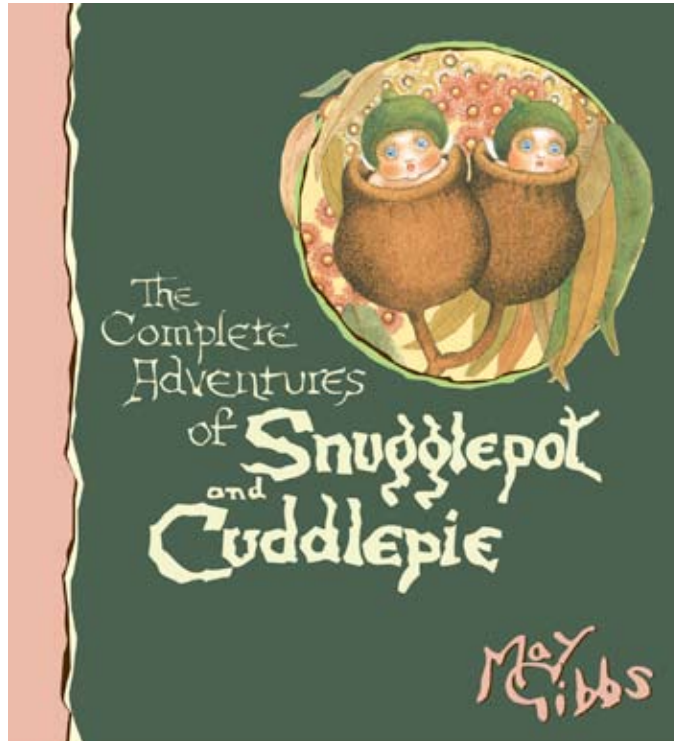




HarperCollins Australia

Subsidiary Rights Guide October 2007



children's

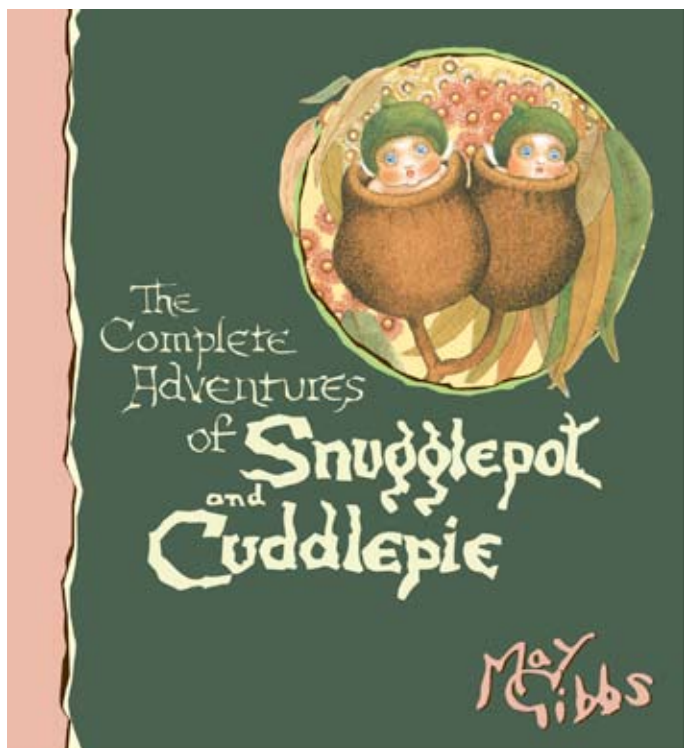
 HarperCollins *Publishers*

 Angus & Robertson

SNUGGLEPOT AND CUDDLEPIE

May Gibbs

CHILDREN'S CLASSIC



Discover an Australian classic

In print since first published in 1918, the world of May Gibbs's Snugglepote and Cuddlepie is one peopled with small creatures, where the real mixes tantalisingly with the imaginary and provides a window to the magic we all believe exists in the 'bush'.

In this brand-new edition of the Australian children's classic, the original artwork has been sourced and re-scanned and a fresh new design in full colour makes it a delight to rediscover - or to read for the very first time - this beautifully written story that also subtly teaches the importance of caring for animals and the environment.

The Complete Tales of Snugglepote and Cuddlepie includes its two sequels, *Little Ragged Blossom* and *Little Obelia*. A true Australian classic.

KEY POINTS:

- A brand new edition of this beloved children's classic.
- The original illustrations have been rescanned to look as glorious as when it was first published.
- Stylish four-colour hardcover package in new square format that will appeal to both children and contemporary parent.
- An essential book for every child's bookshelf

May Gibbs was born in 1877 and provided a whole mythology of the Australian bush for generations raised firmly in European traditions of fairies and forest sprites.

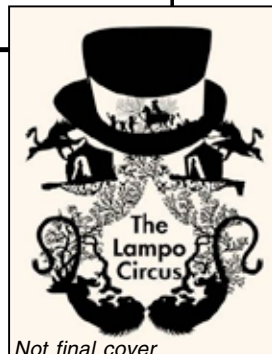
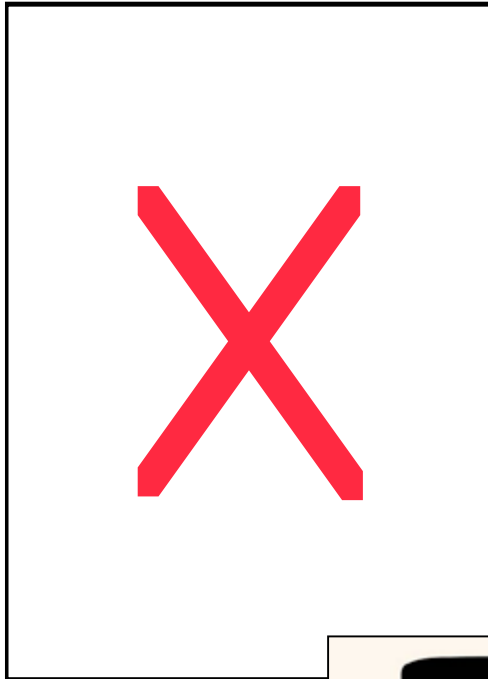


October 2007 9780732284282
240 x 220 mm HB 272 pages
Rights: World

THE STRANGEST ADVENTURE TRILOGY

Alexandra Adornetto

YOUNG READER FICTION



Not final cover

The children's publishing sensation of the year!

The Shadow Thief: Drabville is a model town, where Milli Klompert lives with her slightly offbeat family and spends her time longing for adventure. Then one day, along with her cautious best friend and amateur geologist, Ernest Perriclof, Milli discovers 'Hog House'. But the afternoon's entertainment takes a different turn when they are held prisoner by the wacky Mr and Mrs Mayor and a cohort of evil magicians, led by the sinister Aldor...

Milli and Ernest must evade the Shadow Keepers and outwit the sinister Aldor before the shadows are swallowed and Drabville loses its soul forever.

In **Lampo Circus**, the Shadow Thief has departed, but a new horror lurks inside the Big Tent of Drabville's newest attraction...

Their shadows safely restored to them, Drabville's citizens prepare to enjoy their freedom, and Milli and Ernest are convinced they have seen the last of their power-hungry nemesis, Lord Aldor the Illustrious.

But have they?

'Fans of Harry Potter and Lemony Snicket's *Series of Unfortunate Events* will delight in a new ...series that offers a similar blend of adventure, fantasy and humour.' *Magpies* #22

'A fast-moving plot full of menace and thrills, amply seeded with a magnificently precocious vocabulary' *The Courier Mail*

KEY POINTS:

- In the bestselling tradition of Christopher Paolini, Sonya Hartnett and Flavia Bujor, the first two fantastical books from a talented fourteen-year-old Melbourne student.
- An engaging series full of bizarre characters, unpredictable twists and humour aimed at middle readers.

Alexandra Adornetto wrote *The Shadow Thief* when she was just thirteen years old. Now fourteen, Alexandra has won various awards for her writing and in 2006 won the State Legacy Public Speaking competition. Her future aspirations are to work full time writing novels and screenplays, while also pursuing a career as an actor. She is currently working on *Von Gobstopper's Arcade*, the third novel in the Strangest Adventures trilogy (due November 09)

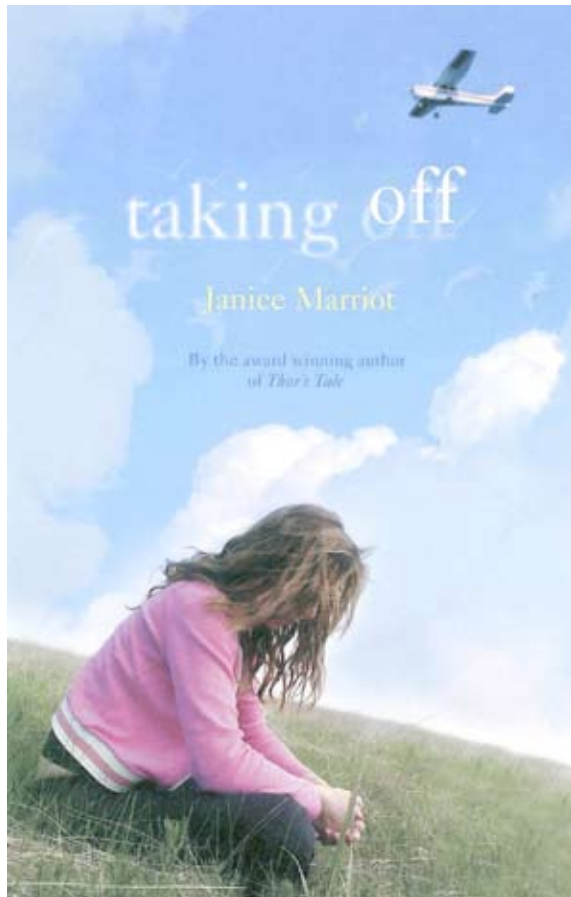
July 2007 / March 2008
9780732286187 / 9780732286194
185 x 130 mm NSH
Approx. 45,000 words each
Rights: World



TAKING OFF

Janice Marriott

YOUNG ADULT



Alana dreams of being a pilot, but she might be going blind like her father.

It's nearly time to take another eye test and she knows the news won't be good. But when two strangers move into her neighbourhood, she's forced to think about more than her own problems.

Tommy is obsessed with his absent father, and the idea of flying – but he's really struggling to cope with a dysfunctional mother and toying with the idea of suicide. When he's involved in an accident that almost kills her father's seeing eye dog, Alana is furious. Then there's Amira, a political refugee struggling to learn English, who tests Alana's patience and understanding. She's not sure she wants to take these two under her wing.

But when Uncle Brad offers to fly Alana and her father to the dreaded appointment with the eye specialist, her life begins to change, like it or not.

KEY POINTS:

- A sensitive and beautifully evoked young adult novel about coming to terms with growing up and an unclear future
- A light-handed insight into the issue of growing up with a disability

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Janice Marriott is a well-respected children's author of both fiction and non-fiction, most recently publishing *Thor's Tale* (September 2006). Janice lives and works in Wellington and is an acknowledged expert in music and song for children...

October 2007 9781869506377
198 x 128mm PB 208pp
Rights: World

BACKLIST TITLES:

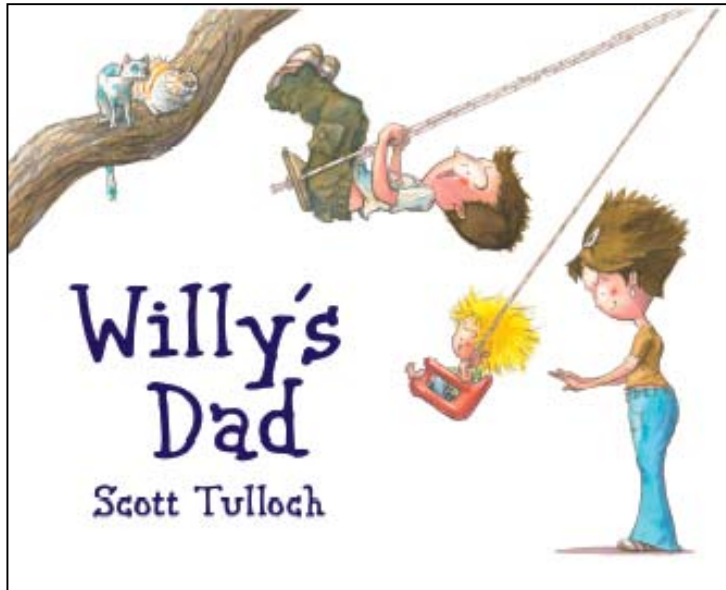
Thor's Tale, 2006 (FINALIST NZ Post Awards)



WILLY'S DAD

Scott Tulloch

PICTURE BOOK



Willy lives with his sensible mum and his non-so-sensible dad. While he loves them both, sometimes Willy wishes Dad could be a bit more grown-up...

His boundless enthusiasm is a pain in Willy's butt, and poor Willy is getting used to being embarrassed in front of all the other children at kindergarten.

But when Willy's mum goes away on a business trip, leaving his father to look after Willy, it's not long before Dad is out of control.

In a heart-warming and delightfully comic story of role reversal, it soon becomes apparent that Wee Willy is one very cool little toddler, and his Dad is the one who needs looking after.

But despite the frustrations and embarrassment, there's really no one quite like Dad and the love and strong bond between Willy and his bumbling but well-meaning father provides a poignant counterpoint to the boisterous and comic illustrations.

KEY POINTS: A charming and endearing first book from a very talented new children's illustrator, which will be fun for dads and children to share.

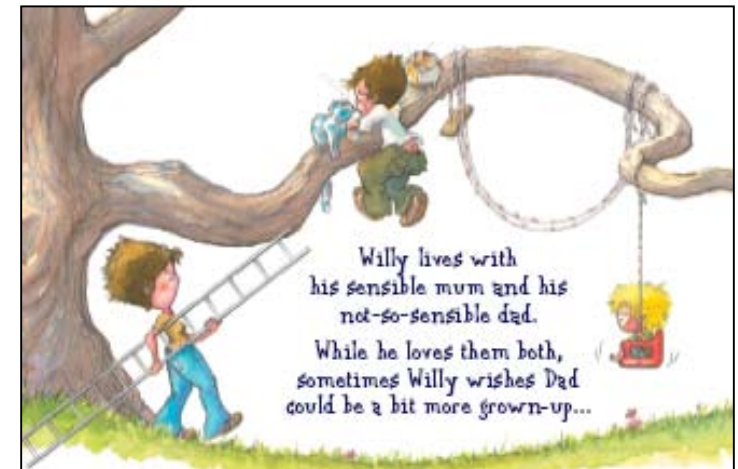
- The hilarious sequel, *Willy's Mum*, due May 2008

Scott Tulloch is a professional artist and illustrator who lives and works in Martinborough in NZ. This will be his first book. Any resemblance between Willy's Dad and his brother-in-law is purely coincidental.

August 2007 9781869506315

210 x 278 mm PB 32pp

Rights: World



Willy lives with his sensible mum and his not-so-sensible dad. While he loves them both, sometimes Willy wishes Dad could be a bit more grown-up...

'This simple tale of role reversal and embarrassing behaviour had me in hysterics, while the small ones had grins from ear to ear' – Taranaki Daily News

SHAGGY GULLY TIMES

Jackie French, illustrated by Bruce Whatley

PICTURE BOOK



Amazing discovery of the punniest newspaper you'll ever read!

It all started a few years ago when Bruce and Jackie were down in Shaggy Gully, following up the rumour that internationally acclaimed prima ballerina Josephine was really a kangaroo.

Jackie was just boiling the billy by Shaggy Gully Creek when Bruce pulled over a log for them to sit on...and there hidden in a hollow was an old swag, tied up with baling twine. And inside the swag was a yellowed newspaper – an old copy of the bestselling *Shaggy Gully Times*, the local paper of the area that, despite its many spelling errors, to this day still keeps the small community abreast of news.

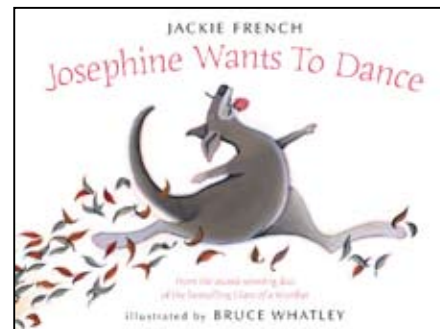
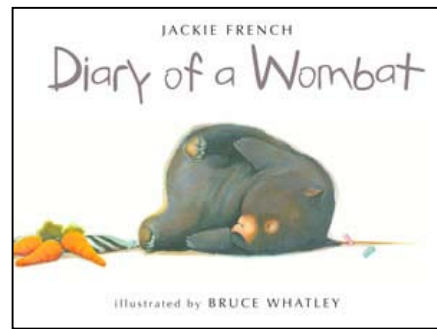
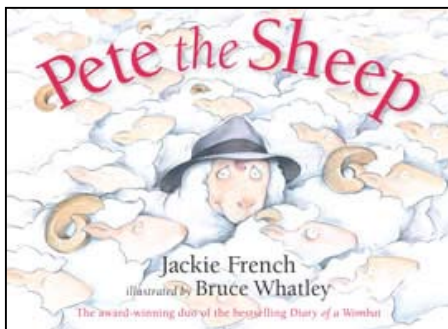
Jackie brushed off the spiders and Bruce deciphered all the mouldy bits – well, mostly, anyhow. And now everyone can enjoy this old edition.

Will Ellie the elephant and her friends escape Mr Nasty's Big City Poo? How about the mysterious blonde up the three bears bum tree? And what terrible accident happened to the Shabby Guppy Swimming Drool? Find All the News That's Fit to Stink in this celebration of that fine district newspaper, the *Daggy Gunky Limes!*

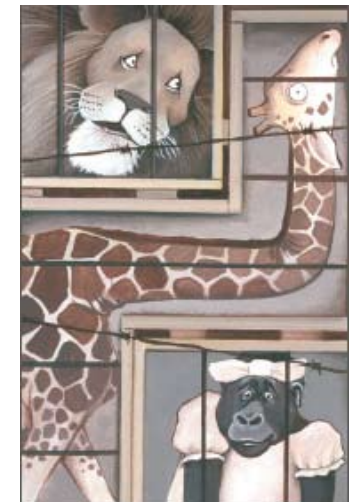
KEY POINTS: A new approach to all of your favourite characters – Mothball the wombat, Josephine the kangaroo and Pete the sheep all live in Shaggy Gully.

Jackie French's book *Hitler's Daughter* won the Children's Book Council's Younger Reader Award in 2000 and her bestselling *Diary of a Wombat* won the Australian Booksellers' Association Book of the Year Award. She has won numerous other awards for her books, both in Australia and overseas, and they have been translated into over twenty-one languages.

Bruce Whatley is one of Australia's best loved and most respected author/illustrators. He has illustrated over twenty books, and his collaboration with Jackie French has proved extremely popular.



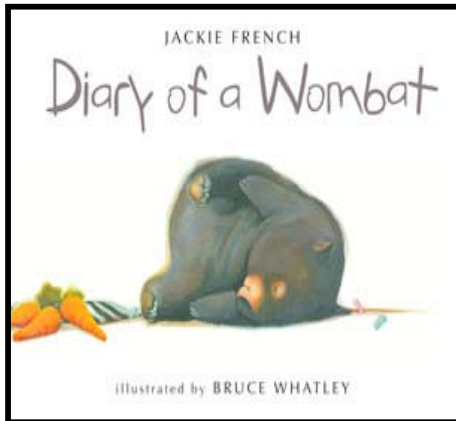
November 2007
9780732284107
310 x 260 mm
(NSH) 32pp
Rights: World



DIARY OF A WOMBAT BOARD BOOK

Jackie French, illustrated by Bruce Whatley

BOARD BOOK



A new format of the beloved (and cheeky!) modern classic.

Here, in the words of one unusually articulate wombat, is the tongue-in-cheek account of a busy week; eating, sleeping, digging holes . . . and training its new neighbors, a family of humans, to produce treats on demand. This entertaining book, with its brief, humorous text and hilarious illustrations, will endear the wombat to young children, who may recognize in this determined furry creature some qualities that they share.

RIGHTS SOLD: US (Clarion), Canada, UK (HarperCollins), Italy (Salani Editore), Germany (Gerstenberg Buchverlag), France (Albin Michel Jeunesse), Korea (Hemingway), Japanese (Hyoronsha)

KEY POINTS:

- APA Book of the Year 2003 (given for the book booksellers most enjoyed selling)
- CBC Honour Book 2003
- America Library Association Honour Book.
- Sales of the English Language version are over 150,000 worldwide.
- Ages 3–7

October 2007 9780732286620
220 x 160 mm 32pp
Rights: World

'Hilarious yet realistic...a sublime balance' *School Library Journal*

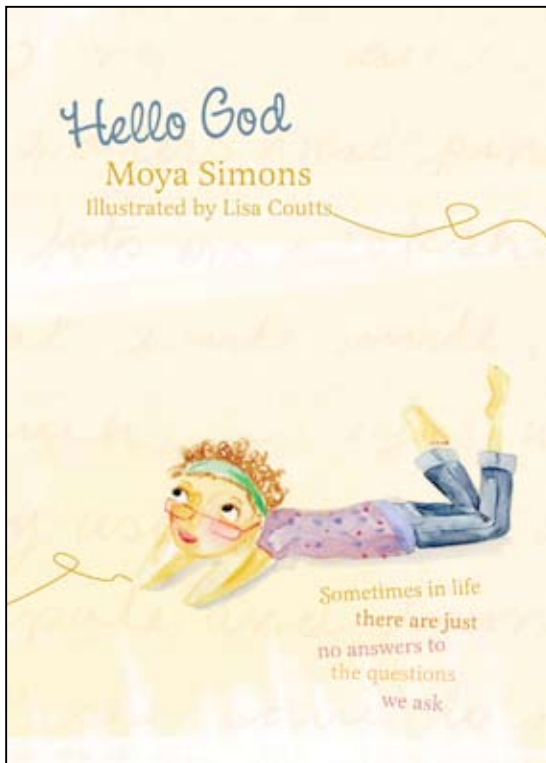
'Whatley's acrylic vignettes...provide the perfect counterpoint to French's deadpan narration...readers...will laugh out loud at the wombat's antics.' *Kirkus Reviews*



HELLO GOD

Moya Simons, illustrated by Lisa Coultts

YOUNG READER FICTION



Sometimes in life there are just no answers to the questions we ask...

Kate is twelve years old, and chats to God about everything - her parents and their new baby, her friends, getting used to her new glasses, even the ants who drown in the puddles on her driveway. If God exists, why doesn't he teach ants to swim?

Danielle and Stacey have pushed her out of the 'in' crowd, her glasses make her look like a geek, her parents will surely love her less when the new baby arrives, children all over the world are still starving, and the ants are still drowning in the driveway. Kate's worries and confusion erupt into constant hiccuping, and she still doesn't have any answers.

Kate also writes to God about Stephanie, the new girl in her class. Stephanie isn't the sort of girl Kate usually makes friends with; she's too 'nerdy' for a start. And she looks weird, too. But getting to know Steph proves to be unexpectedly interesting for Kate, making her look at friendship in a new way.

Things get serious when Stephanie becomes ill. Steph's a good person, so why isn't she getting better? But just when Kate's ready to give up on God, she finds the answers to her questions in an unexpected place.

KEY POINTS:

- Beautifully written, restrained and unsentimental, this is a child's first book of philosophy.
- This is a book that will sneak into your heart, touch your soul and stay with you a long time.
- The story is moving without being mawkish. The God of the title is non-denominational - there are no explicitly Christian references - and the book is concerned with big questions about life and death rather than with religious doctrine. This should make it appealing to a wide range of readers.

Moya Simons has been writing for children for over ten years and has published twenty-five books. She has been shortlisted in the Young Australian Best Book Awards twice and has been published in the USA, UK, Germany, France and Malaysia.

July 2007 9780732285340
180 x 128mm 144pp
b&w illustrations
Rights: World

'Good food for thought on philosophical issues – as well as an entertaining read'
Australian Bookseller and Publisher

'Although profound in content, the story is told with a light touch'
Magpies # 22

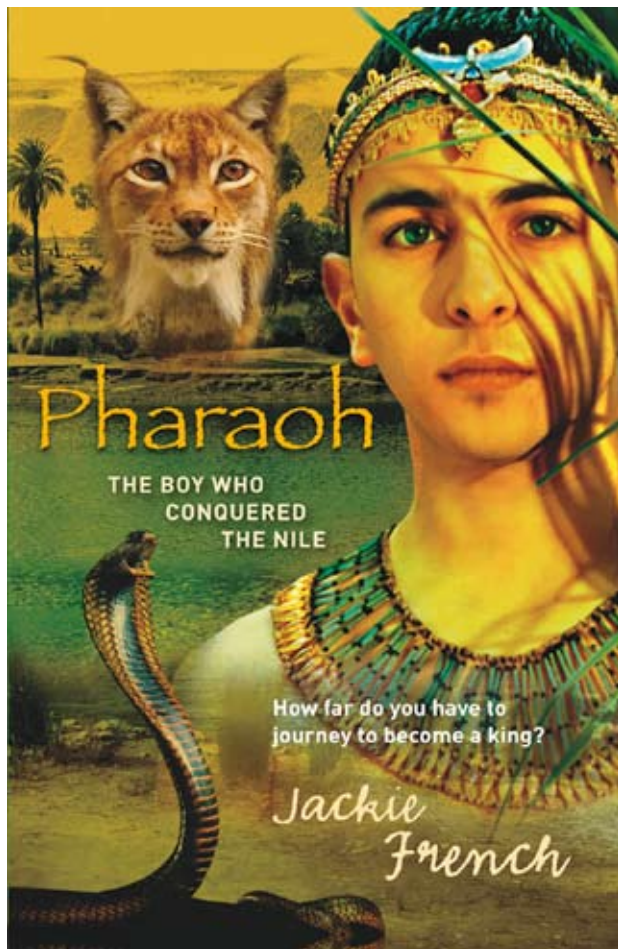


PHARAOH

The Boy Who Conquered the Nile

Jackie French

OLDER READER FICTION



How far do you have to journey to become a king?

The people call Prince Narmer 'the Golden One' – a boy with the brightest future ahead of him. Handsome and talented, he is destined to be King of Thinis, the greatest town in Egypt and, for Narmer, the centre of the world.

Then his whole life changes overnight. A devastating accident forces him to give up his right to the throne and sends him journeying across the ancient Middle East with the mysterious Trader, the crippled Nitho and a tamed wildcat called Bast. As he travels through the desert and visits the great cities of Punt and Sumer, he learns that Thinis is actually a very small place indeed. But can he ever truly forget his homeland?

When he decides to pay one last visit to Thinis, he will discover what it really means to be a leader, and will find his destiny being fulfilled beyond his wildest expectations ...

'The combination of an excellent, stirring plot, sympathetic and well-developed characters, a hint of romance, and a positive, well researched historical context for a critical and surprisingly relevant period in humanity.. makes this a winner.' Compulsivereader.com

KEY POINTS:

- A tale of travel and emotional journeys set against the exotic civilisation of earliest Egypt
- This page-turning story is set against an historical backdrop; the book is both fascinating and historically informative.

Jackie French is a bestselling, award-winning and incredibly prolific author.

Also in Jackie's historical series, *Hitler's Daughter* was winner of the 2000 CBC Younger Readers Award, the 2002 UK Wow! Award for the most inspiring children's book of the year, and the Japanese version also received the semi-grand prix of the Sankei Children's Book Award in 2005.

Pharaoh is very similar to *Viking Ships*, which has sold to HarperCollins UK, HarperCollins USA, HarperCollins Canada, Wahlstroms Bokforlag Sweden; Orlandó Studio Kft Hungary; Germany (Arena Verlag)

April 2007
180 x 128mm 240pp
Rights: World



THAT'S WHY I WROTE THIS SONG

Susanne Gervay

YOUNG ADULT



Backlist titles: *Butterflies*, *I am Jack*, *Super Jack*, *Cave*

A coming-of-age story about an all-girl rock band in search of love, life and independence.

That's Why I Wrote This Song is an innovative creative mix of rock music with young adult literature. Susanne Gervay wrote the book, and her musician daughter, Tory, wrote the lyrics.

The book explores the lives of four very different teenage girls – Pip, Karen, Angie and Irina - and their relationships with their fathers, and how that impacts on their relationships with each other and their lives. All this is set against the music scene and the girls' passion for and involvement with it, from rock concerts, weekend music festivals and the girls' own rock band – Not Perfect.

The girls' band will be performing publicly for the first time at the mid-year school concert. As the girls prepare for the concert, they must also deal with boyfriends, family, school and their own friendships.

Susanne Gervay is a teacher, specialist in child growth and development, and award-winning children's and young adult author. Her much-loved and bestselling *I am Jack* is becoming a classic on school bullying, reaching adults and children alike, while *Butterflies* is recognised as a defining book on youth disability. Susanne's books have earned awards ranging from the Children's Book Council of Australia's Notable Books list to the Family Therapy Awards. She is a well known as a mentor, speaker and facilitator in the writing community.

KEY POINTS:

- An innovative mix of narrative, music and lyrics that sits perfectly with teenage girls.
- A recording of the songs by Tory is downloadable from the web.

'Loveable memorable characters... Susanne Gervay has lived youth music culture to good effect in order to write such a convincing novel' *Magpies*

Tory Gervay is a young writer of lyrics and musics, as well as a singer who is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts (Music).

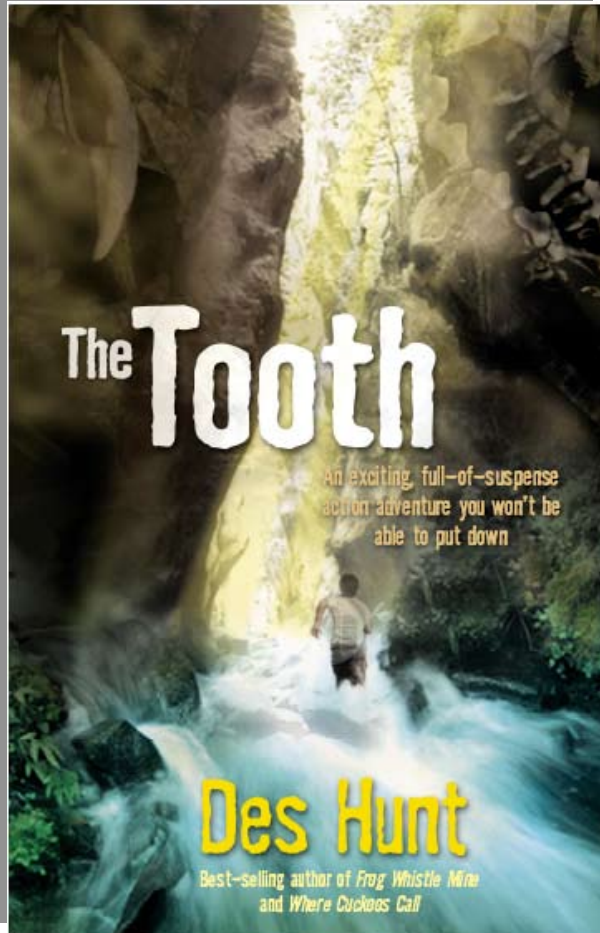
August 2007 9780207200861
198 x 128mm, 272pp
Rights: ANZ and translation



THE TOOTH

Des Hunt

OLDER READER FICTION



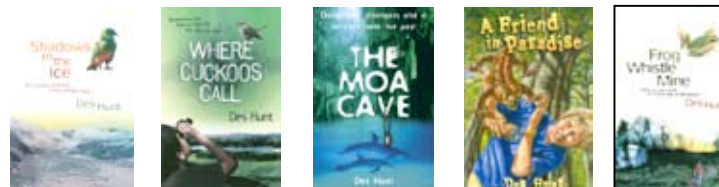
The fossilised dinosaur lay undisturbed for millions of years . . . until the boy found it and the trouble began . . .

Tim Thomas is searching for dinosaur fossils in the hills above his grandparent's sheep station. His mum drowned when he was four, leaving Tim with only a vague memory of her — and of a large tooth embedded in rock. But time is against him as he races to find the exact spot where the tooth lies, before the river gully is dammed and the rising waters cover the site.

He also has to deal with Sam Mason, the school bully, and when Tim's horse is stolen his attempts to get her back bring him up against a gang of horse thieves. And then when it starts to rain, the waters begin to rise, and Tim is in trouble. Deep trouble.

Des Hunt specialises in exciting action-packed adventures set in the natural landscapes of New Zealand. This is his sixth novel since *A Friend in Paradise*, a 2003 finalist in the NZ Post Children's Book Awards, and follows the success of *The Moa Cave*, 2007 finalist *Frog Whistle Mine*, *Where Cuckoos Call* and *Shadows in the Ice*. Des lives on the Coromandel Peninsula.

Previous titles:



KEY POINTS:

- Ecologically based adventure stories for readers 9-12, with lashings of suspense and excitement!
- Ever-popular dinosaurs and fossils theme

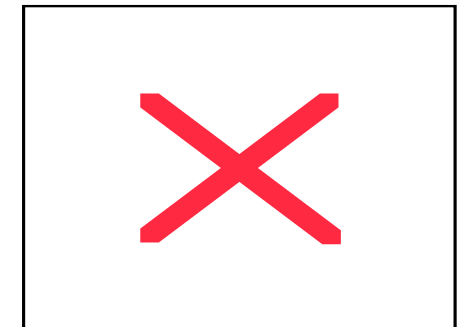
Praise for *The Moa Cave*:

'...a real page-turner avoiding obvious plotlines and neatly capturing modern-day 'tween' sensibilities' *NorthSouth*

January 2008

198mm x 128mm PB 176pp

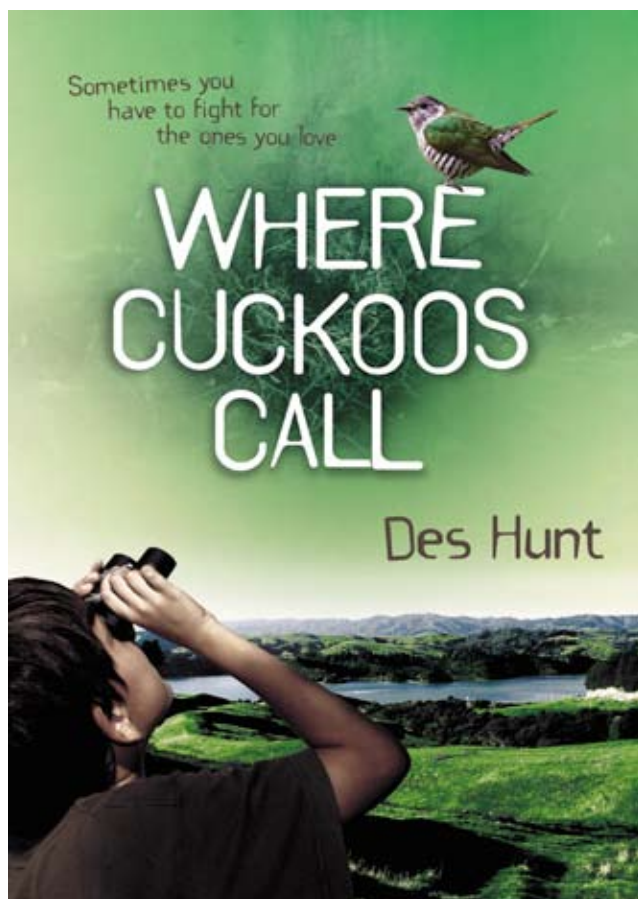
Rights: World



WHERE CUCKOOS CALL

Des Hunt

OLDER READER FICTION



Sometimes you have to fight for the ones you love.

Where Cuckoos Call tells the story of a migratory shining cuckoo, raised by 12 year old Ben Mansfield, a keen ornithologist who looks after endangered birds nesting in a sheltered bay on his family farm.

Ben and his mum are dealing with the long term effects of his father's debilitating illness, and when it looks as if the farm will have to be sold, Ben's life turns upside down.

He must grow up fast as change threatens his family, his home, and his beloved birds, when a resort development is unveiled and marauding hooners hit the beaches on motocross bikes. But Ben finds an unexpected ally – and his decision to defy his father and raise an orphaned Shining Cuckoo takes him far across the Pacific to Vanuatu.

But the same ally also lands him in serious trouble when a misguided attempt to help backfires, landing him in deep trouble.

Praise for *The Moa Cave*:

"This is a fast-paced mystery adventure that children will love and find a great read that they can't put down." *Tomorrow's Schools Today*

"A strong plot and interesting and credible characters...a definite 'need to read'." *Marlborough Express*

KEY POINTS:

- Gripping adventure book that also teaches children about ecological themes.
- "An exciting adventure story that will be enjoyed...one of his best." *Magpies*

Des Hunt is a well respected educationalist and teacher, responsible for writing the national primary schools science curriculum. He has written a series of successful environmental adventures for 9-12 year olds.

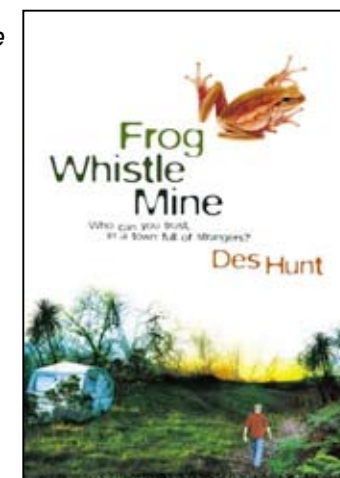
February 2007

180 x 128mm 176pp

Rights: World

Previous Title:

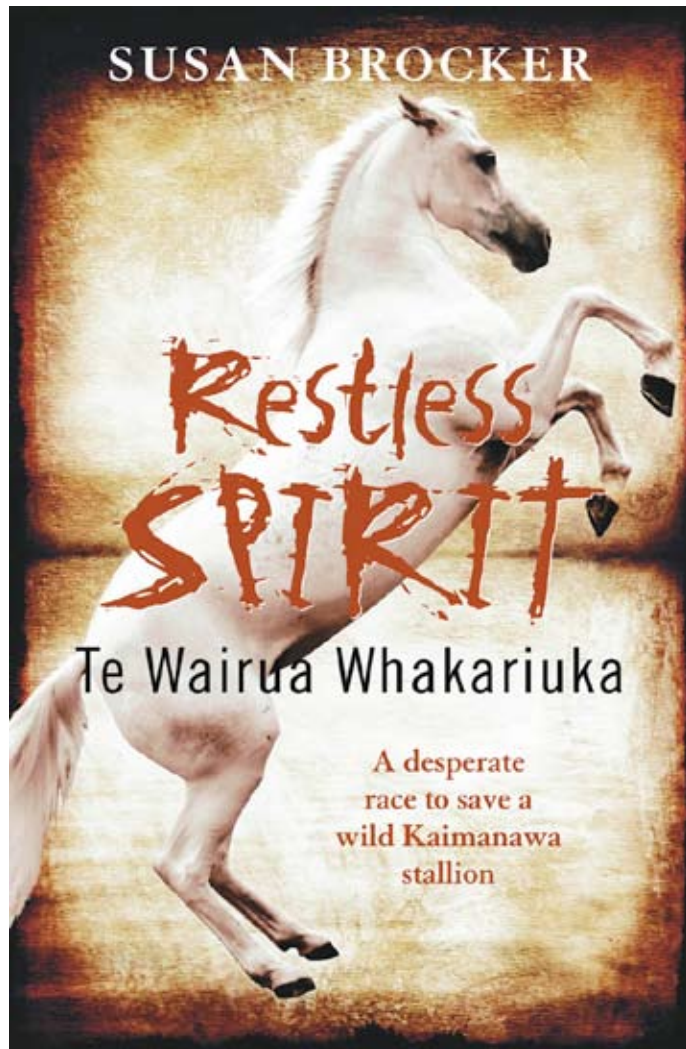
Frog Whistle Mine



RESTLESS SPIRIT

Susan Brocker

OLDER READER FICTION



A restless spirit roams the slopes of the snow-capped volcanoes and the harsh tussock landscape — a wild, white Kaimanawa stallion who cannot be tamed.

A moving and exciting adventure story for 9-12 year olds, set against the sweeping landscape of the North Island's volcanic plateau and Desert Road. *Restless Spirit* tells the story of a wild white Kaimanawa stallion who cannot be tamed and the two young troubled teens who come to love him.

Lara is new to the town beneath the mountains and hates it; Kahu is one of her classmates - a talented carver, outwardly cocky and confident but riddled with self doubt and fear.

Hunters slaughter the young stallion's family and he learns to fear and distrust humans. When a brutish trainer targets the white stallion during the annual DOC muster, he must learn to trust Lara and Kahu if they are to have any chance of saving him.

Before they can help the white stallion, Lara and Kahu must reach out – Lara to her peers and her estranged mother, and Kahu must find the courage to reveal his hidden talent. Hardest of all, they must both face the reality that to help the stallion, they may ultimately have to lose him.

Parallel to their journey, the white stallion must overcome his fears. He must call on the strength and wisdom of his ancestors and place his trust in Lara and Kahu.

KEY POINTS:

- In the tradition of *Silver Brumby*.
- Perfect for both boy and girl readers, and makes a great cross-over to the classroom

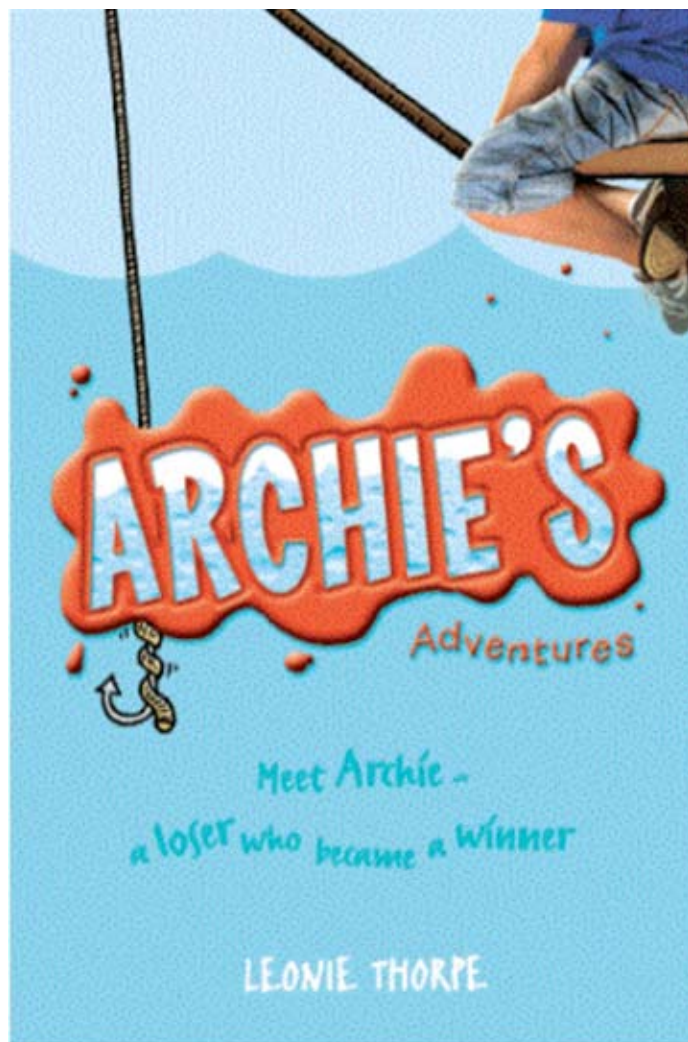
Susan Brocker lives in Tauranga on a small farm with her husband, foster children and many pets. She is an experienced children's writer whose stories have been published extensively by educational publishers. This is her first novel for children.

March 2007
180 x 128mm PB 172pp
Rights: World

ARCHIE'S ADVENTURES

Leonie Thorpe

YOUNG READER FICTION



A delightful, funny and refreshing new chapter book for younger readers aged 7-10 years, with the side-splitting adventures and misadventures of young Archie Roach.

Archie is new in town, trying to find his feet (literally) and live down his gory reputation at his last school for the bloodiest bone-piercing leg fracture in the history of the world.

Trying to make new friends is a bit of a struggle, but he manages to do it, despite having the most miserly cheapskate of-all-time for a mum and a dad who is convinced that Roachs are destined to be useless at everything.

When Archie meets up with the town's mysterious maggot smuggler – the legendary, one-eyed, child hating Captain Frank – his life changes for the better.

Archie's wacky adventures in the local fishing competition and when he joins the local sea scouts, will be a draw card for young readers, boys in particular.

KEY POINTS:

Comparable to Joy Cowley's much-loved *Wild West* series, this exciting new writer for junior readers combines the first two of the many fun-filled adventures with Archie and his friends.

Leonie Thorpe is a first-time author, whose day job is as a medical laboratory scientist at Christchurch Hospital. She lives in Lyttelton with her husband, a skipper on the local ferry, and her two young daughters.

June 2007

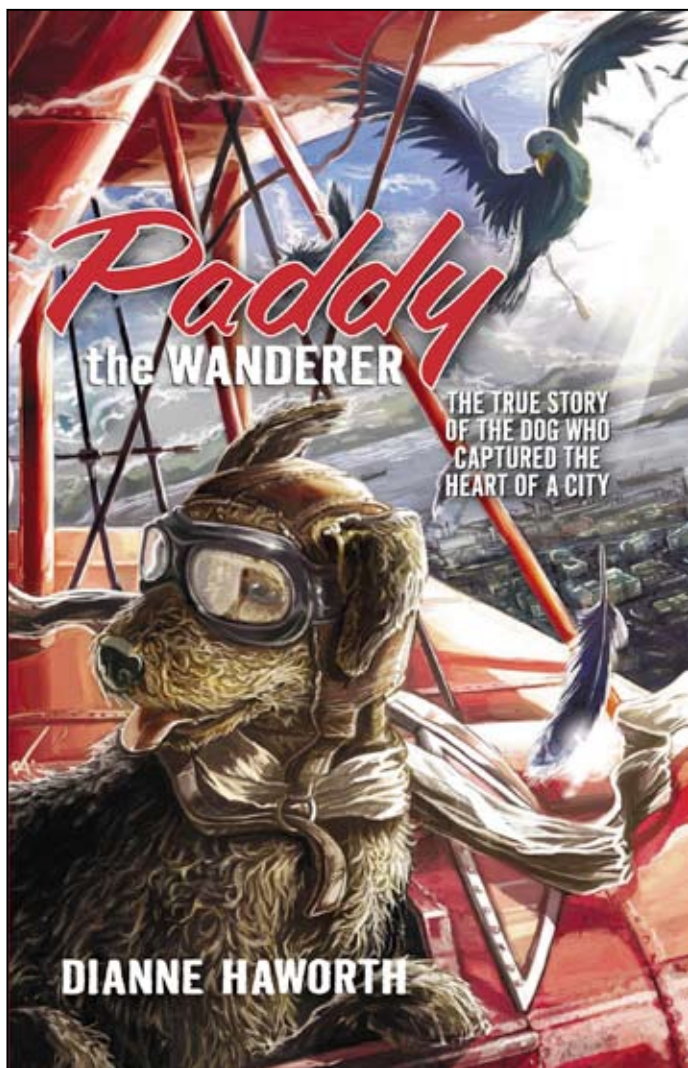
180 x 128mm 146pp

Rights: World

PADDY THE WANDERER

Dianne Haworth

YOUNG READER FICTION



The true story of the dog who captured the heart of a city.

A well researched and endearing non-fiction account of an amazing Airedale who captured public imagination during the Great Depression, and who is today honoured in Wellington by a statue celebrating his status as a much-loved local legend.

Like Scotland's Greyfriar's Bobby, Paddy mourned the loss of his human, in his case a little mistress who died of pneumonia, but instead of haunting a graveyard, Paddy headed for the waterfront. There he became a favourite of the watersiders and seamen, not to mention the taxi and bus drivers of the Central City, who fed and protected him from dog rangers.

He certainly got around – taken on board ship and crossing the Tasman, travelling around coastal ports and even flying in a Gypsy Moth – not to mention the dastardly attempt to move him to Auckland by jealous Aucklanders. He was also rumoured to have made it to San Francisco and back.

Formally adopted by the Harbour Board, his official title was Assistant Night Watchman responsible for Pirates, Smugglers and Rodents. On his death his funeral procession brought Wellington to a standstill. Not bad for a stray dog.

KEY POINTS:

This is the true story of an amazing dog with a taste for adventure, who brought joy and laughter during the dark days of the Depression and became a much-loved seafaring legend.

Dianne Haworth is an award-winning journalist and author of adult sporting books and biographies, and is a leading local biographer. An experienced editor and journalist, she edits *Animal Voice* for the SPCA, and is a devoted animal lover. *Paddy the Wanderer* is her first work for children.

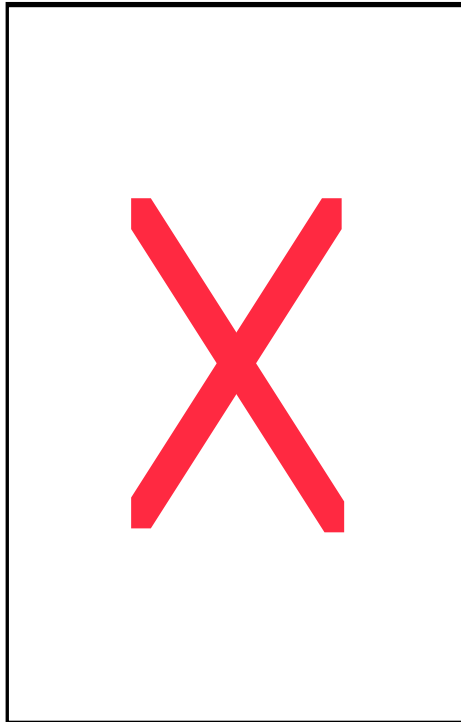
May 2007
180 x 128mm
174pp
Rights: World



OCTAVIUS O'MALLEY

Alan Sunderland, illustrated by Ben Redlich

YOUNG READER FICTION



Octavius O'Malley and the Mystery of the Exploding Cheese

Someone has just blown up the biggest cheese factory in town, and Detective Inspector Octavius O'Malley of the Rodent Police is on the case. Even as the steaming globs of cheese are still running down the walls, it becomes clear that there is something very strange about this case and something stranger still about Octavius O'Malley himself!

Octavius O'Malley and the Mystery of the Missing Mouse

A year has passed since the curious incident of the exploding cheese almost destroyed Rodent City, and Octavius O'Malley – Ocko to his friends – is enjoying life as the new Chief of Police.

But one day Spencer, the notorious leader of the River Road Mouse Gang bursts into Ocko's office with the news that Patrick the Magnificent is missing. Patrick may be small, but his criminal talents are mighty, and Spencer and Ocko must once again join forces to find him.

Going where no rat (or mouse!) has ever been before, losing significant amounts of fur, even flying a helicopter, are all part of the quest for this dazzling duo.

KEY POINTS:

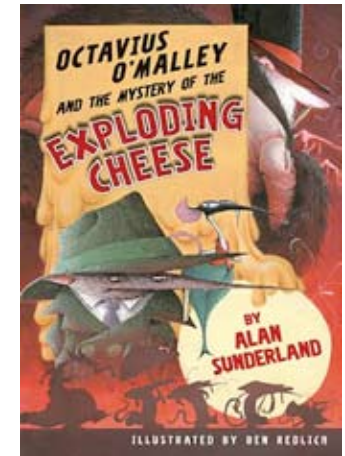
- Fun, fresh adventure stories for young readers
- A whodunnit filled with humour and excitement - and a story about prejudice and intolerance, and how differences that seem enormous can turn out to be very small in the end.
- Ages 9 -13

Alan Sunderland is a Walkley award-winning television reporter.

"You can just about smell the cigarette smoke, Bogie is that close. Fellow gumshoe, Octavius O'Malley, a rodent, owes a lot to him: his laconic narration and introspection, his cynicism, his mistrust of police hierarchy, his shambolic manner, his gut instinct...Detective fiction is normally compulsive reading. But transfer all the usual characters and suspects to Rodent City, ramp up the contest between goodies and baddies and confuse the morality and motives of their action and the reader will stick to the book with all the tenacity of Ocko pursuing a hunch."

Magpies

198 x 128 mm
192 pp,
b/w line illustrations
Rights: World



The Mystery of the Exploding Cheese:

September 2006

The Mystery of the Missing Mouse:

September 2007

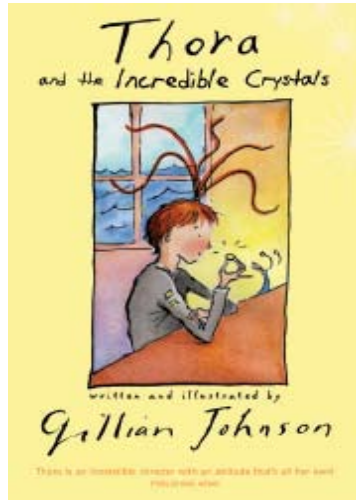
The Mystery of the Criminal Cat: August

2008

THORA

written & illustrated by Gillian Johnson

YOUNG READER FICTION



Thora is a 10 year old girl – half mermaid, half human – who has reached that stage in her life where she must take up residence in the world of humans, without the help of her mermaid mother, Halla.

With the aid of her guardian, Mr Walters, and her pet peacock, Cosmo, she must come to terms with a new life among people. Thora has life skills that can get her into and out of trouble and an effervescence that keeps all who meet her entertained and amused – well most people anyway!

Book 3: Thora and the Incredible Crystals

Thora and her family are visiting Flinders Island, the home of Cosmo, Thora's pet peacock. But what's happened to all his relatives?

Meanwhile news from the mermaid world means that Thora's mother Halla must take an urgent trip to the ocean floor. Thora is left in the capable hands of her guardian, Mr Walters – who is going through an astounding transformation. Suddenly his bad back is cured, he takes up yoga, swears off his favourite foods and doesn't smoke cigars any more.

Thora already has her hands full, as she's just landed her first job minding bratty young Felicity, the daughter of the owners of the local hotel. But there's something not quite right about Felicity's parents. And when Thora and Felicity stumble upon a factory full of squidgy dinosaurs with strange sparkly eyes, Thora's suspicions are aroused and she's determined to get to the bottom of the mystery.

KEY POINTS:

- Ages 7–10
- a delightful and engaging heroine
- Comparable to *Pippi Longstocking*, *Matilda*, *Tashi*

RIGHTS SOLD: US

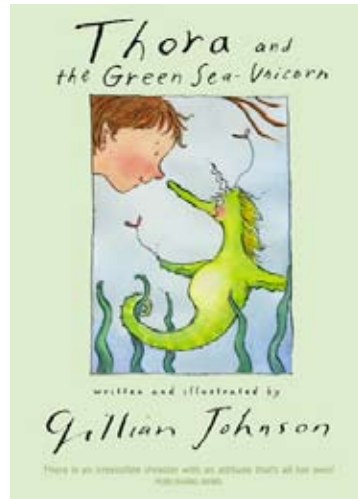
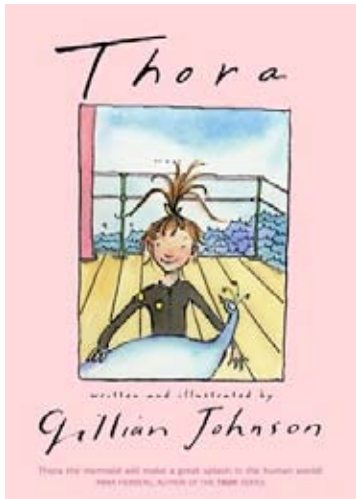
(HarperCollins), UK (Hodder), Germany (Rowohlt Verlag), Thailand (Amarin), Poland (Jaguar), Spain (Alfaguara), Korea (Yolimwon)

198x128mm 240pp

b&w illustrations

Rights: World

Gillian Johnson is a Canadian writer/illustrator. Gillian is married to author Nicholas Shakespeare, and she and Nicholas and their two young children divide their year equally between Swansea, Tasmania, and the UK. Gillian is also a former national speed skater, canoe instructor and teacher and has taught in the former Czechoslovakia and in Canada.



OCEAN WITHOUT END

SWASHBUCKLER TRILOGY

Kelly Gardiner

OLDER READER FICTION



The Swashbuckler Trilogy tells of the adventures of Lily, a young girl who grows from a pirate slave to a pirate princess.

This exciting new historical adventure series for children is set in the Napoleonic Wars, when the French navy occupied the Mediterranean in the final days of the golden age of piracy.

During a raid on her island home of Santa Lucia, twelve year old Lily learns that her father, who she thought was dead, was taken by pirates. She is taken at gunpoint by the tyrannical El Capitan de Diablo and forced to work as a galley slave on his ship, *Gisella*.

Ocean Without End tells of Lily's adventures as she makes her mark on the pirate world and embarks on her own journey in search of her father. Packed with swashbuckling action, at the same time this is a story about family and unexpected friendship, longing and belonging and about growing up in a strange and sometimes violent world.

REVIEWS:

"This exciting pirate adventure ... introduces a feisty young heroine called Lily Swann... *Ocean Without End* is a rollicking, action packed yarn sure to captivate young readers." *NZ Herald*.

"This lively adventure story... The characters are colourfully larger than life... Kelly Gardiner writes fast-moving, lively prose and Lily's indomitable spirit makes her an engaging pirate." *Magpies*

"...Enid Blyton tale this is not... There's a bit of everything thrown in - drama, violence, escape - as is required with a young person's read, but the yarn will keep them up to finish it. And then they'll want the next in the series. A good stimulus to get them reading.

If you give *OWE* to your offspring, remember to set the alarm on school mornings." *Greymouth Star*.

KEY POINTS:

- In-house favourite
- Plenty of action, with a fast-paced plot and rounded characters
- Impossible to put down, but well researched!

Kelly Gardiner is a professional writer and editor with many years of experience in print and electronic media. She currently works from Waiheke island as a communications consultant. This is her first novel.

Ocean Without End,
June 2006
The Pirate's Revenge,
October 2006
The Silver Swan,
April 2007

198x128mm 200pp
Rights: Translation
Ages 9 -12

HORSE MAD SERIES

Kathy Helidoniotis

OLDER READER FICTION

Totally Horse Mad: The only things that stand between Ashleigh Miller and the horse of her dreams are a whole lot of dollars that she doesn't have, parents who don't know one end of a horse from another, and a city backyard the size of a shoe box. Ashleigh can't believe it when her parents announce that she will finally have a horse of her own, but at a price she could never have imagined. The family is leaving the city and heading for Shady Creek, a small country town. And that's when the horse adventures really begin.

Horse Mad Summer: Ashleigh is itching for her horse mad holiday with Becky and Jenna to begin. But when Jenna finally arrives from the city she feels like the jam in the sandwich. It's up to Ash to bring her two best friends together before time runs out.

Horse Mad Academy: Ashleigh Miller has won a four-week stay at prestigious Waratah Grove Academy - a dream come true for any horse-mad girl. But the gruelling riding schedule, tough competition with the best junior riders in the state and a horse who simply refuses to behave when it comes to dressage all combine to make Ashleigh think that life in Shady Creek wasn't so bad after all.

Horse Mad Heroes: The beloved Appaloosa mare Cassata has gone missing, but Becky and Ash and Becky put aside their differences and determine to bring Cassata home – whatever the cost.

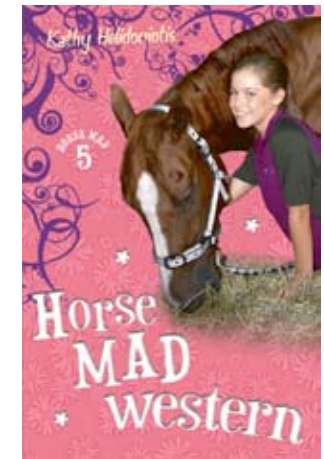
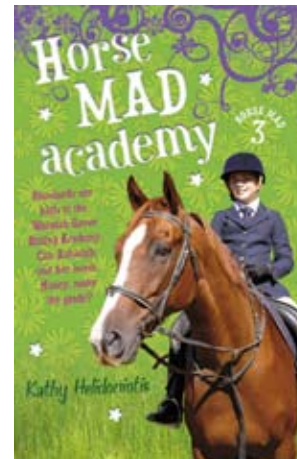
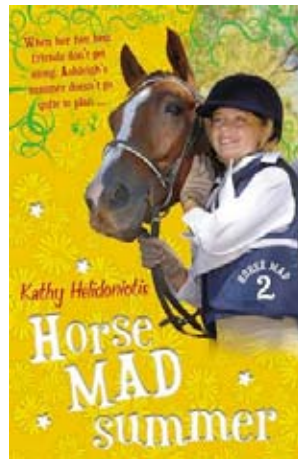
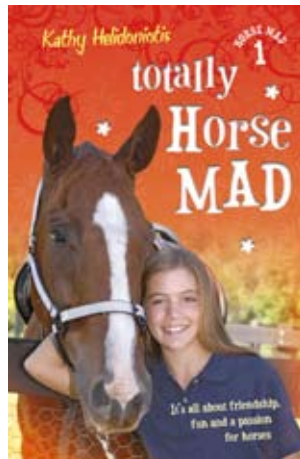
KEY POINTS:

- A wonderful new series about horses, riding and friendship, perfect for girls aged 9 – 12.
- Horse series never lose their appeal – particularly with young girls, and *Horse Mad* has the perfect combination of friendship dramas and accurate stories about horses.
- Comparison Titles: *Saddle Club* and *The Silver Brumby*.

Kathy Helidoniotis has had many books for children published, and divides her time between reading, writing, teaching and riding.

Rights: World
Ages 9 -12
198x128mm 200pp

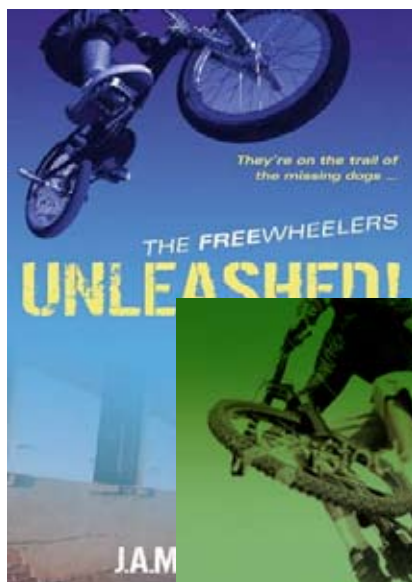
Totally Horse Mad, June 2006
Horse Mad Summer, Sept 2006
Horse Mad Academy, Nov 2006
Horse Mad Heroes, March 2007
Horse Mad Western, June 2007



FREEWHEELERS

J.A. Mawter

OLDER READER FICTION



An exciting new series that combines adventure and mystery.

The Freewheelers are a gang of four friends – the twins, Clem and Darcy, and Bryce and Mio. They spend their spare time trick riding on their push bikes or hanging out in the old abandoned kombi van in the alley next to the park.

Unleashed!

One day while at the park the kids see a man mistreating a beagle he is walking. They decide to rescue the dog and in the process discover something far more sinister – a pedigree dog ‘laundering’ ring. The dogs are beloved pets that are stolen, taken to the local pound and marked as ‘deceased’. They are then sold to unknowing buyers. The Freewheelers will need to use all their skills to outwit these criminals and save the dogs.

Launched! June 2007

Deciding to enter a bike trial competitions to be held at The Peak, the Freewheelers set up a training camp in the disused railway siding not far from The Van. But their world is invaded by a gang of pick-pockets, Mysterious graffiti appears around the neighbourhood, including Bryce’s old tag from his wayward days.

Bryce denies he’s gone back to his old ways, but he comes more and more under suspicion, leading to a rift in the strong friendships uniting the Freewheelers.

Bryce needs to clear his name. Can he find a way to put the Freewheelers back on track for the bike trail *and* help the street kids?

Extreme! June 2008

KEY POINTS:

- An urban adventure series with huge appeal for both boy and girl readers, ages 10+
- Contains all the elements that makes great children’s literature: yummy food, kids getting into scrapes and solving problems, animals, an older mentor and outdoor pursuits. The author has successfully updated this mix, so that now instead of the children roaming the countryside they roam an urban landscape on their pushbikes. The characters are fabulous, and their friendships are real: friendly and not-so-friendly banter, jokes, teasing and genuine concern.

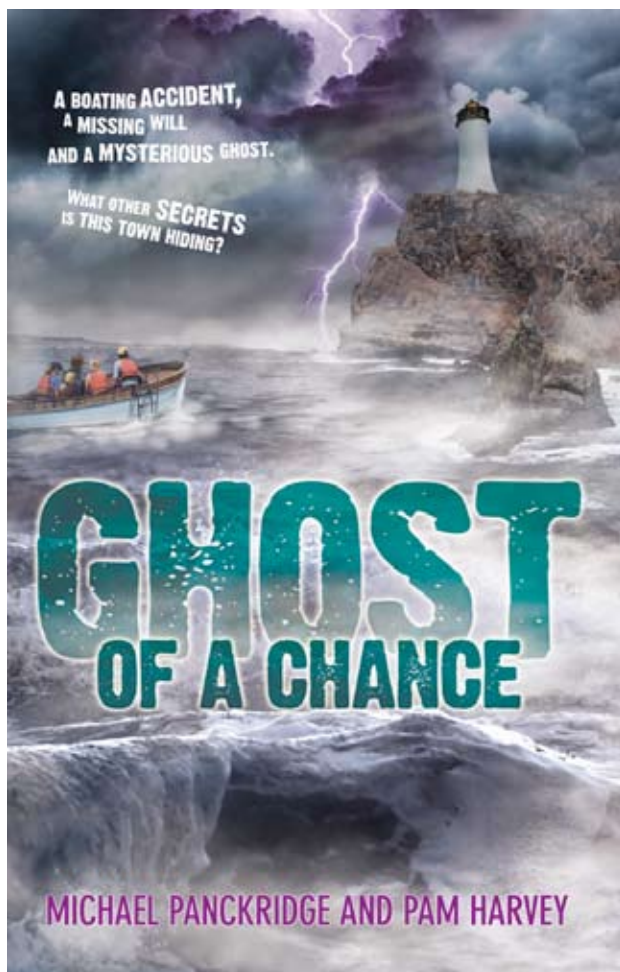
Jeni (J.A.) Mawter has an MA in Children’s Literature and tutors at Macquarie University.

198x128mm 176pp
Rights: World

THE CLUED-UP SIX

Michael Panckridge & Pam Harvey

OLDER READER FICTION



Book 4 due April 2008

Faster than Lightning

One morning, when twelve-year-old Angus is helping his father train a skittish new horse on the track, a group of riders almost push Angus and his horse into the railing. From here the mystery begins. With the help of his friends, Angus discovers shady and possibly illegal goings-on at the local stud farm. Is the stud involved in a special breeding program, or something more sinister? Is it possible that they could be cloning famous racehorses? Angus and friends must find out before it is too late.

In the Deep End

The new principal at Teasdale High is talking up the Tubeworks – an amazing new educational learning centre, and the national Whatever, Wherever competition. But something is not quite right. First, Gabby, one of the most powerful swimmers, loses to Andrea Taylor. Second, Hannah, the brightest kid in school, loses the Whatever, Wherever competition to David Evans. Although gifted, neither Andrea nor David really has the ability to beat the girls. How have they done it? Could the answer be linked to the strange events happening at the Tubeworks? Gabby, Hannah and the Clued-up Six set out on a dangerous mission to uncover the truth.

Ghost of a Chance (October 2007):

School's finally out and Ling and her friends head to the beach for a holiday. They soon find out that their destination was the scene of a tragic boating accident years ago. At night, Ling is haunted by the image of a girl. And during the day, a gang of hostile local kids searches the island for lost treasure. Attempting to find out the truth from the locals only leads to frustration ... and raises more questions. Ling and her friends must brave stormy seas and stay one step ahead of the other kids in a daring mission to uncover the truth and help restore peace to those who have been left behind.

KEY POINTS:

- An exciting adventure series perfect for reluctant boy readers – but also featuring feisty female characters.
- An action-packed adventure and mystery series of six books, *Clued Up*, with a new book to be released every six months

Pam Harvey lives in Central Victoria and works primarily as a physiotherapist. Pam teaches Writing for Children at Bendigo TAFE and is passionate about children's literature.

Michael Panckridge has published over 20 books, including the bestselling Toby Jones cricket series

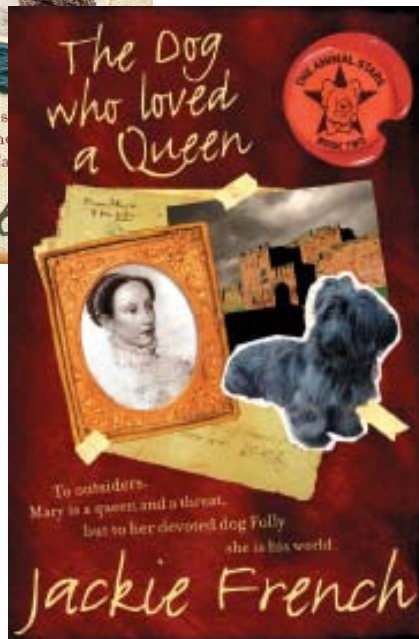
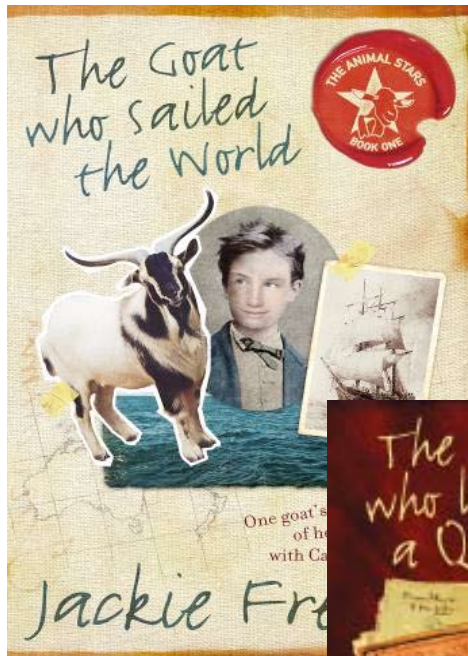
198x128mm 208pp
Rights: World



DOG WHO LOVED A QUEEN

Jackie French, illustrated by Bruce Whatley

OLDER READER FICTION



Each book in the *Animal Stars* series is a factual narrative about a real animal associated with an important person in history.

The Dog Who Loved a Queen

To the world outside her luxurious prison, Mary Queen of Scots was either a shameless beauty who killed her husband, or the rightful queen of England and Scotland, tragically held captive by Elizabeth the First. But to the dog who loved her, Mary was simply his mistress, and the centre of his world.

While Mary desperately plotted to seize both her freedom and the throne, her dog Folly's world was one of chasing mice behind the tapestries and enjoying turkey legs with quinces for supper. Until the day came when they tried to take his Queen away ...

Based on the true story of the dog who was with Mary when she died, *The Dog Who Loved a Queen* is a fascinating tale of religious bigotry and terrorism, plots and passion, and the unquestioning loyalty of a small Scottish terrier.

The Goat that Sailed the World

Captain Cook's goat had already sailed around the world before it went on its first voyage with Cook, and helped save everyone on board the ship from scurvy.

As well as telling the story of this less-than-famous goat, the book looks at the great sea explorations of the eighteenth century, including Cook's voyage to Australia.

KEY POINTS:

- A new series from a popular and award-winning author.
- The books in this series will educate while entertaining the young reader.
- *The Camel Who Crossed Australia* due August 2008
- Ages 9 – 13

August 2007

198 x128mm 144pp

Rights: World

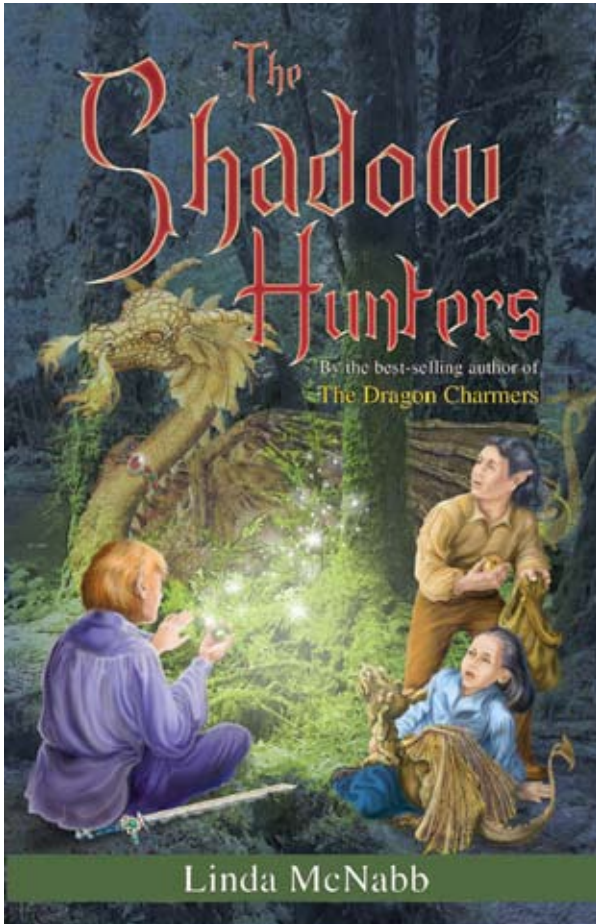
PRAISE:

'In Jackie French's inimitable style this is a very readable account of the last years of one of the most romantic figures in English history... I applaud the skill with which Jackie evokes the time.' *Magpies*

DRAGON CHARMERS

Linda McNabb

FANTASY



Classic junior fantasy – dragons, elves and adventure

Elves who live secretly in the midst of the human world are known as Shadows, and after a tragic misunderstanding involving the death of the Crown Prince, Elves live in fear of the King's Shadow Hunters, who seek to capture and enslave them.

Rhonan and his sister Dyahn are half human, half elf and when they disobey the rules to play with the wild ponies on the moors, they unwittingly lead the Shadow Hunters back to their family. A twisting turning tale of baby dragonets, magic stones and broken promises follows as they must try and save their parents from the wrath of the angry King.

Something terrible is about to happen, as the magic the elves have relied on to stay hidden begins to fade leaving them all exposed to the wily Shadow Hunters.

Shadow Hunters is a stand-alone book that features some of the characters from the Dragon Charmers series.

Mountains of Fire, Dragon Charmers Book One: Logan lives with Zared, an elderly and absent-minded wizard, in Shanoria — the Kingdom of Dragons. His closest friend is Alyxa, a dragon charmer with the rare gift of soothing and commanding dragons. But not all dragons in Shanoria are tame, and when the feral Reds kidnap the crown prince, Logan and Alyxa are thrust into a fast-paced adventure...

Valley of Silver, Dragon Charmers Book Two: Logan and his friends realise their imprisonment of the dangerous Red Dragons will not hold. When they eventually break free of their enchantment they will seek a terrible revenge.

Linda McNabb lives and works in Auckland with her husband and two daughters. *Shadow Hunters* is her seventh junior novel. Her first, *The Dragon's Apprentice*, was a finalist in the 2003 New Zealand Post Childrens' Book Awards.

PRAISE:

'*Mountains of Fire* is a whirlwind ride through a vivid landscape of exploding spells, magical gems and colour-coded dragons — an exhilarating adventure for younger fantasy fans.' V.M. Jones

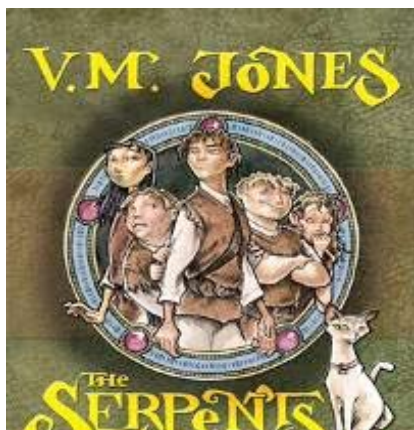
145 x 202; 176pp
Rights: World
Age 8-10



THE KARAZAN QUARTET

V.M. Jones

FANTASY



A fast-paced fantasy quartet introducing unlikely hero - twelve year-old Adam Equinox - as he enters a world he never knew existed.

Adam Equinox was abandoned on the doorstep of Highgate Orphanage 12 years ago. He has no idea who – or where – his parents are; no friends; nothing he's good at; and nowhere he really belongs.

One day Adam enters the Quest Golden Opportunity Competition, with the ultimate prize of working with the reclusive software genius Quentin Quested, test-driving his latest top-secret breakthrough in computer game technology. Adam is unbelievably chosen to undergo the final selection process. At Quested Court, Adam enters a world he never dreamed existed. A world of kindly adults and potential friends, in which the boundaries between fantasy and reality start to become blurred. Only when Adam and his companions begin the gaming workshop does Quentin Quested reveal their real life quest into the parallel world of Karazan,

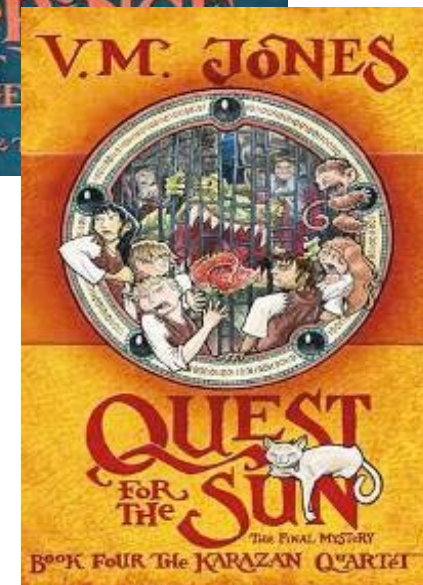
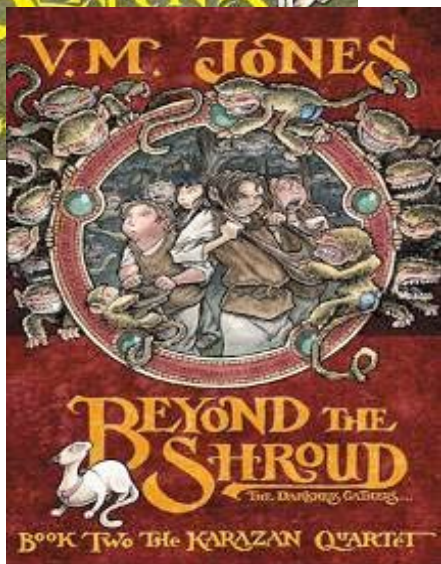
“Original and compelling, V.M. Jones writes with power and clarity.” Margaret Mahy

Vicki (V.M.) Jones has spent much of her life in southern Africa, and now lives in New Zealand, with her husband and two sons. Her first novel, *Buddy*, won the Junior Fiction award in the New Zealand Post Children's Book Awards in 2003.

The Serpents of Arakesh
Beyond the Shroud
Prince of the Wind
Quest for the Sun

RIGHTS SOLD: UK (Puffin); Netherlands (Gottmer); Japanese (Kodansha); Italy (Salani Editore); Thailand (Maple); Romania (Corint)

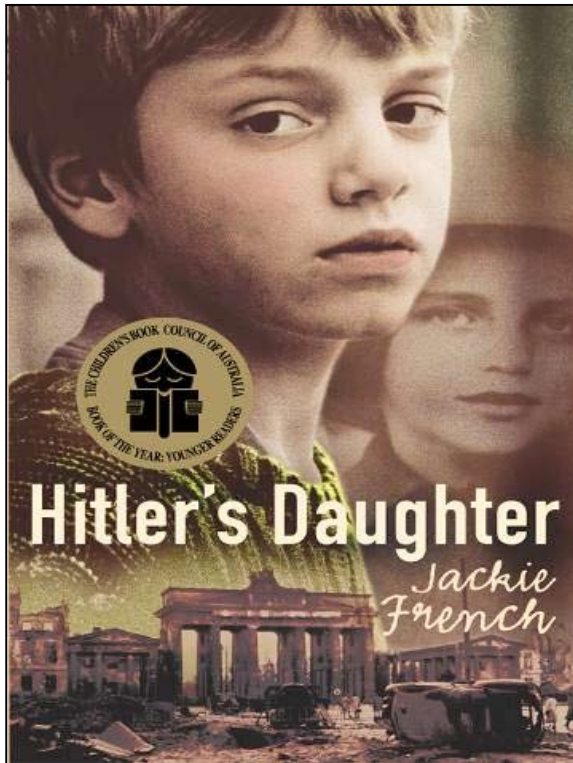
Ages 8 – 12
198 x128mm 192pp
Rights: World



HITLER'S DAUGHTER

Jackie French

HISTORICAL FICTION



Did Hitler's daughter, Heidi, really exist? – What if she did?

It began on a rainy morning, as part of a game played by Mark and his friends. It was a storytelling game, and the four friends took turns weaving tales about fairies and mermaids and horses. But Anna's story was different this time: it was not a fairy tale or an adventure story. The story was about a young girl who lived during World War Two. Her name was Heidi, and she was Hitler's daughter.

As Anna's story unfolds, Mark is haunted by the image of Hitler's daughter. He wonders what he would have done in her place if he had known his father was an evil man leading the world into a war that was destroying millions of lives. And, if Mark had known, would he have had the power and determination to stop him?

The intriguing novel poses powerful questions about a frightening period in history and will force readers to examine moral issues in a fresh, compelling light.

RIGHTS SOLD:

UK (HarperCollins), US (HarperCollins), Sweden (Bonnier Carlsen), Denmark (Forlaget Carlsen), Japan (Suzuki), France (Editions Flammarion), Norway (Cappelens Forlag), Greece (Patakis), Thailand (Good Morning Publishing); Korean (BookBank)

Ages 10–14
198 x128mm 144pp
Rights: World

KEY POINTS:

- Winner of the 2000 CBC Younger Readers Award.
- Won the 2002 UK Wow! Award for the most inspiring children's book of the year;
- The Japanese version also received the semi-grand prix of the Sankei Children's Book Award in 2005
- Widely respected author.

Jackie French is a full-time writer who lives in the Araluen Valley, NSW. She writes columns in the print media, and sometimes presents on radio and on TV.

BACKLIST TITLES:

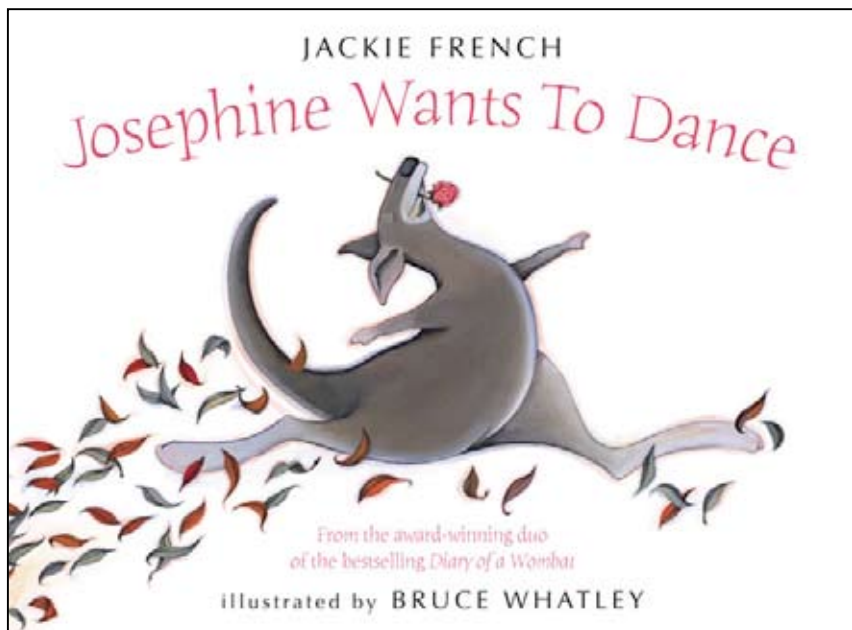
Macbeth and Son
Somewhere Around
The Corner
They Came on Viking Ships



JOSEPHINE WANTS TO DANCE

Jackie French, illustrated by Bruce Whatley

PICTURE BOOK



Josephine is a kangaroo – who loves to dance. Her little brother, Joey, tells her that kangaroos don't dance, they hop, but Josephine continues to point her toes and leap through the air.

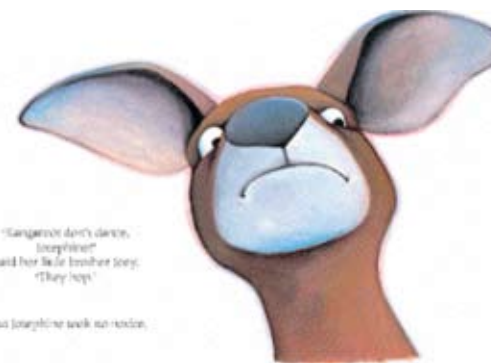
When a ballet troupe comes to town and both the lead ballerina and understudy are injured, Josephine's talents are called upon to help save the day. Can she do it and more importantly, does it matter that she's a kangaroo?

A very funny picture book in the vein of *Diary of a Wombat* and *Pete the Sheep* that looks at the importance of believing in yourself and realising your dreams.

Jackie French is a full-time writer, who lives in rural NSW. She has columns in the print media and presents on radio and TV. Jackie is an incredibly prolific writer whose books include *Hitler's Daughter*, which won the CBC Younger Readers Award and the WOW! Award in the UK in 2001.

Ages 3–7
October 2006
203x235mm 32pp HB
Rights: World

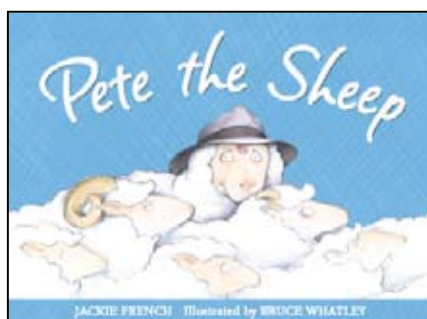
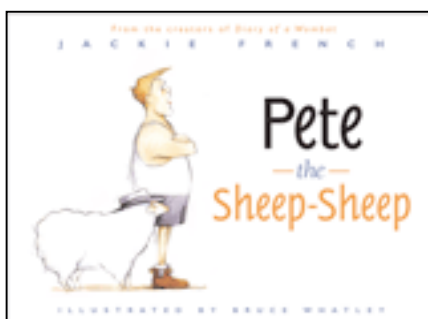
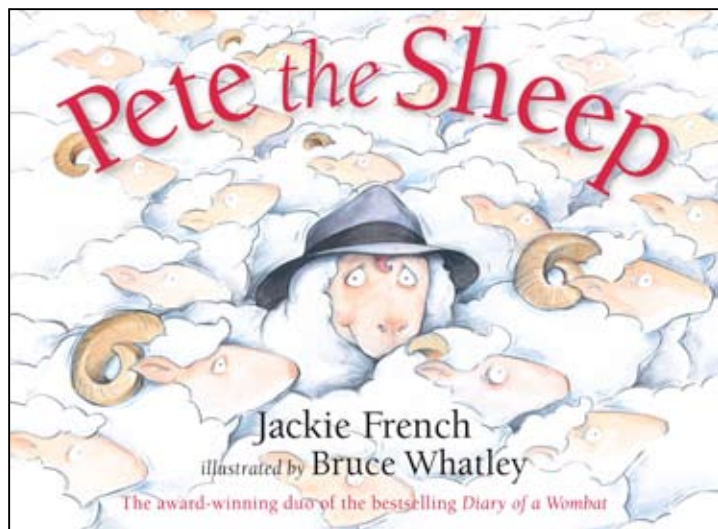
RIGHTS SOLD: North America (Abrams)



PETE THE SHEEP

Jackie French, illustrated by Bruce Whatley

PICTURE BOOK



The award-winning team behind *Diary of a Wombat* have joined forces again to create another highly amusing picture book.

Sean is a shearer and instead of a sheepdog to help him, he's got a sheep-sheep – Pete. After being rejected by the other shearers and their dogs, Sean and Pete set up a sheep salon in town. Sheep from everywhere arrive to have their wool shorn in the latest style and even the shearers' dogs end up arriving for a cut in order to look gorgeous.

Jackie and Bruce have created the perfect combination of words and illustrations in this irreverent look at the world of sheep shearing.

KEY POINTS:

Jackie and Bruce have created a successful and humorous style that appeals to both young and old.

Jackie French is a full-time writer. She lives in the Araluen Valley, NSW and writes fiction and non-fiction for children and adults, has columns in the print media, and her work has been translated into 18 languages. *Diary of a Wombat* was named an Honour Book in the 2003 CBC Awards, won the ABA Book of the Year, as well as winning numerous other awards.

Bruce Whatley is well known for his successful children's books including *Little White Dogs Can't Jump, I Wanna Be Famous* and *Detective Donut and the Wild Goose Chase*, which was shortlisted in the Koala Awards Top 50 in 2000.

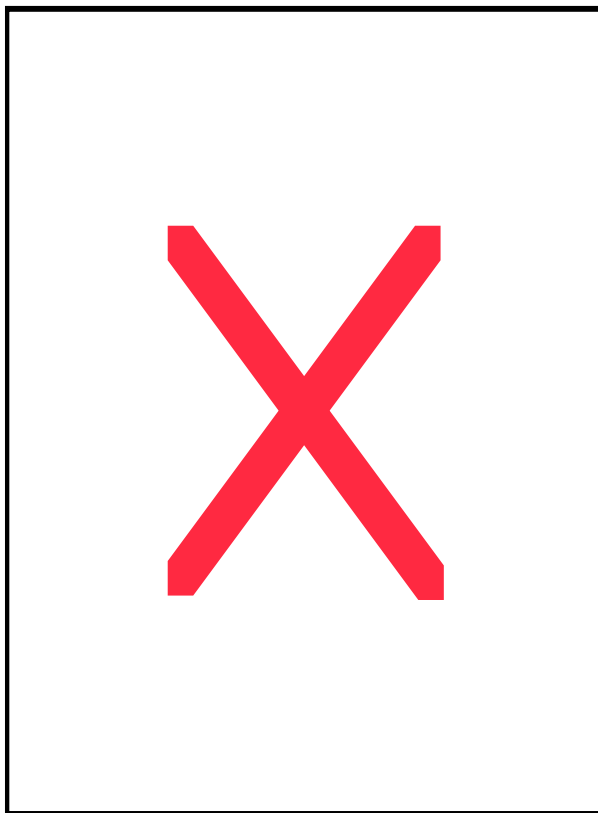
210 x 285mm HB 32 pp
full colour illus throughout
Rights: World
Ages 4–9

RIGHTS SOLD: USA (Houghton Mifflin); Canada (HarperCollins); UK (HarperCollins); Indonesia

LOUISA MAY PICKETT'S BEST SHOW AND TELL EVER

Rod Clement

PICTURE BOOK



Louisa May Pickett's one and only talent is Show and Tell. Until she arrives at Dobroyd Primary school, that is ...

When Louisa May Pickett arrives at Dobroyd Point Primary, all she has to offer for 'Show and Tell' is ... a juggling mouse, meat-eating plants, a singing chair, and an extremely rare pink polar bear that walks the highwire upside down while singing 'We all Live in a Yellow Submarine' backwards.

But her classmates appear unimpressed and constantly outdo her attempts with their own amazing stories. Poor Louisa May! How can she ever compete?

She finally abandons all pretence to amaze her potential new friends and gives up. To her surprise she finds that in order to impress, she need do nothing other than be herself.

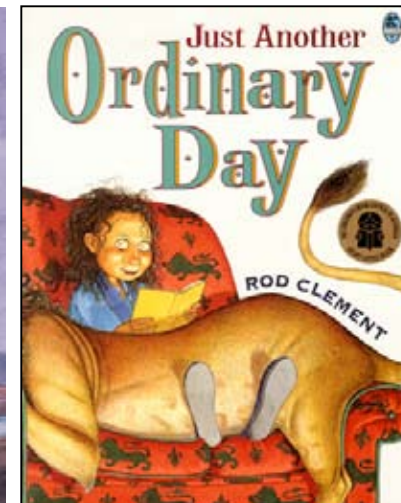
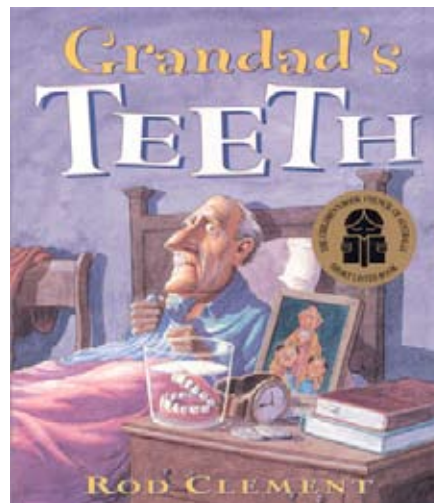
BACKLIST TITLES:

Just Another Ordinary Day
Grandad's Teeth
Counting on Frank
Frank in Time

KEY POINTS: Named a Notable Book in the 2006 CBC Awards
•A charmingly illustrated book with an important message, revealed when Louisa May Pickett finds that in order to impress, she need only be herself.

Rod Clement is one of Australia's leading picture book author/illustrators and his acclaimed books include *Counting on Frank*, *Just Another Ordinary Day*, *Olga the Brolga*, *Edward the Emu*, and *Edwina the Emu*. *Grandad's Teeth* was shortlisted for the CBC Awards in 1998.

RIGHTS SOLD: Korea
Ages 5–9
295x220mm 32pp
Rights: World



YOUNG READER FICTION



WACKY FAMILIES SERIES Jackie French: We've all got wacky families, it's just that some are wackier than others – find out how wacky in these hilarious tales of fun and mayhem.

Tom has the happiest family around. Dad is Senior Bogeyman for the entire east coast and Mum is First Assistant Tooth Fairy. Tom loves being around Fra and his best friend, Mog, a large and hairy...well, no one is quite sure what Mog is. And then there's Uncle Gus.

Titles: *My Uncle Gus the Garden Gnome, My Dad The Dragon, My Mum The Pirate, My Dog The Dinosaur, My Uncle Wal the Werewolf, My Gran the Gorilla, My Auntie Chook the Vampire, My Pa the Polar Bear*

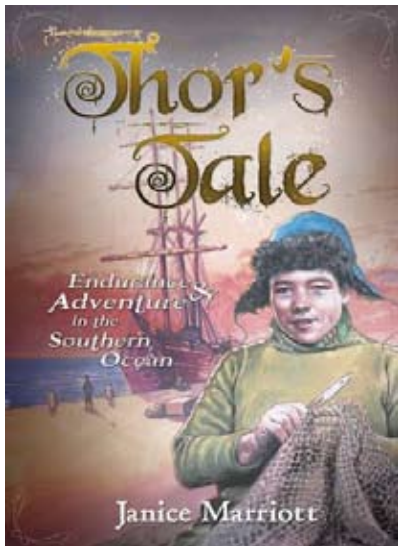
Ages 7+

198x128mm 112pp

B&W illustrations throughout

Rights: World

RIGHTS SOLD: Sweden (B Wahlstroms Bokforlag AB); North America (Stone Arch); Portuguese (Fundamento)



THOR'S TALE Janice Marriott: *I row back, thinking what it means to be born a whaler...*

Eleven-year-old Thor is the lowest of the low at a subantarctic whaling station. As a whaler's boy, he spends long, hard days loading coal. He should be looking forward to being a harpooner on the whaling boats - but he really wants to be soaring high and free with the albatrosses. Until the day a ghostly ship emerges from the mists. It is Endurance, carrying

Shackleton and his intrepid explorers on their voyage of discovery to the Antarctic Thor has never seen anything like her, and when he is caught up in the expedition's fight for survival, he must decide where his future lies.

KEY POINTS:

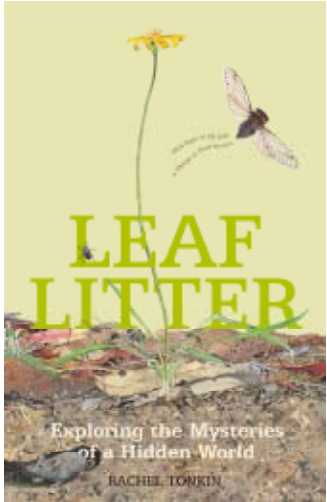
- Based on the historical events of 1915, seen through the eyes of a young boy. The son of the station manager, he comes from a long tradition of whalers and knows no other way of life – harsh, cold and brutal.
- Follows the events of the famous English explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton and the ship Endurance, and their polar expedition.
- A poignant insight into another age and culture, as well as a stirring historical adventure story.

October 2006

\$14.95 198x128mm 208pp

Rights: World

BACKLIST TITLES



LEAF LITTER Rachel Tonkin: Stephen Beisty's *Cross-Sections* meets *Where's Wally* with lift-the-flaps – from an ecological point of view!

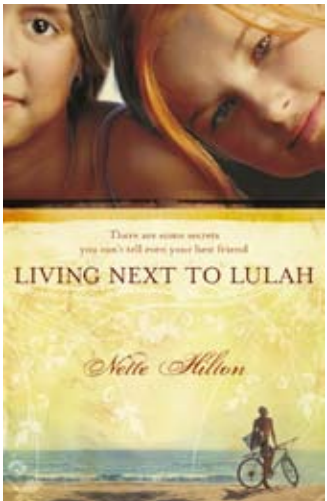
An excellent introduction for young children to the interdependence that exists in our environment. The stunning illustrations throughout the book are presented as a cross-section of a forest floor, and examine and follow a section of leaf litter through the seasonal year. The life cycles of plants and animals and their relationships with one another can be followed from one illustrated spread to the next. Flaps on the illustrations reveal even more information and help reinforce the notion that any ecosystem is made up of a series of layers and take the reader a step further. **Rachel Tonkin** is one of Australia's most respected children's book illustrators and has illustrated over 50 books including *Papa and the Olden Days*, which was an Honour book for the CBC Awards in 1990. *What Was the War Like, Grandma?* was shortlisted for the CBC Awards in 1993, *Grandpa's Stories* was shortlisted for the Eve Pownall Information award, CBC awards in 1996 and *When I was a Kid* was shortlisted for the NSW Premier's Award in 1998. *To the Goldfields* was published in 1999.

Ages 5+

315 x 235mm 40pp

Rights: World

RIGHTS SOLD: Korea



LIVING NEXT TO LULAH Nette Hilton: "This assured coming-of-age story compels the reader with suspense and intrigue" *Weekend Bulletin*

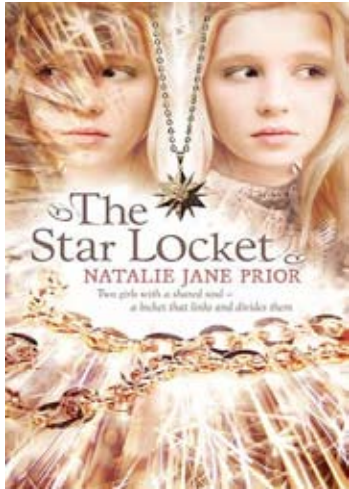
Ari and Lulah have been best friends almost forever. Living next to each other, they share every little secret. At least they did, until Ari began dating Samson, and Lulah started to slip away from her — and developed a secret life of her own. One that Ari knows nothing about. Now Ari thinks Lulah might want to come between her and Samson. Ari fears that in her jealousy she will bring harm to her friend. For as the seventh born of the seventh born, Ari has the gift of second sight. She didn't ask for this gift, and when her little brother's annoying friend Colin Bucket dies, she hates it more than ever — because Ari is certain that her gift has sent Colin to his death...

A superbly told coming-of-age story from an award-winning author that follows a young woman as she deals with the confusion, misunderstanding and regret that can often accompany one on the journey from childhood to adulthood.

198x128mm 224pp

Rights: World

Ages 13+

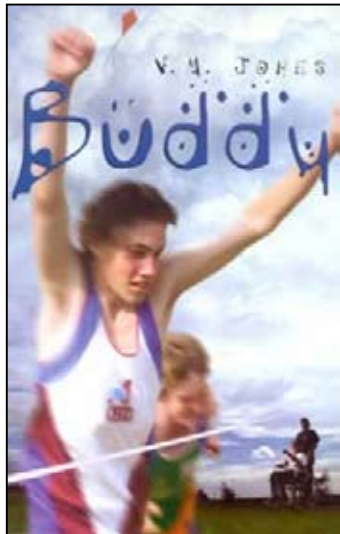


THE STAR LOCKET *Natalie Jane Prior*: Two girls are caught in a world of magic and political intrigue – a world in which one of them may not come out alive.

Identical in appearance, yet raised as strangers on opposite sides of the world, Estée Merton and Sally Taverner share a perilous inheritance: a broken half of a mysterious star-shaped locket, a magical talisman that could control the destiny of millions. Aided by a renegade secret society and a young man who loves one of them too much, Sally and Estée are drawn into a terrifying struggle on the murky streets of nineteenth-century Starberg. A companion novel to *Fireworks and Darkness*.

Natalie Jane Prior is the author of numerous books, including the successful fantasy series, *Lily Quench*.

Ages 12+
198x128mm 288pp
Rights: World excl. USA



BUDDY *V.M. Jones*: Like so many kids, Joshua works hard at appearing to be just your average 12-year-old. He does OK at school. He has plenty of friends although he hasn't had a best friend since he was five years old. And he's very good at sport. *Buddy* is an account of six weeks in the spring he turns thirteen, and in this candid, humorous narrative he reveals the real Josh a sensitive, likeable but troubled boy, who's made an art form of seeming just like everyone else and keeping the warring elements of his life safely apart. Like his dad's new relationship with his live-in partner Suzanne ... like the intense rivalry between himself and the school golden boy ... like his intense fear of water. And his biggest, most painful secret of all ... *Buddy*. *Buddy* explores issues of compelling relevance to boys and girls on the threshold of adolescence: the pressure to conform and the strength it takes to be different; loyalty; honesty; courage; and love. These significant issues are handled within an exciting and absorbing story by a writer of consummate skill and sensitivity, managing the very difficult task of talking about serious topics without preaching, or losing the magic of a brilliant story superbly told. And it makes you cry.

Vicki (V.M.) Jones has spent much of her life in southern Africa, and now lives in New Zealand, with her husband and two sons. *Buddy*, her first novel, won the Junior Fiction award in the *New Zealand Post Children's Book Awards* in 2003.

RIGHTS SOLD: Japan (PHP)
Ages 9-12
198x128mm 224pp
Rights: World

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