

Elizabeth Honey

Elizabeth grew up on a farm in Gippsland and studied Film and TV at Swinburne Uni, Melbourne. After trying many jobs she found her feet as a freelance illustrator for newspapers, advertisers, publishers and Australia Post, but illustrating children's books was by far the most rewarding work. When she began writing the stories as well, it was doubly satisfying.

In a long career Elizabeth has written picture books, poetry, and novels for younger and older children, plays, film scripts and songs. Her books have been translated into many languages and her playful humour, originality and energy strike a chord with kids around the world. She has won the prestigious Italian Premio Cento, the Children's Book Council of Australia Picture Book Award and the Wilderness Society's Environment Award. Her titles include novels *45 & 47 Stella Street*, *Remote Man*, poetry *Honey Sandwich*, and *Mongrel Doggerel* and picture books *The Cherry Dress* and *Ten Blue Wrens*.



Elizabeth cares for the environment and shares Daradgee's values, including the enjoyment of camping. In her picture book *Not a Nibble!* a family goes camping for a week at the beach, in the novel *Fiddle-back* several families pitch their tents by a wild river in the bush, in *The Ballad of Cauldron Bay* it's a holiday in an intriguing old house (no electricity, so it's nearly camping), and *Don't Pat the Wombat!* is a crazy bunch of characters on a school camp. 'It's a rich setting,' says Elizabeth, 'when you're camping, life is out of the ordinary, the unexpected happens, and true character is revealed.' No wonder she likes Daradgee.

Recently Elizabeth has been involved in children's theatre. The lullabies from picture book *I'm still awake, still!* a collaboration between Elizabeth and composer Sue Johnson, inspired the theatre show, *Still Awake Still!* which toured USA and Australia last year. Currently Elizabeth is adapting for stage, her picture book *That's not a daffodil!* (CBC Honour Book, 2012) and her new animal-family picture book, *Hop up! Wriggle over!* has a song too. You can find it on her website.

www.ElizabethHoney.com

