

[illegible]

This season's best books selected by your favourite independent bookseller

A Great Act of Love Heather Rose



Allen & Unwin
PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99
\$

After having written acclaimed works in multiple genres, Heather Rose now turns her attention to the historical novel, delivering a captivating work largely set in 19th-century Van Diemen's Land. Inspired by Rose's family history and the story of Bartholomew Broughton, Australia's first commercial wine producer, *A Great Act of Love* follows the extraordinary life of Caroline Douglas, a young woman with a 'rare wishful heart' who journeys from London to the edge of the world to escape the past, follow a loved one and forge a new life. As is the case in most of her novels, Rose writes lyrically about her island home – the descriptions of the surrounds of early Hobart Town paint a landscape that is as fragile and singular as the characters she so skilfully and sympathetically evokes.



Heather Rose writes about her novel:

A Great Act of Love draws from stories of champagne and family history which converged in a strange moment of serendipity.

In 2009 a famous winemaker told me of a vineyard in colonial Van Diemen's Land that made exceptional sparkling wine in the 1820s. Apparently the wine was so good it had travelled to Paris where it won a French wine award. It was a myth no one had proved, and yet the story has persisted through generations of Tasmanian wine makers. I was intrigued. After completing *The Museum of Modern Love* and *Bruny*, I returned to the wine story and began my research.

As children, we'd been told of French ancestors who were beheaded in the

French Revolution. Their son had escaped to Scotland, and years later, his daughter Caroline had arrived in Van Diemen's Land as a young widow. Her husband had fallen over Niagara Falls on their honeymoon.

These family stories had always intrigued me, but just before I began researching the wine story, my sister discovered that there was, in fact, a much darker truth. Caroline's father, by then a well-known chemist in London, had murdered a woman in London on the Battersea Bridge. It was an infamous crime, widely publicised at the time. I had never intended to write about it.

But as I was immersing myself in the history of that famous colonial vineyard, I discovered that Caroline, daughter of the murderer and my grandmother's great-grandmother, had settled near the famous vineyard. It was a spine-tingling moment. *A Great Act of Love* began to take shape.

The novel travels from the French Revolution through Georgian London to colonial Tasmania – then known as Van Diemen's Land. Along the way there is an elegant thief, a boy indentured on a ship, an escaped slave, a decorated military man who becomes one of the most powerful men in the colony, some memorable sea voyages, and Britain's brutal convict regime. There is also the making of wine and the magic of champagne.

This is history woven into fiction, and fiction woven through history. Much of it is true – and much of it is purely imagined. At its heart is Caroline, trained by her father to become an apothecary and chemist, who loses everything in the course of a few short years but travels to Van Diemen's Land to rebuild a life – only to discover that the past is always with us, inspiring us, haunting us, and drawing us back to the people we love.



Ultimo HB
WAS \$45
NOW \$16.99
\$

CHAI TIME AT CINNAMON GARDENS

Shankari Chandran

Winner of the 2023 Miles Franklin Award, Shankari Chandran's novel explores themes of trauma, shared history and community. The narrative centres around an aged-care home in a Sydney suburb, run by a Sri Lankan family who fled their country's civil war. The serenity and safety of Cinnamon Gardens and its inhabitants is challenged by escalating racial tensions, forcing residents to confront their past traumas and the prejudices of their new home. The complex, multi-generational narrative, blending flashbacks to the Sri Lankan civil war with present-day events, highlights the brutal realities of the conflict and the more subtle, damaging forms of racism in modern-day Australia.

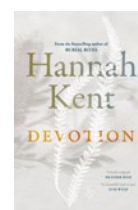


Summit PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99
\$

CHOSEN FAMILY

Madeleine Gray

Readers of this novel are likely to laugh aloud, but may also cringe as they remember what it was like to be young and full of outrageous yearnings. They might even blush – the sex scenes are that good. *Chosen Family* is about the complicated and exacting friendship of Nell and Eve, who meet in the first year of high school and remain friends into their adult lives. Their friendship contains mysteries, despair and anger, but also that freedom that comes when two people know how each other came to be. Fans of Gray's previous novel *Green Dot* will not be disappointed and are sure to rejoice in this queer, courageous and captivating portrait of friendship.



Picador HB
WAS \$39.99
NOW \$19.99
\$

DEVOTION

Hannah Kent

After publishing two acclaimed novels rooted in facts (*Burial Rites* and *The Good People*), Hannah Kent wrote a different type of story, one whose allegiance, she said, was 'ultimately to the imagination'. Set in the 1830s, *Devotion* follows teenage Hanne Nussbaum as she travels with her family and members of their Lutheran community from Prussia to South Australia on a filthy, disease-ridden ship. Hanne has never fitted in with the girls in her community, so when she befriends and then falls in love with newcomer Thea before the voyage, she sees new possibilities for the life that they might lead together in the new colony. Fate has something different in mind for them, though. Offered this summer in a bargain-priced hardback edition, *Devotion* is a lyrical and moving novel about love, loss and being at one with nature.



Hachette PB
\$26.99

ARSENIC FLOWER

Dakota Feirer

A debut poetry collection whose title combines two seemingly contradictory concepts: danger and beauty. The reader soon learns of the book's main twin interests: the poison of colonial rule and the blossoming of the poet's sense of self-worth. There's a joy in stylistic experimentation, with botanical field notes, a recipe for Reconciliation Cupcakes, ('1 x serve of self-raising flag'), redacted text wiped out in black Texta, and concrete poems among the free verse. Whether he's riffing about Indigenous ancestry and sovereignty, owning his blak masculinity, or singing a love song to his mother, Feirer's book is characterised by play rather than by didacticism.



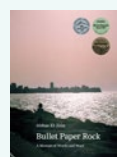
Summit PB
\$34.99

A CATALOGUE OF LOVE

Erin Hurtle

This coming-of-age story about Neika, a scientist and surfer, could also be called 'A Catalogue of Identity'. Neika's mother died when she was a baby, and she and her brother were raised in the wilds of Tasmania by her father and his male lover, who taught them respect and tolerance. Neika did not miss her mother until she realised that she did not understand how to be a female in today's landscape. *A Catalogue of Love* is about that very thing: how to be strong and fearless as a woman. Neika's story is an uplifting narrative, a meditation on love, yes, but also on individual power. This is an inspiring and thoughtful read perfect for readers of all ages.

Literary Award Winners



\$29.99

BULLET PAPER ROCK: A MEMOIR OF WORDS
Abbas El-Zein
Upswell PB

This 'memoir of words and wars' by Lebanese-Australian academic and writer Abbas El-Zein won the 2025 National Biography Award.



\$24.99

HEART, BE AT PEACE
Donal Ryan
Penguin PB

Told through 21 voices, this lyrical novel set in a small Irish town was awarded the 2025 Orwell Prize for Political Fiction.



\$22.99

JAMES
Percival Everett
Picador PB

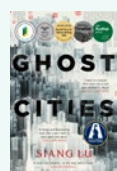
A reconsideration of *Huckleberry Finn*, Everett's masterful novel was awarded both the 2025 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction and the 2024 National Book Award.



\$24.99

THE SAFEKEEP
Yael van der Wouden
Penguin PB

The 2025 Women's Prize for Fiction went to this unsettling, tightly plotted debut novel exploring repressed desire and historical amnesia.



\$34.99

GHOST CITIES
Siang Lu
UQP PB

A haunting meditation on diaspora, Lu's spectacularly original satirical novel was the recipient of this year's Miles Franklin Literary Award.



\$29.99

HEART LAMP
Banu Mushtaq
(translated by Deepa Bhashti)
Scribe PB

This collection of stories about women and girls in Muslim communities in southern India won the 2025 International Booker Prize.



\$35.99

MEAN STREAK
Rick Morton
4th Estate PB

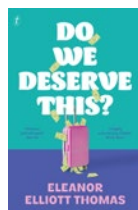
Morton's powerful account of the Robodebt scandal won the 2025 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Non-fiction.



\$32.99

THEORY & PRACTICE
Michelle de Kretser
Text PB

A thought-provoking melding of fiction, essay and memoir, *Theory & Practice* won both the Prime Minister's Literary Award for Fiction and the Stella Prize.



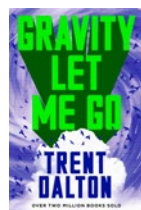
Text PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99



DO WE DESERVE THIS?

Eleanor Elliott Thomas

Bean Halloway is scraping a living together working in a dog shelter. That's fine, though, because Bean doesn't think that money is important. So when she finds herself in possession of a lottery ticket worth five million dollars, Bean is faced with a conundrum. Should she keep the ticket for its ostensible owner, her emotionally distant mother Nina, or should she split the millions with her narcissistic brother Jeremy and over-achieving sister Genevieve? Eleanor Elliott Thomas, author of *The Opposite of Success*, presents a situation that most readers will be able to relate to. Bean is funny but vulnerable, and the rest of her family members are, not to put too fine a point on it, pretty f***ed up. But life is complicated, and making the right decision won't be easy ...



4th Estate PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99



GRAVITY LET ME GO

Trent Dalton

Noah is a crime reporter who has authored a book about a body he found in a deserted house. He doesn't know who the killer is, but the murderer is out there, taunting him. This story has taken over his entire life and as a result his wife has stopped talking and his daughters are miserable. All he wants is to make enough money to have a second bathroom. Is that too much to ask? This story of ambition and family is classic Dalton – there's chaos, hope, magical realism, skyscapes, Brisbane streets, tropical weather and music (there's even a playlist for the novel). It's a riveting read filled with excellent twists and, of course, a whole lot of love.



Hachette HB
\$29.99

EROS

Zoe Terakes

Inspired by their Cretan heritage, actor and trans activist Zoe Terakes has written this collection featuring five queer myths for lovers. Prompted by their belief that queerness, nature and myth have been intertwined for eternity, Terakes reworks ancient Greek myths, setting some stories in antiquity and others in modern Australia. Some of the reimagined characters are well known (Eurydice, Icarus, Apollo, Artemis) but others may be unfamiliar to the reader (Iphis, Ianthe, Hermaphroditus). Dealing with lust, revenge, wrath, passion, yearning, love and loss, these stories make the queer and trans undertones of ancient Greek myth explicit. Myths that are, as Terakes writes in the book's preface, reaffirmations that prove that a world without trans people has never existed, and never will.



Penguin PB
\$34.99

FIERCELAND

Omar Musa

When Roz and Harun's father Yusuf takes his children on a business expedition deep into the jungles of Malaysian Borneo, they realise that there is a dark side to his wealth – the destruction of huge tracts of ancient rainforest to make way for palm plantations. Years later, after living separate and very different lives abroad, they return to Borneo for Yusuf's funeral and to reckon with their inheritance. In their quest for redemption Roz and Harun grapple with the colonial legacies of power and corruption, and are forced to confront ghosts, including those of their family and of the forest itself. Omar Musa's novel is a powerful and poetic family saga featuring kaleidoscopic narrative prose interspersed with verse.



Scribner PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99



THE HIDING PLACE

Kate Mildenhall

Take a long-standing group of friends who believe themselves to be environmental advocates, Indigenous owner recognisers and supporters of the liberal arts. Then place them and their children in an abandoned bush town that they have jointly purchased and see what happens over one long weekend. Kate Mildenhall's latest novel is a wild ride featuring familiarities, deception and murder. An Australian version of *The Big Chill* combined with *Wolf Creek*, it's an astute commentary on what drives individual behaviour. A laugh-aloud satire of those who lean left, it provides enormous entertainment and is a sharp reminder that hope lies with the younger generation.



Picador PB
\$34.99

HONEYEATER

Kathleen Jennings

This richly imagined dark fantasy is set in the subtropical small town of Bellworth, which is founded on floodplains and root-bound secrets. Charlie Wren plans to leave it for good as soon as he cleans up his dead aunt's house. But then a mysterious woman appears in the backyard, covered in creek mud and with flowers growing under her skin. Soon Charlie is dragged into a ghost-choked mystery, uncovering the impossible consequences of loss and desire – and a choice Charlie made when he was a boy. *Honeyeater* is an atmospheric Gothic novel in which it's hard to tell if what is happening is real or just in Charlie's head – a classic trope of the genre and one that underpins this eerie read.



Ultimo PB
\$34.99

ONE STORY

Pip Finkemeyer

This novel by Pip Finkemeyer, author of *Sad Girl Novel*, is about the meteoric rise and devastating fall of Silicon Valley tech company One Story and its CEO, Dot Van Jensen. When the novel opens, Dot is a fugitive and a documentary crew is investigating the scandal surrounding the company she started with her son Jon and partner Rae. Is Dot the power-hungry villain that her former employees and so many others believe her to be? Or is the truth more complicated? As the story unfolds, Dot gets her say but so too do the company's employees. By the end, the only thing that is clear is that in today's technology-dominated world, the lines between hero and villain are blurred and the true price of progress is yet to be gauged.



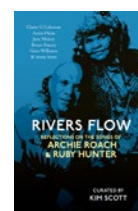
UQP PB
WAS \$45
NOW \$39.99



PICTURES OF YOU

Tony Birch

Multi-award-winning First Nations author Tony Birch has written it all – poetry, novels, essays, short stories. Luckily for fans of the last genre, *Pictures of You* collates the best of over two decades of his celebrated short fiction. Unmistakably grounded in the physicality of Melbourne, Birch's short stories touch on absent fathers in the throes of mental breakdowns, the weight of familial expectations, the eviction and demolition of working-class homes, and persistent patterns of incarceration and lost opportunities. Recurring characters appear in multiple stories as the tales echo one another. Throughout it all, Birch retains a clear-eyed lyricism as he documents life on the margins.



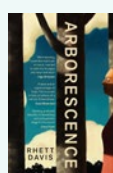
Fremantle PB
\$34.99

RIVERS FLOW

Kim Scott (curator)

Singer, songwriter and truth-teller Archie Roach was an irrepressible force of nature, as was his partner in life and music, singer and songwriter Ruby Hunter. In this lovingly curated anthology, 23 First Nations writers pay homage – through short stories, personal reflections and poems – to the legacy of the inimitable duo. Jazz Money kicks off the collection with a beautiful poem, while Gina Williams reflects on how Roach's famed song 'Took the Children Away' invited a nation to understand the enduring trauma of the Stolen Generation and helped a great many heal. Claire Coleman's dystopian short story chronicles a future where the written word has faded, but love for Country prevails. Anita Heiss, Bruce Pascoe and Jeanine Leane are among the storied contributors.

Highly Recommended



\$32.99

ARBORESCENCE

Rhett Davis
Hachette PB

This profound novel calls attention to the fact that humans don't always know what we have until we're well on the way to losing it.



\$34.95

BEST OF AUSTRALIAN POEMS 2025

Nam Le & Jill Jones (eds)
Puncher & Wattmann PB

Selected by poets Le and Jones, this anthology published by Australia's national poetry organisation offers a poetic snapshot and barometer of the year that was.



\$22.99

DUSK

Robbie Arnott
Picador PB

Mythic storytelling and exquisite prose are the hallmarks of this multi-award-winning novel set in the Tasmanian wilderness.



\$34.99

THE WOLF WHO CRIED BOY

Mark Mupotsa-Russell
Affirm PB

The story of six-year-old Henry, who lives in a world of violence and fear that is sometimes wildly funny and streaked with magic.

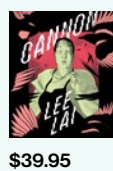


\$29.99

BEAUTIFUL CHANGELINGS

Maxine Beneba Clarke
Ultimo PB

A collection of poetry celebrating ageing, women, motherhood and the powerful process of reclaiming one's dreams.

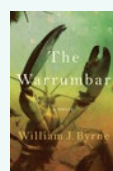


\$39.95

CANNON

Lee Lai
Giramondo HB

Lai's sharp sense of humour is evident in this graphic novel exploring the intimacy of queer friendship and the weight of family responsibility.



\$34.99

THE WARRUMBAR

William J Byrne
UWAP PB

Set in a country town in the 1960s, this compelling coming-of-age story is about love, injustice and the courage it takes to do what's right.



\$32.99

THE WORST THING I'VE EVER DONE

Clare Stephens
Atlantic PB

Dealing with the topic of cancel culture, this fast-paced and salutary debut novel has an engaging plot and likeable main character.

The Rot Evelyn Araluen



UQP PB
\$24.99

Fans of Evelyn Araluen's award-winning previous collection of poetry, *Dropbear*, will find her latest effort bristling with the same energy. Stylistically, *The Rot* once again deploys Araluen's tendency to mix verse and essay; the boundary between them is porous. In this book, her prose-poetry roams across eclectic, restless terrain. There are works that are suffused with melancholy and others that are lit by rage. Araluen tracks topics that include girlhood; family; kinship and Country; the settler-colonial narrative; and Palestine ('Like you I have fought not to lose myself in complacency'). The poet mines the memories and history of her own life, as well as interrogating broader socio-political matters with an acerbic and unflinching eye. As always with Araluen, beneath the lyricism is a bruise that she presses over and over again.



From *The Rot*, p91

iii.
I'll tell you this one for nothing but the pale reddish hope steaming from the hills, blurring roos still soaring in their dreams. These trees have seen things you and I can't believe. Sky unfolds for gang-gangs taking their course, the water past our sight rolling as it will always know how. It will always soon be night, more dawn will light the dew. A record isn't always a home, sometimes it's shadows and nights of memory fading into the creek, the blossom of gum humming its sweetness into the breeze. It might be all we have. Isn't that so very much?

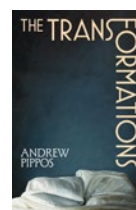


Hachette PB
\$32.99

TENDERFOOT

Toni Jordan

This poignant coming-of-age novel set in Brisbane in 1975 has a wonderful protagonist. Andie Tanner's world is small but whole. Her mum is complicated, but she adores her dad and the kennel of racing greyhounds that live under their house. She's a serious girl with her life mapped out: finish school with her friends, then apprentice to her father until she can become a greyhound trainer, with dogs of her very own. But real life rarely goes to plan, and when she loses everything she cares about – her family, her friends, the dogs – it's up to Andie to reclaim her future. With *Tenderfoot*, Toni Jordan delivers a warm and funny book that has all the hallmarks of an Australian classic.



Picador PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

THE TRANSFORMATIONS

Andrew Pippos

With his debut novel *Lucky's*, Andrew Pippos impressed critics and readers alike. *The Transformations* seems set to garner the same response. Set in the vanishing world of newspaper publishing, its protagonist is world-weary subeditor George Desoulis, who embarks on a relationship with an unorthodox and self-assured reporter, Cassandra Gwan. As the decline of the newspaper they work at enters a desperate stage, George and Cassandra struggle to balance their turbulent relationship with their responsibilities to family, and the compromises each has built their life upon. This is a thoughtful character-driven novel with love at its heart.

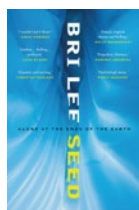


Text HB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$16.99

SALONIKA BURNING

Gail Jones

Though her novels are regularly included on the shortlists for prestigious literary awards in Australia and overseas, writer Gail Jones isn't as well known as many of her literary peers. This novel, which we are able to offer at a special price, is an excellent introduction to Jones' work as it showcases her signature style, which is both precise and lyrical. Set in an Allied field hospital during the WWI Serbian campaigns, *Salonika Burning* evokes the wartime experiences of four real-life characters: Stella (Miles) Franklin, Olive King, Grace Pailthorpe and Stanley Spencer. The experiences of these characters, their souls 'tainted with trench slime', illuminates not only the devastation of the war but the vast social upheaval of the times.

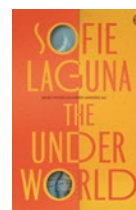


Summit PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

SEED

Bri Lee

Set in Antarctica, this novel about a failed social experiment cries with humanity. Mitchell, a biologist, and his work colleague Frances spend a month each year working at the Anarctos Project: a seed vault for the world, a secret place that aims to provide another layer of insurance against the impact of climate change. Living in such isolation provides a solace of sorts for Mitchell, but when their arranged flight home does not appear and outside communication is not possible, the ramifications of secrets and desires surface. Lee engages with themes of power and legacy in this ambitious and hugely atmospheric novel. Her ability to combine these threads with the value of science allows *Seed* to soar beyond its character's narratives into a wider sphere.



Penguin PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

THE UNDERWORLD

Sofie Laguna

Miles Franklin-winning writer Sofie Laguna surely reached back to her own memories of adolescence when writing this heartbreaking book about surviving the early teenage years. The story centres on 14-year-old Martha as she responds to her hormones, her power as a young woman and her aching ambition. To make sense of it all, Martha uses her learnings from ancient history – including the Roman underworld and all the players therein – to build a place of refuge. It is a bewitching but possibly dangerous formula. Reading this novel is akin to falling into a vortex of angst and vulnerabilities, one that will take many readers back to their heady teenage years.



S&S Bundyi PB
\$34.99

SECRETS

Judi Morison

A sweeping saga spanning more than half a century, *Secrets* has a cast of memorable characters whose lives have been devastated by racism, trauma, addiction, incarceration, loss and shame. Ruth, the widowed matriarch of a grown family, has only months to live, and a secret she's kept for 60 years. Now she must put things right before she dies. But as she has learned, the longer something is kept hidden, the harder it is to bring out of the shadows. This spirited, compassionate debut novel is a testament to the power of truth-telling and the possibility of healing.

1. Who won the Champions of Change Award in the World's 50 Best Restaurants Awards?



Text PB
\$34.99

THE STRENGTH OF THE FEW

James Islington

Few Australian writers have a global following as strong as James Islington. His Licanus Trilogy has sold millions of copies, and his new Hierarchy series, which opened with *The Will of the Many* in 2023, looks like following the same trajectory. *The Strength of the Few* is the second book in the Hierarchy series and its 700 pages are filled with the superb worldbuilding that we have come to expect from this master of speculative fiction. With a multidimensional setting, strong protagonist and propulsive plotline, this book will be devoured by Islington's fans. If you don't yet count yourself among their number, we suggest reading *The Will of the Many* first.

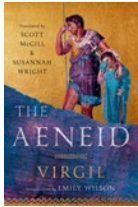


Allen & Unwin PB
\$34.99

VERY IMPRESSIVE FOR YOUR AGE

Eleanor Kirk

The fate of a wunderkind who loses everything that rendered them extraordinary is the thrust of Eleanor Kirk's debut novel. Evelyn is a superstar opera singer, touring Europe and ascending to the pinnacle of her career. But then she suddenly loses her voice, even though no discernible physical problem can be found. Confused and bereft, Evelyn returns home to Sydney, orienting herself with life in a city she never thought she'd live in permanently. Kirk shies away from crafting a likeable character in Evelyn, but in the failed singer's illusions of grandeur and self-absorption, great truths are elucidated – the corrosive pressure of parental expectations, the danger in transforming your passion into a career, and the risk in finding joy in something that's so tied to external markers of success.



WW Norton
HB
WAS \$65.95
NOW \$59.99
\$

THE AENEID

Virgil
(translated by Scott McGill
& Susannah Wright)

Co-translators Susannah Wright and Scott McGill have delivered a thrilling new interpretation of Virgil's epic poem. Composed between 29 and 19 BCE, *The Aeneid* tells the story of Aeneas, a Trojan hero who survived the fall of Troy before travelling to Italy where he proved victorious in war – thus enabling the future foundation of Rome. Rendered by Wright and McGill from the original Latin into spirited, highly readable blank-verse English, this gripping adventure tale is populated by bloody battles and meddlesome gods, and imbued with deep sorrow; the moral questions it raises feel eerily prescient. A lively introduction from celebrated classicist Emily Wilson provides fascinating context to the work.



Scribner PB
\$29.99

A GUARDIAN AND A THIEF

Megha Majumdar

Indian-American author Megha Majumdar is not one to shy away from depicting the brutalities of life, even as her stunning prose lulls you into an illusion of safety. Her breakout hit *A Burning* exemplified this ethos, and so too does this follow-up novel. Chronicling two families on opposite ends of the socioeconomic spectrum – upper-middle-class trio Ma, Dadu and Mishti, and working-class man Boomba – Majumdar posits the question: why is one person's needs greater than anyone else's? The novel is set in a dystopian, climate change-ravaged Kolkata, where those who can afford to are fleeing in droves and those who can't fight over the meagre scraps left behind. Unflinching and pulsating until its very last line, this novel brings the pitfalls of individualism in a time of crises to the fore.



Text PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99
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HOUSE OF DAY, HOUSE OF NIGHT

Olga Tokarczuk

(translated by Antonia Lloyd-Jones)

In Nowa Ruda, the past is so thick upon the ground it seems impossible to move without bringing forth stories. It is a place where mushrooms grow wild and neighbours bring quiet wisdom; a borderland between Germany and Poland where international tensions manifest as both tragedy and farce. Some of its stories are delightfully strange: a woman searches for the voice who speaks love in her ear and a lycanthropic classics teacher reinvents himself as a farmhand. Others are nested within further tales: a deeply haunted man becomes a ghost himself and the biographer of an androgynous saint discovers his own queerness. These stories and others make this newly translated novel from Nobel laureate Olga Tokarczuk a true gift: wry, inventive, kaleidoscopic in its breadth and effortlessly transportive.

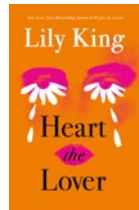


W&N PB
\$32.99

BOG QUEEN

Anna North

Anna North is a versatile writer. 2020's *The Outlawed* was a mash-up of the Western genre and dystopian fiction, and her impressive 2015 debut, *The Life and Death of Sophie Stark*, used multiple narrative voices to great effect. In her new novel, *Bog Queen*, North follows Agnes, a young American forensic scientist working in the north of England, as she grapples with the mystery surrounding a body that had been found in a moss-layered bog. Anna realises that the corpse was a woman who had been buried more than 2000 years ago, and determines to find out more about her. The resulting narrative is an intriguing mix of mystery and historical novel told in the voices of Anna, the ancient victim and the bog where the women's lives intersect.



Canongate PB
\$32.99

HEART THE LOVER

Lily King

In this exquisitely crafted slim novel, Lily King plunges us headfirst into a university campus of the 1980s, capturing the heady, uncertain days of youth, where every interaction feels freighted with meaning and life is yet to unfurl. Our narrator – who remains unnamed until the book's penultimate line – meets two boys who will forever shape her life thereafter: best friends Sam and Yash. A love story is the beating heart of this time-jumping novel, but subtly interwoven is a treatise on class, gender, religion and mortality. *Heart the Lover* is both a prequel and sequel to King's bestseller *Writers & Lovers*, but it's very much a standalone text, too – one that has been described by *The New York Times* as 'a profoundly affecting story of romantic entanglement by a master of the genre'.



Faber HB
WAS \$39.99
NOW \$16.99
\$

INTERMEZZO

Sally Rooney

With her fourth novel, published in 2024, Irish writer Sally Rooney firmly cemented her reputation as one of today's most skilled cataloguers of the human condition. Ten years apart and perennially on the cusp of estrangement, two brothers – Peter and Ivan Koubek – grapple with what it means to love and be loved in the aftermath of their father's death. Peter is a successful barrister, 'the kind of person who goes along the surface of life very smoothly', while chess prodigy Ivan is 'almost spiritually alone'. Separating them is a gulf of misunderstandings and incomprehension. This hardback edition of *Intermezzo* is offered at a special price and will be a wonderful gift for friends and family members who are yet to read Rooney.



4th Estate PB
\$36.99

GREAT EASTERN HOTEL

Ruchir Joshi

Catapulting readers into India's former capital in August 1941 as the subcontinent is on the precipice of change, Ruchir Joshi's gargantuan 920-page novel traces the lives of four people: Nirupama, a young communist revolutionary; Imogen, the English daughter of a Raj official; Kedar, an aspiring painter; and Gopal, a young pickpocket. Their lives intertwine with that of the Great Eastern, Calcutta's most luxurious colonial-era hotel – still standing to this very day. Spellbinding, sensual and superbly grounded in a particular time and place, Joshi's novel, which took 25 years to write, transports readers back to a historically crucial time of colonial retreat, exile and rebellion.



Simon & Schuster PB
\$34.99

HEKATE

Nikita Gill

When the Titans and the gods go to war, they spare little thought for what they leave in their wake: the orphaned godlings abandoned in crumbling palaces and forced to flee from triumphant Olympians. Such is the fate of Hekate, a daughter of Titans who is born without a purpose and raised in the underworld by the river goddess Styx and the ferryman Charon. As she slowly grows into godhood, discovering the powers that have been hidden from her and watching as the new world of Olympian gods falls into chaos, it becomes clear that her true purpose is greater than any god could have realised. *Hekate* is a lush, witchy verse novel that transforms familiar mythology into a gripping tale of defiance and empowerment.



Hutchinson
Heinemann
HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$39.99
\$

THE LAND OF SWEET FOREVER

Harper Lee

Published nine years after Harper Lee's death, this volume of never-before-seen short stories and published non-fiction covers territory from the Alabama schoolyards of Lee's youth to the luncheonettes and movie houses of mid-century Manhattan. Lee writes about subjects including politics, equality, travel, love, fiction, art, the American South, and what it means to lead an engaged and creative life. An introduction by Casey Cep, Lee's appointed biographer, provides illuminating background and connects the pieces here with *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Go Set a Watchman*, as well as to Lee's life.

Highly Recommended



\$24.99

ASH

Louise Wallace
Allen & Unwin PB

This debut novel from New Zealand/Aotearoa poet Louise Wallace deals with motherhood, love and the power of feminine rage.

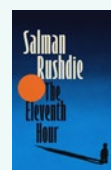


\$32.99

BUCKEYE

Patrick Ryan
Bloomsbury PB

Addressing themes of war, grief, parenthood and sexuality, this moving family saga is set in the American Midwest between WW2 and the Vietnam War.



\$34.99

THE ELEVENTH HOUR

Salman Rushdie
Jonathan Cape PB

These five short stories set in England, America and India explore what it means to approach the final years of a life.



\$34.99

FLASHLIGHT

Susan Choi
Jonathan Cape PB

Shortlisted for this year's Booker Prize, this powerful story set in Japan, America and Korea addresses issues of memory, identity and family.



\$32.99

BENBECULA

Graeme Macrae Burnet
Text PB

Set on a remote Hebridean island in the 19th century, Macrae Burnet's latest novel is a tale of violence and madness, leavened by moments of black humour.



\$34.99

CURSED DAUGHTERS

Oyinkan Braithwaite
Atlantic PB

The latest novel by the British-Nigerian author of *My Sister, the Serial Killer* is the atmospheric tale of three women who fight to escape a family curse.



\$29.99

THE EX-BOYFRIEND'S FAVOURITE RECIPE FUNERAL COMMITTEE

Saki Kawashiro
(translated by Yuka Maeno)
Simon & Schuster PB

This charming novel is set in a Tokyo cafe where customers share stories about heartbreak.

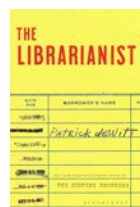


\$32.99

HEAP EARTH UPON IT

Chloe Michelle Howarth
Verve PB

From the author of the much-admired *Sunburn*, this novel set in rural Ireland deals with claustrophobic relationships and tangled identities.



Bloomsbury PB
WAS \$32.99
NOW \$14.99

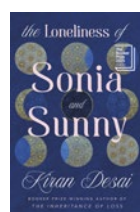


THE LIBRARIANIST

Patrick deWitt

Bob Comet is a retired librarian who is reasonably happy with his solitary life. He is used to not talking. However, one day he ventures into a senior centre and begins work there as a volunteer. Through various interactions with his newfound aged friends, Bob finds himself reflecting on his own life, his marriage, his family and his losses. Patrick deWitt (*French Exit*, *The Sisters Brothers*) has always shown an ability to understand the pathos of humanity and the often-bizarre uniqueness of individuals, and here his attention is turned to the lot of the introvert. Lovers of deWitt's previous work will be pleased as punch to have another of his deftly paced and placed novels to read.

2. What are *tsukemono*?



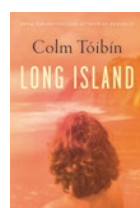
Hamish
Hamilton PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99



THE LONELINESS OF SONIA AND SUNNY

Kiran Desai

Nearly 20 years in the making, Kiran Desai's epic novel is a spectacle to behold. Charting the lives of novelist Sonia and journalist Sunny, *The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny* oscillates between the US and India as it depicts the contradictions and multiplicities of straddling multiple identities and dealing with the ensuing dislocation. The book's polyphonic form matches the plurality of its content (the Booker Prize 2025 judges called it 'a magical realist fable within a social novel within a love story', one that moves 'with consummate fluency between an array of modes: philosophical, comic, earnest, emotional, and uncanny'). Perennially writing against the white gaze, Desai's mammoth achievement interrogates the place of the Indian novel itself in the so-called post-modern, post-colonial world her characters inhabit.



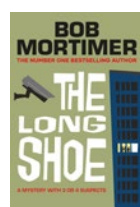
Picador PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$16.99



LONG ISLAND

Colm Tóibín

This year, we're offering two novels by one of the world's finest writers, both at bargain prices. The first of these, *Long Island*, is set in 1970s New York and Ireland. It's the sequel to Tóibín's 2009 *Brooklyn* and again centres on Irishwoman Eilis Lacey. Eilis is now married to Tony Fiorello, an Italian-American, and is living in Long Island. One day, an Irishman comes to the door asking for Eilis by name. He tells her that his wife is pregnant with Tony's child and that when the baby is born, he will not raise it but will leave it with her. Eilis has choices to make, and what she does in the wake of this shattering news is at the heart of this powerful novel, which is full of longing and regret.



Gallery PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99



THE LONG SHOE

Bob Mortimer

This novel is a delightfully quirky romp through the streets of London with Matt, the protagonist, taking readers along for the ride, one beer after another. Matt is recently unemployed, and the love of his life Harriet has left him. Life is miserable but surely hope is possible, especially after he is offered quite the deal to move to a fancy-pants apartment. It's only when he gets there that Matt begins to suspect this might not be a good arrangement. For example, where is Harriet? Does his neighbour of old, self-centred Carole, have anything to do with his present solo situation? Reminiscent of our own Benjamin Stevenson's work, this farcical crime caper will be a perfect beach read this summer.



Scribe PB
WAS \$35.99
NOW \$29.99



If you wanted to take a litmus test of now, you could start by looking at the ordinary misery of a shooting murder in a backwater American town. The *I Love Dick* author does something different: she looks at herself looking at that murder, and charts who she is in relation to it. Kraus goes full Capote in this innovative true crime novel that puts the American Dream on trial. Told in three parts, it details the life to now of Catt Greene – a stand-in for Kraus – and her trajectory from wayward suburban daughter to complicated art-world darling, wife and reporter. Violence, addiction and class are blown open here, but what this inquiring, empathetic and lonely work is truly about is the impossibility of ever really understanding another's motives.

We asked Chris Kraus some questions about her novel:

The *Four Spent the Day Together* – *it's so quaint sounding, like a picnic almost. How did you land on the title?*

One of the local newspapers used that phrase, reprising the crime, and it immediately struck me. As you say, it sounded so quaint and anachronistic – a strange way to describe this very 21st-century crime.

What is it about murder cases that fascinates us? Why do we turn to them for answers in times of personal and cultural crisis?

I think it's because the murder stops time, it brackets a slice of reality and lets us look more closely at it. All the police resources – the forensics,

the ballistics, the homicide detectives – are focused on solving or gathering prosecutorial evidence, in situations that normally wouldn't warrant a second look. And to look closely enough at anything means drawing parallels. The exceptional event of the crime shines a light on the ordinary.

There's a lot in this book about not only addiction, but about loving someone who is an addict. It's a perspective we don't often read. Why was it important to share it? The experience of the co-addict, or family member of the addict, is so under-represented. I lived through this experience myself and apart from Al-Anon, there were very few resources, and not much written about it. But it's as universal an experience as addiction itself, maybe more so. And so isolating. I hope the book reaches people who are living through this experience and at least makes them feel less alone in it.

Sharing your private self feels like a moral imperative here. What do you owe readers, do you think? And what do you owe yourself? Your subjects?

If you're going to write something taken from life I think it's important to try and inhabit all the different perspectives. Everyone sees any given situation differently and it's not only ethical, it's more entertaining to depict all these conflicting viewpoints. A lot of comedy comes from the great gaps between how people see and interpret things. And I do think you owe it to your readers to be entertaining.

What do you want readers to take from the book? What do we do next?

Small things, things that are available to us in daily life. A lot of the depravity described in the book arises from not just addiction, but from disconnection. Making other people feel acknowledged and heard can be very powerful.



Picador PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$16.99



THE MAGICIAN

Colm Tóibín

The second of our bargain Tóibín offerings this year is one of his most powerful and critically celebrated novels. *The Magician* is a meticulously researched albeit fictionalised biography of Nobel laureate Thomas Mann, author of *Buddenbrooks*, *The Magic Mountain* and *Death in Venice*. Tóibín depicts Mann as a person of intense contradictions – on the surface famous, admired and wealthy, but at his core introverted and conflicted about many aspects of his life. We follow Mann through childhood, marriage, fatherhood and old age in a life that unfolded against the backdrop of momentous social and political change. This is a novel about the artistic impulse, but it's also about war and exile, injustice and courage, families and love.



Scribe PB
\$29.99

THE MIDNIGHT TIMETABLE

Bora Chung

(translated by Anton Hur)

Welcome to the night shift at the Institute; welcome to a Russian nesting doll of ghost stories. Just as in her breakout success *Cursed Bunny*, Chung delivers strange and inventive tales with entrancing skill, but here, each story is just one piece of a larger puzzle concerning the mysterious Institute and the haunted objects it studies. From ancient embroidered handkerchiefs to a pair of tennis shoes possessed by ghostly sheep, the hauntings of this book reoccur and refract, providing a cascade of little revelations that are as addictive as they are unnerving. What results is one of the most cohesive short-story collections of recent years, drawing all its delightful variety together into a singular commentary on greed, entitlement and gendered violence.



Faber PB
\$26.99 each

ON THE CALCULATION OF VOLUME: VOLS I, II & III

Solvej Balle

(translated by Barbara J Haveland, Sophia Hersi Smith & Jennifer Russell)

Tara Selter has come unstuck from time. Lost in the 18th of November, she is searching for purpose in a world of stasis. Joining the wide canon of stories about repeating days, this seven-volume epic – of which three parts have been published in English so far – unravels the tropes and assumptions of the genre to produce something profound, transportive and utterly unique, asking how we might live a meaningful life and answering that question in a thousand different ways. As Balle's world progresses from book to book, the 18th of November becomes a constellation that expands with each new day, becoming richer and more complex with every small alteration to its clockwork consistency. This is a series worth following for years to come.



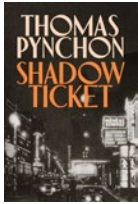
Harvill Secker
PB
\$34.99

THE SCHOOL OF NIGHT

Karl Ove Knausgaard

(translated by Martin Aitken)

The fourth novel in Knausgaard's *Morgenstjernen* (The Morning Star) series is a dark and suspenseful tale of artistic creation and human corruption. It's 1985, and Kristian Hadeland is newly arrived in London. Kristian seethes with ambition and contempt. His family in Norway never understood him; his fellow photography students bore him. But he knows he and his art are destined for more. Then he meets Hans, an eccentric Dutch artist. With Hans, the future Kristian yearns for is tangible. All art is possible. Any line can be crossed. But success so often comes at a price. And when Kristian does the unthinkable, will he be prepared to pay it? For those who haven't previously read Knausgaard, this is an accessible and excellent place to start.



Jonathan Cape
PB
\$34.99

SHADOW TICKET

Thomas Pynchon

With a novel like this, it's hard to know where to begin a review. Maybe it's best to focus on Pynchon's characters, a vibrant milieu of oddballs and eccentrics starring Hicks McTaggart, a Milwaukee PI whose world-weary wit makes him the perfect straight man to submariner-delinquents and runaway cheese heiresses. Or maybe it's Pynchon's prose that's worth highlighting, clever and crafty with an energy that feels like dancing. Or perhaps the globe-wandering plot, whose slow-boiling absurdity only springs its strangest elements – international cheese enforcement and supernaturally disappearing lamps – once the reader is totally invested. Or even the book's simmering commentary on authoritarian violence that only emerges in brief snatches of melancholy. In truth, the wild brilliance of *Shadow Ticket* is part of a big picture: every element united in raucous harmony.



Hamish
Hamilton PB
\$34.99

THE SILVER BOOK

Olivia Laing

Set in 1970s Italy, this novel is a queer love story and noirish thriller set against the backdrop of the Italian cinema industry. Young English art student Nicholas meets celebrated production designer Danilo in Venice and soon becomes Danilo's lover and apprentice, assisting in the design of Fellini's *Casanova* and Pasolini's *Salò*. But Nicholas has a secret, and in this world of constant illusion, his real nature passes unseen. Amidst the country's rising social and political turmoil, he acts as an accelerant, setting in motion a tragedy he didn't intend. Inspired by the real-life character of Danilo Donati and the murder of director Pier Paolo Pasolini, this erotic and evocative novel is about the dangerous netherworld that lies between illusion and reality.



Indigo Press
PB
\$29.99

SUMMER AT MOUNT ASAMA

Masashi Matsuie

(translated by Margaret Mitsutani)

There are some books that you just want to take up residence in; books that you find yourself sad to leave. Readers will have such a feeling when enjoying this novel about a humanistic architecture firm, its summer house in the Japanese countryside and Toru Sakanishi, the junior architect who joins the firm's mission to design a new National Library of Japan. During an idyllic year of carefully drawn lines, lush gardens and gently building romance, the reader, alongside Sakanishi, is welcomed into a firm so close it feels like family and invited to watch as it quietly changes and grows with the seasons.



Bloomsbury
HB
WAS \$39.99
NOW \$16.99
\$

TOM LAKE

Ann Patchett

It's spring and Lara's three grown daughters have returned to the family orchard. While picking cherries, they beg their mother to tell them the one story they've always longed to hear – of the film star with whom she shared a stage, and a romance, years before. Ann Patchett's most recent novel, published in 2023 and here offered in a bargain-priced hardback edition, is a meditation on youthful love, married love and the lives parents lead before their children are born. Both hopeful and elegiac, it explores what it means to be happy even when the world is falling apart.



Viking HB
\$35

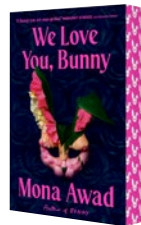
THE WAX CHILD

Olga Ravn

(translated by Martin Aitken)

Veering away from the literary science fiction of her acclaimed 2020 novel *The Employees*, Danish writer Olga Ravn moves to historical fiction in this story based on a real-life witch trial. It's 1620 and Christenze Krukow, an impoverished noblewoman, makes a child from beeswax. This wax child acts as the book's narrator, recounting how Christenze and a group of female friends are accused of witchcraft and imprisoned, the victims of the witch-hunting mania of the times. The form of this staunchly feminist book is interesting (the wax child narrates from past, present and future), and its melding of history and horror is masterfully handled.

3. Where is Monet's garden?

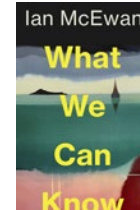


Scribner PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99
\$

WE LOVE YOU, BUNNY

Mona Awad

The deliciously dark and deranged follow-up to Mona Awad's 2019 viral sensation *Bunny* is here! Akin to a *Secret History* on steroids, *We Love You, Bunny* picks up where the splendidly satirical *Bunny* left off: Samantha Heather Mackey has achieved acclaim with her thinly veiled novel about the ultra-rich clique of girls in her MFA known as the 'Bunnies', but the quartet kidnap and subject her to their collective version of what really went down. In this scathing critique of artistic solipsism, academia and the unethical exploitation of muses, no one is above Awad's contempt – poets, fiction writers, Orientalist white professors, the rich, protestors, vegetarians. Dubbed a 'goofy, overblown flower of a book with lots of thorns that pleasurably scratch' by *Guardian* reviewer Sandra Newman, *We Love You, Bunny*, is a riotous ball of fun.



Jonathan Cape
PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99
\$

WHAT WE CAN KNOW

Ian McEwan

If those of the next century looked back on us now, what would they see? A great derangement of our culture and natural world? An inundation of information, writing and correspondence all backed up on the cloud? Lives painted in broad and shallow strokes? Another question: what would they lose? What stories will be buried or submerged by rising seas – and how much can we really know of the past? Such questions lie at the forefront of this astounding novel about a mythic lost poem from the 21st century and a literary historian from 2119 trying to recover both it and the complicated lives of the few who heard it. McEwan's visions of the future and a present only half-remembered are poignant, fascinating and profound.



Bloomsbury PB
\$32.99

WILL THERE EVER BE ANOTHER YOU

Patricia Lockwood

The inability of language to articulate the contours of grief, loss and illness is well documented, but Patricia Lockwood comes close in the auto-fictional *Will There Ever Be Another You*. Dreamlike, surreal, discombobulated and disrupted, the vignettes Lockwood has assembled uncannily capture the long-term effects of the author contracting COVID in March 2020, long before any vaccine was invented and years before we came to know of the virus's harmful repercussions. The book jumps in and out of time and space – mirroring the experience of chronic illness – and there's no prevailing plot or narrative, just a series of impressions peppered with sparks of lucidity. As unenviable as this moniker may be, Lockwood may have just written the best pandemic novel.



Doubleday PB
\$34.99

WRECK

Catherine Newman

Readers were introduced to *Wreck's* lead character Rocky (aka Rachel) in Newman's previous novel, *Sandwich*. In that book, Rocky was holidaying in Cape Cod with her husband Nick and children Willa and Jamie. Theirs is a loving family and Rocky is its much-loved matriarch. In this sequel, Rocky is still in the throes of menopause but has also acquired a skin rash, one that sends her down a doom-scrolling spiral that makes for a hilarious first-person narrative. She's also obsessing about the accidental death of a former schoolmate of Jamie's and the fragility of life. It's impossible to dislike Rocky – she is kind, a bit nutty and thoroughly relatable. *Wreck* is a marvellous, funny and life-affirming read, one that will be particularly appreciated by older women.

Highly Recommended



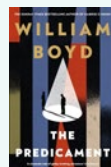
\$24.99

THE HISTORY OF SOUND

Ben Shattuck

Swift PB

These 12 stories set across three centuries examine the unexpected ways the past returns to us and how love and loss are entwined and transformed over generations.



\$34.99

THE PREDICAMENT

William Boyd

Viking PB

Gabriel Dax, the travel writer and accidental spy we first met in 2025's *Gabriel's Moon*, is sent on a second mission, this time to Guatemala and Germany.



\$34.99

SUPER-FROG SAVES TOKYO

Haruki Murakami

(translated by Jay Rubin)

Harvill Secker HB

A lavishly illustrated edition of the much-loved short story about Tokyo resident Katagiri and a giant frog. Classic Murakami.



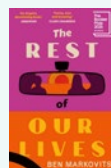
\$34.99

LONG DISTANCE

Ayşegül Savaş

Scribner PB

A collection of short stories about contemporary life from a regular *New Yorker* contributor.



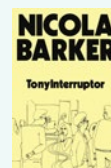
\$34.99

THE REST OF OUR LIVES

Benjamin Markovits

Faber PB

Shortlisted for this year's Booker Prize, Markovits' novel is about getting older, and the challenges and rewards of long-term marriage.



\$29.99

TONY INTERRUPTOR

Nicola Barker

Granta PB

This hilarious experimental novel about a man who feels an unquenchable urge to disrupt and interrupt live cultural events is about art, truth and being authentic.



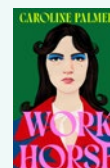
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99
\$

VENETIAN VESPER

John Banville

Faber PB

Twists, turns and plenty of menace characterise this mystery set in late 19th-century Venice.



\$34.99

WORKHORSE

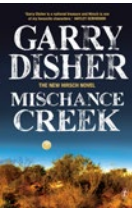
Caroline Palmer

4th Estate PB

A story about envy and ambition set within the glamour and privilege of high society in New York in 2001. *December release.*

Mischance Creek

Garry Disher



Text PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

Few Australian writers have publishing pedigrees as long, varied and lauded as Garry Disher. Since his first books were published in 1981, Disher has gifted us over 50 titles in multiple genres. Of these, his three crime series – the Wyatt, Challis and Destry (aka Peninsula), and Paul ‘Hirsch’ Hirschhausen novels – are the best known. Titles in each of these series have been awarded Ned Kelly Awards for Best Novel, and Disher himself was awarded the Ned Kelly Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018. In the award citation, the judges praised his ‘high quality, unique and quintessentially Australian crime fiction’.

Disher’s most recent release, *Mischance Creek*, is the fifth instalment in the Hirsch series and like its preceding volumes it is set in Mid North South Australia. Its protagonist, who we first met in 2014’s *Bitter Wash Road*, is still staffing the one-person cop shop in Tiverton, a ‘small town slumbering in the sun’. In exile after blowing the whistle on colleagues back in his home city of Adelaide, Hirsch is in stasis, hesitant about fully committing to his new life despite having embarked upon a serious relationship with Wendy, a local schoolteacher.

When the book opens, Hirsch is undertaking a routine firearm audit in the region, a monotonous task calling for him to travel long distances in his reliable Hilux. The monotony doesn’t last, though: soon he is dealing with a complicated situation involving so-called sovereign citizens, some of whom are criminally inclined. These locals don’t respect the authority of government and as the novel progresses, Hirsch and his SA Police colleagues grapple with an ever-escalating series of crimes that range from rubbish dumping to racial harassment and serious bodily harm. He’s also assisting a young woman who is investigating the disappearance of her mother, a search that turns into a cold-case murder investigation.

Hirsch is an extremely likeable character. His way of working involves shooting the breeze with locals, offering a sympathetic ear and practical assistance wherever possible. Now an accepted member of the Mid North community, he is well attuned to his surrounds and soon realises that many of the crimes he has been investigating are linked and may involve powerful local figures. As his investigation progresses, the stakes are upped, placing lives including his own at risk.

Disher’s prose is as taut as the book’s plotline, enlivened by wonderfully evocative descriptions of the landscape – the ‘dusty, rarely travelled backroads’ where horizons feature a ‘blue-grey line of hills dividing the dirt from the sky’. Also wonderful are his descriptions of the laconic local farmers and small-town dwellers scraping a living in this landscape blighted by drought and weighed down by disappointment.

At one point in *Mischance Creek*, Hirsch is browsing his bookshelf for some reading matter and dismisses an outback noir crime title, deriding it as ‘just another small-town-with-a-dark-secret story’. This novel, and the earlier books in the series, are much more than this, interrogating important themes, most notably how our landscapes and lives are imprinted with the past – Indigenous, colonial, recent and personal – whether we like it or not.



Penguin PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$27.99

EVERYONE IN THIS BANK IS A THIEF
Benjamin Stevenson

The latest whodunnit from bestselling author and comedian Benjamin Stevenson takes us inside a bank heist where everyone is both a suspect and a thief, including the narrator. Ernest Cunningham is a self-proclaimed amateur detective and published crime writer who reveres the Golden Age of ‘fair play’ murder mysteries where ‘clues are front and centre for the reader’. The book starts where it might end with Ern locked in an oxygen-depleted safe writing the final account of his investigation without having solved it. In a race against time, he unravels the complex tangle of clues and lies to finally identify the murderer/s. This hilarious read consciously subverts everything we expect of classic detective fiction.



Fremantle PB
\$34.99

FRANZ JOSEF
Alan Carter

Australia is blessed with more than its fair share of top-notch crime-fiction writers, some less known than others. Writer Alan Carter, born in the UK but now a resident of Tasmania, is one of these and that’s a great shame, as his police procedurals are absolute crackers. *Franz Josef* is the third instalment in Carter’s Nick Chester series, which is set in New Zealand’s South Island and features a likeable English-born detective and his down-to-earth Māori offsider. Wherever Nick goes, trouble seems to follow and this time he finds himself in even more trouble than usual, dealing with the murderous fallout from horrific events that occurred during a civil war on the other side of the world.



Macmillan PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

THE KILLING STONES
Ann Cleeves

Jimmy Perez may have relocated to Orkney in this book, but fans of the Shetland murder-mystery series will find that this change of setting has little impact when it comes to the hallmarks of Ann Cleeves’ books – dramatic island landscapes; intriguing island characters; and, most importantly, the thoughtful detective himself. One of Jimmy’s oldest friends has been found dead close to an abandoned archaeological dig on the island of Westray and he, his pregnant partner (and boss) Willow and new colleagues investigate. Archie Stout had been a larger-than-life character and his death has had a huge impact on the small island community. Is the culprit an outsider, or one of their own? When a second murder occurs, this time on the main island, Perez faces one of his greatest investigational challenges to date.



Macmillan PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

LAST ONE OUT
Jane Harper

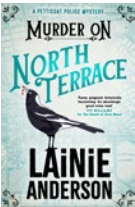
The ‘queen of outback noir’, Jane Harper, once again takes us into the heart of a remote Australian community where everything is decidedly not okay. Carralon Ridge is miles from anywhere, on the edge of a largely invisible but monolithic coal mine that is slowly killing the town. Five years ago, Sam disappeared without a trace on his 21st birthday. His family is shattered by grief and the corrosive effect of not knowing what happened. Now his mum, Ro Crowley, returns to Carralon for the annual memorial to commemorate her son. Almost everyone has left the town, with the only exceptions a few diehards who know more than they’re letting on. *Last One Out* is another gripping read by a masterful storyteller who saturates her landscapes and settings with menace.



Affirm PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$27.99

THE LONG NIGHT
Christian White

Em and Holly are driving along the perilous Black Spur one stormy night when they see a strange apparition. They stop to investigate and a masked man appears out of nowhere. It’s late, there’s no one around, no phone coverage and they’ve lost their car keys. In inner-city Brunswick, Em’s mum arrives home to a dark flat. The power is off. Something’s not right. A hand suddenly clamps over her mouth. Primal fear and horror drench every page of *The Long Night*, along with the endless rain, blood and gore. The latest mind-bending novel from bestselling author and screenwriter Christian White takes us on a grim journey where distorted timeframes, shape-shifting narrators, plot twists and sinister family secrets keep us guessing until the very end.



Hachette PB
\$32.99

MURDER ON NORTH TERRACE
Lainie Anderson

Hurrah! Miss Kate Cocks, officer in charge of the Women’s Police Branch in South Australia, is back. Based on a real-life figure, Miss Cocks was introduced to readers in last year’s *The Death of Dora Black*. Once again, the action unfolds in Adelaide during the Great War. But this time it will be Constable Ethel Bromley, Miss Cocks’ offsider, who is called to assist in a murder investigation. The crime has occurred in the Art Gallery, and it is thought that Ethel, whose parents are gallery benefactors, will be an asset to the investigation. As Ethel works with the murder team, Miss Cocks undertakes her own investigation – a schoolgirl has been brutally assaulted and the lady detective is intent on identifying and arresting the attacker. Jolly good fun.

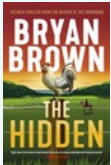
Highly Recommended



\$32.99

CLOWN TOWN
Mick Herron
Baskerville PB

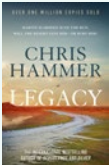
Jackson Lamb and his team are back in the ninth Slough House thriller, dealing with Machiavellian Diana Taverner and an intriguing mystery. Love the TV series? The books are even better!



\$34.99

THE HIDDEN
Bryan Brown
Allen & Unwin PB

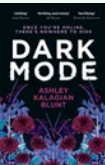
Distinctively laconic prose and strongly drawn characters make Brown’s novel about a spate of crime in the coastal community of The Heads a beaut read.



WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

LEGACY
Chris Hammer
Allen & Unwin PB

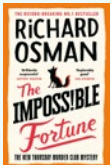
Someone is targeting journalist Martin Scarsden, which prompts him to flee to the outback. There, he’s drawn into the complex mystery of a past murder and disappearance.



WAS \$34.99
NOW \$12.99

DARK MODE
Ashley Kalagian Blunt
Ultimo PB

Drawn from true events, this psychological thriller by an Australian writer delves into the terrifying reality of the dark web.



WAS \$34.99
NOW \$27.99

THE IMPOSSIBLE FORTUNE
Richard Osman
Viking PB

The Thursday Murder Club is back in action, this time dealing with a perplexing kidnapping and a threat to Ron’s family. Book 5 may well be the best yet!



\$34.99

MURDER IN THE CATHEDRAL
Kerry Greenwood
Allen & Unwin PB

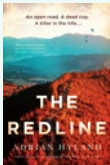
The final book in Greenwood’s beloved Phryne Fisher series sees the glamorous sleuth and her companion Dot investigating a murder in the Victorian country town of Bendigo.



\$34.99

THE PROVING GROUND
Michael Connelly
Michael Connelly PB

Mickey Haller is back in the eighth Lincoln Lawyer book, this time with a case against an AI company whose product may have been responsible for the murder of a young girl.



\$34.99

THE REDLINE
Adrian Hyland
Ultimo PB

In the third Jesse Redpath thriller, the sergeant investigates the death of a colleague. Is it linked to other deaths and disappearances in the Windmark Ranges?



Jonathan Cape
PB
\$36.99

ATTENTION

Anne Enright

Here, the Irish author of much-admired novels including *The Gathering*, *The Forgotten Waltz* and *The Wren*, *The Wren* offers a collection of essays exploring the free voices and controlled bodies of women in society and fiction. Enright has spent a lifetime reading as well as writing, and *Attention*, which is subtitled 'Writing on Life, Art and The World', offers new perspectives on writers including Alice Munro, Toni Morrison, James Joyce, Angela Carter and Helen Garner. Also included are essays delving into Enright's family history.



Jonathan Cape
HB
\$39.99

ONE ALADDIN TWO LAMPS

Jeanette Winterson

A great tyrant murders his wife every morning until he meets a storyteller who holds him in suspense for 1001 nights, slowly winning her life with each sunrise. Maybe you've heard this tale before – it's the frame for countless classic stories of wit and wonder – but in Jeanette Winterson's deft hands, Shahrazad becomes a symbol for the deep and highly political power of imagination: the ability to see what is and ask 'what if?' Playfully weaving between fiction and critique with characteristic self-awareness, Winterson continually denies closure in the same breath as she introduces something new, producing a relentlessly engaging cascade of detours and diversions. This is a book that will hold your attention until sunrise and keep you thinking for long after it's finished.



UQP HB
WAS \$39.99
NOW \$34.99
\$

NOT QUITE WHITE IN THE HEAD

Melissa Lucashenko

This collection of essays, journalism and keynote addresses from celebrated Goorie author Melissa Lucashenko traverses the last two decades and spans a multitude of subject matters. One of the most powerful pieces is in the devastating 'Sinking Below Sight', in which Lucashenko chronicles the insidious ways in which working-class mothers are mired in poverty and violence in Queensland's 'Black Belt'. Gross injustices such as Aboriginal deaths in custody, child removals, the Northern Territory Intervention and the abolition of ATSIC are evoked often, as are calls for treaty and Aboriginal self-determination. This collection brims with rage, moral clarity and immense love for Mob.



Hamish
Hamilton PB
\$36.99

DEAD AND ALIVE: ESSAYS

Zadie Smith

Her oeuvre includes novels including *White Teeth* and *On Beauty*, a novella, a collection of short stories and a play, so fans of Zadie Smith's work will be well aware of the versatility and excellence of her writing. *Dead and Alive* is her fifth collection of essays, and in it she considers films (Todd Field's *Tár*), music (Stormzy at Glastonbury) and the work of contemporary visual artists including Toyin Ojih Odutola, Kara Walker and Celia Paul. Smith also considers changes of government on both sides of the Atlantic, sings the praises of Kilburn High Road in her beloved North West London, and invites the reader to mourn with her the death of writers Joan Didion, Martin Amis, Hilary Mantel, Philip Roth and Toni Morrison.



Bloomsbury PB
\$24.99

EVERY DAY I READ

Hwang Bo-reum
(translated by Shanna Tan)

In this gently expansive essay collection, Hwang Bo-reum (*Welcome to the Hyunamdong Bookshop*) invites us to consider the act of reading and how we might find a way to get closer to books. Each new entry opens with a concise – and at times contradictory – statement: 'Read on the train'; 'Visiting the library'; 'You don't always have to finish it'. These simple ideas serve as a starting point for Bo-reum to reflect on how such advice has played out in her own daily life and in doing so, provide opportunities for introspection from the reader. A sincere tribute to the transformative power of reading, *Every Day I Read* is the ideal summer read for book lovers and anyone hoping to read more – complete with a list of further reading recommendations.



MUP PB
\$34.99

First Nations Writing

Jeanine Leane & Dan Bouchier (eds)

This curated collection of pieces from the archives of the esteemed Australian literary journal *Meanjin* shares a glimpse into the passion, fierce intellect and beauty of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander writing. The book's introduction, part of which we feature below, provides useful context for approaching the work and invites readers to consider the ways in which First Nations voices have been positioned during Australia's recent history. The pieces are presented in the order in which they were published, opening with poetry from activist Oodgeroo Noonuccal (1977) and closing with an essay from N'Arwee't Professor and Boonwurrung Elder Carolyn Briggs (2023), encompassing a thrilling range of voices from the different Countries of mainland Australia and surrounding islands. This is an important book that will inspire further reading and learning.

From Jeanine Leane & Dan Bouchier:

WRITING ABOUT US, BY US

This volume spans writing and ideas from across the nation, and across the decades, about a rich array of topics and subjects. It includes the works of public intellectuals, poets, authors, philosophers, critics and social commentators. It covers some of the breadth of what it is to be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person in this country – and, crucially, what that feels like. So much of the work, as you would expect, looks to the past and offers sage observations and searing warnings. But the present and future are not

absent; so much of the work sees, hopes for and seeks the optimism of equity – however far off that may be.

We set out to explore storytelling, analysis, critique and commentary in all its forms – driven not by a 'best of' ethos, but a desire to capture some of the diversity of writing and thinking, and how it considered, challenged and assessed the First Nations experience. As proud members of the inaugural Meanjin Cultural and Literary Advisory, we sought to include as many styles and explorations of writing and storytelling as we could. At times exhilarating, at others devastating – at all times rigorous, thoughtful and engaging. Most importantly, the

writings in this collection, and those by First Nations contributors to *Meanjin* not featured here, are a testament to our resilience and continuance and an archive in perpetuum of First Nations stories and truths in print form.

The great limitation of *First Nations Writing: Meanjin 1940-1977 to today* is that space did not permit us to include every piece of writing, however revelatory the rediscovery of each piece has been. At a time when First Nations peoples the world over are facing strong headwinds and roadblocks, pausing to consider how others have made sense of these issues in the past – while also predicting the roadmap to this point – is crucial.

Highly Recommended



WAS \$19.99
NOW \$9.99
\$

THE BRIEFEST ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION GUIDE EVER!

Ruth Colman
NewSouth PB

This guide to English punctuation and grammar offers clear explanations, excellent examples and easy-to-follow rules.



\$34.99

THE LANGUAGE-LOVER'S LEXIPEDIA

Joshua Blackburn
Bloomsbury HB

Stephen Fry, no slouch when it comes to English-language use, calls this hybrid encyclopaedia and miscellany 'a word-lover's dream'. *December release.*



\$24.99

ON FRIENDSHIP

Andrew O'Hagan
Faber PB

The much-admired Scottish writer shares personal reflections in this celebration of what he thinks makes us great: our friends.



\$22.99

THE SLICKS: ON SYLVIA PLATH AND TAYLOR SWIFT

Maggie Nelson
Fern PB

Nelson positions Taylor Swift and Sylvia Plath as twinned targets of patriarchy's ancient urge to disparage, trivialise and demonise the work of prolific women artists.



WAS \$45
NOW \$39.99
\$

FIRES WHICH BURNED BRIGHTLY

Sebastian Faulks
Hutchinson Heinemann HB

The author of *Birdsong* writes about his boarding school and Fleet Street days, book tours, writing process and challenges with mental health.



\$34.99

LOOKING AFTER YOUR BOOKS

Francesca Galligan
Bodleian Library HB

Book lovers wanting advice about collecting first editions and keeping their books in good condition will find this quirky but practical guide an essential resource.

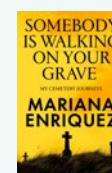


\$49.99

SCHOTT'S SIGNIFICA

Ben Schott
Michael Joseph HB

Packed with analysis, photographs and illustrations, this is an indispensable field guide to the hidden lore and language of our modern age.

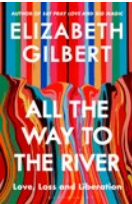


\$34.99

SOMEBODY IS WALKING ON YOUR GRAVE

Mariana Enriquez
(translated by Megan McDowell)
Granta PB

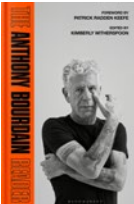
The award-winning Argentine writer blends journalistic rigour and her fascination with the macabre as she writes about famous graveyards steeped in history.



Bloomsbury PB
\$34.99

ALL THE WAY TO THE RIVER
Elizabeth Gilbert

Ardent fans of *Eat, Pray, Love* author Elizabeth Gilbert have been waiting with bated breath for this tell-all memoir and it does not disappoint. Grappling with issues of addiction, relapse and recovery, *All the Way to the River* chronicles the fateful collision of two addicts: Gilbert, with her sex and love addiction, and her partner Rayya, with reoccurring substance abuse issues. Engaging in a constant iterative exercise, Gilbert grapples with her insecurities, doubts and misgivings on the page, embarking on an ongoing search for accountability – never letting herself off the hook but not martyring herself, either. For so long, Gilbert seemed to be a woman who had it all, but this work reveals how she’s perennially walking on the precipice.



Bloomsbury PB
\$34.99

THE ANTHONY BOURDAIN
READER

Kimberly Witherspoon (ed)
This anthology of writing by the author, chef and television star showcases Anthony Bourdain’s many pursuits and passions. It includes excerpts from books and magazines, material from his unpublished graphic novels, recipes and diary entries. In his foreword to the book, *New Yorker* writer Patrick Radden Keefe makes the point that Bourdain worked for years to hone his craft as a writer and that it was in this role, far more than in his restaurant or television work, that he wanted to succeed. Showcasing what Radden Keefe describes as Bourdain’s ‘salty vernacular, jaded sense of humour and eye for the telling detail’, this anthology offers great insight into a fascinating character.



Chatto & Windus HB
WAS \$69.99
NOW \$52.99

BOOK OF LIVES
Margaret Atwood

In this substantial book, which she has subtitled ‘A Memoir of Sorts’, Canadian writer Margaret Atwood recounts events and periods including her peripatetic childhood in the Canadian far north; her experiences at college, graduate school and Cambridge; her marriages; and her relationships with other writers. Atwood links key moments to the books that have shaped our literary landscape, from the cruel school year that would become *Cat’s Eye* to the unease of 1980s Berlin, where she began writing *The Handmaid’s Tale*. As she explores her past, Atwood reveals more and more about her writing, making for an illuminating read.



Bloomsbury PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

BREAD OF ANGELS
Patti Smith

Publication of the fifth instalment in Patti Smith’s series of memoirs coincides with the 50th-anniversary tour of her seminal album, *Horses*. In *Bread of Angels*, Smith covers her 78 years on the planet with a panoramic sweep that begins with memories of what she describes as her Proustian childhood, travels through her teenage years, considers the influence of creative role models such as Arthur Rimbaud and Bob Dylan, and ends with Smith reflecting on her life’s meaning in her inimitable stream-of-consciousness style. Some of the book’s most powerful passages address Smith’s lifelong feeling of being an outsider, which begins to make more sense when she is blindsided by a DNA revelation that helps pull the threads of her life together. Steeped in poetry, poets, music and musicians, *Bread of Angels* offers a fascinating insight into this creative vagabond.

Destination Moon Kate Reid

In this memoir, Kate Reid describes a moment that



Simon & Schuster HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$39.99

changed her life. Browsing a book about the best patisseries and boulangeries in Paris, she has a visceral reaction to a photograph of a pain au chocolat – she ‘could smell the butter through the page, feel the sensation of the shell shattering’. Then and there, Reid determines to go to Paris and learn how to make these pastries. This won’t be easy – she is battling serious anorexia and ongoing depression – but as this book makes clear, its author has a steely determination when she sets her mind to overcoming impossible odds. Tracing her propulsive path from an early career as a Formula 1 aerodynamicist to the massive success of her Melbourne-based and globally acclaimed business, Lune Croissanterie, Reid’s no-holds-barred story is as honest as it is inspirational.



We asked Kate Reid a few questions about *Destination Moon*:

You write about having a ‘laser focus’ when you want something (eg, a job at Williams Grand Prix Engineering).

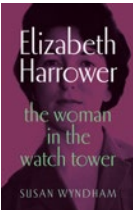
Is this the greatest secret to your professional success?
I think I can say without hesitation that undoubtedly my laser focus is my secret weapon. When I want something, I am like a dog with a bone. I don’t just dream about it; I will go to any lengths required to make it happen. Climb every mountain, and all that! Giving up just simply isn’t an option. And I love that about myself so much.

Leaving your job at Williams and moving to one of its rivals (Spyker F1) didn’t work well for you, and seems to have triggered the anorexia that you write about so

powerfully here. Do you often reflect on that decision?
Up until writing *Destination Moon* I had never really reflected on that decision to move from Williams to Spyker. But when writing my memoir, I realised I needed to explore and fully understand why I’d made that decision, in order to be able to explain it to the reader. In my mind then, and still now, it was the right decision. One thing I have pondered is whether, if I’d stayed at Williams, I might still be working in F1, trying to prove that I’d made the right choices all along, and kidding myself that I was satisfied. I strongly believe that becoming so ill, to the point where the slate was essentially wiped clean, gave me the chance to start from scratch again, with a new passion and purpose.

In the book you admit to having an obsessive personality and a fixation with perfectionism. This has obviously been an enormous strength when it comes

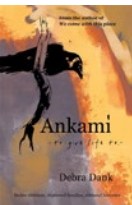
to your career, but how does it impact on you personally?
I think the most significant impact on me personally is that I have a tendency to get stuck on things. Most things probably take me longer than the task actually requires, because I find it impossible to accept the ‘near enough is good enough’ sentiment. I’d probably be a lot more productive if I accepted that some tasks don’t need to be completed to an exceptional standard. I do believe this is a blessing and a curse, though. When it comes to something like creating the Lune croissant (which demands precision and focus and attention to detail), I still maintain that this fixation on perfection is my superpower. Because if I was someone that lived by the ‘near enough is good enough’ rule, the croissants probably would have been fine, but not exceptional, and no one would have ever started talking about Lune.



NewSouth PB
\$39.99

ELIZABETH HARROWER:
THE WOMAN IN THE
WATCH TOWER

Susan Wyndham
Many readers became newly acquainted with elusive literary legend Elizabeth Harrower’s work in the early 2010s when Text Publishing republished her earlier novels – chief among them her 1966 magnum opus *The Watch Tower* – to great acclaim. In this biography, journalist Susan Wyndham (who interviewed Harrower several times before the writer’s death in 2020 and counts herself a friend) sheds light on the little-known author, who she describes as being ‘talented, hardworking and highly regarded, but mostly invisible, or glimpsed on the edges of more famous lives.’ Wyndham delves into the author’s family life, her friendships with fellow writers Patrick White, Christina Stead, Kylie Tennant and Shirley Hazzard, and what her five remarkable novels reveal about us and Harrower herself.



Echo PB
\$32.99

ANKAMI
Debra Dank

A Gudanji-Wakaja and Kalkadoon woman from the Barkly Tablelands in the Northern Territory, Dr Debra Dank had imagined that seeking papers from the National Archives would provide her with valuable knowledge to fill gaps in her family history. Instead, her world was upturned when she learnt that her grandmother had four children taken from her – and that no formal record about what happened to them next exists. Dank writes intimately of her reaction to this knowledge and reflects on the terrible loss for her family, illuminating the painful and ongoing impact of the stolen generations for future generations. A moving work of memoir that defies standard genre conventions, *Ankami* is testament to First Nations learnings and storytellings.



Simon & Schuster PB
\$34.99

AVERAGE AT BEST
Astrid Jorgensen

Reading this delightful memoir is like sitting in a corner of a party talking with a new best friend as she describes how she came to be the founder of an extraordinary global movement – for that’s what Pub Choir’s Astrid Jorgensen has done. Creating a new accessible means to read music (!), Jorgensen subsequently brought trillions of people together to sing under one roof. *Average At Best* is the story of a woman who thought she might make an excellent nun but who became someone who galvanised a brand-new community; an extraordinary achievement for someone who describes herself as an average person who has successfully embraced ‘the mediocrity of life’. This truly inspiring book will be a perfect gift for all young people trying to find their way in the world.



W&N PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99

FINDING MY WAY
Malala Yousafzai

Thrust onto the public stage aged only 15 after a brutal Taliban attack on her life, Malala Yousafzai became an international icon known for bravery and resilience. But away from the cameras and crowds, she spent years struggling to find her place in an unfamiliar world. In *Finding My Way*, Malala discusses friendship and first love, anxiety and self-discovery. Tracing her path from high school loner to reckless college student, she shares candid, often messy, moments such as nearly failing exams, getting ghosted and meeting the love of her life. This is a deeply personal testament to the strength it takes to stay true to oneself in the public eye.

Defiance Bob Brown



Black Inc PB
\$36.99

During more than a half-century in activism and politics, Bob Brown has provided a clear and present voice on behalf of the natural world. This career-spanning memoir crystallises his life's work at age 80, as well as his impressive optimism even as climate change threatens life on Earth. Mingling historical accounts of civil disobedience with timely critiques of autocracy and materialism, Brown covers everything from Tasmania's Franklin Dam protests in the early '80s to current adversaries such as Trump and Adani. He doesn't spare our standing prime minister either, yet he is consistently gracious rather than petty. He's also very quotable; on his short stint of incarceration in 1983, Brown proclaims: 'Prison did not rehabilitate me. It reinvigorated my sense of urgency for the world.'



We asked Bob Brown a few questions about *Defiance*:

Your foundation has called this your final book. Did you envision it as a capstone?

No, nor as a headstone.

My priority is actively defending what's left of the natural planet rather than writing about it. My first book after leaving the Senate was *Optimism*; this one's *Defiance*; and if I had another it would be called *Kindness*. That's a good trio. Maybe my capstone will be a book of photos of beautiful Australia.

What emotions resurfaced as you reflected on your long career in activism?

Joy at being alive on this beautiful little planet. Dismay at the human greed which has overtaken it. Enthusiasm for turning this age of plunder around to a steady, truly sustainable relationship of our human herd with Earth, which gives us everything.

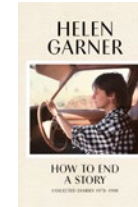
You begin by recounting how 'tree hugger' has evolved from a reference to a historical protest and massacre to a cheap derogatory term. You also use 'ecocide' to describe the stakes of our climate crisis. How important is word choice in shaping public opinion? Very. The corporations plundering the planet employ thousands of psychologists and wordsmiths to make themselves sound wholly responsible when they're not. We're enduring a tsunami of greenwash. Yet most people these days know the natural environment is being destroyed at the greatest rate in history. Trying to be nice to the plunderers and their political backers is a losing game: we must call them out and stand up to them. Being fair dinkum in what we say and do is the ultimate best practice.

The book offers quite pointed critiques on current world politics. How do you follow the modern news cycle when it's increasingly difficult to parse? It is important to face reality, but to put on the shelf the things we can't influence

or change – and, as American social justice campaigner Emma Goldman said, 'I don't want your revolution if I can't dance!' It is important to take time out (eg, to write a book), find enjoyment, garden, take the kids to the bush or beach and look after yourself as well as your fellow activists.

Where would you like to see the Greens go from here?

Into government. Top of their agenda has to be warding off the onrush of environmental catastrophe because that spells economic and social disaster. It'll be a natural progression: 70% of Australians want our native forests and wildlife protected but 70% still vote for the old parties subsidising their destruction. That's daft and will see more voters drift away. Next election there'll be a backlash against Albo licensing more coal mines, gas fracking and forest destruction. The incoming tide is green.

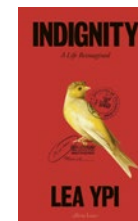


Text HB
WAS \$59.99
NOW \$49.99
\$

HOW TO END A STORY: COLLECTED DIARIES 1978-1998

Helen Garner

At one point in this 800-page collection of diary entries written by Helen Garner between 1978 and 1998, she ruminates on the process of diary writing and comes to the conclusion that the only way she can continue it is by conceiving of her diary as 'a record of the soul'. The diaries – previously published in three volumes – do indeed lay Garner's soul bare, recording the disintegration of two marriages, the fallout from publication of *The First Stone* and her battles with writer's block among much else. Sometimes humorous and joyful, sometimes fuelled by anger and pain, these compellingly readable and often self-lacerating diaries are exercises in introspection that offer a fascinating insight into a great writer.



Allen Lane PB
\$36.99

INDIGNITY: A LIFE REIMAGINED

Lea Ypi

What do modern borders mean for former empires where the movement of people, ideas and cultures was traditionally unfettered? What does the need for labels do to constrict notions of plurality? And can we ever reconcile our search for historical truth without truly knowing what happened? In her latest book, Lea Ypi attempts to bridge the gap between what she knows and doesn't know about her grandmother. Interspersing historical fact with a reimagining of her grandmother's life in Thessaloniki, Greece, and then Stalinist-era Tirana, Albania, Ypi paints a sharply realised snapshot of life at a time when Nazism was rampant, borders were being redrawn and people were suffering the consequences.



HarperCollins PB
WAS \$37.99
NOW \$32.99
\$

FLY, WILD SWANS

This second memoir from the British-Chinese author of 1991's *Wild Swans* continues the story of her mother's life post Mao's rule, and reflects on her own estranged life as a Chinese woman now unable to visit her birth country, where her books are banned. Told with a mix of pragmatism and kindness, her relentless account of how China has changed since the Cultural Revolution is extraordinary. The impact that this has had on Chang and her family makes for devastating reading, yet this is not a scathing denunciation of China. Rather, it is a strong and compelling reminder that the political is always personal.



Murdoch PB
\$34.99

GUTS

Rather than dishing from behind the scenes of *MasterChef*, Melissa Leong's memoir pushes back on the expectations of a tell-all. Instead, *Guts* traces Leong's journey from growing up near Cronulla in the 1980s, the child of Singaporean-Chinese parents, to her formative experiences with racism, trauma, an autoimmune condition and a well-documented divorce. Leong keeps the tone upbeat, though, dispensing warm wisdom and feisty flourishes as she recounts her zigzagging freelance career and finally gets to answer both trolls and tabloids. She also captures the sensory joys and inherent storytelling found in food, sharing cherished personal recipes.



Bloomsbury PB
WAS \$29.99
NOW \$13.99
\$

I WANT TO DIE BUT I STILL WANT TO EAT TTEOKBOKKI

Baek Sehee

(translated by Anton Hur)

Dealing with dysthymia, a chronic form of depression, Baek Sehee's surprise international bestseller *I Want to Die But I Want to Eat Tteokbokki* took the form of a series of conversations between Sehee and her psychiatrist. This follow-up memoir by Sehee, who died after its publication, follows a similar structure and has a hypnotic quality that pulls the reader deep into Sehee's world of inner conflict and struggle. The success of the first memoir highlighted the need to normalise discussion around mental health. And with this book, Sehee continued that discussion, sharing her story in order to help others dealing with similar issues.

Highly Recommended



\$36.99

DIRTBAG BILLIONAIRE

David Gelles
Text PB

The inside story of how Yvon Chouinard, founder of outdoor clothing company Patagonia, made billions of dollars and donated them all to fighting the climate crisis.



\$32.99

FUTURE BOY

Michael J Fox & Nelle Fortenberry
Headline PB

Fox reflects on 1985, a momentous year when he worked by day on *Family Ties* and spent his nights shooting *Back to the Future*.

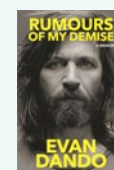


\$36.99

MOTHER MARY COMES TO ME

Arundhati Roy
Hamish Hamilton PB

The author of the Booker Prize-winning *The God of Small Things* writes about her life to date, focusing on her relationship with Mary, her late mother.



\$34.99

RUMOURS OF MY DEMISE

Evan Dando
Faber PB

This candid memoir from the American musician who fronted the Lemonheads focuses on the decadent, grunge-filled 1990s.



\$36.99

THE EYE OF THE DRAGONFLY

Tracey Lee Holmes
Simon & Schuster PB

The Australian sports journalist shares stories about her career as well as her views on issues including drugs in sport and the challenges facing the Olympics.



\$34.99

JOYRIDE

Susan Orlean
Atlantic PB

In this memoir, the author and *New Yorker* staff writer shares stories about her life, including starting her journalistic career and working in the film and television industries.



\$24.99

RAISING HARE

Chloe Dalton
Canongate PB

An inspiring memoir by a city-dwelling professional with a high-pressure job who finds an injured baby hare and goes on to raise it.



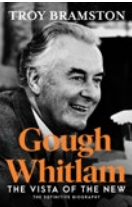
\$28.99

A TRUCE THAT IS NOT PEACE

Miriam Toews
4th Estate PB

A moving and wildly inventive memoir from the Canadian author of *Women Talking*, *All My Puny Sorrows* and *Fight Night*.

Gough Whitlam: The Vista of the New Troy Bramston



HarperCollins
HB
WAS \$55
NOW \$44.99
\$

detail about Gough Whitlam and his extraordinary career. Political journalist Troy Bramston offers a meticulously researched profile of his subject, one that is far from hagiographic. Whitlam’s telegenic looks and voice may have successfully wooed the electorate in 1972, but Bramston’s many interviewees paint a picture of an arrogant and intolerant man, one who often inspired admiration but not always affection. During his decades in the ALP and his three years leading the country, Whitlam focused on the modernisation of both the party and the nation and was remarkably successful at both. Sadly, he wasn’t as successful in managing his unruly and often incompetent cabinet colleagues or his own rampant ego. The chapters dealing with the long lead-up to the Dismissal are particularly fascinating, covering the scandals, behind-the-scenes machinations and multiple missteps.



We asked Troy Bramston some questions about his book:

Your biography doesn't gloss over the flaws in Whitlam's character, including arrogance, impatience and stubbornness. Do you think he was capable of introspection? Did he ever acknowledge to others that he was, as you say at one point, his own worst enemy? Few prime ministers are capable of such introspection. The thing with Whitlam is that his great strengths such as drive, determination, courage, conviction and resilience became great weaknesses by 1975. Australians saw a government doing too much too soon, not sufficiently concerned about the budget or economy, or mindful that rapid change can be unsettling.

You write that Whitlam possessed 'immense self-belief'. Do you think that this eventually transformed into hubris, and that this more than anything else led to his political downfall?

These qualities proved fatal during the constitutional crisis. He didn't listen to advice about how to handle the supply crisis, didn't consult colleagues much, ignored warnings about Governor-General John Kerr. This was instrumental in his downfall. But let's not downplay Malcolm Fraser's smashing of convention in blocking the budget or Kerr's deception and ambition.

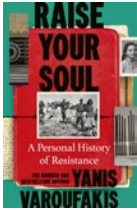
You have also written biographies of Robert Menzies, Bob Hawke and Paul Keating. How do you think Whitlam measures up against these much-admired prime ministers?

All are very different but have essential qualities of intelligence, empathy, drive,

ambition and good communication skills. The Whitlam government changed Australia and that legacy, fiercely contested, is now largely bipartisan and lasting. But it is hard to go past Hawke as the most successful, popular and nation-changing post-war PM.

Were Whitlam's three years as prime minister the most consequential in Australia's parliamentary history, do you think?

It is hard to think of any government that changed Australia so much in such a short period of time – just three years. But the government was chaotic, and the cabinet and caucus were disruptive and tainted with scandal. So there were lessons to be learned and, for the most part, they were – especially by Hawke and Keating.



Bodley Head
PB
\$36.99

RAISE YOUR SOUL
Yanis Varoufakis

Part family memoir, part history of political struggle, and part manifesto on the power of hope, this excellent new book from the acclaimed co-founder of the Democracy in Europe Movement 2025 (DiEM25) frames itself around the stories of five women whose displays of strength under oppression offer sobering and galvanising lessons for our increasingly unsettling present. Grandmothers, mothers and partners are catalysts for accounts of clandestine feminism in Cairo, principled obstinacy and tragedy during the Greek Civil War and Varoufakis's own experiences challenging division and championing democracy across the globe. His brilliantly passionate prose unites with feminist verve and a genuine sense of honesty to produce a timely and soul-raising paean to resistance. This is the best kind of non-fiction: politically important whilst still being effortlessly engaging to read.

6. Where is the Nick Chester series set?



MUP HB
\$29.99

REBEL WOMEN SPEAK

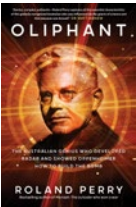
In this book's foreword, human rights activist Helen Pankhurst writes that 'words have the power to transform our own thinking and can then galvanise others. They are the sparks that light the fire of change.' *Rebel Women Speak* brings together quotes or extracts from 80 important speeches made by women and tells the stories of the individuals and movements that made these voices heard. Extracts include Emmeline Pankhurst's incendiary 1913 'Freedom or Death' speech, Simone Veil's 1974 speech on abortion law, Julia Gillard's 2012 misogyny speech, Malala Yousafzai's 2014 Nobel lecture, Oprah Winfrey's 2018 Golden Globes acceptance speech and Greta Thunberg's 2019 speech to the World Economic Forum.



Scribe HB
WAS \$55
NOW \$19.99
\$

JAN MORRIS: LIFE FROM BOTH SIDES
Paul Clements

Born in Oxford in 1926, famed travel writer Jan Morris did military service in Italy and the Middle East during WW2 before embarking on a career as a foreign correspondent. From being the only journalist to join the first ascent of Mount Everest in 1953 to covering the trial of Adolf Eichmann, Morris's reportage spanned many of the 20th-century's defining moments. However, public success masked a private dilemma that was only resolved when she transitioned genders in the late 1960s, becoming renowned as a transgender pioneer. Fellow journalist and travel writer Paul Clements documents the many strands of Morris's rich and at times paradoxical life.



Allen & Unwin
PB
\$34.99

OLIPHANT
Roland Perry

A compelling biography of Australian physicist Mark Oliphant, who helped develop the radar during WW2 and worked alongside Oppenheimer on the Manhattan Project. Perry draws on interviews with Oliphant and a mass of historical writings to paint a vivid picture of Oliphant's life – from 1920s Adelaide to the cobbled laneways of Cambridge. Accounts of Oliphant's genius and 'maverick personality' make for fascinating reading, as do later chapters about his controversial and nuanced actions around issues like nuclear weapons testing, the Vietnam War and the Whitlam dismissal.



Century HB
WAS \$55
NOW \$44.99
\$

VAGABOND
Tim Curry

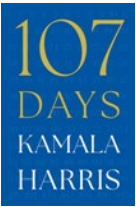
In his extremely enjoyable memoir, Tim Curry reflects on a remarkable six-decade career that began with his first role in the original stage production of *Hair* in 1968. From army brat in Hong Kong to private schoolboy in England, Curry eventually studied English and drama at university. Torn between acting and music, his breakthrough role as Frank-N-Furter in the 1973 stage production of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* sealed his fate. Never one to be typecast, his career on stage, screen and as a recording artist has been hugely varied, although with a focus on voice acting since having a stroke in 2012. A mischievous, funny and erudite (but steadfastly gossip-free) account of an extraordinary life.



NLA PB
\$39.99

THE MAN WHO PLANTED CANBERRA
Robert Macklin with Dr John Gray

It's no mean feat greening an unbuilt city, and Robert Macklin's evocation of horticulturalist and gardener Charles Weston's vision for Canberra is a wonderful retelling of how jaw-droppingly ambitious this challenge was. To create the garden city, Weston planted three million trees, and in *The Man Who Planted Canberra* Macklin details the struggles from agreeing on a suitable site to the final realisation of the nation's capital. Accompanying historical photographs highlight Weston's remarkable achievements in design and planting.



Simon & Schuster HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$39.99
\$

107 DAYS
Kamala Harris

Stretching from the moment Joe Biden bowed out of the race and nominated Kamala Harris, to Donald Trump's certification as president, *107 Days* is a pacy, fly-on-the-wall account covering the race for the 2024 US presidency. With candour, Harris details her life in minutiae – a whirlwind of strategy meetings, conferences and the gruelling campaign trail. With the benefit of hindsight, knowing the outcome of this high-stakes drama, the political low-blows, lies and antics of the opposition detailed by Harris (often incredulously) make this a bristling read. Highlighting her complicated relationship with Joe Biden and difficulties choosing a running mate, as well as the challenges of being the first Black woman running for office and the toll that took, *107 Days* is a compelling analysis of the 2024 US election campaign.



Macmillan PB
\$36.99

WHAT HAVE I DONE?
Ben Elton

'Why do so many people hate me?' Ben Elton laments at the start of his autobiography. He thinks the answer is classic tall poppy syndrome, a widespread resentment of his extraordinary professional success. Elton's career as a comedic writer kicked off with *The Young Ones* when he was only 21, and he went on to write *Blackadder* with Richard Curtis, multiple other TV treatments and scripts, and 16 bestselling novels. There are occasional glimpses of introspection and self-deprecation as he tells his own story (Elton notes that his 'ruthless pursuit of the one-line gag' could be limiting) but these tend to get lost within the book's relentless albeit entertaining name-dropping, which he blames on his publisher. Hmm ...

The Butterfly Thief

Walter Marsh



Scribe PB
\$36.99

Most of us enjoy a good heist story. So it seems certain that Walter Marsh's cracking tale about Colin William Fford Wyatt, an athlete, mountaineer, artist, travel writer, amateur lepidopterologist and convicted thief, will hit a chord with readers. Wyatt was responsible for what Marsh describes as 'the most widespread, audacious, and well-targeted serial robbery in the wild and convoluted history of Australian museums', a heist that saw him steal thousands of irreplaceable butterfly specimens from three major Australian museums over a space of two years in the 1940s.

A journalist with an interest in history and culture, Marsh has also spent time working at the South Australia Museum. It was there that he first heard about Wyatt's heist and began the painstaking investigation that has resulted in *The Butterfly Thief*. The book opens with a reflection about how the intoxicating pleasure of collecting can corrupt, making possession of specimens and objects more important than the scientific knowledge that they can bestow. Marsh asserts that the Western museum is in essence 'a theft collection, where for centuries "collector's mania" wasn't a bug in the system. It was a feature.' He also recounts how most colonial museums in Australia were built on 'gunpowder and theft', housing collections built by 'British men with sticky fingers who undertook their celebrated work while participating in the biggest act of "collection" imaginable: the colonisation of a continent.'

Thefts from museums aren't unusual, of course. In 2023, the British Museum hit the headlines when it revealed that 1500 objects in its collection had disappeared from the Greek and Roman departments over a period of two decades and been offered for sale on online platforms including eBay. But Wyatt's crimes were particularly egregious because he plundered collections that had been built and donated to museums by his friends and mentors, and chose to destroy the important identifying scientific labels that accompanied them. Motivated by collector's mania, he raided storage drawers in the Melbourne Museum, Australia Museum in Sydney and South Australia Museum, selecting important specimens and then smuggling his booty out of the country.

Possessing copious personal charm, Wyatt was the very epitome of a *Boys Own*-style gentleman explorer and sportsman, albeit with feet of clay. Marsh crafts a fascinating profile of this complex character, covering everything from his childhood to his early achievements as a champion skier and mountaineer, his attempts to establish himself as an artist, his failed first marriage, his time serving with the Australian Department of Home Security and his life-long obsession with butterflies.

The discovery of Wyatt's brazen thefts, the subsequent investigation by museum authorities and his almost farcical trial in Britain are covered in detail. Incredibly, Wyatt continued collecting after his trial and believed himself to be the victim of an unforgiving and unreasonable vendetta on the part of the global entomological community (he had been blacklisted by institutions around the globe). He died in 1975 having never acknowledged the seriousness of his crimes.



Scribe PB
\$37.99

ATLANTIC FURIES

Midge Gillies

Historian Midge Gillies specialises in writing books about history's forgotten stories, and readers of *Atlantic Furies* will be enthralled by these tales of Elsie Mackay, Lady Anne Savile, Frances Grayson, Ruth Elder, Amelia Earhart and Mabel Boll, the aviators who battled to become the first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean by plane. With the exception of Earhart, their names are largely unknown today. This is despite the fact that these courageous, rule-breaking and trail-blazing women risked everything to prove that women could fly between continents. Some had lied to their families in order not to be stopped, others duped the press about their intentions. Ultimately, three lost their lives. All conquered the skies, smashed glass ceilings and deserve to be celebrated.

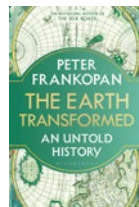


Allen & Unwin HB
WAS \$59.99
NOW \$49.99
\$

THE AUSTRALIAN WARS

Perkins, Gapps, Murray & Reynolds (eds)

A companion volume to the award-winning SBS documentary series of the same name, this book tells the story of the bloody battles fought to establish the nation. Covering the period from 1788 to 1930, it is divided into three parts, each introduced by eminent historian Henry Reynolds. Don Watson's encomium about the book sums up its importance: 'Together with the television series, *The Australian Wars* puts down a marker: no more denial, no more cant. These wars happened and we cannot blink them away. The Australian frontier was a battlefield, and we should recognise this as we recognise those other battlefields in Turkey, France and New Guinea. We should remember the dead, honour the brave. It will give us a firmer basis for thinking clearly about who we are and what to do.'

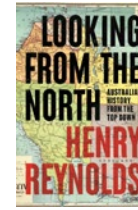


Bloomsbury PB
WAS \$39.99
NOW \$16.99
\$

THE EARTH TRANSFORMED: AN UNTOLD HISTORY

Peter Frankopan

In this magisterial environmental history, *Silk Roads* author Peter Frankopan investigates humanity's harnessing of the natural world and the impact of thousands of years of use and misuse. Stretching from the Big Bang to today's failure to slow global warming, it's a big read that covers a host of topics, with climate and sustainability at its heart. The effects of volcanoes and earthquakes on civilisations are given their due across 4.5 billion years of history, but the focus is on changes wrought by humans, culminating in the past 100 years.



NewSouth PB
\$34.99

LOOKING FROM THE NORTH

Henry Reynolds

In his trademark forthright style, historian Henry Reynolds considers the settlement of northern Australia since the 1861 establishment of Bowen, North Queensland's oldest town. Reynolds examines the differences between the southern and northern colonial experience, and studies the death toll resulting from frontier warfare. Importantly, he ponders whether the bloodshed could have been avoided, and asks questions about Indigenous sovereignty. Today, the north is viewed as either a bridge to South-East Asia or a defence base for future conflict – tellingly, Reynolds notes the continued failure of authorities to consult First Nations people on their preference.



Black Inc HB
\$39.99

THE SHORTEST HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA

Mark McKenna

This engrossing if unsettling book rejects the traditionally linear history of Australia. Rather than overlooking 65,000 years of history by focusing on events from the past 250 years, historian Mark McKenna takes a different approach to discuss the moral quicksand on which modern-day Australia is built, and looks at a range of topics including the frontier wars, Gallipoli and migration. With a view to the future, he ponders how the truth about our history can be told, and how First Nations Australians can find their rightful place following the injustices since 1788 and the failure of the 2023 'Yes' referendum. Ultimately, McKenna asks an important question: what does nationhood mean in Australia today?



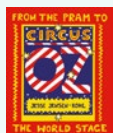
Black Inc HB
\$39.99

THE SHORTEST HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Don Watson

Don Watson's history of the USA moves at quite a pace – and to cram so much history into 260 pages, it needs to. Forgoing exhaustive historical detail, Watson captures the country in snapshot, moving from its brutal beginnings through to the Declaration of Independence, followed by a decade-by-decade account as the nation struggles with themes of religion, freedom, violence, greed, industrialisation, booms and busts. Sharply observed portraits of every serving president and the times in which they governed help push the book towards the chaotic uncertainty the country finds itself in today. Opinionated, dark and slyly humorous, this is a wildly enjoyable historic ride through the American dream.

Highly Recommended



\$59.99

CIRCUS OZ

Jesse Jensen-Kohl
Melbourne Books PB

A history of the iconic Australian performing arts institution that has played a foundational role in the development of contemporary circus around the globe.

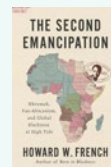


\$51.95

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION: A POLITICAL HISTORY

John Hardman
Yale HB

This history of one of modern Europe's defining moments sheds new light on the complex politics of the day.



\$65.95

THE SECOND EMANCIPATION

Howard W. French
WW Norton HB

By the author of *Born in Blackness*, this book recasts the American civil rights story and demonstrates Africa's pivotal role in shaping world history.



\$39.99

SPARTA

Andrew Bayliss

Profile PB

A fascinating account of the driving force behind the rise – and dramatic fall – of the legendary city-state of Sparta.



\$37.99

CODE OF SILENCE

Diana Thorp
Monash PB

Journalist Diana Thorp profiles a top-secret group of Australian women who played an important role in signals intelligence during WW2.



\$41.95

THE MEDIEVAL MOON

Ayoush Lazikani
Yale HB

Written by a specialist in medieval literature, this beautifully illustrated book reveals how medieval people from multiple cultures felt and wrote about the moon.

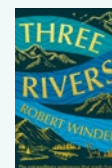


\$45

A SHORT HISTORY OF JAPAN

Christopher Harding
Penguin HB

Tracing Japan's rich history over several millennia, Harding explores how its society and culture have been forged. *December release.*



\$24.99

THREE RIVERS

Robert Winder

Elliott & Thompson PB

How Europe's three great rivers – the Rhine, Rhone and Po – have shaped the landscape and influenced the societies, economies and cultures of Europe.

The Mushroom Tapes

Helen Garner, Chloe Hooper & Sarah Krasnostein



Text PB
WAS \$36.99
NOW \$29.99

Between May and July 2025, Australian writers Helen Garner, Chloe Hooper and Sarah Krasnostein joined the scrum of journalists, podcasters, documentary makers, true-crime obsessives and curious locals drawn to the Latrobe Valley Law Courts in Gippsland, Victoria, for the trial of infamous ‘Mushroom Murderer’, Erin Patterson. Unwilling to commit to authoring solo books about the case, the three friends had decided to collaborate on a podcast, a project that eventually turned into this book.

The Mushroom Tapes takes the form of transcripts of the writers’ case-related conversations, which predominantly took place on the long drives to and from Melbourne and in the bakeries, pubs and motels of Morwell, the town where the trial was held. The three ponder their (and our) collective obsession with cases like this, and try to understand the character of the accused – if guilty, what was Patterson’s motivation? What could prompt somebody to commit such a coldblooded and horrendous crime – does the answer lie in her childhood? They observe people in the courtroom, listen to testimony, discuss the evidence and workshop their responses. The transcripts give a sense of immediacy so palpable that readers are likely to feel like interrupting to exclaim, ‘Yes! I thought that too!’

At one point Garner says, ‘What’s fascinating about crime is that there’s a sort of membrane that separates people like us, ordinary people who don’t murder, from someone who does’. She, more than her two collaborators, feels what she calls a ‘weird empathy’ for Patterson: ‘It’s not that I’m bighearted or anything, it’s just that I have the awful feeling – that could be me’. The three wonder about whether Patterson is being tarred with the brush of the archetype of the woman as monster – vengeful Medeas, sly poisoners, evil witches. But then they pause: perhaps they are looking for ‘baroque’ motivations when the answer is more prosaic, albeit elusive? They’re in what Garner describes as ‘a choking fog of not being able to understand why she did it’.

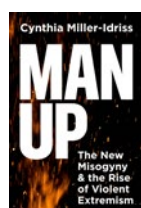
Garner and Hooper have both written acclaimed books based on true crimes, and there are interesting passages here when they and Krasnostein discuss the attraction of true-crime books, podcasts and documentary series. Do these accounts desensitise us to murder? Are they, by writing about the trial, positioning themselves as characters in Erin’s story, giving it oxygen? And if so, what is it that makes them want to do this?

The emotionally grinding progress of a major criminal trial is clearly communicated – all three are exhausted by the point at which the jury delivers its verdict. They’ve also found aspects of the trial repellent; Krasnostein laments the ‘gleeful, ogling schadenfreude’ of some observers in the courtroom. By the end of the book, at the time of the sentencing, they feel an ‘appalled sorrow’, a feeling that readers are likely to share.



Scribe PB
WAS \$36.99
NOW \$29.99

Subtitled ‘the election that shook Australia’, this book about the 2025 federal election includes commentary that was first published as newspaper columns in the *Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald*, but also contains new content offering behind-the-scenes analysis of the long lead-up to 3 May 2025 and what happened after the extraordinary election result came in. Savva is one of Australia’s most respected political journalists and *Earthquake* owes much to the rare access she has to important players. She provides a riveting account of an election that took the Liberal Party to the brink of extinction. *December release.*



Princeton PB
\$36.99

Their victims may be indiscriminate, but the actions of mass shooters, terrorists and violent extremists are almost always grounded in a virulent strand of misogyny that translates into the hatred of women, trans people and queer communities. Such is the thesis of Cynthia Miller-Idriss, a leading international expert on extremism. Journeying from North America to Norway to New Zealand, Miller-Idriss outlines the patriarchal backlash that is driving the world’s latest spate of violence, and elucidates key strategies to counter pernicious manifestations of misogyny in our everyday lives. Underpinned by thorough research drawing on case studies, extensive data and anecdotal experiences, *Man Up* is a fundamental resource for everyone, but particularly the parents, teachers and policymakers who are shaping the next generation of men.



Princeton HB
\$19.99

This anniversary edition of the bestselling book by the late moral philosopher Harry Frankfurt, which was first published in 2005, is essential reading in our post-truth times. One of the most prominent features of our world is that there is so much bullshit. Yet we have no clear understanding of what bullshit is, how it’s different from lying, what purposes it serves, and what it means. Frankfurt argued that bullshitters misrepresent themselves to their audience not as liars do – that is, by deliberately making false claims about what’s true. Rather, bullshitters seek to convey a certain impression of themselves without being concerned about whether anything at all is true. They quietly change the rules governing the conversation so that claims about truth and falsity are irrelevant. Sound familiar?

EARTHQUAKE

Niki Savva

Subtitled ‘the election that shook Australia’, this book about the 2025 federal election includes commentary that was first published as newspaper columns in the *Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald*, but also contains new content offering behind-the-scenes analysis of the long lead-up to 3 May 2025 and what happened after the extraordinary election result came in. Savva is one of Australia’s most respected political journalists and *Earthquake* owes much to the rare access she has to important players. She provides a riveting account of an election that took the Liberal Party to the brink of extinction. *December release.*

MAN UP

Cynthia Miller-Idriss

Their victims may be indiscriminate, but the actions of mass shooters, terrorists and violent extremists are almost always grounded in a virulent strand of misogyny that translates into the hatred of women, trans people and queer communities. Such is the thesis of Cynthia Miller-Idriss, a leading international expert on extremism. Journeying from North America to Norway to New Zealand, Miller-Idriss outlines the patriarchal backlash that is driving the world’s latest spate of violence, and elucidates key strategies to counter pernicious manifestations of misogyny in our everyday lives. Underpinned by thorough research drawing on case studies, extensive data and anecdotal experiences, *Man Up* is a fundamental resource for everyone, but particularly the parents, teachers and policymakers who are shaping the next generation of men.

ON BULLSHIT

Harry G Frankfurt

This anniversary edition of the bestselling book by the late moral philosopher Harry Frankfurt, which was first published in 2005, is essential reading in our post-truth times. One of the most prominent features of our world is that there is so much bullshit. Yet we have no clear understanding of what bullshit is, how it’s different from lying, what purposes it serves, and what it means. Frankfurt argued that bullshitters misrepresent themselves to their audience not as liars do – that is, by deliberately making false claims about what’s true. Rather, bullshitters seek to convey a certain impression of themselves without being concerned about whether anything at all is true. They quietly change the rules governing the conversation so that claims about truth and falsity are irrelevant. Sound familiar?



Penguin PB
\$36.99

Written by a policy adviser who has worked in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Australian Human Rights Commission and the United Nations Secretariat, *The Right Hand* features conversations with chiefs of staff who have worked alongside world leaders including Jacinda Ardern, Kamala Harris, John Howard, Nelson Mandela, Tony Blair and Julia Gillard. As well as offering fascinating insights into leadership, loyalty, power and pressure, these behind-the-scenes operators share unexpected and engaging anecdotes, including receiving the call that Princess Diana had died and helping Blair navigate a grieving country; being shown the projected death tolls for the first time in the COVID briefing room; and guiding Kamala Harris through the devastating loss to Trump in 2024.



Text PB
\$36.99

Yunkaporta and Kelleher take us on a globetrotting journey in search of the ancient symbol of the serpent and its mythological meaning in different cultural traditions. Could it be that the serpent, which is often portrayed as creator and destroyer, might hold the key to understanding and resolving contemporary global crises? Travelling from Kathmandu to Europe and beyond, Yunkaporta and Kelleher explore serpent stories that have shaped cultures for millennia, while also highlighting contemporary crises such as environmental degradation and authoritarianism. The authors’ conversational style and insightful commentary make *Snake Talk* an original and compelling read.



MUP PB
\$29.99

Australian professor of international and political studies Clinton Fernandes asserts that behind the apparent chaos of American foreign policy, a deliberate geopolitical power grab over China is at work, one that simultaneously weakens Europe’s resolve for independence. In this ever-changing geopolitical climate, Australia is attempting to navigate a treacherous path, aligning itself with a US-led West while avoiding the lure of the lucrative Chinese economy. If you’re trying to get to the bottom of Australia’s complex diplomatic position in a rapidly shifting world, *Turbulence* offers a thought-provoking perspective, urging its readers to look beyond the rhetoric to understand the deeper geopolitical implications.

THE RIGHT HAND

Phoebe Saintilan-Stocks

Written by a policy adviser who has worked in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Australian Human Rights Commission and the United Nations Secretariat, *The Right Hand* features conversations with chiefs of staff who have worked alongside world leaders including Jacinda Ardern, Kamala Harris, John Howard, Nelson Mandela, Tony Blair and Julia Gillard. As well as offering fascinating insights into leadership, loyalty, power and pressure, these behind-the-scenes operators share unexpected and engaging anecdotes, including receiving the call that Princess Diana had died and helping Blair navigate a grieving country; being shown the projected death tolls for the first time in the COVID briefing room; and guiding Kamala Harris through the devastating loss to Trump in 2024.

SNAKE TALK

Tyson Yunkaporta & Megan Kelleher

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TURBULENCE

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Highly Recommended

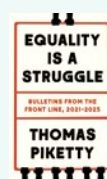


\$35

BEST AUSTRALIAN POLITICAL CARTOONS 2025

Russ Radcliffe (ed)
Scribe PB

This popular annual anthology profiles the year in politics as observed by Australia’s funniest and most perceptive political cartoonists.

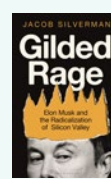


\$39.95

EQUALITY IS A STRUGGLE

Thomas Piketty
Yale HB

Piketty’s new book considers the aftershocks of a global pandemic; politics shifting rightward in Europe and America; wars breaking out and escalating; and more.



\$34.99

GILDED RAGE

Jacob Silverman

Continuum PB

The story of the radicalisation of Silicon Valley by figures such as Elon Musk and Peter Thiel, and how it will affect the future of all our lives.



\$29.99

THE BOOK OF MEMORY

Mark Rowlands

Granta HB

A mesmerising journey into how memories are made, lost and remembered, with important consequences for how we understand ourselves.



\$19.99

FIGHT OLIGARCHY

Bernie Sanders

Penguin PB

One of the world’s best-known progressive voices delivers an urgent and compelling manifesto to defeat authoritarianism.



WAS \$34.99
NOW \$12.99

THE GREAT WAVE

Michiko Kakutani

HarperCollins PB

An examination of the great wave of change breaking over today’s world, one that has capsize our old certainties and assumptions, creating both opportunity and danger.



\$29.99

A HISTORIAN IN GAZA

Jean-Pierre Filiu

Scribe PB

An acclaimed historian gives an account of spending a month in Gaza in November 2024 undertaking humanitarian work. *December release.*



\$29.99

QE100: THE GOOD FIGHT: WHAT DOES LABOR STAND FOR?

Sean Kelly

Quarterly Essay PB

Kelly argues that Labor has cast itself as a version of what the conservatives once were: proud defenders of the status quo.

(Be)wilder: Journeys in Nature Darryl Jones



NewSouth PB
\$32.99

Brisbane-based ecologist Darryl Jones travels from Germany to Antarctica, from Borneo to Iowa. In each place he meets and tells the story of humans interacting with the life-forms around them: ptarmigans, elephants, pigs and one lonely kestrel. He meets tour guides, conservationists, Indigenous landowners, scientists and backyard bird feeders. Their stories are told with an understanding of the impacts of climate change and an industrialising society that disrupts and destroys ancient ecological relationships. At the same time, the stories and the interactions they investigate contain joy, transformation, and a wonderful unravelling of complex scientific and cultural understandings of nature – something we humans are an inextricable part of. Fascinating and readable, Jones' book asks how we might be wilder (even as nature makes us feel bewildered)



We asked Darryl Jones a few questions about *(Be)wilder*:

This book is written as a collection of interactions, and each chapter is its own story. Tell us about the process of selecting which stories to include.

Were there some that didn't make the cut? Over my career I've collected so many stories and my interactions with wildlife have given me great insight into how we need to engage with our fellow creatures. I've watched birds of paradise dancing in New Guinea, swum with huge crocodiles in the Nile and had my field camp cased by innocent-looking proboscis monkeys in Malaysia. I would

have included them all if I could. But in the end I had to pick those stories that I thought would be most engaging for readers and would illustrate the key messages in the book.

Your previous works, such as Feeding the Birds at Your Table and Curlews on Vulture Street, have had some wonderful responses. What has it been like to have this feedback and what impacts have you seen from those publications?

The response has been extraordinary! One can never be sure how your work will be received, so to know that people are keen to know more is gratifying. My mission is to encourage people to connect with nature in whatever ways they can and I think the reception means that plenty of ordinary people feel the same.

One of the things that arises from these stories is uncertainty and how much we don't know about ecology. Why do you think it's important for us to have that perspective?

We simply must embrace the fact that nature is incredibly interconnected and complex, so much so that uncertainty is inevitable. I think it helps us to be humble, curious and appreciative.

What conversations do you hope this book will spark amongst readers, and for us as a society?

That we are undeniably part of nature, not above or better, and that we need to realise that as soon as possible.



4th Estate PB
\$37.99

THE BREATH OF THE GODS Simon Winchester

British-American author and journalist Simon Winchester has won himself a dedicated fan base through his bestselling narrative histories. This latest offering once more displays Winchester's adventurous spirit and insatiable curiosity as he presents a history of wind, demonstrating its vital importance in our human world. Defined as 'air in motion', this invisible force has powered our machines, inspired religious fervour, caused mass destruction, assisted in the survival of certain species, and much more. Winchester writes evocatively as he skilfully moves between subjects to create a masterful mosaic portrait. Driven by the question of our changing atmosphere and how this is impacting winds around the world, *The Breath of the Gods* is set to educate and entertain readers.



Phaidon HB
WAS \$89.95
NOW \$74.99



THE CONTEMPORARY GARDEN

Weaving its way back to the 1980s, *The Contemporary Garden* takes a sweeping and inspirational look at the movements that have shaped contemporary garden design and planting over the last few decades. From the New Perennial movement of Piet Oudolf and Dan Pearson to the reclamation of industrial spaces such as New York's High Line, the book highlights over 300 gardens from more than 40 countries. Organised alphabetically by designer, each listing features a detailed and informative overview accompanied by a large-scale photograph. While the influence of the naturalistic approach in gardening in both private and public spaces features heavily, arid and water-wise gardens, architectural structures and minimalist landscapes are also showcased.



NLA HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$16.99



ICE BOUND: THE AUSTRALIAN STORY OF ANTARCTICA

Joy McCann

Written by a historian specialising in environmental and cultural history, *Ice Bound* is a comprehensive account of Australians in Antarctica, from the very first imaginings of what may lie to the south, to the inspiring early expeditions onto the unknown continent, through to the remarkable and valuable scientific work that is being undertaken today. Generously illustrated with both contemporary imagery and historical photos from the early expeditions, this book is sure to leave readers feeling awe for this spectacular continent.



Murdoch HB
WAS \$45
NOW \$39.99



THE PLANT BOOK

Tammy Huynh

There is nothing more tragic than a struggling and unresponsive indoor plant. Fortunately, horticulturist and Gardening Australia presenter Tammy Huynh's *Plant Book* offers a go-to resource that'll help keep your indoor plants looking as good as the day you picked them up from the garden centre. A little knowledge goes a long way, and Huynh provides a useful mix of essential care and problem-solving tips on how to ensure that your plants will thrive, along with plenty of background info on the different species to green your home. Usual suspects like the ficus fig, mother-in-law's tongue and monstera are only three of the 50 house plants highlighted in this practical reference book, which will appeal to both newbies and seasoned house-plant lovers.



CSIRO PB
\$29.99

THE WEED FORAGER'S HANDBOOK: 2ND EDITION

Adam Grubb & Annie Raser-Rowland

Written by landscape designer Adam Grubb and horticulturalist Annie Raser-Rowland, this is a terrific field guide to foraging edible and medicinal weeds readily found in Australia. While the preliminary warning not to eat what you can't identify (highlighting a few poisonous species) and a brief outline on the potential for contamination might seem a tad concerning, once you get going, the book reveals itself as a celebration and appreciation of weeds and their place in our ever-changing landscape. Organised in a simple A-Z format, each listing covers all the need-to-know background info and medicinal and edible properties, accompanied by useful illustrations and photographs for identification. A weedy recipe section is a great help in how to put your haul of onion weed and thistles to good culinary and nutritional use.

Highly Recommended

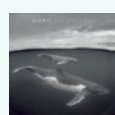


\$32.99

THE BEST AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE WRITING 2025

Zoe Kean & Tegan Taylor (eds)
NewSouth PB

The 15th edition of this popular anthology showcases riveting, entertaining, poignant and fascinating stories from Australian writers, poets and scientists.



\$49.99

GIANTS

Jem Cresswell
NewSouth PB

A collection of extraordinary photographs of humpback whales shot over a five-year period by photographer and filmmaker, Jem Cresswell.



\$32.99

BRAVE NEW WILD

Richard King
Monash PB

Subtitled 'Can Technology Really Save the Planet?', this book interrogates the notion that geoengineering, nanotech and AI can solve our environmental crisis.



\$34.99

LIARS, CHEATS AND COPYCATS

James O'Hanlon
NewSouth PB

Travelling from tropical rainforests to deep ocean trenches, science writer James O'Hanlon explores how animals and plants use deception to avoid predators, lure in prey and even reproduce.



\$36.99

NATURE'S LAST DANCE

Natalie Kyriacou
Affirm PB

Set against the backdrop of a rapidly unfolding mass extinction event, this book reveals a hidden world of survival and wonder.

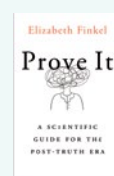


\$35

THE PENGUIN BOOK OF PENGUINS

Peter Fretwell & Lisa Fretwell
Viking HB

A celebration of the creatures that author Peter Fretwell, a scientist with the British Antarctic Survey, says 'have charm, charisma and a star quality beyond all other birds'.



\$36.99

PROVE IT

Elizabeth Finkel
La Trobe PB

Scientist and journalist Elizabeth Finkel delivers what she calls 'A Scientific Guide for the Post-Truth Era', one in which theories are too often fuelled by opinion rather than data.



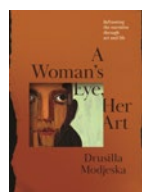
\$45

QUANTUM 2.0

Paul Davies
Penguin HB

The story of how the theory of quantum mechanics was developed, and an investigation of the new wonderland of quantum physics. *December release.*

A Woman's Eye, Her Art Drusilla Modjeska



Penguin HB
WAS \$55
NOW \$49.99
\$

This compelling re-examination of European modernist women artists blends biography, art criticism and cultural commentary with authoritative finesse. Australian writer Drusilla Modjeska brings to life the art and experiences of trailblazing women whose resilience behind the canvas and camera is as enduring as the legacies they left behind. She traverses the struggles and triumphs of Paula Modersohn-Becker, the Surrealist spirit of Claude Cahun, the fearless lens of Lee Miller, and the pleasures and dangers of Dora Maar's experimental photomontages – poignantly refusing to separate the personal from the political. Whether you're familiar with these artists or encountering them for the first time, Modjeska's reframing of their significance invites you to appreciate them fully, fiercely and in their own right.



We asked Drusilla Modjeska a few questions about *A Woman's Eye, Her Art*:

Were there particular writers, art historians or theorists who influenced your approach to writing this book?

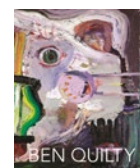
Many influences, in many ways. It is central to the book that the women working in the first half of the 20th century were working before Simone de Beauvoir's *The Second Sex* (1949), and yet were finding a visual language to express the core of her argument. So de Beauvoir, and also Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*, written in 1929, are central to the unfolding narrative as artist-women pushed back against social expectation. The contemporary writers and art historians who have been bringing artist-women back into view have also been there as I have read, researched and

looked: Linda Nochlin, Lucy Lippard, Rosalind Kraus, Griselda Pollock, Katy Hessel, Lauren Elkin (among others). As have the work of historians and writers, past and contemporary, who help us understand – and learn from – the context in which these women were working: the dangerous, polarised world that encompassed two world wars.

Did visiting particular people or places give you unexpected insights into the artists' lives or work?

Absolutely. I could not have written of these women if I had not walked the streets they walked, seen the studios where they worked, and the foundations and galleries that hold their archives. To see the quality of light, to understand the landscape, to walk the streets of Montparnasse, to see the handwriting in their diaries and letters, and the sketches they made in preparation for the works that are now widely shown and discussed.

If you could spend a day in the studio with any one of the women discussed in A Woman's Eye, who would it be and why? I spent time in the studios of Chantal Joffe and Julie Rrap, the contemporary artists who are so important to this book – wonderful experiences, not least for understanding the process of their work, the complexities that come with the making of art [but also for] the unfolding conversations. If I were to time travel back to spend time with the women of before, I'd be first through the door to Paula Modersohn-Becker's studio, and I'd be there, a herald of the future, when her studio was opened after her death (at the young age of 31) and her husband and close friends saw works that even they had not known of. As to the rest, how could I resist an evening in one of the bars of Montparnasse in, say, 1929, with the Surrealist women, so young and so radical, as they spoke and argued and stretched into a future that would require such courage from them.



Lantern HB
WAS \$120
NOW \$49.99
\$

BEN QUILTY

Ben Quilty

A deep dive into the many textures that shape Ben Quilty's life, politics and art, this richly illustrated volume offers a compelling retrospective of one of Australia's best-known contemporary artists. Spanning more than two decades of practice, it highlights his versatility across media while foregrounding his fearless engagement with political issues. Featuring a foreword by Richard Flanagan and essays by Lisa Slade, Vincent Namatjira, Frank Young and Justin Paton, the book layers incisive interpretation with striking imagery, providing a multifaceted view of Quilty's practice. Together, these voices illuminate the ways his work both reflects and challenges the world around him.



Frances
Lincoln HB
\$75

DAVID LYNCH: HIS WORK, HIS WORLD

Tom Huddleston

Author, journalist and David Lynch super-fan Tom Huddleston has compiled a thorough and well-rounded analysis of the collected cinematic work of the late auteur. Huddleston weaves together a fascinating portrait of the artist and his films, covering Lynch's earliest experimental short films to breakthrough cult classic *Eraserhead* and his subsequent oeuvre including *Blue Velvet* and *Lost Highway*. Richly illustrated with images from a body of work spanning over 50 years, this book offers plenty of insights, behind-the-scenes stories and quotes from the man himself. Lynch was a filmmaker and artist who famously never liked to analyse or discuss his own work, so Huddleston's fascinating dive into the Lynchian world will play an important role in the documentation and analysis of his artistic contribution.



NGA HB
\$69.95

AFTER THE RAIN

Tony Albert & Sally Brand (eds)

Since its inauguration in 2007, the First Nations-led National Indigenous Art Triennale at the National Gallery of Australia (NGA) has provided an important showcase of contemporary First Nations artistic practice. The 5th Triennale, which opens at the NGA in December 2025, was curated by artistic director Tony Albert and features 10 immersive artist installations newly co-commissioned by Albert and the gallery. This publication catalogues the creative processes of the commissioned artists from their studios and art centres, reaching from Erub, the most north-eastern island in Zenadh Kes/Torres Strait, to Ntaria/Hermannsburg in Central Australia and to suburban Meeanjin/Brisbane and inner-city Narrm/Naarm/Melbourne. Alongside artist profiles, the publication includes commissioned essays addressing legacies, identities and climate change by contributing First Nations writers Bruce Johnson McLean, Jilda Andrews, Daniel Browning and Yessie Mosby. *December release.*

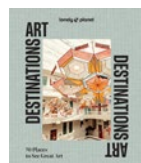


Quadrille HB
\$65

THE ARCHITECT'S HOUSE

Stephen Crafti

An architect generally works to a client's brief when designing a new home or renovating an existing dwelling. However, the opportunity for an architect or a designer to create their own home is the number-one entry on every architect's wishlist. Here, architecture writer Stephen Crafti profiles 20 houses around the world that have been designed by their architect owners. Properties are diverse – everything from city apartments and terrace house extensions to large detached homes surrounded by native forest.



Lonely Planet
HB
WAS \$65
NOW \$49.99
\$

ART DESTINATIONS

Celebrating 70 cities around the world that have vibrant art scenes, major museums and eye-catching monuments and buildings, this lavishly illustrated book is sure to engage the armchair traveller as well as provide inspiration for those readers planning future trips. Some of the destinations are unsurprising (New York, Istanbul, Tokyo, London, Venice) but others (Harar, Lima, Yerevan, Winnipeg) are perhaps more unexpected. Scattered amongst the city listings are a few outliers – art islands in Japan, a sprawling open-air art gallery in Brazil, Monet's garden at Giverny, silo art in the Australian outback – as well as a clutch of notable art regions including Provence and Cornwall.



Thames &
Hudson HB
WAS \$90
NOW \$74.99
\$

THE ART OF KAYLENE WHISKEY

Natalie King & Iwantja Arts (eds)

Kaylene Whiskey invites you on a joy-filled journey into the vibrant world of Indulkana, where love, humour and community shine. Her dot-painted icons – Dolly, Tina, Cher, Wonder Woman – dance among mingkulpa, honey ants and Coca-Cola with comic-book flair that is both playful and powerful. Edited by Natalie King with a lyrical foreword by Taika Waititi, *The Art of Kaylene Whiskey* combines dazzling visuals, heartfelt reflections and a striking lenticular cover into a celebration of Whiskey's world. Blending Anangu culture with global pop references, Whiskey creates bold, celebratory scenes that champion strong women and everyday joy. This book is a vibrant tribute to Country, creativity and connection where tradition meets pop in a uniquely Australian visual anthem of love, strength, unapologetic fun and a whole lot of bright pink.

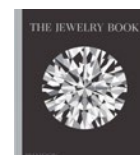


Thames &
Hudson HB
WAS \$79.99
NOW \$64.99
\$

EXPOSURE

Amber Creswell Bell

This is a compendium you'll want to focus on. Framing the work of 40 contemporary photographic talents across Australia and New Zealand, *Exposure* offers a clear snapshot of the region's current creative pulse. From the ethereal to the provocative, the book is rich with visual depth and thoughtful commentary on a medium that, while relatively young, has become a powerful tool for artistic expression. From Tamara Dean's dreamlike landscapes to Bill Henson's dark vistas and Naomi Hobson's playful portraits, each page contributes myriad but distinct visions of place, identity and experience through a camera lens. The artist profiles are brimming with thoughtful reflections on process and purpose, revealing the challenge of capturing moments that might otherwise slip away and the joy of visual storytelling.



Phaidon HB
WAS \$120
NOW \$99.99
\$

THE JEWELRY BOOK

Melanie Grant (ed)

Jewelry, this book's editor argues, 'is currency, art, and history'. To back this assertion, Melanie Grant assembled a panel of international experts to curate a final list of the book's subjects – 300 stunning examples of antique, vintage and contemporary jewelry. These pieces, all featured in large-format colour photographs, are drawn from the collections of houses such as Boucheron, Bulgari, Chopard, Van Cleef & Arpels, Cartier and Harry Winston, as well as from the personal collections of queens, socialites, heiresses, singers and movie stars. The book features a huge range of covetable pieces by notable contemporary jewelers, but many readers will find that it's the pages featuring archival photographs of jewel-adorned notable figures of the past that draw the eye.



Phaidon HB
\$79.95

MAKING SPACE: INTERIOR DESIGN BY WOMEN

Jane Hall

In her latest book, British designer Jane Hall, the author of *Breaking Ground: Architecture by Women* (2019) and *Woman Made: Great Women Designers* (2021), turns her attention to significant interiors designed by women. *Making Space* profiles the work of pioneers such as Gae Aulenti, Sibyl Colefax and Elsie de Wolfe alongside interiors created by contemporary movers and shakers. Some of the latter have made their names as influencers, others have gained profiles through streaming series such as Netflix's *Abstract: The Art of Design*. Exploring the ways in which these women have shaped the built environment beyond the confines of the home, Hall proves them true tastemakers of the 20th and 21st centuries.



Thames & Hudson HB
WAS \$85
NOW \$69.99



SLOW LOOKING: THE ART OF NATURE

Olivia Meehan

With this book, author Olivia Meehan offers an invitation to pause, reflect and rediscover the natural world through the attentive gaze of art across centuries. Meehan curates a serene visual journey, weaving drawings, paintings, textiles and objects from diverse cultures with thoughtful meditations on the inspiration nature provides. Organised into sections devoted to land, water and sky, *Slow Looking* creates striking visual dialogues: a Georgia O'Keeffe shell mirrors an ancient fossil, Van Gogh's olive trees echo timeless carvings and Albert Namatjira's luminous rivers resonate with Dutch Renaissance landscapes. These pairings remind us that artists, across time and place, share a profound curiosity about the natural world.



Hutchinson Heinemann HB
WAS \$55
NOW \$24.99



THE STORY OF ART WITHOUT MEN

Katy Hessel

'I'll show you what a woman can do,' declared artist Artemisia Gentileschi in 1649, and Katy Hessel's *The Story of Art Without Men* more than proves her right. Sparked by a 2015 visit to an art fair where she was shocked to find no works by women on display, Hessel sets out to rewrite the canon and amplify voices long ignored. Her book spans the Renaissance to the present, mapping a timely, global history of women in art. She celebrates famous figures like Gentileschi and Louise Bourgeois, while also championing overlooked trailblazers such as Samella Lewis and spotlighting new talents like Flora Yukhnovich. With clarity and passion, Hessel crafts a redressed narrative that restores balance to art history and redefines its future.



Smith Street HB
WAS \$59.99
NOW \$19.99



NEVER TOO SMALL: VOLUME 2

Colin Chee, Joel Beath & Camilla Janse van Vuuren

In built-up urban areas, the trend towards smaller, more eco-friendly homes may be key to improving high-density living. Small can be beautiful, and in this book the authors explore a wide range of architectural and design solutions that transform and maximise the small footprint of existing spaces or new builds into homes that reflect modern living standards. Six sections outline the different approaches taken in 30 case studies drawn from around the globe. Whether it be a sustainable, experimental or family-friendly challenge, *Never Too Small* explores a kaleidoscopic range of design and architectural alternatives to fit each owner's individual needs. Before and after plans and accompanying photographs of each project will allow readers to dream big about their small spaces.



NGV HB
\$69.95

THE STARS WE DO NOT SEE: AUSTRALIAN INDIGENOUS ART

Myles Russell-Cook et al (eds)

Featuring over 20 leading writers, artists and critics, *The Stars We Do Not See* showcases major works from the National Gallery of Victoria's internationally recognised collection of First Nations art. The publication highlights the extraordinary breadth of practice, spanning customary forms such as ochre bark paintings, dot painting and experimental weaving, alongside contemporary works in neon, sound, video and photography. Opening with an essay by curator Myles Russell-Cook, the book explores how connections across communities can be celebrated, while also foregrounding artists whose practices critically challenge, enrich and extend traditions into new and evolving contexts.



Thames & Hudson HB
WAS \$69.99
NOW \$54.99



TEXTILES X ART

Ramona Barry & Beck Jobson

This volume weaves together craft and contemporary creativity, delivering a detailed survey of 44 artists from across the globe who are transforming traditional techniques into radical new expressions. From embroidery to quilting, each way of working with textiles is sewn together by curators Ramona Barry and Beck Jobson to tell a vibrant story about the unique position textiles now hold, poised between domestic traditions and exciting innovations, craft and contemporary art, and personal and political motivations. Highlights range from Hannah Gartside's kinetic installations made from deadstock fabrics to Jen P Harris' kaleidoscopic abstractions that merge digital and painterly techniques. *Textiles X Art* is essential reading for anyone eager to immerse themselves in the transformative art of textiles or who is seeking fresh inspiration for their own creative practice.



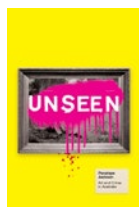
Thames & Hudson HB
WAS \$79.99
NOW \$24.99



PAINTING THE ANCIENT LAND OF AUSTRALIA

Philip Hughes

This is a celebration of an artist's connection to our continent's most remote and geologically profound landscapes. Philip Hughes' distinctive style is informed by maps and aerial photography, and in his work the rugged, ancient rock formations and deserts are transformed into vibrant, semi-abstract canvases with a graphic, otherworldly style. Works capturing the immense scale and extraordinariness of the Australian interior are accompanied by text from the artist providing valuable insights into his approach and deep connection to the land. While this volume will primarily appeal to lovers of Hughes' work, anyone with a fascination for Australia's extraordinary natural history will find it captivating. Beautifully compiled, this comprehensive collection features excellent large-scale reproductions of Hughes' paintings and sketches.



Monash PB
\$39.99

Unseen: Art and Crime in Australia

Penelope Jackson

This fascinating book takes a deep dive into the underbelly of the Australian art world, deftly illustrating the ways in which criminal activity has been embedded within our public artistic life since European contact was made. Art historian Penelope Jackson examines thefts, fakes and forgeries, acts of vandalism and more, covering cases that attracted media attention when they occurred and are remembered, as well as those that have been lost to history until now. Her exploration is driven by questions about motivation and the public imagination, and by the reality of these crimes for the victims – whether these be the artist, the collector, or the artwork itself. Jackson brings her experience as a historian, gallery director and curator to *Unseen*, and delivers a lively and riveting read. *December release.*

This extract from *Unseen* (p70) discusses Albert Namatjira's *Areyonga Paddock, James Range*:

Each recovery and return of an artwork is loaded with mixed feelings. They run the gamut of relief of being reunited with an artwork and anger towards those who stole, and in some cases, damaged it. The case of the return of the watercolour *Areyonga Paddock, James Range* is perhaps one of the most emotive examples of a recovery. In December 1956, on his way home from having William Dargie paint his portrait for his Archibald Prize entry, Albert Namatjira (1902–59) visited the Cootamundra Domestic Training Home for Aboriginal Girls. He was very moved by seeing girls who had been forcibly taken from their families

and communities to train for domestic service. Namatjira painted a watercolour of his Country for them, *Areyonga Paddock, James Range* (1957), gifting it to the girls as a reminder of his visit. The painting was always fondly referred to as 'Albert'. It is a classic Namatjira, with a statuesque bleached-white gum tree in the foreground set against the vast valley looking out towards the blue hills of the James Range. The painting hung in the girls' dormitory, where it could be seen by all, every day. When the home closed in 1969, *Areyonga Paddock, James Range* disappeared. However, the painting was never forgotten and in 1994, it was located at the Department of Community Services, Sydney. Former resident Lola Edwards recovered the painting and on 26 May 1998, the inaugural National Sorry Day, the

painting was officially handed back to the Girls (as they refer to themselves). After several years and much discussion, the decision was made for 'Albert' to be handed over to the National Museum of Australia.

In 2009, the museum took over the guardianship of this much-loved painting. As Edwards noted at the time, 'the painting was the only tangible thing they had of their childhood.' There's one thing that still hurts the former residents, and that's the missing plaque; attached to the frame at the time of gifting, it noted that it was presented to the girls of Cootamundra in 1957. Significantly, the plaque identified who owned it. When *Areyonga Paddock, James Range* was recovered in 1994, the plaque had been removed.



Murdoch HB
WAS \$45
NOW \$19.99



THE PLANT SOCIETY DESIGN HANDBOOK

Jason Chongue

An essential guide for anyone looking to bring a little (or a lot) of green into or around the home, *The Plant Design Handbook* takes a practical and design-led approach to help achieve great results. Author Jason Chongue, a trained architect, combines his knowledge of horticulture and interior design, showcasing plants as something not just to plonk on the window sill, but to incorporate as an integral design element in curating the home. With a listing of over 80 of his favourite plants, and advice and tips on everything from choosing the right pot to understanding light, he delivers an easy-to-follow, generously illustrated and inspirational guide that is sure to assist in creating living and thriving green environments.



Smith Street
HB
\$65

BON APP!
Isabelle Dunn

Here, the creator of the popular @tastyfeedsdaily Instagram feed shares around 100 easy-to-make recipes that will bring the flavours of Paris, Provence and other French territories to your table. Divided into 13 sections covering everything from retro classics to boozy desserts, *Bon App!* will have you whipping up crêpes, rillettes, tarts, gratins, quiches and brûlées with aplomb. The level of difficulty ranges from simple (vinaigrette, crème caramel, chocolate mousse, Paris mash) to advanced (cheese soufflés, country pâté, strawberry charlotte). Recipes are accompanied by alluring food photographs.



Apollo HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$16.99

THE DINNER TABLE
Ella Risbridger & Kate Young (eds)

This book's editors have invited 100-plus writers to attend a fantasy dinner party where conversations ripple across topics as varied as the offerings in a smorgasbord. You'll find plenty of familiar foodies attending – Madhur Jaffrey discusses raita, Claudia Roden traces family traditions, Elizabeth David writes about food fashions and MFK Fisher looks at peas. Each excerpt is prefaced by background information on the author and a contextualising note on the selected work.



Murdoch HB
WAS \$59.99
NOW \$16.99

THE FRENCH BAKER
Jean Michel Raynaud

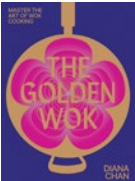
Sometimes a cookbook is like a travel book, making you want to hop on the first flight to the destination. *The French Baker* is such a book. Beautifully compiled by an experienced Sydney-based *pâtissier* and featuring a dizzying array of delectable sweet and savoury recipes, the book is also a celebration of French baking traditions. Of course, no one said it's going to be easy, but Raynaud does a fine job of guiding the reader through the techniques required and there are plenty of tips, hints and photographic step-by-step instructions to help you along the way.



Pavilion HB
WAS \$45
NOW \$16.99

GENNARO'S VERDURE
Gennaro Contaldo

Verdure (vegetables) have always been key to Italy's *cucina povera* – the culinary tradition of making the most of what's to hand – and here one of Britain's favourite Italian chefs transforms veggies into superheroes. Each vegetable hero is accompanied by insightful notes on its history, growing conditions, varieties and, most importantly, tips on selecting, preparing and cooking. The inspiring recipes span the menu from soups and tarts to fritters, bakes, pastas and salads. Most dishes are vegetarian, and where meat or fish does make an appearance, it can easily be omitted.

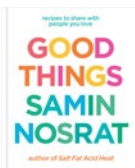


Hardie Grant
HB
WAS \$50
NOW \$16.99

THE GOLDEN WOK
Diana Chan

In Asia, cooking with a wok is a way of life. And in recent decades, it's become a way of life in Australia, too. In *The Golden Wok*, Diana Chan demonstrates the utensil's wonderful versatility, offering recipes for dishes that are stir-fried, shallow-fried, deep-fried, steamed, boiled and braised. The book opens with handy tips about purchasing, seasoning and cleaning woks, and subsequent sections cover sauces and sambals; snacks; noodles and rice; meat and poultry; seafood; and vegetables. The book focuses on classics – *char kuey teow*, *hokkien mee*, *kung pao* chicken, chilli crab, *nasi goreng*, five-spiced salt and pepper tofu all feature – and each recipe is accompanied by a full-page photograph.

7. Who thought she might make an excellent nun?



Ebury HB
WAS \$65
NOW \$54.99

GOOD THINGS
Samin Nosrat

The first recipe collection by Samin Nosrat, author of the James Beard Award-winning *Salt Fat Acid Heat* (also a Netflix series), has been eagerly anticipated. Fortunately, *Good Things* doesn't disappoint. Focusing on home cooking, Nosrat shares what she describes as her 'most useful and beloved everyday recipes'. The first chapter is devoted to 'Rules of Thumb', including descriptions of essential ingredients and invaluable information: Did you know that olive oil should only be used up to 18 months after being produced? That the smaller the garlic clove, the more intense its flavour? That using a pressure cooker will improve the flavour of your chicken stock? Other chapters focus on dressings, store-cupboard staples, seasonally driven dishes and sweets.



Smith Street
HB
\$49.99

THE JAPANESE ART OF PICKING & FERMENTING
Yoko Nakazawa

With travel to Japan at an all-time-high, it seems that Australia is currently in the grip of a craze for all things Japanese. It's a perfect time, then, for the release of this book. *Tsukemono* (Japanese pickles) are both a traditional and essential accompaniment to most meals, and Yoko Nakazawa's beautifully photographed and illustrated guide to pickling and fermenting techniques is a must-have for both newbies and those already smitten by the subtle burst of flavour that these condiments can offer. Not all pickles are made equal, and while some can be prepared in a few hours, others can take days or months depending on the technique. The author's clear and simple instructions are balanced with an engaging tone in this celebration of a great cultural and culinary tradition.



Smith Street
HB
WAS \$55
NOW \$44.99

THE JAPANESE PANTRY
Emiko Davies

Known for her evocative cookbooks focusing on regional Italian cuisines, Emiko Davies has recently shifted her focus to the Japanese 'soul food' she grew up eating. Davies' latest offering takes us into the pantry to discover the quintessential ingredients that make Japanese food unique. Along the way we learn about the centuries-old culinary history of the archipelago and its genesis in Zen Buddhist practices, gaining insight into this culture that deeply respects nature and the value of good food. Organised by the seven umami-rich ingredients found in every Japanese pantry, each chapter includes a short history of the ingredient, information about storage and use, easy-to-follow recipes, and luscious photography.

Baking & the Meaning of Life Helen Goh



Murdoch HB
WAS \$55
NOW \$49.99

This celebration of the art of baking might be Helen Goh's first solo gig as a cookbook writer, but she has had plenty of experience in this arena, having co-authored the bestselling *Comfort* and *Sweet* with Yottam Ottolenghi and worked for over a decade in the Ottolenghi Test Kitchen. She's also a highly experienced pastry chef, meaning that the 100 sweet and savoury recipes here (which she describes as her 'most precious') have been extensively tested. Experienced bakers will gravitate towards spectacular creations such as the ten layer honey cake, but there are also plenty of less-complicated options, including the delicious cupcake recipe reproduced below. Happy baking!

Perfect Vanilla Cupcakes

Makes 12



- CUPCAKES**
190g plain flour
½ tsp baking powder
¼ rounded tsp bicarbonate of soda
¼ rounded tsp fine sea salt
2 large eggs
200g caster sugar
140g unsalted butter, very soft
2 tsp sunflower or other neutral oil
seeds from ½ vanilla bean
1 tsp vanilla extract
130ml plain unsweetened kefir drink or buttermilk
- VANILLA ICING**
130g unsalted butter, soft but not oily
500g icing sugar, sifted
2 tsp vanilla extract
½ tsp fine sea salt
60ml full-cream milk, at room temperature

- Preheat the oven to 160 °C fan-forced, and line a 12-hole muffin tin with cupcake liners.
- To make the cupcakes, first sift the flour, baking powder, bicarbonate of soda and salt into a medium bowl, and set aside for now.
- Place the eggs and sugar in a food processor and process for 30 seconds to combine. Add the softened butter and process for about a minute, until the mixture is smooth and creamy and the butter is fully incorporated. Add the oil and vanilla (both seeds and extract) and pulse for a few seconds to combine. Now add about half of the sifted dry ingredients and half the kefir (or buttermilk). Pulse 10 times, then add the remaining flour and kefir and pulse another 10 times. Scrape the bowl down with a flexible spatula and pulse a further 10 times until the batter is smooth and creamy.
- Spoon the batter into the 12 muffin holes, filling them about two-thirds up the sides – about 60g per cupcake. A large latch-release ice-cream scoop is very useful here if you have one.
- Bake the cupcakes for about 20 minutes, or until a skewer inserted into the middle of the cakes comes out clean.

- Transfer the muffin tin to a wire rack to cool for a few minutes. When cool enough to handle, remove the cupcakes and place on the rack to cool completely. Meanwhile, make the icing.
- For the vanilla icing, place the butter and half the icing sugar in the bowl of an electric mixer fitted with the paddle attachment and beat on medium–low speed for about 1 minute, until the mixture comes together. Add the vanilla and salt, then increase the speed to medium and beat for another couple of minutes until light and creamy. Reduce the speed to low and gradually add the milk, then add the rest of the icing sugar, 1 heaped spoonful at a time, mixing well between each addition. When all the icing sugar has been added, increase the speed to medium–high and beat for another couple of minutes until light and fluffy. Cover and leave at room temperature for up to 1 day until ready to use.
 - Spread the tops of the cooled cupcakes with the icing, swirling decoratively as you please. Leave the cupcakes plain or scatter cake sprinkles on top. Small fresh fruit like berries are also delightful as a decoration.

Linger Hetty Lui McKinnon



Plum PB
WAS \$44.99
NOW \$39.99



Devised to be shared, the salads that Hetty Lui McKinnon has built her celebrated food-writing career on are as healthy as they are delicious. In her sixth cookbook, Lui McKinnon delivers easy-to-achieve recipes for salads, as well as other vegetarian and vegan treats. Some dishes focus solely on vegetables, but others incorporate eggs, tofu, nuts, fruit, pasta, rice, noodles, couscous and legumes, making them perfect candidates for main meals. *Linger* opens with a few pages of 'salad rules' and goes on to feature 100-odd recipes perfect for entertaining year-round. These include clever twists (eggplant trifle), classics (beetroot and lentils with tahini yoghurt), out-of-left-field creations (potato chip salad) and homages to iconic ingredients, as can be seen in the recipe we have included here.

Vegemite Slaw with Crispy Vegemite Chickpeas

Serves 4-6
Vegan



½ small savoy or green cabbage (about 350 g), core removed and thinly sliced
2 medium carrots (about 180 g), julienned
2 green onions, trimmed and thinly sliced
handful of coriander leaves
handful of mint leaves

CRISPY VEGEMITE CHICKPEAS

40g (2 tbsp) vegan or dairy butter, melted
1 tbsp Vegemite
250g cooked chickpeas
(about 1 x 400 g can, drained)

VEGEMITE VINAIGRETTE

4-5 tsp Vegemite
1 tbsp rice vinegar
1 small garlic clove, grated
1 tsp brown sugar or maple syrup
3 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil

FOR GLUTEN FREE

• use gluten-free Vegemite

SUBSTITUTE

• cabbage: brussels sprouts
• carrot: beetroot, celeriac
• Vegemite: Marmite, Promite

Preheat the oven to 220°C.

To make the crispy Vegemite chickpeas, place the butter and Vegemite on a medium baking tray or dish and transfer

to the oven for 1-2 minutes to allow the butter to melt and the Vegemite to soften (you could also do this in the microwave if you prefer). Remove from the oven and use a spoon to stir the butter and Vegemite together as much as you can – it won't emulsify fully. Add the chickpeas and toss to coat them in the buttery Vegemite. Place in the oven and roast for 40-45 minutes until the chickpeas are golden and crispy.

Meanwhile, make the Vegemite vinaigrette. Place the Vegemite in a small bowl and warm in the microwave for 8-10 seconds (or in a small saucepan on low heat, stirring until it softens). To the softened Vegemite, add the rice vinegar, garlic, brown sugar or maple syrup, olive oil and 1 tablespoon of water, then whisk until smooth.

Place the cabbage, carrot, green onion, coriander and mint in a shallow bowl. Add the dressing and toss to combine. To serve, top with the crispy chickpeas.



Murdoch HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$19.99



KARKALLA AT HOME

Mindy Woods

Chef, restaurateur and Bundjalung woman Mindy Woods first came to prominence as a contestant in the fourth series of *MasterChef Australia*. She then went on to set up her native ingredient-driven restaurant Karkalla in Byron Bay, transitioning the business to the Karkalla on Country culinary and cultural experience in 2024 and being awarded the prestigious Champions of Change Award in 2025. In this cookbook she highlights over 40 native ingredients – including fruits, succulents, flowers, leaves, nuts and seeds – and shows how they can be added to enhance the flavours of a range of everyday home-cooked dishes.



Hardie Grant HB
WAS \$55
NOW \$49.99



LANKAN FILLING

O Tama Carey

Utilising her deep-rooted knowledge of Sri Lankan culinary traditions, Sydney chef O Tama Carey has written a follow-up to her bestselling first cookbook, *Lanka Food*. From breakfast staples such as *kade paan* and milk buns, to an array of dhals, pies and curries, *Lankan Filling* celebrates the essence of Sri Lankan cuisine while embracing bold, fun twists. The book's 80-odd recipes include treats such as watermelon, olive, tomato and *katta* sambal; black spiced brisket; fried egg rolls with fermented chilli sauce and pol sambal; mud crab with curry leaf butter; and spiced jaggery tarts. Yum!



Simon & Schuster HB
WAS \$54.99
NOW \$24.99



LOVE CRUMBS

Nadine Ingram

With a feeling for nature and a love of fruit and spice, Nadine Ingram of Sydney bakery Flour and Stone fame weaves together the evocative and the practical in a collection of beautifully created cake recipes. Structured under the chapter headings Forest, Bush, Orchard, Meadow and Sea, the book's combination of botanical flavours and intricate baking skills dazzles. Pairings like quince with rose, blood orange and cardamom or brambles with brown butter breadcrumbs feel old-worldly and a little magical. But once you stop dreaming, it's time to roll up your sleeves and knuckle down to some serious baking. Thankfully, the complexity of the recipes is balanced with clear and detailed instructions, as well as beautiful photographs.



Murdoch HB
\$69.99

THE MADRUSAN COCKTAIL COMPANION

Michael & Zara Madrusan

Shaken or stirred, sweet or dry, dark or light – there are as many types of cocktails as there are aspirants to the art of fine cocktail making. Not many of us will attain the skill and originality of Michael Madrusan, who, before authoring this book with his partner Zara, gained renown for the cocktails he created and served at Milk & Honey in New York and the Everleigh in Melbourne. That said, this 500-page guide to the art of cocktails will be an invaluable resource for everyone who wants to wield a shaker or stirring spoon with authority. Divided into what the authors call 'branches' – collins, rickeys, highballs, sours, daiquiris, juleps, negronis, martinis and more – *The Madrusan Cocktail Companion* will be a perfect reference to use at home, or for those working in the hospitality industry.



Murdoch HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$16.99



NEIL PERRY'S GOOD COOKING

Neil Perry

There aren't too many cookbook writers who can be relied upon to deliver recipes that are easy to follow and always work. Nagi Maehashi, Stephanie Alexander and Karen Martini are three Australians who fit this category, and so too is Neil Perry. In his 11 cookbooks and innumerable newspaper columns, Perry has helped us to cook restaurant-worthy meals in our homes, venturing out of our comfort zones and into the world of global cuisine. *Good Cooking* features over 100 dishes that are, as is Perry's wont, inspired by quality seasonal produce. Drawing inspiration from the foods of Mexico, China, Spain, Morocco, France, Italy, Korea, Thailand and Japan, he supplies motivation in the form of full-page photographs and guidance in the form of easy-to-follow recipes.



Smith Street HB
\$59.99

OPA! RECIPES INSPIRED BY GREEK TAVERNAS

Helena & Vikki Moursellas

'Opa!' is a term that captures the warmth of Greek culture, an expression that can carry many meanings based on the context in which it's used – from joy to excitement, celebration to surprise. For the authors of this book, sisters Helena and Vikki Moursellas, it's a phrase that best captures what sits at the heart of Greece's rich food culture – the taverna. Featuring 80 recipes for classic taverna dishes such as *kakavia* (fisherman's soup), lamb *kleftiko* (slow roasted lamb), *horiatiiki salata* (Greek village salad), *patates tiganites* (Greek fries with goat's feta and oregano) and *galaktoboureko* (milk custard pie), *Opa!* invites the Australian home cook into the heart of Greek culinary culture.



Murdoch HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$16.99



LANDS OF THE CURRY LEAF

Peter Kuruvita

A food journey featuring over 100 vegetarian dishes from Afghanistan, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan, *Lands of the Curry Leaf* pays tribute to the cuisines of places where, as chef, television presenter and cookbook writer Peter Kuruvita says, curry leaf trees grow in the garden of just about every home. These days, fresh curry leaves, spices and other ingredients used across the subcontinent and beyond are readily available in Australian markets and grocery shops, so it is easy to source the appropriate ingredients to make the colourful, tasty and aromatic dishes featured here. These include spice blends, street snacks, curries, salads, dumplings, biryanis, soups, breads, pickles, chutneys and sweets.



Murdoch HB
\$45

PROVECHO: REAL MEXICAN FOOD AT HOME

Daniella Guevara Muñoz

Mexican-born chef Daniella Guevara Muñoz has drawn on her roots and her experience running a taqueria in Port Adelaide to lovingly compile this showcase of authentic Mexican cooking. *Provecho* features 120 recipes ranging from everyday street food to traditional family meals. With her breezy writing style and informative back stories and anecdotes, Muñoz supplies a colourful and easy-to-follow introduction to cooking real Mexican food at home (her tips on essential pantry items and substitutions for hard-to-find ingredients are particularly useful). Enhanced with photography by Simon Bajada and a colourful graphic style, *Provecho* is a vibrant and insightful guide to the rich, ancient food culture of Mexico.



BBC HB
WAS \$59.99
NOW \$19.99



RICK STEIN'S FOOD STORIES
Rick Stein

With a career spanning over 55 years, Rick Stein's place in the UK culinary landscape is as deep-set as any celebrity chef working today. In *Food Stories*, Stein has pulled together over 100 stories and recipes inspired by his travels around the UK during the making of the TV show of the same name. In this celebration of modern British cooking and the multicultural influences that have shaped the nation's cuisine, Stein travels through the UK catching up with everyone from farmers to bakers and cheesemakers to fishermen. From the selection of starters through to puddings and bakes, *Food Stories* is a globetrotting selection of what modern Britain has to offer.



Murdoch HB
\$39.99

SECRET SAUCE
Rosheen Kaul

Melbourne-based chef Rosheen Kaul admits to being obsessed with sauces. She believes that they add extra layers of flavour, complexity and deliciousness to dishes. Here, Kaul shares her saucy superpowers (and particular passion for red sauces) with home cooks, demystifying the techniques and ingredients used to make base sauces, sambals, oils and butters, and providing 50+ recipes that utilise them. Organised by colour and including sauces from many culinary traditions, *Secret Sauce* includes vibrant sambals, fiery chilli oils, fresh and zesty green sauces, rich mayos, soy-based sauces, luscious butter sauces and more. Once mastered, sauce making is certain to enhance your cooking and extend your recipe repertoire. *Secret Sauce* will help you to do this.

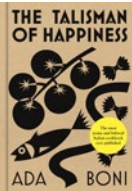


Quadrille HB
WAS \$49.99
NOW \$39.99



SOMETHING FROM NOTHING
Alison Roman

Utilising the skills and secrets she picked up while working in restaurant kitchens, American chef Alison Roman has built a highly successful career as a food writer and YouTube star. Her latest cookbook, *Something from Nothing*, is organised into sections dedicated to snacks, soups and stews, vegetables, beans and grains, pastas and noodles, and meats and fishes – surprisingly, there are no recipes for sweets. Roman says that she is a cook who is frugal with both her ingredients and her time ('I enjoy doing in two steps what's usually done in five'), and she describes this book as 'an extended love letter to simplicity'. All of this means, of course, that the recipes here are as quick and easy to achieve as they are delicious.



Thames & Hudson HB
WAS \$110
NOW \$89.99



THE TALISMAN OF HAPPINESS
Ada Boni

First published in Italy in 1928, Ada Boni's *Il Talismano della Felicità* has never gone out of print. An encyclopaedic collection of recipes from across Italy, it is often described as the most important Italian cookbook ever published, one that has continued to be owned and used by generation after generation. Boni believed that good food was the key to a good life. 'There can be no true happiness,' she wrote, 'if such an essential part of our daily lives as eating is neglected.' If the 1680 recipes in this book are a guide, Italians are likely to be very happy indeed. Organised into sections covering sauces, appetisers, soups, pasta, rice, pizza, eggs, fish and seafood, meat, poultry and game, vegetables and legumes, salads and desserts, the book is a tribute to one of the world's great cuisines.

8. Who was friends with Patrick White, Christina Stead, Kylie Tennant and Shirley Hazzard?



Hardie Grant HB
\$50

THAI: ANYWHERE AND EVERYWHERE
Nat Thaipun

With a foreword by Jamie Oliver (he's a fan), this book by *MasterChef Australia* winner Nat Thaipun offers an accessible introduction to modern Thai cooking. Thaipun says that the recipes in this book are for dishes that have shaped her; they are 'an ode to Thai food and the culture that feeds [her] soul'. Most are staunchly traditional, familiar and sure to lure home cooks to the grill and wok. The book benefits from a useful introductory chapter featuring what Thaipun calls the 'Layers of Flavour' (condiments, sauces, marinades and garnishes) and has a wonderful section on *larb* (traditional Thai meat salads), which she describes as her favourite dish. There are curries, grills, soups, salads, stews and noodle dishes galore, supplying ideas for both quick meals and lavish banquets.



Hardie Grant HB
\$50

THESSALONIKI

Meni Valle
With a history going back over 2000 years, and culinary influences from periods of Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman rule, it's no wonder that in 2021 Thessaloniki was named Greece's first UNESCO City of Gastronomy. In this book, Australian food writer Meni Valle gets to the heart of her mother's childhood home, exploring the flavours and food of Thessaloniki and northern Greece. Chapters covering mezes, preserves, vegetables, meat, seafood and sweets reflect the region's culinary past. The simplicity of fried eggplant with honey reveals the area's Sephardic Jewish influences; the spicy tenderness of lamb cooked in yoghurt and the home-style flavours of traditional flaky *bougatsa* pastry celebrate regional Greek influences.

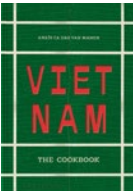


Hardie Grant HB
WAS \$45
NOW \$15.99



VEGAN ITALIAN FOOD
Shannon Martinez

One of the great things about Italian food is that its vegan credentials are pretty strong, with a strong emphasis on vegetables and grains. Add Shannon Martinez's genius at whipping up a variety of savoury and sweet vegan delights, not to mention vegan versions of salami, cheese and tiramisu, and this guide to contemporary Italian vegan food will be an essential resource in plant-based kitchens. Martinez showcases a roll call of Italian veggie classics alongside an assortment of vegan versions of iconic dishes such as fritto misto and bolognese. Martinez's freewheeling tone and the party-like photography are balanced by the skills and cooking knowledge that have made her Melbourne's favourite vegan chef.



Phaidon HB
WAS \$74.95
NOW \$59.99



VIETNAM: THE COOKBOOK
Anais Ca Dao van Manen

When researching this book celebrating the cuisine of Vietnam, its author travelled across the country to learn from local cooks, discover unique ingredients and master classic techniques. The result is a compendium of more than 400 authentic recipes that can be cooked at home – each presented with clear, step-by-step directions. Organised by the method and style in which they are traditionally prepared and enjoyed, recipes range from appetisers, snacks, salads and sandwiches to grilled dishes, stir-fries, wraps and rolls, hotpots, noodles, rice, broths and desserts. A handy section at the back of the book gives instructions for preparing pantry staples such as pickles, flavoured oils, flosses and sauces. Useful features include indicators flagging recipes that can be made in 30 minutes or less.

Highly Recommended



WAS \$49.99
NOW \$39.99



ALWAYS REMEMBER
Charlie Mackesy
Ebury HB

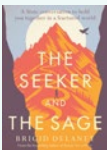
This return to the world of *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* follows the four unlikely friends as they wander through the wilds again.



\$36.99

HOW TO LIVE AN ARTFUL LIFE
Katy Hessel
Hutchinson Heinemann HB

This joyful collection of quotes and ideas from artists has been compiled by the founder of The Great Women Artists Instagram feed and podcast.



\$32.99

THE SEEKER AND THE SAGE
Brigid Delaney
Allen & Unwin PB

How can the wisdom of the Stoics apply to communities, and how can we create our own utopias in an increasingly troubled world?



\$34.99

GREAT WRITERS & THE CATS WHO OWNED THEM
Susannah Fullerton
Bodleian Library HB

A quirky volume revealing intriguing aspects of the lives of much-loved writers and the ways in which cats enriched their works.



\$70

THE MEDITERRANEAN
Lonely Planet HB

Travelling from Europe to North Africa and the Levant, this visual journey around the Mediterranean is packed with photographs and includes travel itineraries and tips.



WAS \$49.99
NOW \$42.99



STRONG GROUND
Brené Brown
Vermilion HB

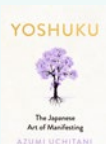
Brown offers insights that she believes will assist individuals and organisations to reclaim focus and drive growth through connection, discipline and accountability.



\$32.99

A YEAR OF JUNK JOURNALING
Martina Calvi
Quadrille HB

This book offers 52 weekly prompts and ideas that will encourage creativity and reflection when journaling and scrapbooking.



\$35

YOSHUKU
Azumi Uchitani
Michael Joseph HB

A life consultant offers a practical guide to the ancient Japanese art of manifesting goals and wishes.

Oceanforged: The Wicked Ship

Amelia Mellor (illustrated by Alessia Trunfio)



Affirm PB
\$16.99

Thirteen-year-old Cori is a crew member on the *Harridan*, a fearsome pirate ship overseen by the cruel Captain Scrimshaw. An orphan, she's a pirate by circumstance rather than choice, and dreams of escaping the ship and her loathsome crewmates. During a raid on Fin Island, she seizes the opportunity to do just this, fleeing with part of the raid's booty, the legendary Oceanforged Gauntlet, a device that confers great powers on those who wear it. The exciting chase that ensues, with the captain in hot pursuit of Cori and the gauntlet, is sure to enthrall junior readers aged 8+.



Oceanforged is the first instalment in a five-book fantasy series by Australian writer Amelia Mellor, with the next book to be released in April 2026.

Mellor will be known to readers both young and old for her bestselling *The Grandest Bookshop in the World*, a 2021 fantasy novel inspired by the real-life Cole's Book Arcade, an extraordinary emporium in 19th-century Melbourne. It and two subsequent books, *The Bookseller's Apprentice* and *The Lost Book of Magic*, follow the adventures of three children, Pearl and Vally Cole and Billy Pyke, as they

tussle with the sinister and dangerous magician Obscurosmith. Full of clever word play, puzzles and fascinating historical detail, the books, which are available in individual volumes as well as in a well-priced boxed text featuring hardback editions of the first two novels (\$24.99), will delight imaginative readers aged 9+.

Similar themes and character types feature in all of Mellor's books. Like the central characters in *The Grandest Bookshop*, the hero of *Oceanforged* is young, courageous, clever and resilient. Embarking on an important quest to reunite the gauntlet with its magical signet stone, Cori and her new friends Tarn and Jem outwit

Captain Scrimshaw. Then, at the end of the first book, they set off to reclaim the remaining elements of the Oceanforged armour: the Greaves (shinguards), Hauberik (protective cloak), Sword and Helmet.

Will Cori, Tarn and Jem be able to locate these items and spearhead an insurrection against the corrupt Prime Council that has ruled the kingdom of Aquinta since the Age of Glory? Only time and the next four volumes of *Oceanforged* will tell!



Walker HB
\$25.99

DROPBEAR
Philip Bunting

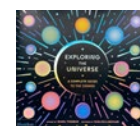
In the middle of the bush is a tall old gumtree, home to the mean and savage Dropbear. The bush is alive with gossip about this creature, each tale taller than the last. Then a little bird decides to find the Dropbear ... and discovers it's nothing more than a koala searching for a hug. Philip Bunting is known for his playful and witty picture books that weave lessons into their stories without being too didactic. *Dropbear* is no exception, delivering a sweet and funny story about the power of ignoring gossip and finding out the truth for yourself. 2+



Text PB
\$17.99

THE EXPERIMENT
Rebecca Stead

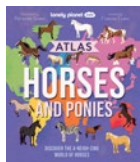
Nathan and Victor are best friends who go to school together in New York. They're obsessed with *Calvin and Hobbes* comics, and their life is full of text messages and in-jokes. They're just regular human kids. OR ARE THEY? Nathan's family has a big secret and now his other best friend Izzy has disappeared and stopped messaging him altogether. Nathan and Victor have strange secrets to share and big truths to uncover. Also – there are aliens. With a mothership. A fun, fast-paced adventure from one of today's most skilful middle-grade writers. 10+



Phaidon HB
WAS \$34.95
NOW \$29.99

EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE
Isabel Thomas
(illustrated by Sara Gillingham)

The mysteries of the cosmos are explained in this fully illustrated book, which opens with the elements we can see from Earth and then moves section-by-section further back into space and time. Readers will learn all about the sun, moon, stars, gravity, meteors, light, meteorites, planets, asteroids, comets, dark matter, black holes, galaxies and gravitational waves. Also explained are technologies such as rockets, robotic landers and rovers, satellites, telescopes, radio telescopes and space stations. Sure to be pored over by aspiring astronomers aged 8+.



Lonely Planet HB
\$29.99

ATLAS OF HORSES AND PONIES
Frances Evans
(illustrated by Adrienne Green)

From Friesians to Falabellas, Arabs to Lipizzaners, this atlas takes a journey around the world through more than 100 breeds of horses and ponies. Each horse is given a profile describing their personality, their physical features and the history of the breed. Readers are also taught how to care for a horse, talk to horses and identify different breeds by markings and characteristics. Overflowing with fun facts, maps and fascinating details about horses and ponies from around the world, this atlas will delight horse lovers aged 6+.



The School of Life HB
\$42.99

BIG IDEAS FROM SCIENCE

This beautiful children's book is a timeline of scientific thought, from the creation of bronze, through mathematics in 9th-century Baghdad, to AI. Each chapter ends with a series of questions that ask the reader to reflect on themselves. For example, the section from Baghdad talks about ancient Islamic ideas connecting beauty and mathematics and then asks us to examine our own feelings about beauty, in line with the publisher's aim to help people experience more emotionally intelligent lives. A clear, gentle exploration of the places and spaces where science and philosophy overlap. 9+



Atria PB
\$29.99

BLACK RIVER
Ruby Jean Cottle

There is something stalking the woods of Black River, something fast, vicious and ravenous. That something is called Dusty Silver and she only barely understands what's happening to her; why she's suddenly overwhelmed by a hunger that makes fresh blood appealing and high-school crushes dangerously intoxicating. What makes matters worse is that she's not the only one who's changing and the more she learns, the deeper the mysteries get. With *Black River*, Australian writer Ruby Jean Cottle delivers a tense, thrilling and immensely fun vampire story that is the first instalment of a series. 14+



Little Hare HB
\$24.99

CASTLE CRASHING

Bonnie knows how to build sandcastles on the beach best, but her friends insist on building their own castles. This makes Bonnie very annoyed, and she storms off. Her friends are patient, understanding and kind. But what will Bonnie do next? This gentle and thoughtful picture book from the team responsible for *Jetty Jumping* is about showing kindness to ourselves and each other when big feelings threaten to overwhelm us. 3+

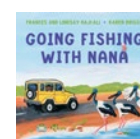


ABC Kids PB
\$17.99

FRANCES BLOOM

Katrina Nannestad
(illustrated by Marina Zlatanova)

Young Frances Bloom is having a brilliant time living all alone in a cottage by the sea – until Ms. Thistle demands that she produce some grandparents or else ... Enter Grandma Maude, a big-hearted bear, and Grandpa Harold, a garden gnome. A series of madcap adventures ensue as this most unusual family causes havoc around the village. Children will adore seeing the impish Frances outsmart her mean-spirited teacher at every turn. The story is replete with whimsy and humour, and the exuberant illustrations from Marina Zlatanova are a total delight. 7+



Magabala HB
\$27.99

GOING FISHING WITH NANA
Frances Haji-Ali, Lindsay Haji-Ali
& Karen Briggs

A little girl and her nana go on a fishing trip in North West Australia – encountering frogs, jabirus, snakes, crocodiles and kangaroos along the way. This is the second book from Frances and Lindsay Haji-Ali, following on from the CBCA Notable Book of the Year-winning *On the Way to Nana's*, and they gently introduce the concept of counting by two through repetition and melodic rhyming prose. Karen Briggs' bright and lively illustrations bring to life an array of outback animals and the beautiful northern Australian landscapes. A cheerful and sunshiny counting book for early readers. 1+

9. Which Australian novelist has sold millions of copies of his books?

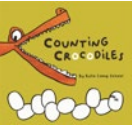


Scribble HB
WAS \$27.99
NOW \$22.99

BETWEEN
Anna Walker

In the moments between night and day, a cricket and a cabbage moth meet. As their friendship develops, they flit and hop through soft landscapes filled with flowers and plants. CBCA award-winning author and illustrator Anna Walker (*Lottie and Walter* and *Florette*) used hundreds of hand-cut stencils and spray paint to create the dreamy crepuscular world of the cricket and the cabbage moth. Featuring sparse and poetic prose, this is a beautiful and meditative picture book that will be perfect for imaginative readers looking for a quiet and peaceful story. 3+

Counting Crocodiles Bulla Camp School



ILF Board
\$14.99

This delightful early learning board book is the work of a group of students at the small Bulla Camp School, which is located in a remote community southwest of Katherine in the Northern Territory. Aged between five and 12, these clever kids collaborated with teacher librarian Ann Haddon, illustrator Ann James and book designer Lee Burgemeestre to illustrate a simple counting book featuring multi-coloured crocodiles hatching from their eggs on the banks of the East Bains River. Readers aged up to four years old are sure to enjoy pointing at the baby crocs, identifying their colours and counting from 1 to 10, then back again.



Counting Crocodiles is published by the Indigenous Literary Foundation (ILF), a national charity working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander remote communities across Australia. The foundation has its roots in the Riverbend Readers Challenge initiative founded in 2003 by Suzy Wilson, the then-owner of Riverbend Bookshop in Brisbane. After a period operating in partnership with the Fred Hollows Foundation, the foundation assumed its current structure and name in 2011.



Independent of government, the ILF relies on donations to continue its important work providing 500+ remote Indigenous communities throughout the country with the literary resources they request to support their aspirations for Community and Culture. These resources include books and other teaching materials. The foundation

also supports communities to create and publish their stories in languages of their choice – to date, around 160 books have been published reflecting some 41 Indigenous languages. Royalties from the sale of each book go to its creators, in this case the Bulla School.

In 2024, the ILF was the recipient of the prestigious Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, one of the richest literary prizes in the world. Established by the Swedish government in 2003 in honour of the author of *Pippi Longstocking*, the award goes to a person or organisation for their outstanding contribution to children’s or young adult literature. In its citation, the award jury noted that by spreading books and stimulating reading, the ILF ‘builds the desire to read and fosters pride, selfconfidence and a sense of belonging’ in First Nations children.



Thames & Hudson HB
\$26.99

HERE COME THE COUSINS
Maggie Hutchings & Sarah Zweck
Every year is merely a countdown to summer when the cousins reunite, bouncing and bounding through Pop’s door. They play rock paper scissors for the top bunk, measure who’s grown the most since last year, spend all morning swimming and all afternoon lounging and swapping secrets. At night the grownups tell stories and the kids play snakes and ladders and later Pop will pull out the old album, full of photos of past summers. A warm and evocative story celebrating family holidays and long golden summer days. 3+



Hardie Grant Children’s PB
\$19.99

THE LAST EMBER
Lily Berlin Dodd
The last thing Eva expected on her birthday was to find herself kidnapped, on the run and with an Aerimander egg stuck to her hand – Aerimanders, of course, being those highly dangerous, fire-breathing creatures everyone knows are extinct. Her would-be kidnapper, the wily Dusty St. Ichabod, didn’t want this either: he was only after the egg, not the girl it’s attached to. Nevertheless, they’ll both have to put aside their differences because an Aerimander could be very dangerous in the wrong hands – and there are some decidedly evil hands around. The first volume of a new series for readers aged 10+.



Text PB
\$22.99

MAISY HAYES IS NOT FOR SALE
Allayne L Webster
Maisy is in Year 9, on the cusp of adulthood. She lives in social housing in Adelaide with her mum, older sister Luka and younger brother Liam. Life’s hard – there’s never enough money, Luka has a serious illness and her dad, who has remarried and lives in Melbourne, makes little effort to keep in contact. This is a book about identity, making the most of life and realising that true wealth has nothing to do with money. Teenage readers will identify with Maisy, who is believable, likeable and going through highly relatable struggles. 12+



Fremantle HB
\$24.99

THE MIDNIGHT CHEW
Sally Morgan & Karen Blair
Two dogs creep through a chilly winter night searching for a midnight snack. At the dump Skippy Gillespie digs and digs through the layers of rubbish and is rewarded with the perfect bone. But it’s not long until Boofa Boy Jones snatches the bone away and a wild chase through the dark suburban streets ensues. Karen Blair’s energetic illustrations complement Sally Morgan’s zippy rhyming prose in this *Hairy Maclary*-like doggy adventure about the importance of sharing. 3+



Allen & Unwin PB
\$19.99

A MURDER IS GOING DOWN
Kate Emery
Australian writer Kate Emery acquired an instant fan club after publication of her 2024 YA murder mystery *My Family and Other Suspects*, and this follow-up novel is sure to add more fans to the fold. Heidi’s older brother Felix has died, and Patrick, the cute younger brother of Felix’s widow, thinks the death is suspicious. Together, the two determine to investigate the death. Featuring a plot full of twists, a budding romance and lots of laughs, this is a cosy-crime romp that is sure to be enjoyed by readers aged 12+.



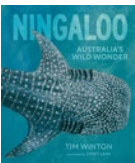
Lonely Planet Board
\$19.99

MY FIRST LIFT-THE-FLAP DINOSAUR ATLAS
Kate Baker
(illustrated by Teresa Bellón)
Meet some classic dinos, illustrated in bright colours, with friendly rosy cheeks and sharp teeth where appropriate. These creatures are organised by continent, so we get a sense of which dinosaurs were living in Asia, which in Europe and so on. The book is packed with flaps and fun facts, such as what scientists first thought when they saw an iguanodon’s thumb spike and how triceratops used their frills. Dinosaur names are helpfully accompanied by phonetic pronunciation. This is a great next-step for the little dinosaur-lover who’s ready for more facts. 3+



Affirm HB
\$24.99

NEIGHBOURHOOD NEST
Sarah Jane Lightfoot
Maggie the Magpie is determined to discover the owner of a strange egg that has appeared in her nest, so she sets off on a cross-backyard adventure. Author-illustrator Sarah Jane Lightfoot has cleverly crafted the mystery around true facts about Australian birds and how they build their nests, leading to a final reveal which promotes inclusivity and community. Her detailed illustrations locate the tale within a busy Australian neighbourhood, inviting readers to notice the inventive ways birds survive in urban environments. A charming detective story for budding birdwatchers aged 3+.



Fremantle HB
WAS \$29.99
NOW \$24.99

NINGALOO: AUSTRALIA’S WILD WONDER
Tim Winton
(illustrated by Cindy Lane)
Cindy Lane has beautifully illustrated this non-fiction picture book by Tim Winton about Nyinggulu, as its First Peoples call it. Beginning with a simple map of the coastline and its currents, pages are dedicated to communities of creatures (seagrass, coral reef, mangrove etc) or to special individual species (including orcas, dugongs and thorny devils). Tim Winton’s name is synonymous with the stunning west coast ocean in all its wild diversity, and this book explores that world in a new way. It’s also a call to action for an environment under threat. 5+



Walker HB
WAS \$24.99
NOW \$19.99

OH DEAR, LOOK WHAT I GOT!
Michael Rosen & Helen Oxenbury
It’s been 36 years since writer Michael Rosen and illustrator Helen Oxenbury collaborated on their children’s classic, *We’re Going on a Bear Hunt*. Now, a new picture book from the duo utilises the elements that made *Bear Hunt* so successful – a nursery-rhyme format featuring repetition and rhyming words accompanied by charming illustrations that tell the story in parallel to the text. The book’s concept is similar to Rod Campbell’s *Dear Zoo* (another children’s classic) and is sure to be a huge hit with toddlers, who will adore chanting the text out loud. 3+

10. Who was raised in the underworld by the river goddess Styx and the ferryman Charon?



Walker PB
\$17.99

THE KEEPER OF THE OCTOPUS
Neridah McMullin
Pippy Cocklebidly lives in the fishing village of Portablow with her great-uncle Isaac, a cat, a dog, an albatross and a friendly but slightly disgusting hobgoblin called Ferg. Pippy, like her mama, her grannie and her great-grannie, is the Keeper of the Octopus, a giant beast living in the harbour and protecting Portablow from danger. When greedy dragnet fishermen threaten the balance of ocean life, danger looms, and Pippy and her friends have work to do! A windy, salty, magical story, based on some incredible facts about oceans and octopuses. 8+

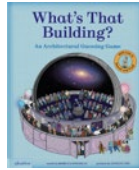


Bloomsbury
PB **\$18.99**
HB **\$24.99**

THE POISONED KING

Katherine Rundell

We first met Christopher Forrester and were introduced to the Glimouria Archipelago in 2023's *Impossible Creatures*. The pages of this sequel are once again populated with a cast of mythical creatures, and the plot is similarly exciting. The dragons who live in this magic-drenched land are under threat, and Christopher must fight to save them. Assisting him are friends new and old: feisty Princess Anya, Jacques the tiny dragon, Ratwin the ratatoska, Irian the scientist and Nighthead the berserker. Rundell, who is one of Britain's most-admired writers of children's fiction, delivers another fast-paced story with thought-provoking themes. 9+



Phaidon HB
\$29.95

WHAT'S THAT BUILDING?

Rebecca Donnelly

(illustrated by Jocelyn Cho)

Ten everyday buildings are used to explain basic architectural and design concepts in this picture book. Each double-page spread features a beautifully intricate cutaway illustration of a building, along with explanations of the specific design features. There's also an interactive element – readers are challenged to guess what each type of building will be before it's revealed and, in a *Where's Wally*-esque twist, within each illustration there's a hidden architect to spot. This lovely and engaging book is filled with details children will delight in poring over. 5+



Allen & Unwin
HB
\$19.99

WHERE WOULD YOU GO?

Alison Lester & Jane Godwin

Alison Lester and Jane Goodwin asked the children of Melbourne's Yalingbu Yirramboi – The Royal Children's Hospital School where they would visit if they could travel anywhere. Their answers are revealed in this joyful picture book. A wonderfully wild array of illustrations from the young artists spill across the pages as evocative text from Lester and Godwin takes readers on a magical adventure across colourful landscapes, before closing with a heartfelt affirmation of how it feels to return home. All royalties from this book's sale go to the hospital. 2+



David Fickling
PB
WAS \$34.99
NOW \$29.99
HB WAS \$55
NOW \$44.99

THE ROSE FIELD

Philip Pullman

The third and final volume in the Book of Dust series follows Lyra and her daemon Pan as they separately travel to the east in search of Lyra's lost imagination. Lyra and her world are changing and this journey will be her greatest challenge yet, full of mysteries and dangerous foes. 12+ *Special offer: Buy a copy of The Rose Field and you'll receive a FREE copy of Philip Pullman's Once Upon a Time in the North, which tells the backstory of the meeting of two Northern Lights characters, Lee Scoresby and Iorek Byrnison. Offer applies while stocks last.*



Allen & Unwin
HB
WAS \$26.99
NOW \$22.99

RUNT AND THE DIABOLICAL DOGNAPPING

Craig Silvey

(illustrated by Sara Acton)

Annie Shearer's best friend, her dog Runt, is missing. A note indicates that this is a dognapping, but who could be responsible for such a dastardly act? The elements that made Craig Silvey's previous book featuring Annie and Runt so hilarious – silly names, puns and a cast of wonderfully quirky characters – reappear in this whodunnit, which is set in the rural town of Upson Downs and stresses the importance of being brave, kind and truthful. 8+



Farshore HB
WAS \$24.99
NOW \$12.99

WINNIE-THE-POOH:

TALES FROM THE FOREST

Jane Riordan

(illustrated by Mark Burgess)

Inspired by the classic books by AA Milne and EH Shepard, this volume has been authorised by Milne's estate. *Tales from the Forest* features seven delightful stories following Christopher Robin, Winnie-the-Pooh, Piglet, Eeyore, Tigger, Kanga and Rabbit as they venture deeper into the Hundred Acre Wood than ever before. There, they are joined by a new friend, Carmen, a young dog who longs to be a lion, and lots of fun ensues. 5+



Scribble HB
\$24.99

SUNDAYS UNDER THE LEMON TREE

Julia Busuttil Nishimura & Myo Yim

Every Sunday a family gathers to feast under the lemon tree in their garden. This Sunday they're making Grandma's apple cake with special homemade ricotta. The secret ingredient? Sea water! But the beach is a long walk away, and who will help Dad carry the buckets? Cookbook author Julia Busuttil Nishimura draws on her childhood memories for this sweet story about a little girl finally becoming part of her family's food rituals. With a recipe for apple cake included, this is perfect for any child who loves food and cooking. 3+



Allen & Unwin
HB
\$24.99

THE WONDROUS TALE OF LAVENDER WOLFE

Karen Foxlee

Lavender Wolfe is minding her own business when she's snatched by an ogress and taken aboard a cursed pirate ship. The ship is captained by the mercurial, majestic Odyessia Pleasant – who is quick with her sword and has a beautiful bird's wing in the place of one arm – and is manned by a magical crew. With the deadline to break the curse fast approaching, will it be Lavender's hidden magic that finally saves them all? This fast-paced adventure is full of warmth and kindness as well as acts of great courage and bravery. A fun and joyful read. 9+



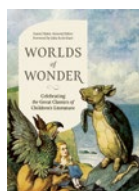
Allen & Unwin
PB
\$24.99

THERE'S A PRAWN IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Annabel Crabb

(illustrated by First Dog on the Moon)

Here, writer and ABC political presenter Annabel Crabb explores, explains and examines Australia's unique democracy. Crabb answers many questions that upper primary school-aged students might have: How do we elect our government? How does the government make and action decisions? And what's with the weird book title? (The answer to the last of these is that the prawn refers to a 350-million-year-old tiny coral fossil that lives in the floor of the grand marble foyer at Australia's Parliament House in Canberra). 8+



MUP HB
\$49.99

WORLDS OF WONDER

Daniel Hahn (ed)

This anthology includes appreciations of 80 great works of children's fiction. Selected by experts in children's literature, they represent the best-loved and most-admired books of the past 200 years. What they all have in common is that they are thrilling acts of imaginative storytelling and world building. Reading the anthology will be a journey down memory lane for adults, who may well be prompted to re-read their childhood favourites. Most importantly, young readers are sure to find inspiration for future reading when working their way through the lavishly illustrated entries. 10+

Highly Recommended



\$24.99

CYNTHIA IS A WILD DOG

Tohby Riddle

Little Hare HB

Cynthia is a lap dog with a wild life, and her story is sure to make both adults and children laugh. 2+



WAS \$39.99
NOW \$34.99

THE FANTASTICAL SAFARI

Kristjana S Williams

& Lucy Brownridge

Wide Eyed HB

Young readers aged 8+ will be enthralled by this book's intricate illustrations of real-life animals and the magical beasts they inspired.



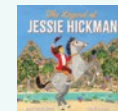
\$24.99

IF WE WERE DOGS

Sophie Blackall

Lothian HB

Two friends bark and growl, woof and howl in this rhyming romp with a delightfully unexpected ending. 3+



\$24.99

THE LEGEND OF JESSIE HICKMAN

Mark Greenwood

(illustrated by Frané Lessac)

NLA HB

A non-fiction picture book bringing to life the fascinating but little-known story of Jessie Hickman, Australia's 'Lady Bushranger'. 5+



\$19.99

LITTLE CLOUD

Heidi McKinnon

Little Hare Board

Toddlers can adventure with Little Cloud in this charming board book that features rhyming text, bright illustrations and a tactile cover. 0+



\$29.99

ONCE I WAS A GIANT

Zeno Sworder

Thames & Hudson HB

From an award-winning illustrator, this stunning picture book is about hope for the future, the power of small beings and the special friendship of trees. 5+



\$24.99

ONE KOALA, ONE HUNDRED TREES

Leesa Allinson

(illustrated by Heather Potter & Mark Jackson)

Wild Dog HB

Full of facts about koalas, this is a heartwarming tale about one family's determination to create a safer environment for the koalas living on their property. 6+



\$34.99

THE STUFF THAT STUFF IS MADE OF

Jonathan Drori

(illustrated by Raxenne Maniquiz & Jiatong Liu)

Magic Cat HB

A fact-filled book that introduces readers aged 7+ to the many things made with plants.



\$16.99

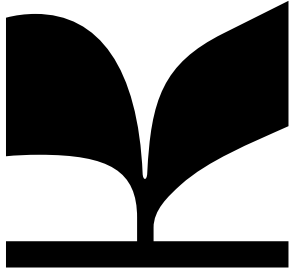
YOU & ME AND THE PEANUT BUTTER BEAST

Andy Griffiths

(illustrated by Bill Hope)

Pan PB

The second book in a new laugh-out-loud adventure series from the creator of the *Treehouse* books. 6+



Since 2009, The Readings Foundation has donated over \$2 million to amazing organisations in our community that support our most vulnerable people. Setting aside a percentage of all Readings Bookshop profits, as well as relying on generous donations from Readings customers, The Readings Foundation focuses on education and literacy programs at the grass-roots level.



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Competition Entry
Your chance to win a \$1000 gift voucher!

- To win a \$1000 gift voucher:
- Pay close attention as you read the reviews in this guide
 - Answer the questions scattered throughout the guide
 - Fill in the form below with your answers
 - Attach the form to a receipt from the purchase of an item from this guide (NB: your purchase must be from one of our shops)
 - Return to one of our shops by 5pm on Thursday 29 January 2026

I'd like to enter the competition. My answers are:

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10

Entries are accepted from Sunday 9 November 2025 and must be received by 5pm on Thursday 29 January 2026. The prize will be drawn at Gleebooks at 5pm on Friday 6 February 2026. The winner will be notified by email or telephone and posted on the Gleebooks website. Employees of participating bookshops are not permitted to enter the competition. The winner has 14 days from the date of the notification being made to claim their prize; if unclaimed, a re-draw will take place at the same location on Monday 23 February 2026. Gift voucher valid at the store where the receipt was issued. Promoter: Gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Road, Glebe NSW 2037. Tel: (02) 9660 2333.

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KIDS	315 Lygon St 03 9341 7730	HAWTHORN	687 Glenferrie Rd 03 9819 1917
CHADSTONE	Chadstone Shopping Centre 03 9810 0860	MALVERN	185 Glenferrie Rd 03 9509 1952
DONCASTER	Westfield Doncaster 03 9810 0891	SLV	285–321 Russell St 03 8664 7540
		ST KILDA	112 Acland St 03 9525 3852

Great gift ideas



\$29.99

TRAM SOCKS
(GREEN)

Get your public transport fix by dressing your toes in that iconic PT-green print. Knitted with comfort and flair right here in Melbourne, these are the foot coverings for you. Available in Small (5–8) and Large (9–13).



\$34.99

ALL OVER CATS TOTE BAG (BAYLEY ARTS)

Bayley Arts is a creative initiative of Bayley House, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting adults with intellectual disability to live a full, rich and rewarding life. This tote bag celebrates Louise Taffs' artwork, which is characterised by her animated and expressive cat portraits, often featuring bold, vibrant colours.



\$30

BIRDS OF MERRI CREEK 2026 CALENDAR

A beautiful A4, portrait-format 2026 calendar that celebrates the bird life along Merri Creek in Melbourne's north. 50% of profits from each purchase are donated to the Merri Creek Environment Fund.



\$39.99

READINGS JIGSAW PUZZLE (1000 PIECE)

This 584 × 736mm puzzle features a photo of our Readings State Library shop – the first permanent commercial bookshop established in the building in the Library's 150-year history. The perfect gift for book lovers, puzzlers and all those who have visited this beautiful shop or would love to do so in the future.



\$29.99

LET'S GET ON THE BEERS IN 2026 CALENDAR

This is the ultimate calendar for pub lovers. Each month takes you to an iconic Melbourne pub, brought to life through Lawz Drawz' playful illustration style. It's ring bound, A4 size, and perfect for planning your next pub crawl.



\$34.99

CULINARY DELIGHTS TEA TOWEL

Australia is world-famous for its culinary delights. Snot blocks! Potato scallops/ cakes! Rissoles! Apricot chicken! Your mum's pav! Burgers with the lot (the real lot, don't hold the pineapple or the fried egg)! Parma/Parmi! Celebrate them all with this 100% cotton twill, 40cm × 60cm tea towel.



\$59

REATIV REFILLABLE CANDLE KIT (CALM TEMPTATION)

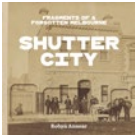
This kit offers everything you need to make your own candle from scratch! This includes a reusable ceramic vessel, coconut-soy wax, clean fragrance oil and a cotton wick. Your candle will burn for 50–60 hours and the kit comes in a gift box.



\$49.99

DEADSET LEGENDS PUZZLE (1000 PIECE)

This 700 × 500mm Deadset Legends Puzzle features 120 faces of celebrated Aussie icons. From Kylie and Jason to Cathy Freeman, there's a face everyone will recognise.



Miegunyah Press PB
\$49.99

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders are advised that this puzzle contains images inspired by people who have died.

SHUTTER CITY: FRAGMENTS OF A FORGOTTEN MELBOURNE
Robyn Annear

Spanning the hurly-burly decades of the 1850s to 1870s, between the gold rushes and Marvellous Melbourne, *Shutter City* peers into every shadowy corner to reveal postcard streetscapes as miraculous time-capsules. Robyn Annear's lively and insightful commentary weaves the street views into a narrative of a near-forgotten Melbourne and the photographers who captured it.