

A story of one family's resilience—and the dictionary that came to represent their freedom.



TORONTO AUTHOR **CARY FAGAN** has won the Jewish Book Committee Prize for Fiction, the Marilyn Baillie Picture Book Award, and the Vicky Metcalf Award for Literature for Young People for his body of work. *Maurice and His Dictionary* was written for his father, whose *Chambers's Twentieth Century Dictionary* holds prime position on Cary's writing desk.

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# Maurice and His Dictionary

*A True Story*

Written by  
Cary Fagan

Illustrated by  
Enzo Lord Mariano

Owlkids Books



For the family – C.F.  
To the families who are obligated to  
flee their country, still today – E.L.M.

Acknowledgments

*I want to thank Amy Tompkins for finding the perfect home for the story of my father. It was Karen Li's inspired suggestion to use the graphic novel form; for that, and for her wonderfully sensitive editing, I am very grateful. Thanks to everyone at Owlkids Books. My brother Lawrence provided the family photographs at the back. And a thank-you to Diana Cooper-Clark. A much earlier version of the text appeared in Taddle Creek.*

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Owlkids Books acknowledges the financial support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, the Government of Canada through the Canada Book Fund (CBF) and the Government of Ontario through the Ontario Creates Book Initiative for our publishing activities.

Published in Canada by Owlkids Books Inc. 1 Eglinton Avenue East Toronto, ON M4P 3A1	Published in the US by Owlkids Books Inc. 1700 Fourth Street Berkeley, CA 94710
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Library of Congress Control Number: 2019956184  
ISBN: 978-1-77147-489-4 (PJ Our Way Edition)

Edited by Karen Li  
Designed by Claudia Dávila

Manufactured in Guangdong Province, Dongguan City, China, in April 2020,  
by Toppan Leefung Packaging & Printing (Dongguan) Co., Ltd.  
Job #BAYDC73

A B C D E F



Canada Council  
for the Arts

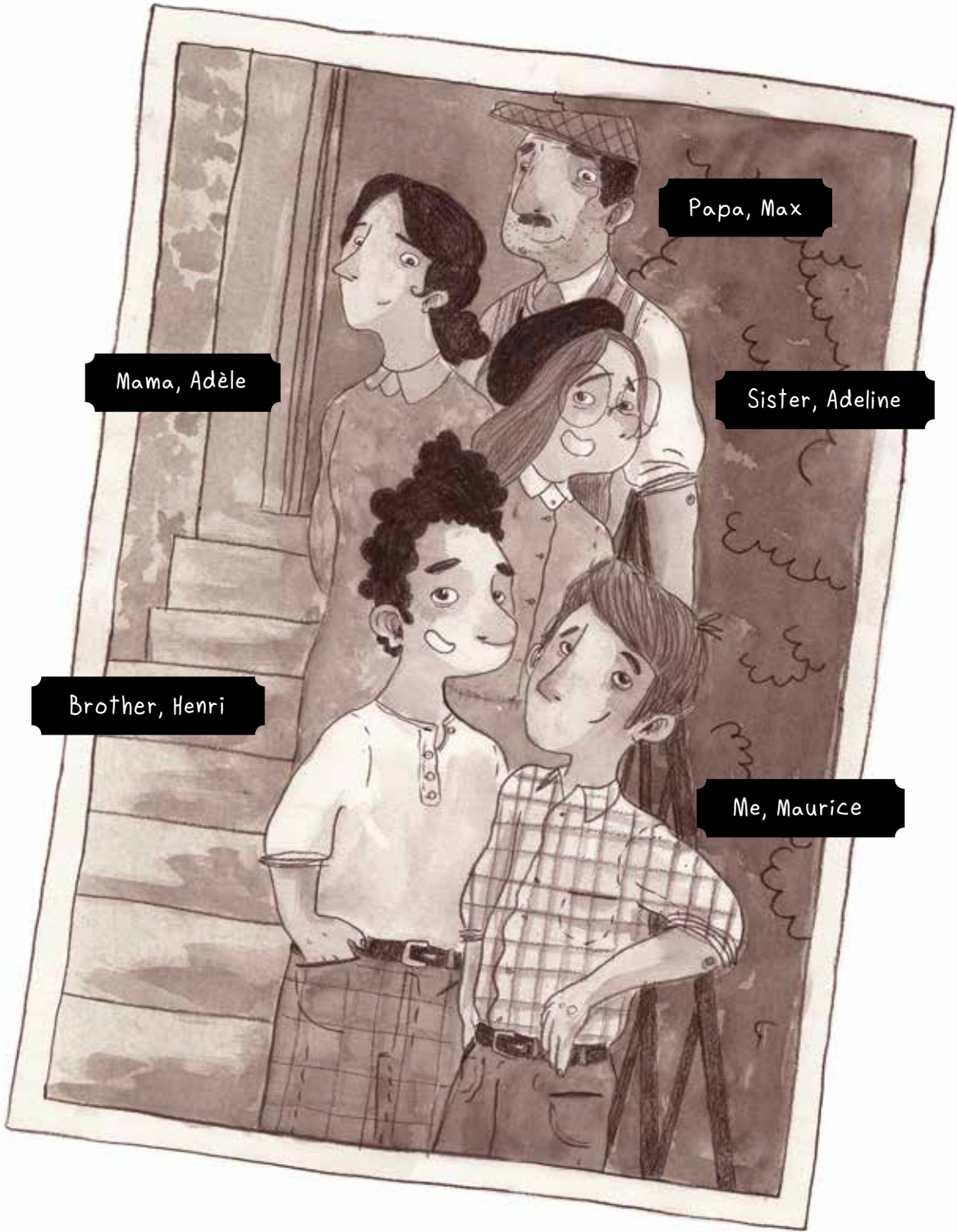
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We lived in Brussels, the capital city of Belgium. At home we spoke Yiddish, but in the streets we spoke French.



For months, the newspapers had been warning about the possibility of a German attack.



My parents didn't hide the dangers from us. We knew how the Nazis treated Jewish families like ours.



Taking their possessions, beating them, humiliating them, and sending them to concentration camps.



And now, on May 10, 1940, the Nazi army and air force had invaded our country.



Maurice, wake up!

It's happening.











