

Rights Guide 2021

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Rights guide 2021

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Dear friends and colleagues,

It is a great pleasure to share our March rights guide with you.

We are delighted to announce that Black Inc. is now representing rights for two independent Australian lists, Melbourne Books and Upswell. A selection of their titles is included in this catalogue. Let us take a moment to introduce you to these fine houses.

Founded in 2000, Melbourne Books is an independent Australian publishing house with the mission of helping authors tell their stories – whether a personal journey, an imagined adventure, the history of a place or organisation, or tales told through such mediums as food recipes or musical careers. Melbourne Books publishes a wide range of genres from biographies, cookbooks, art and architecture to social histories, travel, academic works and novels.

Upswell is a not-for-profit literary house with the mission of publishing books that elude easy categorising, and work somewhat against the grain of current trends in the areas of narrative non-fiction, fiction and poetry.

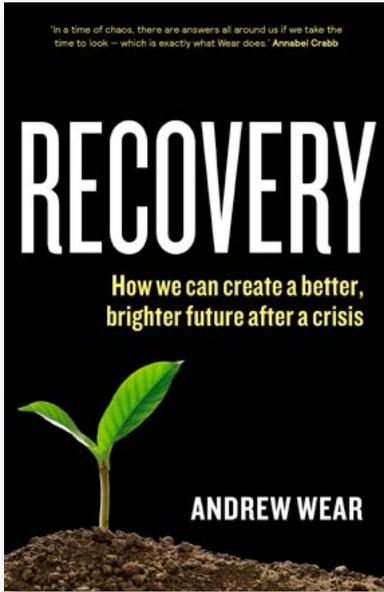
We will be holding online meetings for anyone who would like to connect with us – please write to erin@blackincbooks.com to schedule a meeting regarding English-language, audio and translation rights, and sophyw@blackincbooks.com regarding film/TV rights.

Best wishes,

Erin and Sophy

NON-FICTION





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

Other rights: Cameron's Management

Rights sold: World English-language ex ANZ
(Hero, Legend Times Group)

THE AUTHOR'S PREVIOUS BOOK, SOLVED!, WAS PUBLISHED IN THE US AND UK (ONEWORLD); KOREA (VEGA BOOKS) AND PORTUGAL (PRESENCA)

Recovery

How we can create a better, bright future after a crisis

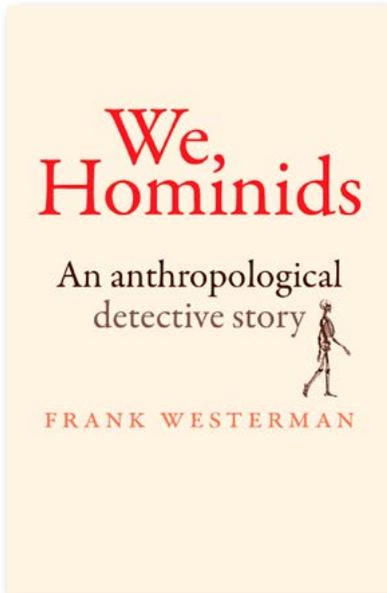
Andrew Wear

We have recovered from many crises in the past: war, depression, pandemic, natural disaster. Often, we've bounced back from these challenges to build 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 into one of the world's most advanced. In the USA, the social and economic policies responding to the Great Depression laid the foundations for twentieth century prosperity.

As we contemplate recovery from the current health and economic crisis while confronting the climate emergency head on, 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 implications might be for the recovery ahead of us.

With governments prepared to lead, listen to expert advice and involve communities in decision-making, not only is a successful recovery possible, we can also choose to re-evaluate many of the things that we thought were fixed. The COVID-19 crisis gives us a once-in-a-generation opportunity to build back better.

ANDREW WEAR is a senior Australian public servant, who has worked for national, state and local governments. He has degrees in politics, law, economics and public policy, and is a graduate of the Senior Executive Fellows Program at Harvard Kennedy School. A Victorian Fellow of the Institute of Public Administration Australia, he is also a director of Ardoch Ltd, a children's education charity.



AUGUST 2021
NARRATIVE NON-FICTION

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World English-language
Other rights: Querido Fosfor

“This is *Sapiens* behind the scenes:
exciting, shocking and real.”
—Dr. José Jordens, *Naturalis*

“Overwhelming, dazzling”
—Joep van Ruiten, *Dagblad van het Noorden*

We, Hominids

Frank Westerman
Translated by **Sam Garrett**

A roving philosophical journey into what makes us human

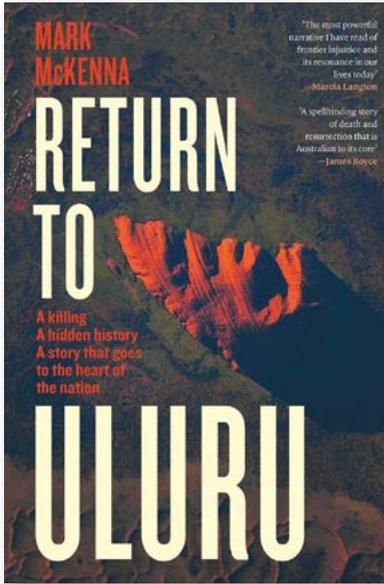
In *We, Hominids*, one of Holland’s greatest non-fiction writers hunts down answers to humanity’s most fundamental questions: Who are we? What makes us different from animals? With an ancient skull as his starting point, he travels the globe, tracing the search for the first human being: the missing 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. He urges for a more critical approach, so that we are no longer doomed to continuously review what we think we know. Still, Westerman emphasises the importance of evidence: “The facts cling to me and I cling to the facts. I will continue to pick them up, turn them around and illuminate them with the headlamp of my imagination.”

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 thirty 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.



MARCH 2021
HISTORY / TRUE CRIME

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Hardback | 234 x 153mm | 272pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

Other rights: Australian Literary Management

Rights sold: World English-language ex ANZ
(Dutton, PRH USA); ANZ audio
(Wavesound)

“The most powerful narrative I have read of frontier injustice and its resonance in our lives today.” —Marcia Langton

“Mark McKenna has exposed the wounded heart of Australia. Never has a history of our country so assumed the power of sacred myth. *Return to Uluru* is a spellbinding story of death and resurrection that is Australian to its core.” —James Boyce

Return to Uluru

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

Mark McKenna

When Mark McKenna set out to write a history of the centre of Australia, he had no idea what he would discover. One event in 1934 – the shooting at Uluru of Aboriginal man Yokunnuna by white policeman Bill McKinnon, and subsequent Commonwealth inquiry – stood out as a mirror of racial politics in the Northern Territory at the time.

But then, through speaking with the families of both killer and victim, McKenna unearthed new evidence that transformed the historical record and the meaning of the event for today. As he explains, “Every thread of the story connected to the present in surprising ways.” In a sequence of powerful revelations, McKenna explores what truth-telling and reconciliation look like in practice.

Return to Uluru brings a cold case to life. It speaks directly to the Black Lives Matter movement, but is completely Australian. Recalling Chloe Hooper’s *The Tall Man*, it is superbly written, moving, and full of astonishing, unexpected twists. Ultimately it is a story of recognition and return, which goes to the very heart of the country. At the centre of it all is Uluru, the sacred site where paths fatefully converged.

MARK McKENNA is one of Australia’s leading historians, based at the University of Sydney. He is the author of several prize-winning books, including *From the Edge: Australia’s Lost Histories*, *Looking for Blackfellas’ Point* and *An Eye for Eternity: The Life of Manning Clark*, which won the Prime Minister’s Literary Award for non-fiction and Victorian, NSW, Queensland and South Australian premiers’ awards.

TITLE★FIGHT



HOW THE
YINDJIBARNDI
FOUGHT AND DEFEATED
A \$40 BILLION
MINING GIANT

PAUL★
CLEARY

SEPTEMBER 2021
SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 320pp

Manuscript: April 2021

Sample: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

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

Title Fight

How the Yindjibarndi battled and defeated a \$40 billion mining giant

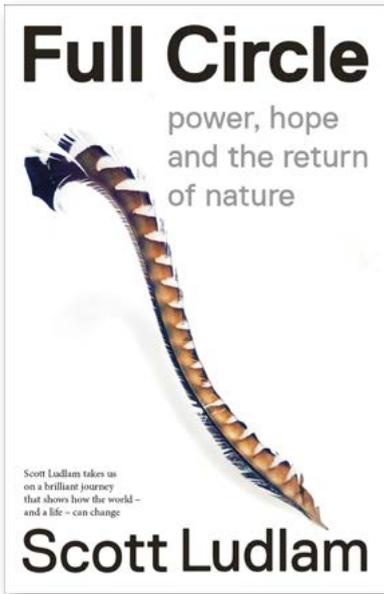
Paul Cleary

Over the past two decades, Andrew “Twiggy” Forrest’s Fortescue Metals Group has amassed a network of iron ore mines generating \$17 billion a year. When it came to dealing with the Traditional Owners of the land across the remote Pilbara region of Western Australia, obtaining consent has, in some instances, involved handing out shiny new Land Cruisers and a paltry royalty. On the odd occasion when FMG met resistance, the company aggressively litigated its way to a lucrative outcome.

But this strategy came unstuck when FMG encountered a few hundred Yindjibarndi people and their leader, Michael Woodley, a man who left school in sixth grade and was from then on immersed in traditional culture. Woodley has led his community in an epic, David-and-Goliath battle against FMG. At times, the company’s tactics were so extreme that they resembled the stuff of a Hollywood movie. But Woodley and his core group of supporters remained resolute, waging a twelve-year legal battle 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, impoverished and poorly educated group of Pilbara Aborigines stood their ground and refused to betray their spiritual connection to country.

PAUL CLEARY is a prominent Australian journalist who has documented the politics and economics of resource extraction for more than a decade. He served as an adviser to the government of East Timor on resource-sector governance and negotiations, and has a doctorate from the Australian National University. He is the author of *Too Much Luck*, *Mine-Field* and *Trillion Dollar Baby*.



MAY 2021
SOCIETY & CULTURE

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 368pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

“Scott Ludlam’s *Full Circle* ranges very far in space and time – the story stretches over hundreds of millions of years and every inch of our planet. Ludlam’s insights are often cogent and deep – and more than that, they’re earned. His willingness to engage in the fight he’s describing gives his take on these existential questions real power.”

—Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature*

“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*

Full Circle

Power, Hope and the Return of Nature

Scott Ludlam

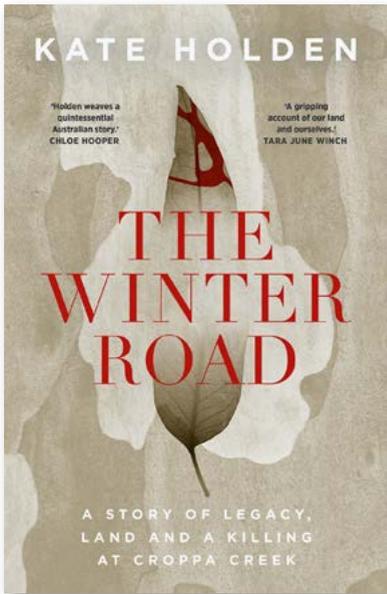
It’s getting late. We have to get moving.

A scorched eucalyptus leaf twirls out of a clear sky, a premonition that begins a journey into a world on the edge.

In *Full Circle*, Scott Ludlam draws on his unique experience as senator and activist. Travelling the world, he discovers an emerging post-capitalist economics, and investigates everything from systems theory to community activism. Above all, he looks for what works: the falling grain of sand that sets off the avalanche of environmental and democratic change.

This is a book about hidden connections and fresh possibilities, and what happens when we invite natural systems back into the urban world. Bringing together a wealth of new ideas, *Full Circle* outlines a new ecological politics. It is a visionary book for our wild times.

SCOTT LUDLAM was a senator from 2008 to 2017 and served as deputy leader of the Australian Greens. He has also worked as a filmmaker, artist and graphic designer. This is his first book, the fruit of a life of activism, study and travel.



**MAY 2021
ENVIRONMENT**

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 336pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV
Rights sold: ANZ audio (Wavesound)

“Beautifully written, meticulously researched, carefully plotted and seamlessly stitched together” —Charles Massy, author of *Call of the Reed Warbler*

“Beautifully and compellingly told, shattering in its reverberations, *The Winter Road* is a story for our times – a battle that is being fought the world over as we try to find a better way of managing the land and respecting the forces of nature that sustain us.” —Isabella Tree, author of *Wilding: The Return of Nature to a British Farm*

The Winter Road

A Story of Legacy, Land, and a Killing at Croppa Creek

Kate Holden

An epic true story of greed, power and a desire for legacy from an acclaimed Australian storyteller.

July 2014, a lonely road at twilight outside Croppa Creek, New South Wales: 80-year-old farmer Ian Turnbull takes out a .22 and shoots environmental officer Glen Turner in the back.

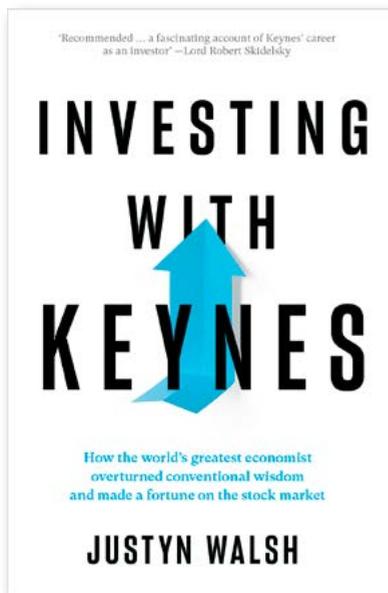
On one side, a farmer hoping to secure his family’s wealth on the richest agricultural soil in the country. On the other, his obsession: the government man trying to apply environmental laws.

The brutal killing of Glen Turner splits open the story of our place on this land. Is our time on this soil a tale of tragedy or triumph – are we reaping what we’ve sown? Do we owe protection to the land, or does it owe us a living? And what happens when, in pursuit of a legacy, a man creates terrible consequences?

Kate Holden brings her discerning eye to a gripping tale of law, land and inheritance. It is the story of Australia.

KATE HOLDEN is the author of two acclaimed memoirs, *In My Skin* and *The Romantic*, and a regular contributor to *The Saturday Paper*, *The Monthly* and *The Age*.

THE AUTHOR’S PREVIOUS BOOK, *IN MY SKIN*, WAS PUBLISHED AROUND THE WORLD IN MULTIPLE EDITIONS, INCLUDING BRAZIL, CZECH REPUBLIC, FINLAND, GERMANY, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, NORTH AMERICA, TURKEY AND THE UK



APRIL 2021
BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 256pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex Korea; film/TV

Other rights: Cameron's Management

Rights sold: North America (Pegasus); Indian

Subcontinent (Harper Collins India);

Traditional Chinese character (Commonlife);

Audio (Bolinda)

- ▶ REVISED AND UPDATED EDITION OF *KEYNES AND THE MARKET FOR THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF KEYNES*
- ▶ RIGHTS SOLD TO PREVIOUS EDITION: WORLD ENGLISH-LANGUAGE EX ANZ (WILEY); TRADITIONAL CHINESE CHARACTER (DOMAIN PUBLISHING COMPANY); SIMPLIFIED CHINESE CHARACTER (CHINA CITIC PRESS); PORTUGUESE TRANSLATION (EDITORIA GENTRE)

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

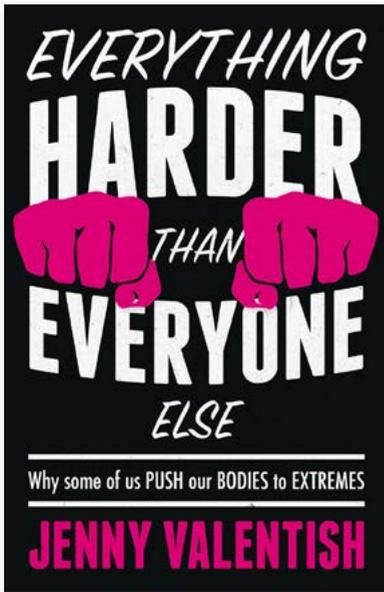
John Maynard Keynes was a many-sided figure – world-changing economist, architect of the post-War international monetary system, bestselling author, a baron in the House of Lords, and key member of the fabled Bloomsbury group.

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 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 his present position, he worked in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Australia as an investment banker and corporate lawyer.



JUNE 2021
SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 272pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World ex film/TV
Other rights: Jane Novak Literary Agency
Rights sold: North America (Apollo Publishers); UK/Comm ex ANZ (Manchester University Press); ANZ Audio (Wavesound)

- ▶ **THE AUTHOR'S PREVIOUS BOOK, *WOMAN OF SUBSTANCES*, WAS PUBLISHED IN THE US AND UK (HEAD OF ZEUS)**
- ▶ ***WOMAN OF SUBSTANCES* LONGLISTED FOR THE 2017 WALKLEY BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD**

DARKLY FUNNY AND VIVIDLY PENETRATING, *EVERYTHING HARDER THAN EVERYONE ELSE* EXPLORES OUR DEEPER SELVES AND ASKS: WHAT ARE YOUR LIMITS?

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?

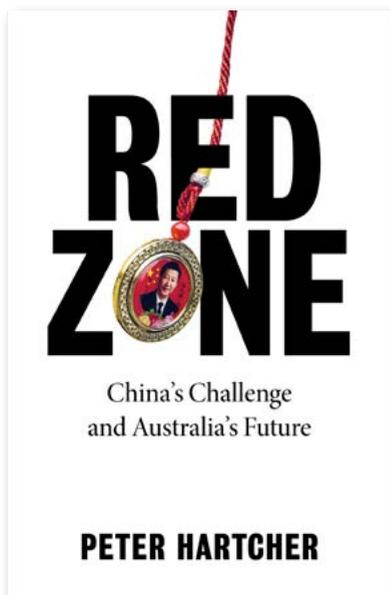
It's part of human nature to test our limits. But what happens when this part comes to define us?

When Jenny Valentish wrote a memoir about addiction in 2017, she noticed that people who treated drug-taking like an Olympic sport would often hurl themselves into a pursuit such as marathon running upon giving up. 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 architect who hangs from hooks in her flesh to get out of her head. The BDSM dominant helping people flirt with death to feel more alive... and many many more.

JENNY VALENTISH is the author of the acclaimed *Woman of Substances*, a regular contributor to *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Saturday Paper*, and former editor of *Time Out Melbourne* and *Triple J's Jmag*. She grew up in Slough, a satellite town of London, and moved to Australia in 2006.



APRIL 2021
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

“For all its power, China is neither all-powerful nor irresistible. Australia can shape its engagement with Beijing ... History is forcing us out of our complacency. Whenever Australia is asked to choose between China and America, the ultimate answer must be that we choose Australia.”

—Peter Hartcher, *Red Zone*

Red Zone

China's Challenge and Australia's Future

Peter Hartcher

How Australia woke up to China's challenge – and what comes next

China is a key nation for Australia's future – for our security, economy and identity. But what are China's intentions when it comes to Australia? And what lies behind the recent chill in relations between the two countries?

In this gripping book, Peter Hartcher shows how Australia woke up to China's challenge and explores what comes next. Will we see a further deterioration in relations, or is there a smarter way to deal with an authoritarian superpower?

Hartcher shines new light on Beijing's overt and covert campaign for influence – over trade and defence, media and politics. And he looks at the Australian response so far and assesses its effectiveness.

PETER HARTCHER is the political and international editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald*. His books include *Bubble Man*, *The Sweet Spot* and *To the Bitter End*. He is also the author of two Quarterly Essays, *Bipolar Nation* and *Red Flag*.



Girt Nation

The Unauthorised History of Australia
Volume 3

David Hunt

Following on from the award-winning and best-selling volumes 1 and 2, *Girt* and *True Girt*, here comes the highly anticipated third volume in David Hunt's beloved Australian history series, *Girt Nation*.

In this hilarious yet deeply researched book, David Hunt tells how Australia became a nation. This is a story of spiritualists, suffragettes and bush bards. Of costermongers, mesmerists and larrikins. Hunt weaves a narrative that is both informative and delightful, as he explores the people and forces that helped turn a federation of colonial states into a distinctive nation.

DAVID HUNT is an unusually tall and handsome man who likes writing his own bios for all the books he has written. David is the author of *Girt: The Unauthorised History of Australia*, which won the 2014 Indie Award for non-fiction and was shortlisted in both the NSW Premier's Literary Awards and Australian Book Industry Awards. *True Girt*, the sequel, was published in 2016, as was a book for children, *The Nose Pixies*.

DECEMBER 2021 HISTORY

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp
Sample: March 2021
Manuscript: June 2021
Rights held: World ex film/TV
Other rights: film/TV retained by the author

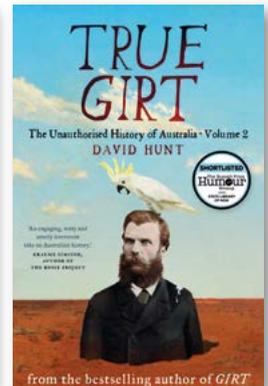
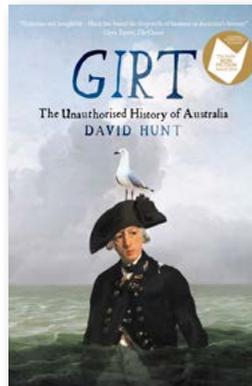
PRAISE FOR *GIRT* AND *TRUE GIRT*

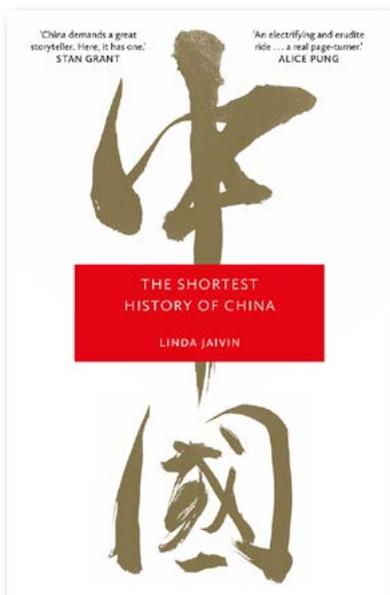
"An engaging, witty and utterly irreverent take on Australian history." — Graeme Simson, author of *The Rosie Project*

"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*

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





**MAY 2021
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$24.99

Paperback | 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); Japan (Tokyo Shoseki Co);

Portugal (Dom Quixote); Greece

(Metaichmio)

Other rights: Left Bank Literary

“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*

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 glorious ruling house, continue to haunt the People’s Republic of China 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 about China, from its philosophical origins to its political system, to the COVID-19 pandemic and where China is likely to lead the world.

LINDA JAIVIN is an American-born Australian translator, essayist, novelist and sinologist. She has written several works of fiction, non-fiction and criticism, and writes regularly for *The Saturday Paper*, *The Monthly* and *Australian Foreign Affairs*.



**JULY 2022
HISTORY**

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$24.99
Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 224pp
Manuscript: July 2021
Rights held: World ex film/TV
Other rights: AM Heath & Co

The Shortest History of Democracy

John Keane

The latest addition to this invaluable series is a very timely distilled history of democracy, which traces it from its beginning through to its current challenges. Travelling from Ancient Greece to China, looking closely at Europe and the US, this book explains how democracy evolved and what is essential to know about it.

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. It was the first full-scale history of democracy for over a century.



**MAY 2022
HISTORY**

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

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 dark humour – an irresistible entree 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*.



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 2018 HISTORY

Imprint: Black Inc.

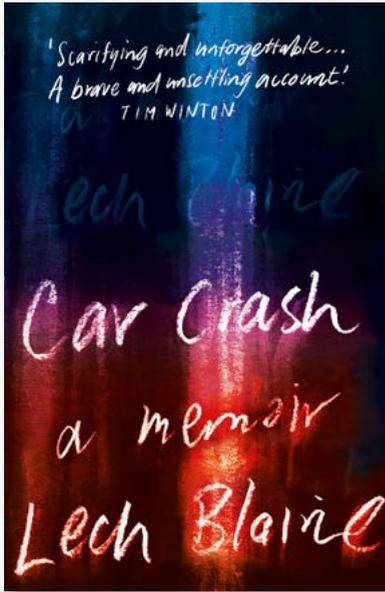
RRP: AU\$22.99

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); Polish (Polskie Wydawnictwo Naukowe); Russian (Eksmo Publishing); Ukraine (Nash Format)



**APRIL 2021
MEMOIR**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Paperback | 272 x 153mm | 304pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: World English-language ex ANZ
(Greystone Books); ANZ audio (Bolinda)

**GREYSTONE BOOKS TO PUBLISH IN
2021 (CANADA, THE US AND UK)**

Car Crash

A Memoir

Lech Blaine

What is it like to survive a crash that kills your best friends, and how do you move on? From an exceptional debut writer comes a stunning memoir about grief, perseverance and courage.

At seventeen, Lech Blaine walked away unscratched from a car crash that killed three of his friends and left two in comas.

On a May night in 2009, seven boys in Toowoomba, Queensland, piled into a car. They never arrived at their destination. The driver made a routine error, leading to a head-on collision.

In the aftermath, rumours about speed and drink-driving erupted. There was intense scrutiny from the media and police. Lech used alcohol to numb his grief and social media to show stoicism, while secretly spiralling towards depression and disgrace.

This is a riveting account of family, friendship, grief and love after tragedy. In a country where class and sport dominate, and car crashes compete with floods and pandemics for headlines, our connection with others is what propels us on. Heartbreaking and darkly hilarious, *Car Crash* is a story for our times.

LECH BLAINE is an award-winning writer from Toowoomba, Queensland. His work appears in *The Best Australian Essays*, *Meanjin*, *The Guardian*, *Griffith Review* and *The Monthly*, among others. He was an inaugural recipient of a Griffith Review Queensland Writers Fellowship and won the 2019 Queensland Premier's Young Publishers and Writers Award.

PRAISE FOR CAR CRASH: A MEMOIR BY 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*

“A heart-soaring act of literary bravery where the ongoing cost of experience is exposed in every note-perfect sentence. This is a profound reflection on the deafening soul noise heard by a beautiful group of young friends fated to live the rest of their lives with the silence of the dead. Some books just have to be written. And some books just have to be read.”

—Trent Dalton, internationally award-winning and bestselling author of *Boy Swallows Universe*

“I began this book with my guts in my mouth. Then, as I read on, I winced with recognition, I laughed a lot and my heart gradually broke open. It’s odd to talk about ‘talent’ when a book covers such sensitive, sad subject matter, but the truth is that Blaine has it. There are strong sentences, clarity of intent and tone, wicked one-liners and a mastery of metaphor. This book is for everyone – it truly captures something of ‘modern Australia’ in a tenderly told story of one young man’s tumultuous coming-of-age.”

—Bri Lee, bestselling author of *Eggshell Skull*

“A poetic, unflinching meditation on the exuberance of youth and the trauma of survival. It shines with a fierce intelligence.”

—Kristina Olsson, award-winning author of *Boy, Lost: A Family Memoir*

“*Car Crash* is a clear-eyed, bruising and tender account of how the moments that thrust you into adulthood can take place in seconds. Blaine’s journalism has long made me suspect he’s one of the best writers of his generation. *Car Crash* confirms it, without a doubt.”

—Benjamin Law, author of *The Family Law*

“*Car Crash* is brutal and gutting, but it’s also moving, lyrical, warmly told and very funny, with the kind of wisdom and hope that’s made possible by the understanding of pain. Blaine is a fearless writer of great agility and heart, and this book is an astonishing insight into the wild work of grief, in all its dark corners, in all its bright illuminations.”

—Brooke Davis, author of *Lost & Found*

“*Car Crash* is an accomplished debut that dissects ideas of grief, mateship, survivor’s guilt, stifling masculinity and class in regional Australia, and will be appreciated by fans of Don Watson, Corey White and Chloe Hooper.”

—Books+Publishing



**OCTOBER 2021
AUTOBIOGRAPHY**

Imprint: Melbourne Books

RRP: AU\$45.00

Format: Hardcover | 360pp + 32pp colour
photo section

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

BUILT FOR BALLET TAKES YOU BEHIND THE SCENES TO FIND A REAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE PLEASURE AND THE PAIN, THE DEMANDS AND THE INTENSE COMMITMENT IT REQUIRES TO BECOME A BALLET DANCER.

Built for Ballet

An Autobiography

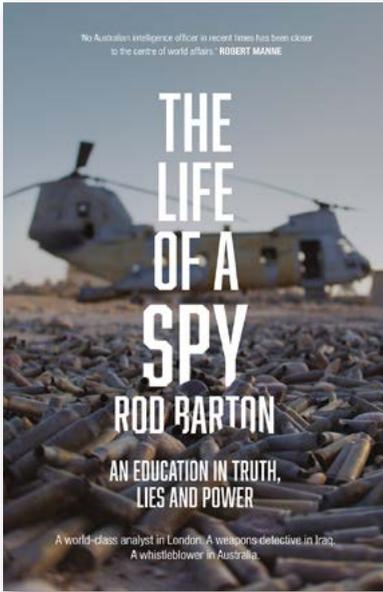
Leanne Benjamin with Sarah Crompton

It's a book for ballet-lovers which will explain from Benjamin's personal point of view how ballet has changed and is changing. It's a book of history: she was first taught by the people who created ballet in its modern form and now she works with the dancers of today, handing on all she has known and learnt. But it's also a book for people who are just interested in the psychology of achievement, how you go from being a child in small town Rockhampton in the centre of Australia to being a power on the world's biggest stages – and how an individual copes with the ups and downs of that kind of career.

It's a story full of big names and big personalities – Margot Fonteyn, Kenneth MacMillan, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Darcey Bussell, Carlos Acosta to name a few. President Clinton, Michelle Obama, Diana Princess of Wales and David Beckham all make an appearance. But it is also a book of small moments of insight: what makes a performance special, how you recover from illness, how a different partner can alter everything, how you combine athletic and artistic prowess with motherhood, what it's like to fall over in front of thousands of people and what it's like to triumph.

LEANNE BENJAMIN, OBE, AM, is a highly acclaimed and award-winning dancer, who was a principal ballerina with Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, English National Ballet, Berlin Ballet and ultimately a principal for 20 years with the Royal Ballet.

SARAH CROMPTON is one of Britain's most respected writers and broadcasters, commenting on all aspects of culture and the arts. Her work appears in the *Guardian*, the *Sunday Times*, *The Times*, the *Observer*, British and American *Vogue* among others. She reviews dance for the *Observer* and theatre for *Whatsonstage*. She is a regular contributor to the BBC's *Front Row*.



**MAY 2021
MEMOIR**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: Audio (Findaway)

I WAS NO JAMES BOND WITH A LICENCE TO KILL, BUT I DID WORK WITH THE BRITISH INTELLIGENCE SERVICES AND FOR THE CIA. I HAD GUNS POINTED AT ME, DEATH THREATS ISSUED, A PRICE PLACED ON MY HEAD.

“No Australian intelligence officer in recent times has been closer to the centre of world affairs than Barton, or better placed to observe the intense political pressures applied, from all sides, on those searching for Saddam Hussein’s elusive weapons of mass destruction.” —Robert Manne

The Life of a Spy

An Education in Truth, Lies and Power

Rod Barton

The remarkable true story of an extraordinary Australian intelligence officer, whose work took him across the world... and into the depths of war and politics.

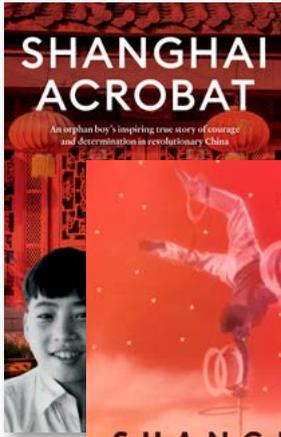
In 1971, Rod Barton applied for a junior scientist role in the Australian Department of Defence. Little did he know what it entailed: as the Cold War intensified, Barton was inducted into the murky world of espionage.

For the next few decades, Barton lived a life straight from an adventure novel. In war-torn Mogashidu, he disarmed militia, while sleeping in rat-infested barracks. As a UN weapons inspector, he flew to Baghdad on special missions, interviewing top scientists to uncover an illegal weapons program, and raced to chemical firms across Europe, tracking materials sold to the Iraqis.

After 9/11, Barton became senior advisor to Hans Blix, seeking the truth on Iraq’s WMDs. His clashes with the CIA over what he saw – and what he didn’t find – reveal the terrible politicisation of the War on Terror. It prompted him to step from the shadows and share a truth about Iraqi prisoners – and to tussle with the Australian government.

This is an extraordinary behind-the-scenes account of a world marked by risk, secrecy and individual acts of courage. *The Life of a Spy* will introduce you to a man of principle in a time of chaos, and take you to the frontlines of politics and war.

ROD BARTON is a former Australian intelligence officer. Since the first Gulf War, his unique expertise has been sought by the CIA, the Australian government and the United Nations. His previous book is *The Weapons Detective: The Inside Story of Australia’s Top Weapons Inspector*.



Shanghai Acrobat

An Orphan Boy's Inspiring True Story of Courage and Determination in Revolutionary China

Jingjing Xue

Translated by Bo Ai

The gripping autobiography of an orphan who left Mao's China and became one of the world's most successful acrobatic performers

For readers of *Mao's Last Dancer* comes the inspiring true story of a world-famous acrobat who left communist China to begin a new life in Australia.

Jingjing Xue was born in China in 1947, during a period of civil war. Jingjing, left in an orphanage in Shanghai, was destined to a life of hardship before officials singled him out and enlisted him to train with the Shanghai Acrobatics School.

Shanghai Acrobat tells the moving story of Jingjing's rise from poverty to become an admired performer in China and beyond. Through the turbulent period of the Cultural Revolution, he realised the value of freedom. This is a story of hope and perseverance, of overcoming adversity and of finding a place to belong.

JINGJING XUE was a star performer with the Shanghai Acrobatic Troupe. Considered one of China's best acrobats, from 1961 to 1987 he performed around the world with the Shanghai Circus. He trained performers in China and, later, at the National Institute of Circus Arts in Melbourne, the city where he now lives.

**NORTH AMERICAN EDITION TO BE PUBLISHED
BY APOLLO PUBLISHERS IN MARCH 2021**

MARCH 2021 AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 320pp

Manuscript: Available

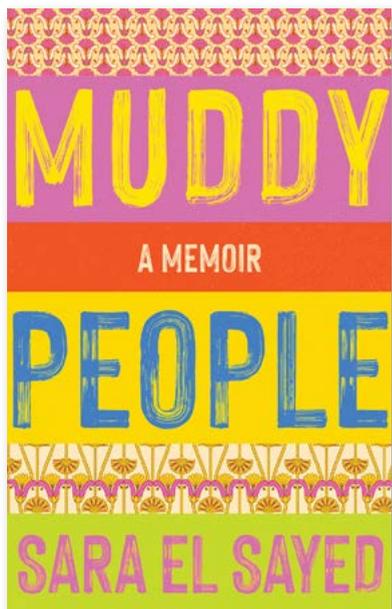
Rights held: World ex film/TV

Other rights: Golvan Arts Management

Rights sold: North America (Apollo Publishers); ANZ audio (Wavesound)

"A beautifully written book ... a poignant, riveting story of determination and perseverance against the odds. This is a success story that will resonate for those from all over the world who have called Australia home." —Andrew Kwong, author of *One Bright Moon*

"Inspiring ... the richness of detail, along with the photographs, reveal a marvelous story of endurance and fortitude." —*Kirkus*



**AUGUST 2021
MEMOIR**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$29.99

Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 256pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

“As an immigrant to Australia, my developing identity is a constant wrestle between resentment and reliance.” —Sara El Sayed

“*The Blind Pussy* is brave, emerging Australian literature with a new voice that is energetic and highly engaging.” —Judges’ comments, 2019 Richell Prize

**RECIPIENT OF THE 2020 QUEENSLAND
WRITERS FELLOWSHIP**

Muddy People

A Memoir

Sara El Sayed

How do you find yourself without losing your family? A memoir about growing up, breaking the rules and negotiating culture, from a new Australian voice.

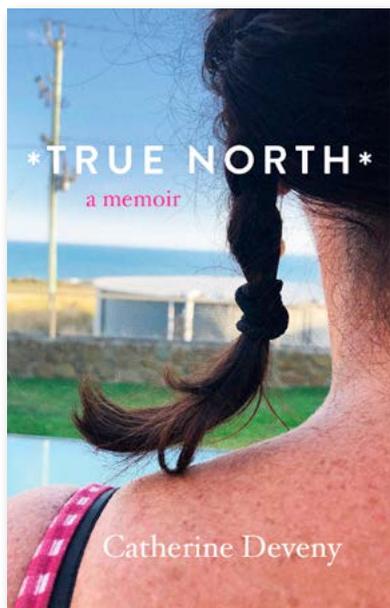
A hilarious, heartwarming memoir of growing up and becoming oneself in an Egyptian Muslim family.

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.



JULY 2021
MEMOIR

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$29.99

Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Manuscript: April 2021

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.

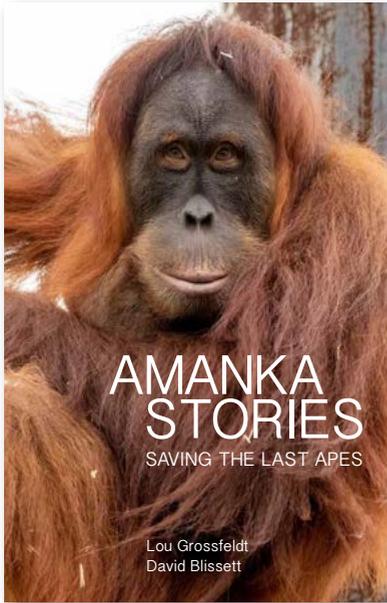
When writer Catherine Deveny faced the end of a seventeen-year relationship with the father of her children, she had no idea what lay on the other side of the months of tumult: she just knew she had to create space for a new life.

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*.

THE AUTHOR’S PREVIOUS BOOK, MENTAL, WAS PUBLISHED IN THE US AND UK (HEAD OF ZEUS) AND IN SIMPLIFIED CHINESE CHARACTER (CHINA RENMIN UNIVERSITY PRESS)



**NOVEMBER 2021
ENVIRONMENT**

Imprint: Melbourne Books

RRP: AU\$34.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 224pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

AMANKA IS A WORD FROM ONE OF THE LANGUAGES USED BY PEOPLE LIVING IN THE RURAL NORTH WEST OF UGANDA. IT'S A BEAUTIFUL, RICH WORD THAT MEANS "FAMILY". YET, IN THE FORESTS AND VILLAGES OF THIS PART OF UGANDA – AND ACROSS MUCH OF TROPICAL AFRICA AND ASIA – FAMILIES ARE AT WAR. IN THE NARROWING MARGINS BETWEEN FOREST AND FARM, HUMAN AND NON-HUMAN, THERE IS A GROWING CONFLICT. A DEADLY CONFLICT.

Amanka Stories

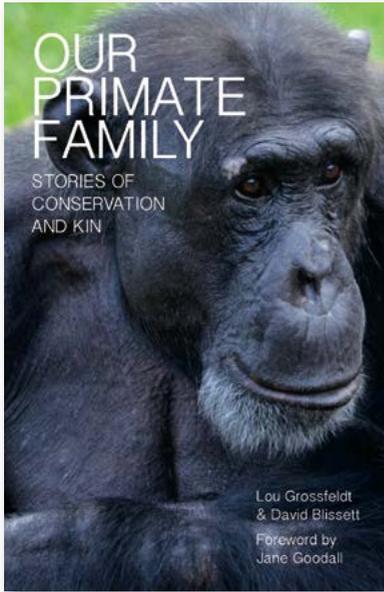
Saving the Last Apes

Lou Grossfeldt and Dave Blissett

The Amanka Book Project has been coordinated by writer David Blissett and primate curator Lou Grossfeldt, who are donating all the profits from the book sales to various ape conservation and enrichment programs. They focus on all ape species (gorilla, orangutan, chimpanzee, bonobo and the gibbon family). These are stories of sacrifice and courage and hope; tears and happiness; love and loss. In each chapter, Lou and David speak with people who devote their lives to the conservation and wellbeing of the apes. This includes scientists, researchers, caregivers, vets, filmmakers and conservation advocates. Many of the stories in this book have never been told before and will give readers a direct insight into the day-to-day heartaches, challenges and joys of working with these intelligent, sentient beings.

DAVID BLISSETT is an award-winning Australian writer who has contributed three entries to the *Award Winning Australian Writing* series spanning from 2011-2013. He was co-writer on Melbourne Books' titles including *Snake Catcher* (with Tony Harrison), *Our Primate Family* and *Amanka Stories* (with Lou Grossfeldt). Blissett also served as writing coordinator for *Reflections of Elephants* (by Bobby-Jo Clow).

LOU GROSSFELDT has worked with primates for three decades and is one of Australia's leading specialists on their care and conservation. Curator of Primates at Sydney Zoo, in the Bungarrabee Parklands precinct of western Sydney, Lou was the co-writer on two Melbourne Books' titles with writer David Blissett – *Our Primate Family* and *Amanka Stories*.



JUNE 2015
ENVIRONMENT

Imprint: Melbourne Books

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 190mm | 178pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

“It is my hope that many people will read and enjoy these stories. And that this will encourage them to join the growing band of those of us who care and help us to make a positive difference for primates, and all living things.” —Jane Goodall

Our Primate Family

Stories of Conservation and Kin

Lou Grossfeldt and David Blissett

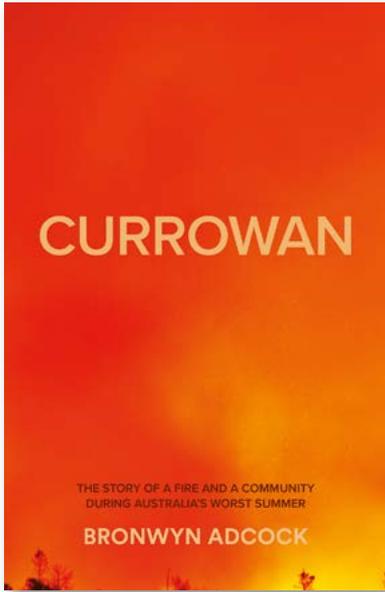
Foreword by Jane Goodall

Lou Grossfeldt has always wanted to work with animals. Today she is one of Australia’s leading experts on primate husbandry and care. Lou has spent more than two decades working to help save our primate family from extinction, and today she supervises the African primate division at Taronga Zoo which includes managing some of mankind’s closest relatives, the Chimpanzees and Gorillas.

In this book, *Our Primate Family*, Lou shares her remarkable stories with award-winning writer David Blissett. You’ll travel from the stunning rainforests of Borneo and Vietnam, to the vanishing wilderness of Madagascar and Uganda, then to one of the world’s most iconic zoos. You’ll read about the refugees of the forest and meet some notable members of the family: mighty Kibabu, lover of lettuce and waterfowl; Sonny, Sydney’s own snow monkey; Willow, shy, beautiful, and with a fire-fighting fixation; and Lubutu, the wisest, most judicious of them all.

Lou offers insight into the plight facing primates in the wild. They are a group of animals more like us than any other. They are beautiful, enigmatic, often misunderstood. They are our biological family, and many of them are in trouble. Lou shares some practical advice each of us can follow to help make a tangible difference to the survival of these amazing animals.

According to friend and mentor Jane Goodall, Lou’s work in animal welfare and public education will encourage many to better understand primates’ characteristics and habits.



SEPTEMBER 2021
CURRENT AFFAIRS

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$32.99
Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp
Manuscript: July 2021
Rights held: World; film/TV

Currowan

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

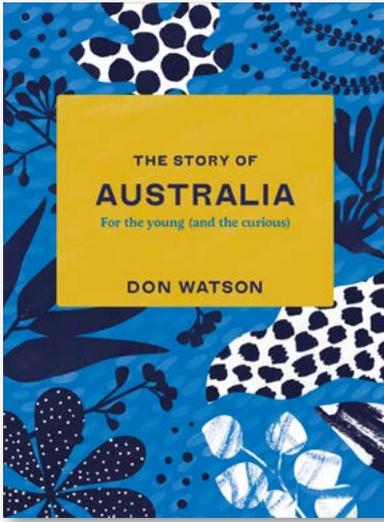
Bronwyn Adcock

In the words of people who experienced it, *Currowan* tells the gripping story of the massive fire that engulfed the south coast of New South Wales, Australia, in 2019–20. Burning for seventy-four days across nearly 500,000 hectares, it was part of Australia's "black summer".

Journalist Bronwyn Adcock fled the fire herself, with her children, while her husband went missing. In *Currowan*, she tells her own story and those of many others: what they experienced, saw, thought and felt. This compelling narrative is braided with larger themes – what we know about how fire behaves, and how that is changing due to climate change.

Adcock writes: "Australia is (unfortunately) a poster-child for what happens in a climate-changed world. I want to convey what it is like to live in such a world: the fear, the dislocation and the danger. What happens when people are let down by governments and are underprepared. And when a country disregards and poorly manages its land. It is like a dystopian horror story – except it is real."

BRONWYN ADCOCK is an award-winning Australian journalist and writer. She has worked as a radio current affairs reporter and radio 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
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 Management

**A MODERN CLASSIC: DON WATSON'S
HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA FOR
CHILDREN OF THE TWENTY-FIRST
CENTURY**

The Story of Australia

Don Watson

History told so well it gives us a better idea of who we are – and who we are likely to become.

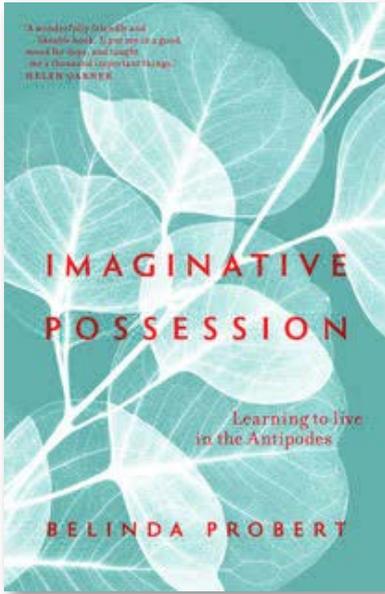
Don Watson's *The Story of Australia* is a modern history of our nation that integrates new understandings about Indigenous Australia and looks to the future, asking: where will we go from here?

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. He covers the traditional and familiar – Burke and Wills, Ned Kelly and the Eureka Stockade – but also events more Australians should know about, such as the Coniston massacre. 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* and *The Bush*. This is his first work for children.



**AUGUST 2021
ENVIRONMENT**

Imprint: Upswell
RRP: AU\$26.99
Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 240pp
Manuscript: March 2021
Rights held: World

“A wonderfully friendly and likeable book. It put me in a good mood for days, and taught me a thousand important things.”
—Helen Garner, winner of the Windham-Campbell prize

“This is a delightful book, a scintillatingly original nature story that will engage readers on multiple levels.” —Iain McCalman, award-winning author of *The Reef: A Passionate History from Captain Cook to Climate Change*

Imaginative Possession

Learning to Live in the Antipodes

Belinda Probert

Wondering how migrants can fully settle on this ancient continent, Belinda Probert bought a property in the “country” to observe things more closely and learn to garden differently.

At a time when many easy assumptions about how we live and how our society functions are being questioned there is room for contemplation of a country that is ancient, occupied for at least sixty thousand years, and young, a national federation for only twelve decades.

Belinda Probert, a migrant from England, sets out to question in words and action how well she understands the landscapes she has seen and the people that have shaped them. She takes with her a set of writers who have asked the same questions, or provided interpretations of our sense of belonging, to test their words against her own emerging views. Wondering how a nation of immigrants can fully settle here she decided she needed to buy a property in the ‘country’ so she could observe it more closely, and learn to garden differently. Trees fell on her, ants bit her, bowerbirds stole her crops, but from the exercise she discovers much more about soil, trees, water, animals and protecting herself from fire emergencies. Driving back and forth she learns to see the ancient heritage all around us, and rural industries that have destroyed and created so much.

BELINDA PROBERT grew up in the Weald of Kent, wanting to be a sheep farmer. After a PhD on the Troubles in Northern Ireland she accepted a job at the newly opened Murdoch University in Western Australia to teach peace and conflict studies / social and political theory and explore her Australian family connections. She is the author of books about Northern Ireland, gender equity, and *Working Life: Arguments about Work in Australian Society*.



See What You Made Me Do

Power, Control and Domestic Abuse

Jess Hill

Women are abused or killed by their partners at astonishing rates: in the UK, 1.5 women are killed each week, and in the US, it's 2.5 women every day.

In this confronting and deeply researched account, journalist Jess Hill uncovers the ways in which abusers exert control in the darkest – and most intimate – ways imaginable. She asks: What do we know about perpetrators? Why is it so hard to leave? What does successful intervention look like?

What emerges is not only a searing investigation of the violence so many women experience, but a dissection of how that violence can be enabled and reinforced by the judicial system we trust to protect us.

Combining exhaustive research with riveting storytelling, *See What You Made Me Do* dismantles the flawed logic of victim-blaming and challenges everything you thought you knew about domestic and family violence.

JESS HILL is an investigative reporter who contributes regularly to Radio National's *Background Briefing* and *The Monthly*. She has reported extensively on domestic abuse and is the recipient of three Our Watch Walkley Awards, including the Gold Award for reporting on violence against women.

"A shattering book: clear-headed and meticulous, driving always at the truth" —Helen Garner, winner of the Windham-Campbell prize

"Domestic abuse is hard to write about, hard to read about, hard to think about – everything in our culture makes silence the easy option. Breaking the silence takes skill and courage, and Jess Hill has both. Essential reading." —Laurie Penny, author of *Unspeaking Things*



WINNER OF THE
2020 STELLA PRIZE

JUNE 2019
SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 416pp

Manuscript: Available

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 (Okuyanus);

UK/Comm audio (Audiible); Film/TV

(Northern Pictures)



**APRIL 2020
BIOGRAPHY**

Imprint: Nero
 RRP: AU\$34.99
 Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 304pp
 + 8pp colour picture section
 Manuscript: Available
 Rights held: World; film/TV
 Rights sold: Hungary (Alexandra Kiado);
 North America (Skyhorse Publishing);
 UK/Comm audio (Ulverscroft); Traditional
 Chinese character (Domain Publishing
 Company); UK/Comm (The History Press);
 Japan (Shueshia International); Spain (Roca)

**NEW EDITION COVERING THE
COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Jacinda Ardern

A New Kind of Leader

Madeleine Chapman

New Zealand's prime minister has been hailed as a leader for a new generation, tired of inaction in the face of issues such as climate change and far-right terrorism.

Her grace and compassion following the Christchurch mosque shooting captured the world's attention. Oprah Winfrey invited us to "channel our inner Jacindas" as praise for Ardern flooded headlines and social media. The ruler of this remote country even made the cover of *Time*.

In this revealing biography, journalist Madeleine Chapman discovers the woman behind the headlines. Always politically engaged and passionate, Ardern is uncompromising and astute. She has encountered her fair share of sexism, but rather than let that harden her, she advocates "rising above" disparagers. In implementing a swift strict lockdown at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ardern's calm, clear, compassionate messaging helped New Zealand stay relatively untouched by the virus – and Ardern secure a second term in a landslide.

But has Ardern lived up to her promise? What political concessions has she had to make? And beyond the hype, what does her new style of leadership look like in practice?

MADELEINE CHAPMAN is a New Zealand writer of Sāmoan, Chinese and Tuvaluan descent. She is the co-author of Steven Adams' bestselling autobiography *My Life, My Fight* and was a senior writer at *The Spinoff* until 2020. Chapman was named the 2018 Young Business Journalist of the Year and the 2019 Humour Opinion Writer of the Year.

FICTION





The Dogs

John Hughes

Is it possible to write about the living without imagining them 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 leads him to discover that the greatest story he's never heard may lie with his dying mother. And perhaps it's her life he's been running away from and not his own. 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 in 2019, *No One* was shortlisted in the Miles Franklin Award 2020.

**OCTOBER 2021
FICTION**

Imprint: Upswell

RRP: AU\$27.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 250pp

Manuscript: May 2021

Rights held: World; film/TV

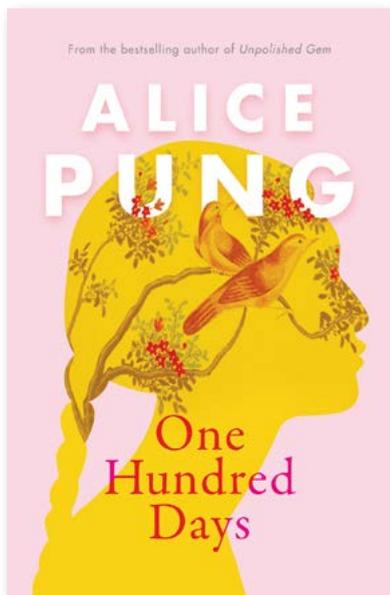
PRAISE FOR *NO ONE*

"John Hughes's vivid, dark, intensely beautiful new novella *No One* is an unprecedented excursion into the nightmares of our colonial unconscious."

—Geordie Williamson, *The Australian*

"Like all good fiction, this novella tells more than one story. *No One* is about the fractured identity of Australian society, delivered with an allegorist's sensibility."

—Jack Cameron, *The Sydney Morning Herald*



**JUNE 2021
FICTION**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: UK/Comm; film/TV

Other rights: Curtis Brown Australia

Rights sold: Film/TV; ANZ audio (Audible)

“Alice Pung is a gem. Her voice in the real thing.” —Amy Tan, author of *The Joy Luck Club*

“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. *One Hundred Days* is a masterpiece, a triumph – Pung’s greatest work yet.”
—Maxine Beneba Clarke

One Hundred Days

Alice Pung

From one of Australia’s most celebrated authors comes a mother–daughter drama exploring the fault lines 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 fault lines 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*.

THE AUTHOR’S FIRST YOUNG ADULT NOVEL, LAURINDA, SOLD OVER 20,000 COPIES IN ANZ AND WAS PUBLISHED IN THE US (KNOPF CHILDREN’S) AND UK (LEGEND PRESS) AS LUCY & LINH



The Sweetest Fruits

Monique Truong

With brilliant sensitivity and an unstinting eye, *The Sweetest Fruits* illuminates three women's tenacity and their struggles in a novel that circumnavigates the globe in the search for love, family, home and belonging.

In *The Sweetest Fruits*, three women, Rosa, Alethea, and Setsu, tell the story of their life with Lafcadio Hearn (1850–1904), a globetrotting Greek-Irish writer best known as the author of America's first Creole cookbook and for his many volumes about the folklore and ghost stories of Meiji Era Japan. In their own unorthodox ways, the three women are also intrepid travellers and explorers. Their accounts witness Hearn's remarkable life but also seek to witness their own existence and luminous will to live unbounded by gender, race, and the mores of their time. Each is a gifted storyteller with her own precise reason for sharing her story, and together their voices offer a revealing, often contradictory portrait of Hearn.

MONIQUE TRUONG is the Vietnamese American author of the bestselling, award-winning novels *The Book of Salt*, *Bitter in the Mouth* and *The Sweetest Fruits*. She's also a former refugee, essayist, avid eater, lyricist/librettist, and intellectual property attorney (more or less in that order).

**SEPTEMBER 2021
FICTION**

Imprint: Upswell

RRP: AU\$29.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 320pp

Rights held: World English-language ex USA, Canada, the Philippine Republic, Singapore, Malaysia, India and audio

Rights sold: Germany (C.H. Beck); Japan (Sheisha)

“Brilliant and heartbreaking” —Gish Jen, author of *Typical American*

“A sublime, many-voiced novel of voyage and reinvention” —Anthony Mara, author of *A Constellation of Vital Phenomena*

“A delicate, impressionistic tale” —Priya Parmar, *The New York Times Book Review*

**A NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW
EDITOR'S CHOICE; WINNER OF THE
BINGHAMTON CENTER FOR WRITERS'
JOHN GARDNER FICTION PRIZE**



**AUGUST 2021
FICTION**

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$27.99

Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 240pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World English-language

Other rights: Actes Sud

**WINNER OF THE PRIX MICHEL DENTAN
AND PRIX DU PUBLIC DE LA RTS, 2020.**

**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.**

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 is unlike any other.

Born in Basel in 1975 to a French mother and Slovakian father, **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 publications include the translations of Hannelore Cayre's *The Godmother*, Françoise Frenkel's *No Place to Lay One's Head*, which was awarded the JQ–Wingate Prize, and Joseph Ponthus' prize-winning work, *On the Line*.



FEBRUARY 2022
FICTION

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Format: Paperback | 210 x 135mm | 320pp
Manuscript: July 2021
Rights held: World English-language
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.” —Hélène Gaudy

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

A World Without a Shore

Hélène 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 Andrée, Knut Frænkel 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, Hélène 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, **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.

**FINALIST FOR THE JOSEPH KESSEL PRIZE AND
LONGLISTED FOR THE PRIX GONCOURT**

I SAID THE SEA WAS FOLDED



ERIK JENSEN

LOVE POEMS

MAY 2021
POETRY

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$22.99

Format: Paperback | 198 x 128mm | 96pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World ex film/TV

“A full, honest, brave, overflowing heart.
Australia has her Emily Dickinson.”

—Kate Jennings, award-winning poet
and author of *Snake*, a *New York Times*

Notable Book of the Year

I said the sea was folded

Erik Jensen

“These poems were intended first as gifts. They are the story of falling in love with a person who lives outside the gender binary and realising that is not one thing but everything.” — Erik Jensen

Erik Jensen is an award-winning journalist, biographer and screenwriter. These poems announce a new phase in his work. They are startling in their simplicity and their honesty – reminiscent of Mary Oliver, Emily Dickinson and Seamus Heaney. The poems chart the first three years of Jensen’s relationship with his partner, a non-binary composer and musician. They are love poems, written against the complexity of understanding another person. Together they form a fragmentary memoir of hope, disagreement and love.

WAR AND OTHER COUPLES

In the morning you said you dreamt
Of a piano with ceramic keys
Resting in the hull of a ship.
You said there was war and other couples,
That you were too embarrassed to play.
The moon was very low and big
And when you showed it to me, it disappeared
As if behind an eclipse.

ERIK JENSEN is the award-winning author of *On Kate Jennings*; *Acute Misfortune*, which was developed into a film; and the Quarterly Essay *The Prosperity Gospel*. He is founding editor of *The Saturday Paper* and editor-in-chief of Schwartz Media

**LA TROBE
UNIVERSITY
PRESS**





FEBRUARY 2022
SOCIETY AND CULTURE

Imprint: La Trobe University Press
RRP: AU\$32.99

Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp

Manuscript: July 2021

Sample: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Animals and the Law

Katy Barnett and Jeremy Gans

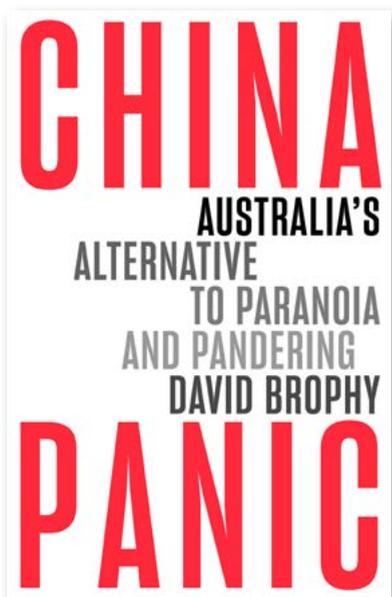
Animal law has a long and intriguing history.

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*.



JUNE 2021
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Imprint: La Trobe University Press
RRP: AU\$32.99
Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 272pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV

PRAISE FOR UYGHUR NATION

“... Deserves to be read by anyone with an interest in nation-building.”
—Nick Holdstock, *Times Literary Supplement*

“Nothing I have read in the last fifteen years comes close to this work in terms of intellectual breadth, rigorous analysis, and contribution to the field.”
—Laura Newby, University of Oxford

China Panic

Australia's Alternative to Paranoia and Pandering

David Brophy

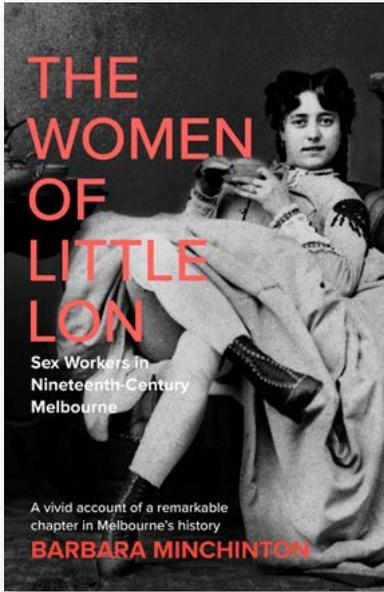
When he visited Australia in 2014, Chinese president Xi Jinping said there was an “ocean of goodwill” between our country and his. Since then that ocean has shown dramatic signs of freezing over. Australia is in the grip of a China Panic. How did we get here and what’s the way out?

We hear, weekly, alarming stories of Chinese influence, interference or even espionage – in politics, on campus, in the media, in community organisations and elsewhere. The United States now sees China as a strategic rival, and pressure on Australia to “get tough on China” will only intensify.

While the xenophobic right hovers in the wings, some of the loudest voices decrying Chinese subversion come, unexpectedly, from the left. Aligning themselves with hawkish think tanks, they call for new security laws, increased scrutiny of Chinese Australians and, if necessary, military force – a prescription for a sharp rightward turn in Australian politics.

In this insightful critique, David Brophy offers a progressive alternative. Instead of punitive measures that restrict rights and stoke suspicion of minorities – moves that would only make Australia more like China – we need democratic solutions that strengthen Australian institutions and embrace, not alienate, Chinese Australians. Above all, we need forms of international solidarity that don’t reduce human rights to a mere bargaining chip.

DAVID BROPHY is a historian of Uyghur nationalism and the author of *Uyghur Nation*. He is a frequent commentator on the Xinjiang crisis and a senior lecturer on modern Chinese history at the University of Sydney.



**AUGUST 2021
HISTORY**

Imprint: La Trobe University Press
RRP: AU\$32.99
Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 288pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV

The Women of Little Lon

Sex Workers in Nineteenth-Century Melbourne

Barbara Minchinton

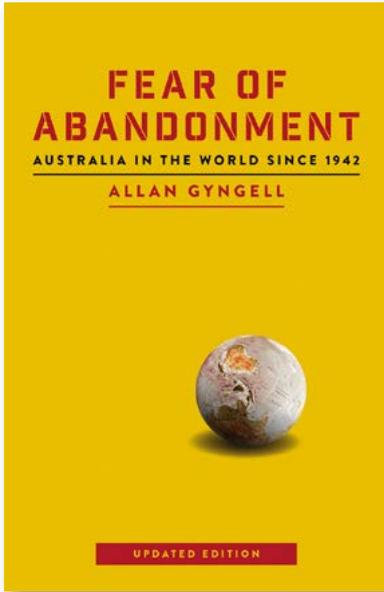
A vivid account of a remarkable but little-known chapter in Melbourne's history

Sex workers in nineteenth-century Melbourne were judged morally corrupt by the respectable world around them. But theirs was a thriving trade, with links to the police and political leaders of the day, and the leading brothels were usually managed by women.

While today a popular bar and a city lane are famously named after Madame Brussels, the identities of the other “flash madams”, the “dressed girls” who worked for them and the hundreds of women who solicited on the streets of the Little Lon district of Melbourne are not remembered.

Who were they? What did their daily lives look like? What became of them? Drawing on the findings of recent archaeological excavations, rare archival material and family records, historian Barbara Minchinton brings the fascinating world of Little Lon to life.

BARBARA MINCHINTON is a historian and researcher at Deakin University. For several years she collaborated with a team of archaeologists on the analysis and interpretation of artefacts from Melbourne's Little Lon district. She is the co-editor of *The Commonwealth Block, Melbourne*, a history of the city's working-class and immigrant communities.



**MARCH 2021
FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

Imprint: La Trobe University Press
RRP: AU\$34.99
Format: Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 448pp
Manuscript: Available
Rights held: World; film/TV
Rights sold: Simplified Chinese character
(World Affairs Press)

“Gyngell has an important message for today’s policymakers: he has produced a work that is ‘prologue, not prediction’. Its purpose is not to respond to the latest hypothesis about Australia’s foreign policy but to provide the tools to better understand the context from which the present has emerged.”
—James Curran, *The Australian*

“This book is essential reading for anyone – whether parliamentarian, official, academic, or engaged citizen – who wants to understand, and perhaps to influence, how Australia interacts with the rest of the world.”
—Peter Edwards, Australian Strategic Policy Institute

Fear of Abandonment

Australia in the world since 1942

Allan Gyngell

Updated edition covering Trump, Brexit, Xi’s China and the geopolitical impact of COVID-19.

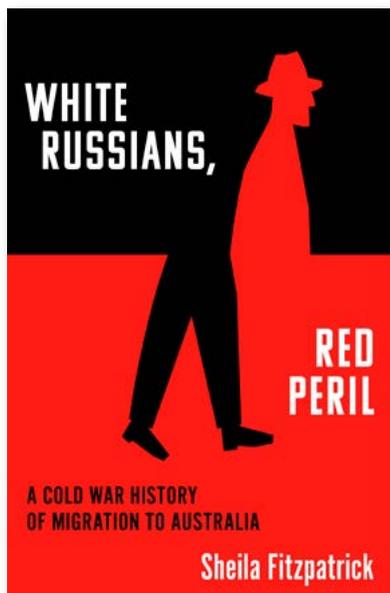
Everything Australia wants to achieve as a country depends on its capacity to understand the world outside and to respond effectively to it.

In *Fear of Abandonment*, expert and insider Allan Gyngell tells the story of how Australia has shaped the world and been shaped by it since it established an independent foreign policy during the dangerous days of 1942. Gyngell argues that the fear of being abandoned – originally by Britain, and later by our most powerful ally, the United States – has been an important driver of how Australia acts in the world.

Covering everything from the White Australia policy to the South China sea dispute, this is a gripping and authoritative account of the way Australians and their governments have helped create the world we now inhabit in the twenty-first century. In revealing the history of Australian foreign affairs, it lays the foundation for how it should change.

Today Australia confronts a more difficult set of international challenges than any we have faced since 1942: this updated edition covers Brexit, Trump, Xi’s ambitions for China, and the geopolitical implications of COVID-19.

ALLAN GYNGELL was Director-General of ONA, the Australian government’s central intelligence assessment agency, from 2009 to 2013. That followed six years as founding executive director of the Lowy Institute for International Policy. He was foreign policy adviser to Paul Keating and worked as a diplomat, policy officer and analyst in several government departments. He is the co-author of *Making Australian Foreign Policy*.



**APRIL 2021
HISTORY**

Imprint: La Trobe University Press

RRP: AU\$34.99

Paperback | 234 x 153mm | 384pp

Manuscript: Available

Rights held: World; film/TV

Rights sold: World English-language
ex ANZ (Routledge)

“Her scholarship is impeccable and the stories she tells are dramatic, engrossing, and tragic.” —Ronald Grigor Suny, author of *The Soviet Experience*

White Russians, Red Peril

A Cold War History of Migration to Australia

Sheila Fitzpatrick

Over 20,000 ethnic Russians migrated to Australia after World War II – yet we know very little about their experiences. Some came via China, others from refugee camps in Europe.

Many preferred to keep a low profile in Australia and some attempted to “pass” as Polish, West Ukrainian or Yugoslavian. They had good reason to do so: to the Soviet Union, Australia’s resettling of Russians amounted to the theft of its citizens, and undercover agents were deployed to persuade them to repatriate. Australia regarded the newcomers with wary suspicion, even as it sought to build its population by opening its door to more immigrants.

Making extensive use of newly discovered Russian-language archives and drawing on a lifetime’s study of Soviet history and politics, award-winning author Sheila Fitzpatrick examines the early years of a diverse and disunited Russian-Australian community and how Australian and Soviet intelligence agencies attempted to track and influence them. While anti-Communist “White” Russians dreamed a war of liberation would overthrow the Soviet regime, a dissident minority admired its achievements and thought of returning home.

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*. She received a Mellon Foundation Distinguished Achievement Award in 2002 and the American Historical Association’s Award for Scholarly Distinction in 2012.

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AND THE AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION’S
AWARD FOR SCHOLARLY DISTINCTION IN 2012**

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