

Sydney Taylor Book Award Acceptance Speech  
By Pnina Kass

Deprivation. Consider the weight of the word. Deprivation is the engine of despair or the fuel of hope. To deprive people of their identity, their homes, their future can drive them to the most desperate measures. And yet in the most extreme moments of deprivation, close to death, people can display amazing acts of courage and faith. Deprivation drives some human beings to death, while others choose an affirmative act of life. The writer, like myself, who is surrounded daily by a language which is not his first language, struggles to seek words and visions original to himself. It makes writing a very unique act.

I hope that REAL TIME has succeeded in language and content in expressing the hearts and minds of people deprived of the joy of peace.