

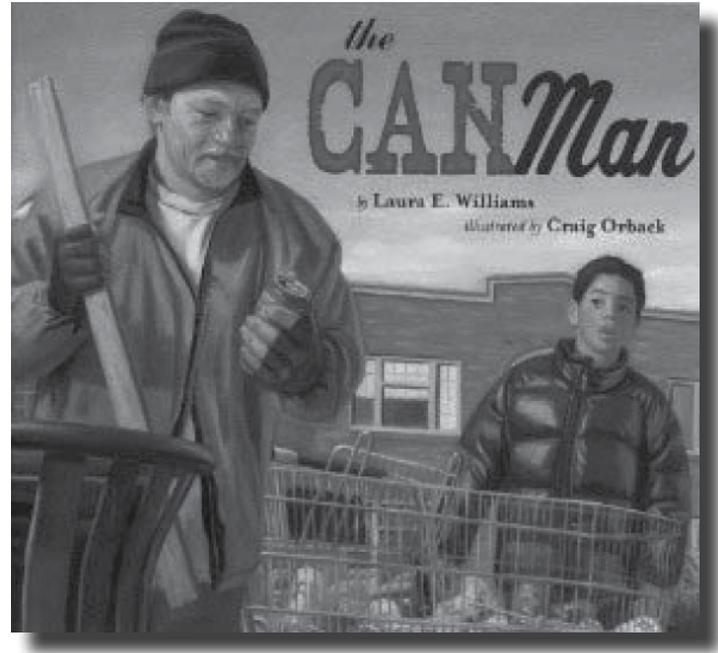


“The Can Man” by Laura E. Williams

The Can Man is written by Laura E. Williams and illustrated by Craid Orback. Copyright 2010. Published by Lee and Low Books.

Book Description:

Tim’s birthday is just a week away, and more than anything he wants a skateboard. But money is tight, and Tim knows his family cannot afford to buy him a board. As Tim ponders how he might earn money for a skateboard, he hears the Can Man down the street collecting empty soft drink cans. The clang of the cans in the homeless man’s cart gives Tim an idea. He will collect cans too, and cash them in for the redemption money. By the end of the week, Tim has almost reached his goal—until a couple of chance encounters with the Can Man change everything.



About Author Laura E. Williams

Biographical information from the Laura E. Williams web site and from an author interview published by Lee & Low Books. Web sites are available at <http://lauraewilliams.com> and www.leeandlow.com.

Laura E. Williams is the author of numerous award-winning picture books and middle grade novels. Born in South Korea and adopted by an American family, Williams has since lived and traveled all over the world. As a child she lived in New Jersey, Belgium, Hawaii, and Connecticut.

“In these tough economic times, there are more and more people who are losing their homes and are having to make it on the streets and in shelters. I want children to know that just because a person appears to be poor, out of work, and homeless, does not mean the person is bad,” said Williams in an interview with publisher Lee & Low Books. “I hope children enjoy a story about a boy who sees something he wants and figures out how to get it on his own, without depending on his parents. I see a sense of entitlement that some children seem to grow up with, but the reality is that someone is not always going to be there to give you everything you want. If you’re willing to be creative and work hard like Tim, however, you can do anything, and sometimes the real payoff is in helping someone else.”

Williams is the author of more than 30 books including *Slant* (2008); *Behind the Bedroom Wall* (2005) for which she received a Jane Addams Peace Award Honor; *ABC Kids* (2000); and *The Ghost Stallion* (1999). Williams is also the author of the Mystic Lighthouse mystery series.