

## CHALLENGING READING: ENGLISH-LANGUAGE EDUCATION WITH CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS

**GUEST AUTHOR: BEVERLEY NAIDOO**



(Photograph by Linda Brownlee)

Beverley Naidoo grew up in South Africa, joining the resistance to apartheid as a student. After detention without trial, she came into exile in Britain. A teacher for many years, she holds a Ph.D. (Southampton) for research into white British teenagers' responses to literature and racism, published as *Through Whose Eyes? Exploring racism: reader, text and context*.

Her first children's book *Journey to Jo'burg*, originally banned in South Africa, celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015. Widely translated, she has won many awards, including the UK Carnegie Medal 2000 for *The Other Side of Truth*, a novel about the children of an outspoken Nigerian writer, forced to seek refuge in London. Her short story collection, *Out of Bounds*, with Foreword by Archbishop Tutu, received the Parents' Choice Silver Award, Jane Adams Peace Association Book Award and the Children's Africana Book Award, USA 2004.

Books for younger readers include *Baba's Gift* with Maya Naidoo and illustrator Karin Littlewood; *S is for South Africa*, a poetry alphabet with photographer Prodeepta Das (Children's Africana Honor Book, USA 2011); *Aesop's Fables* with illustrator Piet Grobler (Parent's Choice Silver Award, USA 2011, USBBY Outstanding International Booklist 2012) and *Who is King? Ten magical tales from Africa*, illustrator Piet Grobler (longlisted for the UK Literacy Association 2016 Book Award).

Adult non-fiction includes *Death of an Idealist: In Search of Neil Aggett*, a biography of the medical doctor and trade unionist who was the 51st and only white detainee to die in apartheid detention. Her novel *Burn My Heart* (Children's Africana Book Award, USA 2010) is a fictional exploration of 1950s' colonial Kenya, the world into which Neil Aggett, her cousin, was born.

Beverley has received honorary doctorates from the Open University, University of Southampton and University of Exeter. She was the South African 2008 nominee for the Hans Christian Andersen Award and is currently nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. Her work is archived at Seven Stories National Centre for Children's Books, Newcastle, UK. Her website is [www.beverleynaidoo.com](http://www.beverleynaidoo.com).

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF BEVERLEY NAIDOO'S BOOKS AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH, 2015

### NOVELS

- Burn My Heart* 2007 London: Penguin; 2009 New York: HarperCollins; 2008 Harlow: Pearson Education
- Web of Lies* 2004 London: Penguin; 2006 New York: HarperCollins
- The Other Side of Truth* 2000 London: Penguin; 2001 New York: HarperCollins; 2002 Oxford: Heinemann Education
- No Turning Back* 1995 London: Penguin; 1997 New York: HarperCollins; 1998 Oxford: Heinemann Education
- Chain of Fire* 1989 London: Collins; 1990 New York: Lippincott; 1991 Harlow: Longman Education; 1993 New York: HarperTrophy; 1999 Copenhagen: Aschehoug (English abridged); 2004 London: Penguin
- Journey to Jo'burg* 1985 Harlow: Longman Education; 1986 New York: Lippincott; 1987 London: Collins; 1988 New York: HarperTrophy; 1999 Collins Modern Classics

### SHORT STORY COLLECTIONS

- Out of Bounds* 2001 London: Puffin; 2002 New York: HarperCollins; 2003: Oxford Heinemann Education

### PICTURE BOOKS

- Who is King? Ten magical tales from Africa* illustrator Piet Grobler, 2015 London: Frances Lincoln
- Aesop's Fables*, illustrator Piet Grobler, 2011 London: Frances Lincoln
- S is for South Africa*, photographer Prodeepta Das, 2010 London: Frances Lincoln
- Baba's Gift* with Maya Naidoo, illustrator Karin Littlewood, 2004 London: Puffin.

### PLAYS

- The Playground* in Fourie, C *New South African Plays* 2006 London: Aurora Metro Press

### ANTHOLOGIES EDITED BY BEVERLEY NAIDOO

- Global Tales: Stories from Many Cultures* with Donovan Chris and Hicks Alun, 1997 Harlow: Longman Education

### ADULT NON-FICTION including ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- Death of an Idealist: In Search of Neil Aggett* 2012 Cape Town: Jonathan Ball; 2013 London: Merlin Press
- Through Whose Eyes? Exploring racism: reader, text and context* 1992 Stoke on Trent: Trentham Books

*Censoring Reality: an examination of books on South Africa* 1985 London: Inner London Education Authority/ British Defence & Aid Fund for Southern Africa (pdf [www.beverleynaidoo.com](http://www.beverleynaidoo.com))