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An introduction by Niamh Sharkey,
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I've been writing and illustrating books for over fifteen years now, and I can still remember very clearly the excitement of seeing my first book in print.

Facing a blank canvas or page can be the hardest thing, but all artists and writers have to conquer this fear. Don't be self-conscious; everyone has a unique story to tell and a unique way of telling it. Take inspiration from everywhere and everything – keep a notebook. Always be on the lookout for good ideas! Read. Learn from other writers, but be proud of your own work.

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