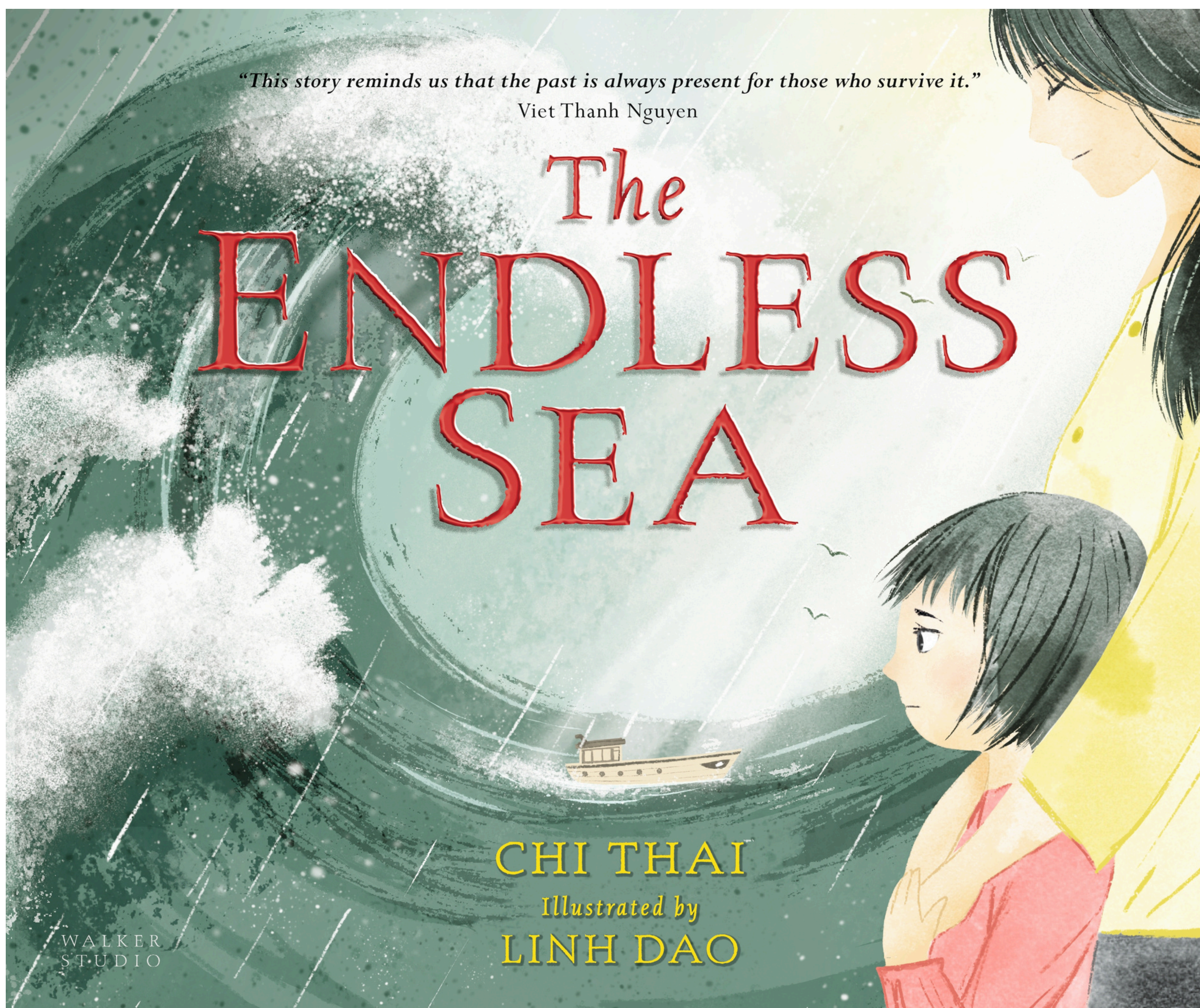


The Carnegies



The Carnegie Longlist 2026 Shadowing Resources



The Endless Sea

Carnegie Medal for Illustration

Illustrator: Linh Dao

Age range: 5+

Description:

Told from a child's-eye perspective, this follows the perilous journey from Vietnam, subtly referenced by colour palettes and increased military presence, to a journey to find safety. Illustrations add weight, power and emotional depth to the story and provide cultural references to signpost the family's origins alongside their journey. Controlled artistic media help provide an idea of identity being stripped away and gradually built back in this affecting tale.

Themes:

- Family
- War
- Journeys
- Refugee
- Home
- Belonging

Shadowing Ideas:

1. Write a poem using the line 'I lived in a village, a tiger's whisker away from the jungle' as your starting sentence. You could write about Chi's life in Vietnam before they were forced to flee, or create your own story and character using this sentence for inspiration.
2. Use the illustrations in this book as a starting point for a short play. You could use a narrator to handle the text of the story or create a soundtrack and avoid words entirely. Consider scenery, props and costumes. Perform it in your setting or film your work and share it with other shadowing groups online using the hashtag #Carnegies26
3. Think about a dream you have had in the past that has stayed with you and take it as the inspiration for a piece of artwork. Use a colour palette that evokes the mood, tone and emotion of the dream as you remember it.