



TITLE: *Home Truths*

AUTHOR: Jill Maclean

ISBN: 978-1-897151-96-6

PRICE: \$14.95

FORMAT: Trade Paperback

SIZE: 5" x 8"

EXTENT: 224 pp

AGE RANGE: 12+

BISAC:

JUV039010, Juvenile Fiction/Social Issues/Physical and Emotional Abuse

JUV039230, Juvenile Fiction/Social Issues/Bullying

JUV039140, Juvenile Fiction/ Social Issues/Self-Esteem & Self-Reliance

PUB DATE: September 2010

PUBLICITY CONTACT

Meryl Howsam

416.929.4957

m.howsam@cormorantbooks.com

DESCRIPTION

Brick's home life is a horror show. His dad has a temper like a pressure valve; you never know when he's going to blow. His mom's a self-absorbed flake who leaves the care of his little sister to Brick. A guy could go crazy with all that tension. It's no wonder Brick has to let off a little steam of his own once in a while. It's not like he's anything remotely like his dad.

The day he turns sixteen, Brick's out of there. This summer he's going to take up Mr. Larkin's offer of work, even though he's been forbidden to "fraternize with the neighbors." And he's going to earn enough money to escape. Get out and never look back. But...who will his dad turn to when he doesn't have a son to kick around anymore?

A compulsive read by the two-time winner of the Ann Connor Brimer Award, *Home Truths* is a revealing portrait of a bully-in-training and his journey to redemption.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Shortly after the publication of her 2003 poetry collection, *The Brevity of Red* (2003), Jill Maclean's nine-year-old grandson Stuart asked her to write him a book with hockey and Skidoos in it. The result was *The Nine Lives of Travis Keating* (2008) which won the 2009 Ann Connor Brimer Award, was shortlisted for the Canadian Library Association Book of the Year for Children, 2010 Hackmatack, Silver Birch and Diamond Willow Awards, and was a KIND Children's Honorable Mention Book for the Humane Society of the United States. Its 2009 sequel, *The Present Tense of Prinny Murphy*, won the 2010 Ann Connor Brimer Award. Both books are set in Newfoundland, where Jill's family lived for eighteen years.

Jill now makes her home in Nova Scotia, which is the setting for her third novel. Always an avid reader, she is delighted to rediscover the world of children's literature. In her free time she gardens, canoes and hikes.

KEY SELLING POINTS

- First two books won Ann Conner Brimer Award an unprecedented two years in a row
- Shortlisted for 2009 Silver Birch Award, 2009 Hackmatack Award
- What makes this book unique is that it written from point of view of a bully in the making

TARGET MARKET

- YA
- Institutional and retail

NOTABLE PAST BOOKS

- *The Present Tense of Prinny Murphy* (2009)
2010 Ann Connor Brimer Award
- *The Nine Lives of Travis Keating* (2008)
2009 Ann Connor Brimer Award
2009 Canadian Library Association Book of the Year for Children finalist
2009 Hackmatack Finalist
2009 Silver Birch Finalist
2009 Diamond Willow Finalist
KIND Children's Honorable Mention Book for the Humane Society of the United States

MARKETING & PUBLICITY

- Comprehensive review and award submissions
- Pitched to BFE, WOTS, Vancouver Writers' Festival
- Bookmarks
- Active touring author (schools and bookstores)
- Author applied for CCBC Book Week Tour

EXCERPT

Tears—I can't stop them—spring to my eyes, spill down my cheeks. He says, slapping as he talks, "This is my other job, Brick. To show you who's boss, so that when I say jump, you're already two feet off the ground. You're crying like a baby. Why are you doing that, kiddo? How old are you? Fourteen going on four?"

His fist sinks into my belly and I go down. I feel four years old. Sniveling and pitiful.

If I wasn't a coward—if I fought back—he'd kill me.