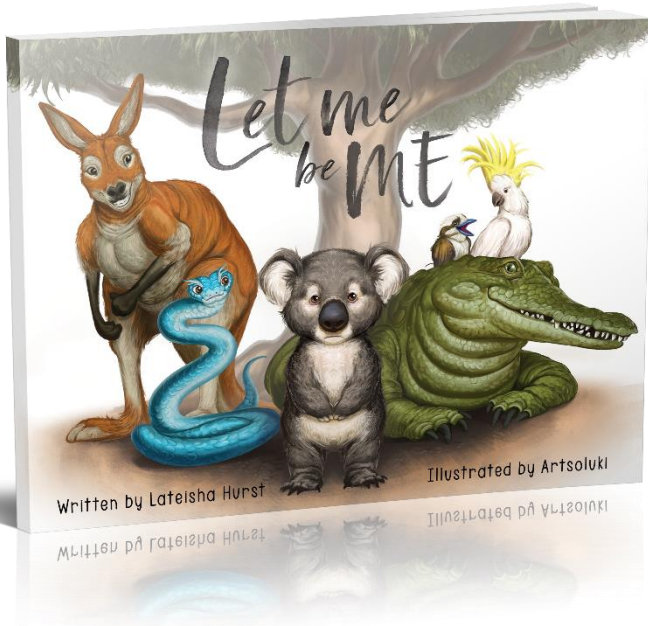


# Let Me Be Me

Written by Lateisha Hurst

Illustrated by Artsoluki



Sometimes it is hard fitting in, but it is even harder when you are a koala in a new bushland filled with a diverse community of quirky and boisterous animals, where things can often get wild.

However, if the other animals take the time to stop and listen, they might just learn something new about their furry neighbour.

*"An insightful and warm tale of understanding that being one's self is more important than being what everyone else expects us to be. Wonderfully tender and thoughtful..."* Joanne, Indie Book reviewer

ISBN	9781923101555
Publication Date	25 MAR 2024
Ages	3-8 yrs old
Format	Paperback
Audience	Children
Author Location	Sunshine Coast, QLD

*Price available on our website*



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Lateisha grew up in a small regional town with a large family. Having always loved creating art and imaginative pieces it led her to try many creative avenues, with a dream to one day become a teacher and to write a children's picture book.

The support from many of Lateisha's teachers allowed her to pursue a passion with confidence and inspiration, which she is truly grateful for.

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## A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

**WHY DID YOU WRITE *LET ME BE ME*? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?**

I lived with a sibling where she wasn't really understood and struggled socially sometimes. I wanted to highlight this challenge that many other people also experience. It provides a positive and helpful message for younger readers experiencing this, while telling the story through iconic Australian animals. When I started my degree I realised the importance of books, especially to young readers, and knew I wanted to write my own so I could positively make an impact.

**HOW DID YOU COME UP WITH YOUR CHARACTERS?**

While creating my characters I knew they needed to be relatable. In choosing animals to tell the story through, the longer I thought about it the more I realised that the animals around us have their own personalities and traits that are unique. This is the message I wanted to channel most of all in this book so it made sense.

"An insightful and warm tale of understanding that being one's self is more important than being what everyone else expects us to be... wonderfully tender and thoughtful..."  
- Joanne, Indie Book reviewer.



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