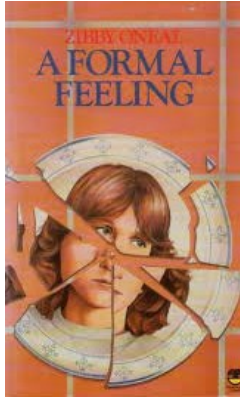


2002 Phoenix Award Winner

A Formal Feeling

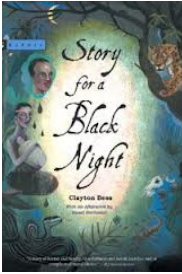
by **Zibby Oneal**

(Viking, 1982)



A year after her mother's death, 16-year-old Anne Cameron remains convinced that her mother was perfect, and that she alone remains true to the memory of that perfection. Yet the return of fragmented memories suggest that a traumatic episode of her childhood subconsciously controls the way that Anne now remembers. In a narrative homage to Emily Dickinson's poem, "After great pain, a formal feeling comes," Zibby Oneal sensitively portrays how Anne's childhood belief that she is responsible for her mother's behavior prevents her from confronting the complex truths of her past. Examining the nature of memory, mourning and love, *A Formal Feeling* illustrates how willing we are to misread not just literature, but our own life stories.

2002 Phoenix Honor Book



Story for a Black Night

by **Clayton Bess**

(Parnassus, 1982; Houghton Mifflin, 1982)