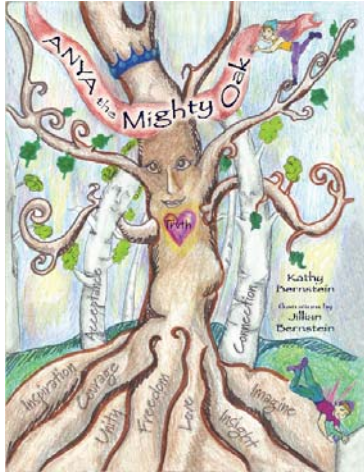


FEATURED AUTHOR

Kathy Bernstein, author of
Anya the Mighty Oak



About the Book

The little Anya seed gets planted in a forest faraway from her parent trees and is pushed away, poked at, and made fun of because she is different from the other trees. The lyrical text flows through Anya's journey of disappointment, self doubt and triumph through self exploration. Children will delight in the human like characteristics of the forest created by the illustrator, Jillian Bernstein while learning a valuable lesson about diversity and acceptance.

About the Author

Kathy Bernstein's idea was to create a story that would expose children to the abstract concept of self exploration. She draws from her fifteen years experience as a sign language interpreter and her linguistic and cultural studies to connect abstract concepts to concrete objects on a level that children can relate to. In addition to writing she is currently involved in creating an art collaborative for children and "grown up" artists.

Excerpt

Without hesitation, Anya asked, "Why is it so hard for me to be a birch tree?"

The earth explained, "Because you are an oak tree. You came into this forest on the wings of a seabird from an oak forest. You look just like all the other oak trees."

"I did? I do?" Anya responded. "Well, since I am an oak tree, will I ever be able to connect with the birch trees?" Anya asked.