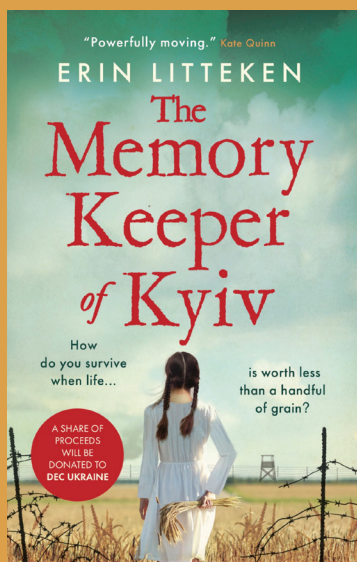


HOLODOMOR STORIES: RECENT READS FOR SCHOOLS

HREC ED WEBINARS FOR EDUCATORS SERIES

Boldwood
Publishing Reimagined



A stunning portrait of Ukraine and its people, of strength, of endurance, of the fight for survival during the forced famine, the Holodomor, but also a tender story of Katya, a grandmother whose hidden history holds the power to guide her granddaughter through the darkness of loss and grief, toward life and a limitless future. A remarkable read not to be missed.

— Lisa Wingate,
#1 *New York Times*-bestselling
author of *Before We Were Yours*

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 NOVEMBER 16, 2023 • 7:30 PM EST

Author Erin Litteken talks about her novel, *The Memory Keeper of Kyiv*

In the 1930s, Stalin's activists marched through the Soviet Union, espousing the greatness of collective farming. It was the first step in creating a man-made famine that, in Ukraine, stole almost 4 million lives. Inspired by the history the world forgot, and the Russian government denies, Erin Litteken reimagines their story.

In 1929, Katya is 16 years old, surrounded by family and in love with the boy next door. When Stalin's activists arrive in her village, it's just a few, a little pressure to join the collective. But soon neighbors disappear, those who speak out are never seen again and every new day is uncertain. Resistance has a price, and as desperate hunger grips the countryside, survival seems more a dream than a possibility. But, even in the darkest times, love beckons.

Seventy years later, a young widow discovers her grandmother's journal, one that will reveal the long-buried secrets of her family's haunted past. This is a story of the resilience of the human spirit, the love that sees us through our darkest hours and the true horror of what happened during the Holodomor.

Erin Litteken is a novelist with a degree in history and a passion for research. At a young age, she was enthralled by stories of her family's harrowing experiences in Ukraine before, during and after World War II. Her debut, *The Memory Keeper of Kyiv*, has been translated into fourteen languages and was the 2022 winner of the She Reads Best Historical Fiction Award. She lives outside of St. Louis with her husband and two children.



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).



For more information or to register for this webinar
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