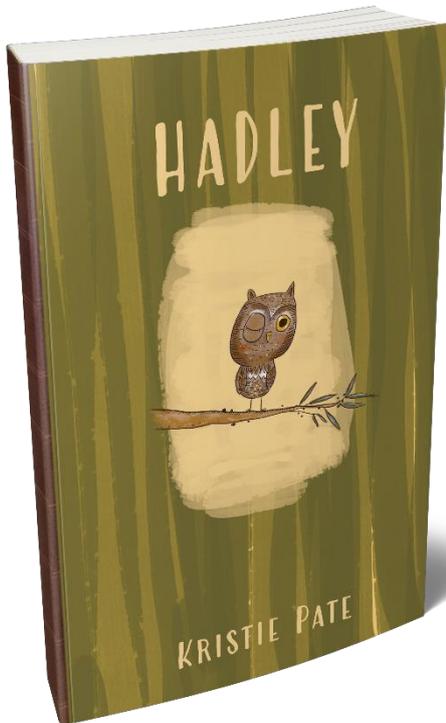


Hadley

Written by Kristie Pate

Illustrated by Christine Miesen



ISBN	9781923101678
Publication Date	25 MAR 2024
Ages	8-12 yrs old
Format	Paperback
Audience	Children
Author Location	Melbourne, VIC

Price available on our website



Hadley is no ordinary owl.

He knows things owls shouldn't be able to know.

From his hollow in a majestic river red gum tree on a Murray riverbank, Hadley is guided through his lonely life by his peculiar winking, fierce intuition and intelligent heart. His uniqueness taints him as suspicious to neighbouring wildlife, but the news that his tree will soon be destroyed alarms all who share his home.

Embarking on a brave and dangerous quest to save his tree, Hadley's courage and persistence begin to unearth the magic of possibility.

But will Hadley's efforts alone be enough? Can his neighbours – Lady, an excitable parrot; her mate Eugene; and old Nedd, a scruffy and unrefined koala – find their own courage and lend Hadley the help he needs before it's too late?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Kristie is a mum to three young children, whom she lives with in Melbourne, alongside her husband and two Australian kelpies. Kristie has a background in professional writing and editing, children's services, and child protection, and currently works as an educator at her children's former kindergarten. Kristie loves spending time with her family, the beach, eating excessive amounts of chocolate, and tuning in to true crime podcasts while bushwalking with her dogs, who are definitely not there for her protection.

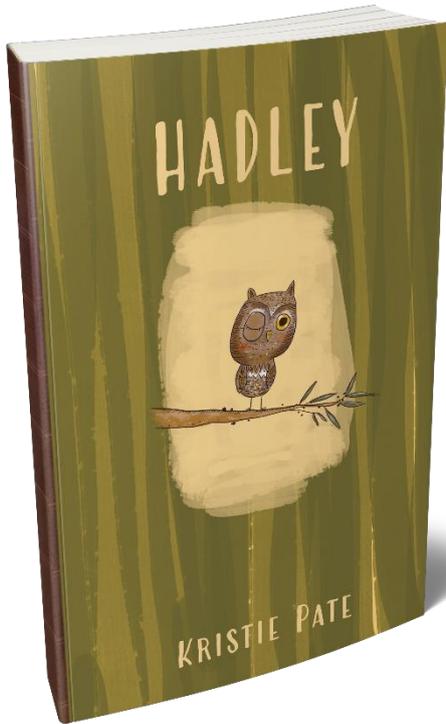
Feeding off a little inspiration from her daughter, Kristie combined her love of writing and experience in working with, understanding, and raising children, to bring to fruition her debut children's novel: Hadley.

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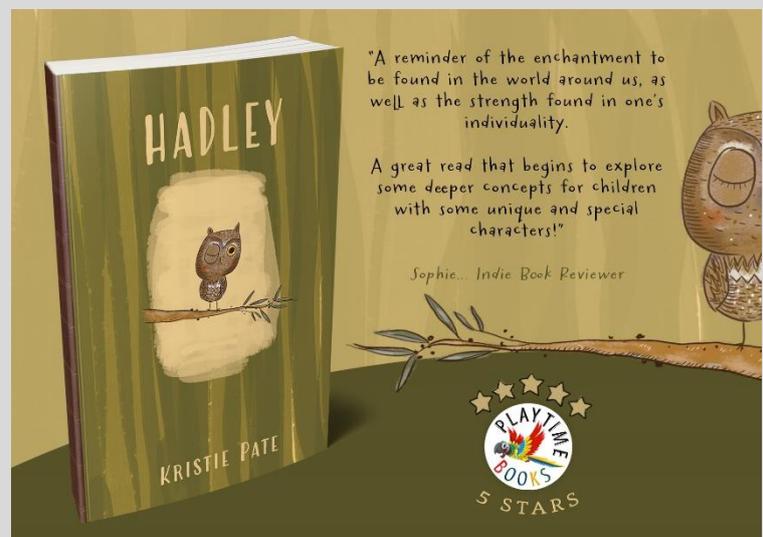
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A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

Writing the ending of *Hadley* was definitely the most challenging. From the moment I began writing *Hadley*, I knew how I wanted it to end and what messages and emotions I wanted the readers to be left with. However, I got myself in a pickle over the last two chapters. I spent weeks working on an idea that I introduced very late in the book and I became fixated on this one particular scene. It was some of my best writing actually, and I really wanted it in there. But the more I fussed over it, the more I began to realise that it simply didn't belong in the book.

I think that being a master procrastinator played a huge part in me becoming obsessed with these few pages that were ultimately eliminated. I was having so much fun writing *Hadley* and I knew the end was drawing nearer. I didn't want it to end. I didn't want to stop taking myself there and conversing with the characters and deciding what happens next. I think this fixation I had on an idea for the ending of *Hadley* that I knew wasn't working, was a subconscious strategy to make it all last longer. Hence, I now envision *Hadley* being part one of a trilogy.



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