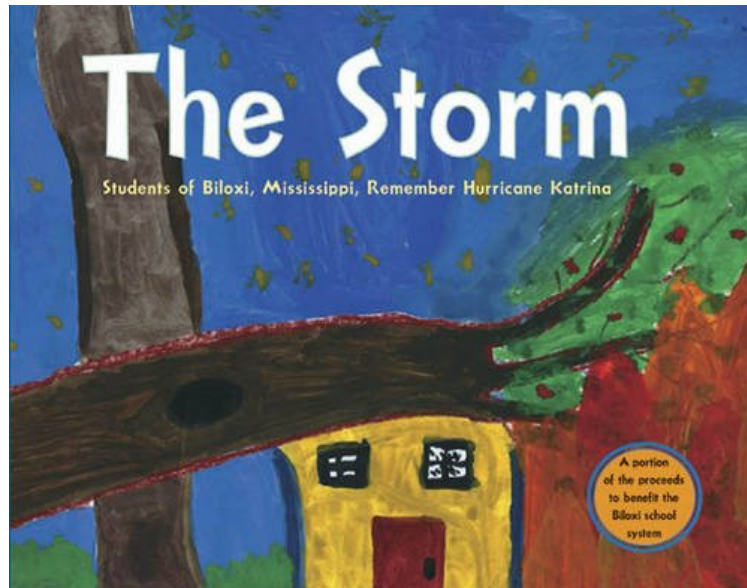


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The Storm: Students of Biloxi, Mississippi, Remember Hurricane Katrina

Barbara Barbieri McGrath

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Barbara Barbieri McGrath : The Storm: Students of Biloxi, Mississippi, Remember Hurricane Katrina before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Storm: Students of Biloxi, Mississippi, Remember Hurricane Katrina:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. But such a great book and it's so full of memoriesBy Erica davidsonI remember drawing my lighthouse for this book and also having to write a paragraph about my experience with Katrina. So chilling. But such a great book and it's so full of memories.5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. PowerfulBy Katrina G. BoyajianMy copy of "The Storm" came today, and it's stunning. Everyone in my office stood around in the hallway as we looked through the kids' memories and drawings, utterly absorbed. At least five people immediately said they were going to order copies -- both for themselves, and for their schools.The book has an almost visceral impact; the hurricane could have been yesterday, so strong are the emotional responses to reading it. We just wanted to gather all the kids in our arms, and somehow make the world right again.

On August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated the coastlines of Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. It was a storm the people of Biloxi, Mississippi, like many other Gulf Coast residents, will never forget. Students, teachers, and administrators from the Biloxi Public Schools share their stories from the days preceding Hurricane Katrina to those first days of recovery after the storm. And even while their city lay in ruins, one remarkable lighthouse survived, serving as a beacon of hope.Their powerful images and moving personal accounts pay tribute to the resilience of the human spirit.

From School Library JournalGrade 3-8A compilation of stories and artwork by 91 children in grades K-12. Their

submissions range from single-sentence descriptions, short paragraphs, and poems to black-and-white pencil sketches and paintings/drawings in other media. (Teachers and administrators also offer brief reflections.) The book is divided into four sections that parallel the disaster's time line and effects: Evacuation, Storm, Aftermath, and Hope. Stark white pages serve as a crisp backdrop for the text and the variously sized art, which attracts the eye. Readers will be moved by images and descriptions that students share: My house drowned; Shingles were falling like pancakes; Everything in life is a privilege, not a right. I never believed that until I lost it all. The impact of the storm on the families of Biloxi and their struggles to rebuild their lives are vividly portrayed. Ultimately, the book emphasizes the resilience of children and the healing powers of art. It is also a practical means to helping the recovery efforts since a portion of the proceeds from the sales are being donated to Biloxi Public Schools. Maura Bresnahan, High Plain Elementary School, Andover, MA Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. About the Author Barbara Barbieri McGrath was a nursery school teacher before she dedicated herself to writing children's books full time. She is the author of THE LITTLE RED ELF, THE LITTLE GREEN WITCH, and many bestselling math concept books. Barbara lives in Natick, Massachusetts.