

PENGUIN
BOOKS

**PRH AUSTRALIA
AND NEW ZEALAND**

FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2026



CONTACT

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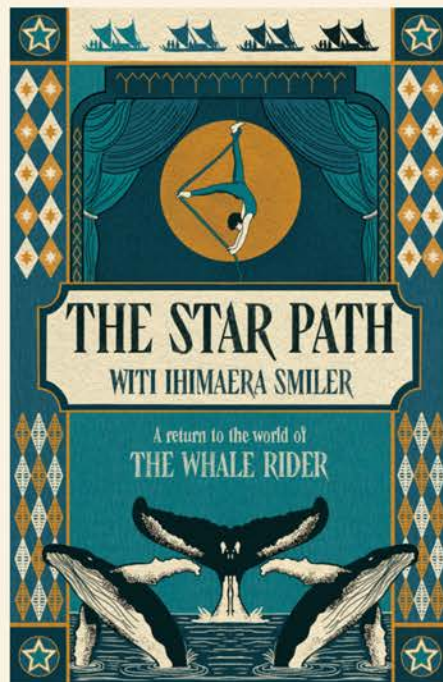
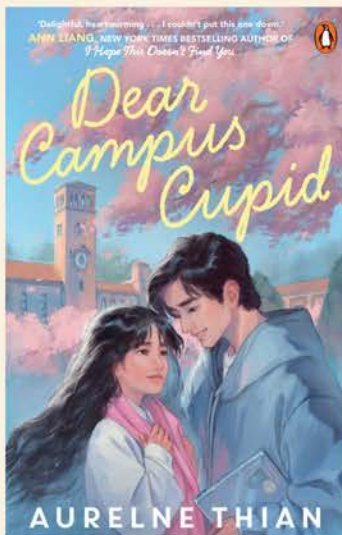
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YOUNG ADULT



THE STAR PATH

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

16-year-old Teva has grown up between worlds. Raised in France, he knows almost nothing of his father's Polynesian heritage – only that a family rift has kept them apart. But when his astonishing talent is discovered by a circus master, Teva's journey leads him across the Pacific and towards a destiny older than memory.

Deep within Antarctica's treacherous ice mazes, the royal tribe of Mysticeti whales fears their ancient leader has brought them there to die. Decades earlier, he stranded them on the east coast of Aotearoa. As winter closes in, they must find the whale rider's heir, the only one who can lead their chief back to warmer waters.

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

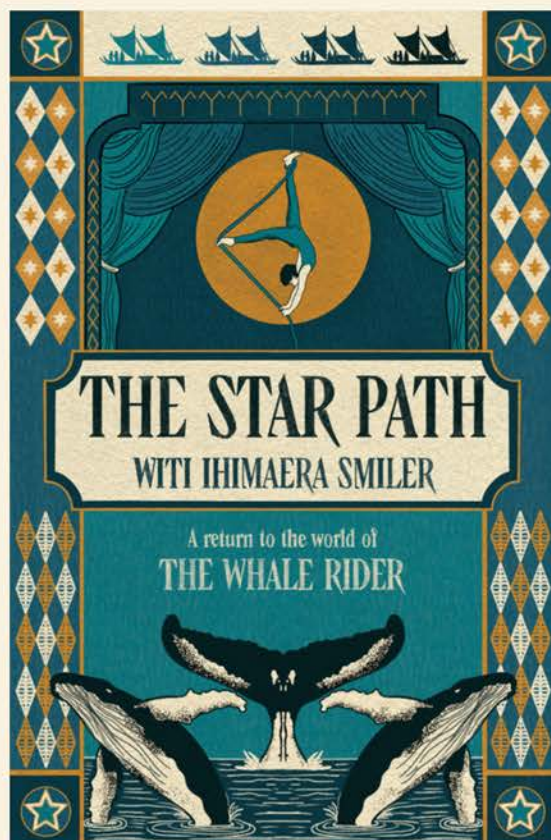
SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 304pp



WITI IHIMAERA SMILER

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. Among Witi's award-winning novels and short story collections is *The Whale Rider*, which was adapted as an internationally successful film.



Return to
the world of
*The Whale
Rider*

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 | 304pp

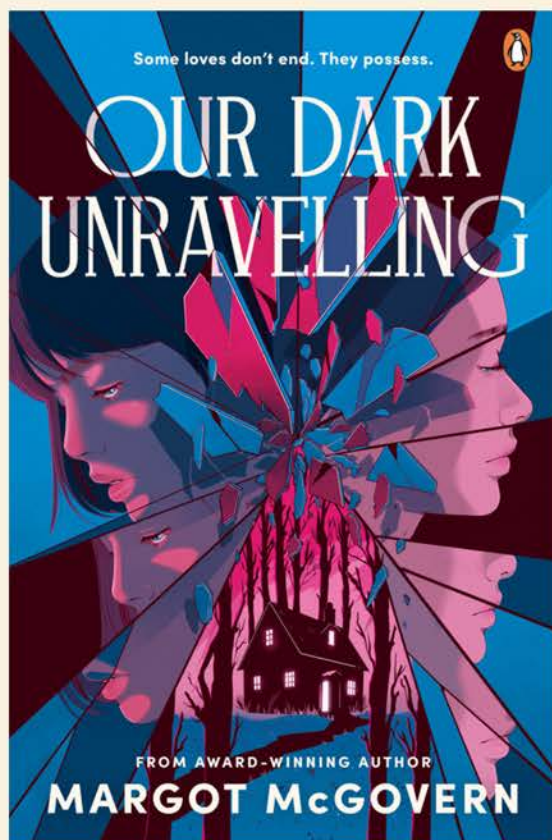
RIGHTS SOLD

US (Random House)



MARGOT MCGOVERN

Margot is an award-winning YA author. Her novel, *This Stays Between Us*, won the 2026 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Young Adults and was a 2026 CBCA Notable. It was also on the shortlists for the 2026 South Australian Literary Awards, 2025 Aurealis Awards, 2026 ITW Thriller Awards and 2025 Australasian Shadows Awards.



ALSO AVAILABLE



Releasing
simultaneously
in the US

DEAR CAMPUS CUPID

What's love without a little matchmaking, a few recipes – and a second chance?

Lani Lai has always kept her head down, juggling biochemistry studies and her family's beloved kopitiam. Eric Liang lives in the spotlight: charming, confident, and the anonymous creator behind *Dear Campus Cupid*, the Riverside University blog fuelling everyone's romantic obsessions.

When a prestigious university competition brings them back together, Lani thinks Eric's only in it to win. But Eric has another goal entirely – to reconnect with the girl he never stopped writing love letters to.

As recipes, secrets and old feelings collide, Lani and Eric must decide if they can trust each other again . . . before the truth behind *Dear Campus Cupid* changes everything.

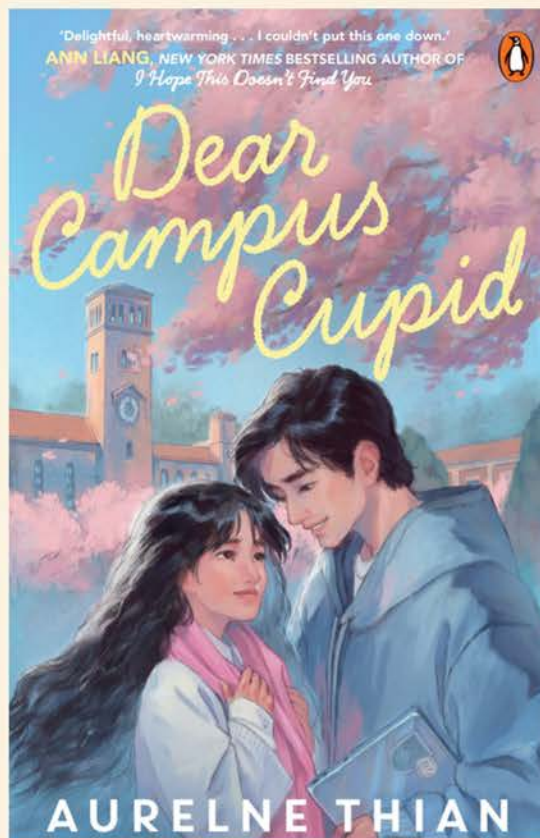
FEBRUARY 2027

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

Fencing, falling, and flipping the script on love.

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 an elite university men's foil team, Clementine finds herself right back in Shanghai for one semester.

Her plan is simple: draw the story, 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.

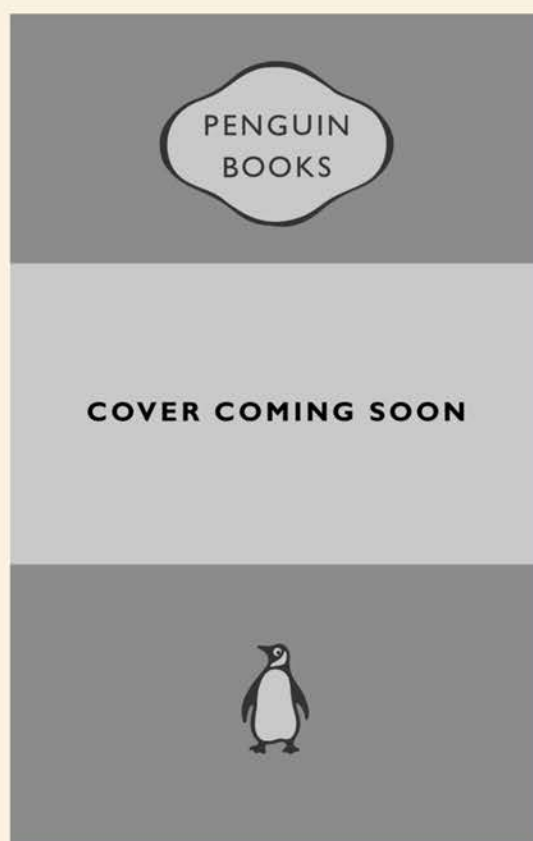
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DEATH SPEAKS TO US ALL

MAY 2027

Paperback | 432pp

A twisty thriller about avenging a terrible history of past wrongs 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.

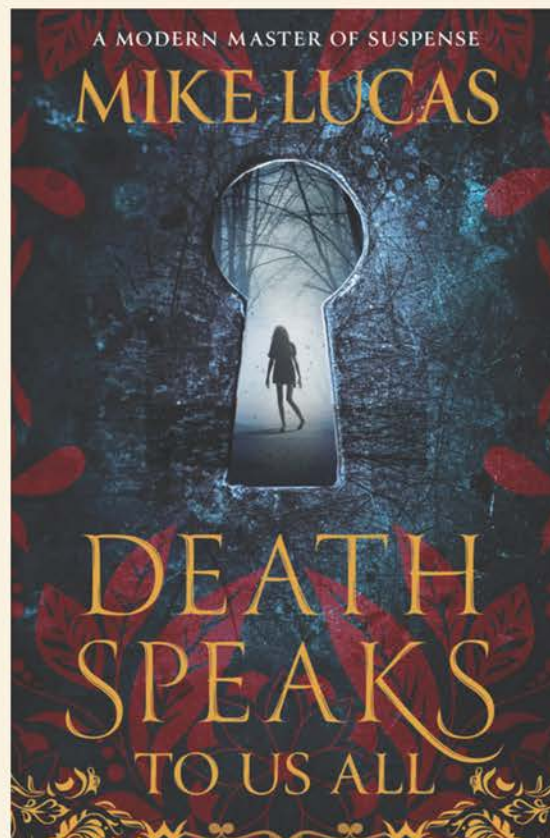
On the run from a mysterious pursuer, the trio set out to confront the people in Lily's past responsible for her suffering – only to uncover secrets and truths no one could have foreseen.



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.

DRAFT COVER



LOW TIDE

An atmospheric horror that embraces the power of found family and first love in whatever form that takes.

Will is lonely. It's been one year since the accident that killed his best friend and left him trapped and exhausted. But he's not *alone*.

Will knows he should be frightened of M, but instead he keeps her warm whenever she clambers through his window at night. Part girl, part sea creature, her very touch drags Will into lost memories.

Local surfer Noah offers Will a life raft towards the sun-drenched world beyond his bedroom. Noah is tender and sweet, and his friends welcome Will into their circle.

With each wave, party, and almost kiss, M grows more monstrous. As secrets and betrayals surface, Will must break free from his past – or M will drag him under.

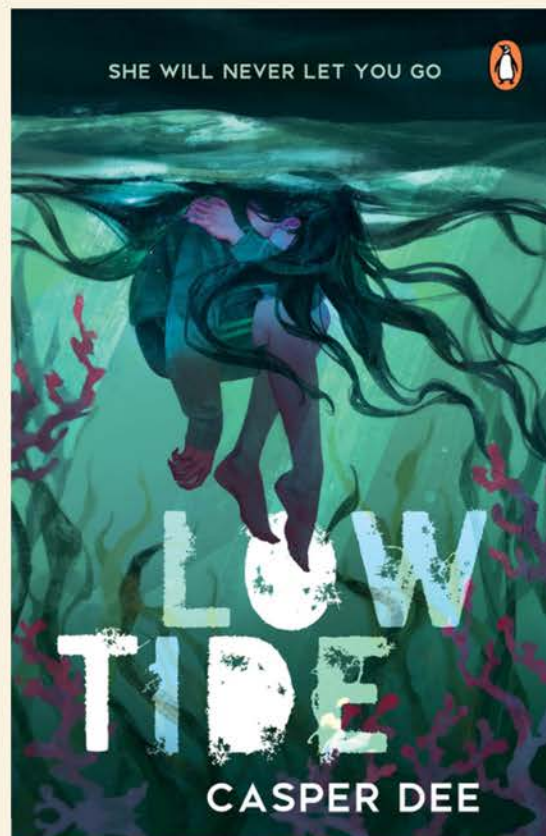
FEBRUARY 2027

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.



DRAWING NUDES WHILE MAKING OTHER PLANS

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!)

MAY 2026

Paperback | 288pp

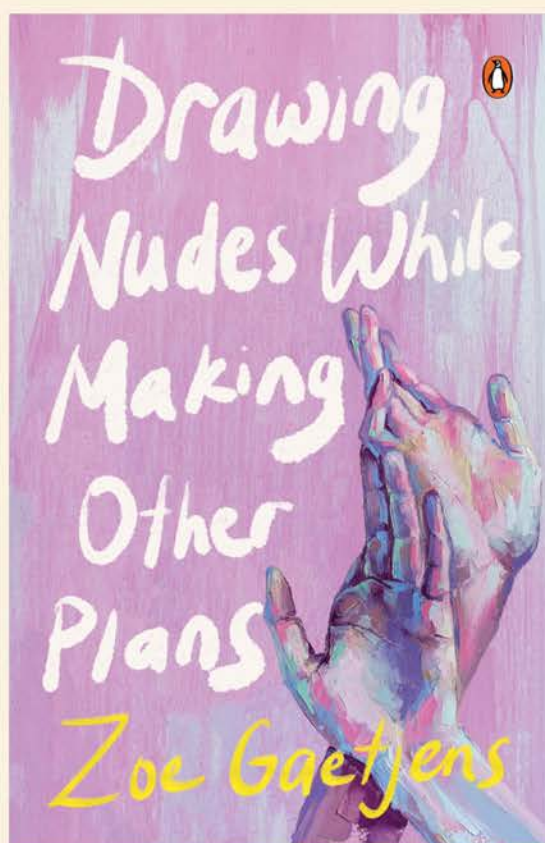
RIGHTS SOLD

Germany (Carlsen)



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.



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 Cooinda 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 | 336pp

RIGHTS SOLD

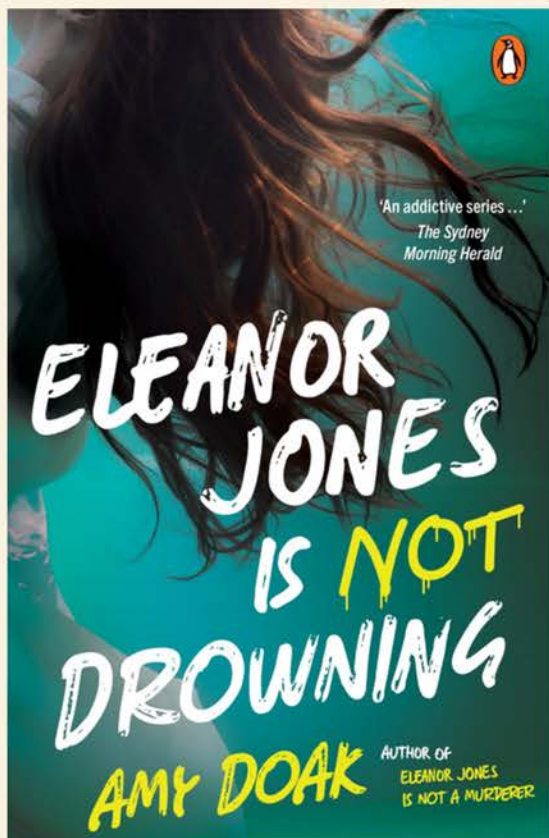
1: France (Motus), Italy (Cairo)



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.



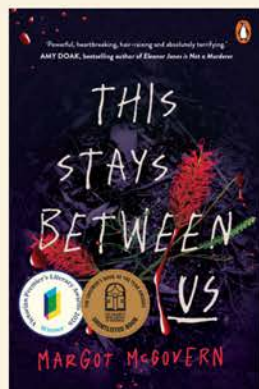
ALSO IN THIS SERIES



Book 1: Davitt Award for Best Crime Novel 2024 winner

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

YOUNG ADULT GEMS



THIS STAYS BETWEEN US by Margot McGovern

MARCH 2025

Paperback | 336pp

- ★ **Winner:** Victorian Premier's Literary Award 2026 (Young Adult)
 - ★ **Shadow Winner:** CBCA Book of the Year 2026 (Older Readers)
 - ★ **Notable:** CBCA Book of the Year 2026 (Older Readers)
 - ★ **Shortlist:** South Australian Literary Awards 2026 (Young Adult)
 - ★ **Shortlist:** Intl Thriller Writers Awards 2026 (Young Adult)
 - ★ **Shortlist:** Aurealis Awards 2025 (Young Adult)
 - ★ **Shortlist:** Australasian Shadows Awards 2025 (Novel)
-



WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO LIZA MCLEAN? by Amy Doak

OCTOBER 2025

Paperback | 336pp

- ★ **Shortlist:** Davitt Awards 2026 (Young Adult)
-



THE LOCKED ROOM by Adam Cece

AUGUST 2025

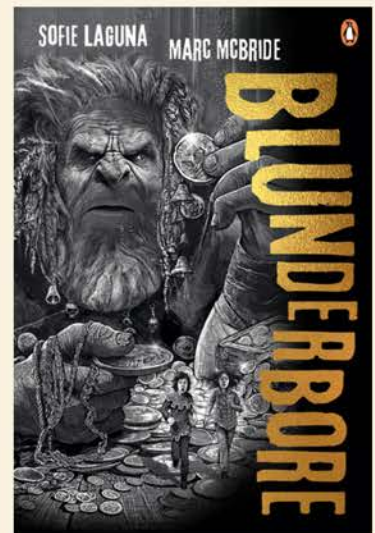
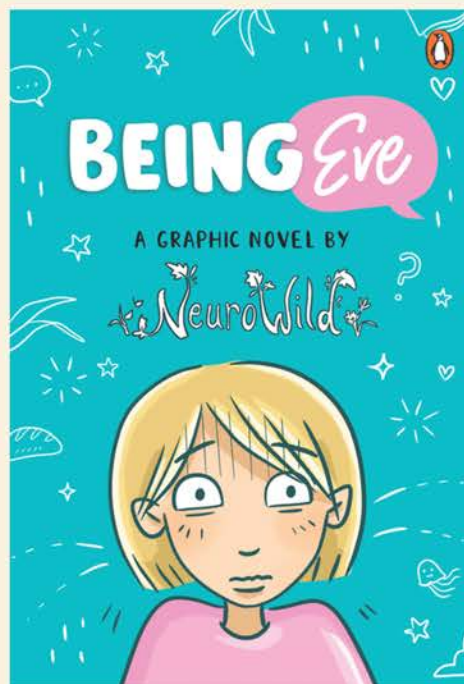
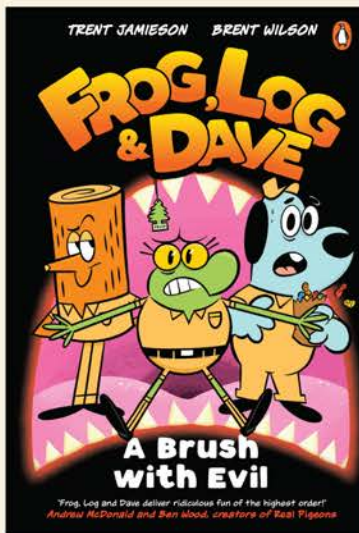
Paperback | 320pp

RIGHTS SOLD

France (Élysande)

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

GRAPHIC NOVELS



BEING EVE

A funny, heartfelt coming-of-age graphic novel about ADHD, autism, friendship, first crushes, and growing up neurodivergent.

Some people fit together perfectly – just ask Eve and her best friend, Sasha. When the rest of the world is confusing, frustrating, and the *absoluteworst*, Eve and Sasha know they can count on each other.

Especially when the school year brings the arrival of a new friend, Zack (who is definitely not becoming more than a friend), and a whole lot of problems for Eve and Sasha. Why is it suddenly so hard to fit in? When did 'friends' stop being friends? And what are Eve and Sasha supposed to do when life just seems to get harder and harder?

AUGUST 2026

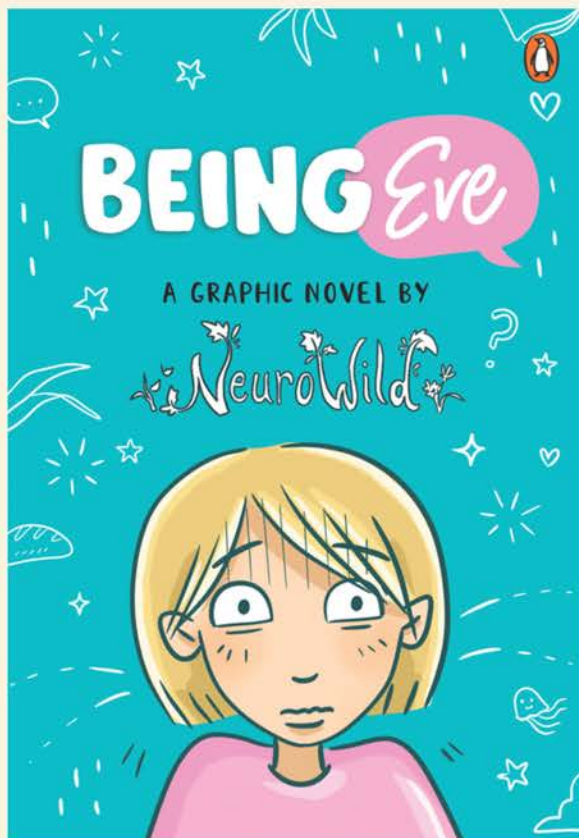
Paperback | 288pp | 10+ years

Colour



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.



From
NeuroWild –
352K followers
across socials

BLUNDERBORE

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.

Then on a trip to stay with her 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 somehow her art has become reality. Jack and Blunderbore are in her world. And Blunderbore has kidnapped Jack.

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?

OCTOBER 2026

Hardback | 352pp | 8+ years

B&W

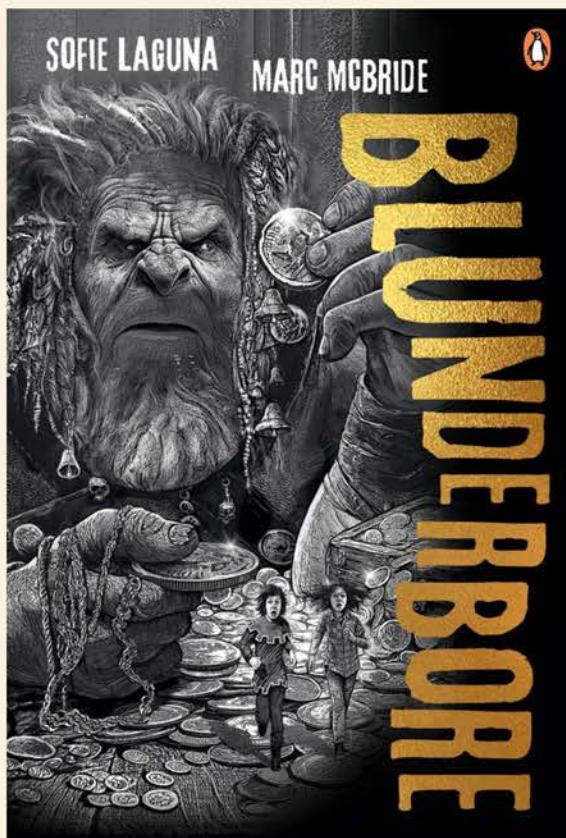


SOFIE LAGUNA

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.



FROG, LOG AND DAVE: A BRUSH WITH EVIL

SEPTEMBER 2025

Hardback | 168pp | 6+ years

Colour

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.

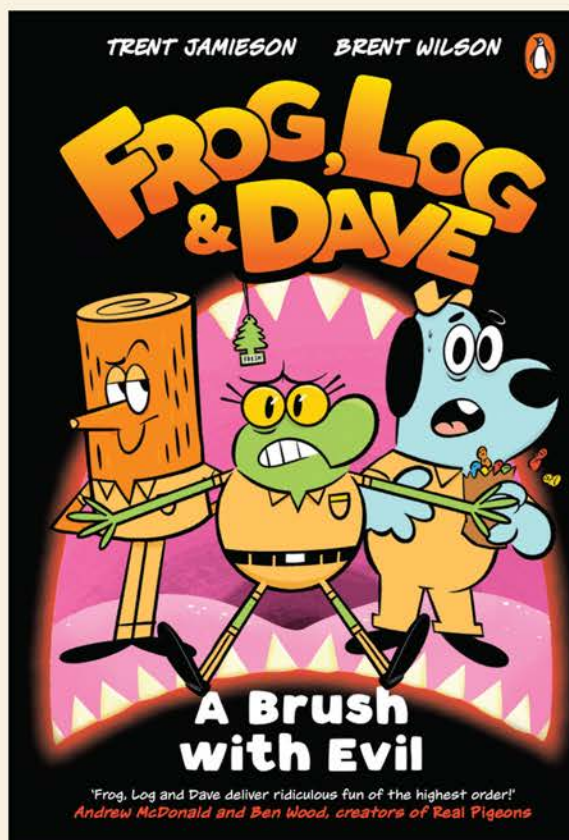


BRENT WILSON

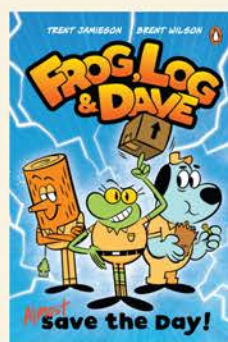
Brent is an illustrator and designer whose quirky illustrations regularly pop up in fun and funny books for kids!

TRENT JAMIESON

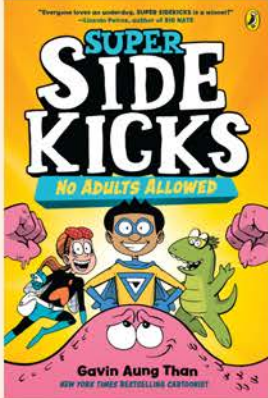
Trent is a multi-award-winning novelist, short story writer, and the author of children's picture book, *The Giant and the Sea*, which won the 2021 Environment Award for Children's Literature Picture Fiction.



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



GRAPHIC NOVEL GEMS



SUPER SIDEKICKS 1-3 by Gavin Aung Than

3: FEBRUARY 2023

Paperback | 160pp | 9+ years | Colour

RIGHTS SOLD

US (Random House), UK (Penguin Books), Norway (Aschehoug)

*** (Book 1) Shortlist: Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Awards 2020**



SUPER GEEKS 1-2 by James Hart

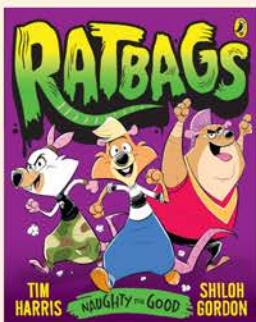
2: JULY 2021

Paperback | 208pp | 7+ years | B&W

RIGHTS SOLD

Turkey (Yeni Film)

*** Shortlist: Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Awards 2022**



RATBAGS 1-6 by Tim Harris & Shiloh Gordon

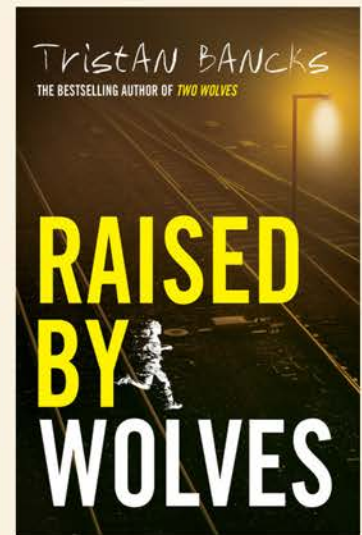
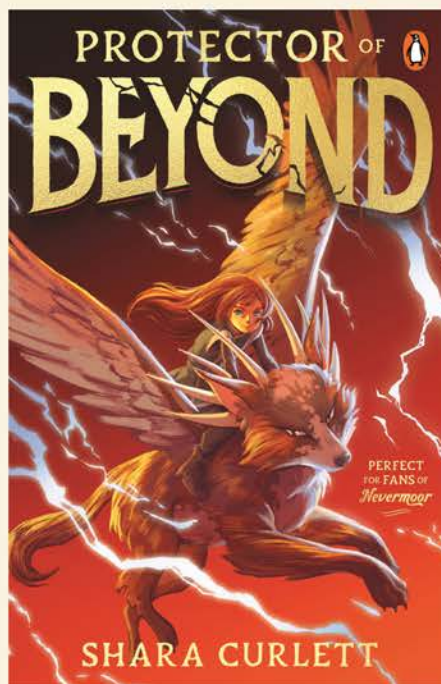
6: OCTOBER 2024

Paperback | 192pp | 7-9 years | B&W

RIGHTS SOLD

China (Beijing Huaxia Winshare Books), Germany (Friedrich Oetinger)

MIDDLE GRADE



PROTECTOR OF BEYOND

Magical creatures, perilous trials, and one unbelievable adventure in this new blockbuster fantasy series.

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

12-year-old Elder Triss never expected to produce a spark so rare – and so dangerous. But when she is torn from everything she knows and thrown into the mysterious world known as Beyond, she learns there is only one path forward: survive the trials and earn a place at the Academy of Protectors.

To get there, Elder must train for battle, face terrifying magical creatures, and outlast friends who are quickly becoming rivals. But Beyond is more dangerous than it seems, and someone is trying to stop Elder from reaching the academy – and making it out alive . . .

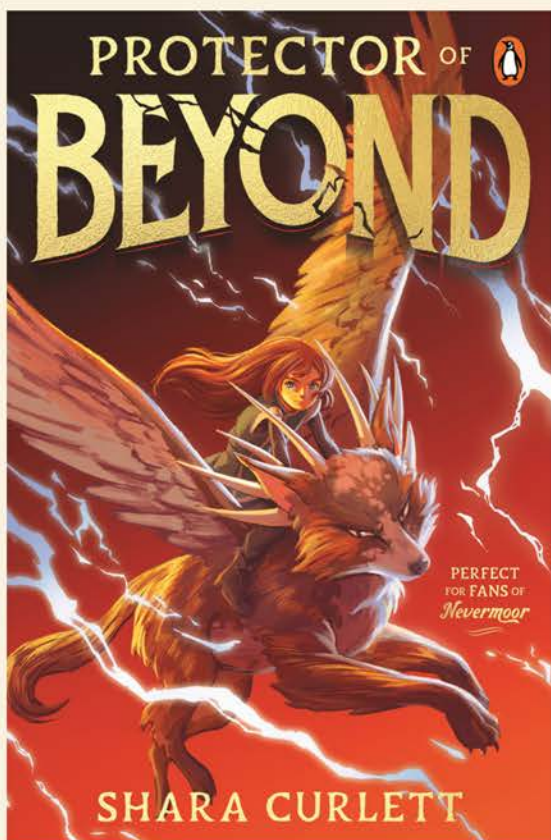
SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 448pp | 10+ 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.



COMING SOON IN THIS SERIES



Biggest
children's
launch of
2026

Book 2 coming
September 2027
and Book 3
coming
September 2028

FRIDAY BARNES: NOTHING TO LOSE

Friday Barnes is back in Manhattan in the 14th instalment of the bestselling detective series.

Despite being a great detective, Friday can't work out if Ian has broken up with her. It's not easy being both brilliant and socially clueless.

Unable to deal with the heartache, Friday tries to lose herself in the intellectual world of street chess. But she can't escape romance when the Prince of Denmark asks her on a date and Interpol orders her to accept.

Soon Friday finds herself at the Broadway premiere of Hamlet, trying to protect the Danish Crown Jewels from being stolen and her own heart from being broken. Can Friday solve the case or will she be left with nothing to lose?

SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 272pp | 9+ years

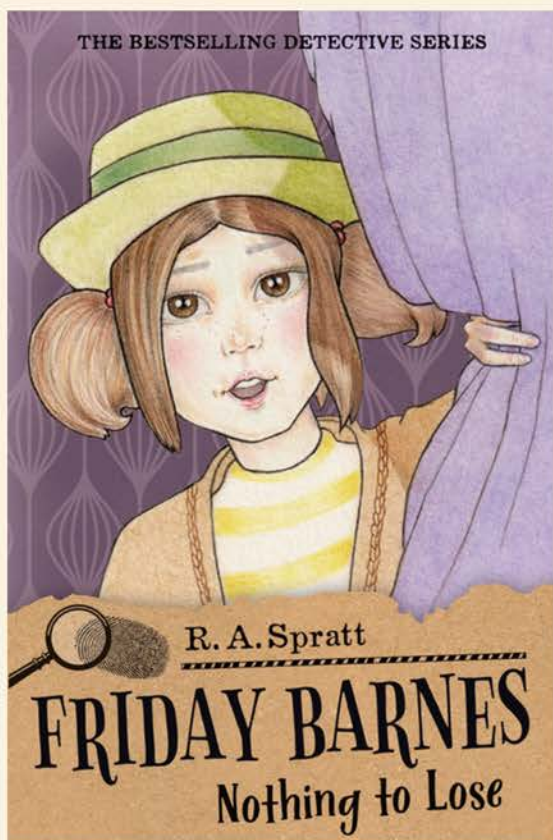
RIGHTS SOLD

1-4: US (Macmillan)



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.



13 MORE BOOKS IN THIS SERIES



500K copies
across series
sold in ANZ

Screen
rights
optioned

THE MIDNIGHT WITCH

JULY 2027

A would-be witch, her secret coven, and a whole lot of trouble brewing.

Paperback | 304pp | 9+ years
Illustrated (B&W)

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.

Forced to keep her witchcraft dreams and skills a secret, Ember lives out her days selling useless balms, ointments, and crystals.

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



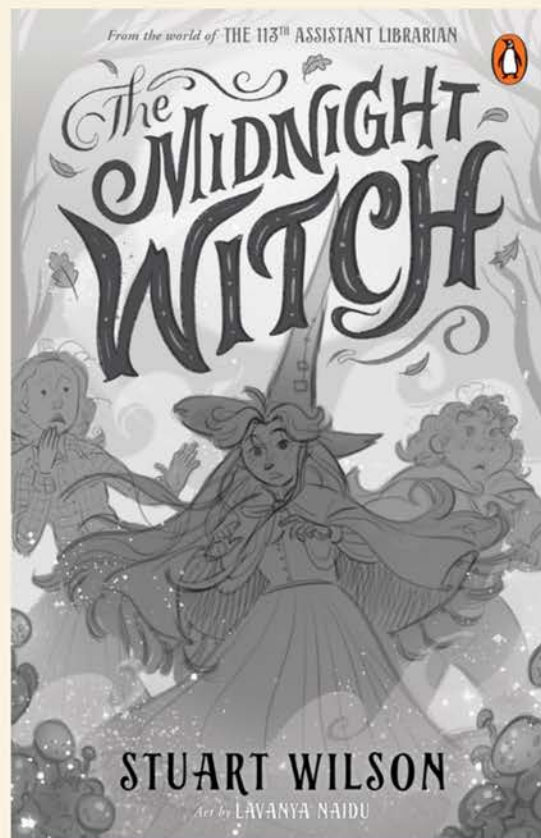
STUART WILSON

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 she has illustrated several children's books, including the Bravepaw series, and worked on games and animation production.

ROUGH COVER



RAISED BY WOLVES

When your dad is a fugitive, who do you trust – him, or yourself? A tense, heart-stopping thriller.

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.

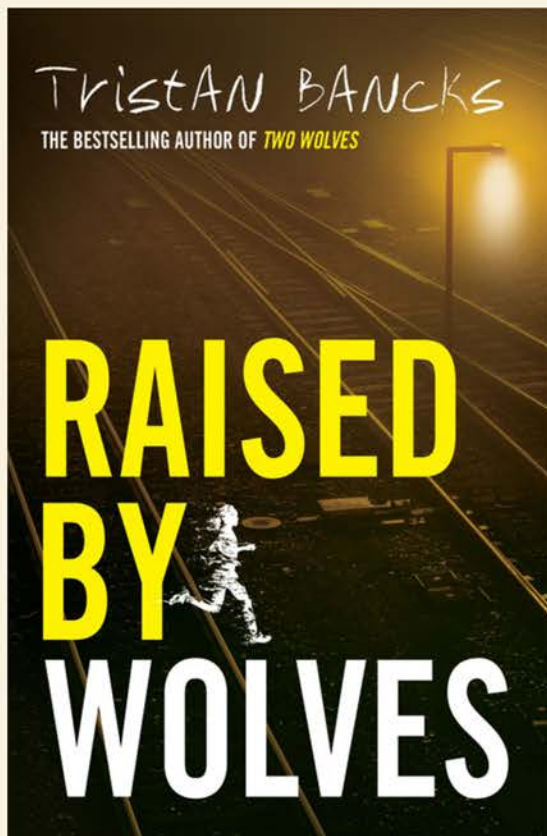
MAY 2026

Paperback | 240pp | 10+ years



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

BLOODSUCKERS

Vampires, Vampires, Vampires . . . ON A PLANE!

Jett Torrens thought this would be the flight of a lifetime, but it just might be his last.

High over the Pacific Ocean, he discovers something terrifying.

There are vampires on this plane.

Lots of vampires.

And they're hungry.

Trapped at 40,000 feet with nowhere to run, Jett has one chance to do the impossible. Stop these bloodsuckers and save the pilots – or become an in-flight snack . . .

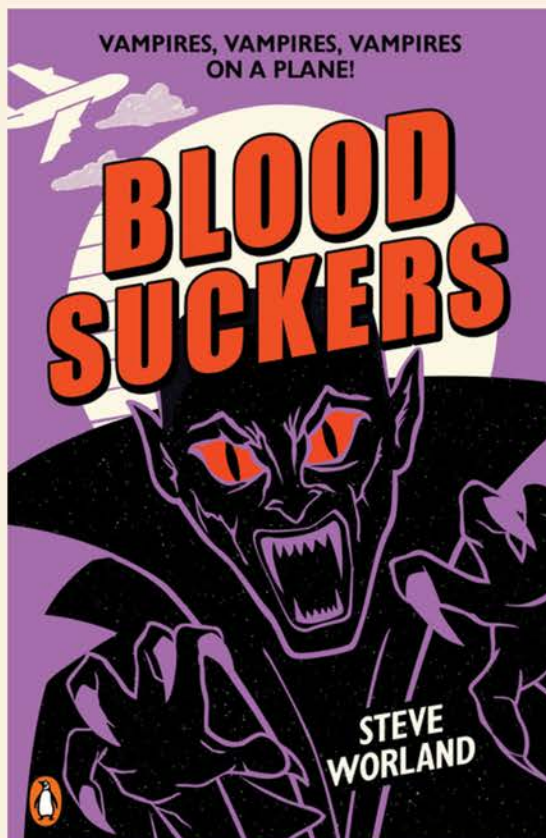
SEPTEMBER 2026

Paperback | 160pp | 8+ years

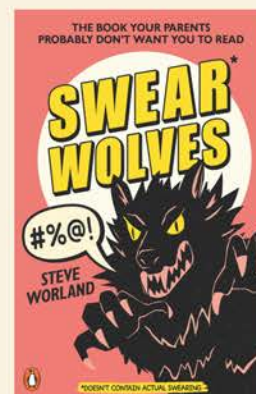


STEVE WORLAND

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.



ALSO AVAILABLE



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

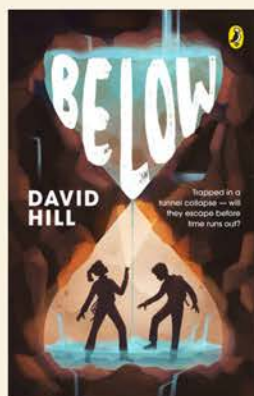


DAVID HILL

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



HENRIETTA HALLOW: DRAGON ACADEMY

*An enchanting new adventure series. The skies are waiting . . .
all you have to do is fly!*

Henrietta Hallow is a young witch with a knack for trouble.

When she's accepted into the elite Dragon Academy, she's ready to shine – if only her dragon Squirm wasn't afraid to fly. Somehow she has made an enemy of Malvina Mortuary – the witchiest witch in school – and along with her roomie Fran, Henrietta begins to uncover secrets that could shatter the Academy forever.

Armed only with her wild inventions, magical chaos, and stubborn courage, can Henrietta win her dragon's trust and face the dark forces that threaten to destroy them all?

APRIL 2027

Paperback | 288pp | 8+ years

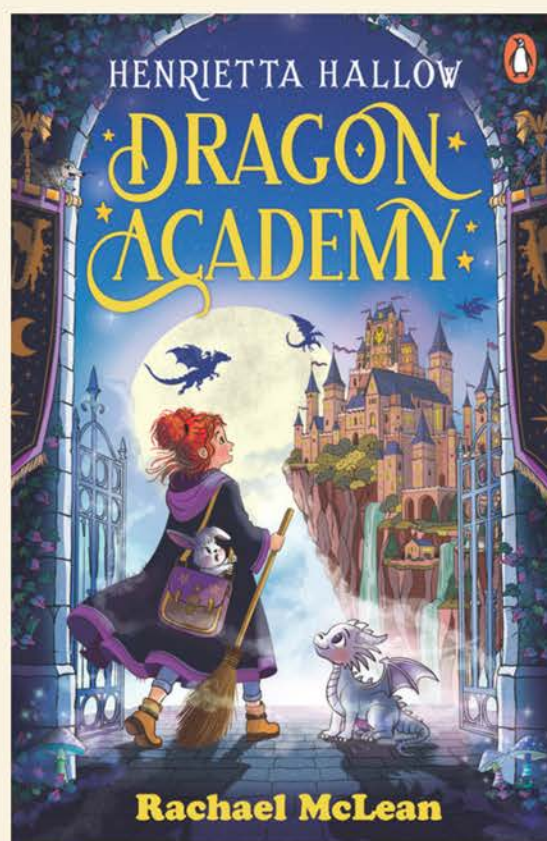
Illustrated (B&W)



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.

DRAFT COVER



New
series

Book 2
coming
November
2027

THE LAST TREEKEEPER

A lyrical and accessibly illustrated dystopian fantasy in verse.

When the Wargrims claim his forest home, 12-year-old Tree Keeper Silas loses his family – and his name. Forced into a labour camp and numbered as Six, he must secretly protect the seeds of sacred Mother Tree Arkaana at all costs.

Far in the future, lonely 13-year-old Lyra, last of the Bone Keepers, dreams of a wider life as she waits for the prophecy of The Ancestors to be fulfilled.

When Six and Lyra each discover the same mysterious journal, connecting them across time, will words from the past bring hope and life to the future once again?

JUNE 2027

Paperback | 304pp | 9-12 years

Illustrated (B&W)

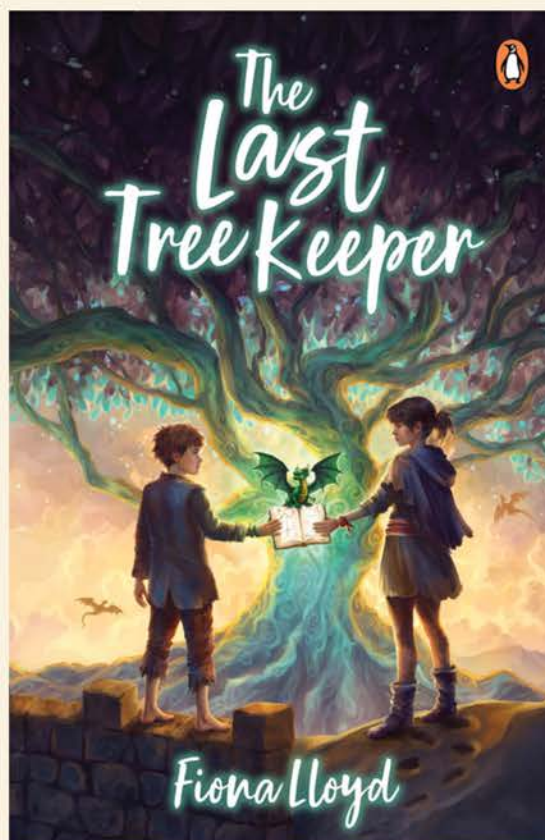


FIONA LLOYD

Fiona's debut middle-grade novel, *Being Jimmy Baxter*, won the 2024 Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Award, and was shortlisted 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.



HALLIE AND THE HEART STONE

MAY 2027

Paperback | 272pp | 9+ years

Magic, mischief, and a race-against-time quest.

Hallie has been told three things her whole life: look both ways before crossing the road, never whistle at night, and leave stones exactly where you find them. Hallie is good at remembering rules . . . and even better at breaking them.

When she takes a glittering blue stone from a mysterious bird by the lake, Hallie only means to borrow it long enough to beat her archenemy Jenny Jones at marbles. But this stone is no marble. Now Hallie has inadvertently opened a portal and must face wild storms, strange glowing spirits, secret family business, and worst of all, her beloved Gran falling mysteriously ill. If that wasn't bad enough, it seems the one person that can help her is Jenny herself.

Can Hallie return the Heart Stone before the portal closes?
And can she do it without getting grounded for life?

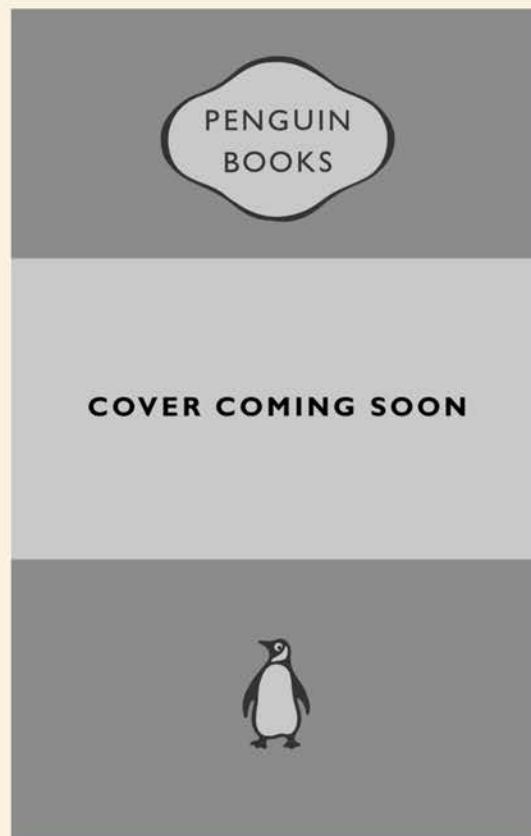


AMY THUNIG-MCGREGOR

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.



PRISON SHIP

A gripping historical adventure, set in the late 1800s in Australia, where rebellion might be the only chance at freedom.

Arrested for 'borrowing' a book, Edward Corrigan is sentenced to one year of imprisonment aboard the *Virtue*, a floating prison for boys anchored in Port Phillip Bay, off Williamstown, Melbourne.

He is thrown into a brutal world of hard labour, cruel punishments, and the terrifying authority of the Chief Warder. But soon an unbreakable bond forms between Ed and the other boys.

Through humour, fierce loyalty, and daring acts of rebellion, they fight to keep hope alive and their humanity intact.

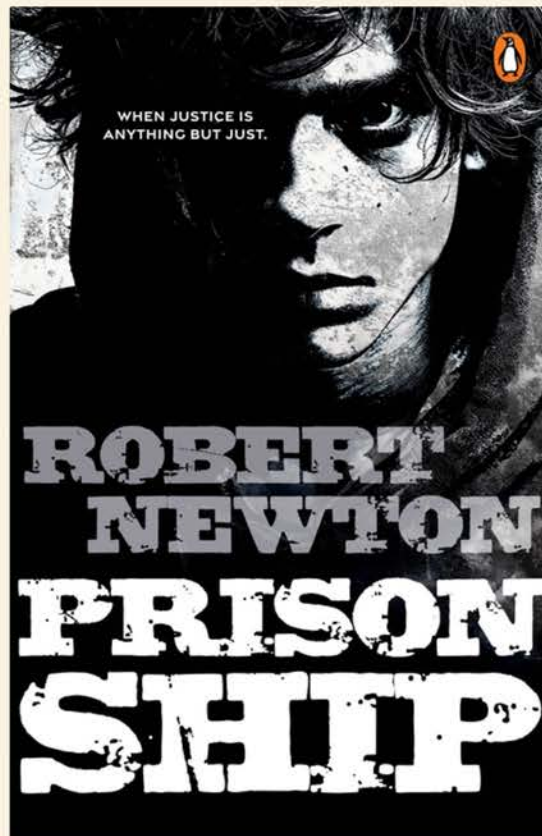
MARCH 2027

Paperback | 304pp | 9-12 years



ROBERT NEWTON

Robert has written eight novels for young people, including the bestselling *Runner*, *The Black Dog Gang* (shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Literary Awards), and *When We Were Two* (winner of the Prime Minister's Literary Award for Young Adult Fiction).



THE SECRET LIBRARY CLUB

MAY 2027

Paperback | 288pp | 8+ years

Illustrated

A daring adventure hunt for lost treasure.

Welcome to the Secret Library Club.

Requirements: curiosity, imagination, and a willingness to face uncertain peril.

Juniper, Milo, and Vishali thought that meant reading adventurous stories.

They were wrong.

When librarian Tilda disappears, the club follows her clues into secret passages, forgotten tunnels, and a centuries-old treasure mystery.

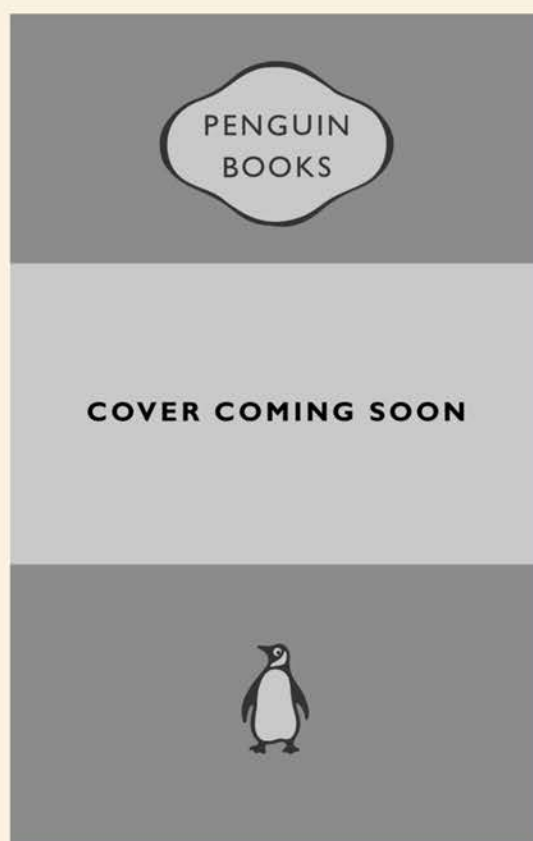


DEBORAH ABELA

Deborah has written 30 internationally published and awarded books. Her latest book, *The Kindness Project*, was a Notable Book in the 2025 CBCA Book of the Year Awards.

CHERYL ORSINI

Cheryl is a bestselling illustrator, author, and designer. With over 20 years experience, she has illustrated over 80 books.



THE GIRL AND THE GHOST: SPIRITED TRAVELS

NOVEMBER 2026

Paperback | 368pp | 9+ years

The 4th instalment in the bestselling series. An adventure in Singapore, family bonding, ongoing threats – and many ghosts.

Josephine Eloise Thomas is off to Singapore to visit her best friend Harriet. With the ghost of Louis XVII and her gorgeous boyfriend, Gabriel, accompanying her, it's bound to be the trip of a lifetime.

When they encounter not one, but two ghosts, their trip takes an eventful turn. Plus, the criminal mastermind Anastasia is still at large and hellbent on revenge, so Josephine must be extra vigilant.

Will the threat of danger ruin Josephine's holiday? Can she and her friends learn more about ghosts from their new ghoulish friends? And will Josephine get a New Year's Eve kiss from Gabriel?



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 5 coming
April 2027 and
Book 6 coming
November
2027



THE 113TH ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN: FORBIDDEN PAGES

OCTOBER 2026

Hardback | 272pp | 9-12 years

RIGHTS SOLD

1-2: US (Random House)

The 3rd instalment in the bestselling fantasy adventure series.

Oliver Wormwood is shocked when Library Director Thorne arrives in Blackmoor-upon-Wyvern to take control of the library.

Even worse, the director has noticed that several especially volatile books are missing, so Oliver and Agatha set out to retrieve the overdue titles.

Following a trail of retired pirates, apprentice mages and a snail the size of a cottage, will they survive the magical books long enough to return home?

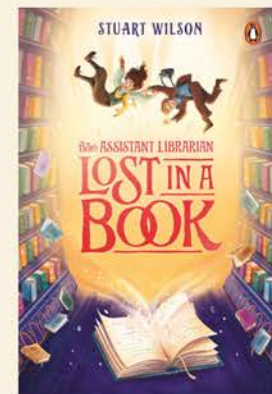
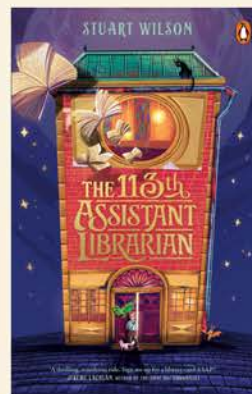


STUART WILSON

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

FUNNY FAIRYTALES

Strap yourself in for five hilarious fractured fairytales from KOALA-award-winning author, Tim Harris, and CBCA award-winning illustrator, Chris Nielsen.

FIVE classic fairytales.

FIVE ridiculous twists.

ONE very funny book.

Jack's magical beans are REALLY not what he expected, Goldilocks is chasing influencer fame, Hansel and Gretel meet trouble head-on, and Red Riding Hood's Big Bad Wolf is a pun-loving vegetarian.

JULY 2026

Paperback | 240pp | 8+ years
Illustrated (B&W)



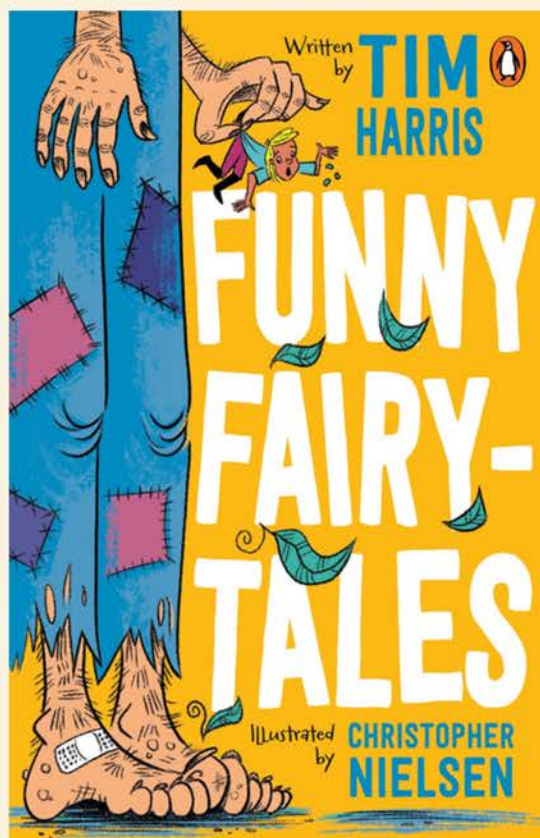
TIM HARRIS

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.



THE EPIC MESS OF MELODY MOSS

NOVEMBER 2026

Paperback | 352pp | 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 is back for Term Three . . . and things are getting seriously complicated.

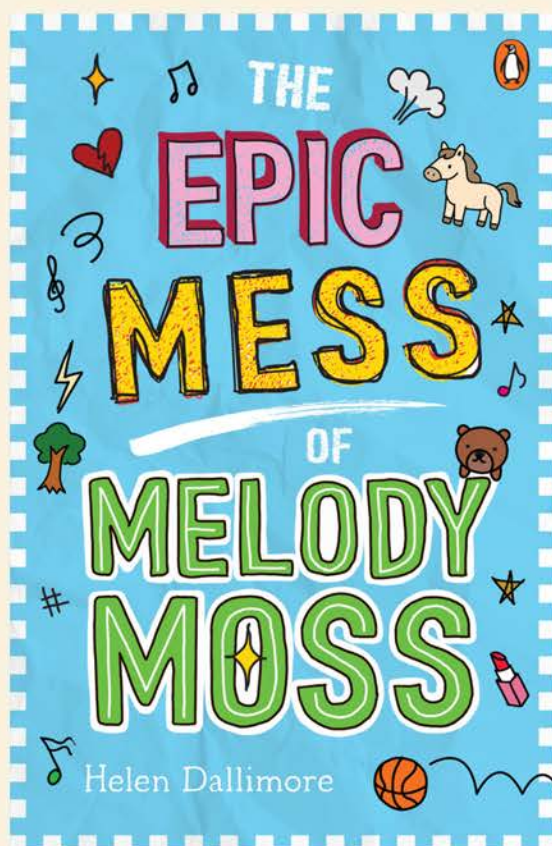
- She has an actual boyfriend (!!!) but has no idea what she's doing.
- Her ex-best friend is still firmly in frenemy territory.
- Victor, her true BFF, has left for a fancy new school (rude).
- Her attempts at 'glowing up' are not going to plan.
- A tiny talking horse keeps turning up with VERY unhelpful advice.
- Her family is acting weird (especially her dad).
- Her dog still farts. Obviously.

Can she stop everything spinning out of control?

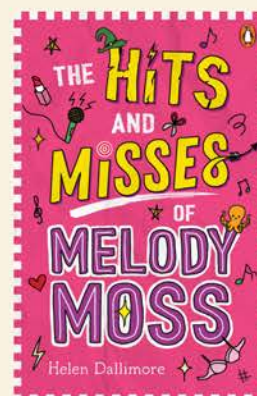
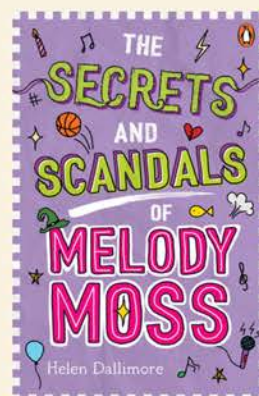


HELEN DALLIMORE

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

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

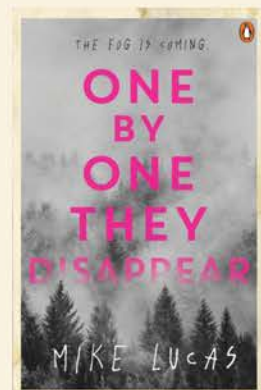
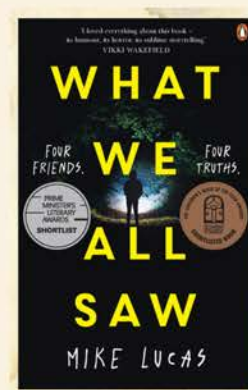


MIKE LUCAS

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



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 a lot worse.

Drawn into an ancient mystery, Jace uncovers a secret world hidden behind museum walls and a mysterious curator who knows more than he's saying.

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?

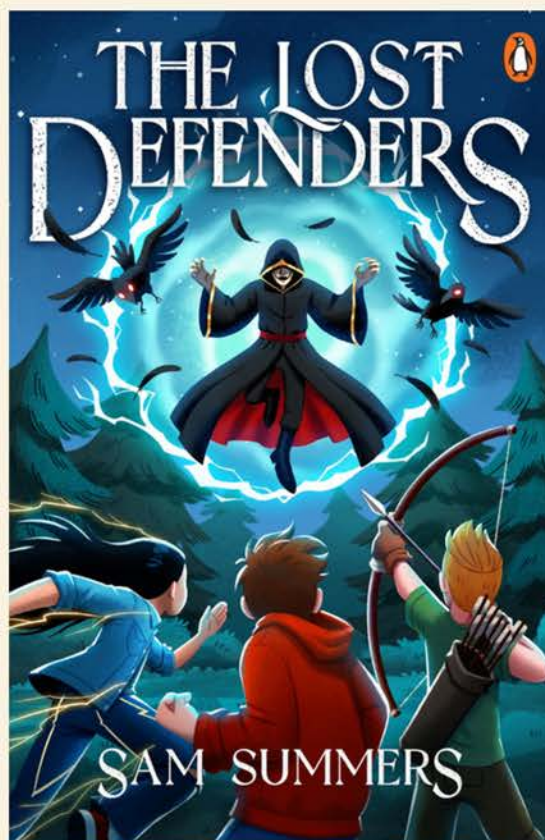
MARCH 2026

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.



Debut

THE EPICALLY AWESOME ODYSSEY, AS TOLD BY NANNY PIGGINS

JUNE 2026

Paperback | 192pp | 10+ years



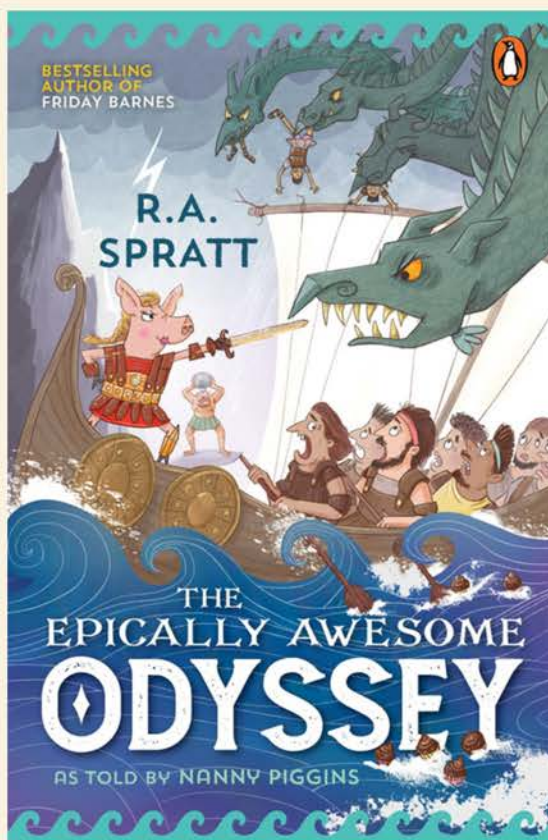
R.A. SPRATT

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.

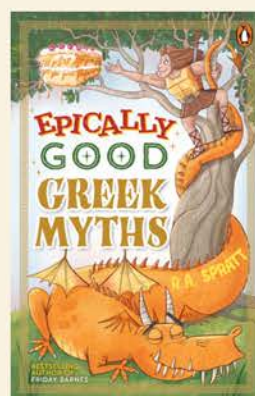
The perfect book for before bed, avoiding homework, or for those times when you're shipwrecked on a desert island, perhaps because you've angered the Sea God Poseidon by poking his son in the eye.

Finally, Nanny Piggins sets the record straight and reveals what really happened 3,000 years ago on the most epicly awesome journey of all time – *The Odyssey*! Spoiler alert – Homer totally left out the fact that Odysseus was a staggeringly beautiful woman *and* a pig.

Travel with Odysseus and her crew as they face man-munching monsters, Greek Gods with rage issues, Sirens brandishing cake batter to tempt sailors to their doom, and a forbidden barbeque on the Island of Helios.



ALSO AVAILABLE



HEIST: THE ULTIMATE ALIEN SWINDLE

JULY 2026

Paperback | 352pp | 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



MIDDLE GRADE GEMS



ONCE by Morris Gleitzman

New Modern Classics Edition: SEPTEMBER 2026

Hardback | 160pp | 10+ years

RIGHTS SOLD

US (Macmillan), UK (Penguin Books), Brazil (Editora Paz e Terra), Czech Republic Audio (Tympanum), Germany (Carlsen Verlag), Portugal (PRH Grupo Editorial Unipessoal), Romania (Editura Art), Vietnam (Dong Tay Cultural Company)

- * **315K+ copies sold in Australia**
 - * **Winner: Australian Book Industry Awards 2011 (Intl Success)**
 - * **Winner: KOALA Children's Choice Awards 2007 (7-9)**
 - * **Winner: YABBA Children's Choice Awards 2007 (Young Adults)**
 - * **Honour: CBC Book of the Year Award 2006 (Younger Readers)**
 - * **Honour: Sydney Taylor Book Award 2011 (Teenage Readers)**
 - * **Shortlist: BILBY Children's Choice Awards 2011 (Older Readers)**
 - * **Selected: US Board on Books for Young People 2011 (Grades 6-8)**
 - * **Nominated: German Youth Literature Prize 2010 (Teenage Readers)**
 - * **Shortlist: BILBY Children's Choice Awards 2006 (Older Readers)**
 - * **Shortlist: REAL Children's Choice Awards 2006 (Older Readers)**
-



FRIDAY BARNES 1-14 by R.A. Spratt

14: SEPTEMBER 2026

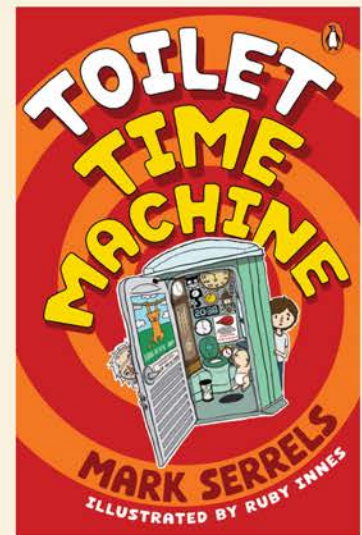
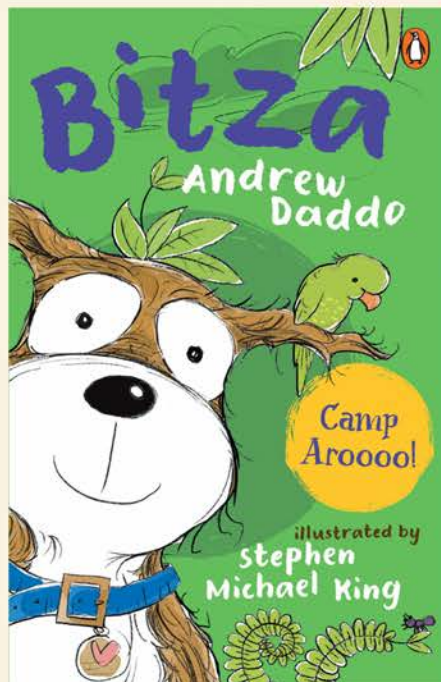
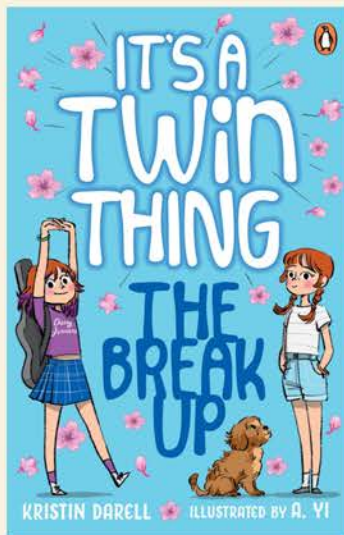
Paperback | 272pp | 10+ years

RIGHTS SOLD

1-4: US (Macmillan)

- * **Screen rights optioned by CJZ**
- * **500K+ copies sold in Australia**
- * **Winner: Davitt Awards 2016 (Children's)**

JUNIOR FICTION



SECRETS OF A 4TH GRADE WITCH

MAY 2027

Paperback | 192pp | 7+ years

Illustrated (B&W)

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

Gwen has always had better luck hanging out with pot plants and pets than fitting in with her classmates.

Then she finds out she's 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 comes with its own troubles, 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.



REBECCA TIMMIS

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

COVER ROUGH



Releasing
alongside Book 2:
Pixie Problems

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 | 144pp | 7-9 years

Illustrated (B&W)

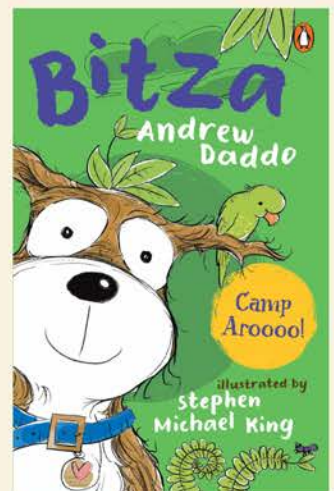
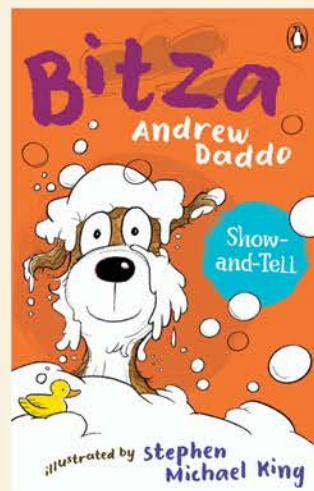
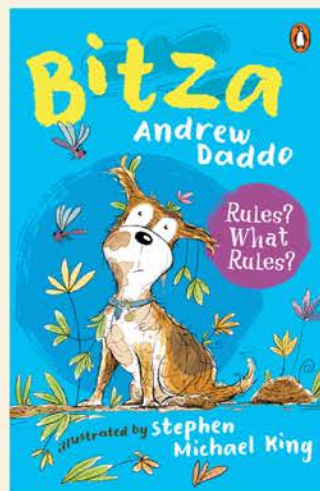
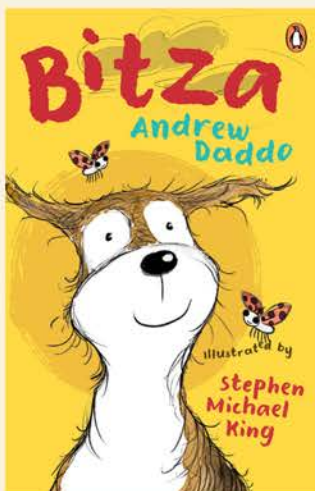


ANDREW DADDO

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.



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 (B&W)

RIGHTS SOLD

1: Czech Republic (Dobrovský), 1-2:

China (Diao Yuan)

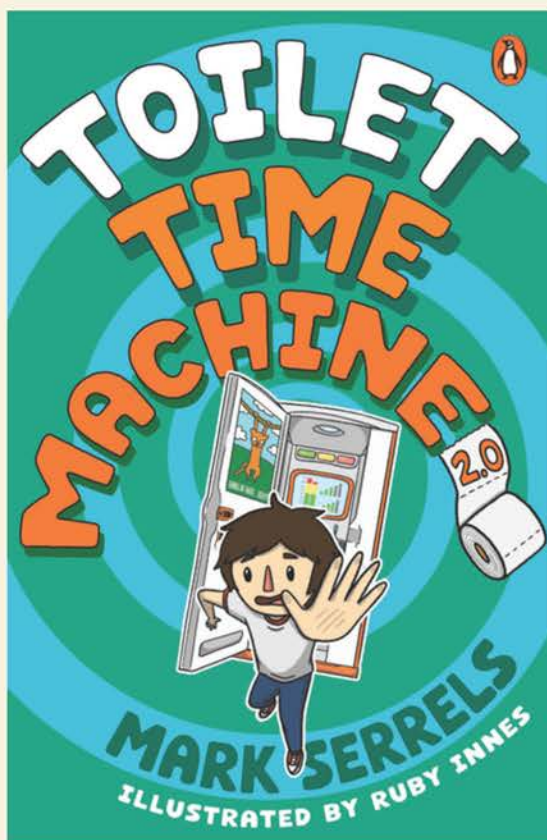


MARK SERRELS

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



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

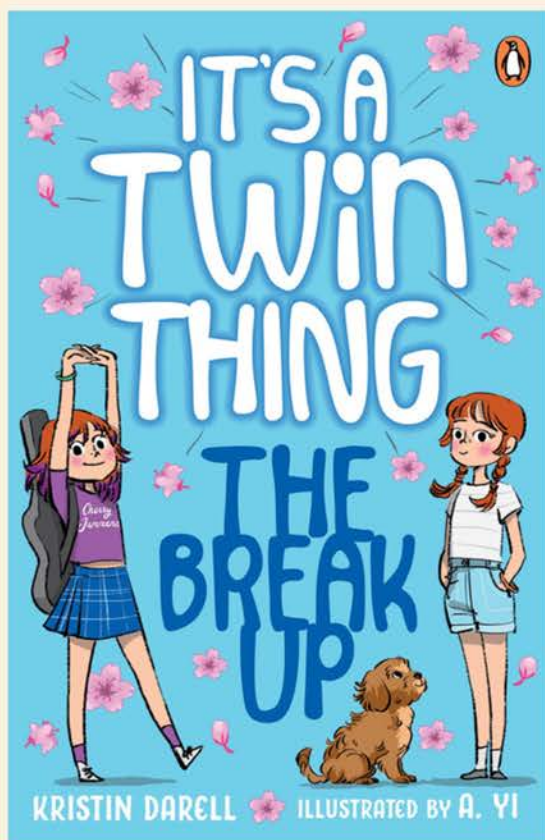
Paperback | 208pp | 7-9 years

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.



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 (B&W)

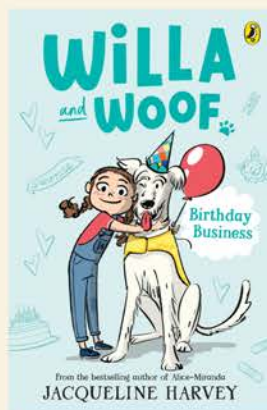
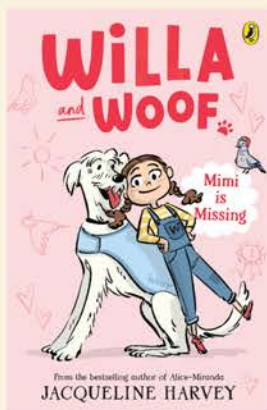
RIGHTS SOLD

Brazil (Editora Fundamento), Czech Republic (Grada Publishing)

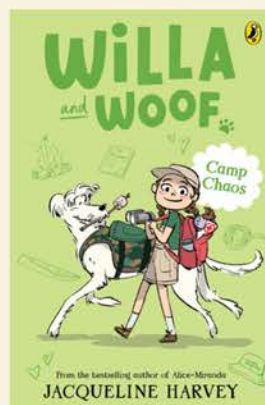
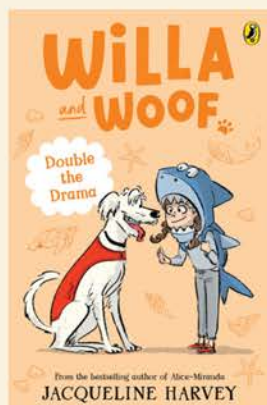
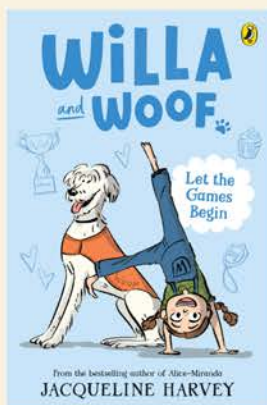


JACQUELINE HARVEY

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



SUNNY AND STORM

A 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 (B&W)

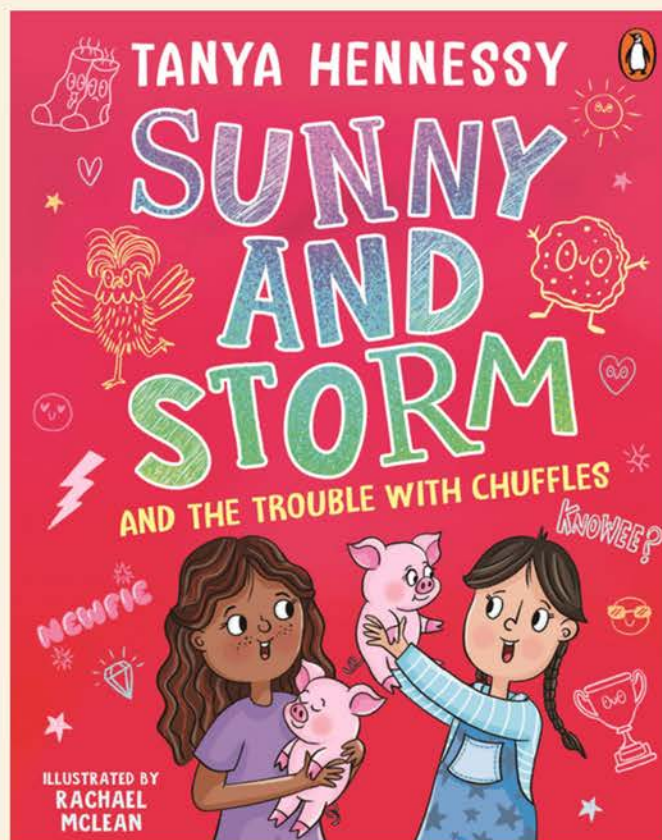
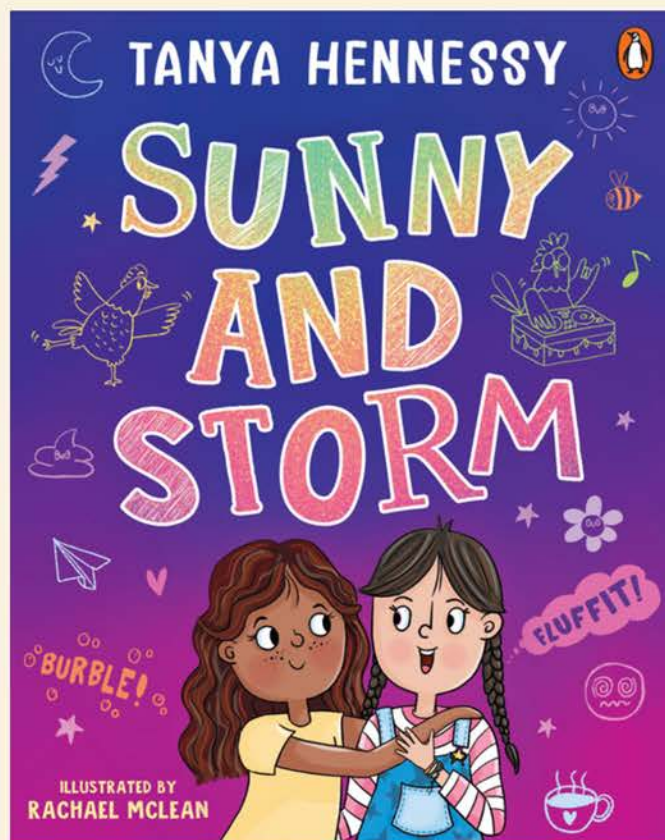


TANYA HENNESSY

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.



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 | 96pp | 6-9 years

Illustrated (B&W)

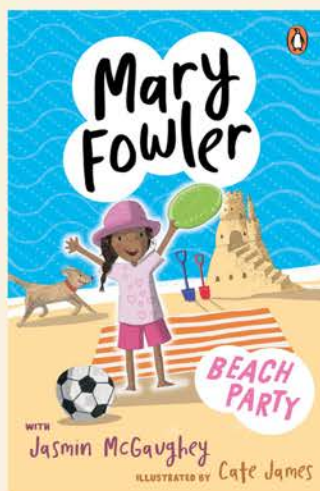
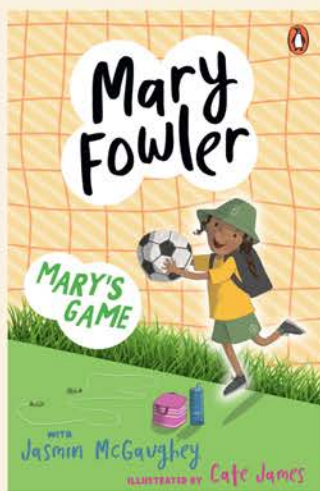


MARY FOWLER

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.

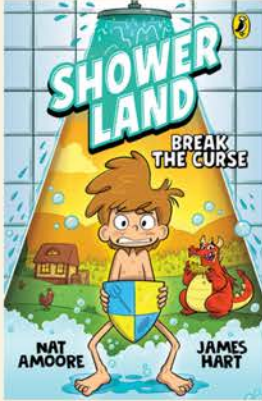
CATE JAMES

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

JUNIOR FICTION GEMS



SHOWER LAND 1-3 by Nat Amooore & James Hart

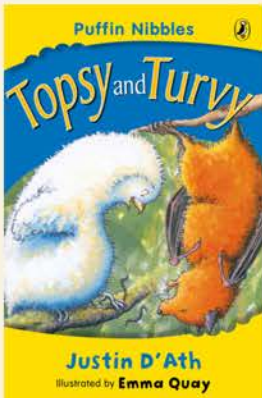
3: SEPTEMBER 2024

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**



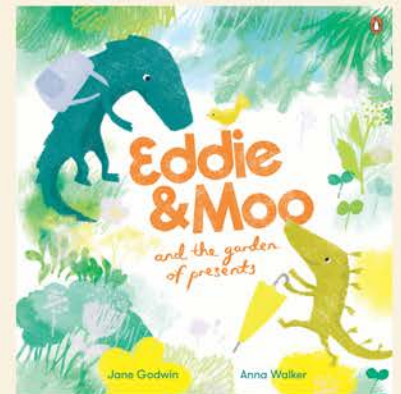
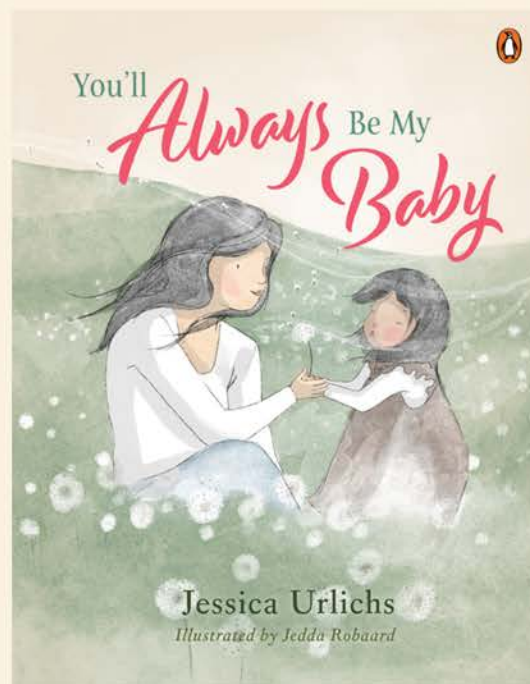
YARN QUEST 1-3 by Brooke Scobie & Jade Goodwin

3: JULY 2024

Paperback | 112pp | 7-9 years | Illustrated

★ **Debut First Nations fantasy adventure trilogy**

PICTURE BOOKS



YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY BABY

FEBRUARY 2026

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

A heart-tugging rhyming picture book for preschoolers, parents, and grandparents.

You'll always be my baby,
Just heavier to hold...

A gentle and poetic picture book that celebrates the deep forever love of family.

Adapted from the popular poem by bestselling author and poet, Jessica Urlichs, and brought to life by celebrated illustrator, Jedda Robaard.

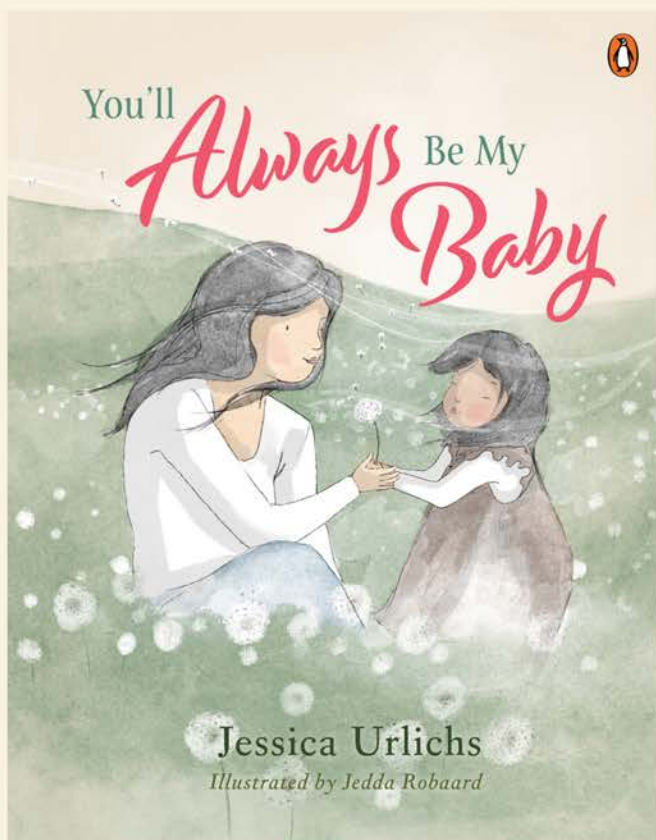


JESSICA URLICHS

Jessica is the Sunday Times bestselling author of *Beautiful Chaos*. Jess' honest and heartfelt poetry about her family and motherhood is a source of guidance for mothers and parents around the world.

JEDDA ROBAARD

Jedda has illustrated and written over 50 children's books, many of them award-winning. Her books are sold internationally and have been published in many languages.



From Jessica Urlichs – 903K followers across socials

14K copies sold in Australia

A MIND LIKE MINE

A rhyming picture book from the eyes of a neurodivergent child, and a warm hug for the parents and caregivers that love them best.

I'm loyal and I'm caring,
I feel other people's pain.
I see glitter in the sunshine
I see puddles in the rain.

My happiness can reach the sky,
I see things that others don't.
My mind may wander off a bit,
but I'll ask questions others won't.

It can often feel quite lonely
like no one understands,
but I feel safe with you, mummy
like I can be who I am.

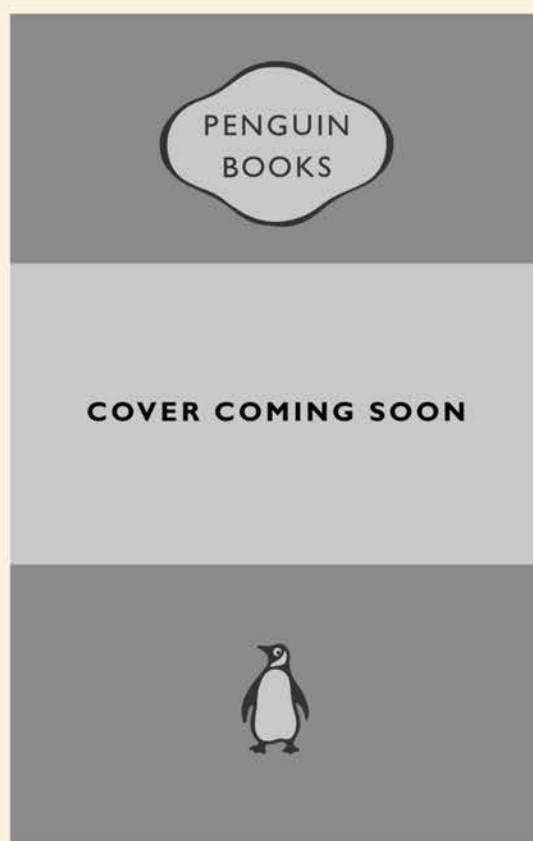
AUGUST 2027

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years



JESSICA URLICHS

Jessica is the Sunday Times bestselling author of *Beautiful Chaos*. Jess' honest and heartfelt poetry about her family and motherhood is a source of guidance for mothers and parents around the world.



MAY SHE ALWAYS KNOW

An empowering and poetic picture book full of loving advice for little girls.

I hope you will always
know your own strength,
that you love without borders,
and dream at great length.

I hope you are brave,
and I hope you read books,
when people say you're pretty
know it's more than your looks.

For you're pretty smart,
and you're pretty kind.
May you be heard for your voice,
and seen for your mind.

MARCH 2028

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years



JESSICA URLICH

Jessica is the Sunday Times bestselling author of *Beautiful Chaos*. Jess' honest and heartfelt poetry about her family and motherhood is a source of guidance for mothers and parents around the world.



COVER COMING SOON



From Jessica
Urlich – 903K
followers
across socials

Releasing
alongside
*May He
Always Know*

MAY HE ALWAYS KNOW

An empowering and poetic picture book full of loving advice for little boys.

Strength can be dancing,
or running a mile,
lending a hand,
or sharing a smile.

It's also about giving,
for some will just take.
You have courage, little one,
let it mend things that break.

Strength is in showing
how to lead from your heart,
and sometimes, my boy,
it will set you apart.

MARCH 2028

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years



JESSICA URLICH

Jessica is the Sunday Times bestselling author of *Beautiful Chaos*. Jess' honest and heartfelt poetry about her family and motherhood is a source of guidance for mothers and parents around the world.



COVER COMING SOON



From Jessica
Urlich – 903K
followers
across socials

Releasing
alongside
*May She
Always Know*

HARRY AND GRAN AT THE BEACH

MARCH 2027

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

From the adored bestselling author, Fiona McIntosh, comes this picture book celebration of family, sun, and fun!

Harry and Gran are going to the beach.

What could possibly go wrong?

A funny and charming story of a gran and her grandchild spending the day by the sea . . . and embracing the hilarious mishaps that occur along the way.



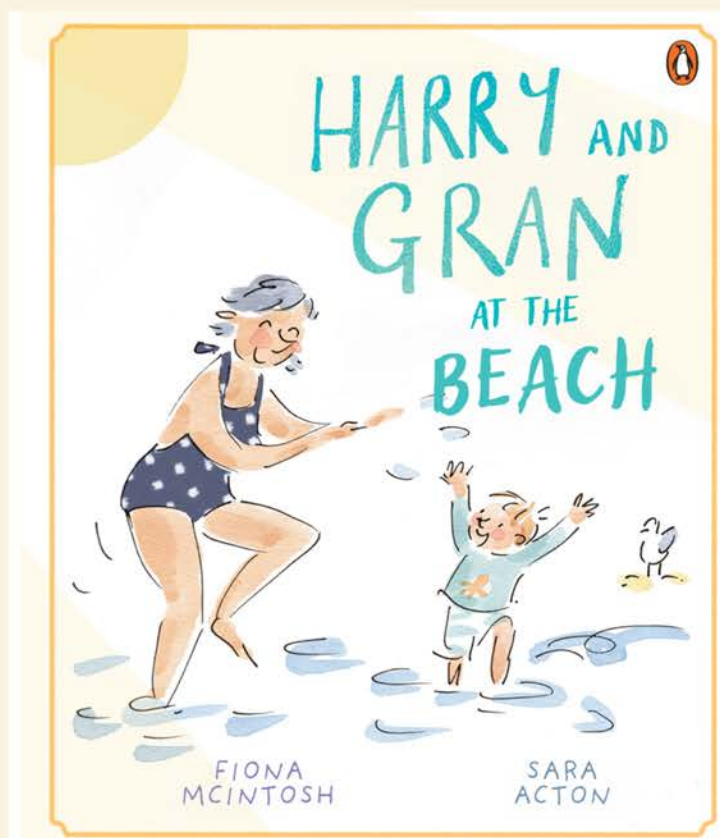
FIONA MCINTOSH

Fiona is an internationally and million-copy bestselling author. *Harry and Gran Bake a Cake* was her children's picture book debut and was shortlisted for the 2026 Indie Book Awards.

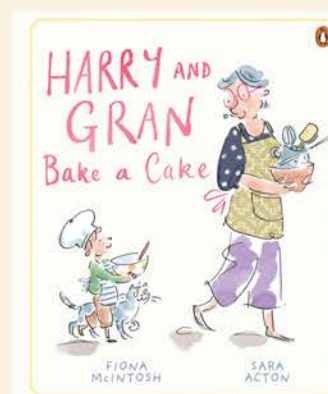
SARA ACTON

Sara is an award-winning author and illustrator of children's books. Her first picture book, *Ben and Duck*, won the CBCA Crichton Award for new illustrators.

DRAFT COVER



ALSO IN THIS SERIES



Book 1: Indie Book Awards 2026 shortlist

MULGA'S AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS

APRIL 2027

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

True facts. Ridiculous stories! From the wild, weird, and wonderfully Aussie imagination of Mulga.

This is *not* your average encyclopaedic collection of Australian animals.

There was once a magical platypus called Atticus – oh, and did you know that platypus bills are soft and sense electricity?

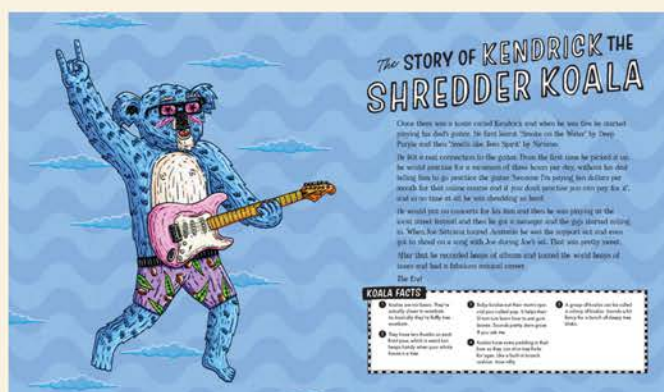
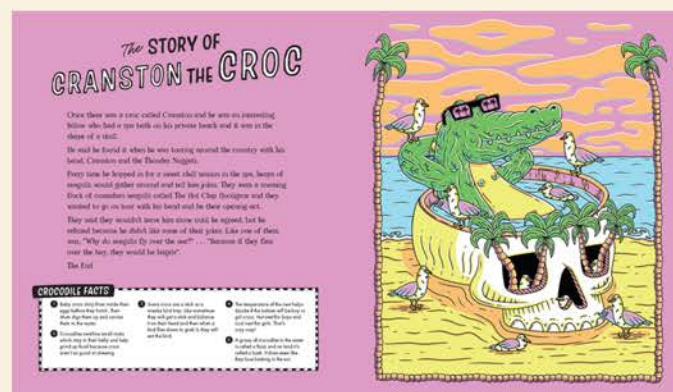
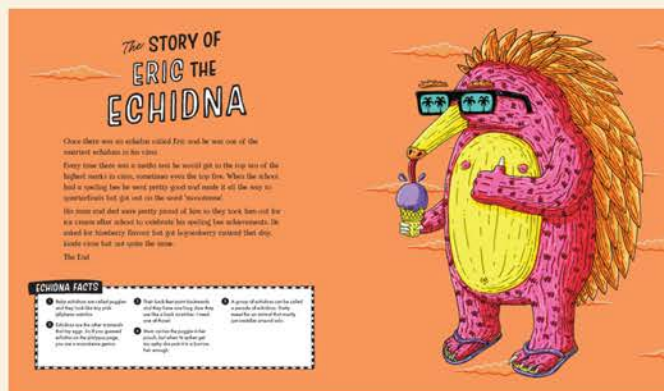
Fin the shark mostly always smiled and rarely ever cried – by the way, sharks lose and grow new teeth all the time and some can even go through tens of thousands.

Romulus the funky wombat loved beach parties – fun fact, wombats take two weeks to digest food and their poo is shaped like . . . cubes.



MULGA

Mulga is a renowned Australian street artist, freelance illustrator, muralist, author, and designer. Known for his unique Australian creations and signature style of intricate line work and bright colours, Mulga's creations sell around the world.



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?

Show it around of course!

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

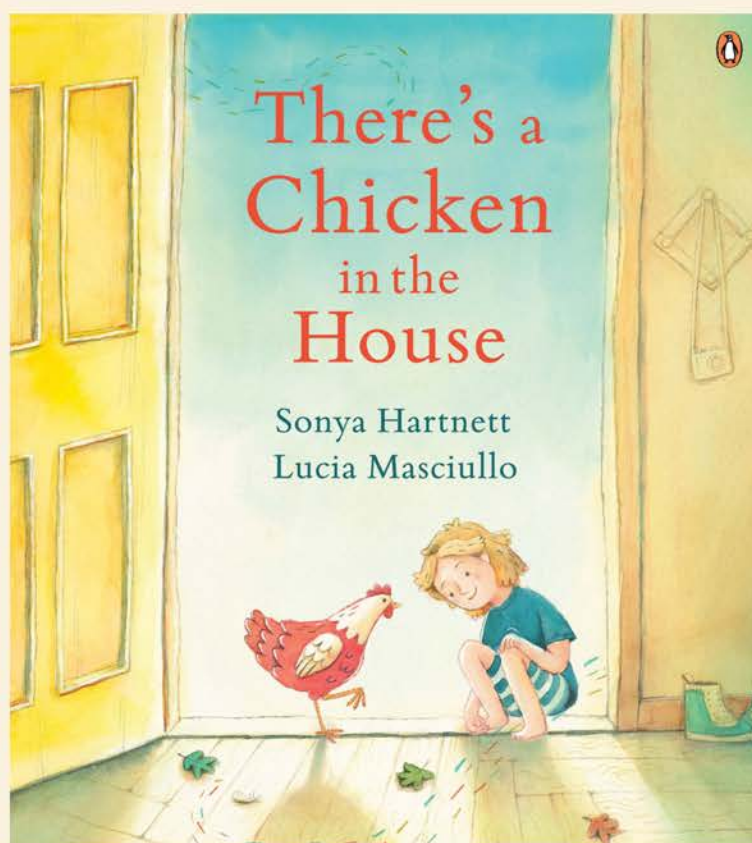


SONYA HARTNETT

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!*



EDDIE AND MOO AND THE GARDEN OF PRESENTS

SEPTEMBER 2026

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

From the award-winning team of Jane Godwin and Anna Walker comes a delightful adventure about sharing joyful times together with friends.

Eddie and Moo are best friends. They do everything together.

On their Saturday hike, they meet Big Princess Dinosaur and it's her birthday!

The party is at 4 o'clock, so Eddie and Moo set off to find a cake and the mysterious present their friend has asked for.

Will they find everything before the party? And what even is a 'garden of presents'?

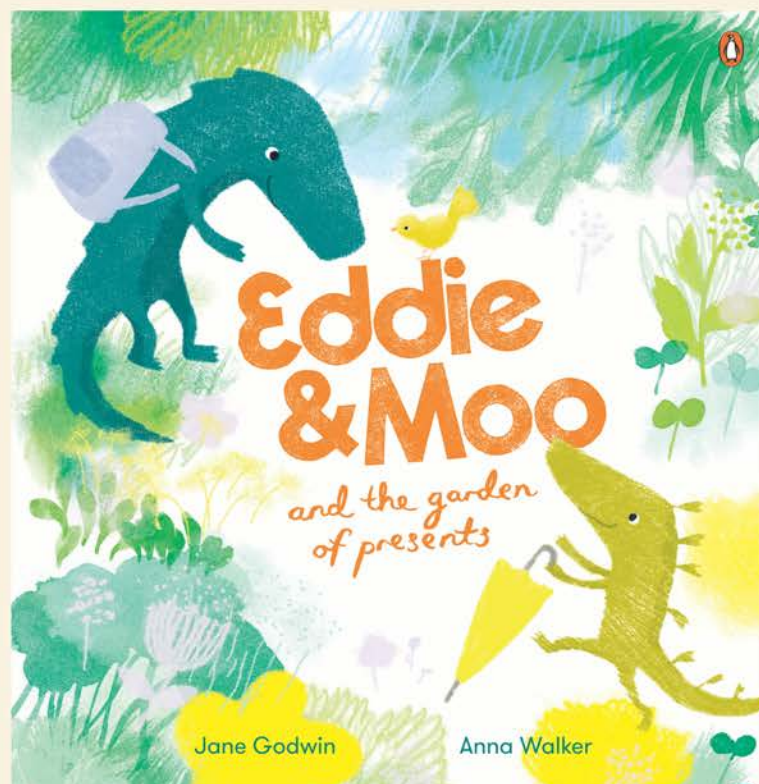


JANE GODWIN

Jane has authored over 30 books for children. Her work is published internationally, and she has received the Queensland Premier's Award, the Aurealis Award, and the Animal Welfare Award.

ANNA WALKER

Anna is an author and illustrator. Her picture book, *Mr Huff*, won the 2016 CBCA Book of the Year and was shortlisted in the Prime Minister's Literary Awards.



Book 2
coming
August 2027

From the
team who
have sold
305K+ books
in ANZ

BACKPACKS!

What do we keep inside our backpacks? Let's lift the flaps and see . . .

A stunning hardback with lift-the-flap illustrations alternately discovering the various treasures children keep inside their backpacks and celebrating the delightful busyness of a class of children exploring and learning through play.

The ideal gift for a child who is about to start their learning journey at preschool, kindergarten, ECE, or school, or to get them back in a positive and excited mood for returning to learning after the holidays.

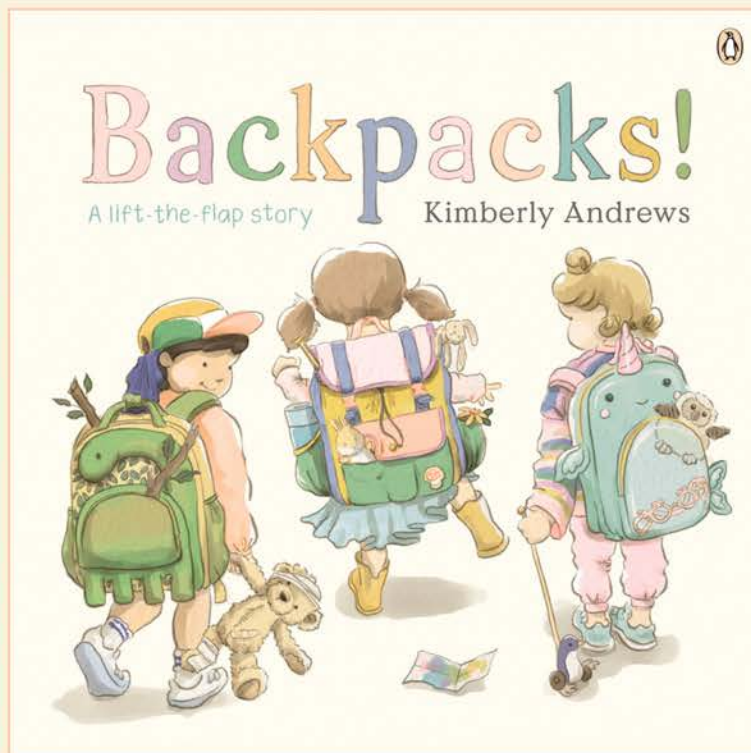
JANUARY 2027

Hardback | 32pp | 2-6 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.



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

JUNE 2026

Paperback | 32pp | 5-9 years

In this 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.

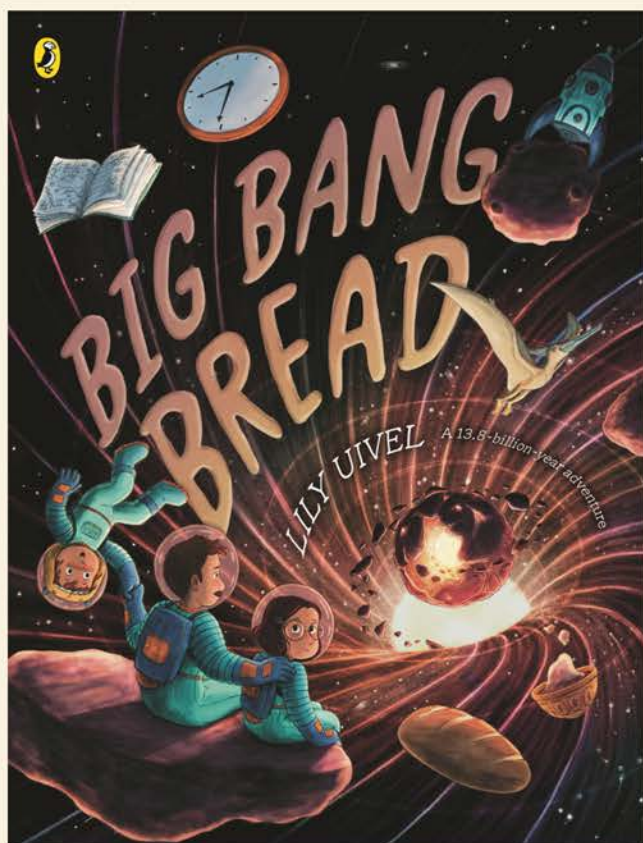
Take off with the Big Bang, and drop in on dinosaurs, Ancient Egypt, and other times and places to collect the ingredients for a delicious loaf of oven-baked bread.

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.



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.

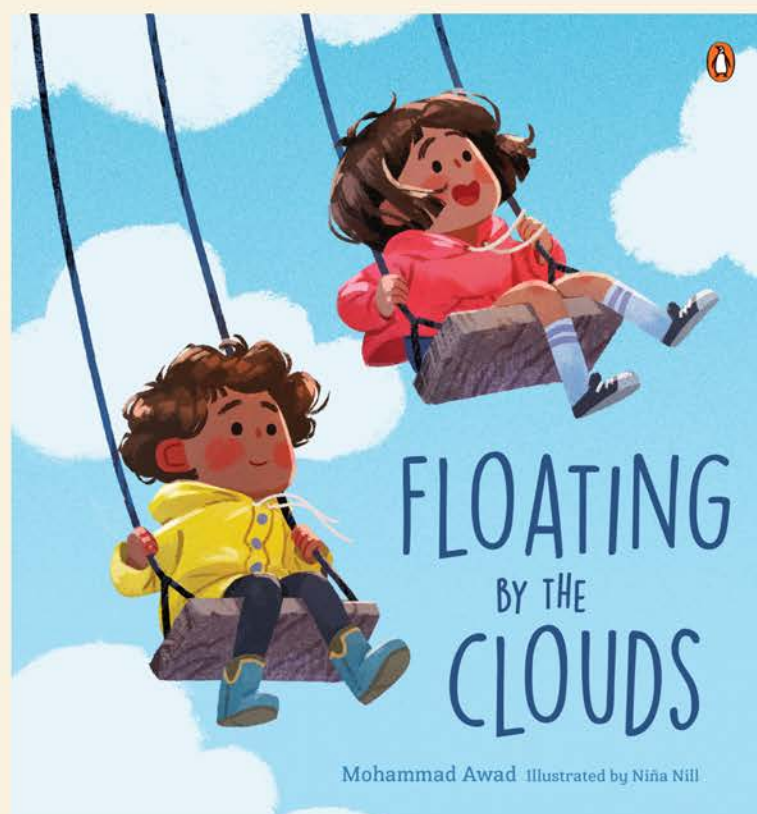


MOHAMMAD AWAD

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.

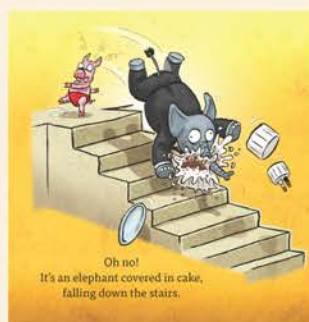
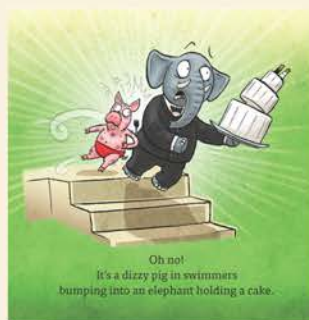
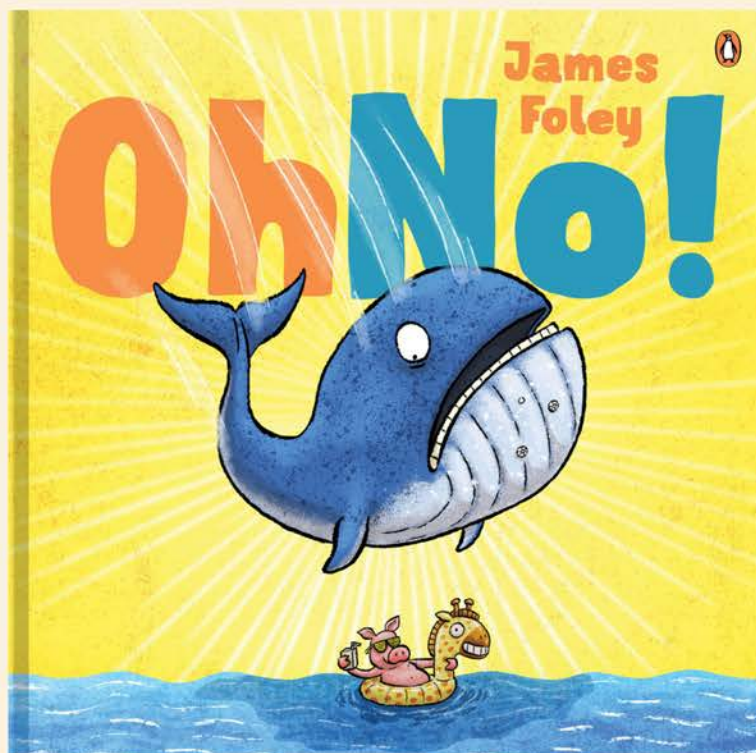
MAY 2026

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*.



MY FIRST LITTLE LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS

MAY 2026

Board book | 40pp | 0-2 years

Introduce your little one to all your favourite Australian animals in this gorgeous little board book boxset.

Introduce Australian animals to your baby or toddler with this four book little library. Wombats play, platypus dive, and kangaroos play peekaboo! Find out what these iconic Australian animals get up to during their day.

The little boxset includes:

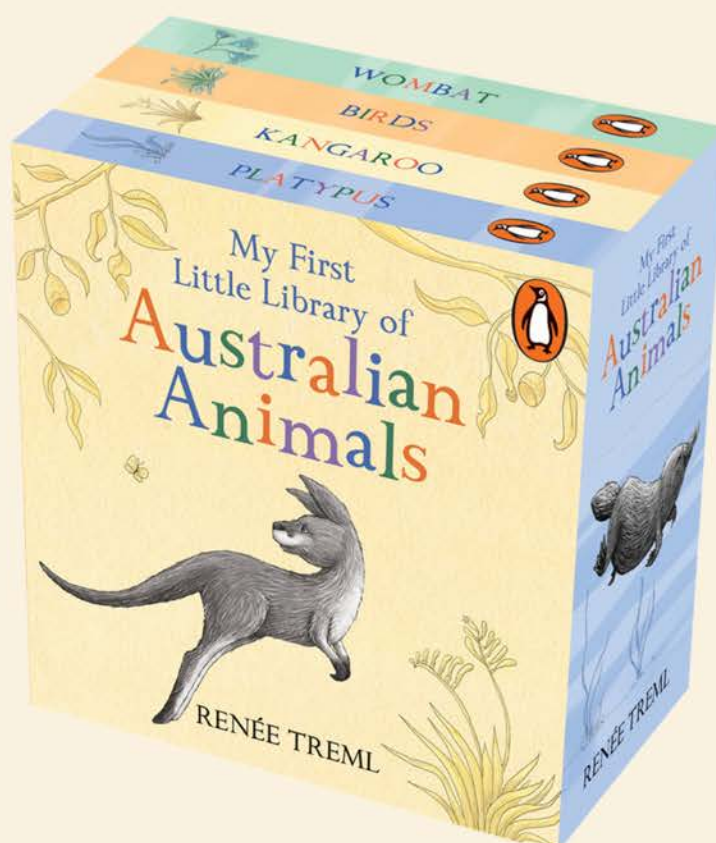
- WOMBAT
- BIRDS
- KANGAROO
- PLATYPUS

Beautifully created in Renée Trembl's trademark soft palette and classic style. With sturdy pages and a handy slipcase to keep the books together, this charming set is perfect for little hands!



RENÉE TREMBL

Renée's books have won or been listed for awards including the CBCA Crichton Award for New Illustrator, Speech Pathology Book of the Year, and the Environment Award for Children's Literature. Renée's illustrations are featured on a variety of products, including stationery, ceramics and fine art prints.



4 board
books in 1

THIS AUSSIE DINO

You might know dinosaurs, but how well do you know Aussie dinosaurs?

Millions of years ago, many different types of dinosaurs walked, swam, and flew across the Earth.

Read along as we meet some of the extinct dinosaurs that lived in Australia.

Combining engaging storytelling with rich visuals and learning opportunities, *This Aussie Dino* is a book you'll reach for again and again.

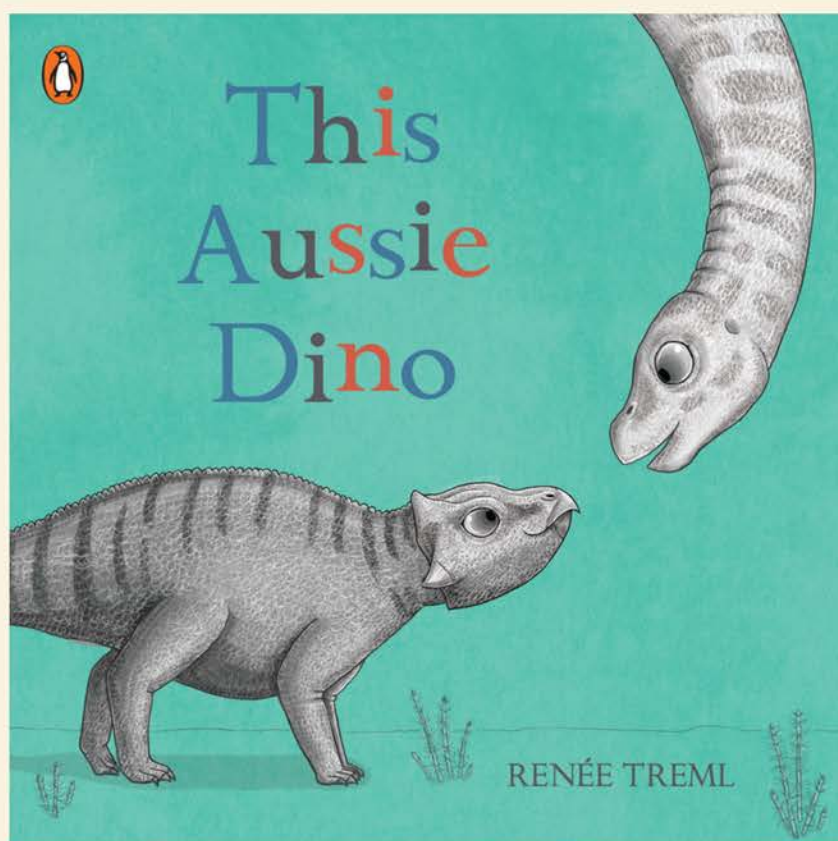
FEBRUARY 2027

Board book | 24pp | 0-2 years

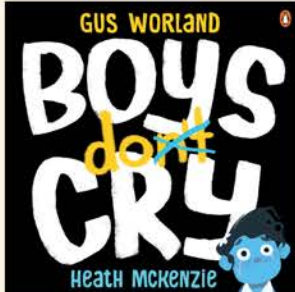


RENÉE TREML

Renée's books have won or been listed for awards including the CBCA Crichton Award for New Illustrator, Speech Pathology Book of the Year, and the Environment Award for Children's Literature. Renée's illustrations are featured on a variety of products, including stationery, ceramics and fine art prints.



PICTURE BOOK GEMS



BOYS DO CRY by Gus Worland & Heath McKenzie

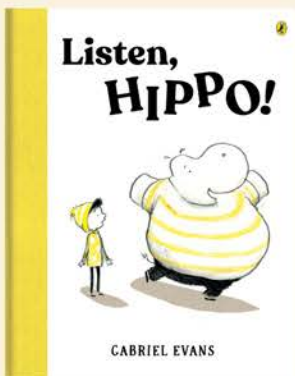
FEBRUARY 2025

Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

RIGHTS SOLD

US (RHCB), Taiwan (ACME)

✳ **Screen rights optioned by the BBC**



LISTEN, HIPPO! by Gabriel Evans

APRIL 2024

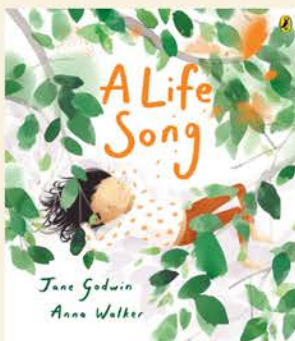
Hardback | 32pp | 5+ years

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

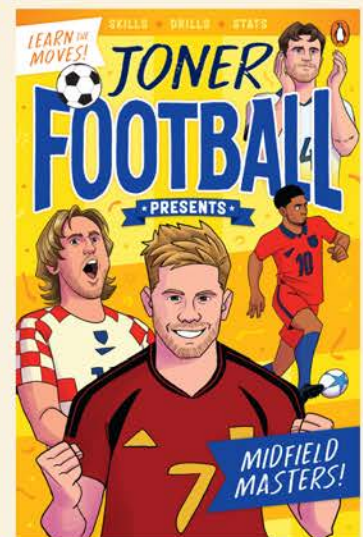
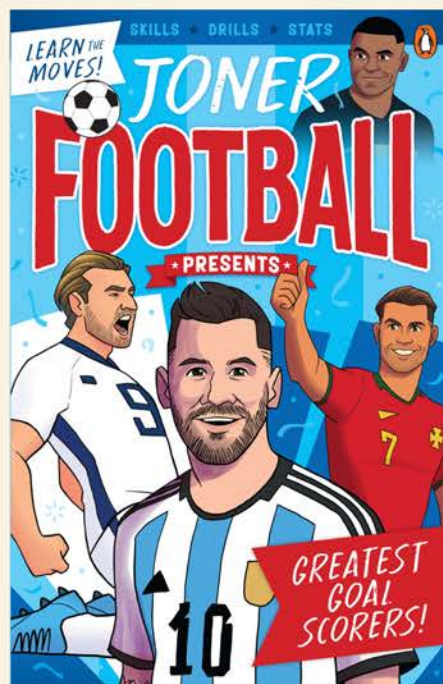
OCTOBER 2023

Hardback | 32pp | 6-9 years

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

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

NON- FICTION



STELLA: THE GIRL FROM BRINDABELLA

FEBRUARY 2027

Paperback | 256pp | 10+ years

The story of how trailblazer Stella Miles Franklin became an iconic Australian writer, feminist, and role model.

Stella spends her days mustering with her father and dreaming of a life full of adventure, music, travel, and books.

But when her family leaves her beloved home Brindabella and falls into hardship, Stella's world consists of long days of farm work and old-fashioned rules. Her brilliant future seems to have vanished.

But Stella has a spark deep inside and she's determined to keep it alight . . .



BELINDA MURRELL

Belinda is an award-winning, internationally published children's author. Her previous titles include the Tuscan series, The Sun Sword trilogy, and her award-winning time-slip adventure books. For younger readers Belinda has her popular Lulu Bell and Pippa's Island series.



Stella Miles Franklin authored *My Brilliant Career* (adapted in 2026 by Netflix)

JONER FOOTBALL PRESENTS

JULY 2026

Paperback | 96pp | 6+ years

Illustrated (B&W)

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!

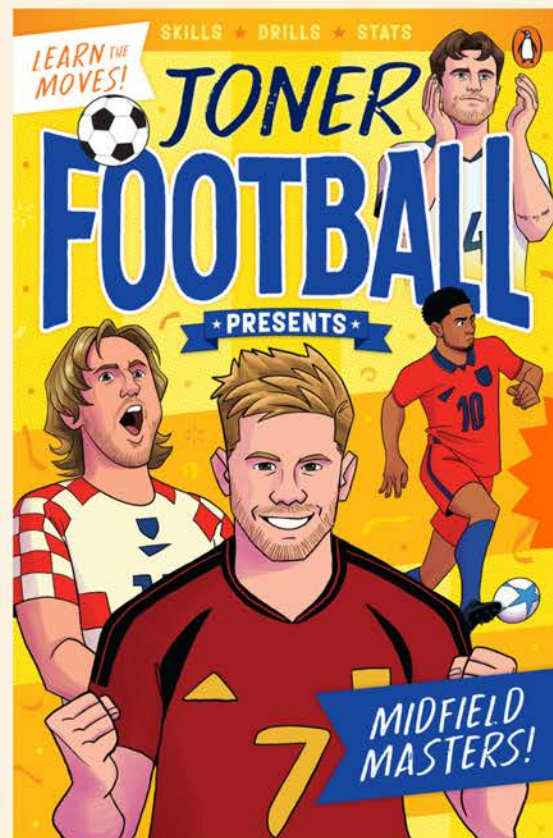
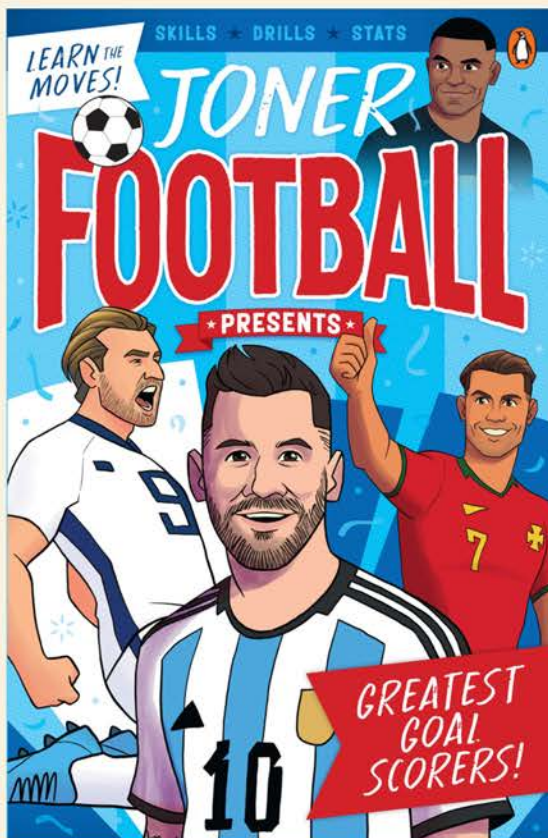
Kick off with Lee's list of the game's GREATEST
GOALSCORERS, and get it outta there with Lee's list of the
game's MIDFIELDER MASTERS!

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



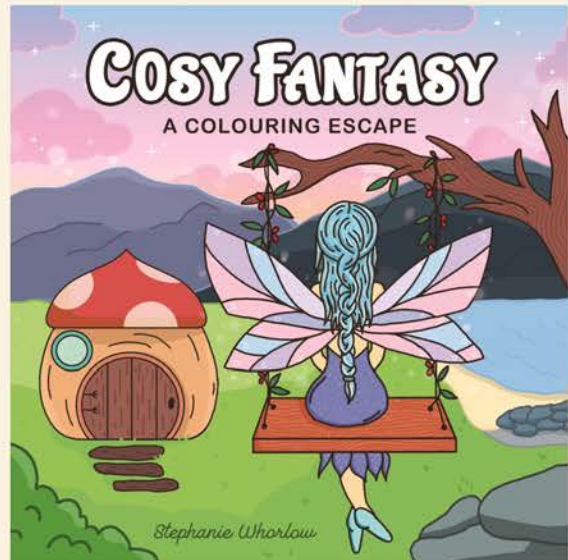
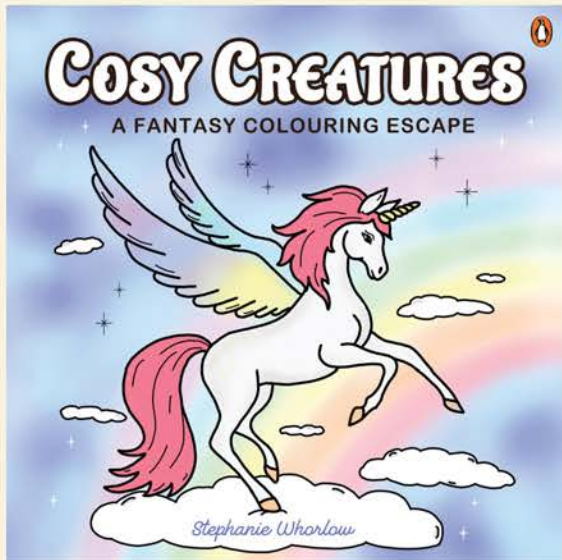
LEE JONES

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.



Global
training
brand

COLOURING



COSY CREATURES: A FANTASY COLOURING ESCAPE

NOVEMBER 2026

Paperback | 80pp

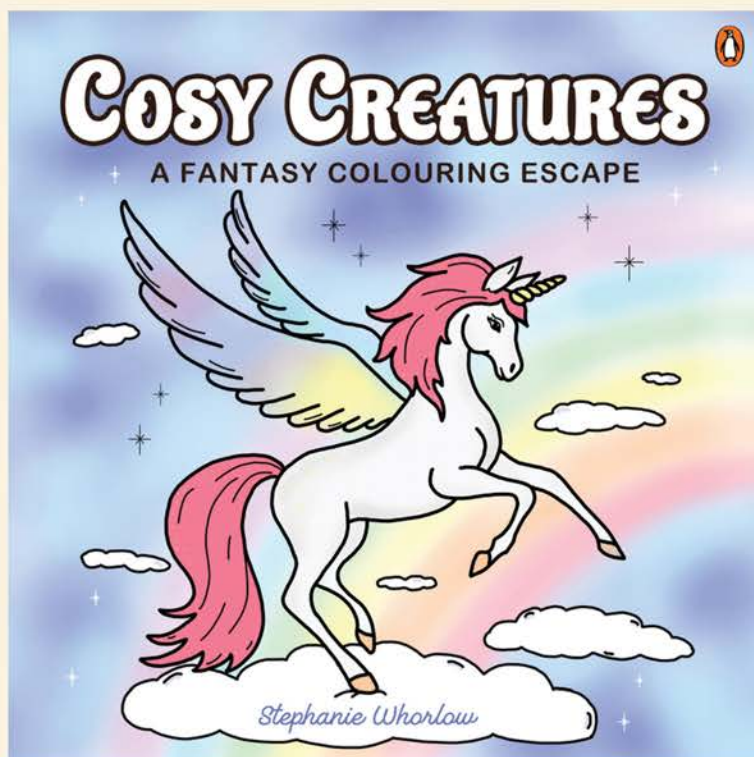
Escape into a world of magical colouring with 38 pages full of cute and cosy creatures.

You'll find dragons, centaurs, basilisks, unicorns, elves, wolves, winged foxes, flying pigs, yetis, fairies, witches, mermaids, and much more! Grab your favourite markers or pencils and step into this world of fantastical creatures.



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 FANTASY: A COLOURING ESCAPE

DECEMBER 2025

Paperback | 80pp

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

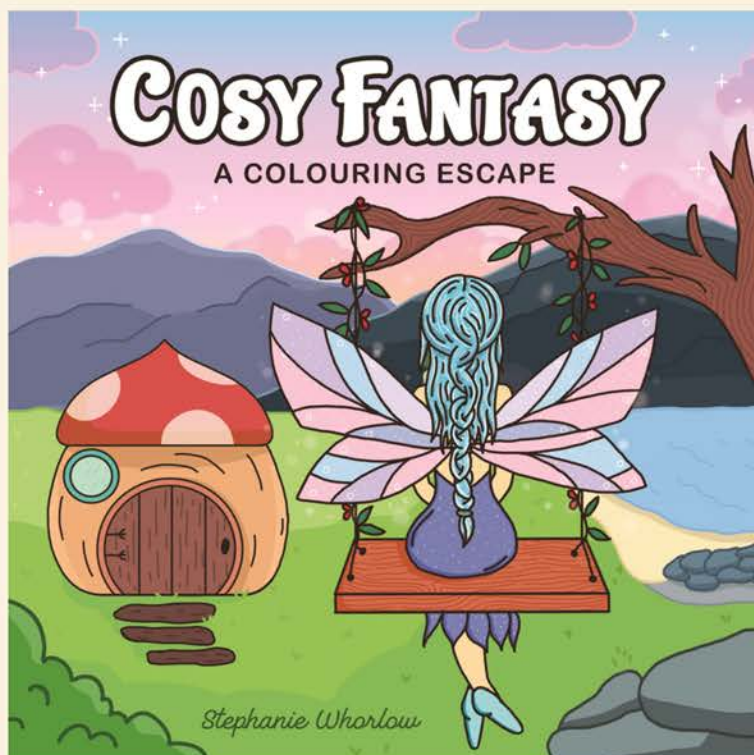
Escape into a world of calm and comfort with 40 pages of tranquil reading nook settings and fantastical characters including dragons, fairies, witches, and mermaids.

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

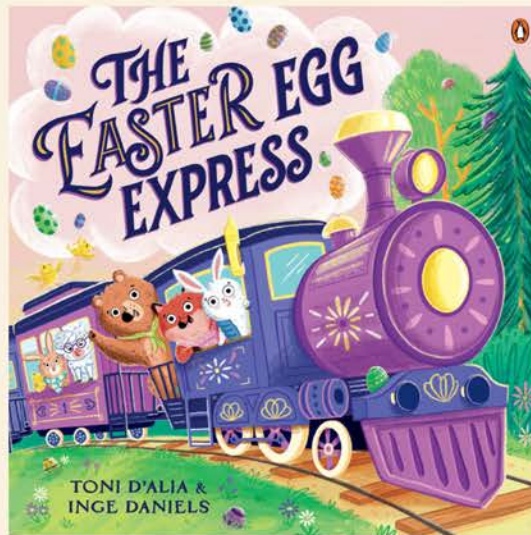


STEPHANIE WHORLOW

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SEASONAL



THE EASTER EGG EXPRESS

Experience all the joy and magic of Easter in this colourful festive story for children of all ages.

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

Celebrate Easter with Bunny, Bear, and Fox as they hop aboard the Easter Egg Express for a day full of fun with friends.

JANUARY 2027

Hardback | 24pp | 2-7 years

Picture Book

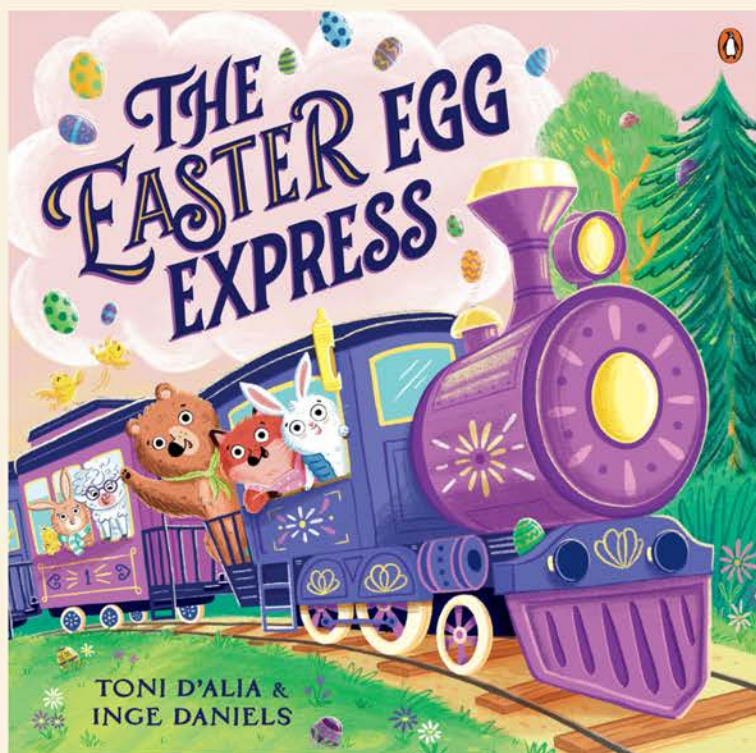


TONI D'ALIA

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.



DRAFT PAGES



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.

FEBRUARY 2026

Paperback | 96pp

Colouring

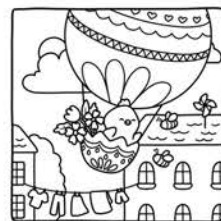
RIGHTS SOLD

US (Penguin Workshop), 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.



Publishing in
the US in
2028

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

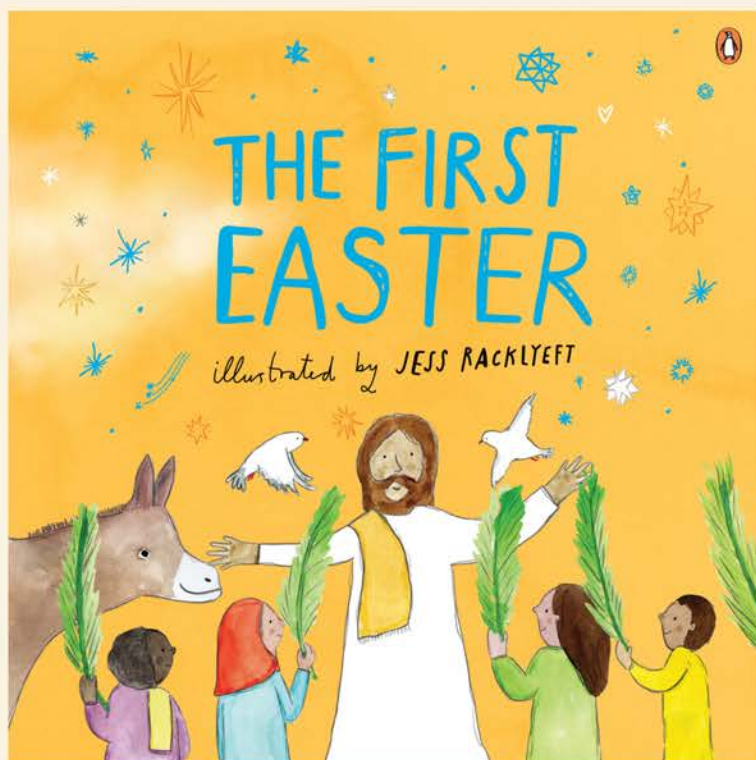
Hardback | 32pp | 2-7 years

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



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

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.

AUGUST 2026

Hardback | 24pp | 2-7 years

Picture Book

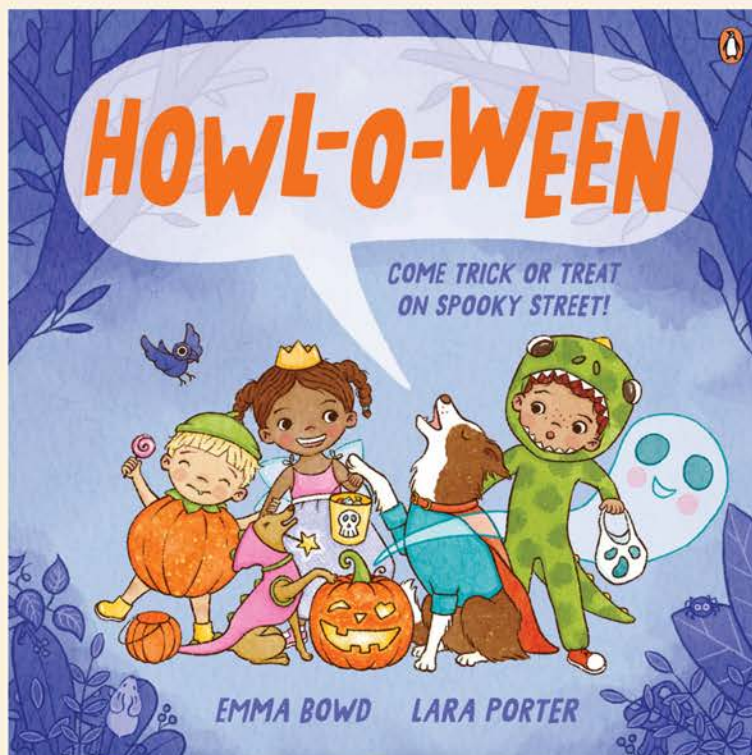


EMMA BOWD

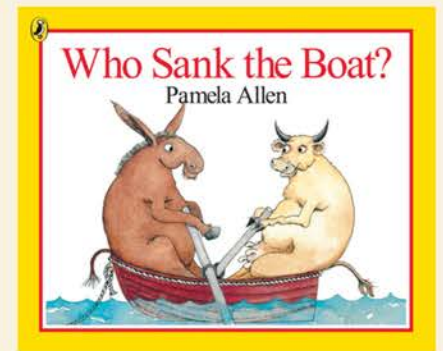
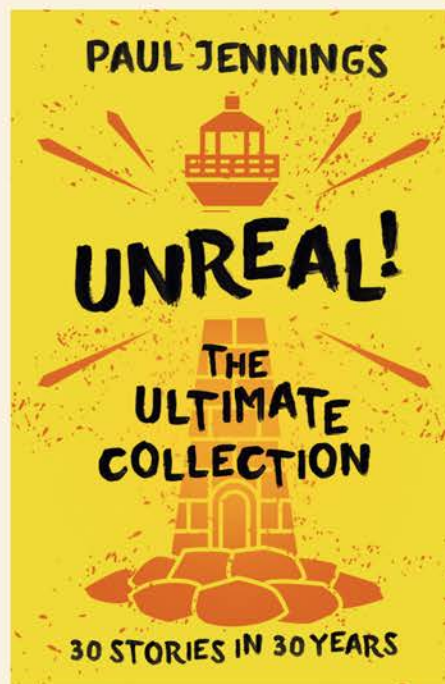
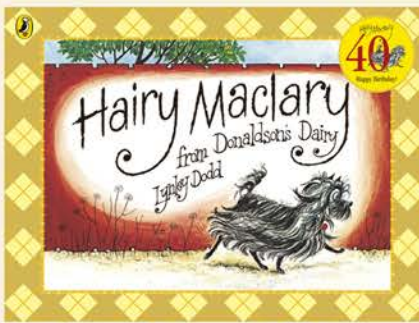
Emma is an internationally published and award-winning author, and a dedicated literacy and disability advocate.

LARA PORTER

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



STAR AUTHORS



PAMELA ALLEN

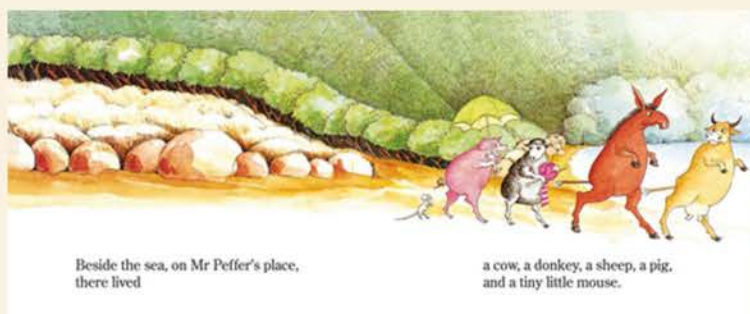
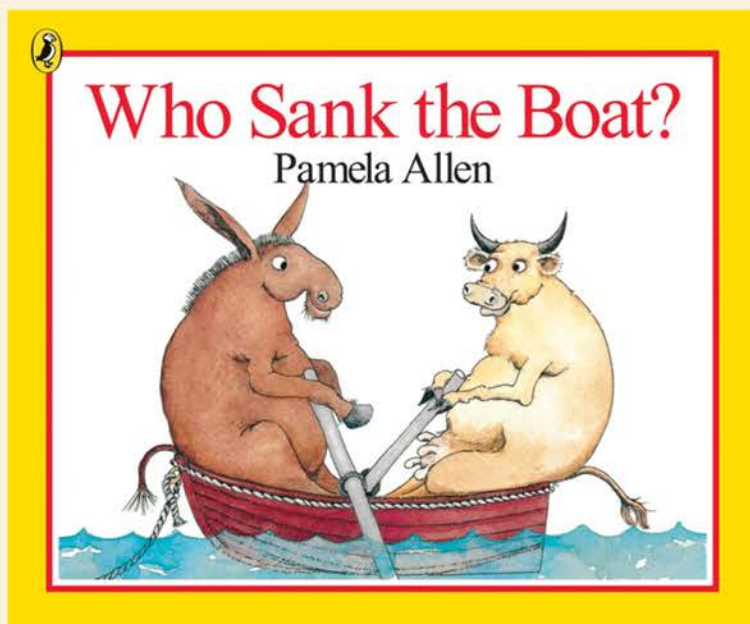
Pamela's picture books have enchanted generations of children around the world, and have garnered an array of awards, including six Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Awards, two New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards, an International Board on Books for Young People Diploma for 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

PAUL JENNINGS

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

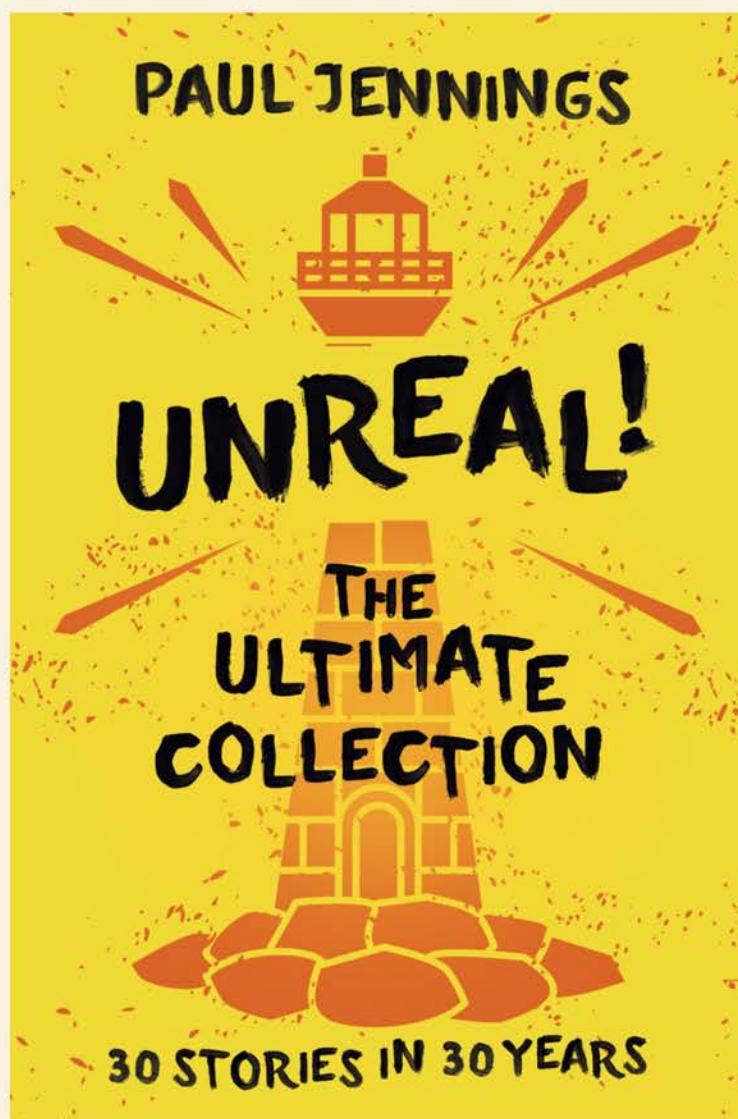
Paul has written over 100 stories and has been voted 'favourite author' more than 40 times by children in Australia, winning every children's choice award.

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

LYNLEY DODD

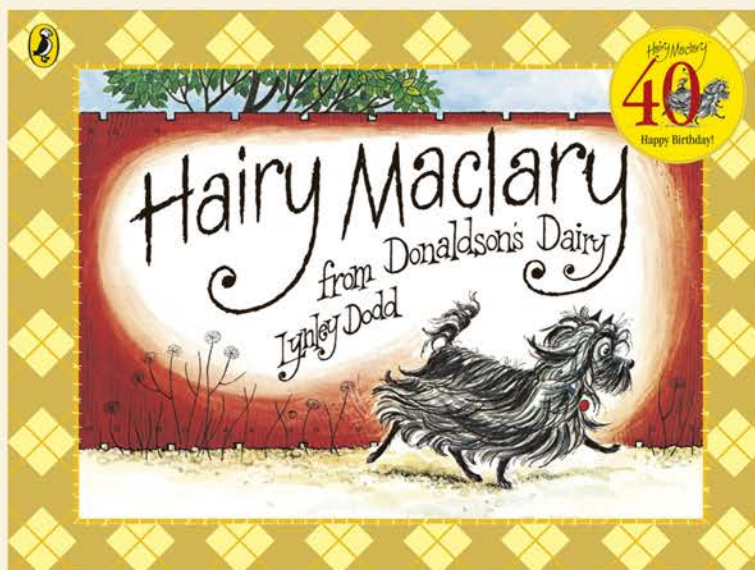
Lynley is a New Zealand author and illustrator best known for the exuberant artwork and bouncy rhymes of *Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's Dairy*, the sequels to which were all shortlisted for the Children's Picture Book of the Year Award, which Lynley won outright four times.

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

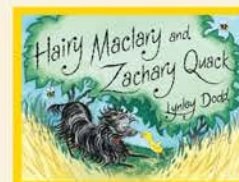
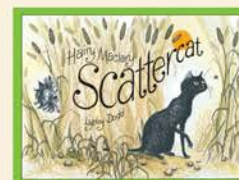
Picture Book

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

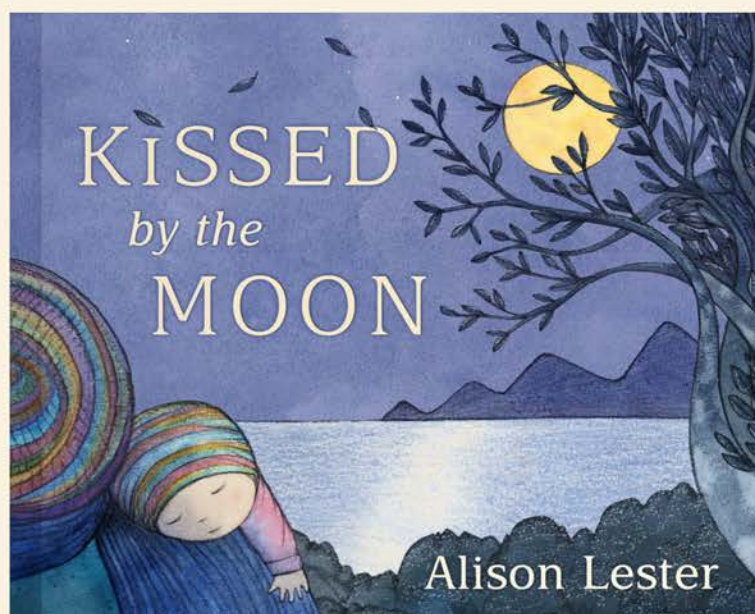
ALISON LESTER

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



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



and dance in the rain.

KISSED BY THE MOON

Picture Book

Hardback | 28pp | 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)**

365K+
copies
sold in
Australia

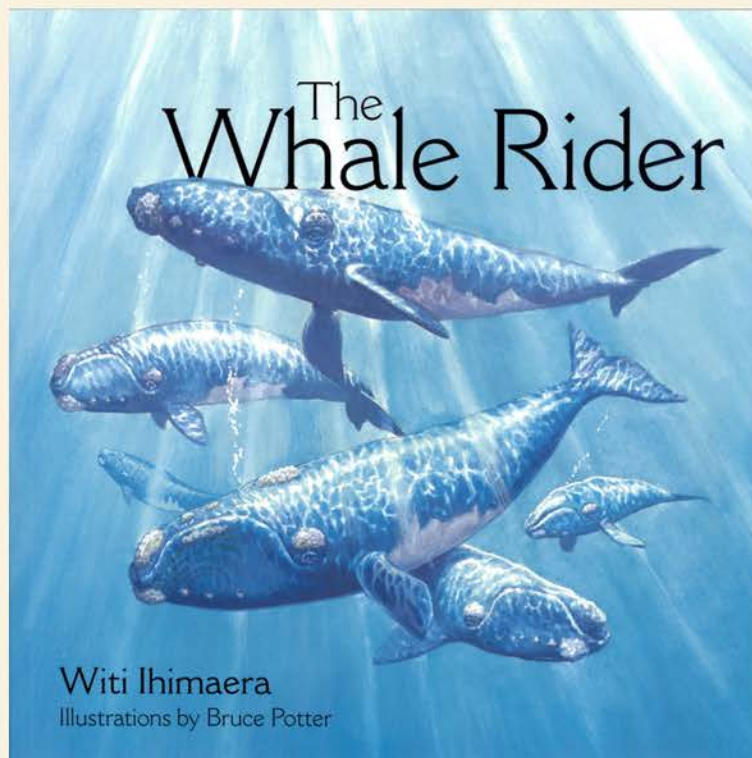
WITI IHIMAERA

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

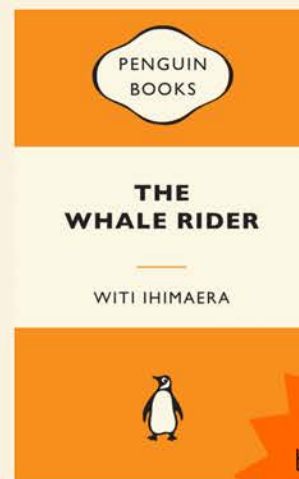


THE WHALE RIDER

Picture Book

Paperback | 48pp | 5+ years

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



A picture book retelling of the classic novel

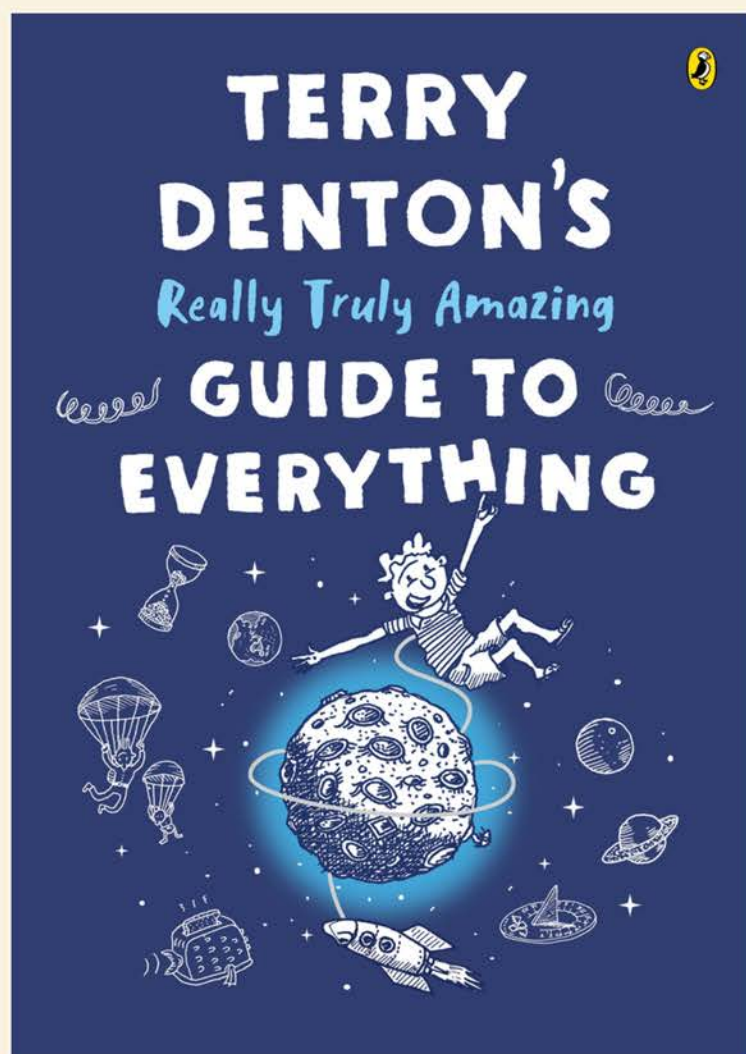
TERRY DENTON

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

RIGHTS SOLD

UK (Macmillan), Taiwan (Happy Publishing House), Brazil (Fundamento), The Netherlands (Lannoo Uitgeverij), Sweden (Alfabeta Bokförlag), Norway (Fontini Forlag), Italy (DeA Planeta Libri)

33K+
copies
sold in
Australia

MEET THE TEAM



Belinda Conners, Children's Publishing and Campaigns Director



Lisa Riley, Publisher



Jessica Owen, Publisher



Zoe Bechara, Publisher



Rebecca McRitchie, Publisher



Catherine O'Loughlin, Publisher



Talia Moodley, Children's Rights Manager