

PiNK PUNk MUM

Written by KALA HEINEMANN – Illustrated by BABIE ALEXANDRA PULGA



ISBN	9781922751768
Publication Date	MAY 23 2022
Format	Paperback
Audience	Children
For Ages	3 - 7
Location	Emu Park, QLD

Price available on our site.

MUM HAS A SPECIAL SPARKLE.

*She is kind.
She is fun.
She is brave.*

But one day I came home from school and found Mum crying and our world turned upside down...

This is a story about a young child whose mum is diagnosed with cancer.

Together they navigate the side-effects of her treatment as the family shower her with the best medicine they can possible give... love and lots of laughter.

"A gem... A blessing and an aspiration to a mother & child connection during tough times. A real story for everyone to cherish in their hearts... Well done..." Donna, Indie Book reviewer

AUTHOR BIO

As a young girl, Kala dreamed writing books for children. Her dream got side-tracked by a hunger for adventure that sent her spinning around the world, working in international relations and experiencing life in different places. Kala's diagnosis with breast cancer in 2018 prompted her to remember her childhood dreams, and she started writing again.

Pink Punk Mum, based on her own journey with cancer, is her first book.



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A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

WHY DID YOU WRITE 'PINK PUNK MUM'? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

I was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2018. With no history of cancer in my family and being quite young (38), it came as a devastating shock. I was still breastfeeding my youngest son, Oscar, when I was diagnosed. In an instant everything changed. I felt everything had been taken away from me.

Managing a cancer diagnosis is extremely difficult for parents with young kids, and unfortunately, I have met far too many of them throughout my journey. Trying to explain the situation to kids, without terrifying them or upsetting them is immensely difficult.

I wrote 'Pink Punk Mum' in the hope that it might provide parents, caregivers, teachers or anyone really, with a way of starting a discussion with young kids about what cancer is, and how it might affect their mum, or dad, or someone they love. I want to show that there are also joyful moments to be experienced along the way. And that there is always hope.

I also wrote 'Pink Punk Mum' for me and my kids.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR YOUR FUTURE BOOKS?

While the tone is fun and entertaining, 'Pink Punk Mum' deals with serious issues. I would love to also have some of my more playful books published. I have written a book about a fairy penguin who hates his name. Another book is about two revolting royal rivals, it has lots of laughs and a surprise twist. After living in Jerusalem, I wrote a book about two kids who try all sorts of zany ideas to destroy a wall that separates them. And another about the adventures of a girl and her disco grandma.

WHEN DID YOU WRITE YOUR FIRST BOOK AND HOW OLD WERE YOU?

I wrote and illustrated my first picture book as a 19-year-old for entry into a local library competition. I used the book voucher I won to buy my own copy of 'Where the Wild Things Are'. As a kid, I had always borrowed this beloved book from the local library, but I had never owned my own copy.



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