

AUTHOR PROFILE:

Glenda Millard



Born: Castlemaine, a small town in the Central Goldfields region of Victoria .

Currently lives: Glenda has never lived more than a half-hour drive from where she grew up.

Author of: *When the Angels Came, Layla Queen of Hearts, The Naming of Tishkin Silk, All the Colours of Paradise, Lightning Jack.*

What was your favourite book growing up? I have loved far too many books to be able to choose just one. Here are a few of them: Enid Blyton’s Famous Five and Secret Seven series and *The Magic Faraway Tree, Black Beauty* by Anna Sewell, *Little Women* and *Jo’s Boys* by Louisa May Alcott and *The Wind in the Willows*, by Kenneth Grahame.

What were you like in school? I was a quiet, serious little girl, the second fastest runner in grade 6, and my favourite subjects were English, Art, Cookery and Needlework. I hated Maths!

What is your favourite food/colour/movie? Ice-cream is one of my favourite foods—especially the chocolate-chilli flavour that I make myself. Red is my favourite colour. My favourite movies are *Children of Heaven, The Colour of Paradise* and *Edward Scissorhands*.

Who inspired you to write? The writers of all the books I read when I was growing up in a house with no television. Reading is how you learn to be a writer. It teaches you about beginnings, middles and endings, suspense, synonyms, metaphors, dialogue and all the other essential ingredients that go into making wonderful stories.

Why did you want to be a writer? I have always loved words, both reading and writing them, but it never occurred to me that I could become an author.

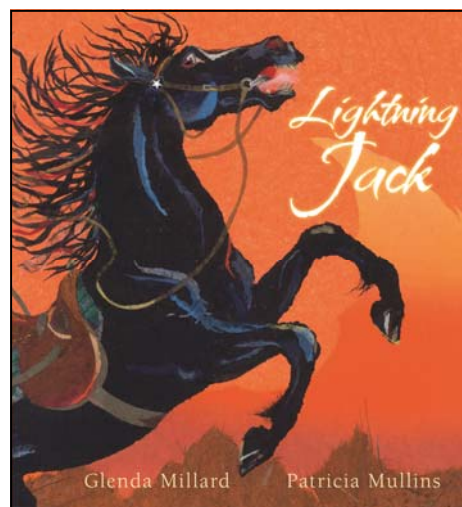
What is the best thing about being a writer? Using my imagination to make something from nothing.

What would you have chosen to be if you were not a writer? I would love to be able to sing beautifully.

Which famous person from the past would you like to talk to? Claude Monet, William Shakespeare or Leonardo Da Vinci, but if it were possible I would probably be too awed to be able to speak to them at all.

Have you had any funny or embarrassing moment as a writer? I am sometimes mistaken for an illustrator called Kerry Millard, but this is usually more embarrassing for the people who tell me how much they love my drawings when I have to explain that I don’t draw.

Do you have a special place where you write? A little room in the heart of my cottage, which was built in 1860. There is a pot-bellied stove to keep me warm in winter and the walls are filled with beautiful illustrations that other people have made for my books.



You can learn more about Glenda and the books she has written at www.glendamillard.com.