Reading*Guide*

Curated by Australia's leading independent booksellers

Handpicked new books for every kind of reader

Introducing Penguin Modern Australian Classics

WIN
the complete set!

Not to miss

New novels by:
Meg Mason, Rachel Cusk, Holly Ringland, Emily St. John Mandel

Featured:
Australian debuts and emerging writing

Featured:
Non-Fiction that matters

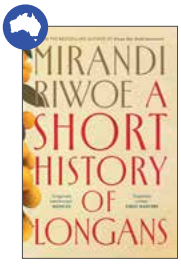
LOVE YOUR BOOK SHOP

Australian Fiction

Welcome to the new edition of our Reading Guide!

Discover a thoughtfully curated selection of the season's most exciting new books, chosen and reviewed by Australia's leading booksellers. From compelling Australian and international fiction to fascinating biographies, history, science, children's books and young adult favourites, there is something here for every reader. Whether you're refreshing the stack beside your bed or searching for a meaningful gift, your local independent bookseller is ready to help you find the perfect match.

Happy reading!

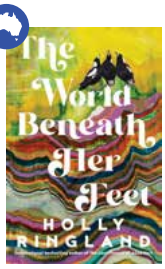


A Short History of Longans

Mirandi Riwoe

UQP
TPB $34.99

A Short History of Longans is an expansive story about memory, connection and our desire to belong. Weaving deftly through time from 2049 to the mid-nineteenth century, we trace the roots of an Irish-Chinese family spanning four generations. Riwoe writes with empathy, wit and radiant prose to reveal a fine reckoning of Australian identity.



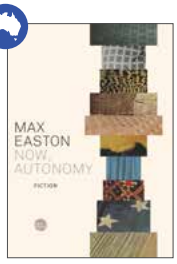
The World Beneath Her Feet

Holly Ringland

4th Estate
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Set between London and southeast Queensland, this lush, immersive book is Maggie Byrd's story; who she was at 16 and who she has become two decades on. Belonging and love, memory and forgiveness, geology and generations of friendly magpies—it is a luminous and deeply moving novel from bestselling author Holly Ringland.

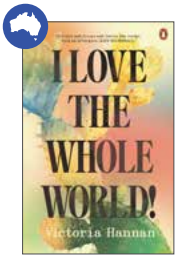


Now, Autonomy

Max Easton

Giramondo Publishing
PB $32.95

Max Easton's third novel continues his portrait of working-class life in subcultures and music scenes, exploring intergenerational political solidarity, and the ever-present risk of disillusionment under the heavy hand of the state. Lives intertwine through the underground punk scenes of Sydney, a rising protest movement, and the endless effort to find a creatively fulfilling life.



I Love the Whole World!

Victoria Hannan

Penguin
TPB $34.99

When Leslie wins a trip to Vegas, the holiday becomes a pilgrimage; one that leads her back to joy, back to herself, and to the astonishing realisation that her life still belongs to her. Hilarious, joyous and celebratory, this is a novel about friendship, ageing and the powerful act of deciding to begin again.

The Vape Lord of Queanbeyan

Omar Musa

Penguin
TPB $34.99

A surrealist collection of tales spanning seas, lands and local Queanbeyan. A woman battles her hatred and attraction to AI; two lovers secretly meet in a cafe but have never seen each other; and a dying woman returns home for a final dance. An aching collection that defies easy answers and leaves you eager for more.

Worry Doll

Laura McPhee-Browne

Scribe Publications
PB $29.99

On an ordinary day, two women meet on a train. Heloise lives with her boyfriend in Melbourne. Lacey is from Aotearoa and studies the clouds. What follows is a passionate affair that will consume them both in mismatched, obsessive, all-consuming and maddening ways. A propulsive examination of desire, memory, and the delusion of love.

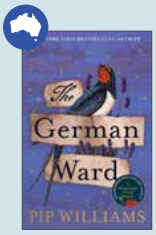
Mine

Adam Ouston

Transit Lounge
HB $34.99

In *Mine*, we follow an unnamed poet and climate defender trapped and alone in an abandoned mine. Written in one, very long, stream of conscious sentence, you're placed firmly in the spiralling mind of the poet, whose thoughts flow through the horrifying history of Tasmania's past; the loss and devastation of the state's magnificent environment, and the eco-explorers that have come before him.

Coming Soon



The German Ward

Pip Williams

Affirm Press
TPB $34.99

29 September release, pre-orders welcome

Partita

Barbara Kingsolver

Faber
TPB $34.99

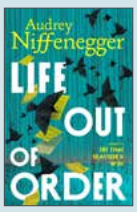
6 October release, pre-orders welcome

Peck & Peck

Bonnie Garmus

Manilla
TPB $34.99

13 October release, pre-orders welcome



Life Out of Order

Audrey Niffenegger

Jonathan Cape
TPB $36.99

6 October release, pre-orders welcome

One for Sorrow

Favel Parrett

Hachette Australia
TPB $34.99

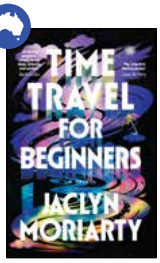
3 November release, pre-orders welcome

Big Little Truths

Liane Moriarty

Macmillan Australia
TPB $34.99

Parenting teens can be difficult, but Madeline, Jane and Celeste have been through worse. It's been a decade since the school trivia night that changed their lives forever. When an anonymous, grisly package arrives at the local high school, and a man in a green Volvo is seen lurking around the kids, everyone in their beachside community becomes uneasy. The highly anticipated sequel to global bestseller *Big Little Lies*.



Time Travel for Beginners

Jaclyn Moriarty

Ultimo Press
TPB $34.99

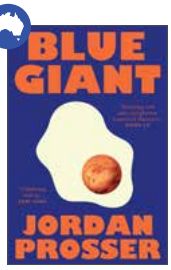
Three strangers are drawn to a mysterious Sydney agency promising the impossible: journeys into the past. What begins as a witty, quietly magical adventure unfolds into a richly layered novel, where shifting perspectives, unforgettable characters and unexpected revelations explore love, regret, second chances and the extraordinary possibilities hidden within ordinary lives.

Sophie, Standing There

Meg Mason

4th Estate
TPB $34.99

Sophie Pattison is a lovely person who works as a freelance sound technician for literary festivals. After being forced to move house, she becomes bracingly lonely and feels the absence of others. Until, that is, she discovers an author who she comes to adore, perhaps even, to love. A meeting would change everything, but the author is too famous to attend her festivals. But what if it could happen? The highly anticipated new novel by the author of *Sorrow and Bliss*.

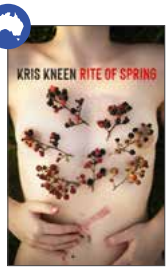


Blue Giant

Jordan Prosser

UQP
TPB $34.99

Abby Horne has always known that she was destined for things far greater than what home had to offer. So, when a tech billionaire announces his plans to colonise Mars, Abby hears destiny calling. Bursting with twists, humour and a protagonist to root for, *Blue Giant* is a satirical mirror to society's bizarre events.

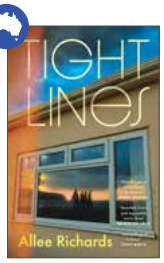


Rite of Spring

Kris Kneen

Transit Lounge
TPB $34.99

This is a bold, erotic story of transformation, set against the backdrop of the wild Tasmanian coast, as Miranda and Richard become lighthouse caretakers on a remote island, while trying to salvage their marriage. Kneen's use of language is sublime and intoxicating, taking Miranda's journey to surprising and unexpected places.



Tight Lines

Allee Richards

Summit Books
TPB $34.99

Luke, Josh and Matty live for the summer: surfing, fishing and drinking. When Millie joins their crew, life feels even sweeter. Set against the nostalgic backdrop of small-town coastal life in the 2000s, *Tight Lines* is a moving, transformational novel that explores friendship, hope and the sometimes-devastating consequences of our choices.

The Treasure House

Amy Matthews

Simon & Schuster Australia
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Needing a fresh start but short on funds, Zoe and her daughter Florence buy a ramshackle cottage in a tiny seaside town. As they clear out decades of belongings, Zoe becomes fascinated by the woman who lived there before them. Add a grumpy neighbour, a growing attraction and a few surprises, and this is a thoroughly satisfying romance.

Loneliness is a Molecule

Helena Fox

Picador Australia
PB $32.99

Helena Fox, award winning author of *How It Feels to Float*, returns with a new adult novel exploring identity, forgiveness and new beginnings. As Miri mourns a friendship, she becomes a scattered version of herself. Rome's cobblestones and ancient buildings become the background for Miri's search for identity and what it means to forgive.

Cul-de-Sac

Eleanor Limprecht

Ultimo Press
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Jacquie was living the American Dream, until she realised she wasn't. Away from her husband's tight grip, a holiday home to coastal New South Wales with the kids brings her clarity... and eventually abduction charges. As Jacquie fights to save her children, sanity and future, tension festers and limits are pushed.

Introducing Penguin Modern Australian Classics

A gorgeous new collection of some of our favourite Australian stories. These deluxe clothbound hardcovers are the perfect addition to any book lover's collection.

Whether you're looking to reconnect with a beloved favourite or hoping to discover a new one, there's something for everyone with Penguin Modern Australian Classics.

WIN: To celebrate the release of the Penguin Modern Australian Classics, and with thanks to the publisher, we are giving away three sets of the 12 titles in the series released in July and September, plus a gorgeous tote bag. To enter the competition, go to the competition page at **www.loveyourbookshop.org.au/competitions** or scan the QR on page 2.

Competition closes 31 October 2026. Terms & Conditions apply.

Australian Debut & Emerging Writing

Billie King

Shannon Kelly-White

HarperCollins
TPB $34.99

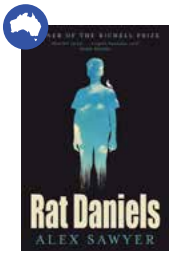
Australia's last bushranger, Dulcie James, has returned to the barren town of Orilong to enact revenge for the murder of her friend, Anna. But 12 years have passed since her disappearance and Anna's child, Billie King, is also determined to seek answers. As their two journeys collide, secrets are found in the darkest corners of the town and justice must be taken into their own hands.

The End of Romance

Maria Takolander

Text Publishing
TPB $34.99

In a future where the Earth refuses to cooperate with humanity, a mother and son are surviving as scavengers, but the son's compulsory military school and subsequent deployment to a war zone looms. Hope is found in a stranger who has avoided such a fate. An eerie and compelling dystopian masterpiece, for fans of Charlotte Wood and Cormac McCarthy.

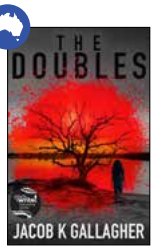


Rat Daniels

Alex Sawyer

Hachette Australia
TPB $34.99

Jimmy Quinn is only a boy when he meets Rat Daniels—and that day changes everything. Before that, Rat wasn't called Rat, and Jimmy didn't have a best friend. Mercurial, wild and rebellious, Rat is far from Jimmy's tidy world. There is a dangerous current in Rat that scares Jimmy. *Rat Daniels* is an evocative debut novel from the 2023 Richell Prize winner, Alex Sawyer.



The Doubles

Jacob K Gallagher

Hachette Australia
TPB $34.99

From black&write Fellowship winner, Jacob K Gallagher brings a genre-bending debut where children are disappearing and resurfacing dead. The Veil separating the mortal realm from the Outside is wearing thin and someone, or something, is responsible. Duo Kring and Dries must race against time to stop it, before things get worse.

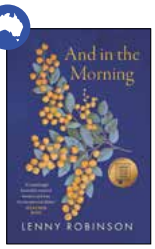
Common Places

Gillian Hagenus

UQP
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Sun-bleached streets, watchful bushland and neighbours who know too much—*Common Places* uncovers the unsettling darkness beneath everyday suburbia. A champion of the short story as writer, festival director and prize judge, Hagenus transforms the ordinary into the uncanny across fourteen suburban gothic tales.



And in the Morning

Lenny Robinson

UQP
TPB $34.99

In 1919, Lily waits for her husband to return from war. During World War II, Frankie finds love with an airman on a night's leave. Years later, Fran prepares to bury her son, killed in Vietnam. Through the lives of three Melbourne women, this debut novel illuminates the mothers, wives and lovers whose experiences are so often overlooked in stories of war.

Lovesick

Lillian Telford

HQ
TPB $32.99

Gabby and Gordon collide on a night out in Brisbane's West End, becoming instantly attracted, hoping to fill the wells of their loneliness with each other. Exploring heartbreak, insecurities and the joy that comes with relationships, every 20-something year-old will find parts of themselves within it.

Good Intentions

Jessy Wu

Macmillan Australia
TPB $34.99

Jessy Wu's debut is everything you want in a story about first love, ambition and morality. Writing for the student paper at university, Nadia and Jake are the couple with it all, fighting corruption and saving the world, that is until Nadia takes a job in venture capitalism. Insightful, funny and very romantic.

Touch Grass

Mary Colussi

Penguin
TPB $34.99

Charlie deletes other people's worst moments for a living; ironic, considering she's been trying to forget hers for years. When her consciousness starts spontaneously ejecting from her body she becomes the centre of a global crisis—one which corporations celebrate and governments fear.

Fantasy & Sci-Fi

Scion

James Islington

Text Publishing
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Meet Azure: a cybernetically enhanced assassin whose day to day involves knocking off 'Lifers', ultrawealthy individuals who have managed to extend their lives indefinitely while the poor slowly run out of resources. Think *John Wick* meets *Blade Runner* in this fast-paced cyberpunk thriller.

Massif

Garth Nix

Allen & Unwin
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

It's business as usual for Ship Leader Parnell Shi-Sawahla and the crew of the corvette *Sassafras*. Ride a Massif to a new system, fight the enemy, repeat, as humans have been doing for over two hundred years. But what's in it for the Massifs? Parnell must get answers in order to save his crew and humanity.

The Rainshadow Orphans

Naomi Ishiguro

Atria Australia
TPB $34.99

Members of a found family seek revenge on a criminal organisation for the murder of their beloved 'aunt' in this fantasy novel inspired by Japanese folklore and Studio Ghibli films. Set tightly across two days and featuring unforgettable characters, dragons, Sun Spirits, high-tech hackers and bubble tea, this is a dazzling, immersive tale.

Blightfall

Brandon Sanderson and Janci Patterson

Gollancz
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Brandon Sanderson returns to the *Skyward* universe with a thrilling adventure. On the hostile, forest-choked world of Blightfall, Arturo and his team uncover dangerous secrets, shifting loyalties and a mystery that threatens everything they fought to protect.

Cold River

Margaret Hickey

Penguin
TPB $34.99

Bestselling and Ned Kelly Award winner for *The Creeper* author Margaret Hickey takes us deep in Victoria's High Country where a young hiker has gone missing. Small communities, long held secrets, and the illegal tobacco industry has Senior Constable Sally White delving into the disappearance with an unease that only heightens when she finds out a similar case opened two years earlier. Atmospheric and unputdownable.

The Second Child

Malcolm Knox

Allen & Unwin
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

A companion to the brilliant *The First Friend*, this novel continues Malcolm Knox's Machiavellian satire about Stalin, the Murtov family and Lavrentiy Beria, Stalin's right-hand man—ambitious and clever, but also insanely paranoid and very violent. Brimming with historical detail bringing the 1945 Russian power base to life, this is a scathing black satire from Australia's funniest ironist.

The Mortons

Justine Larbalestier and Scott Westerfeld

Penguin
TPB $34.99

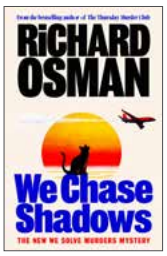
The Mortons are a modern-day, old-money dynasty with impeccable taste, from their exquisitely crafted cocktails to their vintage garments. They are also stone-cold killers. Jessica Morton has recently committed her first kill and is heading off on family business, certain that she will distinguish herself. But is this who she really is? Twisty and clever, this darkly funny, action-packed gothic thriller is a knock-out.

Plant Lady

Minyoung Kang, trans. by Shanna Tan

Doubleday
HB $34.99

By day, Yoohee dispenses gardening advice, but out-of-hours, women in desperate need come to her about men they hope might disappear from their lives. Atmospheric and haunting, *Plant Lady* is a subtle, humorous story of dangerous obsession and misogyny, that will fertilise your deepest fears and keep you rooted right to its chilling last page.



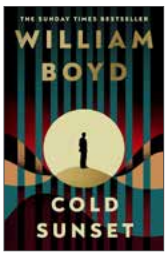
We Chase Shadows

Richard Osman

Viking
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Amy, Rose and Steve return in this witty follow-on from *We Solve Murders*. With Richard Osman's well-crafted writing, filled with his trademark humour, you will venture from Tuscany to Palm Springs via Barcelona and Stockholm, uncovering that everyone has something to hide. As always, Richard Osman has provided a clever, cosy, crime novel.



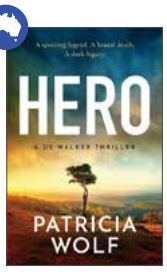
Cold Sunset

William Boyd

Viking
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

A mysterious drawing. A desperate defector. A city smouldering with secrets. Boyd's third Gabriel Dax thriller plunges the reluctant spy into Cold War Moscow, where shifting loyalties, impossible choices and a daring escape collide. Elegant, atmospheric and exquisitely suspenseful, *Cold Sunset* is espionage fiction at its most compelling.



Hero

Patricia Wolf

Echo
TPB $34.99

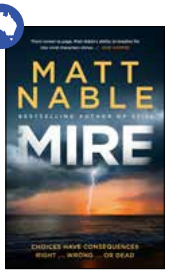
DS Lucas Walker returns to rural Queensland to investigate what appears to be a suicide, only to uncover links to a second death and the murder of a cricketing hero. As corruption closes in and he's pushed off the case, Walker risks everything to expose the truth in this gripping Australian crime thriller.

Every Time She Wakes

Petronella McGovern

Allen & Unwin
TPB $34.99

A bushfire, a kidnapping and a woman trapped reliving the same terrifying weeks over and over. This is a gripping, high-concept thriller that balances page-turning suspense with an emotional story about family, identity and second chances. Each twist reveals something new, making it almost impossible not to read just one more chapter.

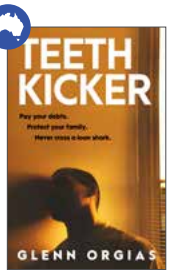


Mire

Matt Nable

Hachette Australia
TPB $34.99

From the bestselling author of *Still* comes a gripping crime thriller spanning 1980s Sydney, the NSW South Coast and Mafia-run New York. As disgraced stockbroker Dan Milligan chases one last chance to reclaim his life, he's drawn into a dangerous world where every decision carries deadly consequences.

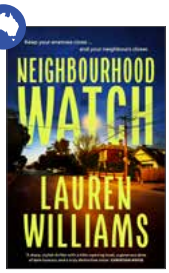


Teeth Kicker

Glenn Orgias

HarperCollins
TPB $34.99

Vincent Silk is back in Newcastle after losing everything—his money, self-respect, and his friends and family. He wants to make amends, but first he must pay off his debts to an unhinged loan shark. Forced to take on a brutal new role, Vincent works as an enforcer, a teeth kicker, collecting debts in a town where everyone owes someone something.

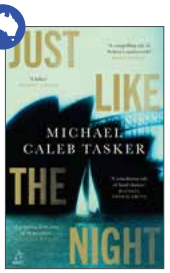


Neighbourhood Watch

Lauren Williams

Affirm Press
TPB $34.99

Lauren Williams brings us a twisty debut crime novel, set in the inner suburbs of Melbourne. As the sun rises on the Curlew Street scarecrow competition, it becomes obvious that one of these entries is not like the others. A man's dead body is slumped over a scarecrow crucifix. A man with lots of enemies and connections to one of the families in the street.



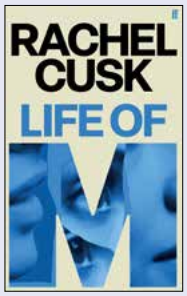
Just Like the Night

Michael Caleb Tasker

Allen & Unwin
TPB $34.99

Fresh out of prison and determined to rebuild her life, Sera Olin finds herself pulled back into Sydney's criminal underworld when her estranged daughter becomes entangled with dangerous people. Lean, gripping and emotionally charged, this is a powerful crime novel about redemption, family and the ties that are hardest to break.

International Fiction



Life of M

Rachel Cusk

Faber
PB $32.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

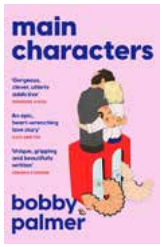
When a writer takes on the task of interviewing a famed movie-star called M, the world around them starts to reveal fragments of truth. In a society spellbound by celebrities, where ideas separate from the experience of them, Rachel Cusk delivers a profound journey into the nature of identity. Celebrating the meaninglessness of 'beauty', *Life of M* is a mesmerising examination of who we are and who we pretend to be.

Rottenheart

Kat Dunn

Manilla
TPB $34.99

A mesmerising gothic reimagining of *Hamlet*, where grief, desire and vengeance entwine. When Odette's mother dies and her aunt becomes her stepmother, a restless ghost returns demanding justice, setting in motion a dark, atmospheric tale of love, obsession and revenge.



Main Characters

Bobby Palmer

Headline Review
TPB $34.99

Clara and Seb meet in their early twenties; she's a director, he's an actor. We watch as their love story unfolds over the course of twenty years but only through the eyes of those around them. A compelling concept for fans of David Nicholls' *One Day* and for people watchers who imagine love on every corner.

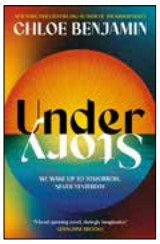
Taipei Story

Rebecca F. Kuang

Borough Press
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

How does one inherit a culture removed from its roots? Lily is determined to find this answer on an intensive language course in Taipei. There she confronts her estranged relationship with her family, her home country and the slippery history of language and identity. *Taipei Story* is a journey through a city, seeking home in a foreign land.



Under Story

Chloe Benjamin

Tinder Press
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

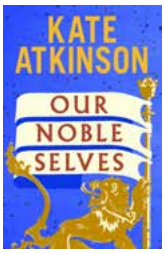
In an isolated outpost in Antarctica, biologist Laurel attempts to outrun her past. When a glowing visual disturbance known as the Arc draws a group of physicists, she realises that her former husband is about to re-enter her life. Epic, tender, and breathtakingly ambitious. *Under Story* explores the power of second chances, and the hope that the impossible might also be true.

Cool Machine

Colson Whitehead

Fleet
TPB $34.99

Native New Yorker and two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction, Colson Whitehead, returns with the final instalment of his raucous *Harlem* Trilogy. Bringing this exuberant criminal family saga into the 1980's, the city and its characters come vividly to life. Can Ray Carney and his endearingly violent partner in crime, Pepper, triumph again?



Our Noble Selves

Kate Atkinson

Doubleday
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Summer, 1951. Retired foreign correspondent Harry Flynn, looking to put the dark days of war behind him, reluctantly joins an oddball team of misfits and ne'er-do-wells helping to prepare the upcoming Festival of Britain. This is a classic Atkinson; perfect for existing fans and new converts.

Can Nothing Save Us?

Irvine Welsh

Jonathan Cape
TPB $34.99

Irvine Welsh heads to Las Vegas for a razor-sharp family drama. When Molly and George Warburton leave their fortune to grandson Luke, daughter Gina is consumed by resentment. As a mysterious newcomer infiltrates the family, old wounds reopen, loyalties fracture and an inheritance becomes the spark for a chilling fight for survival.

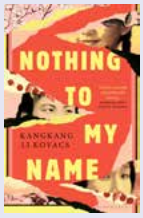
Walking on the Ceiling

Ayşegül Savaş

Scribner
PB $24.99

The debut novel from the author of *The Anthropologists* follows a young student from Turkiye, Nunu and her older, published author friend as they wander through the streets of Paris. Moving through Nunu's memories of Istanbul, family, her ex-boyfriend and her childhood in Turkiye; grief, friendship and the stories we tell ourselves and others, are all explored in this slim insightful tale.

International Debut



Nothing to My Name

Kangkang Li Kovacs

Bloomsbury Publishing
TPB $34.99

Three generations of women, across four decades, lead us through this sweeping saga set in the recent upheaval of Communist China. All women are caught in a time of repression as society does its best to make their lives unsurvivable, but these strong women will fight to survive.

Everything to the Sea

Alicia Upano

Bloomsbury Publishing
TPB $32.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Jane and Kenji are young, selfish, and eager to be together, but after the tragedy of a destructive tsunami, are they mature enough to deal with their own intense feelings of grief, and can they find a way to grow, heal and rebuild their lives? Set in the beauty of Hawai'i, this is a brilliant and emotional debut.

A Real Animal

Emeline Atwood

Scribe Publications
TPB $32.99

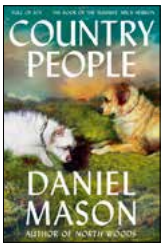
Over the course of a decade after an assault, *A Real Animal* follows Lucy through snap, life-altering decisions. Away from home and feeling lonelier than ever, she bends herself to fit expectations of a new relationship, shapeshifting to find connection. This incredible debut is a reminder that the one thing that will remain constant in your life, is yourself.

Nerve Damage

Annakeara Stinson

Scribner
PB $29.99

When Clarice breaks up with her boyfriend, he refuses to let it go. Non-stop phone calls, emails, showing up at her work and home, it's the nightmare that no one wants. A restraining order is the only way to stop it and years later as it's expiring Clarice is certain she's seen him. Spiralling out of control, this revenge novel sees her turning to stalk him back.

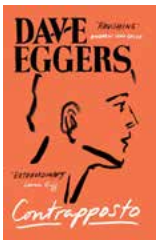


Country People

Daniel Mason

John Murray
TPB $34.99

No one wants to be the family disappointment. Twelve years late on his PhD on Russian folktales, things are looking grim for Miles. When his wife accepts a position at a prestigious college in rural Vermont, he decides this will be the year he finally moves forward. A joyous, absurd, and life-affirming exploration of finding connection in an increasingly fragmented world.

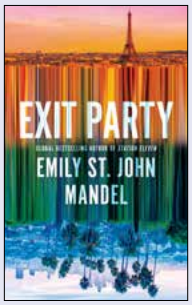


Contrapposto

Dave Eggers

Canongate
TPB $34.99

Dave Eggers turns to the art world in this character-focused novel, to critique and provide commentary on a world he knows all too well. Cricket and Olympia have orbited each other all their lives. From two art-obsessed kids who talk about the future, to adults who need to figure out what it is to be an artist, and who and what to love.



Exit Party

Emily St. John Mandel

Picador
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

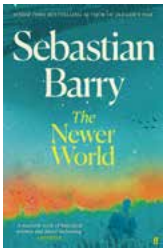
What might life look like in a post-collapse future? Possibly like one of the disorientating and perilous dystopian worlds in *Exit Party*. The story opens in Los Angeles at a party at the end of our era, where some of the guests don't belong and are more than your usual gate crashers. Mandel eerily evokes travel across time and place with meticulous plotting and luminous language.

It Will Come Back to You

Sigrid Nunez

Virago
TPB $32.99

National Book Award winning author Sigrid Nunez, celebrated for her tenderness and wry humour in her novels, delivers her first collection of short stories. From young love, to jury duty and city living, from the mundane to moments of levity, these thirteen stories, reflect a sharp and illuminating curiosity in human experience and connection.



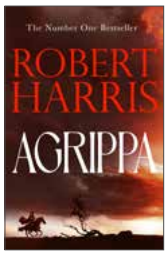
The Newer World

Sebastian Barry

Faber
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Sebastian Barry's new novel follows the life of Tennyson Bouguereau, a conflicted soldier and wanted man in the aftermath of the American Civil War. We are invited on an unforgettable journey of belonging as Tennyson is offered the possibility of a new life in Nashville. Away from Tennessee, will he ever, truly be 'free'? If you enjoyed *Train Dreams* you will love this.

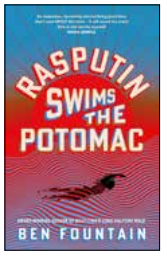


Agrippa

Robert Harris

Hutchinson Heinemann
TPB $34.99

Through the eyes of Agrippa—closest ally to Caesar's nephew Octavius—Robert Harris transports us back to the birth of the Roman Empire for a riveting political saga. To claim his inheritance, Octavius keeps Agrippa close, fighting side by side. In this story of power, conflict ensues, and bonds break well beyond the battlefield. Robert Harris at his best!



Rasputin Swims the Potomac

Ben Fountain

Canongate
PB $34.99

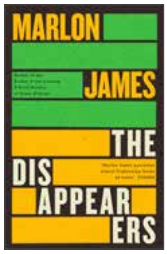
From the author of *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk* comes a novel that is stranger than real life, but only just. In this terrifyingly relevant satire of modern-day American politics, a TV star president is campaigning for a third term... Hilarious, compelling, and tragically relevant, this energetic novel is both an escape and a warning.

The Girl with the Seven Lives

Vikas Swarup

Apollo
TPB $34.99

From the author of Q&A, which became Oscar winning *Slumdog Millionaire*, this nail-biting novel is told over one night and dives headfirst in with the kidnapping of Devi. Her life is left in the hands of strangers online, who are bidding to determine her fate. Vikas Swarup brings us the complexity of human nature, as we wait to see if Devi can work her way out of this terrifying situation and survive.



The Disappearers

Marlon James

Hamish Hamilton
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Set in Kingston in 1988, eight gay men take a risk and meet, answering the casting call for an openly queer play. A mob descends on one of their rehearsals, leaving one man dead, all injured and two subsequently disappearing. All scarred, they deal with hatred and shame but also find acceptance and insight.

Translated Fiction

Mona's Eyes

Thomas Schlesser, trans. by Hildegarde Serle

Europa Editions
PB $26.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Ten-year-old Mona and her grandfather have only one year to visit fifty-two works of art and commit to memory "all that is beautiful in the world" before Mona loses her sight. Each week, as the pair visit Paris's renowned museums, Mona learns the true meaning of generosity, melancholy, loss, and love.

Last Day of a Prior Life

Andrés Barba, trans. by Lisa Dillman

Scribe Publications
PB $29.99

While preparing an empty house for sale, a woman encounters an unblinking seven-year-old boy, trapped there from another era. Unable to communicate with one another, he draws her into an unsettling bond neither can escape... A masterful exploration of human longing and connection.

Air

Christian Kracht, trans. by Daniel Bowles

Serpent's Tail
PB $29.99

From one of Europe's most inventive literary voices comes a haunting, enigmatic novel that slips between reality, dream and myth. When a designer disappears during a blackout in a Norwegian server farm and a wounded stranger awakens in an unfamiliar world, two uncanny journeys unfold.

Primeval and Other Times

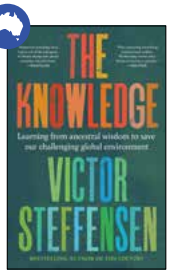
Olga Tokarczuk, trans. by Antonia Lloyd-Jones

Text Publishing
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Poland's turbulent history is traced in this allegorical village that follows three generations: a daughter is raised among forest creatures, a squire abandons faith and pursues an endless dream, and a miller is taken from his family on the eve of the Great War.

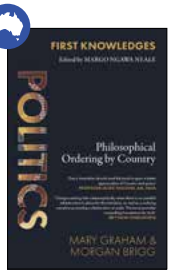
Indigenous Voices



The Knowledge
Victor Steffensen

Murdoch Books
TPB $34.99

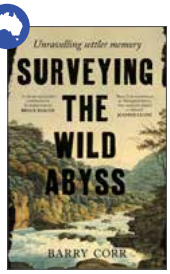
In this follow-up to his bestselling *Fire Country*, Victor Steffensen gifts readers more ways to heal and care for our planet, rooted in Indigenous knowledge and in the capacity of individuals and governments. Amidst climate catastrophes and indifferent policy making, Steffensen lights a way to a better future that is governed by our Indigenous past.



First Knowledges Politics
Mary Graham and Morgan Brigg

Thames & Hudson Australia
PB $26.99

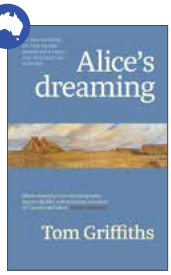
For First Nations peoples, Country is not just a place but a network of relationships where social and political systems balance individual freedom with collective responsibilities. Mary Graham and Morgan Brigg explore how First Nations cultural systems and colonial political systems—can interact and help shape a modern, resilient Australia. **A boxed set of all titles in the series available at $199.00.**



Surveying the Wild Abyss
Barry Corr

NewSouth
TPB $49.99

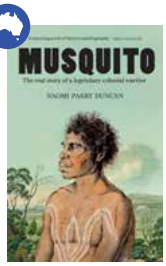
First Nations Historian Barry Corr brings us this in-depth look at the colonisation of the Dhurabang river and Hawkesbury region. Barry Corr examines official historical documents and personal letters that reveal gaps in the history we have been taught. An important addition to the new histories of Australia, sitting alongside the likes of *Dark Emu*.



Alice's dreaming
Tom Griffiths

Black Inc
TPB $36.99

Early last century, Alice Duncan-Kemp grew up on a remote Queensland cattle station. Later she would record her childhood memories of learning from Aboriginal women and men and write books evoking parallel universes of storytelling and lore. Historian and writer Tom Griffiths shows us the turmoil of a complex frontier, and a story of survival and cultural resilience.



Musquito
Naomi Parry Duncan

Allen & Unwin
TPB $36.99

Musquito was just a boy when British ships assembled in the waters of Port Jackson in January 1788. Seventeen years later, he was a warrior fighting for Country west of Sydney, hunted by white colonists. Historian Naomi Parry Duncan has uncovered how the lives of convicts in her family tree intersected with Musquito in disturbing ways.

Worlds Within a World
Edited by Casey Mulder

Fremantle Press
PB $34.99

Five First Nations women share deeply personal stories of resilience, identity and connection to Country. Honest, moving and illuminating, these memoirs reflect on family, the legacy of the Stolen Generations and the enduring strength of culture, offering a powerful contribution to truth-telling and understanding.

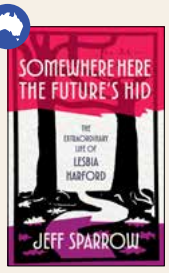
Australian Stories

A Suitable Man
Jock Serong

HarperCollins
TPB $36.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Fletcher Jones was no ordinary industrialist. He built an empire making clothes that outlasted their wearers. He was a man who experimented with the very bones of capitalism and who brought decency and his love of people to everything he did. This is a masterful tribute to an extraordinary life and story of hope.

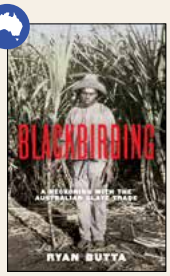


Somewhere Here the Future's Hid
Jeff Sparrow

Monash University Publishing
TPB $34.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

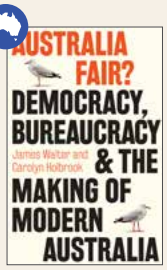
Born in 1891, Lesbia Harford was one of the first women to study law at the University of Melbourne. She was a writer, poet and a political activist ahead of her time. Lesbia died young but in her short life passionately loved men and women, fought for workers' rights and boldly celebrated it all. This is a detailed look at a remarkable woman.



Blackbirding
Ryan Butta

Affirm Press
TPB $36.99

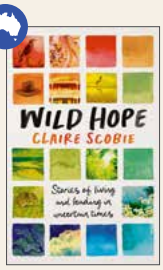
Between 1860 and 1906, more than 60,000 Pacific Islanders were brought to Australia to work the Queensland sugarcane fields as part of the Australian slave trade known as blackbirding. This immersive and meticulously researched work of narrative non-fiction confronts one of the least acknowledged episodes in Australian history.



Australia Fair?
James Walter and Carolyn Holbrook

Melbourne University Press
TPB $39.99

James Walter and Carolyn Holbrook explore the world of policy making and the evolution of political decision-making in Australia since World War II. Revealing how advisors, bureaucrats and politicians influence the political and social landscape, this is a challenging and imperative book that asks us to consider how policy is delivered and how the process impacts our everyday.



Wild Hope
Claire Scobie

NewSouth
PB $36.99

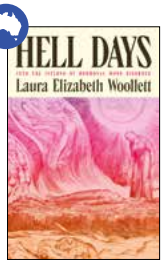
September release, pre-orders welcome

Claire Scobie thought she had life's bigger questions figured out until a seemingly ordinary moment cracked her world open. From the push to make Melbourne's Yarra River swimmable again to people-owned power in Bristol, and interwoven with Claire's personal story, *Wild Hope* shows us that the future is not broken; a better one is already being built.

Middle Rage
Myf Warhurst

Hachette Australia
TPB $34.99

Everybody's favourite rock chick, Myf Warhurst, brings us a book on aging and raging. Myf, a strong woman in a world that does not seem on its best behaviour, was taken by surprise as she approached a certain age; surprised by her body, her emotions and her circumstances. *Middle Rage* is a must-read that will resonate, particularly with women who want to live their best middle-aged lives.

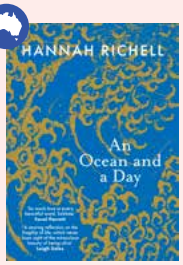


Hell Days
Laura Elizabeth Woollett

Scribe Publications
PB $32.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Acclaimed novelist Laura Elizabeth Woollett's first work of non-fiction is an exploration of Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder (PMDD), a mood disorder Woollett has personal experience with. A hefty amount of research and new evidence illuminates what an imbalance of hormones may have driven sufferers, ordinary people, as well as some famous and infamous, to feel and enact.



An Ocean and a Day
Hannah Richell

4th Estate
PB $34.99

In 2014, author Hannah Richell was happily married with two young children and in the middle of writing a novel when she learned that her husband, Matt, had been killed in a surfing accident. This memoir is the intimate and poignant story of the first two years afterwards and what happens beyond, when time and distance offer perspective and hope.

Unsayable
Michael Cunningham

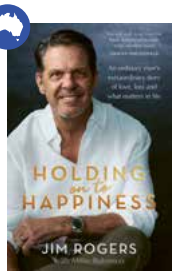
4th Estate
PB $29.99

From the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Hours* comes an intimate, luminous memoir about language, memory and the lifelong pursuit of meaning. Blending personal stories with reflections on the writing life, Michael Cunningham explores love, art and the mysteries that resist expression in a meditation as thoughtful as it is beautifully written.

It's Not For You
Kelly-Dawn Hellmrich

Penguin
TPB $36.99

It's Not for You features interviews with women and gender-diverse artists who have changed the Australian music industry on their own terms. Kelly-Dawn Hellmrich, Camp Cope's bass player, offers a peek behind the curtain, personal reflection, catharsis, camaraderie and inspiration for anyone who's ever been told they were too much or not enough.

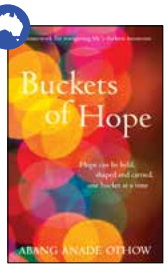


Holding on to Happiness
Jim Rogers and Millie Robinson

Macmillan Australia
TPB $36.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Jim Rogers, known for co-hosting the *Hold the Moment* podcast, joins his eldest daughter, Millie Robinson in this beautifully honest autobiography. A story of a family's resilience in light of Roger's early-onset Alzheimer's diagnosis. They collaborate to capture the essence of a life lived, and a reminder there's always happiness to be found.

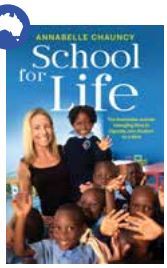


Buckets of Hope
Abang Anade Othow

ABC Books
TPB $35.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Separated from her family as a young child during war, Abang transformed unimaginable loss into a powerful resilience framework. Beyond a memoir, *Buckets of Hope* shares her inspiring journey and practical Five Buckets method—joy, growth, survival, resilience and flow—helping readers not just name what they carry, but begin to heal.



School for Life
Annabelle Chauncy

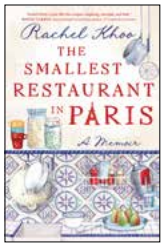
Macmillan Australia
TPB $36.99

Annabelle Chauncy's foundation, School for Life, oversees three schools in Uganda that have positively changed the lives of thousands of students. Annabelle bought land, built buildings, battled corruption, faced agonising staffing dilemmas, mobilised a village, all while building her own family. This is a moving story of how you can make positive change in the world.

Juicy
Sheree Joseph

Pantera Press
TPB $36.99

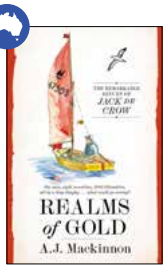
What happens when we realise everything we've been taught to want: the nuclear family, motherhood, marriage—might never happen? At 33, Sheree Joseph confronts this reality, leading her on a journey of healing and re-writing the narrative. She finds meaning in identity, and every form of love, not just the 'romantic'. A memoir for those wanting to live a 'juicier' life.



The Smallest Restaurant in Paris
Rachel Khoo

Ultimo Press
TPB $36.99

A charming memoir from the truly delightful chef, Rachel Khoo. From leaving London to study patisserie in Paris at Le Cordon Bleu, to the opening of her incredibly successful little Paris restaurant, this is like having a chat with Rachel over tea, in which she also shares recipes relating to the pivotal moments that saw her fall in love with Paris.



Realms of Gold
A.J. Mackinnon

Black Inc
TPB $36.99

20 years after the bestselling *The Unlikely Voyage of Jack de Crow*, a chance message, combined with too many whiskeys, has A.J. Mackinnon continuing his adventures in a tiny dinghy, sailing and rowing from Romania to Venice. The result is another hilarious travel memoir, full of legends of antiquity, killer whales and very tricky border police.

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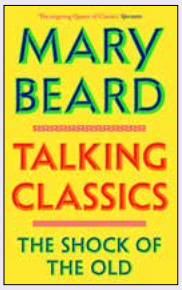
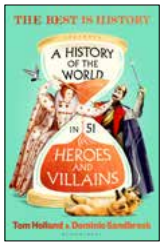
History



Talking Classics
Mary Beard

Profile Trade
HB $36.99

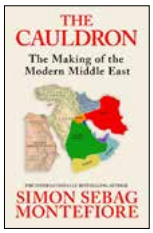
In *Talking Classics*, Mary Beard points to the surprising connections between antiquity and the present. From revolutionaries to dictators, Bob Dylan to Beyoncé, she joins forces with the varied modern characters who have been transfixed by the ancient world. It's not compulsory, she argues, to be excited by antiquity, but it's a shame not to be. *Talking Classics* explains why the deep past really does affect us all.



A History of the World in 51 Heroes and Villains
Tom Holland and Dominic Sandbrook

Bloomsbury Publishing
TPB $36.99

From the award-winning podcast *The Rest is History* comes a riotous deep dive into history's biggest heroes and most notorious villains. Prepare for sword fights, scandals and moral ambiguity. Polish your armour, don your villainous moustache and get ready to choose a side in the ultimate showdown between history's greats and rogues.



The Cauldron
Simon Sebag Montefiore

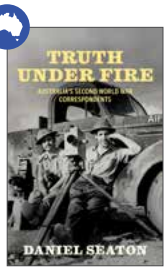
W&N
HB $55.00

Renowned historian Simon Sebag Montefiore wades into the ideological battles and geopolitical tensions of the Middle East with a comprehensive and nuanced chronicle that situates the region in the context of its last 125 years. Told with the signature style of voice-driven history that made *Jerusalem* a bestseller, this is an essential guide to the world we have inherited.

The Burning Blue
Mike Carlton

Penguin
TPB $36.99

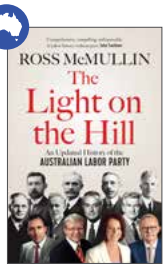
Throughout the twentieth century, the pilots of the Royal Australian Navy carved their name with pride, building a service that became the Navy's Fleet Air Arm. In wartime, the perils were evident, but peace has its hazards and dangers too. This book tells the stories of these aviators who flew high in the Burning Blue.



Truth Under Fire
Daniel Seaton

La Trobe University Press
TPB $36.99

Truth Under Fire is a biography of six of Australia's most notable WWII correspondents: Kenneth Slessor, Damien Parer, Chester Wilmot, George Johnston, Osmar White and George Silk. Daniel Seaton argues that to understand these individuals, we must consider them as a group connected through their work, social interactions, journalistic ambition and philosophy, artistic interests and engagement with the Anzac legend.

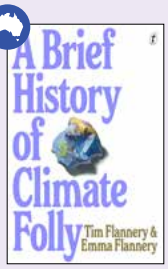


The Light on the Hill
Ross McMullin

Scribe Publications
TPB $55.00

This entertaining, warts-and-all narrative features all Labor prime ministers including Keating, Rudd, Gillard and Albanese. It covers the party's achievements as well as conflicts over organisation and policy, emotional highs and lows, and intimidation and intrigue behind the scenes. Expertly researched by award-winning historian Ross McMullin, this is an authoritative and monumental account of Labor's rich history.

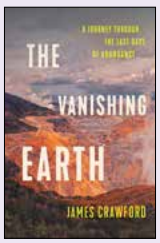
Science & Nature



A Brief History of Climate Folly
Tim Flannery and Emma Flannery

Text Publishing
PB $26.99

From acclaimed science writers, (and father-daughter duo) Tim and Emma Flannery, comes a wild account of our ongoing efforts to change the climate. Touring humanity's most unique and ambitious science projects, this book asks how we can return to ways of living in balance with nature, rather than manipulating it to our will.

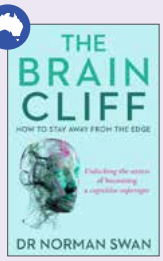


The Vanishing Earth
James Crawford

Scribe Publications
TPB $39.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Our global appetite for extraction means that earth is rapidly vanishing, and the road to recovery demands that we look directly at the undoctored view. James Crawford brings us there, to the calamity born from mining, logging, and drilling, unearthing the forces that drive us toward extinction, and the communities fighting back.



The Brain Cliff
Dr Norman Swan

Hachette Australia
TPB $34.99

Many of us, as we age, fear the loss of our cognitive abilities. Speaking to experts and people in their 90s and 100s who have stayed sharp as they age, Dr Norman Swan deep dives into the aging brain and asks just what is it that keeps some of us on the ball? Within these pages you'll find advice to become resilient and maintain cognitive function.

What the Flora?
Vanessa Fuchs

Pantera Press
TPB $36.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

From the experts at Botanic Gardens of Sydney, comes a collection of shocking, inspiring and downright unbelievable stories about plant life. Inside, we uncover many profound truths about how human survival is intertwined with the world of flora. Stunningly packaged, —the perfect gift for anyone with a green thumb.

Honeybees
Mary Trumble and Henry Fried

Hardie Grant Books
HB $34.99

Discover the extraordinary world of honeybees in this lavishly illustrated celebration of nature's most beloved pollinator. Blending practical beekeeping advice with fascinating insights into their behaviour, ecology and conservation, Trumble and Fried invite us to deepen our understanding of these essential insects, the vital role they play, and how we can help them thrive and survive.

The Picking Garden
Jo Turner and Rachel Russell (illus)

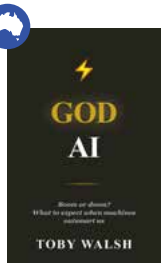
Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $49.99

The Picking Garden is a beautifully illustrated, practical guide to growing flowers year-round in any space, from balconies to backyards. Covering more than 55 flower profiles, seasonal sowing, picking, replanting, vase choice and bouquet arranging, it offers accessible inspiration for gardeners and flower lovers wanting a colourful, productive garden to enjoy and harvest through every season.

Screw Nice
Amy Remeikis

Hachette Australia
TPB $34.99

Amy Remeikis provides a powerful examination of political systems and the treatment of those who don't hold power. To be heard you must be polite and follow the rules; but the rules are different depending on your income, religion, social status and gender. The time for being silenced must end; it's time to speak up and screw nice.

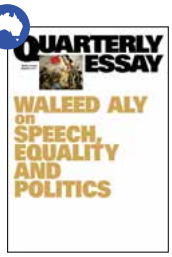


God AI
Toby Walsh

La Trobe University Press
TPB $36.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Artificial intelligence is no longer a distant possibility; it is reshaping our economy, our workplaces, and our democracy in real time. Author and researcher Toby Walsh examines the rapid rise of AI, exploring both the potential and the significant risks posed by increasingly powerful intelligent systems and asks how we ensure AI systems are safe and trustworthy.

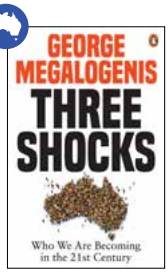


On speech, equality and politics: QE 103
Waleed Aly

Quarterly Essay
TPB $29.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

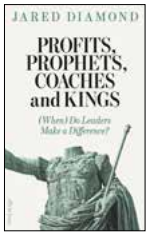
Waleed Aly examines what happened to liberalism; it offered formal equality and guaranteed freedoms, but increasingly, we live in a post-liberal world. Aly looks at how and why this has happened, discussing what has taken liberalism's place as we tackle freedom of speech and equal opportunity. He also examines the rise of illiberal democracy and the battles over identity.



Three Shocks
George Megalogenis

Penguin
TPB $36.99

George Megalogenis, political and economic journalist looks at three of the biggest changes to Australian society in the 21st century; changes to the population make-up, segmentation of the workforce and the unreliability of our trade partners. This insightful book examines the way our leaders have not kept up with these changes and how they need to face them to remain relevant today.

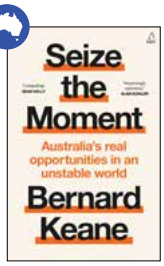


Profits, Prophets, Coaches and Kings
Jared Diamond

Allen Lane
TPB $39.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

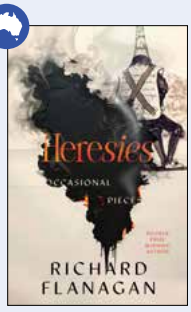
From the author of *Guns, Germs and Steel*, this thought-provoking book examines how much leaders truly shape history across politics, business, sport and religion. Jared Diamond rejects simple "great men" theories, showing how figures such as Botswana president Seretse Khama and legendary football coach John Wooden succeed within complex webs of resources, geography, culture and technology.



Seize the Moment
Bernard Keane

Allen & Unwin
TPB $34.99

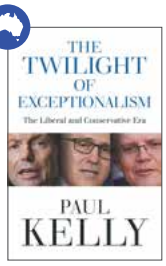
At the first-quarter mark of the 21st century, giant forces are reshaping our world. Bernard Keane draws on his experience within government and as a political commentator, to outline how Australia can prosper in the next quarter century. He argues we have crucial advantages we can leverage—if we make smart decisions now.



Heresies
Richard Flanagan

Penguin
TPB $36.99

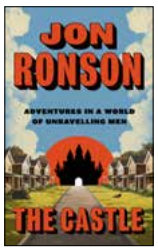
This dazzling collection of essays, articles and speeches from award-winning author, Richard Flanagan, emphasises his trademark elegance, subversive wit, and humanity. Covering Manus to MONA, to birds and the Black Summer, from the destruction of our natural world, to the hope offered by Indigenous Australia, to the growing corrosion of democracy, from Salman Rushdie to the Segal Report, to family and love; it speaks to the heart of the current social climate.



The Twilight of Exceptionalism
Paul Kelly

Melbourne University Press
TPB $59.99

The Twilight of Exceptionalism is the third in Paul Kelly's masterful trilogy on modern Australian politics. It charts the most turbulent era of Liberal and conservative politics since Sir Robert Menzies formed the Liberal Party and how it lost its long-standing grip on the Australian psyche as Tony Abbott, Malcolm Turnbull and Scott Morrison struggled to govern.

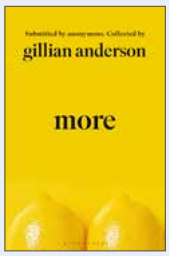


The Castle
Jon Ronson

Viking
TPB $36.99

From the bestselling author of *The Psychopath Test* comes a gripping blend of true crime, social investigation and dark comedy. What begins with a disturbing text from his son draws Jon Ronson into a strange world of online radicalisation, masculinity and hidden influence, uncovering unsettling truths with his trademark wit and curiosity.

Social Studies

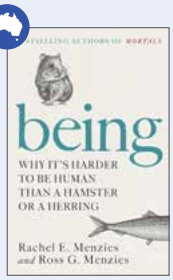


More
Gillian Anderson

Bloomsbury Publishing
TPB $36.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

More is Gillian Anderson's simple and unfiltered answer to the limits we put on women's desires. In a collection of letters from women near and far, young and old, Anderson asks us not for permission, but for our curiosity and heart as we navigate the definition of pleasure and the importance of fantasy in discovering ourselves.

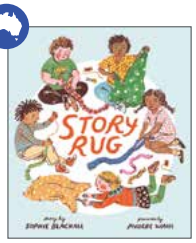


Being
Rachel E. Menzies and Ross G. Menzies

Allen & Unwin
TPB $36.99

Daughter-father psychologists Rachel E. Menzies and Ross G. Menzies explore what it means to be human, and our shared need for love, meaning and self-understanding. They also highlight the power of hope, the role of purpose in wellbeing and acceptance as the key to an authentic and joyful life. This is the beauty of being.

Picture Books



Story Rug

Sophie Blackall and Phoebe Wahl (illus)

Lothian Children's Books
HB $24.99

Sophie Blackall and Phoebe Wahl celebrate storytelling, classroom community and hands-on creativity in this warm picture book that includes an easy craft project and invites readers to make their own. Full of imagination, humour and delightful illustrations, this is a story of a rag rug woven through with the histories of the scraps used to create it, and the tales told as it is created.

The Everywhere Train

Deborah Frenkel and Danny Snell (illus)

Hardie Grant Children's Publishing
HB $24.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

From the award-winning creators of *Truck Cat* comes a beautiful tale of love and adventure. When Pop must move to a care home, Scout creates an Everywhere Train right next to Pop's bed. With a ticket, good company and the power of imagination, the pair travel to just about everywhere!

Dear Humans, We Stole Your Crayon!

Anna McGregor

Scribble
HB $27.99

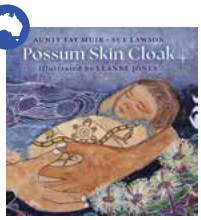
Two aliens steal a crayon and are completely baffled by it, treating it like a piece of advanced human technology. What follows is a mix of curiosity, trial and error, and unexpected creativity. With a real sense of wonder about what drawing can unlock, this playful story is a delightful reminder that making art is for everyone.

The Mushroom and the Flower

Sally Soweol Han

Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $26.99

A bright pink mushroom sits in a field, bold and brilliant, as the centre of nature's bustling life. When a flower begins to bloom beside it, all the attention shifts to the pretty newcomer. A stunning tale of kindness, difference and friendship that gently explores what it means to feel seen and valued.



Possum Skin Cloak

Aunty Fay Muir, Sue Lawson and Leanne Jones (illus)

Wild Dog
HB $26.99

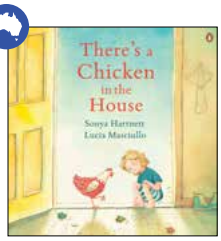
Wrapped in the warmth of belonging, this beautiful picture book explores the significance of possum skin cloaks and the stories they carry. From birth to the final journey to Dreaming, it celebrates connection to family, Country, language and culture through lyrical text and stunning illustrations. A book to share, discuss and treasure.

A Bigger Book

Hannah Sommerville

Hardie Grant Children's Publishing
HB $24.99

Cora loves books but as her friends move on to bigger books with smaller writing and fewer pictures, she finds herself getting stuck on the words. The harder she concentrates, the foggier they become. *A Bigger Book* is renowned illustrator Hannah Sommerville's solo debut and features a character close to her heart; a young girl with dyslexia who loves stories.

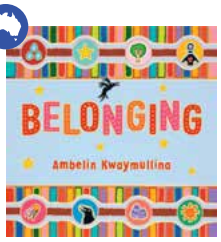


There's a Chicken in the House

Sonya Hartnett and Lucia Masciullo (illus)

Puffin
HB $24.99

This is a charming, slice-of-life picture book, about the disruption a chicken causes when it is blown into the house on a lazy morning and our narrator's task of getting her back to her coop. The sweet story and gentle illustrations wonderfully capture the nuances of family life and relationships, revealing a delightful surprise at the end.



Belonging

Ambelin Kwaymullina

Magabala Books
HB $27.99

Lyrical and full of the eternal interconnectedness of our families: land, water, sky, earth, space, time, story and language. *Belonging* shows us how to be here, to listen, and to care for connections between people and place, with striking illustrations that complement every page. A beautiful book for the whole family to share.

The Little Bird That Fell

Bradley Trevor Greive and Gabriel Evans (illus)

ABC Books
HB $24.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

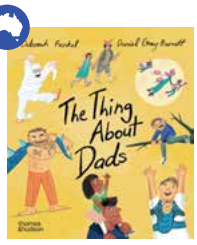
Based on the true story that captured hearts around the world, this beautifully illustrated picture book follows Penguin the magpie and Sam Bloom as they recover from life-changing injuries together. Full of warmth, humour and hope, it's a gentle story about healing, friendship and finding the courage to try again after life takes an unexpected turn.

I See Red

Maggie Hutchings and Sarah Zweck (illus)

Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $26.99

A warm, funny picture book about big feelings, sibling squabbles and the importance of making amends. From the creators of *Here Come the Cousins*, it gently explores conflict, forgiveness and the small acts of kindness that can help repair even the biggest arguments.

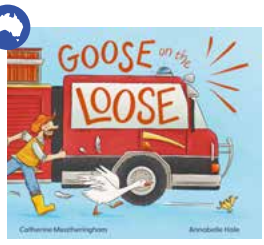


The Thing About Dads

Deborah Frenkel and Daniel Gray-Barnett (illus)

Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $24.99

From the bestselling children's author of *The Truck Cat*, Deborah Frenkel, and award-winning illustrator Daniel Gray-Barnett, comes a heartfelt celebration of fatherhood. Celebrating all dads, whether born or made, this gorgeous picture book is a joyful ode to dads' special knack for turning ordinary days into awesome ones.



Goose on the Loose

Catherine Meatheringham and Annabelle Hale (illus)

Affirm Kids
HB $24.99

Watch out! There's a goose on the loose. Or is that a duck on the truck? As the farmer chases after the escaped bird, he's joined by a firefighter, pilot, crane driver, teacher and sailor on a wild goose chase. None of them seem to have realised that Goose is on a chase all of her very own. This is a charming progressive rhyming picture book perfect for reading aloud with your little animal lovers.

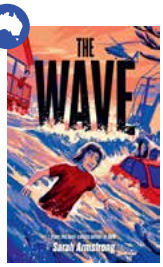
Impossible Creatures: The Neverfear, Bk 3

Katherine Rundell

Bloomsbury Children's Books
PB $18.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Return to the magical world of the Archipelago where bandits are afoot and a mysterious enemy lurks in the shadows. When a dear friend is kidnapped, Christopher and Anya must set sail on the Neverfear to undertake Herculean feats to save her and the magical inhabitants of their world.

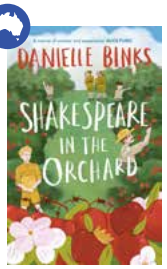


The Wave

Sarah Armstrong

Hardie Grant Children's Publishing
PB $18.99

Max loves surfing, the beach and the island he calls home, despite the tourists who arrive each summer. But when a warning comes that a tsunami is just hours away, he is running out of time to reach higher ground. Faced with an impossible decision, Max must decide whether to focus on his own survival or help the strangers left behind.

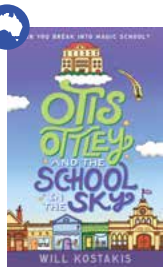


Shakespeare in the Orchard

Danielle Binks

Lothian Children's Books
PB $17.99

Set in 1914 in a small farming community, Jack's beloved brother is away fighting in the war. 14-year-old Jack's job is to hold down the home front and with prisoners of war being held at the military base close-by, he is filled with fear and animosity. He learns to find common ground and understanding, with a little help from Shakespeare.



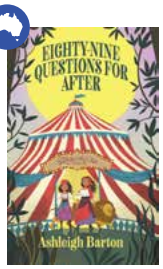
Otis Ottley and the School in the Sky

Will Kostakis

Allen & Unwin Children
PB $17.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

The Manor School for Magic hovers above Otis Ottley's town, and he'll do whatever it takes to get through its doors. Not because he wants to learn magic, but because he hopes it will help him remember something important. A warm, funny adventure about friendship, determination and finding magic in unexpected places.



Eighty-Nine Questions for After

Ashleigh Barton

Lothian Children's Books
PB $16.99

Ester is prepared for anything life will throw at her, including death. She has a list of questions ready to be answered in the afterlife but a new friend, the elderly Joan, sets Ester on a different mystery to be uncovered: why did Joan's sister disappear? A beautiful tale of friendship and grief, for fans of Pip Harry and Karen Foxlee.

Hunt for the Nighthawks

Felice Arena

Penguin
PB $17.99

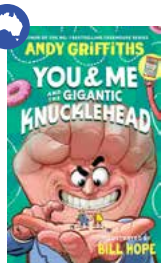
Jake is staying with his grandmother when he stumbles across a group of thieves looting an ancient Roman site. After a frightening encounter, he finds himself drawn into a mystery that leads him to an unexpected ally. With his new friends Tilly and Rabbit, Jake sets out to recover the stolen treasure and uncover who's behind it. A fast-paced mix of history, mystery and adventure.

Sagittarius Rising

Maxine Beneba Clarke and Jade Goodwin (illus)

Hardie Grant Children's Publishing
PB $17.99

Tip finds a puppy in a box at the markets and is determined to keep it, even if Dad isn't so sure. Before long, the tiny puppy has grown into a lively, messy dog named Sagittarius Rising, and life gets a lot more chaotic. Told in fun rhyming couplets, this chapter book is full of energy, mischief and everyday family moments.



You & Me and the Gigantic Knucklehead

Andy Griffiths and Bill Hope (illus)

Pan Australia
PB $16.99

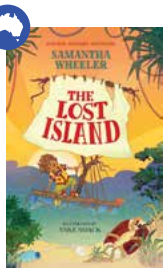
You and Me are on another big adventure and this time they've accidentally become gigantic. When they're banished to the Land of Giants for causing too much of a nuisance, they find out they're actually not the biggest giants out there. Who is? A fan-favourite knucklehead. Dive in for another brilliantly action-packed tale.

A River I Must Be

Kate Foster

HarperCollins
PB $18.99

Bec is struggling. At a new prestigious school with a sports scholarship, the uniform is uncomfortable, the teacher cruel and with her mum away, the only way she knows how to cope is by masking. Written in-verse, Kate Foster pulls you into the head of a young autistic character who is experiencing hard challenges but with support, has the tools to flourish.

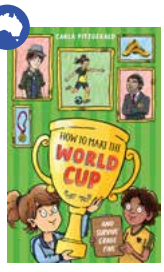


The Lost Island

Samantha Wheeler and Anke Noack (illus)

UQP
PB $17.99

Theo thinks there's nothing worse than being stuck on a cruise with his dad, new stepmum and annoying stepsister. When he's thrown overboard during a storm and washes up on a strange desert island with only his backpack, he suddenly has much bigger problems. A thrilling middle grade survival story full of action, mystery, and adventure.



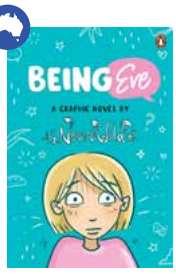
How to Make the World Cup and Survive Grade Five

Carla Fitzgerald

UQP
PB $17.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Ronni knows exactly what the Australian women's soccer team should be doing, at least from her spot on the couch. When she and her best friend Kai are secretly put in charge, she quickly learns that coaching is harder than it looks. As the team struggles, Ronni must decide whether she's ready to stop watching from the sidelines and have a go herself.



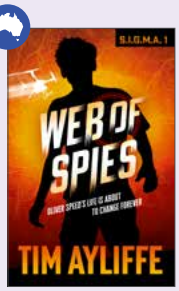
Being Eve

Neurowild

Penguin
PB $19.99

A funny, heartfelt coming-of-age graphic novel about friendship, first crushes, and growing up neurodivergent. Eve is an ADHDer and Sasha has a new autism diagnosis; they're best friends who understand each other when the world is confusing and frustrating. Joined by their new friend Jack, they count on each other when dealing with the tough stuff.

Young Adult



S.I.G.M.A. 1: Web of Spies

Tim Ayliffe

Simon & Schuster Australia
PB $16.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Ten months after his father vanishes, Ollie stumbles across the body of a murdered spy linked to his family's past. With his friends Ella and George, he sets out to investigate, uncovering secrets that put them all in danger. A clever, action-filled mystery that will keep readers guessing to the very end.

WIN: Purchase a copy of *S.I.G.M.A. 1: Web of Spies* for your chance to win a drone. Two drones to be won. To enter the competition, go to the competition page at www.loveyourbookshop.org.au/competitions or scan the QR code on page 2.

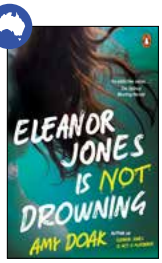
Terms & conditions apply. Competition closes 31 October. Please note: Prize may differ from promotional image shown here.

Heartstopper Volume 6

Alice Oseman

Hodder Children's Books
PB $24.99

The beloved *Heartstopper* series reaches its heartfelt conclusion as Nick and Charlie face the joys and uncertainties of growing up. Tender, funny and deeply compassionate, it captures first love, change and the bittersweet reality that moving forward doesn't mean leaving each other behind. This final volume showcases Alice Oseman's immense talent and will delight fans.



Eleanor Jones is Not Drowning

Amy Doak

Penguin
PB $19.99

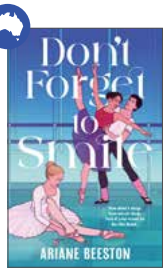
Seventeen-year-old detective Eleanor Jones is back, juggling school, friends and preparations for the Deb Ball when a fellow student asks her to investigate the death of her boyfriend. As the Cooinda River rises and long-buried secrets begin to surface, Eleanor finds herself caught up in a mystery that raises the stakes once again. Another compelling installment in Amy Doak's award-winning teen detective series.

Us in the Bright Lights

Zanni L. Arnot

Lothian Children's Books
PB $19.99

Stevie has always been in her best friend Bella's orbit, so when Bella is gone, she's left unsure of who she is. Following Bella's bucket list, she heads to Europe for a year, slowly figuring things out. It gets complicated when she grows close to Bella's long-time crush. A deeply romantic novel about a girl who loses everything but finds herself in the process.



Don't Forget to Smile

Ariane Beeston

Black Inc | PB $19.99

Clara, Elle and Ben are three young dancers trying to find their place in the world and competing in the International Ballet Grand Prix. Clara and Ella don't think highly of each other and Ben's stuck in the middle. They are forced to put aside their differences when a scandal threatens their future. This is a timely and nuanced story for teenage readers.

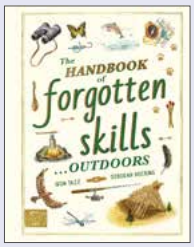
Explore & Learn

Welcome to Friendship!

Yumi Stynes, Dr Melissa Kang and Jenny Latham (illus)

Hardie Grant Children's Publishing
PB $24.99

From the best-selling authors of *Welcome to Consent* and *Welcome to Your Period* comes this warm, funny, indispensable guide for tweens and teens on navigating the highs and lows of friendship—including making friends, keeping them and what to do when things get tricky! It's a practical, reassuring book to dip into when things feel complicated.

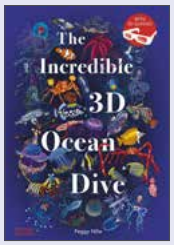


The Handbook of Forgotten Skills... Outdoors

Iron Tazz and Deborah Hocking (illus)

Magic Cat Publishing
HB $35.00

An inspiring guide to the skills we need to stay safe and enjoy the wild. Iron Tazz shares classic wilderness skills that have been forgotten by many as our world has become increasingly high-tech. Fully illustrated chapters cover everything from purifying wild water, using a compass, whittling, knife safety and more.



The Incredible 3D Ocean Dive

Peggy Nille

Thames and Hudson
HB $34.99

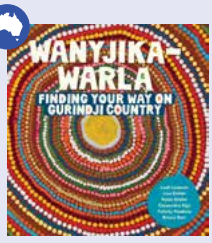
A bright and playful search-and-find set under the sea. Follow Hubble the hermit crab as he looks for a new shell and meets all sorts of sea creatures along the way. The bold illustrations are full of things to spot, and the 3D glasses add an extra layer of fun. An underwater adventure for ocean explorers young and old!

Believe

Catherine Doyle and Freya Hartas (illus)

Magic Cat Publishing
HB $36.99

A beautiful book to gift or share. *Believe* feels like stepping into a magical field guide, exploring the places creatures like dragons, unicorns and trolls came from. The detailed illustrations are full of things to discover on every page. Perfect for kids who love fantasy and getting quietly lost in a world of wonder.



Wanyjika-warla

Leah Leaman et al.

Hardie Grant Explore
HB $29.99

From the creators of *Tamarra*, this story follows a grandmother and grandchild heading out fishing together, drawing on Gurindji knowledge, language and everyday life. It weaves in ideas about navigation and connection to Country, and using our senses to understand the world around us. Written in Gurindji, Gurindji Kriol and English, and illustrated by 35 Gurindji artists.

Find Me in the Forest

Jess McGeachin

Lothian Children's Books
HB $29.99

With beautifully soft watercolour illustrations, Jess McGeachin takes us around the globe to explore the incredible types of flora and fauna you can find in the forest. From tropical rainforests to crisp leaf litter, all aspects of the world's woodlands are covered. Discover how life thrives and survives in the most remarkable ways.

Ottolenghi SIMPLE TOO

Yotam Ottolenghi

Ebury Press
HB $69.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

For the millions of home cooks who loved *Simple*, Yotam Ottolenghi returns with 135 new recipes for breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert. Designed for busy lives, these dishes can be made in under 30 minutes, cooked in one pot or prepared ahead, making it easier than ever to bring Ottolenghi's signature flavours to the table.

Saint Peter

Josh Niland

Hardie Grant Books
HB $80.00

September release, pre-orders welcome

Saint Peter is a tribute to one of Australia's most extraordinary restaurants and luminary chefs. Through evocative essays and more than 140 defining recipes, stunningly photographed, Niland shares the philosophy, precision and imagination behind his revolutionary whole-fish approach, inviting readers into a world where craftsmanship and creativity know no limits.

Sweet Heart

Natalie Paull

Murdoch Books
HB $49.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Whatever you're craving, this latest offering from the legendary baker behind *Beatrix Bakes* is your one-stop bake book. This unmissable collection serves up classics and inspired flavour twists with recipes so heart-burstingly good, they will make you weep with joy. Featuring Nat's classic Adaptrix advice, you can mix and match to your dessert desire's delight in this gorgeously photographed and illustrated collection.

Osozai

Meg Tanaka

Harper by Design
HB $39.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Bringing balance, colour and flavour to the family table, osozai are everyday dishes in Japanese home cooking. Bright salads, quick pickles, simmered vegetables and satisfying mains–simple, home-style dishes designed to fit everyday life. Featuring 80 accessible recipes made for sharing, this is modern Japanese cooking at its best: thoughtful, nourishing and full of joy.

ITALO

Cristian Bonetto

Hardie Grant Explore
HB $45.00

September release, pre-orders welcome

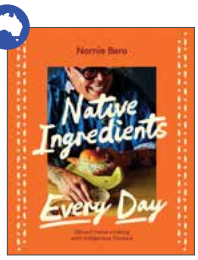
In Italian-Australian Cristian Bonetto's gorgeous book he celebrates all things Italian that have become integral parts of Australian culture. Travelling state by state, and through our capital cities, with walking tours and shopping guides illustrated with drawings and photography, Cristian gives us food, coffee, wine and Italian-Australian history. Bellissimo!

Middle Eastern Simple

Fatimah Omran

Penguin
PB $44.99

In *Middle Eastern Simple*, Fatimah Omran invites you to enjoy the flavours and traditions she grew up with from her Lebanese migrant parents, now brought to life in a way that fits into any kitchen. Whether you are already familiar with this style of cooking or want to expand your skills, look no further for recipes that are easy, fun and made for sharing.



Native Ingredients Every Day

Nornie Bero

Hardie Grant Books
HB $45.00

Native Ingredients Every Day celebrates the bold, beautiful flavours of Australian native produce, from warrigal greens, wattleseed and pepperberry to sweet potato and strawberry gum, each explored in its own dedicated chapter. Alongside stories of culture and Country, Nornie Bero, shares practical tips for sourcing, preparing and using these ingredients making it simple and fun for home cooks of all levels.

The Aussie BBQ Bible

Oscar Smith

Smith Street Books
HB $49.99

Fire up the barbecue with this essential guide to cooking over flame. Packed with approachable recipes for meat, seafood, vegetables, sides and desserts. It takes the guesswork out of grilling, whether you're feeding a crowd or cooking a relaxed dinner, delivering bold flavours with confidence and ease.

Travel

Love Japan

Lonely Planet

Lonely Planet
HB $44.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Love Japan is an immersive introduction to Japan's culture, customs, landscapes, food and people. With more than 70 topics, accompanied by local voices, expert interviews, photography, maps and illustrations, it explores everything from Shinto shrines and onsens to bonsai, karate and sushi, offering travellers and armchair readers a lively, affectionate portrait of this extraordinary country.

Offseason

Lonely Planet

Lonely Planet
PB $29.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Offseason showcases 100 top destinations across 12 months, highlighting rewarding travel beyond peak periods. With expert insights, practical planning details and striking photography, it encourages travellers to avoid crowds, support local communities and discover fresh perspectives—from Romania in winter to the Galapagos in March and Namibia in May—while travelling more sustainably and affordably.

Epic Bike Trips of the World

Lonely Planet

Lonely Planet
HB $49.99

Epic Bike Trips of the World showcases 200 inspiring cycling routes across every continent, from relaxed city rides to remote adventures in Patagonia, Mongolia and the Himalayas. Beautiful photography, maps and practical planning details guide riders of all levels, while each journey reveals cycling as an immersive way to explore landscapes, cultures and communities.

Gift & Illustrated

Margaret Preston

Edited by Beckett Rozentals and Michael Gentle

Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $79.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Margaret Preston transformed Australian art through bold still lifes, innovative printmaking and a distinctive modern vision shaped by native flowers, design and colour. This landmark publication surveys her career through key works and new scholarship, exploring her artistic networks, relationship with First Nations visual culture, and lasting influence on Australian art and design.

The Verandah

Simon Griffiths

Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $59.99

The verandah is one of the most defining features of Australian architecture, linking private homes with public life while responding to climate, culture and history. From settler huts to gold rush mansions and humble shacks, verandahs have adapted across regions and eras. Simon Griffiths captures their enduring beauty, charm and place in Australia's built and social landscape.

Definitive Dupain

State Library of NSW, edited by Avryl Whitnall

Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $79.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

Drawing on the State Library of NSW's vast Max Dupain archive, *Definitive Dupain* presents iconic and previously unseen photographs spanning the 1920s to the 1990s. Featuring images of people, architecture, landscapes, flora, fauna and commercial work, this landmark monograph positions Dupain as a defining Australian photographer through essays on light, place, modern life and cultural memory.

How to Start an Art Collection

Georgia Spray

Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $69.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

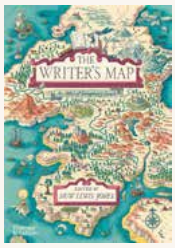
Art often feels daunting and cost prohibitive, but Georgia Spray is quick to sweep these aspersions aside. Focusing on making art accessible, intentional and personal, this book is essential for any creative person. Packed with beautiful photographs, Spray's work will allow anyone and everyone to start appreciating and collecting art.

Hare + Klein Design

Meryl Hare

Thames & Hudson Australia
HB $85.00

Hare + Klein Design showcases Meryl Hare's celebrated interiors, where texture, light, form and craftsmanship create timeless, personal spaces. Featuring coastal retreats and urban residences, the book explores the studio's design philosophy through bespoke furniture, handwoven rugs and custom details, offering insight into the creative process behind Hare + Klein's enduring Australian interior design.



The Writer's Map

Edited by Huw Lewis-Jones

Thames and Hudson
PB $54.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

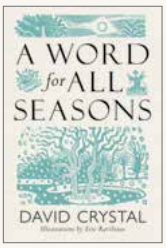
The Writer's Map is a richly illustrated celebration of literary cartography, bringing together writers and illustrators to explore the maps that inspire, shape and appear in their work. From childhood classics to fantasy worlds, medieval visions and unpublished sketches, it reveals how maps spark imagination, guide storytelling and invite readers to lose themselves in books.

The Secret Language of Birds

Colin Rees

Thames and Hudson
HB $54.99

An exquisitely illustrated reference guide, *The Secret Language of Birds* explores the symbolic roles birds have played in art, myth, folklore and belief systems across the ages and civilisations. Colin Rees profiles 42 species, blending ornithology, history and culture to reveal how birds have been worshipped, feared, hunted, named and imagined, with rich illustrations showing their enduring power in human storytelling.



A Word for All Seasons

David Crystal and Eric Ravilious (illus)

Bodleian Library
HB $39.99

September release, pre-orders welcome

A Word for All Seasons explores more than 100 seasonal words and phrases, from Shrovetide and dog days to Halloween and Hogmanay. David Crystal traces their origins, changing meanings and everyday uses, enriched by poetry, cultural references and Eric Ravilious's engravings. Appendices on month names and folklore names for moons add further charm to this lively lexical journey.

LOVE YOUR BOOK SHOP

The books in this guide have been chosen and reviewed by Australia's leading booksellers and members of The Australian Booksellers Association.

COVER CREDIT and DISCLAIMER:
Cover and theme inspiration have been taken from Penguin Modern Australian Classics (Penguin Random House).
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