



Room to Read®

World Change Starts With
Educated Children™



Room to Read is an innovative global non-profit which seeks to transform the lives of millions of children in **10 developing countries** in Asia and Africa by focusing on **literacy and gender equality in education**. Since it was founded in 2000, Room to Read has built more than **1800 schools**, established over **17,000 libraries**, published **1000 new children's books** in 28 local languages, and supported over **30,000 girls** in its Girls' Education Program. Over **9 million children** have benefited from increased access to educational opportunities.

Alice Pung

Writer Ambassador for Room to Read



► Award-winning Australian author of *Unpolished Gem* and *Her Father's Daughter*, and editor of *Growing up Asian in Australia*. Alice's books are all studied at secondary schools nationally.

► Alice's most recent book, *Laurinda*, is the inspiration for an exciting writing competition for high school students.

Details at

www.myfirstlesson.com.

<http://alicepung.com/blog/>

Since launching our fundraising presence in Australia in early 2009, writers have helped to extend the organisation's reach into schools and also built connections to publishers, booksellers, bookclubs and literary festivals. They make perfect ambassadors for Room to Read. There is no one better able than a writer to understand the importance of reading.

As Alice says, 'Reading and writing changed my life, and took me to unimaginable places - literally. This is why Room to Read is so important. Having come from a refugee family that survived war, I personally understand the transformative power of literacy to build better lives.'

Room to Read, through its award-winning local language publishing program, aims to open the world of books to millions of children throughout Asia and Africa—to teach them to develop the habit of reading, to become lifelong readers.

We need your help to extend our reach even further.

Room to Read has chapters in six Australian cities as well as in New Zealand. If, like Alice, you would like to become involved, please contact Jennie Orchard:

jennie.orchard@bigpond.com.

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