

# UC LIBRARIANSHIP GRAD CELEBRATES SIXTH BOOK

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Most aspiring young writers would be happy to have one book published by the age of 27, but University of Canberra alumna Katie Taylor has just launched her sixth.

Writing as KJ Taylor, she launched *The Shadowed Throne* – the second book in what is also her second fantasy trilogy – at the University's Co-op Bookshop on Wednesday 11 April.

"I still get a bit nervous about my book launches, that hasn't changed since the first one. I think it's just all the excitement around it," Ms Taylor said. "I'm really proud of this trilogy, so it's great that the second book is now out there for people to enjoy."

Her two trilogies, *The Fallen Moon* and the latest series *The Risen Sun*, feature griffins, which are mythical half-lion, half-eagle creatures. She also published a stand-alone novel for children, *The Land of Bad Fantasy*, when she was 20.

"To reach the point of having six books published is amazing, but at the end of the day, even if everything falls through and I'm not published again, I will write anyway. I just feel like I have to do it, it's who I am," Ms Taylor said. "I'm still enjoying writing about griffins, and what a lot of people don't

realise is that my two trilogies are stand-alone, but they can also be read together as there is story continuation across all six."

Her latest book *The Shadowed Throne* was launched by former ACT Young Australian of the Year, young adult fiction writer Jack Heath, who Ms Taylor revealed also inspired one of the characters in her latest novel.

Ms Taylor also celebrated another milestone recently when she graduated with a Master of Information Sciences in Librarianship from the University of Canberra on 28 March, adding to her Bachelor of Communications majoring in creative writing in 2007 and a graduate certificate in editing in 2008.

She completed her internship at the University's Lu Rees Archives of Australian Children's Literature while completing her Master's, where she discovered "she wanted to be an archivist". She quickly achieved that dream by becoming the director of the Radford College archive in January, saying, "it's been great to put my skills into practice straight away."

Ms Taylor's books have been published internationally, including in the US, Canada, Romania, and the Czech Republic. She is currently working on her 12<sup>th</sup> novel, part of the fifth trilogy in the griffin series. Read more: [www.kjtaylor.com](http://www.kjtaylor.com)

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## ALIA CONGRATULATES YASMIN BIRCHALL

ALIA is pleased to pass on congratulations to UC graduate Yasmin Birchall, winner of the ALIA Prize. Yasmin graduated with a Master of Information Studies in Librarianship from the University of Canberra. The ceremony was especially special, as Yasmin's daughter, Amy, graduated at the same time with a double degree in arts and journalism.

Yasmin decided to further her studies because she could see that information resources, both physical and digital, were changing rapidly.

"I thought the UC degree offered a great way to learn about contemporary ways of working with information to best meet the needs of clients," she said. "I also wanted to improve my job prospects in what is a very competitive industry; and to further develop knowledge and expertise in information management."