

# zeitgeist agency

SYDNEY | BRUSSELS

## FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2023

### RIGHTS CATALOGUE



# zeitgeist agency

SYDNEY | BRUSSELS

**Zeitgeist Agency** is a unique literary agency founded in 2009 with an international outlook. From our Sydney and Brussels offices, we represent writers from around the world including Australia, USA, UK, Europe, Russia, Turkey and China.

Our catalogue includes bestsellers, the finest literary fiction, crime and thrillers, inspiring memoirs and thought-provoking non-fiction. We also represent picture books, middle grade and YA/crossover titles from around the world.

We work directly with publishers in UK, Australia/NZ, France, Israel, Nordic region and the Baltic states. In other countries we rely on a network of 15 dedicated co-agents (see full list on the last page).

Our passion is to connect writers, publishers and media across the globe. We hope you enjoy what we have to offer.

Warm regards,  
Benyhton, Sharon and Thomasin



**Benyhton Oldfield**  
**Founding Director Australia**  
Level 1, 142 Smith Street  
Summer Hill, Sydney  
NSW, 2130 Australia  
+61 2 8060 9715  
benyhton@zeitgeistagency.com



**Thomasin Chinnery**  
**Agent**  
Rue E. Van Driessche 75,  
1050 Brussels, Belgium  
+32 474 055 696  
thomasin@zeitgeistagency.com



**Sharon Galant**  
**Founding Director Europe**  
Rue E. Van Driessche 75  
1050 Brussels, Belgium  
+32 479 262 843  
sharon@zeitgeistagency.com

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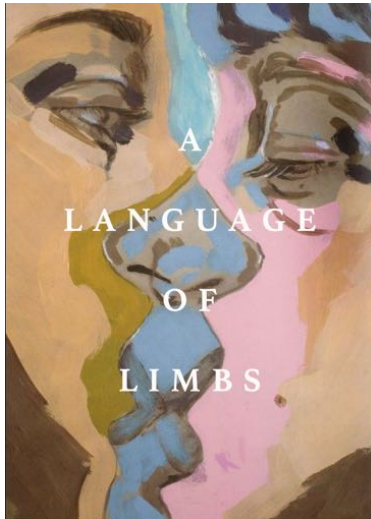
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## Fiction



#### LITERARY FICTION

**Australia/NZ Winter 2024 ·**

Macmillan/Picador

**TV rights ·** Curio/Sony Pictures TV

\* All other rights available

\* Draft MS available

**Dylin Hardcastle (AUSTRALIA)**

## A Language of Limbs

**On a quiet night in 1972, two girls each make a choice...**

One girl is caught kissing her best friend (also a girl) in her garden shed and is kicked out of home by her father. The other girl wakes from a sex dream she's had about her best friend (also a girl) who is sleeping over.

In alternating chapters poetically called Limb One and Limb Two, the novel follows these two unnamed women over three decades: one is living a queer life, one isn't. Their lives almost intersect in pivotal moments where the physical distance between them draws so thin that their bodies almost collide.

They each meet their first great love at a demonstration at Sydney University. Then their stories diverge, separated by vast distances through the AIDS crisis of the 1980s, until they experience the greatest loss of their lives in the same hospital with only walls separating their cries. To survive grief, one woman finds herself drawn to writing poetry about rivers and oceans, the other takes up ocean swimming.

Later, when the first woman finds the courage to submit her poetry collection for publication and the second, now working as an editor, reads the poems and sees herself. All that she has been repressing is brought to the surface with blistering realness. Breathless and with tears in her eyes, she picks up the phone to call the poet behind the poems.

*A Language of Limbs* is an intimate portrait of queer bodies, art, heartbreak, joy and the unseen connections that bind us.



**DYLIN HARDCASTLE** is an author, artist, and screenwriter. They are the author of three critically acclaimed books. Their most recent novel *Below Deck* was published in 10 territories. Dylin is the co-creator, co-writer and co-director of the TV show *Cloudy River*. In 2018, they were a Provost's Scholar and a research assistant in World Literature at the University of Oxford. Dylin is currently completing their PhD in Creative Writing. Dylin has travelled to Antarctica, South America and Europe for artist residencies, and has exhibited their paintings widely across Australia and the UK. *A Language of Limbs* has been optioned and is in development with Curio (Sony Pictures).



#### LITERARY / CROSSOVER YA

#truth #reincarnation #power of connection #fate #spiritual quest

\* All rights available

\* MS available October 1<sup>st</sup>

#### PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS WORK:

*'This extraordinary novel—propelled by the dark, rich talents of a truly brilliant writer—dazzles, staggers and amazes.'*  
– Elizabeth Gilbert



## Courtney Collins (AUSTRALIA)

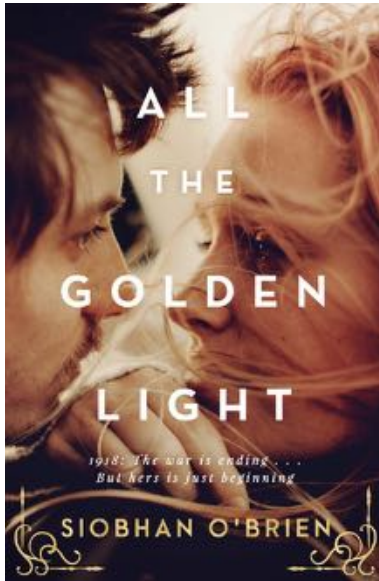
### Bird

**Bird has already died twenty-two times, each time just before her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday. Who can she trust to break the pattern?**

17th century Himalayas. Bird escapes an arranged marriage and a life of humdrum servitude. She recruits her only friend Teshi, an untouchable, to flee with her. Propelled by the promise of a future of their own making, they disguise themselves as monks and vanish into the throng of pilgrims on the way to the Holy Mountain. Once there, Bird loses Teshi in the chaos and, camping alone, finds the body of a young woman floating in a lake. She soon realises there are no accidents here – there is violence circling the mountains, and now it has its eyes on her.

In a parallel story in modern-day Australia, Bird recruits her only friend, T, to steal a car for a joy ride. High and on a whim, she pulls a plastic gun on a petro station attendant, and a policeman shoots her in the shoulder. She is hospitalised, then ends up in juvenile prison. There, Bird is shunned by the other girls. Memories of her first life and the Holy Mountain return, and she faces the awful truth that she is stuck in a never-ending pattern. Every life, she dies alone before she reaches the age of 15. The lesson she has failed to learn so far is that to survive, she must learn to trust and can't liberate herself alone. When nurse Margie wants to help Bird, can she open herself up to trust her?

**COURTNEY COLLINS** is a writer and producer and a creative writing teacher. In 2017 she started Ngukurr Story Projects to support First Nations storytellers to tell stories in their traditional languages. Her first novel, *The Burial* (Allen & Unwin), was published in ten countries and shortlisted for the Stella Prize, the Nita B Kibble Literary Award and NSW Premier's Literary Awards for New Writing. It is being adapted as a feature film. Courtney holds a Masters of Creative Writing from the University of Melbourne. In 2019, she undertook initial research on *Bird* in the Himalayas as part of an AsiaLink Residency. She is currently completing a PhD titled 'Working Against Whiteness in Creative Literary Production'. Instagram: [@cc\\_writer](https://www.instagram.com/cc_writer)



**COMMERCIAL / HISTORICAL  
ROMANCE**

**Australia/NZ** Dec 2024 · Harper Collins

\* All other rights available

\* MS before copy-edit available

**Siobhan O'Brien (AUSTRALIA)**

## **All the Golden Light**

**1918. The war is ending...but hers is just beginning**

As the Great War grinds to an end, Ada accompanies her father to a rugged island in New South Wales to deliver much-needed supplies. Loss and deprivation have decimated Australia, and she is determined to live a life of purpose and hope.

On the remote rocky outcrop she meets Emmett Huxley, lighthouse keeper, an outsider taking refuge from the damage of the war. Ada and Emmett are inexorably drawn together, but her future has been mapped out with the decorated returned soldier Donal Blaxland, a land-owner with a large tobacco plantation.

When police charges are brought against the lighthouse keeper, Ada is distraught and forced to make a choice about her future, but discovers that Donal, now her husband, harbours terrible secrets of his own. Soon she finds herself a prisoner to the trauma and suffering that war has wreaked on the returned soldier.

As she begins to understand the depths of Donal's desperation, she knows she must leave. Between the treacherous waters of the coast and the rocky outcrops of an ancient land, Ada is determined to live and love on her own terms.

A stirring, dramatic story about love and suffering, trauma and addiction – and hope in the darkest of times.



**SIOBHAN O'BRIEN** is an author, journalist and communications professional. She has written a number of books including *A Life By Design: The Art and Lives of Florence Broadhurst*. She has written for a number of media outlets including the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Vogue*, *Indesign*, *Monument*. When she is not writing she is singing with her band Minnie and The Moonrakers.





HISTORICAL FICTION /  
20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

\* All rights available

**Rachel Caplin (AUSTRALIA-ISRAEL)**

## **The Spoon and the Sea**

**An emotional race against time as mother and son empty the sea of secrets and stories between them – one memory at a time.**

*Mit a lefl ken men dem yam nit oys'shepn.*

*You cannot empty the sea with a spoon.*

-- Yiddish saying

Ashi was nine years old when his mother left.

After decades apart, Ashi reunites with Rose who is growing old in the grips of dementia. Beneath the shade of Jerusalem's olive trees and eucalyptus leaves in the garden of Rose's care centre, they play at 'picking a year' and confront the memories that kept them apart.

Ashi slowly pieces together the twists and turns of his mother's life: a good Jewish girl from a London suburb post WWII, falling deeply in love with a Muslim student at Cambridge University, feeling torn between roots and love, escaping to British Mandate Palestine to be an intrepid journalist and later living a secret life in the Sultan's court of Zanzibar.

Peppered with colourful Yiddish and Arabic proverbs, *The Spoon and The Sea* invites readers to witness the delicate reconciliation between a mother and son, as they strive to bridge the emotional sea between them. An evocative dual timeline narrative about love and betrayal, generational loss and dementia.



**RACHEL CAPLIN** was born and raised in Australia. She holds a bachelor's degree in Communications and in Commerce from UWA, and a Masters of International Relations from the University of Melbourne. She relocated to Tel Aviv in 2015 to work in the vibrant tech industry. *The Spoon and the Sea* is Rachel's debut novel, inspired by an incredible true story in her family and the experience of losing her beloved grandmother to dementia. She currently lives in Israel with her husband and two daughters.





#### UPMARKET WOMEN'S FICTION

Australia/NZ May 2023 · Harper Collins

\* All other rights available

*'A powerful novel with evocative and enticing language. Rooted in feminine empowerment, Rogers' debut is necessary and enthralling reading, and will stay with the reader long after the last page.'*

– Books + Publishing



**Megan Rogers (AUSTRALIA)**

## The Heart is a Star

**\*\*\*Australia's No1 highest-selling debut of 2023**

**15,000 copies sold since May 2023\*\*\***

**A captivating novel about middle age as a second coming of age, with all its exquisite messiness.**

Layla Byrnes is exhausted. She's juggling a demanding job as an anaesthetist, a disintegrating marriage, her young kids, and a needy lover. And most particularly she's managing her histrionically unstable mother.

But this year, it's different. When her mother rings just before Christmas, she doesn't follow the usual script. Instead, she tells Layla that there's something important she needs to tell her about her much-loved father.

Layla drops everything to rush to her childhood home in Tasmania. She's determined to finally confront her mother – and find out what really happened to her father – and lay some demons to rest. When she finally gets there, history is uncovered, and a menacing darkness falls around her esteemed father.

Set in the rugged coastline of Tasmania, against a backdrop of astronomy and medicine, *The Heart is a Star* invokes scientific ideas as metaphors for everyday love, loss and life. An engrossing, lyrical and powerfully absorbing novel about the complicated and beautiful messiness of mid-life.

**MEGAN ROGERS** worked in editorial at Allen & Unwin Australia, before moving to the marketing department at the State Library of Victoria. In 2014 Megan finished a PhD in Creative Writing about the madwoman-in-the-attic trope, which resulted in the book *Finding the Plot, A Maternal Approach to Madness in Literature* (Demeter Press 2017). She majored in quantum physics and astronomy in a Bachelor of Science. She also holds a Bachelors of Arts, a Diploma of Professional Writing & Editing, a Graduate Diploma in Professional Communication and a Masters of Marketing. Megan lives in the Mornington Peninsula. *The Heart is a Star* is her first novel. [@megan\\_rogers\\_writer](https://www.instagram.com/megan_rogers_writer)



#### UPMARKET WOMEN'S FICTION

**Australia/NZ 2024** · Allen & Unwin /  
Atlantic Books (pre-empt)

\* All other rights available

\* MS before copy-edit available Nov

**Alison Edwards (UK-AUSTRALIA)**

## **Mothers' Daughters (working title)**

**Two young women make their way in the world. What they have in common – being motherless – is also what sets them apart.**

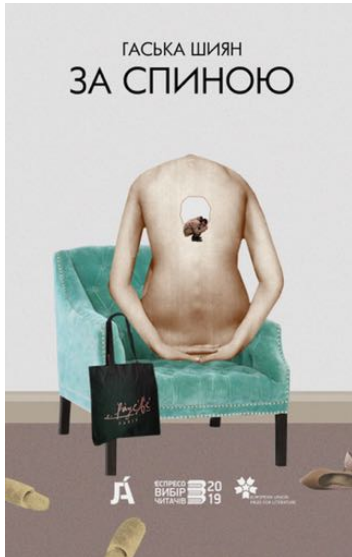
Raised in rural poverty in Australia, all Ava wants is security. Determined to change her life, she earns a PhD at Cambridge and marries a handsome, wealthy politician who catapults her to the heart of the British establishment. Desperate to be the ideal wife and prove herself, she commits academic fraud. To appease her husband, whose career will be tarnished by her drastic mistake, Ava finally resolves to give him the baby he wants in spite of the trauma of being abandoned by her mother.

Meanwhile, street-smart Cambridge journalist Laurie is determined to have a baby alone, overcoming her fears as her mother died in childbirth. Shortly before her due date, while investigating Ava, she uncovers the fraud. In the process, she inadvertently learns that her own father – a quirky professor of Marxist thinking – is not who he seems. Will she push away the man who raised her singlehandedly when her pregnancy turns life-threatening?

*Mothers' Daughters* charts the lives of Ava and Laurie, whose stories intersect at many levels before they finally meet. It subtly explores why some women obsessively want a child while others don't. Set during the 2010 UK student riots against the backdrop of university fee increases, it is a story of found family, class and social justice: funny, dark, hopeful and a little twisty.



**ALISON EDWARDS** was born in Australia but has lived and worked in UK/Europe for the last two decades. After studying journalism and German, she obtained her PhD in linguistics at the University of Cambridge, focusing on language ideologies and policy, particularly the ownership of English by non-native speakers. Her debut *Mother's Daughters* draws on that experience, especially the pressures on young academics. Alison now lives in Amsterdam with her family where she works as a freelance editor and translator. She started working on a new novel about a female Banksy-style artist set between NY and Amsterdam. Instagram: [@alison\\_edwards\\_lange](https://www.instagram.com/alison_edwards_lange)



**LITERARY FICTION /  
CONTEMPORARY FICTION**

**Ukraine 2019** · Fabula Publishing

**Bulgaria 2021** · Colibri

**Croatia 2021** · Božičević

**Lithuania 2022** · Aukso Zuvys

**Germany April 2023** · fotoTAPETA

**France 2024** · Robert Laffont

**Poland 2024** · Czarne

**Serbia 2024** · Treći

**Georgia 2024** · Ibis

**English World excl ANZ 2024** ·

Harvard University Press

**Armenia 2024** · EDGE

*\* English and French samples available.  
Full German translation available*

*\* International rights handled by Zeitgeist  
Agency on behalf of Fabula Publishing*



**Haska Shyyan (UKRAINE)**

## **Behind Their Backs**

**ЗА СПИНОЮ (original title)**

**Winner** European Union Prize for Literature 2019

**Winner** Odessa Film Festival Book Pitch 2020

**'Shyyan's novel continues to cause heated debate in Ukraine. Her anti-heroine Marta provokes readers to expose their hidden feelings, opinions and inner revelations.'**

- Andrey Kurkov, award-winning Ukrainian novelist

**When men are at war, what is expected of the women left behind.**

When her boyfriend Max decides to enlist in the army, Marta is torn. It is 2015 and the fighting is in the Donbas region, thousands of kilometers away from the comfortable nest the young couple have built themselves in Lviv. Both have successful careers and live a cosy life, distant from politics and war. Until Max's decision.

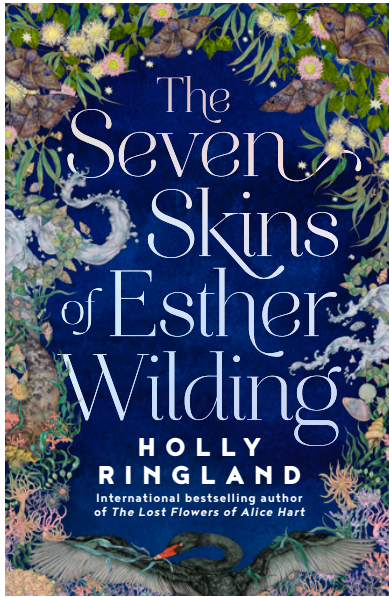
With Max away, Marta tries hard to fit the model of a war hero's girlfriend and to embrace the new patriotic spirit. She volunteers for the Army, meeting other women whose partners are away fighting, but she struggles with letting the war into her life the way others do and her resentment towards Max builds.

At breaking point, one drunken night, Marta has a passionate liaison with a female friend. Then she jumps at an opportunity to travel to France where she meets Xavier. On the way to a party, they are separated in the chaos following a terrorist attack. Left with nothing but her purse, she has no idea what happened to Xavier nor how to find him.

Back home in Ukraine, depression sets in and she stops returning Max's phone calls. Marta realizes that the burden to conform is impeding her from living her true spirit. The idea of leaving Ukraine, mixed with guilt and bitterness takes hold of her.

**HASKA SHYYAN** is a writer, poet and translator. Born in Lviv where she co-owns a bookshop, Haska studied Classical Philology and wrote her first novel *Hunt, Doctor, Hunt!* on her cell phone while bedridden with a rare complication of meningitis called Hunt syndrome. *Behind Their Backs* was the first Ukrainian novel to receive the European Union Prize for Literature in 2019, as well as two Ukrainian literary awards (LitAccent Award and Espresso TV Readers Choice). She regularly contributes short stories and poetry to literary magazines. She currently lives in Brussels with her husband and daughter.

Instagram: [@haska\\_shyyan\\_author](https://www.instagram.com/haska_shyyan_author)



#### UPMARKET WOMEN'S FICTION

**Australia/NZ 2022** · Harper Collins/4th Estate

**UK 2023** · Legend Press

**Canada 2024** · Anansi

**France 2023** · Fayard

**Romania 2023** · Humanitas

**Russia 2023** · MTS Library

**Finland 2023** · Minerva

**Portugal 2024** · Porto

**Croatia 2024** · Znanje

**Italy 2024** · Garzanti

**Poland 2024** · Marginesy

**Hungary 2024** · Alexandra

**Bulgaria 2024** · Colibri

**Germany 2025** · Droemer

\* All other rights available

*'A novel that rattles the hearts of readers.'* – Booktopia



**Holly Ringland (AUSTRALIA)**

## The Seven Skins of Esther Wilding

*Shortlisted Australia Indie Book Awards 2023*

**A haunting and magical novel about joy, grief, courage, and transformation.**

*'On the afternoon that Esther Wilding drove homeward along the coast, a year after her sister had walked into the sea and disappeared, the light was painfully golden.'*

The last time Esther Wilding's older sister Aura was seen, she was walking along the shore towards the sea. In the wake of Aura's disappearance, Esther's family struggles to live with their loss. To seek the truth about her sister's death, Esther reluctantly travels from Tasmania to Copenhagen, and then to the Faroe Islands. On her journey, Esther is guided by the stories Aura left behind: seven fairy tales about selkies, swans and women, alongside cryptic verses Aura wrote and had secretly tattooed on her body.

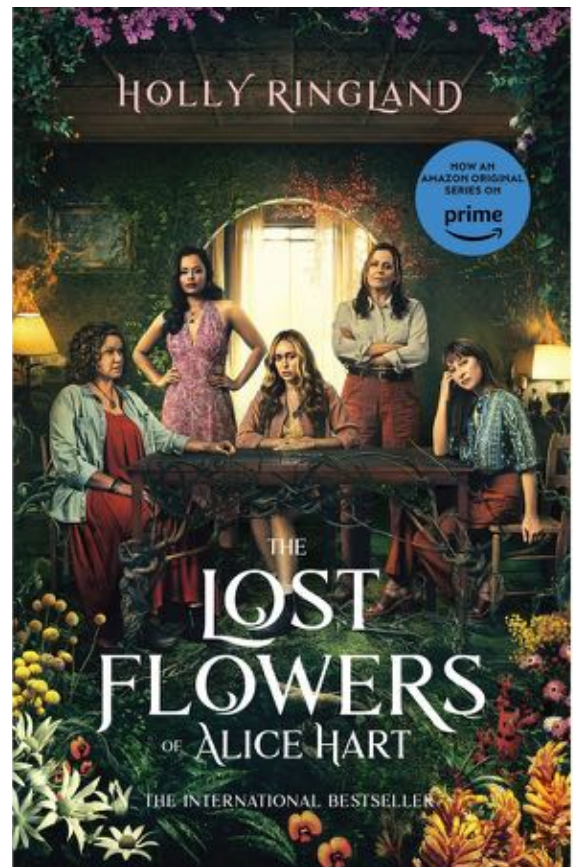
*The Seven Skins of Esther Wilding* explores the far-reaches of sisterly love, the power of wearing your heart on your skin, and the ways life can transform when we find the courage to feel the fullness of both grief and joy.

**HOLLY RINGLAND** is a writer, storyteller, and television presenter. She grew up barefoot and wild in her mother's tropical garden on the east coast of Australia. In her twenties, Holly worked in a remote Indigenous community in the central Australian desert. Moving to England in 2009, Holly obtained her MA in Creative Writing from the University of Manchester. Holly's bestselling debut novel *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart* sold in 30 countries and is an Amazon Prime TV mini-series (August 2023). Her second novel, *The Seven Skins of Esther Wilding*, written in a vintage caravan named Frenchie, is also a bestseller in Australia and rights sold in 14 countries. Instagram: [@hollygoeslightly](https://www.instagram.com/hollygoeslightly)



## Amazon Prime's TV adaptation

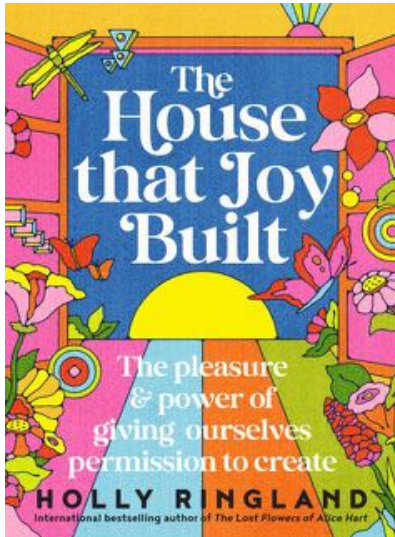
- Launches at #2 in the USA, #3 in 42 countries and #5 in 78 countries
- [Rotten Tomatoes](#) audience score of 95%
- 8.1/10 score on [IMDb](#).
- breaks record as the most successful Australian original worldwide with the biggest opening weekend viewership globally
- Book sales soar in multiple territories
- Google searches surge for Agnes Bluff, an Aussie town that doesn't exist



*“...entertaining, moving and vividly atmospheric...” The New York Times*  
*“the hypnotic, creepy atmosphere draws you into a satisfying drama” Financial Times*  
*“★★★★ This is a series that reels you in, episode by episode” Evening Standard UK*  
*“★★★★★ ... a visually stunning five-star triumph” The West Australian*  
*“★★★★½ hypnotising you with intoxicating visuals” TV Tonight*  
*“★★★★” The Sydney Morning Herald & The Age*



## Non-Fiction



#### SELF-HELP / CREATIVITY

Australia/NZ October 2023 · Harper  
Collins

\* All other rights available

**Holly Ringland (AUSTRALIA)**

## The House That Joy Built

The pleasure and power of giving ourselves permission to create

An uplifting and inspiring book about breaking through fear and finding joy through creativity, from international bestselling author Holly Ringland.

How do we give ourselves permission to be creative? This book explores two big forces – fear and joy – and offers a jump-start for the nervous heart of anyone whose desire to create is overruled by fear.

It is for people who yearn to write, as well as those who find their creativity elsewhere: gardeners, carpenters, sculptors, jewellery-makers, florists, songwriters, dancers, cooks, painters...anyone who wants to make something but doesn't because they're afraid. Afraid of feeling vulnerable, of criticism and judgement from others, of not being good enough, of not having enough, of having 'bad' ideas, of being too much.

Divided into seven chapters, each addresses an obstruction to creativity with a suggested remedy:

<i>Obstruction</i>	<i>Remedy</i>
Fear	Play
Self-doubt	Self-compassion
Failure	Nothing is wasted
Procrastination	Being present
Inner critic	Inner fan
Writer's block*	Daydreaming
Imposter Syndrome	You Belong Here

\*or replace writers with artform of choice

An exhilarating and empowering book in the vein of Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way*, Anne Lamott's *Bird by Bird* and Elizabeth Gilbert's *Big Magic*, this book is an openhearted clarion call to experience the joy and freedom of creating.



**HOLLY RINGLAND** is a writer, storyteller, and television presenter. She grew up barefoot and wild in her mother's tropical garden on the east coast of Australia. In her twenties, Holly worked in a remote Indigenous community in the central Australian desert. Moving to England in 2009, Holly obtained her MA in Creative Writing from the University of Manchester. Holly's bestselling debut novel *The Lost Flowers of Alice Hart* sold in 30 countries and is an Amazon Prime TV mini-series (August 2023). Her second novel, *The Seven Skins of Esther Wilding*, written in a vintage caravan named Frenchie, is also a bestseller in Australia and rights sold in 14 countries. Instagram: [@hollygoeslightly](https://www.instagram.com/hollygoeslightly)





#### POPULAR PHILOSOPHY

UK July 2024 · Scribe

Australia/NZ 2024 · Scribe

\* All other rights available

\* MS before copy-edit available

#### PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS WORKS:

*“A philosopher of fierce intellect and erudition, but also playful and eclectic in his tastes.”*

– Sydney Morning Herald

*“Young has nailed it – Publisher’s Weekly*

*“Young writes with a delightful combination of humour and insight.”*  
– The Literary Review

*“Young has a deftness with language that lays out complex ideas with such beautifully written digestibility.”*  
– The Irish Times



**Damon Young (AUSTRALIA)**

## Immortal Gestures

**Why Our Gestures Are Much More Than They Seem**

**An exploration of our unspoken gestures and how events, ideas and traditions from the past inform these seemingly trivial movements.**

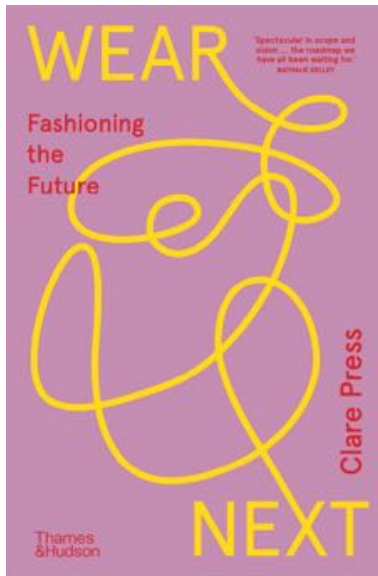
How did the finger horns travel from the Renaissance to the red carpet? Why did a Greek god put his finger to his lips? Why do we write in the air to ask for the restaurant bill? And is there really a Jewish shrug?

Damon Young reveals the big histories in our small, brief movements. Here, the past is not simply passed; not just a lump of dead sediment. Yesterday is alive in us today—as us. It lives through our flesh: our waving palms, bent knees, lifted chins.

With curiosity and wit, *Immortal Gestures* draws on a wide range of disciplines: philosophy, sociology, archaeology, psychology. It looks at everything from the plié of ballet to the finger guns of cinema; from hand-washing in Islam to hand-waving in swordplay; from Miss Emma Woodhouse to Mister Spock.

Young is concerned literally with the worlds in our hands. He shows how our gestures are much more than they seem—and how we are much more than we seem.

**DAMON YOUNG** is a prize-winning philosopher and writer. His thirteen books include *The Art of Reading*, *How to Think About Exercise*, *Philosophy in the Garden* and *Distraction* and are published internationally. He has also written poetry and short fiction. Young is University of Melbourne Associate and a founding member of The School of Life in Melbourne. A prominent public intellectual, he has written for *The Age*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Australian*, *The Guardian*, ABC and BBC, and is a frequent radio guest.



**FASHION / SOCIETY / ENVIRONMENT**

**Australia/NZ Oct 2023** · Thames & Hudson

**UK Feb 2024** · Thames & Hudson

\* All other rights available

\* Final pages available

*"Spectacular in scope and vision ... the roadmap we have all been waiting for."*  
- **Nathalie Kelley**

*"An exciting ode to a regenerative fashion future."*  
- **Sandrine Dixson-Declève, Co-President, The Club of Rome**



## Clare Press (UK/AUSTRALIA) **Wear Next** Fashioning The Future

**A crystal-ball look into tomorrow's wardrobe: conscious, fair, slow, upcycled, biointelligent, digital. The fashion industry is undergoing some radical reimagining.**

What will you be wearing tomorrow? Will your jacket have been grown in a lab, or your jeans coloured using bacteria? How will you access that new dress you've got your eye on (because it's entirely possible there will be no shops)? What will happen to the garment workers when the sewbots come? And where will your clothes go once you're done with them (because landfill is no longer an option) ?

The fashion system as we know it is broken. It's wasteful, inefficient, polluting, exploitative, and if we carry on as we do now, could account for a quarter of global carbon emissions by 2050. But creative thinkers are dreaming up new ways to craft our sartorial identities that don't wreck the planet – perhaps your whole outfit will be virtual, with zero environmental impact.

From Vogue's first sustainability editor comes a compelling story of changing fashion in the most fundamental ways. Clare Press introduces us to the innovators - some big names, some hidden treasures - who are completely redesigning fashion. Ultimately, this book is about the deep-seated reasons we can't stop buying clothes, and argues why we should not have to. What we wear speaks of who we are, and how we want to live in relation to one another and to the natural world. It goes way beyond trends.

**CLARE PRESS** is a global expert on sustainable fashion and the presenter of the leading sustainable fashion podcast *Wardrobe Crisis*, with a global audience including industry influencers & business leaders as well as many fashion students, creatives & sustainable shoppers around the world. Clare was Vogue's first ever sustainability editor. A former magazine journalist, her writing has appeared in The Guardian, Vogue Italia, Business of Fashion and more. She is the author of *Rise & Resist: How to Change the World*. *Wear Next* is her fourth book.



### INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM

**World English ex ANZ May 2023** · Verso Books

**Australia/NZ May 2023** · Scribe

**Korea 2024** · Soso

**Turkey 2024** · Metis

**Italy 2024** · Fazi

**Lebanon (Arabic) 2024** · Arab Scientific Publishers

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*'A sharp exposé of how Israel's suppression of Palestine has translated into lucrative anti-terrorist systems that the Israeli government exports globally'*  
– Kirkus Reviews

*'A sad and sordid record of how "the light unto the nations" became the purveyor of the means of violence and brutal repression from Guatemala to Myanmar and wherever else the opportunity arose.'* – Noam Chomsky

*'A must read on a hidden and shocking aspect of the Israeli colonisation of the Palestinians. – Ilan Pappé, author of 'The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine' and 'Ten Myths About Israel'*



**Antony Loewenstein (AUSTRALIA)**

## The Palestine Laboratory

### How Israel Exports the Technology of Occupation Around the World

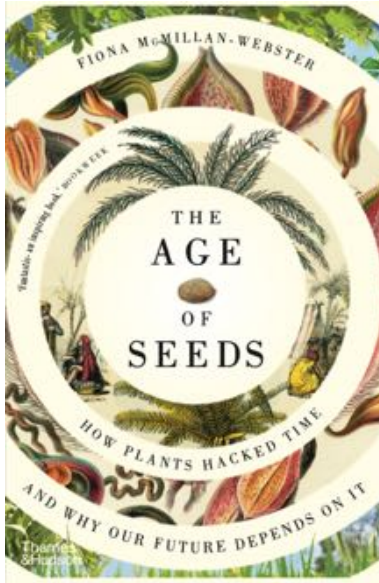
**How Israel makes a killing from the occupation.**

Israel's military industrial complex uses the occupied, Palestinian territories as a testing ground for weaponry and surveillance technology that they then export around the world to despots and democracies. For more than 50 years, occupation of the West Bank and Gaza has given the Israeli state invaluable experience in controlling an "enemy" population, the Palestinians. It's here that they have perfected the architecture of control.

Best-selling journalist Antony Loewenstein uncovers this largely hidden world in a global investigation with secret documents, revealing interviews and on-the-ground reporting. This book shows in-depth, for the first time, how Palestine has become the perfect laboratory for the Israeli military-techno complex: surveillance, home demolitions, indefinite incarceration and brutality to the hi-tech tools that drive the 'Start-up Nation'.

From the Pegasus software that hacked Jeff Bezos' and Jamal Khashoggi's phones, the weapons sold to the Myanmar army that has murdered thousands of Rohingyas and drones used by the European Union to monitor refugees in the Mediterranean who are left to drown. Israel has become a global leader in spying technology and defence hardware that fuels the globe's most brutal conflicts. As ethno-nationalism grows in the 21st century, Israel has built the ultimate model.

**ANTONY LOEWENSTEIN** is an independent journalist, best-selling author, filmmaker and co-founder of *Declassified Australia*. He's written for *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The New York Review of Books* and many others. His books include *Pills, Powder and Smoke: Inside The Bloody War On Drugs*, *Disaster Capitalism: Making A Killing Out Of Catastrophe* and *My Israel Question*. He's the co-editor of the essay collection, *After Zionism*. His documentary films include *Disaster Capitalism* and the Al Jazeera English films *West Africa's Opioid Crisis* and *Under the Cover of Covid*. He was based in East Jerusalem 2016-2020. [antonyloewenstein.com](http://antonyloewenstein.com) Twitter: [@antloewenstein](https://twitter.com/antloewenstein)



## POPULAR SCIENCE

**Australia/NZ 2022** · Thames & Hudson

**China 2024** · China Translation & Publishing House (CTPH)

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*'Exciting, fast-paced, and beautifully told'*

– Paul Smith, Head of UK Millenium Seed Bank

**Fiona McMillan-Webster (AUSTRALIA)**

## The Age of Seeds

**How Plants Hack Time and Why Our Future Depends on It**

**The captivating story of seed longevity, and what this means for biodiversity and our future foods.**

Bringing history and science to life, *The Age of Seeds* is a journey backwards and forwards through time in an examination of seeds and their impact on humans.

From the miraculous germination of a 2000-year-old extinct date palm named Methuselah to the so-called Doomsday Vault, Fiona McMillan-Webster tells the astonishing story of seeds and the crucial role they play in our everyday lives. In fact, our food security and the planet's biodiversity are profoundly dependent on them.

Seeds perform many functions: they feed, shelter and heal us. They are kernels for knowledge: ancient and emerging. Almost everything, including the book you hold in your hands, has its genesis in these amazing time capsules.

In the spirit of Michael Pollan, *The Age of Seeds* takes us on a fascinating quest to understand seeds, biodiversity and food security - topics very much of the moment. The scope of the book is global with stories about plants and people from around the world.

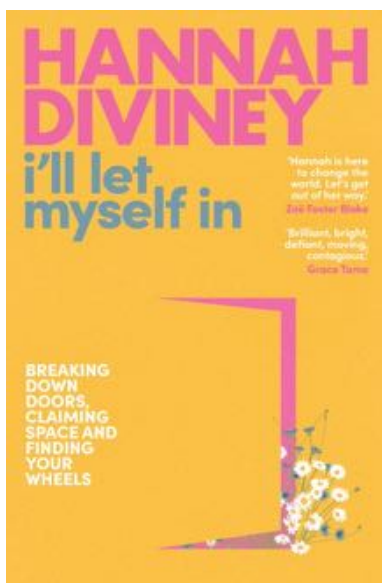
[Click here for a VIDEO from the author.](#)



**FIONA MCMILLAN-WEBSTER** is a science writer with a Bachelor of Science in physics and a PhD in biophysics. She has written for National Geographic, Forbes Science, COSMOS magazine and Australian Geographic. Her writing also appears in the Best Australian Science Writing anthologies for 2015, 2016 and 2018. She was runner up for the UNSW Bragg Press Prize for Science Writing 2016. Her scientific research writing at the University of Queensland explains the latest discoveries in brain research, cancer immunology, nanotechnology, and more. She is Editor of the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology's magazine *Small Things, Big Changes*. Fiona works behind the scenes to help produce scientific content across other media including ABC's factual TV series *Ask the Doctor*.

## **Memoir & Biography**





MEMOIR / DISABILITY / ACTIVISM /  
ABLEISM

Australia/NZ Sept 2023 · Allen &  
Unwin

\* All other rights available

*“Brilliant, bright, defiant, moving, contagious. Hannah's flame leaps from the page straight into your soul. May it spread like a brushfire. This book is the proof point that disability does not mean deficit.”* - Grace Tame

*“Hannah is here to change the world. Let's get out of her way.”* - Zoë Foster Blake



Hannah Diviney (AUSTRALIA)

## I'll Let Myself In

Breaking down doors, claiming space and finding your wheels

**A defiant coming of age story about a young woman coming to terms with all that she is: the good, the bad and the ugly.**

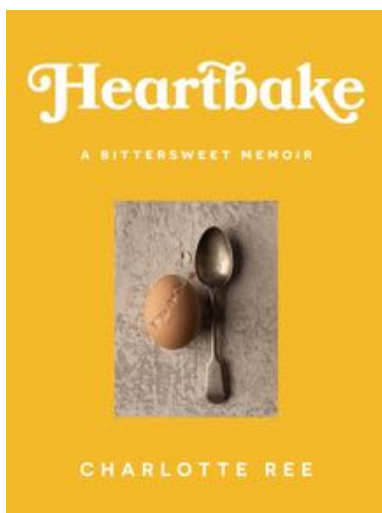
*‘When it occurred to me that the only real books I'd ever read with disabled characters in them were specialty books, displayed and designed exclusively for therapy settings, some of the hollowness I'd learnt to live with started making sense.’*

Hannah was born with cerebral palsy, a physical disability that affects gross and fine motor skills. She has always known that her experience of the world was fundamentally different from those around her. While her friends went to soccer and dance and little athletics, Hannah was going to physio and doctors' appointments. While her friends got jobs, fell in love and went clubbing, Hannah surrounded herself with the fantastical worlds she found in books. But books where people like her were nowhere to be found.

Refusing to accept the narratives, or lack thereof, that she'd been given, Hannah was determined to forge her own path in a world that wasn't designed for her, and to be the representation she'd always wanted to see.

Deeply personal and yet utterly relatable, *I'll Let Myself In* is a young woman's battle-cry over the voices who try to tell her who she can and can't be, and a reminder not to wait to be invited to the table but to let yourself in and demand to be heard.

**HANNAH DIVINEY** is a leading writer, disability and women's rights advocate, appearing on all major TV & radio programs and newspapers. She recently called out Lizzo, Beyonce and Eminem for using ableist slurs in their lyrics, resulting in global media coverage [New York Times](#). She is the face of the campaign encouraging Disney to create a disabled princess. As the female lead in the SBS TV Series *Latecomers*, she was the first disabled person in Australian TV to do a sex scene. She is the Co-founder and Editor-in-Chief of [Missing Perspectives](#), a platform dedicated to giving a voice to marginalised women in news and media. *I'll Let Myself In* is her first book. Instagram: [hannahthewildflower](#)



**MEMOIR / COOKING, FAMILY, LOVE**

**Australia/NZ May 2023** · Allen & Unwin

**TV option:** See Pictures (Jamie Hilton)

*\* All other rights available*

*“Raw and deeply moving. A truly honest celebration of life's two great passions: food and love.”*

— Jane Harper, bestselling author of *Exiles* and *The Dry*

**Charlotte Ree (AUSTRALIA)**

## **Heartbake** **A Bittersweet Memoir**

**A joyous story about the healing power of food and a battle cry for those who find themselves lonely at any age.**

In this heartfelt memoir of food, love and self-discovery, twenty-nine-year-old Charlotte Ree takes us on her journey of learning to cook in the wake of a divorce that left her feeling unsure of who she was and what she wanted at a time when the whole world was turned upside down.

With each meal that she masters—a boiled egg, grilled cheese, lasagne, ricotta and pesto ravioli in a brown butter and sage sauce—we follow the story of Charlotte's search for love—in friendship, in family, in romance, and love in herself as she begins to heal from the narratives she'd been telling herself for years.

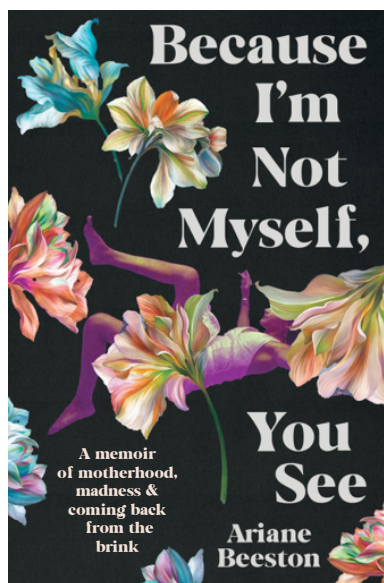
Deeply personal and rich with emotion, her prose heart-wrenching, hilarious and hunger-inducing in equal measure, Charlotte explores the complexities of her familial relationships, reflects on the love she chose to accept and felt she deserved, recalls both disastrous and delightful dates, and revels in the joy of sharing good food with strangers and significant others alike.

Reminiscent of Michelle Zauner's *Crying in H Mart* and Dolly Alderton's *Everything I Know About Love*.



**CHARLOTTE REE** is an obsessive food lover and avid home cook and recipe developer. When she isn't in the kitchen, you can find Charlotte working with some of Australia's biggest authors as part of her day job as Head of Marketing for a book publisher. *Heartbake* is her second book.





**MEMOIR / MENTAL HEALTH &  
SOCIETY / PERINATAL**

**Australia/NZ May 2024 · Black Inc**

*\* All other rights available*

*\* MS available November 1<sup>st</sup>*

**Ariane Beeston (AUSTRALIA)**

## **Because I'm Not Myself, You See** **A Memoir Of Motherhood, Madness And Coming Back From The Brink**

**A raw, hopeful and darkly funny memoir about the impossible pressures placed on new mothers and how quickly things can go dangerously wrong during 'the happiest time of your life'.**

Ariane Beeston is a psychologist working for child protection when she gives birth to her first child – and experiences postnatal psychosis. As she navigates new motherhood, she suffers from scary delusions and hallucinations, which she keeps secret out of fear and shame.

Ariane is convinced something is physically wrong with her son, something she can't articulate. At times, the baby in the pram looks like a tiny red dragon. She panics when he develops nappy rash, certain that social services will know and remove him – just as she once removed other mother's babies as part of her job in frontline child protection.

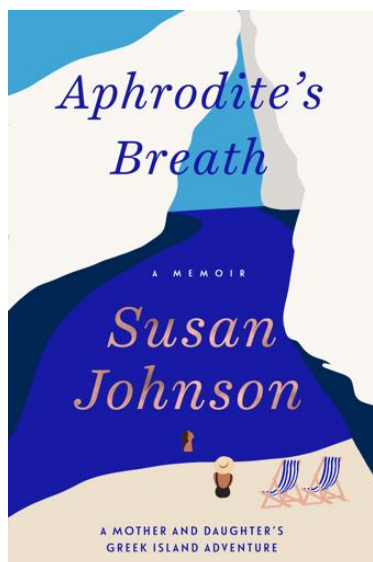
Months pass and Ariane breaks further from reality, with thoughts of harming herself and her son. While trying to get help for sleeping issues, breastfeeding and psychiatric support, she faces conflicting advice and one setback after another in a stretched and fragmented system.

Finally admitted to a mother and baby psychiatric unit, Ariane is forced to learn how to be a patient. The shame of being in a psych ward as a psychologist and social worker is overwhelming – and humbling.

Woven with research and expert commentary, Ariane joins a growing chorus of voices breaking down the taboo of maternal mental illness. *Because I'm not Myself You See* (paraphrased from Lewis Carroll) is also about life on the other side: trying to make sense of what doesn't make sense, and finding humour, beauty, joy and purpose.



**ARIANE BEESTON** is a writer, mental health advocate and former child protection caseworker and psychologist. She works for [The Centre of Perinatal Excellence](#) as Communications and Content Manager. She is passionate about using her lived experience of severe perinatal mental health issues to ensure hopeful, expectant, and new parents receive the treatment, care, and support they need. Ariane is also a dancer and choreographer and teaches ballet to pre-schoolers and adult beginners. Ariane's [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).



MEMOIR / AGING / CREATIVITY /  
GREECE

Australia/NZ May 2023 · Allen & Unwin

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*'Johnson has an admirable radar for truth, and writes with great sensitivity and vulnerability. Part travel memoir, part searing exploration of love and the sometimes difficult mother-daughter relationship, Aphrodite's Breath is at times heartbreaking, funny and deeply moving. The immense beauty of the Greek island is reflected in the depth of the poetry in Johnson's prose. This is writing to savour.'*

— Books + Publishing



Susan Johnson (AUSTRALIA)

## Aphrodite's Breath

### A Mother and Daughter's Greek Island Adventure

**'Susan Johnson is a writer in her prime, and her most enduring love affair is with language itself'**

- Geraldine Brooks, best-selling author of *People of the Book*

**Is it possible for an 85-year-old woman and her 60-something daughter to walk out of their lives into a new one?**

In life, as in myth, women are supposed to stay home, like Penelope at her loom, rather than leaving for war and adventure like Odysseus.

Meet 85-year-old Barbara who could give Zeus a run for his money, and her 62-year-old daughter Susan, who asked her mother—on a whim—if she wanted to accompany her to live on a Greek island.

What follows is a moving exploration of the mother-daughter relationship told in poetic, irresistible prose. A strikingly original, funny, and forensic examination of love and finding home, amongst wild goats, olives, Edward Lear, a Japanese ghost and the people and wonders of Kythera, birthplace of Aphrodite.

**SUSAN JOHNSON** is one of Australia's most loved writers. Her twelve books, ten of which are novels have been nominated for the Association for the Study of Australian Literature Gold Medal, the Miles Franklin Award, the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, the National Biography Award, the Queensland and Victorian Premier's Prize, the Banjo Award and the Kibble Prize. She has been published by Faber & Faber UK/US; Transworld, Washington Square Press; Actes Sud (France) and Klub dla Ciebie (Poland). After ten years in London and two years in Greece, Susan now resides in Brisbane, Australia.  
<https://susanjohnson.net>



MEMOIR / SOCIETY & CULTURE

Australia/NZ March 2023 · Thames & Hudson

TV option: TBA

\* All other rights available

\* International rights by Zeitgeist Agency on behalf of Thames & Hudson

*'There is no word more apt than brave for Kate Legge's **Infidelity and Other Affairs**.'* – *The Age*

*'A magical read: Legge brings to life the beauty and tragedies of life at what must have felt like the end of the earth. Ultimately a book about families and how they shape us – and potentially break us. Legge has a gift of illuminating the ordinary, forcing us to take a closer look at the banal, everyday beauty that surrounds us.'* – *The Conversation*



Kate Legge (AUSTRALIA)

## Infidelity and Other Affairs

**'Unflinchingly investigating the value of monogamy and the true cost of betrayal. All of life is here, and all of love too.'**

- Trent Dalton, best-selling author of *Boy Swallows Universe*

**What Lisa Taddeo did for female desire, Kate Legge does for adultery.**

Nobody knows everything that happens inside a marriage, not even the people in it. The same can be said of families.

What do you do when your partner's infidelity upends your life? When you have to face up to your own addictions? Mental illnesses rain down on those you love? Parents die, careers end, love is found in unexpected places.

As a journalist, Kate Legge often sought answers to how people reckon with bad hands dealt or bad decisions. Then came her own search when faced with her husband's affair that unearthed a fault line of unfaithfulness running through four generations of his family.

Is infidelity a predisposition or learned behaviour? *Infidelity and Other Affairs* starts with this puzzle then contemplates life's curveballs as Legge strives to understand how we become who we are.

To her own surprise, she finds strength and peace where revenge and hate were imagined.

**KATE LEGGE** is an award-winning journalist and author who has chronicled social and political affairs since the 1980s. Her novel, *The Unexpected Elements of Love*, was long listed for the Miles Franklin award. Her non-fiction book, *Kindred: A Cradle Mountain Love Story* was a finalist in the Queensland Literary Awards.



## BIOGRAPHY / SPORTS

Australia/NZ Oct 2024 · Hachette

\* All other rights available

\* MS available Feb 2024

**Vince Rugari (AUSTRALIA)**

## Angeball

### The Rise and Rise of Premier League Coach Ange Postecoglou

It hasn't taken Tottenham Hotspur fans very long to fall completely in love with Ange Postecoglou.

To those who have followed his journey - from a five-year-old Greek immigrant, to a marauding left-back in the Australian National Soccer League, to a pioneering coach who has won trophies on three different continents - it is no surprise at all.

He did the same thing at Celtic. And at Yokohama F Marinos. Before that, he claimed four titles with his boyhood club South Melbourne, travelled the globe with Australia's junior national teams, set a national record with a 36-game unbeaten streak at Brisbane Roar, and guided the Socceroos to their greatest achievement.

Fuelled by an unshakable belief in himself and his ideas, Postecoglou's unique, mesmerising style of football - Angeball - is inspired by the kind of teams he would enjoy watching as a child with his father. And it works. It turns skeptics into believers, and then into full-blown disciples.

Drawing on dozens of interviews with Postecoglou's players, coaches, colleagues, friends and foes, and reams of archival material, this book delves into the heart and soul of a man who has reshaped the football landscape. It explores the dynamics behind his coaching brilliance, his complicated relationship with the game back home, and the profound impact he has had on fans worldwide.



**VINCE RUGARI** is Australia's leading football journalist. He has worked for *The Sydney Morning Herald* for the past five years, covering two World Cups, two Asian Cups and a variety of other major sporting events and stories. He has closely followed Ange Postecoglou's coaching career since his days at Brisbane Roar and went on the road to countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran, Japan and Tajikistan during his tenure with the Socceroos.





#### BIOGRAPHY / CURRENT AFFAIRS

\* All rights available

\* Full proposal + partial ms (10 chapters)

**Penjai Sinsamersuk & Michael Ruffles (AUSTRALIA)**

## The Last King of Thailand

**The first explosive tell-all biography about Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn, the world's wealthiest monarch.**

Vajiralongkorn spent much of his life far removed from the country he now rules, attracting headlines around the globe for his indulgent lifestyle. For more than 60 years he lived in the shadow of his popular and politically savvy father, Bhumibol Adulyadej, until becoming King in 2016.

On taking the throne, King Vajiralongkorn, aka Rama X, has shown himself to be overtly interventionist in politics, consolidated army units under his direct command and converted a sovereign wealth fund into a personal fortune. He has seven children by four wives, and elevated, dismissed and reinstated an official consort. He also has a reputation for violence.

Using new information uncovered by Sinsamersuk and Ruffles, *The Last King of Thailand* examines the unprecedented opposition Vajiralongkorn faces, and explains why he may be the last king of Thailand. It separates fact from fiction and investigates the myths the palace perpetuates while scrutinising the wilder rumours spread in Bangkok and beyond.



**PENJAI SINSAMERSUK** is the author of several Thai-language textbooks and writes for magazines and newspapers in Australia and Thailand. She holds a Political Science degree from Chulalongkorn University and a Master's from Sydney University. Penjai grew up in Bangkok and has lived in Australia since 2017. Her most recent opinion piece in the Sydney Morning Herald: *Why 'Crazy Rich Asians' Doesn't Represent Me*.

**MICHAEL RUFFLES** is a journalist and chief sub-editor of *The Sydney Morning Herald*. He went to Thailand in 2001 as an exchange student and returned to work at the *Bangkok Post* from 2012 to 2016. He writes regularly on Thai Royal Family for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Age*. In 2020 he was joint winner of a Kennedy Award for exposing the truth of a Thai cabinet minister's jail sentence for conspiring to import heroin into Australia.

Sinsamersuk and Ruffles live in Sydney with their two toddlers.

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