Spotlight on Books:

Larf: Written and Illustrated by Ashley Spires

Canadian author/illustrator Ashley Spires excels at creating quirky and endearing characters and in Larf she has created a winner! Ms. Spires’s 2012 picture book will captivate the pre-school and early elementary school audience and is perfect for reading aloud one-on-one or to a group.

Larf tells the whimsical story of a hairy, seven-foot-tall vegetarian Sasquatch who lives a quiet and regimented (Wednesday is laundry day!) life in the woods with his pet bunny, Eric. As far as he is concerned he is the only Sasquatch in the world and he likes it that way. His introverted profile suits him fine for the thought of undue attention “makes him a bit sweaty”!

One day though everything changes for Larf who comes upon a newspaper article claiming that a Sasquatch is scheduled to make an appearance in the nearby city of Hunderfitz! Larf’s visit to the event yields multiple surprises including a few about his own needs for connection! Larf is a heartfelt and joyful picture book in which text and water-colour illustrations unite perfectly to create a story that can be enjoyed on a variety of levels. It has the potential to kick-off meaningful discussions around respect and personality differences as well as the importance of finding one’s tribe.

The Yellowknife Public Library invites children and their families to a free presentation by Ashley Spires on Saturday, September 27th beginning at 10:00 a.m. in the children’s area. Ashley will read from her stories, talk about where she gets her ideas and will guide a group drawing session.

- Review prepared by Deborah Bruser