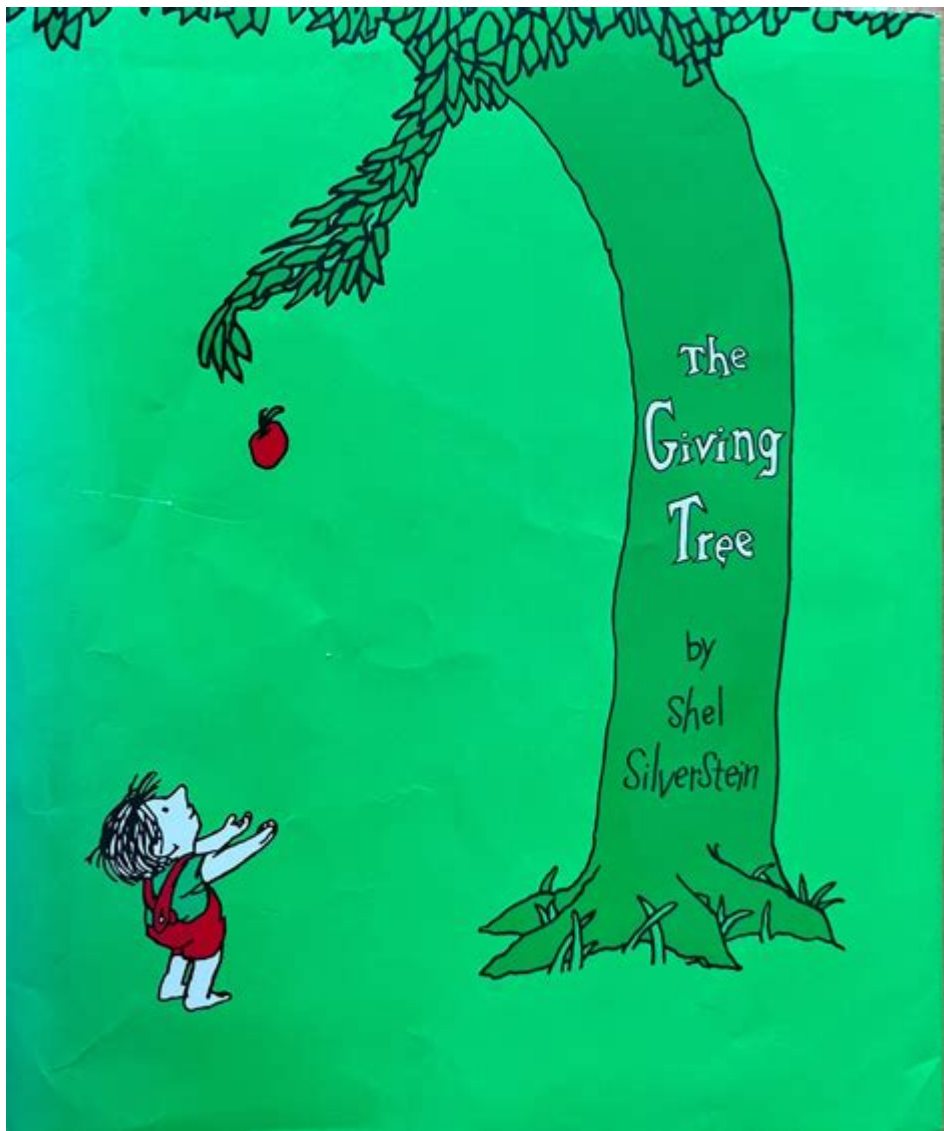


The Giving Tree



The Giving Tree: A Timeless Tale of Unconditional Love and Sacrifice

The Giving Tree. The title alone evokes powerful emotions. For many, it's a childhood memory, a poignant story read aloud by a loved one. For others, it's a symbol of selfless giving, often sparking intense debate about its meaning. This post delves deep into Shel Silverstein's iconic children's book, "The Giving Tree," exploring its enduring appeal, its diverse interpretations, and its lasting impact on readers of all ages. We'll unpack the symbolism, analyze the characters, and consider the different perspectives surrounding this remarkably simple yet profoundly complex narrative. Prepare to revisit - or discover for the first time - the enduring legacy of The Giving Tree.

The Story's Simple Narrative: A Boy and His Tree

At its core, *The Giving Tree* is a deceptively simple tale. It chronicles the relationship between a young boy and a generous apple tree. The tree provides the boy with apples, shade, branches to climb, and eventually, its trunk and roots, showcasing unwavering, unconditional love throughout the boy's life. The simplicity of the narrative is part of its brilliance; it allows readers to project their own interpretations and experiences onto the story.

The Boy's Changing Needs and the Tree's Unwavering Generosity

The story's power lies in the boy's evolving needs and the tree's consistent willingness to provide. He starts by wanting only the tree's apples. As he grows older, his desires shift: he needs shade for play, branches to build a house, and eventually, even the tree itself for comfort and support. Each request is met with unwavering generosity from the tree, reflecting a pure, selfless form of love that is both captivating and unsettling.

The Symbolism of the Tree and the Boy

The Giving Tree is far more than just a story about a boy and a tree. It's a powerful allegory for many concepts:

The Symbolism of the Tree:

Unconditional Love: The tree represents unconditional love and self-sacrifice. It readily gives everything it has, even its very existence, for the boy's happiness.

Nature's Abundance: The tree symbolizes the abundance and generosity of nature, providing for the boy's needs throughout his life.

Maternal Figure: Many interpret the tree as a maternal figure, representing the nurturing and protective love of a mother.

The Symbolism of the Boy:

Selfishness vs. Gratitude: The boy's requests, while initially innocent, later appear selfish, leading to debates about his appreciation for the tree's sacrifice.

The Stages of Life: The boy's journey represents the different stages of life, from childhood innocence to old age, highlighting the changes in needs and perspectives.

Humanity's Relationship with Nature: The boy's actions can be viewed as representative of humanity's relationship with nature – taking what we need without always considering the consequences.

Interpretations and Criticisms of The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree has sparked numerous interpretations and debates since its publication. Some praise its message of unconditional love, while others criticize the boy's apparent lack of gratitude and the seemingly masochistic nature of the tree's self-sacrifice.

The Debate: Selfless Sacrifice vs. Exploitative Relationship

The central debate revolves around whether the tree's actions are an example of selfless devotion or a depiction of an exploitative relationship. Critics argue that the boy consistently takes without giving back, leaving the tree ultimately depleted and alone. Conversely, supporters emphasize the tree's free and willing nature, arguing that its actions stem from genuine love and a desire to make the boy happy.

The Enduring Legacy of The Giving Tree

Despite the conflicting interpretations, The Giving Tree's enduring popularity is undeniable. Its simple yet profound message continues to resonate with readers across generations, prompting reflection on themes of love, sacrifice, and the complexities of relationships. It sparks conversations, encourages critical thinking, and serves as a powerful tool for exploring our own values and perspectives on giving and receiving.

Conclusion

Shel Silverstein's "The Giving Tree" remains a timeless classic, prompting reflection on unconditional love, self-sacrifice, and the complexities of human relationships. Whether viewed as a heartwarming tale of selfless devotion or a critique of exploitation, the story's enduring power lies in its ability to spark dialogue and inspire introspection. Its simple narrative belies a depth of meaning that continues to resonate with readers of all ages.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the main theme of *The Giving Tree*? The main themes are unconditional love, sacrifice, and the complexities of relationships between individuals, particularly the potential imbalance in giving and receiving.
2. Is the boy in *The Giving Tree* selfish? This is a point of much debate. While his initial requests seem innocent, as he grows older his demands could be viewed as increasingly selfish, taking without fully reciprocating the tree's generosity.
3. What is the symbolism of the apples in *The Giving Tree*? The apples symbolize the initial, simpler pleasures and needs of childhood, representing the easily accessible gifts of nature.
4. Why is *The Giving Tree* so popular? Its enduring appeal comes from its simplicity, emotional impact, and the open-ended nature of its interpretation, allowing readers to connect with its themes on a personal level.
5. What age group is *The Giving Tree* appropriate for? While enjoyed by children, the book's complexities and potential for different interpretations make it suitable for readers of all ages, sparking discussions and introspection across different life stages.

the giving tree: The Giving Tree Shel Silverstein, 2014-02-18 As *The Giving Tree* turns fifty, this timeless classic is available for the first time ever in ebook format. This digital edition allows young readers and lifelong fans to continue the legacy and love of a classic that will now reach an even wider audience. Once there was a tree...and she loved a little boy. So begins a story of unforgettable perception, beautifully written and illustrated by the gifted and versatile Shel Silverstein. This moving parable for all ages offers a touching interpretation of the gift of giving and a serene acceptance of another's capacity to love in return. Every day the boy would come to the tree to eat her apples, swing from her branches, or slide down her trunk...and the tree was happy. But as the boy grew older he began to want more from the tree, and the tree gave and gave and gave. This is a tender story, touched with sadness, aglow with consolation. Shel Silverstein's incomparable career as a bestselling children's book author and illustrator began with *Lafcadio*, the *Lion Who Shot Back*. He is also the creator of picture books including *A Giraffe and a Half*, *Who Wants a Cheap Rhinoceros?*, *The Missing Piece*, *The Missing Piece Meets the Big O*, and the perennial favorite *The Giving Tree*, and of classic poetry collections such as *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, *A Light in the Attic*, *Falling Up*, *Every Thing On It*, *Don't Bump the Glump!*, and *Runny Babbit*. And don't miss the other Shel Silverstein ebooks, *Where the Sidewalk Ends* and *A Light in the Attic*!

the giving tree: Pittsburgh Dad Chris Preksta, Curt Wootton, 2015-04-28 When *Pittsburgh Dad* debuted on YouTube, creators Chris Preksta and Curt Wootton little suspected their sitcom would receive more than sixteen million views and turn their blue-collar everyman into a nationally known figure. Illustrated with hilarious black-and-white photos, *Pittsburgh Dad* shares the best of the best, from rants about swimming pool rules to reflections on coaching little league to curmudgeonly movie reviews. With its heavy dose of nostalgia and pitch-perfect sensibility, *Pittsburgh Dad* will have readers laughing in recognition, especially those who love recent blockbusters like *Sh*t My Dad Says* and *Dad Is Fat*.

the giving tree: The Amida Tree Bonnie Ferrante, 2015-02-05 Gordon Korman on *The Amida Tree* ...This piece works so well... There's beauty in the simplicity of its telling, and the communication between the woman and the tree is hauntingly believable. *The Amida Tree* is this

generation's tree. It will appeal to parents interested in a sustainable environment, healthy emotional bonds, and a balanced life. Discussion questions included. Suitable for all ages. This is the second edition. For more reviews, go to the first edition. <http://amzn.com/0992103738>

the giving tree: *The Serious Goose* Jimmy Kimmel, 2019-12-03 Meet a very Serious Goose in late-night host Jimmy Kimmel's first fun and funny picture book! There is nothing silly about this goose. You CANNOT make her laugh, so DON'T EVEN TRY! Written, illustrated, and lettered by Jimmy Kimmel, this picture book challenges young readers to bring the silly out of a very Serious Goose. Inspired by Jimmy's nickname for his kids, The Serious Goose reminds us to be silly in a serious way. Challenge your little comedians to make this no-nonsense goose smile. This delightful read-aloud is guaranteed to create giggles of giggles time and time again! Kimmel's proceeds from sales of THE SERIOUS GOOSE will be donated to Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) and children's hospitals around the country.

the giving tree: *Pimp* Iceberg Slim, 2011-05-10 "[In Pimp], Iceberg Slim breaks down some of the coldest, capitalist concepts I've ever heard in my life." —Dave Chappelle, from his Netflix special The Bird Revelation Pimp sent shockwaves throughout the literary world when it published in 1969. Iceberg Slim's autobiographical novel offered readers a never-before-seen account of the sex trade, and an unforgettable look at the mores of Chicago's street life during the 1940s, 50s, and 60s. In the preface, Slim says it best, "In this book, I will take you, the reader, with me into the secret inner world of the pimp." An immersive experience unlike anything before it, Pimp would go on to sell millions of copies, with translations throughout the world. And it would have a profound impact upon generations of writers, entertainers, and filmmakers, making it the classic hustler's tale that never seems to go out of style.

the giving tree: *A Boy Named Shel* Lisa Rogak, 2007-11-13 Few authors are as beloved as Shel Silverstein. His inimitable drawings and comic poems have become the bedtime staples of millions of children and their parents, but few readers know much about the man behind that wild-eyed, bearded face peering out from the backs of dust jackets. In A Boy Named Shel, Lisa Rogak tells the full story of a life as antic and adventurous as any of his creations. A man with an incurable case of wanderlust, Shel kept homes on both coasts and many places in between---and enjoyed regular stays in the Playboy Mansion. Everywhere he went he charmed neighbors, made countless friends, and romanced almost as many women with his unstoppable energy and never-ending wit. His boundless creativity brought him fame and fortune---neither of which changed his down-to-earth way of life---and his children's books sold millions of copies. But he was much more than just a children's writer. He collaborated with anyone who crossed his path, and found success in a wider range of genres than most artists could ever hope to master. He penned hit songs like A Boy Named Sue and The Unicorn. He drew cartoons for Stars & Stripes and got his big break with Playboy. He wrote experimental plays and collaborated on scripts with David Mamet. With a seemingly unending stream of fresh ideas, he worked compulsively and enthusiastically on a wide array of projects up until his death, in 1999. Drawing on wide-ranging interviews and in-depth research, Rogak gives fans a warm, enlightening portrait of an artist whose imaginative spirit created the poems, songs, and drawings that have touched the lives of so many children---and adults.

the giving tree: *Uncle Shelby's Abz Book* Shel Silverstein, 1985-09-09 An adult version of the alphabet!

the giving tree: *The A-to-Z Self-care Handbook for Social Workers and Other Helping Professionals* Erlene Grise-Owens, Justin Miller, Mindy Eaves, 2016 Self-care is an imperative for the ethical practice of social work and other helping professions. From A (awareness) to Z (ZZZZ--Sleep), the editors and contributors use a simple A-to-Z framework to outline strategies to help you build a self-care plan with specific goals and ways to reach them realistically. Questions for reflection and additional resource lists help you to dig deeper in your self-care journey. Just as the ABCs are essential building blocks for a young child's learning, you can use the ABCs in The A-to-Z Self-Care Handbook for Social Workers and Other Helping Professionals to build your way to a happy, healthy, ethical life as a helping professional. Includes a self-care planning form to help you

set goals and formulate strategies. The A-to-Z Self-Care Handbook for Social Workers and Other Helping Professionals...offers a broad range of concrete suggestions for improving individual self-care that should provide guidance and support to fit a broad range of practitioner needs. The book also includes material in several chapters that notes the important role organizations must take in stress and burnout reduction and support of self-care. SUE STEINER, Ph.D., MSW, Professor, School of Social Work at California State University, Chico, Co-author, Self-Care in Social Work: A Guide for Practitioners, Supervisors, and Administrators ...a caring and useful resource for helping professionals concerned about burnout, stress, staff turnover, and wellness.... By focusing on insights and reflections and providing resources and strategies, The A-to-Z Self-Care Handbook is a practical guide and an empowering book. DR. BARBARA W. SHANK, Ph.D., MSW, Dean and Professor, School of Social Work, University of St. Thomas, St. Catherine University, Chair, Board of Directors, Council on Social Work Education As the leader of a large nonprofit organization, the health and well-being of my colleagues is always top of mind for me. The A-to-Z Self-Care Handbook for Social Workers and Other Helping Professionals is just what an organization like ours needed to promote self-care in a way that makes sense for all of us! JENNIFER HANCOCK, LCSW, President & CEO, Volunteers of America-Mid-States Sometimes there is a book that speaks to what you also have tried to put into words that feels truly hand-in-glove. I see The A-to-Z Self-Care Handbook for Social Workers and Other Helping Professionals as precisely this book. SARA KAY SMULLENS, MSW, LCSW, author of Burnout and Self-Care in Social Work: A Guidebook for Students and Those in Mental Health and Related Professions Grise-Owens, Miller, & Eaves' The A-to-Z Self-Care Handbook for Social Workers and Other Helping Professionals is a much-needed handbook to inspire and guide self-care practice. Its insights are far-ranging, original, practical, and flexible. The short chapter format, focused topics, and fresh tone are both accessible and sure to motivate. Even those who have given a great deal of thought and attention to self-care will find new, exciting, and practicable guidance in its pages. LISA D. BUTLER, Ph.D., Associate Professor, University at Buffalo, School of Social Work, Primary Developer, UBSSW Self-Care Starter Kit

the giving tree: Wild Things! Acts of Mischief in Children's Literature Betsy Bird, Julie Danielson, Peter D. Sieruta, 2014-08-05 Secret lives, scandalous turns, and some very funny surprises — these essays by leading kids' lit bloggers take us behind the scenes of many much-loved children's books. Told in lively and affectionate prose, this treasure trove of information for a student, librarian, parent, or anyone wondering about the post-Harry Potter children's book biz brings contemporary illumination to the warm-and-fuzzy bunny world we think we know.

the giving tree: Falling Up Shel Silverstein, 2020-10-20 NOW AVAILABLE AS AN EBOOK! From New York Times bestselling author Shel Silverstein, the classic creator of Where the Sidewalk Ends, A Light in the Attic, and Every Thing On It, comes a wondrous book of poems and drawings. Filled with unforgettable characters like Screamin' Millie; Allison Beals and her twenty-five eels; Danny O'Dare, the dancin' bear; the Human Balloon; and Headphone Harold, this collection by the celebrated Shel Silverstein will charm young readers and make them want to trip on their shoelaces and fall up too! So come, wander through the Nose Garden, ride the Little Hoarse, eat in the Strange Restaurant, and let the magic of Shel Silverstein open your eyes and tickle your mind. And don't miss these other Shel Silverstein ebooks, The Giving Tree, Where the Sidewalk Ends, and A Light in the Attic!

the giving tree: Old Turtle and the Broken Truth Douglas Wood, 2016-10-25 Powerhouse team Douglas Wood and Jon J Muth present a sequel to Old Turtle, the award-winning wisdom tale of peace and love for the earth. Seekers of all ages have been inspired by the stirring message of Old Turtle, the beloved, award-winning wisdom tale of peace. Now Old Turtle returns in a timeless story about love, acceptance, and the nature of truth. Long ago, as truth descended onto earth, it split in two: one piece landing among the people and the other blazing through the sky. When the people discover the piece of truth, it gives them strength and happiness. But over time, it turns them arrogant and greedy. They do not share their truth with others, wars rage on, and the earth begins to suffer. Then a Little Girl eager for change journeys to find Old Turtle, seeking the precious piece

of wisdom that will mend the people's broken truth, making it -- and them -- whole once again. Douglas Wood's stirring and eloquent fable, soulfully illustrated in luminous watercolor by Jon J Muth, offers readers of all ages inspiration, hope, and a healing vision of peace.

the giving tree: The Taking Tree Shrill Travesty, 2011-05-24 We all know the story of the "selfless" tree that gave all she had just to make sure a young boy was "happy." This is a different tree. This is a different boy. This is a very different book. The Taking Tree is not pleased when the boy takes her twigs to pick on his sister, or when he cuts off her branches to build a house that he burns for insurance money. And the boy is not sorry at all. Ever. In fact, he's kind of a jerk. So what happens when the tree finally gets fed up? Let's just say the story doesn't end sweetly with an old man sitting on a stump.

the giving tree: The Missing Piece Shel Silverstein, 1976-04-14 It was missing a piece. And it was not happy. So it set off in search of its missing piece. And as it rolled it sang this song -Oh I'm lookin' for my missin' piece I'm lookin' for my missin' piece Hi-dee-ho, here I go, Lookin' for my missin' piece. What it finds on its search for the missing piece is simply and touchingly told in this fable that gently probes the nature of quest and fulfillment.

the giving tree: Doing Good Together Jenny Lynn Friedman, Jolene L. Roehlkepartain, 2010 MARCH is Community Social Services Awareness month! Is your organization looking for service project ideas? An increasing number of schools, workplaces, and organizations are doing family service projects as a way to make positive change in their communities. The 101 projects in Doing Good Together answer this growing demand for family service with hands-on projects focused on easing poverty, promoting literacy, supporting the troops, helping the environment, and more.

the giving tree: Every Thing On It Shel Silverstein, 2022-04-05 NOW AVAILABLE AS AN EBOOK! From New York Times bestselling Shel Silverstein, celebrated creator of *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, *A Light in the Attic*, and *Falling Up*, comes an amazing collection of poems and drawings, in ebook for the very first time! Have you ever read a book with everything on it? Well, here it is! You will say Hi-ho for the toilet troll, get tongue-tied with Stick-a-Tongue-Out-Sid, play a highly unusual horn, and experience the joys of growing down. What's that? You have a case of the Lovetobutcants? Impossible! Just come on in and let the magic of Shel Silverstein bend your brain and open your heart. And don't miss these other Shel Silverstein ebooks: *The Giving Tree*, *Where the Sidewalk Ends*, *Falling Up*, and *A Light in the Attic*!

the giving tree: Say Something! Peter H. Reynolds, 2019-02-26 From the creator of the New York Times bestseller *The Word Collector* comes an empowering story about finding your voice, and using it to make the world a better place. The world needs your voice. If you have a brilliant idea... say something! If you see an injustice... say something! In this empowering new picture book, beloved author Peter H. Reynolds explores the many ways that a single voice can make a difference. Each of us, each and every day, have the chance to say something: with our actions, our words, and our voices. Perfect for kid activists everywhere, this timely story reminds readers of the undeniable importance and power of their voice. There are so many ways to tell the world who you are... what you are thinking... and what you believe. And how you'll make it better. The time is now: SAY SOMETHING!

the giving tree: A Little Life Hanya Yanagihara, 2016-01-26 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • A stunning "portrait of the enduring grace of friendship" (NPR) about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. A masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century. NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST • MAN BOOKER PRIZE FINALIST • WINNER OF THE KIRKUS PRIZE *A Little Life* follows four college classmates—broke, adrift, and buoyed only by their friendship and ambition—as they move to New York in search of fame and fortune. While their relationships, which are tinged by addiction, success, and pride, deepen over the decades, the men are held together by their devotion to the brilliant, enigmatic Jude, a man scarred by an unspeakable childhood trauma. A hymn to brotherly bonds and a masterful depiction of love in the twenty-first century, Hanya Yanagihara's stunning novel is about the families we are born into, and those that we make for ourselves. Look for Hanya Yanagihara's latest bestselling novel, *To Paradise*.

the giving tree: *Prayer for a Child* Rachel Field, 2011-07-19 Ideal for sharing, this Caldecott Medal-winning beloved classic presents an illustrated prayer full of the intimate gentleness for familiar things, the love of friends and family, and the kindly protection of God. Bless this milk and bless this bread Bless this soft and waiting bed Where I presently shall be Wrapped in sweet security Winner of the Caldecott Medal and in print since 1941, this is a prayer for boys and girls all over the world. It carries a universal appeal for all ages and brings to our hearts and minds the deep responsibility of preserving for all times the faith and hopes of little children.

the giving tree: The Snow Child Eowyn Ivey, 2012-02-01 In this magical debut, a couple's lives are changed forever by the arrival of a little girl, wild and secretive, on their snowy doorstep. Alaska, 1920: a brutal place to homestead, and especially tough for recent arrivals Jack and Mabel. Childless, they are drifting apart -- he breaking under the weight of the work of the farm; she crumbling from loneliness and despair. In a moment of levity during the season's first snowfall, they build a child out of snow. The next morning the snow child is gone -- but they glimpse a young, blonde-haired girl running through the trees. This little girl, who calls herself Faina, seems to be a child of the woods. She hunts with a red fox at her side, skims lightly across the snow, and somehow survives alone in the Alaskan wilderness. As Jack and Mabel struggle to understand this child who could have stepped from the pages of a fairy tale, they come to love her as their own daughter. But in this beautiful, violent place things are rarely as they appear, and what they eventually learn about Faina will transform all of them.

the giving tree: The Inheritance Games Jennifer Lynn Barnes, 2020-09-01 OVER 3 MILLION COPIES SOLD OF THE #1 BESTSELLING SERIES! Don't miss this New York Times bestselling impossible to put down (Buzzfeed) novel with deadly stakes, thrilling twists, and juicy secrets—perfect for fans of *One of Us is Lying* and *Knives Out*. Avery Grambs has a plan for a better future: survive high school, win a scholarship, and get out. But her fortunes change in an instant when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves Avery virtually his entire fortune. The catch? Avery has no idea why—or even who Tobias Hawthorne is. To receive her inheritance, Avery must move into sprawling, secret passage-filled Hawthorne House, where every room bears the old man's touch—and his love of puzzles, riddles, and codes. Unfortunately for Avery, Hawthorne House is also occupied by the family that Tobias Hawthorne just dispossessed. This includes the four Hawthorne grandsons: dangerous, magnetic, brilliant boys who grew up with every expectation that one day, they would inherit billions. Their apparent Grayson Hawthorne is convinced that Avery must be a conwoman, and he's determined to take her down. His brother, Jameson, views her as their grandfather's last hurrah: a twisted riddle, a puzzle to be solved. Caught in a world of wealth and privilege with danger around every turn, Avery will have to play the game herself just to survive. **The games continue in *The Hawthorne Legacy*, *The Final Gambit*, and *The Brothers Hawthorne*!

the giving tree: The Selfish Crocodile Faustin Charles, 2014-06-26 All of the animals are afraid of the Selfish Crocodile - he never let's them into his river, and he's always so snappy! And so when the Selfish Crocodile finds himself in terrible pain, no-one wants to help him - after all, what if he gobbles them up? But, to everyone's surprise, there is one animal in the forest who is willing to help . . . A brilliant tale of friendship, *The Selfish Crocodile* has become a picture book classic.

the giving tree: Love You Forever Robert N. Munsch, 2003 A young woman holds her newborn son And looks at him lovingly. Softly she sings to him: I'll love you forever I'll like you for always As long as I'm living My baby you'll be. So begins the story that has touched the hearts of millions worldwide. Since publication in 1986, *Love You Forever* has sold more than 15 million copies in paperback and the regular hardcover edition (as well as hundreds of thousands of copies in Spanish and French). Firefly Books is proud to offer this sentimental favorite in a variety of editions and sizes: We offer a trade paper and laminated hardcover edition in a 8 x 8 size. In gift editions we carry: a slipcased edition (8 1/2 x 8 1/4), with a laminated box and a cloth binding on the book and a 10 x 10 laminated hardcover with jacket. And a Big Book Edition, 16 x 16 with a trade paper binding.

the giving tree: Surrogate Colony Boshra Rasti, 2021-12-19 A stunning debut by a bold new writer whose vision of the future conjures the near-impossibility of affection, with women tossed

homicidally into surrogate birthing centers and men groomed to become, yes, eunuchs. Or if you will, think Brave New World meets The Texas Chainsaw Massacre. Boshra Rasti's dystopia redeems itself when two young characters conceive of a daring off-grid survival among a group of elusive scientists. The author's mature and compelling voice is not afraid to lift the scrim, but beware, for when she does lift the scrim, readers may recognize a society whose angers and horrors and violent fetishism may seem all too familiar. Surrogate Colony is a must read. Dan Gutstein, author of Buildings without Murders The crisp prose and vibrant characters contained within Surrogate Colonies' worldscape is a stunning debut by an author sure to capture the public imagination. Rasti writes of the not-too-distance future with terrifying clarity. Raymond Lee, author of The Race Riot Surrogate Colony is a thrilling tale of love, betrayal, and the dangers of a world reliant on technology. Caryn Pine Boshra Rasti's sweeping dystopian drama follows two young protagonists on a journey of survival and redemption. Set in a post-pandemic world, Surrogate Colony explores the human psyche after trauma and what can happen when we succumb to fear. While Ms. Rasti's writing is filled with vivid imagery and edge-of-your-seat action, it is also the bond between Adriana and Zach that anchors this story firmly in the reader's mind. Katherine Day, Grattan Street Press It is not a surprise to learn that Boshra Rasti has a debut novel coming out. I knew that she had the goods as a writer when her brilliant short piece Creep appeared in Literally Stories UK during the spring of 2021. She writes tough, economical yet entertaining descriptive prose. From what I have previewed of it, the same holds the day in Surrogate Colony. All readers new to Boshra will be well rewarded. Leila Allison, Associate Editor, Literally Stories UK --- In MicroScrep, a post-pandemic world, one politician, Arthur Mills, brings all scientists and engineers together to create a vaccine and rebuild a world where harmony ensues. What results is a society where algorithms control who you marry, who your child is, and what position you have. Adriana Buckowski is not normal. Her eyes are two different colors, making her less susceptible to the system's propaganda, she has a unique connection with a boy named Zach, and she has questions. Weird occurrences happen as she gets closer to her Calling Ceremony, where she'll be given a position. When she finally starts piecing together the twisted motives at play in MicroScrep, she becomes a cog in the wheel of the state. Her only option for survival lies with Zach, and the hope that she will be vindicated through a vigilante group off-grid. But with time ticking against her, will she survive long enough to be redeemed?

the giving tree: Good Night, Commander Ahmad Akbarpour, 2010 A powerful story about a child who has survived the Iraq-Iran War finds him playing an imaginary war in his room, but when he confronts an enemy soldier, he finds that, like himself, this soldier is missing a leg.

the giving tree: *Smaller and Smaller Circles* F.H. Batacan, 2016-06-07 This harrowing mystery, winner of the Philippine National Book Award, follows two Catholic priests on the hunt through Manila for a brutal serial killer Payatas, a 50-acre dump northeast of Manila's Quezon City, is home to thousands of people who live off of what they can scavenge there. It is one of the poorest neighborhoods in a city whose law enforcement is already stretched thin, devoid of forensic resources and rife with corruption. So when the eviscerated bodies of preteen boys begin to appear in the dump heaps, there is no one to seek justice on their behalf. In the rainy summer of 1997, two Jesuit priests take the matter of protecting their flock into their own hands. Father Gus Saenz is a respected forensic anthropologist, one of the few in the Philippines, and has been tapped by the Director of the National Bureau of Investigations as a backup for police efforts. Together with his protégé, Father Jerome Lucero, a psychologist, Saenz dedicates himself to tracking down the monster preying on these impoverished boys. *Smaller and Smaller Circles*, widely regarded as the first Filipino crime novel, is a poetic masterpiece of literary noir, a sensitive depiction of a time and place, and a fascinating story about the Catholic Church and its place in its devotees' lives.

the giving tree: *Transcending Boundaries* Sandra L. Beckett, 2013-10-11 *Transcending Boundaries: Writing for a Dual Audience of Children and Adults* is a collection of essays on twentieth-century authors who cross the borders between adult and children's literature and appeal to both audiences. This collection of fourteen essays by scholars from eight countries constitutes the first book devoted to the art of crosswriting the child and adult in twentieth-century international

literature. Sandra Beckett explores the multifaceted nature of crossover literature and the diverse ways in which writers cross the borders to address a dual readership of children and adults. It considers classics such as Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Pinocchio, with particular emphasis on post-World War II literature. The essays in *Transcending Boundaries* clearly suggest that crossover literature is a major, widespread trend that appears to be sharply on the rise.

the giving tree: *This Book Just Ate My Dog!* Richard Byrne, 2014-09-04 In this wonderfully inventive book, Bella is taking her dog for a stroll across the page but halfway across, he disappears! Unable to quite believe what's just happened Bella watches, transfixed, with changing emotions of surprise, indignation, moments of renewed hope (as the authorities arrive to take control) followed by shock (as they too succumb to the book's inexplicable behaviour) and finally action when Bella marches toward the dangerous middle of the book . . . only to disappear herself! At this point, the book has consumed its characters and it's down to the reader to step in to help. A note from Bella appears directly appealing for assistance and, with a rigorous shake, the characters reappear. Normality is restored and Bella is finally able to take her dog for an uninterrupted walk . . . or is she?!

the giving tree: *Gashlycrumb Tinies* Edward Gorey, 2007

the giving tree: *Under My Tree* Muriel Tallandier, 2020-04-21 When Susanne leaves her city home to visit her grandmother, she finds a very special tree of her own in the forest. Each time she returns to the tree, she observes something unique about it--from the sheltering protection of its branches to the scratchy surface of its bark.

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the giving tree: Burden Of Concrete William S. Hayes, 2020-04-20 *Burden of Concrete* offers the reader a harrowing account of the author's life. His tale begins with his teenage years and a brief foray into juvenile hall, then on to the county jail. By the early '90s, in the midst of an exploding Seattle music scene, he falls victim to the scourge of heroin addiction. The chaotic lifestyle that ensues thrusts him into a world of concrete: polluted cells and streets. As his despair intensifies, the depravity and time does also, until he hits the road for Los Angeles in a feeble attempt to escape. Upon arrival, he manages to graduate to California's prison system and the hell inside. Hayes portrays this world with a clear perception and casts a light on what it's like to do time, not from the viewpoint of a convict trying to build a reputation inside the walls, but as a visitor. There are moments when you feel his fear and desperation, and others when you laugh with him. His love for prose is evident in the telling of his story, leaving the reader to question how such an adept mind

could find himself confined to a life of doing time. The honesty presented will have you hoping he breaks free of the shackles and saddened when he succumbs to his demons yet again.

the giving tree: Don't Bump the Glump! Shel Silverstein, 2008-01-01 A most unusual collection of whacky, funny, scary creatures with imaginative fantasies in verse.

the giving tree: F. D. R. Elliott Roosevelt, 1950

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