

Survivor Tree

Author: Marcie Colleen

Source: EPLD Children's Department

This Very Tree

Author: Sean Rubin

Source: EPLD Children's Department

This review is a 2 for 1 book review as we've just received two children's books on the same story, so thought I would review both. The story is a touching one....about the Callery pear tree that survived the attacks on the World Trade Center Twin Towers on 9/11. The basics of the story are the same in both books. Deep in the heart of lower Manhattan nestled between the former World Trade Center Towers stood a humble Callery pear tree. By the year 2000, it had stood there for 30 years, a feat for Callery pear trees which are known to only survive about 20 years or so. It was proud of its location in the bustling city being the first to bloom with pretty white flowers in spring which turned to green in summer to flaming red in fall and so on. The circle of life.

Until one crisp fall day when everything changed. 9/11. These two books tell the story of what happened to the little tree and how she stands proudly today between where the Twin Towers once stood.

The books are very similar. The biggest difference is that 'This Very Tree' is told from the point of view of the tree itself which offers interesting insights. Either or both are worth a read as this is a wonderful story about something good that came from that tragic day in our nation's history.