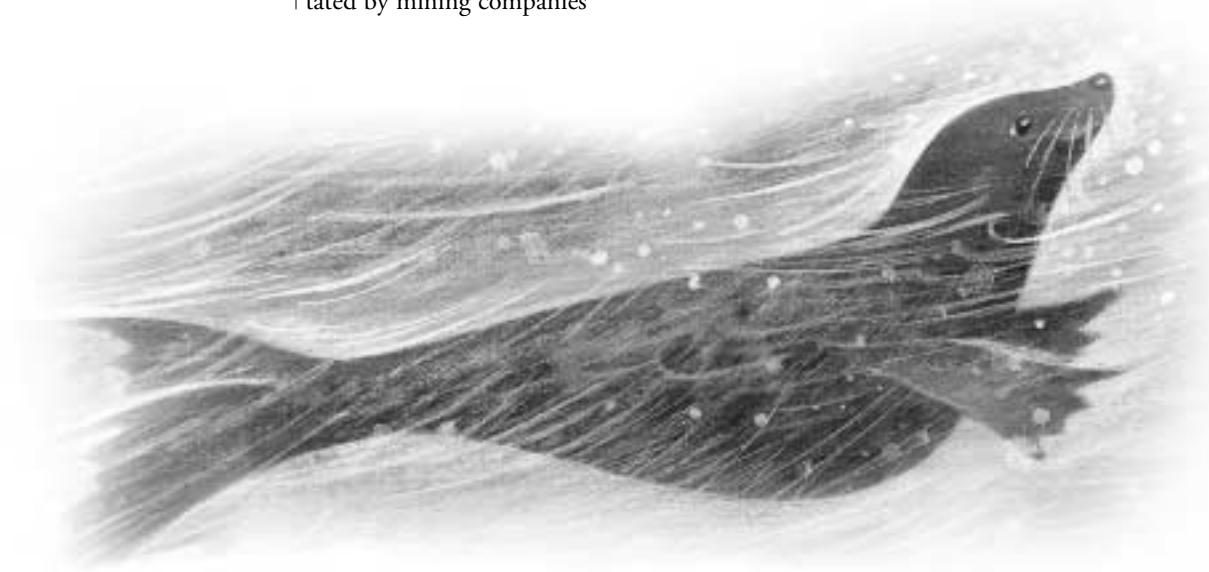
This story is based on a Montagnais legend that begins in the time when man and giants lived side by side. In *Épit*

et le géant, the hunting season is poor and the young Épit gets lost in the forest. His parents leave for a new hunting ground without waiting for him. Épit meets the giant Mishtapew, who protects him from cold and hunger.

With Mishtapew's help, Épit is reunited with his family, but the giant makes them understand that they must protect their child and respect nature. As they leave, the giant shows Épit how to communicate with spirits. Thanks to his teachings, Épit becomes a shaman.

The subtle illustrations by Daniela Zékina are done in gouache on textured paper. Costumes, habitat and animals have all been researched meticulously. Her expressive style is just right for the harsh and mysterious world of this legend.

The "Safari Histoire" collection introduces the reader to different cultures and traditions. The "Carnet de route" section contains information on the origins of this legend, the lifestyle and the social structure of the Montagnais, whose lands are located between the Ungava Peninsula and the North Shore. -JP



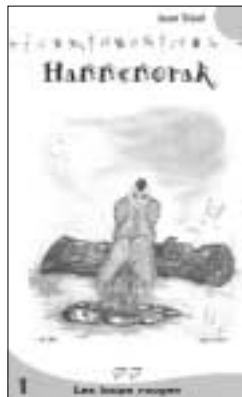
LE GRAND NORD
QUENTIN VAN GINHOVEN,
STÉPHANE TANGUAY
ILLUSTRATIONS:
FRANÇOIS COUTURE, JANOU FLEURY,
QUENTIN VAN GINHOVEN
 OUTREMONT, QUEBEC: TRÉCARRÉ,
 2001. 65 [4] P.
 ISBN 2895680221
AGES 12 AND UP

A complement to the film *Le Grand Nord*, this work is a wonderful tool for initiating the reader to the vast unknown area of the North. The content of the various chapters is handled knowledgeably and the many aspects of the arctic environment and its inhabitants are presented in dynamic fashion. An activity at the end of each chapter encourages readers to broaden their knowledge of the subject in question.

The final section of the book contains descriptions by the filmmakers of the production process – an exercise that can be extremely demanding.

Suggestions for additional resources such as websites, atlases and reference works are highly accessible. The many maps, illustrations and colour pictures enrich the book's content. –CM

HANNENORAK : CONTES
JEAN SIOUI
ILLUSTRATIONS: MANON SIOUI
 QUÉBEC: LE LOUP DE GOUTTIÈRE,
 2004. 48 P.
 (LES LOUPS ROUGES)
 ISBN 2895291004
AGES 8 TO 10



This is a collection of seven Wendat (Huron) tales as told by storyteller Chaman-dake. He explains the role of animals in nature and passes on ancestral teachings to the reader as if his audience were seated in front of him for an evening of storytelling.

A number of ancestral tales describe the attributes of animals: for example, the big round eyes of the owl; the mole at the bottom of its burrow; or, we also learn how a red bear cub saved the life of a child.

Some other tales have been updated, including one in which a porcupine likes coffee and whose quills were used as javelins at the Olympic Games.

The book is punctuated by small black and white illustrations that range from faithful representations of the flora and fauna, to more stylized interpretations. –JP

IMMAALUK, QUELQUES JOURS
CHEZ QUARA ET KUNUK
JACQUES PASQUET
ILLUSTRATIONS:
GÉRARD FRISCHETEAU
 MONTRÉAL: ÉDITIONS P. TISSEYRE,
 2002. 56 P.
 ISBN 2890518418
AGES 8 TO 10



The story begins with two young Inuit children and their family, in winter. Quara learns to light the seal oil lamp, and to chew and sew skins by imitating her grandmother. She also joins other women in trapping gulls. Although her brother Kunuk is very young for the seal hunt, he accompanies his grandfather and looks after the dogs. He also learns to build a makeshift shelter for protection in a blizzard. The return from a successful hunt is an occasion for festivities.

As the warm season approaches, the entire group leaves for the Grande Baie summer camp, where the skin tents will be pitched and there will be an abundance of fish.

Gérard Frischeteau's detailed computer-generated artwork enhances the documentary aspect of the book. The "Carnet de route" section contains useful information on Inuit dwellings, water crafts, hunting, tools and diet. The legend of the woman who changes into a she-wolf, translated from Inuktitut, is also included. –JP

LA LÉGENDE DU CORBEAU
ISABELLE LAROUCHE
ILLUSTRATIONS:
JULIE RÉMILLARD-BOUCHER
TRANSLATION: SARAH BEAULNE
 SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
 ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
 2002. 24 P.
 ISBN 2922691195
AGES 4 TO 8



Three brothers go out to hunt caribou on the tundra. The two older ones each kill a caribou, but the youngest, unsuccessful, is disappointed at being unable to earn the respect of his brothers.

A violent storm comes up and forces them to leave by sled. In their haste, they forget the cover (*qaag*). The youngest boy decides to return to the camp on foot to get it; he thinks that he will protect his brothers from the cold and show his tenacity. The wind



swoops him up and he finds himself floating through the air. He loses his clothing and is turned into a raven. The two brothers weep for the loss of their little brother. Ever since that time, the “Caw! Caw! Caw!” of a guardian raven reminds caribou hunters to remember the cover.

This picture book illustrates the lifestyle of the Inuit. French and Inuktitut texts describe objects (*tupiq, qullik, qamutiik*), clothing items (*atigik, paluuk, kamik, qaaq*) and animals (*tuktu, qimmik, tulugak*) essential to their survival. Every right-hand page is a brightly coloured illustration. The facial expressions of the characters reflect the physical and emotional upheaval that sweeps through them. –JMB

LUNE D'ÉRABLE
CONNIE BRUMMEL CROOK
ILLUSTRATIONS: SCOTT CAMERON
TRANSLATION:
MARIE-ANDRÉE CLERMONT
 MARKHAM, ONTARIO: ÉDITIONS
 SCHOLASTIC, 2000. 31 P.
 ISBN 0439985978
AGES 8 TO 10
 Published in English under
 the title *Maple Moon*
 (Toronto: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1997)

The book is inspired by an Aboriginal legend about the discovery of maple water (sap). The story explores traditional Aboriginal life and it is also a lovely tale of ingenuity and personal discovery. Fend-le-vent, who becomes Petit-Corbeau-avisé, is a small boy and a member of the Mississauga nation. This eight-year-old is the victim of harassment by other children of the tribe because he limps. Since he cannot share in the children's games, he often takes refuge in the forest with his dog and faithful friend, Nimouche. This year, winter is harsh and everyone is starving. Thanks to his talents of observation and the help of a small red squirrel, the boy

discovers maple water, which saves his people from famine.

At the end of the book, the author includes historical notes which explain the discovery of maple water and the making of syrup – a complicated process at that time.

Scott Cameron illustrates the life of this handicapped boy with sensitivity. He depicts a youngster who, because of his courage and determination, has carved a place for himself in the community. –HBP

MA TANTE CHARLOTTE
CHRISTOPHE LOYER
ILLUSTRATIONS:
LOUISE-CATHERINE BERGERON
TRANSLATION: MARTHA NIQUAY
 SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
 ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
 2001. 24 P.
 ISBN 2922691063
AGES 4 TO 8



Louis-Paul has never met his aunt Charlotte, whom his father has invited for supper tonight. As the story unfolds, Louis-Paul is curious to learn more about her and wonders what type of work she could possibly do. He imagines her as a physician caring for sick children, an astronaut travelling in space, an actress signing autographs, a magician, or an acrobat. The scenarios he creates are illustrated in a lively and colourful style. Intrigued by his aunt's visit, Louis-Paul talks to his father, who tells him that it is not what his sister does for a living that is important, but who she is – a person very dear to him.

This delightful story, which focuses on the importance

of family, is the first work by the young Christophe Loyer. Readers will enjoy the creative illustrations of Louise-Catherine Bergeron. It is an entertaining and fun-filled picture book. –IB

LE MONSTRE DE LA CAVE
KOKODJI ANAMISAKAG
JEAN-DENIS CÔTÉ
ILLUSTRATIONS: CAROLINE MEROLA
TRANSLATION: CÉCILE MAPACHEE
 SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
 ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
 2002. 24 P.
 (ALBUM DU CRÉPUSCULE)
 ISBN 2922691152
AGES 4 TO 8



Simon's yellow ball vanishes into the depths of the basement of his house. He is seven years old and is afraid to go down to the basement alone because he believes a pointy-nosed monster lives there. With flashlight in hand and bravely facing his fears, Simon starts down the steps, one by one. And ooh! aah! It is only after he experiences a whirlwind of emotion, that the reassuring outcome of the story emerges.

Author Jean-Denis Côté writes in a straightforward and practical style, inviting young readers to overcome their fears. An Algonquin translation of the text is presented on each left-hand page of the book. The luminous water-colour illustrations by Caroline Merola are a lovely addition to the work. The style of this illustrator is familiar, as she again pays particular attention to décor, atmosphere and perspective. In this read, suspense is guaranteed! –IB



LA NAISSANCE DU GOËLAND :
CONTE INUIT
JACQUES PASQUET
ILLUSTRATIONS: PIERRE HOUDE
 MONTRÉAL: ÉDITIONS DE L'ISATIS,
 2004. 60 P.
 (KORRIGAN)
 ISBN 2923234022
AGES 8 TO 10



The arrival of the sun in the sky marks the time for the Inuit clan to leave its encampment on the sea ice. The journey to the place where the summer camp is to be set up will be long and perilous.

Enveloped in an otherworldly fog and separated from the men of the clan, the women and Elders must ask Brother Moon for assistance to find their relatives. The secret of the birth of the first gulls is a thrilling revelation at the end of the story.

Inspiration for this story, by author Jacques Pasquet, comes

from his many encounters with the Inuit. As writer and storyteller, he approaches the themes of memory and wisdom in this captivating tale about an Inuit clan in search of itself in spite of a spell cast by Naarjuk, the spirit-ruler of the elements and weather.

The illustrations of Pierre Houde, adapted from an animated film, embody the mystical colours of the story. –FO

L'ORIGINAL BLANC
JEAN LACOMBE
 SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
 ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
 2004. 95 P.
 ISBN 2922691306
AGES 12 AND UP



The comic strip section of *L'original blanc* introduces Maskwa, an Aboriginal hunter, who is looking for a mythical moose. He is determined to find him to ensure the survival

of his clan. While travelling through the forest, Maskwa, assisted by a raven, meets Michaël, a young boy who is lost in the panels of the comic strip.

The comic strip alternates with the chapters of a book in which the memories of the narrator Michaël appear: a birthday interrupted by the surprise visit of a moose lost in the suburbs; holidays with his father in the forests of Abitibi; his return to the city and his mother's apartment. The episodes in the novel and the comic strip go back and forth, like a tale alternating between dream and reality.

Though their stories overlap, the hunter Maskwa and the young boy Michaël are clearly different when it comes to their personalities. The sketches of landscapes and animals are subtle, in shades of black, white and grey. The graphic layout, with its angular variations, makes the story very accessible. Jean Lacombe is a cartoonist, an animation

teacher and children's author. *L'original blanc* is a unique original work. –JP

PINGUALUIT OU LA FONTAINE DE JOUVENCE
DIANE GROULX
ILLUSTRATIONS: CHANTAL GERVAIS
 SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
 ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
 2002. 77 P.
 (ROMAN DE L'AUBE)
 ISBN 2980580252
AGES 8 TO 10



Anaanatsiak, the grandmother and godmother of Nirliq, an eight-year-old Inuit girl, is very ill. Saddened, the little girl goes off by herself to relive pleasant memories of her grandmother. She meets a goose, who asks her to get her grandmother to tell her about Pingualuit, a crater filled with crystal water that magically bestows youth. Pingualuit is a lake that is far and surrounded by cliffs, making travel to it difficult. Nirliq's brother, 16-year-old Ilaijah, agrees to take her there, but asks her to wait until after one hunt. But Nirliq does not listen, and venturing out on her own, she falls. Ilaijah finds her and takes her back to the house with a gourd filled with water from the lake for their grandmother.

In this story, young Nirliq comes to understand life, illness and death, and realizes that she cannot change the course of time. A glossary at the end of the book provides a translation of the Inuktitut words used throughout the story.

Author Diane Groulx has written two other novels for young people, *Le défi nordique* and *Terreur dans la taïga*. This is a first work by illustrator Chantale Gervais. –HBP

LE SECRET DE LA LANTERNE
NIBAWASAKONENDJIGAN O
KIMODJI TIBADJIMOWIN
LOUISE TONDREAU-LEVERT
ILLUSTRATIONS: ÉLAINE CÔTÉ
TRANSLATION: CÉCILE MAPACHEE
 SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
 ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
 2003. 24 P.
 (ALBUM DU CRÉPUSCULE)
 ISBN 2922691284
AGES 4 TO 8



This picture book, part folk tale, part legend, is about a little girl whose grandmother Colombe tells her about the secret of the lantern. “Once upon a time,” the grandmother said one stormy night, “my mother Marie-Ange wanted to take the lantern to meet my father who was late getting home. On her way, a strange thing happened at the edge of the woods. The flame, trapped inside the lantern, began to dance, and in a single bound, leapt from the globe, darting in and out among the trees. In an instant, the entire forest was lit up like a crystal chandelier. At the same time, at the other end of the forest, a man named Tagouannissi came to the aid of Marie-Ange’s husband, Fernand.” As the story progresses, the reader learns that Tagouannissi, an Aboriginal man, becomes an extraordinary friend.

Louise Tondreau-Levert describes the friendships between colonists and Aboriginal peo-

ple at the beginning of the 20th century. The large pastel drawings by Éleine Côté offer a traditional perspective of the many historical characters. –IB

**LE SOLEIL CACHÉ :
 UNE LÉGENDE INUITE
 DE L'ARCTIQUE**

**ADAPTATION, ILLUSTRATIONS:
 AMANDA HALL**
TRANSLATION: LOUISE DROLET
 MONTRÉAL: CHENELIÈRE ÉDUCTION,
 2006. 24 P.
 ISBN 2765006962
AGES 8 TO 10

Raven created the stars, the water, the forests, the birds, the fish, and the animals. He also created humankind, to whom he taught a song, or golden rule, to encourage balance between the needs of humans and what nature provides. Over time, the humans forgot the song and Raven left with the sun to punish them for their negligence. It was only when a child born to Raven and an Inuit woman entered the invisible world that living things would again enjoy the heat of the sun.

This tale is mythical in recounting the creation of the world, and sacred in invoking humans to live in harmony with the universe and to respect the rules of survival in a glacial environment. Like many tales, it contains lessons for young and old alike, with its share of punishments and rewards. The pictorial adaptation of this traditional work portrays the extreme vulnera-



bility of humans when faced with the hostile powers of nature, and the strength they draw from the supernatural. Each illustration, many of them circular, fills two pages. The use of warm and cool colours is effective in conveying the emotions in the story. A master of her art, the illustrator incorporates textures, providing a three-dimensional effect to the work. –ST

TRAFIC CHEZ LES HURONS
ANDRÉ NOËL
ILLUSTRATIONS: FRANCIS BACK
 MONTRÉAL: LA COURTE ÉCHELLE,
 2000. 95 P.
 (ROMAN JEUNESSE)
 ISBN 2890214362
AGES 10 TO 12



In this novel, a sort of “who-dunit” and the third in a trilogy, characters Pierre and Ahonque are back, the heroes of the novel *Les bois magiques*. In Quebec, in 1614, the French were trading furs with the Montagnais, the Hurons and the Algonquins. Pierre

and Ahonque, still young, thanks to the secret of eternal youth, become unwittingly involved in a fur-trafficking scheme against a background of tribal war. Unscrupulous individuals, including one Jacques Cadorette, cheat and rob the Aboriginal people who come to trade with the white men. The characters are sympathetic and credible, the writing is of a high standard, and the era is portrayed with assurance and authority.

Author and Montréal native André Noël is a journalist with *La Presse*. He has won a number of awards, including the Prix Judith-Jasmin. He has also written a novel for adults, *Le seigneur des rutabagas*, as well as short stories and poems that have been published in various literary reviews. La courte échelle has published three of his novels for young readers: *Les bois magiques*, *L'orphelin des mers* and *Trafic chez les Hurons*.

The illustrations provided by Francis Back are strong and evocative. –HBP

LA VISITE NORDIQUE
DIANE GROULX
 SAINT-DAMIEN-DE-BRANDON, QUEBEC:
 ÉDITIONS DU SOLEIL DE MINUIT,
 2002. 138 P.
 ISBN 2922691187
AGES 12 AND UP



An Inuit family from the far north of Quebec travels to the south of Nunavik to obtain medical treatment for newborn baby Putulik. Aurélie and

her brother Julien, along with close friend Noah, experience an unforgettable summer while staying at their grandparents.

The mysterious disappearance of Shadow, their grandparents' dog, draws them into an action-packed adventure. When other dogs go missing, the children suspect a dog-napper ring. They set out to find the thieves' hideout, free the animals and have the thieves arrested. Heightened by risk and suspense, it is a true investigative tale that could have ended easily in tragedy. Adding to the book's spirit of adventure, author Diane Groulx introduces the reader to many beliefs and legends of Inuit culture, including those related to the northern lights and the ghost canoe as described by the Elders. -JMB

**LE VOL DES CHIMÈRES :
SUR LA ROUTE DU CATHAY;
LES MIRAGES DE L'AUBE;
LE CHOC DES RÊVES;
LES TEMPS FOURBES**

JOSÉE OUMET
SAINT-LAURENT, QUEBEC: ÉDITIONS
P. TISSEYRE, 2000-2003.
(CONQUÊTES)
AGES 12 AND UP



In his quest for a northwest passage to China, the famous explorer Jacques Cartier arrives in Canada at Stadacona where he meets the great Chief, Donnacona. It is in this historical setting that Josée Oumet

begins her collection of stories entitled *Le vol des chimères*. Jacques Cartier soon meets Shanaweh, a young Aboriginal woman, who is given to him as a gift, so that she can learn to communicate with the Europeans. Shanaweh is torn between loyalty to her people and her desire to know the strangers better. When Cartier's voyage ends, Shanaweh leaves her home to discover a new world. During her travels, as described in these four volumes, she experiences many adventures, some happy and others challenging.

Author Josée Oumet is passionate about music, the French language and history. In this work, she successfully melds elements of fiction and historical fact to produce a captivating story about dreams of hope and dreams of discovery. -FO

LE WAPITI
MONIQUE CORRIVEAU
SAINT-LAURENT, QUEBEC: FIDES,
2004. 238 P.
(GRANDES HISTOIRES)
ISBN 2762125782
AGES 12 AND UP
Originally published:
Quebec: Éditions Jeunesse, 1964.



Le Wapiti immerses the reader into the history of New France in 1655. Mathieu Rousseau, a young adventurer, leaves France stowed away on a ship. When he arrives in Québec, he is falsely accused of murder. Exiled, he is taken prisoner by the Iroquois and forced to

live with the Saskanous. This Aboriginal nation becomes his new family, and Opénaka, the Chief, sees him as taking the place of a son he has lost, a situation that creates conflict with Chonian, one of the Chief's sons.

Mathieu embraces the Native customs and soon becomes familiar with all the secrets of nature. He learns the rudiments of the hunt, and is given the name "Wapiti" when he kills his first deer. An accepted member of the Saskanous, Mathieu befriends a missionary, who reminds him of the customs of his own people. Torn between his French roots and his adopted family, Mathieu is faced with a dilemma when the Saskanous declare war on the "palefaces." Whose side will he choose to defend?

The novel *Le Wapiti* was awarded the Prix littéraire de la province de Québec when it was published in 1964. -JMB



Award-Winning English Titles

The complete annotations for these award-winning books can be found under the *Read Up On It* heading of the Library and Archives Canada website at www.collectionscanada.ca/read-up-on-it/index-e.html

ALBERTA CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE YEAR

(Book Publishers Association of Alberta)

FOR THE BEST CHILDREN'S OR YOUNG
ADULT BOOK, INCLUDING FICTION,
NON-FICTION AND PICTURE BOOKS

HECK, SUPERHERO
Martine Leavitt

AMELIA FRANCES HOWARD- GIBBON AWARD

(Canadian Library Association)

FOR BEST ILLUSTRATIONS
THE BAABAASHEEP QUARTET

Text and Illustrations:
Leslie Elizabeth Watts

ANN CONNOR BRIMER AWARD

(Nova Scotia Library Association)

FOR BEST BOOK
BY AN ATLANTIC AUTHOR
**AUNT OLGA'S CHRISTMAS
POSTCARDS**

Kevin Major
Illustrations: Bruce Roberts

ARTHUR ELLIS AWARDS

(The Crime Writers of Canada)

FOR BEST JUVENILE CRIME NOVEL

QUID PRO QUO
Vicki Grant

BLUE SPRUCE AWARD

(Ontario Library Association)

FOR THE BEST CANADIAN CHILDREN'S
PICTURE BOOK,
AS CHOSEN BY STUDENTS, K-3

THE BOY WHO LOVED BANANAS
George Elliott

Illustrations: Andrej Krystoforski

BOOK OF THE YEAR FOR CHILDREN AWARD

(Canadian Library Association)

FOR BEST TEXT
THE CRAZY MAN
Pamela Porter

THE CHRISTIE HARRIS ILLUSTRATED CHILDREN'S LITERATURE PRIZE

(West Coast Book Prize Society)

FOR BEST PICTURE BOOK AND
ILLUSTRATED NON-FICTION BOOK
THE BLUE JEAN BOOK:

THE STORY BEHIND THE SEAMS
Tanya Lloyd Kyi

ELIZABETH MRAZIK-CLEAVER CANADIAN PICTURE BOOK AWARD 2006

(International Board on Books for
Young People – Canada)

FOR BEST ILLUSTRATIONS
THE LADY OF SHALOTT

Alfred, Lord Tennyson
Illustrations: Geneviève Côté

GEOFFREY BILSON AWARD FOR HISTORICAL FICTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

(Canadian Children's Book Centre)

FOR BEST BOOK
GOOD FOR NOTHING
Michel Noël



GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARD / CHILDREN'S LITERATURE 2005

(The Canada Council for the Arts)

FOR BEST TEXT
THE CRAZY MAN
Pamela Porter

FOR BEST ILLUSTRATIONS
IMAGINE A DAY
Sarah L. Thomson
Illustrations: Rob Gonsalves

HACKMATACK CHILDREN'S CHOICE BOOK AWARD

(Atlantic Canadian Book Award)

FOR THE FAVOURITE CANADIAN
AND ATLANTIC CANADIAN BOOKS
CHOSEN BY CHILDREN

ENGLISH FICTION AWARD
NO SMALL THING
Natale Ghent

NON-FICTION AWARD
ADVENTURES IN THE ICE AGE

Linda Bailey
Illustrations: Bill Slavin

INFORMATION BOOK AWARD 2005

(The Children's Literature Roundtables
of Canada)

FOR BEST NON-FICTION BOOK
ON JUNO BEACH:
CANADA'S D-DAY HEROES
Hugh Brewster

JEAN THROOP BOOK AWARD 2005

Municipal Chapter of Toronto
IODE Book Award
(Imperial Order of the Daughters
of the Empire)

FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
BY A TORONTO-AREA AUTHOR AND/OR
ILLUSTRATOR IN CHILDREN'S
LITERATURE

MAVIS AND MERNA
Text and Illustrations: Ian Wallace

MANITOBA YOUNG READER'S CHOICE AWARD

(Manitoba School Library Association)

FOR THE FAVOURITE CANADIAN BOOK
OF MANITOBA'S YOUNG READERS
NO ONE MUST KNOW

Eva Wiseman

THE WRITERS' TRUST OF CANADA'S MATT COHEN PRIZE – IN CELEBRATION OF A WRITING LIFE

(The Writers' Trust of Canada)

FOR A LIFETIME OF DISTINGUISHED
WORK BY A CANADIAN WRITER,
WORKING IN EITHER POETRY OR
PROSE, FRENCH OR ENGLISH

Janet Lunn

McNALLY ROBINSON BOOK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AWARD

(The Manitoba Writers' Guild)

YOUNG ADULT
BREATH OF THE DRAGON
Diane Juttner Perreault

CHILDREN
CAMILLA CHAMELEON

Colleen Sydor
Illustrations: Pascale Constantin

NATIONAL CHAPTER OF CANADA IODE VIOLET DOWNEY BOOK AWARD

(Imperial Order of the Daughters
of the Empire)

FOR BEST TEXT
**BOBBIE ROSENFELD: THE OLYMPIAN
WHO COULD DO EVERYTHING**
Anne Dublin

NORMA FLECK AWARD FOR CHILDREN'S NON-FICTION 2005

(Canadian Children's Book Centre)

**IN YOUR FACE: THE CULTURE OF
BEAUTY AND YOU**
Shari Graydon

R. ROSS ANNETT JUVENILE FICTION AWARD

(Writers Guild of Alberta)

FOR THE BEST CHILDREN'S BOOK BY AN ALBERTA AUTHOR
A KIND OF COURAGE
Colleen Heffernan

RED CEDAR BOOK AWARD

(Young Reader's Choice Awards Society of B.C.)

FOR THE FAVOURITE BOOK OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SCHOOLCHILDREN

FICTION

MUD CITY

Deborah Ellis

NON-FICTION

SURVIVORS! TRUE DEATH-DEFYING ESCAPES

Larry Verstraete

RED MAPLE AWARD 2006

(Ontario Library Association)

FOR THE BEST CANADIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK, AS CHOSEN BY ONTARIO STUDENTS, GRADES 7, 8 AND 9

FICTION

SKYBREAKER

Kenneth Oppel

RUTH AND SYLVIA SCHWARTZ CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS 2006

(Ontario Arts Council and Canadian Booksellers Association)

PICTURE BOOK CATEGORY
CARAMBA

Text and Illustrations: Marie-Louise Gay

FOR BEST TEXT

YOUNG ADULT/MIDDLE READER CATEGORY
SKYBREAKER

Kenneth Oppel

SASKATCHEWAN BOOK AWARDS 2005

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
FIXED

Beth Goobie

SASKATCHEWAN YOUNG READERS' CHOICE WILLOW AWARDS

THE SHINING WILLOW AWARD

(For beginning readers)

YOU CAN'T RUSH A CAT

Karleen Bradford

Illustrations: Leslie Elizabeth Watts

THE DIAMOND WILLOW AWARD

(For more experienced readers)

AMBER: THE STORY OF A RED FOX

Shirley Woods

Illustrations: Celia Godkin

THE SNOW WILLOW AWARD

(For sophisticated readers)

CHANDA'S SECRETS

Allan Stratton

SHEILA A. EGOFF

CHILDREN'S PRIZE

(West Coast Book Prize Society)

FOR THE BEST BOOK BY A BRITISH COLUMBIA AUTHOR

HANNAH WATERS AND THE DAUGHTER OF JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

Barbara Nickel

SILVER BIRCH AWARD

(Ontario Library Association)

FOR THE BEST CANADIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK, AS CHOSEN BY ONTARIO STUDENTS, GRADES 4 TO 6

FICTION

WOLF PACK

Edo Van Belkom

NON FICTION

BOREDOM BLASTERS: BRAIN BOGGERS, AWESOME ACTIVITIES, COOL COMICS, TASTY TREATS AND MORE...

Helaine Becker

Illustrations: Claudia Dávila

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(The Writers' Trust of Canada)

Marie-Louise Gay

WHITE PINE AWARD 2006

(Ontario Library Association)

FOR THE BEST CANADIAN CHILDREN'S BOOK, AS CHOSEN BY ONTARIO STUDENTS, GRADE 10

THE BLUE GIRL

Charles de Lint

YOUNG ADULT CANADIAN BOOK AWARD

(Canadian Library Association)

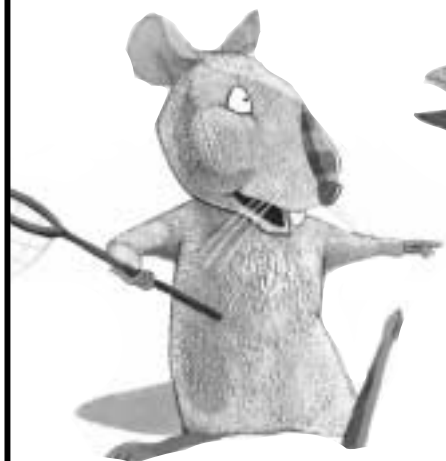
FOR BEST BOOK

SWIMMING IN THE MONSOON SEA

Shyam Selvadurai

PIKA

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The Canadian Children's Book Centre



Communication-Jeunesse



Brian Deines



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Brian Deines is an artist and illustrator acclaimed for the warmth of his palette and his ability to breathe life into his images. He graduated from the Alberta College of Art. His illustrations bring to life the stories of several popular children's books including *SkySisters* and *Bear on the Train*. *Dragonfly Kites* (2002), written by Tomson Highway, was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award for Illustration and nominated for a Ruth Schwartz Children's Book Award.

Selective Bibliography

Dragonfly Kites / Pimihákanisa

Text by Tomson Highway;
illustrations by Brian Deines
Toronto: HarperCollins, 2002.
ISBN 0002255278

Fox on the Ice / Mahkeshís mískwamíhk e-cípatapít

Text by Tomson Highway;
illustrations by Brian Deines
Toronto: HarperCollins, 2003.
ISBN 0002255324 (bound)
ISBN 0006481361 (paperback)

SkySisters

Text by Jan Bourdeau Waboose;
illustrations by Brian Deines
Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2000.
ISBN 1550746979 (bound)
ISBN 1550746995 (paperback)

Tales of the Monkey King

Retold by Benjamín Santamaría;
illustrations by Brian Deines
Toronto: Tundra Books, 2005.
ISBN 0887766846

Vladyana Krykorka



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Vladyana was born and raised in Prague. She was an only child who loved art and studied privately for many years. She attended a high school that specialized in art, then moved to Canada, where she graduated from the Ontario College of Art. Vladyana worked as an art director for a

Maclean Hunter business publication for several years before she began illustrating textbooks and picture books.

Illustrating Robert Munsch and Michael Kusugak's *A Promise is a Promise* sparked Vladyana's love for the Inuit culture. Since that time, she has flown to the Arctic many times to paint, photograph and get to know the people and their land. She has illustrated all titles by acclaimed Inuit storyteller Michael Kusugak. In total, Vladyana has illustrated more than 20 picture books for children.

Selective Bibliography

Arctic Stories

Text by Michael Arvaarluk Kusugak;
illustrations by Vladyana Krykorka
Toronto: Annick Press, 1998.
ISBN 1550374532 (bound)
ISBN 1550374524 (paperback)

Northern Lights: The Soccer Trails

Text by Michael Arvaarluk Kusugak;
illustrations by Vladyana Krykorka
Toronto: Annick Press, 1993.
ISBN 1550373390 (bound)
ISBN 1550373382 (paperback)

Orphans in the Sky

Text by Jeanne Bushey;
illustrations by Vladyana Krykorka
Calgary: Red Deer Press, 2004.
ISBN 0889952914

The Polar Bear's Gift

Text by Jeanne Bushey;
illustrations by Vladyana Krykorka
Red Deer, Alta.: Red Deer Press, 2000.
ISBN 0889952205

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