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A perfect present

Children's author, illustrator to visit McComb

BY MELISSA MCKENZIE
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The author and illustrator of a new children's picture book, "The Gift," will be in McComb on Thursday for a book signing.

Kathy Young and Pamela Finch, both of Hattiesburg, will be at the Bookcellar on Aug. 11 at 3:30 p.m. in promotion of their new book.

The story centers around a young girl named Janie as she attempts to discover the secret recipe for her mother's chocolate cake. As the girl helps bake "the best cake in the whole wide world" she realizes that the secret is something much more important than the ingredients they mix.

"The Gift" is based on Young's experiences.



Young



Finch

"It's based on my mother and the cakes she baked," she said.

After her mother died four years ago, Young was asked to bake a cake for a fund raiser. She remembered what a gift it was for her mother to share her special cake with people and to share the recipe with her.

"I think (the story) has universal appeal," said Finch. "People that read it or see it can relate to it somehow."

"I love the storyline of the book. It was one of those things that captured my imagination," said Edythe Lensing, owner of the Bookcellar.

"It reminded me of all the people who have a special recipe and of the love that goes into them," Lensing said.

Finch will bring some of the original watercolor paintings from the book to the signing and additional ones that did not make it into the book.

Young has over 16 years of experience working with children, spending the last 1.2 years as a child-care director.



She now teaches preschool part-time at First Presbyterian Church as well as Child and Family Studies part-time at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Finch is the organ player at Centenary United Methodist Church in McComb.

The book is published by Tishomingo Tree Press and is available at the Bookcellar.

Edythe Lensing
Owner of the Bookcellar

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FOR MORE INFORMATION about the book, visit www.tishomingo.com.



THE GIFT
SUBMITTED
'The Gift' centers around a girl named Janie as she helps her mother bake 'the best cake in the whole wide world' using her mother's secret recipe. The author and illustrator, both of Hattiesburg, will be in McComb on Thursday to promote the book.

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Edythe Lensing
Owner of the Bookcellar