

# Lamont Books Standing Order

March 2014

*Primary Fiction*

## The Simple Things

By Bill Condon

Publisher: Allen & Unwin

ISBN 9781743317242

\$12.99

Primary Fiction  
Book of the Month

*Blurb:*

Stephen has never met his great aunt Lola, and he doesn't want to. She sends him money twice a year and he always writes back, but Lola is almost eighty - what will they have to talk about? When they arrive at her house, Stephen discovers she's grumpy, scary and really, really old. He wants to turn around and go home, but his mum says they have to stay until Lola's birthday - three weeks away.

Left to his own devices, Stephen learns about the simple things in life - like fishing, and cricket, and climbing trees - and the importance of family. Soon Lola entrusts Stephen with a great secret, and he realises that Lola has become more important to him than just an aunt who sends him money - she's now a friend.



*Lamont Review:*

When Stephen's parents decide to spend time during the holidays with his eighty year old grumpy Aunty Lola, Stephen is worried. What will he do for three weeks out in the middle of nowhere with no friends?

But slowly Stephen and Lola warm to each other and Stephen meets Norm who lives next door and befriends Norm's granddaughter Allie.

Together, an interesting and heartfelt story emerges, where family values and relationships are depicted in a humorous, but genuine and loving way.

With themes including older people and acceptance, this is a wonderful novel, best suited to those around nine years old.

*Reviewed by Rob.*

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## **Do You Dare? Tough Times 1931**

By Simon Mitchell

Publisher: Penguin Australia

ISBN 9780143308010

\$14.99

*Blurb:*

Do you dare . . . Let a girl join your cricket team? Fight for your friends? Risk everything to save your family? It's an adventure in history. Do You Dare?



*Lamont Review:*

This is a great introduction to Australian history for all those students who think that history is boring!

Full of great characters and lots of fun, this book will suit both boys and girls, Year 4-6.

It will also fit perfectly with the Australian Curriculum and make a great book for group reading, to inspire some further research.

Your students will love this book and I'm sure the rest of the series will be just as exciting.

*Reviewed by Michelle*

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*Primary Fiction*

## The Adventures of Scooterboy and Skatergirl

By Andy Jones & Illustrated by Doreen Marts

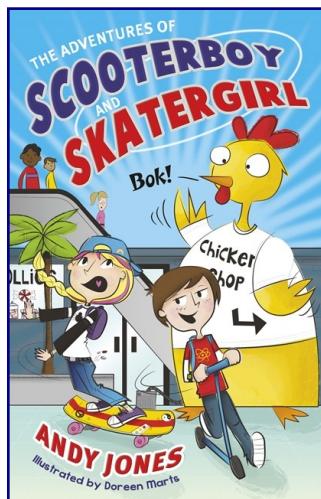
Publisher: Harper Collins

ISBN 9780733331596

\$12.99

### *Blurb:*

Skatergirl is cool. She has cool hair, she wears cool clothes and she rides a really cool skateboard. Scooterboy, on the other hand, lives on the not-so-cool side of cool... When Scooterboy and Skatergirl get together, only one thing is certain - something hilarious is about to happen! Packed with lots of fun, cartoon-style illustrations and stacks of laugh-out-loud moments!



### *Lamont Review:*

Scooterboy and Skatergirl are very different.

Scooterboy likes to bird-watch and collect buttons and only rides a scooter because of his new found friendship with Skatergirl.

Skatergirl on the other hand is into everything cool!

Together, Skatergirl and Scooterboy embark on challenges and adventures and get into all sorts of mischief.

This book is full of silly humour that kids love, particularly boys! But it also shows us that unlikely friendships can be made and last.

*Reviewed by Sam*

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## Billy Is A Dragon — First Bite

By Nick Falk and Tony Flowers

Publisher: Random House Australia

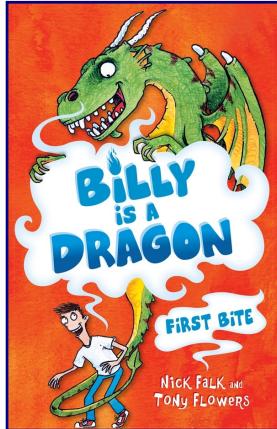
ISBN 9780857983053

\$12.99

*Blurb:*

A new, laugh-out-loud series from the author and illustrator of Saurus Street.

When nine-year-old Billy Fincher gets bitten by a lizard at his local pet shop, strange things start to happen...His fingernails turn into claws, his skin becomes green and he starts breathing fire. Billy can't hide it any longer - he's turning into a dragon. And when his parents decide to sell him to the zoo, Billy has to make a decision. Find a way to change back, or lose his family forever. Being a dragon is more complicated than it sounds!



*Lamont Review:*

This is a wonderful fast paced action adventure that begins with Billy visiting a strange new pet shop with his Mum and sister to choose a pet for his birthday.

But a lizard bite slowly turns Billy into a dragon. Now dragons are cool, but living a normal life with family and friends is impossible when you look like one.

When Billy is captured by his Dad and taken to the zoo, he causes mayhem to secure his release.

But what now?

Billy must find a way to change back, if that is even possible.

An easy to read, humorous, and sometimes silly story that is suited to emerging young readers, particularly boys.

*Reviewed by Rob.*

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## Annie's Snails

By Dianne Wolfer & illustrated by Gabriel Evans

Publisher: Walker Books

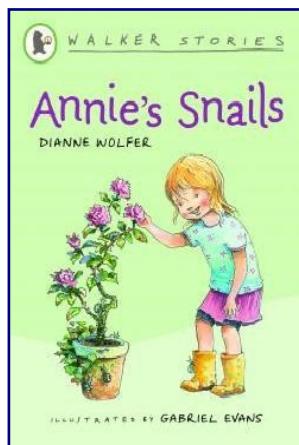
ISBN 9781921720635

\$11.95

*Blurb:*

An adorable new addition to the Walker Stories series.

Annie loves her pet snails. They have lots of adventures together. She even makes them a special home in an ice-cream container. She thinks they'll be very happy. But will they?



*Lamont Review:*

This is a delightful, illustrated junior reader in the ongoing *Walker Stories* series.

Annie loves snails, but she soon learns that some pets just cannot be locked up, as the hot ice-cream container she has placed them in is not a suitable home for snails.

Full of fun family adventures and with the charming and inquisitive Annie as the main character, this novel will best suit girl readers 6 and up.

*Reviewed by Rob.*

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## Daisy's Quest - Wilderness Fairies Book 1

By Jodie Wells-Slowgrove & illustrated by Kerry Millard

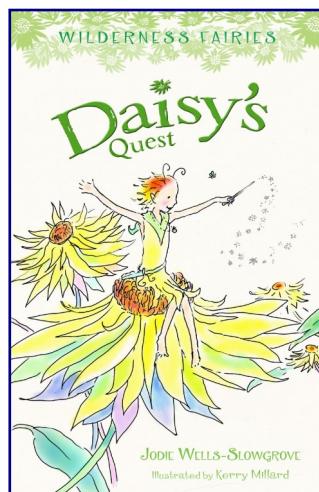
Publisher: Penguin Australia

ISBN 9780143307464

\$9.99

*Blurb:*

A fairy isn't born with wings. She has to earn them. When Queen Jasmine sends Daisy on a Fairy Quest it will take all her wit and magic to succeed. But what if succeeding means letting someone else down? Will Daisy make the right decision?



*Lamont Review:*

This is a delightful new series for emerging girl readers.

Daisy is just waiting for the day when she will get her wings. But the thought of the Fairy Quest that she must undertake to get them makes her have butterflies in her stomach.

The time comes for her quest and together with her best friend, Vu, a shiny green beetle, they set out on her quest that is full of secret messages and challenges.

Will Daisy really be able to achieve her wings? Or will one decision she makes put it all in jeopardy?

A lovely story with a very clear and important message about helping others and never giving up.

*Reviewed by Sam*