

Author: Julian Duband

Illustrator: Jen Duband

Category: Non-Fiction- Parenting

Non-Fiction-Education-IVF

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www.dubandbooks.com

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Author's Bio



JEN DUBAND

For me, 'My Incredible Creation' merges together my passion for books, creating art, telling stories and my experience as a Kindergarten Teacher.

One of my favourite childhood memories, is borrowing books from the local library and pouring over them, drawing similar pictures and using my imagination to make up new stories. My tertiary studies reflected these early passions as I completed a Bachelor of Fine Art, and later a Postgraduate degree in Early Childhood.

However, it was not only my experience in art and with children that led me to develop this book. 'My incredible Creation' is part of my own personal journey, which initially I expressed through art and then developed further. It's an important story to share, especially with children who were not conceived in the natural, conventional way. I realised that one day my husband and I would need to explain the process of IVF to our children and tell them how they were created. We wanted our children to be able to understand the process of how they were conceived with the extraordinary help of Science. We wanted our children to feel confident and empowered in their story and to be able to ask questions about a subject which is sometimes still not spoken about openly. Thus, a children's book explaining all this seemed to be the perfect way to begin.

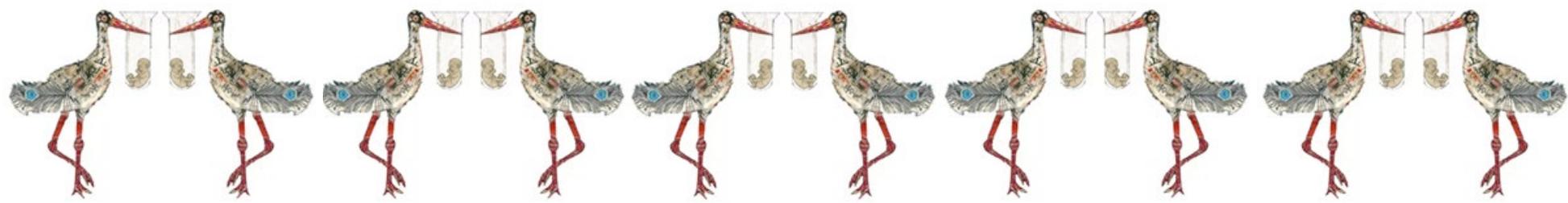
Our aim is for families to read this book together and have open discussions around the story, enabling adults to share their own journeys with their child/children if required. We have included a lot of 'real words', using the correct terminology to ensure an honest and respectful telling of the story. The glossary is designed not only to explain the terms but to be a provocation for further curiosity and to assist children in asking questions and engaging in ongoing dialogue. However, ultimately, our intention is for children to fathom the incredible miracle of their own creation and feel confident about who they are and how they came to be in the world.

JULIAN DUBAND

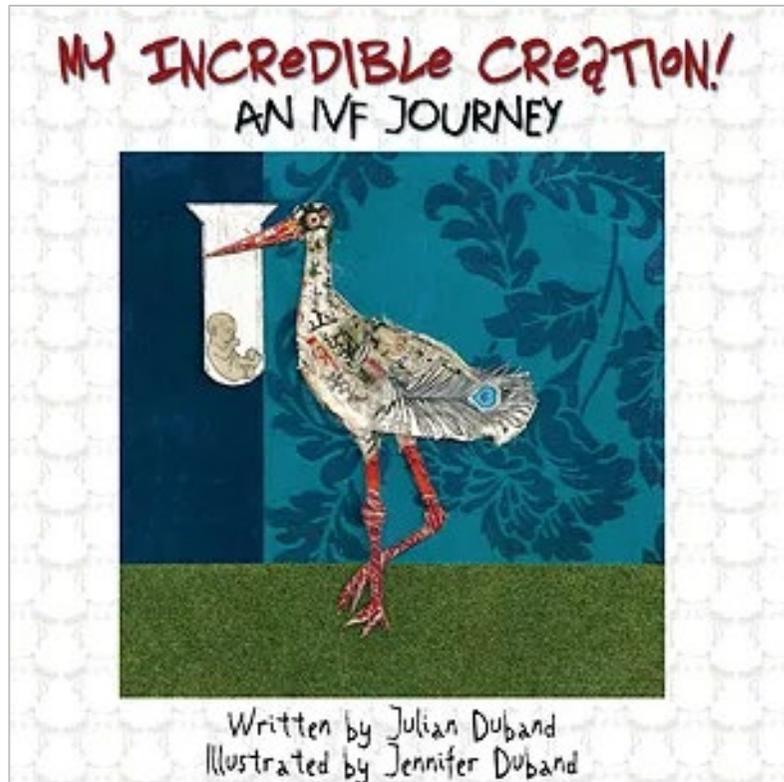
In my life's journey thus far, music has been at the core of everything I have done and achieved, either as a teacher, a performer, director or a composer. However, in my early teens, I discovered that I was also drawn to the written word. There was a particular poem I wrote for a subject called 'Creative Writing' for which I received an A+ and a wonderful comment. I remember an incredible feeling of satisfaction and pride in that piece of work.

When I sit back and read 'My Incredible Creation', I feel the same kind of pride now, as I did then. My passion for creating rhyming words developed alongside my music and over the years I wrote four stage musicals and numerous songs. I was not only a composer but a lyricist as well.

This children's book has seen me further explore my love of words but this time, without music as the guiding force. It's been very rewarding and I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of not only collaborating with my wife, but also writing for a young audience with the hope that this new creation will help an emerging generation of IVF children come to understand the origins of their incredible creation.



Book Bio



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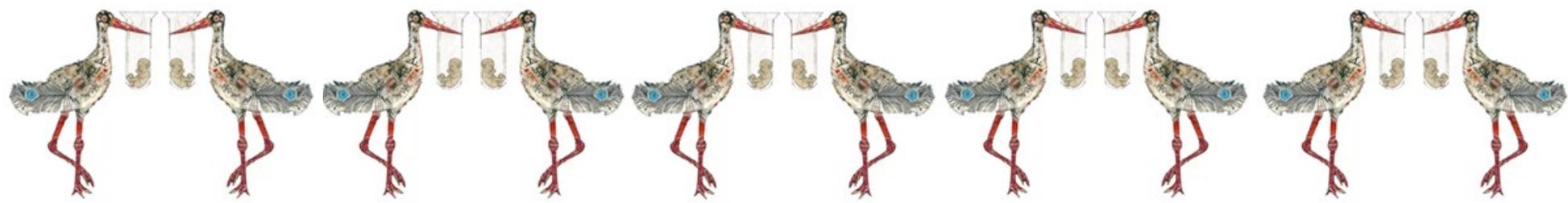
Non-Fiction-Education-IVF

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2018 marks the 40th Anniversary of the birth of the first IVF baby, Louise Brown in Oldham, England. In the late 70s, IVF didn't yet have the profile it does today and new techniques were developing all the time. The first babies were known as 'test tube babies' in spite of the fact they were conceived in a Petri dish. Since Assisted Reproductive Technology became available, it is estimated that there have been 5 million IVF births. So that leads us to 'My Incredible Creation'. This is a book for a new generation of children who want to know where they came from.

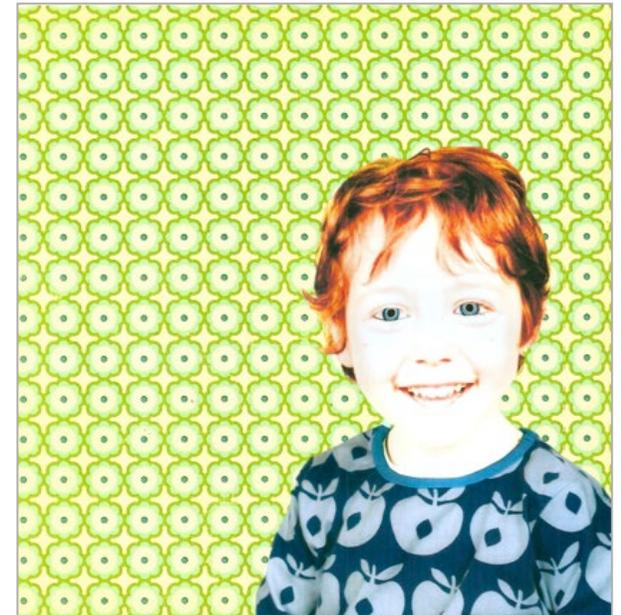
This is a story that helps de-mystify IVF. Using real terms but doing so in an accessible, humorous and simplified way, 'My Incredible Creation' will help adults approach the topic with children in a positive way. At the back of the book, there is a user-friendly glossary that explains the terms used, which in itself, can be the catalyst for further discussion. It will leave children feeling empowered about their origins and help them understand what little miracles they are.



Target Audience

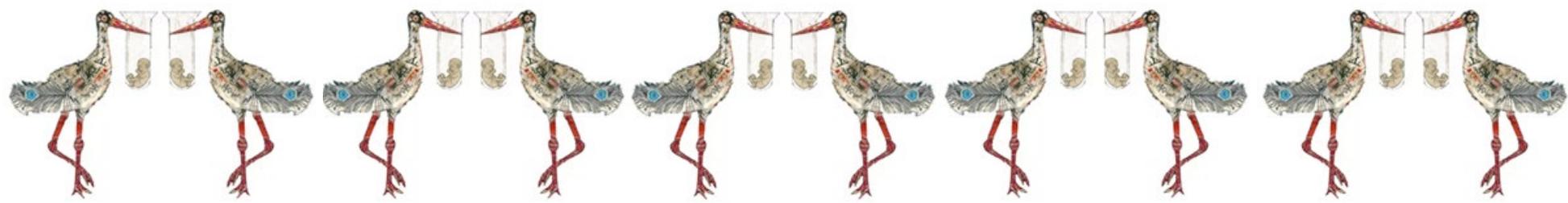
Who should read

- Children (especially if IVF created!)
- Parents
- Family
- Carers
- Teachers
- Schools
- IVF Organisations
- Medical specialists



My Incredible Creation

Our goal is to inspire communication within families around the topic of IVF, enabling parents to positively discuss the journey for them and their child. We want children to understand the incredible miracle that is them...an incredible creation!



Testimonials

“Informative and entertaining, *My Incredible Creation* is perfectly pitched for parents to read to children who ask ‘where did I come from?’ in a post-IVF age. The gentle humour is paired with accurate facts and lovely collage artworks to create a beautiful picture book for curious young minds.” – **Eva Mills, Publishing Director – Books for Children & Young Adults, Allen & Unwin**

“Jen and Julez, what a fantastic book. Congratulations!”

- **Nicole, Book Retailer**

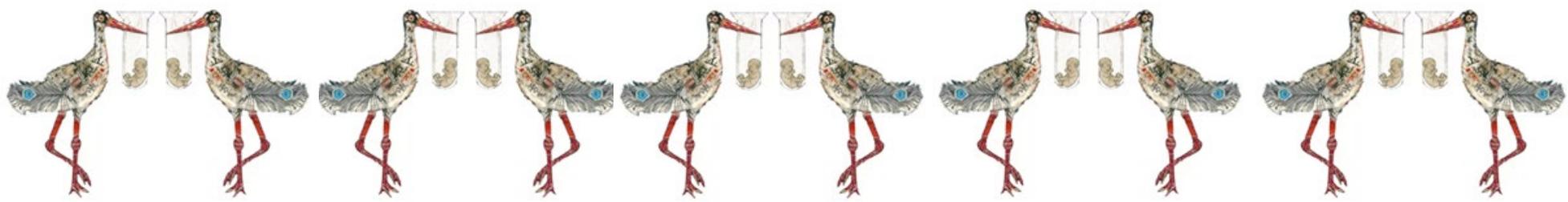
"As a mother and a professional working in the IVF field, I highly recommend this book. It will greatly assist parents with IVF conceived children to explain where they came from, and how much their families wanted them. This book is well written in the way young children can understand." - **O. Zamel, registered nurse**

I loved this book! Not only is it stunningly illustrated in a colourful, retro-style, it is cleverly written in child-friendly rhyme. *My Incredible Creation* is a sensitively engaging factual story of a family’s journey to have a baby through the IVF program. It’s modern, humorous, informative, perfectly paced and explanatory. The user-friendly glossary helps explain some of the scientific words. This endearing, lovingly-made creation is a gem of a debut book by the Duband family. An absolute winner!

- **Sara, Primary School Librarian**

Finally a book that can explain my children's conception story! I have always been open and honest with my children about how they came to be, and this book supports their understanding with words that they will understand, and clear definitions for those that they will not. Thank you so much Jen and Julian for writing this book to remind me of the process that brought me my twin miracles.

- **Laura Pearce, President of the Westgate Multiple Births Association**



Book Excerpt

I want to share my story, of how I came to be.
And how I came into the world, most mysteriously.
It's really quite a journey, that needs some explanation,
I'll tell you all about it, my incredible creation.

Spring had sprung, the sun was out, as I walked home from school.

In a tree I did see, a sight that was so cool.
Way up high I saw a nest and heard some little squeaks,
And when I looked more closely, I saw lots of little beaks.

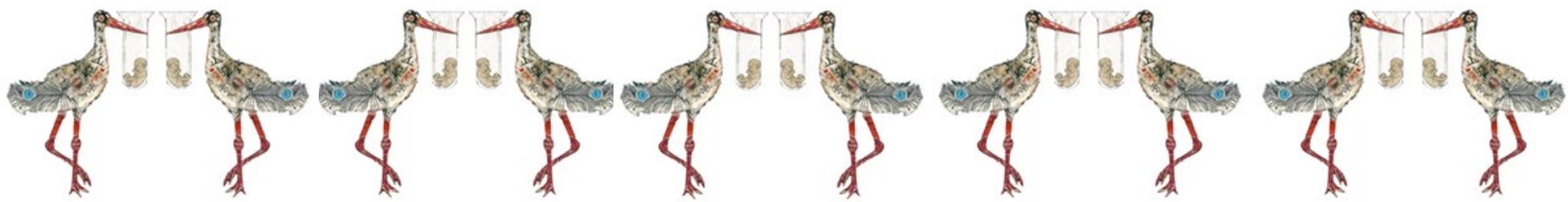
Chicks were hatching out of eggs, and they could hardly see.
They pecked the egg around them, trying to break free.
And then I wondered to myself, if I was born that way.
I'd have to ask my parents, and see what they would say.

Did I hatch out of an egg, so high up in a tree?
And squeak and flap my arms about, like a little chickadee?
And If I came out of an egg, then how did I get in?
Please tell me guys, I want to know, just how did I begin?



Interview Questions

1. Why write an IVF children's book?
 2. Is this a personal story?
 3. What age group is this targeted at?
 4. Is your book designed only for IVF families?
 5. What has been your goal in writing this book?
 6. What sort of feedback have you had so far?
 7. Where can people buy this book?
 8. How can people get in touch with you?
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Celebrity Endorsement

Candice Reed - Australia's first IVF baby



"What a very clever book. The imagery is so captivating, I think it will resonate really well with both adults and children. The playful use of words in that melodic rhyming way make the content easy to digest. I think you have done a terrific job in explaining a complex process. In a way, it is very similar in explanation to how mum and dad told me the story of my conception. My 7yr-old daughter loves it, and she has read it about 10 times! I feel lucky to have a copy of this book. So well done again."

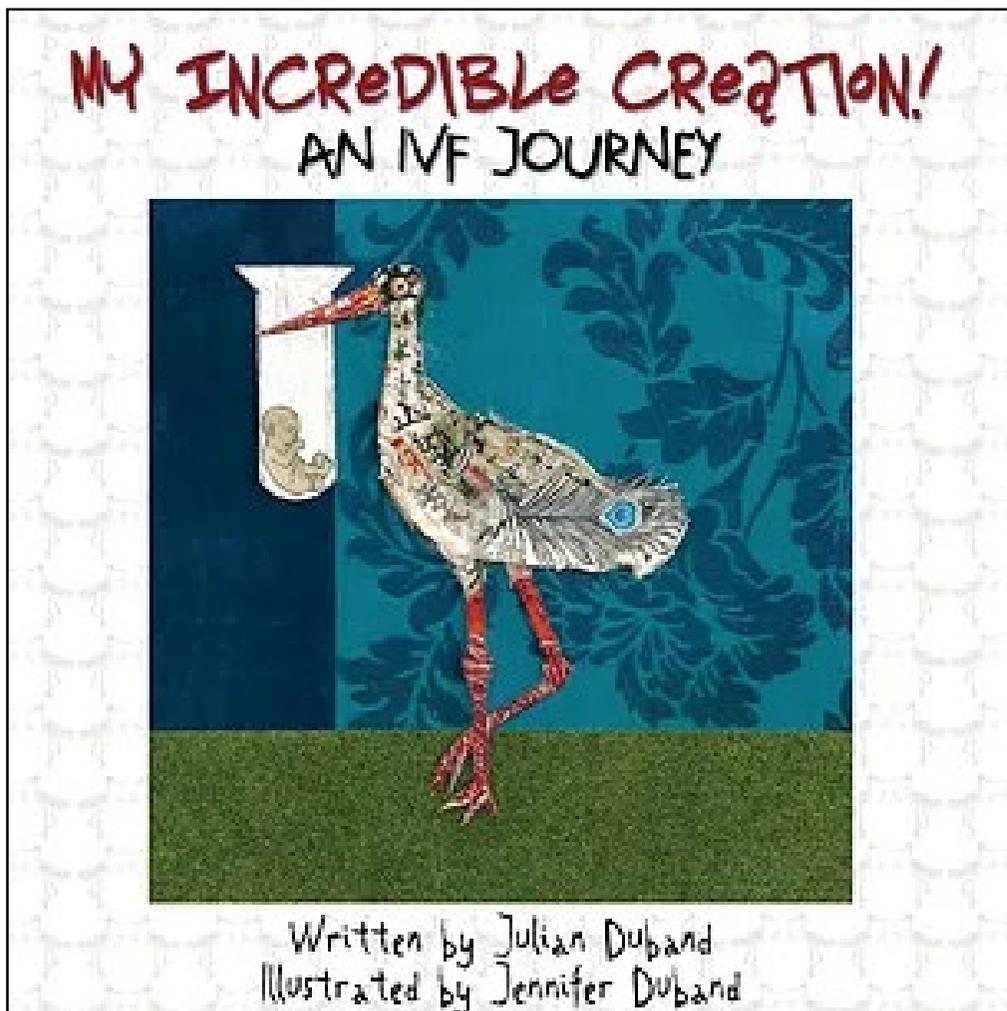
Candice



Downloadable Photos

I appreciate notification when our photographs are used in the press, and kindly ask that you email us about where you post the article so that I can link to it.

Thank you, Duband Books





Contact with Julian and Jen

Email: info@dubandbooks.com

Website: dubandbooks.com

Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest: *MY INCREDIBLE CREATION*

