

## MAD MAGPIE

The third book in this successful series of morality tales from award-winning author and illustrator, Gregg Dreise

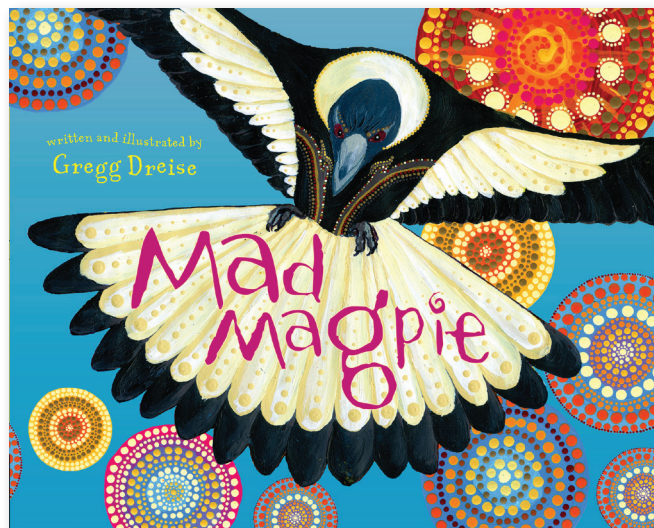
**'Look at the river. It rages through the mountains and over the waterfalls, but then it calms down. So can you,' said Old Dinewah, the emu**

*Mad Magpie* is the story of Guluu, an angry magpie who is being teased by a gang of butcher birds. The more he is teased, the angrier he becomes. His Elders tell him to stay calm like the river and to be strong on the inside. Guluu tries this, but the cheeky birds just laugh at him.

One day, when Guluu is at the river looking for worms, the butcher birds steal his food. He remembers the words of his Elders and he tries again. This time Guluu has a different outcome.

Guluu remembers how he used to sing when he was having a bad day. He sings so loud he cannot hear the birds laughing at him and so they eventually give up and fly away. From that day on, the animals use music to create a happy mood and work together to stop bullying.

In *Mad Magpie*, Gregg Dreise's distinctive illustrations combine symbolic motifs with a natural realism to capture the spirit of the Australian landscape.



### About the author and illustrator

**Gregg Dreise** was raised in St George in Queensland and grew up in a family that was passionate about the arts and sport. A descendant of the Kamilaroi and Yuwalayay people of south-west Queensland and north-west NSW, Gregg is a gifted storyteller and musician who features the didgeridoo and guitar in his performances at schools and festivals. Most recently, he was a guest author at the 2016 Perth Writers Festival (Perth International Arts Festival).

In 2015, Gregg's book, *Silly Birds* (Magabala Books 2014), the second in the series, was awarded Speech Pathology Australia's Indigenous Children's Book of the Year.

Gregg is a teacher in the Noosa hinterland in Queensland.

Available May 2016 in all good bookshops and online from Magabala Books RRP \$24.95.

Launched in 1987, Magabala Books is a not-for-profit publishing house that aims to promote, preserve and publish Indigenous Australian culture.

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