

PENGUIN
BOOKS

**PRH AUSTRALIA
AND NEW ZEALAND**

BOLOGNA BOOK FAIR 2026



CONTACT

For rights queries please contact

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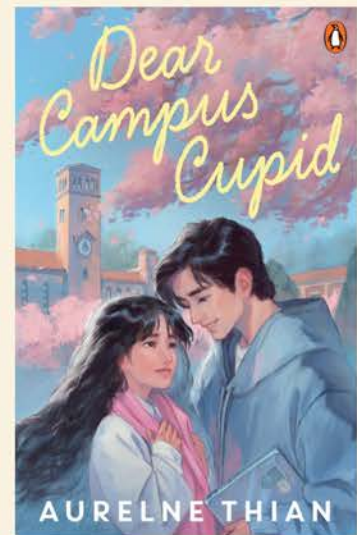
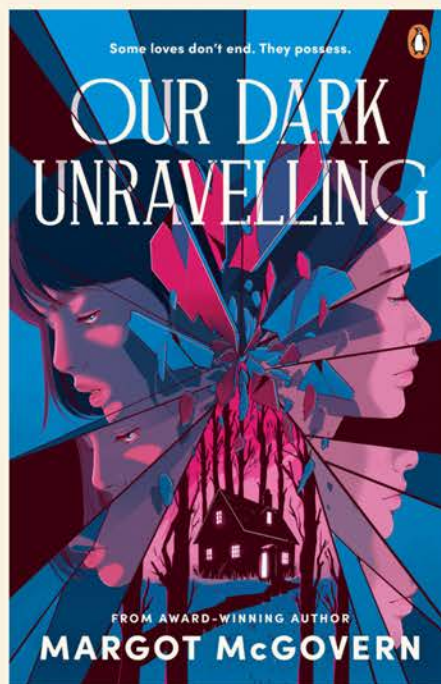
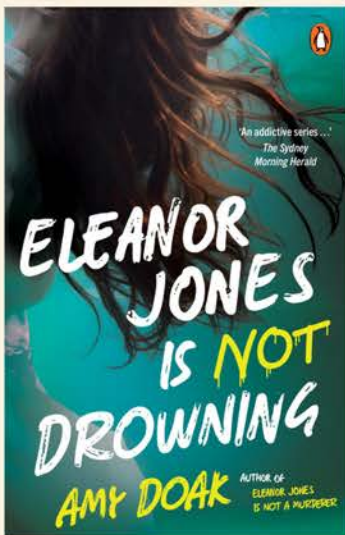
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YOUNG ADULT



OUR DARK UNRAVELLING

Some loves don't end. They possess.

Lyssa and George share nothing except a room at Milford, a boarding school for the heirs and heiresses of the ultra-elite. Lyssa is a newly arrived scholarship student and George is old money, even if that didn't stop her reputation being torn apart the year before.

When Milford's blue-blooded prince Jude Sinclair dies in a freak hunting accident, their lives are upended. Jude was Lyssa's boyfriend, and she can't accept that he's gone. For George he's a past better left for dead. But Jude relished in spells and blood magic, whether you believed in it with him or not. And Lyssa does believe – enough for her and George both.

Now there are whispers that Jude's ghost is back, and Lyssa sinks deeper into her connection with him despite George's warnings. George and Lyssa will need to learn to trust themselves and each other before it's too late . . .

SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 336pp

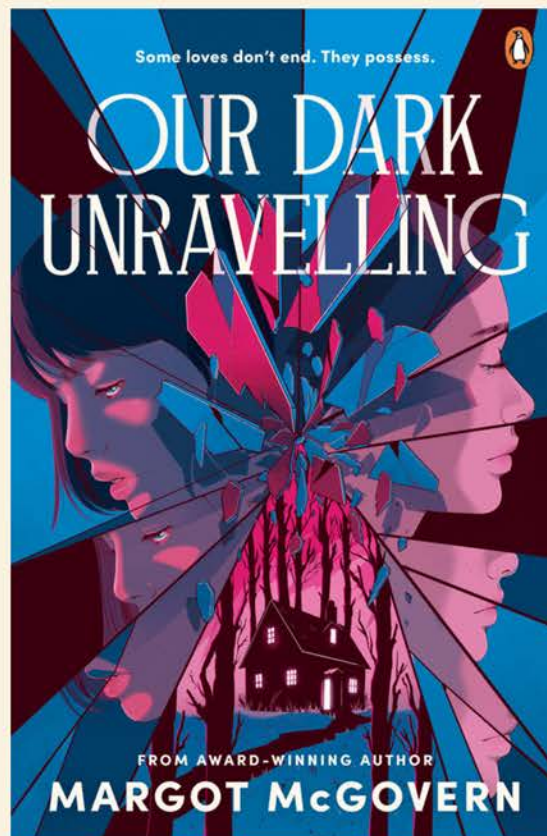
RIGHTS SOLD

US (RHCB)



MARGOT MCGOVERN

Margot's debut novel, *Neverland*, was shortlisted for the Text Prize and the Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature. Her second book, *This Stays Between Us*, won the 2026 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Young Adults, was a 2026 CBCA Notable, and was shortlisted for the 2026 Aurealis Awards and International Thriller Writers Awards.



Releasing
simultaneously
in the US

DEAR CAMPUS CUPID

A love letter to campus romance, delicious food, and all the yearning of a second chance.

Riverside University freshman Lani Lai is trying – and failing – to balance family, friends, her biochemistry degree, and her true passion for saving her family's kopitiam from a wave of grid-worthy cafés. Under the weight of it all, she's pushed people away, including the one person who might have mattered most.

Journalism student and Lani's not-quite-ex Eric Liang is everything she is not – popular, confident, and infuriatingly charming. And he's got a secret: he's the anonymous mastermind behind 'Dear Campus Cupid', the blog sparking confessions, crushes, and gossip across campus.

When Lani and Eric's paths cross again at Riverside with 17 old love letters hanging between them, Eric proposes they collaborate on a feature about the kopitiam for a prestigious writing competition. Lani assumes Eric just wants a tick on his resume, but he's got another secret: he wants her back.

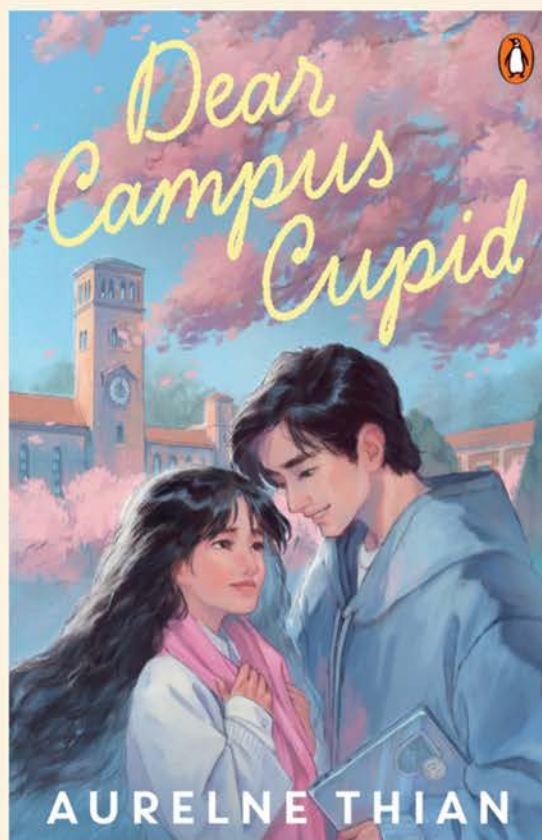
SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 352pp



AURELNE THIAN

Aurelne is an emerging YA romance author based in Perth. When she's not crafting characters or dreaming up new tales, Aurelne can be found in scrubs at the hospital, sweating it out at the fencing centre, or sipping coffee with a book in hand. *Dear Campus Cupid* is her debut novel.



Debut

Acquired with stand-alone second book, *Touché, Love*

TOUCHÉ, LOVE

An enemies-to-lovers romance about fencing, falling, and flipping the script.

Clementine Cheng has always known how to get what she wants, including a one-way ticket out of her grandfather's corporate empire in Shanghai. But when her manhwa alias Orange Gummy gets commissioned to illustrate a viral series for the elite Riverside men's foil team, Clementine finds herself right back in Shanghai for one semester.

Her plan is simple: draw the story, finish her elective, gain international contacts, then leave. The problem? Julian Kang.

National champion with a killer lunge and zero interest in having his face – or his secrets – immortalised in her comic, Julian flat-out rejects her as the team's manhwa artist.

So Clementine does what she does best. She flirts. She charms. She pushes every button until cracks form in Julian's carefully quiet world. And Julian realises Clementine isn't just drawing their team . . . she might be drawing the real him.

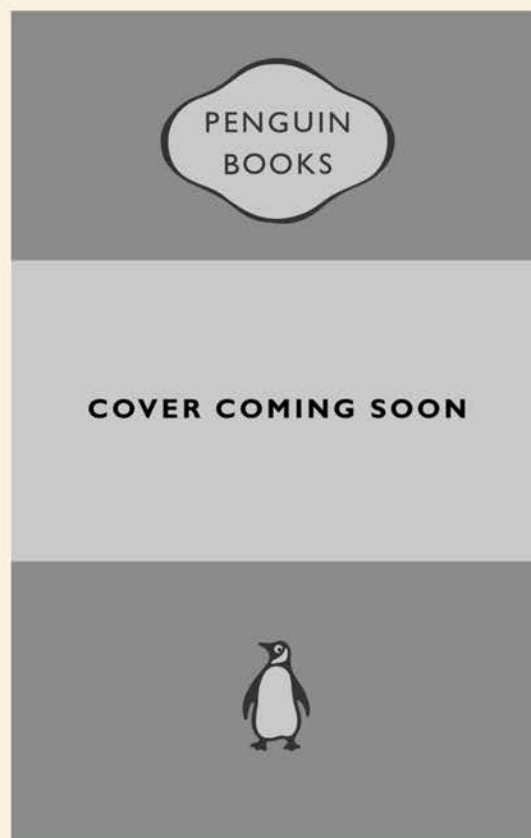
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THE STAR PATH

Reality and mythology meet across the South Pacific in this return to the world of the global bestseller, *The Whale Rider*.

Teva is in the dark about his Polynesian heritage and an outsider in France, too. With a curved back and a phobic terror of deep water, he stays in the shadows – until his acrobatic talents are discovered by circus master Jean-Luc.

Teva is cast as the star of the troupe's forthcoming show, telling the daring exploits of a young prince of Hawaiki, the legendary homeland of Polynesia.

Meanwhile in the treacherous ice mazes surrounding Antarctica, a royal tribe of baleen whales fears their ancient chief has brought them there to die. Tehani, their lowliest rearguard, is given his first solo mission. He must navigate a way out of the ice and find a human, the Whale Rider's heir. The only one with any hope of reasoning with his chief.

But nobody knows who the Whale Rider's heir is, let alone where they can be found.

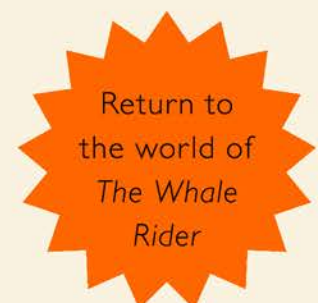
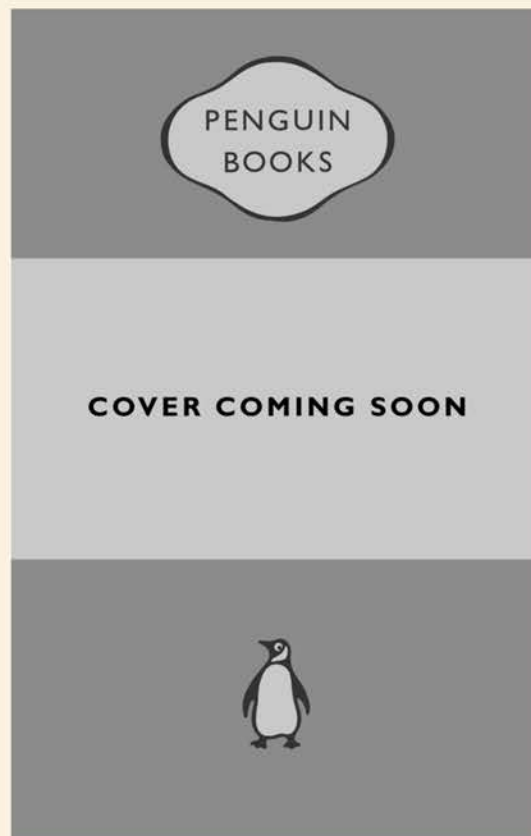
SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 288pp



WITI IHIMAERA

Three-time winner of the Wattie/Montana Book of the Year award, Katherine Mansfield fellow, and playwright Witi Ihimaera is one of New Zealand's most prolific and accomplished writers. Among Witi's award-winning novels and short story collections is *The Whale Rider*, which was adapted as an internationally successful film.



LOW TIDE

First love and the bravery of healing must survive a monster from the depths in this dark summer horror.

It's been one year since the car accident that killed Will's best friend and left him housebound with chronic exhaustion. Now he's settled into the strangeness of waiting for M to climb through his window at night. Part girl, part sea creature, and entirely real, M's very touch drags Will into lost memories of the past.

A chance encounter with local surfer Noah at the beach offers Will a life raft towards the sun-drenched world beyond his bedroom. Noah is tender and sweet, and his friends Mia and Katy welcome Will into their circle.

With each wave, party, and almost kiss, M grows more and more monstrous until everything – and everyone – Will has grown to love is in danger. As secrets and betrayals surface, Will must break free from his past – or he'll be dragged under permanently.

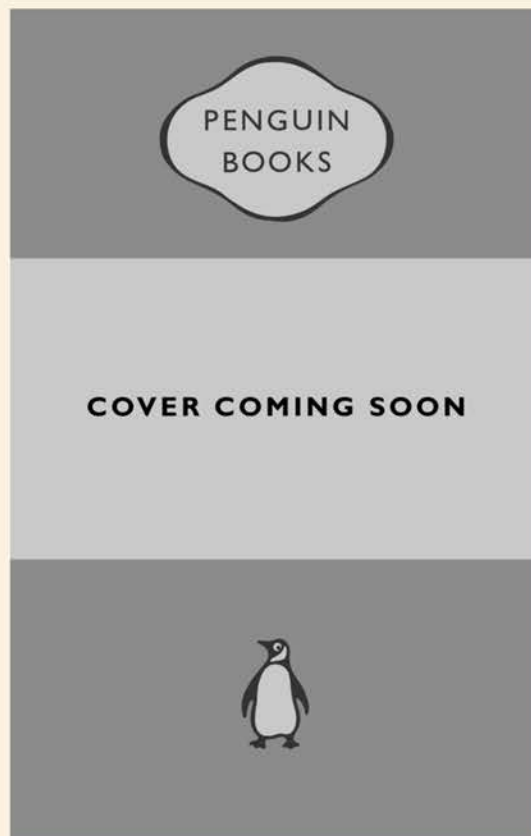
FEBRUARY 2027

Paperback | 320pp



CASPER DEE

Casper's short stories have appeared in the anthologies *Underdog: #LoveOzYA Short Stories* and *Vox Populi*. When she's not writing, Casper manages a psychology practice and teaches yoga through a trauma-informed lens. *Low Tide* is her debut novel.



DEATH SPEAKS TO US ALL

A twisty gothic thriller about avenging a terrible history of past wrongs, ancient curses, and defying fate – and death.

In Georgian England, Barty works under the guardianship of villainous body-snatcher, Jack Finnegan.

Meanwhile Timothy, a surgeon's apprentice, receives bodies at the local hospital for dissection and anatomical study.

And finally there is Lily, a girl who has been buried below the ground for over a decade, but who is miraculously discovered . . . alive.

On the run from a mysterious pursuer, the three of them set out to confront the people in Lily's past responsible for her suffering – only to reveal secrets and truths none of them could have foreseen.

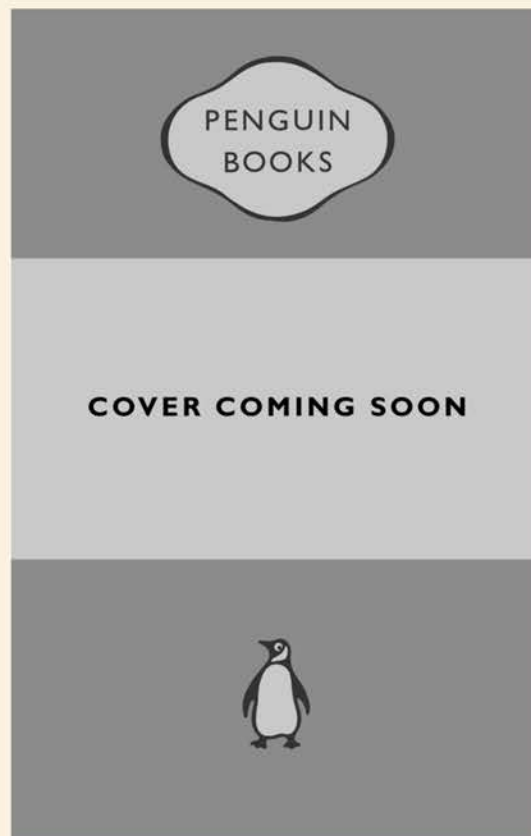
MAY 2027

Paperback | 400pp



MIKE LUCAS

Mike's middle grade fiction has been shortlisted for the Readings Book Prize, CBCA Book of the Year Awards, and the Prime Minister's Literary Awards. His picture book, *Where is Cheeky Monster?*, won the 2025 Speech Pathology Award for children aged 0 to 3 years. *Death Speaks to Us All* is his first book for young adults.



ELEANOR JONES IS NOT DROWNING

The 4th instalment in the award-winning and bestselling series about teen detective Eleanor Jones.

Eleanor Jones is over the rain. The drought has finally broken, and the Cooina River is rising – fast.

When fellow student Letisha Sabri asks Eleanor to prove her boyfriend's death was not an accident or suicide, but rather murder, Eleanor is thrown back into detective mode. The more Eleanor investigates – which she fits in around school, spending time with her boyfriend Troy, and planning for the upcoming ball – the more it seems like Letisha might be right.

As the riverbank starts to spill over and reveal its secrets, it becomes increasingly difficult for Eleanor to keep her head above water.

JUNE 2026

Paperback | 320pp

RIGHTS SOLD

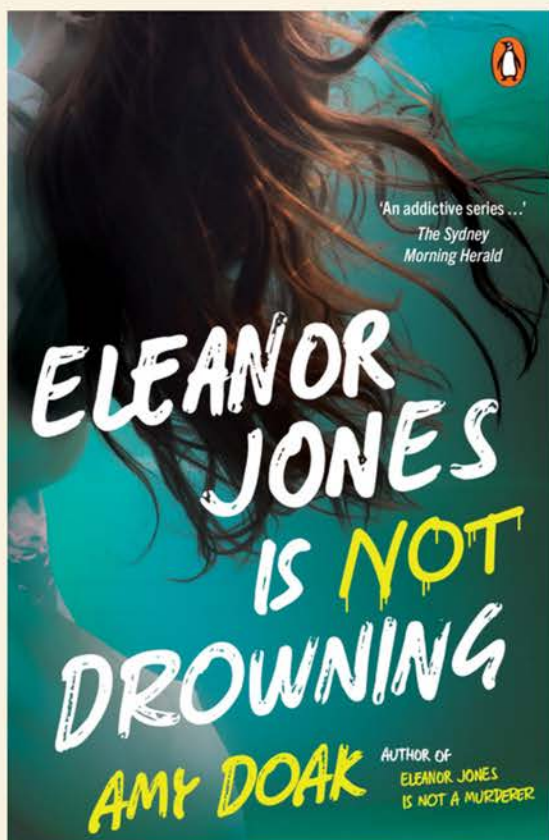
I: Italy (Cairo)



AMY DOAK

Amy is an award-winning crime writer and best-selling YA novelist.

Eleanor Jones is not a Murderer was her debut YA novel, and was a 2024 CBCA Notable, shortlisted for two 2024 ABIA Awards, and shortlisted for the 2024 Davitt Award for Best Debut Crime Novel.



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



Book 1: Davitt Award for Best Crime Novel 2024 winner

Book 3: CBCA Book of the Year for Older Readers 2026 Notable

DRAWING NUDES WHILE MAKING OTHER PLANS

MAY 2026

Paperback | 288pp

A warm and funny novel about finding yourself . . . in a room full of strangers, drawing naked people.

Cleo's plan for the perfect summer before senior year:

Step 1. Do a life-drawing course at a prestigious art school.
(Try not freak out the first time you have to draw a naked man.)

Step 2. Find your friends. (Your real ones.)

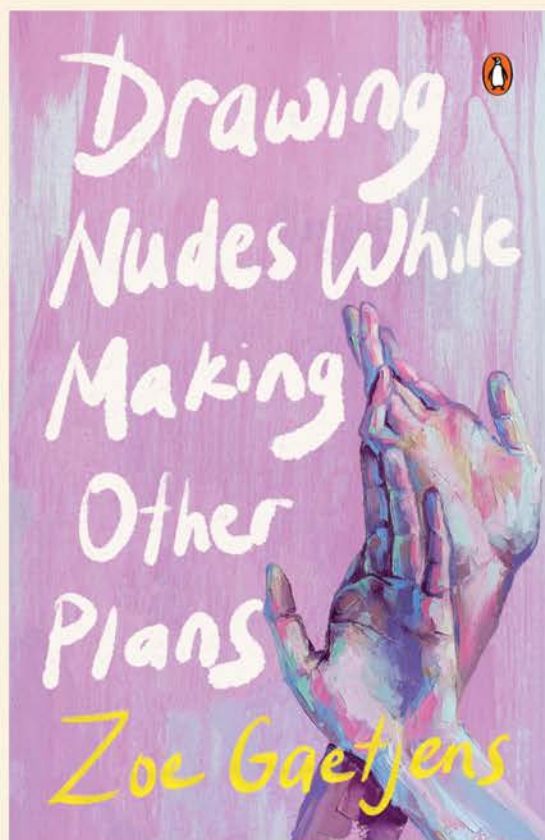
Step 3. First kiss?! (Only if it's with the right person.)

Step 4. Try not to wish your sister was still here.
(Impossible!)



ZOE GAETJENS

As a high school student, Zoe Gaetjens attended a life drawing workshop where she failed to plan anything significant. She has since traded her charcoal for a laptop and writes books for children and young adults. *Drawing Nudes While Making Other Plans* is her debut YA novel.



YOUNG ADULT SPOTLIGHT



THE LOCKED ROOM by Adam Cece

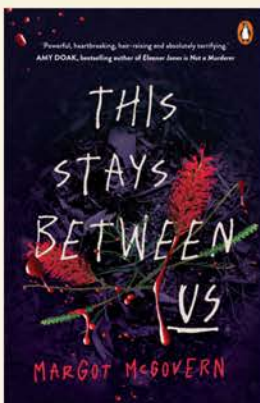
AUGUST 2025

Paperback | 320pp

RIGHTS SOLD

France (Élysande)

✦ **Notable: CBCA Book of the Year 2026 (Older Readers)**



THIS STAYS BETWEEN US

MARCH 2025

Paperback | 336pp

✦ **Winner: Victorian Premier's Literary Award 2026 (Young Adult)**

✦ **Notable: CBCA Book of the Year 2026 (Older Readers)**

✦ **Shortlist: Aurealis Awards 2025 (Young Adult)**



THE SPIDER AND HER DEMONS

AUGUST 2023

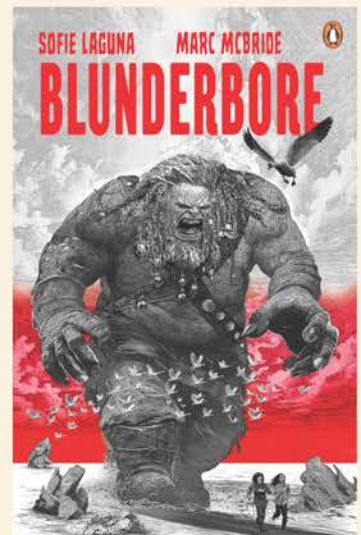
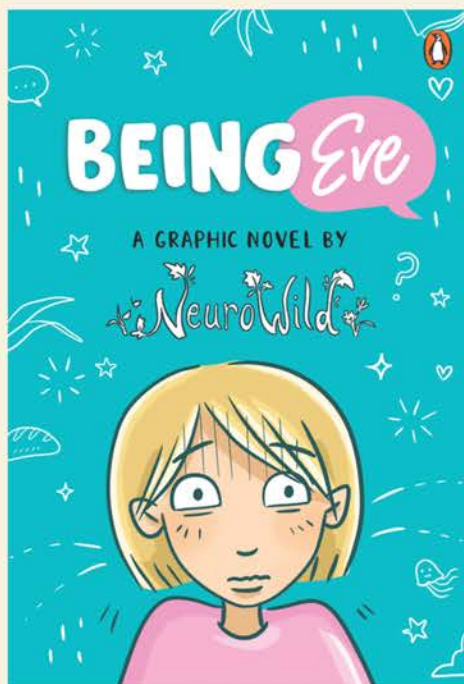
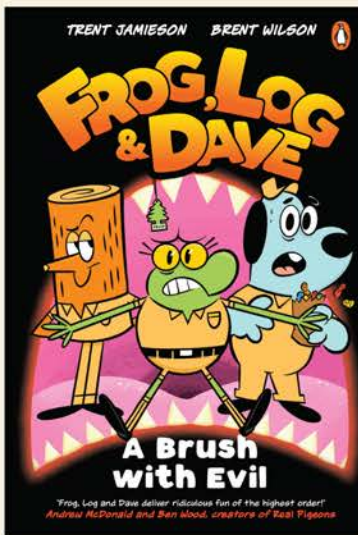
Paperback | 368pp

✦ **Winner: Queensland Literary Awards 2024 (Young Adult)**

✦ **Shortlist: Aurealis Awards 2024 (Young Adult)**

✦ **Shortlist: Readings Prize 2024 (Young Adult)**

GRAPHIC NOVELS



BEING EVE

A funny and poignant coming-of-age graphic novel, capturing all the thrilling and awkward feels of first love alongside early-teen friendship, turmoil, and neurodivergent experiences.

Eve tries so hard to both fit in at school and be herself. But is that even possible?

ADHDER Eve can't help but create chaos wherever she goes. It always seems to wreak a tornado-like havoc whenever she tries to befriend her peers, without her knowing why or how.

And with her BFF Sasha finding out she's autistic and new-kid Zack becoming something more than a friend, even her anchor points are turning chaotic.

Can Eve find a way to calm her chaos? Or will she find a way use it?

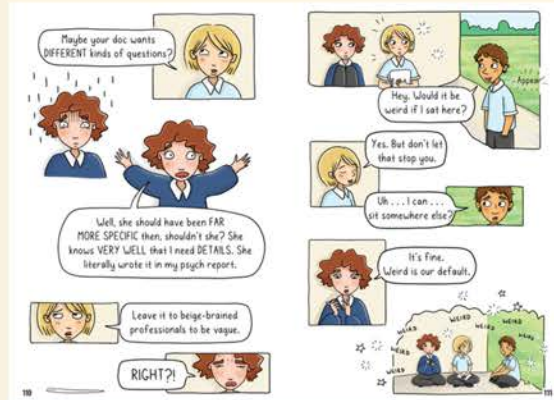
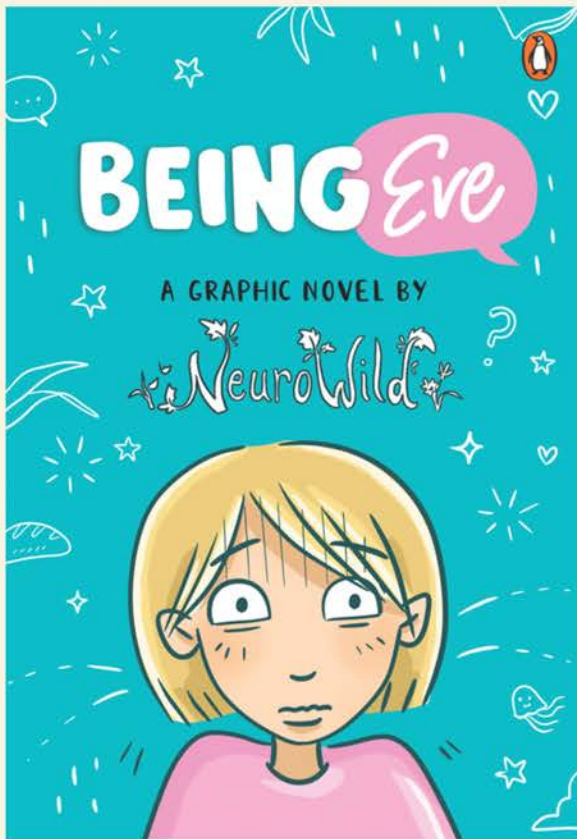
AUGUST 2026

Paperback | 288pp | 10+ years



EM HAMMOND (AKA NEUROWILD)

Em is an Autistic and ADHDER speech pathologist, and Mum to three neurodivergent kids. She is also an artist and illustrator with a passion for neurodiversity-affirming practice. Widely known for her illustrations and resources about neurodiversity, she is a highly sought-after voice in education, allied health, and advocacy.



DRAFT PAGES



From NeuroWild – 352K followers across socials

BLUNDERBORE

OCTOBER 2026

Hardback | 352pp | 8+ years

An action-packed adventure set in the world of Jack and the Beanstalk.

12-year-old Gemma loves to draw. Her latest passion is illustrating the story of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, rendering in heart-stopping detail the terrifying giant, Blunderbore.

On a trip to stay with her eccentric Aunt Lucy, Gemma's drawing is ripped in a lightning strike. When she hears strange calls for help coming from the beach, Gemma sets off to investigate and discovers that her art has become reality. Jack is in her world – and so is Blunderbore.

It's up to Gemma to help Jack. Can she survive the terrors of Blunderbore's castle, rescue those imprisoned there, and work out how to restore the natural order between the two worlds?



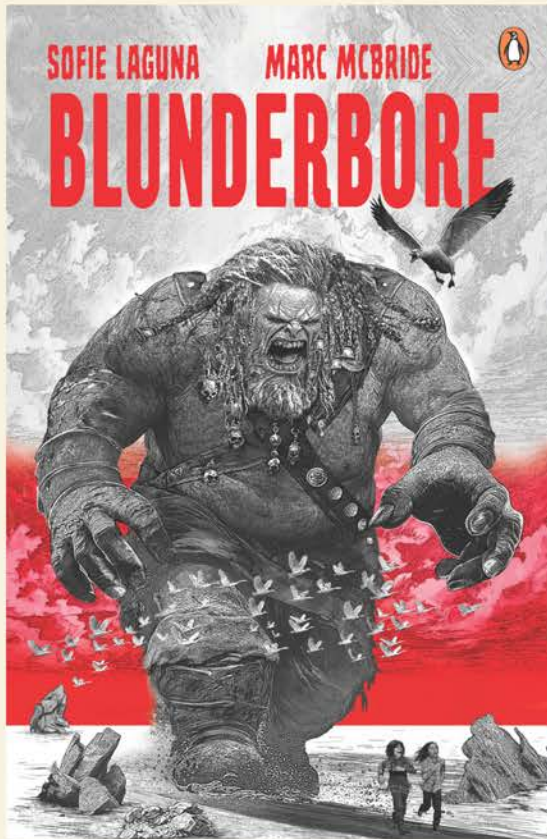
SOFIE LAGUNA

Sofie's many books for children have been published in the US, the UK, and in translation in Europe and Asia, and have been named Honour and Notable Books by the CBCA.

MARC MCBRIDE

Marc is the illustrator of the New York Times best-selling series *Deltora Quest*, which has sold over 18M copies worldwide and has become an anime series.

DRAFT COVER



DRAFT PAGES

FROG, LOG AND DAVE: A BRUSH WITH EVIL

SEPTEMBER 2025

Hardback | 168pp | 6+ years

Dive into the hilarious world of Frog, Log, and Dave in this must-read graphic novel adventure!

When a hungry shark needs delivering to the Toothbrush Instruction Company – which just so happens to be under the new ownership of Count Evil von Evil – our favourite rock-band-turned-delivery-drivers jump into action.

But have they bitten off more than they can chew?

One thing's for sure, toothbrushing has never been so dangerous.

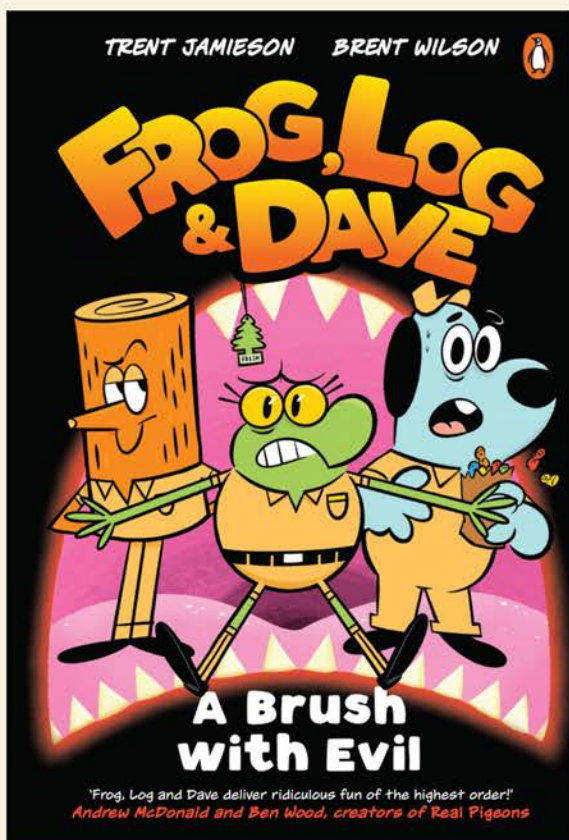


BRENT WILSON

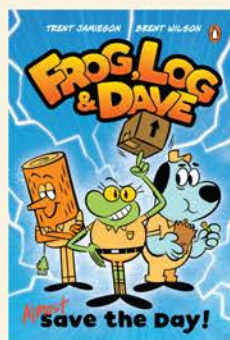
Brent is an illustrator and designer whose quirky illustrations regularly pop up here, there, and – most importantly – in fun and funny books for kids!

TRENT JAMIESON

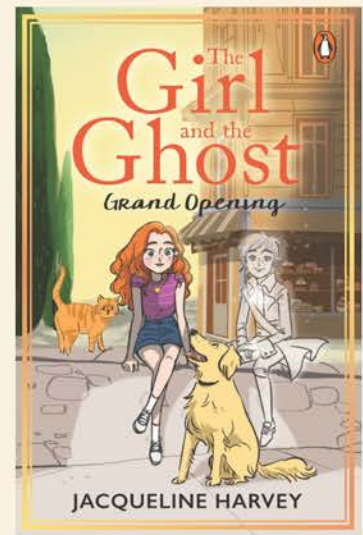
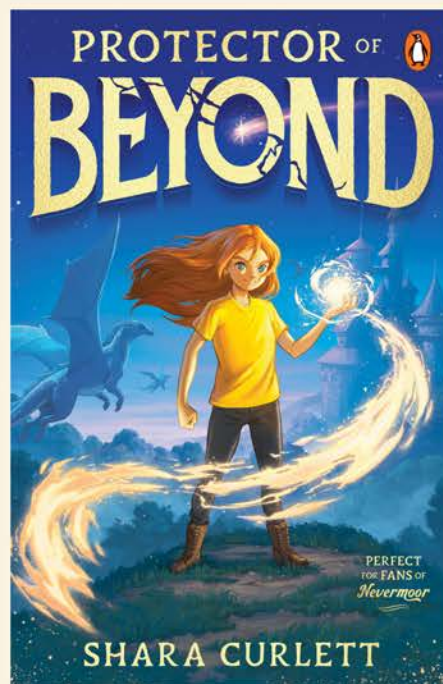
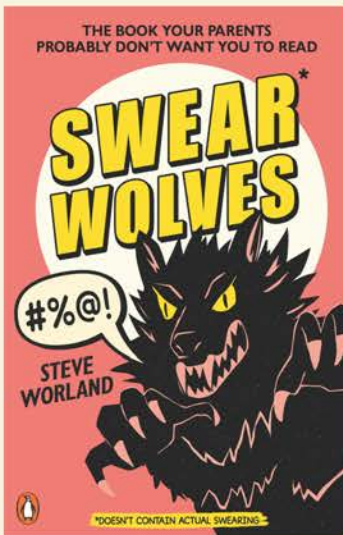
Trent is a multi-award-winning novelist, short-story writer, and the author of children's picture book, *The Giant and the Sea*, which won the 2021 Environment Award for Children's Literature Picture Fiction.



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



MIDDLE GRADE



PROTECTOR OF BEYOND

When all hope is lost, one spark will rise above them all – a new page-turning epic fantasy series.

The moment you enter the Arbiter, your fate is sealed. If you spark, you fight!

And 12-year-old Elder Triss produces a spark like no other.

Transported to the mysterious Beyond, Elder has no choice but to train for battle and compete in deadly trials for the chance to join the Academy of Protectors and fight for her realm.

If Elder has any hope of avoiding the Factory, where those who fail are put to work, she'll have to pair with a magical creature and control her increasingly erratic spark, while building friendships, avoiding enemies, and uncovering secrets.

But someone is trying to stop Elder from reaching the academy – and making it out alive . . .

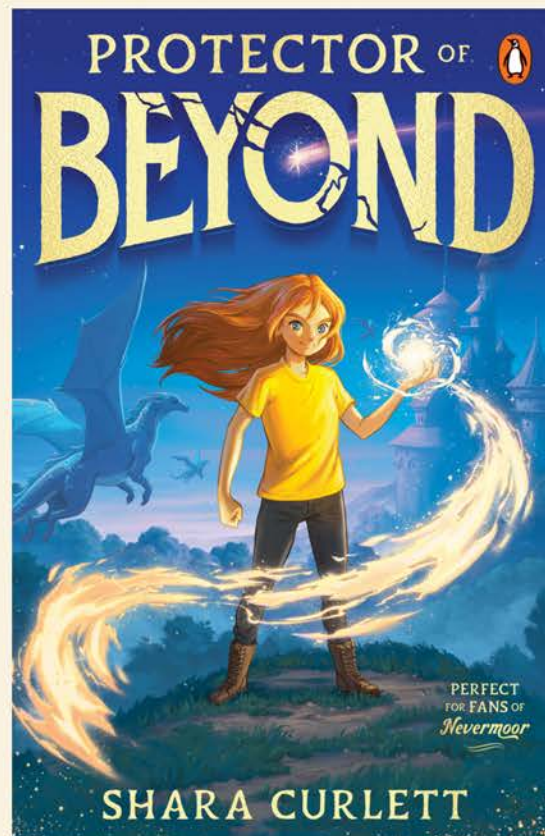
SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 400pp | 9-12 years



SHARA CURLETT

Shara Curlett lives in Aotearoa New Zealand with her husband, two children, two dogs, and a dragon. (A bearded dragon, that is.) Shara is passionate about inspiring creativity and imagination in children, believing a good foundation of creativity can help with mental health.



SWEARWOLVES

Kids love naughty, parents love safe – and Swearwolves delivers both.

Luna Wilkinson wants to stand out – but not like this.

Something that lurks in the dark and shadowy woods behind her house just bit her.

Rude. And also, extremely unhygienic.

Now she's cursed. Super cursed. The kind of cursed that forces her to blurt out every swear word in the dictionary – as well as a few she's sure aren't in any dictionary.

So she's become a walking, talking agent of chaos, and there's no way to turn it off.

And the worst part? She has only three days to undo the curse . . . or she'll be stuck swearing her head off forever.

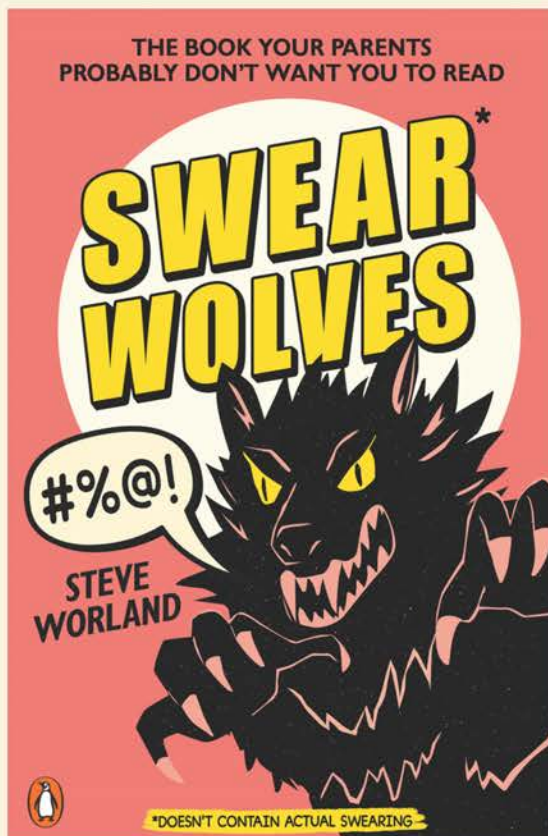
MARCH 2026

Paperback | 160pp | 8+ years



STEVE WORLAND

Steve has worked extensively in film and TV in Australia and the US. He wrote the screenplay for the smash hit family film, *Paper Planes*, with director Robert Connolly, won the ACCTA award for best original screenplay, and adapted the movie into a bestselling novel for young readers.



She *never* swears.

Like, *ever*.

In fact, she *prides* herself on it.

She doesn't think it makes her sound cool or tough or mature. To her it just means she wasn't clever enough to find a more interesting word.

Her father turns to her, gobsmacked. 'What did you just say?'

'I said he's a little **██████**.'

Luna's eyes widen in shock.

She did it *again!*

Her mother's brow furrows, her voice sharp. 'Luna Dee Wilkinson, you do not, under any circumstances, use that kind of language in this house, or anywhere else.'

Luna's face burns. 'Sorry, Mum, I won't **██████** do it again.' Another bad word slips out. Horrified, she claps her hands over her mouth as if that will stop any more from escaping. 'Why do I keep **██████** swearing?'

Clint laughs, delighted. 'I don't know but it's *epic!*'

BITE FLIGHT

Vampires, vampires, vampires – on a plane!

12-year-old Skye, a flight-sim-obsessed kid who dreams of becoming a pilot, boards a late-night flight to Honolulu to visit her dad. But not long after takeoff, everything feels . . . off.

A few passengers look unnervingly pale, the cabin crew seem to be hiding something, and when Skye overhears whispers about the aircraft being 'commandeered', her stomach drops.

Skye has no idea who she can trust – except a young boy her age named Nicky, who steps up to help her warn the aircraft's captain of the imminent hijack.

But on their way to the cockpit, they walk straight into a nightmare. There are vampires on the plane. Dozens and dozens of them, plotting a fate worse than death for the passengers. And the only person who can stop them, and safely land the aircraft, is Skye.

SEPTEMBER 2026

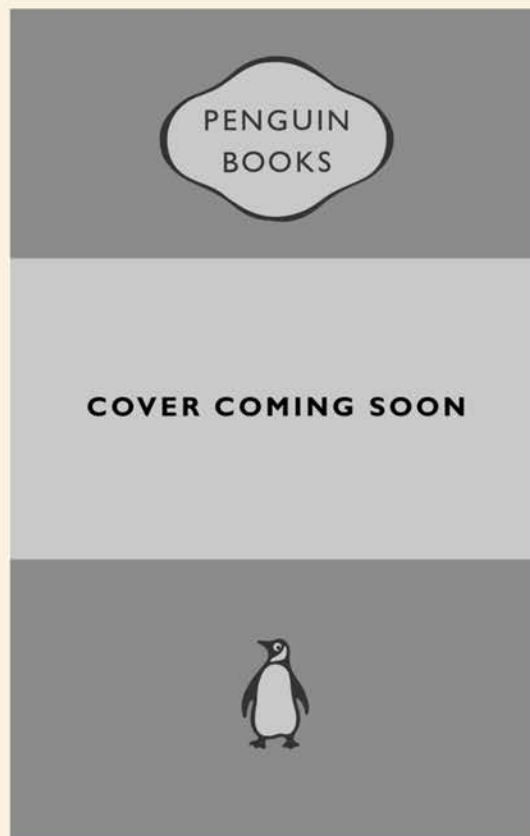
Paperback | 208pp | 8+ years

Illustrated



STEVE WORLAND

Steve has worked extensively in film and TV in Australia and the US. He wrote the screenplay for the smash hit family film, *Paper Planes*, with director Robert Connolly, won the ACCTA award for best original screenplay, and adapted the movie into a bestselling novel for young readers.



EMBER: THE APPRENTICE APOTHECARY

A spin-off in the world of the wildly popular *The 113th Assistant Librarian* series starring a would-be witch and her secret coven.

Ember Greywacke has always dreamed of being a witch. But witches are outlawed in Blackmoor-Upon-Wyvern.

So on the day of her Calling, when all young magic users are inducted into a Trade, Ember becomes an apprentice apothecary instead. To her horror, she discovers that Amanita Clutterbuck's Emporium of Tinctures, Salves, and Elixirs has very little magical or medical legitimacy.

But when ogres run rampant in Blackmoor-Upon-Wyvern, it is up to Ember and her secret coven to help the town before there is nothing left of it.

JULY 2027

Paperback | 304pp | 9+ years

Illustrated

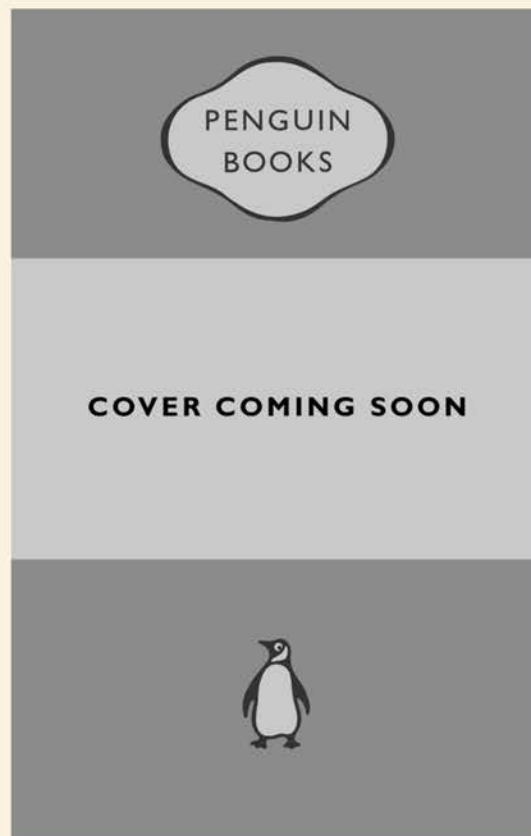


STUART WILSON

Stuart is the author of the Prometheus High books and *The 113th Assistant Librarian*, which was shortlisted for the 2025 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards.

LAVANYA NAIDU

Lavanya is a graduate in animation film design, and over the last decade she has illustrated several children's books and worked on games and animation production (TV and film).



THE 113TH ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN: THE FORBIDDEN PAGES

OCTOBER 2026
Hardback | 304pp | 9-12 years
RIGHTS SOLD
1-2: US (RHCB)

The 3rd instalment in the bestselling fantasy adventure series.

Oliver and Agatha are thrown out of their usual routine when the Great Librarian – Director Thorne – arrives in Blackmoor-Upon-Wyvern ready to take over the running of the library. He is appalled to learn of several dangerous books being out on loan (and OVERDUE!) so Oliver and Agatha set out to retrieve them.

The hunt takes them to a fancy auction house, the booby-trapped home of an ex-pirate, and a very dangerous situation at the Mage's Guild where Agatha is struck by a random bolt of magic.

Will Oliver be able to return the books before the whole city pays a terrible magical price . . . ?

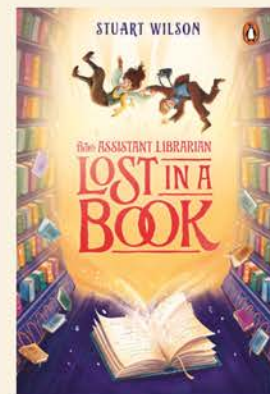


STUART WILSON

Stuart is the author of *The 113th Assistant Librarian* and the Prometheus High books. Quite the oxymoron, he can frequently be found lost in a book



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



Book 1: Victorian Premier's Literary Awards 2025 shortlist

Series launching in the US in 2027

RAISED BY WOLVES

MAY 2026

Paperback | 240pp | 10+ years

Return to the characters of *Two Wolves* in this tense, heart-stopping thriller about loyalty, betrayal, and finding out who you really are when the people you trust most let you down.

12-year-old Olive Silver knows how to check every room with a knife when she gets home from school, how to survive alone, and how to keep secrets. She's had to – ever since her criminal dad abandoned her family five years ago and let them pay for his crime.

But now, he's back.

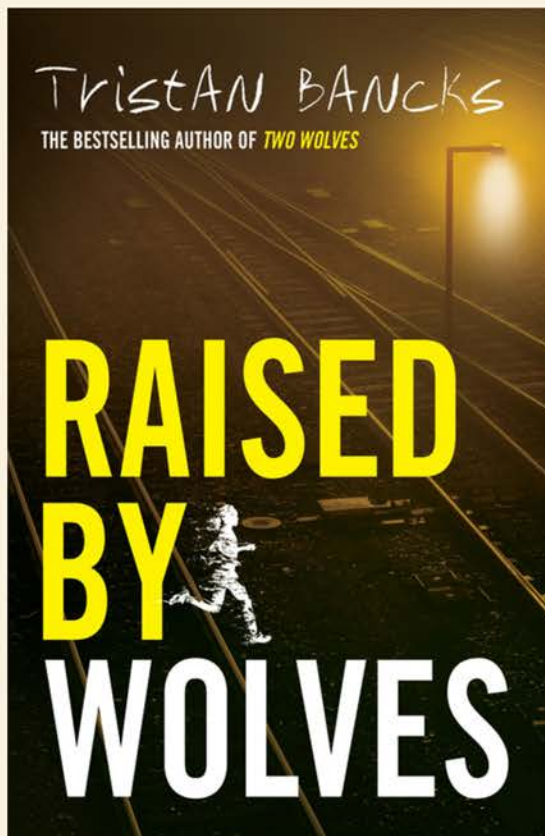
The day she spots him outside her school, everything tilts. Olive calls her big brother Ben, who's two days from graduating the police academy, and follows Dad through rain and darkness, across railway tracks, and through wrecking yards, desperate for answers. Does Dad love her? Or is he only back for money?

As the night spins out of control, Olive faces a choice: let Dad go, or hunt him down and bring him to justice.



TRISTAN BANCKS

Tristan tells stories for the page and screen. His books for kids and teens have earned wins and shortlistings for the CBCA Book of the Year, the Prime Minister's Literary Awards, and the YABBA Children's Book Awards.



ALSO AVAILABLE



100K+
copies of *Two
Wolves* sold
in ANZ

FUNNY FAIRYTALES

Five funny fairytales retold with a twist!

You've all seen the sensational headlines . . . Kid trades the family cow for a handful of magic beans. Kid climbs the beanstalk into the clouds. Kid faces off against a terrifying giant.

But what REALLY went down that day? Was it something that Jack did that forced his mother to sell the beloved family cow? How did Jack REALLY get his hands on the magic beans? Was the giant as fearsome as his reputation suggests? And what did Jack REALLY do with all of those gold coins?

JULY 2026

Paperback | 240pp | 8+ years

Illustrated



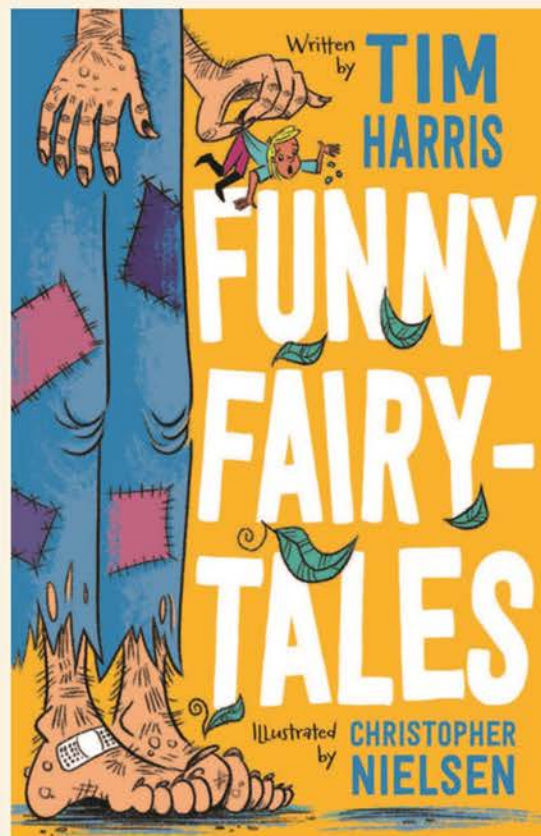
TIM HARRIS

Tim is the bestselling author of several laugh-out-loud series for kids.

His books have been published in Australia and the US, and have been translated into numerous languages.

CHRISTOPHER NIELSEN

Christopher specialises in creating joy and wonder through his art. He is an award-winning artist and has been shortlisted by the CBCA for Best New Illustrator.



HENRIETTA HALLOW: THE DRAGON ACADEMY

A whimsical, high-flying adventure brimming with friendship, dragons, and the magic of finding your fire.

11-year-old Henrietta Hallow is an inventive young witch with a knack for trouble. When she's accepted into the elite Dragon Academy, where witches train to ride dragons, Henrietta is ready to shine – if only her dragon Squirm wasn't afraid to fly.

Between mysterious magical malfunctions, evil top student Malvina Mortuary, her kind-hearted roomie Fran, and mischief with Jax (the dragon-stable boy who knows more than he lets on), Henrietta uncovers secrets that could shatter the Academy forever.

Armed with wild inventions and a dragon who finally starts to trust her, Henrietta proves that bravery doesn't come from being the best, but from standing up when you fall – and daring to fly in your own way.

MARCH 2027

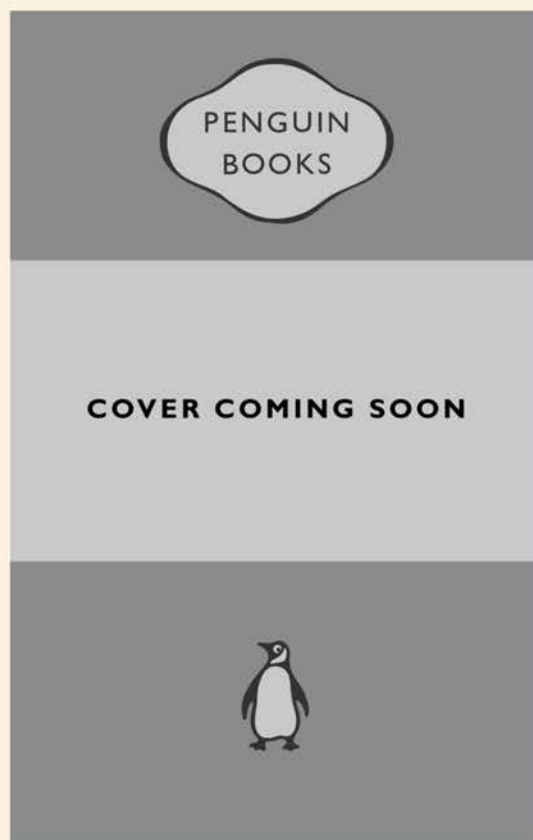
Paperback | 288pp | 8+ years

Illustrated



RACHAEL MCLEAN

Rachael is an award-winning author and illustrator whose inclusive artwork has appeared in bestselling children's books worldwide. Her illustrations sparkle with humour and heart, celebrating her passion for kindness and creativity.



STEPPING UP

A fast-paced, powerfully told story about limb loss, resilience and becoming excited about the future again.

What if you took a shortcut below some rocks and your entire life came sliding down?

High on the shingle slopes of Pangoonui, 14-year-old Ben cuts below a pile of huge, half-buried boulders. All of a sudden there's a terrible sound, and a massive rock is tumbling towards him.

In the painful weeks that follow a surgery to remove Ben's shattered lower leg, his mind returns to the mountain, his impatience, that split-second decision. Will anything ever be 'normal' again?

One goal keeps him going: he will finish the climb he started.

FEBRUARY 2026

Paperback | 272pp | 10+ years

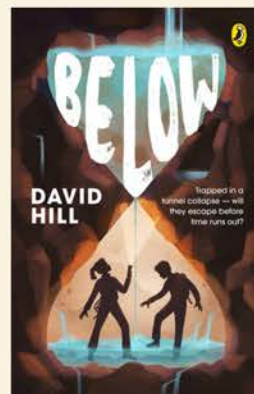


DAVID HILL

David is a prolific and highly regarded New Zealand writer, playwright, poet, columnist, and critic. Best known for his popular and award-winning body of work for young people, ranging from picture books to teen fiction, his novels have been published all around the world and translated into several languages.



ALSO AVAILABLE



THE LAST TREEKEEPER

A lyrical and accessibly illustrated dystopian fantasy in verse.

When the Ogrims claim his forest home, forcing 12-year-old Six into a labour camp, he knows he must protect the seeds of Mother Tree Arkana at all costs.

Far in the future is 13-year-old Lyra, last of the Bone Keepers, dreaming of a life beyond dust and heat as she survives alone in a desolate world waiting for someone to claim The Ancestors.

When Six and Lyra each discover the same mysterious magical book they join forces across time to save both their futures – and rediscover dragons.

FEBRUARY 2027

Paperback | 304pp | 9-12 years

Illustrated



FIONA LLOYD

Fiona's debut middle-grade novel, *Being Jimmy Baxter*, won the 2024 Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Award, and was short-listed for the 2024 CBCA Awards and South Australian Literary Awards.

SELINA FENECH

Selina is a world-renowned fantasy artist with many art books, oracle decks, and colouring books to her name.

ROUGH COVER



HALLIE AND THE HEART STONE

MAY 2027

Paperback | 272pp | 9+ years

Magic, mischief, and a race-against-time quest abound in this fantasy adventure.

There are three things that Hallie's Elders have taught her to be true: always look both ways before you cross the street; never whistle at night; and number three, leave all stones – as pretty and magical as they may look – exactly where you find them.

On her walk to school, a detour down to the water's edge leads Hallie to a glinting, winking stone nestled at the roots of an ancient tree. A peewee bird watches on. Hallie knows she should keep her hands in her pockets and continue to school, but what happens when she can't resist the lure of this magic gem?

Join Hallie as she wrestles with an opened portal, closed secrets, and heart stones that reveal worlds she wasn't meant to see . . .

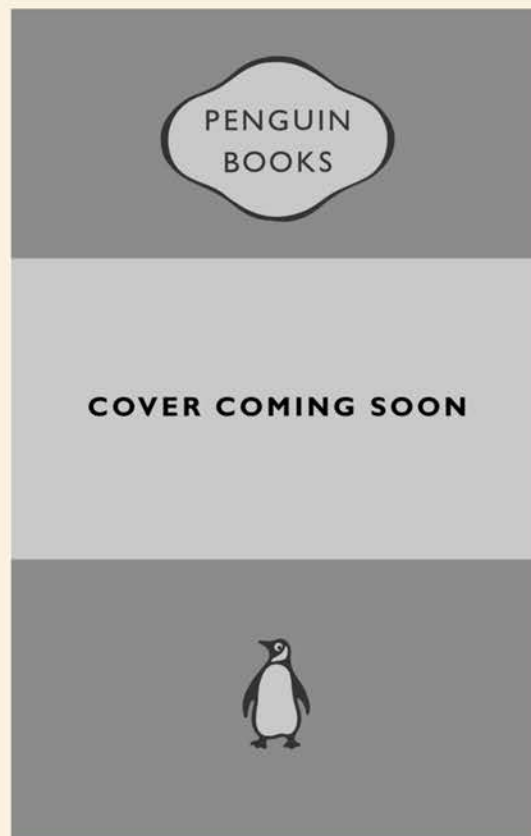


AMY THUNIG-MCGREGOR

Amy is a Gomeri person whose first book, *Tell Me Again: A Memoir*, was shortlisted for the 2023 Victorian Premier's Literature Awards and the 2023 Australian Book Industry Awards. This is their children's debut.

ODEE

Odee is a Gamilaraay–Yuwaalaraay man whose passion for language revitalisation sees him working in various educational settings, including the Australian National University.



THE GIRL AND THE GHOST: GRAND OPENING

MAY 2026

Paperback | 368pp | 9+ years

A hotel opening, a budding romance, a missing locket, and a ghost – the 3rd instalment in the bestselling series.

Josephine Eloise Thomas and her family are getting ready for the grand opening of their hotel when chaos strikes.

To start, the criminal mastermind Anastasia, hellbent on revenge, is still on the run. Then, the historical significance of Josephine's locket is made public, and now all eyes are on the jewel. And with their new housekeeper and guests roaming the halls, she must keep her family safe too.

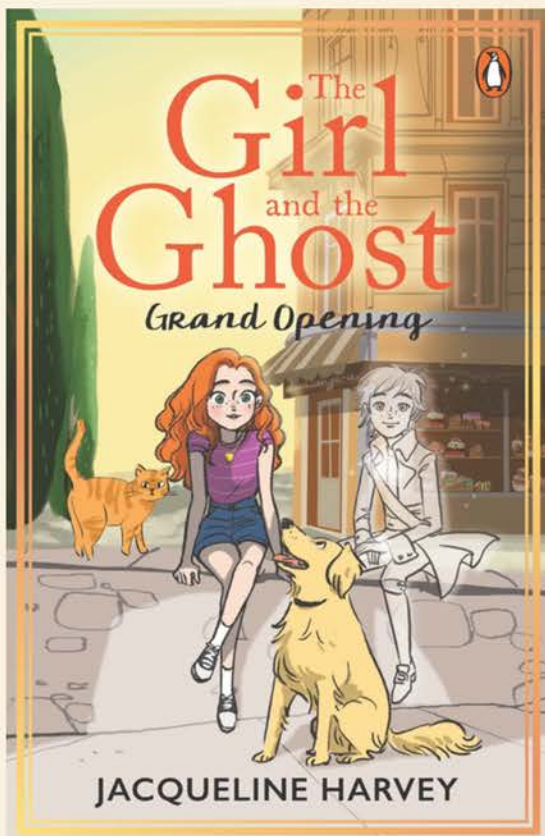
What's more, gorgeous Gabriel Barbier is caught up working on an art project with the beautiful new girl Maude, and he seems to have no time for Josephine.

Can Josephine walk this tightrope in time for the family's hotel to open successfully?



JACQUELINE HARVEY

Jacqueline worked in schools for many years but has had a passion for storytelling since she was a child. She is the author of the popular Alice-Miranda, Clementine Rose, Kensy and Max, and Willa and Woof series, which have sold almost 2M copies in Australia alone.



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



#1 bestselling new Australian children's fiction series of 2025

Book 4 coming October 2026 and Book 5 (final) coming March 2027

THE LOST DEFENDERS

A heart-pounding adventure where bravery, friendship, and danger collide – and the Lost Defenders are found.

Jace Tanner has always been different – he can see monsters no one else can. All he wants is to make it through his final year of primary school without getting expelled!

But when you can see monsters, trouble follows you everywhere – and things are about to get worse. A lot worse.

When strange happenings begin to unfold, Jace uncovers a secret world hidden behind museum walls and a mysterious curator who knows more than he's saying. Drawn into an ancient mystery, Jace soon realises he's not as alone as he thought.

But with a prophecy threatening to tear down the Veil that separates Earth from the Monster Realm, can Jace and his newfound allies come together, face their fears, and unlock their forgotten inheritance in time to save the world?

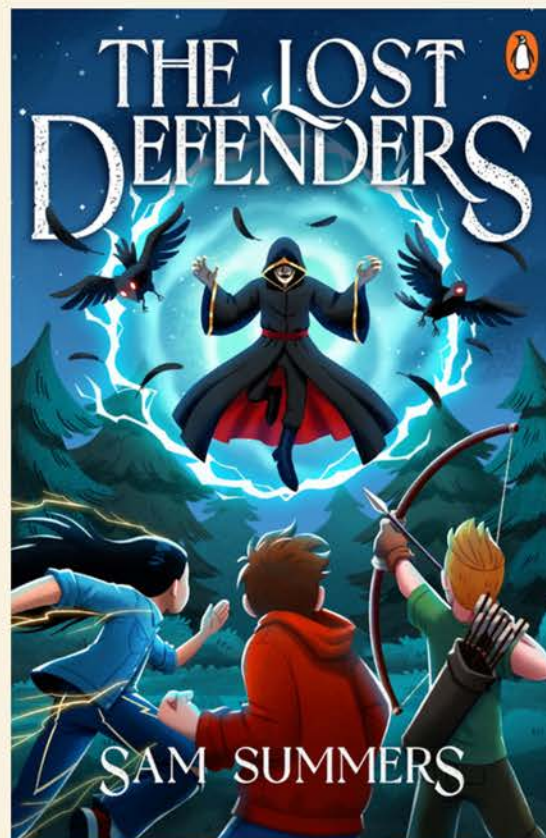
MARCH 2026

Paperback | 240pp | 8+ years



SAM SUMMERS

Sam has had a lifelong dream be an author, to share her passion for creating magical worlds and relatable characters that captivate young readers and inspire them to embrace their own unique abilities. *The Lost Defenders* is her first children's book and does just that.



THE SECRETS AND SCANDALS OF MELODY MOSS

MARCH 2026

Paperback | 336pp | 9+ years

Meet your new bestie Melody Moss in a hilarious new series about friendship, school, and what it takes to survive being 12!

Melody Moss survived Term One of high school. Phew! But Term Two? That's another story . . .

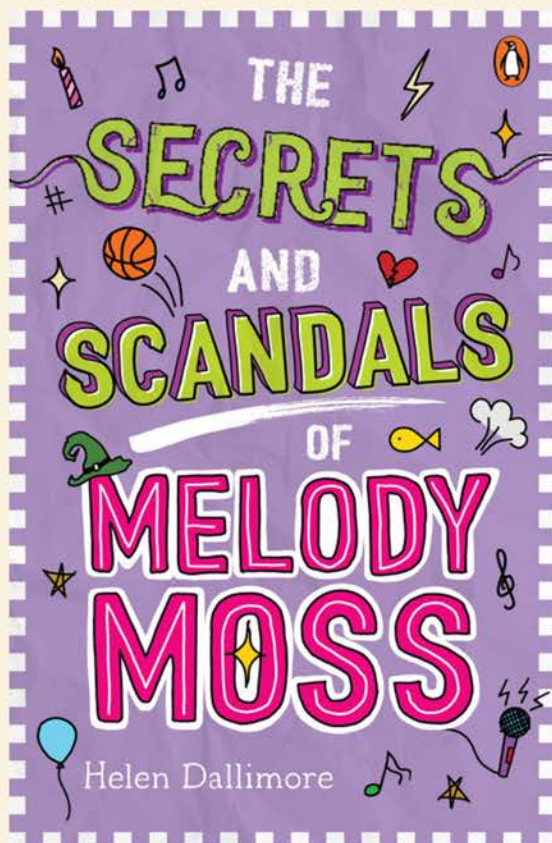
- Her 13th birthday party is shaping up to be the most awkward event in history.
- Her ex-best friend is suddenly her frenemy . . . again.
- Victor, her actual BFF, is acting seriously weird.
- She's accidentally joined the basketball club (help).
- The 'visitors' from her imagination keep popping up at the WORST times.
- Her dog still farts. Constantly.

Can Melody juggle friendship fallouts, sporting disasters, musical-theatre mayhem, and first/second love without it all blowing up in her face?

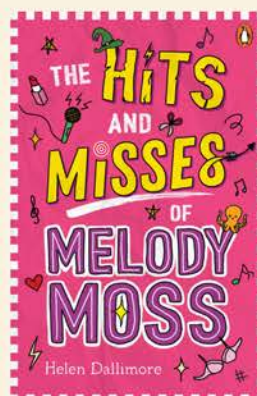


HELEN DALLIMORE

Helen is an actor, singer, director, and writer who has enjoyed a successful career in theatre, musical theatre, film, and TV both in Australia and the UK. She famously originated the role of Glinda in the West End production of *Wicked* opposite Idina Menzel.



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



Book 1: CBCA
Book of the
Year for Younger
Readers 2026
Notable

HEIST: THE ULTIMATE ALIEN SWINDLE

JULY 2026

Paperback | 288pp | 9-12 years

The Heist team are back a 3rd time, and the stakes have never been higher!

Following the spectacular success of their last heist that led to the tragic blunder of an incoming alien invasion, Andy and his teammates have an epic challenge ahead of them to bring the humans and aliens together against a common enemy.

But things are made all the more tricky when it's discovered they have a traitor in their midsts.

Will the team be able to conquer the high-tech alien AI in order to save the world? Of course they will! But how . . . ?



JOEL MCKERROW

Joel is an award-winning writer, keynote speaker, creativity specialist, children's author, educator and, having performed for hundreds of thousands of people throughout the world, is one of Australia's most successful performance poets.



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



THE EPICALLY AWESOME ODYSSEY, AS TOLD BY NANNY PIGGINS

JUNE 2026
Paperback | 256pp | 10+ years

Nanny Piggins returns with a porcine retelling of the biggest, the greatest, the most epic, the most Herculean of all the Greek myths – the Odyssey!

An epically funny novel to horrify good children and delight the wicked ones – R.A. Spratt's take on the classic text is full of cake, mockery, and mirth.

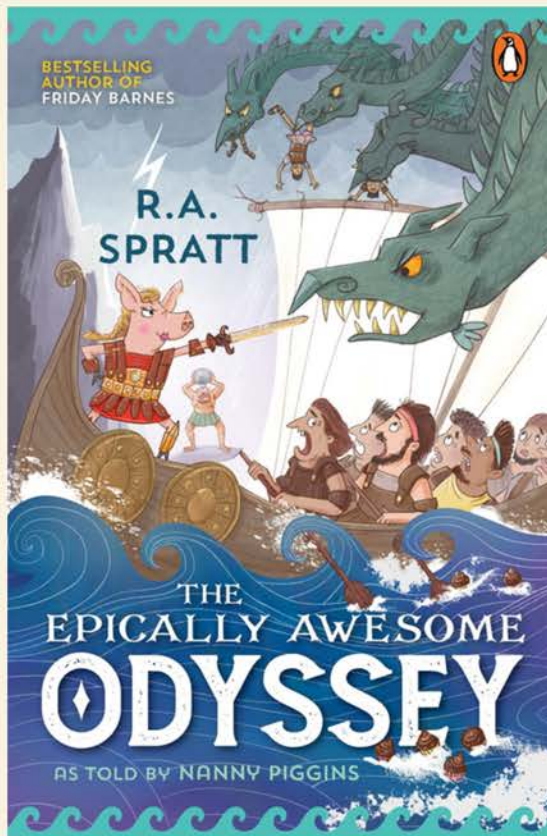
Here Odysseus is, of course, a beautiful female pig; the sea sirens tempt sailors with bowls of chocolate cake batter; and a forbidden barbeque on the island of Thrinacia has most disastrous results . . .

The perfect book for before bed, avoiding homework, or for the times you've been told to reflect on your morals, and you need empirical evidence that grown-ups, and gods, all behave far worse than you ever have.

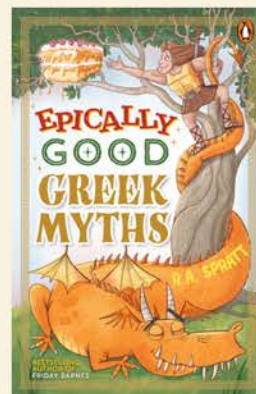


R.A. SPRATT

R.A. is the bestselling author of dozens of absurd and funny series including Friday Barnes, The Adventures of Nanny Piggins, The Peski Kids, and the *Shockingly* and *Astonishingly Good Stories* collections. Her podcast, *Bedtime Stories with R.A. Spratt*, has had over 7M downloads and connects her with story-lovers across the globe.



ALSO AVAILABLE



ROMEO V JULIET

The OG enemies-to-lovers story gets the R.A. Spratt treatment!

Selby does not want to be in the school play. She is much happier behind the scenes painting sets – anything to avoid standing on stage in front of an audience, performing for disinterested classmates and overenthusiastic parents.

So Selby did not plan on landing the lead role of Juliet . . . and she certainly never planned to land in Verona and meet Juliet in person.

With chaos, wit, and R.A. Spratt wisdom, if those who rush stumble and fall, Romeo and Juliet are about to crash-land into a modern-day town.

FEBRUARY 2026

Paperback | 224pp | 12+ years



R.A. SPRATT

R.A. is the bestselling author of dozens of absurd and funny series including Friday Barnes, The Adventures of Nanny Piggins, The Peski Kids, and the *Shockingly* and *Astonishingly Good Stories* collections. Her podcast, *Bedtime Stories with R.A. Spratt*, has had over 7M downloads and connects her with story-lovers across the globe.



ALSO AVAILABLE



DON'T LET THEM LEAVE

A compelling and spooky thriller in the best classic ghost story tradition. Inspired by Stephen King, Mike Lucas is a modern master of suspense.

One island.
One house.
One curse.

Ghosts aren't real and houses can't come to life.

Charlotte knows these facts to be true.

Yet when Charlotte and her siblings are orphaned and sent to live with their grandmother on remote Black Island, she begins to realise that only one thing is certain: they shouldn't be there.

But will they ever be able to leave?

MAY 2026

Paperback | 384pp | 12+ years

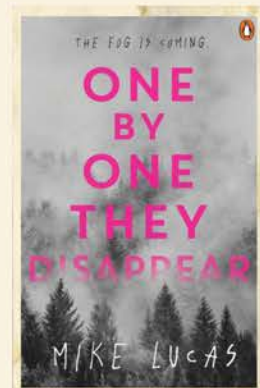
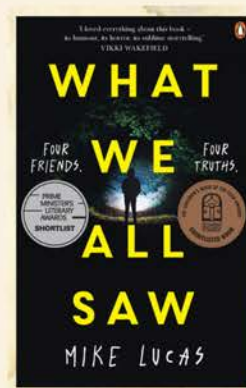


MIKE LUCAS

Mike's middle grade fiction has been shortlisted for the Readings Book Prize, CBCA Book of the Year Awards, and the Prime Minister's Literary Awards. His picture book, *Where is Cheeky Monster?*, won the 2025 Speech Pathology Award for children aged 0 to 3 years.



ALSO AVAILABLE



WHALE SHARK JACK

Based on the heartwarming and adventure-packed family movie, *Whale Shark Jack* – now streaming on STAN.

12-year-old Sarah lives on a boat at sea with her whale shark-researcher parents. Out on the ocean, her only friend is Jack the whale shark, who she rescued when he was just a pup.

After a tragedy on the waves, Sarah and her mum are forced to move back to a small coastal town. It's a struggle to fit in, and Sarah can only hope that when Jack's migration brings him closer to their new home, her mum will take them back out to sea.

But Jack is in danger – and it's going to take the help of some local kids to save him.

MARCH 2026

Paperback | 224pp | 8+ years



KATHRYN LEFROY

Kathryn writes screenplays for film and TV, novels, and articles about technology for some of the world's top brands. She's currently developing projects with production companies across the US, UK, Australia, and India.



MIDDLE GRADE SPOTLIGHT



FRIDAY BARNES 1-13 by R.A. Spratt

13: JUNE 2025

Paperback | 256pp | 10+ years

RIGHTS SOLD

1-4: US (Macmillan)

- * **Screen rights optioned by CJZ**
 - * **450K+ copies sold in Australia**
 - * **Winner: Davitt Awards 2016 (Children's)**
-



KENSY AND MAX 1-10 by Jacqueline Harvey

10: MAY 2023

Paperback | 400pp | 8+ years

RIGHTS SOLD

1-7: US (Macmillan)

- * **130K+ copies sold in Australia**
-



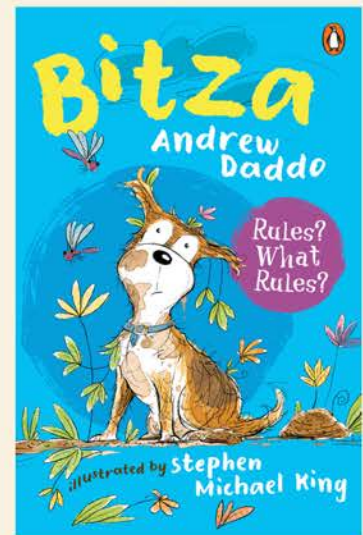
THE STUPENDOUSLY SPECTACULAR SPELLING BEE 1-2 by Deborah Abela

2: APRIL 2026

Paperback | 288pp | 9-11 years

- * **Screen rights optioned by Fury Film**
- * **Shortlisted: REAL Children's Choice Awards 2019 (Younger Readers)**

JUNIOR FICTION



TOILET TIME MACHINE 2.0

Introducing the *NEW* and *IMPROVED** Toilet Time Machine!

**Shinier and now runs on rotten food.*

Max should be happy. The toilet time machine is fixed and now runs on safer renewable energy (rotten food), his little brother is no longer feral, and his dad has even started dating. (EWWW!)

But Max has a new problem: he wants to be friends with Evie, the cool teenager from next door. Yet there's no way she'd want to hang out with some lame kid she's getting PAID TO BABYSIT. Right?

If only there was some sort of MACHINE that could turn Max into a teen as well . . .

OCTOBER 2026

Paperback | 144pp | 7+ years

Illustrated

RIGHTS SOLD

1: Czech Republic (Dobrovský), 1-2:
China (Diao Yuan)



MARK SERRELS

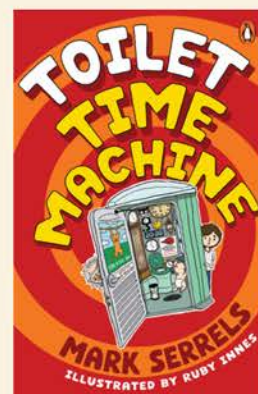
Mark has spent over 10 years as an award-winning games journalist, editing the cult website, Kotaku Australia.

RUBY INNES

Co-host of a Twitch video game show, Ruby Innes has been drawing her entire life.



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



SECRETS OF A 4TH GRADE WITCH

A magical new series in the wondrous world of Cauldron & Co. Witch Academy.

Gwen Ragwort is the WORST ELF EVER. She can't make a shoe to save herself, doesn't know a mop from a bucket, and is allergic to reindeer.

Then Gwen finds out she's not an elf at all, but a witch, and is whisked away to Cauldron & Co. Witch Academy by her broom-riding, iguana-morphing Grandma Agnes. There, Gwen meets her new dorm mates and coven – Glimmer the kind Sea Witch, Rory the hot-headed Fire Witch, and Nova the hard-working Sky Witch.

Being a witch is no easier than being an elf, so at least Gwen has Kit, her fox-cub familiar. But when Kit is stolen along with all the other familiars, Gwen must use her Wood Witch abilities to uncover the culprits before old grievances between the Witch Clans threaten to tear her coven apart.

MARCH 2027

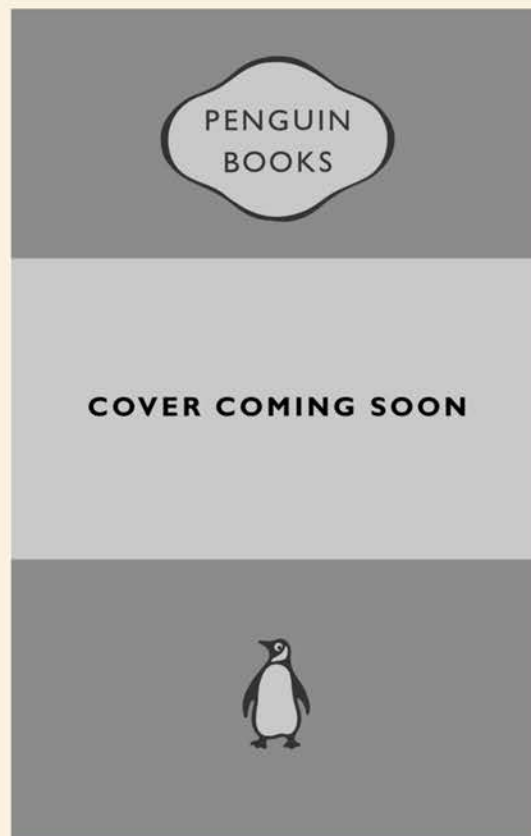
Paperback | 192pp | 7+ years

Illustrated



REBECCA TIMMIS

Rebecca is an author-illustrator of magical and adventurous junior fiction stories with plenty of humour and heart.



SUNNY AND STORM

A fun, funny illustrated new series written by comedian, bestselling author, and social media sensation, Tanya Hennessy.

Best friends Sunny and Storm are besticles with a wondermonious talent for creating new words.

They also have a knack for creating chaos – and calming it. Whether it's becoming prime suspects in a crime they didn't commit or a VIP town visit on the brink of a pink mud disaster, they'll have to dodge biggity trouble to investigate.

Armed with their secret language, they're ready to take on any adventure.

This series will make you laugh. It will make you cry. It will even make you wobblebobble!

1: MARCH 2026

2: AUGUST 2026

Paperback | 144pp | 7+ years

Illustrated

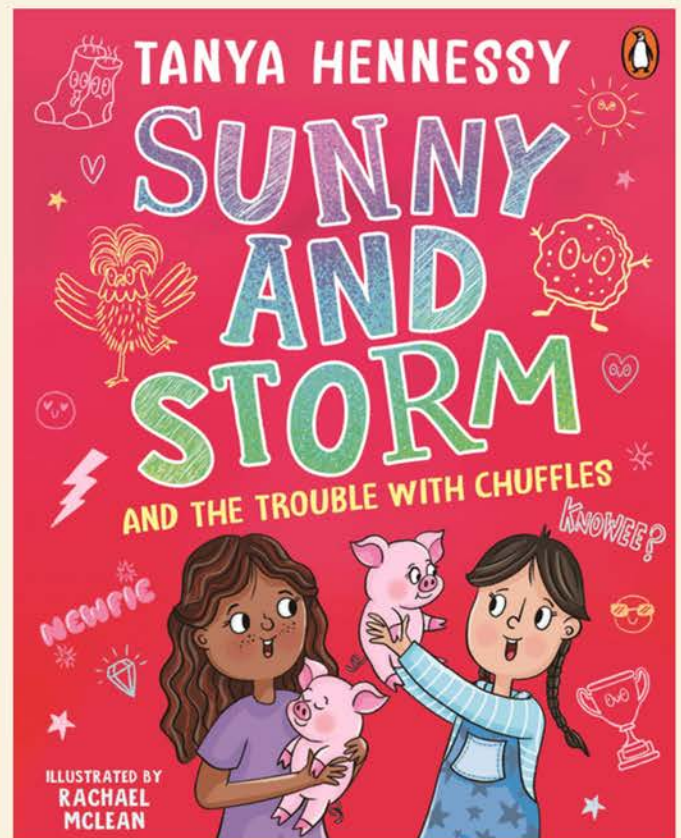
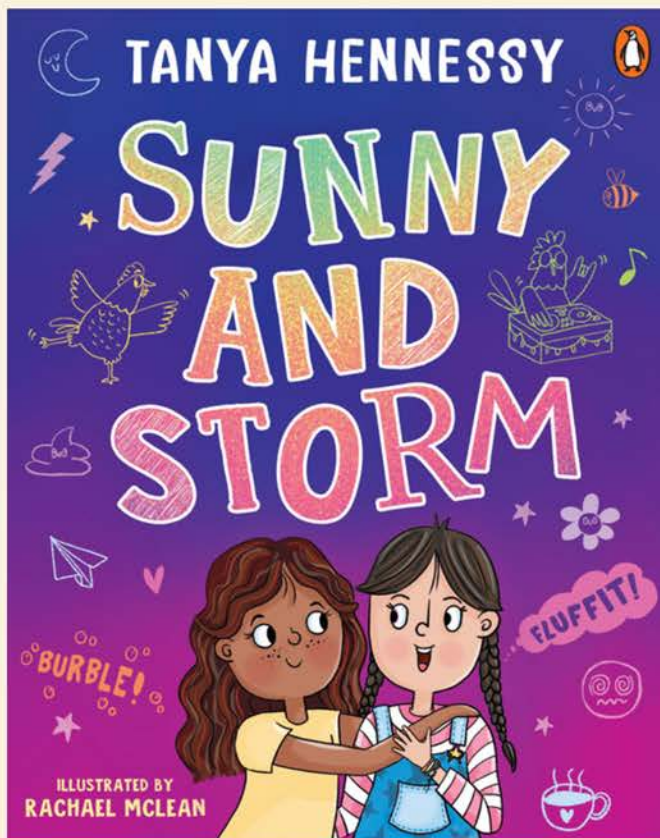


TANYA HENNESSY

Tanya is a comedian, radio announcer, podcaster, TV presenter, multi-bestselling author, and social media sensation. Her international following is over 2.3M and she has 1B views across socials.

RACHAEL MCLEAN

Rachael's playful, inclusive artwork has appeared in bestselling children's books worldwide.



IT'S A TWIN THING

A fun, warm-hearted new series from bestselling author – and twin – Kristin Darell.

Identical twins Abi and Brook are inseparable. They've always been in the same class; they dance together; they're in a rock band together; they even have the same best friend.

But new challenges at school and crazy decisions put everything they think they know about each other to the test.

Can Abi and Brook find a way to accept the changes in themselves and each other?

1: FEBRUARY 2026

2: AUGUST 2026

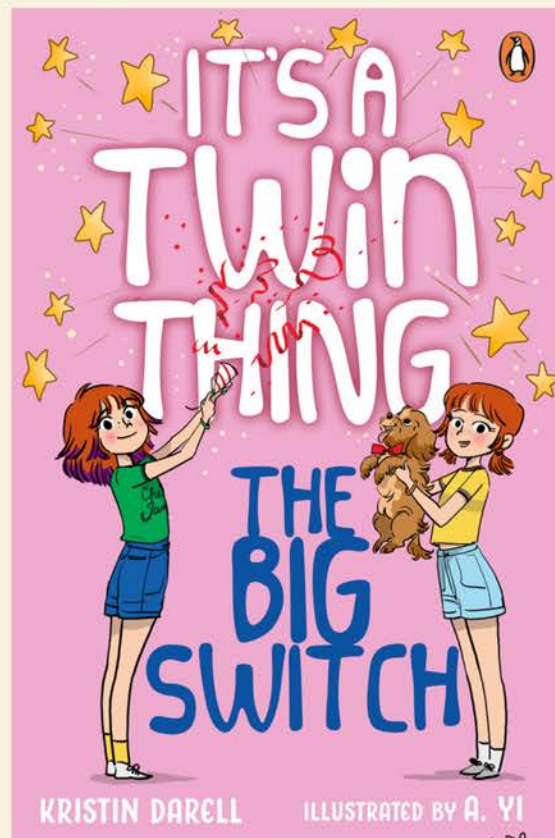
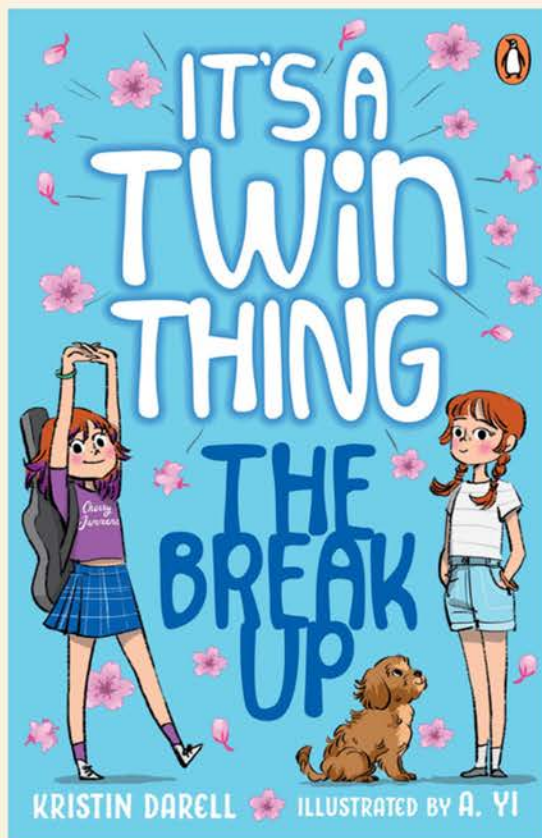
Paperback | 192pp | 7-9 years

Illustrated



KRISTIN DARELL

Kristin worked as a broadcast news and sports journalist for major Australian news organisations for more than 20 years. She is a strong advocate for children's literature, working as the Program Manager for the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation.



BITZA

From irreverent funny man and unashamed mutt dog lover, Andrew Daddo, and illustrated by proven mutt dog expert, Stephen Michael King!

A heartwarming and fabulously funny new series for girls and boys, told from the point of view of a dog looking for a new family:

I'm Bitza the dog! A bit Labrador and a bit Poodle. A bit Kelpy and Staffy and maybe even Hound. Lots of different dog bits make up the lot of me.

1-2: FEBRUARY 2026

3-4: SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 128pp | 7-9 years

Illustrated

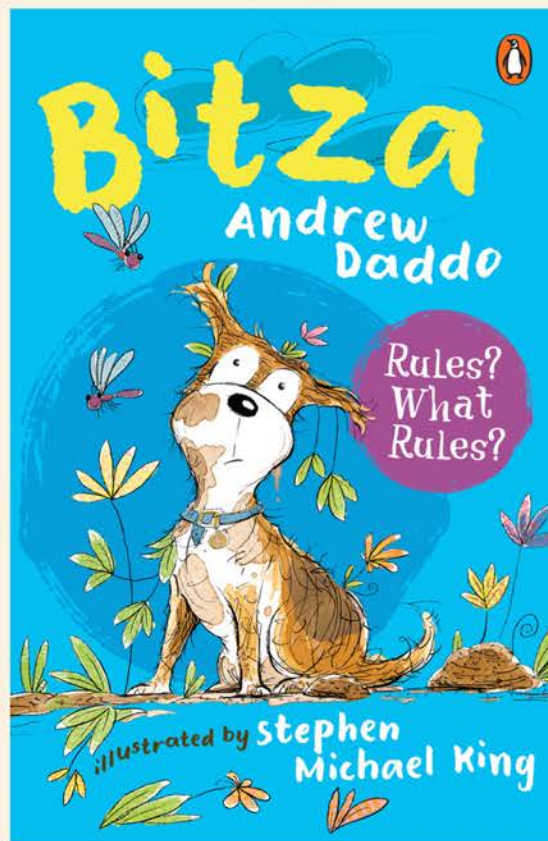
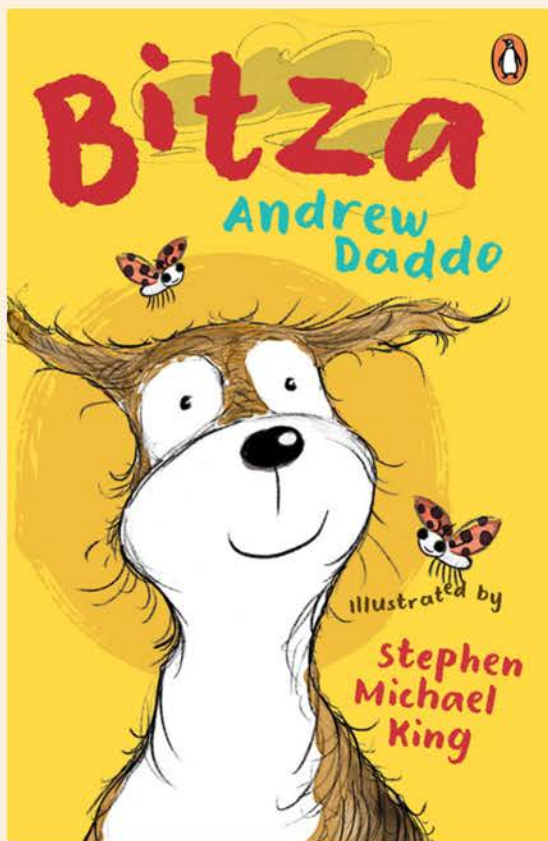


ANDREW DADDO

Andrew has appeared on TV and stage, presented radio programs and podcasts, made movies, and written over 50 books.

STEPHEN MICHAEL KING

Stephen is an internationally renowned, award-winning author and illustrator. His books have been translated into over 20 languages.



MARY FOWLER

From Mary Fowler, the most influential woman in Australian sport, comes a joyous new series to engage, inspire, and humour emerging readers.

Hey. My name is Maz!

From footballs stuck in trees to cute dogs causing mayhem during beach birthdays, and from athletics carnival disasters to zoo excursions – Mary and her friends hatch plans to solve any problems the day can throw at them.

1-2: MARCH 2026

3-4: JULY 2026

Paperback | 80pp | 6-9 years

Illustrated

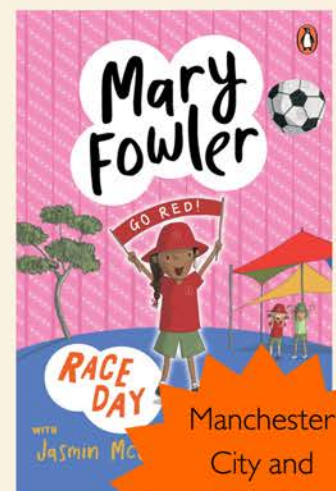
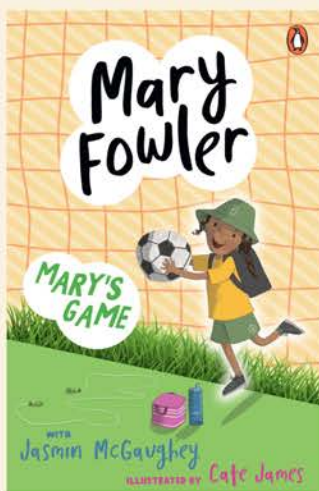


MARY FOWLER

Mary is a rising global football icon. Making her international debut at just 15, she has gone on to perform on the world's biggest stages, including the FIFA Women's World Cup and the Olympics.

CATE JAMES

Cate has worked on 40 illustrated books and publications to date in Australia, the UK, and the US.



Manchester City and Australian national team player

WILLA AND WOOF

A humorous and heartfelt series perfect for newly independent readers about 8-year-old Willa and her best four-legged friend Woof!

Full of adventure and fun, this series will charm young readers with the spirited and imaginative problem-solving skills of smart young Willa.

With the help of her best same-age friend Tae Jin and her best old-age friend Frank, and of course, her trusty sidekick Woof the albino Irish Wolfhound, Willa must devise her most creative ideas to save the day. From missing racing pigeons to school plays to camping chaos, Willa is always up to the task.

8: OCTOBER 2024

Paperback | 128pp | 7-9 years

Illustrated

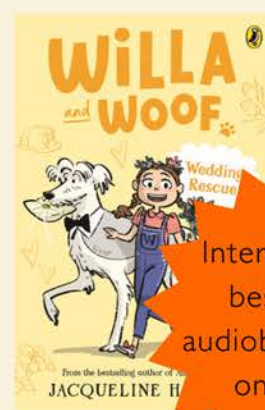
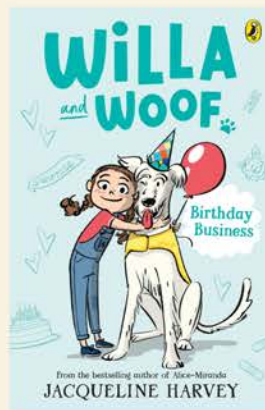
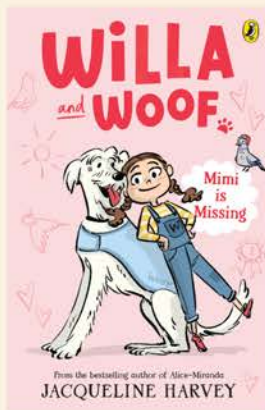
RIGHTS SOLD

Brazil (Editora Fundamento)

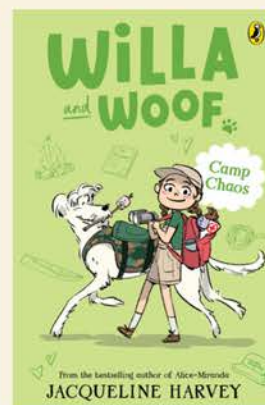
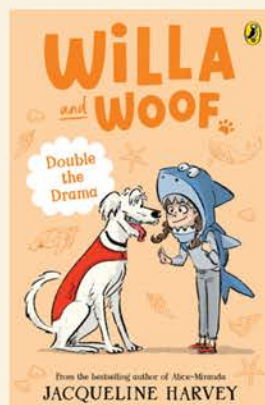
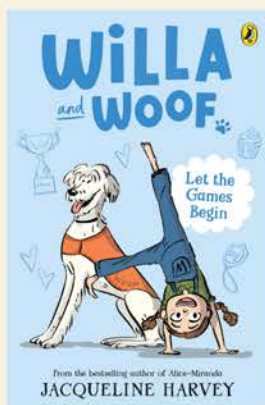


JACQUELINE HARVEY

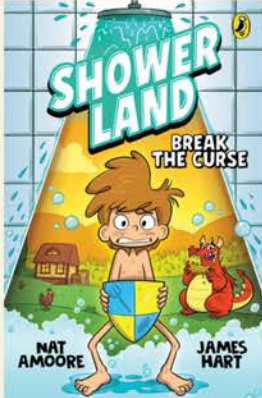
Jacqueline worked in schools for many years but has had a passion for storytelling since she was a child. She is the author of the popular Alice-Miranda, Clementine Rose, Kensy and Max, and Willa and Woof series, which have sold almost 2M copies in Australia alone.



Internationally bestselling audiobook series on YOTO



JUNIOR FICTION SPOTLIGHT



SHOWER LAND 1-3 by Nat Amooore & James Hart

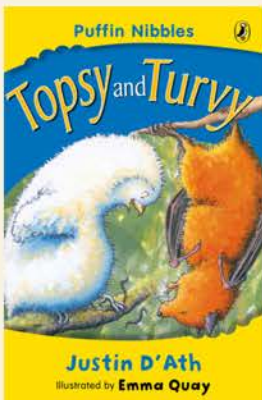
3: SEPTEMBER 2024

Paperback | 208pp | 7-9 years | Illustrated

RIGHTS SOLD

Romania (Eesti Raamat)

* **Notable: CBCA Book of the Year Awards 2025 (Younger Readers)**



PUFFIN NIBBLES (multiple titles by various authors)

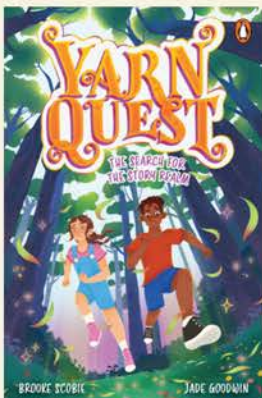
2019

Paperback | 80pp | 6-9 years | Illustrated

RIGHTS SOLD

Korea (BookInFish)

* **A selection of favourite bestselling titles, returning by popular demand with a fresh new look as Puffin Nibbles**



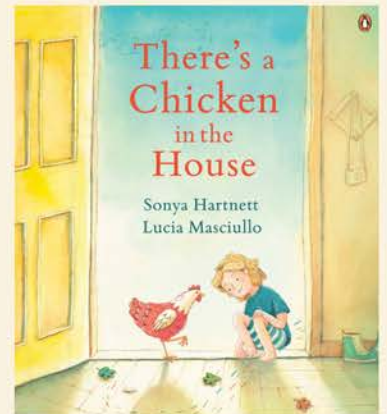
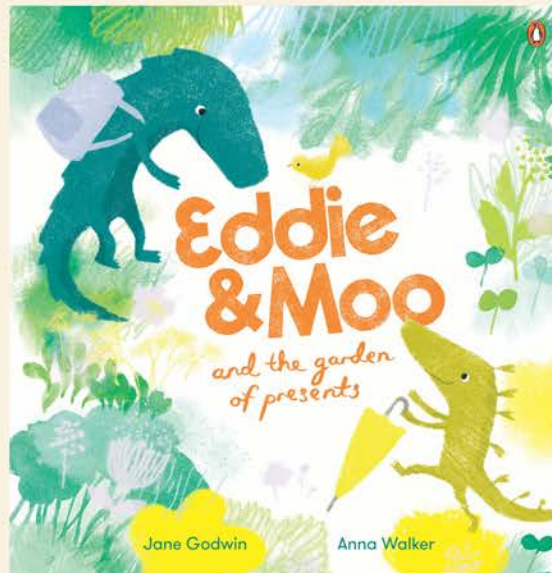
YARN QUEST 1-3 by Brooke Scobie & Jade Goodwin

3: JULY 2024

Paperback | 112pp | 7-9 years | Illustrated

* **Debut First Nations fantasy adventure trilogy**

PICTURE BOOKS



BACKPACKS!

An ode to the pre-school backpack!

Let's lift the flaps and take a peek inside some bags to see what the contents reveal about the children, their interests, and their busy days of play.

OCTOBER 2026

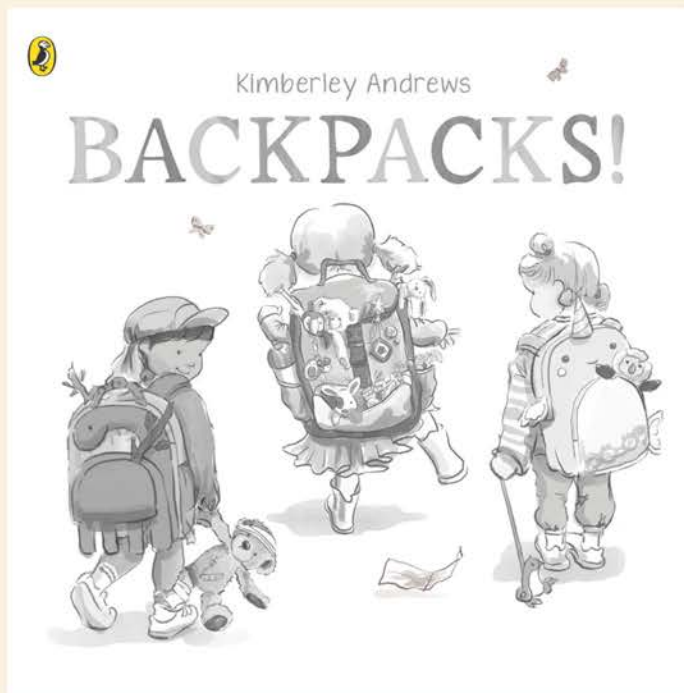
Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years



KIMBERLY ANDREWS

The first story Kimberly wrote and illustrated, *Puffin the Architect*, won the Russell Clark Award for Illustration and was a finalist for Best Picture Book in the New Zealand Book Awards. It also won a Storylines Notable Picture Book Award as well as the NZ Booklovers Award for Best Children's Book. It has also been published in five territories.

DRAFT COVER



DRAFT PAGES



BIG BANG BREAD: A 13.8-BILLION-YEAR-OLD ADVENTURE

JUNE 2026

Paperback | 32pp | 6-9 years

A time-travel storybook and cookbook with a cosmic twist – take a journey through time and space to discover the secrets of baking.

Did you know that bread is made from stardust? Board the rocket and blast off on an adventure through time and space to discover the secrets of a home-baked loaf!

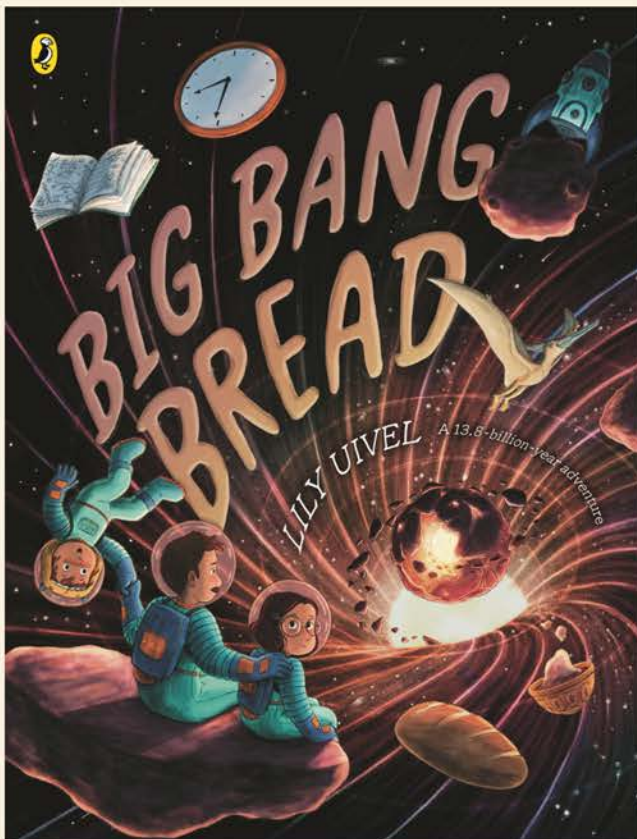
Take off with the Big Bang, and drop in on dinosaurs, Ancient Egypt, and other far-flung times and places. Encompassing physics, biology, and chemistry, children will be blown away to discover the world history and science of bread making.

With a recipe to make their own loaf at home, *Big Bang Bread* is a great way to kickstart delicious experiments and cooking adventures in the home kitchen.



LILY UIVEL

Lily has worked across multiple creative industries, including advertising, design, and film. She has also illustrated a number of picture books. *Big Bang Bread* is the first book she has both written and illustrated.



THERE'S A CHICKEN IN THE HOUSE

AUGUST 2026

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

A sweet and funny picture book from award-winning, internationally renowned author Sonya Hartnett, and award-winning illustrator Lucia Masciullo.

This morning the wind blew the door open, and a chicken came into our house.

'Outside, chicken!' I commanded.

But the chicken did not go.

What do you do when a curious chicken comes to visit?

A perfect celebration of the joys that unexpected moments and visitors can bring, and the special connections enjoyed between children and animals.

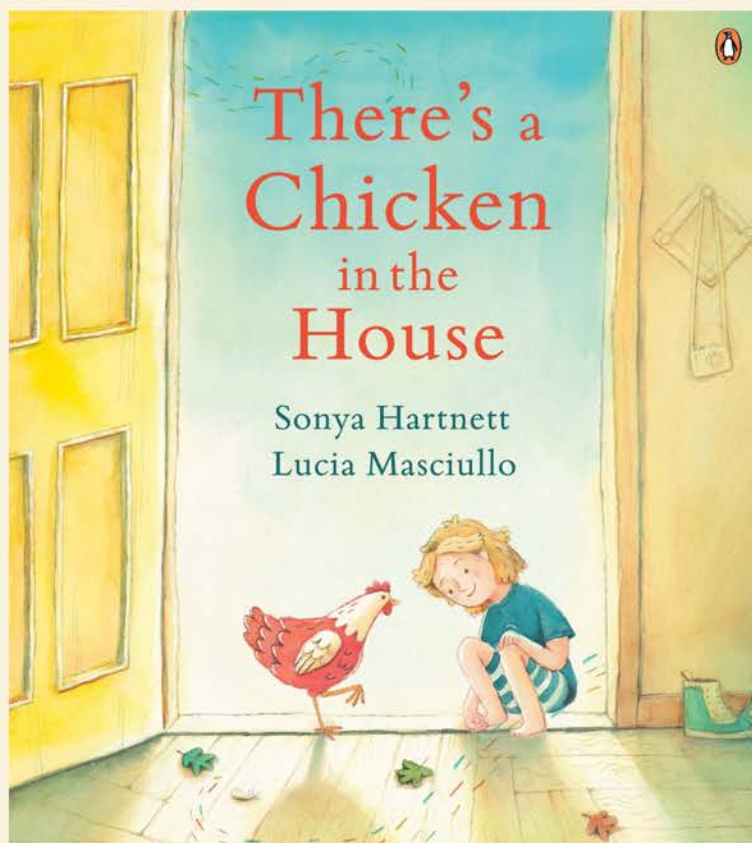


SONYA HARTNETT

Sonya's accolades include the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize, the CBCA Book of the Year, the Victorian Premier's Literary Award, and shortlistings for the Miles Franklin Award and the CILP Carnegie Medal.

LUCIA MASCIULLO

Lucia has illustrated more than 30 books, among which is the CBCA Honour Book and Prime Minister's Award shortlisted, *Come Down, Cat!*



FLOATING BY THE CLOUDS

JUNE 2026

Hardback | 32pp | 5+ years

A gorgeous, lyrical picture book about embracing our complex emotions.

Will you tell me your sorrows?
Release your mind of its worries?
Come, when you are ready,
Join me on this journey.
I'll be waiting for you . . .
floating by the clouds.

Using metaphors from the weather, this beautiful picture book for young readers showcases accepting both the highs and lows of our emotions, with a reassuring message that the dark clouds do move on and rainbows follow storms.

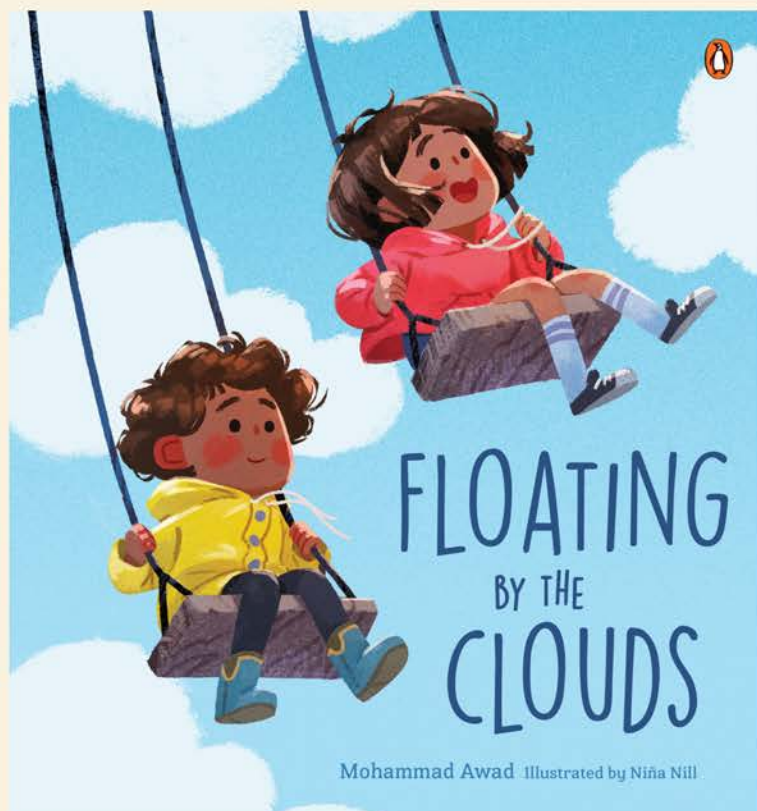


MOHAMMAD AWAD

Mohammad is a Queer/Arab/Muslim, Writer/Director/Poet/Playwright and Mental Health Advocate. He is a well-known spoken word poet and has featured in the Sydney Writers Festival, Sydney Opera House, and Sydney Mardi Gras and World Pride among other events.

NIÑA NILL

Niña has been illustrating for over a decade and is passionate about creating heartfelt stories for children.



OH NO!

Noisy words are the real heroes in this hilarious picture book of chaotic proportions.

What's that noise?

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP.

It's for elephant. He has a special cake.

What's that noise?

OINK! BUMP! YEURGH!

Oh no! That's the sound of a dizzy pig in speedos bumping into an elephant holding a cake . . .

Expect the unexpected and enjoy the building chaos with each turn of the page. Warning: LOLs are inevitable.

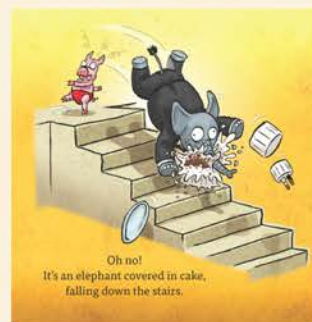
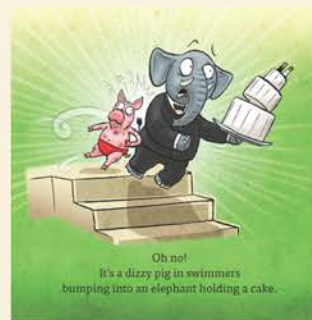
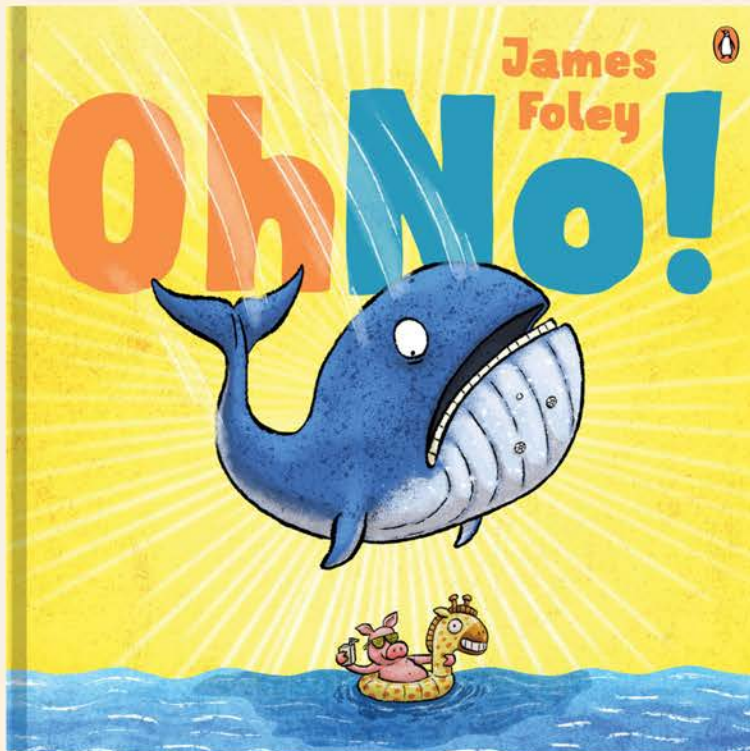
MAY 2026

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years



JAMES FOLEY

James Foley is a children's author and illustrator. He makes picture books, comics, and middle-grade novels. His books include the Toffle Towers series, *Total Quack Up*, *Brobot*, *Dungzilla*, *Gastronauts*, *My Dead Bunny*, and *The Last Viking*. James is an ambassador for Books In Homes and Room to Read Australia.



EMMA MEMMA: HIDE-AND-SEEK

JULY 2026

Board book | 12pp | 5+ years

Play hide-and-peek with Emma Memma in this lift-the-flap adventure.

Join Emma Memma and search for the animals in the jungle. What will you find?

The perfect book for every toddler, focusing on play, animal fun, and an interactive element with lift-the-flaps!

Includes:

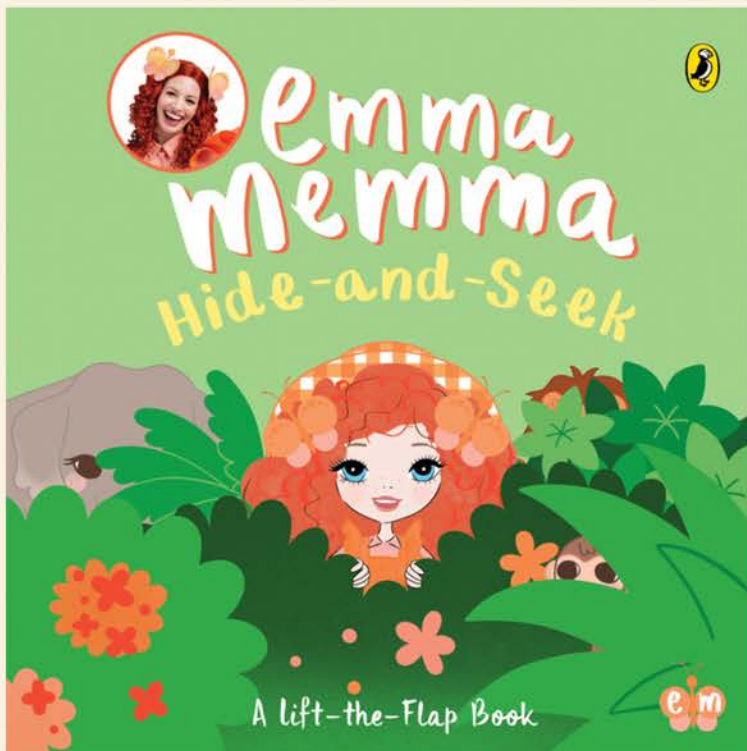
- Illustrated and consulted by Deaf artists
- Bright, cute illustrations
- QR code to Emma Memma's songs



EMMA MEMMA

Emma gained recognition as the first female member of The Wiggles.

Now, as beloved children's entertainer Emma Memma, with her love of dance, sign language, and music, she brings visual communication to the forefront of the children's media space. She is empowering the next generation through movement, creativity, inclusiveness, and friendship.



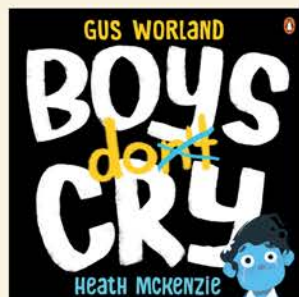
ALSO AVAILABLE



Emma Memma collaborated with Sesame Street in 2025

37M views on YouTube

PICTURE BOOK SPOTLIGHT



BOYS DO CRY by Gus Worland & Heath McKenzie

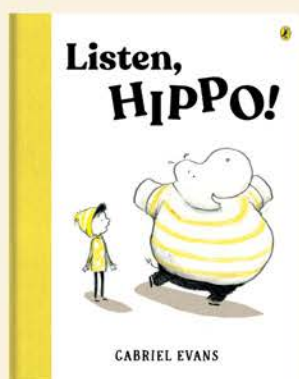
FEBRUARY 2025

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

RIGHTS SOLD

US (RHCB), Taiwan (ACME)

* **Screen rights optioned by the BBC**



LISTEN, HIPPO! by Gabriel Evans

APRIL 2024

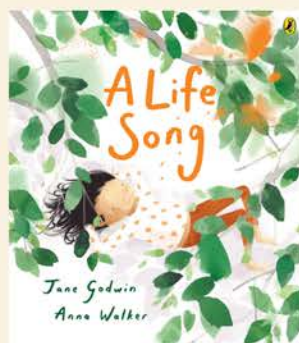
Hardback | 32pp | 5+ years

RIGHTS SOLD

US (Penguin), Germany (Mixtvision), Belgium (Mijade-NordSud), Spain (Bellaterra Edicions), Brazil (Fundamento)

* **Shortlist: Victorian Premier's Literary Awards 2025 (Children's)**

* **Notable: CBCA Book of the Year Awards 2025 (Picture Book)**



A LIFE SONG by Jane Godwin & Anna Walker

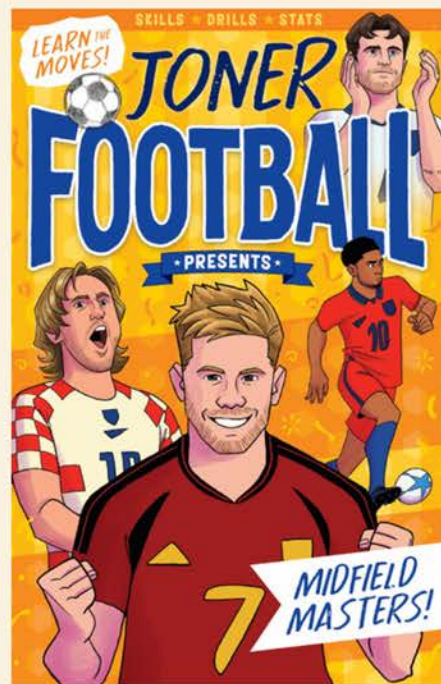
OCTOBER 2023

Paperback | 32pp | 6-9 years

* **Winner: Australian Book Industry Awards 2024 (Picture Book)**

* **Shortlist: Book People Book of the Year 2024 (Children's)**

NON- FICTION



JONER FOOTBALL PRESENTS

JULY 2026

Paperback | 96pp | 6+ years

Illustrated

Learn from the best and celebrate the greats, from Australia's #1 football trainer @JonerFootball

Want to curl like Messi? Dribble like Mbappé? Hit headers like Ronaldo, and flick it like Neymar?

Joner Football presents a book series for every football fan. Full of DID-YOU-KNOW football facts, awesome biographies, and play-by-play diagrams of easy-to-try moves, chuck these fully illustrated collectibles into your bag alongside your water bottle and shinpads!

Kick off with Lee's list of the game's GREATEST GOALSCORERS, and get it outta there with Lee's list of the game's MIDFIELDER MASTERS!

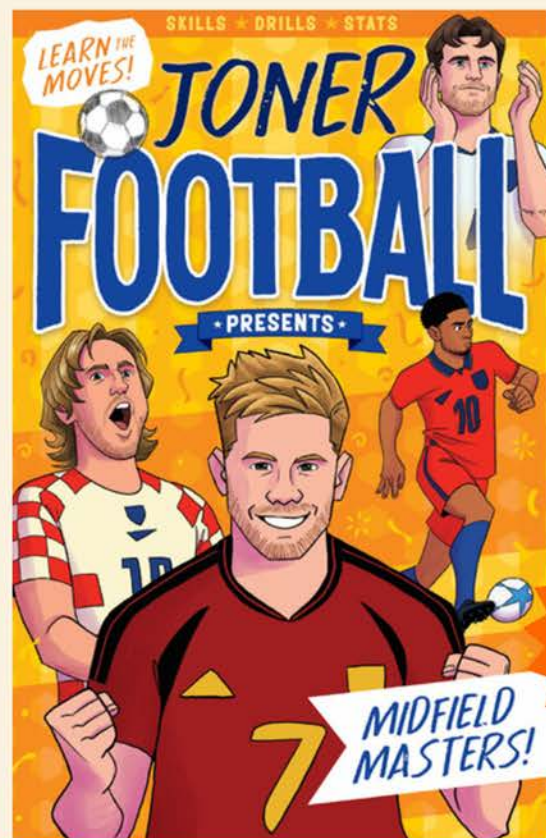
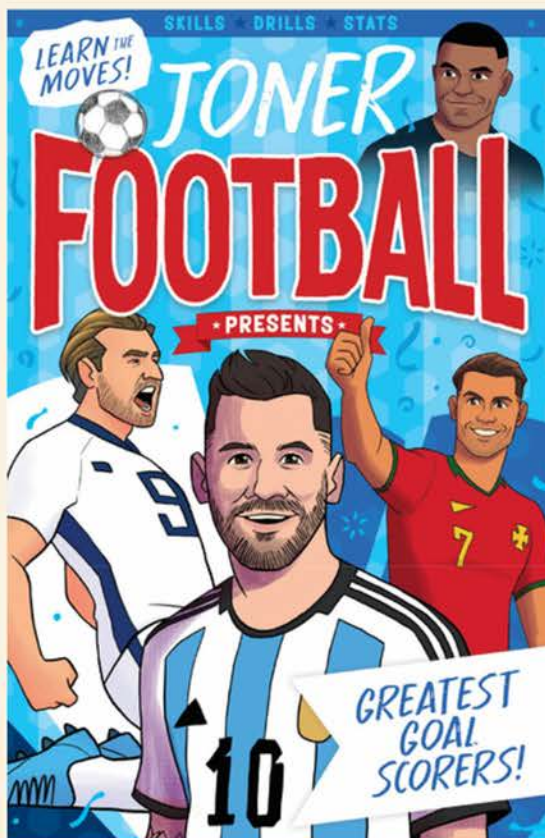
Learn how to nail Ronaldo's signature Step-Over move; how to embarrass defenders like Lamine Yamal; and how to 1v1 like masterful Messi!



LEE JONES

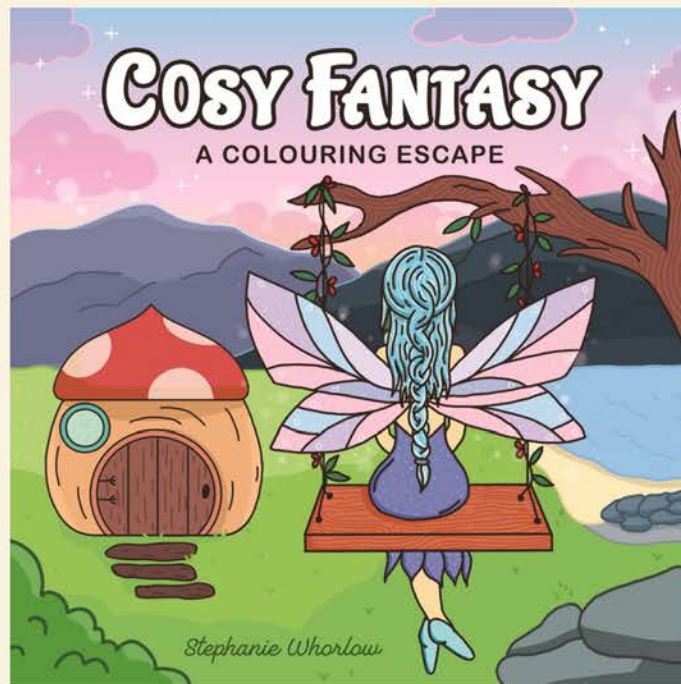
Lee is a former professional footballer and the founder of Joner Football, a global training brand followed by more than 2.5M football fans, coaches, and players around the world. In 2017, Joner Football was named one of the top 10 football technical training brands in the world. Lee has coached everyone from kids to professional players at the highest level.

DRAFT COVERS



Global training brand

COLOURING



COSY FANTASY

Get comfortable and unwind with this cosy fantasy and book themed colouring book.

Escape into a world of calm and comfort with 40 pages of tranquil reading nook settings and fantastical characters including dragons, fairies, witches, and mermaids.

This book is the perfect colouring option for members of the bookish fantasy community. Cosy Fantasy is your escape into other realms.

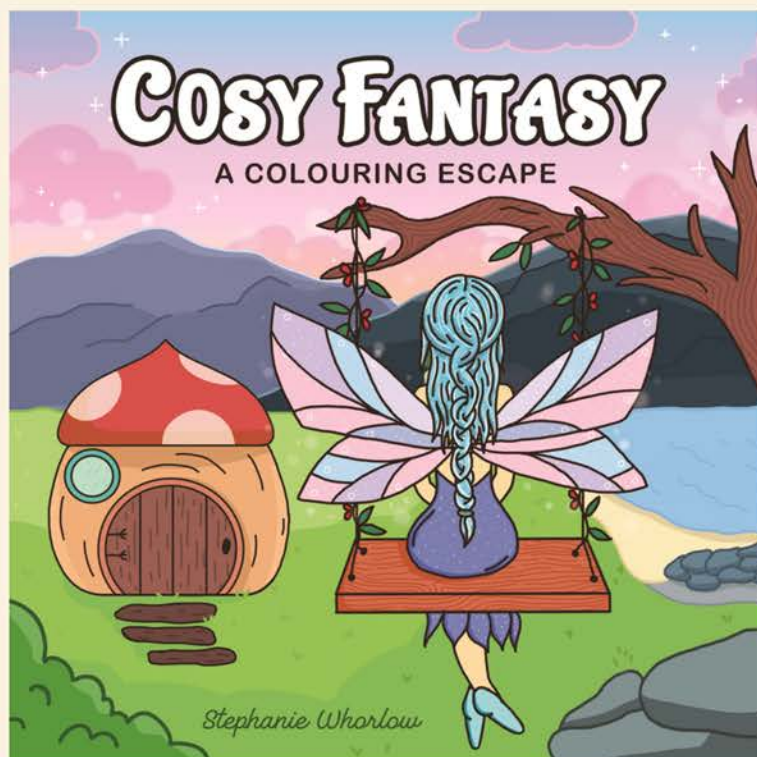
DECEMBER 2025

Paperback | 80pp



STEPHANIE WHORLOW

Stephanie has been a lifelong drawer with a heart for all things magical and creative. When she's not busy at work or being mum to her two children, she loves to spend time reading fantasy, romantasy, and crime/thrillers.



COSY CREATURES: A FANTASY ESCAPE

NOVEMBER 2026

Paperback | 80pp

Unwind with a cosy creature-filled fantasy escape.

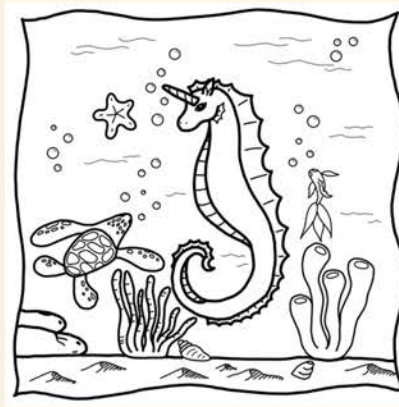
Featuring 40 pages of magical beings – including mermaids, wizards, dragons, and more – this colouring book is perfect for fans of the enigmatic creatures found in fantasy worlds.

Relax, colour, and lose yourself in a peaceful escape to an enchanted world.



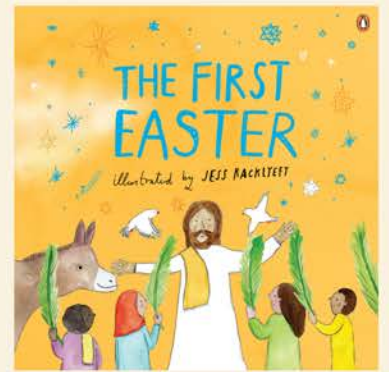
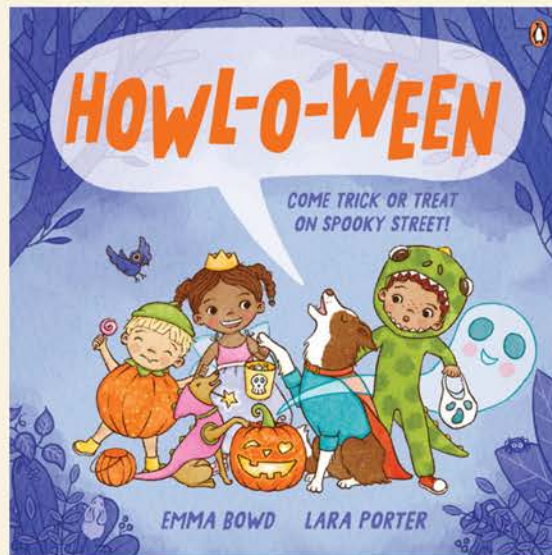
STEPHANIE WHORLOW

Stephanie has been a lifelong drawer with a heart for all things magical and creative. When she's not busy at work or being mum to her two children, she loves to spend time reading fantasy, romantasy, and crime/thrillers.



ROUGH ART

SEASONAL



HOWL-O-WEEN: COME TRICK OR TREAT ON SPOOKY STREET

AUGUST 2026
Hardback | 24pp | 2-7 years
Picture Book

Be bold! Be brave! And come and meet the ghosts and ghouls with furry feet . . .

Who's the scariest beast on Spooky Street? Find out in this pawsome tale of frightfully good fun!

It's Howl-o-ween on Spooky Street, and the children and the dogs dress up to go trick or treating. But will they be brave enough to visit the scary beast at number three?

A rhyming tale celebrating Howl-o-ween, where Halloween is celebrated by dressing up dogs in spooky costumes and meeting all the neighbourhood pups.

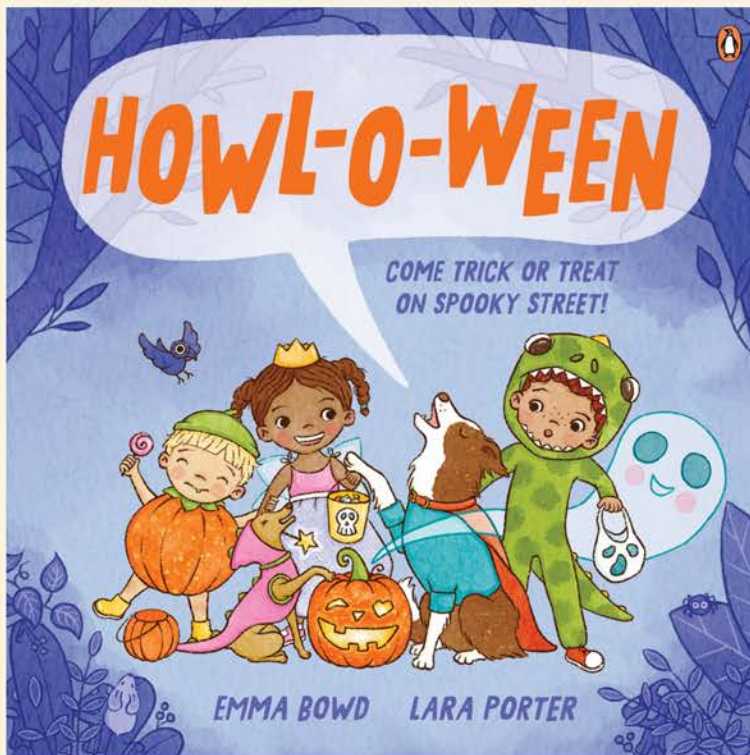


EMMA BOWD

Emma is an internationally published and award-winning author, and a dedicated literacy and disability advocate.

LARA PORTER

Lara's work has earned numerous illustration awards, and she has illustrated three published picture books.



DRAFT PAGES

THE EASTER EGG EXPRESS

Celebrate Easter with Bunny, Bear, and Fox as they hop aboard the Easter Egg Express! Choo-Choo!

The Easter Egg Express,
is rolling into town.
Bunny, Bear and Fox,
are bouncing up and down.

FEBRUARY 2027

Hardback | 24pp | 2-7 years

Picture Book

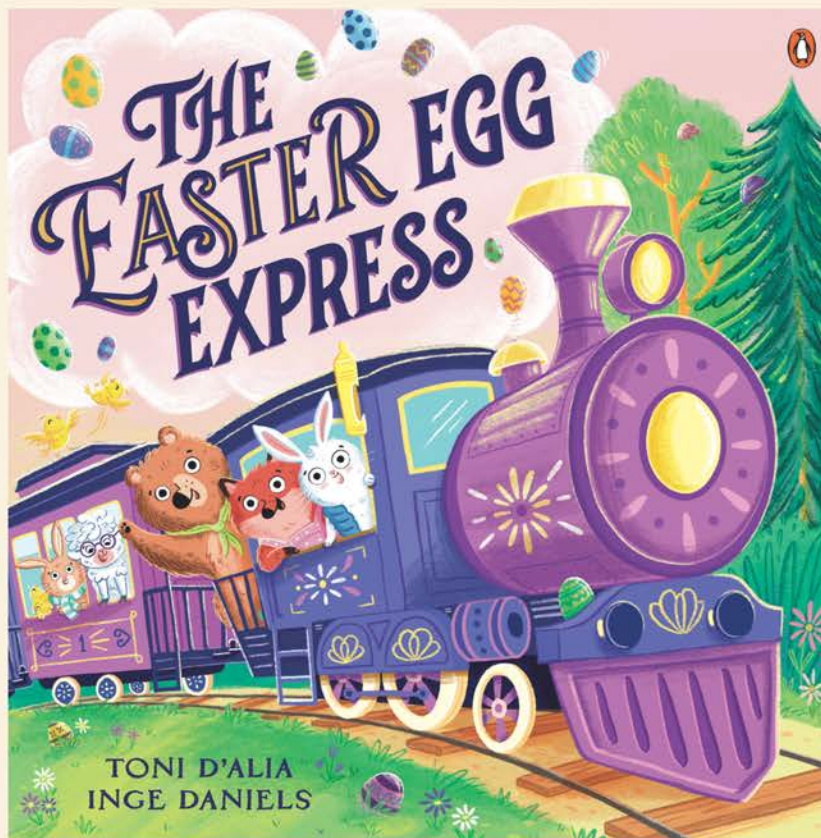


TONI D'ALIA

Toni is a best-selling, award-winning children's book author whose books have been published and translated internationally.

INGE DANIELS

Inge is a graphic designer turned illustrator with a passion for picture books. Her creative path has taken her from the Netherlands through the UK and all the way to Australia.



COSY EASTER

Escape into this cute and cosy world to celebrate the sweetest moments of the Easter season.

Whether gathering with family and friends or enjoying an egg hunt, every page is full of comforting feel-good Easter vibes.

With a total of 45 charming illustrations, this is the perfect book for relaxation!

- 45 unique, professionally illustrated pages ready for colouring.
- Single-sided pages to prevent bleed-through and protect artwork.
- Perfect for seasonal gifting and activities with friends or family over the holiday.
- Easy-to-colour designs with thick lines for a smooth, relaxing colouring experience.

FEBRUAR 2026

Paperback | 96pp

Colouring

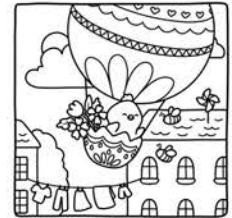
RIGHTS SOLD

Sweden (Tukan förlag)

Amelia Green

AMELIA GREEN

Inspired by all things cosy, creative, and comforting, the Amelia Green collective brings a unique touch to the world of adult and teen colouring books. With bold lines, lovable characters, and relaxing scenes, each book is designed to make colouring feel easy, fun, and soothing.



THE FIRST EASTER

A beautiful book for every family who celebrates the Easter holiday.

A long time ago, in a country far away a man called Jesus travelled to the big city to spread a message of peace and goodwill . . .

The First Easter brings the powerful story of the Easter period to even the youngest reader and celebrates the ways we remember it with joy and happiness, surrounded by those we love.

A beautiful gift book with irresistible illustrations by the creator of *The First Christmas*.

JANUARY 2026

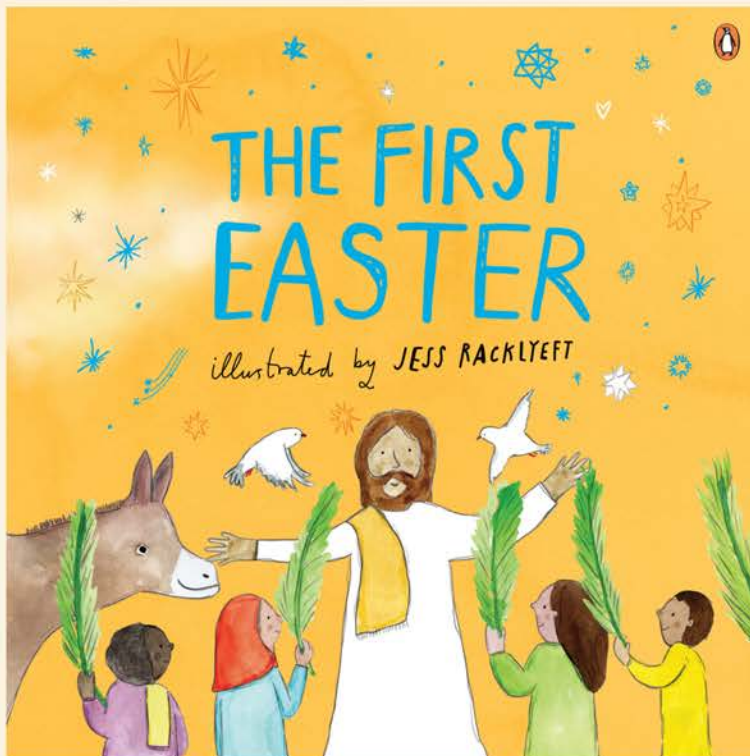
Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

Picture Book



JESS RACKLYEFT

Jess is the acclaimed creator of cards, picture books, original paintings, prints, and all types of different client projects. Her recent awards include the CBCA Notable Picture Book of the Year two years running.



ALSO AVAILABLE



EMMA MEMMA: EASTER EGG HUNT

FEBRUARY 2026

Hardback | 32pp | 5+ years

Picture Book

Sing, dance, and sign with Emma Memma for a magical Easter story time.

It's Easter time, and Emma Memma and her friends are going on an Easter egg hunt around town. Join them as they search high and low for their special Easter surprise!

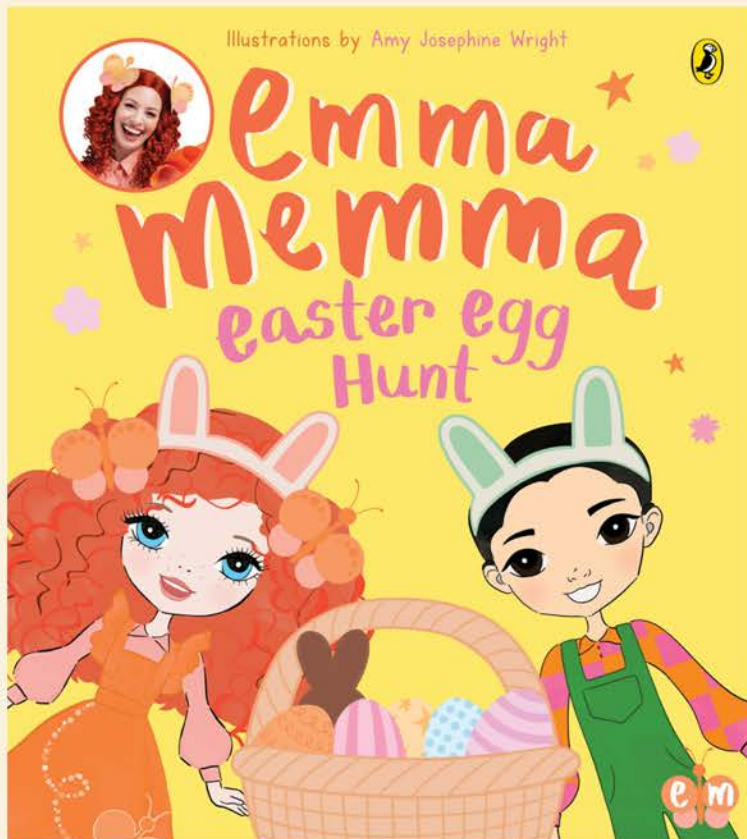
A wonderful Easter gift for Emma Memma fans, and for those who enjoy Easter and the special holiday traditions shared with family and friends.



EMMA MEMMA

Emma gained recognition as the first female member of The Wiggles.

Now, as beloved children's entertainer Emma Memma, with her love of dance, sign language, and music, she brings visual communication to the forefront of the children's media space. She is empowering the next generation through movement, creativity, inclusiveness, and friendship.



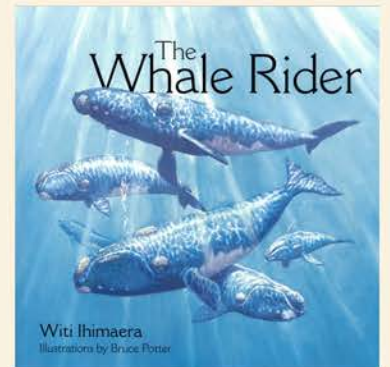
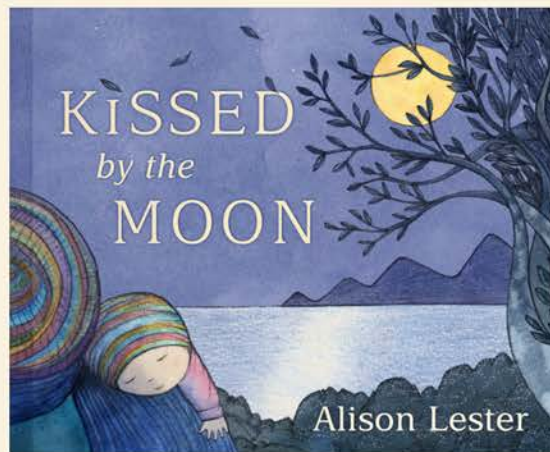
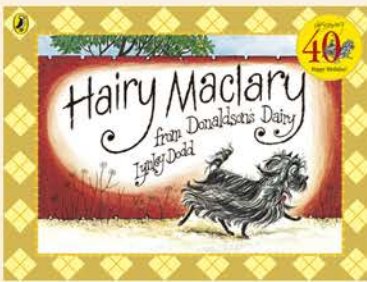
ALSO AVAILABLE



Emma Memma collaborated with Sesame Street in 2025

37M views on YouTube

STAR AUTHORS



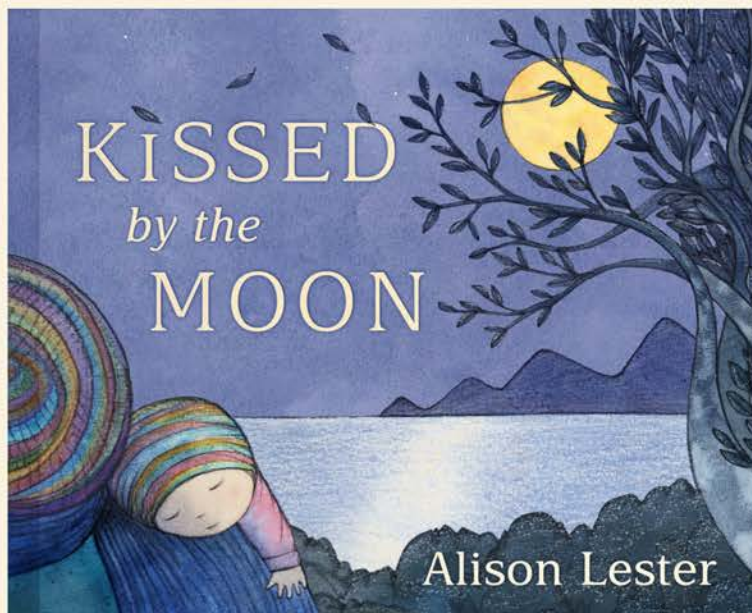
ALISON LESTER

In a career spanning decades, Alison has won numerous prestigious awards, including the Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year Award for her much-loved classic, *Are We There Yet?*, and the Children's Book Council of Australia Eve Pownall Book of the Year Award for *One Small Island*. Alison became Australia's first Children's Book Laureate in 2012. In 2016, Alison was awarded the Dromkeen Medal for her outstanding achievement in the creation of Australian children's and young adult literature, and in 2018 she became the first children's book writer to win the Melbourne Prize for Literature for her contribution to Australian literature and cultural and intellectual life.



Alison is still one of Australia's most popular children's books creators, and her books have sold 720K+ copies in ANZ alone.

OUR TOP PICK



KISSED BY THE MOON

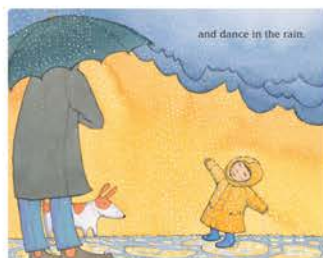
Picture Book

Hardback | 32pp | 2-5 years

- * **Winner: Indie Award (Children's)**
- * **Shortlist: Australian Book Industry Awards (Younger Children)**
- * **Notable: CBCA Book of the Year Awards (Early Childhood)**
- * **Shortlist: Environment Award for Children's Literature (Picture Fiction)**
- * **Shortlist: Prime Minister's Literary Awards (Children's Fiction)**
- * **Shortlist: Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Awards (0-3 Years)**



May you search in the sky,
play in the snow.



and dance in the rain.

365K+
copies
sold in
Australia

LYNLEY DODD

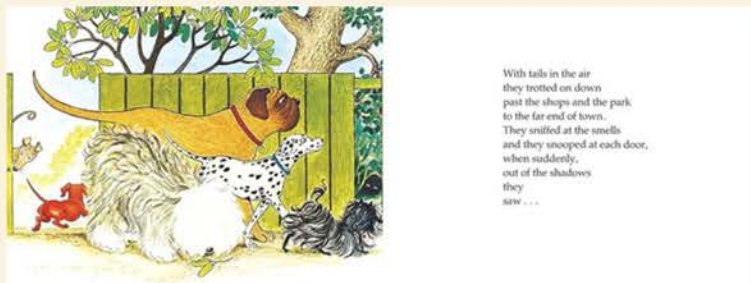
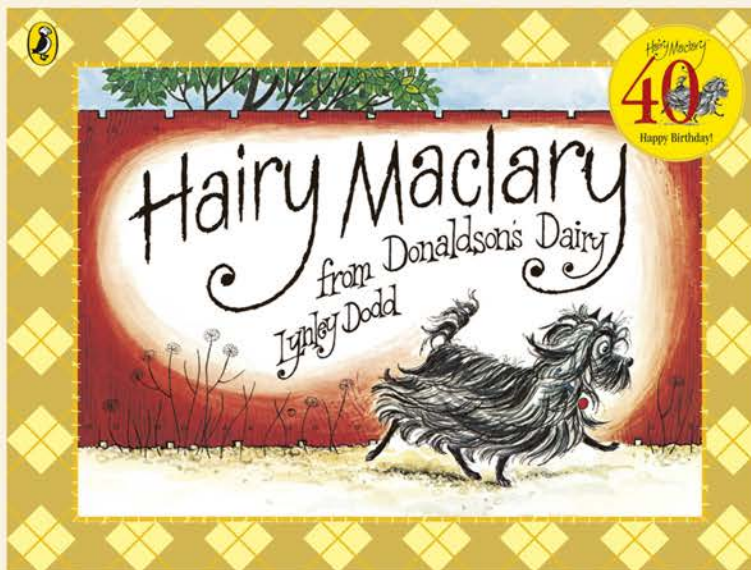
Lynley is a New Zealand author and illustrator best known for the exuberant artwork and bouncy rhymes of *Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy*, the sequels to which were all shortlisted for the Children's Picture Book of the Year Award, which Lynley won outright four times.

Lynley's awards also include the New Zealand Commemoration Medal, and she was the 9th recipient of the Margaret Mahy Award. She was appointed a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in 2002 for her services to children's literature and book illustration.



The Hairy Maclary and Friends series has sold 10M+ copies worldwide and is still selling on as one of ANZ's biggest brands.

OUR TOP PICK



With tails in the air
they trotted on down
past the shops and the park
to the far end of town.
They sniffed at the smells
and they snooped at each door,
when suddenly,
out of the shadows
they
saw . . .

HAIRY MACLARY FROM DONALDSON'S DAIRY

Picture Book

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

RIGHTS SOLD

UK (Puffin), Italy (Mondadori)

21 BOOKS IN THIS SERIES



Adaptation staged at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Sydney Opera House

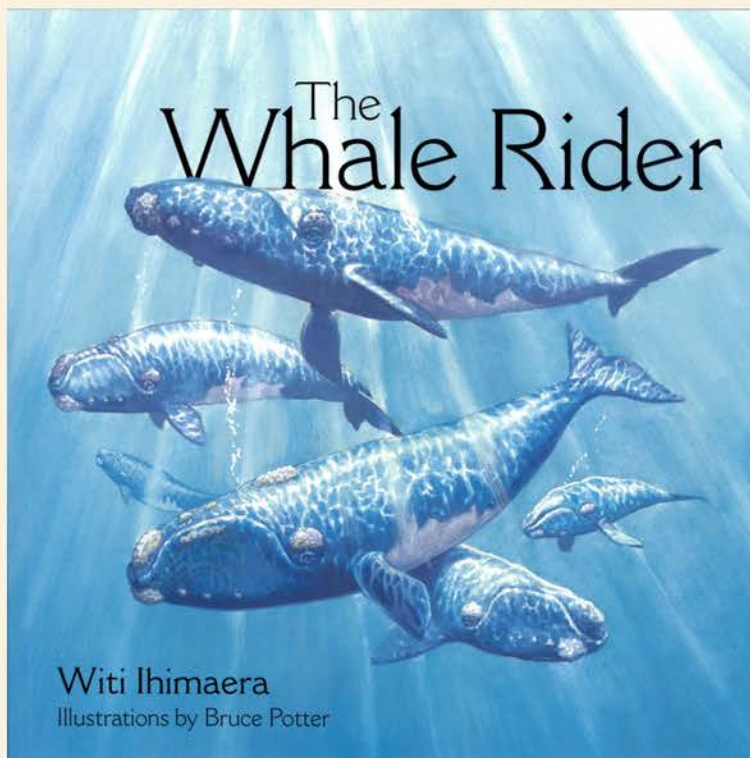
WITI IHIMAERA

Three-time winner of the Wattie/Montana Book of the Year award, Katherine Mansfield fellow and playwright Witi is one of New Zealand's most prolific and accomplished writers. Witi's first novel, *Tangi*, won the Wattie Book of the Year Award, a feat he repeated with *The Matriarch*. His celebrated novel, *Bulibasha, King of the Gypsies*, now adapted as the film *Mahana*, won the Montana Book of the Year award. Witi's other novels and short story collections include *The Whale Rider* (also adapted as an internationally successful film); *Dream Swimmer* (sequel to the award-winning *The Matriarch*); *Pounamu, Pounamu*; and *Nights In The Gardens of Spain*. In 2015 he published the first volume of his autobiography, *Maori Boy*.



Witi is one of Aotearoa New Zealand's most celebrated authors.

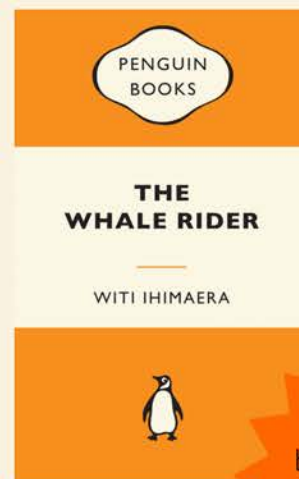
OUR TOP PICK



THE WHALE RIDER

Picture Book
Paperback | 48pp | 5+ years

*** Notable: Storylines Children's Literature Foundation of New Zealand**



A picture book retelling of the classic novel

PAUL JENNINGS

The Paul Jennings phenomenon began with the publication of *Unreal!* – since then, readers all around the world have devoured his books.

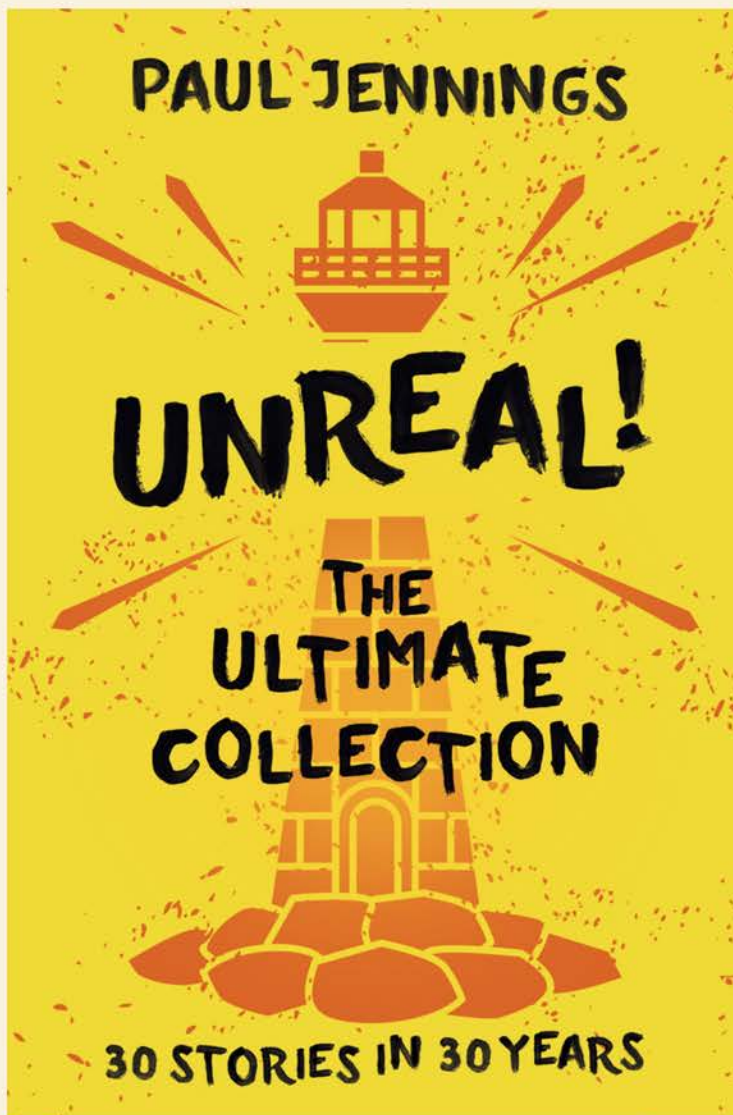
Paul has written over 100 stories and has been voted 'favourite author' more than 40 times by children in Australia, winning every children's choice award.

The top rating TV series *Round the Twist* and *Driven Crazy* are based on a selection of his enormously popular short-story collections such as *Unseen!*, which was awarded the Queensland Premier's Literary Award for Best Children's Book. He was made a Member of the Order of Australia for services to children's literature, and he was awarded the prestigious Dromkeen Medal in 2001.



Paul has sold 8M+ books worldwide.

OUR TOP PICK



UNREAL!

Middle Grade

Paperback | 432pp | 9-12 years

239K+
copies
sold in
Australia

Multiple
stories
optioned for
a new TV
series

PAMELA ALLEN

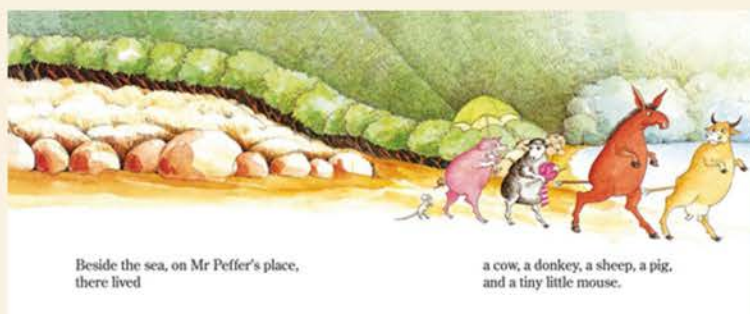
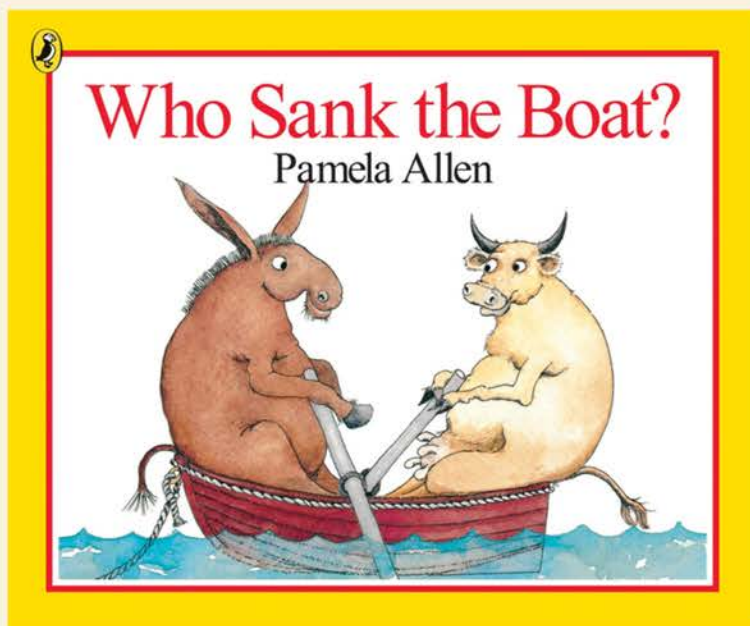
Pamela's picture books have enchanted generations of children around the world, and have garnered an array of awards, including six Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Awards, two New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards, an International Board on Books for Young People Diploma for Illustration, the Margaret Mahy Medal, and The Gaylene Gordon Award for a Much Loved Book from the Children's Literature Foundation of New Zealand. In 2024, Pamela was also awarded Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to literature as an author.



Three theatrical performances from a selection of Pamela's books have toured throughout ANZ, performing to packed houses.

Pamela's books have sold 703K+ copies in ANZ alone.

OUR TOP PICK



WHO SANK THE BOAT?

Picture Book

Paperback | 32pp | 2-7 years

- * **Winner: CBC Book of the Year (Picture Book)**
- * **Winner: CBC Book of the Year (Children's Book)**
- * **Honour: International Board on Books for Young People**
- * **Winner: Gaylene Gordon Memorial Prize (Children's Book)**
- * **Shortlist: Kids Own Literature Award (KOALA) (Young Reader)**

219K+
copies
sold in
Australia

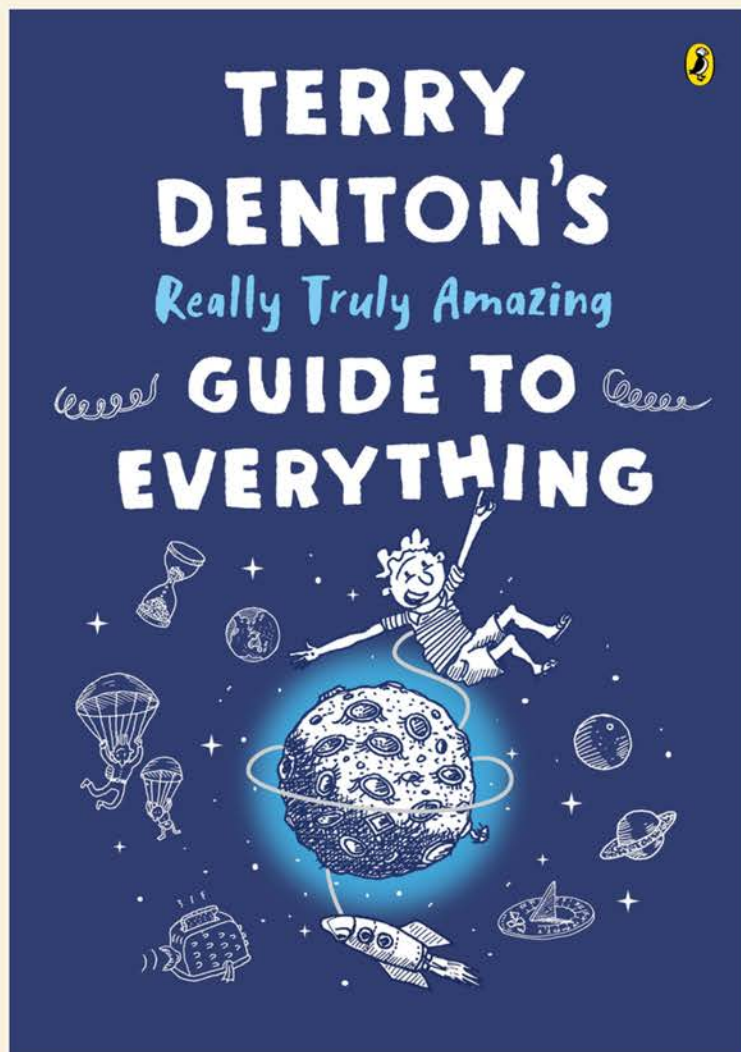
TERRY DENTON

Terry has been creating children's books for over 30 years. He has worked with many of Australia's top authors, written much-loved picture books and junior fiction novels, won more than 40 children's choice awards and been shortlisted many times in the Children's Book Council of Australia awards. His *Felix and Alexander* won Picture Book of the Year. His books include *The Upside-down History of Downunder* with Alison Lloyd, *The Worm Who Knew Karate* with Jill Lever, as well as the Gasp! books and the animated TV series, and the world-famous Just! books and Treehouse series with Andy Griffiths. His work is characterised by a devious sense of humour, an adventurous and inventive drawing style, and an informed flair for what interests and amuses kids.



Terry's work has been published in over 30 territories, and his books have sold 100K+ copies in ANZ alone.

OUR TOP PICK



TERRY DENTON'S REALLY TRULY AMAZING GUIDE TO EVERYTHING

Middle Grade

Hardback | 272pp | 8+ years | Illustrated

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copies
sold in
Australia

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Catherine O'Loughlin, Publisher



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