

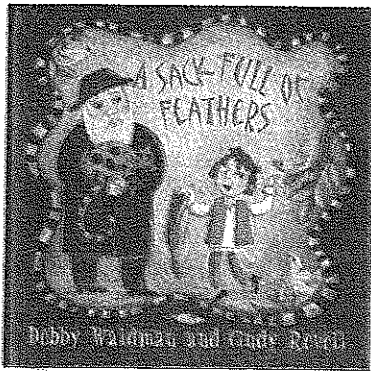
Gossip spreads like feathers in the wind



Waldman



Revell



RICHARD HELM
Journal Books Editor
EDMONTON

Gossip spreads like feathers in the wind in a new children's picturebook by Edmonton's Debby Waldman and Cindy Revell.

Waldman, a *Journal* columnist and self-described jack-of-all-trades writer, says she has always loved folk tales, and finding such a great story in her own Jewish folklore tradition was a great treat.

A Sack Full of Feathers (Orca Book Publishers

\$17.95) tells the story of a boy named Yankel, who loves to tell stories, as long as they are someone else's. He doesn't begin to see the hurt those stories can cause until the day the rabbi hands him a bag of feathers and tells him to place one on every doorstep in his village.

"I think the reason this resonated so strongly with me is, firstly, I love to gossip and, second, as a former newspaper reporter I'm very careful about getting my facts straight," Waldman says. "I don't like to mislead people."

Revell, who provides the colourful illustrations for the book, lives in the country near Edmonton. She says she has "a thing for spotted cats," and readers of *A Sack Full of Feathers* will see what she means.