

Author Biography 1

Oliver Phommavanh is a Thai-Australian who loves to make people laugh on the page as a children's author or on stage as a comedian. He loves eating burgers and playing his Nintendo Switch. In his heart, Oliver still feels fifteen years old.

He is a proud bookworm who is passionate about creative writing. He uses his experience as a primary school teacher to inspire kids to write funny all across Australia and Asia.

Oliver has appeared in writing, arts and comedy festivals in Australia and other countries. He has appeared as a comedian on national tv and radio. Oliver is a proud Room To Read Author Ambassador, a Books in Homes role model and an ambassador for the NSW Premier's Reading Challenge.

Oliver's books are packed with laughs, but also carry a lot of heart and authentic characters living in a multicultural Australia.



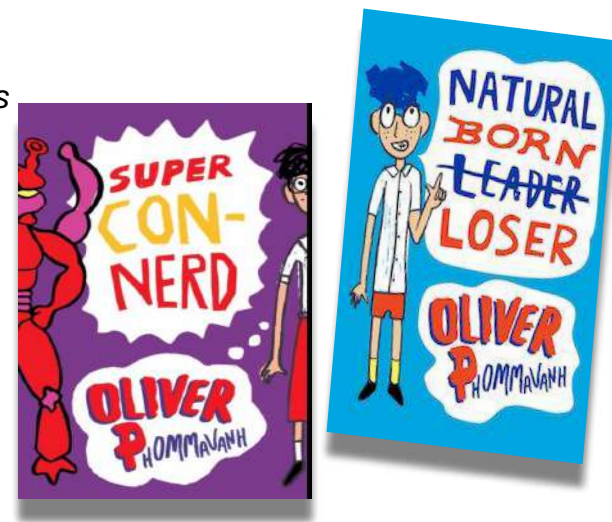
Author Biography 2

Oliver's first book for upper primary, *Thai-riffic!*, was published to critical acclaim. He has now written ten books including *Don't Follow Vee*, along with other renowned titles such as *Con-nerd*, *The Other Christy* and *Natural Born Loser*. Oliver's latest book *Brain Freeze* contains 12 short stories about a strange boy who never seems to get brain freeze (until...), and a dog who accidentally becomes the first animal on Mars, among other stories that will shock and amuse!

"I reckon kids are little masters of comedy, and the characters in my stories explore the wacky side of everyday life." Oliver Phommavanh

Children can co-author a story with Oliver by choosing from his LittleScribe programs, 'Oliversaurus', 'Zapgeto' or 'Slushed'.

- Learn more about [The Co-author Program](#).
- Website: <https://www.oliverwriter.com/>



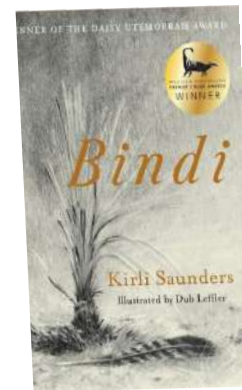
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Kirli Saunders is a proud Gunaï Woman and award-winning international children's author and poet, as well as a teacher, creative consultant and emerging artist. Kirli was the 2020 NSW Aboriginal Woman of the Year.

She leads *Poetry in First Languages*, delivered by Red Room Poetry. As a playwright, she is co-creating *Dead Horse Gap* with Merrigong Theatre and South East Arts. Her first Solo play, *Going Home* has been commissioned by Playwriting Australia, and will take the stage in 2022.

Kirli's books, *The Incredible Freedom Machines*, *Kindred* and *Bindi* have been celebrated by the Prime Minister's, WA and Victorian Premier's Literary, Kate Challis RAKA, ABIA, ABDA and CBCA awards. Her work is published in anthologies and public art.

She has 8 forthcoming titles including *Returning*, a visual poetry collection following her solo exhibition with the same title.



Author Biography 2

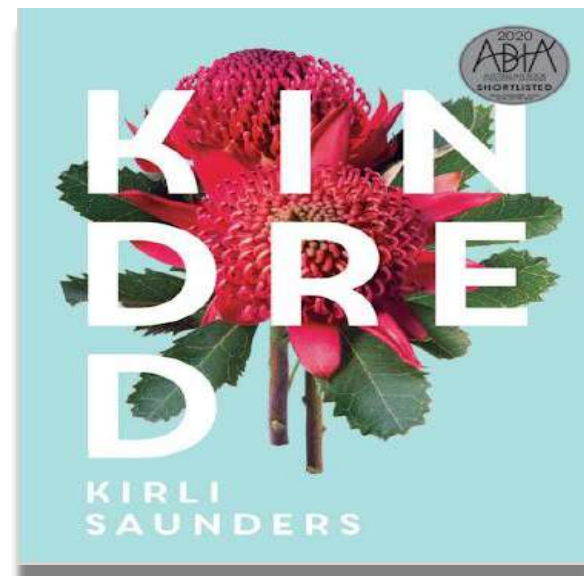
Kirli's 2021 exhibition showed at SHAC Gallery and was supported by Australia Council for the Arts. Her art has also been exhibited in Shoalhaven and Wollongong Galleries and commissioned for public art.

Kirli's parents surrounded her with stories as a child. Her interest in storytelling grew through school and during her study of Primary Education. Mother Earth has a huge influence on her projects, poetry, picture books and art. Kirli often draws on her own experiences and aims to bring awareness of the undercurrent of narratives within our history through her work.

"Culturally speaking, I have a responsibility as a storyteller and teacher within my community - writing is one way of fulfilling my Dreaming." Kirli Saunders.

Children can co-author with Kirli through her LittleScribe programs using an excerpt of her book *Bindi*.

- Learn more about [The Co-author Program](#).
- Website: <https://kirlisaunders.com/>

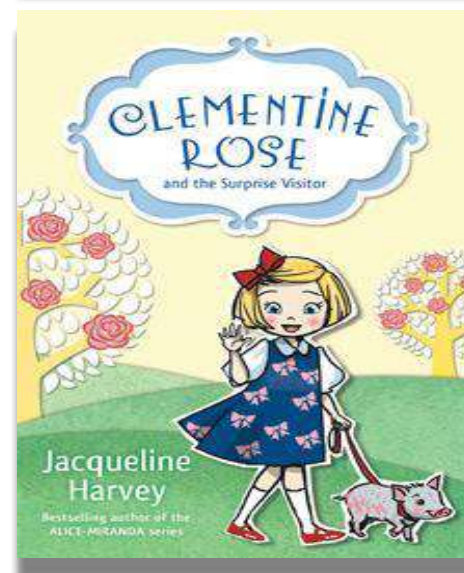


Author Biography 1

Jacqueline Harvey has had a passion for storytelling since she was a child. These days, having written more than 50 books she is one of Australia's most popular authors for children.

Her Alice-Miranda series has sold well in excess of a million copies in Australia and New Zealand alone. Spy series, Kensy and Max is packed with drama, action and loads of fun and Clementine Rose has long been a favourite with young readers. Her most recent release is a picture book called That Cat, illustrated by one of her former students, Kate Isobel Scott, and aimed at a very young audience.

Jacqueline has received numerous short-listings and awards including in the Children's Choice awards (YABBA, KOALA and KROC) and Australian Book Industry Awards (ABIA) while her picture book, The Sound of the Sea was a CBCA Honour Book in 2006.





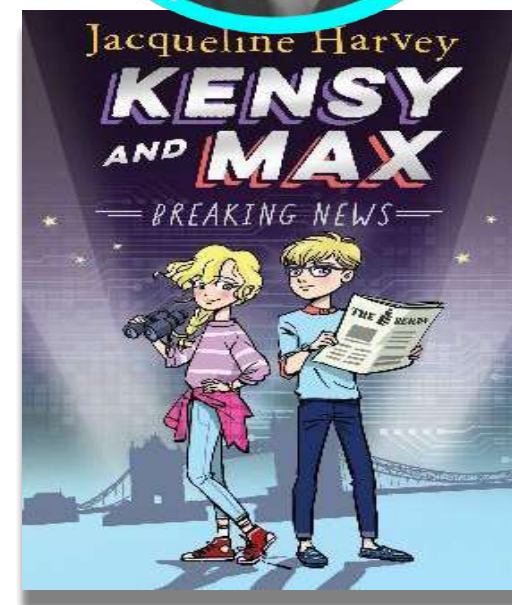
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A highly experienced Deputy Head, teacher and presenter, Jacqueline has delivered thousands of talks and workshops for children and adults at schools and festivals around the world. Her books have been translated into many languages and are available in over 80 countries.

Kensy and Max: Breaking News was shortlisted in the 2021 Red Dot Book Awards in Singapore. In 2021 Jacqueline was awarded the KOALA Legend.

With a reputation for creating books that are filled with adventure, mystery, humour and heart Jacqueline is currently working on several exciting new projects including a junior fiction series called Willa and Woof set for release in July 2022, two picture books and more books in the Kensy and Max and Alice-Miranda series.

- Learn more about [The Co-author Program](#).
- Website: www.jacquelineharvey.com.au

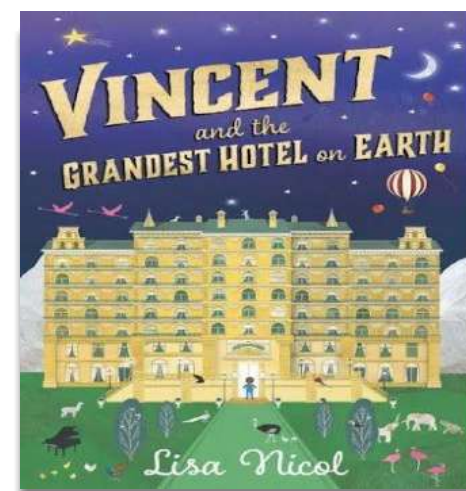
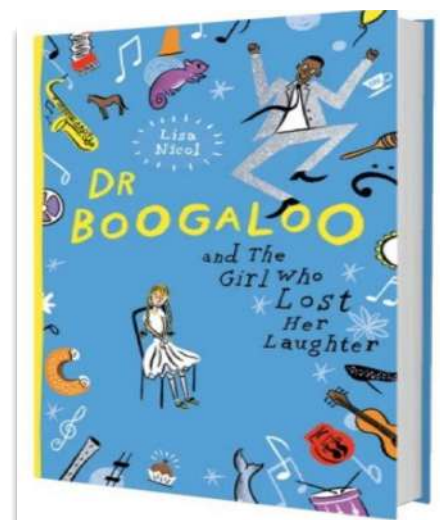


Author Biography 1

Lisa Nicol is an author who sometimes makes documentaries. Lisa sees books and films as different ways to tell a story.

Her documentary *WIDE OPEN SKY* was all about a children's choir in remote NSW and the importance of growing up with lots of music. It won the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the 2015 Sydney Film Festival and screened in cinemeas and festivals around the world.

Her first novel for children, *Dr Boogaloo and The Girl Who Lost Her Laughter*, was a CBCA Notable and is currently being adapted for the screen as a musical. Her second novel *Vincent and The Grandest Hotel on Earth* is about an extraordinary place that is wilder than the African savanna, more fantastical than Disneyland and more magical than Shangri-la. It was published internationally to much acclaim. Her latest book, *The What On Earth Institute of Wonder* was published in 2021.



Author Biography 2

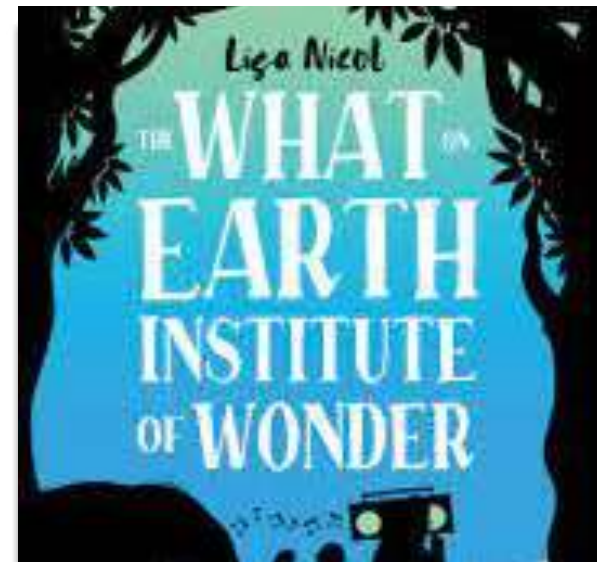
Lisa loves to foster creativity and uses music, stories and audience participation in her school presentations.

The other thing she loves to do is hang out with her kids. They love animals and pretty much every family holiday revolves around tracking some down. And she has a mutt called Spencer.

"For me, telling stories is a super fun way to spend my time. And the only thing I like better than telling stories is listening to music. That's probably why it pops up in my work all the time." Lisa Nicol.

Children can co-author a story with Lisa through her LittleScribe Programs, 'Seal at the Wheel', or 'The Banjo Tree'.

- Learn more about [The Co-author Program](#).
- Website: <https://lisanicol.com.au/>



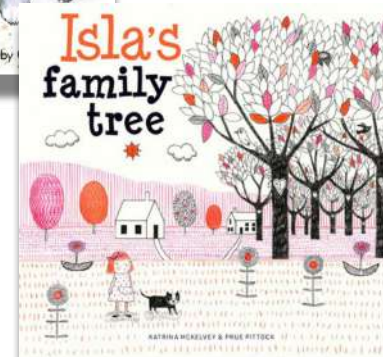
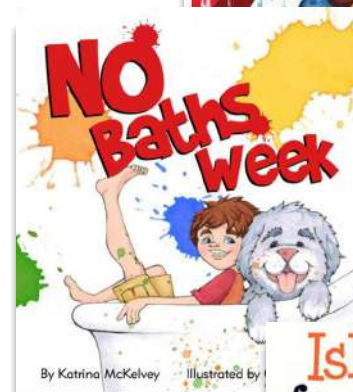
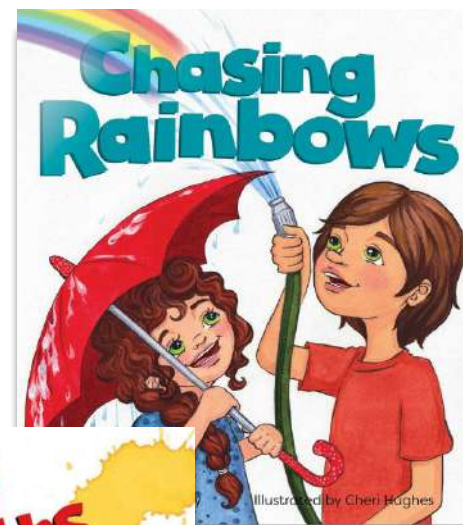
Author Biography 1

Katrina McKelvey is a children's author, former primary school teacher, wife, and mother to two tweenagers and a cocker spaniel.

Her many children's picture books and educational readers include *No Baths Week*, *Up To Something*, *Isla's Family Tree*, and *Chasing Rainbows*.

Katrina is highly involved in CBCA, SCBWI, literary conferences and festivals. She is the Schools Program Advisor and Family Fun Day MC for the Newcastle Writers' Festival, and was a past President of the Newcastle sub-branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia.

Katrina loves visiting schools to meet children, educators and the community. When she was herself a teacher, Katrina found every day rewarding.



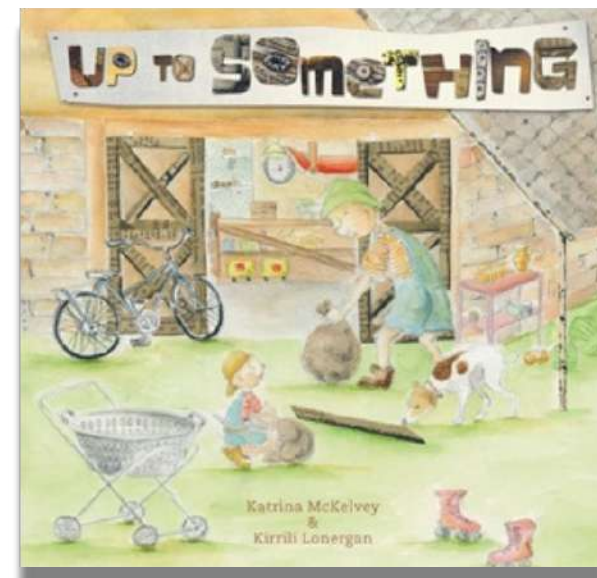
Author Biography 2

Katrina grew up in a country town and was a reluctant reader as a child. Now her home and children are drowning in books! Katrina is left-handed, loves tea and rollercoasters, and is addicted to mint chocolate. While in lockdown in Disney World a few years ago, she survived Hurricane Gene (category 5) by eating awful brownies.

"Picture books are my favourite books. I love how the words and pictures share a special bond – one is meaningless without the other. Together, they weave magic as they take the reader on a special journey." Katrina McKelvey.

Children can co-author with Katrina through her LittleScribe programs – 'Opposites', 'Harry and the Haircut', or 'Farmer Charlie and The Chicken Chasers'.

- Learn more about [The Co-author Program](#).
- Website: <http://katrinamckelvey.com>



Author Biography 1

Kristin Darell has been a writer and journalist for more than 25 years. She has worked as a reporter and a producer of news and current affairs for the Seven Network, Australian News Channel, Sky News and the ABC.

During that time, Kristin reported live from bushfires and other disaster zones, covered court and crime stories and specialised in the studio production of breaking news.

A passion for skiing and the snow led Kristin to a career highlight – reporting from the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City.

Kristin loves writing for children and encouraging children to write – particularly helping them find ways to share what they are most passionate about!



Author Biography 2

Kristin is co-author of a middle-grade science fiction novel and a number of novellas raising money for children's cancer. She has also had essays on writing and other non-fiction published in anthologies and online.

Kristin is the Program Manager for the Children's Laureate Foundation and President of the Northern Sydney Sub-Branch of the Children's Book Council of Australia.

"I love running writing workshops for children in schools and inspiring kids to find new ways to share the stories of their time and their world." Kristin Darell

Children can co-author a non-fiction story with Kristin as part of her LittleScribe program, 'Heroes'.

- Learn more about [The Co-author Program](#).
- Website: www.kristindarell.com.au

