

The person Howard [Schwartz] couldn't thank was himself, so I would like to do that.

Howard's writing almost illustrates itself—his words are poetic and magical, and visual in a way that automatically creates pictures in my head. Working with Howard makes being an illustrator even more of a pleasure than it already is.

Receiving the Sydney Taylor Award for *Gathering Sparks* makes me feel like the book is now a spark of its own.

Thank you.