

Break

by Kayla Miller

illustrated by Kayla Miller

New York Times bestselling author/illustrator Kayla Miller returns with another vibrant and emotional story about the power of second chances and how the fear of missing out can lead to missing out on what's right in front of you.

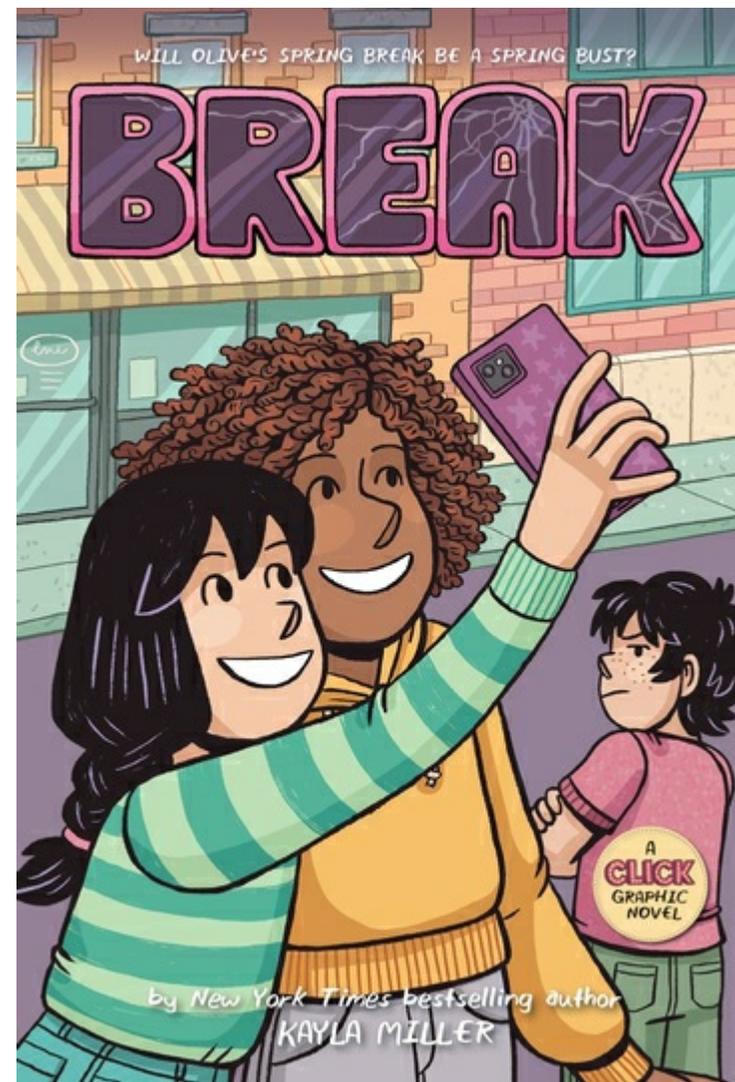
Spring break is full of possibilities... but not for Olive.

This year, Olive is leaving her friends and all of their exciting vacation plans behind to visit her dad at his new apartment in the city. Goober is thrilled to spend a whole week with their father and has a *long* list of activities for their time together. Olive, on the other hand, still remembers the hurt of their dad moving halfway across the world. She would rather spend time with her friend Bree or scrolling through her new phone to keep up with everything she's missing back home, than catch up with *him*.

As the week winds on, the normally easygoing Olive finds feelings of loneliness and resentment throwing her out of whack. Is there any hope of salvaging the visit – or will Olive's Spring break be a Spring *bust*?

- The 'Click' series graphic novels are *New York Times* bestselling titles, with over 1 million books sold.
- Kayla Miller portrays a modern take on childhood, school life, family life and friendships look like for middle-grade readers
- Miller's vibrant graphic art style will pull in fans of Raina Telgemeier and LeUyen Pham.
- Themes of growing up across separate households, navigating difficult relationships and learning forgiveness.

Kayla Miller is a *New York Times* bestselling author and illustrator living and working in New York. They have a BFA in Illustration from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. When not busy working on graphic novels, Kayla enjoys watching bad movies, trying to cook new recipes, playing games (both board and video), and reading other people's graphic novels.



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Losing the Plot

by Annaleise Byrd

When did things get so Grimm?

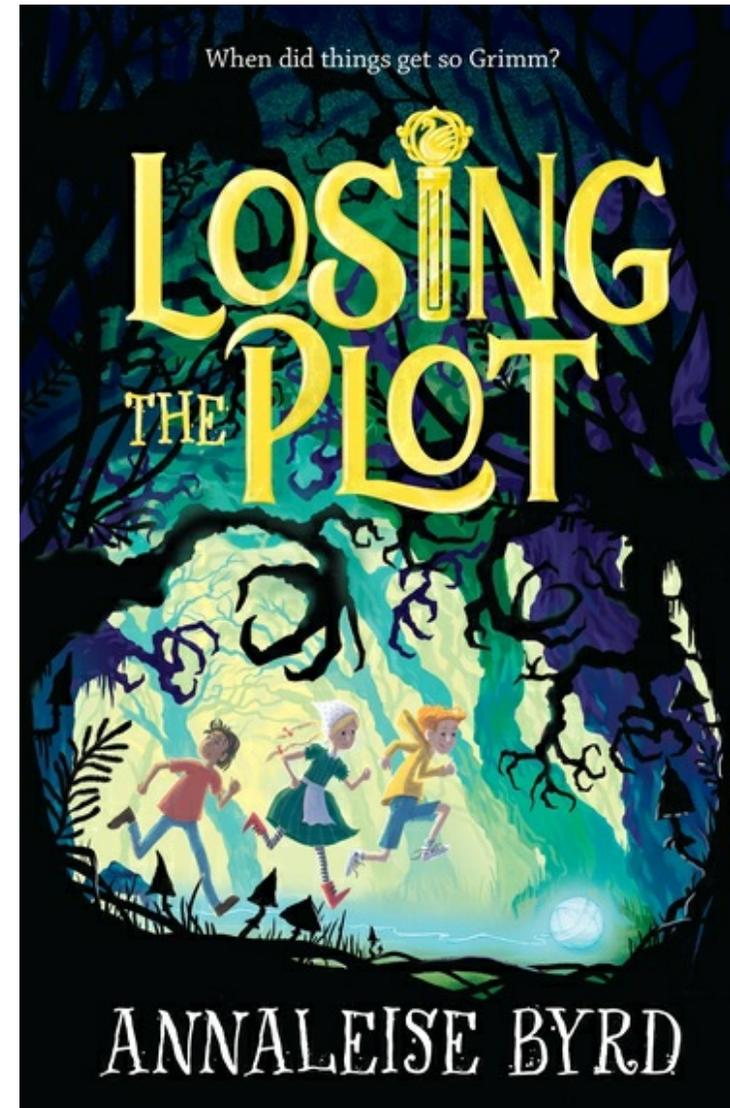
A hilarious tale of readers finding themselves immersed in a story - literally!

To save the football team, Basil Beedon is roped into listening to reluctant reader and star footballer Terry Clegg read fairytales out loud. Every. Single. Saturday. But when Terry brings over a battered copy of *The Complete Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm*, and haltingly begins reading *Hansel and Gretel*, the pair find themselves transported inside the book, having fallen through a plot hole.

They meet Gretel, who can't stop crying, but only because she 'is written that way' and endeavour to help find Hansel (who is stuck in a bottle). The bureaucratic world is run by FANCY (the Fairytale Alliance Network of Character Unions), where Gretel is part of the subset SUPER FANCY (Stereotypical Unempowered Princesses and Extraneous Royalty). She and the boys are accused of breaching SLIP and SLIDE (Safety Laws of Interworld Portals/ Secrecy Laws of Interworld Demystification Experiences). Using a combination of Basil's bookishness and Terry's sporting skills, the boys must outwit their opponents, as Basil realises he has always underestimated princesses, and Terry realises that books are growing on him!

- A middle-grade take on Jasper Fforde's Thursday Next series (*The Eyre Affair* and *Lost in a Good Book*)
- Funny, clever, with two likeable main characters and a savvy plot. It straddles the reluctant reader/literary reader market – so perfect for all readers 9+
- For fans of Adam Gidwitz, David Walliams and Jaclyn Moriarty

Annaleise Byrd grew up on a farm in Queensland, ignoring most farm-related pursuits in favour of reading books. She then spent nine years in England and Canada, neglecting a variety of jobs in favour of reading books. Eventually, she realised the best way to get away with this was to become an author. Annaleise now lives in Brisbane with her husband, two young sons and rescue greyhound, and she is particularly fond of lamingtons. You can find her online at www.annaleisebyrd.com.



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WALKER BOOKS

11 Ruby Road: 1900

by Charlotte Barkla

Perfect period fiction for middle-grade girls - for fans of the *Our Australian Girl* series

It is 1900 and Dorothy and her family have just moved to a new house at 11 Ruby Road. Ruby Road is a busy street, bustling with activity - families and children, noisy carts and animals. The house is close enough to see the city and very different from the rural life Dorothy has known. Best of all it has a secret writing room that only she knows about!

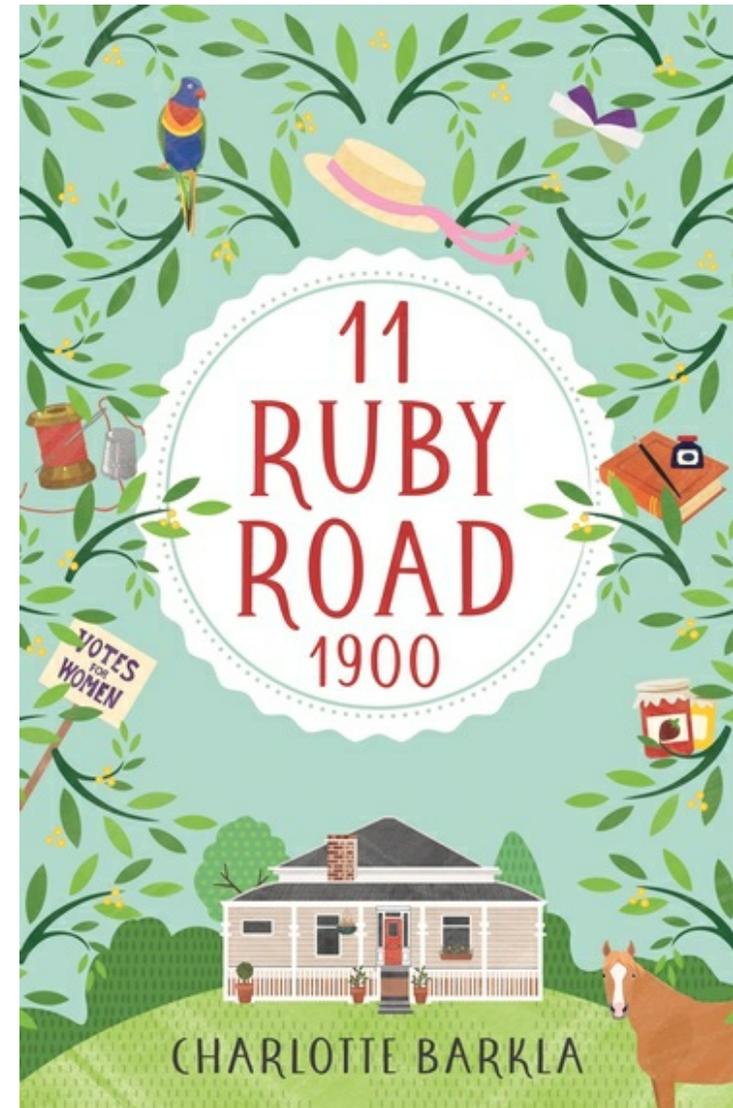
Dorothy has big plans for her new neighbourhood - she wants to put on a play and write it herself! But there are other reasons for her family's move to the city and, as Dorothy starts to learn about her new house, she discovers more about the period of time she's growing up in.

- **Number 11 Ruby Road is a house that has stood for over one hundred years with many different occupants. If only the walls could talk ...**
- **Market comparisons include the *Our Australian Girls* series, as well as historical fiction by Katrina Nannestad, Jackie French and Felice Arena.**
- **Charlotte Barkla is a Brisbane-based writer who has written picture books and middle-grade fiction, including the *Eddie's Experiment* series for Penguin Random House.**
- **Second book from this author will be set in the same house but in the year 1925 instead.**

Charlotte Barkla is a Brisbane-based writer who worked as a civil engineer and physics teacher before rediscovering her love for children's literature. As well as writing for children, Charlotte writes feature articles for publications including the CSIRO's *Double Helix*, *Beanz* magazine and *Kookie* magazine. She regularly visits schools for creative writing workshops, sharing her passion for science, creativity and stories with children of all ages. Charlotte's books include *All Bodies are Good Bodies* (Hardie Grant Children's Publishing, 2020), the *Eddie's Experiments* series (Penguin Random House, 2020) and *From My Head to My Toes, What I Say Goes* (Hardie Grant Children's Publishing, 2022).

Charlotte's books have been translated in multiple languages and short-listed for awards, and she has been the recipient of grants and mentorships for her fiction writing.

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WALKER BOOKS

Rex Dinosaur in Disguise: Undercover Alien

by Elys Dolan

illustrated by Elys Dolan

Rex goes on an intergalactic guinea pig rescue mission in his next adventure in the hilarious series for 7+ readers, from Lollies Prize winning author-illustrator Elys Dolan.

Life is going well for Rex until the school's guinea pigs suddenly vanish from the pet show. As a dinosaur-turned-PE teacher, Rex immediately gets the blame.

Determined to prove he hasn't eaten any beloved pets, Rex – along with his friends Sandra, Anish and Bigfoot – set out to solve the guinea pig mystery.

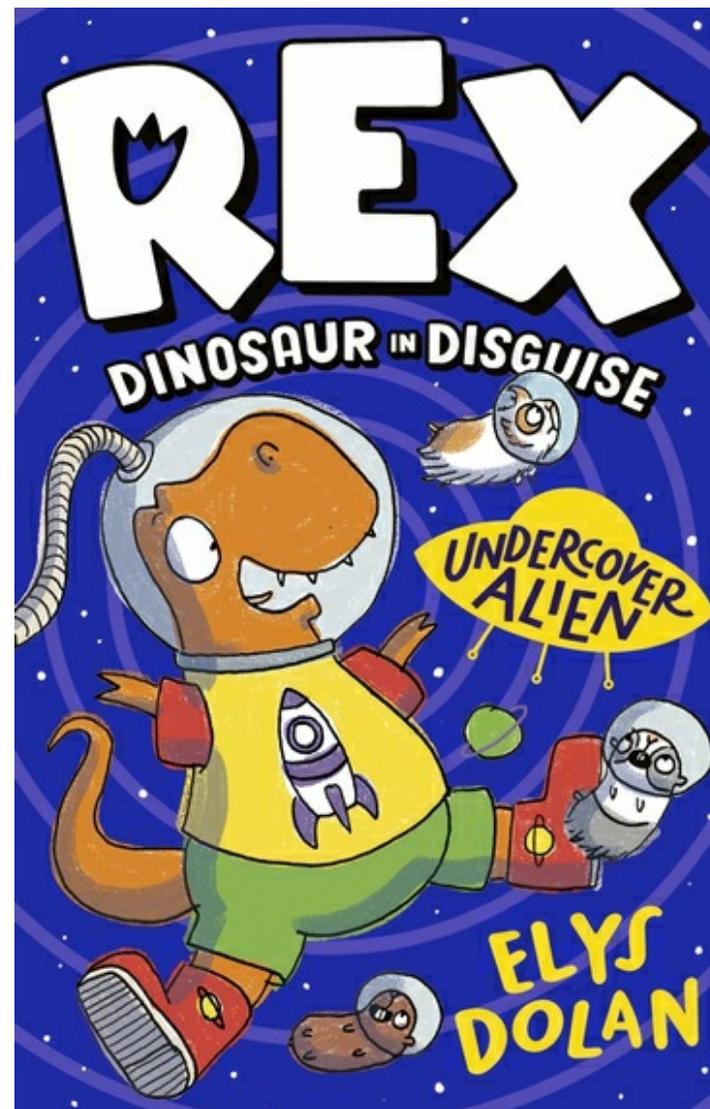
First they have to face up to the shifty city mayor, Jimmy Prigg, and then Rex must go undercover on a daring intergalactic rescue mission.

Highly illustrated throughout and laugh-out-loud funny, this hilarious series is perfect for fans of The Bolds, Dogman and Bunny & Monkey.

- The second book in a four book series.
- Illustrated in two-colour, with illustrations on every page, so readers will love spotting hilarious jokes.
- Elys Dolan is the winner of the Lollies Prize; the first Rex book in the series is longlisted for the Alligator's Mouth Award 2023.
- "Elys Dolan has been a comic failsafe in this house, from picture book age up to about eight or nine." Author Lucy Mangan in the *Guardian*

Elys Dolan makes picture-books about everything from seagull detectives to capitalist bunny rabbits and weasels plotting world domination. She was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize for *Weasels* and the Branford Boase for *Knighthood for Beginners*, and won the inaugural STEAM Children's Book Prize for *How the Borks Became* and the prestigious Lollies Prize for *Mr Bunny's Chocolate Factory*. She is also a lecturer on the MA in Children's Book Illustration at the Cambridge School of Art.

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WALKER BOOKS

Future Hopes: Hopeful stories in a time of climate change

edited by Lauren James

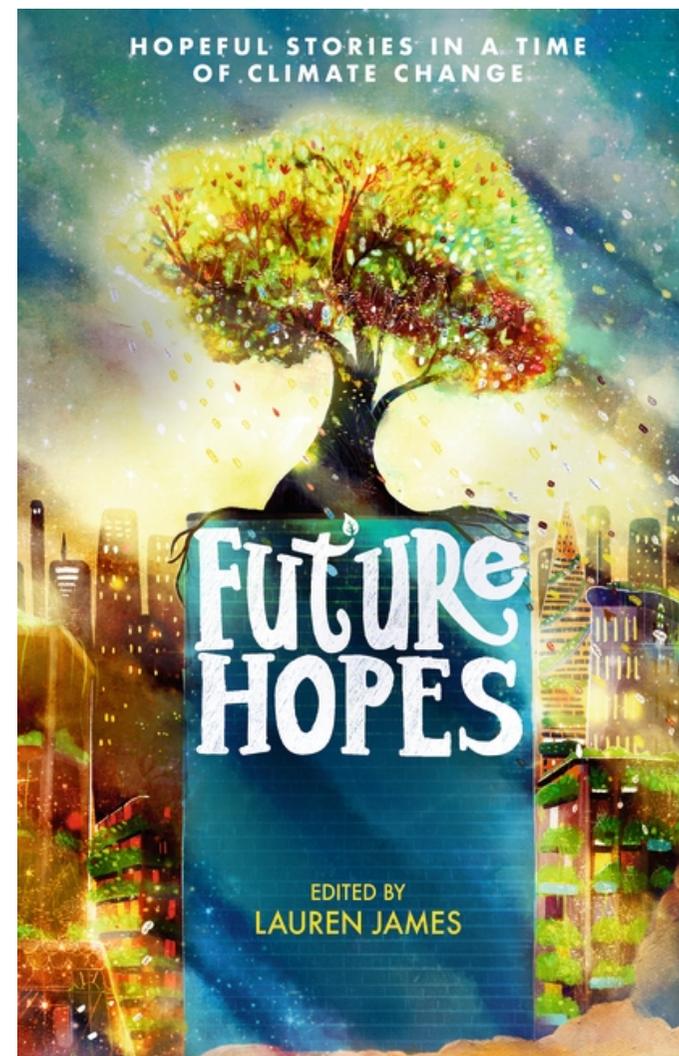
In this collection of compelling short stories, authors including M. G. Leonard, Neal Shusterman and Tolá Okogwu offer hope for our planet in the face of climate change.

Skyscraper farms. Insects for dinner. Guerilla gardening. Nine authors pose ingenious and thought-provoking solutions to the climate crisis in this anthology of climate fiction. Rooted in real-world science and technology, the stories offer a roadmap for a future where our planet can thrive. From a rewinding project with unexpected consequences to a rebellion against augmented reality, these wide-ranging stories will leave the reader feeling a little less powerless in the fight to save planet Earth.

Full list of contributors: Eli Brown, L. R. Lam, M. G. Leonard, Rebecca Lim, Oisín McGann, Tolá Okogwu, Neal and Brendan Shusterman, Louie Stowell and Bijal Vachharajani

- **Curated and edited by author Lauren James, whose insightful notes provide additional information about the key concepts introduced in the stories and give readers practical advice on how they can contribute towards a healthier planet.**
- **Will resonate with a generation who have grown up with Greta Thunberg and Extinction Rebellion at the forefront of the news.**
- **The anthology takes a solutions-focused approach to the subject of climate change in a deliberate attempt to offer young readers a more positive outlook for the future.**
- **An excellent learning resource for Key Stage 2 teachers and pupils.**

Lauren James is the twice Carnegie-nominated author of *Green Rising*; *The Reckless Afterlife of Harriet Stoker*; *The Quiet at the End of the World*; *The Loneliest Girl in the Universe*; and *The Next Together* series. She has been shortlisted for the YA Book Prize and the STEAM Children's Book Award. Lauren teaches creative writing for Coventry University, WriteMentor and Writing West Midlands, and has written articles for numerous publications, including the *Guardian* and the *Children's Writers' and Artists' Yearbook*. She is the founder of the Climate Fiction Writers League, and a passionate advocate of STEM further education. She lives in the West Midlands and you can find her on Twitter at @Lauren_E_James or her website (laurenejames.co.uk).



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WALKER BOOKS

Groosham Grange Graphic Novel

by Anthony Horowitz

illustrated by Clément Lefèvre

translated by Rosie Eyre

A brand-new graphic novel adaptation of one of the funniest children's classics.

When David Eliot is expelled from his boring school, his parents send him to Groosham Grange to knock him into shape. But when he arrives at the gothic castle on remote Skrull Island, he discovers Groosham Grange is an unusual sort of school: from signing the register in blood, to the creepy teachers – pallid Mr Kilgraw, Mrs Pedicure bandaged head to toe, hairy Mr Leloup who disappears every full moon... David teams up with fellow pupils Jeffrey and Jill to plan his escape. But can anyone ever escape Groosham Grange? With puns and visual jokes on every page, this is gothic humour at its best.

Anthony Horowitz's classic gothic page-turner is brought to life in full colour in this hilarious graphic novel adaptation.

Praise for *Groosham Grange*:

"One of the funniest books of the year." *Young Telegraph*

"Hilarious... Speeds along at full tilt from page to page." *Books for Keeps*

- Bestselling author Anthony Horowitz's gothic humour series, now in graphic novel.
- The first of two graphic novel adaptations of Anthony Horowitz's bestselling series.
- *Groosham Grange* has sold over ¼ million copies in the English language.

Anthony Horowitz is the author of the number one bestselling Alex Rider books and the Power of Five series.

He enjoys huge international acclaim as a writer for both children and adults. Anthony has won numerous awards, including the Bookseller Association/Nielsen Author of the Year Award, the Children's Book of the Year Award at the British Book Awards, and the Red House Children's Book Award. In 2014 Anthony was awarded an OBE for Services to Literature. Anthony was recently awarded a CBE for Services to Literature. He has also created and written many major television series, including a dramatization of his novel *Point Blanc*, bringing the adventures of Alex Rider to teenage and adult audiences. He lives in London with his wife, two sons and their dog, Boss.



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WALKER BOOKS

Pearly and Pig and the Island of Secrets

by Sue Whiting

illustrated by Rebecca Crane

Third instalment of the fast-paced middle-grade adventure series, following adventurologist Pearly Woe!

Pearly Woe is a worrier.

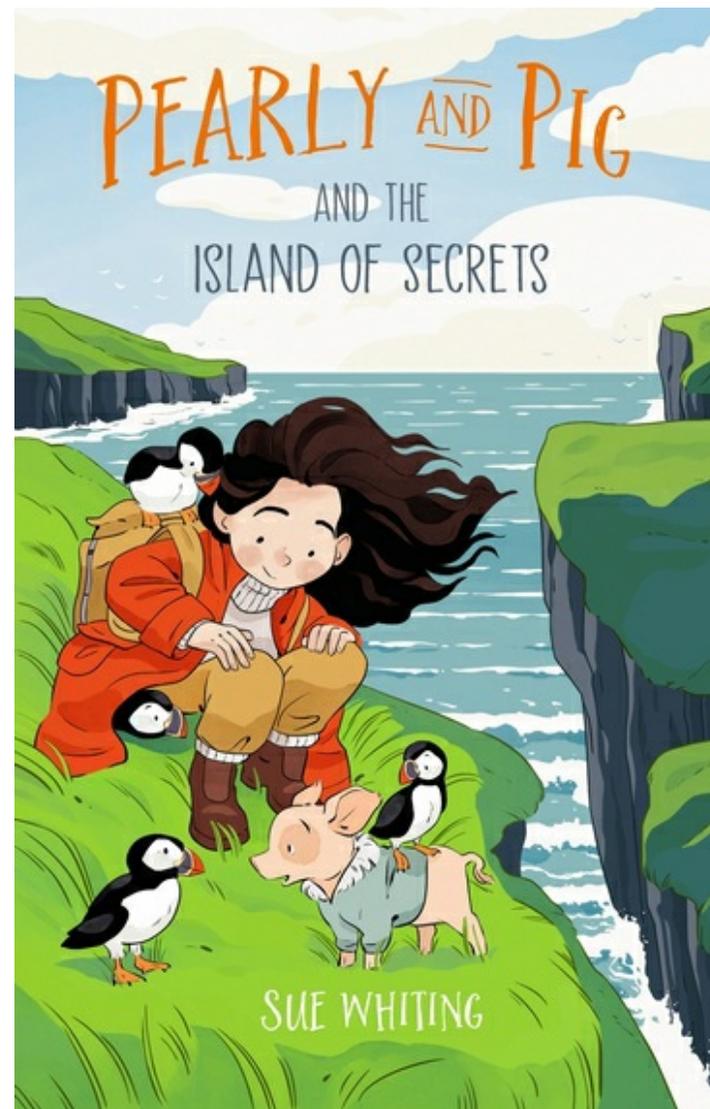
On remote Mammút Island off the coast of Iceland, Pearly's worrying is put to the ultimate test when she and Pig are winched from a helicopter onto the island to complete a five-day survival challenge – alone.

But they are not alone. And that is not the only surprise in store for Pearly and Pig as Mammút Island reveals its many secrets.

- **“This is a wonderful story about overcoming self-doubt, trusting your instincts, and the importance of family. Readers aged 8–12 will love this story”** Lamont Books on *Pearly and Pig and the Lost City of Mu Savan*
- **Sue Whiting is a well-loved and award-winning children's book writer, former teacher and publishing manager.**
- **Third in the series, following on from *Pearly and Pig and the Great Hairy Beast* and *Pearly and Pig and the Lost City of Mu Savan*.**
- **Rebecca Crane's incredible illustrations grace the cover and are featured throughout the book.**

Sue Whiting is an award-winning children's and YA author and editor who has worked in publishing for 20+ years. Sue was senior commissioning editor and publishing manager for Walker Books Australia for many years before leaving in 2016 to concentrate on her writing. As a storyteller and schools' performer, Sue has informed, inspired and entertained thousands of kids across the country. She is also a freelance children's book editor and writing coach, and the author of numerous books, including the bestselling *Missing*, the acclaimed *The Book of Chance* and a number of CBCA Notable Books. Sue's latest books are *Pearly and Pig and the Great Hairy Beast*, the first in a new junior fiction series, and the narrative nonfiction picture book *The Echidna Near my Place*, illustrated by Cate James.

Rebecca Crane studied Illustration at Edinburgh University and has an MA in Character Animation. She was author and illustrator of *Barkley*, and has illustrated many books including *My Very Own Space* written by Pippa Goodhart. She now lives in London. Find her on Instagram @crane.illustration



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WALKER BOOKS

Saskia Spark-Lee: Fundraiser Fail

by Rebecka Sharpe Shelberg
illustrated by Sofya Karmazina

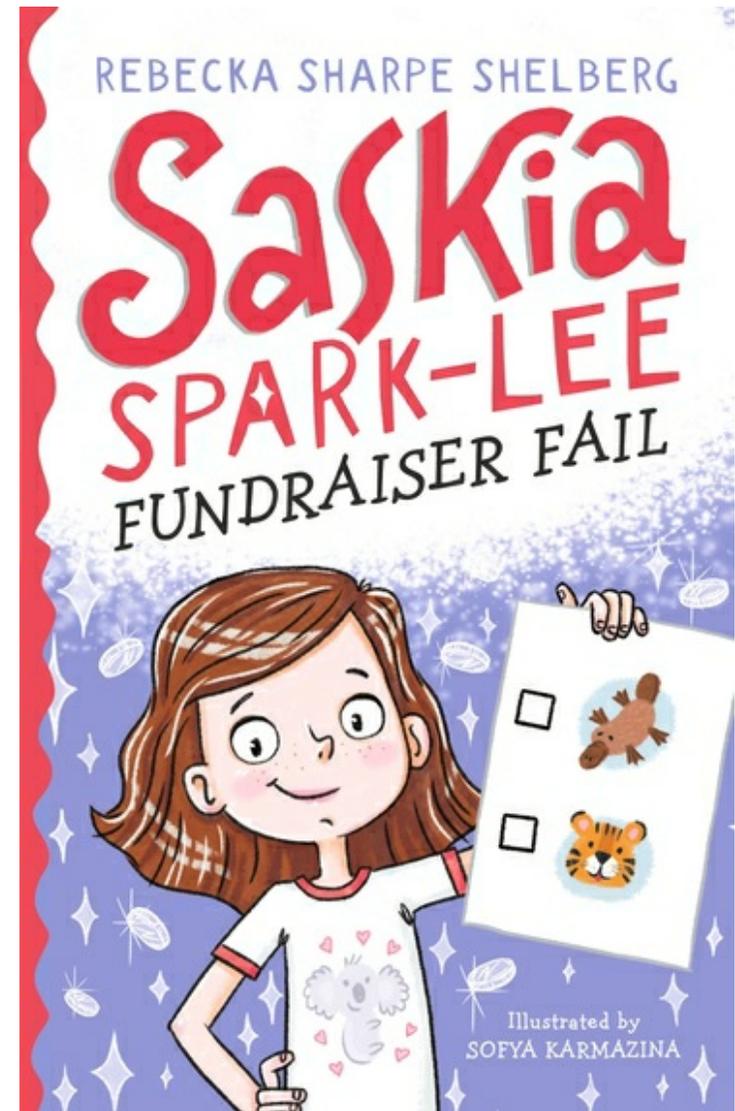
Saskia Spark-Lee is back! This time she's on a mission to save the animals.

Saskia Spark-Lee loves animals – she's almost adopted a whole zoo-worth! But when Da and Dee say they can't add another to the collection, she must come up with a new plan to continue supporting her furry friends. With some help from Nanna, and the amazing fundraising skills of her friends, Saskia may find where there's a will there's a way!

- **Great for emerging readers**
- **Charmingly illustrated by CBCA shortlistee and Australian Book Design Award-winner, Sofya Karmazina**
- **Contemporary and relatable stories, mirroring the life of modern Australian families**

Rebecka Sharpe Shelberg is a children's librarian and author who lives in Sydney, Australia with her husband and three mischievous children. She firmly believes that stories and illustration are the real magic in this crazy, confusing world. She loves love and kindness, and really does want world peace. When she isn't reading, writing, listening to or talking about books, reading, the library or her children, she is asleep. Her first picture book, *Reflection*, was a CBCA Notable book.

Sofya Karmazina is a Sydney-based book designer and illustrator, who is passionate about great stories and children's books. Working both digitally and using traditional media, her work is driven by curiosity and perseverance. She has previously illustrated *Ribbit Rabbit Robot* (written by Victoria Mackinlay) and *The Internot* (written by Josh Lawson). She was shortlisted in the New Illustrator category with *Ribbit Rabbit Robot* (written by Victoria Mackinlay) in the 2021 CBCA Awards and longlisted in the 2021 Australian Book Design Awards for the same title. She was also longlisted in the Best Designed Series (including Classics) category of the 2018 Australian Book Design Awards for *Rowland Sinclair Mysteries* by Sulari Gentill. In 2023, Sofya won at the Australian Book Design Awards for her work on the Bunny Family series.



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WALKER BOOKS

Alexander the Great: Man, Myth or Monster?

by Jamila Gavin

illustrated by David Parkins

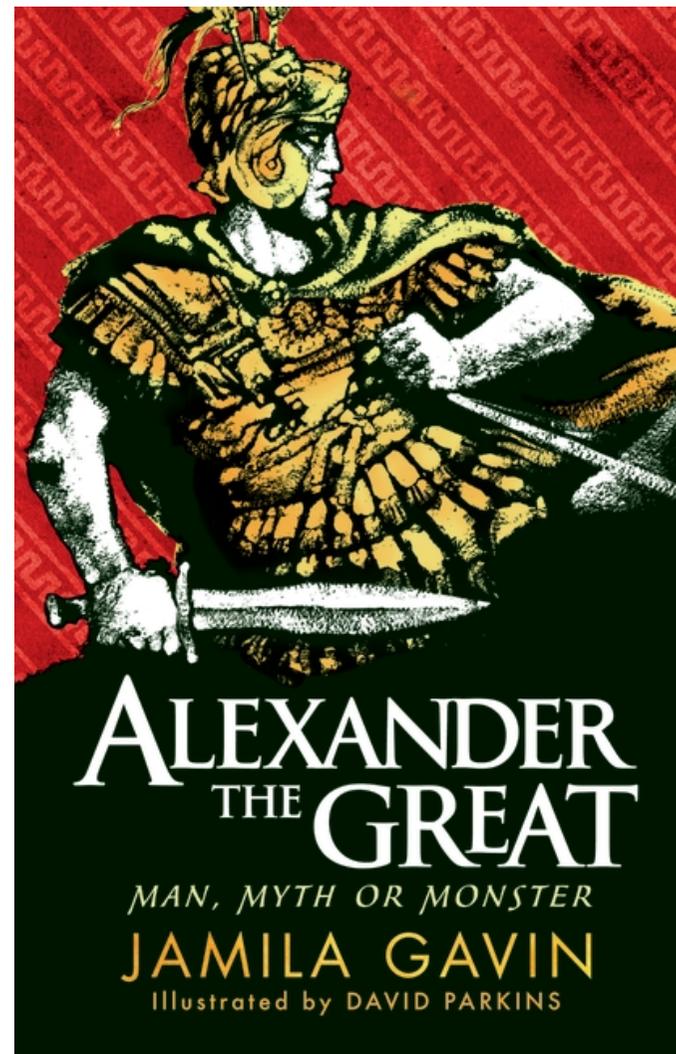
The compelling story of the greatest warrior hero of ancient times, from award-winning writer, Jamila Gavin.

Alexander the Great is hailed as the world's greatest leaders of all time, renowned for his bravery, his loyalty and his generosity towards his enemies. Jamila Gavin's vivid narrative brings the ancient world to life, as she follows Alexander's campaign from Greece to India. From his taming of the wild horse Bucephalus, to the cutting of the Gordian Knot, through to his great battles and confrontations with Darius III, King of Persia, Alexander was a legend in his own lifetime. Alongside his campaigning feats, the legends from ancient Greece, Egypt, Persia and India told around the army campfires create a vivid and exciting picture of life under this great hero.

- Ancient history is brought to life in vivid storytelling by a much-loved children's author.
- Ideal for introducing young readers to this turbulent and compelling period, supporting the National Curriculum Years 4-6.
- A vibrant retelling of classical legends newly in paperback.
- Netflix is currently filming a big-budget docudrama on the life of Alexander, with the working title of *Alexander the Great*.

Jamila Gavin was born in India, in the foothills of the Himalayas and moved to England as a child. She is one of Britain's most acclaimed children's authors having won the Whitbread Children's Book Awards and the Guardian Children's Fiction Prize. Her novel *Coram Boy* was staged at the National Theatre. She lives in Gloucestershire.

David Parkins is a renowned illustrator and cartoonist who has worked on *The Beano* and *The Dandy*, and has illustrated over 50 books. He lives in Canada.



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WALKER BOOKS

The Incredible Adventures of Gaston le Dog

by Michael Rosen

illustrated by Viviane Schwarz

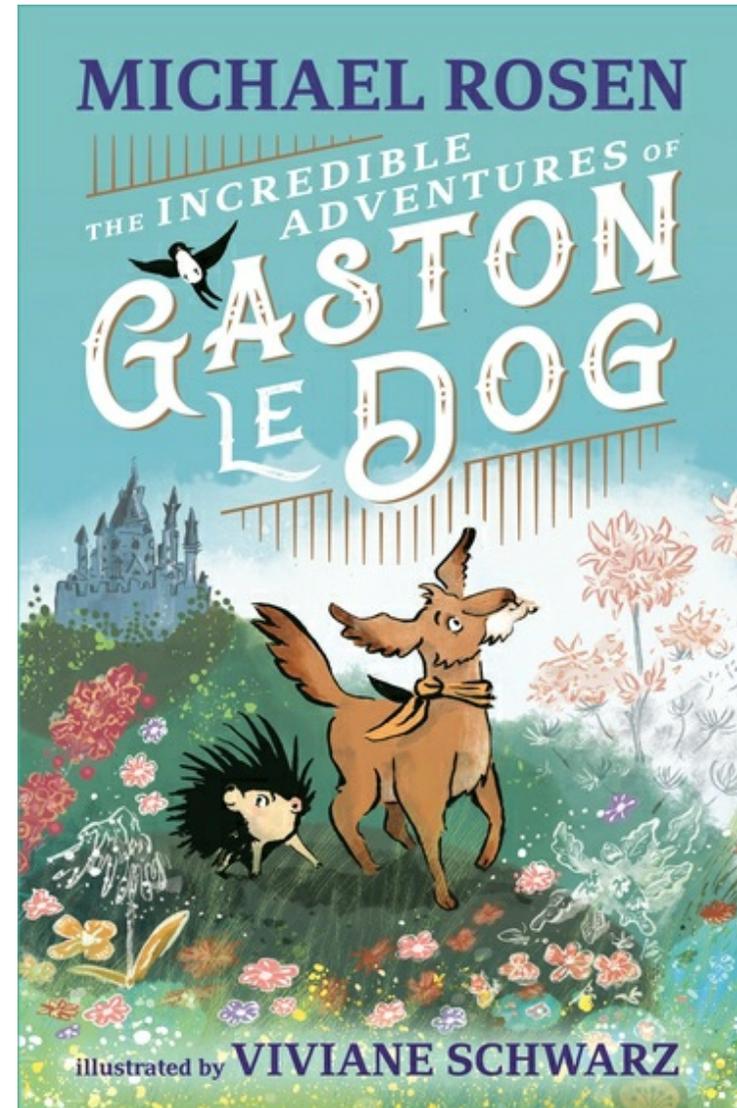
A funny and fantastical adventure from former Children's Laureate Michael Rosen and award-winning illustrator Viviane Schwarz.

Gaston le Dog longs to return to the beautiful beach he remembers from years ago. So he sets off on an adventure – but mystery and danger lurk at every turn, and Gaston will need all the help he can get from the friends he meets along the way. But can they all be trusted? And will Gaston's odyssey bring him everything he hoped for? This playful new tale from national treasure Michael Rosen sprinkles myth, magic and fairy tale to create a brilliant story, illustrated by award-winning artist Viviane Schwarz, perfect for fans of the Grimwood series.

- **An entertaining adventure full of talking animals, farce and friendship, combining two leading stars of the children's book world in Michael Rosen and Viviane Schwarz.**
- **Loosely inspired by *The Odyssey*, but also paying homage to classic tales such as *Puss in Boots*, this is a playful tour de force of a story from Michael Rosen.**
- **This edition is jacketed and illustrated throughout in black and white.**

Michael Rosen is one of the most popular authors for children; his bestselling titles published by Walker Books include *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, *A Great Big Cuddle* and *Michael Rosen's Sad Book*. A popular radio broadcaster, distinguished critic and academic, and multi-award-winning poet, Michael was appointed the Children's Laureate from 2007 to 2009, and is now Professor of Children's Literature at Goldsmiths, University of London.

Viviane Schwarz is the author-illustrator of the highly acclaimed picture books *There Are Cats in this Book* and *There Are No Cats in this Book*, both of which were shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Medal (2009, 2012), *Is There a Dog in This Book?*, *Counting with Tiny Cat*, *Animals with Tiny Cat* and *How to Find Gold*. *The Adventures of a Nose* was shortlisted for the V&A illustration Award and her debut graphic novel *The Sleepwalkers* was nominated for the British Comics Awards. She is also the illustrator of *Cheese Belongs to You!* and *I Am Henry Finch*, both written by friend and fellow picture book maker, Alexis Deacon. Find Viviane online at vivianeschwarz.co.uk, and on Twitter and Instagram as @vivschwarz.



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WALKER BOOKS

Bear and Bird: The Adventure and Other Stories

by Jarvis

illustrated by Jarvis

"These wittily illustrated stories of mishaps, hurt feelings, fondness and friendship have a transporting quality, ideal for 5+." *Guardian*

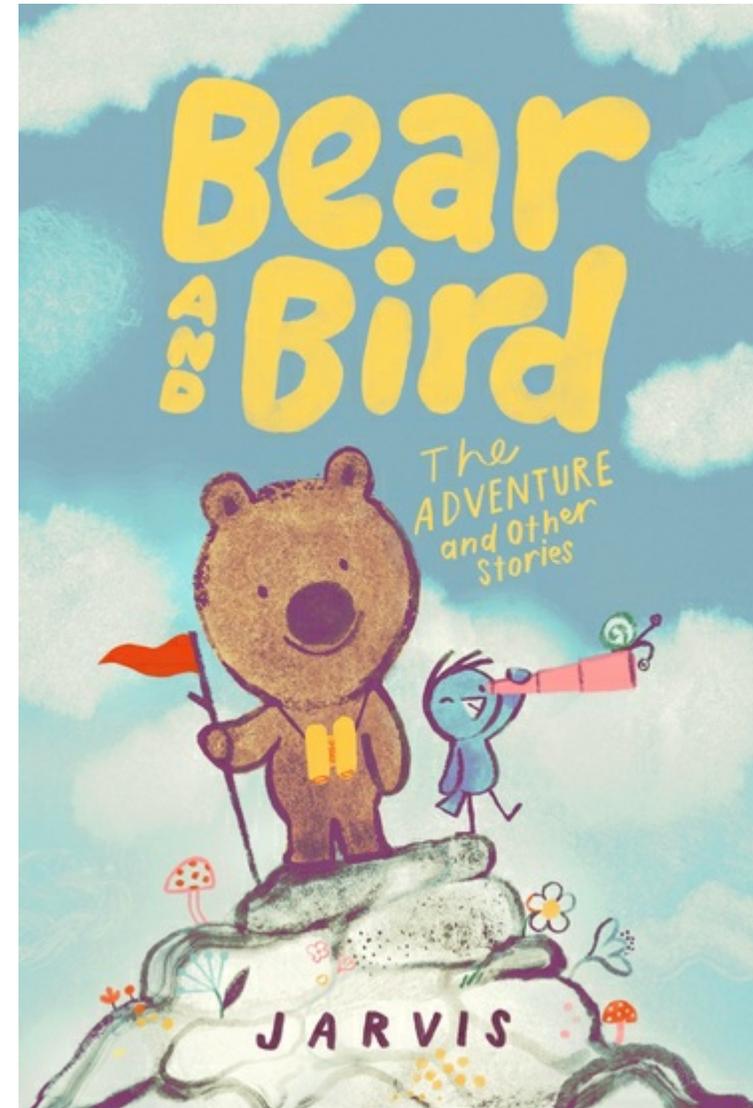
Bear and Bird are best friends! And while they don't always understand each other, they both agree: all they want is to make the other happy. So, when Bird feels poorly, Bear arrives with a backpack of goodies to make her feel better. And when they hang out with Mole – who tells absolutely hilarious jokes! – Bird realizes she doesn't need to compete for Bear's attention; that there is lots of laughter to go around...

Full of comic mix-ups and misunderstandings, as well as genuine warmth and affection, these four stories are the third instalment in an irresistibly charming new chapter book series from award-winning creator Jarvis.

- The third collection of adventures following *The Picnic and Other Stories* and *The Stars and Other Stories*.
- Jarvis' Walker books have sold 1.2 million copies worldwide and have published into twenty different languages.
- Containing four laugh-out-loud stories, and with colour illustrations on every page, this is a big-hearted book for young readers just graduating from picture books.

Jarvis is the author-illustrator of *Alan's Big, Scary Teeth*, *Mrs Mole, I'm Home!*, *Tropical Terry* and *The Boy with Flowers in His Hair*, as well as the illustrator of *Pick a Pine Tree*, *Pick a Pumpkin* and *Pick a Perfect Egg*, all written by Patricia Toht. *Bear and Bird* is Jarvis's first chapter book series. An animator who has worked as a record jacket designer and an animation director, he lives in Manchester with his wife and their dog and cat. Follow him on Twitter as @heyimjarvis and on Instagram as @booksbyjarvis.

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	5 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$24.99	Format:	229mm x 152mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$27.99	Extent:	64 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781529514803		



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WALKER  BOOKS

Blue Stars: Mission One: The Vice Principal Problem

by Kekla Magoon and Cynthia Leitich Smith
illustrated by Molly Murakami

Two everyday superheroes set out to save the world—starting with their school—in an exciting new middle-grade graphic series from two award-winning authors and a debut illustrator.

When cousins Riley Halfmoon and Maya Dawn move to Urbanopolis to live with their activist grandma, they get off to a rocky start. Outgoing Riley misses her Muscogee cousins but is sure that she and Maya will be instant BFFs. Meanwhile, introvert Maya misses her parents, on active duty in Japan, and just wants some space to herself. At school, Maya joins Robotics Club and Riley bonds with fellow gymnasts. Just when they start to feel at home, their school culture is threatened by an influential foe in disguise. Joining student council feels like a way to help, so both cousins toss their hats in the ring for sixth-grade class president. But when they realize what they're up against—money, power, and lies—they quickly shift from competition to cooperation, joining forces as superheroes. Riley is savvy with people; Maya is a whiz with gadgets. In no time, this dazzling duo is off to save the day! Relatable and rich in themes of family, community, and compromise, the Blue Stars series will entertain and empower, inspiring readers to be the stars *they* are.

- **Graphic novel fans, rejoice! *The Vice-Principal Problem* is the first in a series for middle-grade graphic novel fans who have devoured all of their old favorites and are looking for something new**
- **Perfect for those looking for authentic, diverse representation, as it features two cousins—one Black, one Muscogee—written by award-winning authors who share their backgrounds**
- **Introduces the incredibly appealing, full-color artwork of exciting new talent Molly Murakami**

Kekla Magoon is the renowned author of numerous fiction and nonfiction titles for young readers, including *Revolution in Our Time: The Black Panther Party's Promise to the People*; *X: A Novel*, cowritten with Ilyasah Shabazz; *How It Went Down*; and *The Season of Styx Malone*. She has received the Margaret A. Edwards Award, the John Steptoe New Talent Author Award, an NAACP Image Award, the *Boston Globe–Horn Book* Award, and three Coretta Scott King Honors, among others. Kekla Magoon lives in Montpelier, Vermont, and teaches at Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Cynthia Leitich Smith is an NSK Neustadt Laureate and acclaimed author of *Hearts Unbroken*, winner of the American Indian Youth Literature Award; *Harvest House*; *Sisters of the Neversea*; the *New York Times* best-selling Tantalize and Feral series; *Rain Is Not My Indian Name*; and *Jingle Dancer*, illustrated by Cornelius Van Wright and Ying-Hwa Hu. She also edited the anthology *Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids*, is the author-curator of Heartdrum, a Native-focused children's and YA imprint, and served as the inaugural Katherine Paterson Chair at Vermont College of Fine Arts. A Muscogee Nation citizen, Cynthia Leitich Smith lives in Austin, Texas.

Molly Murakami is a cartoonist, illustrator, writer, and creator of several webcomics. *The Blue Stars Series: Mission One: The Vice-Principal Problem* is her publishing debut. She lives in Minnesota.



award-winning and best-selling authors
KEKLA MAGOON and CYNTHIA LEITICH SMITH
illustrated by **MOLLY MURAKAMI**

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Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	8 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$24.99	Format:	216mm x 152mm

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The Big Book of Australian Nursery Rhymes

by Frané Lessac

illustrated by Frané Lessac

Chant and clap, play and sing along to this fun-filled collection of nursery rhymes with an Australian twist by bestselling author and illustrator, Frané Lessac.

Row, row, row, your boat, Gently down the creek. If you hear a Tassie devil, Don't forget to shriek!

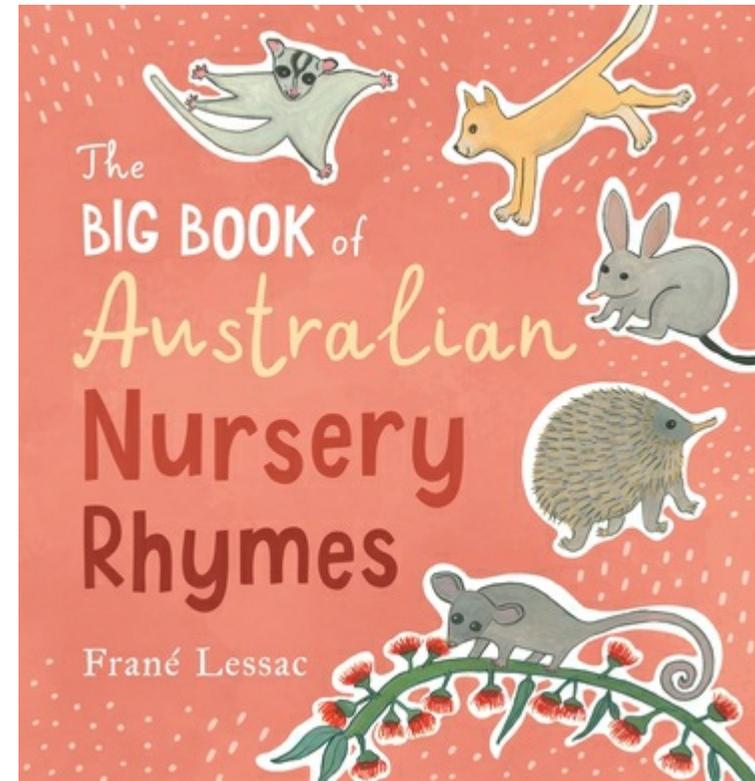
Tweaked and twisted nursery rhymes include: Twinkle, Twinkle, Southern Stars; Rock-a-Bye, Joey;

D-I-N-G-O!; This Little Froggy; Lizzie Had a Little Bat; Here We Go Round the Banksia Bush; Hop Goes the Bilby; Three Blind Moles;

Old McDonald Went Out Bush ... and many more in this glorious 96-page volume, destined to be an Australian classic

- A colourful collection of nursery rhymes, re-invigorated with an Australian flavour by award-winning author-illustrator Frané Lessac
- A perfect introduction to classic nursery rhymes, but with an Australian twist
- Perfect for read-aloud, bursting with energy and rhythm
- Packed with bright illustrations in Frané's signature style
- A brilliant gift - from new parents/babies to pre-schoolers

Frané Lessac is an author and illustrator of international renown, having nearly fifty children's books published throughout the world. She was born in the USA and lived on the Caribbean island of Montserrat, as well as in London, before moving to Australia. Frané loves to travel and create books based on her worldwide journeys. She has contributed her distinctive paintings to many critically acclaimed children's picture books including, *The Legend of Moondyne Joe* which won the West Australian Premier's Children's Book Award, and *Simpson and His Donkey*, a CBCA Honour Book that was also selected as a USBBY Outstanding International Book. In 2019, *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga*, written by Traci Sorell, was awarded the Robert F. Sibert Honor Book Honor medal, the Orbis Pictus Honor Book medal and the Boston Globe Horn Book Honor medal.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	2 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$26.99	Format:	250mm x 240mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$28.99	Extent:	96 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Walker Books Australia
ISBN:	9781760655099		

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WALKER BOOKS

Hatch and Match

by Ruth Paul

illustrated by Ruth Paul

A search-and-match adventure with patterns, colours and number fun from the award-winning author and illustrator, Ruth Paul.

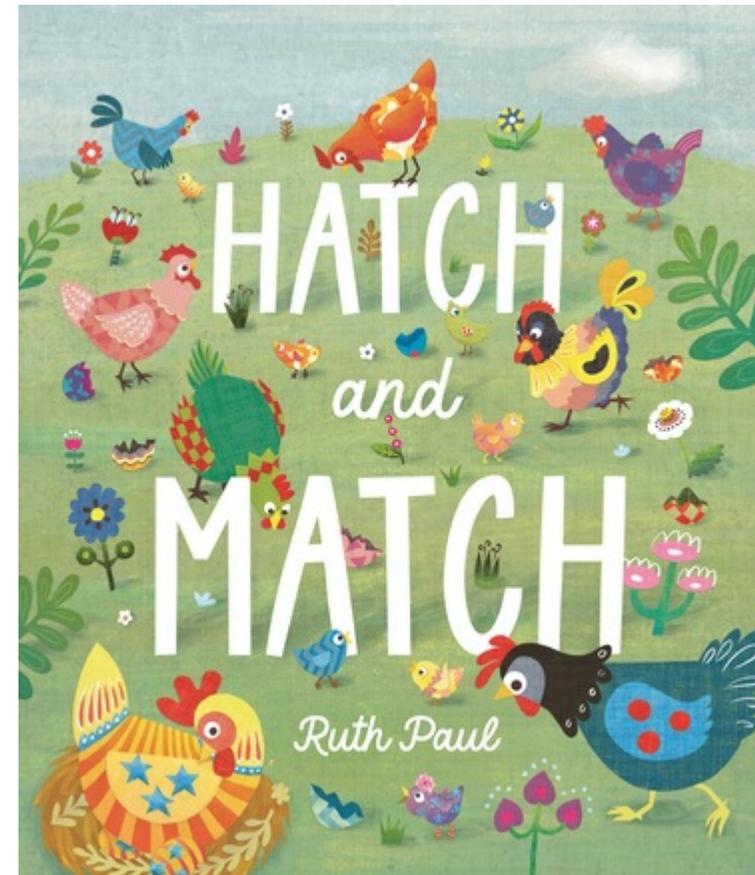
Cluck, cluck, cluck. Scratch and scratch.

Chickens look for eggs that match.

Help the chickens look for their eggs – quickly before they hatch into chicks! There's lots to find. Some with spots, stripes and even zigzags.

- **Perfect for early learning - colour, patterns and counting, all in the one book!**
- **Colourful and engaging from one of New Zealand's favourite creators**
- **A rollicking read-aloud text**
- **Great for pre-school and emerging readers**

Ruth Paul is an award-winning writer and illustrator of children's picture books, and a New Zealand Arts Laureate (2019). Her books have been published in New Zealand, Australia, USA, Canada, the UK, China and Korea, with translations into five languages. She has twice won the Picture Book Award at the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults. Ruth is an experienced presenter at both schools and literary events, and takes up the University of Otago College of Education Creative New Zealand Children's Writer in Residence fellowship in 2023. She is also a champion of her local community Makara, Te Whanganui-a-Tara, where she lives and looks after a large native forest project.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	2 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$25.99	Format:	270mm x 230mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$27.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Walker Books Australia
ISBN:	9781760656980		

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WALKER BOOKS

Little Red Riding Hood and Other Stories

by Lucy Cousins

illustrated by Lucy Cousins

The bestselling, *New York Times* Top 10 Best Illustrated title, *Yummy!*, now available as new stunning picture book editions.

"Where are you going, Little Red Riding Hood?" asked the wolf.

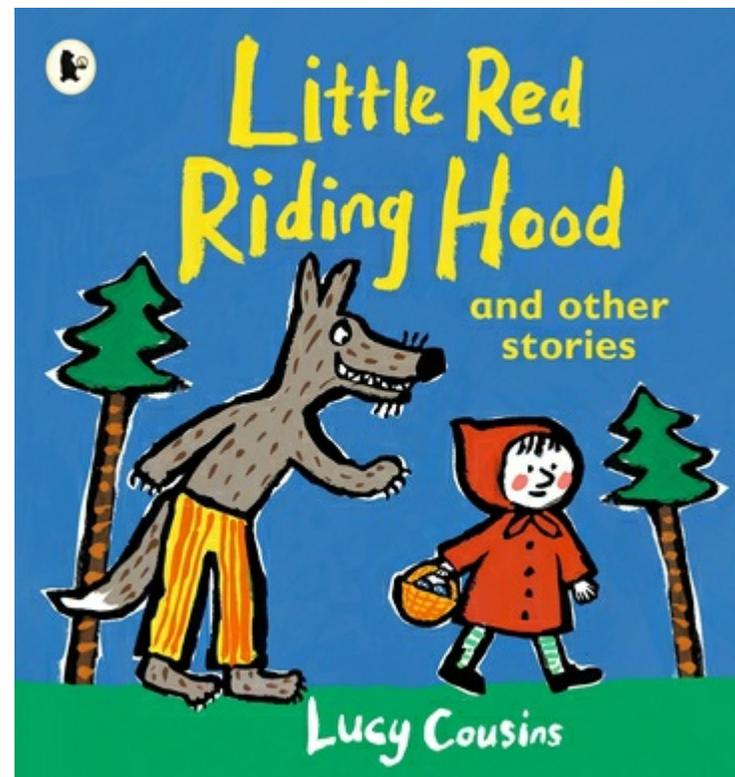
The old man pulled and pulled the enormous turnip...

Multi-award-winning author Lucy Cousins retells three of her favourite fairy tales in spare, bold language and brilliant, vibrant pictures.

The famous characters in Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs and The Enormous Turnip are given new life and a sprinkle of modern magic.

- Dynamic new edition of a well-loved classic
- *Yummy!* was a *New York Times* Top 10 Best Illustrated title
- Lucy Cousins' *Maisy* books have sold over 42 million copies worldwide and are available in 29 different languages.

Lucy Cousins is the multi-award-winning creator of *Maisy*. Her unique titles fascinate toddlers with their child-like simplicity, bold outlines and vivid colours. "Maisy does things that children all over the world do", Lucy Cousins says of her superstar mouse. "The way she dresses, the way she acts, are typical of children all over the world." Lucy Cousins works from her home in Hampshire, England. Other titles include the Smarties Book Prize-winner *Jazzy in the Jungle*, *Hooray for Fish!* – which now appears in animation in Japan; the critically acclaimed *I'm the Best*; and more recently *Peck Peck Peck*, which won Best Picture Book in the Booktrust Best Book Awards, as well as the British Book Design and Production Award in the Children's Trade category, *Let's Play Monsters* and *A Good Place*.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	2 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	260mm x 250mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$19.99	Extent:	48 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781406377361		

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WALKER  BOOKS

Little Bunny

by Petr Horacek

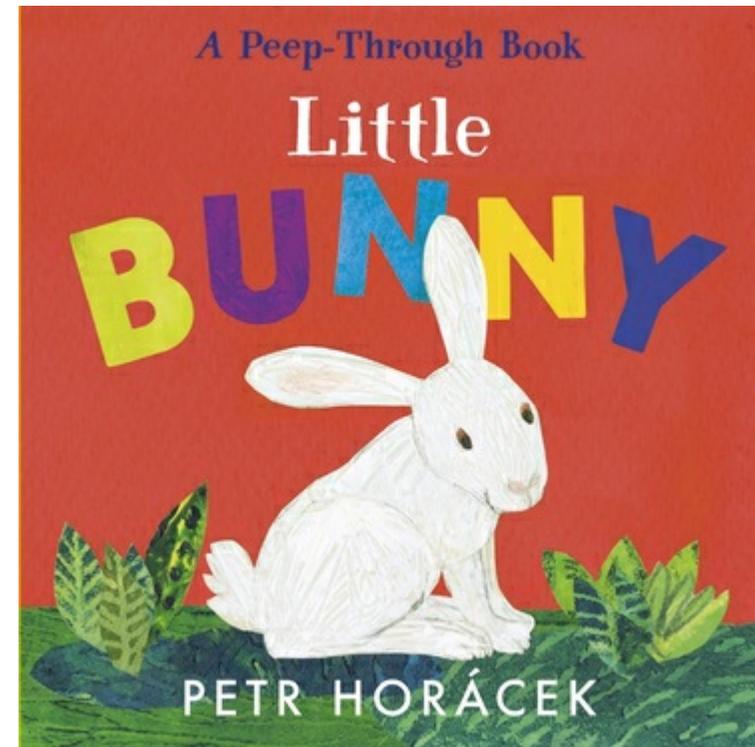
illustrated by Petr Horacek

A peep-through adventure in the woods with Little Bunny, to share with the youngest readers, illustrated by award-winning author-artist, Petr Horáček.

Who can you find in the woods? Join Little Bunny and peep through the cut-outs on each spread to spy a whole host of woodland animals. And there is a very special someone waiting at the end of the book.

- A peep-through hole on each spread and vibrant illustrations to engage the very youngest of readers.
- A bright, colourful and interactive board book, perfect for inspiring a lifelong love of reading.
- From award-winning illustrator Petr Horáček, whose other Walker board books include *Let's Go into Space*, *Let's Go Under the Sea*, *Who is Sleeping?* and *Who is the Biggest?*
- Petr Horáček is an internationally acclaimed illustrator, and was shortlisted for the Kate Greenaway Medal for his picture book *Puffin Peter*. As of December 2019, Petr has sold 4.7 million books worldwide.

Petr Horáček's bold and imaginative illustrations continue to captivate children and critics. His stories, often about loyalty and belonging, are told with an instinctive warmth and humour and are beautifully brought to life through his evocative use of colour and texture. He has won many awards around the world for classics such as *Suzy Goose* and *A New House for Mouse* and was shortlisted for the prestigious Kate Greenaway Medal in 2012 and 2018. Petr lives in Worcestershire.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	1 years, 6 months +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$14.99	Format:	180mm x 180mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Extent:	16 pages
Binding:	Board Book	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781529517354		

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WALKER BOOKS

Little Chick

by Petr Horáček

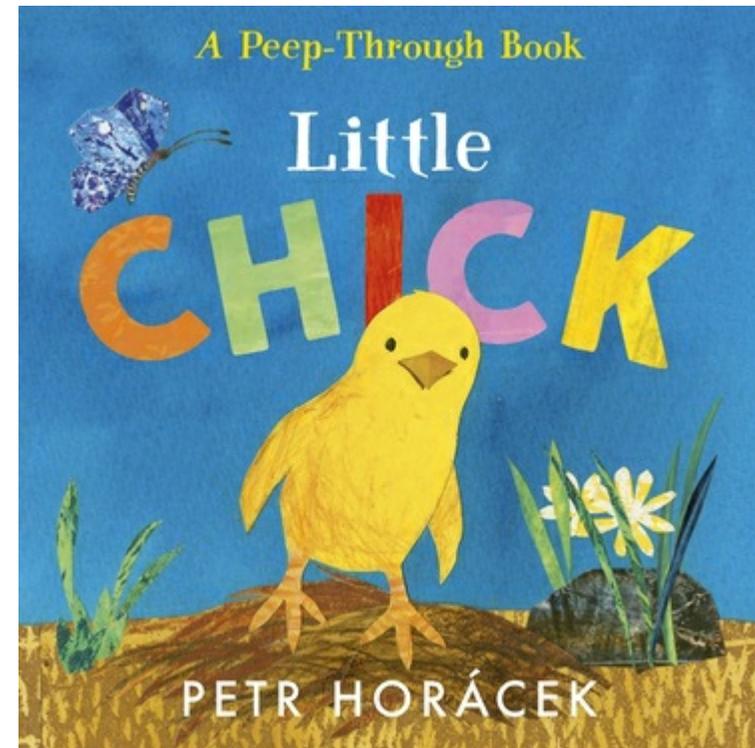
illustrated by Petr Horáček

A peep-through adventure on the farm with Little Chick, to share with the youngest readers, illustrated by award-winning author-artist, Petr Horáček.

Who can you find on the farm? Join Little Chick and peep through the cut-outs on each spread to spy a whole host of animals. And there is a very special someone waiting at the end of the book.

- A peep-through hole on each spread and vibrant illustrations to engage the very youngest of readers.
- A bright, colourful and interactive board book, perfect for inspiring a lifelong love of reading.
- From award-winning illustrator Petr Horáček, whose other Walker board books include *Let's Go into Space*, *Let's Go Under the Sea*, *Who is Sleeping?* and *Who is the Biggest?*
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NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Extent:	16 pages
Binding:	Board Book	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781529517361		

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WALKER BOOKS

Mini and Milo: Elephants Can't Jump

by Venita Dimos

illustrated by Natasha Curtin

Mini and Milo navigate the ups and downs of friendship, with "applied" emotional intelligence at the heart of every story

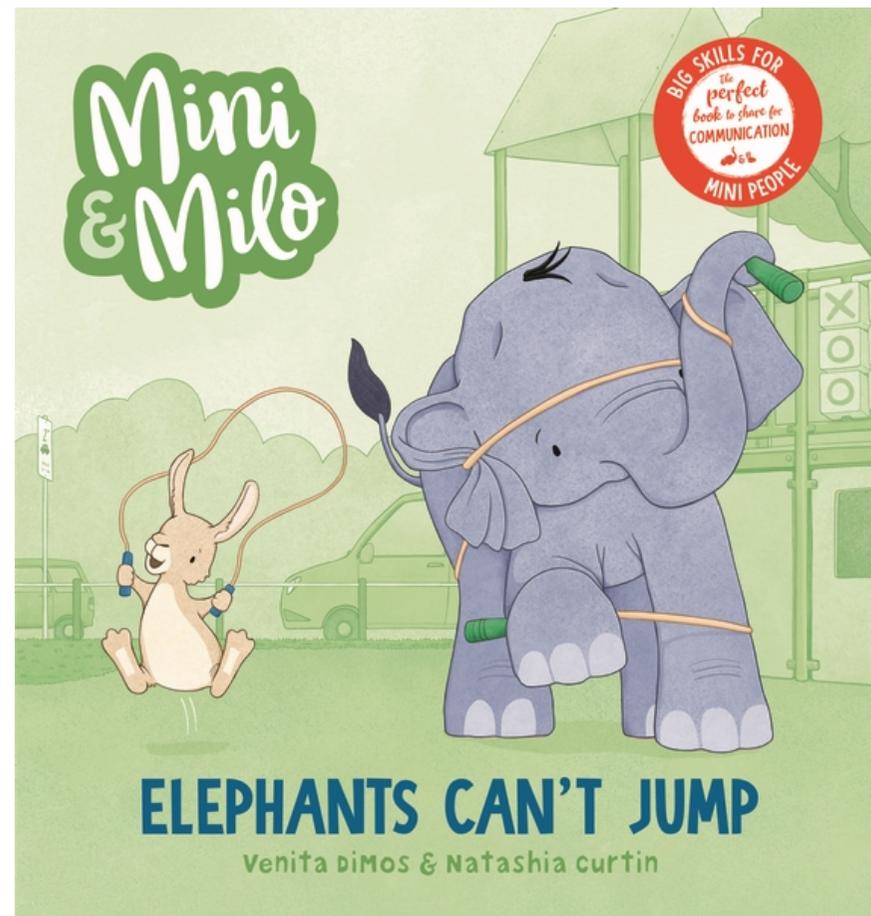
When Mini's friend Milo gives her a trampoline for her birthday Mini is upset. She even stops speaking to Milo. Milo has no idea what is wrong – how could he? Mini realises that talking about a problem is much easier than running from it. Full of humour and heart, with "Big Skills for Mini People" the "hidden veggies", Mini and Milo learn emotional skills such as conflict management and resilience.

- **Character-led, branded series full of humour and emotional intelligence**
- **Adorable characters who learn from hilarious hit and miss, and always via their own agency, will appeal to children**
- **Parents will love the "Big Skills for Mini People" - the "hidden veggies" as Mini and Milo model much-needed skills (even at an early age) such as conflict management, communication and resilience . This third title models: COMMUNICATION**
- **Written with charm , humour and expertise by Venita Dimos, a lawyer, mediator, family dispute resolution practitioner and specialist in conflict management and "applied emotional intelligence**
- **The illustrations by Natasha Curtin immediately create characters, and a delightful world, that children (and parents) will love**
- **Big Skills for Mini People: Communication**

Venita Dimos is an experienced lawyer, mediator and coach. For over 20 years she has helped thousands of people solve complex problems and navigate difficult times in their lives. Venita lives in Melbourne with her daughters. She is an outright optimist, loves heartfelt conversations and has a penchant for all things chocolate. Visit her online at venitadimos.com and Instagram @venitadimos @bigskillsforminipeople

Natasha (pronounced Na-tar-sha) **Curtin** grew up in a Yolngu township in the Northern Territory, and completed high school while living in the highlands of Papua New Guinea.

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	3 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$24.99	Format:	260mm x 250mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$26.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Walker Books Australia
ISBN:	9781760656140		



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Counting Sheep: A Farmyard Counting Book

by Michelle Robinson
illustrated by Nikki Dyson

Down on the farm, it's time to sleep. So sheepdog, Sam, rounds up the sheep...

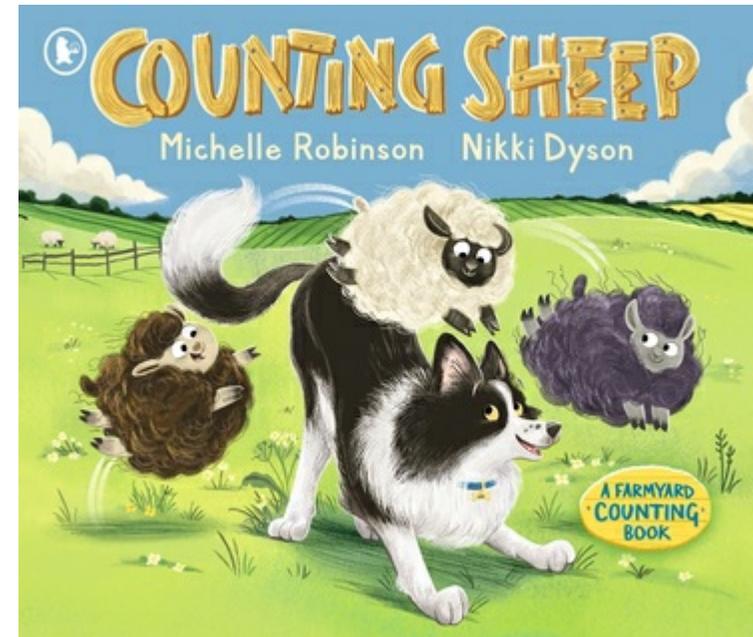
Everyone knows that counting sheep will send you straight to sleep but what happens when the *sheep* won't go to sleep? And what if they don't know how to count, either?! Sheepdog, Sam, is on the case and he tries everything he can to lull them off to dreamland. But, before long, the whole farm is awake and noisier than ever...

An alternative bedtime story full of farmyard sounds and counting chaos sure to make little ones laugh and parents sigh in sympathy.

- A goofy, funny farmyard bedtime story to charm and delight sleepy – and not so sleepy! – children.
- A funny and silly alternative counting book: kids will love to correct the sheep as they muddle their numbers.
- Michelle's text is funny with a rhythmic rhyme, paired brilliantly with Nikki's bright, boisterous and ebullient artwork.

Michelle Robinson previously wrote copy for some of the world's biggest brands. Her picture books include *Tooth Fairy in Training* and *Witch in Training*, illustrated by Briony May Smith, *The Pawed Piper*, illustrated by Chinlun Lee, *Isabelle and the Crooks*, illustrated by Chris Mould, and *There's a Lion in My Cornflakes*, illustrated by Jim Field. Michelle lives in Nova Scotia, Canada with her husband, son and daughter. Find Michelle online at michellerobinson.co.uk, and on Twitter and Instagram as @MicheRobinson.

Nikki Dyson worked for Hallmark and *National Geographic Kids* before illustrating picture books. Her titles include *Zippo the Super Hippo*, written by Kes Gray, the Little Golden Books *How to Be a Pirate* and *How to Be a Superhero*, and two word books, *1000 Animals* and *1000 Things to Eat*. Nikki lives in Northamptonshire. Find her online at nikkidysonillustration.co.uk, on Twitter as @DoodleDyson, and on Instagram as @nikki_dyson.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	2 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	230mm x 270mm
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Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781406384918		

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WALKER BOOKS

My Mother's Tongues: A Weaving of Languages

by Uma Menon

illustrated by Rahele Jomepour Bell

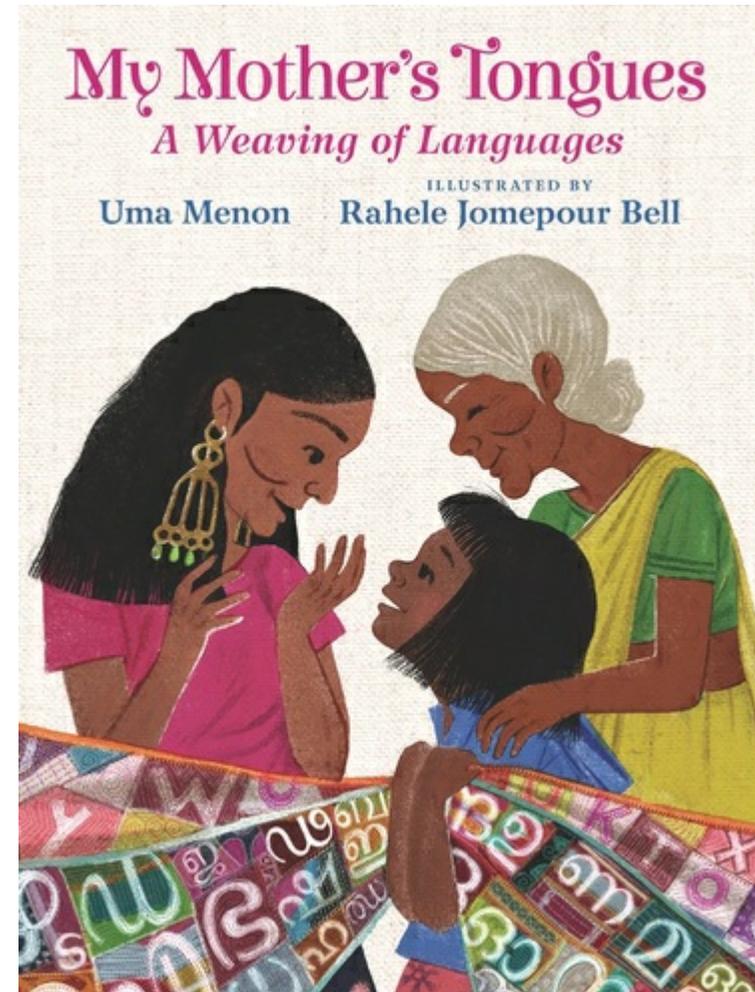
In a sparkling debut authored by a sixteen-year-old daughter of immigrants, this ode to the power of multilingualism gives voice to the lasting benefits of speaking with more than one tongue.

Sumi's mother can speak two languages, Malayalam and English. She can switch between them at the speed of sound: one language when talking to Sumi's grandmother, another when she addresses the shopkeeper. Sometimes she speaks a combination of both. Could it be she possesses a superpower? With awe and curiosity, young Sumi recounts the story of her mother's migration from India and how she came to acquire two tongues, now woven together like fine cloth. Rahele Jomepour Bell's inviting illustrations make playful use of visual metaphors, while Uma Menon's lyrical text, told astutely from a child's perspective, touches lightly on such subjects as linguistic diversity and accent discrimination ("no matter how they speak, every person's voice is unique and important"). This welcome debut, penned when the author was still a teenager, is an unabashed celebration of the gift of multilingualism – a gift that can transport people across borders and around the world.

- **Exactly the kind of book that the market is demanding right now: a book with references to immigration, duality, language; a celebration of origin, lineage, and multilingualism.**
- **The author, Uma Menon, is a sixteen-year-old student, writer, and activist. Her writing has already appeared in over three dozen publications in the US.**

Uma Menon was born in 2003 and raised in Winter Park, Florida. Growing up, she could not find stories that reflected her experience in a multilingual house, so she wrote this at age sixteen. Her writing has appeared in the *Washington Post*, the *Huffington Post*, and the *Progressive*. She was a National Young Arts Winner for three consecutive years. She studies international affairs and creative writing at Princeton University. You can find her at www.theumamenon.com.

Rahele Jomepour Bell, an Iranian-American picture book creator, graduated from Iowa State University with an MFA in integrated visual arts. She received an Illustration Mentorship Award from We Need Diverse Books and was awarded both the Portfolio Award Grand Prize and the Social Media Mentorship Award for Illustrators at the SCBWI National Conference. Her inspiration comes mostly from her childhood and Friday night family gatherings at her grandparents' house and illustrated books from around the world. She is happiest creating illustrations that send the imagination flying, offer a new look at an old idea, and reassure the viewer of their place in this world. Rahele Jomepour Bell lives in the green state of Washington, USA with her family. You can find her at www.rahelestudio.com.



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Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	3 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$27.99	Format:	280mm x 210mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781529517880		

WALKER BOOKS

Is This . . . Easter?

by Helen Yoon

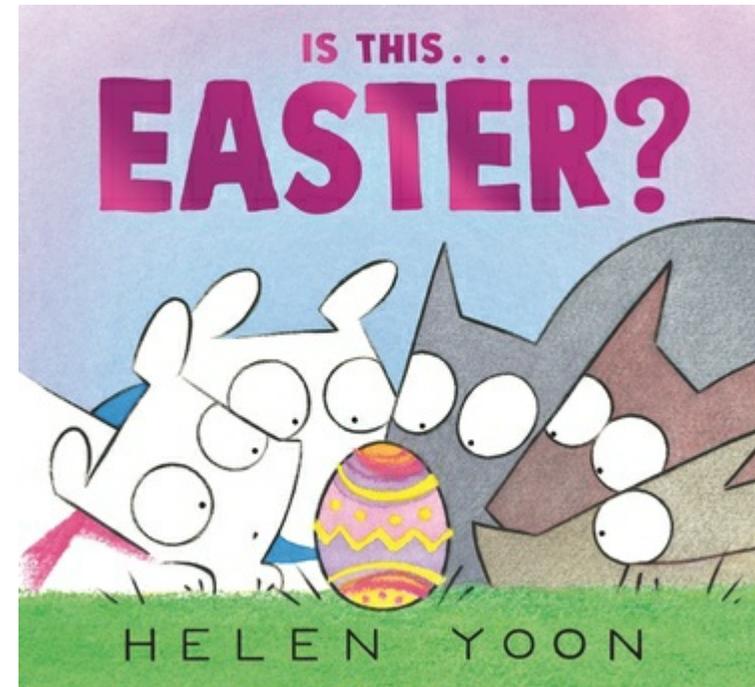
illustrated by Helen Yoon

What's the deal with all the eggs? With her trademark visual humor and comic timing, Helen Yoon takes a look at a puzzling holiday tradition.

Look, an egg! An egg left by a bunny! What does that mean? It means it's time to celebrate . . . Easter! Or is it time to celebrate breakfast? In Helen Yoon's scenario, a difference of opinion arises between excitable pups, and the egg bearer (and ultimate squabble settler) is, naturally, an enormous, Zen-like bear wearing tiny bunny ears. As the bear demonstrates, whether it's decorating eggs or eating them, Easter is kind of . . . delicious! Helen Yoon's fresh and hilarious take on the Easter holiday—part of a quirky new series of picture books—is a delightful blend of bumbling affection and slack-jawed wonder.

- *Is this . . . Winter* and *Is this . . . Easter* are the first two books in a "Helen Yoon" branded series, in which clueless, expressive animals (primarily pups) jump paws first into various holidays and seasons and show us humans how odd some of our traditions and trappings are
- An utterly fresh look at familiar seasons and holidays sure to find fans among both the humbugs and the revelers, the Hallmark-haters and the over-the-top Griswolds, the jaded and the ingenues
- Merch alongside Mo Willems's Pigeon Presents books throughout the year, or alongside Sandra Boynton's Pookie board books for holiday and seasonal displays
- With every book, Helen Yoon's reputation for outstanding picture book humor and wit grows

Helen Yoon is . . . very funny and very sharp. The author-illustrator of *Sheepish (Wolf Under Cover)*, her critically acclaimed debut picture book, as well as *Off-Limits* and *I'm a Unicorn*, she is a professional illustrator and freelance concept designer. Helen Yoon lives in the Los Angeles area.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	3 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$19.99	Format:	200mm x 220mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$21.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Candlewick
ISBN:	9781536226287		

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WALKER BOOKS

Snack, Please!

by Georgie Birkett

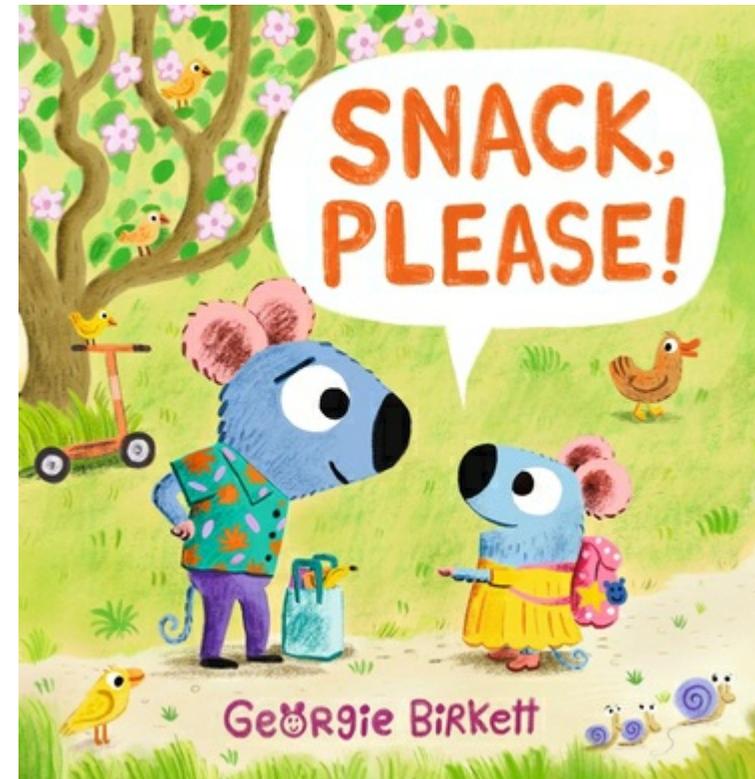
illustrated by Georgie Birkett

Tired of chopping fruit, cubing cheese, fishing rice cakes out of a backpack and generally fielding incessant snack requests? Then *Snack, Please!* is the book for you – all about the joy of making and sharing food, together!

Gertie LOVES snacks: sofa snacks, bath snacks, bedtime snacks ... it's a snack life! She abandons almost every mealtime in favour of snacking. Her daddy can't help but feel frustrated – how can he convince her to try new food? Or to even talk about something *other* than snacks? A day in Granny's allotment might just provide all the inspiration that's needed. In this funny, warm companion title to *Carry Me!*, Georgie Birkett explores small children's exasperating eating habits and, once more, through a very endearing father-daughter mouse duo, she perfectly captures the ups and downs of parenting life.

- A follow up title to *Carry Me!*, *Snack, Please!* introduces us to another adorable animal family from the growing picture book world of Cheery Street – this time, the sweet snack-obsessed Gertie and her loving (but exasperated!) daddy.
- A book that will help children discover how much fun it can be to help choose ingredients, get involved in preparing meals, and eat together with friends and family.
- A wonderful celebration of a tight father-daughter bond, community and sharing the parental load.

Georgie Birkett has made many picture books for young children, including *Carry Me!*. She won the Booktrust Early Years Award for *Is This My Nose?* and has also been nominated for the Kate Greenaway award for *Share!* written by Anthea Simmons. Find her online at georgiebirkett.com and on Instagram as [@georgiebirkett](https://www.instagram.com/georgiebirkett). Georgie lives in East Sussex.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	2 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$27.99	Format:	260mm x 250mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781529502749		

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WALKER BOOKS

Bros

by Carole Boston Weatherford
illustrated by Reggie Brown

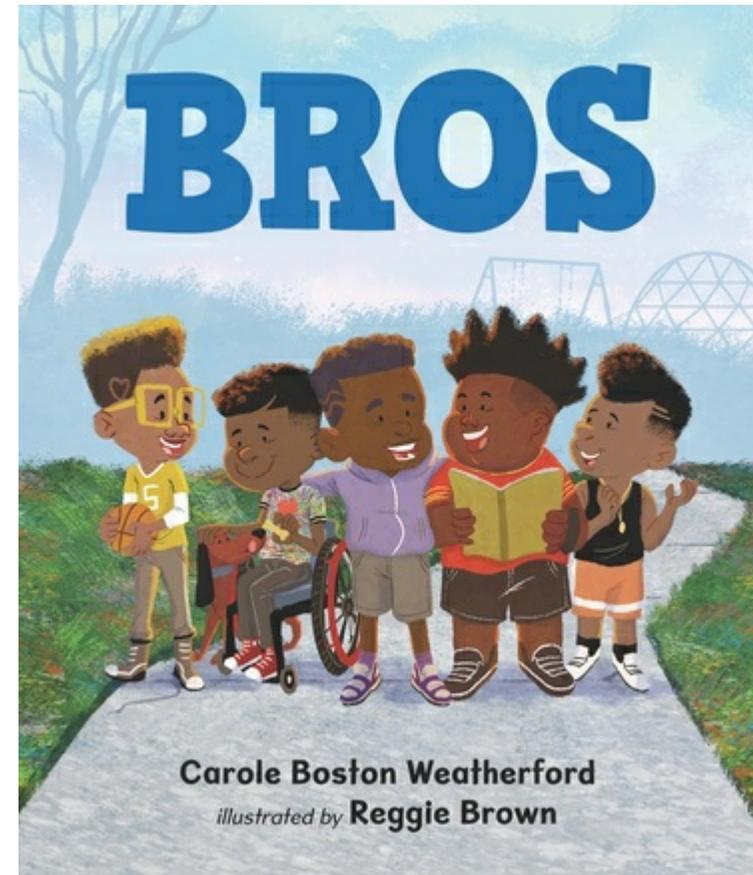
A celebration of childhood from an award-winning author, this upbeat day-in-the-life of a bunch of friends was inspired by the #BlackBoyJoy meme that spurred a movement.

From sunrise to sunset, a group of young Black boys joyously spend the day together as they live their best lives freely in their community. With confidence and a touch of swag, these friends do everything with one another: build a time machine, tend to the community garden, roleplay in the park, read, take a group selfie, and play basketball. With simple, spare text from celebrated author Carole Boston Weatherford and colorful, playful art from Reggie Brown capturing the pleasures of boyhood and friendship, *Bros* affirms the truth that Black boys deserve and are worthy of a childhood full of joy and free of risk, just as much as anyone. Timely and buoyant, it's a story sure to be enjoyed by anyone who knows what it is to be surrounded by friends with a day of adventure ahead of you.

- A celebration of boyhood from multi award-winning author Carole Boston Weatherford
- Inspired by Gwenolyn Brooks's poem "We Real Cool," *Bros* celebrates Black boyhood today, across its many identities.
- A real celebration of Blackness, identity, and friendship.

Carole Boston Weatherford, a *New York Times* best-selling author and poet, was named the 2019 *Washington Post*-Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Award winner. Her numerous books for children include the Newbery Honor Book *BOX: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom*, illustrated by Michele Wood; the Coretta Scott King Author Award winner *Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre*, illustrated by Floyd Cooper; *Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement*, illustrated by Ekua Holmes, which was also a Robert F. Sibert Honor Book; and *Outspoken: Paul Robeson, Ahead of His Time* and the critically acclaimed *Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library*, both illustrated by Eric Velasquez. Carole Boston Weatherford lives in North Carolina.

Reggie Brown is the illustrator of several books for children, including *Tacko Fall: To New Heights* by Tacko Fall and Justin Haynes, the *New York Times* best-selling *Who Are Your People?* by Bakari Sellers, the Magnificent Makers series by Theanne Griffith, and *Baseball Baby* and *Soccer Baby* by Laura Gehl. He lives in San Diego.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	4 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Format:	270mm x 230mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$32.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Candlewick
ISBN:	9781536220414		

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WALKER BOOKS

Noura's Crescent Moon

by Zainab Khan

illustrated by Nabila Adani

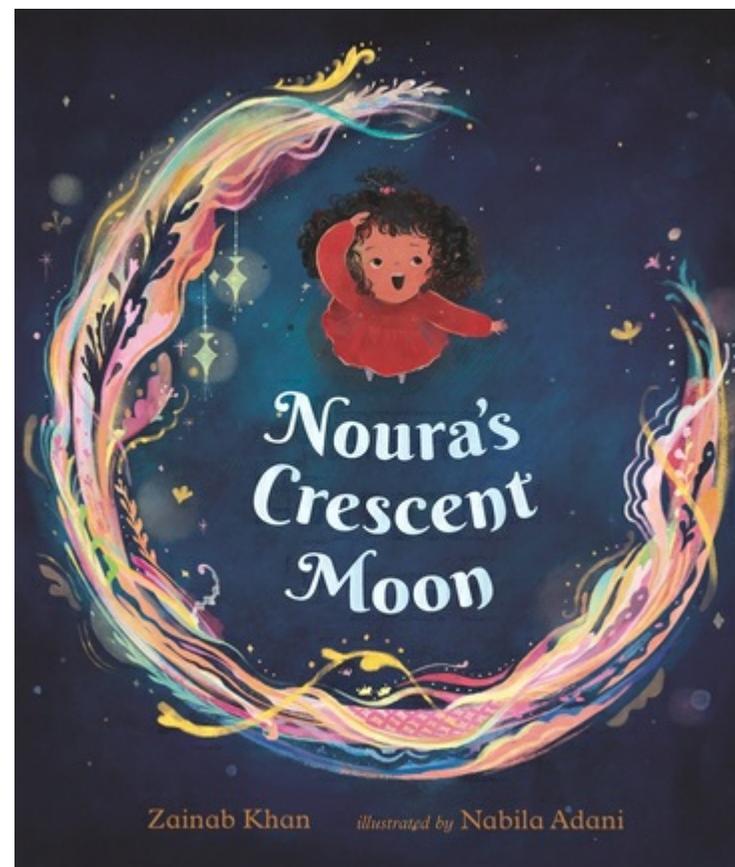
Venturing out after dusk with her family, a child is eager to watch for the new moon that signals the start of Eid ul-Fitr celebrations in this charming picture-book debut.

Noura can't wait for the sun to go down! With Ramadan and her first month of fasting almost over, she and Mama and Papa are headed to the hills for a moonsighting picnic. It would be truly special if Noura could catch a glimpse of the faint silvery crescent, something even her mother has never managed to do. If the moon stays hidden, that means one more long day before Noura can wear her sparkly new dress and the joyful Eid celebrations begin—bringing with them visits with friends, eating sweets, and painting henna on her hands. In a lighthearted introduction to Ramadan and Eid, this family-centered tale of anticipation under the stars pairs an inviting text from Zainab Khan with Nabila Adani's vibrant illustrations, capturing everything from the bustle of a shared meal to the swirling magic of the night sky. Relevant terms, from food items to the Islamic lunar calendar, are explained in a glossary at the end.

- **Fills a gap in the market for high-quality trade books for children about Ramadan and Eid ul-Fitr**
- **While the target audience is Muslim children and families, this book can and should appeal broadly to any child because the storyline is about celebrating traditions with family, sharing a special meal together, and anticipating a joyful event**
- **Will speak to any young child proud of a "first" accomplishment or upon reaching a milestone; any child who knows how tough it can be to wait for special days and events to arrive; any child who revels in the traditions, customs, and special foods related to a holiday**
- **Zainab Khan is a woman of Pakistani heritage who has lived globally, and now lives in New York with her husband and two children. This is her first book for children. Nabila Adani is a native of Jakarta Indonesia, where she lives with her family. She is the illustrator of at least four other books for children, and the author-illustrator of the forthcoming *Aisha's Colors* (Candlewick Press)**
- **There are 3.5 million Muslims in the US, making it the third largest religion in the country. There are 1.8 million Muslims in Canada, where it is the second largest religion in the country**

Zainab Khan received her BA from Boston University and taught elementary school for several years before starting her own preschool program. *Noura's Crescent Moon* is her first picture book. Through it she hopes that children will learn a little something about the Islamic lunar month Eid ul-Fitr and Ramadan and recognize that "regardless of their faith, people celebrate in similar ways: with family, food, and gifts, and with prayers for those who are religious." Of Pakistani heritage, Zainab Khan lives on Long Island with her husband, two children, and a cat.

Nabila Adani worked briefly as a product designer in Japan and Indonesia before moving to the United States to study children's book illustration. Among the children's books she has illustrated are *Be a Bridge* by Irene Latham and Charles Waters and *Sunny and the Birds* by Wendy Meddour. Nabila Adani lives in Jakarta, Indonesia, where she enjoys illustrating and telling stories for children around the world.



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This Is a Story

by John Schu

illustrated by Lauren Castillo

Children's literacy advocate John Schu and Caldecott Honor recipient Lauren Castillo celebrate the power of finding the perfect book.

This is a word on a page. This is a page in a book. This is a book on a shelf ... waiting.

With a seahorse kite in their hand, a child heads out with Dad to the library. On the way they stop at a park, joining lots of people, some of whom are flying kites, too. At the library, a person toting a big pile of books hands over a story on a favourite subject: the seahorse. All around, there are readers poring over books, each with their own questions, ideas to explore, hopes for the future ... and imaginations ready to spark.

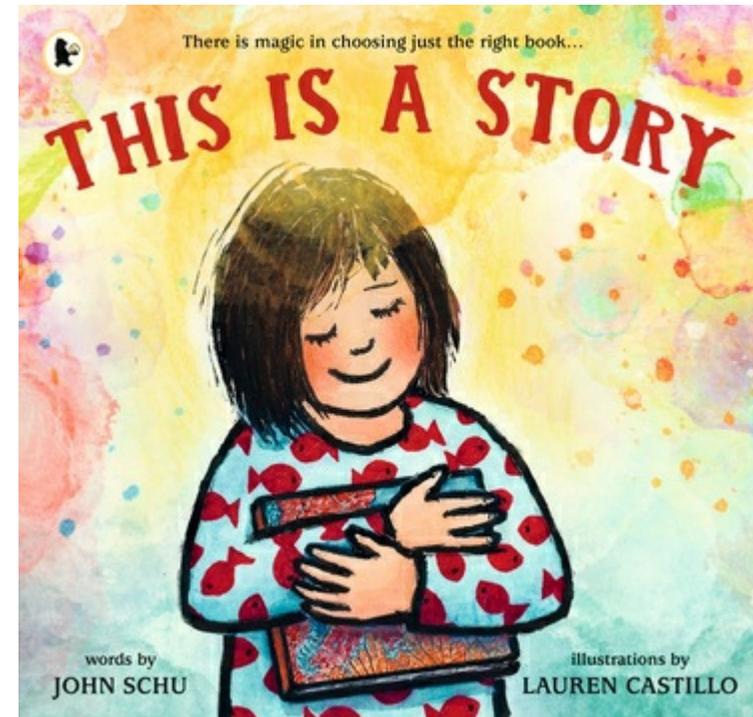
With a warm, lyrical text and expressive illustrations, John Schu and Lauren Castillo invite us to imagine the myriad of ways that books can foster connection and understanding – and how they can empower children to transform the world.

- **A new picture book by John Schu, one of America's most beloved teacher-librarians, and author of *This Is a School*.**
- **A heartfelt call to action on behalf of reading to children. Focuses on the personal joy that books can bring and encourages readers to explore the magic of choosing the perfect story.**
- **John Schu's text is perfectly paired with warm and inviting illustrations by Lauren Castillo, who creates a cosy world for the dad and his two children at the library.**

John Schu is the author of the picture book *This Is a School*, illustrated by Veronica Miller Jamison. He has been the Ambassador of School Libraries for Scholastic Book Fairs, a part-time lecturer at Rutgers University, and a classroom teacher and school librarian. He travels all over the world visiting schools and meeting with students, teachers and administrators as he advocates for the people and things he cares about most: children, books, schools and the libraries – and librarians – that connect them. John Schu lives in Illinois, USA. You can find him at JohnSchu.com and on Instagram and Twitter as @MrSchuReads.

Lauren Castillo is the award-winning illustrator of many books for children, including Kirkus Prize finalist *Imagine* by Juan Felipe Herrera, *Happy Like Soccer* by Maribeth Boelts, and *Yard Sale* by Eve Bunting. She is also the author-illustrator of the Caldecott Honor Book *Nana in the City*. Lauren Castillo dreams and draws in Pennsylvania, USA. You can find her online at laurencastillo.com and on Instagram and Twitter as @studiocastillo.

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	3 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	250mm x 260mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Extent:	40 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781529516982		



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WALKER  **BOOKS**

Super Sports Stars Who Are Changing the Game: People Power Series

by Rick Broadbent

illustrated by Alexander Mostov

Discover the stories of 20 sportspeople who are pushing the limits of their game and helping to make our world a better place.

Discover 20 incredible true stories of sporting legends. Incredible facts about each sportsperson's life and times are accompanied by bright and accessible illustrations, making this book ideal for young children wanting to learn about amazing athletes who through their achievements and action on and off the pitch have changed the world for the better. Positive, uplifting and packed full of information, this book will show children that no one is too small to make a difference.

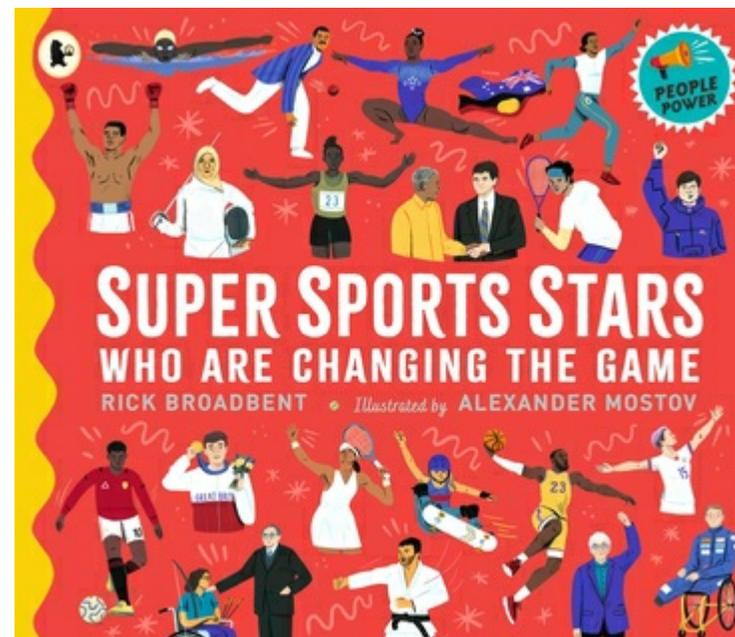
Sportspeople featured: *Muhammad Ali; Emma Raducanu; Tegla Loroupe; LeBron James; Maria Toorpakai; Ludwig Guttmann; Cathy Freeman; Tom Daley; Palwankar Baloo; Billy Monger; Morné du Plessis; Sky Brown; Mel Young; Ibtihaj Muhammad; Ellen MacArthur; Simone Biles; Husnah Kukundakwe; Saeid Mollaei; Megan Rapinoe; Marcus Rashford.*

- Ideal for readers who enjoy biographies of famous figures and will sit alongside *Women in Sport* and *Sportopedia*.
- The stories and Super Sport Powers on each spread, give an insight into the mindset needed for success. They will inspire readers to overcome their own fears and face personal challenges with confidence and resilience.
- Rick Broadbent is a sports journalist for *The Times* with over twenty years' experience and has personally interviewed some of the incredible athletes in the book.

Rick Broadbent writes on a range of sports for *The Times*. He has worked at the Olympic Games, football and rugby world cups and all golf majors. The only *Times* journalist to interview the mute wrestler Kendo Nagasaki, he has been nominated as SJA feature writer of the year and has been shortlisted three times for the William Hill book prize. His first book for children, *Sport Legends* was published by Walker in 2021. He lives in Boumemouth.

Alexander Mostov grew up in central Ohio, but has been drawing in Seattle since 2013. With a background in architecture, his illustration style incorporates playful angles, dynamic perspectives, and a focus on how characters interact in a space. Alexander uses a variety of mediums including digital, ink and gouache. Alexander has worked on a number of children's picture books, including *Go, Bikes, Go!* (Little Bigfoot); *D-Day* (Quarto); *The Secret Life of Spies* (Quarto); and *The Planets We Explore* (Magic Cat Publishing). *Super Sportspeople* is his first book for Walker, publishing in 2023.

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	5 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$19.99	Format:	230mm x 270mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$22.99	Extent:	48 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781529516449		



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WALKER BOOKS

Something About the Sky

by Rachel Carson

illustrated by Nikki McClure

Cut-paper wizard Nikki McClure is a brilliant steward for the words of a pioneering environmentalist in this wondrous ode to clouds—and the scientific “language of the sky.”

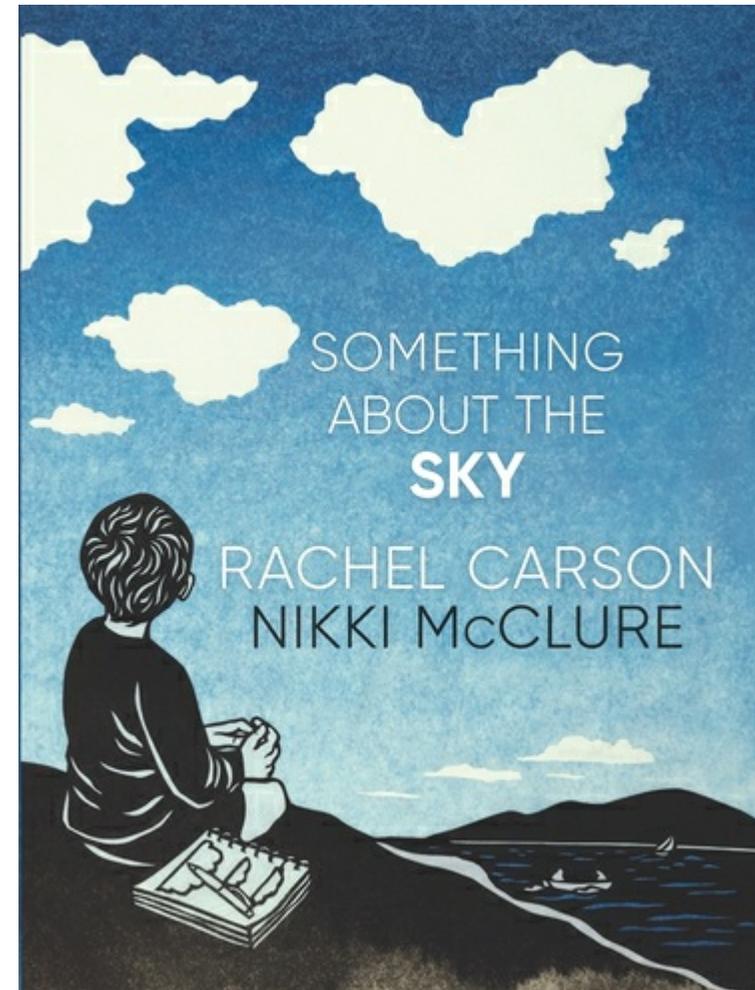
Rachel Carson once wrote, “It is not half so important to *know* as to *feel*.” What do we know about clouds? There are three basic types: stratus, cumulus, and cirrus. Some are fleecy and fair-weathered while others portend storms. But clouds are more than pretty or ominous backdrops. They’re the vehicle of water between sea and land, land and sea, in a cycle without end or beginning. They are the writing of the wind on the sky, a language all their own. An illustrator note explains the origins of Rachel Carson’s shimmering essay—previously unpublished in its entirety—and the process of adapting it to picture book format, as well as how the author of *Silent Spring* forever changed the way we think about science and progress. Bringing the soft edges of clouds and the natural world to vivid life with a new, more fluid approach to her signature cut-paper technique, Nikki McClure inspires true emotional engagement with the world we all share. An antidote to “get your head out of the clouds,” this art-meets-science tribute to curiosity and wonder is a gift for daydreamers and nature lovers of all ages.

- **An stunningly beautiful text by Rachel Carson, written in response to a boy's request for something interesting about the sky, never before published in its entirety**
- **Focusing on clouds, this lyrical nonfiction book looks at the cycle of water's passage through the sky and its essential role in the existence of life on Earth.**
- **Beautifully illustrated in cut paper and water color by Nikki McClure in a visual tour de force, this is a gift to anyone who admires Rachel Carson or wonders about the patterns of the sky.**
- **Rachel Carson cared about children's curiosity and knowledge of the planet, and here she writes accessibly and engagingly for them in particular**

Rachel Carson (1907–1964) spent most of her professional life as a marine biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. By the late 1950s, she had written three lyrical, popular books about the sea, including the best-selling *The Sea Around Us*, and had become the most respected science writer in America. Her book *Silent Spring* helped shape a powerful social movement that has altered the course of history.

Nikki McClure is a self-taught cut-paper artist renowned for her calendars and her highly acclaimed picture books for children, including *Old Wood Boat*. Outspoken about living well and responsibly with the earth, she makes her home in Olympia, Washington.

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	5 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$37.99	Format:	280mm x 210mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$39.99	Extent:	56 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Candlewick
ISBN:	9781536228700		



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WALKER BOOKS

Show Us Who You Are

by Elle McNicoll

A new stand-alone from the author of the bestselling novel *A Kind of Spark*.

When Cora is dragged to a dinner, she doesn't expect to strike up a friendship with Adrien - son of the intimidating CEO of Pomegranate Technologies. As she becomes a part of Adrien's life, Cora is also drawn into the mysterious projects at Pomegranate.

At first, intrigued, Pomegranate uses AI to recreate real people in hologram form, often to comfort grieving families. However, as Cora digs deeper, she uncovers their darker aim: to wipe out any trace of neurodivergence in their holograms and create the 'perfect' versions of people like her and Adrien.

Cora knows she must unravel their plans.

Can she fight to make her voice heard, whilst never losing sight of herself?

- **Elle's trademark gorgeous writing, with a strong and feisty autistic protagonist.**
- **An author committed to accurately representing neurodivergence in children's books.**
- **Perfect for fans of Lisa Thompson and Susin Nielson.**
- **Another eye-catching cover from Kay Wilson.**

Elle McNicoll is a debut children's author from Scotland, now living in East London. As a neurodivergent writer, she is passionate about disability rights and representation, and assists as a mentor for neurodivergent students at UCL. When she isn't writing fiction, she works as an editor and in her spare time, makes colourful chokes for friends to wear. *A Kind of Spark* is her first novel which was published in June 2020 by Knights Of, and has gone to garner over 35 rave reviews, including The Times and The Sunday Times. It was Waterstones Children's Book of the Month in October 2020.



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Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	9 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	198mm x 129mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Extent:	208 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Knights Of
ISBN:	9781913311131		

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WALKER BOOKS

Finally Seen

by Kelly Yang

illustrated by Natelle Quek

A gripping middle-grade novel about Lina, who leaves China to live with her parents and sister in the US, after five years apart. She's been waiting for this moment but it's not exactly like the postcards...

As Lina reckons with the big change and feeling left out, she learns about family, friendship, and the power of belonging. And when her teacher starts facing challenges for her latest book selection, a book that deeply resonates with Lina, it will take all of Lina's courage and resilience to get over her fear in order to choose a future where she's finally seen.

- Kelly Yang is a New York Times bestselling author who writes moving and inspiring stories about immigration, change, and friendship.
- *Finally Seen* draws on Kelly's own experiences moving without her children during the pandemic with a heart-warming and relatable protagonist.

Kelly Yang is the New York Times bestselling, award-winning author of *Front Desk*, and winner of the 2019 Asia Pacific American Award for Children's Literature.



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Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	8 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$17.99	Format:	198mm x 129mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$19.99	Extent:	320 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Knights Of
ISBN:	9781913311872		

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WALKER BOOKS

Wheels of Legend

by Gabrielle Kent

illustrated by Luke Newell

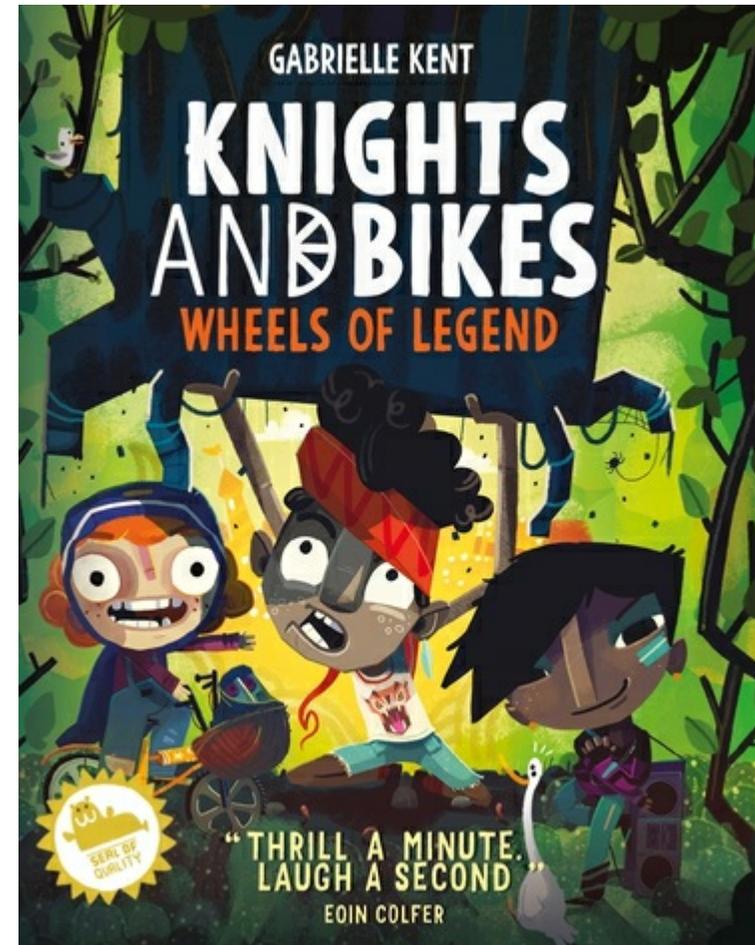
Adventure awaits Demelza and her new best friend in the whole world, Nessa, as they explore the island and uncover the mysteries of the Penfurzy Knights.

Adventure awaits Demelza and her new best friend in the whole world, Nessa, as they explore the island and uncover the mysteries of the Penfurzy Knights. With a honking pet goose sidekick, quirky islanders and a legendary treasure to find, it's up to Nessa and Demelza to ride their bikes, solve the puzzles before them, and face down danger with frisbees, water-balloons, feathers... and a toilet plunger.

- **Established and experienced author, Gabrielle Kent's *Alfie Bloom* (Scholastic) sold in 7 languages.**
- **Illustrated by BAFTA award-winning creative director Rex Crowle.**

Gabrielle Kent is the author of the *Alfie Bloom* series (Scholastic) and runs the Animex festival of Animation and Computer Games. Gabrielle has been named as one of the Top 100 most influential women in the gaming industry.

Rex Crowle is a BAFTA award-winning animation director and video game designer.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	7 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	191mm x 154mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Extent:	256 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Knights Of
ISBN:	9781913311049		

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WALKER BOOKS

The Fox Maidens

by Robin Ha

illustrated by Robin Ha

A sapphic fantasy adventure graphic novel inspired by the Korean folklore of Gumiho, the nine-tailed fox.

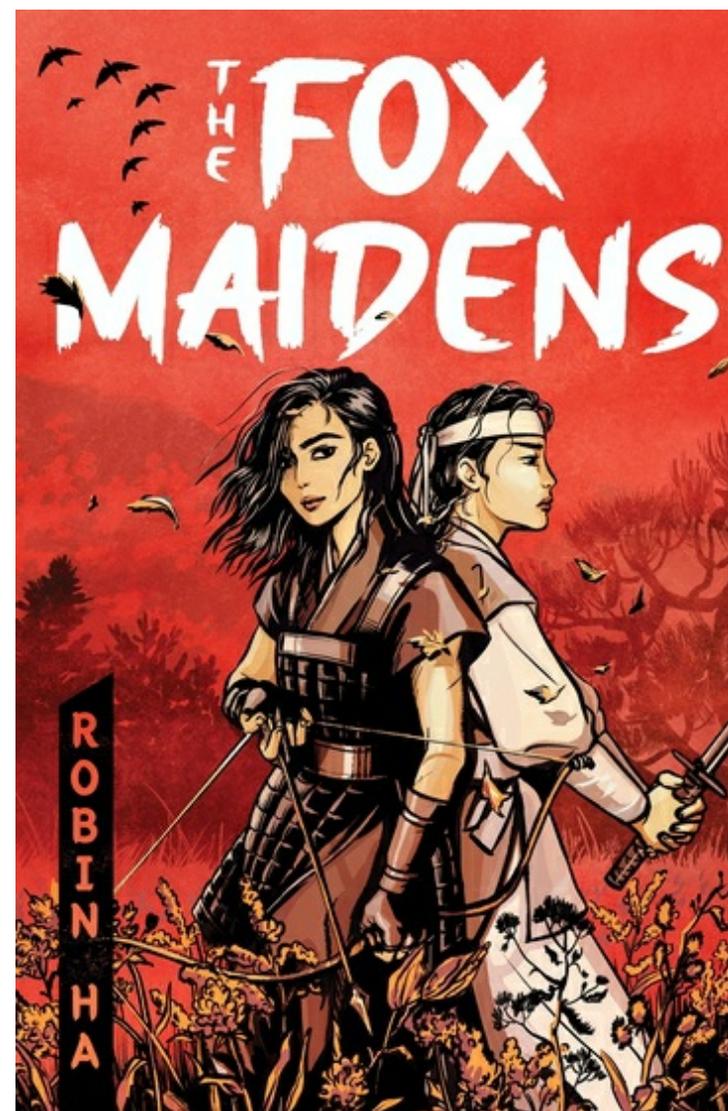
Kai has trained all her life in her father's martial arts school. Though she is looked down upon for being a girl, she proves her courage when assassins launch a ruthless attack on her family. Yet Kai is the inheritor of a dark secret: each month she is transformed into a fox demon, and must hunt and kill a man so she can return to her life as a young woman. As the deaths mount and the townspeople start to voice their suspicions, Kai desperately searches for a way out. Meanwhile, there is a mysterious girl who shares a secret bond with Kai, and whose love may be the key to breaking her curse . . .

Inspired by the ancient nine-tailed fox legends of Korea, *The Fox Maidens* is a searing, thrilling fantasy romance told in beautiful, striking graphic art.

- **Robin Ha is an acclaimed author and graphic novelist. *The Fox Maidens* draws on her Korean culture and history.**
- **Ideal for manga fans.**
- **Robin Ha's previous graphic novel, *Almost American Girl*, has sold over 100,000 copies in the USA and *Cook Korean!* was a New York Times bestseller.**
- **A sweeping fantasy adventure, with empowered female characters and a sapphic romance, stunningly realised in beautiful graphic full-colour art.**
- ***Almost American Girl* was a 2020 Harvey Award nominee and received starred reviews from Publishers Weekly, Kirkus, School Library Journal and Booklist.**
- **Praise for *Almost American Girl*: 'An insightful, moving coming-of-age tale' Kirkus, starred review; 'unblinking honesty and raw vulnerability' Booklist, starred review**

Robin Ha grew up in Seoul, South Korea, and moved to the United States at age fourteen. After graduating from the Rhode Island School of Design, she moved to New York City and worked in the fashion industry for several years before diving into comics. She is the author and the illustrator of *Almost American Girl*, a 2020 Harvey Award nominee and 2021 Walter Award honoree, and *Cook Korean!: A Comic Book With Recipes*, a New York Times bestselling cookbook graphic novel. Her comics and illustrations have appeared in various publications including The Washington Post and LA Times. She lives in Virginia, USA.

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	13 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Format:	228mm x 154mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$34.99	Extent:	320 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Andersen Press
ISBN:	9781839134876		



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WALKER BOOKS

Mayhem Mission

by Burhana Islam

illustrated by Farah Khandaker

The first in a laugh-out-loud series following the hilarious, and often chaotic, adventures of Yusuf Ali Khan.

Yusuf's responsible older sister is getting married, and everyone keeps telling him that it's time to become 'the man of the house'. The problem is... that sounds like too much work! With the help of his cousin, Yusuf sets out to sabotage his sister's wedding; but his plans often backfire in accidental and hysterically funny ways. Will he get away with all of his mischief or is there a bigger lesson for him to learn?

- A warm and genuine portrayal of a British Muslim family, that's sure to be relatable to anyone with a big, loud Asian family.
- Commercial funny middle-grade fiction, with interior illustrations by Farah Khandaker.
- Sits alongside the Planet Omar, Little Badman, and Tom Gates series'.

This is **Burhana Ali's** debut middle-grade novel. She is the author of the illustrated non-fiction book, *Amazing Muslims who Changed the World* (Puffin, 2020). She's a Bengali Northerner with a huge and loving family - they're definitely her source of inspiration for Yusuf's family!

Farah Khandaker is an illustrator and designer currently based in Dhaka, Bangladesh. She received her masters with distinction from Nottingham Trent University specialising in Illustration. She's worked across children's books, logos and editorial. Her work is fun and engaging with vibrant colour schemes and unique characters.



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Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	7 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	198mm x 129mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Extent:	256 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Knights Of
ISBN:	9781913311148		

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WALKER BOOKS

Cactus Kid and the Battle for Star Rock Mountain

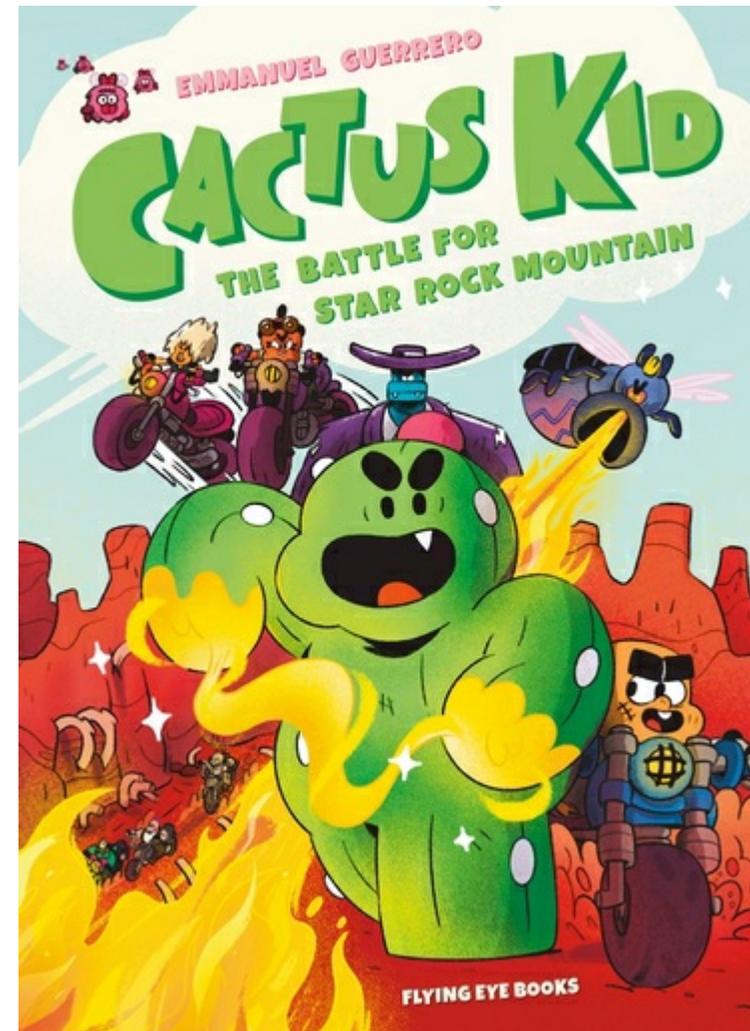
by Emmanuel Guerrero

Join Cactus Kid as he zooms through the Neverending Desert on his sweet ride, seeking the ultimate magical powers to become the greatest wizard of all time. But also, getting into huge amounts of explosive trouble, deadly motorbike races, and a lot of embarrassing encounters...

Life's not always easy for a cactus. This particular one wants to impress his all-powerful dad with his epic magic skills, and he's not about to let anything stop him on his solo hero's journey. All he needs is a chunk of star rock to level up his potions. There's just one problem – there's none left. The only way to get a single slice of the stuff is to enter the deadly MotoBrawl race, find a way to stop turning bugs into giant fire-breathing creatures, befriend the lizard gangs that roam the desert and <i>maybe </i>make a friend along the way. But does a lone hero even need any of this stuff?

- Amazing world with the potential to become a series; Emmanuel has a whole host of fantastic characters and locations to tell stories about.
- Gives us a new middle-grade comic to sit alongside the Team Pom series, accessing a market which is currently performing well
- Beautiful, textured riso-style artwork and fun, goofy adventures that will appeal to younger readers as well as older ones
- Mexican influences bring this magical tale to life, providing a unique take on a fantasy story that stand out as colourful and original amidst competitors
- Taps into Japanese-style illustration and nostalgia trend with the way that the art is presented and drawn, appealing to fans of Pokémon, Digimon and Astro Boy

Emmanuel Guerrero was born in Santa Ana, California, a suburb 40 minutes south of Los Angeles. He is a comic artist that has tabled at multiple festivals in cities across the US and his comics can be found in independent bookstores across LA.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	9 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$25.99	Format:	225mm x 163mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$28.99	Extent:	164 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Flying Eye Books
ISBN:	9781913123215		

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WALKER BOOKS

My Brother Plato

by George Myerson

Ever wondered what the young Plato would have been like? Find out with this brilliantly researched book from the point-of-view of his sister, Potone. Based on the incredible true events and people of Ancient Greece.

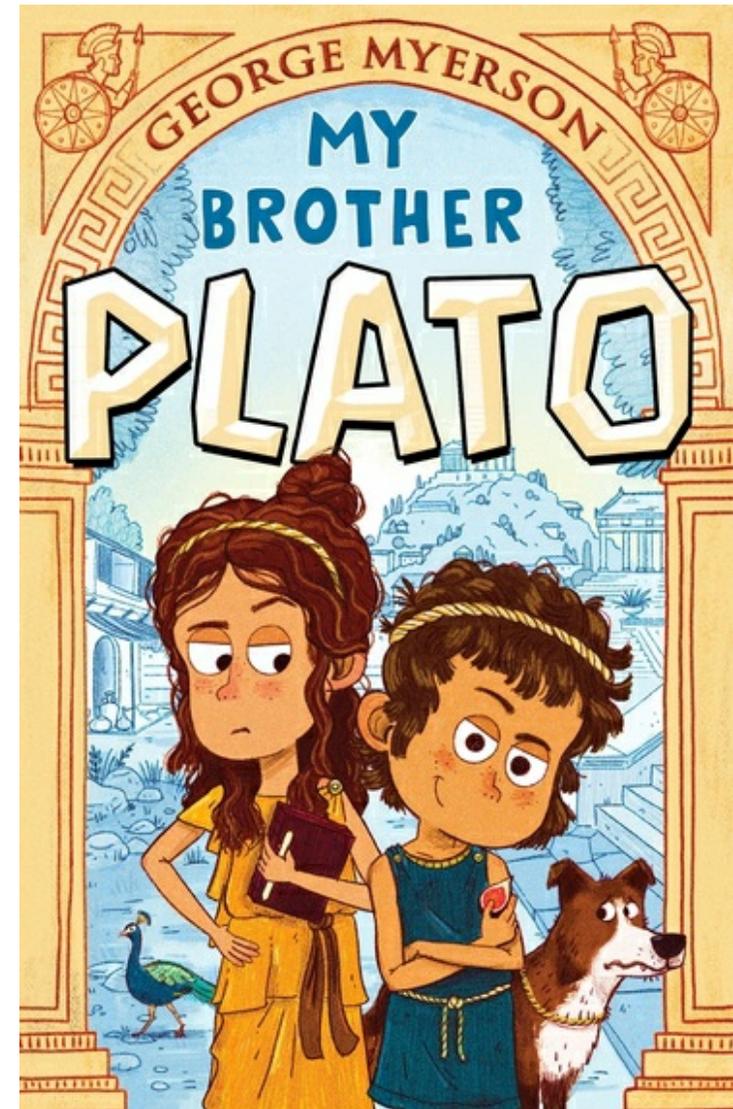
Potone lives in Athens with her mum, her stepdad and her incredibly annoying brother, Plato. The city is at war with the ferocious Spartans.

When Potone is not arguing with Plato, she often is overcome by her anxiety. Her stepbrother, Demos, a young man with fire in his heart and a thirst for battle, brings his war cries to the streets of Athens and the heart of their home.

But Potone and Plato's constant bickering has set them both up to be very good at debating. Can she overcome her fears and find a way to bring peace to her home and her city?

- Perfect resource for upper KS2 studying Ancient Greece.
- A brilliantly researched story about what life might have been like for young Plato and his sister.
- Strong female protagonist who has to contend with having few rights or access to education.

George Myerson has published many books for adults from classical philosophy to comic Nostradamus prophecies and an anthology of personal happiness through the ages. He has taught reading in different senses at every level from helping in Reception to supervising PhDs in English. This is his first children's book but is the result of a lifelong love of reading and making up stories with children.



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Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	8 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Format:	198mm x 129mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$21.99	Extent:	208 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Andersen Press
ISBN:	9781839133848		

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WALKER BOOKS

The First Invasion

by Zack Soto

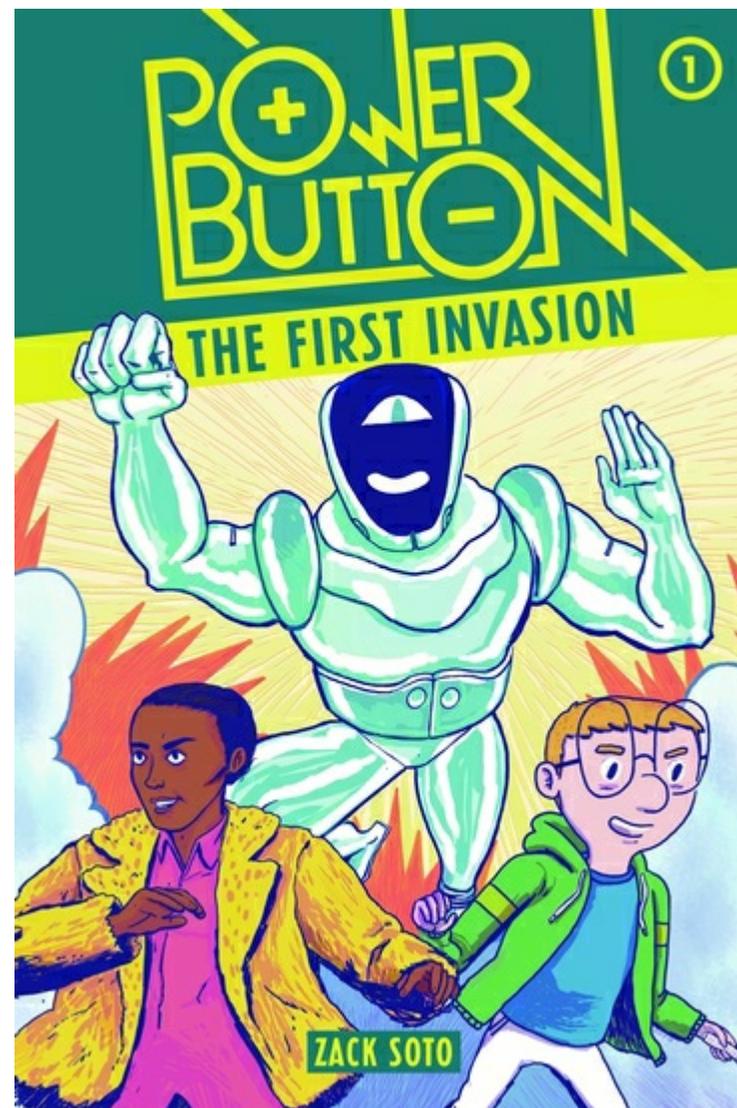
illustrated by Zack Soto

A graphic sci-fi romp with humor and heart, drawing on beloved stories of the past but charting a new approach.

Truly's parents are arguing all the time, so they've dropped her off with her aunt and uncle. Her cousin Kaz has a big imagination but he's not the best at making friends. Maximo Skulldigg gets bullied by his older brother—and now he has to conquer Kaz and Truly's home planet. It's a good thing Kaz and Truly just uncovered a family secret. After the cousins find a hideout full of strange treasures near Kaz's house, they slip on wristbands that summon a space knight named Trinn Cyclo. Soon, he may be Earth's only hope!

- Kid-friendly cosmic superhero action for readers starting to explore *Star Wars* and *Guardians of the Galaxy*
- Multiple forms of diversity among lead characters
- Distinctive, quirky limited-palette artwork
- A readalike for *Amulet*, *Cleopatra in Space*, and other middle-grade sci-fi hits

Zack Soto is a cartoonist and comic book editor living in Portland, Oregon. He likes toys, movies, houseplants and making things in his workshop—but he might like comics most of all. You can find him at www.zack-soto.com.



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Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	9 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$32.99	Format:	228.6mm x 152.4mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$35.99	Extent:	200 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Graphic Universe - Lerner Publishing Group
ISBN:	9781728462943		

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WALKER BOOKS

Empress & Aniya

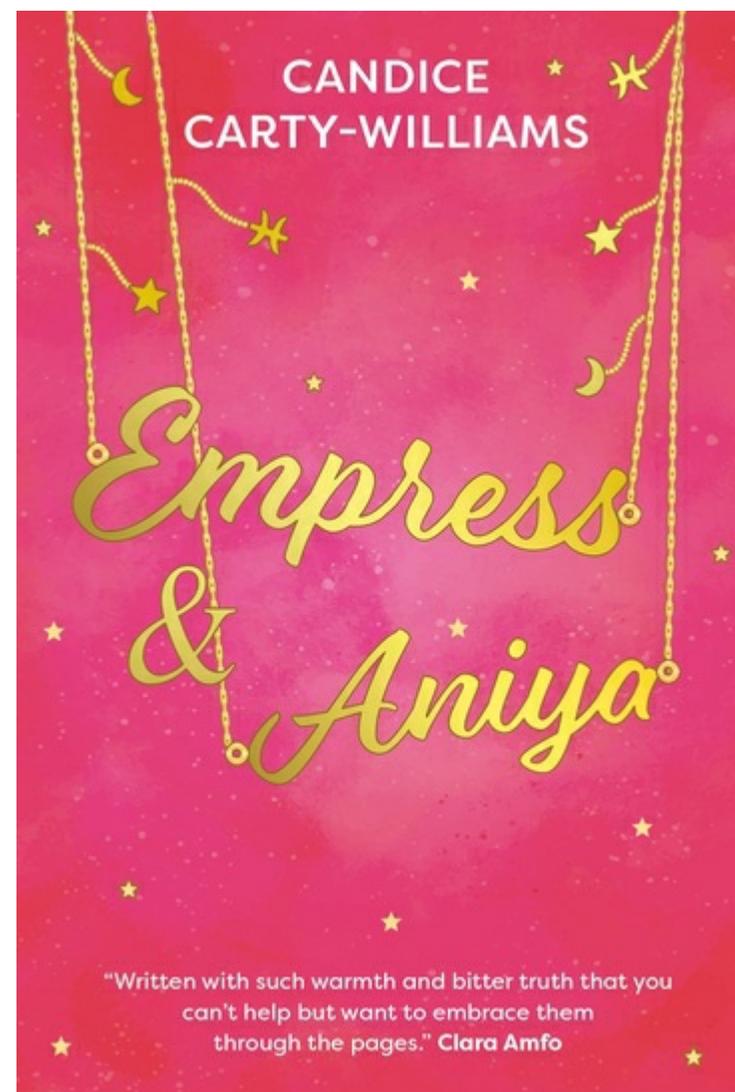
by Candice Carty-Williams

South London's answer to 'Freaky Friday', *Empress & Aniya* is a moving portrayal of the importance of real friendship and the ups and downs of being a teenager.

When Empress starts at Aniya's school, they're not exactly best friends. But, when the two teenage girls accidentally cast a spell on their 16th birthdays, and end up switching bodies, they quickly learn that friendship is the most important magic of all.

- Written to be accessible to readers aged 13+
- Candice's craft at pulling on the heartstrings of her readers has been beautifully brought to the YA space.
- Starring two relatable protagonists, each from different backgrounds, who encapsulate all the challenges of growing up.
- The first YA novel from the bestselling author of *Queenie*.

Candice Carty-Williams is a writer and author of the Sunday Times bestselling *Queenie*. *Queenie* has been described as 'vital', 'disarmingly honest', and 'boldly political'. It has been shortlisted for the Waterstones, Foyles and Goodreads Book of 2019, as well as selected as the Blackwell's Debut of the Year and British Book Awards Book of the Year. In 2016, Candice created and launched the Guardian and 4th Estate BAME Short Story Prize, the first inclusive initiative of its kind in book publishing.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	11 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Format:	175mm x 120mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$21.99	Extent:	144 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Knights Of
ISBN:	9781913311100		

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WALKER BOOKS

Welcome to Wild Town

by AF Harrold and Dom Conlon
illustrated by Korky Paul

An exciting first collaboration between two acclaimed poets, exploring the nature of 'wildness'.

Do you dare to come to Wild Town?

You'll find zebras dancing in Herbivoreville, or if you feel like a change, book into the Chrysalis Hotel in Flutters town – no room service. Watch out for the tigers of Bengal Street in the Carnivore Quarter and maybe avoid the fish tank in number 3, Danger Close – it's stocked with piranhas and electric eels. In Wolf Park you may come across a silent, stalking wolf and at the Wild Town Rec polar bears are pushing on the slide and orcas are in the paddling pool. While at the quiet end of town dormice are sleeping and grumpy Bertha the Bear is slumbering. One thing is certain – you will never be the same after a visit to Wild Town, and when you leave, the wild will go with you....

An exciting poetry adventure, a journey of wild encounters in streets, houses and parks - this is an astonishing and brilliant poetry collection by two of the UK's most admired poets. Illustrated with verve and wit by the internationally bestselling illustrator Korky Paul.

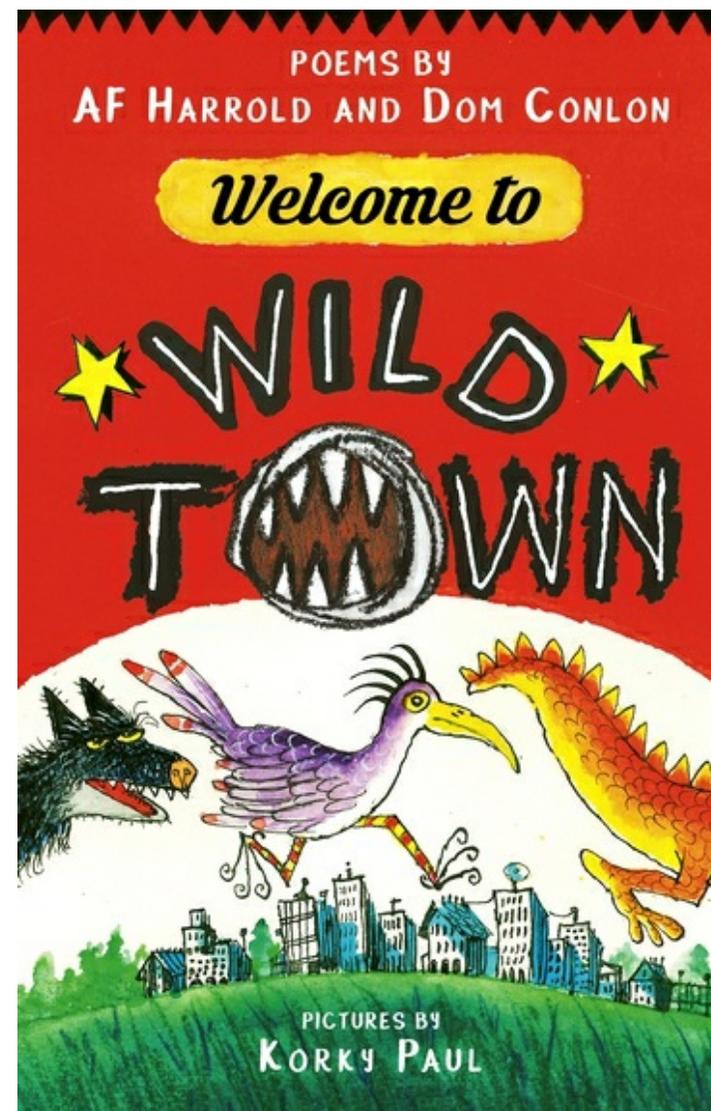
- First collaboration by two well-known children's poets
- Witty illustrations by a much-loved illustrator
- Addresses conservation and wildlife issues with a light touch
- The poets and the illustrator do events in schools and at festivals nationwide

AF Harrold is a poet, performer and children's author. His children's poetry books include *Things You Find in a Poet's Beard*, illustrated by Chris Riddell and the anthology *Midnight Feasts*, which he edited, illustrated by Katy Riddell. *Welcome to Wild Town* is his first poetry collection for Otter-Barry Books. He lives in Reading with a stand-up comedian and two cats.

Dom Conlon is a poet and author with a keen interest in science and the natural world. His previous books include *This Rock That Rock*, nominated for the Carnegie Medal in 2021 and the Wild Wanderers series of picture books about the natural world. *Welcome to Wild Town* is his first poetry collection for Otter-Barry Books. He lives in Lancashire.

Korky Paul is one of Britain's best-known illustrators. Born in what is now Zimbabwe, he studied drawing at Durban School of Art in South Africa. His work has been published in 26 countries. Korky's dynamic illustration sessions are highly popular in schools and libraries. He lives in Oxford, England.

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	7 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$19.99	Format:	198mm x 129mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$22.99	Extent:	96 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Otter-Barry Books
ISBN:	9781915659125		



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WALKER BOOKS

The Wolf in Underpants Gets Some Pants

by Wilfrid Lupano

illustrated by Mayana Itoiz and Paul Cauuet

An Aesop's Fables-style graphic story for the current era, with sharp humor and a lesson about intolerance.

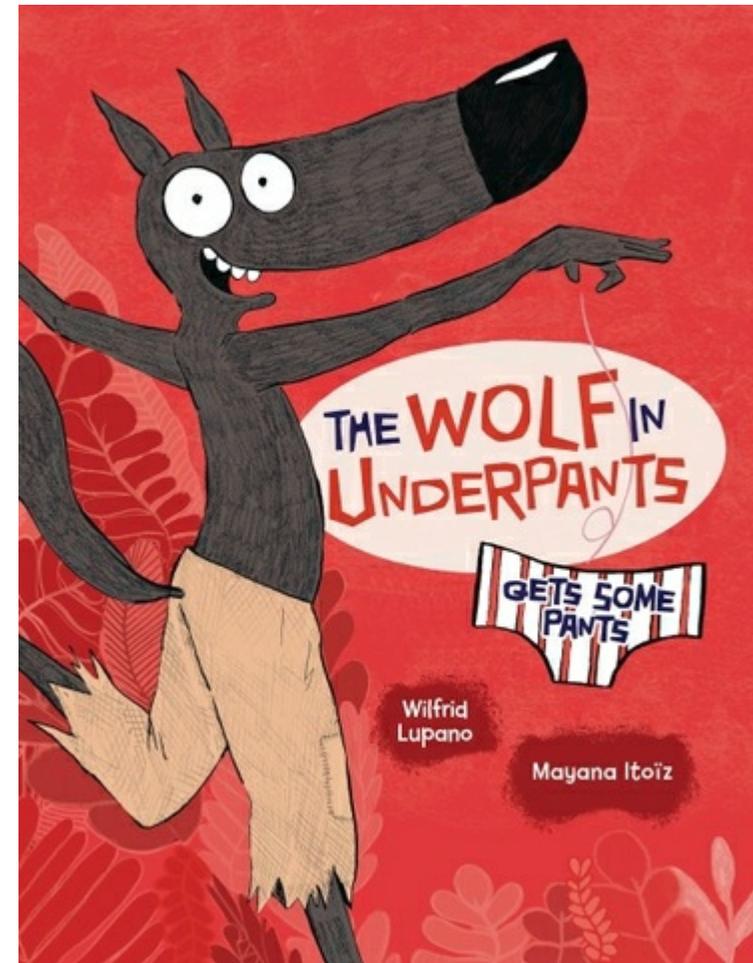
When the Wolf's signature striped briefs become a trend across the forest, he feels like he has lost his identity. But when he abandons his favourite outfit, he'll have to learn who he is without it.

The fifth tale in the Eisner-nominated Wolf in Underpants series is a laugh-out-loud fable about identity, conformity, and being who you really are.

- Wonderful blending of the silly and the thoughtful
- Bouncy, inviting artwork
- Socially relevant but family friendly
- Translated from the certified-hit French edition

Wilfrid Lupano spent his childhood reading through his parents' comic book collection. He studied literature and philosophy, receiving a degree in English, before he began to write comics. He lives in France.

Mayana Itoiz was born in Bayonne, France. In addition to being an illustrator and a cartoonist, she has taught art to high school students. She lives in the Pyrenees, near France's mountainous southern border.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	7 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	254mm x 197mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Extent:	48 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Graphic Universe - Lerner Publishing Group
ISBN:	9798765607480		

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WALKER BOOKS

My Baby Sister Is a Diplodocus

by Aurore Petit

illustrated by Aurore Petit

translated by Daniel Hahn

In this eye-catching neon-bright picture book, a brother finds an inventive way to connect with his new baby sister through his love of dinosaurs.

My new baby sister comes home. But babies don't drink milk, don't ride a bicycle, don't play my games. Do I like being a big brother? No! Roooar! I stomp around and go to sleep in my T-Rex onesie.

In the morning, I take another look at little sister—little sister diplodocus.

My Baby Sister Is a Diplodocus is a new sibling story within the imaginative world of a toddler. We share a brother's excitement then disappointment in his new baby sister. But his love of dinosaurs opens up a new path. By imagining her as a dinosaur, he connects with her, making room for everyone in the family.

Vivid contemporary illustrations and surprising perspectives complement a spare narrative. Affecting vignettes of this new family, with its little baby tucked up in the centre of the story, combine with graphic/comics elements in the storytelling as we share the emotion of each moment unfolding.

- **The child solves the problem of the new baby with his imagination**
- **Tender moments of newborn / young family**
- **A chic, contemporary book illustrated with striking neon colors and printed in special inks**
- **New sibling rivalry and reconciliation from a child's view**
- **Supports sales of *A Mother Is a House*—a core Gecko Press Mother's Day title**

Aurore Petit is one of a new young generation of French illustrators to emerge from the influential School of Decorative Arts in Strasbourg. She lives in Paris.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	3 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$27.99	Format:	170mm x 240mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Extent:	44 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Gecko Press
ISBN:	9781776575725		

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WALKER BOOKS

The Boy Who Loves to Lick the Wind

by Fiona Carswell

illustrated by Yu Rong

A touching story of friendship, told and illustrated with warmth and empathy.

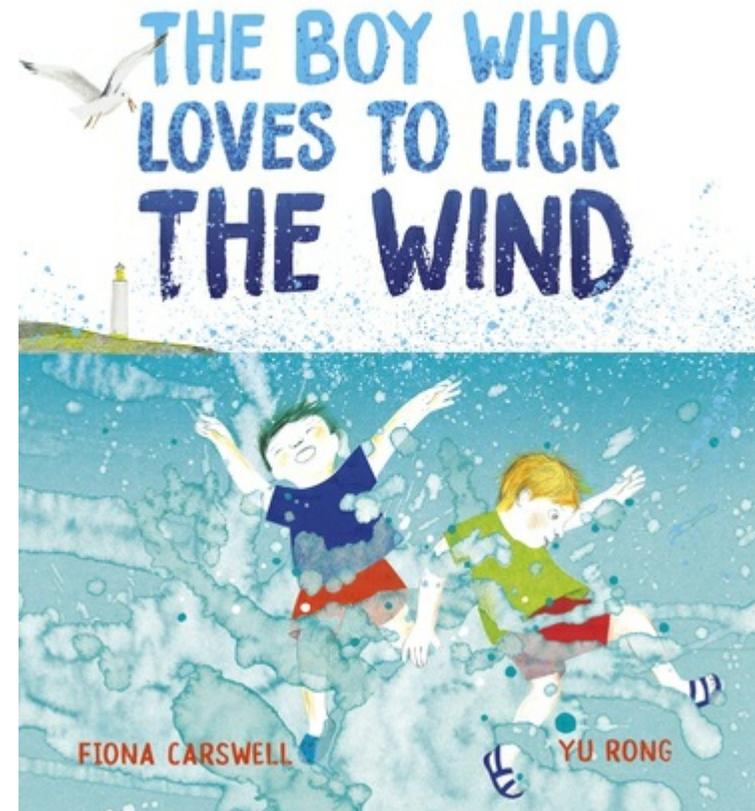
The boy next door loves to lick the wind. "You should try it," says his mum. "All the best winds are at the beach."

And so begins an amazing afternoon by the sea for two boys. One doesn't always speak with words and likes throwing stones – the other likes to collect shells and make sandcastles. But the sea works its magic and by the end of the day the boys discover they both love to lick the wind – together.

- **A highly empathic story which shows how friendship and acceptance grows through understanding**
- **It will help children (and adults) understand autistic traits and behaviour in themselves and others**
- **Sensitively and skilfully illustrated by a Kate Greenaway shortlisted illustrator**
- **A story which shows the value of integration and inclusion**
- **With a clear and helpful end-note about Autistic Spectrum Disorder**

Fiona Carswell is the mother of two boys – one autistic and the other neurotypical – and lives in East Lothian, Scotland. By day, she is a publicist in the Arts & Books sector, promoting (other people's) books, literary prizes, book festivals, cultural projects, venues and events, in between school runs, swimming lessons and cooking up endless batches of macaroni cheese to fill two hungry boys.

Yu Rong has degrees in Chinese Painting and Contemporary Art from Nanjing Normal University and in Communication and Design from the Royal College of Art, London. Deeply versed in traditional Chinese art, she has won numerous international awards including the BIB Golden Apple and the Chen Bochui International Children's Literature Award. Yu Rong's books include *Snowflake in my Pocket* (with Rachel Bright), *Tracks of a Panda* (with Nick Dawson) and *Shu Lin's Grandpa* (with Matt Goodfellow, Otter-Barry Books), shortlisted for the Yoto Kate Greenaway Medal 2022. Yu Rong lives in Cambridgeshire.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	4 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Format:	275mm x 240mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$32.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Otter-Barry Books
ISBN:	9781915659156		

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WALKER BOOKS

Panda and Penguin Find A Thing

by Zehra Hicks

A cautionary tale about letting technology come between us, from favourite picture book creator Zehra Hicks.

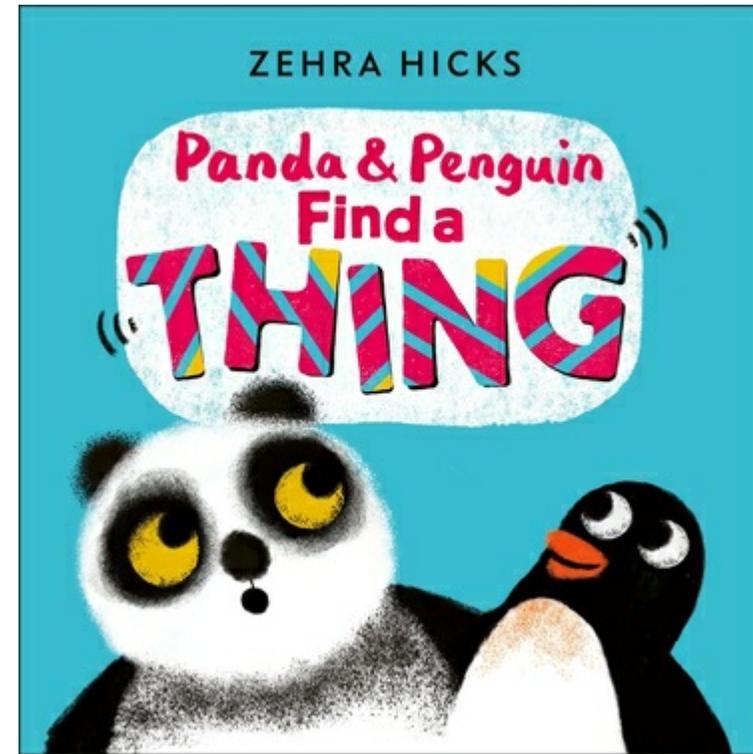
When mystery device comes between two best friends, will they learn to share, or decide they're better off without it at all . . . ?

Panda and Penguin are best friends . . . until they find the Thing. The Thing is exciting – it has a flashing screen and makes funny ringing noises – but only one of them can play with it at a time. The Thing comes between them, but is anything worth losing their friendship?

A funny and lighthearted tale that cautions against letting technology cause problems between friends, for the very youngest children.

- **A first introduction to how technology can be exciting but needs to be used with care.**
- **Perfect for teaching children how to share, and that nothing is more important than a good friend.**
- **Zehra Hicks is an award-winning author and illustrator who studied Fine Art at Northumbria University and Theatre Design in Holland. Her books have sold in 17 languages.**

Zehra Hicks is a tutor at Chelsea College of Arts, where she completed a Short Course in Book Illustration in 2009. Since then, she has been highly commended for the Macmillan Prize for Illustration, nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal, and shortlisted for the Read It Again! Cambridgeshire Children's Picture Book Award. Zehra lives with her family in Epsom, Surrey.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	2 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Format:	250mm x 250mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$32.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Andersen Press
ISBN:	9781839132797		

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WALKER BOOKS

Frida Kahlo and Her Animalitos

by Monica Brown

illustrated by John Parra

A celebration of one of the world's most influential painters, Frida Kahlo, and the animals that inspired her art and life—now available in paperback!

Pura Belpré Illustrator Honor , 2018

ALA Notable Children's Book, 2018

Bank Street Best Children's Book of the Year, 2018

New York Times/New York Public Library Best Illustrated Children's Book, 2017

Barnes & Noble Best Book, 2017

Smithsonian Top Ten Best Children's Book, 2017

The fascinating Mexican artist Frida Kahlo is remembered for her self-portraits, her dramatic works featuring bold and vibrant colors. Her work brought attention to Mexican and indigenous culture and she is also renowned for her works celebrating the female form.

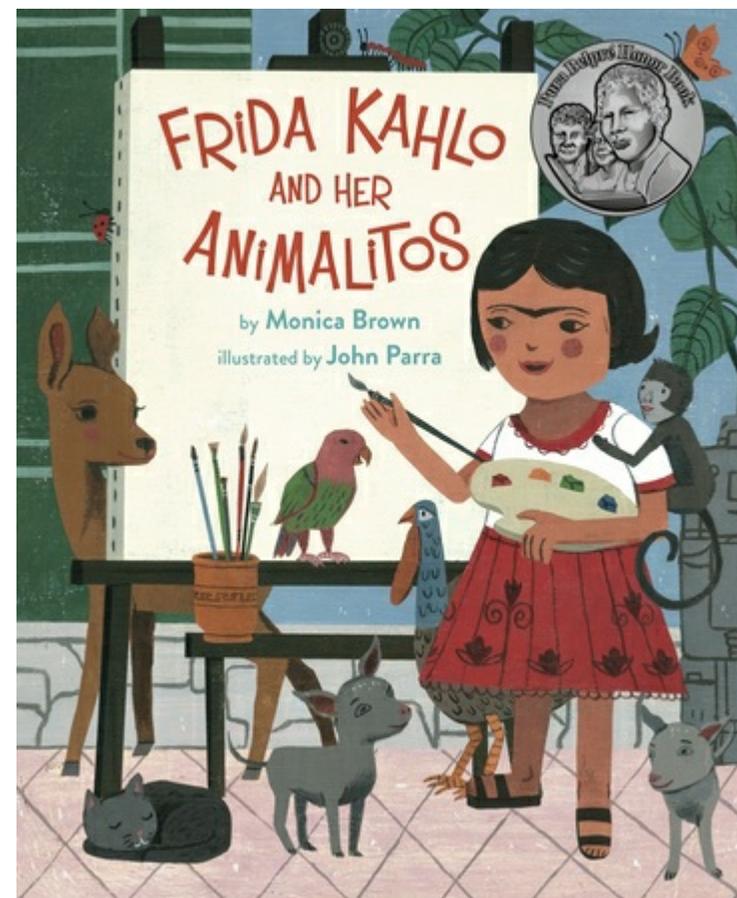
Monica Brown's story recounts pivotal moments in Frida's life and the beloved pets who comforted her along the way—two monkeys, a parrot, three dogs, two turkeys, an eagle, a black cat, and a fawn—and playfully considers how Frida embodied many wonderful characteristics of each animal. John Parra's bold-colored art, reminiscent of Frida's palette, make this biography a warm and wonder-filled offering for Frida Kahlo fans old and new.

- **A NorthSouth bestselling book**
- **Award-winning and critically acclaimed**
- **Biography that focuses on a unique angle**
- **Book on an artist who children learn about in elementary school- paperback version perfect for classroom and library use**

Monica Brown, PhD, is the award-winning author of *Waiting for the Biblioburro/ Esperando el Biblioburro*, *Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match/no combina*, and the *Lola Levine* chapter book series, including *Lola Levine Is Not Mean*; *Lola Levine, Drama Queen*; and *Lola Levine and the Ballet Scheme*. She lives in Arizona with her family and teaches at Northern Arizona University. Find out more at www.monicabrown.net.

John Parra is an award-winning illustrator, designer, teacher, and fine art painter. His children's books have earned many awards, including the SCBWI Golden Kite Award, ALA's Pura Belpré Honors, the Christopher Award, the International Latino Book Award, and many more. In 2015 John was invited by the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York to present a special event about his work and career in art and illustration; and in 2017 John's art appeared on six Forever postal stamps from the USPS titled "Delicioso." He lives with his wife, Maria, in Queens, New York. Find out more at: www.johnparraart.com

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	4 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	215mm x 280mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Extent:	40 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	NorthSouth Books
ISBN:	9780735845473		



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Telephone: 1300 551 721
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WALKER BOOKS

Trains, Boats and Planes

by Michelle Robinson

illustrated by Jez Tuya

A fun and colourful ride and follow up to *Red Lorry, Yellow Lorry*, this is perfect for vehicle-loving readers, from much-loved duo Michelle Robinson and Jez Tuya.

From Lollies Award-winning Michelle Robinson comes this colourful rhyming story following trains, boats and planes in their busy day. But where are they all going?

Join three busy transport vehicles as they speed their doggy passengers to the Big Festival! The running isn't smooth, and there's a rainstorm on the way... Trains, boats and planes: which one would you ride?

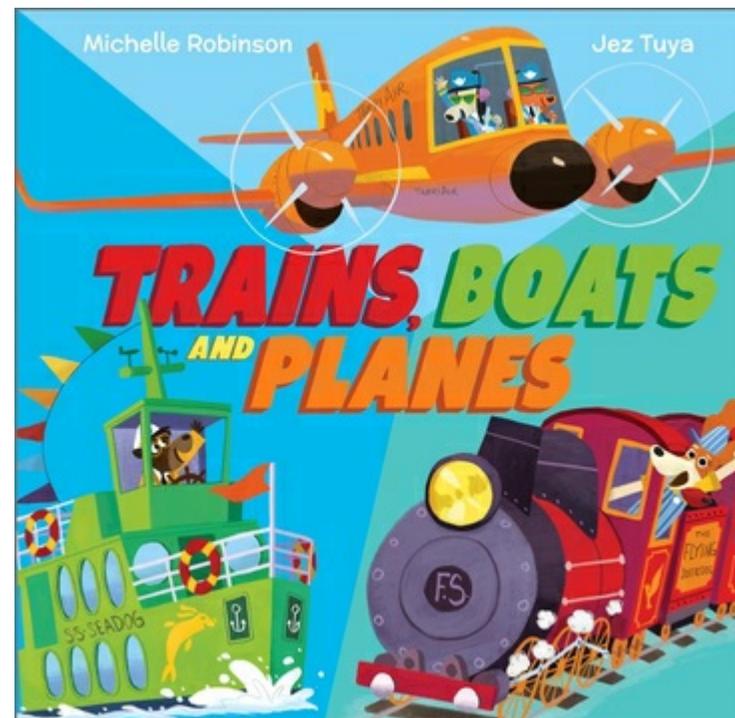
Featuring hundreds of vehicles, all with doggy drivers, and with a wind-down bedtime ending, this book is sure to keep your little one busy spotting every time you read it together.

- A fun rhyming picture book bursting with colourful trains, boats, planes, and hundreds of things that go!
- Encourages spotting and naming all the vehicles, and includes a bedtime ending to get your little ones ready for bed.
- Spot the clues to their destination throughout the book – an incredible hot air balloon festival.
- The first in the series, *Red Lorry, Yellow Lorry*, was been shortlisted for the BookTrust Storytime Prize 2023!
- Michelle Robinson is an award-winning children's author, whose books have won the Laugh Out Loud Book Award and the Sainsbury's Children's Book Prize.

Michelle Robinson grew up in Gloucestershire and loved making up stories and being silly. She put that to good use by getting a job as a copywriter. She wrote over 6000 radio adverts before moving on to television and the web. She soon got bored though, which is when she started writing funny stories for children and their parents to enjoy reading umpteen times. Her picture book *There's a Lion in My Cornflakes* won the Sainsbury's Children's Book Awards, *Ten Fat Sausages* won the Lollies Award, and *Red Lorry, Yellow Lorry* has been shortlisted for the BookTrust Storytime Prize. She lives in Canada with her husband, son and daughter.

Jez Tuya is an illustrator from Wellington City, the windy capital of New Zealand. Apart from making art and illustrating books, he enjoys building model airplanes, learning to cook, travelling and going on hikes, and reading good books in his spare time. He hopes to learn to fly an airplane and earn his wings one day. You can find him on Instagram @jeztuya

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	2 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$16.99	Format:	250mm x 260mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Extent:	32 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Andersen Press
ISBN:	9781839131332		



Australian Distribution

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WALKER BOOKS

Sounds Good!: Discover 50 Instruments

by Ole Könnecke, Hans Könnecke
illustrated by Ole Könnecke
translated by Melody Shaw

An interactive introduction to musical instruments, light-hearted, engaging and with 50 original compositions to listen to—from the kazoo to the bassoon.

What does a double bass or a sitar sound like? What's the difference between bongos and congas? Which instrument has only one note? Which one takes just 30 seconds to learn? What do these instruments really sound like?

This book engagingly presents 50 common and uncommon musical instruments with practical and curious facts that will spark interest in music of all kinds. Each instrument features a piece of music composed by an award-winning musician, accessed via QR code.

With instruments presented outside conventional categories, the book is open to all ways of listening and learning. Aspects of history, music theory and culture are lightly mixed with information about how instruments are made and played. Instruments of all sorts include the voice and computer, unusual instruments such as the theremin and vuvuzela, alongside those that are well known.

QR codes on each page link to 52 individual instruments and a code on the cover takes you to a full band joyously bringing all the instruments in the book together.

- With 50 especially composed audio samples, recorded by instrumental soloists
- Encourages children to play an instrument and explore music
- Many entries to the topic: listen, learn, look and laugh
- Instruments arranged outside conventional groupings to encourage exploration
- QR code on the cover links to a joyous full band piece combining all 52 instruments

Ole Könnecke was born in 1961 and spent his childhood in Sweden. He now lives in Germany and has produced over 30 books—several have won international awards.

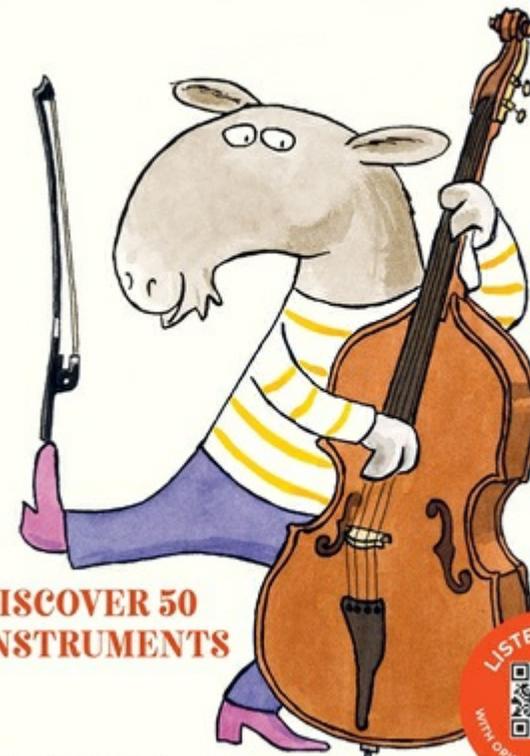
Hans Könnecke is an award-winning composer, instrumentalist and music producer for film, and theatre, who studied composition at the Academy for Music and Theater in Munich.

Ole Könnecke was born in 1961 and spent his childhood in Sweden. He now lives in Germany and has produced over 30 books—several have won international awards.

Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	5 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$34.99	Format:	277mm x 210mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$39.99	Extent:	112 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Gecko Press
ISBN:	9781776575558		

Hans Könnecke Ole Könnecke

Sounds Good!



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WALKER BOOKS

STEMville: The Bee Connection

by Ben Newman

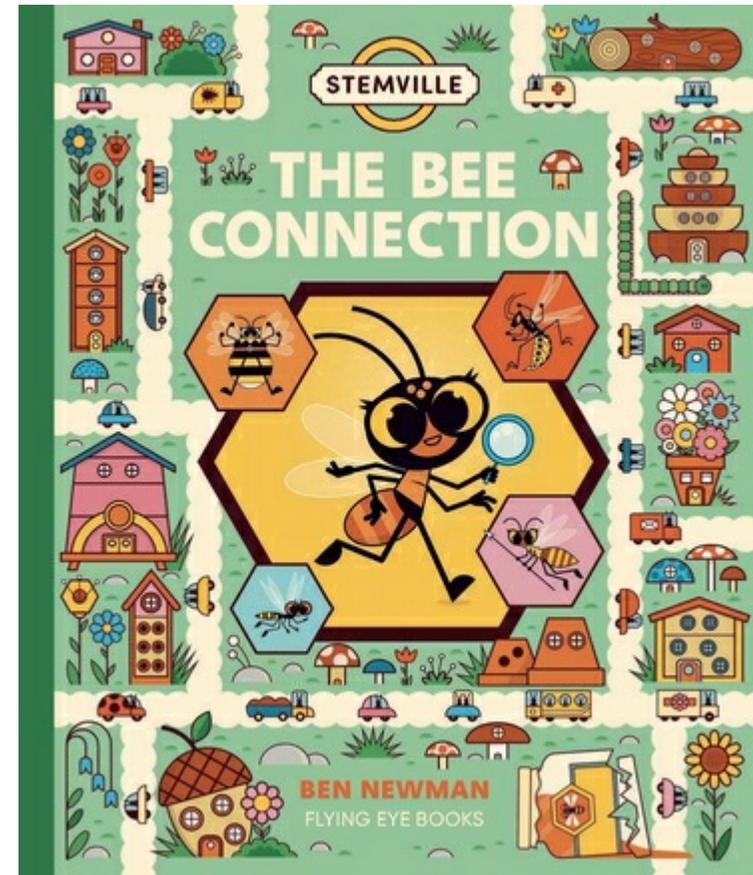
illustrated by Ben Newman

Inventive illustrations and an empowering story combine to introduce young readers to the world of bees, creative thinking and problem-solving.

It's a quiet day for private detective, Mason B. Chandler in downtown Bug Borough, the small but not overlooked area of Stemville. Suddenly, Mason B's life is turned upside down when a jar comes smashing down outside her window. With everything covered in a mysterious sticky liquid and the police none the wiser, Mason finds a clue on the label of the jar... a picture of a bee that looks just like her! She must look for clues in the Bee community which won't be easy as lots of them are solitary, and the others work together in tight knit groups.

- A brand new non-fiction series focused on STEM topics.
- From the illustrator of the Professor Astro-Cat series.
- The book will be both usable as reference pages and follow a linear route that builds the information from spread to spread.

Ben Newman has produced work for a large range of clients, including the Tate Modern, New York Times, BBC Radio 4, Apple, Google and The New Yorker. Ben co-created the Professor Astro Cat children's books with his long time friend and scientist, Dr Dominic Walliman, which are published by Flying Eye Books and have been translated into 24 other languages.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	6 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Format:	230mm x 270mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$32.99	Extent:	48 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Flying Eye Books
ISBN:	9781838741266		

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WALKER BOOKS

Wildlife Crossings: Protecting Animal Pathways Around the World

by Catherine Barr

illustrated by Christiane Engel

An important and unique information book based on the latest scientific research, showing how people across the world are creating 'wildlife corridors' to help animals move safely between wildlife areas.

Our planet is criss-crossed by a network of ancient pathways, reflecting the journeys of millions of animal species in search of food, water, safety and mates. But human development is blocking these vital 'ribbons of life'. Animal habitats are shrinking into isolated and unconnected patches of nature.

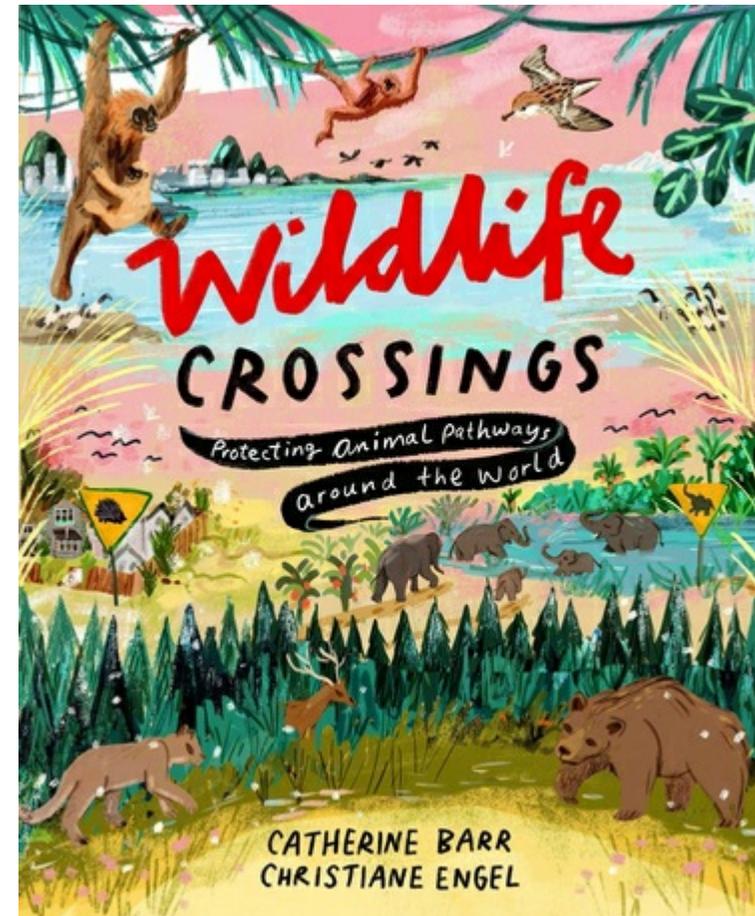
Track the journeys of seven amazing animals. Discover why they are in trouble, follow their journeys and find out how scientists and campaigners across the world are creating 'wildlife corridors' to keep animals safe and on the move.

Discover...elephant crossings in India hedgehog highways in the UK 'Spoonie' flyways in Asia fish ladders in Germany gibbon canopy bridges in the People's Republic of China bear bridges in Canada cougar crossings in the USA.

- Shows a new and vitally important aspect of nature conservation.
- Emphasises the urgency of taking action to save species across our planet.
- Stunning, detailed illustrations by internationally acclaimed illustrator.
- Endnote includes seven further endangered species being helped with wildlife pathways.

Catherine Barr is a leading author on science and nature topics for young children. Her previous books for Otter-Barry are *Red Alert: 15 Endangered Animals Fighting to Survive*; *Invisible Nature: A Secret World Beyond Our Senses* (winner of the Teach Primary science book prize) and most recently *Water: Protect Freshwater to Save Life on Earth* (2022). Catherine lives near Hay-on-Wye, Herefordshire.

Christiane Engel has a BA in children's art and an MA in Children's Illustration. She works with soft pencil, acrylics, watercolour and digital media. Her first book for Otter-Barry Books was *Water: Protect Freshwater to Save Our Earth*. Christiane lives in Kent.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	6 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$29.99	Format:	275mm x 240mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$32.99	Extent:	40 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Otter-Barry Books
ISBN:	9781915659200		

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Telephone: 1300 551 721
Fax: 1800 645 547

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WALKER BOOKS

The Code of Life

by Dr. Carla Häfner

illustrated by Mieke Scheier

A brilliant non-fiction book explaining the world of genetics and heredity to children.

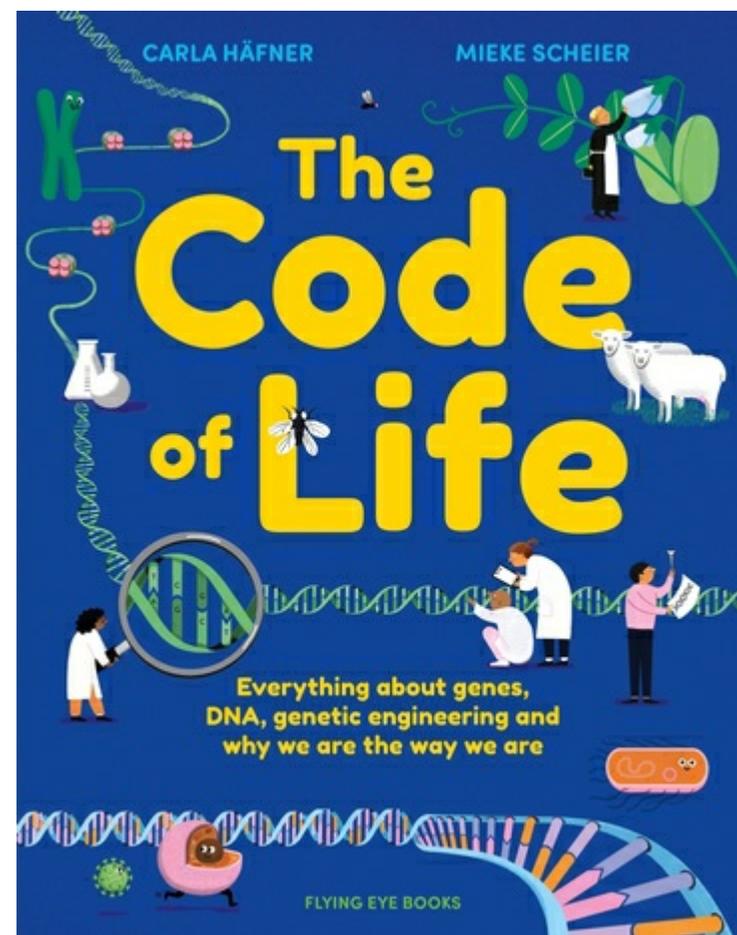
Why do children look like their parents? Why are some people blond and others brunette, and where do we get our eye colour from?

This book explains genetic theory, what genes are, why DNA plays an important role and what all these insights have to do with a curious monk. An exciting journey through the history of science, present-day genetic research and engineering and right through to the question of identity – because who would have thought how much of our personality is defined by our genes and how interesting genes can be?

- A global, inclusive, and comprehensive history of genetics that spans to the modern day, covering the revolutionary CRISPR technology and explaining how inoculation with mRNA vaccines developed for SARS-CoV-2 (Coronavirus) functions.
- Mieke Scheier's illustrations visually present abstract concepts of genetics and hereditary in an easy-to-understand way.
- Includes quiz questions and ideas for your own research projects to encourage readers to explore concepts of genetics and hereditary further.

Dr. Carla Häfner was born in Braunschweig in 1978 and studied medicine in Göttingen, Boston and Ulm. Today, she lives with her husband and three children in Neu-Ulm and works as a doctor and book author.

Mieke Scheier was born in a small village between Osnabrück and Oldenburg in 1986. After studying cultural science in Freiburg, she moved to Hamburg to study illustration at the HAW (University of Applied Science). Mieke lives and works as a freelance illustrator in Hamburg.



Publication Date:	06 March 2024	Age:	11 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$34.99	Format:	295mm x 211mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$37.99	Extent:	72 pages
Binding:	Hardback	Imprint:	Flying Eye Books
ISBN:	9781838741785		

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WALKER BOOKS

A Kind of Spark

by Elle McNicoll

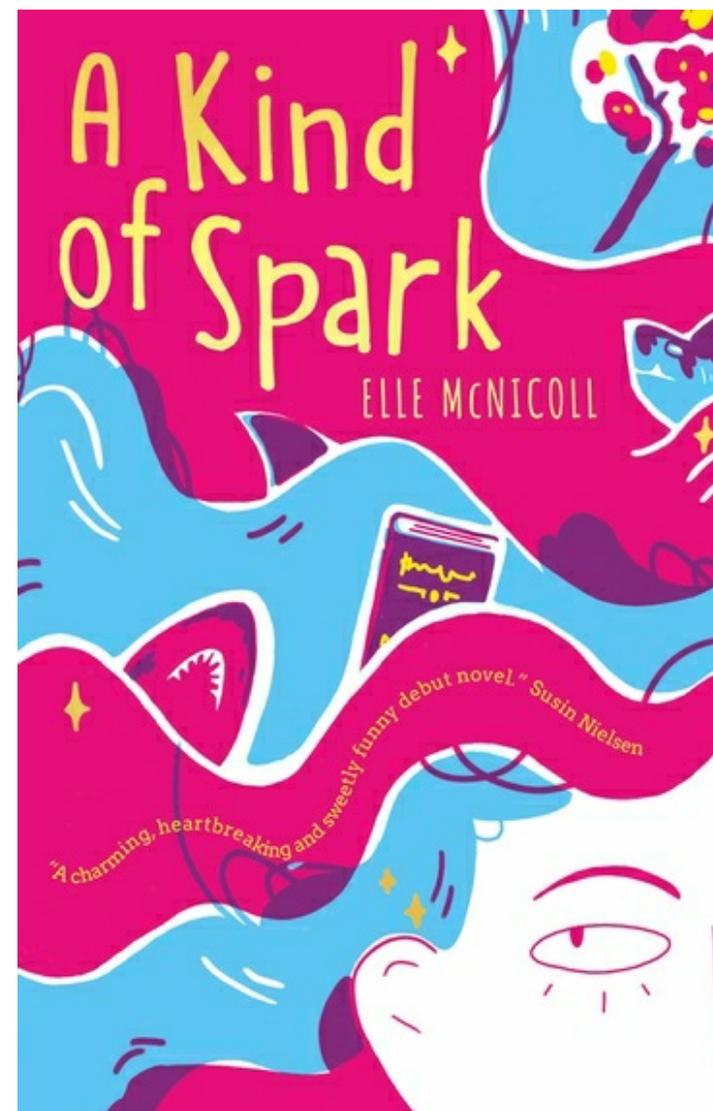
illustrated by Kay Wilson

A story about friendship, courage and self-belief. Addie's story was born from Elle McNicoll's own experiences of neurodiversity and her commitment to seeing greater representation in children's books.

A Kind of Spark tells the story of 11-year-old Addie as she campaigns for a memorial in memory of the witch trials that took place in her Scottish hometown. Addie knows there's more to the story of these 'witches', just like there is more to hers. Can Addie challenge how the people in her town see her and her autism, and make her voice heard?

- Now streaming on ABC iview
- Debut author committed to accurately representing neurodivergence in children's books.
- Perfect for fans of Lisa Thompson, Susin Nielsen, and Onjali Rauf.

Elle McNicoll is a debut children's author from Scotland, now living in East London. As a neurodivergent writer, she is passionate about disability rights and representation, and assists as a mentor for neurodivergent students at UCL. When she isn't writing fiction, she works as an editor and in her spare time, makes colourful chokes for friends to wear. *A Kind of Spark* is her first novel.



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Publication Date:	04 October 2023	Age:	9 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$18.99	Format:	198mm x 129mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$21.99	Extent:	208 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Knights Of
ISBN:	9781913311056		

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WALKER BOOKS

Leif the Unlucky Viking: Saga of the Shooting Star

by Gary Northfield

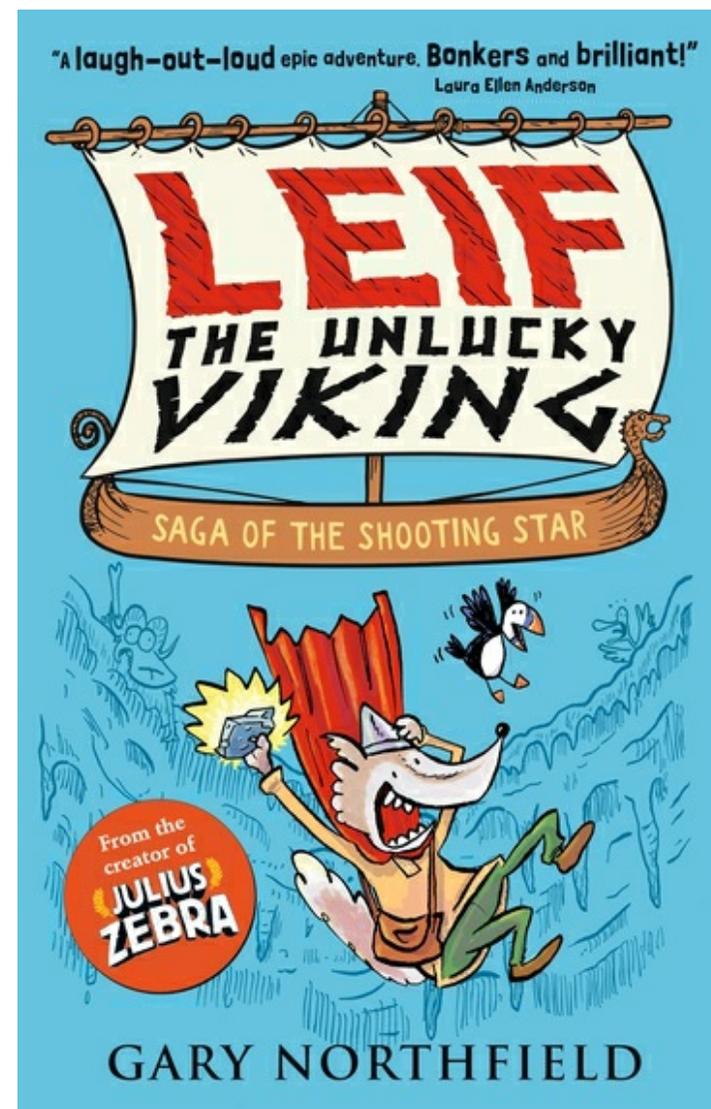
illustrated by Gary Northfield

An hilarious new illustrated chapter book series featuring the hapless adventures of Leif the Unlucky Viking wolf pup, from the creator of the hugely popular Julius Zebra books!

Leif is *not* unlucky. Yes, he does split his trousers at least once a week. And yes, he's always tripping up and falling down a hole. But he's determined to become a true Viking hero, just like his dad. Can he unravel the riddles of a witch to find a magical shard of rock that has fallen from a shooting star and wield its mystical powers? He will have to journey deep into the heart of polar bear country, outwitting all kinds of mythological creatures along the way. Thankfully, he has Olaf, the annoying duck, Toki, the nincompoop Puffin, and Flora, the incredibly smelly Muskox, for company. He's going to need all the luck he can get!

- Take the Viking sagas, a mythical object to be sought and an over-eager, adventurous wolf pup with a tendency to be clumsy and you have a recipe for a funny young series!
- Gary's artwork adds humour and heart to the adventure – Leif and his world come to life brilliantly.
- Includes a glossary of fascinating Viking facts.
- Gary's previous series, *Julius Zebra*, is internationally successful, with translation rights sold in 18 different countries so far.

Gary Northfield is an award-winning and bestselling author and illustrator of children's books and comics. His bestselling Julius Zebra series has now been translated into 18 languages worldwide and includes four books: *Julius Zebra: Rumble with the Romans!*; *Julius Zebra: Bundle with the Britons!*; *Julius Zebra: Entangled with the Egyptians!*; and *Julius Zebra: Grapple with the Greeks!* *Julius Zebra: Rumble with the Romans!* won the 2017 Spellbinding Book Award voted for by children. Gary's other books include *The Terrible Tales of the Teenytinysaurs!* and *Gary's Garden*. Gary's work is also published in *The Beano*, *The Dandy* and *National Geographic Kids* among many other magazines. He lives with his dog Roly, partner Nicky and twins. Find Gary online at garynorthfield.com, on Twitter as @garynorthfield and Instagram as @stupidmonster.



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WALKER BOOKS

Publication Date:	01 December 2023	Age:	7 years +
AU Price (incl. GST):	\$17.99	Format:	198mm x 129mm
NZ Price (incl. GST):	\$19.99	Extent:	320 pages
Binding:	Paperback	Imprint:	Walker
ISBN:	9781406383416		