MEDIA RELEASE



by SHIRLEY MARR and KATY JIANG

ABOUT THE BOOK

Mei Ling Pang was born at an inauspicious time on an inauspicious day, so wherever she goes, misfortune seems to follow. When a mega-mortuary is built beside her parents' restaurant and her neighbours become chi sucking, drooling versions of their former selves, loner Mei isn't as surprised as you might think.

Then Little Jiang hops out of his grave and into Mei's life, strange clothes, greenish skin, fangs and all. At first, Mei believes her luck is going from bad to worse. But in her efforts to save Little Jiang from a Bagua Master and his deadly laser gun, the police and the entire town of Honeywood, Mei might just make her own future brighter.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Shirley Marr is a first-generation Chinese-Australian and author of young adult and children's fiction. It was while writing a very dry PhD on accounting that she realised she'd rather be writing down her dark, twisted daydreams instead. She is still an accountant by day, but now a masked writer by night.

KEY POINTS

- This is an own-voice narrative with an own-voice illustrator and fits the need for more diversity in literature.
- *Little Jiang* is set during Hungry Ghost Month when the entire town of Honeywood is populated with spirits and townsfolk who are not who they first appear to be. Jiang is a *jiangshi* a centuries-old Chinese hopping zombie vampire after Mei's Chi, but that doesn't mean he doesn't need a hug as well.
- Scattered throughout the book are 12 black-and-white illustrations that help tell the story of *Little Jiang*.
- Shirley Marr has published two young adult titles with Black Dog Books, *Preloved* and *Fury*.
- Teaching notes and activity sheets will be made available from fremantlepress.com.au.

PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

'This book is full of humour, warmth and a genuine understanding of the difficulties faced in our modern, multicultural society. 4 out of 5 stars.' *Books+Publisher Magazine*

'If you love *Gossip Girl*, you'll fall hard and fast for this addictive thriller. 4 out of 5' *Girlfriend Magazine*



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