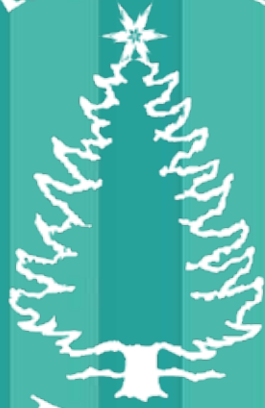


Christmas



Press

2023

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The Cave  
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A Very Special Moon Mission  
Fil and Harry  
Princess Hayley's Comet  
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The Secret Battle  
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The Phantasmic Detective Agency  
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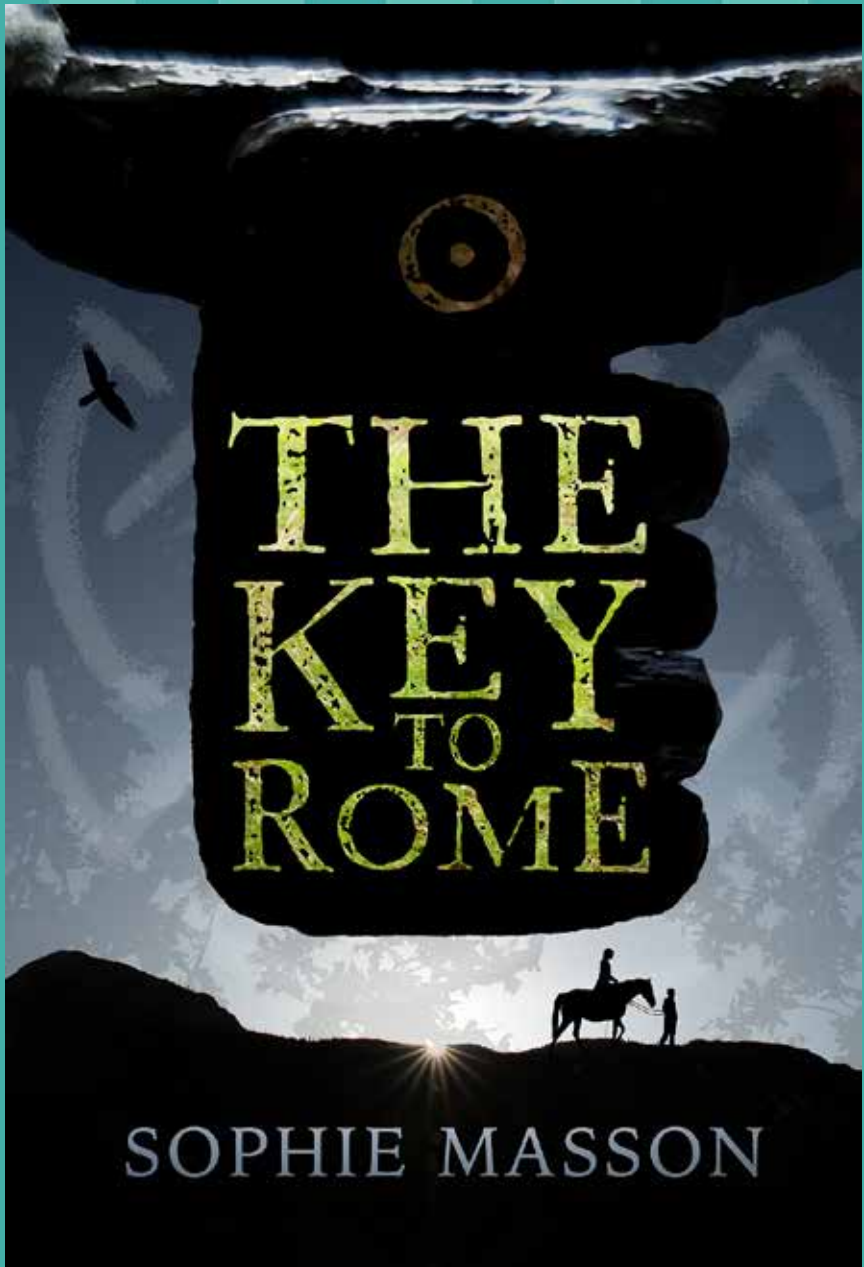
**Once Upon a Christmas**  
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**The Sorcerer's Tower**  
**The Fastest Ship in Space**

## **Contact**

New in 2023



# The Key to Rome

**A mysterious key... a promise made to a dying man... a frightening journey across dangerous territory: set in AD 84 in Roman Britain, *The Key to Rome* is an exciting historical mystery by multi-award-winning author Sophie Masson.**



- **The Key to Rome**
- **Sophie Masson**
- **ISBN 9780645378856**
- **RRP: \$19.99**
- **174 pages**
- **May 2023**
- **Eagle Books**
- **Middle-grade fiction**
- **Rights available: World excluding ANZ**

## **About the author**

Born in Indonesia of French parents, and brought up in France and Australia, Sophie Masson is the multi-award-winning author of over 70 books for children, young adults and adults. In 2019, Sophie received an AM (Member, General Division) award in the Order of Australia honours list.



Lucy Newton

Messy  
Magic



Phoebe  
McArthur



# Lucy Newton Messy Magic

**Lucy has to clean her room — without using magic. Only, every time Lucy returns from a well-earned break from cleaning up, she finds her room tidier than ever. Is her house haunted... by a ghost who loves cleaning? Number three in the popular Lucy Newton series.**



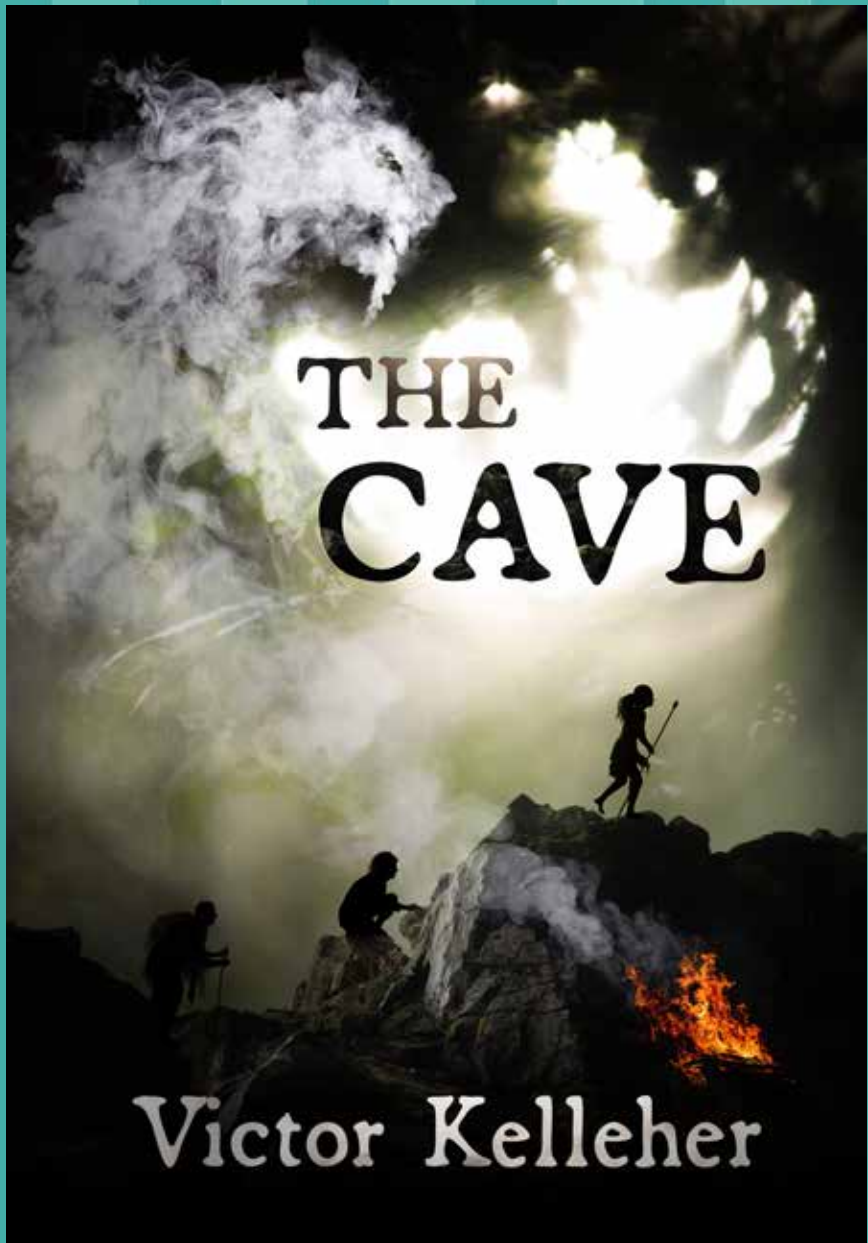
- **Lucy Newton Messy Magic**
  - **Phoebe McArthur**
  - **November 2023**
  - **ISBN 9780645378870**
    - **72 pages**
    - **RRP \$13.99**
- **Junior fiction/chapterbook**
- **Rights available: World excluding ANZ.**

## **About the author**

Phoebe McArthur lives in a run-down, yet cosy cottage in the middle of nowhere. She's not at all lonely thanks to her four cats, three chooks, two guinea pigs and her extensive library.

If she's not tipping cats off her lap as she writes stories, she's cooking all sorts of yummy food, such as scones with extra cream and homemade blackberry jam, or doing art at the table near the window, which has the best view of her garden.

**Coming in 2024**





# The Cave

An exciting story set in a richly-recreated Paleolithic past, *The Cave* is both an extraordinary adventure and a moving exploration of loss, survival and courage.

Victor Kelleher's previous book with us, *Wanderer* (2022) was shortlisted for the 2023 NSW Premier's Literary Awards.



- *The Cave*
- Victor Kelleher
- April 2024
- Eagle Books
- ISBN 9780645378863
- 280 pages
- RRP \$19.99
- Upper middle-grade fiction
- Rights available: World excluding ANZ

## About the author

Victor Kelleher has written successfully for both adults and for young people. A past winner of the Children's Book Council of Australia's Book of the Year Award, he has twice received the CBCA Honour Award, and has won or been short-listed for many awards, including the Science Fiction Achievement Award and a short-listing for the Carnegie Medal.





LEAF  
LETTERS

LORENA CARRINGTON

# Leaf Letters

**Nine-year-old Hazel Bird is happiest on her own, photographing the tiny wild worlds in her neighbourhood bushland. But then she meets Cole, a boy with a hundred pockets and a strange and marvellous way of talking. Together they find hidden treasure and a handwritten book of secret codes...**

**A unique, interactive story for young readers, with coded messages to decipher and mysteries to solve.**



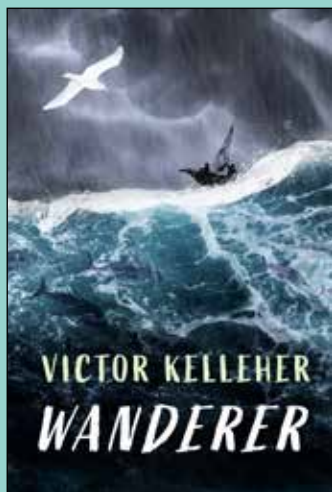
- Leaf Letters
- Lorena Carrington
  - July 2024
- ISBN 9780645378887
  - 80 pages
  - RRP \$15.99
- Junior fiction
- Rights available: World excluding ANZ

## About the author

Lorena Carrington is an illustrator and writer with a background in fine arts, photography and design. She has worked on story collections, anthologies and picture books, and has also created a number of cover illustrations and designs. Leaf Letters is her first junior novel.



# **Acclaimed Books**



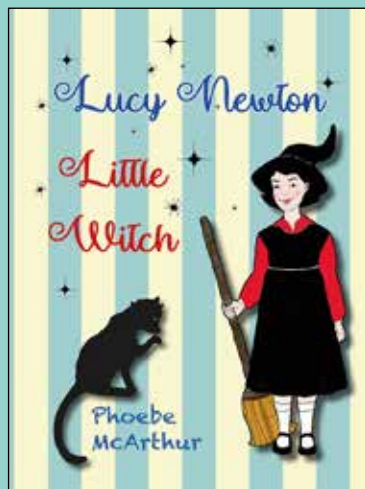
**Wanderer**  
by Victor Kelleher  
Shortlisted  
2023 NSW Premier's  
Literary Awards



**The Secret Battle**  
by Pamela Rushby  
Longlisted  
2022 Historical Novel Prize  
CYA category



**The Girl in the Mirror**  
by Jenny Blackford  
Winner  
Best Children's Crime Novel  
2020 Davitt Awards



**Lucy Newton, Little Witch**  
by Phoebe McArthur  
Shortlisted  
2019 Book of the Year Awards  
from Speech Pathology Australia  
5-8 category

# Christmas Press

## Backlist Junior Fiction and Early Readers



# The LUCY NEWTON series by Phoebe McArthur



Lucy Newton, Little Witch  
Written and illustrated by Phoebe McArthur

Lucy's mum is always busy, going to this meeting and that, leaving Lucy with one strict rule: NO MAGIC. Lucy doesn't mean to conjure the giant green slug. She only wanted a friendly kitten to keep her company.

Now, with the help of a talking spellbook and a grumpy cat called Thomas, she must race to get rid of the slug before it eats the prized cabbage garden of the witch next door — and before her mum gets home.

**SHORTLISTED, Book of the Year Speech  
Pathology Awards, 2019**

ISBN 9780648194507 | 72 pages | RRP \$13.99

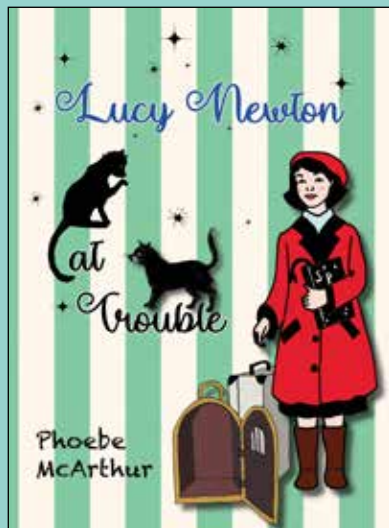
Lucy Newton: Cat Trouble  
Written and illustrated by Phoebe McArthur

Lucy is spending the holidays with her grandparents at an old house near a loch. Thomas the cat disappears on the train trip there and Lucy is frantic.

Taking advice from her spell book and a talking library, Lucy casts a spell to find him. But when she does there's something different about him...

ISBN 9780648815464 | 72 pages | RRP \$13.99

**Rights available for both:  
World excluding ANZ**



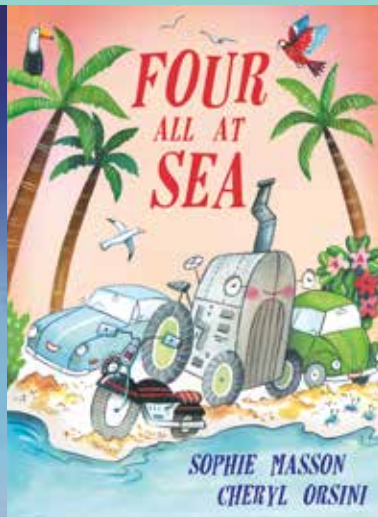
## Book 3 coming in 2023!

# The **FOUR** series by Sophie Masson

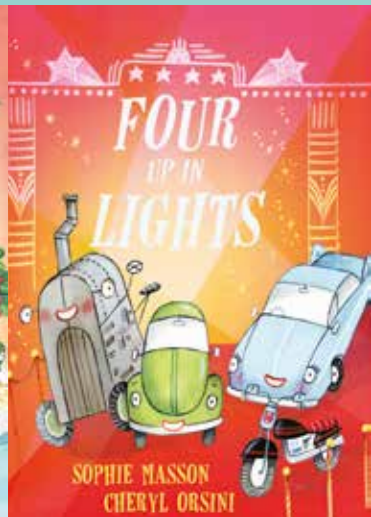
Join friends Maxie, Fergie, Flash and Lady on adventures that take them from farm to fame in this fun and fast-moving chapter book series by acclaimed author Sophie Masson and illustrator Cheryl Orsini.



ISBN 9780648194576 |  
72 pages | RRP \$13.99



ISBN 9780648815419 |  
72 pages | RRP \$13.99



ISBN 9780648815471 |  
72 pages | RRP \$13.99

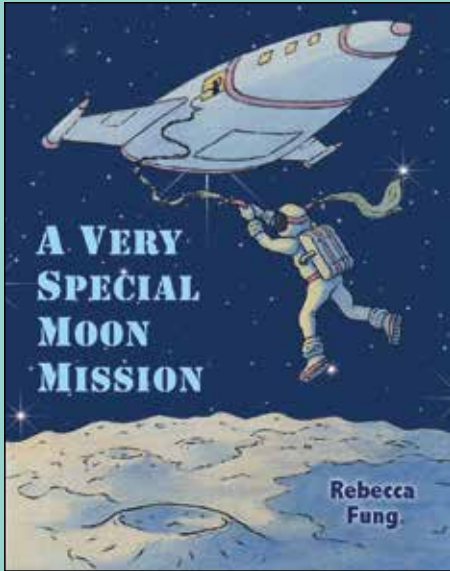
Maxie, Fergie, Flash and Lady are good friends who live in Mrs Brown's farm shed. Life isn't exciting, but they're happy. Until they learn that they are to be sold – to the scrap yard! So they decide to run away, and life suddenly becomes very exciting for the four lovable machines in a series of adventures that puts them in more trouble than they ever imagined!

The friends are set for a new life as film stars and a luxury cruise overseas. But then they are washed overboard in and land on a desert island! But somebody else is there—someone who is not very friendly—a rusty old tank that thinks there's still a war on! They need to escape from the island and get back to their ship and a very worried Mrs Brown. ...but how?

It's a big day for Maxie, Flash, Fergie and Lady. The first day of the film shoot for the movie that is going to make them into stars! But nothing is quite as it seems on and when one of their co-stars, the great stunt plane Daredevil, is kidnapped, they are flung into mystery and danger. How will they find Daredevil and defeat the bad guy?



# Other Junior Fiction and Early Readers



**A Very Special Moon Mission**  
Written by Rebecca Fung  
Illustrated by David Allan

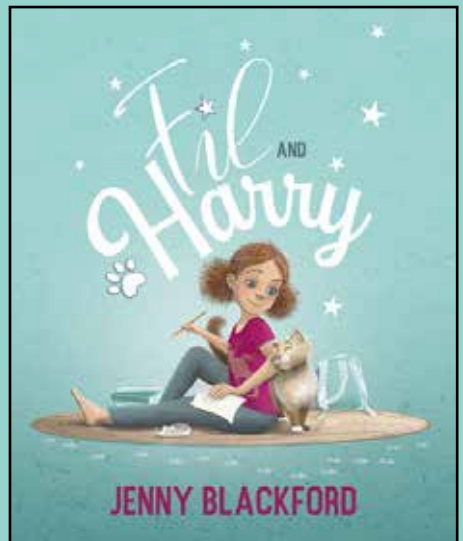
Phoebe and Elliott are best friends but Julia, the unpopular new girl at school, has tagged along with them on them to the local Space Station. There, they meet three astronauts competing to be the first woman on the moon, and are introduced to the magnificent rocket, The Obsession, and its know-all super computer IMP. But when they start the rocket without meaning to, and IMP malfunctions, the adventure takes a turn for the unexpected! Sure, a moon mission is great: but how do you get back to Earth?

ISBN 9780645378801 | 80 pages | RRP \$13.99

**Fil and Harry**  
Written by Jenny Blackford  
Illustrated by Kristin Devine

Fil always suspected her cat Harry could talk, but when he did, on the worst afternoon of her life, it was still a shock...

A fresh, lively junior novel by Jenny Blackford, winner of the 2020 Davitt Award for Best Children's Crime Novel, with fabulous illustrations by Kristin Devine, winner of the 2019 New England Illustration prize.



ISBN 9780648815402 | 80 pages | RRP \$15.99



Princess Hayley's Comet  
Written by Rebecca Fung  
Illustrated by Kathy Creamer

Princess Hayley has everything a princess could want ... except a comet. Comets are so sparkly and they shoot through the sky so fast – who wouldn't want one? But then Hayley realises the only way she's going to get her wish is to catch a comet for herself. Joined by the very best friends a princess could have, Hayley aims to build the biggest and best – the only – comet-catcher in the world and make sure her birthday dream comes true!

A magical, funny story for young readers by a talented new author.  
Also available as an audio book.

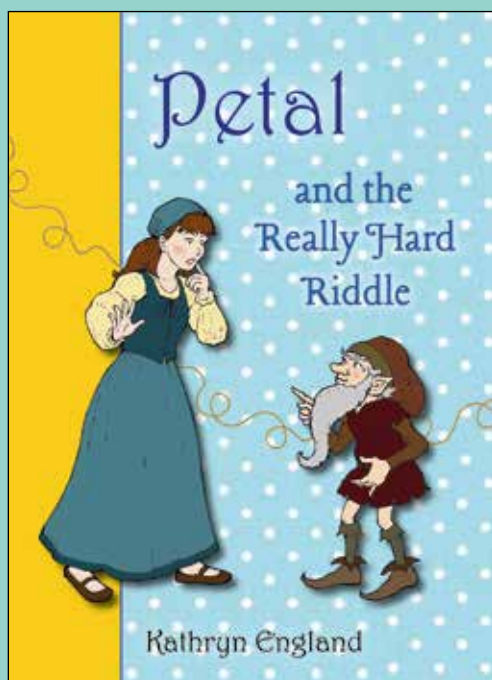
ISBN 9780994528070 | 72 pages | RRP \$13.99.

Petal and the Really Hard Riddle  
Written by Kathryn England  
Illustrated by David Allan

Petal's father likes to boast about his daughter. According to him she can do anything. One day, a particularly over-the-top boast about her spinning skill makes its way across the land into the King's ear and Petal is brought to the palace. The King orders Petal to demonstrate her skill. With no hope of doing what her father says she can do, Petal agrees to a deal offered by a tricky old man who will carry out the task if she can answer a really hard riddle. But surely it can't be that hard, can it?

A lively, funny take on Rumpelstiltskin.

ISBN 9780648194545 | 72 pages | RRP \$13.99



# Eagle Books

## Backlist



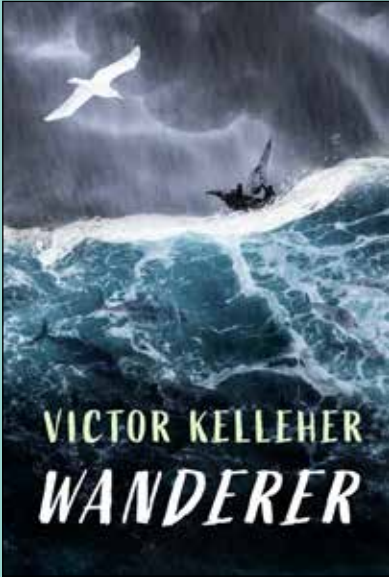
# 2022

## Wanderer by Victor Kelleher

A dangerous world where predators roam, an orphaned boatman, Dane. He wanders alone, trying to survive the terrors of the water and the violent depredations of the Clan – a warriors who hunt down any trace of the old knowledge derived from the mythical ‘Golden Years’. Along with his kayak and weapons, Dane holds another treasure close: a battered book given to him by his mother. Dane encounters Garth and his grand-daughter Lana. This sets them on a dangerous quest to discover unwelcome truths about their world, and themselves...

**Shortlisted for 2023 NSW Premier’s Literary Awards**

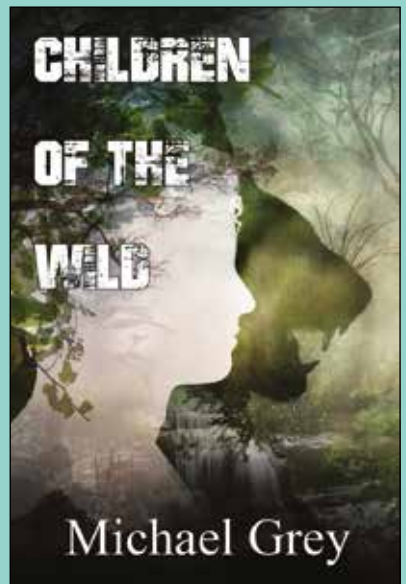
ISBN 9780645378818 | Published by Eagle Books | August 2022 | 320 pages | RRP \$19.99



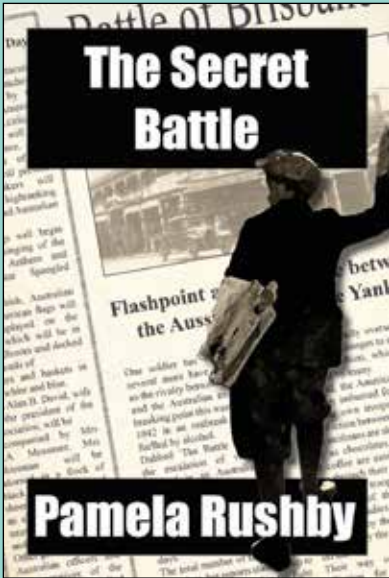
## Children of the Wild by Michael Grey

To Matthew, the village he lives in and the jungle which surrounds it is the entire world. What’s beyond that great green canopy with its host of dangerous animals is a mystery only he has any interest in solving. Until a stranger walks out of the forest, bringing with her questions and a deadly virus, forcing the village elders to reveal their knowledge of the outside world. When the expedition to find a cure doesn’t return, Matthew and his friends must journey into the unknown before the virus kills everyone he loves. But what he finds out there changes everything he thought he knew about his home.

ISBN 9780648815433 | Published by Eagle Books | March 2022 | 418 pages | RRP: \$19.99



# 2021



## The Secret Battle by Pamela Rushby

Nine-year-old city newspaper seller Roddy becomes involved in the infamous Battle of Brisbane in 1942: when American and Australian servicemen fought against each other, rioting in the streets of the city for two days.

When Roddy helps an American serviceman who's been involved in the fighting, he never expects that the battle will become covered up – a wartime secret.

A fast-moving historical novel for middle-grade readers by a multi-award-winning author.

**Longlisted for 2022 ARA Historical Novel Prize.**  
**Longlisted for 2022 Booklinks Historical Novel Prize.**

ISBN 9780648815426 | Published by Eagle Books |  
October 2021 | 144 pages | RRP \$17.99

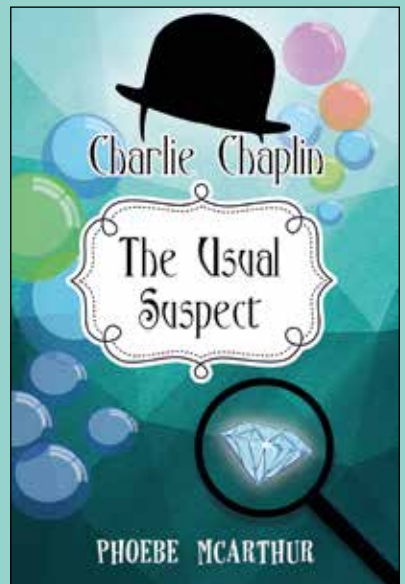
## Charlie Chaplin: The Usual Suspect by Phoebe McArthur

That is until her parents get divorced and Charlie is dragged to the sleepy town of Gulgong in the middle of nowhere.

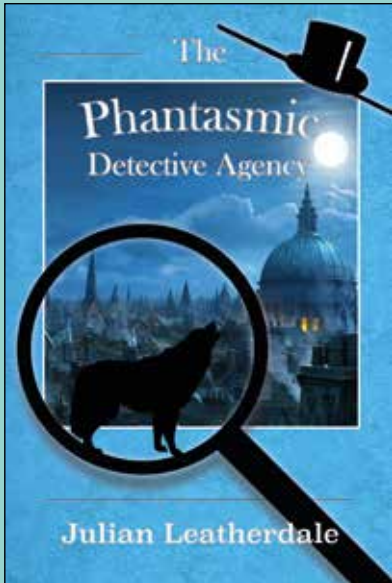
There's nothing to do — or so Charlie thinks. Things start to heat up when she makes an unlikely friend: Ruby, the daughter of a man wanted for burglary. Charlie and Ruby, with a little technological aid and some friends in high places, must catch the real thief and clear Ruby's dad's name before he's sent to gaol.

A lively, fast-paced mystery with vivid characters and an atmospheric country town setting.

ISBN 9780648815440 | Published by Eagle Books |  
July 2021 | 200 pages | RRP: \$17.99



# 2020 - 2019



## The Phantasmic Detective Agency by Julian Leatherdale

London, Christmas Eve, 1911: the world is changing fast: giant warships, aeroplanes with bombs, spies and assassins, fear of war with Germany. And the cosy lives of teenagers Lily and Leo Keeler, who long for adventure, are about to be torn apart by secrets, espionage and monstrous creatures. When a shadow-puppet play unexpectedly releases the hungry spectre of Shadow Wolf, Lily and Leo get more adventure than they ever bargained for, as they battle the threat with their Uncle Alfred, a brilliant, notorious Sherlock Holmes-like paranormal detective.

The Phantasmic Detective Agency is a gripping, original fantasy adventure novel for readers 9+.

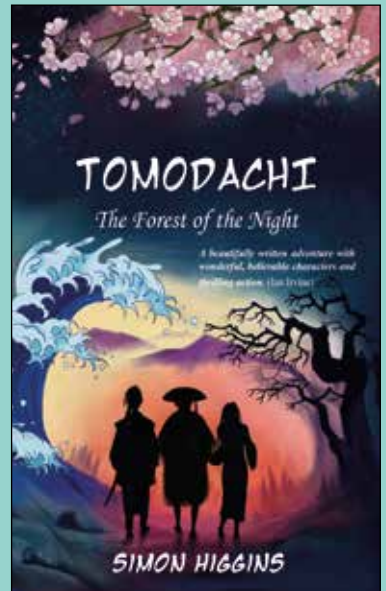
ISBN 9780648194538 | Published by Eagle Books |  
May 2020 | Pages 283 | RRP \$19.99

## Tomodachi: The Forest of the Night by Simon Higgins, illustrated by Jenny Wang

Young Daniel Marlowe and his Japanese 'tomodachi', his friends, Otsu and Kenji, are about to stumble into a stomach-knotting adventure where a ferocious public test of samurai virtue and a murder investigation will collide. Their hazardous journey promises answers. The hope of being joyfully reunited, the risk of confirming loss. But the spirit world has its own part to play in their destinies, for someone — or something — waits watchfully in the ancient Forest of the Night.

ISBN 9780994528087 | Published by Eagle Books |  
March 2019 | 238 pages | RRP \$19.99

**World rights excluding ANZ and China.**



# 2019-2018



The Girl in the Mirror  
by Jenny Blackford  
illustrated by Fiona McDonald

Maddy is picked on by bullies at her new school and terrified by ghosts in the old house her family has moved to – but she soon becomes friends with Clarissa, who slept in that same room and used the same mirror more than 100 years earlier. Then Maddy's baby brother nearly dies of whooping cough, and Clarissa discovers that her poisonous Aunt Lily is even more evil than she seems. The two girls have to use all their intelligence and verve to fight against Aunt Lily's plots, each in her own time, with help from Clarissa's dead brother Bertie.

Winner, Children's Category, 2020 Davitt Awards.

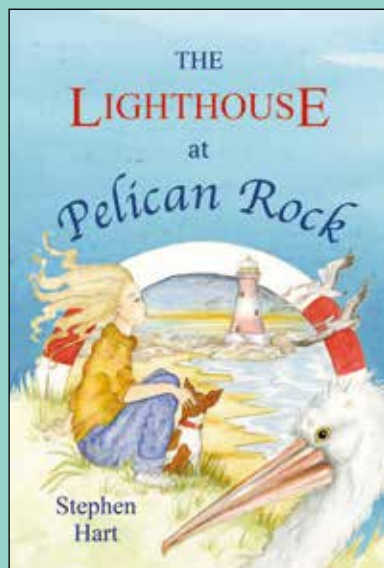
ISBN 9780648194521 | Published by Eagle Books |  
October 2019 | 168 pages | RRP \$17.99

The Lighthouse at Pelican Rock  
by Stephen Hart  
illustrated by Kathy Creamer

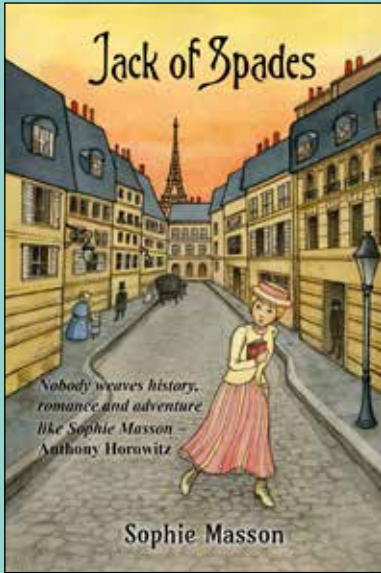
After 12-year-old Megan Evans almost dies, she is packed off to the tiny, remote coastal village of Pelican Rock to recover. Sure she is going to be bored in a place which doesn't even have the internet, she discovers there is much more to Pelican Rock than she expected. Are the pelicans really magic? What is the secret of the ruined lighthouse? Has she found the place where she belongs? And, perhaps, not just a place...

This first novel by talented new writer Stephen Hart is a magical, moving, memorable story that will grip readers from the start.

ISBN 9780994528056 | Published by Eagle Books |  
168 pages | RRP \$17.99



# 2017-2016



**Jack of Spades**  
by Sophie Masson  
illustrated by Yvonne Low  
May 1910...

Linda's father is missing in Paris, and her only clue is the Jack of Spades card that was sent to their home in London. In the family code, 'Jack of Spades' means danger. But it is not her father's handwriting on the envelope! Setting out to look for him, Linda is whirled into a frightening world where nothing is as it seems. As she works against time to find her father with the help of some new friends, Linda begins to realise that she has stumbled into a dark and dangerous conspiracy which threatens the future of the whole world...

Shortlisted for 2018 Davitt Award, cover endorsement by Anthony Horowitz.

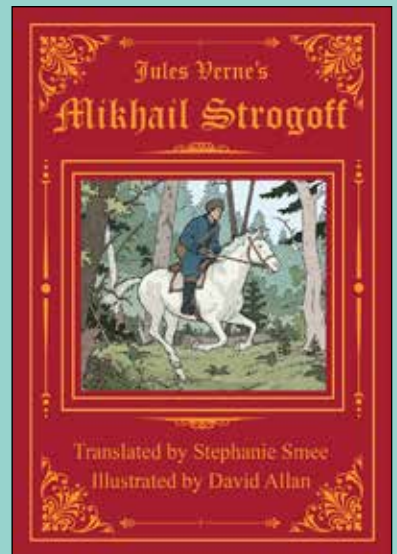
ISBN 978099452800 | Published by Eagle Books | 216 pages | RRP \$19.99

**Jules Verne's Mikhail Strogoff**  
translated by Stephanie Smee  
illustrated by David Allan

The first English translation in over a hundred years of one of the best adventure novels of all time, written by one of the most popular writers of all time: Jules Verne's Mikhail Strogoff.

First published in French in 1876 as Michel Strogoff, it is a rip-roaring tale of adventure and suspense, painted with romance and humour and set in pre-revolutionary Russia. Suitable for both adult and young readers from 11 and up, it is a book that's inspired countless film and TV adaptations all over the world.

ISBN 9780994234001 | Published by Eagle Books  
| 337 pages | RRP \$55 | World English paperback rights available



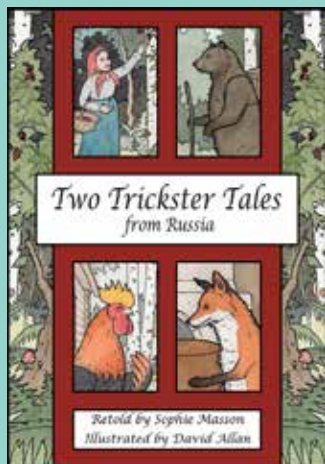


# Christmas Press

## Two Tales Series



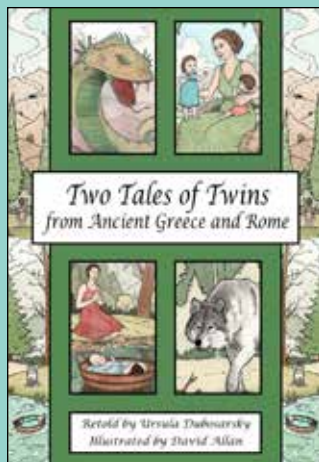
All the titles in our Two Tales series of eight books are 32 pages long and feature many illustrations, in colour and black and white. Four are in paperback, four in hardcover.



*Two Trickster Tales from Russia*

by Sophie Masson and David Allan.

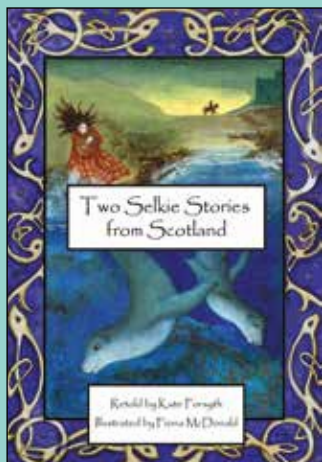
ISBN 9780992283803 | paperback | RRP \$17.99



*Two Tales of Twins from  
Ancient Greece and Rome,*

by Ursula Dubosarsky and David Allan,

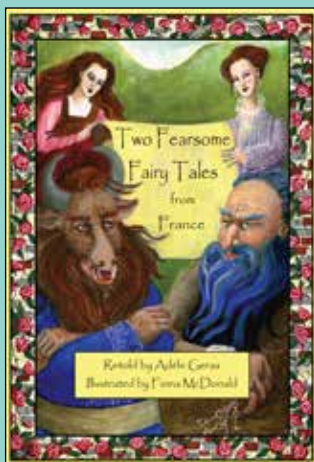
ISBN 9780992283834 | paperback | RRP \$17.99



*Two Selkie Stories from Scotland*

by Kate Forsyth and Fiona McDonald

ISBN 9780992283827 | paperback | RRP \$17.99

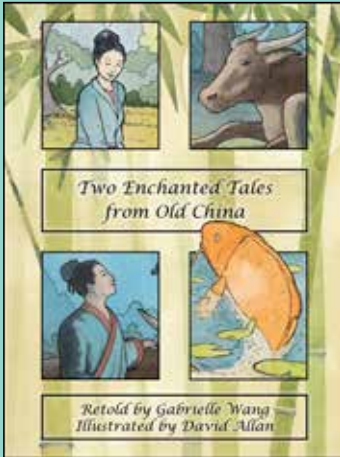


*Two Fearsome Fairy Tales from France*

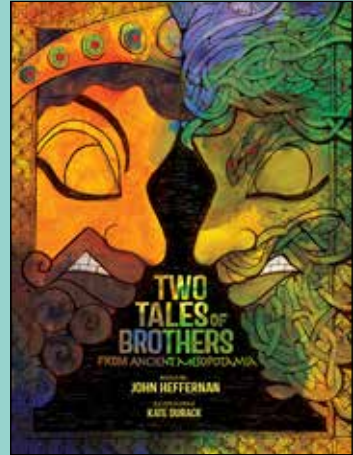
by Adèle Geras and Fiona McDonald

ISBN 9780992283858 | Hardcover | RRP \$19.99

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE TWO TALES SERIES HERE:  
WWW.CHRISTMASPRESSPICTUREBOOKS.COM/TWO-  
TALES-SERIES/**



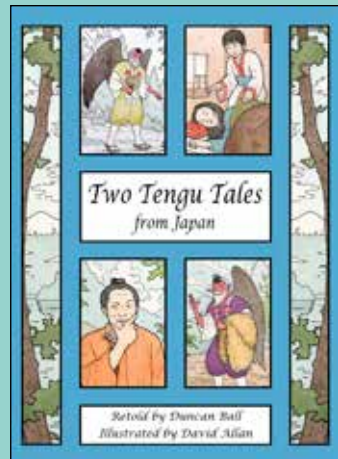
*Two Enchanted Tales of Old China*  
by Gabrielle Wang and David Allan  
ISBN 9780994528025 |  
paperback | RRP \$17.99



*Two Tales of Brothers from Ancient Mesopotamia*  
by John Heffernan and Kate Durack  
ISBN 9780994234049 | Hardcover | RRP \$19.99



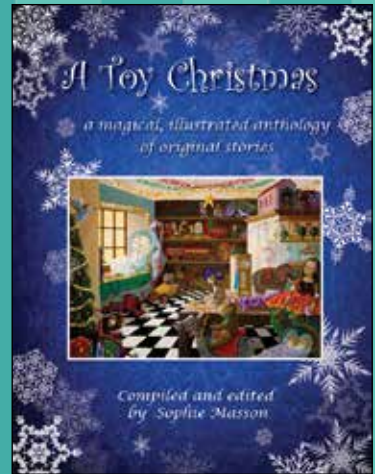
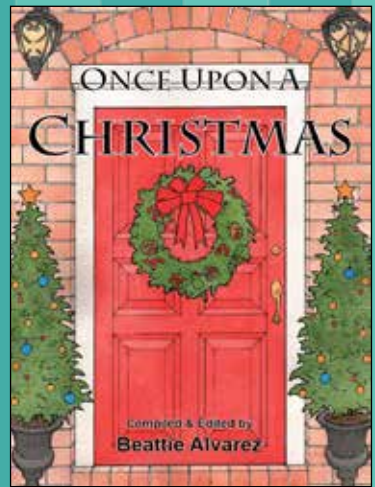
*Two Troll Tales from Norway*  
by Margrete Lamond and Ingrid Kallick  
ISBN 9780994234056 |  
Hardcover | RRP \$19.99

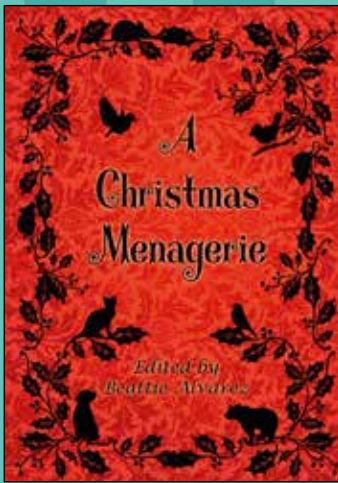


*Two Tengu Tales from Japan*  
by Duncan Ball and David Allan  
ISBN 9780992283865 |  
Hardcover | RRP \$19.99

# Christmas Press Anthologies

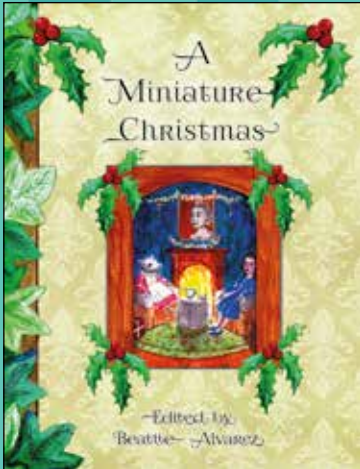
**BETWEEN 2014 AND 2019,  
WE PRODUCED SEASONAL  
ANTHOLOGIES OF  
FABULOUS CHRISTMAS  
STORIES AROUND  
DIFFERENT THEMES,  
BY BOTH ESTABLISHED  
AND EMERGING  
AUTHORS, BEAUTIFULLY  
ILLUSTRATED IN FULL  
COLOUR BY TALENTED  
ILLUSTRATORS BOTH  
NEW AND ESTABLISHED.  
THESE ANTHOLOGIES HAVE  
PROVEN VERY POPULAR  
WITH READERS, SCHOOLS  
AND LIBRARIES.**





*Once Upon A Christmas* (2014)  
edited by Beattie Alvarez  
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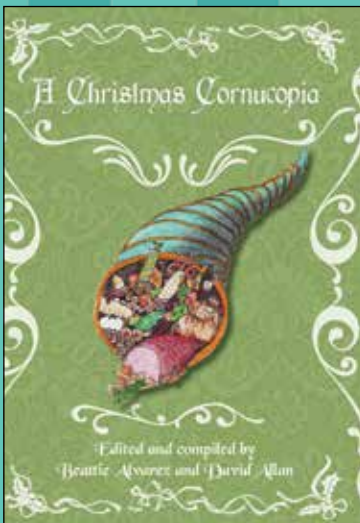
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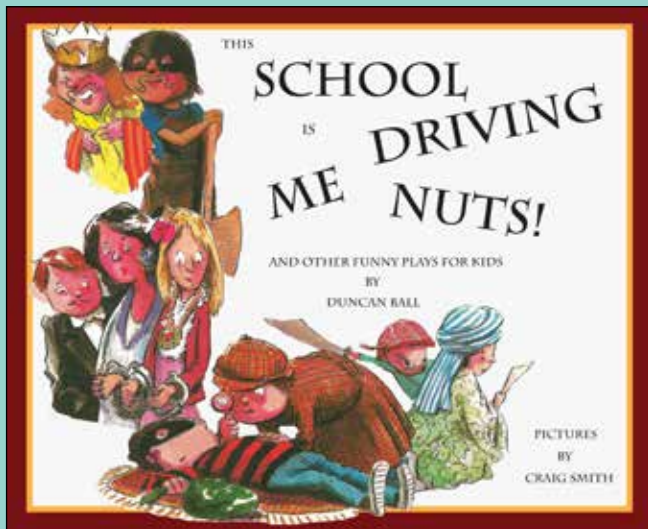
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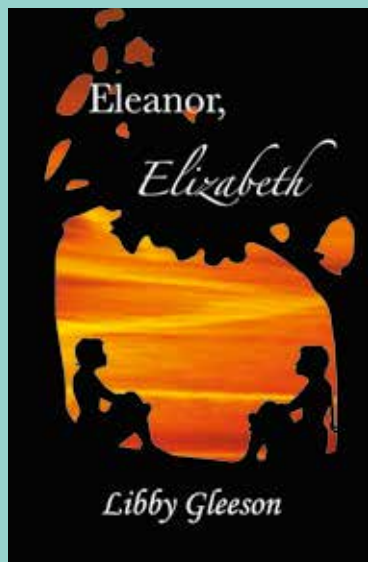


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