



THUNDER FROM THE SEA

Author:	Joan Hiatt Harlow
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<p>About the Author:</p>   <p>Author's Web Site:</p> <p>Author's email:</p>	<p>Joan Hiatt Harlow was born July 25, 1932 in Boston, Massachusetts. Her mother was a Newfoundlander, as is reflected in the setting of <i>Thunder from the Sea</i>. Joan's father was a well-known singer in New England and this musical background has played an important in her life. The characters in some of Joan's books also have a strong love for music. The author reports that bits and pieces of her life are woven into her stories. Joan works hard on her writing as a craft. She decided to become an author at age four. Joan married Richard Lee Harlow and has five children. Ms. Harlow now lives in Venice, Florida and spends her summers at her home in New Hampshire. Joan has written a number of children's books, including:</p> <p><i>Joshua's Song</i>, <i>The Midnight Rider</i>, and <i>Shadows on the Sea</i>. She has won many awards for her writing. Among her awards are: Nutmeg Book Award nomination (CT), 2004, for <i>Joshua's Song</i> and Best Children's Book of the Year selection, 2004, for <i>Shadows on the Sea</i>.</p> <p>http://www.joanhiattarlow.com/</p> <p>sevenjays@comcast.net</p>
Annotation:	<p>Thirteen-year-old Tom Campbell lived in an orphanage in the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland until 1929 when he was sent to live with a fisherman and his wife, Enoch and Fiona Murray, in Back o' the Moon Island. Tom has always dreamed of a family, a home, and a dog of his own. Tom's wishes begin to come true, as he moves into the Murray home and takes his first fishing trip with Enoch. A squall threatens the boat, but it is in this trip that Tom rescues a Newfoundland dog from the angry seas, which he later names Thunder. Tom believes he can claim the rescued dog as his own until word gets back to the dog's owner that he has survived. When an earthquake strikes the village of Back o' the Moon, Thunder tries to warn the village of an up coming tidal wave, saving many people from disaster. Tom's struggle begins when he finds out Fiona is pregnant, not knowing if the Murray's will still want a teenager. Enoch goes off on a hunting trip near the end of Fiona's term with the pregnancy, and Tom is left to watch over her. Fiona unexpectedly begins her labor and Tom must battle a blizzard to get her medical help with the delivery. Tom and Fiona finally reach the doctor and a healthy baby girl is born. In the end, Enoch and Fiona decide to adopt Tom, Thunder's owner allows Tom to keep the dog, and Tom's dreams all have come true.</p> <p>The author, Joan Harlow, tells a thrilling new story about family, loyalty, and the bond between a boy and his dog. This thrilling story will appeal to those who love animals, as well as those who enjoy a good heart-warming story about the family.</p>

Booktalk:	To have a family with a real house and a dog of his own is a lot for a thirteen-year-old orphan to ask for...but Tom sees that his dreams are finally within reach when he is sent to live with fisherman Enoch and his wife. Then life is turned upside down again as Tom must fight to save the very things that he has newly grown to love. Will the Murray's want to keep him? Will Tom be forced to give up his beloved dog, Thunder?
Characters:	<p>Tom Campbell: main character and thirteen-year-old orphan who dreams of a family, a home, and a dog.</p> <p>Enoch and Fiona Murray: the couple who adopts Tom and who live in Back o' the Moon. Enoch is a fisherman.</p> <p>Thunder: the Newfoundland dog rescued at sea by Tom and Enoch.</p> <p>Bert Bosworth: neighbor that is also thirteen years old who makes trouble for Tom due to jealousy.</p> <p>Amos, Ruby, and Nancy Bosworth: Family of Bert, who are neighbors of the Murray's, but also involved in jealousy over keeping Thunder.</p> <p>Margaret and Ken Rideout: Friends of the Murray's and Margaret is the midwife for the village. They have a son, Eddie, who is a friend of Tom's.</p>
Conflict:	Tom finally has everything he has ever wanted...a nice family, a home, and a great dog to love. When Tom learns that the owner of Thunder is offering a reward for his return, Tom feels like his world is shattering. This event is followed by Fiona becoming pregnant. Tom wonders if he will also lose his family and new home. A blizzard takes place as Tom is trying to get Fiona to the doctor to deliver her baby. Tom battles the weather elements during this external conflict to save Fiona and the baby. Tom is desperate to save the very things he loves most.
Conflict Resolution:	Tom is able to get Fiona through the blizzard and to the doctor. The Murray's family grows from a two person family to four, by adopting Tom and having a new baby girl. Thunder's rightful owner gives Thunder to Tom. In the little fishing village off the coast of Newfoundland, happiness surrounds the Murray family in their new lives.
Genre:	Historical Fiction
If you like this book, you'll love...	<p>Books by Joan Harlow: Midnight Rider, Shadows on the Sea, Joshua's Song, Star in the Storm, The Wishing Sky, The Creatures of Sand Castle Key, The Dark Side of the Creek, The Mysterious Dr. Chen, and Shadow Bear .</p> <p>Similar interest: Escaping the Giant Wave by Peg Kehret Star in the Storm by Joan Hiatt Harlow The Mightiest Heart by Lynn Cullen Newfoundland Today by Hedd Richards</p>

Interest Level:	5-8
Reading Level:	5.7
Read-Aloud passages:	Chapter 17, pages 143-144: (The mummies tell about danger for Thunder) “Now, this here dog is the reason for our visit...” Chapter 24, pages 194-195: (Tom and Thunder bring Fiona through the blizzard and partially frozen lake safely to the doctor) “Tom was praying with every breath. <i>Help us find our way to the doctor! Help us...</i> ”
Setting:	1929 in Newfoundland areas of Grenfell (orphanage) and later at the Murray’s home in Back o’ the moon Island.
Point of View	Third person narrator
Theme:	The title of <i>Thunder from the Sea</i> expresses where the Newfoundland dog was found when first arriving into the hearts and lives of Tom and the Murray family. This is much more than an animal story, it also speaks to the subjects of: family, loneliness, loyalty, natural disasters, and adoption. By virtue of being a patient and loyal person, Tom is rewarded with the love of a family and dog he has always wanted.
Across the Curriculum Connections:	<p>THEME: Tsunamis</p> <p>Web Resources: Tsunamis: Facts from National Geographic http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2004/12/1228_041228_tsunami.html</p> <p>20 “click on” Photos showing before and after Tsunamis from Indonesia and Sri Lanka... http://homepage.mac.com/demark/tsunami/20.html</p> <p>Tsunami Tag Game http://suzyred.com/2005thundergame.pdf</p> <p>CNN Report on the December 2004 Tsunami http://www.cnn.com/2004/WORLD/asiapcf/12/30/asia.quake/</p> <p>THEME: Newfoundland</p> <p>Web Resources: Newfoundland Map http://listingsca.com/Newfoundland/map2.asp</p> <p>Wikipedia Encyclopedia on Newfoundland http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newfoundland</p> <p>THEME: Newfoundland Dogs</p> <p>Web Resources: The Newfoundland Dog Breed http://www.canismajor.com/dog/newf.html#Wk</p>
Across the Curriculum Connections:	<p>Web Resources: The Newfoundland Dog Breed http://www.canismajor.com/dog/newf.html#Wk</p>

<p>(continued)</p>	<p>AKC Newfoundland Dogs http://www.akc.org/breeds/newfoundland/index.cfm</p> <p>THEME: Dog Stories</p> <p>Web resources: http://suzyred.com/dogunits.html</p>
<p>Activities:</p>	<p>“True Meanings” Activity Sheet on dialect by Scholastic http://content.scholastic.com/content/collateral_resources/pdf/b/bookfairs_currconnection_downloads_cc_thunder_sea.pdf</p> <p>“3-D Weather Conditions” Activity to construct a blizzard, earthquake, or tidal wave in three dimensions. (See attached)</p> <p>“Mummers and Jannies” Activity to investigate mummery in Newfoundland and create a skit with student created masks. (See attached)</p>
<p>Discussion Questions:</p> <p>Chapter 1:</p> <p>Chapter 2:</p> <p>Chapter 3:</p> <p>Chapter 4:</p> <p>Chapter 5:</p> <p>Chapter 6:</p> <p>Chapter 7:</p> <p>Chapter 8:</p> <p>Chapter 9:</p>	<p>Before and after the book discussion questions: http://content.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=2964</p> <p>Chapter discussion questions:</p> <p>Name the one keepsake Tom owned from his real family.</p> <p>Describe how Tom meets Fiona and the neighbor boy, Bert. What do you think is Tom’s first impression of these people?</p> <p>On the first day in Back o’ the Moon, Tom learns he will be taking on two new jobs. What are they and how does Tom feel about each?</p> <p>During a terrible storm, Tom saw something black and slick in the water. Tell what this turned out to be and give the details of the argument that happened after retrieving it.</p> <p>Explain Tom’s dilemma with Nancy.</p> <p>Why do you believe Bert is acting so mean to Tom. Describe a similar incident that you have seen.</p> <p>Thunder is missing and Fiona needs to visit the doctor because she is ill. Describe how tom is feeling. Give support from the chapter to back up your answer.</p> <p>As it appears Bert is responsible for taking Thunder and putting him in a stall in his barn, what do you predict he will do if Tom discovers Thunder?</p> <p>Re-tell the story of Pirate Admiral. What do you think Tom was thinking when he heard a high-pitched voice coming from the cave?</p>

Chapter 10:	Nancy spoke in strange “jannie talk” and even believed the fairies might have taken Rowena. Do you think if Nancy could read about real things in the world, that she would have thought differently? How is being unable to read limiting Nancy?
Chapter 11:	Compare and contrast the way Fiona and Tom feel about Thunder with the Bosworth’s feelings.
Chapter 12:	Once again, Thunder warns the Murray’s and Tom about an earthquake. How do you think Thunder detected it before the others knew?
Chapter 12:	What do you predict Thunder is trying to tell the people as Amos shoots him?
Chapter 13:	This chapter has irony...opposite things happening from what you would expect. Discuss the irony in the events that happen in this chapter.
Chapter 14:	Do you think Amos was sincere when he patted Thunder? Have you ever changed your mind about someone? Describe.
Chapter 15:	As the Bosworth’s are leaving, it seems apparent that Amos and Bert are changed people. What evidence can you find in this chapter to show this?
Chapter 16:	What was the wonderful gift that Tom received for Christmas from Enoch and Fiona?
Chapter 17:	The mummers brought good and bad news, as they entertained the Murray’s. Recall each bit of news told by the mummers.
Chapter 18:	What is the warning about? What do you think Tom will do? What would you do in these circumstances?
Chapter 19:	Do you feel Tom was fair to Nancy Bosworth? Explain why or why not.
Chapter 20:	Tom is surrounded by many kind people. Dr. Sullivan makes boots to protect Thunder’s feet, and Enoch and Fiona love Tom and consider him family. Tom is still worried about his future with Thunder and the family. What is Fiona’s suggestion to ease the worry? What do you do when you are worried?
Chapter 21:	Tom is left to care for Fiona while Enoch goes hunting. Have you ever been responsible to care for someone or something? Explain some of the things you did while being responsible.
Chapter 22:	After Margaret, the midwife sees that the baby is still breech and coming early, explain what Tom plans to do. Do you predict he can do this in time?
Chapter 23:	Describe the events of crossing the frozen water. What are the terrifying dangers that Tom, Fiona, and Thunder encounter?
Chapter 24:	What conditions did Tom look for on the ice to safely get across? Describe the difficulties he encountered.
Chapter 25:	Baby April is born, everyone is healthy, but Fiona needs to rest. Where does Dr. Sullivan and Fiona arrange for Tom and Thunder to stay in the meantime? What do you predict Tom is thinking about these arrangements?
	Explain Bert’s thinking when he calls Tom a “honker”.

Chapter 26:	What is Enoch's reaction when he returns from his hunting trip to find Fiona, Tom, and the new baby?
Chapter 27:	The Murray's take Tom to the lawyer to tell him they want to adopt him. Explain what you know about adoption and why this is a good thing that Tom agrees to.
Chapter 28:	Tom learns that Thunder's owner, Mr. Fowler, is coming to claim him. What is Tom's plan? How does that plan get changed? Have you ever had to return something that you loved?
Chapter 29:	Explain.
Chapter 30:	Kind Mr. Fowler, after listening to the Murray's pleas, gives Thunder to Tom. Knowing that Tom came from the orphanage and had wished for a dog, find words that might describe how Tom is feeling now.
Vocabulary:	
Page 1:	Steamer- steam-powered boat
Page 2:	Peninsula- an area of land almost completely surrounded by water except for an isthmus connecting it with the mainland.
Page 3:	Cheek music- made up music with some nonsensical words like "Falalalee, Falalaloo."
Page 4:	Gale- wind
Page 7:	Celtic knot- design based on the Celtic culture that is in the shape of a knot. Midwife/ granny- one who helped with illnesses by using herbs and delivered babies.
Page 8:	Charmer- one who used magic in attempt to heal illnesses or pain. Flakes- tall frames built of tree limbs and branches to dry fish on.
Page 17:	Punt- small boat with flat bottom.
Page 18:	Smouchin'-slang for hanging around someone and trying to start trouble.
Page 19:	Spaug- foot
Page 29:	Nunny bag- like a backpack
Page 31:	Puffins- birds Dotards- simple-minded seals
Page 32:	Squall- storm Dory piggin- a boat's wooden pail.
Page 33:	Starboard- right side
Page 35:	Skiff- boat
Page 43:	Gommel- fool
Page 45:	Pitchy- black and like tar.
Page 46:	Offish- standoffish or not as friendly

Page 52:	O' pishogue- nonsense
Page 73	Jinker- bringing bad luck; jinx
Page 86:	Tuckamore- a clearing in the woods.
Page 94:	Helm- steering or driving the vehicle
Page 96:	Stethoscope- an instrument used to hear the heartbeat.
Page 104:	Aftershock- rumbling and tumbling of the Earth that follows an earthquake.
Page 115:	Prate-box – chatterbox
Page 118:	Blat- foolishly blurting out words
Page 127:	Ballicatter- icy water near the edge of a body of water
Page 126:	Maid- maiden, female, woman
Page 129:	Screedless- without the resources of the things that are needed.
Page 131:	Scunning- mending or holding together
Page 175:	Breech- turned the wrong way for delivery; feet first.
Page 178:	Brishney- brush or sticks of wood
Page 183:	Slide- sled with a harness for dogs or horses.
Page 194:	Causeway- a road out over the water connecting an island to land.
Indiana Academic Standards met by novel content:	<p>English/Language Arts: Standard 1: READING: Word Recognition, Fluency, and Vocabulary Development Standard 2: READING: Comprehension Standard 3: READING: Literary Response and Analysis Standard 5: WRITING: Applications Standard 6: WRITING: English Language Conventions Standard 7: LISTENING AND SPEAKING: Skills, Strategies, and Applications</p> <p>Science: The Physical Setting The Living Environment</p> <p>Social Studies: History Geography Individuals, Society, and Culture</p>
Bibliography of Resources:	<p>National Geographic News http://news.nationalgeographic.com/index.html</p> <p>CNN News: http://www.cnn.com/</p> <p>Canadian Maps: http://listingsca.com/mapmenu.asp</p>

Dog Owner's Guide (Online Magazine):
<http://www.canismajor.com/dog/index.html>

American Kennel Club:
http://www.akc.org/index.cfm?nav_area=homepage

Wikipedia Encyclopedia:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

Wikipedia : Mummies
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mummies_Play

Suzy Red - Integrated Curriculum:
<http://suzyred.com/>

Scholastic Books:
<http://www.scholastic.com/>

Indiana Academic Standards Summary:

Language Arts- <http://www.indianastandardsresources.org/standardSummary.asp?Subject=eng&Grade=>
Scope and Sequence (Grades K-8)
http://www.indianastandardsresources.org/files/eng/ela_scope.pdf

Science- <http://www.indianastandardsresources.org/standardSummary.asp?Subject=sci&Grade=&Standard=>
Scope and Sequence (Grades K-8)
http://www.indianastandardsresources.org/files/sci/sci_scope.pdf

Social Studies-
<http://www.indianastandardsresources.org/standardSummary.asp?Subject=soc&Grade=&Standard=>
Scope and Sequence (Grades K-8)
http://www.indianastandardsresources.org/files/soc/ss_scope.pdf

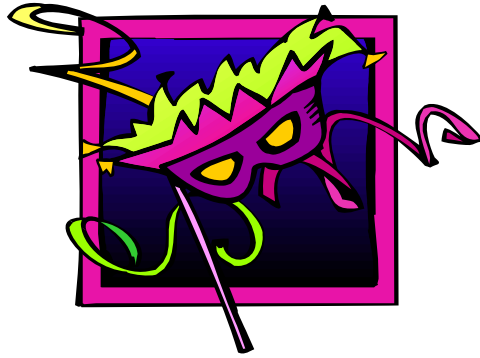
3-D Weather Conditions

In the story, *Thunder from the Sea*, Tom battled three different weather conditions...an earthquake, a blizzard, and a tidal wave. Make a **three dimensional model** of one of these weather conditions.



Tidal Wave

A few suggestions for materials are: clay, salt dough, paper, paint. Use a heavy-duty paper plate or cardboard sheet as a base. Label the weather condition on the model. Be creative and have fun!



Mummery and Jannies

Mummery is introduced in the story *Thunder from the Sea* when the Bosworth's pay a visit to Tom at the Murray's home. The mummers hide their true identity with masks or other props.

- Investigate the history of mummery in Newfoundland at the following web site:

<http://www.msgr.ca/msgr-2/mumming0.htm>

- Create a mask as the mummers and jannies would wear.

Some suggested materials are: Construction paper, tissue paper, or paper mache.

- Using your new mask, put together a skit which includes weird shouts, cries, and high-pitched jannie talk. Have fun!

