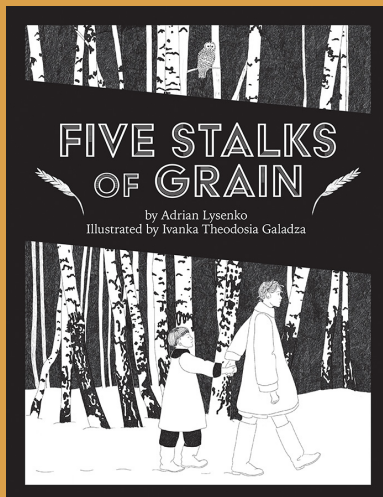


# HOLODOMOR STORIES: RECENT READS FOR SCHOOLS

## HREC ED WEBINARS FOR EDUCATORS SERIES



*Five Stalks of Grain* is a stark gut-punch of a graphic novel.

– Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch  
Author



HREC Education presents a free webinar series of dynamic talks with authors of middle-grade and young adult fiction featuring their recently published novels relating to the Holodomor. The series will run from Fall of 2022 into Fall of 2023. Webinars will be introduced by HREC Director of Education Valentina Kuryliw and hosted by Mateusz Świetlicki. Joining this webinar is graphic novel scholar Anastasia Ulanowicz.

## THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2022 • 7:30 PM EST

Author Adrian Lysenko talks about his latest novel, *Five Stalks of Grain* with illustrator Ivanka Theodosia Galadza

***A powerful and haunting graphic novel that tells a story of tragedy and survival during the Holodomor, the terror-famine that claimed millions of lives in Soviet Ukraine.***

As famine rages across Ukraine in 1932, the Soviet government calls for the harshest punishment for those who keep even five stalks of grain for themselves. When their mother, who is accused of hoarding grain, is summarily killed, Nadia and Taras must leave their home on a desperate quest for survival. They face secret police, soldiers, and fellow citizens forced to abandon charity and sometimes even humanity in the face of impossible hunger. Unsure who to trust and unable to find refuge, they search for somewhere, anywhere, where they can be safe.

Historical fiction at its finest, *Five Stalks of Grain* is powerfully written and beautifully illustrated, drawing on Ukrainian artistic traditions to tell a story of loss, grief, and hardship with delicate strength. It is a record of a time of profound suffering and a reckoning with the human cost of a tragedy shaped by politics and policy.

**Adrian Lysenko** is a writer, editor, and journalist who has worked in Ontario, Alaska, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. He is the winner of the Taras Shevchenko Emerging Writer's Competition and editor of the arts and culture alternative *The Walleye Magazine*. Adrian lives outside Thunder Bay, Ontario.

**Ivanka Theodosia Galadza** is a Ukrainian-Canadian illustrator. She holds a BFA in printmaking from Concordia University. Ivanka lives in Ottawa, Ontario.

**Mateusz Świetlicki** holds a PhD in literary studies and has taught at the University of Wrocław (Poland) and the University of Illinois at Chicago (USA).

**Anastasia Ulanowicz** teaches English at the University of Florida, and researches children's literature, comics and visual rhetoric, and historical fiction.