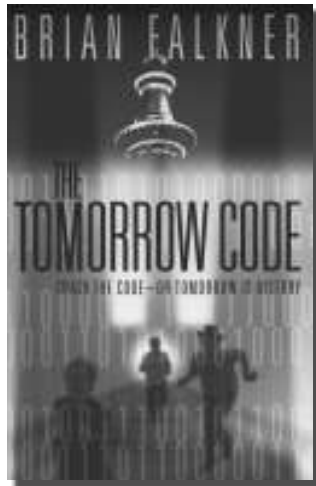




2009
FINALISTS

YOUNG ADULT FICTION



The Tomorrow Code

Brian Falkner

Walker Books

ISBN 978-1-92115-034-0 pb, RRP \$19.99

Target Age 12+

Tane and Rebecca aren't sure what to make of a sequence of 1s and 0s, a message that looks like a random collection of alternating digits. As they decode it, slowly it becomes clear — the messages are being sent back in time from the future! Tane and Rebecca follow the message's cryptic instructions, but it's not long before they begin to suspect the worst — that the very survival of the human race may be at stake!



Brian Falkner has been writing creatively for most of his life. Prior to becoming a children's author, Brian had a career as one of New Zealand's pre-eminent advertising copywriters, with national and international awards for his work. Since deciding to write for children, he has extensively studied story craft and structure with a particular focus on story development and characterisation.

Brian has previously written three junior fiction titles. *The Tomorrow Code* is his first young adult novel. He lives in Auckland with his wife and two daughters.

Great Activity and Event Ideas...

1. The author has done a lot of background research and included a lot of science and technology information in the book. Does this enhance or detract from your enjoyment of the book? Discuss. Find out more about the research at www.tomorrowcode.com
2. The book opens with a verse from Joni Mitchell's song 'Big Yellow Taxi'. Find the lyrics for the rest of the song and discuss their relationship to the book and its themes.
3. Translate the first line of the book into Morse Code.
4. What message would you send to a past version of yourself? Once you've decided, add it to the board run by the author at: www.whatwouldyousend.com.
5. *The Tomorrow Code* has a strong New Zealand, particularly Auckland, focus and setting. How do you feel seeing your country reflected in the books you read? Does it make it a more enjoyable experience, than reading a book set elsewhere?



New Zealand Post
BOOK AWARDS

children & young adults

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Activity

Rebecca is an interesting, intelligent and intense character committed to causes like saving the whales. Choose one of her causes and design a banner like the one she and Tane unravelled down the side of the high-rise building at the beginning of the book.