



In the Twinkling of an Eye

Sarah Ellis, editor



Canadian Classics Updated for the Millenium

Alison Campbell

Remakes -- movie makers do it all the time, Dial M for Murder, Born Yesterday, The Postman Always Rings Twice, Twelve Angry Men. Children's librarian Alison Campbell applies the same recycling energy to some Canadian children's classics. The Franklin books by Paulette Bourgeois, Waiting for the Whales by Sheryl McFarlane, Kathy Stinson's Red is Best, Something from Nothing by Phoebe Gilman, Janet's Lunn's the Root Cellar, You Can Pick Me Up at Peggy's Cove by Brian Doyle, Robert Munsch's The Paper Bag Princess and, of course, Anne of Green Gables -- Alison gives them a new spin for the new millenium..

Franklin Gets a Tattoo

Franklin tries to hide in his shell to avoid showing his parents the tattoo he got while out drinking with old navy buddies. After several mildly amusing episodes it turns out that his mother has also been concealing the fact that she recently got her navel pierced.

Waiting for the Whalers

Beautiful hyper-realistic illustrations enhance this story of a group of Greenpeacers who intercept the Japanese whaling fleet in the Beaufort Sea. Tension mounts as the Rainbow Warrior maneuvers itself into the path of the harpoon. Sure to be a rousing storytime favourite.

Red is Still Best

The manifesto of the federal New Democratic Party in picture-book format. Will be published to coincide with the next federal election campaign. This is one of those books whose audience is still unclear -- despite the format there's not a lot of child appeal here.

Nothing from Something

After a lifetime of working, a man retires to find that the Canada Pension Plan is broke and all his years of contributions were for naught. Gradually his resources dwindle down to a button, and when that is lost he scrawls his story on an alley wall.

The Root Seller

A young woman opens a naturopathic health food store in small town Ontario. A gentle coming-of-age novel sure to appeal to introspective teens.

You Can Pick Me Up at Peggy's Bar and Grill

The harrowing story of a teen's descent into the world of prostitution and drugs. The bleakness is relieved by well-developed characters, notably the one-legged owner of the bar.

The Paper Bag Non-Classist Person

Heavy politically correct overtones dampen this tale of feminist consciousness-raising and the merits of paper vs. plastic.

Anne of Leaky Gables

An orphaned redhead helps an older couple repair their water damaged condo and her spunky attitude



cheers all the residents of the complex. A story ripped from today's headlines.

Alison Campbell is a children's librarian with the North Vancouver District Public Library.

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