

For Immediate Release

Ruby's Imagine

By Kim Antieau



Almost as soon as I learned about the hurricane, I saw a group of survivors in my mind's eye coming together to help each other after the storm. My coping skills involve my imagination. I couldn't help the people in New Orleans, but I could write a story. Ruby came into my imagination, speaking her own special dialect—the dialect of a child of the world—and I wrote her story as though she were telling it to me.

—Kim Antieau

Ruby has always been a little bit different. She hears the very voice of nature in the trees, birds, and butterflies of her New Orleans home. Ruby is used to having her “strange” ideas dismissed by her classmates, neighbors, and even her stern grandmother, Mammaloose.

But one day Ruby learns that a big storm is coming and her problem of being misunderstood becomes a deep fear that she won't be able to save the people she loves. Along the way, a mystery from Ruby's past begins to unravel, and she faces new truths about the world she thought she knew.

Ruby's Imagine (Houghton Mifflin; September 2008) is a poignant, heart-wrenching novel that introduces a truly unique protagonist. Author Kim Antieau perfectly captures the sights, smells, sounds and voices of New Orleans as she movingly depicts one of the darkest moments in recent American history, and the story of a girl coming into her own.

Kim Antieau is the author of several adult books and two novels for teens, *Mercy, Unbound* and *Broken Moon*. She lives with her husband in Stevenson, Washington. Visit her website at www.kimantieaubooks.com to see discussion questions for the book and listen to the *Ruby's Imagine* playlist.

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