

Lamont Books Standing Order

June 2013

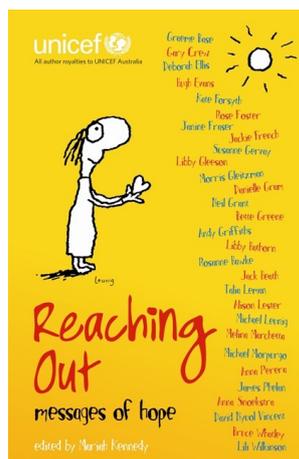
PRIMARY FICTION TITLES

Reaching Out: Messages of Hope

Edited By Mariah Kennedy
ISBN 9780733331923
\$19.99

Primary Fiction
Book of the Month

As the UNICEF Australia Young Ambassador, Mariah created *Reaching Out: Messages of Hope* as a fundraising project and all royalties will be donated to UNICEF. Heartfelt and inspiring, this book contains stories, poems and illustrations that have been donated by some of the world's renowned and respected children's authors and illustrators, including Graeme Base, Jackie French, Michael Leunig, Bruce Whatley, Michael Morpurgo, Andy Griffiths, Anna Perera, Libby Gleeson, Melina Marchetta, Alison Lester, Morris Gleitzman and many more. *Publishers Blurb.*



Mariah Kennedy, UNICEF'S 2013 Australian Young Ambassador has a passion for fighting for social justice.

She has really hit the mark with this collection of works from many of Australia's (and arguably the world's) foremost children's authors and illustrators.

Together they are donating all of the proceeds from the sale of this book to UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund).

In line with the work of UNICEF, these stories are a tremendous array of inspirational tales of courage, hardship and displacement.

Mariah and all contributors must be highly commended and we just had to help out by putting this title on our Standing Order.

While some of the stories depict extreme situations, we feel the book is best suited to children learning about social justice issues from about 10-14 years.

Reviewed by Rob

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View From the 32nd Floor

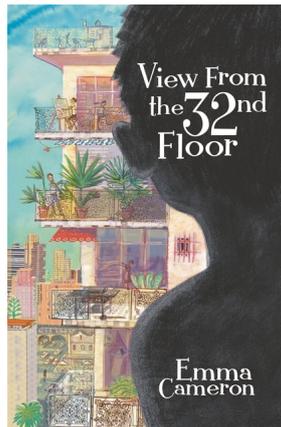
By Emma Cameron

ISBN 9781922077295

\$16.95

From the author of the YA verse novel *Cinnamon Rain*.

Something special has been gifted to you. Join your neighbours, Saturday, 6.00 pm, on the roof. Living on the thirty-second floor of an apartment block, William has a clear view of the building opposite. He sees his neighbours eating ice-cream, watering potted palms, painting pictures ... or as shadows behind closed curtains. Shadows worry William. With his new friend Rebecca, and helped by lots of cake, a dictionary of names, tai chi, and banana-shaped sticky notes, he plans to tempt his lonely neighbours back into the world. Can he succeed? Always always.. *Publishers Blurb*.



This book depicts life in an inner city apartment block where, despite living very close together, most of the residents don't know each other.

But William is about to change this. He likes to use his binoculars to look at the apartments directly opposite and view how other people live. Although William is a rather peculiar boy who likes to change his name everyday - always to something inspiring - he is about to change lives.

When Rebecca, a girl of about William's age with a strange walk, moves into an apartment across the way, he quickly befriends her and together they get to know all of her older and elderly neighbours.

This culminates in William and Rebecca getting Mrs Stavros, an elderly Greek lady who never ventures out of her apartment, to attend a party on the rooftop where a statue of a Greek Saint is unfurled and Greek food and dancing are enjoyed.

A beautiful story of friendship, reaching out to others, helping the aged and making people feel that they are a part of a community.

Reviewed by Rob.

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That Boy, Jack

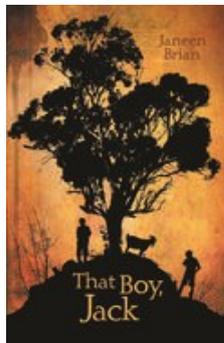
By Janeen Brian

ISBN 9781922179005

\$16.95

Will Jack have the courage to follow his heart or will he keep his promise to his best friend?

Best friends Jack and Gilbert made a pact when they were younger - promising to work together in the copper mines, just like their fathers and other Cornish immigrants. But now Jack is turning twelve and the thought of working underground fills him with panic. When Gilbert is forced to leave school and earn a wage, Jack wants to keep his word to his friend - but that means facing his fear. And all the while his heart is telling him to follow another path. That boy, Jack, must find the courage to choose. *Publishers Blurb.*



Steeped in Australian history, this is a tale of Cornish immigrants who come to Australia to work in a remote mining town. This book will prove an eye-opener for your students as it gives them a window to a period in history when childhood and young adulthood was very different.

Jack and his best friend have always planned on working in the mines. At twelve, they are old enough to leave school and start work. But when his best friend is forced to move to Adelaide after his father has a mining accident and loses his legs, Jack starts to re-think his future.

But working in the mines isn't the only challenge life has in store for Jack. When Jack's sister is near death with typhoid, Jack's family is panicked—little does Jack know that he previously had older siblings who died of typhoid. The only way to get a doctor is go in person so Jack journeys through the night on foot to alert the doctor and hopefully save his sister.

Personally, I was particularly amused by Jack's teacher who insists on Jack writing with his right hand. Being a left hander myself, I had a nun in Grade 3 who insisted that writing with my left hand was a sign of my 'low moral character' (hopefully she was wrong!) so this really rang true for me.

Jack is a tough, strong and likeable character. The book includes many sayings and words from the period that the story is set so the glossary will be a useful tool for younger readers who may have difficulty with some of these terms. An enjoyable read that is not gender specific and will be most appreciated by those 10+.

Reviewed by Rob.

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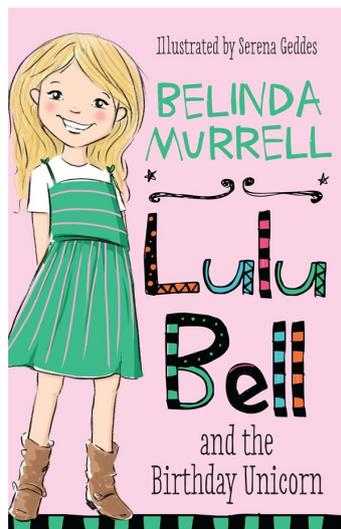
LuLu Bell and the Birthday Unicorn

By Belinda Murrell
ISBN 9781742758756
\$9.95

Meet Lulu Bell. Where there's Lulu, there's family, friends, animals and adventures galore!

It's almost time for Lulu's little sister's birthday party. But there's a problem! A pony is running loose and Lulu and her dad, the local vet, have to rescue it.

Can they find the pony? And what will happen if the naughty pony gets into more mischief at the party? It's lucky that Lulu has a plan! *Publishers Blurb.*



Lulu is helping her mum get ready for her younger sister Josie's mermaid birthday party. Everything is going along so well - the mermaid cake that her artist Mum has made looks amazing. But then all the best laid party plans start to unravel!

Lulu's Dad is a vet, and he gets a call to say that there is a pony running loose on the road. Lulu and her friend Molly, who is also helping to get the party prepared, just love ponies so they can't resist the chance to go and help rescue it. But will there still be time to finish the party decorations and give Josie the best mermaid party ever?

Lulu Bell is a very likeable character, as are all the characters in this story and there is a lovely family bond evident throughout. This series is sure to be a hit with your emerging young girl readers.

Reviewed by Sam

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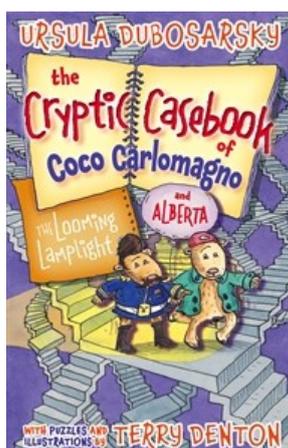
The Looming Lamplight: The Cryptic Case of Coco Carlomagno and Alberta Book 2

By Ursula Dubosarsky

ISBN 9781743312599

\$12.99

Coco Carlomagno, the well-respected (if somewhat easily startled) Chief of Police, has run into an unusually difficult problem. From his office high in the Obelisco, Buenos Aires' tallest building, he can see a light turn off and on. Could it be a message? How can he possibly decode it? In desperation he once again calls on his clever cousin Alberta to help him solve the puzzle of the looming lamplight.
Publishers Blurb.



This is the second instalment in the new series created by two well known and best selling figures in children's books, Ursula Dubosarsky and Terry Denton.

This series features two guinea pig cousins who solve mysteries.

When Coco Carlomagno, the Chief of Police in Buenos Aires, sees strange flashing lights coming from an apartment building he just knows something is wrong. He instantly calls on his cousin Alberta to come and help him solve the mystery.

But what they find surprises them all—and results in Coco becoming a hero!

The children are sure to have fun with the Morse Code in this story.

A great, fun story for readers 6+.

Reviewed by Sam