



Carolyn Marsden grew up in Mexico City and Southern California. Although she wrote for adults for many years, she began to write for children after the birth of her daughters. She attended Vermont College and earned an MFA in Writing for Children. Her first book, *The Gold-Threaded Dress*, published by Candlewick, was a Booklist Top Ten Youth Novel of 2002. Her second novel, *Silk Umbrellas*, was a Texas Bluebonnet nominee and Booklist Top Ten Art Novel of 2003. Since then, Carolyn has published several more award-winning middle grade chapter books with Candlewick and Viking, almost all with multicultural themes. *The Buddha's Diamonds* was a Southern California Booksellers Association finalist and a Booklist Top Ten Religion Novel of 2008. Her latest book, *Sahwira" An African Friendship*, is set in what is now Zimbabwe. Carolyn lives in La Jolla with her Thai husband and two half-Thai daughters.