



BOLOGNA BOOK FAIR 2024  
**BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS**  
RIGHTS GUIDE



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# CONTENTS

## RECENT SALES

### PICTURE BOOKS

- 1 BEACH SONG / Ros Moriarty, illustrated by Samantha Campbell
- 2 MY DAD IS THE BEST / Nic McPickle, illustrated by Tommy Doyle
- 3 WAITING FOR SANTA / Lucy Cochran, illustrated by Heidi McKinnon
- 4 ETHEL THE PENGUIN / Ursula Dubosarsky, illustrated by Christopher Nielsen
- 5 WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT / Lian Tanner,  
illustrated by Jonathan Bentley
- 6 THE MOST AMAZING THING / Ian Hayward Robinson,  
illustrated by Matt Shanks
- 7 FOOTPRINT / Phil Cummings, illustrated by Sally Soweol Han

### PICTURE BOOKS NON-FICTION

- 8 HOW TO MEASURE THE OCEAN / Inda Ahmad Zahri
- 9 HOW TO MOVE A ZOO / Kate Simpson, illustrated by Owen Swan
- 10 TREE / Claire Saxby, illustrated by Jess Racklyeft
- 11 WALKING THE ROCK COUNTRY IN KAKADU / Diane Lucas and Ben Tyler,  
illustrated by Emma Long
- 12 YOUR BRAIN IS A LUMP OF GOO / Idan Ben-Barak,  
illustrated by Christopher Nielsen
- 13 SOUTH WITH THE SEABIRDS / Jess McGeachin
- 14 UNREAL / Kate Simpson, illustrated by Leila Rudge
- 15 IS MY PHONE READING MY MIND? / Dr Matt Agnew

### GRAPHIC NOVELS

- 16 ULTRAWILD / Steve Mushin
- 18 WHEN THE WORLD WAS SOFT / Juluwarlu Group Aboriginal Corporation
- 19 YOU / Armin Greder

# CONTENTS

## ILLUSTRATED JUNIOR FICTION

- 20 MISS MARY-KATE MARTIN'S GUIDE TO MONSTERS SERIES /  
Karen Foxlee, illustrated by Freda Chiu
- 22 BRAVEPAW AND THE HEARTSTONE OF ALLURIA: BRAVEPAW 1 /  
L.M. Wilkinson, illustrated by Lavanya Naidu

## MIDDLE GRADE ILLUSTRATED FICTION

- 23 HI FROM OUTER SPACE / Fiona Katauskas
- 24 DRAGONS OF HALLOW TITLES / Lian Tanner
- 26 THUNDERHEAD / Sophie Beer

## MIDDLE GRADE FICTION

- 27 BRAVE KĀHU AND THE PŌRANGI MAGPIE / Shelley Burne-Field
- 28 LANDOVEL SERIES / Emily Rodda
- 29 THE APPRENTICE WITNESSER / Bren MacDibble
- 30 SMOKE & MIRRORS / Barry Jonsberg
- 31 THE RAVEN'S EYE RUNAWAYS / Claire Mabey

## MIDDLE GRADE NON-FICTION

- 32 MAWSON IN ANTARCTICA / Joanna Grochowicz

## YOUNG ADULT FICTION

- 33 MY FAMILY AND OTHER SUSPECTS / Kate Emery
- 34 I'M NOT REALLY HERE / Gary Lonesborough
- 35 COMES THE NIGHT / Isobelle Carmody



# RECENT SALES



**PINK SANTA** by Tanya Hennessy and Ben Whitehouse  
North American English to Macmillan/Henry Holt BFYR

**MY LIFE AS AN ALPHABET** by Barry Jonsberg  
North American Musical Theatre to Times Square Productions

**ULTRAWILD** by Steve Mushin  
North American English to Lerner/Graphic Universe; German to Rowohlt/Rotfuchs; Chinese Simplified to United Sky

**THESE LITTLE FEET** by Hayley Rawsthorne and Briony Stewart  
North American English to Marble Press; Italian to Mondadori

**FEELINGS ARE WILD** by Sophy Williams and Gavin Scott  
North American English to Macmillan/Odd Dot; Hebrew to Tchelet; Greek to Sofia

**HONEY AND THE VALLEY OF HORSES** by Wendy Orr  
North American English to Pajama Press

**PICASSO AND THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH** by Anna Fienberg  
Russian to Foliant

**CATCH ME IF I FALL** by Barry Jonsberg  
Turkish to Timas; Korean to Thoughts of a Tree; English Education in Germany to Ernst Klett; Italian to Terre di Mezzo; and previously sold North American English to Groundwood; German to Penguin/cbj

**WE DIDN'T THINK IT THROUGH** by Gary Lonesborough  
Slovenian to Miš; French to Akata

**EDDY, EDDY** by Kate De Goldi  
North & South American English to Candlewick; UK & Commonwealth English to Old Barn; Russian to Foliant

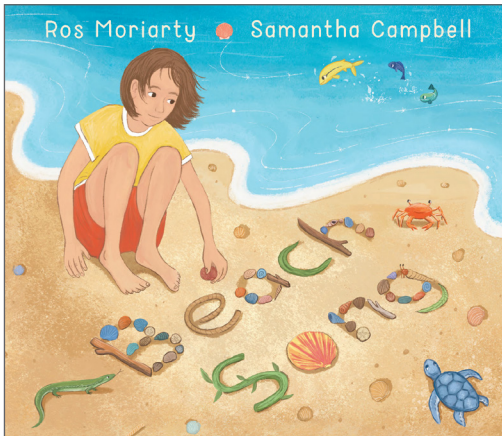
**10PM QUESTION** by Kate De Goldi  
North American English to Candlewick renewal; UK & Commonwealth English to Old Barn

**YOUR BRAIN IS A LUMP OF GOO** by Idan Ben-Barak and Christopher Nielsen  
Korean to Eum

**OLLIE AND BEA** by Renee Trembl  
Greek to Tziampiris-Pyramida

## BEACH SONG

Ros Moriarty, illustrated by Samantha Campbell



A beautiful, expressive story that celebrates a child's love of the beach.

*A day at the seashore can be full of surprise, wonder and excitement.*

*Leap through the waves like a dolphin.*

*Glide through the water like a fish.*

*Soar along the sand with the seagulls.*

*What will you do when you go to the beach?*

A lyrical story that celebrates the joy found exploring the coast from the bestselling author of *Kangaroos Hop* and the highly acclaimed illustrator of *Bidhi Galing*.

**Ros Moriarty** is the author of many books for very young readers. She grew up in wild, pristine places in lutruwita/Tasmania, which inspired her love of writing about the natural world. Ros has spent most of her professional life as creative and managing director of leading Australian design studio, Balarinji, and is co-founder of the not-for-profit Moriarty Foundation. She lives on Cammeraygal Country in Sydney.

**Samantha Campbell** is a children's book illustrator and graphic designer. She is descended from the Dagoman people and lives in Mparntwe (Alice Springs) with her family. She draws inspiration from her childhood growing up in remote Aboriginal communities across the Top End. Her first picture book, *Alfred's War* (written by Rachel bin Salleh), was short-listed for the Premier's Literary Awards and the Speech Pathology Awards. Since then, she has illustrated numerous picture books including *Aunty's Wedding*, *Freedom Day*, and *My Deadly Boots*.



# MY DAD IS THE BEST

Nic McPickle, illustrated by Tommy Doyle



**Whether big or small, scaled or furry, dads always know how to make us laugh!**

*On a scale of 1-to-Dad, my dad is off the charts. He tells bad jokes. He sings old songs and blames the dog for all his farts.*

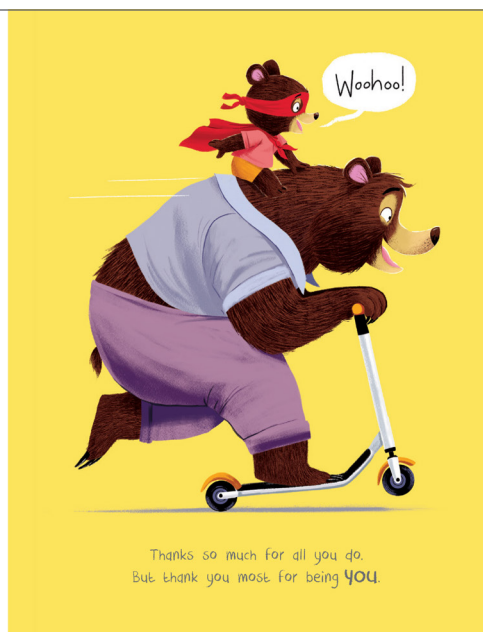
*Is it just my dad? Or is it other dads too?*

*Does your dad say this stuff to you?*

*My Dad Is the Best captures the fun-loving and heart-warming bond between father and child, from groan-inducing dad jokes to all those precious moments spent together.*

Filled with dynamic and bold illustrations, this book is perfect for dads of all shapes, sizes and species.

**Nic McPickle** lives in Melbourne, and is the author of the bestselling picture book *Fire Truck Santa*.



**Tommy Doyle**, a Melbourne-based illustrator, ceramist and graphic designer, is known for his unique ability to blend bold simplicity with a nuanced understanding of storytelling through art. Originally from Montreal, his move to Australia in 2007 marked the beginning of a journey that enriched his artistic perspective. When not creating, Tommy can be found exploring the world with his husband and chihuahua.

# WAITING FOR SANTA

Lucy Cochran, illustrated by Heidi McKinnon



Inspired by a true adventure – this is a hilarious and relatable Christmas story worth waiting for!

*'Only 702 more elf-steps until Santa!' says Ren.*

*'I need a coffee,' says Mum.*

*'I need a phone charger,' says Dad.*

*'I need the bathroom!' says Harry.*

*'MEOOOOWWWWW,' says Moloko.*

Ren and Harry are very excited to see Santa.

Just around the next corner and they'll be there, right?  
WRONG!

The line is looooong, and is it possible that bringing their cat to a crowded department store wasn't The Best Idea the kids have ever had?

But it's Christmas time, and there is magic in the air...

**Lucy Cochran** is an award-winning advertising professional. She's been a panellist on *Gruen* and has worked in Sydney, Melbourne, Amsterdam and NYC. Lucy also studies psychology, volunteers at Lifeline and currently resides in Melbourne with her husband and two daughters.

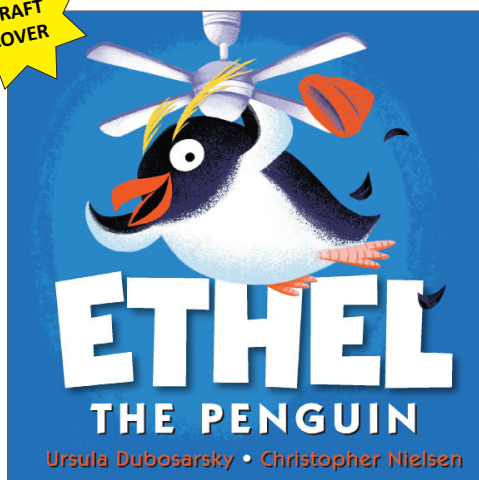


Illustrator **Heidi McKinnon** has a background in art and design. Her books are mostly based on true stories, except for one. She is the author and illustrator of many books, which have been published around the world, including *I Just Ate My Friend*, *Baz and Benz*, *There's No Such Thing and Floof*. She lives in Melbourne.

# ETHEL THE PENGUIN

Ursula Dubosarsky, illustrated by Christopher Nielsen

DRAFT  
COVER



A funny picture book about Ethel, a charming penguin who is always getting in trouble from bestselling and award-winning creators.

*Ethel the Penguin's in my class*

*But she doesn't sit next to me*

*Miss Ink likes Ethel to sit by herself*

*She can be a bit lawless you see!*

An exuberant story about the vicarious joy of an unruly friend.

**Ursula Dubosarsky** was born and grew up in Sydney and wanted to be a writer from the age of six. She is now the author of over 60 books for children and young adults, and her work is published all over the world. She has won several national literary awards, including the NSW Premier's Literary Award a record five times, and internationally she has been nominated for both the Hans Christian Andersen Award and the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Prize. In 2020-2021 she was the Australian Children's Laureate.

**Christopher Nielsen** is an award-winning Sydney-based illustrator specialising in children's books, advertising and packaging. His artwork is inspired by a passion for mid-century design and has been short-listed for the CBCA Crichton Award and acknowledged by The British Book Design and Publication Awards, AGDA Awards, 3x3 Awards, Communication Arts, American Illustration and Society Of Illustrators NY. He has received Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in the Illustrators Australia Awards. [www.chrisillo.com](http://www.chrisillo.com)

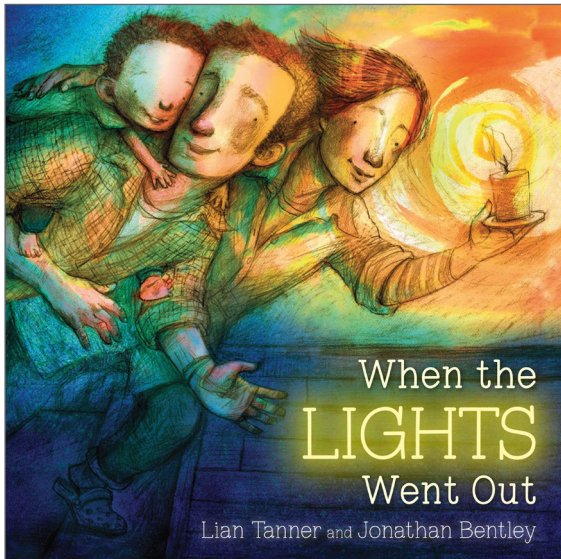
Ethel the penguin shouted back,  
'I'll **never** come down, not me!  
I love to be on a Ferris wheel,  
Way up above the sea!



DRAFT  
SPREAD

# WHEN THE LIGHTS WENT OUT

Lian Tanner, illustrated by Jonathan Bentley



A cosy picture book about finding warmth and connection in community from the award-winning team behind *Ella and the Ocean*.

*The night was frosty dark but we were snug and cosy in the kitchen. Then SNAP! The lights went out.*

In the dark of night, a neighbourhood becomes a new country to explore, and an ordinary winter evening turns into a family adventure.

A reassuring story about navigating uncertainty and finding comfort in community.

**Lian Tanner** is an a multi award-winning children's author and playwright. She is a master storyteller brilliant at vividly exciting fantasy adventure series including *The Keepers*, *The Rogues*, and *The Hidden* along with other MG and picture book titles. Her work is acclaimed, sold and loved around the world. [www.liantanner.com.au](http://www.liantanner.com.au).

**Jonathan Bentley** is the illustrator of over forty wonderful picture books (six of which he wrote), including *Ella and the Ocean* (Winner Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children's Literature, NSW Premier's Literary Awards 2020), *Windows* and *The Second Sky* by Patrick Guest (CBCA Shortlist 2018), *Tales from a Tall Forest* by Shaun Micallef, *First Day* by Andrew Daddo, *Blue Sky Yellow Kite* by Janet A Holmes, *Mo & Crow* by Jo Kasch and *Where is Bear?* [www.jonathanbentleybooks.com](http://www.jonathanbentleybooks.com)



# THE MOST AMAZING THING

Ian Hayward Robinson, illustrated by Matt Shanks



A remarkable picture book about wonder and hope that explores the meaning of life in ways that we can all understand.

*'What is the most amazing thing?' asks Henry.*

*'Life,' says his sister.*

*'The mind,' says his brother.*

*'The universe,' says his father.*

*Henry can see these things are amazing, but are they the MOST amazing thing?*

Philosopher and primary school teacher Ian Hayward Robinson teams up with the bestselling illustrator of *Rosie the Rhinoceros*, Matt Shanks, to show young readers that while the world is full of wonders, the search for meaning is an individual quest.

**Ian Hayward Robinson** is a former head of Professional Writing and Editing at Chisholm Institute where he taught for 14 years. A trained primary school teacher, Ian has written over two dozen mathematics textbooks for primary schools, was a tutor in Philosophy at the University of Melbourne and taught Philosophy of Education at Coburg Teachers College. He is President Emeritus of the Rationalist Society of Australia. He has had two full-length plays performed at La Mama in Melbourne and won several one-act-play awards. *The Most Amazing Thing* is his first picture book.



**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. Simplicity, humour and the art of the unseen are strong themes in his illustration work, and he works primarily in watercolour. Matt was born in Sydney and now lives in Melbourne with his partner and cat.

[www.mattshanks.com.au](http://www.mattshanks.com.au)

# FOOTPRINT

**Phil Cummings, illustrated by Sally Soweol Han**



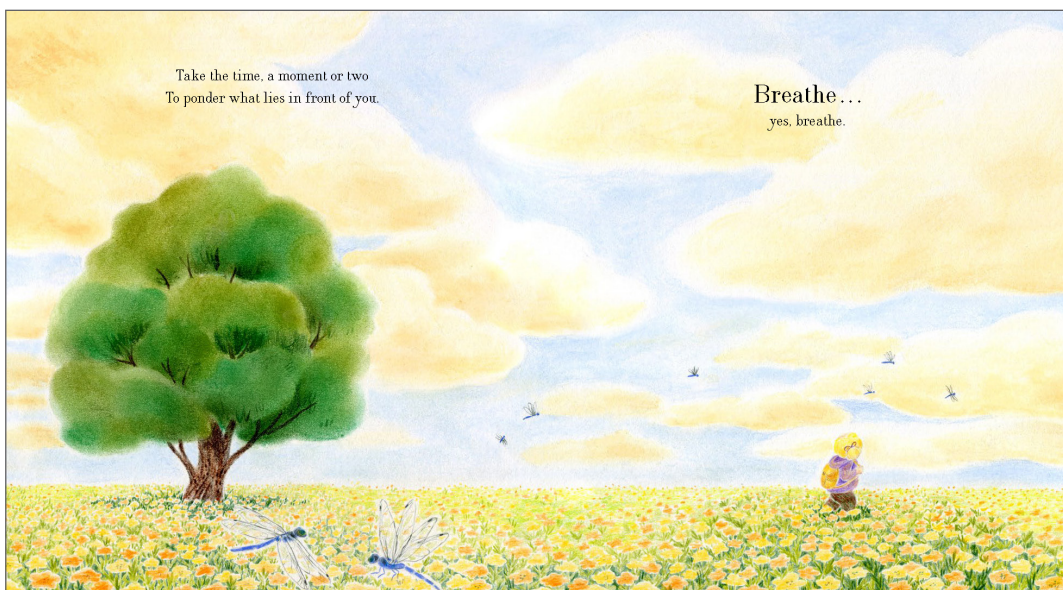
A unique, lyrical picture book that empowers children to think about the natural environment in a mindful and positive way from one of Australia's most prolific writers, with stunningly beautiful illustrations from an exciting up-and-coming illustrator.

*You carry hope and future need  
With careful footprint, plant the seed.  
Breathe... Yes, breathe.*

Embark on a lyrical, meditative journey through nature's tapestry, where every step you take leaves a legacy of wonder and protection for the environment. Explore forests and mountains, cities and fields, and animals in their natural habitats as you ponder the footprint humans have left on the Earth.

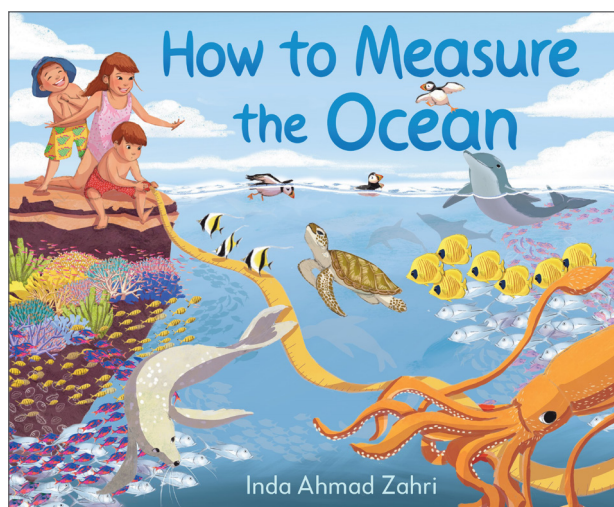
**Phil Cummings** is the author of over seventy books for children, from picture books to novels. His work is highly acclaimed, published throughout the world and includes a number of CBCA Notable Book honours. His picture book, *BOY*, won the 2017 Children's Peace Literature Award, was shortlisted in the 2018 CBCA awards and named an outstanding book for children with disabilities by IBBY, the International Board of Books for Young people. Recently, Phil has been involved in co-writing musicals for children which have been performed across the globe. [www.philcummings.com](http://www.philcummings.com).

**Sally Soweol Han** is a Sydney-based illustrator with a passion and flair for children's books. She is the author and illustrator of *Tiny Wonders*, and illustrated *Sunshine at Bedtime* by Clare Helen Welsh and *Spellhound* by Lian Tanner.



# HOW TO MEASURE THE OCEAN

Inda Ahmad Zahri



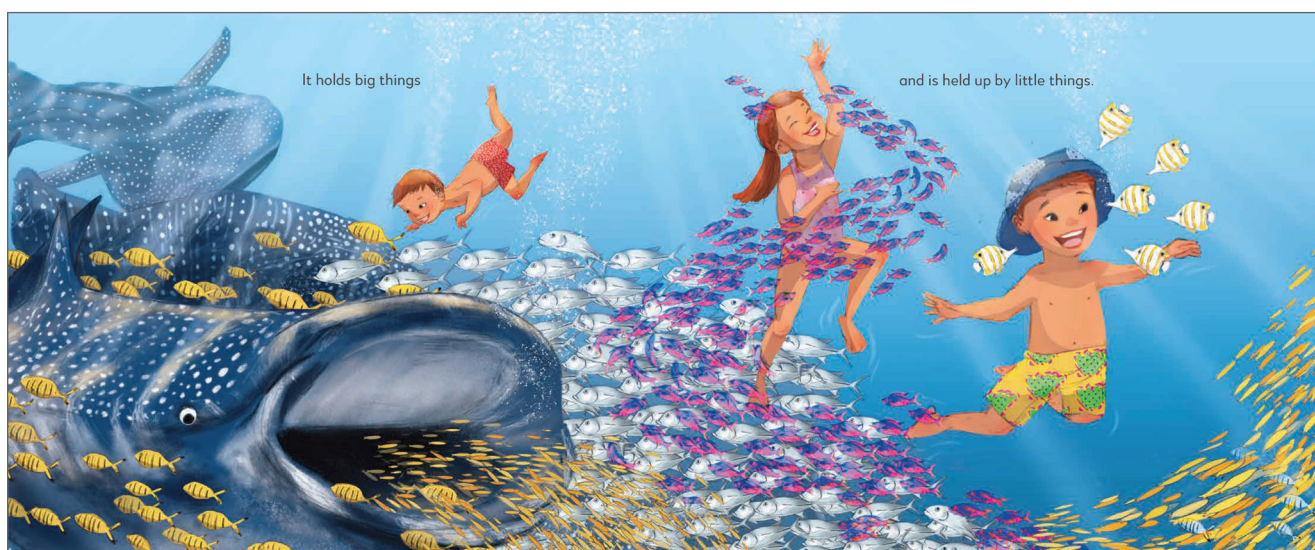
How DO you measure something as vast and dynamic as the ocean? A poetic invitation to explore the shallows and depths of the ocean, sparking curiosity and wonder while introducing early maths concepts along the way.

*The ocean can be difficult to measure.  
That doesn't mean you shouldn't try.  
You can work most things out,  
once you know what you're measuring.*

A lyrical exploration of the beauty of maths and the wonders of the ocean.

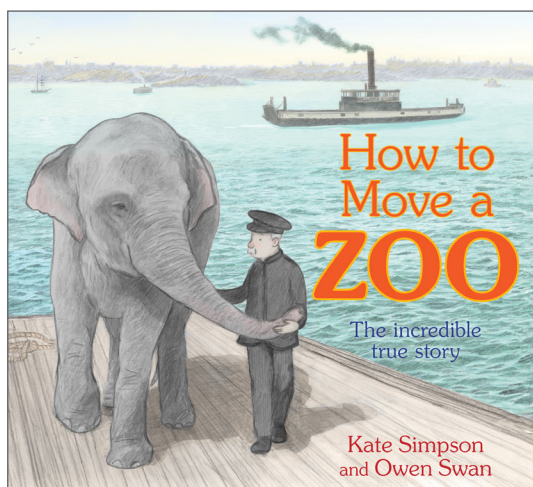
'Using simple language, Zahri skilfully links the boundless ocean with the infinite value of numbers ... The illustrations open with energetic scenes of the vibrant ocean waves, bright colours highlight sea life and coral, and a map and diagram of the water cycle support understanding.' **Books+Publishing**

**Inda Ahmad Zahri** seems to always have a toe in one world and a pinkie in another. She trained as a surgical doctor, but now spends much of her time writing and illustrating stories for children. Originally from Kuala Lumpur, she now splits her time between her garden home in Meanjin/Brisbane and a sandy spot in the Middle East. Across her many worlds, however, is her enduring love of books, the ocean and Malaysian rice dishes. Inda is the author of several picture books including CBCA Notable *Salih* and Speech Pathology Award short-listed *Night Lights*. She is the author and illustrator of *The Month That Makes The Year* and *How To Measure The Ocean*. [www.indabinda.com](http://www.indabinda.com)



## HOW TO MOVE A ZOO

Kate Simpson, illustrated by Owen Swan



The true story of how at the beginning of the 20th century Jessie the elephant walked from Sydney's Moore Park Zoo to her spacious new home in the Taronga Zoological Park.

It was still dark when Mr Miller opened the gates of the old zoo, but he wasn't scared because he wasn't alone. He was with Jessie the elephant and together they were going to walk through the city streets to the ferry at Fort Macquarie and on to Jessie's spacious new home.

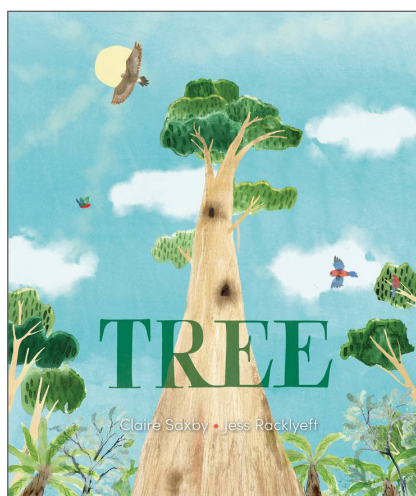
Jessie's surprising journey was unlike any other and it brought a little warmth to the city on that brisk September morning in 1916.

**Kate Simpson** was raised on a diet of children's books, but it was her fascination with science that led her to her first career as a chemical engineer. Following the birth of her children, Kate re-discovered her love of picture books and soon decided to try her hand at writing them. Kate now juggles a full-time job as an engineer with her writing work. Her books feature Australian history, science, curious kids and powerful women. **Owen Swan** is an award-winning Australian illustrator whose work includes *Out by Angela May George* (Picture Book of The Year CBCA Shortlist & winner of the AAF Book Award for Children's Literature), *My Friend Tertius* by Corinne Fenton (a CBCA Notable); the bestselling picture book *Anzac Biscuits*, along with *Newspaper Hats* by Phil Cummings (winner of the Chronos Prize for Literature in France).



## TREE

Claire Saxby, illustrated by Jess Racklyeft



A journey of wonder and discovery that explores life in and around a mighty tree from the bottom of its roots up to the tips of its upper branches.

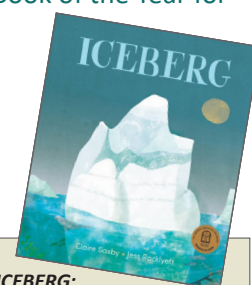
Can you see the forest on this misty-morning mountain? Can you see where the tree stands? It is the tallest in this forest of tall trees. This tree is older than those who find it, younger than the land it grows from. Between sapwood and heartwood, water rises and energy flows. Listen to the leaves bustle. Smell the forest air. This is the world of the tree.

In the vein of *Iceberg* – marrying deep scientific research, lyrical language and captivating illustrations – multi-award-winning creators Claire Saxby and Jess Racklyeft return exploring the life in and around a mountain ash, including a stunning fold-out page showing the full length of the tree.

Claire Saxby's work has won several awards including CBCA Honour Book, a NSW Premier's Literary Award, a SCBWI Crystal Kite Award, an Environment Award for Children's Literature, an Educational Publishing Award and the Whitley Award multiple times. She is widely curious about just about everything and passionate about encouraging curiosity and wonder. [www.claresaxby.com](http://www.claresaxby.com). Jess Racklyeft works mainly in watercolours and ink and her illustrations often combine collage – either on paper or digitally assembled. Jess has written and/or illustrated nearly 30 titles and won several illustration accolades including CBCA Picture Book of the Year for *Iceberg* and another two CBCA Picture Book Notables. [www.jessesmess.com](http://www.jessesmess.com)



Down on the ground, a boulder-big wombat  
tears at tufty grass. Chews.  
Wallabies thump by and the wombat barrels  
away through the undergrowth.  
A bush rat digs for fungi in the crevices  
between moss-covered buttresses.  
A boobook owl swoops.



**On *ICEBERG*:**

**Rights sold:** North American English and French (Groundwood); French ex NA (Editions Circonflexe)

**WINNER:** 2022 CBCA Picture Book of the Year

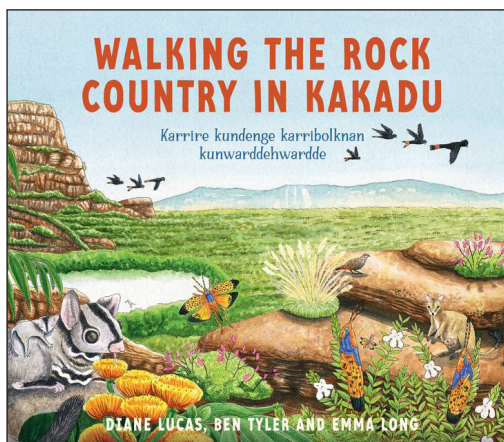
**SHORTLISTED:** 2022 Children's Literature Award – Adelaide Festival Awards

'A visual and literary masterpiece.'

Children's Books Daily

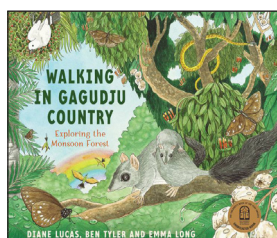
# WALKING THE ROCK COUNTRY IN KAKADU

Diane Lucas and Ben Tyler, illustrated by Emma Long



Walk with us through stunning rock country in Australia's iconic Kakadu National Park, learning about the plants, animals and Kundjeyhmi culture along the way.

Diane Lucas, Ben Tyler and Emma Long – the team behind the CBCA-shortlisted *Walking in Gagudju Country* – share stories, knowledge and their love of one of Australia's most ancient and beautiful ecosystems. Emma's beautifully rendered images bring to life its rich and varied plant and animal life, encouraging readers to see, hear, smell and feel the land and experience how Aboriginal people have lived and walked Country for thousands of years.



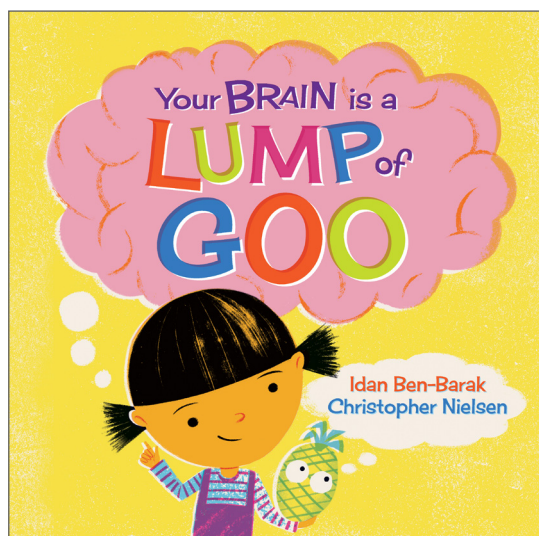
**Diane Lucas** grew up exploring the bush in New South Wales. She moved to Kakadu in her twenties, worked as a schoolteacher on an Aboriginal outstation and in turn was taught many things about the bush. She was encouraged by the elders to write about the land and get stories to children. They have supported her efforts as an educator with her children's books, the first being *Walking with the Seasons in Kakadu*. Since then she has had seven others. **Ben Tyler** is a Biniŋ entrepreneur and founder of bush food brand

Kakadu Kitchen. He lives in Darwin on Larrakia country and returns home to visit his family at their remote outstation at Patonga Homestead, located beside the Jim Jim Creek in Kakadu National Park. The community includes close relatives from Tiwi Islands and welcomes family, friends and visitors into their busy, noisy, joyful billabong home. **Emma Long** lives in Darwin, works as an illustrator and an art educator, and exhibits regularly across the Northern Territory. They are inspired by the fresh, raw beauty of nature and feel most at home in the bush with a brush in hand.



# YOUR BRAIN IS A LUMP OF GOO

Idan Ben-Barak, illustrated by Christopher Nielsen



A funny exploration of the biggest and most mysterious organ in the human body from the award-winning author of *Do Not Lick This Book*.

Hi, I'm your brain.

Here are some things you should know about me:

I'm about the size of a pineapple.

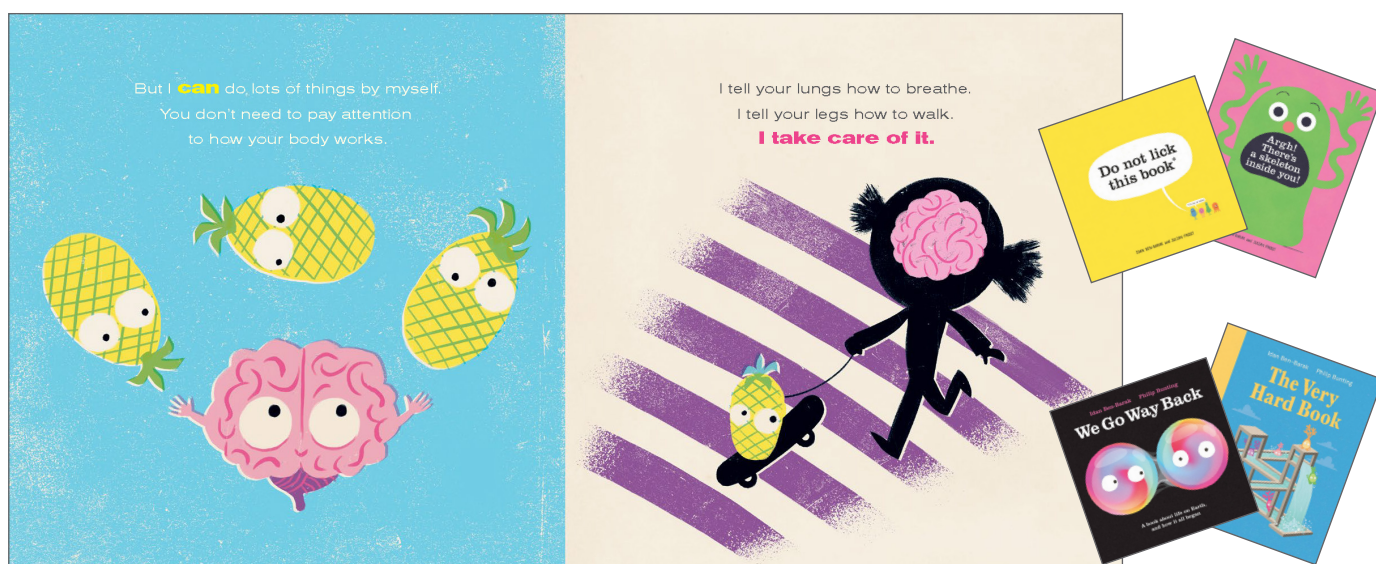
I sit behind your eyes. I look like a big walnut (but gooey). I'm not a computer.

So, what do I do? Oh, just about everything.

A fun-filled book made *by* brains, *about* brains, *for* brains.

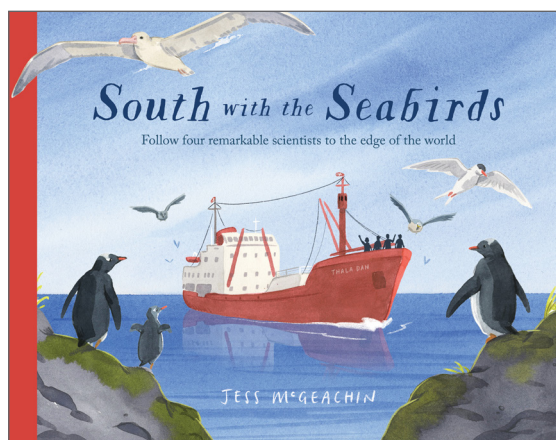
**Idan Ben-Barak** writes science books, usually for children. They've been translated into over twenty languages and won several awards. He lives in Melbourne with his family. Sometimes, after they go to bed, he plays his guitar a bit. Idan has degrees in microbiology and in the history and philosophy of science, a diploma in library studies, and a day job that has very little to do with any of the above. [www.idanbb.com](http://www.idanbb.com)

**Christopher Nielsen** is an Australian author/illustrator specialising in bringing joy and wonder to children through his art and storytelling. His illustration is 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* received the CBCA Honour Award for Picture Book of the Year.



## SOUTH WITH THE SEABIRDS

Jess McGeachin



The captivating and inspiring true story of four remarkable female scientists and their work in the sub-Antarctic, from CBCA award-winning author and illustrator Jess McGeachin.

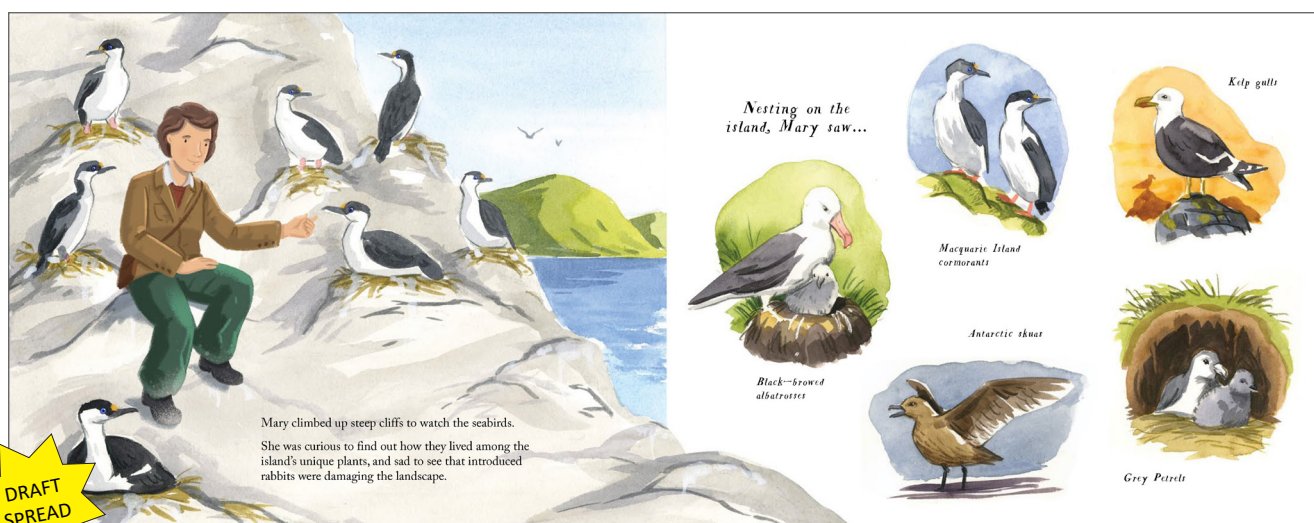
In 1959, the first female scientists to join an Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition travelled to an island at the edge of the world. They were greeted by giant seabirds, snorting seals and penguins as far as the eye could see.

Join their exciting journey south and discover their incredible legacy.

An historical yet timeless story about pursuing dreams and pushing boundaries.



Jess McGeachin is an author and illustrator living in Naarm (Melbourne). His debut picture book, *Fly*, was published in 2019 and was shortlisted for the Children's Book Council of Australia and Queensland Literary Awards. Jess has since published nine books locally and internationally, with more on the way. His first two non-fiction books, *Deep* and *Kind*, were published in 2022. *Deep* was the winner of the 2023 CBCA Eve Pownall Award. *Kind* and *The Tree at Number 43* were the co-winners of the 2023 Environment Awards for Children's Literature. Jess draws quite literally from a day job at Melbourne Museum, where he's lucky enough to help design exhibitions and occasionally get lost in the basement. [www.jessmcgeachin.com](http://www.jessmcgeachin.com)



## UNREAL

Kate Simpson, illustrated by Leila Rudge



Guess which of the weird and wonderful exhibits are real and which are fake in this sumptuous collection of extraordinary animals and plants.

*There's been a mix-up at the Museum - some of the displays from the Myths and Legends exhibit have snuck into the Natural History wing.*

*We have to sort it out, but how can we tell fact from fiction? Animal from apparition? Monster from megafauna?*

Kids will have fun guessing which animals and plants are real and which are fake in this extraordinary exhibition of the strange and wonderful animals and plants that inhabit our world ... and our imaginations. *Unreal* is also a brilliant guide to help us know what to look for when tracking down truths.

**Kate Simpson** is a children's author and bookworm who loves facts and fiction in equal measure. She is also a chemical engineer who believes that curiosity can change the world. [www.katesimpsonbooks.com](http://www.katesimpsonbooks.com)

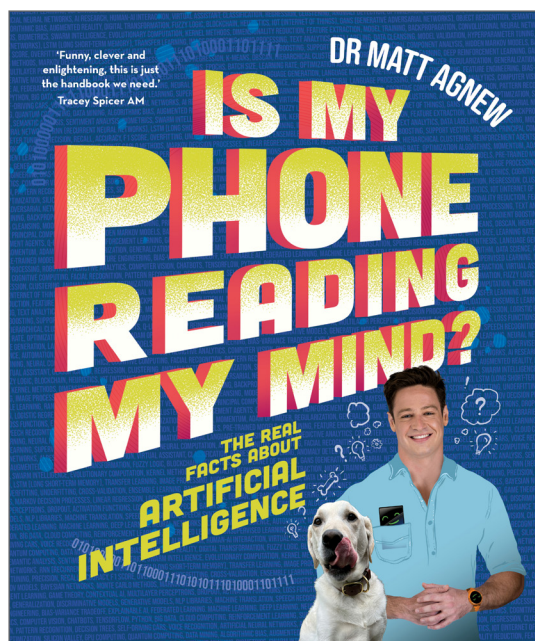
**Leila Rudge** is an award-winning illustrator and picture book writer living on Awabakal Country (Newcastle). After completing an Illustration Degree at Bath Spa University in England, Leila headed to Australia in search



of sunshine. She has written and illustrated over fifteen children's books, including the CBCA Honour Book *Gary* and the CBCA short-listed *Winston and the Indoor Cat*. Leila's work is a mixture of watercolour and pencil, all hand-rendered onto big sheets of watercolour paper ready to be scanned into picture book pages. [www.leilarudge.com](http://www.leilarudge.com)

## IS MY PHONE READING MY MIND?

Dr Matt Agnew



### THE REAL FACTS ABOUT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

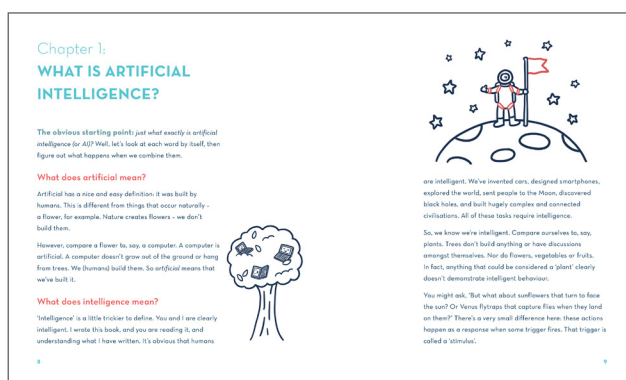
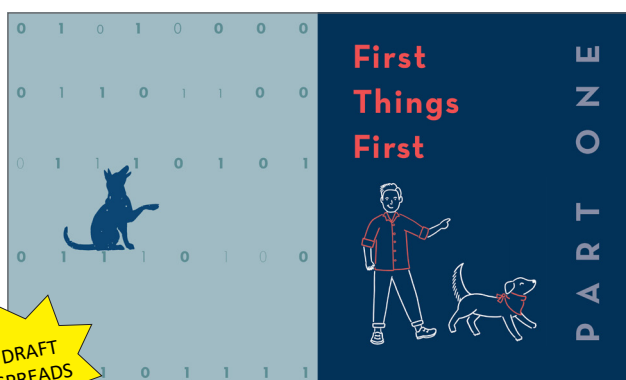
Let Dr Matt explain everything you and your kids need to know about Artificial Intelligence and why you don't need to be afraid!

When you think of AI, you might imagine a walking, talking robot or you might think of a giant computer that wants to take over the world, but the reality is that AI is a brilliant human invention that can be found in nearly every modern device from our computers to our cars.

But AI can seem scary at times, so working out where we use AI and why is an important part of making the best of this exciting technology.

So, what is an algorithm and can it help me choose pizza? Can ChatGPT do my homework? And when I watch TV is my television watching me back? All these questions and more about AI are answered in a fun, funny and engaging way by Australia's leading science 'edutainer'.

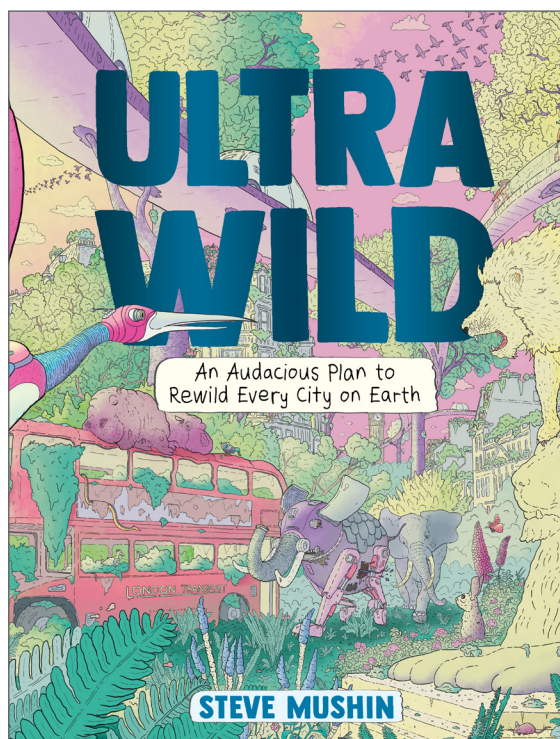
**Dr Matt Agnew** is more than a scientist and a self-confessed space nerd - he's a communications powerhouse making science, maths and technology fun and accessible for everyone. With academic credentials spanning the STEM portfolio, myriad appearances across a variety of media channels, and a social media profile for reaching a wide and varied audience, Matt is a qualified, passionate and engaging scientist. Matt has worked as an engineer, data scientist, and astrophysicist and his breadth of technical knowledge, combined with an approachable manner and a palatable way of explaining ideas, positions him as a go-to expert for engaging with the public about the latest happenings in the world of science.



# GRAPHIC NOVEL NON-FICTION

## ULTRAWILD

Steve Mushin



Mind-bendingly original and full of intricate illustrations, *Ultrawild* is totally unique, containing over one hundred outrageously funny, scientifically plausible inventions for rewilding cities and saving the planet.

Join maverick inventor Steve Mushin as he tackles climate change with an avalanche of mind-bending, scientifically plausible inventions to rewild cities and save the planet.

Jump into his brain as he designs habitat-printing robot birds and water-filtering sewer submarines, calculates how far compost cannons can blast seed bombs (over a kilometre), brainstorms biomaterials with scientists and engineers, studies ecosystems and develops a deadly serious plan to transform cities into jungles, rewilding them into carbon-sucking mega-habitats for all species, and as fast as possible.

Bursting with amazing ideas and incredible illustrations, this tour-de-force of extreme problem-solving will inspire, challenge and provide hours of enjoyment for young and old.

Through marvellously designed and hilarious engineering ideas, Mushin shares his vision for super-high-tech urban rewilding, covering the science of climate change, futuristic materials and foods, bio reactors, soil, forest ecosystems, mechanical flight, solar thermal power and working out just how fast we could actually turn roads into jungles, absorb carbon and reverse climate change.

Developed over seven years, *Ultrawild* is an optimistic book about creative thinking, science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) and the potential for massive change. Filled with laugh-out-loud design-ridiculousness, it aims to empower and excite a new generation of designers, scientists, engineers and ultra-wild thinkers.

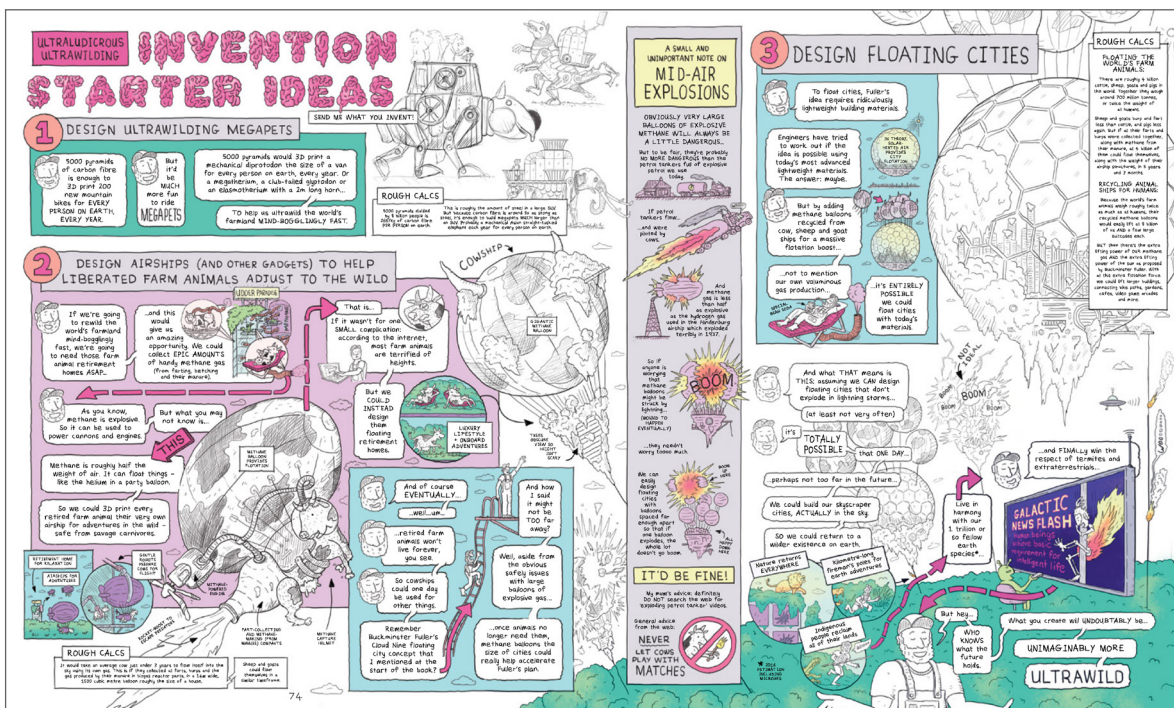
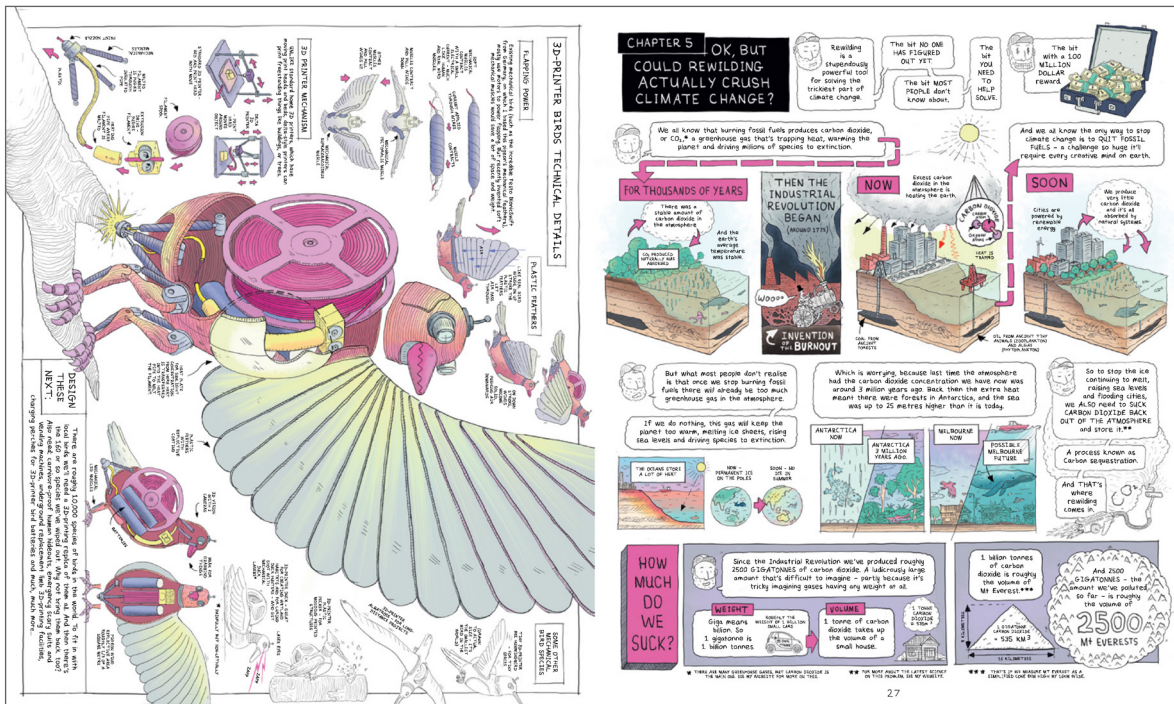
'Mushin's bonkers, brilliant, boundary-breaking inventions give permission to eager 9+ conservationists to push their imaginations to the limit, rather than yield to despair.' **The Guardian**

'The ideas, conversations and inventions in *Ultrawild* belong in every school, home, waiting room, library, community house, bedroom, car and loo. The perfect gift for curious kids.

Don't walk – RUN to grab your copy!' **Kids' Book Review**

November 2023 • 330x276mm • HB • Full Colour • 80pp

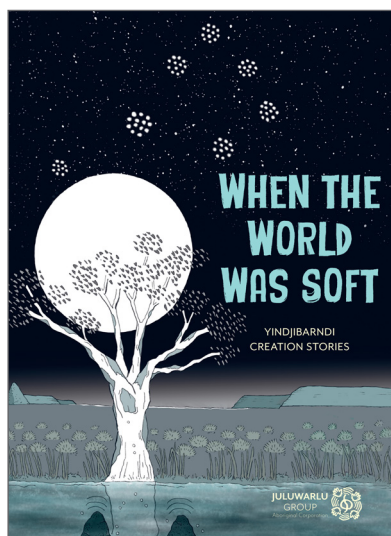




**Steve Mushin** is an industrial designer, artist and inventor who collaborates with scientists and engineers to solve perplexing problems that no one else seems to know what to do about – like what can be done with explosive cow gas or how to make bikes fly or cities transform into jungles as fast as possible. Steve has exhibited large-scale design drawings and models around Australia and in Japan, and is in great demand as a speaker and workshop facilitator in schools and galleries. In 2015 Steve received an Australian Design Honours award for his work in sustainable futures thinking. *Ultrawild* is Steve's first book.

## WHEN THE WORLD WAS SOFT

Juluwarlu Group Aboriginal Corporation



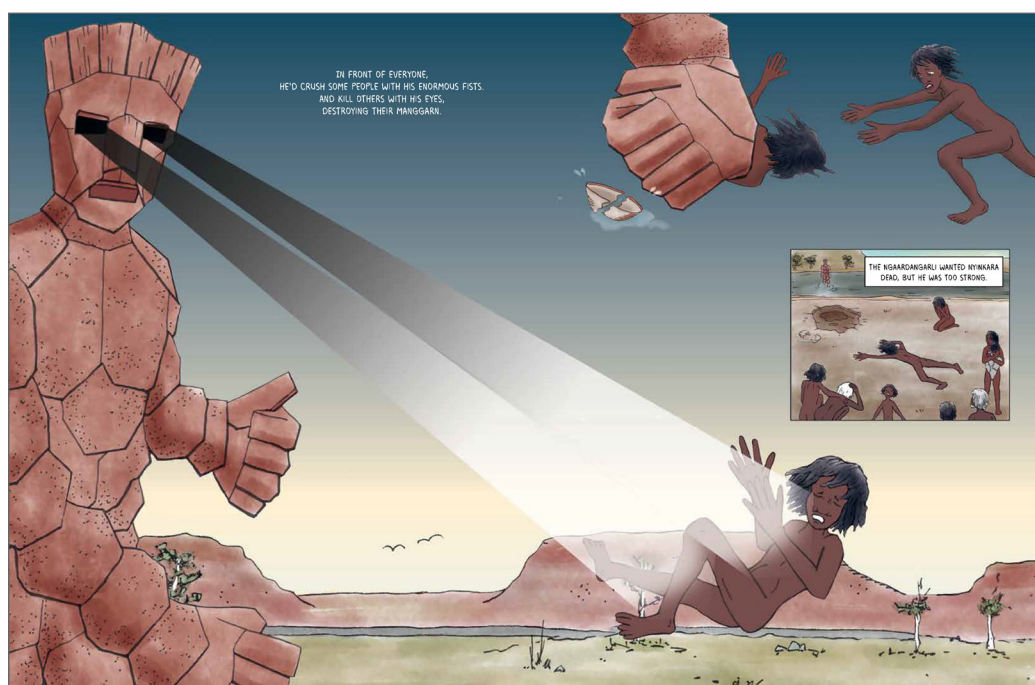
A ground-breaking graphic novel sharing the stories of Yindjibarndi Creation-times in an immediate and engaging way for a contemporary audience.

Yindjibarndi believe all creation is written in our landscape and was sung long ago, filling our Ngurra (Country) with sacred meanings and deep religious significance. At the dawn of time, Ngurra Nyujunggamu, the world was soft as clay and the sky was very low. Our Creator, Minkala, sang the songs from which all life and Ngurra evolved. These are some of our stories.

*Our grandmothers and grandfathers sing our songs and tell our stories every day, just like our old people long ago sang songs and told stories to their children. And now we are sharing them with you.*

Dynamically illustrated by Alex Mankiewicz with striking artwork by members of the Juluwarlu Art Group, *When the World Was Soft* is a powerful gift of culture for young and old.

**Juluwarlu Group Aboriginal Corporation** is based in Roebourne and Ngurrawaana Community, in Western Australia's Pilbara region. Its purpose is to collect, sustain and promote knowledge of Yindjibarndi culture – our Ngurra, plants and animals; our language, genealogy, mythology, social history, and biography – to sustain our Yindjibarndi identity, giving self-esteem, respect and other values we consider vital to our lives, our well-being and our culture's future.

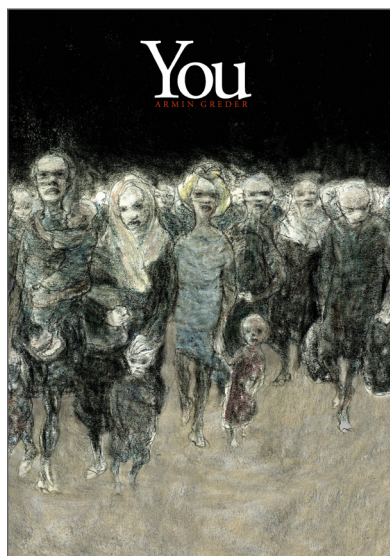


We do this for our children and our future generations so that they too, are inspired to contribute to our Australian national community. Juluwarlu's cultural recording and archiving project was started by Lorraine Coppin in the Ngurrawaana Community on the Yindjibarndi tablelands in 1998 with Elder Woodley King and his grandson, Michael Woodley, and was incorporated in 2000.

## YOU

Armin Greder

CO-EDITION  
OPPORTUNITY



A searing examination of the inhumane exploitation of the people of Africa first by European missionaries and later by corporate power and greed by the multi-award-winning creator of *The Island* and *The Mediterranean*.

*You came from the sea with your God.  
You told us you had been chosen  
to redeem us from our sins.  
So we shut our eyes, knelt down and prayed  
and when we opened them again  
we saw who you were:*

*you put us in chains  
you shipped us out like herds of cattle  
you auctioned us off to the highest bidder  
you worked us to death to make your wealth  
you sent us to die for you in your wars  
The meek will inherit the earth, you promised, but all we  
inherited was hell.*

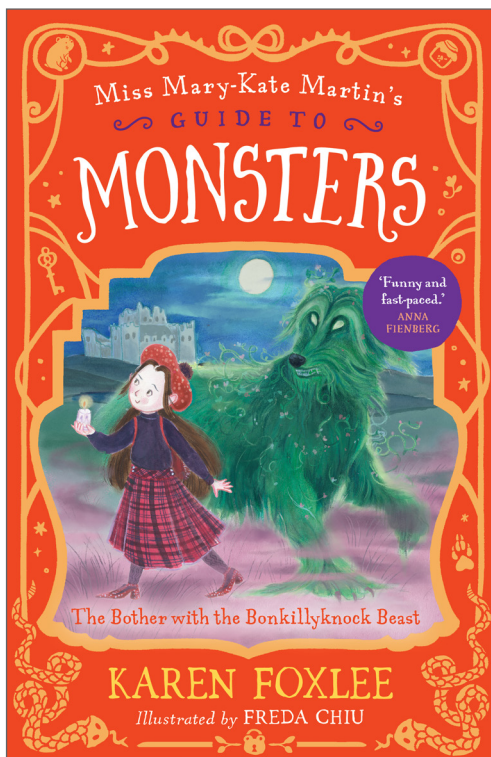


**Armin Greder** was born in Switzerland. In 1971 he migrated to Australia where he worked as a graphic designer and later taught design and illustration at a tertiary art institution. Books he has authored and illustrated include *The Mediterranean*, *The Island*, *The City* and *Australia to Z*. His work, in which charcoal is prominent, reflects his European background. He is the recipient of a number of international recognitions such as the Bologna Ragazzi Award and has been nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Prize.

# ILLUSTRATED JUNIOR FICTION

## MISS MARY-KATE MARTIN'S GUIDE TO MONSTERS

Karen Foxlee, illustrated by Freda Chiu



Miss Mary-Kate Martin might be anxious, but she's not scared of monsters. Travelling the globe with her family, Mary-Kate helps solve legendary problems in this fun fantasy adventure series.

### THE BOTHER WITH THE BONKILLYKNOCK BEAST

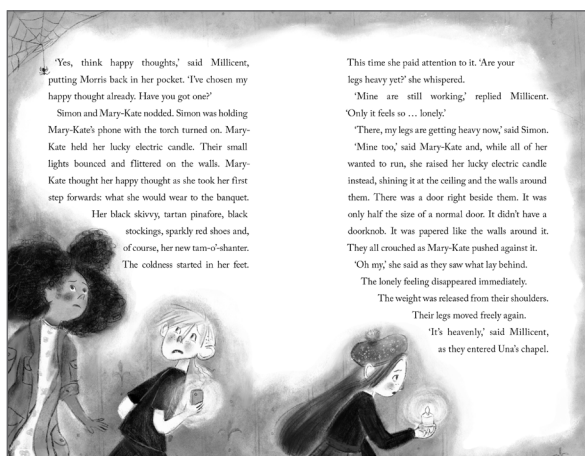
January 2024

Mary-Kate and Granny are staying at a very quiet castle in the Scottish village of Bonkillyknock. The perfect destination for drinking cups of tea with Granny's old friends. However, this is no ordinary reunion – it's a World Society of Monster Hunters' conference.

But when the castle kitchen is turned upside-down and the experts suspect the usually secretive Loch Morgavie monster, Mary-Kate isn't sure the clues add up. Could there be some other kind of beastly problem bothering Bonkillyknock Castle?

Miss Mary-Kate Martin might only be a beginner, but she's determined to unravel this monstrous mystery.

**'Funny and fast-paced. A thrilling combination of courage, kindness and a cleverness of the heart.'** Anna Fienberg, bestselling co-author of *Tashi*



#### On *The Wrath of the Woolington Wurm*:

'A deliciously thrilling mystery, full of heart, wisdom, wit and ingenuity.'

**Edwina Wyatt**

'Easily one of the most charming books for young readers I have come across ... A perfect balance of fun, fantasy, humour and innocence.'

**Katrina Nannestad**

'I loved this magical story which was full of suspense and adventure. Karen Foxlee is a master storyteller.'

**Good Reading**

January 2024, November 2022, June 2022 • 198x128mm • PB • B&W Illustrations Throughout • 288pp, 304pp & 288pp • **WORLD RIGHTS**





## THE WRATH OF THE WOOLINGTON WYRM

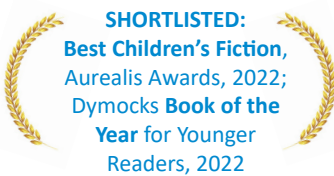
June 2022

*'There are those who hunt monsters to harm them and there are those who hunt monsters to help them. Which one are you?'*

Something unusual is happening in Woolington. Strange noises and earth tremors have the locals frightened.

Miss Mary-Kate Martin accompanies her archaeologist mother to the village of Woolington, home of the legendary Woolington Wym, where builders have discovered some interesting bones. Could there be any truth in the myth of the beast who lives in the ancient well?

With her creative coping mechanisms and the help of local girl Arabella Woolington and her stubborn pony Pickles, Mary-Kate is determined to get to the bottom of this mythic mystery.



## THE TROUBLE WITH THE TWO-HEADED HYDRA

November 2022

Mary-Kate and her mother are visiting Galinios, an idyllic Greek Island filled with history and surrounded by the shimmering Aegean Sea. An ancient mosaic has been unearthed at the local sardine processing plant and Professor Martin must investigate, leaving Mary-Kate to enjoy a few days of sunshine and antiquity.

But a message asking for help changes everything. A wrecked boat and smashed jetty have recently disrupted life on this tranquil island and point to a monster-sized mystery. Could the local legend of the

Two-Headed Hydra be more than a story? If so, what could make this historically serene sea creature so angry?

Accompanied by her new local friend Nikos, Miss Mary-Kate Martin is determined to find answers. She might be scared of heights, but there is no problem too big for her to solve.

**Karen Foxlee's** first novel for children, *Ophelia and the Marvellous Boy*, was published internationally to much acclaim while her second novel for younger readers, *A Most Magical Girl*, won the Readings Children's Fiction Prize and was short-listed for the CBCA Awards. Her next book, *Lenny's Book of Everything* won multiple awards including the NSW Premier's Literary Award, the Queensland Literary Award, the Indies Book Award, was a CBCA Honour Book and was nominated for the Carnegie Medal. Her latest middle-grade novel, *Dragon Skin*, was a CBCA Honour Book, winner of the Aurealis Awards and short-listed for the NSW Premier's Literary Awards, the ABIA Awards and the Indie Book Awards. [www.karenfoxlee.com](http://www.karenfoxlee.com). **Freda Chiu** is an author and illustrator from Sydney. As well as illustrating children's books, her work spans comics, editorial and retail graphics. Her books include *A Trip to the Hospital* (short-listed for the CBCA Award for New Illustrator and the IBBY Australia Ena Noël Awards) and *Last-Place Lin*. [www.fredachiu.com](http://www.fredachiu.com)

**RIGHTS SOLD:** UK Commonwealth ex Canada (Pushkin); French (Michel Lafon); Russian (Goodwin/MTS)



# BRAVEPAW AND THE HEARTSTONE OF ALLURIA: BRAVEPAW 1 **L.M. Wilkinson, illustrated by Lavanya Naidu**



**An epic Tail of Adventure! Can one gallant mouse find the Heartstone and save her homeland from destruction?**

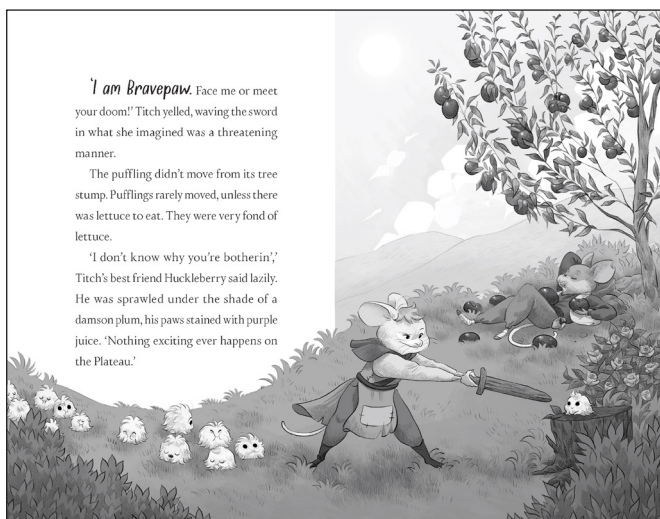
*When the sky fills with shadows  
And all is turned to grey  
Bravepaw will come*

*When hope turns to ashes  
And all have lost their way  
Bravepaw will come*

Brought up on tales of the gallant mouse hero Bravepaw, Titch has always dreamed of adventure, but she never thought it would actually happen to *her*. After all, she is nobody special. She is the smallest mouse in her family, living in a peaceful little village where nothing exciting ever happens.

When dire trouble comes to the Plateau, Titch and her best-friend Huckleberry must set out on a dangerous quest to take the Heartstone to the heart of Alluria, and repair the crack in the sky before the whole world breaks apart. Can Titch ever hope to live up to the legend of Bravepaw?

A fully illustrated and brilliantly readable adventure full of magic and prophecy, quests, heroism and loyal friendship – the world of Bravepaw will hook young readers until the very last page. This is the stuff of legend. Book 2 slated for March 2025.



*'I am Bravepaw. Face me or meet your doom!'* Titch yelled, waving the sword in what she imagined was a threatening manner.

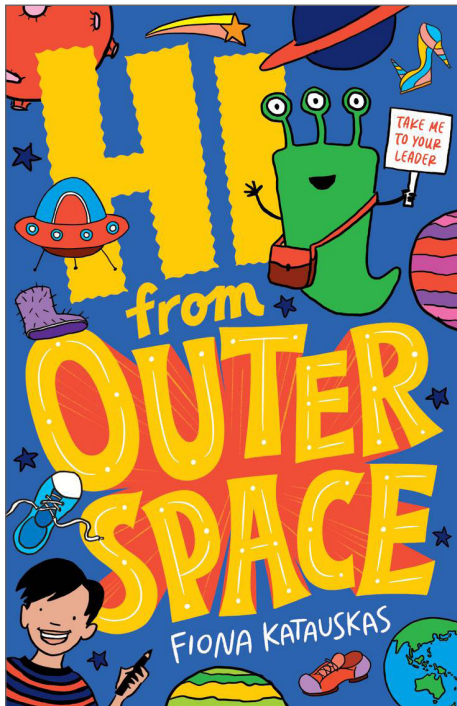
The puffling didn't move from its tree stump. Pufflings rarely moved, unless there was lettuce to eat. They were very fond of lettuce.

*'I don't know why you're botherin','* Titch's best friend Huckleberry said lazily. He was sprawled under the shade of a damson plum, his paws stained with purple juice. 'Nothing exciting ever happens on the Plateau.'

**L.M. Wilkinson** is the award-winning author of twenty books for children and teenagers, including *A Hunger of Thorns*, *Deep is the Fen* and *How To Make A Pet Monster*. Lili established the Inky Awards at the Centre for Youth Literature, State Library of Victoria. She has a PhD in Creative Writing, and lives in Melbourne. **Lavanya Naidu** is a storyteller with a passion for building worlds and developing characters with heart. The twilight zone where they meet is where the magic happens! She is a graduate in animation film design and over the last decade has illustrated several children's books, worked on games and animation production (television and film). Lavanya grew up in Kolkata, India and now lives in Melbourne.

## HI FROM OUTER SPACE

Fiona Katauskas



Embarrassment, discombobulation and unexpected noises abound in this comic fish-out-of-water story (if that fish was an alien visiting Earth to complete his school project) from a popular weekly cartoonist.

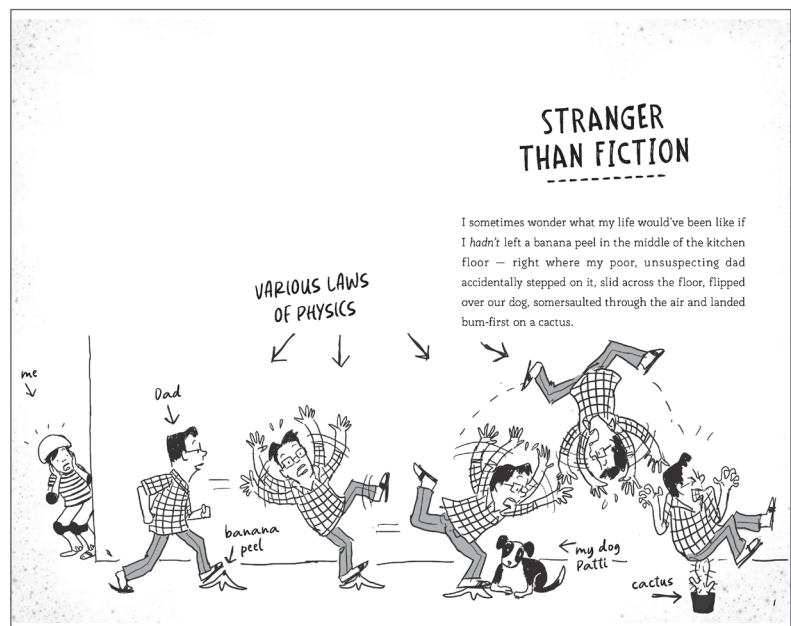
*With a whispery hiss, the spaceship touched down on the grass. A door opened. A ramp extended. An alien slid forward. 'TAKE. ME. TO. YOUR. LEADER.'*

Alex wants to win the National Young Cartoonist Competition. She's got the talent, but what could she draw about? Along comes Hi, an alien from the Planet Wendy. Hi is also working on a project: he has three days to learn about Earth's leaders for his Earth Studies class. Maybe they could help each other?

Then Hi's Earthly visit sets in motion a chain of extraordinary events, including a viral TikTok, a haunted shoe shop and an astronomically wild rock concert.

A cosmically funny story about leaders, followers and friendships that are out of this world.

Fiona Katauskas is a cartoonist and illustrator based in Sydney. Her work has appeared in a wide range of publications, including the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Australian* and *The Age*. She has also designed cards for the Ink Group and t-shirts for Mambo and is the bestselling author of the non-fiction picture book, *The Amazing True Story of How Babies Are Made*.



# MIDDLE GRADE ILLUSTRATED FICTION

## SPELLHOUND: A DRAGONS OF HALLOW BOOK

Lian Tanner



An illustrated whimsical fantasy quest novel filled with snappy dragons, adorable minch-wiggins and an extremely large, loveable puppy with mysterious magical powers.

*There are Three Great Secrets in Hallow, a country that loves secrets almost as much as it loves green jellybabies. No, I'm not going to tell you anything more about them. I am a loyal citizen of Hallow, and would never betray—*

*Oh, you have jellybabies? Green ones?*

*Well, I suppose I could tell you a little more.*

*Come closer. Open your ears and your heart, and pass the green jellybabies.*

Flax, a minch-wiggin who lives in the Floating Forest, has inherited the rather nerve-wracking title Destroyer-of-Dragons, along with a bag of magical string, a small sharp sword and a terrible secret. She's fallen to the world below and accidentally taken the Floating Forest's only Spellhound pup with her, and he has a dark and terrible secret of his own.

Meanwhile, on Hallow, the child Queen is sick of being bossed around by her aunt the Regent, and being kept in the dark about the dragon that took her parents. She is also tired of being so very alone. So one night when she hears a little puppy crying for its mother, she can't resist. Surely, a Queen would be allowed to have a puppy?

So, what do a minch-wiggin, a Queen, and a rather large magical pup have in common? They need to find the dragon that has turned their worlds upside-down... even if it means revealing all they want to keep hidden.

"Full of twists and turns and secrets, like the very best kind of book!  
I loved it!" **Deborah Abela**

"Constant laughs, a fresh new world and characters to cheer: this book made me beam." **Jaclyn Moriarty**

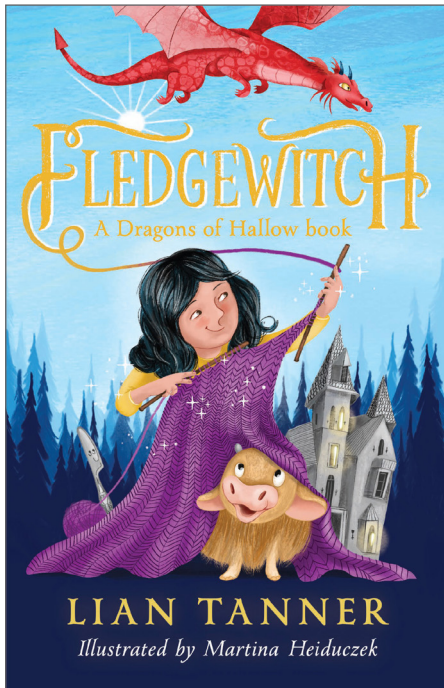
"Full of secrets and mystery, with wonder on every page." **Kate Temple**

"This highly engaging fantasy adventure is set in a unique magical world filled with delightful, quirky characters." **Books + Publishing**

April 2023 • 198x128mm • PB • B&W Illustrations Throughout • 352pp  
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# FLEDGEWITCH: A DRAGONS OF HALLOW BOOK



There are no witches, no dragons and no secrets in Quill, so how can Brim be trapped in the School for the Prevention of Witches with Rose, a royal dragon with an injured foot, and a large mystery to untangle?

*This is the First Law of Quill, carved in stone outside every town hall, and learnt by every schoolchild:*  
***There shall be No Witches.***

*And this is the Second Law of Quill, carved in stone, etc etc:* ***There shall be No Dragons.***

*I am sure you have already spotted the problem. It is all very well to say 'no witches' and 'no dragons'. But what if there are secret witches and secret dragons?*

*This is the Third Law of Quill:* ***There shall be NO SECRETS.***

Ten-year-old Brim has been sent to the Quillian School for Prevention of Witches, but she's sure it's a mistake. It's true that she has tiny feathers sprouting from her elbows, and that she's the only person who remembers the odd-looking calf that has been following her. But she can't do magic, she's not wicked, and she would absolutely never give away her heartbeat in exchange for great power.

Meanwhile, Queen Rose of Hallow has received reports of a secret weapon in the mountains of Quill; a weapon that might be aimed at Hallow. Her uncle the Regent is away, so Rose goes to investigate. Alone. Luckily, she's not just a twelve-year-old girl with red hair and a wilful nature. She is also a dragon.

Before long, Rose and Brim find themselves trapped in Quill, in the worst possible danger. Nothing to see here. Just a witch, a dragon and a *lot* of secrets.

A bewitching adventure brimming with bravery, betrayal, and one very forgettable horned glob!

**Lian Tanner** is an award-winning children's author and playwright. She is a master storyteller brilliant at vividly exciting fantasy adventure series including *The Keepers*, *The Hidden*, and *The Rogues*; the funny junior fiction mysteries *A Clue for Clara* and *Rita's Revenge* and picture books *Ella and the Ocean* and *When the Lights Went Out*, both illustrated by Jonathan Bentley. Her work is highly acclaimed, awarded, bestselling and loved around the world. [www.liantanner.com.au](http://www.liantanner.com.au)

## THUNDERHEAD

Sophie Beer



Captivating, memorable and deeply funny, *Thunderhead* is a heart-squeezing and hopeful story about the awkwardness of early teen life and the challenge of living with illness and loss – beautifully told with humour, music, art and joy.

Hello

Hellooooo

Hellooooooooooooooooooooo

Can anyone hear me? No?

GOOD.

That's the way I want it. I'm not writing this for anyone else but me.

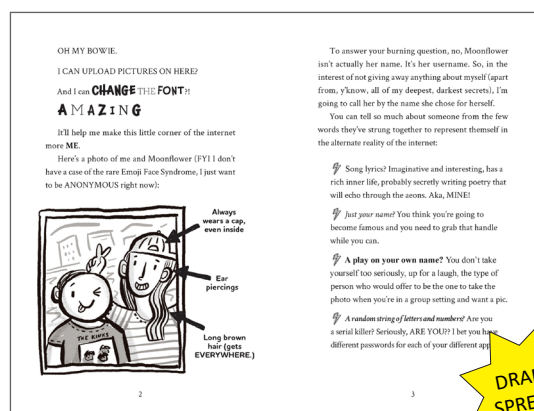
Here I am, shouting into the abyss. Well, typing into the abyss. The abyss of the internet.

Thunderhead is an anxious, music-obsessed kid blurting their angst into a defunct internet forum to avoid the squirming awkwardness of real life. A real life where Thunderhead is hiding a big secret – a secret that if revealed will brand them with the dreaded stigma of being the PWSC, the “poor widdle sick kid”. And nobody wants that. NOTHANKYOUVERYMUCH.

As two big life events approach, Thunderhead posts playlists and heartfelt diary entries as an outlet to try to make sense of their changing world, to try to manage the storm brewing in their brain and to find the courage to unfurl their heart a little to gain a lot.

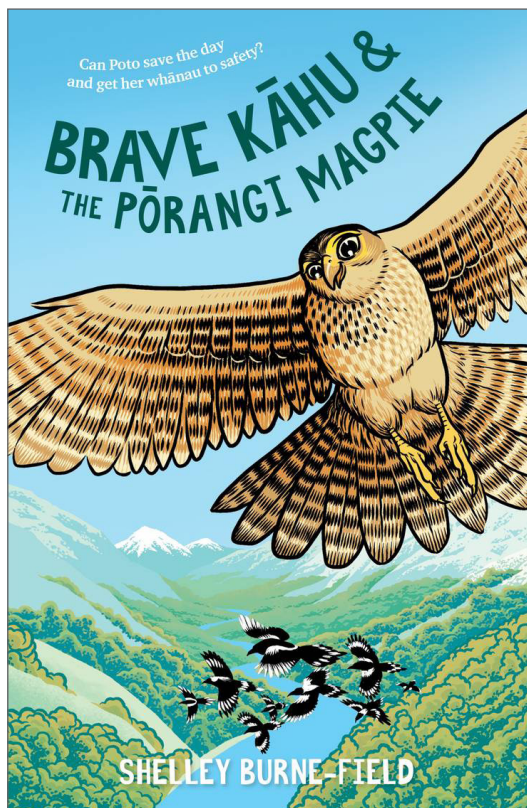
Drawing on her own personal experiences for inspiration, Sophie delivers an indelible illustrated novel, immediately engaging, fresh, funny, warm, sad, utterly authentic and entirely unputdownable.

**Sophie Beer** is an award-winning author/illustrator living in Brisbane. She rejoices in creating bright, funny books which centre equality, inclusion and kindness. Her books include *Love Makes a Family* and have been printed all over the world in many languages and have sold close to one million copies. As an illustrator, she has worked with the likes of Disney, Google, *The Guardian* and *The Boston Globe*. In 2016, Sophie was diagnosed with and underwent surgery for an acoustic neuroma, a brain tumour that affects balance, the facial nerve and hearing, and she is subsequently half deaf. *Thunderhead*, her first novel, was inspired by this transformative event. [www.sophie-beer.com](http://www.sophie-beer.com)



## BRAVE KĀHU AND THE PŌRANGI MAGPIE

Shelley Burne-Field



**An exciting and action-packed animal story featuring two kāhu sisters who must save their injured baby brother – before a coming flood destroys their home.**

Poto is the perfect fledgling – the apple of her father’s eye and a natural at hunting and flying. Anything a kāhu is supposed to be good at, Poto can do best of all. She can’t understand why her sister Whetū gets cross with her – it’s not her fault she’s good at everything! As for her baby brother Ari, he’s so weird and annoying.

After their mother is killed by a flock of magpies, Poto and Whetū have to get an injured Ari to safety before a deadly foretold earthquake arrives, unleashing a flood and destroying their home. With the help of the birds and new friends they meet on the way, the hawk siblings journey through the Valley, keeping an eye out for a menacing flock of magpies who are on a mission to take back the Valley for their own.

Can they stop Tū the makipai and her flock from ruining the harmony of the Valley? Will aroha win out over hate? And will Poto realise that everyone has something special to offer, even if they can’t do everything quite like she does?

*Brave Kāhu and the Pōrangī Magpie* is a cracking children’s adventure story in the vein of *Watership Down*, from emerging author Shelley Burne-Field.

The cover and a map are illustrated by Mat Tait, winner of the Margaret Mahy Book of the Year in 2023 for his illustrated book *Te Wehenga*, and there is a glossary at the end.

**Shelley Burne-Field** (Sāmoa, Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Rārua, Pākehā) is a kaituhituhi from Te Matau-a-Māui Hawke’s Bay. She writes articles and creative non-fiction as well as fiction of all sorts, including short stories. This is her first children’s story. She is an alumni of the Master of Creative Writing from Auckland University 2020 and also Te Papa Tupu mentoring programme. Her story ‘Speaking in Tongues’ was the only New Zealand Finalist in the 2022 Commonwealth Short Story Prize. Her work is now in print in anthologies around the world, and has appeared in Newsroom and on Radio New Zealand. Her story ‘Pinching out Dahlias’ is the most read short story published in Reading Room. Shelley is a proud member of the New Zealand Society of Authors.

## LANDOVEL SERIES

Emily Rodda



**Landovel: A compulsive, engaging and brilliantly plotted three book series from the master of fantasy quests, Emily Rodda.**

Derry knows no other life than being held captive on Cram's Rock – a searaider's lair between True Landovel and Free Landovel. Shunned by the other 'caps' for being Cram's poison taster, and trying to make sense of the brief flashes of memory he has of his earlier life, his only solace is the books he has access to in Cram's stolen library, including his favourite, the *Legends of El*. But even that must remain a secret, as Derry's ability to read is forbidden in luddite True Landovel. So Derry keeps to himself, with no friends and no future beyond surviving another day. Until the day everything changes, when a traveller arrives at Cram's Rock on the run from the mythical El

executioners. In desperation, the woman leaves a magical notebook with Derry, a notebook full of secrets that reveal themselves throughout the series, along with Derry's destiny – and past.

When the captives of Cram's Rock are rescued and taken to the more progressive Free Landovel, Derry and three companions, Cat, Straw and Num, are chosen for a dangerous quest: they must travel to True Landovel to prevent its planned attack against Free, and search for the elusive rebel leader, Hant – who may or may not be dead. Years earlier, Hant, with his beloved V alongside him, fought to expose True Landovel's corruption and the lies its king spun about the mysterious El in order to live richly while oppressing the commonfolk with fear and starvation.

As Derry and his companions journey towards the palace, they witness the disturbing truth of life in True Landovel. Not everyone here is who they seem, and there are the king's cruel Redguards to fear; it's hard to tell who to trust, even each other.

Soon after reaching the Scarlet City, the companions are separated in a riot. Derry finds himself with King Greville, equipped only with the secret notebook, his quiet wisdom, courage and a growing outrage. Without his companions to help him, Derry must quickly choose who he can trust. Can he prevent a war that will destroy them all?

**Emily Rodda** is one of Australia's best-known children's authors. She has written or co-authored over 100 books including the award-winning Rowan of Rin series and the outstandingly successful Deltora Quest series, which has been translated into 28 languages. Her books have received many Children's Choice awards, and she has won the Children's Book Council of Australia's Book of the Year (Younger Readers) Award six times. In 2019 she was awarded the highest honour in the Australia Day Honours list, Companion of the Order of Australia (AC).

All 3 titles: October 2024 • 198x128mm • PB • Approx 288pp each  
**WORLD RIGHTS**

## THE APPRENTICE WITNESSER

**Bren MacDibble**



For Bastienne Scull, miracle-hunting is a lot like mystery-solving, and her little world is full of wonder and intrigue and unexpected adventure as a result. A supremely enjoyable novel from the multi award-winning, bestselling author of *How to Bee*, *The Dog Runner* and *The Raven's Song*.

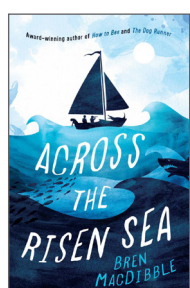
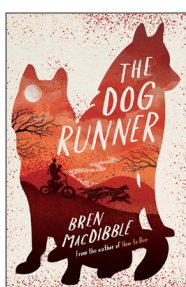
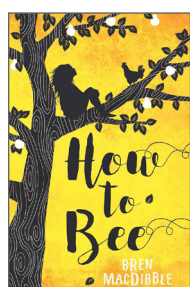
*That's what my photos are. Little moments. All the good moments, the kind moments, the moments of care and love that, if you add them all together, make a life sweet.*

Bastienne Scull is a young orphan who lives with the local Witnesser of Miracles, Lodyma Darsey, who investigates 'miraculous events' and spins them into stories she tells at the night markets.

After Lodyma's husband and oldest son died of a sickness that continues to sweep the land, she sent her teenage son Osmin into the hills to live with the mountain men. That was ten years ago and Lodyma doesn't know if he's alive or dead. And she's taken Bastienne as an apprentice to fill the void of her lost family.

One day, two young boys arrive in town asking Lodyma to go on a mysterious mission to a monastery. And when Lodyma and Bastienne arrive, what they discover will change their lives.

A wonderful novel, full of hope, courage, resilience and family.



**Bren MacDibble** was raised on farms all over New Zealand. She lived in Melbourne for twenty years, then travelled Australia living and working in a bus, and now runs holiday villas on the stunning coral coast of Western Australia. In 2018, *How to Bee* won the Children's Book Council Book of the Year Award for Younger Readers, the New South Wales Premier's Literary Award Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children's Literature, and the New Zealand Book Awards Wright Family Foundation Esther Glen Award for Junior Fiction. In 2019 *The Dog Runner* won the New Zealand Book Awards Wright Family Foundation Esther Glen Award for Junior Fiction. *The Raven's Song*, co-written with Zana Fraillon was shortlisted for the CBCA Award for Younger Readers. [www.macdibble.com](http://www.macdibble.com)

## SMOKE & MIRRORS

Barry Jonsberg

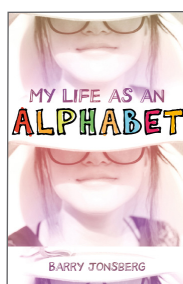
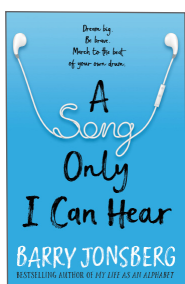


Grace McKellon isn't a 'people person'. All she needs is her magic tricks and her wise-cracking grandmother – until a new friend comes along and promises to make her a social media star. A wonderful and intriguing middle fiction novel from an internationally acclaimed, bestselling Australian author.

Grace only cares about two things: performing magic and her cantankerous gran. Gran shares her prickly personality and spiky sense of humour, and she's the only one Grace lets into her tightly locked heart – until she meets Simon, a schoolmate who promises to help her turn her magic tricks into a small business and social media stardom.

When Gran is diagnosed with terminal cancer, Grace moves in to become her primary carer. With the help of Simon and some sleight of hand, Grace must do what she can to bring joy back into their lives. And when she confronts her worst fear, she realises maybe her heart doesn't need to stay locked away after all.

A funny, compelling and thought-provoking story from the author of the bestselling books *My Life As An Alphabet* and *A Song Only I Can Hear*.



'Smoke & Mirrors is fantastic sleight of hand and heart; at once tender and humorous.'

**Danielle Binks**

'A portrait of grief and growth, with a touch of spectacle. This is more than magic... It's a miracle.'

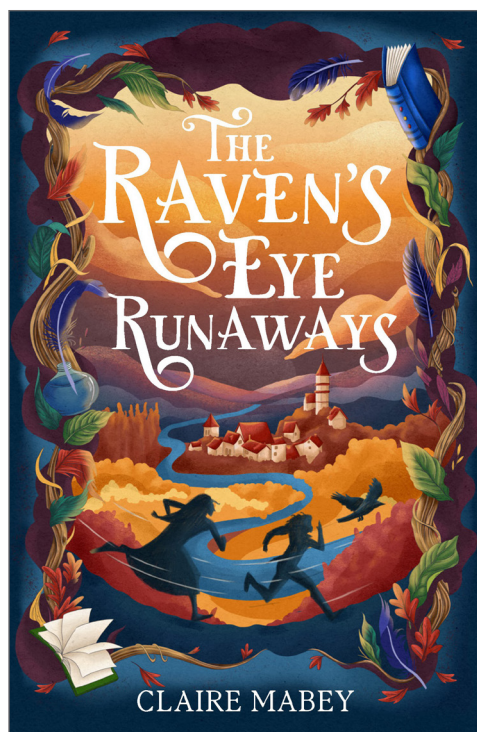
**Will Kostakis**

**Barry Jonsberg** is the internationally popular author of 22 novels, for which he's won many awards, including: WINNER Victorian Premier's, Queensland Premier's, Gold Inky, Territory Reads, Adelaide Festival, German Readers' Choice Leserpreis, Children's Peace Literature Awards; SHORTLISTED CBCA (three times), Prime Minister's (twice), NSW Premier's, WA Premier's, Indie Awards. Barry's titles have been published in 18 countries, translated into 12 languages and *My Life as an Alphabet* was adapted into the award-winning feature film *H is for Happiness*. Barry was also a high school teacher of English for 38 years.

[www.barryjonsberg.com](http://www.barryjonsberg.com)

## THE RAVEN'S EYE RUNAWAYS

Claire Mabey



**A gripping, beautifully-told fantasy quest set in a parallel medieval world.**

Three young people and a one-eyed raven join forces to fight against the oppressive regime that restricts the gift of reading to an elite few and aims to quash magic.

Getwin is a bookbinder working from dawn till dusk with her mother at Raven's Eye Bookbindery. Joane is a scribe, living in a monastic-style castle, where she and other girls are forced to copy manuscripts until their fingers bleed. Buckle is Getwin's loyal and close friend.

When Joane escapes her prison-like life and the soporific tea that drugs her, she is rescued by Getwin and Buckle. They go in search of Getwin's mother, who has been taken by the regime.

They encounter many dangers and must travel through a fearful city and a magical forest.

Will they find her safe? And what is the terrible truth behind everything they think they know about their world?

*The Raven's Eye Runaways* is a complex, layered magical adventure in the vein of Philip Pullman. It's also funny, food focussed, full of feisty characters and had a touch of burgeoning romance: all the elements of classic children's literature!

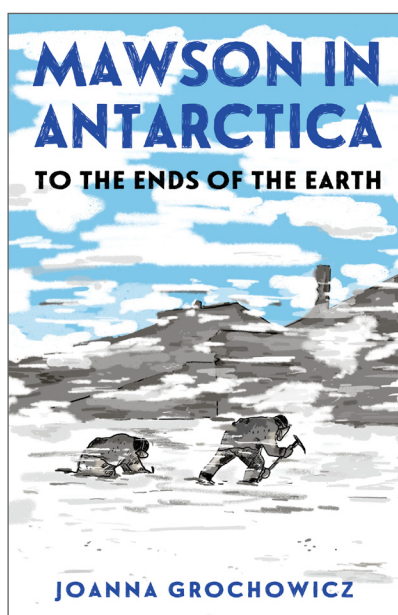
'As delicate as it is potent, *The Raven's Eye Runaways* is a hot, pungent pot of tea. With every gulp, you'll be transported to a heady, haunting world where words are a currency reserved for the few, and paid with the price of spilled blood. A feverish love letter to the written word, I dare you to read it – you will be bewitched!'

Graci Kim

**Claire Mabey** is the founder of Verb Wellington, LitCrawl Wellington and Lōemis. She is also books editor at *The Spinoff*, book critic at RNZ and co-curator of the writers' programme at the Aotearoa New Zealand Festival of the Arts.

# MAWSON IN ANTARCTICA

Joanna Grochowicz



Douglas Mawson undertook one of the most extraordinary feats of endurance in the history of polar exploration. His amazing story is brought vividly to life in compelling narrative non-fiction by the acclaimed author of *Into the White*, *Amundsen's Way* and *Shackleton's Endurance*.

## Antarctica. Winter 1912.

Hunkering down in the windiest place on earth, eighteen young Australians eagerly await a chance to prove themselves as polar explorers. The spring sledging season will bring adventure, danger, and the discovery of new lands under the command of Douglas Mawson. But tragedy also lies in wait.

Douglas Mawson's tale is legendary, an epic struggle between one man's self-belief and the worst conditions the hostile polar environment can throw at him. His journey represents not only a feat of physical endurance but also a triumph of friendship and the human spirit's ability to conjure hope when luck has all but run out.

### On *Amundsen's Way*:

'While the extensive research underpinning the book is apparent, it is the narrative voice that carries us forward.'

*New Zealand Review of Books*

### On *Shackleton's Endurance*:

'The engaging and dynamic writing will hook even readers who typically do not gravitate toward nonfiction.'

*Kirkus*



Joanna Grochowicz is a polar historian and author. Fast-paced and exquisitely written, her novels of early exploration reveal in fascinating detail the human aspirations and tragedies that have shaped our understanding of the polar regions. Drawing on diaries, letters and expedition narratives from archives and personal collections around the world, Grochowicz brings to light new and often overlooked elements of heroic age exploration. Realistic portrayals of historical figures and the interplay of personalities lend her work a grittiness and authenticity that is not often present in historical writing for children and young adults. [www.joannagrochowicz.com](http://www.joannagrochowicz.com)

## MY FAMILY AND OTHER SUSPECTS

Kate Emery



Holly Jackson meets Agatha Christie in this delightful, cosy modern-day YA murder mystery.

*'Do you want to talk about a fictional murder in a book or do you want to talk about the actual murder that happened under our roof?'*

Fourteen-year-old Ruth has spent the weekend at the family farm with her dad, her aunts, their partners and her kind-of-cousin, Dylan, visiting the ancient GG, Ruth's coolly distant step-grandmother. With no internet or phone coverage, Ruth spends her time re-reading old Agatha Christie novels, eavesdropping on the adults and definitely not daydreaming about Dylan.

But when GG dies under suspicious circumstances, Ruth's long weekend turns into an enforced family-holiday-slash-possible-murder-investigation – and Ruth's not about to let the police get in the way of her chance to solve a real-life murder mystery. With Dylan as the Watson to her Holmes, Ruth soon discovers that plenty of people had reasons to be rid of GG, and her list of suspects grows to comprise everyone in the house including, in the interests of fairness, herself.

As Ruth says, the thing about family holidays is that you've got to be prepared for fights.

Well-crafted, suspenseful, playful and clean, *My Family and Other Suspects* is also very funny and includes a chaste yet satisfying romance.

**Kate Emery** lives in Perth and works as a senior reporter for the *West Australian*. Her first novel, *The Not So Chosen One* was shortlisted for the 2020 Text Prize, the Aurealis Awards (Best Fantasy Novel) and longlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year Awards, Older Readers.

## I'M NOT REALLY HERE

Gary Lonesborough



Jonah is the new kid in a country town. When he joins the school's rugby team to be closer to his crush, Harley, it feels like a fresh start – but he still has to navigate new friendships, old family secrets, and the same body image issues he's always had.

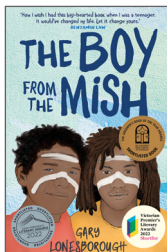
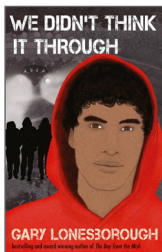
A wonderful coming-of-age queer romance from the bestselling, award-winning author of *The Boy from the Mish*.

*Footsteps approach behind me. I turn and see an Aboriginal boy arriving at the doorway. He's tall, taller than me. He's got curly hair. His body is fit. His chest is chiselled and bare and he's wearing only football shorts.*

When 17-year-old Jonah arrives in a new town – Patience – with his dad and twin brothers, Zeke and Luke, it feels like a foreign place. A new town means he needs to make new friends. Which isn't always easy. Especially when he's wrestling with his body image. And his memories of his mother.

When he joins the school footy team so he can spend more time with his new crush, Harley, he feels like he's moving closer to something good. But even though he knows what he wants, it doesn't mean he's ready.

Emotionally compelling, honest and featuring warm and authentically vulnerable characters, *I'm Not Really Here* is a beautiful novel about navigating family and friendships, and finding a way through grief, towards love.



### On *The Boy From the Mish*:

**WINNER:** 2022 IBBY Australia Ena Noël Award; 2021 Booktopia FAB Awards

**SHORTLISTED:** 2022 NSW Premier's Literary Awards; 2022 Book of the Year: Older Readers, CBCA Awards; 2022 Young Adult Book of the Year, Indie Book Awards; 2022 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards; 2021 Readings Young Adult Book Prize

'A lightning bolt to the soul!' **Will Kostakis**

'Honest. Funny. Beautiful. This book is all the things.' **Gabbie Stroud**

**Gary Lonesborough** is a Yuin man, who grew up on the Far South Coast of NSW as part of a large and proud Aboriginal family. Gary has experience working in youth work, Aboriginal health, child protection, the disability sector and the film industry, including working on the feature film adaptation of *Jasper Jones*. His debut YA novel, *The Boy from the Mish*, won the Booktopia FAB Debut Book Awards and the Ena Noël Award and was shortlisted for the CBCA Awards, the QLD Literary Awards, The Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, the Indie Book Awards, the Adelaide Festival Awards, the NSW Premier's Awards and was selected as a White Raven. It was published in the US in 2022 under the title *Ready When You Are*. His second novel, *We Didn't Think It Through*, was published in 2023 and Highly Commended in the Victoria Premier's Literary Awards, 2024.

## COMES THE NIGHT

Isabelle Carmody



**A brilliant new YA fantasy from the internationally acclaimed and bestselling author of the Obernewtyn Chronicles.**

*Glancing up through the torn opening in the roof, Will saw lightning flickering on the underside of some thunderheads outside the dome. It was only a holo illusion to go with the rain, but it looked real. He heard a footfall and looked down to see Adam step into the grainy brightness falling through the skylight.*

Will Helloran is fifteen years old and lives with his father in the Canberra dome complex that protects its inhabitants from the corrosive atmosphere outside.

At night his dreams are haunted by his beloved uncle Adam who unexpectedly died in his sleep almost a year ago. As the nightmares grow increasingly more disturbing, Will comes to believe that his uncle's death may have been suspicious – and he begins investigating as best he can with limited resources or clues.

Meanwhile, his best friend Ender is becoming concerned about her younger sister Magda's behaviour. And when Magda disappears, Will is drawn into a secret bigger than he can imagine – and, if he and his friends are to survive, he must navigate his way out of the treacherous dreamscape while staying safe in the waking world as well.

An intriguing and intricate YA fantasy set in the near future, full of secrets and deceptions and risk from one of Australia's best-loved storytellers.

**Isabelle Carmody** is one of Australia's most highly acclaimed authors of fantasy. At fourteen, she began *Obernewtyn*, the first book in her much-loved Obernewtyn Chronicles, and has since written many works in this genre. Her novel *The Gathering* was joint winner of the 1993 Children's Literature Peace Prize and the 1994 CBCA Book of the Year Award, and *Greylands* was joint winner of the 1997 Aurealis Award for Excellence in Speculative Fiction (Young Adult category), and was named a White Raven at the 1998 Bologna Children's Book Fair. Isabelle's work for younger readers includes her two series, *The Legend of Little Fur*, and *The Kingdom of the Lost*, the first book of which, *The Red Wind*, won the CBCA Book of the Year Award for Younger Readers in 2011. She has also written several picture books as well as collections of short stories for children, young adults and adults.

# ENQUIRIES

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