

# dixi books

## Children's Rights Catalogue Frankfurt 2022





# Introduction

We believe we have a lot to learn from children. That's why at Dixi Books, we are passionate about children's literature. Children are straightforward and transparent, they don't have hidden agendas; other than securing to eat one more slice of cake perhaps or extra time at a party at later ages!

All of our children's titles are tackling with different aspects of life for all ages. Some are focusing on the climate crisis and biodiversity, others are addressing difficult life situations such as facing the divorce of one's parents or not being accepted as who you are.

We have filled the world with many challenges in our times and it is not fair to expect today's children to solve these problems when they become the grown-ups of tomorrow. Our interaction with children should take a more democratic course, perhaps even the very notions of 'adult' and 'child' should be turned upside down.

With these ideas in mind, we tried to create a list of titles which would reflect a different perspective, one that would speak to the child in us all through the collective wisdom of children and their companions in life, adults. From picture books to young adult titles, our books are fun, thought-provoking and engaging.



## Lerato Learns About Maria Montessori

Author: Megan Gregorowski

Illustrator: Julia Pols



### Megan Gregorowski

Megan is a South African teacher and author who is passionate about challenging stereotypes in education. Having discovered a lack of children's books depicting the Montessori environment in her own classes, she has begun writing her own; books

that bring her training in teaching and psychology together to create meaningful, informative narratives. Megan loves adventure and being creative. When she's not teaching or writing away, she enjoys baking, painting and exploring her local beach with her husband, son and dogs.



### Julia Pols

Julia is a South African born digital illustrator, with qualifications in graphic design and illustration. She chose to listen to her calling and specialize in illustrating children's books. Ever since being a young child, she would always be drawing and wouldn't be seen without her big case of crayons by her side. Being able to

bring books to life with illustrations for the children of today has been very rewarding. She hopes to inspire and uplift a new generation of children with art as she once was as a child. She has worked on many books – all successfully published nationally and internationally. Today Julia is living in the sunny city of Gqeberha.





## Other Books in the Series



210 x 297 mm  
28 pages

ISBN  
978-1-913680-54-1

**Themes:**

Montessori, Education Method,  
Teaching Materials, Pedagogy

It's a new day at Pink Tower Montessori School and Lerato chooses a story called *Marvellous Maria Montessori* for Miss Maya to read. Come join Lerato and friends as they learn all about Maria Montessori and her education legacy.

*Lerato Learns About Maria Montessori* is the first book in a 6-part series called 'My Montessori Stories' based on the Montessori education method and philosophy.

The series is set in 'Pink Tower Montessori School'

with each book following a different child as they explore and learn at school.

Readers will recognize beautifully illustrated Montessori materials throughout the book as well as aspects of Montessori Philosophy including freedom and independence.

Teachers, children and parents are bound to love these relatable and engaging books and they are a must have for any Montessori classroom or family.

"Relatable and revelatory. This sweet book acknowledges the hard work children do at their Montessori schools. Your children will love learning a few facts about Maria Montessori while feeling inspired to make their own impact on the world."

//Aubrey Hargis, author of *Toddler Discipline for Every Age and Stage*

"The children's book every Montessorian has been waiting for! Well-written, inclusive and engaging. A carefully written and beautifully illustrated book that is both informative and touching."

// Lynda A. Apostol, "The Montessori Teacher", M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction, M.Ed in Educational Leadership, AMS-Elementary Credential, Multiple Credentials in Public Education in California and in Texas. Experience in public, private and charter sectors. Master Teacher and National Montessori Instructional Coach.





## Marjorie Magic

Author: Joy Norstrom

Illustrator: Anushka Shenoy



### Joy Norstrom

Joy is a Canadian writer and social worker. She enjoys sharing stories about the human experience, exploring the outdoors with her family, and reading late into the night when she should be asleep. Whether she is

advocating for inclusion, attempting to parent teenagers, or popping into the local coffee shop, she can generally be found engaged in conversation. Why? She believes human connection and laughter keep her grounded in a muddled world.

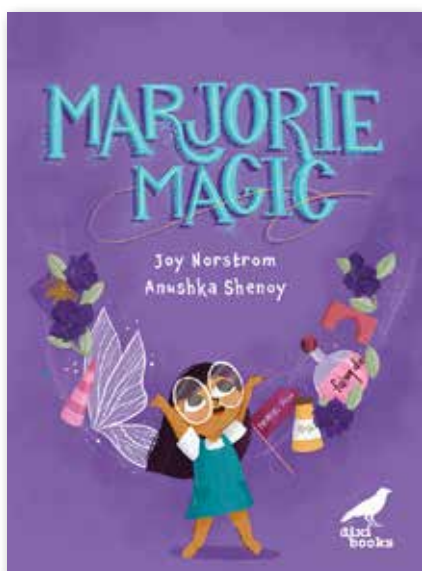


### Anushka Shenoy

Anushka is an illustrator and designer based in Pune, India with a B.Des in Graphic Design, bringing life to fun, inclusive and diverse stories through her vibrant illustrations and adorable characters. Growing up, she had a

big collection of picture books, and loved reading and re-reading them, which helped shape her passion for working on children's book illustrations as a career. Along with art being her passion, she also has a deep love for pastry, and experiments with baking in her free time.





203 x276 mm  
32 pages

ISBN  
978-1-913680-53-4

#### Themes:

Magic, Belonging, Diversity,  
Perseverance, Humour, Family

*Marjorie Magic* has a problem.

Her magic doesn't work. Her mother can mow the lawn with a knock of her knee. Her father can fold the laundry with a wiggle of his eyebrow. Even her baby brother can make his toys fly. But when Marjorie twitches her nose? Nothing happens at all.

Marjorie worries. If she's not the same as the rest of her family, does she belong?

When she discovers a book filled with magical

recipes, Marjorie's heart fills with hope. Maybe some people are born doing magic, but maybe other people can learn!

Join Marjorie on her magical adventure to discover the truth: Can an ordinary, unmagical person belong in a family called Magic?

A story about belonging, perseverance and grit. Children will enjoy journeying along with Marjorie as she learns about her own special brand of magic.

"*Marjorie Magic* is a charming tale of a child who doesn't seem to fit into her family with their magical powers. Her misadventures making magic will make kids laugh, and they will learn with Marjorie a more important purpose for "magic" -- to help others. The intriguing and amusing illustrations by Anushka Shenoy beautifully enhance Joy Norstrom's magical story, which is sure to have a wide appeal."

//George M. Johnson, author of *How Hope Became an Activist* and *Marisa and the Mountains*



## The Chef of Seasons

Author: Federica Ambroso

Illustrator: Altierra



### **Federica Ambroso**

Federica was born in Italy, near Verona, in 1993. She studied literature and did postgraduate studies in European literatures and cultures. She is currently a PhD student in the framework of the international doctoral program D.E.S.E. in Comparative Literature, so she's moving between Greece, Italy and France. She loves writing poems, fairy tales and novels since she was 5 years old.

She has won 58 literary contests in Italy and Greece. Her texts have been published in Greek and Italian literary and cultural magazines as well as in anthologies.

Her love for books is accompanied by love for Greece, Greek language and culture. She is also a translator and a singer. She studied singing, music (accordion) and dance.



### **Altierra Ciogli**

Altierra – alias Alessandra Ciogli – was born in Italy and graduated from the School of Fine Arts of Verona. She is an illustrator and a yoga teacher. She loves drawing since she was a child. She worked as a photographer and as a graphic designer, and she

collaborated with public elementary schools through art projects for the development of creativity in children. She loves art and drawing in her atelier in Verona. Her passion for the search for balance between humans and nature carries on her dream of having an atelier with large windows, in the middle of a forest.





210 x 290 mm  
24 pages

ISBN  
978-I-913680-36-7

### Themes:

Seasons, Spring, Nature, Chef,  
Fun, Cooking, Colours



This chef is so different from the others! His recipes consist of the seasons, not the food. There are recipes for delicious summer, autumn, and winter seasons. But where is the spring recipe? Our famous chef doesn't know what ingredients to use for a gorgeous spring season recipe.

Finally, he puts an ad in the newspaper and hundreds of people offer our chef their ideas for the spring recipe.

You can find all the ingredients needed to design a perfect spring in this beautifully illustrated book.





## Let's Go Shopping Grandma

Author: Sharon Giltrow

Illustrator: Dhvani Gosalia



### **Sharon Giltrow**

Sharon grew up in South Australia, the youngest of eight children, surrounded by pet sheep and fields of barley. She now lives in Perth, Western Australia with her husband, two children and a tiny dog. Sharon has taught for all

of her career. Previously a teacher of children who are hearing impaired and deaf-blind, she now teaches young children with "developmental language disorder".

Sharon is also a blogger for the Children's Book Academy.

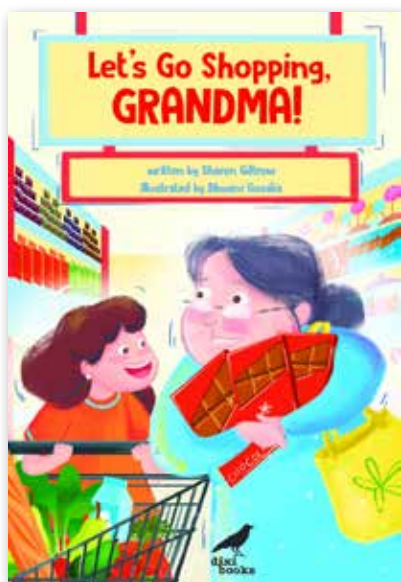


### **Dhwani Gosalia**

Dhwani is an independent graphic designer and illustrator from Mumbai. She does both digital and traditional illustrations. From an early age, she knew what she wanted to do for the rest of her life. Making the world of plain boring text to interesting and engaging visuals. She has graduated from Rachana

Sansad College of Mumbai in Bachelors of Fine Art and Craft (BFA) with a specialization in illustration. She is committed to make reading exciting for kids visually and encourage them to grow while she discovers and experiments with different styles and techniques. Besides children's books she loves all things colourful, nature and desserts.





210 x 290 mm

28 pages

ISBN

978-1-913680-51-0

### Themes:

Grandma, Shopping, Role-reversal, Humour, Empathy

Taking Grandma shopping can be tricky! She will dawdle to the bus, ask to the push trolley and plead for chocolate.

But with cuddles, a few deep breaths and a piggy back ride, you and your grandma will get the shopping done!

*Let's Go Shopping, Grandma!* is an essential guide for anyone who has ever had to take a grown-up shopping.





## Dropping a Stitch

Author: Steve Heron

Illustrator: Marika Monesi



### Steve Heron

When he's not hanging out with the local magpie population in simply beautiful Bridgetown Western Australia, Steve uses his forty years of experience working with children in social/emotional wellbeing to cultivate and underpin his writing.

He blends the elements of heart, hope, humour and help to create children's books that touch and tickle hearts. Steve received an *Order of Australia Medal* in the 2016 Queen's birthday honours for his contribution to the social and emotional wellbeing of children.



### Marika Monesi

Marika is an Italian artist born in 1992. She has always had a strong passion for drawing and photography and this led her to choose graphics and photography in high school. In addition to her main job, she works as a cosplay photographer.

She opened her own shop of stationery products decorated with her drawings, then she decided to take her first steps in children's publishing, to make one of her dreams come true. Now, as a good collector of picture books, she dreams of adding hers to the library too!





203 x276 mm  
28 pages

ISBN  
978-1-913680-00-0

### Themes:

Grandparent, Dementia, Alzheimer's Disease,  
Knitting, Social-Emotional Wellbeing

Milli loves visiting her great-grandma Ninny at her new home where other grandies live. They are knitting together a coat for Milli's little dog Poochie. But lately, she isn't well. She often forgets things and stares at the walls.

Milli learned from his dad that Ninny is living with dementia so her memory is getting weaker day by day. Milli's heart was broken into a thousand pieces when she saw her great-grandma couldn't remember Milli's herself.

*"Dropping a Stich is a gentle, poignant tale tackling the big emotions around dementia. It reminds us that no matter what is forgotten, love never forgets. Through love we can still connect."*

//Lorraine Horsley, author of *When You Left*

But one day, while Milli is knitting, she has a pleasant surprise when Ninny notices she drops a stitch!

*Dropping a Stich* is a delicate story for children trying to understand their relationship with a grandparent living with Dementia. Children may learn what Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease are and what they can do if a loved one is living with dementia.





## When You Left

Author: Lorraine Horsley

Illustrator: Megha Vishwanath



### **Lorraine Horsley**

Lorraine calls Australia home and for most of her life she has worked in the media. For many years she was a presenter and producer with ABC Radio. She's also spent the last couple of decades teaching and tutoring students at the start of their higher education journeys.

When not teaching or studying, Lorraine spends her time writing. She loves writing stories for children and is currently working on an adult novel. She is a long-time member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI) and is a committee member of the Children's Book Council of Australia WA Branch (CBCAWA).



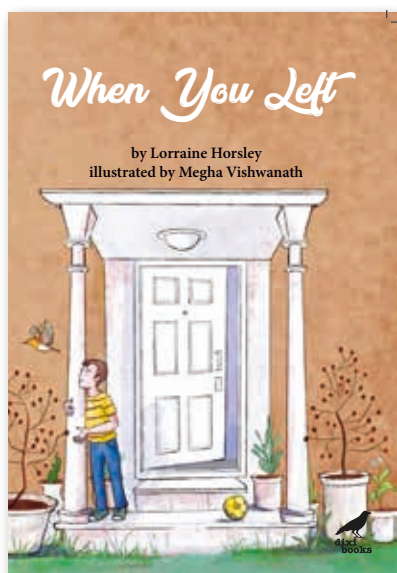
### **Megha Vishwanath**

Megha is a children's book and comic book illustrator. She lives in Bangalore, India.

She worked for various institutions to

make drawings on wildlife and nature diaries. She also published his own stories and poems.

Megha now enjoys raising her little daughter, drinking turmeric tea and drawing.



210 x 297 mm

28 pages

ISBN

978-625-7537-18-6

**Themes:**Divorce, Parents, Pedagogy,  
Emphaty

Divorce is a common phenomenon in our time, yet separation of their parents is still difficult for children. *When You Left* offers a window into children's big emotions and feelings during this process and helps both them and the adults to cope with the sadness and worry. It serves as a perfect tool to explain the situation to children and help them to accept both negative and positive outcomes in life.

When his parents are separated, our hero finds himself in a chain of different feelings, starting with sadness and gradually reaching the realisation that it's not the end of the world. All parties, both parents and the child, can still learn to accept the changing reality and lead a happy life in their own way.







## Li-Na is My Name

Author and Illustrator: Lisa Wee



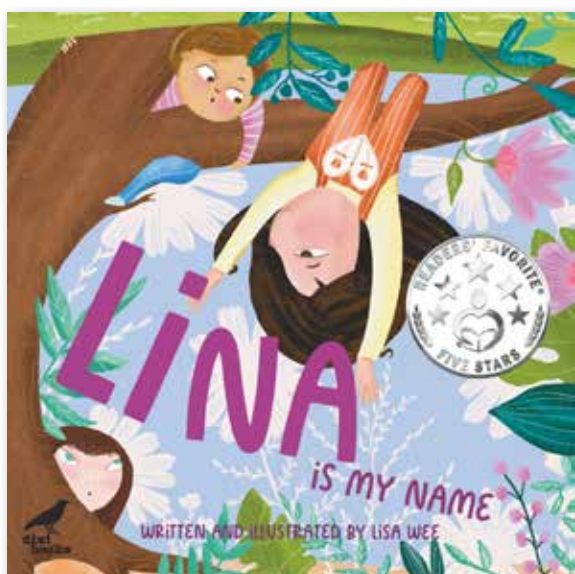
### Lisa Wee

Lisa debuts as author and illustrator of *Li-Na Is My Name*. Her other published work is a comic story – *Sokoro's Dream* for Mighty Kind Magazine, fall issue, 2021. Lisa has illustrated several picture books for prominent publishers and self-published authors. Her

quaint, quirky and vibrant illustrations are inclusive, embracing diversity in celebrating the lives of children from all walks of life, whether they come from adopted families, same-gender families or blended families.







Reader's Favorite Five Stars



Honorable Mention under  
Purple Dragonfly Award  
for New Author!

210 x 210 mm  
32 pages

ISBN  
978-1-913680-37-4

### Themes:

Self-Respect, Self-Discovery, Inclusiveness,  
Self-Love, Diversity, Gender-Stereotypes

Do you get teased by others for being a weirdo, a geek, a nerd or a bookworm? Friends, families and neighbours around Li-Na felt it was affectionate to tease her for her not-so-girly hobbies and clothing. *Li-Na is My Name* is about a little girl who refused to be stereotyped. It is a story that encourages kids to be kids until they are

ready to be who they want to be.

This is a book that is as relevant then as it is now. Li Na's spirit, grit and resilience is inspirational for all children. The way she stays true to herself is heart-warming. Let's spread this so all children love themselves for just who they are.

"Childhood is a magical time in one's life as we all explore the new world we have come into and our relationship with it. It is a time full of wonder, curiosity and adventure. Teasing and ridiculing a child can destroy this magic. Accept children as they are without the need to put them down or entertain ourselves at their expense..."

//Dr. Daksha Hirani, Clinical Psychologist

"This engaging tale encourages resistance to gender stereotypes and highlights the power of discomfiting labels."

//Kirkus Reviews



## The Extraordinary Worlds of Cats

Author: Chandrakant Bhonsle

Illustrator: Natalia Cardozo



### **Chandrakant Bhonsle**

Born in India, Chandrakant is a qualified lawyer and a writer currently based in the Netherlands. He is the author of the children's picture book *The World Belongs to Animals*, which is the part of the official reading lists of leading wildlife organisations such as Panthera and PETA among others. He has been awarded several accolades

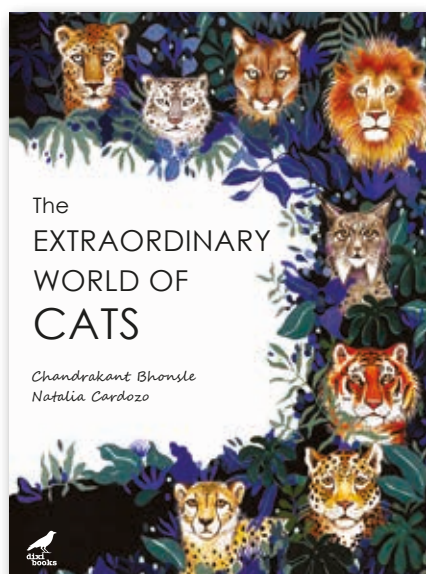
for his English writing skills from distinguished international institutions. He is an outdoor person who cares a lot about protecting animals and the environment as a whole. He believes that for the ecological sustainability of our planet, it is quintessential that animals are allowed to thrive in their natural environment.



### **Natalia Cardozo**

Natalia is a professional illustrator based in Uruguay. Passionate about nature and cultures she has published

several books and received different illustration awards. She works with traditional techniques and loves exploring new ways to tell stories.



210 x 290 mm  
24 pages

ISBN  
978-I-913680-36-7

#### Themes:

Animal World, Forest Life,  
Conservation, Wild Life, Ecology

*The Extraordinary World of Cats* is an ode to the magnificent lives enjoyed by wild cats in our fast disappearing forests. This book makes an attempt to introduce some of the fascinating big cats of the animal kingdom to children around the world. Where do these cats live? Why are they so special? What are their defining characteristics?

What sets them apart from each other? Why are they under threat? Why must they be saved from extinction?

*The Extraordinary World of Cats* makes an appeal to all kids to love these marvellous felines and cherish their existence while they can.

"Young readers will love the trivia shared about each 'cat.' The illustrations are dynamic and colorful and add an interesting dimension to the overall presentation. Each wild cat is introduced with the image and a list of facts, all told in rhyming verse and with enough drama to make the information interesting. The author discusses the physical attributes of the cats, where in the world they are found, and some of their unique traits. This is the type of book that will spark young readers' interest in wild cats and hopefully encourage them to look for ways to protect them from extinction."

//Emily-Jane, Hills Orford for Readers' Favorite





## Beauty in Black

Author: Sandra Pomar

Illustrator: Nagma Tabassum



### **Sandra Pomar**

Sandra is an exceptionally busy mom of five spectacular children. Her previous work entails being an Educator in both Canada and the United Kingdom. Sandra's undying compassion for children has led her to volunteer for The Make a Wish Foundation, POPS-Les Enfants de la Rue, Christmas in July children's toy donations & the NSPCC. Her passion

for writing has become a reality when she embarked on her journey as an author for Women's Perinatal Health, and as an avid lover of children's books, she hopes for her new stories to be a fresh change for children globally. Sandra aspires to spread the word that "a little respect and compassion go a long way," hence her motto "Every child should go to bed at night feeling safe, loved, and well cared for."

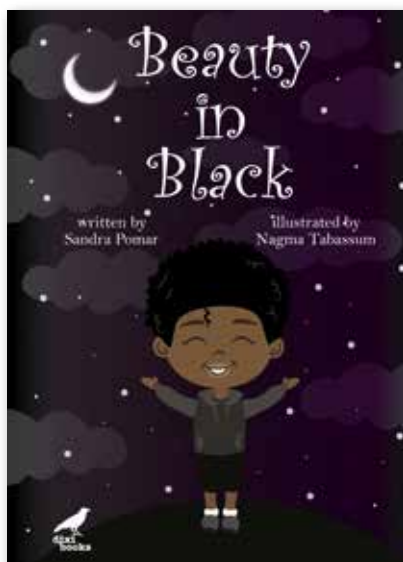


### **Nagma Tabassum**

When Nagma first used her hands for colouring in kindergarten, she knew that this was the world she wanted to get lost in. Currently, she is pursuing Masters in Design from National

Institute of Fashion Technology. She deeply enjoys drawing illustrations and cartoons. In her free time, she is a writer on Instagram with more than 120k followers. She writes quotes, captions, and edits videos.





210 x 297 mm  
24 pages

ISBN  
978-1-913680-40-4

**Themes:**  
Prejudice, Awareness, Black Lives  
Matter, Beauty in Nature

*Beauty in Black* was written in response to people's heartbreaking prejudice toward anything black. The association that black is "bad" puts an unfortunate perception in little minds, and eventually in turn becomes hatred.

This book aims to convey the importance of appreciating everyone, and everything and all the beauty that black has to offer. Take a stroll through the deep forest, realising all the marvellous beings, and wondrous items along the way, captivating the mesmerising beauty... known as the *Beauty in Black*.





## Moban and Sky's Mindful Adventure

Author: Bernie Leonard

Illustrator: Chris Tayler

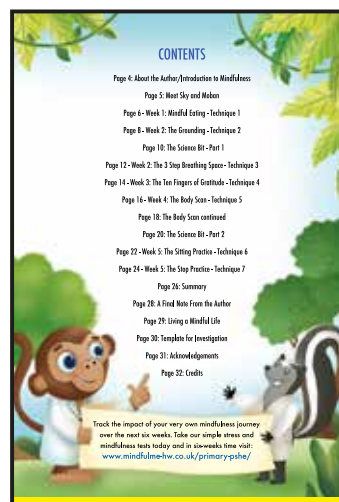
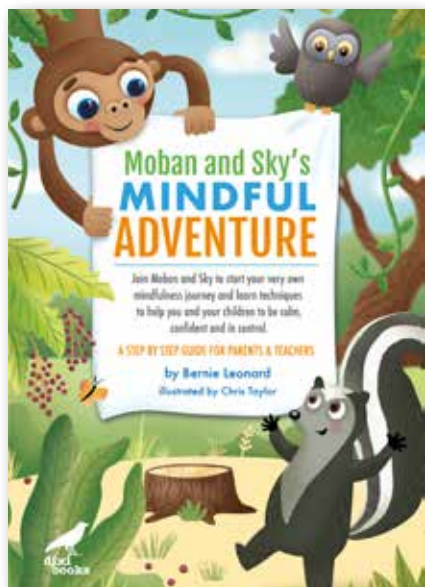


### Bernie Leonard

Bernie lives in West Yorkshire, England with her two amazing children and her soulmate Simon. She is a psychology graduate and a qualified teacher of

Mindfulness. After teaching Psychology successfully over two decades, she re-trained as a Mindfulness teacher and now runs her own well-being business, Mindful Me Health & Well-Being Ltd.





180 x 260 mm  
32 pages

ISBN  
978-1-913680-10-7

### Themes:

Emotional Intelligence, Mental and Physical  
Well-Being, Mindfulness, Scientific

Mindfulness helps develop our understanding of how our brain works, increases our concentration, our sense of calm and our compassion for ourselves and others. Developing our practice makes us happier, healthier, and more skilful at responding to difficult emotions. It increases our

focus so WE FEEL CONNECTED!

This book shares with you seven mindfulness techniques that, with daily practice, will have a profound positive effect on your well-being and the young people in your care.

"Mindfulness for your child is a huge gift that in later life they will thank you for and pass onto their children. All that Bernie speaks of has evidence through modern scientific, medical research and clinical studies. With Bernie's experience as a School Teacher and now a Mindfulness Teacher you couldn't find a better book to deliver these life skills."

//Teresa Wort, *Qualified Mindfulness and Compassion Teacher*





## Where Are the Dinosaurs?

Author: Julie Anderson

Illustrator: Anastasiia Morozova



### Julie Anderson

Julie is the oldest of 7 children and has always loved writing and poetry. She recalls her mother being concerned that she read so much, she never came out of her room. As a youth worker for children with special needs, Julie has been around children her whole life. She really enjoys entertaining them

with her silly rhymes and made up stories. Julie has 3 daughters which have inspired her to publish books for younger children. She is now in demand as a speaker in many schools nationally. She loves to combine those presentations with music and dance, her two favourite hobbies.



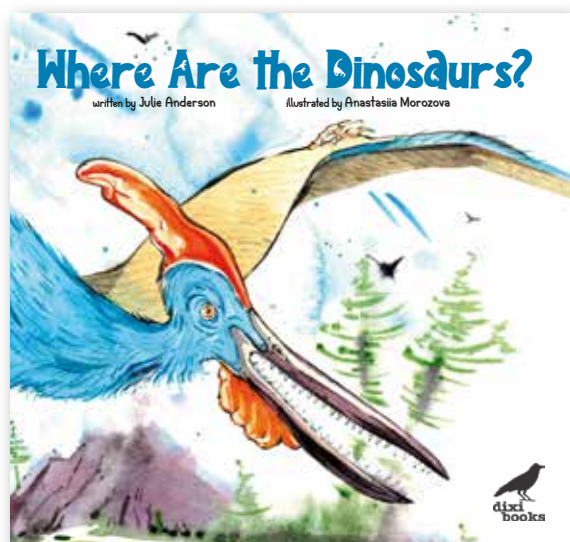
### Anastasiia Morozova

Anastasiia is a Russian-Italian artist, children book illustrator and educator living in Italy.

Anastasiia creates watercolour illustrations inspired by nature. After studying Decorative and Applied Arts in Perm, her hometown, Anastasiia moved to Paris, France to study Art History and Contemporary Art Management. After several years in

big cities, between Paris and New York, Anastasiia decided to reconnect with nature and move to a small town in the South of Italy where she currently lives and works. Anastasiia now teaches painting, drawing and digital art through online and in-person classes. She shares her passion for nature and illustration through social media and can be found under the name of @naturailustrata.





225 x 225 mm  
32 pages

ISBN  
978-625-7537-xx-x

### Themes:

Dinosaurs, Prehistoric Ages, Species,  
Brotherhood, Adventure

Two Raptor brothers get lost in the forest when they are playing. A challenging adventure awaits them in this huge forest that they know as their home. They see many dinosaur species on the way until they reach their home, but they will have to escape from some of them quickly!

If you are interested in dinosaurs, in this book,

you can learn the names of many dinosaur species, examine how the dinosaurs look from the unique and colorful illustrations and learn which ones are carnivorous and which are herbivores.

How would you like to both get knowledge about the dinosaurs and join the adventure of these two Raptor brothers?





## I Hate Crying

Author and Illustrator: Jingxin Fang



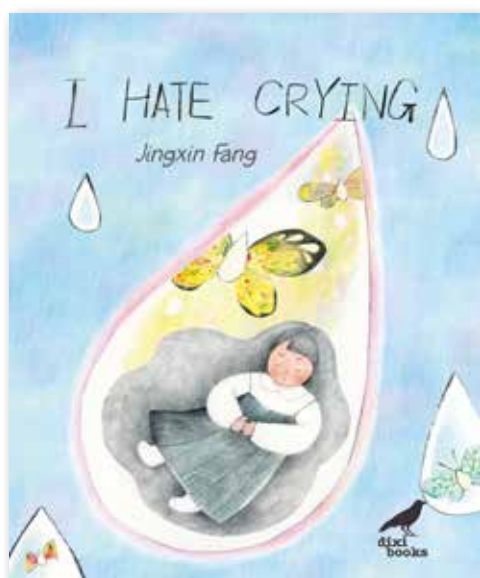
### Jingxin Fang

Jingxin is a London based illustrator originally from Jinan, China. She studied Children's Literature: Children's Book Illustration in

Goldsmiths, University Of London. She has published several books in China. She can be found at her Instagram account [@jingxin\\_fang](#)







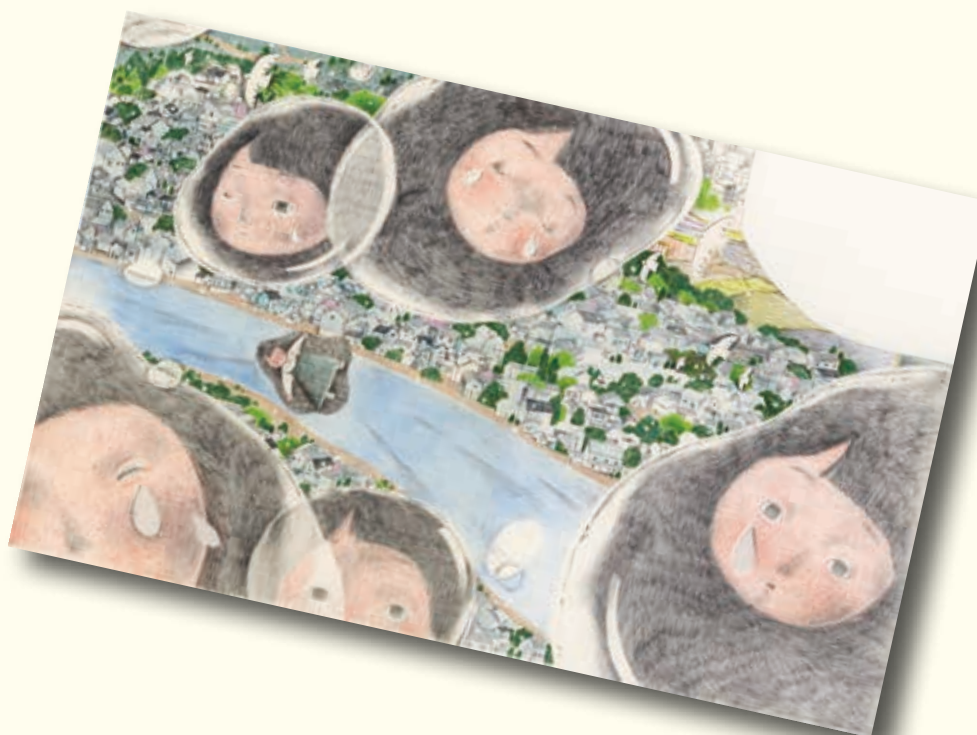
191 x 235 mm  
28 pages

ISBN  
978-1-913680-75-2

**Themes:**  
Tears, Crying, Emotions,  
Self-Compassion

A little girl who hated crying tried to destroy all her tears, but no matter how much she tried, they didn't go away. In this process of destroying her tears, she gradually matured and found

out that shedding tears was no longer such a terrible thing. Just as she went through her inner metamorphosis, all her tears were transformed into beautiful butterflies.







## The Zookeepers' Quest Series

Author: Lainy Miller

Illustrator: Jessica Miller



### Lainy Miller

Born in the UK but now living in Perth, Western Australia, Lainy has degrees in both zoology and wildlife conservation and works in both of these fields as an animal management consultant, specialising in great apes. She also works with several NGOs

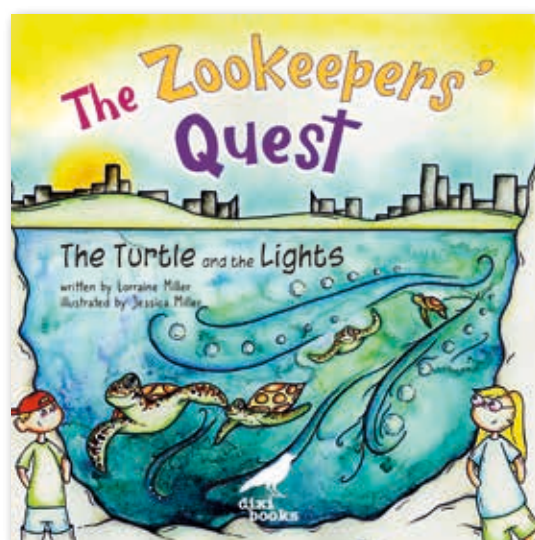
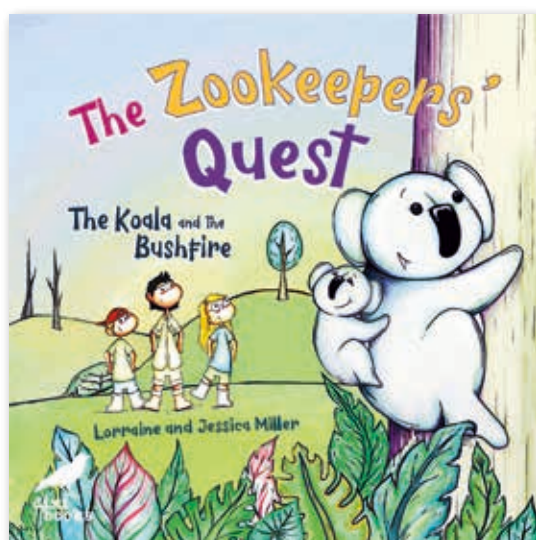
in animal welfare, sanctuary animal management and native species conservation. All of Lainy's books are centered around her passion for wildlife, conservation and the environment, often drawing from her own experiences working with wildlife all over the world.



### Jessica Miller

Jessica has been interested in art and painting from an early age and has a degree within this field in painting, drawing and printmaking. She has previously volunteered at zoos, where she became inspired by wildlife and started painting some of the animals

she was working with, and now works with young children in a primary school in Devon. When Jessica's sister Lainy asked her to illustrate her wonderful children's stories, combining her love of animals, art and child education into one project, she couldn't think of anything better!



135 x 210 mm

36 pages

ISBN

978-1-913680-31-0

### Themes:

Australian Wildlife, Habitat,  
Conservation, Climate Crisis

Follow the adventures of zookeepers Bonnie and Freddie as they travel the world to project animals and the wild places in which they live.

This time, Bonnie and Freddie are jetting off to Australia to help a scared koala and her precious joey escape from a bushfire.



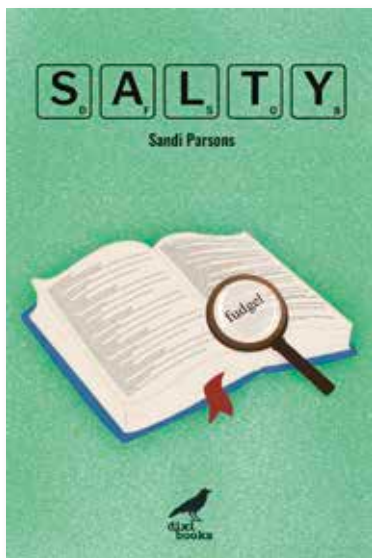


**Fudgel** (18<sup>th</sup> Century with no known reputable source or 2013 by someone who was actually fudging)

To pretend to work or be incredibly busy while you're doing nothing.

## Salty

Author: Sandi Parsons



140 x 210 mm

216 pages

978-1-913680-68-8

Dara longs to have a best friend, someone she can hang out with. But it seems like Josh, her new assignment partner, will land her in popularity purgatory. At least their assignment topic is perfect — Ned Kelly's death mask. Now Dara can drop words like 'pseudomedicine' and 'phrenological analysis' into casual conversation.

When 'Ned's head' is stolen, Josh is convinced the culprit is their new art teacher, Ms. Isoba. As Josh hunts for clues to prove his theory, he discovers that Ms. Isoba isn't the only person with a secret.

What's Dara hiding? And will it impact her dreams of popularity?

**Themes:** Mystery, Friendship, Secrets, Cerebral Parsy, Detective, Ned Kelly, Diversity



### Sandi Parsons

Sandi lives and breathes stories as a reader, writer, and storyteller. Sandi is passionate about engaging readers and diversity in storytelling. She believes every child is entitled to see

themselves accurately represented in literature and the arts.

Sandi lives in Western Australia with her favourite husband, some problem puppies and many teetering stacks of books.





# The Parent Tamer

Author: Teena Raffa - Mulligan



135 x 210 mm  
152 pages  
978-1-913680-28-2

Mike Hinklebink's parents don't do their jobs and the house and garden are a mess. Their latenight karaoke is keeping Mike awake and it's affecting his schoolwork. Now they're skipping work to have fun. Instead of his parents taking care of him, he's taking care of them. It's time they behaved like responsible adults. Mike needs help to get his misbehaving parents under control. If Mike wants his family back, he will have to use his brains to overcome a foe who can control body and mind and bend the rules of reality.

Written with a dynamic, ironical style and full of action and comedy, this is a book that defines page-turner for middle graders.

**Themes:** Fiction, Adventure, Magic, Friendship, Family Life, Tolerance

"This book is about a kid whose parents simply won't behave so he decides to pull them into line - only things don't quite go his way. I love the way the book turns the usual parental situation on its head. It's fun from start to finish with bigger-than-life characters, a protagonist who finds he's got himself in too deep twists and turns and unexpected situations and results. The book is easy to read, both for adults and kids, and you'll get sucked straight into the story"

Nina Blake, Author



## Teena Raffa – Mulligan

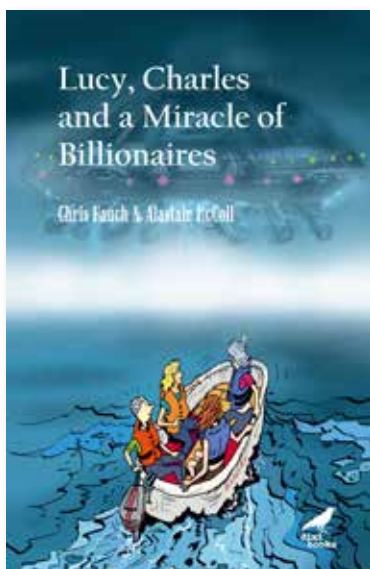
Teena is a reader, writer and daydream believer who believes there is magic in every day if we choose to find it. Her publications range from picture books to middle grade and YA novels, exploring themes

of family, friendship and the need to belong. Many of Teena's poems and short stories for children and adults have appeared in magazines and anthologies and her writing life has also included a long career in journalism.



# Lucy, Charles and a Miracle of Billionnaires

Authors: Chris Hauch & Alastair McColl



135 x 210 mm

256 pages

978-1-913680-39-8

The internet is gone! But only in Nanaimo, whose citizens are now grimly compelled to relearn the ancient arts of face-to-face human contact. Entertainment is limited to barbecues, dancing, courtship and sports. The centre of the event is a teenaged girl, Lucy, who is being tormented online.

Lucy is half alien, but doesn't know it. Nor is she aware of her alien father's incredible invention, 'Charles,' the ubiquitous overseer and protector who triggers the cyber-calamity in a logical, chivalrous gesture. As things get worse, an organised knitting collective, made up entirely of self-sufficient, elderly women, emerges from the abyss and takes over the functions of government. This book will take you on an incredible adventure.

**Themes:** Artificial Intelligence, Family Bonds, The Internet of Things, Fantasy, Modern Day Criticism, Outer Space



## Chris Hauch

Chris holds graduate degrees in anthropology and clinical social work, and has researched and worked professionally in both fields, mostly around disability issues and

homelessness. A lifelong student of humans, Chris has concluded that serious investigations of culture, social organisation and bureaucracies are best left to aliens.



## Alastair McColl

Alastair is a writer, software developer and sailor, with degrees in English, Philosophy and Computer Science. He is currently developing a novel

which centres on social life, in a world where most employment is performed through artificially intelligent avatars. He is also creating a graphic novel, as well as children's books depicting life on the Canadian west coast.





## Amelie Trott and the Mark of Triandor

Author: Moyra Irving



135 x 210 mm

240 pages

978-1-913680-71-8

'See this?' Eggy rolled up her sleeve. 'It's the Mark of Triandor.' She glanced up at him earnestly. 'You do know I never want an ordinary life?' Jack nodded. How could life possibly be ordinary after all this?

**Themes:** Adventure, Child Power, Feminism, Family Life, Outer Space, Epidemic Outbreak, Suffragette



"A masterpiece! Amelie Trott & The Mark of Triandor had me laughing, crying, and holding my breath in equal measure – reading it cover-to-cover was a complete delight. No matter what your age, you will fall in love with this story and every single character. I particularly hope you'll fall in love with Eglantyne as much as I have."

//Hannah Khalique-Brown, Actor (*The Undeclared War*)



### Moyra Irving

Moyra is a writer, storyteller, and creative writing teacher who lives in Central England. Her writing career began with a collection of short stories, one of which led to the creation of The Extra Guest End-Hunger Charity which is partnered with Oxfam and SOS Children's Villages. She has also published two non-fiction books: *Take Me to the Mountain* and *Fiery Love*.

However, it wasn't until Amelie Trott came into her life that she discovered the unparalleled joy of writing for children. Moyra also loves cats, starry nights, days by the sea and, more than anything, writing stories for the child in us all. For more information about Moyra and her books, you can visit her website here: <https://amelietrott.com/>



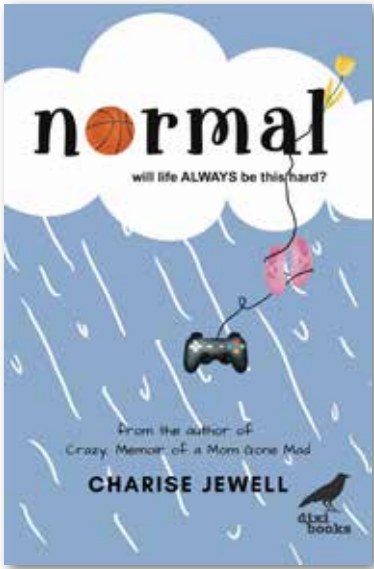


# Normal

Author: Charise Jewell

**Themes:**

Family, Acceptance, Anxiety, Eating Disorder, Mental Illness, Friendship



135 x 210 mm  
264 pages  
978-1-913680-63-3

Have you ever had a big problem? These kids have big problems. Sam’s mom was just diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Sam feels helpless and overwhelmed. Oliver’s grandmother died two months ago. She was his best friend and the only person who understood his anxiety. Margaret is a dancer with an eating disorder. Her dad left when she was a baby—it still hurts. Joel sees strange things he can’t explain. Some people think he has a mental illness but he’s not convinced. Sam, Oliver, Margaret, and Joel just want to feel loved and accepted. They just want to feel *Normal*. But the more time passes, the more their problems are ruining their lives. Will they always feel this lonely and confused?

“Charise Jewell is a brilliant writer who takes the reader behind her eyes to see and feel the terror—and the beauty—of living with mental illness. It does what the best memoirs do: comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. A true must-read!”

//Shannon Moroney, Bestselling author of *Through the Glass*, *Out of the Shadows*, and *Heal for Real*

“Charise Jewell is a beautiful storyteller. Her memoir, *Crazy*, flows like a compelling novel. She has delivered an insightful gift for family and friends of those living with bipolar. This is a must-read for people touched by this condition and for anyone who aspires to better understand”

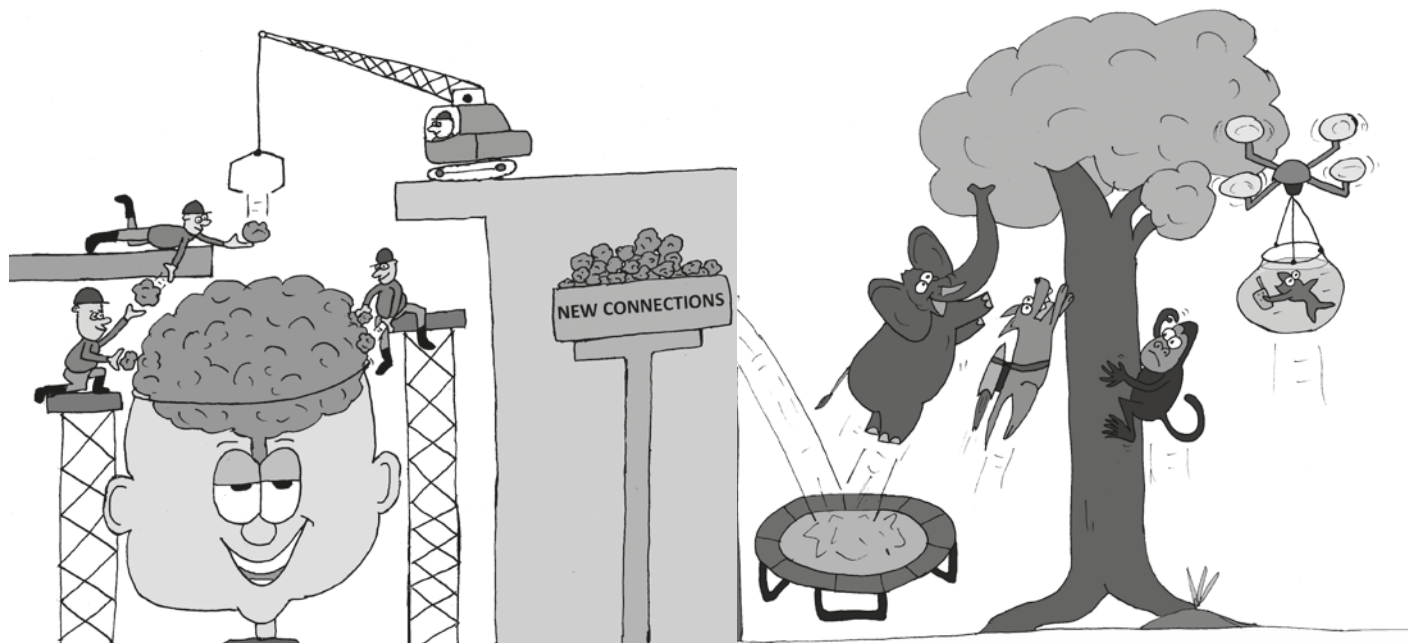
//Jacqueline Aubin



**Charise Jewell**

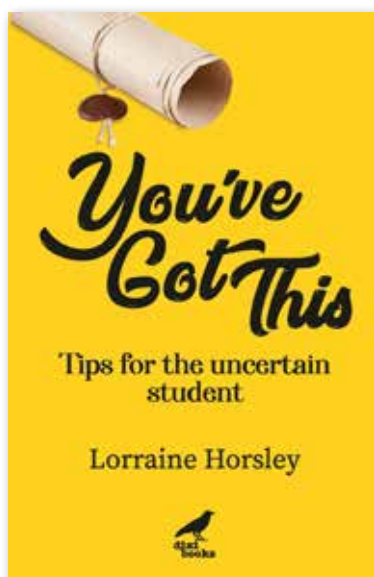
A voracious reader and aspiring writer since childhood, Charise was born in South Africa and immigrated to Canada when she was seven years old. She holds an Honours B.Eng. in mechanical engineering from McGill University, and worked as a robotics

engineer for fifteen years before becoming a writer. Charise is the author of *Crazy*, *Memoir of a Mom Gone Mad*. She proudly lives with bipolar disorder and educates for the fair and dignified treatment of the mentally ill.  
Visit her at [charisejewell.com](http://charisejewell.com)



## You've Got This

Author: Lorraine Horsley



135 x 210 mm  
120 pages  
978-1-913680-25-1

Want to go onto higher education but you're afraid of failing? Keen to enrol but just don't believe you're smart enough? Then this book has been written just for you. Author Lorraine Horsley is a tutor at an Australian university and has helped hundreds of students to kick-start their higher education journeys and to overcome their fear of failure. Throughout the book, Lorraine draws on her own experiences and challenges you to assess why you are so afraid and how you can succeed despite the fear. There are many books out there that teach you how to study. This book isn't one of them. This book will help you to be brave enough to start studying in the first place. *You've Got This!*

**Themes:** Higher Education, Encouragement, Facing Your Fears, Managing Time, Procrastination, Self-Confidence, Illustrated

*"Non-fiction at its best! A book to hold the hand of the uncertain student, packed with positive messages, quirky illustrations and practical assessments to help build the confidence of people of any age starting study. All I can say is I wish I had this book to quieten the fears and doubts I had when beginning my University degree! It might not have taken me so long to believe in myself and my abilities."*

// Joanne Morrell, Blogger



### Lorraine Horsley

Lorraine is passionate about learning and helping people overcome fear and self-doubt on their education journey. A sickly child, Lorraine didn't attend school much, but when she left she made up for lost time and still loves studying.

Lorraine has a Bachelor of Arts in English, an Associate Degree in Training and Development, a Master of Arts in Professional Writing and Literature and is about to embark on another education journey with a Higher Degree by Research.



## Can the Real JR Stand Up Please?

Author: Nadia L. King



135 x 210 mm  
160 pages  
978-1-913680-17-6

### SELECTED AS NOTABLE BOOKS BY CBCA AUSTRALIA!

When Jake Rollins isn't worrying about his dad going ape-shit, he's busy creating out-of this- world manga and hanging out with his best mate. Jake and his mum spend their lives dodging Jake's dad's fists, but it's the last year of high school and Jake has the perfect plan to escape home.

This is a story of survival, resurgence, and what it means to be bigger than where you come from. *Can the Real JR Stand Up Please?* is a warm-hearted, hopeful novel about being true to yourself and learning to be brave.

**Themes:** Domestic Violence, Diversity, Coming-of Age, Friendship, Bravery, Manga

"Can the Real JR Stand Up Please, is a thoughtful and thought provoking exploration of domestic violence. It takes readers into the life of someone who is enduring this sort of home life, showing that even if everything may seem okay on the surface, reality may be very different. Its ultimately hopeful resolution may offer possibilities to readers who connect with its themes."

//Verushka Byrow, *The Children's Book Council of Australia*



### Nadia L. King

Nadia is an Australian author of Indian and Irish descent. She is a children's author and award-winning short story writer who believes passionately in the power of stories to make the world a better place. Nadia is the winner of the 2020

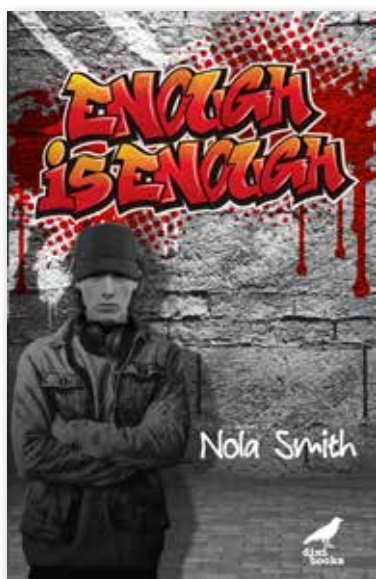
Maureen Freer Literary Competition for the short story category, and in 2019 she was awarded the Stuart Hadow Short Story Prize. Nadia is currently undertaking postgraduate studies in English and creative writing. *Can the Real JR Stand Up Please?* is her fifth published book.





# Enough is Enough

Author: Nola Smith



135 x 210 mm

240 pages

978-1-913680-27-5

Underdog Leroy Jones' life is a complete mess, shrouded with secrets to protect his vulnerable family. After his young step-brother is badly hurt while in his care, Leroy's life spirals out of control. A fiery encounter at the hospital with an old lady, Betty, and an Asian boy, Aaron opens up an opportunity for Leroy to earn some badly needed cash. When Betty reveals a shameful secret, one she's kept hidden for over sixty years, Leroy has two choices.

*Enough Is Enough* is a book about unlikely friendships and finding the courage to trust others with your secrets no matter how bad they are.

**Themes:** Coming-of-Age, Friendship, Adventure, Courage, Forced Adoption, Underdog

*"For the majority of adults, we forget about the trials of our teenage years, whether it being voluntary or otherwise. Enough is Enough returns us to that time when all we were armed with was our childlike sense of a right and wrong and a burgeoning desire to find yourself, as an individual or part of a like-minded group."*

*//Micheál Lovett, Author of Realm of the Hare*



## Nola Smith

Nola is an Australian children's book author. She is a retired teacher who's relishing her new found freedom to focus on writing truthful, authentic stories that her readers can escape into. She wants her novels to give hope and courage to anyone doing it tough

because of the difficult circumstances they find themselves in.

Nola is passionate about writing, her family, spending time with friends, travelling the world and championing the underdog.

# Teaching Materials

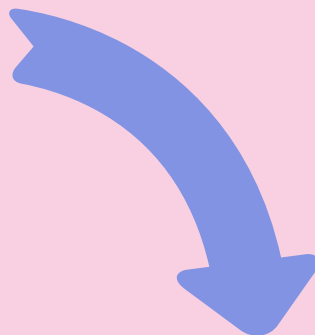
Each book in Dixi Books has teaching materials related to its topic and story. Teaching materials are aimed at elevating knowledge from the comprehension level to the level of practice.

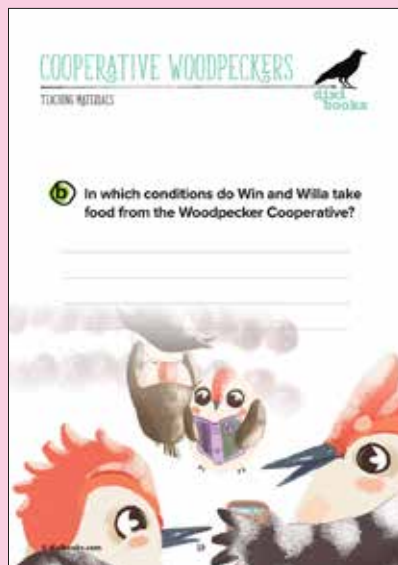
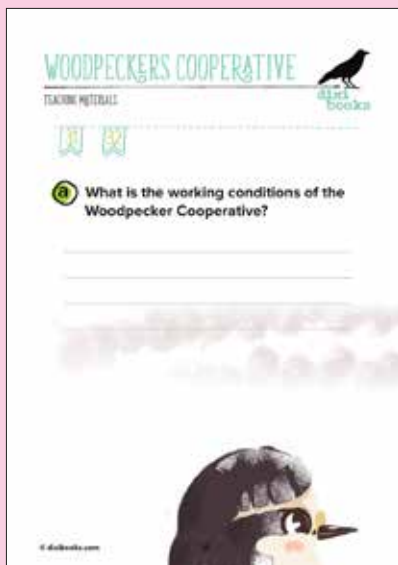
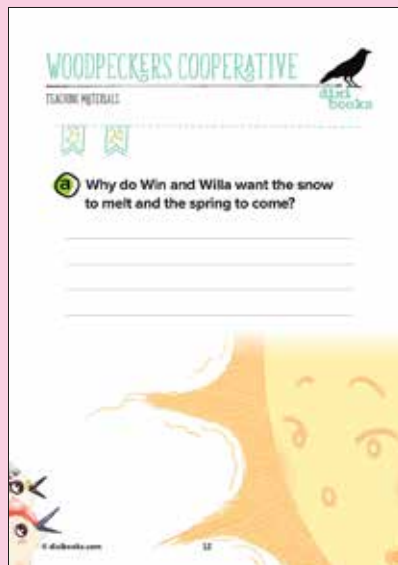
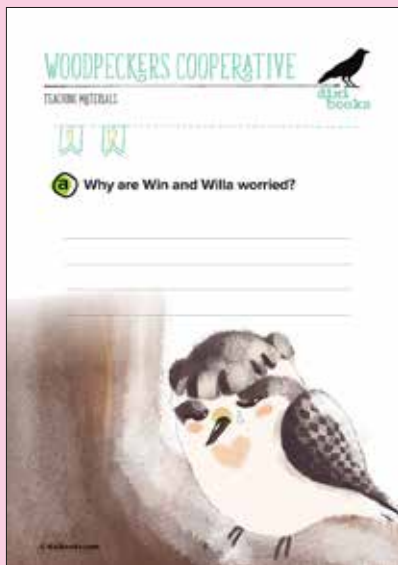
They are made up of two parts.

The first part has questions about the story. These questions are aimed at raising children's curiosity, drawing their attention to the details of the story and, most importantly, evoking a feeling of empathy. The questions will make the readers to relate to main characters and develop empathy towards them.

The second part of the teaching materials is an activity pack. Here you can find activities related to the story. The activity pack, first of all, is aimed at bringing children's thoughts about the story into a real life.

Teachers and parents can access teaching materials for free by scanning a QR code on the back cover of our books.







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