



THE CHILDREN'S  
BOOK COUNCIL  
OF AUSTRALIA

SINCE 1945 — YOUR CONNECTION TO STORY

The Children's Book Council of Australia announces  
**THE 2023 BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS**

**Book of the Year: Older Readers**

*Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for readers in their secondary years of schooling. Ages 13-18 years (NB: These books are for mature readers and some may deal with particularly challenging themes including violence and suicide. Parental guidance is recommended).*

WINNER			
Tom Taylor (illus. by Jon Sommariva)	Neverlanders	Penguin Random House Australia	9781761049071
HONOUR BOOKS			
Biffy James	Completely Normal (and Other Lies)	Hardie Grant Children's Publishing	9781760508746
Hayley Lawrence	The Other Side of Tomorrow	Scholastic Australia	9781760976453

**Book of the Year: Younger Readers**

*Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for readers from the middle to upper primary years. 7-12 years (NB: Some of the titles in this category may only be suitable for readers who are in the upper primary years as they contain mature themes, including violence. Parental guidance is recommended).*

WINNER			
Craig Silvey	Runt	Allen & Unwin	9781761067846
HONOUR BOOKS			
Neridah McMullin (illus. by Astred Hicks)	Evie and Rhino	Walker Books Australia	9781760654207
Zana Fraillon & Bren MacDibble	The Raven's Song	Allen & Unwin	9781761065798

**Book of the Year: Early Childhood**

*Entries in this category may be fiction, drama or poetry and should be appropriate in style and content for children who are at pre-reading or early stages of reading. Ages 0-6 years.*

WINNER			
Vikki Conley (illus. by Max Hamilton)	Where the Lyrebird Lives	Windy Hollow Books	9780645323566
HONOUR BOOKS			
Katrina Germein (illus. by Mandy Foot)	Bev and Kev	Little Book Press	9780645027051
Anna Walker	Snap!	Scribble Kids' Books	9781922585387

## Picture Book of the Year

*Entries in this category should be outstanding books of the Picture Book genre in which the author and illustrator achieve artistic and literary unity or, in wordless picture books, where the story, theme or concept is unified through illustrations. Ages 0-18 years (NB. Some of these books may be for mature readers).*

WINNER			
Zeno Sworder	My Strange Shrinking Parents	Thames & Hudson Australia	9781760761233
HONOUR BOOKS			
Tom Jellett (text by Michael Wagner)	Dirt by Sea	Penguin Random House Australia	9781760894061
Levi Pinfold	Paradise Sands: A Story of Enchantment	Walker Books Australia	9781406383942

## Eve Pownall Award

*Entries in this category should be books which have the prime intention of documenting factual material with consideration given to imaginative presentation, interpretation and variation of style. Ages 0-18 years.*

WINNER			
Jess McGeachin	DEEP: Dive into Hidden Worlds	Welbeck Publishing	9780645510119
HONOUR BOOKS			
Isaiah Firebrace (illus. by Jaelyn Biumaiwai)	Come Together: Things Every Aussie Kid Should Know about the First Peoples	Hardie Grant Explore	9781741178166
Leonard Cronin (illus. by Chris Nixon)	Wild Australian Life	Allen & Unwin	9781760637224

## CBCA Award for New Illustrator

*This Award aims to recognise and encourage new talent in the field of Australian children's book illustration. Ages 0-18 years.*

WINNER			
Sally Soweol Han	Tiny Wonders	University of Queensland Press	9780702263477

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Children's Book Week® 19-25 August 2023

Theme: "Read, Grow, Inspire"

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CBCA Book of the Year Awards announced  
at noon AEST on 18 August

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