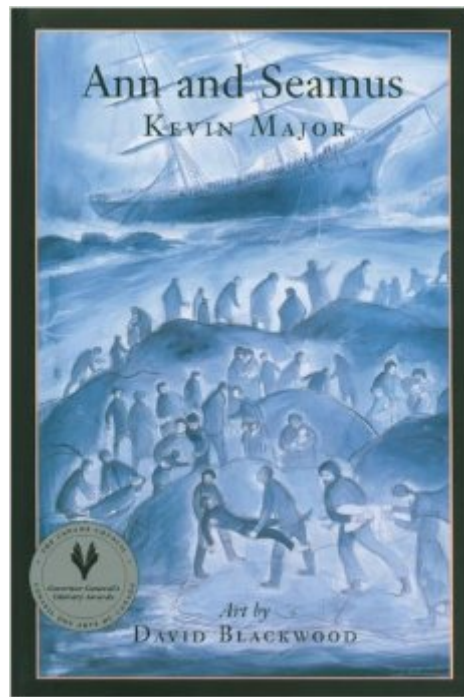


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# Ann And Seamus



## Synopsis

Seventeen-year-old Ann Harvey is one of the great unsung heroes of maritime history. In 1828, off the coast of Newfoundland, Ann Harvey, her father and younger brother, came upon the wreck of the *Despatch*, an Irish immigrant ship. In thick fog and fierce wind it had run aground. Ann's courage and strength at the oars of the rescue boat were largely responsible for saving more than 160 dirt-poor passengers stranded amid the raging storm. Ann and Seamus brings the remarkable story of Ann Harvey to today's readers. In a poetic and powerful retelling, Kevin Major portrays the shy young woman thrust into extraordinary circumstances. It is the story of dramatic rescue, but it is also the story of dreams and fate, of a hard life and young love. For also at its center is Seamus, a young Irishman who had set sail with hopes of a new life in America. Ann and Seamus is historical fiction that sweeps across ages and nationalities. In rich yet accessible narrative verse, it draws the reader into the drama of sea rescue without losing the tender and impetuous voices of youth at the core of the story.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Groundwood Books; First Edition edition (February 13, 2004)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 088899561X

ISBN-13: 978-0888995612

Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 6.6 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (2 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,022,137 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Historical Fiction > Canada](#) #154 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Canada](#) #283 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Poetry](#)

Age Range: 12 and up

Grade Level: 7 and up

## Customer Reviews

Kevin Major's short prose poems detailing snippets of the 1800s immigrant life of Ann, who lives in Newfoundland, and Seamus, who is aboard a ship emigrating from Ireland, is beautifully crafted and reminiscent of oral storytelling and songwriting traditions. The story revolves around the meeting of Ann and Seamus when Seamus' ship runs upon a reef off the coast of Newfoundland. Ann and her

family make a heroic effort and save many lives. But the story of Ann goes deeper than her selfless help in the shipwreck and Major has worked in some insightful passages as Ann struggles to make herself, her family, and Seamus happy. This beautiful book - it would not far-fetched to call this an art book - is an interesting mix of unusual historical fiction detailing a young woman's heroism and coming-of-age highlighted by seven of David Blackwood's monochromatic and atmospheric illustrations. A nice gift book and a wonderful read for any age.

Beautiful book in its art and verse, this heroic story captures readers through strong characters, rich voice, and perilous plot. Memorable, the narrative lingers.

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