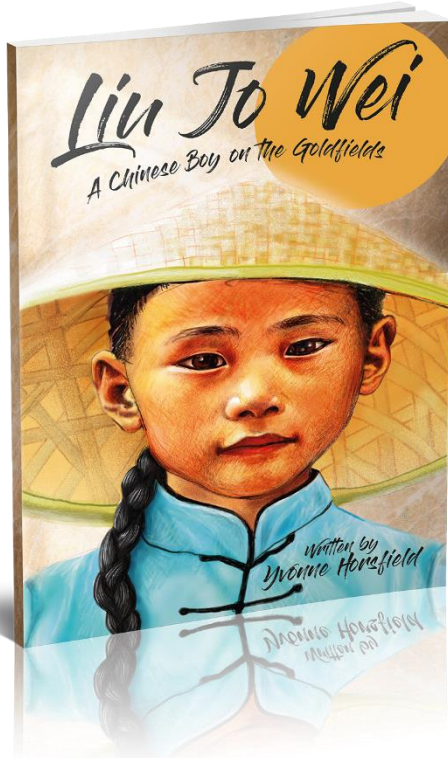


Liu Jo Wei

Written by Yvonne Horsfield – Illustrated by Garth Horsfield



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| ISBN | 9781922851413 |
| Publication Date | 20 NOV 2023 |
| Ages | 8-12 yrs old |
| Format | Paperback |
| Audience | Children |
| Author Location | Ballarat, VIC |

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Liu Jo Wei is a true tale based upon the experiences of a young Chinese boy who arrived with his father and step mother at the goldfields of Little Bendigo, Ballarat in late 1891. He looked very different, spoke no English, wore strange clothes and had a weird hairstyle. Coming to live in a very strange, foreign land far from his home village in China meant life for Liu Jo became very difficult...

This is his story!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Yvonne is a retired school teacher with specialised experience working at Sovereign Hill and the Art Gallery of Ballarat as an Education Officer over the past 22 years. She has recently completed a Ph.D. to research her Chinese connections with the Tong Way family, covering four generations of their life in Ballarat. The story is about her uncle Joe who came here from China as a child and it tells of his many difficulties settling into his new life and provides young readers with understanding and insights into the struggle for acceptance when faced with being so different.

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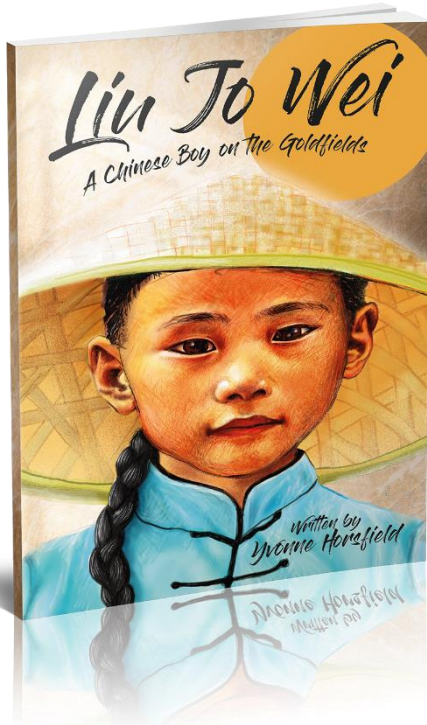
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A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

WHAT HAS YOUR WRITING JOURNEY BEEN LIKE?

I always knew I wanted to write as I used to make up stories to tell my younger siblings. I always sourced my ideas from real life around me, in particular from my own family history and experiences told orally, plus our family memorabilia.

I've completed my Ph.D. researching my family history and its relations to the Tong Way family's arrival and living in Ballarat, Australia. Doing so allowed me to publish my first book *Chinese Roots* which is a biographical account of the Tong Way family, supported by the work I did in my Ph.D.

Liu Jo Wei is of a similar story but reflected inside a children's book instead. I wanted to convey my family experiences of racism and exclusion, with the history that existed of being a Chinese boy striving for acceptance in a White Australia Policy society.



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