

## One April in Boston – About the Story

In *One April in Boston* we meet 10-year-old Ben Edwards, a boy who actually lived in Colonial Boston at the time of the American Revolution. An orphan at the age of eight, he lives with his Aunt Sarah and Uncle Alexander Edwards, a member of the **Sons of Liberty**. Ben is growing up at an exciting time, and his uncle's patriotic connections give special meaning to the events he experiences.

Ben dreams of a life full of adventures at sea. He wants to be a mariner, just like his grandfather, an early Boston sea captain. Ben puts this goal in writing and never gives up on it. Throughout the story, he carries a spyglass that once belonged to his seafaring ancestor. Ben believes he can glimpse the future through its lens. Some family members make fun of his claim, but not his cousin Betsey. She is certain that Ben can truly see images of things to come through his spyglass. You will learn what Ben sees and if he reaches his goal.

In *One April in Boston*, you'll meet Ben's sister Sally, and learn of her interest in a young man who is Paul Revere's oldest son. You'll also encounter Ben's Uncle Alex, a cabinetmaker, and discover more about his involvement in the Sons of Liberty. You'll light the signal lanterns with Robert Newman and follow silversmith **Paul Revere** on his famous midnight ride to Lexington. Later, you'll stand beside Ben and his cousin Betsey as they hear the Declaration of Independence being read for the first time in Boston.

According to family legend, in 1905 the spyglass was passed on to Ben's great-great grandson, Philip Edwards, who glimpses his own future through it. You'll follow Phil as he travels to Boston in 1909 to learn more about his ancestors. In 1917, Phil senses the course his life will take and has a commitment he must keep. He kisses his sweetheart Ella goodbye and goes to France to fight for his country. What happens next is sure to leave a lasting impression on every young person and patriotic American who reads this book.

***One April in Boston* is the historically accurate tale of several generations of an American family. It is the result of extensive genealogical research and is supported by original documents, paintings, and artifacts, including many that have remained in the Edwards family for more than 250 years.** The dialogue and many of the circumstances, events, and occurrences in the story are fictional.

Part two of the book tells readers what steps they can take to discover their own families' stories. In this section, the author shares the highlights of the search for his roots – a six-year journey that began with only a few clues.

At the conclusion of the story you'll learn what became of Ben's spyglass and where it can be found today. You'll leave with a newfound appreciation for the choices and sacrifices made by patriotic Americans from the time of the American Revolution to the present day.

## One April in Boston – Audio Book

The *One April in Boston* audio book is over three hours long on three CDs. **One CD set is given per group or family tour, while individuals receive free access to download the MP3 audio version.** Illustrations and full color photos from the book can also be viewed online in the same password protected section.

Two wonderful talents, Phil Rosenthal and Jim Getty, are featured in the audio version of *One April in Boston*.

### Phil Rosenthal

The audio book is read by **Phil Rosenthal**. Mr. Rosenthal is a nationally renowned singer, songwriter, recording artist and record producer. He has performed at the Grand Ole Opry and the White House and, as lead singer and guitarist in the bluegrass band The Seldom Scene, received a Grammy nomination for his work on Scene 20. Mr. Rosenthal's audio recordings for children, under the label American Melody, have garnered wide acclaim including awards from the Parents' Choice Foundation, American Library Association and other organizations.

### Jim Getty

Two of the nation's most important documents, the Declaration of Independence and the Gettysburg Address are woven into the storyline of *One April in Boston*. **The audio book contains a wonderful bonus track** – a version of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address performed by **Jim Getty**.

Mr. Getty has portrayed Abraham Lincoln in historic Gettysburg since 1978. Getty's voice is that of the 16<sup>th</sup> President in 2 A&E programs (1) Abraham Lincoln; A Biography, and (2) The Lincoln Assassination. Mr. Getty recites the Gettysburg Address each year at ceremonies held at Gettysburg National Cemetery.

Jim Getty's rendition is a real treat. His voice captures Lincoln's as those who knew the President described it. Lincoln was a tenor, both high-pitched and shrill, and not a baritone as many have come to believe.