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“Sensitive,” “loving,” “moving,” “insightful,” “funny,” “accessible,” “realistic” – these words are often used in praise of award-winning Australian author **Susanne Gervay**'s work.



The real-life experiences of Susanne's own family were her inspiration for *I Am Jack* and its sequels. In sharing how she first came to write this anti-bullying story, Susanne explains: “Jack is my son and I didn't know that he was bullied at school. Too busy with my own life, the dramas of living with all the funny and sad bits. Jack felt he had to deal with this alone. He became trapped and in the end wanted to die. When I discovered it, I thought I'd die. I thought I was always there for him, but he felt alone. It was a long journey, but Jack won against bullying in the end. We all did. I wrote *I Am Jack* for him, for other kids, for the parents, teachers, grandparents and for me. Power abuse destroys who you are, our community, our world. Jack today is fantastic. He's still funny and tells awful jokes. He's warm, loving, entertains and annoys his family and friends, but he knows himself now and he will fight for others in trouble. I am proud of him.”

Following the highly acclaimed *I Am Jack*, came *SuperJack*, in which Jack faces the challenges that come with a blended family and the aging of a beloved grandparent. In *Always Jack*, Jack and his family must cope with his mom's cancer diagnosis. In addition, Jack learns about the Vietnam War and the refugee experience through a school project with his friend Christopher.

Susanne's many fans are eagerly awaiting the fourth and final book in the series, *Being Jack*, coming June 2015 from Kane Miller, a Division of EDC Publishing. The story comes full circle as Jack, once the victim, is now empowered to stand up to the bullies tormenting his friend. Undoubtedly, the many young readers who've come to view Jack as a dear friend will be sorry to see the series end.

Susanne Gervay is also the author of *Butterflies*, the award-winning, poignant and inspirational story of teenaged Katherine, struggling with the consequences of being severely burned as a toddler and now dealing with the desire to just be “normal.”

Susanne is the daughter of Hungarian refugees, a mother and grandmother, an educational consultant and renowned speaker/ presenter at schools, book festivals, events and conferences both in Australia and around the world. Susanne is the proud recipient of a number of distinguished honors including Ambassador for Room to Read and the Order of Australia for Literature.