



# BLACK INC.

*London Rights Guide 2021*



# BLACK INC.

*London Rights guide 2021*

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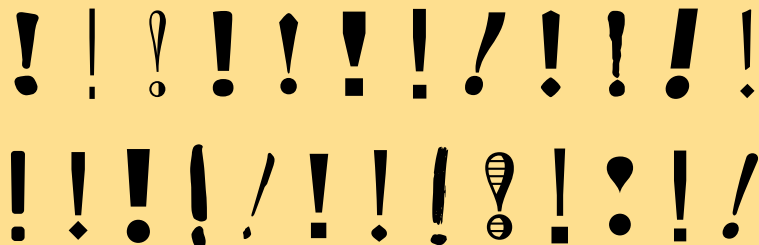
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**CURRENT BESTSELLERS  
OVERSEAS CO-AGENTS**



# FICTION





**FEBRUARY 2022  
FICTION**

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$27.99  
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 272pp  
Manuscript: July 2021  
Rights held: World English  
Other rights: Actes Sud

“Some stories push us to go far before returning to the closest, to the most intimate. The traces of these three men gradually awaken the lack of those who leave and the places of which we dream, the memory of a time when we still believed in the necessity of adventure and the permanence of landscapes. And the fascination turns into writing, and the image leads the novel.” —H     Gaudy

“Moving, poetic and brilliant.” —Sophie Pujas, *Le Point*

## A World With No Shore

A Novel

**H     Gaudy**

**Translated by Stephanie Smee**

Summer 1930, Svalbard: a walrus-hunting boat sets sail for White Island, one of the last lands before the North Pole. The melting of the ice has revealed terrain that is usually inaccessible. As they move across the island, the men discover bodies and the remains of a makeshift camp. It is the solution to a mystery that has hung in the air for 33 years: the disappearance in July 1897 of Salomon August Andr   , Knut Fr       and Nils Strindberg as they tried to reach the North Pole in hot air balloons. Among the remains some rolls of negatives are found and some one hundred images are retrieved.

Based on these lunar-like black-and-white photographs and the expedition logbook, H     Gaudy retraces and re-imagines this great adventure that was blown off course. From the conquest of the skies to the exploration of the poles, this novel reflects on the human need to circumscribe, discover, describe, conquer and ultimately shrink the world.

Born in Paris, **H     GAUDY** studied at the school of decorative arts in Strasbourg. She is a member of the Inculte collective and lives in Paris. She is the author of six novels, and has also written some dozen books for children.

**STEPHANIE SMEE** left a career in law to work as a literary translator. Recent translations include Hannelore Cayre’s *The Godmother* and *The Inheritors*, Fran       Frenkel’s rediscovered World War II memoir *No Place to Lay One’s Head*, which was awarded the JQ–Wingate Prize, and Joseph Ponthus’ prize-winning work *On the Line*.

- FINALIST FOR THE JOSEPH KESSEL PRIZE
- LONGLISTED FOR THE PRIX GONCOURT
- OVER 20,000 COPIES SOLD IN FRANCE
- SPANISH RIGHTS SOLD TO TUSQUETS



**OCTOBER 2021  
FICTION**

Imprint: Upswell Books

Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 250pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: ANZ audio (Bolinda)

“Hughes’ writing is intelligent, delicate and otherworldly, his narrator bumbling, contrary and oddly endearing. A novel in which the past and the present twine, and the vastness of history crystalises in one man’s troubled here and now.” —Peggy Frew, Miles Franklin—shortlisted author of *Hope Farm*

**MILES FRANKLIN—SHORTLISTED AUTHOR**

## The Dogs

**John Hughes**

*Michael Shamanov grapples with the idea of his mother’s life and her desire to finish it. Perhaps it’s her life he has been running away from and not his own.*

*“The story of a life is a secret as life itself. A life that can be explained is no life at all.” —Elias Canetti*

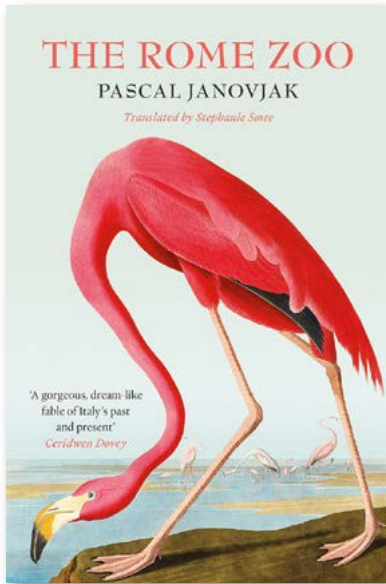
Is it possible to write about the living without thinking of them as already dead?

Michael Shamanov is a man running away from life’s responsibilities. His marriage is over, he barely sees his son and he hasn’t seen his mother since banishing her to a nursing home two years earlier. A successful screenwriter, Michael’s encounter with his mother’s nurse, Catherine El Khoury, leads him to discover that the greatest story he’s ever heard may lie with his dying mother. And perhaps it’s her life he’s been running away from. Catherine has secrets of her own, including an escape from an arranged marriage.

Is the past ever finished? Should we respect another’s silence? And if so, is it ever possible to understand and put to rest the strange idea of family that travels through the flesh?

From the Miles Franklin—shortlisted author of *No One* comes a haunting gem of family secrets and impossible decisions.

**JOHN HUGHES** is based in Sydney. He has published six books, all acclaimed and highly awarded, including the National Biography Award and Premier’s Book Awards. His previous novels *The Remnants* and *Asylum* were critically acclaimed and *No One* was shortlisted in the Miles Franklin Award 2020.



## AUGUST 2021 FICTION

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$27.99  
Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 240pp  
Manuscript: Available  
Rights held: World English  
Rights sold: ANZ audio (Bolinda)  
Other rights: Actes Sud

"Like all truly great literary allegories, *The Rome Zoo* is both innocent and wise, filled equally with tenderness and darkness. A gorgeous, dream-like fable of Italy's past and present." —Ceridwen Dovey, author of *Only the Animals* and *Life After Truth*

- ▶ WINNER OF THE PRIX MICHEL DENTAN AND PRIX DU PUBLIC DE LA RTS, 2020
- ▶ RIGHTS SOLD TO ITALY (CASAGRANDE) AND GERMANY (LENOS VERLAG)

# The Rome Zoo

**Pascal Janovjak**  
**Translated by Stephanie Smee**

*Rome, too, wants the sound of roaring as evening falls ...*

The Rome Zoo: a place borne of fantasy and driven by a nation's aspirations. It has witnessed – and reflected in its tarnished mirror – the great follies of the twentieth century. Now, in an ongoing battle that has seen it survive world wars and epidemics, the zoo must once again reinvent itself, and assert its relevance in the Eternal City.

Caught up in these machinations is a cast of characters worthy of this baroque backdrop: a man desperate to find meaning in his own life, a woman tasked with halting the zoo's decline and a rare animal, the last of its species, who bewitches the world.

Drifting between past and present, *The Rome Zoo* weaves together these and many other stories, forming a colourful and evocative tapestry of life at this strange place. It is both a love story and a poignant juxtaposition of the human need to classify, to subdue, with the untameable nature of our dramas and anxieties.

Spellbinding and disturbing, precise and dream-like, this award-winning novel, translated by Stephanie Smee, is unlike any other.

Born in Basel in 1975, **PASCAL JANOVJAK** studied comparative literature and art history in Strasbourg before moving to the Middle East. His works include *Coléoptères* (*Beetles*), *L'Invisible* (*The Invisible One*) and *À Toi* (*To You*), which he wrote with Kim Thuy.

**STEPHANIE SMEE** left a career in law to work as a literary translator. Recent translations include Hannelore Cayre's *The Godmother* and *The Inheritors*, Françoise Frenkel's rediscovered World War II memoir *No Place to Lay One's Head*, which was awarded the JQ-Wingate Prize, and Joseph Ponthus' prize-winning work *On the Line*.



## JUNE 2021 FICTION

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 256pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: UK/Comm; film/TV

Rights sold: film/TV (embargo); ANZ  
audio (Bolinda)

Other rights: Curtis Brown Australia

"Pung's discernment and command as a writer is astonishing, elating. I adore this book."

—Christos Tsiolkas, Booker-longlisted author of *The Slap*

"*One Hundred Days* is a masterpiece, a triumph – Pung's greatest work yet."

—Maxine Beneba Clarke, Stella Prize-winning author of *The Hate Race*

"Alice Pung is a gem. Her voice is the real thing." —Amy Tan, National Book Award finalist author of *The Joy Luck Club*

# One Hundred Days

**Alice Pung**

From one of Australia's most celebrated authors comes a mother–daughter drama exploring the faultlines between love and control.

*One hundred days. It's no time at all, she tells me. But she's not the one waiting.*

In a heady whirlwind of independence, lust and defiance, sixteen-year-old Karuna falls pregnant. Not on purpose, but not entirely by accident, either. Incensed, Karuna's mother, already over-protective, confines her to their fourteenth-storey housing-commission flat, to keep her safe from the outside world – and make sure she can't get into any more trouble.

Stuck inside for endless hours, Karuna battles her mother and herself for a sense of power in her own life, as a new life forms and grows within her. As the due date draws ever closer, the question of who will get to raise the baby – who it will call Mum – festers between them.

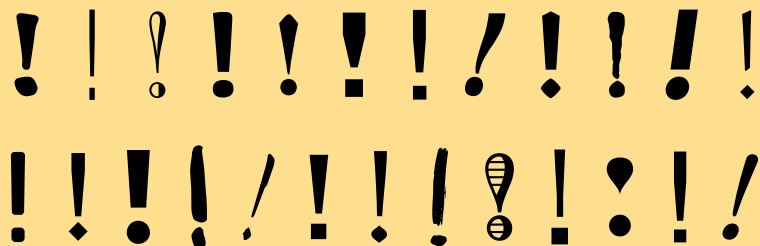
*One Hundred Days* is a fractured fairytale exploring the faultlines between love and control. At times tense and claustrophobic, it is nevertheless brimming with humour, warmth and character. It is a magnificent new work from one of Australia's most celebrated writers.

**ALICE PUNG** is an award-winning writer, editor, teacher and lawyer based in Melbourne. She is author of the internationally bestselling memoirs *Unpolished Gem* and *Her Father's Daughter* and the editor of the anthologies *Growing Up Asian in Australia* and *My First Lesson*. Her first young adult novel, *Laurinda*, sold over 20,000 copies in ANZ and won the Ethel Turner Prize at the 2016 NSW Premier's Literary Awards.





## NON-FICTION



Oscar Farinetti

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## Serend!pity

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From Truffles and Champagne  
to Corn Flakes and Coffee:  
50 Stories of Accidental Success

JULY 2022

FOOD; NON-FICTION

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp

Sample: Available

Manuscript: November 2021

Rights held: World English

Other rights: Giunti Editore

*"Serendipity is a collection of fifty mouth-watering tales [...] storytelling for the pleasure of the palate."* —*Rock'n'Read*

*"An elegy to imperfection [...] That imperfection that stimulates you, motivates you and opens new horizons."*

—*Cronache Digeste*

OVER 20,000 COPIES SOLD IN ITALY

## Serendipity

From Truffles and Champagne to Corn Flakes  
and Coffee: 50 Stories of Accidental Success

Oscar Farinetti

Translated by Barbara McGilvray

*"The most valuable thing you can make is a mistake – you can't learn anything from being perfect."* —Adam Osborne

In *Serendipity*, Oscar Farinetti has collected fifty stories that reflect how some of the greatest successes and examples of excellence in the food world came about by chance, from the invention of foods such as *tarte tatin* to the sandwich, not to mention international products like Nutella and corn flakes, plus some of the world's best wines, Gorgonzola cheese, and balsamic vinegar. Renowned delicacies like Milanese *risotto* rub shoulders with some unusual interlopers: Toscano cigars, Viagra and ... humans themselves! This is a book that celebrates doubt over certainty, because when we err something miraculous can come from it.

Includes:

- The Caesar Salad, with Viviana Varese, chef
  - Champagne, with Bruno Paillard, producer of Champagne
  - French Fries, with Antonia Klugmann, chef
  - Tofu, with Shigeru Hayashi, wine expert
  - Popcorn, with the Fol from Torino, entrepreneurs
- + many more.

**OSCAR FARINETTI** is an Italian businessman and investor. He is the founder of the high-end food chain Eataly, with thirty-seven locations around the world.

**BARBARA MCGILVRAY AOM** has been translating from Italian to English for over thirty years and was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia in 2016.



## AUGUST 2022 ENVIRONMENT

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$32.99  
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp  
Sample: Available  
Manuscript: March 2022  
Rights held: World ex film/TV  
Other rights: Jenny Darling & Associates

**DANIELLE CLODE** is a biologist and award-winning natural history author. Her books include *Killers in Eden*, which was made into an award-winning ABC TV natural history documentary; *Voyage to the South Seas*, winner of the VPLA's non-fiction award; and *The Wasp and the Orchid*, which was shortlisted for National Biography award. Her most recent book is *In Search of the Woman who Sailed the World*.

# Koala

A Life in Trees

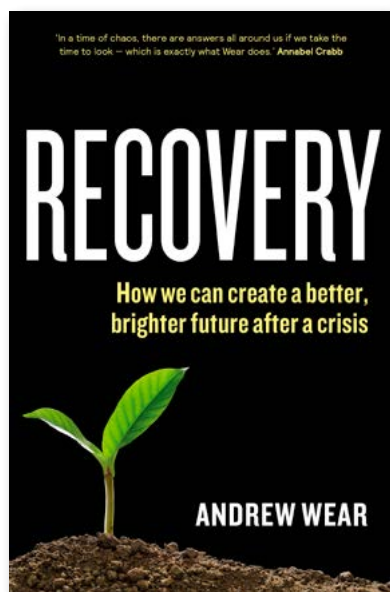
**Danielle Clode**

Despite their iconic status, their celebrity and popularity, koalas remain something of a mystery. Inscrutable and paradoxical. They are often affectionate in captivity, seek out human assistance when in need of water or care, are beloved by millions – and yet they can also be fierce and belligerent, are plagued by sexually transmitted diseases and inbreeding, maligned for a lack of intelligence. They are neither bears nor soft toys, they are simultaneously threatened with extinction, yet dying from over-population. They are both a symbol of Australia's unique wildlife and emblematic of the devastation we have wrought on so many species. There is so much more to know about koalas than just a sweet face on a postcard – their history, evolution, biology, ecology, their interactions with humans and other predators, where they have come from and what their future holds. This book is their story.

Did you know?

- There used to be a giant koala that also lived in trees and was three times the size of the modern koala.
- Koalas can only eat the particular species of gum tree they were raised on as their gut bacteria can't digest other gum tree species.
- Koalas can taste the amount of toxins in leaves so they know which individual leaves are best to eat.
- Koalas probably use their big noses for smelling pheromones produced by other koalas, so they can tell when a tree already has a koala in it. This is why they rub noses with each other, or even with humans, when they come into contact.

For readers of Helen Macdonald, Robert McFarlane, Tim Flannery, Tim Low, Peter Wohlleben.



**SEPTEMBER 2021**  
**SOCIETY AND CULTURE**

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$29.99  
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp  
Manuscript: Available  
Rights held: World ex film/TV  
Rights sold: World English ex ANZ  
(Hero Press)  
Other rights: Cameron's Management

**PRAISE FOR *SOLVED!*:**

"This is an important book which puts forward realistic and achievable solutions to humanity's ills." —*New Internationalist*

"A refreshing, cup-half-full approach to inspire each and all of us." —Dana H. Born, Harvard Kennedy School of Government

**AUTHOR'S PREVIOUS BOOK WAS PUBLISHED IN THE USA AND UK (ONEWORLD); KOREA (VEGA BOOKS) AND PORTUGAL (PRESENÇA)**

## Recovery

How We Can Create a Better, Brighter Future After a Crisis

**Andrew Wear**

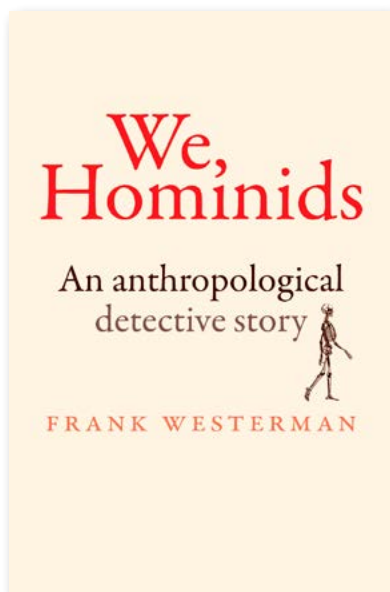
*In times of crisis lies opportunity. Recovery shows us how we can build back better after COVID-19.*

We have recovered from many crises in the past: war, depression, pandemic, natural disaster. Often, we've bounced back to create an even better future. The Spanish Flu was followed by the economic prosperity of the Roaring Twenties. In the decades following World War II, the German economy grew to the world's most advanced. In the United States, social and economic policies responding to the Great Depression laid the foundations for twentieth-century prosperity.

As we contemplate recovery from the COVID-19 health and economic crisis while confronting the climate emergency, what can we learn from other recoveries? Through interviews with experts, policymakers and community leaders, this book examines past recoveries and investigates implications for the future. It explores what went well, what we should do differently and what the lessons might be for the recovery ahead of us.

With governments prepared to lead, listen to experts and involve communities in decision-making, not only is a successful recovery possible – we can also choose to re-evaluate many of the things we thought were fixed. We have an opportunity to build back better.

**ANDREW WEAR** is a senior Australian public servant with degrees in politics, law, economics and public policy. A graduate of the Senior Executive Fellows Program at Harvard Kennedy School and a Victorian Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration Australia, he is also a director of Ardoch Ltd, a children's education charity. His first book, *Solved!*, was published in countries across the world.



**AUGUST 2021**  
**ANTHROPOLOGY**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World English

Rights sold: ANZ audio (Bolinda)

Other rights: Querido Fosfor

"This is *Sapiens* behind the scenes: exciting, shocking and real." Jose Jordens, *Naturalis*

"What Laurent Binet does in *Hhhh*, Frank Westerman does in *We, Hominids*: he starts an intriguing game with his reader. Absolutely fascinating." Bart Gielen, *Barts Boekenclub*

RIGHTS SOLD TO ITALY (IPERBOREA);  
SWEDEN (WEYLERS); GERMANY  
(AUFBAU); FRANCE (STOCK); POLAND  
(AGORA); SPAIN (ABADA); ANZ AUDIO  
(BOLINDA)

## We, Hominids

An Anthropological Detective Story

Frank Westerman

Translated by Sam Garrett

*A roving philosophical journey into what makes us human*

In *We, Hominids*, one of Holland's greatest non-fiction writers hunts down answers to humanity's most fundamental questions: Who are we? What makes us different from animals? With an ancient skull as his starting point, he travels the globe, tracing the search for the first human being: the missing link between humans and apes.

Westerman introduces us to the world of skull hunters – leading experts in our fossil ancestry – and astutely reconsiders the work of illustrious anthropologists, in the light of new DNA technology and the rise of female scientists. In this utterly original book, Westerman discovers a plethora of origin hypotheses and shows how any theory of who we are and where we come from is coloured by the zeitgeist.

*We, Hominids* is a compelling mixture of reportage, travelogue and essay – reminiscent of Bruce Chatwin or Ryszard Kapuściński – written by a brilliant storyteller and thinker.

**FRANK WESTERMAN** is a highly acclaimed Dutch non-fiction writer. His work has been translated into sixteen languages and has received numerous awards, including the Kapuściński Prize (Poland), the Premio Terzani (Italy) and the Prix du Livre du ReÅLel (France).

**SAM GARRETT** is an award-winning translator of over fifty novels and works of non-fiction. He is the only translator to have twice won the British Society of Authors' Vondel Prize for Dutch–English translation.



## Delia Akeley and the Feisty Monkey

A Human–Animal Story of Captivity, Patriarchy and Nature

Iain McCalman

On an East African hunting expedition in 1909, Mickie Akeley, a forty-year-old American woman, casually captured a baby female monkey, never dreaming this act would overturn both their lives. Mickie's life was isolated and often lonely in an overpoweringly masculine world. She decided to name the monkey JT Jr and study her interactions with humans; a long-frustrated desire to adopt a child led her to also lose her heart to this lovable animal.

This relationship with a feisty, intelligent Vervet unlocked Mickie's latent talents of research and observation, anticipating both Jane Goodall's chimpanzee writings and Margaret Mead's Samoan ethnographies. It illuminates much about human–animal relations and the tyranny of gender inequality by reinstating an obscured story of a dedicated amateur primatologist.

Mickie's love for JT clashed with her husband Carl Akeley's obsession to create a temple of African wildlife dioramas at the Museum of Natural History in New York. Nursing his broken body and his elephant mania pushed Mickie into a breakdown in Uganda, a savage divorce in Manhattan, and the heartbreaking caging of JT in a Washington zoo. Carl's death triggered a long battle between Mickie and his jealous widow, who succeeded in obliterating most of Mickie's achievements. Iain McCalman uses records, official and informal, to build a story of passionate love and hate among women, men, animals and museums that predates our times but speaks to our present.

**IAIN MCCALMAN'S** most recent books are *Darwin's Armada* (2009) and *The Reef: A Passionate History* (2013), both highly acclaimed and prizewinning. He was Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Sydney Environment Institute at the University of Sydney.

**FEBRUARY 2022  
ENVIRONMENTAL**

Imprint: Upswell

RRP: AU\$27.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 224pp

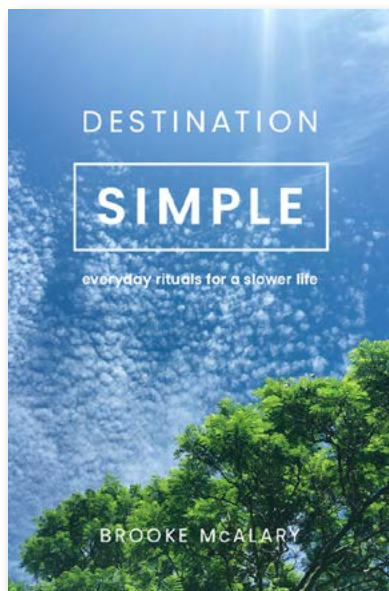
Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

### PRAISE FOR *THE REEF*:

"Iain McCalman's wonderful *The Reef: A Passionate History*, like its subject, builds slowly into beauty, offering an account of the Great Barrier Reef as it exists in culture, language and dream, as well as in marine biology." —Robert Macfarlane

"No other historian I know brings exploration, science, the environment and strange experience together with the erudition or the eloquence of Iain McCalman. *The Reef* is utterly absorbing, as well as richly informative." —Nicholas Thomas, University of Cambridge



**DECEMBER 2021**  
**SELF-HELP**

Imprint: Nero

RRP: AU\$12.99

Format: Paperback | 181 x 111mm | 128pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: World English ex ANZ (Head of Zeus); France (Editions de la Maisnie); Poland (Wydawnictwo Literackie); Czech Republic (Grada Publishing); Portugal (Clube Do Autor SA); Russia (Popuri Ltd); Simplified Chinese character (Beijing Wisdom and Culture Co.)

## Destination Simple

Everyday Rituals for a Slower Life

**Brooke McAlary**

A new edition of the international bestseller updated with advice following the COVID-19 lockdowns and how it has changed our lives and rituals.

*Simplify your life – from the inside out*

Brooke McAlary knows firsthand the power of simplifying and living with less. After being diagnosed with postnatal depression, she embraced a slower, more intentional life and rediscovered her health, energy and passion.

In *Destination Simple*, Brooke shows us how to harness the power of daily rituals to create a calmer, happier life.

- Feel in control of your days
- Minimise stress
- Find pockets of peace on even the busiest day
- Empty your mind and sleep better
- Easily integrate mindfulness and gratitude into your daily life

Discover how a few changes to the flow of daily life can create long-term, lasting change.

**BROOKE MCCALARY** is passionate about slow living. As the host and creator of the award-winning *Slow Your Home* podcast (downloaded more than two million times) and the author of *Slow* and *Care*, she encourages thousands of people every day to live a simpler, slower life.





## MARCH 2022 ANTHOLOGY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Sample: Available

Manuscript: August 2021

Rights held: World excluding audio + film/TV

Other rights: Curtis Brown Australia

**ELIZA HULL** is a musical artist, writer, journalist and disability advocate. Her ABC podcast series on parenting with a disability, *We've Got This*, was one of Radio National's and ABC Life's most successful series of all time. She has written music for American TV shows *Awkward*, *Teen Wolf* and *Saving Hope*.

# We've Got This

Parenting with a Disability

Edited by Eliza Hull

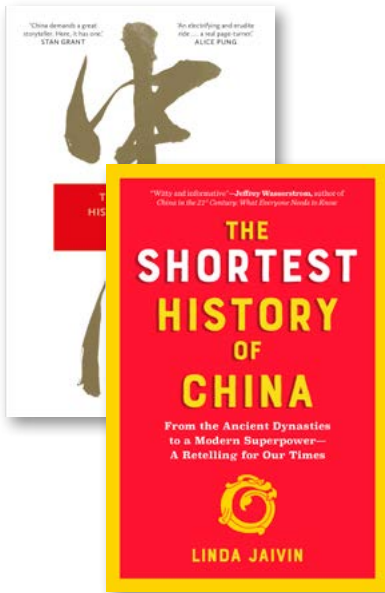
*How do two blind parents take their children to the park? How is a mother with dwarfism treated when she walks her child down the street? How does a deaf mother hear her baby cry in the night?*

When songwriter Eliza Hull was pregnant with her daughter, like most parents-to-be she was both excited and nervous. But as a person living with a neurological condition called Charcot-Marie-Tooth, there were added complexities in the mix. Internally she battled with questions such as: Will I be able to parent with a disability? Will the pregnancy be too hard? Will people judge me? She didn't see mums like her in any of the parenting books she was given. Yet around the world at least 18 percent of households have a parent with a disability – so where are they?

From navigating IVF to passing on a disability, *We've Got This* captures the lived experiences of parents with disabilities – and the complexity, challenges and joys of bringing up children in households where disability is just another aspect of life.

With pieces written by authors such as creator of the Instagram account @sitting\_pretty, **Rebekah Taussig**, whose debut essay collection, *Sitting Pretty*, was published by HarperOne in 2020, and Paralympian **Jessica Smith AO**, *We've Got This* brings together a breathtaking list of voices and aims to challenge stereotypes and educate. Entering a climate hungry for diverse representation and inclusivity, *We've Got This* will be the first major anthology of parenting with a disability around the world. Overseas editions could include contributions from their own territories as well as those in the book.





## MAY 2021 HISTORY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$24.99

Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 288pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Rights sold: UK/Comm ex ANZ (Old Street Publishing); UK/Comm audio (Tantor);

North America (The Experiment); Japan

(Tokyo Shoseki Co); Portugal (Dom

Quixote); Greece (Metaichmio); Bulgaria

(Prozoretz); Italy (Giunti); Turkey (Kronik

Yayincilik); Russia (Azbooka-Atticus)

Other rights: Left Bank Literary

**"This is a virtuosic, and virtuosically succinct, history of China [...] Essential reading."**

—Julia Lovell, professor of modern China, Birkbeck College, University of London

# The Shortest History of China

**Linda Jaivin**

*China's past is key to the modern world. This nimble history of rogues, revolutions and rebellions can be read in a day, but will transform your view for a lifetime.*

From kung-fu to tofu, tea to trade routes, sages to silk, China has influenced cuisine, commerce, military strategy, aesthetics and philosophy across the world for thousands of years.

Chinese history is sprawling and gloriously messy. It is full of heroes who are also villains, prosperous ages and violent rebellions, cultural vibrancy and censorious impulses, rebels, loyalists, dissidents and wits. The story of women in China, from the earliest warriors to twentieth-century suffragettes, is rarely told. And historical spectres of corruption and disunity, which have brought down many a mighty ruling house, continue to haunt the People's Republic today.

Modern China is seen variously as an economic powerhouse, an icon of urbanisation, a propaganda state or an aggressive superpower seeking world domination. Linda Jaivin distils a vast history into a short, readable account that tells you what you need to know, from China's philosophical origins to its political system, to the COVID-19 pandemic and where the PRC is likely to lead the world.

**LINDA JAIVIN** has been studying Chinese politics, language and culture for more than forty years. She has been a foreign correspondent in China, and is co-editor of the *China Story Yearbook*, an associate of the Australian Centre on China in the World at the Australian National University, and the author of twelve books.

## PRAISE FOR *THE SHORTEST HISTORY OF CHINA* BY LINDA JAIVIN

“War, revolution, rise and fall, emperors, tyrants: China is more than a nation and bigger than a myth. It demands a great storyteller, and in Linda Jaivin, it has one.”

—Stan Grant, author of *Talking to My Country*

“An electrifying and erudite ride through Chinese history – Linda Jaivin has written an illuminating history book that is also a real page-turner.”

—Alice Pung, author of *Unpolished Gem and Her Father’s Daughter*

“A fast-paced and witty survey of China’s past, written with spirit and verve. Jaivin knows her stuff but wears her erudition lightly. Iconoclastic, informative and more attentive to female figures than many comparable works. Highly recommended.”

—Jeffrey Wasserstrom, author of *Vigil: Hong Kong on the Brink*

“It’s no mean feat to cover the entire history of China in fifteen chapters, but Linda Jaivin manages it with panache. Succinct, lucid and with a keen eye for detail, this slim book is an indispensable primer on China.”

—Louisa Lim, author of *The People’s Republic of Amnesia*

“Manages to cram in so much of the gigantic tapestry that is China’s national story, but does it so concisely, with such flair, that this book is just a joy to read.”

—The Daily Telegraph

“A tour de force and a really marvellous read ... makes the case that understanding history and patterns that recur throughout history is crucial for understanding modern China ... [Jaivin] also writes powerful vignettes about women in China, stories that often don’t get told in conventional histories.”

—Bec Strating, Executive Director, La Trobe Asia

“In a time of historic lows in the official relationship between Australia and the People’s Republic of China (PRC), [Linda’s] book presents a timely reminder of how past events and trends can inform a modern understanding of bilateral relations.”

—James Laurenceson, Director, UTS: ACRI

“Read this in a fever-fuelled blitz, look up and I promise you that China – and indeed, the world – will make more sense.”

—Benjamin Law, author of *The Family Law*

“Jaivin’s may be the shortest history of China; it’s also one of the best. It tells the story from the beginning to the present day in crisp and artful fashion, short enough for the narrative to flow briskly, but selectively detailed enough to convey the richness, the intrigue, the brilliance and the tragedies of the story. Jaivin has the erudition of long study, and she combines it with a touch of the poetic and the playful in her absorbing, wonderful book.”

—Richard Bernstein, author of *China 1945*



## The Shortest History of Democracy

**John Keane**

*If the history of democracy was a straightforward tale in which times changed but everything remained the same, there would be no need for this book. For better, and not worse, the history of democracy isn't like that.*

From its beginnings in Syria-Mesopotamia – and not Athens – to its role in fomenting revolutionary fervour in France and America, democracy has subverted fixed ideas about who should enjoy power and privilege, and why. For democracy encourages people to do something radical: they come together as equals, to determine their own lives and futures.

In this vigorous, illuminating history, acclaimed political thinker and writer John Keane traces the byzantine history of the concept, from the age of assembly democracy in Athens; to European-inspired electoral democracy and the birth of representative government; and through despotism and beyond, to our age of monitory democracy. He shows that as the world came to be shaped by democracy, it became more worldly – American-style liberal democracy gave way to regional varieties that had a local character in places such as Taiwan, India, Senegal and South Africa.

In an age of crisis, we need the revolutionary potential of democracy more than ever. Does it have a future, or will the demagogues and despots win? We are about to find out.

**JOHN KEANE** is Professor of Politics at the University of Sydney and at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB) and is the co-founder and director of the Sydney Democracy Network. Among his many books, *The Life and Death of Democracy* was shortlisted for the 2010 Non-Fiction Prime Minister's Literary Award. He was recently nominated for the 2021 Balzan Prize and the Holberg Prize for outstanding global contributions to the human sciences.

### FEBRUARY 2022 HISTORY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$24.99

Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 256pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Other rights: AM Heath & Co

### PRAISE FOR JOHN KEANE

*"One of the world's leading political thinkers and writers." —The Sunday Times*

*"One of the great intellectual exports from Australia." —ABC*

**WATCH**

## The Shortest History of the Soviet Union

**Sheila Fitzpatrick**

Soviet Russia – from accidental arrival in the world to accidental departure. *The Shortest History of the Soviet Union* is a lively, authoritative distillation, with vivid details, a grand sweep, and some very black humour – an irresistible entrée to a sweeping history. Sheila Fitzpatrick shows the events that gave rise to the Soviet Age, its rise and unexpected fall, and its afterlife – including Vladimir Putin, a creature of the Soviet system but not a Soviet nostalgic.

**SHEILA FITZPATRICK** is the multi-award-winning author of *My Father's Daughter*, *Mischka's War*, *On Stalin's Team* and *The Russian Revolution*, among other titles. She is a regular contributor to the *London Review of Books*.

**MARCH 2022  
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$29.99  
Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 192pp  
Sample: Available  
Manuscript: October 2021  
Rights held: World; film/TV  
Rights sold: UK/Comm ex ANZ  
(Old Street Publishing); Russia (Alpina)

**WATCH**

## The Shortest History of India

**John Zubrzycki**

India contains multitudes. Every reader will be grateful for this entertaining yet authoritative distillation, in which acclaimed popular historian John Zubrzycki traces India from its beginnings through to its current challenges. Encompassing north and south, the mountains, desert and coast, religion and culture, this book captures the colour and conflict of a remarkable history.

**JOHN ZUBRZYCKI** is a Sydney-based author, journalist and researcher, specialising in South Asia, in particular India. His latest book is *Empire of Enchantment: The Story of Indian Magic*. He is the best-selling author of *The Last Nizam: An Indian Prince in the Australian Outback* and *The Mysterious Mr Jacob: Diamond Merchant, Magician and Spy*.

**MAY 2022  
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$29.99  
Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 192pp  
Manuscript: September 2021  
Rights held: World ex film/TV  
Other rights: Curtis Brown Australia



**APRIL 2018  
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$22.99

Format: Paperback | 198 x 128pp | 192pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: Simplified Chinese character

(Guangxi Normal University Press);

traditional Chinese character (Domain

Publishing Company); Germany (Hoffmann

und Campe); Finland (Kustantamo); Greece

(Metaichmio Publications); Sweden (Natur

och Kultur); UK & Comm. ex ANZ & Canada

(Old Street Publishing); Saudi Arabia (Dar El

Shorouk); Italy (Giunti Editore Spa); Portugal

(Publicacoes Dom Quixote); Spain (RBA

Libros); Turkey (Say Yayinlari); Korea

(Wisdomhouse Publishing Co.); Brazil

(Editores Sextante); France (City Editions);

Japan (Tokyo Shoseki Co. Ltd.); ANZ &

North America audio (Tantor); Estonia (Eesti

Raamat); Poland (Polskie Wydawnictwo

Naukowe); Russia (Eksmo Publishing);

Ukraine (Nash Format)

# The Shortest History of Europe

**John Hirst**

Celebrated historian John Hirst offers a fascinating exploration of the qualities that made Europe a world-changing civilisation.

*The Shortest History of Europe* begins with a rapid overview of European civilisation, describing its birth from an unlikely mixture of classical learning, Christianity and German warrior culture. Over the centuries, this unstable blend produced highly distinctive characters – pious knights and belligerent popes, romantics spouting folklore and revolutionaries imitating Rome – and its coming apart provided the dynamic of European history in modern times.

Accompanied by lively illustrations, *The Shortest History of Europe* is a clear, humorous and thought-provoking account of a remarkable civilisation. This new edition brings the story into the present, covering the world wars and beyond.

**JOHN HIRST** was a member of the History department at La Trobe University from 1968 to 2007. He has written many books on Australian history, including *Convict Society and Its Enemies*, *The Strange Birth of Colonial Democracy*, *The Sentimental Nation*, *Sense and Nonsense in Australian History* and *The Shortest History of Europe*.

“An entertaining, learned piece of historical compression”  
— *The Age*

“A wise, illuminating little book” — *The Sydney Morning Herald*

“Crisp, lucid and evocative” — *Australian Book Review*

**OVER 500,000 COPIES OF *THE SHORTEST HISTORY OF EUROPE* SOLD ACROSS TWENTY TERRITORIES**



## APRIL 2021 BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$29.99  
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 256pp  
Manuscript: Available  
Rights held: World ex film/V  
Rights sold: Rights sold: North America  
(Pegasus); Indian Subcontinent (Harper  
Collins India); Traditional Chinese character  
(Commonlife); Audio (Bolinda); Simplified  
Chinese character (China Science and  
Technology Press Co.)  
Other rights: Cameron's Management

“*[Investing with Keynes]* is full of evocative anecdotes. I wish that Keynes were around today, as he could easily have been describing the past year when he wrote: ‘It is because particular individuals, fortunate in situation or in abilities, are able to take advantage of uncertainty and ignorance ... that great inequalities of wealth come about.’ He would doubtless have had strong opinions on our current investing environment.” — *The Wall Street Journal*

## Investing with Keynes

How the World's Greatest Economist Overturned Conventional Wisdom and Made a Fortune on the Stock Market

Justyn Walsh

*Before there was Warren Buffett, there was John Maynard Keynes.*

John Maynard Keynes was a many-sided figure – world-changing economist, architect of the post-War international monetary system, bestselling author, a baron in the House of Lords, and key member of the fabled Bloomsbury group.

He was also one of that rare breed who mastered the financial markets in practice as well as in theory – an expert stock picker and star fund manager, Keynes made vast sums of money both on his own account and for the college endowment fund he managed.

Keynes' investment principles, refined over decades of investing, represent a straightforward and time-tested framework for exploiting the periodic irrationality of stock markets. In today's era of profound uncertainty and volatility, the insights of Keynes – a man who lived and prospered through two world wars, the Crash of 1929, and the Great Depression – are more relevant than ever.

This accessible and informative book identifies what modern masters of the market have taken from Keynes and used in their own investing styles – and what you too can learn from one of the greatest thinkers of the twentieth century.

**JUSTYN WALSH**, the author of *Investing with Keynes*, is CEO of BridgeLane Agriculture Partners, an asset management firm focused on the conversion of large-scale agricultural holdings to organically accredited and regeneratively farmed operations. Prior to this, he worked in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Australia as an investment banker and corporate lawyer.



**MAY 2022**  
**MEMOIR**

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$29.99  
Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp  
Sample: August 2021  
Manuscript: November 2021  
Rights held: World; film/TV

**PRAISE FOR *BLOOD AND GUTS*:**

“Revealing, sometimes hilarious”  
— *New Statesman*

“*Blood and Guts* is a gem of journalistic writing. The whales, their hunters and their lovers are lucky to have such a chronicler.”  
— *The Australian*

“Proof that good investigative journalism is alive and well” — *Readings Monthly*

## Inheriting the Farm

A Memoir

### Sam Vincent

Sam Vincent is a twenty-something writer in the inner suburbs, scrabbling to make ends meet, when he picks up the phone to his mother: his father has stuck his hand in a woodchipper, but “not to worry – it wasn’t like that scene in *Fargo* or anything”. When Sam returns to the 650-acre family farm to help out his dad, his life takes a new and unexpected direction.

Whether killing a lamb or castrating a bull calf – or knocking in a hundred fence posts by hand when his dad hides the post-driver – Sam’s desire to follow in his father’s tread is an education in grit and shit. But there are victories, too: nurturing a fig orchard to bloom; regenerating overgrazed land; learning to keep steady when bushfire threatens; working with Aboriginal elders to protect a special site. Slowly, as Sam slips from apprentice to successor, he sees that his father’s wisdom may not always be wise, but it is hard-won.

By turns affecting, hilarious and utterly surprising, this episodic memoir melds humour and fierce honesty in an unsentimental love letter – to a father, a landscape, and a way of farming that works with, not against, nature. What passes from father to son on this unruly patch of land is more than a livelihood; it is a legacy.

**SAM VINCENT** is a freelance travel writer and investigative journalist. He is a regular contributor to *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age* and has a degree in international relations from Australian National University. He has been published in *The Monthly* and *Griffith Review*. His first book, *Blood and Guts*, was longlisted for the Walkley Book Award.





**MARCH 2022  
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 240pp

Manuscript: August 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

## The Town That Told The Story

160 Years on an Australian Frontier

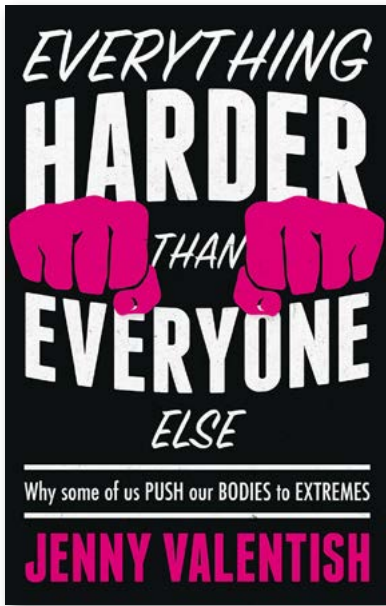
**Dean Ashenden**

The story of Tennant Creek is the story of the Australian frontier. Beginning with a clash between black and white, and the subsequent construction of an apparently benign telegraph line, the town's story includes widespread and deadly violence and the complete dispossession of the local Aboriginal people. Tennant Creek transformed from a telegraph station to a gold-rush town and refugee centre. When Dean Ashenden lived there as a boy, the town was under an apartheid regime. This eventually collapsed in the face of an Aboriginal rebellion, but Tennant Creek has since descended into dystopia.

Returning to Tennant Creek after fifty years, Dean Ashenden finds the town of his childhood has changed, but its silence about the past is still mostly intact. Provoked by a story half-hidden in Tennant Creek's museums and memorials, maps and websites, Ashenden sets out to discover how the town – and the nation – has tried to address its divided history. He tracks the beginning of the Great Australian Silence on the violent frontier, through to the early anthropologists, landmark cases about land rights and the stolen generations, and more recently the history wars and the call for an Indigenous Voice. Anthropology, history, law and politics have tried in turn to tell the story of a shared life, but just as often they perpetuated the silence. In this powerful book, Ashenden asks what justice and reconciliation will require of an unsettled nation.

**DEAN ASHENDEN** has worked as an academic, a political adviser, and in journalism. He has written for *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age*, *The Australian*, *Guardian Australia*, *Australian Financial Review*, *Inside Story*, *Meanjin*, *Crikey* and *History Australia*. He was a presenter of ABC Radio National's *Education Issues* program.





**JUNE 2021**  
**SOCIETY AND CULTURE**

Imprint: Black Inc.  
 RRP: AU\$32.99  
 Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp  
 Manuscript: Available  
 Rights held: World ex film/TV  
 Rights sold: UK/Comm ex ANZ (Manchester University Press); North America (Apollo Publishers)  
 Other rights: Jane Novak Literary Agency

“Like a Louis Theroux documentary, *Everything Harder Than Everyone Else* is an eye-opening exploration of unconventional lifestyles and the people who live them. It is a rollicking and insightful read for both enthusiasts and the simply curious.”  
 —*Books+Publishing*

“Valentish is your intrepid guide to fringe communities, where the members are hardcore and their wisdom is hard-won. The characters and stories will stay with you long after the last page.” —Brigid Delaney, author of *Wellmania*

## Everything Harder Than Everyone Else

Why Some of Us Push Our Bodies to Extremes

**Jenny Valentish**

From acclaimed journalist Jenny Valentish comes a wildly entertaining venture into the psychology of extreme behaviour. We all have our limits – what are yours?

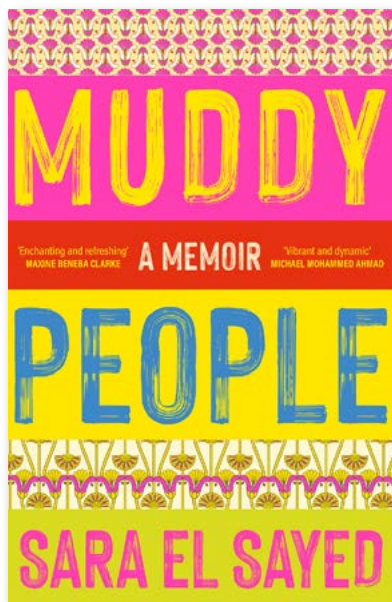
*It's part of human nature to test our limits. But what happens when this part comes to define us?*

When Jenny Valentish wrote a memoir about addiction, she noticed that people who treated drug-taking like an Olympic sport would often hurl themselves into a pursuit such as marathon running upon getting sober. What stayed constant was the need to push their boundaries.

*Everything Harder Than Everyone Else* follows people doing the things that most couldn't, wouldn't or shouldn't. Their insights lead Jenny on a compulsive, sometimes reckless journey through psychology, endurance and the power of obsession, revealing what we can learn about the human condition.

There's the neuroscientist violating his brain to override his disgust response. The athlete using childhood adversity as grist for the mill. The wrestler turning restlessness into curated ultraviolence. The designer who hangs from hooks in her flesh to get out of her head. The performance artist seeking erasure by manipulating his body. The BDSM dominant helping people flirt with death to feel more alive. The bare-knuckle boxer whose gnarliest opponent was once her ego. And the porn-star-turned-fighter for whom sex and violence are two sides of the same coin.

Darkly funny and vividly penetrating, *Everything Harder Than Everyone Else* explores our deeper selves and asks: what are your limits?



## AUGUST 2021 MEMOIR

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 256pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

“It takes courage to write a memoir, but more than that it takes heart, and Sara El Sayed’s heart is generous and expansive. I gasped in recognition, I teared up in solidarity and I exhaled in relief – finally, a personal story that reflects so much that is familiar but is rarely found on bookshelves. This is the kind of memoir I have searched for in vain for years. Sara El Sayed has written a book both confident and delicate that will leave you eagerly awaiting her next. Read this!”

—Mona Eltahawy, *The Seven Necessary Sins for Women and Girls*

## Muddy People

A Memoir

Sara El Sayed

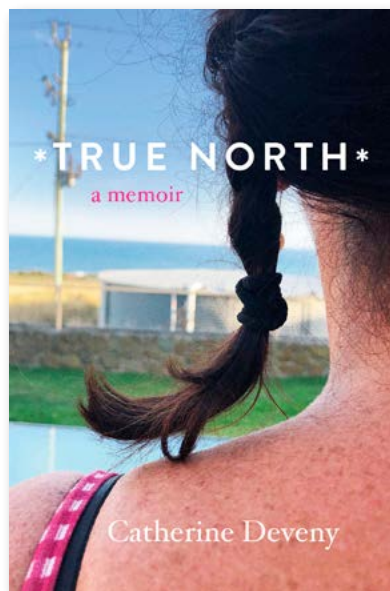
*A hilarious, heartwarming memoir of growing up and becoming oneself in an Egyptian Muslim family.*

At the turn of the millennium, Soos is growing up in an eccentric household with a lot of rules. No bikinis, despite the South-East Queensland heat. No boys, unless he’s Muslim. And no life insurance, not even when her father gets cancer.

Soos is trying to discover how to balance her parents’ strict decrees with having friendships, crushes and the freedom to develop her own values. With each rule Soos comes up against, she is forced to choose between doing what her parents say is right and following her instincts. When her family collapses, she comes to see her parents as flawed, their morals based on a muddy logic. But she will also learn that they are her strongest defenders.

For readers of Benjamin Law’s *The Family Law* and Alice Pung’s *Unpolished Gem*, this quick, clever, warm-hearted book introduces a talented new Australian voice.

**SARA EL SAYED** was born in Alexandria, Egypt. She teaches at Queensland University of Technology, where she is completing a Master of Fine Arts. Her work features in the anthologies *Growing Up African in Australia* and *Arab, Australian, Other*, among other places. She is a recipient of a Queensland Writers Fellowship and was shortlisted for the 2020 Queensland Premier’s Young Writers and Publishers Award.



**APRIL 2022  
MEMOIR**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

**PRAISE FOR USE YOUR WORDS:**

“As practical and profane as the woman who wrote it.” —Benjamin Law, author of *The Family Law*

“Everyone has a book in them. Before you write yours, however, read this. It’s brilliant. The world will thank you.” —Clare Bowditch, author of *Your Own Kind of Girl*

“Catherine Deveny’s no-nonsense attitude and comedic genius make learning fun” —Clementine Ford, author of *Fight Like a Girl*

## True North

A Memoir

**Catherine Deveny**

**An uplifting, heartfelt memoir about surviving life’s upheavals – and how to live authentically**

*Breaking up isn’t a conscious decision, it’s more of a revelation ... In the first few moments after waking each day I needed to remind myself who I was and what had happened. It was like pulling a compass out of a drawer and watching it adjust, the needle swinging around to find true north and quivering before staying there.*

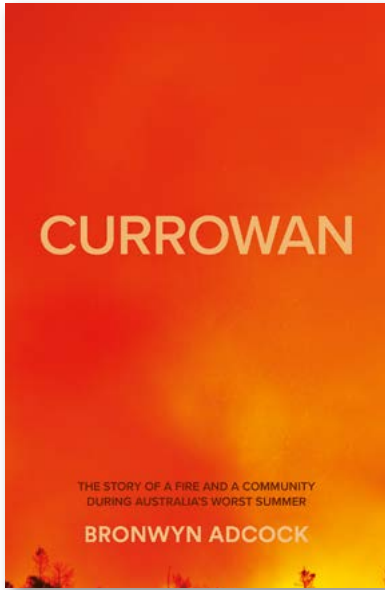
When writer Catherine Deveny faced the end of a seventeen-year relationship with the father of her children, she had no idea what lay on the other side of the months of tumult: she just knew she had to create space for a new life.

But this wasn’t the first time she’d taken a plunge into the unknown or let go of conventional assumptions. In this heartfelt and moving memoir, Deveny shares how she learnt to live life on her own terms. From her oppressive Catholic upbringing in Melbourne’s working-class inner-north, through growing independence in her teenage years and university sharehouses to life in Melbourne’s thriving cultural scene, Deveny’s life is at once highly relatable and utterly unique.

*True North* is a cathartic and uplifting read that will resonate with anyone who has gone through – or is currently living through – a major life change.

**CATHERINE DEVENY** is a writer, commentator and comedian. She is the author of nine books, including *Mental*, *Use Your Words*, *The Happiness Show*, *Free to a Good Home*, *Say When* and *It’s Not My Fault They Print Them*.

RIGHTS TO *MENTAL* SOLD TO HEAD OF ZEUS (WORLD ENGLISH-LANGUAGE EX ANZ); CHINA RENMIN UNIVERSITY PRESS (SIMPLIFIED CHINESE); BOLINDA (WORLD AUDIO)



**SEPTEMBER 2021  
ENVIRONMENT**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp

Sample: Available

Manuscript: August 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

**AUTHOR'S AWARDS: FINALIST, 2018 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEDIA AWARD; FINALIST, 2018 AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA MEDIA AWARD; FINALIST, 2018, 2007 AND 2006 UNITED NATIONS MEDIA PEACE AWARD; WINNER, 2003 UNITED NATIONALS MEDIA PEACE AWARD, AND MANY MORE.**

## Currowan

The Story of a Fire and a Community During Australia's Worst Summer

**Bronwyn Adcock**

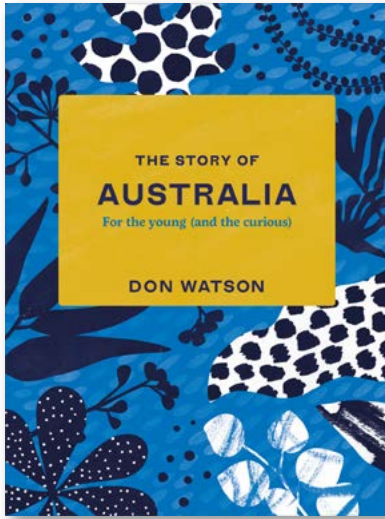
An insider's account of surviving one of Australia's worst bushfires, and how we live with fire in a climate-changed world

*Currowan* is the gripping account of the massive fire that engulfed the south coast of New South Wales in 2019–20. Ignited by a lightning strike near the Currowan state forest and burning for seventy-four days across nearly 500,000 hectares, it was among the largest and most ferocious infernos of Australia's Black Summer.

Journalist Bronwyn Adcock fled the fire with her children. Her husband, fighting at the front, rang with a plea for help before his phone went dead, leaving her to fear: *will he make it out alive?* In *Currowan*, Bronwyn tells her story, and those of many others: what they experienced, saw, thought and felt. The pacy, immersive reportage is braided with much larger themes – what we know about how fire behaves, how that is changing due to climate change, and how communities can cope with natural disaster and prepare themselves for an increasingly dangerous future.

*Currowan* is about tragedy, survival and the power of community. It is the story of a fire, and of a nation in the grip of an intensifying crisis we must all work together to solve.

**BRONWYN ADCOCK** is an award-winning Australian journalist and writer. She has worked as a radio current-affairs reporter and documentary maker for the ABC, as a video journalist for SBS's *Dateline* and as a freelance writer, including for *Griffith Review* and *The Monthly*.



**JULY 2021**  
**CHILDREN'S HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc.  
 RRP: AU\$32.99  
 Format: Hardback | 250 x 190mm | 224pp  
 Manuscript: Available  
 Rights held: World ex film/TV  
 Other rights: Cameron's Agency

## The Story of Australia

For the Young (and the Curious)

**Don Watson**

**A modern classic: Don Watson's history of Australia for children of the twenty-first century**

*History told so well it gives us a better idea of who we are – and what we might become.*

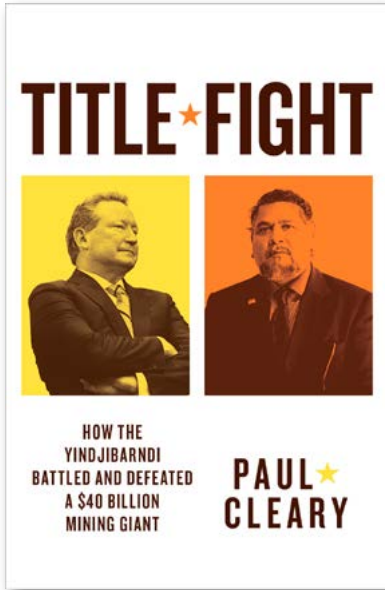
*The Story of Australia* weaves together the many strands of our nation's past – ancient and indigenous, colonial and contemporary – to create a fascinating, inclusive history for all readers, young and old.

In clear, succinct language that both children and adults will appreciate, Watson guides readers from the ancient lands of Gondwana, through human settlement, colonisation and waves of migration, to the challenges facing our diverse nation today.

Each era is brought to life in a series of beautifully illustrated spreads that capture a particular event or development – or give a snapshot of ordinary Australians at the time. Each chapter ends with a profile of a person, from the oldest Australian ever discovered, Mungo Woman, to pop icon Kylie Minogue.

*The Story of Australia* will be treasured by children and families for years to come.

**DON WATSON** is the author of many acclaimed books for adults, including *Caledonia Australis*, *Recollections of a Bleeding Heart*, *American Journeys*, *The Bush* and *Watsonia*. This is his first work for children.



## SEPTEMBER 2021 SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Imprint: Black Inc.  
RRP: AU\$32.99  
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 320pp  
Manuscript: Available  
Rights held: World; film/TV

### PRAISE FOR *TOO MUCH LUCK*:

"A fierce, concise book." —*The New Yorker*

"A rousing and valuable wake-up call that every Australian should read." —*The Age*

"A powerful and passionate case for more sophisticated management of our mineral wealth." —*The Canberra Times*

## Title Fight

How the Yindjibarndi Battled and Defeated a Mining Giant

### Paul Cleary

*A David-and-Goliath story set in the ancient landscape of the Pilbara.*

In the space of just fifteen years, Andrew "Twiggy" Forrest's Fortescue Metals Group has built a global iron-ore giant generating \$19 billion in revenue a year. But in its rush to develop, FMG has damaged and destroyed ancient Aboriginal heritage and brokered patently unfair agreements with the traditional owners of the land. When FMG has met resistance, it has used "tough and savage" litigation to secure a lucrative outcome.

But this strategy came unstuck when FMG encountered a few hundred Yindjibarndi people and their leader, Michael Woodley, who left school in grade six and was from then on immersed in his traditional culture. Woodley has led his community in an epic, thirteen-year battle against FMG, all on a shoestring budget.

Clear-eyed and humane, *Title Fight* reveals the Wild West of iron-ore mining in the Pilbara. It tells the story of how a small group of Indigenous Australians fought tenaciously to defend their spiritual connection to country. And, at a moment of national reckoning with our colonial and ancient past, with our relationship to the land, it asks some critical questions: Who does the land belong to? Who gets to choose what it's used for? And whose side are we on?

**PAUL CLEARY** has analysed the politics and economics of Australia's reliance on mining and its impact on Aboriginal communities for more than a decade. He is the author of six books, including *Too Much Luck*, *Mine-Field* and *Trillion Dollar Baby*.

THE AUTHOR'S PREVIOUS BOOK *TRILLION DOLLAR BABY* WAS PUBLISHED IN THE UK BY BITEBACK

# Noel Pearson

## *Mission*

Essays, Speeches & Ideas

## Mission

Essays, Speeches & Ideas

### Noel Pearson

*With clarity and passion, Pearson inspires readers to see difficult and controversial issues in new ways.*

*Mission* traces a life of politics, ideas and inspiring words. Whether he is evoking his early life among the Guugu Yimithirr Aboriginal people at Hope Vale, Queensland, or making an eloquent case for Indigenous recognition, or outlining his vision of a reconciled, multicultural Australia, Noel Pearson confirms he is one of Australia's most powerful and influential thinkers – and an extraordinary writer.

*Mission* selects the best of Pearson's work to date. There are indelible portraits of political leaders seen close up – Keating, Rudd, Whitlam, Turnbull and more. There is Pearson's brilliant vision of a Voice to Parliament that led eventually to the Uluru Statement from the Heart. And there are acute analyses – of passive welfare; of the fate of the Labor Party; of identity politics good and bad; and of education and the role of an inspiring teacher.

*Mission* is honest, powerful, provocative and utterly original.

**NOEL PEARSON** is the founder and director of the Cape York Partnership, and the author of *Up From the Mission*, two Quarterly Essays and many essays, articles and speeches.

### NOVEMBER 2021 SELECTED WRITINGS

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$49.99

Format: Hardback | 234 x 153mm | 576pp

Manuscript: Available

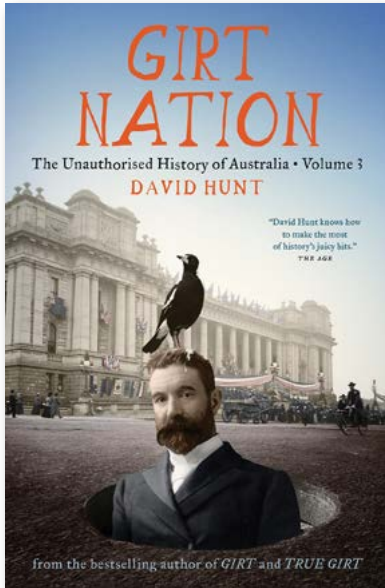
Rights held: World; film/TV

#### PRAISE FOR A RIGHTFUL PLACE:

"Clarity, goodwill, flexibility and realism  
[...] Noel Pearson offers them in abundance."  
—Paul Kelly, musician and author

"Pearson has prompted quite a few  
conservative Australians to a change of heart"  
—Tony Abbott, former prime minister  
of Australia





## NOVEMBER 2021 HISTORY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 336pp

Manuscript: August 2021

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Rights sold: World English audio (Audible)

Other rights: film/TV retained by the author

**PRAISE FOR GIRT AND TRUE GIRT:**

“An engaging, witty and utterly irreverent take on Australian history.” —Graeme Simson, author of *The Rosie Project*

“Very funny stuff, and I’m assuming it’s all true? ... It’s great! The footnotes are consistently hilarious.” —Matthew Schofield, a director of *The Simpsons*, on Twitter @Mr\_Schofield

“Unputdownable. I loved it.” —Paula Byrne, author of the international bestsellers *The Real Jane Austen* and *Kick: The True Story of JFK’s Sister and the Heir to Chatsworth*

## Girt Nation

The Unauthorised History of Australia – Volume 3

David Hunt

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

David Hunt tramples the tall poppies of the past in charting Australia’s transformation from aspiration to nation – an epic tale of charlatans and costermongers, of bush bards and bushier beards, of workers and women who weren’t going to take it anymore.

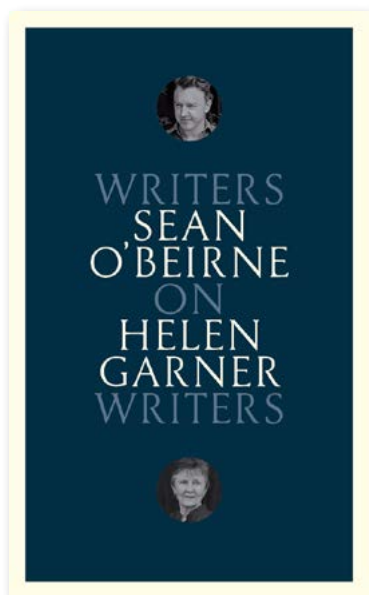
*Girt Nation* introduces Alfred Deakin, the Liberal necromancer whose dead advisors made Australia a better place to live, and Banjo Paterson, the jihadist who called on God and the Prophet to drive the Australian infidels from the Sudan “like sand before the gale”. And meet Catherine Helen Spence, the feminist polymath who envisaged a utopian future of free contraceptives, easy divorce and immigration restrictions to prevent the “Chinese coming to destroy all we have struggled for!”

Thrill as Jandamarra leads the Bunuba against Western Australia, and Valentine Keating leads the Crutchy Push, an all-amputee street gang, against the conventionally limbed. Gasp as Essendon Football Club trainer Carl von Ledebur injects his charges with crushed dog and goat testicles. Weep as Scott Morrison’s communist great-great-aunt Mary Gilmore holds a hose in New Australia. And marvel at how Labor, a political party that spent a quarter of a century infighting over how to spell its own name, ever rose to power.

**DAVID HUNT** is an unusually tall and handsome man who likes writing his own biographical notes. He is the author of the bestselling *Girt* and *True Girt*, as well as two books for children. David is also a television presenter and podcaster, and has a birthmark that looks like Tasmania, only smaller and not as far south.

TOGETHER, *GIRT* AND *TRUE GIRT* HAVE SOLD OVER 100,000 COPIES IN ANZ





## FEBRUARY 2022 BIOGRAPHY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$17.99

Format: Hardback | 181 x 111mm | 96pp

Manuscript: October 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

### PRAISE FOR *A COUPLE OF THINGS BEFORE THE END*:

“Astonishing [...] Complicated and savage and difficult and funny and melancholy, it’s both harsh and a caress. How do we speak and write into a future? I think Sean O’Beirne is showing us one way of doing it.”

—Christos Tsiolkas, Booker–longlisted author of *The Slap*

“Hailing ‘a promising new voice’ is a useful cliché of criticism, and one which Sean O’Beirne’s debut collection earns as literally, and as variously, as possible.” —*The Monthly*

“Brilliant [...] O’Beirne’s writing is precise, but also incredibly fluid and reflexive.”  
—*Readings Monthly*

## On Helen Garner

### Writers on Writers

#### Sean O’Beirne

A brilliant essay by one of Australia’s most exciting literary talents, which offers new insights into Garner’s entire body of work and her life as a writer.

*What I love in Helen Garner’s writing is a particular kind of closeness to self, the good, greedy, mistaken, emotional, fierce, sceptical, changing and disrupting self. Garner makes so much from what seems to be just her individual sense, individual observation – rather than anything made by and for the group. But I also love the beautiful strong contradiction in her work: she’s always fighting to come back enough, as well, to find enough that can stop the self; enough of a good order, a rule, a law, a family, a home.*

In a brilliantly argued and very personal essay, Sean O’Beirne looks at the whole of Helen Garner’s writing life so far – from *Monkey Grip* to the recently published *Diaries* – while trying to come to terms with the demands, and the rewards, of Garner’s extraordinary, radical individualism and honesty.

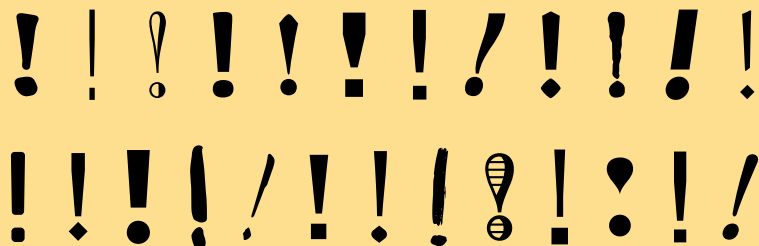
In the *Writers on Writers* series, leading authors reflect on an Australian writer who has inspired and fascinated them. Provocative and crisp, these books start a fresh conversation between past and present, shed new light on the craft of writing, and introduce some intriguing and talented authors and their work.

Published by Black Inc. in association with the University of Melbourne and State Library Victoria.

**SEAN O’BEIRNE** grew up in Melbourne’s outer suburbs, and studied arts, law and acting. His first book, the satirical short-story collection *A Couple of Things Before the End*, was shortlisted for the QLD Literary Awards and the NSW Premier’s Literary Awards.



**LA TROBE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS**





## MAY 2022 TECHNOLOGY

Imprint: La Trobe University Press

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 336pp

Sample: Available

Manuscript: September 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

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# The Child of Our Brains

AI and the Quest to Build Moral Machines

Toby Walsh

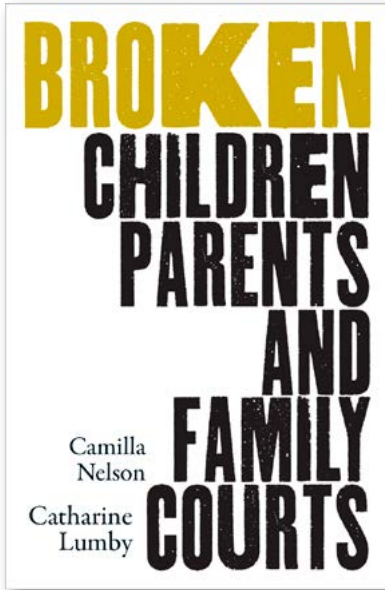
Artificial Intelligence is an indispensable part of our lives – for better or worse. It can be used to influence what we buy, who gets shortlisted for a job and even how we vote. AI induces nightmares about “killer robots”, thanks to Hollywood films, and more realistic nightmares about our devices spying on us – George Orwell got it wrong in *1984*: it’s not people watching us we should be worried about, it’s computers.

Without AI, we’d still be getting lost on backroads without our GPS, Knight Rider’s KITT would be as close as we’d be to a self-driving car and smartphones wouldn’t be so, well, smart. But what lies in store for humanity as we build more intelligent and autonomous machines?

Professor Toby Walsh, a leading researcher in the field of Artificial Intelligence, explores the ethical considerations and unexpected consequences AI poses. Can we build machines that behave ethically? What happens if an autonomous AI kills someone? Is Alexa racist? Can AI help tackle the climate emergency? What limits should we place on face recognition software? Can robots have rights? And what regulations can we put in place to ensure AI makes the world a better place?

*The Child of Our Brains* takes us on a thought-provoking look at the increasing human reliance on robotics and what that might mean in the future, not only for humanity, but also for the planet.

**TOBY WALSH** is one of the world’s leading researchers in Artificial Intelligence. He is a Professor of Artificial Intelligence at the University of New South Wales and leads a research group at Data61, Australia’s Centre of Excellence for ICT Research. He has been elected a fellow of the Association for the Advancement of AI for his contributions to AI research, and has won the prestigious Humboldt research award. He is the author of *It’s Alive!* and *2062*.



**SEPTEMBER 2021**  
**SOCIETY AND CULTURE**

Imprint: La Trobe University Press

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

## Broken

Children, Parents and Family Courts

**Camilla Nelson and Catharine Lumby**

*A devastating account of how Australia's family courts fail children, families and victims of domestic abuse.*

The family courts intimately affect the lives of those who come before them. Judges can decide where you are allowed to live and work, which school your child can attend and whether you are even permitted to see your child. Lawyers can interrogate every aspect of your personal life during cross-examination, and argue whether or not you are fit to be a parent.

*Broken* explores the complexities and failures of Australia's family courts through the stories of children and parents whose lives have been shattered by them. Camilla Nelson and Catharine Lumby take the reader into the back rooms of the system to show us what it feels like to be caught up in spirals of abusive litigation. They reveal how the courts have been politicised by Pauline Hanson and men's rights groups, and how those they are meant to protect most – children – are silenced or treated as property.

Exploring the legal culture, gender politics and financial incentives that drive the system, *Broken* reveals how the family courts – despite the high ideals on which they were founded – have turned into the worst possible place for children and families devastated by domestic abuse.

**CAMILLA NELSON** is an associate professor in media at the University of Notre Dame Australia. A former Walkley Award winner, her writing has appeared in *The Conversation*, *The Independent*, *Guardian Australia*, *Mamamia*, *Marie Claire* and the ABC. *Broken* is her fifth book.

**CATHARINE LUMBY** is a media professor at the University of Sydney. She has a law degree, is the author of six books and has written for *The Guardian*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, ABC-TV and *The Bulletin*.



**FEBRUARY 2022  
HISTORY**

Imprint: La Trobe University Press

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 368pp

Manuscript: August 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

## Guilty Pigs

**The Weird and Wonderful History of Animal Law**

**Katy Barnett and Jeremy Gans**

*Animal law has a long and intriguing history.*

The problem of what to do with animals that injure or kill people goes back to Biblical times when laws sought to deal with “the goring ox”. Most startlingly, in medieval Europe “killer” animals were put on trial, including horses, cattle and most often pigs, which were then notorious for eating young children. Even in the early twentieth century, violent circus elephants in America were summarily executed for their crimes.

Animal law experts Katy Barnett and Jeremy Gans guide readers through this fascinating history of the philosophy and practice of animal-related law, from the very earliest cases to the issues we are debating today.

**KATY BARNETT** is a professor of law at the University of Melbourne. She is the author of the Young Adult novel *The Earth Below* and co-author of *Remedies in Australian Private Law*.

**JEREMY GANS** is a professor of law at the University of Melbourne. He is the author of *Modern Criminal Law of Australia* and *The Ouija Board Jurors: Mystery, Mischief and Misery in the Jury System*, a true crime book. He is a co-author of *Uniform Evidence*.



## Judith Wright

### Selected Writings

Edited by Georgina Arnott

Judith Wright was born into a pioneering bush family and managed to become the conscience of Australia on the vexed issues of Aboriginal land rights and the environment before they became fashionable. She was the author of several important collections of poetry, including *The Moving Image*. Her work is noted for a keen focus on the Australian environment, which began to gain prominence in Australian art in the years following World War II. She deals with the relationship between settlers, Indigenous Australians and the bush, among other themes. Wright was well known for her campaigning in support of the conservation of the Great Barrier Reef and Fraser Island. With some friends, she helped found one of the earliest nature conservation movements, the Australian Conservation Foundation. This selection will draw from her autobiography, criticism, essays, letters and works of history.

**GEORGINA ARNOTT** is the author of *The Unknown Judith Wright* (2016, UWA Publishing), which was shortlisted for the National Biography Award in 2017. She is a research associate in history at Monash University and was a member of the judging panel for the National Biography Award in 2018.

### MARCH 2022 SELECTED WRITINGS

Imprint: La Trobe University Press

RRP: \$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 336pp

Sample: Available

Manuscript: August 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

### PRaise FOR THE UNKNOWN JUDITH WRIGHT:

“Georgina Arnott is an exemplar historian. She not only delivers on the book’s marketing buildup, but judiciously positions her own text not as replacement but as essential companion to the biographies that have come before.” —*Cordite Poetry Review*

“*The Unknown Judith Wright* is the sort of book we need more of – a carefully researched account of an Australian writer that sheds new light on their life while not setting out to tear them down, bringing together in one author the skills of the historian and the literary critic.”

—Nathan Hobby, biographer



**APRIL 2022**

**SOCIETY AND CULTURE**

Imprint: La Trobe University Press

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 368pp

Manuscript: October 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

**PRAISE FOR *CRIME AND PUNISHMENT*:**

“This book is for anyone who despairs at the current system. But more importantly, it is for those who think punishment is the answer.” —*The Age*

“A reflective, well-argued book ... what makes it even more compelling is Marks also offers suggestions on a different (better) system of crime and punishment.”  
—*The Sydney Morning Herald*

# **Incarceration Nation**

**Race and Justice in Australia**

**Russell Marks**

Everyone knows about the mass incarceration crisis affecting African-American men. In Australia, the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous imprisonment rates is six times larger than the gap between those of black and white Americans, and growing – yet very few Australians are talking about it.

Most of those who do focus on the problems within Aboriginal families and communities. These analyses invariably end up calling for more intervention by more government agencies, which are assumed to be benevolent and unbiased. But are they? What happens if the institutions of Australia’s criminal justice systems – courts, police forces, parliaments and government departments – are subject to the same kind of scrutiny to which they routinely subject Aboriginal people?

This groundbreaking analysis, based in vivid case studies, explains how the justice system works – or doesn’t – for many Indigenous people.

**RUSSELL MARKS** is the author of *Crime and Punishment: Offenders and Victims in a Broken Justice System*. He has written for *Inside Story*, *The Saturday Paper*, *The Monthly*, *The Conversation* and *ABR*. He is also a practising lawyer, with experience in the Northern Territory and Victoria.



**APRIL 2022  
BIOGRAPHY**

Imprint: La Trobe University Press

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 384pp

Manuscript: November 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

**PRAISE FOR A FREE FLAME:**

“Ann-Marie Priest writes with admirable clarity and a strong sense of appreciation for her subjects. *A Free Flame* weaves fascinating biographical details and critical insights into an examination of the various ways in which these talented artists negotiated the tension between their sense of vocation and the hindering cultural expectations they faced as women.” —James Ley, critic and judge of the Dorothy Hewett Prize

## My Tongue Is My Own

A Life of Gwen Harwood

**Anne-Marie Priest**

Gwen Harwood is one of Australia's most loved and admired writers and a major poet of the twentieth century. In the decades following her earliest publication in the 1940s, she blasted her way into the patriarchal strongholds of the poetry world, challenging orthodoxies and speaking in an extraordinary range of voices. By the end of her life, Harwood had become a unique and powerful presence in Australian poetry and claimed an enduring place for herself in our literary history.

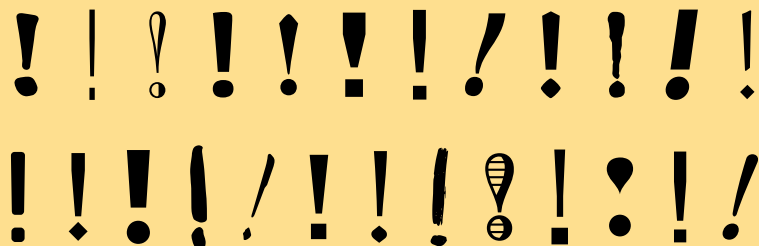
This is the very first biography of Gwen Harwood to be published, much awaited and long overdue. Until now, in the year that marks the centenary of her birth, only the broadest details of Harwood's life have been known to her readers and little has been said of the experiences that gave rise to her remarkable poetry. Drawing on Harwood's autobiographical writing and unpublished correspondence, and on interviews with friends, colleagues and the poet herself, Ann-Marie Priest delivers a meticulously researched and insightful portrait of one of Australia's most celebrated and significant poets.

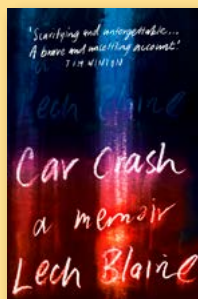
**ANN-MARIE PRIEST** is the author of *A Free Flame: Australian Women Writers and Vocation in the Twentieth Century*, which was highly commended in the 2016 Dorothy Hewett Award, and *Great Writers, Great Loves: The Reinvention of Love in the Twentieth Century*. In 2017, she won the Hazel Rowley Literary Fellowship for her work on this biography of poet Gwen Harwood.





## CURRENT BESTSELLERS





## Car Crash

A Memoir

Lech Blaine

*"Scarifying and unforgettable, Car Crash is a story of carnage and life-long consequences – not just from a single, sudden catastrophe but from the long, slow cataclysm of masculine confusion. A brave and unsettling account."*

—Tim Winton, bestselling author of Cloudstreet

Imprint: Black Inc.

Release: March 2021

RRP: \$29.99

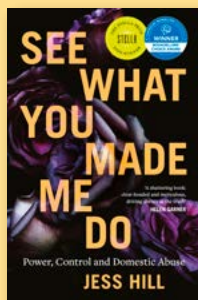
Format: PB | 234 x 143mm | 272pp

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: World English ex ANZ

(Greystone Books); ANZ audio

(Bolinda)



## See What You Made Me Do

Power, Control and Domestic Abuse

Jess Hill

*A searing investigation that challenges everything you thought you knew about domestic abuse.*

Imprint: Black Inc.

Release: June 2019

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: PB | 234 x 153mm | 416pp

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: North America

(Sourcebooks); UK/Comm ex ANZ

(Hurst Publishing); Hungary (Alexandra

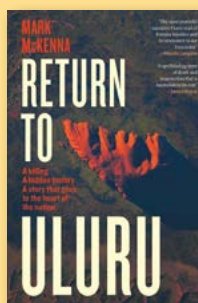
Kiado); Russia (Eksmo Publishing);

Traditional Chinese character (Sharp

Point Press); Turkey (Okuyanur); UK/

Comm audio (Audible); Film/TV

(Northern Pictures)



## Return to Uluru

Mark McKenna

*A killing. A hidden history. A story that goes to the heart of the nation.*

Imprint: Black Inc.

Release: February 2021

Format: HB | 234 x 153mm | 272pp

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Rights sold: World English (Dutton,

Penguin US); ANZ audio (Wavesound);

Poland (Artrage)



# The Shortest History of China

**Linda Jaivin**

*A pacy history of China that can be read in an afternoon, but will transform your perspective for a lifetime.*

Imprint: Black Inc.

Release: May 2021

RRP: AU\$24.99

Format: PB | 198 x 128mm | 288pp

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Rights sold: UK/Comm ex ANZ (Old Street Publishing); UK/Comm audio

(Tantor); North America (The

Experiment); Japan (Tokyo Shoseki Co);

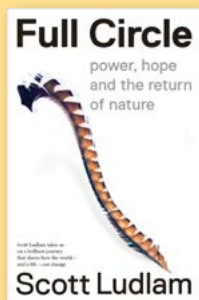
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Other rights: Left Bank Literary



# Full Circle

**A Search for the World that Comes Next**

**Scott Ludlam**

*"Australia lost a senator, the world gained a luminous writer. Scott Ludlam's Full Circle is at once a comic chronicle of the climate apocalypse, a heartbreaking work of paleohistory, a fugitive tourist diary, strange, uncategorisable and magnificent." —Raj Patel, author of Stuffed and Starved and The Value of Nothing*

Imprint: Black Inc.

Release: May 2021

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: PB | 234 x 153mm | 384pp

Rights held: World; film/TV



# Jacinda Ardern

**A New Kind of Leader**

**Madeleine Chapman**

*The fascinating story of an international icon – one of the world's most inspiring, progressive leaders.*

Imprint: Nero

Release: March 2021

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: PB | 234 x 153mm | 320pp

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: Hungary (Alexandra Kiado);

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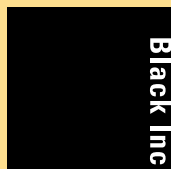
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