

54:5

Talks and Invitations

1986

86/97c

January 29, 1986

Mrs. Susan J. Hernandez  
San Francisco, Ca.

Dear Mrs. Hernandez:

Many thanks for your good letter which was forwarded to me  
By Creative Arts Books.

I wish it were possible for me to come speak to the children  
of Argonne School, but unfortunately, I have had a recurrence  
of mononucleosis symptoms, now diagnosed as Chronic Epstein-  
Barr Virus, and I have had to decline all speaking engagements  
for this year. Perhaps we could work something out for another  
year if my health improves.

In the meantime, my best wishes to the children at Argonne.

Sincerely,

Regets

Susan J. Hernandez  
3223 Clement Street  
San Francisco, CA 94121

Ms. Yoshiko Uchida  
c/o Creative Arts Book Company  
833 Bancroft Way  
Berkeley, CA 941710

Dear Ms. Uchida,

I am this year's enrichment chairman for Argonne Elementary School's PTA in San Francisco. Argonne has chosen California's ethnic history as the theme of its Social Studies curriculum this year. Because ours is an alternative school, we have an excellent racial mix, and we think this theme will foster both the children's sense of community and their appreciation for their ethnic roots.

Your stories of the Japanese-American experience in California seem especially appropriate. It is important that the children recognize the great contributions made by the Japanese to California's history. It is also important that they recognize how terrible wrongs can be done to one another under the guise of "patriotism", not just by "bad guys" in other countries, but by ordinary people right here.

Would you be willing to come to Argonne to speak, or to read your stories and answer questions? Perhaps some other format? Our school has about 375 students in Grades K-5. We could arrange to bus the children to a nearby auditorium, or we could break the children up into smaller groups according to age level. If possible, we would prefer the smaller groups. Some parents may sit in as well, if you don't mind. We are very flexible as to timing and formats, but we would like your program(s) to occur during school hours.

I look forward to hearing from you soon regarding dates, times, and fees. Our entire community of children, teachers, and parents would benefit greatly from any program you might bring to Argonne.

Sincerely,

*Susan Hernandez*

*see back*  
↓

3/27/86  
Maureen said  
fee was \$500  
not sure about trial expenses

YOSHIKO UCHIDA  
1685 Solano Avenue, No. 102  
Berkeley, California 94707

your copy -  
sent 1/17/86  
Enclosed CA flyer re JST.

January 1986

Dear Friends: Ethel + Fred - so nice to hear from you!

I've thought of you all, although you didn't hear from me at Christmas time. Explanation follows below, but first, belated but warm greetings of the season and a wish for all good things in the new year.

Although I had a busy and fruitful year, my old nemesis (Mono), took over in July and I've been more or less dragging ever since. A new internist finally discovered that I have (and probably have had for the last 10 years!) Chronic Epstein-Barr and Cyto Megla Virus - both related to Mono and like it, untreatable! They've taken up residence inside me, so I must learn to live with them. At least my condition is now legitimized, which helps, since I usually look so healthy.

Since most of you have put up with the vicissitudes of my health for so long, I just wanted to let you know that the puzzle has been solved, tho unfortunately not resolved.

Despite the Dr's visits and tests, there were nice things this year too - my new book was published in Sept. (THE HAPPIEST ENDING), the Jpnse edition of DESERT EXILE came out in July, and some interviews resulted in several nice articles - one of them in the Japanese editon of Reader's Digest, of all places! No energy for serious writing of any length, but I have been writing some poetry which gives me much joy. I like to think of it as a gift to me from my <sup>poet</sup> mother.

Keep well, and have a wonderful new year.

Affectionately,

Yoshi -

I'm still only about 65% healthy + have to rest a lot, but I'm going to try to come to your symposium in Oct 10-11! I'm working hard at getting better (Shiatsu + other things) + I'll think positive thought. Also my friends in Dallas say I can make a rest-stop there. If things don't look better by summer, I'll let you know. Is this too chancy for you? I'll understand if you want a healthier specimen!! Love, Yoshi -  
-> when do you order books: start printing the program?

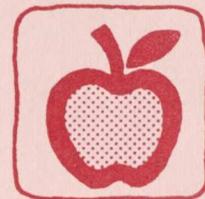
It'll be wonderful to see you again!

P.S. Hope Fred's mother is better

'86 = Oct 10+11



# Third Annual Author Symposium



Sponsored by the Friends of the Central Arkansas Library and Central Arkansas Library System

FRIDAY - OCTOBER 11

3 - 4:15 p.m.  
Registration - Mezzanine  
Book Sales - Second Floor

4:15 - 4:30 p.m.  
Orientation and Introductions

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
"How to Read a Book" - Mary Q. Steele

5:30 - 6 p.m.  
Book Sales

6 - 7 p.m.  
Dinner with the Authors - Little Rock Hilton Inn (by reservation only)

7 - 8 p.m.  
"The Pope, the Pardoner, Ned and President Bob" - Elaine Konigsburg

8 - 9 p.m.  
"What Do Black Illustrators Bring to the World of Children's Books That is Different and Unique?" - Tom Feelings

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

8 - 8:30 a.m.  
Registration and Book Sales

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.  
"Rotten Teeth, Cornbread and Other Important Things" - Cynthia Rylant

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
"Paula Refuses to Give This Speech a Title" - Paula Danziger

10:30 - 10:45 a.m.  
Coffee Break

10:45 - 11:45 a.m.  
"Girls Who Do Things" - Robin McKinley

11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
Book Sales

12:15 - 1:15 p.m.  
Lunch with the Authors - Little Rock Hilton Inn (by registration only)

1:15 - 2:15 p.m.  
"A Few Words Concerning Pernel P. Proudfoot and Other Well Known Literary Characters I Have Known" - Glen Rounds

2:30 - 4 p.m.  
Book Sales and Autographing

## SUPPORTING PUBLISHERS

Atheneum Publishers

Bradbury Press, an affiliate of Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc.

Delacorte Press/Dell Publishing Co., Inc.

Dial Press, an affiliate of E. P. Dutton and Co., Inc.

Greenwillow Books, a division of William Morrow and Co., Inc.

Holiday House, Inc.

*gals*

*catered in Hotel if I can.*

*catered in hotel if I can*

*1st session?*

December 29, 1985

Dear Yoshi,

Season's greetings from the cold, but sunny South. At least, the sun is shining and that always cheers me.

We do so hope this will be the year when we can finally welcome you to Arkansas. Maurcen Hays at Athenaeum reported back that if we could leave the invitation open for a little while you would be better able to assess your health situation. I couldn't remember exactly when you go to your sister in the East but thought perhaps coming for our Symposium on October 10-11 might be a stopover en route to Connecticut. We will wait and hope.

Fred's mother is in hospital in Berea with a blood clot on a lung. She is responding quickly to medication and is scheduled to go home soon. At 84 she is more fragile, of course. Her sister and brother-in-law (both retired) are with her. Every day I think I'd better keep the laundry caught up just in case we had to leave quickly.

We spent September in Kentucky. Our time was divided between Berea and the farm. Fred's mother went everywhere with us. In fact, she also went lots of places for which we lacked the energy. It was a much needed change of pace for us.

Readings and lectures have depleted my staff. There is a dearth of children's librarians in this country. We had a candidate who came over from England for interview last week. Immigration red-tape would be a hassle but we are considering it.

Last summer we painted the outside of the Carriage House. It is now rented to a charming, retired college professor. We are nearing completion on the sun room area off the kitchen. The workman comes to refinish the floors tomorrow. You'll just have to come and see the progress.

Do let us hear.

Peace, love, joy,

Fred and Ethel

January 4, 1986

Trudy Coler  
Atheneum  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Trudy:

Now that I'm beginning to feel a little better, I'm going to try a school talk on January 30th.

Please send about 30 bios to Carol Olson, Emerson School, 2800 Forest Ave., Berkeley, CA. 94705. I'm speaking to her 3rd graders.

Also please tell Maureen that Ethel Ambrose has written me and I'll decide soon whether I have the energy to do the Little Rock Conference. A new internist has discovered that I have chronic Epstein-Barr and Cyto Megla Virus, both related to Mono, and like it, untreatable! Maureen will probably be interested to know what's been ailing me all these years.

Have a good new year.

All the best,

Nykodym

1/9/86

Carol ~~Kickobean~~ Broadway School

Richmond School District

for  
Sam Pablo

234-7259.

She's Reserve Teacher  
Elementary Schls

3 Bk Club  
meets 1/mo.

(5/6<sup>th</sup>)

(4-5<sup>th</sup>) grade

Wanted want me to come for Bk Club

mtg. — needs to write proposal

I tried her to try <sup>me</sup> next year —

1/25 for 1 talk

for 2

~~date~~

from all areas of camp to greet us. Christmas was a day to be spent with friends. It wasn't until afternoon that we could make some ~~Christmas~~ calls of our own, taking with us some evergreen sprays that friends had sent to us from Connecticut. Their fragrance had lifted my mother's spirits more than anything she had received, and she couldn't rest until she had shared them with friends who were too old or ill to come visit us. By the time we went to a church service and came home, a cold wind was beginning to blow. We had a pleasant dinner at the Mess Hall and settled down to a quiet evening beside the stove. It wasn't often that we had an evening all to ourselves.

As the year drew to a close, I redoubled my efforts to leave camp. Although we worked hard to make life in Topaz

c 2/4/86

Suniti Okahara

Senevia.

Topaz  
So. Omaha  
City

Teacher  
Bay Area  
White Project

9<sup>th</sup> grad pub Bl + Request 36p.

4<sup>th</sup> <sup>selling</sup> Bl for

Exxon grant  
\$500

Request  
for talk -  
Reports  
due to  
health

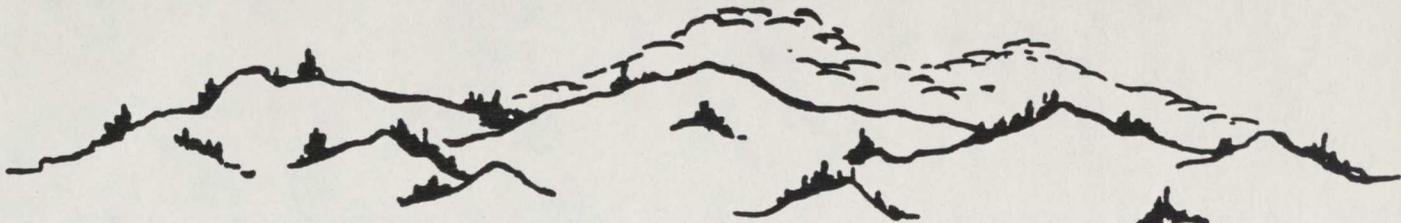
Referred to  
GACP in my  
books -

Rem 12  
4<sup>th</sup> grades

Robert Temple  
School  
2015 E. 30th St  
Senevia  
94510.

Cathy Chang  
2916 Dats St. #17-E  
Honolulu, HI 96814

ms. Yoshiko Uchida  
1685 Solano Ave. Apt. 102  
Berkeley  
CA 94707



LOS GATOS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT      BLOSSOM HILL SCHOOL

16400 BLOSSOM HILL ROAD, LOS GATOS, CALIFORNIA 95030

PHONE 356-3141

February 12, 1986

This letter is to invite you to our first Author's Day (May 16) to honor those of you who write the literature our children hear, read, and enjoy. It is our hope that by providing them with the opportunity to meet and talk with you, they will more fully appreciate and anticipate the joy of reading. We hope you will come and add your presence and personality to what we feel is a very special occasion.

We encourage the sale of your works that day. You may have them sold by Chanticleer Books of Los Gatos or you may sell your own with the help of our volunteers. We will provide time for you to meet our students and autograph books for them and their families.

A schedule for the day will follow your response. A buffet luncheon is planned to honor all authors attending. There will be morning and afternoon sessions. You are invited to attend for one half or the entire day, as you choose. We know this has been a worthwhile endeavor by Hillbrook School in Los Gatos and hope that we may achieve the same level of success. If you have any questions, please call me at (408) 356-3141. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sue D. Russ

Sue Russ, Principal  
Blossom Hill Elementary School

2/15/86

Sorry, but poor health  
prevents me from accepting  
any invitations to present.  
Y.A. —

3/4/86 - Call from Maureen  
Hays  
~~3:5p~~

Fried Fri -  
call back Mon.

Reprints

Mich

East Lansing

Call Maureen

June 26<sup>th</sup>

\$300

pay expenses.

212-614-  
1370

Patry Enciello (well known in Chi's bl  
ceriles - on books, etc etc)

wanted me to speak June 26, 1986

at Mich State Univ -

also sponsored by Mich. Council (Humanities)

to 300 professionals (+ maybe 10-12  
exceptional ch.)

wants authors - to speak re Immig. exper.

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better at -

just beg. to feel better

to be careful not to over-extend

so backed up projects - need to catch up  
do - work's son

try to visit sister, Oct

# Three Actors Pause

Pinter play virtually reversed the familiar Stanislavski mode.

"With most naturalistic plays," Mr. Hall said, "you deal with your own emotions and make up your rhythms from there. But with Pinter, the notes and rhythm are given first, and the first couple of weeks seem very mechanical. Later, the actors learn what it means, and later still, what emotion they can play it with."

For the actors, though, it was not always so easy to read between the lines. In fact, they frequently found that absolute meanings in Pinter were elusive, that ambiguity was a given. Miss Danner, for example, said she was still unclear as to whether the child her character has in the play is supposed to be her husband's or her lover's:

"We always had a couple of alternatives to choose from. We'd try to find the answers ourselves, or we'd ask questions. But Harold has a way of not really wanting to pin down anything. So when the text did not supply details, I would make a personal decision, because I needed something concrete to work from. There are things I think in my head that perhaps the boys don't realize. I guess it's true in a Pinter play — there do have to be secrets."

For his part, Mr. Julia said he actually relished the opportunity to invent his character and to instill in Mr. Pinter's elegantly spare text a meaning of his own.

"He's an actor's playwright," Mr. Julia said. "You have to create a whole reality that's not in the lines. It's all

context, all atmosphere. You make a whole history for yourself — a more specific life that makes the character more real. The first time I read Jerry, I didn't feel anything about him; now I'm finally beginning to understand him. It's like a human being growing."

Because these were English characters — more specifically, English characters in a Pinter play — there was a need for understatement and containment in their portrayals. Although circuitous exchanges and tastefully oblique expressions are something of a convention in English society, such mannerisms do not come as naturally to Americans.

## 'Inner Explosion of Emotion'

But in Mr. Pinter's works, there is always a hint of menace, a brandished knife beneath the conversational quip, that is all the stronger because it is suggested, not stated. And the show's producer, Robert Whitehead, felt that by using American actors, who were trained in the depiction of strong emotions, an extra degree of tension could be achieved. "American actors aren't naturally contained as the British," he said. "So when an American plays a role that is contained, there's an inner explosion of emotion, which supplies an intense dramatic quality."

This withholding of feeling, this use of words to conceal rather than reveal a certain emotion, was the most difficult task for the cast. They had to learn, as Mr. Hall put it, that "acting in Pinter is like playing in a masque — the body and the words are shields to hide the very violent passions you are feeling."

At first, the three actors, who were used to rather different roles — Mr. Julia most recently appeared in "Othello" and "Dracula," Mr. Scheider in the film "All That Jazz" and Miss Danner in the television special "Too Far to Go" — tended to display the usual kinds of emotion involved in stories about marital infidelity.

Mr. Hall promptly characterized them disapprovingly in canine terms: he compared Miss Danner to "a neurotic poodle," Mr. Julia to "a melancholy cocker spaniel" and Mr. Scheider to "a grim Doberman." "Those dogs are not in the play," he explained. "You have to lose them and learn to control your emotions."

As the rehearsals progressed, increasing degrees of subtlety were slowly achieved. For example, during the scene in which Mr. Scheider first learns he has been cuckolded by his wife and best friend, the initial emotion was one of anger. As the weeks passed, the expression became one of tension, then toughness and, finally, as the director observed, "a degree of humor that was terrifying because of what lay beneath it."

"The acting comes in not letting the discipline show," Mr. Scheider said. "In Pinter, you're feeling the emotions



Blythe Danner: "There do have to be secrets."



Sy Friedman

Raul Julia: "You create a reality not in the lines."

completely, but suppressing them. It becomes a process of reducing. From now until the end of the run, it's a matter of refining it, of making it simpler and simpler."



feel them."

the script ing so, they learning a

*Regrets*  
*2/9/86*

Each year Hillbrook School sets aside one day to honor the author as creator of literature, and to foster appreciation of and interest in the craft of writing. Prior to Author's Day our students survey the works of a selection of living authors. On Author's Day we invite these authors to conduct sessions on writing with groups of children.

We have found that meeting living authors, after having read their works, really increases a child's interest in the creation of literature. The profession of "writer" becomes much less abstract as the children have an opportunity to hear authors explain what the process of creating a book involves.

This year Author's Day will be Wednesday, April 23. We welcome authors who can and will come for the entire day, but knowing this is impossible for some, we divide the day in half in the following manner:

Morning Schedule

- 9:15 - 10:00 Session I
- 10:00 - 10:45 Session II
- COFFEE OR TEA BREAK
- 11:00 - 11:45 Session III
- 11:45 - 12:30 Lunch

Afternoon Schedule

- 11:45 - 12:30 Lunch
- 12:30 - 1:15 Session IV
- 1:15 - 2:00 Session V
- COFFEE OR TEA BREAK
- 2:15 - 3:00 Session VI

We ask that you plan to conduct two sessions. The other designated session will be left open so students may have a chance to meet you and have you autograph books which they have purchased. If your books cover a wide age span, please plan on conducting two different sessions appropriate to two different grade levels.

In past sessions, authors have used a wide range of techniques for conducting sessions. Some have given formal lectures, and some have talked informally about their writing experiences. Some have chosen to use films, pictures, slides or other visual materials. A classroom teacher is present at all times to keep things flowing. We have found that it is well to leave some time for questions and answers, as the whole purpose is to let the children get to know you and your books.

Prior to Author's Day, as each student reads one of your books, he/she fills out a card. At an assembly just before Author's Day, three students' names are drawn, and they will be privileged to have lunch with you at a buffet luncheon which is provided on this day (hence the overlap between morning and afternoon sessions).

Another important part of Author's Day is the opportunity for students to purchase books of the authors who are conducting sessions. This will be done according to your preference. You may either bring your own books for sale (we will have volunteer parents to do the actual selling so you may be free to autograph and conduct sessions), or, Chanticleer Book Store in Los Gatos will gladly order your books from the publisher and sell them here that day.

We would be so pleased to have you accept our invitation to participate in Author's Day '86. If you have any questions, suggestions or requests, please call one of us at the school (408-356-6116) and we will return your call as soon as possible. My home phone is 408-268-6939 and I am usually there after 4:30 pm.

We would truly appreciate your response by ~~November 30~~ *Feb. 12*, as this will give us time to compile and distribute reading lists to our students. We look forward to hearing from you.

Pat Grieves,  
Librarian

Mary Lou Doodokyan,  
Faculty Coordinator

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU  
TO A CELEBRATION OF THE CRAFT OF WRITING:

AUTHOR'S DAY '86

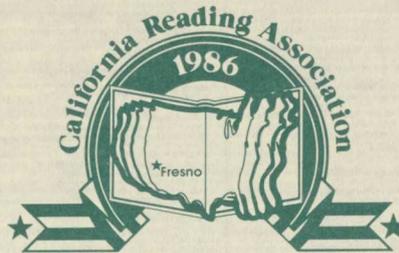
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 1986

HILLBROOK SCHOOL 16000 Mercedmont Ave  
Los Gatos, CA 95030

I look forward to seeing you in San Mateo again. I do  
hope you can be with us for our special day.

Mary Lou

Barbara Keller gave me your new address. I kept getting my letters back!



*Regret  
See back*

## Toward A Nation of Readers

November 6-8, 1986  
Fresno Convention Center

Dr. Alan Crawford

516 Daroca Ave.

San Gabriel, CA 91775

May 24, 1986

Ms. Yoshiko Uchida  
1685 Solano Ave., #102  
Berkeley, CA 94707

Dear Ms. Uchida:

The California Reading Association is holding its Twentieth Annual Conference in Fresno on November 6-8, 1986, at the Fresno Convention Center. As in past years, the Meet the Author sessions, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, are one of the special features of the conference.

Because you are an author who is highly respected by teachers and students alike, we would like to invite you to speak at one of the Meet the Author sessions. We know that these sessions will be a highlight for the more than 5,000 reading educators expected to attend our conference.

If you are able to participate in the conference, we would be delighted to have you as our guest at the Young Reader Medal Luncheon and at the Young Reader Medal Reception held on Saturday, November 8. We are also able to offer authors complimentary registration at the conference, a modest honorarium of \$100, and up to \$150 for airfare. If you are able to accept our invitation, we would appreciate your confirmation to speak as soon as possible. We hope to have our program in preliminary form soon. Please return the enclosed Presentation and Vita forms to me before June 6, 1986. We would also appreciate receiving a photograph to use for publicity.

We appreciate very much your consideration of this invitation and look forward to hearing from you soon. Your contribution will help ensure that our 1986 conference will be highly successful.

Sincerely,

Alan N. Crawford  
President-Elect and Conference Chair  
818-282-0128 (home)  
213-224-3762 (business)

June 16, 1986

Dr. Alan N. Crawford  
516 Daroca Ave.  
San Gabriel, CA. 91775

Dear Dr. Crawford:

Your letter of May 24 was waiting for me on my return from an extended visit to the east coast.

I'm sorry to have missed your deadline for reply, but in any case, I am not able to participate in the November CRA meeting in Fresno. Sorry to have to send this negative reply, and best wishes for a successful meeting. The Annual Conference in Fresno on November 6-8, 1986, at the Fresno Convention Center. As in past years, the Meet the Author sessions, scheduled for Friday and Saturday, are one of the special features of the conference.

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We appreciate very much your consideration of this invitation and look forward to hearing from you soon. Your contribution will help ensure that our 1986 conference will be highly successful.

Sincerely,

Alan N. Crawford  
President-Elect and Conference Chair  
516-282-0128 (home)  
516-282-2782 (business)

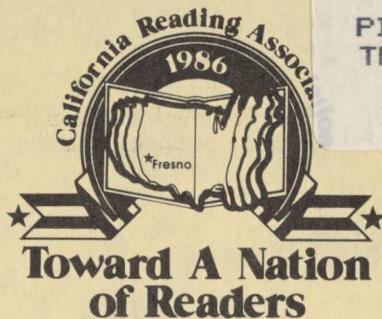
Please provide a 25-word synopsis of your presentation as you wish it stated in the preliminary and final programs:

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Please return by June 6, 1986.  
Thank you. *Deadline May 25*

November 6-8, 1986  
Fresno Convention Center

Dr. Alan Crawford  
Conference Chairperson

516 Daroca Ave.

San Gabriel, CA 91775

### Presentation Description

(Please Type)

1. PRESENTER:

Dr., Mr., Miss, Mrs., Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Initial)

School District / Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Position and/or Title \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street)

\_\_\_\_\_ (City) \_\_\_\_\_ (State) \_\_\_\_\_ (Zip Code)

Telephone-Office \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area Code) (Number) (Ext.) (Area Code) (Number)

Co-Presenter(s) (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ School District / Institution / Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. TITLE OF PRESENTATION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. TYPE OF PRESENTATION: (please check one)

- Session (1 hour)       Symposium (2½ hours)       Major Session (1 hour)       Author Session (1 hour)

4. GRADE LEVEL THE TOPIC WILL COVER: (please check one)

- Preschool       4-6       Middle School       Junior College  
 K-3       K-6       Junior High       College  
 1-3       K-12       High School       Adult  
 1-6       Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. STRAND: (The X indicates the Strand you are invited to present in: ✓ one other which is applicable to your topic.)

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehension/Critical Thinking/<br>vocabulary development | <input type="checkbox"/> Gifted/talented<br>programs                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Language development                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Administrators/support<br>personnel/clinicians             | <input type="checkbox"/> Staff development                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Diagnosis/evaluation/<br>remedial programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College/adult reading/<br>secondary reading                | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature/authors                            | <input type="checkbox"/> LEP/ESL/bilingual                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Computers/media in<br>reading                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Parent Education                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Content area reading                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classroom programs, K-12                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Research in reading/<br>language              | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing/composition                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reading and the arts                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Readiness/beginning/<br>developmental reading | <input type="checkbox"/> Compensatory<br>Education/Ch. 1            |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Storytelling                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialized topics                         |

(over)

6. Please list any furniture (tables for display, etc.) you need for your presentation NOW. It cannot be ordered at the conference. (Information about ordering AV will be provided later.)

7. **PRESENTATION PRESIDER**

Dr., Mr., Miss, Mrs., Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Initial)

School District / Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Position and / or Title \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Telephone-Office \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_  
(Area Code) (Number) (Ext.) (Area Code) (Number)

Is this person a member of a local reading council?  Yes  No

If yes, which council? \_\_\_\_\_

8. **VITA** (please complete attached VITA Form, so that the Presider can introduce you accurately and succinctly.)

9. **LETTER(S) TO EMPLOYER** (check here if you require a letter to your employer)

Requesting release for the conference.

Thanking him/her for allowing you to participate in the conference.

**EMPLOYER'S NAME:**

Dr. Mr., Miss, Mrs., Ms. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (Initial)

School District / Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Position and / or Title \_\_\_\_\_

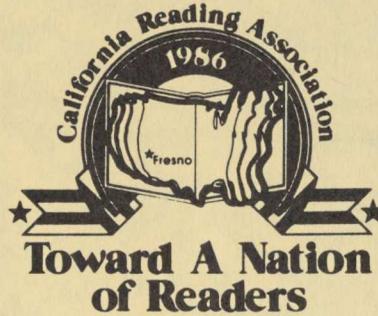
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Please return to:

**Dr. Alan Crawford, President-Elect**  
California Reading Association  
516 Daroca Ave.  
San Gabriel, CA 91775  
(818) 282-0128

Deadline May 25



November 6-8, 1986  
Fresno Convention Center

Dr. Alan Crawford  
Conference Chairperson

516 Daroca Ave.

San Gabriel, CA 91775

**IMPORTANT:** Please use this VITA form to assist your presider in introducing you. Keep all information as brief as possible so that time will not be taken from your presentation.

## Speaker VITA

(Please Type)

Dr., Mr., Miss, Mrs., Ms. \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Position / Title \_\_\_\_\_

Employed by \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Experience/Educational background:

Major publications / presentations / areas of interest:

Awards and/or outstanding achievements:

Positions held in local councils, CRA, IRA:

Other pertinent information:

Please return to:

**Dr. Alan Crawford, President-Elect**  
California Reading Association  
516 Daroca Avenue  
San Gabriel, CA 91775  
(818) 282-0128

10/20/86

Dear Betty Ann -

~~I realized I had~~ This <sup>is a</sup> very  
messy <sup>file</sup> copy of my talk, ~~which~~  
~~I kept for my files.~~ <sup>but</sup> Since it is  
for your son who wants to write -  
I ~~am~~ <sup>am</sup> reading it with my good  
wishes <sup>for his personal use only.</sup> I hope it will help him  
in some small way - <sup>my</sup> <sup>best</sup> <sup>love</sup> -  
L R

# Fourth Annual Author Symposium

October 10 & 11



Betsy Byars

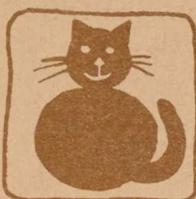
Jean Fritz



Ann Jonas

Nancy Tafuri

Yoshiko Uchida



Elizabeth Winthrop

Walter Dean Myers

The fourth Annual Author Symposium will present excellence in children's literature Friday, October 10 and Saturday, October 11 at the Holiday Inn City Center, 617 S. Broadway, Little Rock.

The symposium is sponsored and underwritten by Friends of the Central Arkansas Library (FOCAL) and Central Arkansas Library System.

Registration fees are \$20 for Friday and Saturday, \$15 for one day and \$15 for FOCAL members.

A special feature of this year's symposium is a lunch and dinner with the authors. Use the registration form below. Room reservations must be made with the Holiday Inn City Center at (501) 376-6201.

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

3-4:15 p.m. - Registration, book sales  
4:15-4:30 p.m. - Opening remarks  
4:30- 5:30 p.m. - Elizabeth Winthrop  
5:30-7 p.m. - Dinner with the authors, book sales  
7-9 p.m. - Jean Fritz, Ann Jonas

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11

8:30-11:45 a.m. - Betsy Byars, Walter Dean Myers, Yoshiko Uchida  
11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m. - Lunch with the Authors, book sales  
1:15-2:15 p.m. - Nancy Tafuri  
2:30 p.m. - Book sales, autographing (Only books purchased at the Symposium will be autographed.)

For more information contact Ethel Ambrose, Central Arkansas Library System, 700 Louisiana, Little Rock, AR 72201 or call (501) 370-5955.

### Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Clip & mail this form  
with your check to:  
Author Symposium  
CALs, 700 Louisiana  
Little Rock, AR 72201

#### REGISTRATION

Friday & Saturday (\$20) --- \_\_\_\_\_

Friday only (\$15) ----- \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday only (\$15)----- \_\_\_\_\_

Friday & Saturday - FOCAL  
members only (\$15) ----- \_\_\_\_\_

#### MEALS

Friday dinner with the  
authors (\$12) ----- \_\_\_\_\_

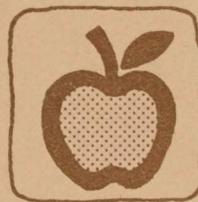
Saturday lunch with the  
authors (\$9) ----- \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED ---- \_\_\_\_\_  
(make check out to Author Symposium)

Deadline for pre-registration --- October 1, 1986



# Meet the Authors



## Betsy Byars

Betsy Byars was awarded the John Newbery Medal in 1971 for *SUMMER OF THE SWANS*. Her many popular books reflect real-life incidents to which young readers can relate. *THE GOLLY SISTERS GO WEST* is her new title for fall.

## Jean Fritz

Jean Fritz writes historical books for young people as part of her "personal search for roots." *HOMESICK*, a Newbery Honor Book, describes her childhood years in China and *CHINA HOMECOMING* tells of her recent return to the city of her birth. She is the 1986 recipient of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award.

## Ann Jonas

Outstanding for design, perspective and effective use of color, Ann Jonas' picture books have won approval from children, parents and reviewers. *ROUND TRIP* was selected by the New York Times as one of the ten Best Illustrated Books for 1983. *THE QUILT* is the story of a dreamworld created by a patchwork quilt.

## Walter Dean Myers

Walter Dean Myers, winner of the Coretta Scott King Award for *MOTOWN AND DIDI: A LOVE STORY*, says, "...what I want to do with my writing

is make the connection-reach out and touch the lives of my characters and share them with a reader. In *MOJO AND THE RUSSIANS* and *THE OUTSIDE SHOT* he does just that.

## Nancy Tafuri

In the early 1980's Nancy Tafuri's focus shifted from designing book jackets to illustrating picture books. A hallmark of her work is brief texts combined with bold use of color which results in books with a strong visual appeal for young children. *HAVE YOU SEEN MY DUCKLING* was a Caldecott Honor Book. *WHO'S COUNTING?* is her fall 1986 title.

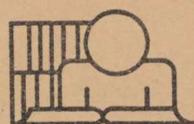
## Elizabeth Winthrop

Since turning to writing full time, Elizabeth Winthrop has published *HE HAS RISEN: THE EASTER STORY*, *LIZZIE AND HAROLD* and *JOURNEY TO A BRIGHT KINGDOM*. *CASTLE IN THE ATTIC* is her latest junior novel and *SHOES* will be out in the fall of 1986.

## Yoshiko Uchida

The writings of Yoshiko Uchida bridge two cultures. Like the child in *A JAR OF DREAMS*, growing up in California she experienced the rejection felt by many Japanese Americans. In *JOURNEY TO TOPAZ* and *JOURNEY HOME* she tells of being incarcerated in a relocation center in Utah.

Friends of the Central Arkansas Library, Inc.  
700 Louisiana  
Little Rock, AR 72201  
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June 29, 1986

Dear Ethel:

I hope this finds you and Fred well and enjoying a good summer.

I wasn't too sure about my health when I wrote you in Jan., but am somewhat stronger now, though I still lack stamina and have to be careful. (So what else is new, you might well ask!)

Anyway, if you still want me to come in Oct., I'd love to try, although I'd surely understand if you already have someone else who could commit earlier.

If I am to come, I need to start some planning and thinking. Could you call me some day to fill me in on some details? No one will answer if I'm not home.

Did I tell you Margot Zemach and I have a picture book coming out next spring? (A Jpnese folk tale - The Two Foolish Cats). Also Creative Arts is reissuing THE DANCING KETTLE this Fall, and finally, my adult novel PICTURE BRIDGE, will be published by Northland Press next spring after 10 long years!

I'll look forward to hearing from you.

Affectionately,

## CONTENTS

Whirly Bird

~~Sky Slicer~~

The Winners

Neighbors

Raspberries

Being Invisible

~~The Robins~~ Nest

Honeysuckles

Recess is Over

Visitor

The Wind

Robber Robins

Happy Hour

Bluejays

~~Sparrow~~  
~~Summer 179~~

Noisy Drill

A Noisy Place

Soap Bubbles

~~Presser~~ Telephone Voices Fl.

All Souls Day

Autumn Walk

Late on an October Afternoon

Bird Song

Fall {



## Central Arkansas Library System

Public Library • 700 Louisiana Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 • (501) 370-5954

August 3, 1986

Ms. Yoshiko Uchida  
1685 Solano Avenue, #102  
Berkeley, CA 94707

Dear Yoshi:

It was good to talk with you and to know that you will be up to coming in October. I talked with Maureen earlier this week and will send her a carbon of this letter so everyone has all the information.

This will confirm that we can offer a \$500 honorarium plus all local expenses. Atheneum has generously offered to pay your air travel fare.

The Symposium will be held on October 10 and 11, 1986. The enclosed program for 1985 outlines our program format. A sheet showing the order of speakers for next October is enclosed.

Our 1986 Symposium will be held at the Holiday Inn City Center, 617 South Broadway in Little Rock. Reservations have been made for our guest speakers at the same hotel. Because of your health factors, I suggest that you arrive on Thursday so you can rest ahead of hand and stay over at least until Sunday. We will be happy to have you as our guest for these extra days. Perhaps it would be better if you stopped in Dallas after the Symposium. What do you think?

Just let me know what travel schedule works best for you. We will, of course, meet your plane, provide ground transportation as needed and get you back to the airport.

Our audience will be made up of about 250 teachers and librarians. They represent both school and public libraries.

As you will see from last year's program, each speaker works within a one hour time frame. Usually people talk for about 45 minutes and then respond to questions from a audience.

Dinner on Friday and lunch on Saturday are catered in a nearby dining room. We seat each guest speaker at a table for eight. People attending the Symposium fill out the table. This gives an opportunity for people to talk informally with our distinguished guests. There are no speeches during meals.

Ms. Yoshiko Uchida

page 2

Autographing is scheduled at 2:30 on Saturday afternoon, following the last speech. Parents are invited to bring children to this portion of the program.

We understand that you will not be able to attend all sessions. We are just so thankful that you can come.

I do need your speech title as soon as possible please.

If I can answer any further questions, please let me know. My telephone number is (501) 370-5955.

My home phone number is 375-1829.

Fred joins me in sending love and good wishes.

Be well,

*Ethel*

(Mrs.) Ethel N. Ambrose  
Coordinator of Children's Services

ENA:bb

cc: Maureen Hayes - Atheneum

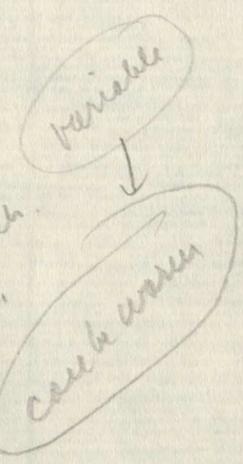
enc: 2

9/22/86  
Aunt Paul's list  
2 jackets - JST, sam  
D.K. out  
Happ out  
1 " BBT  
Jan

10/8 - Wed 8

- downtown
- could walk around a little bit
- Hotel, 1 block → library
- Take around - show by car.
- usually prime / still pretty warm -

Have ordered Bk few - Dec 84



August 5, 1986

Dear Ethel:

I hope you talked to Maureen and that Atheneum is taking care of my travel. Let me know if there's a problem.

Assuming there isn't - here is the title for my talk: "Visitor from Another World."

So you'll have the list of my books in writing, I'm enclosing a bio (it's outdated and I hope they'll get a new one out before Oct.) and a flyer from Creative Arts with their books.

I think I'll take your wonderful suggestion to come early and will probably arrive on Wed. 10/8. I'm trying to decide now between two Am. Airlines flights - one that arrives in the evening, but with a rather close connection at Dallas, and the other that leaves here at the crack of dawn, but will give me more leeway to change planes at Dallas.

I'll let you know later what I decide. In the meantime, I hope you and Fred stay in good health despite all the terrible heat I'm hearing about.

Affectionately,

*Enc: bio +  
CA flyer - D.K.*

(214) 528-6898

✓ Arr 10/12 - OK? 10:00 or 11:00  
- stay till Tues or Wed ~~which better~~  
- Can you meet me Sunday?  
- Weather - ~~Summer~~ ~~hot~~ ~~stuck~~? work & blame?

August 20, 1986

Dear Masi and John:

Maybe you are still in Colorado, but I hope this catches up with you somewhere.

Harry told me of all the honors you received on your retirement, Masi, and I send my warmest love and congratulations and hugs etc.. on all your achievements. I'll bet now that you've retired you will be busier than ever!

The days are flying by and I suddenly realized I will have to make my reservations for Little Rock/Dallas in 2 weekston order to get the special fare!

I'll probably be in LR 10/8-<sup>11</sup>~~9~~, and wonder if I can still visit you on my way back. I'm tentatively thinking of arr. Dallas on Sunday 10/12 and leaving on Wed 10/15 ~~if OK with you~~.

Would it still be convenient for you if I stopped to see you? I still have to rest a lot, so may be a boring guest, but it would do me good just to see both of you for a few days.

I'll call you the beginning of Sept, when I hope you'll be back in Dallas. I should make my reservations by 9/3.

We'll get caught up on all the news when I see you!

By the way, did I ever write to tell you that Northland Press is publishing my adult novel next spring? Hurray for Justin Boots!

Fondly,

Send  
my love  
to H. ~~don't~~  
= ~~honor~~ Harry was say- he I come to Dal <sup>of</sup> Sun-  
but I may be too tired <sup>of</sup> ~~try~~ <sup>Mon</sup>?  
~~shall I write~~  
~~Medicare Supplement~~

Sat is  
big day,  
so just  
h. for 7  
days  
on  
Sun.

Sun.  
Oct 12

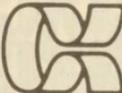
arr Dal <sup>aa</sup> 10:04 A  
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70/200 Wed  
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12:34 p.

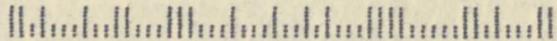
weather

but?  
rain?  
beautiful night  
but I cold



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**BANK AND TRUST COMPANY**  
One Vandenberg Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

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**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

4400 Cathedral Oaks Road (P. O. Box 6307), Santa Barbara, California 93160-6307 (805) 964-4711

August 11, 1986

*P.C.  
Pignatelli  
8/20/86*

Miss Yoshiko Uchida  
1685 Solano Ave., #102  
Berkeley, CA 94707

Dear Yoshiko:

As we begin to look toward the fall months, once again it is time to begin thinking about our annual "Breakfast with the Authors." The members of the Santa Barbara County Schools Library Committee join me in inviting you to be our guest for this delightful occasion. This year will be our 34th Annual Breakfast. Do come and join us at the Holiday Inn in Goleta, Saturday morning, October 25, 1986. We plan to have all our guests meet in the lobby at 8:30 a.m. so that each may be assigned a host or hostess.

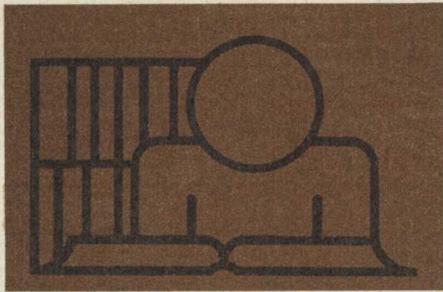
We do so look forward to your acceptance.

Cordially,

*Bettie*

Bettie Day, Coordinator of Library  
and Resource Center Services

BD:jw



## Central Arkansas Library System

Public Library • 700 Louisiana Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 • (501) 370-5954

9-30-86

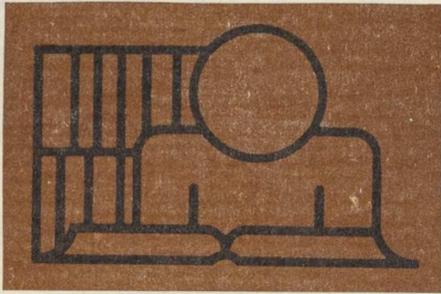
Dear Yoshi:

It is still in the 90's  
and humid. Rain is headed  
this way but next week  
probably won't be much cooler.

See you Wednesday -

Love,

Ethel



## Central Arkansas Library System

Public Library • 700 Louisiana Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 • (501) 370-5954

September 16, 1986

Ms. Yoshiko Uchida  
1685 Solano Avenue, #102  
Berkeley, CA 94707

Dear Yoshi:

Thanks so much for sending me a copy of your travel schedule. I will meet you flight, American #506, at the Little Rock Airport on Wednesday October 8. A reservation has been made for you at the Holiday Inn - City Center for October 8 through October 11.

Atheneum sent bio-data flyers and books are on order. Desert Exile was available only in paperback. I wonder if they plan to reissue it in hardcover.

Our weather has been glorious. Days are warm and evenings are cool. Warmer weather is predicted for next week with highs in the nineties. I will update the weather report closer to your departure date.

Hope you are feeling well,

Love,

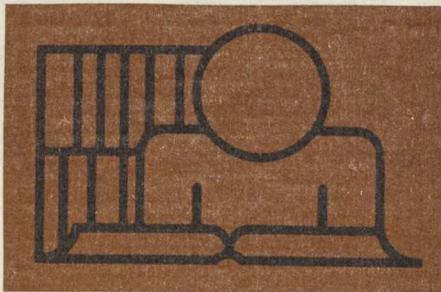
*Ethel*

(Mrs.) Ethel N. Ambrose  
Coordinator of Children's Services

ENA:bb

cc: Ms. Maureen Hayes  
Atheneum

*Drafted before our phone  
visit on Sunday.*



# Central Arkansas Library System

Public Library • 700 Louisiana Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 • (501) 370-5954

September 30, 1986

Mr. Don Ellis  
Creative Arts Book Company  
833 Bancraft Way  
Berkeley, CA 94710-2287

Dear Mr. Ellis:

Thank you for the review copy of Yoshiko Uchida's DANCING KETTLE which you have recently reissued in paperback. We are delighted to have this outstanding collection of Japanese folk tales available again as a source book for story tellers and to put into the hands of children.

However, we are concerned about the very poor quality of the binding. We ordered multiple copies for sale when Ms. Uchida appears here next week and the signatures are falling out of the covers as we unpack them.

The new cover is very colorful and the book is such an important one. Couldn't something be done to improve the quality of the binding?

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Ethel N. Ambrose  
Coordinator of Children's Services

ENA:bb

cc:  Uchida  
Suzanne Druehl

*flyers?*

*cancel Robert  
10/3 - in  
He'll talk to Ethel  
+ also Don - send replacement  
+ catalog flyer*



Photo by DONALD CREWS



## ANN JONAS

---

I grew up in a family that attached great importance to knowing how to do as many things as possible, from skiing to cabinet-making to repairing the family car. Everyone always had several projects going at the same time and drawing was considered an incidental skill, a tool for planning a project rather than an end in itself. It was only after a few years of dead-end jobs following high school that I decided that some specific training might be helpful, even necessary. I attended Cooper Union and after graduation went to work in the studio of my former graphic design instructor.

A few years later my husband, Donald Crews, was inducted into the Army and subsequently sent to Germany. I followed and found a job with a German advertising agency, trying to design ads with a "Madison Avenue" look for them. We lived in Germany for one and a half years, sharing a rambling apartment with German friends. Our first daughter, Nina, was born there. When we returned to the United States, we started our own freelance design business. Our second daughter, Amy, was born and the design business grew. It wasn't until both daughters were nearly ready for college that I considered doing books for children, and then it was only through the urging of my husband and his editor, Susan Hirschman.

My first book, *WHEN YOU WERE A BABY*, came together very quickly. I drew strongly on memories of my children and their friends at two and three and their evident pride in their accomplishments. *TWO BEAR CUBS* was next and then *ROUND TRIP*, which was the working out of an idea that had interested me in the abstract. With succeeding books, I've been trying to explore other ways of stretching children's imaginations. I find myself drawn more and more often to designing books that involve some sort of visual play. It seems like a wonderful opportunity to encourage children to look at familiar things in different ways while offering the appeal of a game or a puzzle. If I can also deal, even if only lightly, with some of a child's deeper concerns, then I feel that I've served them as well as I can.

---

# GREENWILLOW BOOKS BY ANN JONAS

## NOW WE CAN GO (1986)

"Jonas has again combined a simplistic and on-target story line with colorful, non-sexist illustrations to create a prime example of what a book for very young children can and should be." -- *School Library Journal*

## ★ THE TREK (1985)

AN ALA NOTABLE BOOK

"'My mother doesn't walk me to school anymore,' the story begins....Immediately children will get the physical sense of standing on a threshold, adventure beckoning. Reality melds into dream as THE TREK offers an alternative world, ripe with creative possibilities." -- *School Library Journal* (starred review)

## THE QUILT (1984)

AN ALA NOTABLE BOOK

"The intricate illustrations in Jonas' new book can only be described in superlatives.... A landmark in children's literature."  
--*Publishers Weekly*

Totally engaging, from the first glimpse of the little girl, in sleepers....  
A natural fancy appealingly presented."  
--*Kirkus Reviews*

## HOLES AND PEEKS (1984)

AN ALA NOTABLE BOOK

"A charming, reassuring book."  
-- *School Library Journal*

"A fresh and reassuring view of the child's familiar world."  
--*Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*

## ROUND TRIP(1983)

AN ALA NOTABLE BOOK

A NEW YORK TIMES BEST ILLUSTRATED BOOK

"An inventive book for young readers that will delight anyone whose imagination is intact.... Intriguingly executed." --*ALA Booklist*

"Show stopping sleight of pen... one of the smartest of the turnabout tricks." --*Kirkus Reviews*

## TWO BEAR CUBS (1982)

"Text and illustrations form a well integrated whole for young readers."  
--*School Library Journal*

## WHEN YOU WERE A BABY (1982)

"Offers a solid sense of accomplishment to young listeners."  
--*ALA Booklist*

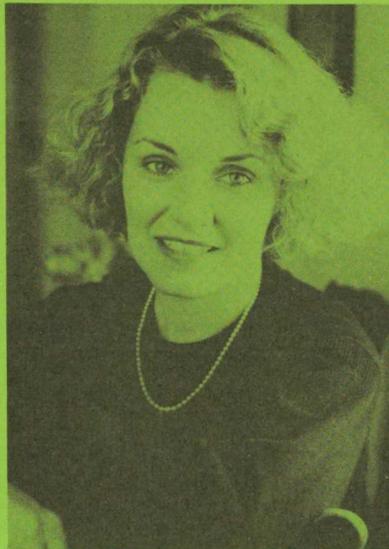
COMING IN FALL 1986 !!!

## WHERE CAN IT BE ? (1986)

A beautifully painted, split-page adventure in which readers follow a curious and increasingly worried toddler through the rooms of her house in search of her lost blanket. A suspenseful and satisfying preschool mystery.



GREENWILLOW BOOKS • 105 Madison Avenue • New York, N.Y. 10016



## NANCY TAFURI

It's a wonderful thing being able to go through your life doing exactly what you want to be doing--that's how I feel about both the writing and illustrating of children's books. To know that youngsters will be eager to turn the pages of a book that I have helped form gives me a strong sense of accomplishment and pleasure.

I adored snuggling up to my mother while she would read (or I read to her) the same favorites over and over. Maybe that, coupled with crayons and endless hours of coloring and the love of nature, has helped form my destined fate.

I entered the School of Visual Arts to study children's book illustration, though only one course really dealt with the subject itself. The other courses were related, combining graphics, type, painting, etc. I learned enough to know that I had better prepare myself for a graphics-related career because you just don't walk out and become a children's book illustrator. It's something that I found I had to work a very long time to achieve.

In the interim, my husband, Tom, and I formed a graphic design studio, One Plus One Studio, dealing with book jacket design both trade and paper, photography, logo and movie design.

I won't include all my growing pains with children's books--but only mention the ultimate highlight. It was when, after numerous rejections--and a great deal of effort--I walked into the offices of Greenwillow and was greeted with smiles, had my portfolio reviewed and was handed a manuscript. It was to me a now or never situation and I was petrified. The manuscript was *THE PINEY WOODS PEDDLER*--Tom modeled for the peddler and I spent some months in a stone mill in Millback, Pennsylvania, a perfect backdrop for the book and many of the town residents are pictured.

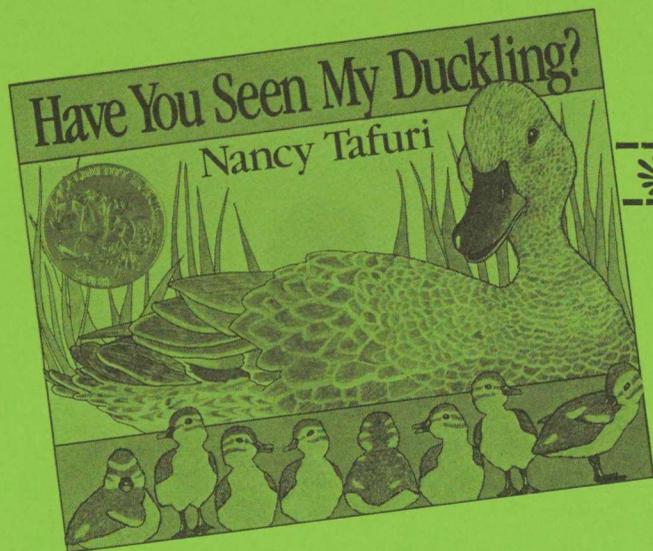
Working with Greenwillow has been a wonderful experience and I couldn't be happier drawing ducks, rabbits, mice, and fairies and making children smile!

# Greenwillow Books by Nancy Tafuri

## ★ WHO'S COUNTING? (1986)

"The concept may seem simple, but the book demonstrates that excellent graphic design and child appeal are not mutually exclusive."

--*The Horn Book* (starred review)



## RABBIT'S MORNING (1985)

"Tafuri's watercolors contain the essence of a summer dawn's translucence, incorporating minimal text into borderless double-page spreads filled with animals and their babies that are certain to appeal to preschoolers and beginning readers."

--*School Library Journal*

## ✽ A 1985 CALDECOTT HONOR BOOK ✽

### ★ HAVE YOU SEEN MY DUCKLING? (1984)

AN ALA NOTABLE BOOK

"Children will return to this one again and again. . . . This is a reassuring story of youthful independence and familial love."

--*School Library Journal* (starred review)

## ALL YEAR LONG (1983)

"The artist's crisp, spacious pen-and-wash drawings of scenes throughout the year are an alluring backdrop for . . . an almanac/album that should prompt instructive dialogue between a toddler and whoever is on hand to share the book."

--*ALA Booklist*

### ★ EARLY MORNING IN THE BARN (1983)

"The variety and energy that make the illustrations so inviting to exploration are the result of imaginative design and fluid lines. A book that is fresh, active and endearing, and will be as much fun for adults as for children."

--*School Library Journal*  
(starred review)

COMING IN 1987  
DO NOT  
DISTURB

## illustrated by Nancy Tafuri

### NATA (1985)

by Helen V. Griffith

"Tafuri's bold, colorful illustrations draw children in, nicely complementing and extending the text."

--*School Library Journal*

### IF I HAD A PAKA

POEMS IN ELEVEN  
LANGUAGES (1982)

by Charlotte Pomerantz

### ALL ASLEEP (1984)

by Charlotte Pomerantz

### THE PINEY WOODS PEDDLAR (1981)

by George Shannon  
AN ALA NOTABLE BOOK

### ACROSS THE STREAM (1982)

by Mirra Ginsburg  
AN ALA NOTABLE BOOK

### THE SONG (1982)

by Charlotte Zolotow



GREENWILLOW BOOKS  
105 Madison Avenue · New York, N.Y. 10016

# VIKING KESTREL



Photograph of Walter Dean Myers by E. Algonaldo Thomas

## • WALTER DEAN MYERS •

"Thinking back to my boyhood days, I remember the bright sun on Harlem streets, the easy rhythms of black and brown bodies moving along the tar and asphalt pavement, the sounds of hundreds of children streaming in and out of red brick tenements. I remember La Marketa, in East Harlem, where people spoke a multitude of languages and the Penn Central rumbled overhead. I remember playing basketball in Morningside Park until it was too dark to see the basket and then climbing over the fence to go home.

"Harlem was a place of affirmation. The excitement of city living exploded in the teeming streets. If there was a notion that as a black child I was to be denied easy access to other worlds, it mattered little to me if I could have this much life in the place I found myself.

"I learned to read early on. I don't actually recall the process of learning, but I do remember reading aloud to my mother from the daily newspaper as she did housework, when I was about five or six. I sensed a connection between myself and the worlds I read about in books, a connection that I was hesitant to share with my friends, perhaps because I wasn't really sure just why it seemed so important to me.

"My education bumped along. I spoke poorly, rushing words out in a bewildering jumble, hating the patience of my teachers as much as the ridicule of my classmates as I tried to express myself. I was frequently in trouble in school, sitting in the back of the room or in the principal's office. It was during one of these periods, in the fifth grade, that an already

annoyed teacher caught me reading a comic book under the desk. Of course, she tore it up, but the next day she came in with a pile of books and announced that, if indeed I was going to spend so much time sitting in the back of the room and reading, I should at least read something good. Suddenly this teacher had given a direction to my reading. I still remember the first book she gave me, *East of the Sun, and West of the Moon*. Reading took on a new dimension for me.

"By high school I had a part-time job in the garment district and had purchased, with my father's help, my first typewriter. I wrote short stories and laboriously constructed poems. I enjoyed writing as I had enjoyed reading. Again, it seemed a connection with things and events that I was not part of in "real" life. More an observer than a doer, I was on my way to becoming a writer. I just didn't know it yet.

"My parents couldn't afford college for me, so after high school I went into the Army. I had six months' training in electronics, then spent the rest of my enlistment playing basketball.

"After the service I returned to New York and a series of jobs. By this time I had decided that what I wanted to do most was to write. Writing seemed, and still seems to be, my major involvement with life. I can reach people through my writing, and I can use that writing as a point of reference in my real-life encounters. The sense of isolation I felt as a young person is now relieved by the connecting links of my stories.



Cover illustration by Darryl Zudeck from *Motown and Didi*

"I enjoy writing for young people because the forms are less constricting, more forgiving to the stretched imagination. I particularly enjoy writing about the city life I know best. Ultimately, what I want to do with my writing is make the connection—reach out and touch the lives of my characters and share them with a reader."

## About Walter Dean Myers

Walter Dean Myers was born in Martinsburg, West Virginia. He grew up in New York City, attended City College there, taught creative writing and black literature, and worked as a senior editor at a major New York publishing house. Now a full-time writer and free-lance editor of books, he also writes articles for newspapers and magazines.

Mr. Myers has published nine books with The Viking

Press—seven novels for young adults and two books for younger children, *The Black Pearl & The Ghost, Or One Mystery After Another*, illustrated by Robert Quackenbush, and *The Golden Serpent*, illustrated by Alice and Martin Provensen. Four of his novels have been selected by the American Library Association as Notable Books. *The Young Landlords* and *Motown and Didi* have both received the Coretta Scott King Award.

Mr. Myers lives in Jersey City, New Jersey.

## Books by Walter Dean Myers from Viking Kestrel and Puffin Books

### FAST SAM, COOL CLYDE, AND STUFF

A fast-paced account of a year in the lives of teenagers on 116th Street in Harlem. Stuff, the twelve-year-old newcomer to the block, narrates this funny story about the value of simple friendship. *The Horn Book* commented, "The humorous and ironic elements of the book give it the flavor of a Harlem *Tom Sawyer* or *Penrod*."

ALA Notable Book

Ages 12 up

Cloth: 0-670-30874-9, \$10.95

### MOJO AND THE RUSSIANS

The scene—122nd Street in Harlem. The story—a hilarious farce with unlikely ingredients: a janitor, his girl friend, Russian spies, the CIA and the FBI, a basketball team, and a group of Harlem children. *School Library Journal* said, "Successful fiction for laughs is always rare, but twice now Myers has brought in a winner: he has a good ear for dialogue and a real flair for handling funny situations."

Ages 10-14

Cloth: 0-670-48437-7, \$12.95

### THE YOUNG LANDLORDS

The zany story of teenagers in Harlem who, trying to make their neighborhood a better place to live in, accidentally become landlords of the worst building on the block. *The Horn Book* praised the book for its "masterful blend of humor and realism," and the author for his "keen sensitivity to the joys and frustrations of adolescence as well as his thorough knowledge of the New York City street scene."

ALA Notable Book, ALA Best Books for Young Adults, Coretta Scott King Award

Ages 12 up

Cloth: 0-670-79454-6, \$11.50

### THE BLACK PEARL & THE GHOST, OR ONE MYSTERY AFTER ANOTHER

Illustrated by Robert Quackenbush

These two tongue-in-cheek stories of hilarious chaos are written with wit and style.

Ages 7-10

Cloth: 0-670-17284-7, \$11.50

### THE GOLDEN SERPENT

Illustrated by Alice and Martin Provensen

The beautiful, enigmatic story of a wise man and a boy who set out to discover the mystery of the golden serpent.

Ages 6-9

Cloth: 0-670-34445-1, \$9.95

### THE LEGEND OF TARIK

In this fast-moving, heroic fantasy-adventure set in fourteenth-century Africa and Spain, young Tarik's family is destroyed at the hand of cruel El Muerte. Tarik acquires a magic sword, a powerful horse, and the Crystal of Truth, and sets out for revenge. But the rewards of battle are not what they seem, and the search for El Muerte leads to despair as well as triumph.

ALA Best Books for Young Adults

Ages 12 up

Cloth: 0-670-42312-2, \$9.95

### WON'T KNOW TILL I GET THERE

When Steve's middle-class Harlem parents take in Earl, a thirteen-year-old delinquent, as a foster child, Steve attempts to prove himself tough land him, his new brother, and his friends in juvenile court, where the judge orders them to work during the summer in an old people's home. *Booklist* has said "the story's spark comes from Myers' special knack at making his kids seem real flesh-and-blood figures."

Ages 12 up

Cloth: 0-670-77862-1, \$11.95

## THE NICHOLAS FACTOR

When Gerald joins the Crusade Society, an elitist bunch of do-gooders, he's curious to find out what really goes on beneath their highly respectable facade. Gradually he becomes caught up in an adventure that takes him from California to the jungles of Peru, and leads him finally into a race for his life.

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## MOTOWN AND DIDI: A Love Story

"Two Harlem teenagers, both determined in different ways to defeat the poverty and drug culture surrounding them, fall in love despite the barriers they have raised for protection against the pain in their past and present . . . Myers . . . cares about his two main characters, and readers will, too."—*ALA Booklist*

Coretta Scott King Award

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Watch for *KELLY*, a new novel by Walter Dean Myers, as well as two new Arrow Adventures, coming in Spring 1986.

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### BETSY BYARS

A respect for her readers and a finely tuned ability to recognize and explore their most acute problems have combined to make Betsy Byars one of the best known and loved authors of children's books today. With a remarkable twenty books to her credit, Ms. Byars has been continually lauded throughout her career, winning both the Newbery Medal and the American Book Award, among many others. Sharply perceptive and humorous, Ms. Byars continues to write poignantly and with a fresh eye for children growing up in a complex world.

Currently, Betsy Byars is working on a trilogy of books about the warm, funny, and totally unique Blossom Family. "Betsy Byars' light touch and her skillful interweaving of the various plots give THE NOT JUST ANYBODY FAMILY a reassuring farcelike quality," said The New York Times Book Review about the first installment of The Blossom Trilogy, and Booklist called THE NOT JUST ANYBODY FAMILY "a satisfying portrayal of strong family ties." THE BLOSSOMS MEET THE VULTURE LADY is her most recent novel in The Blossom Family Trilogy, to be followed in the Spring of 1987 with THE BLOSSOMS AND THE GREEN PHANTOM.

Betsy Byars was born on August 7, 1928 in Charlotte, North Carolina and has spent much of her life in the southeastern United States. She graduated from Queens College in Charlotte with an AB Degree in English. After a short period in Illinois, she returned to West Virginia. She now lives in South Carolina.

# Betsy Byars



When Betsy Byars is asked by students for advice about becoming a writer, she urges them to get their work into perspective and to prepare for a sometimes long, often frustrating, period of apprenticeship. Discussing her own early struggles to become a published writer, she remembers a moment with her children that became a turning point in her career:

"My kids came home from school one day and I had gotten a manuscript back that morning. I was disappointed and one of my daughters looked at me and said, 'Oh, did you get rejected again?' And I thought if my kids can tell when they walk in the door whether I have gotten a rejection slip or not, then I am going to have to either get this in perspective or stop writing. And that's just what I did. I did have disappointments and rejections after that, but the fact that I took it all less seriously helped both me and my writing."

(*Language Arts*, March 1980)

But acceptance letters from publishers did come--followed by honors and awards. In 1971 Betsy Byars was awarded the Newbery Medal for *SUMMER OF THE SWANS* (Viking). *THE PINBALLS*, published in 1977, has won six separate awards voted upon by school children--in Arkansas, California, Georgia, Kansas, Missouri, and Wisconsin. It was an ALA Notable Book of 1977 and was adapted into an ABC Afterschool Special. *THE NIGHT SWIMMERS* (Delacorte) won the 1981 American Book Award for Children's Literature, and *THE TWO-THOUSAND-POUND GOLDFISH* was an ALA Notable Children's Book of 1982.

Aidan Chambers, in an article in *The Horn Book*, remarked about Mrs. Byars' work: "She will tell you how her characters thought and behaved in universally experienced circumstances, and one thinks, yes, yes, that's just how it was--and how it still is. Her perceptions are acutely accurate."

Born in Charlotte, North Carolina, Betsy Byars has spent much of her life in the Southeast. She attended Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina for two years and then returned home to Charlotte to study at Queens College, graduating with a degree in English. She is married to Edward Byars, a professor of mechanical engineering. For many years they and their four children lived in Morgantown, West Virginia. The children are grown now and the Byarses live in Clemson, South Carolina, where Mr. Byars teaches at Clemson University.



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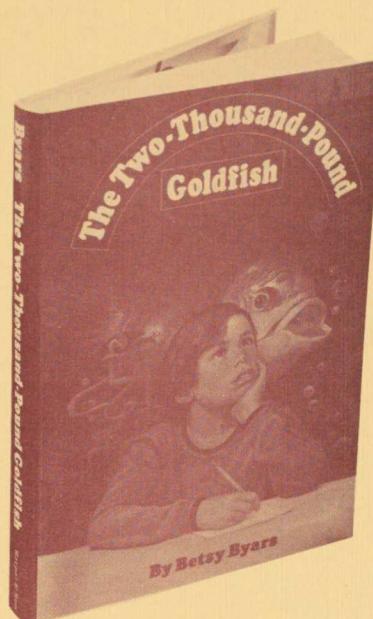
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HARPER NOVELS BY BETSY BYARS

THE TWO-THOUSAND-POUND GOLDFISH (1982)

"Monster movie scenarios spin from Warren's vivid imagination, but the eight-year-old also dreams of a reunion with his mother.... a political activist on the run from the F.B.I."--(starred review) *School Library Journal*. "The interweaving of the humorous movie plots with day-to-day reality is skillfully done in a subtle and powerful novel."--*The Horn Book*.

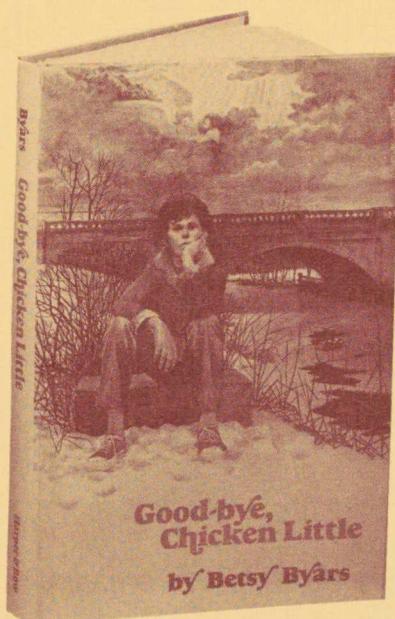
*Notable Children's Books of 1982* (ALA)  
*Notable Children's Books of 1982* (New York Times Book Review)



GOOD-BYE CHICKEN LITTLE (1979)

When his uncle drowns, Jimmie's colorful, life-affirming family helps him understand that he wasn't responsible for the death. "Jimmie's feelings throughout are represented in depth, and revealed in flashes of insight that hit the mark; and the story hums with the currents that flow between him and the others."--*Kirkus Reviews*.

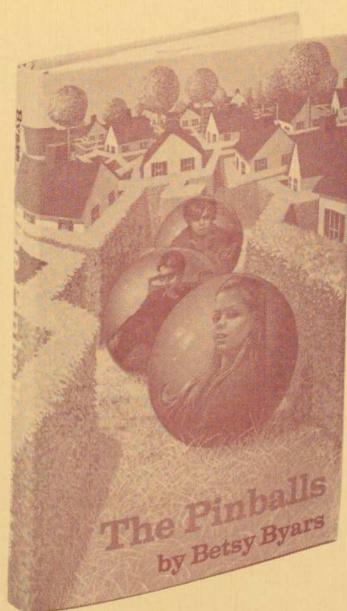
*Reviewers' Choice, 1979* (ALA Booklist)  
*Children's Books of 1979* (Library of Congress)



THE PINBALLS (1977)

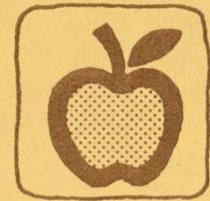
"The stark facts about three ill-matched abused children living in a foster home could have made an almost unbearably bitter novel; but the economically told story, liberally spread with humor, is something of a *tour de force*."--*The Horn Book*.

*Notable Children's Books of 1977* (ALA)  
*Best Children's Books of 1977* (School Library Journal)  
Winner, 1977 *Children's Book Award*  
(Child Study Association)





# Fourth Annual Author Symposium



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## ★ FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 ★

3 - 4:15 p.m.  
On-site registration, Book sales

4:15 - 4:30 p.m.  
Opening remarks

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.  
ELIZABETH WINTHROP  
"Fantasy and the Creative  
Process"

5:30 - 6 p.m.  
Book sales and Cash bar

6 - 7 p.m.  
Dinner with the Authors  
By reservation only  
Manning and Lafayette rooms

7 - 8 p.m.  
JEAN FRITZ  
"An American Immigrant"

8 - 9 p.m.  
ANN JONAS  
"Journeys"

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## ★ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 ★

8 - 8:30 a.m.  
Registration and Book sales

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.  
BETSY BYARS  
"Spinning Straw Into Gold"

9:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
WALTER DEAN MYERS  
"From Light Bulb  
to Silver Screen"

10:30 - 10:45 a.m.  
Break

10:45 - 11:45 a.m.  
YOSHIKO UCHIDA  
"Visitor From Another World"

11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
Book sales

12:15 - 1:15 p.m.  
Lunch with the Authors  
By reservation only  
Manning and Lafayette rooms

1:15 - 2:15  
NANCY TAFURI  
"From Start to Finish"

2:30 p.m.  
Autographing, Book sales  
(Children of all ages will be  
admitted to this session)



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Choose these books by Jean Fritz published by Coward-McCann and G.P. Putnam's Sons, members of The Putnam Young Readers Group. The following is a complete listing of inprint titles. (For fuller annotations, see The Putnam Young Readers Group Complete Backlist Catalog.) This list may be used as an order form—simply fill in the quantities you desire, cut out or photocopy, and attach your purchase order which states your bill to/ship to address. Keep an extra photocopy for your records. Send order to your usual supplier, or direct to:

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# Jean Fritz

Winner of the 1986  
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"Above all there is Jean Fritz. Her lively biographical writing has blown like a fresh breeze across the children's book world... Jean Fritz has changed the face of the map."

*School Library Journal*



Ten-year-old Jean on the Yangtze River.

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Jean Fritz's remarkable reputation for bringing history to life has a lot to do with her keen eye for humorous, humanizing detail. Lively and exuberant, Jean Fritz does not just write history—she lives it! Her enthusiasm, in person and in her books, is infectious.

"I see no reason for 'watering down' history—it's much more vivid to know, for instance, that Patrick Henry's first wife died insane. It wasn't her fault, the

poor woman, but it's history, true history!" says Jean, unequivocally. (*Early Years*, February 1982). "History is the story for all human behavior, the stage for every kind of action." (*May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture*, April 1976).

As the only child of missionary parents, Jean Fritz spent her first twelve years in the China of the 1920s. "As a child, I spent an inordinate amount of time puzzling over what it meant to be an American . . . Would I, having lived twelve years of my life abroad, be less American than my cousins?" Filled with an overwhelming patriotism gleaned from what she had eagerly imagined America to be and a fierce determination to be an American, young Jean would, chest out and head held high, sing *America* as other children sang *God Save the King* every morning before classes began in the British school she attended. "My preoccupation with American history has, in a devious way, been my personal search for roots," Jean now admits. (*May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture*, April 1976).

In the spring of 1928, Jean eagerly said good-bye to the rarefied colonial society of Hankow, with its large houses staffed by servants in starched white and its lawn-tennis parties on Saturdays.

Approaching the shores of the United States of America, Jean lived out "the fairy tale point of my own story."

I strode to the railing of the deck and I addressed the passengers who had assembled to watch our approach to land. "Breathes there the man,

with soul so dead," I cried, "who never to himself hath said, 'This is my own, my native land!'" The passengers looked, as I reconstruct the scene, somewhat nonplussed, my parents looked decidedly embarrassed, but in the background the ship's band struck up "California, Here I Come!" Perhaps the band merely wanted to forestall further theatrics, but I felt the moment had been well served. I was satisfied.

(*May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture*, April 1976).

Eventually Jean's family settled in Hartford, Connecticut, where, by her own admission, life was decidedly American but far from a fairy tale existence, especially with the Great Depression right around the corner. History classes were largely uninspiring, in the stale, textbook manner in which they were presented, and it was not until adulthood that Jean began to discover the real stories that lay in the past.

Writing soon became a major part of Jean's life when she settled into married life with her husband, Michael, and their two young children in the town of Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., and where Jean still lives today. At first, short stories in the *New Yorker* and *Redbook* and then, through an experience in setting up a children's collection for the local library, the beginnings of her career as a children's writer.

Her first historical novel for children, *The Cabin Faced West*, was published in 1958—the result of her research into a story handed down through her own family about how her great-great-grandmother had supper with George Washington. Since then, her refreshingly informal historical biographies have been widely acclaimed as "unconventional" . . . "good-humored" . . . "witty" . . . "readable" . . . "irrepressible" . . . and "extraordinary."

It is Jean's amazing ability to remember exactly what it was like to be a child and her penchant for finding out "what makes people what they are" that makes her biographies entertaining, informative and filled with natural child appeal. Children seem to love knowing exactly what George Washington ate for breakfast, that Sam Adams refused to ride a horse because it was hard to talk revolution from a saddle, or that Paul Revere forgot his spurs the night of his famous ride.

It was not until 1982, however, that she published the book that would capture the very beginnings of her quest for her American roots, her own biography: *Homesick: My Own Story*. Winner of the 1983 American Book Award for Children's Fiction, a John Newbery Medal Honor Book as well as a Boston Globe-Horn



Book Award Honor Book, *Homesick* is the moving story of a little girl's search for a homeland she has never seen, but only imagined, and a vivid, gripping, child-honest view of the turbulent China of the 1920s. "Every now and then a book comes along that makes me want to send a valentine to its author. *Homesick* is such a book," said Katherine Paterson in the *Washington Post*.

Stirred by memories as she wrote her childhood biography, Jean finally made the journey back to the land of her youth, and in 1985, she published *China Homecoming*. It was as if homesickness had traveled in a circle, in the way that history often does. Patricia Holt of the *San Francisco Chronicle* offers this moving tribute: "Now, with *China Homecoming*, Fritz surprises her readers again with what must be her most accomplished work to date. This is the story of her return to China in 1983, 55 years after her departure at the age of 13, to see what God, World War II, Mao Zedong, the Gang of Four and the "new" revolution had wrought on the China she remembered . . . The odyssey of this book is not only a trip to China and childhood; it is a quest for the meaning of history itself."

An original and lively thinker, as well as an inspiration for children and adults, Jean Fritz is undeniably a master of her craft. In 1985, she was awarded the Regina Medal by the Catholic Library Association for her lifetime contribution to children's literature, and in 1986 she was named winner of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award, presented once every three years by the American Library Association to an author whose books have made "a substantial and lasting contribution to literature for children." "With honesty, humor, accuracy and style, she has vitalized history, especially for younger readers," said Ethel L. Heins, chair of the award committee. "She also projects a passionate sense of true patriotism."

Her latest book, published in 1986, is *Make Way for Sam Houston*, a lively account of the colorful life of one of the founding fathers of Texas.

Jean returns to China in 1983.



Illustrations by Margot Tomes

Little Rock, Ark: 10/11/86

I can't tell you how delighted I am to be here in L.R., to see my good friend, Ethel Ambrose again, and to meet all of you.

I'm just sorry that lingering health problems have kept me from being at all the sessions, and ~~since I haven't been able to hear all the speakers, you'll have to forgive me if I repeat some thoughts they may have already expressed.~~ <sup>from being ~~as~~ available for you as I would have liked</sup> <sup>of concerns</sup>

Since we Californians are often perceived as being a little crazy, especially those of us from Berkeley - sometimes known as Berserkley - you may have wondered as you read the title of my talk, if I am the visitor from another world..

Well, I have a confession to make. This title has absolutely nothing to do with me or what I'm going to say today.

Actually, it's the title of one of the poems I've been writing this past year, and because I have such a terrible time coming up with titles for anything - even my books - I borrowed this <sup>title</sup> ~~one~~ for my talk.

But to keep myself honest, I'm going to read this poem to you now. So here then is the Visitor from Another World...

↳ It's about a snail, actually.

Yoshiko Uchida

## VISITOR FROM ANOTHER WORLD

It's a mystery to me  
 how a tiny baby snail  
 got into my  
 living room.

Maybe it came  
 with a plant or  
 crawled in from  
 the patio.

It left a  
     shiny  
        silvery  
         trail  
 on my carpet,  
  
 weaving  
     this way  
 and that,  
     over hills  
 and valleys  
 of golden wool.

In the morning  
 there it was  
 on my cool  
 kitchen floor  
 its feelers  
 wriggling.

It must have felt  
 like an ~~astronaut~~ *explorer*  
 in space, conquering  
 a ~~new~~ world it  
 never knew before.

How could I throw  
 such a brave explorer  
 into a garbage can?

I tossed it out  
 the window instead  
 and sent it

flying  
     through  
        space

Back to the  
 cool damp earth  
 where it belonged.

Been told <sup>some of my</sup> poetry a bit (vs. adult)  
 ch. ? Think this one (adult) 5th-6th  
 grades?

Now what I'd like to do is to tell you a little about myself as a JA and a writer, and also speak to you about some of my concerns.

But I'll try not to make this sound too much like a lecture because I think sometimes we get so over-saturated with lectures, we're getting to be like the woman, who when she died, came to a fork in the road. One road said Heaven, and the other, Lecture on Heaven And we all know which road she took.

Let me tell you at the outset that I was born in Calif. and grew up in Berkeley. I want to get that clear, because 2 yrs ago, when I was visiting my sister in Conn, she introduced me to a <sup>white</sup> friend whose 1st question to me was, "Did you just come from Japan?"

*In fact, I was asked the very same? 2 deys ago right here in L.R.*

I really had a feeling of deja vu, because when I was 10 yrs old, I was taken to a <sup>also</sup> small village in Conn. to visit my mother's pen pal. *At the time* Asians were a rarity there, and I still recall my astonishment when a woman came up to me, patted me on the head and said, "My, you speak English so beautifully."

I believe there are some areas in this country where any Asian is still perceived as a foreigner, and sometimes I see the confusion in children who read my books. When I was featured in a recent issue of CLASSMATE Mag with a Jpnse theme, I got dozens of letters from children asking me about life in Japan. And one child even sent me a little gift wrapped in a wad of kleenex on which ~~she'd~~ <sup>written</sup> thoughtfully ~~explained~~, "In America, this is called a charm."

Well, to get back to my life. I was fortunate to grow up in a loving, caring family, altho, until I grew up, I thought my older sister was a real tyrant. *I seem to recall* We had a lot of fights and

sometimes she would chase me around the house wielding a hairbrush or a coat hanger. <sup>Also</sup> ~~And~~ she could make me do whatever she wanted by threatening, "All rite for you, if you don't." I was never sure what that meant, but I never tested her and to this day I still suffer from a little sister syndrome. <sup>(let me assure you, today my sister is</sup> But ~~she is now~~ my best and closest friend. <sup>and she's really good to me.</sup>

The written word was always important in our family. My mother <sup>often wrote</sup> ~~was always writing~~ poetry, <sup>(scribbling it)</sup> on little scraps of paper, <sup>(whenever she had a few minutes to herself)</sup> she ~~she~~ loved books, and she often read Jpnse stories to my sister and me. Many of these were the folk tales I later included in my 1st book, THE DANCING KETTLE, which <sup>(I'm happy to say)</sup> was just reissued in paperback by a small press <sup>Creative Arts</sup> in Berkeley. <sup>(Joy to live in a city as publisher)</sup>

Speaking of folk tales, this might be a good time to tell you that Margot Zemach and I will have a picture book out next spring called THE TWO FOOLISH CATS, which I adapted from a Jpnse folk tale.

This collaboration developed quite accidentally because Margot and I are both non-drivers. <sup>(You're probably wondering what that has to do with books. Well -</sup> We were being driven from Berkeley, where she also lives, to a luncheon about an hour's drive away. And on the way home, <sup>as we</sup> ~~sitting~~ together in the back of the car, <sup>(she told me she didn't like the book she</sup> ~~we decided~~ was working on, so of course, I told her I had one I thought she'd like. ~~to do a book together.~~ So you could say, our book was born in the back seat of a car!

<sup>(let me tell you)</sup> ~~Now~~ <sup>(let me tell you)</sup> about my father. ~~he~~ Unlike my gentle dreamer mother, he was a practical energetic businessman who handled all the business matters of our house. But he was a writer of sorts too - he was a great letter writer.

Between the 2 of them, my parents carried on a voluminous correspondence - mostly with their friends & relatives in Japan.

Our mailman was 1 of our best friends and our mailbox was always bulging. All this letterwriting ~~also~~ brought a flood of visitors from Japan to our home. And because of my parents' close ties with their alma mater, one of Jpn's early Xn universities, many of these visitors were professors or ministers or seminary students -  
And most ~~of~~ <sup>(let me tell you were)</sup> of them long-winded and boring.

To me, the seminary students were absolutely the worst, because they spent at least 2 yrs in Berkeley; they were invited to many of our Sunday and holiday dinners; and they often came uninvited and of course, stayed for supper.

They came pressed and polished in ~~their~~ squeaky shoes, their hair slicked down with camellia hair oil, and I hated them with a passion for <sup>intruding on</sup> invading our family life.

But now, these people who were so dull and annoying to me as a child, provide wonderful material for my writing, and I remember them not only with some fondness, but with a fair amount of guilt for the shabby way I treated them.

I recall one solemn seminarian who suddenly excused himself in the middle of a big dinner & disappeared into the kitchen for what seemed a very long time. My sister & I had a quick <sup>whispered</sup> conference about what he <sup>might be</sup> ~~was~~ doing. But no <sup>revealing</sup> sounds came from the kitchen. When <sup>he finally</sup> ~~the perspiring scholar~~ returned <sup>to the table,</sup> he had a big smile on his face and he said, "Excuse me, but your house is quite

warm. I removed some of my winter underwear and I feel much better."

<sup>Then he calmly resumed eating.</sup> Well, this time it was my sister & I who <sup>had to</sup> ~~rushed~~ into the kitchen <sup>absolutely</sup> convulsed in laughter. And years later, this gentleman turned up in my short story called, "I feel Much Better" which appeared in one of Scott Foresman's anthologies. (Sense '99)

I believe our life's experiences are always with us, and I draw constantly from the memories of my past. I also find bits & pieces of myself turning up in my writing too.

I think I've been interested in books and writing for as long as I can remember. There were no Asian <sup>writer</sup> role models for me, <sup>Am.</sup> but perhaps it was my mother, with her interest in poetry and books and journals, who inspired me.

I began writing stories when I was about 10, & being the child of frugal immigrant parents, I wrote them on brown wrapping paper which I cut up and bound into booklets. And because I hate to throw anything out, I STILL have them. The children I speak to seem to enjoy them more than anything else I show ~~them~~. Perhaps because they can relate to me as a child, and they get the sense that they <sup>too</sup> can begin writing <sup>now</sup> ~~too~~.

And I know they can <sup>write!</sup> A few years ago I spoke at a school for gifted children, whose 4th graders were celebrating the publication of a book of stories they'd written. I was absolutely amazed at their sensitivity and perception, as well as the range of their interests. They not only wrote about themselves. They wrote about adults, about parent-child relationships; <sup>about</sup> ~~of~~ loneliness and even death. One child wrote about a mother who keeps getting pregnant. She had 3 pregnancies in 8 pp. and on the 9th page she had twins. The title of the story was "Not Again!" <sup>This is a 4<sup>th</sup> grader!</sup>

When I was churning out MY stories at aged 10, it never occurred to me that I might one day become a writer. In fact, I think I felt much like the little girl who came up to me once after I spoke at a library. She shook my hand solemnly and said, "You know,

10 min

I always thought all <sup>h</sup>authors were dead. I'm really glad to meet a live one."

I not only wrote stories, I also kept a "journal of important events" which I began the day I graduated grammar school. Of course, being the saver that I am, I kept that as well, and even today <sup>I</sup> can read of the special events of my young life. The day I went to my 1st opera, the day I got my dog, the sad day it died... and so on.

By putting these special happenings into words and writing them down, I was trying to hold on to and somehow preserve the magic & joy of certain moments in my life - and the sad times as well. And I guess that's really what books & writing are all about.

Well, one day I finally stopped writing on wrapping paper and my books began to be published. My early books focused on the children and folk tales of Japan. In those days, I <sup>was</sup> trying to emphasize ~~the~~ universal truths and fears that bind us all together. I also wanted to eliminate the stereotypic views of the Jpnse, and <sup>to</sup> write of them as human beings.

But in the past 16 years, as we became aware of our pluralism and the need to preserve our distinct and separate identities, I began to write about the JA <sup>american</sup> exper<sup>→</sup> in Calif. <sup>I began with SAMURAI...GH... the story of the 1st colonists from Japan who came shortly after the Gold Rush.</sup> I wanted to reinforce the self-knowledge & pride of young JAs; to give them a remembrance of their culture and shared <sup>of</sup> (particular) values that would give them a sense of community and their own/history.

I wanted them to know about their parents & grandparents - how they lived, what they believed in, what made them strong. I wanted to tell them <sup>"you"</sup> ~~we~~ are what <sup>you</sup> ~~we~~ are today because they survived & endured.

But it isn't just Asian children who need to look back and learn from the past. We all need to do that, so we can move forward with vision. I like what Nikki Giovanni has said about that. "To remember is to be born again; <sup>she says</sup> to forget is to dwell in darkness."

We all need a sense of kinship & continuity with the past esp. today when life is so fragmented and temporal. Today changes come so quickly, we can scarcely keep up. We are so consumed with wanting to know what's happening this instant, that the 1940's are as remote as the ~~1940~~1950s.

Bill Moyers tells the story of asking a student when the Selma March by <sup>the</sup> blacks took place. The student thought a moment and then said, "It was some time during the Peloponesian Wars, wasn't it?"

I know from my own experience, how skewed children's sense of history can be. I spoke once to some 5th graders about my WWII experience and asked them who was President at the time. There was a long silence & then a small voice at the back of the room asked, "George Washington?" I had to tell them I'm pretty old, but not quite that old.

I think the most disquieting result of our headlong rush for instant acquisition of information is that human values are often left behind. Society which once valued its poets, seems today to value its computer programmers more. Perhaps today's child is better informed, but they are probably not <sup>as</sup> ~~so~~ wise *as they could be*

We assume that whatever is wrong with our world can be fixed by more & more technology. And yet our deepest human yearnings remain unsatisfied.

I think we've got to help children remember that the ~~novels~~ <sup>wonders</sup> of our technological age are ~~wonderful~~ <sup>only</sup> tools, ~~but they must be~~ <sup>and we must not</sup> allow them ~~used properly, or they will~~ <sup>to</sup> diminish us as human beings.

I wish children today could slow down and have more time to just be children; to know the joys of ~~sitting down with a good~~ <sup>reading a good book</sup> ~~book~~ - one of the few places left where they can find some positive, ~~&~~ enduring values as well as a sense of language.

Maya Angelou has said it so beautifully in her plea to young people to read. "Please read," she says, "Because all books are gifts from one generation to the next, to encourage that generation to survive. And to do better than that - to thrive. And to do better than that, to thrive with some passion, some compassion, some humor and some style."

My hope, when I wrote JOURNEY TO TOPAZ, was wrapped up in all those things Maya Angelou has said about books. For those of you not familiar with the book, it is the story of a child, Yuki, based largely on my own family's experience during World War II when 120,000 west coast JA were imprisoned, without trial or hearing, by our <sup>own</sup> gov't.

Altho 2/3 of us were citizens, we were denied our basic constitutional rights, simply because we LOOKED like the enemy. I think the REAL tragedy of that uprooting lies in the fact that our gov't, ~~by~~ <sup>in</sup> its ~~flagrant~~ <sup>gross</sup> violation of the constitution, betrayed not only the ~~JAs~~ <sup>(various)</sup>, but ALL Americans, by damaging the very essence of our democratic beliefs.

Just 5 months after the PH attack, all the JA of Berkeley <sup>(And I was one of them)</sup> were uprooted from ~~their~~ <sup>our</sup> homes & sent to the Tanforan race track, one of several such camps hastily created to house the ~~JAs~~ <sup>uprooted</sup>. There, our family

of 4 lived in a horsestall occupied until then by a single horse. Our neighbors were only inches away as entire families were jammed into rows of narrow horsestalls still reeking of their former occupants, And surrounding us all was a high barbed-wire fence with ~~guard~~ towers at ~~a~~ <sup>its four</sup> corners.

After 6 months we were shipped to Topaz, a cluster of tarpapered barracks in a desolate Utah desert, encircled again by barbed wire, where terrifying dust storms almost destroyed our flimsy barracks.

*and Ethel reminded me yes, that you had 2 similar camps in a state at Jerome + Roswell.*  
 It's hard to believe, isn't it, that such a thing could have happened in America. But it did. And I think it could happen again, which is the reason why I continue to talk about it even today.

It was many years before I could write about my experiences and many more before I found a publisher willing to publish my adult non-fiction account of them. Finally in 1982, the Univ. of Wash. Press published my book, DESERT EXILE: ~~THE UPROOTING OF A J.A. FAMILY.~~

I began the book by describing my childhood in Berkeley, because I wanted to write of the pre-war climate of racism in which the uprooting had its early seeds.

I searched my memory for all I could remember about growing up as a J.A. in Calif. when we <sup>were</sup> asked such questions as, "Will you rent to Jpnse? Will the neighbors object? Can we swim in your pool?" And before I went to a beauty parlor for my 1st professional haircut, I called 1st to ask, "do you cut Jpnse hair?"

I felt very vulnerable as I opened up so much of myself and my life <sup>in Desert Exile</sup> ~~to the public~~. I was afraid <sup>the</sup> ~~my~~ remembrances of my family would be perceived as <sup>being</sup> ~~a~~ too sentimental. <sup>for I had even included some of my mother's poems.</sup> And yet, it was this very section to which people responded so positively. I realized then that the sense of family was what <sup>touched</sup> ~~caught~~ the hearts of <sup>so many people,</sup> ~~my readers~~.

and which is so tragically lacking in the lives of ~~so~~ many children today. But more of that later.

I hoped the book <sup>might</sup> ~~would~~ be read by H.S. students ~~as well~~, because I think history can be <sup>so much</sup> more meaningful when <sup>it's</sup> presented in human terms. esp. <sup>those</sup> of one family. But I <sup>wondered</sup> ~~wasn't sure~~ how many <sup>students</sup> of them would be able to read it when I heard of one HS student's definition of the human body.

"The body," he wrote, "consists of the BRAINIUM, which houses the brain; the BORAX which contains the liver, lungs & other living things; and THE ABOMINABLE CAVITY which contains the bowels, of which there are five - a e i o & u." But I needn't have worried, I have since learned that even some 6th graders are reading the book.

I continued the story of the family in JOURNEY TO TOPAZ ~~is~~ a sequel called, JOURNEY HOME, based on actual fact, tho not on my own experiences. In it I tell what happened to Yuki's family as they return to Calif. <sup>after the war</sup> & meet with the kind of violence that actually met many returning Jpnse. Yuki longs for the friends & the life she had before the war, but they are gone. And in the end, she learns that coming home is essentially a matter of the heart & the spirit.

When I speak to children at schools about my two JOURNEY books, I always ask them why they think I wrote these books. "To tell about the camps?" they ask, "To tell how you felt?" Once a child asked, "for revenge?" And I was glad for the chance to tell her that I am not bitter, as most Jpnse are not. For altho anger is cathartic, bitterness only destroys the self. And the children understood. Eventually, one child will say, "You wrote the books

so it won't ever happen again." And I make sure the children understand that FREEDOM is our single most precious possession.

When I speak to adults, I tell them of the dignity and grace and strength with which most of the 1st generation Jpnse endured the tragedy, altho they lost virtually everything they had worked <sup>all their lives</sup> to achieve. It is ~~precisely~~ this triumph of the human spirit that I want <sup>ed</sup> to evoke, not only in DES EX, but in my children's books as well.

And I hope I achieved <sup>some of all</sup> this in my trilogy about young Rinko and her family, as they struggle together to survive during the depression years.

In A JAR OF DREAMS, 11 yr old Rinko wants more than anything to be like everyone else <sup>just as I did</sup>. But she must deal with her Jpnse self. Only when her Aunt Waka comes from Jpn, does Rinko learn to find pride in herself, and her family discovers its real strengths <sup>as well</sup>.

In THE BEST BAD THING, Rinko meets up with the eccentric, spunky Auntie Hata, whom she thinks is crazy. But after a summer with her, her 2 bratty boys and a mysterious stranger, Rinko learns that events as well as people are not always what they seem <sup>to be</sup>, and that bad things can often turn out to be quite good. <sup>I'm still leaving that myself</sup>

Well, I became so fond of Rinko and her family, I was reluctant to let them go, so <sup>I</sup> wrote the last book in the trilogy, THE HAPPIEST ENDING, in which Rinko tries her hand at matchmaking. In the process she learns about different kinds of love, ~~understands~~ <sup>about</sup> more ~~of~~ the adult world and finally realizes she is beginning to grow up.

Altho these books are not based on my own family ~~'s~~, there is a lot of me in Rinko, for I had those same feelings of alienation

and longing to be accepted. But, of course, Rinko has more gumption than I did, and I know she would never have allowed HER big sister to threaten her with, "All right for you ..."

A friend recently wrote that he was bothered by the lack of a strong male character in THE HAPPIEST ENDING. Of course I think <sup>because I think Mr. Kinjo is a strong person.</sup> he's wrong, but his remark <sup>did</sup> make me think. Perhaps - almost subconsciously, I ~~may~~ have been emphasizing the strengths of the early Asian women. Not that I have anything against ~~the~~ men. Some of my closest friends are men!

<sup>I think</sup> But <sup>they were very special:</sup> these early Asian women deserve some close attention now for ~~the~~ <sup>they</sup> had to be strong to journey alone across the Pacific, often to marry men they had never met, <sup>(and seen only by photograph, like Rinko's mother.)</sup> They worked hard beside their men <sup>They created homes and</sup> raised families as well. They were <sup>(remarkable)</sup> women of quiet determination, who perhaps had an inner strength that may indeed be lacking in today's outwardly assertive women.

I have, in fact, written <sup>my</sup> an adult novel about one such woman called, PICTURE BRIDE, which is due for publication next spring by Northland Press. Incidentally, it took <sup>many</sup> ~~10~~ years ~~for me~~ to get this adult book published as well. <sup>ten to be exact.</sup>

<sup>I guess</sup> We writers are a long-suffering ~~determined~~ lot, and I can't say I blame the young boy who wrote saying, "I'm sorry, but I don't want to be a writer. I think I'd rather be a dog trainer or a Veterinarian." <sup>well,</sup> He might just have the right idea. Also <sup>me saying,</sup> the boy who, after hearing about author's royalties wrote, "I think the writer should get at least half of all the money; not just 10%" I'm hoping <sup>this child</sup> ~~he~~ grows up to become an <sup>author</sup> agent."

I also liked the wonderful letter I got from a child whose class I had recently visited. "Thanks a lot," he wrote, "for visiting our 5th grade last week and getting us out of our afternoon classes." This is the kind of letter that keeps me humble.

The children like to tell me all about their families and even their pets. One child wrote to ask, "Do you have any pets? I have 1 dog and 3 little sisters."

But many of the letters I receive today are from children whose parents are divorced, <sup>or remarried children</sup> who feel torn apart and fragmented <sup>have to</sup> as they move to new communities and adjust to new families and <sup>new</sup> friends.

The same loneliness and rejection Rinko felt as a JA child in a hostile white society is felt today by so many children, <sup>everywhere</sup> and they <sup>often</sup> tell me they can understand how Rinko felt. But the tragedy for them is that <sup>many of them</sup> they don't have the loving supportive family that sustained Rinko.

---

I recently heard a child of divorced parents make a very poignant observation. "You know," she said, "in real life you can't count on happy endings."

I don't always provide happy endings in my books either, but I hope my books will always give young readers a sense of hope & affirmation & purpose in life, and especially the courage to dream big dreams.

I hope they listen to Rinko's father who encouraged his children to hold on to their dreams; who says, "In spite of everything, we never gave up. The more we were despised, the harder we worked. We always had hope that someday things would be better."

Although all my books have been about the Japanese people, I hope they can enlarge & enrich the reader's understanding not only of the Jpnse, but of the human condition.

I think it's important for each of us to take pride in our special heritage, but we must never lose our sense of connection with the community of man. And I just hope we can all learn to celebrate our common humanity and the universality of the human spirit.



# Fourth Annual Author Symposium

Holiday Inn City Center  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sponsored by  
Friends of the Central Arkansas Library and Central Arkansas Library System

## ★ FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10 ★

3 - 4:15 p.m.  
On-site registration, Book sales

4:15 - 4:30 p.m.  
Opening remarks

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. *Salon A 1st floor*  
ELIZABETH WINTHROP  
"Fantasy and the Creative Process"

5:30 - 6 p.m. *Salon B*  
Book sales and Cash bar

*th* 5:45 → *Sign Bks - Salon A 1st*

\* 6 - 7 p.m. *2nd floor turn left*  
Dinner with the Authors  
By reservation only  
Manning and Lafayette rooms

\* 7 - 8 p.m. *Salon A 1st*  
JEAN FRITZ  
"An American Immigrant"

8 - 9 p.m.  
ANN JONAS  
"Journeys"

## ★ SUPPORTING PUBLISHERS ★

Atheneum Publishers,  
Margaret K. McElderry Books  
Dell Publishing Co., Inc.  
Greenwillow Books, a division of  
William Morrow and Co., Inc.  
Holiday House, Inc.  
The Putnam Publishing Group  
Viking Penguin, Inc.

## ★ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 ★

8 - 8:30 a.m.  
Registration and Book sales

8:30 - 9:30 a.m.  
BETSY BYARS  
"Spinning Straw Into Gold"

\* 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
WALTER DEAN MYERS  
"From Light Bulb  
to Silver Screen"

10:30 - 10:45 a.m.  
Break

\* 10:45 - 11:45 a.m. *Salon A 1st fl.*  
YOSHIKO UCHIDA  
"Visitor From Another World"

*next* 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. ○  
Book sales

\* 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. *2nd floor*  
Lunch with the Authors  
By reservation only  
Manning and Lafayette rooms

*next* 1:15 - 2:15  
NANCY TAFURI  
"From Start to Finish"

\* 2:30 p.m. *Salon A 1st fl.*  
Autographing, Book sales  
(Children of all ages will be admitted to this session)

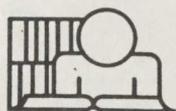
*7:30p - dinner 1st floor, Jan. 2, 1984.*



Friends of the Central  
Arkansas Library, Inc.

*Thank you for your  
appearance at our  
Annual Author  
Symposium.*

*Elaine Scott  
Executive Secretary*



700 Louisiana, Little Rock, AR 72201

October 17, 1986

Dear Ethel:

What a wonderful symposium that was! As always your meticulous and efficient planning made it such an enriching time for all of us, and I especially appreciated your TLC and understanding (even to bringing me apples at the close of a long day for you!), that enabled me to participate in a limited way. I'm so glad I was able to be there!

I loved seeing your beautiful house <sup>and a library</sup> and enjoyed my special day with you. It was good of you to give me a whole day to see something of Little Rock. And do please tell Fred how happy I was to see him looking so well, and thank him for making the effort to come see me early on a Sunday morning.

The contact with all the authors was exhilarating and I was especially happy to have the extra time with Jean and Elizabeth Saturday evening. Many thanks for the lovely dinner. I'm afraid, however, that they may never let you back in after the havoc we created with their air conditioning!

Thanks again for everything and I hope to see you next June at the ALA.

Fondly,

P.S. It was a good thing we left when we did on Sunday. There were huge long lines and a 25 min. wait to check my bag due to delayed incoming flights which disrupted all flights. However, my flight was delayed, so it all worked out and I had some good additional time with Elizabeth.

Ms. Vehida,

If you can make  
a copy of your  
talk, please send  
it to:

Betty Ann Bullard  
5400 Sherwood  
Little Rock, AR  
72207.

Thank you,

Betty Ann

Little Rock, Ark: 10/11/86

I can't tell you how delighted I am to be here in L.R., to see my good friend, Ethel Ambrose again, and to meet all of you. I'm just sorry that lingering health problems have kept me from being at all the sessions, <sup>and from being as available as I would like to be</sup> and since I haven't been able to hear all the speakers, <sup>it concerns</sup> you'll have to forgive me if I repeat some thoughts they may have already expressed.

Since we Californians are often perceived as being a little crazy, especially those of us from Berkeley - sometimes known as Berserkley - you may have wondered as you read the title of my talk, if I am the visitor from another world..

Well, I have a confession to make. This title has absolutely nothing to do with me or what I'm going to say today.

Actually, it's the title of one of the poems I've been writing this past year, and because I have such a terrible time coming up with titles for anything - even my books - I borrowed this <sup>title</sup> ~~one~~ for my talk.

But to keep myself honest, I'm going to read this poem to you now. So here then is the Visitor from Another World...

✓ It's about a snail, actually.

Yoshiko Uchida

VISITOR FROM ANOTHER WORLD

It's a mystery to me  
how a tiny baby snail  
got into my  
living room.

Maybe it came  
with a plant or  
crawled in from  
the patio.

It left a  
shiny  
silvery  
trail  
on my carpet,  
  
weaving  
this way  
and that,  
over hills  
and valleys  
of golden wool.

In the morning  
there it was  
on my cool  
kitchen floor  
its feelers  
wriggling.

It must have felt  
like an astronaut <sup>explorer</sup>  
in space, conquering  
a ~~new~~ world it  
never knew before.

How could I throw  
such a brave explorer  
into a garbage can?

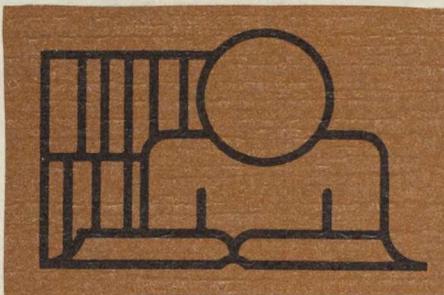
I tossed it out  
the window instead  
and sent it

flying  
through  
space

Back to the  
cool damp earth  
where it belonged.

Been told <sup>some - my</sup> poetry a bit for adult)  
ch. Think this me (adult) 5th-6th  
grades

10/28/86 - KAUL tape rec'd  
sent p.c. to Ethel



## Central Arkansas Library System

Public Library • 700 Louisiana Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 • (501) 370-5954

October 18, 1986

Ms. Yoshiko Uchida  
1685 Solano Avenue, #102  
Berkeley, CA 94707

Dear Yoshi:

Thank you so much for coming to see us in Arkansas. You made such a rich contribution to the author symposium. Everyone was delighted to meet you and still speaks of you. Your talk was as fine as I knew it would be.

I haven't had time for any real "R and R" yet. We are still hoping to get to Kentucky before winter settles in. The painters are scheduled to be here Tuesday. We'll send you a picture.

Hope you had a wonderful visit in Texas and that the whole trip wasn't too draining. I'll be anxious to hear.

I asked the radio station to copy the taped interview for us. Thought you might like to have a copy. I haven't heard it yet but now I can.

Let us hear.

Love,

*Ethel*

(Mrs.) Ethel N. Ambrose  
Coordinator of Children's Services

ENA:bb

cc: Maureen Hayes

P.S. Your lovely letter arrived before my  
teppist got to this - Rain arrived  
along with the painters so we are  
waiting for dry weather - I am glad  
you had a chance to talk shop with the  
other folk -

C 8/28/86

Lane's Bk store

- U.S.P.  
Piedmont Ave Elem'y Sch

They will write a ltr.

I answer  
they'll  
send  
honorary

Mary Cooke

- State - Fed  
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o Oakl Uni'd Schl Dist

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**430-1373**

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**658-0448**

**OAKLAND**

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**Expires 9-30-86**

Father John Rollinson

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10/17/86

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wanted  
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lecture  
hall

Helen Jayon

excellent person  
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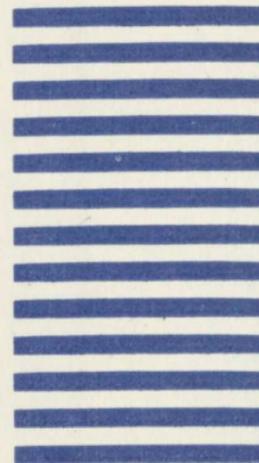
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R.  
A

- May. 87

- Minutes, Ethnic  
Info

Jo. Pavel?  
in author sep.

autography at  
Booth

Full Day e  
Maureen  
again in  
little park  
10/11/86

June 11 - Sept.  
U.C. Museum  
shorts / Dennis  
Molly Viebrock

845-2888  
(home phone)

---

call 5/8/86  
re story telling.  
Speaker Paul R's

- Richmond School Dist
- Meet parents &  
stu
- May '87
- o - health

757  
11/86

# Black Oak Books

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*All of these events are free, and you are warmly invited.*

## OCTOBER EVENTS

LYNN ANDREWS will read from and then discuss Star Woman, her latest chronicle of the shamanic journey that has moved from Medicine Woman through Flight of the Seventh Moon to Jaguar Woman.

~~of over 50000~~ ↑

11/18/86

Anita Baker

wife v

Teacher BUD

UCC Member

13 cop. v bk

Malcolm X

Arbby/Elle's  
King Prime

4th grade

Carolechin  
Seamus Leahy

2 classes

30
30
60

honor.

\$150

20 cop BBT

30 cop ST.

hardcover  
for class room use.

Sold books by one John Mar.

ask for Asa Gifford

in 6<sup>th</sup> grade class Mr. Richardson

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2/3/87

Joyce Jarvis

Piedmont Ave  
School

Mary Cook  
called

Authin Reed

Wed. aft

Requits

10/1 Maureen - Ethel A - Little Rock Oct 86 ?  
10/3/85 - Judd Hale,  
Lafayette Schol ~~4/30/86~~  
~~5/8/86~~

10/9/85 - Jackie Martin  
Literary Festival  
Redding/Vernon April 2-3 -  
regret

10/20 - Santa Cruz Schol - Regret

11/27 - Author Jo Rowland April '86 - regrets

11/ - Boston City School - regret

Nov. - Daisy Saboda - Oral History  
for go in Brite Jan 86

12/3 - Lois Beal - Marin Schol Albany - Mar/April '86  
Joke to 2 mgs at Marin Schol  
re woe? Will call me in March.

12/11 Louise Landrus - Priv. Schol Mendocino Co - will check -  
March? - say no

12/14 Carol Olson - Emerson School - OK) 1/30  
Some teachers from Private School in Richmond -  
near Andrews? \$100

1/9/86 - Carol Nykodym - Broadway Schol - will try  
Sue Paley - next yr.

1/12/86 - OK for Ethel's Sepup. Oct 86  
10-11

2/3/86 - Ann Chandler - called to split at  
Julia Estrella - Nat'l women's  
on 4 Bod. - Political Caucus Mtg - Spring or fall  
She's miss booklet - honor Regina - negative due  
know in Ep. Ben - CMU? Medrem - Beth - health  
They ✓ - Woman Center sev'l & mentioned me.

- 2/4/86 - Luni Okahara  
Teacher & Benecia - Regrets  
due to health
- 2/8/86 - Hillbrook School - Apr 23.  
San Mateo " "
- 2/10/86 - Ursula Sherman  
Teachy Cleodrad Ch's hit  
Course Home on MyDines Rev. " "
- 2/14/86 - Blossom Hill School  
author's Day - Los Gatos - " "
- 3/4/86 - Laurence re Mich State  
Mich Council on Humanities  
Fall - June 26  
major book (\$300 + exp.) " "
- 4/1/86 - Deane Ellis - Leaches Ch. hit at  
SF State, S. Mateo Cty - Speak  
at ch's hit conf SF State end of June  
(she wants to do Video tape of me)  
teachers + children 10 ?'s 2 her + 10  
from children ) - I told her to call me in fall.  
(328-5646) home phone " "
- 4/5/86 - Jean White - Beerton Valley Sch. hof - " "
- 5/28/86 - Maureen - IRA - May 87 - Regrets  
minutes, <sup>at the</sup> sp time = autog.
- 5/25 the pushed up 6/10 - CRA - Fresno 11/86 " "
- 6/24 - Lord Garrett? - Bentley School, Oakl. " "
- 7/23 - Marilyn Nye - Delta Gamma Keppa Sp  
Sept 11 - " "

8/28/86 - Mary Cooke wanted me  
to write a ltr answering their  
class ltr. (Honoring)

10/17/86 - Father John Hollinson  
talk at O.A.M.

11/18/86 - Maureen - ask again re IRA  
Amata Baker - Malcolm X  
4 mgr. (7/15) -

11/25/86 - Richmond Schl District  
meet stu - parents May '87

12/3/86 - FOCAL Award  
Lunch 1/24/87

12/4/86 Julie Camenbert - 4<sup>th</sup> grade  
Park Day Schl Oakl  
study group - talk

1/28/87 - Ctr 2 San Mateo  
Library

1/27 - LD call, Mildred Lee,  
Governor Lib - Speak at Chi's  
Award day - April

2/3/87 - Joyce Jarvis, Piedmont  
Schl

2/10/87 Junko Kanaya - Saito  
Schl

Requests

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Maybe Mar 87

Requests

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Anna's teacher

They read "Jul 7 Better" in  
Send.

Should her to  
call in mid-  
Nov. to see  
how I am  
doing



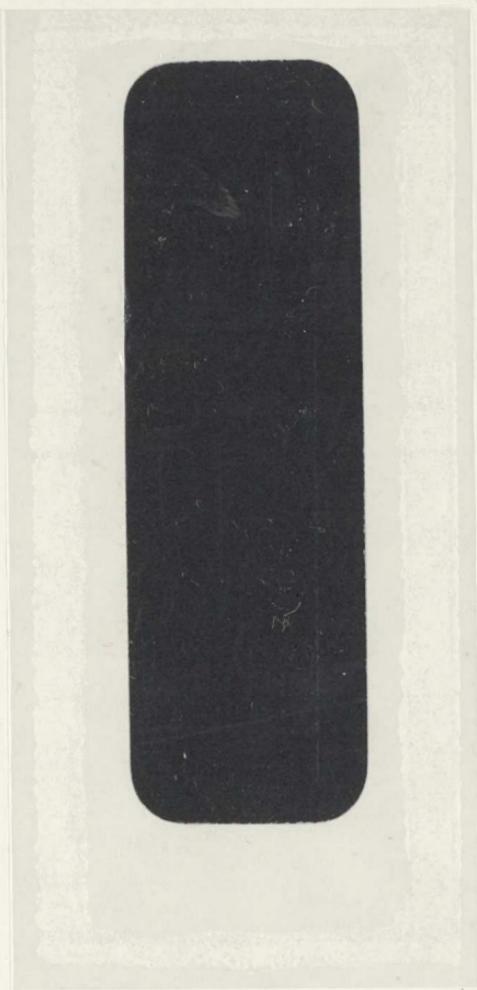
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pony talk to kids.

24/01



C 12/1/86 from Peggy Miller

I won Friends of Children and Literature (FOCAL) support gp of LA. Pub Libe Award  
for "Excellence in a Creative Work which enriches children's understanding  
of Calif. Past & present" for Jar of Dreams. Luncheon 1/24/86, 10:50-60E, I don't  
have to be there. Award is puppet of character 2 Bl - 18" hi - 1 to me, 1 to Central Libe  
Ch's Rm.

December 3, 1986

Mrs. Peggy Miller  
4321 Matilija Ave.  
Sherman Oaks, CA. 91423

(818) 783-5264

Dear Mrs. Miller:

I was delighted to learn that I had been selected to receive the FOCAL Award for A JAR OF DREAMS and appreciated your invitation to the luncheon on January 24.

Since speaking to you, however, I learned that galleys for my forthcoming adult novel were coming in January. Also, a TV interview I'd agreed to has been rescheduled for January as well, so it's going to be a very busy month for me.

In view of my health problems and resultant low energy, I'm afraid I must forego the pleasure of joining you at the January 24 luncheon.

Please convey my regrets to the members of FOCAL and extend to them my deepest appreciation for the honor they have accorded me. I shall look forward to seeing the Rinko puppet.

Cordially,

cc: Maureen Hayes  
Atheneum Pub.

Maureen - Peggy Miller may have called on an expense  
This seems to be a small support gp or non-professional  
I decided not to try to appear (+ energy & attend,

- With N. this one, I didn't know where to send (envelopes  
(order). (To find a prop. person) promptly's.  
May a. = happyhol.

December 11, 1986

Dear Mrs. Miller:

It just occurred to me that the members of FOCAL might like to receive a copy of the enclosed bio at the luncheon in January, since I cannot be there.

If so, please contact Maureen Hayes at Atheneum Publishers, 115 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10003 (212)614-1370, and tell her how many you would like and when.

Also, they might be interested in the enclosed flyer about my forthcoming novel for adults (Spring '87). They can be obtained from Bruce Andresen, Northland Press, P.O. Box N, Flagstaff, Arizona 86002. (1-800-346-3257). Just explain to him about the luncheon, or if you'd rather, let me know, and I'll contact him.

Again, my regrets that I cannot be with you.

Sincerely,

*Lucilio*  
*Hana Flyer*

