

Mel and Shell

by **JULIA LAWRIKINSON**

KEYNOTE

Mel and Shell is the latest book for middle readers from award-winning author Julia Lawrinson.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Shell and Mel are best friends, united by their love of ABBA. But when Scary Sharon decides she wants to be friends with Shell, and Mel begins acting strangely, things start changing fast. Confiding in her pen pal from 1829, Shell discovers she has a lot to learn about loyalty, honesty and roller skating.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Julia Lawrinson has written more than a dozen books for children and young adults, many of them award-winning. Despite leaving school at 15, she has a PhD in writing and a Bachelor of Laws with distinction. Julia has worked in a range of organisations, from the arts to parliament to health. She has presented at schools, workshops and conferences across Australia, as well as Singapore, Bali and the USA, and loves meeting her audience and encouraging reading, learning and curiosity. Her books are about friendship, family and finding out who you want to become.



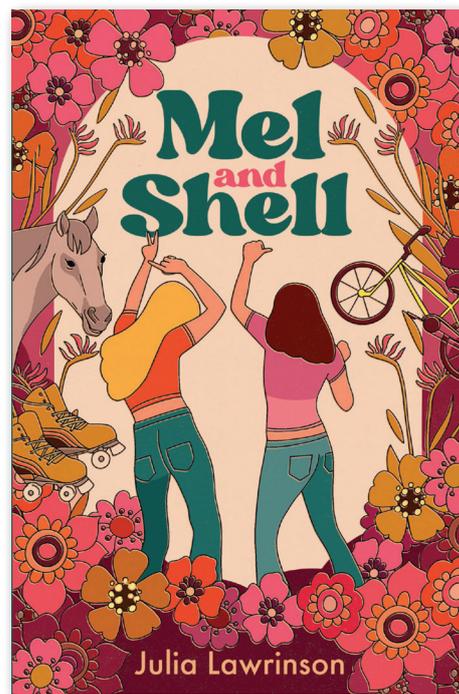
NOTES

- *Mel and Shell* takes kids back into the classrooms of the 1970s, at a time when Australian history was taught from a single perspective. Using the backdrop of WA's sesquicentenary celebrations, Julia's narrative cleverly shows how the commemoration of colonisation affects the relationships of the children.
- Julia's last book for middle readers, *Maddie in the Middle*, was a 2020 CBCA Notable Book.
- Teaching notes and activity sheets will be available on the Fremantle Press website.

PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

'This is a coming-of-age book for tweens and would be a great conversation-starter for parents.' *Reading Time*

'This book would make a most suitable read aloud in the primary classroom and will prompt much discussion.' *Magpies*



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