**Headline**:

Coinciding with National Titanic Week 2021, Debut Novel "*The Stars in April*,” Based on Teen Titanic Survivor Receives a *School Library Journal Starred Review*

**Summary**:

Debut novelist Peggy Wirgau’s *The Stars in April* receives a warm welcome into the literary world, historical fiction based on the true story of Ruth Becker, most recently honored with a *School Library Journal* Starred Review just in time for Titanic Week 2021.

**Body of press release**:

*The Stars in April* receives a warm welcome into the literary world, most recently honored with a *School Library Journal* Starred Review, just in time for Titanic Week 2021.

***School Library Journal* is the premiere publication for librarians and information specialists who work with children and teens**. A source of quality journalism and reviews for more than 60 years, SLJ produces award-winning features and news coverage on: literacy, best practices, technology, education policy and other issues of interest to the school library and greater educator community, evaluating a broad range of resources, from books and digital content to databases, in 6000+ reviews published annually. More information can be found at [SLJ.com](https://www.slj.com/).

“I recognized the excellence in writing upon reading its very first draft,” says literary agent Kim Childress. “The creation of this book took nearly a decade, and to see its hard work come to fruition means so much, especially knowing the effort that went into it.”

Since its March 30 release, *The Stars in April* has been named a *Girls’ Life* “Must-Read” and American Christian Fiction Writers’ “April 2021 Book-of-the-Month.” An interview between Peggy Wirgau and ACFW’s Tara K. Ross can be found at [www.FictionFinder.com](http://www.FictionFinder.com), and Wirgau also shares the true story of Michigan teen *Titanic* survivor Ruth Becker, around which *The Stars in April* is based, on “[The Word with an Inquisitive Book Nerd](https://harfordcountyliving.com/2021/04/the-word-with-an-inquisitive-book-nerd/),” a monthly podcast produced by Baltimore Living Magazine.

**UPCOMING AUTHOR EVENTS**

Peggy Wirgau Featured Speaker, National Titanic Week 2021, at the Annual Titanic Conference, held in person this year at the Titanic Museum Experience in Pigeon Forge, TN. The 2021 The annual conference will take place in person August 26-29 with limited spots available. Registration opens April 15, 2021, on the Titanic Museum Attaction’s website, [www.titanicattraction.com](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.titanicattraction.com%2F%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2hniKGR7iDIY7iptiAqE8sLXZZzacknCpUkhB_yVnV5EoxhGQUZQid96s&h=AT0IpfW9VLKmCrlzp-ll89p96eInJyE104Pj7SunTQ34TrlR40a-Vv0rB-6noTrUBpf1J43Vxfzzc37jfMZ4dK5gS5pIRb0RoDdun0j-cdJSCfn6pYrGk_6hYwvEEP1A2W1zuk-iHMs9VfEv5w).

**About Titanic Museum Attraction in Branson, Mo. and Pigeon Forge, Tn.**

We've built a ship-shaped permanent, interactive attraction for all ages. Discover the stories of the passengers and crew who sailed Titanic, as our crew and interactive galleries bring them to life. We are more than just a museum; we are a Permanent, Interactive Attraction for all ages.

**Author Bio**:

Peggy Wirgau lives in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, and Delray Beach, Florida. She loves bringing history to life for readers and has written for *Appleseeds*, *Insight*, *Learning Through History*, and contributed to *Why? Titanic Moments* by Yvonne Lehman. Her blog at [www.peggywirgau.com](http://www.peggywirgau.com) features in-depth Titanic stories, and her followers include descendants of the ship’s real-life victims and survivors.

A graduate of Michigan State University and George Mason University, Peggy is an active member of American Christian Fiction Writers, Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators, Historical Novel Society, and Great Lakes Titanic Connection. She loves to travel, especially to New York City and Mackinac Island, Michigan, where she explores historical sites. Peggy is also a Registered Nurse. She and her husband have two adult children.

Bulk and wholesale pricing avails for schools, libraries, and nonprofits, and those suffering funding cuts, through [Ink-a-Dink.com](https://ink-a-dink.com/shop/ols/products/the-stars-in-april-softcover), an online children’s bookstore for kids of all ages and their adults, founded by thirty-year *Girls’ Life* Magazine book reviewer, author, and product developer specializing in children’s books, Kim Childress.

Peggy Wirgau is available for speaking engagements and interviews. For an author Q and A or press-related inquiries.

**Contact**: Kim McCulla at Kim.McCulla@IronStreamMedia.com.

***The Stars in April***, by Peggy Wirgau

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