



Penguin  
Random House  
Australia & New Zealand

# London Book Fair

## Rights Guide

### 2022

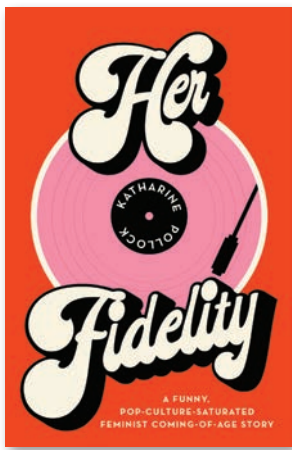
## Fiction Frontlist

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## HER FIDELITY

Katharine Pollock

August 2022

Vintage Australia

320pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

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**A very funny confessional novel set in an independent record store. This is *High Fidelity* with a female gaze.**

*Her Fidelity* is the comedic, confessional story of 29-year-old Kathy, who is in a state of arrested development.

Kathy has accidentally continued working at Rocking Donkey Records, an independent record shop, for fifteen years. She started there as a total fangirl high schooler, stayed through university, and oops, suddenly 30 is on the horizon and she's still dealing with mansplaining music bros both at and behind the counter, and measuring her self-worth by her knowledge of Nick Cave's back catalogue. When the daily grind of working in the male-dominated record industry gets her down, Kathy finds solace in her two best friends: fierce forty-seven year old colleague Mel, and Alex, whom Kathy has known since preschool, a straight-laced accountant and mother of a young son.

When Mel announces that she is leaving the Rocking Donkey, cracks appear in Kathy's comfortable indie bubble. Her friends are clearly moving on with their lives, while Kathy is stuck in a cycle of record store, pub, repeat. A fight with Mel and Alex makes her realise that she has internalised much of the misogyny she has experienced over the past fifteen years and that she can be more than her taste in music. In fact, it's actually okay to like Beyoncé even if Beyoncé doesn't write acoustic ballads about alcoholism.

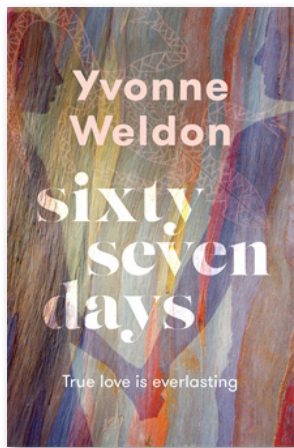
Meanwhile, Kathy meets shy, self-effacing Patrick. Their burgeoning romance is impeded by bungling interactions, and a one-night-stand with Jake, who she met at a party at her boss's place. After a stealthing incident, Kathy realises this is less bad sex, and more bad guy. Jake embodies everything that Kathy realises she needs to fight. She and Mel take measures to show the guys at the Rocking Donkey, and elsewhere, that the times, they are a-changin'.

This is a funny, pop-culture-saturated feminist coming-of-age story that will appeal to anyone who loved the bookish musicality of Taylor Jenkins Reid's *Daisy Jones and the Six*, the wicked humour of Caitlin Moran, or anyone who has ever turned to Stevie Nicks for advice while ignoring the sensible people around them.



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KATHARINE POLLOCK is a Sydney-based writer of comedic, confessional fiction, and personal essays. She recently won Queensland Writers' Centre's GenreCon short story competition, and has published in *Defenestration Magazine*. She was a Writer in Residence at Varuna, The Writers' House in 2020, and Visiting Writer at the National Young Writer's Festival in 2019. Her publishing credits include short pieces in *Kill Your Darlings*, *Funny Ha Ha*, and *Lip Magazine*. You can see her work at [kathyjanepollockdotcom.wordpress.com](http://kathyjanepollockdotcom.wordpress.com). Kathy recently completed her PhD, her first novel, *Her Fidelity*, formed part of the doctorate. Photo Credit © Katharine Pollock

**SIXTY-SEVEN DAYS****Yvonne Weldon**

July 2022

Michael Joseph

320pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

***Sixty-Seven Days* is a novel you will fall in love with. It is a classic tale of girl meets boy and the transformative power of love, told with such a fresh, vibrant voice. Evie's character bursts from the page, in a story that builds and builds to a stunning conclusion.**

Evie has been raised by a proud trailblazing Wiradjuri family. She remembers so much about the previous world - the Dreamtime, the ancestors, and the knowing - but she also harbours a dark pain that is becoming almost too much to bear.

When Evie meets James, they travel to Evie's beloved country, the central west of New South Wales and the Riverina regions. Swimming in the waters of the Kalare, as known by the Wiradjuri, and in the Murrumbidgee, singing with her ancestors, listening to the spirits - until a sudden event leaves them seeking answers to one of life's most eternal questions: is love strong enough to withstand anything?

An intense and mesmerising story of first love and longing, suffused with Wiradjuri Dreaming, family and culture, about a future dreamt and a future taken, by an important new voice in fiction.

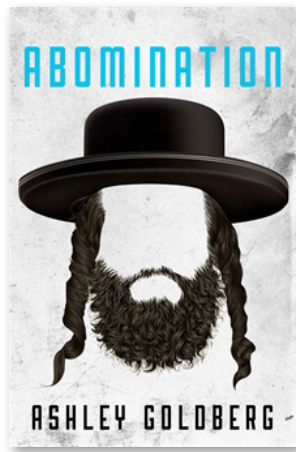
**Sales points**

- A contemporary Australian love story like no other.
- Adult novel with crossover YA appeal, in the tradition of *Our Chemical Hearts*.
- An important new Indigenous voice from a leading Wiradjuri woman.
- Broad audience appeal, from romance readers looking for a captivating new voice and a story to leave them blubbing, to literary readers who will be intrigued by what Yvonne has to say about contemporary Indigenous issues.

YVONNE WELDON is a writer of fiction with a uniquely diverse lived experience, sharing truth-telling through fictional writing that stirs reflection to encourage action for positive change. In 2016, Yvonne was shortlisted for the Queensland Literary Awards David Unaipon Unpublished Manuscript for *Sixty-Seven Days*, and was awarded a Faber Writing Academy Scholarship in 2017.

Yvonne is the current Chairperson of the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council and the first Aboriginal candidate nominated for the Lord Mayor of Sydney. She has worked in senior positions in Aboriginal policy development, health, human services, child care services, child protection, housing, disability and Aboriginal heritage. She is a proud Wiradjuri woman and maintains strong ties to her homelands of Cowra and the Riverina areas in New South Wales. Photo Credit © Yvonne Weldon



**ABOMINATION****Ashley Goldberg**

May 2022

Vintage Australia

288pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

**A compelling and compassionate debut about friendship, faith, family and identity.**

‘He who turns his ear away from hearing the Torah - even his prayer is an abomination.’ - Proverbs 28:9

Melbourne 1999: Ezra and Yonatan are best friends whose lives are forever changed when their school, the ultra-Orthodox Jewish Yahel Academy, is rocked by a scandal and they are thrown onto two divergent paths. Twenty years later, the lives of the two men are very different: Ezra identifies as secular and atheist, while Yonatan has been ordained as a rabbi and even teaches at the academy. By chance they are reunited, and the events of their past and present collide with devastating consequences.

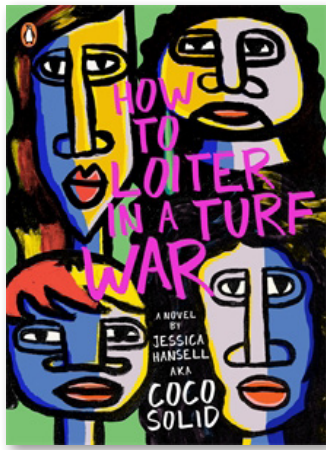
*Abomination* lays bare the clash between religious and secular worlds and provides a revealing glimpse into a closed community. With great tenderness and insight debut author Ashley Goldberg tells the story of an enduring and evolving friendship as Yonatan and Ezra struggle to come to terms with the choices they have made, search for meaning, and forge their own identities. This is a beautifully observed, moving story from an exciting young writer.

**Sales Points**

- *Abomination* was shortlisted for the Kill Your Darlings 2020 Unpublished Manuscript Award
- Shows such as *Unorthodox*, *One of Us* and *Shtisel* are very popular - demonstrating the interest in Judaism and life in the Orthodox Jewish community
- Ashley is from the Orthodox Jewish community and writes from first-hand knowledge. It's a fascinating insight into a different culture - but also a great story about two friends trying to make their way in the world.



ASHLEY GOLDBERG is an Australian writer based in Melbourne. His fiction has appeared in *New Australian Fiction 2021*, *Meanjin*, *Chiron Review*, *The Honest Ulsterman* and *Award Winning Australian Writing* among other publications. Ashley has an MA in Creative Writing from Bath Spa University and a Graduate Diploma of Professional Writing from Canberra University. His work has been shortlisted, longlisted, and anthologized in numerous competitions worldwide, including the 2017/18 Galley Beggar Press Short Story Prize and the Commonwealth Short Story Prize. In 2019, Ashley was a fellow at the Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre and a finalist for the Tasmanian Writers' Prize. *Abomination* was shortlisted for the 2020 Kill Your Darlings Unpublished Manuscript Award. Photo Credit © Dan Soderstrom



## HOW TO LOITER IN A TURF WAR

Jessica Hansell a.k.a. Coco Solid

May 2022

Penguin New Zealand

176pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

**A genre-bending work of autobiographical fiction from a fierce and versatile artist.**

**Like nothing you've read before, *How to Loiter in a Turf War* is a lucid, genre-bending, cinematic work of fiction from one of the most versatile artists.**

It's a day in the life of three friends beefing with their own city, Tamaki Makaurau. With gentrification closing in and racial tensions sweltering, the girls must cling to their friendship like a life raft, determined not to let their neighbourhood drift out to sea.

Fast, ferociously brilliant, crack-up funny and unforgettably true.

### Pre-Publication Praise

'This book paints a picture of the Auckland I grew up in - when waiting for the 025 to town was a gamble, and the answer to the question 'where are you from?' was an essay, not a sentence. Like everything she makes, Coco Solid imbues this book with fierce intelligence, laser-sharp specificity and cosmic warmth.'  
- Rose Matafeo, writer and actress of *Starstuck* and *Baby Done*

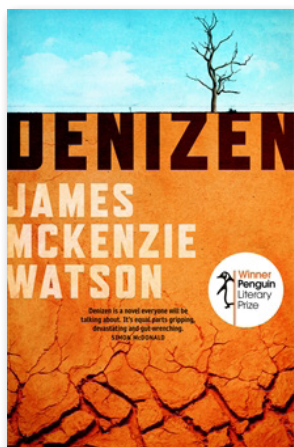
'Sharp, funny and dope as hell, *How to Loiter in a Turf War* is another Coco Solid work of genius. With her piercing prose and expansive worlds, Coco has long been a life-raft for brown kids swimming against the whirlpools of urban realities, and this work is no different. Painfully perceptive, familiar and hopeful.'  
- Lana Lopesi, author of *Bloody Woman*

'This is one of the most exciting books I've ever read. A celebration and a challenge and an impressive work of art and intelligence.' - Pip Adam, author of *Nothing to See*

JESSICA HANSELL (Ngapuhi/Samoa) is a writer, multimedia artist and musician from Auckland, long known by her rap nickname Coco Solid. She is the creator of cult Maori cartoon Aroha Bridge with screenwriting credits ranging from comedy Wellington Paranormal to indigenous soap Ahikaroa and is a long-time member of Taika Waititi's Piki Films, producers of her forthcoming science-fiction series Jupiter Park. As Coco Solid, Parallel Dance Ensemble, Badd Energy and Fanau Spa, she has gained a loyal international music following and now heads artist-led record label and production house Kuini Qontrol, which also makes independent film, audio and animation projects. She is co-director of the Onehunga community space Wheke Fortress. Hansell was named the Fulbright Creative New Zealand Pacific writer in residence in 2018, studying at the University of Hawai'i, where she started writing *How To Loiter In A Turf War* while researching gentrification in the Pacific. The following year Coco was named a national Arts Laureate by The Arts Foundation NZ. Photo Credit © Jessica Hansell





**DENIZEN: WINNER OF THE PENGUIN LITERARY PRIZE****James McKenzie Watson**

July 2022

Viking

Trade paperback – 352pp

Rights held: World

**A rural thriller from the winner of the 2021 Penguin Literary Prize.**

*Denizen* is an Australian gothic literary thriller that explores rural Australia's simultaneous celebration of harsh country and stoic people – a tension that forces its inhabitants to dangerous breaking points.

On a remote property in western New South Wales, eight-year-old Parker fears that something is wrong with his brain. His desperate attempts to control this internal chaos spark a series of events that gallop from his control in deadly and devastating ways.

Years later, Parker, now a father himself, returns to the bushland he grew up in for a camping trip with old friends. When this reunion descends into chaos amid revelations of unresolved fear, guilt and violence, Parker must finally address the consequences of his childhood actions.

**Sales Points**

- James writes directly into one of the most popular genre – Australian rural noir
- Think Jane Harper, J.P. Pomare, Chris Hammer
- Awarded a 2021 Varuna Residential Fellowship
- Awarded a 2021 Katherine Susannah Prichard Residential Fellowship
- Highly Commended in the Writing NSW Varuna Fellowship 2020
- Shortlisted for the national Kingdom of IronFest Author in Residence 2017 title

**Pre-Publication Praise**

'*Denizen* is a novel everyone will be talking about. It's equal parts gripping, devastating and gut-wrenching as it tackles a myriad of meaty themes including fatherhood, mental illness, and the ruggedness of rural Australia; both its people and the landscape. It's one part literary thriller, another part psychological study, blended powerfully and uncompromisingly. I can't wait to read it again in its final polished form.'

– Simon McDonald, Penguin Literary Prize Judges report

'A raw and powerful piece of outback gothic that fearlessly tackles some big issues and wraps them up in a twisty psychological thriller that draws the reader inexorably towards a devastating climax. It's a Venus flytrap of a book.' – Justin Ractliffe, Publishing Director of PRH Australia



JAMES MCKENZIE WATSON won the 2021 Penguin Literary Prize for his novel *Denizen*, which also received a 2021 Varuna Residential Fellowship, a 2021 KSP Fellowship, and was highly commended for the 2020 Writing NSW Varuna Fellowships. His short fiction has been recognised in competitions including the International InkTears Flash Fiction Contest and the Grieve Writing Competition. He co-hosts the writing and health podcast *James and Ashley Stay at Home* and works as a critical care nurse in regional New South Wales. Photo Credit © Will Watson



## THE WILD

Kyle Perry

October 2022

Michael Joseph Australia

400pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

*The Bluffs* – Germany (Atrium), The Netherlands (HarperCollins), Romania (Lebada Neagra), Estonia (Uhinenu), Czech Republic (Host), Russia (Arkadia Publishing) Film Option (First Option Pictures)

*The Deep* – Estonia (Uhinenu), The Netherlands (HarperCollins), Germany (Atrium)

SOLD  
CLOSE TO  
54,000 COPIES  
OF KYLE'S  
PREVIOUS TWO  
TITLES

From the bestselling author of *The Bluffs* and *The Deep* comes a heart-stopping new thriller set in a lake-side town about vigilante justice, biological warfare and whether the law of the wild is still king...

*Who's the king of the jungle now?*

A vigilante has been stalking Australia. He wears a hooded bear mantle, Norse tattoos, and beats white-collar criminals to within an inch of their life. Known as the Marauder, half of Australia loves him, half hate him, and all police are hunting him. When the Marauder beats a notorious mining magnate and leaves him strung up in a humiliating display, the stakes are raised even higher.

Dave, a bricklayer from a lake-side town deep in the Tasmanian alpine, is on a hiking getaway with his family up to one of the old mountain huts from the Tasmanian goldrush era with his wife, a renowned zoologist. When a sudden snowstorm sets them lost in the bush, they become suspicious that wild servals are about to be used as a biological warfare against the state. Now his wife and daughter are missing, and Dave will do anything to find them.

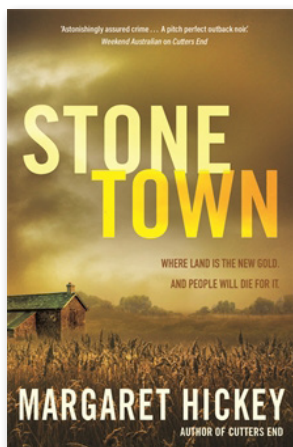
Federal Agent Levi Causon is considered the leading expert on the Marauder phenomenon, and there are signs the vigilante himself is trying to communicate with him. As all parties begin descending on the lakeside town, secrets both new and old arise, pitting questions of right and wrong against each other, science versus myth, and whether the law of the wild is still king . . .

### Sales points

- Kyle's previous novels, *The Bluffs* and *The Deep* have sold **over 54,000 copies** combined in Australia and New Zealand.
- *The Bluffs* has been optioned for film by First Option Pictures and for Theatrical performance by Mudlark Theatre.
- *The Bluffs* has been translated into six languages (German, Czech, Dutch, Romanian, Estonian and Russian). It was shortlisted for the Dymocks Book of the Year, the Indie's Debut Fiction Book of the Year, and the Ned Kelly Award for Best Debut Crime Fiction; and longlisted for the Australian Book Industry Awards' General Fiction Book of the Year. *The Bluffs* was awarded the Winner of the Dutch Thrillzone Awards in 2021 (Best Translated Thriller).
- Gritty, contemporary Australian crime, perfect for fans of Jane Harper and Chris Hammer
- Kyle is already working on his fourth book entitled *The Den* (July 2023)



KYLE PERRY is a drug and alcohol counsellor based in Hobart, Tasmania. He has grown up around the Tasmanian bush and seas, with the landscape a key feature of his writing and his spare time. He loves the sea, and his entire leg is covered in ocean tattoos. His debut novel, *The Bluffs*, has been translated into five languages. It was shortlisted for the Dymocks Book of the Year and the Indie's Debut Fiction Book of the Year, and was longlisted for the Australian Book Industry Awards' General Fiction Book of the Year. Photo Credit © Graham King



## STONE TOWN

Margaret Hickey

July 2022

Bantam Australia

352pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

**Stone Town is captivating new rural crime drama from the author of the bestselling *Cutters End*.**

With its gold rush history long in the past, Stone Town has definitely seen better days. And it's now in the headlines for all the wrong reasons.

When three teenagers stumble upon a body in dense bushland one rainy Friday night, Senior Sergeant Mark Ariti's hopes for a quiet posting in his old home town are shattered. The victim is Aidan Sleeth, a local property developer, whose controversial plans to buy up Stone Town land means few are surprised he ended up dead.

However his gruesome murder is overshadowed by the mystery consuming the entire nation: the disappearance of Detective Sergeant Natalie Whitsted.

Natalie had been investigating the celebrity wife of crime boss Tony 'The Hook' Scopelliti when she vanished. What did she uncover? Has it cost her her life? And why are the two Homicide detectives, sent from the city to run the Sleeth case, so obsessed with Natalie's fate?

But following a late-night call from his former boss, Mark is sure of one thing: he's now in the middle of a deadly game.

### Praise for *Cutters End*

'Astonishingly assured crime debut. A pitch perfect outback noir, set against a vivid and atmospheric desert landscape...The book's explosive finale with linger with your for days.' *Weekend Australian* on *Cutters End*

'This smart, affecting tale owes more to Scandi noir fiction with its sinister twists and aching characters... a tour de force.' *Australian Women's Weekly* on *Cutters End*

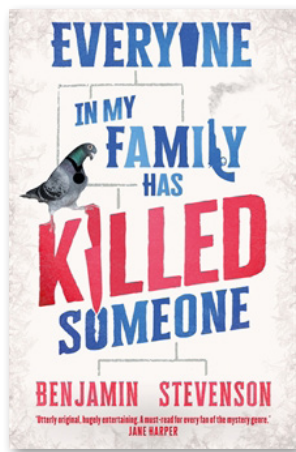
'For fans of *The Dry* and *Scrublands*, *Cutters End* is a pitch-perfect outback noir, set against a vivid and atmospheric desert landscape. Hickey expertly builds the tension to an explosive finale that will linger with you for days. – *Better Reading*

'... a compelling mystery with a fantastic sense of place, and time, populated by some quintessential small outback town characters, with a complex investigator at the centre of it.' – *Australian Crime Fiction*



MARGARET HICKEY is an award-winning author and playwright from North East Victoria. She has a PhD in Creative Writing and is deeply interested in rural lives and communities. She is the author of *Cutters End* and *Stone Town*.





## EVERYONE IN MY FAMILY HAS KILLED SOMEONE

Benjamin Stevenson

April 2022

Michael Joseph

Trade paperback – 352pp

Rights held: World

Rights Sold: North America (HarperCollins), United Kingdom (PRH), Russia (Azbooka-Atticus), Germany (Ullstein), China (PRH), Estonia (Rahva Raamat), Greece (Psichogios), Portugal (LeYa), France (Sonatine), Italy (Feltrinelli), Hungary (Agave), Romania (Trei), Brazil (Intrinseca), Israel (Modan), Lithuania (Baltos Lankos), Ukraine (Vivat) and Film (HBO)

**Agatha Christie and Arthur Conan Doyle meet *Knives Out* and *The Thursday Murder Club* in this fiendishly clever blend of classic and modern murder mystery.**

*I was dreading the Cunningham family reunion even before the first murder. Before the storm stranded us at the mountain resort, snow and bodies piling up. The thing is, us Cunninghams don't really get along. We've only got one thing in common: we've all killed someone.*

MY BROTHER  
MY STEP-SISTER  
MY WIFE  
MY FATHER  
MY MOTHER  
MY SISTER-IN-LAW  
MY UNCLE  
MY STEP-FATHER  
MY AUNT  
ME

**SOLD TO  
SIXTEEN  
TERRITORIES  
PRIOR TO  
PUBLICATION!**

Ernie Cunningham, a teacher and crime fiction aficionado, is a reluctant guest at a family reunion held in a snowbound mountain retreat. Three years ago, Ern witnessed his brother, Michael, kill a man and immediately shopped him to the police. This was a betrayal no one in his well-known crime family could forgive and for the last few years Ernie has been shunned by his relatives. But now they are all gathered at the Sky Lodge Mountain Retreat to welcome Michael back into the fold after his release from prison.

However, on the eve of Michael's release, the body of a man is found frozen on the slopes. While most assume the man simply collapsed and died of hypothermia during the night, Ern and his step-sister Sofia spot a strange detail – the man's airways are clogged with ash. He appears to have died by fire . . . in a pristine snowfield . . . without a single burn mark on him. With the local police officer, PC Darius Crawford, soon overwhelmed by the death of the man no one can identify, Ernie begins his own investigation. Particularly when Sofia points out that the death has the same MO as The Black Tongue serial killer recently in the papers...

It's up to Ern to discover whether one of his family is a serial killer, before his whole family end up dead...



BENJAMIN STEVENSON is an award-winning stand-up comedian and author. He has sold out shows from the Melbourne International Comedy Festival all the way to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and has appeared on ABCTV, Channel 10, and The Comedy Channel. Off-stage, Benjamin has worked for publishing houses and literary agencies in Australia and the USA. He currently works with some of Australia's best-loved authors at Curtis Brown Australia. He is also the author of *Greenlight* (shortlisted for the Ned Kelly First Fiction Award) and *Either Side of Midnight*. Photo Credit © Monica Pronk



## THE LIFE AND TIMES OF DOLLY JAMIESON

Lisa Ireland

January 2023

Michael Joseph Australia

352pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

**A homeless former Broadway star meets a wealthy middle-aged housewife and forms an unlikely friendship – one that will change both their lives.**

***The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* meets *A Man Called Ove* and *Saving Missy*.**

Eighty-year-old Dolly Jamieson is *not* homeless, she's merely between permanent abodes. Dolly spends her days keeping warm at the local library, where she enjoys sparring with the officious head librarian and helping herself to the free morning tea. It's not so bad, really. She does miss her wardrobe, though, and conversations that don't involve being asked to "move along".

When Jane, a well-dressed newcomer to the library, shows an interest in her, Dolly feels seen for the first time in months. But the sadness in Jane's eyes intrigues her. What sort of problems could plague a woman lucky enough to be carrying a Gucci tote?

Appearances can be deceiving, and Dolly soon discovers she and Jane have more in common than she first imagined. As the pair strike up an unlikely friendship, painful secrets are revealed. The women strive to help each other, and as they do, hope begins to replace sorrow. But are some wounds simply too deep to heal?

### Pre-publication endorsements

"This book had me from the first page ... and it still has me. It has been years since a book has made me feel like this." - Sally Hepworth, author of *The Younger Wife*

"From the glamour of Broadway in the 1960s to the realities of life for the unhoused today, this is a riveting and heartbreaking story of friendship, second chances and hope." - Kelly Rimmer, author of *Things We Cannot Say*



LISA IRELAND is a full-time writer. Previously, Lisa worked for many years as a primary school teacher. *The Life and Times of Dolly Jamieson* is Lisa's seventh novel. Photo Credit © Nikki Cherry



## WINTER TIME

Laurence Fearnley

May 2022

Penguin New Zealand

304pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

**This vivid novel is about familial love, friendship and how our lives touch, connect and impact upon one another.**

*'The SUV advanced, without slowing as it passed; the driver probably didn't even register him. Roland watched until it reached the canal crossing, where the curve of the hill and the trees swallowed it up. And then he was alone with his frosted breathing, the mist, another breath, a sob.'*

Having returned to the Mackenzie Country to deal with the unexpected death of his brother, Roland has more than enough on his plate. The last thing he needs are the demands of a cantankerous neighbour, the complaints of his partner and to find that someone is impersonating him on Facebook, stirring up the locals against him.

Even the weather is hostile, rendering roads unpassable, his old home an icebox and the fire offering little comfort. And yet, when cycling on the empty roads, cocooned in a snow-muffled landscape, he finds he can confront what he actually feels.

### Sales Points

- The mystery of who is sabotaging Roland's reputation and why gives the novel a strong narrative drive right to the end.
- Thoughtful, evocative, moving and in places funny, this is a vivid read.
- The novel explores local tensions, hunters vs cullers, conservationists vs developers, small-town gossip and social media attacks, generational damage, connection vs isolation and of course the sensation of touch.



LAURENCE FEARNLEY is an award-winning novelist. Her novel *The Hut Builder* won the fiction category of the 2011 NZ Post Book Awards. In 2014 her novel *Reach* was longlisted for the Ockham New Zealand Book Awards, and, in 2008, *Edwin and Matilda* was runner-up in the fiction category of the Montana New Zealand Book Awards. Her second novel, *Room*, was shortlisted for the 2001 Montana New Zealand Book Awards. In 2004 Fearnley was awarded the Artists to Antarctica Fellowship and in 2007 the Robert Burns Fellowship at the University of Otago. In 2016 she won the NZSA/ Janet Frame Memorial Award and in 2017 she was the joint winner of the *Landfall* essay competition. She was named a New Zealand Arts Foundation Laureate in 2019. Photo Credit © Dave Fearnley



## THE ORPHANS

Fiona McIntosh

October 2022

Michael Joseph Australia

368pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

Rights sold previous titles: *The Champagne War* – Germany (Blanvalet); *The Diamond Hunter* – United Kingdom (Ebury), Germany (Blanvalet), Lithuania (Alma Littera); *The Pearl Thief* – United Kingdom (Ebury), Italy (Newton Compton); *The Tea Gardens* – United Kingdom (Ebury), Lithuania (Alma Littera)

**Fiona McIntosh is back with a sweeping outback romance.**

Adopted orphan Fleur Appleby has grown up around death, watching her father take greatest care in his work as a proud and honourable undertaker for the wider community. By 1935 in her mid-twenties, she's running the family's funeral parlour while her recently widowed father is doing his best to drink away generations of prosperity. And now a new, avaricious wife wants to marry Fleur off to the first available suitor.

Tom Catchlove has only known a rough life in the Flinders Ranges outback, doing backbreaking work in the shearing sheds in his determination to one day become a wool classer. A series of unrelated deaths of people close to him leaves him orphaned, and catapults him into the unfamiliar city of Adelaide, where he must find a new life, and trace the origins of his true identity.

When handsome wool classer Tom emerges from the dust and isolation of the Flinders Ranges in South Australia, he catches Fleur's attention and their ensuing love triggers a destructive chain of events that will wreak damage on everyone.

Determined to captain her own life, Fleur must stand up to bullying elders, a villainous coffin-maker, the stigma of being female, a murder investigation and will wrestle her business from her scheming mother-in-law, Irma.

When it's all within her grasp, all she wants is Tom...but he has disappeared. Has he finally returned to the outback, and is he chasing his demons, or is he in pursuit of new dreams?

### Sales points

- Fiona McIntosh has **sold over 680,000 copies** in Australia and New Zealand alone
- As well as being an incredibly successful commercial fiction author, Fiona is also the author of adult fantasy titles (published by HarperCollins) with rights sold in France, and has also written titles for children
- Her books *The Tea Gardens*, *The Chocolate Tin* and *The Perfumer's Secret* have all been shortlisted or longlisted in the ABIA awards



FIONA MCINTOSH is an internationally bestselling author of novels for adults and children. She co-founded an award-winning travel magazine with her husband, which they ran for fifteen years while raising their twin sons before she became a full-time author. Fiona roams the world researching and drawing inspiration for her novels, and runs a series of highly respected fiction masterclasses. She calls South Australia home. Photo Credit © Anne Stropin



## THE HAPPIEST LITTLE THEATRE

**Barbara Hannay**

August 2022

Michael Joseph Australia

352pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

Rights sold previous titles: *The Sister's Gift* – Bulgaria (Hermes); *Meet Me in Venice* – Bulgaria (Hermes), Czech Republic (Baronet), Estonia (Eram Books); *The Country Wedding* – Czech Republic (Baronet); *The Grazier's Wife* – Czech Republic (Baronet) *The Summer of Secrets* – Bulgaria (Hermes)

**The uplifting new novel by the bestselling author of *The Garden of Hopes and Dreams***

*Happiness has a way of catching up with you, even when you've given up trying to find it.*

### **Tilly doesn't believe she can ever be happy again**

Fourteen-year-old Tilly's world is torn apart when her single mother dies suddenly and she is sent a million miles from everything she has ever known to a small country town and a guardian who's a total stranger.

### **Kate is sure she will be happy just as soon as she achieves her dream**

In the picturesque mountains of Far North Queensland, Kate is trying to move on from a failed marriage by renovating a van and making plans for an exciting travel escape. The fresh start she so desperately craves is within reach when an unexpected responsibility lands on her doorstep.

### **Olivia thinks she's found 'happy enough' until an accident changes everything**

Ageing former celebrity actress, Olivia is used to winning all the best roles in her local theatre group, but when she's injured while making a grand stage exit, she is relegated to the wings. Now she's determined that she won't bow out quietly and be left alone with the demons of her past.

When these lost souls come together under the roof of the Burrilea Amateur Theatre group, the count-down to opening night has already begun. Engaging with a diverse cast of colourful characters, the three generations of women find unlikely friendship - and more than one welcome surprise.

From the bestselling author of *The Garden of Hopes and Dreams* comes a heartwarming and uplifting story about the joys of new beginnings

### **Sales points**

- Barbara Hannay is one of Australia's most highly acclaimed romance authors, with **over six million** books sold worldwide
- Hannay is winner of the RITA award and the RUBY award
- For fans of Beth O'Leary and Rachel Johns
- Hannay's books have broad appeal, for women aged 15-95!



BARBARA HANNAY writes women's fiction, with over twelve million books sold worldwide. Her novels set in Australia have been translated into twenty-six languages, and she has won the Romance Writers of America's RITA award and been shortlisted five times. Two of Barbara's novels have also won the Romance Writers of Australia's Romantic Book of the Year award. Photo Credit © Barbara Hannay





## THE OPAL MINER'S DAUGHTER

Fiona McArthur

August 2022

Michael Joseph Australia

352pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: ANZ + Translation

**The heartwarming new medical rural romance from the bestselling author of *The Bush Telegraph*.**

Obstetrician Riley Brand leaves the city behind to go in search of her mother, who's taking leave from her marriage after many long years with her husband. Adelaide has set up temporary home in Lightning Ridge, South Australia, in the dry backblocks of an old mining town, where she has developed a passion for opal mining.

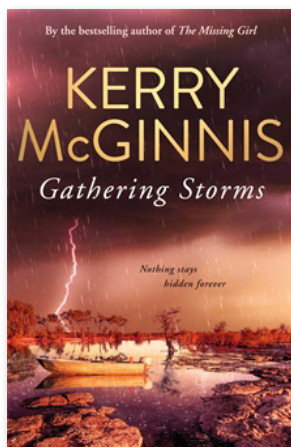
Riley will take up a short-term posting as a fertility expert helping women pursue their baby dreams in remote and regional areas, and hopes she can help to rekindle her parents' love for each other. The small dusty community is a far cry from her polite medical practice on the North Shore of Sydney, but the down-to-earth local women soon welcome her into the fold with their Friday night social gatherings.

But no one is more welcoming than enigmatic doctor Konrad Grey, the GP who's working alongside her. When practice receptionist Melinda confesses she's hiding an unwanted pregnancy, and then goes into emergency labour, Konrad and Riley are thrown together in challenging and wonderful ways.

A moving and heartwarming story about new life and new loves, about the treasures to be found above and beneath the surface of a small country town, and about the important choices women must make in life.



Drawing from her life as a rural midwife, FIONA MCARTHUR shares her love of working with women, families and health professionals in her books. In her compassionate, pacey fiction, her love of the Australian landscape meshes beautifully with warm, funny, multigenerational characters as she highlights challenges for rural and remote families, and the strength shared between women. Happy endings are a must. Fiona is the author of non-fiction book *Aussie Midwives*, and lives on a farm with her husband in northern New South Wales. She was awarded the NSW Excellence in Midwifery Award in 2015 and the Australian Ruby Award for Contemporary Romantic Fiction in 2020. Photo Credit © Fiona McArthur



## GATHERING STORMS

Kerry McGinnis

June 2022

Michael Joseph Australia

368pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights Held: World

**Set against the stunning backdrop of the Gulf country's monsoon season, this is a dramatic story of betrayal and forgiveness from bestselling author and Australia's authentic voice of the land.**

Penny Carter's quiet life in Southbend, running a nursery with her ex father-in-law, is turned upside down when Lisa, the young daughter of her late husband, is unexpectedly deposited on her doorstep. The unwelcome houseguest stirs up more than just memories of Penny's husband's betrayal, when a cyclone leads to the discovery of a skeleton buried next to the town cemetery.

As the mystery around the unsettling discovery grows, Penny, supported by her enigmatic neighbour Flint, begins to question everything she thought she knew about her own childhood and her mother's death. Family secrets long thought buried come bubbling to the surface, as other shocking revelations see Penny and Lisa in an ultimate race for survival.

But what other secrets will the Wet season uncover, while the whole town is cut off from the rest of the world?

### Sales Points

- The new rural mystery from perennial bestselling author and Australia's authentic 'voice of the bush'.
- Kerry writes about beautiful remote parts of Australia and brings to life magical corners of our country.
- An author with a strong and loyal following and a fulsome backlist.
- Beautifully written books that appeal widely - to old and young, male and female, mass-market and literary.



KERRY MCGINNIS was born in Adelaide and at the age of twelve took up a life of droving with her father and four siblings. The family travelled extensively across the Northern Territory and Queensland before settling on a station in the Gulf Country. Kerry has worked as a shepherd, droving hand, gardener and stock-camp and station cook on the family property, Bowthorn, north-west of Mount Isa. She is the author of two volumes of memoir, *Pieces of Blue* and *Heart Country*, and the bestselling novels *The Waddi Tree*, *Wildhorse Creek*, *Mallee Sky*, *Tracking North*, *Out of Alice*, *Secrets of the Springs*, *The Heartwood Hotel*, *The Roadhouse*, *Croc Country* and *The Missing Girl*. Photo Credit © Paul Beutel



## FIVE BUSH WEDDINGS

Clare Fletcher

August 2022

Michael Joseph Australia

352pp (153mm x 234mm)

Rights: World English Language

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**A sharp, funny, energetic romantic comedy, *Five Bush Weddings* is a story about looking for love in your thirties, growing up, second chances and all the hilarious and heartfelt things that happen at weddings.**

31-year-old photographer Stevie-Jean Harrison specialises in shooting country weddings around Queensland and NSW. She's great at telling other people's love stories – but will she get one of her own?

Enter old friend Johnno West. Johnno has just moved back to his family property in regional Queensland after a few years working in London. Now he's returned, he's expected to take control of the property from his older sister and brother-in-law (who have been working the land and understandably aren't too impressed).

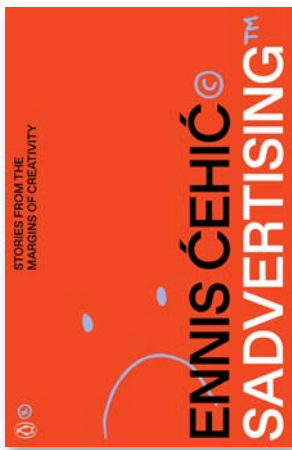
Friends since uni, nothing ever happened between Stevie and Johnno: he was the dropkick best mate of Tom, the ex-boyfriend Stevie dated for seven years. But when Johnno keeps turning up at weddings as the best man, something rekindles. A crush, perhaps?

But then when Stevie meets impossibly handsome, charming Charlie Jones at one of the weddings, they connect immediately. But who is Charlie? Doesn't matter; Stevie's thrown for a loop, and so it seems is Charlie. But not everyone is taken with Charlie's hipster, cool demeanour, and eventually the secretive Charlie gives himself away – much to the horror of the viewing audience of TV's latest reality smash, the Bush Bachelors. . .



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CLARE FLETCHER studied journalism and business and interned for the Walkley Foundation for Journalism. She's worked a roll call of odd jobs, including freelance writing and communications, childcare, waitressing, grape-picking, bug-checking, cotton chipping, baking in a Brooklyn café, and tending bar from country QLD to NY's lower east side. She currently manages communications for the Walkley Foundation. Photo Credit © Clare Fletcher



## SADVERTISING

Ennis Ćehić

March 2022

Vintage Australia

Trade paperback – 176pp

Rights held: World

**An electrifying debut collection of short stories from a young writer who traverses culture, genre and form and speaks to our moment in unexpected ways.**

A mindbending debut collection of stories that explore the existential dramas of the global creative industry, consumerism and social media. With hints of satire and fantasy, *Sadvertising* reflects the absurdity of today's modern condition.

A man grows tired of his open-plan office and builds a fort made of stationery. A woman's euphoria at finally achieving Desktop Zero is quickly replaced with despair. A group of copywriters dream of being poets, and a disillusioned sales executive overthinks his think piece. In the mind-bendingly upside-down world of *Sadvertising*, iPhones have feelings, brands come to life, creative directors disappear into parallel universes and lowly freelancers become immortal. It's a world where gods, ghosts and muses stalk the corridors of bland and placeless offices, and the wondrous exists alongside the mundane.

Punchy and direct, these satirical fables are box-fresh and shot through with pitch-black humour, existential dread and late capitalist yearning for meaning. They grapple with love and loneliness, art and commerce, dream and reality, and the intersection of internet culture and personal identity.

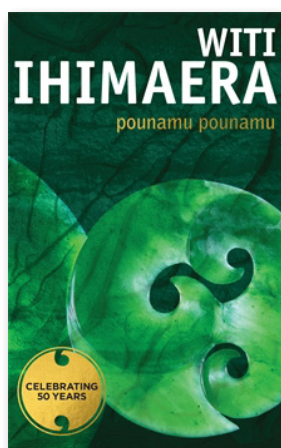
Simultaneously ironically detached and deeply humane, Ćehić is an unforgettable new literary voice.

### Sales points

- Will appeal to fans of Lydia Davis, Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, George Saunders and *Black Mirror*
- Ćehić developed this collection as part of the Wheeler Centre's Next Chapter scheme, after being selected as an inaugural recipient and mentored by Nam Le, critically acclaimed author of *The Boat*
- Could be described as flash- or micro-fiction – of the 53 stories, the shortest is just 22 words and the longest 5,527

Born in Bosnia & Herzegovina in 1984, Ennis Ćehić lives and works between Melbourne and Sarajevo. Since 2007 he has been working in the advertising industry as a copywriter and brand strategist. His writing focuses on ideas of displacement, creativity, identity and existentialism. His work, including essays, fiction and memoir has been published in literary journals and publications including *The Age*, *Meanjin*, *Assemble Papers*, *Matters Journal*, *Overland*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *Going Down Swinging* and *The Lifted Brow*. From 2014 Ćehić was a member of the West Writers Group Program, a collective of writers selected by the Emerging Writers' Festival and Footscray Community of Arts Centre to amplify stories and voices from Melbourne's west, where he grew up after migrating to Australia in 1997 from Germany (where he and his family lived as refugees for five years following the Bosnian War of the 1990s). In 2018 Ćehić was selected as an inaugural recipient of the Next Chapter writers scheme by judges Christos Tsiolkas, Benjamin Law, Maxine Beneba Clarke and Ellen van Neerven. He was mentored by Nam Le. Author photo © Phillip Huynh



**POUNAMU POUNAMU****Witi Ihimaera**

August 2022

Raupo New Zealand

192pp (129mm x 198mm)

Rights Held: World

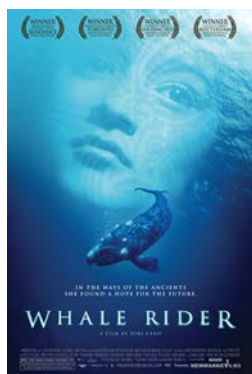
**First published in 1972, *Pounamu Pounamu* has been in print for fifty years**

*Pounamu Pounamu* is classic Ihimaera. First published in 1972, it was immediately endorsed by Maori and Pakeha alike for its original stories that showed how important Maori identity is for all New Zealanders. As Katherine Mansfield did in her first collection *In a German Pension* (1911), and Janet Frame in *The Lagoon* (1951), Witi Ihimaera explores in *Pounamu Pounamu* what it is like to be a New Zealander – but from a Maori perspective.

The seeds of Ihimaera's later works are first introduced in this ground-breaking collection: *The Whale Rider* in his story 'The Whale', *The Rope of Man* in 'Tangi', and the character of Simeon from *Bulibasha, King of the Gypsies* in 'One Summer Morning'; and the themes of aroha (love), whanaungatanga (kinship) and manaakitanga (supporting each other), which are so integral to Ihimaera's work.

**Rights Sold Other Titles**

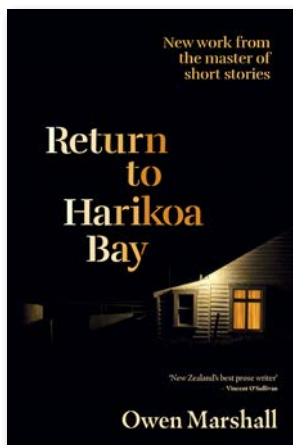
Witi has been published in North America, United Kingdom, France, Germany, The Netherlands, Italy, Brazil, Macedonia, Estonia and Thailand. Four of these titles have been adapted into film, with two more titles currently under option.



**Witi Ihimaera** is a three-time winner of the Wattie/Montana Book of the Year award, Katherine Mansfield fellow, and playwright, Witi Ihimaera is one of New Zealand's most accomplished writers. His best-known novel is *The Whale Rider*, which was made into an internationally successful film in 2002. His first book, *Pounamu, Pounamu*, has not been out of print in the 50 years since publication. *Bulibasha, King of the Gypsies* won the Montana Book of the Year award in 1995. Ihimaera won the Wattie Book of the Year Award in 1974 and 1986 for *Tangi* and *The Matriarch* respectively. He has received numerous other awards. In 2004 he became a Distinguished Companion of the Order of New Zealand (the equivalent of a knighthood). Ihimaera's writing also opened the door to his political career. When the then North American Ambassador to New Zealand read a copy of *Pounamu, Pounamu* he passed it on to the Prime Minister of New Zealand at the time, Norman Kirk. At Mr Kirk's request, Witi Ihimaera joined the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and served as a diplomat in Canberra, New York and Washington. Photo Credit © Andi Crown







## RETURN TO HARIKOA BAY

Owen Marshall

August 2022

Random house NZ Vintage

Trade paperback – 320pp

Rights held: World

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### New work from the master of the short story.

*Whenever I think of coming to punish my father, it's always in a strong wind, and that's blowing now as I drive up the long, unsealed track to the house and sheds.*

So begins one of Owen Marshall's superbly subversive stories. He offers up a wide range of subjects, from untimely deaths to unusual discoveries made about friends or neighbours, from burnishing an overseas trip to a tale about saving a business venture.

With over ten years since his last collection of new stories, Marshall explores his fellow New Zealanders, bringing his wisdom and wry eye to his vivid, insightful scenes.

*Places bring back people, people bring back places, and both conjure the cinema of your past.*

### Sales points

- Marshall is widely considered to be New Zealand's finest living short-story writer along with Fiona Kidman
- Marshall's stories appeal to those interested in New Zealand fiction, particularly tourists, as he captures the landscape, voice, small towns, people, and wry humour so beautifully
- 'Coming Home in the Dark', the first story from Marshall's previous collection, was recently made into a feature film, selected for Sundance

### Praise for Owen Marshall

'Owen Marshall has established himself as one of the masters of the short story'

– *Livres Hebdo*, Paris

'I find myself exclaiming over and again with delight at the precision, the beauty, the near perfection of his writing.'

– Fiona Kidman, bestselling author of *All the Way to Summer*

'Quite simply the most able and the most successful exponent of the short story currently writing in New Zealand.'

– Michael King



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Owen Marshall, described by Vincent O'Sullivan as 'New Zealand's best prose writer', is an award-winning novelist, short story writer, poet and anthologist. Awards for his fiction include the New Zealand Literary Fund Scholarship in Letters, fellowships at Otago and Canterbury universities, and the Katherine Mansfield Memorial Fellowship in Menton, France. In 2000 he became an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for services to literature, in 2012 was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit (CNZM) and in 2013 received the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement in Fiction. In 2006 he was invited by the French Centre National du Livre to participate in their Les Belles Etrangères festival and subsequent tour, anthology and documentary. Author photo © Jackie Jones



## HARBOURS

Jenny Patrick

April 2022

Random House NZ Black Swan

Trade paperback – 304pp

Rights held: World

**The eagerly awaited new blockbuster historical title from the bestselling author of the *Denniston Rose* trilogy.**

1839. Huw Pengellin is desperate to find a better life for his family than the one he ekes out in his home country of Wales. His wife, Martha, looks down upon his foolhardy schemes, but she too wants to escape the foundry slums, and the roving eyes of Huw's brother Gareth. Huw starts looking to Colonel Wakefield's plans to travel to the distant shores of New Zealand as a solution.

On the other side of the world, Hineroa, a Māori woman, is also desperate to find a better life. As she watches the new arrivals, she fears that the British ships bring further trouble.

Change is underway, not just for Huw and Hineroa but also for the crescent beach, thick bush and steep hills that is about to become the bustling settlement of Wellington.

*Harbours* is the story of a Welsh couple and a Māori woman in search of a new life.

Jenny Patrick has a huge readership, with sales of *The Denniston Rose* at over 60,000 in Australia and New Zealand alone.

### Praise for Jenny Patrick

'Patrick is one of [New Zealand's] most talented storytellers.'

– Nikki Pellegrino, author

'Patrick creates an authentic stage for a cast of characters who interact in ways that always ring true.'

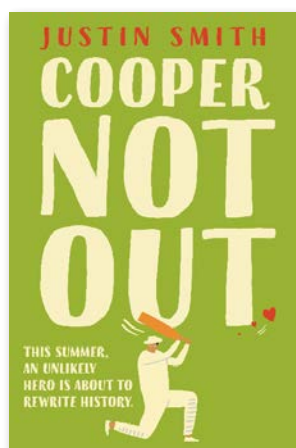
– *The Christchurch Press*

'It is not surprising that she is one of NZ's most popular contemporary novelists and this fine piece of historical fiction will further enhance that well-deserved reputation.'

– Graham Beattie



Jenny Patrick is an acclaimed historical novelist, whose novel *The Denniston Rose* and its sequel *Heart of Coal* are among New Zealand's biggest-selling novels. They have also been republished in an illustrated edition. The former teacher and jeweller's works include the Whanganui novel *Landings*, and *Inheritance*, set in Samoa, which along with all her adult titles have been number one bestsellers in New Zealand. In 2009 she received the New Zealand Post Mansfield Fellowship. She has been active in the arts community, and has also written stories, songs and shows for children. Photo Credit © Jenny Patrick



## COOPER NOT OUT

Justin Smith

January 2022

Michael Joseph

Trade paperback – 320pp

Rights held: World

**This summer, an unlikely hero is about to rewrite history.**

It's the summer of 1984, and Sergeant Roy Cooper is a 48-year-old policeman in the small country town of Penguin Hill. He's been batting for his local cricket club for decades, and he's a statistical miracle. He's overweight, he makes very few runs, he's not pretty to watch, but he's never been dismissed.

Roy's story is discovered by Donna Garrett, a renowned sports columnist from a Melbourne newspaper who's forced to write under the male pseudonym of 'Don' Garrett to be taken seriously. That summer, the West indies are touring Australia, and Australia is getting flogged. The Australian people's love of cricket is lower than it's ever been. But Donna's columns on Roy Cooper ignite a new passion, and soon there's pressure to select him for the national team.

There's pushback from the cricket establishment, particularly from an old grump called Sir Walter Grant who once played for Australia. And Roy's life is more complicated than it first appears. He's been having an affair with the groundsman of the Penguin Hill Cricket Club, Barry Midwinter, and the two meet every Sunday under the pretence of restoring an EH Holden.

Roy is selected to play for Australia, and the people are about to discover that when it comes to sporting miracles, anything is possible. One R Cooper might just find a way to write himself into sporting history.

*Cooper Not Out* is a heart-warming comic novel set within real events of 1984. It's a story of how things that seem ordinary can be magnificent, a reminder of how much sport can mean to us, and it's about the agony of pretending to be something you're not.

### Sales points

- Comic crossover fiction, a perfect summer read for an 'uplit' commercial audience
- For fans of Nick Hornby and Graeme Simsion, and for cricket fans everywhere!
- Written in a fresh and engaging prose, with a tender love story at its heart
- A story about an underdog overcoming the odds



Justin Smith is a Melbourne writer, journalist and broadcaster. He's a columnist with the Melbourne *Herald Sun* and a weekly guest on Channel Seven's Sunrise program and Sky News. Justin has had a long career in radio as a presenter and executive producer. He has hosted national programs, and was the Drive host on Sydney's 2UE. He has won multiple awards for journalism and broadcasting. Author photo © John Pallot



## THE FROG PRINCE

James Norcliffe

February 2022

Random House NZ Vintage

Trade paperback – 304pp

Rights held: World

**Why did the princess throw the frog against the wall?  
A novel about a disappearance, searching for love and the power of stories.**

A disappearance. An infatuation. *The Frog Prince* is an intriguing, multi-layered novel giving us a story, within a story, within a story.

We might recall the kiss between the frog prince and the princess, but not necessarily the part where the princess angrily flings the frog against the wall. What was that all about?

At an international school in France, the young teacher Cara Bernstein gives her explanation in a novel she's been writing about the Brothers Grimm.

It doesn't seem relevant to Cara's own story, and that of her New Zealand boyfriend David Cunningham. But when Cara disappears, will David be able to put the stories together to understand what has happened? And will any of the princesses and frogs be united happily ever after?

A modern-day love story gone wrong, an early nineteenth-century story about the Brothers Grimm that has another love story that goes wrong, and the curious fairy story of the Frog King, also known as Iron Henry.

### Sales points

- A multi-layered story with a page-turning mystery at its core. What happened to the missing woman? Where has she gone, and why?
- Norcliffe's first adult novel – Norcliffe is an acclaimed poet and author of short stories and children's books
- Explores storytelling itself and the nature of fairytales, the Brothers Grimm and how they collected stories, fake news, romance and disillusionment



James Norcliffe is an award-winning poet and writer, and the author of several children's fantasy books celebrated for their unexpected plot twists and magical wit. He has won awards and residencies, most recently the 2018 Creative New Zealand Randall Cottage Writer in Residence in Wellington. His children's novel *The Loblolly Boy* was published in New Zealand, the United States and Australia, and won the 2010 NZ Post Junior Fiction Award and a Storylines Notable Junior Fiction award. *The Loblolly Boy & the Sorcerer* was a finalist in the Junior Fiction category of the 2012 New Zealand Post Book Awards for Children and Young Adults, as was *The Pirates and the Nightmaker* in 2015. *Twice Upon a Time* was published in 2017, and *The Revenge of the Tooth Fairy*, the first of his novels featuring wicked Mallory, in 2020. Author Photo Credit: © Sharon Bennett and University of Otago



# ABOUT THE ADULT PUBLISHING TEAMS

## PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA



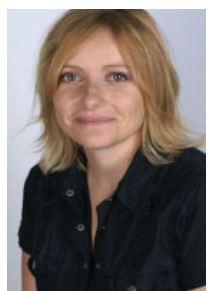
Justin Ractliffe  
Publishing Director

Justin Ractliffe is the Publishing Director at Penguin Random House Australia. His previous role was Managing Director of Hachette Australia and he has held a variety of senior executive roles across publishing. Australian authors he has worked with include Geraldine Brooks, Shaun Tan, Maggie Beer, Peter FitzSimons and Michael Robotham. He is the recipient of the 2019 Copyright Agency's Cultural Fund Publisher Fellowship and published his report 'Instinct, Input and Insight: Reader-centricity in publishing' in October of that year.



Nikki Christer  
Publisher at Large

Nikki Christer is Publisher at Large at Penguin Random House Australia. Authors she works with include Peter Carey, Tim Winton, Anna Funder, Richard Flanagan, Elliot Perlman, Chloe Hooper, Stephanie Alexander and Evie Wyld. In 2014, Richard Flanagan's *The Narrow Road to the Deep North* won the Man Booker Prize. Nikki also sits on the board of the Sydney Writers' Festival.



Beverley Cousins  
Publisher, Commercial Fiction

Before moving to Australia with her family in 2007, Beverley Cousins had twenty years of experience in London publishing (first for Pan Macmillan and then Penguin Books UK). Following a year's secondment with Penguin Australia, she moved to Random House Australia as Fiction Publisher. During her career she has published a number of brand-name authors, including Minette Walters, Colin Dexter and Janet Evanovich, and currently looks after bestselling authors Judy Nunn, Loretta Hill, Deborah Rodriguez, Nicole Alexander, Candice Fox and M.L. Stedman, among others.



Meredith Curnow  
Publisher, Literary Fiction

Meredith Curnow is a literary publisher working across Knopf, Vintage and Hamish Hamilton, publishing fiction and non-fiction. The authors she is delighted to work with include Thomas Keneally, Julia Gillard and Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Yassmin Abdel-Magied, Philipp Meyer, David Malouf, Kate Forsyth, Tara June Winch and Kathy Lette. Meredith is involved in a number of fellowship programs. She is also a member of the board of youth arts organisation Express Media.



Alison Urquhart  
Publisher, Non-Fiction

Alison Urquhart is a commercial non-fiction publisher. Before joining Penguin Random House, Alison was Associate Publisher, Non-Fiction at HarperCollins Australia. She has also worked as a literary agent, both in Britain and Australia. Alison broadly publishes across the areas of history, military history, sport, true crime, memoir and biography. She publishes many bestselling authors, including Jesse Fink and Turia Pitt, and highly acclaimed historians Paul Ham, Mike Carlton and Garry Linnell.





## PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA CONTINUED



Ali Watts

**Publisher, Commercial Fiction and Commercial Non-Fiction**

Ali Watts is a publisher of commercial fiction and select non-fiction, publishing into our Penguin and Michael Joseph imprints. With over twenty-five years' experience at Penguin, she has worked with some of Australia's most beloved and successful writers and personalities. She has a particular passion for commercial fiction, and her internationally bestselling authors include Monica McInerney, Fiona McIntosh, Katherine Scholes, Megan Goldin, Josephine Moon and Kyle Perry.



Sophie Ambrose

**Publisher, Non-Fiction**

Sophie Ambrose moved to Australia from England in 1998 and joined Penguin Books Australia. In 2002 she moved to Random House Australia as a Senior Editor, then Managing Editor, Commissioning Editor and now Publisher. In her various roles she has worked with some of Penguin Random House's biggest authors across all genres. She currently focuses on memoirs, parenting books, gift books and self-help.



Isabelle Yates

**Head of Penguin Publishing Lab**

Having previously worked at Penguin Random House UK, Izzy has been commissioning non-fiction at Penguin Random House Australia for over five years. Her areas of interest are pop culture, health and wellbeing, self-help and personal development, lifestyle and cookery. She is always on the lookout for inspiring books with a valuable application to real life, and runs the Penguin Publishing Lab which focuses on books informed by consumer insight and trends. Izzy's authors include Professor Valter Longo, plant-based nutritionist Simon Hill, comedian Nat's What I Reckon and the creators of the hit podcast Shameless, Michelle Andrews and Zara McDonald.



Brandon VanOver

**Publisher, Non-Fiction**

Brandon VanOver moved from Curtis Brown in the US to Random House Australia in 2004, starting as Editorial Assistant and eventually becoming a Senior Editor and then the Managing Editor at Penguin Random House Australia. After a time as Associate Publisher, Non-Fiction, at Simon & Schuster Australia, Brandon returned to PRH in 2020 as a Commissioning Editor, focusing on narrative non-fiction, memoir, sport, popular culture, history, true crime and humour. In 2021, Brandon was promoted to Publisher, Non-Fiction.



## PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE NEW ZEALAND



Claire Murdoch  
Head of Publishing

As Head of Publishing, Claire Murdoch directs the Penguin Random House New Zealand list across non-fiction, fiction and children's books. With broad experience in the Australian and New Zealand book trade, including roles at Allen & Unwin, Te Papa Press and PRH, her books have won dozens of awards. Claire has particular expertise in illustrated non-fiction and art books, Maori books, popular culture, biography and memoir. Her authors include Chelsea Winter, Ruby Jones and Kyle Mewburn.



Harriet Allan  
Publisher, Fiction

Harriet Allan has been working for Penguin Random House and its earlier incarnations for over thirty years. She publishes many of New Zealand's pre-eminent writers, including Fiona Kidman, Owen Marshall, Witi Ihimaera and Charlotte Grimshaw, among numerous others who regularly feature on the New Zealand bestseller list. Over the years her authors have won the New Zealand Book Awards, the Montana Book Awards, the New Zealand Post Awards and the Best First Book in the Commonwealth Writers Prize, and several have been shortlisted for the prestigious Frank O'Connor Award. She publishes both literary and commercial fiction under the imprints of Penguin, Vintage and Black Swan. She also publishes Young Adult fiction.



Margaret Sinclair  
Publisher, General Non-Fiction

Margaret Sinclair commissions general trade non-fiction titles, including cookbooks, lifestyle, health and wellbeing, heartland and parenting titles. She also works with a range of organisations including charities, schools and corporates to produce professional and attractive books for and about them. She has worked for several publishers in New Zealand and the UK over the last thirty years, including Heinemann Educational, Macmillan, Fodor's and Random House.