



Once, a Bird



imagined by
RINA SINGH

illustrated by
NATHALIE DION

Once, the world went quiet.

ONCE, AS THE WINTER ENDED, A LITTLE BIRD EMERGED TO FIND THE WORLD HAD GONE QUIET.

The streets are empty and the playgrounds still. Puzzled but determined, the bird explores the town in search of a suitable place to nest. The residents of an apartment building notice her resting in a tree outside and take comfort in her song. Watching through their windows, they look beyond their lives and pause to appreciate the wonders of nature. The bird chooses to make this community her home and builds a nest, an act of resilience and hope that inspires the humans to emerge as well, reminding them that natural rhythms continue, seasons change and life goes on. Once again.

This wordless picture book is a hopeful contemplation of our interconnectedness with the natural world and the joy that nature brings us, even in unusual times.

Rina Singh is an award-winning children's author who is drawn to real-life stories about the environment and social justice. Her critically acclaimed books include *Grandmother School*, winner of the 2021 Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize; *Diwali: A Festival of Lights*, nominated for the Red Cedar Award; and *111 Trees*, winner of the Social Justice Literature Award. Rina has an MFA in creative writing from Concordia University and a teaching degree from McGill University. She lives in Toronto.

Nathalie Dion is an award-winning children's book illustrator. Her picture book *The Big Bad Wolf in My House* (*Le grand méchant loup dans ma maison*) won the 2021 Prix Espiègle and was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award, the Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award and the Harry Black Picture Book Award. Nathalie graduated from Concordia University in design arts. Her Intuos tablet and numeric paintbrushes are her favorite tools. Nathalie is based in Montreal.

PICTURE BOOK • AGES 3-5

Publication September 12, 2023

FINAL BOOK WILL BE A HARDCOVER

9781459831438 HC \$21.95

9781459831445 PDF • 9781459831452 EPUB

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Once, a Bird

Author: Rina Singh

Illustrator: Nathalie Dion

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In this wordless picture book, a bird emerges after winter to find the world has gone quiet. As she settles on a tree outside an apartment building, its residents notice her through their windows and find hope in her resilience and the continued rhythms of nature.

FORMAT

10.75 x 8.75"

32 pages

Hardcover

9781459831438

\$21.95

PDF

9781459831445

EPUB

9781459831452

KEY SELLING POINTS

- A small bird has a big impact in this story of looking beyond ourselves and reconnecting with nature.
- This wordless story offers a hopeful contemplation on the rhythms of nature and the importance of connection in the face of disruption and isolation.
- Birders and budding birders will enjoy observing the behaviours of the American robin as she sings her early morning song, gathers materials to build a nest and tends to her chicks.
- Nathalie Dion's subtle illustrations carry readers through this wordless journey of finding connection after solitude.
- The author was inspired to write this story on a solitary walk during the COVID-19 pandemic.



AMRITA SINGH

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rina Singh is an award-winning children's author who is drawn to real-life stories about the environment and social justice. Her critically acclaimed books include *Grandmother School*, winner of the 2021 Christie Harris Illustrated Children's Literature Prize; *Diwali: A Festival of Lights*, nominated for the Red Cedar Award; and *111 Trees*, winner of the Social Justice Literature Award. Rina has an MFA in creative writing from Concordia University and a teaching degree from McGill University. She lives in Toronto.



MATHILDE DION-LAVERTU

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Nathalie Dion is an award-winning children's book illustrator. Her picture book *The Big Bad Wolf in My House* (*Le grand méchant loup dans ma maison*) won the 2021 Prix Espiègle and was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award, the Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award and the Harry Black Picture Book Award. Nathalie graduated from Concordia University in design arts. Her Intuos tablet and numeric paintbrushes are her favorite tools. Nathalie is based in Montreal.

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PUBLICITY

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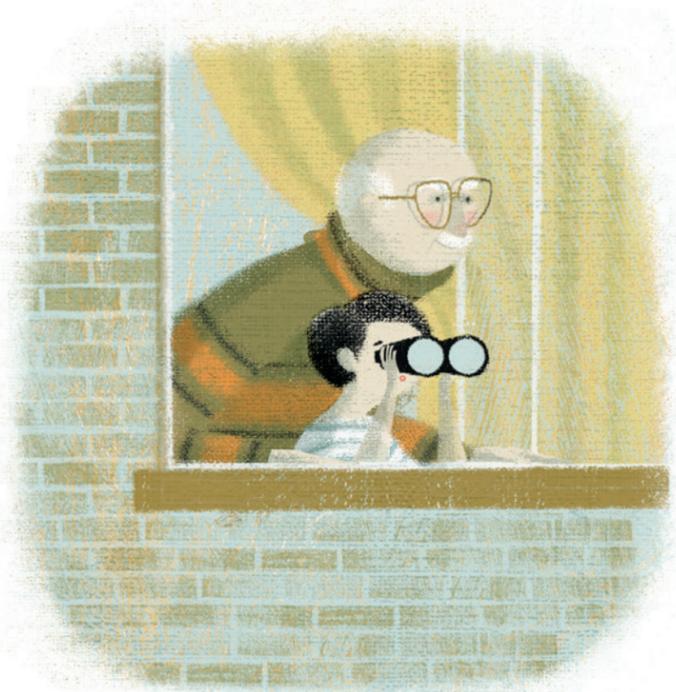






















For Chan,
who listened to the birdsong with me

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Published in Canada and the United States in 2023 by Orca Book Publishers.
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Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Title: Once, a bird / imagines by Rina Singh ; illustrated by Nathalie Dion.

Names: Singh, Rina, 1955- author. | Dion, Nathalie, 1964- illustrator.

Identifiers: Canadiana (print) 20220439249 | Canadiana (ebook) 20220439257 | ISBN 9781459831438 (hardcover) | ISBN 9781459831445 (PDF) | ISBN 9781459831452 (EPUB)

Subjects: LCSH: Stories without words. | LCGFT: Wordless picture books.

Classification: LCC PS8587.L5583 O53 2023 | DDC jC813/.54—dc23

Library of Congress Control Number: 2022947210

Summary: In this wordless picture book, a bird emerges after winter to find the world has gone quiet. As she settles on a tree outside an apartment building, its residents notice her through their windows and find hope in her resilience and the continued rhythms of nature.

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Orca Book Publishers gratefully acknowledges the support for its publishing programs provided by the following agencies: the Government of Canada, the Canada Council for the Arts and the Province of British Columbia through the BC Arts Council and the Book Publishing Tax Credit.

Artwork created using a combination of watercolor and gouache,
finished by cleaning, cutting, shaping and transforming in Photoshop.

Cover and interior artwork Nathalie Dion
Design by Nathalie Dion and Rachel Page

Printed and bound in the TBC.

26 25 24 23 • 1 2 3 4

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