



Quaky Cat - Diana Noonan

Published by Scholastic, RRP \$19.50.

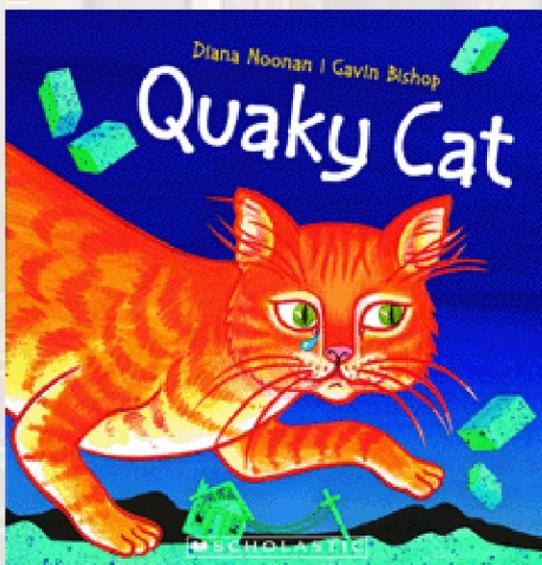
The Canterbury earthquake affected thousands of people in the region. Homes were destroyed, schools closed, pets lost, and family life disrupted. Offers of help came from all over New Zealand in a variety of ways.

From her home on the Catlins Coast, author Diana Noonan worried about the people who suffered hardship and the animals that lost their homes. Christchurch illustrator Gavin Bishop experienced the earthquake and its impact on his home, family and community. The resourceful author and illustrator have combined their talents in this superb picture book to raise funds for the people of Canterbury. Like so many, Tiger the cat suddenly has his life turned upside-down. His story is told in flowing rhyme that captures the drama and bewilderment of an animal caught in the quaking city. Tiger scampers through damaged buildings and wrecked playgrounds until he finds safety. "Home is the giving and helping and sharing. When a city is crumbling, then home is the caring."

Gavin Bishop shows the rapidly changing cityscape with falling bricks, sagging power lines and lopsided buildings. The wide-eyed, ginger cat leaps over obstacles and escapes danger. Kind faces and the warm colours of a shelter reassure readers of a community helping each other. Personal notes are included from Mayor Bob Parker, Margaret Mahy, Jason Gunn, Diana Noonan and Gavin Bishop. Christchurch businesses designed, printed and distributed the book. The publisher, author and illustrator will donate proceeds of Quaky Cat to organisations helping to rebuild people's lives in the Canterbury region.

A heart-warming picture book that shows how courage and hope can shine through in times of disaster.

Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett.



Promoting the enjoyment of children's literature.