Abstract: One of the pleasures that come out of the drudgery of reading hundreds of books to judge literary awards like the Childrens Book Council (CBC) and the NSW Premier's Literary Awards is the discovery of new writers. In the contemporary world of publishing where many books are produced cheaply in short print runs with little warehouse shelf life, I read glumly through many repetitive attempts to reproduce best-sellers from the past until my reading life is brightened by books that
read like spontaneous acts of joy.