

The image features a decorative border of yellow, fluffy clouds around the perimeter. Interspersed among the clouds are several small, five-pointed pink stars. The background is a solid light cream color.

HARPERCOLLINS PUBLISHERS
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

FRANKFURT
2026



DEAR ALL,

Welcome to the HarperCollins Publishers
Australia & New Zealand,
Children's Rights Guide, Frankfurt 2026

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**

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**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!

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!

In this book, it's a big day out at the beach where we meet hermit crabs, starfish, seagulls, manta rays, octopuses, pelicans, and penguins, playing in the water and sand!



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.

April, 2026
ISBN: 9781460768211
\$10.99 | 8 pages | 150 mm x 150 mm
Ages 0+
Rights Licensed: English language
(H360 US, UK, Canada)



PICTURE BOOKS

THE CHRISTMAS FUSS IN THE BROKEN-DOWN BUS

Maddy Mara, Christopher Nielsen

Santa and his helpers have everything ready for Christmas! But when everything goes wrong, Christmas must be cancelled — that is until a broken-down old bus and a stack of Christmas wishes save the day.

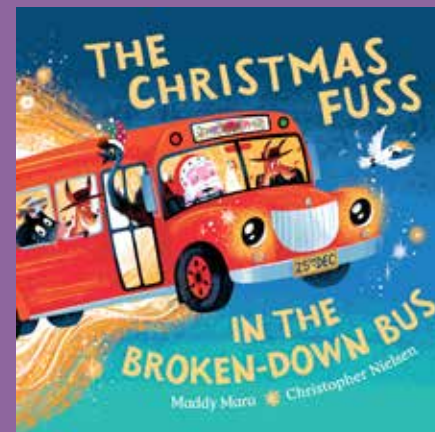
*Tomorrow is Christmas and as you can see
Santa is ready, as ready can be.*

*Will something go wrong? What a smart thing to ask!
For things always do when you have such a task ...*

A delightfully Australian Christmas comedy of errors from bestselling author Maddy Mara and award-winning illustrator Christopher Nielsen.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A HILARIOUS Christmas story
- Bright eye-catching illustrations that will be loved by both kids and parents
- Kids will love seeing Santa overcome all the odds to bring them gifts



Maddy Mara is the pen name of Australian creative duo and lifelong friends Hilary Rogers and Meredith Badger. Working together, they have created many international hit series including *Dragon Girls* (which has sold millions of copies worldwide), *Itty Bitty Kitty*, *Jet Set Pets*, *Forever Fairies*, *Dragon Games*, and the upcoming *Max Beast*. They also write charming and ridiculous picture books including *My Dad Makes the World Go Around and Around*, *Brave in Every Which Way*, *The Greatest Mistakes that Went Right*, and *The Wonders of Never Giving Up*.

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. His first picture book *Once Upon An ABC* saw him shortlisted for the CBCA Crichton Award for best new illustrator and *Just One Bee* received the CBCA Honour Award for Picture Book of the Year.

October, 2026

ISBN: 9781460769119

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

Ages 0+

Rights: World, all languages



COVER TO COME

Jimmy Barnes is a Scottish-born rock singer-songwriter who grew up in Adelaide. His career, both as a solo performer and as the lead vocalist of the legendary band Cold Chisel, has made him one of the most successful and distinctive artists in Australian music history. He is the only author to win back-to-back ABIA's for a non-fiction title. In 2021 Jimmy published two more bestsellers *Rosie the Rhinoceros* (a children's picture book with illustrator, Matt Shanks) and *Where the River Bends* (a cookbook co-written with Jane Barnes).

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.

October, 2027
ISBN: 9781460769331
\$24.99 | 32 pages | 295 mm x 220 mm
Ages 0+
Rights: World, all languages



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A celebration of all the messy moments in life from a beloved duo!
- The perfect story for kids to cuddle up in bed and read with their loved ones

PRAISE

'A powerful message conveyed in such an enchanting way, all wrapped up with delightful illustrations that we will never view rhinoceroses in the same way again. Because we know that inside every one of them, there is a unicorn trying to come out.'

STORY LINKS ON ROSIE THE RHINOCEROS

GRUMBS IN THE BED

Jimmy Barnes, Matt Shanks

Following on from the best-selling *Rosie the Rhinoceros* comes another delightful family story — this time inspired by Jimmy's grandson, Teddy.

I'd better watch out because here comes Ted.

Looks like I'm going to get crumbs in the bed!

Ted loves bringing breakfast to Grandad's bed first thing in the morning.

He jumps and pounces, and spreads jam and toast crumbs everywhere!

But would his grandad change it? Never!

From the award-winning author and rock legend Jimmy Barnes and critically acclaimed illustrator Matt Shanks comes a book about accepting and loving even the messiest parts of life.



COLOURS OF COUNTRY

Melissa Greenwood

A gorgeous and heartfelt celebration of colours, Country and language from bestselling Gumbaynggirr artist Melissa Greenwood.

High in the treetops, eucalyptus leaves glisten in the wind.

They are yarra guunuga (a strong, bright green).

We look out across the Bindarray (river) and see ngurra buluung (deep blue).

In the shallows, it turns yarra buluung (soft aqua).

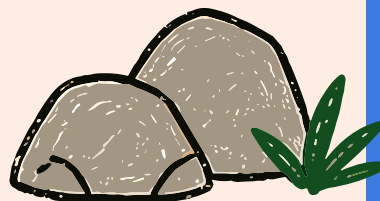
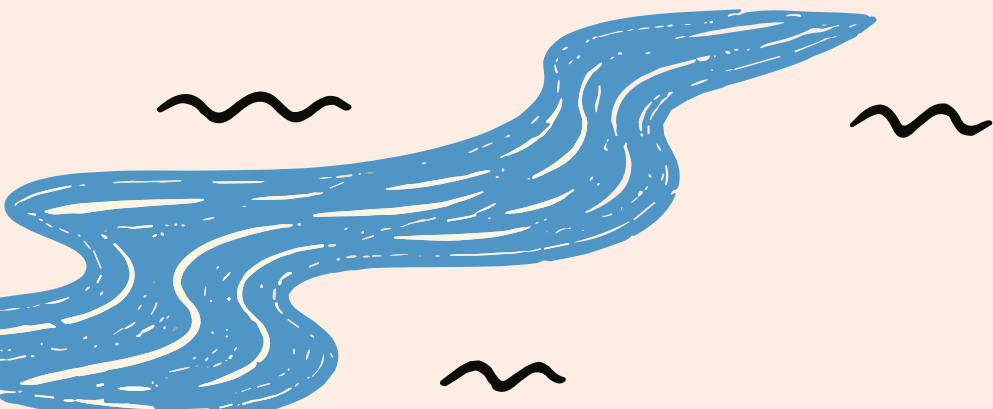
Country is full of colour, a world of wonder

Take a walk through Country with Miimi (mother) and Nyugiyani (daughter) as they find colours and meaning in nature.



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A unique celebration of the landscape through colours and culture
- Shows kids how to appreciate their surroundings while learning about the world's oldest living culture!



COVER
TO
COME

Melissa Greenwood was born on Gumbaynggirr jagun (Country) in Coffs Harbour and raised between Gumbaynggirr and Bundjalung Nations, both her ancestral homelands. On Melissa's matriarchal side, she is Gumbaynggirr, Bundjalung and Dunghutti. Melissa has a BA degree, majoring in Critical Criminology, and worked in Aboriginal affairs for over 11 years. Melissa is the founder and director of Miimi & Jiinda, an Australian art and design brand. Melissa now has a high-fashion women's label, which tells visual stories of Country through her hand-painted designs.

August, 2027

ISBN: 9780733343032

\$24.99 | 24 pages | 210 mm x 260 mm

Ages 3+

Rights: World, all languages

EACH AND EVERY YOU

Ashleigh Barton, Tamsin Ainslie

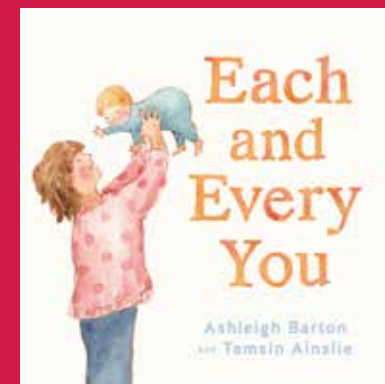
An ode to brand-new babies and the love and hopes and dreams their parents hold for them in those precious early days.

*I love how small and cute you are, I love the sounds you make.
I love how every time you sneeze, your entire body quakes.
As you grow each passing day, I hope you'll know it's true,
that I'm always going to love each and every you.*

A mother's love grows with her precious child in this glorious story with rhythmic rhyming text by Ashleigh Barton and gorgeous illustrations by Tamsin Ainslie.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A beloved duo return with a heartwarming ode to new babies and all the love they bring with them
- A gorgeously, giftable book for expecting families
- The perfect new baby gift in the tradition of *Kissed by the Moon*.



Ashleigh Barton is the author of CBCA shortlisted picture book, *What Do You Call Your Grandma* as well as CBCA Notable picture books *What Do You Call Your Grandpa* and *How Do You Say I Love You*. Ashleigh loves writing stories for children of all ages. 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.

Tamsin Ainslie is an illustrator living in Victoria. She has illustrated more than fifty books, with books *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. *Can We Lick the Spoon Now?* also having won the Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Award for Young Children. Her paintings and drawings are held in collections all over the world.

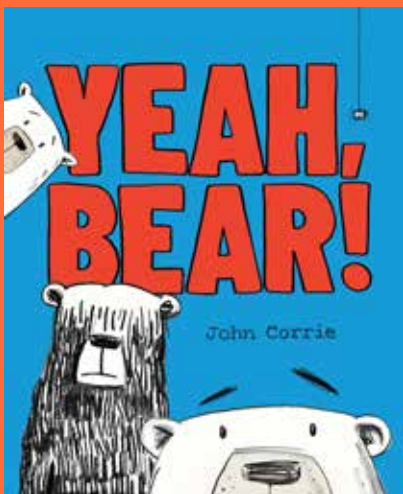
March, 2027

ISBN: 9781460769690

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

Ages 0+

Rights: World, all languages



John Corrie grew up in Australia, and now lives in Germany with his wife and two children. He has been working in advertising as a creative director and copywriter for thirty years. *Yeah, Bear!* is his first book.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A future classic
- Perfect for fans of Jon Klassen
- Readers of **ALL** ages will love it

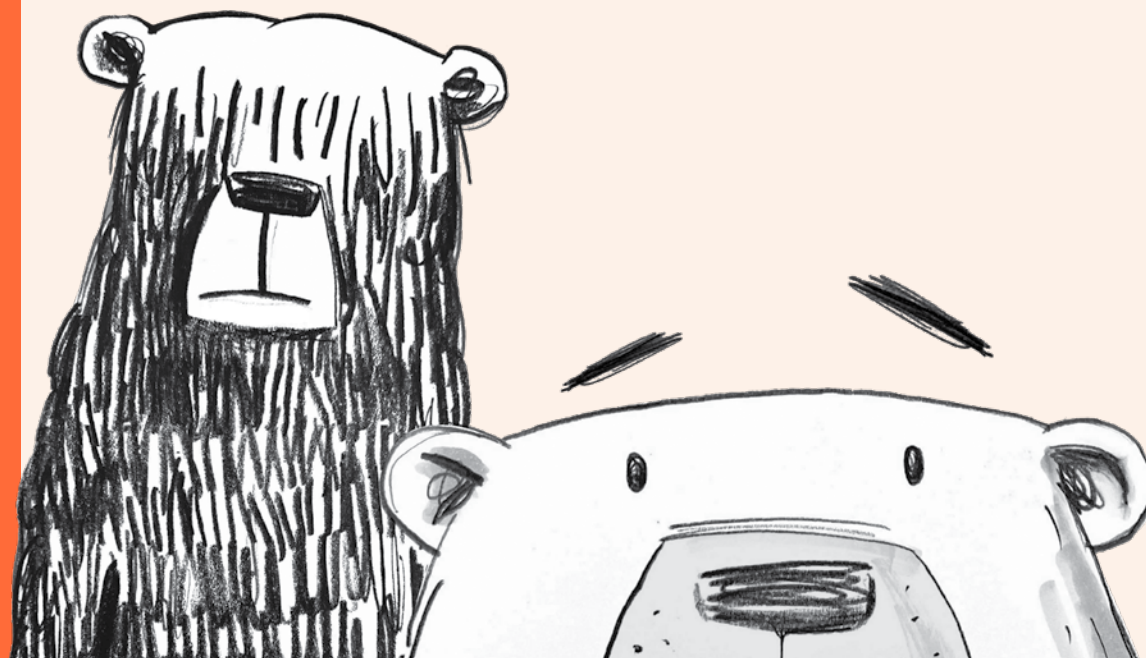
YEAH, BEAR!

John Corrie

Playful language and imaginative artwork bring this gorgeously hilarious picture book to life, and will be certain to delight readers both young and not-so-young with its array of clever, funny bears.

Yeah, Bear! celebrates all kinds of bears. There's underwear bear and completely bare bear, dare bear and hair bear.

Funny, playful and clever, *Yeah, Bear!* is a rhyming romp made to be read aloud again and again.



October, 2026

ISBN 9781460769508

\$24.99 | 32 pp | 275x225 mm

Ages 3+

Rights: World, all languages

Rights Licensed: English Language, North America
(Beach Lane Books/Simon & Schuster US)

TIME TO GO TO THE PARK

Emma Bowd, Leila Rudge

A fun, feel-good book for preschoolers that captures the everyday joys of childhood and family life.

*Tick-tock, tick-tock, breakfast is done.
Time to go out. Let's have some fun!*

And what could be more fun than a day at the park?
Playing with friends, exploring the outdoors and having adventures.

Created by the award-winning duo, Emma Bowd and Leila Rudge, this is a book that's sure to inspire many happy trips to the park.



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A beautifully lyrical celebration of outdoor play and the richness of modern family life, every child will see a reflection of their own family in these pages
- A joyful tribute to inclusive public spaces, where children of all abilities are welcomed, encouraged, and empowered to play together



Emma Bowd is an internationally published and award-winning author, and a dedicated literacy advocate. A former occupational therapist, she is passionate about writing inclusive picture books that capture the joy of childhood through imaginative and nature-based play. 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. Visit her at www.emmabowd.com

Leila Rudge is an illustrator and author of over 15 picture books, including *Gary and Winston* and *The Indoor Cat*, which were both shortlisted in the CBCA Awards. Her work is a mixture of pencil – so many coloured pencils – and watercolours, all hand-rendered onto big sheets of paper ready to be scanned into picture book pages.

May, 2026
ISBN 9781460767245
\$24.99 | 24 pp | 244x244 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!

PRAISE

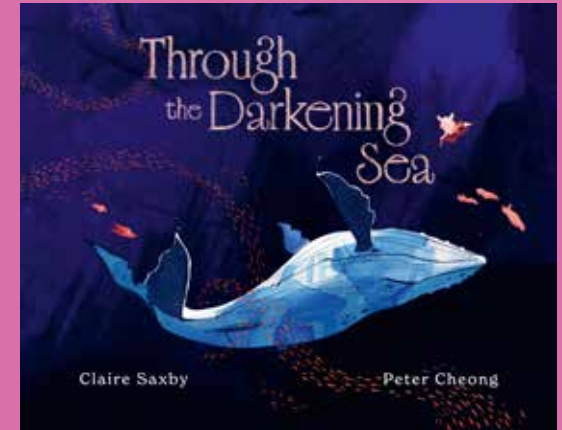
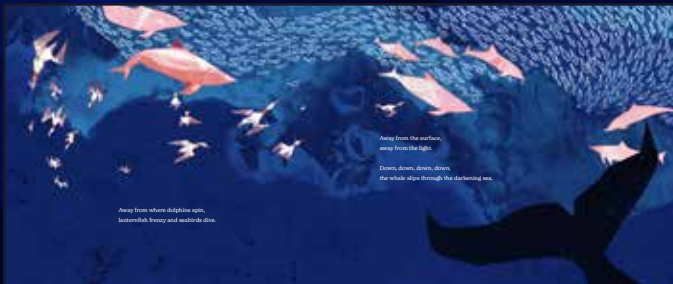
'Thoughtful, lyrical and carefully crafted – a modern classic.'

GOOD READING MAGAZINE

'Highly recommended.'

Renowned Australian author Claire Saxby has once again written a stunning and profoundly reflective narrative non-fiction picture book that will leave a lasting impression on the wide range of readers it will definitely captivate.'

READPLUS



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



**YOUNGER
READERS**



Zanni Louise has been writing stories since she was little, growing up in country New South Wales. 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

Rights Licensed: Czech (Albatros), Turkish (Orman Kitap), Turkish



MIKKA'S MAGICAL SURPRISE

(PRINCESS AND UNICORN #1)

Kyla May, Zanni Louise

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Globally bestselling team!
- Irresistible new series!
- A princess! A magic unicorn called Marshmallow!
- Next in the series due out in March 2027

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!

PRAISE

'This book is about unexpected magic that makes you giggle. Marshmallow the unicorn's horn ZAPs everything in sight, which means ordinary things turn into hilarious surprises like orange juice everywhere, sheep floating in mid-air and teapots dancing around the room! That kind of goofy chaos means every page is a new surprise that'll keep kids laughing and turning pages to see what will happen next.'

BETTER READING

'I loved reading this and think that younger readers will adore this.'

THE BOOK MUSE

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



FAIR DAY FUN

(AMIRA SWIFT #2)

Sarah Ayoub, Niña Nill

Amira Swift is a chatty, energetic 7-year-old who loves to dance.

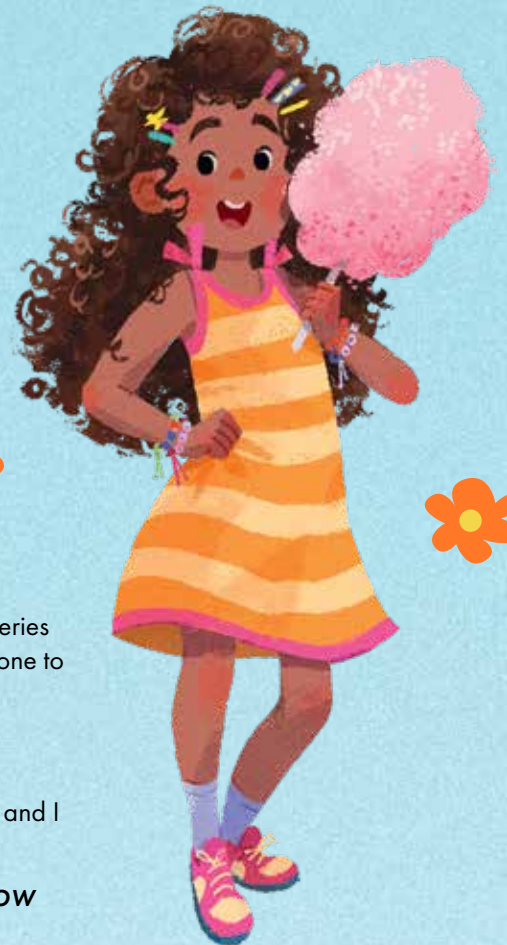
Amira Swift has three favourite things: her BFFs Ellie (one) and Naya (two), and dancing (three).

Amira has a problem! All of her friends are bringing foods that represent their cultures to sell and raise money at the school fair, but Amira comes from two cultures and doesn't know what to take. Both her grandmothers want to share their special family recipes with her. Whatever will Amira do?

A fun series about dance, friendship and family from bestselling author Sarah Ayoub, with adorable artwork by Niña Nill.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A fun new series celebrating friendship, family with highly appealing stories for all to enjoy.



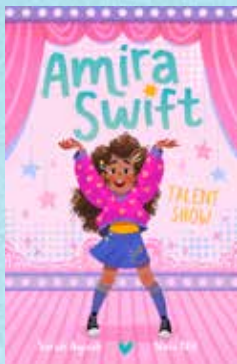
PRAISE

'For families and classrooms after a first chapter book series with real heart and real diversity, Amira Swift is an easy one to hand over.'

BETTER READING

'I adored this book and being invited into Amira's world and I think younger readers will love it as well.'

THE BOOK MUSE ON AMIRA SWIFT: TALENT SHOW



Sarah Ayoub is a freelance journalist, author and academic based in Sydney, Australia. She is the author of three teen novels, including the Inky-longlisted *The Yearbook Committee*, and five children's picture books, including *The Love That Grew* and *How to Be a Friend*. She holds a PhD in ethnic teen literature, is a sessional academic at the University of Sydney and sits on the board of the Australian Society of Authors.

Niña Nill is a children's book illustrator based in Queensland, Australia. She is passionate about illustrating and writing stories for children that are colourful, magical, and whimsical. One of her earliest memories is of copying her Mum's drawing of a cat under a row of flowers and she has been drawing ever since.

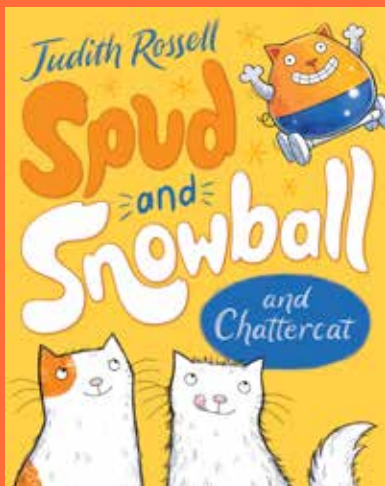
August, 2026

ISBN 9781460766682

\$15.99 | 128 pp | 198x128 mm

Ages 6+

Rights: World, all languages



SPUD AND SNOWBALL AND CHATTERCAT

(SPUD AND SNOWBALL #2)

PRAISE

'With a nod to the Seussian humour of *The Cat in the Hat*, Judith Rossell, author of *The Midwatch*, has written and illustrated a future classic that will utterly delight many readers (and their butlers) aged 6+. More Spud and Snowball, please!'

READINGS ON
SPUD AND SNOWBALL AND THE FANCY FISH

'Delightful, delightful, delightful. Do you think I enjoyed *Spud and Snowball and the Fancy Fish*? Yes. It is ridiculously funny.'

READING TIME ON
SPUD AND SNOWBALL AND THE FANCY FISH

Judith Rossell

Two cheeky cats get up to all sorts of mischief in this wonderful illustrated series for emerging readers from a beloved Australian creator.

Every day, Spud and Snowball lie in the sun and sleep. When they're woken by a scary noise under the bed, the two cats are fearful it's a monster. Instead, they meet Chattercat, who doesn't stop shouting, racing and playing games!

Can Spud and Snowball keep up and win all the prizes?

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

September, 2026

ISBN 9780733343872

\$15.99 | 128 pp | 190x150 mm

Ages 6+

Rights: World, all language

Spud and Snowball and the Fancy Fish
(Spud and Snowball, #1)

October, 2025

ISBN: 9780733343865

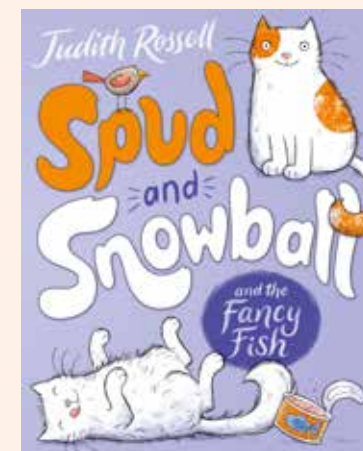
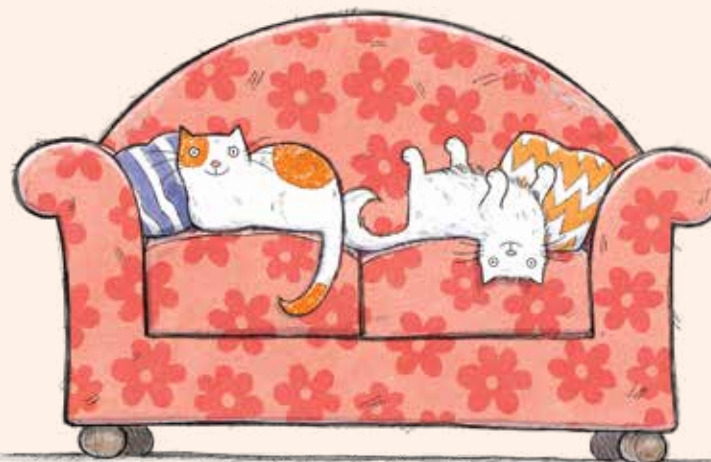
\$15.99 | 128 pages | 190 mm x 150 mm

Ages 6+

Rights: World, all languages

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Because, as Reading Time wrote of *Spud and Snowball and the Fancy Fish*, it's 'delightful, delightful, delightful'.





**MIDDLE GRADE
AND EARLY
YOUNG ADULT**

COVER TO COME

Adam Wallace is a *New York Times* bestselling author who has written more than 150 books, which have sold over 11 million copies, and his work includes the *Fartboy* series. Check out adam-wallace-books.com

James Hart's love of drawing has led him to a 20-plus-year career as an illustrator for all kinds of cool projects, including TV and, his most favourite thing, kids' books! His most popular and award-winning series include *Fartboy*, *You Choose*, *Skydragon* and *Mr Bambuckle's Remarkables*. You can see James' books and illustrations at jameshart.com.au

Lisa Foley is a children's author living in Melbourne, Australia. She has spent her life trekking through various creative jungles, including film/TV, visual arts and, most importantly, writing!

August, 2027

ISBN: 9781460764855

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

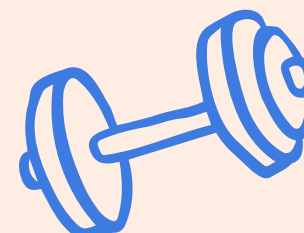
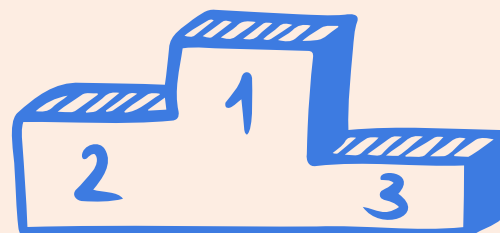
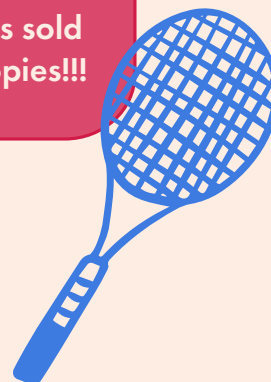
Ages 7+

Rights: World, all languages



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A stand alone sports stories book!
- Adam Wallace's *Fartboy* series has sold over 11 million copies!!!



SPORTS ALL STARS: FUNNY STORIES & JOKES

Adam Wallace, Lisa Foley, James Hart

Hilarious sports stories for kids who love SHORT stories, LOTS of action, SPORTS, and slap-stick adventures! Six stories in one book!

Have you ever wanted to stop the soccer ball from going into the net SO badly, that you wished you had spaghetti arms?

Can you imagine riding your skateboard inside a huge old theme park with super smooth half pipe, bowls and rails?

What if you accidentally rubbed soap all over your surf coach's board?

These hilarious sports stories plus more tales of tenpin bowling runs, basketball hijinks and mountain biking super skills, are waiting for you inside this book. If you only DARE to open the cover...

FUNNY KID FAST LANE

(FUNNY KID #15)

Matt Stanton

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

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

The epic Redhill Billy Cart Race is here and Tyson is entering with Max's dad, leaving Max to go it alone.

Max is the funny kid ... but he has no idea how to build a billy cart!

High-octane racing, wedding crashers, group assignment nightmares and a teacher missing in action are just some of the things in store for Max and his friends in this brand new Funny Kid adventure!

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

Funny Kid Seriously Soccer

CBCA Notable Book for Younger Readers 2026

PRAISE FOR BOOKS IN THE SERIES

'humour is injected into every page'

CHILDREN'S BOOK
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA'S
READING TIME

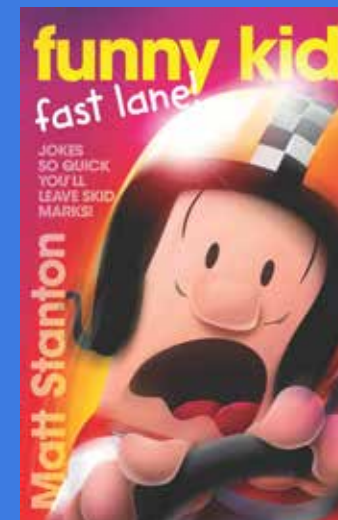
'absolutely hilarious'

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!
- Taps into the latest global obsession!

**BOOK 16
COMING
OCTOBER
2027!**



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. *Duck*, which features the animals from *Funny Kid*, is his latest series.

November, 2026

ISBN 9780733344176

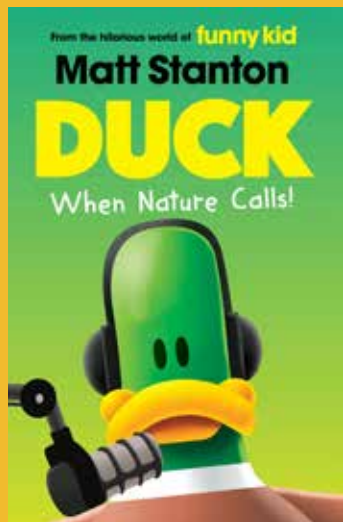
\$16.99 | 240 pages | 198 x 128mm

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.

September, 2026
 ISBN: 9780733342073
 \$16.99 | 240 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
 Ages 7+
 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!

**BOOK 3
 COMING
 MAY 2027!**

DUCK: WHEN NATURE CALLS!

(DUCK #2)

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.

Do you ever wonder what animals think about humans?

Do they feel they could do a better job running things?

Would they ever try and take over?

Duck, Mouse and Dog are alarmed that the adults in Redhill are being brainwashed by something called a 'podcast'. To fight back, the animals might need to embrace some technology of their own. It's time for Duck to take matters into his own wings and start a revolution!

From the hilarious world of FUNNY KID comes DUCK, the hysterical series that will leave you quacking up!

PRAISE

'In Duck #1: Look Who's Talking!, the humour really shines, especially if you're familiar with the style of the Funny Kid series. The comedy feels energetic and a little bit ridiculous in the best way.'

BETTER READING



COPY RATS

(GUINEA WIGS #2)

Rebecca McRitchie, Shiloh Gordon

The silliest superheroes in town are back for an even wackier new adventure, using the power of their magical wigs to save the day! Once again, it is the Guinea Wigs to the rescue!

Jet, Minnie, Meatball, Bud and Tofu are regular guinea pigs – until they put their wigs on. Then - look out! Suddenly they have superpowers!

Can the Guinea Wigs discover why there's a strange noise coming from the sewers? Who are the superhero rats? And why are they also wearing wigs?

And what on earth does all of this have to do with frozen yoghurt anyway?!

Find out in this karate kick of a series about a team of rodents who can't be caged – or can they?

PRAISE

'Highly recommended. *Fur Power*, the first book in a brand-new series *Guinea Wigs* by Rebecca McRitchie, bursts with fun, frivolity and laughter. With lively black and white illustrations by talented illustrator Shiloh Gordon, the story delivers a delightful blend of comedy, cuteness and chaos – perfect for emerging independent readers.'

READPLUS

'It's pure fun and enjoyment with a plot and set of characters that younger readers will enjoy.'

BOOK MUSE ON *FUR POWER!*

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Guinea pig craze meets bestselling brilliance from McRitchie and Gordon!
- Four books signed up!



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.

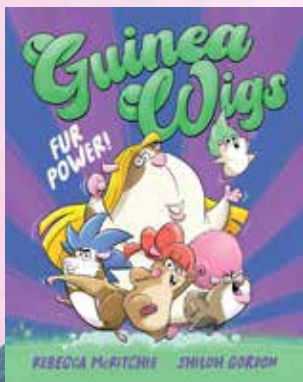
October, 2026

ISBN: 9781460718315

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

Ages 7+

Rights: World, all languages



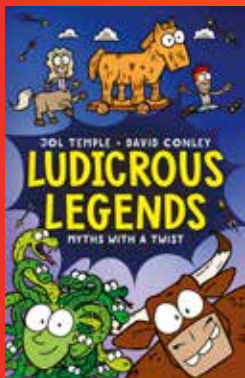
LUDICROUS LEGENDS: MYTHS MEET MAYHEM

Jol Temple, David Conley

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

When his three-headed dog eats his homework, Hector has to get some help from his centaur bestie, Hylo. Together they've got the basics of Greek mythology covered: Icarus's dad started an airline, Pandora needs a refund on that box she bought, and King Midas really should see a doctor about his embarrassing problem!

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



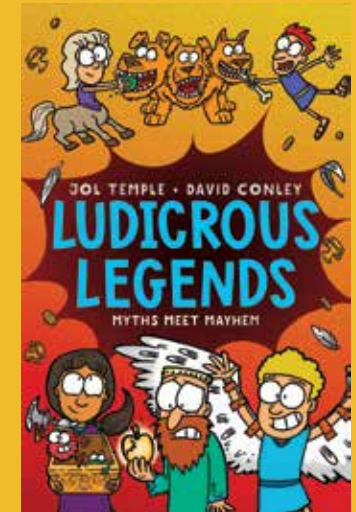
WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Re-imagine Greek myths with Jol Temple's award-winning storytelling magic!
- Author with more than 270k books sold in Australia alone!
- Second book in fabulous new series!
- Book three due out in February 2027!

PRAISE FOR THE SERIES

'Short, sharp and fabulously fun, *Ludicrous Legends: Myths with a Twist* is an excellent choice for middle-primary readers and an exciting launch to a series that promises many more hilarious historical adventures ahead.'

READPLUS



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.

August, 2026

ISBN: 9781460767726

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

Ages 7+

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed to selected previous titles in the series: German (DTV Verlag)

**COVER
TO
COME**

**WHY YOU'LL
LOVE IT!**

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

**BOOK 4
COMING
DECEMBER
2027!**

**DETECTIVE GALILEO
CHAOS AT THE CAT CAFE
(DETECTIVE GALILEO #3)**

Pete Helliard, Andrew Joyner

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

A new wacky and fun story about Galileo – a horse with talent for solving crimes.

PRAISE FOR THE SERIES:

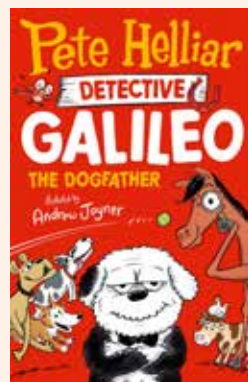
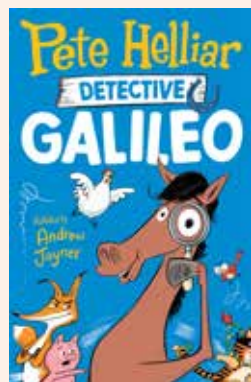
'Helliard is one of Australia's funniest comedians, and it shows. The jokes land fast, the dialogue is packed with personality and Galileo's inner thoughts are a perfect blend of awkward, earnest, and absolutely hysterical. You'll be giggling on every page, especially when Galileo tries to "blend in" or gets caught in yet another detective-themed disaster.'

BETTER READING

Pete Helliard 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



December, 2027

ISBN 9781460766231

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

Ages 7+

Rights: World, all languages

Rights Licensed: Slovak

FRANCES BLOOM: STAR RESCUE

(FRANCES BLOOM #3)

Katrina Nannestad, Marina Zlatanova

Third book in 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 has everything she needs – a cottage by the sea, a fairyfloss machine and grandparents who never say, 'Don't!' Life is perfect ... until Steven Stormaker begins searching for his runaway movie star ... Frances's gold is stolen during the Year 3 treasure hunt ... Grandma Maude and Grandpa Harold disappear ... and a strangely familiar woman called Ms Thorn appears on the scene.

Can Frances rescue her family and bring them home to Apple Cottage? Or is she doomed to be taken away to Bleak Island Home for Unwanted Children and Dogs?



PRAISE FOR THE SERIES:

'This is a rollicking far-fetched story which made me laugh throughout. The events are so unlikely that confident new readers will understand and enjoy their improbability.'

READING TIME

'a full-on giggle-fest'

BETTER READING

'With her spirited independence, Frances is a charming Pippi Longstocking-style character for a new generation.'

BOOKS + PUBLISHING

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Second 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.

October, 2026

ISBN: 9780733343995

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

Ages 7+

Rights: World, all languages



MEGA RICH GUINEA PIGS

WITLESS PROTECTION (MEGA RICH GUINEA PIGS #2)

Kate Temple, Jol Temple

A new wacky adventure delivers laugh-out-loud fun as this gaggle of cashed-up guinea pigs (and one silly capybara) become involved in a new ridiculous crime caper.

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

The mega rich guinea pigs are in trouble!

Hot Head, Lunk, G-Chip and Big Pig (who is actually a capybara, but don't tell him that) are being threatened by a mysterious villain. To keep themselves and their fat stacks of cash safe, they are whisked away to a Witless Protection Program.

But something doesn't seem quite right ... have they walked into a trap? They might need more than ButtPay to get out of this one.



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.
- Animation rights under option!

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



**BOOK 3
OUT IN
JULY
2027!**

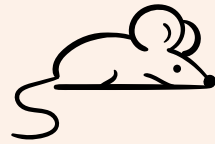


Kate and Jol Temple are the internationally awarded authors of more than 26 books for children. Their work has been translated into over 20 languages. They write picture books (including the smash-hit series Bin Chicken) as well as bestselling junior fiction. Kate also writes her own middle-grade dark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

July, 2026
ISBN: 9781460767214
\$16.99 | 192 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
Ages 8+
Rights: World, all languages



COVER TO COME



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A new twist on a beloved fantasy genre!
- Award-winning creator

Peter Cheong is the illustrator of *I'm a Hero Too*, *Nothing Alike* and the *Pow Pow Pig* and *Freddie Spector* series. Peter'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. He has since released his second author/illustrated book, *Where We Can Hear the Giants Sing*.

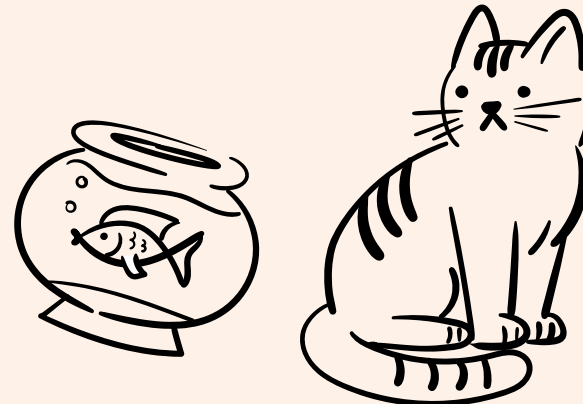
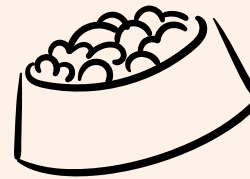
PRAISE FOR AUTHOR

'A picture book to savour.'

WHAT BOOK NEXT ON
THROUGH THE DARKENING SEA

'A fabulous read.'

READPLUS ON THROUGH THE DARKENING SEA



DON'T FEED THE CAT!

APRIL ORDINARY, THIEF EXTRAORDINARY #1

Peter Cheong

Drawing on an interactive choose your own adventure style, *April Ordinary, Thief Extraordinary* will appeal to fans of the *Hildafolk* series as well as readers who have aged out of *The Bad Guys*.

You wake up.
You remember nothing.
But there is this girl, a thief.
And a magic cat which is growing bigger and bigger...

When lowly page Bready saves a magic cat from a powerful nobleman they must join a gang of thieves led by the legendary thief: April Ordinary, Thief Extraordinary, to escape his wrath. Diving into the chaotic underground world of thievery, Bready must prove themselves as a worthy member of the gang while they see just how big this cat can get.

Immerse yourself in this swashbuckling, first person, graphic novel adventure as you see through the eyes of Bready: the newest member of April's gang of thieves. And hurry! There are riches to steal and magic cats to feed!

April, 2027
ISBN: 9781460768525
\$16.99 | 128 pages | 203 mm x 152 mm
Ages 8+
Rights: World, all languages

THE CLUELESS GUIDE TO CATCHING A THIEF

CLUELESS #2

Samera Kamaled dine, Hykie Breeze

Inspired by personal experience, this is a very fresh and funny Middle Grade series by CBCA (The Children's Book Council of Australia) shortlisted author Samera Kamaled dine.

I didn't always live with seven old people and one middle-aged cavoodle called Christine ...

Imagine being ten years old and 'temporarily' living with your grandparents at their retirement village while your parents are on a never-ending marriage retreat.

Welcome to Claudia Smith's world of possible endless boredom — until she realises the fun to be had in super sleuthing and solving everyone else's problems.

PRAISE

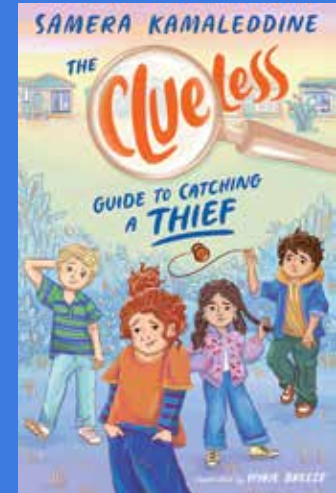
'A warm and humorous adventure.'

BOOKS+PUBLISHING



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Kids love detective stories
- Explores themes of intergenerational relationships, friendship and belonging with humour and heart



Samera Kamaled dine has considered herself a writer since she got her first creative writing certificate in kindergarten. She went on to become a journalist, writing about everything from friendship to body confidence for young women's magazines. Now, she's the author of *Half My Luck* (Matilda Prize winner 2021), *The Sideways Orbit of Evie Hart* (shortlisted for CBCA Book of the Year for Younger Readers 2024) and the *Clueless* series.

Hykie Breeze is an illustrator and graphic designer, born in Hong Kong and now fortunate enough to be living and working in Sydney (Dharawal country). Hykie is the illustrator for the *Ella* and the *Frogs* series, written by Cassy Polimeni. The first in the series, *Ella and the Amazing Frog Orchestra*, was included on the CBCA Notables list for Younger Readers in 2025.

March, 2027

ISBN: 9781460767450

\$17.99 | 192 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

Ages 9+

Rights: World, all languages





WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Stand alone!
- Kids are OBSESSED with K-POP thanks to the huge success of *K-POP Demon Hunters*
- Combining all of the classic tropes that have made *K-POP Demon Hunters* so successful with a story about ordinary kids who love pop music and want to be in a successful band like their K-POP heroes

Zanni Louise has published over forty books for kids, including bestselling board books, picture books, chapter books and middle grade. She tours the world, visiting kids in schools and running writing retreats for grown-ups. She's also a proud ambassador for Room to Read, an organisation that gives kids access to books. Find out more at www.zannilouise.com

Paige Walshe is a Canadian comic artist and illustrator based in Montreal. She is the creator of *Lemons*, a short story in Webtoon's 2020 Heart Anthology, and *Froggy: A Pond Full of Pals*, a graphic novel by Flying Eye Books. She has been voraciously reading and making comics since she was 14, whether they be the kind to leave you laughing out loud, yearning for a fantasy world or checking whether you still own a night light.

August, 2026
ISBN 9781460770115
\$17.99 | 240 pp | 198x128 mm
Ages 8+
Rights: World, all languages

K-POP SUPERFANS BATTLE OF THE BANDS

Zanni Louise, Paige Walshe

Four Aussie besties. One epic pop band. The battle of a lifetime.

LUME is an Aussie pop band with big K-Pop energy! When the girls enter Star Song, a national music competition, for a chance to meet their K-Pop idols, the stakes couldn't be higher!

But things get tricky fast. Rivalries heat up, friendships are tested and Maya makes a choice that could break LUME apart. And then there's Gareth St Kind, the mega-producer whose bands are mysteriously disappearing ...

Can the LUME bandmates uncover the truth and stop their pop-star energy being stolen for good?



CRICKET RISING STARS

(HOWZAT PAT #5 & #6)

Pat Cummins, Dave Hartley, Serena Geddes

An 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!

My best friends and I meet a Hollywood movie star while we're training for selection with the Australian Rising Stars cricket team!

Can we find a way to:

- SAVE someone from a snake bite?
- STOP the ex-mayor's dodgy plans for our friends?
- WIN our place in the team?

If you want to know the answers to these questions too
READ THIS BOOK!

PRAISE FOR THE SERIES

'A perfect choice for children ready to move into longer chapter books.'

READPLUS

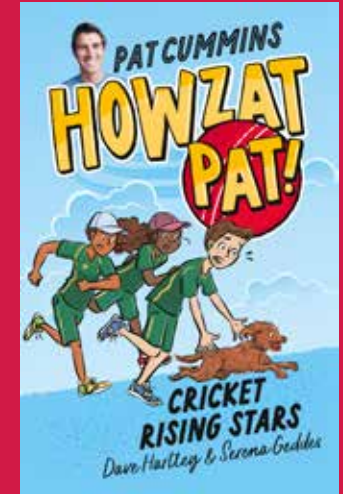
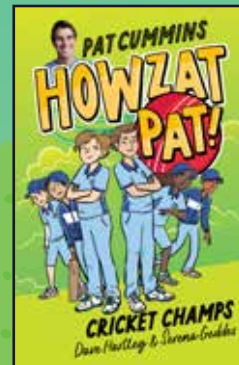
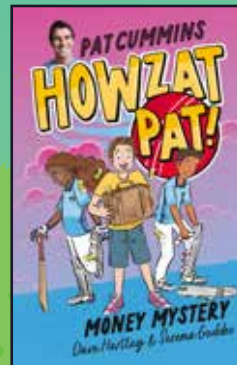
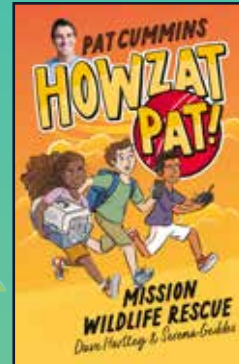
'You're basically reading an adventure straight from someone who lives and breathes cricket. How awesome!'

BETTER READING



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- The perfect book for your littlest sports lover!
- Adventures + Cricket = LOADS of fun!
- Pat Cummins is the Captain of the Australian Men's Test Team!!!



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.

September, 2026 & December, 2026
ISBN: 9781460764725 & 9781460764732
\$15.99 | 192 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
Ages 8+
Rights: World, all languages



CLEOPATRA: THE GIRL WHO WOULD BE KING (HEROES IN AN ANCIENT WORLD #1)

Jackie French

**BOOK 2
COMING
JUNE
2027!**

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- First book in a fabulous new series about the Ancient World from historian, best-selling author and national treasure, Jackie French
- Every kid is fascinated with the ancient world, and Jackie takes them right there with this richly imagined, historically detailed story of a young Cleopatra
- New book is set in Pompeii

PRAISE



GOOD READING MAGAZINE

'In this delightful romp through antiquity, we follow Cleopatra as she schemes her way back to power while learning what it takes to be a leader.'

BOOKS & PUBLISHING

'One of the coolest things about Cleopatra #1: The Girl Who Would Be King is how alive the ancient world feels.'

BETTER READING

AWARDS

ARA Historical Novel Prize
2026 Longlist

Forget what you know about Cleopatra, the Egyptian queen with a fantastic hairstyle. That's only part of the story. Before she was a ruler, Cleopatra was a girl with a fierce ambition: to become pharaoh.

When twelve-year-old Cleopatra and her father, Pharaoh Ptolemy XII, flee to ancient Rome in 59 BCE after Cleopatra's sister seizes the throne, they are in serious trouble. It's up to Cleopatra to raise enough gold to hire an army, gain the support of powerful allies, and take back her country's land.

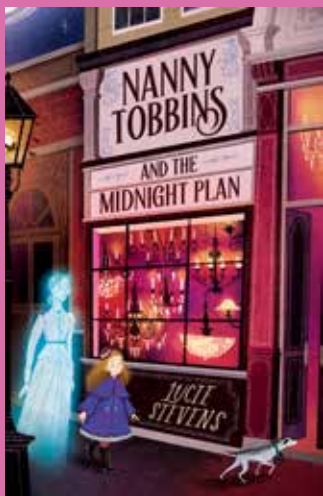
Three years later she had become the most famous pharaoh in history.

This is the story of how that year in ancient Rome might have changed Cleopatra's life, with daring escapes, crocodiles, pirates, shipwreck and encountering the intrepid Captain Fileas and Myra, the slave determined to be free.



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.

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



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Selected for the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge, 2026
- Sequel to the fabulously spooky (and funny) *R.I.P. Nanny Tobbins*

AWARDS

- ARA Historical Novel Prize 2026 Longlist

NANNY TOBBINS AND THE MIDNIGHT PLAN (NANNY TOBBINS, #2)

Lucie Stevens

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

Lucie Stevens is a children's writer who grew up in a semi-rural area of Dharug Country, north-west of Sydney. After working in Australian publishing houses for many years, she moved to Berlin, where she helped make education outreach programs for the UK and European Space Agencies. Now, having resettled in Gadigal Country, Sydney, Lucie works as a freelance editor for NGOs and not-for-profit organisations. She has authored and co-authored several books for the education market, on topics ranging from mudlarks to Mars. Lucie's debut children's novel, *R.I.P. Nanny Tobbins*, was long-listed for the ARA Historical Novel Prize.

June, 2026
ISBN 9781460766538
\$18.99 | 320 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
Ages 9+
Rights: World, all languages

1851, LONDON
Six months have passed since the grand opening of the Great Exhibition – and Albertine and her family couldn't be happier. But the season of good fortune ends abruptly when a Royal Jewel goes missing and Albertine's friend, dearest Blot, is accused of its theft. Determined to prove Blot's innocence, Papa launches an investigation. Yet despite his best efforts, the true thief cannot be found.

With time running short before Blot is imprisoned, Albertine hatches a plan. She will enlist the help of the grown-up with the sharpest eyes she knows: her ghost-governess, Nanny Tobbins. Residing in the graveyard has, however, turned Nanny quite odd and managing her is rather difficult. Will Nanny Tobbins' presence assist Albertine in clearing Blot's name, or will it make matters worse?

PRAISE FOR *R.I.P. NANNY TOBBINS*

'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



ANNETTE KELLERMAN: SWIMMING WONDER

Grantlee Kieza

The amazing true story of a woman who went from swimming champion to early Hollywood's highest paid star!

After a diagnosis of rickets as a young girl Annette took up swimming, and her extraordinary courage and determination made her an Australian champion, beating boys, breaking records, and astonishing huge crowds by diving from great heights.

At eighteen, Annette wanted to swim the English Channel and challenge endurance records. But it was her wearing of a one-piece swimming costume that changed fashion forever and encouraged many women and girls into the water, allowing them to swim freely.

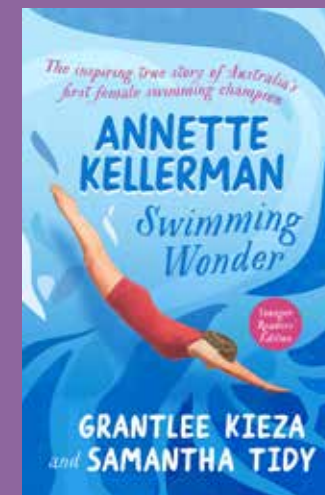
Thrilling audiences around the world with her breathtaking acts, Hollywood swiftly embraced her and she became a famous movie star.

Annette's appetite for excitement and thrills was legendary — once flinging herself into a pool of live crocodiles for one film and jumping from the wings of a biplane for another.

But despite her place in the world as a celebrity, it was Annette's belief that women and girls could be strong, independent, and healthy that changed the lives of millions.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Fascinating, inspiring and TRUE!
- A historical biography that reads like fiction
- Annette Kellerman made synchronised swimming



Grantlee Kieza OAM is an award-winning journalist and Australia's No. 1 bestselling historical biographer with more than twenty highly acclaimed books to his name. Kieza held senior editorial positions at *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Sunday Telegraph* and *The Courier-Mail* for many years and was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for his writing. He is a Walkley Award finalist, an ABIA shortlisted author for Biography, an Indie Award and Age Book of the Year shortlisted author for non-fiction. His nationally bestselling biographies include *Mary Penfold*, *Mr and Mrs Gould*, *Sister Viv*, *Flinders*, *The Remarkable Mrs Reibey*, *Hudson Fysh*, *Lawson*, *Banks*, *Macquarie*, *Banjo*, *Mrs Kelly*, *Monash* and *Bert Hinkler*.

March, 2027

ISBN: 9780733344046

\$22.99 | 288 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

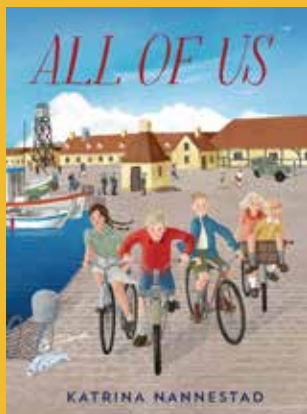
Ages 10+

Rights: World, all languages



The background of the image consists of a repeating pattern of wavy, organic shapes in two shades of pink. The lighter shade forms the base, while the darker shade creates a series of overlapping, rounded, wave-like patterns that flow across the entire frame.

OLDER READERS



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 *Frances Bloom* series, the *Olive of Groves* series, the *Red Dirt Diaries* series, the *Lottie Perkins* series, *The Story Writer's Handbook: Adventures in Creative Writing*, the 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*.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Katrina Nannestad is a multi-award-winning Australian author
- Educators love Katrina and her novel *Rabbit, Soldier, Angel, Thief* is a NSW Mentor Text
- Her work explores important and difficult topics with nuance, sensitivity and a background of extensive and detailed research

PRAISE

'Amazing and clever novel.'

GOOD READING MAGAZINE ON
ALL THE BEAUTIFUL THINGS

'Thrilling and powerful.'

BETTER READING ON
ALL THE BEAUTIFUL THINGS

'Katrina Nannestad's powerfully beautiful novel makes history sing.'

GOOD READING MAGAZINE ON
WE ARE WOLVES

ALL OF US

Katrina Nannestad

A new heart-wrenching, well-researched historical novel for middle-grade readers.

'The weirdest thing,' continues Tove, 'is that I don't feel any different to the rest of you.'

'That's because you're not!' snaps Birgitte. 'You're Danish.'

'So why do the Nazis hate me and not you?'

When twelve-year-old Viggo and his friends Finn, Tove, Birgitte and Konrad start writing rude letters to Hitler, it's just a game. But soon, they find themselves writing an underground newspaper, their words inspiring people all over Copenhagen to commit small acts of defiance.

Then news leaks of the Nazis' plans to round up all of Denmark's Jews in a single night. It's time for one huge act of defiance. Can Viggo and his friends work together to save Tove? Can an entire population work together to save their Jews?

From multi-award-winning Australian author Katrina Nannestad comes a high-stakes yet heart-warming novel full of bravery, kindness ... and the power of pocket mice.

November, 2026

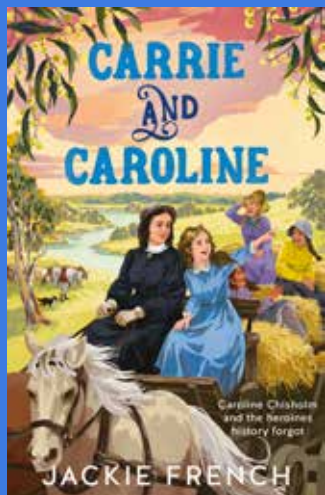
ISBN: 9780733343155

\$24.99 | 368 pages | 210 mm x 153 mm

Ages 10+

Rights: World, all languages

Rights Licensed: Swedish (HarperNordic)



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.

March, 2027
 ISBN: 9781460768006
 \$18.99 | 304 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm
 Ages 10+
 Rights: World, all languages

CARRIE AND CAROLINE

Jackie French

WHY YOU’LL LOVE IT!

- An important and unforgettable story
- Jackie French is more than one of Australia’s best-selling authors — she’s a national treasure

She is called ‘The mother of our nation’, but who was the real Caroline Chisholm?

In 1841 twelve-year-old orphan Carrie Murphy lands on the Sydney docks, one of tens of thousands of young girls abandoned by the British government who has sent them across the world to starve.

Rescued by Mrs Caroline Chisholm, Carrie joins the fight to set up the Female Immigrants’ Home — and the home she longs for too.

But when the Home closes months later, Carrie becomes the Lady Housekeeper for a wealthy squatter, to teach the stubborn ex-convict how to be a gentleman so his family can enter British society. As Carrie finds challenges, love and her own destiny, her friend and mentor Caroline becomes one of the most remarkable women in Australia’s history.

Filled with unforgettable characters and adventures, this is the story of the feminist and philanthropist Caroline Chisholm and the young women she sheltered, cared for — and inspired.



A RIVER I MUST BE

Kate Foster

A compelling and moving verse novel by award-winning author, Kate Foster.

*Like a river,
I must keep flowing,
finding a way through
if I want to survive.
I will adapt
and fit in at school
no matter the pain this causes me.*

Rebecca Tapia has started at a prestigious new school and is overwhelmed by the rules and expectations. With her mum away, and her dad facing challenges of his own, Rebecca's only way of surviving is to mask her autism.

A compelling and moving verse novel by award-winning author Kate Foster, who combines her heartfelt writing with an authentic view of autism and the daily pressure of masking.

And the joy of freeing yourself from that.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Kate Foster combines heart-felt writing with an authentic view of autism and the pressure of masking – and the joy of freeing yourself from that!
- Bestselling and award-winning author!
- Kate founded The ASLA Diversity in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand Children's Book Award in 2023

PRAISE

'Foster crafts a strong portrayal of a neurodivergent mind and the importance of inclusion and understanding... a wonderful book'

BOOKS + PUBLISHING

'This is authentic, lived-in representation at its very best.'

BETTER READING



Kate Foster is a children's author writing about friends, family, and dogs. Originally from a small town in the south-east of England, she now lives on the stunning Gold Coast in Australia with her family and second-hand dogs. She is passionate about encouraging and teaching a wider understanding of autism and mental illness via positive approach and representation.

August, 2026

ISBN 9781460768372

\$18.99 | 256 pp | 198x128 mm

Ages 10+

Rights: World, all languages

THIS IS HOW IT SHOULD BE



Gabrielle Tozer

How much would you sacrifice to live your dream life?

From best-selling popular YA rom-com author, Gabrielle Tozer, comes a fresh, funny — and fraught — story about being careful what you wish for.

'The weekend before I made my sister disappear started out like any other...'

Sixteen-year-old Leni Hart can't handle being in popular Serena's shadow for a second longer. So, during a school-excursion-gone-wrong, Leni takes matters into her own hands and signs a devilish deal that erases Serena — her older sister! — from the world.



WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- An award-winning author
- A funny, tender and insightful exploration of the trials and tribulations of having siblings and being sixteen

PRAISE

'Tender and tough, this gorgeous story of love, loss and friendship will pull you in heart-first.'

FIONA WOOD ON *REMINDE ME HOW THIS ENDS*

'It's rare to see grief explored in teen fiction, rarer still to see it handled in such a nuanced way.'

DANIELLE MILLER ON *REMINDE ME HOW THIS ENDS*

'Another great YA novel from Gabrielle Tozer.'

THE BOOK MUSE ON *THE UNEXPECTED MESS OF IT ALL*

'Gold Inky award-winning author Gabrielle Tozer's fifth YA novel, *The Unexpected Mess of it All*, displays her trademark empathy, humour and cheekiness.'

BOOKS + PUBLISHING

GOVER
TO
COME

Gabrielle Tozer is an award-winning author based in regional New South Wales. Her latest works include *The Unexpected Mess of It All*, which won the 2025 ACT Literary Award for Young Adult Fiction, beloved picture book *Before We Met* (illustrated by the award-winning Sophie Beer) and *Can't Say it Went to Plan*. Over the years, Gabrielle has received honours including the State Library of Victoria's Gold Inky Award for her debut YA novel, *The Intern*, and appeared on the Children's Book Council of Australia's Notable List for Older Readers for *Remind Me How This Ends*.

May, 2027

ISBN: 9780733344053

\$19.99 | 352 pages | 198 mm x 128 mm

Ages 13+

Rights: World, all languages

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.

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.

Brooke Blurton, proud Noongar-Yamatji woman and Australian TV star, and Melanie Saward, proud Bigambul and Wakka Wakka woman and acclaimed author, have created a heartfelt story of friendship, rivalry, ballet, footy, secrets, and believing in a future big enough to hold all your dreams.

AWARDS (A GOOD KIND OF TROUBLE)

- Shortlisted – The Ethel Turner Prize for Young People's Literature 2026
- Shortlisted – The Readings Prize Young Adult 2025
- Shortlisted – Wilderness Society's Karajia Award for Children's Literature, Fiction 2026

PRAISE

'encouraging and warm-hearted'

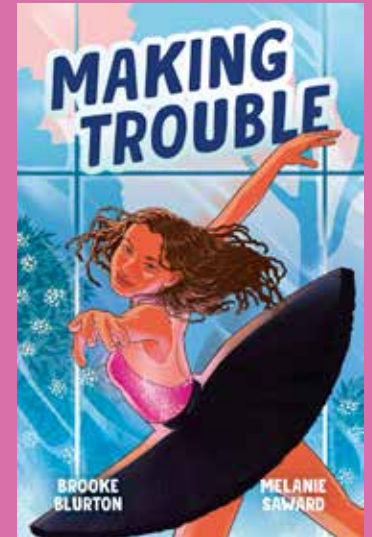
BOOKS & PUBLISHING ON
A GOOD KIND OF TROUBLE

'Highly recommended'

READPLUS ON A GOOD KIND OF TROUBLE

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Brooke champions youth, focusing on First Nations, queer, and people of colour in mental health, while writing stories that all kids can relate to



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

Ages 13 +

Rights: World, all languages

NON-FICTION

STICKY ICKY SLIME MAKERS

Dr Claire Stevens, Adele K Thomas

Dr Claire Stevens, Aussie vet, uncovers DISGUSTING animal facts that will make you squeal, squirm and laugh!

WARNING!

Things are about to get super gooey ooey! Did you know there are millions of amazing SLIMY creatures on the planet?

I'm Dr Claire, vet and lifelong animal lover, and along with my dog Frankie, I'm going to show you that slimy animals are UNIQUE and INCREDIBLE. And maybe a bit sticky, ooey and gloopy too ...

Time to get TOTALLY grossed out in the name of SCIENCE! But DON'T WORRY! You're going to learn not all SLIME BAGS are BAD. Animals that ooze slime do so for very good reasons ... GENIUS reasons in fact! Revolting SLIME is useful stuff!

Dr Claire Stevens and Adele K Thomas join scientific and creative forces to bring you an incredible, fully illustrated and truly ICKY book!

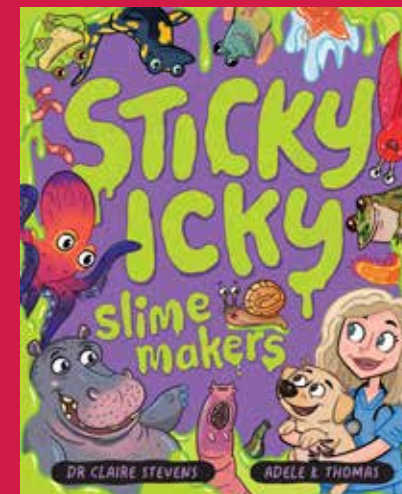
PRAISE

'This colourfully presented book, packed with entertaining gross facts and delivered with plenty of humour, including all the farts, poo and vomit young readers desire, is sure to be enjoyed again and again.'

READPLUS ON GROSS THINGS ANIMALS EAT

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- Vet Dr Claire Stevens uncovers amazing animal facts that will make you squeal, squirm, and laugh!
- An introduction to biology in a fun, quirky way along with a conservation message
- Each page is highly illustrated in full colour and includes 'fun fact' break out boxes and dynamic text



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.

Adele K Thomas has a background in TV and feature animation and covers areas of design for animation production, children's books, apps, education and 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, 2027

ISBN: 9781460766071

\$26.99 | 32 pages | 300 mm x 240 mm

Ages 5+

Rights: World, all languages

**COVER
TO
COME**

Costa Georgiadis is a landscape architect, environmental educator and television presenter who has an all-consuming passion for plants and people. He knows how to bring out the best in each and takes great pleasure in bringing them together.

As co-creator and host of Costa's Garden Odyssey for SBS, he caught the attention of a nation. Since 2013, Costa has continued his journey as the much-loved host of one of the ABC's most iconic and Logie award-winning programs, Gardening Australia. His presenting work with Gardening Australia has been acknowledged with a Silver Logie.

May, 2027
ISBN: 9780733343414
\$24.99 | 32 pages | 250 mm x 240 mm
Ages 4+
Rights: World, all languages

COSTA'S GARDEN: VEGETABLES

COSTA'S GARDEN #3

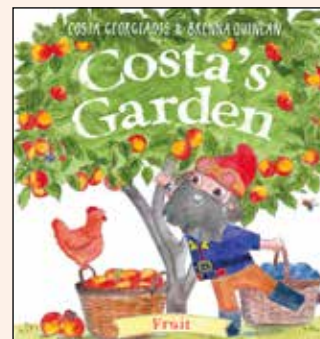
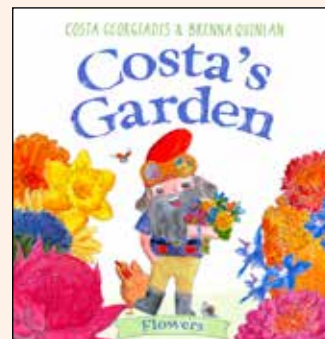
Costa Georgiadis, Brenna Quinlan

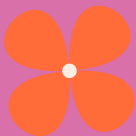
Join everyone's favourite gardener as he shrinks down to the size of a mouse to share the magic and wonder of the natural world with young readers.

Friendly, fun and making gardening cool, Costa is endlessly excited by the natural world — and he'd love to communicate that curiosity to kids and showcase the things around us we can treasure and cultivate, such as bees, veggies, flowers, soil and trees.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT!

- A fun and gorgeously illustrated introduction to the garden! Kids will love learning where their vegetables come from!
- With Costa's sense of humour and **ICONIC** look, this series will be loved by parents and kids alike!





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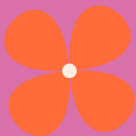


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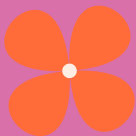
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