



## Special Window Display - Photographs and Footprints from *Ollie's Field Journal: A 9/10<sup>ths</sup> Happy Story from Africa*

Featuring the work of children at Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)'s Centre de réhabilitation nutritionnelle intensif (CRENI) Zinder, Niger ... an intensive care facility for children suffering from malnutrition

### Audrey's Books

10702 Jasper Ave NW, Edmonton, AB

Friday, 6 June 2008 – Wednesday, 2 July 2008

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### Background: *Ollie's Field Journal: A 9/10<sup>ths</sup> Happy Story from Africa*

*Ollie's Field Journal: A 9/10<sup>ths</sup> Happy Story from Africa* is a journal documenting a 10-year-old's trip to Niger, Africa to learn about malnutrition and children – and how the *Peanut Paste Prescription* is helping children.

Ollie's mother has gone away to help children in far away Niger, Africa during the "hunger season;" a time when many children in Niger don't have enough food – or enough good, nutritious food – to eat. They suffer from malnutrition.

Ollie is happy her mother can help the children suffering from malnutrition during the hunger season. But when Ollie receives a letter with photos from her mother she becomes inspired!

Ollie decides she wants to tell the story about the children hurt by the hunger season. She hopes that some of the children in Niger can join her in telling the story.

So she packs her bags with cameras and paints – and travels from Canada to France to Switzerland and finally...to Niger.

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*Photographs and Footprints* showcases some of the exceptional images taken by siblings of the malnourished children being cared for in a MSF nutrition hospital in Zinder, Niger. It also showcases footprints of some of the children being cared for (and getting better!) in that hospital.

Ollie had some help doing photography with her new friends at the nutrition hospital.

Edmonton-based photographer Dustin Delfs traveled to Niger to photograph the impact of MSF's efforts during the hunger season for *Ollie's Field Journal*. On Saturday, 8 September 2007, Delfs held a workshop with eleven children whose siblings were being cared for at the hospital.

The workshop was conducted in three languages: from English to French to Hausa (the language of the children.) with advice given on how to take a good photograph: "get in closer, closer, closer to your subject and once you like what you see – push the button!"

"Most of the children participating in the workshop had never held cameras before," says Delfs. "But their photographs are really, really good. They reflect children's natural joy and openness – despite the fact that they are in hospital where their siblings are being treated for malnutrition."

The footprints belong to children aged 3- 37 months in Phase 2 of the hospital; the last phase of care before they are released.

Getting the footprints involved three footprinters – including *Ollie* designer, Tara Langlois and writer, Patti McIntosh – two translators – and a photographer, Dustin Delfs.

"The mothers often walk very far to get their malnourished children treated. And because when the mothers carry the children on their backs you see these little feet sticking out from the cloth, feet really became a symbol for the project," says Patti McIntosh.

"The footprint really represents the strength of the mothers ... and the world-wide cuteness of children's feet," says Tara Langlois.

**Join Dustin, Tara and Patti for a slideshow presentation on the making of  
*Ollie's Field Journal: A 9/10<sup>ths</sup> Happy Story from Africa*  
Audrey's Books on Thursday, 19 June 2008 at 7:30 pm.**

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*Ollie's Field Journal: A 9/10<sup>ths</sup> Happy Story from Africa*

Story By: Patti McIntosh

Illustrated By: Tara Langlois

Editorial Guidance By: M. Shaun Murphy

Featuring Photography By: Dustin Delfs

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