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## ***That's Mine!* by Michel Van Zeveren**

**Publisher: Gecko Press**

**RRP \$19.99**

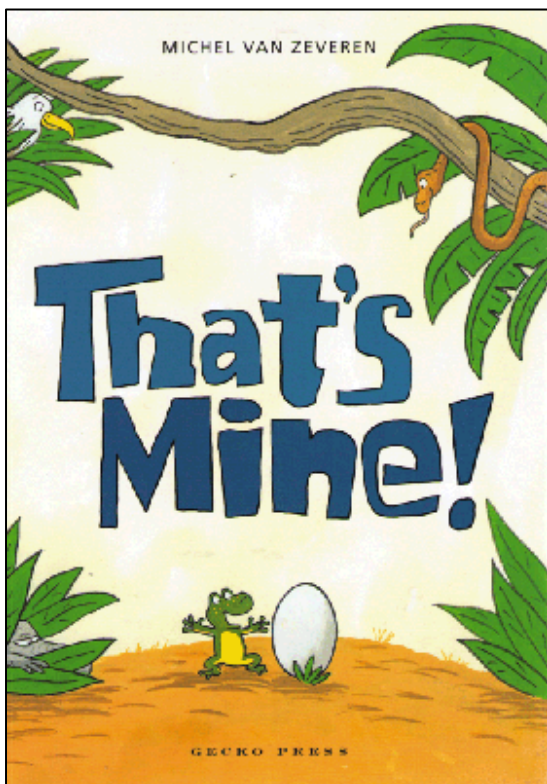
A little frog thinks he's lucky when he comes across an egg in the jungle. Rather than try to find the owner, he claims the egg, "Aha... that's mine!"

However, a watchful snake slithers down from a tree, wraps himself around the egg and says, "...ssssmine."

In the jungle, might is often right. Soon an eagle takes the egg, only to lose it to a large lizard. A battle ensues and the slippery egg flies into the air and thumps onto an elephant's head. He's not happy about being assaulted by a hard object and asks, "Whose is this?"

None of the nervous animals want to claim the egg and ownership falls back to the little frog. However, he's in for a shock as the egg starts to crack and out comes a ... (sorry, it would spoil the surprise to reveal the unexpected ending).

Bold, uncluttered illustrations showcase the animals' expressions as they each clasp the egg, then later deny ownership. There's a wonderful parade of emotions: glee, greed, disappointment, anger, feigned innocence - and disbelief.



'Be careful what you wish for' could be the moral of this tale that offers much food for thought.

**Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett.**

