

Author's modern fable tackles complicated issues

When most of us think of fables, we think of Aesop and his allegories for children. But author Veronica Low has put her heart and soul and a decade of her life into her own fable for adults, *The Tale of the Rabbit and the Rose* (Roar Publishing).

Low divided her childhood between time in Toronto and the Swiss Alps. She attended the St. Clement's School and, having spent time in Montreal and Ottawa among other places, has settled down on St. Clement's Avenue.

Writing is nothing new to Low — she even won an honorary mention in the Toronto Dominion Bank's Writing Competition in high school — but she has spent time in the advertising and marketing arenas and has carved out a career as a prolific voice-over artist.

The seed of the fables was first planted in 1986 when, after a death in the family, Low's younger brother began asking her questions about the nature of life and death. "I always loved the way fables have been told from generation to generation," says Low of the unique literary form she chose to convey her message. Fables, she says, are short enough to deliver a message and have an impact.

It took years of added experiences and rewriting to bring *The Rabbit and the Rose* to the page. "I had to live through certain things to express them," says Low who got divorced and spent several years working in an AIDS Hospice. Frequently publishers would like the story but admitted that they would have no idea how to market it.

While it might not appeal to the narrow demographics the publishers were looking at, Low says that is precisely because "it has something for everyone in it."

Low set up her own publishing company for the book and looks forward to publishing other authors as well. She is also hard at work on her next fable. "My passion," she says, "is to write a great story that everyone can relate to."

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