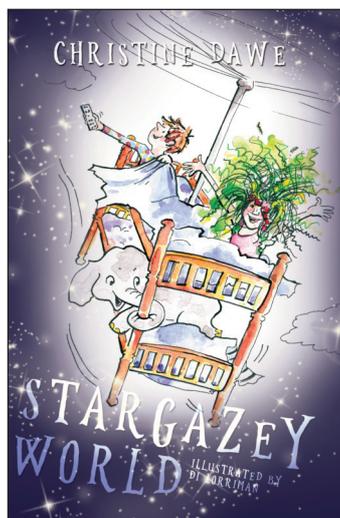




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## STARGAZEY WORLD

Christine Dawe's debut book takes readers aged 9-11 years on a rip-roaring fantasy adventure

"I have already written popular social history books for the general market. For this story, I set out to create a very modern, exciting fantasy adventure with lots of eccentric and colourful personalities," explains Christine of *Stargazey World*, a fantasy book packed with flashes of humour.

*Stargazey World* follows the story of Sheena Robinson, a feisty, complex youngster who often feels guilty about her lack of concentration. At school her work doesn't improve and her chaotic mop of tangled green hair is mocked, but this feisty Scouser has the ready wit and true grit to deal with her bullies. When Sheena visits Cornwall for her cousin's wedding, she must share a bedroom with the tomboyish Carys. By day everything is normal, but by night the animals on the bedroom wallpaper come to life and take the girls on adventures around Stargazey World, a strange world mutated by Sheena's imagination and muddled thinking.

As the adventures play out, the girls face a fight against evil and injustice when they are attacked by bizarre beings including Thunder, a deadly leather-clad rockstar and his sister Lightning, a glitzy murderous screwball. They must take on Earthquake, a destructive monster from the deep and Fire, a vibrant and uncontrollable dancer. Courageously, Sheena, Carys and their heroic animal companions must outwit each threatening hazard.

"I wanted to show young readers that there are ways of dealing with bullying or disasters even if the opposition is larger, stronger and more menacing than yourself," says Christine of *Stargazey World*, which will inspire readers to have courage in the face of adversity. "Sheena is a 21st century successor to Alice, Dorothy, Wendy and Matilda. Despite her own foibles, this scatterbrained daydreamer refuses to be intimidated by bullies or even global disasters."

"For decades, authors have been trying to attract reluctant boy readers and many of them have been successful. Now it's time for the girls as well!" Says Christine whose book will have particular appeal to young girls looking for an inspiring protagonist in an exciting adventure story.

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