

# Whitsunday Voices Short Story Competition

Grades 5-6

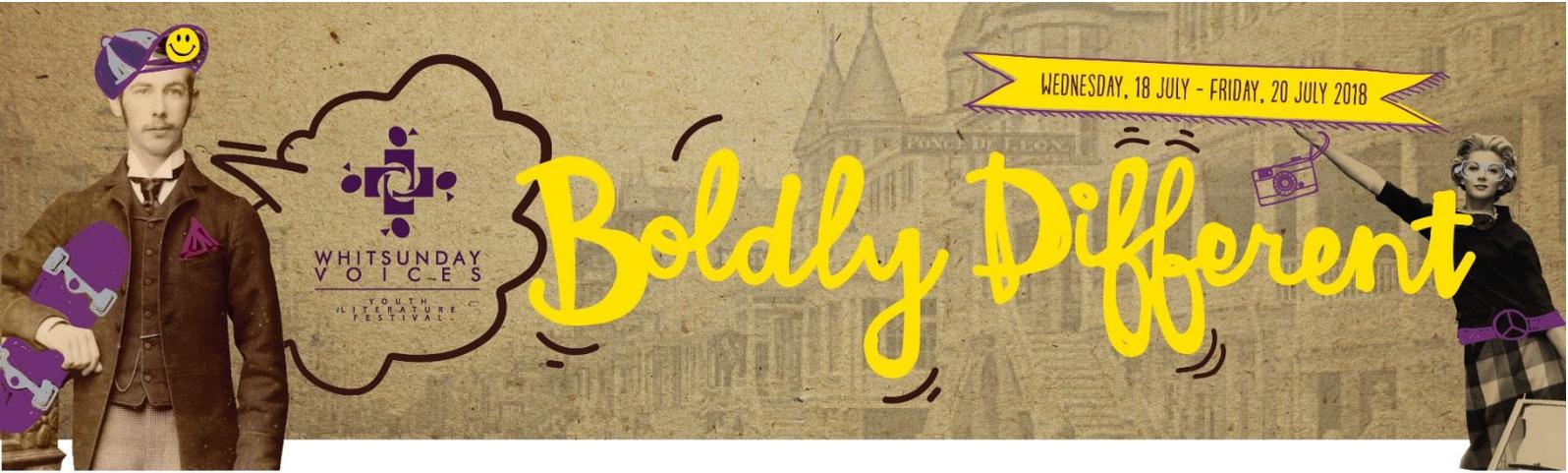
Highly Commended

Aishwarya Naidu for

Extinction of Koalas

Amelia, the cuddly koala slept quietly in the forest of Wirrabara waiting for her mother to come. All of a sudden a disruptive noise echoed in the forest. A bunch of galas squawked loudly after the sound. She woke up instantly as the squawk rang in her ears. The sun peaked through the trees, and there it was....

A colossal, yellow bulldozer was coming her way.



Amelia's heart pounded like a drum as the bulldozer came closer and closer. She quickly clambered down the eucalyptus tree and ran for her life. Wombats and koalas scurried along the ground, hoping not to be squashed as a toad. Then she saw Aunty Katy, the kangaroo.

"Aunty Katy!" she squeaked.

Aunty Katy didn't look around, she kept on hopping all the way to safety. She looked back and saw her home getting destroyed.

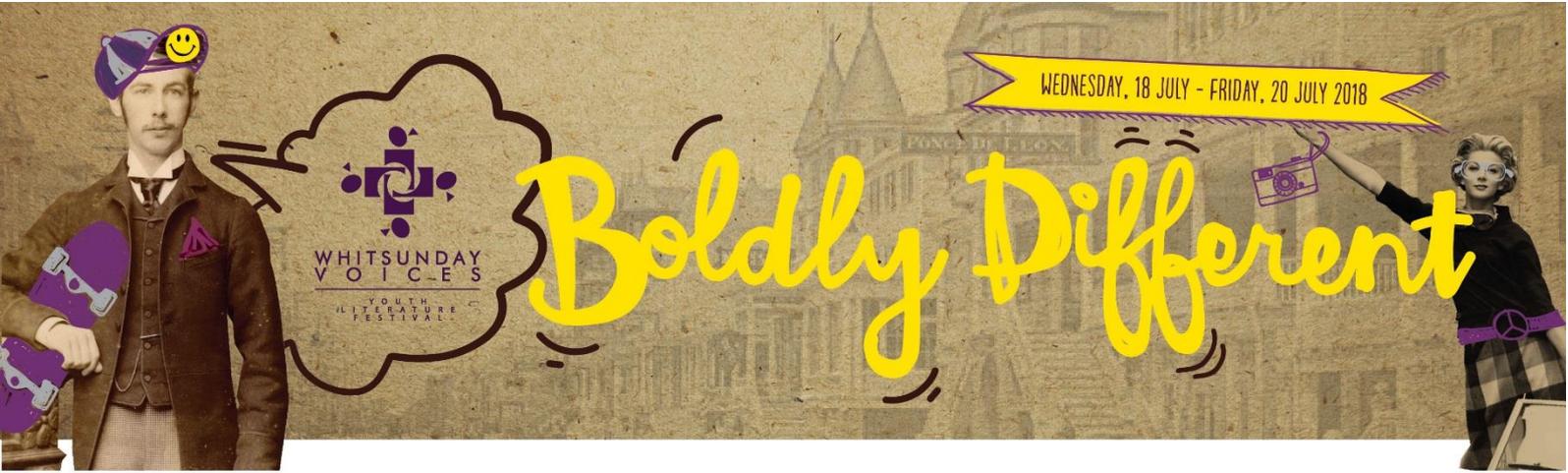
More of the monstrous bulldozers were heading her way. One was closing up, only five metres away. She knew it would be the end of her life, that moment. Then all of a sudden Uncle Sam hopped over and grabbed her and leapt over to Aunty Katy.

"Darling, your niece was going to die back there!" puffed Uncle Sam.

"Oh, there she is" exclaimed Aunty Katy. Relief flooded her as soon as she saw Amelia.

Aunty Katy heaved Amelia onto her back and bounded over to Amelia's older cousin, Jack

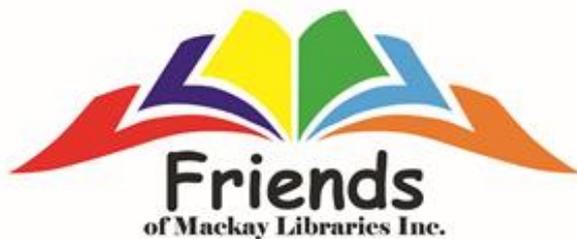
"Jack, take her to a safe place!" puffed Aunty Katy.



She placed Amelia on his back and leapt back to help other koalas and wombats. While Jack hopped to a safe place, Amelia watched her home devastated as it caught on flames. Wisps of smoke filled the air. Jack braked strongly and dropped her off at the Coolabah River. But then she saw another bulldozer coming from the opposite side of the stream. She turned around and saw two bulldozers coming towards her. Depressing memories filled her head. Her eyes filled with tears.

Then SMACK! Her last conscious thought was the whole forest falling down on top of her family and friends. Every cell in her body died. Every animal was gone from Wirrabara forest.

THE END



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