

# **The Nativity**

Illustrated by Julie Vivas

This is a firm favourite of our family's at Christmas time. The biblical text of the Nativity story is adapted so there are no surprises there but the illustrations are something to behold. Julie Vivas (of Possum Magic fame) gives the softest touch to the Christmas story. The feeling of love and gentleness pervades the story due to the illustrations. The Angel Gabriel - the only Angel to be issued with boots! – interrupts Mary while she is hanging out the washing. He sits down with Mary over a cuppa to tell her what is ahead of her. He's there again to tell the shepherds the good news and there at the stable when the Wise Men arrive. He even holds Jesus while Mary is helped, by Joseph, onto the donkey to head home again.

The looks of love and wonder from Gabriel, Joseph, Mary, the wise men and the shepherds are truly conveyed through these magnificent illustrations. I can't recommend this book highly enough for a traditional telling of the Nativity with the added touch of innovative and expressive illustrations.

Enjoy.