

Dedicated to my sisters – two amazing Australian women. PF

Dedicated to the littlest girl who is reading this by torchlight and
dreaming of big things (yes, you!). Keep on dreaming. SB

A Lothian Children's Book

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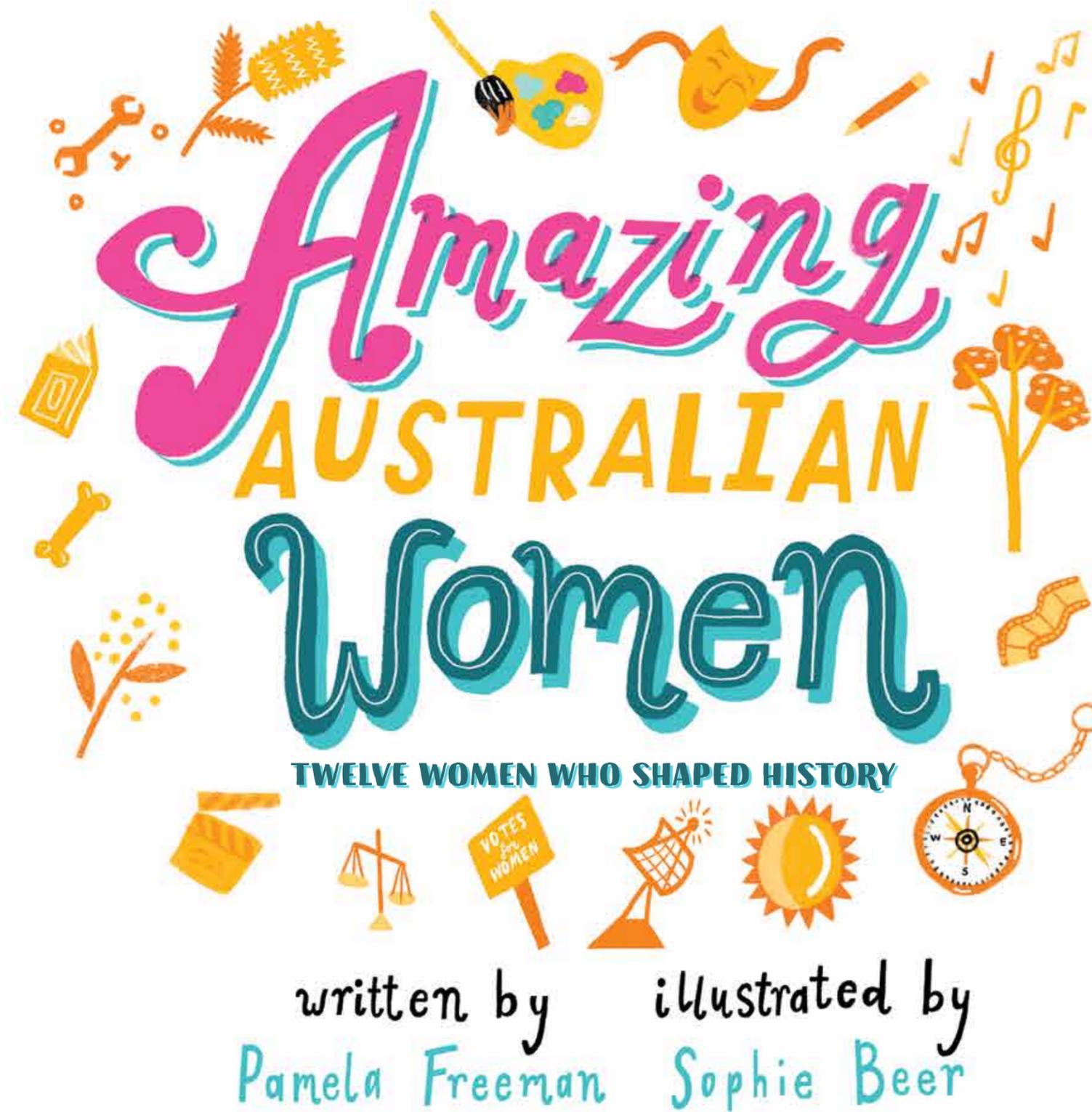
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TWELVE WOMEN WHO SHAPED HISTORY

written by **Pamela Freeman** illustrated by **Sophie Beer**

Introduction

IN THIS BOOK YOU'LL MEET TWELVE AMAZING AUSTRALIAN WOMEN WHO HAVE CHANGED THE WORLD, IN SMALL WAYS AND LARGE.

SOME OF THEM ARE FAMOUS AROUND THE WORLD, SUCH AS ANNETTE KELLERMAN AND NELLIE MELBA.

SOME OF THEM ARE FAMOUS IN AUSTRALIA, SUCH AS MARY REIBEY AND EDITH COWAN.

AND ALL OF THEM *DESERVE* TO BE FAMOUS, AND ADMIRERD.

THEY REPRESENT THE WARRIORS, ARTISTS, BUSINESS OWNERS, SCIENTISTS, SINGERS, POLITICIANS, ACTORS, ATHLETES, ADVENTURERS, ACTIVISTS AND INNOVATORS OF AUSTRALIA. THERE ARE MANY MORE STORIES LIKE THEIRS IN OUR HISTORY.

PERHAPS ONE DAY *YOUR* STORY WILL BE ONE OF THEM.

NOTE: PEOPLE OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HERITAGE ARE ADVISED THAT THIS BOOK CONTAINS NAMES AND IMAGES OF PEOPLE WHO ARE DECEASED OR MAY BE DECEASED.



LORES BONNEY

AVIATION PIONEER (1897–1994)

Fearless, charming and determined, Lores Bonney was a pioneer pilot. In 1932, she flew all around the coast of Australia, setting a long-distance solo record that has never been beaten.

Then, she flew from Australia to England – the first woman to achieve this, despite mechanical trouble, a crash landing and damage to her plane. She almost flew into a mountain, but the clouds cleared just in time for her to go around it! She called her plane *My Little Ship*.

In 1937, in *My Little Ship II*, Lores became the first person to fly from Australia to South Africa, going up through Asia and down the east coast of Africa. No-one else has ever done this in a single-engine plane, to this day. She took a special frock with her to wear if she were invited to dinner along the way – and she was!

Lores's motto was: 'Don't let them tell you you can't do it!'

