



# Ruby and the Pen

DAVID LAWRENCE & CHERIE DIGNAM

**SPECIFICATIONS** 210 mm x 135mm | Paperback | 280 pages  
ANZ RRP \$16.99

July 2023 | 9781922539380

**CATEGORY** Fantasy & magical realism **IMPRINT** EK Books

## KEY POINTS

- The first book in a new series that has been written so that it can be enjoyed by boys and girls (the author road-tested it on a 50/50 mix of genders). In this first book the central character is female, while the second features a male hero.
- Suitable for younger advanced readers and older reluctant ones.
- Perfect for kids who like elements of fantasy woven into a relatable world.
- Includes hilarious yet clever illustrations - Gary Larson style, for kids!

*Ruby buys a pen that gives her the power to fix all of her problems, only to discover that power comes with its own problems.*

*Ruby and the Pen is the story of a 12-year-old, cartoon-drawing girl who buys a pen from a mysterious market stall. The pen has a magical power: whatever she draws, happens! Initially the pen protects Ruby from the meanest girls at her new school, but over time the pen's power becomes dangerous. Soon Ruby faces a difficult choice — the pen or her best friend.*

*As Ruby struggles to wean herself off the pen, she's faced with problems galore. Can she foil her headmaster's evil plan, and save an endangered species of bird in the process, relying on her own talents and working as a team with her friends? Or will she succumb to the pen's power?*

*Featuring hilarious illustrations, and with messages about bullying, teamwork and the environment, this is fast-paced, entertaining middle grade fiction that will resonate with kids everywhere. After all, who wouldn't want to fix all of their problems with the stroke of a pen!*

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR

**David Lawrence** penned his first book in 2007. Since then, he has written 12 fun-filled children's books aimed at engaging reluctant readers.

**Cherie Dignam** has always loved drawing and works in a variety of mediums. However, she is at her happiest with a good old-fashioned dip pen and ink.

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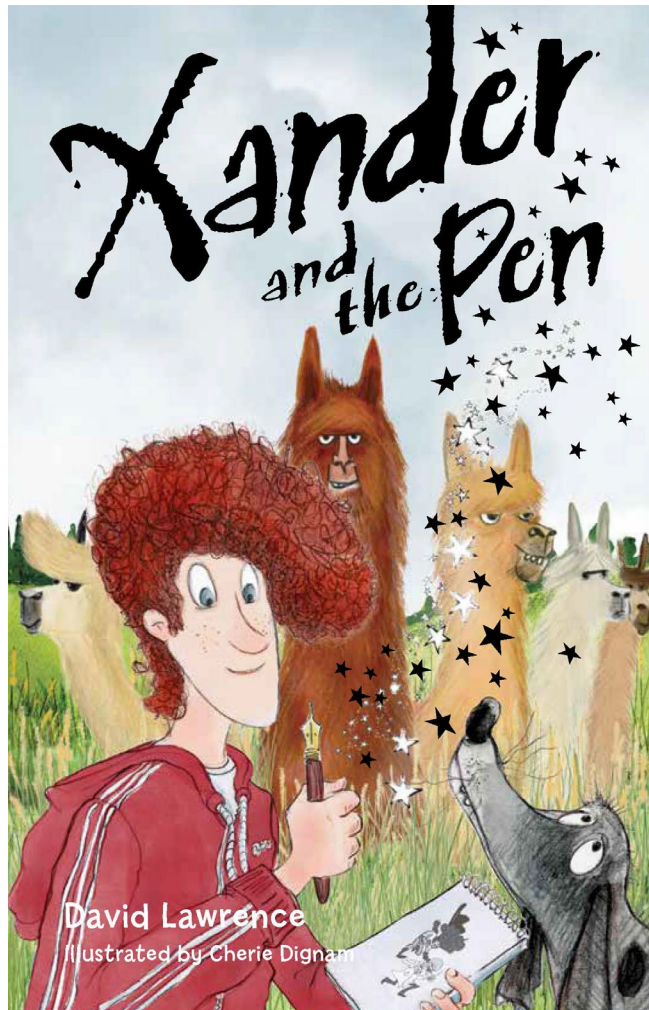
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**EXISLE**  
PUBLISHING

EK Books is an imprint of Exisle Books



# Xander and the Pen

DAVID LAWRENCE & CHERIE DIGNAM

**SPECIFICATIONS** 210 mm x 135mm | Paperback | 272 pages  
AU RRP \$16.99 / NZ \$18.99

November 2023 | 9781922539403

**CATEGORY** Fantasy & magical realism **IMPRINT** EK Books

## KEY POINTS

- The second book in this middle grade series that has been written so that it can be enjoyed by boys and girls (the author road-tests his stories on a 50/50 mix of genders). This first book featured a female hero, while the central character of this second book is male.
- Suitable for younger advanced readers and older reluctant ones.
- Perfect for kids who like elements of fantasy woven into a relatable world.
- Includes hilarious yet clever illustrations - Gary Larson style, for kids!

*Xander buys a pen that gives him the power to improve his family's fortunes, only to discover that power comes with its own problems.*

*Xander and the Pen is the story of a boy who loves to draw superheroes, and the pen he buys from a mysterious market stall. He soon learns that the pen has a magical power: whatever he draws, happens! At first the pen helps Xander improve his family's fortunes, but there are many unintended consequences and soon everybody is angry at him.*

*Xander sees that the power of the pen has changed him into somebody his sister and his friends despise. But how else to deal with the bullying Bruise Brothers and solve the mystery of the poisoned llamas? Can Xander win back the respect of his sister and friends without using the pen? Or will he succumb to the temptation of an easy fix?*

*Featuring hilarious illustrations, and with messages about bullying, family dynamics, disability, and the environment, this is fast-paced, entertaining middle grade fiction that will resonate with kids everywhere. After all, who wouldn't want to fix all their problems with the stroke of a pen!*

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