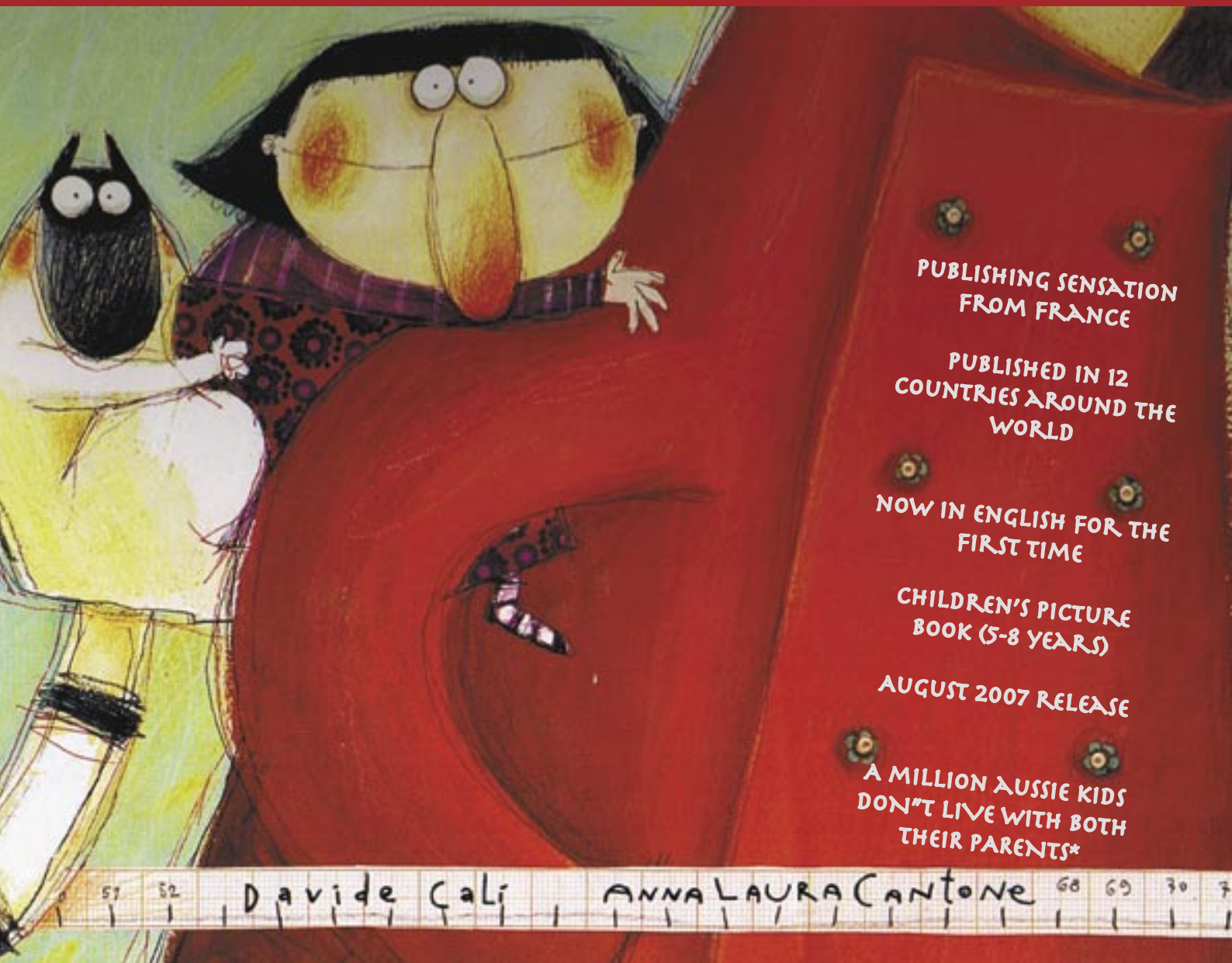


A DAD WHO MEASURES UP

FATHER'S DAY
PROMOTION

A little girl's heart-warming search for the ideal dad



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* Source: Stepfamily Association
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My mummy, she is tall, very tall, Much taller than the other mums. When she comes to school, the other mums get out of her way.

My mummy is strong, very strong, much stronger than the other mums.



No mum can beat her in an arm-wrestle. And probably no dad either!

My mummy is beautiful, very beautiful, much more beautiful than the other mums. If there was a beauty contest for mums, my mum would win the first prize.



My mummy is smart, super smart, much smarter than other mums. She always figures out the name of the baddie before the end of the film. And she can do sums in her head!

My mummy is sporty, very sporty, much sportier than other mums. She can play bowls ... foosball ... and she can roller-blade.

And she can do jigsaws.



But other children also have a daddy. I don't. If I did, I would need a tall, very tall daddy, As tall as four daddies at least.

I would need a strong, very strong daddy, much stronger than other daddies. As strong as a masked superhero on the telly.

I would need a handsome, very handsome daddy, much more handsome than other daddies. As handsome as a movie actor, with lots of hair.





I would need a smart, super smart daddy ... and sporty... who likes jigsaw puzzles and who is kind!

My mummy and I put an advert in the paper: 'Looking for a dad like this, like that. If not like this, or like that, stay at home.'

The day after, the daddy-candidates arrived.



Not strong enough ... not enough hair ... can't count ... can't roller-blade ... doesn't like jigsaws... unkind ...

In the end, there was only one left. He wasn't very tall ... didn't look like a movie star ... wasn't sporty ... nor as strong as a masked superhero.



But he looked nice, so we took him home.



My new daddy is small, very small, much smaller than other daddies. He can't count but ... he knows plenty of rhymes ... he loves animals ... and he can cook!

My new daddy is very, very kind, much kinder than other daddies.



Because at night before I sleep, he reads me a story. And sometimes, even two stories.

I love my new daddy. Even if he can't roller-blade. Even if he can't do jigsaws.

He is my daddy.





What makes a dad ideal? Is he strong as a superhero, or handsome as a movie star? Is he intelligent or sporty? Or is he just good at jigsaw puzzles and have lots of hair?

One little girl is about to find out, in this funny, charming and ultimately moving story of her search for a dad who can measure up to the mummy she loves.

It's going to be a hard job finding a partner for a mum so unusual, but this little girl is determined to try. Together, she and mum draw up a list of all the things they want in a dad and place a notice in the paper, only to discover lots of candidates lining up outside the house the very next day!

In the end, the successful candidate is a long distance from what they thought they wanted, but he's special too in his own

way—because he is kind, can cook, and (most important of all) because he loves them.

This immensely positive and entertaining book, told from a child's point of view in memorable rhythmic language, is for any child reflecting on what makes their dad so great.

With the lightest of touches, and without any loss of entertainment

value, it also tells the story of a quirky single-parent family's happy transition into a stepfamily—a very common feature of modern society.

Translated into many languages across the world, including Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Danish, Korean, Chinese, Polish and Finnish, *A Dad Who Measures Up's* Australian and New Zealand publication will mark its first publication in English anywhere in the world.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Davide Cali is one of Europe's most in-

novative and acclaimed writers for children. He is the author of 12 illustrated books, including *I Can't Wait* (illustrated by Serge

Bloch), which won France's prestigious Baobab Prize for the most innovative book of 2005 (the Baobab Prize is run by the French Booksellers Association and *Le Monde* newspaper.) *I Can't Wait* was also named honour book in the American Library Association's Batchelder Award (for the best children's book translated into English each year). His books have now been translated and published in 15 countries, Davide lives in Genoa, Italy but writes in French. *A Dad Who Measures Up* is the first of his books to be published in Australia and New Zealand. Wilkins Farago will publish a second Cali book, another collaboration with Serge Bloch entitled *The Enemy*, in late 2007.

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

'The text is formidably served by the talented Anna-Laura Cantone. For my part, I await each new publication from her with impatience.' Citrouille (*Pumpkin magazine, France*)



Illustrator **Anna-Laura Cantone** is an award-winning young Italian illustrator who already has

more than thirty books to her name, including many published in English. She has twice been selected for the Bologna Book Fair illustration competition. Her distinctively playful and innovative style of illustration involves the employment of several artistic techniques, include painting, drawing and collage. Anna lives in Milan, Italy.

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