



HARPERCOLLINS PUBLISHERS
AUSTRALIA

FRANKFURT
2025



DEAR ALL,

Welcome to the Harper Kids ANZ
2025 Frankfurt Guide.

Harper Kids ANZ is a boutique and dedicated children's publishing team within one of Australia's largest publishing houses. We aim to inspire and nurture a lifelong love of reading by publishing the best books for children of all ages. Respected worldwide for our tradition of publishing quality, bestselling books for young readers, with compelling stories and iconic illustrations, we are the home of prize-winners, international giants, rising stars and home-grown heroes, chart toppers and cult favourites – including works that have been continuously in print for over a hundred years.

**BEST WISHES,
THE HARPER KIDS ANZ TEAM**

CONTENTS

FRONTLIST

BOARD BOOKS

PICTURE BOOKS

YOUNGER READERS

OLDER READERS & YOUNG ADULT

NON-FICTION

REGENT

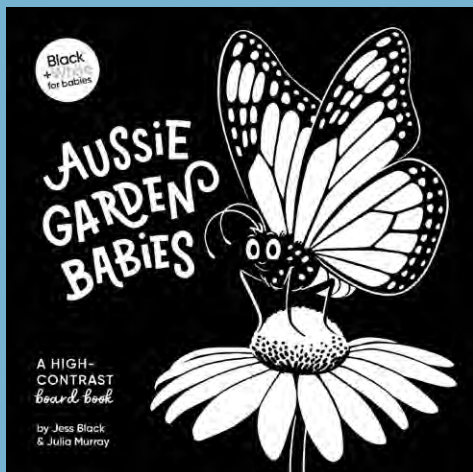
RIGHTS CONTACTS



FRONTLIST



BOARD BOOKS



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Over 155,000 copies sold across the series

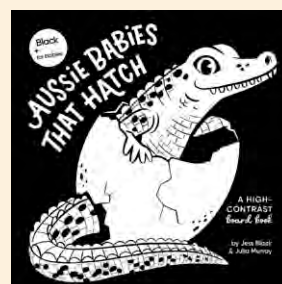
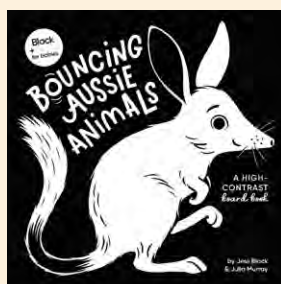
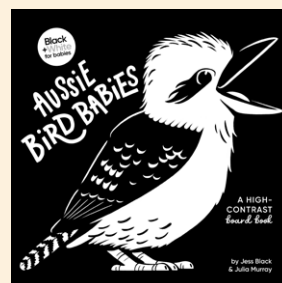
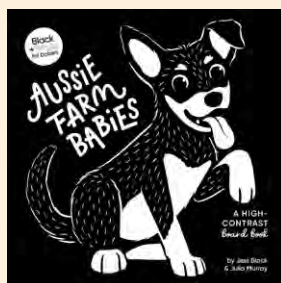
AUSSIE GARDEN BABIES (BLACK AND WHITE FOR BABIES #10)

Jess Black, Julia Murray

BABIES LOVE BLACK AND WHITE!

Jess Black is an award-winning author of over forty seven children's books. She is the author of the following series – Pepper Creek Ponies, The Tales of Mr Walker, Kitty is Not a Cat, Little Paws and the Keeper of the Crystals series; and is co-author of the hugely successful Bindi Wildlife Adventure series, the Kaboom Kid series and the Animal Tales series.

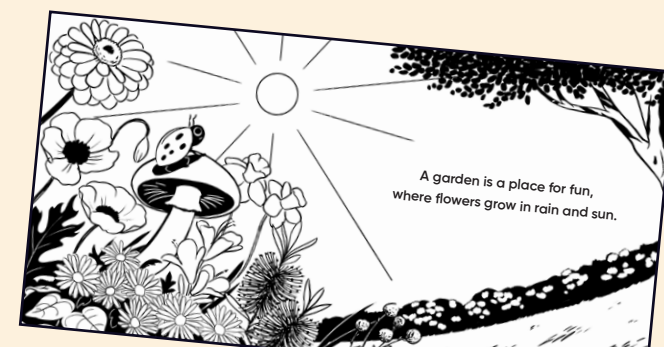
Julia Murray is an illustrator and designer living in Tamaki Makaurau, Aotearoa (Auckland, New Zealand). Her illustrations have been applied to books, packaging, clothing and advertising for clients such as HarperCollins, Garage Project, Huffer and Westpac. Her previous experience includes working as a magazine art director in London for ten years.



New babies see the world differently, and these high-contrast board books are perfect for engaging their developing eyesight, strengthening their cognitive abilities and encouraging their gross motor skills.

Designed to help parents bond with their baby and start them on a lifelong love of books by introducing them to the world of adorable baby animals!

Open up to meet bees, kookaburras, blue-tongue lizards, tree frogs, chicks, worms, butterflies, possums and more!



April, 2026
ISBN: 9781460768211
\$10.99 | 8 pages | 150 mm x 150 mm
Ages 0+
Rights: World, all languages

The background is a solid purple color with a pattern of large, overlapping, wavy shapes in a slightly lighter shade of purple, creating a textured, organic effect.

PICTURE BOOKS

HOW TO GO TO BIG SCHOOL

Sarah Ayoub, Mimi Purnell

A LYRICAL STORY WITH PRACTICAL IDEAS FOR STARTING BIG SCHOOL.

This new rhyming story follows on from the success of *How to Be a Friend* and *The Love that Grew* and captures lots of practical details about what things a child needs to know and take for starting big school. From lunch box to hat, uniform and bag. The things they'll learn and the people they'll meet.



Sarah Ayoub is a journalist, bestselling author and academic with a PhD in migrant Australian YA literature. Sarah is an advocate for education and Australian stories, appearing at schools and festivals where she promotes her YA novels *Hate is Such a Strong Word*, *The Yearbook Committee* and *The Cult of Romance*, as well as her picture books *The Love that Grew*, *Nice and Slow* and *How to Be a Friend*.

Mimi Purnell is an illustrator and graphic designer born in England and now living in Australia. After completing a degree in Creative Industries she designed for agencies, animations and films and is now focusing her time on creating sweet illustrations and spending lots of time outdoors.

December, 2025

ISBN: 9781460767122

\$24.99 | NSH | 24 pages | 297 mm x 210 mm

Ages 3+

Rights: World, all languages

THROUGH THE DARKENING SEA

Claire Saxby, Peter Cheong

Join the deep-sea magic, where life thrives as a whale falls.

Out in the open ocean where currents sway wild as wind, where sharks and sea lions widely roam, a whale falls.

The ocean comes alive in this incredible tale about the cycle of life. Watch the colours of marine creatures change as a whale falls towards the darkness of deep waters. Discover how animals adapt to life so far beneath the surface.

An awe-inspiring, lyrical story by award-winning author Claire Saxby, all rendered in collage-style artwork by illustrator Peter Cheong that is equally eye catching and breathtaking.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Dive into vibrant ocean worlds with Peter Cheong's breathtaking collage-style illustrations!



COVER
ROUGH

Through the Darkening Sea

Claire Saxby

Peter Cheong

Claire Saxby writes award-winning fiction, non-fiction and poetry for young people in picture books, chapter books and novels. She is fascinated by our world and writes to share and encourage curiosity and wonder. For more information visit www.claresaxby.com

Peter Cheong's debut book as an author/illustrator, *Every Night at Midnight*, was voted CBCA Shadow Judging Winner for Picture Book of the Year in 2024. Peter is the illustrator of *I'm a Hero Too*, *Nothing Alike* and the *Pow Pow Pig* and *Freddie Spector* series. He has since released another author/illustrated book, *Where We Can Hear the Giants Sing*, and he is currently working on his debut graphic novel series, *April Ordinary*, *Thief Extraordinary*, the first of which will be out in 2027.

Peter lives in Perth (Whadjuk Region), Western Australia, with his very understanding wife and sons, and less understanding cat.

May, 2026

ISBN: 9781460766743

\$24.99 | 32 pages | 240 mm x 300 mm

Ages 3+

Rights: World, all languages



As a child, **Ashleigh Barton** would borrow ten library books at a time and decided, at precisely age six, that she wanted to be a writer. Several years, a law degree and a couple of full-time jobs later, Ashleigh has finally made her six-year-old self proud. She also works as a freelance copywriter, and prior to this worked in marketing and publicity for children's books at a major publisher, running campaigns for internationally renowned authors and illustrators. Ashleigh lives in Sydney with her husband, dog, and three little bookworms.

Martina Heiduczek grew up in a small village on the Baltic Sea in Germany. These days she is an illustrator and graphic designer and lives in Australia. Martina's illustrations are a mixture of digital and traditional media. With a passion for colour and textures she works with layers of scanned materials, coloured pencils, watercolour and gouache. Her works are inspired by nature, people, places, and the emotionally moving and silly things she sees out there ... Magic is everywhere!

March, 2026

ISBN: 9780733343810

\$24.99 | 32 pages | 244 mm x 244 mm

3+

Rights: World, all languages

WHAT DO YOU CALL YOUR MUM?

Ashleigh Barton, Martina Heiduczek

A celebration of mums around the world from bestselling Australian duo, new in 2026.

PRAISE

'A beautiful gift book and one to share with all the family, from the youngest readers to grandparents and great-grandparents.'

KIDS' BOOK REVIEW ON HOW DO YOU SAY I LOVE YOU?

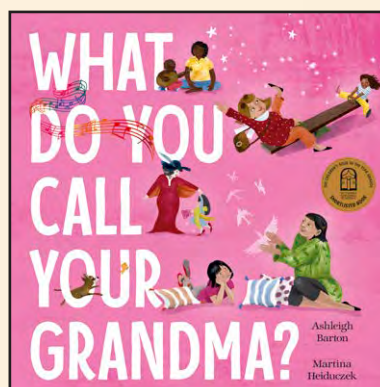
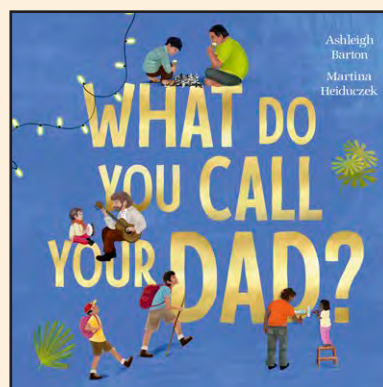
WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A celebration of mums around the world- the perfect gift for Mother's Day
- *What Do You Call Your Grandpa?* was a CBCA 2021 Notable Book

In every country around the world are mums – some short, some tall.

Though they go by different names, we love them one and all.

A heart-warming celebration of ways to say 'Mum' from Okaasan in Japanese to Miimi in Gumbaynggirr. Join bestselling duo Ashleigh Barton and Martina Heiduczek on a journey through different countries to discover love letters to mums and families from across the world.



ARE YOU THE EASTER BUNNY?

Janeen Brian, Lucinda Gifford

From the author of the bestselling *I'm a Dirty Dinosaur* comes a delightful book that explores the many qualities of bilbies, one of Australia's endangered species.

An adorable picture book celebrating the endangered Easter Bilby!

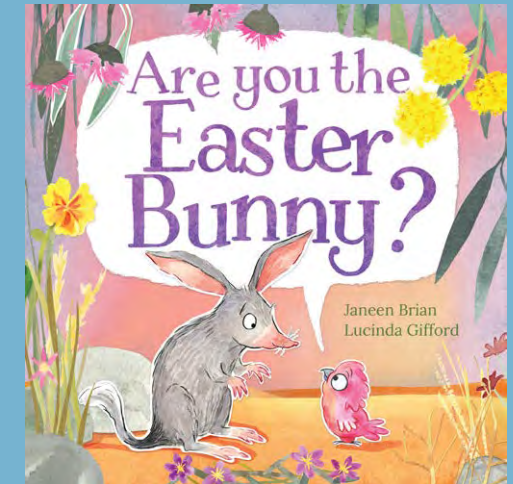
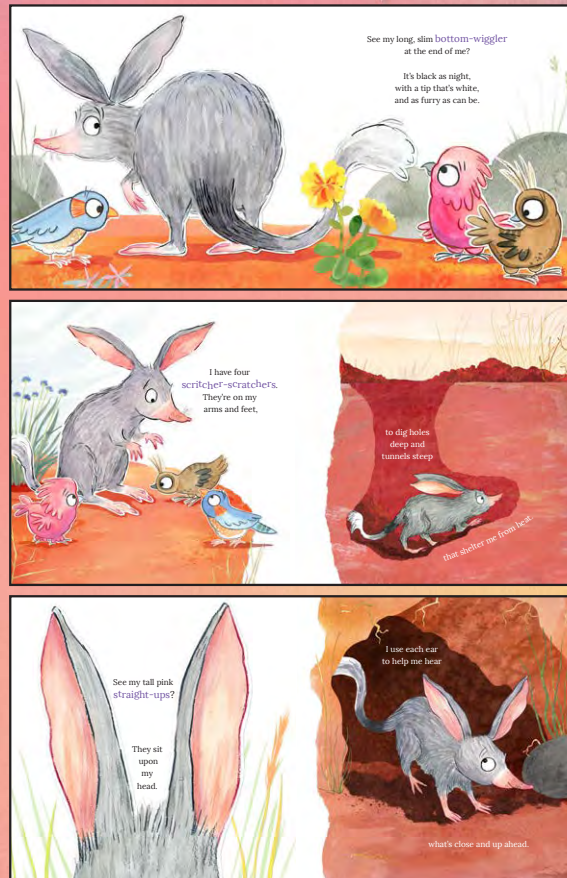
Deep in the hot Australian desert lives a cute little creature with long soft ears and a whiskery nose.

Could it be the Easter Bunny?

From award-winning duo Janeen Brian and Lucinda Gifford comes this celebration of the bilby, one of Australia's most important and endangered creatures.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Fun facts and dynamic designs make learning about an endangered species exciting



Janeen Brian is the author of more than 60 books for children. Her work has been shortlisted in the CBCA Awards and the Wilderness Society Environment Awards. She received the CBC Honour Book award for *Where Does Thursday Go?* in 2002.

Lucinda Gifford has illustrated over 40 books, nine of which she has also written. She works from her studio in Melbourne's north and especially enjoys making books about chickens, wolves, castles and magical creatures.

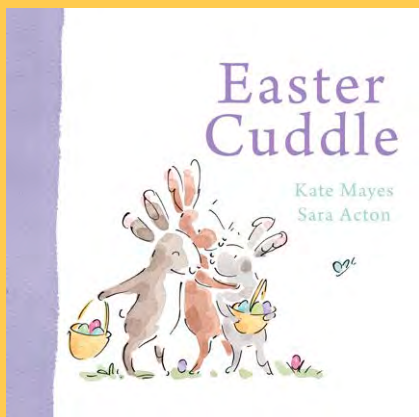
February, 2026

ISBN: 9781460765494

\$24.99 | 24 pages | 244 mm x 244 mm

3+

Rights: World, all languages



Kate Mayes is the bestselling author of the picture books *Daddy Cuddle* and *Mummy Cuddle* (illustrated by Sara Acton), *The Bum Book*, *The Christmas Bum Book* and *The Easter Bum Book* (illustrated by Andrew Joyner), *Count My Kisses*, *Little One* and *Count My Christmas Kisses* (illustrated by Tamsin Ainslie and written as Ruthie May), and *Stew a Cockatoo: My Aussie Cookbook* (illustrated by Leigh Hobbs and written as Ruthie May), and is a contributor in the children's poetry book *A Boat of Stars*. She lives in Sydney, Australia, and works in the book publishing industry.

Sara Acton is an award-winning author and illustrator. Sara grew up in the Cotswolds in England and always loved drawing, especially people and other strange creatures. She studied BA Hons Fine Art and trained as an Art Teacher in London. After teaching and practicing art in England and New Zealand Sara moved with her family to Australia. Her first picture book *Ben and Duck* won the 2012 Children's Book Council of Australia Crichton Award for new illustrators.

February, 2026

ISBN: 9780733343711

\$24.99 | 24 pages | 225 mm x 225 mm

0+

Rights: World, all languages

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- The perfect Easter gift!
- Award-winning, bestselling creative team!



PRAISE

'Highly recommended. ... A lovely gentle but very humorous book *Mummy cuddle* tugs at the heartstrings and leaves the reader feeling happy after reading it.'

READPLUS OF MUMMY CUDDLE

'One big cuddle all wrapped up in a little book. Highly recommended.'

READING TIME ON MUMMY CUDDLE

'a graceful dance of words and pictures, tenderly conveying the familiar mismatch between exhausted parents and their eager-eyed children.'

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY ON DADDY CUDDLE

'Luscious artwork accompanies the delightful story.'

THE WASHINGTON POST ON DADDY CUDDLE

EASTER CUDDLE

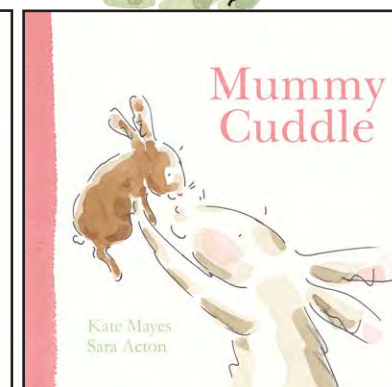
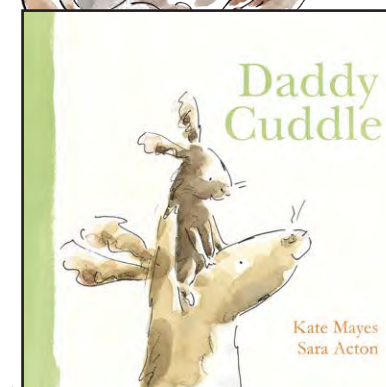
Kate Mayes, Sara Acton

A beautiful keepsake picture book.

'Easter Bunny?'

It's early on Easter morning and three little rabbits are waking up ... What will they find?

The bestselling creators of *Mummy Cuddle* and *Daddy Cuddle* return with a tale to read aloud and cherish with children.



'Tick-tock'

THE DROUGHT KANGAROO

Jackie French, Danny Snell



Following on from *The Fire Wombat* and *The Turtle and the Flood*, *The Drought Kangaroo* is the third title in the series that focuses on animals and the challenges they face in environmental disaster, be it fire, flood, and now drought.

Drought has devastated Joseph the kangaroo's home. He longs for green grass and the cool, clear water he can smell in the distance. Kangaroos can leap higher and further than any other animal, but can even Joseph's strong hind legs help him reach the waterhole? And will the new mob there accept a stranger?

Created by Jackie French and Danny Snell, the award-winning duo of *The Fire Wombat* and *The Turtle and the Flood*, this is a true story about a young kangaroo who went on the longest journey of his life and ended up living by a creek on Jackie's property.

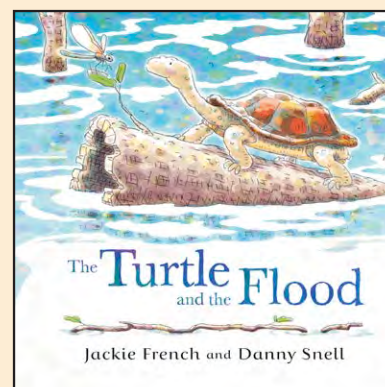
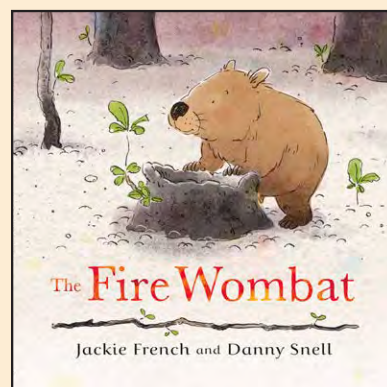
PRAISE

'*The Fire Wombat* is an uplifting story highly recommended for families everywhere.'

KIDS BOOK REVIEW ON THE FIRE WOMBAT

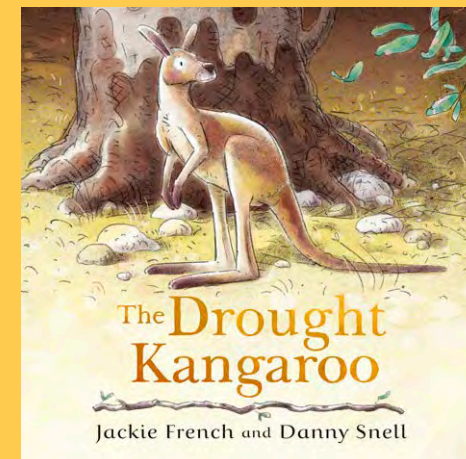
'Highly recommended.'

READING TIME ON THE FIRE WOMBAT



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- The 3rd of an unforgettable, eco-awareness climate series!
- Another hit from Australia's most beloved authors
- *The Fire Wombat* was a 2021 Children's Book Council Notable Book



Jackie French AM is an award-winning writer, wombat negotiator, the 2014-2015 Australian Children's Laureate and the 2015 Senior Australian of the Year. In 2016, Jackie became a Member of the Order of Australia for her contribution to children's literature and her advocacy for youth literacy. She is regarded as one of Australia's most popular children's authors and writes across all genres - from picture books, history, fantasy, ecology and sci-fi, to her much-loved historical fiction for a variety of age groups.

Danny Snell studied graphic design and illustration at the University of South Australia and he now works as a picture book illustrator and author. Danny illustrates using digital media, focusing on simple compositions, subtle texture and a touch of whimsy. His books have won a number of awards including the CBCA Eve Pownall Award, the Environment Award for Children's Literature, and The Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Award.

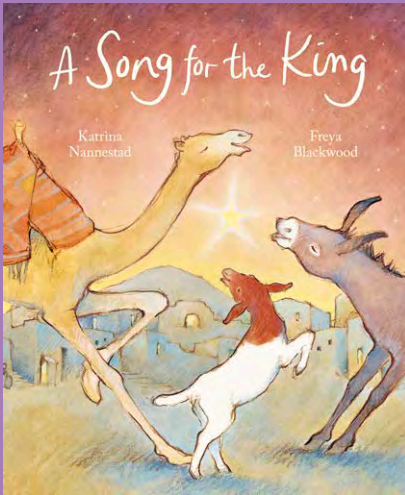
November, 2025

ISBN: 9781460765197

\$24.99 | 32 pages | 244 mm x 244 mm

3 +

Rights: World, all languages



Katrina Nannestad is a multi-award-winning Australian author. Her books include the CBCA shortlisted *We Are Wolves*, *The Girl Who Brought Mischief*, *The Travelling Bookshop* series, *The Girl, the Dog and the Writer* series, the *Olive of Groves* series, the *Red Dirt Diaries* series, the *Lottie Perkins* series, and the historical novels *Rabbit*, *Soldier*, *Angel*, *Thief*, *Waiting for the Storks*, *Silver Linings* and *All the Beautiful Things*. www.katrinanannestad.com

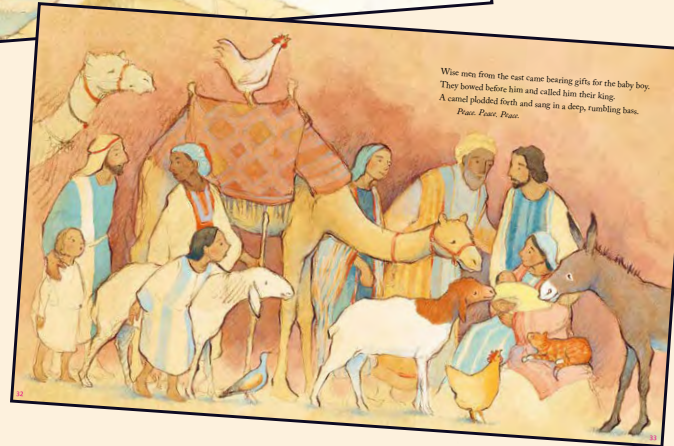
Freya Blackwood is a multi-award-winning illustrator and writer. Her picture books are beloved for her warm and perceptive drawings. In 2010, Freya won the UK's most prestigious prize for illustrators, the Kate Greenaway Medal, for her book *Harry and Hopper*. Freya has worked with writers such as Libby Gleeson, Margaret Wild, Jan Ormerod, Nick Bland and Danny Parker.

October, 2025

ISBN: 9780733343315

\$24.99 | NSH | 32 pages | 275 mm x 225 mm

Ages 3+



A SONG FOR THE KING

Katrina Nannestad, Freya Blackwood

A heart-warming and humorous retelling of the traditional nativity story, told from the viewpoint and 'singing voices' of the baby animals at the inn, starring Netta, a donkey foal.

A Song for the King is a touching modern re-telling of the nativity story, told from the perspective of the baby animals rejoicing at the birth of Jesus. It conveys a heartening message of acceptance and love, which is a gentle contrast to the many garish Christmas books in the market. This is a book about celebrating friendship and the gift of a 'song' at Christmas.



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Multi-award-winning author and illustrator
- Gorgeous hand-drawn illustrations
- Shares a message of acceptance and love: what's not to love about that?

THE CHRISTMAS TREE CATASTROPHE

Emma Bowd, Matt Shanks

This is an occasion story with a difference! And one that children will delight in as they watch naughty Kitty McCatty create complete Christmas Eve chaos.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Kitty McCatty was chasing a mouse.'

It's Christmas Eve, and the baubles are bickering over the best spots on the Christmas tree, when an unexpected visitor appears.

A tree-toppling catastrophe seems certain ... unless the decorations can set aside their differences and work together?

From the talented and award-winning duo, Emma Bowd and Matt Shanks, comes a rollicking festive tale full of humour and heart — and more than a tiny bit of tinsel.

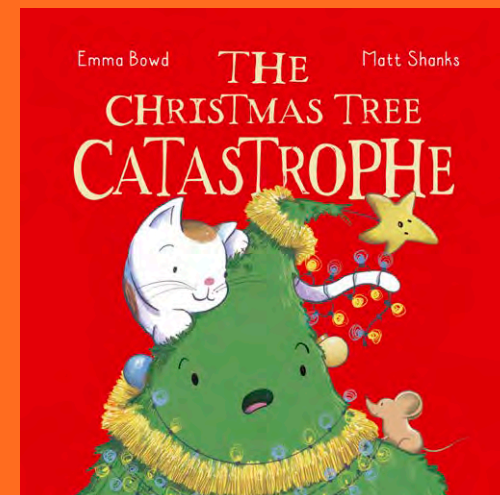
INSPIRATION

The fresh, fun storyline was inspired by a tiny flea-ridden kitten Emma Bowd's little sister proudly brought home on her last day of school in Prep, which she'd won for 2 cents in a class raffle. As soon as she put the kitten down on the lounge room floor it raced up the middle of the Christmas tree to the very top and promptly got stuck, in turn, nearly toppling the tree.



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Funny picture books about pets are always popular so it's an easy choice as a stocking stuffer
- Christmas books endure and have the potential to become classics!



Emma Bowd is an internationally published and award-winning author, and a dedicated literacy advocate. Her bestselling books *The Day You Were Born* (with Hilary Jean Tapper) and *This Is My Happy Place* (with Jen Khatun) followed her acclaimed debut, *Wonderful Shoes* (with Tania McCartney), which is a CBCA Notable Book and features on *Play School Story Time*. Visit her at www.emmabowd.com

Matt Shanks is an internationally published and critically acclaimed author/illustrator of over twenty picture books, several of which have been awarded CBCA Notable Books. www.mattshanks.com.au

September, 2025

ISBN: 9781460765883

\$24.99 | NSH | 24 pages | 244 mm x 244 mm

Ages 3+

Rights: World, all languages

THIS IS AN ELF

(BOOKS THAT DRIVE KIDS CRAZY! #6)

Beck & Matt Stanton

This is an Elf is a fabulous Christmas book with a difference AND a companion to the bestselling *Books That Drive Kids Crazy, This is a Ball. This is a Ball* is celebrating it's 10th anniversary this year.

For the Grown-Ups: You know how you're right all the time? All. The. Time. Yes, well, it's time to give the kids a turn. Which is why everything you read in this book is going to be wrong. But that's ok, because the kids are going to correct you. And they're going to love it! That's what makes this series such a hit with kids! And this time, it's all about Christmas.

This Is an Elf is a boldly absurd spin-off of concept books and an audacious invitation for readers to practise deadpan delivery; after all, the picture on the cover clearly shows a reindeer, not an elf! What is WRONG with this silly book? Kids will demand to know – and all readers will be howling with laughter along the way.

PRAISE FOR DID YOU TAKE THE B FROM MY _OOK?

'It's a winning bit of interactive silliness that offers insight into the way small changes can have big results where words are concerned.'

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

'Funny, clever, deliciously dry ... this book encourages kids to think outside the square, and hopefully, somewhere deep in that unlimited sub-conscious, understand that what we see is all about perception. What a powerful thought.'

KIDS' BOOK REVIEW
(AUSTRALIA)



PRAISE FOR THIS IS A BALL

'A string of narratorial mistakes ... gives children a chance to gleefully correct the adult reading it aloud ... Another metafictional storytime crowd-pleaser.'

KIRKUS REVIEWS

'[The Book with No Pictures, Press Here, and Mix It Up] are international bestsellers and deservedly so, but closer to home we now have a book which is just as delightfully frustrating, clever and nuts.'

CHILDREN'S BOOK
DAILY (AUSTRALIA)

'The kids are having a ball (whoops, having fun) and a discussion is born.'

GOOD READING

'a hilarious ride and one that adults and kids will both love'

JAYEBYDAY.COM



Matt Stanton is a bestselling children's author and illustrator who has sold more than one million books in Australia. The first title in his middle-grade series *Funny Kid* debuted as the #1 Australian kids' book and the series has fans all around the world. His other hit series include the award-winning *Books That Drive Kids Crazy!* and *Fart Monster* series, *Bored*, *Fluff* and the immensely popular graphic novel series, *The Odds*.

Beck Stanton is the acclaimed co-creator of the bestselling *Books That Drive Kids Crazy*. Before her career in children's books, she was a primary school teacher.

September, 2025

ISBN: 9780733344169

\$24.99 | NSH | 32pp | 265 mm x 192 mm

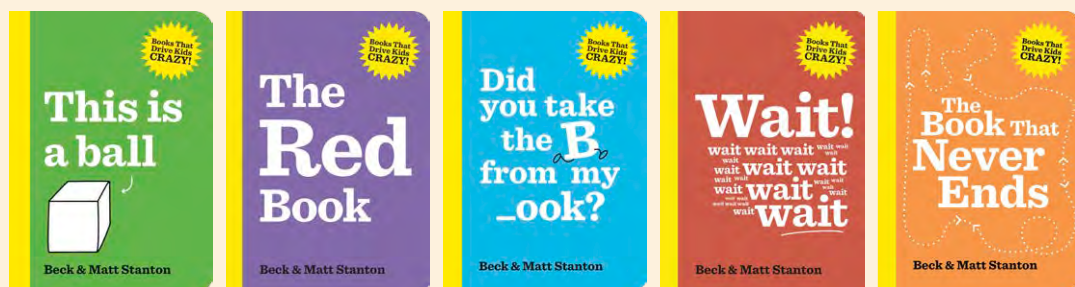
Ages 4+

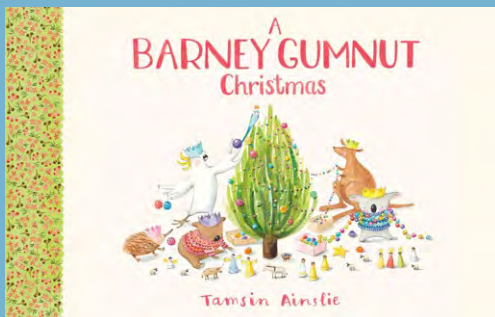
Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed to previous titles in the series:

English language, UK and US (Little Brown, Books for Younger Readers), Dutch (Selected series titles to Baeckens Books NV), Japanese (Selected series titles to Nagaoka Shoten)

Under Option: English language, UK and US (Little Brown, Books for Younger Readers)





Tamsin Ainslie has illustrated more than fifty books, including *In My Garden* (with Kate Mayes), *Count My Kisses, Little One* and *Count My Christmas Kisses* (with Ruthie May). *The Sisters Saint-Claire* (with Carlie Gibson), *Collecting Sunshine* (with Rachel Flynn), *Sometimes Cake* (with Edwina Wyatt), *Grumble Boats* (with Susannah McFarlane) and *Can We Lick the Spoon Now?* (with Carol Goess) have all been CBCA Notable Books, with *Can We Lick the Spoon Now?* also winning the Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Award for Young Children. Her paintings and drawings are held in collections all over the world.

September, 2025

ISBN: 9781460759721

\$24.99 | NSH | 24 pages | 220 mm x 336 mm

Ages 0+

Rights: World, all languages

A BARNEY GUMNUT CHRISTMAS

(BARNEY GUMNUT, #2)

Tamsin Ainslie

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Award-winning creator
- Adorable characters – a classic-feel brand in the making

PRAISE

'As you turn each page you feel wrapped lovingly in the joy of friendship and being together. The illustrations radiate this sense of love and the joy further, until as you close the book, you're simply left with a lovely smile on your face...'

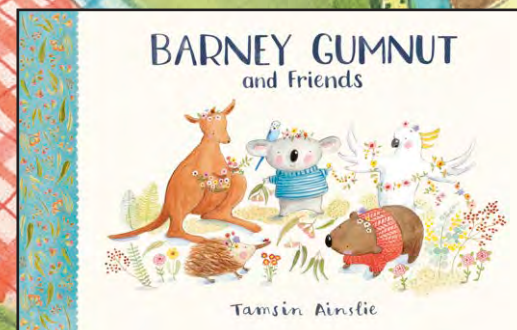
GOOD READING MAGAZINE

A celebration of the meaning of Christmas with adorable Australian animal characters, Barney Gumnut and Friends

Christmas means ... celebrating with friends, swimming in the creek and eating watermelon!

Join Barney Gumnut and his friends as they share what Christmas means to them while having a festive adventure in Scribbly Gum Forest. Look out for the shooting star!

A gentle and heartfelt tale about the meaning of Christmas, with adorable Australian animals from bestselling creator Tamsin Ainslie.



**JUNIOR
FICTION**

FUNNY KID SERIOUSLY SOGGER

(FUNNY KID #14)

Matt Stanton

The new book in the hilarious, laugh-out-loud children's series for 2025 from million-copy mega-bestselling author **Matt Stanton**.

Every kid wants to laugh, but Max is the boy who can make it happen.

When Max discovers that everyone is more interested in watching soccer than his stand-up routine, he needs to come up with a plan fast. How can he compete with the world's favourite game?

Max is the funny kid, but can he score his comedy goal? Half-time shows, terrible coaches and little kids who pee on the goal posts are just some of the things in store for Max and his friends in this brand-new Funny Kid adventure.

FUNNY KID is the mega-bestselling series from author-illustrator **Matt Stanton** that has everyone laughing!

SERIES AWARDS

Funny Kid Prank Wars

Winner of the 2023 YABBA Award for Fiction for Older Readers

Funny Kid Catastrophe

Shortlisted for the 2023 Russell Prize for Humour Writing for Young People

PRAISE FOR BOOKS IN THE SERIES

'humour is injected into every page'

CHILDREN'S BOOK
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA'S
READING TIME

'absolutely hilarious'

TIM HARRIS,
AUTHOR OF THE
EXPLODING ENDINGS SERIES

**WHY YOU'LL
LOVE IT!**

- Nearly one million copies sold across the series!
- Loved around the world!



Matt Stanton is a bestselling children's author and illustrator who has sold more than one million books in Australia. His middle-grade series *Funny Kid* debuted as the #1 Australian kids' book and has fans all around the world. He has twenty picture books to his name, including the award-winning *Books That Drive Kids Crazy!* and *Fart Monster* series, and is the creator of the immensely popular graphic novel series, *The Odds*, and the *Bored* novels. *Fluff* is his latest series.

October, 2025

ISBN: 9780733342028

\$16.99 | 240 pages | 198 x 128mm

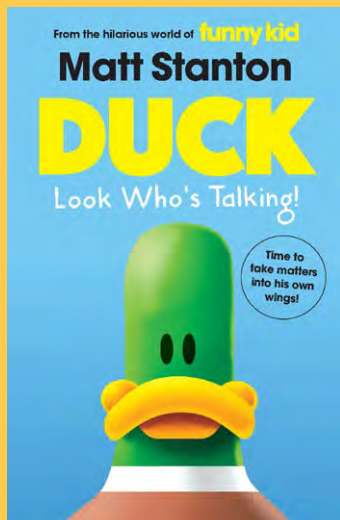
Ages 7+

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed to selected previous titles in the series: English language North America (HarperCollins US), English language, UK & Comm ex ANZ ex Can (HarperCollins UK), Chinese (Beijing White Horse Time Culture Development), Dutch (HarperCollins Holland), Turkish (Orman Kitap), Vietnamese (Ha Giang Book Company), Czech (Euromedia Group a.s.), Brazil Portuguese (Editora Fundamento)







Matt Stanton is a bestselling children's author and illustrator who has sold more than one million books in Australia. His middle-grade series Funny Kid debuted as the #1 Australian kids' book and has fans all around the world. He has twenty picture books to his name, including the award-winning Books That Drive Kids Crazy! and Fart Monster series, and is the creator of the immensely popular graphic novel series, The Odds, and the Bored novels. Fluff is his latest series. Matt lives on the south coast of New South Wales with his wife, bestselling author Beck Stanton, their four children and a giant dog.

mattstanton.net

May, 2026
 ISBN: 9780733342059
 \$16.99 | 240 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
 8+
 Rights: World, all languages

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Spin-off from hugely popular, award-winning Funny Kid series!
- From the author of best-selling Books That Drive Kids Crazy! and Fart Monster series
- Matt Stanton has sold over a million books in Australia alone!

MAYBE
 DON'T
 TELL MAX.



LOOK WHO'S TALKING!

(DUCK #1)

Matt Stanton

Duck, from the best-selling Funny Kid series, is fed up with not being heard, so he begins to speak up about what he really thinks of the way animals are treated in his home town of Red Hill.

Max, Abbey and Hugo from Funny Kid feature in the background of Duck's story. Duck is joined by Steve Danger (Abbey's Police Dog) and Mouse (who is learning to find her own voice). The only problem is that humans don't speak 'animal' – or do they? Could this all be about to change?

PRAISE (FOR THE FUNNY KID SERIES)

'my favourite thing in the book was everything'

ELLIOTT

'better than Wimpy Kid, Big Nate and Tom Gates combined'

ALLY

'humour is injected into every page'

**CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF
 AUSTRALIA'S READING TIME**

'absolutely hilarious'

**TIM HARRIS, AUTHOR OF THE
 EXPLODING ENDINGS SERIES**



FUR POWER

(GUINEA WIGS #1)

Rebecca McRitchie, Shiloh Gordon

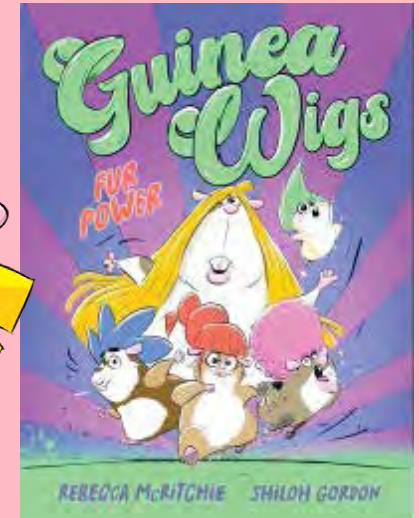
The first book in a brand new, hilariously silly illustrated series for kids.

What happens when five guinea pigs find a box of weird wigs?

Best friends Jet, Minnie, Meatball, Bud and Tofu become the GUINEA WIGS – guinea pigs but with SUPER POWERS!

And it's just in time, too, because somebody in town is kidnapping all the chickens.

Can the GUINEA WIGS work out how to use their new powers AND find the chickens before it's too late? Or will the superheroes have to wig it – I mean – wing it ...?



Rebecca McRitchie would love to tell you that she was raised by wolves in the depths of a snow-laden forest until she stumbled upon and saved a village from the fiery peril of a disgruntled dragon. But, truthfully, she works in the publishing industry and is the author of a number of children's fiction series.

Shiloh Gordon is the illustrator of the popular junior fiction series *The Underdogs*, *Ratbags* and *Frog Squad*. He has a passion for creating lively, engaging illustrations that are full of character, story and fun. Shiloh graduated with a BA in animation from the Queensland College of Art and has worked as a professional illustrator for over 20 years. He lives in Brisbane with his wife and three kids, who are an endless source of fun and inspiration.

April, 2026

ISBN: 9781460767184

\$16.99 | 128 pages | 190 mm x 150 mm

7+

Rights: World, all languages

MIM AND THE FRAZZLED FRUIT FARMER

(THE TRAVELLING BOOKSHOP #7)

Katrina Nannestad

The final book in the award-winning children's fiction series for budding book lovers, from the author of *We Are Wolves*.

Mim Cohen roams the world in a travelling bookshop, with her dad and brother and a horse called Flossy.

Flossy leads them where she will, to the place where they're needed most ... the place where the perfect book will find its way home.

Now Mim has arrived in thrilling Norway – the land of mountains and fjords, Vikings and trolls, friendly folk and cuddly sheep, and one super-greedy apple thief.

Norbert the fruit farmer is desperate. If the thief is not stopped, his farming days will end.

Mim knows they're here to help Norbert. To solve the mystery of the vanishing apples. To save the farm. If only Mim could find Norbert the right book. If only Dad would stop giving everyone the wrong book.



PRaise for BOOKS IN THE SERIES

'I have been reading and adoring this series since it started because it has allowed me to travel the world through words and letters, and I adore Mim as a character – she is the kind of character I would have loved as a child reader and think she's great to highlight the magic of words, books, family and travel – and reading is a great way to travel the world and through time.'

THE BOOK MUSE

'Mim and the Vicious Vendetta, written by the amazingly talented Katrina Nannestad and interspersed with some lovely black and white illustrations by Cheryl Orsini, will appeal to all ages. The fifth book in the enchanting series The Travelling Bookshop, this time taking readers on a wonderful journey to picturesque Venice.'

READPLUS

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Book number 7 in this much loved series!
- The right book can change a life!



Katrina Nannestad is a multi-award-winning Australian author. Her books include the CBCA-shortlisted *We Are Wolves*, *The Girl Who Brought Mischief*, *The Travelling Bookshop* series, *The Girl, the Dog and the Writer* series, the *Olive of Groves* series, the *Red Dirt Diaries* series, the *Lottie Perkins* series, and the historical novels *Rabbit*, *Soldier*, *Angel*, *Thief*, *Waiting for the Storks*, *Silver Linings* and *All the Beautiful Things*. Her books have been published around the world.

Cheryl Orsini is the much-loved illustrator of *The Fairy Dancers*, *The Tales of Mrs Mancini* and *The Magic Bookshop*. She has illustrated more than thirty children's books, and her work regularly appears in magazines and exhibitions.

www.cherylorcini.com/work/picturebooks

March, 2026
ISBN: 9780733343131
\$16.99 | 224 pp | 198x128 mm
7+
Rights: World, all languages



Zanni Louise has been writing stories since she was little, growing up in country NSW. She's written over forty internationally published books for kids including picture books, chapter books and books for 10-12 year-olds. www.zannilouise.com

Kyla May is an Australian illustrator, writer and designer. She is the creator and illustrator of over 50 books. Some of the book series she's worked on include Diary of a Pug and Paris Takes Over The World, Monsties, Lotus Lane and Juliet, Nearly a Vet. In addition to books, Kyla has created several animated TV series for children such as Kuu Kuu Harajuku, SheZow, and Flea-Bitten. Kyla has also designed toys for Mattel and Moose and other toy companies.

March, 2026

ISBN: 9781460766965

\$15.99 | 144 pages | 190 mm x 150 mm

Ages 5+

Rights Held: World, all languages

MIKKA'S MAGICAL SURPRISE

(PRINCESS AND THE UNICORN #1)

Kyla May, Zanni Louise

Princess in Black meets *Pearl the Unicorn* in a delightful new illustrated chapter book series.

Princess Mikka is given a magic unicorn for her birthday and they immediately become best friends. Marshmallow is perfect in every sense.

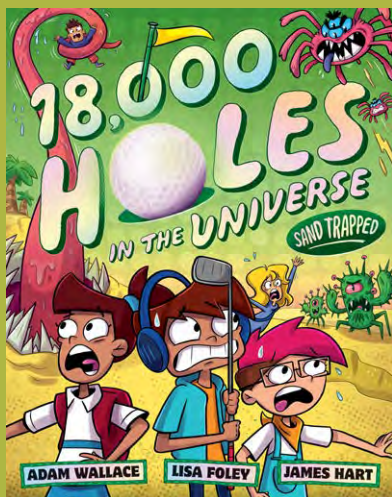
Except for one thing – she hasn't quite got a handle on her magic horn, and so she causes chaos wherever she goes!

A series about friendship, having fun, and making mischief. Plus a sprinkle of adorable magic!

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Globally bestselling team!
- Irresistible new series!
- A princess! A magic unicorn called Marshmallow!





Melbourne-based creator **Adam Wallace's** books have sold over 11,000,000 copies, and have appeared on the New York Times, USA Today and Amazon Bestseller lists. His books have also appeared in Kim, Khloe and Kourtney Kardashian's homes.
www.adam-wallace-books.com

Lisa Foley has spent her life trekking through various creative jungles, including film/TV, visual arts and, most importantly, writing! Her penchant for storytelling began at seven years of age and, decades later, she is still writing stories for kids.

James Hart's love of drawing has led him to have a 20-plus-year career as an illustrator. His most popular and award-winning series include Farboy, You Choose, Skydragon and Mr Bambuckle's Remarkables.

February, 2026

ISBN: 9781460764848

\$15.99 | 192 pages | 190 mm x 150 mm

Ages 7+

Rights: World, all languages

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Adam knows what kids want to read with 11 MILLION books sold, FIVE Number 1 and TWO Number 2 New York Times bestselling books!
- Be chased by dragons, swallowed by your own food and attacked by sand zombies (and much MUCH more!) across the madcap and thrilling trilogy
- Stories read as if straight out of a video game so are highly appealing to gamers and kids who love action!

PRAISE

'We read the chapter preview tonight before bed and we laughed so much! Marco is our favourite so far. We can't wait to see what happens next! Ps this was very easy for my sister and I to take turns reading.'

VIOLET, 9, WA

★★★★★

'18,000 Holes in the Universe is a really funny book because there are lots of funny things in the book to make you laugh really hard and my mum laughed really, really loudly with me. ... I can't wait to read the rest!'

LUCAS, 6, VIC

★★★★★

SAND TRAPPED

(18,000 HOLES IN THE UNIVERSE #3)

Adam Wallace, Lisa Foley, James Hart

Will the GOLF Squad save the day?! Don't miss out on the final book in this series, of which the first book was awarded the Kzone & Total Girl Toy Awards Funniest Fantasy Book of 2024!

The heat is turned up on the GOLF Squad when the friends are sucked into a desert world. Giant sand dunes full of traps, lava-filled hazards and a MEGA-GIANT SAND ZOMBIE stand between them and the golf hole.

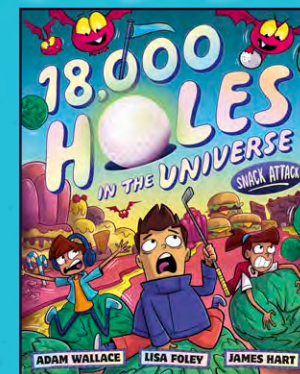
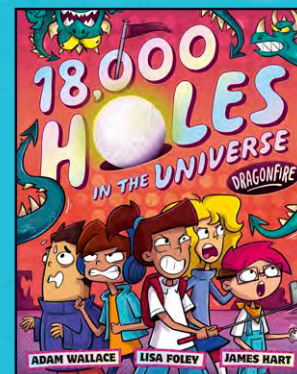
Will hideous mutant spiders carry them away?

Will they be eaten by a massive, fang-filled sand mouth?

Or will Grandpa Galileo finally return home to foil GOOF's evil plans?

But BEWARE!

If you keep reading, YOU might get sucked into THE MOST INCREDIBLE GOLF COURSE IN THE UNIVERSE too ...



LUDIGROUS LEGENDS

Jol Temple, David Conley

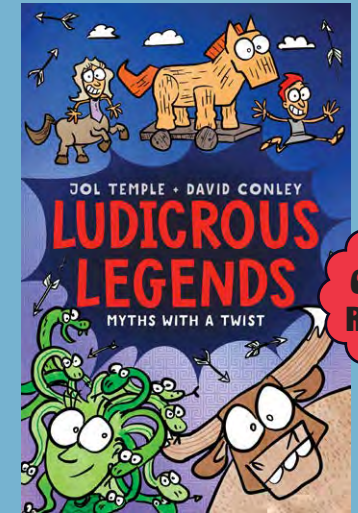
A hilariously wacky graphic novel that reimagines myths and folklore, for fans of horrible histories!

Hector and his best friend, a centaur named Hylo, are about to be tested on Greek mythology by their teacher Mr Socrates. Join them as they come to grips with the mighty Minotaur, the famous Trojan Horse/Cow, and the terrifying Medusa whose snake-hair is definitely not keen on a haircut.

A ludicrous, light-hearted and very loose retelling of three classical legends.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Re-imagine Greek myths with Jol Temple's award-winning storytelling magic!
- Author with more than 270k books sold in Australia alone!



Jol Temple is an internationally awarded children's author of over 30 books for kids. Together with his partner Kate Temple, his works include the Bin Chicken picture book series and the Charlotte Huck Award winner *Room On Our Rock*. He also writes popular junior fiction series including *Mega Rich Guinea Pigs*, *Frog Squad*, *The Underdogs* and many more. An ambassador for Raising Literacy Australia, Jol regularly appears at Australian writers' festivals and school author presentations.

David Conley is an illustrator who lives in Canberra with his wife, two kids and one moody Jack Russell terrier. His first drawing as a two-year-old was of a giraffe and following on from that lofty success he has been releasing his own books since 2019. David is fairly good at soccer, not too bad at ten pin bowling and has quite the talent for losing his car keys five minutes before he needs to drive across town for an appointment.

February, 2026

ISBN: 9781460767719

\$16.99 | 128 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

7+

Rights: World, all languages

CRICKET CHAMPS

(HOWZAT PAT #4)

Pat Cummins, Dave Hartley, Serena Geddes

An action-packed illustrated adventure series created by Australian Cricket Captain Pat Cummins, Dave Hartley and Serena Geddes!

I'm Pat Cummins and I love playing cricket.
I love it so much that I sleep with my bat!

Something AMAZING is happening! Prav, Beth and me are on track to be selected to the state cricket team! It's our dream come true! We just have to survive things like ...

A friend feeling off his game.

Being on the SAME team as the school bully!

Prav losing his favourite shoes (it's no joke!)

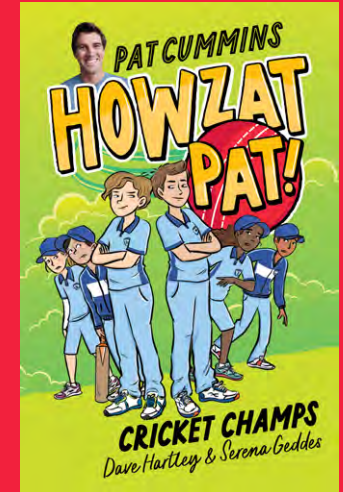
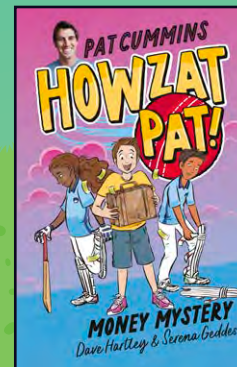
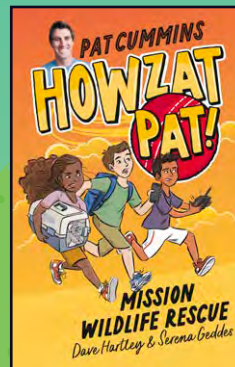
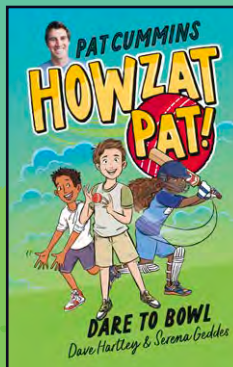
Rescuing a teammate from CERTAIN DEATH!
(Kinda).

If you want to know more, READ THIS BOOK!



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A series for cricket fans, but also for fans of action and adventure as the stories go beyond cricket and include themes of friendship, school life, community, animals, the environment, and family



Pat Cummins is best known as an Aussie international fast bowler and the current Captain of the Australian Men's Test and One Day cricket teams.

Dave Hartley is a school principal who has worked with the Queensland government on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education programs. A sports-obsessed Barunggam man, Dave is also an incredibly talented First Nations author who co-wrote the award-winning *Strangers on Country* and more amazing books.

Serena Geddes is an international children's author and illustrator who grew up in Melbourne and now lives in Sydney. She's published over 70 titles in Australia and overseas.

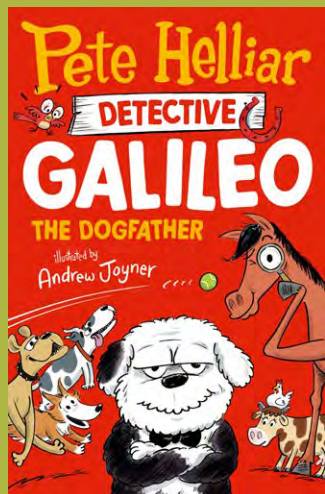
December, 2025

ISBN: 9781460764718

\$15.99 | 192 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

Ages 8+

Rights: World, all languages



Pete Helliar is one of Australia's favourite comedians and the bestselling author of *Frankie Fish*.

Andrew Joyner is an illustrator, author and cartoonist based in Strathalbyn, South Australia. His much-loved books include *The Terrible Plop* and *Mary & Marcus* (both written by Ursula Dubosarsky), *The Swap* (written by Jan Ormerod) and *The Bum Book* (written by Kate Mayes).

Read more at www.andrewjoyner.com.au

November, 2025

ISBN: 9781460766224

\$15.99 | 128 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

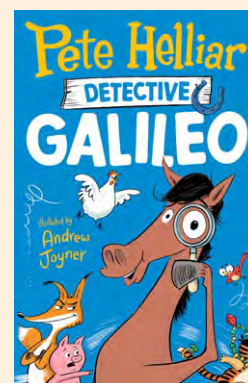
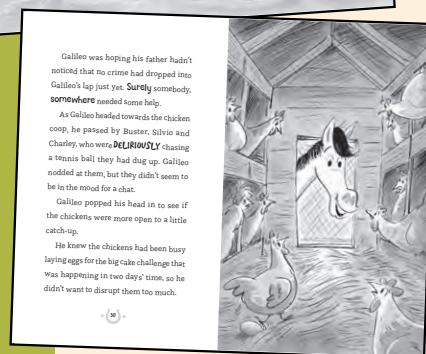
7+

Rights: World, all languages

Rights Licensed: Slovak

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A hilarious new four-book series from Australia's favourite comedian
- Girls and boys will love the combination of fun, mystery and wonderful illustrations



DETECTIVE GALILEO THE DOGFATHER (DETECTIVE GALILEO #2)

Pete Hellier, Andrew Joyner

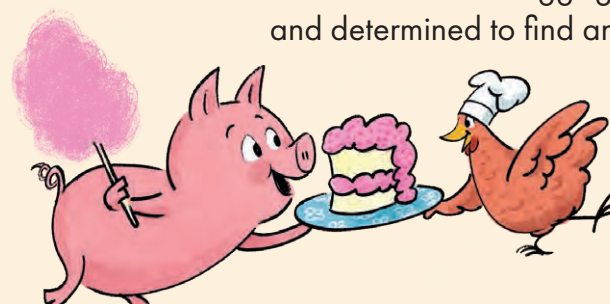
The hilarious sequel to the bestselling children's book series from one of Australia's favourite comedians, illustrated by Andy Joyner.

A hilarious new series from Australia's favourite comedian, Peter Helliar, about Galileo – a horse with talent for solving crimes.

Galileo's brand-new detective agency on Happy Valley Farm is now in business, and with the help of Agatha, they've got eyes, ears and wings all across the farm ... Now, if only they could find a case to solve!

Meanwhile, with the Happy Valley Fair right around the corner, all the animals pitch in to try to break the record for the World's Biggest Cake. All the animals except for the elusive Dogfather and his farm dogs, that is.

When the milk and eggs go missing, Galileo is on the case and determined to find any animals sniffing around where they don't belong.



FRANCES BLOOM (FRANCES BLOOM #1)

BOOK 2 COMING IN MAY 2026

Katrina Nannestad, Marina Zlatanova

A hilariously cheeky new illustrated children's series from the award-winning author of *The Travelling Bookshop Series* and *Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief*.

Relish in mischief, adventure and the most unusual family ever, with the bestselling and multi-award-winning Katrina Nannestad.

Frances Bloom lives all alone in a cottage by the sea. She's having a marvellous time until her nasty teacher, Ms Thistle, learns there is no-one looking after her. Frances needs to find a family, quick smart, or she'll be sent away to Bleak Island Home for Unwanted Children and Dogs.

As hard as Frances looks, nobody meets her high standards ... until she stumbles across a large, honey-coloured bear raiding the rubbish bins ... and a garden gnome fishing in the flowerbed. Welcome, Grandma Maude and Grandpa Harold!

Together, this strange trio creates a new family, writing their own rules with each misadventure!

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- First book in an hilarious new series from a much-loved, award-winning, bestselling author and award-winning illustrator!



Katrina Nannestad is a multi-award-winning Australian author. Her books include the CBCA- shortlisted *We Are Wolves*, *The Girl Who Brought Mischief*, *The Travelling Bookshop* series, the *Olive of Groves* series, the *Red Dirt Diaries* series, the *Lottie Perkins* series. She has also written historical novels *Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief*, *Waiting for the Storks*, *Silver Linings* and *All the Beautiful Things*, and the picture book, *A Song for the King*.

Marina Zlatanova is a Bulgarian-born designer, illustrator and printmaker living in Naarm/Melbourne, Australia. She has illustrated several picture books to date, including *Charlie's Shell*, her debut as an author, which won a Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year award. Her style is varied and eclectic, using a diverse range of media -- from watercolour and inks to digital illustration and block printing -- but her love for depicting the humorous and endearing always underpins her creations.

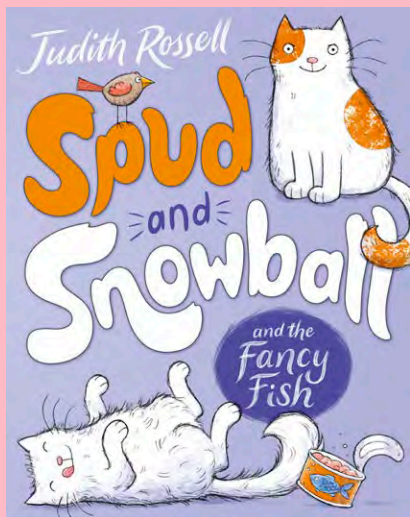
November, 2025

ISBN: 9780733343971

\$17.99 | 144 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

7+

Rights: World, all languages



Judith Rossell is the multi-award-winning author-illustrator of the bestselling Stella Montgomery trilogy, *Withering-by-Sea*, *Wormwood Mire* and *Wakestone Hall*, and the middle-grade novel, *The Midwatch*. Before beginning her career in children's books, she worked as a government scientist and also for a cotton-spinning company. Judith has written sixteen books and illustrated more than eighty. Her work has been published in the US and UK, and translated into twenty languages. She lives in Melbourne, Australia.

www.judithrossell.com

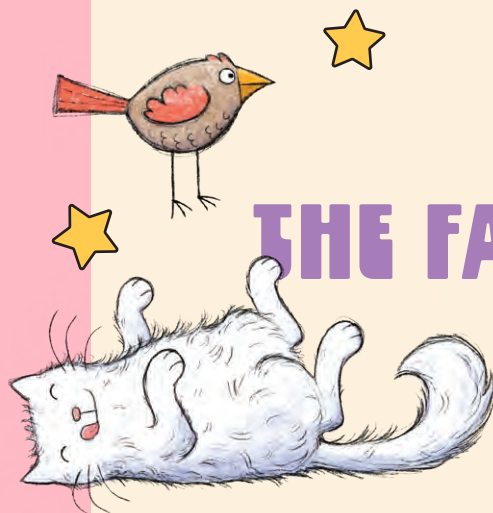
October, 2025

ISBN: 9780733343865

\$15.99 | 128 pages | 190 mm x 150 mm

6+

Rights: World, all languages



SPUD AND SNOWBALL AND THE FANCY FISH (SPUD AND SNOWBALL #1)

BOOK 2 COMING IN JUNE 2026

Judith Rossell

PRAISE

'Fans of Lemony Snicket's *A Series of Unfortunate Events* will eat up *Withering-by-Sea*'

SHELF AWARENESS ON WITHERING-BY-SEA

'Wildly imaginative, darkly funny. I was hooked from the first page.'

JEN STORER ON WITHERING-BY-SEA

'a delightful, thoroughly enjoyable book'

BOOKS+PUBLISHING ON WITHERING-BY-SEA

A hilarious illustrated fiction book for emerging readers and cat lovers, new in 2025!

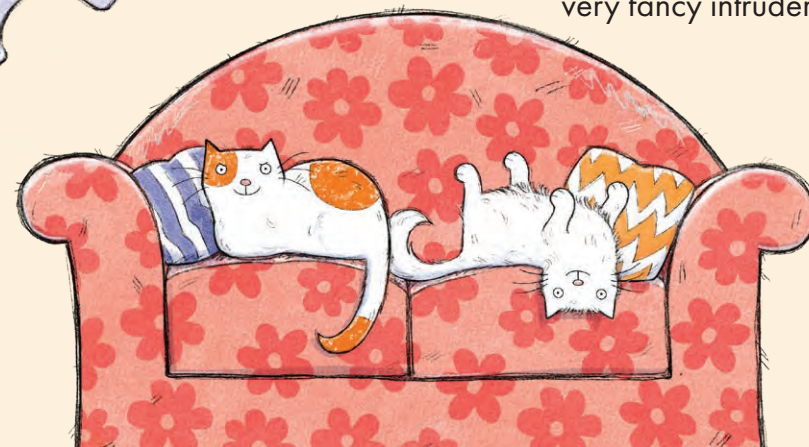
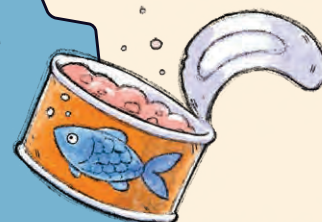
Meet two cheeky cats in this brand-new illustrated fiction for emerging readers from the bestselling, award-winning creator Judith Rossell.

Every day, Spud and Snowball lie on the couch and watch TV. When they see an ad for Fancy Fish, the two cats work out a way to have this new food delivered to their doorstep.

But what arrives is totally unexpected ... Can Spud and Snowball outwit this loud, bossy and very fancy intruder?

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- From the author of bestselling, multi-award-winning Stella Montgomery trilogy!
- A cheeky tale that will have younger readers (and older ones) giggling!



MEGA RICH GUINEA PIGS

(MEGA RICH GUINEA PIGS #1)

Kate Temple, Jol Temple

The fabulous new series from award-winning, bestselling creators Kate and Jol Temple that takes us into the world of MEGA RICH GUINEA PIGS!

The world's richest man, Magnus MacAloon, has tragically died in a rocket experiment gone wrong. Sole heirs to this estate are his three beloved pet guinea pigs and a capybara (who thinks he is a guinea pig). These pampered pets have led a real life of luxury: golden water bowls, specially imported organic Guatemalan heirloom cabbage, even super expensive speech therapy so they can talk!

Only now they've got a problem. Not only is Magnus gone – his family are not happy about the guinea pigs (and capybara) getting it all and they're creeping out of the woodwork to claim what they feel is their share of the inheritance...

For fans of Andie Griffith's and Terry Denton's Tree House series and Matt Stanton's Funny Kid series. And, obviously, guinea pigs.



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- From the creators of the smash hit series *Bin Chicken*!
- Humour, action, adventure, and even a message that money isn't everything! Plus guinea pigs.

ADVANCE PRAISE

'Packed with madcap humour, lively characters and energetic illustrations, this fast-paced adventure continually breaks the fourth wall to hilarious effect, making it an ideal read-aloud story.'

BOOKS + PUBLISHING



Kate and Jol Temple are the internationally awarded authors of more than 26 books for children. Their work has been translated into over 20 languages. They write picture books (including the smash-hit series *Bin Chicken*) as well as bestselling junior fiction. Kate also writes her own middle-grade dark fantasy series. Their work is hilarious, playful, outrageous and full of heart. www.katejoltemple.com



September, 2025

ISBN: 9781460767207

\$16.99 | 192 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

Ages 8+

Rights: World, all languages

MILLIE MAK MAKES HER MARK

(MILLIE MAK #3)

Alice Pung, Sher Rill Ng

Ten-year-old Millie Mak is a maker and a problem-solver. And a clever one too, as out of recycled materials she creates beautiful and useful things – that also help people.

Millie Mak and her friends are trying to start a business creating and selling their upcycled designs. But it's school holidays, and looking after their annoying younger siblings is really slowing them down.

Meanwhile, Millie's friend Veesa wonders whether she should continue to help her mother work. Veesa's mother sews fast fashion and Veesa feels worried and guilty about its impact on the planet.

Can Millie and her friends resolve these dilemmas? And can Millie overcome her own challenges and learn how to make her mark?

From the creators of *Millie Mak the Maker* and *Millie Mak the Mender*, comes another inspiring book that celebrates the joy of creativity and the immense power of friendship.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Final title in the *Millie Mak* trilogy from renowned creators, Alice Pung and Sher Rill Ng

PRAISE FOR TITLES IN THE SERIES

'Crafty, creative, and courageous'

SOPHIE BEER

'A big-hearted book about transformation, creativity and discovery'

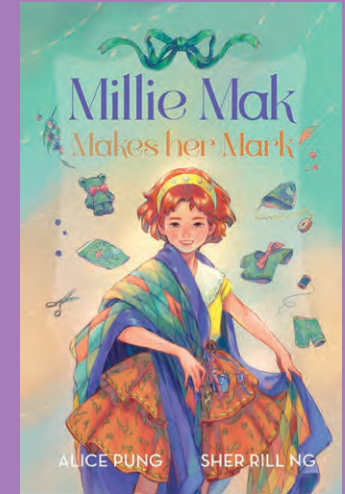
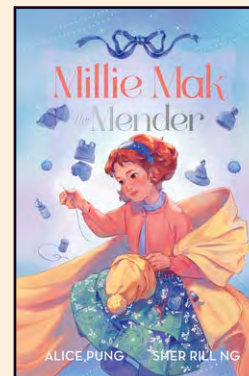
JACLYN CRUPI

'Clever, whip-smart, with a touch of whimsy'

WAI CHIM

'a girl for our times'

REBECCA LIM



Alice Pung is the bestselling and multi-award winning author of memoirs, essay collections, anthologies and children's books. She is the author of children's books including *Millie Mak the Maker* and *Be Careful, Xiao Xin!* (ill. Sher Rill Ng), *When Granny Came to Stay* (ill. Sally Soweol Han) and the *Meet Marly* books (ill. Lucia Masciullo). Alice was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for services to literature in 2022.

Sher Rill Ng is a Woi Wurrung/Melbourne-based illustrator. Her first author-illustrated picture book *Our Little Inventor* (2019) was adapted into a children's opera by the West Australian Opera. Her work includes middle grade book covers, and most recently Sher Rill has illustrated *Be Careful, Xiao Xin!* and the *Millie Mak* series written by Alice Pung.

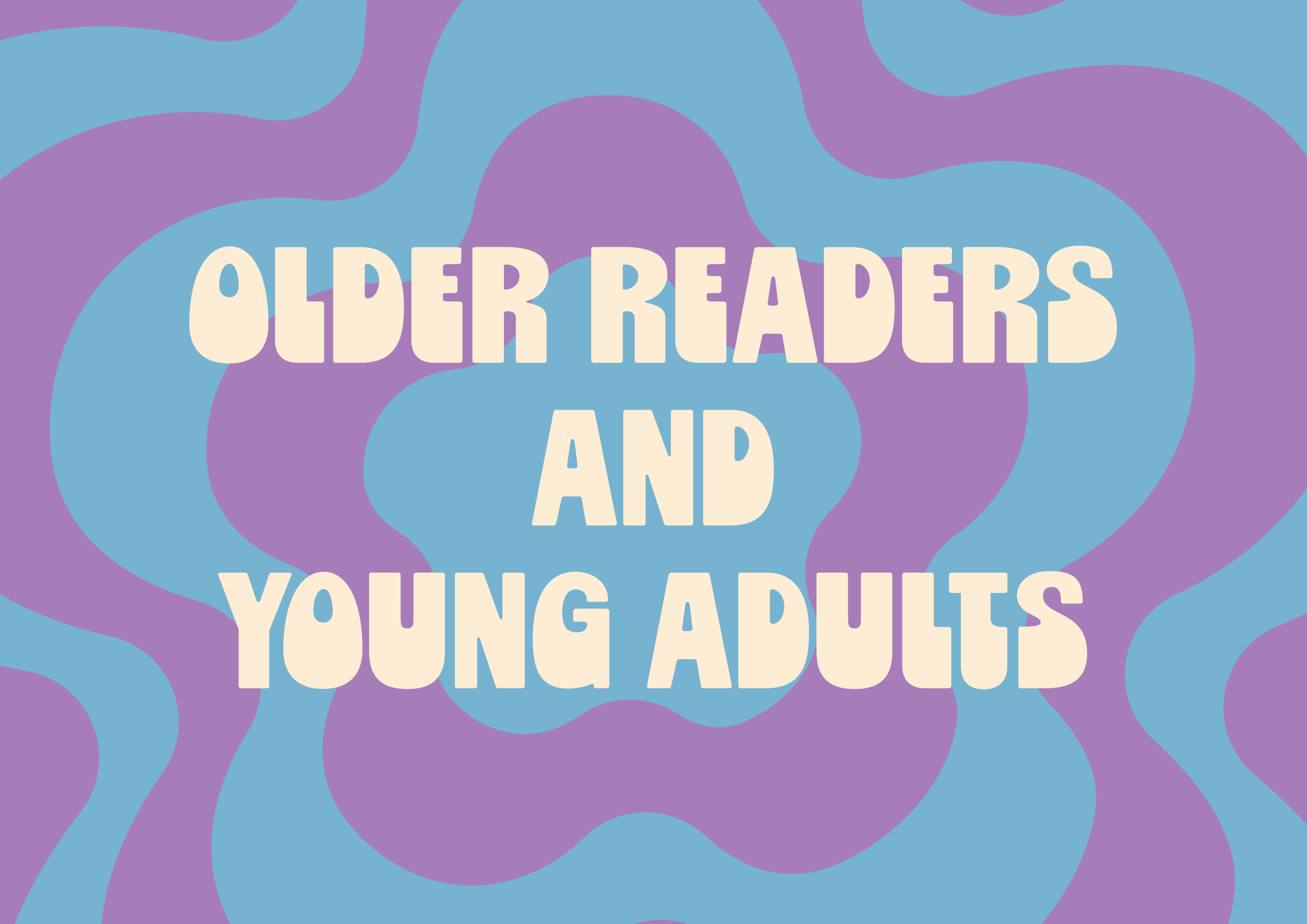
September, 2025

ISBN: 9781460767009

\$24.99 | 288 pages | 234 mm x 153 mm

Ages 9+

Rights: World, all languages



OLDER READERS AND YOUNG ADULTS

MAKING TROUBLE

(A GOOD KIND OF TROUBLE #2)

Brooke Blurton, Melanie Saward

The sequel to the heart-warming coming-of-age story for younger YA readers.

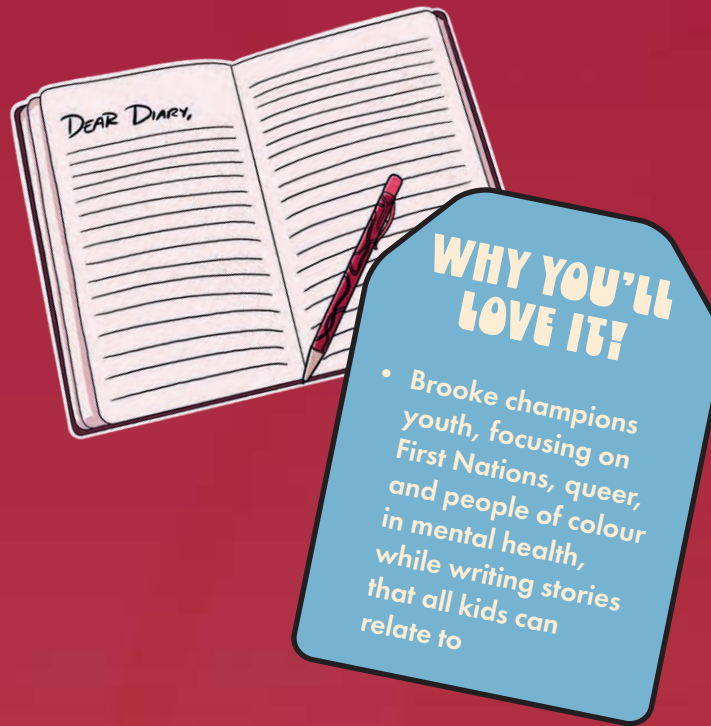
A brilliantly warm-hearted NEW book from Brooke Blurton and Melanie Saward, a follow-up to *A Good Kind of Trouble*. Stella and Jamie are charming characters full of high school longing. Things don't always go to plan.

I should be at the Australian Ballet School. But instead, here I am, boarding and going to school hundreds of kilometres away from home, but I feel even further away from my dreams. At least I've got Jamie ... that part's deadly.

Until she finds out my secret.

Stella is nervous about another new city, a new school, and new friends. Her love for ballet – and Jamie – pulls her forward, but fear threatens to drag her back home.

It's only when she thinks she's lost everything that Stella starts to see what she's been missing. Maybe she can shine – in class, on stage, and in her own story – and make her family and Jamie proud.



COVER COMING SOON

Brooke Blurton is a proud Noongar-Yamatji woman and broke records as the first Indigenous and bisexual Bachelorette for Network Ten's reality television franchise. Brooke is a passionate mental health advocate and champion of young people, especially First Nations and queer youth, and all people of colour.

Melanie Saward is a proud Bigambul and Wakka Wakka woman. She is a writer, editor, and academic based in Tulum (Ipswich), Queensland. Her debut novel *Burn* was published in 2023 and her first romantic comedy novel, *Love Unleashed*, was published in 2024.

April, 2026

ISBN: 9781460761502

\$19.99 | 240 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

13 +

Rights: World, all languages

**COVER
COMING
SOON**

Jackie French AM is an award-winning writer, wombat negotiator, the 2014–2015 Australian Children's Laureate and the 2015 Senior Australian of the Year. In 2016, Jackie became a Member of the Order of Australia for her contribution to children's literature and her advocacy for youth literacy. She is regarded as one of Australia's most popular children's authors and writes across all genres — from picture books, history, fantasy, ecology and sci-fi, to her much-loved historical fiction for a variety of age groups. 'A book can change a child's life. A book can change the world' was the primary philosophy behind Jackie's two-year term as Laureate.
jackiefrench.com [facebook.com/jackiefrench](https://www.facebook.com/jackiefrench)

[authorjackiefrench](https://www.facebook.com/jackiefrench)

June, 2026
ISBN: 9781460766545
\$16.99 | 272 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
9+
Rights: World, all languages

THE GIRL WHO WOULD BE KING

(HEROES IN AN ANCIENT WORLD #1)

Jackie French

59 BCE

Twelve-year-old Cleopatra and her father, Pharaoh Ptolemy XII, flee to Rome after Cleopatra's sister Berenice seizes the throne.

'Pa' is useless, caring only about playing his flute. If Cleopatra is ever to be pharaoh she must raise a huge amount of gold to hire an army, and convince Pompey the Great, the man who captured all the pirates in the Mediterranean, to support their claim.

She must also learn that, while throwing people to the crocodiles if they don't do what she wants is easier, sometimes charm is needed instead.

Can a twelve-year-old girl convince the Roman senate she will be the greatest king Egypt has ever known?

Can Cleopatra save them too, as well as her new friend Myra, the cosmata slave who makes even a girl with a big nose, stringy hair and pimples look beautiful?

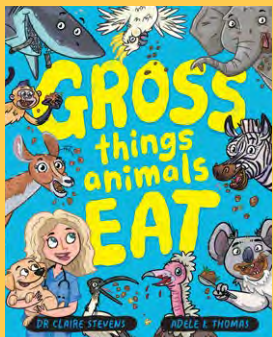
Can a girl be king?

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- First book in a fabulous new series from bestselling natural treasure Jackie French
- Every kid is fascinated with the ancient world, and Jackie takes them right there with this richly imaged, historically detailed story of a young Cleopatra



NON-FICTION



Dr Claire Stevens is a veterinarian, and an avid animal and nature lover with a passion for educating children about the fascinating world of science. Inspired by her two sons, Koa and Kai, Dr Claire writes funny and engaging books about science for young readers, which feature her beloved Golden Retriever, Frankie. Dr Claire is an in-demand animal expert on TV, magazines and social media, runs online courses on raising puppies, and is the author of popular animal care book *Dr Claire's Love Your Dog*.

Adele K Thomas has a background in TV and feature animation and covers areas of design for animation production, children's books, apps, education & brand advertising including mascots. She has worked in-house on animated productions as a feature film director, art director and production design lead, and has twenty years' industry experience, including projects for Disney, DreamWorks Animation and Warner Brothers TVA, as well as Cartoon Network and Nelvana.

April, 2026
ISBN: 9781460766064
\$26.99 | 32 pages | 300 mm x 240 mm
Ages 5+
Rights: World, all languages



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Meet Dr. Claire, famous animal expert on TV and more!
- Enjoy colorful pages with fun facts and cool text!



GROSS THINGS ANIMALS EAT

Dr Claire Stevens, Adele K Thomas

Yucky, icky and utterly hilarious, take a deep dive into the bizarre and disgusting world of animal facts with vet Dr Claire.

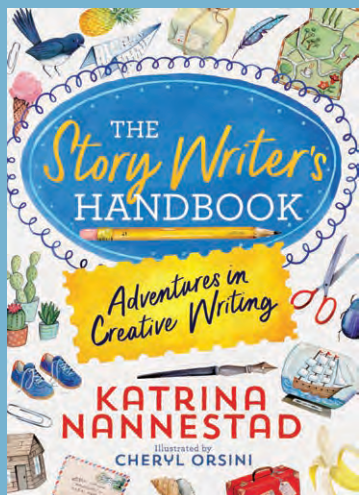
WARNING!

This book is so OUTRAGEOUS you'll never complain about soggy vegetables EVER again. You thought broccoli was GROSS? Wait until you hear these sickening eating habits of animals!

I'm Dr Claire, vet and lifelong animal lover, and I have discovered that every day around the world animals eat strange and repulsive things. I'm talking really wacky stuff, like poo, dirt and even vomit!

Come on an adventure with me and my dog Frankie, as we tell you all about which animals eat the MOST disgusting things!





Katrina Nannestad is a multi-award-winning Australian author. Her books include the CBCA-shortlisted *We Are Wolves*, *The Girl Who Brought Mischief*, *The Travelling Bookshop* series, *The Girl, the Dog and the Writer* series, the *Olive of Groves* series, the *Red Dirt Diaries* series, the *Lottie Perkins* series, and the historical novels *Rabbit*, *Soldier*, *Angel*, *Thief*, *Waiting for the Storks*, *Silver Linings* and *All the Beautiful Things*. www.katrinanannestad.com

THE STORY WRITER'S HANDBOOK

Katrina Nannestad

**'PLAY YOUR WAY
TO BECOMING A
GREAT WRITER'**

There is so much about writing that I love – playing with words, scribbling freely without a destination in mind, gathering ideas, daydreaming, planning, problem-solving and, of course, creating stories.

Let's gambol, ramble, dabble and dance in storytelling.

Just for fun.

It will get your imagination whirring, your ideas expanding and your talents growing.

Happy writing!

Katrina

From the award-winning, bestselling Australian author Katrina Nannestad comes a playful yet practical guide to creating your own stories.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT

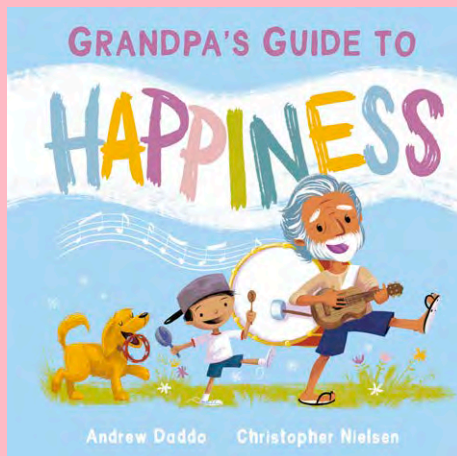
- The subtitle says it all 'Adventures in Creative Writing'!
- Will encourage even the most reluctant child to try their hand at writing by making it fun
- Who better to give writing advice than multi-award-winning, bestselling, creative dynamo, Katrina Nannestad?

October, 2025
ISBN: 9780733344008
\$26.99 | 192 pages | 210 mm x 150 mm
Ages 8+
Rights: World, all languages





REGENT



GRANDPA'S GUIDE TO HAPPINESS

Andrew Daddo, Christopher Nielsen

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Bestselling and award-winning creators
- Sold over 6000 copies of *Grandma's Guide to Happiness*, which is strong in the Australian market
- A great Father's Day gift!

Andrew Daddo is an author, columnist, broadcaster and TV presenter. He has been writing for children for over 25 years, including *First Day*, *When I Grow Up* and *Old Friends*, *New Friends*. *Grandpa's Guide to Happiness* is the follow-up to *Grandma's Guide to Happiness* and both books are about good old-fashioned fun.

Christopher Nielsen is an Australian author/illustrator specialising in bringing joy and wonder to children through his art and storytelling. His illustrations are inspired by a deep passion for mid-century culture and design. In 2018 his first picture book saw him shortlisted for the CBCA Crichton Award for best new illustrator and in 2022 his book *Just One Bee* (written by Margrete Lamond and Anthony Bertini) received the CBCA Honour Award for Picture Book of the Year.

July, 2025

ISBN: 9780733343629

\$24.99 | 32 pages | 244 mm x 244 mm

Ages 3+

Rights: World, all languages

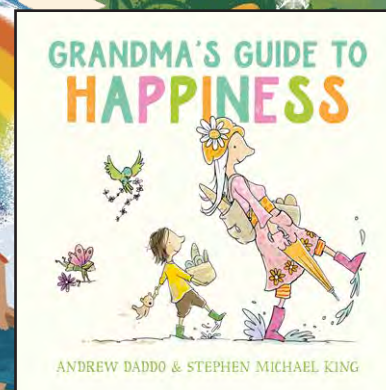


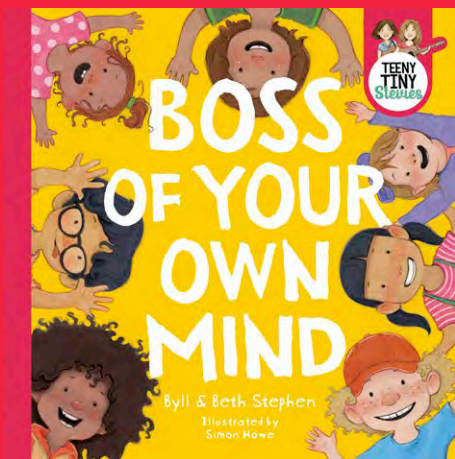
A companion to *Grandma's Guide to Happiness*, this picture book from bestselling author Andrew Daddo is a heartwarming book of grandfatherly philosophy.

My grandpa says the funniest things. He says the happiest days are the busiest days, and there's usually a stack of things to do.

It's always fun spending time with Grandpa – fixing things in the shed, doing some gardening, fishing at the pier or telling jokes in the backyard.

A joyful story celebrating grandfathers from beloved Australian author Andrew Daddo, with heartwarming art by Christopher Nielsen.





Sisters **Byll** and **Beth Stephen** are 'every parent's favourite kids band', the Teeny Tiny Stevies. Based on their songs that explore both life's little and big challenges with eloquence and humour, they are now creating fun and insightful picture books, including the ABIA-nominated *Boss of Your Own Body*, *Family*, *All That You Dream it to Be*, *Sleep Through the Night*, *How Brave I Can Be*, *Christmas Days in the Sunshine* and *Boss of Your Own Mind*.

Simon Howe is an illustrator and author with a broad appetite for children's literature, animation, storytelling and design. He has worked with several notable Australian authors on books for children, and has designed and directed animation for advertising and television. His long-time collaboration with ARIA award-winning children's band, Teeny Tiny Stevies, has seen him produce more than a dozen animated music videos. His first authored picture book, *Shoosh!*, was published in 2020.

December, 2024

ISBN: 9780733342769

\$24.99 | 24 pages | 244 mm x 244 mm

Ages 3 +

Rights: World, all languages

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Over 60,000 copies sold over the series
- Series inspired by the Teeny Tiny Stevies critically acclaimed songs
- The Teeny Tiny Stevies are 'every parent's favourite kids band'

BOSS OF YOUR OWN MIND

Byll Stephen, Beth Stephen, Simon Howe

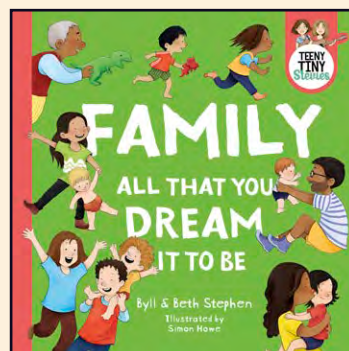
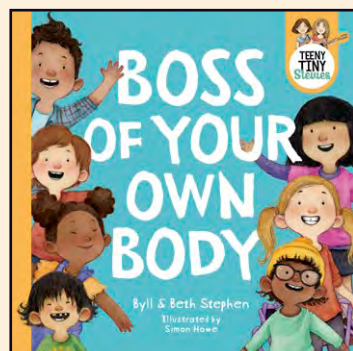
Empower young kids with the help of the critically acclaimed Teeny Tiny Stevies!

You're not the boss of what other people think, what they say and how they exist.

You're not the boss of how someone else behaves – the positions they take and the decisions they make.

But you ARE the boss of one thing ...

From Byll and Beth Stephen, the writers behind the ABC TV musical sensation Teeny Tiny Stevies, comes a book to show young kids everywhere their minds are their own.



BUNNY AND BIRD: HOW TO MAKE A SNOWMAN

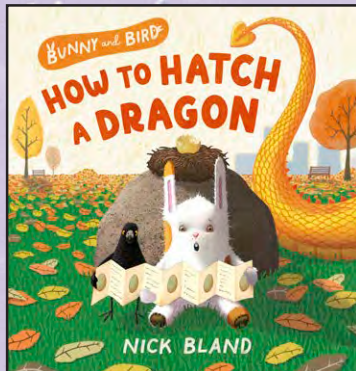
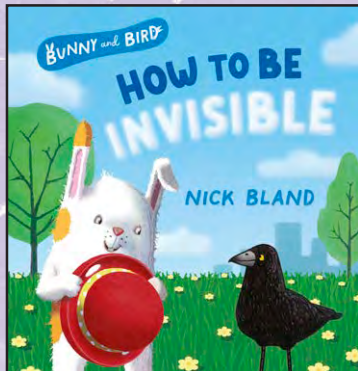
(BUNNY AND BIRD #3)

Nick Bland

A joyful picture book trilogy about friendship from bestselling creator, Nick Bland.

Bunny has found a hole in the forest. A magic one! But Bird is confused. Bunny says there is a tiger, a bear and a bull inside the hole. What are they doing in there? And how can a hole help make a snowman?

Bunny and Bird are two endearing characters who will make readers laugh out loud as they are taken along on a journey of surprising scenarios in the snowy park.



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Nick Bland's Very Cranky Bear series has sold over 200k!
- Dedicated page on Teachers' Hub website highlighting themes and curriculum links

PRAISE FOR BOOKS IN THE TRILOGY

'Filled with hilarity and banter, this picture book is perfect for fun storytime or bedtime reading.'

BETTER READING ON HOW TO HATCH A DRAGON

'A wonderfully inventive, funny tale.'

READPLUS ON HOW TO BE INVISIBLE

'It's fabulous.'

GOOD READING MAGAZINE ON HOW TO HATCH A DRAGON



Nick Bland is one of Australia's bestselling authors and illustrators. Nick is the creator of the hugely successful The Very Cranky Bear series, *The Wrong Book*, *Walk of the Whales* and author of *The Runaway Hug* (with Freya Blackwood). His award-winning creations have been published around the world.

November, 2024

ISBN: 9781460764077

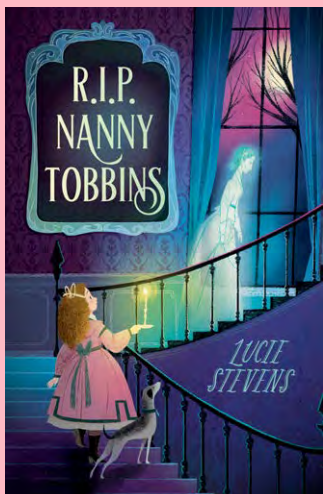
\$24.99 | 32 pages | 250 mm x 240 mm

Ages 3 +

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed to previous titles in the series:
Brazil Portuguese (Editora Fundamento)





Lucie Stevens is a children's writer who grew up in a semi-rural area of Dharug Country, north-west of Sydney. *R.I.P. Nanny Tobbins* is Lucie's first novel for children.

June, 2025
 ISBN: 9781460766521
 \$18.99 | 304 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
 Ages 8+
 Rights: World, all languages

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Selected for the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge, 2026
- First of a duology, second book out in mid-2026

R.I.P NANNY TOBBINS

Lucie Stevens

A quirky and very funny middle-grade fantasy title that is perfect for fans of *A Girl Called Corpse* and *Nevermoor*.

When Nanny Tobbins fell off a horse and broke her neck, the grown-ups told nine-year-old Albertine she'd never see her beloved governess again. But it simply isn't true. For every night, when the clock strikes twelve, Nanny returns to the nursery.

Yet in her new ghostly state, Nanny Tobbins quickly causes chaos in the household – and the timing couldn't be more inconvenient. Albertine's new stepmother is struggling to settle in, and Papa is much occupied working with Prince Albert on the Great Exhibition.

To make matters worse, the grown-ups don't believe in ghosts at all, leaving Albertine to take the blame for Nanny's unruly antics.

How will Albertine restore peace to her home before the unthinkable occurs?

PRAISE

'Quirky, mysterious, intriguing and spooky.'

JUDITH ROSSELL

'*Mary Poppins* by way of Tim Burton. Perfect for fans of *The Secret Garden* and *Coraline*.'

JAMES FOLEY

'A delightfully fun and deliciously spooky debut!'

REBECCA MCRITCHIE

'Poignant and funny, tender and spooky, cosy and compelling, with an endearing central character, a vivid cast of characters and a richly textured Victorian atmosphere, this is a book to curl up with and devour in one delicious sitting.'

SOPHIE MASSON

'a deliciously macabre and unexpectedly funny debut fantasy for advanced middle-grade readers.'

BOOKS + PUBLISHING

'You'll laugh, you'll cheer, you might even cry (ghost tears, obviously). It's a story about family, even when things get weird.'

BETTER READING



FROG SQUAD: SINK OR SWIM

(FROG SQUAD #3)

Kate Temple, Jol Temple

Step into a top-secret world where frogs don't just eat flies, they eat danger! This is FROG SQUAD!

Frog Squad dives into the treacherous waters of the Bermuda Triangle to find Captain Froggy Longbottom's shipwreck. It's filled with stolen treasure, including the world's largest pearl! But The Organisation of Amphibious Devious Scoundrels (TOADS) is hunting for the treasure, too. Will the brave rescue frogs reach it first, or will they be swallowed by quicksand?



PRAISE FOR BOOKS IN THE SERIES

'The action is fast, the puns are punny and the illustrations perfectly capture the peril and the hilarity. [...] Highly recommended.'

READING TIME

BETTER READING'S PREVIEW
READERS ON *DESSERT DISASTER*:

'This brand new series for young readers is brilliant.'

JENNY, VIC

★★★★★

'The *Frog Squad: Desert Disaster* was hop-tastic and hop-larious. I loved the puns and the plot. [...] 10/10 recommend for audiences 0-100.'

CHARLIE, NSW

★★★★★

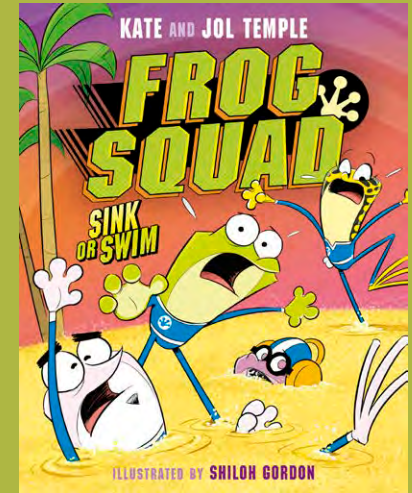
'The book's stunning images and adventurous storyline in support of a great cause have left me spellbound. Moreover, the book is incredibly easy to read, adding to the overall enjoyment of the experience. I cannot recommend it highly enough!'

MARGARET, NSW

★★★★★

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- It's frog-tastic
- Streaming now on Frogflix!



Kate and Jol Temple are the internationally awarded authors of more than 26 books for children. Their work has been translated into over 20 languages. They write picture books (including the smash-hit series *Bin Chicken*) as well as bestselling junior fiction. Kate also writes her own middle-grade dark fantasy series. www.katejoltemple.com

Shiloh Gordon is the illustrator of the popular junior-fiction series *The Underdogs* and *Ratbags*. He has a passion for creating lively, engaging illustrations that are full of character, story and fun. Shiloh graduated with a BA in animation from the Queensland College of Art and has worked as a professional illustrator for over 20 years.

April, 2025

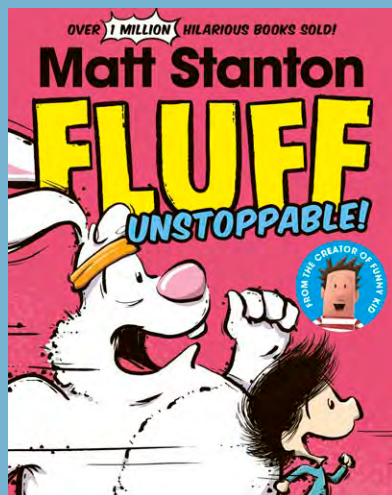
ISBN: 9781460764442

\$16.99 | 144 pages | 190 mm x 150 mm

Ages 6+

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed: Hebrew



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Over a million copies of Matt's books in Australia alone!
- The latest trilogy of the globally super-popular creator of Funny Kid!

FLUFF: UNSTOPPABLE

(FLUFF BOOK #3)

Matt Stanton

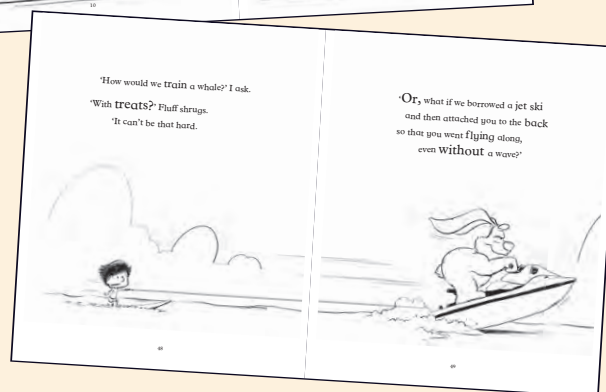
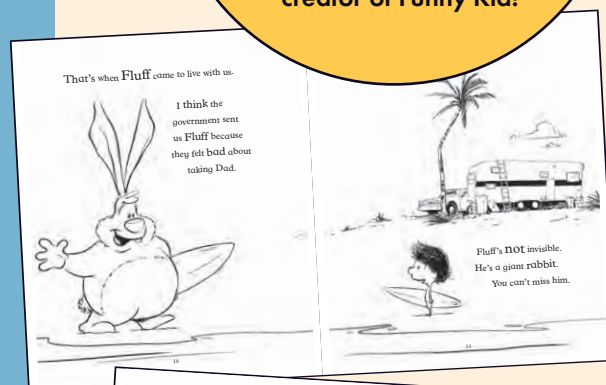
The hilarious and unmissable trilogy about Gilbert, a boy whose best friend is an imaginary giant fluffy bunny called Fluff, from the creator who brought us the bestselling series The Odds, Funny Kid and Bored.

Gilbert is determined to win the local surfing competition and he will do anything to make it happen.

To be a real winner, maybe he needs ...
A BUNNY TO BEND THE RULES!

A hilarious story full of heart and packed with disguises, octopuses, lawn bowls and boxing grandpas!

From Matt Stanton who brought us Funny Kid and The Odds comes ... the best friend you could ever imagine ... Fluff!



PRAISE FOR BOOKS IN THE SERIES

'Entertaining and laugh-out-loud funny, expertly mixing humour and heart'

BOOKS AND PUBLISHING

'...a must-read for new and existing Stanton fans'

BETTER READING

'The funniest Matt Stanton book so far'

COOPER, AGE 9

'100/10!'

ARLO, AGE 7

'Really funny and fantastic!'

MAX, AGE 7

December, 2024

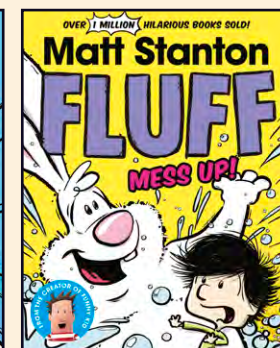
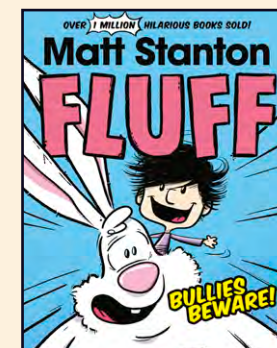
ISBN: 9780733342097

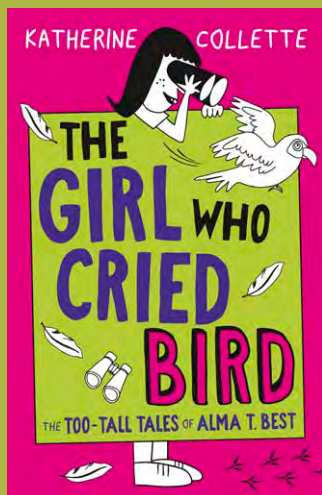
\$16.99 | 208 pages | 190 mm x 150 mm

Ages 7+

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed: Turkish





Katherine Collette is the author of two novels for adults, *The Helpline* and *The Competition*. *The Helpline* was published in Australia, the UK, the US, Italy and Germany and long listed for the Indie Book award for debut fiction. Katherine co-hosts popular writing podcast *The First Time* and its recent spin-off *The Next Step*. *The Too-Tall Tales of Alma T. Best* are her first middle-grade books.



April, 2025
ISBN: 9781460765401
\$17.99 | 304 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
Ages 9+
Rights: World, all languages

THE GIRL WHO CRIED BIRD

(THE TOO TALL TALES OF ALMA T. BEST #2)

Katherine Collette

When you're 12 years old and 6 foot tall, you'd better be prepared for a hilarious ride through that notoriously tricky first year of high school.

The problem with Bird Day is that all everyone does is go birdwatching. Alma's not very interested in birds. But when she manages to see an extremely rare purple-bellied parrot, it's big news. She's practically, almost, nearly, entirely famous!

The only problem is, no one else saw the parrot ... And no one saw Alma see the parrot ... And no one's seen the parrot since.

When some so-called 'experts' suggest Alma didn't see the bird at all, she's determined to prove them wrong, no matter what.

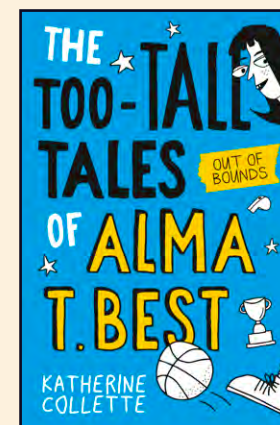
PRAISE FOR TITLES IN THE SERIES

'The Too Tall Tales of Alma T Best #1: *Out of Bounds* is designed to appeal to a broad range of readers. Its relatable themes make it suitable for both younger readers and adults with a balance of fun, hilarious, and meaningful misfit tales starring the one and only Alma T Best, a character that'll go down as a classic.'

BETTER READING

'It's a great fast paced story, filled with humour, suspense, and positive family values...I look forward to the next Too-Tall Tale as this one was such terrific fun.'

STORYLINKS



MING AND MARIA EXPLORE THE UNIVERSE (THE GIRLS WHO CHANGED THE WORLD #5)

Jackie French

In this fifth and final book in *The Girls Who Changed the World* quintet, Ming Qong discovers who she is, and that she, too, will change the world.

Ming has travelled through history to meet girls who have changed the world. However, this time is different as Herstory, History's sister, promises to reveal to Ming something of her own past: her long-lost mother.

When Ming washes up on the icy shores of Nantucket Island in 1836 she is saved by the elderly Mrs Sloe and the wealthy Miss Reynolds, but there is no sign of a woman who might be her mother.

The island is home to Maria Mitchell, who at seventeen has already published her first papers on astronomy and will go on to inspire scientists around the world for generations to come.

Maria's future holds extraordinary promise and fame. But what about Ming? And who is her mother?



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Multi-million copy-selling, award-winning author
- What women really did in the past!

PRAISE FOR MING AND FLO FIGHT FOR THE FUTURE #3 IN THE SERIES

'The latest book from Jackie French is another fabulous look at women in history, and what they really did, rather than what the history books assume.'

THE BOOK MUSE



Jackie French AM is an award-winning writer, wombat negotiator, the 2014-2015 Australian Children's Laureate and the 2015 Senior Australian of the Year. In 2016, Jackie became a Member of the Order of Australia for her contribution to children's literature and her advocacy for youth literacy. She is regarded as one of Australia's most popular children's authors and writes across all genres – from picture books, history, fantasy, ecology and sci-fi, to her much-loved historical fiction for a variety of age groups.
www.jackiefrench.com
www.facebook.com/authorjackiefrench



May, 2025
ISBN: 9781460764886
\$16.99 | 272 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
Ages 10+

RIGHTS CONTACTS

For English language, film, tv,
stage and other rights enquiries,
please contact:

rights@harpercollins.com.au

For translation rights enquiries,
please contact our sub-agents,
as listed below by territory.

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Estonia, Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia,
Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan,
Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan)**

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