



GOLD COAST AUTHOR PUBLISHES DEBUT PICTURE BOOK ABOUT SURFING

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Due for release in April 2022, *Facing the Wave* is an exciting children's picture book about surfing, bravery and facing fears, from Gold Coast author, Rebecca Marshallsay.

Facing the Wave is the Rebecca's debut picture book and will be published by Larrikin House, publisher of titles such as *My Shadow is Pink*, *How to Hug a Cactus*, and *Roary the Lion*.

Rebecca draws on her love of the water, surfing and more than 10 years' experience as a volunteer surf lifesaver to craft a vibrant and fun story about surfing, with plenty of heart.

'What I love about *Facing the Wave* is that we have Jude, a kid who desperately wants to get into the water but his fears are holding him back.'

'When Jude finally speaks up, his dad supports him in a way that is pragmatic and encouraging. It is not about ignoring your fears but about finding a way to be brave and to manage them.'

Facing the Wave is brought to life with vibrant illustrations from South Australian illustrator, Vaughan Duck – illustrator of *Big Beach BBQ*.

Rebecca says that she hopes the book will resonate with families who love the water, or with kids who need a little help being brave.

'I love the ocean and get so much pleasure out of spending time in the water; swimming, surfing, diving and more. I am also very aware of how daunting it can be - for kids and adults alike.'

'When it comes to dealing with children and the water it is important to acknowledge the risks and their fear. From there it is a matter of educating them about the ways they can enjoy the water as safely as possible – and to help them understand that some of the things that they may be most scared of are very unlikely to happen.'

'I am excited to share this book, not only to share my love of surfing and the water, but also to help parents, carers and educators start conversations with children about water safety at the beach.'

Rebecca has a longstanding passion for reading and writing, and has honed her skills with a Master of Arts (Writing and Literature), a Juris Doctor (masters law degree), and by working as a freelance writer.

'I can't wait to share my book with the community and to inspire young readers.'

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Media kit available at <https://becmarshallsay.com/media-releases-and-resources/>
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