

## MEDIA RELEASE

# THE SMUGGLER'S CURSE

by NORMAN JORGENSEN

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Red Read's life takes a surprising – and alarming – turn when his mother sells him to an infamous smuggler plying his trade off the north-west coast of Australia in the closing days of the 19th century. From terrifying encounters with cut-throat pirates to battling the forces of nature in a tropical typhoon, from dining with head-hunting guerrillas to making meals of monkey stew, Red is in for a hair-raising adventure that may cost him his life.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Norman Jorgensen was born in Broome, the eldest of four brothers, and has lived in several country towns since. At a young age he developed a love of books, especially historical novels like *Treasure Island*, and old movies. At age thirteen Norman learned to sail. These days he loves travelling and researching exotic places for his books.



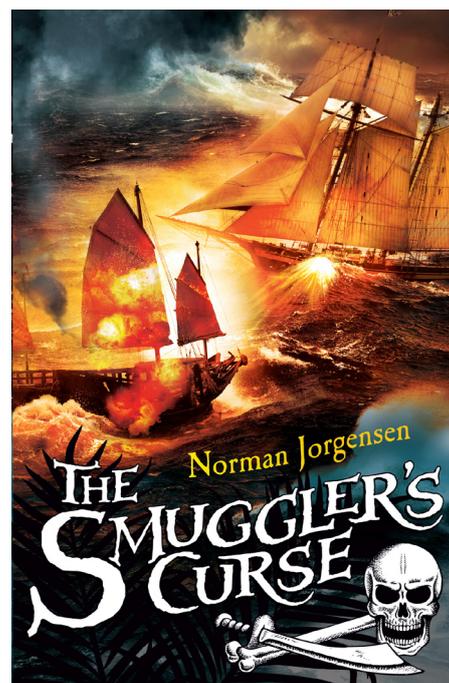
### NOTES

- Jorgensen has been shortlisted for many awards both here and overseas, winning the Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Award in 2003.
- His most recent novel, *Jack's Island*, won the Western Australian Young Readers' Book Award but he is perhaps best known for his picture books *The Last Viking* and *The Last Viking Returns*.
- Teaching notes available from [fremantlepress.com.au](http://fremantlepress.com.au).

### PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

'I took heart in the real and secure place that family occupies in this novel.' *Australian Book Review*

'an insightful perspective of life on the Australian home front as seen through the eyes of its unruly narrator.' *Canberra Times*



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**CONTACT: Claire Miller**  
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS  
MANAGER

M +61 (0)419 837 841  
T +61 (0)8 9430 6331  
F +61 (0)8 9430 5242  
E [cmiller@fremantlepress.com.au](mailto:cmiller@fremantlepress.com.au)  
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