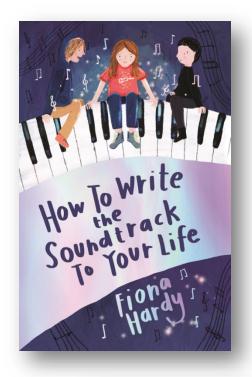
# HOW TO WRITE THE SOUNDTRACK TO YOUR LIFE

# Fiona Hardy

Fiction | ISBN: 978-1-684**64-631-9** | Ages 9-12 | Paperback | 5 x 7 ¾ | 288 pp | \$8.99 | LOC: 2022941514

Shy Murphy's song is heard by everyone in music class ... and they love it. But then she's accused of stealing it! Can she clear her name and reclaim her music? And learn to trust ... anyone?



- Explores shyness, friendship, family, mental illness, selfdiscovery.
- Humorous, poignant, mysterious, heartfelt.
- Shy but determined heroine and a cast of deftly portrayed and memorable characters.
- Music references to please any enthusiast.
- Companion volume to How to Make a Movie in 12 Days (KM 2023).
- Winner, 2021 Australia's Children's Peace Literature Award.

#### Track 4 Steal My Sunshine

If foured everywhere that aftermoon, I floated right out of class past Jhyll, who'd been relling everybody how she'd always known how good I was and how she'd jast wanted to show everyone, y'know I floated past Marcie elling Willow darks we agoing to make me a claum so that I'd get a record deal. I floated right ye everybody and to the parking bot where Kuth was waiting, and the car floated home. I only eased book onto the ground when I heard our nearborn ellipse and the oldest person I knew, Mrs. A inskey Orwald, out on her front lawn in her giant reeliner with her karaske machine ness to her Bostings out some 1998 uness to her Bostings out some 1998 unes.

"III, Mrs. Orwald," Italh said as we walted by.
"Oh, Buthle, you know you can call me Ainsteyl Off to school pickip, were you? And how are you, Juniper?"
"It's Murply, Mrs. Owwald. And I'm good. Really good, actually."

cturally."

"Attuley, dear. And you say your day was good! Well, I never. When I was at school it was awful, just awful. I had to go o school from eight in the morning until eight in the evening secause I had to clean the classroom as well. And I'd get whipped I forgot to bring an apple. Did you know that?"

"And if it was snowing then I had to shovel the whole vard

"I thought you grew up nearby, Ainsley?" Ruth said, "I mongan you grew up nearby, Amseey": Itami said, iiig, "I diahi' realisi' is nowed alo in the abunback"
"That's Mrs. Oswald, thank you," Mrs. Ainsley Oswald, narrowing her eyes, "And you woodlin' know about the days, being that you're so much younger, would you?"
"Nea twould nor," 'Rush aid.
"What are you listening no?" I saked her.
"This song is called "Will You Still Love Mc Tomorrow,' by Shirelles," she said, "What nonsense are you kids listening the moment!"

The Shrefick," she said. "What nonsense are you kids listerning to at the moment," at said. "Data likes playing community afton so sometimes I liken to that and hear some good staff. Sometimes some wirds staff." "Community radio!" That sounds very lovely. Do they talk about local events for sentior?" "Sadly, I doo't think it's that kind of community radio," Ruth said. "More like gies and festivals and things like that. "And who says! I don't want to go to a festival?" Mrs. Ainsley Orwald said crossly. "I and in the channel for you if you like?" I said. "Please do, dear." We if bought the speaker for Mrs. Ainsley Orwald as a Chrismas proseur. She'd always been a good neighbor—if we went zway whe of water the plants, or look after Asdrs' frog, and she even looked after us some days—and she loved to play music very loudly but was frestrated that the giant servers oystem wasn't portable so she couldn't take it outside on sunny days.

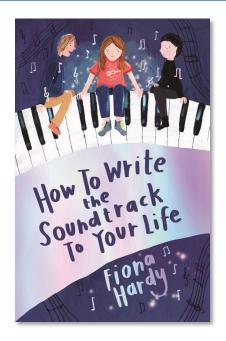


### **Additional Information**

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Portrays shyness with encouragement and without negativity.

Openly addresses mental illness with compassion.

Diversity abounds in characters' ethnicities, personalities, abilities, interests.

Mystery plot heightens appeal for the more reluctant reader.

Emphasizes importance of friendship and family.

Winner, Australia's 2021 Children's Peace Literature Award.

### Rich with topics for discussion and homeschool/classroom activities:

- Discuss the significance of music in our lives
- Make a list of your own favorite songs ("the soundtrack to your life") and discuss/write what meaning each selection has for you
- o Consider mental illness—how it may affect a person, their family, their life
- Examine the characters in the book, their differences, similarities, motivations, and your feelings toward them

#### For the customer who likes:

- O How to Make a Movie in 12 Days
  Fiona Hardy \* 64-630-2
- Ella at Eden series
   Laura Sieveking \* 2 titles
- O Butterflies
  Susanne Gervay \* 67-043-2
- I Am Jack
   Susanne Gervay \* 67-128-6
- My Beautiful Voice
   Joseph Coelho \* Allison Colpoys \* 64-469-8



