

# BOOKCINO

DECEMBER 2023

*Summer Reading Guide*










# 2023 Bestsellers

## FICTION

1. The Bookbinder of Jericho by Pip Williams
2. The Covenant of Water by Abraham Verghese
3. Lola in the Mirror by Trent Dalton 
4. Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus
5. Romantic Comedy by Curtis Sittenfeld
6. Tom Lake by Ann Patchett
7. Mrs Winterbottom Takes a Gap Year by Joanna Nell 
8. Return to Valetto by Dominic Smith
9. Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver
10. The Last Devil To Die by Richard Oseman

## NON-FICTION

1. Wifedom: Mrs Orwell's Invisible Life By Anne Funder 
2. The Teacher's Pet by Hedley Thomas 
3. Against the Water by Owen Wright 
4. Question 7 by Richard Flanagan 
5. The Spy and the Traitor by Ben MacIntyre 
6. Killing for Country by David Marr 
7. The Wager by David Grann
8. Did I Ever Tell You This? A Memoir by Sam Neill
9. Bright Shining by Julia Baird
10. Sunset in Spain by Erna Walraven 

## LIFESTYLE

1. RecipeTin Eats by Nagi Maehashi
2. Extra Good Things by Ottolenghi Test Kitchen
3. Design by Paul Memmott and Allison Page 
4. Arent & Pyke by Juliette Arent and Sarah-Jane Pyke 
5. A Life in Garden Design by Paul Bangay 
6. Plants: Past, Present and Future by Zoe Cumpston
7. River Cottage Great Salads by Gelf Alderton
8. Gunyah Goondie + Wurley by Paul Memmott 
9. Kamchatka by Guy Williment
10. The Milkwood Permaculture Living Handbook by Kirsten Bradley



 A 2023 BOOKOCCINO AUTHOR EVENT

### BOOKOCCINO STORE DETAILS

Bookoccino (02) 9973 1244  
66 Old Barrenjoey Road  
Avalon Beach NSW 2107  
hello@bookoccino.com.au

MON - THURS 8AM TO 5PM  
FRI 8AM TO 8PM  
SAT 8AM TO 5PM  
SUN 8AM TO 4PM

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### COVER ART

Louis Wayling

HELLO READERS,

## Welcome to your 2023 Summer Reading Guide

### WE CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT, BUT HERE WE ARE WITH OUR FIFTH SUMMER READING GUIDE.

It has been a year of literary riches, with new books from Julia Baird, Trent Dalton, David Marr, Pip Williams, Dolly Alderton, Paul Auster, Anna Funder and Richard Flanagan. We celebrated wonderful debuts like Lessons in Chemistry, we discovered names new to us including Deepti Kapoor and Ismail Kadare and the long awaited sequel to I am Pilgrim finally arrived, some 10 years behind schedule!

We see your craving for stories that educate and inspire hope, balanced against a desire for immersive, escapist literary fiction. It is our pleasure to recommend and provide you with both.

Bookoccino is busier than ever, an emerging community hub and a place to recharge and reconnect. If you haven't visited yet, you must. You'll find a team of charming and friendly baristas and booklovers, a convivial community atmosphere, and a plethora of stories to bring colour and inspiration to life.

You will also find live music, and a renowned events program, which, as one guest remarked 'has made Avalon a more interesting place to live'.

Feeling the desire for readers to bond over a meal and to celebrate creativity and beauty we hosted bespoke lifestyle events with garden designer Paul Bangay and with renowned chef Danielle Alvarez.



Whether you are interested in intellectual, literary, creative or current affairs content, we have something to please everyone. If you haven't been to one of our live events yet, we encourage you to do so. We have our annual 'China Night,' a panel discussion on foreign policy in early January, or keep an eye out for Julia Baird in conversation with Juanita Phillips in February. Her new book Bright Shining: How Grace Changes Everything has rocketed up our best-seller's list.

Richard Flanagan is the subject of our exclusive Q&A in this reading guide. The Booker Prize-winning author's new book Question 7 is essential reading this summer. No book in recent memory is so revelatory of our Australian identity.

Always looking to support new avenues and ideas we are partnering with the Small Press Network in 2024 to support up and coming writers and their publishers. We are also running our Christmas wrapping for charity program, donating your wrapping fee to the Indigenous Literary Foundation.

To our loyal readers and followers, we say Thank-you and a very Merry Christmas.

### ENJOY THIS GUIDE, ENJOY READING. AND BE SURE TO VISIT US THIS SUMMER.

*All best,*  
Sally, Ray and the Bookoccino Team



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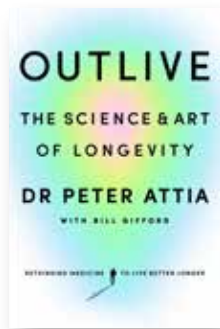
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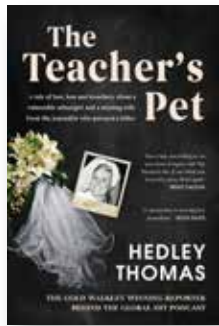
## Ray's Books of 2023



### Outlive: The Science and Art of Longevity

PETER ATTIA  
Vermilion \$35.00

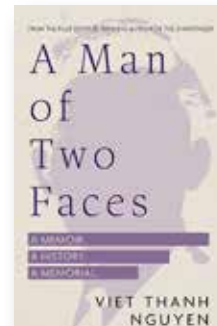
A massively important book. With data and medical terminology, a manifesto to doctors to improve medical care, to move from treatment (Medicine 2.0) to prevention (3.0). At the same time, a book for all of us. The keys to a longer, better life, whether 36 or 86: Exercise; Nutrition; Sleep; Emotional health. The most transformative book I've read this year.



### The Teacher's Pet

HEDLEY THOMAS  
Pan Macmillan \$36.99

Days after his wife disappears, Chris Dawson moves his student lover into his bed. The police investigation is sloppy, at best. Three decades later Hedley Thomas embarrasses police into reopening the investigation and Dawson is convicted of murder. Enriched by the author's personal story -- the disappearance of his grandmother; the toll the case took on his marriage.



### A Man of Two Faces

VIET THANH NYUGEN  
Corsair \$34.99

A memoir, daring and unorthodox, told in the second person, by the Pulitzer-winning author of *The Sympathizer*. A child refugee, arrived from Vietnam in 1975 is separated from his parents by social workers; then reunited. The hard-working Catholic capitalists run a grocery store and survive two shootings, while their son becomes a left-leaning atheist, a "book loving misfit." Poetic, Philosophical and Raw.



### Bright Shining

JULIA BAIRD  
4th Estate \$34.99

However you define 'grace,' Julia Baird has it, in her writing, in her life. A beautiful book, by the author of *Phosphorescence*, the antidote we need in times of wars and daily news ever grim. Told through the lives of others, while deeply personal and moving -- from the death of her mother to her own battle with cancer, including a 19-hour surgery. An ode to life, to living, to friends, to strangers.



### Voices of Us

TIM DUNLOP  
NewSouth Books \$29.99

What the rise of the Teals, beginning with the 2022 election, means for the future of Australian politics (and the media). Surpasses all the articles, essays and books that have been written about the Teals.

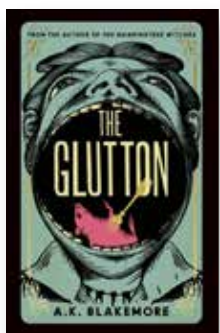


### The Seventh Son

SEBASTIAN FAULKS  
Hutchinson Heinemann, \$34.99

Who are we? Where did we come from? Set fifty years in the future -- in Australia, Germany, the UK and US -- Faulks, author of the acclaimed *Birdsong*, explores what may have happened in the past to lead to where we are today. Told through a doctoral student who becomes a surrogate mother, the couple who pay her, the son who is conceived...and unscrupulous scientists.

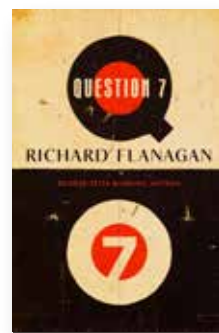
## Sally's Books of 2023



### The Glutton

A.K. BLAKEMORE  
Granta \$29.99

Blakemore is a brilliant young writer. Her inventive use of language and admirable handle on narrative tension make this dark historic novel a real treat. I loved the insights and images of 18th Century revolutionary France. If you loved *Perfume: The Story of a Murder*, by Patrick Suskind, you'll also love this.



### Question 7

RICHARD FLANAGAN  
Knopf \$35.00

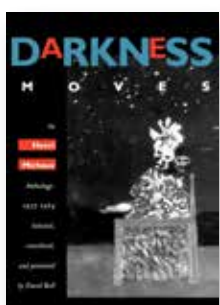
An exceptional book. *Question 7* overflows with love, intelligence and revelatory wisdom. With grace and a wonderful lightness Flanagan writes of memory and history, suffering and joy, as he and his ancestors have known it. A must-read for 2023.



### Grand Days

FRANK MOORHOUSE  
Faber \$29.99

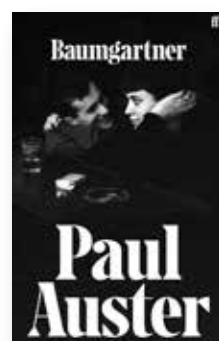
Two Moorhouse biographies arrived in late 2023, so, wanting to refresh my memory, I picked up *Grand Days*, the first in the famous Edith Trilogy. A novel that explores Australian identity, sexual norms and the post-war period with great curiosity and intelligence.



### Darkness Moves: A Henri Michaux Anthology

SELECTED AND TRANSLATED BY  
DAVID BALL  
University of California Press  
\$29.99

Impossible to describe, unless you are gifted like Michaux, who dances with language and meaning with a joy and a lack of restraint that is breathtaking. Pure imagination.



### Baumgartner

PAUL AUSTER  
Faber \$29.99

A pleasure to read and to reflect on, this is the story of a man, Baumgartner, who is widowed in late age. He pines for his wife Anna, he forgets that she is gone, he tries to find new ways to occupy the days. A tender ode to love and loss.



### The Pole

J.M. COETZEE  
Text \$29.99

Always writing at a remove, Coetzee perfectly captures the fraught energy of a domestically habituated, wealthy Spanish woman who engages in an unsatisfying affair with a famous concert pianist.



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## Favourites from the Bookoccino Team

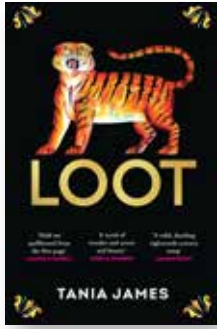


### Small Things Like These

CLAIRE KEEGAN

Faber \$22.99

At just 128 pages, this book is a masterclass in pared-down writing, which can still wrestle big themes into perfect sentences. Keegan illuminates the resilience of the human spirit and reminds us that even the most ordinary of individuals can be catalysts for change. A quick read that will linger long after you've put it down - *Julia*

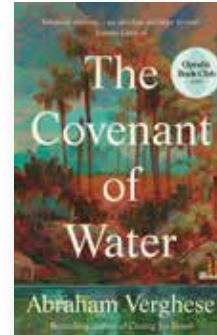


### Loot

TANIA JAMES

Harvill Secker \$32.99

I could tell I was going to like this book after being intrigued by the first paragraph. It is beautifully written, immersive & engaging. Tania James brings the senses alive, travelling through India, Europe and England, following the story of a young woodcarver embarking on an epic hero's journey. Masterfully interlaced with historical fiction. - *Sontann*

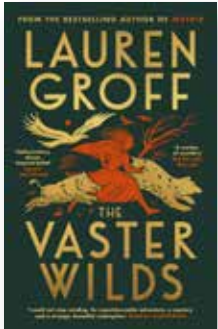


### The Covenant of Water

ABRAHAM VERGHESE

Grove Press \$32.99

I have a great personal interest in early India and medicine so this beautifully written novel has had me up till all hours of the night consuming chapter after chapter. I feel like I know each character deeply! Don't let the size of this book put you off...this is a precious masterpiece. - *Mary*



### Vaster Wilds

LAUREN GROFF

Hutchinson Heinemannr \$34.99

The latest offering from Lauren Groff, an exceptional writer with a unique and distinctive style. Told from the perspective of a young servant girl adrift in 17thC America, where new colonies are torn apart by smallpox and starvation, and human beings will do deplorable things to survive. This book gripped me from the start. Groff's use of language is like no other, and I devoured this haunting, terrifying and beautiful book. - *Claire*



### Sand Talk

TYSON YUNKAPORTA

Text \$24.99

Tyson has a gift for translating something that is so distant from the way most Australians see Indigenous Australia. He guides us to look the way indigenous people look, at the country around them, how they relate to nature's laws and how they relate to each other within their family and community. I recommend this book to anyone interested in how the people of this country survived beyond the 200 years us white fellas have been here for. - *Tom*

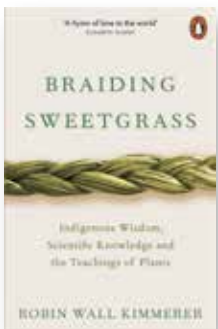


### How to Change Your Mind

MICHAEL POLLAN

Penguin \$24.99

Such a controversial subject but one that is fascinating! Pollan experiments with a variety of plant medicines, and documents his experience. This is not about abusing drugs or recklessly getting high. It's about plants, the history of psychedelics, science and how, with professional guidance, these plants can help mental health pandemic. - *Mary*



### Braiding Sweetgrass

ROBIN WALL KIMMERER

Penguin \$24.99

Braiding Sweetgrass is a beautiful book written with grace and woven with knowledge. As a reader, we can feel the author's presence, respect and attentiveness towards nature and her indigenous cultures. Robin invites us to adopt indigenous principles, backed by science, and the wondrous gifts nature provides us. She tells us ancient, wise stories making each page come alive. Can be read over and over as a reminder to love, respect and look to nature for guidance. - *Mary*



### Delilah Green Doesn't Care

ASHLEY HERRING BLAKE

Piatkus \$22.99

The first book in the Bright Falls series, is a beautiful story about two women falling in love. With complex and highly-flawed characters, this easy-reading adult romance will make you laugh and cry. It navigates loneliness, the intricacies of parenthood, self-love, and the isolating experience of growing up queer in a small town. - *Bea*

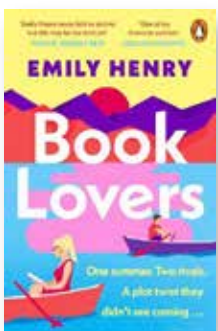


### Brutto: A (simple) Florentine cookbook

RUSSELL NORMAN

Ebury \$75.00

Fans of Polpo & The River Cafe will love this latest offering from Russell Norman. Simply put, this is probably the most aesthetically beautiful cookbook released in 2023, and is in my top 5 cookbook releases of the year. If you love simple, honest, Florentine food, you will love this book. A perfect gift for that person in your life who loves reading cookbooks as much (or more than) cooking from them. - *Sontann*

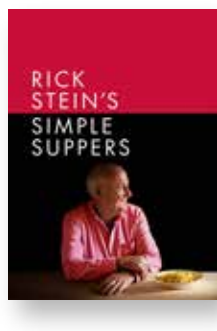


### Book Lovers

EMILY HENRY

Penguin Books \$22.99

Another brilliant summer read by Emily Henry, beautifully written themes of love, loss, formative relationships and family. Henry's captivating storytelling and relatable characters made this a really great read, blending humour and heartache. A must read for Emily Henry fans. - *Emerald*



### Simple Suppers

RICK STEIN

Random House \$59.99

After 30+ years writing cookbooks, producing TV shows and running a global restaurant empire, Rick Stein continues to delight. His latest cookbook offers something more pared back than his usual style, more fitting for these turbulent times. Rick is known his stories, and this book finds Rick more circumspect and relaxed. This tone is reflected in the simplicity and honesty of the recipes - *Claire*

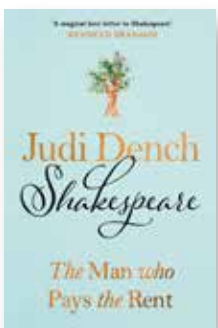


### Now & Then

TESSA KIROS

Murdoch \$59.99

Tessa Kiros has been a favourite food writer of mine since she released Twelve, A Tuscan Cookbook back in 2005. Her writing combines food, memoir and travel, executed with an artist's eye for beauty. Like many food writers today, this book puts plants front and centre, as we all look to consume less meat & eat in a more sustainable way. It's a book to savour with a cup of tea and a slice of orange cake on a Sunday afternoon. - *Claire*

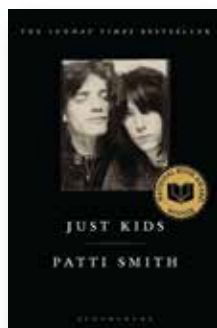


### Shakespeare: The Man who Pays the Rent

DAME JUDI DENCH

Michael Joseph \$36.99

A lovely glimpse into the world of Shakespeare and the woman who has played so many roles. Structured as interview with the Dame herself - on the characters, the rehearsal process, the backstage antics & her personal interpretation of Shakespeare's works. Perfect for lovers of Shakespeare, the craft of acting or Dame Judi Dench. You can hear her glorious voice cascading through the words written upon the page, as if she's sitting right next to you, chatting & having a cup of tea. - *Sontann*



### Just Kids

PATTI SMITH

Bloomsbury \$24.99

A captivating memoir that explores Patti Smith's transformative relationship with photographer Robert Mapplethorpe. Through her deeply poetic writing I was enthralled into the hustling world of 1960s and 1970s New York City, where the duo navigates art, love, and self-discovery. - *Emerald*

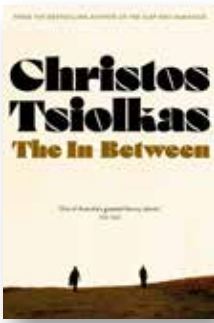


### Rock Paper Scissors

ALICE FEENEY

HQ Fiction \$19.99

A spontaneous weekend away, for a decade-long marriage at breaking point, delivers an unpredictable page-turner for fans of mystery and thriller genres. With each chapter unveiling ten years of secrets, it had me hooked, trying to figure out the secrets and lies of this twisted bingeable read. - *Emerald*



### The In-Between

CHRISTOS TSIOLKAS

Allen and Unwin \$32.99

Two middle-aged men meet for a date in Melbourne and embark upon a relationship, carrying uncertainty and past hurts. The In-Between is beautifully introspective, concerned with inner thoughts and webs of interconnection, emphasising the ubiquity of unique inner-worlds. Because of this, it is a candid, tender and deeply human. - *Annie*

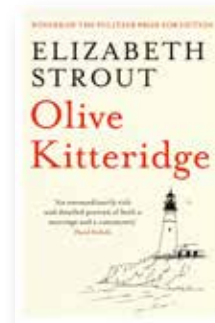


### What the Colonists Never Knew

DENNIS FOLEY  
AND PETER READ

National Museum of Australia  
\$35.00

Skilfully woven anecdotes about growing up in Sydney with traditional stories from the Gai-Mariagal people, as passed on to Foley by his Grandmother. An engaging exploration of the Northern Beaches before colonisation, this is an educational and constructive read for those struggling with the result of the referendum. - *Bea*

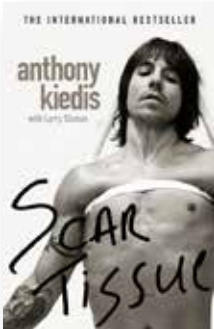


### Olive Kitteridge

ELIZABETH STROUT

Penguin \$22.99

Gruff and unsentimental, Olive is a cynical observer of her small town American community; quick to judge and downright mean to those she dislikes. Through Olive's eyes all the complexities, joys and challenges of the human condition are revealed in a vivid portrait of ordinary life. Once you start reading, you will not be able to put this book down. - *Julia*



### Scar Tissue

ANTHONY KIEDIS

Sphere \$26.99

Absolutely engaging. Anthony does not shy away from details and is so raw, open and honest, it's completely refreshing. A compelling in-depth look into the personal life of the man behind the mic and a testimony to willpower, overcoming addiction, the drive to keep going when the odds seem stacked against you and the acceptance of all aspects of life. Even if you're not a Red Hot Chili Peppers fan, you should read this. - *Sontaan*



### The Name of the Wind

PATRICK ROTHFUSS

Gollancz \$22.99

Rothfuss is a master at the art of world building, immersing you in the life of a gifted young musician and wizard pursuing the study of magic at an arcane University. With poetic prose and a meticulously detailed and logical concept of magic, this book is perfect for any fantasy lover. - *Bea*



### Bad Art Mother

EDWINA PRESTON

Wakefield Press \$32.95

A dual narrative set in Melbourne across several decades, starting in the 1950s. Poet Veda's letters to her sister attempt to reconcile her duties as mother and wife with her duty to herself. Her son Owen reflects on the women around him who push against gender boundaries. Explores our cultural proclivity to punish 'difficult' women and neglect their interests, desires, and dreams. My favourite book of 2023. - *Annie*



### Recipes for a Lifetime of Beautiful Cooking

DANIELLE ALVAREZ

Murdoch \$49.99

My cookbook of 2023 and the second offering from Fred's & Chez Panisse alumni Danielle Alvarez is fresh, inspiring and delicious! This is a book for people who love to cook. If you were lucky enough to dine at Fred's you will know how passionate she is about building flavour without fuss, bringing her eye for beauty to everything she touches. A book to savour with a cold glass of rose on a Saturday afternoon, whilst you plan lunch with friends on Sunday. - *Claire*

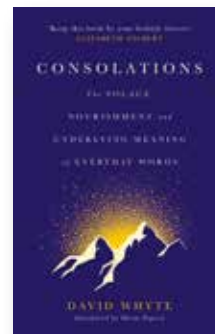


### Green Dot

MADELEINE GRAY

Allen and Unwin \$32.99

Reluctant adult Hera starts a job as an online comments moderator. She both embodies and hyperbolises coming-of-age today. Riddled by insecurity, plagued by disillusionment and ironically self-aware, these qualities ignite a craving for stability fed by her relationship with Arthur, a married 40-something-year-old. Hera's observations about modernity feel like an inside joke with the reader. The perfect summer read, easy to consume but still quality. - *Annie*



### Consolations

DAVID WHYTE

Canongate \$34.99

David Whyte has a way of expressing how we are all feeling, yet cannot find the words to describe. *Consolations* is a book of contemplations that offer solace, nourishment and reflection. Keep it by your bed, for when you want to read something gentle and kind. Each word - Alone, Beauty, Crisis - offers us an opportunity to pause, and remember what it is to be a human being, and what it means to be alive, on this day, in this world. An extraordinary and beautiful book. - *Claire*

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2023

# Events

OUR SIGNATURE AUTHOR EVENTS ATTRACT THE BRIGHTEST LITERARY STARS TO THE NORTHERN BEACHES. THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING AUTHORS FOR VISITING IN 2023:

JUNE/JULY 2023

## Man-Made

TRACEY SPICER IN CONVERSATION WITH JUANITA PHILLIPS  
15th June 2023

Tracey Spicer's deep investigation into gender bias in technology and our future with AI made for a fascinating conversation with Juanita Phillips at Avalon Surf Club.

## Your Name is Not Anxious

STEPHANIE DOWRICK IN CONVERSATION WITH MELANIE GREBLO  
26th July 2023

Renowned columnist, therapist, writer and interfaith minister Stephanie Dowrick was joined in conversation with Melanie Greblo. Together they unpacked the many ways in which anxiety is felt, and explored their lived experience. Stephanie is wise and practical in her approach, and the book makes essential reading for anxiety sufferers and their loved ones.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2023

## Against the Water

OWEN WRIGHT IN CONVERSATION WITH TOM CARROLL  
4th August 2023

An inspiring visit from champion surfer and Olympian Owen Wright, who talked about his surfing career and recovery from a traumatic brain injury with World Champion Tom Carroll. Owen is a great advocate for safe surfing and for a resilient and determined approach to achieving life goals. Great to have our local groms attending.

## Flawed Hero: Truth, Lies and War Crimes

CHRIS MASTERS AND RICHARD WALSH WITH RAY BONNER  
5th September 2023

An important conversation about Australia's war crimes in Afghanistan, with the renowned journalist Chris Masters, and an insight into Australia's defamation laws, which nearly blocked the book from being published. We applaud publishers who assume the great risks associated with publishing books like *Flawed Hero*.

## Wifedom

ANNA FUNDER IN CONVERSATION WITH JULIA BAIRD  
21st September 2023

A feisty, funny and fascinating evening. The author, in conversation with the brilliant Julia Baird, discussed misogyny and patriarchy, as masterfully exposed in *Wifedom*.



OCTOBER 2023

## In Belinda's Kitchen

A LUNCH PARTY WITH BELINDA JEFFERY  
12th October 2023

The supremely talented Belinda Jeffery joined us for an intimate in-store lunch, which was exceptionally catered by Clare Hammond of Chef by the Sea. We enjoyed the vibrant lunch of seasonal produce - a sensational frittata, amazing caramelised fennel and the lightest lemon shortbread you could imagine. In conversation, Belinda talked of her childhood in Newport, the early market gardens of Warriewood, her love of gardening and her regular visits to farmer's markets.

## Killing for Country

DAVID MARR IN CONVERSATION WITH MARIAN WILKINSON  
17th October 2023

An important conversation between two of Australia's finest minds exploring the frontier wars and the involvement of Marr's forebears in the murder of Indigenous Australians.

OCTOBER 2023

## The Definitive Guide to the Perimenopause and Menopause

DR LOUISE NEWSON IN CONVERSATION WITH DR KELLY TEAGLE, JULIE DUTTON AND SONYA LOVELL  
9th October 2023

An eye-opening evening with leading UK Menopause specialist Dr Louise Newson and a panel of local health specialists. Discussing the myths and misconceptions as well as the malignment of women experiencing Peri-menopause and Menopause, this event was made possible by Ceri Cashell at Avalon Family Medical, a passionate advocate for women's health.

## The Teacher's Pet

HEDLEY THOMAS IN CONVERSATION WITH RAY BONNER  
11th October 2023

Hedley Thomas was joined on stage by friend and Bookoccino co-owner Ray Bonner to discuss the influence Hedley's grandmother had on his pursuit of justice with *The Teacher's Pet*, and the toll it took on his marriage. Hosted with the Northern Beaches Council at Glen Street Theatre before a sold-out crowd. (Watch for exciting 2024 events there)

## Lola in the Mirror

TRENT DALTON IN CONVERSATION WITH MALCOLM KNOX  
31st October 2023

A magical night with the ebullient and phenomenally generous and spirited Trent Dalton. From laughter to tears and back to laughter, this was a great night, beautifully guided by Malcolm Knox. *Lola in the Mirror* is signature storytelling from Dalton, full of love, hope and visibility for those whose stories are often denied the light.

NOVEMBER 2023

## Question 7

RICHARD FLANAGAN IN CONVERSATION WITH RICHARD FIDLER  
6th November 2023

The two Richard's, both dear friends to Ray and Bookoccino, discussed memory, love and fate in this stimulating and refreshing conversation.



## A Life in Garden Design

PAUL BANGAY IN CONVERSATION WITH JULIE GIBB  
8th November 2023

Australia's most sought-after garden designer joined us at the stunning Palms Eatery for a special dinner-time conversation with his long-time friend and publishing royalty Julie Gibbs. His illustrated memoir *A Life in Garden Design* is a sumptuous book, covering his childhood love of gardening, his mentors and clients, and of course the many exceptional gardens he has created.

## Best Wishes v Lies My Mirror Told Me

RICHARD GLOVER AND WENDY HARMER  
25th November 2023

We host a rambunctious evening with two of Australia's most beloved comedians and writers. Richard Glover, host of ABC Drive and Wendy Harmer, also an ABC veteran, will interview each other, reflecting on a life in the Australian spotlight.

## Recipes for a Lifetime of Beautiful Cooking

DINNER WITH DANIELLE ALVAREZ  
26th November 2023

The Fred's and Chez Panisse Alumna, now culinary director at the Sydney Opera House, Danielle Alvarez will join us for a long lazy lunch at Bar Elvina.



# What they're reading...

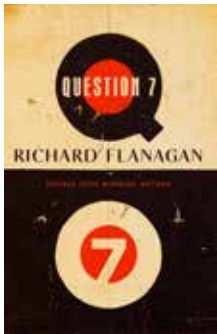


## REVIEWS FROM OUR FRIENDS

Anna Funder



Author, *Wifedom: Mrs Orwell's Invisible Life*



**Question 7**  
RICHARD FLANAGAN  
Knopf \$35.00

Sometimes a book is an event, a celebration, an experience felt almost on the body. QUESTION 7 is such a book. It holds a life between its covers and while you read, it holds you too. A celebration in fact of all life, it is also a reckoning with the 20th century and what it revealed about us to ourselves. QUESTION 7 is intimate, beautiful, unsparing and profound. It nudges at eternity, and then comes back home, to decency and love.



**The Girl in the Pink Dress**  
KYLIE NEEDHAM  
Bloomsbury \$19.99

Needham's book is exquisite and fierce and beautifully observed. I was immersed from the first page to the last— in the narrator who is so much more interesting – and powerful – than she gives herself credit for. And in the deft, unshowy art of Needham's prose. I loved the artworld with all its beauties, ambition, heresies, politics and petty tyrannies. Only when I finished did I see the whole, perfect canvas she's painted. A bravura piece of work.



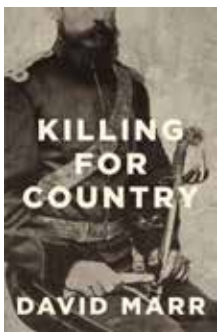
**The Collected Short Stories**  
EDITH WHARTON  
Text \$34.99

Wharton is always wicked, wonderful, wise. She's compassionate about humans and our foibles, ambitions, illusions and dreams, and gimlet-eyed and unsparing at the same time. And she's a complete master of structure: you never know exactly what kind of ride you're on, but you know she'll absolutely bring it home. I could read these over and over all summer, and then go back to *The Age of Innocence* and bask in my admiration for her, longform.

Marian Wilkinson

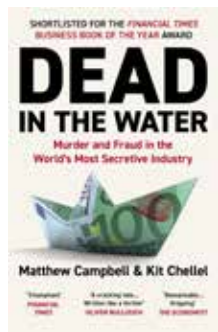


Author, *The Carbon Club*



**Killing for Country**  
DAVID MARR  
Black Ink \$32.99

When David Marr began digging into his family's history, he was shocked to discover his colonial relatives were professional killers of Indigenous Australians during the frontier wars. He knew immediately he had to write their story. The result is a gripping, sweeping saga of a family who built their early fortunes on land grabs, violence and ruthless political scheming.



**Dead in the Water**  
MATTHEW CAMPBELL AND KIT CHELLEL  
Atlantic \$24.99

A great tale about organised crime and fraud in the global shipping industry



**Storytellers**  
LEIGH SALES  
Scribner \$36.99

An engaging series of interviews about journalism in Australia, its secrets and its shortcomings.

Richard Fidler



Host, *ABC's Conversations*; Author, *The Book of Roads and Kingdoms*



**Madonna in a Fur Coat**  
SABAHATTIN ALI  
Penguin \$22.99

My son introduced me to this classic novel of an impossible love affair that takes place in 1920s Berlin between Maria, a demanding artist and cabaret singer, and Raif, a purposeless Turkish clerk. Ali, the author, was later imprisoned by the Turkish regime and then assassinated by a member of the security forces.



**The Children of Ash & Elm**  
NEIL PRICE  
Penguin \$35.00

This is going to be the classic work on the Vikings for years to come. Neil Price brings an archaeologist's eye to the lives of the Norse people; he's able to tether the vivid dramas of the sagas and the hallucinatory visions of Norse mythology to a palpable, and compelling, reality.



**The Ruin of all Witches**  
MALCOLM GASKILL  
Penguin \$24.99

A true story, from the year 1651, of a witch panic that broke out in colonial Massachusetts. Paranoia, hunger, and illness swirl into a toxic stew that destroys a surly brick maker and his manic wife.

Jason Steger



Books Editor, *The Age and the Sydney Morning Herald*



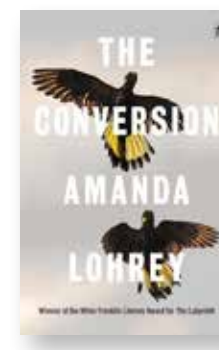
**Women and Children**  
TONY BIRCH  
UQP \$34.99

Eleven-year-old Joe Cluny is a scallywag. His father has absconded, his mother doing her best for him and his elder sister, Marion. One day, his mother's sister Oona turns up, battered by the man she lives with. Birch treats the topic of domestic violence with customary sensitivity, and peoples his spare novel with wonderfully believable characters.



**My Name is Barbra**  
BARBRA STREISAND  
Century \$75.00

On Barbra Streisand's 1965 album, which lends its title to this memoir, there is a song called *Where Is the Wonder*. Perhaps the answer – had that song been a question – is here in this account of her six decades as a recording artist, actor and film director. She has won umpteen Grammy awards and is one of the few to have picked up Oscar, Tony and Emmy awards as well.



**The Conversion**  
AMANDA LOHREY  
Text \$32.99

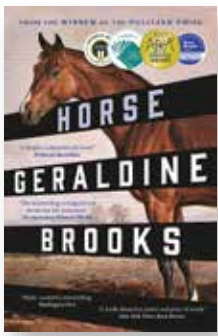
A couple inspect an old church with a view to converting it. Then money tightens, Zoe's husband dies. But Zoe proceeds with their plan. Written in Lohrey's economical prose and exhibiting a fascination with the space we inhabit, *The Conversion* is an absorbing fiction of dealing with people and events from the past, and finding a way into the future.



Richard Glover

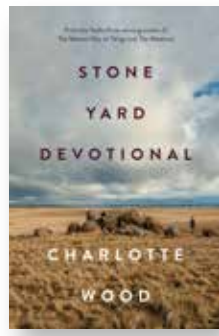


ABC Radio Presenter, Journalist, Author *Best Wishes*



**Horse**  
GERALDINE BROOKS  
Hachette \$22.99

A deeply moving novel about America, talking about both race and racing. Even better it somehow manages to work in two Australian characters – plus an Australian dog. It's the sort of compelling book you'll find difficult to put down



**Stone Yard Devotional**  
CHARLOTTE WOOD  
Allen and Unwin \$32.99

There's something mesmerizing about this book. The characters and locations creep up on you, and then somehow take up residence in your head. Or maybe your soul. It's enchantingly written, and Charlotte guides you gracefully to some deep places.



**Lola in the Mirror**  
TRENT DALTON  
Harper Collins, \$32.99

Trent is such a crazy-brave writer, totally unafraid of emotion, of huge themes and of leaps of faith. Like many great books, it allows us to inhabit the world of people we might never have the chance to meet.

Hedley Thomas

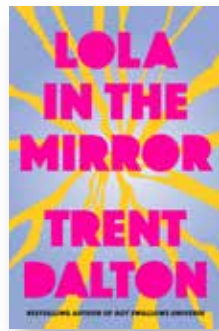


Journalist, Author *The Teacher's Pet*



**Prima Facie**  
SUZIE MILLER  
Picador \$34.99

Searing and unflinching, this legal insider's depiction of the barren promise of the criminal justice system when it comes to rape is a compelling read.



**Lola in the Mirror**  
TRENT DALTON  
Harper Collins \$35.00

How does he do it so persuasively? These must-be-lived experiences. Trent's writing about domestic violence, struggle, love and loss in Brisbane is mesmerising. His awareness is authentic. Heartrending.



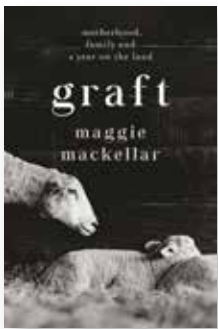
**Storytellers**  
LEIGH SALES  
Monash University Press \$32.95

A brilliant interviewer unveils a treasure trove of fascinating insightw from many of Australia's most interesting and best credentialed journalists who unburden themselves to a trusted colleague. A fascinating study.

Geraldine Brooks



Author, *Horse*



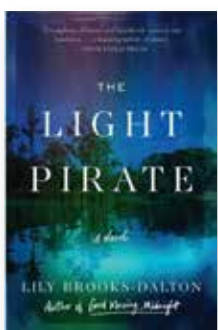
**Graft**  
MAGGIE MACKELLAR  
Hamish Hamilton \$35.00

A beautiful, poetic page turner about a year on a Tasmanian coastal sheep farm, rich and deep with observation and emotion



**Wifedom: Mrs Orwell's Invisible Life**  
ANNA FUNDER  
Hamish Hamilton \$36.99

Reinvents the art of biography and is simultaneously engrossing and enraging.

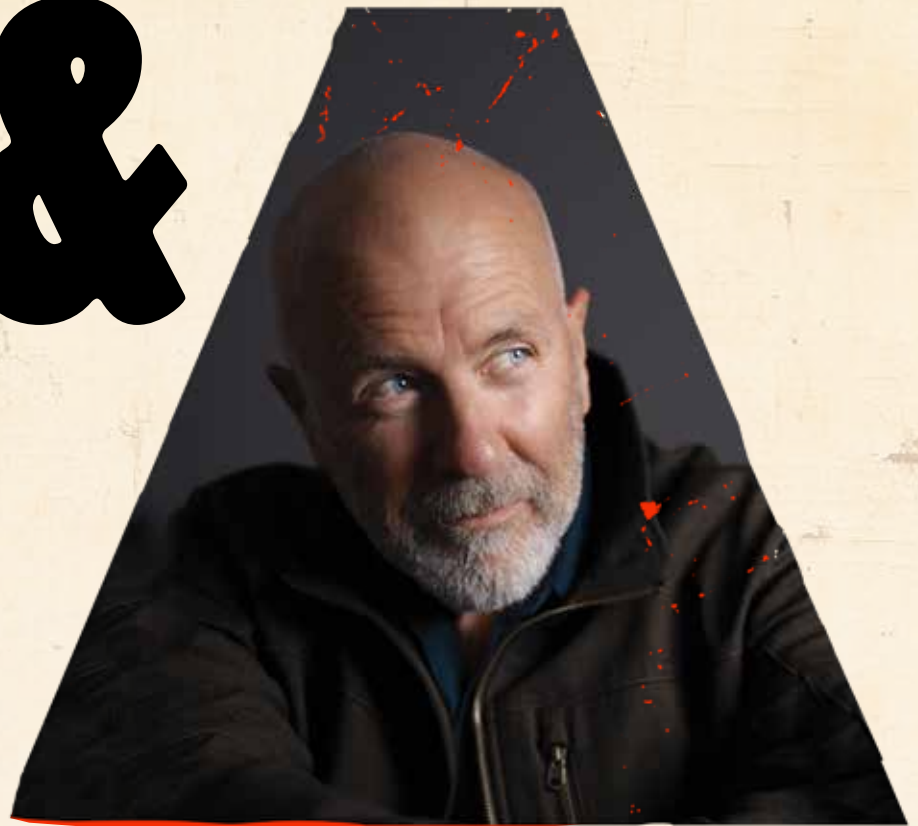


**The Light Pirate**  
LILY BROOKS-DALTON  
Grand Central \$38.90

A page-turning novel with memorable characters, set in the very near future against the catastrophe of the climate crisis.

**FIND YOUR  
GLEN  
STREET  
THEATRE  
2024  
BOOK NOW!**

northern beaches council | Glen Street Theatre



INTERVIEW BY  
SALLY TABNER

# RICHARD FLANAGAN

**Question 7 covers a lot of ground - the life and work of HG Wells, the creation and detonation of the atomic bomb, a deep inquiry into your family history and identity, a revisiting of your near-death on the Franklin River. All of it is revelatory and arrestingly beautiful. Tell us a bit about the genesis and process of writing this book?**

The hardest question. Who recalls fully the passage of a dream? Who remembers a cloud?

By which I mean I have no idea.

During the long dark night that were the Covid years, life for us all seemed on hold. The question that I at least was left with was this: how to live? Do we live? Do we wish to live or are we content to merely exist?

And it is clear to me that in the wake of those Covid years these questions are exercising a great many other people around the world in the choices they are now making about their lives. We see it in everything from the Great Resignation in the west to the Lie Flat movement in China to the exodus of many from cities and a certain idea of life to the regions in search of another idea.

During Covid I realised I had suddenly, without warning, grown old, and the world around me had grown strange and alien. It was as if I had stepped through a mirror and return was no longer possible. Or put another way, the world I assumed I lived in—it's values, its verities, even its seasons and its animals and birds—all this was no more or vanishing. I had lived, I realised, in the autumn of things, and the world I had grown up in was

irrevocably lost. I felt the shades of my long dead parents near me and wanted to hold them close and did it the only way I knew how: with words.

A book began to emerge, at once a homage to them and my strange island at the end of the world. Words were all I had to hold on to it a little longer, to hold on to my parents' laughter and stories, the sound of gum logs cracking in a dying fire as I fell asleep as a child, the extraordinary power of their love.

And other things crept in: a kiss that began it all one hundred years ago, a bath, traffic lights and H G Wells and Hiroshima: a daisy chain of events that begins in front of an Edwardian book case and ends with you reading this about my book.

**Why are questions more important than answers?**

Because they open rather than close. They are an invitation.

**You imagine interesting scenes in the daily lives of Wells, his affair with Rebecca West, his forays with Little e in the alps; the ablutions of Leo Szilard, which were so instrumental to his thought process. How would a similarly imagined life of Richard**

**Flanagan, writer, look?**

I only have to live my life, thank God, not imagine it. And that's more than enough.

**During Covid I realised I had suddenly, without warning, grown old, and the world around me had grown strange and alien.**



**I was fascinated by the revelation that HG Wells had perceived and named the atomic bomb some 30 years before it was used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Do you think writing still has the power to imagine things into being? Are they necessarily destructive?**

Not at all. I write in Question 7 how we cannot be what we cannot dream, that sometimes we discover that we live in the dreams and nightmares of others and we must dream anew. And we can.

**Australia is famous for its bureaucracy. You draw an interesting link between shame and bureaucracy in Australia. Can you conceive of a better Australia?**

That's why our artists matter. Perhaps too that's also why our artists and their work are so consistently scorned in Australia.

**Are you most like your mother or your father?**

I have no idea. I don't think either saw much of themselves in me. My children say I am like my father though I think I am more like my mother. We are unknown to ourselves.

**Question 7 has a wonderful sense of impermanence and temporality. Did that come naturally?**

I seek to write a different book every book rather than the same book over and over as some authors do. I was after a style that played to the strengths of age and not its weaknesses—the ease of experience taking precedence over the joys of invention. Once I was fearful that I would lose readers and strove to keep winning them, image by sentence by page. Now though I drift down the river with them, pointing out a matter of interest here and there but for the most part silent so that they might discover for themselves other things hiding within the pages, new things, their own reflection vanishing into circles rippling outwards the moment they spy their own image

In this way, I strove for lightness and found my words levitating above the page and me with them. I didn't seek to understand it but only to go with it. I discovered that the more I left out and the more I took out, strangely, impossibly, the more there seemed to be to what remained. And so I would take more out again, and still the book grew. It was a magical time that constantly surprised me.

**In your acknowledgements you reference an essay by Yolngu writer Siena Stubbs. How did it inform your writing?**

I have always felt that time is circular, not linear. It was how I grew up understanding my world in Tasmania, where stories were the tool for divining the world—not religion or ideology or philosophy or art, but stories—and the stories were endlessly recursive and digressive, and everything ran back and forth through time simultaneously. It is how I have written all my books. I had long thought this was an Indigenous influence on Tasmanian culture and so, for me, Siena Stubbs' essay was revelatory. It details how in Yolngu there is a fourth tense that evokes the idea that things that are happening now simultaneously happened a thousand years in the past and are also happening a thousand years in the future. I explored this idea at length in a recent essay in *The Monthly*. Above all, I find circular time, the fourth tense, a liberating idea that

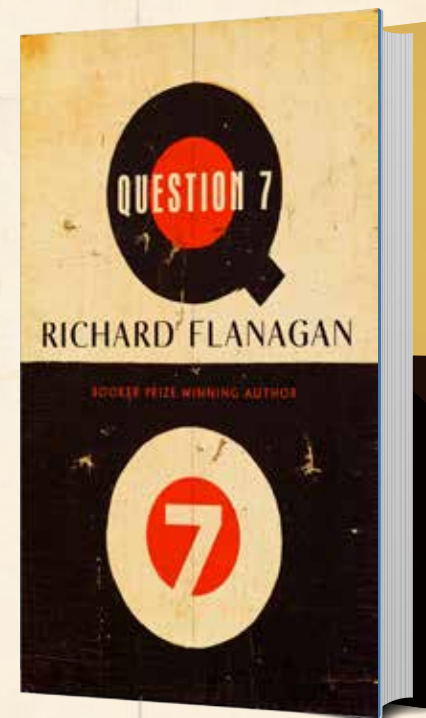


**Once I was fearful that I would lose readers and strove to keep winning them, image by sentence by page. Now though I drift down the river with them...**

Question 7

RICHARD FLANAGAN

Penguin Random House \$35.00



anchors us, with humility and hope, into the country we live.

**I enjoyed your brief but excoriating passage on the literary establishment. How do we build a genuine Australian literature?**

By writing and reading Australian books. And the best way of ensuring both is by shopping for Australian books at Australian bookshops. A visit to Bookoccino is a great start.

**What is your advice to young writers**

Don't waste time and money on a writing degree. Live, read, and write. As de Maupassant once advised, 'Writing is easy: it's just case of putting black on white.' If it's also equally hard, it cannot be avoided and must be met in the embrace.

**Do you have a strong sense of foreboding for the future?**

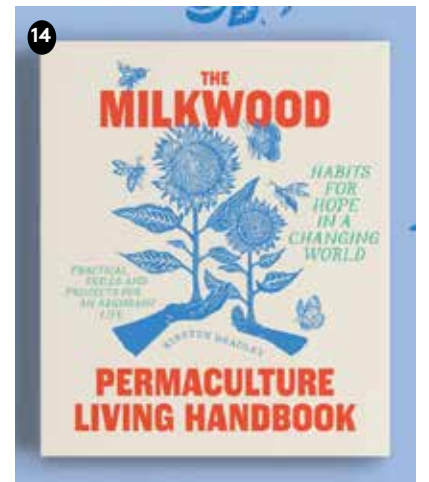
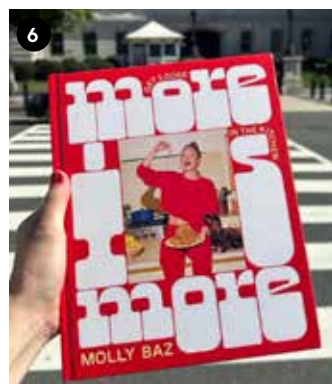
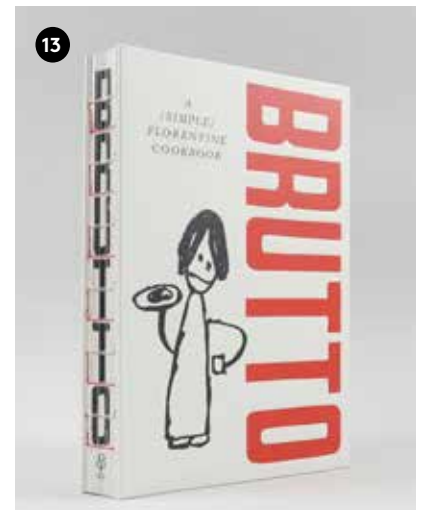
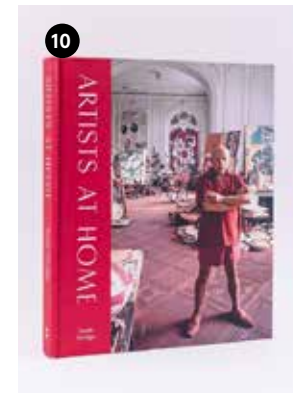
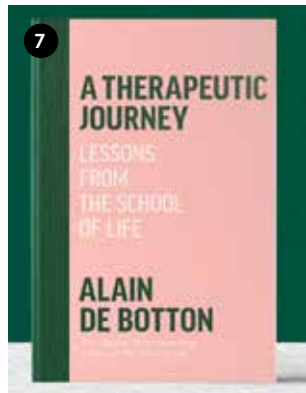
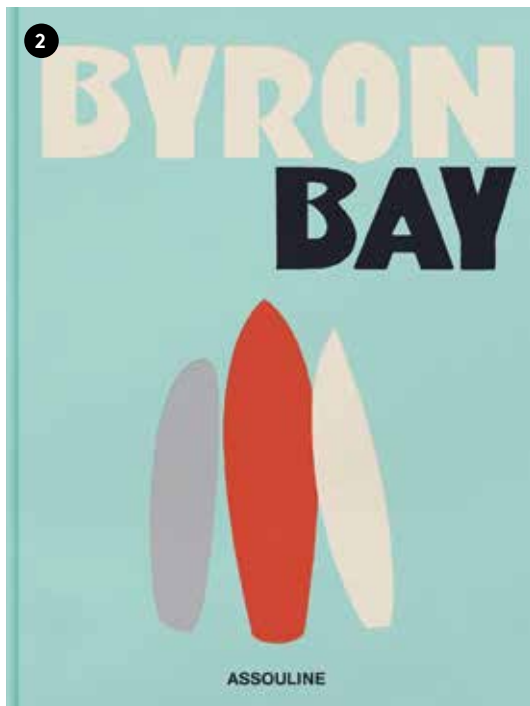
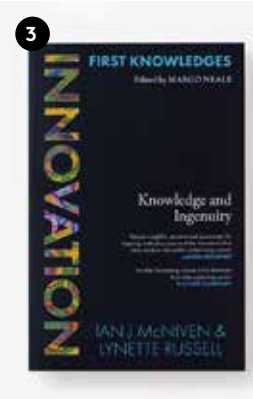
No. The world is always precariously poised at five minutes to midnight. I grew up with the bomb and the prospect of the nuclear winter. That was serious, and the climate crisis even more so. But we have made this mess and so we can make our way out of it also if we choose to act. I have a fascination with the future. As global depopulation begins to press we'll be compelled to imagine a world where numerical growth—a recently fashionable fiction—is no longer the sole or even adequate measure by what we wish our world to be.

**Do you spend much time on the Franklin river now?**

I try to get back down once or twice a year though it gets harder in every way and some years I even miss now. This December though I will be going back down with our eldest daughter, for whom it will be her first trip. And being with her in that most beautiful world will be for me the greatest joy.



# Lifestyle



**1 SIGNATURE COCKTAILS**  
Amanda Schuster  
A signature cocktail expresses the nature of the time, person, or place for which it was created. This curation of the most celebrated cocktails includes classics such as the Bellini and visits the up-to-the-minute Twin Cities and ultra-hip Dead Rabbit bar.  
Phaidon \$69.95

**2 BYRON BAY**  
Shannon Fricke  
Experience the undeniable allure of Byron Bay, Australia, where surfers, bohemians, healers, creatives, and celebrities have been drawn for decades.  
Assouline \$220

**3 FIRST KNOWLEDGES: INNOVATION**  
Ian J McNiven and Lynette Russell  
Reveals novel and creative practices such as cremation; building artificial reefs for oyster farms; repurposing glass from Europeans into spearheads; economic responses to colonisation; and a Voice to Parliament.  
Thames and Hudson \$24.99

**4 RADIANCE: THE ART OF ELISABETH CUMMINGS**  
A celebration of the work of Elisabeth Cummings focussing on her work in oil paint, with major works from the last 30 years. Cummings' art practice is grounded in the experience of her surroundings distilled into visual form.  
National Art School \$50

**5 BRIGHT SHINING**  
Julia Baird  
Grace is both mysterious and hard to define. It is present when we find meaning and dignity in connection with each other, being kinder, bigger, better with each other. It is forgiving the unforgivable, favouring the undeserving, loving the unlovable.  
4th Estate \$34.99

**6 MORE IS MORE**  
Molly Baz  
Crank up the heat and lose the measuring spoons, because the secret to cooking is hiding in one simple motto: MORE IS MORE, a philosophy that encourages more risk-taking, better intuition and fewer exact measurements  
Murdoch \$55.00

**7 A THERAPEUTIC JOURNEY**  
Alain De Botton  
De Botton explores how we can cope with a variety of forms of mental pain and illness, from the mild to the severe. It considers how and why we might become ill; how we can find our ways to recover; and how we can build the resilience to live wisely alongside our difficulties.  
Hamish Hamilton \$36.99

**8 GOOD LIFE GROWING**  
Hannah Moloney  
Find the inspiration and know-how to grow your own fruit and veg in any Australian climate. This bountiful guide from Gardening Australia presenter Hannah Moloney is packed with practical solutions for all conditions and every gardener.  
Affirm \$39.99

**9 THE FLOWER HUNTER**  
Lucy Hunter  
Lucy Hunter invites us to join her on a personal journey to the places and spaces that she loves best, and which inspire her work as a creative floral artist and garden designer.  
Ryland, Peters and Small \$80.00

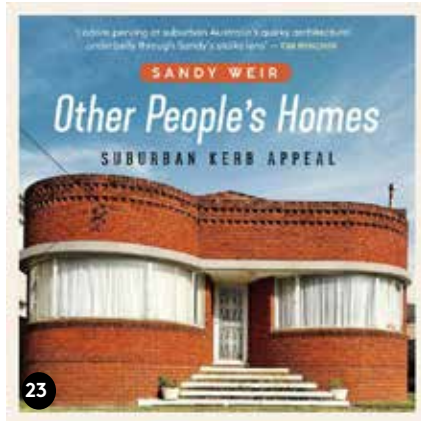
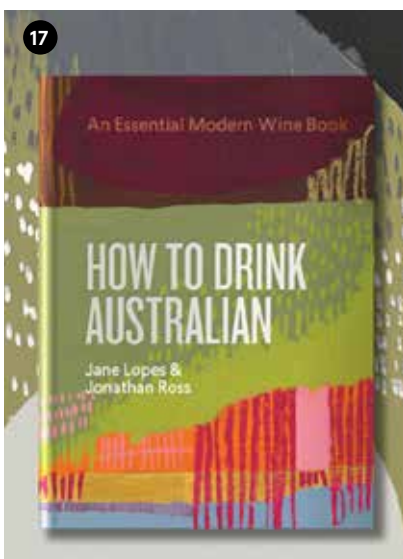
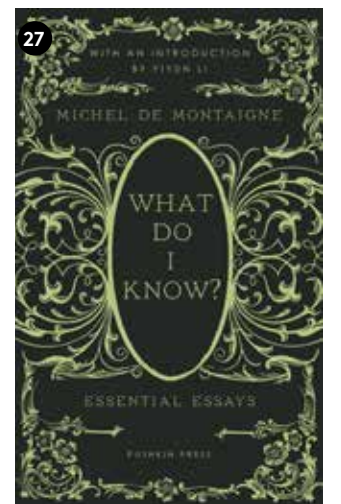
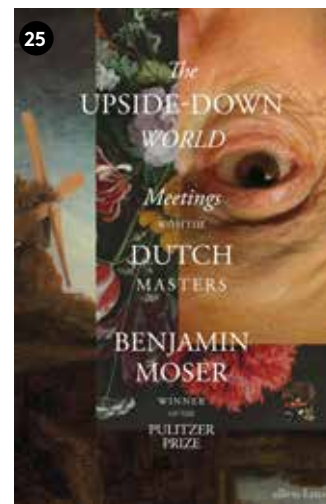
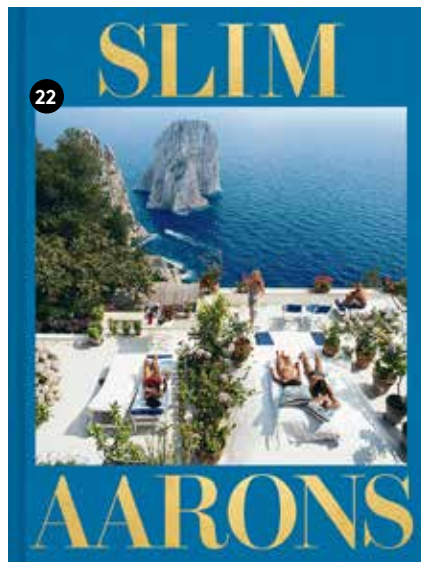
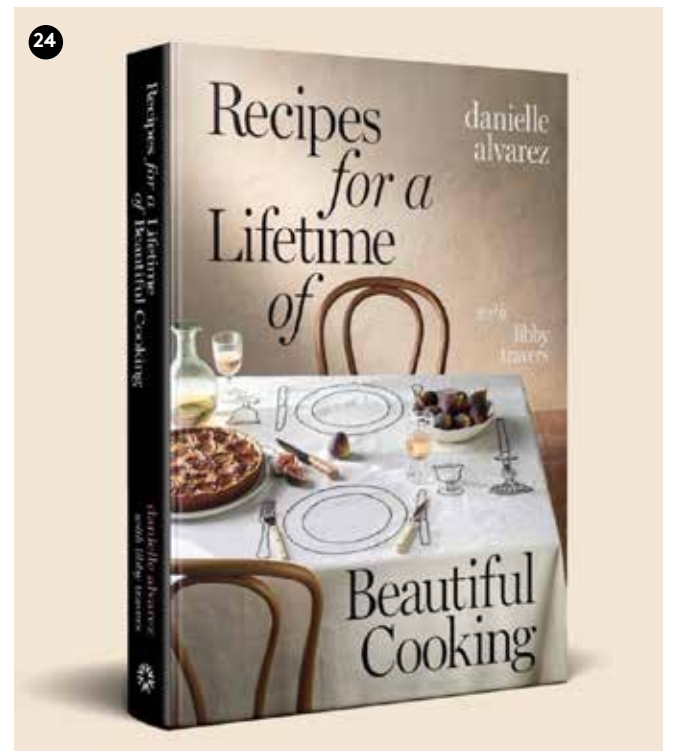
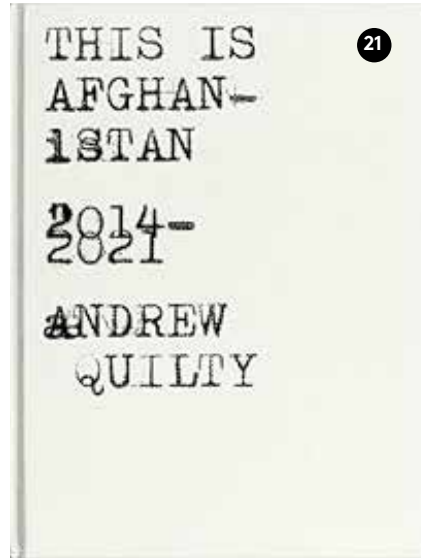
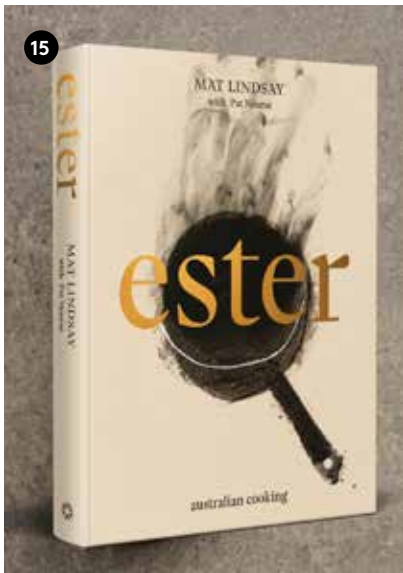
**10 ARTISTS AT HOME**  
Karina Dias Pires  
An authentic portrayal of the intersection of work and life, exploring both the art and the remarkable women behind it, from emerging to established artists such as Yvette Coppersmith, Rhoda Tjitayi, Tamara Dean, Lindy Lee and Patricia Piccinini.  
Thames and Hudson \$59.99

**11 NEW FRENCH LOOK**  
Lauren Li  
French interiors, old or new, never go out of style. The New French look is spirited and fresh, layered but never fussy, effortless yet always chic. Li explores the work of leading French architects and designers to reveal how they do it.  
Thames and Hudson \$49.99

**12 A LIFE IN GARDEN DESIGN**  
Paul Bangay  
A visual delight, this illustrated memoir from our most sought after garden designer ranges childhood gardens, to mentors, to hand-drawn plans for Paul's earliest designs. Through never-before-seen materials, the story behind Paul's masterful vision is revealed.  
Thames and Hudson \$80.00

**13 BRUTTO: A FLORENTINE COOKBOOK**  
Russell Norman  
This stunning cookbook offers outstanding recipes from Russell Norman's acclaimed Trattoria Brutto, alongside an ode to one of Italy's most beloved cities, Florence, and specifically the bohemian district of Santo Spirito.  
Ebury \$75.00

**14 THE MILKWOOD PERMACULTURE LIVING HANDBOOK**  
Kirsten Bradley  
What if your habits could create a more meaningful life for you and a better world? This book is your guide to improving your home, health and happiness – and the planet – one simple step at a time.  
Murdoch \$45.00



**15** **ESTER**  
Mat Lindsay  
Lindsay's cooking resists easy labels. Certainly it's distinctly Australian: generous, mindfully chosen seafood; caramelised wood-fired bread; vegetables cooked perfectly; meat that has been treated with respect and the odd burnt pavlova, a true signature.  
**Murdoch \$55.00**

**16** **NOW & THEN: A COLLECTION OF RECIPES FOR ALWAYS**  
Tessa Kiros  
Beloved food writer Tessa Kiros reflects on a lifetime of cooking and eating. With characteristic generosity of spirit, Tessa invites us into her kitchen to share an exciting blend of new discoveries and enduring favourites.  
**Murdoch \$59.99**

**17** **HOW TO DRINK AUSTRALIAN**  
Jane Lopes and Jonathan Ross  
A lively, in-depth and sometimes surprising exploration of the why, the how and the where of the most exciting wine producing country in the world today.  
**Murdoch \$79.99**

**18** **EVENTUALLY EVERYTHING CONNECTS**  
Sarah Firth  
A delicious mix of daily life, science, philosophy, pop culture, daydreams and irreverent humour. *Eventually Everything Connects* is a work of graphic non-fiction that is as equally comforting as it is confronting.  
**Joan \$34.99**

**19** **HOME STYLE HANDBOOK**  
Lucy Gough  
In this inspirational and helpful handbook, interiors stylist and tutor Lucy Gough will teach you how to understand your true style and how to implement it as you decorate your living space.  
**Mitchell Beazley \$55.00**

**20** **THE WRITER'S GARDEN**  
Jackie Bennett  
Discover the flower gardens, vegetable plots, landscapes and writing hideaways of 30 great authors - from Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House, where she wrote *Little Women*, to Virginia Woolf at Monks House and the Massachusetts home of Edith Wharton.  
**Frances Lincoln \$69.99**

**21** **THIS IS AFGHANISTAN**  
Andrew Quilty  
From someone who came to love Afghanistan and to call it home, Quilty's images and commentary provide a unique, powerful and personal insight into a land and a people who, having lived and died, withered and thrived for five decades, are once again isolated from much of the rest of the world.  
**Melbourne University Press \$90**

**22** **SLIM AARONS: THE ESSENTIAL COLLECTION**  
Shawn Waldron  
This luxe edition takes a comprehensive look at the career of Slim Aarons. Beginning with his field work as an Army photographer and continuing through his fledgling days in Hollywood and finally traveling the world for Harper's Bazaar.  
**Abrams \$260.00**

**23** **OTHER PEOPLE'S HOMES**  
Sandy Weir  
A delightfully curated collection that celebrates the eclectic, the innovative, the showstoppers, the elegantly decaying and the quirkily heartwarming homes hiding in plain view. This book showcases the houses that remind us of where we grew up  
**Affirm \$32.99**

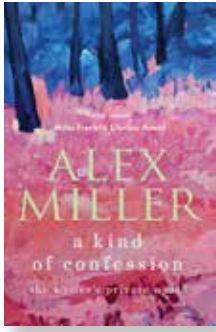
**24** **RECIPES FOR A LIFETIME OF BEAUTIFUL COOKING**  
Danielle Alvarez with Libby Travers  
Danielle's favourite way of cooking: at home, for friends and family. Drawing on her love of Italian and French food, her Cuban roots, her time in California and Australia, and the Asian influences that have coloured her time in Sydney.  
**Murdoch \$49.99**

**25** **THE UPSIDE-DOWN WORLD: MEETING WITH THE DUTCH MASTERS**  
Benjamin Moser Dyer  
A charming look at the artists of the Dutch Golden Age. Moser unearths the strange, inspiring and terrifying stories of the artists who shaped one of the world's most luminous art movements.  
**Allen Lane \$39.99**

**26** **WILLEM DE KOONING**  
Judith Zilcher  
The most wide-ranging and comprehensive monograph available on this artist. Sumptuously illustrated and produced, encompassing major works and periods, including his controversial 'Woman' paintings and a wealth of accompanying sketches.  
**Phaidon \$175.00**

**27** **WHAT DO I KNOW?**  
Michael de Montaigne  
In works of probing intelligence and idiosyncratic observation, Montaigne moves from intimate reflection to roving theories on the conduct of kings and cannibals, the effects of sorrow and fear, and the fallibility of human judgement.  
**Pushkin \$32.99**

## Non-Fiction of 2023



**A Kind of Confession: The Writer's Private World**

ALEX MILLER  
Artisan Books \$130.00

A deeply personal look at Alex Miller's writing life, exploring his struggle to become a published writer, his determination, his methods of creative thought and the sources of his inspiration.



**Doppelganger: A Trip into the Mirror World**

NAOMI KLEIN  
Allen Lane \$36.99

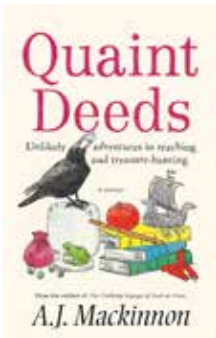
Naomi Klein's identity is often confused with another Naomi, one with radically different, harmful views. In *Doppelganger*, she follows her double into a world of conspiracy theories and demagogue hucksters, to observe how deep fakes proliferate and whole nations flip from democracy to something far more sinister.



**Flinders: the Life, Loves and Voyages of the Man Who Put Australia on the Map**

GRANTLEE KIEZA  
ABC Books \$45.00

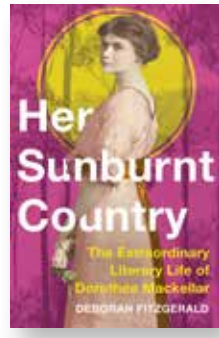
The story of the fearless, sharp-eyed and handsome Flinders, and his great loves: for his wife Ann, for the sea, for connection and friendship. His meticulous charts gave us the first complete maps of our continent, so accurate they are still used today.



**Quaint Deeds: Unlikely Adventures in Teaching and Treasure-Hunting**

A.J. MCKINNON  
Black Ink \$34.99

Mackinnon is known to readers as a loved travel writer. But between voyages, he has taught at schools in Australia and the UK. Here he brings his trademark wit and warmth to the classroom, recalling the ups, downs and unexpected detours of a teaching life. An ode to the magic and mystery of youth.



**Her Sunburnt Country**

DEBORAH FITZGERALD  
Simon and Schuster \$55.00

The first definitive biography of Australian poet and writer Dorothea Mackellar, author of the celebrated poem 'My Country.' Battling against a masculine tradition of Australian bush poetry led by the likes of Banjo Paterson and Henry Lawson, Dorothea Mackellar boldly carved out a place for herself, leaving an indelible mark on the Australian imagination.



**Elon Musk**

WALTER ISAACSON  
Simon and Schuster \$59.99

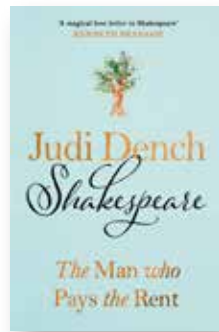
From the author of *Steve Jobs* and other bestselling biographies comes the intimate story of one of the most fascinating and controversial innovators of our era. Isaacson spent two years interviewing Musk, his family, friends, coworkers, and adversaries. The result is a revealing inside story that addresses the question: are the demons that drive Musk also what it takes to drive innovation and progress?



**Ian Fleming: The Complete Man**

NICHOLAS SHAKESPEARE  
Harvill Secker \$42.99

A fresh portrait of the man behind James Bond, by an award-winning biographer and novelist. Fleming's dramatic personal life and impressive career in naval intelligence put him at the heart of critical moments in world history, while also providing rich inspiration for his fiction. He had access to the most powerful political figures at a time of profound change.



**Shakespeare: the Man Who Pays the Rent**

DAME JUDIE DENCH  
Michael Joseph \$36.99

In a series of conversations with actor/director Brendan O'Hea, Dench guides us through Shakespeare's plays with incisive clarity, revealing the secrets behind her rehearsal process and vignettes of her creative partnerships, all told with her mischievous sense of humour and a peppering of hilarious anecdotes.



**Property with She's on the Money: The Ultimate First Home Buyer's Guide**

VICTORIA DEVINE  
Penguin \$32.99

A thorough guide to becoming a home owner, from understanding why you want to buy a home, to saving for the deposit, finding the right experts and all things mortgage, to renovating and eventually selling.

# Belle Property Avalon.

## Your Pittwater property experts

Whether you're looking to sell your home or require expert property management, we're here to guide you through every step of the process. Your satisfaction and success are at the heart of everything we do and we are dedicated to providing you with the highest level of service and professionalism.

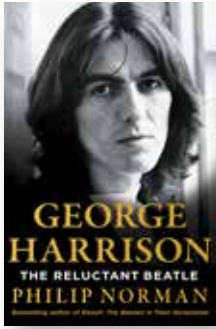
We invite you to reach out and discuss your unique real estate needs with us. Let's explore how we can help you achieve your goals and make the most of your property investments.



Belle Property Avalon | 02 9918 9933  
Avalon Office: 56 Old Barrenjoey Road, Avalon Beach NSW  
Newport Office: 4/355 Barrenjoey Road, Newport NSW  
[bellproperty.com/avalon](http://bellproperty.com/avalon)



# Non-Fiction of 2023

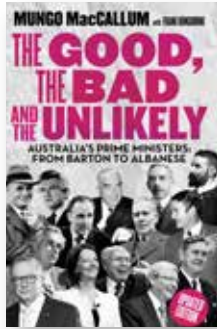


## George Harrison: the Reluctant Beatle

PHILIP NORMAN

Simon and Schuster \$39.99

Unprecedented in scope and filled with colour photos, this rich biography captures Harrison at his most multi-faceted: devoted friend, loyal son, master guitarist, songwriter, cocaine addict, philanderer, global philanthropist, student of Indian mysticism, self-deprecating comedian and, ultimately, iconic artist.



## The Good, The Bad & The Unlikely

MUNGO MACCALLUM

Black Inc \$34.99

Good drinkers, bad swimmers and unlikely heroes. Mungo's Australian classic, updated by acclaimed historian Frank Bongiorno. Since 1901, thirty-one leaders have run the national show. Whether their term was eight days or eighteen years, each prime minister has a story worth sharing.



## The Stoic at Work

ANNE LAWSON

Murdoch \$24.99

Aurelius' timeless insights into human behaviour reveal that 2000 years on not much has change, and we could all do well to focus on what we can control and worry less about things we can't. This will help you manage the mind games, the meltdowns and the numbing reality that most of us must work with.

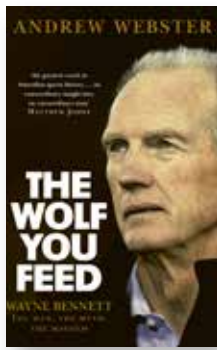


## In a Flight of Starlings

GIORGIO PARISI

Allen Lane \$39.99

From the 2021 Nobel Prize winner in Physics. The world is shaped by complexity. Parisi guides us through his work to demonstrate how. He starts investigating the principles of physics by observing the sophisticated flight patterns of starlings. The movements of starlings illuminate a range of complex systems - from atoms to planets to animals.



## The Wolf You Feed

ANDREW WEBSTER

Macmillan Australia \$36.99

Wayne Bennett is the greatest rugby league coach Australia has ever had. Webster shows us a complex, brilliant and difficult man. We come to admire the good wolf of Bennett's nature - the genius who transforms young unformed players into titans of the game. And the bad wolf - the wrangler who plays the dark arts of football politics with obsessive determination.

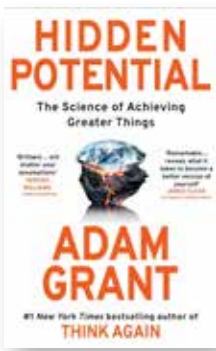


## Eve

CAT BOHANNON

Hutchinson Heinemann \$34.99

How did wet nurses drive civilization? Are women always the weaker sex? Is sexism useful for evolution? And are our bodies at war with our babies? In *Eve*, Cat Bohannon answers questions scientists should have been addressing for decades. With curiosity and wit, she covers the past 200 million years to explain the specific science behind the development of the female sex.



## Hidden Potential

ADAM GRANT

WH Allen \$36.99

We live in a world that is obsessed with talent. We celebrate gifted students in school, natural athletes in sports, and child prodigies in music. But admiring people who start out with innate advantages leads us to overlook the distances we ourselves can travel. We can all improve at improving. And when opportunity doesn't knock, there are ways to build a door.



## Unfinished Woman

ROBYN DAVIDSON

Bloomsbury \$34.99

In 1977, twenty-seven-year-old Robyn Davidson set off with a dog and four camels to cross 1,700 miles of Australian desert to the sea. A life of almost constant travelling followed. Here Davidson turns to explore her past, delving into her childhood and youth to uncover the forces that set her on her path, and confronts the cataclysm of early loss.



## Rambling Man: My Life on the Road

BILLY CONNOLLY

Two Roads \$49.99

Being a Rambling Man is about more than just travelling - it's a state of mind. Rambling men and women are free spirits who live by their wits, are interested in people and endlessly curious about the world. They love to play music, make art or tell stories along the way but, above all, they have a longing in their heart for the open road.

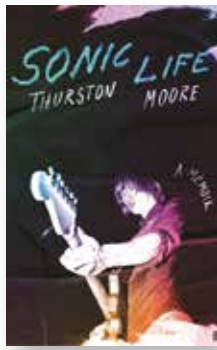


## Oh Miriam: Stories from an Extraordinary Life

MIRIAM MARGOLYES

John Murray \$34.99

From declaring her love for Vanessa Redgrave to being fed cockroaches by Steve Buscemi, from turnip-based comedy with Blackadder to being farted on by Arnold Schwarzenegger, from Graham Norton's sofa to Alan Cummings camper van, Miriam's life has been (and continues to be) an uproarious adventure.

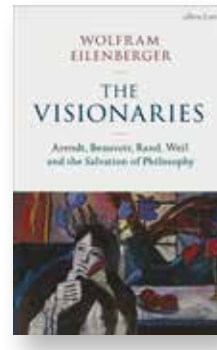


## Sonic Life

THURSTON MOORE

Faber \$34.99

Sonic Life is the long-awaited memoir of iconic American musician and Sonic Youth frontman, Thurston Moore. Moore and Sonic Youth changed the sound of modern alternative rock music and opened the minds of a generation of artists to new possibilities within the form. This is essential reading.



## The Visionaries

WOLFRAM EILENBERGER

Allen Lane \$55.00

An enthralling intellectual adventure, starring the four women who created new ways of thinking from the ruins of totalitarianism and war. Eilenberger expertly distils the radical, brilliant philosophies each lived and developed.

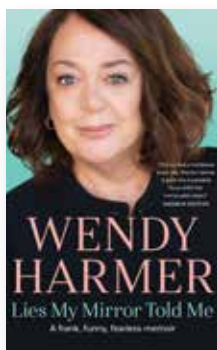


## A Woman I Know

MARY HAVERSTICK

Scribe \$36.99

Independent filmmaker Mary Haverstick's biopic of a little-known aviation legend ended with a mysterious warning from a government agency. What she found as she dug deeper was a darker story - a story of double identities and female spies, a tangle of intrigue that stretched from the fields of the Congo to the shores of Cuba, from the streets of Mexico City to the dark heart of the Kennedy assassination in Dallas. A fascinating story..

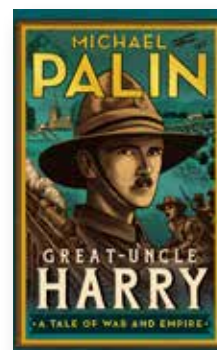


## Lies My Mirror Told Me

WENDY HARMER

Allen and Unwin \$34.99

Entertainer and national treasure Wendy Harmer tells all in her frank, fearless and funny memoir. From performing as a stand-up comedian to becoming the highest paid woman in cut-throat Sydney radio, Wendy's tale is told with trademark frankness and wit.

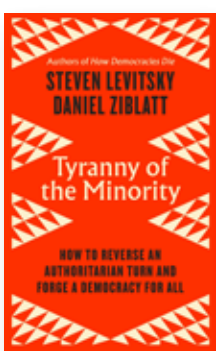


## Great Uncle Harry

MICHAEL PALIN

Hutchinson Heinemann \$36.99

When Michael Palin first heard that his grandfather had a brother, Harry, who died in tragic circumstances, he was determined to find out more about him. He studied official documents, Harry's diaries and letters, and many photographs of WWI battles. He walked the route Harry took on that final day of his life amid the mud of northern France. And as he did so, Harry's life was revealed to him.



## Tyranny of the Minority

DANIEL ZIBLATT AND STEVEN LEVITSKY

Viking \$36.99

In this razor-sharp analysis, leading Harvard professors Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt draw on their combined expertise to explore how political institutions can be pernicious enablers of minority rule and offer a dire warning about right-wing efforts to undermine multiracial democracy.



## Ashes 2023

GIDEON HAIGH

Scribe \$35.00

High hopes were held for the Ashes of 2023. They were exceeded in five Tests between a bold England and a battling Australia. *Ashes 2023* captures all the drama and skill, as well as the controversy over a stumping at Lord's that followed in the tradition of Bodyline as a clash of cultures and of stereotypes.



## Shame

ANNIE ERNAUX

Fitzcarraldo Editions \$24.99

'My father tried to kill my mother one Sunday in June, in the early afternoon.' Thus begins *Shame*, the probing story of the twelve-year-old girl who will become Annie Ernaux, and the traumatic memory that will echo and resonate throughout her life. With the emotionally rich voice of great fiction and the analytical eye of a scientist, Annie Ernaux provides a powerful reflection on experience and the force of violent memory to endure through time, to determine the course of a life.

## Non-Fiction of 2023

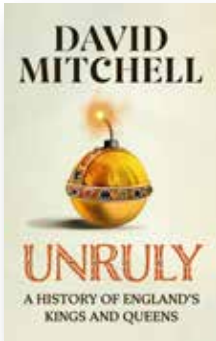


### The Language of Trees

KATIE HOLDEN

Elliot and Thompson \$35.00

A gorgeously illustrated homage to the hidden wonders of the forest and our indelible connection to trees. Prose, poetry and art from over fifty collaborators, from Ursula Le Guin, Zadie Smith to Plato and Richard Powers. An astonishing fusion of storytelling, knowledge and art.

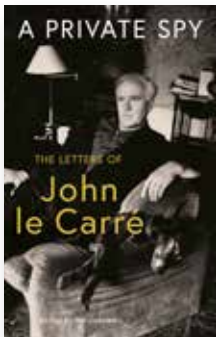


### Unruly: a History of England's Kings and Queens

DAVID MITCHELL

Michael Joseph \$36.99

This will be the funniest, most refreshing history of England you'll ever read, because David Mitchell will explain how it is really just a bunch of random stuff that happened with a few lucky bastards ending up on top. Some of them were quite strange, but they were in charge, so we quite literally lived, and often still live, by their rules.

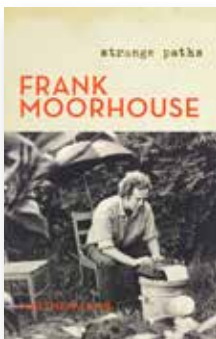


### A Private Spy: The Letters of John le Carre

ED. BY TIM CORNWELL

Viking \$39.99

A collection of letters from John le Carré, one of the greatest British novelists of our time, and a fabulous letter writer, spanning decades from his childhood to the Cold War to his final years.



### Frank Moorhouse: Strange Paths

MATTHEW LAMB

Knopf \$45.00

Moorhouse was legendary in Australian literary life, author of a diverse body of work, an unapologetic activist, intellectual, libertarian and champion of freedom of speech and sexual self determination. Though he lived his life publicly, his private stories have not been shared, the many paths he forged left unexamined, until now.

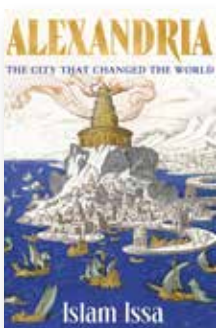


### Every Man for Himself and God against All

WERNER HERZOG

Jonathan Cape \$49.99

Werner Herzog is the undisputed master of extreme cinema. He has always been intrigued by the extremes of human experience: building an opera house in the middle of the jungle; walking from Munich to Paris in the dead of winter; descending into an active volcano. Here he unveils the influences and ideas that drive his creativity and have shaped his view of the world.

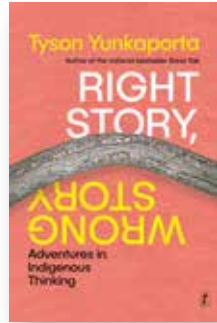


### Alexandria: The City that Changed the World

ISLAM ISSA

Sceptre \$49.99

Inspired by the tales of Homer and his own ambitions of empire, Alexander the Great sketched the idea of a city onto the sparsely populated Egyptian coastline. He did not live to see Alexandria built, but his vision of a sparkling metropolis that celebrated learning and diversity was swiftly realised and still stands today.

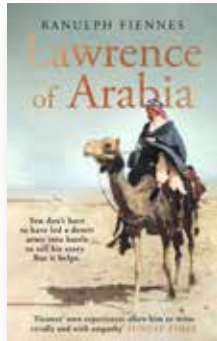


### Right Story, Wrong Story: Adventures in Indigenous Thinking

TYSON YUNKAPORTA

Text \$35.00

Story is at the heart of everything. But what makes a right or wrong story? This exhilarating book is an attempt to answer that question. Yunkaporta explores how we can talk to each other to shape forms of collective thinking that are aligned with land and creation.



### Lawrence of Arabia

RANULPH FIENNES

Michael Joseph \$36.99

Co-opted by the British military, archaeologist and adventurer Thomas Edward Lawrence became involved in the 1916 Arab Revolt, fighting alongside guerilla forces, and made a legendary 300-mile journey through blistering heat. He wore Arab dress, and strongly identified with the people in his adopted lands. By 1918, he had a price on his head.

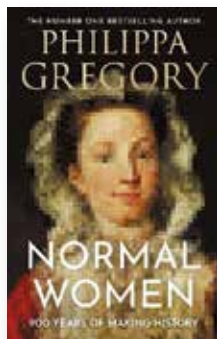


### Best Wishes

RICHARD GLOVER

ABC \$34.99

Do you hate noisy restaurants, pre-ripped jeans and pedestrians who walk five abreast? Do you also have a problem with plastic-wrapped fruit, climate-change deniers and take-away sandwiches priced at \$14.95? And do you think the world would be a better place if people got back their sense of humour? Heartfelt and hilarious, Best Wishes is a plea for a better world - one wish at a time.



### Normal Women

PHILIPPA GREGORY

Harper Collins \$37.99

Did you know that there are more penises than women in the Bayeux Tapestry? That the Peasant's Revolt was started and propelled by women, protesting a tax on women? Or that celebrated naturalist Charles Darwin believed not just that women were naturally inferior to men but that they'd evolve to become ever more inferior. These are just a few of the startling findings you will learn from Philippa Gregory's *Normal Women*.

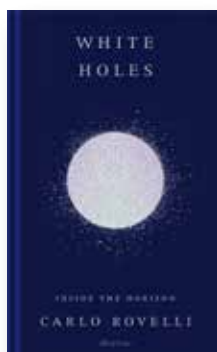


### I'm Liz Hayes: A Memoir

LIZ HAYES

Harper Collins \$49.99

On Sunday nights for 25 years we have been watching Liz Hayes' on 60 Minutes. Her long-awaited memoir now takes us behind the cameras and back to when Beth Ryan, the dairy farmer's daughter, became seasoned journalist Liz Hayes. Here is a memoir about what is possible, and what it can cost when you choose a life of adventure.

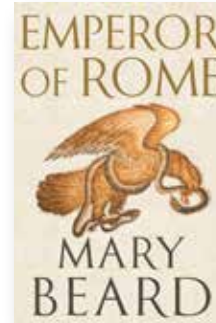


### White Holes

CARLO ROVELLI

Allen Lane \$35.00

Let us journey, with beloved physicist Carlo Rovelli, into the heart of a black hole. Let us plunge beyond its boundary, the horizon, and tumble - on and on - down this crack in the universe. As we plunge, we'll see geometry fold, we'll feel the equations draw tight around us. Eventually, we'll pass it - the remains of a star, deep and dense and falling further far. And then - the bottom. Where time and space end, and the white hole is born . . .

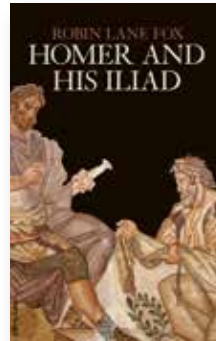


### Emperor of Rome

MARY BEARD

Profile \$65.00

A sweeping account of the social and political world of the Roman emperors from the mad Caligula to the monster Nero and the philosopher Marcus Aurelius. But this is no chronological account. Beard asks bigger questions: What power did emperors actually have? Was the Roman palace really so bloodstained?



### Homer and His Iliad

ROBIN LANE FOX

Allen Lane \$65.00

Composed more than 2600 years ago, the Iliad still transfuses us with its tale of loss, battle, love, revenge, guided throughout by the active presence of the gods. Fox explores the great questions: where, how and when it was composed and why does it have such enduring power?



### Fear: an Alternative History of the World

ROBERT PECKHAM

Profile \$34.99

Peckham traces a shadow history of fear - from the French Revolution and the social movements of the nineteenth century to modern market crashes, Cold War paranoia and a digital culture marked increasingly by twenty-first-century fears, to reveal how fear and panic made us who we are.



### Would That Be Funny?

LORIN CLARKE

Text \$34.99

When satirist John Clarke died, in April 2017, many people mourned his passing as if they had lost a friend or a member of the family. Lorin Clarke tells the story of growing up with her famous father, about the imperceptible things that make a family what it is, from long-told folklore, in-jokes, and archetypes.

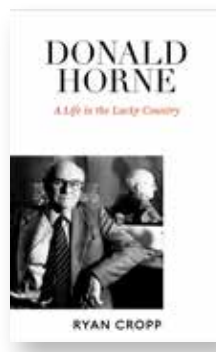


### Killing for Company: The Case of Dennis Nilsen

BRIAN MASTERS

Arrow \$22.99

In February 1983, residents of Muswell Hill had been plagued by blocked drains. When a plumber was called to investigate, he discovered, to his horror, human flesh and bones. The next day, local resident Dennis Nilsen was arrested. Nilsen, who died in May 2018, admitted to killing at least 15 people before his arrest in 1983.



### Donald Horne: A Life in the Lucky Country

RYAN CROPP

La Trobe University \$37.99

In the 1960s, Donald Horne offered Australians a compelling reinterpretation of the Menzies years as a period of social and political inertia and mediocrity. His book *The Lucky Country* was profoundly influential and, without doubt, one of the most significant shots ever fired in Australia's endless culture war. Cropp's landmark biography positions Horne as an antipodean Orwell, a lively, independent and distinct literary voice.



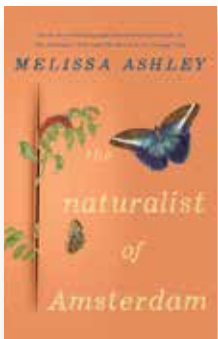
# Fiction of 2023



## Our Strangers

LYDIA DAVIS  
Canongate \$39.99

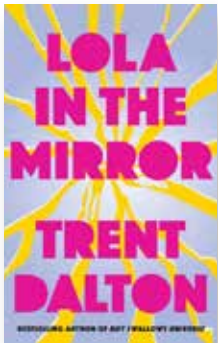
A new collection of short fiction from the critically acclaimed master of the form and winner of the Man Booker International Prize. Lydia Davis is a virtuoso at detecting the seemingly casual, inconsequential surprises of daily life. In the glow of Davis's keen observations strangers become like family and family like strangers.



## The Naturalist of Amsterdam

MELISSA ASHLEY  
Affirm \$39.99

At the turn of the 18th century, Amsterdam is at the centre of an intellectual revolution and Maria Sibylla Merian is one of its brightest stars. With stunning lyricism and immaculate research, *The Naturalist of Amsterdam* gives voice to the long-ignored women who shaped our understanding of the natural world – both the artists and those who made their work possible.



## Lola in the Mirror

TRENT DALTON  
4th Estate \$32.99

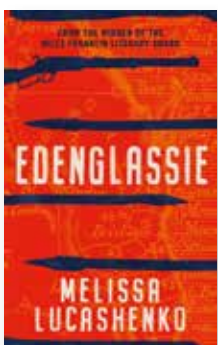
A girl and her mother have been on the run for sixteen years. The girl has no name but she has a dream of a life as an artist. A big, moving, blackly funny, violent, heartbreaking and beautiful novel of love, fate, life and death and all the things we see when we look in the mirror: all our past, all our present, and all our possible futures.



## The Night House

JO NESBO  
Harvill Secker \$32.99

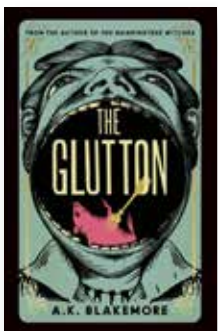
In the wake of his parents' tragic deaths fourteen-year-old Richard Elauved has been sent to live with his aunt and uncle in the remote town of Ballantyne. Richard quickly earns a reputation as an outcast, and when a classmate named Tom goes missing, everyone suspects the new, angry boy is responsible. A twisted, multi-layered spin on the classic horror novel.



## Edenglassie

MELISSA LUCASHENKO  
UQP \$32.99

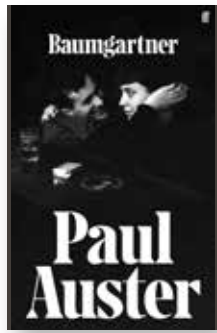
Two extraordinary Indigenous stories set five generations apart. When Mulanyin meets the beautiful Nita in Edenglassie, their saltwater people still outnumber the British. Two centuries later, fiery activist Winona meets Dr Johnny. Sparks fly, but not always in the right direction. What nobody knows is how far the legacies of the past will reach into their modern lives.



## The Glutton

A.K. BLAKEMORE  
Granta \$32.99

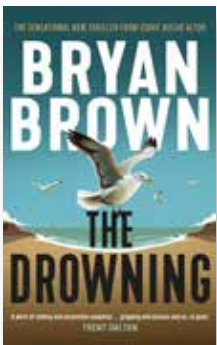
When a sudden act of violence sees Tarare cast out and left for dead, his ferocious appetite is ignited, and it's not long before his extraordinary abilities make him a marvel. A startling and stunning historical novel.



## Baumgartner

PAUL AUSTER  
Faber \$32.99

A late masterpiece of love, memory and grief. Baumgartner's life has been defined by his deep, abiding love for his wife. But Anna is gone, and Baumgartner faces his seventies alone. Rich with compassion, wit and Auster's keen eye for beauty.



## The Drowning

BRYAN BROWN  
Allen and Unwin \$32.99

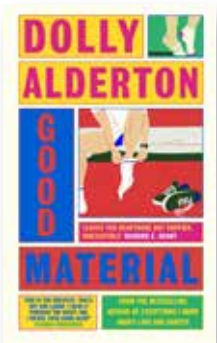
The body of a local teenage boy is found on the beach of a sleepy northern New South Wales town. David went for an evening swim and got into trouble . . . at least, that's what it looks like. Bryan Brown's characteristically laconic storytelling - humorous, tough and suspenseful brings the secrets of this seemingly idyllic town to the surface.



## Iron Flame

REBECCA YARROS  
Little, Brown \$32.99

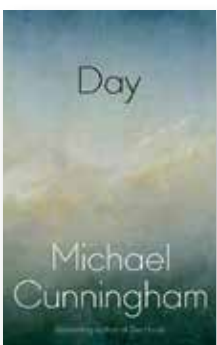
Everyone expected Violet Sorrengail to die during her first year at Basgiath War College, Violet included. Although Violet's body might be weaker and frailer than everyone else's, she still has her wits, and a will of iron. And leadership is forgetting the most important lesson Basgiath has taught her: dragon riders make their own rules. But a determination to survive won't be enough this year.



## Good Material

DOLLY ALDERTON  
Fig Tree \$34.99

Set adrift on the of sea of heartbreak, when everything he though he know about women, flat-sharing and friendships has been distorted beyond recognition, Andy clings to the hope that he can solve the puzzle of his relationship with Jen, and bring her back. Then, there is her side of the relationship.



## Day

MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM  
4th Estate \$32.99

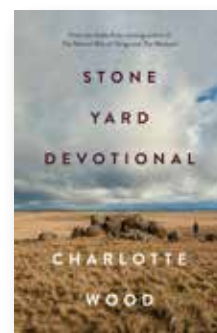
From Pulitzer Prize winner Michael Cunningham, *Day* is a searing, exquisitely crafted meditation on love and loss, and the struggles and limitations of family life.



## The Running Grave

ROBERT GALBRAITH  
Sphere \$34.99

Private Detective Cormoran Strike is contacted by a worried father whose son has joined a religious cult. The Universal Humanitarian Church is, on the surface, a peaceable organisation that campaigns for a better world. But Strike discovers deeply sinister undertones, and unexplained deaths. Utterly page-turning, *The Running Grave* moves Strike and Robin's story forward in the epic, unforgettable seventh instalment of the series.



## Stoneyard Devotional

CHARLOTTE WOOD  
Allen and Unwin \$32.99

A woman abandons her city life and marriage to return to the place of her childhood, holing up in a small religious community hidden away on the stark plains of the Monaro. A deeply moving novel about forgiveness, grief, and what it means to be 'good', from the award-winning author of *The Natural Way of Things* and *The Weekend*.



## So Late in the Day

CLAIRE KEEGAN  
Faber \$19.99

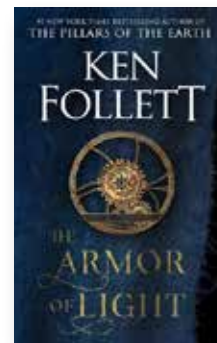
After an uneventful Friday, Cathal faces the long weekend. His mind agitates over a woman named Sabine, with whom he could have spent his life, had he acted differently. All evening, with only the television and a bottle of champagne for company, thoughts of this woman and others intrude - and the true significance of this particular date is revealed.



## Everyone and Everything

NADINE J. COHEN  
Pantera \$32.99

Funny and tender, *Everyone and Everything* is about friendship, grief and the deep, frustrating bond between sisters. It asks what makes us who we are and what leads us onto ledges. Perfect for fans of Meg Mason, Nora Ephron and Victoria Hannan, this is an intimate, wry and wise exploration of one woman's journey to the brink and back.



## The Armor of Light

KEN FOLLETT  
Macmillan \$54.99

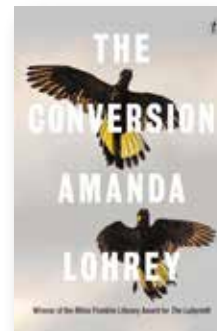
The grand master of gripping fiction is back. Revolution is in the air. A tyrannical government is determined to make England a mighty commercial empire. In France, Napoleon Bonaparte begins his rise to power, and dissent is rife. Taking the reader straight into the heart of history, *The Armour of Light* is Follett's most ambitious novel to date.



## Juja

NINA HARATISCHVILI  
Scribe \$32.99

In 1953, teenage girl Jeanne Sare jumps in front of a train at Gare du Nord, leaving behind writings that to some are unreadable, but to others tell universal, unspoken truths about the lives and struggles of women. When published in the 1970s, her work triggers a rash of copycat suicides. A sweeping novel set in bohemian Paris, by the author of international bestseller *The Eighth Life*.



## The Conversion

AMANDA LOHREY  
Text \$32.99

The conversion was Nick's idea. Nick - so persuasive, ever the optimist, still boyishly handsome, always on a quest to design the perfect environment. But it's just Zoe now, working out how to live in a deconsecrated church. From Miles Franklin Award-winning author Amanda Lohrey comes a stunning literary foray into place, grief, and what makes a home.

## Fiction of 2023

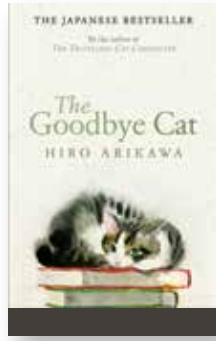


### The Seven

CHRIS HAMMER

Allen and Unwin \$32.99

Yuwonderie's seven founding families have lorded it over their district for a century, growing ever more rich and powerful. But now—in startling circumstances—one of their own is found dead in a ditch and homicide detectives Ivan Lucic and Nell Buchanan are sent to investigate.



### The Goodbye Cat

HIRO AKIKAWA

Doubleday 32.99

A needy kitten rescued from the recycling bin teaches a new father how to parent his own human baby; An elderly cat hatches a plan to pass into the next world as a spirit so that he and his owner may be together for ever. A huge bestseller in Japan, every page is a joyous celebration of cats and how we cannot resist sharing our lives with them.

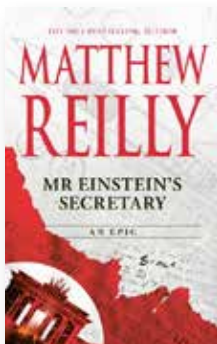


### Sleepless in Stringybark Bay

SUSAN DUNCAN

Allen and Unwin \$32.99

When five couples pool their resources to live in a house located where a turquoise lagoon meets the sea, the quirky little offshore community of Cook's Basin is shocked. How will ten people - one in a wheelchair and one with a hauntingly familiar face - survive where the only way in or out is by boat?

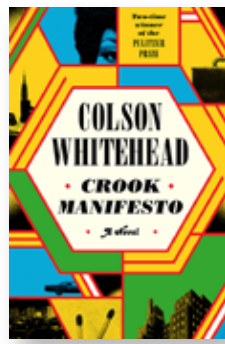


### Mr Einstein's Secretary

MATTHEW REILLY

Macmillan \$44.99

All Hanna Fischer ever wanted to do was to study physics under the great Albert Einstein. But when, as a teenager in 1919, her life is suddenly turned upside-down, she is catapulted into a new and extraordinary life - as a secretary, a scientist, a sister and a spy.



### Crook Manifesto

COLSON WHITEHEAD

Little Brown \$32.99

In scalpel-sharp prose and with unnerving clarity and wit, Colson Whitehead writes about NYC, a city that runs on cronyism, threats, ego, ambition, incompetence and even, sometimes, pride. *Crook Manifesto* is a kaleidoscopic portrait of Harlem, and a searching portrait of how families work in the face of chaos and hostility.



### After the Forest

KELL WOODS

Voyager AU \$32.99

The stunning historical fantasy taking the world by storm. 1650: The Black Forest, Wurttemberg. Fifteen years after the witch in the gingerbread house, Greta and Hans are struggling to get by. Their father and stepmother are long dead, Hans is deeply in debt from gambling, and the countryside lies in ruin, its people recovering in the aftermath of a brutal war.



### The Sugar Palace

FIONA MCINTOSH NUNN

Michael Joseph \$32.99

Grace Fairweather is working in her father's grocery shop in The Rocks while the Sydney Harbour Bridge is being built. She dreams of having her own sweets shop. When the roguish but irresistible Londoner Alfie Sweeting comes to work for the Fairweathers, his ambition for her success thrills her but when Alfie's criminal past catches up with him, both their lives come under threat.



### Prima Facie

SUZIE MILLER

Picador \$34.99

Tessa is a thoroughbred. A young, brilliant barrister at the top of her game. One sickening night, though, Tessa finds herself in a position countless women - one in three - have been in before her. And she's faced with a gut-wrenching, life-changing decision. Will she take the stand to testify about her rape with the full awareness that the system has not been built to protect her?



### The Fraud

ZADIE SMITH

Hamish Hamilton \$34.99

Mrs Touchet is a woman of many interests - literature, justice, abolitionism, class, her novelist cousin and his wives, this life and the next. But she is also sceptical. She suspects England of being a land of facades, in which nothing is quite what it seems. A dazzling novel about a world of hypocrisy and self-deception.



### Held

ANNE MICHAELS

Bloomsbury \$29.99

A narrative spanning four generations, with moments of connection and consequence igniting and re-igniting as the century unfolds. On a battlefield near the River Escaut, John lies in the aftermath of a blast, unable to move or feel his legs. Years later he is piecing his life back together but the past erupts insistently into the present. Intensely beautiful, full of mystery, wisdom and compassion.

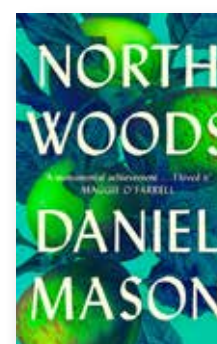


### Water

JOHN BOYNE

Doubleday \$29.99

Escaping her old life might seem like a good idea but the choices Vanessa Carvin has made have consequences. Here, on the island, Vanessa must reflect on what she did - and did not do. Only then can she discover whether she is worthy of finding peace at all. A masterfully reflective story about one woman coming to terms with the demons of her past and finding a new path forward.



### North woods

DANIEL MASON

John Murray \$32.99

Exhilarating, daring and playful, North Woods will change the way you see the world. A young Puritan couple on the run. An English soldier with a fantastic vision. Inseparable twin sisters. A lovelorn painter and a lusty beetle. A desperate mother and her haunted son. A ruthless con man and a stalking panther. Buried secrets. Madness, dreams and hope.

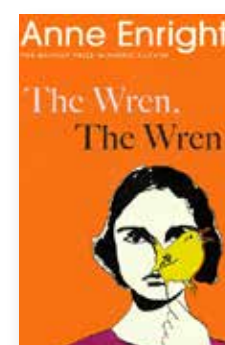


### Women & Children

TONY BIRCH

UQP \$34.99

It's 1965. Joe Cluny is living in a working-class suburb, trying to avoid trouble with the nuns at the local Catholic primary school. One evening his Aunt Oona appears on the doorstep, distressed. Joe comes to understand the secrets the women in his family carry and watches as their pleas for assistance are met with silence and complicity from all sides. Who will help Joe's family at their time of need?



### The Wren, The Wren

ANNE ENRIGHT

Jonathan Cape \$32.99

Nell - funny, brave and so much loved - is a young woman with adventure on her mind. As she sets out into the world, she finds her family history hard to escape. For her mother, Nell's leaving home opens a space in her heart, where the turmoil of a lifetime begins to churn. And across the generations falls the long shadow of Carmel's famous father, an Irish poet of beautiful words and brutal actions.



### The Seventh Son

SEBASTIAN FAULKS

Hutchinson Heinemann \$34.99

When a young American academic offers to carry another woman's child, she has no idea of the life-changing consequences. Behind the doors of the Parn Institute, a billionaire entrepreneur plans to stretch the boundaries of ethics as never before. Through a series of IVF treatments, which they hope to keep secret, they propose an experiment that will upend the human race as we know it.



### So Close to Home

MICK CUMMINS

Affirm \$34.99

A tense, moving novel about a young man struggling with addiction and trauma from the winner of the 2023 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an unpublished manuscript. For fans of Craig Silvey's *Honeybee* and Mark Brandt's *Wimmera*

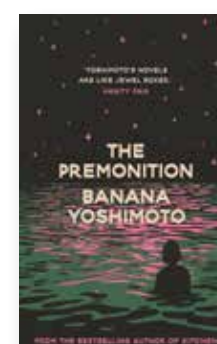


### Burn

MELANIE SAWARD

Affirm \$34.99

A poignant and powerful novel about a fire-obsessed Indigenous boy living on the margins - from an electrifying new First Nations voice in Australian fiction, Melanie Saward. For fans of Craig Silvey's *Jasper Jones*, Tara June Winch, Tony Birch and Melissa Lukashenko.



### The Premonition

BANANA YOSHIMOTO

Faber \$29.99

Yayoi lives with her perfect, loving family. But while her parents tell happy stories of her childhood, she is increasingly haunted by the sense that she's forgotten something important about her past. As Yayoi starts to recover lost memories, and everything she knows about her past threatens to change forever.

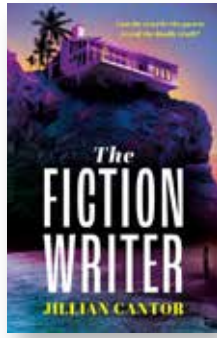
## Fiction of 2023



### The Healing Party

MICHELINE LEE  
Black Ink \$29.99

Evocative, taut and wryly funny, this stunning novel is about faith and lies, the spirit and the flesh. Natasha is making a life for herself in Darwin when her sister calls with bad news. Their mother is ill. Natasha returns home. But her father, an evangelical Christian, is still the domineering yet magnetic man she fled; her sisters and mother are still in his thrall.



### The Fiction Writer

JILLIAN CANTOR  
Simon and Schuster \$32.99

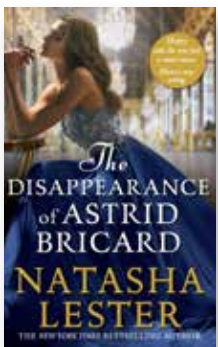
A gripping tale of romance, intrigue and deadly secrets – for fans of Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*, Colleen Hoover's *Verity* and Taylor Jenkins Reid's *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*.



### Gunflower

LAURA JEAN MCKAY  
Scribe \$29.99

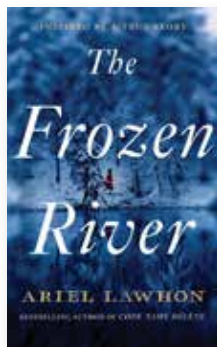
The brilliant new short story collection from the Arthur C. Clarke award-winning author of *The Animals in That Country*. A group of chickens tells it like it is. A female-crewed ship ploughs through the patriarchy. A support group finds solace in a world without men. With her trademark humour, energy, and flair, McKay offers glimpses of places where dreams subsume reality.



### The Disappearance of Astrid Bricard

NATASHA LESTER  
Hachette \$32.99

History said she was just a man's muse. History was wrong. A gripping homage to women and fashion from bestselling author Natasha Lester.



### The Frozen River

ARIEL LAWHON  
Simon and Schuster \$32.99

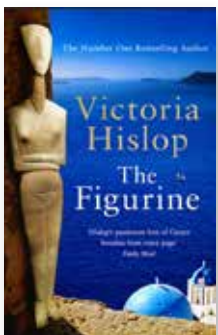
From the bestselling author of *Code Name Hélène* comes a gripping historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard, a renowned 18th-century midwife who investigates a shocking murder that unhinges her small community.



### Resurrection Walk

MICHAEL CONNELLY  
Allen and Unwin \$32.99

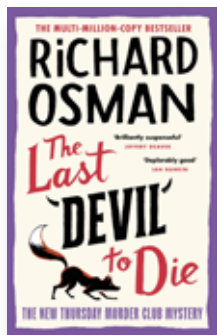
Defence attorney Mickey Haller has agreed to represent a woman who is in prison for killing her husband, a sheriff's deputy. The path to true justice is, for both the lawyer and his investigator, fraught with danger. Their opponents will stop at nothing to keep the Haller-Bosch dream team from uncovering what really happened.



### The Figurine

VICTORIA HISLOP  
Headline \$32.99

Feel the sun on your face and the sand of the Aegean islands beneath your feet as you uncover the fate of the Bronze Age figurines in the heart-pounding new novel from the best-selling author.



### The Last Devil To Die

RICHARD OSMAN  
Viking \$34.99

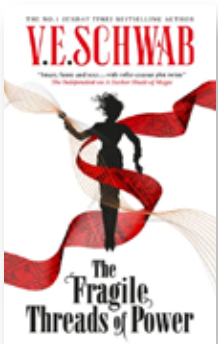
Shocking news reaches the Thursday Murder Club. An old friend in the antiques business has been killed, and a dangerous package he was protecting has gone missing. As the gang swing into action they encounter art forgers, online fraudsters and drug dealers, as well as heartache close to home. Who will be the last devil to die?



### The Secret Hours

MICK HERRON  
Baskerville \$32.99

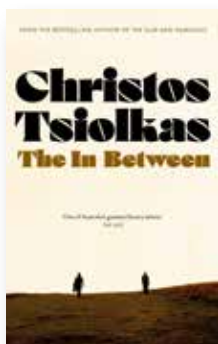
Spies and pen-pushers, politicians and PAs, high-flyers, time-servers and burn-outs... They all have jobs to do in the daylight. But what they do in the secret hours reveals who they really are.



### The Fragile Threads of Power

V.E. SCHWAB  
Titan \$39.99

Set in the *Shades of Magic* universe, this epic fantasy features familiar characters and setting, while introducing a new generation of magic, shadows and adventure into the much-loved world.



### The In-Between

CHRISTOS TSIOLKAS  
Allen and Unwin \$32.99


No life is simple, no life is without sorrow, no life is perfect. Two middle-aged men meet on an internet date. Each has been scarred by a previous relationship; each has his own compelling reasons for giving up on the idea of finding love. A tender, affecting novel of love, of hope, of forgiveness.



### Everyone on this Train is a Suspect

BENJAMIN STEVENSON  
Michael Joseph \$32.99


6 writers, 5 detectives, 4 days, 3 weapons, 2 murders, 1 train. The Australian Mystery Writers Society invites our protagonist to a festival aboard the Ghan. But when one writer is murdered, they quickly turn into five detectives.



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## KIDS

## 2023 Favourites

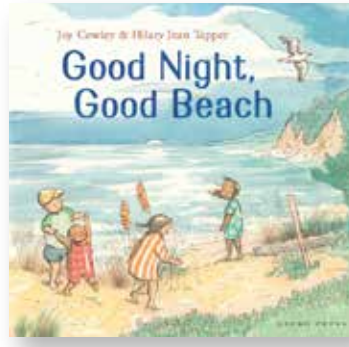


## Maisy's Big Book of Kindness

LUCY COUSINS

Puffin \$19.99

Discover how kindness makes Maisy's world go round! Join Maisy and her friends as they explore all sorts of wonderful ways to be kind, such as sharing, caring, giving, helping the planet and more! This beautiful, bright and joyful celebration of kindness will be an inspiring addition to the bookshelves of little ones.

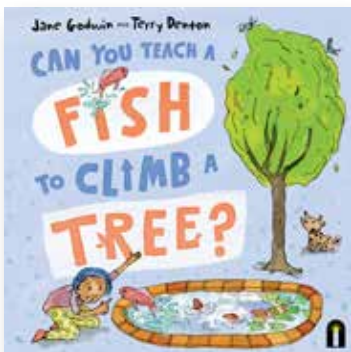


## Good Night, Good Beach

JOY COWLEY AND HILARY JEAN TAPPER

Gecko \$27.99

Summer holidays by the sea have a rhythm all their own. With well chosen images Cowley takes us straight to the end of a long hot day, with beach treasures under the pillow, the sound of the waves and the salty smell of the sea.



## Can you Teach a Fish to Climb a Tree?

JANE GODWIN AND TERRY DENTON

Bright Light \$24.99

'Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.' -- Albert Einstein (or not, as it turns out!) So ... can a fish climb a tree? Can a horse drive a car? Can a baby bake a cake? And if they can't, what wonderful things can they do? A book about celebrating who YOU are and the power and peace to be found in not trying to be anyone else.

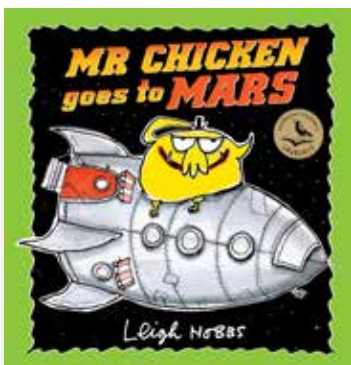


## The First Christmas

JESS RACKLYEFT

Puffin \$14.99

A long time ago, in a country far away, a star shone in the night sky and a baby boy was born. . . The First Christmas perfectly captures the wonder of the nativity and celebrates the Christmas spirit of giving and togetherness. Full of hope for the future and the joy of family, this is a classic picture book to share, year after year.



## Mr Chicken Goes to Mars

LEIGH HOBBS

Allen and Unwin \$24.99

Mr Chicken is very curious. He loves meeting new people and travelling to new places. He has been to Paris, London, Rome and all over Australia, but one day, he realises that he has never been to outer space. Mr Chicken is on his way to Mars and you, the adventurous reader, are invited to join him!

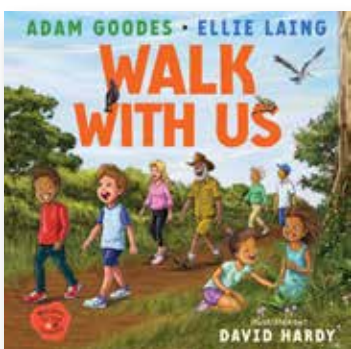


## Three Tasks for a Dragon

EOIN COLFER AND P.J. LYNCH

Walker Books \$32.99

A classic quest story with a modern twist from two Irish Children's Laureates. After his father's death, Prince Lir is tricked into embarking on a perilous quest to rescue a maiden from a dragon. The young prince is no warrior, but he uses his brains to make himself indispensable to the grumpy dragon. But it may be left to the maiden herself to save them all...



## Walk with Us

ADAM GOODES, ELLIE LAING AND DAVID HARDY

Allen and Unwin \$24.99

Harvey and Mum are heading to their favourite park for a walk on Cammeraygal land. Time to awaken the ancestors says Uncle Boris. Every time we sing or acknowledge Country, the ancestors are listening. What do you know about the Country where you live? Inspired by the Uluru Statement from the Heart, *Walk With Us* is an invitation to go on a journey of learning and appreciation – with family, with friends, and with our nation – together.

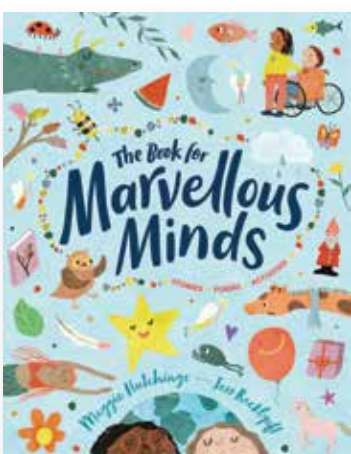


## Madame Badobedah and the Old Bones

SOPHIE DAHL

Walker Books \$27.99

Mabel lives with her parents in The Mermaid Hotel, by the sea. Mabel's best friend, Madame Badobedah who has pirouetted through pyramids, skated across rivers, swum with mermaids and even helped a Triceratops with a toothache. In this new adventure, the duo set off on a mission to the Natural History Museum. And, just maybe, they will meet a dinosaur along the way.

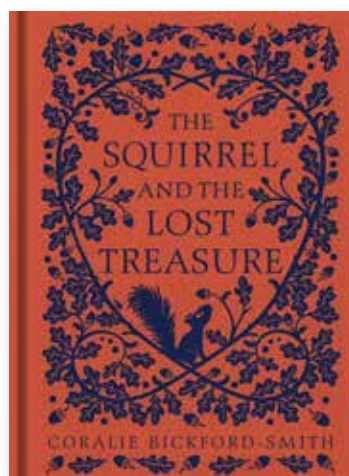


## The Book for Marvellous Minds

MAGGIE HUTCHINGS AND JESS RACKLYEFT

Affirms \$35.00

This charming, inspiring and thought-provoking treasury is packed with stories, poems and activities to relish, treasure and share. A feast for the eyes and a balm for the soul, this is a book of joy that will fill your mind with marvels.



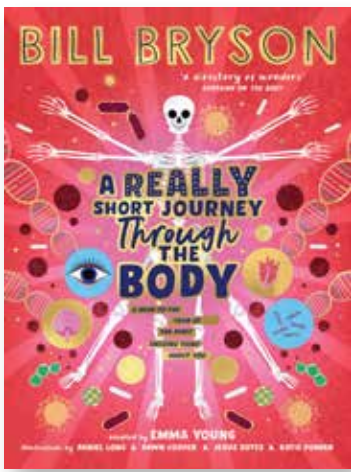
## The Squirrel and the Lost Treasure

CORALIE BICKFORD SMITH

Particular Books \$35.00

One autumn evening, a young squirrel spots an acorn glinting on the forest floor. Eager to protect her treasure from watchful eyes and hungry mouths, she buries it deep in the heart of the forest. But when she returns after the icy winter, her acorn is nowhere to be found. Where could it be? An enchanting fable about growth, new life and finding hope in unexpected places.

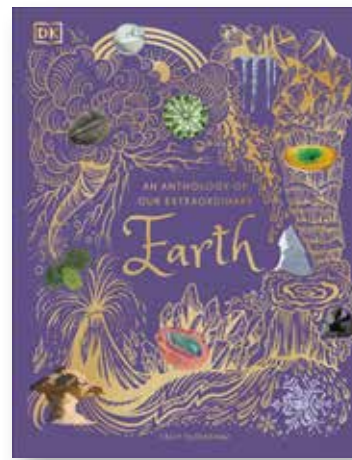
## 2023 Children's Non-Fiction



### A Really Short Journey Through the Body

BILL BRYSON  
Gecko \$27.99

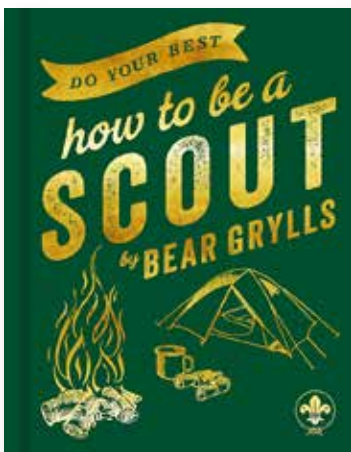
A funny and fascinating, fully illustrated new edition for children, of the bestselling book about everything inside our body, from legendary author Bill Bryson. Want to know why the skin is the biggest organ? Why our brains can see into the future? Or why your eyes are back to front? This book, packed with wonder, is a head-to-toe tour of the most amazing thing about you – your body!



### An Anthology of Our Extraordinary Earth

CALLY OLDERSHAW  
DK \$42.99

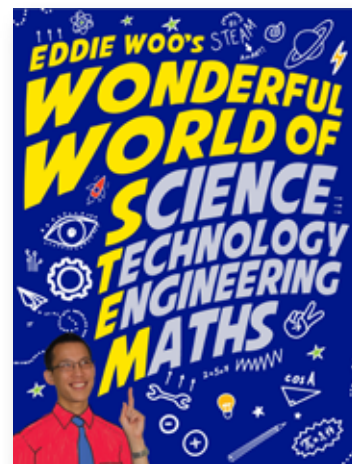
A celebration of the beauty and majesty of planet Earth with more than 100 incredible stories and images. From molten-hot rock and smouldering volcanoes to icy glaciers and bubbling springs, this compendium unlocks the mysteries of our living, breathing planet Earth. The book explores rushing waterfalls, magical dark caves, and weaving rivers in clear prose that makes complex scientific ideas easy to understand for kids.



### How to Be a Scout

BEAR GRYLLS  
Gecko \$27.99

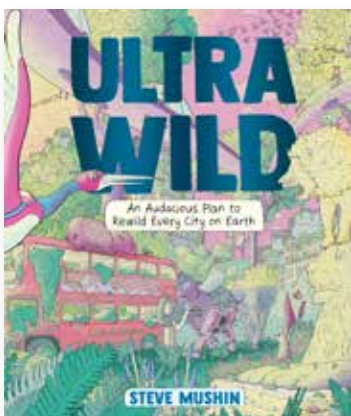
A book stuffed like an overfilled santa-sack with outdoor tips and tricks from the world's most celebrated adventurers. From pitching a tent, leading a team, how to keep fit, tie knots, memorise facts, identify trees, stars and birds, as well as learning real survival skills like putting up a tent in the wild and stashing your breakfast in the ground to keep it hot for the next morning.



### Eddie Woo's Wonderful World of STEM

EDDIE WOO  
Macmillan \$19.99

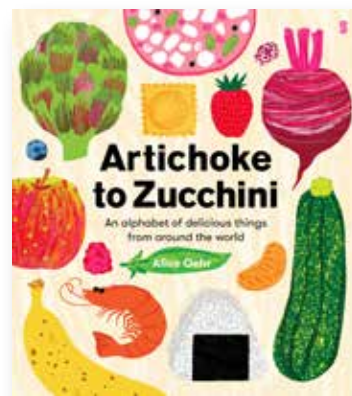
Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths. STEM is everywhere. The Science that helps us understand the natural world. The Technology that uses knowledge and principles to invent tools. The Engineering solves problems and builds our modern environment. The Maths that explores the patterns in the universe. Draw, imagine, create, explore, discover, invent and find out about our wonderful world with this bumper book of STEM.



### Ultrawild: An Audacious Plan for Rewilding Every City on Earth

STEVE MUSHIN  
Allen and Unwin \$34.95

Through marvellously designed and hilarious engineering ideas, Mushin shares his vision for super-high-tech urban rewilding, covering the science of climate change, futuristic materials and foods, bio reactors, soil, forest ecosystems, mechanical flight, solar thermal power and working out just how fast we could actually turn roads into jungles, absorb carbon and reverse climate change.



### Artichoke to Zucchini: An alphabet of delicious things from around the world

ALICE OEHR  
Scribble \$24.99

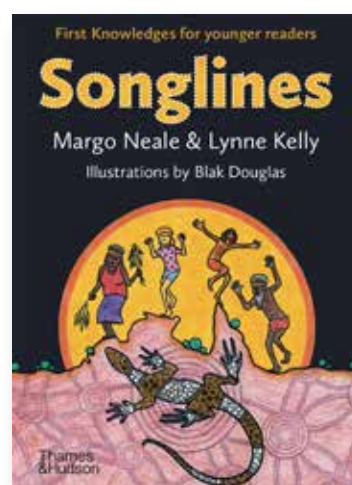
A is for artichokes and long spears of asparagus, for bright, creamy avocados and salty little anchovies ... From apple pie to zeppole, and everything in between, Artichoke to Zucchini introduces young readers to fruit, vegetables, and dishes from around the globe. Full of tasty favourites and delicious new discoveries, it is sure to lead to inspiration in the kitchen!



### Ultrawild: An Audacious Plan for Rewilding Every City on Earth

STEVE MUSHIN  
Allen and Unwin \$34.95

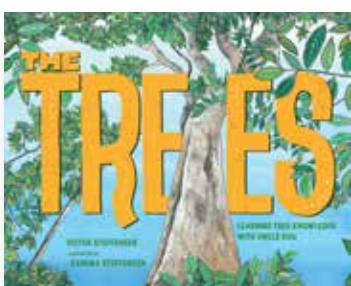
With his bold, exquisite artwork, Oliver Jeffers charts the history of humankind and offers the reader a challenge: where do we go from here? How can we think about the future of the human race more than our individual lives? How can we save ourselves?



### First Knowledges for Younger Readers: Songlines

MARGO NEALE AND LYNNE KELLY WITH BLAK DOUGLAS  
Thames and Hudson \$24.99

How do you find your way around, get your food and drink, connect with your friends and family? How do you know the right and safe way to do things, or how to make things? Before the white people came, all Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples knew how to do all these things. Learn about history, art, song, science and more in this introduction to Indigenous traditional knowledges.



### The Trees: Learning Tree Knowledge with Uncle Kuu

VICTOR STEFFENSEN  
Hardie Grant \$26.99

Looking after the trees is important for keeping Country happy and healthy. First Nations People have cared for the trees on Country for thousands of years. In return, the trees look after the people and provide them with gifts of seeds, flowers, wood and more. This creates the balance between giving and taking from the land.



### Courageous Kids and Their Amazing Adventures

STEPHANIE OWEN REEDER WITH LIZ DUTHIE  
National Library of Australia \$19.99

Celebrates stories of incredible survival, persistence and resilience by young people from Australia's past. *Courageous Kids* features seven stories, including *Lemie the Legend* and *The Remarkable Ride*, starting in Leongatha in the Gippsland area of Victoria (Bunurong Country) in 1931 and ending in Sydney in New South Wales (Eora Country) in 1932. Liz Duthie's occasional illustrations give young readers a visual springboard for imagining the story, and picturing themselves as these courageous young people.

## 2023 Middle Grade Favourites



**Murtagh**  
CHRISTOPHER PAOLINI  
Penguin \$32.99

This is the next exciting book in the World of Eragon Inheritance Cycle by Christopher Paolini. Rider Murtagh and his dragon Thorn find themselves in a world that is no longer safe. They must face the consequences of the role they played in the reign of an evil king.



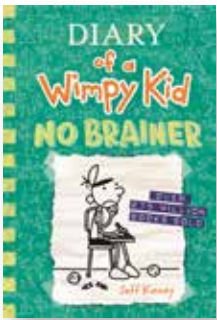
**The Body in the Blitz**  
ROBIN STEVENS  
Puffin \$16.99

The second thrilling episode in the *Ministry of Unladylike Activity*. March 1941. Britain is at war, and a secret agency called the Ministry of Unladylike Activity is training children as spies - because grown-ups always underestimate them. Enter May, Eric and Nuala - courageous, smart, and the Ministry's newest recruits, determined to discover the identity of the body in the blitz wreckage.



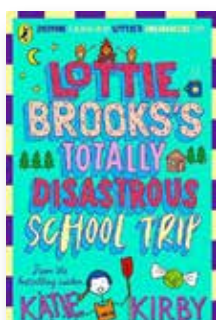
**Alice-Miranda and the Christmas Mystery**  
JACQUELINE HARVEY  
Puffin \$16.99

Christmas is almost here, and Alice-Miranda and her closest friends are celebrating. But why are Christmas decorations disappearing and local stores empty of festive treats? What will Alice-Miranda discover and what will she do about it?



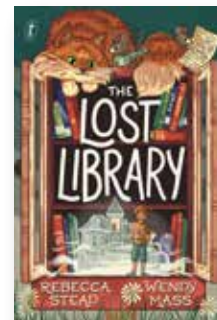
**Diary of a Wimpy Kid 18: No Brainer**  
JEFF KINNEY  
Puffin \$14.99

When the town threatens to close the crumbling school building, Greg realises he's going to be sent to a different school than his best friend, Rowley Jefferson. Can Greg and his classmates save their school before it's closed for good? Or is this the start of a whole new chapter for Greg?



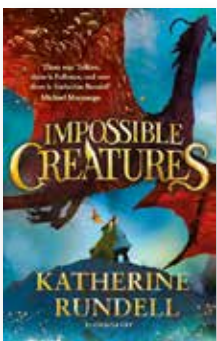
**Lottie Brooks's Totally Disastrous School Trip**  
KATIE KIRBY  
Puffin \$16.99

Lottie's heading off on a week-long residential school trip. A whole week away from embarrassing parents! But the trip soon turns into a total disaster. The other girls staying at the camp are mean, best friend Jess is spending all her time with new girl Isha, and Lottie's diary gets stolen! A story of friendship, embarrassing moments and plenty of lols.



**The Lost Library**  
WENDY MASS AND REBECCA STEAD  
Text \$16.99

When a mysterious little free library (guarded by a large orange cat) appears overnight in the small town of Martinville, eleven-year-old Evan plucks two weathered books from its shelves, never suspecting that his life is about to change. A story about owning your truth, choosing the life you want, and the power of a good book.



**Impossible Creatures**  
KATHERINE RUNDELL  
Bloomsbury \$18.99

Christopher is stunned when he discovers a passage to the Archipelago - a cluster of magical islands where all the creatures of myth still live and breed and thrive in their thousands. There he meets Mal, a girl from the islands, who is in possession of a flying coat and a baby griffin, and who is being pursued by a killer. Rundell is the winner of the Costa Children's Book Award.



**The Deadlands: Trapped**  
SKYE MELKIE-WEGNER  
Walker Books \$16.99

A battle rages between the two surviving dinosaur kingdoms. Eleri and his fellow outcasts must flee from a pack of raptors and become trapped inside the volcanic heart of the dreaded Carrion Kingdom. The dinosaurs must fight for their freedom and survival.



**The Impossible Secret of Lillian Velvet**  
JACLYN MORIARTY  
Allen and Unwin \$22.99

Lillian Velvet lives a very lonely life with her cold and remote Grandmother. That is, until her tenth birthday, when she is given a pickle jar of gold coins, along with a note with clear instructions: don't go out, don't open the door for anyone, and don't spend all your coins in one day. What happens next seems impossible. The coins whisk Lillian away to a different time and place.



**Millie Mak the Maker**  
ALICE PUNG AND SHER RILL NG  
Harper Collins \$22.99

Nine-year-old Millie Mak has discovered she has a superpower! Using everyday objects, Millie turns them into something new, beautiful and useful. Who would ever think that a sunhat could be made from an old bedsheet or some hair scrunchies from a scarf? You can make the special objects Millie creates from the detailed and yet easy-to-follow instructions included in the book.



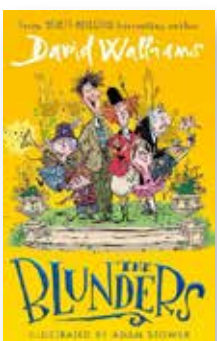
**The Lonely Lighthouse of Elston-Fright**  
REECE CARTER  
Allen and Unwin \$17.99

Danger, darkness and a mysterious legacy unveiled in this magical seaside adventure. Nobody in Elston-Fright believes in magic anymore. Well, nobody except for Flip Little, his nan and his friends: a girl called Corpse, a ghost called Girl and a very large spider called Simon.



**Two Sparrowhawks in a Lonely Sky**  
REBECCA LIM  
Allen and Unwin \$17.99

Thirteen-year-old Fu, his younger sister, Pei, and their mother live in a small rural community in Southern China when it is collectivised as part of Mao Zedong's Great Leap Forward campaign. After tragedy strikes, Fu and Pei set out on a perilous journey across countries and oceans to find their father, who left for Australia almost a decade ago. From the author of *Tiger Daughter*, winner of the CBCA Book of the year for Older Readers.



**The Blunders**  
DAVID WALLIAMS  
Harper Collins \$22.99

Meet the Blunders: Bertie, Betsy, their children, Brutus and Bunny, along with Old Lady Blunder, and their pet ostrich, Cedric. An ostrich is not a sensible pet, but then the Blunders are not sensible people. This family of upper-class twits lives in a crumbling country house named Blunder Hall. When their home comes under threat, they must embark on a series of comic misadventures to save it.



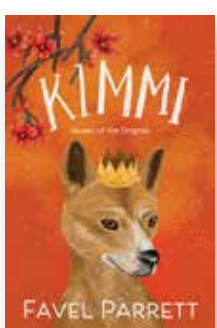
**Dork Diaries: I Love Paris**  
RACHEL RENEE RUSSELL  
Simon and Schuster \$17.99

Ooh la la! Nikki Maxwell and her band are on their way to Paris, but they run into some roadblocks on the way... And Nikki's French skills may not be as reliable as she hoped! Can she get them moving again in time to reach their destination?



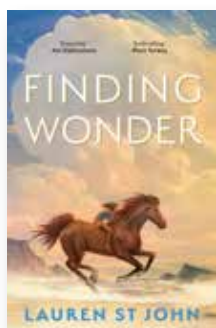
**Foxlight**  
KATYA BALEN  
Bloomsbury \$16.99

Fen and Rey were found curled up small and tight in the fiery fur of the foxes at the very edge of the wildlands. Fen is loud and fierce and free. Rey is quiet and shy and an expert on nature. They are twin sisters. Different and the same. Separate and connected. When a fox appears late one night at the house, Fen and Rey see it as a sign - it's here to lead them to find their real family and fill the missing piece they have felt since they were born.



**Kimmi: Queen of the Dingoes**  
FAVEL PARRETT  
Lothian \$19.99

On the night of a full moon, a small tropical dingo cub is born. And it is her destiny to travel far from home to change things for her kind. An inspiring true story of survival and courage from one of Australia's best-loved writers.



**Finding Wonder**  
LAUREN ST JOHN  
Faber \$17.99

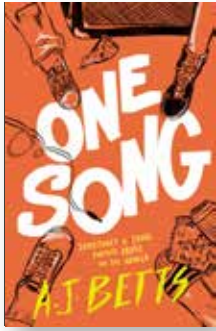
Orphaned Roo Thorn feels like the unluckiest girl in the world. Until she discovers a letter. A letter which urges her to 'Grab life by the wings and fly.' With the help of her aunt, Joni, Roo sets out to buy her dream horse - a fiery showjumper named Wonder Boy. Then Wonder vanishes without a trace.



**Silver Linings**  
KATRINA NANNESTAD  
ABC Books \$19.99

A new heartwarming novel set in 1950s Australia. Nettie Sweeney has a dad, three big sisters, a farm full of cows and a cat called Mittens. But it's not enough. She longs for a mother. One with a gentle touch and sparkles in her eyes. Instead, she has Auntie Edith...

## 2023 Young Adult Favourites

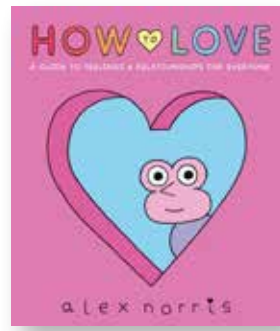


### One Song

A.J. BETTS

Pan Macmillan \$19.99

Aspiring singer-songwriter Eva has one last chance to enter Triple J Unearthed and break into the music industry. But after three failed attempts, she needs some help. Cue the band: perfectionist Eva, charismatic Cooper, easy-going Ant and moody Ruby. Five people who have nothing in common but music. Can they record the most important song of their lives?



### How to Love

ALEX NORRIS

Hachette \$32.99

A witty illustrated guide to relationships for teens. Isn't it wonderful when love strikes? When you encounter someone beautiful and interesting. Your funny, wise and different guide to relationships of all shapes and sizes.

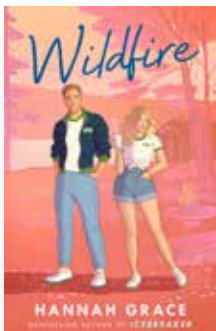


### I Loved You in Another Life

DAVID ARNOLD

Penguin \$19.99

A sweeping romantic novel about the power of soulmates and love. Evan Taft has plans. Shosh Bell has dreams. With lyrical prose and breathtaking storytelling *I Loved You in Another Life* explores the history of love, and how some souls are meant for each other - yesterday, today, forever.



### Wildfire

HANNAH GRACE

Simon and Schuster \$22.99

When Russ and Aurora cross paths at a college party it results in a passionate one-night stand. Aurora slips away before Russ even has the chance to ask her name. Imagine their surprise when they bump into each other on their first day as summer camp counsellors. Did their one night together start a fire they can't put out?



### Stuck Up and Stupid

ANGOURIE RICE AND KATE RICE

Walker \$19.99

The quiet coastal community of Pippi Beach is rocked when a party of young Hollywood movie stars and influencers arrives for the summer. Like most of the locals, mum Lydia is thrilled but her teenage daughter Lily finds the Hollywood types are superficial and arrogant - especially Dorian Khan, the most famous of them all. She is soon to discover that first impressions can be deceiving.



### Actually Super

ADI ALSAID

Random House \$19.99

A globetrotting novel that takes a determined teen from Japan to Australia and to Argentina and Mexico on a quest to prove that humanity is more good than bad. Will she find what she's looking for? And how will she know when she does?



### Let's Never Speak of This Again

MEGAN WILLIAMS

Text \$24.99

The big-hearted YA debut of the year, celebrating the depths and strengths of friendship through all of life's ups and downs. Life is pretty good for sixteen-year-old Abby. Okay, her grandma doesn't remember things anymore, her relationship with her mum is increasingly strained and she accidentally kissed her cousin's cousin on the weekend, so things aren't exactly perfect. But everything is manageable with her best friend, Ella, by her side.



### The Brothers Hawthorne

JENNIFER LYNN BARNES

Penguin \$27.99

Drawn into twisted games on opposite sides of the globe, Grayson and Jameson - with the help of their brothers and the girl who inherited their grandfather's fortune and stole their hearts - must dig deep to decide who they want to be and what each of them will sacrifice to win.



### Kaldoras

LYNETTE NONI

Pantera Press \$22.99

Journey back to the world of Medora to follow Alexandra Jennings and her friends and enemies for one last adventure. Spanning four years after the final book in Lynette Noni's #1 bestselling series *The Medoran Chronicles*, this is an epilogue like no other, full of laughter, tears, and above all, the unending power of friendship.



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