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University of Queensland Press

*2026 Frankfurt Book Fair
Rights Guide*

UQP

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Dear Friends,

I'm delighted to be greeting you as the new Publishing Director of UQP.

In previous roles, it's been my privilege to have worked with UQP alumni, including Peter Carey, Tara June Winch and Siang Lu. I'm thrilled now to be at the source. Those writers have sought to describe the human experience in our part of the world in such a way it also speaks to readers in yours. UQP has been finding and nurturing exhilarating literary voices for almost eighty years; it's an honour to join the Press at a time when its unwavering mission and proud history have rarely felt more essential to our national culture.

It's also a time of great recent success', reflected in our rights: after winning the Miles Franklin Award, Siang Lu's *Ghost Cities* has been sold in 27 territories; in the wake of months of national headlines, Randa Abdel-Fattah's *Discipline* has also had notable rights sales; and in BCYA, Peter Carnavas's irresistible *Kid* has already started along the path of his *Leo and Ralph* (sold to nine territories so far) and *The Elephant* (sold in 18 territories).

The brilliant books in this catalogue almost exclusively reflect the work of my talented colleagues Madonna Duffy (now Director of UQP), Aviva Tuffield (fiction) and Cathy Vallance (children's and young adults). I look forward to adding some of my own authors at future fairs, and even seeing you to talk about them in person.

With all best,

Ben Ball

Catalogue cover elements from *A Short History of Longans* by Mirandi Riwoe.

A Short History of Longans cover design by Sandy Cull, cover artwork 2167185785, Photoography/Shutterstock; 1774838435, Arnont.tp/Shutterstock

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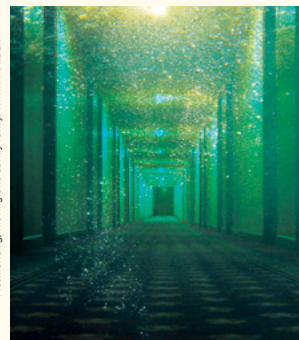
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Adult Fiction



THE DEPARTMENT



DAN DIXON

Cover not final

RRP AU\$34.99

Category Fiction

Format C-format paperback, 276pp

Rights held World



The Department is mesmerising, moving and darkly funny. A compulsive, sparkling debut.

Anna Funder

MARCH 2027

Dan Dixon

The Department

For readers of Rachel Cusk, Ben Lerner, Katie Kitamura and George Saunders – a surreal, thought-provoking novel full of absurdist humour examining the extremes of grief and the academy's frantic impulse for self-preservation.

A man shelters from torrential rain in a hotel across the road from the palliative care ward in which his father died just hours earlier. Trapped by flooding, he finds in progress a conference devoted to that most noble and pressing of pursuits: the reinvention of the humanities.

When word of his bereavement spreads, self-interested conferencegoers obsessed with professional rivalries and their own advancement see an opportunity and begin, by turns, to coerce him into delivering the closing keynote. Amid intellectual grandstanding and underhanded careerism, pressure mounts – and floodwaters continue to rise.

Set over twenty-four rain-soaked hours, *The Department* explores the tension between the experience and the performance of grief in a blazing satire of institutional decline, a send-up of self-satisfied corporate academia.

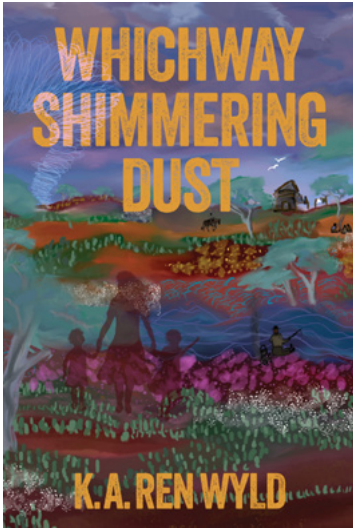


Dan Dixon is an Associate Lecturer in English and Writing at The University of Sydney, where he teaches English and creative writing. His work has been published in *Meanjin*, *Sydney Review of Books*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Guardian*, *The Conversation*, *Overland*, *Australian Book Review* and elsewhere. He was a Sydney Review of Books Emerging Critics Fellow and has been shortlisted for the Neilma Sidney Short Story Prize. *The Department* is his debut novel.

MARCH 2027

Ren Wyld

Whichway Shimmering Dust



RRP AU\$34.99

Category Fiction

Format C-format paperback, 352pp

Rights held World

An unforgettable story of resistance, joy and homecomings.

In a time of overwhelming change, an Aboriginal family weathers settler and state violence to hold on to what's important. Wil is left to fend for themselves, until they're befriended by Nanna Essie's family. Remaining firmly on Country, Auntie Gwen brings mob together for healing. Pearlie escapes from a children's institution and devotes her life to helping other stolen children return home. Can a rebellious willy-willy help lead them all to freedom?

Spanning over 150 years, this beautifully woven historical saga follows Pearlie, Wil, Gwen and the generations around them as they protect family and Country. *Whichway Shimmering Dust* is a richly imagined work of truth-telling and a homage to members of the Stolen Generations.

“

Readers of Alexis Wright, Doris Garimara Pilkington and Kim Scott will adore this extraordinary novel and its fusing of truth-telling with speculative fiction.

Madonna Duffy, Publisher



K.A. Ren Wyld (they/them) is an Aboriginal author of Martu descent living on Kurna Yarta, on the coast south of Adelaide. Ren has previously published two novels and a non-fiction children's book, and edited two anthologies. They

also write short stories, poetry, narrative non-fiction and literary essays.

APRIL 2027

Rachel Morton

There Is More Space



RRP AU\$34.99

Category Fiction

Format C-format paperback, 224pp

Rights held World

A profound novel about one young woman's attempt at transformation by moving to an isolated Irish village and learning to live with – and after – loss.

From the award-winning author of *The Sun Was Electric Light* comes this beautifully written story about coming to terms with the light and darkness that we carry inside. Written with Rachel Morton's trademark sparse and meditative style, *There Is More Space* follows Rose, who has always felt like an outsider, as she tries to navigate her way through the shattering grief following the death of her partner.

Across time and space, we bear witness to Rose's struggle to rediscover herself in the wake of deep loss. Set between Australia and Ireland, this is a novel about finding and losing love, the search for connection and belonging, and learning to live with yourself even when you've lost the desire to do so.

“

Rachel Morton is a special writer whose work defies categorisation. Her plangent, meditative style belies the urgency of the issues that her characters are wrestling with. She writes about outsiders who are trying to find a home in the world, while showing us that we are all outsiders in some ways – that feels reassuring.

Aviva Tuffield, Publisher

Rachel Morton is a writer living on Eastern Maar/Gunditjmara Country in south-west Victoria. Her poetry has appeared in *Meanjin Quarterly*, *The Moth Magazine* and various other publications. Rachel was shortlisted for the 2019 Australian Catholic University Prize for Poetry. *The Sun Was Electric Light* was her first novel and won the 2024 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an Unpublished Manuscript.

MAY 2027

Adam Thompson *Organ Grinder*



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Short stories
Format C-format paperback, 280pp
Rights held World

“

Adam Thompson proved his talents with his debut collection, *Born into This*, which won The US Story Prize Spotlight Award (for debuts). His razor-sharp insights into First Nations identity and cultural appropriation, as well as the exploitation of Country, are honed to perfection in his latest book.

Aviva Tuffield, Publisher

From an award-winning Indigenous short story writer comes a blazing new collection that riffs on questions of identity and race, environmental and cultural destruction, all with his trademark sly humour and his flair for the unexpected.

In his second collection of stories, Adam Thompson provides honest, humorous and often-raw insights into the experiences of living in Tasmania. From a young boy fighting for the life of his horse on isolated Flinders Island to a protestor revising an engraving at a famous tourist landmark, to a young woman taking a stand against developers on a local beach, *Organ Grinder* covers themes of family, activism, colonialism, heritage, environment, intimacy and identity.

Adam Thompson is an emerging Aboriginal (pakana) writer from Tasmania, who writes contemporary short fiction. In 2016–17, Adam received writing awards through the Tamar Valley Writers Festival and the Tasmanian Writers and Readers Festival. Adam has been awarded a First Nations Fellowship at Varuna, several Arts Tasmania grants, and was one of ten recipients of The Next Chapter initiative through the Wheeler Centre. His debut collection *Born Into This* was shortlisted for the USQ Steele Rudd Award for a Short Story Collection and the 2021 Age Book of the Year Award.

EARLY 2028

Em Meller *Good Work*



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Fiction
Format C-format paperback, 288pp
Rights held World

“

In the style of the school of alienated autofiction – think Ottessa Moshfegh and Ben Lerner – comes this impressive debut novel, with its self-aware, slightly unhinged narrator who has to decide what is real and what is fiction and where to draw the lines.

Aviva Tuffield, Publisher

A novel about what we are willing to sacrifice for ambition, and the competitive jealousy that can underlie female friendships.

Madeline is a writer who is struggling to write and searching for a cure to whatever is preventing her from doing so. She is on the verge of failing out of her prestigious creative writing program at the University of Oxford. She is short of money, short of inspiration and short of time to keep her life together.

When she meets the beautiful and enigmatic Francesca at a party, Madeline has a glimmer of hope – and something, or someone, worth writing about. But as she moves deeper into obsession, both with the real Francesca and her fictional portrayal, she has to decide what really matters in her life and the costs of getting it wrong.

Em Meller lives and works in Sydney, on the unceded lands of the Gadigal people. Her fiction has been published in *Meanjin*, *Debris*, *Prism* and *The Big Issue*. She also writes essays and reviews, which have appeared in *Meanjin*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *The Lifted Brow*, *Going Down Swinging* and other places. In 2019 she received her MSt in Creative Writing from St Catherine's College, Oxford University. Her unpublished manuscript was shortlisted for the 2024 Vogel Prize.

EARLY 2028

Thomas Vowles *We Were Bodies*



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Fiction
Format C-format paperback, 288pp
Rights held World

“

Tom Vowles is one of the most exciting and imaginatively talented young writers working in Australia right now. With *We Were Bodies* he continues his creative delving into the nature of desire, the dangers of erotic attraction and the limits of trust, all with a thrilling queer bent.

Aviva Tuffield, Publisher

A haunting, unsettling work of queer gothic horror that asks: what is the ultimate form of possession of another person?

After a chance encounter, Gabriel finds himself drawn towards the enigmatic Felix, even after discovering that he's responsible for the murder – and cannibalism – of a young man at the cruising site where they first met. Wishing to honour the victim, who he insists was his friend, Felix recruits Gabriel and his writer housemate, Sid, into a destabilising reenactment of the events that lead up to the murder.

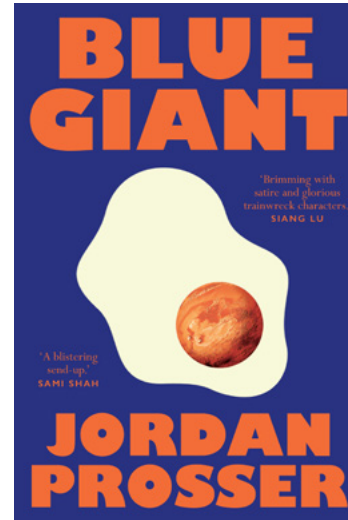
What follows is a strange and exhilarating story that traps Gabriel in a nightmare of spiritual forces as, almost against his conscious will, he finds himself surrendering to the horror and ecstasy of the extremes that Felix comes to embody and the existential question he represents: why do some people have a taste for desire?

Thomas Vowles lives in Naarm/Melbourne. As a screenwriter, he's worked with production companies based in Los Angeles, London and Australia. He released a collection of short stories as an episodic zine, and is a graduate of Central Film School, London, and the Faber Academy. *Our New Gods* was his debut novel.



AUGUST 2026

Jordan Prosser *Blue Giant*



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Fiction
Format C-format paperback, 288pp
Rights held World
Rights sold UK/Comm ex ANZ (Dead Ink Books); Russia (Azbooka); ANZ audio (Wavesound)

“

Brimming with satire and glorious trainwreck characters, Jordan Prosser has knocked it out of the park, straight into the stratosphere.

Siang Lu

The brilliantly bonkers new book from the author of *Big Time*.

Abby always believed she was destined for great things. But her dream career as an industry-disrupting fashion designer went up in smoke, and her aspirations to become a world-renowned yogi and/or save the endangered tigers proved equally fruitless. She's in her early thirties, suffering the unbearable burdens of adulthood and anonymity, when she wakes up after a drunken bender with an all-new, all-consuming purpose in life: to be the first person on Mars.

Perfect timing – Danish tech entrepreneur Tor Skovgaard is currently recruiting for a one-way mission to colonise the red planet. Abby knows this is it: her last-ditch bid for fame and glory. And if she can't be humanity's saviour ... she'll settle for being its martyr.

Blue Giant is an unruly eulogy for millennial optimism – a deranged love letter to a generation torn between helplessness and selfishness.



Jordan Prosser is an author and screenwriter based in Naarm/Melbourne. He won the Peter Carey Short Story Award in 2022. His debut novel, *Big Time*, was shortlisted for the Matt Richell Award for New Writer of the Year at the ABIAs and the Aurealis Award for Best Science Fiction Novel.



JORDAN PROSSER

Praise for *Blue Giant*

“

Jordan Prosser writes with savage wit and startling tenderness. *Blue Giant* skewers tech-utopian salvation stories while never losing sight of the messy, bruised people caught in the blast radius. A blistering send-up of billionaires, media spectacle and the cult of reinvention, with an emotional core that lands hard. I tore through *Blue Giant* and kept thinking about it long after the last page.

Sami Shah

“

Blue Giant is an intoxicating trip, elegantly consumed with the idea that there's something better for us out there, somewhere, if we could only escape ourselves. Jordan Prosser draws friendship, in all its romance and misery, so authentically that it sometimes sucks the air from your chest.

Sinéad Stubbins

“

Jordan Prosser has rendered a triumphant fantasy of the human race, where the people around us are so specific and vivid that you just want to leave them all behind. *Blue Giant* is beautiful and bitter, powered by vinegar but very much lit by the stars. And Abby Horne is a heroine for the ages, but especially our degraded age, and I for one would follow her to Mars.

Ronnie Scott

“

Savagely precise and shockingly funny, *Blue Giant* captures the absurdity, brutality and sheer banality of life on a world on the brink better than anything I've ever read. This book is destined to be one of the definitive millennial novels.'

Sarah Walker

“

Blue Giant is a paean to millennial ennui, manic delusion and the destructive false promises of the capitalist machine. Brimming with satire and glorious trainwreck characters, Jordan Prosser has knocked it out of the park, straight into the stratosphere.

Siang Lu

JULY 2026

Mirandi Riwoe

A Short History of Longans

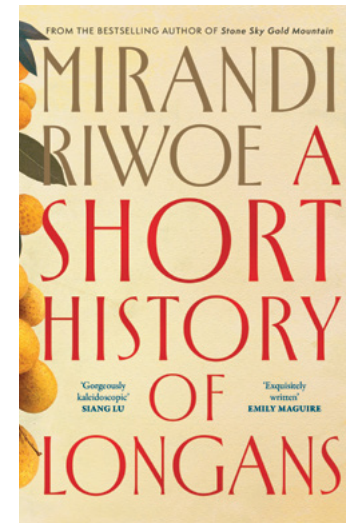
From the award-winning, bestselling author of *Stone Sky Gold Mountain* comes the story of an Irish–Chinese family over four generations in Australia.

'They said you were a murdering bushranger.'

It's the winter of 2049 and Daniel is elderly and long isolated. After yet another devastating storm, this time destroying his beloved longan tree, he finds his fragile peace threatened by a growing friendship with a widowed neighbour and the appearance of a young reporter digging into a shameful event buried deep in his past.

Across the autumn of 2000, the summer of 1949 and the restless springs of the mid-nineteenth century, the tangled roots of Daniel's family tree unfurl – to the moment an Irish orphan finds her fate entwined with that of a Chinese bushranger.

Intriguing and beautifully written, this dazzling novel spanning centuries and generations unravels the secrets and memories of one family to explore what it means to belong – to place, to ancestors, to ourselves.



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Fiction
Format C-format paperback, 272pp
Rights held World
Rights sold ANZ audio (Wavesound)

“

A multigenerational jewel that traces the roots and bloodlines of one family across centuries in ways only Mirandi Riwoe can.

Siang Lu



Mirandi Riwoe is the author of *Stone Sky Gold Mountain*, which won the 2020 Queensland Literary Award for Fiction, and was shortlisted for the 2021 Stella Prize and longlisted for the 2021 Miles Franklin Literary Award. Her third novel, *Sunbirds*, was shortlisted for the Barbara Jefferis Award.

MIRANDI RIWOE

Praise

“

A staggering recreation of an Australian history too few of us know, and a heart-bruising testament of resilience and love. You'll be gripped – and moved – from the first page

Benjamin Law on
Stone Sky Gold Mountain

“

Reading a Mirandi Riwoe novel I feel the anticipation and delight of knowing I'm about to be transported, enriched and changed. She is a deeply moving storyteller. Her writing is dazzling.

Holly Ringland

“

Evocative, soaring, incredible.

Alice Pung on
The Burnished Sun

“

Riwoe's stories make the ordinary profound. Her prose deftly walks the razor-fine line of spare, yet lyrical. The Australian short story is in masterful hands

Maxine Beneba Clarke

“

The Burnished Sun is a realist beauty that decentres dominant narratives and completely gripped me with every story.

Laura Jean McKay

“

A heart-bruising testament of resilience and love. You'll be gripped – and moved – from the first page.

Benjamin Law on
Stone Sky Gold Mountain

“

Romantic and sweeping, while also clear-eyed about the human cost of colonisation. *Sunbirds* is a triumph.

Toni Jordan

“

Fresh and vivid, absorbing and tragic. Written with great sensitivity for those on the margins of our violent past.

Carrie Tiffany on
Stone Sky Gold Mountain

“

Mirandi Riwoe has a talent for rich, evocative storytelling that illuminates moments in our shared history that have been overlooked or neglected.

Pip Williams

JULY 2026

Sally Piper

People Like Us

Brave, compassionate and humorous, *People Like Us* is a novel about the very best kind of friendships.

After Tina Lamb loses her family home in a bitter divorce, she finds herself living in a caravan on the city's fringes. Having raised four children and nursed her dying mum, she was not anticipating making a new start alone or from scratch. And while some of her new neighbours are welcoming, she soon finds herself getting far more attention than she bargained for.

When Tina finds work caring for a wealthy elderly woman, it is a welcome break from an ageist, sexist job market. But Mrs Bell is anything but predictable. Highly educated, acerbic and intimidating, she is not the straightforward charge that Tina had hoped for. As the two women form an unlikely friendship, they soon discover that financial security is about more than having money.

Topical and absorbing, *People Like Us* celebrates the power of female friendships and the promise of new beginnings found in unexpected places.



RRP AU\$34.99

Category Fiction

Format C-format paperback, 320pp

Rights held World

Rights sold ANZ audio (Audible)

“

A beautiful story of friendship and family. Packed with nuance and warmth, *People Like Us* explores the true value of connections, at any age.

Jane Harper

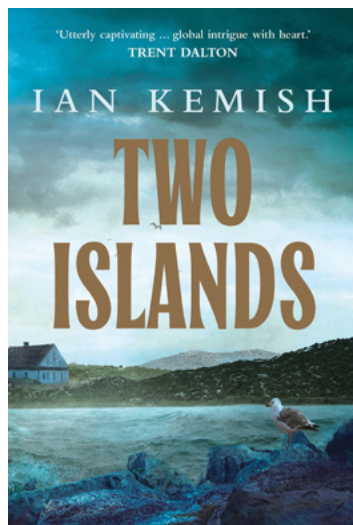


Sally Piper has the author *Grace's Table* (2014); *The Geography of Friendship* (2018), which was shortlisted for the ABIA Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year; and *Bone Memories* (2022), a finalist in the Queensland Literary Awards for a Work of

State Significance and the People's Choice Book of the Year Award, and longlisted for the Dublin Literary Award and a Davitt Award. Her short fiction and non-fiction have been published in Australia and the UK, including *Griffith Review*, *The Saturday Paper*, *The Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Weekend Australian*.

FEBRUARY 2026

Ian Kemish
Two Islands



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Fiction
Format C-format paperback, 272pp
Rights held World
Rights sold ANZ audio (Audible)

“

A lively, suspenseful and smart
book ... a joy to read.

Bernhard Schlink

**A race against time for justice at the edge
of the world.**

When a desperate young man arrives on an isolated Scottish isle, the locals view him with suspicion. But Niko is there for a reason – he’s running for his life, pursued by those who want him silenced for what he has seen in the Balkan War. His neighbour is a recluse known to the villagers as ‘Slow Fergus’. As the two men circle each other, Australian war crimes investigator Anita Costello races against sinister forces to locate her key witness.

Against this rugged landscape, where the tight-knit island community holds painful memories close, Niko must weigh his loyalties to his family, his country and himself.

Written with compassion and insight, *Two Islands* explores how the ripples of distant conflicts can wash up on the most remote shores.



Ian Kemish AM is a former Australian diplomat who served as ambassador to Germany, high commissioner to Papua New Guinea, international adviser to the Prime Minister, and head of the consular and crisis management service. He

was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in recognition of his leadership of the emergency response to the 2002 Bali bombings. Ian’s first book, *The Consul* (2022), offered a personal perspective on Australia’s foreign affairs challenges over two decades – spanning hostage diplomacy, natural disasters and evacuations from war zones.

MID 2028

Ian Kemish
After The Thunder



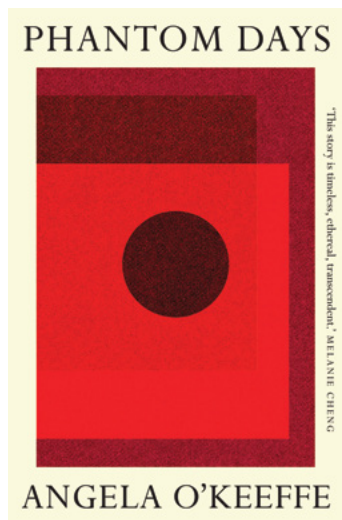
RRP AU\$34.99
Category Fiction
Format C-format paperback, 272pp
Rights held World

For readers of Robert Harris and Anna Funder, *After the Thunder* unspools a fifty-year-old secret of identity, loyalty and redemption, wound during the first battle of the Cold War, the Berlin Airlift.

Berlin, 1948. The Soviet blockade is tightening as the Western allies mount an airlift to keep the city alive. Thousands of displaced people scramble for a future. One of them is Elena, a Latvian woman, carrying a secret.

Now she makes a dangerous decision. She will run. Fifty years later, Australian diplomat Julian Thomson discovers a family mystery following the death of his father, W.B. “Bill” Thomson – a towering figure of postwar diplomacy and lifelong advocate for the eastern European refugees whose arrival shaped his country. Delving into his father’s wartime years in Berlin, with the reluctant help of a retired British journalist, Julian sets out to uncover the truth about his father, the mysterious Elena and the unnumbered refugees trapped by history.

After The Thunder is a story of secrets carried across generations, lives suspended between nations, and choices made in the shadows of history that echo decades later.

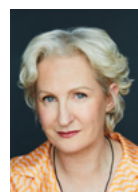


RRP AU\$29.99
Category Fiction
Format B-format paperback, 176pp
Rights held World ex film/TV
Rights sold North America (Dundurn Press)

“

An artful and bewitching story that seeps skilfully into the body and gently breaks the heart.

Lucy Nelson



Angela O'Keeffe grew up with nine siblings on a farm in the Lockyer Valley, Queensland. She completed a Master of Arts in Writing at UTS, and her first novel, *Night Blue*, was shortlisted for the UTS Glenda Adams Award for New Writing and the Prime Minister's Literary Awards. She was awarded the 2023 Varuna Eleanor Dark Fellowship. Her second novel, *The Sitter*, won the 2024 Christina Stead Prize for Fiction and was longlisted for the 2024 Miles Franklin Literary Award.

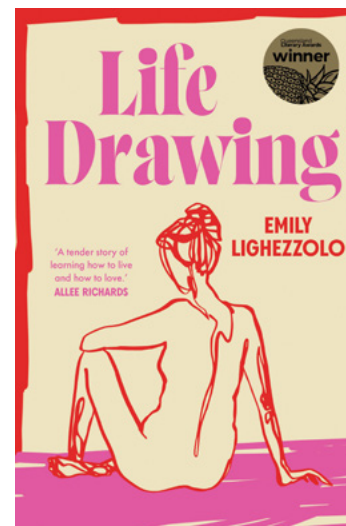
MAY 2026

Angela O'Keeffe *Phantom Days*

From the award-winning author of *The Sitter* and *Night Blue* comes another mesmerising novel – told, in part, by a book.

Before Isabel has even cracked the spine of a novel she bought on a whim ahead of an overseas trip, she senses something beginning within her. From Sydney to London and back again, the book is a quiet observer. When it's left in an airport taxi and Isabel's boyfriend takes it home, the book begins to learn about him – about his family and his past. Soon, it begins to understand: Isabel is not safe.

Angela O'Keeffe is the master of voice, and *Phantom Days* is a marvel: eerie, elegant and unforgettable. With O'Keeffe's signature emotional depth and narrative quirkiness, this novel explores the unknowability of other people, the mysteries of the body and the strange ways stories shape, complicate and safeguard our lives.



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Fiction
Format C-format paperback, 352pp
Rights held World
Rights sold ANZ audio (Wavesound); Thai (P.S. Publishing); Film/TV (Tacos Entertainment)

“

I loved this smart, compassionate and sexy story about the irresistible forces that bring people together and tear them apart.

Toni Jordan

MARCH 2026

Emily Lighezzolo *Life Drawing*

An award-winning and provocative novel about women's bodies, sex, autonomy – and the power of the image.

Hypothetically, would you want to live forever but invisible, or a short life seen?

Hypothetically, would you give up wine forever or sex for ten years?

Hypothetically, would you show a friend someone else's nude?

Maisie and Charlie meet at a life-drawing session as undergraduates: she's the model, he's an artist. Their immediate connection carries them across two decades as they navigate the slippery dynamics of friendship, estrangement and family.

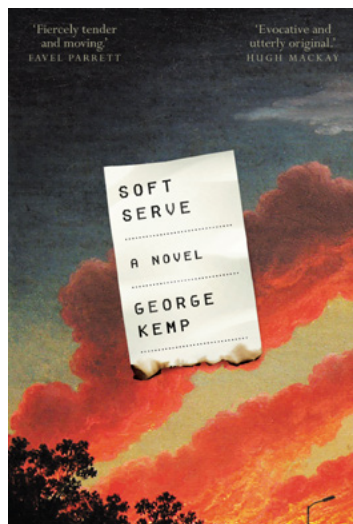
Maisie's story is every woman's, and Emily Lighezzolo's bold debut interrogates the collision of art and gaze, desire and consent, muse and meaning. This is a love story. At its core: a woman's body – seen, touched, loved, hated, commodified and reclaimed. *Life Drawing* is an award-winning and unflinching novel for our times.



Emily Lighezzolo has worked in Australian publishing for nearly a decade. *Life Drawing* won the Glendower Award for an Emerging Queensland Writer at the Queensland Literary Awards and is her first book. She lives in Meanjin/Brisbane.

FEBRUARY 2026

George Kemp *Soft Serve*



RRP AU\$29.99
Category Fiction
Format B-format paperback, 208pp
Rights held World ex film/TV
Rights sold ANZ audio (Bolinda); North America (Europa Editions)

“

Full of spark and love,
Soft Serve is fiercely
tender and moving.

Favel Parrett

A gem of a debut novel by award-winning playwright George Kemp, about small-town lives and the search for genuine sustenance in a fast-food world.

Stuck in a regional McDonald's, as bushfires close in, three twenty-somethings and their dead friend's mum all face a reckoning. Fern longs for Ethan, Ethan longs for Jacob, and Jacob struggles to long for anything. Meanwhile, Pat just wants her grief to ease up.

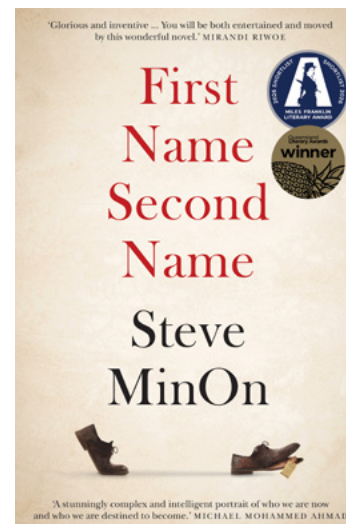
Soft Serve proves that small-town lives are huge, and that anyone can get stuck in limbo between their past and their hoped-for future. From celebrated playwright and actor George Kemp comes this charming and poignant novel: it's drive-thru Chekhov ... full of wit and heart.



George Kemp is based on Gadigal land in Sydney. He was selected to be part of the Faber Academy in 2023–24, during which he completed the first draft of *Soft Serve*. His award-winning play *Shack* has been performed frequently around the country and internationally, and is included on the new NSW Drama Curriculum. George is also a passionate educator and mentor of actors and writers and is currently Resident Artist at Australian Theatre for Young People.

MARCH 2025

Steve MinOn *First Name Second Name*



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Fiction
Format C-format paperback, 272pp
Rights held World
Rights sold ANZ and North American audio (PRH Audio)

“

First Name Second Name is the quintessential Australian novel – a stunningly complex and intelligent portrait of who we are now and who we are destined to become.

Michael Mohammed Ahmad

In this darkly ironic novel, a dead man walks back through four generations of family estrangements to recover his lost identity.

The journey will be long and difficult, one thousand miles. Try not to be too obvious. Stick to the backroads. You'll know you've arrived when you get there.

Stephen Bolin leaves a bizarre note by his deathbed, asking his sisters to take his body back to his birthplace in Far North Queensland. When they ignore his request, Stephen's corpse makes the nocturnal pilgrimage alone. But what is compelling him and what will he find there?

His journey, as a kind of jiangshi, takes him back through his turbulent family history: from his Chinese great-grandfather's life on the goldfields in 1860s Queensland, to his Scottish grandparents' migration to Australia as ten-pound Poms, and to his own coming of age and coming out in Brisbane and London.

Original and satirical, *First Name Second Name* follows four generations of one family through a reckoning with racial, familial and sexual identity.



Steve MinOn grew up in North Queensland, and he now lives on Turrbal land in Magandjin/Brisbane. Steve's debut novel *First Name Second Name* (UQP 2025) was shortlisted for the 2026 Miles Franklin Literary Award, won the Glendower Award

for an Emerging Queensland Writer and was shortlisted for People's Choice at the Queensland Literary Awards. In 2026, it was shortlisted for the MUD Literary Award and nominated for the Dublin Literary Award.

UQP
BESTSELLER

Oneworld cover



SHORTLISTED
2026 MILES
FRANKLIN
LITERARY
AWARD

SEPTEMBER 2025

Randa Abdel-Fattah *Discipline*

Silence is complicity, but how do we confront the cost of speaking up?

Sydney, May 2021. Ashraf is an academic whose career and personal life are in freefall. Hannah is a young journalist struggling to honour the voices of her community. When a Year 12 student from a local Islamic college is arrested for protesting a university's ties to an Israeli weapons manufacturer, Ashraf sees an opportunity to exploit his personal connection to the situation for professional redemption. Meanwhile Hannah, who is juggling the demands of new motherhood and family trauma, fights racism in the newsroom. As Israel's bombardment of Gaza intensifies into the final weeks of Ramadan, Ashraf and Hannah must reckon with their choices, values and places in their communities. Will they be prepared to make sacrifices in the pursuit of what is right?

With a focus on two of today's most contested fields, academia and the media, *Discipline* tallies the price we all pay when those with privilege choose to remain silent.

RRP AU\$34.99

Category Fiction

Format C-format paperback, 256pp

Rights held World

Rights sold World English ex ANZ (One-world Publications); Arabic (Al Karma); ANZ audio (Wavesound)

“

Blistering and brilliant.

Melissa Lucashenko, Miles
Franklin Award winning
author of *Too Much Lip*



Dr Randa Abdel-Fattah is an ARC Future Fellow at Macquarie University. Her research areas cover Islamophobia, race, Palestine, the war on terror, youth identities and social movement activism. Dr Abdel-Fattah is also a former lawyer and the award-winning author of twelve books for children and young adults,

which have been translated into over thirteen languages. She has won and been shortlisted and longlisted for awards including the CBCA Award, Prime Minister's Literary Award, the Stella Prize and more.

Adult Non-fiction



MARCH 2027

Alex Koefman

***Head Case:*
What nobody tells you about
becoming a brain surgeon**

A brilliant and absorbing medical memoir from neurosurgeon Dr Alex Koefman that uncovers the motivations and mysteries of our brains.

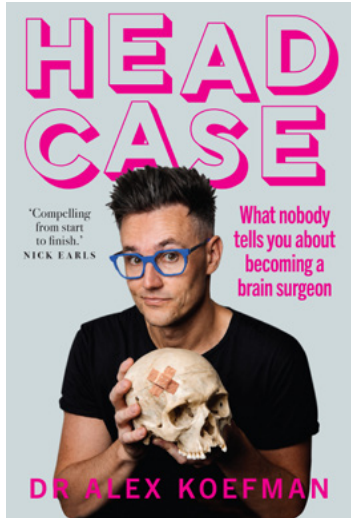
Raised on a farm in rural Tasmania, Alex Koefman never fit the mould of the future neurosurgeon. He didn't even get accepted into medicine on his first try. When he finally found his way in, he discovered the real battle was just beginning. What follows is a relentless, funny and deeply personal journey through one of the toughest medical specialties.

Alex hustles his way audaciously into a world where the stakes are life and death, and the learning curve is near vertical. Along the way, he reveals the hidden dramas of the operating room, the strange and wondrous mysteries of the brain, and the personal cost of a career built on precision, endurance and compassion.

Funny, heartbreaking and profound, *Head Case* reminds us that even in the most complex corners of medicine, humanity is the one skill no one can teach.



Dr Alex Koefman is a Brisbane-based neurosurgeon, a retired drummer in a band once unearthed by Triple J and a lapsed cricketer.



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Non-fiction
Format C-format paperback, 288pp
Rights held World

“

Brimming with vigour and passion, a keen eye for dark comedy and a fascination for the brain.

Nick Earls

JULY 2027

Suri Matondkar
Cheatercock

‘It’s true, na. I’m just another Kipling-inspired beast, the skin of a jaguar, full jungli but filled with words that don’t match my place of manufacturing.’

As a child in Goa, Suri Matondkar fell in love with the rhythms and writers of the English language. Coming to Australia as an international student, the proficiency tests she was set – both formal and informal – are the starting point for this thrillingly innovative and intimate exploration of how language can be owned and ultimately subverted.

Blending sharp critique and candid memoir, *Cheatercock* is many things: a wry tour of the breezy, exploitative bureaucracy governing the immigrant’s radically precarious life; a deeply insightful consideration of English as a means of control; and a highly personal exploration of the ways that language enables – or confines – our emotions and ultimately our identity.

Pulsating with life, intelligence, anger and humour, *Cheatercock* above all is a celebration of the hybrid and the multiple above the correct and the pure.

Suri Matondkar is a writer interested in language and identity. *Cheatercock* won one of two UQP Mentorship Prizes for Under-represented Writers in 2025, amongst other awards. Her writing appears in Roxane Gay’s Emerging Writer Series, *Island*, *Cordite* and *Kill Your Darlings*. She likes stickers, socks and Taylor Swift.



RRP AU\$34.99
Category Memoir
Format C-format paperback, 224pp
Rights held World

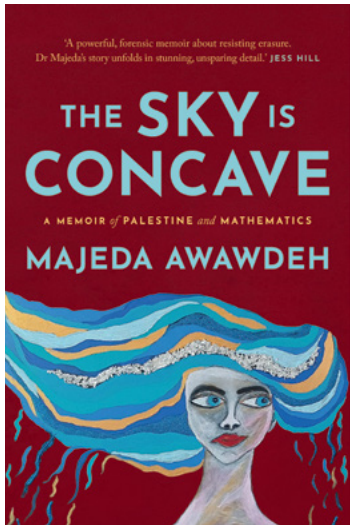
“

Cheatercock calls to mind the work of Aravind Adiga, Nam Le, Sarah Malik and Michelle de Kretser – a searing, funny, revealing challenge to our assumptions about who controls language, to what end and at what cost. It introduces a razor-sharp and endlessly readable literary intelligence.

Ben Ball, Publisher

OCTOBER 2026

Majeda Awawdeh *The Sky Is Concave*



RRP AU\$36.99
Category Memoir
Format C-format paperback, 320pp
Rights held World
Rights sold World audio (Wavesound)

“

The Sky Is Concave is at once a woman's tale as old as time and a story of absolute political currency and specificity, written by a fresh and fearless new voice. Simply breathtaking.

Clare Wright

A memoir of strength, the power of education and the universal language of mathematics.

Born near Nazareth as a Palestinian citizen of Israel, Majeda Awawdeh learns early the limits imposed on her body, voice and dreams. After marrying at just seventeen to escape a stifling home life and continue her education, Majeda finds herself shouldering the double burden of occupation and patriarchy in another kind of prison. Armed only with determination, love for her three young children and passion for learning, she begins to redraw the boundaries of her reality.

In *The Sky Is Concave*, Majeda recounts her journey through a childhood shaped by civil discrimination and rising religious conservatism to hard-won intellectual, financial and personal freedom.

Written with fierce, poetic honesty, *The Sky Is Concave* is a testament to courage and reinvention. It is an unforgettable story of daring to question the limits of your world and reshaping your own sky.



Dr Majeda Awawdeh is an academic, entrepreneur and advocate for women's education based in Sydney, Australia. As one of two million Palestinians with Israeli citizenship living under occupation, her early life was shaped by patriarchy, civil discrimination, Islamic conservatism and the complex realities of being a Palestinian citizen of Israel. Majeda holds a bachelor's degree in Mathematics, a master's in Mathematics Education, and a PhD in Mathematics Education and Cognitive Load Theory.

NOVEMBER 2026

Larissa Behrendt *Finding Justice*



RRP AU\$36.99
Category Essays
Format C-format paperback, 272pp
Rights held World
Rights sold World audio (Audible)

“

A terrific book, wise and passionate, offering a roadmap towards a larger justice.

Kate Grenville

A revelatory exploration of how law and lore can co-exist, from the bestselling author of *After Story*.

Larissa Behrendt has had an extraordinary career as a legal academic, author and filmmaker that has allowed her to move between courtrooms and Country to explore what real justice means, and what it might yet become.

In this groundbreaking work that is part philosophical meditation and part historical reckoning, Behrendt weaves together personal reflection, Indigenous knowledge and decades of legal experience to illuminate a deeper truth about Australia: that more than one way of understanding law, justice and responsibility has always existed.

With quiet authority, Behrendt considers how First Nations' Practices of Sovereignty – grounded in self-determination, reciprocity and collective care – have succeeded within communities.

Clear-eyed, thoughtful and ultimately hopeful, *Finding Justice* is a profound invitation to rethink power and policy, expand our understanding of justice, and achieve genuine transformation.



Larissa Behrendt is the author of three novels: *Home*, which won the David Unaipon Award and the regional Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book; *Legacy*, which won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Indigenous Writing; and *After Story*, shortlisted for the Indigenous Writers' Prize at the NSW Premier's Literary Award, and longlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award.

Poetry



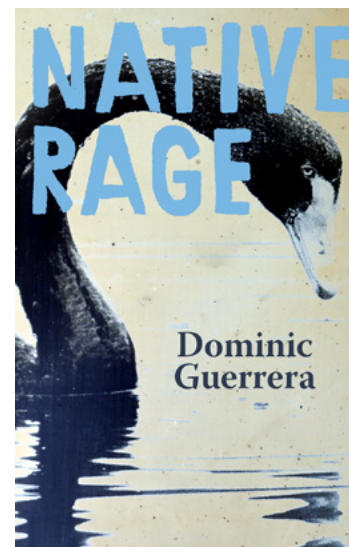
2024 DAVID
UNAIPON
AWARD
WINNER

FEBRUARY 2027

Dominic Guerrera *Native Rage*

A fiery and quick-witted collection of poetry from the winner of the 2024 David Unaipon Award.

Native Rage pulses with the undying force of Blak resistance. This fierce debut from David Unaipon Award-winning poet Dominic Guerrera confronts the colonial white gaze with uncompromising clarity and clapback. Guerrera's poems engulf with a rageful resilience, offering up a staunch and urgent exploration of the injustices of privilege and power, and fearlessly remind us to resist with dignity and to hold strength in the arms of Blak community and love.



RRP AU\$27.99
Category Poetry
Format B-format paperback, 120pp
Rights held World

“

An impressive debut from a First Nations poet who doesn't hold back – whether it be in his rage at racism and the stealing of Indigenous children and the breaking of family ties; to the celebration of the power of love and tenderness found in community.

Aviva Tuffield, Publisher



Dominic Guerrera is a Ngarrindjeri and Kaurna poet, writer, artist and curator. He was the recipient of the Oodgeroo Noonuccal Indigenous Poetry Prize in 2021 and his debut poetry collection, *Native Rage*, won the David Unaipon Award for an Emerging Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Writer in 2024.

APRIL 2027

Cheryl Leavy *Mudhunda*



From Kooma and Nguri author and recipient of the 2026 Peter Porter Poetry Prize, comes this expressive poetry collection.

Experimental in form, flow and language, *Mudhunda* is an important contribution to the endurance and revitalisation of the endangered Kooma language. Throughout the collection, Leavy artfully employs intertextuality to weave in dedications and dialogue with profound Aboriginal artists and activists such as Judy Watson, D Harding, Ruby Wharton and Jackie Huggins.

Meticulously researched and rich in First Nations knowledge, *Mudhunda* is a creative constellation of poetic force.

RRP AU\$27.99

Category Poetry

Format B-format paperback, 112pp

Rights held World

“

This necessary poem moves delicately and unswervingly towards justice.

Peter Porter Poetry Prize
Judges' comments on
Kumanjayi

Cheryl Leavy is from the Kooma and Nguri Nations in western and central Queensland. She is an award-winning poet and writer who loves to tell stories that celebrate First Nations culture, history and Country. *Yanga Mother* is her first picture book. Cheryl loves her job as a writer because it gives her endless opportunities to work with friends to make beautiful books together. Cheryl Leavy won the 2026 Peter Porter Poetry Prize for her poem "Kumanjayi". This award, presented by the Australian Book Review, is one of Australia's most prestigious poetry prizes, honouring the life and work of the late poet Peter Porter.

MAY 2027

Tim Loveday *your father was a bastard*



A reckoning with class, toxic masculinity and precarity from one of Australia's finest emerging poets.

your father was a bastard is a devastating interrogation of masculinity, class and precarity. These poems recount stories, both archetypal and particular, of how violence can shadow and permeate a family, and how those affected adapt to its presence and its threats. Tim Loveday's collection is distinguished both by its use of long-form narrative poetry and its focus on the male child's experience of domestic violence. He faces up to the legacies of gendered violence from the inside with bravery, associative insight and formal ingenuity, all the while showing us how things, in spite of everything, might be different in the future.

RRP AU\$27.99

Category Poetry

Format B-format paperback, 112pp

Rights held World

“

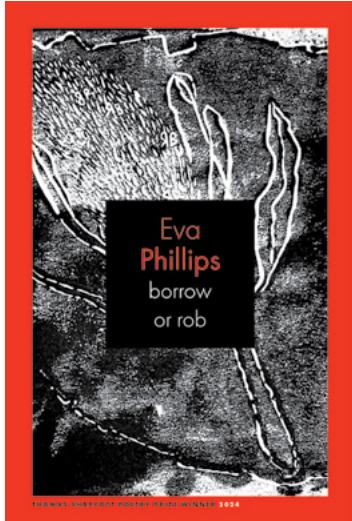
Award-winning poet Tim Loveday writes with intensity and clarity into interpersonal spaces shaped by toxic masculinity and domestic violence. With tenderness and grace he interrogates the damage done, the loss, the waste, the pity of it all. This is an important and necessary collection.

Aviva Tuffield, Publisher

Tim Loveday is a poet, writer and baby academic. His work explores class, masculinity, online radicalisation and climate collapse. He won the 2022 & 2024 Dorothy Porter Poetry Awards, the 2025 Calanthe Prize, the 2025 High Country Poetry Award and the 2023 Venie Holmgren Environmental Poetry Award, came runner-up in the 2024 Cloncurry Poetry Prize, and was a finalist in the 2023 David Harold Tribe Poetry Prize, the 2024 Griffith Review Emerging Voices Prize, the 2024 Best Australian Yarn, the 2024 Montreal International Poetry Prize and the 2025 Dorothy Hewett Unpublished Manuscript Award.

SEPTEMBER 2026

Eva Phillips *borrow or rob*



RRP AU\$24.99
Category Poetry
Format B-format paperback, 120pp
Rights held World

“

An eloquent debut that asserts a fresh take in current Australian poetry.

Pam Brown



Eva Phillips was born and raised in Magandjin and now lives and teaches on unceded Wangal land.

An outstanding collection of poetry examining art and appropriation, from the winner of the Arts Queensland Thomas Shapcott Poetry Prize.

borrow or rob examines themes of place, appropriation and extraction through cross-disciplinary considerations of Margaret Preston's printmaking and contemporaneous writing. The graceful and assured lines mount an incisive and astute intervention into the history of 'Australian' art.

With a precise control of language and voice, *borrow or rob* gives rise to a work that cannot be easily defined or contained in anything but poetry. Probing, meditative and insistent, each poem hums with insight, crystalline imagery and consummate skill. Above all, they implore us to look and then look again.

borrow or rob is a superbly crafted and important poetic tool that interrogates its own history.

MAY 2026

Dženana Vucic *after war*



RRP AU\$24.99
Category Poetry
Format B-format paperback, 128pp
Rights held World

“

I inhaled this book and will be returning to it again and again.

Jumaana Abdu



Dženana Vucic (she/they) is a Bosnian-Australian writer currently based in Berlin. Her poems have been shortlisted for the Peter Porter, Newcastle and Judith Wright poetry prizes. Her essays, reviews and poetry have been published in *Australian Poetry Journal*, *Cordite*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *Meanjin*, *Overland*, *Sydney Review of Books* and elsewhere. Dženana holds a PhD in English Literature and leads creative writing workshops.

A vital and urgent exploration of identity, memory and survival – for fans of Safia Elhillo, Hasib Hourani and Ocean Vuong.

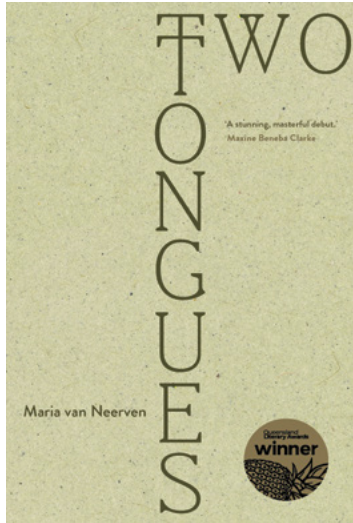
after war is an unwavering exploration of brutality and its consequences, moving adroitly between personal experience and the written record to plumb the 'after' and ongoingness of war, genocide and displacement. Unfurling from the Bosnian war and its traumas, this searing debut examines identity and un/belonging; language and its elisions; history and how we remember it; violence and how we are implicated in it.

Through experiments in form and voice, Dženana Vucic's deeply humane poetry bears witness not only to suffering, but to courage and strength. Generous and incisive, this extraordinary collection refuses both to look away or submit to despair; it compels readers not to either.

FEBRUARY 2026

Maria van Neerven

Two Tongues



RRP AU\$24.99

Category Poetry

Format B-format paperback, 112pp

Rights held World

From the 2023 David Unaipon Award winner comes this powerful, poignant poetry collection that celebrates and reclaims Indigenous voices and language.

Writing with a tender love for her Yugambeh language, Maria van Neerven reflects on the legacy of colonisation and racism, and the aftermath of intergenerational harm. At the same time, she shines a light on the importance of family and culture, celebrating the Indigenous women who guided and taught her – extraordinary women filled with resilience and strength. In this way, van Neerven reclaims the stories of her ancestors, giving a voice to those who weren't allowed one in the past. *Two Tongues* regathers what has been stolen in order to reassemble a life of compassion and – above all – love for family and Blak pride.

“

Van Neerven deftly unpicks the brutal colonial stitches that bind this place to history's lies, and lays bare searing, healing Blak truths.

Maxine Beneba Clarke

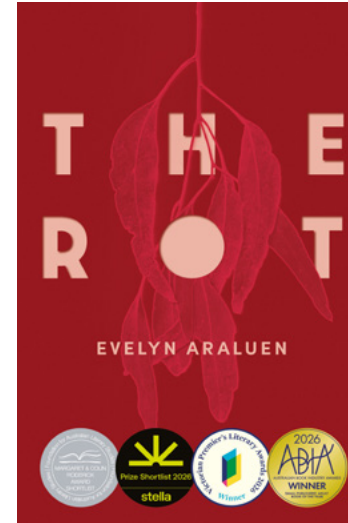


Maria van Neerven is a Mununjali poet from the Yugambeh nation living in Meanjin. Maria was the winner of the David Unaipon Award in 2023 and was a Next Chapter Fellow in 2024. *Two Tongues* is her first poetry collection.

NOVEMBER 2025

Evelyn Araluen

The Rot



RRP AU\$24.99

Category Poetry

Format B-format paperback, 144pp

Rights held World

Rights sold ANZ audio (Bolinda)

The scorching, much-anticipated new book from the winner of the 2022 Stella Prize for *Dropbear*.

It's not that you think you can change this, but you need something to do with your hands.

The Rot is a recalcitrant study of the decaying romances, expired hopes and abject injustices of the world. A liturgy for girlhood in the dying days of late-stage capitalism, these poems expose fraying nerves and tendons of a speaker refusing to avert their gaze from the death of Country, death on Country, and the bloody violence of settler colonies here and afar.

Across sleepless nights, fractured alliances and self-destructive coping strategies, *The Rot* is what happens when poetry swallows more rage than it can console, quiet or ironise – this book demands you ready yourself for a better world.

“

Rageful, desireful, artful,
sorrowful, hauntingful.
A blaze of a book.

Michelle de Kretser, two-time
Miles Franklin Literary
Award-winning author



Evelyn Araluen is a Goorie and Koori poet, editor and researcher. Born and raised on Dharug Country, she now lives on Wurundjeri Country where she works as a lecturer at the Wilin Centre for Indigenous Arts and Cultural

Development, co-editor of *Overland Literary Journal* and Chairperson for the Board of the Institute of Postcolonial Studies. Her debut poetry collection, *Dropbear*, won the 2022 Stella Prize.

Children's & Young Adult



RRP AU\$16.99
Category Junior fiction
Format B-format paperback, 176pp
Reading age 6+
Rights held World ex film/TV

“

The world needs more beautifully written literary novels for junior readers, ones that stay in their hearts and minds forever, and that is what *The Goodbye Monster* offers.

Cathy Vallance

SEPTEMBER 2027

Shivaun Plozza

The Goodbye Monster

A hunt for a cryptid leads to unexpected discoveries about the power of memory and new beginnings in this junior novel by award-winning writer Shivaun Plozza.

Elsie loves spending summer holidays at her grandma's old, creaky house on the shores of Loch Sport. But this year, everything is different: a For Sale sign stands in the front yard. Instead of swimming, fossil hunting and eating too much cheese together, Elsie is expected to help Gammie pack up the house and move into a retirement village.

But Elsie is determined to remind Gammie of everything she loves about Loch Sport and convince her to stay. Even if that means tracking down the elusive lake monster everyone says is just a legend ...

Shivaun Plozza is the award-winning author of *Frankie*, *Tin Heart*, *The Boy, the Wolf and the Stars*, *A Reluctant Witch's Guide to Magic*, *Meet Me at the Moon Tree*, *The Worst Perfect Moment* and *Summer of Shipwrecks*. Her writing has been shortlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year Award, the Queensland Literary Awards, the Australian Book Industry Awards and the Gold Inky Award. She won the Davitt Award for Best Young Adult Crime Novel in 2017. She lives in Geelong with her cat, Fenchurch. *Running in Circles* is her latest book.

AUGUST 2027

Kathryn Apel

Kody Willis Gets a Grip



From the award-winning author of *Bully on the Bus* comes this middle-grade verse about friendship, resilience and the thrill of finding your grip.

Kody never expected a weekend camp to change his life. But when he discovers the sport of bouldering, he's hooked – even though he's afraid of heights! The climbing wall is full of impossible-looking problems, daring routes and challenges that test his strength, courage and determination.

But some obstacles can't be climbed around. Kody's politician father keeps disappointing him, and he's worried that running for school council will make his classmates think he's trying to follow in his dad's footsteps. Yet the more Kody climbs, the more he discovers what he's capable of.

RRP AU\$17.99
Category Middle grade/verse novel
Format B-format paperback, 224pp
Reading age 9+
Rights held World ex film/TV

“

Her writing is brief and precise, going to the heart of things and of people.

Kids' Book Review on
Too Many Friends

Kathryn Apel is a born-and-bred farm girl who's scared of cows. She lives among the gum trees, cattle and kangaroos on a Queensland grazing property, where she writes poetry, picture books and verse novels. Her previous books include *Bully on the Bus*, which won the Australian Family Therapists' Award for Children's Literature: Younger Readers, and *Too Many Friends*, a CBCA Notable book. Kat loves pumping poetry because she can flex her muscles across other genres, to bend (and break) writing rules. A trained teacher, Kathryn shares her passion for words at schools and festivals around the globe.

JUNE 2027

Sandy Bigna

Searching for Starwings



The exquisite second verse novel from Sandy Bigna, the multi-award-winning author of *Little Bones*, about a magical tree, missing moths, and the adventure to bring them home.

Eleven-year-old Spitfire shares a special connection with Snowy, an ancient snow gum that stands tall in the woodlands near his home. For millennia, Snowy's forest has sheltered endangered starwing moths. But ever since a bushfire tore through the area a year ago, Spitfire can't face school, his mother is a recluse, and the moths have vanished.

Now the council plans to clear the remaining woodlands unless the starwings return.

To save Snowy, Spitfire and his new friend Indigo embark on a dangerous journey through the wilderness, relying on each other – and a wingbeat of magic – to bring the starwings home.

RRP AU\$17.99
Category Middle grade/verse novel
Format B-format paperback, 240pp
Reading age 9+
Rights held World ex film/TV

“

Sandy Bigna uses verse to craft lyrical, clever, and emotionally rich writing that captures the pain, fragility, and strange beauty of life.

CBCA Victoria

Sandy Bigna is a passionate supporter of local children's literature and author of *Little Bones*, her debut novel, which won a CBCA Honour Book Award, Queensland Literary Award and Aurealis Award, and received shortlistings for many others, including the Prime Minister's Literary Award. Sandy started up the Aussie Kids Books Instagram, which reviews Australian children's and YA books. She has studied children's literature at the University of Canberra and worked as a children's librarian in a public library.



RRP AU\$17.99

Category Middle grade/Verse novel

Format B-format paperback, 256pp

Reading age 9+

Rights held World ex film/TV

Rights sold North America (S&SBYR)

“

An utterly wonderful read.

It is a heartwarming and brilliantly original tale of family and friendship with characters who leap from the page.

Zana Fraillon

MARCH 2025

Sandy Bigna *Little Bones*

A unique and lyrical verse novel for middle-grade readers that speaks to our childhood joy of collecting small, intriguing objects and creating connections in the most unlikely places.

Since the accident, eleven-year-old Bones spends her time drawing animal skeletons and scavenging for dead things to add to her collection. She's drifted away from her friends and doesn't want to make new ones.

One night, Bones wishes on a full moon and unintentionally resurrects the skeleton of a baby bird. Bird wants to return to his natural (dead) state, so Bones agrees to reverse the curse – not that she knows how. As she and Bird work out the secrets of the magic, Bones remembers what it's like to have a friend. How can she let Bird go when she doesn't want to say goodbye?

With gorgeous greyscale illustrations by Tamlyn Teow of Bones's collected items scattered throughout, this book is perfect for big-hearted readers of Karen Foxlee and Zana Fraillon.

Artwork | Illustrations from *Little Bones* by Sandy Bigna



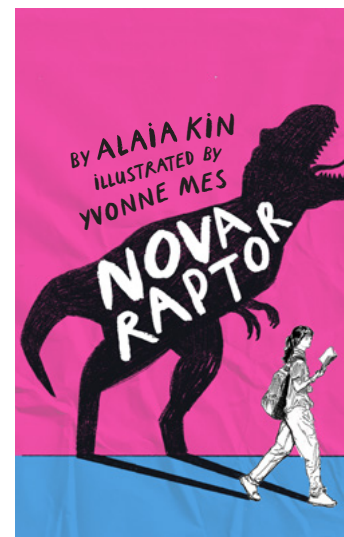
APRIL 2027

Alaia Kin, illus. by Yvonne Mes *Novaraptor*

Sweet and funny, this contemporary verse novel from an exciting new voice explores themes of gender identity and transitioning with care and sensitivity.

Nova is an almost twelve-year-old girl who loves dinosaurs. Her parents and friends are always telling her it's time to grow up, but she doesn't want to.

At the brink of starting high school, Nova doesn't feel ready for the big leap. But when her older brother comes out as Sky, Nova embarks on a journey of gender identity acceptance and allyship, as well as her own coming-of-age.



Cover not final

RRP AU\$17.99

Category Middle grade/verse novel

Format B-format paperback, 256pp

Reading age 10+

Rights held World

Alaia Kin is a children's author who writes stories that aim to create a more inclusive future. Alaia believes in the power of story, enjoys a diet of delicious words, and appreciates a good analogy. She is the proud parent of transgender kids and is passionate about standing up for trans rights. Alaia's current favourite dinosaur is the spinosaurus. She lives in Queensland, Australia.

Yvonne Mes is a children's author and illustrator based in Australia. She writes and illustrates picture books for children with curious minds. A frequent speaker at schools and writers' festivals, she uses her many years of experience as an early childhood professional to present engaging, entertaining and educational sessions. As the coordinator of Write Links, Yvonne supports children's authors and illustrators through facilitating networking opportunities, professional development and face-to-face critique groups. Yvonne grew up in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, but has made her home in Australia. She buys more books than she can read, comes up with more ideas than she can write or draw, and has more children than she can manage.

APRIL 2027

Billie Rooney,
illus. by Tilda Joy

Bring Back the Night

A stunning lyrical picture book that explores the effects of light pollution on the natural environment, humans and animals. The perfect bedtime book!

*When the sun goes down
and the moon and stars
shine softly across the land
night-dwellers stir from their sleep.*

Lights can help humans see at night, but too much light can disrupt our rhythms of activity and rest. Light pollution is spreading around our world and impacting both humans and wildlife.

This exquisitely illustrated non-fiction picture book educates young readers on how animals rely on the darkness and the light of the moon and stars to feed, breed and migrate, and how we can reduce our light pollution to bring back the natural rhythms of day and night.



Cover not final

RRP AU\$26.99

Category Non-fiction picture book

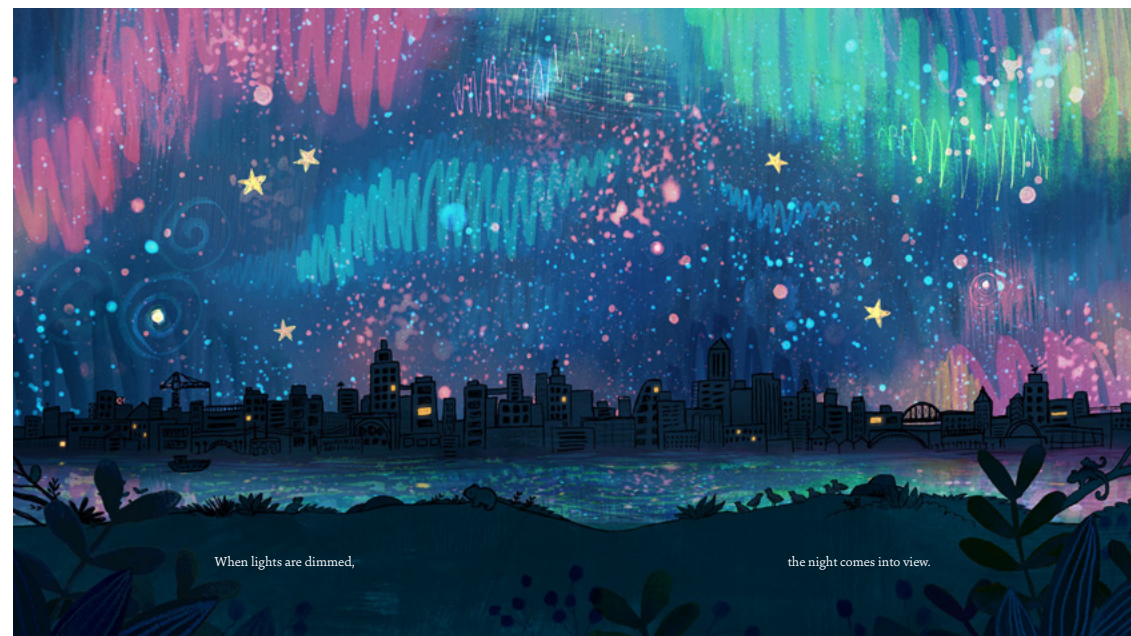
Format 265 x 235mm hardback, 40pp

Reading age 4+

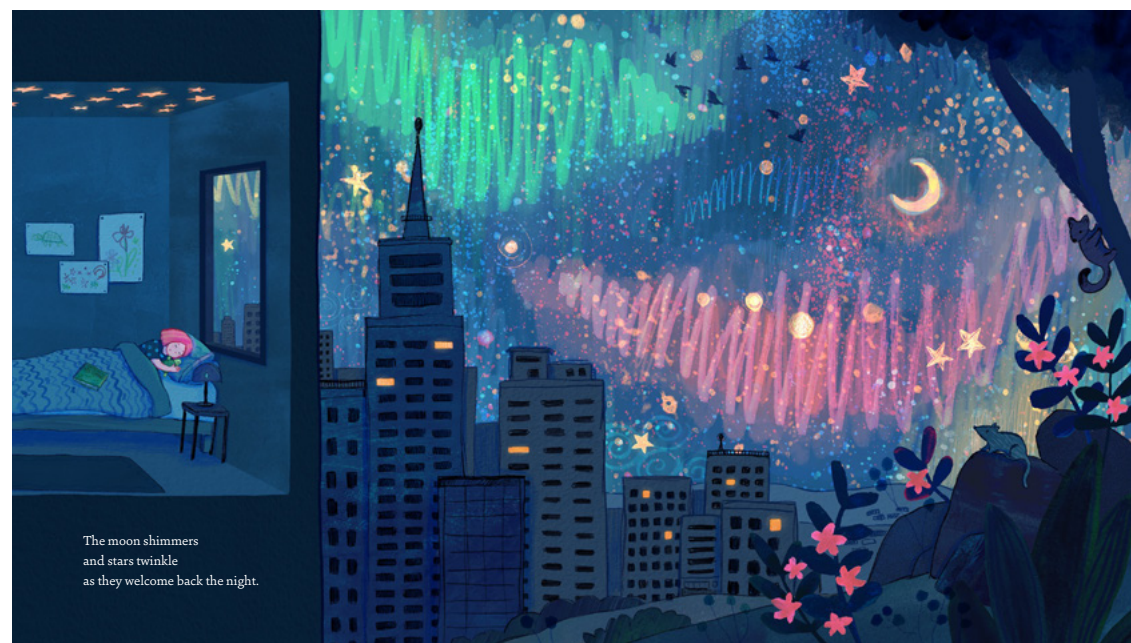
Rights held World

Billie Rooney is a children's writer of both picture books (fiction and non-fiction) and middle grade fiction. Her first picture book, *Creature Corridors*, was published in 2025 by CSIRO Publishing. When she is not writing, Billie works as a lecturer in early childhood and environmental education. She draws inspiration from this work in her writing for children, often exploring themes of sustainability and young children's connection to the natural world.

Tilda Joy is a Canberra-based illustrator who plays across traditional and digital mediums. With a background in design and environmental science, she loves exploring texture, colour and nature. Tilda won the 2023 CYA aspiring illustrator competition and can often be found participating in local art markets or doing live portrait sketching. She's currently undertaking illustration work in environmental science communication for organisations including the Mulloon Institute, the Australian National Botanic Gardens, and most recently Questacon's new children's space.



Artwork | Spreads from *Bring Back the Night* by Billie Rooney and Tilda Joy



MARCH 2027

Dr Anika Molesworth & Bindy James

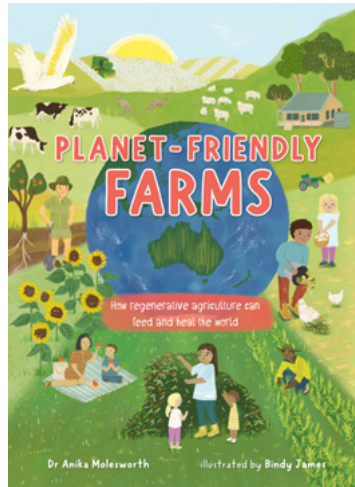
Planet-friendly Farms: How regenerative agriculture can feed and heal the world

Where does our food come from, and how can we grow it while caring for the planet? From the Young Farmer of the Year comes this vibrantly illustrated, inspiring introduction to regenerative farming for kids.

Join award-winning farmer, scientist and storyteller Dr Anika Molesworth on a farm-tastic adventure!

Discover where our food comes from and meet the people, plants and animals that make every meal possible. Along the way, learn how regenerative techniques help farmers work with nature to grow healthy food, care for the land and support wildlife.

Beautifully illustrated by environmental artist Bindy James, this inspiring book is packed with fun facts and hands-on activities that encourage young readers to explore sustainable ways to be a friend to farms, animals and planet Earth.



RRP AU\$32.99

Category Non-fiction picture book

Format 299 x 216mm hardback, 56pp

Reading age 7+

Rights held World

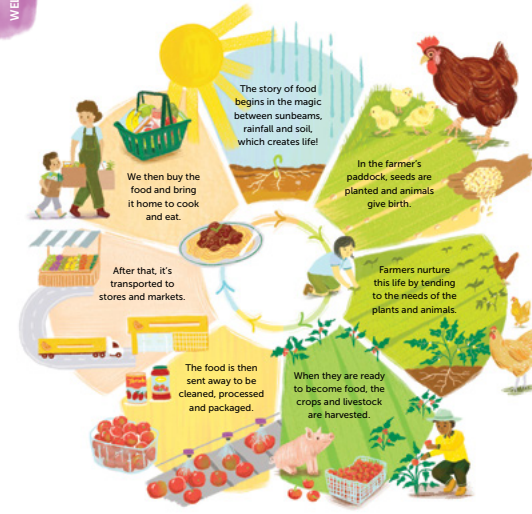


Dr Anika Molesworth is a passionate advocate for sustainable farming, environmental conservation and climate change action. She lives on her family's farm in outback New South Wales, surrounded by big kangaroos and tiny wildflowers. Anika is an agroecologist with a Masters of Sustainable Agriculture and a PhD in Agricultural and Environmental Management. Through storytelling, Anika hopes to inspire care for our planet and all the precious life that lives here.

Bindy James is an illustrator based in Brisbane. Originally graduating with a degree in Environmental Science in 2004, she transitioned into graphic/motion design and finally illustration in 2012. Bindy brings a unique perspective to her work, blending her genuine interest in the natural world with her creative background. As a mother of two, she is particularly captivated by how young children connect with and learn from their local environments, which often informs her illustrations.

THE FOOD SYSTEM

The food system is everything that happens to food, from how it's grown to how it's moved and then how we eat it.



Understanding this system helps us to be aware of where our food comes from and how it's processed and packaged. We can then make more planet-friendly choices about what we eat.

6

FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD

Although there are a huge number of edible species worldwide, only a few make up the modern diet. Rice, corn and wheat are the most commonly farmed crops, accounting for more than half of global food intake. Key food groups include: grains, roots and tubers; vegetables; fruits; beans and legumes; and animal products like meat and dairy.



7

Artwork | Draft spreads from *Planet-friendly Farms* by Anika Molesworth and Bindy James

FARMING'S SUPER SOLUTIONS

Regenerative farming offers solutions to the climate challenges facing our world. Regeneration means renewal, restoration and revival – a process of healing and making better.

This special type of farming produces nutritious food and looks after the environment at the same time. If we don't take care of soil, water and plants, the land and animals will struggle, and so will we. Regenerative farmers look after ecosystems that grow food by planting different crops and trying not to disturb the soil too much. They also take care of rivers, lakes and dams, making sure they don't waste or pollute water. They encourage pollinators like bees to come to their farms, and they also protect habitats for native wildlife.

Healthier ecosystems make farms better at growing food, even during tough times like heatwaves, heavy rainfall or drought. When food ecosystems are vibrant and strong, crops and livestock grow quickly. Regenerative farming also helps fight climate change by sucking carbon dioxide out of the air and storing this carbon in farm soils.

NATURE'S SUPERMARKET

Although most of our food comes from farms, food is also found in the natural world all around us. Forests grow nuts, berries and mushrooms, while rivers, lakes and oceans have fish, shrimp and seaweed. First Nations Australians have been caring for Country and have accessed nature's delicious bounty for tens of thousands of years and still do today. Looking after land and water ecosystems that grow food is essential for our health and the future of our planet.

Your turn!

Select some yummy food to eat from nature's supermarket. You could try catching a fish or harvesting native raspberries with an adult. Wild food is all around us if we look closely!



12

13

SEPTEMBER 2026

Simon Howe

Betsy and Bon: Three sweet stories

Full of nostalgia and charm, this deluxe hardcover collection of low-conflict short stories is the perfect gift for young readers.

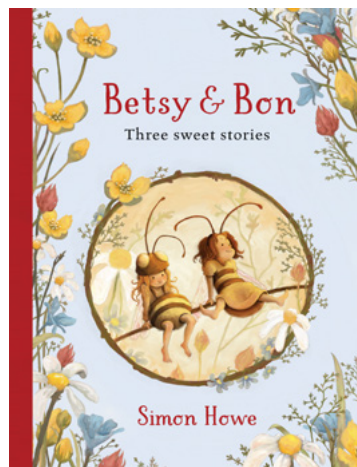
'We are bees, after all.'

Down at the bottom of the garden, where flowers grow tall and roots grow deep, Betsy and Bon play in a world full of whimsy and imagination. They try to find friendly bees to live in their wonderful hive, decide on a game they will both enjoy, and have a picnic in the perfect sunny spot.

With enchanting full-colour illustrations, this gentle short story collection is perfect for bedtime reading or for children transitioning from picture books to chapter books.



Simon Howe is an illustrator and author with a broad appetite for children's literature, animation, storytelling and design. He has worked with several notable Australian authors on books for children, and has designed and directed animation for advertising and television. Simon lives in regional Victoria with his family.



RRP AU\$26.99
Category Junior reader fiction
Format 210 x 151mm hardback, 64pp
Reading age 4+
Rights held World
Rights sold Russia (AST)

“

Howe's storytelling style is creative, light-hearted, whimsical and reminiscent of Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*.

Felicity Dunning, Editor



Artwork | Spreads from *Betsy and Bon* by Simon Howe



Betsy and Bon wound their way through the garden, looking for their friends.

They found everyone among the foxgloves, deciding what to do with Spencer's collection.

'We have changed the rules,' Bon announced happily.

'Would you still like to come and live with us?' Betsy asked.

AUGUST 2026

Angie Cui & Anna Wilson *The Festival of Ice and Snow*

Based on the author's treasured childhood memories of attending the Harbin Ice and Snow Festival in China, this bilingual picture book is a spectacular celebration of family, cultural traditions and wintertime splendour.

Every year, Grandpa takes us to the Festival of Ice and Snow – and every year, I can't wait!

Two children and their beloved grandpa experience the wonder of Harbin's Ice and Snow World, an enchanting place filled with super slides, tasty treats and huge ice sculptures illuminated by multicoloured lights.

Told in English and simplified Chinese, this picture book captures the fun of the winter festival and spending time with loved ones.

Angie Cui, originally from China, embarked on her Australian journey at eighteen. She lives in Melbourne with her husband and two children, whom she calls the 'ABC Family' – a fusion of four individuals and three cultures. Imbued with a profound appreciation for the linguistic richness within her family, Angie finds delight in weaving tales through various languages.

Anna Wilson was born in Australia's Snowy Mountains, spent her childhood moving houses and schools, and then spent most of her adult life travelling the world. She is inspired by people and places and studied and worked with these concepts for a long time before embarking on a new career as a freelance designer and illustrator. She has illustrated children's books for Bloomsbury, Hachette UK, Little Tiger & Cameron Kids Books.



RRP AUS\$26.99
Category Picture book
Format 285 x 215mm hardback, 40pp
Reading age 4+
Rights held World

“

There is a strong sense of joy throughout the book, and a lovely depiction of the rhythms of a family outing ... *The Festival of Ice and Snow* is perfect for celebrating different cultural traditions.’

Books + Publishing



Artwork | Spreads from *The Festival of Ice and Snow* by Angie Cui and Anna Wilson



JULY 2026

Allison Rocca,
illus. by Brenton E McKenna

Joey and the Junjardy

A funny, raucous middle-grade romp grounded in First Nations storytelling, featuring a mischievous character brought to life by debut author Allison Rocca.

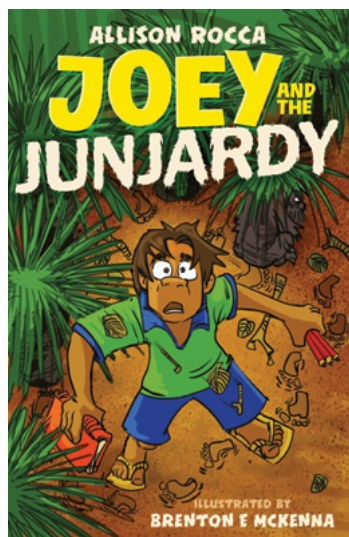
Joey Gibbs is always up for a laugh. What isn't funny: the 'Big Trouble' he caused at his old school that meant his family had to move back home to Coolibah Creek. Joey's going to keep his head down this time. New school, new mates, new start. But trouble seems to have a way of finding him.

When his sister and cousin start getting mysteriously pranked, Joey looks for answers from his Wakka Wakka culture. He discovers he's caught the attention of the Junjardy, a hairy little trickster. Joey can't resist making mischief again with his secret partner in crime. But as the jokes spiral out of control, he must work out what the Junjardy wants with him before disaster strikes.

Action-packed with loads of humour and heart, *Joey and the Junjardy* shows us how the smallest of creatures can help you to stand tall and proud.

Allison Rocca is a primary school teacher who has taught in classrooms from the 'burbs of Australia, to remote villages in Asia and Hogwarts-like academies in Oxford. She is a descendant of Wakka Wakka and Kaanju people and her upbringing was rich in storytelling. She lives and writes on Yuggera/Turrbal Country, Brisbane.

Brenton E McKenna is a Yawuru artist and writer from Broome. When he's not drawing, Brenton dedicates his time to educating young people through creative storytelling workshops.



RRP AU\$17.99
Category Middle grade/fiction
Format B-format paperback, 256pp
Reading age 8+
Rights held World ex film/TV

“

This silly, joyful and culturally strong book will have kids laughing out loud and seeing themselves and their communities in a positive way.

Melanie Saward

JUNE 2026

Peter Carnavas
Kid

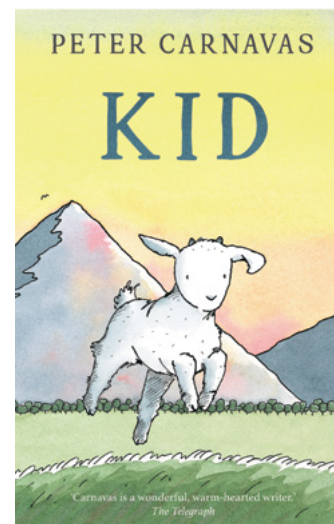
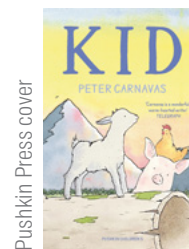
A modern-day classic about a young goat who discovers the meaning of family, in a limited edition deluxe hardcover. Written and illustrated by Peter Carnavas, bestselling author of *Leo and Ralph*.

This is the story of a small goat called Kid. Ever since his parents chased away a fox and never returned, Kid has stayed with Audrey the hen in the chook yard. Audrey tells him stories of his mum and dad's daring and bravery. She says they live on the nearby mountain, and Kid longs to leave the farm to find them.

And then, one day, he discovers he is big enough to jump the fence ...

Will a wild adventure up the mountain help Kid find where he belongs?

Embellished with Peter's delightful hand-drawn illustrations, this junior adventure novel is reminiscent of other children's classics that feature mostly animal casts, such as *Charlotte's Web* by EB White and *The Sheep-Pig* by Dick King-Smith.



RRP AU\$22.99
Category Junior reader/fiction
Format B+ format hardback, 240pp
Reading age 6+
Rights held World
Rights sold UK/Comm ex ANZ (Pushkin Press); North America (Groundwood Books)

“

Award-winning author Peter Carnavas is something of a master of timeless children's novels full of heart and gentle lessons about life, family, grief and love.

Books + Publishing

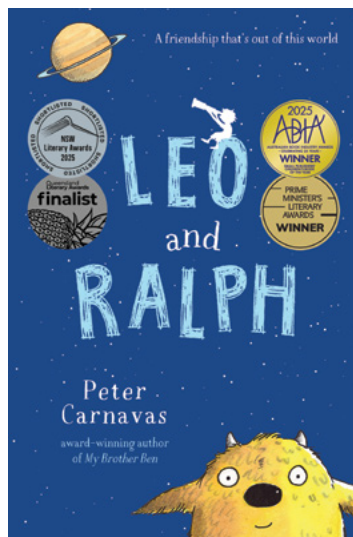


Peter Carnavas writes and illustrates books for children. His books have been published widely across the world and have won many awards, including a Prime Minister's Literary Award, a Queensland Literary Award and a NSW Premier's Literary Awards. Peter lives in Brisbane/Meanjin with his family.

OVER
30,000
COPIES
SOLD IN
ANZ

MARCH 2024

Peter Carnavas *Leo and Ralph*



RRP AU\$17.99

Category Middle grade/fiction

Format B-format paperback, 276pp

Reading age 8+

Rights held World

Rights sold UK/Comm ex ANZ (Pushkin Press); North America (Groundwood Books); The Netherlands (Uitgeverij De Vries-Brouwers); Germany (Atrium Verlag); Turkey (Can Yayinlari); Italy (Edizioni EL Srl) Russia (AST); Slovak (Kumran); Slovenia (Skrita založba); ANZ audio (Bolinda)

“

Carnavas is a wonderful, warm-hearted writer, and manages to filter every nugget of philosophy through the eyes of his child narrator.

The Telegraph

From award-winning storyteller Peter Carnavas comes this stellar novel about space, starting over and the best friend you could ever imagine.

Ralph sat up. His voice was croaky. 'If a shooting star zoomed past right now, what would you wish for?'

'To find another friend like you.'

Leo and Ralph have been best friends ever since Ralph flew down from one of Jupiter's moons. But now Leo's older, and Mum and Dad think it's time to say goodbye to Ralph. When the family moves to a small country town, they hope Leo might finally make a real friend. But someone like Ralph is hard to leave behind...

Perfect for kids who enjoy gentle, thoughtful stories like *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown and the *Polly and Buster* series by Sally Rippin.



Peter Carnavas writes and illustrates books for children. His books have been published widely across the world and have won many awards, including a Queensland Literary Award and the Patricia Wrightson Prize for Children's Literature at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards. Peter lives on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, with his wife, two daughters, a dog and a cat.

Literature at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards. Peter lives on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland, with his wife, two daughters, a dog and a cat.

JUNE 2026

Meg Caddy *A Flash in the Dust*



RRP AU\$21.99

Category Young adult/fiction

Format B-format paperback, 288pp

Reading age 14+

Rights held World ex film/TV

“

Brutal, brave, beautiful – a gripping story of adventure, escape and queer love.

Lili Wilkinson

A gripping historical YA thriller, with a dash of queer romance. Think the bushranger version of *Fingersmith* by Sarah Waters.

1899, Fremantle Asylum, Western Australia. For three years now, Gilberta Brady has kept quiet and stayed out of trouble, hoping to soon be released. But when Norah Devaney screams into the ward with revenge in her heart and a story no-one believes, Brady's carefully guarded peace is shattered.

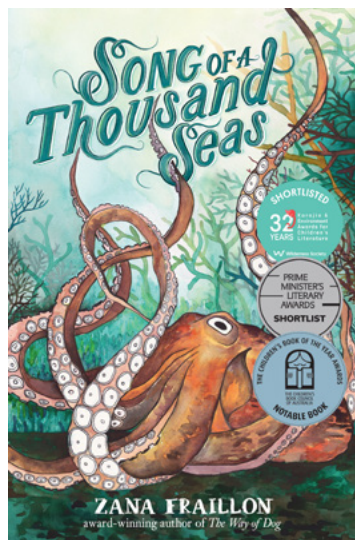
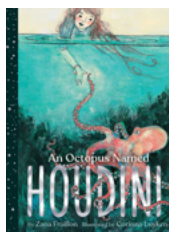
On the run and out of options, they collide with Kedalak and Malkar, Nyungar brothers on their own journey home. They form an unlikely gang of bushrangers and embark on a dangerous mission: track down the man who killed Norah's mum.

But little do they know that the Whistling Man is hunting them too.



Meg Caddy is a West Australian YA novelist with three published novels. Meg started their first novel, a standalone YA fantasy titled *Waer*, when they were just fourteen, and *Waer* was acquired by Text Publishing after being shortlisted for the

Text Prize in 2013. In 2017, *Waer* was also shortlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year Award. Their second novel, *Devil's Ballast*, was longlisted for the CBCA Book of the Year Award and shortlisted for the Readings Young Adult Book Prize (2020). The sequel *Slipping the Noose* was also longlisted for both the CBCA Book of the Year Award (2023) and the ARA Historical Novel Prize (2022).



RRP AU\$14.99

Category Middle grade verse novel

Format B-format paperback, 96pp

Reading age 8+

Rights held World ex film/TV

Rights sold North America (S&SBYR); Italy (Giunti Editore)



Publishers Weekly starred review

Kirkus Reviews starred review

School Library Journal starred review

SEPTEMBER 2025

Zana Fraillon *Song of a Thousand Seas*

A lyrical verse novel of homecoming and friendship by Zana Fraillon, the multi-award-winning author of *The Bone Sparrow* and *The Way of Dog*.

*All day long we can hear
that Sea howl prowling wild
inside our brains and every part of us is straining
to feel it taste it twirl it whirl it swirl it
inside our body
again.*

Houdini the octopus lives in an aquarium, but she misses her home in the wild Sea. She doesn't like the visitors who bang on her tank. Or the way she can't feel the sun on her skin or the wind rippling the water. It's a dull existence for a creature with nine brains.

Then one day she meets someone who is different to the other visitors. Juno's busy brain buzzes with so many questions and thoughts that Houdini's skin tingles with wonder.

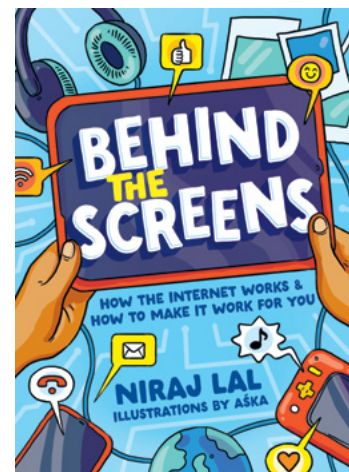
But the singing of the Sea is growing stronger and harder to resist. Can Houdini make Juno understand what she needs before it's too late?



Zana Fraillon is an internationally acclaimed, multi-award-winning author of books for children and young adults. Her work has been published in over fifteen countries and is in development for both stage and screen. They have a doctorate in creative writing, and degrees in history and teaching. Zana's passion for empowering young people to find their voice is a feature of both her books and her work with writers of all ages.

FEBRUARY 2026

Niraj Lal, illus. by Aśka *Behind the Screens: How the internet works and how to make it work for you*



RRP AU\$19.99

Category Middle grade/non-fiction

Format 181mm x 135mm Paperback, 120pp

Reading age 9+

Rights held World

Rights sold North America (Lerner Publishing Group); Turkey (Uyurgezer Yayinlari)

Getting your first phone is a big moment – this illustrated guide empowers young people aged 9–13 to navigate the online world with awareness, responsibility and confidence.

The internet is one of the most life-changing inventions in history. But there are things happening behind the screens that are changing how we behave: influencing what we buy, what we're interested in and how long we stay online. As we start using the internet and AI to do everything, it's helpful to explore how the tech is using us a little too.

Written by award-winning scientist Dr Niraj (Nij) Lal, host of the ABC's kids' podcast *Imagine This*, and illustrated by comic artist Aśka, *Behind the Screens* is the must-have guide to help young people be online in the best way possible.



Dr Niraj (Nij) Lal is an ANU Visiting Fellow and host of the ABC's kids' podcast *Imagine This*. He graduated from the University of Cambridge with a PhD in physics as a Gates Scholar in 2012, and his awards include the 2021 Celestino Eureka Prize for Promoting Understanding of Science and the 2022 Royal Societies of Australia and New Zealand Piasecki Prize for Outstanding Writing on Social Change. He lives in Melbourne with his partner Sally and their three kids.



Aśka (pronounced *Ash-ka*) is creative dynamite, an award-winning graphic novelist, an ex-quantum physicist, and a hugely engaging and popular presenter. Having published more than a dozen books and comics, Aśka is passionate about visual literacy and teaching people how to 'write with pictures'. Fun fact: despite being a fan of technology, to this day Aśka has never owned a smart phone. She thinks everyone should read this book!

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