

TITLE: A Single Shard

AUTHOR: Linda Sue Park

CATEGORY/GENRE: Historical Fiction

SERIES: No

AWARDS: 2002 Newbery Medal Award

SIMILAR BOOKS BY OTHER AUTHORS: *Crispin* by Avi; *Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata; *Shadow of a Bull* by Maia Wojciechowska; *The Midwife's Apprentice* by Karen Cushman; *The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* by Avi; *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech; *A Long Way From Chicago* by Richard Peck

AVAILABLE: STC Library - book and book on CD; Libby - book and audio book; Hoopla – eBook

ABOUT THIS BOOK: Tree-ear, a young orphan living in 12th century Korea, is taken in by Crane-man. They live a meager existence, foraging for food in the trash and living under a bridge. Crane-man teaches Tree-ear important life lessons such as courage, honesty, and respect. Tree-ear is fascinated by the pottery made in the village and determines he will one day become a potter. He becomes a helper for Min, a master potter, but the work of hauling the clay is strenuous and the days long. When Min is presented with the opportunity to receive a royal commission, the dream of all potters, he must turn it down as he is old and cannot make the long journey on foot to the King's Court at Songdo. Tree-ear volunteers to take this dangerous journey across unknown territory carrying two of Min's exquisite masterpieces to show the Court. Tree-ear feels an obligation to himself and Min to successfully complete this trip, but can he?

YOU MIGHT LIKE THIS BOOK IF... you like stories of having a dream, overcoming obstacles and rising above your humble beginnings to become the person you want to be. Learn the power of kindness and hard work and how it changes your life. You will learn about life and the culture in 12th century Korea and the famous celadon pottery that was made there, including the Thousand Cranes Vase, a national treasure of Korea.