Innovative & Inspiring Asian Canadian Writers Celebrate Diverse Identities, Resistance and Pride

Carrianne Leung

Wondrous Woo

“He had scratched at his chin and looked me in the eye. "One day, Miramar," he said, "you should write these stories from the side of the women. Make the world know how powerful they are. Like you.”

Kyo Maclear

The Fog

“With their actions, the fog began to lift a little. And the wind

began to blow again until the world grew a little less

ghostly... Slowly, slowly, the beautiful island brightened, and Warble

and the human found time to rest under the stars, which they could not

see. The moon drifted in the sky. And they began to sing.

They sang to each other and to the moon and because they were happy to

be together, sharing the clear night view.”

Kai Cheng-Thom

From the Stars

"whatever you dream of, i believe you can be

from the stars in the sky to the fish in the sea

you can crawl like a crab or with feathers fly high

i'll always be here, i'll be near standing by,

and you know that i'll love you till the day that i die

whatever you dream of, i believe you can be

for you are my child, courageous and free"

Vivek Shraya

The Boy & the Bindi

“Have you seen my yellow dot?

It’s a bindi, not a spot.

Why do you wear a bindi? You say.

Why is it so special anyway?

Well, my bindi is like a third eye

Watching over me all the time

Making sure I don’t hide

Everything I am inside

And everything that I can be.”

Catherine Hernandez

M is for Mustache: A Pride ABC Book

“D is for Doesn’t Matter. Like, it doesn’t matter where we came from or what body parts we have, we are beautiful.

P is for Pride, which is what we feel when we can be who we are and not be afraid.”

Sharon Bala

The Boat People

“The captain cut the engine and they floated placid. Overhead, there was a chopping sound. Mahindan saw a helicopter, its blades slicing the sky, a red leaf painted on its belly. There were three boats now, all of them circling the ship, a welcome party. On the deck, people waved with both hands. The red-and-white flag snapped definitive.

Mahindan gripped his son. Sellian shivered in his arms, from fear, from exhilaration, he couldn’t tell. Soon Mahindan was shaking too, armpits dampening. His teeth clattered.

Their new life. It was just beginning.”