

LONDON
RIGHTS GUIDE
2022



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LONDON RIGHTS GUIDE 2022

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FICTION



**JUNE 2022
FICTION**

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$24.99
Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 192pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV

“Scott McCulloch gives us an entry into a world of intense life – at once entirely immanent and deeply radical. Through a narrative with and beyond times and places, he demonstrates that life only exists when anchored in the musicality of life – a great manifestation of which lies in his own writing.”—Donatien Grau, author, art critic and Professor of Literature, the Sorbonne

Basin

A Novel

Scott McCulloch

A dark and compelling work by a new voice in Australian – and world – literary fiction

A nomad swallows poison and drowns himself. Resuscitated by a paramilitary bandit named Aslan, Figure is nursed back into a world of violence, sexuality and dementia. Together, Figure and Aslan traverse a coastline erupting in conflict. When the nearest city is ethnically cleansed, Figure escapes on the last ship evacuating to the other isle of the sea. Crossing village to village largely on foot, a slew of outcasts and ghosts guide him as he navigates states of cultural and metaphysical crisis.

Scott McCulloch’s debut novel, *Basin*, explores the axis of landscape and consciousness. Echoing the modernist tradition, and written in an incendiary yet elliptical prose style, *Basin* maps the phenomenon of a civilisation being reborn – a hallucinatory elegy to the inter-zones of self and place.

Born in Melbourne, based between Ukraine and the Caucasus since 2014, and having recently moved to the Mediterranean, where he divides his time between Greece and Lebanon, **SCOTT MCCULLOCH** works with prose, essay and sound. His writings have appeared in *Southerly*, *Australian Book Review*, *Art & Australia Magazine*, *Kill Your Darlings* and elsewhere. *Basin* is his debut novel.



MAY 2022
FICTION

Imprint: Upswell Publishing

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 150mm | 128pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: Hungary (Európa)

“Arch, tender and playful, this is a startling, evocative and moving debut.”

—Felicity Plunkett, award-winning author of *Vanishing Point*

“A work of art so exquisite it will leave you in silent, breathless appreciation.”

—Ceridwen Dovey, award-winning author of *Life After Truth*

Fugitive

Simon Tedeschi

A beautiful work of the imagination, straddling history, memory, trauma and testimony

I am less interested in what people say to me after a performance of the Mimolyotnosti than by the weave of their silences. After so many years, instinct has taught me how to read breathing (as poetry is a special kind of speaking, listening is heightened hearing).

In 1917, a young composer completes a suite of twenty pieces for piano. Each pass by like a gust of wind. They are short, violent and strange – the music of another world.

In 1938, a young Jewish family flees Italy for Sydney, Australia.

In 1942, another family, this time Polish, is nearly destroyed.

Half a century later, a young man begins to understand the role the young composer’s strange visions have played in everything that came before him and all that has come to be.

In his first book, Simon Tedeschi applies elements – from history, memory and the body of the musician – to make a remarkable work of imagination and fractal beauty. He straddles the borders of poetry and prose, fiction and fact, trauma and testimony. *Fugitive* is filled with what Russian poet Konstantin Balmont called the *fickle play of rainbows*.

Known primarily as a concert pianist, **SIMON TEDESCHI** has written for publications across Australia. When he is not writing or practising, he reads books and drinks coffee. He and his wife, the painter Loribelle Spirovski, live in Sydney, Australia with their cat. *Fugitive* is his first book.



**JUNE 2021
FICTION**

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 256pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World English
Rights sold: ANZ audio (Bolinda)

BLACK INC. BESTSELLER

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 OAM is an award-winning writer based in Melbourne. She is the internationally bestselling author of the memoirs *Unpolished Gem* and *Her Father's Daughter*. Her first novel, *Laurinda*, won the Ethel Turner Prize at the 2016 NSW Premier's Literary Awards, sold over 20,000 copies in ANZ and was published in the US (Knopf) and UK (Legend Press). Alice was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for services to literature in 2022.

PRAISE FOR ONE HUNDRED DAYS

“*One Hundred Days* is the tale of mothers and daughters the world over – the relationships we navigate, the weight of our histories, and how, no matter the fractures life throws between us, our daughters will always hum us home. Pung’s characters are so real, I could feel them in the room. There is no word out of place, no sentence that doesn’t sing with poetry. This is truly fiction at its fiercest. It is a masterpiece, a triumph – Pung’s greatest work yet.”

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

“*One Hundred Days* tells a story about growing up, discovering the difference between love and control, and taking responsibility. I loved the details: they spoke of a whole world. How I admired this young, determined protagonist. The book is wonderful; I read it all in one sitting.”

—Sofie Laguna, Miles Franklin-winning author of *The Choke*

“What is astounding about *One Hundred Days* is that while it is fearlessly honest about the damage family members can inflict on one another, it is also full of forgiveness and harmony and grace. Pung’s discernment and command as a writer is astonishing, elating. I adore this book.”

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

“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* is a heartachingly personal story about love, motherhood and the different forms they both take ... a must-read for fans of *The Mothers* by Brit Bennett.”

—Books and Publishing

“*One Hundred Days* can be an uncomfortable read ... but Pung’s writing is also infused with humour, warmth, and an understanding of what it is to be both mother and daughter.”

—Australian Book Review

“A deceptively simple plot under which bubbles the latent power of raw emotional need and complicated love. Pung’s writing is liltingly lovely; every word careful and considered.”

—Jackie Tang, *Readings Monthly*

“Stunning ... *One Hundred Days* is Pung’s best work so far, but know that it will break your heart ... It’s here to challenge our perceptions of love, family and culture. It’s here to pull on our heartstrings and have us turn each page faster and faster, desperate to know the ending.”

—ArtsHub

“A glorious song of a novel ... Pung changes our perceptions and sympathies, building characters with depth and complexity ... At its core, this is an uplifting story of a woman defining her own life, knowing that she will give her child the freedom to do the same.”

—The Saturday Paper

“A thoughtful, finely observed book”

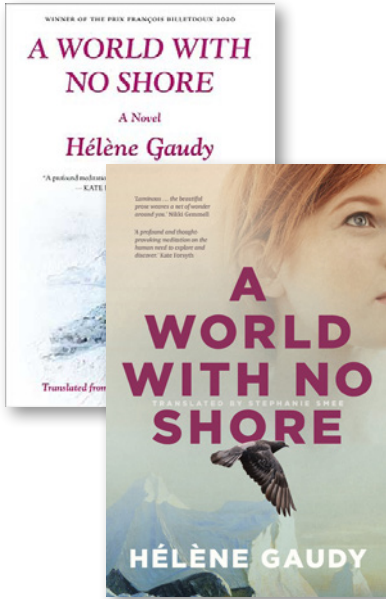
—The West Australian

“A compelling portrayal of the teetering movement from girl to woman ... A modern fairy tale for and about those who live in housing commission flats, for those who don’t feel they are worth anything, those who feel like they don’t count.”

—Sydney Review of Books

“*One Hundred Days* is written with Pung’s characteristic verve and attention to detail and dialogue.”

—Thuy On, *Saturday Age*



A World With No Shore

A Novel

Hélène Gaudy

Translated by Stephanie Smee

The surprise French bestseller – a brilliant contemporary twist on the historical novel

I can't go with you. Spring 1897 – Anna Charlier farewells her fiancé Nils, the explorer, as he sets off to conquer the world. She will endure many years of waiting and the unknown, will marry and move continents, but will never be able to forget.

Summer 1930, Svalbard, Norway – a walrus-hunting boat sets sail for White Island, one of the last lands before the North Pole. The melting 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 thirty-three years – the disappearance in July 1897 of Salomon August Andrée, Knut Frænkel and Nils Strindberg as they tried to reach the North Pole in a hydrogen balloon. Among the remains some rolls of negatives are found and one hundred images are retrieved.

Based on these lunar-like black-and-white photographs and the expedition logbook, Hélène Gaudy retraces and reimagines this great adventure that was blown off course, weaving in the painfully beautiful love affair of Nils and Anna. From the conquest of the skies to the exploration of the poles, this haunting and brilliant award-winning novel, set in the ethereal landscape of the Arctic, reflects on the human need to discover, describe, conquer and ultimately shrink the world.

Born in Paris in 1979, **HÉLÈNE 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.

FEBRUARY 2022
FICTION

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$29.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 272pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World English
Rights sold: North America (Zerogram Press);
World English audio (Blackstone)

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*.

WINNER OF THE FRANÇOIS BILLETDOUX 2020, LONGLISTED FOR LE PRIX GONCOURT AND SHORTLISTED FOR LE PRIX JOSEPH KESSEL.



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)

“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, award-winning author of *Life After Truth*

“Endlessly inventive and funny and translated with serious genius from the French by Australia’s Stephanie Smee, who’s captured every curlicue. It’s an absolute delight.”
—Annabel Crabb

“Extraordinary ... *The Rome Zoo* is beautifully written. Immaculately conceived, constructed and paced, its separate narratives run together with the fluidity of a fever dream.”
—*The Australian*

The Rome Zoo

Pascal Janovjak
Translated by **Stephanie Smee**

A love affair, a rare animal and a secret plot – *The Rome Zoo* is a powerful and darkly funny novel set in the lush gardens of the Villa Borghese

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

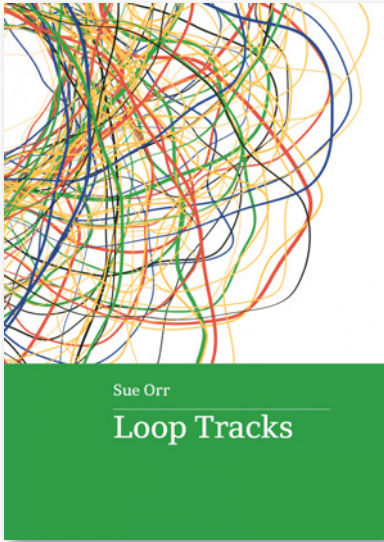
The Rome Zoo: a place born of fantasy and driven by a nation’s aspirations. It has witnessed – and reflected in its tarnished mirror – the great follies of the twentieth century. Now, in an ongoing battle that has seen it survive world wars and epidemics, the zoo must once again reinvent itself, and 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 dreamy, 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. In 2020 he received the Swiss Literature Award, the Prix Michel-Detan and the Prix du public de la RTS. *The Rome Zoo* is his most recent novel.



MARCH 2022
FICTION

Imprint: Upswell Publishing
RRP: AU\$29.99
Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 336pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV
Rights sold: World English audio (Findaway)

“*Loop Tracks* is a wonderful novel written in time, for our times. It’s about abortion and euthanasia, conspiracy theories and intergenerational guilt, but mainly it’s about the love between a grandmother and her grown-up grandson.” —Ingrid Horrocks

“A compassionate, unflinching story that flows off the page. *Loop Tracks* is a major achievement.” —*New Zealand Listener*

“This fictional inter-generational story will speak to a wide readership about the choices that are important for our future.” —Dame Margaret Sparrow

Loop Tracks

Sue Orr

An utterly compelling novel about the simple twists of fate around history and women’s lives

It’s 1978. Charlie is sixteen and pregnant and the only legal abortion clinic in Auckland has been forced to close. She has to fly to Sydney, but the plane is delayed on the tarmac.

It’s 2019. Charlie’s quiet life in Wellington with her neurodivergent grandson is shattered by the arrival of his first girlfriend and the father he has never met.

As the Covid-19 pandemic takes hold and the country goes into lockdown, Charlie must counsel her grandson through his new relationships and confront the choices she made decades earlier.

Loop Tracks is a major New Zealand novel, written in real time as the Covid-19 pandemic, New Zealand general election and euthanasia referendum in 2020 unfolded.

SUE ORR is the award-winning author of two books of short stories and a novel. She teaches creative writing at Victoria University, Wellington. Since 2016, she has set up programs and taught creative writing for women in women’s refuges and prisons. She lives in Wellington with her husband, Adrian Orr.

NEW ZEALAND BESTSELLER

LONGLISTED FOR THE OCKHAM NEW ZEALAND BOOK AWARDS 2022

NON-
FICTION



NOVEMBER 2022 BIOGRAPHY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 336pp

Sample: Available

Manuscript: July 2022

Rights held: World ex film/TV

PADDY MANNING is the author of several award-winning books, including biographies of Malcolm Turnbull and Nathan Tinkler. During almost twenty years in journalism he has worked for *Crikey*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *Australian Financial Review* and *The Australian*, and has won several awards for journalistic excellence. His most recent book, *Body Count*, won the 2021 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for non-fiction.

The Successor

The High-Stakes Life of Lachlan Murdoch

Paddy Manning

The world's first biography of Lachlan Murdoch

As heir apparent to the first global media dynasty, Lachlan Murdoch has been waiting to run his father Rupert's empire all his life. In this riveting first biography of a little-understood but hugely influential figure, acclaimed journalist Paddy Manning asks: can the dutiful son hang onto the empire, or will the third generation of Murdoch moguls prove the last?

Despite a life in the spotlight, Lachlan's personality, politics and business acumen remain enigmatic. Is he the ultra-conservative ideologue media reports maintain, or a free-thinking libertarian, as some friends suggest? As CEO of Fox News, America's most powerful right-wing media voice, what role did he play in the rise of Donald Trump and now in Trump's push for re-election?

After emerging victorious from the Murdoch family's turbulent succession wars, Lachlan is stepping up at a time of unprecedented instability. What can we expect from his time at the helm, and does he have what it takes to chart a future for this century-old company? This is a book about the good, the bad and the ugly of the global media world, and about America in the age of Trump and Murdoch. It is a book about power, apprenticeship and succession.



MAY 2023
SELF-HELP

Imprint: Nero

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Manuscript: June 2022

Rights held: World; film/TV

ROS BEN-MOSHE is one of Australia's leading laughter wellness and positivity resilience experts and founding director of LaughLife Wellbeing Programs. She is an adjunct lecturer at the School of Public Health and Psychology at La Trobe University and a global Laughter Ambassador for Laughter Yoga International. Ros writes for and appears regularly in the media, speaking about laughter, positivity, resilience and wellbeing. She is the author of *Laughing at cancer: How to heal with love, laughter and mindfulness*.

The Laughter Effect

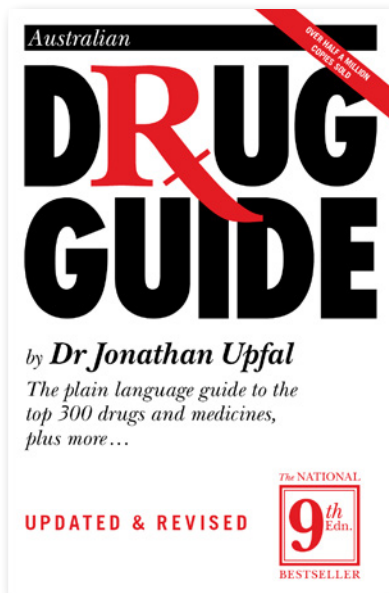
Ros Ben-Moshe

A transformative body-mind guide to turbocharge humour, laughter and joy in your life

In *The Laughter Effect* positivity resilience expert Ros Ben-Moshe offers practical guidance on how to get more joy in your life. *The Laughter Effect* is a powerful body-mind philosophy that enhances wellbeing and provides a humorous lens through which to view the world. It's no laughing matter. Well maybe a little.

In this book, Ros shares diverse techniques to tap into the lighter side of life, to awaken both your inner and outer smile. Drawing on research and wisdom from humour and laughter therapy, along with positive psychology and neuroscience, *The Laughter Effect* offers a new dimension to self-care, elevating mindfulness, gratitude and self-compassion practices

Enriched by case studies from around the globe and the latest scientific research, Ros shares how the highly accessible laughter effect enhances resilience to stress, enabling you to respond to adversity by bouncing forward with humour, levity and grace. Living *The Laughter Effect* will awaken a positive change in how you respond to the world around you, and, in turn, how the world responds to you.



AUGUST 2022
HEALTH

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$49.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 1056pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World ex film/TV

Dr **JONATHAN UPFAL** is the author of the *Australian Drug Guide*, a multi-edition, bestselling consumer guide to medications, and co-author of *Your Medical Tests: What Do They Really Mean?* Dr Upfal graduated with honours from the Medical Faculty of the University of Sydney in 1982. He has since worked in medicine, psychiatry and general practice and is currently living in Melbourne.

Top 300 Drug Guide

Jonathan Upfal

Before you take any medication, make sure you know the facts

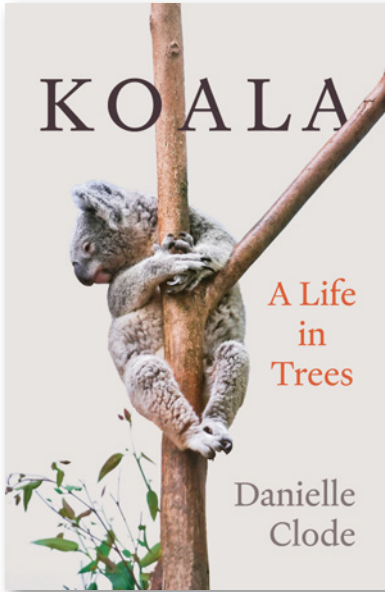
The fully revised and updated ninth edition of *Top 300 Drug Guide* brings you over 1000 pages of up-to-the-minute information that could mean the difference between life and death for you or someone you know.

It offers fast, to-the-point answers, or in-depth coverage of over 97% of all medicines prescribed in the USA.

In plain English, Dr Jonathan Upfal offers practical advice you can trust about the most used drugs:

- what the drug is for
- how it works in your body
- how to take the drug
- what to do if you miss a dose
- how long before you can expect to benefit from taking it
- severe and minor side effects
- things you must tell your doctor before taking the drug
- when you should not take the drug
- chemical names and drug classes
- all brand names and if a cheaper generic version is available

Top 300 Drug Guide also includes a safety checklist for age, pregnancy, breastfeeding, sport, driving, alcohol, pre-existing conditions and interactions with other medications. In *Top 300 Drug Guide*, you'll find the answers to all your questions about the medicines prescribed for you and your family. In a time where misinformation in the health world continues to escalate, you can't afford to be without this easy-to-use reference.



OCTOBER 2022
ENVIRONMENTAL

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 336pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World ex film/TV
Rights sold: World English ex ANZ (W.W. Norton); Russia (Azbuka-Attikus)

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

An immersive, entertaining journey into the hidden life of the koala, revealing what life is really like up in the trees

Despite their iconic status and celebrity, koalas remain something of a mystery. Often affectionate in captivity, they seek out human assistance when in need of water or care yet can also be fierce and belligerent. They are beloved worldwide and feature in popular children's stories, but are also plagued by sexually transmitted diseases and maligned for a lack of intelligence. Their diet consists solely of leaves that are full of toxins. In some states they are threatened with extinction, while in others they are dying from overpopulation.

Fuelled by her biologist's background and deep curiosity, Danielle Clode delves into the world of koalas to discover what's behind the sweet face on thousands of postcards. From their megafaunal ancestors to the disastrous effects of colonisation, from remarkable conservation success in the 1920s to the devastating bushfires of 2019–2020, Clode tells the story of koalas and their complex relationship with humans. Sharing the latest scientific insights and myth-busting facts, all woven through Clode's award-winning storytelling, *Koala* takes readers up into the trees to reveal the truth about this extraordinary animal and what must be done to ensure its survival.



JULY 2022
ENVIRONMENTAL

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV

“A fascinating history of Australia’s wildlife and the wilder men and women who shot, studied and saved it ... Compelling and entertaining.” —David Hunt, author of the bestselling *Girt* trilogy

Of Marsupials and Men

Alistair Paton

A brilliantly entertaining book about Australia’s bewildering natural history

Of Marsupials and Men recounts the fascinating and often hilarious history of the men and women who dedicated their lives to understanding Australia’s native animals.

To the first European colonists, Australian wildlife was bewildering. Marsupials and gum trees seemed strange and hostile; rabbits, sheep and oak trees were familiar and safe. A bustling animal trade soon developed in both directions: foxes, starlings and other reminders of “home” were unleashed on the Australian landscape, while countless Australian animals found themselves in Europe as stuffed specimens or living curiosities in zoos and private collections.

Into this picture stepped a remarkable band of enthusiastic amateurs who were determined to get to know the fauna of the new colony. Equal parts inspiring and outlandish, over the next 150 years they would advance scientific understanding and transform public attitudes to Australian wildlife. From the “snake men” who fearlessly thrust their arms into hollow logs just to see what might happen, to the top-secret plan to smuggle a platypus to Winston Churchill at the height of World War II, these are their stories.

ALISTAIR PATON is the co-author of *Discovering Grampians-Gariwerd* and a regular contributor to travel and outdoors publications. He has worked at News Corp for twenty years and his current role is as digital editor in the national sport network. He is passionate about wild places and wild animals and lives in Melbourne with his wife Hanna and slightly domesticated terrier cross Lenny.



**AUGUST 2022
MEMOIR**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

PRAISE FOR *BLOOD AND GUTS*:

“Revealing, sometimes hilarious”

—*New Statesman*

“Authoritative, strangely entertaining”

—*Spectator*

“Proof that good investigative journalism is alive and well”

—*Readings Monthly*

My Father and Other Animals

How I Took on the Family Farm

Sam Vincent

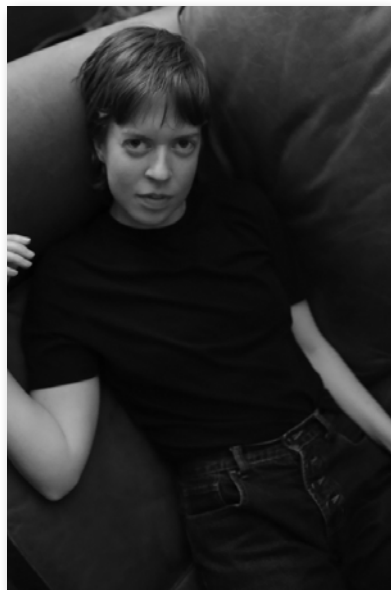
A moving and hilarious fish-out-of-water memoir of a millennial leaving his inner-city life to take over the family farm

Sam Vincent is a twenty-something writer in the inner suburbs, scrabbling to make ends meet, when he gets a call from 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 family farm to help out, his life takes a new and unexpected direction.

Whether castrating a calf or buying a bull – or knocking in a hundred fence posts by hand when his dad hides the post-driver – Sam’s farming apprenticeship is an education in grit and shit. But there are victories, too: nurturing a fig orchard to bloom; learning to read the land; joining forces with Indigenous elders to protect a special site. Slowly, Sam finds himself thinking differently about the farm, about his father and about his relationship with both.

By turns affecting, hilarious and utterly surprising, this memoir melds humour and fierce honesty in an unsentimental love letter. It’s about belonging, humility and regeneration – of land, family and culture. What passes from father to son on this unruly patch of earth is more than a livelihood; it is a legacy.

SAM VINCENT’s writing has appeared in *The Monthly*, *The Saturday Paper*, *Griffith Review* and *The Best Australian Essays*. His first book, *Blood and Guts*, was longlisted for the Walkley Book Award and in 2019 he won the Walkley Award for longform feature writing.



**SEPTEMBER 2022
SELECTED WRITINGS**

Imprint: Upswell Publishing
RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 150mm | 188pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

"This is an utterly riveting and original collection of essays – hard-thinking, formally innovative, dazzling intellectually and sentence by sentence out-of-this-world good."
—Maria Tumarkin, author of *Axiomatic*

People Who Lunch

Essays on Work, Leisure and Loose Living

Sally Olds

Essays on feminism, private lives and these precarious times by a provocative new voice

This book is about working and not working, hating work and needing to work, intimacy and technology, money and love, labour and pleasure. Across a series of essays, Sally Olds probes the ambivalent utopias of polyamory, cryptocurrency, clubbing, communes, a secret fraternity, and the essay form itself. Curiosity drives each of these adventures into projected worlds, where Olds explores how living with precariousness changes expectations of how a life can be lived in this thrilling appraisal of the state of things.

SALLY OLDS has been published by *Sydney Review of Books*, *un Magazine*, *AQNB*, the Institute of Modern Art, collected in anthologies, and shortlisted for the *Griffith Review's* Emerging Voices Competition and the *Sydney Review of Books/Copyright Agency's* Emerging Critics Fellowship. She has collaborated extensively with Precog, a club night held in Narrm/Melbourne, and taught writing workshops in and outside of university. *People Who Lunch* is her first book.



**JANUARY 2023
SELECTED WRITINGS**

Imprint: Upswell Publishing
RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 150mm | 188pp
Manuscript: June 2022
Rights held: World; film/TV

Abandon Every Hope Who Enter Here

Hayley Singer

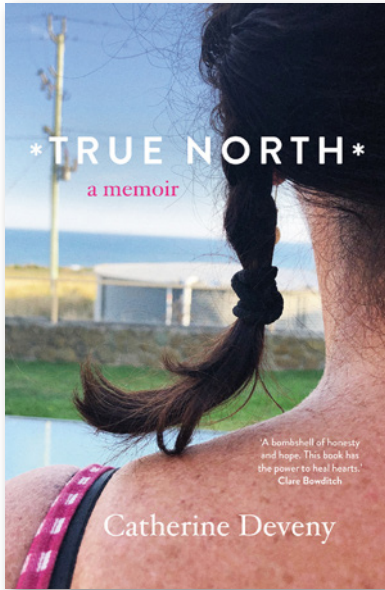
Can anyone smell the suffering of souls? Of sadness, of hell on earth? Hell, I imagine, has a smell that bloats into infinity. Has a nasty sting of corpses. What was it Dante wrote?

Abandon Every Hope Who Enter Here is a lament, an elegy, a deranged encyclopedia, and a diary of anxiety. How can anyone document the vastness of violence against animals in a bloated industrial age?

Hayley Singer investigates the literatures of the slaughterhouse to map the contours of a world cut to pieces by organised and profitable death. In her compelling and poetic prose, Singer asks how we may write the life of the dead; the smell of an egg factory; of multispecies PTSD; of planetary harm and self-harm: of the horror we make on earth.

Where does the slaughterhouse begin and how can it end?

HAYLEY SINGER teaches in the Creative Writing Program at the University of Melbourne. She publishes essays on literature and ecologies, and on reading and writing as worlds end and begin again. Her essays have been published in *Sydney Review of Books*, *The Lifted Brow*, *The Monthly*, *Cordite Poetry Review*, *Writing from Below*, *Art + Australia*. *Abandon Every Hope Who Enter Here* is her first book.



APRIL 2022 MEMOIR

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$29.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV
Rights sold: World English audio (Bolinda)

"True North is a brutal and exquisitely told story of rupture and repair, heartbreak and forgiveness, survival and redemption. I could not put it down." —Clare Bowditch, musician, author, actor

"Catherine Deveny is a blazing light in a world that is often grim. She brings her immense generosity of spirit to this beautiful memoir, and we are blessed to have her."

—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

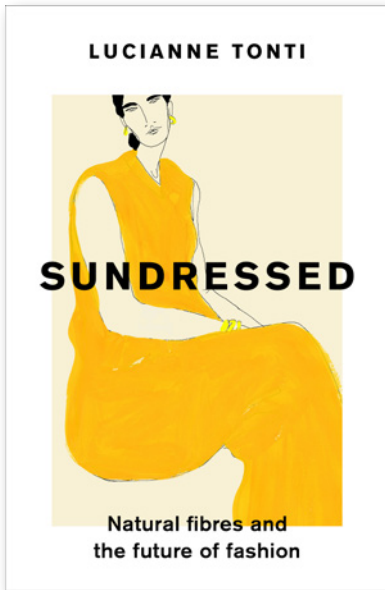
Breaking up isn't a conscious decision, it's more of a revelation ... In the first few moments after waking each day I needed to remind myself who I was and what had happened. It was like pulling a compass out of a drawer and watching it adjust, the needle swinging around to find true north and quivering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



JULY 2022
ENVIRONMENTAL

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp
Sample: Available
Manuscript: April 2022
Rights held: World; film/TV
Rights sold: World English ex ANZ (Island Press)

Sundressed

Natural Fibres and the Future of Fashion

Lucianne Tonti

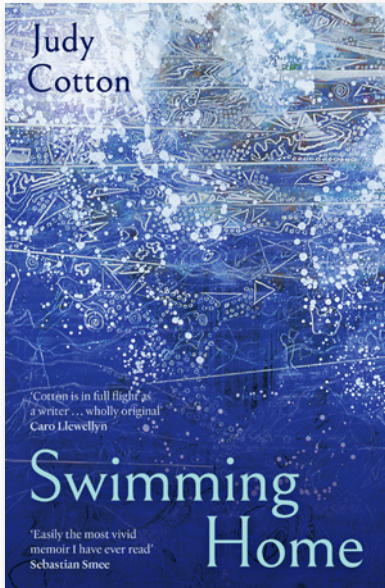
Why beautiful clothes in natural fibres are the answer to fashion's climate crisis

Fashion is ready for a revolution. Many brands claim to be “sustainable”, but they are not. Far too many clothes are produced – and in ways that harm the Earth.

The solution? Regenerative farming of natural fabrics such as cotton, wool, flax and cashmere. In this original and superbly written book, Lucianne Tonti takes readers to the farms and fashion houses that are creating a truly eco-friendly industry. She uncovers a growing hive of activity worldwide, from mulberry groves in China to cotton collectives in California, and from Mongolian goatherds to Australian sheep farmers.

If we grasp their potential, natural fabrics will revolutionise how we dress. They are durable and comfortable and can be cut to flatter all body shapes. With a designer's eye for detail and an insider's understanding of the market, Tonti shows us where our clothes come from and why it matters. *Sundressed* reaches out to anyone with an awareness of climate change and a love of beautiful, lasting garments. It brings us back to the wild – where true fashion is born.

LUCIANNE TONTI has worked in fashion in Melbourne, Sydney, London and Paris. In 2020 she launched the sustainable fashion site Prelude, as profiled in *Vogue*. Her writing appears in *The Guardian*, *The Saturday Paper* and *Lindsay*.



JUNE 2022 MEMOIR

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 240pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV

“Exceptional ... turn to any page and you can feel Cotton’s descriptive prowess.”

—Sebastian Smee, Pulitzer Prize-winning art critic for the *Washington Post*

“*Swimming Home* is not only a powerful personal chronicle, but for those of us outside of Australia it provides a vivid sense of the heartbreak and triumph that has shaped that country.” —Lowery Stokes Sims, American art historian

“Cotton paints like she writes and writes like she paints: fiercely, vividly and unpredictably ... Judy is a puckish combination of indomitable heart, incisive brain, evil humour and eyes that see at 1/1000th of a second. And she renders that seeing into images with deceptive ease.”

—Diana Simmonds, journalist

Swimming Home

A Memoir

Judy Cotton

Introducing a major new Australian literary voice – an unforgettable memoir of the complicated love between a mother and daughter

In this stunning memoir, full of black humour and razor-sharp observations, visual artist Judy Cotton captures the intricacies of family relationships and the push-pull of home.

Her mother, Eve, was a brilliant but exacting woman, a gifted pianist whose perfectionism cut her career short. After marrying, she established a successful stud farm for sheep in the Blue Mountains while supporting her husband’s political career. Judy’s charismatic father, Bob, was a federal minister and ambassador to the United States, with traditional ideas about who Judy should become.

Sent to boarding school from the age of four, Judy yearned for her parents but found them increasingly controlling. Her desire for freedom eventually took her overseas, to Korea and Japan in the late 1960s, and later to New York, where she finally discovered belonging in the art scene. But the undertow of home was impossible to escape.

In dazzling prose and with an artist’s eye for landscape, *Swimming Home* is a powerful meditation on loss and longing, freedom and connection.

JUDY COTTON is an internationally recognised visual artist based in Connecticut, USA. Her work is held in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Lyman Allyn Art Museum, the National Gallery of Australia and numerous private collections. From 1974 to 1993, Cotton was the New York contributing editor for *Vogue Australia*. *Swimming Home* is her first book.



SEPTEMBER 2022
ENVIRONMENTAL

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 320pp

Sample: Available

Manuscript: April 2022

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Rights sold: World English ex ANZ (Island Press)

Dr **JOËLLE GERGIS** is an award-winning climate scientist and writer at the Australian National University. She is an internationally recognised expert in Australian and Southern Hemisphere climate variability and change who served as a lead author for the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report – a global, state-of-the-art review of climate change science.

Humanity's Moment

A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope

Joëlle Gergis

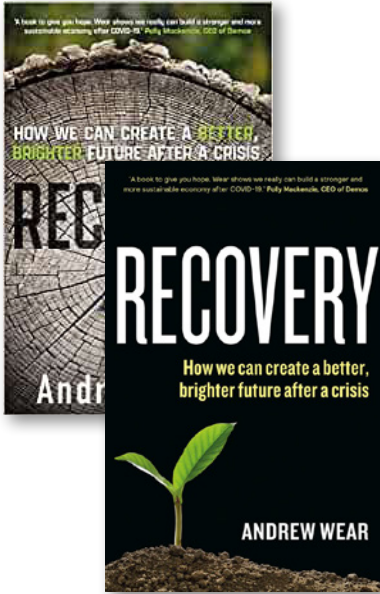
A personal call to action from an Australian IPCC author

Acknowledging that the world as we know it is coming apart is an act of courage. If I live to look back at this troubled time, I want to say that I did all that I could, that I was on the right side of history. Ultimately, we all have the same choice to make – to step up and leave a legacy, or to ignore the call of history. It really is as simple as that.

When climate scientist Joëlle Gergis set to work on the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report, the research she encountered kept her up at night. Through countless hours spent with the world's top scientists to piece together the latest global assessment of climate change, she realised that the impacts were occurring faster than anyone had predicted.

In *Humanity's Moment*, Joëlle takes us through the science in the IPCC report with clear-eyed honesty, explaining what it means for our future, while sharing her personal reflections on bearing witness to the heartbreak of the climate emergency unfolding in real time. But this is not a lament for a lost world. It is an inspiring reminder that human history is an endless tug-of-war for social justice. We are each a part of an eternal evolutionary force that can transform our world.

Joëlle shows us that the solutions we need to live sustainably already exist – we just need the social movement and political will to create a better world. This book is a climate scientist's guide to rekindling hope, and a call to action to restore our relationship with ourselves, each other and our planet.



SEPTEMBER 2021 SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Rights sold: World English ex ANZ (Hero Press); ANZ audio (Bolinda)

“A book to give you hope: Wear scours history for compelling reasons to believe we really can build a stronger and more sustainable economy after Covid-19.” —Polly MacKenzie, CEO of Demos

“*Recovery* is well written and weaves interesting anecdotes with informed analysis. But most importantly it is a clarion call to seize this rare opportunity for change and to set the bar of recovery higher than simply a return to how things were before.” —*Paradise is a Library*

Recovery

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

Andrew Wear

In crisis lies opportunity. Let's build back better.

Humanity has recovered from many crises in the past: war, depression, pandemic, natural disaster. Often, we've bounced back to create a better future. The Spanish flu was followed by the economic prosperity of the Roaring Twenties. After World War II, the German economy grew to become the world's most advanced. US social and economic policies responding to the Great Depression paved the way for twentieth-century prosperity.

As we emerge from the Covid-19 health and economic crisis, what can we learn from other recoveries?

Through interviews with experts, policymakers and community leaders, Andrew Wear examines past recoveries, exploring 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 reconsider things we thought were fixed. We have an opportunity to create a better future, so let's use it.

Click [here](#) for Andrew Wear's TEDxUniversity of Edinburgh event, “This Is Us”.

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 around the world.



MARCH 2022 ANTHOLOGY

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World ex film/TV + audio
Rights sold: World English ex ANZ (Scribe)

“Eliza is a legend – and a great advocate for our community. This book will help a lot of people!” —Dylan Alcott, Paralympian

“*We’ve Got This* is the book I needed many years ago when I was considering whether to have children. Now, as I embark on motherhood, these stories from these incredible parents will teach me so much.”
—Nas Campanella, journalist

“*We’ve Got This* challenges the narrow stereotype of what disability looks like. It shows that disabled people are parents too – and bloody good ones at that! Thank you, Eliza, for disrupting the discourse.” —Lisa Cox, media professional and disability advocate

We’ve Got This

Stories by Disabled Parents

Edited by Eliza Hull

The world’s first major anthology by parents with disabilities

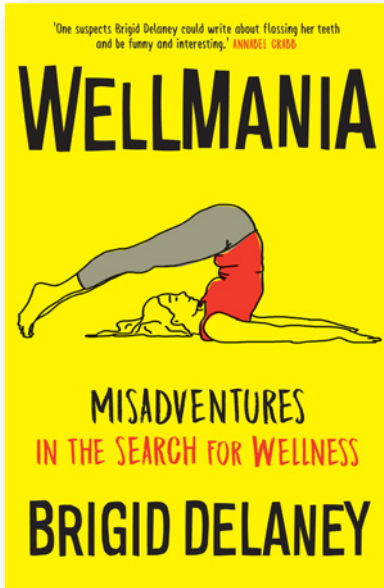
How does a father who is blind take his child to the park? How is a mother with dwarfism treated when she walks her child down the street? How do Deaf parents know when their baby cries in the night?

When writer and musician Eliza Hull was pregnant with her first child, like most parents-to-be she was a mix of excited and nervous. But as a person with a disability, there were added complexities. She wondered: Will the pregnancy be too hard? Will people judge me? Will I cope with the demands of parenting? More than 15 per cent of Australian households have a parent with a disability, yet their stories are rarely shared, their experiences almost never reflected in parenting literature.

In *We’ve Got This*, twenty-five parents who identify as Deaf, disabled or chronically ill discuss the highs and lows of their parenting journeys and reveal that the greatest obstacles lie in other people’s attitudes. The result is a moving, revelatory and empowering anthology. As Rebekah Taussig writes, “Parenthood can tangle with grief and loss. Disability can include joy and abundance. And goddammit – disabled parents exist.”

Contributors include **Rebekah Taussig**, whose debut essay collection was published by HarperOne in 2022, and Paralympian Jessica Smith AO. Overseas editions could include contributions from their own territories as well as those in the book.

ELIZA HULL is a musical artist, writer, journalist and disability advocate – and a contributor to *Growing Up Disabled in Australia*. Her 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.



JULY 2017
SELF-HELP

Imprint: Nero
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 336pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World ex film/TV
Rights sold: World English ex ANZ
(Greystone Books); France (First Editions);
Poland (Wielka Litera); Russia (MTS library);
UK/Comm audio (Wavesound)

“I laughed so hard, I choked on a doughnut reading this book. I’m so glad Brigid Delaney tried all of this crazy stuff so I never have to.”
—Jen Mann, *New York Times* bestselling author of *People I Want to Punch in the Throat*

“Illuminating, thought-provoking, and hilariously honest. You’ll never look at fasting, yoga, or meditation the same way again.”
—Robyn Harding, *Globe and Mail*—bestselling author of *The Party*

Wellmania

Misadventures in the Search for Wellness

Brigid Delaney

Wellmania has been ordered by Netflix for eight-part dramedy series, starring comedian and social media icon, Celeste Barber

Cold-pressed juices, quitting sugar, Paleo, hot yoga, mindfulness ... if you embrace these things you will be happy, you will be well – just ask Instagram. Wellness has become a global mega-industry. But does any of this stuff actually work?

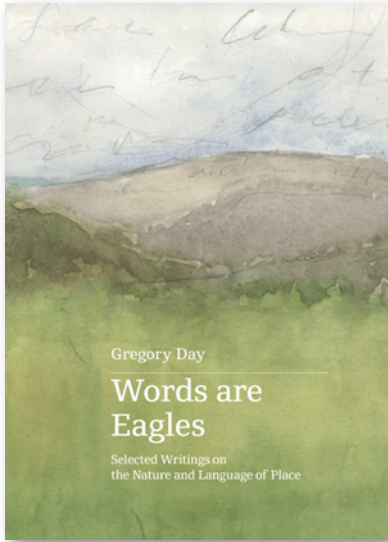
Feeling exhausted, anxious and out of shape, journalist Brigid Delaney decides to find out – using herself as the guinea pig. Starting with a brutal 101-day fast, Brigid tests things that are meant to make us clean, lean and serene. Travelling the world, she tries colonics, meditation, silent retreats, group psychotherapy and oodles of yoga, working out what is helpful and what is just expensive hype.

In monasteries and health farms, on hiking trails and massage tables, she asks, why do so many of us swing from indulgence to detox and back again? Is it possible to integrate good habits into your daily life? What does our obsession with wellness say about us? And why do you smell so bad when you haven’t eaten in seven days?

BRIGID DELANEY is a senior writer for *Guardian Australia*. She has previously worked as a lawyer and journalist at the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the *Telegraph* (London), *ninemsn* and *CNN*. She is the author of *Wellmania*, *This Restless Life* and *Wild Things*.

CELESTE BARBER TO HEADLINE AUSTRALIAN DRAMEDY SERIES, WELLMANIA, ORDERED BY NETFLIX





Words Are Eagles

Selected Writings on the Nature and Language of Place

Gregory Day

A collection of beautiful and moving essays on the wonder of the natural world and the cultural complexities of writing landscape

Words are Eagles collects in one place the essays of award-winning novelist and nature writer, Gregory Day. Grounded in the landscape of southwestern Victoria and infused with the heightened sense of place and environmental literacy that have long been key to Day's work, these essays traverse landscape, language and histories.

Day's attention is tuned both to beauty of the natural world, returning often to the motifs of ground and sky, ocean and owl, moth and river, and the history of place – whether lost, buried or personal.

In part a reading and celebration of the resurgent global nature writing movement, to which Day was an early contributor, this collection highlights the need for ecological care and value of Indigenous knowledge and practices.

This is the kind of nature writing that gets to the heart of our urgent need for a more harmonious and regenerative relationship with the earth that sustains us.

GREGORY DAY is a novelist, essayist, poet and musician from the Eastern Otways region of south-west Victoria. He is a winner of the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal, the Elizabeth Jolley Prize, and his latest novel, *A Sand Archive*, was shortlisted for the 2019 Miles Franklin Award. In 2020 Gregory was honoured with the Patrick White Award for his ongoing body of work. In 2021 he was awarded the Nature Conservancy Nature Writing Prize for his essay "The Watergaw".

JULY 2022

SELECTED WRITINGS

Imprint: Upswell Publishing

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 150mm | 300pp

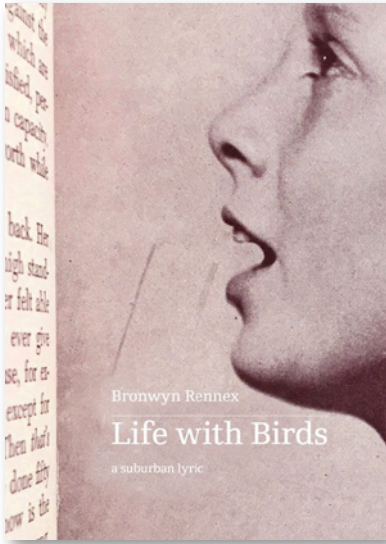
Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

"One of the great characters of Australian literature" —Carrie Tiffany, Miles-Franklin- and the Orange Prize-shortlisted author

"Few Australian authors today of non-Indigenous descent are writing with the same philosophical insight and ecological care about space and place as Day – few are registering landscape and our part in it with the same intelligence or imaginative verve.

—*The Australian*



JUNE 2022
MEMOIR

Imprint: Upswell Publishing
RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 150mm | 200pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

BRONWYN RENNEX is a writer, artist and arts professional. Her poems have been published in *Cordite Poetry Review* and her photographs have been exhibited widely and are held in private and public collections. Until 2017, she was Co-Director of Stills Gallery in Sydney.

Life with Birds

A Suburban Lyric

Bronwyn Rennex

A luminous account of largely unrecognised experiences in the aftermath of war

This is not a war story about heroism or healing trauma, but an attempt to fill the gaps in a family story in the wake of the Vietnam War, and re-animate a father never really known.

Life with Birds invests in the small scale, the domestic and the ordinary as an overlooked part of Australian military history.

Bronwyn Rennex has used whatever materials she could find in order to attempt to retrieve her father – family stories, love letters, legal documents, birds – and the gaps between these documents form perhaps the most important part of this story. Rather than describing her mother's grief at her father's death, Rennex uses love letters and her mother's written claim for a war widow's pension to map the shape of her mother's love and loss.

Told in fragments and mixing speculation, imagination and guesswork, the narrative is personal, angry, political and also funny, balancing a desire for some form of testimony with a commitment to questioning how we talk about war.



**JUNE 2022
MEMOIR**

Imprint: Upswell Publishing

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 270pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

SUSAN VARGA was born in Hungary and came to Australia when she was five. She has published numerous books including *Heddy and Me*, *Happy Families* and *Headlong*. *Rupture*, her first book of poetry, was published in 2016. Susan was co-founder of Rural Australians for Refugees.

Hard Joy

Life and Writing

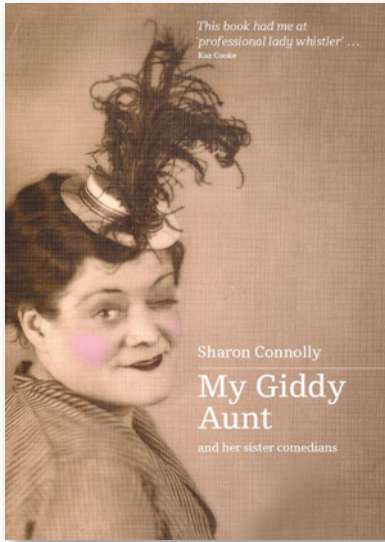
Susan Varga

A fascinating life across seven decades, circling between Australia and Europe, activism and seclusion, everyday life and the writing life

Susan Varga was born into war-torn Budapest but her family escaped loss and trauma to make a new life in Sydney. Susan makes another escape, from the narrow confines of suburbia into the arms of the exciting and contradictory world of the Sydney Push. As a young woman she lives in London, Paris, Bendigo and Holland, before returning to Sydney, keen to take part of Gough Whitlam's reformist agenda, in a powerful time of change.

Yet Susan also spends a long time lost in the wilderness, wrestling with the raft of dilemmas so common in women's lives. When she finally commits to the demands and joys of writing, and to a surprising love, she finds a new harmony. Fate then intervenes to throw up major challenges, testing her will to rediscover the hard joys of life.

In this memoir, Susan Varga moves through the intersections between her own life and the wider world, providing an incisive portrait of our times.



AUGUST 2022 BIOGRAPHY

Imprint: Upswell Publishing
RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 300pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

“Around the story of these key characters, Connolly weaves an intricate and original account of an important era in Australian cultural history. We meet not only her particular subjects but also learn about the people they worked for and with and the people they set out to entertain.”

—Ann Curthoys, Historian

“This book had me at ‘professional ladywhistler’ – a wonderful true story about some fabulous funny women.” —Kaz Cooke, bestselling author of *Girlstuff* and *Up the Duff*

My Giddy Aunt

And Her Sister Comedians

Sharon Connolly

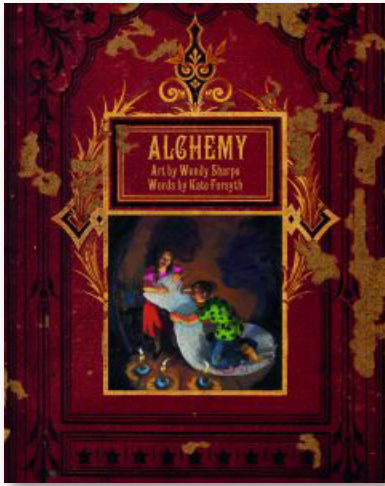
Whip-smart and fabulously funny – how the women of vaudeville entertained Australia and challenged ideas of how women should behave

Opening a forgotten case of photographs, Sharon Connolly begins a search for the great aunt she never knew. Gladys Shaw was a whistling comedian, a singer and saxophonist, an eccentric dancer and a whip cracker – one of the “girls” who once made Australia laugh. They were musical comics, character actors and male impersonators in an entertainment industry being transformed by cinema and radio. They parodied men, played naive maidens and maiden aunts, but they were modern women – independent, determined and sometimes wild. And they lived in a world of changing ideas about how women were expected to behave and dress.

Filmmaker Sharon Connolly finds a sisterhood of jesters who charmed and surprised the backblocks, towns and big cities of Australia and New Zealand during the early 20th century.

With a foreword by historian Professor Ann Curthoys, *My Giddy Aunt* tells how funny girls became entertaining women, while negotiating a society made for men.

A former documentary filmmaker, television producer and chief executive of Film Australia, **SHARON CONNOLLY** has been involved in making many landmark history series and films. In her first book, *My Giddy Aunt*, as in her first documentary, *Red Matildas*, she writes some remarkable yet uncelebrated women back into the stories of Australia.



**OCTOBER 2022
ILLUSTRATED**

Imprint: Upswell Publishing

RRP: AU\$49.99

Format: Paperback | 284 x 234mm | 176pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Alchemy

Kate Forsyth and Wendy Sharpe

When a bestselling author and a much-esteemed painter meet at a party, they soon cook up the idea to collaborate and make a book about the life cycle of a woman ...

Two brilliant artists get together and plan a dramatic book in words and images about the twists and turns in the life cycle of a woman. From birth onwards, no topic is skirted around.

Kate Forsyth is an award-winning and bestselling author for adults and younger people. Wendy Sharpe is a visual artist with accolades and global experiences aplenty. This collaboration takes them both to new places in their creative lives.

The drama that Kate and Wendy create on the pages of this lush book – in a collage style – will speak particularly to women with an intimacy that carries poignant and loving memories and knowledge, too, of the best things in life.

KATE FORSYTH is the internationally bestselling author of more than thirty books. She completed a doctorate in fairytale retellings, and the novels that have come out of this fascination include the winner of the 2015 American Libraries Association Prize for *Historical Fiction*, *Bitter Greens*, *The Wild Girl* and *The Beast's Garden*.

WENDY SHARPE is one of Australia's most acclaimed artists. She has been awarded The Sulman Prize, the Portia Geach Memorial Award (twice), the Archibald Prize, and a finalist in the Sulman Prize twelve times, and the Archibald Prize seven times. She has held over 60 solo exhibitions around Australia and internationally.



DECEMBER 2022
DRAMA/ESSAYS

Imprint: Upswell Publishing

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 150mm | 160pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

CLINT BRACKNELL is a Noongar ethnomusicologist and songwriter from the south coast region of Western Australia. He is Professor of Ethnomusicology at University of Queensland leading a program of research investigating connections between song, language and landscapes. With Kylie Bracknell he has been heavily involved in translation for performance for main stage productions, including *Hecate*, which *The Australian* lauded in its “Best of 2020” year-in-review, and the Bruce Lee film/Noongar dubbing, “Fist of Fury Da”.

Shakespeare in the Noongar World

Hecate and selected sonnets

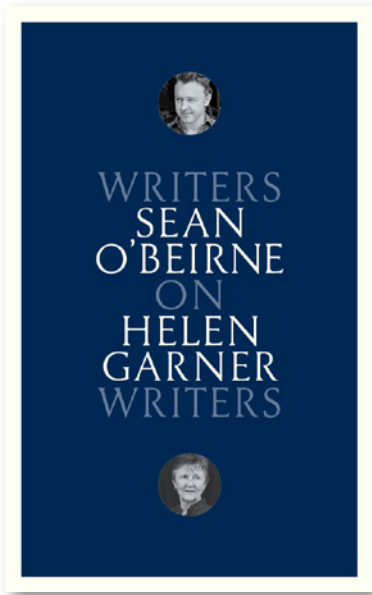
Clint Bracknell

The first adaption of a complete Shakespeare play entirely in one Australian Aboriginal language

The play *Hecate* is a landmark work in both theatre and language restoration. The Noongar language of the southwest of Western Australia is a critically endangered language impacted by colonialism and suppressed until the 1970s. This book contains the complete play, a glossary, and two essays outlining the process of creating and then producing a play onto a professional stage with a Noongar cast working as both language learners and performers, where song became their catalyst to success.

Yirra Yaakin Theatre company’s 2020 production of *Hecate* was groundbreaking. The original cast will take *Hecate* to the UK in mid-2022 for a tour to present in prestigious settings. There is a rich symmetry here: the project in its early stages involved the development and presentation of *Sonnets in Noongar*, a selection of sonnets as part of the World Shakespeare Festival at the Globe Theatre in 2012 in London.

This dazzling project is brought to life in this short book designed to inspire language recovery and restoration in Australia, in a period when serious attention is being paid to many endangered languages.



**APRIL 2022
BIOGRAPHY**

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU \$17.99

Format: Hardback | 181 x 111mm | 144pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV

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

“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*

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, what I need, first in Helen Garner’s writing is a particular kind of closeness to self – the good, greedy, mistaken, emotional, fierce, sceptical, changing and disrupting self... But I also love that she’s always fighting to come back, enough, as well – find enough of a law, a rule, 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 another 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.



On Tim Winton

Writers on Writers

Geraldine Brooks

GERALDINE BROOKS is a journalist and novelist whose 2005 novel *March* won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. She is also the author of *Nine Parts of Desire*, *Year of Wonders* and *Caleb's Crossing*, among others.

**OCTOBER 2022
BIOGRAPHY**

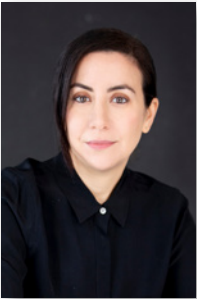
Imprint: Black Inc.

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Manuscript: May 2022

Rights held: World; film/TV



On Peter Carey

Writers on Writers

Sarah Krasnostein

SARAH KRASNOSTEIN is the multi-award-winning author of *The Trauma Cleaner* and *The Believer*. Her writing has appeared in magazines and journals in Australia, the United Kingdom and America. She holds a doctorate in criminal law.

**MAY 2023
BIOGRAPHY**

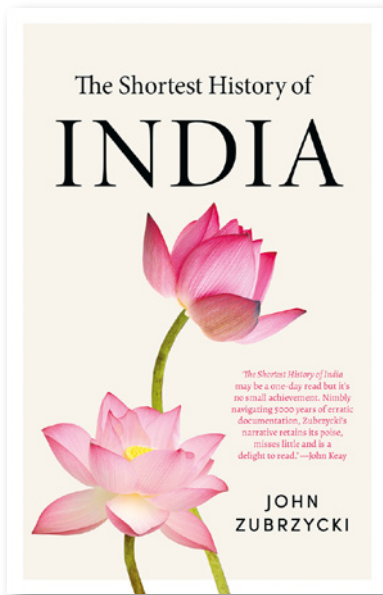
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MAY 2022 HISTORY

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Publishing House); India (Pan Macmillan

India); Turkey (Say Yayinlari); Simplified

Chinese character (CITIC Press Corporation);

Arabic (Dar El Shorouk); Portugal (Editorial

Presença S.A)

“The Shortest History of India may be a one-day read but it’s no small achievement. Nimble navigating 5000 years of erratic documentation, Zubrzycki’s narrative retains its poise, misses little and is a delight to read.”
—John Keay, bestselling author of *Into India*

The Shortest History of India

John Zubrzycki

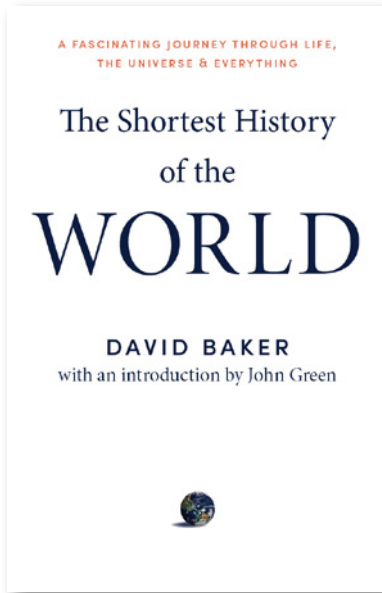
An illuminating and concise telling of the 5000 years of turbulent history that led India from the ruins of ancient civilisations to emerging global superpower

One of the oldest civilisations and the largest democracy in the world, India is an amalgam of customs, races, castes, languages and spiritual beliefs, woven together over 5000 years of wonderfully colossal and chaotic history.

From the earliest humans and the Harappan civilisation to Muslim invaders, the Great Mughals, British rule, the country’s struggle for autonomy and present-day hopes and challenges, John Zubrzycki masterfully condenses five millennia of deities, mutinies, wars, great empires, decadent dynasties, invasions, colonisation and independence into a fascinating, lively telling. He brings the complex and contrasting layers of Indian history to life through a well-known cast of characters – Buddha, Alexander the Great, Akbar, Clive, Tipu Sultan, Lakshmi Bai, Curzon, Jinnah and Mahatma Gandhi – against a backdrop of the mystical Ganges, the desert forts of Rajasthan, the snow-covered Himalayas and the ruins of India’s fabled civilisations.

From Buddhism to Bollywood, India has made its mark on Asia and the world. Its progress in tackling poverty and illiteracy have been impressive, but extraordinary challenges remain – not least the threat to its secular fabric. Only time will tell if India can overcome its political, social and religious tensions to rise again and become the next global superpower.

JOHN ZUBRZYCKI is an Australian author with a PhD in Indian history from the University of New South Wales. A former foreign news editor with *The Australian*, he has worked as a correspondent in India and as a diplomat in New Delhi and Jakarta. He is the author of four books on India, the latest being *House of Jaipur: The Inside Story of India’s Most Glamorous Royal Family*.



The Shortest History of the World

David Baker

A fascinating journey through life, the universe and everything

We have been the dominant species on this planet for the briefest flicker of our history, and until we understand that, we can't reckon meaningfully with the dramatic and sudden changes we're making to our planet and its biosphere — John Green, from the Foreword

How did time begin? What conditions led to humans evolving on Earth? Will we survive the Anthropocene? And is it really true that we're all made from stars?

The Shortest History of the World follows the continuum of historical change in the cosmos – from the Big Bang, through the evolution of life, to human history. Combining knowledge from chemistry, biology and physics with insights from the social sciences and humanities, *The Shortest History of the World* takes a bird's eye view of 13.8 billion years.

In this compelling and revealing book, David Baker traces the rise of complexity in the cosmos, from the first atoms to the first life and then to humans and the things we have made. He shows us how simple clumps of hydrogen gas transformed into complex human societies. This approach – Big History – allows us to see beyond the chaos of human affairs to the overall trajectory. Finally, Baker looks at the dramatic and sudden changes we're making to our planet and its biosphere and how history hints at what might come next.

DAVID BAKER is a history and science writer for SimonWhistler.com who holds the world's first PhD in Big History, studying under David Christian. He has delivered award-winning lectures at Macquarie University and the University of Amsterdam, is a visiting lecturer at the University of Paris-Sorbonne, and wrote the YouTube series *Crash Course Big History*, hosted by John and Hank Green in partnership with the Gates Big History Project.

**JULY 2022
HISTORY**

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RRP: AU\$24.99
Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 240pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV
Rights sold: North America (The Experiment);
Bulgaria (Prozoretz Publishing House)

"This writing is brilliant." —John Green,
bestselling author of *The Fault in Our Stars*



MARCH 2022 HISTORY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$24.99

Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 256pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: North America (Columbia University Press); UK/Comm ex ANZ (Old Street Publishing); Russia (Alpina); Portugal (Editorial Presença S.A.); Italy (Bompiani); Turkey (Say Dagitim Ltd); Greece (Metaichmio); Czech Republic (Academia); Brazil (Todavia); Spain (Antoni Bosch); Japan (Jimfun Shoin)

“Sheila Fitzpatrick’s *The Shortest History of the Soviet Union* comes as close to a miracle as an academic book can. It is written for the general public that wants a clear overview of the topic, but offers at the same time a concise and well-balanced synthesis of decades of Soviet Studies.” —Slavoj Žižek

The Shortest History of the Soviet Union

Sheila Fitzpatrick

The story of an empire made and an empire undone – and what emerged from the ashes – by one of the world’s leading authorities on Soviet Russia

Soviet Russia arrived in the world accidentally and departed unexpectedly. More than a hundred years after the Russian Revolution, the tumultuous history of the Soviet Union continues to fascinate us and influence global politics.

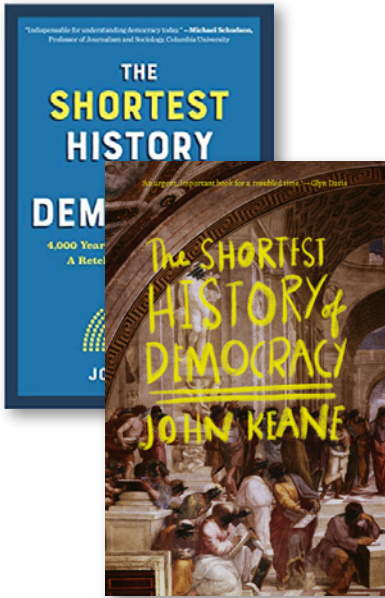
Here is an irresistible entree to a sweeping history. From revolution and Lenin to Stalin’s Great Terror, from World War II to Gorbachev’s perestroika policies, this is a lively, authoritative distillation of seventy-five years of communist rule and the collapse of an empire.

Sheila Fitzpatrick shows us the fate of countries often left out of discussions of the Soviet age, provides vivid portraits of key Soviet figures and traces the aftermath of the regime’s unexpected fall: the rise of Vladimir Putin, a creature of the Soviet system but not a Soviet nostalgic; and how China learned from the Soviet collapse.

The Shortest History of the Soviet Union is a small masterpiece, replete with telling detail and peppered with some very black humour.

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* and an honorary professor in the Department of History at the University of Sydney.

BLACK INC. BESTSELLER



The Shortest History of Democracy

John Keane

In a time of grave uncertainty about the future of our planet, the radical potential of democracy is more important than ever.

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

In this vigorous, illuminating history, acclaimed political thinker John Keane traces its byzantine history, from the age of assembly democracy in Athens, to European-inspired electoral democracy and the birth of representative government, to our age of monitory democracy. He gives new reasons why democracy is a precious global ideal, and shows that as the world has come to be shaped by democracy, it has grown more worldly – American-style liberal democracy is giving way to regional varieties with a local character in places such as Taiwan, India, Senegal and South Africa.

In an age of cascading crises, we need the radical 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 the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin and founded London's Centre for the Study of Democracy. Among his many books, *The Life and Death of Democracy* was translated into many languages. He was recently nominated for the Balzan and Holberg prizes, for outstanding global contributions to the human sciences.

FEBRUARY 2022 HISTORY

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Presença S.A.); Spain (Antoni Bosch);

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Israel (Tchelet Books); Brazil (Alta Books);

Traditional Chinese character (Ye-Ren

Publishing House); Romania (Rao)

PRAISE FOR THE SHORTEST HISTORY OF DEMOCRACY

“For a brief shining moment, democracy seemed ascendent. Yet as distinguished political theorist John Keane demonstrates, democracy has a history but not necessarily a future. In concise and imaginative analysis, *The Shortest History of Democracy* outlines key variants of democracy and the many attempts to justify this messy, imperfect way of governing ourselves. Professor Keane argues for an ethic in which our very imperfections are reason to hold each other to account. An urgent, important book for a troubled time.”

—Glyn Davis AC, emeritus professor of political science, University of Melbourne

“In this jaded age, where democracy appears under attack from all sides – and especially from within – this rich little volume reads like a tonic. John Keane takes the ideals, practices, triumphs and failures of democracies and braids them together into something timely, lyrical and fresh. For cynics and idealists alike, this couldn’t have come at a better time.”

—Scott Ludlam, former deputy leader of the Australian Greens

“A pragmatic, shining light to readers on radical democratic potential. This is the best, most readable book on the history of democracy published in the third millennium.”

—Takashi Inoguchi, professor emeritus, University of Tokyo; eminent scholar professor and J.F. Oberlin professor (Tokyo); former assistant secretary general of the UN

“In this enlightening book, John Keane traces the history of democratic ideas and practices, from the classical assembly democracy in Athens, through Modern Age electoral democracy to contemporary monitory democracy. He gives us new reasons why democracy is a global set of ideals and realities, adapted to different cultures and times.”

—Armando Chaguaceda, political scientist and historian, El Colegio de Veracruz, Mexico

“Shortest – and best! John Keane knows more about the history of democracy globally than one can imagine. Provocative, passionate, fun, and even a bit hopeful. Don’t miss it!”

—Michael Schudson, professor of journalism and sociology, Columbia University

“Rowing against the tide of pessimism about the future of democracy, the pre-eminent scholar of the history of democratic ideas and practices mesmerises us once again with formidable knowledge and stylistic panache. A gem of a book.”

—Paul’t Hart, professor of public administration, Utrecht University

“The most engaging, accurate, witty, well-referenced, short and well-structured book on democracy you will ever find.”

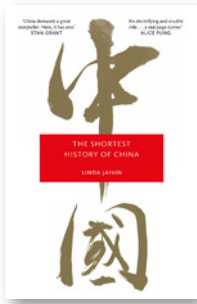
—Pedro Aibéo, *Architectural Democracy*

“An accessible and inspiring presentation of democracy through the ages. John Keane offers us a short, concentrated but deep analysis. Those who do not know will learn in a lucid manner; those who know will also learn, thanks to numerous details and examination of true misconceptions about democracy.”

—Xavier Philippe, professor, University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

“This is a remarkable book. It covers a vast historical landscape while also delivering intellectual depth. It draws on research and scholarship while remaining accessible and engaging. But most of all, it offers a hopeful history without being naive. Modest in size, incredibly ambitious in content.”

—Matthew Flinders, professor of politics, University of Sheffield; vice-president of the Political Studies Association of the United Kingdom



**MAY 2021
HISTORY**

LINDA JAIVIN has been studying Chinese politics, language and culture for more than forty years, and the author of twelve books.

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.

RRP: AU\$24.99

Format: PB | 198 x 128mm | 288pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Rights sold: UK/Comm ex ANZ (Old Street Publishing); North America (The Experiment); Audio (Tantor); Japan

(Tokyo Shoseki Co); Portugal (Dom Quixote); Greece (Metaichmio); Bulgaria (Prozoretz); Italy (Giunti); Turkey (Kronik Yayincilik); Russia (Azbooka-Atticus); Traditional Chinese (Domain Publishing Company); Hungary (Athenaeum Kiadó Kft)



**APRIL 2018
HISTORY**

JOHN HIRST (1942-2016) was a widely respected historian and social commentator..

The Shortest History of Europe

John Hirst

Accompanied by lively illustrations, *The Shortest History of Europe* is a clear, humorous and thought-provoking account of a remarkable civilisation. A global bestseller.

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$22.99

Format: PB | 198 x 128mm | 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.); Audio (Tantor); Estonia (Eesti Raamat); Poland (Polskie Wydawnictwo Naukowe); Russia (Eksmo Publishing); Ukraine (Nash Format); Thailand (Paragraph Publishing House); Hungary (Athenaeum Kiadó Kft)

FORTHCOMING IN THE SHORTEST HISTORY SERIES



The Shortest History of Sex

In *The Shortest History of Sex*, David Baker gives us a distilled history of sex, from its origins to the age of the internet. **DAVID BAKER** was until recently a lecturer at Macquarie University. He has written and lectured widely about Big History and is the author of *The Shortest History of the World*.

**JULY 2023
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc. | AU\$26.99
Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 288pp
Manuscript: February 2023
Rights held: World; film/TV



The Shortest History of Italy

ROSS KING is a renowned expert in the Italian Renaissance. He is the author of numerous bestselling and acclaimed books including *The Bookseller of Florence*, *Brunelleschi's Dome*, *Machiavelli*, *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*, *Leonardo and the Last Supper* and *Mad Enchantment: Claude Monet and the Painting of the Water Lilies*. He lives just outside Oxford.

**SEPTEMBER 2023
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc. | AU\$26.99
Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 240pp
Manuscript: March 2023
Rights held: World; film/TV



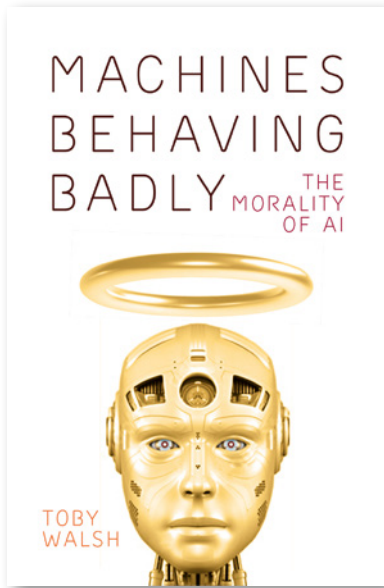
The Shortest History of Japan

LESLEY DOWNER is an author, journalist and historian. She has travelled all over the world and given lectures at the Japan Society, Asia House, the Royal Geographic Society, the British Museum and the Japan Society in New York. She has written four novels, and several works of non-fiction, including *The Brothers*, which was chosen as a *New York Times* "Book of the Year". She lives in London with her husband, the author Arthur I. Miller.

**APRIL 2018
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc. | AU\$26.99
Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 256pp
Manuscript: September 2023
Rights held: World ex film/TV

**LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY
PRESS**



**MAY 2023
HISTORY**

Imprint: La Trobe University Press
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV
Rights sold: World English ex ANZ (Flint Books); Simplified Chinese character (China Science and Technology Press)

**FROM THE AUTHOR OF
INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED
IT'S ALIVE! AND 2062 – BOTH
PUBLISHED IN MANY TERRITORIES
AROUND THE WORLD**

Machines Behaving Badly

The Morality of AI

Toby Walsh

What are the ethical issues we face in a future dominated by artificial intelligence?

Artificial intelligence is an essential 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. Without AI, medical technology wouldn't have come so far, we'd still be getting lost on backroads in our GPS-free cars, and smartphones wouldn't be so, well, smart. But as we continue to build more intelligent and autonomous machines, what impact will this have on humanity and the planet?

Professor Toby Walsh, a world-leading researcher in the field of artificial intelligence, explores the ethical considerations and unexpected consequences AI poses – Is Alexa racist? Can robots have rights? What happens if a self-driving car kills someone? What limitations should we put on the use of facial recognition?

Machines Behaving Badly is a thought-provoking look at the increasing human reliance on robotics and the decisions that need to be made now to ensure the future of AI is as a force for good, not evil.

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*.



APRIL 2023
HISTORY

Imprint: La Trobe University Press
RRP: AU\$34.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 368pp
Manuscript: Available
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*

Black Lives, White Law

Locked Up and Locked Out in Australia

Russell Marks

How and why Australia’s legal system fails Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Indigenous Australians are the most incarcerated people on the planet. Indigenous men are fifteen times more likely to be locked up than their non-Indigenous counterparts; Indigenous women are *twenty-one times* more likely.

Featuring vivid case studies and drawing on a deep sense of history, *Black Lives, White Law* explores Australia’s extraordinary record of locking up First Nations people. It examines Australia’s system of criminal justice – the web of laws and courts and police and prisons – and how that system interacts with First Nations people and communities. How is it that so many are locked up? Why have imprisonment rates increased in recent years? Is this situation fair? Almost everyone agrees that it’s not. And yet it keeps getting worse.

In this groundbreaking book, Russell Marks investigates Australia’s incarceration epidemic. What would happen if the institutions of Australian justice received the same scrutiny to which they routinely subject Indigenous Australians?

RUSSELL MARKS is a practising lawyer, has a PhD in political history and is an adjunct research fellow at La Trobe University. He is the author of *Crime and Punishment: Offenders and Victims in a Broken Justice System*, and has been published in *The Monthly*, *The Saturday Paper*, *Overland*, *Inside Story* and the *Australian Book Review*.



O'Leary of the “Underground”

Kate Auty

Mass murder, lies, and tracking the truth – an historical investigation

In June 1926, an Aboriginal man, Lumbia, from Forrest River in the Kimberley, killed a white pastoralist. In a reprisal, a posse of police officers and white civilians murdered at least 20 Aboriginal people then burnt their bodies. In the investigations that followed, a “conspiracy of silence” covered up the mass killings. Witnesses vanished. Charges against two of the police officers were dropped due to insufficient evidence, while Lumbia was given a commuted death sentence.

During the 1927 Wood Royal Commission into the massacre, one of the perpetrators, pastoralist Bernard O'Leary, was characterised by his lawyer as a “simple honest backwoodsman who ... was framed”. In this powerful account, Auty argues that O'Leary was in fact “vicious, brazen and a bullshitter”, with “a propensity for brutality”. His leading role in the punitive expedition is pivotal to deciphering what really happened.

In striking prose, Auty depicts O'Leary as a kind of frontier gargoyle, while the apparatus that concealed his crimes is portrayed with great realism and clarity. This unique book is driven by both forensic and moral judgement, stern and passionate in equal measure.

Professor **KATE AUTY** is a Vice Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne and Chair of Victoria's Environment Protection Authority. She has formerly held appointments as a magistrate in Victoria and in the goldfields and western desert of Western Australia, establishing Aboriginal sentencing courts in consultation with Aboriginal people. Kate continues as a barrister in Victoria.

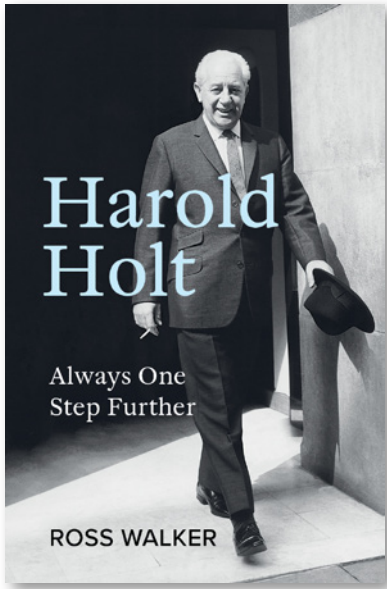
**JANUARY 2023
HISTORY**

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Manuscript: September 2022

Rights held: World; film/TV



AUGUST 2022
BIOGRAPHY

Imprint: La Trobe University Press
RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 368pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Harold Holt

Always One Step Further

Ross Walker

A revelatory biography of Harold Holt, the prime minister who helped create modern Australia

Harold Holt was a pivotal prime minister in Australian history. Ambitious, modern and telegenic, he helped bring his party and nation into the late twentieth century, following the Menzies years. Nowhere was Holt's legacy more significant than in the 1967 referendum, and in helping to end the White Australia policy. At the same time, as the Vietnam War raged, Holt dramatically increased Australian troops, telling President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1966 that Australia was "all the way with LBJ".

In this evocative, intimate and deeply researched biography, Ross Walker captures the worlds in which Holt moved and the people who were close to him. He reveals a popular, gentle, yet at times self-destructive man, whose tendency to always go one step further would have fatal consequences. This is a strikingly original portrait of Australia's seventeenth prime minister.

ROSS WALKER was for many years a high-school teacher of English and English Literature, about which he has published several books and many articles. He has a doctorate in American literature, and specialised knowledge of Australian and American politics, especially during the 1960s.

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