

Karen McMillan Children's Catalogue 2019



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Karen McMillan is the author of fiction, non-fiction and children's books.

Fiction works include the novels *Brushstrokes of Memory*, *Watching Over Me*, *The Paris of the East*, *The Paris of the West*, and the delightful collection of short stories *Shaggy Dog and Fishy Cat Tales*.

Her non-fiction titles include *Everyday Strength*, *Unbreakable Spirit*, *Love Bytes*, *Unleash Your Inner Seductress*, and *From the Blitz to the Burmese Jungle and Beyond*.

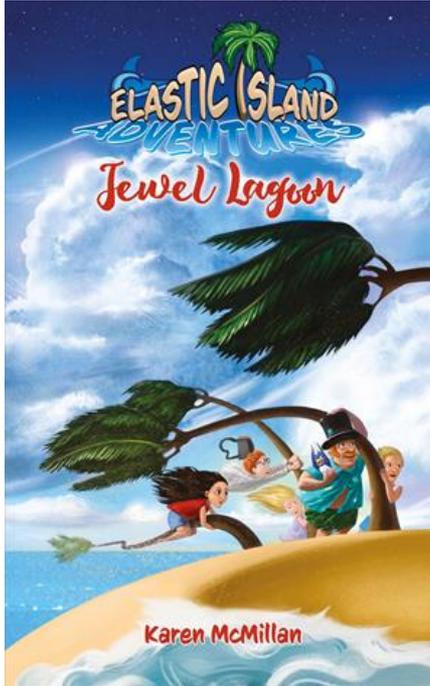
Karen is also the author of the junior fiction children's book series, *Elastic Island Adventures*, that have been optioned to be made into movies.

For more information about Karen and her writing visit www.karenm.co.nz.

Susanne Theune & Asociados

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The first in an exciting series of books for children, a fantasy 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?

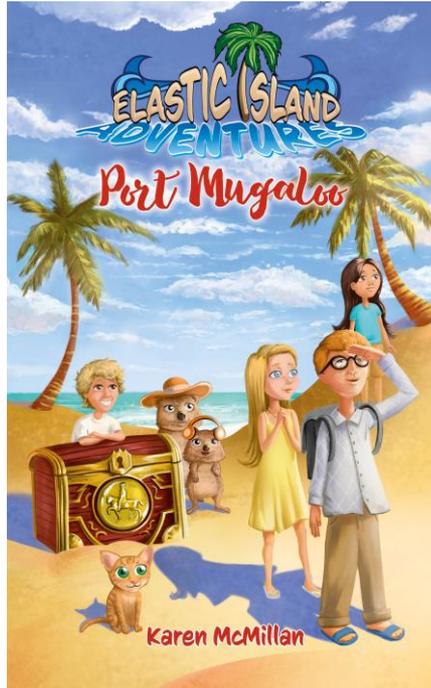
The first in a new series for children 8 – 12 years old published in NZ, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei in May 2018. The series has been optioned by a movie producer who in the initial stages of developing it into a feature film.

Book one has already reprinted!

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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. Their last destination spelt trouble, so this time the children are determined to have a relaxed and safe time when they visit Port Mugaloo on MugaMuga Island. But Ethan falls into a pond and becomes invisible – and the only one who can help them is King Shiny. But King Shiny has gone missing looking for the long-lost royal treasure, so they enlist the help of Mrs Quokka and travel across the desert on a seven-humped camel into very dangerous territory to find him. But have the children made a mistake in trusting Mrs Quokka? They soon learn that quokkas might be famous for their 'quokka logic' but mostly it doesn't make any sense!

Book two is publishing September 2018, with book three planned for April 2019. Movie rights have been optioned by Fuzzy Ducky Media.

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Rainbow Cove sneak preview!

Rainbow Cove is the third a fantasy action-adventure set in the South Pacific. Kiri, Jed, and twins Emma and Ethan, discover an 'elastic' island that sends them ping-pong across the ocean to a variety of destinations. When they visit Rainbow Cove, they discover creatures called frivals who are responsible for maintaining the colours of the island. But the frivals have gone on strike after the local people didn't like them changing all the colours around – and now the island is slowly changing to black and white. Because of this the chameleons are very sick, so the children set out to find the frivals missing leader in the hope to save them. But will they succeed before it is too late?

Publishing NZ, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei April 2019. Movie rights have been optioned by Fuzzy Duckling Media.

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More information about Elastic Island Adventures

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 three with input from Milla, and has more ideas for an ongoing series.

Karen was awarded a Creative NZ Grant to enable her to do a book tour in Brisbane Australia in August 2018, visiting 20 schools and doing media.

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PRAISE

'A fast-paced, original story aimed at readers eight to 12.' ***North & South Magazine***

'The book is aimed at younger independent readers, aged between eight and 12-years-old, it's an action packed and fast paced read. McMillan has pitched to the age perfectly, making it easy but not simple or boring for younger readers. Rich language, especially adverbs, will also help inspire and delight those tackling the book on their own. However, it is a wonderful read aloud story as well, with plenty of voice and delightful characters to animate, expanding the audience further.' ***NZ Booklovers***

'An enjoyable and entertaining runaway adventure for children with a cast of colourful characters, including four children transported by an elastic island to a kingdom in trouble. I was hooked from the beginning.' ***Terry Toner, Radio Southland.***

'The story is wildly creative and populated with an array of vibrant characters, including adaptations of animals many children will recognise. The four main characters: Kiri, Jed, and twins Emma, and Ethan, have distinct personalities and varying skill sets which help them navigate through the challenges they face on their adventure.' ***Flaxflower***

'What I liked best about *Elastic Island Adventures* was how they can travel across the South Pacific and land in magical lands and meet lots of magical creatures along the way to save Jewel Lagoon from Chief Namba. My favourite characters were Jed because of his enthusiasm to help the twins and Kiri on getting the egg back, and Pangali the Platypus for his determination to help the children get the egg and get home.' ***Max Jones, age 10***

'I really enjoyed *Port Mugaloo*. I loved the children's adventures, and didn't want to stop reading! My favourite characters were Blong the Cat, (his Blong-a-grams were very funny), and Mrs Quokka. I will get Mum to make the Quokka Lemon Cake.' ***Cole Roberts, age 9***

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