## SECTION 2



# MALLACE!

#### YOUR HOST - ADAM WALLACE

Hi! Adam Wallace here. I'm going to keep this bit about me as brief as possible. Which isn't always easy for me ... which is why picture books are also not always easy for me!

Which is why I had to work out the formula, and once I did, it changed everything.

But where did it all start? Probably back when I was a kid, and my step-dad was a teacher-librarian. Our house was filled with books, and we were always read to.

And my favourites were Roald Dahl, Dr Seuss, and Bill Peet. You may not know Bill Peet, but he was a genius. I will be referring to his books as we go through the course, and they are definitely worth checking out.

My grandmother also wrote picture books, some of which were even illustrated by Mirka Moira!

So I've always had a massive fondness for picture books, and certainly when I started writing, like a lot of people, that was what I wrote first. And there is something magical about creating a whole story in a really limited number of words.

And to those people who think it's easy because they're short, to them I say **the hardest book I ever wrote was 10 pages long**, with 5 words on each page. Almost killed me! Literally! But when I got it done, it was **SUCH** a thrill!

Okay, so that's me. Everyone will have a different story as to why they love picture books, or why they want to write them.

In the end, the story matters but doesn't matter. We're here. We're writing them. And at some stage, years from now, there will be kids who remember *our* books from when they were little.

And to have that impact, to have that influence? Wow, just wow.

Right, so let's get to it. Let's get to dissecting picture books and making the whole process, from idea to publication, simpler!

### CREDIBILITY CHECK

Why am I giving advice on writing picture books? Because I wanna. And here are some numbers showing why I think I am a good person to be doing it.

#### ADAM WALLACE - THE EVIDENCE

Created picture books with James Hart, Heath McKenzie, Andy Elkerton and other incredible illustrators.

Picture books published by companies in Australia, America and Slovenia.

5 picture books on the New York Times Bestseller List

How to Catch a Leprechaun **Number 1** on the **Amazon Bestseller List** (all books)

4 picture books on the USA Today Bestseller List

How to Catch the Easter Bunny read on the White House Lawn

Over 80 books published

Over 2.3 million books sold

Picture books in the DJ Khaled and *Kim, Kourtney and Khloe Kardashian* households - not delivered personally, unfortunately ...