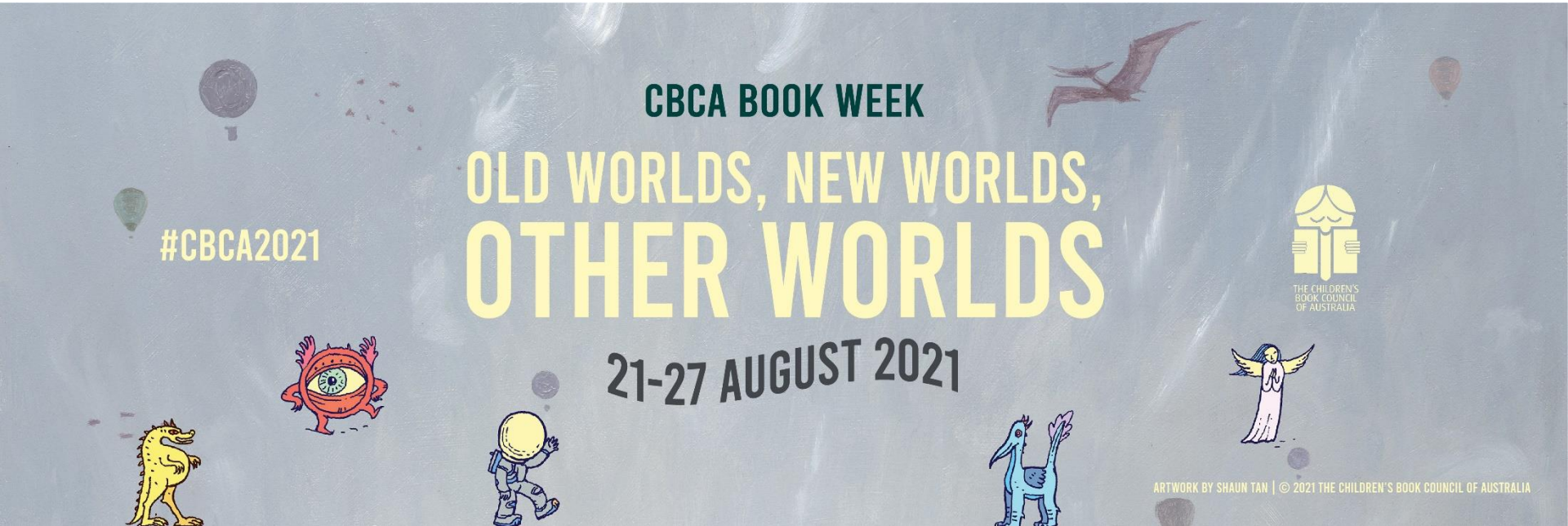
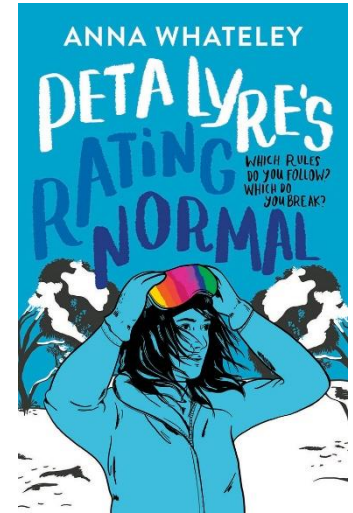
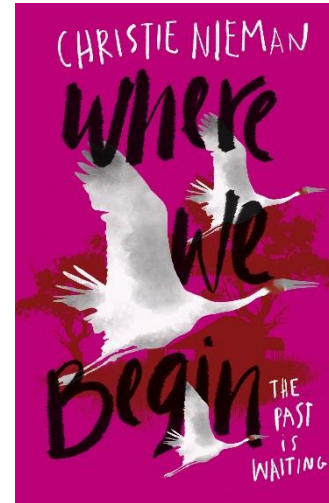
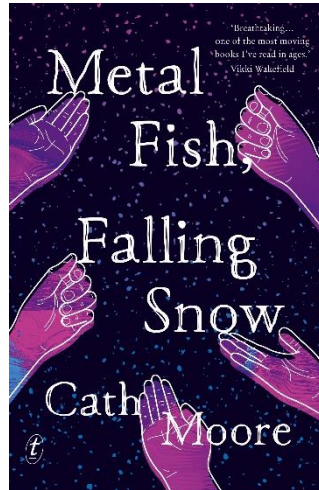
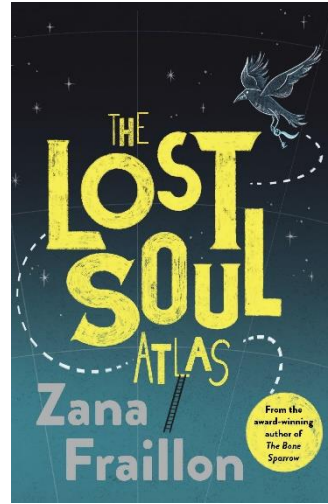
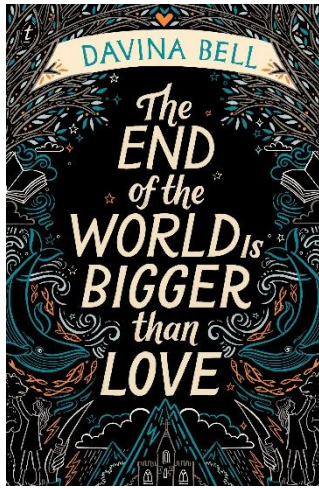


# Book Week 2021: Older Readers

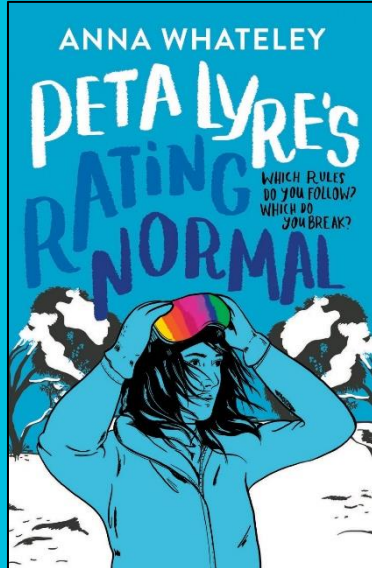


# Shortlist



# Peta Lyre's Rating Normal

By Anna  
Whateley



## Inhale. Exhale. Survive Normal Rating: 7 / 10

### Characters:

- Peta Lyre
- Jeb
- Sam

### Themes:

- Disability & Neurodiversity
- Teens
- Romance
- Mental Health
- Gender Representation
- LGBTQI
- Own Voices Novel

Audience: 13 – 18 yrs old



# Peta Lyre's Rating Normal Synopsis

Peta Lyre is far from typical. The world she lives in isn't designed for the way her mind works, but when she follows her therapist's rules for 'normal' behaviour, she can *almost* fit in without attracting attention.

When a new girl, Sam, starts at school, Peta's carefully structured routines start to crack. But on the school ski trip, with romance blooming and a newfound confidence, she starts to wonder if maybe she can have a normal life after all.

When things fall apart, Peta must decide whether all the old rules still matter. Does she want a life less ordinary, or should she keep her rating normal?

*Different is not always bad – sometimes the best things are new and unfamiliar. (pg. 78)*

I can't set a time to do it later because I *never* want to think about it. I need focus. I reach into the depths of my alphabet and pull out the obsessive Peta. The Peta who taught herself to read using junk mail, just because she liked how black squiggles on paper could make a real sound. (pg. 166)

Here Peta feels what just happened (this perceived misstep/ miscommunication) with such intensity. Peta seeks to block it out, by using her Hyper-focus as a shield. Peta seeks out peace in skiing.



# Peta Lyre's Rating Normal: Thoughts

This is a very well written look into the workings and struggles of an ADHD / ASD mind.

That feeling of not being like everyone else, of trying to present as "**Normal**" comes thru really well. How Peta works to control the fidgeting & runaway train of thought.

It also gives you a new perspective on the word "**Normal**"

The routines, coping mechanisms, techniques "tips" all allow Peta to feel grounded, balanced and natural. But we also see the anxiety that Peta feels over each interaction and daily decisions she has to make.

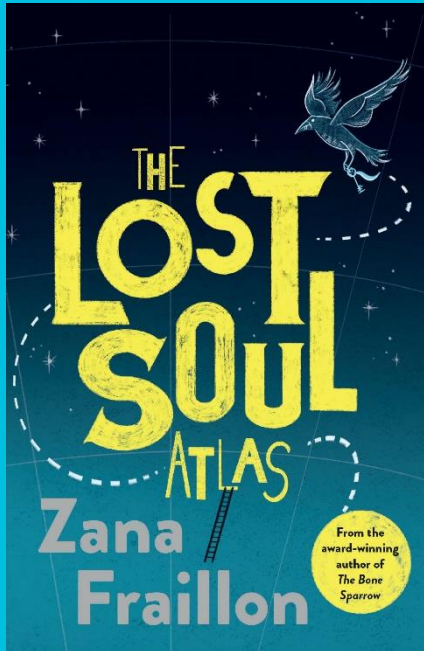
From reading this book I now have a intense dislike of the word "**Normal**".

I'm angry with them all. Fiona, the books, my parents, the doctors. They said I could pass as normal, that I was clever and no one would ever know. They lied. Not about passing. The lie was hidden beneath, in the desire for me to be the same as them. I am extraordinary. They should have helped me soar, be more of me, not less. (pg. 213)

Truly love this moment of realisation for Peta, bouncing back after hitting a very low-low.

# The Lost Soul Atlas

By Zana Fraillon



## Welcome To The Afterlife!



Characters:

- Twig
- Da
- Krruk
- Flea
- Meeples



Themes:

- Memory
- Family (Blood and otherwise)
- Power
- Death, Dying and the Afterlife
- Coming of Age, Rite of Passage
- Responsibility & Consequences
- Maps – Personal / Community History



Audience: 14 – 20 yrs old



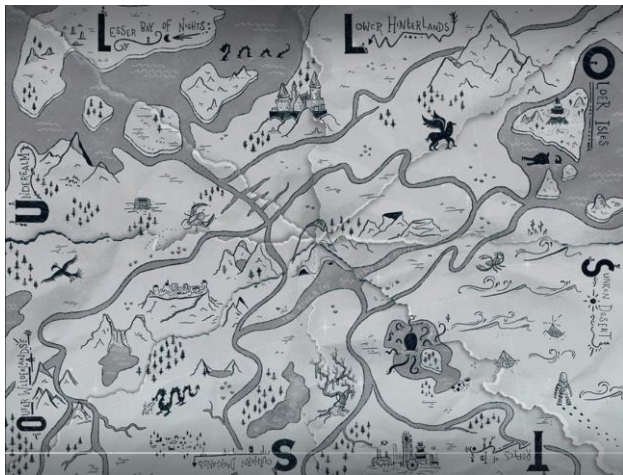
“Where you see the key, a Crossing will be”

**SUTHERLANDSHIRE**



# The Lost Soul Atlas Synopsis

Twig's afterlife is packed with challenges but with Krruk (his skeleton raven guardian) and the Meeps by his side. Armed with "The Lost Soul Atlas" filled with knowledge & advice from "Keeper's" past. Twig might just stand a chance in his quest to reopen all the Crossings between the afterlife and the Mortal world, which will release all the memories stolen from the pasted souls. While Twig works to reopen the Crossings we see snapshots of Twigs time alive. We find that Twig is no stranger to tough & perilous situations living as a street kid in a dangerous city.



"Impossible is just what they say when they don't want you to try" (pg. 62)

Because Stories are the maps for how we can be (pg. 343)

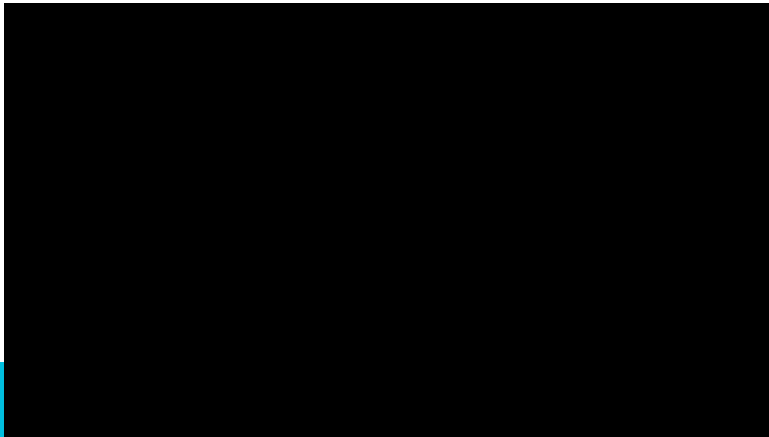
"Lobster claws and devil's hand,  
Hang with corpses, rise from sand,  
Snap at dragons, follow the sun,  
Be mourning glory,  
and Queen when day is done.  
(continued. . )  
Sample of Sentry riddle (pg. 67)



# The Lost Soul Atlas: Thoughts

- *The Lost Soul Atlas* takes the classic story of the journey through the underworld and flips it. What if, instead of a hero's journey through the underworld to save a lost soul, the lost soul is the one on the journey to save the hero? And what if the one who needs saving, in this metaphor, is everyone who has ever lived?
- <https://www.readings.com.au/review/the-lost-soul-atlas-by-zana-frailon>
- Switches back and forth between the Afterlife and the Mortal world.
- Has a very “Alice in wonderland” feel.

Why did the chicken go to the séance?

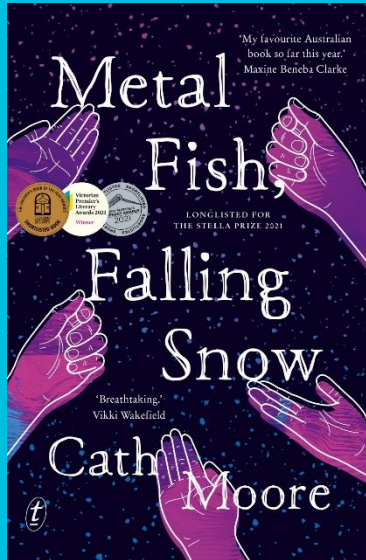


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-xbKiiehuuA>  
Zana Fraillon shows you how to fold a magic map!



# Metal Fish, Falling Snow

By Cath  
Moore



## Welcome to Beyen! Keep driving

Characters:

- Dylan
- Pat
- William
- Joni



Themes:

- Grief
  - Family
  - Identity
  - Death
- 
- Own Voices Novel



A jellyfish and a cucumber are both ninety-five percent water.

# Metal Fish, Falling Snow Synopsis

Dylan and her adored French mother dream of one day sailing across the ocean to France. Paris, Dylan imagines, is a place where her black skin won't make her stand out, a place where she might feel she belongs.

But when she loses her mother in a freak accident, Dylan finds herself on a very different journey: a road trip across outback Australia in the care of her mother's grieving boyfriend, Pat. As they travel through remote towns further and further from the water that Dylan longs for, she and Pat form an unlikely bond. One that will be broken when he leaves her with the family she has never known.

- Audience: 12 – 17 yrs old

# Metal Fish, Falling Snow Thoughts

The tiny Metal fish is the story of her Father.

The snow globe is the story of her Mother.

Intense dislike of the fact her skin is brown and Family members on her Father's side

Dylan is fascinated by Water, tries to be colourless like water (invisible).

Dylan must work through her distrust of black people and her Father's family.

"If you didn't already know, skin has a lifetime colour guarantee. Once I got a whole box of scouring pads from under the kitchen sink and tried to scrape the brown off my arms." (pg. 14)

"Spiders are always scary and parking in the third car space is always wrong." (pg. 69)

"It takes forty-one kilograms of water to make one slice of bread" (pg. 206)

"Blood plasma is fifty per cent water." (pg. 206)




# Ideas. Display, Activity, Class

- Display – Literary Quotes that speak to staff & students “Frankenstein”
- Photo collage of - Object – Place – Person that make you feel safe.
- Pinboard sign “How would you Rate today (out of 10)?” with 3 QR codes underneath that would take them to the appropriate list (e.g. mental health, wellness, Yoga Etc)
- Create a map of your memories
- Create a Roadtrip map, Journal a roadtrip / journey
- Fold a magic Map
- Draw or describe what your guardian would be
- Have buttons in a jar with water facts tied to each – Display
- Have a paris/ Eiffel tower scene in display with snowflakes all around
- Paste the cover images of a book on both sides of cardboard with a QR code that links directly to the item online record.
- Display – create a Family tree, noting cultural ancestry.
- Twig’s Map is only 1 of 8 pieces. Have students do a drawing version of the continued story

# Ideas: Examples not seen in Zoom

How would you "Rate" Today?  
/ 10

0 – 4      5 – 7      8 – 10

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

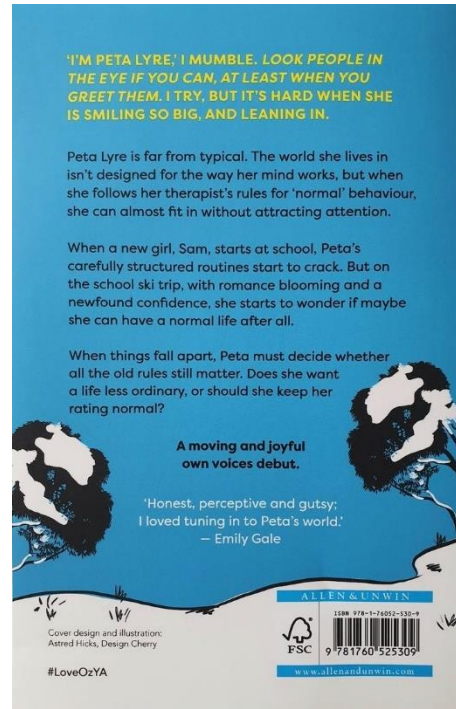
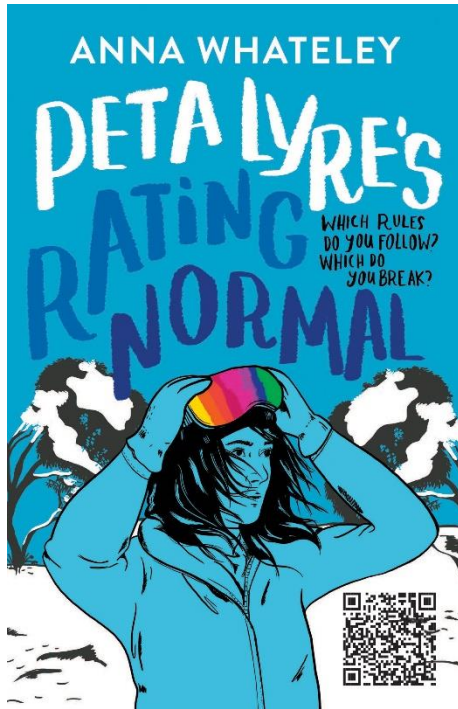
- Sudden movements without a cause obvious to other people can make them confused.
- Long pauses in conversation might make it seem you are uninterested
- Allocate time slots to think over worrisome events, then don't allow yourself to think about them until then



- Roadtrip / Journal Notebook.
- Decorated the cover with Atlas/Map pages.
- Could be used to do a Writing Workshop



# Ideas: Examples not seen in Zoom



'I'M PETA LYRE; I MUMBLE. LOOK PEOPLE IN THE EYE IF YOU CAN, AT LEAST WHEN YOU GREET THEM. I TRY, BUT IT'S HARD WHEN SHE IS SMILING SO BIG, AND LEANING IN.

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A moving and joyful  
own voices debut.

'Honest, perceptive and gutsy;  
I loved tuning in to Peta's world.'  
— Emily Gale

Cover design and illustration:  
Astred Hicks, Design Cherry

#LoveOzYA

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- Printed copy of Front & Back covers of book.
- Create a QR Code linked to that titles online record.
- All of this is glued onto a piece of cardboard. Front and Back.

# SUTHERLANDSHIRE



Prepared by: Samantha Caruana-Butler

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