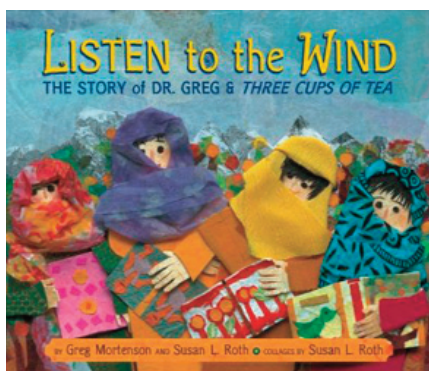


Recommended Books

by Karen Antikajian

New Books

Just published this month and written for young people are two versions of the book *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time* by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. Adapted for grades 4-8 by Sarah Thompson, the title has been modified to *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Journey to Change the World . . . One Child at a Time*. It has a forward by Jane Goodall and lots of photos—many in color that feature Greg's family when they accompanied him to Pakistan. Greg's 12-year-old daughter has a Q&A section in the back of the book,



as she has been quite involved with his “Pennies for Peace” project.

The second version is a picture book by Greg Mortenson and Susan L. Roth with Susan's wonderful collage

illustrations. This book is entitled *Listen to the Wind: The Story of Dr. Greg & Three Cups of Tea*.

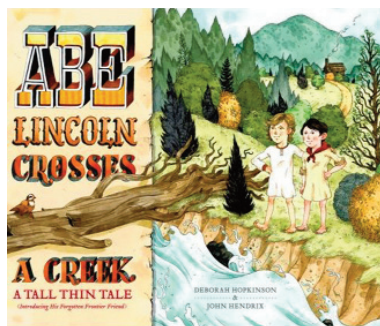
After Greg's presentation at NCTE many, many, many of us lined up to get books autographed. The photo shows Greg conversing and taking time with everyone. He is very friendly and personable and spent a lot of time posing for photos before his session. The Penguin booth gave us copies of all three books although the new ones were advanced reader copies. Since a few pages in each book hadn't been completed, I have ordered the published version of both. Greg will be presenting at our conference next year.



Patriotic Books

Here are some books that are worth sharing around the time of Presidents' Day:

Abe Lincoln Crosses a Creek: A Tall Thin Tale (Introducing His Forgotten Frontier Friend) by



Deborah Hopkinson. Based on a true story, the author elaborates and, surprisingly, interrupts the story to change her mind about what probably happened. When

Lincoln's friend saves him, the author and illustrator explore several ways Austin could have pulled Abe out of the creek. Hopkinson explains, “...that's the thing about history—if you weren't there, you can't know for sure.” This is a unique book because it makes the work of the author and illustrator visible to the reader—which could lead to a discussion of what it means to write and illustrate.

Another Deborah Hopkinson book worth sharing in February is *Sweet Land of Liberty*. It is a story about equal rights, about getting expelled from school for hanging a portrait of President Lincoln on the classroom wall, and about Marian Anderson's concert in front of the Lincoln Memorial after she was banned from performing in Constitution Hall because of the color of her skin.

Even though Deborah is not presenting, she has agreed to come to the ORA conference and sign her books on Saturday afternoon from 3:30 – 5:00.

Another book set around the same time is Susan Fletcher's picture book, *Dadblamed Union Army Cow*. Also based on a true story (of a cow following a Union soldier into the army) Susan tells it with humor, repetition, and colorful language.

Susan is the ORA luncheon author on Friday and will be signing her books that afternoon from 3:30 – 5:30.

“The unread story is not a story; it is little black marks on wood pulp. The reader, reading it, makes it live: a live thing, a story.” Ursula K. Le Guin from *Dancing at the Edge of the World* (1989)