

# WRITING WORKSHOPS

*for schools*



*with author Cecily Anne Paterson*

- Interactive workshops for primary and high school.
- Personal feedback helps students make the most of the material and achieve their best.
- Enriches and engages students with creative writing in a hands-on way.
- Enhances what is being taught in the classroom.

“Cecily’s writing workshops are fantastic! Our NCS students were totally engaged and inspired to write their own stories. We are looking forward to having her back again this year to share more of her passion for writing.

**Nowra Christian School**

# THE WORKSHOPS

## YEAR 3-4

### ***What's going to happen?***

In this workshop, children are encouraged to create a story using various prompts. We will start in a big group, then go into working in small groups or individually and come back to share with the class.

## YEAR 5 +

### ***Writer's Secrets: Show, not tell***

A helpful way to think about making writing more vivid and interesting. This workshop uses big group teaching and then individual exercises.

### ***Writer's Secrets: The window in my head***

We use visualisation techniques to see more of what is going on in a scene, and then write it.

### ***Writer's Secrets: Three ways to write a great beginning***

This workshop looks at the three basics to establishing any story. We ask, 'what does the character want?', 'what is getting in their way?' and 'what catalyst is going to change things?'

## YEAR 7+

### ***Choosing and using tense and point of view***

Do you use third person or first person (or, heaven forbid, second person) to tell your story? Which character are we following? Can you write from three different points of view? All of your choices will make a difference, but how do you know what to choose?

### ***Writing better characters***

Good characters are always multi-layered. This workshop uses journaling exercises to create a realistic character who can drive a story.

### ***Super-villains and how to kill them***

There are unspoken rules about villains in stories. They must be big. They must be bad (or complex) and they must be pretty much impossible to beat. This workshop looks at how to create and how to kill your villains.

**Time taken:** all workshops can be fitted in to 35-50 minutes, depending on the needs of the school.

**Resources needed:** Whiteboard, pens, eraser. Paper and pens for the children.

**Number of children:** One class of children at a time is preferable as there is a lot of whole-group participation, however, with good backup from teachers, two classes at a time is possible.

“The feedback from the students was overwhelmingly positive, the only negative being that it wasn't long enough! - Steven McKinnon, Maitland Christian School

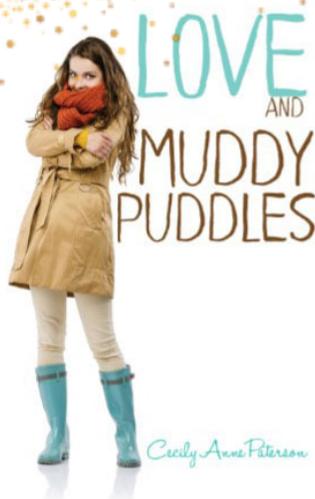
# THE AUTHOR

Cecily Anne Paterson is an emerging young adult/middle grade Australian author. With a national award in 2012 for her non-fiction memoir, she now writes for upper primary children and young teens.

Her first novel, *Invisible*, was a semi-finalist in the Amazon Breakthrough Novel Award in 2014.

Cecily is an engaging and experienced speaker and presenter who communicates well with students and who brings enthusiasm and a love of literature to everything she does.

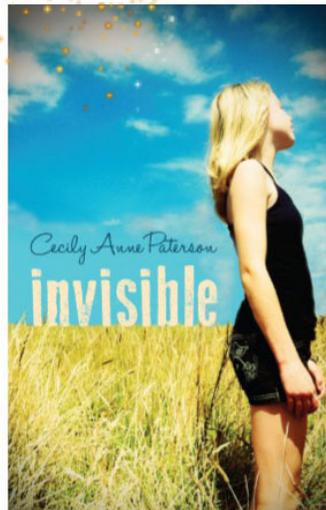
*Cecily Anne Paterson's books are distributed by Ingram and available to order from booksellers as well as from [www.cecilypaterson.com](http://www.cecilypaterson.com)*



## **Love and Muddy Puddles**

ISBN: 978-1-942845-45-4  
198 x 129 mm 302 pages

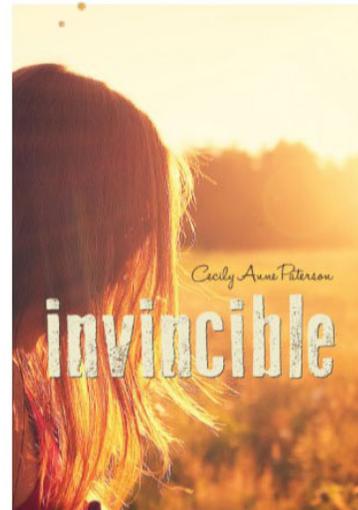
Thirteen year old fashionista Coco Franks has finally made it into the popular group when her dad decides to move the whole family to the country so they can 'bond'. Social death is looming, her shoes are covered in mud and all Coco wants to do is get herself back to her city friends. After all, things can't get any worse, right?



## **Invisible**

ISBN: 9781942748274  
198x129mm 262 pages

Jazmine Crawford doesn't make decisions. She doesn't make choices. She doesn't make friends. Jazmine Crawford only wants one thing: to be invisible. For Jazmine, it's a lot easier to take out her hearing aid and drift along pretending that nothing's wrong than it is to admit that she's heartbroken. Invisible was a semi-finalist in the 2014 Amazon Book of the Year Award.



## **Invincible**

ISBN: 9781942748144  
198 x 129mm 300 pages

Finally, everything is going right for 13 year-old Jazmine Crawford. After years of being invisible, she's making friends, talking to her mum and hanging out with Liam. But what happens when everyone around her changes? Will getting back in touch with her grandma help her cope or just make things worse? And who's going to finally give arrogant Angela what she deserves?



# BOOKINGS

Cecily Anne Paterson is based in the Shoalhaven and is currently visiting schools in all areas of Sydney, the Illawarra, the Shoalhaven, and down to Canberra. (Out of area visits may be arranged. Please enquire.)

Book or enquire through the website  
[www.cecilypaterson.com/bookings](http://www.cecilypaterson.com/bookings)  
02 4465 1585

## FEES

Cecily's rates\* include reasonable travel costs.

### Appearances at book week

\$60 for 1 hour assembly (includes a 10-15 minute speech)

### Workshops

Whole school day (max 3 sessions) \$360

Half school day (max 2 sessions) \$200

Per school session (max 1 session) \$85

*As a gift of appreciation, every school that books a workshop is given two signed books for the School Library.*

### Home School Groups

\$10 per child per session (minimum of 10 children)

Or \$15 per child per session (minimum of 6 children)

\*If your school is small or funding is tight, please contact Cecily. We may be able to come to an arrangement.



“Thanks again for taking the time to share your knowledge and experiences as a writer. We found your session really helpful - some great advice and perspectives on the writing process.” **Head of English, Bowral High School**