

The Magic of Story: Pathways to Literacy

A Special Keynote Speech by Author Janet Matthews

By special request, Janet Matthews, co-author of **Chicken Soup for the Canadian Soul** has designed this talk to help parents understand the importance of their role in helping their child learn to read. During this special evening, Janet will share her personal story about her childhood reading experiences and how her love of reading led to the successful career she enjoys today.

Janet's insights are powerful, and her presentations are passionate and dynamic. Parents will learn:

- Exciting ways to help their child discover the magic 'hidden' in the pages
- What kinds of books to choose, and how to read them
- How helping their child develop a love for reading can help them to become a great reader
- How becoming a great reader today leads to their long term success in life

Janet will also share the story of her own education and career path and how she ended up as a best selling author. You will learn what books her parents read to her, and how the *way* they read contributed to her passionate desire for reading.

By the way – did you know?: “Among adults aged 16-65, about 9 million or 42% scored below Level 3 in prose literacy – the desired threshold for coping with the increasing skill demands of a knowledge society.” - Statistics Canada 2005.

As an added bonus, Janet will touch on some of the best inspirational stories from her keynote speech **Heroes and Heart** including **Terry Fox, Barbara Underhill & Paul Martini, Paul Henderson** and **Rick Hansen** - some of our greatest Canadian heroes. You will be moved when Janet shares her experience of talking with Canada's sweetheart **Marilyn Bell** as she recounted her historic 1954 Lake Ontario crossing in a two-hour interview that changed Janet's life forever. Janet will also tell the amazing story of young **Ryan Hreljac** – who at the age of six built a well in Africa, and then created the *Ryan's Well Foundation*. Not only will parents come away with a new awareness of their role in helping their child learn to read, they will also be inspired and uplifted, proud and grateful to be Canadian, and have truly enjoyed their evening.

“Signed copies of **Chicken Soup for the Canadian Soul** will be available after the presentation for \$20.00 flat, which includes the GST and a lovely gold “*Signed by the Author*” sticker. Discounts are available for multiple book purchases. If you wish, I will personalize each book to you, or to whomever you wish to give it to as a gift. Please call me so we can discuss it and find a way to make it work for both of us!”

Warmly, Janet ☺

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