

Goldfields Girl

by **ELAINE FORRESTAL**

ABOUT THE BOOK

It's 1892. Amid a fevered gold rush, fourteen-year-old Clara Saunders is in search of adventure in the new outback town of Coolgardie.

A friendship with cheeky young water carter Jack is a promising start, but the goldfields are a harsh place, where water is scarce, disease is common and where many men will never find the fortune they've come to seek.

With unforeseen tragedies on the horizon, Clara's time in the dusty town will truly test the limits of her fierceness and determination.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Elaine Forrestal is an award-winning author of fiction titles for young readers. Her novel *Someone Like Me* won a Children's Book Council of Australia Book of the Year Award and a West Australian Young Readers' Book Award (Hoffman Award), was commended for the National Award for Special Educational Needs Book and Software Awards in the UK, and has been translated into Slovenian and Italian.



Elaine is a full-time writer who is based in Western Australia and travels all over the world to speak at festivals and to present writing workshops. She has appeared at events in Australia, Singapore, France, Italy and Ireland.

NOTES

- Elaine has had novels, picture books, magazine articles and short stories published in Australia, the US and the UK.
- Of her seventeen published fiction titles, fourteen have been shortlisted for, or won, major awards.
- While there are many stories about the Goldfields, there aren't so many about the determined young women who worked alongside male fortune hunters.
- The book is based on a true story about a real girl named Clara Saunders.

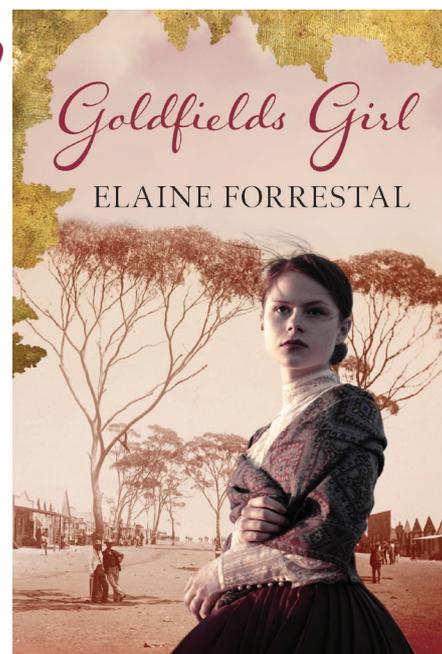
PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

'If self-parody is the music of picture books, then this is musical theatre carried off with entertaining lightness of touch.' *Sydney Morning Herald*

'... this implacable hero has a well deserved slice of the four- to nine-year-old market; especially good for schools and libraries.' *Australian Bookseller+Publisher*

'A fun and colourful picture book which will make story-time before bed even more enjoyable.' *Buzz Words*

'The combination of attractive, colourful illustration and lyrical text are sure to make this a hit with the early childhood set and those who read them.' *Magpies*



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