

Lesley McGee – Biography - 393 words

LESLEY MCGEE is a Melbourne-based illustrator, designer, writer and photographer, who loves to encourage the fun and freedom of creative drawing, in artists of any age and skill level.

She creates magical, fantasy worlds in her picture books, inspired by the many wonderful books from her childhood and the beauty of the world around us.

The intricate 'micro-worlds' within Lesley's work, are fast becoming her feature trademark.

Lesley's debut as a picture book illustrator was *Evie is all Ears* in 2020. A sensitive book about fitting in, it also showcases one of Australia's cutest and endangered animals, the Bilby. Written by *Kellie Byrnes* and published by *Little Pink Dog Books*, it has been sold in the UK, USA, Canada and New Zealand.

Her second picture book *Night Lights* was released in 2021. Written by *Inda Ahmad Zahri* and published by *Little Pink Dog Books*, it is a treasure of childhood memories set in the steamy jungles of Malaysia. The picture book was shortlisted by the *International Rubery Awards for Independent Publishers* in 2022.

Emma's Freckles by *Sarah Wallace* is Lesley's third book and will be published by *Little Pink Dog Books* early 2023. Filled with humour and time travel, this picture book showcases Lesley's passion for ancient storytelling and mythology.

The Fabulous Fruit Shake Mystery will also be released late 2023 and is Lesley's fourth book for publisher *Little Pink Dog Books*. It is a very exciting moment for her, as it marks her debut as Author/ Illustrator and was instrumental in her early journey into the picture book world.

Lesley completed the *Picture Book Illustration e-Course* by talented picture book illustrator *Nina Rycroft* in 2017 and AWC *Presenting to Kids* in 2023 and is a member of a number of art collectives and online groups. She is also part of the 2023 illustrator team for *The School Magazine*, an NSW Department of Education initiative which produces a variety of literally magazines for primary school kids in NSW.

While Lesley's first love is all things drawing and painting, she has had an extensive and varied career in print and marketing design, which also helps when putting together fun ideas for activity sheets and projects.

She also loves travelling the world, discovering new cultures and traditions and trying all kinds of yummy foods. She has also been known to shimmy and shake with her dance troupe.

Lesley's Links:

Website: lesleymcgee.com

Instagram: [@lesleymac28](https://www.instagram.com/lesleymac28)

FB: [@lesleymcgee](https://www.facebook.com/lesleymcgee)

Books:

Evie is All Ears: <https://littlepinkdogbooks.com/evie-is-all-ears/> ISBN: 978-0-6486528-2-3

Night Lights: <https://littlepinkdogbooks.com/night-lights/> ISBN: 978-0-6486528-4-7

Emma's Freckles: <https://littlepinkdogbooks.com/emmas-freckles/> ISBN: 978-0-6489641-6-2

The Fabulous Fruit Shake Mystery: <https://littlepinkdogbooks.com/the-fabulous-fruit-shake-mystery/>
ISBN: 978-0-6454184-4-6

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