

ROCKET BIRD BOOKS

Where will we take you?

Publishing beautifully curated, content-rich picture books from February 2023, Rocket Bird Books champions the best talent in visual and written storytelling to create outstanding fiction and non-fiction picture books that will be read again and again.

Publishing enquiries: info@rocketbirdbooks.co.uk
Rights enquiries: tina@tibooks.co.uk



THE ROCKET CREW...



PUBLISHER

The list is led by award-winning publisher Libby Hamilton, previously of Andersen Press and Templar Publishing. Libby has worked with some of the most exciting authors and illustrators in UK picture books including David McKee, Jonny Duddle, Levi Pinfold, Michelle Robinson and Joseph Coelho, and her books have won the Kate Greenaway medal, the Waterstones Book Prize, the Buxtehuder Kälbchens and the Boston Globe Horn Book Award.

SALES, MARKETING & PUBLICITY

UK Sales, marketing and publicity is headed up by picture book maven Emma O'Donovan. Known online as picture book expert @thebooksniffer, Emma champions great authors and illustrators.



INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS

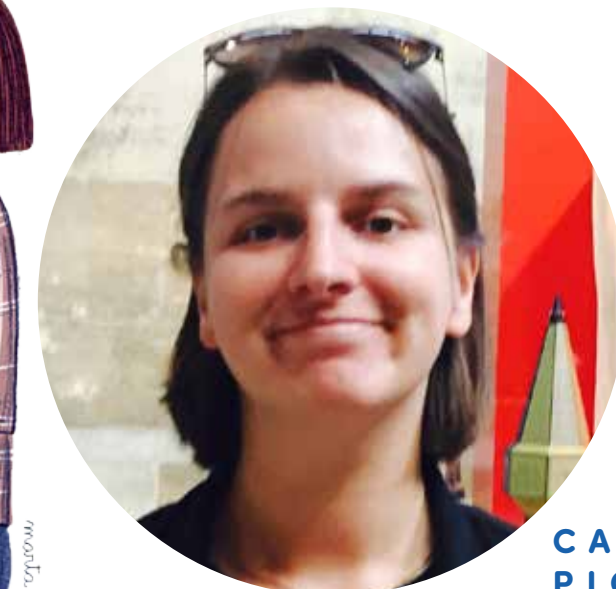
International rights expert Tina Amor is our representative around the world, selling the rights to our books through her tibooks agency. Contact her at: tina@tibooks.co.uk



MIKE JOLLEY

DESIGN

A trio of stand-out art directors form the design side of Rocket Bird Books: the multi award-winning Mike Jolley; ex-art director at Flying Eye Books Camille Pichon; and designer, lecturer and design historian Ness Wood.



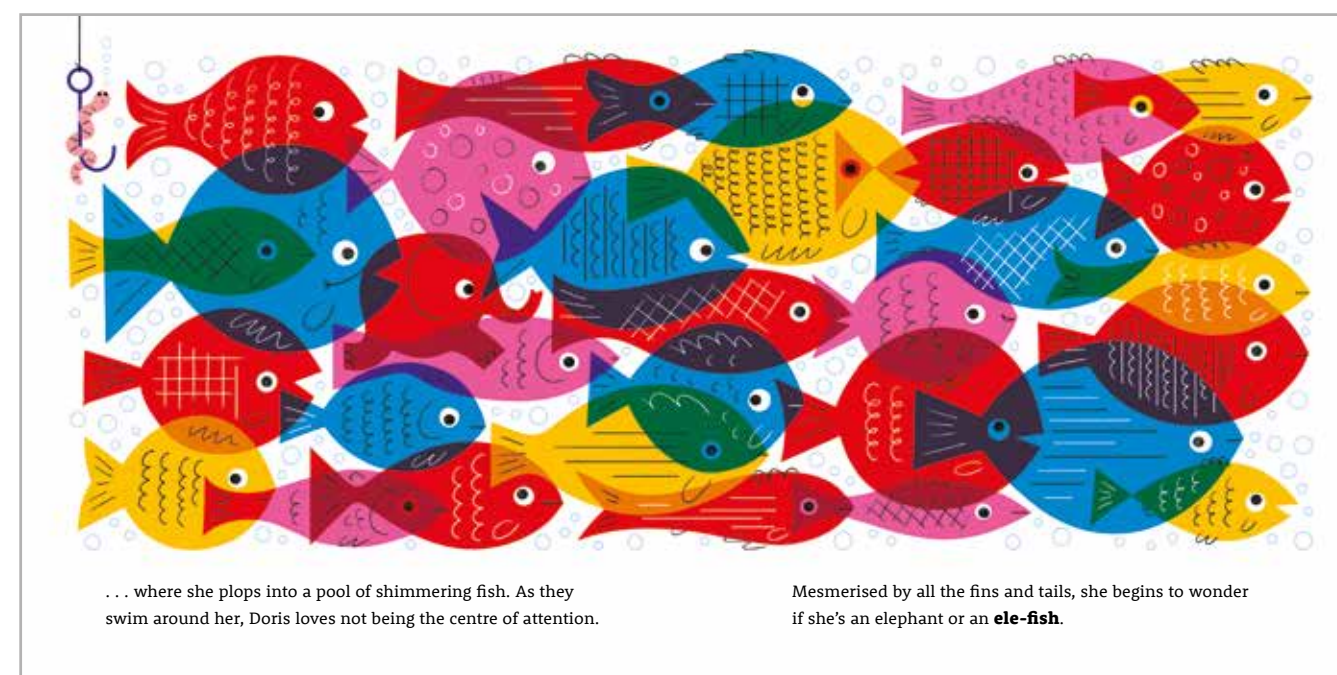
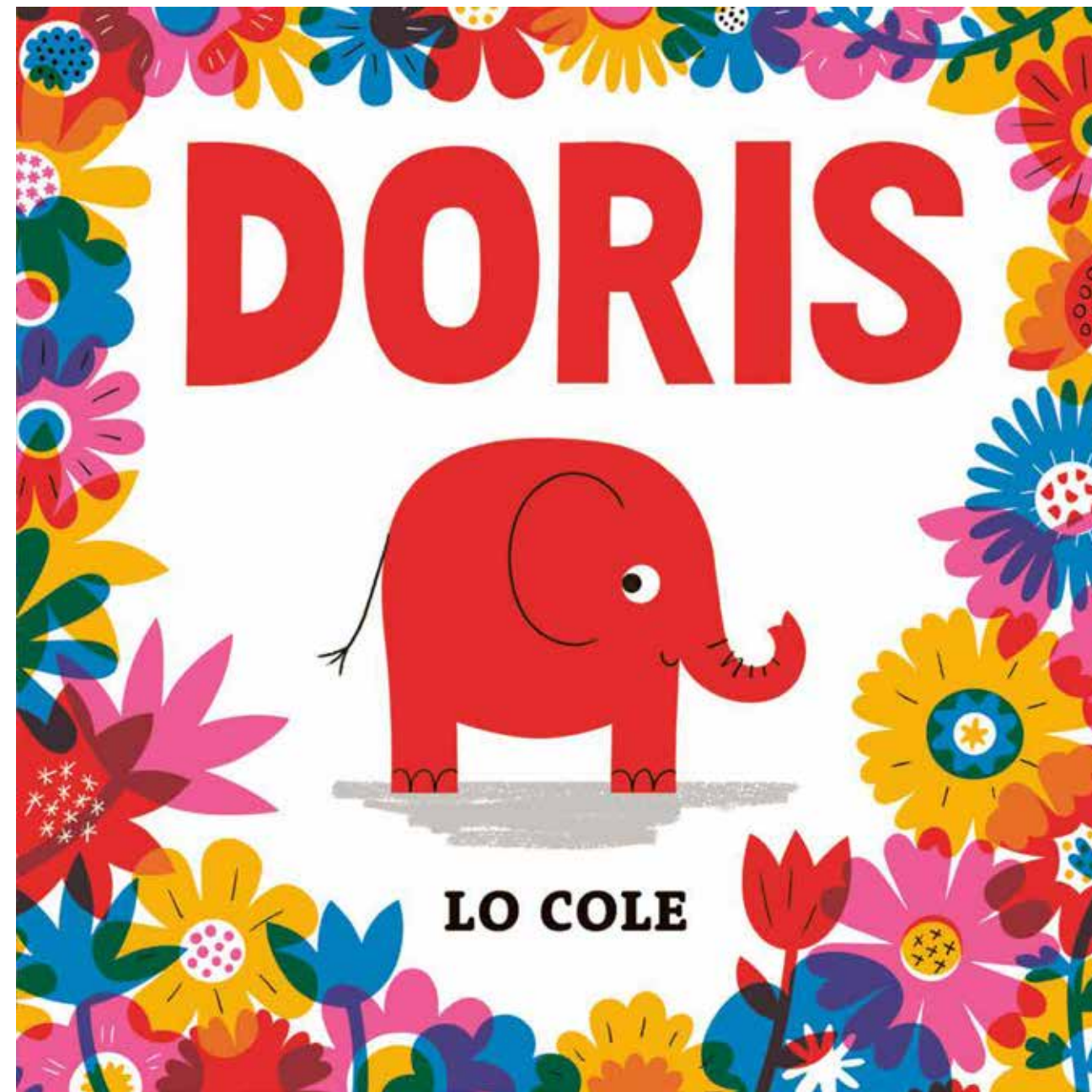
CAMILLE PICHON



NESS WOOD

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 @BOOKS_ROCKET



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Doris by Lo Cole

What if you were born to stand out, but longed to blend in?

Being a bright red elephant, Doris is VERY easy to spot. Can you see her? Of course you can. But Doris is shy – she just wants to lose herself in a colourful crowd. Come on a journey of self-discovery as one little elephant comes to appreciate her own specialness.

Key sales points:

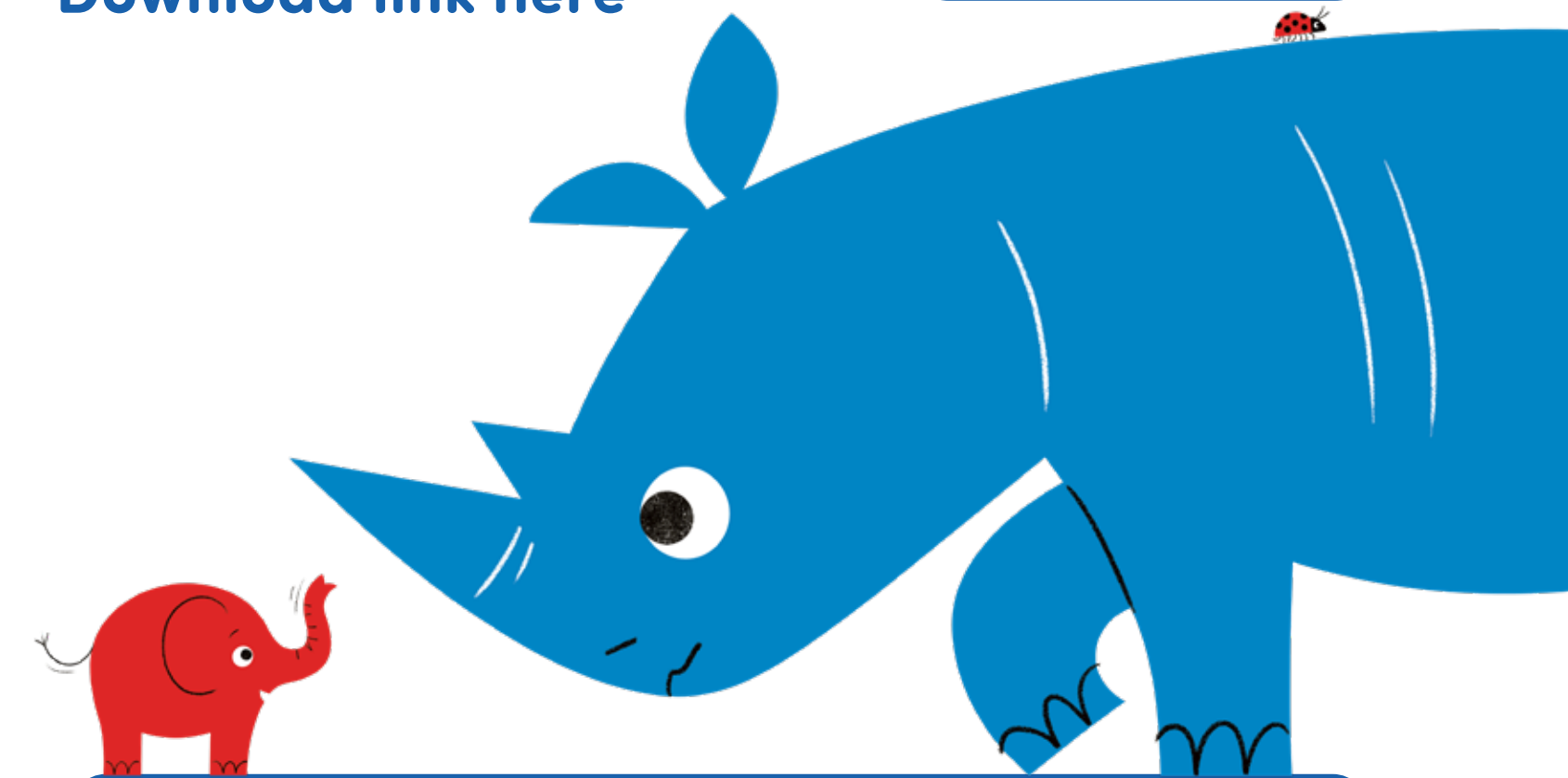
- The funny story of one elephant finding self-confidence in the strangest places
- Spotting Doris and the other small creatures who pop in to the story will hook pre-readers into the storytelling
- “Stop looking at me!” will be a familiar refrain for many children and parents
- Energetic artwork and ingenious writing garnered Lo’s first book starred reviews.

Pub 3rd Aug 2023
Extent 32pp
TPS 250 x 250mm
Cover gloss spot UV, machine varnish
Rights World
ISBN 9781915395054
Price £12.99
Download link here

Advance Information



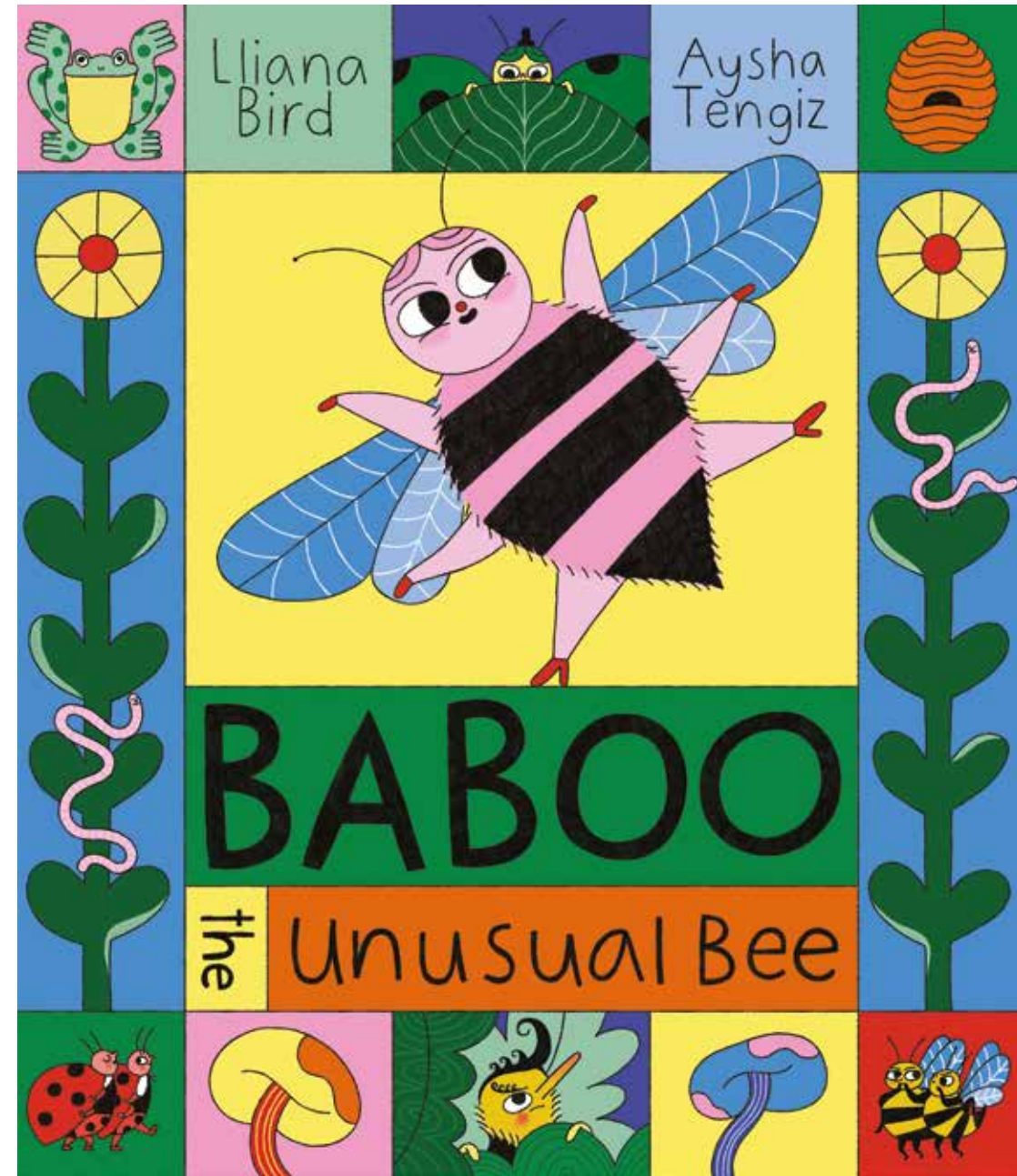
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@lo_cole

About the author-illustrator
 A weekly contributor to *The Guardian* and *The Economist*, Lo trained as a print-maker. *Doris* is his second children’s book. The artwork from his first, *We Want a Dog*, was selected by The Society of Illustrators for their 2021 New York exhibition.

Location: Gloucestershire, UK.



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Baboo the Unusual Bee

by Liana Bird and Aysha Tengiz

Whoever heard of a hip-hop loving, PINK-striped bee?

Baboo, the only pink bee in his hive, dances alone. But then he meets a green ladybird. By sharing his dancing skills with her, all the other insects in the garden appreciate his differences and wish for their own. Baboo reassures them that everyone looks a little bit different and likes different things.

Key sales points:

- Celebrates how we are all unusual in different ways – you are special being you!
- Challenges pink gender-stereotypes in this LGBTQ+ positive story
- Dream-team debut by unique illustration talent Aysha Tengiz and writer, director, actress and radio DJ “Birdy”
- Honeycomb of bee non-fiction facts on each endpaper – discover bees really do dance

Pub 7th Sep 2023
Extent 32pp
TPS 275 x 235mm
Cover gloss spot UV, machine varnish
Rights World
ISBN 9781915395047
Price £12.99
Download link here

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@llianabird

About the author

Liana is a writer, director, actress, podcaster and co-founder of charities Help Refugees and the Kindly Collective. She just happens to also be hilarious. *Baboo* is her debut children's book.

Location: London, UK.



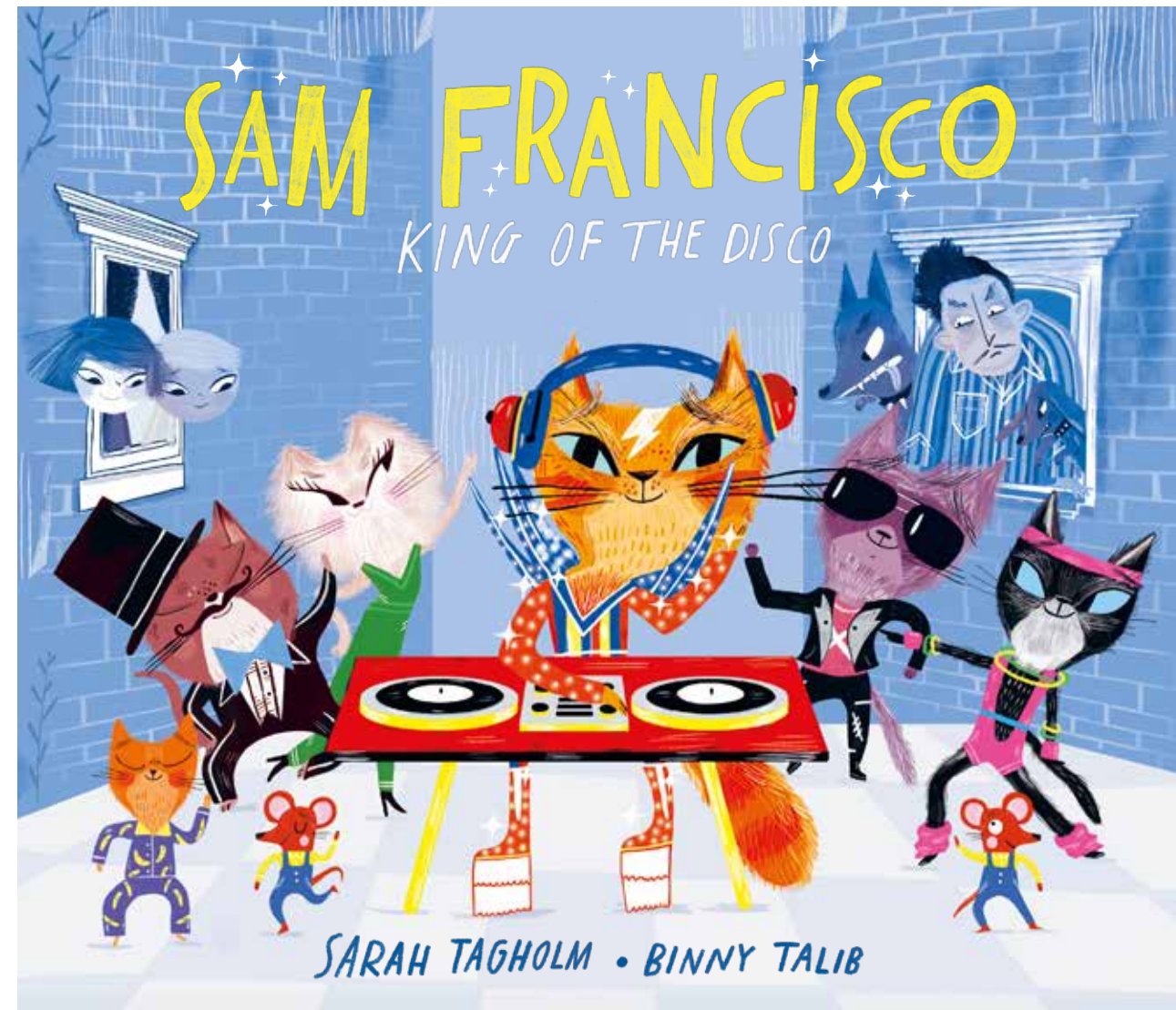
@llianabird

About the illustrator

Aysha's work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and as the cover of Anorak magazine. She also won her category in the 2020 World Illustration Awards.

Baboo is her debut book.

Location: London, UK.



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Sam Francisco King of the Disco

by Sarah Tagholm and Binny Talib

A toe-tapping adventure that explains why cats sleep all day!

Superstar DJ Sam Francisco's party is keeping Buzzkill Bill awake. He sends his dogs to shut it down. Then pest control, the fire-brigade and the police! When Bill pulls the plug things look bleak, but luckily it's the people (and the cats) who make a party, not the fancy equipment.

Key sales points:

- Author Tagholm is a rising star whose rhymes are irresistably toe-tapping
- Binny Talib's felines are unforgettable including a Bowie-esque Sam
- Children get an introduction to musical genres as each adversary is won over by something different, from jazz to techno
- Silver foiled cover for full disco effect

Pub 1st June 2023
Extent 32pp
TPS 240 x 280mm
Cover silver foil, machine varnish
Rights World
ISBN 9781915395030
Price £12.99
Download link here

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@mrstwit

About the author

Liana is a writer, director, acSarah fell in love with books as a child, followed by dance, travelling and tagging sea-turtles! She lives with her family, including cat Envelope whose mysterious nightly adventures inspired this story.

Location: Cornwall, UK.

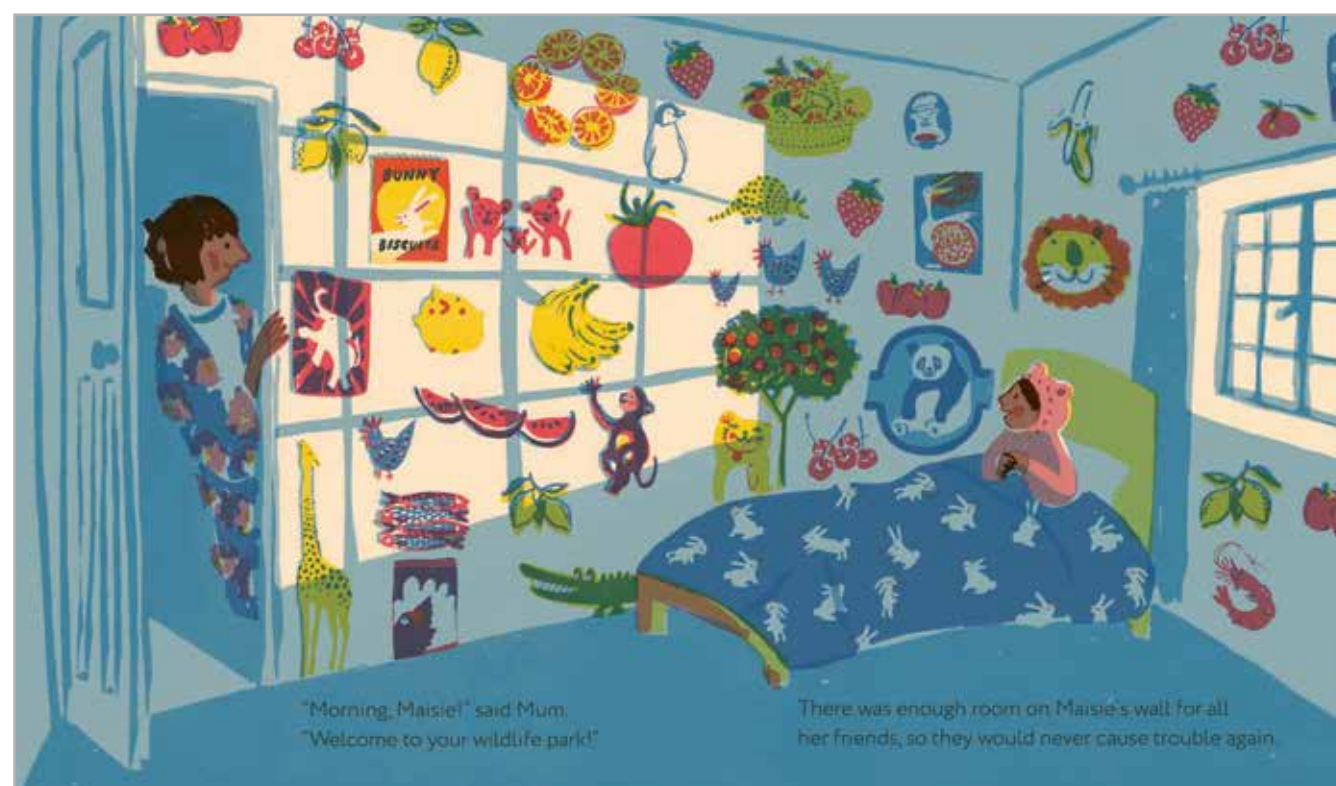
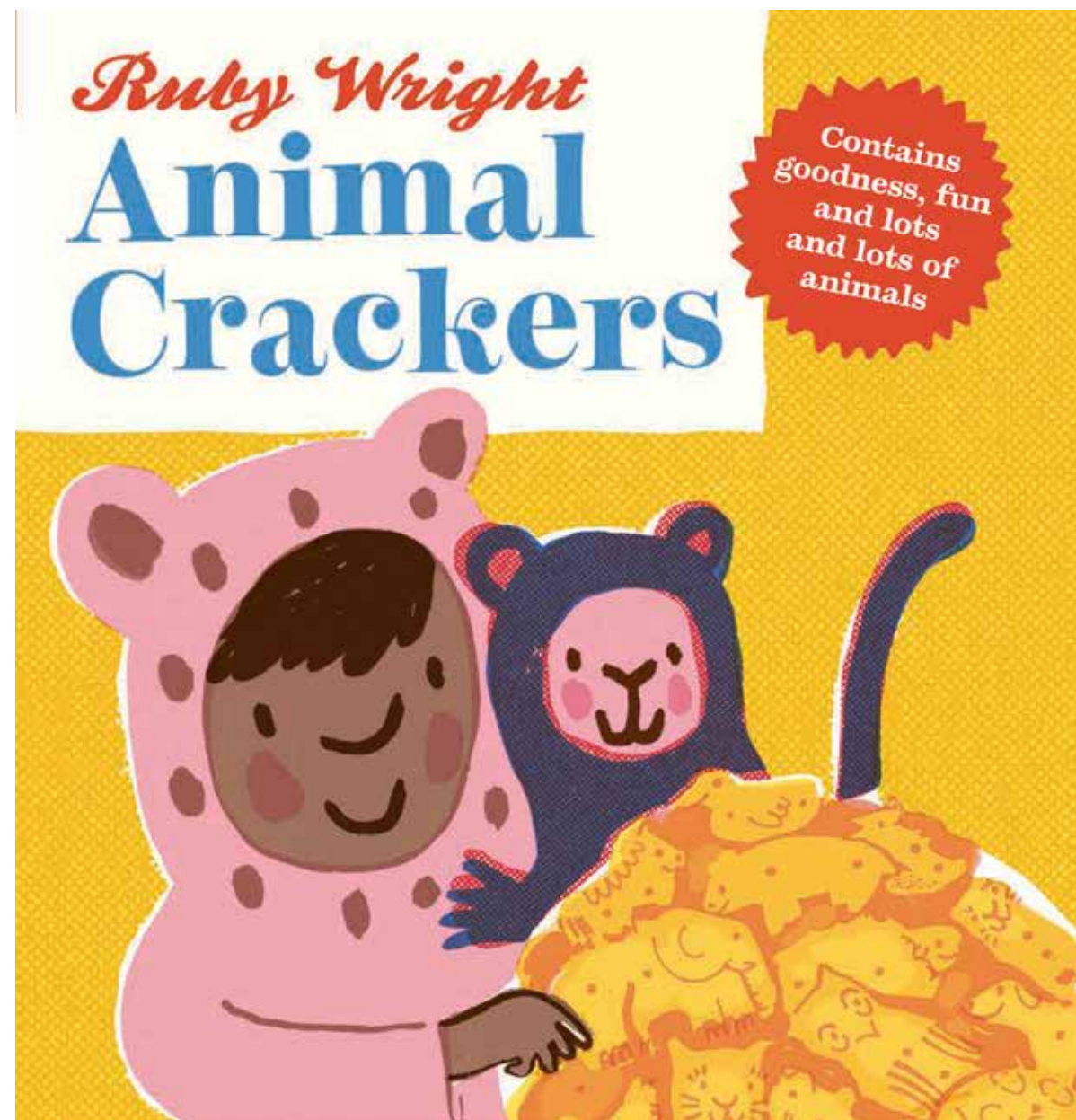


@binnyillustration

About the illustrator

Binny creates fantastic books for kids and fabulous wallpaper for grown-ups. Her family includes dog Paddington who would love a cat disco..

Location: Sydney, Australia.



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Animal Crackers by Ruby Wright

Humorous debut mixes pet-ownership fantasy with the reality!

Maisie's head is full of animal facts and she desperately wants her own pet, but Mum says their flat is too small. Luckily a packet of animal crackers is about to grant Maisie's wish, with unexpected results. (Well... Mum expected them.)

Key sales points:

- Reflects the reality of single-parent households in flats around the country
- Wish-fulfilment at its best, followed by the smelly reality!
- Packed with funny animal facts (don't stand behind penguin)
- Mum's wildlife wall-collage is heart-warming parental ingenuity

Pub 4th May 2023
Extent 32pp
TPS 280 x 240mm
Cover gloss UV and machine varnish
Rights World
ISBN 9781915395106
Price £12.99
Download link here

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@rubywrightlino

About the author-illustrator
Ruby studied sculpture, which informs her distinctive illustration style but doesn't explain why she plays the musical saw. She lives in a flat with her Mr, two very funny children and absolutely no pets. Animal Crackers is her debut book.

Location: London, UK.



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Can I Come Too? by Owen Davey

Just because you are older, doesn't mean you know better.

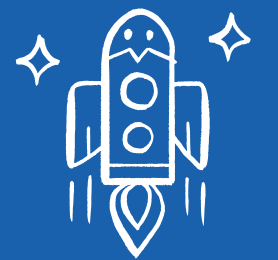
Teddy's off to catch a fish, but Cub wants to come too. Little cubs always get in the way. But, luckily, they can also surprise you. Funny and stunning by turns, come with Cub and Teddy on an adventure to find, "Just the one I wanted".

Key sales points:

- Hilariously observant depiction of older and younger sibling dynamics
- Owen is a social media star with an instagram following of over 200k
- Debossed cover highlights Owen's trademark geometric artwork
- Davey is the author and illustrator of international best-selling natural history series including *Smart About Sharks*

Pub 1st Apr 2023
Extent 32pp
TPS 260 x 250mm
Cover debossing and machine varnish
Rights World
ISBN 9781915395009
Price £12.99
Download link here

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@owendaveydraws

About the author-illustrator

Owen is a celebrated non-fiction creator with an international following. He is also dad to two superb girls. Watching his younger daughter wanting to play with her sister, no matter what the game, inspired this story.
Location: Worthing, UK.