



have also re-issued its sequel, **Sailmaker**, and published debut title, **Killer Ute**. Joel made life exciting and adventurous in **The Keeper** which opened with his attempt to jump across a gully on his bike and the series increases in thrills with a suspected lighthouse ghost in **Sailmaker** and serious threats from the driver of the killer ute in the third book.

Life is difficult for twelve-year-old Joel. He doesn't have parents and lives with his gran. He battles with noises in his head, has low self esteem and can't control his anger. School work is almost impossible and he seems likely to have an attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

He advertises for a dad, which is answered by leather-clad, tattooed biker, Dev Eagle. Dev's worth, as well as his heartache, is developed throughout the series but Joel is always fearful of losing this rock-like father figure. This foreboding is an effective device to advance both the narrative and the character development. Another important character is Mei Pham, who is bullied because of her Asian appearance but is well-drawn as a normal, thoughtful and courageous girl. She loves sketching birds; and bird imagery, as well as symbols from the sea and oppositions of sand and rock, add unobtrusive depth to the writing.

Joel gradually learns to control his mind and make the bad things work for good in his life. Rosanne Hawke is an author of integrity who writes irresistible, adrenaline-filled stories to explore important inner and external dilemmas and boundaries.

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