

BOOKHUB
PICTURE BOOK
AWARD
2026 WINNER

NEW ZEALAND
**BOOK
AWARDS**
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS



"A Guide to Rocks explores the ways in which people deal with emotions and anxieties in an approachable and non-condescending way. The quintessentially New Zealand text coupled with painterly illustrations helps to frame and drive the story. This is a book that teaches, empowers and entertains."

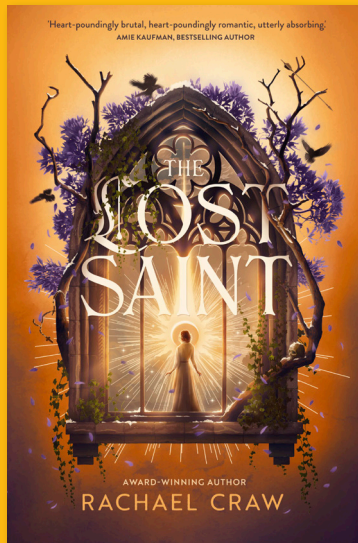
WRIGHT FAMILY
FOUNDATION
ESTHER GLEN
AWARD FOR
JUNIOR FICTION
2026 WINNER

NEW ZEALAND
**BOOK
AWARDS**
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS



"In Dreamslinger, meticulous world-building and characterisation are expertly combined with a humming plot to create an engaging fantasy that readers will want to immerse themselves in. Issues of marginalisation and grief are deftly addressed, alongside important themes of self-acceptance, belief, trust, kindness, friendship and family."

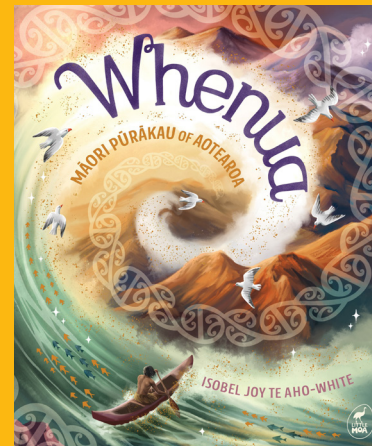
WHEELERS
BOOKS AWARD
FOR YOUNG
ADULT FICTION
2026 WINNER



"The Lost Saint is an odyssey that blends historical grit and adventure with a simmering romance. The world that Rachel Crow has built is full of sensory detail and unpredictable peril, and readers will be transported to a brutal 14th-century Germany, a place where no character is safe."

NEW ZEALAND
**BOOK
AWARDS**
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS

ELSIE LOCKE
AWARD FOR
NON-FICTION
2026 WINNER

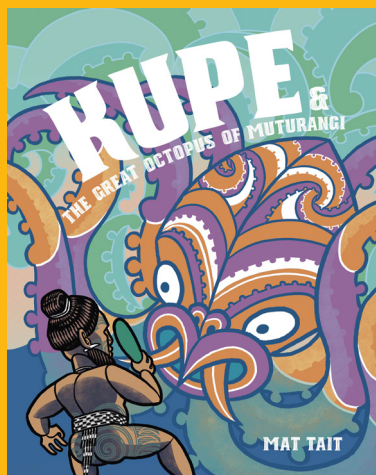


"Whenua: Māori Pūrākau of Aotearoa is an all-rounder of a book that will appeal to all ages. Each pūrākau incorporates well researched little details that, together with the masterful illustrations, make the characters feel familiar. It is an instant classic, a beautiful tool that ties us to our land."

NEW ZEALAND
**BOOK
AWARDS**
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS

RUSSELL CLARK
AWARD FOR
ILLUSTRATION
2026 WINNER

NEW ZEALAND
**BOOK
AWARDS**
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS



"The bold illustrative style of *Kupe and the Great Octopus of Muturangi* adds drama to this vivid retelling of a favourite pūrākau. It is a skilfully designed and engaging book that maximises use of vibrant colour and illustration to make the story pop off each and every page."

WRIGHT FAMILY
FOUNDATION
TE KURA
POUNAMU AWARD
FOR A BOOK ORIGINALLY
WRITTEN IN TE REO MĀORI
2026 WINNER

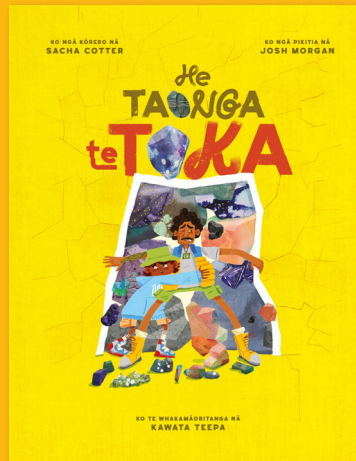
NEW ZEALAND
**BOOK
AWARDS**
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS



"*Kupe me te Wheke nui a Muturangi* is a compelling retelling of one of Aotearoa's foundational narratives, rich in action, adventure, cultural significance and te reo Māori. Written in lyrical and engaging reo, this beautifully crafted book is an outstanding contribution to Māori children's literature."

WRIGHT FAMILY
FOUNDATION
TE KURA
POUNAMU AWARD
FOR A BOOK TRANSLATED
INTO TE REO MĀORI
2026 WINNER

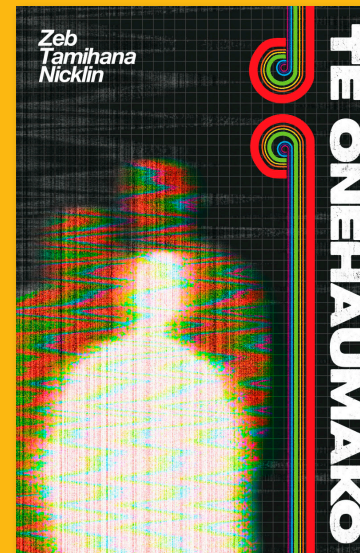
NEW ZEALAND
**BOOK
AWARDS**
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS



"*He Taonga te Toka* is an outstanding example of picture book storytelling, with a translation that is fluent, natural and accessible. Tackling the important theme of emotional literacy with humour, sensitivity and imagination, its striking illustrations work in perfect harmony with the text, adding layers of meaning and richness."

NZSA BEST
FIRST BOOK
AWARD
2026 WINNER

NEW ZEALAND
**BOOK
AWARDS**
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS



"*Te Onehaumako*, written entirely in te reo Māori, is a thought-provoking novella. The engaging story pulls in readers from the start, and sustains their interest with thoughtful pacing, relatable characters and clear themes. It is a book that will spark meaningful conversations about sustainability and our shared environmental responsibilities."

MARGARET MAHY
BOOK OF
THE YEAR
2026 SUPREME
WINNER

NEW ZEALAND
BOOK
AWARDS
FOR CHILDREN &
YOUNG ADULTS



"A Guide to Rocks is storytelling at its finest. It is layered and emotionally intelligent, challenging us to think about stereotypes and to look after our emotional wellbeing, while also entertaining the youngest of readers. This captivating book belongs in every home, school and library in Aotearoa."