

BOOK INFORMATION

JUST TEDDY (New Release: end Nov 08)

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Bronze Medallist – IPPY Awards 2008 (1st in Southeast Asia to win the children's book award at the world's largest book awards competition in its 12 years running)

In all major bookstores, bookstore price: S\$18.69 (before GST)



I. JUST TEDDY (New Release: end Nov 08)

Just Teddy, a lonely teddy bear, tries hard to fit in with the toys in a toy factory. His quest takes him on a little adventure where he makes a surprising discovery about himself. This endearing modern classic about love and acceptance is the third in my Toys series.

The inspiration for this book is drawn from my own experiences and the joy of rediscovering who I am after struggling through a rare voice disorder (Spasmodic Dysphonia). Like Just Teddy who discovered how special he really was, I found strength and comfort in the words from Psalms 139:14 - "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made".

My first book, *Prince Bear & Pauper Bear*, was my "coming out" story where I shared about my struggles with this rare voice disorder through Pauper Bear, a teddy bear without a mouth. *The Tale of Rusty Horse*, my second book, was my "struggle" book, where like Rusty Horse, I came to terms with my station in life and learned to let go of my past. *Just Teddy*, my third book, is my "revelation" book, where I have come to realise that I am "fearfully and wonderfully made" and that I should not allow circumstances in life to limit me.

II TARGET AUDIENCE

The picture book is written for children from four years old and up, and also for younger children whose parents and guardians are reading with them. It has many themes which can appeal at several levels – that we are all created unique and special, not letting people or circumstances cause us to lose our true self, appreciating our differences and unique friendships.

III. AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY

I am a providential author who started writing whilst on sabbatical last year. I first wrote and published my debut picture book as a winner of Singapore's First Time Writers and Illustrators Publishing Initiative in end 2007 (organised by the Media Development Authority and the National Book Development Council of Singapore).

My first book, *Prince Bear & Pauper Bear*, has since been honoured as one of the year's best independently published children's picture books by the Independent Publisher's Book Awards 2008 ("IPPY Awards"). The IPPY Awards is the world's largest book awards competition. I received the Bronze Medal in the Children's Picture Book category. I'm the first person in Southeast Asia to have won the IPPY award in the children's books category since the inception of the awards 12 years ago and I'm also the first Singaporean to have ever won the IPPY award.