

PUB DATE: MARCH 2016
BEING JACK

CATEGORY: Series Fiction
SUGGESTED AGE: 8-12
SUBJECTS: social issues/bullying/friendship/family

SERIES HIGHLIGHTS:

- Australian Family Therapists Award
- Notable Award CBC
- Children's Literature Prize for Peace, highly commended
- Biennial Book Award for Children's Literature, Society of Women Writers

AUTHOR HIGHLIGHTS: Susanne Gervay (www.sgervay.com)

- Order of Australia for Literature
- Ambassador for Room to Read
- The Biennial Book Award for YA Literature
- New York Book Festival Award
- San Francisco Book Festival Award

ILLUSTRATOR: Cathy Wilcox (cathywilcox.com.au)



Being Jack

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All: \$5.99 * PB * 192 pages * 5 x 7 3/4

Readers see themselves in the *Jack* series because Jack, as a young character, is so full of heart that he feels real, in large part because he's based on Susanne Gervay's son who is a survivor of bullying. With his permission, Susanne crafted this critically-acclaimed series since adapted into a touring play in Australia and North America from Monkey Baa Theatre Company.



It's not just the bullying; Jack also faces a family illness, a new stepdad and other difficult changes. However, what makes Jack a remarkable role model is how he copes. He maintains good friendships, strong family ties and he remains open to vulnerable conversations with the adults in his world, seeking guidance and accepting it when offered. Jack *communicates*. Finally, in *Being Jack*, life seems to be settling down. But Jack's thinking about his birth father. And even though he's no longer bullied, others are.

Jack faces new levels of courage, new questions of right and wrong.

Susanne Gervay knows how to make kids laugh, think and ask questions—of themselves and others. She writes book kids (and adults) need to read. So *Being Jack* is not just a book that will comfort kids—it's a book that will guide them toward taking responsibility, standing up for themselves and others. We are so very proud to have all of the *Jack* books on our list.

"[A] rare treasure ... We see the concerns and actions of bystanders, friends, family members and educators who protect and support [Jack]. Each of these people has a positive role in stopping the bullying behavior."—www.stopbullyingnow.com on *I Am Jack*

Also available: *I Am Jack* (978-1-61067-128-6), *Super Jack* (978-1-61067-129-3), *Always Jack* (978-1-61067-130-9)