



University of Queensland Press

*2026 North America
Publishers' Program
Children's Catalogue*

UQP

2025 Australian Small Publisher of the Year

Cathy Vallance

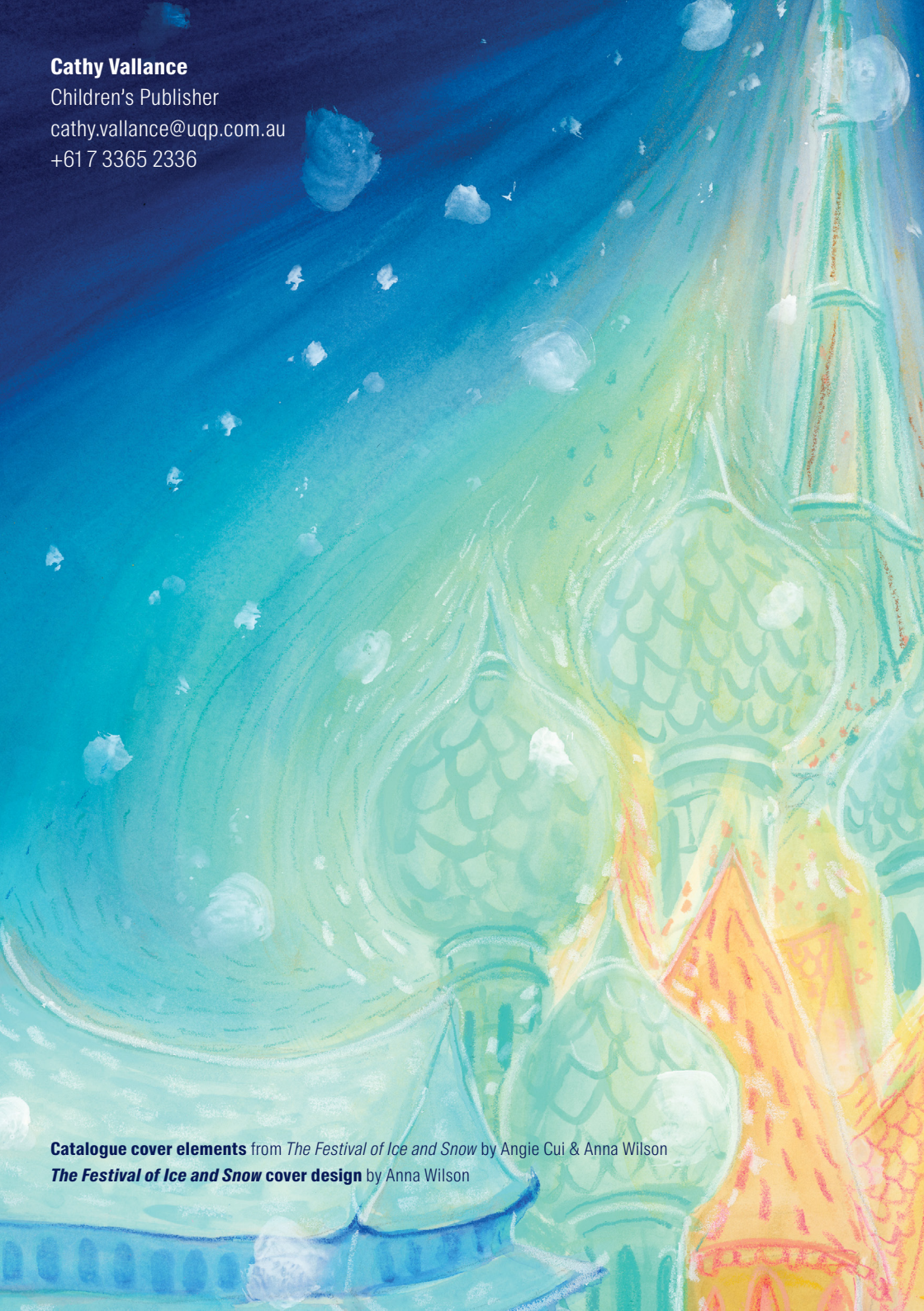
Children's Publisher

cathy.vallance@uqp.com.au

+61 7 3365 2336

Catalogue cover elements from *The Festival of Ice and Snow* by Angie Cui & Anna Wilson

***The Festival of Ice and Snow* cover design** by Anna Wilson




CONTENTS

Children's & Young Adult

- 5 *Behind the Screens* by Dr Niraj Lal, illus. by Áska
- 6 *The Sunbird* by Sara Haddad
- 8 *Myra in the Middle* by Seetha Dodd, illus. by Peter Cheong
- 10 *Kid* by Peter Carnavas
- 12 *Leo and Ralph* by Peter Carnavas
- 13 *A Flash in the Dust* by Meg Caddy
- 14 *The Frog's First Song* by Jazz Money & Jason Phu
- 16 *Joey and the Junjardy* by Allison Rocca, illus. by Brenton E McKenna
- 17 *The Lost Island* by Samantha Wheeler, illus. by Anke Noack
- 18 *The Festival of Ice and Snow* by Angie Cui & Anna Wilson
- 20 *Betsy and Bon* by Simon Howe
- 22 *How to Make the World Cup and Survive Grade Five* by Carla Fitzgerald
- 23 *Song of a Thousand Seas* by Zana Fraillon
- 24 *Planet-friendly Farms* by Dr Anika Molesworth & Bindy James

About UQP

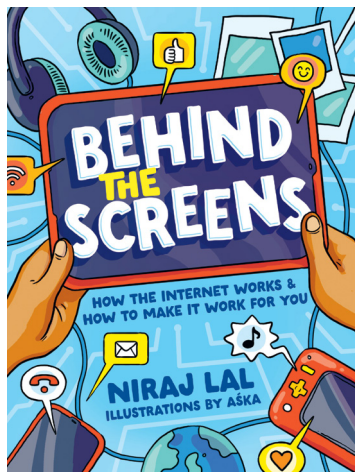
- 27 About UQP
- 28 Contact Us

The background is a vibrant green with a textured, painterly appearance. It features numerous white paint splatters and smudges of varying sizes scattered across the surface. Faint, dark green cursive script is visible, with the word 'Love' appearing in the upper left and 'Life' in the lower left. The overall aesthetic is artistic and organic.

Children's & Young Adult

FEBRUARY 2026

Niraj Lal, illus. by Aśka

***Behind the Screens:
How the internet works and
how to make it work for you*****RRP** AU\$19.99**Category** Middle grade non-fiction**Format** 181 x 135mm paperback, 120pp**Rights held** World ex film/TV**Rights sold** North America (Lerner Publishing Group); Turkey (Uyurgezer Yayinlari)**Reading age** 9+

Getting your first phone is a big moment – this illustrated guide empowers young people aged 9–13 to navigate the online world with awareness, responsibility and confidence.

The internet is one of the most life-changing inventions in history. But there are things happening behind the screens that are changing how we behave: influencing what we buy, what we're interested in and how long we stay online. As we start using the internet and AI to do everything, it's helpful to explore how the tech is using us a little too.

Written by award-winning scientist Dr Niraj (Nij) Lal, host of the ABC's kids' podcast *Imagine This*, and illustrated by comic artist Aśka, *Behind the Screens* is the must-have guide to help young people be online in the best way possible.



Dr Niraj (Nij) Lal is an ANU Visiting Fellow and host of the ABC's kids' podcast *Imagine This*. He graduated from the University of Cambridge with a PhD in physics as a Gates Scholar in 2012, and his awards include the 2021 Celestino Eureka Prize for Promoting Understanding of Science and the 2022 Royal Societies of Australia and New Zealand Piasecki Prize for Outstanding Writing on Social Change. He lives in Melbourne with his partner Sally and their three kids.



Aśka (pronounced *Ash-ka*) is creative dynamite, an award-winning graphic novelist, an ex-quantum physicist, and a hugely engaging and popular presenter. Having published more than a dozen books and comics, Aśka is passionate about visual literacy and teaching people how to 'write with pictures'. Fun fact: despite being a fan of technology, to this day Aśka has never owned a smart phone. She thinks everyone should read this book!

FEBRUARY 2026

Sara Haddad

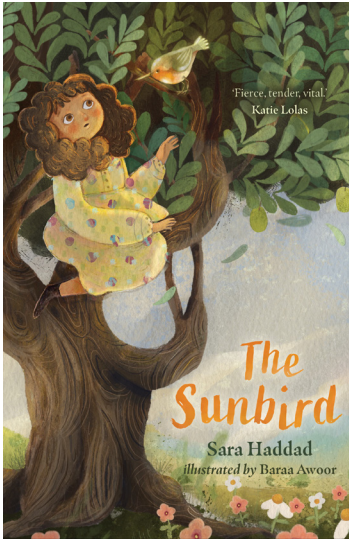
***The Sunbird:* Young readers' edition**

Adapted for young readers from her critically acclaimed adult novel, Sara Haddad's middle-grade story about a child's experience of the Nakba is a lyrical ode to sovereignty, freedom and homecoming.

How could a new country be put inside a country that was already there?

It's 1948 and Nabila Yasmeeen lives a happy life in her village in Palestine. She plays in the hills with her friend Khalil and climbs high in the olive trees to pick the sweetest fruit. But when bombs start falling, Nabila and her family are forced to leave. Where will they go?

With beautiful line illustrations by renowned Palestinian artist Baraa Awoor, *The Sunbird* is the poignant story of a little girl who just wants to go home.



RRP AU\$14.99

Category Middle grade fiction

Format B-format paperback, 96pp

Rights held World

Reading age 8+

“

The Sunbird is a welcome resource. I hope this gentle and evocative story is only the first of a range of narratives that explore the multitude of life experiences and perspectives in occupied Palestine.

Zewlan Moor, author of
Nothing Alike



Sara Haddad is an editor and writer who has worked in publishing for thirty-five years. A Lebanese Australian, she lives on Gadigal land with her husband and two children. She hopes that one day all Palestinians will be free to return to their country and live there without fear. Her debut novel, *The Sunbird*, was an Indie bestseller.



نبيلة

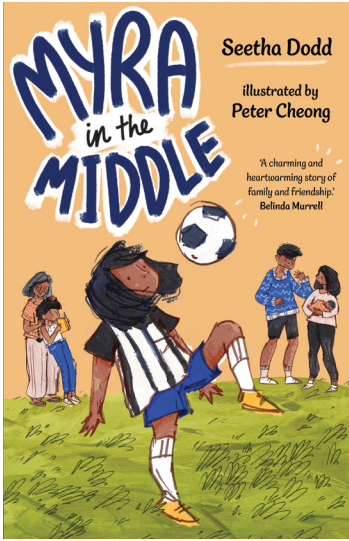


Artwork | Internal illustrations by Baraa Awoor from *The Sunbird* by Sara Haddad



APRIL 2026

Seetha Dodd,
illus. by Peter Cheong
Myra in the Middle



A funny, endearing junior novel about finding your place in your family – and on the soccer field.

Seven-year-old Myra likes maths, football and things staying the same. She lives with her mum, dad, Muthashi (grandma) and big sister, Anya. Her world flips upside down when her family welcomes a new baby. Myra is now a middle child – and everyone knows middle kids always get forgotten. On top of that, Myra tries out for the school's soccer team, only to be put in the midfield. She can't show off her skills when nothing exciting ever happens there!

What will it take for Myra to feel marvellous in the middle?

RRP AU\$14.99
Category Junior reader fiction
Format B-format paperback, 176pp
Rights held World
Reading age 6+

“

A charming and heartwarming story of family and friendship, delicious feasts, and a delightful young heroine whose life is turned upside down by the arrival of a new baby. I absolutely loved it.

Belinda Murrell, author of the Lulu Bell series



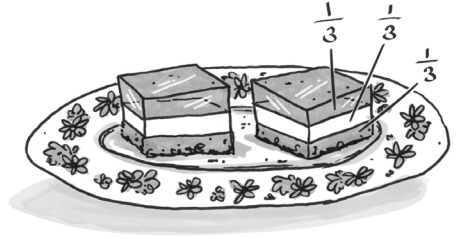
Seetha Dodd is an emerging children's author who loves wordplay, humorous rhyme and lyrical prose. Drawing on her Malaysian-Indian heritage, and themes of family, identity and belonging, Seetha writes stories that empower children to

challenge stereotypes and to celebrate uniqueness in all forms. She lives on Sydney's Northern Beaches with her husband and three children.



Peter Cheong is the illustrator of *I'm a Hero Too*, *Nothing Alike* and *Anh Do's Pow Pow Pig* series, and has written and illustrated his own children's books, *Every Night at Midnight* and *Where We Can Hear the Giants Sing*. Peter lives in

Perth (Whadjuk Country), Western Australia, with his very understanding wife, sons and less understanding cat.



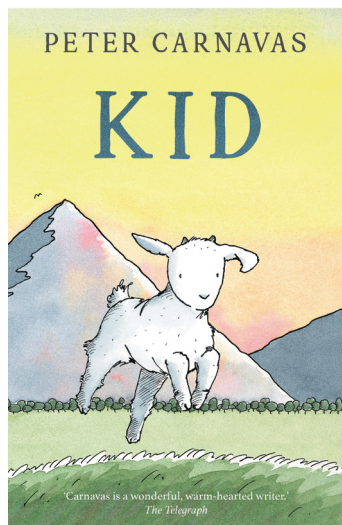
Artwork | Internal illustrations by Peter Cheong from *Myra in the Middle* by Seetha Dodd



CARNAVAS'
BOOKS HAVE
BEEN PUBLISHED
IN OVER 18
LANGUAGES

JUNE 2026

Peter Carnavas *Kid*



RRP AU\$22.99

Category Junior reader fiction

Format B+ format hardback, 240pp

Rights held World

Rights sold UK/Comm (Pushkin Press);
North America (Groundwood Books); ANZ
audio (Bolinda)

Reading age 6+

“

Mark my words, we'll still be reading this book in decades to come.

Cathy Vallance, Publisher

A modern-day classic about a young goat who discovers the meaning of family, in a limited edition deluxe hardcover. Written and illustrated by Peter Carnavas, bestselling author of *Leo and Ralph*.

This is the story of a small goat called Kid. Ever since his parents chased away a fox and never returned, Kid has stayed with Audrey the hen in the chook yard. Audrey tells him stories of his mum and dad's daring and bravery. She says they live on the nearby mountain, and Kid longs to leave the farm to find them.

And then, one day, he discovers he is big enough to jump the fence ...

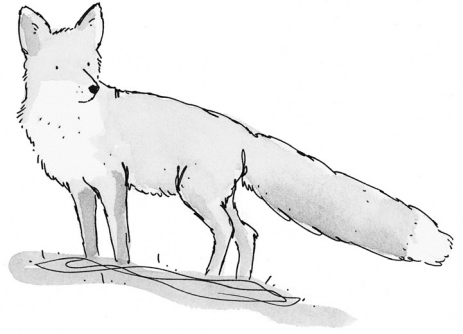
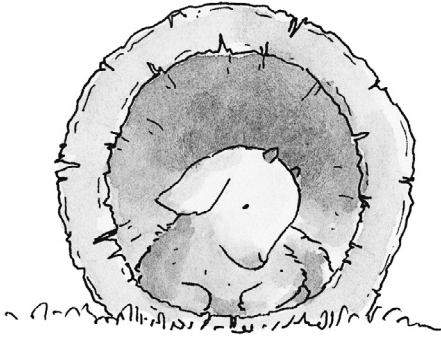
Will a wild adventure up the mountain help Kid find where he belongs?

Embellished with Peter's delightful hand-drawn illustrations, this junior adventure novel is reminiscent of other children's classics that feature mostly animal casts, such as *Charlotte's Web* by EB White and *The Sheep-Pig* by Dick King-Smith.

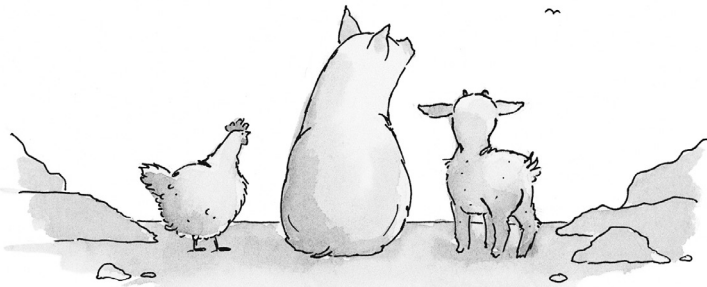
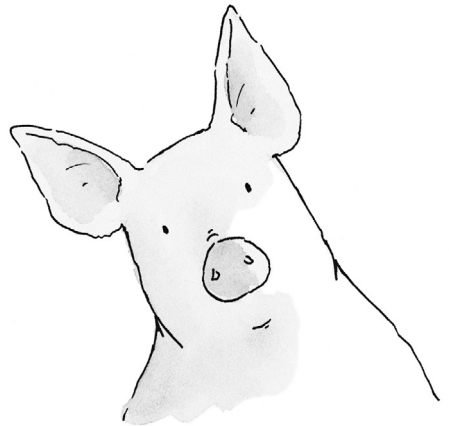
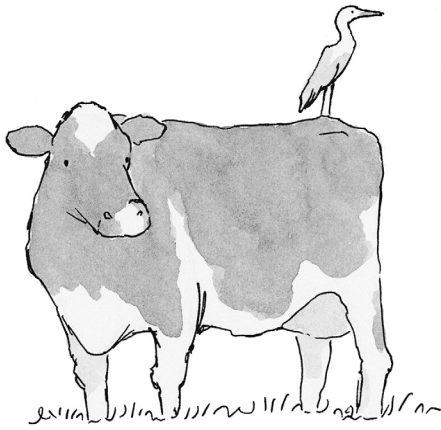


Peter Carnavas writes and illustrates books for children. His books have been published widely across the world and have won many awards, including a Queensland Literary Award and the Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children's

Literature at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards. Peter lives on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, with his wife, two daughters, a dog and a cat.



Artwork | Internal illustrations from *Kid* by Peter Carnavas

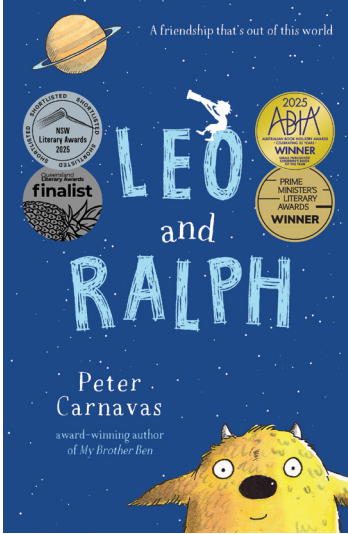


OVER
20,000
COPIES
SOLD IN
ANZ

MARCH 2024

Peter Carnavas

Leo and Ralph



From award-winning storyteller Peter Carnavas comes this stellar novel about space, starting over and the best friend you could ever imagine.

Ralph sat up. His voice was croaky. 'If a shooting star zoomed past right now, what would you wish for?'

'To find another friend like you.'

Leo and Ralph have been best friends ever since Ralph flew down from one of Jupiter's moons. But now Leo's older, and Mum and Dad think it's time to say goodbye to Ralph. When the family moves to a small country town, they hope Leo might finally make a real friend. But someone like Ralph is hard to leave behind...

Perfect for kids who enjoy gentle, thoughtful stories like *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown and the *Polly and Buster* series by Sally Rippin.

RRP AU\$17.99

Category Middle grade fiction

Format B-format paperback, 276pp

Rights held World

Rights sold UK/Comm ex ANZ (Pushkin Press); North America (Groundwood Books); The Netherlands (Uitgeverij De Vries-Brouwers); Germany (Atrium Verlag); Turkey (Can Yayinlari); ANZ audio (Bolinda); Italy (Edizioni El Srl)

Reading age 8+

“

Carnavas is a wonderful, warm-hearted writer, and manages to filter every nugget of philosophy through the eyes of his child narrator.

The Telegraph



Peter Carnavas writes and illustrates books for children. His books have been published widely across the world and have won many awards, including a Queensland Literary Award and the Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children's Literature at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards. Peter lives on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, with his wife, two daughters, a dog and a cat.

Literature at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards. Peter lives on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, with his wife, two daughters, a dog and a cat.

JUNE 2026

Meg Caddy

A Flash in the Dust

**RRP** AU\$21.99**Category** Young adult fiction**Format** B-format paperback, 272pp**Rights held** World ex film/TV**Reading age** 14+

“

I was captivated from the moment I started reading. The plot, pacing, characterisation and historical research have all been expertly executed.

Cathy Vallance, Publisher

A gripping historical YA thriller, with a dash of queer romance. Think the bushranger version of *Fingersmith* by Sarah Waters.

1899, Fremantle Asylum, Western Australia. For three years now, Gilberta Brady has kept quiet and stayed out of trouble, hoping to soon be released. But when Norah Devaney screams into the ward with revenge in her heart and a story no-one believes, Brady's carefully guarded peace is shattered.

On the run and out of options, they collide with Kedalak and Malkar, Nyungar brothers on their own journey home. They form an unlikely gang of bushrangers and embark on a dangerous mission: track down the man who killed Norah's mum.

But little do they know that the Whistling Man is hunting them too.



Meg Caddy is a West Australian YA novelist with three published novels. Meg started their first novel, a standalone YA fantasy titled *Waer*, when they were just fourteen, and *Waer* was acquired by Text Publishing after being shortlisted for the Text Prize in 2013. In 2017, *Waer* was also shortlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year Award. Their second novel, *Devil's Ballast*, was longlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year Award and shortlisted for the Readings Young Adult Book Prize (2020). The sequel *Slipping the Noose* was also longlisted for both the CBCA Book of the Year Award (2023) and the ARA Historical Novel Prize (2022).

JULY 2025

Jazz Money & Jason Phu

The Frog's First Song



RRP AU\$24.99

Category Picture book

Format 265 x 235mm hardback, 32pp

Rights held World ex film/TV

Reading age 3+

“

Playful and surprising ... an exquisite, unique package that will be adored by children aged 3+ and artists.

Books+Publishing

A playful picture book about the joys of belonging and community from award-winning Wiradjuri poet Jazz Money and four-time Archibald Prize finalist Jason Phu.

First, the world is all dark. A little bit muddled and confused. The only sounds dripping water and small bubbles gurgling. In that darkness and quiet, everyone is alone. This is the world in the well.

And so begins the tale of how frogs came to croak in chorus at night-time. Inspired by Chinese parables and First Nations Creation stories, this debut picture book is a unique and melodic ode to taking chances, using your voice and coming together in song and dance.

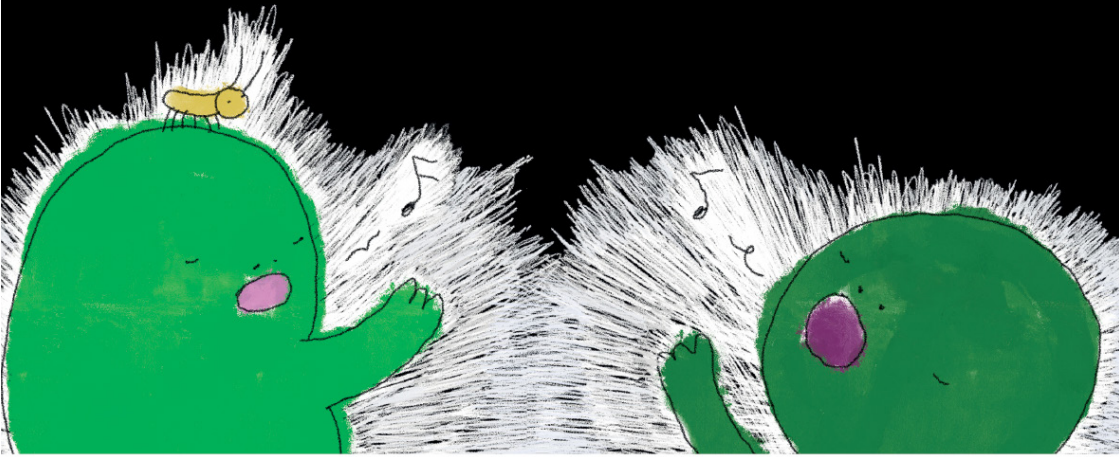


Jazz Money is a Wiradjuri poet and artist whose work spans installation, digital, performance, film and print. Their writing has been widely published nationally and internationally, and performed on stages around the world. Jazz has published two award-winning collections of poetry, *how to make a basket* and *mark the dawn*. *The Frog's First Song* is their first children's picture book.



Jason Phu is an artist working across a wide range of mediums, including printmaking, painting and performance. His work references folk tales, family history and funny jokes. Sometimes it includes imagery from comics, cartoons and Chan paintings. He is a four-time finalist for the Archibald Prize and won the Sulman Prize in 2015.

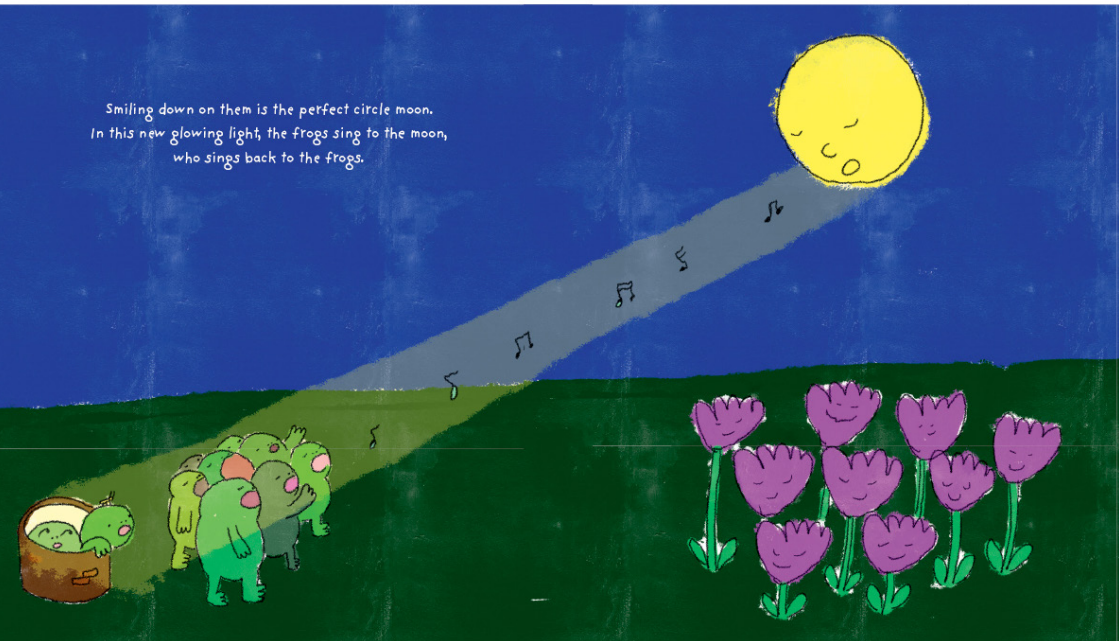
And so, soon, another frog tries this new possibility, a little bit scared, a little bit excited. Another voice joins the first song.



Now the first frog knows they are not alone in the world, and their joy makes the song louder still.

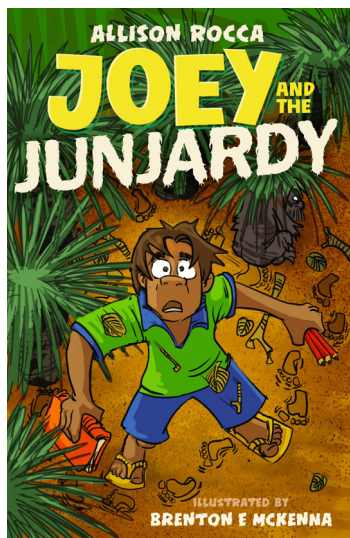
Artwork | Spreads from *The Frog's First Song* by Jazz Money and Jason Phu

Smiling down on them is the perfect circle moon. In this new glowing light, the frogs sing to the moon, who sings back to the frogs.



JULY 2026

Allison Rocca,
illus. by Brenton E McKenna
Joey and the Junjardy

**RRP** AU\$17.99**Category** Middle grade fiction**Format** B-format paperback, 224pp**Rights held** World ex film/TV**Reading age** 8+

A funny, raucous middle-grade romp grounded in First Nations storytelling, featuring a mischievous character brought to life by debut author Allison Rocca.

Joey Gibbs is always up for a laugh. What isn't funny: the 'Big Trouble' he caused at his old school that meant his family had to move back home to Coolibah Creek. Joey's going to keep his head down this time. New school, new mates, new start. But trouble seems to have a way of finding him.

When his sister and cousin start getting mysteriously pranked, Joey looks for answers from his Wakka Wakka culture. He discovers he's caught the attention of the Junjardy, a hairy little trickster. Joey can't resist making mischief again with his secret partner in crime. But as the jokes spiral out of control, he must work out what the Junjardy wants with him before disaster strikes.

Action-packed with loads of humour and heart, *Joey and the Junjardy* shows us how the smallest of creatures can help you to stand tall and proud.

Allison Rocca is a primary school teacher who has taught in classrooms from the 'burbs of Australia, to remote villages in Asia and Hogwarts-like academies in Oxford. She is a descendant of Wakka Wakka and Kaanju people and her upbringing was rich in storytelling. She lives and writes on Yuggera/Turrbal country, Brisbane.

Brenton E McKenna is a Yawuru artist and writer from Broome. When he's not drawing, Brenton dedicates his time to educating young people through creative storytelling workshops.

“

I was hooked the moment I started reading. Joey's voice explodes off the page – he's cheeky, creative and full of wild antics. But the story also radiates with heart, through themes of second chances, belonging and caring for Country.

Cathy Vallance, Publisher

AUGUST 2026

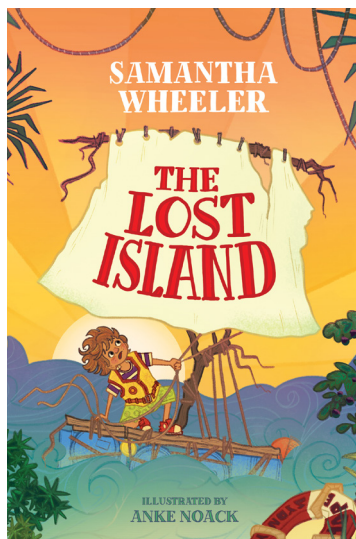
Samantha Wheeler,
illus. by Anke Noack

The Lost Island

Bestselling and award-winning Australian author Samantha Wheeler returns with this thrilling desert island adventure with a conservation twist.

Theo thinks there's nothing worse than being stuck on a Pacific cruise with his dad, new stepmum and annoying stepsister. But when he's thrown overboard during a storm and washes up on a desert island, he suddenly has much bigger problems.

As Theo tackles castaway life – finding food, water and shelter – he discovers the island is full of mysteries: spooky noises, possible ghosts and the strangest birds he's ever seen. With survival getting tougher by the day and no rescue in sight, Theo's more desperate than ever to get back to his family. But to escape the island, he must unlock its secrets – and learn a few important truths about the power of nature along the way.



RRP AU\$17.99

Category Middle grade fiction

Format B-format paperback, 240pp

Rights held World

Reading age 8+

“

Samantha Wheeler is well known for her beloved wildlife stories, but this time she's upped the ante. It's got action, adventure, survival tips, a grumpy donkey, and a maybe ghost. Unputdownable!

Cathy Vallance, Publisher



Samantha Wheeler worked with farmers and taught science before writing her first children's book in 2011. She has now written several children's books, which have been shortlisted for the Queensland Literary Awards, the Readings Children's

Book Prize, the Wilderness Society's Environment Award for Children's Literature and the Royal Zoological Society of New South Wales Whitley Awards.

Anke Noack is a German illustrator from Berlin, now based in Melbourne, Australia, where she lives with her partner and their three wild and wonderful kids in a cottage in the bustling neighbourhood of North Fitzroy and a tranquil sunlit art studio in the backyard.

AUGUST 2026

Angie Cui & Anna Wilson

The Festival of Ice and Snow



RRP AUS\$26.99

Category Picture book

Format 285 x 215mm hardback, 40pp

Rights held World

Reading age 4+

“

Cui gives readers a generous glimpse into Chinese culture, dropping small details of tradition and memory like a candy trail, as we celebrate the warmth of family relationships and childhood.

Yasmin Smith, Editor

Based on the author’s treasured childhood memories of attending the Harbin Ice and Snow Festival in China, this bilingual picture book is a spectacular celebration of family, cultural traditions and wintertime splendour.

Every year, Grandpa takes us to the Festival of Ice and Snow – and every year, I can’t wait!

Two children and their beloved grandpa experience the wonder of Harbin’s Ice and Snow World, an enchanting place filled with super slides, tasty treats and huge ice sculptures illuminated by multicoloured lights.

Told in English and simplified Chinese, this picture book captures the fun of the winter festival and spending time with loved ones.

Angie Cui, originally from China, embarked on her Australian journey at eighteen. She lives in Melbourne with her husband and two children, whom she calls the ‘ABC Family’ – a fusion of four individuals and three cultures. Imbued with a profound appreciation for the linguistic richness within her family, Angie finds delight in weaving tales through various languages.

Anna Wilson was born in Australia’s Snowy Mountains, spent her childhood moving houses and schools, and then spent most of her adult life travelling the world. She is inspired by people and places and studied and worked with these concepts for a long time before embarking on a new career as a freelance designer and illustrator. She has illustrated children’s books for Bloomsbury, Hachette UK, Little Tiger & Cameron Kids Books.



We arrive in time.
Grandpa gets in for free
because he's old.
The sculptures glow in the
afternoon sunshine.

我们正好及时到达。
姥爷因为年纪大,免票入场。
雕塑在午后的阳光下闪闪发光。

Artwork | Spreads from *The Festival of Ice and Snow* by Angie Cui and Anna Wilson



As the sun sets, the massive ice sculptures
sparkle with multicoloured lights.
It's like being inside a kaleidoscope.

Yan Yan and I visit the Great Wall and
Forbidden City – not the real ones!
The ones made from ice!

太阳下山时, 各色的灯光照亮了巨大的冰雕,
仿佛进入了一个万花筒世界。

岩岩和我有长城和故宫。
当然不是现实中的, 而是由冰雕做的!

SEPTEMBER 2026

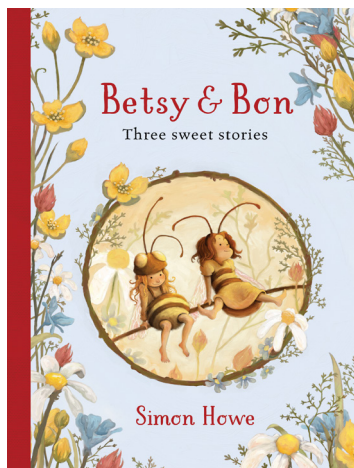
Simon Howe

Betsy and Bon: Three sweet stories

A whimsical and gentle short-story collection – perfect bedtime reading for children transitioning from picture books to chapter books.

Down at the bottom of the garden, where flowers grow tall and roots grow deep, two bees play with their friends. In ‘The Hive’ Betsy and Bon look for other friendly bees to come live with them. In ‘The Good Idea’ they try to decide on a game to play, and in ‘The Sunny Spot’ they work together with their friends to have a picnic in the perfect place.

With exquisite illustrations and low-conflict storylines, this collection has the timeless feel of classics such as Kenneth Grahame’s *The Wind in the Willows* and Enid Blyton’s *The Magic Faraway Tree*.



Cover not final

RRP AU\$24.99

Category Junior reader fiction

Format 210 x 151mm hardback, 64pp

Rights held World

Reading age 4+

“

Howe’s storytelling style is creative, light-hearted, whimsical and reminiscent of Kenneth Grahame’s *The Wind in the Willows*.

Felicity Dunning, Editor



Simon Howe is an illustrator and author with a broad appetite for children’s literature, animation, storytelling and design. He has worked with several notable Australian authors on books for children, and has designed and directed animation for advertising and television. Simon lives in regional Victoria with his family.

'Are you sure that only bees can live in a beehive?' asked Betsy.

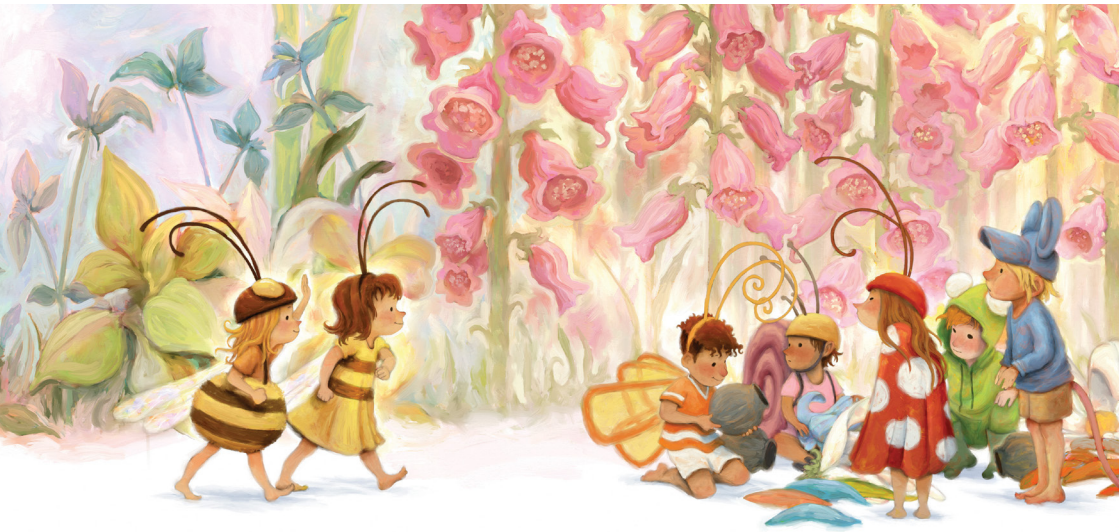
'Of course,' Bon said confidently. 'It's a rule.'

Betsy was quiet for a little while. 'What if we changed the rules?' she said. 'Then our friends could come and live with us.'

Bon thought about it.



Artwork | Spreads from *Betsy and Bon* by Simon Howe



Betsy and Bon wound their way through the garden, looking for their friends.

They found everyone among the foxgloves, deciding what to do with Spencer's collection.

'We have changed the rules,' Bon announced happily.

'Would you still like to come and live with us?' Betsy asked.

SEPTEMBER 2026

Carla Fitzgerald

How to Make the World Cup and Survive Grade Five



RRP AU\$17.99

Category Middle grade fiction

Format B-format paperback, 272pp

Rights held World

In her funniest and most heartfelt middle-grade book yet, Carla Fitzgerald serves up a winning tale about sport, friendship drama, and finding the guts to have a go.

Eleven-year-old Ronni is basically a professional athlete ... at watching sport. If it's on a screen, she's glued to it – just like her parents. But when Ronni and her best friend Kai are invited to secretly coach the Australian women's soccer team during the World Cup qualifiers, she realises life looks very different when you're not holding the remote.

Suddenly, she's running training sessions on the sly and managing suspicious players. Coaching is much harder than it looks! With the team wobbling and her friendship on the brink, Ronni must decide: keep spectating or actually get in the game? After all, having a go is way tougher than being a couch critic.

“

Carla Fitzgerald clearly has a gift for entertaining writing.

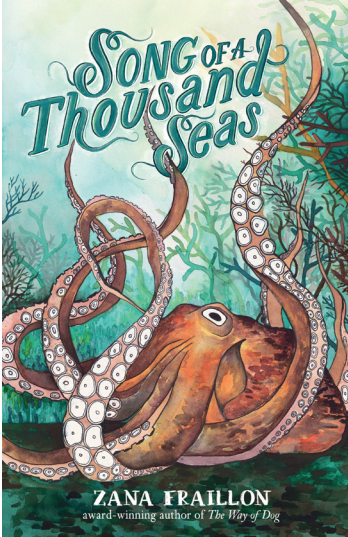
Schooldays Magazine

Carla Fitzgerald is a writer, a recovered lawyer and a mum of three from Sydney. She studied arts and law at university, and worked at the Australian Human Rights Commission. Only after that did she rediscover the great fun of making stuff up. Carla is a tutor at the Australian Writers Centre, a coach at the Harding Miller Education Foundation and a Books in Homes role model. Her favourite things to do are write, walk, read, eat and hang out with her family. Not necessarily in that order.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Zana Fraillon

Song of a Thousand Seas



RRP AU\$14.99

Category Middle grade verse novel

Format B-format paperback, 96pp

Rights held World ex film/TV

Rights sold North America (S&SBYR);
Italy (Giunti)

Reading age 8+

“

Zana’s poignant and witty poems slip you into a world filled with friendship, newfound knowledge, and the power of connection.

Krista Vitola, Simon & Schuster Books for Younger Readers

A lyrical verse novel of homecoming and friendship by Zana Fraillon, the multi-award-winning author of *The Bone Sparrow* and *The Way of Dog*.

*All day long we can hear
that Sea howl prowling wild
inside our brains and every part of us is straining
to feel it taste it twirl it whirl it swirl it
inside our body
again.*

Houdini the octopus lives in an aquarium, but she misses her home in the wild Sea. She doesn’t like the visitors who bang on her tank. Or the way she can’t feel the sun on her skin or the wind rippling the water. It’s a dull existence for a creature with nine brains.

Then one day she meets someone who is different to the other visitors. Juno’s busy brain buzzes with so many questions and thoughts that Houdini’s skin tingles with wonder.

But the singing of the Sea is growing stronger and harder to resist. Can Houdini make Juno understand what she needs before it’s too late?



Zana Fraillon is an internationally acclaimed, multi-award-winning author of books for children and young adults. Her work has been published in over fifteen countries and is in development for both stage and screen. They have a doctorate in creative writing, and degrees in history and teaching. Zana’s passion for empowering young people to find their voice is a feature of both her books and her work with writers of all ages.

FEBRUARY 2027

Dr Anika Molesworth & Bindy James

***Planet-friendly Farms:
How regenerative agriculture
can feed and heal the world***



RRP AU\$32.99

Category Non-fiction picture book

Format 299 x 216mm hardback, 56pp

Rights held World

Reading age 7+

From the Young Farmer of the Year comes this vibrantly illustrated picture book for readers 7–11 years old about how to heal the planet through regenerative farming.

Farming affects all of us – even if we live in cities. Every bite of food we take connects us to the farm that grew it. In this detailed yet accessible picture book, award-winning farmer, scientist and storyteller Dr Anika Molesworth takes young readers through the farming and food system. She looks at farming challenges and how these can be solved through regenerative farming techniques like crop rotation, holistic grazing, agroforestry and fire management. The book also includes First Nations approaches to agriculture and caring for Country.

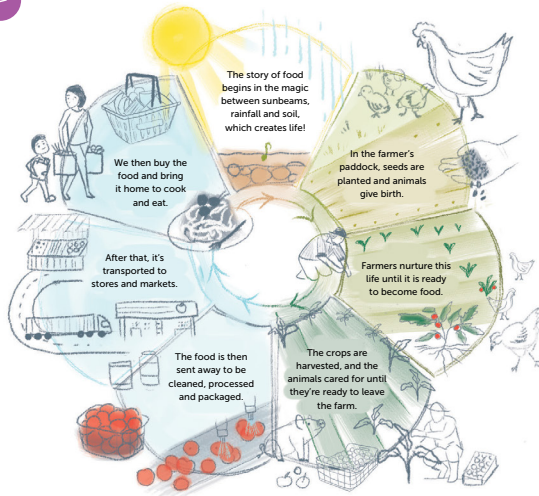
With charming illustrations, fact bubbles, fun activities and a glossary, *Planet-friendly Farms* aims to educate and empower children to take an active role in supporting sustainable farming practices.

Dr Anika Molesworth is a passionate advocate for sustainable farming, environmental conservation and climate change action. Hailing from her family's sheep station near Broken Hill on Wilyakali land, Anika is an agroecologist with a Masters of Sustainable Agriculture, and a PhD in Agricultural Science. She has been working in international agricultural development for the past six years, giving her a holistic perspective of agricultural issues at a global scale.

Bindy James is an illustrator from Yugambah country/Logan, Australia, where she lives with her husband, two kids, and two pugaliers (Ziggy and Moose). After initially completing a degree in environmental science, she retrained as a graphic/motion designer. From there she moved into illustration, which she absolutely adores. Bindy is constantly fascinated by our natural world.

THE FOOD SYSTEM

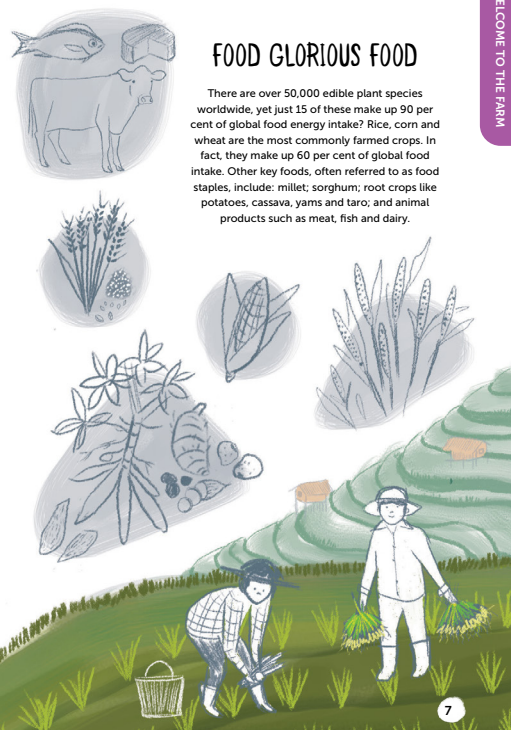
The food system is everything that happens to food, from how it's grown, to how it's moved and then how we eat it.



Understanding this journey helps us to make better choices about what we eat, where our food comes from, and how it's processed and packaged.

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

There are over 50,000 edible plant species worldwide, yet just 15 of these make up 90 per cent of global food energy intake? Rice, corn and wheat are the most commonly farmed crops. In fact, they make up 60 per cent of global food intake. Other key foods, often referred to as food staples, include: millet; sorghum; root crops like potatoes, cassava, yams and taro; and animal products such as meat, fish and dairy.



Artwork | Draft spreads from *Planet-friendly Farms* by Anika Molesworth and Bindy James

FARMING'S SUPER SOLUTIONS

Regenerative farming offers solutions to the climate challenges facing our world. This special type of farming produces nutritious food and looks after the environment at the same time.

Taking care of soil, water, plants, animals and the climate is really important for the future of our food. If we don't take care of them, then land and animals will struggle, and so will we. Regenerative farmers look after ecosystems that grow food by planting different crops and trying not to disturb the soil too much. They also take care of rivers, lakes and dams, making sure they don't waste or pollute water. They encourage pollinators like bees to come to their farms, and they also protect habitats for native wildlife. Healthier ecosystems on farms make them better at growing food, even during tough times like heatwaves, heavy rainfall or drought. When the environment is vibrant and strong, crops and livestock grow quickly. This means the farm can produce lots of good food for us to eat. Regenerative farming also helps fight climate change by sucking carbon dioxide out of the air and storing this carbon in farm soils.

GROWING GREENER



NATURE'S WILD SUPERMARKET

Although most of our food comes from farms, food is found in the natural world all around us. Forests grow nuts, berries and mushrooms, while rivers, lakes and oceans have fish, shrimp and seaweed. First Nations Australians have been caring for Country and enjoying nature's delicious bounty for tens of thousands of years. Looking after land and water ecosystems that grow wild food is essential for our health and the future of our planet.

What is regenerative farming?

The name says it all! Regeneration means renewal, restoration and revival – a process of healing and making better. Regenerative farming is about improving the water, soil, climate, plants and animals so that farms grow the best food!



GROWING GREENER

The background is a vibrant green with a textured, painterly appearance. It features numerous white paint splatters and smudges of varying sizes scattered across the surface. Faint, dark green cursive script is visible, with the word 'Love' appearing in the upper left and 'Life' in the lower left. The overall aesthetic is artistic and organic.

About UQP

About UQP



UQP

UQP is one of Australia's leading publishing houses. Established in 1948, UQP has consistently produced culturally significant works across genres such as fiction, non-fiction and poetry, as well as children's and young adult books. UQP is known for publishing literary works, poetry and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories. We create books that enrich and inspire readers and make a major contribution to the fabric of arts and literature in Australia and the world. We proudly connect artists, readers, writers and arts organisations and passionately advocate for the value of books to the human experience. UQP is also Queensland's only major publishing house with domestic and international distribution.

UQP Online

Join us for news, interviews and regular giveaways.

www.uqp.com.au

Instagram and X: @UQPbooks

Facebook: /UQPofficial

TikTok: @uqppublishing

Sign up for our monthly newsletters via our website.

Book club and teachers' notes

UQP offers book club notes and teaching guides for many of its titles. Download book club and teacher resources at www.uqp.com.au.

Ebooks

Most of UQP's titles are available through the following platforms: Amazon, Booktopia, Dymocks, Google Play, Apple Books and Kobo.

Contact

Australian distributors

Penguin Random House Distribution
Toll-free: 1800 338 836

Australian sales

Penguin Random House
Level 3, 100 Pacific Highway
North Sydney NSW 2060
Australia
P: +612 9954 9966

Other enquiries

University of Queensland Press
PO Box 6042
St Lucia QLD 4067
Australia
P: +617 3365 7244
www.uqp.com.au
x.com/UQPbooks
facebook.com/UQPofficial
instagram.com/UQPbooks

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

University of Queensland Press (UQP) acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands on which UQP operates. We pay our respects to their Ancestors and their descendants, who continue cultural and spiritual connections to Country. We recognise their valuable contributions to Australian and global society.

UQP

www.uqp.com.au



Australian Government

**Creative
Australia**

University of Queensland Press (UQP) is assisted by the Australian Government through Creative Australia, its principal arts investment and advisory body.