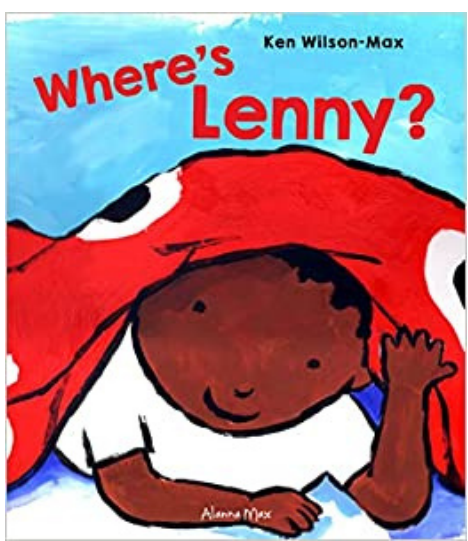


# AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT: Ken Wilson-Max



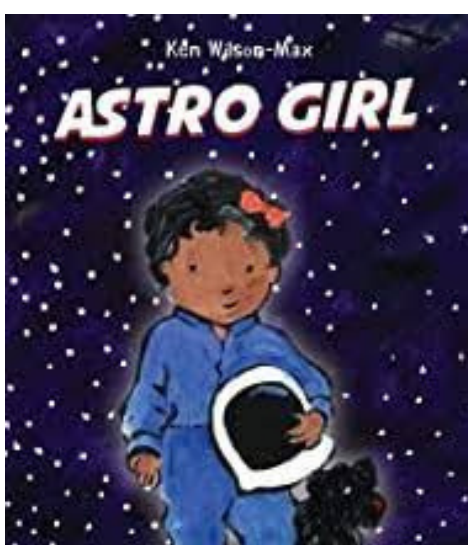
KEN WILSON-MAX was born in Zimbabwe. He came to the UK to study design and ended up working in children's publishing. His first book was published in 1993 and since then there have been over 70, with a string of national and international awards. Ken launched Chicken Newspaper for Children in 2014 and runs his own children's publishing company, Alanna Max. He illustrated Valerie Bloom's latest poetry collection, Stars with Flaming Tails, published in 2021.

## WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE CHILDHOOD BOOK AND WHY?

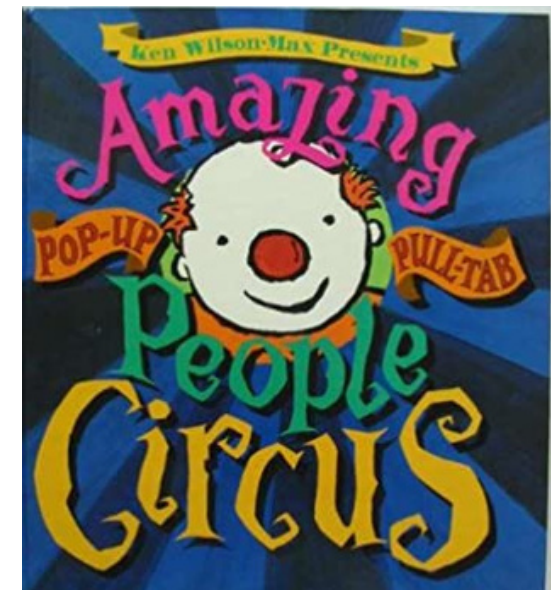


I didn't have a favourite childhood book as I come from a place (Zimbabwe) and time (1960's) when reading was all about learning. We invented stories though.

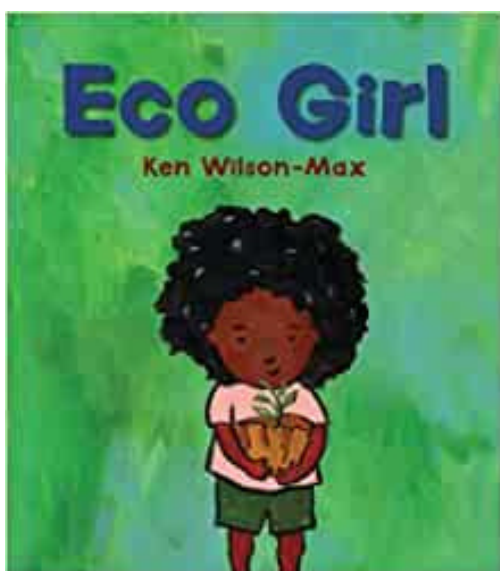
## WHICH OF YOUR OWN BOOKS IS YOUR FAVOURITE AND WHY?



I have two favourites; The Amazing People's Circus, because the paper engineering was such fun and the paintings so rich, and Astro Girl, because it only started to work as a story when I remembered feelings from my own childhood.



## WHY DO YOU CHOOSE TO READ?



I choose to read for pleasure because it's a chance to step into another world, or another set of shoes to see the world differently. I also enjoy how language and pictures transport us so effectively.