

ONE THOUSAND Snapshots

by
Steve Heron



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A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS... SO THEY SAY.

After losing her father in a car accident four years earlier, eleven-year-old Maddy is trying to navigate her way through life without her biggest hero; her dad.

Her guilt over what she believes was her part in his death leads Maddy on a quest to take one thousand snapshots of moments in time and with people she loves, wishing she were able to share them with him.

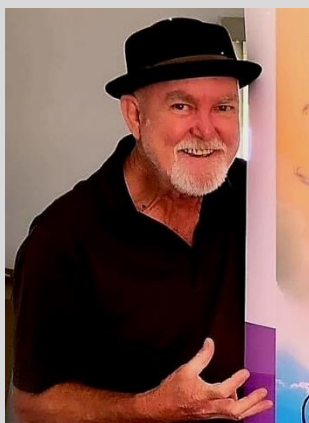
This leads her to an encounter with djidi djidi, a willie wagtail who reminds Maddy that there is hope, even when life seems difficult.

A story of a search for belonging and a fear of abandonment in a world of ever-changing emotions.

Maddy will make you laugh, cry and cheer for her as she takes you through her journey.

It's picture perfect!

AUTHOR BIO



Steve's passion is to write books for children with a unique blend of heart, hope, humour, and help to create stories that touch and tickle hearts.

Maximus, his first middle-grade novel was published in 2018.

His first trade-published picture book was published in 2020.

Steve has a Diploma of Children's Writing and Publishing, Australian College.

He is the founder of Nurture Works Foundation and developed the acclaimed 'BUZ – Build Up Zone' programs for children.

Steve received an Order of Australia Medal in 2016 for contribution to the social and emotional wellbeing of children.

AWARD WINNING



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A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

WHY DID YOU WRITE 'ONE THOUSAND SNAPSHOTS'? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

My inspiration came from the myriad of children I have worked with over forty years. In that time, I experienced wisdom coming from the minds and mouths of children of all ages. I also heard and witnessed a lot of pain and rejection. I want to empower children with hope. An eleven-year-old girl said to me once, "Life is you taking pictures – some are bad, some are good. Make sure you take shots of the ones that have a good effect on you." That got me thinking and writing 'One Thousand Snapshots'.

WHEN DID YOU FIRST REALISE YOU WANTED TO BE A WRITER?

Over twenty-five years ago, a ten-year-old boy asked me to write a book about a boy who gets bullied. I thought, "I don't write books. Hey wait, why not? I can write books." Around the same time, I came across two books that inspired me to want to write books, 'The Sea Thing Child' by Russell Hoban and 'Freak the Mighty' by Rodman Philbrick. It wasn't long after that I penned my first picture book 'The Magpie Who Wasn't a Chicken', which was about bullying.

DID YOU HAVE ANY INTERESTING EXPERIENCES WHILE WRITING OR PUBLISHING 'ONE THOUSAND SNAPSHOTS'?

Tayla Harris, WAFL player, is a role model for Maddy, the main character in the story. After writing the book, Tayla Harris became famous for her stance on gender equality after a photograph of her kicking a football and her leg high in the air caused some abusive online comments. For me this cemented the original idea I had of a young girl standing up for being a girl and being proud of it.

FOR WHOM DID YOU WRITE 'ONE THOUSAND SNAPSHOTS' AND WHY?

The story is about eleven to twelve-year-olds and the ins and outs of their everyday life and issues. It is my hope that pre-teens will engage with the story, relate to the characters and their challenges, and be empowered by the hope that the story presents.

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