

THE PURPLE BALLOON, A CHILDREN'S BOOK

THE PURPLE BALLOON
FROM
CALDECOTT AWARD WINNER

CHRIS RASCHKA

IN CONJUNCTION WITH
CHILDREN'S HOSPICE INTERNATIONAL

In *The Purple Balloon*, Caldecott Award winner Chris Raschka, in conjunction with Children's Hospice International, gently delivers a vital message to seriously ill children and the people who love them—talking about dying is hard, and dying is harder but there are many people in one's life who can help ease the uncertainty and pain. Chris Raschka's simple, yet moving illustrations express the phenomenon discovered by health-care professionals that a child—regardless of cultural or religious background—will often draw a purple or blue balloon floating free when aware of pending death, symbolizing a child's innate knowledge that a part of them will live on forever. *The Purple Balloon* will help adults and children through a difficult and emotional experience—together. *The Purple Balloon* will be available wherever books are sold May 8, 2007 (Published by Schwartz & Wade Books / ISBN: 978-0-375-84146-0 / \$16.99). For more information, visit www.randomhouse.com/kids.

A portion of the proceeds of this book will be donated to Children's Hospice International (CHI), a nonprofit organization founded in 1983, which is paving the way for the establishment of children's hospice and related services worldwide.

Schwartz & Wade Books is an imprint of the Random House Children's Books division of Random House, Inc. whose parent company is Bertelsmann AG.

An Educator's Guide will be available.

Chris Raschka has written and/or illustrated over 30 books for children, including the 2006 Caldecott Medal-winning title *The Hello, Goodbye Window*, the Caldecott Honor Book *Yo! Yes! And Mysterious Thelonus*. He lives in New York City.

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