

<b>SERIES</b>	Death Metal Emo Elves
<b>TITLE</b>	Death Metal Emo Elves
<b>AUTHOR</b>	Dean Rankine
<b>PUBLISHER</b>	Redback Publishing (Also online at REDeBOOKS.com.au)
<b>PUBLICATION DATE</b>	February 2023
<b>ISBN</b>	978-1-761400-00-1
<b>PRICE</b>	\$16.99
<b>FORMAT</b>	Paperback, 200x130mm
<b>EXTENT</b>	234 pages, black and white
<b>GENRE</b>	Children's Fiction plus Hi-Lo
<b>AGE SUITABILITY</b>	Interest age 7+ years
<b>READING AGE</b>	7+ years
<b>BIC/CBMC</b>	YFQ/D3M69

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ledger and Stanley Award-winning comic book artist and writer Dean Rankine is best known for his work on:

- *The Simpsons Comics*
- *Futurama*
- *Rick and Morty*
- *Timmy the Ticked Off Pony*  
(written by Magda Szubanski)

## ABOUT THE SERIES

*Death Metal Emo Elves* comprises a 4-book series:

- (Book 1) *Death Metal Emo Elves*
- (Book 2) *Death Metal Emo Elves and the Magic Pick of Awesomeness*
- (Book 3) *Death Metal Emo Elves in Lollypalooza*  
– due late 2023
- (Book 4) – Title to be confirmed due 2024.

*Dean's other credits include*

- *Futurama*
- *Invader Zim*
- *Rick and Morty*
- *Oggy and the Cockroaches*
- *Underdog*
- *The Riverdale Diaries: Starring Veronica*

## DEATH METAL EMO ELVES

### Features include:

- Laugh-out-loud, hi-lo narrative fiction for ages from 7+ and reluctant readers through to secondary school.
- Strong themes of family and friendship
- Off-white paper for reading accessibility
- Character Sheets, Glossary and Table of Contents



## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATIONS

Death Metal Emo Elves is packed with black and white line illustrations in Dean Rankine's signature style. Anyone who has ever seen *The Simpsons* or *Rick and Morty* will feel a sense of familiarity and trust that the story will be fun to read.

Although the elves have pointy ears, there are no three-fingered characters here. The humour behind the portrayal of the ageing rock star will be a good opportunity to talk to children about the capabilities of the older people in their own family or community.

For reluctant readers, the illustrations will be the first point of attraction that will then lead them to read the associated text. They will appreciate the fun nature of the book and be drawn into reading through larger fonts, off-white paper and strong character likeability.



Emo's dad's eyes darted from one broken thing to another.

Emo could feel cold sweat roll down the back of his neck.

Emo swallowed the large amount of saliva that had suddenly pooled in the bottom of his mouth.



For an uncomfortable amount of time Emo's dad just stared at him.

Unblinking.

Emo was concerned that the sound of the guitar had broken more than just the windows ...

Finally, his dad spoke,



## ABOUT THE STORY

When tragedy threatens Emo's gherkin-height chances at the prestigious Battle of the Bands, a mysterious encounter with an 'Elfender Spellcaster' might just save his people from a lifetime of Polk music and raise the most 'Elvish of All' to rock more than his comfy chair!

This illustrated story takes elves out of the realm of cuteness, landing them firmly amongst emo rockers instead. There's even a surprise appearance from an old rocker who might be familiar to us all.

There's plenty of character development, plot twists and humour, all presented with Dean Rankine's signature style. The narrative is fast-paced, with every word and illustration moving the story to its funny and exciting denouement.

Despite the 'emo' title, this story focuses heavily on the importance of friendship and family. Older characters play leading roles and demonstrate good reason to 'respect your elders', while younger characters model leadership behaviours, teamwork and respectful appreciation of each others strengths and weaknesses.

Characters break stereotypical boundaries and demonstrate inclusivity with diverse gender representation, representation of diverse learning styles, strong female characters and multi-generational households.

The off-white paper was chosen by the publisher to enhance the book's reading accessibility.



## CLASSROOM DISCUSSION IDEAS

### CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

List the names and roles of the characters in the story. Choose two characters and think about how they developed as the story progressed. What have they learnt by the end of the story?

### RELATIONSHIPS

What are the different types of relationships discussed in the story? Think about the different types of relationships that you have in your community.

### CLIMAX

Can you identify the climax in the story? Talk about what a plot climax is and how a writer makes it exciting to read. Why is it important not to put the climax right at the end?

### PLOT

Write a simplified plot in point form for *Death Metal Emo Elves*. Use it to explain to another person what the story is about.

### FANTASY

Part of the story is fantasy and part is based on things that could happen in real life. Talk about why writers use fantasy characters and locations for their stories. Discuss how writers use anthropomorphism to make character experiences more accessible to a wider audience. Why is this an effective technique?

### CHARACTER LIKEABILITY

Who is your favourite character and why? What makes them likeable and do they feel familiar?





## ACTIVITY 1

Emo is nice. But he's also a little sad. Sometimes he feels like he's lost something important, but he can't remember what. His hobbies include piano accordion and dating Chrystal.

Can you develop this illustration of Emo to complete his character?

# EMO



## ACTIVITY 2

Sometimes Moss feels like \*elv's not everyone's favourite elf. But that's okay, elvs friends are pretty cool. Elv's happy doing elvs thing and everyone else doing theirs. Elvs hobbies include collecting miniature mushrooms.

Can you develop this illustration of Moss to complete elvs character?

\*Elv is Moss' pronoun. Elv doesn't define elfself by 'he' or 'she'.

# MOSS

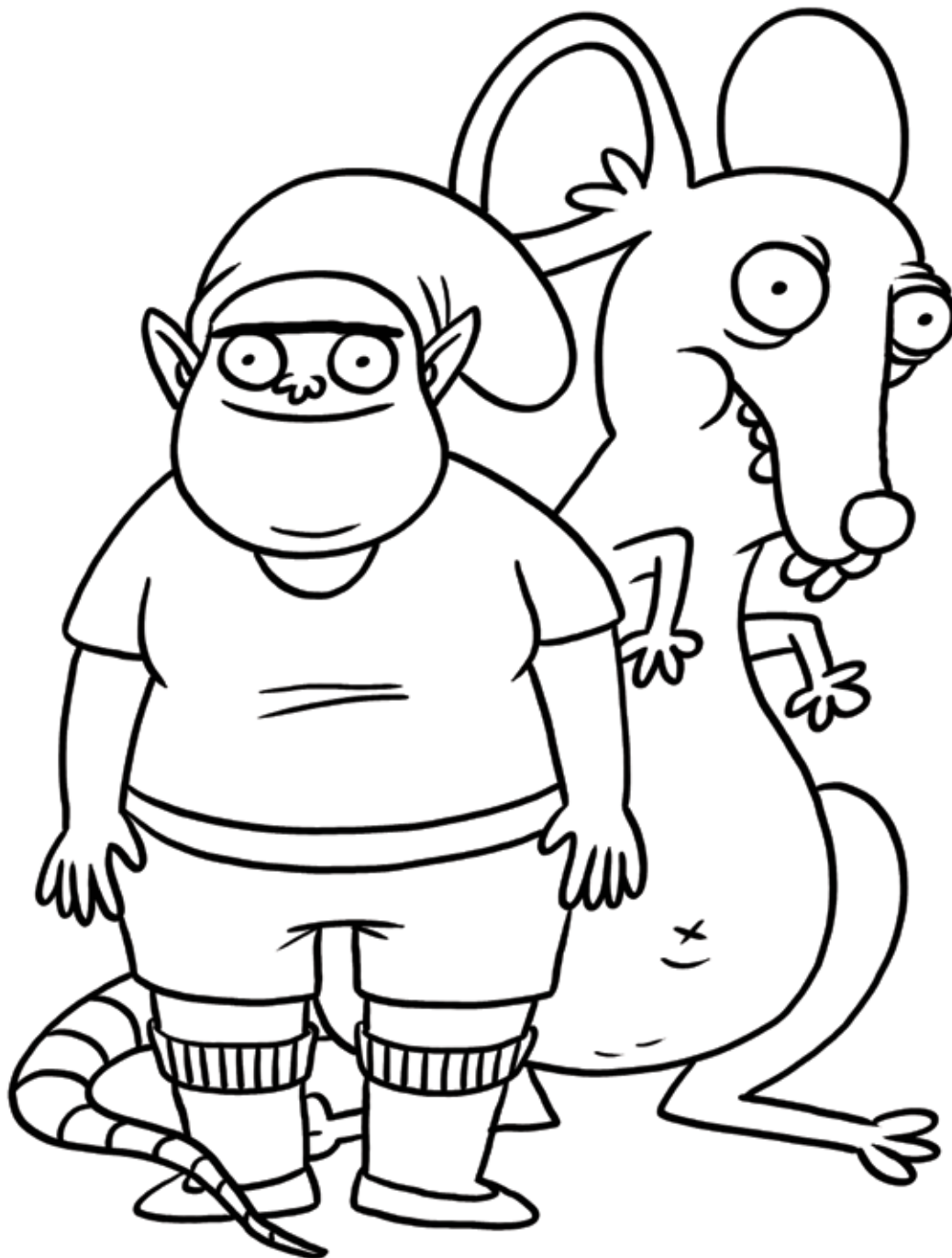


### ACTIVITY 3

Hongo doesn't know the rules to any boardgames, but he likes to play them anyway – just to spend time with his friends. His hobbies include sleeping.

Can you develop this illustration of Hongo to complete his character?

# Hongo



## ACTIVITY 4

Elvie is tough as nails. She's even GOT great nails. She is fiercely loyal and loves her friends. Her hobbies include special effects make-up art, extreme sports and shark movies.

Can you develop this illustration of Elvie to complete her character?

# Elvie

