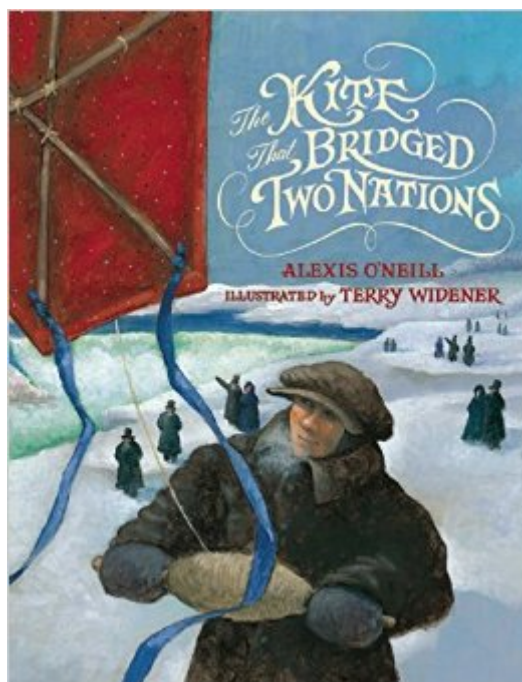


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# The Kite That Bridged Two Nations: Homan Walsh And The First Niagara Suspension Bridge



## Synopsis

Homan Walsh loves to fly his kite. And when a contest is announced to see whose kite string can span Niagara Falls, Homan is set on winning, despite the cold and the wind—and even when his kite is lost and broken. Homan's determination is beautifully captured in this soaring, poetic picture book that features Terry Widener's stunning acrylic paintings. Both author and illustrator worked with experts on both sides of the falls to accurately present Homan Walsh's story. The book also includes an extensive author's note, timeline, bibliography, and further resources.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 740L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Calkins Creek (September 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1590789385

ISBN-13: 978-1590789384

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #418,919 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #36 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Canada](#) #274 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s](#) #711 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical](#)

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

## Customer Reviews

Fascinating story that young people can grasp and enjoy and adults can appreciate. Research is documented in separated notes for this fact based book. A never give up under tough conditions theme with a young hero. Fabulous illustrations. My first grade and second grade relatives loved it. I look forward to her other books.

This is a well-told story of Homan Walsh's skill with flying kites and how this led to the construction of the first suspension bridge across the Niagara River. Authored by Alexis O'Neill who wrote *Loud Emily*, *The Recess Queen* and *The Worst Best Friend*, the style lends itself to a terrific

read-aloud. Teachers can use this book to make curriculum connections in science, social studies and expressing emotion in narrative writing, to name a few. The illustrator, Terry Widener, did a wonderful job of evoking the setting and matching the words with pictures in a seamless union. There are historical notes, a timeline and many additional resources in the back.

This is one of the best picture books I've ever read. The beauty of the language that this author uses bring to thrilling life the true story of how a boy used his kite...a KITE...to help build a bridge across one of the most famous rivers in the world. This book begs to be read aloud to children by parents, educators, and librarians and is destined to become a treasured classic. Should be required classroom reading on American history!

It's an excellent book! The illustrations are beautiful. The true story of Homan Walsh is told in an interesting and fun way. The book is geared towards 10-12 year olds, but everyone who sees it enjoys it. I highly recommend this book.

We can all picture the grandeur of Niagara Falls and hear its mighty roar, but who knew the remarkable story of Homan Walsh and his kite that award-winning author Alexis O'Neill unfolds for us? In a captivating tale sure to draw young readers, she puts the spotlight on a unique historical event. The illustrations are a perfect match for the author's voice and help evoke the era. A powerful story.

Alexis O'Neill's refrain "My string could start a bridge!" and her story of young Homan Walsh's participation in a historical event related to Niagara Falls will inspire every young reader to envision their own dream of achievement.

This is a gorgeous and moving true story about determination and courage, with a sublime melding of poetic text and powerful illustrations. A terrific author's note expands the historical background of the boy's feat.

Poetic, informative, and gorgeous--The Kite that Bridged Two Nations is an ode to the power of persistence and a great book for classrooms!

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