

# SCRIBE

**London Rights  
Guide 2024**

# SCRIBE

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Jessica Friedmann

## Twenty-Two Impressions

notes from the Major Arcana



LITERARY ESSAYS/TAROT  
October 2024  
240pp  
Manuscript available  
Rights held: World

Born in 1987, JESSICA FRIEDMANN is a writer and editor. Her first essay collection, *Things That Helped*, was published by Scribe (2017) and FSG (2018).

Author photo © Heather Lighton

**A poetic new essay collection in which the symbols of Renaissance-era tarot brush up against life in a changing world.**

In 2018, author Jessica Friedmann bought her first deck of tarot cards, a facsimile copy of the Tarot de Marseille. This 15th-century deck, with its unfamiliar images, sparked a deep immersion in the art, symbols, myths, and misrepresentations of Renaissance-era tarot.

Over the years that followed, and as tarot became a part of her daily rhythm, Friedmann's life in country New South Wales was touched by floods and by drought, by bushfires and the pandemic, creating an environment in which the only constant was change.

*Twenty-Two Impressions: notes from the major arcana* uses the Tarot de Marseille as a touchstone for these years, blending historical research, art history, and critical insights with personal reflections. In these essays, Friedmann demonstrates how the cards of the major arcana can be used as a lens through which to examine the unexpectedness — and subtle beauty — of 21st-century life.

- Weaves in history, anthropology, art history, mysticism, and the occult as Friedmann reflects on the environmental and political upheavals of recent years
- For readers of Maria Tumarkin, Deborah Levy, and Olivia Laing
- Interest in tarot and spirituality, particularly with younger generations, has risen strongly over recent years

### **Praise for *Things That Helped***

‘Heartfelt, fiercely intelligent, and urgent ... a powerful affirmation of friendship, family, art, and love, and how these things might shape a life, and give it strength ... does not shy away from the complex, often painful, and sometimes bloody experiences of womanhood and motherhood.’ **Fiona Wright**, author of *Small Acts of Disappearance*

‘While the occasion for this book is Friedmann's experience of post-partum depression, *Things That Helped* points to the larger question of becoming a writer-mother, and the ways a traumatic splitting of the self might relate to a creative one, and how, in consciously reintegrating aspects of self, a powerful, self-aware and writerly subjectivity might emerge.’ **Felicity Plunkett**, *Sydney Review of Books*



Josh Bornstein

## Working for the Brand

how corporations are destroying free speech



**POLITICS/ETHICS AND CENSORSHIP/  
LABOR LAW**  
**October 2024**  
**288pp**  
**Rights held: World**

JOSH BORNSTEIN is an award-winning workplace lawyer who has represented employees and trade unions in some of Australia's most notorious disputes. He has been instrumental in cases that have blocked a government backed plot to de-unionise the waterfront, exposed sexual harassment against judges in Australia's courts and obtained record breaking compensation for intellectually disabled workers who were paid less than \$1 per hour. He has written for most major media outlets in Australia and is a contributing author of *The Wages Crisis in Australia*, 2018. To try to stay sane, he surfs and listens to too much punk music.

**How have major corporations come to exercise repressive control over the lives of their employees? And what can be done to repair the greatest threat to democracy — the out-of-control corporation?**

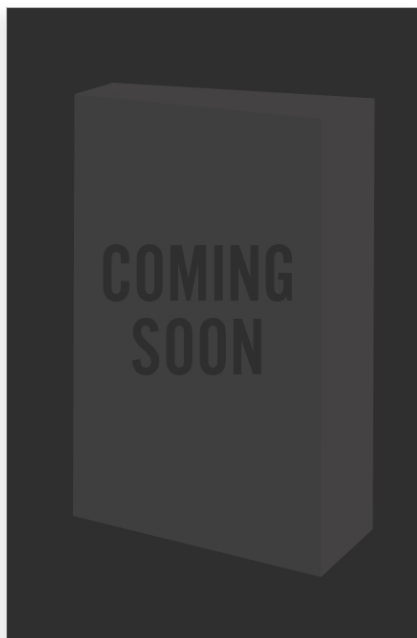
When you go to work, you agree to exchange your labour in exchange for your pay packet, right? Actually, you may not realise it, but you are also selling your rights to free speech and to participate in democracy.

Welcome to corporate cancel culture, a burgeoning phenomenon that is routinely ignored in debates about free speech. If you work for a large company, it will not allow you to say or do anything that harms its brand — at or outside work. If you transgress and attract controversy — whether for cracking a joke, a Facebook like, or a political post on Tik Tok, you can be shamed, sacked, and blacklisted.

In the twenty-first century, major corporations have become the most powerful institution in the world — more powerful than many nations. That unchecked, anti-democratic power is reflected in the gaming of the political system, the weakening of governments, and the repressive control of the lives of employees. While their behaviour has deteriorated, corporations have invested heavily in ethically washed brands, claiming to be saving the planet and doing good.

As Josh Bornstein argues, we would not tolerate a government that censored, controlled, and punished us in this way, so why do we meekly accept the growing authoritarianism of the companies that we work for?

- Most people have been exposed to questionable corporate behaviour, whether they know it or not. This exposé will have wide appeal
- With growing industry consolidation leading to the rise of huge corporations, this is an important and timely book



**MEMOIR/ANTIQUARIAN HISTORY**  
**November 2024**  
**304pp**  
**Rights held: World**

MICHAEL VISONTAY has worked as a journalist and senior editor at *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Australian*, and taught journalism at university. He is the author of several nonfiction books, including *Welcome to Wanderland*, *Who Gave You Permission?* (with Manny Waks), and *Undies to Equities: the remarkable life of Henri Aram*.

**Part detective story and part memoir, *The Noble Fragment* takes readers into the arcane world of rare book collectors and their eccentric passions.**

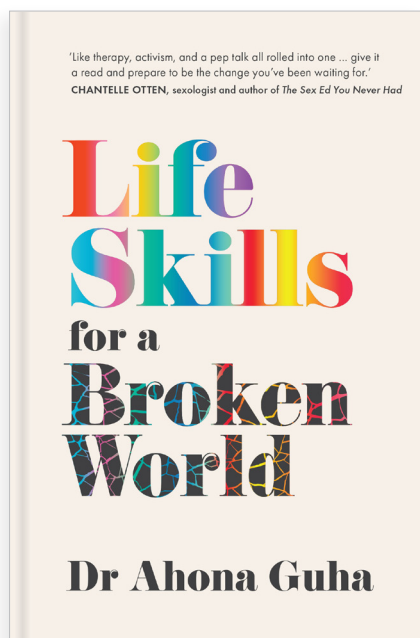
One hundred years ago, Gabriel Wells, a New York bookseller, committed a crime against history. He broke up the world's greatest book, the Gutenberg Bible, and sold it off in individual pages. This is the story of one man's hunt for those fragments and his family's debt to an act of literary vandalism.

Wells's audacity scandalised the rare-book world. The Gutenberg was the first substantial book in Europe to have been printed on a printing press. It represented the democratisation of knowledge and was the Holy Grail of rare books.

Was the break-up a sacrilege or a canny deal? New Yorkers were divided. For every frown of disapproval, there was a lick of the lips. It was the Roaring Twenties, the Gatsby era of fabulous wealth. Tycoons were in a feeding frenzy to acquire items that would demonstrate their refinement. Wells marketed the pages as 'Noble Fragments', they sold like hot cakes, and he died a rich man.

Half a century later, journalist Michael Visontay stumbled upon a mysterious legal document that linked Wells to his own family. He became obsessed by the Gutenberg's invisible imprint on his life, and set out to track down the pages of the broken bible.

Part detective story and part memoir, *The Noble Fragment* is an expedition into the arcane world of book collectors and their eccentric passions, and a journey of discovery about how Wells's gamble set off a chain of events that changed a family's destiny.



POPULAR PSYCHOLOGY/  
SELF-HELP

January 2024

208pp

Finished copies available

Rights held: World

Rights sold: Turkish (Okuyan Us);

Russian (EKSMO); Slovak (Eastone)

DR AHONA GUHA is a clinical and forensic psychologist. Her first book, *Reclaim: understanding complex trauma and those who abuse*, was published by Scribe in 2023. She works with victims of abuse and trauma, and clients with a range of other difficulties, such as anxiety, depression, perfectionism, burn-out, and relationship problems. She also works with perpetrators of harmful behaviours to assess risk, and provides treatment to reduce the risk they pose to others. She writes widely for the media on matters related to mental health, health, social justice, and equity. Her work has appeared in *The Age*, *The Guardian*, *The Saturday Paper*, *Breathe Magazine*, SBS, and ABC.

## A revolutionary framework for living well in a broken world, from an acclaimed author and psychologist.

How can I manage heartbreak? How do I cope with death? How can I learn to tolerate anxiety and hold hope?

In this helpful, practical guide to good psychological health, Dr Ahona Guha shows us how to cope, thrive, and still feel hopeful for the future. Combining techniques from a range of therapeutic modalities, she demonstrates how we can build a range of essential psychological skills, and apply them to live a more tranquil, joyful, and meaningful life.

*Life Skills for a Broken World* is a breath of fresh air, cutting through the confusion to provide solid, practical, and evidence-based answers to existential questions, big and small.

- Addresses the existential dread and despair that are valid responses to our current era
- Promotes a values-driven, political approach to mental health, distinct from shallow 'self care' peddled by capitalist forces
- Broadly accessible and applicable, featuring prompts and questions to help readers evaluate their needs and priorities
- Perfect as a gift, with illustrations throughout

'Give this book as a gift to someone you love who is struggling — and that might be yourself. I already know this book is going to live on my bedside table. Dr Guha puts language and frameworks to help order the mess in our heads and hearts. *Life Skills for a Broken World* is grounding, consoling, and so practical.' **Benjamin Law, author of *The Family Law* and *Gaysia***

'Dr Guha's book is like therapy, activism, and a pep talk all rolled into one. Whether you're stressing about the state of the world or just trying to level-up your own life, she's got your back. It's all about taking baby steps to make big leaps — not just for you but for the world at large.'

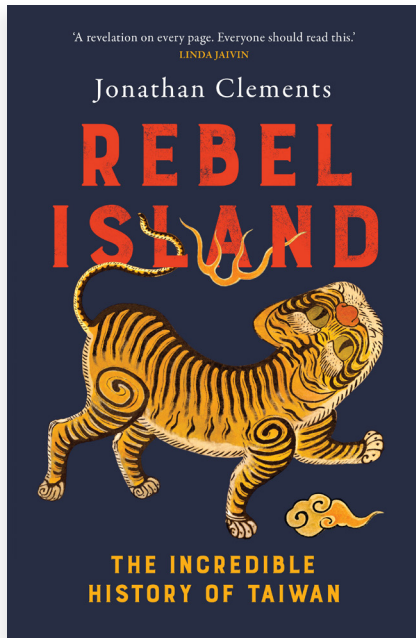
**Chantelle Otten, Sexologist and author of *The Sex Ed You Never Had***

'Dr Ahona Guha's book is a useful, frank and super helpful guide on how to be a more connected, values-driven human in a world that makes you want to conduct yourself like a raccoon on a trash heap. Her advice is sound and gentle, and challenging in a way that encourages you to grow instead of hiding under a blanket and scrolling.' **Eloise Grills, author of *Big Beautiful Female Theory***

Jonathan Clements

## Rebel Island

the incredible history of Taiwan



**HISTORY/POLITICAL SCIENCE**  
**January 2024**  
**320pp**  
**Manuscript available**  
**Rights held: World**

JONATHAN CLEMENTS presented several seasons of *Route Awakening* (National Geographic), an award-winning TV series about Chinese history and culture. He is the author of many acclaimed books, including *Coxinga and the Fall of the Ming Dynasty*, *Confucius: A Biography*, and *The Emperor's Feast: A History of China in Twelve Meals*. He has written histories of both China and Japan, two countries that have, at some point, claimed Taiwan as their own. He was a visiting professor at Xi'an Jiaotong University from 2013 to 2019. He was born in the East of England and lives in Finland.

**The gripping history of Taiwan, from the flood myths of indigenous legend to its Asian Tiger economic miracle — and the renewed threat of invasion by China.**

Once dismissed by the Kangxi Emperor as nothing but a 'ball of mud', Taiwan has a modern GDP larger than that of Sweden, in a land area smaller than Indiana. It is the last surviving enclave of the Republic of China, a lost colony of Japan, and claimed by Beijing as a rogue province — merely the latest chapters in its long history as a refuge for pirates, rebels, settlers, and outcasts.

Jonathan Clements examines the unique conditions of Taiwan's archaeology and indigenous history, and its days as a Dutch and Spanish trading post. He delves into its periods as an independent kingdom, Chinese province, and short-lived republic, and the transformations wrought by 50 years as part of the Japanese Empire. Later chapters explore the traumatic effects of its role as a lifeboat in 1949 for two million refugees from Communism, and the conflicts emerging after the suspension of four decades of martial law, as its people debate issues of self-determination, independence, and home rule.

- A long overdue narrative of the history of Taiwan and its people, at once richly researched and thoroughly engaging
- Perfect for readers of Peter Frankopan, Julia Lovell, and Frank Dikötter — or anyone seeking to understand why Taiwan is in Beijing's crosshairs

**'A revelation on every page. Everyone should read this.'** **Linda Jaivin, author of *The Shortest History of China***

**'Clements's pacy and engaging account offers a valuable counterpoint to today's news coverage of Taiwan. *Rebel Island* offers a compelling portrait of a perennially fragmented place, subject across centuries to a succession of claims on its territory, resources and identity — of which Xi [Jinping]'s is but the latest.'** **Christopher Harding, *The Telegraph***

**'Clements's brisk narrative is related with style and brio and an appropriate amount of caution, given the various competing narratives surrounding the island's history ... The result is a splendid portrait of the layers of identity and resistance in what is no less a settler society than the United States, Australia, or Argentina.'** **Oliver Farry, *The Irish Times***

Jeff Sparrow and  
Sam Wallman

## 12 Rules for Strife



POLITICAL ACTIVISM/  
GRAPHIC NONFICTION  
May 2024  
128pp  
Manuscript available  
Rights held: World

JEFF SPARROW is a writer, editor, broadcaster, and Walkley Award-winning journalist. He is a columnist for *The Guardian*, a former Breakfaster at Melbourne's 3RRR, and a past editor of *Overland* literary journal. His most recent books are *Fascists Among Us: online hate and the Christchurch massacre*; *Trigger Warnings: political correctness and the rise of the right*; and *No Way But This: in search of Paul Robeson*. He lectures at the Centre for Advancing Journalism at The University of Melbourne.

SAM WALLMAN is a comics journalist and cartoonist based in Melbourne, Australia. His drawings have been published in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The Age*, the ABC, and SBS. He is the author of *Our Members Be Unlimited: a comic about workers and their unions*.

**This is a handbook for change. Because we all know ways in which life could be better. And it *can* be better. We can *make* it better.**

We don't need to wait for a leader or saviour. We don't need to limit ourselves to comments and clicks. In this stunningly original comic-book tour of a serious topic, Jeff Sparrow and Sam Wallman explore 12 powerful ideas distilled from the history of struggle for better lives, better working conditions, and a better world. They show how solidarity can be built across growing divisions — without compromising our values.

'Strife' is just another word for making yourself heard. In fun, short, shareable chapters, *12 Rules for Strife* shows how together we can change everything.

- An accessible, practical, inspirational, and meme-able guide to taking back industrial and political agency, for people who are fed up with business- and politics-as-usual
- Sparrow is a well-known columnist for *The Guardian* and a highly regarded public intellectual, and Wallman is an internationally renowned cartoonist and activist



### Praise for *Our Members Be Unlimited*

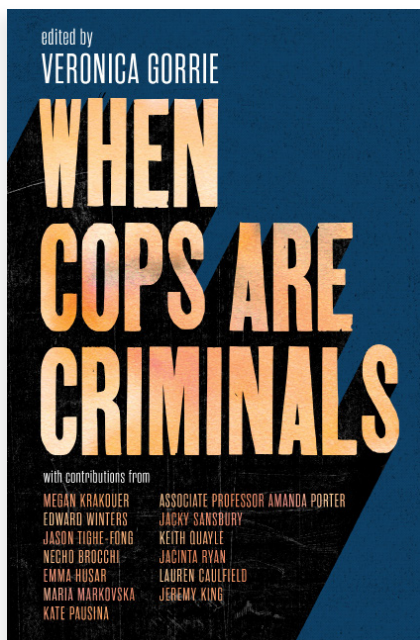
'Sam Wallman's comic is history and argument, it is celebration and reflection, and with every turn of its beautiful, vivid pages it is a reminder of the galvanising power of radical solidarity and of radical love. This book is a gift, it's exhilarating.' **Christos Tsiolkas**, author of *The Slap*

'Activist and comics journalist Wallman debuts with a convincing, transfixing graphic history of the impact and future potential of unions ... This is a dynamic, persuasive look at labor power.' **Publishers Weekly**



Veronica Gorrie (ed.)

## When Cops Are Criminals



ANTHOLOGY/ESSAYS

May 2024

304pp

Rights held: World

VERONICA GORRIE is a Gunai/Kurnai woman who lives and writes in Victoria. Her first book, *Black and Blue* (2021), won the 2022 Victorian Premier's Prize for Literature and the 2022 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Indigenous Writing, as well as being shortlisted for the 2022 Douglas Stewart Prize for Nonfiction and the 2022 ABIA Small Publishers' Book of the Year. She is also the Executive Officer of the grassroots Aboriginal organisation Pay the Rent.

**A powerful indictment of the criminal behaviour of police officers, and a call for institutional reform, edited by the multi-award-winning author of *Black and Blue*.**

*When Cops Are Criminals* examines the widespread problem of police brutality and corruption from the perspectives of those who understand it in depth.

Pulling together the accounts of survivors, campaigners, and academics, it explores different forms of criminal behaviour by police, the factors that contribute to it, the impact it has on victims, and the challenges of holding perpetrators accountable.

Told with candour, honesty, bravery, and rage, these stories will challenge readers to reflect on the institutions that so many people take for granted. Whose interests are they really serving? And where can people turn when the institutions that are supposed to protect them are the ones doing the damage?

### Praise for *Black and Blue*

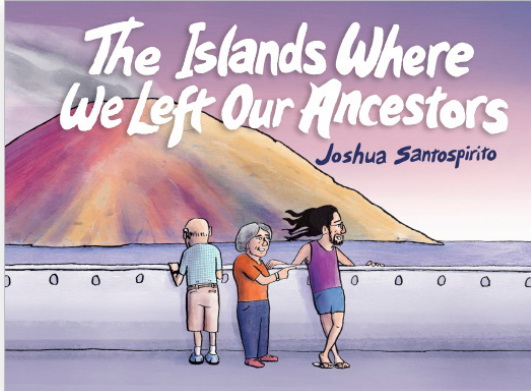
'The power of storytelling is to share the lives of people who change the world. Ronnie Gorrie's journey as an Aboriginal woman shows the different levels of power in our country and is as radical as it is moving. A loving, affecting, and honest account of her life. Reading Ronnie's words is like hearing the yarn of a friend.' **Nakkiah Lui**

'A memoir full of heart, humour and fire, from an author who's always had a keen sense of justice.' *Happy magazine*

'With a mischievous sense of humour and innate gift for storytelling, Gorrie gives a deep insight into her own traumatic experiences as a survivor of abuse, racism and sexism — issues she continues to fight against today.' **Jedda Costa, ABC**

Joshua Santospirito

## The Islands Where We Left Our Ancestors



**GRAPHIC NONFICTION**

**July 2024**

**208pp**

**Manuscript available**

**Rights held: World**

JOSHUA SANTOSPIRITO is a graphic novelist, multimedia artist and organic veggie farmer living in nipaluna, lutruwita (Tasmania). His expansive art practice often focuses on identity and modern Australia. Joshua's writing, comics and illustrations have appeared in *The Monthly*, *Island Magazine*, *Meanjin* and *The Suburban Review*. He is the creator of two previous graphic novels: *The Long Weekend in Alice Springs* (2013) and *Swallows Part One* (2015). He is one half of the beloved Tasmanian experimental soundscaping band Bing/Santospirito. In his art practice he is represented by Penny Contemporary gallery in nipaluna.

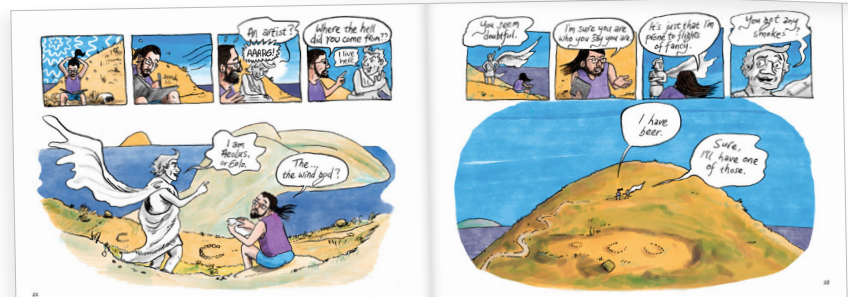
**The beautifully hand-drawn story of Joshua's visit to the Aeolian islands of Italy with his parents to seek out past connections and family roots.**

Joshua and his father hope to locate the burial place of Joshua's great-great-grandfather on the island of Salina, Italy. But it's not always so easy to find the past you're looking for, nor to travel with your parents.

As Joshua learns more about this sun-drenched volcanic archipelago, its people, and their history, he also explores the mysteries of family — and the magic of creating your own place in the world.

A tale of migration and return, of the rise to stardom of Ingrid Bergman, of the cheeky wind god Aeolus, of family, place, and belonging, and of so much more. Joshua's perspectives are unique, but there is something here for everyone.

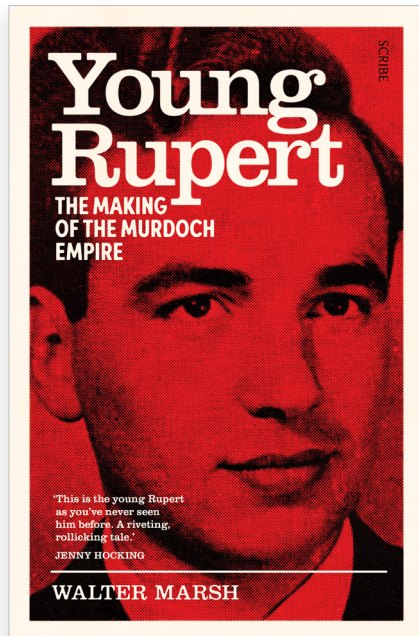
Joshua is the author/illustrator of *Swallows*, a graphic novella about the immigrant experience in Australia. He adapted Craig San Roque's *The Long Weekend in Alice Springs* into a cult-classic graphic novel that won the prize for best nonfiction at the 2014 Chief Minister's NT Book Awards and was called 'the best thing I've been handed to read in ages' by Neil Gaiman.



Walter Marsh

## Young Rupert

the making of the Murdoch empire



### BIOGRAPHY

August 2023

352pp

Rights held: World

WALTER MARSH is a journalist based in Tarntanya / Adelaide with a background in history and culture. A former editor and staff writer at *The Adelaide Review* and *Rip It Up*, his writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Monthly*, *The Saturday Paper*, and *InDaily*.

**For half a century, the Murdoch media empire and its polarising patriarch have swept across the globe, shaking up markets and democracies in their wake. But how did it all start?**

In September 1953, 22-year-old Rupert Murdoch landed in Adelaide, South Australia. Fresh from Oxford with a radical reputation, the young and brash son of Sir Keith Murdoch had arrived to fulfill his father's dying wish: for Rupert to live a 'useful altruistic and full life' in the media.

For decades, Sir Keith had been a giant of the Australian press, but his final years were spent bitterly fending off rivals and would-be successors. When the dust settled on his father's estate, Rupert was left with the Adelaide-based News Ltd and its afternoon paper *The News* — a minor player in a small, parochial city.

But even this inheritance was soon under siege, as the left-wing 'Boy Publisher' stared down his father's old colleagues at the city's paper of record, *The Advertiser*, and a conservative establishment kept in power by a decades-old gerrymander.

Led by Rupert's friend, ally, and editor-in-chief Rohan Rivett, the fledgling Murdoch press began a seven-year campaign of circulation wars, expansion, and courtroom battles that divided the city and would lay the foundations for a global empire — if Rupert and Rohan didn't end up in custody first.

*Young Rupert* pieces together a paper trail of succession, sedition, and power — and a fascinating time capsule of media on the cusp of an extraordinary ascension.

- For fans of *Succession*
- Previously unpublished archival materials brought to life to reveal the man behind the myth and his largely unknown backstory
- Engrossing, revelatory, and superbly written

'From schoolboy socialist to boy publisher to mogul on the make: *Young Rupert* offers a revelatory glimpse of Murdoch becoming Murdoch.' **Jeff Sparrow, author of *Crimes Against Nature***

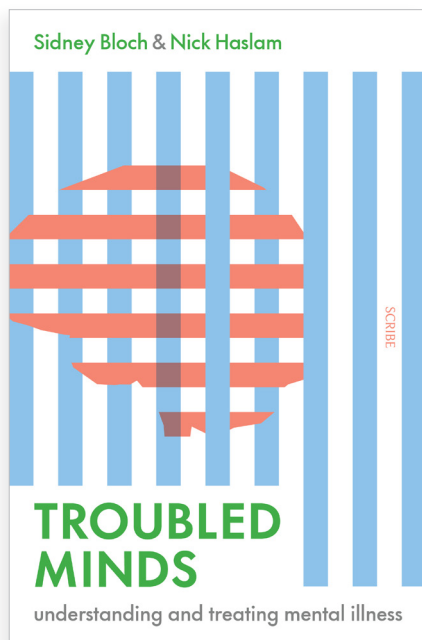
'Deeply researched and sharply written, Marsh summons a vanished era to life and chronicles the intricate manoeuvres and shifting character of a man whose whims and grudges have dominated, for better and worse, the media landscape for seventy years.' **Patrick Mullins, author of *Tiberius With A Telephone***



**Sidney Bloch and  
Nick Haslam**

## Troubled Minds

understanding and treating  
mental illness



### POPULAR PSYCHOLOGY

September 2023

384pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold: Vietnamese (Tre Publishing House); Polish (Copernicus Centre Press); Turkish (Okuyan Us)

SIDNEY BLOCH AM is emeritus professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Melbourne. His 14 books, many of which have been translated, deal with the psychotherapies, the interface between psychology and cancer, and medical ethics.

NICK HASLAM, professor of psychology at the University of Melbourne, has chaired its School of Psychological Sciences and co-directs its Mental Health PhD Program. He trained as a clinical psychologist in the US, and has taught social and personality psychology for over 25 years.

**An authoritative resource for understanding the nature of mental illnesses and for pointing the way to recovery.**

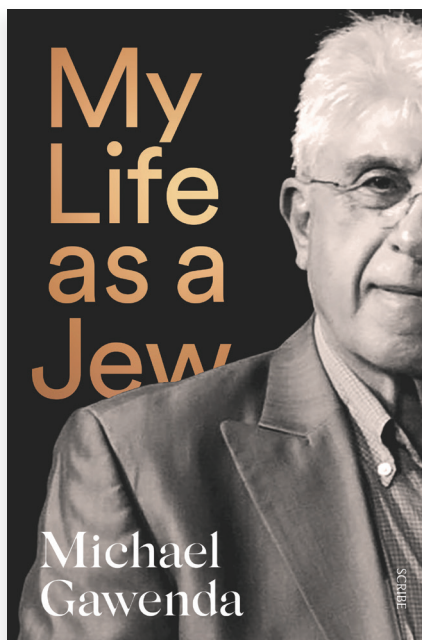
Many of us take our mental health for granted. But we can feel overwhelmed when confronted by mental illness in ourselves, a family member, or a friend. *Troubled Minds* is an invaluable guide for anyone whose life has been touched by mental ill-health and who wants to understand and treat it.

It provides an ideal introduction to common mental illnesses, developmental disorders, and neurological variations that can lead to distress, such as anxiety, depression, autism, alcoholism, post-traumatic stress disorder, and eating disorders. Chapters cover mental health problems of children and adolescents, and how we have the potential to promote our own mental health and wellbeing.

Bloch and Haslam tell illuminating stories of people they have treated, discuss public figures who have wrestled with mental ill-health, and share their personal experiences. Their book is informed by the latest research, warmed by lived experience and empathy, and seasoned by the insights of philosophers, writers, and artists.

*Troubled Minds* is essential reading for anyone who seeks deeper psychological insights to help deal with the challenges of contemporary life. It is a balanced and accessible account of a subject that is profoundly significant for everyone. It will also greatly benefit those working in care professions, such as teachers, social workers, and nurses.

- Accessibly written, for a broad audience
- Explains symptoms, latest research, and treatment options with an emphasis on realistic management principles rather than cures
- Illustrations and references to history, philosophy and literature throughout
- Written by two eminent mental health professionals with almost a century of clinical experience between them
- Helpful insights into the aims and rationale behind various treatment approaches



**MEMOIR**  
**October 2023**  
**288pp**  
**Rights held: World**

MICHAEL GAWENDA is one of Australia's best-known journalists and authors. In a career spanning four decades, he was a political reporter, a foreign correspondent based in London and in Washington, a columnist, a feature writer, and a senior editor at *Time Magazine*. He was editor and editor-in-chief of *The Age* from 1997 to 2004. Michael Gawenda has won numerous journalism awards, including three Walkley awards. He was the inaugural director of the Centre for Advancing Journalism at the University of Melbourne, and is the author of four books.

**A multi-award-winning journalist and former editor-in-chief of a major newspaper searingly explores his Jewish identity.**

Born in a displaced persons' camp two years after the end of the Holocaust, Michael Gawenda spent his childhood and teenage years in a left-wing non-Zionist Jewish youth group in Melbourne. This shaped the sort of Jew he became — a secular Jew who loved the Yiddish language and Yiddish culture.

Gawenda went on to become a public figure during his 40 years as a journalist, including his role as editor-in-chief of major Australian newspaper *The Age* — the only Jewish editor-in-chief in the newspaper's history. Throughout this time, and since, he became dismayed and pained by the growing hostility of the left to Israel and to Jews like him who were not prepared to declare themselves as anti-Zionists. This has also forced him to examine his own Jewish identity and his relationships with his Jewish friends, and to forensically examine the basis of the critiques of Israel.

At a time of rising anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism, *My Life as a Jew* is a controversial book. It is also a vital book that should be read by readers of all political stripes. It should be read by journalists, as it is in part about journalism and its failings. And it should also be read by people interested in the remarkable life and career of its author, Michael Gawenda.

- A unique, substantial, and provocative work
- With Israel and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict continually in the news, this is a book of intense, immediate relevance to many readers — including those invested in the Israel-Palestine conflict, university communities, people on the left, and, of course, the Jewish community

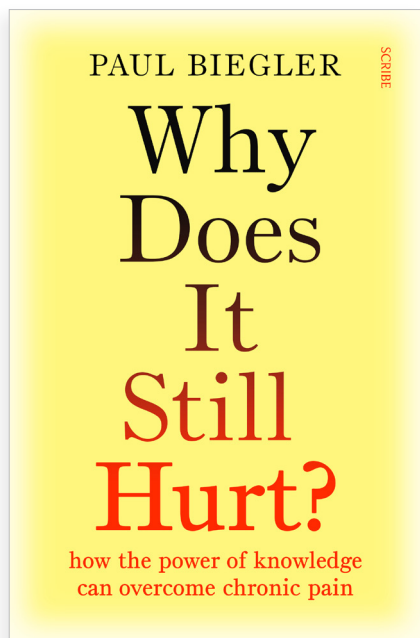
**'Audacious, pained, heartfelt: I couldn't put it down.'** **Helen Garner**

**'I thought I understood everything there was to understand about my own life as a Jew. But Michael Gawenda's fearless, magisterial book, tracing an arc from Hannah Arendt's "banality of evil" to the casual dinner-party anti-Semitism of contemporary leftists, cracked me open, and nothing has been the same for me since.'** **Julie Szego, writer and journalist**

Paul Biegler

## Why Does It Still Hurt?

how the power of knowledge can overcome chronic pain



POPULAR HEALTH/SCIENCE

January 2023

304pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold: Russian (EKSMO); Czech (Triton)

PAUL BIEGLER is a journalist, academic, and former specialist physician in emergency medicine. He is the author of *The Ethical Treatment of Depression*, which won the Australian Museum Eureka Prize for Research in Ethics.

**Chronic pain is the single biggest cause of human suffering. Yet pain that persists is often unrelated to any physical injury. So why does it still hurt?**

Research over recent decades shows that many of us — sufferers of chronic pain and health practitioners alike — are victims of a devilish trick of the nervous system. Where we believe that pain has its root in a damaged body, it is the brain that prolongs the hurting long after the body has healed. This leads to hundreds of billions of dollars being spent each year on treatments that sometimes do nothing and sometimes make matters worse.

Paul Biegler, a science journalist and former doctor who has been on his own pain journey, investigates the true source of chronic pain — our brain's so-called neuroplasticity — and emerging therapies, including cognitive therapy and graded exercise exposure, that take advantage of that same neuroplasticity to rewire the brain and end the suffering. As he knows only too well, this doesn't mean the pain is all in a person's head. The pain is real, but its meaning is often misunderstood.

Through conversations with scientists, doctors, and people who have overcome chronic pain, Biegler shines a light on the rigorous new studies — and emotional personal stories — that are changing the way we understand and treat pain. Most importantly, he shows how to take control over persistent pain and truly heal.

- A must-read book in the vein of *The Body Keeps the Score* by Bessel van der Kolk and *The Brain That Changes Itself* by Norman Doidge
- Revelatory, compelling, and accessible
- Anchored by unforgettable personal stories from around the world. Biegler travels widely to talk to scientists, doctors, and patients
- Focused on new therapies that use neuroplasticity to offer alternative, effective solutions to chronic pain
- Biegler is an award-winning journalist, academic, and former specialist physician

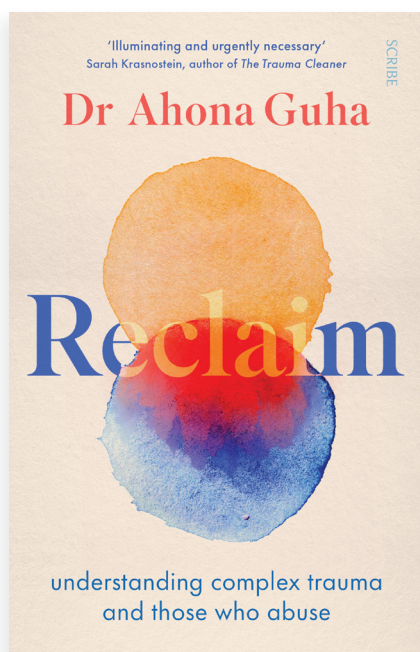
'As someone who lived with chronic pain for decades, I can't recommend this book highly enough.' **Fiona Capp**, *The Sydney Morning Herald*

'A fascinating and important book.' **Jeff Popple**, *Canberra Weekly*

Dr Ahona Guha

## Reclaim

understanding complex trauma  
and those who abuse



### PSYCHOLOGY

March 2023

256pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold: Russian (EKSMO);

Vietnamese (First News Co., Ltd.)

DR AHONA GUHA is a clinical and forensic psychologist. Her first book, *Reclaim: understanding complex trauma and those who abuse*, was published by Scribe in 2023. She works with victims of abuse and trauma, and clients with a range of other difficulties, such as anxiety, depression, perfectionism, burn-out, and relationship problems. She also works with perpetrators of harmful behaviours to assess risk, and provides treatment to reduce the risk they pose to others. She writes widely for the media on matters related to mental health, health, social justice, and equity. Her work has appeared in *The Age*, *The Guardian*, *The Saturday Paper*, *Breathe Magazine*, SBS, and ABC.

**A groundbreaking book that will expand your thinking, whether you are a trauma survivor, a clinician, someone who loves a survivor, or someone seeking to understand abuse.**

In *Reclaim*, expert forensic and clinical psychologist Dr Ahona Guha explores complex traumas, how survivors can recover and heal, and the nature of those who abuse. She shines a light on the 'difficult' trauma victims that society often ignores, and tackles vital questions that plague us: 'Why are psychological abuse and coercive control so difficult to spot?', 'What kinds of behaviours should we see as red flags?', and 'Why do some people harm others, and how do we protect ourselves from them?'

In her forensic work, Dr Guha has had extensive experience with those who perpetrate harm, and she has a deep understanding of the psychological and social factors that cause people to abuse, bully, and harass others. In turn, her clinical work has led her to recognise the impacts of complex trauma, and the way our systems fail those who have been victimised.

By emphasising compassion above all else, Dr Guha gives a call to action: one that will help us reclaim a safer, healthier society for everyone.

- Offers clear and practical pathways toward a safer society
- For readers of Esther Perel, Bessel van der Kolk, Lori Gottlieb, and Jess Hill
- A clinical and forensic psychologist, Dr Guha has also been published widely and has the rare ability to convey complex scientific ideas to a general audience. Her writing is accessible and empathetic, and she is well attuned to the challenges of contemporary life

'In a world that so often turns away from the complexities of trauma and abuse, this book turns towards them ... *Reclaim* is a game-changer.'  
**Chris Cheers, psychologist and author of *The New Rulebook***

'One of those books I will revisit again, whenever I need to process certain events or experiences.'  
**Dr Yumiko Kadota, author of *Emotional Female***





## GRAPHIC NONFICTION

May 2022

256pp

Rights held: World

SAM WALLMAN is a comics journalist and cartoonist based in Melbourne, Australia. His drawings have been published in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The Age*, the ABC, and SBS.

## An original and visually powerful exploration of unionism around the world.

In our current political climate, people are looking for answers — and alternatives. The promise of unions is that their ‘members be unlimited’: that they don’t belong to the rich, the powerful, or special interests, but to all workers.

How did the idea of unionism arise? Where has it flourished? And what are its challenges in the 21st century? From Britain to Bangladesh, from the first union of the 18th century to today, from solidarity in Walmart China to his own experiences in an Amazon warehouse in Melbourne, comics journalist Sam Wallman explores the urge to come together and cooperate that arises again and again in workers and workplaces everywhere.

With a dynamic and distinctive art style, and writing that’s both thoughtful and down to earth, *Our Members Be Unlimited* serves as an entry point for young people or those new to notions of collective action, but also as an invigorating read to those already engaged in the struggle for better working conditions — and a better world.

- Accessible and galvanising, combining centuries of history with sharp commentary on today’s labour landscape
- Funny, moving, and hopeful
- For readers of Heike Geissler’s *Seasonal Associate*

‘[H]onest, unsentimental portraits of the working class that was and the working class that is ... depicting the everyday decency of ordinary people as the only hope for a world in crisis.’ **Jeff Sparrow**, author of *Crimes Against Nature*

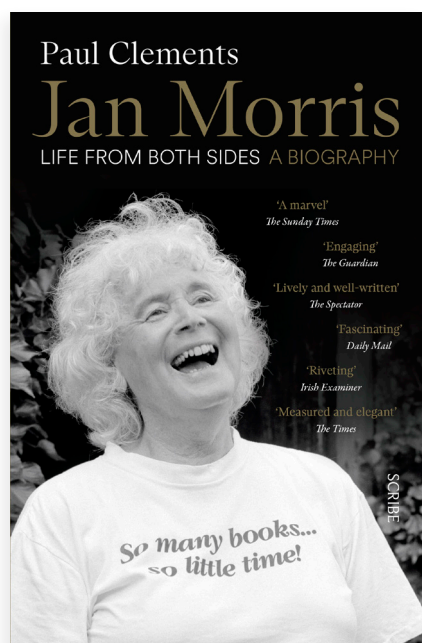
‘Wallman draws on the history of working-class resistance and the humanism at the heart of our movement to guide and give heart to activists.’ **Bhaskar Sunkara**, founding editor of *Jacobin Magazine*



Paul Clements

## Jan Morris

life from both sides



**BIOGRAPHY**  
**November 2022**  
**608pp**  
**Rights held: World**

A journalist, author, and broadcaster, PAUL CLEMENTS is the author of five travel books and a biography of Richard Hayward, adapted for BBC television. He knew Jan Morris personally for thirty years, edited a collection of her work, and spent four months at Oxford University where he wrote the first critical study of her work, published by University of Wales Press. A former BBC assistant editor, he is a recipient of the Reuter Journalist's Fellowship Programme, a Fellow of Green Templeton College, Oxford, and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He lives with his wife and son in Belfast.

### The first full account of a truly remarkable life.

Travel writer and historian Jan Morris, author of *Venice*, *Pax Britannica*, *Conundrum*, and more than fifty other books, was known for her observational genius, lyricism, and humour. She earned a passionate readership around the world, and was considered one of Britain's best-loved writers when she passed away in 2020.

Morris's life was no less fascinating than her oeuvre. Born James Humphry Morris in 1926, she spent a childhood amid Oxford's Gothic beauty before embarking on military service in Italy and the Middle East, followed by a career as an internationally feted foreign correspondent. From being the only journalist to join the first ascent of Mount Everest in 1953 to covering the trial of Adolf Eichmann, Morris's reportage spanned many of the twentieth century's defining moments.

However, public success masked a private dilemma that was only resolved when she transitioned genders in the late sixties, becoming renowned as a transgender pioneer. She went on to live happily with her wife Elizabeth in Wales for another five decades, and never stopped writing and publishing.

- The first full biography of Jan Morris, prolific author and transgender pioneer
- Paul Clements knew Morris personally for thirty years, and published the first critical study of her work in 1998
- Brings together the many strands of Morris's rich life for the first time, portraying a person of extraordinary talent, curiosity, and joie de vivre

'Paul Clements's enthralling biography brings one of the great figures of the English-speaking world in the late 20th century into focus for the first time.' **Robert McCrum**

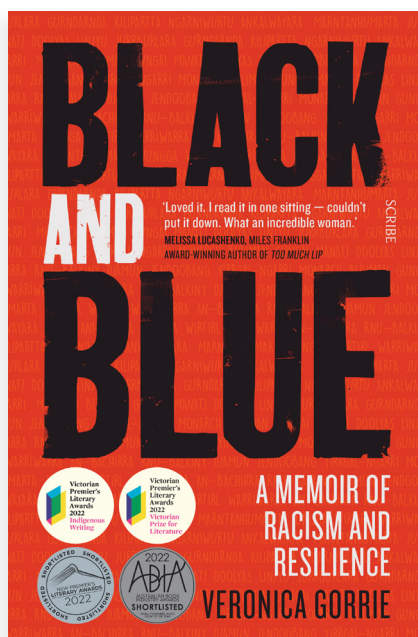
'[S]uggests that Jan Morris was one of the greatest writers and one of the most astonishing humans to grace the stage of English literature ... her story bamboozles convention; her travels will remain unsurpassed. There are no prizes for the mighty living of life, only biographies. This will not be the last awarded to Jan Morris, but it will surely be judged the best. Beautifully written, fizzing with adventure, alight with the firework prose, humour, and chutzpah of its subject ... Jan Morris's was a life-changing life, and Paul Clements's is a life-lighting book.'

**Horatio Clare**

Veronica Gorrie

## Black and Blue

a memoir of racism and resilience



MEMOIR

March 2021

256pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold: Polish (Społeczny Instytut)

VERONICA GORRIE is a Gunai/Kurnai woman who lives and writes in Victoria. Her first book, *Black and Blue* (2021), won the 2022 Victorian Premier's Prize for Literature and the 2022 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Indigenous Writing, as well as being shortlisted for the 2022 Douglas Stewart Prize for Nonfiction and the 2022 ABIA Small Publishers' Book of the Year. She is also the Executive Officer of the grassroots Aboriginal organisation Pay the Rent.

- Winner of the 2022 Victorian Prize for Literature
- Winner of the 2022 Victorian Premier's Prize for Indigenous Writing
- Shortlisted for the 2022 Victorian Premier's Prize for Nonfiction

**The story of an Aboriginal woman who worked as a police officer and fought for justice both within and beyond the police force, this is a memoir of remarkable fortitude and resilience, told with wit, wisdom, and great heart.**

A proud Gunai/Kurnai woman, Veronica Gorrie grew up dauntless, full of cheek and a fierce sense of justice. After watching her friends and family suffer under a deeply compromised law-enforcement system, Gorrie signed up for training to become one of a rare few Aboriginal police officers in Australia. In her ten years in the force, she witnessed appalling institutional racism and sexism, and fought past those things to provide courageous and compassionate service to civilians in need, many Aboriginal themselves.

With a great gift for storytelling and a wicked sense of humour, Gorrie frankly and movingly explores the impact of racism on her family and her life, the impact of intergenerational trauma resulting from cultural dispossession, and the inevitable difficulties of making her way as an Aboriginal woman in the white-and-male-dominated workplace of the police force.

**'Couldn't put it down. I thought of A.B. Facey as I read her astounding journey.' Melissa Lucashenko, Miles Franklin Award-winning author of *Too Much Lip***

**'Gorrie's distinctly Indigenous storytelling makes us feel like we are sitting with her by the fire in the backyard listening to the resounding immediacy of her words.' 2022 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards judges' comments**

**'The extraordinary kind of memoir that has you laughing and then, in the next paragraph, feeling like all the wind has been taken out of you with shock. Her voice is so clear and sharp it feels at times like she is talking directly to you.' Bridie Jabour, *The Guardian* 25 Best Australian Books of 2021**

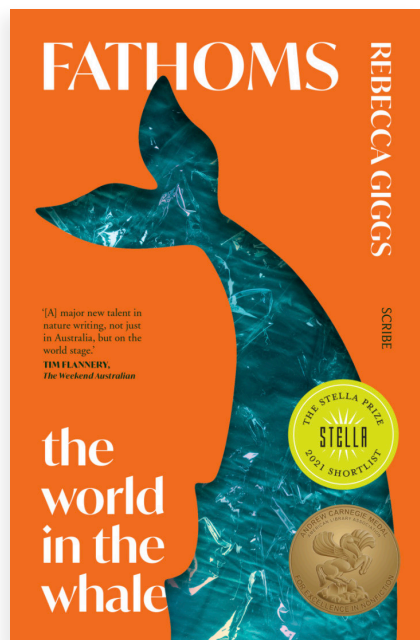
**'[S]hould be mandatory reading material for all emerging and current cops ... Women who have historically been silenced: now more than ever, we need to be reading their stories.' Jessie Tu, *The Sydney Morning Herald***



Rebecca Giggs

## Fathoms

the world in the whale



NARRATIVE NONFICTION/NATURE

April 2020

368pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold: North American (S&S); Italian (Aboca Edizioni); Korean (BADA Publishing); Slovakian (IKAR); Chinese (Simplified) (Shanghai 99); Spanish (Capitan Swing)

REBECCA GIGGS is a writer from Perth, Western Australia. Her work has been widely published, including in *Best Australian Essays*, *Best Australian Science Writing*, *Best Australian Stories*, *Granta*, *Aeon*, *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and the *Griffith Review*. Rebecca's nonfiction focuses on how people feel about, and feel for, animals in a time of technological change and ecological crisis.

- Winner of the 2021 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence
- Winner of the 2020 NIB Literary Award
- Shortlisted for the 2021 Stella Prize
- Highly Commended in the Wainwright Prize for writing on Global Conservation
- Shortlisted for the 2021 PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing award
- Shortlisted for the 2020 *Kirkus* prize for nonfiction.

**In the spirit of Rachel Carson and John Berger, *Fathoms* is a work of profound insight and wonder, marking the arrival of an essential new voice in narrative nonfiction.**

When Rebecca Giggs encountered a humpback whale stranded on her local beach, she began to wonder how the lives of whales might shed light on the condition of our seas. How do whales experience environmental change? Has our connection to these fabled animals been transformed by technology? What future awaits us, and them? And what does it mean to write about nature in the midst of an ecological crisis?

In *Fathoms: the world in the whale*, Giggs blends natural history, philosophy, and science to explore these questions with clarity and hope, providing us with a powerful, surprising, and compelling view of some of the most urgent issues of our time.

'*Fathoms* is perhaps the finest book written about whales since *Moby Dick* was published 170 years ago.' ***New York Review of Books***

'Earns its place in the pantheon of classics of the new golden age of environmental writing.' ***LitHub***

'Masterly.' ***The New Yorker***

'Widens the aperture of our attention with a literary style so stunning that the reader may forget to blink.' ***The Wall Street Journal***

'The book is a masterpiece ... If a whale warrants a pause, then *Fathoms* warrants many.' **Tim Flannery**

'[A] delving, haunted, and poetic debut.' ***The New York Times Book Review***

'A thoughtful, ambitiously crafted appeal for the preservation of marine mammals.' ***Kirkus*, starred review**



Nathan Mete

## Retro Sydney 1950-2000



PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORY  
October 2023  
160pp  
Rights held: World

**This collection of beautiful photographs invites you to immerse yourself in the cool, quirky, glamorous, exciting, menacing, wonderful times of Retro Sydney.**

Sydney, Australia is one of the world's most popular tourist destinations, and this collection of photographs celebrates its vibrant and exciting coming of age in the postwar 'golden era' from 1950 until 2000.

From the bustling heart of the CBD, the quaint suburbia of the outer suburbs, and the fashionable streets of Double Bay, to the seedy and glamorous Kings Cross, and the carefree beachside suburbs of Sydney, *Retro Sydney* captures the city's most significant postwar milestones, and highlights its development and transformation into an international metropolis.

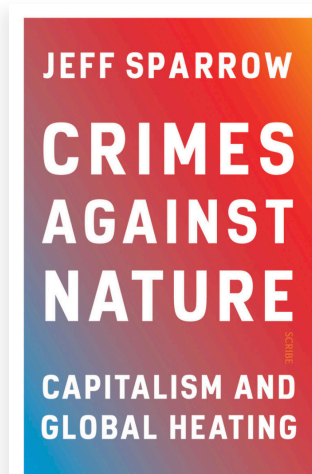
Adapted from the highly popular 'Retro Sydney' Instagram account, this collection is a celebration of Sydney. It allows us to behold iconic sights and scenes — some as they were, and some as they still are, generations later. .

*Retro Sydney* is the perfect gift for anyone who has loved or lived in Sydney.

NATHAN METE is a civil engineer from the Northern Beaches of Sydney with a keen interest in the postwar history of Sydney, and founder of the popular Instagram page @retrosydney, which has attracted over 100,000 followers. You can preview some of the interesting and wonderful past of Sydney at @retrosydney\_ on Instagram.

Jeff Sparrow

## Crimes Against Nature



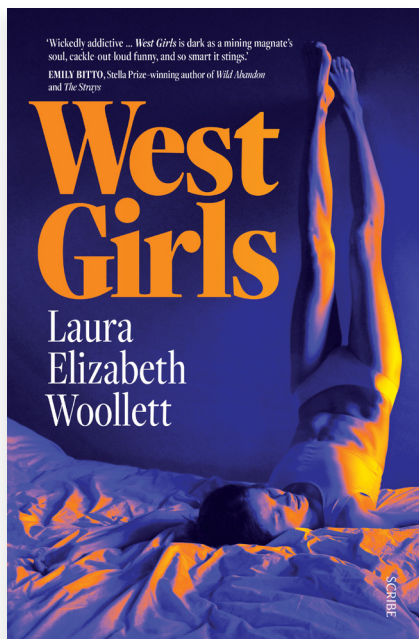
CLIMATE CHANGE  
November 2021  
240pp  
Rights held: World

- **Shortlisted for the 2023 NSW Premier's Literary Awards Douglas Stewart Prize for Nonfiction**

**A polemic about global warming and the environmental crisis, which argues that ordinary people have consistently opposed the destruction of nature, and provide an untapped constituency for climate action.**

Sparrow offers a very different take on the most important issue of our time. Inverting the familiar narrative about global warming — the one in which we are all to blame — this book shows how, again and again, pollution and ecological devastation have been imposed on the population without our consent and (often) against our will. From histories of destruction, it distils stories of hope, highlighting the repeated yearning for a more sustainable world. In the era of climate strikes, viral outbreaks, and Extinction Rebellion, *Crimes Against Nature* moves from ancient Australia to the 'corpse economy' of Georgian Britain to the 'Kitchen Debate' of the Cold War, to present an unexpected and optimistic environmental history — one that identifies ordinary people not as a collective problem but as a powerful force for change.

JEFF SPARROW is a writer, editor, broadcaster, and Walkley Award-winning journalist. He is a columnist for *The Guardian Australia*, a former Breakfast at Melbourne's 3RRR, and a past editor of *Overland* literary journal. His most recent books are *Fascists Among Us: online hate and the Christchurch massacre*; *Trigger Warnings: political correctness and the rise of the right*; and *No Way But This: in search of Paul Robeson*. He lectures at the Centre for Advancing Journalism at the University of Melbourne.



### LITERARY FICTION

August 2023

256pp

Rights held: World

LAURA ELIZABETH WOOLLETT is the author of *The Love of a Bad Man* (2016), *Beautiful Revolutionary* (2018), and *The Newcomer* (2021). *The Love of a Bad Man* was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction and the Ned Kelly Award for Best First Fiction. *Beautiful Revolutionary* was shortlisted for the 2019 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Fiction, the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal, and the Kathleen Mitchell Award. In 2017, Laura was an Asialink Artist-in-Residence at Komunitas Salihara in Jakarta. She was the 2020 City of Melbourne Boyd Garret Writer-in-Residence and a 2020-22 Marten Bequest Scholar for Prose. She grew up in Boorloo/ Perth and now lives in Naarm/ Melbourne.

### • Longlisted for the 2024 Stella Prize

**A bold and ambitious collection of interlinked stories, in the vein of Bernardine Evaristo and Jennifer Egan.**

*I chose the jagged rocks, the broken bones, the spattered brains.  
I chose beauty. I'd choose it again.*

Luna Lewis is white. But her friends aren't, nor are her brothers, nor her one-time Princess of Indonesia-finalist stepmother. After transforming from pudgy preteen to 'exotic' beauty, Luna reinvents herself as 'Luna Lu' and takes her ticket out of the most isolated city on earth. However, as her international modelling career approaches its expiry date, Luna must grapple with what she's sacrificed – and who she's become – in her mission to conquer the world.

Featuring an intersecting cast of glamour-hungry schoolgirls, WAGs, mining heiresses, backpacker-barmaids, and cosmetic nurses, *West Girls* examines beauty, race, class divisions, and social mobility. It's also a devastating catalogue of the myriad, inventive ways in which women love and hurt one another.

- Perfect for readers of Emma Cline
- Interlinked stories as compelling and page-turning as they are socially conscious and psychologically acute, with dual literary and commercial appeal
- Teenage girlhood, female desire, and complex, flawed women take centre stage, but not in the ways we usually encounter them in fiction. Woollett's work is dazzlingly unpredictable
- Set largely in and around Perth, Western Australia, but spans the globe, from Malta and Tunisia to Jakarta and London

'Woollett's extraordinary talent is to make the "real" more grotesque than the satire, and to infuse every sentence with her poet's vision and every character with a true melancholy and flawed humanity.'

**Alice Pung, author of *One Hundred Days***

'What a talent! It's rare indeed to find a book this intelligent and this wickedly addictive. *West Girls* is dark as a mining magnate's soul, cackle-out-loud funny, and so smart it stings. Ah-mazing.'

**Emily Bitto, author of *The Strays***

'Whilst subverting assumptions of fixed identities, [Woollett] poses uneasy questions around cultural appropriation, racially and sexually structured gaze under capitalism, and disciplined bodies.'

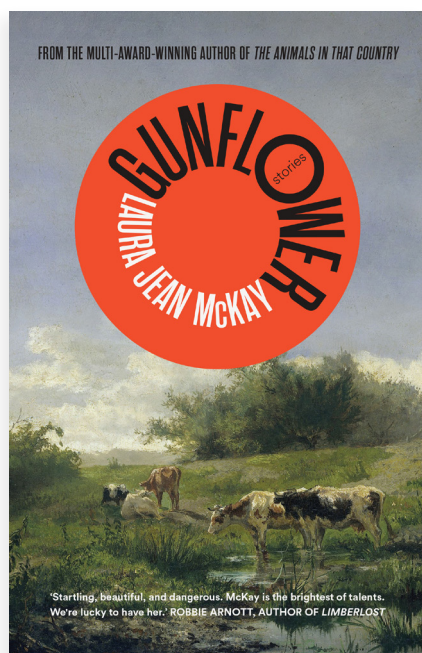
**Intan Paramaditha, author of *The Wandering***

'Stylish and sophisticated ... a self-assured and supremely talented writer, and the social and cultural subject matter of her novel sets it apart.'

**Liz Evans, *The Conversation***

Laura Jean McKay

## Gunflower



LITERARY FICTION (SHORT STORIES)  
October 2023  
256pp  
Rights held: World

LAURA JEAN MCKAY is the author of *The Animals in That Country* (2020) — winner of The Arthur C. Clarke Award, The Victorian Prize for Literature, the ABIA Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year, and co-winner of the Aurealis Award for Best Science Fiction Novel. Laura is also the author of *Holiday in Cambodia* (Black Inc., 2013). She was awarded the NZSA Waitangi Day Literary Honours in 2022.

**The brilliant new short story collection from the Arthur C. Clarke Award-winning author of *The Animals in That Country*.**

A family of cat farmers gets the chance to set the felines free. A group of chickens tells it like it is. A female-crewed ship ploughs through the patriarchy. A support group finds solace in a world without men.

With her trademark humour, energy, and flair, McKay offers glimpses into places where dreams subsume reality, where childhood restarts, where humans embrace their animal selves and animals talk like humans. These stories explode and bloom in mesmerising ways, showing the world both as it is and as it could be.

Charting the political, ecological, and bodily themes that are the backbone of McKay's work, this exciting new collection is set to further propel her international acclaim.

- For readers of Carmen Maria Machado and Ceridwen Dovey
- *The Animals in That Country* is an international sensation that has won, as well as the most prestigious science fiction award in the world, the Victorian Prize for Literature, the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction, the ABIA Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year award and the Aurealis Award for Best Science Fiction Novel
- *Gunflower* will further showcase McKay's signature wit, originality, and prescience

'Amidst a pile of shed skin and fur, McKay moulds a kaleidoscopic and horrifyingly real portrait of life at the fringes. By turns gritty, surreal, and absurd, *Gunflower* isn't afraid to weigh flesh on the scales of our own judgments, a delicate balancing act between life and death, connection and disconnection. Perhaps part Kelly Link and Ottessa Moshfegh, McKay delivers an assured follow-up to *The Animals in That Country* in her own singular voice that zeroes in on our anxieties and existential crises with deft and often poetic flair.' **Sequoia Nagamatsu, bestselling author of *How High We Go in the Dark***

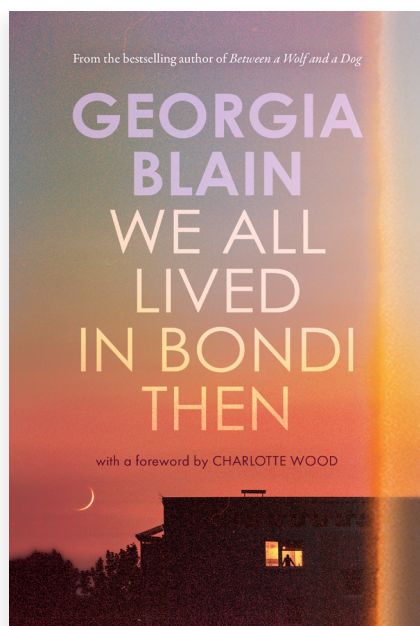
'Both extends and deepens the achievement of *Animals* ... underlines not just the significant intellectual project underpinning McKay's work, but also the exuberant variety of her range as a writer.' **James Bradley, *The Saturday Paper***

'Startling, beautiful, and dangerous. McKay is the brightest of talents. We're lucky to have her.' **Robbie Arnott, author of *Limberlost***



Georgia Blain

## We All Lived in Bondi Then



LITERARY FICTION (SHORT STORIES)

January 2024

176pp

Manuscript available

Rights held: World

GEORGIA BLAIN published novels for adults and young adults, essays, short stories, and a memoir. Her first novel was the bestselling *Closed for Winter*, which was made into a feature film. Her books have been shortlisted for numerous awards including the NSW, Victorian, and SA Premiers' Literary Awards, the ALS Gold Medal, the Stella Prize, and the Nita B. Kibble Award.

Georgia's works include *The Secret Lives of Men*, *Too Close to Home*, and the YA novel *Darkwater*. In 2016, Georgia published *Between a Wolf and a Dog* and the YA novel *Special* (Penguin Random House Australia). *Between a Wolf and a Dog* was shortlisted for the 2017 Stella Prize, and was awarded the 2017 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction and the 2016 University of Queensland Fiction Book Award. Georgia passed away in December 2016.

**From the author of the multi-award-winning bestseller *Between a Wolf and a Dog*, a powerful collection of previously unpublished stories.**

A sister is haunted by the consequences of a simple mistake. A daughter searches for certainty as her mother's memory degrades. An encounter at a house party changes the course of a life.

In *We All Lived in Bondi Then*, beloved Australian author Georgia Blain returns to her resonant themes of relationships and family, illness and health, love and death. Composed in Blain's final years, these nine stories grapple with large questions on a human scale, brimming with her trademark acuity, nuance, and warmth.

- A new collection from a beloved and much-missed Australian author, which is sure to delight fans of her previous work and win her new readers, too
- Contains the last complete stories that Blain wrote, and will be the final book of new material to be published. It will be preceded by a new edition of the bestselling and multi-award-winning *Between a Wolf and a Dog*

### Praise for *Between a Wolf and a Dog*

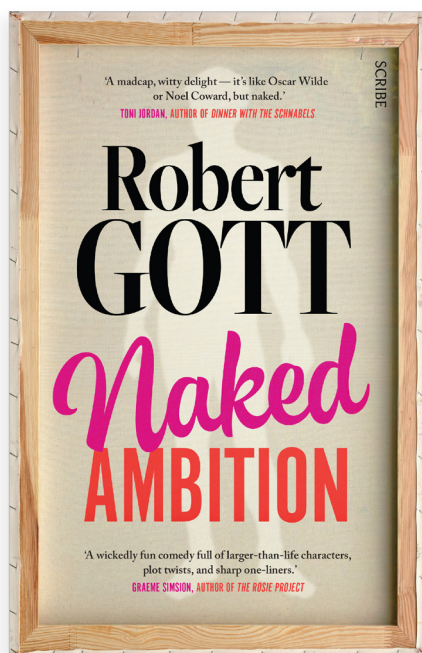
'Blain just gets better and better. The clarity, warmth and precision of *Between a Wolf and a Dog* brings to mind the formal beauty of an exquisitely cut gemstone. Blain looks at the big questions — mortality, grief, forgiveness — through the lens of one family's everyday struggle to love each other. This portrait of marriage and work, of sisterhood, mothers, and daughters is resolute and clear-eyed; so commanding and beautifully written it made me cry.' **Charlotte Wood, author of *The Natural Way of Things***

'An elegantly told story describing the ambiguities within human relationships. Each evening, when my children slept, I would enter the world of this book — coming to know a flawed, courageous, and creative family of characters, as they struggled to be good, to be whole, and finally, to let go.' **Sofie Laguna, author of *The Eye of the Sheep***

'Blain is a writer of such lucidity and strength that her characters speak, undeniably, for themselves ... everything in the novel is heartfelt without being in the least sentimental.' **Dorothy Johnson, *Sydney Morning Herald***

Robert Gott

## Naked Ambition



FICTION  
May 2023  
240pp  
Rights held: World

ROBERT GOTT was born in the Queensland town of Maryborough in 1957, and lives in Melbourne. He has published many books for children, and is also the creator of the newspaper cartoon *The Adventures of Naked Man*. He is the author of the William Power series of crime-caper novels set in 1940s Australia, comprising *Good Murder*, *A Thing of Blood*, *Amongst the Dead*, and *The Serpent's Sting*, and of the Murders series, comprising *The Holiday Murders*, *The Port Fairy Murders*, *The Autumn Murders*, and *The Orchard Murders*.

**‘You’re a politician, a public figure. What on earth were you thinking?’**

Up-and-coming junior politician Gregory Buchanan has had his portrait painted by the acclaimed artist Sophie White — a painting she intends to enter in this year’s Archibald Prize, a prestigious award for portraiture. Gregory has hung it proudly on his dining room wall. It’s a life-sized portrait, practically photographic in nature. And it’s a nude.

His wife will be home soon and he thinks the painting will be a pleasant surprise. Another surprise comes in the form of an unexpected group of guests — his sardonic mother, his fundamentalist mother-in-law, his lesbian sister, and the state premier, Louisa Wetherly, who announces that a senior minister has just resigned in scandalous circumstances, and she needs Gregory to step into the spotlight ahead of the coming election.

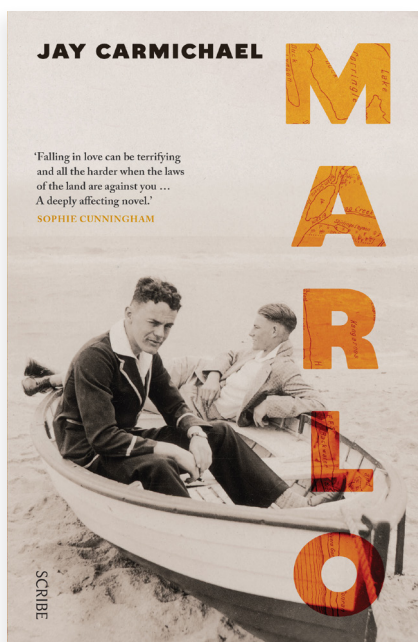
It’s going to be a wild afternoon, and an even wilder campaign — to harness Gregory’s naked ambition.

- Featuring the wit of Oscar Wilde and the political sensibility of *Yes Minister*
- An uproarious comedy of modern manners, skewering ambition, vanity, marriages of convenience, contemporary art, and religious fundamentalism
- Gott is the author of the acclaimed Murders series, and has earned a reputation as a master of plot and suspense, but here he turns his prodigious talents to a contemporary comedy

‘A madcap, witty delight — it’s like Oscar Wilde or Noel Coward, but naked.’ **Toni Jordan, author of *Dinner With The Schnabels* and *Prettier If She Smiled More***

‘A wickedly fun novel full of larger-than-life characters, plot twists, and sharp one-liners.’ **Graeme Simsion, author of *The Rosie Project***

‘*Naked Ambition* is witty and full of laughs; readers looking for offbeat entertainment will find it here.’ **Chris Saliba, *Books+Publishing***



LITERARY FICTION

August 2022

160pp

Rights held: World

JAY CARMICHAEL is a writer and editor. His first novel, *Ironbark*, was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Award for an Unpublished Manuscript in 2016. His writing has been published by Beyond Blue and has appeared widely in print and online, including in *Overland*, *The Guardian*, *SBS*, and The Telling Tree project. Jay lives and works in Melbourne.

- Winner of the 2023 *Sydney Morning Herald* Best Young Australian Novelist Award

**The stunning new novel from the author of *Ironbark*, for readers of Patricia Highsmith.**

It's the 1950s in conservative Australia, and Christopher, a young gay man, moves to 'the City' to escape the repressive atmosphere of his tiny hometown. Once there, however, he finds it is censorial and punitive in its own way.

When Christopher meets Morgan, the two fall in love — a love that breathes truth back into Christopher's stifled life. But the society around them remains rigid and unchanging, and what begins as a refuge for both men inevitably buckles as they navigate a world that wants them to refuse what they are. Will their devotion be enough to keep them together?

Reviving a time that is still so recent yet so vastly different from now, Jay Carmichael has drawn on archival material, snippets of newspaper articles, and photos to illustrate the environment in which these two men lived and loved. Told with Carmichael's ear for sparse, poetic beauty, *Marlo* takes us into the landscape of a relationship defined as much by what is said and shared as by what has to remain unsaid.

- Explores the claustrophobia of queer life in a hostile era, in the vein of Patricia Highsmith
- Featuring photographs from the Australian Queer Archives
- Carmichael is a distinctive young talent whose work has already won widespread critical acclaim

'Falling in love can be terrifying and all the harder when the laws of the land are against you. *Marlo* is a deeply affecting novel; tender and brutal by turn.' **Sophie Cunningham, author of *This Devastating Fever***

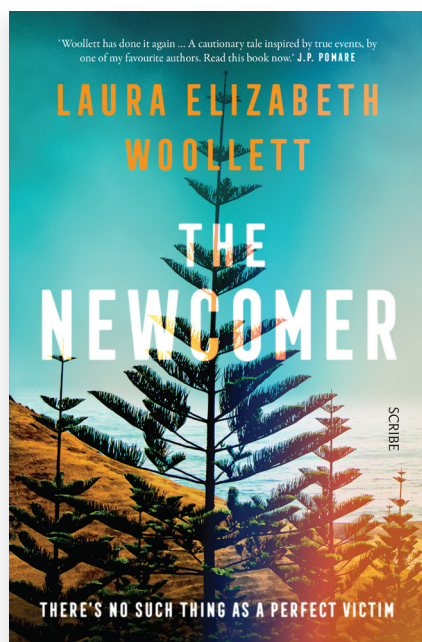
'What's most striking about *Marlo* is its quiet dignity, the lightness of touch with which Carmichael tells this story, which is about recognition and discovery as much as it is about love ... Carmichael's reclaiming of a sidelined history is defiantly hopeful too, resisting tragedy and seeking out forgotten joys instead.' **Fiona Wright, author of *Small Acts of Disappearance***

'Even in its brevity, *Marlo* offers a glorious peek into historical gaps that were far from uninhabited.' **Stephen A. Russell, *The Saturday Paper***



Laura Elizabeth Woollett

## The Newcomer



LITERARY FICTION/CRIME

July 2021

368pp

Rights held: World

Film rights optioned  
(Endemol/Shine)

LAURA ELIZABETH WOOLLETT is the author of *The Love of a Bad Man* (2016), *Beautiful Revolutionary* (2018), and *The Newcomer* (2021). *The Love of a Bad Man* was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction and the Ned Kelly Award for Best First Fiction. *Beautiful Revolutionary* was shortlisted for the 2019 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Fiction, the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal, and the Kathleen Mitchell Award. In 2017, Laura was an Asialink Artist-in-Residence at Komunitas Salihara in Jakarta. She was the 2020 City of Melbourne Boyd Garret Writer-in-Residence and a 2020-22 Marten Bequest Scholar for Prose. She grew up in Boorloo/ Perth and now lives in Naarm/ Melbourne.

### There's no such thing as a perfect victim.

In a hotel room on a sleepy Pacific island, Judy Novak waits. And worries. It isn't the first time 29-year-old problem child Paulina has kept her mother waiting. But Judy can't ignore the island's jagged cliffs and towering pines — or the dread that Paulina has finally acted on her threats to take her own life.

When Paulina's body is discovered, Judy's worst fears seem confirmed. Only, Paulina didn't kill herself. She was murdered.

So begins a thorny investigation, wherein every man on the island is a suspect yet none are as maligned as Paulina: the captivating newcomer known for her hard drinking, disastrous relationships, and habit of walking alone.

But, above all, Paulina is her mother's daughter. And death won't stop Judy Novak from fighting for Paulina's life.

Based on a real-life murder, *The Newcomer* is a compulsive psychological drama that subverts crime tropes to interrogate the true aftermath and injustice of murder and the societal complicity in gendered violence.

- Film rights optioned with Endemol/Shine for a limited television series
- Perfect for readers of Jacqueline Bublitz and Emily Maguire
- A gripping page-turner with a unique structure, that will leave readers questioning their own judgments and perceptions

'A cleverly written, gripping read that takes the classic crime fiction format and flips it by asking, what happens when the unlikeable victim is murdered?' **Zoya Patel, *The Canberra Times***

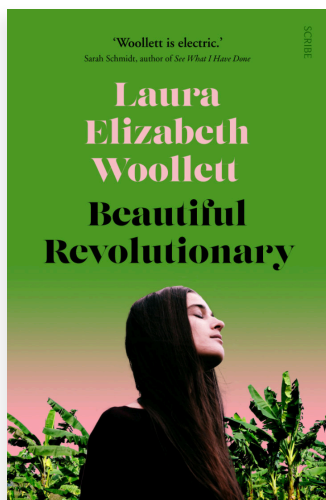
'Haunting. Raw. Compulsive. I can't stop thinking about it.'  
**Anna Snoekstra, author of *Only Daughter***

'[M]anipulates the structure of the crime novel, the suspense of the whodunnit, to destabilise the idea that there is ever one perpetrator of a crime ... weaving together a story of grief and unhappiness with a compelling crime narrative.' **Bec Kavanagh, *The Guardian***

'Unlike many crime novels, the victim sits at the heart of *The Newcomer*. Woollett shows deep empathy for her characters, while delivering an immersive, utterly gripping story.' **Mark Brandi, author of *Wimmera***

'With a fast-paced narrative and a complex central character, this is a searing exploration of sexual violence and victimhood.' **Catherine Noske, author of *The Salt Madonna***

Laura Elizabeth  
Woollett



LITERARY FICTION  
July 2018  
416pp  
Rights held: World

## Beautiful Revolutionary

- Shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Award for Fiction, the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal, and the Kathleen Mitchell Award

In the summer of 1968, Evelyn Lynden is at war with herself. Minister's daughter. Atheist. Independent woman. Frustrated wife. Following her conscientious-objector husband Lenny to Evergreen Valley, California, Evelyn wants to be happy. Yet as the world is rocked by warfare and political assassinations, by racial discrimination and social upheaval, she finds herself disillusioned with Lenny's passive ways — and anxious for a saviour. Enter the Reverend Jim Jones, dynamic leader of a revolutionary church called the Peoples Temple. As Evelyn grows closer to Jones, her marriage is just the first casualty of his rise to power. Meticulously researched, elegantly written, and utterly engrossing, *Beautiful Revolutionary* explores the allure of the real-life charismatic leader who would destroy so many.

'Woollett turns a dark chapter in US history into a deeply human, satisfying read for fans of Emma Cline's *The Girls*.' **Booklist**

'[An] utterly intoxicating portrait of the lives of those seeking to build something new in a world that seemed to be losing its mind ... weaves a suspenseful and complex story about people — of their dreams, beliefs, ideals, and lives all coming to a horrific end.' **Sarah Schmidt, author of *See What I Have Done***

'If you loved *The Girls* or Netflix's *Wild Wild Country*, this one's for you.' **Elle**

Laura Elizabeth  
Woollett



LITERARY FICTION (SHORT  
STORIES)  
August 2016  
240pp  
Rights held: World  
Film rights optioned (Diga  
Studios)

## The Love of a Bad Man

- Shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction and the Ned Kelly Award for Best First Fiction

A schoolgirl catches the eye of the future leader of Nazi Germany. An aspiring playwright writes to a convicted serial killer, seeking inspiration. A pair of childhood sweethearts reunite to commit rape and murder. A devoted Mormon wife follows her husband into the wilderness after he declares himself a prophet.

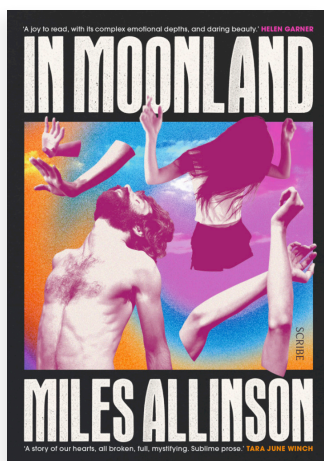
The twelve stories in *The Love of a Bad Man* imagine the lives of real women, all of whom were the lovers, wives, or mistresses of various 'bad' men in history. Beautifully observed, fascinating, and at times horrifying, the stories interrogate power, the nature of obsession, and the lengths some women will go to for the men they love.

'Like Helen Garner, Laura Woollett is impelled to explore the darkest corners of the human heart, the savage cognitive distortions of love; to understand and empathise with the monstrous, rather than to instinctively recoil or judge ... Woollett's pitch-perfect command of narrative voice, period, and psychology creates 12 tales to fascinate and unsettle.' **The Age**

'*The Love of a Bad Man* is a rare combination of immense writing talent and wondrous imagination. You've never read a book quite like this one.' **Jeff Guinn, author of *Go Down Together* and *Manson***



Miles Allinson



LITERARY FICTION  
August 2021  
256pp  
Rights held: World

## In Moonland

• Winner of the 2022 Age Book of the Year Award

**A sharp, wry, darkly probing reflection on intergenerational bonds, technological and environmental dystopias, and the search for belonging in a rapidly changing world. For readers of Ben Lerner and anyone fascinated by cults.**

In present-day Melbourne, a man attempts to piece together the mystery of his father's apparent suicide, as his young family slowly implodes. At the ashram of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, in 1976, a man searching for salvation confronts his capacity for violence. And in a not-too-distant future, a woman travels through a climate-ravaged landscape to visit her estranged father. *In Moonland* is a portrait of three generations, each grappling with their own mortality. Spanning the wild idealism of the 70s to the fragile hope of the future, it is a novel about the struggle for transcendence and the reverberating effects of family bonds. This long-awaited second novel from the award-winning author of *Fever of Animals* affirms his reputation as one of Australia's most interesting contemporary fiction writers.

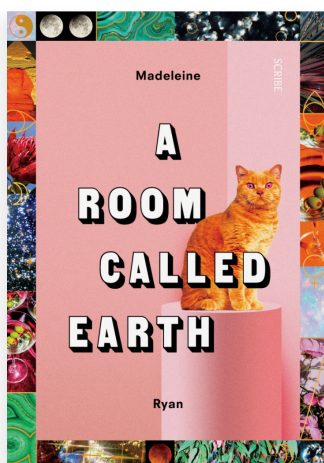
'A joy to read.' **Helen Garner**

'Observant, sublime prose.' **Tara June Winch**, award-winning author of *The Yield*

'Epic in scope ... a skilful and existential examination of humanity in the Anthropocene.' **Brad Jeffries**, *Books+Publishing*

MILES ALLINSON is a writer and an artist, and the author of the multi-award-winning novel *Fever of Animals*. He lives in Melbourne.

Madeleine Ryan



LITERARY FICTION  
March 2021  
304pp  
Rights held: World (ex.  
North America, Russia)  
Film rights optioned  
(announcement to come)

## A Room Called Earth

**A brilliant debut novel from a neurodiverse author that explores a young woman's magical, sensitive, and passionate inner world.**

A young woman gets ready to go to a party. She arrives, feels overwhelmed, leaves, and then returns. Minutely attuned to the people who come into her view, and alternating between alienation and profound connection, she is hilarious, self-aware, sometimes acerbic, and always honest. And by the end of the night, she's shown us something radical about love, loss, and the need to belong.

**Madeleine's new novel, *The Knowing*, will be published by Scribe in 2025.**

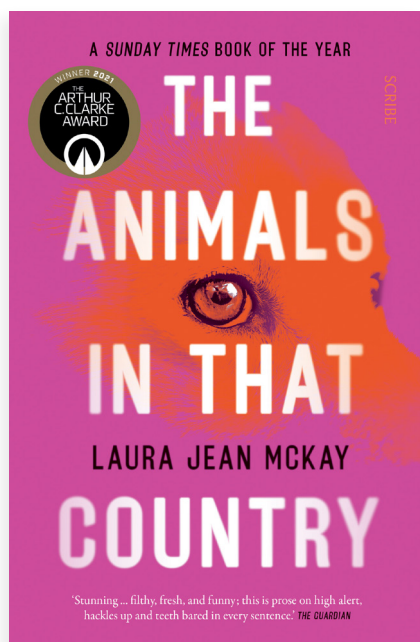
'I want every novel to be this fiercely authentic, this assured, this untethered from the status quo. Madeleine Ryan is a wholly original writer; this debut announces a tremendous talent.' **Kimberly King Parsons**, author of *Black Light*

'A delicious slice of life on the spectrum ... rather than pandering to a pathologised external gaze, Ryan's narrator evokes how many autistic people see ourselves: the normal ones in a sea of non-autistic weirdos.' **Naoise Dolan**, *The Irish Times*

MADELEINE RYAN is an Australian writer, director, and actor. She's been widely published in Australia and overseas, including in *The New York Times*, *Lenny Letter*, *Bustle*, *The Age*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *Vice*, *SBS*, and *The Sydney Morning Herald*. She currently lives in rural Victoria.

Laura Jean McKay

## The Animals in That Country



LITERARY FICTION/SCI-FI

March 2020

304pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold: Russian (Polyandria No Age); Italian (Il Margine)

Film rights optioned

LAURA JEAN MCKAY is the author of *The Animals in That Country* (2020) — winner of The Arthur C. Clarke Award, The Victorian Prize for Literature, the ABIA Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year, and co-winner of the Aurealis Award for Best Science Fiction Novel. Laura is also the author of *Holiday in Cambodia* (Black Inc., 2013). She was awarded the NZSA Waitangi Day Literary Honours in 2022.

- Winner of the 2021 Arthur C. Clarke Award, the 2021 Victorian Prize for Literature, the 2021 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction, the 2021 ABIA Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year and the Aurealis Award for Best Science Fiction Novel
- Longlisted for the Miles Franklin Award
- Shortlisted for the Stella Prize and the Readings Prize for New Australian Fiction
- A *Slate* and *Sunday Times* Book of the Year

### Out on the road, no one speaks, everything talks.

Hard-drinking, foul-mouthed, and allergic to bullshit, Jean is not your usual grandma. She's never been good at getting on with other humans, apart from her beloved granddaughter, Kimberly. Instead, she surrounds herself with animals, working as a guide in an outback wildlife park. And although Jean talks to all her charges, she has a particular soft spot for a young dingo called Sue.

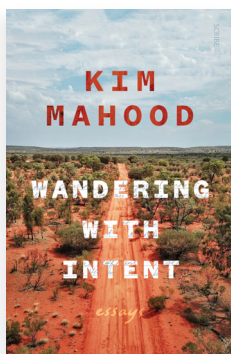
As disturbing news arrives of a pandemic sweeping the country, Jean realises this is no ordinary flu: its chief symptom is that its victims begin to understand the language of animals. As the flu progresses, the unstoppable voices become overwhelming, and many people begin to lose their minds, including Jean's infected son, Lee. When he takes off with Kimberly, heading south, Jean feels the pull to follow her kin.

Setting off on their trail, with Sue the dingo riding shotgun, they find themselves in a stark, strange world in which the animal apocalypse has only further isolated people from other species. Bold, exhilarating, and wholly original, *The Animals in That Country* asks what would happen, for better or worse, if we finally understood what animals were saying.

*'The Animals in That Country' will be the wildest ride you take all year.'*  
**Maria Takolander, *The Saturday Paper***

*'[A] game-changing, life-changing novel ... Compulsively readable and yet also pushing the boundaries of what is possible in terms of language and narrative, this is a brilliant and disturbing book that will make you rethink everything you thought you understood about non-human animal sentience and agency.'* **Ceridwen Dovey, author of *Only the Animals***

*'A wildly inventive dystopian adventure ... Both a hell of a ride and a revealing thought experiment about our place in the natural world.'*  
**Dan Kois, *Slate***

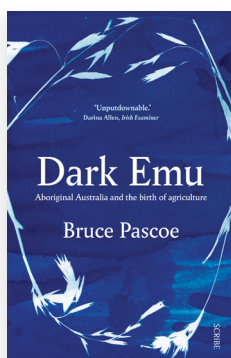


## Wandering With Intent

Kim Mahood

In these finely observed, probing essays, award-winning writer Kim Mahood invites us on the road and into the remote places of Australia where she is engaged in long-established collaborations of mapping, storytelling, and placemaking. Celebrated as one of the few Australian writers who both lives within and can articulate the complexities and tensions that arise in the spaces between Aboriginal and settler Australia, Mahood writes passionately and eloquently about the things that capture her senses and demand her attention — art, country, people, and writing. At once a testament to personal freedom and a powerful argument for Indigenous self-determination.

**November 2022, 272pp Rights held: World**



## Dark Emu

Bruce Pascoe

Long before the arrival of white men, Aboriginal people across the continent were building dams; planting, irrigating, harvesting, and preserving surplus; creating elaborate cemeteries; and manipulating the landscape. In this seminal book, Pascoe reveals that Aboriginal systems of land management have been blatantly understated in modern retellings of early Aboriginal history, which have served to justify dispossession. A new look at Australia's past is required, for the benefit of us all. **Over 260,000 copies sold in Australia alone.**

**May 2018, 288pp Rights held: World (ex. ANZ and Japan) Rights sold: French (Editions Petra); Chinese (Simplified) (Fudan University Press); Spanish (Capitan Swing)**

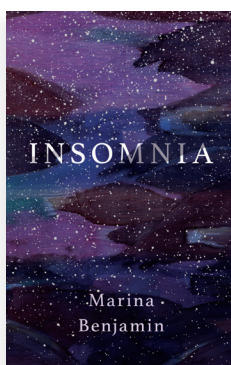


## Higher Sobriety

Jill Stark

Jill Stark started a conversation about the role of alcohol in our lives, turning the lens on her own relationship with booze and its cultural context. Ten years later, she fills in the gaps on where life took her after she unwittingly became the poster girl for sobriety. Jill charts her journey of sober self-discovery, and looks at how the global pandemic accelerated a shift in drinking habits, with the rise of the sober-curious movement and a booming non-alcoholic drinks industry. Jill embraces the joy of life without alcohol, and meets a new generation of sober rebels who are radically redefining what it means to be alcohol-free, raising the question, *has sobriety become cool?*

**January 2023, 352pp Rights held: World**



## Insomnia

Marina Benjamin

In a bravura piece of writing, Marina Benjamin has produced an unsettling account of an unsettling condition that treats our inability to sleep not as a disorder, but as an existential experience that can electrify our understanding of ourselves, and of creativity and love.

**October 2018, 144pp Rights held: World Rights sold: Chinese (Simplified) (CITIC Press); Turkish (Cinar Yayinlari); Korean (The Korean Economic Daily and Business Publications); Spanish (Chai Editora); Vietnamese (1980Books)**



## Life So Full of Promise

Ross McMullin

Ross McMullin again combines prodigious research and narrative flair in this sequel to the award-winning *Farewell, Dear People*. The death of 60,000 Australian soldiers during World War I was a catastrophic loss. McMullin's second multi-biography about this lost generation features a collection of interwoven stories set in that defining era. The extended biographies give prominence not only to those who died, but also to their families and friends. The rich cast of characters includes an eminent newspaper editor who kept his community informed about the war; a soldier's mother who became a political activist; and a versatile top-level sportsman. McMullin's storytelling is illuminating and profoundly moving, shedding light on the true scale of destruction in war.

**April 2023, 608pp Rights held: World**



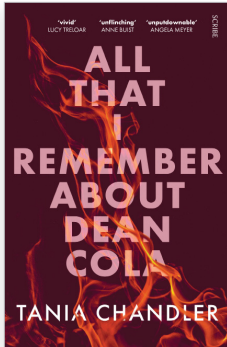


## Two-Week Wait

Luke and Kelly Jackson

A graphic novel based on the IVF stories of its husband-and-wife authors and the 1-in-50 couples like them, taking us intimately into the lives of their characters in a way that only fiction can. Illustrations render the story in expressive, dynamic art reminiscent of Alison Bechdel. Conrad and Joanne met in university and became inseparable. It felt like they had all the time in the world. Yet when they are ready to have kids, they find that getting pregnant isn't always easy. Ahead lies a difficult journey into assisted fertility. They experience highs and lows, tears and laughter in this sensitive but unflinching portrayal of the hope and heartbreak offered by modern medicine.

May 2021, 160pp Rights held: World



## All That I Remember About Dean Cola

Tania Chandler

Sidney is happily married to her firefighter husband and thinking about having a child, but her life has been marred by psychotic breakdowns, starting with the aftermath of a fire that disfigured her hands as a teenager. Haunted by memories of Dean Cola — the teenage crush who is an essential piece of the puzzle that is her past — she returns to the town where she grew up. Something unthinkable happened there, but is she strong enough to face it?

June 2021, 304pp Rights held: World

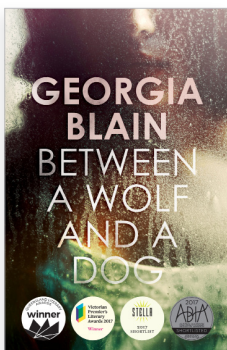


## Baby

Annaleese Jochems

Cynthia is twenty-one and desperately waiting for something big to happen; her fitness instructor Anahera is ready to throw in the towel on her job and marriage. With stolen money and a dog in tow they run away and buy 'Baby', an old boat docked in a beautiful bay, where Cynthia dreams they will live in a state of love. But strange events on an empty island turn their life in a different direction. A psychological thriller of obsession and escape by one of the most exciting new voices in NZ fiction.

March 2019, 272pp Rights held: World (ex. New Zealand)



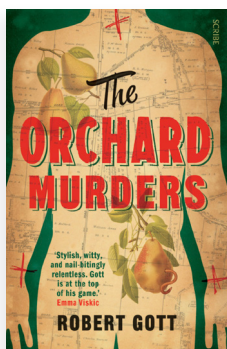
## Between a Wolf and a Dog

Georgia Blain

• **Winner — 2017 Victorian Premier's Literary Award; Shortlisted — 2017 Stella Prize**

Ester is a family therapist; her appointment book catalogues the anxieties of the middle class: loneliness, relationships, death. Her own relationships are tense and frayed. Estranged from both her sister, April, and her ex-husband, Lawrence, Ester wants to fall in love again. April is struggling through her own directionless life; Lawrence's reckless past decisions are catching up with him; and Ester and April's mother, Hilary, is about to make a choice that will profoundly affect them all.

March 2016, 272pp Rights held: World



## The Orchard Murders

Robert Gott

The fourth novel in Robert Gott's acclaimed Murders series, *The Orchard Murders* is a novel about revenge, obsession, and the dangerous gullibility of religious fanatics, set in Melbourne during the dark days of the Second World War.

'Aficionados of all that's hard-boiled will thrill to the frisson.' *Australian Financial Review*

August 2021, 304pp Rights held: World

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