



Karen Bass was born in High Prairie, Alberta, and earned a BA in psychology from the University of Victoria before becoming the public library manager in Hythe, Alberta. Sixteen years later she left her position at the library to become a full-time writer of young adult novels. Her fourth novel, *Graffiti Knight*, was a USBBY Outstanding International book and won the CLA Young Adult Book Award, the Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction for Young People, the R. Ross Annett Award, and the CAA Exporting Alberta Award, among other honours. Karen's most recent novel, *Uncertain Soldier*, is set in a northern Alberta prisoner of war camp during World War II.

Karen's Books

Uncertain Soldier, Pajama Press, 2015
Graffiti Knight, Pajama Press, 2013
Drummer Girl, Coteau Books, 2011
Summer of Fire, Coteau Books, 2009
Run Like Jager, Coteau Books, 2009

Connect With Karen

Website: www.karenbass.ca
Twitter: @karenbassYA
Facebook: www.facebook.com/karenbassYA
Goodreads: www.goodreads.com/author/show/1370935.Karen_Bass

Awards and Honours

Graffiti Knight

2015 USBBY Outstanding International Book
2015 Bank Street Best Book
2014 CLA Young Adult Book Award winner
2014 Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction for Young People winner
2014 R. Ross Annett Award for Children's Literature winner
2014 CAA Exporting Alberta Award winner
2016 Pacific Northwest Library Association Young Reader's Choice Award nominee
2014/2015 B.C. Teen Readers' Choice Stellar Award finalist
2014 Spring Best Books for Kids & Teens Starred Selection
2013 OLA Best Bet
2013 Resource Links "The Year's Best" selection

Drummer Girl:

2012 YA general, Moonbeam Awards Bronze Medal

Summer of Fire:

2012 Independent Publishers Awards Gold Medal for YA
2010 Paterson Prize for Books for Young People Honour Book

Run Like Jäger:

2009 CAA Exporting Alberta Award, Alberta Branch award
2009 Christian High School Book Club (CHSBC) Readers' Choice Award
2009 Independent Publishers Awards Silver Medal for YA
2009 ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year Award, YA honourable mention

Reviews of *Uncertain Soldier*

"Bass does a fantastic job building and releasing tension throughout the novel...[The characters'] feelings of helplessness and struggles with conflicted loyalties should be easy for any young reader to identify with."—**Quill & Quire**

"...Uncertain Soldier is an excellent novel, fascinating for its detail about Canadian rural life in the 1940s, rich in male characters with whom boys can identify, and important in theme - that one should not be too quick to judge others. Highly Recommended."—**CM Magazine**

Reviews of *Graffiti Knight*

"[A] gripping page-turner...The authentic setting, compelling characters and taut, suspenseful plot claim attention throughout."—**Kirkus Reviews**

"The last quarter of the book is nonstop action . . . Wilm is a flawed but engaging protagonist, prone to headstrong actions, and he matures believably over the course of the story."—**School Library Journal**

"Graffiti Knight shines a light on an experience about which there is little information....a good addition to any library."—**VOYA**

"...The book makes it clear how war and its aftermath touch everyone...a fresh perspective on life for the Germans after WWII."—**International Reading Association**

"An action-packed emotional story filled with foolishness, friendship and courage."—**The Calgary Herald**

"...it has more drama than the Hunger Games."—**Resource Links**

"...incredibly gripping and informative. As young adult war-related historical fiction goes, this book is second to none...Highly Recommended."—**CM Magazine**

"Bass has artfully recreated an historical time and place peopled by realistic, three-dimensional characters grappling with their own emotions and global forces they can only barely understand."—John Wilson, **Quill & Quire**

"a riveting page-turner that readers will find impossible to put down."—**Canadian Children's Book News**

For more information please contact:

Erin Woods, Publicity
Pajama Press
erinwoods@pajamapress.ca
416-466-2222
www.pajamapress.ca

pajamapress

