FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2020
BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS
RIGHTS GUIDE

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HELLO, BABY!
Shelly Unwin, illustrated by Jedda Robaard

A sweet rhyming text with gorgeous illustrations that captures the excitement and emotion that accompanies the arrival of a new baby. A perfect gift for new parents.

Here you are. Look at you!
Tiny, precious, all brand-new.
At first you were a beating heart,
Now your life’s about to start ... Hello, Baby!

Shelly Unwin grew up in a tiny English village where she was surrounded by animals, the occasional pixie fairy and her best friend Cracker, a feisty palomino pony. Shelly is the author of the You’re One to You’re Five series and There’s a Baddie Running Through this Book both of which have sold internationally. She lives in Canberra Australia. shellyunwin.com.

Jedda Robaard is a children’s book illustrator and author whose work is well known in Australia, and internationally, having been published in many languages, including English, French, Dutch, Greek, Italian, Korean and Chinese. Jedda lives on the coast of Victoria, Australia. jeddarobaard.com.au/books

And think back to our happy cheer,
On the day we said, ‘You’re here!’
Poopy Pants and Potty Rants is a very funny look at the hits and misses of toilet training, and a practical tool for kids and parents alike.

Hey there, kiddo! The time is right for you. You’re going to learn the big-kid way to do a wee and poo!

Written by Australian sports celebrity and loving father Dale Thomas, Poopy Pants and Potty Rants celebrates the delightful bond between a father and daughter and the amusing moments they share whilst toilet training. It’s fun and inclusive yet motivating and practical too. It includes helpful tips, a reward chart and stickers, and a playful rhyming text that kids will love to read along to. A great tool to share!

Dale ‘Daisy’ Thomas retired from AFL (Australian) football at the end of 2019. Now he can most often be found enthusiastically singing along to Frozen with his daughter. He brings all the cheeky energy for which he was known throughout his playing career to this delightful celebration of fatherhood.

Alison Mutton is an illustrator from Perth, Western Australia. She graduated from Curtin University with a Bachelor of Design (Hons) majoring in Illustration in 2008 and has been working in the children’s and educational publishing fields ever since. When not illustrating, she enjoys walking her dog, playing the piano and needle felting.
THE KATHA CHEST
Radhiah Chowdhury, illustrated by Lavanya Naidu

In Nanu’s house, there is a very special chest. A tale of sarees and stories, fabric and family.

Six-year-old Asiya loves to go to Nanu’s house. Best among all Nanu’s treasures is the big old chest filled with quilts that tell the stories of the women in Asyia’s family – artists and teachers, university students and farm workers, sisters, mothers, aunts. The soft quilts – and the rich family connections they contain – keep Asiya warm and comforted, even when Nanu herself is gone.

A beautiful celebration of culture and connectedness, The Katha Chest is a rich reminder of the importance of sharing family stories – it affirms who we are and our place in the world.

From the author: “My favourite thing about the way this book has come together is how Lavanya has woven together the common strands between my Bangladeshi Muslim heritage and her West Bengali Hindu heritage in the amazing artwork, quite literally using the textiles of our respective families to tell the story. I couldn’t have thought of a better way to represent the essence of the book.”

Radhiah Chowdhury grew up at the mercy of a highly enthusiastic children’s librarian. She has been an avid lover of books ever since and is passionate about stories that reflect all the magnificent, different facets and experiences of our community, and has been an advocate for representative publishing in her work as both an editor and an author. Radhiah’s debut picture book, Jumble, was published in 2019. Radhiah now lives in Sydney Australia. Lavanya Naidu is an animator, designer and award-winning children’s book illustrator, born and raised in Kolkata, India. Her work has most recently been featured at the Asian Festival of Children’s Content as a selection for their Digital Gallery 2020. Lavanya now lives in Melbourne Australia.
Mo lives alone and he likes it that way... or does he? Mo is comfortable behind his wall as a recluse until one day Crow comes along and slowly chips away at Mo’s barriers.

*Mo lived alone and he liked it that way. He had a house to protect him. And a wall.*

*It kept everything out he wanted kept out.*

A beautiful picture book for sophisticated readers, *Mo and Crow* demonstrates the rewards of tackling shyness, the power and importance of friendship, and how small acts of kindness can change someone’s life for the better.

**Jo Kasch** is an award-winning Melbourne-based television writer and script editor with a particular love of television aimed at children and teens. *Mo and Crow* is her debut picture book.

**Jonathan Bentley** is the illustrator of many picture books including the award-winning *Ella and the Ocean* (winner of the 2020 Patricia Wrightson Prize for Literature, NSW Premier’s Literary Awards), *The Second Sky* by Patrick Guest (CBCA Shortlist 2018), *Tales from a Tall Forest* by Shaun Micallef, *First Day* by Andrew Daddo, *Blue Sky Yellow Kite* by Janet A Holmes, and *Where is Bear?* which he wrote too. jonathanbentleybooks.com
ICEBERG
Claire Saxby, illustrated by Jess Racklyeft

An iceberg is born into spring and travels through the seasons before dying in a new spring. A stunning, lyrical non-fiction story for our times, from renowned picture book creators Claire Saxby and Jess Racklyeft.

In the final freeze of an Antarctic winter, green tails wave across a star-full sky, as if to farewell endless nights.

If this world looks empty, look closer ...

Penguins trek across the ice to their winter homes. As the temperature warms, birds fly above on their long migrations. And with the advent of summer, beneath an iceberg, the sea is teeming with life. Ocean, sky, snow and ice – minute greens and giant blues – dance a delicate dance in this evocative portrayal of the life cycle of an iceberg.

Filled with wonder, appreciation, and a subtle sense of renewal, Iceberg leaves the reader feeling awe and hope – perfect for inspiring a love and compassion for our environment.

Claire Saxby writes fiction, non-fiction and poetry for children and has over forty books in print. Her books fall into three main categories: animals and the worlds they live in, history, and humour. Claire’s work has won several awards including CBCA Honour Book, a NSW Premier’s Literary Award, a SCBWI Crystal Kite Award, an Environment Award for Children’s Literature, an Educational Publishing Award and the Whitley Award multiple times. She is widely curious about just about everything and passionate about encouraging curiosity and wonder. Claire lives in Melbourne, Australia. clairesaxby.wordpress.com/books

Jess Racklyeft creates a variety of illustrated things – picture books, paintings, prints, pins and cards – mainly in watercolours. Her work often combines collage – either on paper or digitally assembled and lots of ink, and for every book she tries to use a new technique or process to continue to challenge and grow, book by book. Jess has won several illustration accolades including two CBCA Notable Picture Book of the Year awards and her work can be found in bookshops and libraries across Australia. jessesmess.com/illustrations/books

February 2021 • 300x250mm • HB • Full Colour Throughout • 24pp + 4pp gatefold

WORLD RIGHTS • RIGHTS SOLD: Nth Am English & French (Groundwood)
Monty lives on a perfect island in the middle of a magical sea. Sometimes the sea throws up something interesting ... and Monty goes on an amazing adventure! A delightful series for newly confident readers, from best-selling author Emily Rodda.

Each morning Monty and Tawny the Fearless Lion take Monty’s Pick-up Sled down to the beach to see what the waves have left behind. There are shells and driftwood and lost things from faraway places too – sometimes they discover very interesting things indeed! Monty collects them, and Rodda expertly weaves them into clever yet fun island adventures featuring Monty and his delightful friends. With plot twists, chapter cliffhangers, an appealing setting, loveable characters and well-rounded story arcs, this series is sure to please. Girls and boys alike will love it.

BOOK 3: ELVIS EAGER AND THE GOLDEN EGG

The most unexpected things wash up on Monty’s Island. And a golden egg might be his most amazing find yet!

But when a pair of flying monsters and a mysterious explorer arrive, it seems the egg is about to hatch into a very big problem.

Can Monty find a way to solve it? Surely he can! All he needs is a little help from his friends. And the Hairy Horrible.

BOOK 2: BEADY BOLD AND THE YUM-YAMS

Everyone loves Bring-and-Buy Day, when Trader Jolly visits the Island with all the supplies Monty and his friends need.

But this Bring-and-Buy day is different. Instead of Trader Jolly, there’s a sneaky new trader called Beady Bold. And he’s arrived with a boatload of trouble. The yum-yams are yummy, but they’re hiding a very scary secret.

All seems lost until Monty comes up with a daring plan.

BOOK 1: SCARY MARY AND THE STRIPE SPELL

Monty, Tawny and friends receive some startling news: Scary Mary and her pirate crew are on their way, looking for a new island to call home.

What can they do? There’s no way they can hide – especially when Bunchy accidentally turns the whole island stripy with her new magic wand.

It’s going to take one of Monty’s best ideas to save them!

‘With buried treasure, a stripy spell going very wrong and hungry jinglebees galore, this fun book is sure to be a big hit with young readers and parents too. Gifford’s artistic talent cleverly highlights the emotions and personalities of the characters so well.’ Emily Streeton, Dark Matter Zine

Emily Rodda is one of the most successful, prolific and versatile writers in Australia. She has written or co-authored over 100 books, from picture books to YA novels, including the award-winning Rowan of Rin, Teen Power Inc and Fairy Realm series and the outstandingly successful Deltora Quest fantasy series (total sales more than 15 million worldwide). Winner of the Children’s Book Council of Australia’s Book of the Year (Younger Readers) Award a record six times, Rodda instinctively knows what children want to read. In 1995 Rodda won the prestigious Dromkeen Medal. www.emilyrodda.com

Lucinda Gifford has illustrated numerous well-loved books for kids and in 2014 was awarded the Five Mile Press Illustrator Prize. www.lucindagifford.com
HOW TO MAKE A PET MONSTER SERIES
Lili Wilkinson, illustrated by Dustin Spence

How to Make a Pet Monster is a friendly, warm and gloriously funny collectable series. It’s filled with monsters and magic, and a touch of science too, making this an entertaining and engaging read for imaginative and curious minds! The series has a broad story arc, yet each title stands alone. Perfect for newly independent or reluctant readers.

I’m Artie. I’m eleven years old.
I do not believe in ghosts, or monsters.
I do believe in science.
I also believe that my new step-sister Willow is kinda terrifying.

With themes of acceptance, cooperation, blended families and a host of fabulous characters, the How to Make a Pet Monster series has something for everyone, parents included! It’s perfect for fans of Real Pigeons, Wolf Girl, Pokémon and How To Train Your Dragon. We’ve three titles in the series so far, with more on the way.

HODGEPodge: HOW TO MAKE A PET MONSTER 1
Artie and Willow are thrown together when Artie’s mum and Willow’s dad move them all into a big SPOOKY house. In the attic, Artie and Willow find the Big Boke of Fetching Monsters – an ancient monster summoning spell-book. Artie doesn’t really want to make a monster – besides, they’re not real, are they? – but Willow insists and she’s far scarier than any monster Artie can imagine. Hodgepodge is born, along with a whole bunch of adventures. Artie and Willow try desperately to keep him a secret but he doesn’t make it easy. A scary creepy character called Wesley Crankshaw (who secretly knows about monsters and steals them) finds out, and plenty of hold-your-breath action follows!

FLUMMOX: HOW TO MAKE A PET MONSTER 2
Willow is keen to make her own monster but Artie is less keen. Now he knows monsters are real, he’s a little bit scared! Just as they get started, their neighbour Arabella-Rose comes to hang out for the day while her parents are away. Arabella-Rose is a bossy, prissy princess, and Willow takes an instant dislike to her! Willow tricks Arabella-Rose into hiding so that she and Artie can get back to monster-making, but their next creation doesn’t turn out quite the way Willow intended...This monster is beautiful! It has enormous violet eyes, long lashes and delicate moth-like antennae. And it’s very timid. Willow’s not pleased and to make matters worse, she accidentally task’s the monster with making Arabella-Rose disappear! The spooky East Wing of the house is totally off-limits – nobody has ventured there yet and for good reason. But what if that’s where Arabella-Rose and the monster are? Time is racing and they need to find them before Arabella-Rose’s Uncle Cranky comes to pick her up. Uncle Cranky? He’s not Wesley Crankshaw, is he? Oh no!

Lili Wilkinson is the award-winning author of eleven YA novels including The Erasure Initiative, After the Lights Go Out, The Boundless Sublime and Pink and two picture books. Lili is a strong advocate for Australian YA literature and established insideadog.com.au and the Inky Awards at the Centre for Youth Literature, State Library of Victoria, Australia. She has a PhD in Creative Writing, and lives in Melbourne. liliwilkinson.com.au

Dustin Spence is an illustrator with a background in animation and games. He loves creating playful, whimsical and colourful illustrations that explore the depths of his imagination.
TASHI AND THE STOLEN FOREST
Anna Fienberg and Barbara Fienberg, illustrated by Kim Gamble

A brand-new story in the bestselling Tashi series! Can Tashi use Much-to-Learn’s spell to outsmart the Wicked Baron and stop the old forest from disappearing?

Jack loved it when Tashi told his stories. Today Tashi was telling about the time the old forest disappeared, and Much-to-Learn was in danger of disappearing with it! And then the whole village was threatened ... Could magic sand and a certain spell help save them all? Only someone as clever as Tashi could find a way to outwit the Baron – and solve the mystery of the disappearing trees.

First published in 1995, Tashi has achieved classic status with over one million copies sold in ANZ alone and translation into 27 languages.

Anna Fienberg is a storyteller with a special talent for fantasy and things magical. She is the author of many popular and award-winning books for children of all ages. In 2019 Anna was made a Member of the Order of Australia for her services to literature. She and her mother Barbara, a teacher librarian, write the Tashi stories together.

Kim Gamble was one of Australia’s leading illustrators for children, illustrating over 70 books. For many years Anna and Kim worked together to create wonderful storybooks. Tashi and the Stolen Forest features illustrations from Kim’s archive.

‘All children should meet Tashi. He can be their mentor on the road to reading, feeding their imaginations with fantastic stories. The Tashi stories have the evergreen qualities of classics.’ Magpies
A CLUE FOR CLARA
Lian Tanner

From the highly-acclaimed author of Ella and the Ocean and The Keepers series, comes this funny, really sweet story about a small scruffy chicken who follows her dream and helps solve a big-time crime. Along the way she finds her mojo and helps a broken family come good again.

Clara wants to be a famous detective. She can read claw marks, find missing feathers and knows morse code and semaphore. There’s just one problem. She’s a scrawny chicken and no one takes her seriously. And even though Clara can’t speak (beaks are no good for this) she is awfully clever and she’s quick to learn how to text-message when she sneaks into the back of a police car and meets Olive, the policeman’s daughter.

‘GREETINGS. AM LOOKING FOR A MAJOR CRIME TO SOLVE.’

Little Dismal is a country town with a real problem. Times are hard and livestock is going missing. Twelve-year-old Olive has a big problem too. She misses her mum, and her dad seems to have given up on work and life.

So, when Clara comes up with a great plan to find out what’s happening in the town, Olive’s keen to help. After all, solving the case might help save her dad too.

‘It is a funny, and charming book that is filled with great lines ... and many other things that make this a lot of fun, and a joy to read for all ages and readers.’ The Book Muse

‘This is an absolutely delightful book! ... This story, whilst touching on serious topics, is extremely humorous.’ Lamont Books

Lian Tanner is a much-loved children’s author and playwright. Her Keepers trilogy sold into 15 territories with Museum of Thieves selling 30,000+ copies in Australia alone. Lian’s recent picture book, Ella and the Ocean, illustrated by Jonathan Bentley, won the Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children’s Literature in the 2020 NSW Premier’s Literary Awards, was a 2020 CBCA Notable; and was shortlisted for Speech Pathology Book of the Year.

Lian Tanner
www.liantanner.com.au
PIERRE’S NOT THERE
Ursula Dubosarsky, illustrated by Christopher Nielsen

A girl who transforms into a dog, a magic puppet show with the power to change lives, and a story about the mysteries of the imagination from Ursula Dubosarsky, the Australian Children’s Laureate.

Lara had always wished she was a dog, and one day, just for a short time, she actually became one. This is how it happened.

In a mulberry brick house on the harbour that Lara explores while her mother cleans, Lara meets Pierre, a boy about her age with a beautiful antique puppet theatre. With his puppets, he tells her a story about a boy whose family has been eaten by wolves. The boy is lost. He needs to find his grandmother. Lara takes the part of a dog, but suddenly she can no longer tell where she ends and Dog begins. Or is she Wolf? Caught up in Pierre’s story, Lara has to fight to protect her identity – and her new friend. Can she help Pierre find his way home?

Pierre’s Not There is a lyrical, captivating and highly original story that can be read on many levels. It is rich with imagination and subtext and is told in the narrative forms of prose and play script. Its themes include human nature, imagination, friendship, family and storytelling.

Ursula Dubosarsky is the 2020-2021 Australian Children’s Laureate. She has written over 60 books for children and young adults and her work, including Brindabella, The Blue Cat, The Golden Day, and The Red Shoe has been translated into 14 languages. Ursula has won several Australian literary awards and internationally was nominated for both the Hans Christian Andersen award and the Astrid Lindgren prize. She’s received the Luchs Award in Germany and an IBBY honour for The Golden Day, and a White Ravens for The Red Shoe. ursuladubosarsky.squarespace.com.

Christopher Nielsen is an award-winning Sydney-based illustrator. His artwork is inspired by a passion for mid-century design and has been short-listed for the CBCA Crichton Award and acknowledged by The British Book Design and Publication Awards, AGDA Awards, 3x3 Awards, Communication Arts, American Illustration and Society Of Illustrators NY. He has received Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in the Illustrators Australia Awards. www.chrisillo.com
Akeal and his younger sister Huda secretly run away from their nasty babysitter in Melbourne, Australia, and embark on a daring journey to reunite with their parents, who are away in Lebanon. A fast-paced and hilarious adventure that will delight readers.

Huda is sitting at the cafe fiddling with the tickets. I can tell she’s excited because she has a little smile and she keeps glancing at her pink digital watch. I can’t believe we’re doing this. I can’t believe we’re running away from home. Well, we’re not really running away. We’ll go back. We’re running to our parents. On the other side of the world.

When their parents unexpectedly travel to Beirut to visit a sick family member, twelve-year-old Akeal and his nine-year-old sister Huda are extremely unhappy about being left at home with their five siblings under the care of Aunt Amal, an unkind and super strict babysitter. Huda hatches a bold plan to steal Aunt Amal’s credit card to buy plane tickets to Lebanon and persuades Akeal to come with her. So begins their dramatic, exciting and unlikely journey to reunite with their parents half a world away.

A wonderfully entertaining novel that is fresh and funny and will have readers cheering for plucky, determined Huda and her reluctant accomplice, Akeal.

H. Hayek is the second-youngest of seven children, born to Lebanese-Australian parents in Australia. She struggled with reading and writing through her earliest years at school, but knew from the time she was a little girl that she wanted to work with words. After completing degrees in Mass Communication (Journalism & Public Relations) and Teaching, she has worked as a primary school teacher in Melbourne and as a journalist at News Corp. But above all, writing stories involving unique kids, with unique backgrounds, has been her passion. H. Hayek enjoys exploring themes of being Australian, Muslim and a little bit mischievous. Huda and Me is her first novel.
CUCKOO’S FLIGHT
Wendy Orr

Clio lives with her family in a Bronze Age town in Crete. When her town is threatened by seafaring raiders, Clio is tasked with staying home to guard a sacred statuette. But her instinct is to go and protect her herd of horses. After she makes her decision, her life hangs in the balance. Another thrilling adventure and survival story from the multi-award-winning author of Dragonfly Song and Nim’s Island, Wendy Orr.

If she had stayed to load the kiln as she should have, she’d never have seen the ship.

Mama said the ship still would have been there, and so everything would still have happened the way it did. But that’s not true. Clio saw it, and the world changed.

When a raiders’ ship appears off the coast after Clio’s father leaves on his annual trading voyage, the goddess demands a higher price than ever before to save the town – and Clio’s grandmother creates a sacred statue to save Clio’s life.

But Clio is torn between the demands of guarding the statue and caring for her beloved horses. Disabled in an accident, she must try to put aside her own grief at no longer being able to ride – and in the process, save a friend’s life and stop a war.

Rippling with emotion and drama, war and resistance, fear and determination, this novel is a brilliant companion to the highly acclaimed Dragonfly Song and Swallow’s Dance.

'Orr is in her element when writing about brave heroines...' The West Australian

Wendy Orr was born in Canada, grew up in France, Canada and USA and now lives in Australia. Her books are highly acclaimed throughout the world and have been translated into 26 languages. Orr first learned to read and write in French but spoke English at home. She clearly remembers the excitement of reading a story in her own language for the first time. She immediately started writing stories and hasn’t stopped since. Wendy has had many highlights in her writing career, including winning the CBCA Book of the Year and walking a red carpet with Jodie Foster, but believes that nothing compares to the thrill of the first vision of a new book.

March 2021 • 198x128mm • PB • 288pp • WORLD RIGHTS

SWALLOW’S DANCE
Leira is about to start her initiation as a priestess when her world is turned upside down. A violent earthquake leaves her home – and her family – in pieces. And the goddess hasn’t finished with the island yet. With her family, Leira flees across the sea to Crete, expecting sanctuary. But a volcanic eruption throws the entire world into darkness. After the resulting tsunami, society descends into chaos; the status and privilege of being noble-born reduced to nothing. With her injured mother and elderly nurse, Leira has only the strength and resourcefulness within herself to find safety.

'The mixture of prose and free verse to tell Leira’s story is lyrical and magnetic – and devastat… this is a beautiful song of a book that shows that life isn’t always fair, but change is always constant.' Kirkus **STARRED REVIEW**

'Leira’s lyrical first-person narrative advances the story along beautifully with a fitting sense of urgency, and free-verse songs clue readers in to her emotional development. Immersive historical fiction.' Booklist **STARRED REVIEW**

'Beautiful writing and a fast-moving plot will give young historical fiction fans much to love.' School Library Journal **STARRED REVIEW**

USBBY 2019 Outstanding International Books List
JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTION: 2019, North America
NOTABLE: 2019 Book for Year Younger Readers, CBCA Awards

DRAGONFLY SONG
The firstborn daughter of a priestess is cast out as a baby, and after raiders kill her adopted family, she is abandoned at the gates of the Great Hall, anonymous and mute. Called No-Name, the cursed child, she is raised a slave, and not until she is twelve does she learn her name is Aissa: the dragonfly.

Now every year the Bull King takes a tribute from the island: two thirteen-year-old children to brave the bloody bull dances in his royal court. None have ever returned – but for Aissa it is the only escape. Aissa is resilient, resourceful, and fast – but to survive the bull ring, she will have to learn the mystery of her true nature.

Winner: 2017 Prime Minister’s Literary Award, Children’s Fiction
Winner: 2018 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature, Children’s Literature
Finalist: 2018 TD Canadian Children’s Literature Award
Honour Book: 2017 CBCA Book of the Year, Younger Readers
Shortlisted: 2017 WA Young Readers’ Book Award, Younger Readers
Shortlisted: 2017 Queensland Premier’s Literary Awards, Children’s Fiction
Junior Library Guild Selection: 2017, North America

'Orr tells her tale in both narrative poetry and prose for an effect that is both fanciful and urgent, drawing a rich fantasy landscape filled with people and creatures worthy of knowing... her story is a meditation on rejection and acceptance, on determination and self-determination. The shifts between poetry and prose build tension just as surely as the bull dances do. As mesmerizing as a mermaid’s kiss, the story dances with emotion, fire, and promise.' Kirkus **STARRED REVIEW**

RIGHTS SOLD (All three titles): Nth Am English (Pajama Press); World English Audio (Bolinda)
A brilliant and timely middle-grade novel from the bestselling author of *My Life as an Alphabet* and *A Song Only I Can Hear*, Barry Jonsberg. Ashleigh and Aiden are thirteen-year-old twins who promise to always look out for each other. To catch each other if they fall. Aiden is more dedicated to the task than Ashleigh, but when it comes to matters of life and death, they both exhibit a fierce protectiveness that will change the course of their lives.

‘We’ve been worried about Aiden too, Ash,’ said Mum. ‘He’s always been such a … predictable child. You’re not the only one to have noticed the changes in his temperament.’

Ash and Aiden Delatour live a privileged life with doting parents. They protect each other and are, in turn, protected from the harsh outside world—a near-future world altered by climate change.

They attend an exclusive school, and when Ash has a serious accident on an excursion, Aiden rescues her, suffering a head injury in the process. Though he seems to recover, his personality subtly changes. The love between siblings is undiminished, but Aiden becomes introspective and uncharacteristically aggressive.

It’s a time when family should offer unconditional support but instead, through an alarming plot twist, the siblings (and readers) learn some unconscionable and life-altering truths. Everything the siblings know turns upside-down. Only then will they discover the importance of love, family, and the bond between brother and sister.

Barry Jonsberg has a gift for exploring serious issues with a light touch and this one is no exception. It’s filled with an array of hugely important questions about what it is to be human, including our place in the world, yet it’s delivered lightly with humour and compassion. *Catch Me If I Fall* quickly draws you in and holds you close. It’s sure to resonate with middle fiction readers of all ages.

*Barry Jonsberg* is the author of ten highly acclaimed novels that have been published widely around the world. They include *A Song Only I Can Hear* and which is now the film *H is for Happiness*. Barry lives in Darwin, Australia.
TIGER DAUGHTER
Rebecca Lim

Tiger Daughter is a powerful and authentic novel about growing up Asian in Australia. It draws on the author’s own experiences as a recent migrant with a strict, traditional, Singaporean-Chinese family.

My study buddy, Henry, is more stubborn than I am and keeps telling me I’m getting better all the time. He’s made it his mission to get me to an A in maths the way I’m trying to get him to an A in English.

Wen Zhou is the daughter and only child of immigrants whose move to ‘the lucky country’ has proven to be not so lucky. Her parents have brought their rigid cultural expectations for her with them and Wen finds them narrow and stifling. Wen and her friend, Henry Xiao – whose mum and dad are also poor immigrants – dream of escape from their unhappy circumstances, and form a plan to each win a place at a prestigious selective high school. But when tragedy strikes, it will take all of Wen’s resilience and resourcefulness to get herself and Henry through the storm that follows.

Equal parts heartbreaking and hopeful, Tiger Daughter is a novel that will grab hold of you and not let go.

‘This gem of a book is packed with moments of unbearable tension and characters so complex and vivid they will stay with you long after it ends. At once heartbreaking and uplifting, Tiger Daughter is a testament to the strength of women and girls - and a terrific read. I couldn’t put it down. Beautiful. Brutal. Brilliant.’ Ambelin Kwaymullina

‘An unforgettable story of family, friendship and finding your voice. I adore this book.’ Nova Weetman

Rebecca Lim is a writer, illustrator, editor and lawyer based in Melbourne. She is the author of over twenty books, including The Astrologer’s Daughter (a Kirkus Best Book of 2015 and CBCA Notable Book for Older Readers), Afterlight and the bestselling Mercy. Her work has been shortlisted for the Prime Minister’s Literary Award, Aurealis Award, INDIEFAB Book of the Year Award and Davitt Award, and has also been longlisted for the Gold Inky Award and the David Gemmell Legend Award. She is a co-founder of the Voices from the Intersection initiative to support emerging young adult and children’s authors, illustrators and publishing professionals who are Indigenous, people of colour, LGBTIQA or living with disability, and a co-editor of Meet Me at the Intersection, a groundbreaking anthology of YA #OwnVoice memoir, poetry and fiction.
THE CARBON-NEUTRAL ADVENTURES OF THE INDEFATIGABLE ENVIROTEENS by First Dog on the Moon

Greta Thunberg meets Homer Simpson* in this hilarious, illustrated and environmentally-friendly adventure in which a group of fast-talking and fast-thinking teenage climate activists are determined to clean the planet and clear the air. It comes from First Dog on the Moon, the enormously popular Guardian and Walkley award-winning cartoonist. (*They don’t really meet. This is just a saying.)

Meet our heroes:
- Binky aka The Monotreme, who has all the powers of a platypus and an echidna combined.
- Worried Norman, once bitten by a radioactive croissant and now Pastry Person.
- Letitia, an occasionally bossy science-wombat and genius inventor.

Together, they are the EnviroTeens and they are about to get very, very angry. Singleuse Plastic Brendan may have an evil plan to destroy all the world’s turtles with his dastardly tur-tele-pooter, but believe it or not, there is something even more sinister than an angry plastic bag on a garbage island in the middle of the ocean ... Climate change! Oh no! The EnviroTeens will do anything to stop this impending disaster: scale slippery volcanoes, scurry through forests full of poisonous armpit monsters, even meet Senator Ian, the Climate Denialist Potato. But can three teenagers and a chicken save the whole world? Why not, nobody else is! Maybe they are in with a chance? I can’t look, it’s too exciting!

Perfect for upper middle grade readers, The Carbon-Neutral Adventures of the Indefatigable EnviroTeens is a crazy, very funny, very clever, comic adventure – and so much more. It gives young readers hope, agency, advice and information.

*Totally hilarious. I loved it. And the environmental message is what all my friends and I want to see adults fighting for. You are a good adult. Gold star for you." Maggie, 11 years old

First Dog on the Moon is the Walkley award winning political cartoonist for The Guardian Australia. He has written and illustrated various books including First Dog’s Guide to the Apocalypse and Treasury of Cartoons, illustrated numerous other books, performed live on stage in a number of shows and had a weekly radio program on ABC Radio National. firstdogonthemoon.com.au and theguardian.com/profile/first-dog-on-the-moon

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Future Girl is a captivating Own-Voices coming-of-age novel that bursts with passion, resilience, optimism and joie-de-vivre. Presented as 16-year-old Piper’s stunning visual-art journal, author Asphyxia deftly weaves her detailed insight into Deaf culture and what it feels like to be d/Deaf throughout this compelling story set in the near future.

Piper’s mum wants her to be ‘normal’, to pass as hearing and get a good job. But when peak oil hits and the city lurches towards environmental catastrophe, Piper has more important things to worry about, such as how to get food.

When Piper meets Marley, a CODA (child of Deaf adult), a door opens into a new world in which Deafness is something to celebrate rather than hide, and where resilience is created through growing your own food rather than it being delivered on a truck.

As Piper dives into learning Auslan, a sign language that is exquisitely beautiful and expressive, she finds herself falling hard for Marley. But Marley, who has grown up in the Deaf community but is not Deaf, is struggling to find his place betwixt the Deaf and hearing worlds. How can they be together?

Offering an authentic window into the world of the Deaf, Future Girl is also rich with romance, a fraught and complicated mother-daughter relationship, inspiration to live more sustainably, and guidance for those interested in art-journaling. It’s absorbing, interesting, motivating and important – all in one.

‘Asphyxia tilts the world sideways and invites you to see what was always there. Don’t miss this book.’ Amie Kaufman, New York Times bestselling author of Illuminae

‘Asphyxia’s work is brilliant: a deep, original insight, and a book that everyone should read.’ Jackie French, AM

‘Beautiful, immersive…a sensory feast.’ Jaclyn Moriarty

‘Future Girl confronts the challenges ahead of us and will open minds and hearts to the possibility of other worlds.’
Sean Williams

‘A life-changing book for young Deaf and disabled people…demonstrating the importance of the #OwnVoices movement.’
Carly Findlay, OAM

‘I really enjoyed this gorgeous book and related to so many things. That is rare. I can’t wait for the world to read Future Girl.’ Anna Seymour

‘Future Girl captures the…amazing feeling of belonging to a culture with its own language, community, history and traditions.’ Drisana Levitzke-Gray, Young Australian of the Year 2015

Asphyxia is an artist, writer, public speaker, avid art-journal creator and the author of the much-loved junior fiction Grimstone series. Deaf since the age of three, Asphyxia learnt to sign when she was eighteen, which changed her life. She is now a Deaf activist, sharing details of Deaf experience. She raises awareness of oppression of Deaf people and what we can do to change this. Her free online Auslan course has had over 15,000 students. Asphyxia also loves to share her art-journaling processes, helping others benefit from its powers for self-expression, problem-solving, planning, goal-tracking and self-esteem (see Pinterest: Asphyxia1974). She lives on a small farm where she combines food-growing with art. Future Girl combines all these passions. www.asphyxia.com.au

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THE BOY FROM THE MISH
Gary Lonesborough

The Boy from the Mish is a heartwarming queer Indigenous Own Voices love story, from a startlingly talented debut author. This is contemporary YA, set in a former Aboriginal mission (the Mish)* in a rural coastal Australian town, charting the hugely satisfying emotional journey of seventeen-year-old Jackson as he struggles to accept that he’s gay.

It’s a hot summer, and life’s going all right for Jackson and his family on the Mish. It’s almost Christmas, school’s out, and he’s hanging with his mates, teasing the visiting tourists, avoiding the racist boys in town. Just like every year, Jackson’s Aunty and annoying little cousins visit from the city – but this time a mysterious boy with a troubled past comes with them… As their friendship evolves, Jackson must confront the changing shapes of his relationships with his friends, family and community. And he must face his darkest secret – a secret he thought he’d locked away for good.

Compelling, honest and beautifully written, The Boy from the Mish is a first novel like no other. It features a budding romance between two Aboriginal boys, has themes of self-acceptance, identity and the importance of community, and captures the experiences of growing up in a small rural Aboriginal village. It explores homophobia in First Nations Australian communities, the ongoing impacts of history, and the effects of racism and stereotyping on young First Nations people today.

*Missions or reserves were used by the Australian government and church to control First Nations Australians.

‘It is, honestly, a book I’ve been searching for over my whole career as an editor, as well as a book I’ve been searching for over all my years as a (queer) reader. I’m not ashamed to say that it made me cry (repeatedly) and awed me with the power of its storytelling and the way it articulated so well what it’s like to be struck inarticulate by some facets of your identity, while other facets are pronouncing themselves all too clearly. You promised me that this book would be something special, and it is exactly that.’ David Levithan, Editorial Director, Scholastic US

Gary Lonesborough is a Yuin man, who grew up on the Far South Coast of NSW as part of a large and proud Aboriginal family. Growing up a massive Kylie Minogue and North Queensland Cowboys (rugby) fan, Gary was always writing as a child, and continued his creative journey when he moved to Sydney to study at film school. Gary has experience working in Aboriginal health, the disability sector (including experience working in the Youth Justice System), and the film industry. He was Bega Valley Shire Council Young Citizen of the Year, won the Patrick White Young Indigenous Writers’ Award, and has received a Copyright Agency First Nations Fellowship.
OFF THE MAP
Scot Gardner

By turns dark and light, funny and poignant, this unforgettable collection of never published stories takes us right to the heart of what it means to be young in today’s world, from award-winning author, Scot Gardner.

*We ran and slipped and swore and bumped into each other. Nick’s phone beeped like a dying bird. If it died, we’d be in total darkness.*

Getting lost, falling in love, pushing boundaries, exploring the world – powerfully honest stories to make you think and feel. Every story packs a punch.

Known for tackling big themes such as masculinity, peer pressure, family and identity with realistic, relatable characters, Gardner’s writing never shies away from exploring youth in all its forms. This collection is no exception.

Praise for *Changing Gear*: ‘Scot Gardner’s descriptions of the Australian landscape, as expressed by Merrick, feel so real that at times you hardly dare to breathe, so overwhelming is the absurd beauty of it. It makes you want to laugh and cry and lie down in the dirt to become a part of it. There is something about the emptiness of the land that fills Merrick up, and as a reader you feel filled up too. This is an excellent book for all young adults, but especially young men 14+.’
—Readings Kids

Scot Gardner became a writer after a chance meeting with a magazine editor while hitchhiking in eastern Australia. Magazine articles led to op-ed newspaper pieces and eventually novels. Scot’s first fiction for young adults, *One Dead Seagull*, was published after he attended a writing conference with John Marsden. More than a decade later, his many books have found local and international favour and garnered praise and awards for their honest take on adolescent life. They include books like *White Ute Dreaming*, *Burning Eddy* and most recently *Changing Gear*, shortlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year Awards; *Happy as Larry*, winner of a WA Premier’s Book Award for young adult fiction; and *The Dead I Know*, winner of the CBCA Book of the Year Award for Older Readers.
UNTWISTED: THE STORY OF MY LIFE
Paul Jennings

Honest, insightful, funny – a brilliant creative memoir about writing and teaching and life from one of Australia’s most loved children’s authors.

Sometimes, rather than making you laugh or cry out in surprise, a story will instead leave you wondering about human fragility ...

In the telling of his own tale, children’s author and screenwriter Paul Jennings demonstrates how seemingly small events can combine into a compelling drama. As if assembling the pieces of a jigsaw puzzle, he puts together fragments, memories and anecdotes to reveal the portrait of a complex and weathered soul.

Paul Jennings has crafted perhaps his most masterful story yet … the story of his life. Untwisted is revealing, moving and very funny.

‘As generous, sensitive, perceptive and honest as its author, Untwisted is a fascinating collage. In deceptively simple prose, Paul Jennings uses key moments and events to make a vibrant, funny and moving picture of an amazing life. If you want to know what makes a writer, read this.’ Emily Rodda

‘Paul stands with O.Henry, Wodehouse and Dahl, the great short-story writers. The originality of his imagination and humour shine, but there is a wonderful darkness underneath. His memoir goes some way to explaining that darkness.’ Terry Denton

‘Courageous in his craft, Jennings is unafraid of the dark corners, drawing out stories that give voice to things absurd, peculiar and strange. Somehow, he’s able to take a reader’s hand – often a very young reader – and walk them through landscapes of vulnerability, finding tenderness and humour in the most unexpected places. In this, his memoir, Jennings gives us the story behind the storyteller, untwisting the threads of his own life with generosity, humility and candour. Untwisted is Jennings at his best – tall and twisted, terrifying and true. This is a tale most memorable. Has Paul Jennings been listed as a National Living Treasure yet? He should be.’ Gabbie Stroud, author of Teacher and Dear Parents

Paul Jennings has written more than one hundred stories and sold over ten million books, Since the publication of Unreal! in 1985, readers all around the world have loved his stories. The first two series of the top-rating TV series Round the Twist were based on Paul’s popular short story collections and he received two Awigie awards for screenwriting episodes. He was made a Member of the Order of Australia for services to children’s literature in 1995, was awarded the prestigious Dromkeen Medal in 2001 and was made a Fellow of Monash University in 2010. In 2019 he was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the Children’s Book Council of Australia. He lives in Warrnambool with his partner, comedian, actor and author Mary-Anne Fahey.
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