

Elizabeth Laird The Garden

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ROSA KASEY

Modern Gods Pan Macmillan

"Quite simply, a wonderfully moving story about the power of love." —Times Educational Supplement "A wry first-person narrative. . . . Discussion of handicaps, death and bereavement, and religious belief are carefully integrated into the story."—School Library Journal Twelve-year-old Anna is looking forward to the birth of her baby brother. Ben arrives, but is disabled. Anna loves him immensely but she finds herself unable to admit the truth about Ben to her friends. Eventually the truth gets out and leads not to the ridicule Anna expected, but sympathy and understanding. Elizabeth Laird's award-winning young adult novels include *A Little Piece of Ground* and *Crusade*.

A Little Piece of Ground Penguin

Beatrice's mum has asked her to take a bunch of bananas to Grandad. On her path through the jungle, Beatrice meets a giraffe who accidentally flicks them into a stream. Whoops! But the giraffe picks some flowers for Beatrice to take instead. As her journey continues flowers are swapped for honey, honey is swapped for some mangoes . . . and so it goes on until a friendly elephant swaps a feather for . . . a beautiful bunch of bananas! A lovely circular story, based on an African folktale, about family, friendship, and teamwork. Written by best-selling author Elizabeth Laird, and illustrated by Liz Pichon, creator of Tom Gates.

Red Sky in the Morning Pan Macmillan Roly and Poly spend their day helping Mom and Dad, playing at the playground, drawing pictures, and helping Dad in the garden.

Work and Play Cubby Bear One Story, Many Voices

A parent promises to love and care for a child in every situation.

A Dance Through Time St. Martin's Press Bored with her little brother Pog's childish games, Dindy decides that she's finally grown-up enough for a real adventure. While her mother is sleeping and the servants are busy, she takes Pog deep into the tea gardens, a place they are never

supposed to go alone. Terrified by wild animals and snubbed by the local children, Dindy starts to realize how little she really knows about India, even though it's the only place she's ever called home. But little does she know her life is about to be turned upside down when her mother is taken ill and her father tells her they are leaving India, for good. Dindy and the Elephant by Elizabeth Laird is a wonderful portrait of a young British child coming to terms with leaving her beloved childhood home, while at the same time realizing that many of the things she has been raised to believe are wrong.

Beautiful Bananas Pan Macmillan

Oranges in No Man's Land brings Elizabeth Laird's emotional and gripping adventure to her next generation of fans. Since her father left Lebanon to find work and her mother tragically died in a shell attack, ten-year-old Ayesha has been living in the bomb-ravaged city of Beirut with her granny and her two younger brothers. The city has been torn in half by civil war and a desolate, dangerous no man's land divides the two sides. Only militiamen and tanks dare enter this deadly zone, but when Granny falls desperately ill, Ayesha sets off on a terrifying journey to reach a doctor living in enemy territory.

The Garden of Promises and Lies Orca Book Publishers

The little girl is so bored at home. There's NO-ONE to play with! That is until she decides to play the name game with the nature and animals around her, inventing fantastic names and personalities for all of them! Soon she is describing a fun imaginary world that she can play in by herself.

Crusade Haymarket Books

A powerful novel about two sisters who must reclaim themselves after their lives are dramatically upended, from an award-winning author with "a wonderfully original and limber voice" (The New York Times) "[Nick Laird's] kinetic prose, full of insight about politics, history and religion, dazzles eye and ear." —The New York Times Book Review "Nick Laird takes two experiences poles apart and unites them in gorgeous language...[with] fierce tenderness." —Dave Eggers, author of *Heroes of the Frontier* Alison Donnelly has suffered for

love. Still stuck in the small Northern Irish town where she was born, working for her father's real estate agency, she hopes a second marriage will help her get her life back together. Her sister Liz, a fiercely independent professor who lives in New York City, is about to return to Ulster for Alison's wedding, before heading to an island off the coast of Papua New Guinea to make a TV show about the world's newest religion. Both sisters hope to write their own futures, but the past has other ideas. Alison wakes up the day after her wedding to find that her new husband has a past neither of them can escape. While Liz, in a rainforest on the other side of the planet, finds herself increasingly entangled in the eerie, charged world of Belef, the charismatic middle-aged woman she has come to film, the leader of a cargo cult. As *Modern Gods* ingeniously interweaves the stories of Liz and Alison, it becomes clear that both sisters must learn how to negotiate with the past, with the sins of fanaticism, and decide exactly what the living owe to the dead. Laird's brave, innovative novel charts the intimacies and disappointments of a family trying to hold itself together, and the repercussions of history and belief.

The Misunderstandings of Charity Brown Pan Macmillan

Kiss the Dust by Elizabeth Laird is an unforgettable, award-winning novel of conflict, persecution and the hardships faced by refugees. Tara is an ordinary teenager. Although her country, Kurdistan, is caught up in a war, the fighting seems far away. It hasn't really touched her. Until now. The secret police are closing in. Tara and her family must flee to the mountains with only the few things they can carry. It is a hard and dangerous journey - but their struggles have only just begun. Will anywhere feel like home again?

The Garbage King White Lion Publishing When Rosy goes to stay with her grandmother in the country she is introduced to all the flowers in her garden. Illus. Poems. Stories. 4 yrs+

The Prince Who Walked With Lions

Palmer Higgs Pty Ltd Eleven-year-old Solomon loves to run! The great athletes of the Ethiopian national team are his heroes and he dreams that

one day he will be a gold-medal-winning athlete like them, in spite of his ragged shorts and bare feet. When his grandfather announces that he's going to take Solomon to Addis Ababa, Solomon cannot believe his ears. A trip to the capital? It's unfathomable. Solomon's joy is increased when he realizes that the Ethiopian running team will be doing a victory parade through the city that day. Maybe he'll get a glimpse of Haile Gebrselassie or Derartu Tulu?! But Solomon's grandfather has other plans. As Solomon follows him through the big, overwhelming streets, he learns something he cannot believe. The strict old man is a war hero who once risked his life to save a friend and has been in hiding ever since. When grandfather collapses, Solomon knows that getting help from his village is up to him. It's a twenty-mile run from the city to home, and grandfather's life hangs in the balance. Can the small bare-footed runner with the big heart do it? Shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal, *The Fastest Boy in the World* by Elizabeth Laird is the inspiring story of a small Ethiopian runner with a very big heart.

Dindy and the Elephant Oxford University Press, USA

In seventeenth-century Scotland, sixteen-year-old Maggie Blair is sentenced to be hanged as a witch but escapes to the home of her uncle, placing him and his family in great danger as she risks her life to save them all from the King's men.

Zorrie Pan Macmillan

'It's good that I've found this secret place . . . No one can get to me up there. It's totally safe.' In real life, Jake is never safe. He lives in constant fear of his mother's violent boyfriend. But in his imaginary tower he can dream up his own father - the stranger who gave him a cuddle and a fluffy duck the day he was born and went away for ever. Jake doesn't believe dreams ever come true. But sometimes they do - in strange and surprising ways. Shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal, *Jake's Tower* by Elizabeth Laird is a powerful and moving novel that spotlights the issue of domestic abuse.

The Fastest Boy in the World

Bloomsbury Publishing USA

A controversial and newsworthy story from the award-winning author of *Kiss the Dust*, *Jake's Tower*, and *The Garbage King*. Macmillan Children's Books is to publish at great speed a hugely topical novel by award-winning author Elizabeth Laird about the Palestinian/Israeli conflict. Written in collaboration with Palestinian author Sonia Nimr, *A Little Piece of Ground* tells the story of Karim, an ordinary

twelve-year old boy, living in Ramallah under the occupation of Israeli troops. Editor, Marion Lloyd say, 'This is an exceptionally exciting and important book, which will give any child who is curious and confused about what they hear and see on TV an insight into a conflict that affects all our lives.'

A Little Piece of Ground Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Lily Harford is nearing the end of her once joyful life - and for her, it can't come soon enough. Who will have the courage, kindness and love to grant her last request? A compassionate and heartfelt story for readers of Jodi Picoult, Tricia Stringer and Fiona Lowe. Knowing she is sliding into dementia, Lily Harford is ready to give up her life ... but can she persuade someone to commit the illegal act of taking it from her? Lily has lived a joyful, independent life in a seaside town in Queensland, running her own business and raising a daughter as a single mother at a time when few women did so. Now health and circumstance have pushed her into a nursing home, and her memory is failing, although events of the past remain fresh. Like pulling back the layers of a Russian doll, Lily recalls the former selves - mother, professional woman, lover, daughter - who still exist inside her. Lily's daughter, Pauline, has been pushed to her limits by her demanding job, as well as the needs of her mother, husband, daughter and grandchildren. And now her mother is begging to die. Nurse aide Donna, still recovering from a dysfunctional childhood and the demise of her marriage, finds comfort in Lily's kindness and down to earth wisdom. As Lily fades, she asks Donna, too, to help her end her life. A thought-provoking, vivid and moving exploration of how we value a life well lived, and the decisions we make when that life is coming to an end. PRAISE

'Joanna Buckley has done an excellent job weaving a highly sensitive issue into a tale with great humanity.' - *The Weekend Australian* 'This exquisitely written story reels you in ... I highly recommend this wonderful book.' - *Better Reading*

Oranges in No Man's Land Tiny Owl Publishing

"Gloria is making a delicious porridge, but she's too hungry to share it with the cat. When Gloria goes to fetch some water, cat eats all the porridge. Angry Gloria shakes her spoon at the cat, and the scared cat runs away, starting a chaos around her. A retelling of an Ethiopian folktale by acclaimed author, Elizabeth Laird."-- Amazon.

Pea Boy and Other Stories from Iran

Haymarket Books

Paul realises he will never be able to marry Maria if he remains poor. When he wins the story competition, he believes his problems are over. Can he marry Maria now?

Every Home Needs an Elephant Pan Macmillan

A rip-roaring picture book adventure from superstar pairing Malorie Blackman and Dapo Adeola. Over the shimmering ocean, up the huge, high mountain, through the deep, dark forest . . . WE'RE GOING TO FIND THE MONSTER! Join two intrepid adventurers as their imaginations transform their house into a wild wonderland - and their big brother becomes a mighty monster. A joy to read-aloud with its cumulative refrain, and full of funny, relatable characters, this is a contemporary celebration of creativity, fantasy and family. Written by bestselling author of *Noughts & Crosses*, Malorie Blackman, this story was originally published as *Marty Monster*. This new version has been stunningly brought to life by the award-winning illustrator of *Look Up!*, Dapo Adeola.

We're Going to Find the Monster Pan Macmillan

Crusade is a richly detailed historical adventure, from Carnegie shortlisted author, Elizabeth Laird. Two boys. Two faiths. One unholy war . . . When Adam's mother dies unconfessed, he pledges to save her soul with dust from the Holy Land. Employed as a dog-boy for the local knight, Adam grabs the chance to join the Crusade to reclaim Jerusalem. He burns with determination to strike down the infidel enemy . . . Salim, a merchant's son, is leading an uneventful life in the port of Acre - until news arrives that a Crusader attack is imminent. To keep Salim safe, his father buys him an apprenticeship with an esteemed, travelling doctor. But Salim's employment leads him to the heart of Sultan Saladin's camp - and into battle against the barbaric and unholy invaders . . .

Welcome to Nowhere Pan Macmillan

Inspired by award-winning author's Elizabeth Laird's own childhood growing up in post-war London, *The Misunderstandings of Charity Brown* is a classic coming-of-age story, perfect for fans of *The Skylarks' War* and *I Capture the Castle*. Charity Brown's life is about to change - her family have been left a huge, rambling house by a mysterious benefactor, and her parents want to move in and throw open its doors to the needy. Only recently back from hospital after months of isolation with polio, Charity is over-protected and lonely as the only child still at home. Her family are very religious

- her sisters are called Faith and Hope, and her brother Ted is studying to be a preacher - so she's both excited and

nervous at the thought of sharing her family and new home with strangers. It's a recipe for confusion, joy and endless

misunderstandings, including with the new neighbours, an Austrian family with a daughter just Charity's age . . .