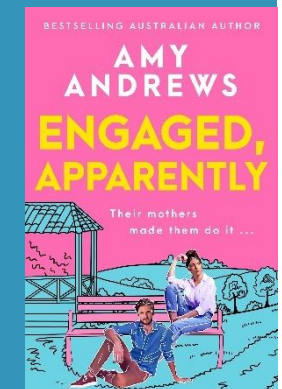
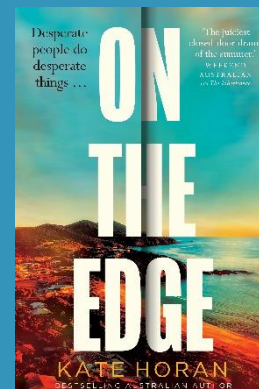
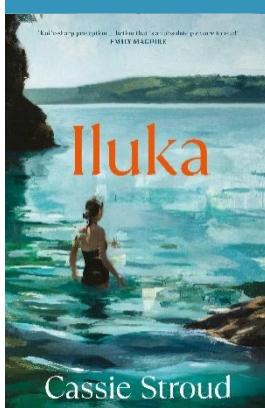
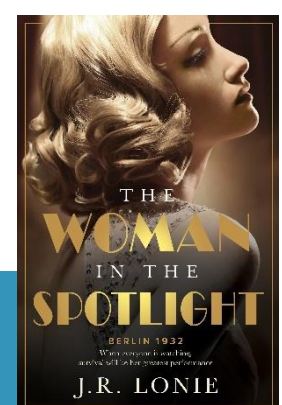
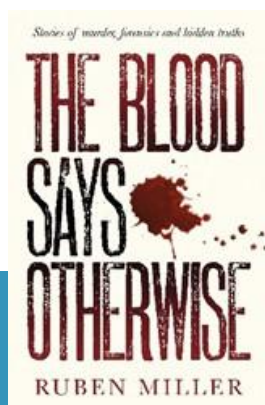
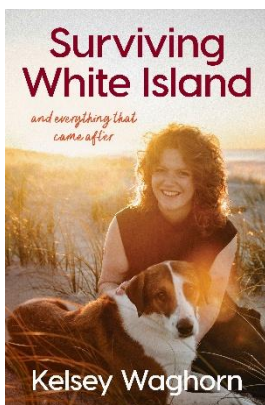


HCANZ ADULT RIGHTS GUIDE

FBF25



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the HarperCollins ANZ Adults Rights Guide, a comprehensive showcase of the extraordinary literary talent and unique voices from Australia and New Zealand.

At HarperCollins, our love of publishing Australian and New Zealand stories has spanned more than a hundred years and continues to this day with a dedicated and passionate team of book-makers, book-sellers and book-spruikers. We love books that you can't put down, characters that you fall in love with, stories that stay with you long after you finish the last page.

This guide includes titles from Harper Fiction, Harper Non-Fiction, 4th Estate and HQ. Harper By Design titles are in our illustrated title guide which is available on our website or by request to airlie.lawson@harpercollins.com.au

Happy reading!

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NEW FICTION

CIRCLE OF WONDERS

Kathryn Heyman

An extraordinary, luminous, heart-expanding novel, one that broadens our notion of what death means, what love is and what it is to truly live. For fans of Charlotte Wood, Emily Maguire and Sarah Winman.

Set over one heightened lunar month, this is the story of four women. It is a story of death, and a story of life.

It is the story of Roni, dying of breast cancer, and of her mother, Sylvie, waiting for her own death in the public hospital on the other side of the mountain ridge that divides them. It is also the story of Roni's daughter Belle, recently returned from a rehab centre after years of addiction. And there is Anna, Roni's Oxbridge-educated, shining star of a sister. She has returned to Australia from London, to be with her mother and her sister as they lie dying. For each of them, this month will change everything; it will teach them how to live.

Circle of Wonders celebrates our imperfections, mess and flaws, right alongside our spectacular capacity for humour, awe and wonder. It offers these things to readers as a balm, a solace, and an exhortation to notice, to attend and to wonder.

ADVANCE PRAISE

'A beautifully observed, funny and tender novel about letting love in, and letting love go.' Anna Funder, *Wifedom*

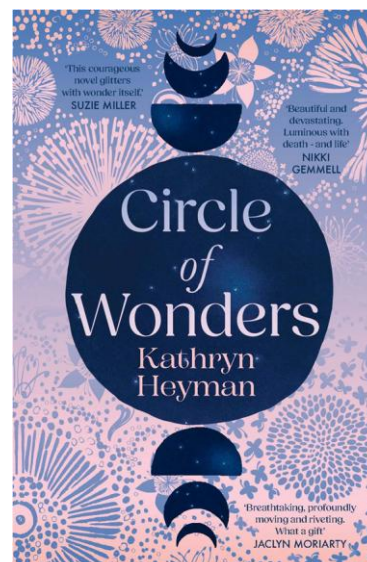
'A precious jewellery box of language, capturing the imperfection of being human and probing the mysteries of what matters most – this courageous novel glitters with wonder itself.' Suzie Miller, *Prima Facie*

'Beautiful and devastating. Luminous with death – and life. *Circle of Wonders* observes the complicated bonds of friendship and family among women, with a wisdom and tenderness that is deeply observed. It is a novel of wild power that reminds me of Katherine Mansfield and Claire Keegan. I gulped it in a day, then ached that it was over.' Nikki Gemmell, *The Bride Stripped Bare*

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS WORK

'*Fury* is utterly superb. Moving, funny, clever and revealing.' Nikki Bedi, BBC *Saturday Live*

'A triumph. Utterly compelling.' Carrie Tiffany



April 2026

ISBN: 9781460768051

\$34.99

256 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: 4th Estate

Rights: World, all languages

Kathryn Heyman is the author of six novels, including *Storm and Grace*, published by Allen and Unwin in February 2017.

She has won numerous awards including an Arts Council of England Writers Award, the Wingate and the Southern Arts Awards, and been nominated for the Orange Prize, the Scottish Writer of the Year Award, the Edinburgh Fringe Critics' Awards, the Kibble Prize and the West Australian Premier's Book Awards.

Kathryn's radio plays for BBC Radio include adaptations of her own work. Her most recent work, *Fury*, a memoir, was published by Allen & Unwin in 2021 and is in development as a feature film.

GRAVITY LET ME GO**Trent Dalton**

Trent Dalton, Australia's no.1 bestselling author, returns with the astonishing *Gravity Let Me Go* – a story you won't ever forget.

How will you ever know how the story ends, if you let the story go?

Noah Cork has just published the scoop of a lifetime: the white-hot true crime book of the cold-blooded killer who slipped an unfolding murder mystery into Noah's mailbox. But if this is his moment of triumph, then why is the tin roof being ripped from the walls of his reality? Why are skeletons standing upright in his closet? Why do people want to run him over in the street? And why does his wife keep writing a cryptic message across the bathroom mirror? As a severe storm cell heads towards Brisbane, Noah is hurtling headfirst into a swirling storm of secrets. He must now cling for dear life to the only story that ever really mattered. He must hold on to the truth. He must hold on to the story. He must hold on to love.

Dark, gritty, hilarious and unexpected, *Gravity Let Me Go* is Trent Dalton's deeply personal exploration of marriage and ambition; truth-telling and truth-omitting; self-deception and self-preservation. It's a novel about the stories we want to tell the world and those we shouldn't, and how the stories we keep locked away are so often the stories that come to define us.

It's the story of a murder.

It's the story of a marriage.

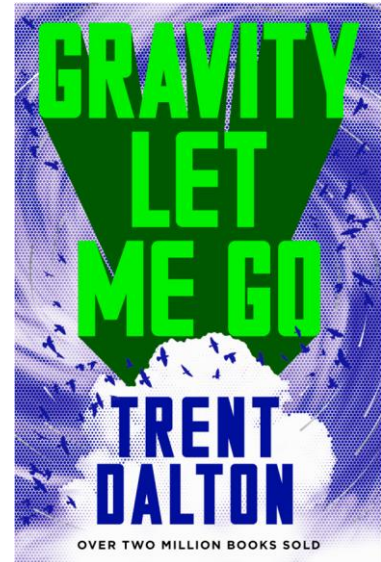
It's the story of a lifetime.

KEY POINTS

- Trent's books have sold over 1.5 million copies in Australia alone
- Rights to his books have been licensed in over thirty territories
- Trent's books have earned many awards, been widely praised, and are loved by readers world-wide

PRAISE

'Ultimately, fans of Dalton's previous novels will find *Gravity Let Me Go* impossible to put down.' *Books + Publishing*



October 2025

ISBN: 9781460769010

\$45.00

448 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: 4th Estate

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed: English language North America (HarperCollins US), English language, UK & Comm ex ANZ, (HarperCollins/The Borough Press), German (Harper Germany/Nagel & Kimche Verlag)

Trent Dalton is a two-time Walkley Award-winning journalist and the international bestselling author of *Boy Swallows Universe*, *By Sea & Stars*, *All Our Shimmering Skies*, *Love Stories* and *Lola in the Mirror*. *Boy Swallows Universe* was Netflix's most popular Australian-made TV series and hit the global top 10.

LOVESICK**Lillian Telford**

How far can people push each other before they lose their way back to each other? Raw, honest, expertly crafted, this punchy, gritty, distinctive novel cleverly dissects the passion and messiness of modern relationships shaped by drugs, alcohol, insecurity and trauma.

'Do you think much about love?' she asked. 'About how abrupt it is?'

Gabby hooked her arm through his and stretched on her toes to kiss him. His mouth was dry; she tasted like rainwater. It occurred to Gordon then that she was a shadow he might not be able to catch.

Gabby and Gordon's lives collide during a drug-fuelled night out in Brisbane's West End and they find solace in each other's arms. Both are lovesick and haunted by childhood wounds, and the passion that brings them together isn't enough in the face of insecurity, jealousy and a tragic, unexpected loss.

Love is a push-pull, but how far can two people push each other before they can no longer find their way back?

KEY POINTS

- Gorgeous literary crossover with award-winning potential from a young Brisbane author with a lyrical and emotive voice
- Expertly crafted, *Lovesick* is a complex portrait of modern love in all its messiness: heartbreak, passion, obsession, love, jealousy, power
- It's full of drama, fights and affairs, and a gritty realness of relationship that will resonate with anyone who has experienced love or heartache in equal measure
- Though a coming-of-age novel, the themes explored have the maturity to capture a wider readership, unpacking broader family dynamics, intimacy, miscarriage, abandonment and friendship breakdown



July 2026

ISBN: 9781038955494

\$32.99

272 pages

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Lillian Telford is an emerging writer based in Brisbane/Meanjin. Her short fiction has appeared in a range of literary magazines and anthologies, including Corella Press, *Urinal Magazine*, Island and Bowen Street Press. She has also previously been a recipient of the 2022 UQP Creative Writing Mentorship and was shortlisted for the Glendower Award for another manuscript in 2022.

THINGS I CANNOT SAY**Geraldine Mellet**

They say lightning never strikes twice – but this is just what happens to Tracey Read when she’s consigned to a nursing home after a tragic accident. A wry, inspiring story of one woman’s determination to do more than just survive.

Warehoused in a nursing home for the elderly after a catastrophic accident steals her voice and leaves her with paraplegia, 37-year-old Tracey Read spends her days trapped in her room, brainstorming ways to escape ‘The Last Resort’ – the name she’s given this parallel universe.

But as Tracey finds an unexpected community within the fluorescent lights and grim walls of the nursing home, she starts to notice what else is going on behind the scenes: cruelty and neglect that are putting her vulnerable new friends in jeopardy. And despite having no voice and almost no movement, it might just be up to Tracey to save them all.

Things I Cannot Say is Tracey’s story of thriving in a life that others deem useless, figuring out what’s possible, what’s right, and how to do more than survive.

KEY POINTS

- Inspired by the harrowing true stories that came out of both the disability and aged care royal commissions of young people with disabilities who have been warehoused in nursing homes
- Geraldine brings her experience as a journalist and disability advocate to this wry, clever and ultimately uplifting debut about community, unexpected friendships, and the varied and full lives of people living with disabilities
- A strong believer in the nothing about us without us principle, Geraldine has worked closely with three different women whose experiences overlap with her main character’s to ensure an authentic voice



May 2026

ISBN: 9781038953438

\$34.99

272 pages

234 mm x 153mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Geraldine Mellet found her happy place in broadcast journalism. In addition to a 25-year career at the ABC she has written newspaper columns and children’s TV drama and co-written a nonfiction book with Rosalie Leaney (*Whose Hand is This*, Sep 1999).

Geraldine has also worked as an advocate for the Every Australian Counts campaign to get the NDIS legislated and funded and coordinated and filmed *The Lives We Lead*, a social media campaign on the talents and skills of West Australians with disabilities. For the last 18 months she has been co-CEO of the Australian Council on Smoking & Health, a role she has just stepped back from. She is continuing to do some part-time work for the ACS&H while diving back into the world of freelance journalism.

THE NOCTURNALS**Frances Whiting**

From the bestselling author of *The Best Kind of Beautiful*, Frances Whiting, comes a funny, moving and wise story of love and friendship, which asks what lengths would you go to, to protect your friends?

In the summer of 1997, five high school students meet. Nina, the Good Girl. Beatrice, the Poetess. Harriet, the Ghost. Cosmo, the Professor. And Hunter, the Golden Boy. In their last year of school, they become inseparable, five points of the same star, until a fault line cracks between them, scattering them to all corners of the globe.

Now, fifteen years later, Hunter has called them with his conch shell lips to return to the place where they lived and laughed and cried together, before secrets were whispered and promises were broken. No-one knows why he has assembled them, but there is no question they won't go. Because to outsiders, they might be, in turns, a little bit weird, a little bit glamorous and a little bit dangerous. But to each other, they are, and always will be, *The Nocturnals*.

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS WORK

The Best Kind of Beautiful

'*The Best Kind of Beautiful* is the best kind of book: touching, funny, whimsical and mysterious!' Liane Moriarty

'On a single page she'll tickle your ribs with three laugh-out-loud gags then punch your gut with some deep observation on living. All heart. All soul. All kinds of beautiful.' Trent Dalton, author of *Boy Swallows Universe*

'Will make your heart sing ... The best kind of summer read.' *Herald Sun*

'This is a truly delightful, lift-you-up novel that you won't want to put down.' *Daily Telegraph*

'The undercurrent of wit in *Sunday Mail* journalist Frances Whiting's tale of love, family and friendship has all the appeal of a Richard Curtis movie.' *Australian Women's Weekly*

Walking on Trampolines

'Fans of Liane Moriarty, Sarah Dessen, and Jennifer Close will adore Whiting's heart-wrenchingly honest and utterly earnest tale of female friendship, unbreakable bonds, and learning to let go.' *Booklist*, starred review



April 2026

ISBN: 9781460763926

\$32.99

304 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Frances Whiting is one of Australia's best known and favourite columnists. For more than twenty years her weekly *Sunday Mail* column has engaged readers in the highs, lows and the wonderful of the everyday. She is also an award-winning journalist and Senior Feature Writer for *Q Magazine* in *The Courier-Mail*. She has published two collections of her columns, *Oh To Be a Marching Girl* and *That's a Home Run Tiger!*, and two novels, *Walking on Trampolines* and *The Best Kind of Beautiful*.

ILUKA

Cassie Stroud

This vivid, engrossing, beautifully crafted family drama from an exciting debut author charts the hurtful mess, complicated relationships and profound loves of three siblings.

After their grandfather's death, siblings Helen, Sylvie and Brendan, and Helen's daughter, film student Tig, are gathered together at Iluka, a typical fibro beach house in a small town on the south coast. Iluka is the house they grew up in when the siblings' troubled mother ran away to the bright lights of the city, leaving their grandparents to raise them.

As they slowly clear the house for sale and relive various memories, they find a bundle of letters addressed to each of them from their missing mother, Marguerite, that were sent long after they'd been told she died.

Their world shifts on its axis, as the siblings begin to question everything they have been told. Why did their grandmother hide these letters? Was their grandfather complicit? And could the mother they thought they had lost still be alive?

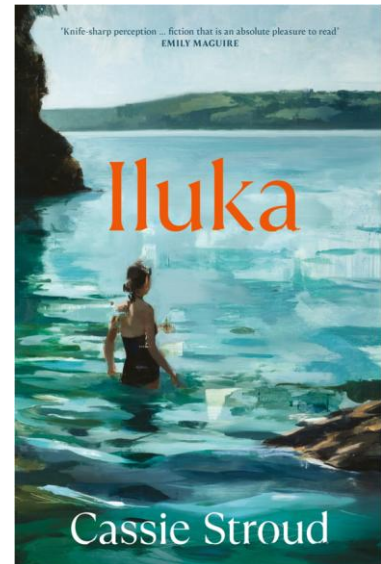
Viewed through the unsparing eye of Tig's camera, we watch a family first implode then reform around a new reality, a reality that brings with it profound change in the way they view themselves and each other.

ADVANCE PRAISE

'A millennial Anne Tyler, who chronicles family dynamics with precision and relatability. Absorbing, sophisticated and full of luminous insight.' Laura Brading, Books Editor, *Primer Magazine*

'A complex and profoundly human story of the struggles faced by women over generations as they try to define themselves and their own desires in a hostile world ... The house itself, Iluka, is a metaphor handled beautifully to evoke the power of belonging.' Kirsten Tranter, co-founder of the Stella Prize

'Knife-sharp prose ... fiction that is an absolute pleasure to read.' Emily Maguire



February 2026

ISBN: 9781038933652

\$32.99

256 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Cassie Stroud has worked as a writer and editor, as well as bookseller for Brays Books, Balmain, and a fiction scout for WellRead, an Australian subscription service. Cassie now reviews books for eager readers on her Instagram page, and the WellRead Substack, where she also writes articles on culture.

She has completed writing mentorships with Kirsten Tranter and Emily Maguire, and the 'Inside Story' short course with Tessa Hadley, via the Curtis Brown Institute. Cassie lives in a 1950s house in Sydney with her husband, son and a Siamese cat. This is her debut novel.

NEW FICTION

CONTEMPORARY

THE ROAD TRIP

Tricia Stringer

Two caravans, four adults and a journey through Australia's heart – the trip of a lifetime, right? Wrong. A wise take on the joys of travel with those you might dislike the most but love the best.

Sharyn Tregonning wanted a holiday somewhere glamorous for her 60th birthday. So when her husband Barry surprises her with a caravan trip from Adelaide to Broome, she is furious – and bitterly disappointed. Even worse, Barry's annoying friend Ray, and Ray's reclusive frumpy sister Kathleen are coming along.

It's true that Kathleen Allenby has become a recluse. As the end-of-life carer for three family members (and at war with her mean neighbours) she has become anxious. She doesn't expect this trip to offer her much. Sharyn has always looked down on her, and Kathleen has never liked her (or her bitchy friends).

But as a series of mishaps and accidents, overflowing toilets and destination disagreements test boundaries and fray tempers, the two women share a bottle of gin and begin to bond over the highs and lows of caravan life and their irritation with their menfolk as they travel through the magnificent Kimberley towards magical Broome. When a body surfaces at a luxe resort, it brings their grudges and hurts out into the open, and the women realise that it's not just the men's future – or behaviour – that needs to change.

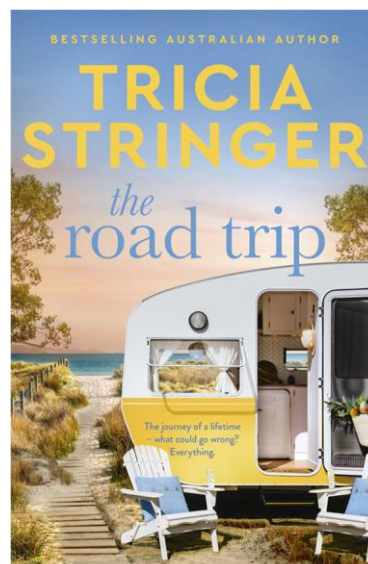
KEY POINTS

- Perfect for fans of Joanna Nell, Amanda Hampson and Monica McInerney
- Tricia Stringer's print sales exceed a quarter of a million copies
- She is in the top 25 fiction authors in the Australian market (Bookscan)

PRAISE FOR TRICIA STRINGER

"Masterful" is used in a lot of reviews, but Tricia Stringer really is, she's one of Australia's most accomplished writers.' *Better Reading*

'A moving, feel-good, warm read about strong, loving women – the exact book we all need right now.' Mamamia on *Birds of a Feather*



October 2025

ISBN: 9781867247760

\$34.99

480 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Tricia Stringer is a bestselling and multiple award-winning author. Her books include contemporary fiction, rural romances and historical sagas set in Australian communities past and present.

Tricia grew up on a farm in country South Australia and has spent most of her life in rural communities as the owner of a post office and bookshop, and as a teacher and librarian. She lives on the traditional lands of the Narungga people in the beautiful Copper Coast region and shares her passion for the country and its people through her authentic stories and their vivid characters.

THE WATERVALE LADIES' WRITING AND FIREFIGHTING SOCIETY

Mette Menzies

It's never too late to start over – sometimes all you need is a spark. In the tradition of Sophie Green, Joanna Nell and Tricia Stringer comes an absolutely sparkling, feelgood delight of a novel.

When international lawyer Matilda 'Tilly' Marr is summoned back from London to a small town in South Australia's wine country, she expects to close a billion-dollar deal in a matter of days. Instead, she's handed an ultimatum: stay for a month and serve as the town's only solicitor, or watch the opportunity slip away. Setting up shop in the Beechwood Cafe, Tilly braces for a brief detour, but life in Watervale Downs soon proves to be anything but simple.

Drawn into the orbit of three very different women – fierce matriarch Bev Jackson, fallen TV star Fenna de Vries, and warm-hearted librarian Jane Robertson – Tilly unexpectedly finds herself joining a local writing group and training with the country fire service. Slowly, friendships form, long-held secrets surface, and the rhythms of country life begin to change her in ways she didn't anticipate.

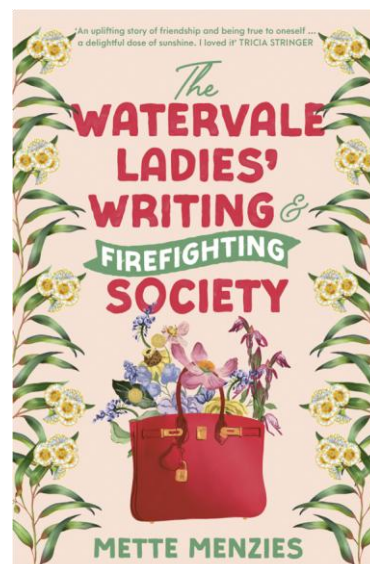
As the season turns and challenges mount, each woman finds herself at a crossroads. Bev must confront a past she has kept hidden for sixty years, Fenna must decide whether she is ready to stop running, Jane must summon the courage to reimagine her future, and Tilly must ask whether the life she has built is truly the one she wants. And in the meantime, bushfire season is approaching and a day of reckoning is coming for them all.

KEY POINTS

- 'Mette Menzies' is the pen name of Steven Reynolds and Viktoriya Butler, both high-powered executives who have been friends over twenty years – it's rare to have a male/female friendship like this, and to write a novel too!
- Written with real comic flair, pace and timing, this is sparkingly good: sweet, funny and heartwarming storytelling
- Make way, Sophie Green, Tricia Stringer – Mette Menzies is coming your way!

PRAISE

'A thoroughly enjoyable and easy-to-devour read perfect for book clubs and fans of Sophie Green's *Art Hour at the Duchess Hotel* and Joanna Nell's *Mrs Winterbottom Takes a Gap Year*.'
Books + Publishing



September 2025

ISBN: 9781460766019

\$34.99

432 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Mette Menzies is the pen name of writing partners Steven Reynolds and Viktoriya Butler. Best friends for over twenty years, they share a love of great writing, trashy television, expensive wine, and extended holidays in the sun.

EVA REDDY'S TRIP OF A LIFETIME**Fiona McKenzie Kekic**

Mrs Winterbottom Takes a Gap Year meets *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* and *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* in this witty novel about coming of (middle) age and discovering that you don't have to be who you've become.

When Eva Moore wakes up on her fiftieth birthday, her drab (but materially comfortable) middle-class life immediately starts to unravel. First, she receives an anonymous Facebook message claiming her husband is having an affair. Next, she is restructured out of her job by her obnoxiously young boss. Then, just when she thinks her life can't get any worse, her elderly parents wilfully go missing from their group tour of India. The only clues they've left behind is an increasingly bizarre series of TikTok videos.

Eager to put some distance between herself and her failing marriage, Eva undertakes a rescue mission, determined to save her parents from certain disaster. She wants to find them. But what Eva really needs is to find herself. If she can do that, she might get a second chance at life and love – and, along the way, become an inspiration to anyone who fears their best days are behind them ...

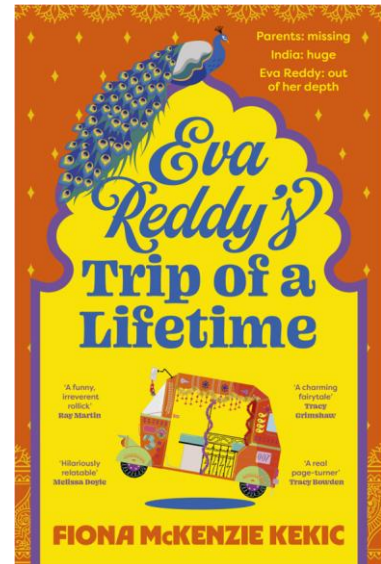
Witty, warm and acutely observed – a book club book from an extraordinary new Australian voice about taking life, and adventure, by the horns.

KEY POINTS

- Witty, dry, and alternatively sweet and sharp, perfect for readers of *The Other Side of Beautiful*
- Book club guide in the back
- Similar in tone and shares the epistolary style of *Where'd You Go, Bernadette* while delivering an uplifting message reminiscent of *Eleanor Oliphant*
- Taps into literary tradition that sees fed-up women, take off for an adventure – think *Eat Pray Love* meets *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*

PRAISE

'A charming fairytale that tells you all is not lost.' Tracy Grimshaw



August 2025

ISBN: 9781038945648

\$32.99

352 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Fiona McKenzie Kekic is a recovering Australian television professional with credits ranging from *60 Minutes* to *Married at First Sight*. After way too many years in commercial news and current affairs, Fiona co-wrote *Boned*, published anonymously in 2008, with Jane Hansen. Fiona has now stepped away from that world to concentrate full time on writing and to make the most of life's next stage. Fiona lives in Sydney with her husband, son and their rescue cattle dog, Vels.

WHAT THE BONES KNOW**Kirstyn McDermott**

A child's bones, a lost girl, a mind adrift – sometimes what is lost comes back to haunt you ... from an award-winning author comes a contemporary gothic tale of guilt, grief and redemption.

In the village of Kiln Creek in the Victorian Highlands, a ghost gum falls in a storm. Tangled in its roots are the bones of a small child and the tattered remains of her clothing, including a pair of bright red sneakers.

Single mum Jude Mees is in her early forties and struggling to get her business off the ground while raising her ten-year-old daughter Katie and managing a fractious relationship with her controlling ex-husband. But when Jude learns that her mother, Nance, who still lives alone on the family property in Kiln Creek, is showing troubling signs of dementia, she has no option other than to return and check on her. Indeed, all is not well at the farm. Nance is slowly drifting off into her own world and there are other disturbing occurrences. Strange smells, inexplicably wet footprints, a voice in the night. As her daughter starts to sleepwalk and Jude's nightmares begin to take over her days, she begins to wonder whether her imagination is out of control or if something more sinister is happening ...

A taut, claustrophobic exploration of what it means to be haunted – by our past, by fractured relationships, by a place we thought we knew and by our own unreliable memories.

KEY POINTS

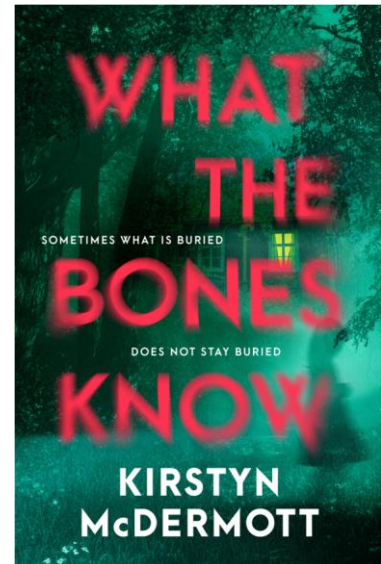
- A contemporary gothic tale of guilt, grief and redemption from an award-winning author
- The 2026 debut contemporary psychological horror
- Perfect for fans of Riley Sager and Jo Dixon

PRAISE FOR AUTHOR'S PREVIOUS WORK

'Perfections sings from the page. It is dark, compelling and monstrously beautiful.' Alison Goodman, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Eon* and *Eona*

'Kirstyn McDermott's prose is darkly magical, insidious and insistent. Once her words get under your skin, they are there to stay.' Angela Slatter, British Fantasy award-winning author of *Sourdough* and *Other Stories*

'McDermott's characters are psychologically complex and precisely observed ... [*Madigan Mine* is] a well-crafted debut, with an imaginative twist, that horror fans won't be able to put down.' Cameron Woodhead, *The Age*



February 2026

ISBN: 9781038922762

\$32.99

304 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages (ex German)

Kirstyn McDermott is an Australian author of two award-winning novels, *Madigan Mine* and *Perfections*, along with numerous pieces of short fiction and poetry. Her most recent works are *Winterbloom* (winner of 2023 Aurealis Award for best fantasy novella), *Hard Places*, a collection of short fiction, and *Never Afters*, a novella series of retold fairy tales now collected in an omnibus edition. Kirstyn holds a PhD in creative writing and lives in Ballarat, Australia, with fellow writer Jason Nahrung and two distinctly non-literary felines.

ON THE EDGE**Kate Horan**

A homecoming will shake this small town to its very foundations. The taut new mystery from the bestselling author of *The Inheritance*, perfect for readers of Sally Hepworth and Liane Moriarty.

Sixteen years ago, teenage Maddie Marshall's body was found on a desolate beach near her hometown, Carrinya. Vibrant, feisty Maddie was the only daughter of a high-profile politician. The case was the talk of the town but was ultimately never solved.

Nel Foley, daughter of the town doctor and Maddie's best friend, was the last known person to see her alive, and the Carrinya rumour mill was vicious. Nel fled the town and has never been back. Until now.

Now a 32-year-old city GP, Nel returns after her father's sudden death, determined to get in and out as quickly as possible. Begrudgingly, she agrees to run his clinic for a few weeks, but during that time she meets local mum Sophie Warner and that changes everything.

Sophie's husband Ryan, a prominent local real-estate agent, was Maddie's boyfriend and Nel is certain he played a role in her death. When Nel discovers that Ryan is not the loving husband and father that he seems, she decides she must prove what he did all those years ago. But as she starts to unravel the past, she discovers the truth is far more complex than she could have imagined.

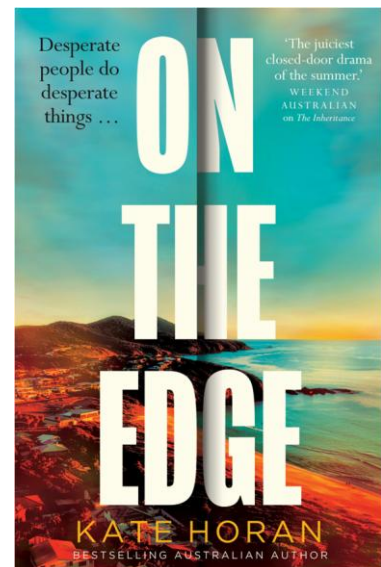
KEY POINTS

- A twisty, suspenseful mystery about the desperate things people do when they're on the edge
- Perfect for readers of domestic suspense and fans of Ali Lowe, Jo Dixon, Sally Hepworth and Nicola Moriarty
- Kate's books are stories with complicated problems and dark secrets, driven by strong female characters
- Following a fabulous success with *The Inheritance*: Australian Top 10 bestseller, 4 weeks

PRAISE FOR *THE INHERITANCE*

'the juiciest closed-door drama of the summer' *Weekend Australian*, Notable Books

'If you're into *Succession* or the real-life tussle over the Murdoch family trust, *The Inheritance* will appeal.' *The Age*



January 2026

ISBN: 9781038940384

\$34.99

288 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Kate Horan taught English at high schools in western Sydney where she relished inspiring teenagers with a love of reading. She currently works in communications and lives by the beach in Sydney with her husband and two boys.

THE FINAL CHAPTER**January Gilchrist**

Benjamin Stevenson meets *Nine Perfect Strangers* in a story about writerly ambition, self-discovery and – of course – revenge.

An opportunity a writer would die for ...

Desley Barron is ready to prove her doubters, and herself, wrong about her flagging writing career. She's won a spot at an exclusive writing retreat in the Blue Mountains. Only instead of feeling creative, Desley finds her insecurity increases while the ghost stories about the house have her jumping at shadows.

This reclusive house is the last place anyone will think to look for high-profile author Colette Halifax, which is perfect as she hides from a looming scandal. Unfortunately, someone here is threatening to ruin the one part of her life that isn't already a shambles.

Meanwhile, Maia McKenzie has plans that don't involve writing at all. She's schemed to ensure the one person she wants to see is here – the man who almost killed her mother.

All have a secret. All will do anything to keep it hidden. And they're not alone. The retreat is perched on the edge of a forest steeped in the horrors of Australia's worst serial killer – and no one knows just who is watching.

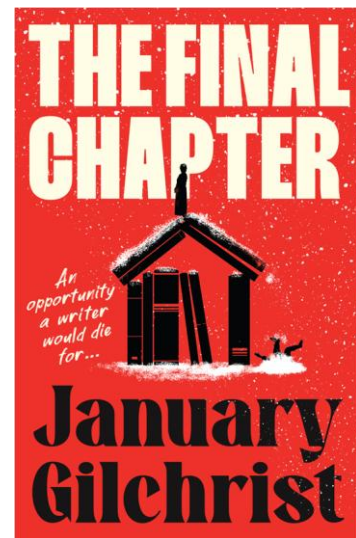
When a storm unleashes its fury and they're trapped, a body is left in the snow ... and any one of them could be next.

KEY POINTS

- Women's fiction meets psychological thriller, with a touch of gothic; it'll also be loved by fans of cosy mysteries
- Perfect for readers who loved *Nine Perfect Strangers*, Jack Heath's *Kill Your Husbands* and Hannah Richell's *The Search Party*
- Moreish reading for anyone who loves books about writers and books; think *Death of a Bookseller*, but with a distinctly Australian take

PRAISE

'*The Final Chapter* is a darkly addictive novel that highlights every author's fears: procrastination, writer's block, and the possibility of being murdered, of course.' *Readings*



August 2025

ISBN: 9781038953384

\$32.99

352 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

January Gilchrist is a Brisbane-based writer with a passion for mystery and is a former performing arts professional. *The Final Chapter*, her debut thriller, is inspired by her time at the Varuna Writers' House. Also published under 'Ava January' she has three historical novels from Crooked Lane US and HQN.

With a slew of international competition wins under her belt as Ava January, earlier versions of this manuscript longlisted for the Richell Prize and shortlisted for 'The Next Chapter' (the Wheeler Centre) in which Tony Birch called her work 'stunning'.

BLACK VELVET AND VENGEANCE**Deborah Challinor****Sometimes death is just the beginning ...**

Late 1872: When 25 year-old Sydney undertaker Tatiana Crowe travels to Auckland to embalm the body of Evan Hunter's father, events go horribly wrong, leaving Tatty stricken.

Back at home, Tatty has some enormous decisions to make, but finds herself facing challenges both personal and professional. When bodies start to go missing, seemingly snatched from the funeral train en route to the cemetery, it looks like someone is targeting Tatty's business and everything she holds dear.

Who has a vendetta against Tatty, and why? With the aid of the family she has made for herself among the misfits of Sydney she must fend off extortion demands, an irate grieving mother, Darlinghurst Gaol tittle-tattlers and the threat of ruin.

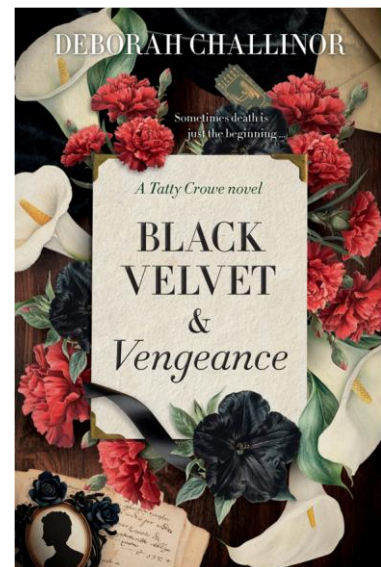
Featuring a fiercely intrepid heroine, *Black Velvet and Vengeance* vividly and unforgettably shines a light on a fascinating period of Sydney's history – life, death and everything in between.

PRAISE FOR *BLACK SILK AND SYMPATHY*:

'In this expertly crafted novel, Challinor delivers a captivating tale of resilience, reinvention and determination ... [with] a thrilling twist.' *Books+Publishing*

KEY POINTS

- New Zealand's answer to Philippa Gregory
- Fascinatingly brings to life the intriguing world of Victorian funeral customs
- Deborah Challinor has a PhD in history and has done extensive research on the period
- Her novels go straight to no.1 in New Zealand
- Follows on from *Black Silk and Sympathy* and *Black Silk and Buried Secrets*, but can be read as a standalone



March 2026

ISBN: 9781775542605

\$32.99

352 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Deborah Challinor has a PhD in history and is the author of numerous bestselling novels, including the Children of War series, the Convict Girls series, the Smuggler's Wife series and the Restless Years series. She has also written one young adult novel and two non-fiction books.

In 2018, Deborah was made a member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to literature and historical research. She lives in New Zealand with her husband.

WOMAN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

J.R. Lonie

When everyone is watching, survival will be her greatest performance ... A gripping, utterly absorbing novel about survival and art as defiance on the 1930s Berlin stage, from the bestselling author of *The Woman from Saint Germain*.

Berlin 1932: With the country in chaos, Monika Varády, a young Bavarian actress, arrives in Germany's capital with high hopes – to one day, just maybe, be a great star of the stage and screen.

But with the rise to power of Hitler and his brutal Nazi regime, the theatre scene falls under the control of Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels, becoming a minefield of political machinations that Monika, in love with a Bolshevik Jewish actor, must now navigate. As her star rises from the smoky bars of the demi-monde to the city's prestigious stages, most dangerous of all is Goebbels himself who takes a more-than-artistic interest in her.

While staying true to her beliefs and to those she loves, Monika must employ all the skills of her craft to outwit Goebbels and, with her close friends, to resist the regime's attempts to brutalise theatre and culture by hiding in plain sight and in the glare of the spotlight.

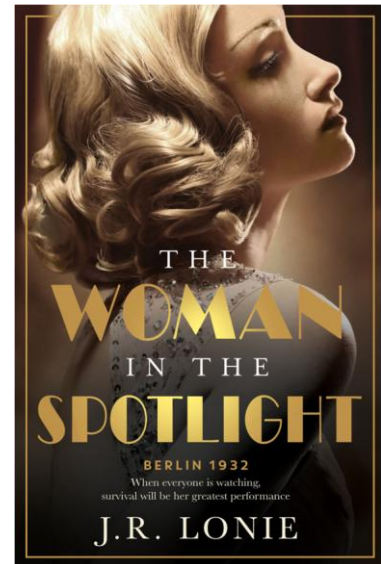
KEY POINTS

- A gripping, utterly absorbing, dazzling story set in the 1930s Berlin stage and screen scene as the brutal Nazi pre-war machine and the Third Reich comes to power
- This cat and mouse thriller is about survival, art and defiance in plain sight on the stage, from the smoky bars of the Berlin demi monde to the State-controlled theatre on the national stage
- Think *Cabaret* meets *The French Agent*

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS NOVEL

'A thrilling and perfectly paced Second World War tale, with lots of astute observations about human nature, we highly recommend *The Woman from Saint Germain*.' *Better Reading*

'A tautly paced and thrilling chase that hurls you towards a revelatory finish.' Marta Dusseldorp



February 2026

ISBN: 9781460767535

\$34.99

448 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

J.R. Lonie is a screenwriter, author and playwright. His novel *The Woman from Saint Germain* was published in 2019, and his three novellas, *Acts of Love*, were published in 1996. Other short stories have been published in various anthologies. His screenwriting credits include co-writing the feature *Kokoda*, (directed by Alister Grierson) and TV series *A Place to Call Home*, and work as a script editor includes *Japanese Story*, *Beneath Clouds*, *Dogwatch* and *No Man's Land*.

John has had plays produced by State Theatre Company of SA, NIDA and St. Martin's Theatre among others. John was Co-Head of Scriptwriting at AFTRS from 2000 to 2008. He lives in Sydney.

THE WATCHMAKER'S WAR**Danny Ben-Moshe****Justice or revenge: how far would a man go?**

Chaim Holtzman arrives as 'a displaced person' in Melbourne – a place as far away as it is possible to be from the graveyard that is Europe. He has put behind him the years he spent as a Nazi resistance leader with a band of partisans in the forests of Lithuania to join his brother and start a new life as the watchmaker he once was. He looks now for solace – and love – in the small, traumatised community of Jewish refugees taking root in a new land. But it is not long before he sees signs of Nazis creeping into the quiet streets around his tiny Melbourne shop – swastikas, threats and, worst of all, faces that look like murderous enemies from his past. Chaim's old instincts are revived and a new mission forms. Who are these people? Why does it seem the authorities are protecting them? And how best can justice – or revenge – be served?

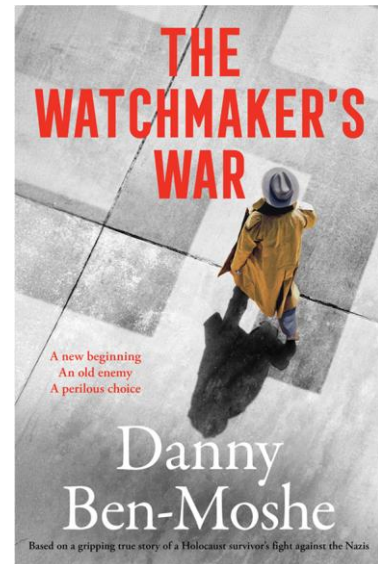
Based on a true story of Nazi hunters in Australia, and war criminals with links to the top of Australia's spy agency, this is a compelling tale of revenge, justice, shame and the lingering trauma of genocide.

KEY POINTS

- Based on a true story of Nazi hunters in Australia, and war criminals with links to the top of Australia's spy agency
- A compelling tale of revenge, justice, shame and the lingering trauma of genocide
- Danny's first podcast, *My Lost Family*, was in Audible's top 10 podcast in its year of release
- His documentary *Revenge*, which inspired this novel, screened in 2024

PRAISE FOR DOCUMENTARY, *REVENGE*

'a wild historical education' *The Guardian*



December 2025

ISBN: 9781460763612

\$34.99

320 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Danny Ben-Moshe is a Walkley Award-winning documentary filmmaker. His films have screened on leading networks around the world, from the BBC to PBS, and they won a raft of film awards.

THE ADVENTURESS OF ALBANY

Darry Fraser

Perfect summer 2025 road-trip reading, the new Australian historical adventure.

She yearns for adventure, but the road to freedom is paved with peril.

Albany, Western Australia, 1881: Stifled by English society, Molly Bentley has always yearned for adventure. When her father offers to send her to the bustling port town of Albany in Western Australia, Molly readily agrees, even if it means assuming a secret identity. With only her chaperone Mrs Caldicott to answer to, her life of freedom can finally begin.

Until Molly is knocked down in the streets, nearly trampled, and a threatening letter is slipped into her hands.

Suddenly, Molly and Mrs Caldicott must reckon with the darker motives behind their move to these southern shores. The women have no choice but to put their safety into the hands of the enigmatic colonial Leo McRae and his cousin Alistair who seem to know exactly who Molly and Mrs Caldicott are, and why they're in the colonies. But from whom has Mr McRae sourced his information? And why has Molly's father stopped replying to her messages?

Attempts are made on their lives, and their motley crew must undertake a dangerous journey from Albany to Adelaide and into rural Victoria to evade capture. As secrets are revealed and loyalties tested, will Molly ever be able to find the freedom she so desperately craves?

KEY POINTS

- A bestselling Australian author with more than 150,000 copies sold!
- An extensive backlist available

PRAISE FOR DARRY FRASER

'Hardship, adventure and love all combine with a breathtaking backdrop.' *Glam Adelaide on The Night on the Darling River*

'Fraser has established herself as one of Australia's most loved historical fiction authors.' *The Herald Sun*



December 2025

ISBN: 9781867283829

\$32.99

304 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Darry Fraser fell in love with the great Murray River while living in Swan Hill in Victoria as a child. Stories of the river have been with her ever since. Her stories are of ordinary people in 19th-century Australia who are drawn into difficult circumstances – adventure, mystery and mayhem, love and life – and set against the backdrop of historical events. Darry is now the author of ten novels, and lives on the beautiful Fleurieu Peninsula, South Australia.

PILBARA

Judy Nunn

From the million copy bestselling author Judy Nunn, *Pilbara* is a dramatic tale of family fortune, loyalty and survival, from the lush and rolling hills of the Yorkshire Dales to the beautiful, wild and unpredictable Pilbara, one of the oldest places on earth.

In this ancient, harsh land, faint hearts will not last.

The Pilbara, late 1800s: Frontier country, the wild west of Australia – a lawless, violent environment where treachery is a way of life.

Widower Charles Burton arrives in this forbidding corner of the world with his three young children. They've travelled half the globe, from Yorkshire, on a mission to save their family's sheep and cattle property. Rebuilding the fortunes of Burton Station will ask everything of Charles and his children, particularly daughter Victoria, who will at times threaten to bring about their downfall.

Here in the oldest landscape on earth, survival has always proved a battle. And when greed takes over, the battle only intensifies. Aboriginal people are robbed of their lands and their very way of life as every new arrival fights for the riches on offer – the grazing territory, the pearls and the gold. Amid all this brutality, the Burtons and their allies must fight to conquer the savagery that surrounds them.

KEY POINTS

- Judy Nunn AM is an Australian literary icon, master storyteller and a million-copy selling author
- *Pilbara* is an epic historical novel of transgression, defiance, survival, loyalty – and love
- Judy's books have been translated into German, French, Dutch, Czech and Spanish

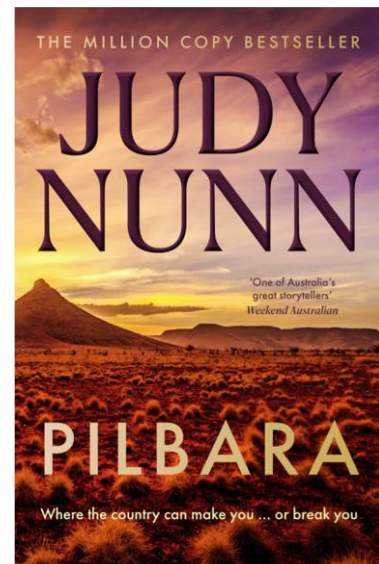
PRAISE FOR JUDY NUNN

'One of Australia's great storytellers.' *Weekend Australian*

'A breathtaking historical novel.' *Better Reading on Khaki Town*

'Sensational story-telling.' *Australian Women's Weekly* on *Black Sheep*

'Mistress of the ripping yarn.' *Sun-Herald* on *Floodtide*



November 2025

ISBN: 9781460768471

496 pages

\$34.99

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Judy Nunn AM is an Australian literary icon and master storyteller. In her thirty-year career, she has written over twenty books, which have sold more than a million copies in Australia alone. Readers everywhere are passionate about Judy's stories of her country and its people, told with her trademark authenticity and filled with unforgettable characters who live on long after the final page.

From the stage to the screen and the page, Judy has always been a storyteller, and her significant service to the performing arts and to literature was recognised in 2015, when she was made a Member of the Order of Australia.

judynunn.com

NEW FICTION

HISTORICAL

THE TANGLED WEB

Tea Cooper

The sudden death of a beloved brother leads a young woman on a quest to find a missing boy and into a tangled web of mystery, blood and fear.

Maitland 1892: When Viola Oswald's beloved brother Sebastian dies of a hereditary blood disease, Viola suspects her stepfather, prestigious surgeon Elias Sinclair, has used Sebastian's illness to enhance his reputation. But Viola has no proof until she discovers a letter within the pages of Sebastian's favourite book – *Lambs' Tales of Shakespeare*. A letter that sends a determined Viola, on a journey to the country town of Maitland to find a homeless boy who suffered at her stepfather's hands and can provide the proof she needs.

Once there, Viola finds help from an independent local seamstress and a clever lawyers' clerk, as well as a ragtag bunch of urchins. As the dark story unfolds it becomes clear that the missing boy's fate is intertwined with her own and that terrible cruelties are being committed by her stepfather in the name of medical advancement.

Viola fears for her mother, the child she is about to birth and all the homeless boys caught up in a terrifying web of deceit and death. Will she find the evidence to bring her stepfather to justice in time to save them?

KEY POINTS

- Beloved and bestselling author who sells more than 24,000 copies of each novel across formats, year on year in Australia alone
- Multi-award-winning author, including multiple Daphne du Maurier Awards for Excellence in Mystery and Suspense
- Extensive backlist

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS NOVELS

'Tea Cooper is a force to be reckoned with in the Australian historical fiction genre.' *Mrs B's Book Reviews*

'Cooper paints a fascinating portrait of two women rebelling in their own ways against the expectations of society and their family. Historical fiction fans will delight in this tale of family and long held secrets.' *Booklist, US*



November 2025

ISBN: 9781038906564

\$34.99

384 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Tea Cooper is an award-winning Australian author of historical fiction. In a past life she was a teacher, a journalist and a farmer. These days she haunts museums and indulges her passion for storytelling.

She is the internationally bestselling author of several novels, including *The Golden Thread*, *The Talented Mrs Greenway*, *The Butterfly Collector*, *The Naturalist's Daughter*, the *USA Today*-bestselling *The Woman in the Green Dress*, *The Girl in the Painting* as well as *The Cartographer's Secret*, winner of the prestigious Daphne du Maurier Award.

DAUGHTERS OF BATAVIA**Stefanie Koens**

A powerfully moving historical debut about a woman searching for answers in her own life who finds them – and much more – in the wreckage and haunting stories of the *Batavia* shipwreck.

Two women. One shipwreck. And four centuries of secrets.

Shortly before Christmas in 2018, Tess McCarthy, a hard-working English teacher who never does anything out of the ordinary, flies to Western Australia's remote Abrolhos Islands. She's in search of answers – both to the infamous *Batavia* shipwreck and her personal family crises.

Amsterdam, 1628: Saskia, an orphaned young Dutchwoman, boards *Batavia* with relatives, bound for a new and potentially dangerous life in the East Indies – only for her world to first collide with Aris Jansz, the ship's taciturn under surgeon.

Tess, Saskia and Aris – their lives linked by secrets that span generations – carry the baggage of past losses and the uncertainty of their futures. And, in the most unlikely circumstances, they find qualities that echo through centuries: faith, acceptance, and love.

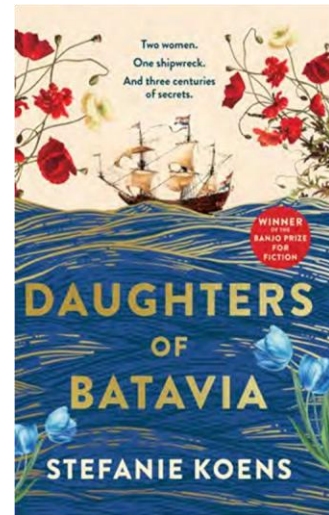
KEY POINTS

- For fans of Natasha Lester, Lauren Chater and Tea Cooper
- Winner of the Banjo Prize for Fiction
- The historical thread is inspired by a shocking true story

PRAISE

'Evocative and compelling! An immersive and engrossing mystery. This wonderful debut by Stefanie Koens kept me enthralled to the last page.' Tania Blanchard

'A masterfully crafted dual timeline that seamlessly weaves past and present into a rich tapestry, bringing four centuries of secrets vividly to life.' Tea Cooper



August 2025

ISBN: 9781460766163

\$34.99

384 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed: English language, North America (Thomas Nelson/HarperCollins) Russian (Alpina)

Stefanie Koens grew up in Perth, reading, writing and dreaming of stories. As a teenager she won prizes in the Mary Durack Young Writers Award, then studied English, History and Education at Notre Dame University. She loves bringing local history to life and capturing family stories.

UNTIL THE RED LEAVES FALL**Alli Parker**

Author of the bestselling and much-loved *At the Foot of the Cherry Tree*, Alli Parker, returns with another engrossing and moving novel of courage and conviction, *Until the Red Leaves Fall*.

Emmy Darling has a secret. She has a few. Her lemon meringue pie is a recipe from a women's magazine, she's always wanted to be a playwright, and the best parts of her husband Sebastian's plays are the scenes she's written during edits. But when charismatic theatre impresario and leading lady, Virginia van Belle, insists Emmy write about her wartime experiences as the lead play in her 1957 season, Emmy is faced with every writer's dilemma.

Because Emmy's biggest secret is that her name is actually Emiko Tanaka. She and her Japanese Australian family were arrested, brutally split up and held in internment camps by the Australian government after the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. And it's this secret that Virginia wants to bring to the masses.

As Emmy struggles to determine where the edges of truth and fiction blur, Virginia's vision of the story morphs into something more sensationalised. Emmy can't ask for Sebastian's help – he has his own history with Virginia – but she confides in Isadora Westlake, a dancer at a nearby coffee lounge, who knows a thing or two about keeping secrets.

As opening night looms and rewrites threaten to transform Emmy's personal history into something unrecognisable, wounds of the past are torn open, jeopardising everything Emmy holds dear. As the cast take their places and the curtain goes up, Emmy must decide which is right: tell the story or tell the truth.

KEY POINTS

- Alli's debut novel, *At the Foot of the Cherry Tree*, was a smash hit, longlisted for the 2024 Indie Book Awards and shortlisted for the 2023 Dymocks Book of the Year and Alli was shortlisted for the 2024 ABIA Matt Richell Award for New Writers

PRAISE

'I was absolutely captivated from the very first chapter of this novel.' *Readings*



August 2025

ISBN: 9781460763544

\$32.99

320 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Fiction

Rights: English, UK & Comm

Alli Parker is a Japanese-Australian author and screenwriter, with a background in script editing and script coordinating. Her debut novel, the bestselling *At the Foot of the Cherry Tree*, was based on the true story of Australia's first Japanese war bride, who was Alli's grandmother. Her credits as a script editor and co-ordinator include *Irreverent*, Jack Irish series 1, 2 & 3, *Shantaram*, *Secret Bridesmaids' Business*, *Miss Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries*, *Ride Like a Girl*, *Please Like Me* and *Utopia*.

THE CLOUDCATCHER**Mandy Magro**

An epic, soul-stirring love story about the transcendent magic of true love, in the tradition of Nicholas Sparks and Jojo Moyes, from a bestselling Australian author.

An elderly woman stands at the edge of a mountain, touching the clouds. As she prepares to fall into the abyss, she reflects on the one great love that defined her life – and the one regret that still haunts her.

If only she could live her life all over again ...

Waking in the staff-only area of a plane, 26-year-old Zara Monroe shakes off a strange dream and returns to her duties as a flight attendant. With a troubled past behind her and a heart wide open to possibility, she lives for the adventure of the skies. When a chance meeting in Italy sparks an inexplicable connection with a handsome stranger, her world is forever changed. And when fate brings them back together, Zara instinctively knows their love is meant to be.

As Zara and Jay fall into the kind of deep, soulmate love most only dream of, their bond is tested by the past, by tragedy, and by a future that refuses to follow the rules. And as Zara keeps returning to her mysterious dreams of mountaintops and clouds, she begins to wonder ... can a love written in the stars rewrite the course of a lifetime?

KEY POINTS

- A return to the kind of storytelling Mandy proved herself with in *One More Time* (2023), this is another magical sweeping time-slip adventure and family saga
- Fresh storytelling from a much-loved brand author
- Powerful, passionate, romantic and moreish
- More than 350,000 copies sold of Mandy Magro books in Australia alone
- Guaranteed to appeal to the huge fanbases of Nicholas Sparks and Jojo Moyes

PRAISE FOR MANDY MAGRO

‘Mandy writes great stories ... sexy and uniquely Australian!’
Adam Brand, multi-award-winning Australian country music artist



April 2026

ISBN: 9781038908827

\$32.99

304 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Mandy Magro lives in Cairns, Far North Queensland, with her husband, Des, their daughter, Chloe Rose, two adorable pooches, Sophie and Sherlock, and the largest personalities of the household: Charlie and Lola – the loveably sassy cockatiels, Star – the comical Indian ringneck, and Jet – the hilariously chatty Hahn’s macaw.

With pristine aqua-blue coastline in one direction and sweeping rural landscapes in the other, she describes her home as heaven on earth. A passionate woman and a romantic at heart, Mandy loves writing about soul-deep love, the Australian way of life, and the wonderful characters that call the country home.

RAIN ON A HOT TIN ROOF**Stella Quinn**

One derelict farm. Two broken hearts. And a town that can't help meddling ... A funny and heartwarming new romance from bestselling author Stella Quinn.

Single dad Luke means well. But ever since his son, Jace, had an accident, Luke's been trying to keep him safe from everything, driving Jace crazy. When a move to a dilapidated farm brings a chance at healing, Luke will take it. Even though it means fly-in-fly-out work and living with his interfering sister, Sal.

Felicity was once a fearless travel writer. Now she's home in small-town Clarence to start over, yet somehow she's become a nervous schoolteacher who avoids everyone, even her parents. Due to short-staffing, Felicity finds herself teaching science (despite not knowing what an amoeba is) as well as unexpectedly coaching tennis. (Ugh.)

Enter the Clarence Tennis Ladies. They love a project almost as much as a cuppa and cake. And when Jace mentions to Auntie Sal that his dad needs to 'get a life', the club springs into action. Isn't there a new single teacher in town who might be just the distraction Luke needs?

But love, like a river, rarely runs without a ripple, and Felicity's past is about to cause a deluge ...

KEY POINTS

- Return to the world of *A Town Like Clarence*
- Featuring an all-new lead romantic couple, the perfect feel-good standalone
- Trademark brand of warmth and humour makes Stella a next-level standout, perfect for readers of Karly Lane and Alissa Callen



April 2026

ISBN: 9781038903945

\$32.99

320 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Stella Quinn has had a love affair with books since she first discovered the alphabet. She lives in sunny Queensland now, but has lived in England, Hong Kong and Papua New Guinea. Boarding school in a Queensland country town left Stella with a love of small towns and heritage buildings (and a fear of chenille bedspreads and meatloaf!) and that is why she loves writing rural romance.

An active member of Romance Writers of Australia, Stella has won the 2025 R*BY Romantic Book of the Year award (novella), Emerald, Sapphire and Valerie Parv Awards.

ENGAGED, APPARENTLY**Amy Andrews**

A sassy fake-dating-with-a-twist, friends-to-lovers, laugh-out-loud romance for readers of Rachael Johns, Beth O’Leary and Marian Keyes.

When Finn and Sweeney return to their hometown to surprise their mothers at Ronnie and Connie’s joint sixtieth birthday party, they expect to be the biggest bombshell of the evening. And they are –just not in the way they’d assumed. Because they’re ... engaged?

Apparently?

Sick of hearing everyone else’s exciting news of weddings and grandbabies, Ronnie and Connie spontaneously fabricated their own fairytale. Their absent children are engaged ... to each other.

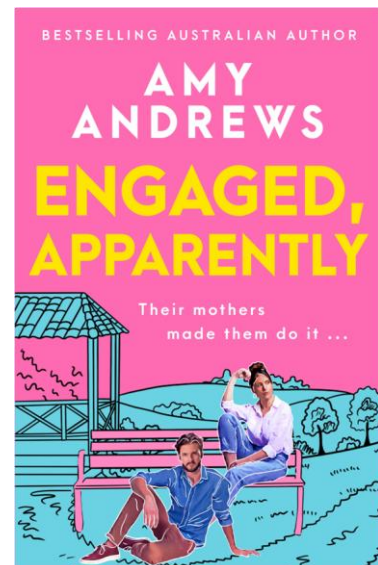
Finn and Sweeney will absolutely not pretend to be engaged. Just coming home is giving them both plenty of emotional baggage to unpack. But they have vastly underestimated their mothers and soon find themselves reluctantly agreeing to the fake engagement, so their pillars-of-the-community mums aren’t exposed as big fat lying liars.

However, when their new relationship goes viral – not just in their small town of busybodies, but internationally – Finn and Sweeney realise that the lie is completely out of control. Will they ever be able to untangle themselves from its clutches?

And what if the biggest lie they’ve been telling is to themselves?

KEY POINTS

- The new small town romantic comedy from a Queensland-based, award-winning, *USA Today* bestselling author who has sold over 3 million books worldwide
- With the humour of Marian Keyes, the hook and warmth of Beth O’Leary, the women’s fiction crossover appeal of Rachael Johns and the small-town charm of Laurie Gilmore
- Fake engagement, friends to lovers, boy next door tropes with a bit of spice that also delves into some more complex themes of loss, grief and family relationships



February 2026

ISBN: 9781038942562

\$32.99

304 pages

234mm x 153mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Amy Andrews is a multi-award-winning, bestselling author who has published over forty contemporary romances. She's an Aussie who loves good books, fab food, great wine and frequent travel. She lives by the ocean with her husband of twenty-nine years.

NEW FICTION

ROMANCE

LAVENDER HILL

Alissa Callen

Second-chance love, family secrets and a small-town mystery to uncover ... A charming and heartwarming new series begins. Picture-perfect rural romance from bestselling author Alissa Callen.

When horticulturalist Rylea Laurent lost both her brother and the boy she loved, she fled rural Tasmania and found refuge among the lavender fields of France. After nine years, her father's poor health brings her home, but to her dismay she's not the only one back in town.

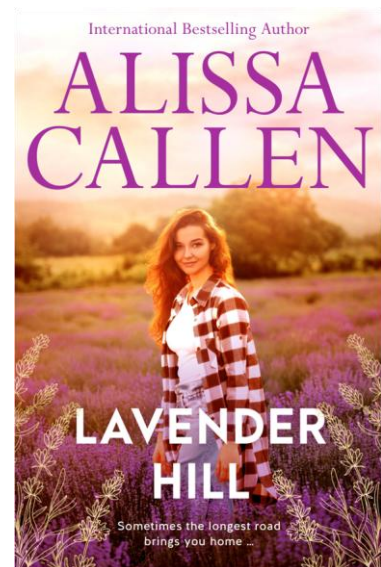
Kane Ashford has returned to Windamere in search of answers. Despite his success as a grain trader, the past still haunts him. What really happened to his brother and best mate, Rylea's brother, on that long-ago camping trip? As for Rylea, the girl he was forced to leave behind to protect his family secret, he's never forgotten her either.

Determined not to fall for Kane again, Rylea tries to keep her distance. But when the two are thrown together to unravel their family tragedies, old feelings resurface – along with a new threat to Rylea's lavender farm.

As matchmaking whispers spread and Rylea and Kane become the small town's most watched couple, will the not-so-subtle efforts of the Windamere Gardening Girls be enough to help them risk their hearts and claim a long-overdue second chance?

KEY POINTS

- The start of a brand-new series, the small-town world of Windamere, Tasmania
- The Alissa Callen promise: an uplifting and optimistic read, along with layers of women's fiction, family secrets, mystery, historical thread, real rural issues and stunning sense of place
- Strong sales record: Previous four book series (Bundilla) sold just under 150,000 across all formats



February 2026

ISBN: 9781038908865

\$32.99

304 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

An Australian and *USA Today* bestselling author **Alissa Callen** is a country girl happiest living far from the city fringe. She draws inspiration from the countryside around her and from the resilience of local bush communities. Once a teacher and a counsellor, she remains interested in the life journeys that people take. Alissa lives with her family on a small slice of rural Australia in NSW.

SAFE HAVEN AT WAGTAIL RIDGE**Janet Gover**

The matchmakers of the Wagtail Ridge Knitting Club return – with a new couple in their sights. A moving story about finding and accepting love, from the award-winning author of *The Library at Wagtail Ridge*.

Anna Prentiss, the town vet, keeps herself emotionally distant from everyone. Badly scarred in an accident, she believes she will never be loved. But the matchmakers of the Knitting Club disagree.

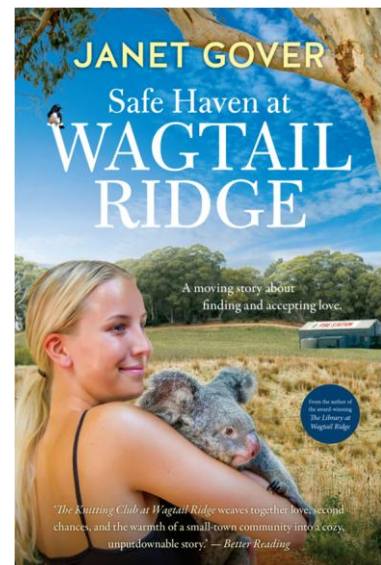
Firefighter Justin Turner is building a volunteer fire service to protect the town during the bushfire season. But Justin and his identical twin brother, Ben, face an unexpected and rocky reunion when their estranged mother crashes back into their orbit.

Justin doesn't see Anna's scars – only her beauty and strength. But his attempt at a romantic dinner goes horribly wrong, and he begins to understand how easy it is to be unintentionally cruel – a lesson he should apply to his own past with his mother.

When fate forces both Anna and Justin to confront their fears, they see the chance of a future together. But as a raging bushfire threatens Wagtail Ridge, will this newfound hope be reduced to ash before they can take the chance?

KEY POINTS

- Return to the small-town of Wagtail Ridge, with all-new characters, in a new standalone romance perfect for readers of Rachael Johns and Karly Lane
- Winner: Janet won the 2023 RuBY for *The Library at Wagtail Ridge*
- Warm family drama meets wholesome romance, a must-read for anyone who enjoys TV's *Chesapeake Shores* or *Virgin River*



January 2026

ISBN: 9781038955470

\$32.99

304 pages

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Janet Gover grew up in outback Australia, surrounded by wide open spaces, horses ... and many, many books. When her cat lets her actually sit in her chair, she writes stories of strong women, rural communities and falling in love. Her novel *Little Girl Lost* won the Epic Romantic Novel of the Year Award presented by the Romantic Novelists' Association in the UK, and she has won or been shortlisted for awards in Australia and the USA. The author of seventeen published novels, Janet divides her time between West London and Australia.

HOME TO THE HEART COUNTRY**Libby Iriks**

A heartfelt small-town romance exploring themes of belonging, social anxiety and neurodivergence from a delightful new Australian voice.

She's in town to claim an inheritance – but will she be strong enough to claim her future?

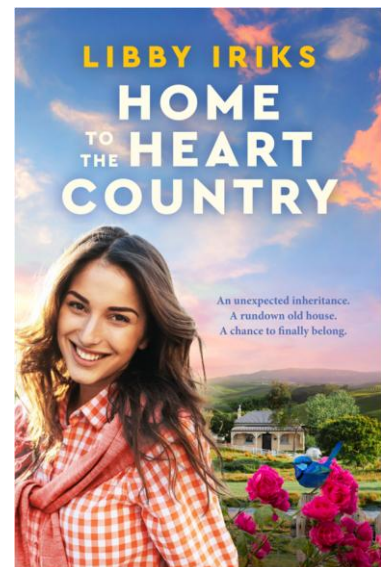
Beth dreams of putting down roots and finding a place to belong, and with a steady job in Townsville, she's on her way to achieving that dream. But when the cute little cottage she's rented for the past four years is put on the market, the stability she's always craved is threatened.

News of a life-changing inheritance takes her across the country to a small town in Western Australia, where she discovers that the rundown old house her aunt left her might just be her saving grace. With plans to sell it so she can buy her beloved cottage, she hires Noah, a farmer-slash-wannabe-renovator, to help fix it up. But thanks to her self-preserving tendencies, she's otherwise determined to keep her distance from everyone in town.

Despite her best efforts, Beth starts to form meaningful connections, and in Noah, she discovers a man who sees beyond her awkward shyness to the woman she is on the inside. Then, just as she finally feels at home in Karlup, she uncovers a shocking family truth that unravels her sense of identity and forces her to re-evaluate her biggest dreams and deepest desires.

KEY POINTS

- Small-town romance meets *The Kiss Quotient* (Helen Hoang) in an Australian setting
- With a neurodivergent protagonist and series potential, this story calls attention to the differences in functioning between autistics and non-autistics, and highlights the challenges faced by neurodivergent people living in a world geared towards those who are neurotypical
- 3 Chillies spicy, perfect for readers of *The Pumpkin Spice Café*, Rachael Johns and Mandy Magro



December 2025

ISBN: 9781038955852

\$32.99

288 pages

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Libby Iriks fell in love with stories as an eight-year-old when her teacher read *Charlotte's Web* to the class. She developed a fondness for the romance genre soon after, and in 2018, combined her passions when she became the Commissioning Editor of Romance for Vulpine Press. When not writing, Libby is also a developmental editor and author coach, based in Western Australia.

NEW FICTION

ROMANCE

SHADOWS OF WILDSTONE

Mandy Magro

What happens when the past won't let go? Buried secrets rise to the surface in this rural-set romance and mystery from bestselling author Mandy Magro.

Even after leaving small-town Wildstone behind her, Nyah Love hasn't been able to escape the soul-deep tragedy of her dark past. How's she meant to live a happy life when her younger sister is still missing after sixteen years? But fate plays a devastating hand when her mother loses a battle with an illness that Nyah knew nothing of. With no other choice, she must return to her hometown and sort out her mother's estate – heartbroken at losing her longed-for chance to fix their shattered relationship.

Caleb Hart has had his heart broken way too many times. By his first love, Nyah, when she abruptly left town, then by a cheating ex-girlfriend. Now a sergeant with the Wildstone police, he's never given up on trying to find out what happened to Nyah's little sister.

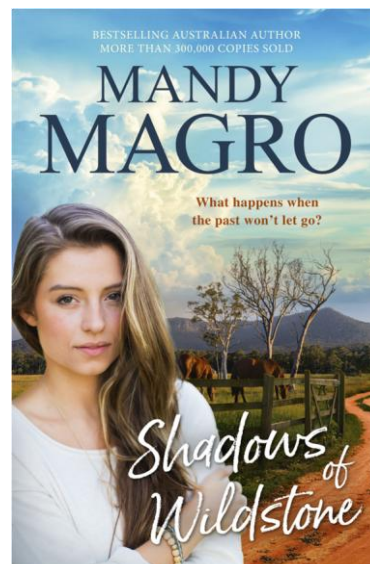
Nyah's homecoming is the kindling that soon ignites this cold case. As buried secrets gradually find their way to the surface – firstly with the reading of the will, and then when an unexpected emergency in the neighbourhood uncovers new evidence – Caleb is there to support her through it all. She doesn't want the complication of love, but how long can she resist her reignited feelings for him? As the past returns with a vengeance, they must face the shocking truth ...

KEY POINTS

- Novels that take you into the heart and soul of country life
- Mandy is a regular Top 10 Romance chart hitter on release
- She uses her love of the outback and her many memorable adventures on the land for inspiration

PRAISE FOR MANDY MAGRO

'If you're looking for the perfect romance to curl up with, you can't go past *Jillaroo* from *Jacaranda*. Steamy, heartfelt and quintessentially Australian, this was an absolute delight.' *Better Reading*



October 2025

ISBN: 9781038908803

\$34.99

336 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Mandy Magro lives in Cairns, Far North Queensland, with her husband, Des, their daughter, Chloe Rose, two adorable pooches, Sophie and Sherlock, and the largest personalities of the household: Charlie and Lola – the loveably sassy cockatiels, Star – the comical Indian ringneck, and Jet – the hilariously chatty Hahn's macaw.

With pristine aqua-blue coastline in one direction and sweeping rural landscapes in the other, she describes her home as heaven on earth. A passionate woman and a romantic at heart, Mandy loves writing about soul-deep love, the Australian way of life, and the wonderful characters that call the country home.

A COUNTRY PRACTICE CHRISTMAS**Penelope Janu; Stella Quinn; Renae Black; Pamela Cook**

A collection of Christmas stories from award-winning Australian authors about the country practices that lie at the heart of small towns.

***The Christmas Cake War* by Stella Quinn**

Physiotherapist Jodie is in Clarence to help her great-aunt Carol move into an aged-care home. But Jodie didn't count on Carol's dispute with the president of Clarence Gardens' residents' association. Jodie will have to team up with local publican Will, the boy who once saved her life and crushed her heart, to defuse the feud before it explodes into all-out war. Jodie doesn't believe in happy endings, but perhaps Clarence has its own kind of magic ...

***The Night Before Christmas* by Penelope Janu**

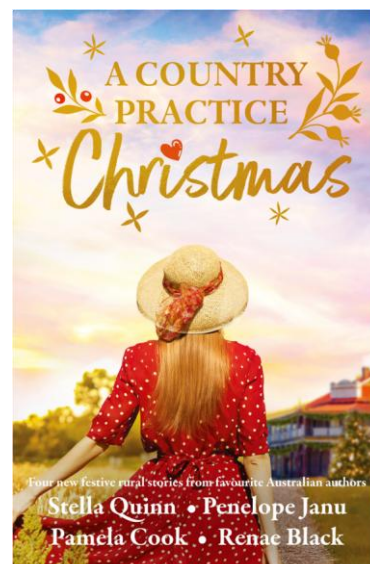
Amelie Peterson swore she would never go back to Summerfield. And yet here she is, taking over the local vet clinic for the summer, not only as a favour to the doctor who once changed her life, but to finally face her demons. Easier said than done when one of her demons, Cameron McLeod, owns the only available accommodation in town. As Christmas draws closer, is Amelie ready to face the hurts of her past?

***The Ghost of Christmas Past* by Pamela Cook**

Psychologist Hannah Rasmussen's main goal at Christmas is to hide from the ghosts of her past. But when her old friend and mentor asks to spend the festive season with her, Hannah can hardly deny a terminally ill woman her Christmas wish. Is Hannah's grief stronger than Christmas cheer, or will she discover that present joy – particularly in the form of burly farrier Cole Harrison – can outshine past sorrow and pave the way for a brighter future?

***A Rush Creek Christmas* by Renae Black**

Piper Hendrix arrives in Rush Creek on the heels of scandal, desperate for anonymity and the chance to ignore Christmas to focus on her job as a nurse. Discovering that her older brother's childhood best friend (and Piper's longstanding crush) is one of the local paramedics is definitely not part of the plan. But nowhere does Christmas like Rush Creek, and Piper's best-laid plans never stood a chance.



October 2025

ISBN: 9781038955876

\$32.99

544 pages

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

School in rural Queensland left **Stella Quinn** with a love of small towns and rural romance.

Penelope Janu lives on the coast and writes novels that celebrate Australian communities.

As the mother of three daughters, **Pamela Cook** is passionate about issues affecting women and hopeful endings.

Renae Black grew up on a rural cattle station and now works as a social worker in Queensland.

SHARING FOREVER IN HOPE CREEK**Alyssa J. Montgomery***Home is a place of refuge.*

After a traumatic childhood, hotel manager Callie is looking for the stability of a quiet life. Which is why her passionate night with an irresistibly gorgeous stranger in Melbourne is so out of character. One night of no-strings, no-last-names passion is exactly what she needs before she disappears to return to her quiet and safe existence.

Callie is understandably shocked, then, when the very same man who was her passionate lover that night three months earlier turns up at her foster-parents' home in small town Hope Creek to be the best man at her sister's wedding.

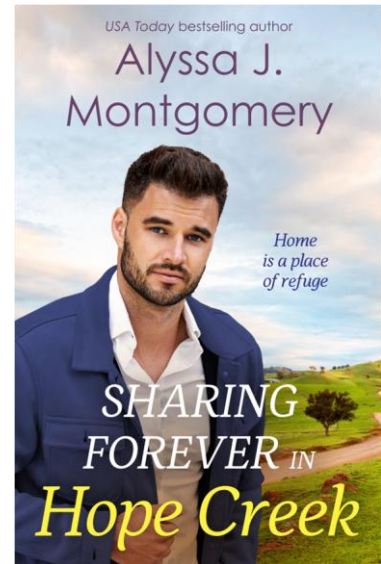
This is no normal post-one-night-stand reunion because Callie is pregnant – and Jack is the father.

But untangling their new future is the least of Callie and Jack's problems. The business venture that millionaire Jack is exploring while he's here in Hope Creek is about to turn deadly ... Jack will be caught in the middle, unless Callie can face up to her past and find help from those she swore to keep away from.

Can Callie trust her brand-new feelings for the father of her child? Or will her yearning for safety at all costs drive them apart when Jack needs her the most?

KEY POINTS

- Gorgeous small-town country-Australia setting from a *USA Today* bestselling author
- Popular romance tropes: one night with consequences, secret baby, forced proximity
- Tension in the story underpinned by a crime storyline where the hero is falsely accused of murder
- Loosely linked series; can be read as a standalone.
- Book one, *Return to Hope Creek* was runner-up for the Favourite Aussie-set Romance at the 2024 ARRA Awards



September 2025

ISBN: 9781038963475

\$12.99

EPUB

304 pages

Imprint: Escape Publishing

Rights: World, all languages

Alyssa J. Montgomery lives with her husband and three children on a five-acre property nestled into a mountain range south of Sydney and enjoys having the space for gardens, a dog, horses, goats and chickens. Visits from the native wildlife (echidnas, wallabies and a variety of native birds) are particularly welcome ... although visits from native wildlife with scales and fangs aren't met with quite as much enthusiasm!

SECOND CHANCE STATION

Renae Black

A gritty, flirty and uplifting rural romance about taking risks, overcoming the past and standing up for the people you love.

Relationships on the station are forbidden ... but are some rules made to be broken?

At Windale Mountain Sheep Station there's only one rule: don't sleep with the guests.

In her ten years living on the mountain, Indigo Mills has never once thought about breaking the rules. After a childhood of neglect and an adolescence that still haunts her, the opportunity to live and work on the sheep station was a lifesaver – literally – and Indy won't do anything to jeopardise her mountain family and home.

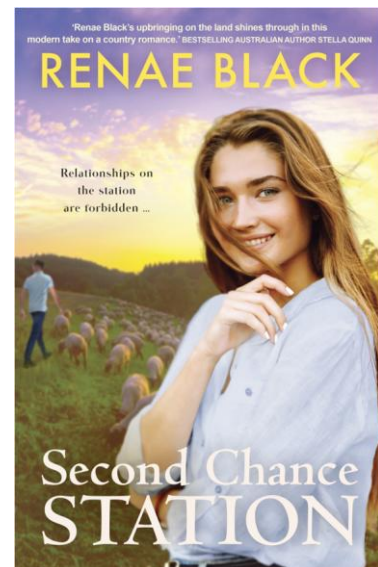
That is until Carter Hendrix, the best half-back in the game of professional rugby league, turns up.

The Scorpions have come to Windale for a pre-season training camp, fresh off the loss of last year's grand final – a loss Carter's teammates blame him for. Carter's plan is to keep his head down and his sponsors happy so he can continue playing the game he loves.

Until he meets Indy. Now is not the time for distractions and Indy is full of reasons why they shouldn't explore their attraction: their vastly different backgrounds, their age gap, the rules. But their chemistry is impossible to ignore. Can Carter prove to Indy that he's worth the risk, or will it all be left on the mountain?

KEY POINTS

- Authentic voice from an author who grew up on a farm and now works as a social worker, specialising in child protection
- Popular romance tropes: forbidden romance, age gap, grumpy/sunshine, he falls first, second chances
- A little grittier than a traditional rural romance, unpacking some more complex themes around belonging, trauma, found family, and standing up for what's right, especially in the face of misogyny



July 2025

ISBN: 9781038945563

\$32.99

384 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Renae Black lives in Queensland with her husband and two young bookworms. By day she works as a social worker within the child protection industry. By night, she escapes to the romantic fictional realms of rural Australia that transport her back to her childhood home, a large property that bred cattle and hosted the odd ostrich sale.

WATTLE BROOK

R.J. Groves

Return to Ash Gully in this heartwarming rural romance about a country nurse and the ex she can't seem to ignore.

Four years ago, Benjamin Engel broke Sarina Cooper's heart and left town with no explanation. It's been three years since he moved back to Ash Gully, and Sarina has done an excellent job of avoiding him. There may be an annoyingly magnetic pull between them, but Sarina knows better than to offer him her heart a second time. Ben is in her past, and that's where he should stay. So why is she suddenly finding it so hard to keep him out of her head?

Ben has only ever been in love once. And by the time he'd realised it, it had been far too late. When fate offers him a second chance with Sarina, he's determined not to waste it. Will they both be able to leave the past behind to forge a future together, or is history about to repeat itself?

KEY POINTS

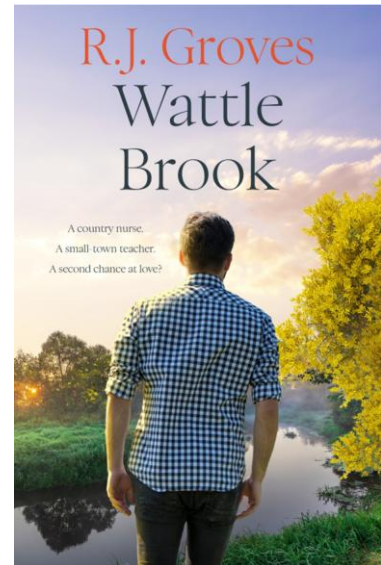
- Australian author
- Series fan favourite teacher Ben will finally get his own happily ever after with a local country nurse
- Well-loved tropes like second chance at love and he falls first
- For readers of Alissa Callen, Mandy Magro and Karly Lane

PRAISE FROM READERS

'Swoon! A fantastic romance read with all the feels.'

'A delightful read!'

'A beautiful story, well written and filled with emotion.'



June 2025

ISBN: 9781038953407

\$9.99

EPUB

176 pages

Imprint: HQ Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Australian author **R.J. Groves** has been passionate about writing since she could put pen to paper and can usually be found jotting plots and stories down on anything she can get her hands on. Describing herself as a mum, wife, author, and coffee lover, her other passions include music, cooking, books, adventures, and searching for plot bunnies in even the most mundane activities.

RECENT FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

RECENT FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

CONTEMPORARY

BOYS SWALLOWS UNIVERSE

The much-loved internationally bestselling debut novel from Australia's favourite storyteller, now a major Netflix series.

Brisbane, 1985: A lost father, a mute brother, a junkie mum, a heroin dealer for a stepfather and a notorious crim for a babysitter. It's not as if Eli Bell's life isn't complicated enough already. He's just trying to follow his heart and understand what it means to be a good man, but fate keeps throwing obstacles in his way – not the least of which is Tytus Broz, legendary Brisbane drug dealer.

But now Eli's life is going to get a whole lot more serious: he's about to meet the father he doesn't remember, break into Boggo Road Gaol on Christmas Day to rescue his mum, come face to face with the criminals who tore his world apart, and fall in love with the girl of his dreams.

A story of brotherhood, true love and the most unlikely of friendships, *Boy Swallows Universe* is heartbreaking, joyous and exhilarating.

PRAISE

'*Boy Swallows Universe* is a wonderful surprise: sharp as a drawer full of knives in terms of subject matter; unrepentantly joyous in its child's-eye view of the world; the best literary debut in a month of Sundays.' *The Australian*

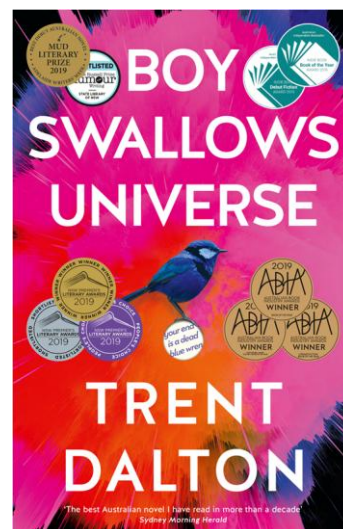
'*Boy Swallows Universe* hypnotizes you with wonder, and then hammers you with heartbreak.' *Washington Post*

'This thrilling novel' *New York Times Book Review*

'Marvelously plot-rich ... filled with beautifully lyric prose ... At one point Eli wonders if he is good. The answer is "yes," every bit as good as this exceptional novel.' *Booklist*

'Dalton's splashy, stellar debut makes the typical coming-of-age novel look bland by comparison ... This is an outstanding debut.' *Publisher's Weekly* (starred review)

'Extraordinary and beautiful storytelling' *The Guardian*



ISBN: 9781460757765

\$22.99

528 pages

Imprint: 4th Estate

Rights licensed: over 25 territories; details on request

AWARDS

2019 Winner, ABIA Book of the Year Award; Indie Book Award; Winner, UTS Glenda Adams Award for New Writing; NSW Premier's Literary Awards; People's Choice Award, NSW Premier's Literary Awards; MUD Literary Prize 2019; ABIA Matt Richell Award for New Writer of the Year; ABIA Literary Fiction Book of the Year; ABIA Audiobook of the Year

Trent Dalton is a two-time Walkley Award-winning journalist and the international bestselling author of *Boy Swallows Universe*, *All Our Shimmering Skies*, and *Lola in the Mirror*. His books have sold over one and a half million copies in Australia alone.

RECENT FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

CONTEMPORARY

ALL OUR SHIMMERING SKIES

An extraordinary novel from the beloved bestselling award-winning author of *Boy Swallows Universe* and *Lola in the Mirror*, destined to become another classic.

Darwin, 1942, and as Japanese bombs rain down, motherless Molly Hook, the gravedigger's daughter, turns once again to the sky for guidance. She carries a stone heart inside a duffel bag next to the map that leads to Longcoat Bob, the deep-country sorcerer who put a curse on her family. By her side are the most unlikely travelling companions: Greta, a razor-tongued actress, and Yukio, a fallen Japanese fighter pilot. *Run, Molly, run*, says the daytime sky. Run to the vine forests. Run to northern Australia's wild and magical monsoon lands. Run to friendship. Run to love. Run. Because the graverobber's coming, Molly, and the night-time sky is coming with him. So run, Molly, run.

All Our Shimmering Skies is a story about gifts that fall from the sky, curses we dig from the earth and the secrets we bury inside ourselves. It is an odyssey of true love and grave danger, of darkness and light, of bones and blue skies; a buoyant, beautiful and magical novel abrim with warmth, wit and wonder; and a love letter to Australia and the art of looking up.

PRAISE

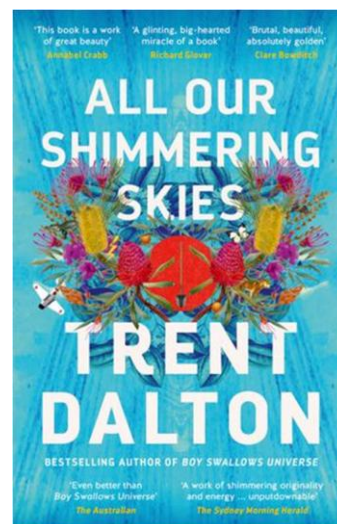
'A glinting, big-hearted miracle of a book.' Richard Glover

'A work of shimmering originality and energy, with extraordinary characters and a clever, thrilling plot ... unputdownable.' *Sydney Morning Herald*

'Dalton is an author of 19th-century expansiveness, one with a sense that intelligence, talent for characterisation and sheer narrative brio can still be the whole cloth of the writer's ambition ... it is storytelling manna, fallen straight from the Territorian skies.' *The Australian*

'Achingly beautiful and poetic in its melancholy, *All Our Shimmering Skies* is a majestic and riveting tale of curses and the true meaning of treasure.' *Booklist*, starred review

'Australia has a new literary hero. Molly Hook – part Cordelia, part Jo March, part Pippi Longstocking – pulls us into a story and a landscape that is mythic, beguiling and almost hallucinatory in its beauty. And instantly recognisable as our own.' Kristina Olsson



ISBN: 9781460759325

\$22.99

198 mm x 128mm

480 pages

Imprint: 4th Estate

Rights licensed: English language, North America (HarperCollins US), English language, UK & Comm, ex ANZ, ex Can (HarperCollins UK), Dutch (HarperCollins Holland), Italian (HarperCollins Italia), German (HarperCollins Deutschland), Spanish (HarperCollins Iberica), Lithuanian (Lithuanian Writers' Union Publishers), Chinese – simplified (Beijing Guangchen Culture Communication Co., Ltd)

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RECENT FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

CONTEMPORARY

LOLA IN THE MIRROR

Bighearted, gritty, magical and moving, *Lola in the Mirror* is the bestselling and irresistible new novel from the author of *Boy Swallows Universe* and *All Our Shimmering Skies*.

'Mirror, mirror, on the grass, what's my future? What's my past?'

A girl and her mother have been on the run for sixteen years, from police and the monster they left in their kitchen with a knife in his throat. They've found themselves a home inside a van with four flat tyres parked in a scrapyard by the edge of the Brisbane River.

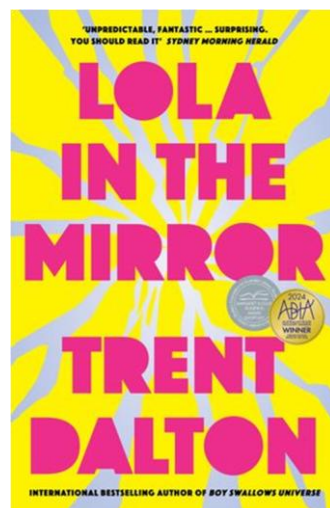
The girl has no name because names are dangerous when you're on the run. But the girl has a dream. A vision of a life as an artist of international acclaim. A life outside the grip of the Brisbane underworld drug queen 'Lady' Flora Box. A life of love with the boy who's waiting for her on the bridge that stretches across a flooding, deadly river. A life beyond the bullet that has her name on it. And now that the storm clouds are rising, there's only one person who can help make her dreams come true. That person is Lola and she carries all the answers. But to find Lola, the girl with no name must first do one of the hardest things we can ever do. She must look in the mirror.

From international bestselling author Trent Dalton, *Lola in the Mirror* is 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.

PRAISE

'Unpredictable, fantastic ... It takes a charged narrative, like Dickens achieves, and as Dalton does too, to reach the heart and the brain – writing that is able to carry both stories, the individual and the political/personal ... To tell you more would spoil this complicated and surprising story. You should read it.' *Sydney Morning Herald*

'Trent Dalton's third novel reminds me of the 1980s advertising slogan for the author's home state of Queensland: Beautiful one day, perfect the next ... *Lola in the Mirror* is a bold, big-hearted, hopeful, humorous, dark, reflective, truthful, superbly written novel that confirms Dalton's place in all the shimmering skies (to borrow the title of his second novel) of Australian literature. He is not a rising star but a star full stop.' *The Australian*



ISBN: 9781460759844

\$22.99

198 mm x 128mm

448 pages

Imprint: 4th Estate

Rights licensed: English language, North America (HarperCollins US), English language, UK & Comm, ex ANZ, ex Can (HarperCollins UK), Hebrew (Kinneret), German (HarperCollins Deutschland), Spanish and Portuguese, Europe (HarperCollins Iberica),

Winner, 2024 ABIA Book Literary Fiction Book of the Year

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RECENT FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

CONTEMPORARY

LONELY MOUTH

Jacqueline Maley

From the bestselling author of *The Truth About Her* comes *Lonely Mouth*, a delicious, clever, tender and vivid novel about the conflicted way women think about their bodies, their appetites, and themselves in the world.

Matilda and Lara are half-sisters who share an unreliable mother and a chaotic past. In every other way, though, they are very different from each other. Lara, ten years younger than Matilda, is a model, living and working in Paris – for her, life is expansive, carefree, beautiful, careless.

Matilda's life, in contrast, is solitary, contained, ordered. She works in one of Sydney's buzziest restaurants, Bocca, with an unrequited crush on her boss, celebrity chef Colson. If she's careful – and she always is – she can keep everything in its proper place. Hold the balance between hunger and satiation.

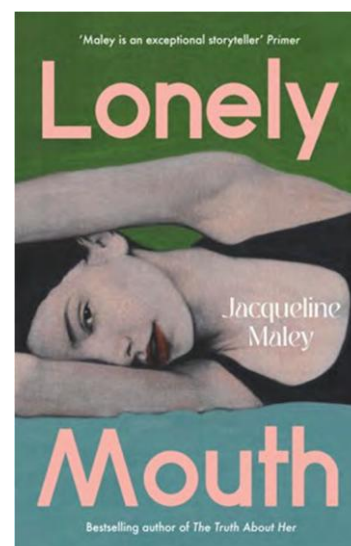
But when Lara's father, the long-absent, erratic Angus Dante, comes back into the sisters' lives, to make amends for his past misdeeds, Matilda's compartmentalised life goes seriously awry. As everything blows apart, Matilda is forced to come to a reckoning with who she is, and how to satisfy the hunger she wants to deny.

PRAISE

'I didn't love this novel because it has food in it, but because it dances exquisitely to a tune that I so often gravitate towards in writing – a song of abandonment, ghastly mothers, dysfunctional families, sisterhood, and loss – and because Maley is such a good writer. She's witty, savage and unshowy, with an ironic sensibility that doesn't preclude a raw tenderness that is utterly devoid of sentimentality.' Nigella Lawson

'Tender, acute, searing and funny, I devoured this novel. It's a coming-of-age novel and a Bildungsroman all at once – about the enormous effort of finding yourself when you start with bad odds – being abandoned as a child by your mother under the Big Merino at Goulburn. Maley's characters are so gloriously alive I felt I knew them. A beautifully structured novel about how desire – for food, for love, for meaning – can shape a life, if you can just be whole enough to tap into it.' Anna Funder, bestseller author of *Wifedom*

'Maley's writing is exquisite – lyrical, detailed and deeply immersive. ... Captivating.' *Books+Publishing*



ISBN: 9781460759189

\$34.99

368 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: 4th Estate

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed: World English, ex ANZ (Chatto & Windus, PRHUK); under option, Italian

Jacqueline Maley is a Walkley and Kennedy Award-winning columnist and senior writer for the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Age* newspapers, where she writes about politics, people and social affairs. Her bestselling debut novel, *The Truth About Her*, was shortlisted for the 2022 ABIA Literary Fiction Book of the Year and the Matt Richell Award for New Writer of the Year. Rights were licensed in the UK, Germany, Spain, Portugal and Italy. She lives in Sydney with her daughter.

NEW NON-FICTION

21 DAYS TO A LESS ANXIOUS YOU**Anna Ferguson****Have you ever felt powerless against the tide of overwhelming emotions?**

What if there was a technique, backed by science, that could help you regain control by guiding your nervous system back to a state of safety and balance? Anna Ferguson invites readers to reframe their understanding of their body's sensations, revealing that these feelings aren't signs of dysfunction, but evidence of your nervous system doing exactly what it's designed to do – trying to help you.

This empowering book takes you on a 21-day journey, introducing simple yet powerful practices to calm your nervous system and reduce stress.

With easy-to-follow exercises, scientific explanations, and real-life success stories from her clients, Ferguson equips readers with tools to build lasting resilience and inner peace.

If you're ready to transform your relationship with anxiety and find a path to greater ease, this book is your key.

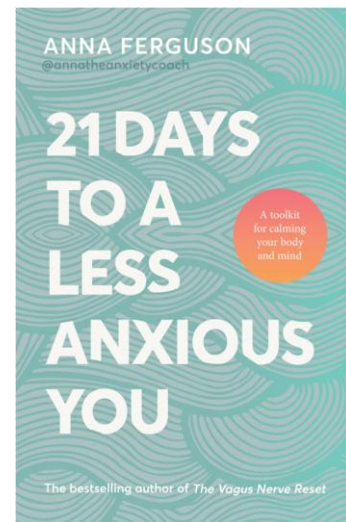
KEY POINTS

- A vibrant community of over 340k followers
- Unlike one-size-fits-all methods, the book offers a personalised journey with adaptable exercises that allow readers to tailor techniques to their specific needs, ensuring that everyone can find the right path to reducing anxiety
- The book seamlessly integrates mental, emotional, and physical wellness practices, promoting a comprehensive approach to mental health that addresses anxiety not just from a psychological standpoint but as a whole-body experience
- Rights to the *The Vagus Nerve Reset* were licensed globally (list available on request)

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS BOOK

'Anna's book holds the key to overcoming anxiety.' Chloe Brotheridge, author of *The Anxiety Solution*

'A must read for anyone who needs some clarity on navigating life in a healthier healed way.' Helen Marie, psychotherapist and clinical trauma practitioner



March 2026

ISBN: 9780733344190

\$35.99

304 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: ABC Adult

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed: English language, North America (HarperOne)

Anna Ferguson is a leading Australian mental health expert and anxiety therapist, and the bestselling author of *The Vagus Nerve Reset*. She has built an engaged community of 340k followers on Instagram, sharing practical, holistic mind-body tools and breaking down barriers and stigma around mental health. Through her work as a counsellor, speaker and author, she provides valuable resources for those who struggle with anxiety, and is striving to change the conversation around mental health.

THRIVING**David Reid****What separates the world's elite performers from everyone else?**

Thriving reveals the mental-mastery techniques that transform good into extraordinary. Drawing from his unique journey – from forensic behavioural science to coaching world-class athletes, coaches, artists and business leaders – David Reid unveils his clarity-based framework used by top performers around the globe.

In a world where attention is the ultimate currency, this book is not another quick-fix guide. It's a profound roadmap, blending ancient Eastern wisdom with cutting-edge Western science, offering practical tools to help you perform at your peak when it matters most.

Whether you're an athlete, executive or someone striving for your next breakthrough, *Thriving* empowers you to overcome mental barriers, find calm under pressure, and unlock your unrealised potential. Packed with actionable exercises, real-world examples and inspiring insights, this book is your guide to mastering your mind and achieving extraordinary results.

KEY POINTS

- With a proven track record of transforming both corporate leaders and elite athletes, David's coaching empowers you to reach new heights in performance, ensuring you excel in any arena you choose
- Personalised frameworks that harness everyone's unique strengths



March 2026

ISBN: 9781460768754

\$36.99

320 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Non-Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

David Reid is a mental health clinician and mental performance coach with over twenty years of experience. Specialising in forensic mental health and human behaviour, he is also an award-winning educator and peer-reviewed researcher.

David has coached CEOs and executive teams, and has delivered workshops for global companies like Apple, Meta, Accenture and Honda. In professional sports, he has consulted for elite teams in sports such as cricket and AFL. He also works with individual athletes across sports such as cricket, surfing, Formula 1, golf and swimming, including Olympians. David's expertise helps individuals and teams unlock their full potential, both in business and sport.

LESSONS ON LIVING

Nigel Latta

A simple mental toolkit for a more fulfilling life from international bestselling author of *Politically Incorrect Parenting*.

Over thirty years working as a clinical psychologist, Nigel Latta assembled a personal toolkit based on three simple principles. These principles helped him to be more resilient, joyful and attuned to what matters most. The same principles helped him with some difficult times as well, like his own terminal cancer diagnosis. But it also helped him find his way to the woman who became the great love of his life. It's a toolkit for living with intention and purpose – and not being a passenger in your own life.

Lessons on Living is full of wisdom for every conceivable conundrum and will show the way through everything from parenting to empire-building, even when things are bleak – especially when things are bleak – and help you find the strength within you to do the things that need to be done with clear intent and steady purpose.

KEY POINTS

- Nigel Latta's books have been published in nineteen different countries, with translations into fifteen different languages
- His bestselling parenting books include: *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Parenting*, *The Politically Incorrect Guide to Teenagers*, *Mother's Raising Sons*, *Father's Raising Daughters*, and *The Modern Family Survival Guide*
- Nigel is a sought-after keynote speaker

PRAISE FOR *POLITICALLY INCORRECT PARENTING*

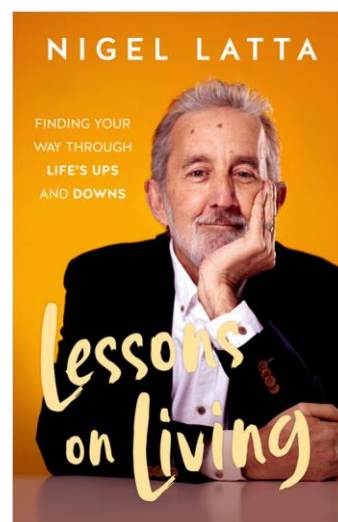
'This book has so much common sense – I love it!' Dr Christopher Green, author of *Toddler Taming*

'I loved this. Down-to-earth and laugh-out-loud funny, it's based around 10 no-nonsense rules.' *Mother and Baby*

'An inspiring guide to great parenting.' *Sunday Telegraph* (Australia)

'Heart-warming, funny and jam-packed with common sense.' *Woman's Day*

'A salve for frazzled parents.' *Herald on Sunday*



October 2025

ISBN: 9781775542933

\$36.99

304 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HarperCollins NZ

Rights: World, all languages

Respected clinical psychologist, bestselling author, and father of two boys, **Nigel Latta** specialises in working with children with behavioural problems, from simple to severe. A regular media commentator, he has presented two television series adapted from his books – *Beyond the Darklands* (which screens in both New Zealand and Australia) and *The Politically Incorrect Parenting Show* – and has a regular parenting segment on National Radio's *Nine to Noon*.

HOW TO DATE LIKE A DANGEROUS WOMAN**Alita Brydon****A modern guide to dating safely, protecting your heart and embracing independence.**

The online dating world isn't for the faint of heart. From shady suitors to copy paste convos it's easy to end up with more tears than matches! A modern woman could use a bit of guidance - and dating expert and founder of Bad Dates of Melbourne Alita Brydon is here to help.

Whether you're new to dating or a seasoned looker-for-love, young or older, Alita has tips for safely navigating the dating app jungle and to empower you to be, not just another lonely heart, but a Dangerous Woman.

So, what exactly is a Dangerous Woman?

- A Dangerous Woman is open to love and knows how to find romance – but won't trade her happiness for a ring
- A Dangerous Woman knows how to make her life rich with hobbies, friends and adventure – there's more to life than locking down a babe
- A Dangerous Woman feels good about her body – including the chicken nugget chub – and won't trade her self-worth for an Instagram-filtered fantasy
- A Dangerous Woman is dangerous because she's prepared to challenge the structures and traditions in society that don't serve her

This is a book for the younger woman familiar with modern dating tools and for the older woman, who might feel uncertain, even overwhelmed, returning to a very different dating world. With Alita's game changing three-stage plan, you'll be able to rock dating, unsquish your heart and fall head over heels in love with yourself. Are you ready to unleash the badass within?

KEY POINTS

- Alita is the founder of Bad Dates of Melbourne (200k on Facebook and 26.6k on Instagram) and Bad Dates of Australia (58.2k on Facebook)



March 2026

ISBN: 9781460766798

\$34.99

320 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Non-Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Alita Brydon is a popular social media personality, dating expert and body positivity champion known for her sense of humour and confidence. In 2017 she created the 'Bad Dates of Melbourne' (BDOM) account on Facebook and Instagram, publishing real-life, anonymous bad-date stories as well as commentary from Alita.

Alita is regarded as a leading expert in dating having worked with Tinder Australia as 'Dating Commentator' in 2021 and 2022. This is her first book of advice. Alita lives in Melbourne.

THE BLOOD SAYS OTHERWISE**Ruben Miller**

Absorbing true crime account of twenty years spent working in forensic science visiting crime scenes and collecting evidence.

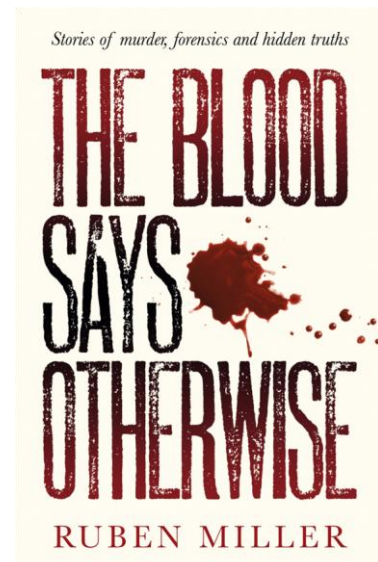
A compelling account of Ruben Miller's years working as a forensic scientist, visiting crime scenes and gathering evidence. His detailed descriptions of what he sees are often heartbreaking.

The behaviour of the people he meets – lawyers, police, the media and even the occasional suspect – is always fascinating and occasionally hilarious. Insights into the techniques of forensic science give a fascinating view of what it can and can't do vs what the public, and even legal experts, expect. And then there's the impact of the terrible scenes he witnesses.

Can anyone truly absorb and deal with so much trauma over and over again ...?

KEY POINTS

- An exclusive glimpse into the world of forensic science through firsthand experiences, offering readers a rare opportunity to understand the complexities and nuances of crime scene investigations from an expert who has seen it all
- Ruben Miller's narrative goes beyond the technical aspects, delving into the emotional and psychological impact of working in forensic science
- We've all watched TV crime dramas and read novels in which forensic science plays a key role: this is what it's really like



March 2026

ISBN: 9781775542728

\$36.99

272 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HarperCollins NZ

Rights: World, all languages

Ruben Miller is a forensic scientist who spent twenty-two years working on crime scenes across Aotearoa New Zealand. He specialised in reconstructing crimes and collaborated closely with police on high-profile and challenging investigations. From Cape Reinga to the Kaimanawas, he has been invited into New Zealand homes for all the wrong reasons. In 2023, he left his job after accepting that it had taken a considerable toll, an experience that prompted him to reflect more deeply on the human cost of frontline forensic work. He lives in Auckland where he writes, gives talks, reviews criminal cases for New Zealand courts and tries to stay curious.

OUT OF THE ASHES**Stephanie & Marie Browitt**

The story of one young woman's survival against the odds, and how the love of her mother saved her.

When the Whakaari White Island volcano erupted in New Zealand in 2019, it shattered the lives of Stephanie and Marie Browitt.

Stephanie, just twenty-three years old, suffered horrific burns to 70 per cent of her body and lost her younger sister, Krystal Eve, in the tragedy. Both Stephanie and her father, Paul, were placed in an induced coma, leaving Marie to face the unimaginable: the potential loss of her entire family. As Marie ran from one ICU room to another, Paul lost his battle to survive.

Out of the Ashes is the extraordinary story of how Stephanie miraculously fought back, with her remarkable mum beside her every step of the way, and how mother and daughter were forced to find strength in each other to survive the unthinkable.

This deeply moving story explores Stephanie's fight for survival, her gruelling recovery, and her rise as an advocate for body positivity and resilience. Through heartbreak, hope and their unbreakable bond, Stephanie and Marie Browitt show us the power of love, courage and the human spirit.

KEY POINTS

- Powerful story of survival against all odds
- Focus on the aftermath of natural disaster and how the families of the victims are affected



April 2026

ISBN: 9780733344312

\$36.99

320 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: ABC Books

Rights: World, all languages

Stephanie Browitt and her mother, **Marie Browitt**, live in Melbourne, Australia. After surviving the White Island volcano eruption in New Zealand in 2019, Stephanie was left with horrific burns to 70 per cent of her body. She credits her mother with helping her find the strength to survive. Her father, Paul, and sister, Krystal Eve, died in the tragedy.

SURVIVING WHITE ISLAND**Kelsey Waghorn**

Surviving the unsurvivable. Healing from the unhealable. This is an inspiring memoir of physical and mental recovery, by someone who lived through the Whakaari White Island volcanic eruption.

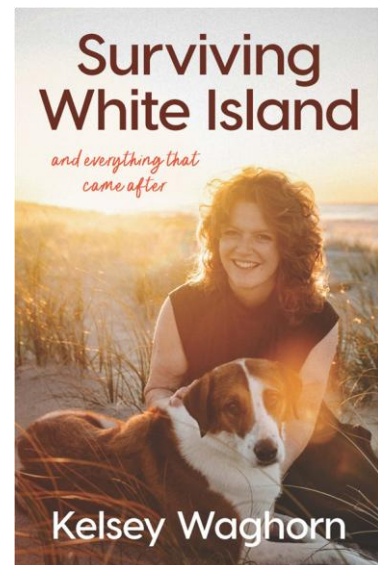
I heard someone say, 'Wow!' Someone else went, 'Look at that!' I had my back to the crater. I turned around. The moment I saw it, I knew what was happening. The island was erupting.

An enormous black-and-white plume was rising above the island, already higher than the peak. It was beautiful actually, set against the bright blue sky. Beautiful and awful. In my memory, it was silent, but that's because my ears had switched off – a survival response, apparently. In reality, our radios were already blaring something along the lines of 'ERUPTION! TAKE COVER!' and I was yelling, 'Everyone, with me! Run!'

In this book Kelsey Waghorn tells her story for the first time, from physical rehab for her life-threatening burns to her mental struggle with PTSD. By a brave and powerful woman with a wicked sense of humour, this is an uplifting story of acceptance, strength, perseverance and hope.

KEY POINTS

- First memoir by a survivor of the eruption – who was a local and a guide
- Fascinating story of what it was like to be there – sights, sounds, smells
- The medical roller-coaster with Kelsey's life in the balance
- Insights into living with PTSD and its far-reaching effects
- Gripping, heart-breaking and told with a healthy dose of humour



March 2026

ISBN: 9781775542919

\$34.99

272 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HarperCollins NZ

Rights: World, all languages

Kelsey Waghorn was born in Palmerston North and grew up in Whakatane on the east coast of New Zealand's North Island. She was still in high school when she discovered a passion for the sea and everything in it and on it. She gained a diploma in marine science and a degree in biological sciences and when, after graduating, she was offered a job taking tourists around Whakaari White Island she accepted so she could spend the summer on the sea going back and forth to the island. Five years and one day later she was still in the job. But that was the day her whole life changed ...

BACK ON MY FEET**Olivia Ong**

The inspirational story of how a rehabilitation doctor overcame her devastating spinal injury with faith and determination, and changed her life and practice as a result.

In September 2008, Dr Olivia Ong was struck by a car and suffered a catastrophic spinal injury. Her prognosis was devastating – she would never walk again. The future she had envisioned – practising medicine, having children and sharing life’s simple joys with her husband, family and friends – seemed to slip away.

Yet as Olivia adapted to life as a long-term patient, a new perspective emerged, and she would challenge not only the limitations placed on her body but also the very mindset of rehabilitative care.

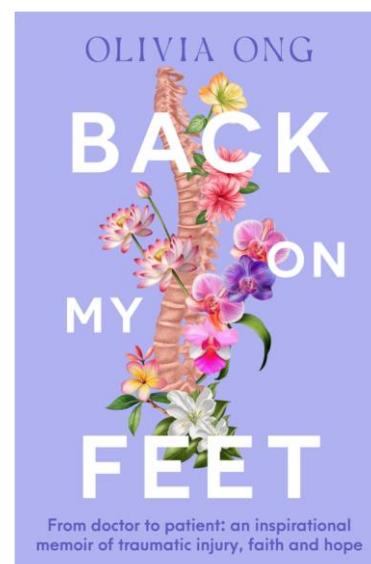
What followed was an extraordinary journey of resilience, requiring years of intensive physical therapy, unwavering self-belief and the relentless support of her loved ones. Against the odds, Olivia regained the ability to walk and returned to medicine, specialising in rehabilitation and pain management.

Olivia also discovered something profound as she transformed in heart and mind: self-compassion. This newfound empathy didn’t only make her stronger, it made her a better doctor and human being, who truly understood and valued the process of healing.

Back On My Feet is for anyone facing adversity, anyone searching for hope and anyone who loves a powerful, inspirational story of perseverance.

PRAISE

- Speaker at the Women’s Health Summit 2024
- Dr Olivia Ong is now a pain specialist and keynote speaker
- Advocate and mentor for supporting doctors’ needs



March 2026

ISBN: 9780733344015

\$34.99

320 pages

234mm x 153mm

Imprint: ABC Adult

Rights: World, all languages

Award-winning physician-entrepreneur and public speaker, known online as the Heart-Centred Doctor, **Dr Olivia Ong** is a Melbourne-based rehabilitation medicine and pain physician with twenty years of clinical experience. She is a sought-after keynote speaker and online educator. Olivia lives in Melbourne.

BACK FROM THE DEAD**Piia Wirsu with Mick Doleman**

1973: Ten men, shipwrecked and alone in a life raft on the wild Southern Ocean off Tasmania, are declared dead by the authorities. Can they survive the un-survivable?

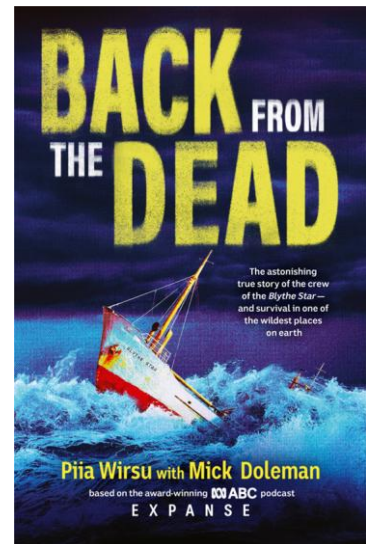
This is the astonishing story of the sinking of the coastal freighter M.V. *Blythe Star*, which sparked the most extensive sea and air search at the time and left ten men, including eighteen-year-old Mick Doleman, in a tiny life raft at the mercy of the wild Southern Ocean – and all given up for dead.

Twelve days later, three ravaged and starving men were found wandering on a remote logging trail in a southern peninsula of Tasmania and their story would shock the nation ... and leave a powerful legacy in its wake.

This is a wild, stunning story of survival in one of the most challenging environments on earth and an extraordinary story of human endurance, written by Piia Wirsu, the producer and narrator of *'From the Dead'*, the award-winning season of the ABC podcast *Expanse* with Mick Doleman, now the only surviving crew-member of the *Blythe Star*, who became a global influence in maritime safety.

KEY POINTS

- By Piia Wirsu, the producer and narrator of the award-winning season of the ABC's podcast *Expanse*, *'From the Dead'*, and with Mick Doleman, the only surviving crew member who was just eighteenth at the time
- A stunning true story of survival which shocked the nation and sparked the biggest sea and air search at the time, and changed maritime law forever



August 2025

ISBN: 9780733343803

\$36.99

352 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Non-Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

A journalist and producer of ten years, **Piia Wirsu** has interviewed, written about, and told the stories of people from all walks of life. The host and senior producer of *Expanse*, one of ABC's top performing and award-winning podcasts, Piia Wirsu has created longform narrative podcasts including *Dig: Saving the Franklin*, which won the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union's best radio documentary.

At age eighteen, **Mick Doleman** was a crew member of the M.V. *Blythe Star*. He gave evidence at the inquiry into the sinking, which led to significant changes in maritime practice, and he continued a high-profile maritime career in senior roles in the Seamen's Union of Australia, as Deputy National Secretary of the Maritime Union of Australia, and currently as International Executive Officer for the Maritime International Federation.

MARY PENFOLD**Grantlee Kieza**

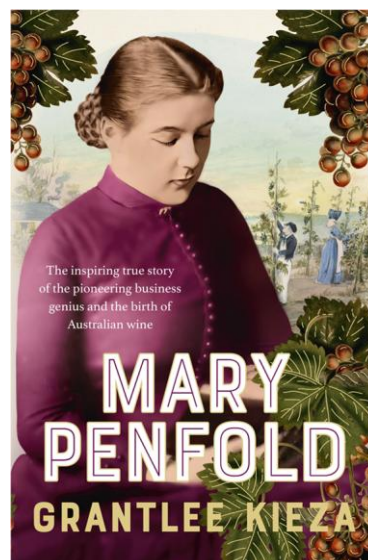
The inspiring story of Mary Penfold, the mother of the Australian wine industry – a self-taught vintner and business genius who emigrated to a frontier settlement and built her family's small vineyard into one of the world's most respected winemakers.

Mary was a new mother when she packed up her baby daughter in England in 1844 to follow her husband, Dr Christopher Rawson Penfold, as he chased his dream of starting a new life in the infant colony of South Australia. Mary and Christopher settled on a farm in the Adelaide Hills, and as Christopher made his rounds visiting patients, Mary and her maid Ellen Timbrell tended grapevines that the Penfolds had sourced from the south of France and planted in the garden beside their stone cottage, named The Grange.

At a time when women were often excluded from commerce, Mary transformed her cottage industry into an empire. She expanded her vineyard, developed new styles of her product and built a flourishing company that supplied not only Australia's demand for high quality wine but thirsty export markets as well. Wine had been part of the Australian landscape since the First Fleet, and 'The Commander in Chief', as Mary was affectionately known, helped make the Australian wine industry the envy of the world. Her brilliance as a vintner and great business mind lives on today with Penfolds Grange being one of the most sought-after wines in the world.

KEY POINTS

- Bestselling author and biographer Grantlee Kieza turns his focus to the birth of the Australian wine industry and the mother, business leader and pioneering vintner Mary Penfold, who grew her garden vineyard into a world-renowned wine empire
- 2024 saw Grantlee as Australia's No. 1 history author
- This brilliant new biography of the woman behind the world-famous Penfolds brand will be the perfect gift for wine lovers everywhere



November 2025

ISBN: 9780733343278

\$49.99

400 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: ABC Adult

Rights: World, all languages

Grantlee Kieza OAM is an award-winning journalist and the highly acclaimed, bestselling author of more than twenty biographies. Kieza held senior editorial positions at the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Sunday Telegraph* and *The Courier-Mail* for many years and was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia for his writing. He is a Walkley Award finalist, a 2025 ABIA shortlisted author for Biography of the Year, a 2025 Indie Award shortlisted author for Non-fiction, the No. 1 history author in Australia in 2024.

TWELVE GOLDEN GIFTS

Spiri Tsintziras

One family's poignant, darkly funny and often heartbreaking experience of looking after their mother following a dementia diagnosis.

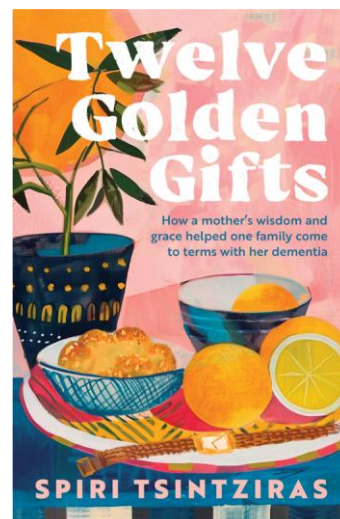
Chrisoula had long been known for her ability to fry up Greek honeyed donuts anytime a guest arrived on her doorstep, offering a listening ear and sage advice, and sending them off with a plate of the golden orbs to take home. She had cheeky blue eyes, a ready laugh and a generous heart – all of which had helped her deal with the many adversities she faced in her life.

When she was diagnosed with dementia, she drew on her trademark humour and earthy wit to ask the only questions that mattered: What would be the best photo to have on her gravestone? Did the glittering gold dress she wanted to be buried in need to be ironed? And would it hurt to enter the wormhole of death?

As Chrisoula's dementia progressed, her adult children, Spiri and Dennis, grappled with guilt, sadness and fatigue as they fumbled their way from one bewildering symptom, and care system, to the next. But their mother had given them some very special gifts which they could draw on to help with her care and take with them long after she was gone.

KEY POINTS

- With practical no-nonsense 'golden nuggets' on everything from coping with a diagnosis and finding suitable care to dealing with grief, *Twelve Golden Gifts* is a must-read for anyone looking after an elderly loved one
- Part lament, part love letter, part guide



September 2025

ISBN: 9780733343742

\$36.99

320 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: ABC Adult

Rights: World, all languages

Rights licensed: English language, UK (Harper360)

Spiri Tsintziras has been writing about food, family and connection for over thirty years. Her mother has inspired many stories – most recently on SBS online. Spiri is the author of the memoirs *My Ikari* (Nero 2018) and *Afternoons in Ithaka* (ABC Books 2014). She co-authored, with Myfanwy Jones, the award-winning and internationally acclaimed *Parlour Games for Modern Families* (Scribe 2008). Her stories and articles have been published in anthologies, newspapers, and online. For nearly a decade, she has taught professional writing at Swinburne University. She lives with her family in Melbourne.

RECENT NON-FICTION

RECENT NON-FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

MEMOIRS, BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY

FIELD NOTES FROM DEATH'S DOOR

Katie Treble

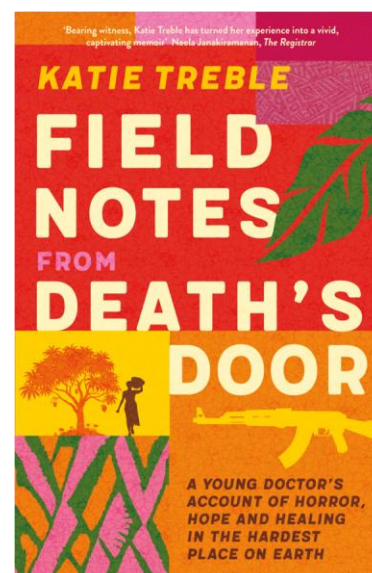
A rollicking, smart and self-aware memoir about the extremes of the human experience, the limits to compassion, and what trying to save the world actually entails.

In her early 30s, Katie Treble felt stuck – in her life, in her career as an emergency doctor, and in a dead-end relationship. Moving from her home in England to sunny Byron Bay hadn't been the answer she was hoping for. Wanting to kickstart her life and put her starry-eyed idealism into action, she signed up to work for Médecins Sans Frontières. She thought it would be an adventure – a chance to find meaning, purpose and maybe do some good in a world gone mad with greed.

Katie was dispatched to the war-torn Central African Republic, to a town called Bria: a remote blood diamond – mining town controlled by rebel militia, one of the poorest, most lawless, and violent places on earth and in the grips of a grinding humanitarian crisis the world has largely ignored. Arriving to live in an ex-diamond traders' compound set against a backdrop of poverty, hunger, disease and gunfire, Katie was thrown in the deep end. Sweltering through long shifts in a hospital tent equipped with only the most basic resources, she fought to save an endless stream of patients while her heart broke again and again at how little a human life could be worth. Survival off-shift meant self-anaesthetising via the basic resources of bad local lager, camaraderie, card games and the odd ill-advised sexual liaison.

KEY POINTS

- *This Is Going to Hurt* meets *Emergency Sex (And Other Desperate Measures)*
- A rollicking journey of horror, hope and healing



June 2025

ISBN: 9780733343612

\$35.99

320 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: ABC Adults

Rights: World, all languages

Katie Treble is a British doctor and author who moved to Australia seeking sunshine, surf and a break from the NHS, then accidentally stayed put. After a decade specialising in emergency medicine and remote critical care, she hung up her scrubs and is now working in the field of mental health. She lives in Melbourne with her partner and her dog.

RECENT NON-FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

SELF-HELP AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

A WISDOM OF AGE

Jacinta Parsons

An uplifting, inspiring book about the wisdom of older women and what we can learn from them to rewrite the story of the second half of our lives.

As part of the promotion for her 2022 book *A Question of Age: Women, ageing and the forever self*, Jacinta Parsons has been having conversations with a broad cohort of women of varying ages and backgrounds about the experience of being a woman and ageing. Over the course of these conversations, it has become clear to Jacinta that the conversation about ageing for women is alive and bubbling with a kind of excitement – that is, women are ready to do ageing differently.

In this book, Jacinta talks to the women who inspire her, the women who are doing this ageing thing *right*. Looking to the source, Jacinta is mining the wisdom direct from those that know how to do it well, those older women who say, this is what *feels* good.

KEY POINTS

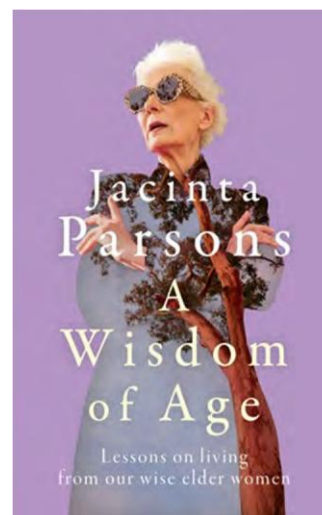
- An uplifting and inspiring book about the wisdom of older women, from the bestselling author of *A Question of Age*
- Essential advice for any women who wants to know the best way to navigate growing older

PRAISE FOR A QUESTION OF AGE

‘ABC presenter Jacinta Parsons is by turns poetic, angry, and circumspectly detached in delivering an intriguing, often moving, collective portrait. A rumination on the female condition and ageing through the generations and beyond ... there is an epic quality to the book. This is distinctive and resonant.’ *Sydney Morning Herald*

‘A rich, first-person exploration of an issue common to us all. Parsons mines her own experiences in what becomes an immersive, often brutal, always honest ‘the only way out is through’ approach to ageing. Readers who enjoyed Annabel Crabb’s *The Wife Drought* should enjoy *A Question of Age* for its depth, research and straight shooting. It is an insightful and thought-provoking read.’ *Books+Publishing*

‘Heartfelt, deeply thoughtful, blazing with truth-filled rage.’
Peggy Frew



July 2025

ISBN: 9780733343513

\$35.99

288 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: ABC Adult

Rights: World, all languages

Jacinta Parsons is a broadcaster, radio maker, writer, and public speaker. She currently co-hosts *The Friday Revue* with Brian Nankervis on ABC Melbourne. She has written two books, a memoir, *Unseen* (Affirm Press 2020), and *A Question of Age* (Harper Collins/ABC Books 2022). She is a sought-after public speaker and facilitator with over fifteen years of hosting live events.

Jacinta has lived with Crohn’s disease for more than twenty years and is an ambassador for the Crohn’s and Colitis Association and speaks. She writes about the impact of living with chronic illness.

RECENT NON-FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

SELF-HELP AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

ALL WOMEN WANT

Alyx Gorman

The truth about why straight women aren't satisfied in the bedroom – and what to do about it.

Pleasure should be a simple thing, but straight women are at the statistical bottom of the pile when it comes to finding a happy ending. There's a name for this phenomenon: it's called the pleasure gap. And when tracked against other gains in women's freedom, like pay or education, it is still alarmingly wide.

All Women Want is about that gap, the methods women use to try to bridge it (spoiler: they don't always want to do it solo), and why physical pleasure might be a final frontier for gender equality.

Written with candour, wit, and insights from over 130 interviews and 'field reports', Alyx Gorman's probing investigation shows sex as it really is, not as we think it should be. Free from the moralising, marketing and misinformation women are fed, it's a groundbreaking book that will educate, illuminate and, above all, satisfy.

KEY POINTS

- The orgasm gap between straight men and straight women may be one of the final frontiers in gender equality
- Interview subjects range from porn stars to academics, along with everyday people who have opened up about their sex lives
- The author went to the UK, US, France and Germany as part of her research – she even went to an orgy

PRAISE

'Alyx Gorman's state of the union on female pleasure is also an impassioned and galvanising rally-cry against mediocre sex. Riveting, compassionate, brilliantly researched and honkingly funny, reading this will feel like the best late-night conversation you can have with a smart and sex-positive friend. I suspect women will feel empowered and consoled; men will feel cared for and educated. In other words, a win-win, as every sexual exchange should be.' Benjamin Law, award-winning writer and broadcaster

'Hot. A libidinous read on coming out a winner in the sexual wellness revolution.' Brigid Delaney, author of *Wellmania* and *Reasons Not to Worry*



March 2025

ISBN: 9781460766156

\$35.99

352 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: Harper Non-Fiction

Rights: World, all languages

Alyx Gorman is an editor and journalist. She has worked in digital and print lifestyle media for fifteen years in Sydney, Melbourne, New York and London. Alyx is currently the Lifestyle Editor of *Guardian Australia* and has been writing on the topics of sex, relationships and dating her entire career. She is also the co-author of a weekly pop culture newsletter, *Saved for Later*. Alyx is a frequent guest across the ABC's radio network, and has worked as a moderator and panellist for Sydney Writers' Festival, Vivid Ideas, the Powerhouse, design conference Semi-Permanent and more. Alyx holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences from the University of Sydney, where she majored in Political Economy.

RECENT NON-FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

SELF-HELP AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

LIFE HACKS FROM THE BUDDHA

Dr Tony Fernando

How to be calm and content in a chaotic world.

With fifty practical and easy-to-follow life hacks, this book will make you a calmer, happier and more chilled-out version of yourself.

The Buddha worked out how best to deal with the challenges we face today more than 2000 years ago. His teachings show us that human stress, anxiety and suffering are nothing new.

Life Hacks from the Buddha will help you to quieten your mind, create more peaceful environments to live in, and find the calm and contentment you need to help you function at your very best, which will leave a lasting impression on everyone around you.

KEY POINTS

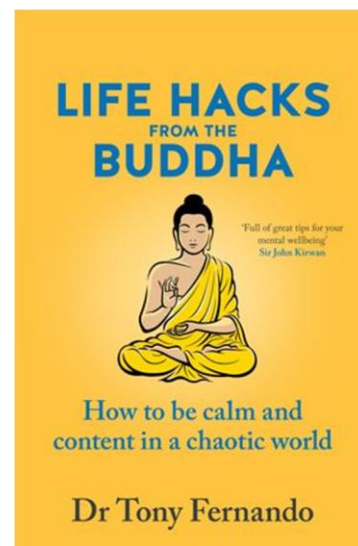
- Jay Shetty meets Oliver Sacks
- Top 10 bestseller in New Zealand
- This is not a spiritual book; these are time-tested tips to anyone can use to be more resilient and live an easier life
- Rights licensed in seven territories to date

PRAISE

‘Full of great tips for your mental wellbeing.’ Sir John Kirwan

‘Brilliant, relevant, practical. Ancient Eastern wisdom meets modern science.’ Art Green

‘This really is an awesome collection of life hacks to help you feel calm amidst all the calamity. It worked for me.’ Nigel Latta



September 2024

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304 pages

234 mm x 153 mm

Imprint: HarperCollins NZ

Rights licensed: English language US, UK and Canada (Harper360); English language, The Philippines (Oak and Orca Corp.); English language, Indian Sub-Continent (Jaico); Korean (Wilma Co.); German (Lotus); Russian; Thai

Tony Fernando is a practising psychiatrist and mindfulness and sleep specialist in Auckland. He obtained his medical degree from the University of the Philippines and his psychiatry and sleep training at the University of Pennsylvania. He has been a senior lecturer and multi-awarded teacher in psychological medicine at the University of Auckland, and has been incorporating the Buddha's teachings into his own life and work as a doctor for the past twenty years. Tony has also been ordained as a Buddhist monk in Myanmar.

RECENT NON-FICTION HIGHLIGHTS

SELF-HELP AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE BOOK OF BURNOUT

Bev Aisbett

Bestselling anxiety and mental health expert, Bev Aisbett, tackles a growing mental health emergency: burnout. What it is. Why it happens. Who gets it. And how to stop it before it stops you!

Burnout happens when we take on too much, when we think we can do the impossible, at the cost of our wellbeing, our health and even our quality of life. Although the term is often casually tossed about, burnout is no joke – it can impact every area of your life and leave you depleted in every way.

After two years of the pandemic and lockdowns, working from home, homeschooling, widespread stress and being on our computers and devices 24/7 and constantly available, the danger of burnout for so many of us is all too real. It can happen to anyone.

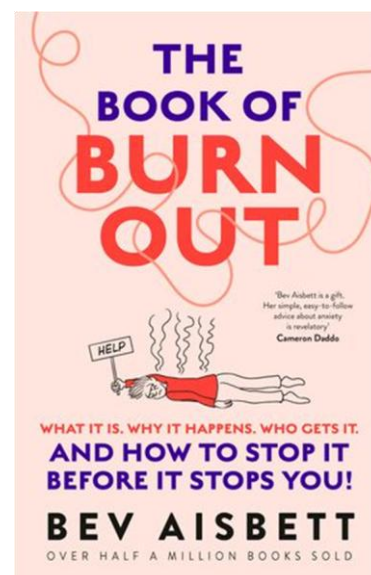
Using humour, straightforward language and her signature illustrations, Bev clearly explains what burnout is, who is at risk, how to recognise the danger signs and, finally, how to step back from the brink, providing insight and techniques to ease burnout and stop yourself going up in smoke.

KEY POINTS

- Bev Aisbett's books have been published in eight languages and sold more than half a million copies worldwide
- Other bestselling books in the series include *Living with IT: A Survivor's Guide to Panic Attacks*, *Taming the Black Dog: A Guide to Overcoming Depression* and *The Book of Burnout*
- Burnout is a growing mental health emergency globally

PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

'Bev Aisbett is a gift. Her simple, easy-to-follow advice about anxiety is revelatory' Cameron Daddo, bestselling author



June 2024

ISBN: 9781460764626

224 pages

210 mm x 135 mm

Imprint: Harper Non-Fiction

Rights licensed: English language US, UK and Canada (Harper360); Simplified Chinese; Vietnamese

Bev Aisbett, a trained counsellor, is the author and illustrator of 17 highly regarded self-help books for sufferers of anxiety and depression, most notably the national bestsellers *Living with IT* and *Taming the Black Dog*. These titles are distributed to health professionals nationwide and have been licensed widely internationally.

English language territories: airlie.lawson@harpercollins.com.au

Translation territories, as below.

BALTIC REGION

(Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan)

Tatjana Zoldnere

Eastern European and Asian Rights Agency

19/21-3 Gertrudes St, LV-1011

Riga

Latvia

t: +371 67506 495

e: zoldnere@eeagency.com

CHINA

Gray Tan

The Grayhawk Agency

14F, No.63, Sec.4, Xinyi Rd

Taiwan

t: +886 2 27059231

e: fiction@grayhawk-agency.com

e: nonfiction@grayhawk-agency.com

CZECH REPUBLIC

Kristin Olson

Literary Agency s.r.o. Klimentská

24 110 00 Praha

Czech Republic

t: +420 222 582 042

e: kristin.olson@litag.cz

FRANCE

Sophie Langlais

#BAM agency

Books And More Agency

12, rue Juliette Dodu

75010 Paris

France

t: +33 6 86 58 17 42

e: sophie@bamlitagency.com

GERMANY

Niclas Schmoll

Michael Meller Agency

Landwehrstrasse 17

80336 Munchen

Germany

t: +49 89 36 63 71

e: n.schmoll@melleragency.com

GREECE

Nike Davarinou

Read 'n' Right Agency

9 Amazonon Street

34100 Chalkida

Greece

t: +30 2 221029798

e: nike@readnright.gr

HUNGARY

Orsi Mészáros

Katai & Bolza Literary Agents

Vamhaz krt 15

1093 Budapest

Hungary

t: +36 1 456 0313

e: oris@kataibolza.hu

INDONESIA

Santo Manurung

Maxima Creative Agency

Beryl Timur No.41 Gading Serpong Tangerang –
15810 Indonesia

t: + 62 21 5421 7768

e:

santo.manurung@maximacreativeliterary.com

ISRAEL

Geula Guerts
The Deborah Harris Agency
P.O. Box 8528a
Jerusalem 91083
Israel
t: +972 0 2 5633237
e: geula@thedeborahharrisagency.com

ITALY

Erica Berla
Berla & Griffini Rights Agency Srl
Via Gian Giacomo Mora, 7
20123 Milano
Italy
t: +39 02 805 041 79
e: info@bgagency.it

JAPAN

Miko Yamanouchi
Japan UNI Agency Inc
1-27 Kanda Jinbocho No. 2 Bldg.
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 101-0051
Japan
t: +81 3 3295 0301
e: miko.yamanouchi@japanuni.co.jp

KOREA

Henry Shin
Eric Yang Agency
3F E Building, 54-7
Banpo-Dong, Seocho-gu
Seoul 137-803
Korea
t: +82 2 592 3356
e: henryshin@eyagency.com

NORDIC COUNTRIES

Monique Oosterhof
Mo Literary Services
Zwaluwtong 41
1141 KN Monnickendam
The Netherlands
T: + 31 6 15 425 706
t: +31 20 632 58 10
e: mo@moliterary.nl

POLAND

Marcin Biegaj
Andrew Nurnberg Associates
ul. Mołdawska 9, 6th floor
02-127 Warsaw
Poland
e: marcin.biegaj@nurnberg.pl

ROMANIA

Marina Adriana
Simona Kessler International
Copyright Agency
Str. Banul Antonache 37
011663 Bucharest
Romania
t: +4021 3164806
e: marina@kessler-agency.ro

RUSSIA

Olga Lutova
Andrew Nurnberg Literary Agency
21 Tsvetnoy Blvd.,
6 Stroenie, Suite 72
Moscow 127051
Russia
t: + 495 625 81 88
e: o.lutova@lit-agency.com

SPAIN

Alicia González Sterling
Bookbank S.L. Agencia Literaria
San Martin de Porres 14
28035 Madrid
Spain
t: +34 91 3733539
e: alicia@bookbank.es

TAIWAN

Gray Tan
The Grayhawk Agency
14F, No.63, Sec.4, Xinyi Rd
Taiwan
t: +886 2 27059231
e: fiction@grayhawk-agency.com
e: nonfiction@grayhawk-agency.com

THAILAND

Gray Tan
The Grayhawk Agency
14F, No.63, Sec.4, Xinyi Rd
Taiwan
t: +886-2-27059231
e: fiction@grayhawk-agency.com
e: nonfiction@grayhawk-agency.com

THE NETHERLANDS

Monique Oosterhof
Mo Literary Services
Zwaluwtong 41
1141 KN Monnickendam
t: +31 20 632 58 10
e: mo@moliterary.nl

TURKEY

Ayşenur Tural
AnatoliaLit Agency
Caferağa Mah.
Dr. Esat Işık Cd.
Işın Apt. No:42, Daire 9, Kat: 1
34710 Kadıköy – İstanbul
Türkiye
e: aysenur@anatolialit.com

VIETNAM

Gray Tan
The Grayhawk Agency
14F, No.63, Sec.4, Xinyi Rd
Taiwan
t: +886-2-27059231
e: fiction@grayhawk-agency.com
e: nonfiction@grayhawk-agency.com