The Lynching of Louie Sam

by Elizabeth Stewart

Murder, racism, and injustice wreak havoc in a frontier town.

Fifteen-year-old George Gillies lives in the Washington Territory in the late 1800s, where white settlers have an uneasy relationship with the Native Indians. When a local man is found murdered, suspicion falls on Louie Sam, a young member of the Stó:lo tribe. George and his best friend, Pete, follow a lynch mob north into Canada, where the terrified boy is seized and hung.

Racked with doubts, George begins to ask questions. Was Louie Sam really a murderer? As George uncovers the truth—implicating Pete’s father—tensions in the town rise, and he must face his own part in the tragedy.

Inspired by the true story of the lynching, recently acknowledged as a historical injustice by Washington State, this powerful novel illuminates the harsh racial divisions of a newly settled land.

Elizabeth Stewart writes for film, television, and the Internet. This is her first novel. She lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.
It’s Not All Black and White
Multiracial Youth Speak Out

by St. Stephen’s Community House

Black, white, and everything in between …

Through poems, interviews, and short essays, a group of young people tell what it’s like to be biracial, multiracial, or of mixed race. These poignant firsthand accounts reflect the unique and varied voices of the writers, whose backgrounds range from Caribbean, Vietnamese, and Latin American to First Nations, Spanish, and Irish, among others.

With devastating honesty, the youth tell what it’s been like to make their way in the world with their roots in many places and in many cultures. Themes include navigating mixed-race relationships, dealing with prejudice and the assumptions people make based on appearances, and working through identity confusion to arrive at a strong and positive sense of self.

Readers who share these experiences will find comfort, inspiration, and validation. Those less familiar with the issues will gain important insight and understanding.

ST. STEPHEN’S COMMUNITY HOUSE has been addressing poverty, homelessness, unemployment, AIDS, racism, youth alienation, and the integration of refugees and immigrants in downtown Toronto since 1962.

By the same author:

the little black book for girls
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by Stephen Cornish

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—VOYA

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People Who Said No

by Laura Scandiffio

When saying no is the right thing to do.

Sometimes it’s okay to ignore the rules or break the law. This thought-provoking book features people who did just that: Sophie and Hans Scholl, siblings who distributed antigovernment pamphlets in Nazi Germany; and Andrei Sakharov, who helped develop the nuclear bomb in Cold War Russia, but then spoke out against its use.

Some, like Rosa Parks, were not originally in positions of political power but came out of the ranks of regular citizens to stand up for human rights. Others, like Oscar Romero, archbishop of El Salvador, used their power to change the status quo.

These seven inspirational profiles of people who followed their moral compass make for riveting stories as well as excellent starting points for discussions about ethics and morality.

Laura Scandiffio has written many non-fiction books for young readers, including Escapes! in the True Stories from the Edge series. She lives with her family in Toronto, Ontario.
Discover the tasty stories behind the foods we love.

Potatoes on Rooftops
Farming in the Concrete Jungle
by Hadley Dyer

All around the world, people are farming in the concrete jungle!

From high-rise dwellers to front-yard farmers, everyone is discovering innovative ways to grow fresh, healthy, and delicious fruit and vegetables at home, in community gardens, and at school.

This is a brisk and informative overview of the how and why of the movement toward small-scale urban farming. There are many ways to farm in the city: a Detroit high school program teaches students to grow food and raise chickens; a Toronto high school planted more than 20 raised plant beds and established compost bins, a greenhouse, and rain barrels; First Lady Michelle Obama established an organic garden at the White House.

Short, kid-friendly descriptions and vibrant photos and illustrations keep the pace moving and the tone light.

Hadley Dyer is the celebrated author and editor of many books for children and young adults. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.
### Enemy Territory

by Sharon E. McKay

*Trained to hate, two boys discover friendship instead.*

Sam, an Israeli boy whose leg may have to be amputated, and Josef, a Palestinian boy who has lost his left eye, find themselves uneasy roommates in a Jerusalem hospital. Bored with the routine, the boys decide to slip away while the nurses aren’t looking and go on a late-night adventure into the Old City.

The escapade turns dangerous when they realize they’re lost. As they navigate the dark city—one of them limping and the other half-blind—they band together to find their way home and to defend themselves against unfriendly locals, arrest by the military police, and a deadly snake. The boys’ attempts to understand each other and the politics that divide them mirror the conflict in the Middle East.

This powerful story, touched with humor, shows how individual friendships can overcome cultural and political differences and lead to understanding and compassion.

**Sharon E. McKay** is a bestselling, award-winning author. In her teens she spent summers in Belfast, Northern Ireland, where she witnessed sectarian violence. She lives with her family in Kilbride, Ontario.
It Actually Happened series

Robbers!
True Stories of the World’s Most Notorious Thieves

by Andreas Schroeder
illustrated by Rémy Simard

Eight thrilling stories uncover some of the most daring heists in history.

Determined to beat the odds, professional thieves spend their lives figuring out ingenious ways to steal other people’s possessions. In Robbers! you’ll uncover the dirt on eight cunning master thieves, including:

• Master-of-disguise Willie Sutton, who robbed banks in costume
• D. B. Cooper, who hijacked a plane, demanded $200,000, and parachuted to safety
• London’s Great Train Robbers, who held up a moving train to pull off one of the largest ever hauls of banknotes

Each story offers a glimpse into the high-octane underworld of the boldest of robbers. The writer’s fascination with criminal masterminds and the illustrator’s action-packed graphic depictions of real-life thievery make this a compelling read for fans of mischief, mayhem, and bad guys on the run.

ANDREAS SCHROEDER is an award-winning author who has published more than 24 books, including a previous book in this series, Duped!

RéMY SIMARD is an award-winning author and illustrator. He lives in Montreal, Quebec.
Bodyguards!
From Gladiators to the Secret Service

by Ed Butts
illustrated by Scott Plumbe

Meet the heroes, villains, and bunglers hired to protect others.

We might think of bodyguards as a modern concept, but they’ve been around since ancient times. The rich, the powerful, the famous, and the infamous have all placed their safety in the hands of bodyguards. From Caesar’s Praetorian Guard to Japanese samurai warriors to Wild West outlaws, bodyguards have played a vital role.

There are bodyguards who protect gangsters from the police and those who shield celebrities from the paparazzi, while others escort children in danger of being kidnapped. In Bodyguards! you’ll meet heroes (like the quick-thinking guard whose spear saved the life of Alexander the Great), villains (like the elite Hitler Bodyguard), and even some bodyguards who have failed in their job to protect.

Brimming with vibrant, action-packed illustrations in graphic-novel style, Bodyguards! opens the window on the fascinating stories of those entrusted to protect people’s lives.

Ed Butts has written more than a dozen books for readers of all ages. He lives in Guelph, Ontario.

Scott Plumbe is an illustrator and fine artist who lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

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Crazy About Soccer

by Loris Lesynski
illustrated by Gerry Rasmussen

Hurray for soccer!

Anyone / at all / at all / can learn to kick
a ball / a ball.
A kangaroo could do it, / too, / a bigger kick
than me or you
but never choose them / for a game
cause they can kick
but / they / can't / aim!

This new collection of poems by Loris Lesynski captures the joys, thrills, and challenges of one of the most popular sports in the schoolyard today. Rhythmic, funny verses reflect the game’s energy while offering suggestions for proper play. Crazy About Soccer, a collection full of twists, turns, and surprises, is sure to appeal to any reader who has ever played soccer, whether in cleats and a team shirt or in bare feet and—as in Shakespeare’s day—with a pig’s bladder for a ball! Wonderfully ridiculous artwork complements the bouncy poems.

LORIS LESYNSKI is a bestselling author of brilliantly funny poems, and a frequent visitor to schools where she gets kids excited about poetry. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.

GERRY RASMUSSEN draws the syndicated comic strip Betty. He lives in Edmonton, Alberta.

“arbagehead

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“This collection of clever and funny poems, chants, and word games explores ideas and where they come from … [the poems] beg to be read aloud.”

—School Library Journal

By the same author:
The Stone Hatchlings

by Sarah Tsiang
illustrated by Qin Leng

A child’s imagination takes flight.

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Abby finds two stones in the backyard and “adopts” them, pretending they’re unhatched birds. She builds them a nest and watches over them until one day she imagines that with a *crick* and a *crack*, the stones hatch to reveal two gray chicks. With a flourish of her paintbrush, Abby colors the birds yellow, blue, and green, and proceeds to take excellent care of them.

Then the make-believe birds stop singing and eating, and when they lose their feathers Abby realizes it is time to let them go. She waves good-bye as they fly off. But every morning, two new birds appear at the window and sing to Abby.

As in their bestselling book, *A Flock of Shoes*, this gifted author-illustrator team captures perfectly the whimsical imagination of a small child for whom anything is possible.

**Sarah Tsiang and Qin Leng** are the creators of *Dogs Don’t Eat Jam and Other Things Big Kids Know*. Sarah, who is also a poet, lives in Kingston, Ontario, while Qin, an award-winning animator and illustrator, lives in Toronto, Ontario.
Anniversary Edition / Classic Munsch

Mud Puddle

by Robert Munsch
illustrated by Dušan Petričić

A brand-new look for a classic story.

First published in 1979, this was the first of Robert Munsch’s oral stories to be turned into a book. Since then, it has made countless children (and adults) all around the world laugh out loud.

When Jule Ann goes outside, a mud puddle jumps on her and gets her dirty all over. No sooner does her mother scrub her clean than she ventures out again, only to be pounced upon by the pesky mud puddle. The cycle continues until finally Jule Ann gets the better of the mud puddle with cheerful ingenuity and two bars of smelly yellow soap.

Lively, clever artwork by award-winning illustrator Dušan Petričić gives this best-selling picture book a fresh and energetic look that will charm a new generation of young readers.

ROBERT MUNSCH is a world-renowned storyteller and the author of almost 60 books for children. He lives in Guelph, Ontario.

Dušan Petričić is an editorial cartoonist as well as the award-winning illustrator of such children’s classics as Mattland and Bagels from Benny. He lives in Toronto, Ontario.

“Aye concept is terrific and the illustrations similarly sublime.”
—Kirkus Reviews

“A brand-new look for a classic story.”
—Kirkus Reviews
Old MacDonald Had Her Farm

by JonArno Lawson
illustrated by Tina Holdcroft

Old MacDonald had a farm like you’ve never seen before!

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With a nod to the familiar refrain E-I-E-I-O, a day on this farm is framed by the vowels A-E-I-O-U—and sometimes Y.

Old MacDonald appears in an explosion of color and, starting with the letter A, proceeds to “saw barn planks, stack sacks, crank cranks, and whack gnats.” The day progresses as every vowel is featured in action-packed bursts of lively text.

Old MacDonald has devised a myriad of tools to make her job if not easier, then a lot more fun. In chaotic scenes filled with pulleys, catapults, and flying machines, the farm becomes the background for a circus-like riot of fantastic contraptions.

With dozens of details to discover, and hilarious tongue-twisting text, this book is destined to become a favorite.

JON ARNO LAWSON is a poet and the author of several books for children. He lives in Toronto, Ontario.

TINA HOLDCROFT is the author and/or illustrator of more than 40 books for children, including Spy, Spy Again. She lives in Toronto, Ontario.

By the same illustrator:

“James Bond would cringe at these cleverly reconstructed espionage failures; kids will eat them up.”

—Kirkus Reviews
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“What child wouldn’t love to go for a ride on a fire truck? In this all-time favorite, two kids visit a fire station. While they are exploring a fire truck, an alarm sounds, and away they go to the rescue! In his inimitable way, Munsch turns the story into a hilarious romp that ends with the kids in the bath after helping to battle a fire that turned them all kinds of crazy colors.

Now available with a simplified, revised text in a toddler-friendly board book edition, this story will delight very young children discovering it for the first time.

Robert Munsch has written almost 60 books for children, including The Paper Bag Princess and Love You Forever. He lives in Guelph, Ontario.

Michael Martchenko is best known as the illustrator of such classic children’s books as Robert Munsch’s Mortimer and Angela’s Airplane. He lives in Toronto, Ontario.

“This new board book format opens up this story to a younger audience while still keeping a storyline that beginner readers will enjoy.”

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