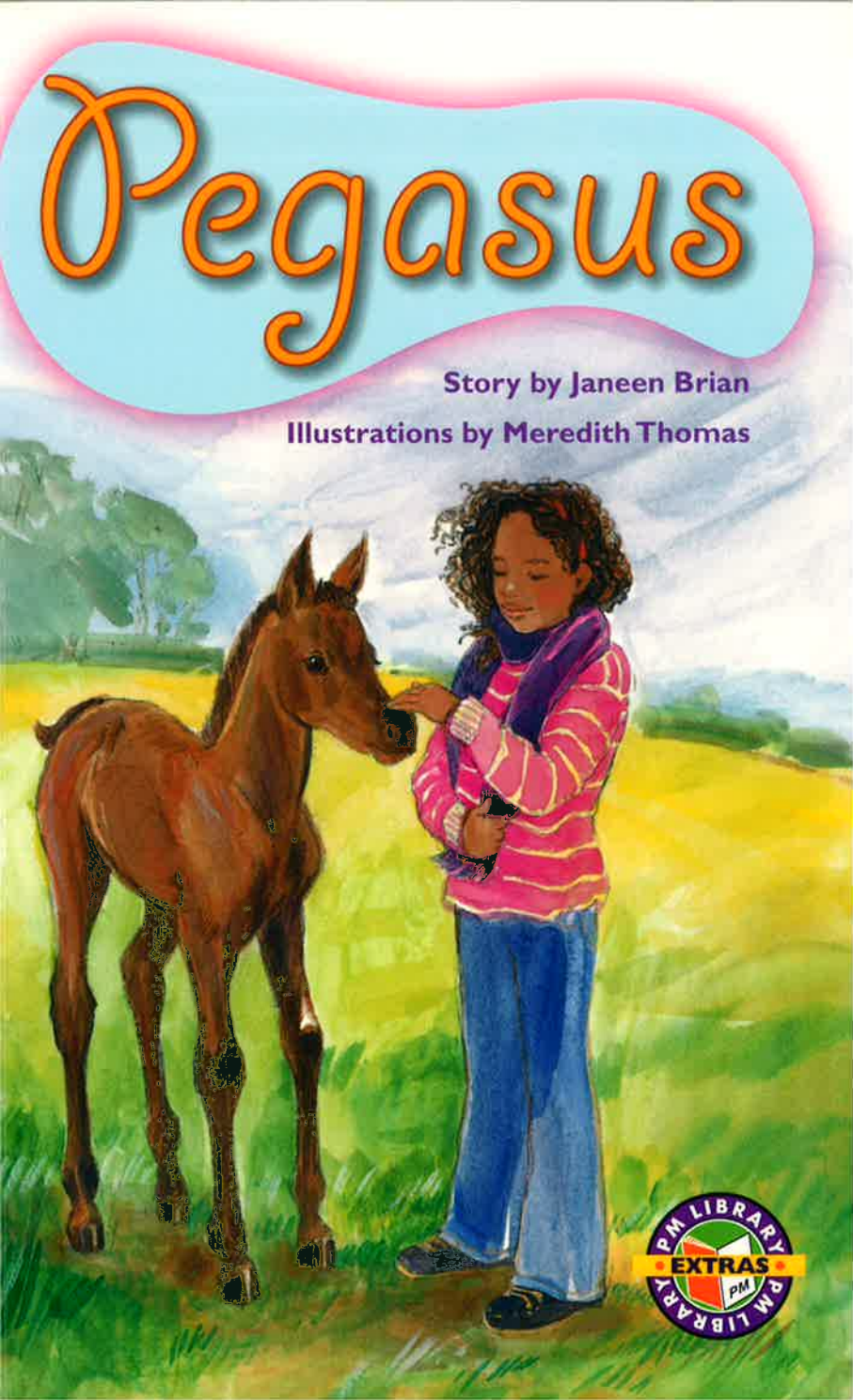
Pegasus

Story by Janeen Brian

Illustrations by Meredith Thomas



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Pegasus

Key vocabulary

foal, legend, Pegasus, newborn, beautiful, white, brown, country, important, draughty, friends, brother, together, wrong, thought

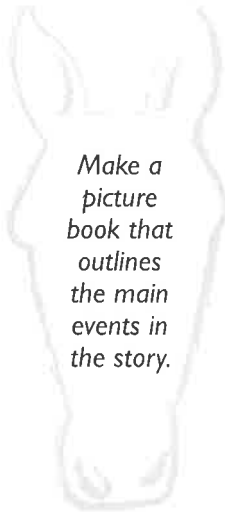
Grammatical conventions

- Similes: pp. 5, 10, 12, 27
- Use of question marks
- Use of exclamation marks
- Use of words instead of 'said': asked, cried, accused, called, insisted, whispered

Spelling:

- 'ph' (f) sound in 'triumphantly'
- Silent letters: wrong, climbed, thought, sighed
- 'gh' (f) sound in 'draughty'
- Magic 'e' that makes vowels change from short to long pronunciation: time, ride, like

Creative thinking task – Knowledge



Make a picture book that outlines the main events in the story.

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CHAPTER 1

The New Foal



Silently, Amy named the glistening new creature Pegasus. Then she shivered. The barn was chilly in the dawn. Amy couldn't take her eyes off the slimy, leggy bundle that lay on the fresh straw. Challenge licked her newborn foal and gave a small whinny.

Zack laughed and wriggled forward. Amy immediately grabbed her younger brother's arm.

'Don't move,' she whispered, more fiercely than she'd intended.

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'Stop it, Amy,' cried Zack, tugging his arm free. 'I'm only watching.'

Kneeling first, the foal tried to stand. Its thin legs buckled and wobbled and it toppled back on the straw. Amy pulled at Zack's shoulder.

'Don't go too close,' she muttered out the side of her mouth. 'You'll scare it.'

'No I won't.'

Suddenly the foal was up.

Amy caught her breath. For a moment the creature stood poised like a small, rickety table. Then it took a hesitant step, dipped its neck and nuzzled its mother's underbelly.



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Zack said to their dad, 'Let's call it Star!'

Amy spun round, defiant. One look at her father, and she felt her face flare scarlet.

'Dad!' she hissed. 'He can't call it Star.'



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CHAPTER 2

The Name of a Legend



Zack jutted his jaw. 'Yes, I can. It's got a white bit on its leg and it looks like—'

'But, Dad!' Amy heard the despair in her voice. 'You promised *I* could name the foal!'

In the shadows of the barn her father looked confused. 'Did I?'

Amy couldn't believe it. It was the most important thing that had happened since they'd moved to the farm. 'Don't, Dad,' she begged. 'Don't let it be Star.'

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'Star's good,' cried Zack. Then, to Amy's annoyance, he stepped in front of her and looked squarely up at their dad. 'Isn't it!'

'We'll talk about it later, kids,' Dad said gently.

'Well, I'm going to call it Star.'

'No,' said Amy, trembling. 'It's already got a name. It's called Pegasus.'

Zack's mouth twisted. 'Pega-*what*! That's a stupid name.'

'For your information, Pegasus is the name of a wonderful horse – a horse that could fly!'

Zack clucked his tongue in disgust. 'It's a *dumb* name,' he grunted. Then added, 'Real horses can't fly.'

Amy bit her lip and turned back to look at the foal, hating her brother. She felt her father's hand on her shoulder.

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'Pegasus, eh? Long time since I've heard that name', said her dad. It's from a folktale, isn't it?'

Amy could tell her dad was trying to be nice, but why couldn't he just tell Zack that the foal wasn't going to be called Star.

'From a *legend*,' Amy corrected. 'A Greek legend.' Even as she said it, a picture of Regan's bedroom came into her mind. And she remembered the story she used to read to Regan, when her best friend could no longer read for herself.

