

ISBN: 978-0-06-147048-6

*The Heart is Not a Size* is a book that will make you want to go out in the world and do something that matters. It will take you into a community that you likely will never visit, and it will make you think about how much you have and what you really need. No surprise that the writer behind this inspiring and thought-provoking novel is Beth Kephart.

— Shelf Elf

Like all of Beth Kephart's books, *The Heart Is Not a Size* is a must-read for teens and for anyone working with teens. Kephart isn't afraid to tackle the big issues like parental pressure, anorexia, and death, and she does it all with compassion, honesty, and beautiful writing.

— Em's Bookshelf

Kephart's writing simply flows as she explores the emotions of friendship, the tragedy of poverty, and the importance of giving. Readers will easily relate to Georgia as she struggles to help a friend and finds it more difficult than she dreamed.

— The Reading Junky

*The Heart is Not a Size* is, by far, Beth Kephart's best YA novel yet. It's an incredibly lovely story about finding out who you really are. The plot was terrific and moved at a good pace, and the writing was stellar—beautiful and poetic, yet simple and heartfelt.

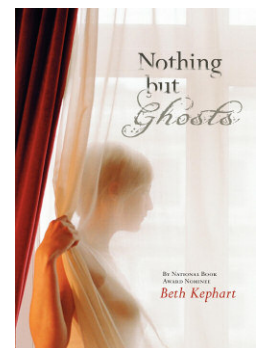
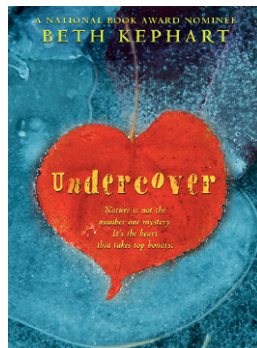
— Book Crumbs

Georgia knows what it means to keep secrets. She knows how to ignore things. She knows that some things are better left unsaid.... Or are they? When Georgia and her best friend, Riley, travel along with nine other suburban Pennsylvania kids to Anapra, a squatters village in the heat-flattened border city of Juarez, Mexico, secrets percolate and threaten both a friendship and a life. Certainties unravel. Reality changes. And Georgia is left to figure out who she is outside the world she's always known. Beth Kephart writes of emotion, longing, and the hot Mexican sun.

Beth Kephart is the author of eleven books, including the National Book Award finalist, *A Slant of Sun*; the BookSense pick, *Ghosts in the Garden*; the autobiography of Philadelphia's Schuylkill River, *Flow*; and the critically acclaimed novels for young adults, *Undercover*, *House of Dance*, and *Nothing but Ghosts*. *The Heart is Not a Size* will be released by HarperTeen in March 2010. *Dangerous Neighbors*, an historical novel, is slated for a fall 2010 release from Egmont USA. Beth Kephart's short story, "The Longest Distance," appears in the May 2009 HarperTeen anthology, *No Such Thing as the Real World*. She is a winner of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts fiction grant, a National Endowment for the Arts grant, a Leeway grant, a Pew Fellowships in the Arts grant, and the Speakeasy Poetry Prize, among other honors. Kephart's essays are frequently anthologized and she has judged numerous competitions. Kephart teaches advanced nonfiction at the University of Pennsylvania and is the current readergirlz author in residence.



Kephart has conducted writing workshops at Chanticleer Garden, Radnor Senior High School, Agnes Irwin High School, The San Francisco School, University of Pennsylvania, Loyola University, Villanova University, Rutgers University, St. Joseph's University, Blue Sky Arts, and elsewhere.



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