


*Foreign
Rights 2024*

GECKO PRESS





Honey bees accumulating
dusty pollen from flowers;
it's used to feed baby bees.

About Gecko Press

Gecko Press is an international imprint of Lerner Publishing Group. Founded in New Zealand in 2005, Gecko Press now operates out of Minneapolis with publisher-at-large Rachel Lawson based in New Zealand.

Gecko Press publishes curiously good children's books from around the world—books of good heart and strong character, excellent in story, illustration and design.

Alongside books in translation, Gecko Press publishes two or three original books each year. This rights guide presents current and backlist titles original to Gecko Press.

Creative NZ provides subsidies for the translation of New Zealand literature into foreign languages with the NZ Translation Grant Scheme. Find more information at publishers.org.nz

Look for these links to:
[Look inside](#) / [Watch trailer](#)



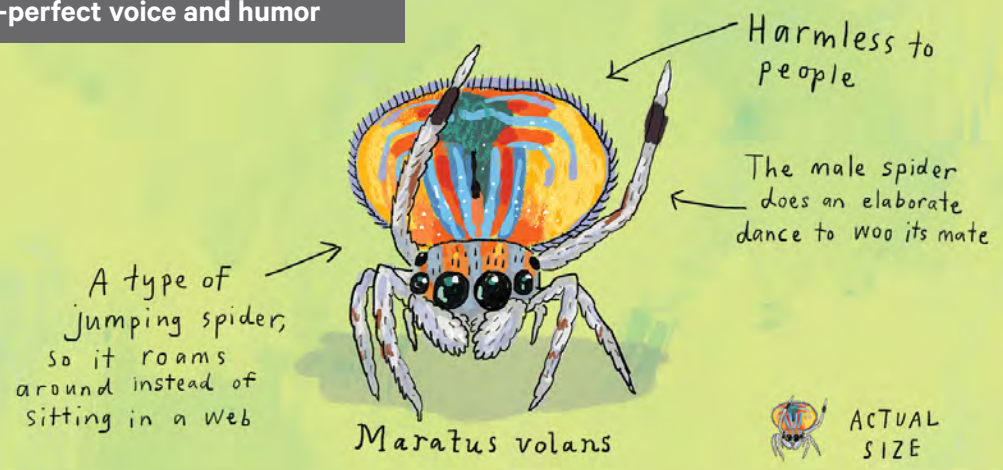
IMAGE OPPOSITE © GISELLE CLARKSON

IMAGE FRONT COVER © DAVID BARROW

Science and natural history illustrated in graphic/comic style

Themes of care and compassion for the natural world

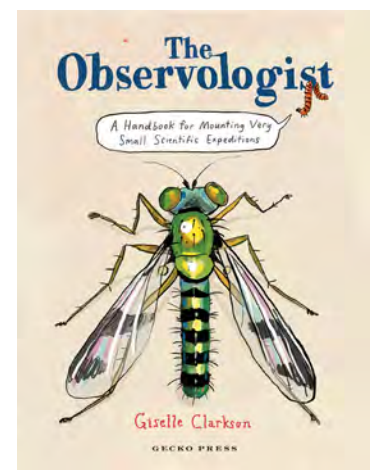
Pitch-perfect voice and humor



HOW TO WIN THE LOVE OF A JUMPING SPIDER*



* Results not guaranteed



The Observologist

A handbook for mounting very small scientific expeditions

Giselle Clarkson

A highly illustrated, playful field guide for natural scientists and curious observers of the world right under our noses.

The Observologist puts more than 100 small creatures and features of the natural world under the microscope, piquing our curiosity with only the most interesting facts. Subjects range from slugs, ants, and seeds to fungi, flies, bees, and bird poop.

But this is no everyday catalog of creatures. It is an antidote to boredom, an invitation out of the digital world, an encouragement to observe our environment, with care and curiosity, wherever we are.

"A charming work sure to spark a lifelong habit of looking closely at the natural world."

STARRED, KIRKUS REVIEWS

Stylized as a naturalist's sketchbook...Clarkson distills complex topics using text that emanates amazement.

STARRED, PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

Giselle Clarkson is an illustrator, comic artist and 2023 New Zealand Arts Foundation Laureate. [More from Giselle Clarkson](#)



Age 7-12
 Non-fiction
 260 x 200 mm
 120 pages
 Published 2023

Rights sold
 Dutch
 Lannoo
 German
 Moritz Verlag
 Spanish/
 Catalan
 Libros Del
 Zorro Rojo
 Bulgarian
 Knigozavar
 Korean
 Pan Publishing
 Simplified
 Chinese
 TB Publishing

All other rights available, excl. World English

Finalist
Wainwright Prize Science and Nature Writing (UK)

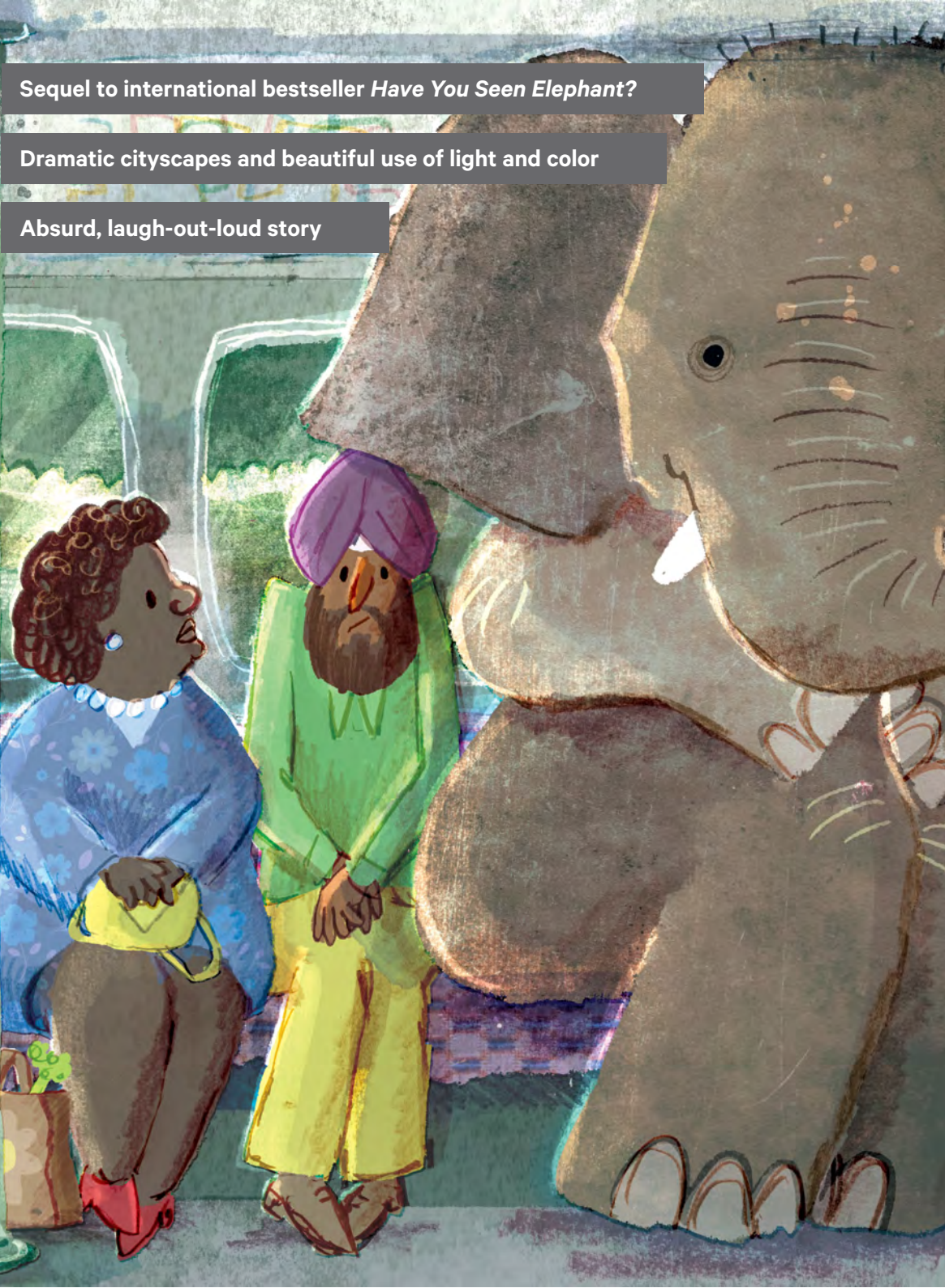
Winner
Aotearoa Booksellers' Choice Award 2024

Finalist
New Zealand Children's Book Awards 2024

Notable Book
Storylines NZ

Finalist
PANZ Book Design Awards 2024





Sequel to international bestseller *Have You Seen Elephant?*

Dramatic cityscapes and beautiful use of light and color

Absurd, laugh-out-loud story



Have You Seen Dinosaur?

David Barrow

Play hide and seek in the city with a boy, his animal friends and a dinosaur that's surprisingly good at hiding.

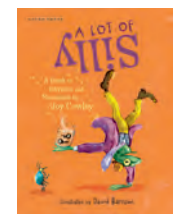
Best friends boy, dog and elephant are VERY good at hide-and-seek. There's a missing dinosaur in the city—who better to spot this elusive giant? They search the skate park, the museum, the subway...

No one in the city can spot the dinosaur, not even this crack hide-and-seek team. But delighted readers will be pointing "There it is!" from the first page.

Beautiful! Adults will love it too, kids will love it the most.
BBC RADIO, UK

David Barrow teaches at the Cambridge School of Art. He lives in England with his wife and son.

More from David Barrow



Have You Seen Elephant?
Long seller in every English market
Chosen by UK and US book clubs and charities
Shortlisted, Waterstones Children's Book Prize
Silver Pencil (Dutch) 2018

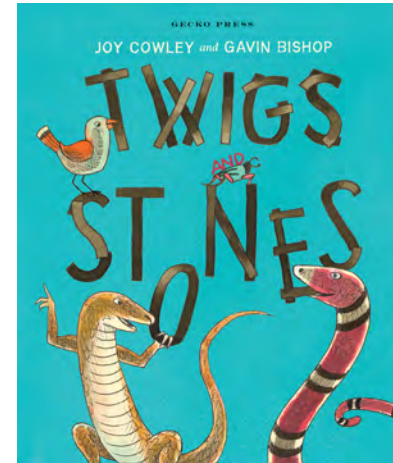
Age 3-5
Picture book
276 x 225 mm
32 pages
Published 2023

Rights sold
Dutch
Gottmer
Italian
Terre di Mezzo
Turkish
Koç Üniversitesi
Yayınları
Rumelifeneri
Simplified
Chinese
Beijing Cheerful
All other rights
available, excl.
World English



A new Snake and Lizard story featuring the much-loved friends

Themes of words, spelling, name-calling and friendship



Twigs and Stones

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Gavin Bishop

A funny, warm and wise picture book by world-renowned Joy Cowley and Gavin Bishop that captures the essence of friendship and nudges us to notice the power of the words we choose.

Snake and Lizard live together in a hole under a rock. They are such good friends that Lizard decides to put their names in large letters over the entrance. Lizard carefully makes each letter out of twigs stuck with mud from the river. But three small words can test a friendship—especially when the letters get muddled and the words start to change their meaning.

This funny picture book holds a mirror to our human flaws and reminds us that names and nicknames must be used with care.

[Read more about Snake and Lizard](#)

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, is a five-time Book of the Year winning illustrator living in Christchurch, New Zealand. He has published over 70 books internationally and been translated into 12 languages. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)



Age 5–7

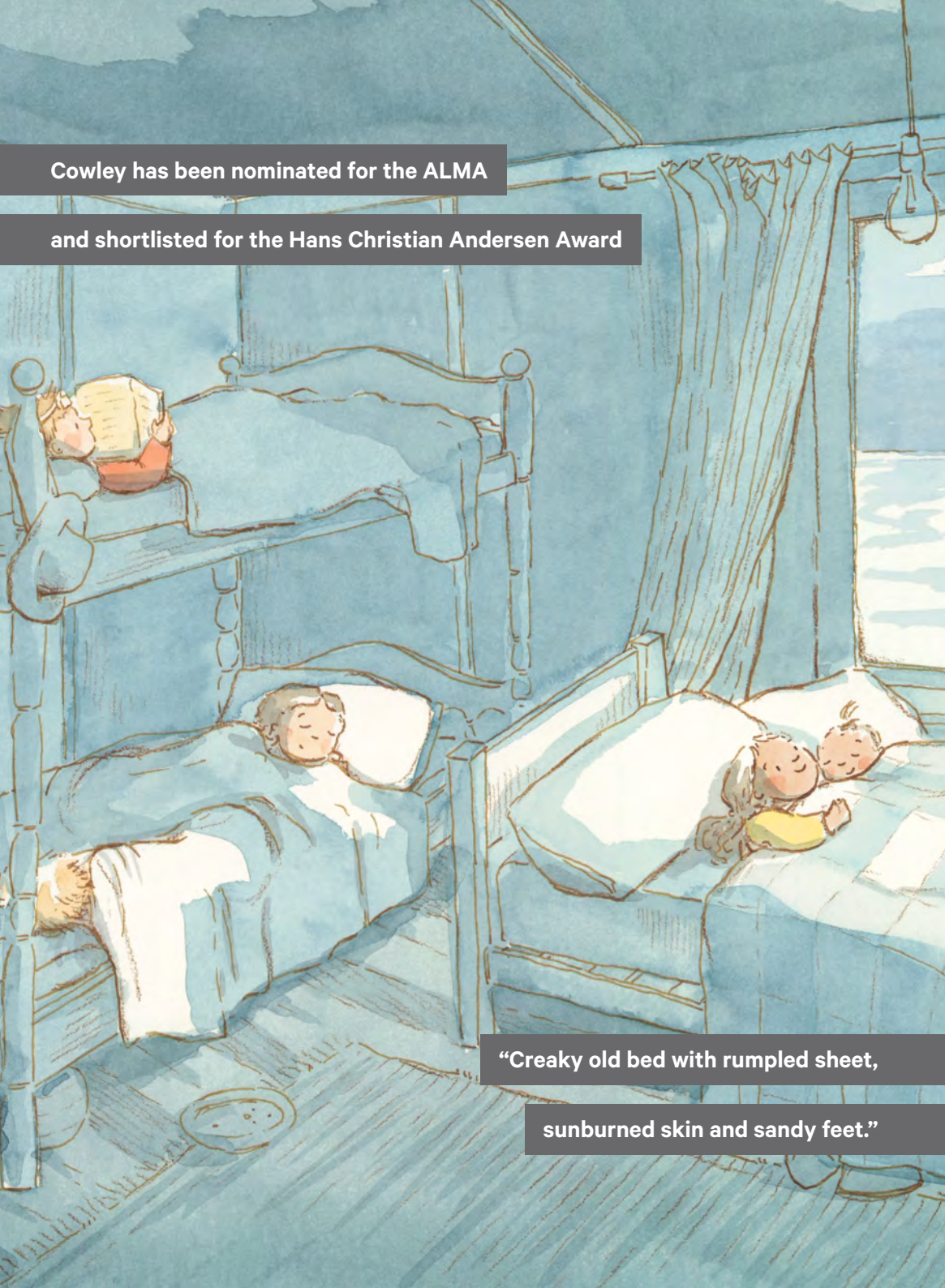
Fiction
230 x 195 mm
32 pages
Published 2024

All rights
available, excl.
World English



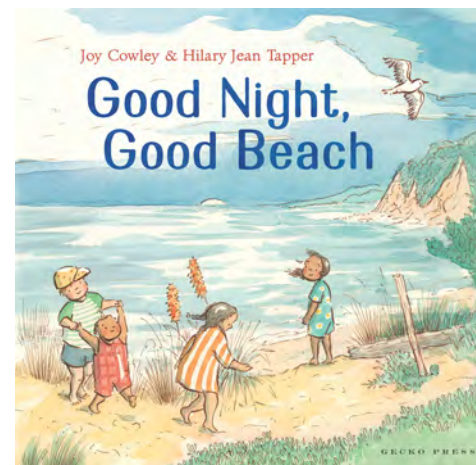
Cowley has been nominated for the ALMA

and shortlisted for the Hans Christian Andersen Award



“Creaky old bed with rumpled sheet,

sunburned skin and sandy feet.”



Good Night, Good Beach

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Hilary Jean Tapper

An evocative and beautiful bedtime picture book by one of the world's foremost writers for children that distills the essence of summer at the beach—creaky old bed, sandy feet, waves hush-hushing and a shell under the pillow.

Summer holidays by the sea have a rhythm all their own. With a few resonant images Cowley takes us straight to the end of a long hot day with beach treasures under the pillow and the salty smell of the sea. The cadence of the final words echoes the shushing waves in a gentle signal of time for readers to sleep—“good day, good sea, good sand, good night”.

Exudes the satisfactions of a salt-sprayed holiday.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

One you will read so often, you'll know it off by heart.

THE SAPLING NZ

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation.

[More from Joy Cowley](#)

Hilary Jean Tapper is an illustrator and creative arts therapist. Her picture books include *What To Say* by Davina Bell, which won the Australian children's picture book of the year 2024.

Age 1-4

Picture book
242 x 250 mm
28 pages
Published 2023

World rights
available
Excl. World
English



Finalist

Aotearoa
Booksellers' Choice
Award 2024

Notable book

Storylines NZ 2023

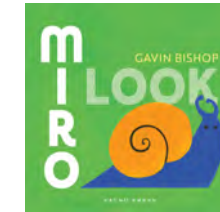
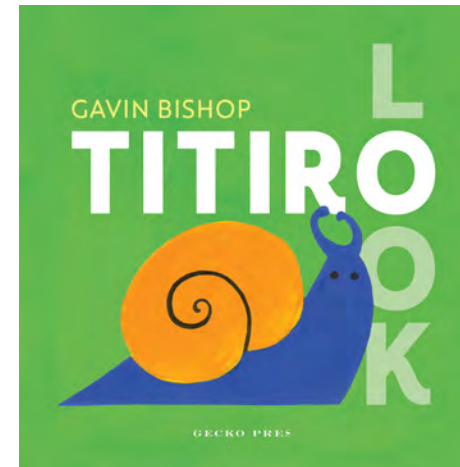
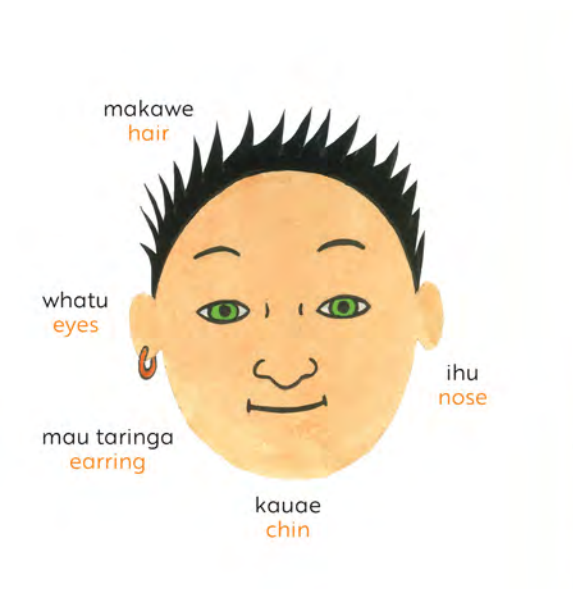
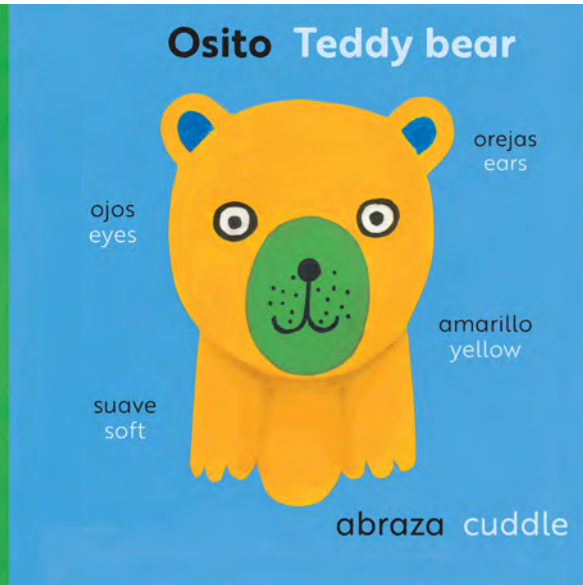
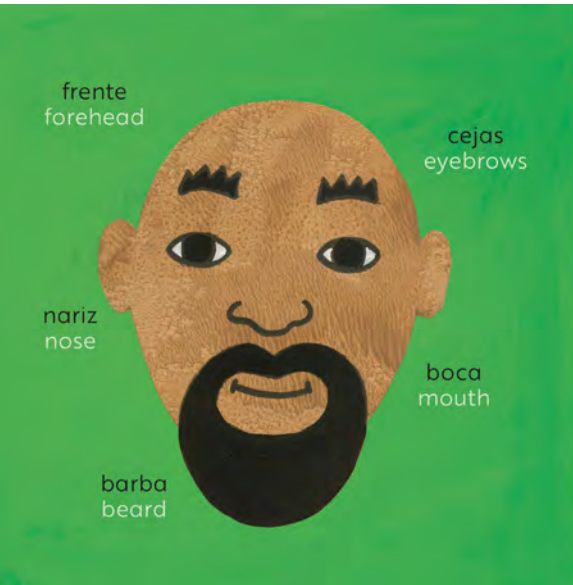
Finalist

New Zealand
Children's Book
Awards 2024

Finalist

PANZ Book Design
Awards 2024





Age 0-2

Board book
215 x 215 mm
18 pages
Published 2024

World rights available
Excl. World
English / Spanish / Māori

Titiro / Look

Gavin Bishop

This arresting bilingual board book of first words by award-winning Gavin Bishop pairs family and toys to show connections while building vocabulary for shapes, colours, objects.

Published in English/Māori and English/Spanish editions.

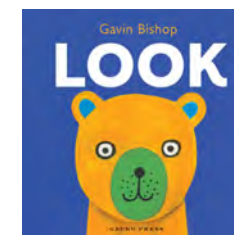
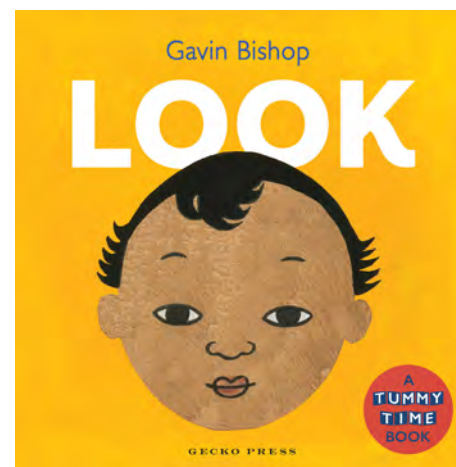
A range of images and space for words means this bilingual book can be adapted for first words any two languages.

Words and images are chosen to include the unexpected and imaginative alongside the obvious, making this more than just a first-words book.

This is a bilingual book to ask questions, point and talk, for adult reader and child to learn and explore together—or to enjoy quietly alone.

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, is a five-time Book of the Year winning illustrator living in Christchurch, New Zealand. He has published over 70 books internationally and been translated into 12 languages. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)





two front covers

Look
A Tummy Time Book
 Gavin Bishop

A concertina board book of big bright faces to place around the baby on the floor at tummy time—family faces on one side and toys on the other.

This sturdy fold-out book has compelling illustrations of the things babies love. Friendly faces from the whole family combine with familiar toys and objects, drawn in bold lines with a striking color palette.

As the baby grows the strong simple images are perfect for introducing first words and concepts, with family faces to name—including the dog—and objects that babies love to hold and explore—soft toys, ball, keys, an enticing pair of spectacles and more.



Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, is a five-time Book of the Year winning illustrator living in Christchurch, New Zealand. He has published over 70 books internationally and been translated into 12 languages. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)

Age 0–2

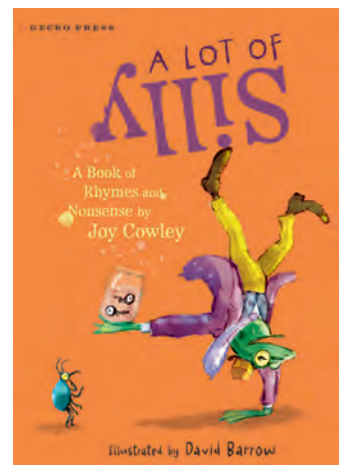
Leporello
 150 x 150 mm
 24 pages
 Published 2023

World rights
 available
 Excl. World
 English



A book of pure fun in visual comedy and language play

An exuberant collection for the family that emboldens us to experiment with language



A Lot of Silly *A Book of Rhymes and Nonsense*

Joy Cowley / Illustrated by David Barrow

World-renowned Joy Cowley brings her silly side to this collection of rhymes and nonsense old and new, illustrated in colour by master of the absurd David Barrow, for families to recite and remember.

In this book full of absurd poems and very short, silly stories, a man takes his tadpoles for a walk in his hat, a cat is surprised by its talking feet, a tiger gobbles up a dentist, ten baggy clowns do a do-wacky dance . . . along with many more preposterous flights of imagination.

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

David Barrow teaches at the Cambridge School of Art. He lives in England with his wife and son. [More from David Barrow](#)



Age 4–9

Picture book
254 x 160 mm
64 pages
Published 2024

World rights
available
Excl. World
English

UK National
Poetry Day
selection

Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement

New Zealand Book of the Year 2022, 2018, 2008, 2003, 2000

Sir Kingi Ihaka Award for lifetime contribution to Māori art and culture

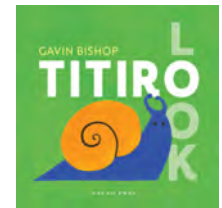
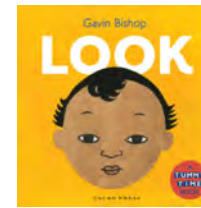
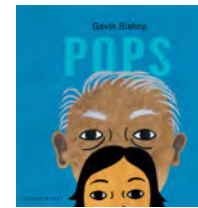
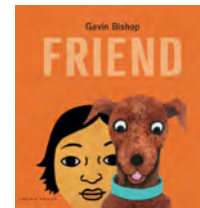


Gavin Bishop

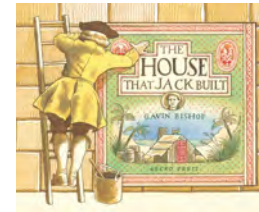


Gavin Bishop, Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM), Tainui, Ngāti Awa, is a leading New Zealand illustrator. He has published over 70 books internationally and been translated into 12 languages. He has written for television and theatre, as well as a libretti for the Royal New Zealand Ballet. His awards include the New Zealand Children's Picture Book of the Year multiple times, the Sir Kingi Ihaka award for lifetime contribution to Māori art and culture, and the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement—Non Fiction.

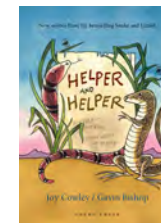
BOARD BOOKS



PICTURE BOOKS



JUNIOR FICTION

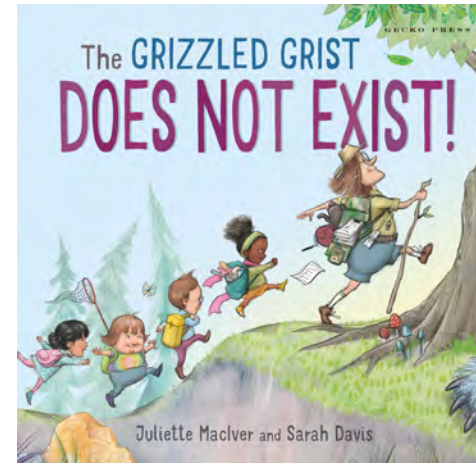


NOVELS



Best books of 2022, *Stuff* New Zealand

“Will tickle children and adults alike” *Kirkus Reviews*



The Grizzled Grist Does Not Exist!

Juliette MacIver / illustrated by Sarah Davis

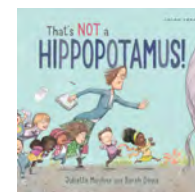
An exuberant rhyming picture book about a school trip to the woods, where no one sees the danger—apart from quiet Liam, who pays attention and saves the day with his particular skill of hiding.

It's the class trip to Dismal Hills wilderness. The children aren't worried about the legendary Grizzled Grist who lives here; they're excited to show off their outdoor skills—foraging, climbing, trapping. No one's impressed with Liam's skill of hiding. But it turns out a hider can see what others think does not exist.

When the children and their frazzled teacher walk confidently into disaster, little Liam saves the day—a triumph for the quiet child no one notices.

Reminiscent of The Gruffalo in the best ways possible—it becomes more enjoyable, and entertaining on every read.

KIDS READ THE WORLD



Juliette MacIver is a picture-book writer and mother of four, who lives in Wellington, New Zealand. [More from Juliette MacIver](#)

Sarah Davis is an award-winning New Zealand illustrator who lives in Sydney, Australia. [More from Sarah Davis](#)

Age 3–6

Picture book
250 x 260 mm
36 pages
Published 2022

World rights
available
Excl. World
English



Follow-up to the bestselling *That's Not a Hippopotamus!*



**White Raven
2023**

Winner
Funky Kids Radio
Global Picture Book
Award 2022





Preteen sensibility and spirit drawn from comics

Wide age readership for a book that grapples with contemporary issues



Paku Manu Ariki Whakatakapōkai

Michaela Keeble / illustrated by Tokerau Brown

A bold and multi-layered picture book about self-determination narrated by a young boy full of ideas and questions about growing up in a bicultural family, belonging, spirituality, culture and who is the boss.

Paku Manu Ariki Whakatakapōkai talks directly to the reader, drawing on the stories that spin around him—his father’s wisdom, his mother’s politics, his many pet birds, and his best friend who is taller, even though he’s younger.

Thoughtful, funny and confronting, this book is about the hustle for belonging, and our place in the epic spiral of space, time, culture and family.

This is the essential local kids’ book of 2023.
GOOD BOOKS (NZ)

A new kind of book for a new kind of world.
THE SPINOFF, BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR (NZ)

Michaela Keeble has previously published poetry and short fiction. This book is based on writing and conversation with her son Kerehi Grace (Ngāti Toa Rangatira, Ngāti Porou).

Tokerau Brown is a Rarotongan/Cook Islands Māori artist, multimedia improviser and musician, known for his Māori Pasifika Goth group art exhibitions and solo music project “Big Fat Raro”.

Age 7–11

Picture book
253 x 190 mm
48 pages
Published 2023

World rights
available
Excl. World
English



Winner
Best New Zealand
Picture Book
2024

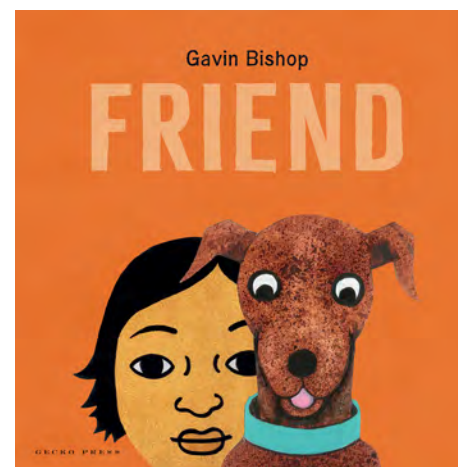
Finalist
PANZ Book
Design Awards
2024



An overarching theme of friendship—and how our friends might make us feel

Includes simple words for a range of feelings

Top 50 Kids Books *New Zealand Listener*



Friend

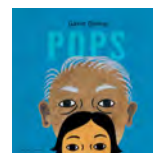
Gavin Bishop

This simple story about a friendship between a child and their dog shares how to talk about feelings.

Through the up-close expressive faces of a child and their dog, we learn the words for a range of feelings. The illustrations are beautiful painted collages.

Key words describe the many emotions a dog can go through in a short time: silly, happy, angry, rowdy, sorry and ready to go. The unspoken emotions of the child and the grandparent add complexity to this deceptively simple story of conflict resolution.

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, is a five-time Book of the Year winning illustrator living in Christchurch, New Zealand. He has published over 70 books internationally and been translated into 12 languages. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)



Age 1-3

Board book
185 x 185 mm
18 pages
Published 2022

World rights
available
Excl. World
English

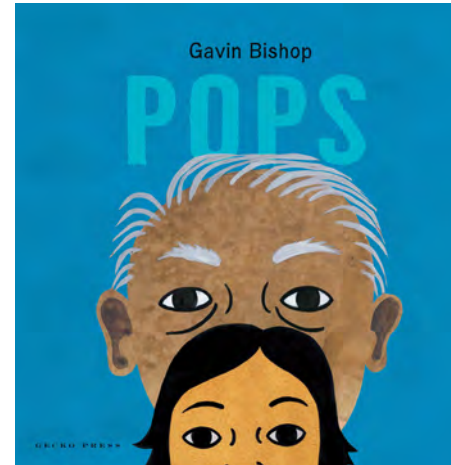




Perfect for adult and child to read together then build their own stories

Multigenerational, multiracial family #ownvoices

Captures a special time, a day of simple moments



Pops

Gavin Bishop

A warm and comforting board book about a special visit to granddad.

The bond between grandfather and child is shown through powerful images and simple text.

The child and their pops explore their day—they go for a walk, collect food from the garden to make a sandwich, tell stories, then settle down for a nap.

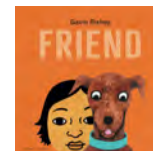
50 Best Kid's Books 2021

THE NEW ZEALAND LISTENER (NZ)

A beautiful board book highlighting the joy of spending a day with a grandpa. Recommended for every shelf.

STARRED REVIEW, SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL (US)

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, is a five-time Book of the Year winning illustrator living in Christchurch, New Zealand. He has published over 70 books internationally and been translated into 12 languages. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)



Age 1-3

Board book
185 x 185 mm
18 pages
Published 2021

World rights
available
Excl. World
English

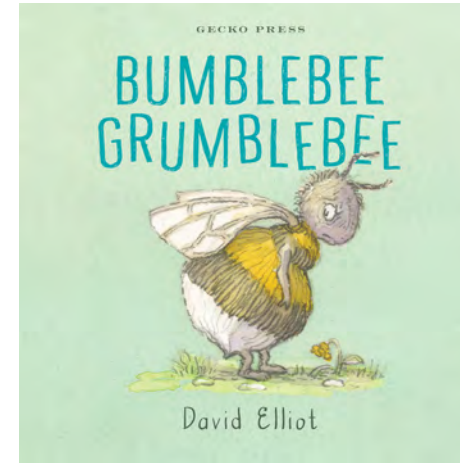


White Raven

Kirkus Best Board Books 2022

Bank Street Best Children's Books 2022: Holiday Gift Edition

Shortlisted New Zealand Book Awards Best Picture Book



Bumblebee Grumblebee

David Elliot

A delightfully simple book built on word play.

Toddlers will recognise each everyday activity—getting dressed, playing, painting (including themselves), having a bath—and see how the animal makes the mischievous most of it.

Each scene twists the animals' names into funny new words to share and enjoy how they feel and sound.

Hippopotamus—hippospotamus!

Cockatoo—socketoo!

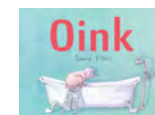
Delightful images and carefully selected text combine for a silly, innovative, entirely enjoyable read.

KIRKUS REVIEWS, STARRED REVIEW (US)

Age 1-4

Board book
170 x 170 mm
18 pages
Published 2021

World rights
available
Excl. World
English



David Elliot is one of New Zealand's leading children's book illustrators, who has won many awards and is published worldwide.

More from David Elliot

BOARD BOOK GECKO PRESS | 27

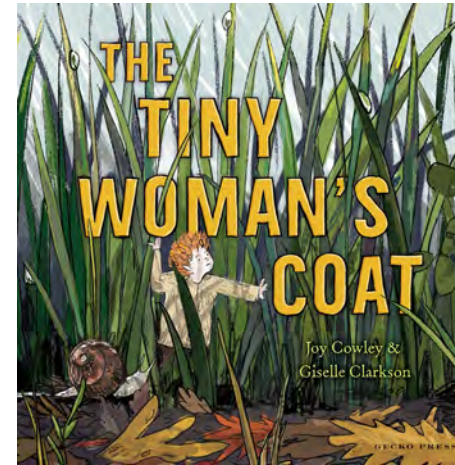


For preschoolers who love tiny things

Joy Cowley is New Zealand's leading children's writer

Selected for *The Times Children's Book of the Week*

50 Best Kid's Books 2021, *New Zealand Listener*



The Tiny Woman's Coat

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Giselle Clarkson

The tiny woman makes a coat of leaves with the help of friends in this vibrant rhyming tale.

Resourcefulness and friendship are at the heart of this simple rhythmic poem by one of the world's best children's writers.

An inventive and delightful tale that evokes Thumbelina, the Borrowers, and other beloved wee characters.

KIRKUS REVIEWS

A new favourite cosy read to add to my collection ... Giselle Clarkson's evocative illustrations tell another story of the powers of collectivism.

THE TIMES CHILDREN'S BOOK OF THE WEEK (UK)

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. She has been nominated for the ALMA and shortlisted for the Hans Christian Anderson Award.

[More from Joy Cowley](#)

Giselle Clarkson is an illustrator and comic artist based in Wellington, New Zealand. [More from Giselle Clarkson](#)



Age 2-5

Picture book
216 x 216 mm
28 pages
Published 2021

Rights sold

Italian
Storiedichi
Simplified
Chinese
Oriental Babies

All other rights
available, excl.
World English



Joy Cowley

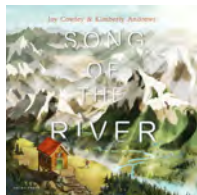
Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers. Her awards include the Margaret Mahy Medal, the NZ Post Children's Book Award 2006, the Roberta Long Medal (Alabama, USA), and the AW Reed Award for Contribution to New Zealand Literature. She is a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit.



PICTURE BOOKS



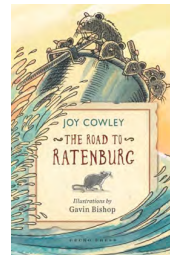
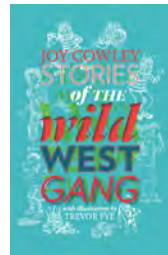
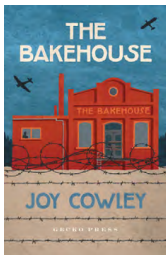
PICTURE BOOKS



JUNIOR FICTION



NOVELS

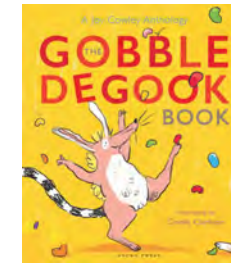


Giselle Clarkson

Giselle Clarkson is an illustrator and comic artist based in Wellington, New Zealand. In 2023, she was awarded the Mallinson Rendel Illustrators Award: an Arts Foundation Te Tumu Toi Laureateship. She makes educational comics for online publications about important and exciting environmental topics.



PICTURE BOOKS



NON FICTION



COOKBOOK



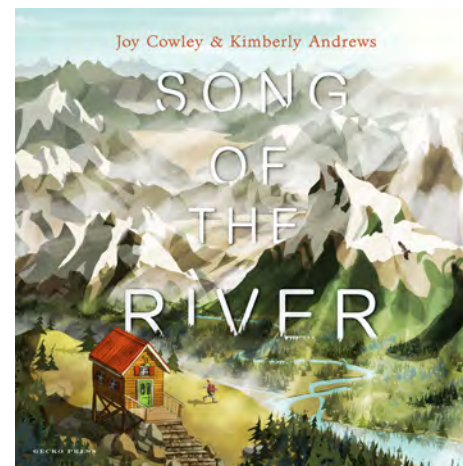
As if this isn't a perfectly sensible way to go for a walk.





Rhythmic, compelling text, a tremendous read aloud

Changing perspectives



Song of the River

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Kimberly Andrews

In this lyrical and evocative picture book, a child follows the river's journey from its source in the mountains all the way to the sea.

The river leads Cam through forest, farms and towns to the salty wind of the beach. The dramatic landscapes are packed with detail to discover in the world of the river.

Andrews renders the rush and earnestness of the boy's journey through striated light, city smoke, and the broad, blue sea.

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (US)

Sentences...build and accrete like that rivulet taking readers on the journey. A lovely homage to nature.

KIRKUS REVIEWS (US)

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

Kimberly Andrews is a trained biologist and geologist who grew up in the Canadian Rockies. She lives in Wellington, New Zealand.

Age 2-5

Picture book
242 x 250 mm
32 pages
Published 2019

Rights sold

Simplified Chinese
Beijing United Publishing Co

Korean
Korean Studies Information Co., Ltd

Turkish

Koç Üniversitesi Yayınları
Rumelifeneri

All other rights available, excl. World English



Winner

Teach Early Years Award 2020

Finalist

New Zealand Children's Book Awards 2020



Multiple award-winning picture book

Rights sold to eight languages

Simple text with perfect comic timing and diverse characters

50,000 copies sold in English worldwide



Have You Seen Elephant?

David Barrow

An absurd and heart-warming picture book with perfect comic timing from a brilliant storyteller.

This game-inside-a-book celebrates imaginative play, perfect for sharing with children who will love being better at finding the elephant than the boy. Watch out for the tortoise, too!

Beyond the sheer absurdity, children will delight in details... Younger audiences will be screaming "There it is!" from the get-go.
STARRED REVIEW & BEST PICTURE BOOKS OF 2016, KIRKUS REVIEWS

A bonafide pitch-perfect laugh-out-loud picture book for all ages.
THE BOOK SNIFFER (UK)

Awards

Shortlisted, Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2016

Longlisted, Klaus Flugge Prize 2016

Sebastian Walker Award for most promising children's illustrator 2016

Silver Pencil (Dutch) 2018



David Barrow graduated from the Cambridge School of Art with a Masters in Children's Book Illustration. He lives in England with his wife and son.

[More from David Barrow](#)

Age 3-5

Picture book
32 pages
276 x 225 mm
Published 2015

Rights sold

Italian
Terre di Mezzo
Basque
Txalaparte
Dutch
Gottmer
Frisian
Afök
German
Ueberreuter
Greek
under offer
Italian
Terre di Mezzo
Korean
Marubol
Slovenian
Zabola Zala
Simplified
Chinese China
Cheerful
Century
Traditional
Chinese Taiwan
The Eastern
Company
All other rights
available, excl.
World English

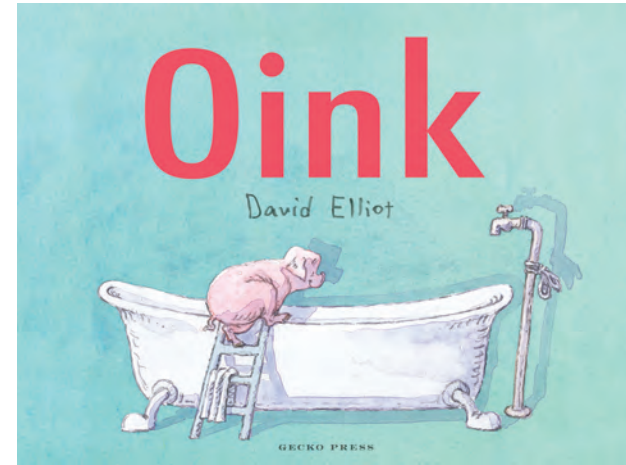


Starred reviews from major US journals

Story told only in animal sound effects, works perfectly as class theatre

Finalist, NZ Children's Book Awards 2019

White Raven 2019



Oink

David Elliot

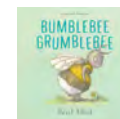
A comical story about a very busy bath.

Pig has been looking forward to a lovely peaceful bath all day. In come Horse, Cow, Sheep... They are very noisy! Pig finds a way to make them go away—with a subtle fart to finish. Oink!

The delicacy and subtlety of the art only adds to the frisky humor.
NEW YORK TIMES

Told only in animal dialect and sound effects, but with brilliant visual details, this story will become a bathtime favorite.
STARRED REVIEW, KIRKUS REVIEWS (US)

Pencil-and-wash pictures in muted tones evoke a sense of calm, while splashes of bright color provide a contrast to the tranquil atmosphere.
STARRED REVIEW, PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (US)



David Elliot is one of New Zealand's leading authors and illustrators of children's books, who has won many awards and is published worldwide.

[More from David Elliot](#)

Age 2-5

Picture book
180 x 240 mm
32 pages
Published 2018

Rights sold

Korean
Media Changbi
Spanish
Editorial
Océano de
México

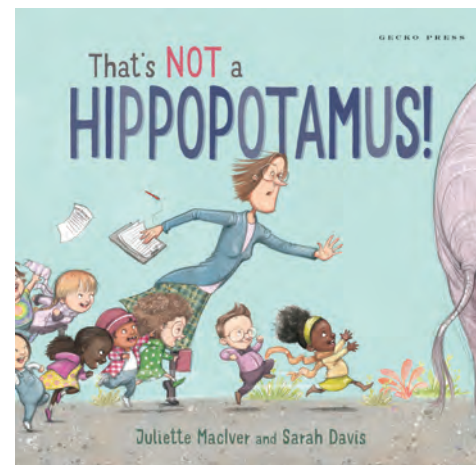
All other rights
available, excl.
World English



50,000 copies sold worldwide in English



“I got 'im, Miss, I got 'im, Miss, I KNEW that I could spot 'im, Miss!
That's NOT a hippopotamus!”



That's Not a Hippopotamus!

Juliette MacLver / illustrated by Sarah Davis

A class trip to the zoo descends into a chaotic hunt for the missing hippopotamus—spotted by quiet, observant Liam from the very start.

Children love spotting the hippo hiding in all the pictures and identify with observant Liam, the quiet boy no one listens to.

Good-natured, funny, and a fabulous readaloud.

BEST BOOKS OF 2016, THE SCHOOL LIBRARY JOURNAL (US)

A fantastic romp to read aloud ... wonderful to share so the nuances in the illustrations can be fully appreciated.

MAGPIES MAGAZINE (AUS)



Juliette MacLver is a picture-book writer and mother of four, who lives in Wellington, New Zealand. [More from Juliette MacLver](#)

Sarah Davis is an award-winning New Zealand illustrator who lives in Sydney, Australia.

[More from Sarah Davis](#)

Age 3-6

Picture book
250 x 260 mm
32 pages
Published 2016

Rights sold

Simplified
Chinese China
TB Publishing

All other rights
available
excluding
World English



Winner

Best New Zealand
Picture Book
2017





The perfect gift for booklovers

“You can read a book while you walk,
but you have to be careful not to bump into things.”



A Book Is a Book

Jenny Bornholdt / illustrated by Sarah Wilkins

Told from a child's view, this book captures the magic of books felt by voracious readers, and is a perfect gift for book-lovers of all ages.

This small-format jacketed hardback has whimsical yet humorous illustrations and words that perfectly define everything that is good about a book.

A whimsically philosophical tribute ... a keepsake for the future.

UNITY BOOKS WELLINGTON

Perfect for a child on a lap or as a stocking stuffer for older bibliophiles.

KIRKUS REVIEWS (US)

A riotously colourful piece of imagination for children.

BEST BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS, NORTH AND SOUTH (NZ)



Jenny Bornholdt is an acclaimed poet—the 2005 New Zealand Poet Laureate, recipient of the 2003 Arts Foundation of New Zealand Laureate Award and the 2020 Prime Minister's Award for Achievement in Poetry. [More from Jenny Bornholdt](#)

Sarah Wilkins is an award-winning New Zealand illustrator, whose work is published in books and magazines in France, Italy, United States, Australia and New Zealand. [More from Sarah Wilkins](#)

Age 4+

Picture book
180 x 120 mm
40 pages
Published 2013

Rights sold

German
Thiele

Korean
Charlie Book

Simplified
Chinese China
TB Publishing

Spanish Latin
America
Ediciones
Castillo

Turkish
Can Cocuk

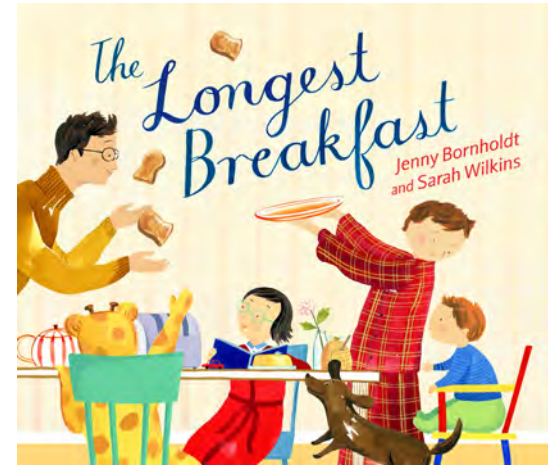
All other rights
available, excl.
World English



A rambunctious book about the best meal of the day

A cumulative story with a twist ending—no one listens to the baby

A contemporary household: diverse cast and Dad in the kitchen



The Longest Breakfast

Jenny Bornholdt / illustrated by Sarah Wilkins

A fun story full of comings and goings with a lovely baby at the centre.

The baby wants breakfast so Malcolm gets out of bed to get started. Then in comes Toby. And Una and Toto, then Alice—they're hungry too. And Conrad from next door and his sister Ruby! Everyone has a request for breakfast. But who is taking notice of the baby?

The story rolls back and forth like a good-natured tug-of-war ...

Ripe for many read-alouds.

MAGPIES MAGAZINE (AUS)



Jenny Bornholdt is an acclaimed poet—the 2005 New Zealand Poet Laureate, recipient of the 2003 Arts Foundation of New Zealand Laureate Award and the 2020 Prime Minister's Award for Achievement in Poetry.

[More from Jenny Bornholdt](#)

Sarah Wilkins is an award-winning New Zealand illustrator, whose work is published in books and magazines in France, Italy, United States, Australia and New Zealand.

[More from Sarah Wilkins](#)

Age 3–5

Picture book
210 x 250 mm
36 pages
Published 2017

World rights
available
Excl. World
English



Finalist
New Zealand
Children's Book
Award 2018



The view from below-decks in the great age of explorers

Endpapers include maps, diagrams & definitions

Colonial renaming of places



Cook's Cook

The Cook Who Cooked for Captain Cook

Gavin Bishop

The 1768 journey of James Cook's *Endeavour* to the South Pacific told through the eyes of the ship's cook.

In 1768 James Cook set sail for the South Pacific on HMS *Endeavour*. Among the 94 crew on this famous voyage was the ship's cook, John Thompson.

Thompson tells the story of shipboard life and exotic places, and makes a friend of the famous botanist Joseph Banks. He shares his recipes—Pease Porridge, Shark Steaks, Albatross Stew. He has only one hand, but it's enough to stir the porridge.

Recognizing the blood, sweat, and years given by the lesser known people who made the journey possible.

BYU CHILDREN'S BOOK & MEDIA

A unique angle; a generous format and top-quality production standard; salient and high-interest details; succinct text and appealing illustrations.

MAGPIES (AU)

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, is a five-time Book of the Year winning illustrator living in Christchurch, New Zealand. He has published over 70 books internationally and been translated into 12 languages.

[More from Gavin Bishop](#)

Age 5–10

Picture book
245 x 295 mm
40 pages
Published 2018

World rights
available
Excl. World
English



Finalist

NZ Children's
Book Awards 2019

Best Picture Books
2018, *New Zealand Herald*

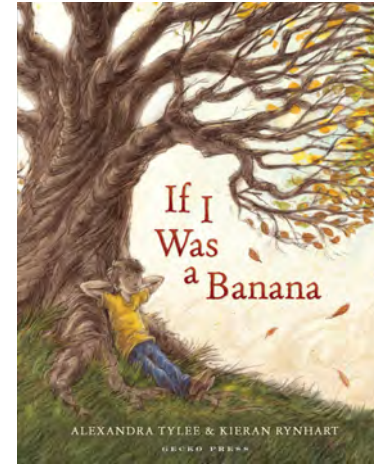
Best 50 Kid Books
2018, *New Zealand Listener*





True to a child's voice and world view

Excellent resource for children's writing



If I Was a Banana

Alexandra Tylee / illustrated by Kieran Rynhart

A book that celebrates imagination and possibility: the ordinary becomes extraordinary through the eyes of a curious child.

This boy's-eye-view of the everyday captures the magic that a child can find in common objects and day-to-day encounters—bananas, clouds, toys, breakfast, stars.

Each of these simple things sparks a new train of thought in a mix of the poetic and the prosaic that will touch the child all of us.

Kieran Rynhart is an illustrator based in Wellington, New Zealand. He was selected as one of Luerzer's Archive best 200 illustrators 2010/2011.



Alexandra Tylee is the owner and chef at Pipi restaurant in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand. Her most recent book is *Egg and Spoon*. [More from Alexandra Tylee](#)

Age 3-5

Picture book
260 x 210 mm
32 pages
Published 2016

Rights sold

Simplified
Chinese China
TB Publishing

All other rights
available, excl.
World English

Finalist

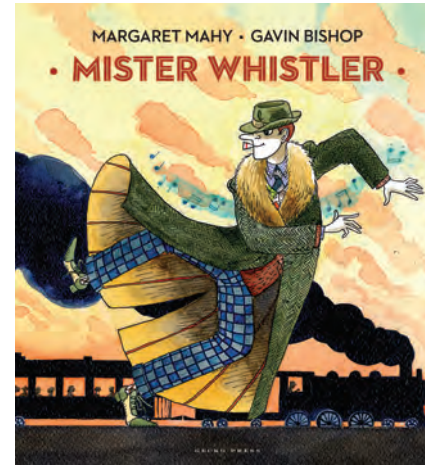
New Zealand
Children's Book
Awards 2017
Illustration Award





By one of the world's most acclaimed writers

Hans Christian Andersen Award winner 2006



Mister Whistler

Margaret Mahy / illustrated by Gavin Bishop

A hilarious, lively book by two luminaries of New Zealand children's writing and illustration.

Absentminded Mister Whistler always has a song in his head and a dance in his feet. In a rush to catch the train, he is so distracted he loses his ticket. Is it in the bottom pockets of his big coat or the top pockets of his jacket? Perhaps he slipped it into his waistcoat... Where is Mister Whistler's ticket?

Distinctive and full of sly humour ... The kind of picture book that families fall in love with.
STARRED REVIEW, PUBLISHERS WEEKLY (US)

Margaret Mahy is one of the world's most acclaimed writers for children, who received the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2006. She lived in Governor's Bay, New Zealand, until her death in 2012. [More from Margaret Mahy](#)

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, has published over 70 books internationally, translated into 12 languages. His awards include the Sir Kingi Ihaka Award 2018 and the New Zealand Children's Picture Book of the Year five times. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)

Age 4-6

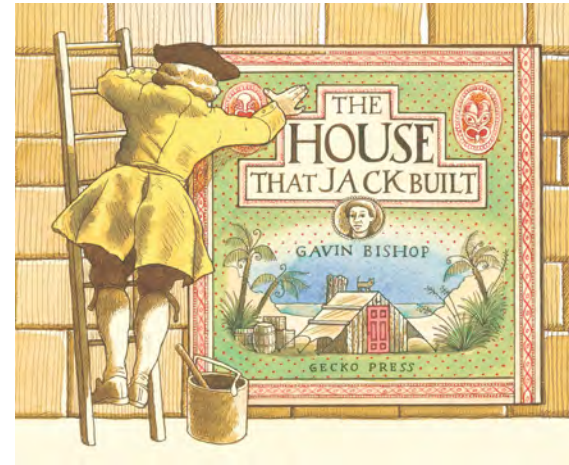
Picture book
260 x 270 mm
32 pages
Published 2012

World rights
available
Excl. World
English

Winner

Best New Zealand
Picture Book
2013





Age 4–11

Picture book
245 x 295 mm
40 pages
Published 2012

World rights
available
Excl. World
English

The House that Jack Built

Gavin Bishop

An award-winning modern New Zealand classic, which uses a familiar nursery rhyme to tell the story of the colonisation of Aotearoa New Zealand in the early 19th century.

The juxtaposition of traditional rhyme and illustrations from a Maori perspective tells a poignant and thought-provoking story of colonisation.

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, has published over 70 books internationally, translated into 12 languages. His awards include the Sir Kingi Ihaka Award 2018 and the New Zealand Children's Picture Book of the Year five times. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)

Brilliant classroom resource

Starting point for discussions of colonialism in many contexts

Winner
Best New Zealand
Picture Book
2000

Winner
Spectrum Print
Award for Best Use
of Illustration 2000

Winner
Notable Book of the
Year, New Zealand
Children's Book
Foundation 2000





The Fierce Little Woman and the Wicked Pirate

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Sarah Davis

A family story with a strong female main character and a pirate who is afraid of the dark.

The fierce little woman lived in a house at the end of a jetty. She knitted socks in blue and green wool, to sell to sailors who had got their feet wet. But when there were no ships at her jetty, she was quite alone. One stormy day, a pirate came to the house on the jetty. He stood on his toes, and starting tap-tap-tapping on the window...

An absolutely delightful picture book, this is a story to be read again and again. And again. (Be warned!)

NSW ASSOCIATION FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

Sarah Davis lives in Sydney, Australia. She has illustrated more than 30 picture books and is one of New Zealand and Australia's leading illustrators with a wide portfolio of award-winning books in both countries. She has won and been shortlisted for numerous awards. [More from Sarah Davis](#)

Age 3-6

Picture book
230 x 240 mm
40 pages
Published 2010

Rights sold
Japanese
Shoten Tokuma
All other rights
available, excl.
World English

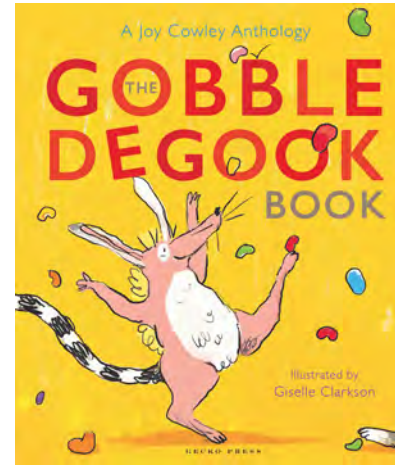


Finalist
New Zealand
Children's Book
Awards 2011





Joy Cowley is New Zealand's leading children's writer



The Gobbledegook Book

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Giselle Clarkson

Wordplay and humour in a landmark collection of stories, rhymes, nonsense and poems.

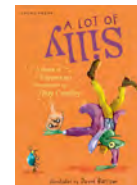
The Gobbledegook is a perfect family read-aloud and one for early readers to snuggle up with.

The kind of book that will be passed down generations of a family—timeless, joyous and heavy with memories.

NZ BOOKLOVERS

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

Giselle Clarkson is an illustrator and comic artist based in Wellington, New Zealand. [More from Giselle Clarkson](#)



Age 3–7

Picture book
280 x 240 mm
88 pages
Published 2019

World rights
available
Excl. World
English

Finalist

New Zealand
Children's Book
Awards 2020

White Raven

Selected for 2020
White Raven



Food for today, with many naturally gluten-free and vegan recipes

Includes tips on foraging, decorating and kitchen basics



Egg & Spoon

An Illustrated Cookbook

Alexandra Tylee / illustrated by Giselle Clarkson

A playfully illustrated, joyful cookbook that will set children on a lifetime love of healthy cooking and eating.

This scrumptious collection of recipes is for anyone who loves good healthy food— and an occasional indulgence.

There are after-school snacks, breakfast on a stick, cakes, slices and dinners. Perfect for children learning to cook independently and families to enjoy cooking together.

Alexandra Tylee is the owner and chef at Pipi restaurant in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, and author of two previous cookbooks and picture book *If I Was a Banana* (2016).

[More from Alexandra Tylee](#)



Giselle Clarkson is an illustrator and comic artist living in Greytown, New Zealand.

[More from Giselle Clarkson](#)

Age 8–12

Cookbook
250 x 216 mm
128 pages
Published 2020

World rights
available

Excluding
Australia and
New Zealand



Winner
NZ Children's
Book Awards
Non-fiction
2021

Notable Book
Storylines NZ 2021

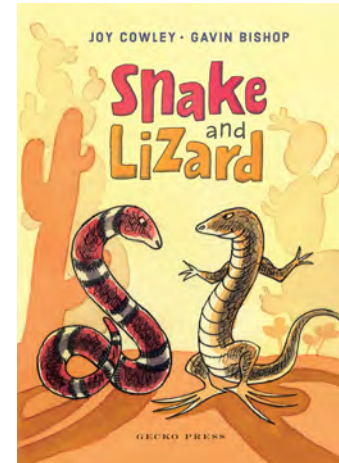
Finalist
PANZ Book Design
Awards 2021



A much-loved, timeless classic

Over 20,000 copies sold

Starred review, *US School Library Journal*



Winner
NZ Post
Children's Book
of the Year
2008

Snake & Lizard

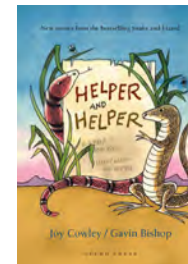
Joy Cowley / illustrated by Gavin Bishop

Two very different creatures learn about the give-and-take of friendship in this warm and funny story set in the desert.



Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, has published over 70 books internationally, translated into 12 languages. His awards include the Sir Kingi Ihaka Award 2018 and the New Zealand Children's Picture Book of the Year five times. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)



Awards for *Snake and Lizard*

White Raven 2008
Storylines NZ Notable Book List 2008
LIANZA Merit Award 2008
North Dakota Library Association Flicker Tale
Children's Choice Book Award 2011
Top 10 Best Children's Books, China Times
Storylines NZ Notable Book List 2018

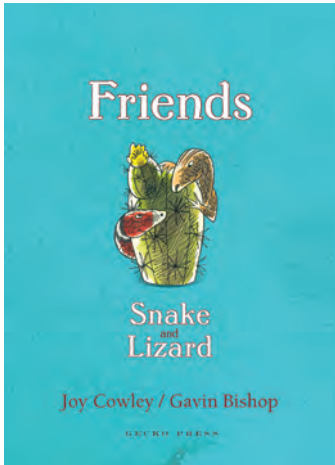
Age 6-9

Junior fiction
198 x 146 mm
102 pages
Published 2007

Rights sold

Dutch
Gottmer
German
Jacoby & Stuart
Japanese
Alice-Kan
Korean
Whale Story
Lithuanian
Vsj leidykla
Odile
Norwegian
Cappelen
Damm
Philippines
Kane Miller
Simplified
Chinese China
King-in Culture
Traditional
Chinese Taiwan
CPL
Turkish
Kuraldisi
Yayinlari
All other rights
available, excl.
World English





Friends

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Gavin Bishop

The beguiling pair introduced in *Snake and Lizard* now share a burrow and are business partners, too!

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, has published over 70 books internationally, translated into 12 languages. His awards include the Sir Kingi Ihaka Award 2018 and the New Zealand Children's Picture Book of the Year five times. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)

Awards

Finalist, NZ Post Children's Book Awards 2010
 Top 50 Children's Books 2009, *New Zealand Listener*
 Children's Choice winner, NZ Post Children's Book Awards 2010
 Storylines NZ Notable Book 2010
 Top 10 Best Children's Books, *China Times*

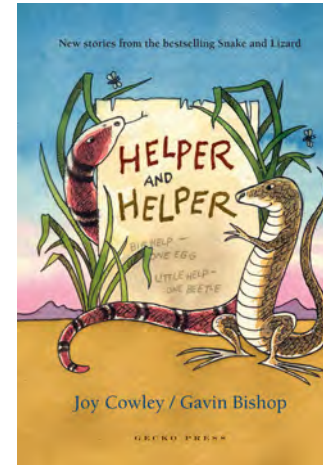
3-book series
 Timeless stories of
 friendship

Age 6–9

Junior fiction
 198 x 146 mm
 144 pages
 Published 2009

Rights sold

Korean
 Whale Story
 Lithuanian
 Vsj leidykla
 Odile
 Norwegian
 Cappelen
 Damm
 Simplified
 Chinese China
 TB Publishing
 Traditional
 Chinese Taiwan
 CPL
 Turkish
 Kuraldisi
 Yayinlari
 All other rights
 available, excl.
 World English



Helper & Helper

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Gavin Bishop

...what quirky, credible characters these two are.
 NEW ZEALAND BOOK COUNCIL

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, has published over 70 books internationally, translated into 12 languages. His awards include the Sir Kingi Ihaka Award 2018 and the New Zealand Children's Picture Book of the Year five times. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)



Twigs and Stones by Joy Cowley, illustrated by Gavin Bishop is a new picture book about Snake and Lizard.

Age 6–9

Junior fiction
 198 x 146 mm
 128 pages
 Published 2017

Rights sold

Lithuanian
 Odile
 Simplified
 Chinese China
 TB Publishing
 Turkish
 Kuraldisi
 Yayinlari
 All other rights
 available, excl.
 World English

Finalist

New Zealand
 Children's Book
 Awards 2017

Notable Book

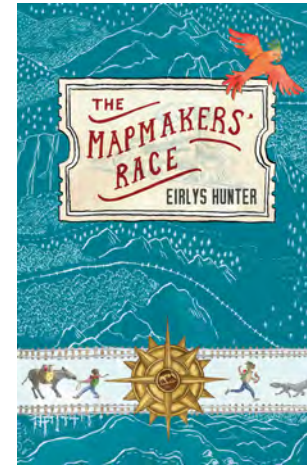
Storylines NZ 2018



Five children compete against professional route-finders and mapmakers

Fresh, light and effortless story-telling

Chosen by indie booksellers in UK, Australia, New Zealand



Finalist
Premio Strega
Ragazze e Ragazzi
2023

Age 8-12

Novel
248 pages
198 x 130 mm
Published 2018

Rights sold

Italian
La Nuova
Frontiera

All other rights
available
excluding UK,
Australia and
New Zealand

The Mapmakers' Race

Eirlys Hunter / illustrated by Kirsten Slade

Five children have 28 days to find a route through the wilderness in this exciting mountain-race adventure for middle readers.

Sal, Joe, Francie and Humphrey take part in the Great Race to map a rail route through an uncharted wilderness. Their father didn't return from his last expedition and now their money is gone. This race is their last chance.

Already feels like a timeless adventure ... a thrilling tale full of derring-do and heart.

BOOKTRUST (UK)



Eirlys Hunter was born in London and lives in Wellington, New Zealand, where she teaches children's writing at the IIML at Victoria University. She has written six previous children's books as well as a novel and short stories for adults. [More from Eirlys Hunter](#)



IBBY Honour Book 2020

Finalist

New Zealand
Children's Book
Awards 2019

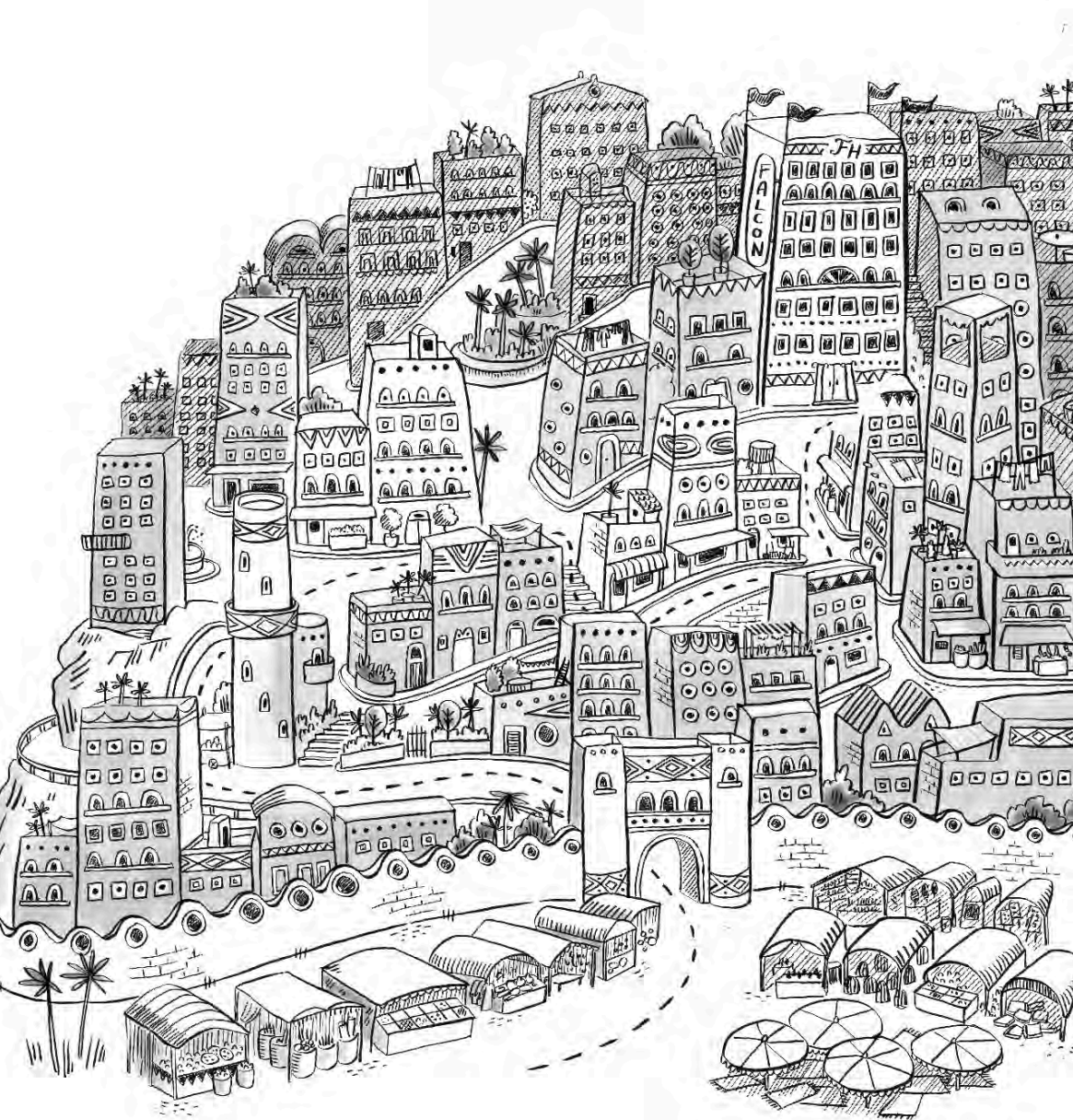
Notable Book

Storylines NZ 2019



Contemporary themes: revolution, environment, Indigenous land ownership

A new country, an urgent trial, a prison escape, a family reunited...



A stand-alone story from the world of *The Mapmakers' Race*

The Uprising *The Mapmakers in Cruxcia*

Eirlys Hunter / illustrated by Kirsten Slade

A classic, child-driven adventure with tenacious characters and contemporary themes.

Sal, Joe, Francie and Humphrey Santander are mapmakers looking for their father, a famous explorer who disappeared on his last expedition. Their search takes them to Cruxcia, where the people are fighting to protect their land. The Santanders' mapping skills may be the missing piece in the Cruxcian race to save the ancient valley—and the key to reuniting their family.



Eirlys Hunter was born in London and lives in Wellington, New Zealand, where she teaches children's writing at the IIML at Victoria University. She has written six previous children's books as well as a novel and short stories for adults. [More from Eirlys Hunter](#)

Age 8–12

Novel
256 pages
198 x 130 mm
Published 2021

Rights sold
Italian
La Nuova
Frontiera

All other rights
available
excluding UK
Australia and
New Zealand





The Inkberg Enigma

Jonathan King

An exciting graphic-novel mystery adventure with a strong filmic narrative.

Miro and Zia live in Aurora, a fishing town nestled in the shadow of an ancient castle. Miro lives in his books; Zia is never without her camera. The day they meet, they uncover a secret. Something has a powerful hold over the town.

With Zia determined to find out more, Miro finds himself putting aside his books for a real adventure.

Terrific

NEIL GAIMAN, AUTHOR OF *CORALINE*, *AMERICAN GODS* AND MORE

Brave young heroes, dark secrets, and a warm heart make this a hugely satisfying adventure for readers of all ages.

DYLAN HORROCKS, AUTHOR OF *HICKSVILLE*

King's dramatic poses and square jaws recall the golden era of pulp action comics but with a modern feel and diverse cast.

BOOKLIST (US)

Jonathan King is a filmmaker who has received international awards and whose comics have featured online and in anthologies.

Age 8–12

Graphic novel
253 x 190 mm
128 pages
Published 2020

Rights sold

Slovenian
Morfemplus
Zaloznistvo

All other rights
available, excl.
World English



White Raven

Selected for 2021
White Raven

Finalist

New Zealand
Children's Book
Awards 2021

Finalist

PANZ Book Design
Awards 2021

Notable Book

Storylines NZ 2021



Stunning writing, a compelling plot, and a strong female protagonist

Standalone from the same world as Knox's multi-awardwinning *Dreamquake* children's series

CANNY AND HER TEAMMATES stood on platform nine of Castlereagh Station and watched everything they'd seen the night before in Founderston play again in reverse. Passengers from the overnight express were met, kissed, and led away into the concourse—or set off by themselves heads down into the hot wind. Bundles of pillows, sheets, and blankets were removed from the sleeper car, piled into handcars, and wheeled away by the porters. The only difference was that here, in their hometown, the team's school uniforms were recognized, and several people stepped up to shake their hands. One man even opened his newspaper to their photo and had them sign it, first the three boys, then Canny. The man said that the *Castlereagh Clarion* had finally stopped calling their win an unlikely one.

It was the second year that Castlereagh Tech had carried off the supreme award at the National Mathematics Competition; a contest traditionally won by either

Founderston Collegiate or St. Thomas's—a decades-long rivalry in which the prize simply changed hands between the capital's two best boys' schools. Castlereagh Tech was a coeducational, state-run high school full of "kids of every stripe"—to quote its own principal—and famous for nothing much but disturbances on city buses and the occasional talented rugby player. When, two years before, Castlereagh Tech's junior math team took the prize in their section of the competition, even the *Clarion* reported their win as a surprising result. Last year the same "whiz kids" made the front page in their hometown. This year the *Clarion* was nixing their feats a little more for granted.

"Only page two," said one of Canny's teammates, disappointed.

Canny took off her blazer. Mr. Grove, the head of the mathematics department, said, "Agnes Mochrie, you can remove that blazer once you're back in bounds. Until then, you must remember you are representing your school."

Canny put her blazer back on. She stared at Mr. Grove, whose favorite pupil she was, and wondered how she could get him to just let her go. Then, because she wanted what she wanted, and was already imagining herself setting off with her suitcase banging on the backs of her legs, Canny just said the first thing that came into her head, without articulating any of the steps that led up to it. "I don't have to wait till visiting time," she said. "I could go now and they'd let me in."

"Please endeavor to make better sense when you speak, Agnes," said Miss Venn—the history teacher who'd had to travel north with the team because Canny couldn't be

expected to go on a trip with just three male classmates and the male head of the math department. (This was what the newspapers, and everyone else, failed to remark upon—that the coeducational college that won the National Mathematics Competition was the only coeducational college with a *girl* on its team.)

Mr. Grove was pretty good at following Canny's thinking, even when it wasn't mathematical. He said to Miss Venn, "Agnes visits Marli Vainu after school every day."

There was a pause of a soft sort that Canny knew was sympathy.

"There's a rehearsal for the end-of-year prize-giving this morning that you're all required to attend," said Miss Venn. "But I'm sure they'll let you go after that."

One of the boys said, "Have our reports gone out?"

"They were put into the mail on Monday."

Canny had nothing to fear from the last report of her school career. She was a good student, and her teachers had always encouraged her. And since it was her last report, there'd be no little improvements she'd be expected to make.

Canny forgot about her report and stared off into space. She was wondering how many of her postcards she might find taped to the mirror above Marli's face, a mirror in which Marli could see the window of the ward and the tops of the trees that the hospital board were planning to cut down to make room for another parking lot. Canny thought about the trees, and their fate, till her mind was full of a green haze as if she were a tree among trees and had just given them the bad news.



Mortal Fire

Elizabeth Knox

A mysterious and mysterious and compelling literary fantasy that weaves magic, mathematics, love, family—and riddles within riddles.

Sixteen-year-old Canny Mochrie has always been different; she has a calculating, mathematical mind and she sees something extra. When she begrudgingly joins her stepbrother on a trip to research a 30-year-old coal mine disaster, she meets the alluring Ghislain Zarene, who is held hostage by a powerful spell. Canny starts to untangle the mysteries of the valley—only to find that its secrets are her secrets, too.

Elizabeth Knox (CNZM) has published thirteen novels for adults and children, as well as autobiographical novellas. In 2019 she won the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement—Fiction. Her acclaimed novels include *The Absolute Book* and *The Vintner's Luck* (1998), shortlisted for the Orange Prize in 1999 and made into a feature film in 2009. In 2008, her YA novel *Dreamquake* won an American Library Association's Michael L Printz Award for excellence in young adult literature.

Age 14+

Novel
210 x 140 mm
448 pages
Published 2013

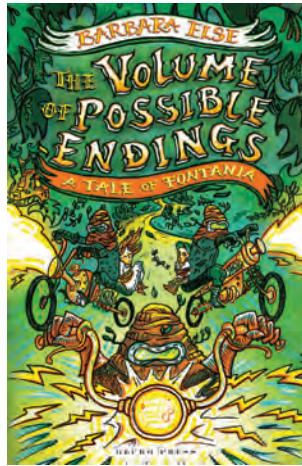
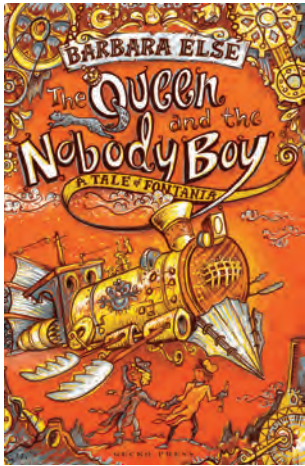
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Winner
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Young Adult fiction
2014

Shortlisted
LA Times Book
Awards



The Tales of Fontania

Barbara Else

The Travelling Restaurant (2011)

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Awards

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Awards

Storylines Notable Book 2015

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Awards

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Winner
NZ Children's
Book Award
2012

The Travelling Restaurant

Barbara Else

An edge-of-your-seat tale of treachery, courage and magic.

On the mysterious sailing ship the Travelling Restaurant, twelve-year-old Jasper Ludlow, by all accounts an ordinary boy, embarks on an adventure across Old Ocean and Lake Riversea.

A heaping plateful of adventure, spiced to perfection with dangers, deft humor and silly bits.

STARRED REVIEW, KIRKUS REVIEWS (US)

Barbara Else is one of New Zealand's most successful writers. She is a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to literature. She lives in Dunedin, New Zealand. [More from Barbara Else](#)

Age 8-12

Novel
198 x 129 mm
304 pages
Published 2011

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IBBY Honour Award
2012

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Honour Award

New Zealand
Children's Book
Awards 2012

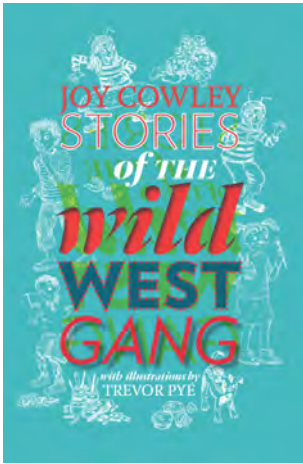
Notable Book

Storylines NZ 2012

Award-winning series

Four stand-alone adventures from the land of Fontania





Stories of the Wild West Gang

Joy Cowley

Hilarious stories packed with pandemonium, mud and mayhem

Wherever the Wild West Gang goes, adventure is not far behind—and it's the sort of adventure you don't want your parents to know about.

Rollicking reads.

JOHN MCINTYRE, THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOP

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. She has won a multitude of awards and honours for her best-selling books. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

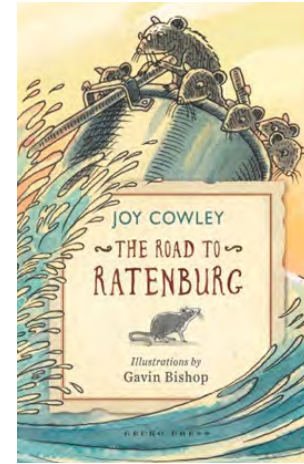
50 Best Children's Books, New Zealand Listener

Age 8–11

Novel
234 x 156 mm
368 pages
Published 2011

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Morocco
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Connection
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Bayard
Traditional
Chinese Taiwan
Linking
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Yayincilik
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The Road to Ratenburg

Joy Cowley / illustrated by Gavin Bishop

Forced to make a new home, Spinnaker Rat's family set out for the fabled and glorious city of Ratenburg.

A piece of quality fiction that will stand the test of time and will make a great addition to any library.

IN NEED OF A READ (UK)

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation. She has won a multitude of awards and honours for her best-selling books. [More from Joy Cowley](#)

Gavin Bishop ONZM, Tainui, Ngāti Awa, has published over 70 books internationally, translated into 12 languages. His awards include the Sir Kingi Ihaka Award 2018 and the New Zealand Children's Picture Book of the Year five times. [More from Gavin Bishop](#)

From a much-loved writer and illustrator pair

A fable with pace, humour and a rollicking good quest

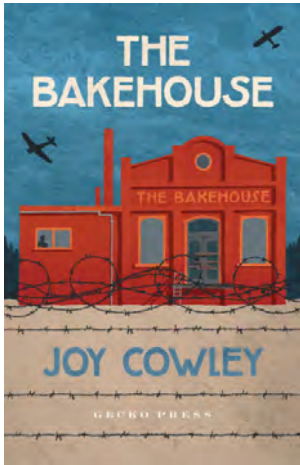
Age 8–11

Novel
198 x 128 mm
200 pages
Published 2016

Rights sold

Turkish
Uyurgezer
Yayincilik
Simplified
Chinese China
TB Publishing
All other rights
available, excl.
World English





The Bakehouse

Joy Cowley

Bert wants nothing more than to be old enough to fight in the war. Little does he know that the secrets and danger of war don't always stay at the front line.

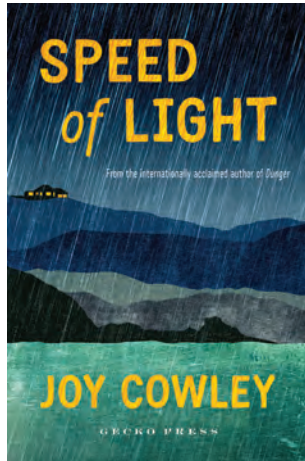
A well-written, gripping novel with intense emotional involvement in a well-drawn historical background
MAGPIES MAGAZINE (AUS)

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Awards

Storylines Notable Book 2016



Speed of Light

Joy Cowley

A strange old woman is blown in to an affluent but dysfunctional family, and when things go very wrong, her influence is suspect.

Sometimes when you finish a book you close it and walk away. Others you hold in your lap, reluctant to let the feelings and emotions it created in you die down. So it was for me with Speed of Light.

AROUND THE BOOKSHOPS

Rights sold

Korean (Gaesunamu), Taiwan (Linking)
All other rights available excluding World English



Dunger

Joy Cowley

A fast-paced, funny, accessible junior novel with a realistic brother-sister relationship from beloved New Zealand writer Joy Cowley.

William and Melissa have been roped into helping their old hippie grandparents fix up their holiday home. They'll have no electricity, no cellphone reception, and only each other for company. As far as they're concerned, this is not a holiday.

Spirited, warm, intelligent and has sensible and mature messages to impart.

THE BOOKBAG (UK)

Joy Cowley is one of New Zealand's best-loved writers for children and adults, with an international reputation.

[More from Joy Cowley](#)



Age 8-12

Novel
198 x 129 mm

Dunger
156 pages
Published 2013

The Bakehouse
140 pages
Published 2015

Speed of Light
206 pages
Published 2014

Rights sold

Korean
Gaesunamu

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Chinese China
TB Publishing

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Uyurgezer
Kitap

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Storylines New Zealand Notable Book 2014



Contact Details

Lerner Books

Maria Kjoller

mkjoller@lernerbooks.com

Gecko Press

Publisher-at-large

Rachel Lawson

rlawson@lernerbooks.com

geckopress.com

Rights Agents

World

Anja Mundt, Mundt Agency

mundtagency.com

anja@mundtagency.com

China & Taiwan

BK Agency

bookman.com.tw

Shuhuai Tang (China)

shuhuai@bkagency.com.tw

Shin Su (Taiwan)

sushin@bkagency.com.tw

Turkey

Ayşenur Müslümanoğlu, AnatoliaLit

anatolialit.com

aysenur@anatolialit.com



**G E C K O
P R E S S**