



Welcome to the Museletter!

Fifth edition!

Hot off the press (or at least off my keyboard!)

A monthly newsletter where I'll update you on my creative endeavours, books that I've enjoyed (with links where relevant), and some musings on the creative process.

Time is precious and I don't want to waste yours, so...

- This last month has been incredibly challenging for so many across the world.

I have struggled with knowing what to say / do during this period. A friend reminded me that it's better to make an effort than to make no effort at all, and that it's not about what I can/can't do, but what I can do to make it better for my children.

A very simple example is that of our ice cream and lolly (Eskimo Pie and Eskimos respectively). Down here at the south of the globe it might not mean a lot other than some marketing, but it holds derogatory meaning to the Inuits of northern Canada.

Making simple changes like the names of these products (not that it's something I personally can do!), and understanding what history others have experienced, will hopefully help us all move forwards as better human beings.

- My update:

Hickory Dickory Dock - A Counting Rhyme.

After the printer uploading my original files 3 different times (complete

Think about this...

If you'd never heard of Juneteenth or the Tulsa Race Massacre until recently, what else have you never heard of?

What weren't you taught about in school?

The Tuskegee Experiment?

The Red Summer of 1919?

Drapetomania?

Three-Fifths Compromise?

One-drop Rule?

Slave Codes?

Bleeding Kansas?

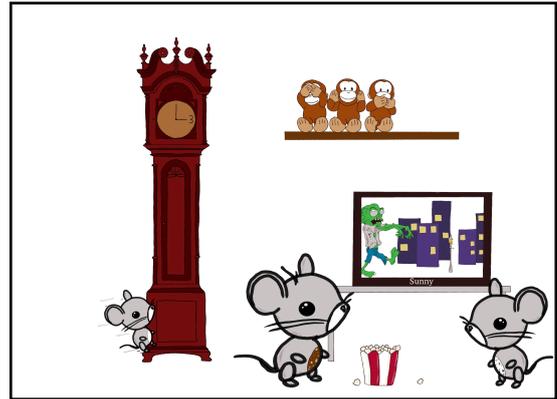
Anti-Literacy Laws?

How much about race, racism, slavery, and the building of America do you NOT know?

with my 2 previous errors), I now have it all corrected and finalised.

This latest book is ready to order - I'll be doing this on my Facebook page this week.

This leaves me to continue illustrating two new books and working on a first edit of a middle grade novel.

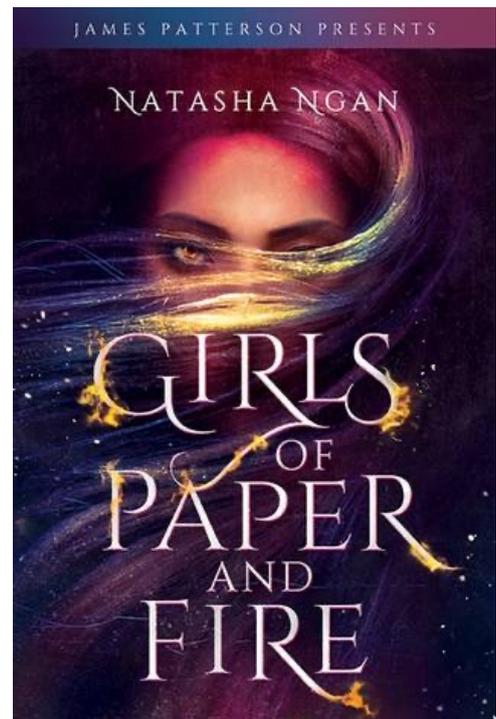


- This month I'd like to recommend "**Girls of Paper and Fire**" by Natasha Ngan.

A fantasy, set in an Asian-inspired setting, where there are 3 castes: Paper (human), Steel (half human, half demon), and Moon (demon), who are the rulers.

The story is told from Lei's point of view, a teenage human who some years ago, witnessed her mother cruelly taken to be a royal concubine.

History repeats, and she is taken. Lei fights, rebels, falls in love and finds depths of strength and hope that she never knew she had.



This engrossed me with its sensitive way that it dealt with the pain, the abuse, the stubborn hope and the gentle blossoming of her love. It is a wonderfully crafted story.

- if you have a book that you'd like to recommend, please drop me a line so I can include it!

- And just to make you groan:
What's the best way to cook alligator?

In a croc-pot!

Thanks for your time.
Max and I will 'see' you next month.
Mauri ora!

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