

ABU BAKR AL RABEEAH
WITH WINNIE YEUNG

H



M

E

S

press kit

===== For rights information, inquiries,
===== or to request a sample copy,
===== please contact:

————— **Stephanie Sinclair | Transatlantic Agency**

————— stephanie@transatlanticagency.com | 647.238.5150

————— Suite 3500, 2 Bloor Street East, Toronto, ON M4W 1A8

transatlanticagency.com freehand-books.com

MEDIA release

***One boy's true
story, both
heartbreaking
and hopeful, of
living through the
Syrian civil war
and immigrating
to the West.***

**Homes: A Refugee Story
by Abu Bakr al Rabeeah
with Winnie Yeung**
Non-fiction

PUBLICATION DATE: May 1, 2018

ISBN: 978-1-988298-28-3
\$19.95 CDN
4.5" x 7" , paperback
224 pages

Published by Freehand Books

Contact: Kelsey Attard
403.452.5662 (Calgary)
kelsey@freehand-books.com

World rights (excl. English Canada) available

In 2010, the al Rabeeah family left their home in Iraq in hope of a safer life. They moved to Homs, in Syria — just before the Syrian civil war broke out.

Abu Bakr, one of eight children, was ten years old when the violence began on the streets around him: car bombings, attacks on his mosque and school, firebombs late at night. *Homes* shows the strange juxtapositions of growing up in a war zone: horrific, unimaginable events punctuated by normalcy — soccer, cousins, video games, friends.

Homes is a remarkable true story of how a young boy emerged from a war zone — and found safety in Canada — with a passion for sharing his story and telling the world what is truly happening in Syria. As told to her by Abu Bakr al Rabeeah, writer Winnie Yeung has crafted a heartbreaking, hopeful, and urgently necessary book that provides a window into understanding Syria.

“From a safe distance, the violence of the Syrian civil war is too vast and grotesque to grasp.

How does one comprehend the deaths of 500,000 people, after all?

Homes grants readers an intimate view of the war through the eyes of a ten-year-old boy as he struggles to play, pray, and survive as his world collapses around him.

***Homes* stands as one of those rare books that manages to find humanity in the inhumane and, in the end, says more about love than war.”**

— Marcello di Cintio, winner of the Shaughnessy Cohen Award for Political Writing for *Walls: Travels Along the Barricades*

“This charming and warm-hearted book is a refugee story like no other. A captivating read.”

— Deborah Campbell, winner of the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Award for Non-Fiction for *A Disappearance in Damascus*

“Abu Bakr al Rabeeah is brave, his family are brave, and *Homes* is a compelling, honest chronicle of one harrowing journey across collapsing nation-states. Winnie Yeung does a fine job bringing out the humanity in this — and by extension, every other — refugee tale.”

— Charles Foran, author of *Mordecai: The Life and Times*

ABU BAKR AL RABEEAH

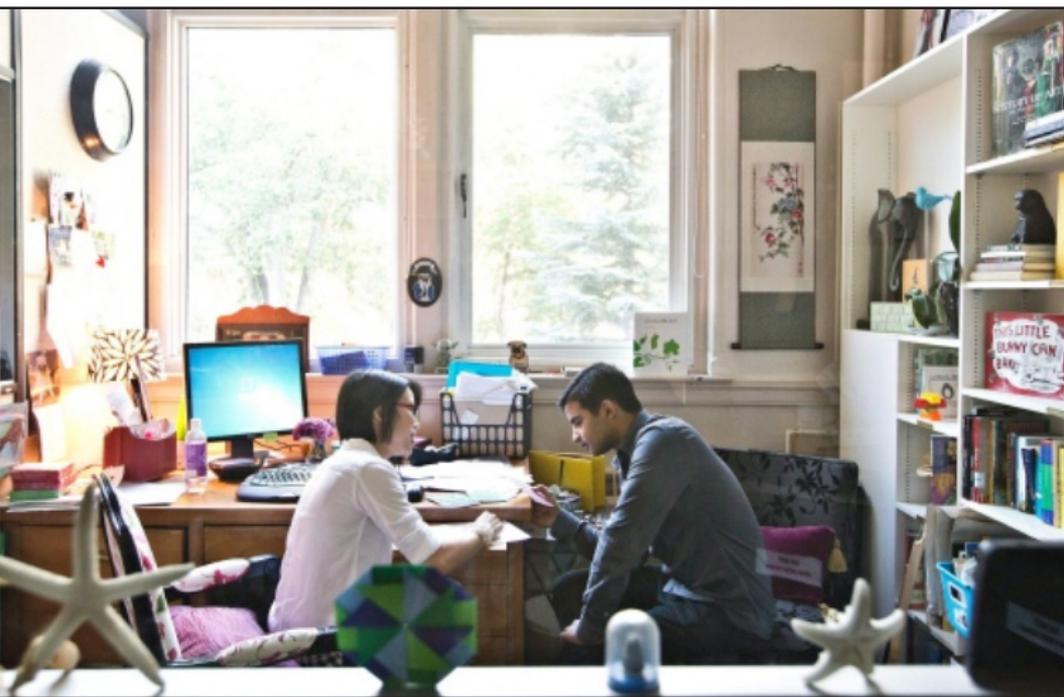


ABU BAKR AL RABEEAH is currently a high school student in Edmonton. After three years of living in Canada, he enjoys his life here but he also dreams of a future where he can return to help rebuild Iraq and Syria.

WINNIE YEUNG



WINNIE YEUNG has been an English Language Arts teacher for ten years. *Homes* is her first book. She lives in Edmonton, Canada, with her black pug, Zoe.



Winnie and Bakr at work together.