

Author's Note

My grandpa, W. J. Stewart, CBE, was mayor of Toronto when the riot at Christie Pits happened. He never talked about it to me; I was young when he died, in 1969. Later, when I learned the story, I wanted to share it, and a bit of his. This book is the result.

The Good Fight takes you back in time to a younger, very different city and country, growing and changing into the one you know today. Some people don't like change. Sometimes they resist it in ugly ways.

Some of the things you'll find in this story will be hard to witness. They were hard to write. Some of the language the characters use is hateful. But pretending it didn't happen would be worse. And in the end, this is also a story about those among us who stood up against hatred, for fairness and justice.

August 16, 1933, was a pivotal moment for Canada. It made us face the future, whether some chose to look then or not. More than ever, the time to look — and hear the story again — is now. I think Grandpa would agree.



~ Ted Staunton