

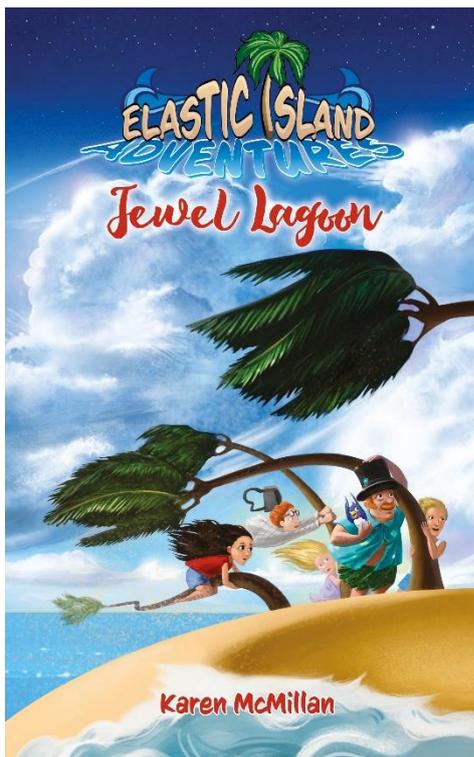


Jewel Lagoon

By Karen McMillan

CHILDREN'S NOVEL 8 – 12 YEARS

The first in an exciting series of books for children, an action-adventure set in the South Pacific!



Four children, Kiri, Jed, and twins Emma and Ethan, discover an 'elastic' island that can send them ping-pong across the ocean to a variety of tropical island destinations. Landing at Jewel Lagoon on Trinity Island, the children quickly find themselves in trouble. But even with help from the colourful creatures they meet – Pangali the Platypus, Olaf the Giant, and Big Wig and Wee Wig Knockulous – will they be able to return home safely?

Elastic Island Adventures, Jewel Lagoon is publishing in NZ and Australia May 2018, with book two due out in September 2018. The series has been optioned by Fuzzy Duckling Media, a film production company, who will be presenting the series to major film studios at Kidscreen in the US with the view of developing it into a major feature film or TV series: Aardman Animations, Nickeloden, Disney, Cartoon Network, Google, DreamWorks Animation, Amazon Studios,

DreamWorks Animation, Sony Pictures Animation, Netflix, PBS Kids, PBS Sprout, Mattel, Together Tales, Steamboat Ventures, Sesame Street Workshop, Global Toy News, 9 Story, DHX.

Elastic Island Adventures is an exciting, original story that grips from the beginning, with a slightly retro feel.

Susanne Theune & Asociados

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Title Information

Four engaging and relatable children feature in the series. Feisty, outspoken Kiri, who often acts before she thinks. Emma, her best friend, shy, bookish and dreamy. Ethan, Emma's twin brother, who loves gadgets and inventing things and who is ever-so-annoying. Jed, the new boy in town, a born leader and athlete.

A cast of supporting memorable characters:

- Mr Jollybowler and Rinaldo the parrot provides a colourful, but questionable Elastic Island service, not helped that Rinaldo has a very bad attitude.
- Pangali the Playtpus yearns to be reunited with his family.
- Olaf the Giant is suffering from a loss of confidence, especially with his wife Daisy locked in a dungeon.
- Big Wig and Wee Wig Knockulous are keen to help, but is Wee Wig enthusiasm going to be a liability? (Big Wig and Wee Wig Knockulous are characters that Karen invented when she was a young girl.)
- Meanwhile, the villains of the story, Chief Namba and his Ape Army may finally get their comeuppance if Princess Makana can reclaim control of the island.

About the author:

Karen McMillan is the author of twelve books, a mixture of fiction and non-fiction. She has a diverse portfolio of books, from bestselling novels, *The Paris of the East*, *The Paris of the West* and *Brushstrokes of Memory*, to books that inspire and help others: *Everyday Strength*, *Unbreakable Spirit*, *Unleash Your Inner Seductress* and *Love Bytes*.

Karen wrote *Elastic Island Adventures* purely for fun, and some of the characters are inspired by stories she wrote as a child that was serialized in the children's pages of a nationwide New Zealand Sunday newspaper. The manuscript had been forgotten while working on other book projects – but wanting to do a book that she could enjoy with her husband's granddaughter, Milla, prompted her to dig out the manuscript. She is now working on book number two with input from Milla, and has more ideas for an ongoing series. More information about Karen is at www.karenm.co.nz

