

# Readings Monthly

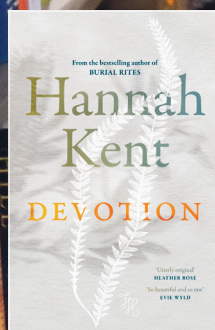
FREE | NOVEMBER 2021

## Welcome back Melbourne!

*(We've missed you so)*

*New books from*  
**Christos Tsiolkas,  
Maxine Beneba Clarke,  
Ann Patchett, Helen  
Garner and more**

BOOKS  
MUSIC  
FILM  
EVENTS



HANNAH  
KENT  
page 5



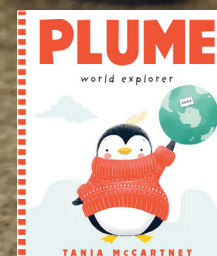
MAXINE BENEBA  
CLARKE  
page 9



ROBYN  
ANNEAR  
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BROADSHEET  
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TANIA  
MCCARTNEY  
page 18



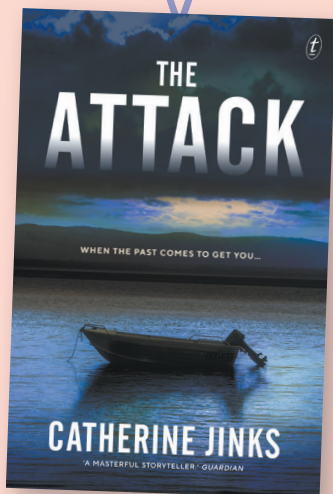
JANINE  
JANSEN &  
ANTONIO  
PAPPANO  
page 23

## Readings

CARLTON 309 LYGON ST 9347 6633 KIDS 315 LYGON ST 9341 7730 DONCASTER WESTFIELD DONCASTER, 619 DONCASTER RD 9810 0891  
HAWTHORN 701 GLENFERRIE RD 9819 1917 MALVERN 185 GLENFERRIE RD 9509 1952 ST KILDA 112 ACLAND ST 9525 3852 STATE LIBRARY  
VICTORIA 285-321 RUSSELL ST 8664 7540 | SEE SHOP OPENING HOURS, BROWSE AND BUY ONLINE AT READINGS.COM.AU



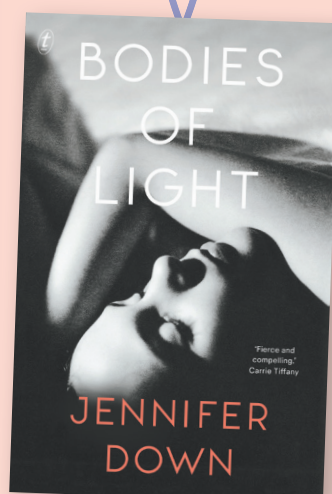
# Have a very bookish Christmas



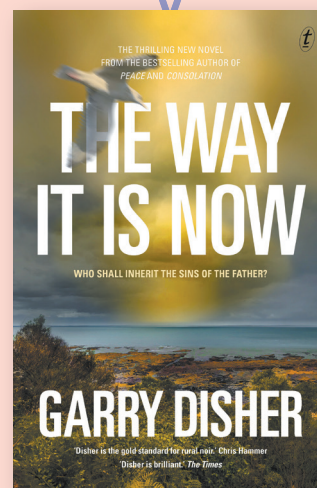
The author every crime reader needs on their shelves. **'A masterful storyteller.'** *Guardian*



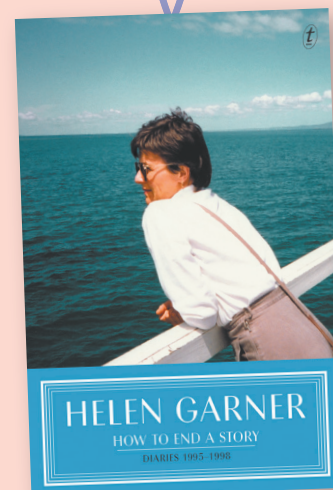
A funny, heart-warming autistic story about navigating a path to love. **'I adored it!'** *Helen Hoang*



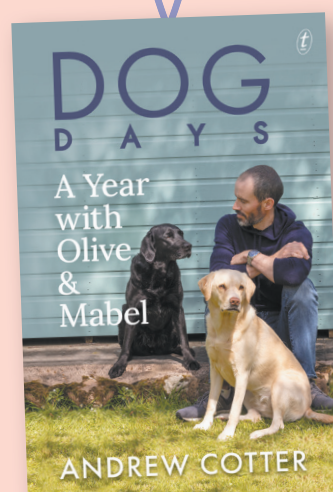
A story of reinvention and resilience. **'Brutal and beautiful.'** *Victoria Hannan*



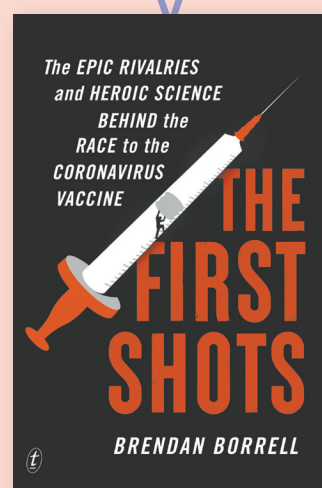
Love crime? Love Disher. **'Gold standard.'** *Chris Hammer*



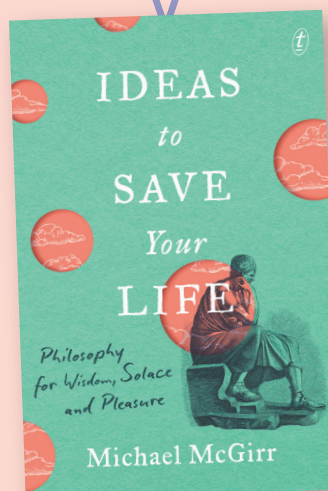
The pain, anger and humour of the messiness of the end of a marriage.



A funny and touching account of a year like no other. **'Utterly charming.'** *Virginia Trioli*



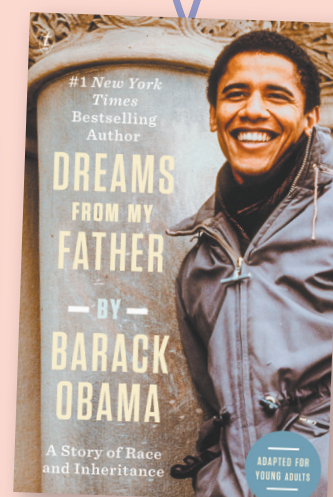
The inside story of the global race for a lifesaving vaccine.



The quest for order in a perplexing world. **'An alchemist.'** *Geraldine Doogue*



A compelling collection by one of Australia's foremost political analysts.



This bestselling memoir is now adapted for young adults. **'Quite extraordinary.'** *Toni Morrison*



# News

### Readings shops are open again

Welcome back Melbourne! We are delighted to be opening the doors to our Carlton, Kids, Hawthorn, Malvern, Doncaster and St Kilda shops again, and we can't wait to see you. As you know, due to public health requirements, our shops are operating a little differently. For the most up-to-date information about our opening hours and entry conditions, please visit [readings.com.au/our-shops](https://readings.com.au/our-shops). You can also sign up to our enews ([readings.com.au/sign-up](https://readings.com.au/sign-up)) to receive updates. Please note, our State Library shop remains closed at this time.

### Andrew Pippas wins the Readings Prize

We are thrilled to announce the winner of the 2021 Readings Prize for New Australian Fiction is Andrew Pippas for *Lucky's*, which the judges described as 'an outstanding, clever debut, one so many Australians can relate to and enjoy.' Pippas will receive prize money of \$3,000. For more information, and to read our judges' report, see page 5.

### Get ready for Christmas

Shop early and shop local at Readings this

festive season! Our shops are full of new releases, and our booksellers are ready to help you find everything you need. You'll find plenty of ideas throughout this edition of the *Readings Monthly*, as well as in our annual *Summer Reading Guide*, on our website, and in our enews. If you are shopping online, please place your orders of in-stock items by midnight, Wednesday 1 December for timely delivery by Christmas.

### Readings Emporium opens December

We are excited to announce Readings

Emporium will be opening in December, just in time for those Christmas shopping lists. Kerstin Thompson Architects has designed the fit-out of the light-filled 300sqm space, overlooking Little Bourke Street. We can't wait to see you there!

### Best Books and Music of 2021

Get ready for our staff's best books and music of the year! This year, the results of our staff vote will be posted over several days on the Readings website starting the week of 15 November. From transporting

fiction to heart-palpitating crime reads to delicious cookbooks, these favourites make for great gifting ideas. Look out for the lists on our website ([readings.com.au/blog](https://readings.com.au/blog)) and in shops in the coming month.

### Readings Kids' Book Subscription

Our Kids' Book Subscription is the perfect gift for the littlest people in your life – a book in the post every month to share. There are two options to choose from: a six-month subscription (\$190) and an 11-month subscription (\$350). Each book will be selected monthly (February–December) by our expert children's booksellers, gift-wrapped and then posted out by us. We recommend this subscription for children aged 0-4 years old. The subscription is available for purchase exclusively on the Readings website. For more information, please see: [readings.com.au/the-readings-kids-book-subscription](https://readings.com.au/the-readings-kids-book-subscription)



### READINGS MONTHLY

Free, independent monthly newspaper published by Readings Books, Music & Film

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\$7.20 flat rate to anywhere in Australia for orders under \$120. Free shipping for orders \$120 and over.

### DELIVERY CHARGES FOR ONLINE PURCHASES

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### FRONT COVER

The November Readings Monthly cover features a photograph of our Carlton shop. Visit our website ([readings.com.au/our-shops](https://readings.com.au/our-shops)) to view all our opening hours and trading conditions.

### PRICES AND AVAILABILITY

Please note that all prices and release dates in Readings Monthly are correct at time of publication, however prices and release dates may change without notice. Special price offers apply only for the month in which they are featured in Readings Monthly.

### COVID-19

While all title release dates were correct at the time of going to press, due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis the unexpected may happen along the supply chain. Please bear with us as we bring you books in these rapidly changing circumstances.

Readings donates 10% of its profits each year to the Readings Foundation: [readings.com.au/the-readings-foundation](https://readings.com.au/the-readings-foundation)

## Sales & Promotions

### Melbourne City Reads

Melbourne City Reads (MCR) is a four-month initiative that aims to showcase local authors and draw customers into inner-city bookshops significantly affected by Covid-19. The fourth and final book of the initiative is Maxine Beneba Clarke's *How Decent Folk Behave*, which will be offered in-store and online at the special price of \$20 (was \$26.99). Turn to page 9 for our booksellers' review.

### Win a \$250 Broadsheet Gift Card

Purchase a copy of the cookbook *Home Made* in-store at Readings, and go into the draw to win a \$250 Broadsheet Gift Card. This gift card allows you to dine at the best cafes, restaurants and bars in your city, Australia-wide, chosen by the Broadsheet team. Simply book your visit to one of the many participating venues (or try your luck with a walk-in) and present your Broadsheet Gift Card at the time of payment to have the amount deducted from your bill. To enter, email [competitions@readings.com.au](mailto:competitions@readings.com.au) with a photo of your receipt. The competition ends midnight 8 December, and the winner will be drawn 9 December. Only the winner will be notified by email. Please note this offer is not available online. One entry per transaction.

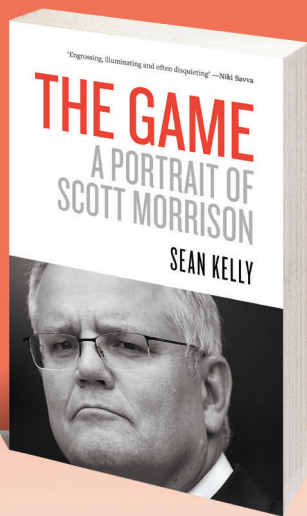


Melbourne writers, Melbourne bookshops

Tune into Afternoons with Jacinta Parsons on ABC Radio Melbourne, the second Wednesday of each month to hear interviews with our monthly authors.

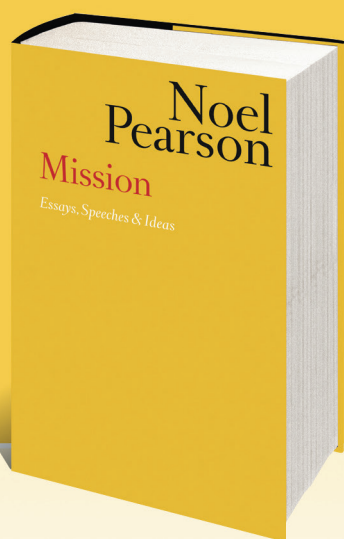






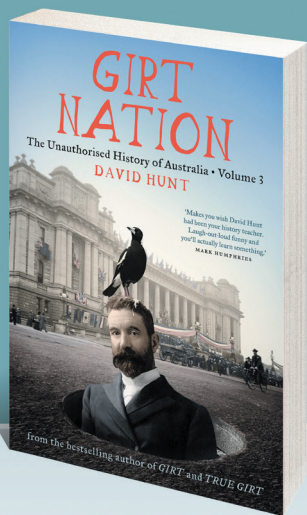
What happens when the prime minister views politics only as a game? A must-read account of a man, a time and a nation.

‘Engrossing, illuminating and often disquieting’ —Niki Savva



Honest, provocative and utterly original, *Mission* traces a life of politics, life and inspiring words.

‘Australians have an epic story. It is one of the great epic stories of this planet. We will recognise the scale of our story when we recognise each other.’ —Noel Pearson



The saga of Australia continues with ... *GIRT NATION*

‘Makes you wish David Hunt had been your history teacher. Laugh-out-loud funny and you’ll actually learn something.’ —Mark Humphries



BLACKINCBOOKS.COM

## Mark's Say

with Mark Rubbo



As I write this, it's only a day until we reopen our shops after being closed for almost three months; it's a cause for celebration but

it's not without anxiety. We had assumed that, like Sydney, only vaccinated customers would be permitted to shop with us and prepared accordingly. Then a day ago, new guidelines stated that unvaccinated customers could also shop with us if we adhered to density limits, but once those limits are removed (around 24 November), only vaccinated customers will be able to enter the shop. It's been a roller-coaster of conflicting emotions – reassurance at first that we'd only be dealing with vaccinated customers coupled with anxiety as to how we'd police that and then anxiety about dealing with unvaccinated customers coupled with the relief of not having to check vaccination status. Whatever happens, we are all desperately hoping the increasing vaccination rates will provide a path to more normal lives for all of us.

Local publishers (and local printers) have been doing an amazing job supplying us with the books you want, but cracks are starting to show in the global and local supply chains. Overseas shipments are delayed and costs have skyrocketed. One publisher told me that the cost of shipping one container from China had gone from \$2,000 to \$12,000. Transport within Australia is under severe pressure; Australia Post is being hit with a huge surge in parcel volumes while having to endure rolling labour shortages caused by Covid-19 cases. The freight company that delivers books for most publishers is facing similar issues. Orders that took two or three days to come are now taking weeks. We've stocked up on the books and items we love but please plan ahead, especially for your Christmas gifting.

As many of you know, our wonderful events program has shifted online and I've had the privilege of being in conversation with some wonderful writers. Last night, I spoke to Hannah Kent about her new novel, *Devotion*; it is a marvellous work quite different in tenor to her earlier novels. It has a brightness and optimism that those books lacked because of their grim subject matter. I've been able to read a lot more during this last lockdown and can highly recommend our Readings Prize winner, Andrew Pippas' *Lucky's*, a warm, nostalgic trip through another Australia. Colm Tóibín's fictional account of Thomas Mann's life, *The Magician*, is absolutely engrossing; Allee Richards' *Small Joys of Real Life* is an impressive portrait of life in 21st-century Melbourne; Miles Allinson's *In Moonland*, about a young man's quest to know his father, is brilliant; Emily Bitto's *Wild Abandon* is a crazy wild ride; *Crossroads* by Jonathan Franzen is American writing at its best; and I'm keen to start Maxine Beneba Clarke's *How Decent Folk Behave*, the last book in our Melbourne City Reads Program. I can't wait see many of you in our shops leading up to Christmas and especially in our new shop at Melbourne's Emporium. Don't forget to check our enews for lots of offers we have coming up. If you don't receive it, you can subscribe at readings. com.au/sign-up. Happy holidays to all!

## Dear Reader

with Alison Huber



Observers of literary trends will know that poetry has been having a significant popular renaissance in recent years, and it

has been fascinating to watch the growing appetite for newly published works. Close readers of the *Readings Monthly* will have also noticed the introduction of a regular poetry review, thanks largely to the enthusiasm of our staff reviewer, Clare Millar. This month, Clare reviews two new collections: *How Decent Folk Behave* from the multi-talented writer that is Maxine Beneba Clarke (also November's Melbourne City Reads pick); and *White Clouds Blue Rain* by Oliver Driscoll, who happens to be another of Readings' multi-talented staff. Clare says of Oliver's style that it reminds her of Gerald Murnane: high praise indeed!

Hannah Kent's *Devotion* is our Fiction Book of the Month. Kent's writing skill is undeniable, and, as our reviewer observes, this book confirms her as one of the country's leading literary lights. As I write, the book has been out only a few days, and is already generating a lot of discussion about its 'twist', which, in true bookish solidarity, no one who knows it is revealing. Christos Tsiolkas' 2019 novel *Damascus* was an incredible and daring work of historical imagination; this month we find out how the brilliant writer follows up such a feat, with the release of his new work, *Seven and a Half*, and our reviewer is thankful for its 'exultant bloom of life'. We also recommend books from Inga Simpson, Robyn Mundy, and a heap of crime reads, including Book of the Month, *Canticle Creek* by Adrian Hyland. There are rich offerings in international fiction, including a book from the winner of this year's Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, Louise Erdrich, as well as books from Per Petterson, Sarah Moss, Hilma Wolitzer (with the title of the year!), Dave Eggers, Rose Tremain, Neal Stephenson, plus two Nobel Prize winners, Wole Soyinka (his first novel in almost 50 years), and Olga Tokarczuk (*The Books of Jacob* is described as her 'magnum opus' and took seven years to translate into English).

Unless you live within 5kms of the CBD, you will have missed walking in the city during lockdown, and what better way to reconnect with that act than with historian Robyn Annear's lovely *Adrift in Melbourne: Seven Walks*. It's our Nonfiction Book of the Month, hitting shelves at the beginning of December. Until then, there is plenty of nonfiction to keep you occupied, including Chelsea Watego's 'sharply written [and] fiercely intelligent' *Another Day in the Colony*; Helen Garner's third instalment of her diaries, *How to End a Story*; political historian Judith Brett's career-spanning *Doing Politics*; Clementine Ford's memoir, *How We Love*; Ann Patchett's essays, *These Precious Days*; Rebecca Solnit's tribute to George Orwell and his love of gardening; Evelyn Juers' literary biography of dancer Philippa Cullen; and a memoir of the bookshop life lived in a very different context, Nadia Wassef's *Chronicles of a Cairo Bookseller*. I'd also point out Black Inc.'s fundraising book for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, *Seeking Asylum*; the pictorial history of the Wangaratta Jazz and Blues Festival; Bill Gammage and Bruce Pascoe's *Country*; Trent Dalton's *Love Stories*;

Bain Attwood's biography of William Cooper; Thomas Piketty's *Time for Socialism*; books from Jane Goodall, Tarana Burke, Bobby Gillespie, Adam Liaw; the whopping-great double-volume slipcased completist's delight, *Lyrics: 1956 to the Present* from Sir Paul McCartney; and THE gift for anyone with the best kind of taste in TV (or any other thing), *Best Wishes, Warmest Regards: The Story of Schitt's Creek* (which is worth having for the spread cataloguing David's sweaters alone).

And finally, dear Reader, my heartfelt congratulations to Andrew Pippas on winning this year's Readings Prize for his outstanding debut, *Lucky's*. I fell hard for this book when I read it in 2020, so I'm not at all surprised it won the judges over as well. Yay, Andrew! Plus, we're collating our staff's favourite books of 2021 as I type, so look out for the announcement online in mid-November.

## On Events

with Chris Gordon



As we near the end of two relentless years I want to take this opportunity to thank every person that has attended a Readings online

event. We have hosted close to 200 events and entertained over 20,000 people. From the bottom of my heart, thank you to all the authors who willingly engaged in our program. Thank you to all the publishing houses that made every move possible. I want to especially thank those people who wrote to me about our program and encouraged us to continue. Thank you to the Readings staff that sent books out and about, delivered books by hand (that's you Mark Rubbo), who attended events, hosted events, and allowed the Readings program to thrive. All of you made me happy. All of you made it worthwhile.

Of course, our programming continues. We finish the year with some exceptional events that will help us to define the landscape we find ourselves in. This year, Australia's #MeToo moment erupted in the national parliament. In her electrifying *Quarterly Essay*, Jess Hill, the acclaimed author of *See What You Made Me Do*, traces the meaning of those events and what could happen next. Hopefully hearing Hill speak (online, Tue 30 November) will give you the right words to express your dismay.

We finish the year with stories of courage. The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre has created a beautifully illustrated book, *Seeking Asylum: Our Stories*, which captures the stories of those who have lived the experience of seeking asylum. In their own voices, contributors share how they came to be in Australia, and explore diverse aspects of their lives: growing up in a refugee camp, studying for a PhD, changing attitudes through soccer, being a Muslim in a small country town, campaigning against racism, surviving detention, holding onto culture, dreaming of being reunited with family. There are stories of love, pain, injustice, achievement, and everything in between. It seems right to finish the year's programming with an event that will impart some perspective and encourage compassion (online, Wed 1 December).

I'm already looking forward to seeing you in one of our shops, amongst a crowd of readers, smiling. Stay safe and keep reading.







# THE STRANGE DEATH AND CURIOUS REBIRTH OF THE ISRAELI LEFT

Once the nation's political powerhouse, the Israeli left has crumbled. What is behind this dramatic demise?

## THE JEWISH QUARTERLY

November 2021

### The strange death and curious rebirth of the Israeli left

Anshel Pfeffer

On a new era in Israel

Richard J. Evans

The early days of a Nazi Ideologue

Natalie Grynyak

Ukraine and its Jewish president

Raphael Zarum

The last rabbi Jonathan Sacks and his legacy

Lauren Elkin

The personal journalism of Vitan Gornick

Barry Schwabsky

From Salome to Betty Boop



“The left has become the ideology that dare not speak its name.”

– ANSHEL PFEFFER

OUT 4 NOVEMBER

Available at good bookshops and newsagents

THE JEWISH QUARTERLY

JEWISHQUARTERLY.COM

Rachel's sense of uneasiness starts to grow. Dismissing her fears, she is startled by the arrival of a stranger and her baby. Feeling she has no choice but to help this stranger find her partner in Canberra, Rachel is drawn once again into the world – one that is on fire and where 'they' are taking over.

*The Last Woman in the World* may not be the comfort read most of us are craving right now (with the current state of the world, it feels a little too real), but it is nonetheless a compelling story that I couldn't put it down. All the trademarks of Simpson's writing – the beautiful descriptions of the landscape – are present, and it's obvious she draws on her own experiences of the 2019–20 Black Summer bushfires for some of the narrative. Thankfully for the reader, the book does end with a glimmer of hope for humanity.

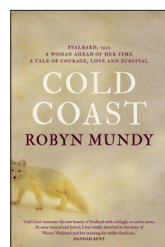
Sharon Peterson is the manager of Readings St Kilda

### Cold Coast

Robyn Mundy

Ultimo Press. PB. \$32.99

Available now



**R** July, 1932: It is high summer up in the Arctic Circle and the widow Ivanna 'Wanny' Woldstad is the only female taxi driver in the Norwegian town of Tromsø. When she picks

up seasoned trapper Anders Sæterdal from a bar, she has a proposition for him: he needs a partner for the winter season up north, and she's an exceptionally good shot. Initially resistant, Anders agrees, and the pair make their way up to the fierce, stark splendour of Svalbard. The two fall into a daily rhythm, preparing for the long night of winter, when the trapping of polar foxes and bears truly begins. They train their dogs, hunt seals and ptarmigans for food, even make their own sourdough starter. Slowly, a mutual respect develops, but Wanny is a woman of many secrets, and this winter will be harsher than any she has known. Meanwhile, in alternating chapters, a little arctic fox kit – the runt of her litter with a rare coat of blue fur – learns to make her way in the treacherous yet beautiful mountains of Svalbard.

*Cold Coast* is a gripping fictionalised account of the real Wanny Woldstad's first journey to Svalbard in 1932–33. Woldstad was the first female trapper and hunter – *fangskvinne* – and her determination and grit are brought to life with eagle-eyed detail here by Robyn Mundy, who has spent years working as a seasonal tour guide in Svalbard and north-east Greenland. Mundy's experience is evident on every page of this book. Her evocations of this awe-inspiring landscape and its harsh conditions are so real, you truly feel like you've stepped through a wardrobe into a world turned blue by the polar winter. The brutality of trapping is handled honestly (there is a lot of blood in this novel) and Wanny's issues as the first woman to navigate this hermetically sealed world of men are sensitively explored.

'Why Svalbard?' Wanny is asked early in the novel. 'Because it is a place of stories ... of snowstorms, of dangers and battles ... It leaves me with a longing.' Well, this novel has all of that, and it will leave you with that very same yearning to visit these far-flung places. There is a magic and mystery to the isolated reaches of our world, and Mundy has bottled up its icy wonder for us to savour this summer.

Jackie Tang is the editor of *Readings Monthly*

### Scorcher

Tim Ross

Modernister Books. PB. \$39.95

Available now



The soft crash of waves that blissfully block out all other noise, the smell of a two-stroke and lawn clippings, the first sip of cold beer, the laboured whirl of the ceiling fan, the sound of a bag of ice

hitting the pavement. Comedian Tim Ross uses the Australian summer as a backdrop for this collection of nostalgic short stories.

### Skimming Stones

Maria Papas

Fremantle Press. PB. \$29.99

Available now



As a teenager, Grace came to know all too well the hospital waiting rooms where siblings of cancer patients sit on the sidelines. Now an adult, Grace finds nursing a comforting world of

science and certainty. But the paediatric ward is also a place of heartbreak, and when an emergency hits, Grace is propelled back to her childhood home.

### Piazza Garibaldi

Marisa Fazio

Merrijig Word & Sound. PB. \$25

Available 15 November



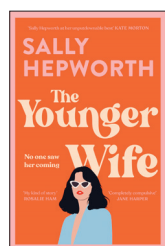
In 1880s Marvellous Melbourne, at La Signora X's bordello on Crossley Lane, a young Sicilian woman meets and falls in love with an Italian artist. Meanwhile, Ricciotti Garibaldi, a labourer and family man, is suffering from sleep deprivation due to the city's extended heatwave. Set over a single summer's day and night, Marisa Fazio's novella is a beguiling and lyrical exploration of Melbourne, Italy and colonialism.

### The Younger Wife

Sally Hepworth

Pan Mac. PB. \$32.99

Available now



Tully and Rachel are livid when they discover their father has a new girlfriend. The fact that Heather is half his age isn't even the most shocking part.

Stephen is still married to their mother, who is in a care facility with end-stage Alzheimer's disease. When Stephen and Heather announce their engagement, old wounds and dark family secrets threaten to spill over.

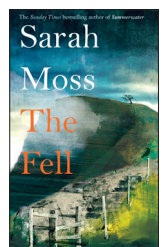
## International Fiction

### The Fell

Sarah Moss

Picador. PB. \$32.99

Available 9 November



**R** It is my belief that Sarah Moss is the undisputed queen of taking everyday stories that seem ordinary at first glance, and stuffing them full of delicious, near unbearable tension. *The Fell* does not disappoint on this front; I closed the cover

on the last page with shoulders like concrete.

Set during the early months of the pandemic and ensuing global lockdowns, *The Fell* focuses on the lives and inner thoughts of a cast of characters in a small English village: Kate and her teenage son Matt; their neighbour Alice; and Rob, a single parent charged with Kate's rescue. Alice is a widowed cancer survivor, reliant on her neighbours Kate and Matt for grocery deliveries during lockdown, until they are deemed close contacts and need to self-isolate. Used to being able to wander the moors and mountain behind her home, Kate finds isolation far too much for her mental state and risks a chance trip onto the moors, resulting in a less-than-ideal situation for all involved.

Moss' ability to capture the moment-by-moment minutiae of a middle-class life in lockdown is breathtaking. Her great skill lies in making the reader feel as though they are a voyeur of the scene she has created, that we are there with the characters, included yet unobtrusive.

Much like her previous novel *Summerwater*, *The Fell* is also intimately concerned with social class, the inexorable effects of capitalism on our society, and climate change. Moss offers much to ponder with this novel, while ultimately gifting the reader with a sense of relief that there are others in the world who have thought and felt the very same things we have during this strange time in history.

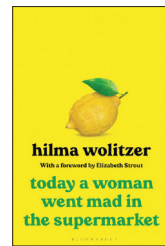
Tye Cattnach is from Readings Carlton

### Today a Woman Went Mad in the Supermarket

Hilma Wolitzer

Bloomsbury. PB. \$29.99

Available now



**R** *Today a Woman Went Mad in the Supermarket* is a brilliant collection of short stories spanning Hilma Wolitzer's entire career. From 1966 to the 2020 pandemic, the stories are largely set in

New York City and brim with reflections about noisy and uninsulated apartments, motherhood, troublesome neighbours, marriage and life in America. Other stories reflect the fractured structures of the American dream, and the tensions that arise from being a housewife during the 1970s. Wolitzer perfectly captures the rage and limits that accompany domesticity in the confined settings of New York's apartments and dense city living.

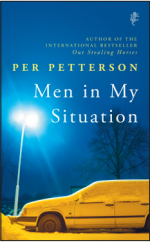
Written in 2020, the last story, 'The Great Escape', is the most poignant of all. Wolitzer reflects on her experience during the early stages of the pandemic, starting in early March when the virus began circulating viciously in New York. She articulates the anxiety we all shared in the early stages: out-of-stock face masks, bare supermarket shelves and the isolation. She remembers the first Zooms, calls from panicked family members and then the inevitable – she and her husband contracting the virus. Days pass in a feverish haze and her husband is admitted to hospital. Wolitzer describes the cruel and stark reality of the virus – her husband dies alone in a Manhattan hospital, without her by his side.

Many of the stories from the 1960s and 1970s remain timeless and relevant; they exist in a space removed from the current pandemic, invoking nostalgia for a pre-Covid world. Wolitzer's observations on motherhood, marriage and domesticity are astute, pertinent and often hilarious. Fans of Annie Dillard, Elizabeth Strout



and Lauren Groff will devour Wolitzer’s intelligence, storytelling, and wisdom. Melody Ducasse is from Readings Malvern

**Men in My Situation**  
Per Petterson & Ingvild Burkey (trans.)  
Harvill Secker. HB. \$35  
Available now



**R** *Men in My Situation* paints a portrait of the effects of grief upon a fragile psyche, and as you are already guessing, the results ain’t pretty. Our first-person narrator, Arvid, lives in Oslo and his life has come undone with two shattering incidents: a ferry accident in which members of his family have died, and the subsequent implosion of his marriage. He describes his attempts to keep in touch with his three young daughters, but as they spend less and less time with him, we realise that the gap between the life he is describing and its actuality is getting wider and wider.

We spend a lot of time on the streets of Oslo and on the roads leading in and out of the city – Arvid has a mania for describing landmarks, directions, the relationships between suburbs and towns. He is a writer, a quite well-known one (the similarities of his life circumstances to Petterson’s have been noted), and this becomes a repeated gag in the book, whereby various people he meets have read his books but are circumspect in giving their opinions of them.

As well as being physically located, the character culturally situates himself with references to plays and novels and films and music: Strindberg and Berger and Bergman and the Beatles. But though Arvid insists on his location by means of architecture and art, he is a nowhere man. His grief has plunged him into a solipsistic hellhole. Most of this book is less of a narrative and more the description of the concentric ripples on the surface of a life when a person falls through to the underneath. The last part of the book, however, (and thankfully so if the book is indeed based on Petterson’s life) allows some years to elapse and Arvid the chance to connect again with a world outside himself. Bernard Caleo is from Readings Carlton

**The Sentence**  
Louise Erdrich  
Corsair. PB. \$32.99  
Available 9 November



**R** When I picked up a review copy of Louise Erdrich’s book about a bookseller who is haunted by a particularly annoying customer after she passes, I thought: ‘Fantastic! Finally, a lighthearted, cathartic read for my lockdown-tortured brain, and a break from the endlessly ringing phones in the shop.’

What I didn’t expect was to be thrust into our protagonist Tookie’s literal and suffocating prison cell (a double entendre of the title) for the roundabout origin story of her conversion to words, and to bookselling. Thankfully though, Tookie’s memories of her incarceration only form part of the novel, and catharsis and lightheartedness still abound – there’s even a delicious dig at those ringing phones.

Tookie fictionally works at Erdrich’s very own nonfictional bookshop, Birchbark Books, in Minneapolis. Over the course of 12 months spanning 2019 and 2020, we’re confronted not only with the infuriating ghost of a deceased customer, but also with

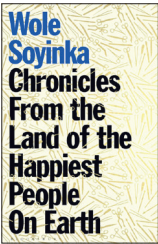
the horrific reality of an epidemic running unchecked in a nation under Trump, and the George Floyd protests at the characters’ doorstep. Beautifully fleshed out, Erdrich’s characters are painted on an all-too-real backdrop of culture clash, race politics and the apocalyptic unravelling of the world as we knew it before Covid-19.

Despite, and maybe because of these trials, not to mention the macabre-yet-brilliant bullshit artistry that landed her in jail, Tookie possesses a delightfully wry, frank wit that makes each passing ‘day in the life’ achingly relatable, tenderly comical and compulsively readable. We also see Tookie’s warm, steady-yet-fraught marriage to the cop that caught her, and an uncertain lurch into unconventional motherhood.

With *The Sentence*, Erdrich sticks to her intoxicating blend of reality meets storytelling, educating us while we chuckle along with an in-joke. Though some of its terrors are real, this modern classic is a warmly lit bookshop, inviting you in for a while, out of the bleakness.

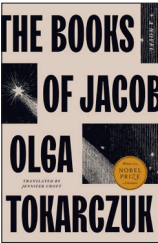
Clodagh Robinson-Watts is from Readings Carlton

**Chronicles from the Land of the Happiest People on Earth**  
Wole Soyinka  
Bloomsbury Circus. PB. \$29.99  
Available now



In an imaginary Nigeria, some cunning entrepreneur is pilfering body parts from Dr Menka’s hospital to sell for ritualistic practices. Troubled, Menka shares this with his oldest college friend, bon viveur and Yoruba royal, Duyole Pitan-Payne, but neither realise how close the enemy is. A crafty and savagely witty whodunit from a titan of world literature and Nobel Prize winner, Wole Soyinka.

**The Books of Jacob**  
Olga Tokarczuk & Jennifer Croft (trans.)  
Text. PB. \$34.99  
Available 16 November

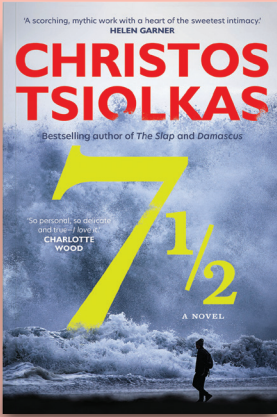


The meteoric rise and fall of a religious leader as he blazes his way across 18th-century Europe. Jacob Frank is a young Jewish man of mysterious origins, whose iconoclastic beliefs start to attract a fervent following. Narrated through the perspectives of his contemporaries – those who revere him, those who revile him, the friend who betrays him – *The Books of Jacob* is Nobel Prize winner Olga Tokarczuk’s most ambitious novel yet.

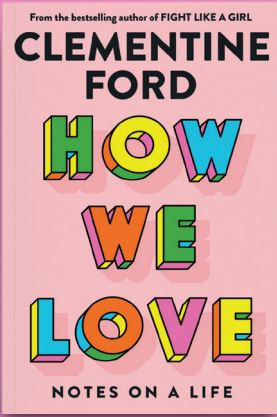
**Lean Your Loneliness Slowly Against Mine**  
Klara Hveberg & Alison McCullough (trans.)  
HarperVia US. PB. \$29.99  
Available 5 November



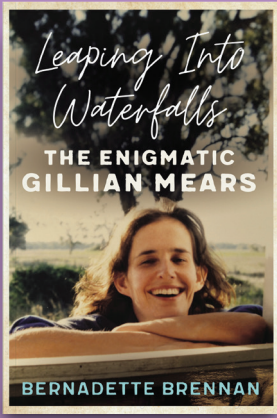
Rakel has always been more comfortable with numbers than people. Gifted with a rare talent for mathematics, she moves to Oslo to attend university, where she meets Jakob, an older teacher fascinated by her similarity to the subject of his book: mathematician Sofja Kovalevskaja. This debut of mathematics and classical music explores the infinitely complex patterns of love.



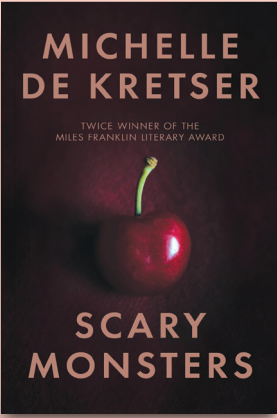
‘A scorching, mythic work with a heart of the sweetest intimacy.’  
HELEN GARNER



‘Big-hearted, fierce, tender, and so full of hope, just when we need it.’  
CLARE BOWDITCH



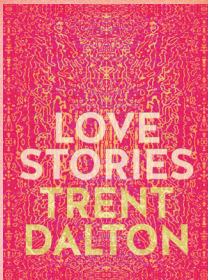
A moving and meticulous account of the extraordinary life and brilliant work of Gillian Mears, by the acclaimed biographer of Helen Garner.



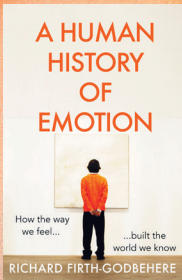
‘Radically brilliant ... written by one of the living masters of the art of fiction.’  
MAX PORTER

ALLEN & UNWIN

# Great Stories Uncovered



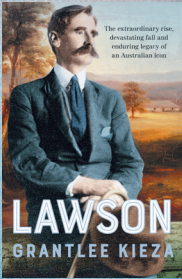
Trent Dalton, Australia’s best-loved writer, goes out into the world and asks a simple, direct question: ‘Can you please tell me a love story?’



A sweeping exploration of the ways in which emotions shaped the course of human history, and how our experience and understanding of emotions have evolved along with us.



From the award-winning author of *We Are Wolves* comes the story of a young boy who becomes a soldier at six, fighting in the only way he can – with love. But is love ever enough when the world is at war?



The extraordinary rise, devastating fall and enduring legacy of an Australian icon.

Out now from



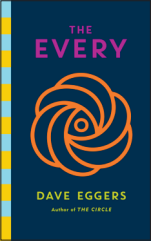


The Every

Dave Eggers

Hamish Hamilton. PB. \$29.99

Available 16 November



When the world’s largest social media company merges with the dominant e-commerce site, it creates the most powerful monopoly ever known: The Every. Former forest ranger Delaney is an unlikely new hire, but she’s there with one goal: to burn it all down. But does anyone even want what Delaney is fighting to save? A lacerating blend of satire and scarily prescient commentary.

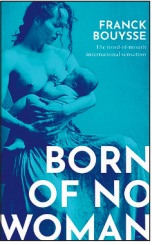
Born of No Woman

Franck Bouysse &

Lara Vergnaud (trans.)

W&N. PB. \$32.99

Available now



In this Gothic tale, a young woman’s journals divulge the secrets of a wealthy family in late 19th-century rural France. Traded to a rich man by her father at 14, Rose is caught in a perverse web spun by the master, his formidable mother and his absent wife. A French word-of-mouth bestseller, this novel is both a keen class commentary and a harrowing horror story.

The Book of Magic

Alice Hoffman

Scribner. PB. \$32.99

Available now



The conclusion to Alice Hoffman’s beloved *Practical Magic* series. For centuries, the Owens family has been cursed in matters of love. Aunt Jet has finally discovered the secret to breaking the curse, but time is running out. As the Owens women race to destroy the spell that has marked all their lives, will their attempts also threaten the very thing the family has fought so hard to protect?

Chouette

Claire Oshetsky

Virago. PB. \$32.99

Available 9 November



Tiny is pregnant. But the baby isn’t her husband’s, it’s an ‘owl-baby’. When Chouette is born, Tiny’s husband and family are devastated by her appearance, and start speaking over Tiny on how to best raise her. Inspired by Chouette’s self-possession and untameable will, Tiny knows she must protect her child. A fierce and dark fable about motherhood full of wild love.

Five Tuesdays in Winter

Lily King

Picador. PB. \$32.99

Available 9 November



A bookseller’s unspoken love for his employee rises to the surface, a neglected boy finds much-needed nurturing from a pair of college students hired to housesit, a girl’s loss of innocence at the hands of her employer’s son becomes a catalyst for strength. Author of *Writers and Lovers* Lily

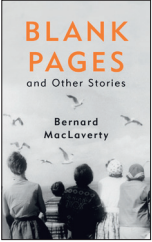
King showcases her gift for creating lasting and treasured characters in these romantic and perceptive short stories.

Blank Pages and Other Stories

Bernard MacLaverty

Jonathan Cape. HB. \$32.99

Available now



Twelve extraordinary stories that show the emotional range of one of Ireland’s greatest writers. From a poor out-of-work Catholic man who falls ill in sectarian Northern Ireland, to the last moments of the life of Egon Schiele, watching his wife dying of influenza, these stories are all underpinned by turbulent undercurrents of violence, religion, regret and love.

My Monticello

Jocelyn Nicole Johnson

Harvill Secker. PB. \$29.99

Available now



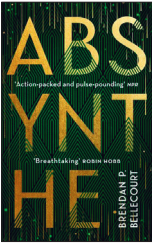
During a night of power outages, arson and gunfire, the diverse neighbourhood of 1st Street, Charlottesville comes under attack by a white supremacist mob. Fleeing for their lives, the neighbours take refuge in Thomas Jefferson’s old plantation house, Monticello, finding ways to care for and sustain one another. A sharp interrogation of America’s systemic violence and a powerful vision of collectivism and hope.

Absynthe

Brendan P. Bellecourt

Head of Zeus. PB. \$32.99

Available 1 December



A brave new world has arisen out of the Great War. Former soldier Liam reaps the benefits of working for one of the richest families in Chicago, but his glistening life of luxury is rocked by an attack on the speakeasy he frequents, triggering Liam’s long-buried memories. Set in an alternate Roaring Twenties, this is a deco-punk tale of unchecked technology and the costs of utopia.

The Memoirs of Stockholm Sven

Nathaniel Ian Miller

John Murray. PB. \$32.99

Available now



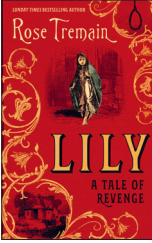
A lonely hut in an uninhabited, inhospitable fjord. There, Sven Ormson passes the days alone, testing himself against the harsh elements with no company except his loyal dog. Years into his routine isolation, the arrival of an unlikely visitor sparks a chain of events that brings Sven into a family of fellow outsiders and determines the course of the rest of his life.

Lily: A Tale of Revenge

Rose Tremain

C&W. PB. \$32.99

Available 16 November



Abandoned at the gates of a London park in 1850, baby Lily Mortimer is saved by a young police constable and taken to the cruel and oppressive London Foundling Hospital. Released into

the harsh world of Victorian London as an adult, Lily finds work and love, but all the while hides a dreadful secret. From acclaimed author Rose Tremain, *Lily* is riveting Victorian-era historical fiction.

The Lost Apothecary

Sarah Penner

Affirm Press. HB. \$39.99

Available 30 November



Hidden in the depths of 18th-century London, a secret apothecary shop caters to an unusual kind of clientele. Women whisper of its well-disguised poisons that can be used against the oppressive men in their lives. But a fatal mistake by a precocious new patron puts everything at risk. With crackling suspense and unforgettable characters, *The Lost Apothecary* is a delicious tale of vengeance and female solidarity.

Harsh Times

Mario Vargas Llosa & Adrian

Nathan West (trans.)

Faber. PB. \$29.99

Available now



Guatemala, 1954. A CIA-supported military coup topples the government. Behind this violent act is a lie passed off as truth, which forever changed the development of Latin America. Featuring international conspiracies and Cold War-era political machinations, this is the complex story of Guatemala’s political turmoil during the 1950s and 1960s, as told by Nobel Prize-winner Mario Vargas Llosa.

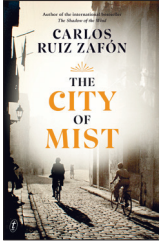
The City of Mist

Carlos Ruiz Zafón &

Lucia Graves (trans.)

Text. PB. \$29.99

Available 16 November



A labyrinth-maker flees Constantinople to Barcelona to build a library impervious to time; a gentleman tempts Cervantes to write a book like no other, a brilliant Catalan architect determines the fate of an unfinished masterpiece. Imaginative and beguiling, this posthumous collection of 11 stories returns to the mythical Barcelona library, the Cemetery of Forgotten Books from Carlos Ruiz Zafón’s bestselling *Shadow of the Wind* quartet.

Termination Shock

Neal Stephenson

HarperCollins. PB. \$34.99

Available now



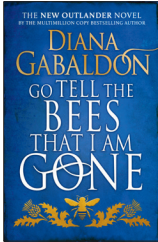
In a near-future world where the greenhouse effect has inexorably resulted in a whirling-dervish troposphere of superstorms, rising sea levels, global flooding and merciless heatwaves, one man has a Big Idea for reversing global warming – a master plan perhaps best described as ‘elemental’. Intricately imagined and richly plotted, *Termination Shock* is trademark Neal Stephenson – a gripping and propulsive epic of the modern world.

Go Tell the Bees That I Am Gone (Outlander, Book 9)

Diana Gabaldon

Century. PB. \$32.99

Available 23 November



Jamie Fraser and Claire Randall were torn apart by the Jacobite Rising of 1745, and it took them 20 years to find each other again. Now, it’s 1779, and the American Revolution threatens to do the same. The next instalment in the much-loved *Outlander* series, *Go Tell the Bees That I Am Gone* is another Diana Gabaldon epic, rich in historical detail.

The Song of Achilles (10th Anniversary Edition)

Madeline Miller

Bloomsbury. HB. \$39.99

Available 30 November



This special edition of Madeline Miller’s award-winning retelling of the Trojan War is a stunning hardcover featuring a new foreword by the author. Miller breathes tangible, bloody life into the story of Patroclus and Achilles, two young men whose inseparable bond stands in stark contrast to the tragic fates awaiting them on the battlefields of Troy.

Must I Go

Yiyun Li

Penguin. PB. \$22.99

Available 30 November



Lilia Liska is 81. She has shrewdly outlived three husbands, raised five children and seen the birth of 17 grandchildren. Now she has turned her keen attention to a former lover’s vanity-published diary; as she reads, she writes her own annotations, which undercut his charming yet arrogant voice. *Must I Go* explores the painfully finite nature of human life and the infinite depths of human beings.

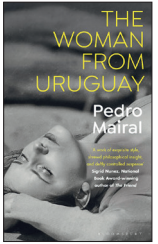
The Woman from Uruguay

Pedro Mairal &

Jennifer Croft (trans.)

Bloomsbury. PB. \$29.99

Available 5 November



A tender story of relationships and second chances set over the course of a single day. Lucas is an unemployed writer in his forties, stuck at home looking after his son, fantasising about the Uruguayan woman he met at a conference several months back. Embarking on a trip to Montevideo to collect an advance for his novel, Lucas is about to experience a day like no other.

Where You Come From

Saša Stanišić & Damion Searls

(trans.)

Jonathan Cape. PB. \$29.99

Available now



A boy and his mother flee the war in Yugoslavia and arrive in Germany. Six months later, the boy’s father joins them, bringing a brown suitcase, insomnia and a scar on his thigh. The story of a family uprooted



by war, *Where You Come From* playfully twists form and genre with wit and heart to explore questions of language and shame, luck and death, identity and belonging.

Poetry

How Decent Folk Behave

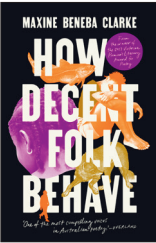
Maxine Beneba Clarke

Hachette. PB. Was \$26.99

\$20

Available now

Melbourne City Reads November book of the month



Maxine Beneba Clarke hardly needs an introduction. The author of several award-winning titles including *The Hate Race* and *Foreign Soil*, Beneba Clarke will delight readers with her

fourth poetry collection. *How Decent Folk Behave* is many things – a testimony, a living history, a retrospective. The majority of the poems focus on the wide array of events that 2020 and 2021 encompassed – not just Covid-19 and lockdowns but also ongoing social justice fights such as Black Lives Matter, protests against police brutality and detention policies, climate change and bushfires, reproductive rights, and so much more.

While some readers may be reluctant to relive the last two years through poetry, I was relieved to read a fresh perspective – to escape the news and instead approach current events with a poet’s eye. If all news could read like this, the world might be quite different. At times, Beneba Clarke’s poems (such as ‘The Monsters Are Out’, ‘Proximity’ and ‘Capital’) are chilling in their assessment of the realities for women in Australia – ‘this place / is where women / get raped’. There is anger, certainly, that fuels this collection (‘get the fuck back, / i am warning you: / i’ve got poetry’ the prologue cautions), but I found the voice of unity so uplifting. Many poems use ‘we’ frequently, which incites both the fire of protest and also a sense of storytelling, of Beneba Clarke sitting down to tell future generations about the beginning of the 2020s.

This is an accessible collection that would be great reading for the summer – you can dip in poem-by-poem or read the whole lot in one sitting. *How Decent Folk Behave* cements Beneba Clarke as a captivating and refreshing Australian poet.

Clare Millar is from Readings online

White Clouds Blue Rain

Oliver Driscoll

Recent Work Press. PB. \$19.99

Available now



Having released his debut poetry title *I Don’t Know How That Happened* just last year, Oliver Driscoll returns with his second, *White Clouds Blue Rain*. This is an intriguing collection,

told through a series of triptychs, each comprising a photo, a poem and a longer section of prose, typically short essays or memoir. This is a work of deep observation and noticing the habits of others, cataloguing memories and the small movements in life. The prose sections span several timeframes – some step back into Driscoll’s childhood and memories of camping with his father, while others observe the present: his mother caring for

his niece, and conversations with his partner. Interspersed throughout are Driscoll’s musings on what he has been reading – sometimes biographies of artists and architects and sometimes autofiction.

In one passage, Driscoll describes a conversation with his mother, where she is upset that her grandchild has broken a handmade ceramic pot – it had a ‘lifeliness’ that her other ceramics did not. The passage is moving in its focus on the smallness of life and how creating art for ourselves can be so full of meaning. In fact, this entire collection is an intense study of the domestic and the ways in which we find such ‘lifeliness’. Later Driscoll quotes from architect Kengo Kuma – ‘endlessly reproducing the commonplace as commonplace’ – which is a fitting description for Driscoll’s goal of capturing the small beauties of our slow daily lives.

The writing style of Driscoll’s prose sections reminded me of Gerald Murnane, both in its careful consideration to the meaning and value of each word, and in its method of alternating an intense focus on different images and memories. *White Clouds Blue Rain* is a hearty read, but it is not a quick one. It calls for spare time to sit and read and reflect for a while.

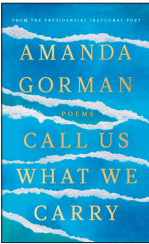
Clare Millar is from Readings online

Call Us What We Carry: Poems

Amanda Gorman

C&W. HB. \$27.99

Available 7 December



The breakout poetry collection by Amanda Gorman, who was catapulted to fame when she read her stirring poem, ‘The Hill We Climb,’ at the inauguration of President Joe Biden. This

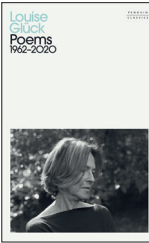
remarkable new collection explores themes of identity, grief and memory, in pursuit of hope and healing.

Poems: 1962-2020

Louise Glück

Penguin Classics. HB. \$55

Available 30 November



For 50 years, Nobel laureate Louise Glück has been a major force in modern poetry, distinguished for the restless intelligence, wit and intimacy of her poetic voice. This volume brings

together the 12 collections Glück has published to date, offering readers the opportunity to become immersed in the artistry and vision of one of the world’s greatest living writers.

Anthologies

Everything, All at Once

Various authors

Ultimo Press. PB. \$32.99

Available 17 November



Sunshine bleaches the curtains and wears the nerves of a woman stuck inside. An imagined audience drives people to the extreme. A young woman wrestles with inheritance and loss. Discover our next generation of literary talent in this anthology compiled from winning entries of the 2021 Ultimo Prize. Populated with characters searching for connection, the fiction and poetry here is forward-thinking, provocative and exciting.

‘A born storyteller.’

*The Saturday Paper*

OUT NOW

WILD PLACE

CHRISTIAN WHITE

From #1 bestselling thriller writer and creator of Netflix’s *Clickbait*, Christian White

Affirm press

DEVOTION

HANNAH KENT

‘Devotion is rare and exquisite, both beautiful and muscular in its portrayal of love found and denied. It’s a story of love as a radical act, and a celebration of place and persistence. As we’ve come to expect from Kent, this is masterful storytelling with pull-no-punches stakes. It’s taken root in my heart.’

Kiran Millwood Hargrave

THE HAPPIEST MAN ON EARTH

EDDIE JAKU

This beautiful collector’s edition includes never-before-seen photographs from Eddie’s life, and previously unpublished material about this wonderful man.

‘A reminder of the power of love, kindness and hope . . . A life-affirming story, beautifully told.’ *Sydney Morning Herald*

THE YOUNGER WIFE

SALLY HEPWORTH

The moment she laid eyes on Heather Wisher, Tully knew this woman was going to destroy their lives.

‘Smart, suspenseful, brimming with secrets. This is Sally Hepworth at her unputdownable best.’

Kate Morton

BRAVE IN THE WAVES & FRIZZY’S TREASURE HUNT

KANGAROO BEACH

Two board books starring favourite characters from the hit TV series! Kangaroo Beach explores the familiar world of water play – on the beach, in the sea, in swimming pools, rivers and rock pools – with an essential message about water safety in every story.

Love talking about books?

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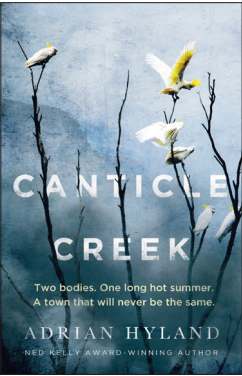


# Dead Write

with Fiona Hardy

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

Crime



**Canticle Creek**  
Adrian Hyland

Ultimo Press. PB. \$32.99  
Available 1 December

has some rare qualities for a literary detective: general goodwill towards the world, a lack of cynicism and no addiction issues. Thanks to the knowledge of those who came before her, she knows when and where to listen. It still doesn't stop multiple people from trying to kill her as she finds out what could have led to Adam's death – and the others that follow – but what's a crime book without some danger? *Canticle Creek* is a truly entertaining and distracting read as Melbourne heads into the (metaphorical) fire of an uncertain, lockdown-less future.

**R** Leading Senior Constable Jesse Redpath thinks she has the lie of the land about right in the Northern Territory town of Kulara by now. After replacing the useless-to-actively harmful last cop in town, she's more open to what's important so when local larrikin Adam Lawson commits something a bit more illegal than usual, she tries to offer him a way out: helping her artist father and working in the local roadhouse. When Adam makes a run for it after a week on the job, Jesse puts out a warrant and thinks no more of it. Three months later, he's found dead in the mountain ranges north-east of Melbourne, in a car wreck, after killing his girlfriend. But Jesse and everyone else in Kulara have their doubts. Adam was a rascal, sure, but a murderer?

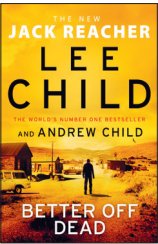
Full of questions, Jesse travels to the area of the crash, just to make sure what local police say happened is what really went down – and that she didn't just let a murderer run free to Victoria. What she finds in Canticle Creek are a whole lot more questions, along with breathtaking surrounds, talented artists, nosy teenagers on horses, drug dealers, roadside assaults, blazing fires – well, you get it. It's everything you need for a rural police thriller, and a hell of a lot more, too.

Jesse is a character to watch: tough as hell and unafraid to make some questionable decisions to see where they'll take her. You'll rarely disagree with her choices, though. She kicks the bad guys where it hurts, fights for what's right, and

## Better off Dead

Lee Child & Andrew Child  
Bantam. PB. \$32.99

Available now



Lee Child, he of the perpetually satisfying *Jack Reacher* thrillers, is in retirement. His entire life plan is to sit around and read books from now on, and really, good on him. But Jack isn't done

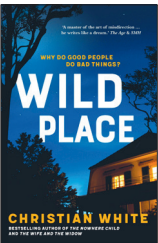
yet, and Lee's younger brother Andrew has taken up the mantle of telling his stories. In *Better off Dead*, Reacher's 26th chance to beat up a lot of people while readers cheer him on, he winds up in the Arizona desert, stopping when he comes across a car that's crashed into a tree and ending up entangled in something complicated – and deadly. Reacher is a great hero: smart, on the right side of justice, and always there to help when he stumbles across a bad guy. All these crimes sure ruin Reacher's life plans, but where would readers be without his knack for finding trouble?

## Wild Place

Christian White  
Affirm Press. PB. Was \$32.99

**\$27.99**

Available now



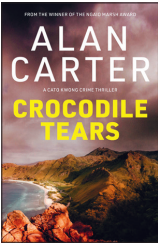
At the start of summer 1989, 17-year-old Tracie Ross goes missing in the Mornington Peninsula suburb of Camp Hill. The police think she's run away, her parents think she never would, and the town is already drifting back to indifference. But things are different in the late eighties: everybody shops at What's New, houses are adorned with soft-focus glamour photos, and Satanic panic is on the rise. When local dad and teacher Tom connects Tracie's

disappearance to pentagram-tattooed, heavy-metal loner Sean, there seems to be a clear line to the devil – but finding out who is truly evil in this world is never clear cut. Christian White must have sold his soul to get this good at writing suburban thrillers with endings you'll never predict, but frankly, the trade was definitely worth it for us crime fiction readers.

## Crocodile Tears

Alan Carter  
Fremantle Press. PB. \$32.99

Available now



In Alan Carter's latest – and last – Detective Cato Kwong book, Kwong finds himself investigating the brutal murder of a retired cop which leads him, unexpectedly, to Timor-Leste. There, he meets up with political (and sometimes literal) troubleshooter Rory Driscoll, a Gunditjmara man who's about done with his line of work – but has one final job to finish first. Carter's exploration of the bloodthirsty workings of Asia-Pacific politics, and Australia's grim part in it all, makes for a sobering yet thrilling read, full of skirmishes and enthralling characters. I'm saddened to hear this is the last *Cato Kwong* book, but here's hoping there's still more Carter on the way.

## The Hush

Sara Foster  
HarperCollins. PB. \$32.99

Available now



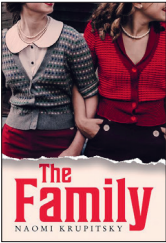
Sometimes you read a book so real that it integrates seamlessly into the world around you; this month, it was Sara Foster's *The Hush*, seeping unnervingly into my reality. Years after

Covid-19, England has a new crisis: babies are being born without taking a breath, and the world is falling into terrified chaos. As the percentage of babies affected climbs to half, rights are stripped from pregnant women, and the midwives who help bring these children into the world are under immense pressure. One of those women is Emma, daughter of galvanising feminist Geraldine Fox and mother of Lainey, a teenager who is part of a group protesting the disappearances of pregnant teenagers. When Lainey finds, to her horror, that she has accidentally fallen pregnant, she and her mother know they have to act fast. As they plan Lainey's escape from the country, the true extent of what is happening – and who is trying to stop them – becomes terrifyingly clear. The kind of book to leave you breathless – and wake you wide up.

## The Family

Naomi Krupitsky  
HarperCollins. PB. \$29.99

Available now



Set in Brooklyn 1920, *The Family* is a gamechanger of gangster fiction – something like *The Godfather* meets Elena Ferrante. This book tells the story of Antonia and Sofia, best friends beyond all else, whose fathers are a part of the Family. Sofia's father is the head of the Family and nothing can completely sever the bond between the girls, not even when Antonia's father imagines a life beyond crime and is swiftly disappeared from existence. As they grow into the 1940s and adulthood, the two friends hope for something more yet fall into the trappings of lowercase-f family life. The Family still controls their fates, and it always will, unless they are willing to do something about it. Beautifully written, taut with secrets and danger, this is a truly magnetic read.

## The Russian Wife

Barry Maitland  
A&U. PB. \$32.99

Available 30 November

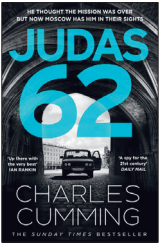


To the delight of many Dead Write readers, Barry Maitland has returned with another *Brock and Kolla* novel – his 14th in the series. Detective Chief Inspector Kathy Kolla is facing corruption charges and will do everything in her power to fight them; in the meantime, Detective Chief Inspector David Brock has a case far outside his usual areas of expertise when the death of a Russian woman married to an art collector leads him from London's West End across Europe all the way to the United States. Maitland is known for his intricate storylines and excellent characters, and here, as always, he won't disappoint.

## Judas 62

Charles Cumming  
HarperCollins. PB. \$29.99

Available 1 December

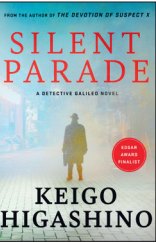


sent to Russia to get his hands on a brilliant

scientist before the wrong people did first. When the mission failed, he was completely alone, but for the KGB agent tracking him down. Decades later, in the present day, Kite is director of BOX 88, but he's still not safe – and he's now on a list of Russian enemies to be killed. There's one way to stop the man Kite is convinced is behind the assassinations: track him down himself. An espionage thriller that moves from past to present, from youth to maturity, and through years of spycraft changes. I can't guess at what a third book in the series will be numbered if the first one is 88 and the second is 62, but mysteries like this are why I'm not a spy – just someone who likes to read about them.

## Silent Parade

Keigo Higashino  
Little, Brown. PB. \$32.99  
Available 14 December



Detective Galileo – of *The Devotion of Suspect X* fame – returns, with another baffling murder mystery for readers to unpick. Three years after the disappearance of a young woman on the verge of

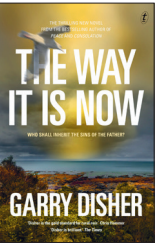
success, her bones are found in a burned-out house, and everyone knows who did it: the same man that Galileo's friend, Chief Inspector Kusanagi, had arrested and released decades earlier for a similar crime. Trouble is, as with the prior case, nobody can prove anything. When the suspect conveniently dies in the middle of a street parade – and, even more conveniently, all those who wanted him dead have solid alibis – Galileo is called in to figure out what on earth is going on. A complex, thoroughly entertaining Sherlock-esque read, with less foggy moors and more Japanese streets.

## The Way It Is Now

Garry Disher  
Text. PB. Was \$32.99

**\$27.99**

Available now



Victorian cop Charlie Deravin has a smooth morning routine. Swim in the ocean, say hello to the old couple who walk by every morning, eat breakfast in his front yard, get a paper, do the

crossword, greet his daughter when she wakes up. Not quite so laidback is what's going on behind the scenes: the reason he's got so much spare time is because he's on involuntary leave from his job after a screw-up, and the reason his wife isn't there is because their marriage is done. But then, Charlie's life has never followed the easy route – his father, also a cop, was accused of being behind the disappearance of Charlie's mother nearly 20 years ago. Charlie's never let go of the past or stopped trying to figure out what happened to her, and now, when the dig for a new build leads to finding the bones of two bodies, the past is about to become a lot murkier. Disher, one of Mornington Peninsula's crime laureates, knows how to tell a story, so take this to the beach when you can – and don't leave it unattended.

## Also out this month

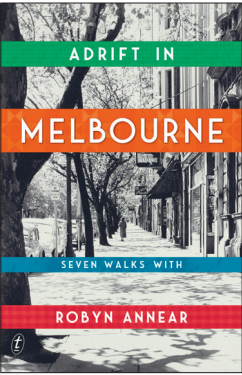
Martin Walker's *Bruno's Challenge & Other Dordogne Tales* (Quercus, PB, \$32.99, available 9 November); and Abir Mukherjee's *The Shadows of Men* (Harvill Secker, PB, \$32.99, available 16 November).



# Nonfiction

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

### *Australian Studies*



**Adrift in Melbourne: Seven Walks**  
Robyn Annear  
Text. HB. \$27.99  
*Available 30 November*

walk – ‘Off the Grid’ – takes in the north of Melbourne, through the Queen Victoria Market (such a sad history) past the Stork Hotel (sorely missed) and up all the way to Eagle Alley (just off La Trobe) where the Tour finishes under a beautiful old oak tree.

This fantastic book gifts you the gossip held in our streets. Before you know it, you’ll be completely enchanted again by our city. And it’s all because you became friends with Robyn Annear. Lucky you.

Chris Gordon is the programming and event manager at Readings

**R** Quite frankly, reading anything written by Robyn Annear is a complete joy. She writes as if it’s just you and her chatting away, strolling through the streets of our wonderful city. I consider this book essential reading for anyone who loves Melbourne. It is the perfect antidote to the last two years. As she says in her introduction, in Melbourne – and in any place – things change all the time. Yet, the way I see it, nothing’s ever really gone.

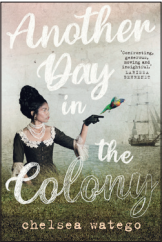
Before you know it, you’ll be completely enchanted again by our city.

This book contains seven walks around Melbourne’s CBD curated by Annear to showcase our hidden histories. So, banish your sorrow, pop this book into your bag and start the Grand Melbourne Tour. Walk One, titled ‘Waltz in Six Lessons’, tells the history of our finest buildings and the women who inhabited these places. Up until now I had not heard of Madame Brook, who was the first and last word in Melbourne chic in the 1900s. Walk Three – ‘More by Land Than Water’ – takes in Chinatown and its surrounds. Did you know that the backyard tea garden of the City Buffet Hotel at 225 Bourke Street once housed a pair of lions, an Indian bear, a cheetah, some monkeys and an aviary? Can you imagine, walking along the streets of Melbourne and hearing a lion roar? These animals were eventually given to the Zoological Association and thus the Melbourne Zoo began. The final

## Australian Studies

### Another Day in the Colony

Chelsea Watego  
UQP. PB. Was \$29.99  
**\$ \$26.99**  
*Available now*



**R** Professor Chelsea Watego is a Munanjahli and South Sea Islander woman who grew up on Yuggera country. She recently joined Queensland University of Technology within the School of Public Health and Social Work to lead a \$1.7 million project to develop Indigenist Health Humanities. She has over two decades’ experience working in the field of Indigenous health as a health worker, academic and activist. Colonisers habitually frame the health of First Nations peoples as a ‘problem’ with complete disregard for the very root of that problem. Watego’s PhD championed strength-based approaches within public health in an attempt to shift this narrative and call out the colonial violence perpetrated by the health system.

In this collection of sharply written, fiercely intelligent and engaging essays, Watego is clear that her book will not surrender to the settler-colonial narrative that pervades the Australian literary scene – a ‘place which has yet to centre or celebrate sovereign storytellers; those who speak to the souls of Blackfullas rather than white women.’ This is definitely not a book about ‘Black problems or the problem of Black people’. The title, *Another Day in the Colony*, comes from a hashtag used on

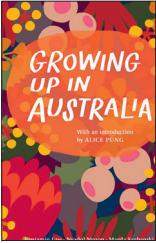
Twitter by Watego and others to document and share the acts of colonial violence they are subjected to every day. This book speaks to the ‘power of the Black woman as witness ... it is these stories that should be told, read, heard, and memorialised in this place, rather than the fictions of white folk and their fanciful psychological journeys.’

Across the essays, Watego reflects on her childhood and path into academia where she fought to strategise for a Black future on its own terms. She critiques the literary scene with its ‘non-fiction’ books that perpetuate the power of the white witness and sustain the colonialist narrative of the ‘Aboriginal problem’. She documents her own confrontations with the legal system, in one instance her young son’s image was used without her permission in a campaign by the Queensland Department of Education to entice teachers to remote Queensland. Underneath her son’s image it described Aboriginal children as ‘trouble-makers’ to be rehabilitated. Watego credits critical race scholarship for her survival and relinquishes hope for change in favour of sovereignty. This book is absolutely essential reading.

Kara Nicholson is from Readings online

### Growing Up in Australia

Black Inc. (ed.)  
Black Inc. PB. \$29.99  
*Available 30 November*



A special collection of Black Inc.’s *Growing Up* series featuring pieces from *Growing Up Asian*, *Growing Up Aboriginal*, *Growing Up African*, *Growing Up Queer* and *Growing Up Disabled in*

*Australia*. With a foreword by Alice Pung, this anthology captures the diversity of our nation in moving and revelatory ways.

### Quarterly Essay 84: Australia’s #MeToo Moment

Jess Hill  
Quarterly Essay. PB. \$24.99  
*Available 29 November*



For details on the event for this book, visit [readings.com.au/events](https://readings.com.au/events)



This year, Australia’s #MeToo moment erupted in the national parliament. In this electrifying essay, Jess Hill, the acclaimed author of *See What You Made Me Do*, traces the meaning of those events and what could happen next. What couldn’t Scott Morrison see? And what hope is there of real progress and accountability? Hill examines how the law, the media and politics can bring about – or stall – change.

### Between the Last Oasis and the Next Mirage: Writing on Australia

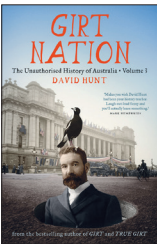
Guy Rundle  
MUP. PB. \$39.99  
*Available 30 November*



Political commentator Guy Rundle gives a first-hand history of iconic moments in Australian politics in the 2010s, from the insurgency of the Rudd-Gillard-Rudd era, to being on the road with Malcolm Turnbull, to the fossil fuel fantasies of Adaniland. Through multiple elections, Rundle describes a country changing and fracturing in response to a global wave of populism.

### Girt Nation: The Unauthorised History of Australia, Volume 3

David Hunt  
Black Inc. PB. Was \$34.99  
**\$ \$29.99**  
*Available now*



David Hunt tramples the tall poppies of the past in the third volume of his irreverent history of Australia. Learn about Liberal necromancer Alfred Deakin whose dead advisors shaped the nation; thrill as Jandamarra leads the Bunuba against Western Australia; and marvel at how Labor, a political party that spent a quarter of a century infighting over how to spell its own name, ever rose to power.

### Harlem Nights: The Secret History of Australia’s Jazz Age

Deirdre O’Connell  
MUP. PB. \$34.99  
*Available now*



The 1920s were a time of flux, when Australians sensed a world changing: American movies, music and dance brought together what racial policies sought to keep apart. Enter Sonny Clay’s Colored Idea. The Harlem-style revue delivered sophisticated, liberating rhythms, and the story of their Australian

tour is a tale of conspiracy, race and power in Australia’s Jazz Age.

### Lies and Falsehoods: The Morrison Government and the New Culture of Deceit

Bernard Keane  
Hardie Grant. PB. \$22.99  
*Available 17 November*



All politicians twist the truth. But blatant lying now feels standard. Combine this with an all-out assault on the truth in public debate along with the biggest communications revolution since the printing press, and you have a disaster. The first book in the *Crikey Reads* series, this is an incisive account of how we found ourselves in this ‘post-truth’ world.

### Seeking Asylum: Our Stories

Asylum Seeker Resource Centre  
Black Inc. HB. \$39.99  
*Available 27 November*



For details on the event for this book, visit [readings.com.au/events](https://readings.com.au/events)



This beautifully illustrated hardback captures the stories of those who have sought asylum. In their own voices, contributors recount how they came to Australia, and share aspects of their lives: growing up in a refugee camp, studying for a PhD, changing attitudes through soccer. These are stories of love, pain, injustice, achievement and everything in between. Proceeds from this book are donated to the ASRC.

### Shelf Life: Journalism 2000–2021

Gideon Haigh  
S&S. PB. \$35  
*Available 1 December*



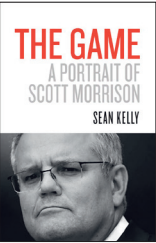
Architecture and airline food. Depression and doodling. Goya and Grossman. When not writing about cricket, Gideon Haigh has enjoyed taking journalism on unexpected journeys, wherever and whenever curiosity calls. *Shelf Life* samples Haigh’s work from the last two decades of essays, reportage, reviews, crisp analyses and deep dives into history.

### The Game: A Portrait of Scott Morrison

Sean Kelly  
Black Inc. PB. \$32.99  
*Available now*



For details on the event for this book, visit [readings.com.au/events](https://readings.com.au/events)



What happens when the prime minister views politics only as a game? Scott Morrison understands something essential about Australia – something many of us are unwilling to admit, even to ourselves. In *The Game*, Sean Kelly gives us a portrait of a man, the shallow political culture that allowed him to succeed and the country that crowned him.

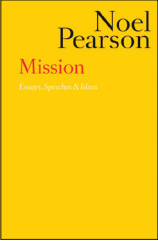


**Country: Future Fire, Future Farming**  
Bill Gammage, Bruce Pascoe & Margo Neale (ed.)  
T&H. PB. \$21.99  
*Available now*



What do you need to know to prosper as a people for at least 65,000 years? Bill Gammage and Bruce Pascoe details the remarkable agricultural and land-care techniques of First Nations peoples. *Country: Future Fire, Future Farming* highlights the consequences of ignoring this deep history of knowledge, and shows how these practices are needed now more than ever.

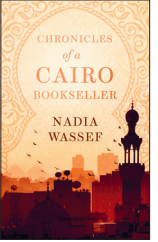
**Mission: Essays, Speeches and Ideas**  
Noel Pearson  
Black Inc. HB. Was \$49.99  
**\$39.99**  
*Available 30 November*



Tracing a life of politics, ideas and inspiring words, *Mission* selects the best of the best of Noel Pearson’s writings and speeches. Whether he is recalling his boyhood in Hope Vale, Queensland, making the case for constitutional recognition for First Nations people, or evoking a reconciled, multicultural Australia, Pearson’s writing is always honest, provocative and original.

Biography

**Chronicles of a Cairo Bookseller**  
Nadia Wassef  
Corsair. PB. \$32.99  
*Available now*

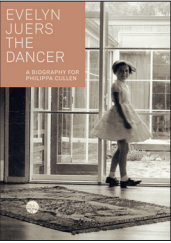


Let me tell you where I have been this week – Cairo! Jealous? Of course, but the good news is you can go too. I loved the visit: it was hot, culturally interesting, and I browsed a wonderful bookshop, but it was the fantastic guide who made it all possible – Nadia Wassef. Nadia, her sister, Hind, and their friend, Nihal, decided to open an independent, modern, general bookshop in Cairo, named, Diwan. They had no business or bookselling experience. What they did have was a good education, privilege, a love of literature and a brazen confidence. But would this be enough?

Historically, Egypt’s bookshops mostly promoted propaganda and were stocked with poorly manufactured books. When Diwan opened in 2002, things were changing in this patriarchal country and Diwan’s owners wanted their store to reflect this. There were naysayers who advised that they were ‘bourgeois housewives’ wasting their time and money, that Egyptians didn’t read anymore and there was too much poverty, people couldn’t afford books. Not exactly a promising environment, but Nadia felt strongly that culture was too important to relinquish. So, these three women with different temperaments and strengths powered up this modern enterprise, each using her skills for different facets of the business. All three engaged in combative

cooperation and they made mistakes, they learnt – oh boy, they learnt – and in a country where bribery and corruption are standard business practices, they ran an honest establishment with passion and erudition as its foundation. It was a success, and the bookshop and the café prospered. Then they made the classic mistake of expanding too quickly and they weakened their brand and their resilience. They had weathered so much, and their lives were being taken over by Diwan. Nadia Wassef is an intelligent and honest chronicler who is staunchly feminist, fiery but fair, never boring and made me laugh at her forthright manner. Go on, do yourself a favour – go to Cairo. Alexa Dretzke is from Readings Hawthorn

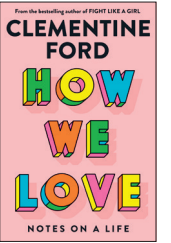
**Dancer: A Biography for Philippa Cullen**  
Evelyn Juers  
Giramondo. PB. \$39.95  
*Available now*



The dancer, Philippa Cullen, died tragically in India at the age of 25. Evelyn Juers’ biography of this complex young woman runs to 550 pages. You may think, do Cullen’s life and achievements justify the length? I think probably yes, and Juers, a friend of Cullen’s, does her life justice. In her short life Cullen fit in a lot. At the age of eight she became a pupil of the Bodenwieser Dance Studio in Sydney. At Sydney University she studied Arts with the goal of becoming a teacher of dance as well as a dancer. She was interested in dance as a creative process, particularly how dance could generate its own music. This led to an interest in electronic music and the theremin, an electronic instrument that generates sound through movement. These early fascinations would later see her using pressure sensitive floors that would generate music from the dancer’s movements.

Cullen also dove into personal relationships that affirmed her creative pursuits. She had a longstanding affair with the composer Karlheinz Stockhausen as well as Stockhausen’s wife’s lover; she pursued numerous personal relationships with fellow creatives, often conducting multiple relationships at the same time. On a visit to India, she visited the utopian community of Auroville and fell in love again. She was determined to go back, but on her return, her lover was no longer interested. She fell seriously ill and, within a short time, died. Cullen kept extensive diaries and Juers has interviewed many of her surviving friends and contemporaries and used these to create a unique biography of a unique woman. One can only imagine what Philippa Cullen might have achieved had her life not been cut so short. Mark Rubbo is the managing director at Readings

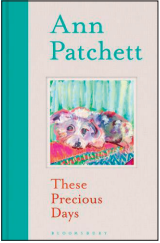
**How We Love: Notes on a Life**  
Clementine Ford  
A&U. PB. \$29.99  
*Available now*



There are so many adages running through my head as I try to sum up the latest work of author and commentator Clementine Ford. Mainly though, I have Tina Turner’s words

on repeat: what’s love got to do with it? Ford’s latest work, *How We Love*, is a memoir of sorts and shows the reader that, in fact, love has everything to do with who we are and why we are. Here in this surprising and eloquent book, Ford takes us by the hand and leads us through her own journey of heartbreak, joy and devotion. Ford describes incidents of passionate love, moments of all-encompassing love and the steadiness of family. Her descriptions of her mother’s illness are heartbreaking. Her accounts of motherhood feel both universal and deeply personal. All these stories are told with such tenacity that I was forced to reflect on my own love stories, my own brand of hope. This is the power of Clementine Ford. She positions herself so firmly and honestly that you have no choice but to contemplate your own life. We already know that Clementine Ford is bold. She is opinionated. But here in this roll call of her defining moments, she is also kind, persuasive and generous. *How We Love* also illustrates that the only way to survive love in all its forms is to prioritise self-love, and it’s a timely reminder of the importance of deliberation, humility, and compassion. Readers of other chroniclers of women’s stories such as Claire Bowditch will find a lot to enjoy here. What’s love but a second-hand emotion? Well, Tina Turner, Clementine Ford shows us through her fierce narrative, that it is, in fact, all we truly own. Chris Gordon is the programming and events manager at Readings

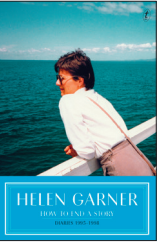
**These Precious Days**  
Ann Patchett  
Bloomsbury. PB. \$29.99  
*Available 23 November*



Ann Patchett has made a habit of keeping me company over Melbourne lockdowns. In March 2020, as the world began to shut down, I immersed myself in her multilayered family saga, *The Dutch House*. In our second lockdown I decided that I missed the novel’s characters so much, I picked up the audiobook, my aimless little walks now narrated by Tom Hanks. When I remember this surreal time, I’ll think of Patchett’s skilful, melancholy words, and Hanks’ familiar narration. Then Patchett’s essay ‘These Precious Days’ was published in *Harper’s*. The magazine said the piece was ‘about Tom Hanks, tornadoes, running bookstores, taking mushrooms, making art in quarantine, stories without endings, and an unlikely friendship’. It is about all these things and so much more: what it means to be truly seen by another person, and how we might find joy in the days that we have. It almost feels to me like no one else needs to reflect on the pandemic, as Patchett has done it so satisfyingly here. We are truly lucky that this essay prompted Patchett’s latest nonfiction collection, the miracle of a book that has kept me company through our latest lockdown. The titular ‘These Precious Days’ was so important to Patchett that she wanted to build a solid shelter for it, so she has gifted readers these 24 distinct essays (all rewritten, even those previously published). Some are distinctly personal – the essay about her three fathers is a standout, as is Patchett’s reflection about the decision not to have children.

Others offer a glimpse into her writing and reading habits, or the importance of knitting. ‘Again, and again, I was asking what mattered most in this precarious and precious life,’ she writes. In sharing her specific experiences, Patchett offers us something profoundly relatable. *These Precious Days* is a gentle pleasure to read, but by no means a shallow one. Patchett is a master of humour, honesty and vulnerability, and I could not recommend a collection more highly. Stella Charls is from Readings Carlton

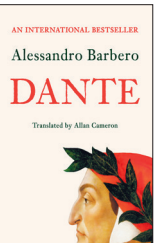
**How to End a Story: Diaries, 1995–1998**  
Helen Garner  
Text. HB. \$29.99  
*Available now*



One can only imagine the enormous bravery it must take to publish a diary. Sharing your most private thoughts with the world is not for the faint of heart. But, faint of heart is not a term I would ever think to apply to Helen Garner. As a long-term reader of hers, it has always felt to me as though she is unafraid to be vulnerable, to examine her own thoughts and actions (and those of others) with a near forensic approach.

*How to End a Story*, the third instalment of Garner’s diaries, spans the years 1995 to 1998. Still grappling with the aftershocks of the controversy that swirled around the publication of *The First Stone*, one is drawn quickly into a deeply personal period of emotional growth, intensive therapy, writer’s block, a search for a place of one’s own and the simultaneously suffocating and explosive disintegration of her 10-year marriage. Here is a woman valiantly trying to establish her right to take up space in the world, all while being subjected to inexcusable gaslighting by the person one would expect to be her greatest supporter. The tenacious ferocity with which Garner fought for her marriage, and assert her right to be heard and respected as an equal within it, is nothing short of breathtaking. Shining through all of this is the network of friends and family Garner draws strength from and her gratitude for their support and comfort. This network, coupled with her own indefatigable spirit, causes the reader to cheer her on and cry with her, all the way through to the blue couch. *How to End a Story* is a devastating yet enlightening look into the private thoughts and feelings of an incredible woman. It is a privilege to read, and I for one, feel stronger and better for having done so. Tye Cattanach is from Readings Carlton

**Dante**  
Alessandro Barbero & Allan Cameron (trans.)  
Profile. HB. \$39.99  
*Available 16 November*



Dante Alighieri’s *Divine Comedy* has defined how people imagine and depict heaven and hell for over 700 years. However, outside of Italy, less is generally known about the author himself or the context of his works. This new biography is a vital guide to the legendary author’s life and times, describing the political intrigue, battles, city and society that shaped his work.



Last Letter to a Reader

Gerald Murnane  
Giramondo. PB. \$26.99  
Available now



In the first days of spring in his 82nd year, Gerald Murnane began a project – he would read all of his books in turn and prepare a report on each. As the reports grew, they themselves took on the

form of a book, *Last Letter to a Reader*. Within each essay, Murnane travels through the capacious territory of his own mind, offering a moving ending to his writing career.

Love Stories

Trent Dalton  
Fourth Estate. HB. Was \$32.99  
\$27.99  
Available now



Bestselling author Trent Dalton goes out into the world and asks a simple, direct question: ‘Can you please tell me a love story?’ The result is a warm, poignant, funny and wise book about love

in all its guises, including observations, reflections and stories of people falling into love, falling out of love, and never letting go of the loved ones in their hearts.

Free: Coming of Age at the End of History

Lea Ypi  
Allen Lane. PB. \$35  
Available now



Stalinist Albania, where communist ideals had replaced religion: to Lea Ypi, it was home. When the Berlin Wall fell, there was no longer a culture of fear, but everything changed, causing Lea to question

what freedom really meant. In the tradition of *Educated*, *Free* is an engrossing memoir of coming of age and the lives of people pulled up by the sweep of history.

Pure Flame: On Mothers and Daughters

Michelle Orange  
Harvill Secker. PB. \$29.99  
Available now

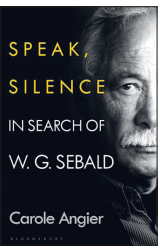


In a series of texts with her mother, Michelle Orange learned about ‘Janis Jerome’: one of her mother’s many alter egos and the name used in a case study about her mother’s midlife choice to leave her family to

pursue her career. The discovery acts as a springboard for Orange’s searing cultural memoir, exploring the meaning of maternal legacy – in her own family and across a century of seismic change.

Speak, Silence: In Search of W.G. Sebald

Carole Angier  
Bloomsbury. HB. \$59.99  
Available 30 November

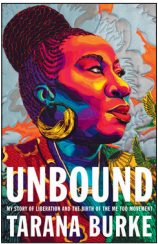


W.G. Sebald was one of the most extraordinary and influential writers of the 20th century, pursuing an original literary vision that combined fiction, history, autobiography and

photography. The first biography to explore his life and work, *Speak, Silence* pursues the true Sebald through the memories of those who knew him and through the work he left behind. The result is a unique, ferociously original portrait.

Unbound: My Story of Liberation and the Birth of the Me Too Movement

Tarana Burke  
Headline. PB. \$32.99  
Available now



Tarana Burke, founder of the #MeToo movement, didn’t always have the courage to say those two words. As a child, she reeled from her sexual assault, believing she was responsible. As she grew,

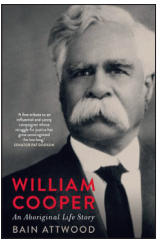
Burke learned to fight for empathy, justice and community. *Unbound* is the searing story of an inimitable woman’s inner strength and perseverance, all in pursuit of bringing healing to the world around her.

William Cooper: An Aboriginal Life Story

Bain Attwood  
The Miegunyah Press. HB. \$34.99  
Available now



For details on the event for this book, visit [readings.com.au/events](https://readings.com.au/events)

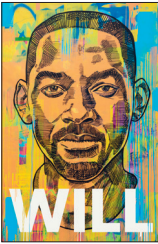


Aboriginal activist William Cooper’s passionate struggle against the dispossession of his people and the denial of their rights is commemorated here in this important tribute to

his life and work. It reveals how the first 70 years of Cooper’s life inspired the remarkable political campaigns he undertook, including petitioning for an Aboriginal representative in parliament, his call for a day of mourning, the Cummeragunja walk-off and more.

Will

Will Smith  
Century. PB. \$35  
Available 9 November

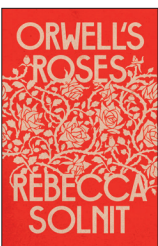


Will Smith opens up about his life and his amazing transformation from a fearful child in West Philadelphia into one of the biggest celebrities on the planet. But this is only half the story. This memoir is also the product of a journey of self-knowledge, the learning curve of mastering emotions and a reckoning with the hidden poisons of unparalleled fame.

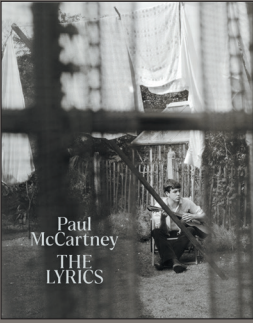
Cultural Studies

Orwell’s Roses

Rebecca Solnit  
Granta. PB. \$27.99  
Available 16 November

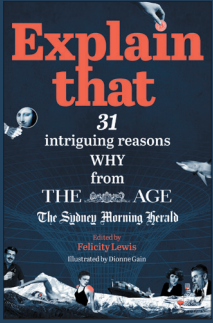


As a lover of Rebecca Solnit’s writing, I was thrilled at the prospect of her unique perspective on one of the most influential writers of the 20th century. And Solnit does not disappoint. *Orwell’s Roses* is only part-biography: Solnit exquisitely sheds light on a little-studied facet of Orwell’s life – a love of gardening – using this as a



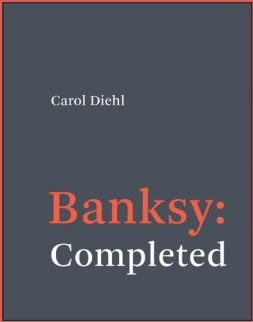
The Lyrics  
Paul McCartney

A self-portrait in 154 songs, by our greatest living songwriter. Spanning two volumes and previously unseen images, the collection includes images from McCartney’s personal archives - including handwritten lyrics sheets, letters, memorabilia, and photographs.



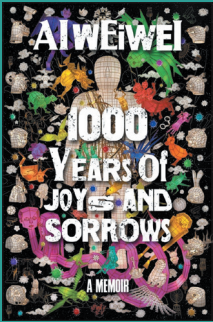
Explain That  
Felicity Lewis (ed.)

Have you ever wondered if time travel is actually possible? Or where the Australian accent came from? From the nation’s most trusted news outlets comes an entertaining and authoritative look at the world around us.



Banksy  
Carol Diehl

There’s more to Banksy than the painting on the wall: the first in-depth investigation into the mysteries of the world’s most famous living artist.



1000 Years of Joys  
and Sorrows: A Memoir  
Ai Weiwei

Ai Weiwei - one of the world’s most famous artists and activists - tells a century-long epic tale of China through the story of his own extraordinary life and the legacy of his father.

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starting point from which to venture into the intersections of art, politics and nature, while always deftly orbiting back to her subject’s central concerns. ‘In the spring of 1936 a writer planted roses,’ she begins, referring to Orwell’s time at a cottage in Wallington, Hertfordshire. Solnit writes: ‘In an age of lies and illusions, the garden is one way to ground yourself in the realm of the processes of growth and the passage of time.’ Amid the politics, Orwell’s writing is laced with references to the natural world and delight in unremarkable beauty. Bread may feed the body, Solnit notes, but roses (art, pleasure) feed something deeper, a truth equally worthwhile.

Solnit’s writing then beautifully unfurls like petals from her central subject: Tina Modotti’s path from artist to exiled revolutionary; the atrocities of Stalin’s brutal regime; Jamaica Kincaid’s fierce writing around nature and colonialism; and Columbia’s cruel, exploitative rose industry. Circling back to Orwell, Solnit revisits *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and finds light among the grey in Winston Smith’s rebellious acts and his reveries on beauty – pleasure as resistance – even as Big Brother closes in around him. Throughout, Solnit – like Orwell – writes with clear-eyed precision and empathy for her subjects, an elegant marriage of ethics and aesthetics.

*Orwell’s Roses* arrives at a time in which the term ‘Orwellian’ is as pertinent as ever, indicative of a crisis in politics and journalism. Solnit both reminds us of the enduring power of Orwell’s writing and breathes substantial new life into his work. Justin Avery is from Readings Carlton

Against White Feminism

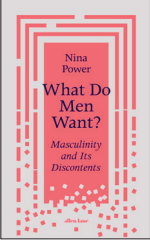
Rafia Zakaria  
Hamish Hamilton. HB. \$35  
Available 3 December



Feminism is founded on a belief in equality. And in the past 200 years it has made incredible gains. But not for all women. In this powerful call to arms, Rafia Zakaria traces the connections between feminism and white supremacy, from the suffrage movement to the ‘fourth wave’ we see today, arguing for a new kind of feminism which will light the path for all.

What Do Men Want?: Masculinity and Its Discontents

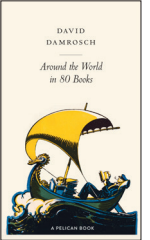
Nina Power  
Allen Lane. HB. \$39.99  
Available 30 November



From the MeToo backlash, to Men’s Rights Activists and incels, to increasing suicide rates, it’s easy to see that, while men may still rule the world, masculinity is in crisis. In *What Do Men Want?*, philosopher Nina Power attempts to help men and women practise playfulness and forgiveness, and reach a true mutual understanding.

Around the World in 80 Books

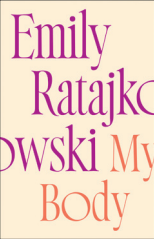
David Damrosch  
Penguin. HB. \$45  
Available 16 November



Inspired by Jules Verne’s hero Phileas Fogg, David Damrosch set out to counter a pandemic’s restrictions on travel by exploring 80 exceptional books from around the globe. Following a literary

itinerary of authors, from Woolf and Dante to Orhan Pamuk, Wole Soyinka, Mo Yan and Olga Tokarczuk, he explores how these works have shaped the world, and how the world bleeds into literature.

My Body  
Emily Ratajkowski  
Quercus. PB. \$32.99  
Available 9 November



*My Body* is a personal exploration of feminism, sexuality and power, of men’s treatment of women and women’s rationalisations for accepting that treatment. These essays chronicle moments from Emily Ratajkowski’s life as a model, actress and public figure. They also investigate the culture’s obsession with and contempt for women’s sexuality, the perverse dynamics of the fashion and film industries, and the grey area between consent and abuse.

Mothers, Fathers, and Others: Essays

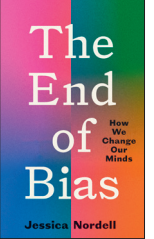
Siri Hustvedt  
Sceptre. PB. \$32.99  
Available 14 December



Siri Hustvedt’s relentlessly curious mind and expansive intellect are on full display in this stunning new collection of essays, whose subjects range from the nature of memory and time to what we inherit from our parents, the power of art during tragedy, misogyny, motherhood, neuroscience, and the books we turn to during a pandemic.

The End of Bias: How We Change Our Minds

Jessica Nordell  
Granta. PB. \$32.99  
Available 30 November



Unconscious bias affects us all, every day of our lives. But it can be overcome. Scientists, psychologists, teachers and entrepreneurs have been devising ways to overcome our biases and end unconscious discrimination. This book introduces the people and organisations whose discoveries are set to change the world, and offers insights into how we can begin eliminating the biases that have settled in our societies.

Politics

Doing Politics: Writing on Public Life

Judith Brett  
Text. PB. \$34.99  
Available now



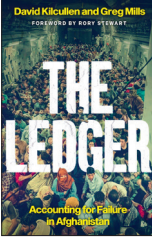
**R** In recent years, avid readers have been rewarded with collections of writings by Don Watson, David Marr and Robert Manne. Now, it’s Judith Brett’s turn, with this excellent collection that brings together some of her best written works, from journal and magazine articles to orations and book chapters. As a political historian and biographer, Brett has spent her career seeking to give

us a greater understanding of Australian political events and the decisions of our government and leaders. While Brett is easily recognised for her award-winning books on Alfred Deakin (*The Enigmatic Mr Deakin*) and Robert Menzies (*Robert Menzies’ Forgotten People*), this volume includes earlier, perhaps lesser-known works, which really speak to her approach and influences as a writer and political biographer. These chapters are great strengths of this volume, and for me, really anchor the book. They also add greater context to her essays on our six most recent Prime Ministers, brought together here in this volume, in addition to the initial oratory piece on Deakin and his leadership during the early years of the federation. Indeed, revisiting these prime-ministerial profiles makes for great (if not slightly sad) reading. Brett deftly investigates these men and woman (singular): their unique personalities and backgrounds are crucial to understanding them as political leaders.

As a historian, Brett engages with the public through her writing, bringing a necessary sense of urgency on current matters of climate change and the systematic dereliction of the humanities in the tertiary education sector. If you’re newly enfranchised, or have an existing interest in politics and history, or still can’t comprehend the exasperating events of this last decade, please read this vital work. Julia Jackson is from Readings Carlton

The Ledger: Accounting for Failure in Afghanistan

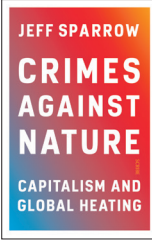
David Kilcullen & Greg Mills  
Hurst Publishers. PB. \$29.99  
Available 2 December



*The Ledger* identifies and assesses the failures of the West’s approach to Afghanistan after 9/11 – military, diplomatic, political and developmental. Dr David Kilcullen and Dr Greg Mills are uniquely placed to reflect backwards and forwards on the Afghan conflict, having worked with the international mission as advisers and within the Arg.

Crimes Against Nature: Capitalism and Global Heating

Jeff Sparrow  
Scribe. PB. \$29.99  
Available now



*Crimes Against Nature* takes the familiar narrative about global warming – the one in which we are all to blame – and inverts it, to show how pollution and ecological devastation

have been imposed on the population without our consent and (often) against our will. From histories of destruction, it distils stories of hope, highlighting the repeated yearning for a more sustainable world.

Time for Socialism: Dispatches from a World on Fire, 2016-2021

Thomas Piketty  
Yale University Press. HB. \$34.99  
Available late November

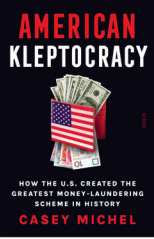


Over the past four years, Thomas Piketty, author of *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, has documented his close observations on current events through a regular column in the French

newspaper *Le Monde*. This collection brings together those articles and is prefaced by an extended introductory essay, in which Piketty argues that the time has come to support an inclusive and expansive conception of socialism.

American Kleptocracy: How the U.S. Created the Greatest Money-Laundering Scheme in History

Casey Michel  
Scribe. PB. \$35  
Available 30 November

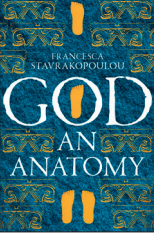


For years, one country has acted as the greatest offshore haven in the world. But it hasn’t been the sand-splattered Caribbean islands, or even traditional financial secrecy havens like Switzerland or Panama. It’s the United States of America. This is the explosive investigation into how the United States built one of the largest illicit offshore finance systems in the world.

History

God: An Anatomy

Francesca Stavrakopoulou  
Picador. PB. \$34.99  
Available 14 December



As Professor Francesca Stavrakopoulou reveals in this passionately argued and radical new work, the cultural DNA of the God of the great monotheistic religions stretches back centuries before the Bible was written. Examining God’s body, from head to foot, she shows how the Western idea of God developed. This is cultural history on a grand scale.

The Library: A Fragile History

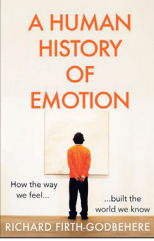
Andrew Pettegree & Arthur der Weduwen  
Profile. HB. \$49.99  
Available 30 November



Famed across the known world, jealously guarded by private collectors, built up over centuries, destroyed in a single day – the history of the library is stuffed full of incident. Andrew Pettegree and Arthur der Weduwen explore the contested and dramatic history of the library, from the famous collections of the ancient world to the embattled public resources we cherish today.

A Human History of Emotion: How the Way We Feel Built the World We Know

Richard Firth-Godbehere  
Fourth Estate. PB. \$34.99  
Available 17 November



How have our emotions shaped the course of human history? And how have our experience and understanding of emotions evolved with us? In *A Human History of Emotion*, Richard Firth-Godbehere takes readers on a fascinating and wide-ranging tour of the central and often under-appreciated role emotions have played in human societies.



**Eight Days in May: How Germany's War Ended**  
Volker Ullrich & Jefferson Chase (trans.)  
Allen Lane. HB. \$55  
Available 30 November

1 May 1945. The world did not know it yet, but the final week of the Third Reich's existence had begun. Hitler was dead, but the war continued. Everything had both ground to a halt and remained agonizingly uncertain. Volker Ullrich's remarkable book takes the reader into the chaotic eight days between Hitler's death and the war's end.

**Index, A History of the: A Bookish Adventure**  
Dennis Duncan  
Allen Lane. HB. \$45  
Available 7 December

Many people give little thought to the index. But here, hiding in plain sight, is an unlikely realm of ambition and obsession, sparring and politicking. Charting its curious path from the universities of 13th-century Europe to contemporary Silicon Valley, Dennis Duncan reveals how the index has saved heretics from the stake, kept politicians from high office and made us all into the readers we are today.

**The Story of the World in 100 Moments**  
Neil Oliver  
Bantam. HB. \$45  
Available 3 December

One hundred moments that shaped our world, from 5000 BC to the present. Neil Oliver takes us on a whistle-stop tour around the world and through a million years to give us this unique and invaluable grasp of how human history pieces together. Prepare to be surprised by some inclusions, and entertained by these remarkable, unforgettable stories.

Environmental Studies

**The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for an Endangered Planet**  
Jane Goodall & Douglas Abrams  
Viking. HB. Was \$35  
\$27.99  
Available now

World-renowned naturalist Jane Goodall draws on the wisdom of a lifetime dedicated to nature to teach us how to find strength in the face of the climate crisis. In extraordinary conversations with her co-author Douglas Abrams that weave together stories from her travels and activism, she offers readers a new understanding of the crisis we face and a compelling path forward for us all.

**Science**

**Do Not Erase: Mathematicians and Their Chalkboards**  
Jessica Wynne  
Princeton University Press. HB. \$54.99  
Available December

'A mathematician, like a painter or poet, is a maker of patterns,' wrote British mathematician G. H. Hardy. In *Do Not Erase*, photographer Jessica Wynne presents remarkable examples of this idea through more than 100 images of mathematicians' chalkboards. Accompanied by essays from each mathematician, this is an illuminating meditation on the unique relationships among mathematics, art and creativity.

**What's the Use?: The Unreasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics**  
Ian Stewart  
Profile. PB. \$29.99  
Available 16 November

*What's the Use?* asks why there is such a vast gulf between public perceptions of mathematics and reality. It shows how mathematics is vital, often in surprising ways, behind the scenes of daily life. How politicians pick their voters. How an absurd little puzzle solved 300 years ago leads to efficient methods for kidney transplants. And how a bizarre, infinitely wiggly curve, helps to optimise deliveries to your door.

**Sick Money: The Truth About the Global Pharmaceutical Industry**  
Billy Kenber  
Canongate. PB. \$29.99  
Available now

The pharmaceutical industry is broken. What drugs are being researched, how medicines are priced, who has access to which medicines is now being dictated by share-holder value, not the good of the public – who enjoy ever-diminishing benefits for ever-higher prices. Journalist Billy Kenber offers a diagnosis of an industry in crisis and a prescription for how we can fight back.

**World War C**  
Dr Sanjay Gupta  
Headline Home. PB. \$32.99  
Available now

CNN chief medical correspondent Dr. Sanjay Gupta, offers an accessible, data-packed answer to our biggest questions about Covid-19: What have we learned about this pandemic and how can we prepare for – or prevent – the next one? Written with compassion and honesty, *World War C* includes insights about the virus' behavior, and offers practical tools to ready ourselves for what lies ahead.

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Christine Manfield's Indian Cooking Class

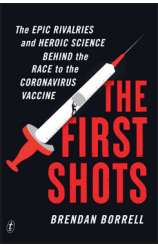
"Christine Manfield's influence on the way we eat now cannot be overestimated."

Nigella Lawson



The First Shots

Brendan Borrell  
Text. PB. \$34.99  
Available now

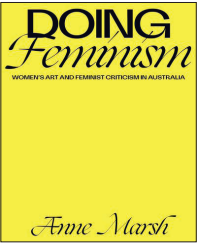


Heroic science. Chaotic politics. Billionaire entrepreneurs. *The First Shots* is the full inside story of the high-stakes global race for the lifesaving vaccine to end the pandemic. In this riveting, suspenseful account, Brendan Borrell brings to life this urgent race through exclusive access and absorbing, first-hand reporting on those leading the fight against a vicious virus.

Art & Design

Doing Feminism

The Miegunyah Press. HB. Was \$199.99  
\$ \$159.99  
Available now



A bold and strikingly illustrated record of women’s art and feminism in Australia. *Doing Feminism* represents over 220 artists and groups with 370 colour illustrations punctuated by extracts from artists’ statements, curatorial writing and critique. Anne Marsh guides the reader through the struggles, contestations and achievements of women artists, creating an essential read for years to come.

A New Leaf

Pip McCormac & Jennifer Haslam  
Hardie Grant. HB. \$60  
Available 1 December



*A New Leaf* celebrates the modern and stylish homes that reinvent the humble house plant as a coveted design object. Discover the plant life of 20 houses from around the world, each chapter accompanied by an interview with the owners. With its informative text, this expertly curated tome is invaluable to interior design lovers and those seeking visual inspiration.

Cinema & TV

Best Wishes, Warmest Regards: The Story of Schitt’s Creek

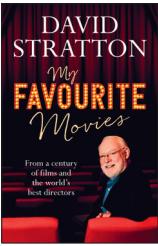
Daniel Levy & Eugene Levy  
Trapeze. HB. Was \$49.99  
\$ \$39.99  
Available 9 November



This beautifully produced, lavishly illustrated book is the ultimate celebration of the award-winning TV series, *Schitt’s Creek*. It includes character profiles, behind-the-scenes titbits, major moments from Moira’s endorsement of Herb Ertlinger Winery, the complete, illustrated catalogues of David’s knits and Moira’s wigs and more delightful special features that capture the essence and alchemy of the show.

My Favourite Movies

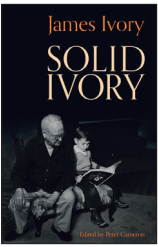
David Stratton  
A&U. PB. \$32.99  
Available now



Wondering what to watch next? Australia’s best-loved film critic shares the movies which are his personal favourites of all time, as well as insights from the leading directors and actors he has met over half a century. Keep David Stratton’s *My Favourite Movies* on your coffee table, and you’ll find yourself dipping into it time and time again.

Solid Ivory

James Ivory & Peter Cameron (ed.)  
Corsair. PB. \$34.99  
Available 9 November

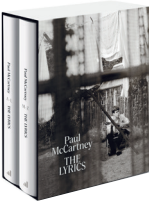


In his irreverent memoir, legendary filmmaker James Ivory shares stories from his remarkable life and career, from meeting his longtime collaborator and life partner Ismail Merchant at the Indian Consulate in New York to winning an Academy Award at 89 for *Call Me by Your Name*. Full of sharp wit and a keen perception of the film industry, it is an utterly winning portrait of an extraordinary life.

Music

The Lyrics: 1956 to the Present

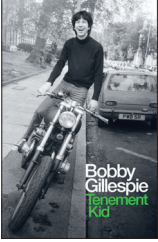
Paul McCartney  
Allen Lane. HB. Was \$155  
\$ \$120  
Available now



Paul McCartney recounts his life and art through the prism of 154 songs from all stages of his career – from his earliest boyhood compositions through the legendary decade of The Beatles, to Wings and his solo albums to the present. Within these pages, McCartney shares the circumstances in which these songs were written, the people and places that inspired them, and what he thinks of them now.

Tenement Kid

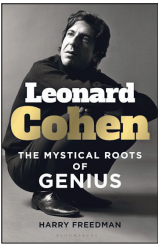
Bobby Gillespie  
White Rabbit. PB. \$34.99  
Available now



Bobby Gillespie is one of the most popular and influential British popstars of the past 30 years. This first volume of his memoirs tells – in his own words – the story of his childhood in working-class Glasgow, his time in The Jesus & Mary Chain, Primal Scream’s early days, right up until the release of *Screamadelica*.

Leonard Cohen: The Mystical Roots of Genius

Harry Freedman  
Bloomsbury Continuum. PB. \$29.99  
Available 16 November

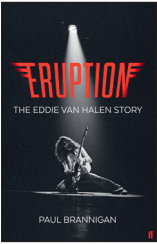


The singer and poet Leonard Cohen was deeply learned in Judaism and Christianity, the spiritual traditions that underpinned his self-identity and the way he

made sense of the world. In this book Harry Freedman, a leading author of cultural and religious history, explores the mystical and spiritual sources Cohen drew upon, discusses their original context and the stories and ideas behind them.

Eruption: The Eddie Van Halen Story

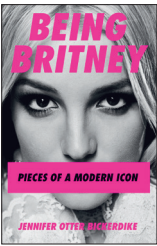
Paul Brannigan  
Faber Social. PB. \$34.99  
Available now



Arriving in California in the early 1960s, Edward Van Halen and his brother Alex were ripe for the coming musical revolution. In a career that would come to define rock ‘n’ roll, Eddie’s story was marked by tragedy as much as inspiration. This is a searching, affectionate and in-depth look at the life and legends of an icon, and the cultural, political and social contexts that shaped him.

Being Britney: Pieces of a Modern Icon

Jennifer Otter Bickerdike  
Nine Eight Books. PB. \$29.99  
Available 30 November



A mother, an entrepreneur; a victim, a fighter; an entertainer, an enigma – Britney Spears’ life is as multifaceted as the very contradictions, pressures and expectations that helped create her. Part biography, part social history, *Being Britney* pieces together a collage of vignettes, stories, interviews, legends and fan experiences to construct a timely portrait of the artist and her complex, far-reaching orbit.

Lightning Striking: Ten Transformative Moments in Rock and Roll

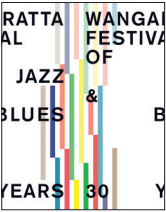
Lenny Kaye  
White Rabbit. PB. \$34.99  
Available 30 November



Rock and roll was birthed in basements and garages, radio stations and dance halls, in cities where unexpected gatherings of artists and audience changed and charged the way music is heard. Musician and writer Lenny Kaye explores the micro-narratives of 12 cities and their ‘scenes’, whether it’s Elvis Presley’s Memphis, the Beatles’ Liverpool, Patti Smith’s New York or Kurt Cobain’s Seattle.

Wangaratta Festival of Jazz and Blues: 30 Years

Adrian Jackson & Andra Jackson  
Melbourne Books. HB. \$66  
Available mid-November

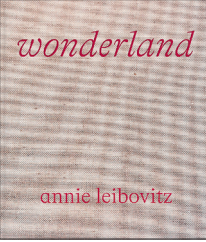


Sceptics said it couldn’t be done. Now, 30 years later, Wangaratta is home to one of Australia’s most vibrant jazz festivals. But its success didn’t happen overnight. Told by the festival’s artistic director of 27 years, this is the behind-the-scenes story of how a rural Victorian town became one of the most cutting-edge jazz festivals on the international jazz festival circuit.

Fashion

Annie Leibovitz: Wonderland

Annie Leibovitz  
Phaidon. HB. \$125  
Available 17 November



Her camera has captured a legendary line-up of subjects: Nicole Kidman, Serena Williams, Pina Bausch, RuPaul, Rihanna, Cate Blanchett, Lady Gaga and more. In this stunning compendium featuring 350 extraordinary images – many of them previously unpublished – Annie Leibovitz looks back at the intersection of fashion and photography in her career.

Tom Ford 002

Tom Ford & Bridget Foley  
Rizzoli International. HB. \$250  
Available 9 November



Seventeen years after Tom Ford’s bestselling debut book, which details his time as creative director for Gucci, this second volume offers readers a visual feast yet agin. Dedicated to Ford’s eponymous brand, this slipcased volume reflects the designer’s unapologetic sensual aesthetic. For devotees of fashion and style, this is a true collector’s item.

Gardening

Green Thumb

Craig Miller-Randle  
Plum. PB. \$44.99  
Available 18 November



No one is born with a green thumb, but anyone can grow one! Filled with advice distilled from over 40 years of experience, indoor plant expert Craig Miller-Randle’s *Green Thumb* is packed with advice on how to grow your own lush indoor jungle, whether it’s choosing the right pot, propagating, watering or getting rid of pests.

Travel

Marcia Langton: Welcome to Country (2nd Edition)

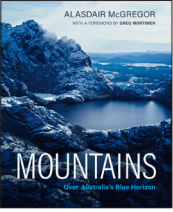
Marcia Langton  
Hardie Grant. HB. Was \$50  
\$ \$39.99  
Available 17 November



*Marcia Langton: Welcome to Country (2nd Edition)* is the fully revised and expanded follow-up to Langton’s landmark travel guide. Showcasing myriad ways to deepen our appreciation for First Nations cultures through travel, this edition offers a full range of First Nations-owned or -operated tourism experiences, including an expanded directory with 250 new listings, illustrated maps and photography.



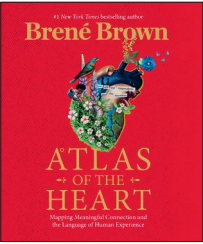
**Mountains: Over Australia's Blue Horizon**  
Alasdair McGregor  
NLA. HB. \$49.99  
*Available now*



Australia's mountains may not stand as tall as the many mightier peaks, but they are inscribed with the great sagas of the earth from its earliest days. Defying Australia's reputation as the flattest continent on earth, Alasdair McGregor traces the rise and fall of this land, from mountains of ice and fire to those of iron and those with their heads in the clouds.

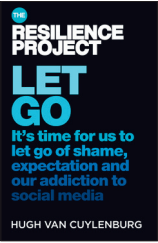
Personal Development

**Atlas of the Heart**  
Brené Brown  
Vermilion. HB. \$45  
*Available 30 November*



This new work from the bestselling author of *Dare to Lead* examines 87 emotions and experiences that define what it means to be human. As Brené Brown maps the skills and framework for meaningful connection, she gives us the language and tools to become more emotionally fluent and to make better choices.

**Let Go**  
Hugh van Cuylenburg & The Resilience Project  
Penguin Life. PB. \$34.99  
*Available 30 November*

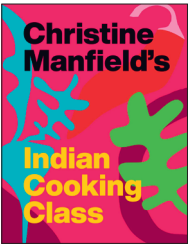


Like so many others, Hugh van Cuylenburg was forced to reassess life during the pandemic. After a period of not coping, he recognised he was being hamstrung by powerful forces: feelings

of shame, a quest for perfection and the toxicity of social media. In this follow-up to *The Resilience Project*, he shows readers how to let go of the things that hold us back.

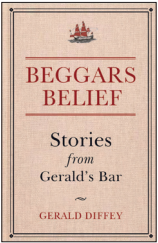
At home with Chris Gordon

**Christine Manfield's Indian Cooking Class**  
Christine Manfield  
S&S. HB. Was \$59.99  
\$49.99  
*Available 4 November*



Christine Manfield is one of Australia's most highly regarded chefs, authors, food writers, food manufacturers, presenters, teachers, gastronomic travellers, the list goes on. Her latest book is filled with easy-to-follow recipes that will allow you to make curry pastes and blend flavours with absolute confidence. Included are impressive Indian classics, be it a simple dal or an intricate biryani. *Christine Manfield's Indian Cooking Class* is a handbook that encourages creativity. By sharing her infinite knowledge of flavour, this book is a must-have for anyone who relishes having their home filled to the brim with delicious aromas.

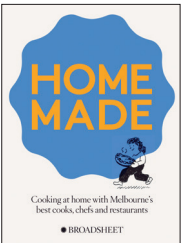
**Beggars Belief: Stories from Gerald's Bar**  
Gerald Diffey & Max Allen  
Melbourne Books. HB. \$35  
*Available December*



Some cookbooks are to be relished as a portrait of time and place. *Beggars Belief* is that type of book. It encapsulates everything that is fine and well in our lives: good food, company and a

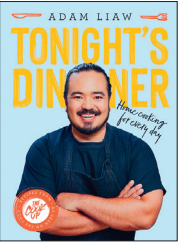
fitting drink is surely the trifecta of wellbeing. Gerald Diffey has spent four decades immersed in the world of food, wine and hospitality, and is the owner of one of the best places in the world to drink and eat: the award-winning Gerald's Bar in North Carlton. *Beggars Belief* is a collection of poignant, insightful and just plain ludicrous stories from Gerald's life in kitchens and behind bars – his formative years in the UK, memories of food and family; tales and tips from 40 years of service. 'Romance,' writes Gerald in the introduction. 'That's what I sell. Sensual pleasures. Sights, sounds, smells, touch, taste.' And my goodness, he does it so well. This is the type of book you could gift to anyone who enjoys brandishing around a kitchen knife. That and a booking to his excellent northside bar.

**Home Made**  
Broadsheet Media  
Plum. HB. Was \$49.99  
\$44.99  
*Available 18 November*



This wonderful ode to Melbourne's restaurants and bars is a gift for anyone who has wandered the empty streets of Melbourne over the last 20 months, peered into empty restaurants and lamented these times. What do chefs cook at home? *Home Made* is a collection of diverse recipes from Melbourne's best cooks, chefs and restaurants, each selected to answer that question. Most of the book's recipes are easy to make (such as Andrew McConnell's prawn pasta) although some will require spending a day in the kitchen (Hugh Allen's lamingtons), but all these fine recipes and thoughts will impart a little of the spirit of Melbourne into your own home. The recipes will inspire you to share meals with friends and family; in some ways this wonderful book is a result of what we have shared together, but apart, and a reminder that soon you will be able to rejoice in the hustle and the bustle of a city we all love so dearly.

**Tonight's Dinner: Home Cooking for Every Day**  
Adam Liaw  
Hardie Grant. HB. Was \$45  
\$39.99  
*Available now*



It is difficult to remember a time before we met Adam Liaw and grew to adore his affable cooking style. Did you know that his victory on *MasterChef* in 2010 is still the most watched non-sporting television event in Australian history? His latest collection of recipes, *Tonight's Dinner*, brings us everyday food inspired by the expanding spread of dishes on Australian tables today. Here he acknowledges that the best way for us to cook – instead of reaching for our UberEATS app – is to make sure all the recipes are super easy, accessible and healthy. Adam covers all bases including weeknight dinners; wok wonders; and my personal favourites, snacks. This book also allows me the grace to eat well even while binging on Netflix – for example, the ricotta toast with braised onions and thyme is delicious and illustrates Adam's innovative and thoughtful attitude to eating well all the time. This book is perfect for any home chef.

**Also out this month**  
I just know you will be out and about this month, but I do also want you to consider ending this year with a new mantra. Simply: living well means cooking well. Paul West's cookbook, *Homegrown* (Plum, PB, \$44.99, available 18 November), will give you the confidence to also make some important environmental decisions around your own home, as it is filled not only with recipes but also tips on composting and growing food. *Nat's What I Reckon: Death to Jar Sauce* (Ebury, PB, \$34.99, available 16 November) is filled with Nat's trademark humour, and some genuinely handy culinary tips to boot. And chef David Chang's *Cooking at Home* (Ten Speed, HB, \$49.99, available 16 November) makes tremendous sense on all levels.

Melbourne's favourite independent cinema!



**NO TIME TO DIE (M)** Coming soon  
James Bond has left active service and is enjoying a tranquil life in Jamaica, but his peace is short-lived when an old friend from the CIA asks for help. Daniel Craig is reunited with Léa Seydoux, Ben Whishaw, and Ralph Fiennes as "M". Oscar winner Rami Malek (*Bohemian Rhapsody*) and Golden Globe nominee Ana de Armas (*Knives Out*) join the all-star cast of this concluding chapter in the Daniel Craig-led 007 series.  
"startling, exotically self-aware, funny and confident...big action, big laughs, big stunts..."  
★★★★★ The Guardian



**DUNE (M)** Coming Soon  
Oscar nominee Denis Villeneuve (*Arrival*, *Blade Runner 2049*) directs the big-screen adaption of Frank Herbert's seminal bestseller. A mythic and emotionally charged hero's journey, *DUNE* tells the story of Paul Atreides (Timothée Chalamet), a gifted young man born into a great destiny. As malevolent forces explode into conflict over the planet's exclusive supply of the most precious resources in existence, only those who can conquer fear will survive.  
"The adaptation you always dreamed of."  
★★★★★ Empire



**PALAZZO DI COZZO (PG)** Coming Soon  
*Megalo, megalo, megalo!* A pioneer of low-fi television advertising, Franco Cozzo's tri-lingual catchphrase sparked a cult-of-personality as kitsch as his baroque bedheads. Madeleine Martiniello's film delivers Franco's story with thoughtful affection, reminding us how the larger-than-life homewares mogul helped to foster a sense of community and inclusivity in a Melbourne that was still coming to grips with the notion of multiculturalism.  
"A gem of a documentary." The Conversation

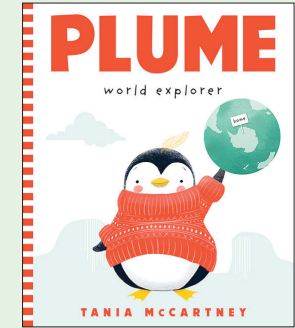
Visit our website for film information and tickets, plus Australia's largest selection of quality cinema and special events.



380 Lygon Street Carlton  
cinamanova.com.au



# Kids



**Plume: World Explorer**  
Tania McCartney  
Hardie Grant. HB. \$24.99  
Available now

**R** While we may not be able to travel much ourselves, the utterly delightful penguin Plume can, and he makes for a wonderful guide on a journey around the world, exploring different climates, locations and people.

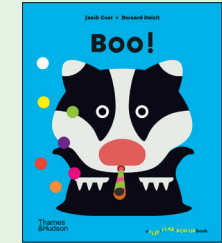
A marvellous adventure for readers aged 4 and up to enjoy.

Plume lives in Antarctica and loves new sights and smells. He discovers the world through books, and then orders exotic treats from the trusty postie, an albatross called Ava. One day, Ava invites Plume to accompany her on her postal round across the world. Plume has an incredible adventure, meeting children from different countries and learning about their culture and their lives. When Plume returns to Antarctica, he shares his adventures and a little bit of the world with his penguin family. For the penguins, used to a world of only black and white, the colourful rainbow of the world is thrilling and inspiring.

With stunning illustrations and glorious end papers of a world map, *Plume: World Explorer* is a marvellous adventure for readers aged 4 and up to enjoy and learn. Angela Crocombe is the kids book buyer at Readings

## Board Books

**Boo!**  
Janik Coat & Bernard Duisit  
T&H. BB. \$17.99  
Available now



In this latest addition to the *Flip Flap Pop-Up* series, young readers will be startled by some scary-looking sights ... then delighted to discover that there's no need to be afraid – it's only friendly animals having fancy-dress fun! These pages are packed with treats, flaps to lift, tabs to pull and plenty of surprises.

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

*Picture Book*

## Picture Books

**Cat Problems**  
Jory John & Lane Smith (illus.)  
Walker. HB. \$26.99  
Available now

**R** This wonderful author-illustrator partnership has already given us two picture books featuring bad-tempered, cynical characters complaining about their lives: *Penguin Problems* and *Giraffe Problems*. The eponymous cat in *Cat Problems* suffers numerous exaggerated indignities that are equally hilarious: from being woken from a 19-hour nap to the kitten that conspires to sleep in *all* of cat's favourite places. And what about that horrible monster – the vacuum cleaner? And why is there never any wet food? Dry food is just not good enough for this little lord. Not to mention the boredom of being indoors – it's just hell being a cat! That is, until cat is given a lecture by a tiny little mouse about just how good its life really is. But will cat listen?

This is a beautifully illustrated, delightful picture book that we can all relate to, whether we have a cat or are just feeling a little frustrated and house-bound ourselves. A great, fun read-aloud for ages 3+.

Angela Crocombe is the kids book buyer at Readings

**Frindleswylde**  
Natalia O'Hara & Lauren O'Hara (illus.)  
Walker. HB. \$29.99  
Available now



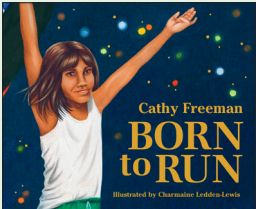
**R** In this compelling adventure, Frindleswylde is the mysterious shapeshifter who Cora must outwit in order to escape an icy prison. But first, Cora must solve three seemingly impossible tasks set by her deceitful captor. Ultimately, her ingenuity, courage and luck save the day.

This is a hauntingly beautiful picture book, an enchanting story reminiscent of traditional, classic folktales. Its themes are equally timeless: the loss of innocence, good versus evil, hope and courage in the face of adversity, and the power of love to conquer all. *Frindleswylde's* magical language – the rhythm and cadence of its text – compel it to be read aloud, and the gorgeous, ethereal illustrations capture the icy cold and blanketing snow of a Northern hemisphere winter.

This is a beautiful addition for the home library and a perfect gift for those ages 5+.

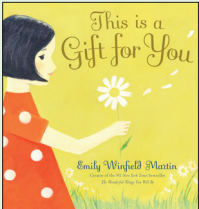
Athina Clarke is from Readings Malvern

**Born to Run**  
Cathy Freeman & Charmaine Ledden-Lewis (illus.)  
Puffin. HB. \$24.99  
Available now



As a little girl, Cathy Freeman had a dream – to win a gold medal at the Olympics. In 2000, that dream came true. When she crossed the finish line and won a gold medal for Australia, she became a national hero. In this beautifully illustrated picture book, Cathy tells her story about where self-belief, hard work and the power of a loving family can take you.

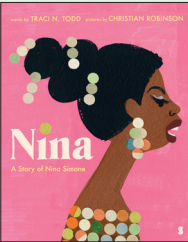
**This Is a Gift for You**  
Emily Winfield Martin  
RHUS Children's. HB. \$24.99  
Available 30 November



A companion to the beloved *The Wonderful Things You Will Be*, this picture book celebrates how we say 'I love you' with gifts as heartfelt as a daisy, as magical as a dream, and as comforting as a place to belong. It is a poetic tribute to the simple

joys of life and nature, and a reminder that the greatest gift we have is time spent together.

**Nina: A Story of Nina Simone**  
Traci N. Todd & Christian Robinson (illus.)  
Scribble. HB. \$27.99  
Available now



Meet young Eunice, who sang before she could talk, and journey with her from the piano stool she shared with her father in her childhood home, to the clubs and concert halls where she became the one and only Nina Simone. With rhythmic prose and masterful images, *Nina* perfectly captures Simone's bold, defiant and rebellious legacy and shares it with a new generation.

**We Found a Cat**  
Heidi McKinnon  
Scholastic. HB. \$17.99  
Available now



Look! We found a cat. It has whiskers and a long tail! It loves to purr and loves to eat! It's very loud and very hungry ... it has to be a cat, right? Created by the hilarious author of *I Just Ate My Friend*, this picture book about two children who find a big furry friend is perfect for kids with a big imagination.

**Santa Loves Australia**  
Collette Dinnigan & Luke Sciberras (illus.)  
S&S. HB. \$24.99  
Available now



Join Santa on his magical sleigh ride over Australia where he is always excited to visit to deliver his glittering presents. From tropical Queensland where he sings carols with kookaburras; to Sydney, through the mouth of Luna Park; to the Kimberley, where he exchanges grins with some crocodiles.

## Graphic Novel

**Batpig: When Pigs Fly**  
Rob Harrell  
HarperCollins. PB. \$16.99  
Available now



**R** Things aren't exactly going well for Batpig. He's strapped to a rocket that's headed for the sun. If he can't break free he is going to fry! This is the thrilling opening scene where we first meet our hero. Gary was a normal sandwich-eating, apartment-dwelling city pig until his friend Brooklyn, a bat, bit him on the nose during a game of cards. Suddenly Gary has powers: super strength! Levitation! Telekinesis! With a cape, a superhero name and a couple of flying lessons, Gary's origin story is complete. Naturally our hero comes up against some baddies, so enter a giant lizard and a mad butcher (extra scary for pigs). Friendship is the real hero of this book though; no pig is an island, and Gary learns he is lucky to have friends he can call on, even Carl, a loudmouth fish who stays damp by spending time in toilet bowls.

Split into three easily digestible adventure stories, *Batpig* is hilarious and heartwarming. Luckily it's also the first in a series with the second book coming in 2022. Highly recommended for ages 7 to 11.

Kim Gruschow is from Readings St Kilda



The Secret Garden on 81st Street

Ivy Noelle Weir & Amber Padilla (illus.)  
Little, Brown. PB. \$19.99  
Available now

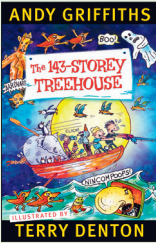


When Mary Lennox’s parents die in a tragic accident, she moves to New York City to live with her uncle. There, Mary discovers an abandoned rooftop garden and with the help of her new friends, Colin and Dickon, she works to restore the garden to its former glory. An enchanting and modern graphic novel adaptation of *The Secret Garden*.

Junior Grade

The 143-Storey Treehouse

Andy Griffiths & Terry Denton  
Pan Mac. PB. \$14.99 | HB. \$18.99  
Available now



When Andy’s crankiness gets too much, and Terry suggests a nice relaxing camping holiday, Andy begrudgingly agrees that it might be nice to visit the new camping level of the treehouse. Unfortunately, their publisher Mr Bignose finds out and he insists Andy and Terry use their holiday to finish their latest Treehouse book, while also demanding they pose for pictures and answer questions for *Go Away* magazine. But that’s not the most ‘unrelaxing’ thing about Andy’s relaxing holiday. The most ‘unrelaxing’ thing is ... Terry did all the packing!

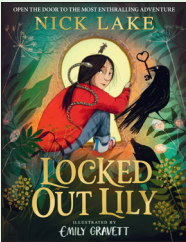
*The 143-Storey Treehouse* is full of camping staples such as fishing for big old sentient boots and (not-so) spooky campfire ghost stories. Terry’s detailed and hilarious illustrations means even kids who can’t read can fully enjoy the *Treehouse* series. I cannot express how much joy I get both from reading this series and watching kids read them. Excellent literature for all kids ages 5+.

Dani Solomon is the manager of Readings Kids

Middle Grade

Locked Out Lily

Nick Lake & Emily Gravett (illus.)  
S&S. HB. \$19.99  
Available December



Lily has a lot to contend with. Not only does she feel powerless in her battle with a chronic illness, she fears losing her parents to a new addition to her family. As her Mum and Dad dote over their new baby in hospital, a pair of malevolent doppelgangers invade the family home, determined to do harm.

Indignation, stubbornness and mounting anger fuel Lily’s determination to rid her home of these sinister imposters. Luckily, she has new-found allies – a motley crew of talking animals pledge allegiance to her mission, banding together to save the day.

This deliciously scary tale is an atmospheric creation with unforgettable characters. Courageous Lily and her lovable animal heroes strive against menacing, unearthly forces and insurmountable odds right up to the enigmatic yet satisfying ending. The writing is clever, with genuinely funny moments bringing relief to scenes of dark intensity, a contrast Emily Gravett’s moody black-and-white illustrations capture perfectly.

Steeped in mystery and foreboding, *Locked Out Lily* is a wonderful read-aloud with much to interpret. It’s ideal for families and the classroom; highly recommended for confident readers aged 9 and up; lovers of *Coraline* are in for a treat!

Athina Clarke is from Readings Malvern

The Lion Above the Door

Onjali Q. Raúf  
Orion. PB. \$15.99  
Available now

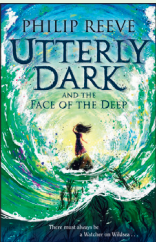


Leo belongs to one of only a few Asian families in Whot. When their class starts studying the Second World War (WW2), Leo and his friend Sangeeta wonder why there aren’t any faces that look like theirs in the history books. Then, on a school trip, Leo finds his exact name on a plaque dedicated to WW2 heroes. Together with Sangeeta and Olivia, the most popular girl in the school, Leo is determined to uncover and tell the other Leo’s story, and help Sangeeta draw attention to the role of women in the war. *The Lion Above the Door* really highlights how whitewashed our history is. It’s a British book but its message is no less relevant in Australia, where First Nations people delayed fighting for their own rights in order to fight for a country that refused to recognise them as people. I loved this book and highly recommend it for all kids ages 9+.

Dani Solomon is the manager of Readings Kids

Utterly Dark and the Face of the Deep

Philip Reeve  
David Fickling. PB. \$17.99  
Available now



A bewitching new fantasy novel from the author of *Mortal Engines*. Utterly is found washed up on the shores of the Autumn Isles and taken in by the mysterious Watcher of Wildsea. When her guardian is drowned, Utterly is thrust into the role of Watcher, but can she keep the island safe from the threat of the terrifying monsters that lie beneath the oceans?

By Ash, Oak and Thorn

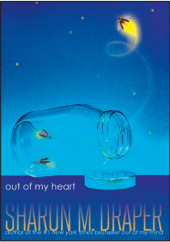
Melissa Harrison  
Chicken House. PB. \$16.99  
Available now



Moss, Burnet and Cumulus are three tiny ancient beings who were once revered as Guardians of the wild woodlands. They wake from hibernation in their beloved ash tree home, but when it’s destroyed, they set off hoping to reunite with more of their kind. Helped along the way by birds and animals, the trio search for a way to survive in a precious yet disappearing world.

Out of My Heart

Sharon M. Draper  
Atheneum. PB. \$14.99  
Available 17 November



Melody, the huge-hearted heroine of *Out of My Mind*, is now a year older and a year braver. But not as brave as she wants to be, as she’s terrified of horses, even though she loves them from afar. Melody decides summer camp – one with horseback riding – should be her next challenge. Except, are there even riding camps for kids with cerebral palsy? She’s going to find out.

Nonfiction

Book of Curious Birds

Jennifer Cossins  
Lothian. HB. \$26.99  
Available now

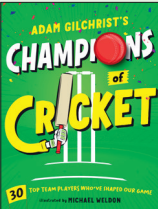


Birds are curious creatures. From their unusual appearance to their unique behaviour, they really are one of the most fascinating species in the animal kingdom. In this book you’ll find all sorts of birds. You’ll laugh at their odd hairdos, marvel at their

remarkable hunting skills and admire their wild mating dances. Most of all, you’ll learn that birds deserve our love, care and respect.

Adam Gilchrist’s Champions of Cricket

Adam Gilchrist & Michael Weldon (illus.)  
Affirm Press. HB. \$35  
Available now



Celebrate the men and women hand-picked by Adam Gilchrist as some of the greatest team players cricket has ever seen. Learn how their passion, leadership and risk-taking have shaped the game. Featuring anecdotes, statistics and brilliant illustrations, *Adam Gilchrist’s Champions of Cricket* is the perfect gift for budding cricketers everywhere.

Spacewarp: Colliding Comets and Other Cosmic Catastrophes

Fred Watson  
NewSouth. PB. \$27.99  
Available now



Why do stars twinkle? What’s the best way to start spotting comets and costellations? Is there life beyond Earth? What’s the chance of a catastrophic collision with a killer asteroid? Australia’s very own Astronomer-at-Large Fred Watson embarks on a grand tour of the Universe with mind-boggling facts young stargazers 10 and up will love, and which parents might learn a thing or two from as well!

Explore Your World: Weirdest Creatures in Time

Tim & Emma Flannery  
Hardie Grant. HB. \$34.99  
Available now



Could you outrun a T-rex? Which dinosaur had a second brain near its butt? Did the Earth used to be a giant snowball? Do scientists play pranks on each other? Fire up the time machine, the bestselling authors of *Explore Your World: Weird, Wild, Amazing!*, Tim and Emma Flannery, are back to introduce young readers to the most incredible creatures that once roamed the Earth.

Classic of the Month

Hating Alison Ashley

Robin Klein  
Puffin. PB. \$17.99  
Available now



*Hating Alison Ashley* is one of Australian literature’s finest campus novels, and Erica Yurken is surely one of its greatest (and most relatable) heroines. Erica is an aspiring thespian, mild hypochondriac, and teller of tall tales, who is certain she is destined for greater things than

Barringa East Primary School. Enter Alison Ashley, the seemingly perfect new student who Erica is sure has been sent to undermine her every move. With the school camp on the horizon, bringing the anticipated play performances that have become school legend, will Erica be able to realise her dream of being the star of the show?

First published in 1984, this classic tale from the legendary Robin Klein is a wonderful account of Australian primary-school life. It is bursting with a cast of unforgettable characters, and tells a timeless story of finding friendship, and working out who you are and what really matters. Some cultural references and turns of phrase might require context for contemporary readers, but this book shines as brightly for me now as it did when I read it (over and over again) in the 1980s, and remains one of my all-time favourite books. For ages 9+.

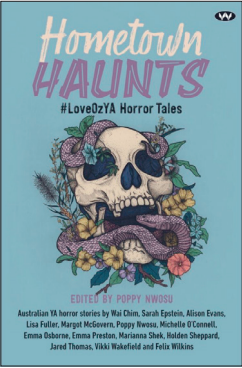
Alison Huber is the head book buyer at Readings



# Young Adult

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

### Young Adult



### Hometown Haunts: #LoveOzYA Horror Tales

Poppy Nwosu (ed.)  
Wakefield. PB. \$24.99  
Available now

This anthology digs up the horror genre and breathes new life into some classic tropes, while also shining a shaky torchlight on timely fears such as the climate crisis and the pandemic. There are stories about monsters, K-pop zombies and vengeful spirits – think twice before disturbing the resting sites of ancestors and watch out for those Hungry Ghosts! Not even our own minds can be trusted in these authors’ hands.

There are tension-breaking laughs when you need them and lots of breathtakingly beautiful writing, as well as two graphic stories by Michelle O’Connell and Emma Preston. It’s particularly exciting seeing Australian graphic stories included in a YA collection, as the medium is dominated by overseas creators.

The quality of storytelling and diverse perspectives and styles make *Hometown Haunts* one of the most exciting horror reads I’ve enjoyed in years. Alas, to read this collection is to be cursed to walk the earth raving about just how good it is! For ages 13+.

Pilgrim Hodgson is from Readings Kids

**R** *Hometown Haunts* is all-Australian and all-amazing, bringing together some of our best established and emerging YA authors for a collection that will chill, thrill and leave you sleeping with the lights on.

Edited by Poppy Nwosu, the anthology is the first #LoveOzYA publication to focus exclusively on the horror genre. The impressive line-up includes Wai Chim, Sarah Epstein, Alison Evans, Lisa Fuller, Michelle O’Connell, Emma Preston, Holden Sheppard, Jared Thomas, Vikki Wakefield and Nwosu herself. Alongside these are stories by four writers – Margot McGovern, Emma Osborne, Marianna Shek and Felix Wilkins – which were selected through a competitive open call-out process.

One of the most exciting horror reads I've enjoyed in years.

There are tension-breaking laughs when you need them and lots of breathtakingly beautiful writing, as well as two graphic stories by Michelle O’Connell and Emma Preston. It’s particularly exciting seeing Australian graphic stories included in a YA collection, as the medium is dominated by overseas creators.

### Stars in Their Eyes (Graphic Novel)

Jessica Walton & Aśka (illus.)  
Fremantle Press. PB. \$19.99  
Available now



**R** Maisie and her mother are travelling across the country to attend the fan convention, FanCon, where Maisie will finally meet her hero Kara Bufano, the actor who plays her favourite TV character Luna. Maisie has two things in common with Luna: a bad-ass attitude and a prosthetic leg. When they arrive, FanCon is big, loud and exhausting, but it’s also a place where Maisie finally feels at home. Especially when she meets Ollie. Together, they bond over their love of all things nerdy, as well as their shared embarrassment of their parents.

As soon as I read the blurb for *Stars in Their Eyes*, I knew I had to get my hands on it. A queer, intersectional meet-cute set at a Con? Sign me up! I can happily report that Jessica Walton and Aśka did not disappoint with this beautiful graphic novel. Together, they’ve perfectly captured the experience of attending a fan convention for the first time and packed so much into such a short book. The artwork and narrative work seamlessly together, and the result is fast-paced, humorous and heartwarming.

As characters, Maisie and Ollie are unapologetically themselves, making them all the more loveable. I loved how supportive and encouraging their parents were. It’s refreshing to read a young adult story about queer identity being celebrated instead of traumatic coming-out stories, which we see in so many YA novels.

Fans of Jen Wilde and Ashley Poston

will adore this uplifting and fun read about celebrating identity, first love, and navigating the world with pride and passion. For ages 11+.

Lucie Dess is the marketing assistant at Readings

### Margot Mertz Takes It Down

Carrie McCrossen & Ian McWethy  
Hardie Grant. PB. \$19.99

Available now



**R** After her uncle loses her entire college fund in a shonky business deal, Margot Mertz starts her own side hustle doing what she does best: removing embarrassing content from the internet.

Teachers, fellow students and normal citizens come to her when they find themselves virtually exposed and needing a clean-up job. With the help of her computer genius friend, Sammi, no job is too large for Margot Mertz, and she’s earning a ton of money to pay for college. That is, until the day a female student tells Margot about a revenge-porn site that features many girls from their high school, with explicit photos posted without their knowledge or permission. Margot is utterly furious and determined to take it down. But she’ll need handsome jock Avery Green to pose as her boyfriend as she tries to infiltrate the computers of the likeliest offenders. And Margot has a few lessons to learn about her own in-built biases and assumptions about others, not to mention her own proclivity for breaking the law just to get the job done.

This all sounds very serious but there is so much humour in this book. Margot is brilliant and extremely funny, as are many

of the secondary characters. Mix the sass of *Veronica Mars* with the feminist credentials of *Moxie* and you approach something close to the vibe of our protagonist Margot Mertz. Watching her ‘Take It Down’ will cause the reader to cheer from the sidelines while also having a heap of fun. Suitable for readers ages 12+.

Angela Crocombe is the kids book buyer at Readings

### Parachutes

Kelly Yang  
HarperCollins. PB. \$19.99  
Available November



**R** Dani is a high-achieving Filipino American scholarship student at American Prep high school in California. When she’s not practising with the debate team and planning her path to

Yale, Dani works as a house cleaner alongside her mother and fellow scholarship student, Ming. Despite their hard work, Dani’s mother still needs to take in a boarder to make ends meet. Enter Claire, a wealthy student from Shanghai, forced to study in the US by her parents after failing to conform to their expectations.

Even though they share a house, the two girls do not immediately become close. Claire quickly finds herself a group of friends among the many ‘parachutes’ – Chinese students flown in on their own to complete their schooling – and a stratospherically rich, but volatile, boyfriend, Jay. Dani tries to stay focused on the debate tournament that could decide her future, but is disheartened by her teammates’ cheating and confused by her debate coach’s behaviour.

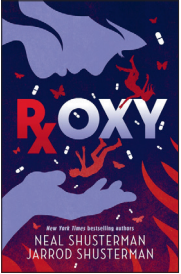
*Parachutes* is a powerful and sobering exposé of the harsh realities of being a young woman. It depicts in excruciating detail the unfair advantages that money can buy, everyday sexism and racism, the difficulties facing isolated international students, corruption within the education system and sexual violence. Author Kelly Yang is best-known for her award-winning middle grade novel *Front Desk*, and she’s made the transition to young adult fiction with aplomb. When you read the author’s note at the end of this book, you realise that this is a very personal story. It’s a testament to Yang’s skill as a writer, and her passionate belief in the importance of speaking up, that *Parachutes* communicates the strength of young women banding together, while still delivering a realistic ending. This is a deeply moving novel; I urge you to read it. For ages 15+.

Leanne Hall is a friend of Readings

### Roxy

Neal Shusterman & Jarrod Shusterman  
Walker. PB. \$19.99

Available 17 November



We humans are the playthings of two ‘manufactured’ gods: the seductive and lethal Roxy (Oxycontin) and the smart, high-achieving Addison (Adderall). The two make a bet. The targets:

Ivy Ramey, understimulated and overmedicated, and Isaac Ramey, desperate to recover from a sports injury. As the wager plays out, one Ramey will

land on their feet and the other will be lost. A chilling and unique exploration of the opioid epidemic in America.

### Aurora’s End (The Aurora Cycle, Book 3)

Amie Kaufman & Jay Kristoff  
A&U. PB. \$19.99  
Available now



What happens when you ask a bunch of losers, discipline cases and misfits to save the galaxy from an ancient evil? The ancient evil wins, of course. When we last saw Squad 312, they were neck-deep in an intergalactic battle to save Earth. Everything went horribly wrong, naturally. But as it turns out, not all endings are endings, and the team has one last chance to rewrite theirs. The thrilling finale to the bestselling *Aurora Cycle* trilogy.

### Terciel and Elinor

Garth Nix  
A&U. PB. \$24.99  
Available now



For details on the event for this book, visit [readings.com.au/events](https://readings.com.au/events)



Deep in the Old Kingdom, 18-year-old orphan Terciel is training to become the next Abhorsen, to make sure the Dead do not return to Life. Across the Wall in Ancelstierre, a steam-age country

where magic usually does not work, 19-year-old Elinor lives a secluded life, unaware of her deep connection to the Old Kingdom. Fans of Garth Nix’s bestselling *Abhorsen* series will finally discover the epic story of Sabriel’s parents in this highly anticipated prequel.

### Beasts and Beauty: Dangerous Tales

Soman Chainani  
Fourth Estate. PB. \$29.99  
Available 1 December



Twelve tales of mystery, magic and rebellious hearts. A prince has a surprising awakening, a beauty fights like a beast, a boy refuses to become prey. Bestselling author of *The School for Good and Evil* Soman

Chainani spins old stories into fresh fairy tales for a new era. You think you know these stories, but you’re wrong. They reflect you. They are tales for our times.

### White Smoke

Tiffany D. Jackson  
HarperCollins. PB. \$19.99  
Available 17 November



*The Haunting of Hill House* meets *Get Out* in this chilling YA psychological thriller. Mari is running from the phantoms of her old life. A move with her newly blended family to the embattled

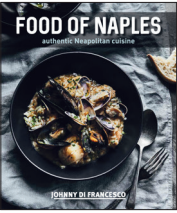
Midwestern city of Cedarville might be the fresh start she needs. But her new house – the renovated picture-perfect home on Maple Street – has its own secrets. And secrets always find their way through the cracks.



# Bargains

## Food of Naples: Authentic Neapolitan Cuisine

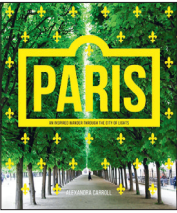
Johnny Di Francesco  
HB. Was \$45 **Now \$21.99**



*Food of Naples* compiles traditional napoletani recipes and serves as a reflection of award-winning chef Johnny Di Francesco’s heritage – his family influences intertwined with his culinary skills and the recipes that have been handed down for generations. With tastes from the sea and ingredients enhanced from the sun, there’s something for every taste.

## Paris: An Inspired Wander Through the City of Lights

Alexandra Carroll  
PB. Was \$34.99 **Now \$12.99**



Paris is unique. No other city has captured the hearts and imaginations of artists and lovers quite like this historic metropolis. Filled with stunning photography, this lovingly curated guide invites you into the city’s famous *arrondissements* and the charms of its *quartiers*. *Paris* is the ultimate travel guide for wanderers, travellers and dreamers alike and will enthrall you time and again.

## Terrain: A Guide to Living with Nature

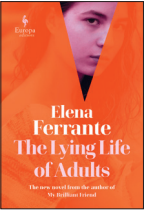
Greg Lehmkuhl & the gardeners of Terrain (eds)  
HB. Was \$59.99 **Now \$19.99**



Founded in a historic nursery in southeast Pennsylvania, Terrain is a renowned garden, home and lifestyle brand with an entirely fresh approach to living with nature. This book not only captures its unique sensibility but also shows how to live with nature at home with inspiring tips and projects for every season.

## The Lying Life of Adults

Elena Ferrante & Ann Goldstein (trans.)  
PB. Was \$32.99 **Now \$14.99**



Giovanna’s pretty face has changed: it’s turning into the face of an ugly, spiteful adolescent. But is she seeing things as they really are? Searching for a new face, she moves between a divided Naples – the heights, which assumes a mask of refinement, and the depths, a place of excess and vulgarity. Ultimately disoriented, her search seems to offer no answer and no escape.

## The Violet Bakery Cookbook

Claire Ptak  
HB. Was \$45 **Now \$17.99**

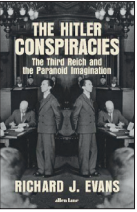


London’s popular Violet Bakery focuses on quality ingredients including wholegrain flours, less refined sugars, and the natural sweetness and nuanced hues of seasonal fruits. With over 100 recipes, including

nourishing breakfasts, midday snacks, desserts to share, fruit preserves and stylish celebration cakes, this book is about making baking worth it: simple to cook and satisfying to eat.

## The Hitler Conspiracies: The Third Reich and the Paranoid Imagination

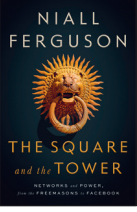
Richard J. Evans  
HB. Was \$39.99 **Now \$16.99**



The idea that nothing happens by chance in history, that everything is the result of the secret machinations of powerful groups of people behind the scenes, is as old as history itself. But conspiracy theories are becoming more widespread in the 21st century. Renowned historian Richard J. Evans puts ‘fake news’ in historical perspective in this challenging and illuminating study.

## The Square and the Tower

Niall Ferguson  
HB. Was \$40 **Now \$19.99**



From the cults of ancient Rome to the dynasties of the Renaissance, from the founding fathers to Facebook, *The Square and the Tower* tells the story of the rise and fall and rise of networks, and shows how network theory – concepts such as clustering, degrees of separation, weak ties, contagions – can transform our understanding of both the past and the present.

## Amazing Train Journeys

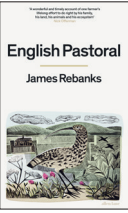
Lonely Planet  
HB. Was \$39.99 **Now \$16.99**



Experience 60 of the world’s most unforgettable train journeys voted by more than 200 travel writers as their absolute favourites: from epic international adventures and incredible feats of engineering, to those with UNESCO World Heritage status and suburban coastal routes. *Amazing Train Journeys* also includes practical information, photos and maps of each journey.

## English Pastoral

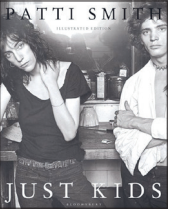
James Rebanks  
PB. Was \$35 **Now \$14.99**



The moving story of how, in just three generations, an ancient way of life was lost from the fields of a small Lake District farm, *English Pastoral* also tells of how rural landscapes around the world were brought close to collapse. This elegy is a song of hope: how one farmer began to salvage a tiny part of England that was now his, to restore the life that had vanished and leave a legacy for the future.

## Just Kids (Illustrated Edition)

Patti Smith  
HB. Was \$59.99 **Now \$17.99**



Patti’s Smith’s exquisite prose is richly illustrated in this full-colour edition of her classic coming-of-age memoir. Along with private photographs, drawings and ephemera, this edition captures a moment in New York when everything was possible – and when two kids seized their destinies as artists and soulmates in this inspired story of love.

## Twas the Nightshift Before Christmas

Adam Kay  
HB. Was \$19.99 **Now \$9.99**



Christmas is coming, but 1.4 million NHS staff are heading off to work. Adam Kay delves into his diaries for a hilarious, horrifying and heartbreaking peek behind the hospital blue curtain at Christmastime.

This gift book is a love letter to all those who spend their festive season on the front line at the most wonderful time of the year.

## Rodham

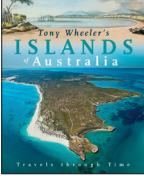
Curtis Sittenfeld  
PB. Was \$32.99 **Now \$13.99**



‘Awfully opinionated for a girl’ is what they call Hillary as she grows up in her Chicago suburb. Smart, diligent and a bit plain, that’s the general consensus. Then she goes to college, and her star rises. Hillary catches the eye of the charismatic Bill, but when he asks her to marry him, she says no. *Rodham* is a brilliant reimagining of how things might have turned out for them, for America and the world.

## Tony Wheeler’s Islands of Australia

Tony Wheeler  
PB. Was \$39.99 **Now \$14.99**

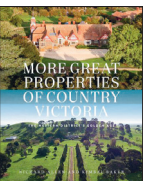


Not just an island continent, Australia is a continent of islands. With over 8,000, it has more than the entire Caribbean. Join seasoned traveller Tony Wheeler on a journey around the Australian

coast and beyond to discover the stunning natural features, unique wildlife and chequered histories of Australia’s remarkable (and remarkably diverse) islets, cays, atolls and archipelagos.

## More Great Properties of Country Victoria: The Western District’s Golden Age

Richard Allen & Kimbal Baker  
HB. Was \$59.99 **Now \$24.99**



In the 1870s the squatters of the Western District were speculators and investors whose entrepreneurship built great wealth and elaborate mansions. This sequel takes us into the private world of 13 more properties. We learn about their histories and the extraordinary tales of risk and reward, and see the splendour of the homes that have been lovingly maintained and restored.

## How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need

Bill Gates  
HB. Was \$39.99 **Now \$19.99**



Bill Gates has spent years investigating the causes and effects of climate change and with the help of experts across many fields has focused on what must be done in order to stop certain environmental disaster. In this authoritative book, he sets out a wide-ranging, practical – and accessible – plan for how the world can get to zero greenhouse gas emissions in time to avoid a climate catastrophe.

CHRISTMAS  
BY THE  
BOOK

OUT NOW  
get the whole story at [backette.com.au](http://backette.com.au)



Pop/Rock/Alt Music

**The Million Things That Never Happened**  
Billy Bragg  
\$19.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available now




Billy Bragg's *The Million Things That Never Happened* is a blues album of our times and a heartfelt paean to human resilience. The 12 soulful country-rock gems are all written by Bragg with the exception of ‘Ten Mysterious Photos That Can’t Be Explained’, a song about the power of social media co-written with Bragg’s son Jack Valero who also plays guitar on the album.

**I Don’t Live Here Anymore**  
The War on Drugs  
\$34.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available now



Over the last 15 years, The War on Drugs have steadily emerged as one of this century’s great rock and roll synthesists making records that wrestle a fractured past into a unified and engrossing present. *I Don’t Live Here Anymore* is an uncommon rock album about one of our most common but daunting processes – resilience in the face of despair.

**Kid A Mnesia**  
Radiohead  
\$34.99 3CD |  Also on vinyl  
Available 5 November




To celebrate the 21st anniversary of *Kid A* and *Amnesiac*, Radiohead have released *Kid A Mnesia*. Alongside the two legendary albums, this package includes a third disc, the debut of a newly compiled album *Kid Amnesiae*. Comprised of unearthed material culled from the *Kid A /Amnesiac* sessions, it includes alternate versions and elements of tracks from the two albums plus B-Sides and unreleased material.

**Things Take Time, Take Time**  
Courtney Barnett  
\$22.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available 12 November



*Things Take Time, Take Time* finds Courtney Barnett at her most creative, adventurous, relaxed and happy. With songs that deal unabashedly with love, patience, healing and self-discovery, it is her most intimate record to date, signaling an exciting new chapter and consolidating her place in the lineage of groundbreaking and influential female singer–songwriters.

**The Nearer the Fountain, More Pure the Stream Flows**  
Damon Albarn  
\$19.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available 12 November



In a career of perpetual musical shifts and exploration, Damon Albarn’s latest album uncovers yet more ground. Originally

intended as an orchestral piece inspired by Icelandic landscapes, orchestral arrangements nestle with intimate melodies, discordance brushes up against majesty, and all are set to some of Albarn’s most arresting vocal performances to date.

**Wonderful Oblivion**  
Charm of Finches  
\$24.99  
Available now



As Charm of Finches, Melbourne-based sister duo Mabel and Ivy Windred-Wornes make haunting chamber folk full of beauty and candour for the weary soul. Intertwining the sisters’ lush harmonies with wistful instrumentation, their third LP, *Wonderful Oblivion*, briefly presses pause on a world set to warp speed.

**Blue Banisters**  
Lana Del Rey  
\$22.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available now



*Blue Banisters* is the hotly awaited eighth studio album by Lana Del Rey, featuring the two preceding singles, title track ‘Blue Banisters’ and ‘Arcadia’. Listing Hank Williams, Patsy Cline, Bobby Gentry and Tammy Wynette as influences, Del Rey’s latest album deepens her interest in the country and folk genre.

**Raise the Roof**  
Robert Plant & Alison Krauss  
\$22.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available 19 November



Robert Plant and Alison Krauss reunite following the historic success of their first collaboration *Raising Sand* 14 years ago. Produced by T Bone Burnett, *Raise the Roof* reflects both deep-rooted influences and new revelations. Along with a host of stellar musicians, the album features 12 new recordings of songs by legends including Merle Haggard, Bert Jansch and more.

**Public Storage**  
Hana Vu  
\$24.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available 5 November



*Public Storage* builds on the sound of Hana Vu’s early work underscoring her strengths as a songwriter with a deeper sense of sophistication, and urgency. Described as ‘very invasive and intense sounding music’ by Vu herself and refreshingly out of step with contemporary trends, this is music to engage with rather than lean back to.

**Sympathy for Life**  
Parquet Courts  
\$22.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available now



Parquet Courts’ thought-provoking rock is dancing to a new tune. *Sympathy for Life* finds the Brooklyn band at both their most instinctive and electronic, spinning their

psychedelic storytelling into fresh territory. ‘*Wide Awake!*’ was a record you could put on at a party,’ says band member Austin Brown. ‘*Sympathy for Life* is influenced by the party itself.’

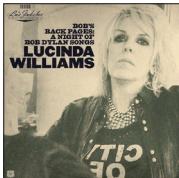
**Tex Perkins & the Fat Rubber Band**  
Tex Perkins & the Fat Rubber Band  
\$21.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available 5 November



The latest thrilling incarnation of master rock’n’roll storyteller Tex Perkins and the Fat Rubber Band began with a Link Wray record. The result is a collaboration between Perkins and his bandmate Matt Walker that makes for truly existential blues. Bubbling underneath the upfront vocals and raw harmonies are intricately entwined guitar conversations and unexpected percussive flourishes.

Country Music

**Bob’s Back Pages: A Night of Bob Dylan Songs (Lu’s Jukebox Vol. 3)**  
Lucinda Williams  
\$19.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available now



To help independent music venues during the pandemic Lucinda Williams created a six-episode series of online ticketed performances recorded live at Ray Kennedy’s Room & Board Studio in Nashville. Called *Lu’s Jukebox*, Volume 3 features 11 covers from the Bob Dylan songbook and includes ‘It Takes a Lot to Laugh’, ‘Not Dark Yet’, ‘Blind Willie McTell’, ‘Make You Feel My Love’ and many more.

**The Willie Nelson Family**  
Willie Nelson  
\$19.99  
Available 19 November



Willie Nelson is joined by a host of family members and extended family of long-time band members for his latest album. Shaped around a setlist of 12 favourite spirit-driven songs from the Nelson Family repertoire, it draws on deep Americana and the traditional hymn while celebrating classic songwriting.

Jazz/Blues Music

**Stomping Ground**  
Dion  
\$29.99 |  Also on vinyl  
Available 5 November



As on *Blues with Friends*, *Stomping Ground* finds Dion collaborating with music greats. With most of the songs written by Dion and his songwriting partner Mike Aquilina the guests include Boz Scaggs, Patti Scialfa, Sonny Landreth, Rickie Lee Jones and many more. Says Dion: ‘to make music with friends, and to make friends through music: I can’t imagine a better life than this.’

TV on DVD

**The Crown: Season 4**  
\$44.99  
Available 10 November



Opening with Queen Elizabeth welcoming Britain’s first woman prime minister, season four of *The Crown* follows Thatcher’s time with the Royals, Charles as he meets a young Diana Spencer, his subsequent proposal and the start of Diana’s life at the palace. Winner of seven Emmy awards.

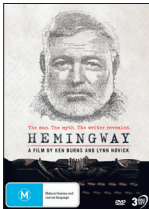
**The Alligator (L’Alligatore)**  
\$39.99  
Available now



Based on Massimo Carlotto’s bestseller, *The Alligator* follows Marco Buratti (The Alligator), a former Blues singer, who is unjustly sentenced to seven years in prison. After his release Buratti remains obsessed with justice and uses his knowledge of the underworld to become an investigator.

Documentary on DVD

**Hemingway: A Film by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick**  
\$49.99  
Available 17 November



Ken Burns and Lynn Novick’s six-hour documentary series examines the visionary work and turbulent life of one of the most influential American writers. Intimate and insightful, the series penetrates the myth to reveal a deeply troubled and ultimately tragic figure.

Film on DVD

**The Man in the Hat**  
\$29.99  
Available 17 November



The Man in the Hat sets off from Marseilles in a Fiat 500. Behind him is a 2CV carrying Five Bald Men. Why are they chasing him? And how can he shake them off? As he wends his way across France, the Man in the Hat comes face to face with the eccentricities of an old country on an old continent.

**Annette**  
\$29.99  
Available now



Winner of Best Director at the 2021 Cannes Film Festival, Leos Carax astounds with this glorious rock opera. Comedian Henry (Adam Driver) and Ann (Marion Cotillard), a famous soprano, are the perfect couple but when their daughter Annette is born their lives take an unexpected turn.



# Classical Music

## ALBUM OF THE MONTH

Classical



**12 Stradivari**  
Janine Jansen & Antonio Pappano  
Decca. 4851605. \$22.99

**R** Most people have heard of Stradivari, a violin maker from the late 17th century and early 18th century. His house produced almost a thousand high-quality violins, around 650 of which have survived into the modern era and are now regularly valued above the \$20 million mark. Some are hidden away in private collections and not even played. As a musician, I cannot begin to tell you how sad this makes me. They were made to sing, to soar and bring musical emotion to the world. So when I listened to this album, my heart was made glad once again to hear these instruments dusted off and allowed to do what they do best.

It is a true testament to Jansen's musicianship that she produced such gems ... with 12 different instruments.

One of the world's pre-eminent violin dealers, Steven Smith, must have felt similarly as it's thanks to his hard work that we have this album, *12 Stradivari*. As the name suggests, it features 12 different Stradivari violins from around the world, from the c1680 'ex-Captain Savile' currently on loan to

André Rieu, to the 1733 'Huberman' once owned by Fritz Kreisler, to Janine Jansen's very own instrument, the 1715 'Shumsky'/'Rode, Duke of Cambridge'. Together, Jansen and acclaimed conductor and pianist Sir Antonio Pappano found pieces to complement each individual instrument.

I'm not sure if I can adequately convey how big an undertaking and logistical nightmare it must have been to create this record. Steven Smith worked wonders to ensure that all 12 violins could live and breathe together in one two-week period in London last year. Getting to know a new instrument can be the work of many months, so it is a true testament to Jansen's musicianship that she produced such gems of musical moments with 12 different instruments. All of this process was captured in a documentary, *Falling for Stradivari*, which I am really looking forward to watching. This is history in the making and a chance for future generations to hear these instruments sing once again.

Kate Rockstrom is a friend of Readings

## Four Visions of France: French Cello Concertos

Daniel Müller-Schott, DSO Berlin & Alexandre Bloch  
Orfeo. C988211. Was \$32.99

**\$ \$26.99 (limited stock at this price)**



**R** Colours are where it's at in this album. Tonal colours, historical colours and all the colours of France.

Although these works range from 1872 all the way through to 1929, each is decidedly French in flavour.

Inspired by the art of French music, as many people are around the world, German cellist Daniel Müller-Schott has worked with French conductor Alexandre Bloch and German orchestra Deutsches Symphonie-Orchester Berlin to show how brightly coloured and far-reaching the French repertoire really is. Saint-Saëns' Cello Concerto No. 1 is always a favourite, along with the beloved *Élégie* by Fauré. But it is Arthur Honegger (1892–1955) who caught my ear on this album. He was known as part of the famous 'Les Six', six famous French composers working in Montparnasse in the 1920s and beyond who were friends and collaborators. He is often forgotten nowadays, but the delightful Cello Concerto of 1929 is that delicious blend of classical romanticism with jazz elements, and rightly has pride of place at the centre of this album. Edouard Lalo's Cello Concerto is also a welcome addition, with its rich romantic tone nicely rounding out the album.

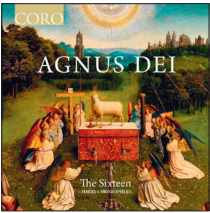
Kate Rockstrom is a friend of Readings

## Agnus Dei

The Sixteen & Harry Christophers

Coro. COR16186. Was \$29.99

**\$ \$22.99 (limited stock at this price)**



**R** Religion is at the heart of many an artists' inspiration. Composers throughout the ages, such as Bach,

Handel and many others, held deeply spiritual connections to their God and used that in the creation of their music. The Sixteen, with their steadfast director Harry Christophers, explores that connection through this deep dive into the history of the *Agnus Dei*.

*Agnus Dei*, or 'Lamb of God', refers to Jesus in John 1:29, when St John the Baptist says: 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world'. For centuries and in many Christian traditions, this has inspired composers to write some of the most sublime music. Pulled together in one album, with the soaring voices of this exceptional choir, you can immediately see why people have continuously performed these musical offerings. There are composers of all ilk on this album, from Monteverdi, Poulenc, Scarlatti, Lobo, Britten, Tye and of course, Barber's tear-inducing setting. If you feel the need for something to ease a sore disposition, this album may go a little way to helping. A stunning album worthy of its place in The Sixteen's award-winning catalogue.

Kate Rockstrom is a friend of Readings

## Infinity

Voces8

Decca. 4851626. \$21.99



This new recording from Voces8 is a beautiful and moving amalgamation of eight classical voices. It's a collection of

meditative and otherworldly choral recordings that transcends genre with sophisticated prowess. The body of work includes six new compositions as well as eight newly arranged covers from renowned composers in the field.

## Mozart: Violin Concertos Nos. 3 & 4

Francesca Dego, Royal Scottish National Orchestra & Sir Roger Norrington

Chandos. CHAN20234. Was \$29.99

**\$ \$24.99 (limited stock at this price)**



Virtuoso violinist Francesca Dego joins forces with legendary conductor and period performance pioneer Sir Roger Norrington for this recording of

Mozart's 3rd and 4th violin concertos. The outstanding musicians of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra provide the accompaniment and Norrington's attention to detail and style is enthusiastically embraced by both soloist and orchestra, resulting in a beautifully fresh and captivating interpretation of these well-known works.

## Canteloube: Chants d'Auvergne

Carolyn Sampson, Tapiola Sinfonietta & Pascal Rophé

BIS. BIS2513. Was \$29.99

**\$ \$24.99 (limited stock at this price)**



Canteloube was unable to interest himself in the various musical cliques and currents. Instead he looked for inspiration in

Auvergne in central France where he was born, collecting the songs of the farmers and shepherds. Carolyn Sampson and Pascal Rophé have selected 25 of the songs, ranging from love songs and lullabies to working songs and laments. They perform them together with Tapiola Sinfonietta, bringing sparkle to Canteloube's luxurious scores.

## Le Temps Perdu

Imogen Cooper

Chandos. CHAN20235. Was \$29.99

**\$ \$24.99 (limited stock at this price)**



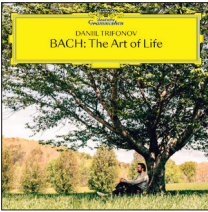
The latest recital by Imogen Cooper features pieces she learnt as a teenager in Paris, where she studied with Jacques Février, Yvonne

Lefébure and Germaine Mounier, and in her twenties working with Alfred Brendel in Vienna. Cooper started to wonder about the messages from her teachers that she would find on her scores, and wanted to see if the repertoire she has acquired since she learnt these pieces would shed new light on them. The resulting recital is highly personal and an exemplar of Cooper's outstanding pianism and musicianship.

## Bach: The Art of Life

Daniil Trifonov

DG. 4838530. 2CD. \$29.99



*The Art of Fugue* – the culmination of Bach's experimentation with monothematic instrumental works – is the centrepiece

of Daniil Trifonov's new recording. The main idea of the work was an in-depth exploration of the contrapuntal possibilities of a short 10 second theme. Trifonov masters the challenge giving the work his personal touch by completing the final 14th fugue and composing two of his own canons as an original addition to the collection.

## Joseph Haydn: Piano Sonatas Nos. 20, 34, 51 & 52

Paul Lewis

Harmonia Mundi. HMM902372. Was \$32.99

**\$ \$26.99 (limited stock at this price)**



In 2018, Paul Lewis embarked on an exploration of one of the richest bodies of work of the Classical era: the keyboard sonatas of Haydn. For

his second volume, Lewis tackles some of Haydn's most remarkable pieces: the concise Sonata in D major Hob. XVI:51, which is surprisingly pre-Romantic, and the celebrated Sonata in E flat major Hob. XVI:52, with which Haydn conferred well-high symphonic dimensions on the keyboard sonata for the very first time.

## Voice of Nature: The Anthropocene

Renée Fleming & Yannick Nézet-Séguin

Decca. 4852089. \$22.99



Inspired by the solace she found while hiking near her Virginia home during lockdown, Renée Fleming's latest album explores the

centrality of nature in Romantic-era song and highlights the peril and fragility of the natural world today. Fleming and her collaborator, the Canadian conductor and pianist Yannick Nézet-Séguin, have hand-picked a selection of works in which composers and poets find human experience and love reflected in the world of nature.

## Classical Special

## John McCabe: Of Time and the River & Flute Concerto

Emily Beynon, BBC Symphony Orchestra & Vernon Handley  
Hyperion. CDA67089. Was \$29.99

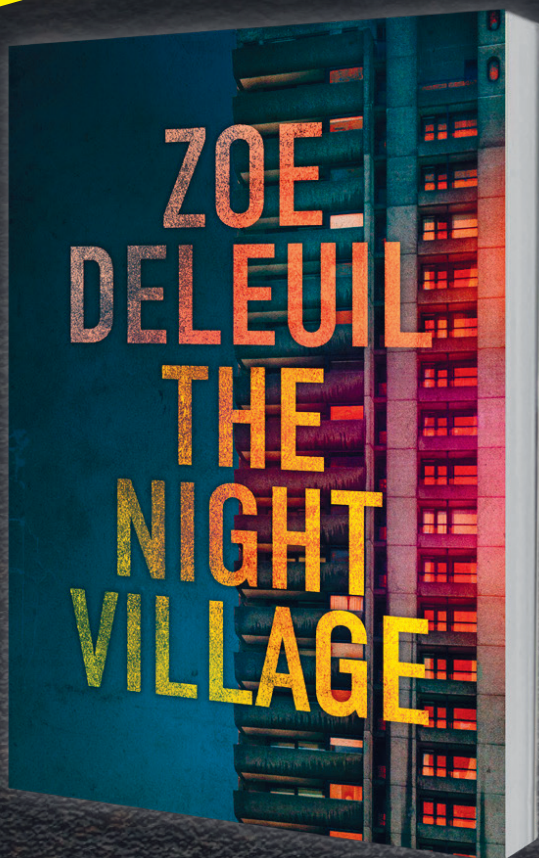
**\$ \$9.99 (limited stock at this price)**



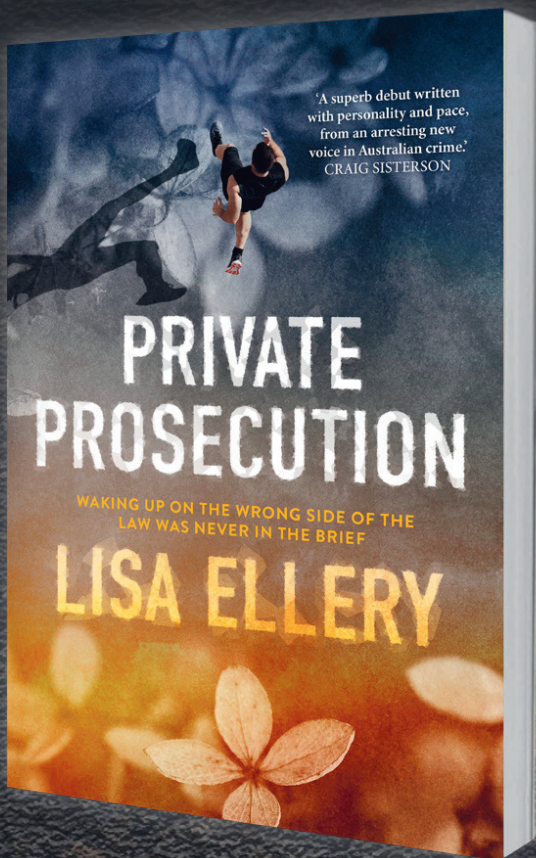
'[McCabe's Fourth Symphony] is a magnificent work in two substantial movements – fast to slow, then slow to fast. The idiom is warmer and more approachable than in his earlier music, echoing in its atmospheric orchestration and some of the melodic lines Britten on the one hand and Sibelius on the other ... Superb performances.' – *Penguin Guide*.



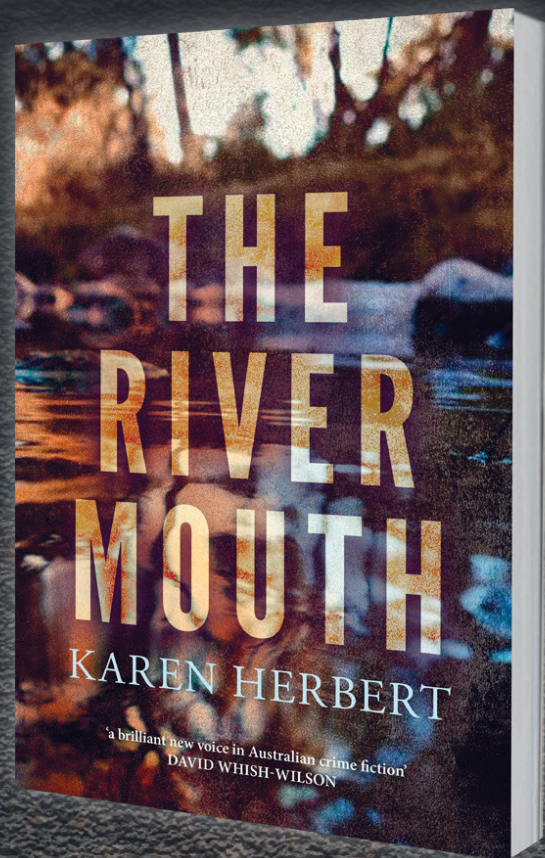
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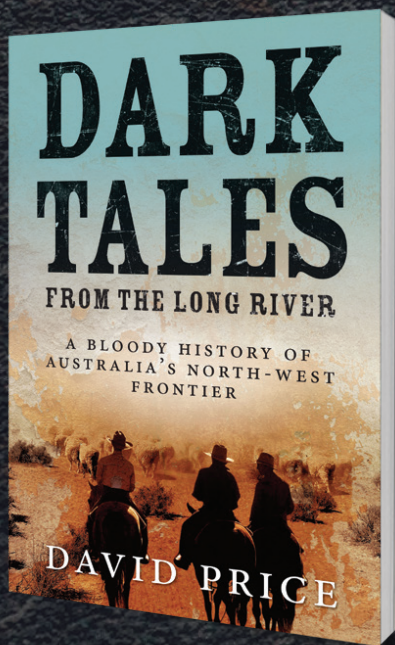
**'So intense that you read frenetically.'**  
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*Craig Susteron*



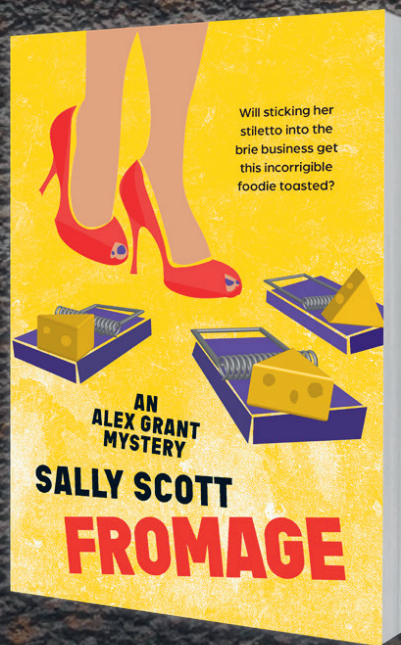
**'A brilliant new voice.'**  
*David Whish-Wilson*



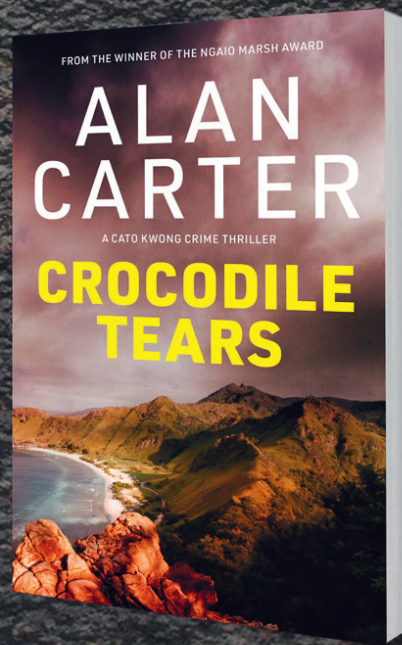
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