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Fearless

By Tim Lott



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A Whitbread Award-winning novelist tells a chilling dystopian tale about a heroic girl prepared to risk everything in the pursuit of justice.

In the not-too-distant future, the world is safe from terrorists, the streets are clean, and girls labeled "juvies" or "mindcrips" have been hidden away behind the smartly painted exterior of the City Community Faith School. Their birth names are forgotten and replaced with a letter and number, but they give each other nicknames like Tattle or Stench or Little Fearless. As they slave away at chores, Little Fearless, who is actually the bravest girl in the school, tells the other girls stories, stories about the day their families will return for them. Little Fearless's own hope and conviction spur her on a dangerous adventure — a bold and unthinkable plan that will either save the imprisoned girls or mean the end of Little Fearless herself, or both.



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Fearless By Tim Lott Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Review

The girl could hear sobbing in the front room. Her mother was always crying about something or other, so the girl didn't take much notice. She just kept staring at the vidscreen in the corner of her bedroom. It was playing a vacation ad, all blue sea and white waves and sand like a field of honey. She wished she could just climb into the vidscreen and stretch

out on the sand, dip her toes into the water, and never return. She would stay there and watch the world from the other side of the screen.

Then the knocking on the front door began. The girl thought that was odd, because they had a perfectly good doorbell. The knock seemed almost like a message. It went rap-rap-rappety-rap, as if it was a friend or a neighbor who always did their own special knock. But friends never came after dark, and the neighbors kept to themselves.

The girl heard a noise behind her. She turned and saw her mother. A dark birthmark the size of a fingernail and the shape of a star protruded from her hairline. Her cheeks were still damp from crying; her eyes were red and scrunched up like meat from a butcher's shop. She hadn't answered the door. Instead she lifted the girl up and pressed their faces together. The girl kissed her mother and tasted salt. Her mother smiled, as if to tell her that everything was OK. Then she said she had some presents for her. The girl didn't understand. Her birthday was months away.

Her mother produced a small cloth bag and brought out three objects. The first was a picture of the girl's grandmother and grandfather, mounted in a bronze frame. Her grandfather wore a black suit with a cravat, and her grandmother wore a long pale dress and a floppy dark hat.

The second was a beautiful old silver watch with a fine leather strap that she said had once belonged to the girl's father. She said she ought to have something to remind her that she did once have a father.

Finally she gave the girl one more thing: a golden locket containing a tiny photograph of her mother on her wedding day. She hung it gravely around the girl's neck. Then she put the framed photo and the watch back into the little cloth bag, handed it to the girl, and kissed her.

The knock on the door came again, louder this time. Rap-rap-rappety-rap.

Her mother left the room. The girl heard the door catch being released, and then her mother began to shout. She heard a man's voice, stern and official sounding.

A few seconds later, a man wearing a uniform and a black peaked cap walked into the girl's room and, without a word, lifted her up. She could hear her mother crying. The man didn't pause to let her say goodbye to her mother. He started to carry her down the stairs. The girl went limp. She felt unable to speak.

The door closed behind her. Then she heard her mother's voice through the thin panel of wood.

"The locket. Read the words. Never forget the words on the locket."

In the harsh light of the street, the girl studied the back of the locket. She could just make out three lines of

faint engraving. The girl pushed the locket inside her blouse and closed her eyes. She didn't resist as the man bundled her into the back of the ugly gray car with no side windows, started the engine and drove away into the darkness.

FEARLESS by Tim Lott. Copyright (c) 2007 by Tim Lott. Published by Candlewick Press, Inc., Cambridge, MA."Powerful, haunting, and utterly original. . . . I think it will become an immediate children's classic." — Jacqueline Wilson, British Children's Laureate

About the Author

Tim Lott has written many books for adults, including WHITE CITY BLUE, winner of the Whitbread First Novel Award, and RUMOURS OF A HURRICANE, short-listed for the Whitbread Novel Award. FEARLESS is his first novel for young readers. He lives in London.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jose York:

Book is to be different per grade. Book for children until eventually adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important normally. The book Fearless had been making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It doesn't matter what advantages for you. The reserve Fearless is not only giving you much more new information but also to become your friend when you experience bored. You can spend your current spend time to read your book. Try to make relationship using the book Fearless. You never really feel lose out for everything in case you read some books.

Raymond Levine:

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Dena Jacobs:

People live in this new morning of lifestyle always try to and must have the spare time or they will get large amount of stress from both everyday life and work. So , when we ask do people have time, we will say absolutely sure. People is human not really a huge robot. Then we inquire again, what kind of activity do you have when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer may unlimited right. Then ever try this one, reading ebooks. It can be your alternative inside spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is actually Fearless.

John Fouts:

In this era which is the greater person or who has ability to do something more are more special than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple approach to have that. What you need to do is just spending your time almost no but quite enough to experience a look at some books. One of many books in the top checklist in your reading list is definitely Fearless. This book that is certainly qualified as The Hungry Mountains can get you closer in turning out to be precious person. By looking upward and review this publication you can get many advantages.

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