



CHRIS LOKER

A SHIMMER OF JOY

One Hundred Children's Picture Books in America

*The Book Club of California is pleased
to announce the forthcoming publication of*

A SHIMMER OF JOY:

PICTURE BOOKS ARE A JEWEL IN THE CROWN OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE. They are composed of words, pictures, and the dramatically paced rhythm of pages turning in the reader's hand. When these elements come together with creative mastery, a surge of mind or heart can occur, as with any form of fine art. At its most inspirational, a picture book can provide a transporting reading experience—punctuated by shimmering moments of joy—for the children and adults who journey inside its covers.

A Shimmer of Joy is an exciting and colorful presentation of one hundred children's picture books published in—or imported to—America from 1900 to 2015. Each of the one hundred books profiled has been selected based upon its notable fame or collectability by Chris Loker, an authority on children's literature. Among the best-known and most loved books included in *A Shimmer of Joy*:

- * *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter (1901)
- * *The Story of Babar* by Jean de Brunhoff (1933)
- * *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown (1947)
- * *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats (1962)
- * *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* by Mo Willems (2003)

Specifically, *A Shimmer of Joy* offers readers:

- * A vital definition of the picture book, with an overview of its history and significance in American children's literature.
- * Intriguing in-depth essays on the past, the present, and the possible future of the picture book, written in enlightening detail by three scholars in the field.
- * Fascinating profiles of one hundred famous or collectible picture books, accompanied by two to four color photographs of each book.

One Hundred Children's Picture Books in America

A Shimmer of Joy: One Hundred Children's Picture Books in America is a companion volume to the author's earlier work, *One Hundred Books Famous in Children's Literature*, the prize-winning catalogue of an exhibition mounted in 2014 at the Grolier Club in New York City. Together these two volumes offer commentary on the field of children's literature in an integrated fashion.

CHRIS LOKER is the author of children's books and books about children's literature. She graduated from Stanford University and attended the Stanford Graduate School of Business. She is a former member of the board of the Book Club of California, and currently serves on the boards of the Grolier Club, The Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Rare Book School at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, and Bring Me A Book.

THE BOOK CLUB OF CALIFORNIA's 239th publication, *A Shimmer of Joy: One Hundred Children's Picture Books in America* is designed by award-winning book designer Jerry Kelly. It is set in the types of Justus Erich Walbaum, in digital versions from Berthold and Monotype, with the Saphir type of Hermann Zapf, and printed in China by C&C Offset Printing Company, Ltd.



A SHIMMER OF JOY measures 8.5" × 11", with over 300 pages of text and more than 200 full-color photographs. The Book Club of California will publish two editions:

- * **DELUXE EDITION** of 50 copies: leather spine, with photo-reproduced decorative paper boards and endpapers hand-painted by Eric Carle, famed author-illustrator of the picture book *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Presented in a slipcase, and hand-numbered and signed by this volume's author and book designer. The deluxe edition contains the text of the standard edition plus these outstanding additions:
 - **SPECIALLY ADAPTED FOR THIS DELUXE EDITION:** An essay by Eric Carle, titled "My Painted Papers." In it, Carle describes the making, and the personal meaning, of the exquisite hand-painted collage tissue papers he creates and then uses to construct the playful illustrations in his more than seventy picture books.
 - **ORIGINAL SIGNED WORK OF ART:** A unique tipped-in collage paper, hand-painted by Eric Carle especially for this deluxe edition, demonstrates the key component of his famous collage illustration style.
- * **STANDARD EDITION** of 200 copies: clothbound, with photo-reproduced hand-painted decorative endpapers. Hand-numbered and signed by the author and containing profiles of one hundred picture books and four distinctive essays, one by the author and three by these scholarly authorities:
 - Cathryn M. Mercier, *Professor, Director of the Children's Literature Program, Director of the Center for the Study of Children's Literature at Simmons University in Boston.*
 - Joel Silver, *Director of the Lilly Library at Indiana University in Bloomington.*
 - Michael F. Suarez, *Director of Rare Book School, Professor of English, University Professor, and Honorary Curator of Special Collections at the University of Virginia.*

The price for the standard edition is \$295; deluxe edition copies with signed original hand-painted work of art are \$995. California sales tax and shipping are additional.



The Book Club of California

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