



## Bookrapt Author: JEAN BENNETT

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Jean has been with Bookrapt since its inception in 1983 (as the Bay of Plenty Children's Literature Association), when she was a member of the first Committee. She was made a Life Member in 2001. In 2003 she won the *Betty Gilderdale Award* for services to children's literature in New Zealand. Her publications include novels, numerous articles, short stories and poetry for both children and adults. Her work has also been broadcast, televised and published in anthologies, magazines and newspapers.

Jean says, "I love anything to do with words! Telling stories and reading were a huge part of my family life - I loved the magic of stories and wanted to share the pleasure with others. The best thing about writing is when an idea comes bubbling to the surface, demanding to be written. The worst part is the anxiety of sending a story off to an editor and hoping she'll like it."

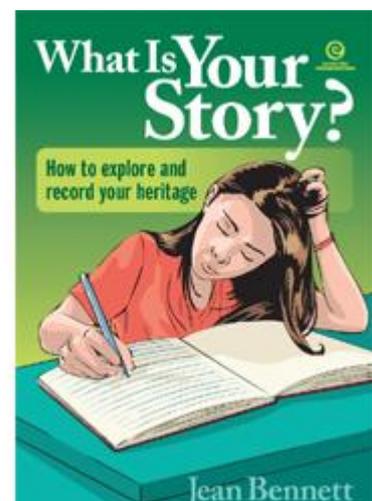
Jean is Bookrapt's most prolific book reviewer.

## What Is your Story? How to explore and record your heritage

Published by Essential Resources.

What is Your Story?

- focuses on family, community, and cultural identity to encourage young people to explore their own family background and heritage
- provides stimulating activities that support students to examine and value their personal lives
- encourages students to record their lives in a variety of ways
- includes helpful hints and practical suggestions for organising family information, records, research material and documents
- outlines a range of presentation formats



Children's author and information literacy educator, Jean Bennett guides students through a range of creative ideas and research projects with the focus on their own lives.

Young people will develop their writing and inquiry skills while investigating their everyday lives, their memories, their family journeys, and their plans for the future. These are rich subjects for personal research as well as for family, group and class discussion. Suitable for Upper Primary to Early Secondary students.

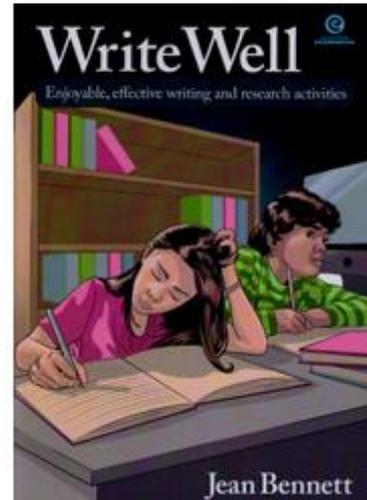
[BUY ONLINE](#)

## Write Well

Published by Essential Resources.

*Write Well* includes teaching tips, creative and factual writing ideas from Jean's three decades of encouraging students through Writers-in-Schools workshops, as a qualified librarian in school and tertiary libraries, an information literacy and adult education tutor, Newspapers-in-Education journalist, and author of 28 published books.

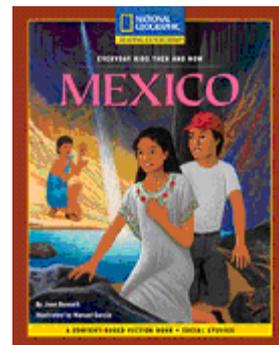
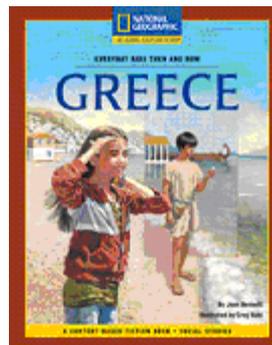
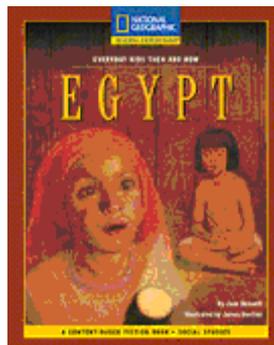
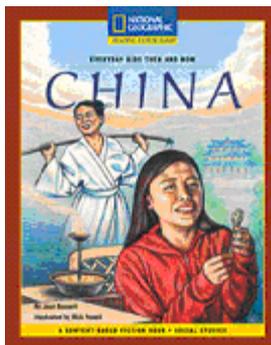
Jean believes even the most reluctant young writer can learn word wizardry. *Write Well* offers tried and tested techniques for successful writing and effective research. With the help of this valuable teacher's resource book, students will explore a variety of ways to develop their writing skills and information literacy

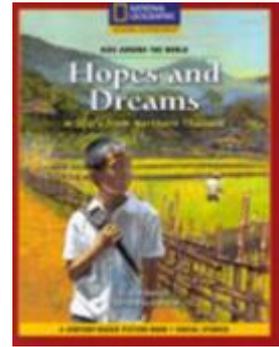
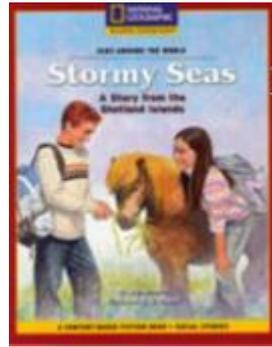
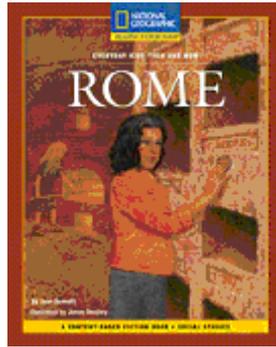
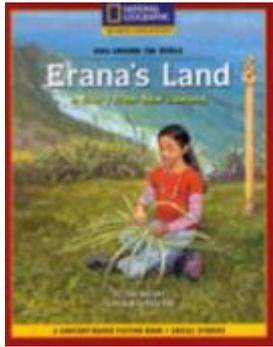


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## National Geographic Everyday Kids Series - Then and Now

Grades 3 – 6 (8 to 10 year olds)





### **CHINA:**

An ancient Chinese girl takes a long and dangerous journey into town. A modern city girl learns to appreciate life in the country.

### **EGYPT:**

An ancient Egyptian boy leaves home to become a scribe. A modern Egyptian girl catches a tomb raider and saves an artifact.

### **GREECE:**

An ancient Greek boy and a modern Greek girl both face major life challenges. They both become heroes at important Greek festivals.

### **MEXICO:**

An ancient Mayan boy becomes a village hero and a modern brother and sister protect their ancestors' treasures from intruders.

### **NEW ZEALAND**

Erana and Keri are proud of their Maori heritage and want to protect the last place where their ancestors settled. The area is threatened with development and the girls' tribe stages a protest. How to find a fair solution for everyone involved proves a difficult challenge.

### **ROME:**

An ancient Roman slave girl wins her freedom and a modern schoolgirl learns to appreciate her rich heritage.

### **SHETLAND ISLANDS**

Vaila introduces her city cousin to her remote Shetland homeland. The islands are rich in history but struggle to provide an economic future for young people. Vaila has an opportunity to develop a music career but she would have to leave her beloved islands.

### **THAILAND:**

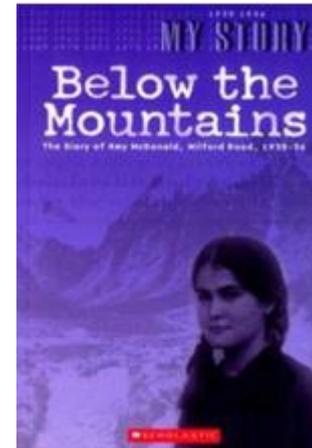
Three young friends are anxious to protect Thailand's rural traditions and to ensure a reasonable income for people in their small village. They're also concerned about the future of Asian elephants that are no longer employed in the logging industry.

## **Below the Mountains, the diary of Amy McDonald, Milford Road, 1935-36.**

2005, published by Scholastic.

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Fourteen-year-old Amy's story takes place during the Great Depression. In March 1935, Amy's life is about to change dramatically. With her mother and seven-year-old brother, Amy joins her father in a road works camp deep in the Hollyford Valley.



No one had ever lived in the avalanche-swept valley before. Now men on relief work are building a road tunnel through the mountains to Milford Sound. With only a canvas tent for shelter, Amy and her family endure the extremes of cold, hunger, hardship -and tragedy.

Jean says, "The seeds for this book were sown in my childhood days when I listened to my father telling stories about his work in the Milford Road camps and the people he met there.

"Some of those Milford Road workers later continued to be family friends, especially the Brotherston family. I first wrote a Radio NZ series about Mary and Lex Brotherston and the seven years they spent living in primitive camps with their three children, amidst constant hardships and the threat of avalanches.

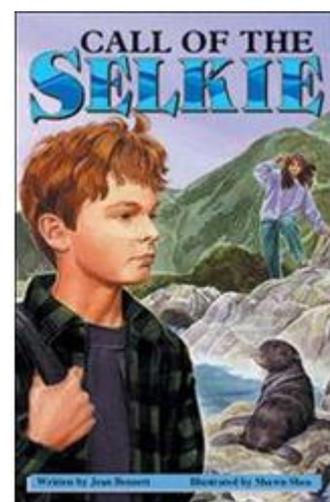
"Later, I interviewed other workers who had helped to build the Milford Road and the Homer Tunnel. I included their stories in Below the Mountains so young readers could learn about the courage, determination, and strong spirit of those hardworking, generous-hearted New Zealanders."

## **Call of the Selkie**

1999.

Included on the 1999 NZ Children's Book Foundation notable junior fiction list.

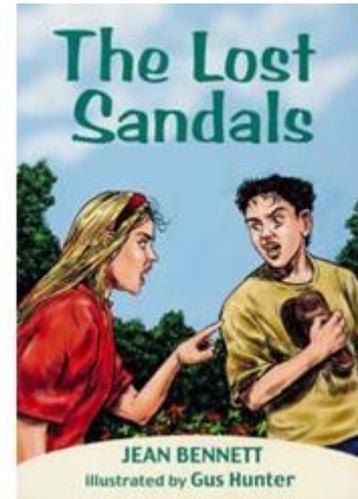
Ryan's parents aren't getting on and, sadly, he isn't sure if they ever will. His one comfort is finding a mother seal and her pup - which Ryan names Selkie - in a hidden bay.



## The Lost Sandals

1999.

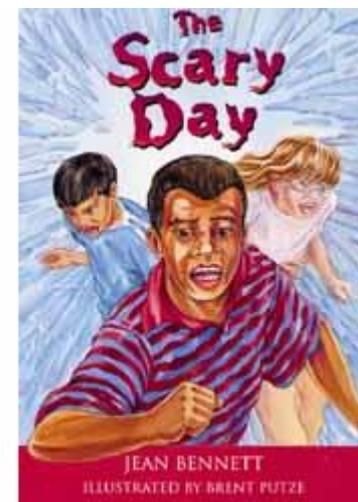
David is sure that he left his new sandals in the locker room when he changed into his track shoes for long-jump practice. But now they're gone, and Rebecca is wearing a pair that looks just like his. David's efforts to get the sandals off Rebecca are complicated and made more interesting by the rivalry between them in the long jump.



## The Scary Day

1999.

Seth is not enjoying school much. He stares out of the window while he is trying to write a story that his teacher has set. He is jolted out of his apathy by an earthquake, and he has to make some fast, effective decisions on what turns out to be the scariest day of his life.



## Explore the Environment

1995.

*Explore the Environment* offers educators and parents a comprehensive, easy-plan programme encompassing all aspects of environmental studies. A wide range of practical yet exciting activities focus on the classroom and school (or home) surrounds with a minimum of fieldwork. Explorations cover a variety of curriculum subjects: social studies, science, language, mathematics, art, music and drama.