



SPARKING  
IMAGINATION,  
CONVERSATION  
& CHANGE

Subsidiary Rights Guide  
Bologna Book Fair  
March 2023

## Pantera Press — taking on the world...

Pantera Press is a young and enthusiastic Australian book publisher, created to champion writing culture and literacy in Australia with a clear community and cultural purpose.

We discover and nurture talented Australian writers who are great storytellers. We also publish non-fiction books that matter, and have a quirky illustrated imprint, *Lost the Plot*. From our Australian origins we are now also publishing titles that fit our criteria from around the world. As a social purpose business, we use our profits to fund charities and not-for-profits that encourage reading and work to close the literacy gap in Australia.

We released our first titles in 2010 and have been short-listed seven times for the Australian Book Industry's (ABIA) Small Publisher of the Year Award. We are the only publisher to have been named a 'Heatseeker' by Nielsen BookScan for four successive years (indie publishers showing both the highest short-term and long-term growth), and made the top 10 list of Indie Publishers in 2020. We have a team of seasoned industry professionals fast developing a list of award-winning and critically acclaimed authors and titles across a range of genres.

Our books are distributed in Australia and New Zealand by Bloomsbury, and we hold world rights to most of our titles. We would love to introduce you to our list.

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## Upcoming and Recent Children's and YA Fiction titles

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# THE EERIE EXCAVATION | Ash Harrier



Pub Date: March 2023

ISBN: 9780645498479

Category: Middle-Grade Fiction

Format: Paperback B 198mm x 128mm

Extent: 288pp

Rights Held: World

The second book in the Alice England Mysteries, featuring Alice - who is curious, truthful and smart, but who works in her father's funeral home and receives messages from the dead. An engaging heroine!

In *The Deadly Daylight*, Alice England learned about exotic animals, allergies, and how to make a friend. Now, she, Violet, and Cal are back and faced with another mystery to solve!

It's summer holiday in Damocles Cove and Alice, Violet, and Cal are off to Archaeology Camp. Sure, it's not the K-pop camp Violet wanted, or the days of video gaming that Cal was looking forward to, but Alice's enthusiasm carries them all off to the mysterious Malkin Tower on the edge of the spooky Pendle Woods. The work is hard, and the findings are small, until one day a fellow camper turns up something unexpected. What is discovered in the dirt will plunge Alice and her friends into another murder mystery. Do curses really exist? Is a monster haunting Pendle Woods? And who is creeping around the tower after midnight?

When camp ends and everyone is sent home without answers, Alice will need her signature logic, the support of her friends, and her special talent to solve the mystery of Pendle Woods and bring an end to a family feud that's been going on for centuries.

## About the Author



Ash Harrier lives in Perth, Western Australia. She is an Ambassador for the *Books in Homes Australia* charity, which helps children in disadvantaged circumstances build their home libraries. Ash has a great fondness for puzzles, scientific facts, birds and the smell of dried tea. Some of her favourite pastimes are reading, daydreaming and spending time in the garden with her small flock of hens.

## PRAISE FOR *THE DEADLY DAYLIGHT*

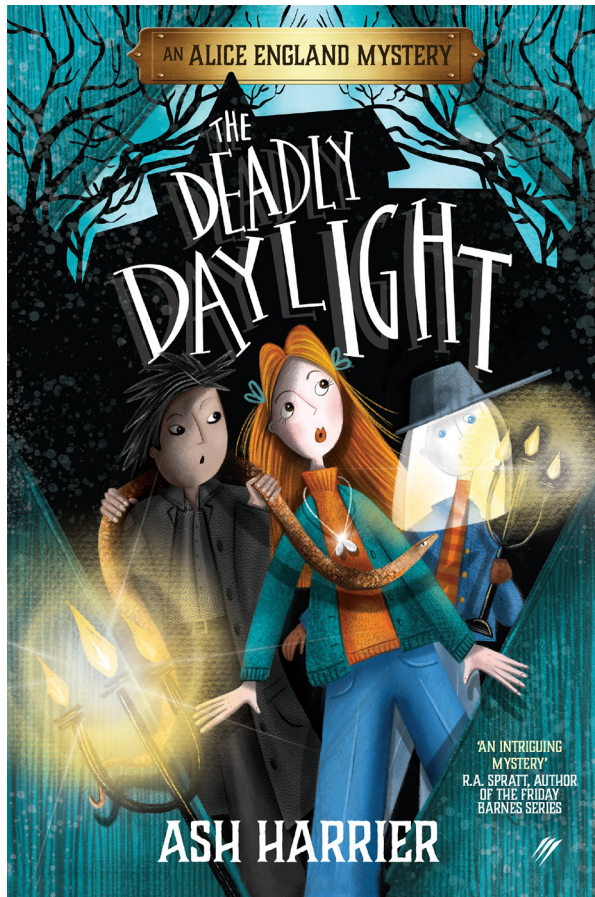
'As well as being a charming mystery, *The Deadly Daylight* also functions as a sweet and gentle lesson in empathy and difference. (It) is an engaging novel with a full cast of larger-than-life characters, and even I didn't pick the bad guy! Harrier sets us up nicely for the next book in the series, and readers will be left wanting more.'

*Books+Publishing*

'This is an engrossing, entertaining and enchanting novel, written with subtlety, sophistication and style, which older primary school and lower secondary readers, both girls and boys, should thoroughly enjoy. I loved it. I hope Alice and her friends have many more adventures in future *Alice England Mystery* series titles. Highly recommended.'

*Magpies Magazine*

# THE DEADLY DAYLIGHT | Ash Harrier



Pub Date: August 2022

ISBN: 9780648987673

Category: Middle-Grade Fiction

Format: Paperback B 198mm x 128mm

Extent: 288pp

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: World English ex ANZ (Holiday House)

Twelve-year-old Alice England is curious, truthful and smart, but when you work in your father's funeral home and you get messages from the dead, it can be difficult to make friends.

When she comes across the peculiar case of George Devenish, who was allergic to sunlight, Alice is convinced there's more to his death than meets the eye.

With the help of George's niece, 'Violet the Vampire', who shares her uncle's allergy, and a boy named Cal, who has secrets of his own, Alice begins to investigate. Who were the teenagers under the dock when George died? How is the sinister Doctor Grampian involved? And what about George's wife, Helen, whose baking is delicious but possibly poisonous?

It seems the truth of George's death may never see the light of day – unless Alice and her companions can put the clues together and solve a mystery much bigger than anybody expected.

*'The Deadly Daylight is a perfect-for-kids murder mystery. I loved spending time with Alice England, who cheerfully chooses coffins for everyone she meets, and Violet Devenish, who might finally have found a true friend. This is a fresh and curiously upbeat read with memorable characters, clever plot and satisfying ending. Prepare for secrets and friendships, life and death, quirks and cosy mystery.'*  
*Cristy Burne*

## About the Author



Ash Harrier lives in Perth, Western Australia. She is an Ambassador for the *Books in Homes Australia* charity, which helps children in disadvantaged circumstances build their home libraries. Ash has a great fondness for puzzles, scientific facts, birds and the smell of dried tea. Some of her favourite pastimes are reading, daydreaming and spending time in the garden with her small flock of hens.

*'As well as being a charming mystery, The Deadly Daylight also functions as a sweet and gentle lesson in empathy and difference. (It) is an engaging novel with a full cast of larger-than-life characters, and even I didn't pick the bad guy! Harrier sets us up nicely for the next book in the series, and readers will be left wanting more.'*

*Books+Publishing*

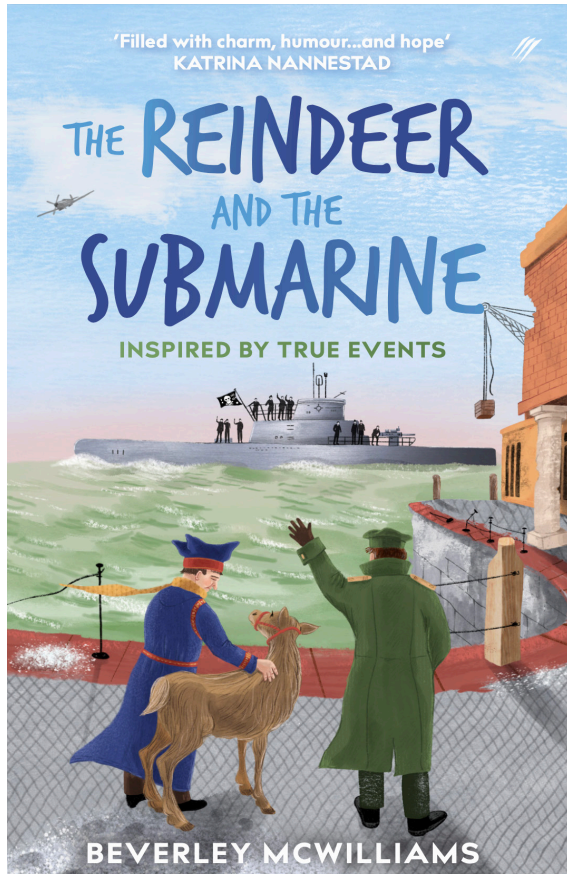
*'This is an engrossing, entertaining and enchanting novel, written with subtlety, sophistication and style, which older primary school and lower secondary readers, both girls and boys, should thoroughly enjoy. I loved it. I hope Alice and her friends have many more adventures in future Alice England Mystery series titles. Highly recommended.'*

*Magpies Magazine*

# Recent Middle-Grade Fiction

## THE REINDEER AND THE SUBMARINE

Beverley McWilliams



Pub Date: November 2022

ISBN: 9780648987697

Category: Middle-Grade Fiction

Format: Paperback B 198mm x 128mm

Extent: 208pp

Rights Held: World

*'Sometimes things have to change even though we might not want them to.'*

An orphaned reindeer with no antlers, Pollyanna is raised by Igor, a Sami herder, and is more at home in the company of people than other reindeer. When she discovers Igor is leaving for war, Pollyanna decides to follow, but en route, she is captured and gifted to the crew of a British submarine, the HMS Trident.

Life on board Trident brings more than a few surprises, and Pollyanna – with her love of food – gets into all sorts of trouble. While she misses her Arctic home, her courage and cheekiness help comfort her companions in the dark days of the war.

But what will happen to Pollyanna when the submarine reaches its destination?

A timeless story of adventure, hope, bravery and facing change, told through the eyes of Pollyanna, the real-life reindeer who proves that heroes come in all shapes and sizes.

### About the Author



Beverley McWilliams loves sharing history with young children. In August 2019, she published her debut picture book *Born to Fly*, which tells the story of South Australian aviator Captain Harry Butler and received a notable commendation from the CBCA.

Beverley's writing has also been published online and in magazines, and she is a regular contributor to *The School Magazine*, Australia's longest-running literary publication for children. She lives by the beach in beautiful South Australia with her family and menagerie of pets who provide endless inspiration.

*'I really loved this book! Just wonderful, a remarkable story beautifully told.'*  
Favel Parrett

*'With just the right blend of action, comedy and pathos, The Reindeer and the Submarine will spark or stoke a love of the past in eight- to 12-year-olds.'*  
Books+Publishing

*'Filled with charm, humour ... and hope'*  
Katrina Nannestad

# Recent Middle-Grade Fiction

## THE REINDEER AND THE SUBMARINE

Beverley McWilliams

### THE REINDEER AND THE SUBMARINE

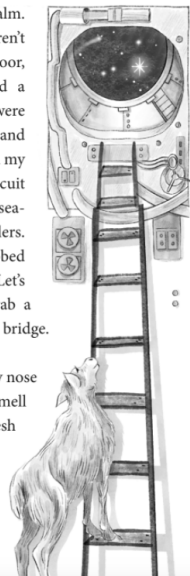
pleasant spot to wait, out of the way of everyone rushing about.

Then that awful ringing blasted through the room. I tried to think calming thoughts, but I couldn't imagine the gentle touch of a snowflake on my nose while that piercing alarm was screeching in my ears. Instead, I thought of biscuits. That proved much more distracting.

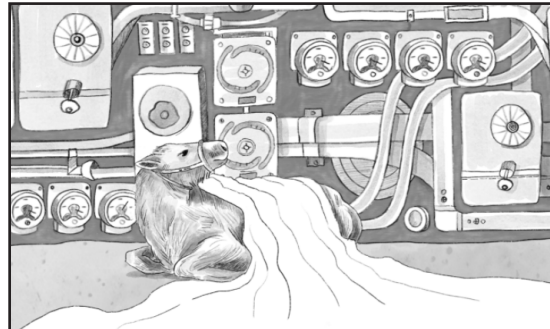
Before long, the blaring ceased, and calm returned. Well, not exactly calm. The submarine swayed. Boxes that weren't wedged in place slipped across the floor, and Bob's normally red face turned a funny shade of green. I guessed we were back above the waves. The rolling and rocking didn't bother me. I soon found my balance and happily gobbled my biscuit reward. Jim said I must have good sea-legs. Perhaps I got those instead of antlers.

After my fourth biscuit, Jim grabbed my halter. 'Come on, Pollyanna. Let's sneak into the control room and grab a breather while the captain is on the bridge. I reckon you've earned it.'

As soon as Jim opened the door, my nose twitched. A familiar, comforting smell drifted through the air – the salty, fresh aroma of the ocean. I raced ahead, following my nose and dragging Jim



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near as calming. They twisted and weaved in so many directions, it made my head hurt. I was also overheating under the thick blanket. I dipped my head and twisted my back, attempting to wriggle free of my cover. Instead, the blanket got caught on my halter and fell over my eyes, cloaking me in darkness. I stepped forwards and knocked into my bucket of water, which sloshed over my hooves. Then I scrambled back, my bottom crashing into something solid. The blanket slipped from my face, revealing the solid thing I'd crashed into – Bob.

Bob's face turned red as an Arctic bramble. His neck twitched. His eyes bulged. He stepped back and grabbed a broom propped against the wall, but as he turned, he slipped on the water and ended up in a heap on the floor. He looked funny – all flustered and wet like a grumpy walrus. Even Henry laughed.

Bob scrambled to his feet. His fingers wrapped around

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### BEVERLEY McWILLIAMS

situations.'

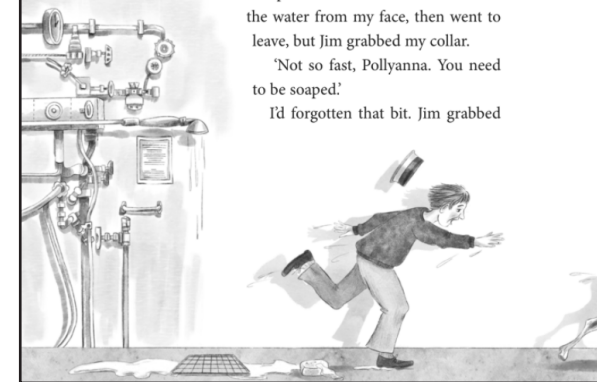
It seemed strange that the ocean surrounded us, yet fresh water was so precious. The men savoured water like a reindeer would savour an exquisite, rare mushroom. I'd watched Jim use his daily bowl of water first to clean his teeth, then to wash his face and then to wash his socks.

Jim moved the sack of potatoes and a tower of tins that currently occupied the small space he called *the shower cubicle*. He lifted a twisting pipe from the wall, held the nozzle in his hand, and twisted a tap. A burst of water spat out, soaking my head.

I shuddered. I'd swam across a few icy lakes in my time, and this water wasn't much warmer. I shut my eyes, gritted my teeth and imagined a rainy day in spring. I was just getting used to it when Jim turned off the tap. That wasn't too bad. I shook the water from my face, then went to leave, but Jim grabbed my collar.

'Not so fast, Pollyanna. You need to be soaped.'

I'd forgotten that bit. Jim grabbed



# Recent YA Fantasy Fiction

## THE MEDORAN CHRONICLES | Lynette Noni

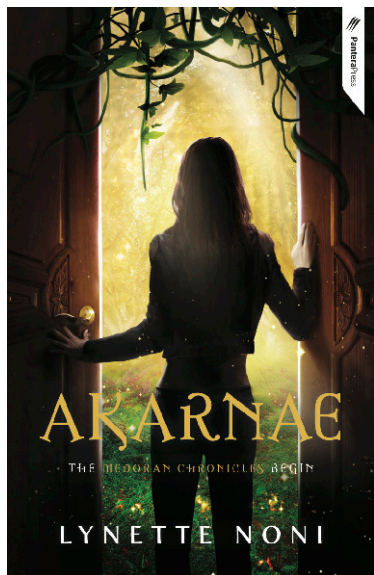
*The Medoran Chronicles* is an addictive five-book fantasy series set in a unique parallel world. A wondrous exploration of friendship and belief in oneself, it is set against the backdrop of an ancient betrayal and eternal war.

Sixteen-year-old Alexandra Jennings finds herself stranded in Medora, a fantasy world full of impossibilities. As she explores Akarnae Academy, a school for teenagers with extraordinary gifts, she is embraced by colourful new friends who accept her as one of their own.

But Alex soon discovers that she is an unwilling pawn in a deadly game, and the weight

of an entire race's survival rests on her shoulders. She must find a way to protect the Medorans from Aven Dalmarta, the banished Prince from the Lost City of Meya, who is on a quest to reclaim his birthright.

This refreshingly innocent YA journey emphasises the values of friendship and loyalty while offering a new slant on high school fantasy. There are authority figures who aren't quite what they seem, unconventional magic influenced by futuristic technology, and an omniscient library that can influence and guide Alex through the insecurities and uncertainties of her new world – and hopefully towards an understanding of the strength of her own willpower and an assured future for Medora.



'Lynette Noni is a marvelous and inventive storyteller, whose books are absolutely impossible to put down. I can't wait to see what she comes up with next!'  
*Sarah J Maas*, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Throne of Glass* and *A Court of Thorns and Roses* series

'Lynette Noni is a master at her craft. *The Medoran Chronicles* have richly developed characters, superb world-building that makes you feel like you're actually there, and stories that pack a punch, full of emotion and thrills. Highly recommended!'  
*James Dashner*, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Maze Runner* series



### SALES HIGHLIGHTS

THE MEDORAN CHRONICLE books have sold over 140,000 copies in Australia.

Lynette is routinely the number 1 bestselling YA author in the territory.

Her books regularly occupy the top spots in the Australian bestseller charts.

THE MEDORAN CHRONICLES series was voted Number 3 in the Dymocks Kids' Top 51 in 2018

FROM THE AUTHOR OF THE BESTSELLING *WHISPER* AND *WEAPON* DUOLOGY AND *THE PRISON HEALER* TRILOGY



### WE THREE HEROES

A companion volume to  
THE MEDORAN CHRONICLES

WE THREE HEROES contains three novellas which tell the stories of DC (Crowns and Curses), Jordan (Scars and Silence) and Bear (Hearts and Headstones).

While they may be considered sidekicks in THE MEDORAN CHRONICLES, to Alex they are her heroes - her strength, her hope and the reason she never gives up. Here are their stories – their trials and triumphs – proving that they are actually the heroes of their own stories.

### About the Author



Lynette Noni loves getting lost in stories – both the ones she creates, and those created by others. Lynette grew up on an outback farm and now lives behind the sun-swept beaches of the Sunshine Coast. Devastated when her Hogwarts letter didn't arrive, she consoled herself by looking inside every wardrobe she could find, and is still determined to find her way to Narnia. Bursting with novel ideas, Lynette is a reader who writes and a writer who reads. She has a worldwide blog-following where she enthusiastically shares her devotion to books and her unashamed Disney animation addiction.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Audio (Audible); Turkish (Artemis)

# Recent YA Fantasy Fiction WHISPER and WEAPON duology | Lynette Noni

“Lengard is a secret government facility for extraordinary people,” they told me. “It’s for people just like you.”

I believed them. That was my mistake.

There isn’t anyone else in the world like me.  
I’m different. I’m an anomaly. I’m a monster.

For two years, six months, fourteen days, eleven hours and sixteen minutes... Subject Six-Eight-Four, ‘Jane Doe’, has been locked away and experimented on, without uttering a single word.

Life at Lengard follows a strict, torturous routine that has never changed.

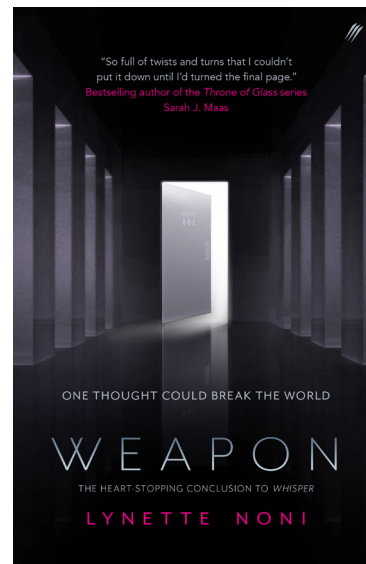
Until now.

When Jane is assigned a new—and unexpectedly kind—evaluator, her resolve begins to crack, despite her best efforts.

As she uncovers the truth about Lengard’s mysterious ‘program’, Jane discovers that her own secret is at the heart of a sinister plot .... And one wrong move, one wrong word, could change the world.

‘Lynette Noni is a marvelous and inventive storyteller, whose books are absolutely impossible to put down. I can’t wait to see what she comes up with next!’

*Sarah J Maas, #1 New York Times bestselling author of  
The Throne of Glass and  
A Court of Thorns and Roses series*



## About the Author



Lynette Noni loves getting lost in stories – both the ones she creates, and those created by others. Lynette grew up on an outback farm and now lives behind the sun-swept beaches of the Sunshine Coast. She is routinely the number 1 bestselling YA author in Australia and is the author of *The Medoran Chronicles* and *The Prison Healer* series.

I already knew he was a psychopath. But now?

He’s more dangerous than ever.

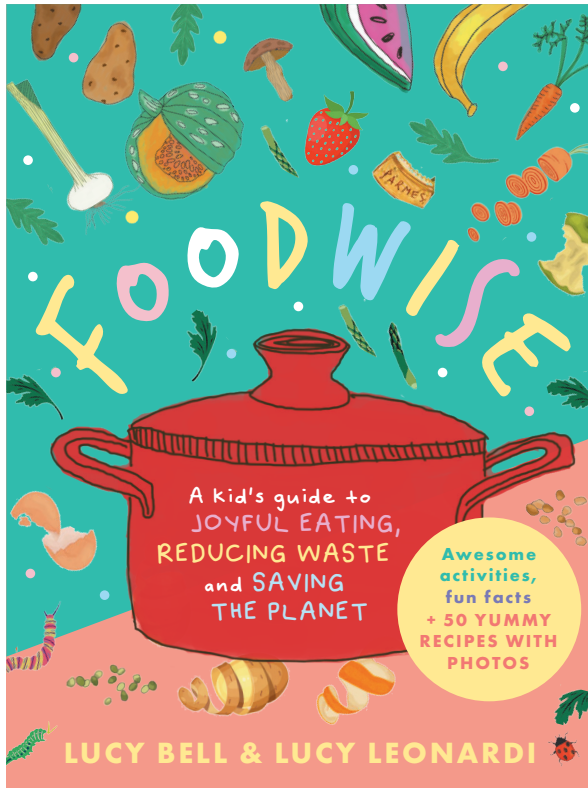
And I have less than twenty-four hours to stop him.

After escaping Lengard and finding sanctuary with the Remnants, Alyssa Scott is desperate to save those she left behind — and the rest of the world — from the power-hungry scientist, Kendall Vanik. But secrets and lies block her at every turn, and soon Lyss is questioning everything she has ever believed.

When long-lost memories begin to surface and the mysteries of her past continue to grow, Lyss battles to retain her hard-won control. Allies become enemies and enemies become allies, leaving her certain about only two things: when it comes to Speakers, nothing is ever as it seems . . . and the only person she can trust is herself.

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## Upcoming and Recent Children's and YA Non-Fiction Titles



Pub Date: August 2023

ISBN: 9780648795353

Category: Kids Non-Fiction (8–12 years)

Format: 247mm x 184mm (hardcover)

Extent: 224pp

Rights Held: World

## ***A Kid's Guide to Joyful Eating, Reducing Waste and Saving the Planet***

*It's incredible just how much food goes to waste, but there are so many simple (and delicious) ways we can stop our food from ending up in landfill. All around the world, there's a new generation of food waste warriors just like you who are fighting to keep their food on plates, in tummies, and out of the bin!*

*In this book are recipes, activities, ideas and inspiration to help you appreciate the many wonders of food. You'll learn to experience it in fun and exciting ways, where it comes from, how it's grown, how to buy and care for it, ways to prepare it, and best of all, all the ways you can share it with your family and friends! Not only that, you'll learn some funky food facts and become a total whiz in the kitchen – whipping up meals to wow your family and friends. You might even eat some things you never thought about trying before!*

*This book is packed with delicious recipes that will show you how to get creative in the kitchen, use up fruit and vegie scraps, and turn your leftovers into meals fit for a feast.*

## About the Authors



Lucy Bell is a book editor and music teacher on a journey to live a more ethical, sustainable and mindful life. Lucy is also the author of *You Can Live on The Bright Side* and *You Can Change the World*, which was the winner of the 2020 Nautilus Book Awards as well as the 2021 Green Earth Book Award.

Lucy Leonardi is a prolific photographer and finds joy in her creative pursuits, from her popular food blog *Who Does the Dishes* – a visual documentary of home cooks – to her most recent project of creating waste free recipes for OzHarvest social media's Fight Food Waste campaign. She is passionate about promoting a practical and healthy eating approach for a better environment.

### **Did you know?**

*We produce enough food in the world to feed everyone, but one in nine people doesn't have enough to eat.*

*Almost half of all fruit and vegetables produced are wasted.*

*Throwing away one burger wastes the same amount of water as a 90-minute shower.*



**DID YOU KNOW?**

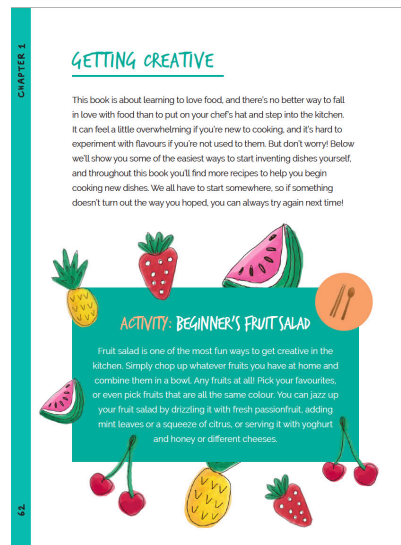
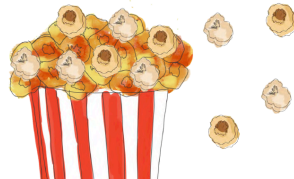
The word 'umami' is Japanese, meaning a pleasant or delicious savoury taste. It was first identified over a century ago by Japanese scientists and actually refers to the taste of glutamate, an amino acid found in animal and vegetable proteins. It is commonly described as having a savoury or meaty taste, like what you would get in a delicious broth.

The average person has about 30,000 tastebuds, and these contain taste receptor cells that detect chemicals in our food and then pass this information on to our brains. Our tastebuds get replaced around every two weeks. But as we age, not all of these tastebuds get replaced. This is why some foods might taste stronger to you than they do to adults.

As you start cooking more and experimenting with flavours, you'll learn about the best ways to balance the salty, sweet, bitter, sour and umami tastes to make for the most delicious meals. Some foods have delicious combinations and pairings of these tastes. You might already know some of the best salty-sweet combinations:

- salted caramel
- peanut butter and jam
- maple bacon
- melon and prosciutto

Here are some recipes for you to try that combine the different tastes. See if you can guess what tastes are combined here.



**GETTING CREATIVE**

This book is about learning to love food, and there's no better way to fall in love with food than to put on your chef's hat and step into the kitchen. It can feel a little overwhelming if you're new to cooking, and it's hard to experiment with flavours if you're not used to them. But don't worry! Below we'll show you some of the easiest ways to start inventing dishes yourself, and throughout this book you'll find more recipes to help you begin cooking new dishes. We all have to start somewhere, so if something doesn't turn out the way you hoped, you can always try again next time!

**ACTIVITY: BEGINNER'S FRUIT SALAD**

Fruit salad is one of the most fun ways to get creative in the kitchen. Simply chop up whatever fruits you have at home and combine them in a bowl. Any fruits at all! Pick your favourites, or even pick fruits that are all the same colour. You can jazz up your fruit salad by drizzling it with fresh passionfruit, adding mint leaves or a squeeze of citrus, or serving it with yoghurt and honey or different cheeses.



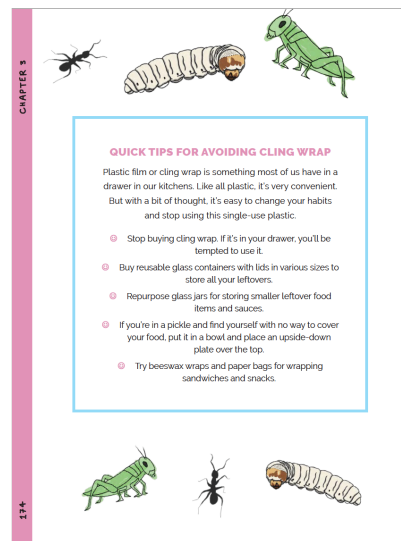
**ACTIVITY: A GARDEN JOURNAL**

We love gardening and being around plants, whether they are in our backyards, on balconies or in windowsill pots. There's nothing like the smell of soil and sunshine on a beautiful spring day. We even love the dirt under our nails, the wriggly worms and the bugs! Gardening helps you care about the way things are grown and teaches you to treasure every part of the fruit and vegetables you harvest. If you're new to gardening, a good way to start is to create a garden journal or notebook. Here are some things you could include in your garden journal:

- a list of all the plants you can find in your garden
- the Latin or botanical name for the species - for example, parsley is called *Petroselinum crispum* and lettuce is called *Lactuca sativa*
- a description of the plants, including what they look and smell like
- a description of edible vegetables, fruit or herbs, including research on any health or nutritional benefits they have, and describe what they taste like

- photos or drawings of the plant, or just its leaves, flowers or fruit - you could also label the different parts to show roots, leaves, seeds, stem or flowers.
- leaves, flowers and herbs pressed in a book
- if you plant seeds, write down the date and time they were planted so you can monitor their progress and make notes about how much water and sun they require
- a section for any birds, bugs and other wildlife that visit your garden.

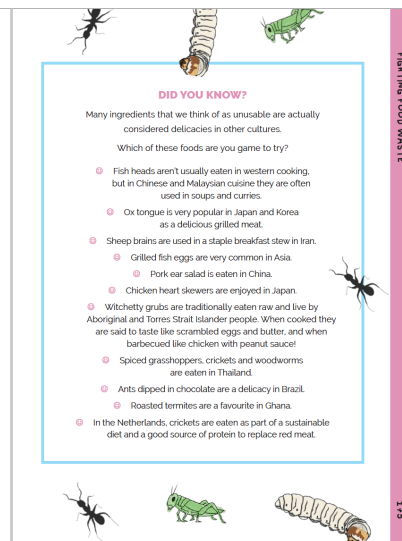
If you get stuck identifying your plants, ask an adult for help or try an app such as PlantNet.



**QUICK TIPS FOR AVOIDING CLING WRAP**

Plastic film or cling wrap is something most of us have in a drawer in our kitchens. Like all plastic, it's very convenient. But with a bit of thought, it's easy to change your habits and stop using this single-use plastic.

- Stop buying cling wrap. If it's in your drawer, you'll be tempted to use it.
- Buy reusable glass containers with lids in various sizes to store all your leftovers.
- Repurpose glass jars for storing smaller leftover food items and sauces.
- If you're in a pickle and find yourself with no way to cover your food, put it in a bowl and place an upside-down plate over the top.
- Try beeswax wraps and paper bags for wrapping sandwiches and snacks.

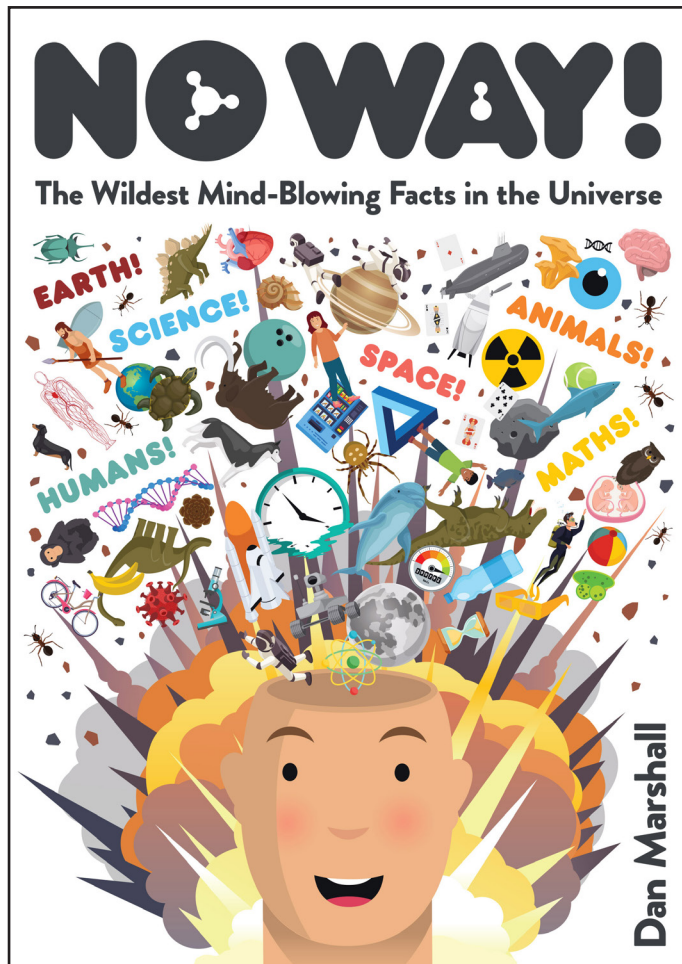


**DID YOU KNOW?**

Many ingredients that we think of as unusable are actually considered delicacies in other cultures.

Which of these foods are you game to try?

- Fish heads aren't usually eaten in western cooking, but in Chinese and Malaysian cuisine they are often used in soups and curries.
- Ox tongue is very popular in Japan and Korea as a delicious grilled meat.
- Sheep brains are used in a staple breakfast stew in Iran.
- Grilled fish eggs are very common in Asia.
  - Pork ear salad is eaten in China.
- Chicken heart skewers are enjoyed in Japan.
- Witchetty grubs are traditionally eaten raw and live by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. When cooked they are said to taste like scrambled eggs and butter, and when barbecued like chicken with peanut sauce!
- Spiced grasshoppers, crickets and woodworms are eaten in Thailand.
- Ants dipped in chocolate are a delicacy in Brazil.
  - Roasted termites are a favourite in Ghana.
- In the Netherlands, crickets are eaten as part of a sustainable diet and a good source of protein to replace red meat.



Get ready to go on a wonderful journey of discovery that will make you say No Way! Learn all about space, humans, earth, science, animals and maths, with the help your trusty robot sidekick.

Did you know...

Uranus is leaking gas into space?

The average yawn goes for six seconds?

The fact that there are over three trillion trees on earth?

Bicycles ride themselves?!

This beautifully designed children's book is filled to the brim with facts, games and questions that will teach you all the wildest and weirdest things about the world around you!

Dan is a designer, illustrator and writer who runs a design agency, Studio Marshall. For over 20 years he has worked with a diverse group of clients including the Sydney Opera House, The Australian Museum, One Laptop Per Child, The Hunger Project, Facebook and Coca Cola.

Dan's books stem from his passion for graphic design, communicating information visually and his deep curiosity and include *Mind Blown* as well as the picture books *Super Duper* and *Look Book*.

Publication: October 2021

ISBN: 9780648677024

Page Size: 247 x 184mm

Extent: 64pp

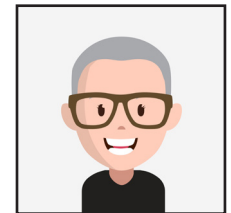
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Rights Sold: German (Loewe); Chinese

Simplified (Posts & Telecom); Korean (EK

Publishers); Russian (DMK Press); Turkish

Teas Yayincilik



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## CONTENTS

### THE GERMS IN YOUR GUT...

**0.2KG** The total weight of all the microbes in your gut.

**95%** The percentage of your microbes that live in your gut, which goes from your mouth all the way down to your bottom.

**Curly wurly** Cuffed up inside us, our intestines have a surface area of ground, 32 square metres. That is the same size as a small city studio apartment.

**Mice and men** Scientists first discovered, and continue to investigate, the connection between your gut microbiome and your brain with studies mainly in mice.

**Brain box** As well as providing a home to all these amazing microbes, your gut acts like a second brain for you and can actually think for itself thanks to the 100 million neurons inside it. It normally digests food without your brain telling it too. None of your other organs, not even your super powerful heart can do this. Amazing!

### ...ARE TALKING TO YOUR BRAIN

**10 TRILLION** The number of microbes living inside your guts.

Even when you are by yourself you are never really alone. It may sound quite creepy but inside and out, your body is home to billions of bacterial, viral, fungi, and other tiny organisms called microbes. There are so many of these that incredibly they outnumber your own human cells!

These microscopic creatures play a huge role in your wellbeing, helping your immune system, providing nutrients for your cells and preventing invasion by other harmful bacteria and viruses. They're amazing! Almost all of these tiny creatures call your gut their home and it's from here that they're communicating directly with your brain. We still do not know yet exactly what they're saying, but whatever it is it's directly influencing your brain and affecting your mental health and behaviour. No way!

### SOME ANIMALS SPEND MOST OF THEIR LIVES ASLEEP

<b>KOALA</b> Each day these marsupial manage to get their heads down for between <b>20 AND 22 HOURS</b>	<b>SLOTH</b> Every day these tardy tree dwellers have way more than forty naps and can sleep for <b>20 HOURS</b>	<b>BROWN BAT</b> These mouse-eared microbats spend almost the whole day hanging upside down asleep. Sometimes up to <b>19.9 HOURS</b>	<b>GIANT ARMADILLO</b> These heavily armoured animals manage to rest their weary heads each day for <b>18.1 HOURS</b>
--	---	--	--

Some humans tend to sleep for around eight hours every day which works out at a third of our lives asleep across our whole lifetimes. This may sound like quite a lot, but it's nothing when compared to some animals who spend most of their lives unconscious! Sometimes up to a quite frankly mind boggling 22 hours a day! We're looking at you here koala.

### CICADAS USE NUMBERS PRIME

**7, 13, 17**  
The prime numbers used by periodic cicadas.

**Going underground**  
If you've ever lain in bed during a midsummer's night, unable to sleep thanks to the cacophonous din of cicadas, then you're probably not a fan of these diminutive flying insects. Their life cycle is a strange one as they spend most of their days underground and when they do finally emerge, there's no time for pleasantries as they quickly find a mate, reproduce and die.

**Prime time**  
Annual cicadas make this appearance every year, but periodic cicadas stay underground for much longer, appearing at intervals of seven, 13 or even 17 years. All are prime numbers! Certainly, the length of the periodic cicada's underground existence is curious. But why would each of these intervals be a prime number, meaning they're only divisible by themselves and by one?

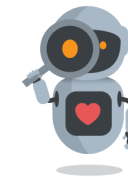
**Taking advantage**  
For a long time, we thought so. But now it seems that these insect mathematicians have been using prime numbers to their advantage. And all this without a calculator!

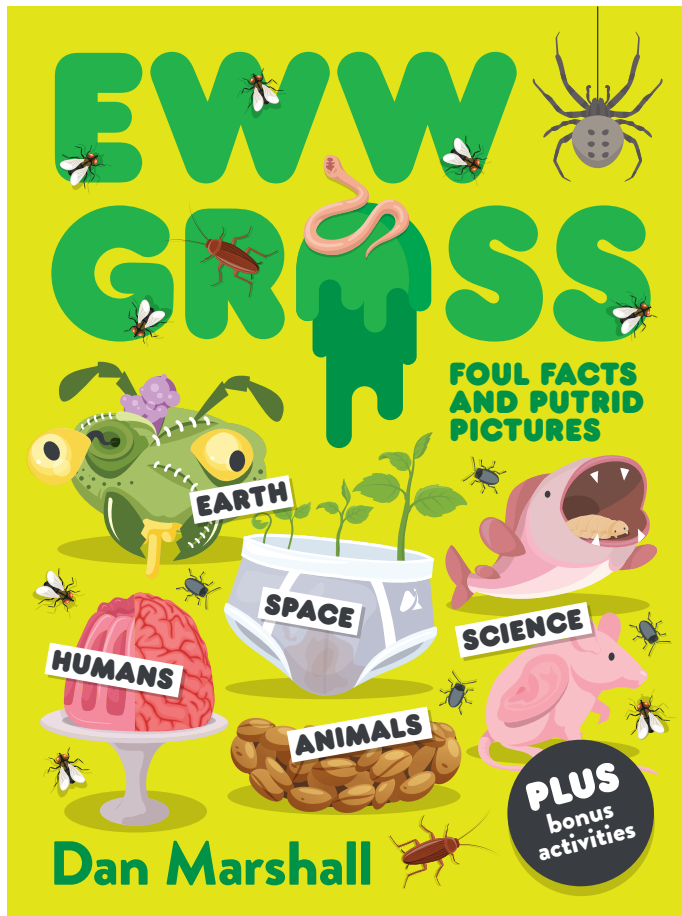
**Food fight**  
For instance, cicadas with a 13-year life cycle and ones with a 17-year life cycle will hardly ever meet. When both species of cicada do come out together - once every 221 years (13 multiplied by 17) - the numbers will be massive. So it's handy that it's rare for them to have to compete for the same food.

**Syncing up**  
Another benefit of the strategically irregular gaps is that they prevent predators syncing up with the reproductive cycle of the cicadas. A predator with a three-year life cycle would only meet up with the 17-year periodic cicadas once every 51 years (three multiplied by 17).

# THE PLOT

Spot how many times K.L.A.U.S (Knowledge Learning And Understanding System) appears throughout the book!





### Foul Facts and Putrid Pictures

Get ready to discover just how gross our universe really is. Learn the foulest facts about space, Earth, humans, animals and science that have been tested by REAL SCIENTISTS, and even do your own gross experiments. Meet your guide, Slimon, who loves all things rotten, revolting, despicable and downright disgusting.

Did you know ...

There's poo on the moon?

You will drool enough in your lifetime to fill two swimming pools?

There's a wall covered in chewing gum that's over 30 years old?

There's a robot designed to projectile vomit?

Full to the brim with the world's filthiest facts and most putrid pictures, this book is sure to make you and your friends say 'Eww Gross!'

Dan is a designer, illustrator and writer who runs a design agency, Studio Marshall. For over 20 years he has worked with a diverse group of clients including the Sydney Opera House, The Australian Museum, One Laptop Per Child, The Hunger Project, Facebook and Coca Cola.

Dan's books stem from his passion for graphic design, communicating information visually and his deep curiosity and include *Mind Blown* as well as *No Way!* and the picture books *Super Duper* and *Look Book*.

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**SPACE**

## THE COSMIC STINK BOMB

If our future scientists ever manage to leave Earth and explore the depths of outer space they may encounter a beautiful nebula, 5,000 light-years away in the constellation **Puppis**. It's called the **Calabash Nebula**, a gas cloud over one quadrillion (1,000,000,000,000,000) metres in length.

However, though it may be beautiful to view from a distance, up close and personal things would take a rather pungent turn. The nebula has a lot of the sulphur compounds you would find in both stink bombs and rotten eggs, hence the reason astronomers have given the nebula the notorious name of **Rotten Egg Nebula**.

**Star fart**

When the nebula is a red giant star that is undergoing a high energy conversion. A transformation so powerful that the smelly sulphurous molecules are forced out into space. In other words, the nebula is having a star fart. *Comic Jumps!*

**1 MILLION KILOMETRES PER HOUR**

This is the incredible speed at which the gas is being forcefully ejected out into space.

**OH 231.84 + 4.22**

This is the technical name for the Calabash Nebula. Numbers near as catchy as **Rotten Egg Nebula**.

**GROSSMETER**

**In China**  
Century eggs - seven cook 30 days, wash out egg with a green outer which is considered a delicacy and has been for over 100 years!

**EARTH**

## GIANT CORPSE FLOWERS SMELL OF ROTTING FLESH AND DEATH

Flowers are usually associated with the nicer things of life, including smiling so much so that they can bring a smile to anybody's day. But not all flowers love sweet aromas. The fact that some species of flower are referred to as **corpse flowers** might hint at what's about to come. Their stench has been likened to rotting flesh and even to death itself. A smell that is so revolting, few people can last long around it. The most famous of these are **Rafflesia Arnoldii** and **Amorphophallus Titanum**. Hold your nose!

**Rafflesia Arnoldii**

The number of **days** the **Rafflesia Arnoldii** flower stays open for.

**Amorphophallus Titanum**

The number of **years** between the **Amorphophallus Titanum** flower blooming.

**Getting warmer**

Not only does the **Amorphophallus Titanum** fool insects with its smell, but it deceives them further by mimicking a **36.7 degree Celsius** to mimic a dying animal. So clever and so gross.

**Rotten luck**

The corpse flower's stench secret is a chemical combination that mimics decomposition to attract insects who will help pollinate it. Bees and flies who are drawn to the smell of decaying meat cannot help themselves and gravitate towards the flowers, attracted by the apparent smell of rotting flesh.

**Gentle giants**

Both the **Rafflesia Arnoldii** and the **Amorphophallus Titanum** are absolutely enormous. The former can have a diameter up to one metre across and the latter can be up to three metres tall. These are giants of the flower world.

**Leaf it out**

Although massive the flowering **Rafflesia Arnoldii** cannot actually support themselves. They have no leaves, stalks or even roots. They are parasites who rely upon their jungle vine hosts for survival.

**36**

The number of **hours** the flower stays open for.

**10**

The number of **years** between the **Amorphophallus Titanum** flower blooming.

**GROSSMETER**

**HUMANS**

## YOU WILL DROOL ENOUGH IN YOUR LIFETIME TO FILL TWO SWIMMING POOLS

Have you ever woken up in the morning to find your pillow has a huge wet patch from the previous night's drooling session as you slept? It's a strange sensation as you have no recollection of it happening, but the evidence of your saliva dribbling is right there in front of you on your wet pillow. Drooling is something that we do all the time and over the course of your lifetime you will produce an amazing amount of saliva, enough in fact to fill two standard sized swimming pools.

**Bad breath**

Saliva is produced by glands in your mouth and keeps your mouth moist and comfortable. It helps you chew, taste, and swallow as well as fighting the germs in your mouth and preventing bad breath. Too little saliva can result in bad breath and food tasting differently.

**You produce enough saliva in just one year to fill ten bathtubs!**

**750 MILLILITRES**

This is the amount of saliva the average person produces in a single day. Enough to fill a wine bottle.

**The acid test**

Your saliva helps keep the pH balance of your mouth slightly alkaline. And it's a good job too because if it didn't, your mouth would become acidic, and would dissolve your own teeth. Ew!

**25,000 LITRES**

This is the amount of saliva the average person can produce in a lifetime.

**Sealed with a kiss**

When you deeply kiss someone, you exchange saliva with them and the million of bacteria contained within it. A **10 second kiss** will transfer around **80 million bacteria**.

**GROSSMETER**

**FOOD**

## FIGS HAVE DEAD WASPS INSIDE THEM

Have you ever eaten a wasp? Well if you've ever eaten a fig then you probably have. What? The answer lies with mother nature. Figs bloom on the inside and their reproductive parts are located inside their pods. So, to become pollinated the fig relies on it's friend, the tiny female fig wasp. She enters the unique fig carrying pollen and lays her eggs. She then nibbles over and dies. But don't get too grossed out about all the time, you've eaten a fig, those crunchy bits are fig seeds, not wasp skeletons. Using enzymes the fig digests the tiny insect and turns it into protein which then becomes part of the flavour of the now opened fruit. Absolutely gross.

**Tunnel vision**

When the baby wasp hatch, they all mate and the wingless males chew a tunnel out of the fig before they too die, and the females use this tunnel to enter the world for the first time. The cycles continue as they are now carrying fig pollen and are free to search for another fig tree in which to lay their own eggs and pollinate it.

**Lose your head**

When the female wasp enters the fig her wings and antennae are clipped away and she becomes trapped. The wasps sometimes fight inside the fig if more than one enters and lethal battles take place often involving decapitation.

**900**

This is the number of fig wasps, responsible for pollinating the world's **900** species of figs. Each species of wasp only pollinates a specific species of fig. The fig attracts it's partner wasp with a unique scent.

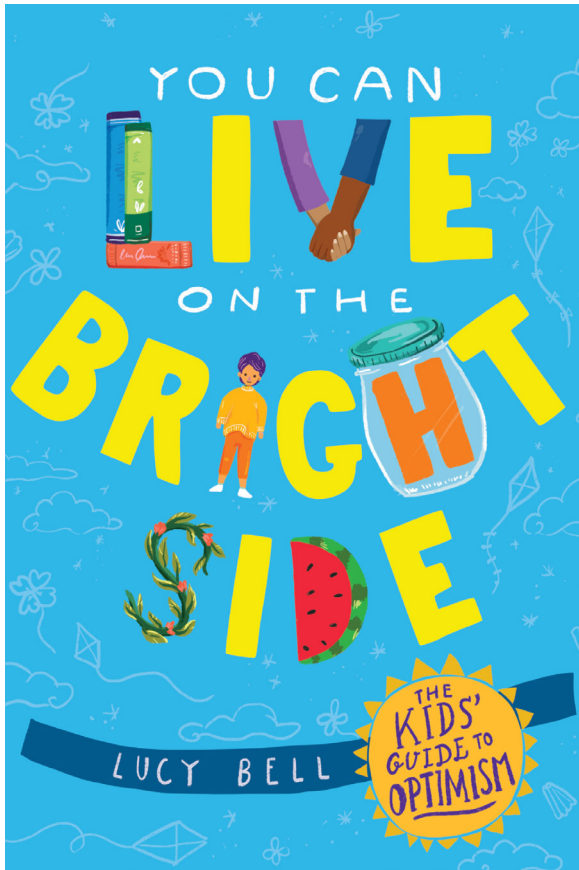
**1.5 mm**

The size of the female fig wasp.

**R.I.P.**

The fate of the wasp inside the fig.

**GROSSMETER**



Pub Date: November 2021

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Extent: 224pp

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: World English Language (Andrews McMeel)

### The Kids' Guide to Optimism

*Do you ever get that feeling when you wake up in the morning, look out the window to see the sun is shining, and you just know that today is going to be a good day? This is called optimism, or positivity, and it's such a nice feeling to have. It's also something that you can learn, practice and improve, so you can feel that way more often.*

This action packed book is designed to teach you some easy activities and strategies to make you feel lighter, optimistic about the future, and more confident, empowering and inspiring you to live a happy and healthy life.

*You Can Live on the Bright Side* contains tips, tricks and tools to help you find the things that make you excited to leap out of bed each morning, ready to do more of what you love and find even more things that make you uniquely you!

This book features kids from Australia and around the world who are kicking some amazing goals, as well as tips from organisations focused on improving wellbeing.

*It's time to look on the bright side of life, so you can start living on the bright side!*

### About the Author



Lucy Bell is a book editor and music teacher on a journey to live a more ethical, sustainable and mindful life.

After getting her Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Sydney with majors in English and Ancient History, Lucy studied a Master of Publishing. Now she works for a social-purpose publishing house making big differences and helping fund not-for-profits and charities to close the literacy gap.

Lucy grew up on the NSW Central Coast surrounded by four siblings, a cat, two dogs, two sheep, a lizard, lots of guinea pigs and thirteen chickens. She now lives in Sydney and while watering her balcony garden, dreams of one day owning her own country farmhouse.

- Cook delicious food to power your brain
- Decorate your room and create nice living spaces
  - Get outdoors and have fun
- Channel your favourite animals through yoga
  - Start meditating
- Find out what your interests are
- Speak positively about yourself and others
- Start growing plants, reading, writing and drawing

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— MIND —

### ACTIVITY: A GRATITUDE JOURNAL

In a diary, exercise book or on your computer, once a day or once a week list three things you're grateful for. They can be anything you like, no matter how small or big – it's totally up to you! During the day, keep an eye out for things that you're happy to have in your life so you can record them. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- ★ A person you love having in your life
- ★ A pet you have now or one you once had
- ★ Your favourite hobby
- ★ Your favourite thing in your bedroom
- ★ The thing you love most about your house
- ★ The best party you've ever had
- ★ The best holiday you ever went on
- ★ A song that you love
- ★ A skill that you have
- ★ The food you're most thankful you get to eat
- ★ A memory of the last time you laughed uncontrollably or had fun with a friend
- ★ A time in your life that you're glad happened
- ★ Something nice that someone did for you
- ★ Something nice that someone did for someone else – it's rewarding to know that good things happen in the world
- ★ A challenge you faced that you're glad you overcame
- ★ Things that you're grateful about in your life

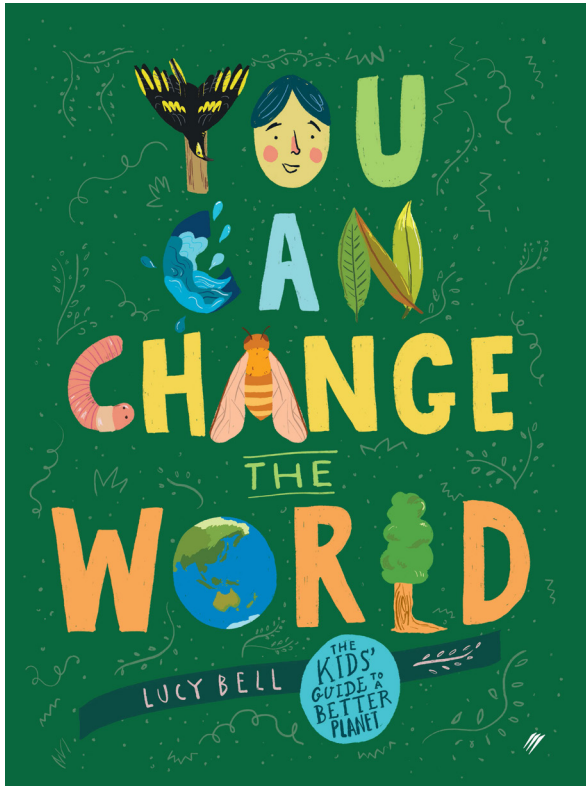
— MIND —

**GRATITUDE IS A VERY POSITIVE feeling.** It can help you focus on the good things in your life and reminds you to be thankful for what you have. Think about all the things in your life that make it brighter. Doing this increases feelings of optimism, helping you feel happier each day.

You can decorate your gratitude journal with pictures of things that make you happy – photos of family and friends, pressed flowers, or drawings of happy things like the sun or a bird singing in a tree.

**'IF YOU ARE IN A BAD MOOD, GO FOR A WALK IF YOU ARE STILL IN A BAD MOOD, GO FOR ANOTHER WALK.'**

— HIPPOCRATES,  
THE 'FATHER OF MEDICINE'



Pub Date: September 2019

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Rights Sold: German (Loewe); World English Language (ex ANZ) (HarperCollins UK); North America non exclusive (Andrews McMeel); Spanish (Anaya); Afrikaans (NB Utigewers); Turkish (Erdem).

### ***The Kids' Guide to a Better Planet***

*Every day, we see a problem we would like to fix. A piece of rubbish in a green, grassy park. Plastic water bottles buried in the sand at the beach. A garbage bin overflowing onto the street. A skinny, stray dog. A homeless person on a cold day.*

These problems seem impossible for one person to change. But we can fix them, if we each do our part – one step at a time.

This practical guide is designed to empower kids to make changes in their lives to help make a difference in the world.

Filled with information, ideas and activities, and interspersed with features on amazing children around the world, this book shows kids how to:

- Avoid single-use plastics
- Throw a plastic-free party
- Make a compost bin and reduce waste
- Start a herb garden
- Grow bee-friendly flowers
- Learn about where their food comes from
- Be kinder to others, share and donate

Kids are on a mission to make our earth a better, safer, happier place. And anyone can join in.

### About the Author



Lucy Bell is a book editor and music teacher on a journey to live a more ethical, sustainable and mindful life.

After getting her Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Sydney with majors in English and Ancient History, Lucy studied a Master of Publishing. Now she works for a social-purpose publishing house making big differences and helping fund not-for-profits and charities to close the literacy gap.

Lucy grew up on the NSW Central Coast surrounded by four siblings, a cat, two dogs, two sheep, a lizard, lots of guinea pigs and thirteen chickens. She now lives in Sydney and while watering her balcony garden, dreams of one day owning her own country farmhouse.

*Gold Award Winner, Nautilus Book Awards 2021*

*Winner, Midwest Book Awards 2021*

*Award Shortlists 2020:*

*ABIA Small Publishers' Children's Book of the Year*

*Environment Award for Children's Literature*

*Australian Book Designers Association Best Designed*

*Children's Non-Fiction Illustrated Book*

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**It's STRANGE JUST** how many bottles of water we buy each year, even though we have access to clean tap water.

Bottled water first came to Australia in the 1980s. At the time, no-one actually believed people would pay for bottled water when they could get it for free. But incredibly, they did! Now, each year, Australians buy more than 118,000 tonnes of plastic drink bottles, yet we recycle only one in three of those bottles. We can do better than that!

Instead of buying your water in a plastic bottle, get a re-usable water bottle, such as a stainless-steel bottle. These are available in a range of colours, sizes and patterns, and will last you a long time. Alternatively, you can start by re-using bottles you already own.

Every  
minute,  
more than  
a million  
bottles of  
water are  
bought  
worldwide.

## FACT

Every year, around 373 million plastic water bottles end up in landfill in Australia alone.

## ACTIVITY RECIPES

**HAIR CARE:** Try the following recipes, or come up with some of your own using natural ingredients such as honey, avocado, plain yoghurt, coconut oil, olive oil, rosemary, apple cider vinegar, eggs, and lemon juice.

### BANANARAMA HAIR SMOOTHIE

This sweet conditioner will leave your hair looking sleek and shiny. Bananas contain potassium, natural oils and vitamins, which help protect your hair. Olive oil repairs damaged hair and prevents dandruff. Honey seals moisture into your hair and also contains beneficial antioxidants. This conditioner is so natural, it's almost good enough to eat!

#### You'll need:

- ◆ 1 mashed banana
- ◆ 1 tablespoon olive oil
- ◆ 2 tablespoons honey (it's best to use local organic)



**What to do:** Mix all ingredients together thoroughly until smooth, then apply evenly to damp hair. Wait for 10–15 minutes then rinse well. Use once or twice a week.



SPARKING  
IMAGINATION,  
CONVERSATION  
& CHANGE

1/166 Pacific Highway, North Sydney NSW 2060 Australia  
PO Box 1989, Neutral Bay, NSW 2089 Australia  
Tel: +61 2 8096 5192  
[www.PanteraPress.com](http://www.PanteraPress.com)

**Exclusive Agents:**

**Czech Republic**

Kristin Olson Literary Agency s.r.o.  
Kristin Olson  
[kristin.olson@litag.cz](mailto:kristin.olson@litag.cz)

**France**

Agence Litteraire Lora Fountain  
Lora Fountain  
[agence@lorafountain.com](mailto:agence@lorafountain.com)

**Germany**

Michael Meller Literary Agency  
Cristina Bernardi  
[c.bernardi@melleragency.com](mailto:c.bernardi@melleragency.com)

**Greece**

Read n Right Agency  
Nike Davarinou  
[nike@readnright.gr](mailto:nike@readnright.gr)

**Hungary**

Kátaí & Bolza Literary Agents  
Péter Bolza  
[peter@kataibolza.hu](mailto:peter@kataibolza.hu)

**Italy**

AC<sup>2</sup> Literary Agency  
Anna Mioni  
[anna@ac2.eu](mailto:anna@ac2.eu)

**Japan**

Japan Uni Agency  
Miko Yamanouchi  
[miko.yamanouchi@japanuni.co.jp](mailto:miko.yamanouchi@japanuni.co.jp)

**The Netherlands**

Marianne Schönbach Literary Agency bv  
Marianne Schönbach  
[m.schonbach@schonbach.nl](mailto:m.schonbach@schonbach.nl)

**Poland**

Graal Literary Agency  
Paulina Machnik  
[paulina.machnik@graal.com.pl](mailto:paulina.machnik@graal.com.pl)

**Spain**

Antonia Kerrigan Literary Agency  
Antonia Kerrigan  
[antonia@antoniakerrigan.com](mailto:antonia@antoniakerrigan.com)

**Turkey**

Kalem Agency  
Ayda Konez  
[rights4@kalemagency.com](mailto:rights4@kalemagency.com)

**UK and Israel**

Zeitgeist Agency  
Sharon Galant  
[sharon@zeitgeistagency.com](mailto:sharon@zeitgeistagency.com)

For all other rights enquiries please contact:

Katy McEwen, Rights Manager  
[Katy.McEwen@PanteraPress.com](mailto:Katy.McEwen@PanteraPress.com)