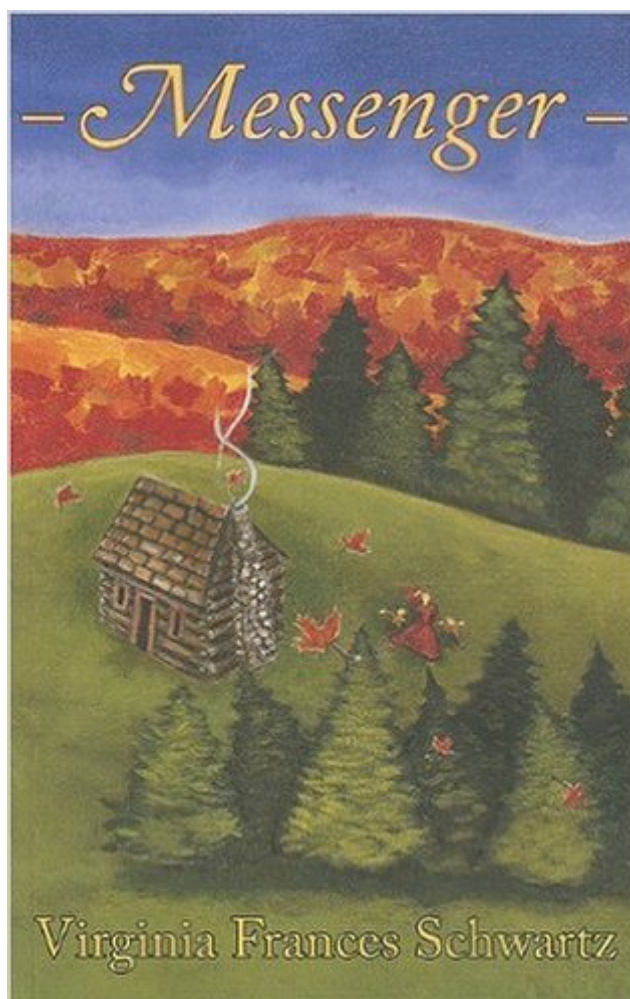


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# Messenger



## Synopsis

Born only a week after the tragic death of her father, Frances Chopp grows up believing that she was sent to earth as her father's messenger to pull her mother out of her grief. And in the years that follow, Frances tries to make sense of the hard times that have struck her immigrant family, even as she struggles to understand the puzzle of her family's past. Set in the mining and steel towns of Southern Ontario in the years between the wars, *Messenger* is a moving story of familial love and the determination to survive.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 640 (What's this?)

Paperback: 277 pages

Publisher: Fitzhenry & Whiteside; 1 edition (October 20, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1550419463

ISBN-13: 978-1550419467

Product Dimensions: 5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,057,249 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in [Books > Teens >](#)

[Historical Fiction > Canada](#) #1310 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family](#)

[Issues > Emotions & Feelings](#) #2198 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life >](#)

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Age Range: 12 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 9

## Customer Reviews

Though it has been a year or so that I've read "Messenger" its characters still linger on within me. It took me back to a place in time that I had never been to before. Took me into the home of a family and a young girl that captured my heart. Although I am an adult I recommend this book to anyone regardless of age. It is a time machine. Once you open it you are taken to that very time and place and soon you are a part of the characters. Virginia Frances Schwartz is and always will be one of my favorite authors. -Thank you, Gini!  
Frances Quintana  
Al Anbar Province, Iraq

This is a moving and detailed portrait of family and community of Eastern European immigrants to

North America in the 1920-30s. Hope, heartbreak, historical details are all woven into a beautiful narrative. Schwartz has a beautiful, inviting writing style that makes you want to gobble up the story in one reading! My maternal family had a very similar story; Schwartz made it all so real that I could almost smell the buttery mashed potatoes and taste vinegary sauerkraut!

I enjoyed this book tremendously. It's very different from anything I've read before, and I read a lot. There is a dream quality to it - it floats - it's like a ride on a slow river and if you sit back and enjoy the scenery, you'll enjoy the ride. "Messenger" deals with hard times and hard themes like death and poverty, yet somehow the hard edges are removed.

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