



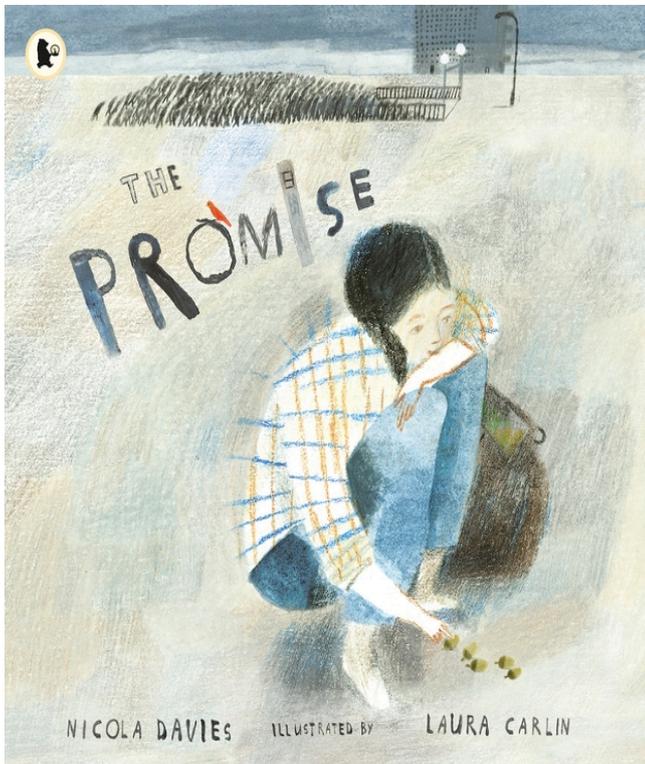
Suntrap Book Review

The Promise

Written by Nicola Davies and illustrated by Laura Carlin

Published by Walker Books £7.99 (p/b)

Age range: Five year-olds and upwards



Description

A picture book of great beauty and hope about the power we have to transform our world.

On a mean street in a mean city, a thief tries to snatch an old woman's bag. But she finds she can't have it without promising something in return – to “plant them all”.

When it turns out the bag is full of acorns, the young thief embarks on a journey that changes her own life and the lives of others for generations to come. Inspired by the belief that a relationship with nature is essential to every human being, and that now, more than ever, we need to renew that relationship, *The Promise* is the story of a magical discovery that will touch the heart and imagination of every reader, young and old.

With poignant simplicity, honesty and lyricism, Nicola Davies evokes a powerful vision of a world where people and nature live in harmony. And Laura Carlin's delicate illustrations capture a young girl's journey from a harsh, urban reality to the beauty and vitality of a changed world.

Reviews

'Inspired by the belief that a relationship with nature is essential to every human being, and that more than ever, we need to renew that relationship, *The Promise* is the story of a magical discovery.' *The Green Parent*

'A poignant, honest and lyrical story' *Bath Magazine*

'A story of personal and ecological redemption, *The Promise* is a moving and didactic story.' *Recommended Reads*

'Holds up a mirror to our dying, degraded cities, and then, with a simple gesture, present us with a most beautiful and transformational resolution . . . What is most profound about *The Promise* is that Nicola Davies takes a complex issue like urban decay, and shows us in simple, elegant prose the human cost – in a state of nature deficit, we cannot thrive. . . a deeply moving and gloriously illustrated book that does not shy away from scenes of despair, nor does it suffer from a failure of the imagination, like so many other stories with an environmental message. On the contrary, Davies and Carlin envision a brighter, more communal, and nature-abundant future, in the actionable now' *32 Page*