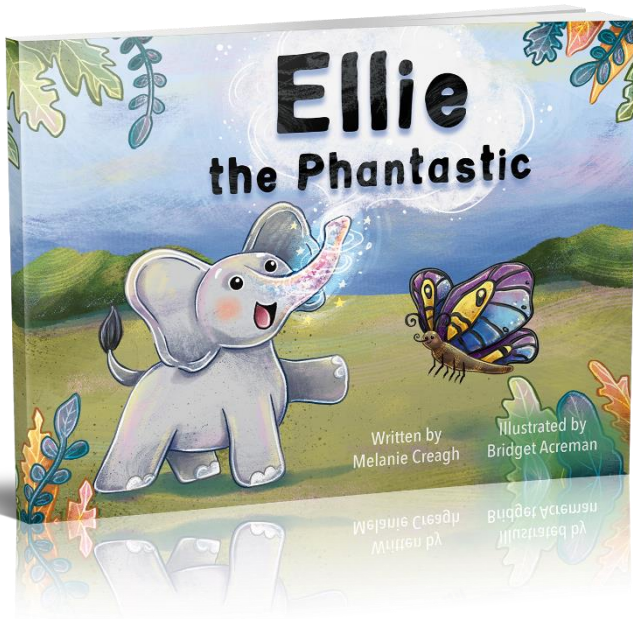


# Ellie the Phantastic

Written by Melanie Creagh

Illustrated by Bridget Acreman



ISBN	9781922851406
Publication Date	20 NOV 2023
Ages	3-8 yrs old
Format	Paperback
Audience	Children
Author Location	Brisbane, QLD

**Price available on our website**

Ellie the Phantastic is an elephant with a magical trunk.

She can water the trees, conjure flowers and illuminate the dark.

When her best friend Beatrice, a giant butterfly, moves away Ellie's magic vanishes!

Join Ellie as she learns that with friends even the toughest situations can have a happy ending.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Melanie is a passionate children's book author who grew up on Turrumurra and Meanjin land (Sydney and Brisbane). With South African and Australian heritage, she draws inspiration from her multicultural experiences and the captivating worlds around them. Writing stories has always been a cherished endeavour for Melanie, allowing her to delve into the realms

of imagination and bring forth narratives that resonate with young readers. She often weaves majestic creatures into her tales, celebrating their beauty, wisdom and the valuable lessons they teach. Identity and friendship are recurring themes in her works, as she believes in the power of storytelling to explore one's sense of self, foster connections and promote empathy among young readers.

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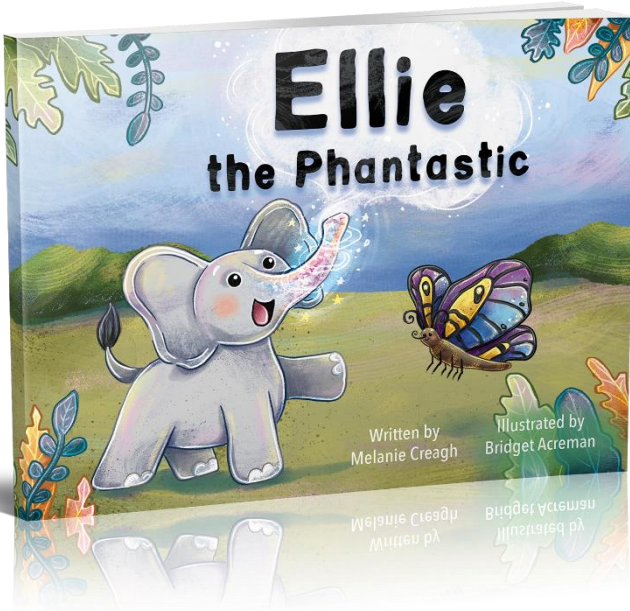
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## A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

### WHY DID YOU WRITE *ELLIE THE PHANTASTIC*?

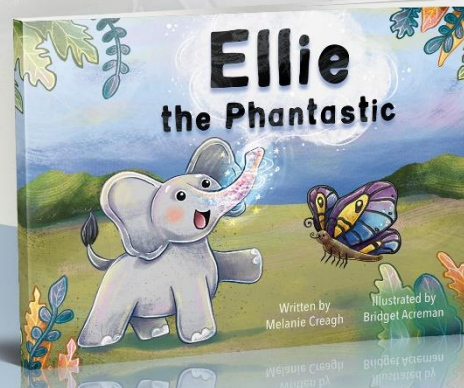
I have always loved elephants and reading about magical beings, so I decided to combine the two. When I was twelve years old my family moved from Sydney to Brisbane. I had just completed my first year of high school when we made the move and had to leave behind a netball team, as well as old and new friends. The transition was very difficult. I had this experience in mind while creating this story.

### WHAT WAS AN EARLY EXPERIENCE WHERE YOU LEARNED THAT LANGUAGE HAD POWER?

I grew up in a bilingual household. I learned the importance of translation and how each language has its own version of a word or saying. I remember my nana told my mother a joke, then translated it to English and it wasn't funny at all. You had to be there!

*"A beautiful story of how true friendship can bring happiness wherever it goes."*

- Bree, Indie Book reviewer.



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