



The O in Hope

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"O is the shape of a mouth singing, and in the color of a round, red cherry."

—Taken from *The O in Hope*

Hopeful Wonderment

What do an orangutan, an ostrich, an orange, and the ocean all have in common? They all begin with the letter O! But other words also have an O—words like mouth or moon or wow, and even the word hope. Combining a joyful poem from the much-celebrated poet Luci Shaw with playful cut-paper art created by Ned Bustard, *The O in Hope* helps us experience the goodness of God's gifts of hope and love. Key talking points are listed below:

- Originally written as a poem for adults, *The O in Hope* has now been adapted for children.
- The illustrations combined with the words make the concept of hope less abstract for kids ages four to eight.
- Kids are encouraged to actively engage with the book, finding each and every letter O as they read it.
- Parents are provided with a note from the author at the end of the book to encourage further conversation about the content.



Luci Shaw is the author of eleven books of poetry, as well as several other nonfiction prose books. Her IVP books include *Thumbprint in the Clay*, *The Adventure of Ascent*, and *The Crime of Living Cautiously*.

With an already impressive resume, Luci maintains a full schedule of writing and editing. Luci and her husband live in Bellingham, Washington, where she enjoys sailing, tent camping, knitting, gardening, and wilderness photography. Her first children's book, *The Genesis of It All*, was published in 2006 by Paraclete Press.



Ned Bustard is a graphic designer, children's book illustrator, author, and printmaker, and he has lectured at colleges, schools, churches, conferences, and bars. Some of the books he has written, illustrated, or edited include *It Was Good: Making Art to the Glory of God*, *The Chronicles of Narnia Comprehension Guide*, *Bede's History of ME*, *History of Art Creation to Contemporary*, *The Reformation ABC's*, and *Revealed: A Storybook Bible for Grown-Ups*.

Ned is the creative director for Square Halo Books Inc., curator of the Square Halo Gallery, and designer for Christians in the Visual Arts (CIVA), and he serves on the boards of the Association of Scholars of Christianity in the History of Art (ASCHA) and The Row House Inc.



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