

WOMBAT BOOKS & RHIZA EDGE 2023 - 2024

Picture Books, Junior, Middle Grade & Young Adult
Stories You'll Want to Share

Sales and Media: sales@exislepublishing.com

Author Visits: admin@wombathriza.com.au

Ebooks: Available internationally on most titles.

Bookstores: Exisle Publishing | **E:** orders@harpercollins.com.au |

Ph: 02 4998 3327 (AU) | **Ph:** +64 3 477 1615 (NZ)

Rights: International rights are available on many titles.

Please contact Lucyna Wawrzyniak at Exisle Publishing:

lucy@exislepublishing.com



Illustration from Rosalie Street SHADOW PLAY

Iggly
Minnie Mayo

PICTURE BOOKS

DRAGON GUEST HANDBOOK

Jeanette Stampone & Novia Heroanto

NEW
2024

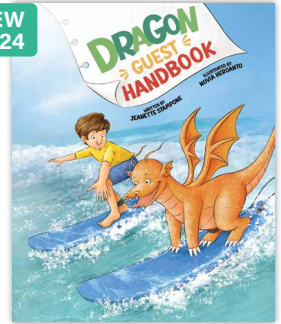
9781761111686 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 350 words | Hardback | 4 to 8 years |

SEPT 2024 | AU \$26.99 | NZ \$29.99 | UK £15.99 | US \$19.99 | CA \$26.99

Uh oh! A dragon has landed in your backyard.

You should always be prepared for when a dragon tourist lands in your backyard.

Your visitor will need to meet the family, learn table manners and go sightseeing. Will you qualify as a top host?



The heartwarming ending leaves readers with a beautiful message of embracing differences, and how a hug has universal meaning.

- Unusual book format - presented as a manual / handbook.
- Explores language barriers.
- Raises awareness about non-verbal communication.
- Fun, child-friendly dragon character.
- While this hilarious book is full of silliness, it also explores language barriers and non-verbal communication.

GIOVANNI

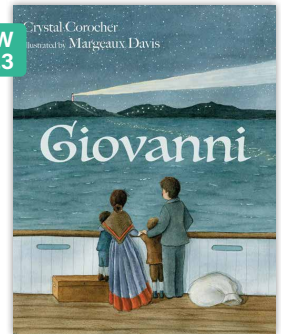
Crystal Corocher & Margeaux Davis

NEW
2023

9781761111235 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 1,000 words | Hardback | 4 to 8 years |

OCT 2023 | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$24.99 | UK £14.99 | US \$18.99 | CA \$25.99

Arriving in Australia as one of the first Italian migrants, Giovanni begins a new life, and a new chapter in Australia's migration history begins. Giovanni left Italy in 1881 with his family, along with many other villagers from the region of Veneto. The families were promised 'paradise' by a corrupt people smuggler. After a perilous journey, they reached Australia with the assistance of Sir Henry Parkes, who was Premier of the Colony of NSW at the time.



Combining extensive research, family anecdotes and gentle narrative prose, author Crystal Corocher shares this true story of resilience and courage as both a work of historical narrative and personal passion project – Giovanni being her great-grandfather. Giovanni is a story for all Australians, and one that Crystal looks forward to sharing with students of all ages as a visiting author, it has been illustrated with stunning watercolour throughout by Margeaux Davis.

This is a true story of some of the first Italian migrants to arrive in Australia and the perilous journey they survived in 1881.

- An important part of Australia's migration history, told for the first time.
- Resilience is a key theme in this book.
- Giovanni is a survival story, one that evokes empathy and understanding toward migrants.

PICTURE BOOKS

LITTLE HORSES

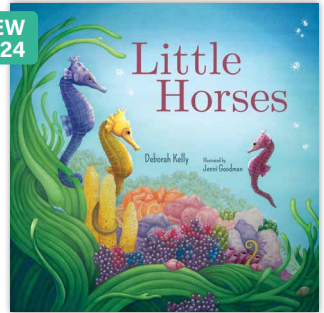
Deborah Kelly & Jenni Goodman

9781761111310 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 240 words | Hardback | 4 to 8 years |

FEB 2024 | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$24.99 | UK £14.99 | US \$18.99 | CA \$25.99

Little Horses is a conservation success story with strong links to Australian schools' curricula and universal themes of caring for the natural world, conservation of species and their habitats and thinking outside of the square.

Beneath the waters of a calm bay, seahorses hide from predators, feed on shrimp and raise their young. But when a storm destroys their habitat, they are left without food and nowhere to hide. Until, a Marine Biologist comes up with a clever invention to provide them with shelter and food while the natural environment recovers.



NEW
2024

An Australian conservation success story about seahorses, inspired by true events. Lyrical in style and featuring information pages about seahorses and the Seahorse Hotels Project.

- Conservation success story- helps children to engage with natural world and provides hope for children with eco anxiety
- Example of thinking outside of the square to solve problems
- Links to primary school syllabus at every level – science, conservation, inventions

WALLS

Tania Ingram & Ruth-Mary Smith

9781761111518 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 150 words | Hardback | 4 to 8 years |

JUL 2024 | AU \$26.99 | NZ \$29.99 | UK £15.99 | US \$20.99 | CA \$27.99

A Viking and a Knight are both convinced that they live on the best side of the book. When an argument ensues and each becomes suspicious of their neighbour, their solution is to build walls to keep them safe from the other side. But in their quest to build the better wall, will they fail to see the environmental dangers that threatens both sides of the book? A book about differences, choices and seeing the bigger picture.



NEW
2024

***Walls* would be suitable for parents and teachers who are wanting to encourage children to explore interpersonal differences, and especially how fear and prejudice can lead people to overlook more immediate dangers.**

- A story about differences, prejudice and fear
- What happens when we fail to look at the bigger picture
- Environmental impact of choices, empathy and understanding toward migrants.

PICTURE BOOKS

BOOTS

Elisabeth Pulsford & Krista Brennan

9781761111037 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 300 words | Hardback | 3 to 8 years |

MAY 2024 | AU \$26.99 | NZ \$29.99 | UK £15.99 | US \$19.99 | CA \$26.99

Through the endearing perspective of a beloved pair of working boots, this picture book narrates the life of a cattle farmer and his love of the Australian bush. With themes of love, loss, old age, hardship and resilience, *Boots* provides a candid glimpse into the trials and tribulations of one man's life and celebrates an unforgiving landscape that is intrinsic to the Australian identity.



**If your boots could tell a story, what would they say?
A picture book about the life of an Australian cattle farmer.**

- Provides strong insight into one facet of the Australian identity, designed to enlighten both Australian and overseas readers
- Commemorates the rich history of these communities, and celebrates the sense of pride, belonging and community spirit underpinning rural Australian townships.
- Captures a legacy that future generations of Australians might share and prosper from.
- Sheds light on some of the adversities that rural Australians continue to face, which is particularly important in the wake of ongoing drought and the Black Summer bushfires.
- Provides readers opportunities for discussion of World War II, the Rural Fire Brigade, weather events, and themes such as community, family, resilience, hardship, love and loss.
- Provides readers an opportunity for discussion of what it means to be an 'everyday hero' and to consider what how they might define 'a life well lived.'
- Gives a voice to smaller and lesser-known rural Australian communities. (The story's setting is the 'blink and you'll miss it' township of Dulacca in the Western Downs region, a pocket of rural Queensland that is often overshadowed by its much larger counterparts.)

CAN GOD SEE ME (2ND EDITION)

Penny Reeve & Shannon Melville

9781761111587 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 200 words | Hardback | 4 to 6 years |

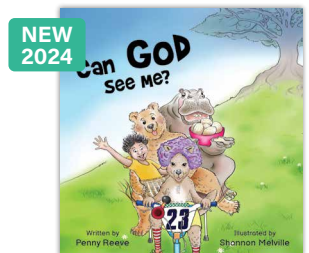
JUL 2024 | AU \$12.99 | NZ \$14.99 | UK £7.99 | US \$9.99 | CA \$14.99

*I read in the Bible, so it must be true,
God can see everything that I do.
But what might this look like? And how far does God's care reach?*

Join the wild, hilarious and certainly crazy ride of a young boy who dares to imagine the incredible scope of God's love and care.

**A humours adventure in rhyme asking a big question about
God from a child's perspective.**

- Picture book on one of the most common questions young Christians have: Can God see me?
- Exciting illustrations to engage young readers



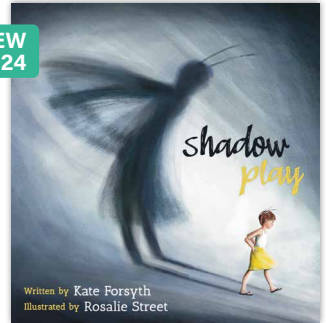
PICTURE BOOKS

SHADOW PLAY

Kate Forsyth & Rosalie Street

9781925563740 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 158 words | Hardback |
4 to 8 years | **FEB 2024** | AU \$26.99 | NZ \$29.99 | UK £15.99 | US \$20.99 |
CA \$27.99

Minnie May is afraid of her own Shadow, but Ziggy will help her through. Minnie May has tried everything to escape her Shadow. It is in the water, under her bed, reaching from trees, and in the skyscrapers. It is only when she makes herself really small that she can find an escape. But Ziggy isn't afraid. His shadow is big. Ziggy shows Minnie May all the wonderful things that you can do with your shadow. It can tell time, it can make puppets, and it can even go flying through the air. Minnie May likes her shadow now. She doesn't want to hide from it anymore.



A beautiful story of friendship and overcoming your fears. Using imaginative play, Ziggy shows Minnie May that her shadow doesn't have to be scary. For all children who are held back by fear to learn that a change in perspective can change your life.

- Encourages self-acceptance and emotional awareness in children
- Strong themes of overcoming your fears
- Utilises beautiful, vibrant and emotive illustrations to encourage imaginative play with your friends

APPLES NOT ORPLES

R. A. Stephens & Carmen Dougherty

9781761111693 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 120 words | Hardback | 4 to Adult |
OCT 2024 | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$24.99 | UK £14.99 | US \$18.99 | CA \$25.99

Two apples plus three oranges. Does that make five orples? No! They aren't alike. There are only apples and oranges.

Apples Not Orples is a rule-following, and slightly rule-breaking, counting adventure. This quirky introduction to like terms will help children understand a fundamental principle of algebra and patterns. Teachers can use this resource to engage readers in all the different ways you can go wrong in adding like terms.



An alternate counting book that shows you why you can't add things that aren't the same.

- Children and teens easily mix up their addition in algebra. In this fun picture book for kids we make it fun to learn that apples and oranges don't make orples!
- STEM book (specifically for maths)
- Can be used with older children, learning support and in other areas to help students with understanding why you can't mix and match

PICTURE BOOKS

IF I WERE A LION

Kitty Black & Giuseppe Poli

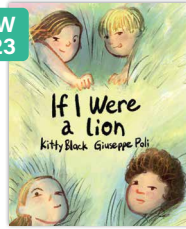
9781761110191 | WOMBAT

BOOKS | 32pp | 250 words |

Hardback | 4 to 6 years |

JUN 2023 | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$26.99 | UK £14.99 |

US \$18.99 | CA \$25.99



If I Were A Lion follows the journey of different children as they express admiration for different lion traits, wishing they had the same courage, curiosity, lounging ability or terrific smile that lions do. But, with the wishing comes the realisation that those same abilities are the ones they already have. Everyone can be a lion, everyone is fierce and free to be themselves!

If I Were A Lion is a frolicsome anthem of self-affirmation for all children.

- Charming, expressive and colourful illustrations that capture the energy and innocence of childhood.
- Teaches children the importance of self-acceptance and how to identify traits they admire of others in themselves

HEAVY

Dannika Patterson & Davilyn Lynch

9781761111020 | WOMBAT

BOOKS | 32pp | 350 words |

Hardback | 4 to 8 years |

MAR 2023 | AU \$24.99 |

NZ \$24.99 | UK £14.99 | US \$18.99 | CA \$25.99



Nina uses her powers of invention to teach her family of incredibly strong women how to take a break from their busy work at the Wildlife Rescue Centre. Dannika Patterson's exciting language combines with Davilyn Lynch's dynamic artwork to create a fun, animal-filled allegory for children that explores prioritising, sharing the load and the beauty of doing just one thing at a time.

Heavy is an empowering children's book about a family of very strong women, an inventive girl, and the value of rest.

- Themes of family, diversity, equality, familial/societal expectations of women and girls, and celebrating International Women's Day
- STEAM curriculum links in the examples of main character Nina's inventions (Science: force, push/pull, use of pulleys, etc)

MILA AND IVY

Katrina McKelvey & Jasmine Berry

9781761111112 | WOMBAT BOOKS |

32pp | 407 words | Paperback |

2 to 7 years | **APR 2023** |

AU \$17.99 | NZ \$18.99 | UK £9.99 |



This tale of two sisters shows how people work differently, and how we can harness our differences to get better results.

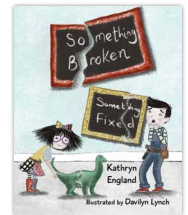
- Teaches children that people are different and the importance of communication. Perfect book to help young children develop good sibling relationships
- Colourful illustrations show the sisters engaging in creative play, designing and building

SOMETHING BROKEN, SOMETHING FIXED

Kathryn England & Davilyn Lynch

9781761110825 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | Paperback |

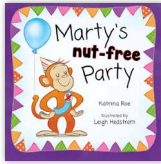
6 to 10 years | **JUN 2022** | AU \$17.99 | NZ \$18.99 | UK £9.99 |



Join Finn and his little sister in this book about creativity as they fix broken objects to make new inventions.

- Teaches kids to explore different methods of creativity and taking care of items
- Encourages kids to see things from others perspective, not just their own

PICTURE BOOKS

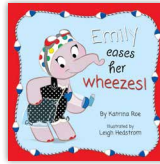


MARTY'S NUT-FREE PARTY

Katrina Roe & Leigh Hedstrom

9781921633362 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 600 words | Hardback | 4 to 8 years | JAN 2012 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99

Marty loved to party. At every party, Marty was the first to arrive and the last to leave. That was before Marty found out that peanuts make him sick. Really sick. Parties aren't so much fun for Marty now that he keeps ending up in hospital. How can Marty and his friends make their parties safe and fun for everybody?

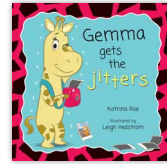


EMILY EASES HER WHEEZES

Katrina Roe & Leigh Hedstrom

9781925139129 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 600 words | Hardback | 4 to 8 years | JUL 2014 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$12.99

If Emily tries to play basketball, she ends up puffing. What can you do when asthma stops you from playing with your friends? Join Emily, Marty and their friends in this new adventure to help them to understand asthma in a fun and entertaining way.



GEMMA GETS THE JITTERS

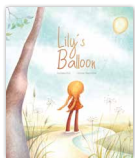
Katrina Roe & Leigh Hedstrom

9781925563139 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 700 words | Hardback | 4 to 8 years | JAN 2017 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99

Gemma has a new camera! She is visiting the mountains and wants to get the perfect photo. But at the top of the lookout, Gemma gets the jitters. Will she let her fear of heights stop her from achieving her dream? Join Gemma, Marty and their friends as they help Gemma overcome her jitters.

Join Marty and his friends in educational adventures to help them to understand allergies, asthma and anxiety.

- Teaches kids about real life health issues, such as allergies, asthma and anxiety with fun and appealing characters
- Friendships grow and deepen when the characters accept and support each other
- Children learn to identify and respond to big emotions
- Marty was shortlisted in the Speech Pathology Awards 2013
- Supportive friends work together to overcome challenges
- Lively illustrations full of colour and movement bring characters to life
- Emily was a notable book in the CBCA Eve Pownall Award 2015



LILY'S BALLOON

Katrina Roe & Helene Magisson

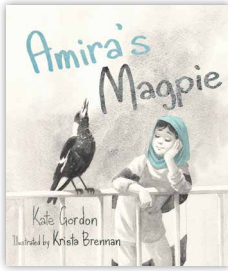
9781925563399 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | 500 words | Hardback | 4 to 6 years | JUL 2018 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99

Even in times of sadness, beauty and joy can be found all around us.

When Lily finds a beautiful, big, shiny balloon she wants to keep it forever... But what if somebody else needs it more? *Lily's Balloon* is a gentle, hopeful story about disappointment, loss and learning to let go. Three young lives are connected through one balloon, which touches them in different ways.

- A hopeful story about letting go of loss, pain and disappointment
- Shows the ways we are all connected, even when we can't see it.
- A gentle lesson in perspective and learning to see the bigger picture

PICTURE BOOKS



AMIRA'S MAGPIE

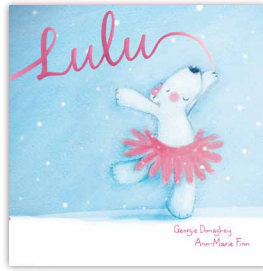
Kate Gordon &
Krista Brennan

9781925563986 | WOMBAT BOOKS |
32pp | 200 words | Hardback |
4 to 10 years | OCT 2021 | AU \$24.99 |
NZ \$24.99

Amira's Magpie is a story of friendship, family and escape; of bravery and resilience in the face of hardship. It is the story of hope we find in small happinesses, even when it seems like all hope is lost. In a beautifully lyrical way, this gentle yet powerful story reminds us of asylum seekers and those who long for home.

Hope can be found even in smallest happinesses, when it seems like all hope is lost.

- A powerful story of bravery, resilience, and hope despite hardship
- Using lyrical prose, we are reminded of asylum seekers and those who long for home.
- Written by award-winning author Kate Gordon



LULU

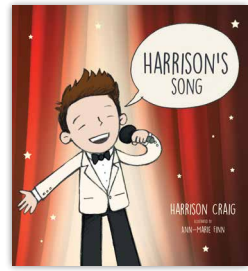
Georgie Donaghey &
Ann-Marie Finn

9781925563078 | WOMBAT BOOKS |
32pp | 300 words | Paperback |
4 to 8 years | JAN 2017 | AU \$14.99 |
NZ \$17.99

Lulu's life was quite cosy and nice, with mountains of fish and even more ice. But something was missing, something wasn't quite right. She dreamed of the stage, she yearned for the lights. Join Lulu on her adventure and see what she discovers...

Following your dreams can take you on adventures far from home, but never forget the people who love you most.

- Encouragement to chase your dreams despite obstacles while highlighting the importance of friendships.
- Flowing rhyming makes a fantastic story to be read aloud.



HARRISON'S SONG

Harrison Craig &
Ann-Marie Finn

9781925563115 | WOMBAT BOOKS |
32pp | 300 words | Hardback |
3 to 8 years | JAN 2017 | AU \$16.99 |
NZ \$20.99

Harrison is a bit different to the other kids. Each time he tries to speak, he stutters. No matter how hard he tries, his tongue feels tied up in knots. That is, until one day when Harrison discovers his talent ...

ALSO AVAILABLE IN HARDBACK
9781925563122

Hiding inside you is a great gift waiting to be discovered.

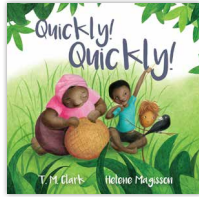
- A positive story of how dreams can be followed even though there might be challenges.
- Story for kids to overcome bullying and adversity and achieve their potential.
- The true story of Harrison Craig, winner of The Voice Australia in 2013, who over came his stutter and became a professional singer.

PICTURE BOOKS

QUICKLY! QUICKLY!

T.M. Clark &
Helene Magisson

9781761110832 | WOMBAT
BOOKS | 32pp | Hardback |
6 to 10 years | JUL 2022 | AU \$24.99

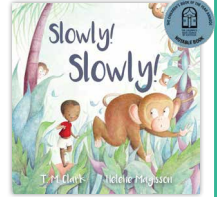


Bongani has accepted he's too small to attend school just yet. But he also doesn't want to be chasing the animals away on his own either. He decides he needs a scared crow to help him do this important job. Luckily his family are there to school him in the lessons of the difference between being quick and being clever to catch a crow.

SLOWLY! SLOWLY!

T.M. Clark &
Helene Magisson

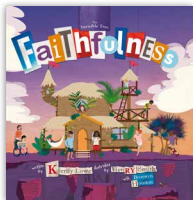
9781761110382 | WOMBAT
BOOKS | 32pp | Paperback |
6 to 10 years | JUL 2022 | AU \$14.99



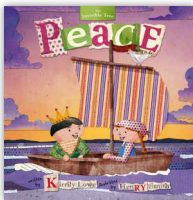
Bongani wants to go to school but he is too young. To prove to his family that he is big and strong just like his cousins, he tries to catch a monkey. Slowly, slowly, he must go. Luckily his family is there to school him in the lessons of patience and compassion.

'Softly, softly, catchee monkey' was originally an Ashanti (Ghana) proverb quoted by Lord Robert Baden-Powell, Founder of the Boy Scouts.

- This beautifully illustrated picture book is the sequel to CBCA Notable title *Slowly, Slowly*
- Humorous and fun, with engaging art, this picture book teaches about teamwork, learning from others and aspects of other cultures.



9781761110467



9781925139143

OTHERS IN THE SERIES

Joy | 9781922074850
Love | 9781922074829
Patience | 9781921632587
Goodness | 9781925563559
Kindness | 9781925139723

THE INVISIBLE TREE SERIES

Kirrily Lowe & Henry Smith with Bronwyn Houston

WOMBAT BOOKS | 32pp | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | May 2013 to NOV 2021 | AU \$19.99

The Invisible Tree is an inspirational series of children's books that capture core values that we all esteem in the life of children and adults!

FAITHFULNESS: One day I heard a royal command, to build a castle tall and grand. And to this mission I said yes, this castle would be a great success.

PEACE: Polly finds Peace in a storm, surprising as it may seem. They ride the waves together, and fly like in a dream.

GOODNESS: 'I went on an adventure to a land called Good, if you've never been there, I think you should'

LOVE: A little person learns about what we all need most. He learns about receiving love and giving it away. And as he learns something special is growing on the inside!

JOY: A young girl is on a quest to find her joy! Is it under the apple tree, is it out to sea, or is it in something that we cannot see? A message for little ones and big ones – where do we go to find joy when we have lost it?

PATIENCE: Sam is tired of waiting so long, his waiting heart is not so strong. Until patience grows down deep inside and joins him on the waiting ride.

KINDNESS: A little girl learns about the greatest gift of all. Kindness is something she wants to keep but on her journey, she realises kindness is something you have to give away.

JUNIOR FICTION

NEW
2023



PEPPER MASALAH AND THE FLYING CARPET

Rosanne Hawke & Jasmine Berry

9781761111105 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 72pp | 7,000 words | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | **MAR 2023** | AU \$11.99 | NZ \$12.99 | UK £7.99 | US \$8.99 | CA \$12.99

A fierce storm sweeps Zamir and his cat Pepper Masalah away upon their ancient carpet. After flying far from home, they crash-land in the Arabian Peninsula. Pepper and Zam make a friend but it's not enough to escape the local camel traders. How will they escape? Can they make the carpet fly again?

NEW
2023



PEPPER MASALAH AND THE TEMPLE OF CATS

Rosanne Hawke & Jasmine Berry

9781761111143 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 72pp | 7,000 words | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | **JUL 2023** | AU \$11.99 | NZ \$12.99 | UK £7.99 | US \$8.99 | CA \$12.99

Pepper Masalah's flying carpet lands in Ancient Egypt where Pepper and Zam are taken to a temple full of cats by a girl called Tabia. Pepper is in danger as the people want to make her into a mummy as she is so special. To make it worse the carpet has floated away on the Nile and Pepper and Zam are stuck in time.

NEW
2023



PEPPER MASALAH AND THE GIANT BIRD

Rosanne Hawke & Jasmine Berry

9781761111204 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 72pp | 7,000 words | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | **NOV 2023** | AU \$11.99 | NZ \$12.99 | UK £7.99 | US \$8.99 | CA \$12.99

The carpet is shot at over Afghanistan and the Simurgh (a giant bird from Persian folklore) snatches Pepper from the carpet to feed her young when they hatch. The carpet is disorientated without Pepper and disappears after Zam falls off. He makes the long climb up the mountain to find Pepper. How will they get home to Australia without the carpet?

A boy and his clever cat fly on an ancient carpet having fantastical adventures where they land.

- A story that emphasises the power of true friendship and the important role pets play in the development of some young children
- Teaching kids the value of kindness and self-giving. Themes of bravery, compassion, and selflessness.
- Fantastical adventure introducing the cultures across Asia and the Middle East, matching the school curriculum for the age group.



NEW
2024

PEPPER MASALAH AND THE DISSAPPEARING ROPE

Rosanne Hawke & Jasmine Berry

9781761111624 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 72pp | 7,000 words | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | **JUL 2024** | AU \$11.99 | NZ \$12.99

The carpet flies Pepper Masalah and Zamir back in time to find its original owner in Moghul India, who is none other than the ailing Emperor Shah Jahan. Zam is accused of stealing the carpet and thrown in the dungeon. How will Pepper and her new friends rescue him? And how can they return home without the carpet? They are lost in time.

JUNIOR FICTION



9781761110771

AMANDA COMMANDER

Coral Vass & Heidi Cooper Smith

9781761110771 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 72pp | 7,000 words | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | MAR 2022 | AU \$12.99 | NZ \$12.99 | UK £8.99 | US \$9.99 | CA \$14.99

It's OPERATION INVITATION! Amanda tries everything to make Eve like her and get an invitation her party, until she finally learns it's more important to be kind, not for what you can get but because of who you are.



9781761110788

It's OPERATION CROSS COUNTRY! Even though she is competitive, Amanda learns it is more important to show kindness to others than win.

It's OPERATION DISCO DRESS! In their mission to get Eve to wear a different coloured dress, however, the Dolphin Squad find that there might be something amazing to be had out of wearing the same dress...

The Dolphin Squad always has a plan for any problem that comes their way but things don't always turnout the way they expected.



9781761110795

- A charming story about a Amanda and her faithful friends as she explores some important learning moments at school
- Series promotes kindness, loyalty, and friendship and instilling values of inclusion, compassion, empathy, positive friendships, and inclusion
- Teaches kids valuable life lessons like: be kind not for personal gain but out of love; empathy and self-sacrifice for people in need
- Great series with smaller chapters to boost confidence in young/beginner readers



AMANDA COMMANDER #4: THE BLUES DAY TUESDAY

NEW 2024

Coral Vass & Heidi Cooper Smith

9781761111266 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 80pp | 8,000 words | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | **MAR 2024** | AU \$12.99 | NZ \$14.99 | UK £8.99 | US \$9.99 | CA \$14.99

It's OPERATION WELCOME BACK!

When Amanda returns to school after a sick day, fitting back in with her friendship group is hard. Amanda decides, with the help of the Dolphin Squad, to go out of her way and include everyone. But how will she ensure no one else has a blues day, like she did?



AMANDA COMMANDER #5: THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER

NEW 2024

Coral Vass & Heidi Cooper Smith

9781761111341 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 80pp | 8,000 words | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | **OCT 2024** | AU \$12.99 | NZ \$14.99 | UK £8.99 | US \$9.99 | CA \$14.99

It's OPERATION SCHOOL PRODUCTION!

When Amanda and her friends encourage Rosie to try out for the school production, a 'green-eye monster' tries to discourage Rosie and sabotage the School Production. Will Amanda and the Dolphin Squad be able to help Rosie and ultimately save the show?

JUNIOR FICTION

THE COUNTERFEIT BUST

R. A. Stephens & Em Hammond

9781761111181 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 90pp | 9,000 words |
Paperback | 6+ years | **MAY 2023** | AU \$12.99 |
NZ \$12.99 | UK £8.99



Riz Chester is an average 10-year-old girl who is particularly observant. When she finds out about a counterfeit ring, can she use her powers of observation to work out who is behind it? Will the police officers even believe her?

THE FINGERPRINT CODE

R. A. Stephens & Em Hammond

9781761111280 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 96pp | 9,000 words |
Paperback | 6+ years | **NOV 2023** | AU \$12.99 |
NZ \$12.99 | UK £8.99



Something is missing from the music room. Riz and her friends break out her new forensics kit and set out to uncover the truth. Who left the fingerprint in the music room?

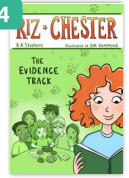
Riz Chester is an average 10-year-old girl with a passion for forensics. Her unique observational skills help Riz and her friends to solve puzzling mysteries.

- Realistic forensic investigations for kids
- A relatable group of characters using problem solving and data analysis to uncover unique mysteries
- Neurodivergent female protagonist

THE EVIDENCE TRACK

R. A. Stephens & Em Hammond

9781761111556 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 90pp |
9,000 words | Paperback | 6+ years |
SEP 2024 | AU \$12.99 | NZ \$12.99 | UK £8.99



Riz Chester loves mysteries, and with an interest in forensics she keeps finding crime. But nothing has happened for months. With Riz and her friends itching for a mystery to solve, Riz organises the perfect 'match-the-tracks' party for her friends. How could an innocent party get them into trouble?

THE SECRET SCIENCE SOCIETY IN SPACE

Kathy Hoopmann, Josie Montano & Ann-Marie Finn

9781761110092 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 108pp | 10,480 words | Paperback | 8+ years | **JUN 2023** |
AU \$12.99 | NZ \$14.99 | UK £7.99 | US \$9.99 | CA \$14.99

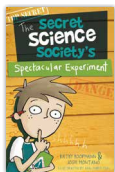


The Secret Science Society need to come up with a prize-winning experiment. Do they really build a rocket ship to put a dog in space? And will they solar-brate a win at the Science Expo? Zane's mystery modifications can only lead to one thing: An astronomical DISASTER! But sssshhhhhh, the ending is out of this world.

- Depicts various forms of neurodiversity from a neurodivergent child's perspective
- A science and space themed story for children with a relatable comedic twist

ALSO IN THIS SERIES

SPECTACULAR EXPERIMENT



9781925563764 | WOMBAT BOOKS |
108pp | 10,000 words | Paperback |
8+ years | AUG 2019 | AU \$12.99 |
NZ \$14.99 | UK £7.99 | US \$9.99 | CA \$14.99

ssssshhhh, the ending is a secret

Mona likes to moan. Kiki is a worry-wart. Bart loves following rules. And Zane HATES following rules. When the four of them are put into The Secret Science Society together, this could only mean one thing: DISASTER!

JUNIOR FICTION

SEA GLASS

Rebecca Fraser

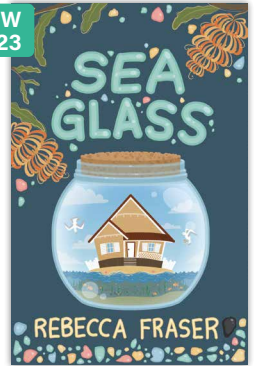
NEW
2023

9781761111075 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 112pp | 22,000 words | Paperback | 7 to 12 years |

MAR 2023 | AU \$14.99 | NZ \$16.99 | UK £8.99

When Cailin must spend Christmas at her eccentric grandfather's shack at Whitefoam Cove, her holiday plans are ruined. Cailin barely remembers him. Memories of her father are everywhere—and worse, she left her cricket bat at home! She's set for the worst summer ever, until she learns treasure can be found in the most unexpected places!

Sea Glass is a family drama for readers aged 7-12 that explores how, despite difference and disaster, a generational gap is bridged over a shared passion for sea glass. This contemporary Australian middle grade novel celebrates the importance of family and environment ... and proves you're never too old to go treasure hunting.



A coming-of-age story celebrating the importance of family, *Sea Glass* is contemporary Australian middle grade novel.

- Follows the reconnection between an estranged grandparent and grandchild
- Easy enough for younger readers, and enjoyable for older middle fiction readers
- Explores healing family relationships, particularly through grief
- Relatable story

JERRY'S WINDOW

Y. K. Willemse

NEW
2024

9781761111402 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 156pp | 33,000 words | Paperback | 7 to 12 years |

APR 2024 | AU \$14.99 | NZ \$16.99

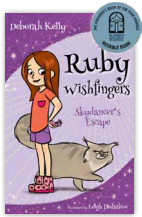
Ten-year-old Jerry is convinced his parents don't love him. He gets their attention by setting off stink bombs, flooding his mum's laundry, and causing mayhem on local transport. But when a window appears beneath his mum's washing line and the monsters beneath it start trying to kidnap Jerry, he changes his ways. The monsters don't have an appetite for good children. But Jerry can only fool them for so long...

Middle grade readers will love this humorous tale of a mischievous boy and his close call with monsters.

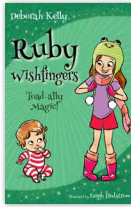
- Contains both adult and child characters, making it an ideal book for families
- Explores family conflict, showing kids that most families aren't perfect
- Has positive messages about listening to your parents and treating others with respect
- Targeted towards male readers, who often read less than girls and need more incentives to pick up a book
- References classic works of literature, making it suitable for starting to teach kids about the literary cannon
- Inclusion of fantasy elements (monsters) and realistic elements (a suburban middle-class family) mean that this book will appeal to kids who prefer genre fiction as well as kids who prefer general fiction



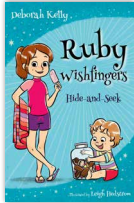
JUNIOR FICTION



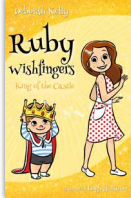
9781925139631



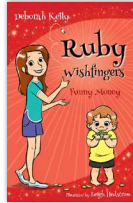
9781925139815



9781925139938



9781925563160



9781925563269

RUBY WISHFINGERS Deborah Kelly & Leigh Hedstrom

WOMBAT BOOKS | 96pp | 10,000 words | Paperback | 6 to 10 years | MAR 2016 to OCT 2017 | AU \$9.99

Ruby Wishfingers is an ordinary girl with an extraordinary name. Only nobody else seems to think so. That is until Ruby Wishfingers wakes up with a strange feeling in the tips of her fingers. She soon finds out that there is far more to being a Wishfingers than having a funny name!

An ordinary girl with an extraordinary name. When her fingers start to tingle she knows a magical adventure is about to begin.

- Teaches kids to be careful what they wish for and the unintended side effects of acting rashly
- Taking ownership of mistakes and problem-solving from a child's perspective
- A humorous series about an ordinary girl with an extraordinary gift—magical wishing fingers!
- Teaches kids about coping with changes in the home such as new siblings, difficult relatives and the struggles of growing up
- Skydancer's Escape was a notable book in the CBCA Book of the Year Awards 2017



THE THING ABOUT OLIVER Deborah Kelly

9781925563818 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 132pp | 30,000 words | Paperback | 10+ years | JAN 2019 | AU \$14.99 | NZ \$17.99

Twelve-year-old Tilly dreams of becoming a marine scientist, but she doesn't even own a swimsuit. She lives in a drought-stricken town with her mum and younger brother Oliver, who is autistic. Tilly knows Oliver's needs have to come first, but it's hard feeling invisible all the time. When Mum announces they are moving to the Queensland coast, Tilly is excited at the thought of finally learning to swim—even snorkel! But the thing about Oliver is, he can't cope with even the tiniest of changes to his routine. It isn't long before the cracks begin to show. Could so many changes all at once threaten to shatter the whole family?

12 year old Tilly dreams of becoming a marine scientist but she lives in a drought stricken town with her mum and her brother Oliver who has autism.

- A stunning middle-grade novel centred on twelve-year-old Tilly and her brother Oliver, who has Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Themes of acceptance and patience.
- Short-listed in the CBCA Book of the Year: Younger Readers 2020
- Short-listed in the Speech Pathology Awards 2019
- Winner of the Family Therapy Awards: Junior Readers 2020



MIDDLE FICTION

TEMORA AND THE WORDSNATCHERS

Kate Gordon

NEW
2023

9781761110122 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 276pp | 80,000 words | Paperback | 10+ years |

MAY 2023 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99 | UK £12.99 | US \$16.99 | CA \$22.99

Temora Murphy is eleven years old. She lives in an immaculate house, with a mother who wishes to control and mould her. The only other children she sees are the “shiny” girls her mother selects for her as friends. Girls who tease her for her size and shyness. Girls who call her “Puddingface”. Temora wants more. Temora loves reading, books about adventure and magic. She finds these books in a black pearl box at the bottom of the garden, beneath the Bloodwood tree. She does not know how they come to be there or who sends them, and every time she thinks too hard about it, some strange impulse in her mind compels her to stop. The books help her to escape. But only so much. Then, at a party for her twelfth birthday, Temora Murphy makes another wish. And with that wish, Temora Tempest’s life alters forever.

Temora and the Wordsnatcher is a literary children's story; a portal fantasy work, featuring characters from multiple backgrounds and a protagonist who does not conform to societal standards of beauty, and who wishes to push against the constructs of what it means to be “feminine”.



TEMORA AND THE DREAMERS

Kate Gordon

NEW
2023

9781761110153 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 280pp | 80,000 words | Paperback | 10+ years |

SEP 2023 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99 | UK £12.99 | US \$16.99 | CA \$22.99

Temora Tempest used to think she was just a regular girl, but after making a wish on her twelfth birthday, she learns the truth: She’s one of the wordspinners from the fantastical Lunary World, tasked with bringing stories and dreams to the children of the other realm. But with the Wordsnatcher on the loose, the stories of the wordspinners are at risk. When the Literi take over Lyfthelm Tower with their strange rulers and decrees, Temora knows something is wrong. As her power grows, Temora cannot ignore the threat, especially as more and more children are turned Wordless. Now, it’s up to Temora and her group of friends to stop him and protect the realm from the Wordsnatcher’s horrible machine.

Temora and the Dreamers is the sequel to *Temora and the Wordsnatcher*, a diverse fantasy set in the mystical parallel world. Perfect for fans of ‘magical school’ stories with a more modern, inclusive twist.



A diverse portal fantasy, for fans of “magical school” books looking for a more modern, inclusive read and a protagonist who does not fit into society’s boxes.

- Diverse cast of characters
- Story world connects with a love of reading
- Portal fantasy with a female lead
- Challenging conventional stereotypes

MIDDLE FICTION

GRACE THE AMAZING

Aleesah Darlison

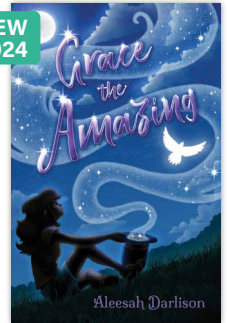
9781761111174 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 140pp | 38,014 words | Paperback | 8+ years |

MAY 2024 | AU \$14.99 | NZ \$16.99 | UK £9.99 | US \$11.99 | CA \$14.99

Grace has big emotions and a million burning questions that demand answers. Her only friend is her art teacher, Pamela. When Grace discovers that Pamela is dying, the fragile certainties that exist in Grace's world threaten to slip away. She embarks on a journey to find a cure for Pamela using miraculous magic. While doing so she asks questions about life, love, friendship, and death.

Grace the Amazing is a story that GLOWS. Quirky, original, and endearing, it's filled with fun, laughter, tears, and totally relatable childhood moments that will forever find a place in your heart.

NEW
2024



Covering issues of family, friendship, mental health, love, loss, and ... brilliant teachers who can change your life.

- Fiery, independent, indomitable female lead
- Issues of self-control, anger management, emotional regulation, and positive mental health explored
- Original, heart-warming storyline filled with quirky characters full of depth and heart

A ROOM FOR RYEL

Emma Cameron

9781761111358 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 148pp | 27,800 words | Paperback | 9 to 12 years |

MAR 2024 | AU \$14.99 | NZ \$16.99 | UK £9.99 | US \$12.99 | CA \$15.99

'School's Sockey Tournament soon. Whoever does best, wins their own room.'

When Ryel and his dad move into a three bedroom house with Lonnie and her two sons Darcy and Harry, Ryel finds himself having to share a room for the first time. Although the boys are friends at school, living together and sharing a room provides a whole new set of challenges. Ryel is used to just his father and finds his school performance suffering for the lack of sleep he's getting at home. Luckily, the annual sockey tournament at school is coming up and Ryel concocts a plan to get the spare room all to himself. The three boys make a deal. Whoever ranks the highest in the tournament will move into the empty room. As they prepare for the competition, Ryel develops a closer relationship with Lonnie and 'Bossy Bella' at school. When the day of the sockey competition is finally upon them, Ryel loses his socks at a lunch break to a dog and luckily gets permission to use the first ever pair of socks worn by a sockey winning. He gets them out to play in the last match and although he loses in the end, he finds himself surrounded by all the new friends he's made. Maybe sharing a room with Darcy isn't so bad.

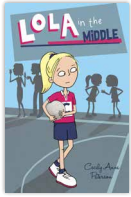
NEW
2024



A story of adapting to change, a new family, and learning to compromise.

- Themes of family, change, compromise, and unlikely friendships
- Realistic family dynamics exploring the impact and effect of blended families. Relatable and fun family drama story

MIDDLE FICTION



LOLA IN THE MIDDLE

Cecily Anne Paterson

9781925563900 |
WOMBAT BOOKS | 192pp |

50,000 words | Paperback | 10+ years | MAY 2020 |
AU \$16.99 | NZ \$20.99

Lola is always in the middle on the netball court. But netball is not the only situation she is always stuck in the middle of. Can she ever stand up for herself? Or will she always be stuck in the middle?

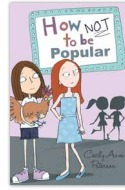
ALSO
IN THIS
SERIES



9781761110405



9781925563443



HOW NOT TO BE POPULAR

Cecily Anne Paterson

9781925563658 |
WOMBAT BOOKS | 192pp |

50,000 words | Paperback | 10+ years |
MAR 2019 | AU \$16.99 | NZ \$20.99

Maddie has a decision to make. How far will she go to be popular? Will she be able to live with the guilt when she finally has everything she's been hoping for?

Fluttering mascara eyelashes, hilarious antics with chickens, netball state finals, and no toilet paper and missing puppies! It's never a dull moment for the kids of Kangaroo Valley.

- Teaching middle fiction readers valuable life lessons like: be considerate to others; take responsibility for your actions; how to stand up for yourself; treat other the way you want to be treated
- Relatable and fun stories featuring young girls navigating their personal struggles in school and at home and growing from their experiences.

THE FIRST TACKLE

Rikki-Lee Arnold

9781761110818 | WOMBAT BOOKS |
148pp | Paperback | 8 to 12 years |
MAR 2022 | AU \$14.99 | NZ \$16.99



Daniella Murphy is on a mission. All she has ever wanted to do is play rugby league, just like her three brothers. But when a scary accident threatens to derail her dreams altogether, even Dani is ready to admit defeat. Will she ever be able to prove that she can do exactly what the boys can do?

The message is clear - girls don't play footy. With the help of a newfound hero, Dani's going to show everybody that they're wrong

- A story about breaking boundaries and standing out from the crowd.
- A message for young girls that don't fit into conventional stereotypes

THE CHRONICLES OF KARLIN

Andrew Lansdown

9781925563580 | WOMBAT BOOKS |
394pp | Paperback | 8 to 12 years |
OCT 2018 | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$26.99



When the unlikely hero, Colyn, finds a knife with mysterious powers, he opens a door to a fascinating otherworld, Klarin. There he is attacked by dragons and defended by warriors. Colyn meets Yasni, a girl who helps him in his dangerous quest to stop the dragons from gaining a new power that threatens his world.

The Chronicles of Klarin is a tale of the bonds that bring us together when terrors threaten to tear us apart.

- For the first time, Andrew Lansdown's much-loved fantasy novels *With My Knife*, *Dragonfox* and *The Red Dragon* are bound into one omnibus edition.

SIGNAL ERASED

Adele Jones

9781761111433 | RHIZA EDGE | 224pp | 60,000 words | Paperback | 13 to 18 years |

APR 2024 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$22.99 | UK £10.99 | US \$14.99 | CA \$19.99

High school senior, Anna Faraday, has been told her singing changes people, but she never imagined this to be literal. When a reckless car drive ruins the most romantic night of her life, she finds herself forced to sing for a secret frequency-based physics experiment that goes wrong. Left fading from existence, she is thrust from her carefully measured world into a terrifying reality that leads her to seek help from the last guy she ever thought she'd ask—a guy invisible to her, until then.



NEW
2024

Singing is Anna Faraday's life, but when a physics experiment goes wrong, her song may signal the end of her existence.

- Engaging, fast-paced action and adventure
- A satisfying teen romance threaded around a unique science-fiction premise
- Relatable characters with deeper themes that connect with the soul

More stories from the Blaine Colton universe?

FOLLOW RENNIE PARKERS' STORY

IMMORTAL MISTAKE

Adele Jones

9781761110085 | RHIZA EDGE |

Paperback | 13 to 18 years | **AUG 2023** |

AU \$19.99 | NZ \$19.99 | UK £10.99 |

US \$14.99 | CA \$19.99

NEW
2023



Aussie teenager, Rennie Parker, is thrust into a world of forced experimentation in a quest for immortality and control.

- A young adult near-science fiction story exploring the difficult issues of domestic violence, substance abuse, bioethics, trafficking, and youth crime
- This fast-paced thriller is a journey of belonging that explores complex family relationships, acceptance, and self-worth
- Despite the gritty elements of this story, Immortal Mistake has a resolution that is ultimately hopeful.

The series that started it all...

THE BLAINE COLTON SERIES

INTEGRATE (2ND EDITION)

Adele Jones

9781761110115 | RHIZA EDGE |

Paperback | 13+ years | **SEP 2023** |

AU \$19.99 | NZ \$19.99 | UK £10.99 |

US \$14.99 | CA \$19.99



Trust the science—unless your life depends on it. Seventeen-year old Blaine, mitochondrial disease survivor, has finally begun a real life and now it's set to fall apart.

- Fast-paced, character-driven, relatable, young-adult science fiction.
- Raises questions about medical ethics and scientific integrity relevant to our time, without sacrificing plot.
- Puts a face to challenging real-world issues, like terminal disease, disability, gene-therapy, and perceptions of self-worth.

VERINDON: THE HEIR, THE CROWN, THE REIGN

Lynne Stringer

9781761111044 | RHIZA EDGE | 512pp | 180,000 words | Paperback | 14+ years | **JUL 2023** | AU \$26.99 | NZ \$28.99 | UK £14.99 | US \$19.99 | CA \$26.99

Sarah Fenhardt is living an ordinary life in high school, trying to hide her crush on Dan Bradfield, who is dating her best friend, Jillian. When tragedy strikes, her life is turned upside down. Sarah is desperate to uncover the truth, but it could take her to another galaxy and change everything she believes about who she is. Her world becomes one of royalty, assassinations and plots. Although Dan is always there to protect her, will her new life bring them closer together or tear them apart?



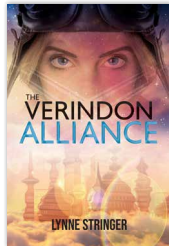
Sarah Fenhardt thinks she's human, but her real home is a galaxy away.

- The Verindon trilogy—*The Heir, The Crown and The Reign*—combined into one convenient omnibus
- An entry-level science fiction series for young adults looking for action, adventure and romance
- Female protagonist
- Book boyfriend
- Similar to *Twilight*, *Star Wars* & *The Princess Diaries*

THE VERINDON ALLIANCE

Lynne Stringer

9781925563993 | RHIZA EDGE | 200pp | 80,000 words | Paperback | 14+ years | JAN 2020 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99



Princess Vashta of the Vendel must work with her enemy, Brandonin, the heir to the Verindal throne, as their planet battles a new danger. But can they defeat it when Vendel and Verindal refuse to work together?

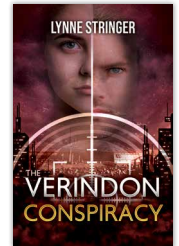
Can they defeat this deadly threat themselves or will it mean the end of life on Verindon?

- Fast-paced story with developed and believable characters, complex relationships, and underlying lessons on diplomacy and deceit.
- A fresh new take on the sci-fi genre packed with action as royals from two warring countries must forge an alliance to save their people

THE VERINDON CONSPIRACY

Lynne Stringer

9781761110757 | RHIZA EDGE | 200pp | 63,000 words | Paperback | 14+ years | MAY 2022 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99



Agent Misilina has finished her training at the Academy and her first assignment is guarding Lord Jolan, her childhood tormentor. But when Jolan's life is threatened, can she keep him safe?

A new agent with big shoes to fill. Can she put aside past prejudices to save her childhood tormentor?

- A confident female lead, who has to protect a prince whilst navigating her own personal obstacles and conflicts.
- Teaching lessons of expectation, determination and resilience.

KEEPER OF THE ARCHIVES

Lynne Stringer

9781761111563 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 256pp | 70,000 words | Paperback | 14+ years |

SEP 2024 | AU \$22.99 | NZ \$26.99 | UK £12.99 | US \$17.99 | CA \$24.99

After their home in Sendirian City burns to cinders, Eden Fittell leaves school and gets a job to try and support her family and keep her alcoholic father away.

But the city is being stalked by crime boss Kore Luddan, who is using Izrod, the strongest in his crew of freaks, to kidnap people off the street. Most of them are never seen again, killed or driven mad by Kore's experiments.

Eden manages to get a job in the government's Archives, taking the place of one of Kore's victims, but Izrod keeps snatching more government employees.

Is Eden safe? What is Kore planning? Will it spell the end of Sendirian City?

- Strong themes of social justice and seeing people as they are behind the masks they may wear
- Powerful messages of surviving toxic family members and gaining a sense of self-worth
- Inspiring examples of overcoming obstacles for the greater good



EVACUATION ROAD

HM Waugh

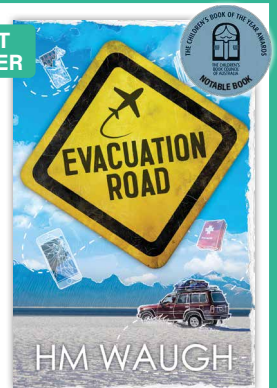
9781761110351 | RHIZA EDGE | 268pp | 70,000 words | Paperback | 13+ years |

AUG 2021 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99 | UK £10.99

Eva is far from home when everything goes wrong. And then it gets even worse. Her evacuation bus leaves her behind, stranded with classmates she barely knows. The chase is on. But South America is big, and the old rules are changing quickly. This is the road trip Eva never knew she needed. This is the race for the last flight home. Readers will thoroughly enjoy following the development of the characters as they learn how important friendship becomes when you need to survive.

Eva is far from home when everything goes terribly wrong. The chase is on. This is the race for the last flight home.

- Notable book for the CBCA Book of the Year Awards 2022
- Easy-flowing narrative, perfect for young adult readers
- Slow-building romance
- Suspense will keep readers on the edge of their seat



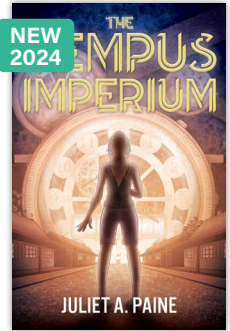
THE TEMPUS IMPERIUM

Juliet A. Paine

9781761111648 | WOMBAT BOOKS | 312pp | 80,000 words | Paperback | 13+ years |

AUG 2024 | AU \$22.99 | NZ \$26.99 | UK £12.99 | US \$17.99 | CA \$24.99

When Charlie's grandmother is killed, she is plunged into the world of the Temporal Sinistram. An organisation of time travellers that maintain the historical timeline. Her grandmother used to be a star agent and Charlie must solve her murder, in an adventure that takes her from 1966 Australia to a post-apocalyptic Los Angeles. This is a coming-of-age story that spans centuries as Charlie investigates the Sinistram, while still dealing with her feelings for the boyfriend she left behind.



The end justifies the means. The many over the few.

Charlie knows time travel has rules but what happens when you break one?

- A global time travel adventure that starts in Australia, but soon moves to the United States, Russia, China and England as the heroine travels from the past to a post-apocalyptic future.
- The novel is a reminder of the importance of grandparents, and that sacred bond they have with their grandchildren.

SERENDIB: WHITE PLAGUE

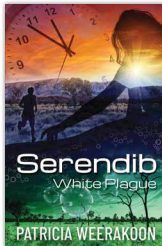
Patricia Weerakoon

9781761111051 | RHIZA EDGE |

256pp | 80,000 words | Paperback |

14+ years | OCT 2022 | AU \$22.99 |

NZ \$29.99



The world of 2030 teeters on the brink of disaster. A super-spreading virus is damaging the brains people of one particular race. White people. To find a cure in time to save the world, young Stephen has to accept the help of dark-skinned Ally, a telekinetic girl from 2131. But he must first show himself worthy. And this may kill him.

Can a coloured girl from 2131 help a white boy in 2030 bring healing and harmony to his world divided by racial disharmony and reeling from a super-virus infecting white people only?

- Follows the character development of a young man from entitled arrogant teenager to self-sacrificial altruistic world leader.

WITHIN THE WARD

Emily Larkin

9781761110221 | RHIZA EDGE |

292pp | 80,000 words |

Paperback | 15+ years |

OCT 2021 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99



Paige is immersed in a dream reality called 'the Journey'. If patients finish then they can go home. Secrets are exposed as Paige bonds with other teens who don't belong. The Journey is meant to be a cure – but Paige discovers dark forces within the hospital, and that the dream reality is the stuff of nightmares. Paige and her friends have limited chances to show progress. Can they escape the ward? And can Paige find reasons to live?

Within the Ward deals with mental health in a dystopian future.

- A story about overcoming hard times and finding purpose

MEMPHIS GRACE

Catriona McKeown

9781925563719 | RHIZA EDGE | 240pp |
80,000 words | Paperback | 15+ years |
OCT 2019 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99



Graceland finds herself noticed by Cooper Dally. Popular boy and Mikaela's EX-BOYFRIEND. Now she's the centre of attention: big parties, new dresses and girlfriend to Cooper. Graceland is finally changing her stars. But Cooper has expectations Graceland can't meet. And when the truth behind Mikaela's leaving comes out, Graceland realises Cooper might not be the guy she thought he was.

Serious issues such as rape and sexual assault dealt with a gentle yet realistic hand

- A determined main character with strong ideals about what is right and wrong but struggles with the impact of a broken family.
- Winner of the Family Therapy Awards: Older Readers 2020



EMPIRE'S CHILDREN

Patricia Weerakoon

9781925139303 | RHIZA PRESS | 233pp |
90,000 words | Paperback | 15+ years |
JAN 2015 | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$29.99



BEST SELLER

Tragedy, grief and separation threaten Shiro and shackle Lakshmi in the bondage of class distinction. When Anthony takes over management of the plantation, he discovers the truth about his family's dealings with the locals. Can Anthony's love of justice set right the wrongs of the past?

On the Sri Lankan tea fields in particular, the English are masters.

- A feisty and clever female main character growing up and bound by expectation but refusing to conform and choosing to take action in her life
- An engaging love story with unexpected turns, with themes of deceit, honour, loyalty, and forgiveness woven in with a message of chasing your dreams even when it seems impossible

OUT OF THE CAGES

Penny Jaye

9781925563412 | RHIZA EDGE | 272pp |
71,000 words | Paperback | 15+ years |
JAN 2018 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99



Fifteen-year-old Meena has given up all hope of ever escaping the brothel. When a botched police raid offers her a chance at freedom, Meena must face the truth about her past. As she attempts to piece her life back together, the memories she has buried deep inside begin to resurface. Meena realises escaping the brothel is only the beginning of what it means to be free.

- Winner of Young Adult Fiction of the 2019 CALEB Prize
- Powerful book on the complex issue of child sex trafficking. A challenging read focussing on the emotional trauma without being too explicit



*"Sometimes it's
ourselves we need
to trust again..."*

WISH ME GONE

D. J. Blackmore

9781761111051 | RHIZA EDGE | 256pp |
70,000 words | Paperback | 13+ years |
SEP 2022 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$19.99



Up close, the heritage listed house is nothing but a beautiful disaster, but while there are acres of orange trees to lose herself amongst, Isabella realises there's no escaping the new school. But when intolerance towards Damaska and her family—whom Isabella's family has hired to help—opens the homestead gates, the threat to both families becomes real.

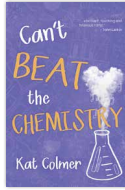
Four lives become intertwined, as they all try to find a place they call home.

- A suspenseful read involving current issues such as romance and friendship, racial prejudice, poverty, and culture clashes. Authentic characters to connect with a great ending.

CAN'T BEAT THE CHEMISTRY

Kat Colmer

9781925563696 | RHIZA EDGE | 260pp |
77,000 words | Paperback | 13+ years |
APR 2019 | AU \$19.99 | NZ \$24.99



There are only two things MJ wants in her final year of high school: 1) Glowing grades and ... 2) to convince Jason they'd be a winning team outside the science lab as well as in. Tutoring deadbeat drummer, Luke, isn't part of the plan. But MJ learns that she could be tutored in a few life lessons too. Sometimes you can't beat the chemistry.

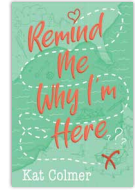
Human bonds can be hard to create but, sometimes... you can't beat the chemistry.

- Heart-warming story of an unlikely between two people seemingly miles apart who both need help from each other to learn how they want their lives to be

REMIND ME WHY I'M HERE

Kat Colmer

9781925563924 | RHIZA EDGE | 224pp |
60,000 words | Paperback | 12+ years |
AUG 2020 | AU \$16.99 | NZ \$20.99



When 18 year-old Maya leaves Chicago for an Australian home stay, she thinks she's heading to beautiful Barangaroo—NOT for six weeks of Hicksville hell in Barangaroo Creek. Gus has an important trip planned that does NOT include an animal-phobic girl from the States ticking off items on her Aussie "must-do" list. So he makes a list of his own guaranteed to send her back across the Pacific. But when Maya doesn't scare that easily, sparks begin to fly.

Sometimes you just need someone to remind you why you're here.

- Likeable and relatable main characters, a sweet love story, and a prank war using Australian wildlife.

GIRL RUNNING, BOY FALLING

Kate Gordon

9781925563528 | RHIZA EDGE | 236pp |
50,000 words | Paperback | 15+ years |
OCT 2018 | AU \$17.99 | NZ \$21.99



Sixteen-year-old Therese lives in a small town on a small island. Her Aunt Kath calls her Tiger. Her friends call her Resey. The boy she loves calls her Champ. She has always had her feet on the ground. Running through high school, but someone in her life is about to fall ... And when he does, her perfect world falls with him.

A raw read about a girl and boy— who are beautifully flawed.

- A tender coming of age narrative of living in the wake of a suicide and the many ways in which we grieve
- Notable for the CBCA Book of the Year Awards 2019



FLYING BLIND

Rosanne Hawke

978176110399 | RHIZA EDGE | 200pp |
50,000 words | Paperback | 13+ years |
FEB 2022 | AU \$17.99 | NZ \$21.99



15-year-old Essie is missing her dad; her friend at school is treating her strangely and a new boy with an army of siblings moves into their coastal town from the Outback. If this isn't enough to deal with, a junior lifesaver sweeps her out of the sea after sighting a fin. It was just a dolphin, so she wasn't really in trouble. Does that mean he likes her?

Sometimes trying to fit in will lead to blind loyalties before we can recognise our true friends.

- Coming of age story exploring volatile relationships of gaslighting and manipulation and the effects of abusive high school friendships and remembering who your true friends are

RHIZA EDGE

SUMMER CHANGE

Melissa Wray

NEW
2023



9781761111211 | RHIZA EDGE | 240pp | 60,000 words | Paperback | 14 to 18 years | **OCT 2023** |
AU \$19.99 | NZ \$19.99 | UK £10.99 | US \$14.99 | CA \$18.99

A secret. A holiday. A summer like never before. Shae knows her parents are keeping something from her and is determined to find out what. But nothing can prepare her for what they are hiding. As Shae tries to uncover the mystery, she must also navigate the deteriorating relationship with her cousin Lexi, the perplexing neighbour Callen, and a mysterious letter writer. Shae is learning that relationships, deception, secrets and love can sometimes blend together and change everything.

Shae's parents have a secret and she is determined to find out what. But nothing can prepare her for what they are hiding.

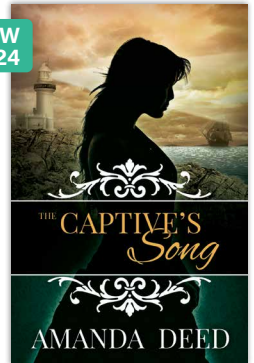
- Significant plot line that offers mystery, intrigue, twists and a satisfying ending.
- Contemporary fiction that is relatable for the audience.
- Well developed, broad range and intricately linked cast of characters.

RHIZA PRESS

THE CAPTIVE'S SONG

Amanda Deed

NEW
2024



9781761111464 | RHIZA EDGE | 300pp | 80,100 words | Paperback | Historical Romance | **JUL 2024** | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$26.99 | UK £14.99 | US \$16.99 | CA \$24.99 |

Freedom is a pipe dream. At least, that's what Olivia Cruikshank believes. Transported to Van Diemen's Land for petty theft, she has lost all hope. Six years in and out of the Cascades Female Factory has taught her none can be trusted and that her future, like her innocence, are as a vapour in the breeze.

Until Michael Reeve shows up — a prison guard unlike any other. What kind of turnkey shows compassion instead of cruelty, encouragement instead of scorn? He talks and acts like Olivia matters. Like her future matters. And he's not about to give up, despite opposition from every angle. Opposition that hints of danger ahead.

Can Olivia learn to trust before it's too late? Will Mick's kindness lead to love, or will it be his undoing?

***The Captive's Song* is an Australian retelling of Rapunzel, complete with a tower, a braid and a beautiful song.**

- Forgiveness and finding hope, joy, and your purpose in life when circumstances have left you angry and hopeless.
- Australian penal colony history in a historical romance story
- Fractured fairy tale – Rapunzel