

typeface. Not this one. First published in English and in French in 1974 and now released in paperback, this prize-winning book graphically explains what happens when a city is governed by snow six months of the year.

Montreal was the sleigh centre of the world until the 1940s, when there were finally enough trucks to keep the city moving. Italiano uses words, paints and love to describe the score of different sleighs he knew, each adapted to a special use and many graded for the ease with which small children could catch free rides.

A plain sleigh brought the farmer to town, and another delivered groceries. Bread, milk and even spices had their own vehicles. A poor, high-sided sleigh carried fruits and vegetables—a heater inside kept the produce from freezing.

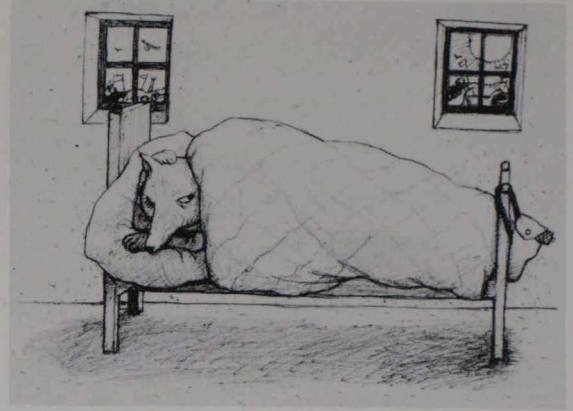
There were sleighs to put out fires and to take away snow (the best of all, we are assured, to ride on). There were separate sleighs for baked beans, popcorn, hot dogs and chips. There was a battered sleigh for the ragman and a fancy one to bring the rich man his gourmet foods. A low, sleek sleigh delivered the mail. The inspector of the streets rode in a trim little cutter, while a plain black sleigh with tiny windows carried the nuns about town at Christmas. At Easter, all the sleighs and all the horses were festooned with paper flowers.

Today only the sightseeing sleigh is left. It has brass rails and no free rides. But then, it probably never did.

Paulino, Traute Simons, illustrated by Susi Bohdal, English translation by Ebbitt Cutler, Tundra, 1978.

Children work out their frustrations in their play and in their dreams, recasting scenes again and again until they come out right. That's why this story will make sense to a child, although it may at first baffle his parents.

Splendid, primitive people and animals march
Rita Briansky in *Grandmother Came From Dworitz* (Tundra/Charles Scribner's Sons)



William Kurelek in *Fox Mykyta* (Tundra/Charles Scribner's Sons)

through a pageant of soft greens, blues and reds, while Paulino orders the world around as he never could by day. With his dog he searches for his missing cat (without permission of course, for there is a notable absence of parents in this story). He assures a policeman that he knows how to stop for red lights (and, of course, is allowed to proceed). Then he tells the moon to toss him a star to light his way in the dark, a demand the moon quickly fulfills. Finally, Paulino sees the the cat and orders it down from a high building. The cat, of course, obeys, making him the only cat who ever obeyed anybody. And that's when even the most obtuse adult knows this book is one sweet dream.

Hold Fast, Kevin Major, Clarke, Irwin, 1978.

Hold Fast may not be quite the "landmark in Canadian writing" that one critic has found it, but it has a fine insight into the character of a fourteen-year-old boy and into Newfoundland.

It is a poignant account of a boy, angry and orphaned by a car wreck, and how he takes on the world. It is a good yarn with many vivid words, some of four letters. It should entertain the child from twelve to fifteen, and also help him appreciate the complexities of life.

Grandmother Came from Dworitz, Ethel Vineberg, illustrated by Rita Briansky, Tundra, (1969) 1978.

A grandmother traces her roots from Poland to Nova Scotia. It is a charming, intimate account of life between 1820 and 1909 best savoured by a ten-year-old with the score of *Fiddler on the Roof* playing in the background.

Fox Mykyta, Ivan Franko, translated by Bohdan Melnyk and illustrated by William Kurelek, Tundra, 1978.

This direct descendant of Reynard the Fox is a charmer. An adept translation of a classic Ukrainian tale, it was illustrated by Kurelek (the