

For Immediate Release

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THE GREEN GLASS SEA by Ellen Klages Named Recipient of 2007 Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction

*January 17, 2007 --***The Green Glass Sea** by Ellen Klages (Viking Children's Books) is the winner of the 2007 Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction. The award is presented to a children's or young adult book published in English by a U.S. publisher and set in the Americas. A standing committee (Hazel Rochman, chair; Ann Carlson; and Roger Sutton) selects the winner. Established by the late historical fiction writer, Scott O'Dell, the award is administered by his wife, Elizabeth Hall. The author is presented with a \$5,000 prize.

In November 1943, 11-year-old Dewey Kerrigan travels west to live with her mathematician father in Los Alamos, New Mexico. She is a budding inventor, and she thrives; there are adults like Richard Feynman and Enrico Fermi who love to talk about science and mechanics as much as she does, and they take her seriously. Her classmates are less understanding, but she does manage to develop a complicated friendship with Suze Gordon, another outsider. The girls' daily battles are set against the radio news of war, and Los Alamos's internal mysteries—what is the top-secret “gadget” their parents are working on?—and as tension builds, readers of this gripping story will discover with Dewey the truth of the secret weapon that will change the world. There's no sermonizing, and Dewey is no convenient mouthpiece for a history lesson. Instead, Klages gets completely inside her complicated protagonist to make readers see the world as Dewey sees it: dangerous and unpredictable, and made only partially manageable by science.

The Green Glass Sea is Ellen Klages' first novel. *Publishers Weekly* selected Ellen as one of its four "Flying Starts" authors/illustrators from the Fall 2006 season. It was also chosen as a Book Sense No. 1 Children's Pick for Winter 2006, and received starred reviews from *The Horn Book* and *Publishers Weekly*. Ellen lives in San Francisco, CA.

Title: **The Green Glass Sea**
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