Bookends

Lisabel Ting

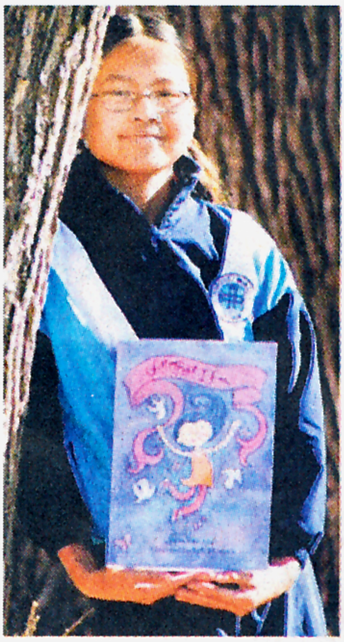


PHOTO: ORANGE PRESS

While most 12-year-olds are busy playing video games or doing homework, Myra Lim-Hurt (left) writes books. Her 16-page first book, All That I Am, was published last month. In it, she describes the world as seen through her eyes.

The picture book also features drawings by Sally Heinrich, a children's book illustrator based in Adelaide, Australia.

Myra wrote the first draft of her book in school in New South Wales during a class exercise. For the exercise, she had to compose a free verse poem on what made her who she is.

Her mother, Mrs Christine Lim, an editor, then showed the text to her publisher friends, who helped bring the book to print.

Born here, Myra is the only child of an Australian father, who is a civil servant, and a Singaporean mother. Her family moved to Australia in 2005.

An active pre-teen, she plays netball and takes part in gymnastic competitions. She is most likely to be found devouring books before bedtime.

She is currently working on her second book, which will be about Bonnie, her German Short-haired Pointer, and the world through her dog's eyes.

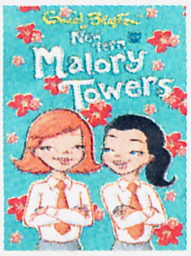
What are you reading now?

The Cherub series by Robert Muchamore. Cherub stands for Charles Henderson Espionage Research Unit B and the books are about children who are spies.

I am also re-reading The Adventures Of Tintin series, which was created by Belgian artist Herge. These books are about a young reporter and his dog who travel the world and become legends almost everywhere they go.

If your house were burning down, what book would you save?

All of my Malory Towers books by Enid Blyton and the sequels by Pamela Cox that continue the series. They don't publish the editions with the cover designs I have anymore.



All That I Am (Orange Press, 2010, $12) is available at Bookaburra. The Cherub series (Hachette, 2004 to 2010, $16.59 to $19.26), The Adventures Of Tintin series (Egmont, 2007, $31.99 each) and the Malory Towers series (Egmont, 2006 to 2009, $14.50 to $16.10) are available at Books Kinokuniya.