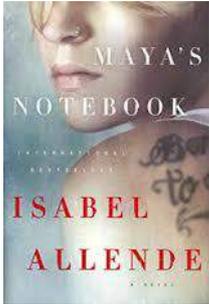


# Book Club Sets



## Allende, Isabel

## Maya's Notebook

General Fiction

Maya is in trouble. She's an alcoholic, an addict and is deeply involved with a criminal gang. But how did things go so wrong? Even if her parents didn't care about her, Maya always knew she could rely on her grandmother Nini's tough love and the gentle comfort of her grandfather, Popp.

Hunted by both the police and her old associates, Maya, with Nini's help, flees to the remote island of Chiloe, off the coast of her grandmother's native Chile. There, safe for a while, Maya is compelled to write her story - of how she came to find herself far from her family in California, lost in the criminal underworld of Las Vegas. Basking in the warmth of the Chiloe community, Maya begins to heal. But can she move beyond her pain, find forgiveness and learn to live with the scars of the past? (387 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Alexandra, Belinda

## The Invitation

Australian Fiction - Historical

**Sometimes the ties that bind are the most dangerous of all.** Paris, 1899. Emma Lacasse has been estranged from her older sister for nearly twenty years, since Caroline married a wealthy American and left France. So when Emma receives a request from Caroline to meet her, she is intrigued. Caroline invites Emma to visit her in New York, on one condition: Emma must tutor her shy, young niece, Isadora, and help her prepare for her society debut.

Caroline lives a life of unimaginable excess and opulence as one of New York's Gilded Age millionaires and Emma is soon immersed in a world of luxury beyond her wildest dreams - a far cry from her bohemian lifestyle as a harpist and writer with her lover, Claude, in Montmartre. Emma hopes for an emotional reunion with her only family, but instead she finds herself in the vice-like grip of her charismatic and manipulative sister, who revels in the machinations of the ultra rich. As Emma begins to question her sister's true motives, a disaster strikes, and New York society is stripped bare - beneath the glittering exterior lies a seething nest of deceit, betrayal, moral corruption ... and perhaps even murder. From the bestselling author of *Tuscan Rose* comes a mesmerising tale of two sisters and the dangers and seductions of excess. (416 pages)



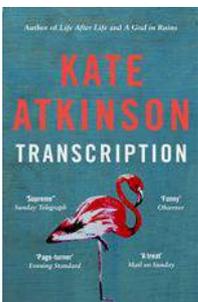
## Ames, Matthew and Diane

## Will to Live

Australian Biography

For a couple of weeks, Matthew Ames didn't feel well. The busy father of four young children knew things were not quite right but suddenly he was in Emergency, with a severe case of toxic shock syndrome - the common bacteria Strep A had entered his bloodstream and his body had gone into shutdown. He was put into an induced coma and the only way he could be kept alive was to have all his limbs amputated. Diane Ames knew exactly what her husband would want and that he could cope - he had always been optimistic and practical. Despite a one per cent chance of survival, she asked the doctors to go ahead with the radical operation. And, so began the inspiring story of an ordinary family's courage and determination to make the most of a terrible situation.

What happened to Matthew could happen to anyone. But not everyone would accept what life offers and pursue possibilities in the way that he does. Matthew has astounded doctors with his recovery and adaptation to a new way of living. And he has never once questioned Diane's decision - it gave him the chance to truly understand how much family matters and to appreciate humanity. (271 pages)



## Atkinson, Kate

## Transcription

Historical Fiction, Suspense

In 1940, eighteen-year old Juliet Armstrong is reluctantly recruited into the world of espionage. Sent to an obscure department of MI5 tasked with monitoring the comings and goings of British Fascist sympathizers, she discovers the work to be by turns both tedious and terrifying. But after the war has ended, she presumes the events of those years have been relegated to the past for ever.

Ten years later, now a producer at the BBC, Juliet is unexpectedly confronted by figures from her past. A different war is being fought now, on a different battleground, but Juliet finds herself once more under threat. A bill of reckoning is due, and she finally begins to realize that there is no action without consequence. *Transcription* is a work of rare depth and texture, a bravura modern novel of extraordinary power, wit and empathy. It is a triumphant work of fiction from one of this country's most exceptional writers. (352 pages)



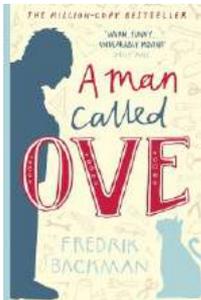
## Atwood, Margaret

## The Handmaid's Tale

*Fantasy Fiction, Science Fiction*

The Republic of Gilead offers Offred only one option: to breed. If she dissenters, be hanged at the wall or sent out to die slowly of radiation sickness. But even a repressive state cannot obliterate desire - neither Offred's nor that of the two men on which her future hangs.

Brilliantly conceived and executed, this powerful evocation of twenty-first-century America gives full rein to Margaret Atwood's devastating irony, wit and astute perception. (324 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Backman, Fredrik

## A Man Called Ove

*General Fiction - Humour*

At First Sight ...

Ove is almost certainly the grumpiest man you will ever meet. He thinks himself surrounded by idiots - joggers, neighbours who can't reverse a trailer properly and shop assistants who talk in code. But isn't it rare, these days, to find such old-fashioned clarity of belief and deed? Such unswerving conviction about what the world should be, and a lifelong dedication to making it just so?

In the end, you will see, there is something about Ove that is quite irresistible..(294 pages)

[Discussion questions in back of book](#)



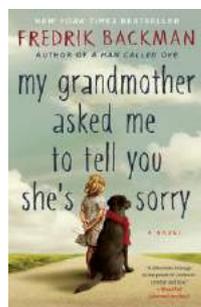
## Backman, Fredrik

## Britt-Marie Was Here

*General Fiction*

At first sight, Britt-Marie is a fussy, passive-aggressive busybody. But hidden inside her is a woman who has bigger dreams and a warmer heart than anyone around her imagines. When she finds herself alone for the first time in decades, she realises she's spent her life making choices for the sake of other people. Is it too late for her to change? And in a small town big-hearted misfits, can Britt-Marie find a place where she truly belongs? (312 pages).

*Tip: Britt-Marie is initially introduced to us in [My grandmother asked me to tell you she's sorry](#).*



## Backman, Fredrik

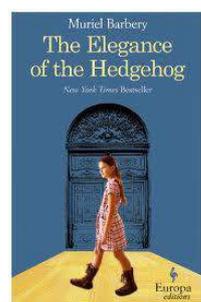
## My Grandmother Asked Me To Tell You She's Sorry

*General Fiction*

Elsa is seven years old and different. Her grandmother is seventy-seven years old and crazy - as in standing-on-the-balcony-firing-paintball-guns-at-strangers crazy. She is also Elsa's best, and only, friend. At night, Elsa takes refuge in her grandmother's stories, in the Land-of-Almost-Awake and the Kingdom of Miamas, where everybody is different and nobody needs to be normal.

When Elsa's grandmother dies and leaves behind a series of letters apologising to people she has wronged, Elsa's greatest adventure begins. Her grandmother's instructions lead her to an apartment building full of misfits, monsters, attack dogs, and old crones, but also to the truth about fairy tales and kingdoms and a grandmother like no other.

My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry is told with the same comic accuracy and beating heart as Fredrik Backman's bestselling debut novel, A Man Called Ove. It is a story about life and death and one of the most important human rights: the right to be different. (372 pages) [\(discussion questions at the back of the book\)](#).



## Barbery, Muriel

## The Elegance of the Hedgehog

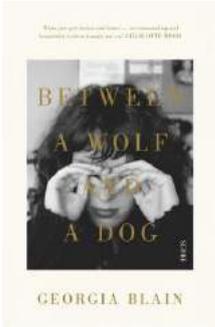
*Novel*

Renee is the concierge of a grand Parisian apartment building on the Left Bank. To the residents she is honest, reliable and uncultivated – an ideal concierge. But Renee has a secret. Beneath this conventional façade she is passionate about culture and the arts, and more knowledgeable in many ways than her self-important employers.

Down in her lodge, Renee is resigned to living a lie; meanwhile, several floors up, twelve-year-old Paloma Josse is determined to avoid a predictably bourgeois future, and plans to commit suicide on her thirteenth birthday.

But the death of one of their privileged neighbours will bring dramatic change to Number 7. Rue de Grenelle, altering the course of both their lives forever. (325 pages)

[\(DVD in set\)](#) [\(HCD in set\)](#) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Blain, Georgia

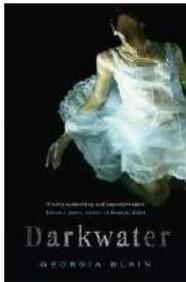
## Between a Wolf and a Dog

*Australian Fiction - General*

Outside the rain continues unceasing; silver sheets sluicing down, the trees and shrubs soaking and bedraggled, the earth sodden, puddles overflowing, torrents coursing onwards, as the darkness slowly softens with the dawn.

Ester is a family therapist with an appointment book that catalogues the anxieties of the middle class: loneliness, relationships, death. She spends her days helping others find happiness, but her own family relationships are tense and frayed. Estranged from both her sister, April and her ex-husband, Lawrence, Ester wants to fall in love again. Meanwhile, April is struggling through her own directionless life; Lawrence's reckless past decisions are catching up with him; and Ester and April's mother, Hilary, is about to make a choice that will profoundly affect them all.

Taking place largely over one rainy day in Sydney, and rendered with the evocative and powerful prose Blain is known for, *Between a Wolf and a Dog* is a celebration of the best in all of us – our capacity to live in the face of ordinary sorrows, and to draw strength from the transformative power of art. Ultimately, it is a joyous tribute to the beauty of being alive. (257 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Blain, Georgia

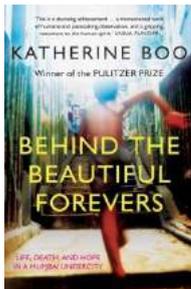
## Darkwater

*Mystery, Crime Fiction*

It's the summer of 1973, hot enough to melt asphalt, and down by the river, schoolgirl Amanda Clarke has been found dead.

As rumours fly, fifteen-year-old Winter searches for the truth - only to learn that you can never really know someone.

The answers she is looking for are closer than she has ever wanted to believe. (278 pages)



## Boo, Katherine

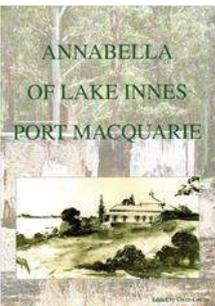
## Behind the Beautiful Forevers

*Non-Fiction*

**Winner of the National Book award for non-fiction**

In this brilliantly written, fast-paced book, based on three years of uncompromising reporting, a bewildering age of global change and inequality is made human.

Annawadi is a makeshift settlement in the shadow of luxury hotels near the Mumbai airport and as India starts to prosper Annawadians are electric with hope. Abdul, a reflective and enterprising Muslim teenager, sees a "fortune beyond counting" in the recyclable garbage that richer people throw away. Asha, a woman of formidable wit and deep scars from a childhood in rural poverty, has identified an alternate route to the middle class; political corruption. With a little luck, her sensitive, beautiful daughter - Annawadi's "most-everything girl" - will soon become its first female college graduate. And even the poorest Annawadians, like Kalu, a fifteen-year-old scrap-metal thief, believe themselves inching closer to the good lives and good times they call "the full enjoy". (256 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



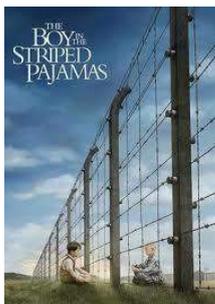
## Boswell, Annabella

## Annabella of Lake Innes Port Macquarie

*Australian Biography*

Annabella Alexandrina Campbell Innes [1826-1914] was born at Yarrows, Bathurst Plains, New South Wales. The niece of Major Archibald Clunes Innes, Annabella lived at Lake Innes House near Port Macquarie from 1843 to 1848. During this time, she kept a journal and found much to write about life at Lake Innes House and the nearby Port Macquarie settlement.

The house now lies in ruins, however Annabella's recollections live on in her journals which provide a detailed and formative description of the lifestyle, people and events of Port Macquarie during the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. (240 pages)



## Boyne, John

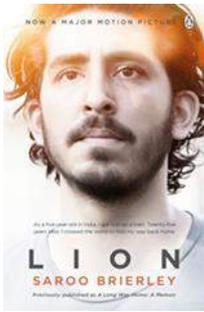
## The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

*Teen Fiction - Holocaust*

Berlin 1942. When Bruno returns home from school one day, he discovers that his belongings are being packed in crates. His father has received a promotion and the family must move from their home to a new house far, far away, where there is no one to play with and nothing to do. A tall fence running alongside stretches as far as the eye can see and cuts him off from the strange people he can see in the distance.

But Bruno longs to be an explorer and decides that there must be more to this desolate new place than meets the eye. While exploring his new environment, he meets another boy whose life and circumstances are very different to his own, and their meeting results in a friendship that has devastating consequences. (216 pages)

[\(DVD in set\)](#) [\(HCD in set\)](#) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Brierley, Saroo

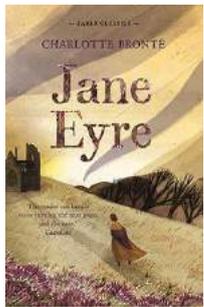
## Lion: A Long Way Home

*Australian Biography*

The Internationally bestselling true story of survival and triumph against incredible odds, now a major feature film. When Saroo Brierley used Google Earth to find his long-lost home town half a world away, he made global headlines. Saroo had become lost on a train in India at the age of five. Not knowing the name of his family or where he was from, he survived for weeks on the streets of Kolkata, before being taken into an orphanage and adopted by a couple in Australia.

Despite being happy in his new family, Saroo always wondered about his origins. He spent hours staring at the map of India on his bedroom wall. When he was a young man the advent of Google Earth led him to pore over satellite images of the country for landmarks he recognised. And one day, after years of searching, he miraculously found what he was looking for. Then he set off on a journey to find his mother. (257 pages)

[\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Bronte, Charlotte

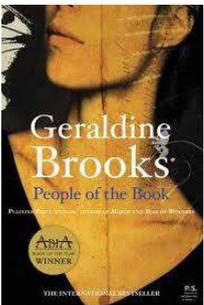
## Jane Eyre

*Novel*

Orphaned as a child, Jane has felt an outcast her whole young life. Her courage is tested once again when she arrives at Thornfield Hall, where she has been hired by the brooding, proud Edward Rochester to care for his ward Adèle. Jane finds herself drawn to his troubled yet kind spirit. She falls in love. Hard.

But there is a terrifying secret inside the gloomy, forbidding Thornfield Hall. Is Rochester hiding from Jane? Will Jane be left heartbroken and exiled once again? (532 pages)

[\(DVD and Blu Ray available through the catalogue\)](#)



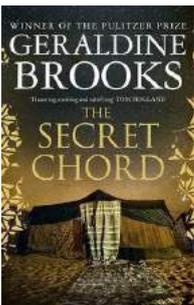
## Brooks, Geraldine

## People of the Book

*Australian Fiction - General*

In 1996, Hanna Heath, an Australian rare-book expert, is offered the job of a lifetime: analysis and conservation of the famed Sarajevo Haggadah, which has been rescued from Serb shelling during the Bosnian war. Priceless and beautiful, the book is one of the earliest Jewish volumes ever to be illuminated with images. When Hanna, a caustic loner with a passion for her work, discovers a series of tiny artifacts in its ancient binding—an insect wing fragment, wine stains, salt crystals, a white hair—she begins to unlock the book's mysteries.

In Bosnia during World War II, a Muslim risks his life to protect it from the Nazis. In the hedonistic salons of fin-de-siècle Vienna, the book becomes a pawn in the struggle against the city's rising anti-Semitism. In inquisition-era Venice, a Catholic priest saves it from burning. In Barcelona in 1492, the scribe who wrote the text sees his family destroyed by the agonies of enforced exile. And in Seville in 1480, the reason for the Haggadah's extraordinary illuminations is finally disclosed. Hanna's investigation unexpectedly plunges her into the intrigues of fine art forgers and ultra-nationalist fanatics. Her experiences will test her belief in herself and the man she has come to love. (465 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of MP3\)](#)



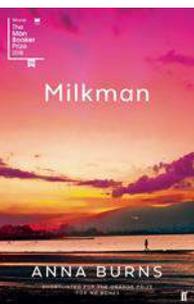
## Brooks, Geraldine

## The Secret Chord

*Australian Fiction - Historical*

Anointed as the chosen one when just a young shepherd boy, David will rise to be king, grasping the throne and establishing his empire. But his journey is tumultuous and the consequences of his choices will resound for generations. In a life that takes him from obscurity to fame, he is by turns hero and traitor, glamorous young tyrant and beloved king, murderous despot and remorseful, diminished patriarch. His wives love and fear him; his sons will betray him. It falls to Natan, the courtier and prophet who both counsels and castigates David, to tell the truth about the path he must take. (370 pages)

[\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Burns, Anna

*Winner of The Man Booker Prize 2018*

## Milkman

*General Fiction*

In this unnamed city, to be interesting is dangerous. Middle sister is busy attempting to keep her mother from discovering her maybe-boyfriend and to keep everyone in the dark about her encounter with Milkman. But when first brother-in-law sniffs out her trouble and rumours start to swell, middle sister becomes 'interesting'. The last thing she ever wanted to be. To be interesting is to be noticed and to be noticed is dangerous ...

Milkman is a tale of gossip and hearsay, silence and deliberate deafness. It is the story of inaction with enormous consequences. (348 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



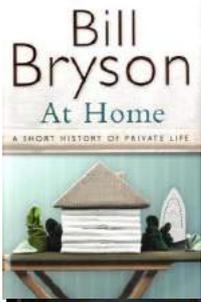
## Bryden, Christine

**Before I Forget**  
*Australian Biography*

*Some days all I want to do is give up the constant, exhausting struggle and stop trying to be normal. But I can't. It's not in me to walk away from a fight. I'll keep fighting and telling my story. Before I forget.'*

When she was just 46, Christine Bryden – science advisor to the prime minister and single mother of three daughters – was diagnosed with younger-onset dementia. Doctors told her to get her affairs in order as she would soon be incapable of doing so. Twenty years later she is still thriving, still working hard to rewire her brain even as it loses its function. The unusually slow progress of her condition puts Christine in a unique position to describe the lived experience of dementia, a condition 1800 Australians are diagnosed with each week. She shares what it's like to start grasping for words that used to come easily. To suddenly realise you don't remember how to drive. To be exhausted simply from the effort of trying to appear 'normal'.

In this inspiring memoir, Christine looks back on her life in an effort to understand how her brain – once her greatest asset, now her greatest challenge – works now. She takes us through being a gifted child and then a troubled adolescent, examines how she survived a destructive marriage while enjoying a high-flying career, and shares the steps she takes to maximise her brain function. This is Christine's legacy for people with dementia and those who care about them. (197 pages)



## Bryson, Bill

**At Home**  
*Non-Fiction*

Bill Bryson and his family live in a Victorian parsonage in a part of England where nothing of any great significance has happened since the Romans decamped. Yet one day, he began to consider how very little he knew about the ordinary things of life as he found it in that comfortable home. To remedy this, he formed the idea of journeying about his house from room to room to "write a history of the world without leaving home." (512 pages).

[\(e-book available\)](#)



## Burton, Jessie

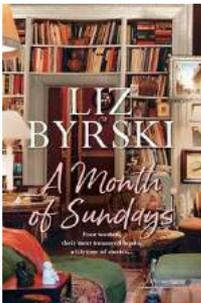
**The Miniaturist**  
*Historical Fiction*

There is nothing hidden, that will not be revealed ...

On an autumn day in 1686, eighteen-year-old Nella Oortman arrives at a grand house in Amsterdam to begin her new life as the wife of wealthy merchant Johannes Brandt. Though curiously distant, he presents her with an extraordinary wedding gift: a cabinet-sized miniaturist, whose tiny creations ring eerily true.

As Nella uncovers the secrets of her new household she realises the escalating dangers they face. The miniaturist seems to hold their fate in her hands - but does she plan to save or destroy them? (400 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of MP3\)](#)



## Byrski, Liz

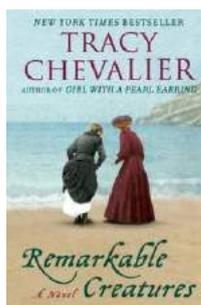
**A month of Sundays**  
*Australian General Fiction*

For over ten years, Ros, Adele, Judy and Simone have been in an online book club, but they have never met face to face. Until now...

Determined to enjoy her imminent retirement, Adele invites her fellow bibliophiles to help her house-sit in the Blue Mountains. It's a tantalising opportunity to spend a month walking in the fresh air, napping by the fire and, of course, reading and talking about books.

But these aren't just any books: each member has been asked to choose a book which will teach the others more about her. And, with each woman facing a crossroads in her life, it turns out there's a lot for them to learn, not just about their fellow book-clubbers, but also about themselves.

***A Month of Sundays reminds us of the joy, the comfort and the occasional challenge we can find in the pages of a book.*** (341 pages) [\(ebook available through catalogue\)](#)

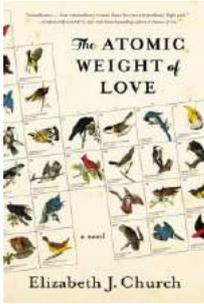


## Chevalier, Tracy

**Remarkable Creatures**  
*General Fiction*

In the early nineteenth century, a windswept beach along the English coast brims with fossils for those with the eye! From the moment she's struck by lightning as a baby, it is clear Mary Anning is marked for greatness. When she uncovers unknown dinosaur fossils in the cliffs near her home, she sets the scientific world alight, challenging ideas about the world's creation and stimulating debate over our origins. In an arena dominated by men, however, Mary is soon reduced to a serving role, facing prejudice from the academic community, vicious gossip from neighbours, and the heartbreak of forbidden love.

Even nature is a threat, throwing bitter cold, storms, and landslips at her. Luckily Mary finds an unlikely champion in prickly, intelligent Elizabeth Philpot, a middle-class spinster who is also fossil-obsessed. Their relationship strikes a delicate balance between fierce loyalty and barely suppressed envy. Despite their differences in age and background, Mary and Elizabeth discover that, in struggling for recognition, friendship is their strongest weapon. (352 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) [\(HCD in set\)](#)



## Church, Elizabeth J.

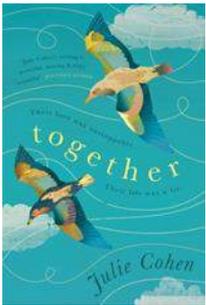
## The Atomic Weight of Love

Romance Fiction

A luminous and enthralling story of birds and science, ambition and sacrifice, revolutions - both big and small - and the late-blooming of an unforgettable woman.

Meridian Wallace has lived through the Second World War, the atomic age, the Vietnam War and the dawn of the new millennium - yet she has always been torn between who she is and who circumstances demand her to be. In 1941, spirited, ambitious and determined to prove worthy of the sacrifices her mother made for her, Meridian won a place at the University of Chicago to study ornithology. The last thing she expected was to fall in love with a man two decades older: her brilliant physics professor, Alden Whetstone - or for him to be recruited to Los Alamos, New Mexico, to take part in a mysterious wartime project.

When Meridian defers her plans to join him, she agrees to give Alden a year of her life. But this is a world, and a time, in which a wife cannot be a scientist and a woman cannot choose her own destiny. What begins as an electrifying intellectual partnership soon evolves into something quite different. As the decades pass, Meridian strives to resist the clipping of her wings. It is a choice that will make her enemies and bring her heartache, but it also opens up unexpected possibilities: of freedom, friendship and transformation. (352 pages)



## Cohen, Julie

## Together

General Fiction

*This is not a great love story.*

*This is a story about great love.*

On a morning that seems just like any other, Robbie wakes in his bed, his wife Emily asleep beside him, as always. He rises and dresses, makes his coffee, feeds his dogs, just as he usually does. But then he leaves Emily a letter and does something that will break her heart. As the years go back all the way to 1962, Robbie's actions become clearer as we discover the story of a couple with a terrible secret - one they will do absolutely anything to protect. (336 pages)



## Collins, Suzanne

## The Hunger Games

Teen Fiction - Science Fiction, Thriller

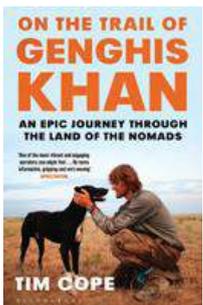
May the odds be ever in your favour.

Winning will make you famous. Losing means certain death.

In a dark vision of the near future, twelve boys and twelve girls are forced to appear in a live TV show called the Hunger Games. There is only one rule: kill or be killed.

When sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen steps forward to take her sister's place in the games, she sees it as a death sentence. But Katniss has been close to death before. For her, survival is second nature. (374 pages)

*(e-book available) (HCD in set)*



## Cope, Tim

## On the Trail of Genghis Khan

Non-Fiction

Tim Cope travelled the entire length of the steppe, 10,000 kilometres from Mongolia to Hungary, on horseback, inspired an extraordinary feat of the Mongols of the thirteenth century who, under the leadership of Genghis Khan, created the largest land empire in history. As he learns about the traditions and histories of the people of the steppe, his journey becomes both a celebration of and an elegy for an ancient way life.

*On The Trail of Genghis Khan* is a story of adventure, endurance and eventual triumph. (528 pages)



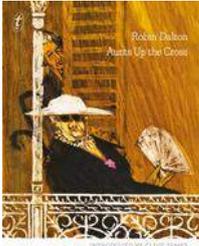
## Craven, Margaret

## I Heard the Owl Call My Name

Teen Fiction - Adventure, Historical

Amid the grandeur of the remote Pacific Northwest stands Kingcome, a village so ancient that, according to Kwakiutl myth, it was founded by the two brothers left on earth after the great flood. The Native Americans who still live there call it Quee, a place of such incredible natural richness that hunting and fishing remain a primary food source.

But the old culture of totems and potlatch is being replaced by a new culture of prefab housing and alcoholism. Kingcome's new younger generation is disenchanted and alienated from its heritage. And now, coming upriver is a young vicar. Mark Brian, on a journey of discovery that can teach him - and us - about life, death and the transforming power of love. (159 pages).



Text Classics

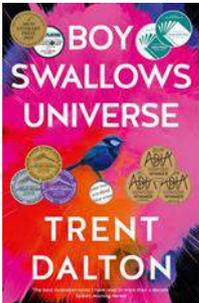
## Dalton, Robin

## Aunts up the Cross

Australian Biography

My great-aunt Juliet was knocked over and killed by a bus when she was eighty-five. The bus was travelling very slowly in the right direction and could hardly have been missed by anyone except Aunt Juliet, who must have been travelling fairly fast in the wrong direction.

Robin Dalton tells the story of her childhood in 1920s and '30s bohemian Kings Cross surrounded by eccentric aunts and uncles and a constant supply of houseguests. There was never a dull moment for the only child of the house, with family quirks, theatrical antics and a number of bizarre deaths. Told with warmth, wit and much humour, Aunts Up the Cross is a delightful glimpse into bygone Sydney. (180 pages)



## Dalton, Trent

## Boy swallows universe

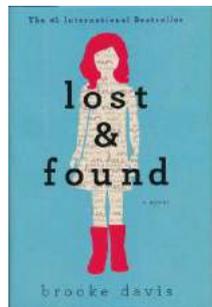
Australian Fiction - General

A novel of love, crime, magic, fate and coming of age, set in Brisbane's violent working class suburban fringe - from one of Australia's most exciting new writers.

Brisbane, 1983: A lost father, a mute brother, a mum in jail, a heroin dealer for a stepfather and a notorious crim for a babysitter. It's not as if Eli's life isn't complicated enough already. He's just trying to follow his heart, learning what it takes to be a good man, but life just keeps throwing obstacles in the way - not least of which is Tytus Broz, legendary Brisbane drug dealer.

Eli's life is about to get a whole lot more serious. He's about to fall in love. And, oh yeah, he has to break into Boggo Road Gaol on Christmas Day, to save his mum. A story of brotherhood, true love and the most unlikely of friendships, Boy Swallows Universe will be the most heartbreaking, joyous and exhilarating novel you will read all year. (464 pages)

(Catalogue copies of Audio CD, downloadable Audio Book and ebook available)



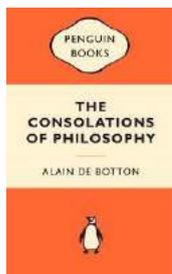
## Davis, Brooke

## Lost and Found

Australian Fiction - General

An irresistible and heartfelt debut novel about the wisdom of the very young, the mischief of the very old, and the magic that happens along the way. Millie Bird, seven years old and ever hopeful, always wears red gumboots to match her curly hair. Her struggling mother; grieving the death of Millie's father, leaves her in the big ladies' underwear department of a local store and never returns. Agatha Pantha, eighty-two, has not left her house - or spoken to another human being - since she was widowed seven years ago. She fills the silence by yelling at passer-by's, watching loud static on TV, and maintaining a strict daily schedule. Karl the Touch Typist, eighty-seven, once used his fingers to type out love notes on his wife's skin. Now that she's gone, he types out his words into the air, as he speaks. Karl's been committed to a nursing home, but in a moment of clarity and joy, he escapes. Now he's on the lam.

United at a fateful moment, the three embark upon a road trip to find Millie's mother. Together they will discover that old age is not the same as death, that the young can be wise, and that letting yourself feel sad once in a while just might be the key to a happy life. (272 pages)



## De Botton, Alain

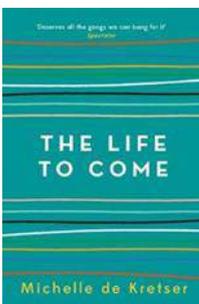
## The Consolations of Philosophy

Non-Fiction

Alain de Botton, best-selling author of "How Proust can Change Your Life", has set six of the finest mind in the history of philosophy to work on the problems of everyday life.

Here are Socrates, Epicurus, Seneca, Montaigne, Schopenhauer and Nietzsche on some of the things that bother us all: lack of money, the pain of love, inadequacy, anxiety, the fear of failure and the pressure to conform. (244 pages)

(e-book available) (MP3 in set)



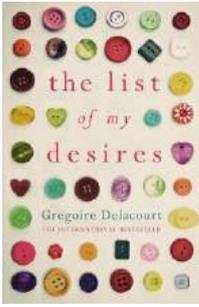
## De Kretser, Michelle

## The Life To Come

Australian Fiction - General

Michelle de Kretser's fifth novel is both a delicious satire on the way we live now and a poignant examination of the true nature of friendship. Set in Australia, France, and Sri Lanka, The Life to Come is about the stories we tell and don't tell ourselves as individuals, as societies, and as nations. Driven by a vivid cast of characters, it explores necessary emigration, the art of fiction, and ethnic and class conflict.

Pippa is a writer who longs for success. Celeste tries to convince herself that her feelings for her married lover are reciprocated. Ash makes a strategic use of his childhood in Sri Lanka, while Christabel struggles to cope with the death of a friend. Profoundly moving as well as biting funny. The Life to come reveals how the shadows cast by both the past and the future can transform, distort and undo the present. Travelling from Sydney to Paris and Sri Lanka, this mesmerising novel feels at once firmly classic and exhilaratingly contemporary. (373 pages) (e-book available)



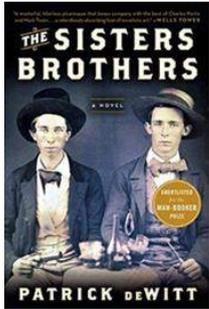
## Delacourt, Gregoire

## The List of My Desires

General Fiction

Money can buy you freedom. But what about happiness? When Jocelyne looks at herself in the mirror, she sees a middle-aged, married woman who runs a dressmaking shop in a small provincial French town and lives a very ordinary existence. But what happened to all those dreams she had when she was seventeen.

The she wins millions on the lottery and has the chance to change her life for ever. So why does she find herself reluctant to accept the money? To help her decide what to do, she beings to compile a list of her heart's desires, not suspecting for one moment that the decision might be taken out of her hands ... (214 pages)



## De Witt, Patrick

## The Sisters Brothers

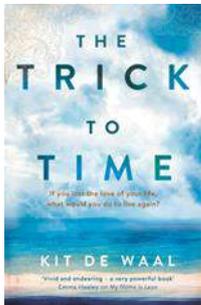
Western Fiction

Hermann Kermit Warm is going to die, and hired guns Eli and Charlie Sisters will make sure of it.

Though Eli doesn't share his brother's appetite for whiskey and killing, he's never known anything else.

But their prey isn't an easy mark, and on the road from Oregon City to Warm's gold-mining claim outside Sacramento, Eli begins to question what he does for a living – and whom he does it for. (325 pages) [\(catalogue large print copy\)](#)

*Shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and a Best Book of the Year.*



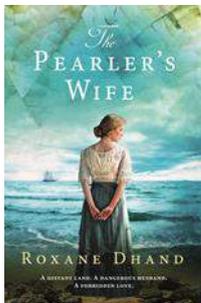
## De Waal, Kit

## The Trick to Time

General Fiction

Mona is a young Irish girl in the big city, with the thrill of a new job and a room of her own in a busy boarding house. On her first night out in 1970s Birmingham she meets William, a charming Irish boy with an easy smile and an open face. They embark upon a passionate affair, a whirlwind marriage, before a sudden tragedy tears them apart.

Decades later, Mona pieces together the memories of the years that separate them. But can she ever learn to love again? *The Trick to Time* is an unforgettable tale of grief, longing, and a love that lasts a lifetime. (262 pages)



## Dhand, Roxane

## The Pearler's Wife

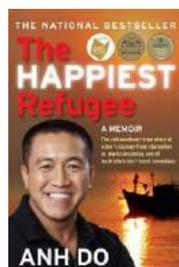
Australian Fiction - Historical

**A distant land. A dangerous husband. A forbidden love.**

The year is 1912. Nineteen-year-old Maisie Porter watches from the deck as England fades from view. Her destination is Buccaneer Bay in Australia's far north-west. Her fate: marriage to distant cousin Maitland Sinclair, a man she has never met.

When Maisie arrives in her new home, she finds a stifling small town bound by Victorian morals. Shocked at her new husband's callous behaviour towards her, she is increasingly drawn to the intriguing William Cooper, a British diver she met on board ship. It soon becomes clear that secrets surround her husband, as turbulent as the waters that crash against the bay. Secrets that somehow link to her own family – and secrets that put Cooper and his fellow British divers in great danger...

From the drawing rooms of London to the latticed verandas and gambling dens of Buccaneer Bay, *The Pearler's Wife* is a sweeping, epic read, inspired by a lost moment in history. (384 pages)



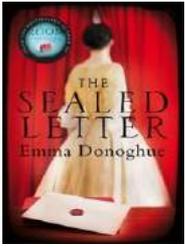
## Do, Anh

## The Happiest Refugee

Australian Biography

Anh Do nearly didn't make it to Australia. His entire family came close to losing their lives on the sea as they escaped from war-torn Vietnam in an overcrowded boat. But nothing - not murderous pirates, nor the imminent threat of death by hunger, disease or dehydration as they drifted for days - could quench their desire to make a better life in a country where freedom existed.

The Happiest Refugee tells the incredible, uplifting and inspiring life story of one of our favourite personalities. Tragedy, humour, heartache and unswerving determination a big life with big dreams. Anh's story will move and amuse all who read it. (232 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



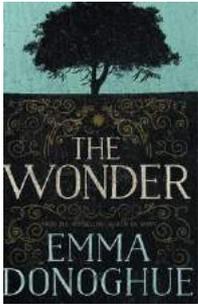
## Donoghue, Emma

## The Sealed Letter

*Historical Fiction*

Helen Codrington is unhappily married. Emily 'Fido' Faithfull hasn't seen her once-dear friend for years. After bumping into Helen on the streets of Victorian London, Fido finds herself reluctantly helping her to carry on an affair with a young army officer. The women's friendship quickly unravels amid courtroom accusations of adultery, counter-accusations of cruelty and attempted rape, and the appearance of a mysterious 'sealed letter' that could destroy more than one life.

Based on a real-life scandal that gripped England in 1864, *The Sealed Letter* is a delicious tale of secrets, betrayal, and forbidden love. (474 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Donoghue, Emma

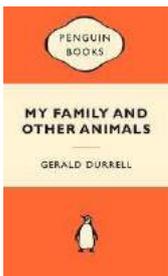
## The Wonder

*Historical Fiction, Psychological*

Lib Wright, a young English nurse, arrives in an impoverished Irish village on a strange mission. Eleven-year-old Anna O'Donnell is said to have eaten nothing for months but appears to be thriving miraculously. With tourists thronging to see the child, and the press sowing doubt, the baffled community looks to an outsider to bring the facts to light. Lib's job is simple: to watch the girl and uncover the truth.

An educated sceptic, trained by the legendary Florence Nightingale and repelled by what she sees as ignorance and superstition, Lib expects to expose the fast as a hoax right away. But as she gets to know the girl, over the long days they spend together, Lib becomes more and more unsure. Is Anna a fraud, or a 'living wonder'? Or is something more sinister unfolding right before Lib's eyes, a tragedy in which she herself is playing a part?

Written with all the propulsive tension that transported reader of *Room*, *The Wonder* is a haunting psychological thriller about the lengths we go to for the love of a child. (291 pages).



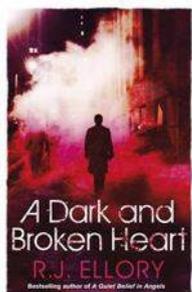
## Durrell, Gerald

## My Family & Other Animals

*Biography*

When the unconventional Durrell family can no longer endure the damp, grey English climate, they do what any sensible family would do: sell their house and relocate to the sunny Greek isle of Corfu.

*My Family and Other Animals* was intended to embrace the natural history of the island but ended up as a delightful account of Durrell's family's experiences, from the many eccentric hangers-on to the ceaseless procession of puppies, toads, scorpions, geckoes, ladybugs, glow worms, octopuses, bats, and butterflies into their home. (250 pages)



## Ellory, R. J.

## A Dark and Broken Heart

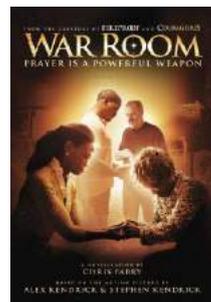
*Detective/Mystery Fiction*

It should have been easy for Vincent Madigan. Take four hundred thousand dollars away from some thieves, and who could they go to for help? No one at all.

Madigan is charming, effective, and knows how to look after himself. The only problem is that he's up to his neck in debt to the drug kingpin of Harlem. This one heist will free Madigan and finally give him a chance to get his life back on track.

But things go wrong when Madigan is forced to kill his co-conspirators and a child is shot in the crossfire. Now both sides of the law are hunting him down, and the cop assigned to lead the case is the very last person he could have expected ... (358 pages)

[Discussion questions at back of book](#)



## Fabry, Chris

## War Room

*Christian Fiction*

*Tony and Elizabeth Jordan have it all* - great jobs, a beautiful daughter, and their dream home. But appearances can be deceiving. Their world is actually crumbling under the strain of a failing marriage. While Tony basks in his professional success and flirts with temptation, Elizabeth resigns herself to increasing bitterness. But their lives take an unexpected turn when Elizabeth meets her newest client, Miss Clara, an older, wise widow who challenges Elizabeth to start fighting for her family instead of against her husband.

From the award winning creators of *Fireproof* and *Courageous* comes *War Room*, a compelling drama with humor and heart that explores the power that prayer can have on marriages, parenting, careers, friendships, and every other area of our lives. (404 pages) [\(DVD in set\)](#)



## Featherstone, Anna

## Honey Farm Dreaming *Australian Biography*

A farmyard full of animals, thousands of tourists in the garden, a hundred backpackers in the house, millions of bees in the air – and one family. What could possibly go wrong?

When Anna and Andrew move their young family to a farm, the future is uncertain. All they know is what they feel – a desire to become contributors, not consumers. City folk, they are starting from scratch 'not knowing how to make anything, grow anything, fix anything or really do anything'.

Ten years on, and the ninety acre farm transforms from a bland grass paddock to something that is energetic, vibrant, ethical and beautiful. The farm becomes home to honey and native bees and a multitude of plant and animal species; it lures thousands of visitors all seeking a slice of idyllic farm life to enrich their souls and, sometimes, their social media feeds. Meanwhile, Anna feeds her own soul, becoming a passionate producer of honey, herbs, handmade medicinal balms and other farm-made goods. It's called 'living the dream', but is it? (254 pages)



## Ferreira, Adrienne

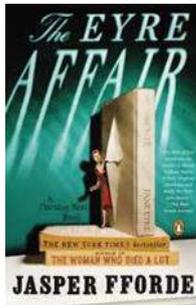
## Watercolours

*Australian Fiction - Gener*

Eleven-year-old Novi just wants to blend in – not easy when you're named after a silkworm and have the most eccentric family in town. A descendant of the first Italian silk growers in northern New South Wales, he is an obsessive artist with a habit of drawing the stories of the people around him, and a secret conviction that the river murdered his grandfather.

Young teacher Dom Best is new in town and must overcome his lack of confidence to support Novi's talent. Together with Camille, the enigmatic school librarian, Dom encourages the boy to release his inhibitions and unravel his unusual family history through his art – though little can he imagine the consequences this will bring. (336 pages)

*(e-book available) (catalogue copy of HCD)*



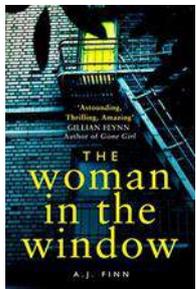
## Fforde, Jasper

## The Eyre Affair

*Detective/Mystery Fiction*

Welcome to the surreal version of Great Britain, circa 1985, where time travel is routine, cloning is a reality (dodos are the resurrected pet of choice), and literature is taken very, very seriously. England is a virtual police state where an aunt can get lost (literally) in a Wordsworth poem, militant Baconians heckle performances of *Hamlet*, and forging Byronic verse is a punishable offense. All this is business as usual for Thursday Next, renowned Special Operative in literary detection, until someone begins kidnapping characters from works of literature.

When Jane Eyre is plucked from the pages of Bronte's novel, Thursday must track down the villain and enter a novel herself to avert a heinous act of literary homicide. (374 pages) *(catalogue copy of HCD)*



## Finn, A. J.

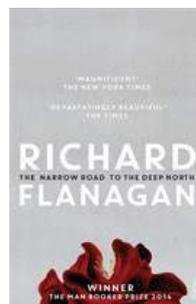
## The Woman in the Window

*Psychological Fiction, Thriller*

*What did she see?*

It's been ten long months since Anna Fox last left her home. Ten months during which she has haunted the rooms of her old New York house like a ghost, lost in her memories, too terrified to step outside. Anna's lifeline to the real world is her window, where she sits day after day, watching her neighbours. When the Russell family move in Anna is instantly drawn to them. A picture-perfect family of three, they are an echo of the life that was once hers.

But one evening, a frenzied scream rips across the silence, and Anna witnesses something no one was supposed to see. Now she must do everything she can to uncover the truth about what really happened. But even if she does, will anyone believe her? And can she even trust herself. (427 pages) *(e-book available)*



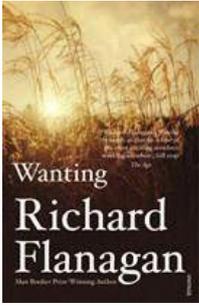
## Flanagan, Richard

## The Narrow Road to the Deep North

*Australian Fiction - War*

**Winner of the Man Booker Prize 2014.** August, 1943. In the despair of a Japanese POW camp on the Thai-Burma death railway, Australian surgeon Dorrigo Evans is haunted by his love affair with his uncle's young wife two years earlier. Struggling to save the men under his command from starvation, from cholera, from beatings, he receives a letter that will change his life forever.

A story about the many forms of love and death, of war and truth, as one man comes of age, prospers, only to discover all that he has lost. (467 pages) *(e-book available) (catalogue copy of HCD)*



## Flanagan, Richard

## Wanting

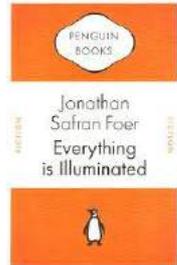
Australian Fiction - Aboriginal

1841. In the remote penal colony of Van Diemen's Land, a barefoot Aboriginal girl sits for her portrait in a red silk dress. She is Mathinna, the adopted daughter of the island's governor, Sir John Franklin, and his wife, Lady Jane, and the subject of a grand experiment in civilisation – one that will determine whether science and reason can be imposed in place of savagery and desire.

Years pass. Sir John Franklin has disappeared, along with his crew and two ships, on an expedition to find the fabled Northwest Passage. England is horrified as reports of cannibalism filter back from search parties, no one more so than the most celebrated novelist of the day, Charles Dickens, for whom Franklin's story becomes a means to plumb the frozen depths of his own soul.

As several lives become entwined by unexpected events and tragedies, *Wanting* transforms into a novel about the ways in which desire – and its denial – shape us all. (252 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(MP3 in set\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Foer, Jonathan Safran

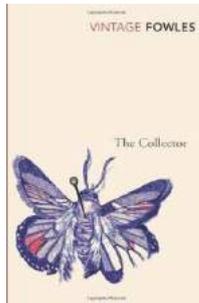
## Everything is Illuminated

General Fiction

With only a yellowing photograph in hand, a young man -- also named Jonathan Safran Foer -- sets out to find the woman who may or may not have saved his grandfather from the Nazis. Accompanied by an old man haunted by memories of the war; an amorous dog named Sammy Davis, Junior; and the unforgettable Alex, a young Ukrainian translator who speaks in a sublimely butchered English, Jonathan is led on a quixotic journey over a devastated landscape and into an unexpected past.

(276 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Fowles, John

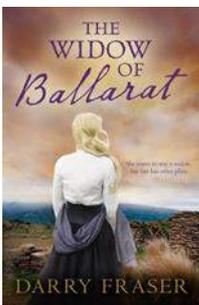
## The Collector

General Fiction

Hailed as the first modern psychological thriller, *The Collector* is disturbing, engrossing, unforgettable—the story of a lonely young man, who collects butterflies, and the girl he kidnaps and holds prisoner in his cellar.

This brilliant tale of obsessive love is John Fowles' debut novel and immediately established him as a major contemporary novelist. Critics on both sides of the Atlantic were dazzled by its simplicity and power, calling it a "remarkable tour de force" (*The New Yorker*) and "a haunting and memorable book" (*Times Literary Supplement*). (Adapted from the publisher.) (282 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Fraser, Darry

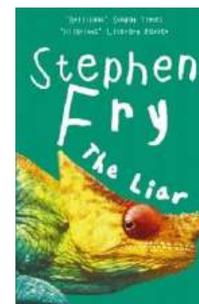
## The Widow of Ballarat

Australian Fiction - Historical/Romance

*A compulsively readable story of passion, adventure and a woman's quest for independence set against the colourful backdrop of 19th century Bendigo and the goldfields of Ballarat.*

**1854, Ballarat, Victoria** When Nell Amberton's husband is shot dead by a bushranger, there are few who grieve his passing, and Nell least of all. How could she miss the monster who had abused her from the day they wed - the man who had already killed his innocent first wife? But his death triggers a chain of events that seem to revolve around the handsome bushranger who murdered him - a man to whom Nell, against her better judgment, is drawn.

But Nell has far more than a mysterious stranger to worry about. With a mess of complications around her late husband's will, a vicious scoundrel of a father trying to sell her off in matrimony, and angry relatives pursuing her for her husband's gold, she is more concerned with trying to ensure her safety and that of her friend, goldfields laundry woman Flora, than dealing with the kind of feelings that led her astray so catastrophically before. After the violence on the goldfields, Nell's fate also hangs in the balance. It seems that, after all, she might need to do the one thing she has avoided at all costs...ask for the help of a man. (354 pages)



## Fry, Stephen

## The Liar

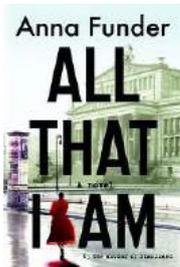
Novel

Stephen Fry's breathtakingly outrageous debut novel, by turns eccentric, shocking, brilliantly comic and achingly romantic.

Adrian Healey is magnificently unprepared for the long littleness of life; unprepared too for the afternoon in Salzburg when he will witness the savage murder of a Hungarian violinist; unprepared to learn about the Mendax device; unprepared for more murders; an wholly unprepared for the truth. (388 pages)

*One of our book clubs has suggested a content warning on this novel.*

[\(e-book available\)](#)

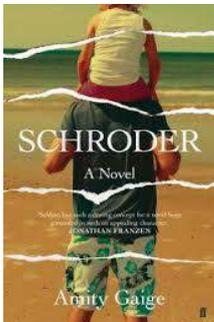


## Funder, Anna

**All That I Am**  
*Australian Fiction - War*

When Hitler comes to power in 1933, a tight-knit group of friends and lovers became hunted outlaws overnight. United in their resistance to the madness and tyranny of Nazism, they must flee the country. Dora, passionate and fearless, her love, the great playwright Ernst Toller, her younger cousin Ruth and Ruth's husband Hans find refuge in London. Here they take breathtaking risks in order to continue their work in secret.

But England is not the safe haven they think it to be, and a single, chilling act of betrayal will tear them apart... (368 pages)  
[\(e-book available\)](#)



## Gaige, Amity

**Schroder**  
*General Fiction*

A deeply affecting novel recounting the seven days a father spends on the road with his daughter after kidnapping her during a parental visit.

Young Eric Schroder - a first generation East German immigrant - adopts the last name Kennedy to fit in at his summer camp. This fateful white lie sets him on an improbably and ultimately tragic course. *Schroder* relates the story of Eric's urgent escape years later to Lake Champlain, Vermont, with his six-year-old daughter, Meadow, in an attempt to outrun the authorities amid a heated custody battle. From a correctional facility, Eric surveys the course of his life to understand - and maybe even justify - his behaviour. Alternately lovesick and ecstatic, Amity Gaige's deftly imagined novel offers a profound meditation on fatherhood and the many identities we take on in our lives - those we are born with and those we construct. (269 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)

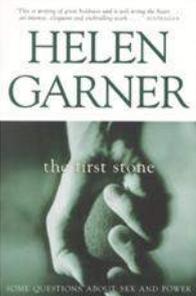


## Garner, Helen

**Everywhere I Look**  
*Australian Non-Fiction*

Spanning fifteen years of work, *Everywhere I Look* is a book full of unexpected moments, sudden shafts of light, piercing intuition, flashes of anger and incidental humour. It takes us from backstage at the ballet to the trial of a woman for the murder of her newborn baby. It moves effortlessly from the significance of moving house to the pleasure of re-reading *Pride and Prejudice*.

*Everywhere I Look* includes Garner's famous and controversial essay on the insults of age, her deeply moving tribute to her mother and extracts from her diaries, which have been part of her working life for as long as she has been a writer. *Everywhere I Look* glows with insight. It is filled with the wisdom of life. (227 pages)



## Garner, Helen

**The First Stone**  
*Australian Non-Fiction*

In the autumn of 1992, two young women students at Melbourne University went to the police claiming that they had been indecently assaulted at a party. The man they accused was the head of their co-ed residential college.

The shock of these charges split the community and painfully focused the debate about sex and power. (222 pages)



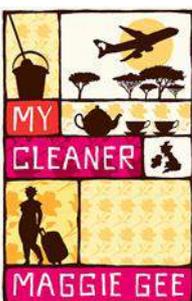
## Garner, Helen

**The Spare Room**  
*Australian Fiction - General*

This is a powerful, moving and at times unexpectedly funny novel about two women and their friendship challenged by illness and the threat of death. Helen has little idea what lies ahead when she offers her spare room to an old friend of fifteen years. Nicola has arrived in the city for treatment for cancer. Sceptical of the medical establishment, placing all her faith in an alternative health centre, Nicola is determined to find her own way to deal with her illness, regardless of the advice that Helen can offer.

In the weeks that follow, Nicola's battle against her cancer will turn not only her own life upside down but also those of everyone around her. *The Spare Room* is a magical gem of a book that packs a huge punch, charting a friendship as it is tested by the threat of death. (195 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)

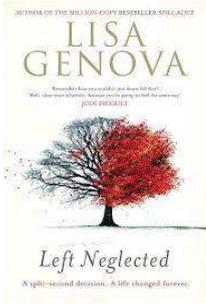


## Gee, Maggie

**My Cleaner**  
*Novel*

Ugandan Mary Tendo worked for many years in the middle-class Henman household in London, cleaning for Vanessa and looking after her only child, Justin. More than ten years after Mary has left, Justin - now twenty-two - is too depressed to get out of bed.

To his mother's surprise, he asks for Mary. When Mary responds to Vanessa's cry for help and returns from Uganda to look after Justin, the balance of power in the house shifts dramatically. Both women's lives change irrevocably as tensions build towards a startling climax on a snowbound motorway. (319 pages)



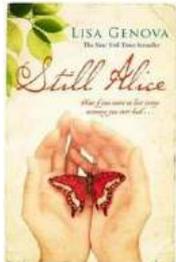
## Genova, Lisa

## Left Neglected

Psychological Fiction

Sara Nickerson is like any other career-driven super-mum in the affluent suburb where she leads a hectic but charmed life with her husband Bob and three children. Between excelling at work; shuttling the kids to football, day care, and piano lessons; convincing her son's teacher that he may not, in fact, have ADD; and making it home in time for dinner, it's a wonder this over-scheduled, high flyer has time to breathe.

Sarah carefully manages every minute of her life, until one fateful day, while driving to work, she looks away from the road for one second too long. In an instant all the rapidly moving parts of her jam-packed life come to a screeching halt. A traumatic brain injury completely erases the left side of her world. For once, Sarah must relinquish control to those around her, including her formerly absent mother. As she wills herself to recover, Sarah must learn that a happiness greater than all the success in the world is close within reach, if only she slows down long enough to notice. (324 pages) ([HCD in set](#)) ([e-book available](#))



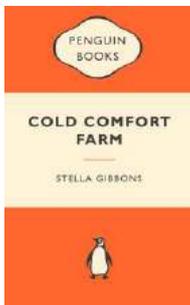
## Genova, Lisa

## Still Alice

General Fiction - Alzheimer's Disease

Alice Howland, happily married with three grown children and a house on the Cape, is a celebrated Harvard professor at the height of her career when she notices a forgetfulness creeping into her life. As confusion starts to cloud her thinking and her memory begins to fail her, she receives a devastating diagnosis: early onset Alzheimer's disease. Fiercely independent, Alice struggles to maintain her lifestyle and live in the moment, even as her sense of self is being stripped away. In turns heartbreaking, inspiring and terrifying, *Still Alice* captures in remarkable detail what's it's like to literally lose your mind... (292 pages)

([HCD in set](#)) ([e-book available](#))



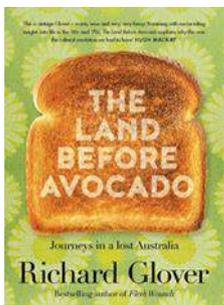
## Gibbons, Stella

## Cold Comfort Farm

General Fiction - Humorous

When sensible, sophisticated Flora Poste is orphaned at nineteen, she decides her only choice is to descend upon relatives in deepest Sussex. At the aptly named Cold Comfort Farm, she meets the doomed Starkadders, an eccentric group of relatives suffering from a wide variety of ailments. But Flora loves nothing better than to organise other people. Armed with common sense and a strong will, she resolves to take each of the family in hand.

A hilarious and merciless parody of rural melodramas, *Cold Comfort Farm* is one of the best-loved comic novels of all time. (264 pages) ([catalogue audio copy available](#))



## Glover, Richard

## The Land Before Avocado

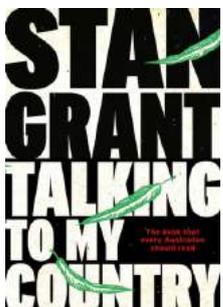
Australian Non-Fiction

In *The Land Before Avocado*, Richard Glover takes a journey to an almost unrecognisable Australia. It's a vivid portrait of a quite peculiar land: a place that is scary and weird, dangerous and incomprehensible, and, now and then, surprisingly appealing.

It's the Australia of his childhood. The Australia of the late '60s and early '70s. Let's break the news now: they didn't have avocado. It's a place of funny clothing and food that was appalling, but amusingly so. It also the land of staggeringly awful attitudes - often enshrined in law - towards anybody who didn't fit in.

The Land Before Avocado will make you laugh and cry, be angry and inspired.

And leave you wondering how bizarre things were, not so long ago. Most of all it will make you realise how far we've come - and how much further we can go. (272 pages) ([e-book available](#)) ([catalogue audio copy available](#)) ([downloadable audio copy](#))



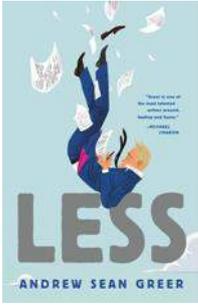
## Grant, Stan

## Talking to my Country

Australian Non-Fiction

In July 2015, as the debate over Adam Goodes being booed at AFL games raged and got ever more heated and ugly, Stan Grant wrote a short but powerful piece for *The Guardian* that went viral, not only in Australia but right around the world. His was a personal, passionate and powerful response to racism in Australia, which related the sorrow, shame, anger and hardship of being an indigenous man. Stan Grant was lucky enough to find an escape route through education, becoming one of our leading journalists. He spent many years outside Australia working in Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Africa, a time that liberated him and gave him a unique perspective on Australia.

Talking to my Country is Stan Grant's very personal meditation on race, identity and history. It is that rare and special book that talks to every Australian about their country - what it is, and what it could be. Direct, honest and forthright, Stan is talking to us all. He might not have all the answers but he wants us to keep on asking the questions: is this the country that we want to have? And how can we be better? (224 pages) ([e-book available](#))



## Greer, Andrew Sean

Less

Fiction - Humorous

*Who says you can't run away from your problems?*

Arthur Less is a failed novelist about to turn fifty. A wedding invitation arrives in the post: it is from an ex-boyfriend of nine years who is engaged to someone else. Arthur can't say yes – it would be too awkward; he can't say no – it would look like defeat. So, he begins to accept the invitations on his desk to half-baked literary events around the world.

From France to India, Germany to Japan, Arthur almost falls in love, almost falls to his death and puts miles between him and the plight he refuses to face. *Less* is a novel about mishaps, misunderstandings and the depths of the human heart. (261 pages)



## Grenville, Kate

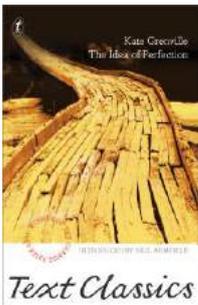
## One Life: My Mother's Story

Australian Biography

Nance was a week short of her sixth birthday when she and Frank were roused out of bed in the dark and lifted into the buggy, squashed in with bedding, the cooking pots rattling around in the back, and her mother shouting back towards the house: Goodbye, Rothsay, I hope I never see you again!

When Kate Grenville's mother died she left behind many fragments of memoir. These were the starting point for *One Life*, the story of a woman whose life spanned a century of tumult and change. In many ways Nance's story echoes that of many mothers and grandmothers, for whom the spectacular shifts of the twentieth century offered a path to new freedoms and choices. In other ways Nance was exceptional. In an era when women were expected to have no ambitions beyond the domestic, she ran successful businesses as a registered pharmacist, laid the bricks for the family home, and discovered her husband's secret life as a revolutionary.

*One Life* is an act of great imaginative sympathy, a daughter's intimate account of the patterns in her mother's life. It is a deeply moving homage by one of Australia's finest writers. (272 pages) (e-book available) (MP3 in set)



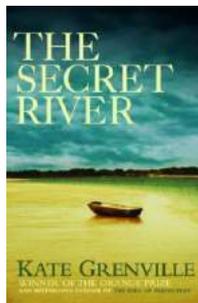
## Grenville, Kate

## The Idea of Perfection

Australian Fiction - General

*He was biting his bottom lip in his teeth, hard. She knew, without knowing, that he had grown the moustache to hide behind. It was just what she would have done if she had been born a man.*

Patchwork expert Harley Savage has come to Karakarook, population 1374, to establish its heritage museum. Engineer Douglas Cheeseman has come to tear down its beloved heritage bridge. Crippled by self-doubt, weighted down by failed relationships, these awkward individuals might actually be perfect for each other. But will they realise it? Warm, hilarious and affecting, *The Idea of Perfection* won the Orange Prize and announced Kate Grenville as a major international novelist. (432 pages)



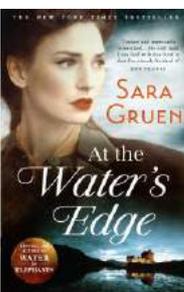
## Grenville, Kate

## The Secret River

Australian Fiction - Historical

In 1806 William Thornhill, an illiterate English bargeman and a man of quick temper but deep compassion, steals a load of wood, and as a part of his lenient sentence, is deported, along with his beloved wife, Sal, to the New South Wales colony is what would become Australia. *The Secret River* is the tale of William and Sal's deep love for their small, exotic corner of the new world, and William's gradual realisation that if he wants to make a home for his family, he must forcibly take the land from the people who came before him. *The Secret River* has been internationally praised as a magnificent, transporting work of historical fiction.

Kate Grenville is the author of *Sarah Thornhill* and *The Lieutenant*, winner of the Christina Stead Prize for fiction and named a Barnes & Nobel Review Best Historical Fiction Book of the Year. (334 pages) (e-book available) (catalogue copy of HCD & MP3)



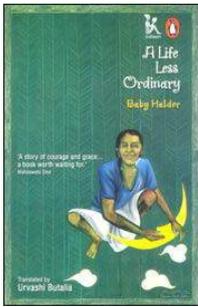
## Gruen, Sarah

## At the Water's Edge

Australian Fiction - General

After disgracing themselves at a high society New Year's Eve party in Philadelphia in 1944, Madeline Hyde and her husband Ellis are cut off financially by his father, a former army colonel who is already ashamed of his son's ability to serve in the war. When Ellis and his best friend Hank decide that the only way to regain the Colonel's favour is to succeed where the Colonel very publicly failed – by hunting down the famous Loch Ness Monster – Maddie reluctantly follows them across the Atlantic, leaving her sheltered world behind.

The trio find themselves amid the devastation of World War II, in a remote village in the Scottish Highlands, where the locals have nothing but contempt for the privileged interlopers. As the men go out looking for the monster, Maddie is left on her own at the isolated inn, where food is rationed, fuel is scarce, and a knock from the postman can bring tragic news. Gradually they friendships she forms open her up to a larger world than she knew existed. As she embraces a fuller sense of who she might be, Maddie becomes aware not only of the dark forces around her, but the beauty and surprising possibilities of life. (348 pages) (e-book available) (downloadable audio copy)



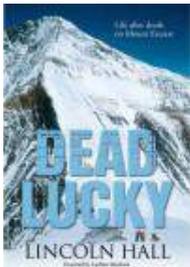
## Halder, Baby

## A Life Less Ordinary *Biography*

This is the story of Baby Halder, a young woman who battled poverty, hardship and violence to make a name for herself as a writer. Hurriedly married off at the age of twelve, a mother by the time she was fourteen, Baby lived inside her married home for several years, facing continual violence from her husband. Her father's long absences from their home, her mother's decision to walk out of the marriage, leave Baby and her sister to manage the household, were the realities that shaped Baby's early life. When marriage came Baby, still a child, yearned to play and study, but was burdened with the responsibility of being wife and mother.

Escape finally came many years later, by which time the still young Baby was a mother of three, and she fled to the city in the hope of finding a job. Working in Delhi as a domestic help, Baby was lucky enough to come across an employer who encouraged her to build upon her few years of education and to read - and then to write.

(173 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



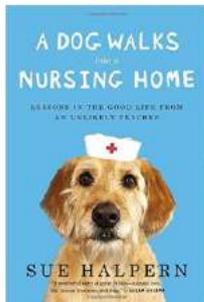
## Hall, Lincoln

## Dead Lucky *Australian Biography*

Lincoln Hall set off for Everest in early April 2006. Five weeks after reaching Base Camp in Tibet, he began his push for the summit. After three years of climbing higher into the oxygen-less air, he was blessed with a perfect summer day. For a few minutes, Hall was the highest man on the planet. His Sherpa companions arrived, photos were taken and the climbers commenced their long descent. Then things began to go horribly wrong....

Much was reported in the press about Hall's resurrection, but only he has real insight into what happened and how he survived that longest night. *Dead Lucky* is Lincoln Hall's own account of climbing Everest during a deadly season in which eleven people perished on the world's highest mountain. (393 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#)



## Halpern, Sue

## A Dog Walks into a Nursing Home *Australian Biography*

In late adolescence Pransky was bored: she needed a job. And so Sue Halpern decided to give herself and her under-occupied Labradoodle a new leash-er, lease-on life by getting the two of them certified as a therapy-dog team. Pransky proved to be not only a terrific therapist, smart and instinctively compassionate, but an unerring moral compass as well. In the unlikely-sounding arena of a public nursing home, she led her teammate into a series of encounters with the residents that revealed depths of warmth, humour and insight Halpern hadn't expected. Little by little, their adventures expanded and illuminated Halpern's sense of what goodness is and does - how acts of kindness transform the giver as well as the given-to.

Funny, moving and profound, *A dog walks into a nursing home* is the story of how one virtuous - that is to say, faithful, charitable, loving and sometimes prudent - mutt showed great hope, fortitude and restraint (the occasional begged or stolen treat notwithstanding) as she taught a well-meaning woman the essence and pleasures of the good life. (320 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



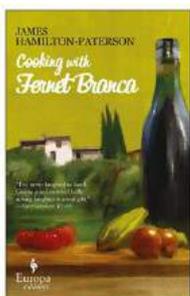
## Ham, Rosalie

## The Dressmaker *Australian Fiction - General*

In the 1950's Tilly Dunnage returns to a small Victorian town to care for her mad old mother. The townspeople drove her away many years ago, and she became an expert dressmaker in Paris. Now she earns her living by making exquisite frocks, while planning revenge.

Now a major motion picture starring Kate Winslet, Judy Davis, Liam Hemsworth and Hugo Weaving. (296 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD & MP3\)](#)



## Hamilton-Paterson

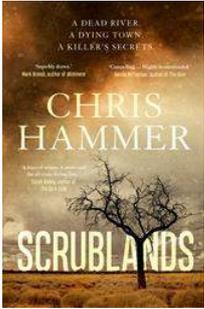
## Cooking with Fernet Branca *Travel memoir*

A witty satire of the expat experience in rural Europe and antidote to every 'wish-you-were-here' travel memoir, this novel is entertainment in its purest form.

Gerald Samper is all about the good life. On his own private hilltop in idyllic Tuscany, he is living his own brand of la bella vita working as a ghost writer for celebrities. He wiles away his free time concocting outrageous dishes with the distinctive liqueur gifted to the area's new arrivals. But it's not long before his little slice of paradise is shattered by the arrival of an eccentric neighbour.

Marta is a composer on the run from 'Voynovia,' a crime-riddled Eastern European nation to which she owes her distinctive accent. With her nocturnal helicopter visits and habitual piano-playing, it's not long before the two clash and become embroiled in an absurd turf war. The battle compels each side to devise increasingly strange retaliations: a back-and-forth which features such delicacies as Gerald's batch of Garlic and Fernet Branca Ice Cream and Marta's parody of her neighbour's terrible singing for a film score she's composing. With each ridiculous misunderstanding, the two are brought into ever closer and ever more disastrous proximity. In their earnest attempts to narrate their side of the story it quickly becomes apparent how unreliable they both really are.

An adroit, charming and bitingly funny comedy of manners for anyone who finds humour in the idiosyncrasies of human behaviour. (280 pages)



## Hammer, Chris

## Scrublands

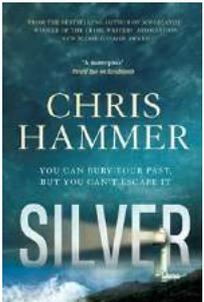
Australian Fiction - Detective/Mystery, Thriller

In an isolated country town brought to its knees by endless drought, a charismatic and dedicated young priest calmly opens fire on his congregation, killing five parishioners before being shot himself.

A year later, troubled journalist Martin Scarsden arrives in Riversend to write a feature on the anniversary of the tragedy. But the stories he hears from the locals about the priest and incidents leading up to the shooting don't fit with the accepted version of events his own newspaper reported in an award-winning investigation. Martin can't ignore his doubts, nor the urgings of some locals to unearth the real reason behind the priest's deadly rampage.

Just as Martin believes he is making headway, a shocking new development rocks the town, which becomes the biggest story in Australia. The media descends on Riversend, and Martin is now the one in the spotlight. His reasons for investigating the shooting have suddenly become very personal.

Wrestling with his own demons, Martin finds himself risking everything to discover a truth that becomes darker and more complex with every twist. But there are powerful forces determined to stop him, and he has no idea how far they will go to make sure the town's secrets stay buried. (481 pages) (e-book available) (catalogue copy of MP3)



## Hammer, Chris

## Silver

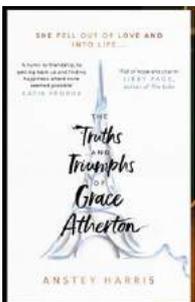
Australian Fiction - Detective/Mystery, Thriller

An enthralling and propulsive thriller from the acclaimed and bestselling author of *Scrublands* - #1 in the Martin Scarsden series.

For half a lifetime, journalist Martin Scarsden has run from his past. But now there is no escaping. He'd vowed never to return to his hometown, Port Silver, and its traumatic memories. But now his new partner, Mandy Blonde, has inherited an old house in the seaside town and Martin knows their chance of a new life together won't come again. Martin arrives to find his best friend from school days has been brutally murdered, and Mandy is the chief suspect. With the police curiously reluctant to pursue other suspects, Martin goes searching for the killer. And finds the past waiting for him.

He's making little progress when a terrible new crime starts to reveal the truth. The media descend on Port Silver, attracted by a story that has it all: sex, drugs, celebrity and religion. Once again, Martin finds himself in the front line of reporting. Yet the demands of deadlines and his desire to clear Mandy are not enough: the past is ever present.

(563 pages) (MP3 copy available through catalogue)



## Harris, Anstey

## The truths and triumphs of Grace Atherton

Adult fiction

Set in Paris and Italy, *The Truths and Triumphs of Grace Atherton* is a beautiful and uplifting exploration of love, loss and hope.

Grace Atherton, a talented cellist, is in love with David. Together in their apartment in Paris, Grace and David are happy until an unexpected event changes everything.

Nadia is seventeen and furious. She knows that love will only let her down: if she is going to succeed, it will be on her own terms.

At eighty-six Maurice Williams has discovered a lot about love in his long life, and even more about people. And yet, he keeps secrets.

When Grace's life falls apart in the most shocking of ways Maurice and Nadia come to her rescue, helping her to find happiness and hope through the healing power of friendship. (368 pages)



## Harrison, Chris

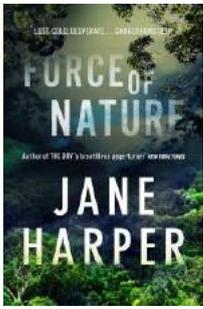
## Head Over Heel

Australian Biography

A whitewashed fishing village, a shapely signorina and an infatuated young man - head over heels on the heel of the boot of Southern Italy. This is Chris Harrison's hilarious and captivating story of leaving his previous life for La Dolce Vita - that quintessentially Italian seductive way of life, with its luscious foods, physical beauty and sun-drenched vistas.

On a trip to Dublin, Chris falls head over heels in love with Daniela, an Italian girl with eyes the colour of Guinness, and follows her to her small home town of Andrano on the coast of Puglia. Among olive groves and cobblestone lanes, Chris takes us on a moving, insightful and often hilarious journey into the heart of southern Italy. Along the way he introduces us to a cast of eccentric characters: a policeman who rearranges crimes to suit the necessary forms, a doctor who prescribes patients his homemade lemon liqueur, and - the biggest challenge of all - Daniela's mamma, who's determined to convert Chris to the Catholic faith, supervise his choice of underwear, and build a second storey on her stucco home where the couple might live happily ever after.

Can this relationship with Southern Italy possibly survive or will the sweet life turn sour? (320 pages)



**Harper, Jane**  
*What has happened to Alice Russell?*

**Aaron Falk #2**

**Force of Nature**  
*Australian Fiction - Mystery*

Five women reluctantly pick up their backpacks and start walking along the muddy track. Only four come out the other side. The hike through the rugged Giralang Ranges is meant to take the office colleagues out of their air-conditioned comfort zone and teach resilience and team building. At least that is what the corporate retreat website advertises.

Federal Police Agent Aaron Falk has a keen interest in the whereabouts of the missing bushwalker. Alice Russell is the whistle blower in his latest case. She knows all the secrets: about the company she works for and the people she works with. Far from encouraging teamwork, Falk is told a tale of violence and disintegrating trust. And as he delves into the disappearance, it seems some dangers run far deeper than anyone knew. (380 pages).

[\(e-book available, catalogue copy of MP3 and HCD\)](#)



**Harper, Jane**

**Aaron Falk #1**

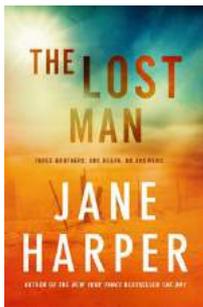
**The Dry**  
*Australian Fiction - Mystery*

Luke Hadler turns a gun on his wife and child, then himself. The farming community of Kierwarra is facing life and death choices daily. If one of their own broke under the strain, well ...

When Federal Police investigator Aaron Falk returns to Kierwarra for the funerals, he is loath to confront the people who rejected him twenty year earlier. But when his investigative skills are called on, the facts of the Hadler case start to make him doubt this murder-suicide charge.

And as Falk probes deeper into the killings, old wounds are reopened. For Falk and his childhood friend Luke a shared secret ... A secret Falk though long-buried ... A secret which Luke's death starts to bring to the surface ... (340 pages)

[\(e-book available, catalogue copy of MP3 and HCD\)](#)



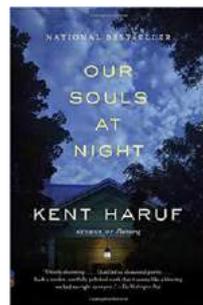
**Harper, Jane**

**The Lost Man**  
*Australian Fiction - Mystery*

**Two brothers meet at the border of their vast cattle properties under the unrelenting sun of outback Queensland, in this stunning new standalone novel.**

They are at the stockman's grave, a landmark so old, no one can remember who is buried there. But today, the scant shadow it casts was the last hope for their middle brother, Cameron. The Bright family's quiet existence is thrown into grief and anguish. Something had been troubling Cameron. Did he lose hope and walk to his death? Because if he didn't, the isolation of the outback leaves few suspects...

Dark, suspenseful, and deeply atmospheric, The Lost Man is the highly anticipated next book from the bestselling and award-winning Jane Harper, author of The Dry and Force of Nature. (362 pages) [\(MP3, HCD and Large Print copies available\)](#)



**Haruf, Kent**

**Our Souls at Night**  
*General Fiction*

*This is a love story. A story about growing old with grace.*

Addie Moore and Louis Waters have been neighbours for years. Now they both live alone, their houses empty of family, their quiet night's solitary. Then one evening Addie pays Louis a visit.

Their brave adventures form the beating hear of *Our Souls at Night*, Kent Haruf's exquisite final novel.

[\(179 pages\) \(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)

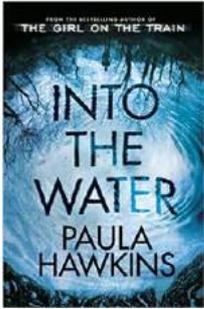


**Harvey, Jonathan**

**The Girl Who Just Appeared**  
*General Fiction*

LONDON THE PRESENT Holly Smith has never fitted in. Adopted when just a few months old, she's always felt she was someone with no history. All she has is the address of where she was born - 32B Gambier Terrace, Liverpool. When Holly discovers that the flat is available to rent, she travels north and moves in. An in the very same flat, under the floorboards, she finds a biscuit tin full of yellowing papers. Could these papers be the key to her past?

LIVERPOOL - 1981 Fifteen year old Darren is negotiating life with his errant mother and the younger brother he is raising. When the Toxteth Riots explode around him, Darren finds himself with a moral dilemma that will have consequences for the rest of his life. Moving between the past and the present, Darren and Holly's lives become intertwined. Will finding Darren give Holly the answers she craves? Or will she always feel like the girl who just appeared? (373 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Hawkins, Paula

## Into the Water

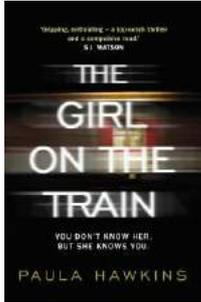
Fiction - Detective/Mystery

*'I need you to call me back. It's important.'*

Just days before her sister plunged to her death, Jules ignored her call. Now Nel is dead. They say she jumped. And Jules must return to her sister's house to care for her daughter, and to face the mystery of Nel's death.

But Jules is afraid. Of her long-buried memories, of the old Mill House, of this small town that is drowning in secrecy ... And of knowing that Nel would never have jumped. (426 pages).

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#) [\(catalogue large print copy\)](#) [\(downloadable audio\)](#) all available on individual member's library card for borrowing.



## Hawkins, Paula

## The Girl on the Train

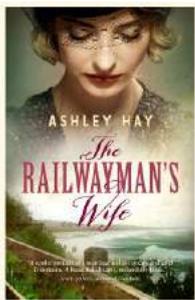
Psychological Fiction, Thriller

Every day the same. Until today.

Rachel catches the same commuter train every morning. She knows it will wait at the same signal each time, overlooking a row of back gardens. She's even started to feel like she knows the people who live in one of the houses. Their life - as she sees it - is perfect. If only Rachel could be that happy.

And then she sees something shocking, and in one moment everything changes. Now Rachel has a chance to become a part of the lives she's only watched from afar. Now they'll see: she's much more than just the girl on the train. (409 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(HCD in set\)](#)



## Hay, Ashley

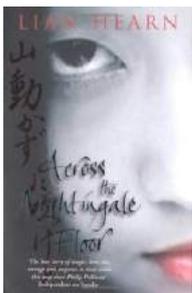
## The Railwayman's Wife

Australian Fiction - General

In Thirroul in 1948, people chase their dreams through the books in the railway's library. Anikka Lachlan searches for solace after her life is destroyed by a single random act. Roy McKinnon, who found poetry in the mess of war, has lost his words and his hope. Frank Draper is trapped by the guilt of those his treatment and care failed on their first day of freedom. All three struggle with the same question: how now to be alive.

Written in clear, shining prose and with an eloquent understanding of the human heart, *The Railwayman's Wife* explores the power of beginnings and endings, and how hard it can be sometimes to tell them apart. It's a story of life, loss and what comes after; of connection and separation, longing and acceptance. Most of all, it celebrates love in all its forms, and the beauty of discovering that loving someone can be extraordinary as being loved yourself.

*A story that will break your heart with hope.* (307 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Hearn, Lian

## Across the Nightingale Floor

Fantasy Fiction

**#1 in Tales of the Otori series - You can borrow both together**

Takeo is the only survivor when a brutal massacre wipes out his village. That day he cheats death, but his life will never be his own again. Rescued, then adopted, by the mysterious Lord Otori Shigeru, Takeo starts a new life as heir to the Otori clan. But a sinister organisation called The Tribe claims him as their own and has dark plans for his future. For Takeo has incredible magical powers - he can make himself invisible, he can be in two places at once, he hears what other people cannot. These skills make him the perfect assassin - a deadly weapon for The Tribe. But before Takeo will pledge his life to them he must make a dangerous journey of revenge. There is no place for the passion of first love - but when Takeo meets the beautiful, forbidden Kaede, he knows that he can never give her up. (305 pages) **Shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal.**



## Hearn, Lian

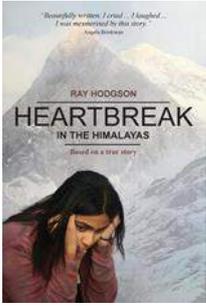
## Grass For His Pillow

Fantasy Fiction

**#2 in Tales of the Otori series (#1 Across the Nightingale Floor) - You can borrow both together**

Takeo, heir to the great Otori clan, has pledged his life to the secret Tribe. His supernatural skills of virtual invisibility and acute hearing make him their most deadly assassin. But he must deny the solemn oath of vengeance he made, his adopted birthright of wealth, land and power - and his love for Kaede. If he does not devote himself entirely to the brutal ways of the Tribe, they will kill him. Whichever path he chooses, it will lead to hardship and sacrifice in the bitter winter of the high mountains, and test him to the limits of his being.

Kaede, heiress to vast lands, is now the valuable pawn of ruthless warlords. She must use her intelligence, beauty and cunning to assert her place in a world of all-powerful men - who must never suspect the dangerous secret she hides. (333 pages)



## Hodgson, Ray

## Hearbreak in the Himalayas

*Non-Fiction*

**'We can fix this woman. We can take away her chronic pain and stop her incontinence. We can restore her sexual function. We can restore her dignity. We just need more light'**

Set in the foothills of the spectacular Himalayas, Australian surgeon Dr Ray Hodgson and his exceptional team of volunteers battle more than just the power grid in their fight to improve the lives of desperate Nepalese women. Tackling the overwhelming prevalence of genital prolapse in this exotic corner of the world, this spellbinding story details the struggles the team face as they strive to overcome scarce supplies, gender discrimination, and cultural roadblocks.

Heartbreak in the Himalayas gives readers a priceless insight into Nepal's true culture and its intimate relationship with the health of its people. Dr Ray weaves his way into the heart of this mesmerising country, and shines a light on the hopes, dreams, and the heartbreaks of these intriguing people. (394 pages)



## Honeyman, Gail

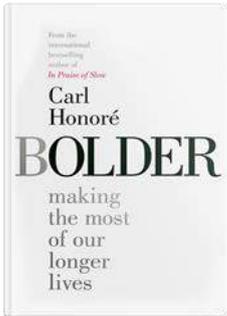
## Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine

*General Fiction*

Eleanor Oliphant leads a simple life. She wears the same clothes to work every day, eats the same meal deal for lunch every day and buys the same two bottles of vodka to drink every weekend.

Eleanor Oliphant is happy. Nothing is missing from her carefully timetabled existence. Except, sometimes, everything ... (383 pages)

[Discussion questions at the back of book.](#)



## Honoré, Carl

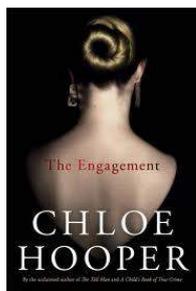
## Bolder

*Non-Fiction*

**Carl Honoré captured the zeitgeist with his international sensation, *In Praise of Slow*. In *Bolder*, he introduces us to another rising movement: a revolution in our approach to ageing.**

Ageing is inevitable. In this time of longer lifespans, however, we have the potential to age better than ever before. Having travelled the globe to meet the pioneers who are redefining ageing, Carl Honoré explores the cultural, medical and technological **trends that will help us make the most of our longer lives**. He shows us that the time has come to cast off prejudices and blur the lines of what is possible at every age. We can tear up the old script that locks us into learning in early life, working in the middle years and pursuing leisure with whatever time is left at the end. Instead, we can learn, work, rest, care for others, volunteer, create and have fun all the way through our lives.

*Bolder* is a **radical re-think** of our approach to everything from education, healthcare and work, to design, relationships and politics. **An essential and inspiring read to help all of us make ageing a bonus rather than a burden.** (304 pages)



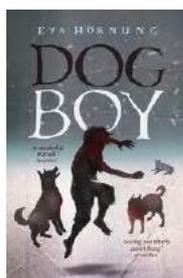
## Hooper, Chloe

## The Engagement

*Australian Fiction - General*

Liese Campbell has an engagement for the weekend: to stay with Alexander Colquhoun, the well-mannered heir of a pastoral dynasty, at his property in western Victoria. Liese, an English architect in flight from the financial crisis, now works at her uncle's real-estate business in Melbourne. Alexander has been looking for a place in the city. The luxury apartments Liese shows him have become sets for a relationship that satisfies their fantasies - and helps pay her debts. It's a game. Both players understand the rules. Or so she thinks. Across the ancient landscape they drive at dusk to his grand decaying mansion. Here Liese senses a change in Alexander, and realises a different game has begun.

This gripping, provocative new novel by one of Australia's finest writers is a psychological thriller for the modern age, one which explores the snares of money and love, and the dark side of erotic imagination. A trap has been set, but how and why? And for whom? (247 pages) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



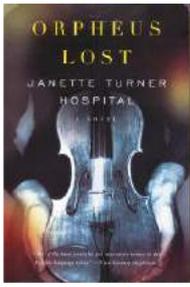
## Hornung, Eva

## Dog Boy

*Australian Fiction - General*

Four-year-old Romochka is left alone in a dark, empty Moscow apartment. After a few days, hunger drives him outside, where he sees a large, yellow dog loping past and follows her to her lair on the outskirts of the city. During the seasons that follow, Romochka changes from a boy into something far wilder. He learns to see in the dark, attack enemies with tooth and claw, and understand the strict pack code. But when he begins to hunt in the city, the world of human beings, it is only a matter of time before the authorities take an interest.....(304 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#)



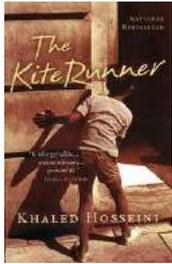
## Hospital, Janette Turner

## Orpheus Lost

Australian Fiction - General

Leela is a mathematician who has escaped her Southern hometown to study in Boston. She meets an Australian musician, Mishka, and from the moment she first hears him play his music grips her; they quickly become lovers. Then one day Leela is picked up off the street and taken to an interrogation centre somewhere outside the city. There has been an explosion in the subway; terrorism is suspected. The interrogator—an old childhood friend—now reveals to her that Mishka may not be all he seems. In this compelling reimagining of the Orpheus story, Leela travels into an underworld of kidnapping, torture, and despair in search of her lover.

Janette Turner Hospital, whose works are "richly imbued with a highly lyrical and luminous quality" (*San Diego Union-Tribune*) again shows her genius, interweaving a literary thriller with a story of passion and the triumph of decency in confusing and dangerous times. (368 pages) (e-book available)



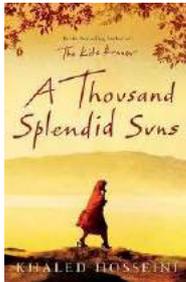
## Hosseini, Khaled

## The Kite Runner

General Fiction

Taking us from Afghanistan in the final days of the monarchy to the present, *The Kite Runner* is the unforgettable, beautifully told story of the friendship between two boys growing up in Kabul. Raised in the same household and sharing the same wet nurse, Amir and Hassan nonetheless grow up in different worlds: Amir is the son of a prominent and wealthy man, while Hassan, the son of Amir's father's servant, is a Hazara, member of a shunned ethnic minority. Their intertwined lives, and their fates, reflect the eventual tragedy of the world around them. When the Soviets invade and Amir and his father flee the country for a new life in California, Amir thinks that he has escaped his past. And yet he cannot leave the memory of Hassan behind him.

(340 pages) (e-book available) (HCD in set)



## Hosseini, Khaled

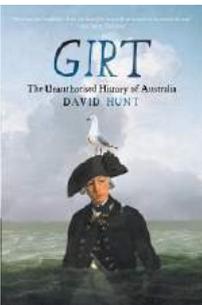
## A Thousand Splendid Suns

General Fiction

Born a generation apart and with very different ideas about love and family, Mariam and Laila are two women brought jarringly together by war, by loss and by fate. As they endure the ever escalating dangers around them—in their home as well as in the streets of Kabul—they come to form a bond that makes them both sisters and mother-daughter to each other, and that will ultimately alter the course not just of their own lives but of the next generation.

With heart-wrenching power and suspense, Hosseini shows how a woman's love for her family can move her to shocking and heroic acts of self-sacrifice, and that in the end it is love, or even the memory of love, that is often the key to survival.

(372 pages) (e-book available) (HCD in set)



## Hunt, David

## Girt: The Unauthorised History of Australia

Australian Non-Fiction

Girt. No word could better capture the essence of Australia ...

In this hilarious history, David Hunt reveals the truth of Australia's past, from megafauna to Macquarie - the cock-ups and curiosities, the forgotten eccentrics and Eureka moments that have made us who we are. Girt introduces forgotten heroes like Mary McLoughlin, transported for the crime of "felony of sock," and Trim the cat, who beat a French monkey to become the first animal to circumnavigate Australia. It recounts the misfortunes of the escaped Irish convicts who set out to walk from Sydney to China, guided only by a hand-drawn paper compass, and explains the role of the coconut in Australia's only military coup. Our nation's beginnings are steeped in the strange, the ridiculous and the frankly bizarre. Girt proudly reclaims these stories for all of us.

Not to read it would be un-Australian. (286 pages) (e-book available)



## Huxley, Aldous

## Brave New World

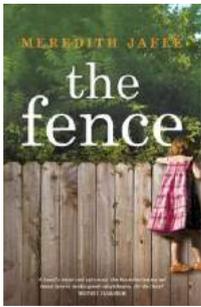
Science Fiction

Far in the future, the World Controllers have created the ideal society. Through clever use of genetic engineering, brainwashing and recreational sex and drugs all its members are happy consumers.

Bernard Marx seems alone in harbouring an ill-defined longing to break free. A visit to one of the few remaining Savage Reservations, where the old, imperfect life still continues, may be the cure for his distress...

Huxley's ingenious fantasy of the future sheds a blazing light on the present and is considered to be his most enduring masterpiece. (229 pages)

(e-book available) (catalogue copy of HCD)

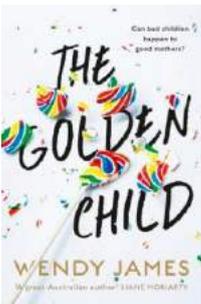


## Jaffe, Meredith

**The Fence**  
Australian Fiction

*'I promise you one thing, young lady. Building a fence is not going to keep the world out and won't keep your children in. Life's not that simple.'*

Gwen Hill adores Green Valley Avenue. Here she has built friendships, raised her children and nurtured a thriving garden. So when the house next door is sold, Gwen wonders how the new family will settle into this cosy community. Francesca Desmarchelliers has high hopes for the house of Green Valley Avenue. More than a new home, it's a clean slate for Frankie, who has moved her brood in a bid to save her marriage. To maintain her privacy and corral her wandering children, Frankie proposes a fence between the properties that would destroy Gwen's picture-perfect front yard. To Gwen, this is an act of war. Soon the neighbours are locked in an escalating battle over more than just council approvals, and boundaries are not the only things at stake. (368 pages)



## James, Wendy

**The Golden Child**  
Australian Fiction - Thriller

Blogger Lizzy's life is buzzing, happy, normal. Two gorgeous children, a handsome husband, destiny under control. For her real-life alter-ego, Beth, things are unravelling. Tensions are simmering with her husband, mother-in-law and even her own mother. Her teenage daughters, once the objects of her existence, have moved beyond her grasp and the younger of them has shown signs of thoughtlessness ...

When a classmate is callously bullied, the finger of blame is pointed at Beth's clever, beautiful child. Shattered, shamed and frightened, two families must negotiate worlds of cruelty they are totally ill-equipped for, and Beth must face the question: just how well does she know her children? (335 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## John, Elton

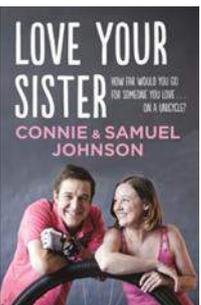
**Me**  
Biography

In his only official autobiography, music icon Elton John writes about his extraordinary life, which is also the subject of the film *Rocketman*.

Christened Reginald Dwight, he was a shy boy with Buddy Holly glasses who grew up in the London suburb of Pinner and dreamed of becoming a pop star. By the age of twenty-three, he was on his first tour of America, facing an astonished audience in his tight silver hotpants, bare legs and a T-shirt with ROCK AND ROLL emblazoned across it in sequins. Elton John had arrived and the music world would never be the same again.

His life has been full of drama, from the early rejection of his work with song-writing partner Bernie Taupin to spinning out of control as a chart-topping superstar; from half-heartedly trying to drown himself in his LA swimming pool to disco-dancing with the Queen; from friendships with John Lennon, Freddie Mercury and George Michael to setting up his AIDS Foundation. All the while, Elton was hiding a drug addiction that would grip him for over a decade.

In *Me* Elton also writes about getting clean and changing his life, about finding love with David Furnish and becoming a father.. (374 pages) [\(ebook and audio cd available through catalogue\)](#)



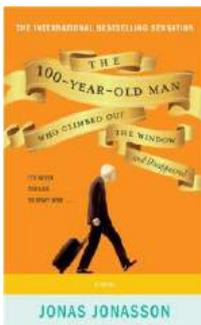
## Johnson, Connie and Samuel

**Love Your Sister**  
Australian Biography

A searingly honest memoir of family, cancer, love ... and unicycles by the founders of the LOVE YOUR SISTER charity, Connie and Samuel Johnson, that will inspire and they hope get people talking about boobs!

Born a year apart, Connie and Samuel Johnson have always been close. Faced with the devastating news that they would soon be separated forever, they made a decision. After already surviving cancer twice in her young life, at 33 Connie was diagnosed with breast cancer. But this time it was a whole different ball game. This time she was told she will die, leaving behind her two sons. As a young mum faced with her own death, Connie wanted to make it all less meaningless, and she knew just the way to do it - send her brother, Sam, on a one-wheeled odyssey around Australia.

These two remarkable Australians share their tale, from childhood through to the finish line and beyond in this truly unique story. Part memoir, part travel diary, part conversation, LOVE YOUR SISTER is an inspiring and unforgettable story that shows just how far one man will go for his sister (403 pages).

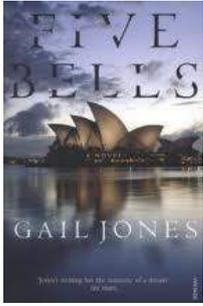


## Jonasson, Jonas

**The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared**  
General Fiction

After a long and eventful life, Allan Karlsson ends up in a nursing home, believing it to be his last stop. The only problem is that he's still in good health, and one day, he turns 100. A big celebration is in the works, but Allan really isn't interested (and he'd like a bit more control over his alcohol consumption). So he decides to escape, embarking on a hilarious and entirely unexpected journey.

It would be the adventure of a lifetime for anyone else, but Allan has a larger-than-life backstory: Not only has he witnessed some of the most important events of the twentieth century, he has actually played a key role in them. Quirky and utterly unique, *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* has charmed readers across the world. (384 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of DVD\)](#)



## Jones, Gail

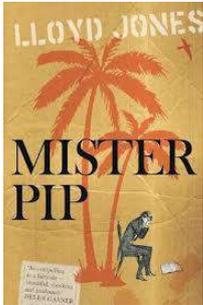
## Five Bells

Australian Fiction - General

On a radiant day in Sydney, four people converge on Circular Quay, site of the iconic Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Each of the four is haunted by memories of the past: Ellie is preoccupied by her experiences as a girl, James by a tragedy for which he feels responsible, Catherine by the loss of her beloved brother in Dublin and Pei Xing by her imprisonment during China's Cultural Revolution.

Told over the course of a single Saturday, *Five Bells*, vividly describes four lives which chime and resonate. By night-time, when Sydney is drenched in a rainstorm, each life has been transformed. (216 pages)

(e-book available)



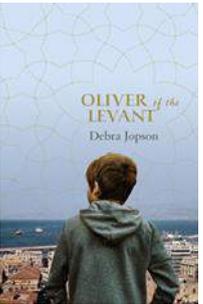
## Jones, Lloyd

## Mister Pip

General Fiction

In a novel that is at once intense, beautiful, and fable-like, Lloyd Jones weaves a transcendent story that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the power of narrative to transform our lives. On a copper-rich tropical island shattered by war, where the teachers have fled with most everyone else, only one white man chooses to stay behind: the eccentric Mr. Watts, object of much curiosity and scorn, who sweeps out the ruined schoolhouse and begins to read to the children each day from Charles Dickens's classic **Great Expectations**.

So begins this rare, original story about the abiding strength that imagination, once ignited, can provide. As artillery echoes in the mountains, thirteen-year-old Matilda and her peers are riveted by the adventures of a young orphan named Pip in a city called London, a city whose contours soon become more real than their own blighted landscape. As Mr. Watts says, "A person entranced by a book simply forgets to breathe." Soon come the rest of the villagers, initially threatened, finally inspired to share tales of their own that bring alive the rich mythology of their past. But in a ravaged place where even children are forced to live by their wits and daily survival is the only objective, imagination can be a dangerous thing. (220 pages) (e-book available) (HCD in set)



## Jopson, Debra

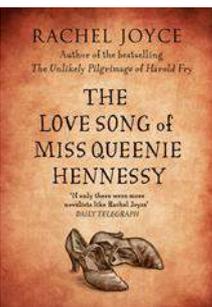
## Oliver of the Levant

Australian Fiction - General

It's 1969 and the world is alight with revolution. Oliver Lawrence, a Bondi Beach kid, is transported to one of the world's most bewitching cities: Beirut in the Levant. The city is on the verge of civil war, but Oliver, who idolises Jimi Hendrix and Lawrence of Arabia, is more concerned with holding his family together. This mission becomes complicated as Oliver's ravishing, gin-swilling stepmother, Babette, and cavalier playboy pilot father indulge in unbridled expatriate partying. And Babette has a secret that Oliver is determined to uncover.

Beirut is a confusing place to learn how to be a man, involving snipers, codes of honour and purloined letters. As Lebanon begins to disintegrate, no one can avoid being caught in the crossfire. It's bad enough when Oliver develops a very public crush on the local warlord's girlfriend, but it turns disastrous when his young guerrilla friend, 'Ringo', enlists his misguided enthusiasm to turn his exploding cigar magic trick into a suitcase bomb.

When Oliver is given an old Box Brownie, he finds a way into the world, into the lives of others and, finally, into adulthood. *Oliver of the Levant* is by turns humorous and heart-breaking, an all-at sea story about the secret longings of youth and the uncomfortable truths that make us who we are. (354 pages)



## Joyce, Rachel

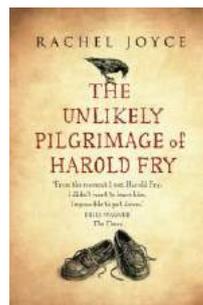
## The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy

General Fiction

When Queenie Hennessy discovers that Harold Fry is walking the length of England to save her, and all she has to do is wait, she is shocked. Her note had explained she was dying. How can she wait?

A new volunteer at the hospice suggests that Queenie should write again; only this time she must tell Harold everything. In confessing to secrets she has hidden for twenty years, she will find atonement for the past. As the volunteer points out, 'Even though you've done your travelling, you're starting a new journey too.'

Queenie thought her first letter would be the end of the story. She was wrong. It was the beginning. (352 pages) (e-book available) Large print copy available through library catalogue



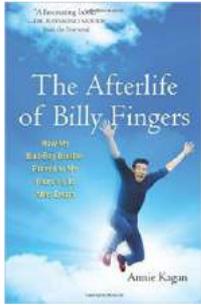
## Joyce, Rachel

## The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

General Fiction

When Harold Fry leaves home one morning to post a letter, with his wife hoovering upstairs, he has no idea that he is about to walk from one end of the country to the other.

He has no hiking boots or map, let alone a compass, waterproof or mobile phone. All he knows is that he must keep walking. To save someone else's life. (379 pages) (e-book available)



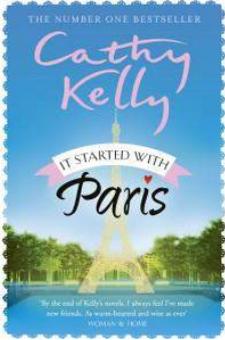
## Kagan, Annie

## The Afterlife of Billy Fingers

*Non-Fiction*

Annie Kagan is not a medium or a psychic, she did not die and come back to life; in fact, when she was awakened by her deceased brother, she thought perhaps she had gone a little crazy

In *The Afterlife of Billy Fingers: How My Bad-Boy Brother Proved to Me There's Life After Death*, Kagan shares the extraordinary story of her after death communications (ADC) with her brother Billy, who began speaking to her just weeks after his unexpected death. One of the most detailed and profound ADC's ever recorded, Kagan's book takes the reader beyond the near-death experience. Billy's vivid, real-time account of his on-going journey through the mysteries of death will change the way you think about life. Death and your place in the Universe. In his foreword, Dr Raymond Moody, author of *Life after Life*, explains the phenomena of walkers between the worlds, known to us since ancient times, and says that Dr. Kagan's thought-provoking account is an excellent example. (191 pages)



## Kelly, Cathy

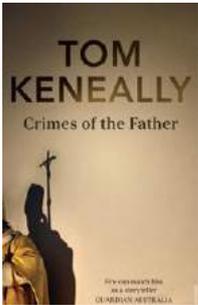
## It Started with Paris

*Romance Fiction*

At the top of the Eiffel Tower, a young man proposes to his girlfriend and in that second, everything changes – for the couple, but also for their families back in Ireland ...

Leila's been nursing a badly broken heart since her husband upped and left, but she's determined to put on a brave face for the bride. Vonnie, a widow and exceptional cake-maker, is just daring to let love back into her life, although someone seems determined to stop it. And head teacher Grace finds the impending wedding of her son means that she's spending more time with her ex-husband. After all those years apart, is it possible she's made a mistake? (487 pages)

(HCD in set)



## Keneally, Tom

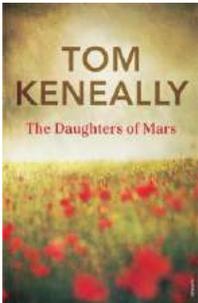
## Crimes of the Father

*Australian Fiction - General*

In this magnificent story, Keneally, ex-seminarian, pulls no punches as he interrogates the terrible damage done to innocents by the Catholic Church with its relentless covering up for its own.

Exiled to Canada due to his radical preaching on human rights, Father Frank Docherty is now a psychologist and monk. He returns to Australia to speak at a conference, and unwittingly is drawn in the stories of two people who claim to have sexually abused by an eminent Sydney monsignor. As a man of character and conscience, Docherty knows he must do all he can to bring their disturbing testimony to the attention of the Church, and to secular authorities, no matter at what personal cost.

This timely, courageous and profound novel is an exploration of faith as well as an examination of marriage, of conscience and celibacy, and of what has become one of our most controversial institutions, the Catholic Church. (379 pages).



## Keneally, Tom

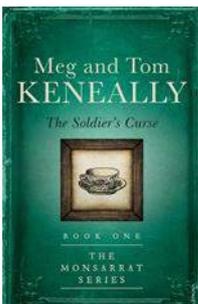
## The Daughters of Mars

*Australian Fiction - Historical*

Naomi and Sally Durance are daughters of a dairy farmer from the Macleay Valley. Bound together in complicity by what they consider a crime, when the Great War begins in 1914 they hope to submerge their guilt by leaving for Europe to nurse the tides of young wounded. They head for the Dardanelles on the hospital ship Archimedes. Their education in medicine, valour and human degradation continues on the Greek Islands of Lemnos, then on the Western Front. Here, new outrages - gas, shell-shock - present themselves. Naomi encounters the wonderful, eccentric Lady Tarlton, who is founding a voluntary hospital near Boulogne; Sally serves in a casualty clearing station close to the front. They meet the men with whom they would wish to spend the rest of their lives. Inspired by the journals of Australian nurses who gave their all to the Great War effort and the men they nursed, *The Daughters of Mars* is vast in scope yet extraordinarily intimate.

This is Keneally at the height of his storytelling powers; a stunning tour de force to join the best of First World War literature, and one that casts a penetrating light on the lives of obscure but strong women caught in the great mill of history. (528 pages)

(e-book available) (MP3 in set)



## Keneally, Meg & Tom

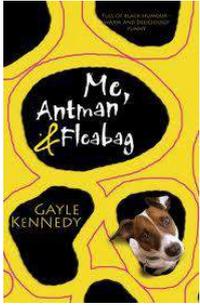
## The Soldier's Curse

*Australian Fiction - Historical, Detective/Mystery*

In the Port Macquarie penal settlement for second offenders, at the edge of the known world, gentlemen convict Hugh Monsarrat hungers for freedom. Originally transported for forging documents passing himself off as a lawyer, he is now the trusted clerk of the settlement's commandant.

His position has certain advantages, such as being able to spend time in the Government House kitchen, being supplied with outstanding cups of tea by housekeeper Hanna Mulrooney, who, despite being illiterate, is his most perceptive companion. Not long after the commandant heads off in search of a rumoured river, his beautiful wife, Honora, falls ill with a sickness the doctor is unable to identify. When Honara dies, it becomes clear she has been slowly poisoned.

Monsarrat and Mrs Mulrooney suspect the commandant's second-in-command, Captain Diamond, a cruel man who shares history with Honara. Then Diamond has Mrs Mulrooney arrested for the murder. Since she will hang if tried, Monsarrat knows he must find the real killer. (369 pages) (e-book available)



## Kennedy, Gayle

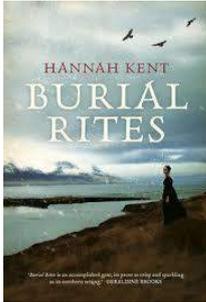
### Me, Antman & Fleabag *Australian Fiction - Humorous, Aboriginal*

Take one woman, her partner Antman and their dog Fleabag, pack up the car, turn up the country music and you've got one spirited road trip 'makin room for all the good things in life, like family, laughin, travellin and, best of all, love'.

Me, Antman, & Fleabag is packed to the roof with wicked black humour, eccentric aunties, six-fingered redheads, and martyrs to the cause of sheep well-being - all carried along with a dose of slim Dusty for good measure.

Gayle Kennedy has a gift for telling tales and making them sparkle with warmth and pathos in equal measure. Me, Antman & Fleabag is a funny and incisive look at contemporary indigenous life and the family and friends that make it up. 'So hold on to your Boongalungs; this'll be a crackin ride'. WINNER 2006 David Unaipon Award. (126 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#)



## Kent, Hannah

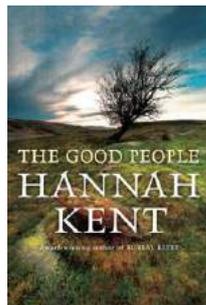
### Burial Rites

*Australian Fiction - Historical*

In Northern Iceland, 1829, Agnes Magnúsdóttir is condemned to death for her part in the brutal murder of two men. Agnes is sent to wait out the time leading to her execution on the farm of District Officer Jon Jonsson, his wife and their two daughters. Horrified to have a convicted murderer in their midst, the family avoids speaking with Agnes. Only Toti, the young assistant reverend appointed as Agnes's spiritual guardian, is compelled to try to understand her, as he attempts to salvage her soul. As the summer months fall away to winter and the hardships of rural life force the household to work side by side, Agnes's ill-fated tale of longing and betrayal begins to emerge. And as the days to her execution draw closer, the questions burns: did she or didn't she?

Based on a true story, Burial Rites, is a deeply moving novel about personal freedom: who we are seen to be versus who we believe ourselves to be, and the ways in which we will risk everything for love. In beautiful, cut-glass prose, Hannah Kent portrays Iceland's formidable landscape, where every day is a battle for survival, and asks, how can one woman hope to endure when her life depends upon the stories told by others? (322 pages)

[\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Kent, Hannah

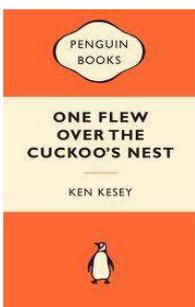
### The Good People

*Australian Fiction - Historical*

In the year 1825, in a remote valley lying between the mountains of south-west Ireland, near the Flesk river of Killarney, three women are brought together by strange and troubling events.

Nora Leahy has lost her daughter and her husband in the same year, and is now burdened with the care of her four-year-old grandson, Micheal. The boy cannot walk, or speak, and Nora, mistrustful of the tongues of gossips, has kept the child hidden from those who might see in his deformity evidence of otherworldly interference. Unable to care for the child alone, Nora hires a fourteen-year-old servant girl, Mary, who soon hears the whispers in the valley about the blasted creature causing grief to fall upon the widow's house. Alone, hedged in by rumour, Mary and her mistress seek out the only person in the valley who might be able to help Micheal. For although her neighbours are wary of her, it is said that old Nance Roche has the knowledge. That she consorts with Them, the Good People. And that only she can return those whom they have taken ... (380 pages)

[\(catalogue copy of MP3\)](#)



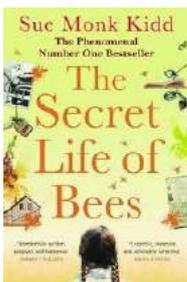
## Kesey, Ken

### One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

*Psychological Fiction*

Ken Kesey's One flew over the cuckoo's nest captured the radical anti-establishment mood of 1960's America. Tyrannical Nurse Ratched rules her psychiatric ward with an iron fist and a penchant for electric shock therapy, so when the boisterous McMurphy arrives – intent on disruption and showing the other patients a good time – a titanic battle of wills emerges. Kesey explores the shadowy boundaries between conformity and individuality, sanity and madness, with devastating effect. (281 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of MP3\)](#)



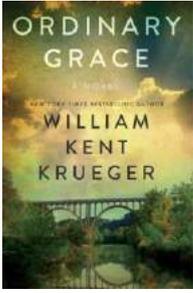
## Kidd, Sue Monk

### The Secret Life of Bees

*General Fiction*

Lily has grown up believing she accidentally killed her mother when she was just four years old. Now, at fourteen, she yearns for forgiveness and a mother's love. Living on a peach farm in South Carolina with her harsh and unyielding father, she has only one friend, Rosaleen, a black servant. When racial tension explodes one summer afternoon, and Rosaleen is arrested and beaten, Lily is compelled to act. Fugitives from justice, the pair follow a trail left by the woman who died ten years before. Finding sanctuary in the home of three beekeeping sisters, Lily starts a journey as much about her understanding of the world as about the mystery surrounding her mother. (318 pages)

[\(DVD in set\)](#)



## Krueger, William Kent

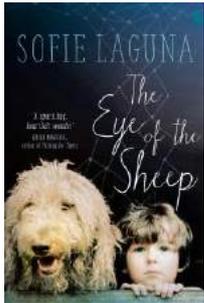
## Ordinary Grace

General Fiction

*"That was it. That was all of it. A grace so ordinary there was no reason at all to remember it. Yet I have never across the forty years since it was spoken forgotten a single word."*

New Bremen, Minnesota, 1961. The Twins were playing their debut season, ice-cold root beers were selling out at the soda counter of Halderson's Drugstore, and Hot Stuff comic books were a mainstay on every barbershop magazine rack. It was a time of innocence and hope for a country with a new, young president. But for thirteen-year-old Frank Drum it was a grim summer in which death visited frequently and assumed many forms. Accident. Nature. Suicide. Murder. Frank begins the season preoccupied with the concerns of any teenage boy, but when tragedy unexpectedly strikes his family—which includes his Methodist minister father; his passionate, artistic mother; Juilliard-bound older sister; and wise-beyond-his-years kid brother—he finds himself thrust into an adult world full of secrets, lies, adultery, and betrayal, suddenly called upon to demonstrate a maturity and gumption beyond his years.

Told from Frank's perspective forty years after that fateful summer, *Ordinary Grace* is a brilliantly moving account of a boy standing at the door of his young manhood, trying to understand a world that seems to be falling apart around him. It is an unforgettable novel about discovering the terrible price of wisdom and the enduring grace of God. (307 pages)



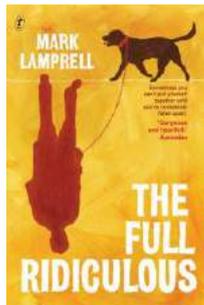
## Laguna, Sofie

## The Eye of the Sheep

Australian Fiction - General

Meet Jimmy Flick. He's not like other kids - he's both too fast and too slow. He sees too much, and too little. Jimmy's mother Paula is the only one who can manage him. She teaches him how to count sheep so that he can fall asleep. She holds him tight enough to stop his cells spinning. It is only Paula who can keep Jimmy out of his father's way. But when Jimmy's world falls apart, he has to navigate the unfathomable world on his own, and make things right.

Sofie Laguna's first novel *One Foot Wrong* received rave reviews, sold all over the world and was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award and shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Award. In *The Eye of the Sheep*, her great originality and talent will again amaze and move readers. In the tradition of *Room* and *The Lovely Bones*, here is a surprising and brilliant novel from one of our finest writers. (308 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) **Winner of the Miles Franklin award 2015**



## Lamprell, Mark

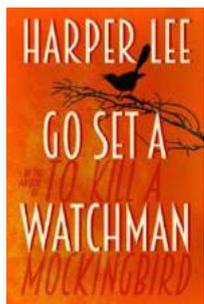
## The Full Ridiculous

Australian Fiction - Humorous

Michael O'Dell is hit by a car. When he doesn't die he is surprised and pleased. But from that point, despite the heroic support of his wife Wendy, Michael's life starts to spin out of control.

Daughter Rosie punches out a vindictive schoolmate, plunging the family into a special parent-teacher hell. Son Declan is found with a stash of drugs. A strange policeman starts harassing the family. Ordinary mishaps take on a sinister desperation. To top it all off, Michael's professional life starts to disintegrate.

*The Full Ridiculous* is a hilarious, painful novel about love, family and the precarious business of being a man. In his moving debut, Mark Lamprell exposes the terrible truth: sometimes you can't pull yourself together until you've completely fallen apart. (242 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Lee, Harper

## Go Set a Watchman

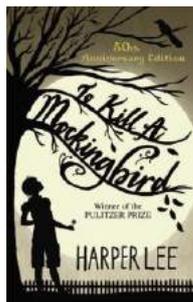
General Fiction

A historic literary event: the publication of a newly discovered novel, the earliest known work from Harper Lee, the beloved, bestselling author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning classic, *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Originally written in the mid-1950s, *Go Set a Watchman* was the novel Harper Lee first submitted to her publishers before *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Assumed to have been lost, the manuscript was discovered in late 2014.

*Go Set a Watchman* features many of the characters from *To Kill a Mockingbird* some twenty years later. Returning home to Maycomb to visit her father, Jean Louise Finch—Scout—struggles with issues both personal and political, involving Atticus, society, and the small Alabama town that shaped her.

Exploring how the characters from *To Kill a Mockingbird* are adjusting to the turbulent events transforming mid-1950s America, *Go Set a Watchman* casts a fascinating new light on Harper Lee's enduring classic. Moving, funny and compelling, it stands as a magnificent novel in its own right. (278 pages) [\(HCD in set\)](#)



## Lee, Harper

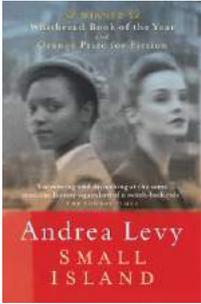
## To Kill a Mockingbird

Historical Fiction

The unforgettable novel of a childhood in a sleepy Southern town and the crisis of conscience that rocked it, *To Kill a Mockingbird* became both an instant bestseller and a critical success when it was first published in 1960. It went on to win the Pulitzer Prize in 1961 and was later made into an Academy Award winning film, also a classic.

Compassionate, dramatic, and deeply moving, *To Kill a Mockingbird* takes readers to the roots of human behaviour - to innocence and experience, kindness and cruelty, love and hatred, humour and pathos. Now with over 19 million copies in print and translated into ten languages, this regional story by a young Alabama woman claims universal appeal. Harper Lee always considered her book to be a simple love story. Today it is regarded as a masterpiece of American literature. (376 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Levy, Andrea

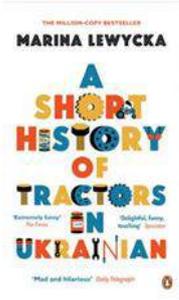
## Small Island

Historical Fiction

It is 1948, and England is recovering from a war. But at 21 Nevern Street, London, the conflict has only just begun.

Queenie Bligh's neighbours do not approve when she agrees to take in Jamaican lodgers, but with her husband, Bernard, not back from the war, what else can she do? Gilbert Joseph was one of the several thousand Jamaican men who joined the RAF to fight against Hitler. Returning to England as a civilian he finds himself treated very differently. Gilbert's wife Hortense too, had longed to find a better life in England. But when she joins him she is shocked that London is far from the golden city of her dreams. Even Gilbert is not the man she thought he was.

Small Island explores a point in England's past when the country began to change. In this delicately wrought and profoundly moving novel, Andrea Levy handles the weighty themes of empire, prejudice, war and love, with a superb lightness of touch and generosity of spirit. (400 pages) ([e-book discussion available](#))



## Lewycka, Marina

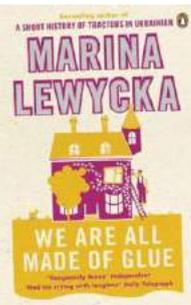
## A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian

General Fiction

"Two years after my mother died, my father fell in love with a glamorous blonde Ukrainian divorcee. He was eighty-four and she was thirty-six. She exploded into our lives like a fluffy pink grenade, churning up the murky water, bringing to the surface sludge of sloughed-off memories, giving the family ghosts a kick up the backside."

When their recently-widowed father announces he plans to remarry, sisters Vera and Nadezhda realise they must put aside a lifetime of feuding in order to save him. His new love is a voluptuous gold-digger from the Ukraine half his age, with a proclivity for green satin underwear and boil-in-the-bag cuisine, who stops at nothing in her single-minded pursuit of the luxurious Western lifestyle she dreams of. But the old man, too, is pursuing his eccentric dreams - and writing a history of tractors in Ukrainian.

A wise, tender and deeply funny novel about families, the belated healing of old wounds, trials and consolations of old age and - really - about the legacy of Europe's history over the last fifty years. (324 pages)



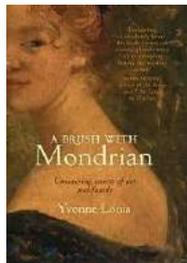
## Lewycka, Marina

## We Are All Made of Glue

General Fiction

Georgie Sinclair's life is coming unstuck. Her husband's left her. Her son's obsessed with the End of the World. And now her elderly neighbour Mrs Shapiro has decided they are related.

Or so the hospital informs her when Mrs Shapiro has an accident and names Georgie next of kin. This, however, is not a case of a quick ward visit: Mrs Shapiro has a large rickety house full of stinky cats that need looking after and which a pair of estate agents seem intent on swindling from her. Plus there are the 'Uselesses' trying to repair it (uselessly). Then there's the social worker who wants to put her in a nursing home. Not to mention some letters that point to a mysterious, painful past. As George tries her best to put Mrs Shapiro's life back together, somehow she must stop her own from falling apart... (418 pages)

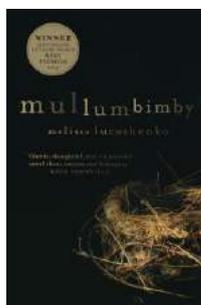


## Louis, Yvonne

## A Brush With Mondrian

Australian Biography

When bushfires threatened her home some fifteen years ago, Yvonne Louis thankfully managed to save the treasured Dutch heirlooms that had been handed down to her by her mother. But the near-catastrophe caused her to see these objects in a new light. She pondered especially on her favourite painting, a portrait of an elegant and mysterious young woman whom her family had once nicknamed 'Miss Maris'. Who was she really? And who had painted her? (298 pages)



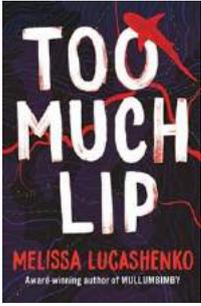
## Lucashenko, Melissa

## Mullumbimby

Australian Fiction

*A darkly funny novel of romantic love and cultural warfare.*

When Jo Breen uses her divorce settlement to buy a neglected farm in the Byron Bay hinterland, she is hoping for a tree change, and a blossoming connection to the land of her Aboriginal ancestors. What she discovers instead is sharp dissent from her teenage daughter Ellen, trouble brewing from unimpressed white neighbours, and a looming Native Title war among the local Bundjalung families. When Jo stumbles into love on one side of the Native Title divide she quickly learns that living on country is only part of the recipe for the Good Life. Told with humour and a sharp satirical eye, Mullumbimby is a modern novel set against an ancient land. (296 pages) ([e-book available](#))



## Lucashenko, Melissa

## Too much lip

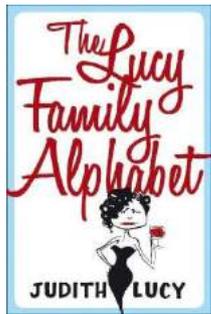
Australian Fiction

Winner of the 2019 Miles Franklin Award and shortlisted for the 2019 Stella Prize.

Too much lip, her old problem from way back. And the older she got, the harder it seemed to get to swallow her opinions. The avalanche of bullshit in the world would drown her if she let it; the least she could do was raise her voice in anger.

Wise-cracking Kerry Salter has spent a lifetime avoiding two things – her hometown and prison. But now her Pop is dying and she's an inch away from the lockup, so she heads south on a stolen Harley.

Kerry plans to spend twenty-four hours, tops, over the border. She quickly discovers, though, that Bundjalung country has a funny way of grabbing on to people. Old family wounds open as the Salters fight to stop the development of their beloved river. And the unexpected arrival on the scene of a good-looking dugai fella intent on loving her up only adds more trouble – but then trouble is Kerry's middle name. (328 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Lucy, Judith

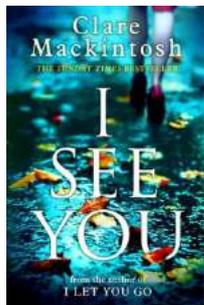
## The Lucy Family Alphabet

Australian Biography

The bestselling memoir by one of Australia's best-loved comedians. Judith Lucy has been cracking jokes about her parents for much of her career. But when a birth relative's casual comment implied that she must despise them, Judith was shocked. Sure, for years she had been talking about Ann and Tony Lucy like they were one-dimensional Irish nut bags who'd ruined her life, but who - in the end - doesn't love their parents?

If only she'd been told before the age of 25 that they weren't actually her parents...

From A is for Adoption to Z is for Zorba, this is the full story of one particular family, shown at their best, at their worst, and every letter in between. (285 pages) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



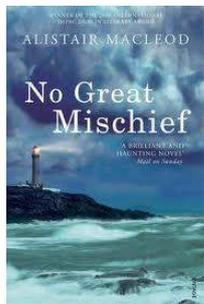
## Mackintosh, Clare

## I See You

Thriller Fiction

*You do the same thing every day. You know exactly where you're going. You're not alone*

When Zoe Walker sees her photo in the classifieds section of a London newspaper, she is determined to find out why it's there. There's no explanation: just a grainy image, a website address and a phone number. She takes it home to her family, who are convinced it's just someone who looks like Zoe. But the next day the advert shows a photo of a different woman, and another the day after that. Is it a mistake? A coincidence? Or is someone keeping track of every move they make. **I see you** is an edge-of-your-seat, page-turning psychological thriller. (372 pages)



## MacLeod, Alistair

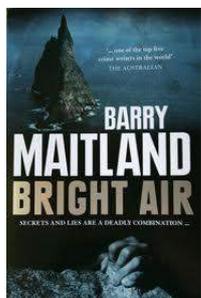
## No Great Mischief

Historical Fiction

In 1799, driven out of his home, Calum MacDonald sets sail from the Scottish Highlands with his extensive family. After a long, terrible journey he settles his family in 'the land of trees' until they become a separate Nova Scotian clan: red-haired and black-eyed, with its own identity, its own history.

It is the 1980's by the time our narrator, Alexander MacDonald, tells the story of his family, a thrilling and passionate story that intersects with history: with Culloden, where the clans died, and with the 1759 battle at Quebec that was won when General Wolfe sent in the fierce Highlanders because it as 'no great mischief if they fall'. (304 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#)



## Maitland, Barry

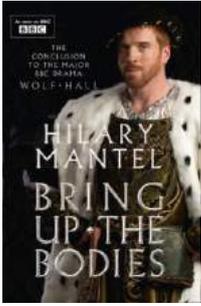
## Bright Air

Historical Fiction

On a cliff-face in New Zealand, two men fall to their deaths carrying the secret of a horrifying betrayal. Four years before, the bright and beautiful Luce, another member of the same close-knit group of friends, had also died tragically while climbing. As the circle of friends dwindles, Luce's best friend, Anna, persuades Josh, Luce's ex-lover, to help in her own investigation, as she's convinced that the original verdict of accidental death was wrong. Had details been overlooked, or, worse, ignored? In an attempt to uncover the truth, Josh and Anna follow Luce's last days to Lord Howe Island, but the long-cold trail and conspiratorial islanders seem certain to defeat them. After all, who could possibly have a reason to murder Luce? (303 pages)

A nail-biting page-turner, *Bright Air* is the compelling new mystery from the master of crime writing, Barry Maitland.

[\(e-book available\)](#)



## Mantel, Hilary

## Bring Up the Bodies

*Historical Fiction*

Bring up the Bodies unlocks the darkly glittering court of Henry VIII, where Thomas Cromwell is now chief minister. With Henry captivated by plain Jane Seymour and rumours of Anne Boleyn's faithlessness whispered by all, Cromwell knows what he must do to secure his position. But the bloody theatre of the queen's final days will leave no one unscathed ... (484 pages)

*(e-book available) (HCD in set)*

ONLINE **SBS on demand documentary** available at <http://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/video/246454851664/the-last-days-of-anne-boleyn>



## Maugham, W. Somerset

## The Painted Veil

*Historical Fiction*

Set in England and Hong Kong in the 1920's, The Painted Veil is the story of the beautiful but love-starved Kitty Fane. When her husband discovers her adulterous affair, he forces her to accompany him to the heart of a cholera epidemic. Stripped of the British society of her youth and the small but effective society she fought so hard to attain in Hong Kong, she is compelled by her awakening conscience to reassess her life and learn how to love.

The Painted Veil is a beautifully written affirmation of the human capacity to grow, to change and to forgive. (246 pages)

*(e-book available) (catalogue copy of HCD)*



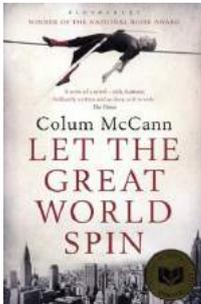
## Mawer, Simon

## Prague Spring

*General Fiction*

It's the summer of 1968, the year of love and hate, of Prague Spring and Cold War winter. Two English students, Ellie and James, set off to hitchhike across Europe with no particular aim in mind but a continent, and themselves, to discover. Somewhere in southern Germany they decide on a whim to visit Czechoslovakia, where Alexander Dubcek's 'socialism with a human face' is smiling on the world.

Meanwhile Sam Wareham, a first secretary at the British embassy in Prague, is observing developments in the country with a mixture of diplomatic cynicism and a young man's passion. In the company of a Czech student, Lenka Koneckova, he finds a way into the world of Czechoslovak youth, its hopes and its ideas. It seems that, for the first time, nothing is off limits behind the Iron Curtain. Yet the wheels of politics are grinding in the background. The Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev, is making demands of Dubcek, and the Red Army is massed on the borders. How will the looking disaster affect those fragile lives caught up in the invasion? (393 pages)



## McCann, Colum

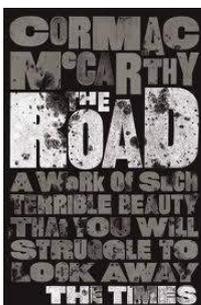
## Let the Great World Spin

*General Fiction*

New York, August 1974: a man is walking in the sky. Between the newly built Twin Towers, the man twirls through the air. Far below, the lives of complete strangers spin towards each other: Corrigan, a radical Irish monk working in the Bronx; Claire, a delicate Upper East Side housewife reeling from the death of her son; Lara, a drug-addled young artist; Gloria, solid and proud despite decades of hardship; Tillie, a hooker who used to dream of a better life; and Jazzlyn, her beautiful daughter raised on promises that reach beyond the skyline of New York.

In the shadow of one reckless and beautiful act, these disparate lives will collide, and be transformed forever. (349 pages)

*(e-book available)*



## McCarthy, Cormac

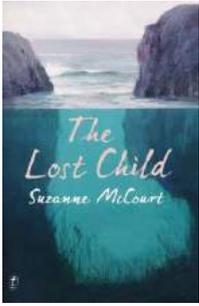
## The Road

*Science Fiction*

Described by The Times as "a work of such beauty that you will struggle to look away". A father and his young son walk alone through burned America, heading slowly for the coast.

Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. They have nothing but a pistol to defend themselves against the men who stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food - and each other. (307 pages)

*(e-book available)*



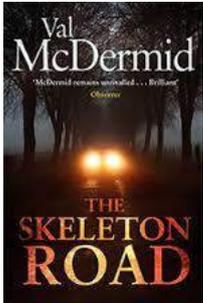
## McCourt, Suzanne

## The Lost Child

Australian Fiction – Detective/Mystery

Sylvie lives in Burley Point, a fishing village south of the Coorong on Australia's wild southern coast. She tries to make sense of her mother's brooding and her father's violent moods. She worships her big brother, Dunc, but when he goes missing she's terrified it's her fault. The bush and the birds and the endless beach are her only salvation, apart from her teacher, Miss Taylor.

Sylvie is a charming narrator with a big heart and a sharp eye for the comic moment. In the tradition of Anne Tyler, *The Lost Child* is a beautifully written story about family and identity and growing up. It's about what happens when the world can never be the same again. (287 pages) (e-book available)



## McDermid, Val

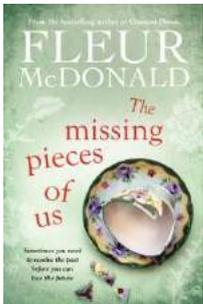
## The Skeleton Road

Detective/Mystery Fiction

Grinning at him across the brickwork was a skull, lying on a scatter of bones that had clearly once been a human being....

When a skeleton is discovered hidden at the top of a crumbling gothic building in Edinburgh, Detective Chief Inspector Karen Pirie is faced with the unenviable task of identifying the bones. As Karen's investigation gathers momentum, she is drawn deeper into a world of intrigue and betrayal, spanning the dark days of the Balkan Wars.

Karen's search for answers brings her to a small village in Croatia, a place scarred by fear, where people have endured unspeakable acts of violence. Meanwhile, someone is taking the law into their own hands in the name of justice and revenge - but when present resentment collides with secrets of the past, the truth is more shocking than anyone could have imagined... (406 pages)



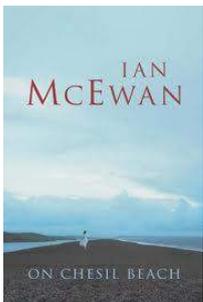
## McDonald, Fleur

## The Missing Pieces of Us

Australian Fiction - General

Lauren Ramsey is a teacher whose mantra is to never let a child fall through the cracks. But Lauren is so concerned about the welfare of a little boy in her kindy class she doesn't realise her own daughter, Skye, needs help.

At fourteen, Skye Ramsey is dealing with the usual pressures faced by teenage girls, from the pitfalls of social media to coping with fickle friends and the attention of boys. The only person who seems to listen to Skye is Tamara Thompson, the manager of her favourite clothes shop. Tamara knows what it's like to be a troubled teen because as an adolescent she felt unloved and overlooked. She now has a successful career and a partner who adores her, but her sense of worthlessness and fear of rejection are threatening to overwhelm her. *All three women are searching for a happier future, but finding it may lie in resolving secrets from their past ...* (316 pages) (e-book available)



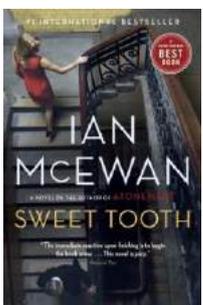
## McEwan, Ian

## On Chesil Beach

General Fiction

Unfolding with the mesmerizing, deeply human storytelling that has made Ian McEwan one of the most beloved authors of his generation, *On Chesil Beach* captures one night and two lifetimes, wound into a stunning turning point. In taut yet poignantly written scenes, newlyweds Florence and Edward navigate their wedding night, coping with their greatest fears and wishes.

The year is 1962; they have been steeped in a culture whose expectations for composure and maturity are high, with roles clearly defined and information about the mysteries of marriage—sexual or otherwise—rarely shared. As we watch husband and wife experience their first nuptial hours, *On Chesil Beach* illuminates the fragile dance of intimacy, a haunting ode to the true selves we so often refuse to reveal. (166 pages) (e-book available) (catalogue copy of DVD)



## McEwan, Ian

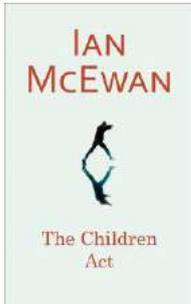
## Sweet Tooth

Fiction – Romance/Thriller

The year is 1972. The Cold War is far from over. Britain is being torn apart by industrial unrest and terrorism. Serena Frome, in her final year at Cambridge, is being groomed for M15.

Serena is sent on a secret mission - Operation Sweet Tooth - which brings her into the world of Tom Haley, a promising young writer. First she loves his stories, then she begins to love the man. Can she maintain the fiction of her undercover life? And who is inventing whom? To answer these questions, Serena must abandon the first rule of espionage - trust no one. (374 pages)

(HCD in set)(e-book available)



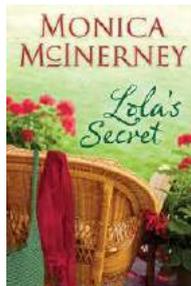
## McEwan, Ian

## The Children Act

General Fiction

Fiona Maye is a leading High Court judge, presiding over cases in the family court. She is renowned for her fierce intelligence, exactitude and sensitivity. But her professional success belies private sorrow and domestic strife. There is the lingering regret of her childlessness, and now her marriage of thirty years in crisis.

At the same time, she is called on to try an urgent case: for religious reasons, a beautiful seventeen-year-old boy, Adam, is refusing the medical treatment that could save his life, and his devout parents share his wishes. Time is running out. Should the secular court overrule sincerely held faith? In the course of reaching a decision Fiona visits Adam in hospital - an encounter which stirs long-buried feelings in her and powerful new emotions in the boy. Her judgement has momentous consequences for them both. (240 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## McInerney, Monica

## Lola's Secret

Australian Fiction - General

At the Valley View Motel in South Australia's picturesque Clare Valley, eighty-four-year-old Lola Quinlan is up to her usual mischief. She's sent her family away for Christmas and invited a number of mystery guests to come and stay. But who are all these people, and why aren't they spending the festive season with their own loved ones?

As the big day draws closer and Lola's personal family dramas threaten to unravel her plans, she discovers that at a special time of year, magic can happen in every family – especially your own.

From the bestselling author of *At home with the Templeton's* comes a funny, sad and moving novel about memories and moments and the very meaning of life. (379 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## McIntosh, Fiona

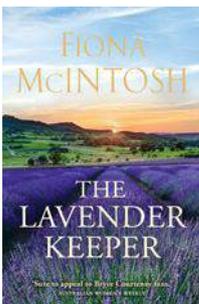
## The Chocolate Tin

Australian Fiction – Historical/Romance

Alexandra Frobisher is a modern-thinking woman with hopes of a career in England's famous chocolate-making town of York. She has received several proposals of marriage, although none of them promises that elusive extra – love. Matthew Britten-Jones is a man of charm and strong social standing. He impresses Alex and her parents with his wit and intelligence, but would an amicable union be enough for a fulfilling life together?

At the end of the war, Captain Harry Blakeney discovers a dead soldier in a trench in France. In the man's possession is a secret love note, tucked inside a tin of chocolate that had been sent to the soldiers as a gift from the people back home. In pursuit of the author of this mysterious message, Harry travels to Rowntree's chocolate factory in England's north, where his life becomes inextricably bound with Alexandra and Matthew's. Only together will they be able to unlock secrets of the past and offer each other the greatest gift for the future. From the battlefields of northern France to the medieval city of York, this is a heartbreaking tale about a triangle of love in all its forms and a story about the bittersweet taste of life . . . and of chocolate. (432 pages)

[\(downloadable audio and e-book available\)](#)



## McIntosh, Fiona

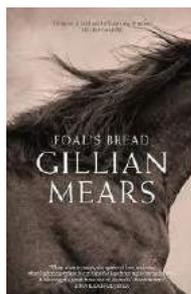
## The Lavender Keeper

Australian Fiction - General

Are you German or are you French? Are you working against Germany or for it? Are you telling me the truth, or are you a very accomplished liar? Lavender farmer Luc Bonet is raised by a wealthy Jewish family in the foothills of the French Alps. When the Second World War breaks out he joins the French Resistance, leaving behind his family's fortune, their home overrun by soldiers, their lavender fields in disarray.

Lisette Forestier is on a mission of her own: to work her way into the heart of a senior German officer – and to bring down the Reich in any way she can. What Luc and Lisette hadn't counted on was meeting each other. When they come together at the height of the Paris occupation, German traitors are plotting to change the course of history. But who, if anyone, can be trusted? As Luc and Lisette's emotions threaten to betray them, their love may prove the greatest risk of all. From the fields of Provence to the streets of wartime Paris, *The Lavender Keeper* is an extraordinary, moving story of action and adventure, heartbreak and passion, devotion and treachery from an internationally bestselling author. (485 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Mears, Gillian

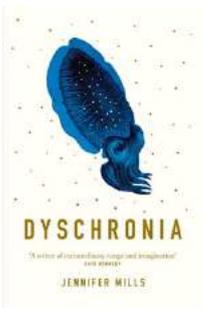
## Foil's Bread

Australian Fiction - General

Set in hardscrabble farming country, and the high-jumping circuit that prevailed in rural New South Wales prior to the Second World War, *Foil's Bread* tells the story of two generations of the Nancarrow family and their fortunes as dictated by fate and the vicissitudes of the land.

It is a love story of impossible beauty and sadness, a chronicle of dreams 'turned inside out', and miracles that never last, framed against a world both heartbreakingly tender and unspeakably hard.

With luminous prose and an aching affinity for the landscape, *Foil's Bread* is the work of a born writer at the height of her considerable powers. It is a novel of remarkable originality and virtuosity, which confirms Gillian Mears reputation as one of Australia's most exciting and acclaimed authors. (361 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



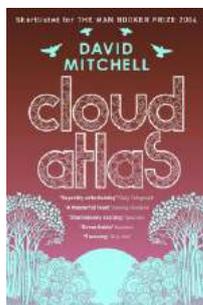
## Mills, Jennifer

**Dyschronia**  
Australian Fiction

An electrifying novel about an oracle. A small town. And the end of the world as we know it.

One morning, the residents of a small coastal town somewhere in Australia wake to discover the sea has disappeared. One among them has been plagued by troubling visions of this cataclysm for years. Is she a prophet? Does she have a disorder that alters her perception of time? Or is she a gifted and compulsive liar?

Oscillating between the future and the past, *Dyschronia* is a novel that tantalises and dazzles, as one woman's prescient nightmares become entangled with her town's uncertain fate. Blazing with questions of consciousness, trust and destiny, this is a wildly imaginative and extraordinary novel from award-winning author Jennifer Mills. (354 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



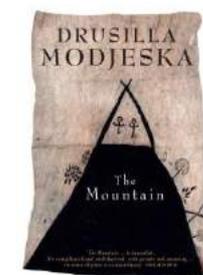
## Mitchell, David

**Cloud Atlas**  
Fantasy Fiction

'Souls cross ages like clouds cross skies.....'

Six interlocking lives - one amazing adventure. In a narrative that circles the globe and reaches from the 19th century to a post-apocalyptic future, David Mitchell erases the boundaries of time, genre and language to offer an enthralling vision of humanity's will for power and where it will lead.

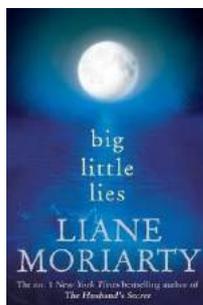
(529 pages) [\(DVD in set\)](#)



## Modjeska, Drusilla

**The Mountain**  
Australian Fiction - General

In 1968, Papua New Guinea is on the brink of independence, and everything is about to change. Amidst the turmoil filmmaker Leonard arrives from England with his Dutch wife, Rika, to study and film an isolated village high in the mountains. The villagers' customs and art have been passed down through generations, and Rika is immediately struck by their paintings on a cloth made of bark. Rika and Leonard are also confronted with the new university in Moresby, where intellectual ambition and the idealism of youth are creating friction among locals such as Milton—a hot-headed young playwright—and visiting westerners, such as Martha, to whom Rika becomes close. But it is when Rika meets brothers Jacob and Aaron that all their lives are changed forever. Drusilla Modjeska's sweeping novel takes us deep into this fascinating, complex country, whose culture and people cannot escape the march of modernity that threatens to overwhelm them. It is a riveting story of love, loss, grief, and betrayal. (432 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



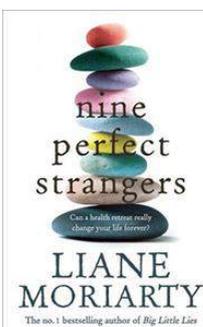
## Moriarty, Liane

**Big Little Lies**  
Australian Fiction - General

*Big Little Lies* follows three women, each at a crossroads.

Madeline is a force to be reckoned with. She's funny and biting, passionate, she remembers everything and forgives no one. Her ex-husband and his yogi new wife have moved into her beloved beachside community, and their daughter is in the same kindergarten class as Madeline's youngest (*how is this possible?*). And to top it all off, Madeline's teenage daughter seems to be choosing Madeline's ex-husband over her. (How. Is. This. Possible?).

Celeste is the kind of beautiful woman who makes the world stop and stare. While she may seem a bit flustered at times, who wouldn't be, with those rambunctious twin boys? Now that the boys are starting school, Celeste and her husband look set to become the king and queen of the school parent body. But royalty often comes at a price, and Celeste is grappling with how much more she is willing to pay. New to town, single mom Jane is so young that another mother mistakes her for the nanny. Jane is sad beyond her years and harbors secret doubts about her son. But why? While Madeline and Celeste soon take Jane under their wing, none of them realizes how the arrival of Jane and her inscrutable little boy will affect them all. *Big Little Lies* is a brilliant take on ex-husbands and second wives, mothers and daughters, schoolyard scandal, and the dangerous little lies we tell ourselves just to survive. (460 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of MP3\)](#)



## Moriarty, Liane

**Nine Perfect Strangers**  
Australian Fiction - Psychological

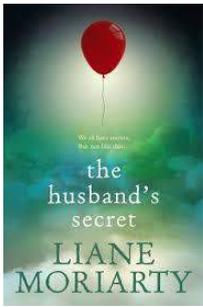
The retreat at health and wellness resort Tranquillum House promises total transformation. Nine stressed city dwellers are keen to drop their literal and mental baggage, and absorb the meditative ambience while enjoying their hot stone massages.

Watching over them is the resort's director, a woman on a mission to reinvigorate their tired minds and bodies.

These nine perfect strangers have no idea what is about to hit them.

With her wit, compassion and uncanny understanding of human behaviour, Liane Moriarty explores the depth of connection that can be formed when people are thrown together in... unconventional circumstances. (493 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(downloadable audio book available for personal borrowing\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Moriarty, Liane

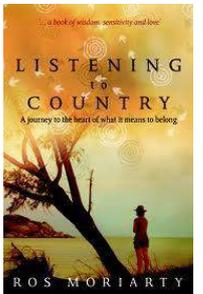
## The Husband's Secret

Australian Fiction - General

Cecilia Fitzpatrick, devoted mother and successful Tupperware consultant, has found a letter from her husband. To be opened only in the event of my death.

But Cecilia's husband isn't dead, he's on a business trip. And when she questions him about the letter on the phone, Cecilia senses something she hasn't experienced before. John-Paul is lying. We all have secrets, but not like this.... (396 pages)

(e-book available) (catalogue copy of MP3)



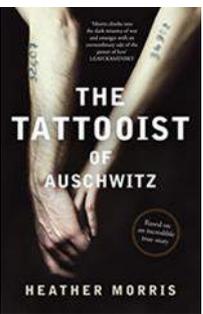
## Moriarty, Ros

## Listening To Country

Australian Biography

An intimate diary of Ros Moriarty, a white woman married to an Aboriginal man, as she takes an emotional journey across country and culture to the Northern Territory's Tanami Desert with Annie and the other matriarchs of her husband's Aboriginal family to perform ceremony. Full of warmth and honesty, humour and strength of these remarkable Law women of the remote Gulf of Carpentaria. It reveals the human relationships and philosophical insights which enable them to transcend the heartbreaking material poverty, illness and increasing violence of their community, to live life with astonishing happiness and purpose.

*Listening to Country* is an uplifting tribute to them and a celebration of love, family and belonging. (264 pages)  
(e-book available)



## Morris, Heather

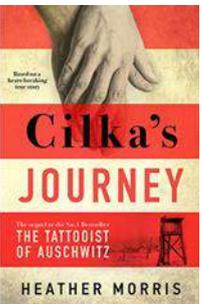
## The Tattooist of Auschwitz

Australian Fiction - Historical

Lale Sokolov is well-dressed, a charmer, a ladies' man. He is also a Jew. On the first transport from Slovakia to Auschwitz in 1942, Lale immediately stands out to his fellow prisoners. In the camp, he is looked up to, looked out for, and put to work in the privileged position of *Tatowierer* – the tattooist – to mark his fellow prisoners, forever. One of them is a young woman, Gita, who steals his heart at first glance.

His life is given new purpose, Lale does his best through the struggle and suffering to use his position for good.

This story, full of beauty and hope, is based on years of interviews author Heather Morris conducted with real-life Holocaust survivor and Auschwitz-Birkenau tattooist Ludwig (Lale) Sokolov. It is heart-wrenching, illuminating, and unforgettable. (207 pages) (downloadable audio book available for personal borrowing)



## Morris, Heather

## Cilka's Journey

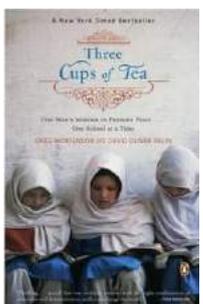
Australian Fiction - Historical

The sequel to the International Number One Bestseller *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*.

In 1942 Cilka is just sixteen years old when she is taken to Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp. The Commandant at Birkenau, Schwarzhuber, notices her long beautiful hair, and forces her separation from the other women prisoners. Cilka learns quickly that power, even unwillingly given, equals survival. After liberation, Cilka is charged as a collaborator for sleeping with the enemy and sent to a desolate, brutal prison camp in Siberia known as Vorkuta, inside the Arctic Circle. Innocent and imprisoned once again, Cilka faces challenges both new and horribly familiar. When she makes an impression on a female doctor, Cilka is taken under her wing and begins to tend to the ill in the camp, struggling to care for them under unimaginable conditions. Cilka finds endless resources within herself as she confronts death and faces terror, each day a battle for survival. And when she nurses a man called Aleksandr, Cilka finds that despite everything that has happened to her, there is room in her heart for love.

Based on what is known of Cilka's time in Auschwitz, and on the experience of women in Siberian prison camps, *Cilka's Journey* is the breathtaking sequel to *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*. A powerful testament to the triumph of the human will in adversity, *Cilka's Journey* will make you weep, but it will also leave you with the remarkable story of one woman's fierce determination to survive, against all odds. (401 pages)

(downloadable audio, HCD and large print copies available through our catalogue)



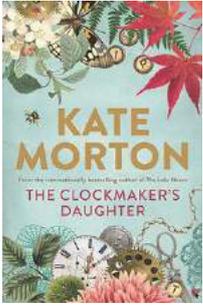
## Mortenson, Greg & Relin, David Oliver

## Three Cups of Tea

Biography

In 1993, after a terrifying and disastrous attempt to climb K2, a mountaineer called Greg Mortenson drifted, cold and dehydrated, into an impoverished Pakistan village in the Karakoram Mountains. Moved by the inhabitants' kindness, he promised to return and build a school. *Three Cups of Tea* is the story of that promise and its extraordinary outcome. Over the next decade Mortenson built not just one but fifty-five schools in remote villages across the forbidding and breathtaking landscape of Pakistan and Afghanistan, just as the Taliban rose to power.

His story is at once a riveting adventure and a testament to the power of the humanitarian spirit. (336 pages) (e-book available)



## Morton, Kate

## The Clockmaker's Daughter

*Australian Fiction - Historical*

In the summer of 1862, a group of young artists led by the passionate and talented Edward Radcliffe descends upon Birchwood Manor on the banks of the Upper Thames. Their plan: to spend a secluded summer month in a haze of inspiration and creativity. But by the time their stay is over, one woman has been shot dead while another has disappeared; a priceless heirloom is missing; and Edward Radcliffe's life is in ruins.

Over one hundred and fifty years later, Elodie Winslow, a young archivist in London, uncovers a leather satchel containing two seemingly unrelated items: a sepia photograph of an arresting-looking woman in Victorian clothing, and an artist's sketchbook containing the drawing of a twin-gabled house on the bend of a river. Why does Birchwood Manor feel so familiar to Elodie? And who is the beautiful woman in the photograph? Will she ever give up her secrets?

Told by multiple voices across time, **The Clockmaker's Daughter** is a story of murder, mystery, and thievery, of art, love and loss. And flowing through its pages like a river, is the voice of a woman who stands outside time, whose name has been forgotten by history, but who has watched it all unfold: Birdie Bell, the clockmaker's daughter. (496 pages)



## Morton, Kate

## The Forgotten Garden

*Australian Fiction - General*

**Before her eyes the garden changed. Weeds and brambles, decades in the growing, receded. Leaves lifted from the ground, revealing paths and flowerbeds and a garden seat. Light was permitted entry once more ...**

**1913:** On the eve of the First World War a little girl is found abandoned after a gruelling ocean voyage from England to Australia. All she can remember of the journey is that a mysterious woman she called the Authoress had promised to look after her. But the Authoress has vanished without a trace.

**1975:** Now an old lady, Nell travels to England to discover the truth about her parentage. Her quest leads her to Cornwall, and to a beautiful estate called Blackhurst Manor, which had been owned by the Mountrachet family. What has prompted Nell's journey after all these years?

**2005:** On Nell's death her granddaughter, Cassandra, comes into a surprise inheritance. Cliff Cottage, in the grounds of Blackhurst Manor, is notorious amongst the locals for secrets it holds - secrets about the doomed Mountrachet family. But it is at Cliff Cottage, abandoned for years, and its forgotten garden, that Cassandra will uncover the truth about the family and why the young Nell was abandoned all those decades before. (648 pages) ([e-book available](#))



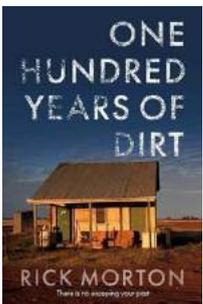
## Morton, Kate

## The Secret Keeper

*Australian Fiction - Detective/Mystery*

1961: On a sweltering summer's day, while her family picnics by the stream of their Suffolk farm, sixteen-year-old Laurel hides out in her childhood tree house dreaming of a boy called Billy, a move to London, and the bright future she can't wait to seize. But before the idyllic afternoon is over, Laurel will have witnessed a shocking crime that changes everything.

2011: Now a much-loved actress, Laurel finds herself overwhelmed by shades of the past. Haunted by memories, and the mystery of what she saw that day, she returns to her family home and begins to piece together a secret history. A tale of three strangers from vastly different worlds - Dorothy, Vivien and Jimmy - who are brought together by chance in wartime London and whose lives become fiercely and fatefully entwined. Shifting between the 1930s, the 1960s and the present, *The Secret Keeper* is a spellbinding story of mysteries and secrets, theatre and thievery, murder and enduring love (580 pages). ([MP3 in set](#))



## Morton, Rick

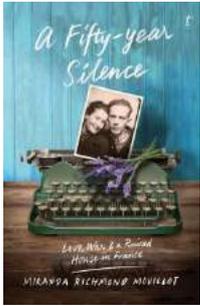
## 100 hundred years of dirt

*Australian non-fiction*

Violence, treachery and cruelty run through the generational veins of Rick Morton's family. A horrific accident thrusts his mother and siblings into a world impossible for them to navigate, a life of poverty and drug addiction

One Hundred Years of Dirt is an unflinching memoir in which the mother is a hero who is never rewarded. It is a meditation on the anger, fear of others and an obsession with real and imagined borders. Yet it is also a testimony to the strength of familial love and endurance. (277 pages)

([ebook and downloadable audio available through catalogue](#))



## Mouillot, Miranda Richmond

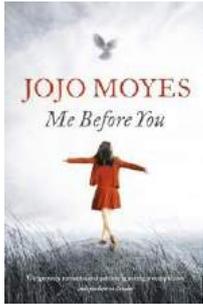
## A Fifty-Year Silence *Biography*

That was when the bomb my grandmother had hidden so many years ago went off around me ... It echoed through the rational part of my brain, blinding me to the fact that the house was primitive, dusty, and cold inside ... I want to live here, I thought. I must live here.

After surviving the Nazi occupation during World War II, Miranda Richmond Mouillot's grandparents, Anna and Armand, bought an old stone house in a remote, picturesque village in the south of France. Five years later, Anna packed her bags and walked out on Armand, taking the typewriter and their children. The two never saw or spoke to each other again.

A Fifty-Year Silence is the compelling account of Miranda's journey to discover the roots of this embittered and entrenched silence. Miranda abandons her plans for the future and moves to the old stone house, now a crumbling ruin, where she immerses herself in letters and archival materials, slowly teasing stories out of her reticent, and declining grandparents. Along the way she finds herself learning not only how to survive, but how to thrive, making a home in the village and falling in love.

With warmth, humour and rich, evocative detail, a fifty-year silence is a heartbreaking, uplifting love story spanning two continents and three generations. (288 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



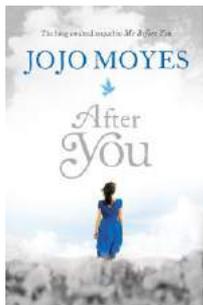
## Moyes, Jojo #1 in series

## Me Before You *Romance Fiction*

Lou Clark knows lots of things. She knows how many footsteps there are between the busy bus stop and home. She knows she likes working in The Buttered Bun tea shop and she knows she might not love her boyfriend Patrick.

What Lou doesn't know is she's about to lose her job or that knowing what's coming is what keeps her sane.

Will Traynor knows his motorcycle accident took away his desire to live. He knows everything feels very small and rather joyless now, and he knows exactly how he's going to put a stop to that. What Will doesn't know is that Lou is about to burst into his world in a riot of colour. And neither of them knows they're going to change the other for all time. (480 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) [\(HCD in set\)](#)



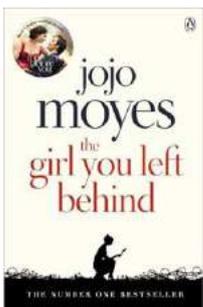
## Moyes, Jojo #2 in series

## After You *Romance Fiction*

How do you move on after losing the person you loved? How do you build a life worth living?

Louisa Clark is no longer just an ordinary girl living an ordinary life. After the transformative six months spent with Will Traynor, she is struggling without him. When an extraordinary accident forces Lou to return home to her family, she can't help but feel she's right back where she started. Her body heals, but Lou herself knows that she needs to be kick-started back to life. Which is how she ends up in a church basement with the members of the Moving On support group, who share insights, laughter, frustrations, and terrible cookies. They will also lead her to the strong, capable Sam Fielding—the paramedic, whose business is life and death, and the one man who might be able to understand her. Then a figure from Will's past appears and hijacks all her plans, propelling her into a very different future. . . .

For Lou Clark, life after Will Traynor means learning to fall in love again, with all the risks that brings. But here Jojo Moyes gives us two families, as real as our own, whose joys and sorrows will touch you deeply, and where both changes and surprises await. (528 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Moyes, Jojo

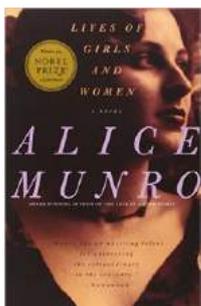
## The Girl You Left Behind

*Fiction – Romance/Suspense*

*Whatever happened to the girl you left behind?*

In 1916 French artist Edouard Lefevre leaves his wife Sophie to go fight at the Front. When her town falls into German hands, Edouard's portrait of Sophie stirs the heart of the local Kommandant and causes her to risk everything - her family, reputation and life - in the hope of seeing her true love one last time.

Nearly a century later, Sophie's portrait is given to Liv by her young husband shortly before his sudden death. Its beauty speaks of their short life together, but when the painting's dark and passion-torn history is revealed, Liv discovers that the first spark of love she has felt since she lost him is threatened. In *The Girl You Left Behind* two young women, separated by a century, are united in their determination to fight for the thing they love most - whatever the cost. (369 pages)



## Munro, Alice

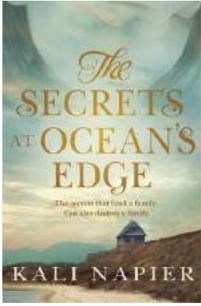
## Lives of Girls and Women *General Fiction*

The only novel from Alice Munro - award-winning author of *The Love of a Good Woman* - is an insightful, honest book, "autobiographical in form but not in fact," that chronicles a young girl's growing up in rural Ontario in the 1940's.

Del Jordon lives out at the end of the Flats Road on her father's fox farm, where her most frequent companions are an eccentric bachelor family friend and her rough younger brother. When she begins spending more time in town, she is surrounded by women - her mother; an agnostic, opinionated woman who sells encyclopaedias to local farmers; her mother's boarder, the lusty Fern Dogherty; and her best friend; Naomi, with whom she shares the frustrations and unbridled glee of adolescence.

Through these unwitting mentors and in her own encounters with sex, birth and death, Del explores the dark and bright sides of womanhood. All along she remains a wise, witty observer and recorder of truths in small-town life. The result is a powerful, moving, and humorous demonstration of Alice Munro's unparalleled awareness of the lives of girl and women.

(277 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



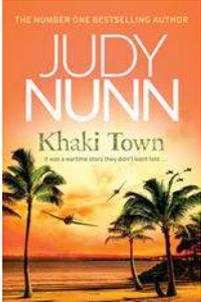
## Napier, Kali

## The Secrets at Ocean's Edge

*Australian Fiction - Historical*

1932. Ernie and Lily Hass, and their daughter, Girlie have lost almost everything in the Depression; all they have keeping their small family together are their secrets. Abandoning their failing wheat farm and small-town gossip, they make a new start on the west coast of Australia where they begin to build a summer guesthouse. But forming new alliances with the locals isn't easy.

Into the Hasses' new life wanders Lily's shell-shocked brother, Tommy, after three harrowing years on the road following his incarceration. Tommy is seeing answers that will cut to the heart of who Ernie, Lily and Girlie really are. (402 pages).



## Nunn, Judy

## Khaki Town

*Australian Fiction - General*

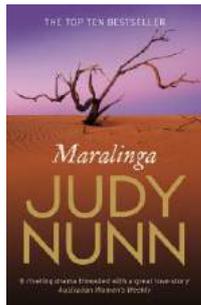
**Khaki Town, Judy Nunn's exciting new novel, is inspired by a true wartime story that has remained a well-kept secret for over seventy years.**

It's March 1942. Singapore has fallen. Darwin has been bombed. Australia is on the brink of being invaded by the Imperial Japanese Forces. And Val Callahan, publican of The Brown's Hotel in Townsville, could not be happier as she contemplates the fortune she's making from lonely, thirsty soldiers.

Overnight the small Queensland city is transformed into the transport hub for 70,000 American and Australian soldiers destined for combat in the South Pacific. Barbed wire and gun emplacements cover the beaches. Historic buildings have been commandeered. And the dance halls are in full swing with jitterbug and jive.

The Australian troops, short on rations and equipment, begrudge the confident, well-fed 'Yanks' who have taken over their town (and women). And there's growing conflict, too, within the American ranks. Because black GIs are enjoying the absence of segregation and the white GIs do not like it. As racial violence explodes through the ranks of the military, a young United States congressman, Lyndon Baines Johnson, is sent to Townsville by his president to investigate. (380 pages)

*(Catalogue copy of Audio CD and MP3 available)*



## Nunn, Judy

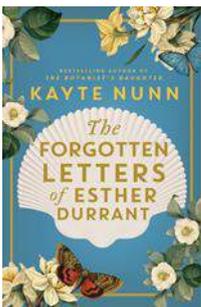
## Maralinga

*Australian Fiction - General*

Maralinga is the story of Lieutenant Daniel Gardiner, who accepts a posting to the wilds of South Australia on a promise of rapid promotion; Harold Dartleight, Deputy Director of M16 and his undercover operative Gideon Melbray; Australian Army Colonel Nick Stratton and the enigmatic Petraeus Mitchell, bushman and anthropologist. They all find themselves in a violent and unforgiving landscape, infected with the unique madness and excitement that only nuclear testing creates.

Maralinga is also a story of love; a love so strong that it draws the adventurous young English journalist Elizabeth Hoffman halfway around the world in search of the truth. And Maralinga is a story of heartbreak; heartbreak brought to the innocent First Australians who had walked their land unhindered for 40,000 years....(574 pages)

*(e-book available) (catalogue copy of MP3) (HCD in set)*



## Nunn, Kayte

## The forgotten letters of Esther Durrant

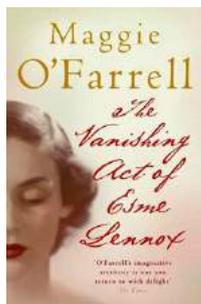
*Australian Fiction - General*

A cache of unsent love letters from the 1950's is found in a suitcase on a remote island in this mysterious love story by top ten bestselling author, Kayte Nunn

1951 - Esther Durrant, a young mother, is committed to an isolated mental asylum by her husband. Run by a pioneering psychiatrist, the hospital is at first Esther's prison but soon becomes her refuge.

2018 - Free-spirited marine scientist Rachel Parker embarks on a research posting in the Isles of Scilly, off the Cornish coast. When a violent storm forces her to take shelter on a far-flung island, she discovers a collection of hidden love letters. Captivated by their passion and tenderness, Rachel determines to track down the intended recipient.

Meanwhile, in London, Eve is helping her grandmother, a renowned mountaineer, write her memoirs. When she is contacted by Rachel, it sets in motion a chain of events that threatens to reveal secrets kept buried for more than sixty years. (384 pages)



## O'Farrell, Maggie

## The vanishing Act of Esme Lennox

*Biography*

Esme was a woman edited out of her family's history and when, sixty years later she is released from care, a young woman, Iris, discovers the great aunt she never knew had.

The mystery that unfolds is the heartbreaking tale of two sisters in colonial India and 1930's Edinburgh - of the loneliness that binds them together and the rivalries that drive them apart and lead one of them to a shocking betrayal - but above all it is the story of Esme, a fiercely intelligent, unconventional young woman, and of the terrible price she is made to pay for her family's unhappiness. (245 pages)

*(catalogue copy of HCD)*



## Olsson, Kristina

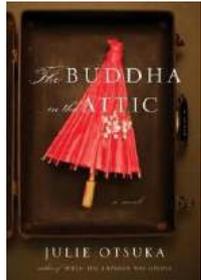
Shell

Australian Fiction - General

1965: As the United States becomes further embroiled in the Vietnam War, the ripple effects are far-reaching—even to the other side of the world. In Australia, a national military draft has been announced and Pearl Keogh, a headstrong and ambitious newspaper reporter, has put her job in jeopardy to become involved in the anti-war movement. Desperate to locate her two runaway brothers before they're called to serve, Pearl is also hiding a secret shame—the guilt she feels for not doing more for her younger siblings after their mother's untimely death.

Newly arrived from Sweden, Axel Lindquist is set to work as a sculptor on the besieged Sydney Opera House. After a childhood in Europe, where the shadow of WWII loomed large, he seeks to reinvent himself in this utterly foreign landscape, and finds artistic inspiration—and salvation—in the monument to modernity that is being constructed on Sydney's Harbor. But as the nation hurtles towards yet another war, Jørn Utzon, the Opera House's controversial architect, is nowhere to be found—and Axel fears that the past he has tried to outrun may be catching up with him.

As the seas of change swirl around them, Pearl and Axel's lives orbit each other and collide in this sweeping novel of art and culture, love and destiny. (259 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Otsuka, Julie

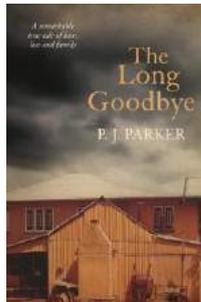
## The Buddha in the Attic

Historical Fiction

Winner of the Pen Falkner Award for Fiction 2012 and National Book Award Finalist 2011.

Between the wars a group of young, non-English-speaking Japanese women travelled by boat to America. They were picture brides, clutching photos of husbands-to-be whom they had yet to meet.

Julie Otsuka tells this extraordinary, heartrending story in this spellbinding and poetic account of strangers lost and alone in a new and deeply foreign land. (144 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Parker, P.J.

## The Long Goodbye

Australian Biography

*My mother is dead, my father killed her.*

And so begins an extraordinary memoir by outstanding new talent P. J. Parker. Spanning three generations, *The Long Goodbye* takes us deep into the lives of an Australian family as they survive record-breaking floods, outlast epic droughts and face the unforgiving realities of life on the land.

This remarkable true story of grit and resilience depicts a family at their zenith, set against the spectacular backdrop of rural Queensland where life and death are never far apart. But not even the harshness of the Australian landscape can prepare them for what is to come.

Written with astounding lyricism, warmth and humour, the Long Goodbye is a deeply moving memoir about the unbreakable bonds of marriage, love and family. And it poses the most heartbreaking moral dilemma of all: when a loved one is suffering, is euthanasia the answer? (288 pages).



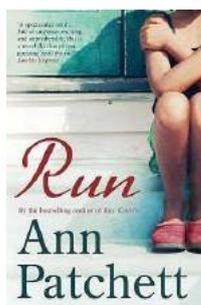
## Parrett, Favel

## Past the Shallows

Australian Fiction - General

A powerful and hauntingly beautiful novel from an extraordinary new Australian writer.

Everyone loves Harry. Everyone that is except his father. Three brothers, Joe, Miles and Harry, are growing up on the remote south coast of Tasmania. The brothers' lives are shaped by their father's moods – like the ocean he fishes, he is wild and unpredictable. He is a bitter man, warped by a devastating secret. Miles tries his best to watch out for Harry, the youngest, but he can't be there all the time. Often alone, Harry finds joy in the small treasures he discovers, in shark eggs and cuttlefish bones. In a kelpie pup, a big mug of Milo, and a secret friendship with a mysterious neighbour. But sometimes small treasures, or a brother's love, are not enough. *Past the Shallows* is a story of the bond of brotherhood and the fragility of youth. (272 pages)

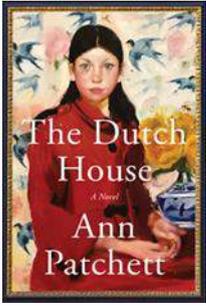


## Patchett, Ann

Run

General Fiction

Two sons are becoming men under the very eyes of their adoptive father, Bernard Doyle. A student at Harvard, serious Tip is happiest in a lab, whilst Teddy, a gentle dreamer, thinks he has found his calling in the Church - and both are increasingly strained by their father's protective plans for them. But when they are involved in an accident on an icy road, the Doyle's are forced to confront certain truths about their lives and the identity of an anonymous figure who is always watching. (304 pages)



## Patchett, Ann

## The Dutch House

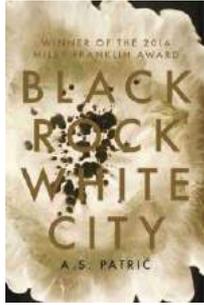
General Fiction

At the end of the Second World War, Cyril Conroy combines luck and a single canny investment to begin an enormous real estate empire, propelling his family from poverty to enormous wealth. His first order of business is to buy the Dutch House, a lavish estate in the suburbs outside of Philadelphia. Meant as a surprise for his wife, the house sets in motion the undoing of everyone he loves.

The story is told by Cyril's son Danny, as he and his older sister, the brilliantly acerbic and self-assured Maeve, are exiled from the house where they grew up by their stepmother. The two wealthy siblings are thrown back into the poverty their parents had escaped from and find that all they have to count on is one another.

It is this unshakable bond between them that both saves their lives and thwarts their futures.

Set over the course of five decades, *The Dutch House* is a dark fairy tale about two smart people who cannot overcome their past. Despite every outward sign of success, Danny and Maeve are only truly comfortable when they're together. Throughout their lives, they return to the well-worn story of what they've lost with humor and rage. But when at last they're forced to confront the people who left them behind, the relationship between an indulged brother and his ever-protective sister is finally tested (337 pages)



## Patric, A.S.

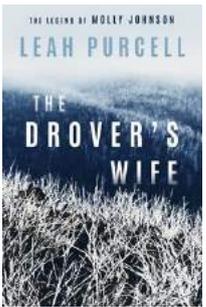
## Black Rock White City

Australian Fiction - War

***Black Rock White City* is a novel about the damages of war, the limits of choice, and the hope of love.**

During a hot Melbourne summer Jovan's cleaning work at a bayside hospital is disrupted by acts of graffiti and violence becoming increasingly malevolent. For Jovan the mysterious words that must be cleaned away dislodge the poetry of the past. He and his wife Suzana were forced to flee Sarajevo and the death of their children.

Intensely human, yet majestic in its moral vision, *Black Rock White City* is an essential story of Australia's suburbs now, of displacement and immediate threat, and the unexpected responses of two refugees as they try to reclaim their dreams. It is a breathtaking roar of energy that explores the immigrant experience with ferocity, beauty and humour. (248 pages)



## Purcell, Leah

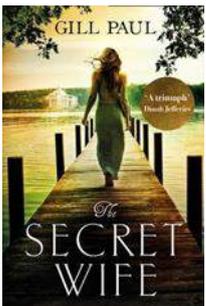
## The Drover's wife

Australian Historical Fiction

The Drover's Wife is utterly authentic, brilliantly plotted, thoroughly harrowing and entirely of our times exploring race, gender, violence and inheritance.

Deep in the heart of Australia's high country, along an ancient, hidden track, lives Molly Johnson and her four surviving children, another on the way. Husband Joe is away months at a time droving livestock up north, leaving his family in the bush to fend for itself. Molly's children are her world, and life is hard and precarious with only their dog, Alligator, and a shotgun for protection – but it can be harder when Joe's around.

Full of fury and power, Leah Purcell's *The Drover's Wife: The Legend of Molly Johnson* is a brave reimagining of the Henry Lawson short story that has become an Australian classic. Brilliantly plotted, it is a compelling thriller of our pioneering past that confronts head-on issues of today: race, gender, violence and inheritance. (288 pages) (audio CD available through catalogue)



## Paul, Gill

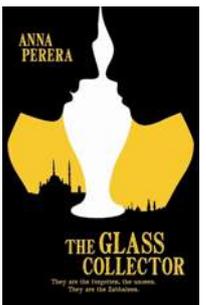
## The Secret Wife

Historical Fiction - Romance

1914: Russia is on the brink of collapse, and the Romanov family faces a terrifyingly uncertain future. Grand Duchess Tatiana has fallen in love with cavalry officer Dmitri, but events take a catastrophic turn, placing their romance—and their lives—in danger...

2016: Kitty Fisher escapes to her great-grandfather's remote cabin in America, after a devastating revelation makes her flee London. There, on the shores of Lake Akanabee, she discovers the spectacular jewelled pendant that will lead her to a long-buried family secret...

A Russian grand duchess and an English journalist. Linked by one of the world's greatest mysteries... Love. Guilt. Heartbreak. Haunting, moving and beautifully written, *The Secret Wife* effortlessly crosses centuries, as past merges with present in an unforgettable story of love, loss and resilience. (416 pages) (e-book available)



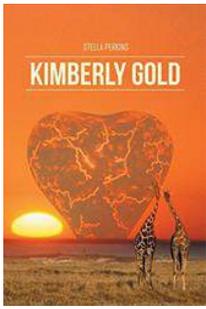
## Perera, Anna

## The Glass Collector

Teen Fiction

In Cairo, fifteen year old Aaron makes a living out of gathering garbage – as a member of the despised Zabbaleen, this is his fate. But Aaron has dreams. Every day he dreams of Rachel, who looks after the ponies who pull the carts piled high with garbage to and from the slum they call home. He dreams that they will make a life together, far from the smells, cruelty and squalor of their daily existence.

Aaron's skill at sorting glass is the only thing that keeps him alive. His mother is dead, and his stepfather and stepbrother Lijah subject him to an endless regime of bullying and abuse. Just as it seems he can sink no further, Aaron makes a choice that will change his life. (292 pages)



## Perkins, Stella

**Kimberly Gold**

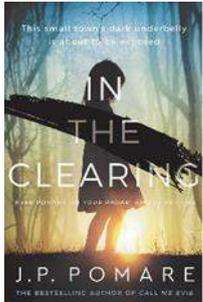
*Australian Fiction - Historical*

Kimberly Gold follows the trail of a family as they survive life in early Sydney. It is the story of my grandfather, whom I never met, a who changed his name as he tried to change his destiny.

We all have secrets and hide the truth with lies but how many of us believe our own fabrications?

Where is the truth?

Does it lie within these pages? (219 pages)



## Pomare, J. P.

**IN THE CLEARING**

*Australian Fiction*

**How far would you go to protect your family?**

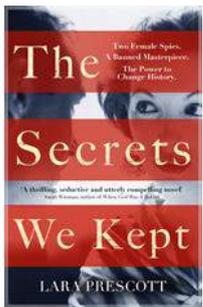
Amy has only ever known life in the Clearing. She knows what's expected of her. She knows what to do to please her elders, and how to make sure the community remains happy and calm. That is, until a new girl joins the group.

She isn't fitting in; she doesn't want to stay.

What happens next will turn life as Amy knows it on its head.

Freya has gone to great lengths to feel like a 'normal person'. In fact, if you saw her go about her day with her young son, you'd think she was an everyday mum. That is, until a girl goes missing and someone from her past, someone she hasn't see for a very long time, arrives in town.

As the secrets of the past bubble up to the surface this small town's dark underbelly will be exposed and lives will be destroyed. (326 pages)



## Prescott, Lara

**The secrets we kept**

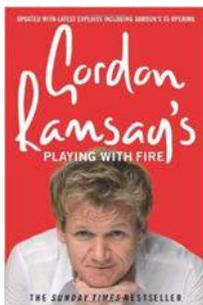
*Spy Fiction - Historical*

**A thrilling tale of secretaries turned spies, of love and duty, and of sacrifice—inspired by the true story of the CIA plot to infiltrate the hearts and minds of Soviet Russia, not with propaganda, but with the greatest love story of the twentieth century: Doctor Zhivago.**

1949 the celebrated Russian author Boris Pasternak is writing the novel that will become Doctor Zhivago. The Soviets, afraid of its subversive power, ban it. But in the rest of the world it is fast becoming a sensation.

In Washington DC, the CIA is planning to use the book to tip the Cold War in its favour, Their agents are not the usual spies, however. Two typists are charged with the mission of a lifetime: to smuggle Doctor Zhivago back into Russia by any means necessary. It will not be easy. There are people prepared to die for this book, and agents willing to kill for it.

Passions, power, secrets and a banned masterpiece with the power to change history lie at the heart of this irresistible novel. (452 pages)



## Ramsay, Gordon

**Playing With Fire**

*Biography*

In the beginning, there was nothing.

Not a sausage – penniless, broke, f\*\*\*ing nothing – and although, at a certain age, that didn't matter hugely, there came a time when hand-me-downs, cast-offs and football boots of odd sizes all pointed to a problem that seemed to have afflicted me, my mum, my sisters, Ronnie and the whole lot of us. It was as though we had been dealt the 'all-time dysfunctional' poker hand. I wish I could say that, from his point on, the penny had dropped and I decided to do something about it, but it wasn't like that. It would take years before the lessons of life, business and money began to click into place – before, as they say, I had a pot to piss in.

This is the story of how those lessons were learned. (300 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Ringland, Holly

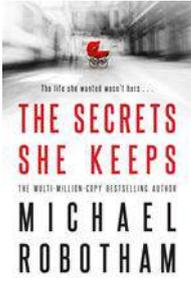
**The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart**

*Australian Fiction - General*

Nine year-old Alice Hart grows up in an isolated, idyllic home between sugar cane fields and the sea, where her mother's enchanting flowers and their hidden messages shelter her from the dark moods of her father. When tragedy irrevocably changes her life, Alice goes to live with the grandmother she never knew existed, on an Australian native flower farm that gives refuge to women who, like Alice, are lost or broken. In the Victorian tradition, every flower has a meaning and, as she settles into her new life, Alice uses this language of native flowers to say the things that are too hard to speak.

Ash she grows older, family secrecy, a devastating betrayal and a man who's not all he seems combine to make Alice realise there are some stories that flowers alone cannot tell. If she is to have the freedom she craves, she must find the courage to possess the most powerful story she knows: her own. (377pages)

[\(catalogue copy of HCD & MP3, downloadable audio and e-book all available on individual member's library card for borrowing\)](#)



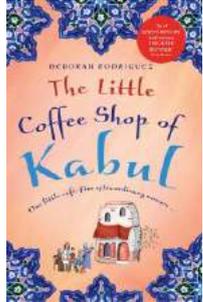
## Robotham, Michael

## The Secrets She Keeps *Australian Fiction – Psychological/Thriller*

Everyone has an idea of what their perfect life is ... For Agatha, it's Meghan Shaughnessy's.

These two women from vastly different backgrounds have one thing in common – a dangerous secret that could destroy everything they hold dear.

Both will risk everything to hide the truth, but their worlds are about to collide in a shocking act that cannot be undone. (436 pages) [\(catalogue HCD available\)](#)



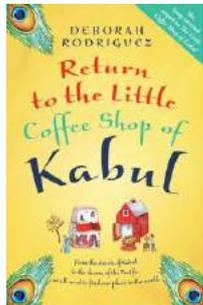
## Rodriguez, Deborah

#1

## The Little Coffee Shop of Kabul *General Fiction*

In a little coffee shop in one of the most dangerous places on earth, five very different women come together. Sunny, the proud proprietor, who needs an ingenious plan - and fast - to keep her cafe and customers safe. Yasmina, a young pregnant woman stolen from her remote village and now abandoned on Kabul's violent streets. Isabel, a determined journalist with a secret that might keep her from the biggest story of her life. Candace, a wealthy American who has finally left her husband for her Afghan love, the enigmatic Wakil. Halajan, the sixty-year-old den mother, whose long-hidden love affair breaks all the rules.

As these five discover there's more to one another than meets the eye, they form a unique bond that will forever change their lives and the lives of many. *The Little Coffee Shop of Kabul* is the heart-warming and life-affirming fiction debut from the author of the bestselling memoir *The Kabul Beauty School*. (291 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Rodriguez, Deborah

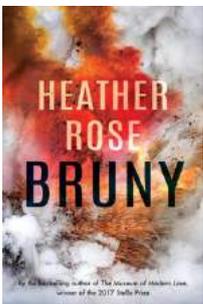
#2

## Return to the Little Coffee Shop of Kabul *General Fiction*

From the streets of Kabul to the shores of the Pacific, we all need to find our place in the world.

Six women, on opposite sides of the earth, get forever joined by a cafe in Kabul. Sunny, Layla, Kat, Yazmina and Zara are about to learn what Halajan, Yazmina's rebellious mother-in-law, has known all along: that when the world as you know it disappears, you find a new way to survive ...

Reuniting us with many of the compelling characters from the international bestseller *The Little Coffee Shop of Kabul*, Deborah Rodriguez offers up another spellbinding story of strength and courage in a world where happily-ever-afters aren't as simple as they seem. (306 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Rose, Heather

Bruny

*Australian Fiction - General*

The brilliant and explosive new novel from the author of the award-winning *The Museum of Modern Love*.

Why is a massive bridge being built to connect the sleepy island of Bruny with the mainland of Tasmania? And why have terrorists blown it up?

When the Bruny bridge is bombed, UN troubleshooter Astrid Coleman agrees to return home to help her brother before an upcoming election. But this is no simple task. Her brother and sister are on either side of politics, the community is full of conspiracy theories, her mother is fading and her father is quoting Shakespeare. Only on Bruny does the world seem sane. Until Astrid discovers how far the government is willing to go.

Bruny is a searing, subversive novel about family, love, loyalty and the new world order. It is a gripping thriller with a jaw-dropping twist, a love story, a cry from the heart and a fiercely entertaining and crucial work of imagination that asks the burning question: what would you do to protect the place you love? (406 pages) [\(HCD copy available through catalogue\)](#)



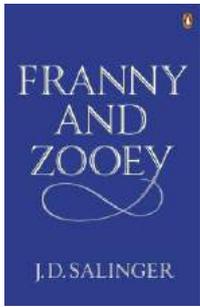
## Rosen, Sue

## Scorched Earth *Australian Biography*

*Australia's secret plan for total war under Japanese invasion in World War II*

In 1942 the threat of Japanese invasion hung over Australia. The men were away overseas, fighting on other fronts, and civilians were left unprotected at home. Following the attack on Pearl Harbour and the Japanese advance south, Prime Minister Curtin ordered state governments to prepare. From January 1942, a team frantically pulled together secret plans for a 'scorched earth' strategy. The goal was to prevent the Japanese from seizing resources for their war machine as they landed, and capturing Australians as slaves as they had done in Malaya and elsewhere in Asia.

From draining domestic water tanks to sinking dinghies and burning crops, from training special citizen squads to evacuating coastal towns, 'Total war, total citizen collaboration' was the motto. Today these plans vividly evoke the fraught atmosphere of the year Australia was threatened with invasion. After the war these top secret plans were forgotten. This is the first time they have ever been made public. (284 pages)



## Salinger, J.D.

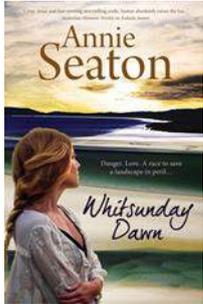
## Franny and Zooey

*Short Story, Novella*

The short story, *Franny*, takes place in an unnamed college town and tells the tale of an undergraduate who is becoming disenchanted with the selfishness and inauthenticity she perceives all around her.

The novella, *Zooey*, is named for Zooey Glass, the second-youngest member of the Glass family. As his younger sister, Franny, suffers a spiritual and existential breakdown in her parents' Manhattan living room -- leaving Bessie, her mother, deeply concerned -- Zooey comes to her aid, offering what he thinks is brotherly love, understanding, and words of sage advice.

First published in 1955 and 1957. (201 pages).



## Seaton, Annie

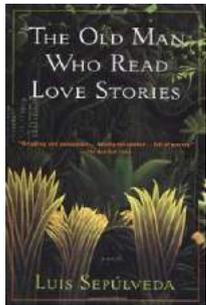
## Whitsunday Dawn

*Australian Fiction, Romance*

When Olivia Sheridan arrives in the Whitsundays as spokesperson for big mining company Sheridan Corp, it should be a straightforward presentation to the town about their proposed project. But when a handsome local fisherman shows her what ecological impact the proposal will have, Olivia is forced to question her father's motives for the project.

Struggling with newly divided loyalties, Olivia is thrown further into turmoil when she is mistaken for a woman who disappeared more than sixty years before. When it becomes clear that Captain Jay is also keeping secrets, Olivia realises that there is more to these sunshine-soaked islands than she ever expected. Seeking to uncover the truth, Olivia is drawn into a dangerous game where powerful businessmen will stop at nothing to ensure their plan goes ahead, even if that means eliminating her...

Against the epic Far North Queensland landscape, this is the story of two women, separated by history, drawn to Whitsunday Island where their futures will be changed forever. (384 pages).



## Sepúlveda, Luis

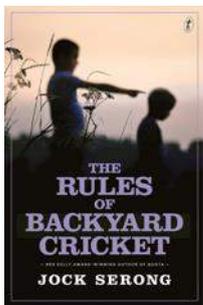
## The Old Man Who Read Love Stories

*General Fiction*

A spellbinding tale of man and nature, of adventure and personal honour.

An aging widower lives quietly in a river town in the rain-soaked Ecuadoran jungle where, increasingly, tourists and opportunists have begun to make inroads. He takes refuge in his books - paperback novels of faraway place and bittersweet love.

But one day a trader pushes nature too far, setting a protective mother ocelot on a bloody rampage through the village. The old man, a hunter who once lived among the Indians and knows the jungle better than anyone, is pressured to join the expedition that will hunt down the animal. Drawn from his peaceful life, he is forced into the middle of a raging conflict between man and nature that is resolved - temporarily - by a powerfully climactic confrontation. (131 pages)



## Serong, Jock

## The Rules of Backyard Cricket

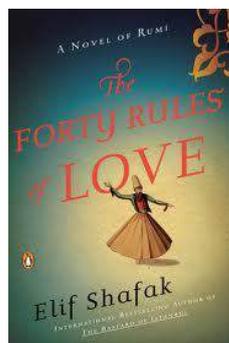
*Australian Fiction, Suspense/Thriller*

Shortlisted Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction, 2017

*From the day we take up backyard cricket, my brother and I are an independent republic of rage and obsession. Our rules, our records, our very own physics.*

Darren Keefe is in the boot of a car, headed for a shallow grave. But back then he was a kid set apart by an extraordinary sporting talent, in riotous competition with the brother he idolised.

How did it come to this? (288 pages) ([Audio MP3 disc in catalogue](#))



## Shafak, Elif

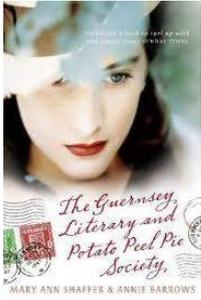
## The Forty Rules of Love

*General Fiction*

In this lyrical, exuberant follow-up to her 2007 novel, *The Bastard of Istanbul*, acclaimed Turkish author Elif Shafak unfolds two tantalising parallel narratives - one contemporary and the other set in the thirteenth century, when Rumi encountered his spiritual mentor, the whirling dervish known as Shams of Tabriz - that together incarnate the poet's timeless message of love.

Ella Rubenstein is forty years old and unhappily married when she takes a job as a reader for a literary agent. Her first assignment is to read and report on *Sweet Blasphemy*, a novel written by a man named Aziz Zahara. Ella is mesmerised by his tale of Sham's search for Rumi and the dervish's role in transforming the successful but unhappy cleric into a committed mystic, passionate poet, and advocate of love. She is also taken with Shams's lessons, or rules, that offer insight into an ancient philosophy based on the unity of all people and religions, and the presence of love in each and every one of us. As she reads on, she realises that Rumi's story mirrors her own and that Zahara-like Sham has come to set her free. (350 pages)

([e-book available](#))



## Shaffer, Mary Ann & Barrows, Annie

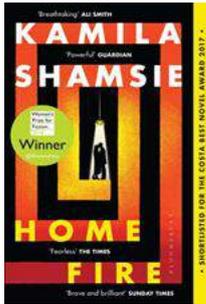
### The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society

Historical Fiction

It's 1946, and as Juliet Ashton sits at her desk in her Chelsea flat, she is stumped. A writer of witty newspaper columns during the war, she can't think of what to write next. Out of the blue, she receives a letter from one Dawsey Adams of Guernsey - by chance he's acquired a book Juliet once owned - and, emboldened by their mutual love of books, they begin a correspondence.

Dawsey is a member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, and it's not long before the rest of the members write to Juliet - including the gawky Isola, who makes home-made potions, Eben, the fisherman who loves Shakespeare and Will Thisbee, rag-and-bone-man and chef of the famous potato peel pie. As letters fly back and forth, Juliet comes to know the extraordinary personalities of the Society and their lives under the German occupation of the island. Entranced by their stories, Juliet decides to visit the island to meet them properly - and unwittingly turns her life upside down. (265 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) (HCD in set)



## Shamsie, Kamila

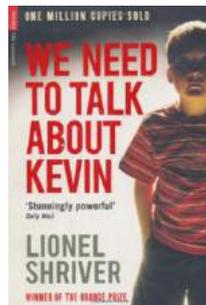
### Home Fire

General Fiction

How can love survive betrayal?

For as long as they can remember, siblings Isma, Aneeka and Parvaiz have had nothing but each other. But darker, stronger forces will divide Parvaiz from his sisters and drive him to the other side of the world, as he sets out to fulfil the dark legacy of the jihadist father he never knew.

Winner – Women's Prize for Fiction 2018, Shortlisted for the Costa Best Novel Award in 2017, Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2017. (264 pages) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Shriver, Lionel

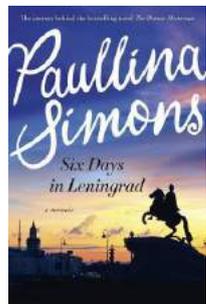
### We Need to Talk About Kevin

Thriller Fiction

Two years ago Eva Khatchadourian's son, Kevin, murdered seven of this fellow high-school students, a cafeteria worker and a popular English teacher. Now, in a series of letters to her absent husband, Eva recounts the story of how Kevin came to be Kevin.

Fearing that her own shortcomings may have shaped who her son has become, she confesses to a deep, long-standing ambivalence about both motherhood in general and Kevin in particular. How much is her fault? When did it all start to go wrong?

Or was it, in fact, every 'right' at all? (468 pages)



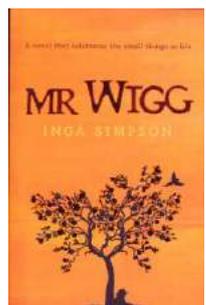
## Simons, Paullina

### Six Days in Leningrad

Biography

*The never-before-told story of the journey behind THE BRONZE HORSEMAN.*

From the author of the celebrated, internationally bestselling BRONZE HORSEMAN saga comes a glimpse into the private life of its much loved creator, and the real story behind the epic novels. Paullina Simons gives us a work of non-fiction as captivating and heart-wrenching as the lives of Tatiana and Alexander. Only a few chapters into writing her first story set in Russia, her mother country, Paullina Simons travelled to Leningrad (now St Petersburg) with her beloved Papa. What began as a research trip turned into six days that forever changed her life, the course of her family, and the novel that became THE BRONZE HORSEMAN. After a quarter-century away from her native land, Paullina and her father found a world trapped in yesteryear, with crumbling stucco buildings, entire families living in seven-square-metre communal apartments, and barren fields bombed so badly that nothing would grow there even fifty years later. And yet there were the spectacular white nights, the warm hospitality of family friends and, of course, the pelmeni and caviar. At times poignant, at times inspiring and funny, this is both a fascinating glimpse into the inspiration behind the epic saga, and a touching story of a family's history, a father and a daughter, and the fate of a nation (432 pages). [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Simpson, Inga

### Mr Wigg

Australian Fiction - General

The summer of 1971, not far from the stone-fruit capital of New South Wales, where Mr Wigg lives on what is left his family farm. Mrs Wigg has been gone almost a year and he thinks about her every day. He misses his daughter too, and wonders when he'll see her again.

His son is on at him to move into town but Mr Wigg has his fruit trees and his chooks to look after. He spends his time working in the orchard, cooking and preserving his produce and, when it's on, watching the cricket. Things are changing though, with Australia and England playing a one-day match, and his new neighbours planting grapes for wine. His grandchildren visit often: to cook, eat and hear his stories. And there's a special project he has to finish. It's a lot of work for an old man with shaking hands, but he'll give it a go, as he always has. (296 pages)



## Simsion, Graeme #1 in series

## The Rosie Project *Australian Fiction - General*

Don Tillman is getting married. He just doesn't know who to yet. The Wife Project will solve that problem. He has designed a sixteen-page questionnaire to help him find the perfect partner. She will most definitely not be a barmaid, a smoker, a drinker or a late-arriver. Rosie Jarman is all these things. She is also fiery and intelligent and beautiful. And on a quest of her own, to find her biological father - a search that Don, a professor of genetics, just might be able to help her with.

The Wife Project teaches Don some unexpected things. Why earlobe length is an inadequate predictor of sexual attraction. Why ice-cream tastes different in New York. Why he's never been on a second date. And why, despite the best scientific efforts, you don't find love: love finds you. (329 pages) [\(HCD in set\)](#) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Simsion, Graeme #2 in series

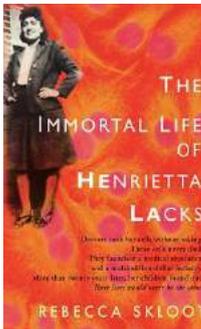
## The Rosie Effect *Australian Fiction - General*

GREETINGS. My name is Don Tillman. I am forty-one years old. I have been married to Rosie Jarman, world's most perfect woman, for ten months and ten days.

Marriage added significant complexity to my life. When we relocated to New York City, Rose brought three maximum-size suitcases. We abandoned the Standardised Meal System and agreed that sex should not be scheduled in advance.

The Rosie told me we had 'something to celebrate', and I was faced with a challenge even greater than finding a partner. I have attempted to follow traditional protocols and have sourced advice from all six of my friends, plus a therapist and the internet.

The result has been a web of deceit. I am now in danger of prosecution, deportation and professional disgrace. And of losing Rosie forever. (415 pages) [\(HCD in set\)](#) [\(e-book available\)](#)



## Skloot, Rebecca

## The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks *Non-Fiction*

Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor black tobacco farmer - whose cells - taken without her knowledge in 1951 - became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, and more. Henrietta's cells have been bought and sold by billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her family can't afford health insurance.

This phenomenal New York Times bestseller tells a riveting story of the collision between ethics, race, and medicine; of scientific discover and faith healing; and of a daughter consumed with questions about the mother she never knew. (370 pages) [\(HCD in set\)](#) [\(e-book available\)](#)



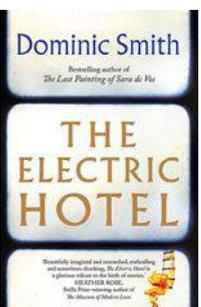
## Smith, Alexander McCall

## The Saturday Big Tent Wedding Party *Detective/Mystery Fiction*

*The one where Mma Makutsi gets married.*

As the countdown to Mma Makutsi's big day begins, Violet Sephotho, her former rival for the affections of Phuti Radiphuti, is up to no good as usual. And will Mma Makutsi bury her differences with pushy Mma Potokwani, who has offered to help with the wedding feast?

Meanwhile, Mma Ramotswa is called away on a case at a southern cattle post, and Charlie has again got himself in a bit of bother with a young lady. At least they all have the happy occasion to look forward to. (248 pages)



## Smith, Dominic

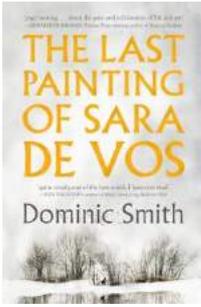
## The Electric Hotel *Australian Fiction - Historical*

**From the New York Times bestselling author Dominic Smith, a radiant novel tracing the intertwined fates of a silent-film director and his muse**

Dominic Smith's *The Electric Hotel* winds through the nascent days of cinema in Paris and Fort Lee, New Jersey—America's first movie town—and on the battlefields of Belgium during World War I. A sweeping work of historical fiction, it shimmers between past and present as it tells the story of the rise and fall of a prodigious film studio and one man's doomed obsession with all that passes in front of the viewfinder.

For nearly half a century, Claude Ballard has been living at the Hollywood Knickerbocker Hotel. A French pioneer of silent films, who started out as a concession agent for the Lumière brothers, the inventors of cinema, Claude now spends his days foraging mushrooms in the hills of Los Angeles and taking photographs of runaways and the striplings along Sunset Boulevard. But when a film-history student comes to interview Claude about *The Electric Hotel*—the lost masterpiece that bankrupted him and ended the career of his muse, Sabine Montrose—the past comes surging back. In his run-down hotel suite, the ravages of the past are waiting to be excavated: celluloid fragments and reels in desperate need of restoration, and Claude's memories of the woman who inspired and beguiled him (352 pages)

[\(catalogue MP3 copy available\)](#)



## Smith, Dominic

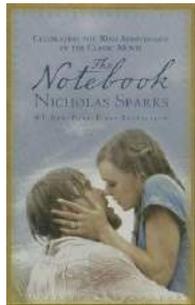
## The Last Painting of Sara De Vos

Australian Fiction - Historical

This is what we long for: the profound pleasure of being swept into vivid new worlds, worlds peopled by characters so intriguing and real that we can't shake them, even long after the reading's done. In this extraordinary novel, *The Last Painting of Sara De Vos*, Australian writer Dominic Smith brilliantly bridges the historical and the contemporary, tracking a collision course between a rare landscape by a female Dutch painter of the Golden Age, an inheritor of the work in 1950s Manhattan, and a celebrated Australian art historian who painted a forgery of it in her youth.

In 1631, Sara de Vos is admitted to the Guild of St. Luke in Holland as a master painter, the first woman to be so honoured. Three hundred years later, only one work attributed to de Vos is known to remain: a haunting winter scene, *At the Edge of a Wood*, which hangs over the Manhattan bed of a wealthy descendant of the original owner. An Australian grad student, Ellie Shipley, struggling to stay afloat in New York, agrees to paint a forgery of the landscape, a decision that will haunt her. Because now, half a century later, she's curating an exhibition of female Dutch painters, and both versions threaten to arrive.

As the three threads intersect with increasing and exquisite suspense, *The Last Painting of Sara De Vos* mesmerises while it grapples with the demands of the artistic life, showing how the deceits of the past can forge the present. (374 pages)  
([catalogue copy of HCD](#))



## Sparks, Nicholas

## The Notebook

Romance Fiction

Set amid the austere beauty of the North Carolina coast, *The Notebook* begins with the story of Noah Calhoun, a rural Southerner recently returned from the Second World War. Noah is restoring a plantation home to its former glory, and he is haunted by images of the beautiful girl he met fourteen years earlier, a girl he loved like no other. Unable to find her, yet unwilling to forget the summer they spent together, Noah is content to live with only memories...until she unexpectedly returns to his town to see him once again.

Like a puzzle within a puzzle, the story of Noah and Allie is just the beginning. As it unfolds, their tale miraculously becomes something different, with much higher stakes. The result is a deeply moving portrait of love itself, the tender moments and the fundamental changes that affect us all. It is a story of miracles and emotions that will stay with you forever. (259 pages)

([DVD in set](#)) ([HCD in set](#)) ([e-book available](#))



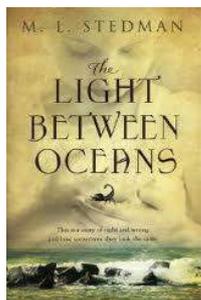
## Stead, Elizabeth

## The Sparrows of Edward Street

Australian Fiction - General

A wonderfully witty and entertaining retelling of a little-known yet very important period of Australia's history, this is a fictionalized account of acclaimed Australian writer Elizabeth Stead's experiences in a 1940s postwar housing commission camp. It's November 1948, and the widowed Hanora Sparrow and her teenage daughters, Aria and Rosy, have fallen on tough times; when they move into a housing commission camp on the outskirts of Sydney, their spirits are low and their prospects few. While Hanora copes via various pharmaceutical offerings and Rosy with nothing other than indignity, the spirited Aria rises immediately to the challenge of keeping the family together in such trying circumstances.

With her endless curiosity and lively sense of humour, Aria draws the Sparrow women into close friendships with other camp residents and supports her family through her work as a photographic model in the city. Despite the setbacks, Aria strives toward their eventual salvation. (304 pages)



## Stedman, M.L.

## The Light Between Oceans

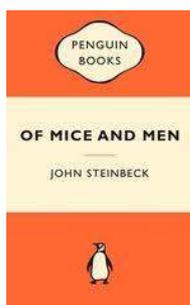
Australian Fiction - General

Tom Sherbourne, released from the horrors of the First World War, is now a lighthouse keeper, cocooned on a remote Australian island with his young wife Izzy, who is content in everything but her failure to have a child.

One April morning, a boat washes ashore carrying a dead man - and a crying baby. Safe from the real world, Tom and Izzy break the rules and follow their hearts.

It is a decision with devastating consequences. (343 pages)

([e-book available](#)) ([catalogue copy of MP3](#))



## Steinbeck, John

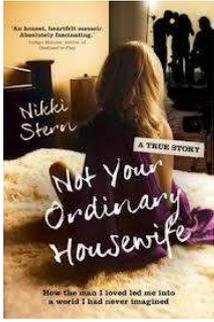
## Of Mice and Men

Novella

Streetwise George and his big, childlike friend Lennie are drifters, searching for work in the fields and valleys of California. They have nothing except the clothes on their backs, and a hope that one day they'll find a place of their own and live the American dream. But dreams come at a price.

Gentle giant Lennie doesn't know his own strength, and when they find work at a ranch he gets into trouble with the boss's daughter-in-law. Trouble so bad that even his protector George may not be able to save him ... (121 pages)

([e-book available](#)) ([HCD in set](#))



## Stern, Nikki

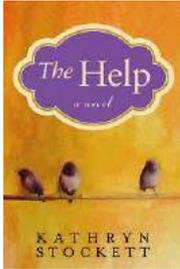
## Not Your Ordinary Housewife

Australian Biography

When Nikki Stern left suburban Melbourne for Europe in the early 1980's, little did she know that her life was about to change dramatically. Adopted into a well-connected family and educated at an exclusive school, she fell instantly and hopelessly in love with a charming and charismatic cartoonist in Amsterdam. Paul and Nikki embarked on a passionate love affair, enjoying the hedonistic days of the 80s before eloping and returning to Australia. But soon Nikki found herself in a world she never imagined. Descending into the depths of the sex industry - as a dominatrix, stripper, prostitute and porn star - there was almost nothing she didn't do. Despite a stormy marriage, she and Paul starred in and marketed their highly successful *Horny Housewife* X-rated videos as she became the queen of Australian erotica.

Leading a double life as a mother of three small children, Nikki struggled not merely with censorship but with child welfare authorities and the judgement of mainstream society. In this extraordinary memoir, Nikki vividly recounts her intriguing past with emotional honesty and great insight, making it an unflinching and absorbing account of the incredible life of the *Horny Housewife*. (344 pages)

(e-book available) (catalogue copy of HCD) Book club suggested content warning



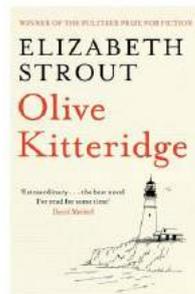
## Stockett, Kathryn

## The Help

Historical Fiction

Enter a vanished world: Jackson, Mississippi, 1962. Where black maids raise white children but aren't trusted not to steal the silver.... There's Aibileen, raising her seventeenth white child and nursing the hurt caused by her own son's tragic death; Minny, whose cooking is nearly as sassy as her tongue; and white Miss Skeeter, home from college, who wants to know why her beloved maid has disappeared. Skeeter, Aibileen and Minny. No one would believe they'd be friends; fewer still would tolerate it. But as each woman finds the courage to cross boundaries, they come to depend and rely upon one another. Each is in search of a truth and together they have an extraordinary story to tell ... (451 pages)

(HCD in set) (e-book available)



## Strout, Elizabeth

## Olive Kitteridge

Novel

From the acclaimed author of *My name is Lucy Barton*. Olive Kitteridge: indomitable, compassionate and often unpredictable. A retired schoolteacher in a small coastal town in Maine, as she grows older she struggles to make sense of the changes in her life. She is a woman who sees into the hearts of those around her, their triumphs and tragedies ...

A penetrating, vibrant exploration of the human soul, the story of Olive Kitteridge will make you laugh, nod in recognition, wince in pain, and shed a tear of two. (270 pages) (catalogue copy of DVD)



## Szubanski, Magda

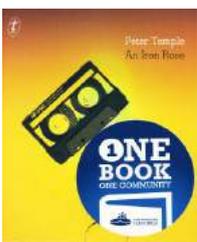
## Reckoning

Australian Biography

Heartbreaking, joyous, traumatic, intimate and revelatory, *Reckoning* is the book where Magda Szubanski, one of Australia's most beloved performers, tells her story.

In this extraordinary memoir, Magda describes her journey of self-discovery from a suburban childhood, haunted by the demons of her father's espionage activities in wartime Poland and by her secret awareness of her sexuality, to the complex dramas of adulthood and her need to find out the truth about herself and her family. With courage and compassion, she addresses her own frailties and fears, and asks the big questions about life, about the shadows we inherit and the gifts we pass on. Honest, poignant, utterly captivating, *Reckoning* announces the arrival of a fearless writer and natural storyteller. It will touch the lives of its readers. (371 pages)

(e-book available) (catalogue copy of HCD available) (downloadable audio copy available)



## Temple, Peter

## Iron Rose

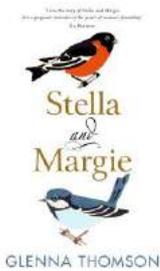
Australian Fiction - Thriller

*But that life was over. Men in police uniforms came to execute you on the roadside beside dark potato fields. That was a definite sign the new life was over.*

Mac Farady has left a dangerous job to live and work down a country lane. But then gentle Ned, his father's best friend, is found hanging from a beam in his machine shed. It's 2.45am. And Mac is back in a world where the questions he asks are first answered with lies - and then with violence. (269 pages)

(e-book available) (catalogue copy of HCD)

Text Classics



## Thomson, Glenna

## Stella and Margie

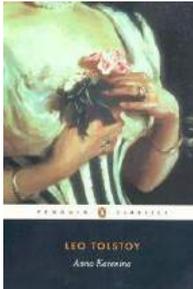
Australian Fiction - General

Stella and her mother-in-law, Margie, are two very different women. Stella is kind, compassionate and just a little chaotic. Margie is prickly, demanding and a sticker for convention. Stella has exciting dreams for the future. Margie has only bitter memories of the past.

When Margie needs help recovering from a major operation, Stella offers her a place to stay. With no other options, Margie returns to the family farm where for decades, until Stella's arrival, she was the one in charge.

Margie has never made life easy for her daughter-in-law, and that's not going to change now she's been made a guest in her former home. But as they dry summer turns to a beautiful autumn, the two women gradually form an unlikely bond, as the ambitions, secrets and tragedies that have shaped their lives are slowly uncovered ...

Stella and Margie is a piercingly insightful novel about love and duty, acceptance and reconciliation, and of a touching friendship that crosses the generations. (292 pages) [Discussion questions at back of book](#)



## Tolstoy, Leo

## Anna Karenina

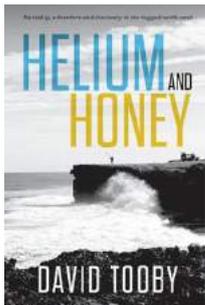
General Fiction

"Everything is finished.... I have nothing but you. Remember that".

Anna Karenina seems to have everything - beauty, wealth, popularity and an adored son. But she feels that her life is empty until the moment she encounters the impetuous officer Count Vronsky. Their subsequent affair scandalises society and family alike, and soon brings jealousy and bitterness in its wake. Contrasting with this tale of love and self-destruction is the vividly observed story of Levin, a man striving to find contentment and a meaning to his life - and also a self-portrait of Tolstoy himself.

This new translation has been acclaimed as the definitive English version of Tolstoy's masterpiece. The volume contains an introduction by Richard Pevear and a preface by John Bayley. (817 pages)

(DVD in set) (e-book available through 'additional e-books' on overdrive)



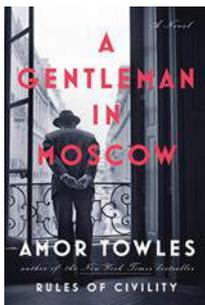
## Tooby, David (local author)

## Helium and Honey

Australian Fiction - General

When the three McCawley brothers and their friend Will set off on their annual fishing expedition into the wilds of north-western Australia, they have no idea of the dramatic events that await and even less inkling of the latent feelings and histories that will be laid bare.

*Helium and Honey* is a gripping story of mateship, adventure and discovery set in a rugged and remote environment. Tooby writes with passion and authority, sensitively portraying his complex characters and their fraught interactions. *Helium and Honey* asserts Tooby as a talented writer of the Australian landscape and the rich characters that people it. (238 pages)



## Towles, Amor

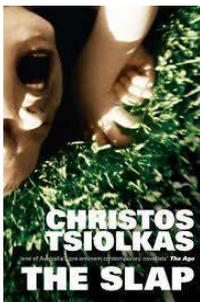
## A gentleman in Moscow

Adult Fiction

On 21 June 1922, Count Alexander Rostov - recipient of the Order of Saint Andrew, member of the Jockey Club, Master of the Hunt - is escorted out of the Kremlin, across Red Square and through the elegant revolving doors of the Hotel Metropol.

Deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, the Count has been sentenced to house arrest indefinitely. But instead of his usual suite, he must now live in an attic room while Russia undergoes decades of tumultuous upheaval. Can a life without luxury be the richest of all?

(462 pages) (e-book available through catalogue)



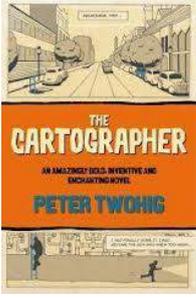
## Tsiolkas, Christos

## The Slap

Australian Fiction

At a suburban barbecue one afternoon, a man slaps an unruly boy. The boy is not his own. It is a single act of violence, but the slap reverberates through the lives of everyone who witnesses it. Told through the eyes of eight of those present at the barbecue, this acclaimed bestseller is an unflinching interrogation of the life of the modern family. Poignant and provocative, *The Slap* makes us question the nature of commitment and happiness, compromise and truth. Whose side are you on? (458 pages)

(E-book available) (HCD in set)



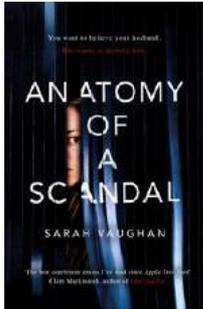
## Twohig, Peter

## The Cartographer

Australian Fiction

Melbourne, 1959. An 11-year-old boy witnesses a murder as he spies through the window of a strange house. God, whom he no longer counts as a friend, obviously has a pretty screwed-up sense of humour; just one year before, the boy had looked on helplessly as his twin brother, Tom, suffered a violent death. Now, having been seen by the angry murderer, he is a kid on the run. With only a shady grandfather, a professional standover man and an incongruous local couple as adult mentors, he takes refuge in the dark drains and grimy tunnels beneath the city, transforming himself into a series of superheroes and creating a rather unreliable map to plot out places where he is unlikely to cross paths with the bogeyman.

A bold captivating and outrageously funny novel about a boy who refuses to give in and the numerous shifty, dodgy and downright malicious bastards he has to contend with on his grand adventure of loss and discovery, *The Cartographer* is an astounding, fresh and unforgettably poignant novel you'd be a mug to miss! (368 pages) ([e-book available](#))



## Vaughan, Sarah

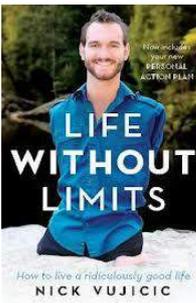
## Anatomy of a Scandal

Detective/Mystery Fiction

Sophie's husband, James, is a loving father and a successful public figure. Yet he stands accused of a terrible crime. Sophie is convinced he is innocent and desperate to protect her precious family from the lies that threaten to engulf him.

Kate is the barrister prosecuting his case. She's certain that James is guilty and determined he should pay. No stranger to suffering herself, she doesn't flinch from posing the questions few want to hear.

Is James the victim of an unfortunate misunderstanding or the perpetrator of something sinister? Who is right: Sophie or Kate? The scandal – which forces Sophie to appraise her marriage and Kate her demons – will have far-reaching consequences for them all. (392 pages)



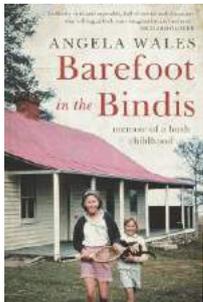
## Vujicic, Nick

## Life Without Limits

Australian Biography

Life without limits is an inspiring book by an extraordinary man. Born without arms or legs, Nick Vujicic overcame his disability to live not just independently but a rich, fulfilling life, becoming a model for anyone seeking true happiness. Now an internationally successful motivational speaker who can bring out masses of people in Asia, North and South America, Africa and Europe, his central message is that the most important goal for anyone is to find their life's purpose despite whatever difficulties or seemingly impossible odds stand in their way.

Nick tells the story of his physical disabilities and the emotional battle he endured trying to deal with them as a child, a teen and as a young adult. "For the longest, loneliest time, I wondered if there was anyone on earth like me, and whether there was any purpose to my life other than pain and humiliation". He encourages the reader by showing how he learned to accept what he could not control and focus instead on what he could. (229 pages) ([e-book available](#))



## Wales, Angela

## Barefoot in the Bindis

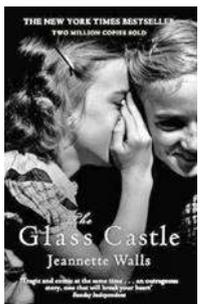
Australian Biography

**A circle of pine trees, a sagging wire fence, a roof that had once been painted red. 'There it is,' said Dad.**

In 1953, after doctors prescribed fresh country air for his health, Scottish-born Robert Wales uprooted his young family from the city life of Sydney and set out to establish a sheep farm in the bush. What he lacked in experience and expertise, he made up for in enthusiasm. Or so he hoped.

When the family arrived on a lonely hill in northern, New South Wales, they had no electricity, no running water, no telephone and no choice but to make that tangle of bush their home. From Angela Wales, eldest of the five kids, comes this extraordinary vivid and evocative account of the next ten years as the family tried to tame six thousand acres and navigate the challenges of country life.

**Filled with all the drama, hilarity and back-breaking toil of a childhood spent in the bush, *Barefoot in the Bindis*, is a sensational picture of Australia past.** (274 pages) ([HCD copy available](#))



## Walls, Jeannette

## The Glass Castle

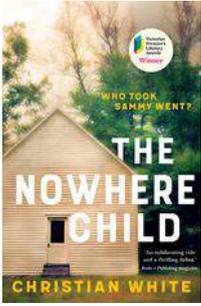
Biography

While Jeannette Walls was living on Park Avenue, covering the Academy Awards and attending black-tie parties at the Metropolitan Museum of Arts, her parents were squatting in an abandoned building on the Lower East Side.

Rex Walls, her father, was an ingenious adventurer and a hopeless alcoholic. Her mother was an artist who abhorred domestic routine and the chores of motherhood: 'Why should I cook a meal that will be gone in an hour when I can do a painting that will last forever?'

Funny, sad, quirky and loving, *The Glass Castle* is an almost incredible story of a nomadic, impoverished childhood. (339 pages)

([catalogue copies of DVD and HCD available on own library card](#))



## White, Christian

## The Nowhere Child

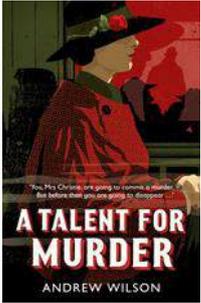
Australian Thriller Fiction

Winner of the Victorian Premier's Literary Award, *The Nowhere Child* is screenwriter Christian White's internationally bestselling debut thriller of psychological suspense about a woman uncovering devastating secrets about her family—and her very identity...

Kimberly Leamy is a photography teacher in Melbourne, Australia. Twenty-six years earlier, Sammy Went, a two-year old girl vanished from her home in Manson, Kentucky. An American accountant who contacts Kim is convinced she was that child, kidnapped just after her birthday.

On April 3rd, 1990, Jack and Molly Went's daughter Sammy disappeared from the inside their Kentucky home. Already estranged since the girl's birth, the couple drifted further apart as time passed. Jack did his best to raise and protect his other daughter and son while Molly found solace in her faith. The Church of the Light Within, a Pentecostal fundamentalist group who handle poisonous snakes as part of their worship, provided that faith. (374 pages)

[\(Catalogue Large Print, Audio CD and MP3 available\)](#)



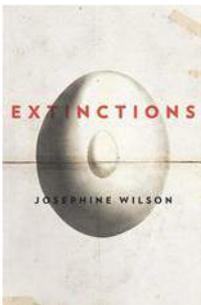
## Wilson, Andrew

## A Talent for Murder

Detective/Mystery Fiction, Historical

*'I wouldn't scream if I were you. Unless you want the whole world to learn about your husband and his mistress'*

Agatha Christie, in London to visit her literary agent, boards a train, preoccupied and flustered in the knowledge that her husband Archie is having an affair. She feels a light touch on her back, causing her to lose her balance, then a sense of someone pulling her to safety from the rush of the incoming train. So begins a terrifying sequence of events. Her rescuer is no guardian angel; rather, he is a blackmailer of the most insidious, manipulative kind. Agatha must use every ounce of her cleverness and resourcefulness to thwart an adversary determined to exploit her genius for murder to kill on his behalf. (320 pages)



## Wilson, Josephine

## Extinctions

Australian Fiction - General

He hated the word 'retirement', but not as much as he hated the word 'village', as if ageing made you a peasant or a fool. Herein lives the village idiot. Professor Frederick Lothian, retired engineer, world expert on concrete and connoisseur of modernist design, has quarantined himself from life by moving to a retirement village. His wife, Martha, is dead and his two adult children are lost to him in their own ways. Surrounded and obstructed by the debris of his life - objects he has collected over many years and tells himself he is keeping for his daughter - he is determined to be miserable, but is tired of his existence and of the life he has chosen. When a series of unfortunate incidents forces him and his neighbour, Jan, together, he begins to realise the damage done by the accumulation of a lifetime's secrets and lies, and to comprehend his own shortcomings. Finally, Frederick Lothian has the opportunity to build something meaningful for the ones he loves.

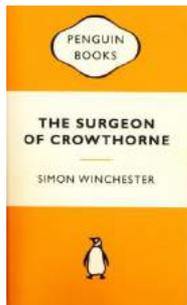
Humorous, poignant and galvanising by turns, *Extinctions* is a novel about all kinds of extinction - natural, racial, national and personal - and what we can do to prevent them. (280 pages)

2017 Miles Franklin Literary Award, W2017 Colin Roderick Award, Shortlisted - 2017 Prime Minister's Literary Awards (Fiction)

## Winchester, Simon

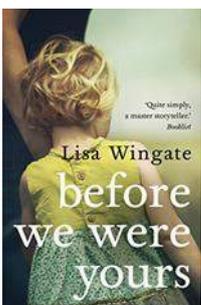
## The Surgeon of Crowthorne

Biography



An extraordinary true story of murder, madness and an extraordinary friendship in the nineteenth century. It is the tale of James Murray, the compiler of the first Oxford English Dictionary, and his most valued helper: Dr Minor of Crowthorne, who was also a homicidal lunatic, confined to Broadmoor asylum for murder. This is an enthralling and beautifully written work of literary detection. (204 pages)

[\(e-book available\)](#) [\(catalogue copy of HCD\)](#)



## Wingate, Lisa

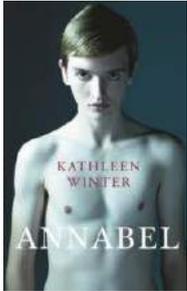
## Before We Were Yours

General Fiction

Memphis, 1939. Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live a magical life aboard their family's Mississippi River shanty boat. But when their father must rush their mother to the hospital one stormy night, Rill is left in charge—until strangers arrive in force. Wrenched from all that is familiar and thrown into a Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage, the Foss children are assured that they will soon be returned to their parents—but they quickly realize the dark truth. At the mercy of the facility's cruel director, Rill fights to keep her sisters and brother together in a world of danger and uncertainty.

Aiken, South Carolina, present day. Born into wealth and privilege, Avery Stafford seems to have it all: a successful career as a federal prosecutor, a handsome fiancé, and a lavish wedding on the horizon. But when Avery returns home to help her father weather a health crisis, a chance encounter leaves her with uncomfortable questions and compels her to take a journey through her family's long-hidden history, on a path that will ultimately lead either to devastation or to redemption.

Based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals—in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country—Lisa Wingate's riveting, wrenching, and ultimately uplifting tale reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong. (342 page) [\(e-book available\)](#)



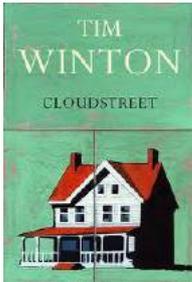
## Winter, Kathleen

**Annabel**

*Psychological Fiction, Gender Identity*

Kathleen Winter's luminous debut novel is a deeply affecting portrait of life in an enchanting seaside town and the trials of growing up unique in a restrictive environment. In 1968, into the devastating, spare atmosphere of Labrador, Canada, a child is born: a baby who appears to be neither fully boy nor fully girl, but both at once. Only three people are privy to the secret—the baby's parents, Jacinta and Treadway, and their trusted neighbour and midwife, Thomasina. Though Treadway makes the difficult decision to raise the child as a boy named Wayne, the women continue to quietly nurture the boy's female side. And as Wayne grows into adulthood within the hyper-masculine hunting society of his father, his shadow-self, a girl he thinks of as "Annabel," is never entirely extinguished.

Kathleen Winter has crafted a literary gem about the urge to unveil mysterious truth in a culture that shuns contradiction, and the body's insistence on coming home. A daringly unusual debut full of unforgettable beauty, *Annabel* introduces a remarkable new voice to American readers. (464 pages)



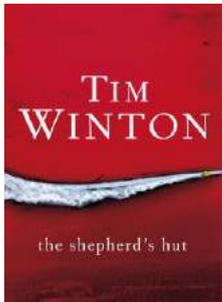
## Winton, Tim

**Cloudstreet**

*Australian Fiction - General*

Hailed as a classic, Tim Winton's masterful family saga is both a paean to working-class Australians and an unflinching examination of the human heart's capacity for sorrow, joy, and endless gradations in between. An award-winning work, *Cloudstreet* exemplifies the brilliant ability of fiction to captivate and inspire.

Struggling to rebuild their lives after being touched by disaster, the Pickle family, who've inherited a big house called Cloudstreet in a suburb of Perth, take in the God-fearing Lambs as tenants. The Lambs have suffered their own catastrophes, and determined to survive, they open up a grocery on the ground floor. From 1944 to 1964, the shared experiences of the two overpopulated clans -- running the gamut from drunkenness, adultery, and death to resurrection, marriage, and birth -- bond them to each other and to the bustling, haunted house in ways no one could have anticipated. (558 pages) (HCD in set) (DVD in set)



## Winton, Tim

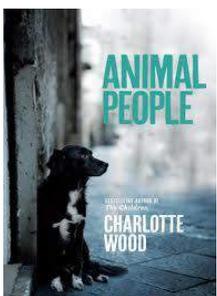
**The Shepherd's Hut**

*Australian Fiction - General*

Jaxie dreads going home. His mum's dead. The old man bashes him without mercy, and he wishes he was an orphan. But no one's ever told Jaxie Clackton to be careful what he wishes for.

In one terrible moment his life is stripped to little more than what he can carry and how he can keep himself alive. There's just one person left in the world who understands him and what he still dares to hope for. But to reach her he'll have to cross the vast saltlands on a trek that only a dreamer or a fugitive would attempt.

This urgent masterpiece is a rifle shot of a novel – crisp, fast, shocking – about solitude and unlikely friendship, about the raw business of survival, but most of all about what it takes to keep love and hope alive in a parched and brutal world (267 pages) (catalogue copy of HCD)



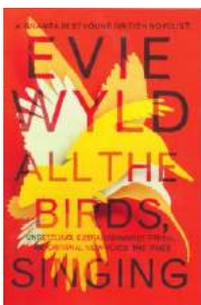
## Wood, Charlotte

**Animal People**

'He could not think of a single thing more to say. *I just want to be free.* He could not say those stupid words. They had already withered in his mind, turned to dust. He did not even know, he marvelled now, what the hell those words had meant'.

Acclaimed novelist Charlotte Wood takes a character from her bestselling book *The Children* and turns her unflinching gaze on him and his world in her extraordinary novel, *Animal People*. Set in a big Australian city over a single day. *Animal People* traces a watershed day in the life of Stephen, aimless, unhappy, and unfulfilled – without a clue as to how to make his life better. (272 pages)

(e-book available)



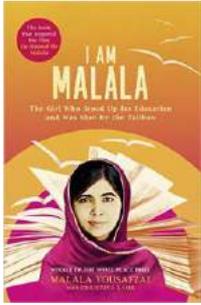
## Wyld, Evie

**All the birds, singing**

Longlisted for the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction 2014. Jake Whyte is the sole resident of an old farmhouse on an unnamed British island, a place of ceaseless rains and battering winds. It's just her, her untamed companion, Dog, and a flock of sheep. Which is how she wanted it to be. But something is coming for the sheep - every few nights it picks one off, leaves it in rags.

It could be anything. There are a few foxes in the woods, a strange boy and a strange man, rumours of an obscure, formidable beast. And there is Jake's unknown past, perhaps breaking into the present, a story hidden thousands of years ago, in a landscape of different colour and sound, a story held in the scars that stripe her back. (228 pages)

(e-book available)



## Yousafzai, Malala

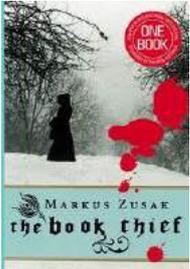
## I am Malala

### Winner of the Nobel Peace Prize

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley, one girl fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday 9 October 2012, she almost paid the ultimate price when she was shot in the head at point-blank range.

Malala Yousafzai's extraordinary journey has taken her from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations. She has become a global symbol of peaceful protest and is the youngest ever winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. This book inspired the film *He name me Malala*. (287 pages).

Discussion questions at the back of the book on page 289. ([HCD in set](#))

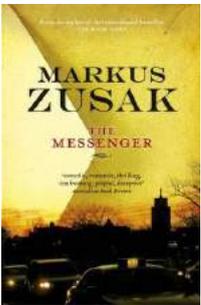


## Zusak, Markus

## The Book Thief

It's just a small story really, about among other things: a girl, some words, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist-fighter, and quite a lot of thievery. Set during World War II in Germany, Markus Zusak's ground-breaking new novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel scratches out a meagre existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbours during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement before he is marched to Dachau.

This is an unforgettable story about the ability of books to feed the soul. (584 pages) ([HCD in set](#)) ([e-book available](#))



## Zusak, Markus

## The Messenger

Ed Kennedy is an underage cabdriver without much of a future. He's pathetic at playing cards, hopelessly in love with his best friend, Audrey, and utterly devoted to his coffee-drinking dog, the Doorman. His life is one of peaceful routine and incompetence until he inadvertently stops a bank robbery.

That's when the first ace arrives in the mail. That's when Ed becomes the messenger.

Chosen to care, he makes his way through town helping and hurting (when necessary) until only one question remains: Who's behind Ed's mission? (386 pages) ([e-book available](#))