

# HOLODOMOR STORIES: RECENT READS FOR SCHOOLS

## HREC ED WEBINARS FOR EDUCATORS SERIES



*Timeless and timely, a tapestry woven of complex lives in a loving family over generations. Katherine Marsh is a genius for creating people that feel real in a story that feels magical.*

– Elizabeth Wein,  
#1 *New York Times*-bestselling  
author of *Code Name Verity*



For more information or to register for this webinar  
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HREC Education presents a free webinar series of dynamic talks with authors of primary, middle-grade and young adult fiction featuring their recently published novels relating to the Holodomor. The series runs from Fall of 2022 into Fall of 2023. Webinars are introduced by HREC Director of Education Valentina Kuryliw and hosted by Mateusz Świetlicki.

## THURSDAY APRIL 20, 2023 • 7:30 PM PM EST

Author Katherine Marsh talks about her latest novel, *The Lost Year*

From the author of *Nowhere Boy* – called “a resistance novel for our times” by *The New York Times* – comes a brilliant middle-grade survival story that traces a harrowing family secret back to the Holodomor, a terrible famine that devastated Soviet Ukraine in the 1930s.

Thirteen-year-old Matthew is miserable. His journalist dad is stuck overseas indefinitely, and his mom has moved in his one-hundred-year-old great-grandmother to ride out the pandemic, adding to his stress and isolation. But when Matthew finds a tattered black-and-white photo in his great-grandmother’s belongings, he discovers a clue to a hidden chapter of her past, one that will lead to a life-shattering family secret. Set in alternating timelines that connect the present-day to the 1930s and the US to the USSR, Katherine Marsh’s latest novel sheds fresh light on the Holodomor – the horrific famine that killed millions of Ukrainians, and which the Soviet government covered up for decades. An incredibly timely, page-turning story of family, survival, and sacrifice, inspired by Marsh’s own family history, *The Lost Year* is perfect for fans of Ruta Sepetys’ *Between Shades of Gray* and Alan Gatz’s *Refugee*.

**Katherine Marsh** is an award-winning author of novels for middle-grade readers including *The Lost Year*; *Nowhere Boy*, winner of the Middle East Book Award; *The Night Tourist*, winner of the Edgar Award for Best Juvenile Mystery; *Jepp, Who Defied the Stars*, a *New York Times* Notable; and *The Door By The Staircase*, a Junior Library Guild selection. Katherine grew up in Yonkers, New York in the home of her Ukrainian grandma who taught her to love stories and borscht. A former journalist and managing editor of *The New Republic*, Katherine lives in Washington, DC with her husband, two children and an astonishing array of pets.



**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).