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NEW RELEASE!

The Canada Coat By Louise Bergen Price



Cover Art by Jan Martens

For the first time ever, the Mennonite Heritage Museum Bookstore will be selling its very own book!

The Mennonite Museum Society is pleased to announce that the first publication of the Society is to be released this November 2021.

To celebrate the publication of "The Canada Coat" and its author, Louise Bergen Price, the Museum Society is offering MHSBC Members 10% off on all pre-orders!

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this book will go towards supporting the work of the Mennonite Historical Society of BC.

See the back of this flyer to find out more about this new book!

For a limited time, pre-ordered books can be purchased for a members only price of \$10.75 each!

Use the order form below and mail to the MHSBC.



Pre-Order Form - Please fill out form below and submit in person to Front Desk at Mennonite Heritage Museum during open hours, or mail in to address on back. (You will need your own envelope and stamp.) You can also email us with the quantity desired: info@mennonitemuseum.org. Thank you!

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The Canada Coat

By Louise Bergen Price

When her father's dreams to emigrate to Canada fall through, Rena and her family are trapped in Ukraine in the midst of the Holodomor, a famine that will kill millions. Then, just when it seems that the worst is over, her father goes missing, and Rena struggles to keep her hopes alive.

The author shares, "The Canada Coat is a fictionalized retelling of my mother's life as a young girl during the Holodomor, the famine that engulfed Ukraine in the early 1930s. The main characters - my grandparents, their children, the neighbours who helped them survive - are imagined versions of real people and are based on my mother's stories and her memoir." More historical notes are included in the book.

In *The Canada Coat*, Louise Bergen Price has woven a wealth of vivid images to evoke Stalinist Soviet Union through the eyes of Rena, a Mennonite girl—a chunk of mud-soaked bread just out of reach, the crashing thaw of the Dnieper River, a man on a rowboat ferry tapping tobacco onto a torn dictionary page—against a backdrop of hunger, beauty, and loss. Rena's feisty determination turns heartbreak into hope for her family, even under cruel hardship and Stalin's steely gaze. An absorbing novel in page after gripping page.

--Barbara Nickel, award-winning author of *The Mozart Girl* and *Dear Peter, Dear Ulla*

"Our hearts are immediately pulled into the story of *The Canada Coat* as told through the eyes of a brave young girl. Readers journey alongside Rena and her family through a painfully dark time of Ukraine history under the iron fist of the Stalin regime. Facing loss, starvation and fear from authorities and those who report to them, the family holds onto each other, hope and faith to guide them in such difficult and dangerous times. Louise Bergen Price beautifully weaves historical elements and storytelling together that informs, enlightens and engages her readers. The powerful language and description transport us back in time where we wonder what we would do if faced with such seemingly insurmountable odds. Teachers would greatly value the education and engaging discussions this historical novel would provide in the classroom."

-Nikki Bergstresser, *author of children's fiction and educator*

Interior Illustrations by Jenny Bergen, "Cottage"



**Mennonite
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