

MAKING FRIENDS WITH MONSTERS

*Why does everything have to be so complicated?
Why? Monsters! That's why! They stick their scungy
little noses into everything.*

Twelve-year-old Sam feels like his life is spiraling out of control. Ever since learning a secret, his once loving older brother has become angry and withdrawn, causing extreme tension at home. Through a series of related tragedies, his family descends further into chaos. Sam knows that the monsters that live inside people are to blame, and he sets out to discover how to make friends with them before they swallow him too.

Themes include: Mental health, suicide, and family dysfunction.

AUTHOR NOTE

A few years ago, I was back home in Australia doing a book signing for my debut YA/Fantasy when a friend told me a heartbreaking story. A year earlier, her ex died by suicide and she was left with three daughters, ages 11-15. She told me that the hardest part is when her daughters ask, "Mummy, why did Daddy do it?" because she has no idea what to say. My heart caved. My dad died by suicide when I was 13 and all I could think was, "If anyone can help speak to this, I could."

My goal with this book is not to give an answer as to the "why." When it comes to something like this, no one can. I want to offer children and parents a language where they feel comfortable talking about feelings that often get buried because no one knows how to even begin the conversation.

MARKETING & PUBLICITY

Representation by top literary PR firm for full scale national campaign · National book tour with physical and virtual appearances · Large ARC distribution · Robust social media plan

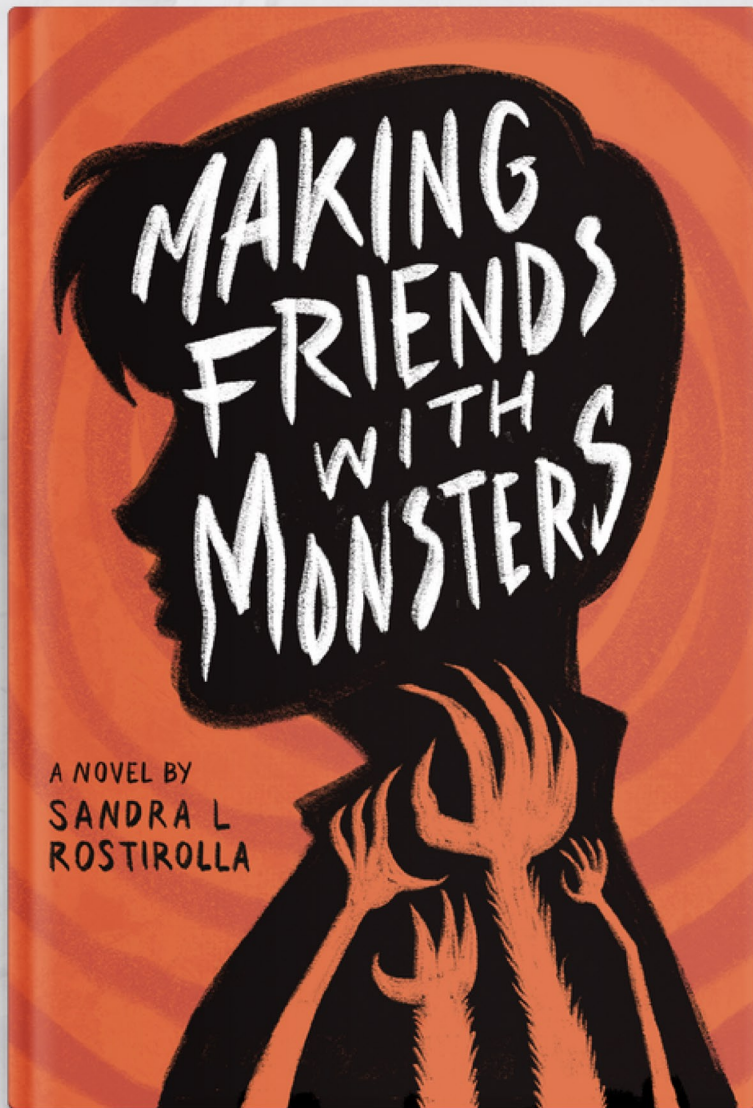


SANDRA L ROSTIROLLA

Sandra L Rostirolla graduated from the University of Sydney with a BAppSc (Physiotherapy) and has an MBA from La Sierra University, Riverside, CA.

Born and raised in Sydney, Australia, Sandra is an award-winning author who currently lives in Los Angeles with her husband and rescue cat, Noodle.

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Paperback: 9780999189184 \$15.95 US

EBook: 9780999189191 \$9.99 US

Young Adult/Coming of Age

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BOOKS**



MAKING FRIENDS WITH MONSTERS

“Equal parts heartbreaking and hopeful...The monster motif is ingenious: it allows for a way to talk about mental health in its entirety rather than just in terms of one manifestation, like depression or anxiety.”

— *Foreword Reviews 5 Stars*

“An amazing book that everyone can benefit from.”

— *Ginny Null, R.S. Kellis High School Library*

“An urgent, unflinching YA novel about the 'monsters' of depression and family dysfunction.”

— *Booklife Editor's Pick*

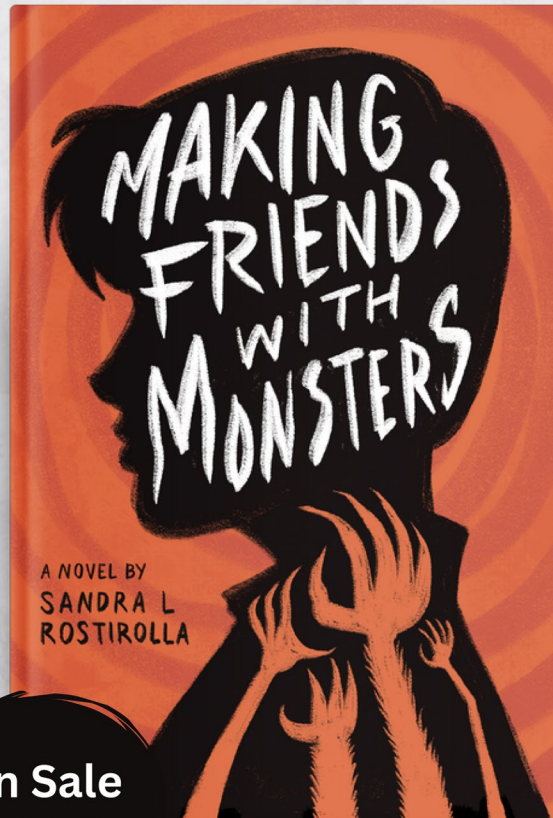
“A wonderful, timely & ingenious novel depicting mental health issues & family dynamics.”

— *Luis Arabit, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy San Jose State University*

★“Utterly engaging and rewarding...Rostirolla balances evoking readers' sympathies with avoiding maudlin emotions, successfully turning a novel about stark and painful topics into an enjoyable read.”

— *Kirkus Reviews*

On Sale
4.4.23



“...a compelling novel that is gripping from beginning to end... Highly recommended.”

— *Midwest Book Reviews*

“Sam is a masterful narrator, insightful and un-selfconscious. Some lines impress with their visual simplicity, others with their wit.”

— *IndieReader 5 Stars*

“A spectacular look into the mental woes that today's adolescents face on a daily basis.”

— *Thomas O'Flaherty, Studio Teacher*

“This book can make a real difference in someone's life and I love that it gives them language to use.”

— *Sarah Katin, Writer/Executive Producer*

Fact #1 about Monsters:
Most people don't know they exist.

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