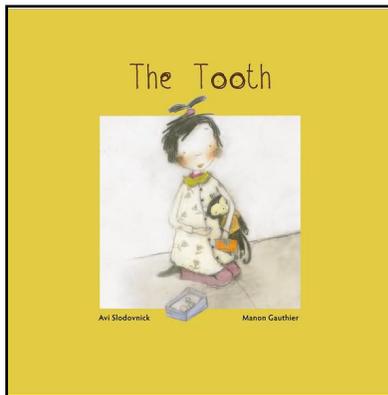


STORYLINE ONLINE PRESENTS:

"THE TOOTH"

By *Avi Slodovnick*



The Tooth gently opens the door to discussion about what a single person can do to make a difference. Marissa loves candy—maybe too much. When she wakes up with a toothache, her mother takes her to the dentist, and on the way, Marissa notices a man sitting on a grate on the sidewalk to keep warm. So begins a day that Marissa will never forget.

Watch online video of actor
Annette Bening
reading this story
at <http://www.storylineonline.net>

RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Retell the story in your own words.
- Discuss and then write about what you enjoyed most about this book.
- Read *The Tooth* aloud to someone.
- What experiences have you had at the dentist? Share your experiences with someone.
- Have you left a tooth for the Tooth Fairy? Tell someone about that.
- Marissa ate lots of candy, and that caused the problem with her tooth. How can you protect your teeth if you eat candy?
- Discuss or write about foods that will help keep your teeth healthy.
- Why do you think Marissa was so interested in the man sitting on the sidewalk? Have you seen people like this? How did you feel?
- Why did Marissa want the man sitting on the sidewalk to have her tooth?
- If you have ever had a similar situation, tell about it and draw a picture to show what happened.
- Share your favorite picture in the book *The Tooth*.
- Research and write a report about "healthy teeth." Include drawings with your report.
- Make a poster about foods to eat as snacks to keep your teeth healthy. Post it where it can remind you to choose healthy snack foods for your teeth.

- Make a list of questions to ask someone who works with people who are homeless or needy.
- Interview someone who works with people who are homeless. Find out as much as you can about what it is like and what others can do to help. Tell or write about what you learned from your interview.
- Help organize a visit to your classroom by someone who works in a homeless shelter. Learn about their work and find out if there are ways you and your classmates can help those in need.
- Work with an adult to organize a way to help those in need.
- For example: A shelter will instruct how to organize a food drive; make sandwiches and put them in plastic bags for the people who visit the homeless shelter for a meal to take with them; collect toothpaste, toothbrushes, and soap for the homeless shelter to give out.
- Have an adult help you contact the local Habitat for Humanity to see if you and your classmates can help. For instance, provide cookies or sandwiches for the volunteers who help build the houses for those in need.
- Read at least 3 more books about helping others or showing kindness and discuss them.
- Make a word web about "showing kindness." It's easy to do. Take a sheet of paper and draw a circle about 2 inches in diameter in the center of the paper. Write the words "showing kindness" in the circle. Now draw 6 or 7 lines out from the edge coming out all around the circle. On each line write something you know or have learned about showing kindness to others. If you need more lines, draw more. Discuss this with someone.

INTERNET ACTIVITIES

There are many interesting sites about "teeth" and about "helping others" on the internet. Visit the sites listed below to learn more.

- <http://www.healthyteeth.org/>
This is a great site developed by dentists for elementary-aged children. Some of the sections are: cavities, braces, prevention, experiments and activities, a visit to the dentist, and cutting out the sugar. Read these interesting facts and try some experiments!
- <http://kidshealth.org/kid/htbw/teeth.html>
Visit this site and learn the parts of the tooth. Make a poster of a tooth and label the different parts.
- <http://www.colgate.com/app/Kids-World/US/HomePage.cvsp>
Visit this site and click on the Games and Activities on the right side. Enjoy!
- http://www.ehow.com/info_8373200_games-helping-others.html
Read "Games About Helping Others." Work with an adult to decide if one of these games would be possible to do. Make helping others a game!

THEMES/CONCEPTS IN THIS BOOK

- Visiting the Dentist
- Kindness
- Sharing
- Giving/Helping Others
- Homelessness/Need

Some Books About Visiting The Dentist

What to Expect When You Go to the Dentist by Heidi Murkoff, pictures by Laura Rader
Going to the Dentist by Anne Civardi
The Bernstein Bears Visit the Dentist by Stan and Jan Bernstein
Show Me Your Smile!: A Visit to the Dentist by Christine Ricci, pictures by Robert Roper
Just Going to the Dentist by Mercer Mayer
Behold, No Cavities!: A Visit to the Dentist by Sarah Wilson, pictures by Harry Moore
A Visit to the Dentist by Eleanor Fremont, pictures by Andy Mastrocinque
Green Puppy Goes to the Dentist by JC Schwanda, pictures by Karen Craig
Going to the Dentist: A Picture Social Skills Story Book by Cindy Bailey
Elmo Visits the Dentist by Dalmatian Press, pictures by Tom Brannon
The Crocodile & the Dentist by Taro Gomi
Going to the Dentist by Fred Rogers, photos by Jim Judkis

Books About Kindness

Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco
Chester's Way by Kevin Henkes
Horton Hatches the Egg by Dr. Seuss
Miss Spider's Tea Party by David Kirk
Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch by Eileen Spinelli
Tomas and the Library Lady by Pat Mora, pictures by Raul Colon

Books About Sharing

A Chair for My Mother by Vera B. Williams
The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister Herbert, translated by J. Alison James
Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters by John Steptoe
Sophie's Masterpiece by Eileen Spinelli

Books About Giving/Helping Others

The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein
Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney
The Quiltmaker's Gift by Jeff Brumbeau, pictures by Gail de Marcken
Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan
Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge by Mem Fox, pictures by Julie Vivas

Books About Homelessness/Need

Fly Away Home by Eve Bunting, pictures by Ronald Himler
I Am David by Anne Holm, translated by and L. W. Kingsland
Beatrice's Goat by Page McBrier, pictures by Lori Lohstoeter
One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference by Katie Smith Milway, pictures by Eugénie Fernandes
Sam and the Lucky Money by Karen Chinn, pictures by Ying-Hwa Hu and Cornelius Van Wright
The Little Match Girl by Hans Christian Andersen, pictures by Rachel Isadora
A Circle of Friends by Giora Carmi Selavi
That Is Life: A Haitian Story of Hope by Youme
Stone Soup by Heather Forest, pictures by Susan Gaber
Armando and the Blue Tarp School by Edith Hope Fine and Judith Pinkerton Josephson, pictures by Hernan Sosa
A Shelter in Our Car by Monica Gunning, pictures by Elaine Pedlar
Great Joy by Kate DiCamillo, pictures by Bagram Ibatoulline
Stay!: Keeper's Story by Lois Lowry, pictures by True Kelley
Raising the Roof: A Habitat for Humanity Book by Ronald Kidd and Jada Rowland
Year of No Rain by Alice Mead
Bone Button Borscht by Aubrey Davis, pictures by Dusan Petricic
The Lady in the Box by Ann McGovern, pictures by Marni Backer
Grandpa's Hammer by Ronald Kidd, pictures by Bill Farnsworth
Amber Was Brave, Essie Was Smart by Vera B. Williams
The Magic Beads by Susin Nielsen-Fernlund, pictures by Genevieve Cote
The Can Man by Laura E. Williams, pictures by Craig Orback
Some Friends to Feed: The Story of Stone Soup by Pete Seeger and Paul Dubois Jacobs, pictures by Michael Hays
A Castle on Viola Street by DyAnne DiSalvo

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Avi Slodovnick is a lawyer by day and a children's story writer and musician (a drummer) by night. He has been a lifelong hockey fan who as a kid loved to collect and play with hockey cards. He and his wife are originally from Montreal. With their three boys (whose love for candy has led to the dentist's chair on more than one occasion), they now live in Toronto.

Some Other Books BY Avi Slodovnick:

The Hockey Card
The Baseball Card

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Manon Gauthier lives in Montreal, Canada, where she works as a professional illustrator. A graphic designer by training, she decided to devote herself entirely to books for children in 2006. She likes mixing techniques and media. Her work has been recognized by the Governor General of Canada Awards and has won the Illustration Jeunesse Prize.

Another Book Illustrated BY Manon Gauthier:

Marcel Marceau: Master of Mime

ABOUT THE READER



Annette Bening was a Tony-nominated stage actor before her film debut as *Dan Aykroyd's* wife in *The Great Outdoors*. She graduated from San Francisco State University and began her acting career with the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco. Known for her ability to create unexpected choices and deeply emotional characters, Bening is a highly respected actor in the industry. She is a four-time Oscar nominee and two-time Golden Globe winner for her roles in *The Grifters*, *American Beauty*, *Being Julia*, and *The Kids Are All Right*. She spends as much time as possible with her husband, actor/director *Warren Beatty*, and their four children.

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Content developed by JAN POWELL, SAG Foundation BookPALS Curriculum Coordinator

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