

Two-time Newbery Medalist KATE DiCAMILLO releases the first book in a new short-fiction trilogy, the Norendy Tales

KATE DiCAMILLO

The Puppets of SPELHORST



A Norendy Tale

illustrated by JULIE MORSTAD

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\$17.99 US (\$23.99 CAN)

Ages 7–10 • 160 pages

Kate DiCamillo is one of America's most beloved storytellers. She is a former National Ambassador for Young People's Literature and a two-time Newbery Medalist. Born in Philadelphia, she grew up in Florida and now lives in Minneapolis.

Julie Morstad is the illustrator of numerous acclaimed books for young readers, including *House of Dreams: The Life of L. M. Montgomery* by Liz Rosenberg, *When Green Becomes Tomatoes* by Julie Fogliano, and *Swan: The Life and Dance of Anna Pavlova* by Laurel Snyder. She lives in Vancouver, British Columbia.

From master storyteller Kate DiCamillo comes an original fairy tale—with enchanting illustrations by Julie Morstad—in which five friends confront circumstances beyond their control with patience, cunning, and high spirits.

Shut up in a trunk by a taciturn old sea captain with a secret, five puppets—a king, a wolf, a girl, a boy, and an owl—bicker, boast, and comfort one another in the dark. Individually, they dream of song and light, freedom and flight, purpose and glory, but they all agree they are part of a larger story, bound to one another by chance and bonded by the heart's mysteries. When at last their shared fate arrives, landing them on a mantel in a blue room in the home of two little girls, the truth is more astonishing than any of them could have imagined.

A beloved author of modern classics draws on her most moving themes with humor, heart, and wisdom in the first of the Norendy Tales, a projected trio of novellas linked by place and mood, each illustrated in black and white by a different virtuoso illustrator. A magical and beautifully packaged gift volume designed to be read aloud and shared, *The Puppets of Spelhorst* is a tale that soothes and strengthens us on our journey, leading us through whatever dark forest we find ourselves in.



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