

# Booktalk!

I AM CANADA

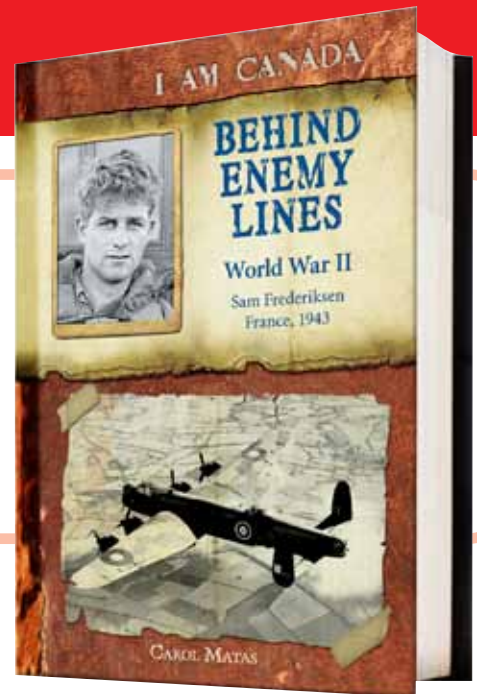
## Behind Enemy Lines

Written by Carol Matas

Grades 6 & up

Hardcover, 208 pages

Blue Case/Series



### About This Book

Eighteen-year-old Sam Frederiksen has come a long way from the Prairies. Trained to be a gunner in a Lancaster bomber during WWII, he is shot down over France. Battered and bruised, he does survive, and joins forces with the French Resistance...only to be betrayed by one of its members. He and the other flyers from various Allied countries are rounded up by the Gestapo and held in Fresnes prison just outside of Paris.

Treated as spies, rather than POWs, these men are beaten, some tortured – then sent to the Buchenwald Concentration Camp in eastern Germany. It is here, in these wretched conditions, that Sam witnesses the darkest side of humanity – gas chambers, torture and starvation. It is also here that he comes to understand the true resilience and unfathomable courage of the victims.

### Tips, Scripts and More...

Author Carol Matas is an award-winning Canadian novelist who has written over 40 novels. She has written extensively about the holocaust. *Behind Enemy Lines* is partially based on a true incident from WWII, in which 168 Allied airmen were captures and send to Buchenwald. Twenty-six of these men were Canadian.

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