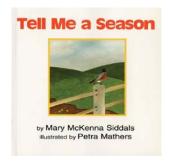
## **2017 Phoenix Picture Book Award Recipient**

## Tell Me a Season by Mary McKenna Siddals & Petra Mathers Clarion Books, 1997

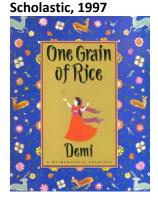


A lyric picturebook for the very young, *Tell Me a Season* presents three linked concepts—colors, time of day, and seasons—that move its readers through its graceful design and pacing to an affecting conclusion. The book exemplifies the merits of simplicity and judicious combination of word and image, detail and panorama in four symmetrical, temporal, and poetic visualverbal vignettes anchored in a single setting over the course of a year. Each of the four come together as an aesthetically pleasing and satisfying book that relates the representative activities of two country children, their

cat and dog, and one other creature per season. The few declarative or descriptive words direct attention to specific conceptual details while the pictures convey the greater particulars of human and animal inhabitants' activities. The bareness in image and text, which is more akin to stark vulnerability, combined with the use of colour, is rich and reflective.

## **Phoenix Picture Book Honor Award**

One Grain of Rice: A Mathematical Tale by Demi



Inspired by Indian miniature paintings, Demi's modern visualverbal retelling of this Indian folktale is enriched by reds, purples and golds. These colors denote both royalty and the cleverness and wisdom of Rani, the village girl who restores justice. The dominance of gold leaf is tastefully balanced by the use of white space, which serves to pace the unfolding story and its pages, comprised of well-placed text blocks and framed pictures, and to highlight the elements that dynamically exceed their frames. Rani is the queen of mathematics and its irrefutable logic, made manifest on the fold out pages.