

# The Lennon-Ritchie Agency

## AUTUMN 2023

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The Lennon Ritchie Agency  
represents individual writers  
and clients, including:



DUCK CREEK PRESS





**Illustrated readers,  
Young Adult &  
Graphic Novels**

# TRIBE

**Divided by power, united by a mother's love.**

In a world where women manifest the traits of their totems, Timba, an insecure, ungifted woman escapes from her husband, Chief Moto, after he attempts to use their daughter's powers for military advantage. But when other tribes learn of her child's abilities and go after them, to have a shot at making it alive, Timba will have to unlock the true source of power which she'll learn lies within.

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Born in Zimbabwe and having lived and worked in Australia, the UK, and South Africa, Tendayi Nyeke's producing work has been nominated for SAFTAs in multiple genres. A former Writer's Guild of SA council member, Tendayi has worked as a film and TV executive on several award-winning shows and has written, produced, and directed TV programmes. In 2021, Tendayi began her role as co-executive producer on her first animated feature film with a global streamer.



# IN MY HOOD

## The new guy, his wild alter ego, and one crazy city.

Lagos: home of Nollywood, Afrobeat, bonkers traffic, a rad floating city within a city, and 15 million people, including Shades. Like every young Lagosian, Shades is in the city in search of his place in the sun. Shades might not know his new hood yet, but he knows his way around astronomy and all things paranormal. He works hard and has fallen – hard! – for Yetunde. Problem is bratty rich-kid Desmond likes Yetunde too. Where will Shade find the guts to tell her how he feels about her? The lovely Yetunde – Science major by day, kung fu fighter by night – has enough courage for both of them. But Shades has an enemy bigger than jerky Desmond. Enter The Deuce. He's cool, smart, strong. A rebel thirsty for power. Worst of all, he lives inside Shades, taking over his life any chance he gets. When you're facing a mobster or a deranged goat armed with a bazooka, The Deuce comes in handy; but the guy is crazy dangerous, and Shades gets left with the chaos The Deuce leaves in his wake. IN MY HOOD is an adventure comedy series featuring superb characters. Meet gangster boss Don Pappy and his henchman, strong-but-sweet Shege, dumb-and-dumber cops Pele and Koko, and a band of animals armed to the teeth and their own agenda.

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Ridwan Moshood is an animator and winner of the Cartoon Network Africa Creative Lab initiative. He is the author, creator and art director of GARBAGE BOY and TRASH CAN.



# TONKO AND THE SIZA MASK

## There's no hiding behind THIS mask!

Nestled below a strange rock-formation known as Star Mountain is Siza, a one-street, one-horse, many-cows town surrounded by maize fields, cattle farms, and one massively understocked grocery store (unless you love corn and milk). You can only get wif-fi at the Post Office and there isn't one single sneaker store. For Tonko, small-town life sucks ... And don't even get him started on all the cow pats! All Tonko wants is to go back to the city - UNTIL he finds his family's ancient Siza mask, allowing him to transform into his ancestors and harness their mystical powers. The Siza mask allows Tonko to transform into multiple ancestors including his grandfather, Msizi, a warrior with a shield forged from the sun's rays; his great-aunt Bombisani, a camouflaging prankster who bends 'n breaks the rules; and Uncle Ogya, who has the strength to bench press two cows, but the temper of a buffalo stung by a hornet!

But family doesn't come without baggage. As Tonko becomes entangled in an intricate and powerful family legacy, he discovers that with great powers come great ... complications after he transforms into his great-uncle Felani, who puts the mega into megalomania and, unwittingly, opens a portal to the ancestral realm of Azania, releasing everything from cow zombies and shape-shifting leopards to granite baboons.

Now, Tonko must learn everything he can about his ancestors (and himself) if he is to harness their powers to protect his new community, while Felani, now unleashed and growing in power, is plotting to get the mask back - just as soon as he escapes the Mr T bobblehead on the dashboard of a taxi!

**'A celebration of self through family lineage ... the unmasking of ourselves to unleash our potential'**

All rights available.

Terence Maluleke is a character designer and visual developer from Johannesburg. He has worked as a lead concept artist for Triggerfish Animation and as art director for major brands. Terence has created key designs for South African superhero comics SUPA STRIKAS and KWEZI. He is a digital artist focusing on character design and concept art. He currently runs a Visual Development company called Tribal Universe with his partner Simangaliso Sibaya. Tribal Universe is a concept art and visual development collective that focuses on creating authentic African visuals and stories that can also appeal to the world. Terence is one of the founders of Kasi Sketchbook. Kasi Sketchbook is a program that aims to create drawing clubs in the townships that will encourage young artists to daily 'Draw Your World' in their Kasi Sketchbooks.



# THE ROYAL WITCH

**The fate of a kingdom - in the hands of two kids who just can't get along.**

Each generation, a grand ceremony in the Kingdom of Alveria binds its crown prince to a powerful witch. Jointly, future king and witch must protect their realm.

Enter timid and awkward Gus. He's trained his entire life to become the Royal Witch and is absolutely terrified to meet the - so gorgeous - prince.

Prince Emilio: confident, self-absorbed, and Gus's opposite in every way.

In a partnership that seems doomed from the start, things go from bad to worse when Emilio announces in the middle of the ceremony that he hates magic and doesn't want to be the Royal Witch at all. A fight breaks out. Everyone watches in horror as the two boys, meant to protect their country, brawl it out on the palace floor.

Despite their disastrous tantrum, the ceremony is concluded, leaving them bound together and forced to cooperate.

THE ROYAL WITCH follows the many misadventures of Gus and Emilio as they learn to work together to protect their kingdom.

Based on a Webtoon featured as a Rising Star, Staff Pick, Hot Series, and one of the faces of Webtoon's 2022 LGBTQ+ Pride events.

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Emily Kaye's skits for YouTube and TikTok gained over 100,000,000+ views and earned her YouTube's Silver Play-Button and her webnovels had millions of views. Her most popular, HERO VS VILLAIN, is ranked as the #1 LGBTQ+ novel and the #4 romance novel on Wattpad and is the fourth most liked free-to-read novel on Tapas. HERO VS VILLAIN received a manhwa (comic) adaptation by the Korean studio Toomics and has been optioned for an animated series. She also wrote and co-directed the prize-winning short film FREELY WE SERVE.



# TARZON OF THE EEPS

## A cyborg's fight to save his jungle.

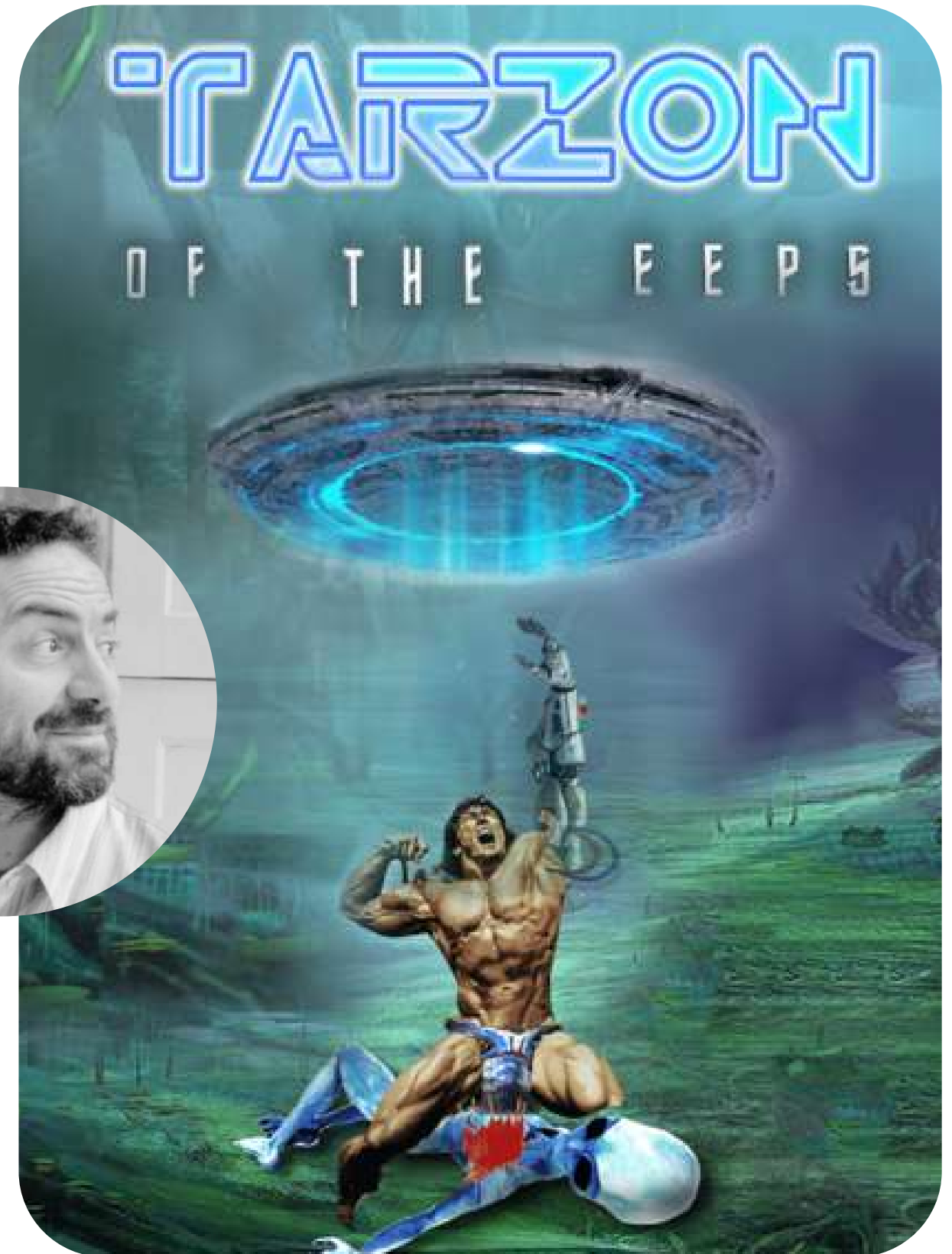
Planet Eep: home to the Eeps, a colony of stupid little battle robots who evolved to survive in their extraterrestrial jungle. The Eeps rebuilt Tarzon after finding his body, equipping him with self-regenerating biomechanics that grew as he grew. Just as Tarzon reached his early cyborg adulthood, humans invaded Planet Eep. Carrying blob technology, the humans' high-powered blobcrafts fired blob-lasers all over the planet. To them, Planet Eeb is the perfect setting for a blob-themed amusement park. Tarzon and the Eeps look like primate-level tech compared to the humans' blobcrafts, but they'll tear anyone limb from limb to defend their jungle.

Everything changes when Captain Jane Proter arrives. Her family's own centuries-old pre-colonial past gives her a possible link to understanding a supposed "savage" like Tarzon. Are the values she now defends as corrupted as she suspects? Tarzon's simple sense of right, wrong and love for the jungle may be the only hope to save the Eeps and their civilization.

All rights available.

**Mike de Seve** is an Emmy-nominated animation writer and director. He is founder of Baboon Animation, a collective of some of the most accomplished animation writers in the US, with 31 Emmys among them. Mike worked on well-known films like MADAGASCAR, and SHREK 2 and 3. He also co-wrote the original story, with Mark Osborne, for MONSTERS VS ALIENS. He was a director and writer on BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA and has head-written and/or directed ANGRY BIRD TOONS, SESAME STREET, POCOYO and SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE.

**Mike de Seve is the funniest writer I know ... every time I start a new script, I ask myself: What would Mike do?' – Rob David, Executive Producer and Vice-President, Mattel.**



# AFRONAUGHTS

## Zero-gravity Zeroes.

Keso is a cheeky, charismatic misfit kid living in your typical RURAL VILLAGE except ... it's a kaleidoscopic carnival of the quirkiest beings from across the universe ... And on an ASTEROID floating through deep, deep space ...

He has a ride-or-die anthropomorphic goat BFF, aka Spot, a traditional dad set in his ways, a gangster-esque lil sis, Rue, and a Mom that's AWOL ... He spends his days having karaoke jam offs, running from rabid space chickens, and reluctantly working at his dad's barbershop, which serves the most bizarre clientele in the universe.

Keso's universe is flipped upside down when a free ticket to the elite Planet Swagtopia - the Disneyland meets Met Gala of Space - comes up for grabs. A ticket that is awarded to the coolest kid on Instagram.

Hyped with a dream, Keso, Spot and their growing squad of misfits the streets mockingly call the 'AFRONOUGHTS', swap their sheltered rural village life for wacky intergalactic adventures - battling celestial toddler time cops, chocolate zulu warriors and much more - in their quest for Instagram cool points. This puts Keso in conflict with his traditional father, who insists he takes over the barbershop. And if that is not enough, Keso will have to overcome space bullies, and his Instagram Rivals like Egghead, who are determined to beat him to the exclusive ticket ... And then there's the small issue of ARDO, a menacing inter-dimensional Celestial AI hell-bent on conquering all of reality who Keso accidentally sets free. OOPS!

All rights available.

**Tafadzwa Hove** is a versatile filmmaker who wrote and directed MUKUDZEI, a short, animated film part of KIZAZI MOTO: GENERATION FIRE, an African Animation Anthology for Disney+. **Lesego Vorster** is a Soweto-born-and-bred director whose love for the unconventional can be seen in the soon to be released short film he directed as part of the Disney+ KIZAZI MOTO anthology.



# THE WITCHES' WAY

## Something wondrous this way comes.

Noma may be the star of her low-income community of Delft, but at the prestigious school she attends, she's just the class misfit. So when she stumbles across a mysterious ring and her day starts going impossibly well, she decides it's finally time to ask out her crush, popular kid Tazz. But the proposal goes disastrously wrong and Tazz is transformed into a dog!

Turns out the ring is a powerful artefact, and it belongs to Utibe, Africa's most dangerous witch, who plans to use it to fuel a devastating spell that could destabilise the magical and natural worlds. Now, if Noma wants to lift the curse on Tazz - and save the world - they will have to take the mystical WITCHES' WAY to get to the Night Market, the witches' capital city in Nigeria. There someone will have the answers. They hope. The only problem is, once on The Way, there's no telling where you'll end up or how long it will take to get there ... Meanwhile, Utibe and her selfie-obsessed apprentice, Gabi, are determined to get the ring back and exact their revenge - no matter the cost.

Together, Noma and Tazz will journey across Africa on a wild ride where they'll encounter witches, deities, monsters, and spirits. But the more she gains the attention and respect she never had at school, the more Noma is tempted by the power of her new-found magic.

Can Noma learn that her true power comes from her own courage and her faith in others, or will she become corrupted by the ring's dark powers?

The fate of the continent may depend on her choice.

All rights available.

Jenna Bass is a South African film director, photographer and writer. She has written short stories under the name Constance Myburgh, one of which was shortlisted for the Caine Prize. Chinelo Onwualu is a Nigerian editor and a speculative fiction writer. She is the co-founder and previous editor-in-chief of OMENANA MAGAZINE. She is also co-editor at ANATHEMA MAGAZINE.



# THE FERAL

## The last wild territory, off-limits, populated by discarded genetic experiments.

In the future, an airship transporting genetically engineered fetuses accidentally loses a foetal pod over The Feral: the last wild territory in the country. The Feral is off-limits to human habitation, and populated by The Corporation's discarded genetic experiments. Hunters from an illegal anarchist outlaw village in The Feral discover the pod, and take it back to their village, finding the baby inside alive. They name the baby Johnny, and as he grows up, his talent for killing is apparent, already killing animals and hostile humans from a young age. He is made protector of the village, and given the name Johnny Lethal. On his 18th birthday, Johnny is kidnapped as part of the Migration – where all new 18-year-olds are taken willingly from their families to begin a lifetime of unpaid work for the Corporation in assigned professions. Thrown into a strange and confusing world, Johnny reacts with anger, but as his combat skills are discovered to be completely unmatched, he has to face the hard truth he's always suspected: he is a product of this horrible place.

All rights available.

Greg Grabianski is a novelist, screenwriter, and show creator. A writer on BEAVIS & BUTTHEAD, Greg was a staff writer on late-night talk shows THE TONIGHT SHOW and THE KEENEN IVORY WAYANS SHOW, and he co-wrote the movies SCARY MOVIE and SCARY MOVIE 2. Greg wrote on shows like SKUNK FU and ANGELO RULES, LOUD HOUSE, PICKLE & PEANUT, RAINBOW BUTTERFLY UNICORN KITTY, TAFFY, and ANGRY BIRDS: SUMMER CAMP MADNESS.



# SOPHIE THE GIANT SLAYER

**An 11-year-old girl; her grandpa's sword; a gigantic destiny.**

In this series of graphic novels, Sophie, an eleven-year-old girl in a post-giant world inherits her grandfather Jack's magical sword and is launched out beyond their island city into a world of treacherous adults and ambitious gods. Driven by the voice inside the sword, she and her companions hunt down the secret of where the giants came from and her own terrible destiny. Sophie finds herself adopted into a group of tree-dwelling refugees, led by a mysterious woman called Rosemara. They capture her and ask her to kill a giant called Ashkeloth, who they claim is a threat. But is everything as it seems? Who exactly is Rosemara? Soon, Sophie finds she also has to stand up for her pursuers and decide whom she can and can't trust when the giant comes knocking.

All rights available except: Arabic

Kay Carmichael is a story artist specialising in storyboard work. She has worked in the animation and live action industries, and has done storyboards for a variety of commercial and advertising clients. She's also worked on a number of television series and feature films.



# KARIBA

## Adventures for a boy and girl on one of Africa's giant rivers.

KARIBA follows Siku and Amadeo, one the daughter of the river spirit Nyami Nyami, the other the son of the engineer in charge of the construction of a massive dam in the river Kariba. Unaware of who her father is, Siku must journey upriver to discover the answers to the mystery of her powers, and the strange events occurring in the river and its surrounding forests. A growing respect and friendship develops between Siku and Amadeo as they are thrown together on an adventure where they are pursued by river pirates and must overcome obstacles both real and magical. From the acclaimed graphic novel.

All rights available except: World English; French; World Arabic

**Daniel Clarke** is an artist working in animation, film and illustration who has worked as a production designer and art director on projects such as the feature film KHUMBA, BBC's STICK MAN and SNAIL AND THE WHALE. As an illustrator and designer he has worked with clients such as Netflix, Animal Logic, The Line, National Geographic Kids, Nike, Adidas, and Penguin Random House. Daniel has also worked as an illustrator and art director for feature films such as CHRONICLE, THE GIVER, and CHAPPIE. **James Clarke** studied history and literature and completed his Masters in Creative Writing as a Harry Crossley Fellow at the University of Cape Town. In 2016, he was the South Africa finalist in fiction for the PEN International New Young Voices Award. **Daniel Snaddon** is an artist, illustrator, and film director best known for his work with Triggerfish Animation Studios and with Magic Light Pictures' animated BBC Christmas specials. Daniel supervised the animation on the Academy Award nominated ROALD DAHL'S REVOLTING RHYMES, co-directed the BAFTA nominated STICK MAN, and directed the Annie award winning THE SNAIL AND THE WHALE and the International Emmy winning ZOG. Daniel served as the founding director of CTIAF, South Africa's premiere animation festival, for 4 years.



# PEARL OF THE SEA

## What lies in wait for young diver Pearl?

Secretive loner Pearl makes much needed extra cash by diving for and poaching endangered abalone off the south coast. More at home by herself in the ocean than with people on land, Pearl, far from shore and alone, discovers an enormous and terrifying sea monster. When she realises the volatile creature is just as scared as she is, she knows she is the only one who can protect her new friend ... but only if she has the courage to face the pain of her past and open up to others. From the graphic novel.

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**Anthony Silverston** is partner and Head of Development at Triggerfish Animation Studios in South Africa currently overseeing a slate of projects that include KIZAZI MOTO: GENERATION FIRE, an anthology of 10 short films in production with Disney+, MAMA K'S TEAM 4 with Netflix, and KIYA with Disney, eOne and Frogbox. He directed and co-wrote the feature film KHUMBA, which premiered in competition at the Annecy International Animation Festival. The script was the first animation selected for No Borders Co-Production Market in its history. He has produced and written on SEAL TEAM, as well as ZAMBEZIA. Silverston was also producer of the short film BELLY FLOP, which screened at over 135 festivals and won 14 awards, and the Blender short film TROLL GIRL. He is also a published Microbiologist. **Willem Samuel** is a visual artist working in animation and comic books. His autobiographical novel, MENGELMOES, was published in 2016. His comic work has featured in zines internationally, including the cult series BITTERKOMIX and in cyberspace via ACES WEEKLY. Willem art directed the pan-African comic SUPA STRIKAS, which was adapted into an animated series. More recently he served as Head of Story on the animated feature SEAL TEAM as well as creating concept art for the streaming series HAMMER & BOLTER. **Raffaella Delle Donne** has developed and created content with a specific focus on Africa for Disney, eOne, Snipple Animation, Wekids, Baobab Studios and Triggerfish. She was the TV Development Executive on shows such as MAMA K'S TEAM 4, acquired by Netflix, has written animated series, including LOVE MONSTER (UYoung/BBC), PKING DUCKLING (Disney Jnr) and MONSTER BEACH (Boomerang/Cartoon Network), as well as the award-winning animated features ADVENTURES IN ZAMBEZIA and KHUMBA. She is currently working as a writer and executive creative consultant on KIYA.



# TROLL GIRL

## Troll Girl to the rescue.

A trollish child, raised by a nun in a human village, defies her own insecurities and the villagers' fears to save her mother from danger.

All rights available except: Film & TV

Kay Carmichael is a story artist specialising in storyboard work. She has worked in the animation and live action industries, and has done storyboards for a variety of commercial and advertising clients. She's also worked on a number of television series and feature films.



# BEARENT

## Because a bearent is lots more fun than a parent.

In this irreverent, wild and unpredictable illustrated humour book series, ten-year-old Iggy doesn't have a father, so he creates one by shaving a talking bear named Ziggy and dressing him in human clothes. Now Iggy is in control of his own 'adult'! Together with their friend Mika, they help others by going to outrageous lengths to infiltrate the hallowed, mysterious world of grown-ups. Electric clippers. A dress shirt. Sandals. A tie. Some slacks. A wig. That's all Iggy needed to make his own 'dad'. Oh, and a talking bear named Ziggy. Iggy grew up with Ziggy, who came out of the woods every day to play. They're both ten years old now. But at age ten, a bear is seven feet tall, 400 pounds and fully mature (not that there's anything mature about Ziggy!) When his fur is shaved off and he's dressed up in human clothes, Ziggy passes for a man. An odd-looking man, but a man. With his mom always working, Iggy has endless quality time with Ziggy. Having his own adult gives Iggy incredible power: the ultimate hack to infiltrating the uncharted, mysterious world of grown-ups. Together, Iggy and Ziggy use that power to right wrongs, help the helpless and do incredibly stupid, irresponsible things together. You know, the fun stuff!

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Greg Grabianski is a novelist, screenwriter and show creator. Two of his original series are in development at Disney and several others of his are shows in various stages of development at studios and networks worldwide. A writer on BEAVIS & BUTT-HEAD, Greg was a staff writer on late-night talk shows THE TONIGHT SHOW and THE KEENEN IVORY WAYANS SHOW, and he co-wrote the movies SCARY MOVIE and SCARY MOVIE 2. Greg built a career in children's animation, writing on shows SKUNK FU and ANGELO RULES for Cake Entertainment, LOUD HOUSE for Nickelodeon, PICKLE & PEANUT for Disney TV Animation and RAINBOW BUTTERFLY UNICORN KITTY for Nickelodeon, TAFFY for TBS, ANGRY BIRDS: SUMMER CAMP MADNESS for Cake/Netflix, PRESTO! for TeamTo, AGENT 203 for Toon2Tango/ Super RTL, and PETS & THEIR TOYS, a new, no dialogue show for Million Volt Studios/Netflix.



NICE  
to meet you

# WINNIE-THE-POOH

**The Winnie-the-Pooh you never knew! He's funny and cute and a kid like you!**

With a mad craving for honey and twisted logic that would make Douglas Adams scratch his head till it's sore, Winnie-the-Pooh is a creature of great passion and terrible ideas. Too bad he's the only one who can save his home and all his fuzzy friends. The Hundred-Acre Wood will be taken over by the biggest belching honey plant that the industrial revolution ever spawned, and in three days, Pooh's pals will all be kicked out for big-hive development. Their only hope: prove they have the deed to the land. That's no problem - the deed is right over there in the honeypot. Oh bother, where did Pooh put it? Detective Pooh decides to head to a beehive, but many many bee stings makes Pooh delirious. Ah, there's the solution! The vast honeycombs he sees before him lead to ... the future! A brand-new series of Pooh adventures to enthrall old and new alike, by one of the minds behind iconic series like ANGRY BIRDS and SESAME STREET. titles are: CATCHING THE SUN, A SNOW DAY (Juliette Rogasik), EGG DROP SOUP (Joe Vitale), POOH'S TREASURE HUNT (Juliette Rogasik), CHRISTOPHER ROBIN'S BIG SURPRISE (John Reynolds, Jeff Hylton, Mike de Seve), THE THUNDERSTORM (John Reynolds, Jeff Hylton), WINCH WINCH IS WINCH? (Nedra Gallegos), THE BALOON ROCKET, ICE PIGLET, THE KITE.

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**Mike de Seve** is an Emmy-nominated animation writer and director. He is founder of Baboon Animation, a collective of some of the most accomplished animation writers in the US, with 31 Emmys among them. Mike worked on well-known films like MADAGASCAR, and SHREK 2 and 3. He also co-wrote the original story, with Mark Osborne, for MONSTERS VS ALIENS. He was a director and writer on BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA and has head-written and/or directed ANGRY BIRD TOONS, SESAME STREET, POCOYO and SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE.



## Winnie -the- Pooh

### BEYOND POOH CORNER



Ten New Tales from the Hundred Acre Wood

# FUR FORCE 5

**When you're walking the dogs of supervillains, you just have to be a hero.**

Goofy teenage dog-walker ZADIE ZINN just got a new customer. Score!

Too bad he turns out to be the world's most dastardly super-villain. Whoops.

Soon Zadie's working for all his buddies in the super-evil LEAGUE of HYPER EVIL as well.

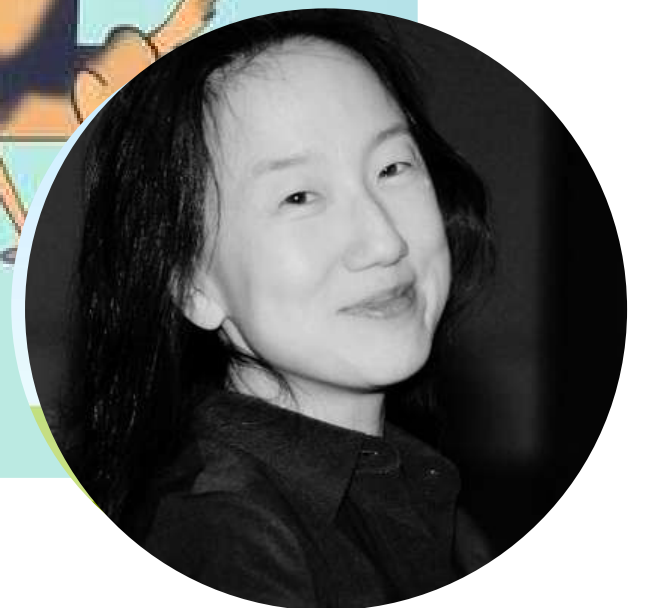
Now she's really got a job to do: save the world from all her clients' evil schemes. Good thing their awesome pets are all on board to secretly help.

And they've never had so much fun.

Go Fur Force 5!

All rights available.

Joe Vitale has written for global hit shows including GIGANTOSAURUS, ODDBODS, ANGRY BIRDS TOONS, TAFFY, POCOYO, INSECTIBLES, SUPER WINGS, and countless others. His feature credits include films for DreamWorks, Lionsgate and Shout! Factory, and his work has aired globally on Disney Channel, Cartoon Network and Nickelodeon. Four-time Emmy nominee Susan Kim writing for TV includes THE OCTONAUTS, WONDER PETS!, ARTHUR, JUNGLE JUNCTION, OSWALD THE OCTOPUS, COURAGE THE COWARDLY DOG, and SPEED RACER. Her international credits include POCOYO and JELLY JAMM (Spain), CLOUD BREAD (Korea), FIX and FOXI and THE PEPPERCOMS (UK), and SUNSHINE KATHY (Norway). Her work has earned five Writers' Guild award nominations. Susan has also written two award-winning graphic novels with Laurence Klavan: CITY OF SPIES and BRAIN CAMP. She has written and produced documentaries for PBS, National Geographic, HBO, and AMC, and won the Writers' Guild of America Award for the documentary PAVING THE WAY. With Klavan, she is currently writing a YA fiction series for HarperCollins called WASTELAND. Mike de Seve is an Emmy-nominated animation writer and director. He is founder of Baboon Animation, a collective of some of the most accomplished animation writers in the US, with 31 Emmys among them. Mike worked on well-known films like MADAGASCAR, and SHREK 2 and 3. He also co-wrote the original story, with Mark Osborne, for MONSTERS VS ALIENS. He was a director and writer on BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA and has head-written and/or directed ANGRY BIRD TOONS, SESAME STREET, POCOYO and SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE.



# PETAL PETUNIA: PIXIE PRIVATE EYE

## Pixie to the rescue!

When mystery casts a shadow on Sunshine City, one quick-witted pixie is always on the case proving that tough comes in small, pink, festively-tropical packages. She might spend most days hanging out at Frank's Spiced Pineapple Cafe, and the most dangerous thing she's ever caught was the 10-foot wave at Star Dust Beach, but when a case lands, this wise-cracking private-eye is ready for anything.

Petal is a cheery force of justice, armed with a berry slingshot, a semi-functional magic coat and a wit sharper than a unicorn's horn. Don't be fooled by her small size and big mouth, because Petal has an eye for detail, a mind for mysteries and a heart for action. She will do whatever it takes to solve the case, even if that means breaking a rule or two. But, if she has to break a rule, she will always apologise ... unless it's a really, really dumb rule.

Petal has lived in Sunshine City her whole life and knows it like the back of her tropical-themed shirt. Whether it's a dreadlocked sasquatch who makes his own surfboards, a centaur who owns a trampoline emporium, or a giant groot-slang who makes the spiciest smoothies in town, Petal has pals scattered all over the city. The only thing Petal loves more than solving mysteries, taking naps and sipping on pineapple smoothies is her loyal pet and vehicle, Dungie. Most of the city zip around on speedy ladybirds or dragonflies, but Petal prefers the calm amble of her dung beetle. Dungie might seem chilled, but when the poop hits the fan, she will always have Petal's back.

All rights available.

Marc Dey is best known as a writer of animation. He's the creator of KIYA Recently greenlit by Disney. It's a brand new pre-school superhero animated series in production with EntertainmentOne, a studio owned by Hasbro, which is behind hits like PJ MASKS, TRANSFORMERS and PEPPA PIG. PETAL PETUNIA PIXIE PRIVATE EYE is Marc's debut novel. A standalone, it's the first in a planned series. Completed manuscript available along with outlines of the next four books in the series.



# SHREDDY BEARS

**They're teddys, they're armed, they're dangerously cute!**

When threats arise that are too big, too bad, or too awesome for the military to handle, the president sends in the Shreddy Bears! This covert team of cybernetic combat teddy bears under the direction of the president's whip-smart granddaughter uses cuddly chaos and adorable brawn to complete the mission with extreme cuteness ... and an excessive amount of explosives.

All rights available.

**Mike de Seve** is an Emmy-nominated animation writer and director. He is founder of Baboon Animation, a collective of some of the most accomplished animation writers in the US, with 31 Emmys among them. Mike worked on well-known films like MADAGASCAR, and SHREK 2 and 3. He also co-wrote the original story, with Mark Osborne, for MONSTERS VS ALIENS. He was a director and writer on BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA and has head-written and/or directed ANGRY BIRD TOONS, SESAME STREET, POCOYO and SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE. **Lloyd Goldfine** is a supervising director at Mattel known for MAX STEEL and TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES. **Rob David** penned scripts for Disney's PB&J OTTER and for the Annie Award nominated series STANLEY AND JOJO'S CIRCUS. Several of his teleplays for STANLEY were adapted and published by Disney Press as children's books. His credits include ROBOTBOY, SUPER ROBOT MONKEY TEAM HYPERFORCE GO!, WOW! WOW! WUBBZY!, PINKY DINKY DOO, WORLDWORLD, VIVA PIÑATA, ROCKET MONKEYS, TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES: BACK TO THE SEWER and TURTLES FOREVER. Rob recently enlisted in Mattel's Playground Productions as head writer and lead creative.



# FATHOM FORCE

**Dive into a world of adventure, where four ordinary teens become extraordinary ocean protectors.**

Four ordinary teens find themselves with extraordinary powers to transform into sea creatures when an ancient order recruits them to protect the world's oceans. Guided by their mentor Pierre and a shape-shifting vessel endowed with the collective consciousness of the Elders, heroes Jaden, Parker, Yu Qi and Logan must dig deep and discover that they have what it takes to stop worldwide evil from destroying the world's oceans. Together they are ... the Fathom Force!

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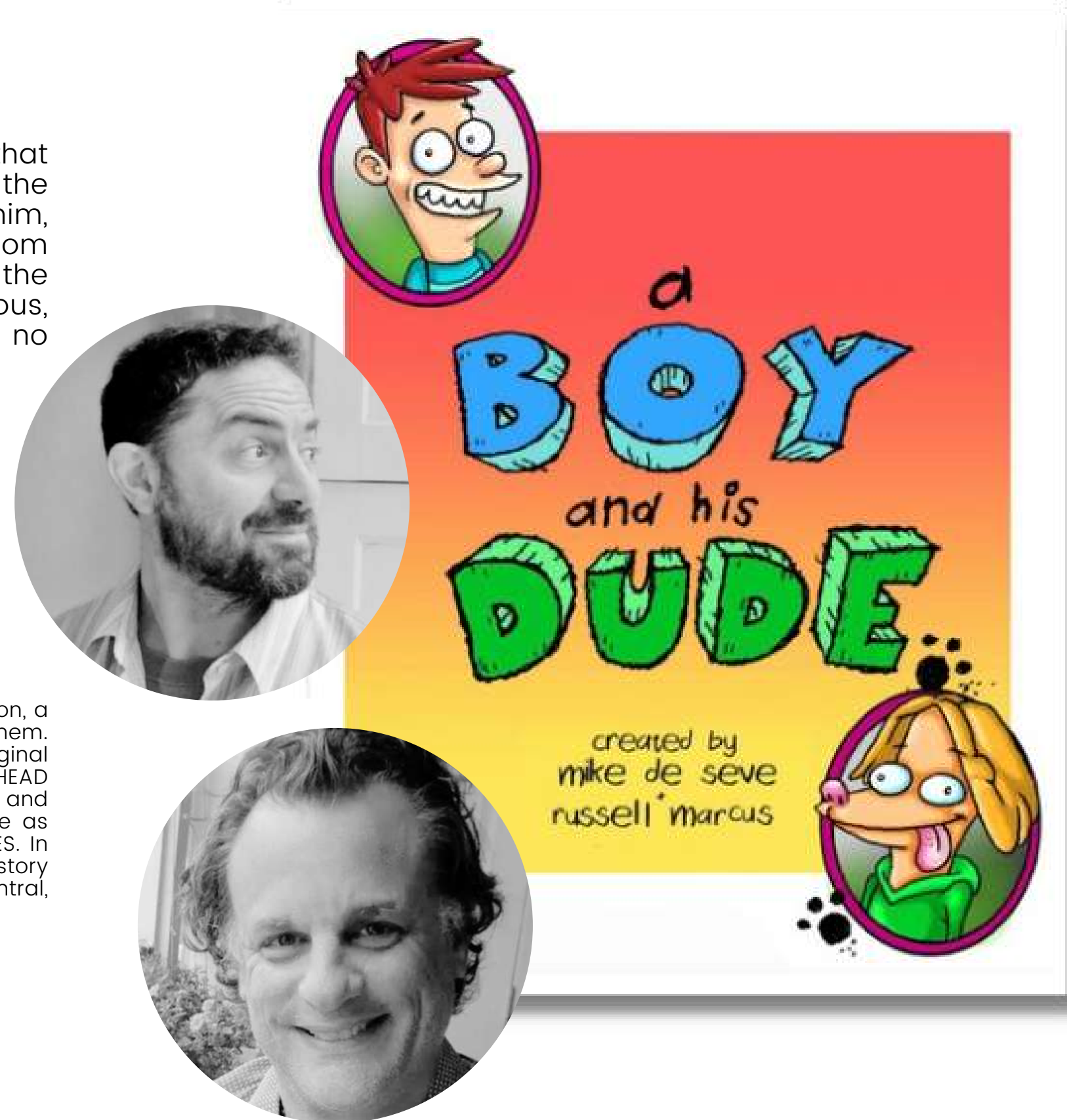
# A BOY AND HIS DUDE

**To save him, they had to SHAVE him.**

When 12-year-old Henry learns his neighbour has framed his dog for a bite that never happened, he hatches an ingenious plan to save his pooch from the pound – he SHAVES Doodles of all his body hair, throws some clothes on him, and takes him to school as 'Dude,' his laid-back, long-haired 'cousin' from California. Together this boy and his Dude navigate classes, dodge the dogcatcher, and foil any spoil-sport who threatens their fun in this hilarious, heartwarming high-wire act that proves friendship knows no bounds – no matter what species you are.

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# Picture Books



# THE WATER BEAR

## A big friendship in a tiny world.

The tiny but mighty adventures of nature-loving Maybel who is burning to do good for the world. Easier said than done ... Maybel's only 7 years, 11 months and 4 days old and stuck in her tiny UK flat, with her overprotective dad and demanding little brother. Oh how she longs to be saving the planet alongside her eco-hero, Mom, back in South Africa! But not every girl would think to SAVE the piece of moss growing on their bedroom wall ... and when Maybel looks at it through her new portable MICROSCOPE, her world is turned inside out ... A magical connection with a water bear transports her into the MOSS KINGDOM, bringing her face to face with Monsoon. As she places her hand in Monsoon the water bear's paw print, the bridge between their two worlds is completed, but their story has only just begun ...

Maybel is ready to explore and JUMP IN to help sort out ANY problem that pops up in the Moss Kingdom. She eagerly shepherds rogue leaf sheep, and readily babysits emoji bugs -- but as her self-appointed guide, Monsoon tries to slow her down long enough to actually ENJOY herself in the Moss Kingdom. Where else can you find photosynthesising slugs, dancing lichen flowers and a waterfall that gives you ideas? When Maybel remembers to connect with the very things she is fighting for, transformative magic BEAMS through Monsoon which gives the challenge at hand a helpful 'leg up.' And as each adventure brings a new opportunity for connection, their tiny but mighty friendship sparks up the lost magic of the Moss Kingdom.

**Water Bear hugs are the Best bear hugs!**

All rights available.

Clea Mallinson has worked for Triggerfish animation studios as an editor on multiple projects, including REVOLTING RHYMES, AAU'S SONG and SUPA TEAM 4. She has an MA in screenwriting, has pitched twice in Animation Du Monde at Annecy, and has been awarded grants for three of her projects as well as a residency at Ciclic Animation.



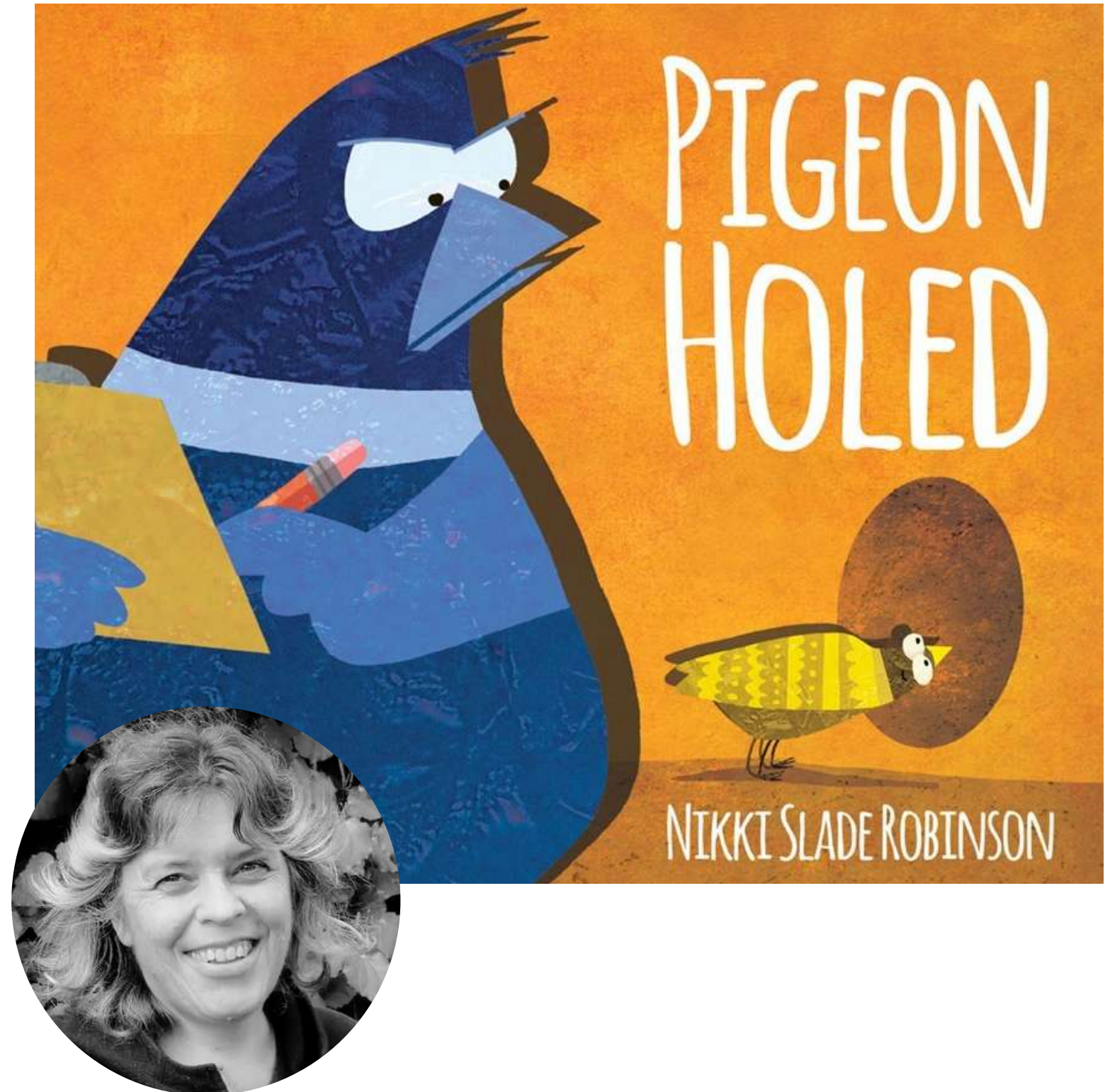
# PIGEON HOLED

## No pigeon holes for Little Pigeon

Big Pigeon has an Important job to do, organising all the pigeons into their correct places. But Little Pigeon is having none of it and eventually sets all the pigeons free – to be themselves and mix happily together.

All rights available except: ANZ; Chinese

Nikki Slade Robinson is both author and illustrator. She specialises in titles for four- to seven-year-olds and has won a number of awards. She works from her studio in the Eastern Bay of Plenty, New Zealand, and tries to step lightly on the earth.



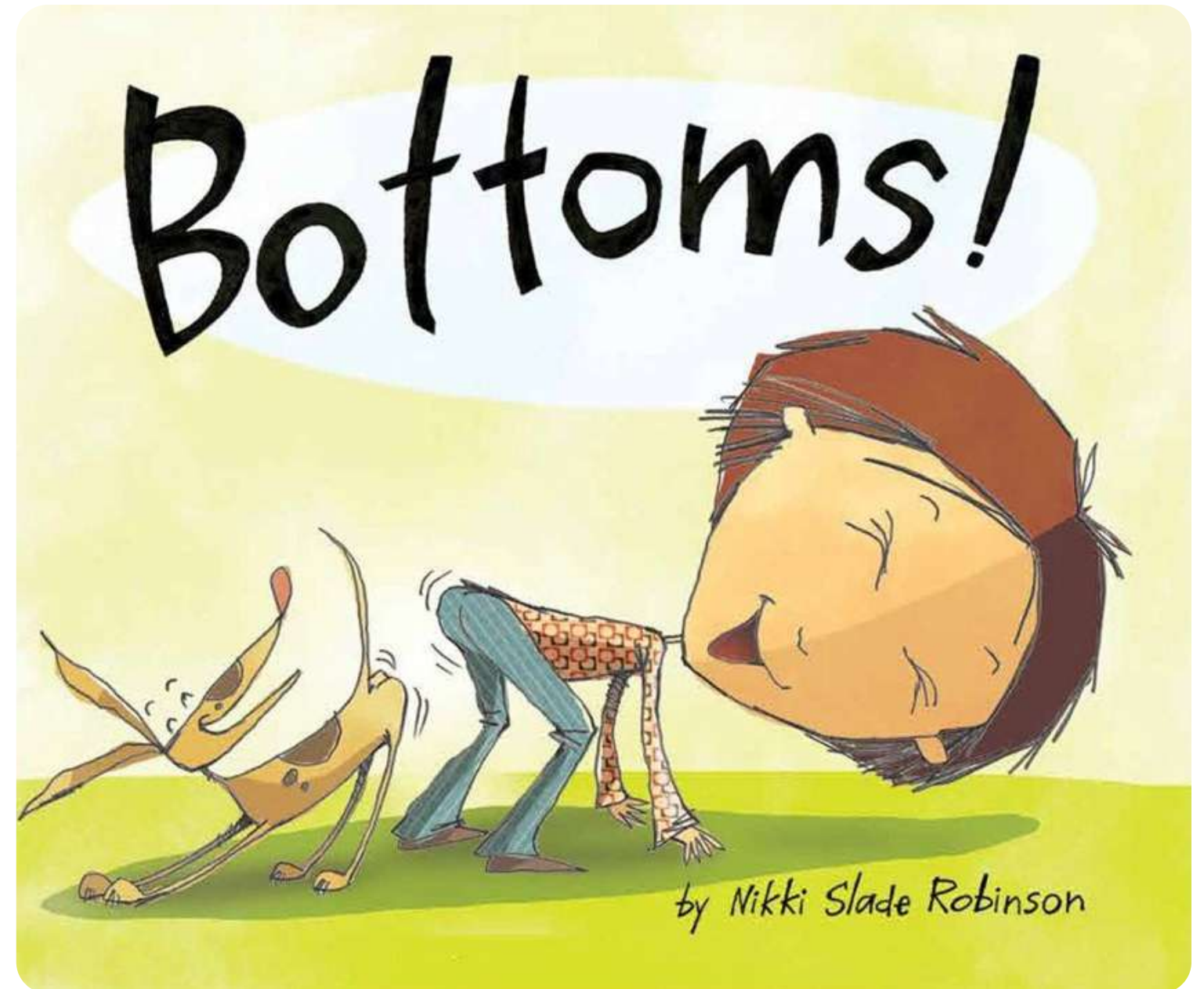
# BOTTOMS

**A lovely picture book that celebrates bodies in all shape and forms.**

Bottoms there, bottoms here, there are bottoms everywhere. So let's hurrah for bottoms all, in any colour big or small.

All rights available except: ANZ; Chinese

Nikki Slade Robinson has illustrated over sixty children's books and readers, including many for Duck Creek Press that she has written and illustrated, including the award-winning Muddle & Mo series and the award-winning The Little Kiwi series.



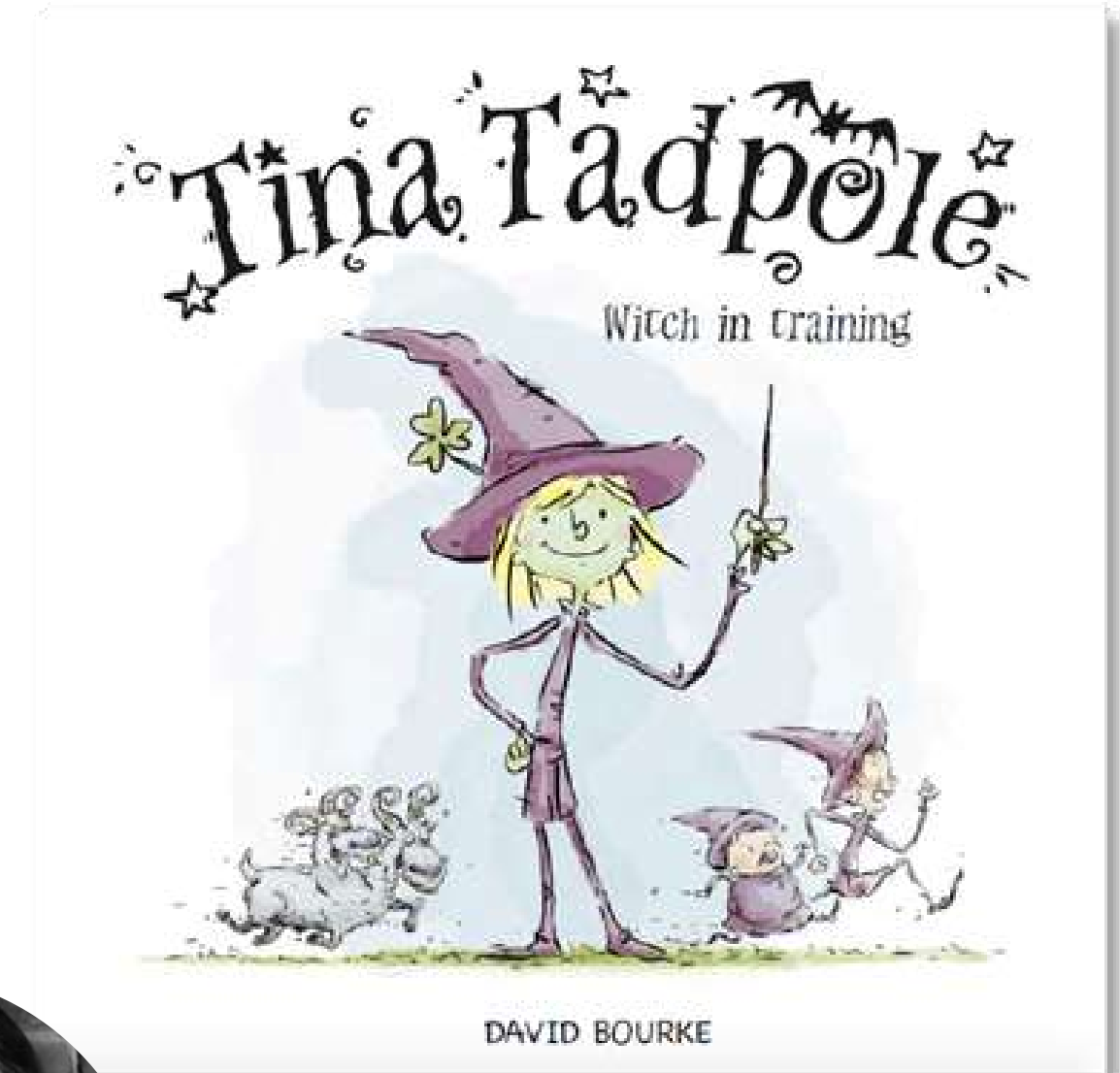
# TINA TADPOLE

## Not all witches have green skin ...

Tina tries her very best not to act out at school, but, she's a little ... different, and sometimes she can't help it. A clever frog once said it isn't easy being green. You might think all witches have green skin, but actually only one in a thousand witches does. There is only one green-skinned witch at Miss Blackwing's school: Tina. That's how Tina Catchpole became known as Tina Tadpole. Being different isn't easy, until you remember, in their own way, everyone's different.

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David Bourke is an illustrator and graphic designer with more than twenty years of experience. David has spent the last four years freelancing and being a stay at home Dad. Reading hundreds of children's books to his daughter inspired him to create one of his own. David wrote and illustrated his debut picture book TINA TADPOLE: WITCH IN TRAINING



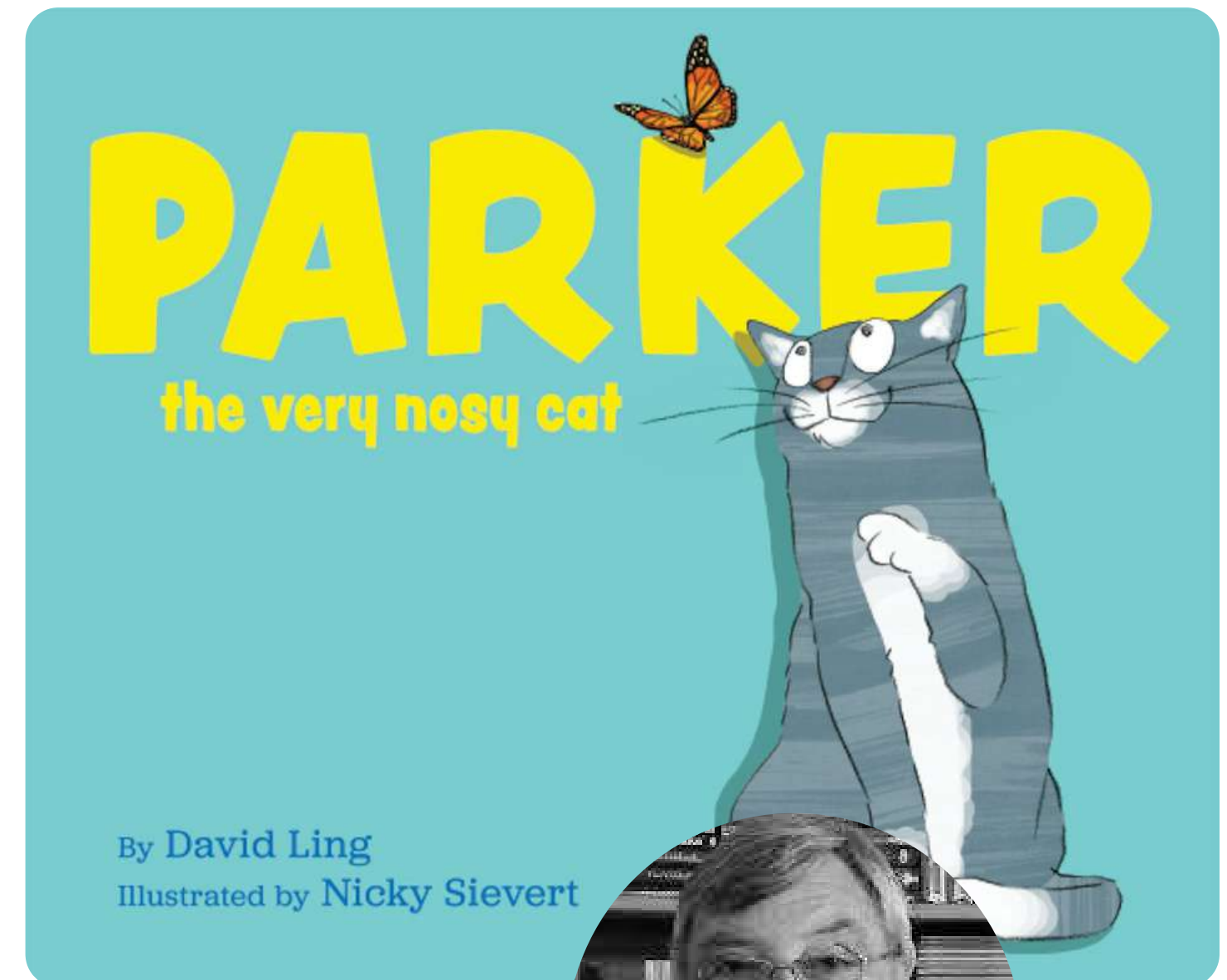
# PARKER

## For cat lovers the world over!

Muddle Parker can be a pest, poking his nose into everything that is going on. He's also pretty clumsy and, while he tries his best, he usually causes a bit of chaos. All cat owners will relate to Parker's amusing antics.

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Publisher and author **David Ling** was born 1949 and educated at Auckland Grammar School and the University of Auckland graduating with MA (Hons) in Psychology. David was a director of educational and general publishing companies where he worked for nearly 20 years before establishing David Ling Publishing in 1992 and the Duck Creek Press children's imprint in 2010. He has been active on management committees in a number of industry organisations including Storylines, and Adult and Children's Montana and NZ Post Book Award committees; for 13 years he was a councillor of the Publishers Association of New Zealand (PANZ), where, in 2011, he was awarded Honorary Life Membership for his services. In the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours he was appointed as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the publishing industry. His own authored children's books have also sold in co-editions in the US and Canada, UK, Australia, South Africa, China, Latin America and Israel. **Nicky Sievert** is an author and illustrator from Lower Hutt, Aotearoa New Zealand who published OF COURSE YOU CAN / KA TAEA TONU E KOE for OneTree House in 2018. Since then she has illustrated two books for Duck Creek Press, OUR DAD in 2018 and PARKER THE VERY NOSY CAT in 2020. Duck Creek Press also published a picture book she wrote and illustrated called I LOVE TOMATO SAUCE in 2019.



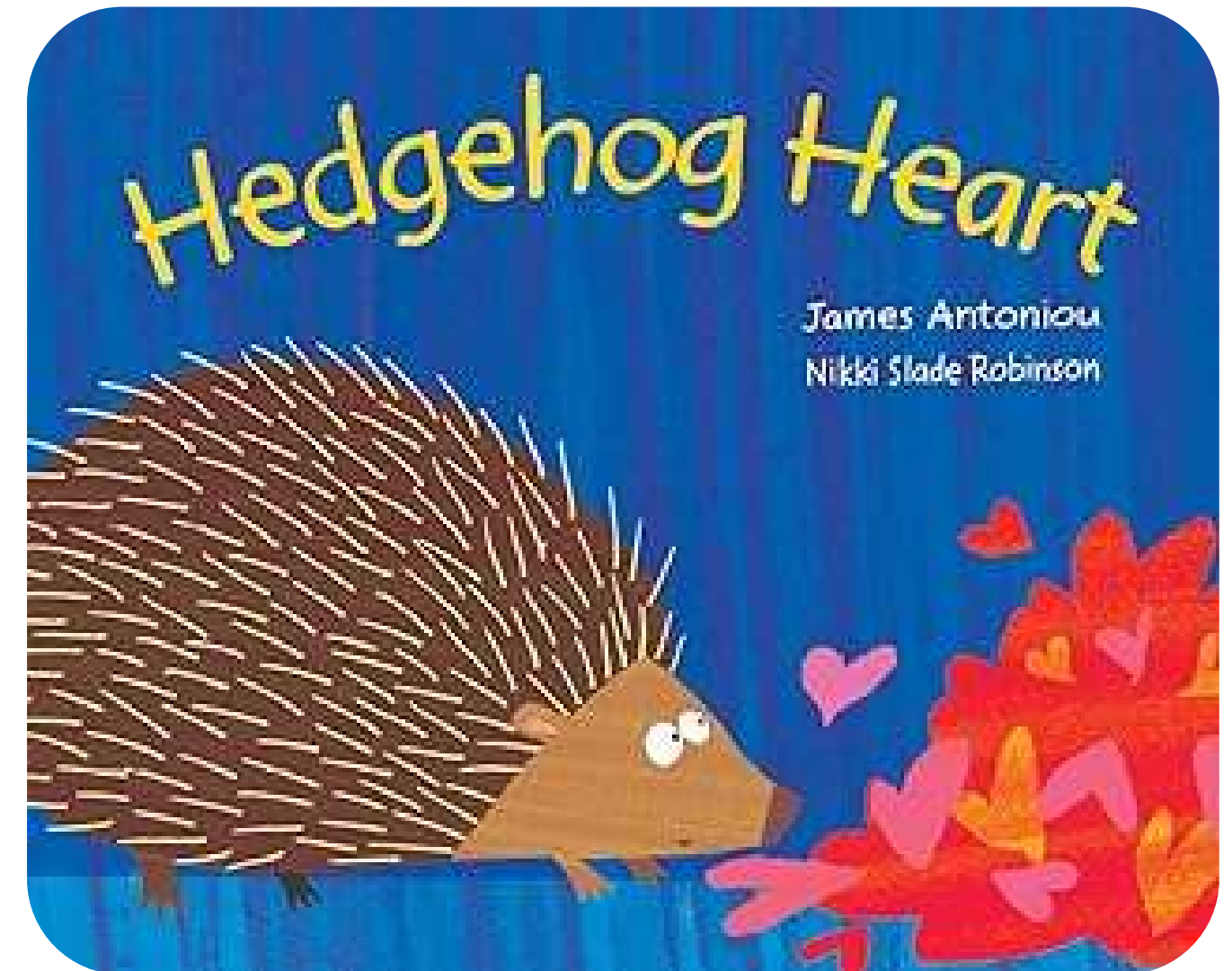
# HEDGEHOG HEART

**A joyful celebration of love and friendship.**

What sort of heart do you have? Love shows itself in many different ways and while we usually know the sort of heart someone has, sometimes it's a little hard to tell.

All rights available except: ANZ; Chinese

James Antoniou is a Melbourne-based writer. He writes for both children and adults. For several years he worked for The Children's Bookshow, a UK-based theatre tour of children's writers and illustrators, which inspired him to write his own picture books. Nikki Slade Robinson has illustrated over sixty children's books and readers, including several for Duck Creek Press that she has written and illustrated, including the award-winning Muddle & Mo series and The little Kiwi series.



# I AM AN ARTIST

## Because anybody can be an artist!

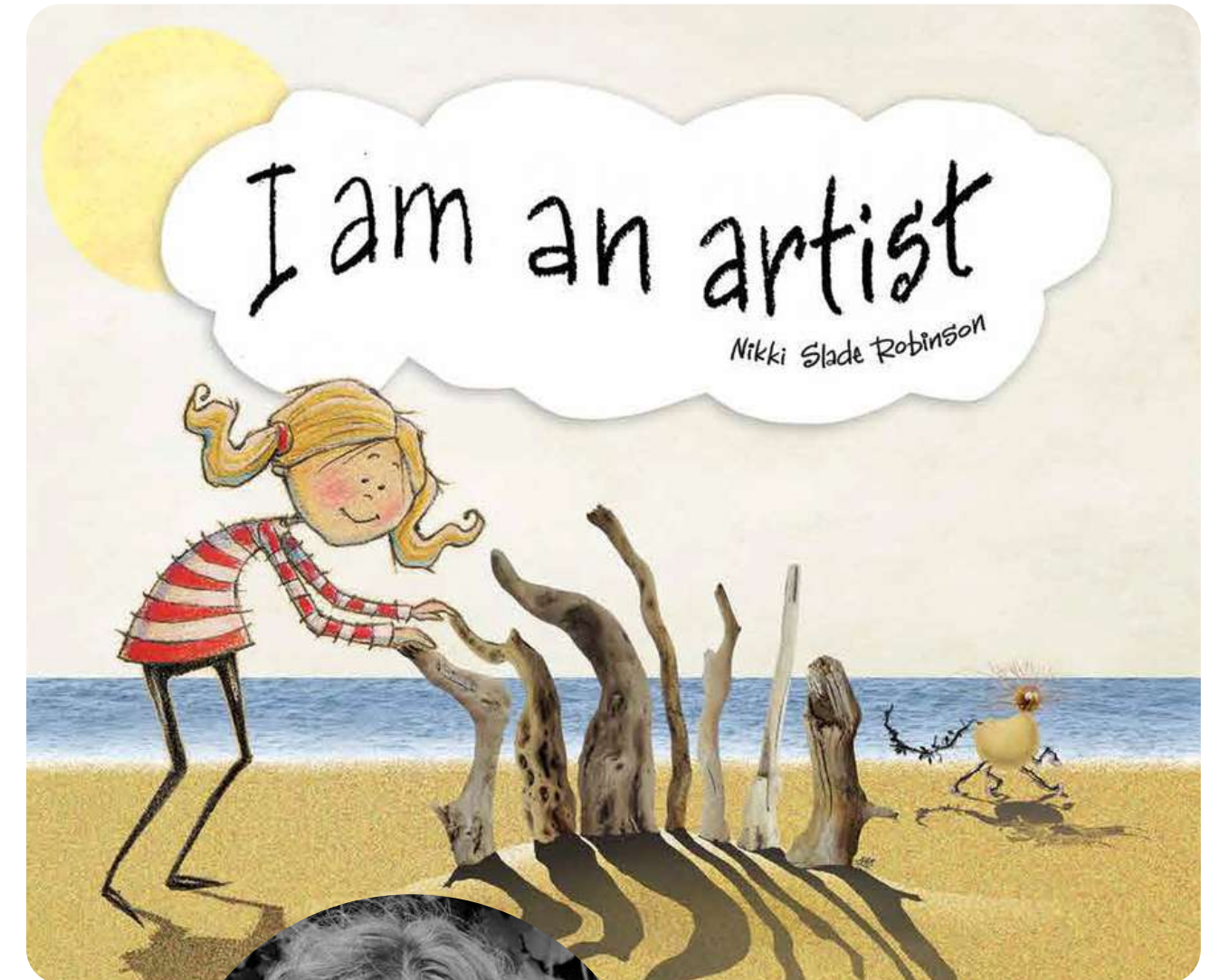
From the incredibly talented Nikki Slade-Robinson comes this beautiful hand-crafted picture book that will inspire and encourage children to create art using everyday objects from the natural environment.

**‘This is a joyful picture book about the power of imagination.’ —Reading Time**

**‘Robinson’s gorgeous picture book provides the springboard for creative expression.’ —ReadPlus**

All rights available except: North American; ANZ; Chinese

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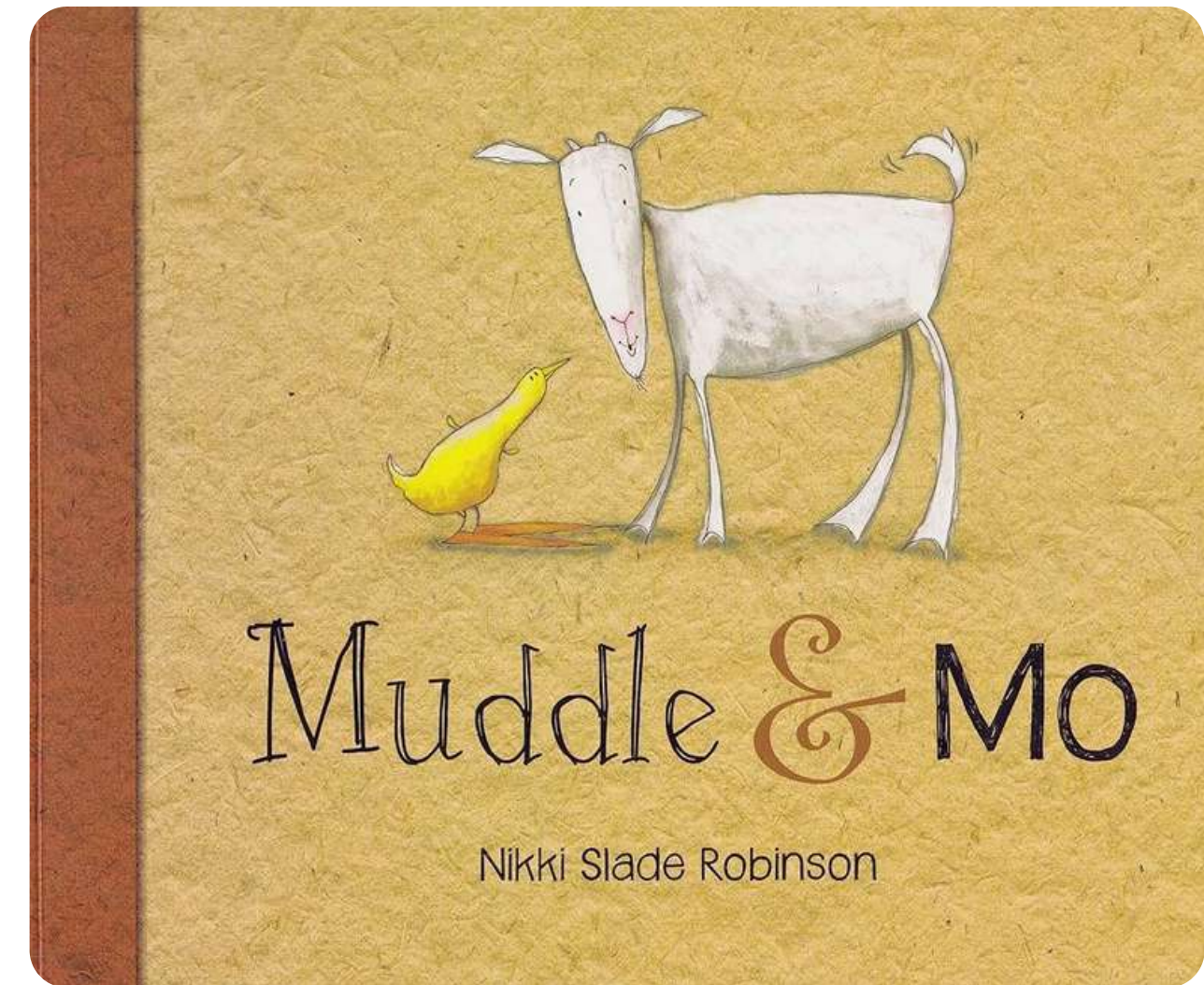
# MUDDLE & MO

## An adorable duckling and his friend Mo the goat.

Muddle is a loveable, slightly confused yet enthusiastic little duckling who asks lots and lots of questions. Mo is a long-suffering, not very adventurous white goat who has lots of patience. They are best friends, but Muddle is rather confused about what type of animals they both are. Fortunately, during the course of their walk together Mo helps Muddle get his duck identity sorted out.

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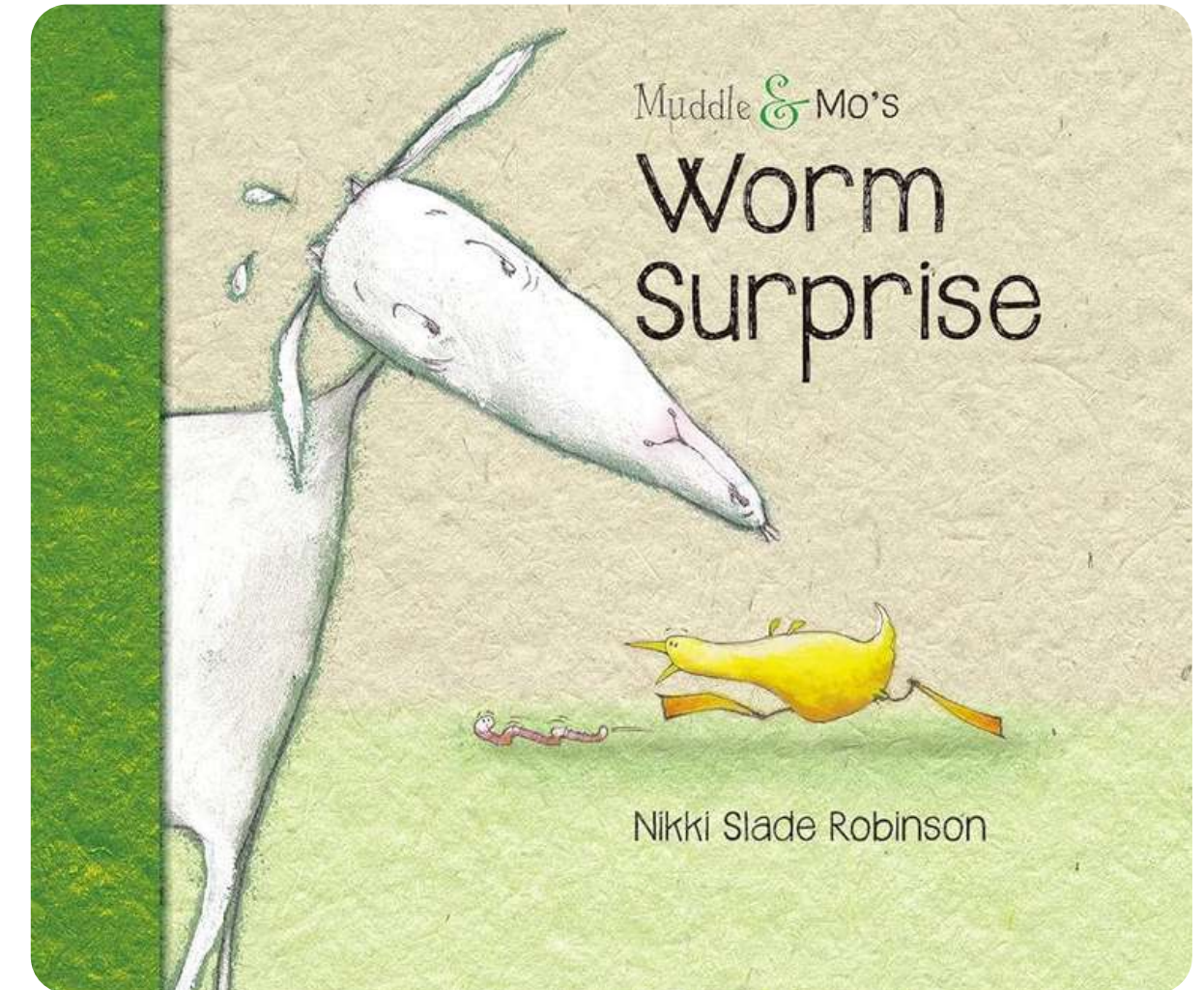
# MUDDLE & MO: WORM SURPRISE

## Being a friend is being considerate.

Muddle is a loveable, slightly confused yet enthusiastic little duckling. His best friend Mo is a long-suffering, not very adventurous white goat who has lots of patience. In this sequel to MUDDLE & MO, Muddle is preparing a surprise picnic for Mo. Mo doesn't like worms, so will he like what's in the basket?

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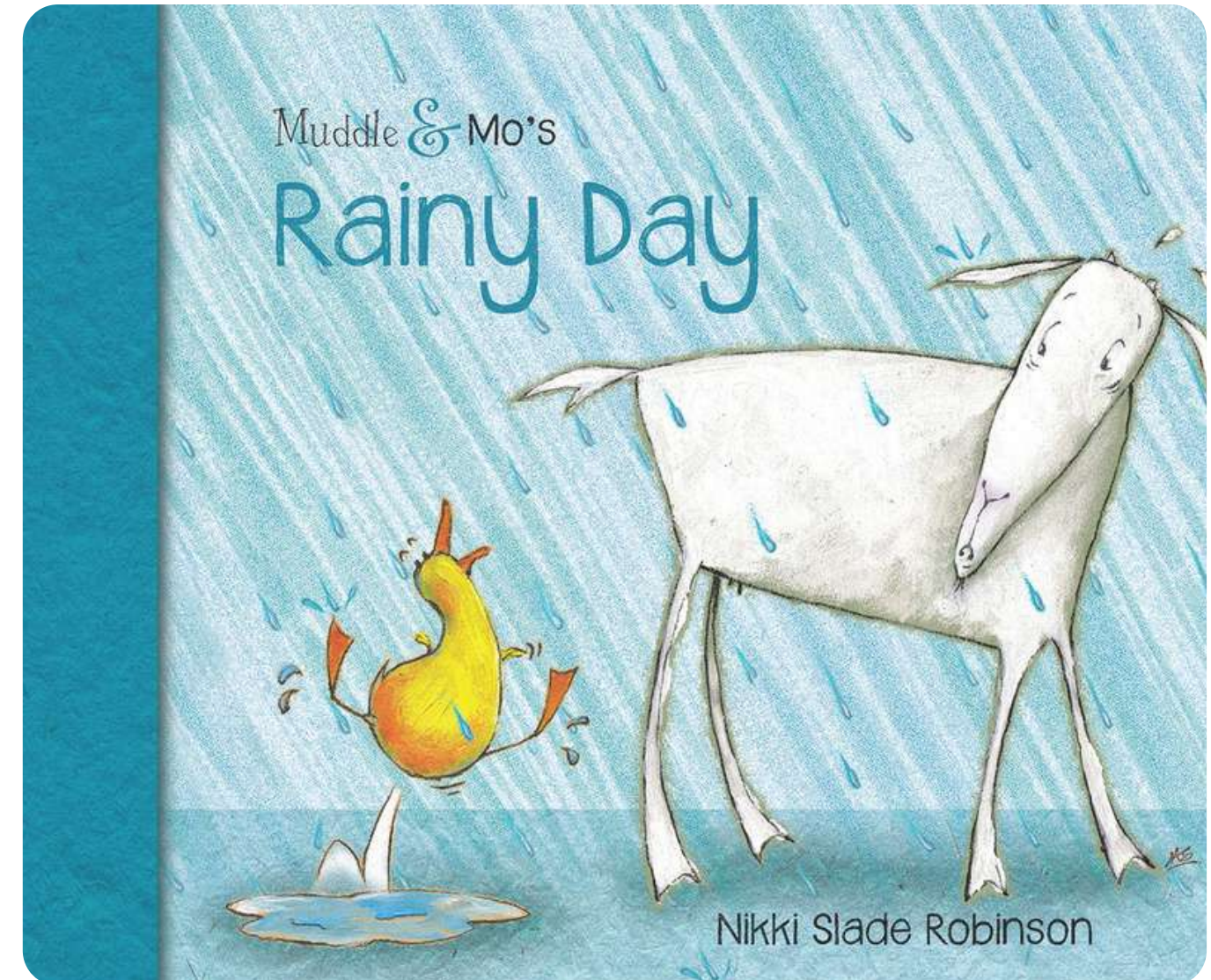
# MUDDLE & MO: RAINY DAY

## Muddle gets Mo to try something new.

Another delightful tale of the unlikely best friends Muddle and Mo. Big raindrops are falling. Muddle likes the rain but Mo is a goat and goats do NOT like the rainy days. Will a special Muddle-cuddle save the day and get Mo to try something different?

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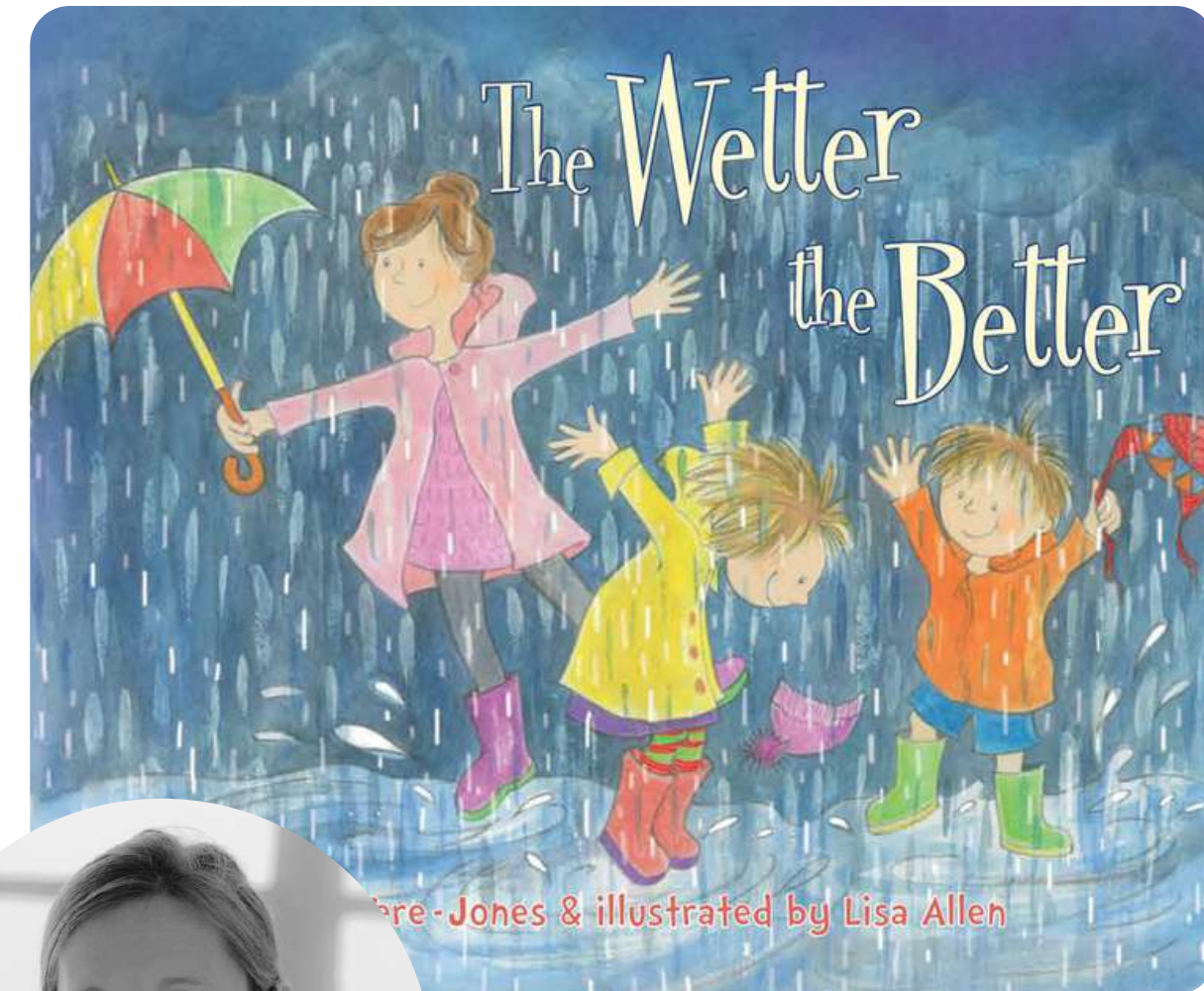
# THE WETTER THE BETTER

## Cloudy days and silver linings.

'Frowning black clouds, lightening fork flashes. Fast-falling raindrops, thunder-bolt crashes. Wetter and wetter and wetter it got. It just kept on raining. It just wouldn't stop.' Lily and Theo don't want to walk to school on the stormiest day of the year, but they are in for a surprise. And so is Mum. This is heaps of fun!

All rights available except: ANZ; Chinese

Emma Vere-Jones is also the author of FIZZY POP, illustrated by Kate Snushall and STAN THE VAN MAN, illustrated by Philip Webb, which won the Storylines Joy Cowley Award in 2014. Lisa Allen has illustrated a number of picture books for Duck Creek Press, including AUNTIE ELLIE'S BEACH HOUSE, AUNTY EDNA OF DUCK CREEK POND and UNCLE VIC'S FARM.



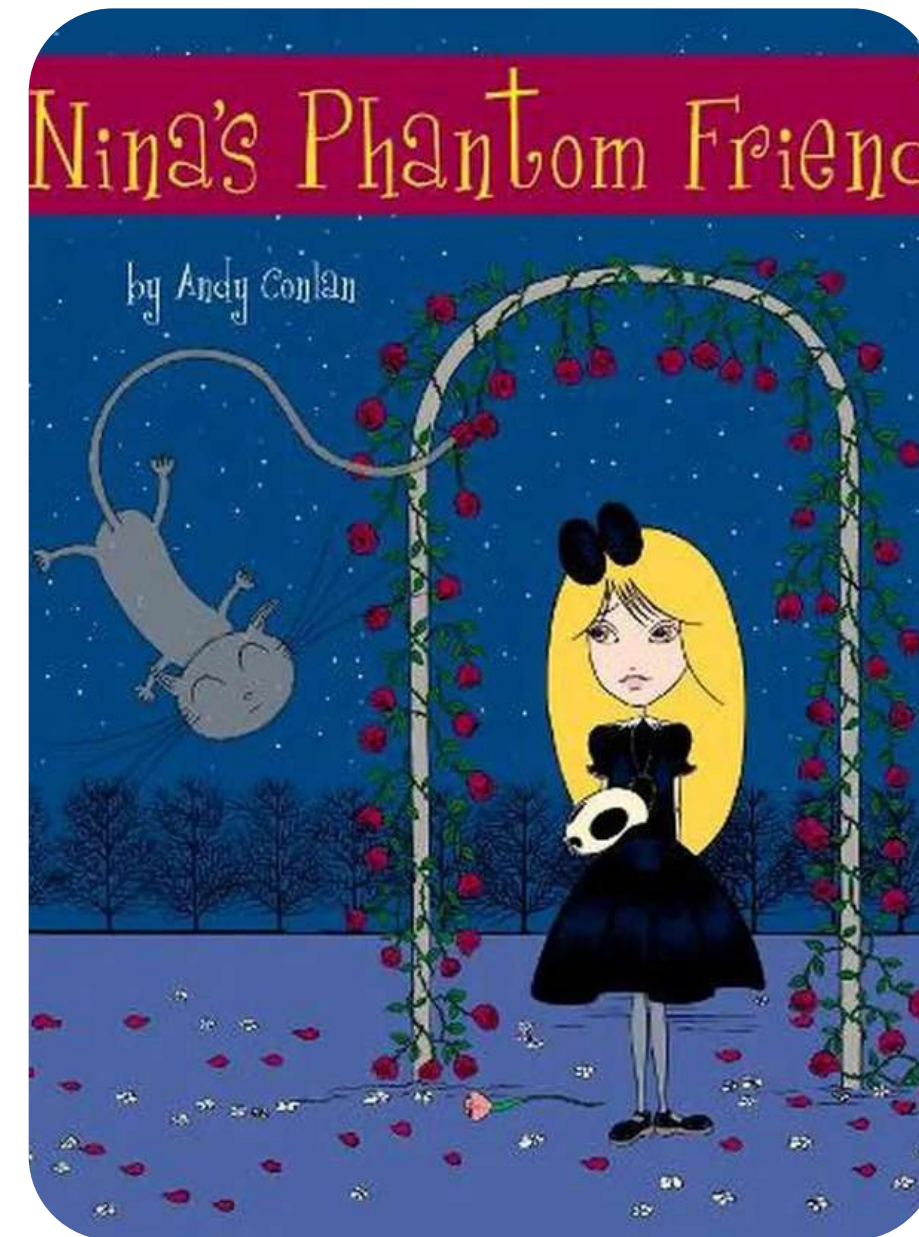
# NINA'S PHANTOM FRIEND

## Nina's missing cat returns as a ghost.

A young lonely girl called Nina writes these words after her pet cat, Masaccio, disappears. When he comes back to her as a ghost, she finds out that he needs her help. His remains are lost in a very strange place, so she must follow the ghost on a journey to bring him home. This is a beautifully illustrated, touching, but spooky and fun, tale about the enduring bond between us and our animal friends.

All rights available except: ANZ; Chinese

Andy Conlan is an author and illustrator, as well as an award winning feature filmmaker. He studied English Literature at Auckland University, New Zealand, where he was admitted to their highly contested Creative Writing Program. Conlan is the author of MR GLOOMINGDALE'S DOWNPOUR, THE WAITING PIG, MR GLOOMINGDALE'S CHRISTMAS and NINA'S PHANTOM FRIEND. He was also producer and co-host on the nationwide radio show LOVE SONGS 'TIL MIDNIGHT.



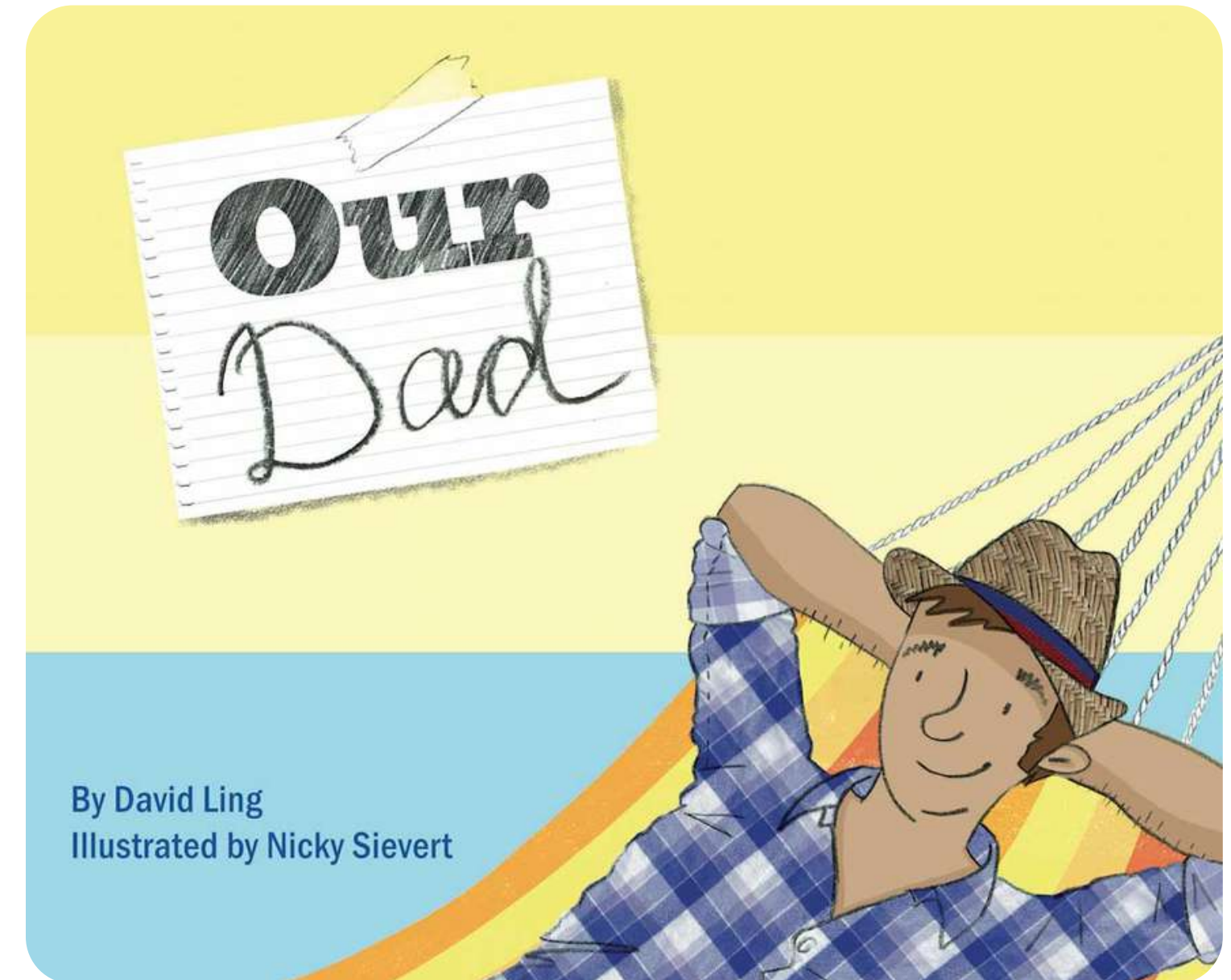
# OUR DAD

## Dad is a stay-at-home dad.

Mum goes out to work and Dad works from home. He's there in the day to do things but he's pretty clumsy and forgetful and his cooking is dreadful. Sometimes the kids laugh, saying that he must be the most hopeless Dad in the world. But of course they know he isn't really. When it really matters he's the best Dad in the world.

All rights available except: ANZ; Chinese

Publisher and author **David Ling** was born 1949 and educated at Auckland Grammar School and the University of Auckland graduating with MA (Hons) in Psychology. David was a director of educational and general publishing companies where he worked for nearly 20 years before establishing David Ling Publishing in 1992 and the Duck Creek Press children's imprint in 2010. He has been active on management committees in a number of industry organisations including Storylines, and Adult and Children's Montana and NZ Post Book Award committees; for 13 years he was a councillor of the Publishers Association of New Zealand (PANZ), where, in 2011, he was awarded Honorary Life Membership for his services. In the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours he was appointed as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the publishing industry. His own authored children's books have also sold in co-editions in the US and Canada, UK, Australia, South Africa, China, Latin America and Israel. **Nicky Sievert** is an author and illustrator from Lower Hutt, Aotearoa New Zealand who published OF COURSE YOU CAN / KA TAEA TONU E KOE for OneTree House in 2018. Since then she has illustrated two books for Duck Creek Press, OUR DAD in 2018 and PARKER THE VERY NOSY CAT in 2020. Duck Creek Press also published a picture book she wrote and illustrated called I LOVE TOMATO SAUCE in 2019.



# THE ROADMAN BOOGIE

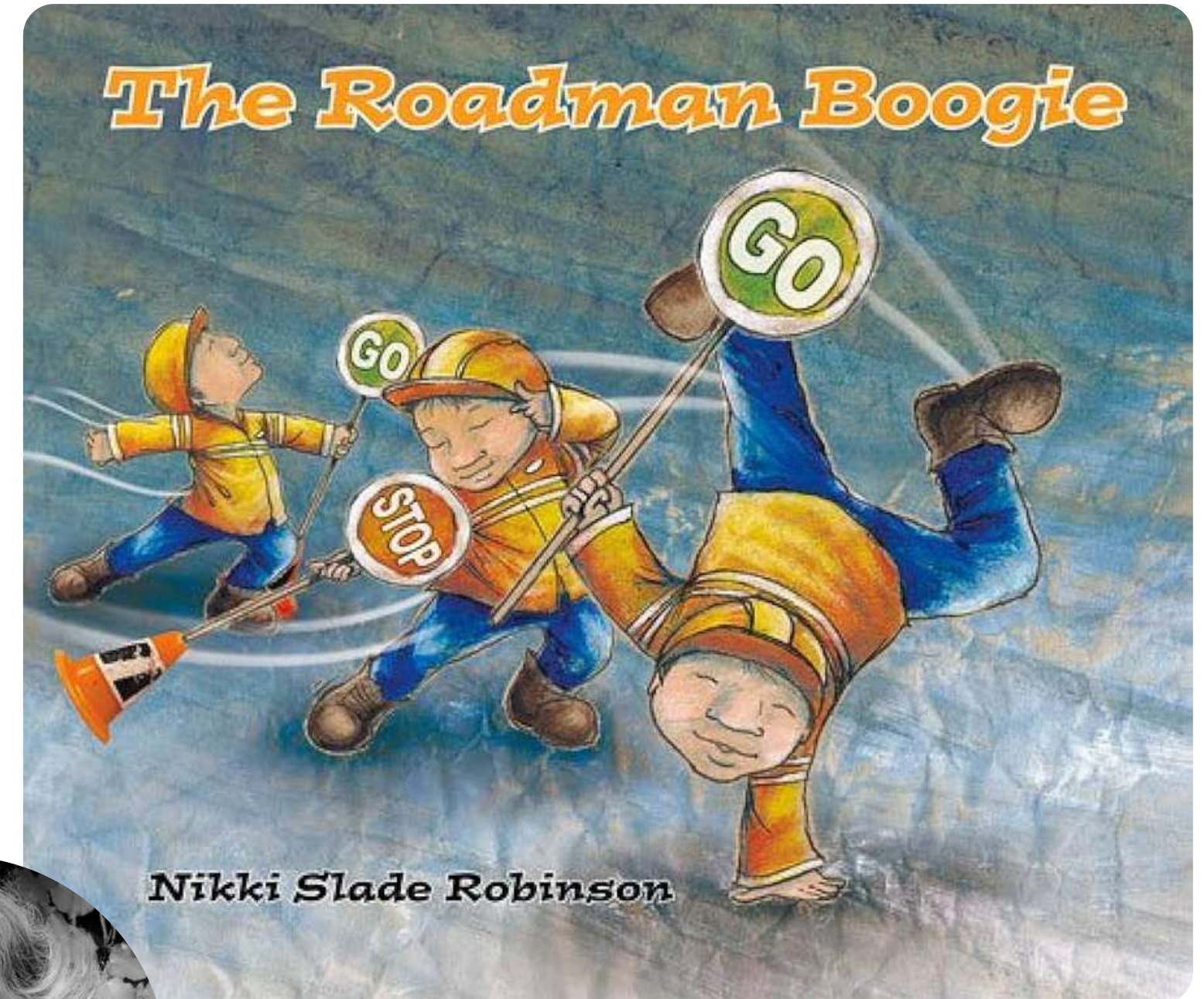
**There's no need to be bored when you can wiggle!**

I'm cold and bored and soggy,' sneezed the Roadman with a sigh.  
'All I do is Stop-Go-Stop at traffic sloshing by.'

But when a loaded car pulled up, with music playing loud, the Roadman couldn't help himself and danced for all the crowd! The Roadman Boogie is a delightful and true story of a bored Roadman who found a way to entertain himself with dance on a wet and blustery day. The Roadman has some great dance moves and his happiness and enthusiasm is infectious as he jumps around listening to the various beats blaring from car to car. Children will be enthralled as they see him dancing the rumba and salsa, wiggling his bottom to a tune, and finding a way to keep drivers happy in a soggy situation. The gorgeous rhyming text is also a joy to read!

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# TROMPET AND TRUMBONE

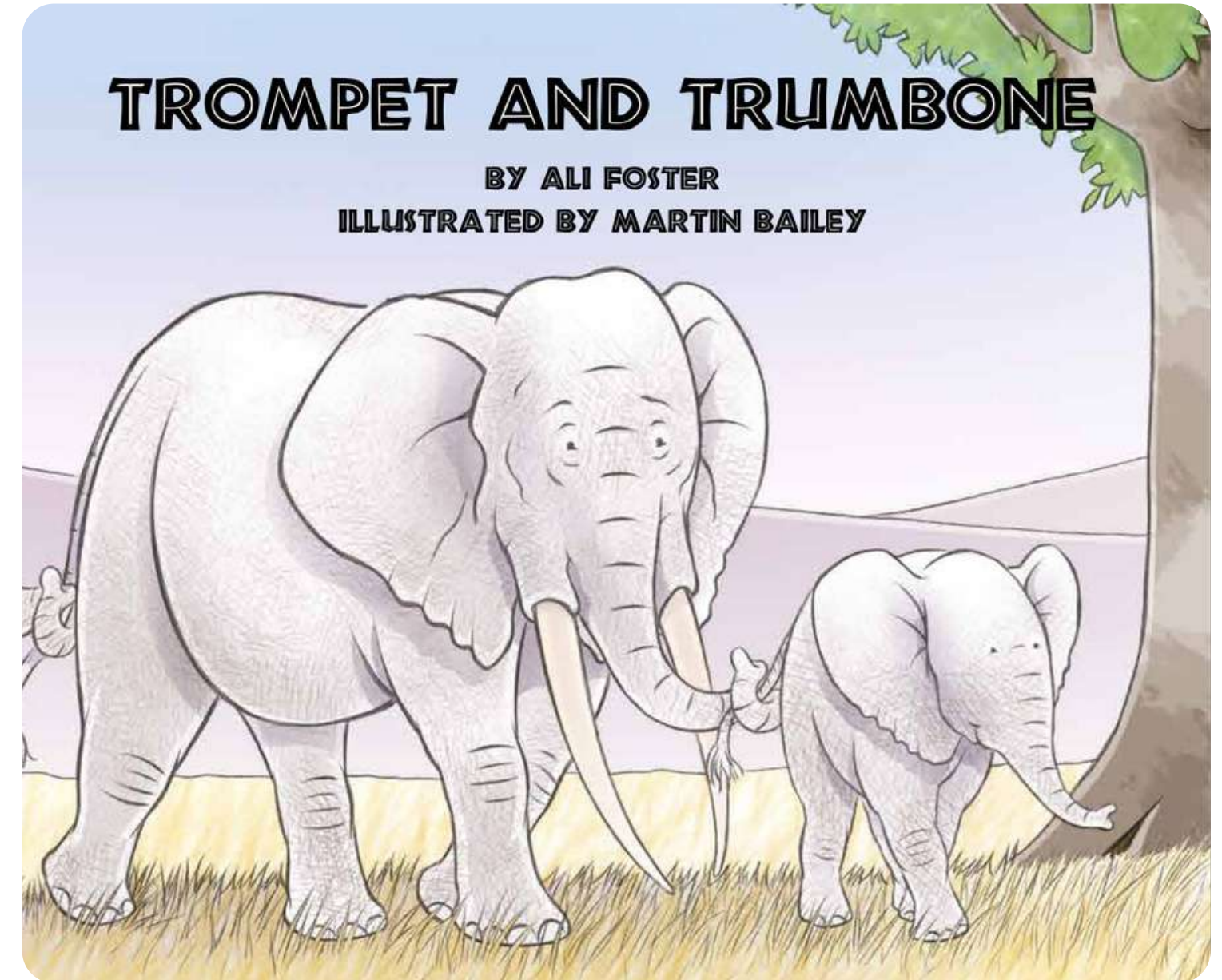
## Because Elephants grow old too.

Is it true that elephants never forget? What happens if they do? Trompet and Trumbone is the story of the special relationship between a wise old matriarch and her great-granddaughter.

**A sweet story about traditions, intergenerational relationships, and most of all, about kindness and empathy' - NZBOOKLOVERS**

All rights available except: ANZ; Chinese; Arabic

In 2008 at the age of fifty, after many submissions and rejections, Ali Foster had her first book published. The picture book, *ELVYN'S DREAM*, won the Random House/Mitre 10/Conservation Foundation competition for a story about the takahe, a large, flightless, New Zealand native bird that was once thought to be extinct.



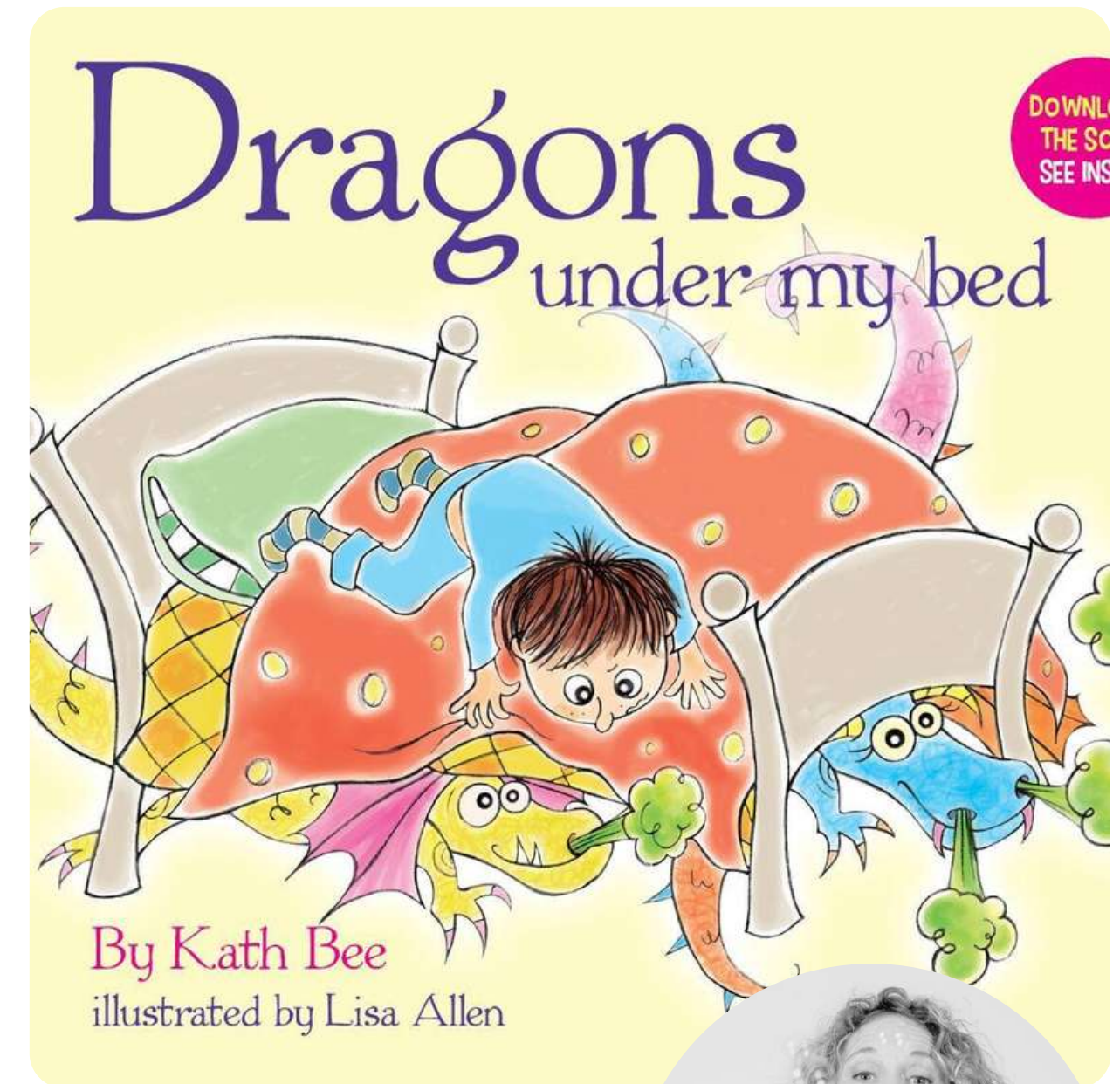
# DRAGONS UNDER MY BED

**Takes 'It wasn't me!' to a whole new level!**

I've got dragons under my bed.  
Not just one a whole family instead.  
And at night, when Mum turns the light off,  
they make a terrible mess.

All rights available except: ANZ; Chinese

Kath Bee is an award-winning children's songwriter who travels all over New Zealand singing her songs and making kids smile. Lisa Allen has illustrated seven picture books for Duck Creek Press, most recently, THE WETTER THE BETTER by Emma Vere-Jones.



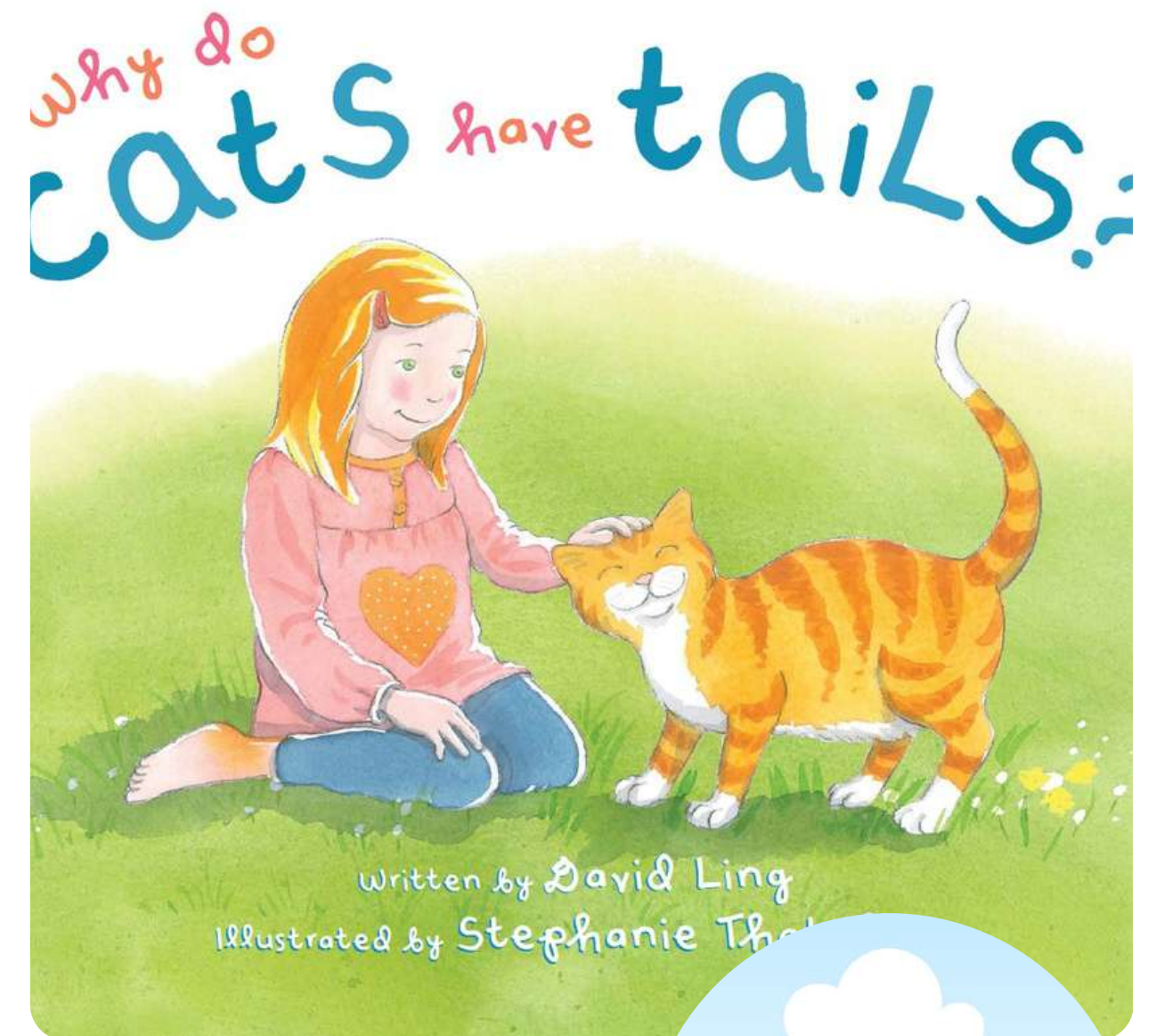
# WHY DO CAT'S HAVE TAILS?

## Where does Grandpa get his ideas?

Children can come up with some pretty funny questions, and here in this warm and amusing story Grandpa teases his granddaughters with some very unusual answers. They reject all his silly answers until one of them comes up with an idea that even Grandpa couldn't think of. This is a story that grandparents and grandchildren love.

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Publisher and author **David Ling** was born 1949 and educated at Auckland Grammar School and the University of Auckland graduating with MA (Hons) in Psychology. David was a director of educational and general publishing companies where he worked for nearly 20 years before establishing David Ling Publishing in 1992 and the Duck Creek Press children's imprint in 2010. He has been active on management committees in a number of industry organisations including Storylines, and Adult and Children's Montana and NZ Post Book Award committees; for 13 years he was a councillor of the Publishers Association of New Zealand (PANZ), where, in 2011, he was awarded Honorary Life Membership for his services. In the 2020 Queen's Birthday Honours he was appointed as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the publishing industry. His own authored children's books have also sold in co-editions in the US and Canada, UK, Australia, South Africa, China, Latin America and Israel. **Stephanie Thatcher** is an award-winning author and illustrator. For Duck Creek Press she has also written and illustrated THE QUIET PIRATE (2013) and THE TOY FAIRY (2014).



# Children's Non-fiction



# WEIRDER THAN YOU

## When nature turns weird.

Hey!' shouts Fox. 'Can you keep it down!' Did you know a red fox has incredibly sensitive hearing, able to detect a mouse's squeak from 100 feet away? Or that after a chase, a cheetah needs about 30 minutes to catch its breath before eating? 'CHEETAH CHEETAH, WHEN CAN WE EAT-A?!' Or that squirrels sweat through their feet? 'Dad! Pete keeps on touching me with his sweaty paws!' WEIRDER THAN YOU is a collection of hilarious and bizarre stories that explore the oddities of the natural world. Each episode takes uncanny yet true nature facts and spins them into a riotous sketch that'll have you laughing while learning. From the peculiar mating dances of birds to the mind-boggling survival tactics of insects, nothing is too weird for this comedic journey that promises to tickle your funny bone and stretch your imagination, reminding you that truth really is stranger than fiction.

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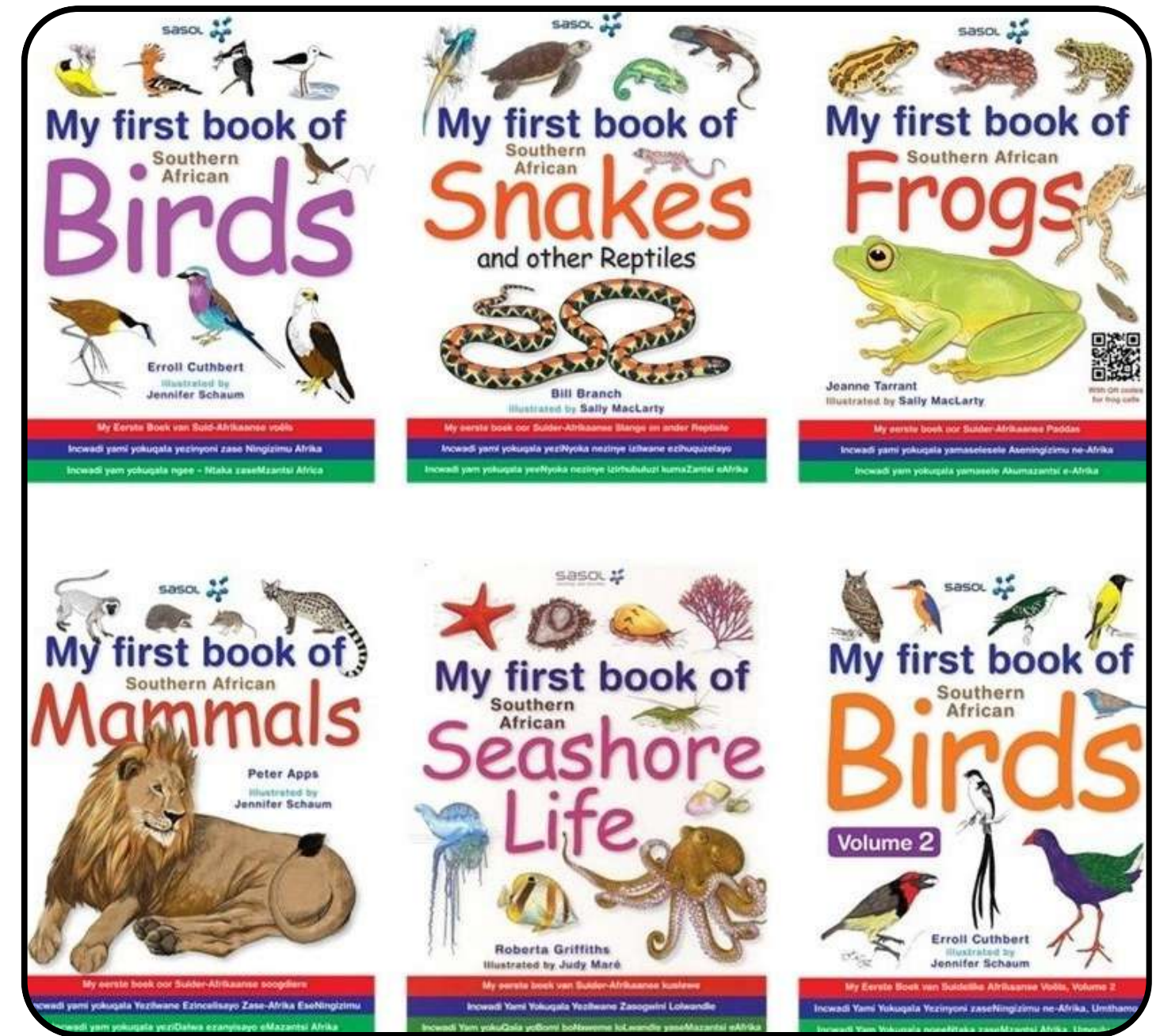
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# MY FIRST BOOK OF ...

**A series of 12 richly illustrated wildlife guide books for children.**

This full colour series gives children from 3 to 10 an easily accessible introduction to common species including snakes, frogs, birds, mammals, and insects. With hundreds of fun facts, the books teach children how to spot and track different creatures in the wild, what they eat and how and where they live.



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# Contact Us

Aoife Lennon-Ritchie, The Lennon-Ritchie Agency/5 Lower Trill Road/Observatory/Cape Town  
7925/South Africa

aoife@lennonliterary.com / Tel: +27 61 3521405, +27 21 447 9797

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