

# The Text Publishing Company

## London Rights Guide 2018



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# Recent Acquisitions

## Children and Young Adult

Beckett, Bernard	A. S. Normal and the Tunnel of Dreams	World	Author
Dabos, Christelle	A Winter's Promise	ANZ	Gallimard Jeunesse
Kerr, Kay	Please Don't Hug Me	World	Jacinta di Mase
Mass, Wendy and Rebecca Stead	Bob	ANZ	Curtis Brown USA
Nugent, Carly	Sugar	World	Author
Wakefield, Vikki	Youth <i>and</i> Untitled novel	World	Drummond Agency

## Adult

Astley, Thea	A Kindness Cup, Reaching Tin River, Drylands <i>and</i> The Multiple Effects of Rainshadow	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Baram, Nir	World Shadow	World English	Liepman Agency
Biss, Eula	Having and Being Had <i>and</i> Ownership	ANZ	David Grossman
Darriussecq, Marie	Zoo <i>and</i> Our Life in the Forest	UK & Comm. (exc. Canada)	Editions POL
Disher, Garry	Untitled Wyatt novel	World	Jenny Darling Associates
Garner, Helen	Monkey Grip <i>and</i> The Children's Bach	World	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Hertmans, Stefan	The Convert	ANZ	De Bezige Bij
Klein, Daniel and Thomas Cathcart	I Think Therefore I Draw	ANZ	Penguin Random House USA
Kneen, Krissy	Wintering	World	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Koch, Herman	The Ditch	ANZ	Ambo Anthos
Kurbjuweit, Dirk	The Freedom of Emma Herwegh	World English	Hanser Verlag
Laguna, Ingrid	Songbird	World	Curtis Brown
Lianke, Yan	The Day the Sun Died	ANZ	Grove Atlantic
Lindqvist, John Ajvide	I Always Find You	UK & Comm. (exc. Canada)	Copenhagen Literary Agency
Malonowska, Kaja	Fog	World English	Barbara Zitwer
Murnane, Gerald	A Season on Earth	World	Author
Nordbo, Mads Peder	The Girl without Skin <i>and</i> Cold Fear	World English	Politiken Literary Agency
Righetto, Matteo	The Soul of the Frontier	ANZ	Piergiorgio Nicolazzini
Salzmann, Sasha Marianna	Beside Myself	World English	Suhrkamp Verlag
Serong, Jock	Preservation	World	Author
Tiffany, Carrie	Exploded View	ANZ	Lutyens and Rubinstein
Vann, David	Halibut on the Moon	ANZ	Rogers, Coleridge & White
Zafón, Carlos Ruiz	The Labyrinth of the Spirits	ANZ	The Colchie Agency

# Recent Publications

## Children and Young Adult

Brubaker Bradley, Kimberley	The War I Finally Won	Penguin Random House USA
Cece, Adam	The Extremely Weird Thing that Happened in Huggabie Falls	Author
Griffin, Paul	Saving Marty	Penguin Random House USA
King, A. S.	Please Ignore Vera Dietz	Penguin Random House USA
Levithan, David	Every Day	William Morris Endeavor Entertainment
Pitt, Darrell	The Boy from Earth	Author
Reyl, Hilary	Kids Like Us	Abner Stein

## Adult

Ball, Jesse	Census	Sterling Lord Literistic
Burnet, Graeme Macrae	The Accident on the A35	Saraband
Coetzee, J. M.	The Schooldays of Jesus	David Higham Associates
Dekkers, Midas	The Story of Shit	Shared Stories
Garner, Helen	Stories <i>and</i> True Stories	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Hillman, Robert	The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted	Jacinta di Mase
Jerusalmy, Raphaël	Evacuation	Actes Sud
Jones, Gail	The Death of Noah Glass	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Jones, Lloyd	The Cage	Author
Krasnostein, Sarah	The Trauma Cleaner	Curtis Brown UK
Krügel, Mareike	Look at Me	Piper Verlag
Lianke, Yan	The Years, Months, Days	The Susijn Agency
McPhee, John	Draft No. 4	Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Pink, Daniel H.	When	Canongate
Rachman, Tom	The Italian Teacher	Rogers, Coleridge & White
Ripley, Nathan	Find You in the Dark	Transatlantic Agency
Simsion, Graeme and Anne Buist	Two Steps Forward	Authors
Szabłowski, Witold	Dancing Bears	Penguin Random House USA
Tokarczuk, Olga	Flights	Fitzcarraldo Editions
Tuck, Lily	Sisters	Grove Atlantic
Wu, Ming-Yi	The Stolen Bicycle	Georgina Capel Associates in association with Grayhawk Agency

# *The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted* by Robert Hillman

Tom Hope doesn't think he's much of a farmer, but he's doing his best. He can't have been much of a husband, either, judging by the sudden departure of his young bride Trudy.

When Trudy returns, pregnant with someone else's baby, Tom discovers an unexpected talent: as a father to the child Trudy doesn't want. So when Trudy finds Jesus and takes little Peter away to join a religious community, Tom's heart breaks all over again.

Enter Hannah Babel, quixotic small-town bookseller: the second Jew—and the most vivid person—Tom has ever met. He dares to believe that they could make each other happy.

But it is 1968, which makes it twenty-four years since Hannah and her own little boy arrived at Auschwitz. And Tom Hope is about to take on a battle with heartbreak he can barely begin to imagine.

'A novel of great spirit and tenderness.' *Carrie Tiffany*

'While this tale contains darkness and heartache, they are accompanied by truth and love, and ultimately, hope, and the human capacity to overcome...A sensitive, enthralling story, destined to become a favourite.' *Books+Publishing*

'This calamitous work, brassy with the vigour of life in a specifically Australian, specifically contemporary way, singles Hillman out from the crowd.' *Sydney Morning Herald on Joyful*

'There might be a fine line between love and insanity, and Hillman's characters travel a dark road, but this is a story about redemption and negotiating a place of peace inside despair.' *Saturday Paper on Joyful*

**Robert Hillman** is the author of a number of books including his previous novel, *Joyful*, and his 2004 memoir *The Boy in the Green Suit*, which won the National Biography Award. He lives in Warburton in Victoria's Yarra Valley.

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** Canada—Penguin Canada; Israel—Tchelet; Spain—Suma Internacional; Netherlands—A.W. Bruna; US—Putnam.

Fiction

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April 2018

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Finished copies available

# *The Fragments* by Toni Jordan

When Inga Karlson died in a fire in New York in the 1930s, she left behind three things: a phenomenally successful first novel, the scorched fragments of a second book—and an enduring literary mystery that has captivated generations of readers.

Nearly fifty years later, Brisbane bookseller Caddie Walker is waiting in line to see a Karlson exhibition featuring the famous fragments. When Caddie gets talking to a charismatic older woman who quotes the best-known surviving passage, and adds a coda Caddie knows does not exist, it feels like a message from the grave.

And it startles her from her sleepy, no-worries life to pursue the question that wakes her in the night: could there be something new to discover about the greatest literary mystery of the twentieth century?

‘A wonderful, witty treat of a novel: cutting and clever, and yet so very romantic.’ Liane Moriarty on *Our Tiny, Useless Hearts*

‘This novel is a triumph. Another signal career in Australian fiction is well under way.’ *Australian* on *Nine Days*

‘The suspense is frequently nail-biting...Jordan has a fine line in wit too, not to mention the natural storyteller’s ability to keep us guessing.’ *Daily Mail* on *Nine Days*

**Toni Jordan** is the author of four novels. The international bestseller *Addition* (2008) was a Richard and Judy Bookclub pick and was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Award. *Fall Girl* (2010) was published internationally and has been optioned for film, and *Nine Days* was awarded Best Fiction at the 2012 Indie Awards and was named in *Kirkus Review*’s Top 10 Historical Novels of 2013.

**Rights Held:** World

**Option Publishers:** Italy—Marsilio; UK and Comm. (exc. ANZ and Canada)—Atlantic.

Fiction

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November 2018

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Manuscript available

# *The Helpline* by Katherine Collette

*When Francine had called and said they had an opening for someone interested in working with old people I thought it was a joke, some elaborate gotcha.*

*But it was not a joke.*

*At the interview, Francine explained the position was on the Senior Citizens Helpline, which was a number old people could call if they needed help showering or cooking or whatever it was they couldn't do for themselves.*

*I had a horrible vision: me, in green scrubs and latex gloves and a disposable shower cap. I was holding a roll of toilet paper. Calling 'Who's next?' to a queue of constipated geriatrics.*

Germaine Johnson may not be all that good with people but she's *great* with numbers. Unfortunately, as she discovers after the incident at Wallace Insurance (and the subsequent disputed allegations), there are very few openings these days for senior mathematicians.

Then her cousin gets her a job at the local council. On the Senior Citizens Helpline.

It's not the résumé entry Germaine wanted—but it turns out Mayor Verity Bainbridge has something more interesting in mind for her. A secret project involving the troublemakers at the senior citizens centre and their feud with the golf club next door. Which is run by the strangely attractive Don Thomas.

Don and the mayor want the seniors closed down. Germaine wants what Don and the mayor want. But when she's forced to get to know the 'troublemakers'—things get more complicated.

A sharp, witty, big-hearted comedy from a hilarious new Australian writer, Katherine Collette's *The Helpline* is about people power and brain power—and how hard it is getting them to work together.

**Katherine Collette** is a writer and environmental engineer. She lives in Melbourne with her husband and two children. *The Helpline* is her first novel.

**Rights Held:** World

Fiction

| September 2018

| Manuscript available

## *Flames* by Robbie Arnott

A young man named Levi McAllister decides to build a coffin for his twenty-three-year-old sister, Charlotte—who promptly runs for her life. A water rat swims upriver in quest of the cloud god. A fisherman named Karl hunts for tuna in partnership with a seal. And a father takes form from fire.

The answers to these riddles are to be found in this tale of grief and love and the bonds of family, tracing a journey across the southern island that takes us full circle.

*Flames* sings out with joy and sadness. Utterly original in conception, spellbinding in its descriptions of nature and its celebration of the power of language, it announces the arrival of a thrilling new voice in contemporary fiction.

‘A strange and joyous marvel.’ Richard Flanagan

‘Visionary, vivid, full of audacious transformations: there’s a marvellous energy to this writing that returns the world to us aflame. A brilliant and wholly original debut.’ Gail Jones

‘Ambitious storytelling from a stunning new Australian voice. *Flames* is constantly surprising—I never knew where the story would take me next. This book has a lovely sense of wonder for the world. It’s brimming with heart and compassion.’ Rohan Wilson

‘Robbie Arnott is a vivid and bold new voice in Australian fiction.’ Danielle Wood

**Robbie Arnott** was born in Launceston in 1989. He now lives in Hobart, where his day job is writing advertising copy. He won the Scribe Nonfiction Prize in 2014 and the Tasmanian Young Writer’s Fellowship in 2015.

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** France—Actes Sud; UK and Comm. (exc. ANZ and Canada)—Atlantic.

Fiction

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May 2018

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Finished copies available



# Wintering by Krissy Kneen

*'Who is this please?'*

*'Jessica. Jessica Weir.'*

*'I'm sorry, miss, but this was the last number—'*

*'Matthew's on his way home. From work. He's late. He should be home soon.'*

*And only the ocean breathing into the silence as if her own chest were rising and falling without fail. As if his heart were still beating. As if nothing in the world had changed.*

*'We've found a car, miss, but there's no sign of a driver.'*

When Jessica's partner disappears into the dark Tasmanian forest, there is of course the mystery of what happened to him—the deserted car, the enigmatic final image recorded on his mobile phone. There is the strange circle of local women, widows of disappeared men, with their edgy fellowship and unhinged theories. And the forest itself: looming hugely over this tiny settlement on the remote tip of the island.

But for Jessica there is also the tight community in which she is still a stranger and Matthew was not. What secrets do they know about her own life, that she doesn't? And why do they believe things that should not—cannot—be true? For her own sanity, Jessica needs to know two things.

Who was Matthew? And who—or what—has he become?

*'Endlessly curious and inventive, provocative and inspiring.'* *Sydney Morning Herald* on *An Uncertain Grace*

*'Beautifully written, painfully honest...Kneen explores sexuality, the body and self-image, and the intersection between the three.'* *Big Issue* on *Affection*

**Krissy Kneen** is the award-winning author of the memoir *Affection*, the novels *Steeplechase*, *Triptych*, and *The Adventures of Holly White and the Incredible Sex Machine*, and the poetry collection *Eating My Grandmother*. She has written and directed broadcast documentaries for SBS and ABC television. Her latest novel, *An Uncertain Grace*, has been shortlisted for the 2018 Stella Prize for Australian Women's Writing.

**Rights Held:** World

Fiction

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September 2018

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Manuscript available

# *The Girl without Skin* by Mads Peder Nordbo

TRANSLATED FROM THE DANISH BY CHARLOTTE BARSLUND

*Matthew moved to look out of the helicopter window. They were near the edge of the glacier. The sea underneath where they hovered was dense with pack ice. In front of them, the endless whiteness stretched out as far as the light and the eye could reach. It hurt his eyes. Millions of white crystals. Except on one place. One spot. Right where the mummified Norseman had been found and Aqqalu had kept watch. There, the ice was glossy red.*

Journalist Matthew Cave is sent out to the edge of an ice sheet to write about the discovery of a mummified corpse. Is this the first well-preserved Viking ever found? But the next day, the mummy has disappeared and the body of the policeman who was keeping watch is found naked and flayed at the discovery site.

Matthew soon realises that the body is connected to an unsolved murder from the 1970s. As he delves deeper into his investigation, he finds shocking connections to the present. And when he meets a young Greenlandic woman, Tupaarnaq, he knows there is no way back. But nothing has prepared him for what he will discover.

**Mads Peder Nordbo** is a Danish-born author who has lived in Nuuk in Greenland for many years. He holds degrees in literature, communications and philosophy from the University of Southern Denmark and the University of Stockholm. He works in communications at the town hall in Nuuk, where he writes for the mayor of the municipality. Mads is the author of three novels, and *The Girl without Skin* is his crime debut. Rights have been sold in seventeen territories.

**Charlotte Barslund** is a Scandinavian translator. She has translated novels by Peter Adolphsen, Mikkel Birkegaard, Thomas Enger, Karin Fossum, Steffen Jacobsen, Carsten Jensen, and Per Petterson, as well as a wide range of classic and contemporary plays. She lives in the UK.

**Rights Held:** World English

**Other Rights:** Politiken Literary Agency

Fiction

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September 2018

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Manuscript available

# *Beside Myself* by Sasha Marianna Salzmann

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN BY IMOGEN TAYLOR

*Beside Myself* is the disturbing and exhilarating story of a family across four generations. At its heart is one woman's search for her twin brother. When Anton goes missing and the only clue is a postcard sent from Istanbul, Alissa leaves her mathematics degree at a university in Berlin to find him. Without her twin, the sharer of her memories and mirror of her own self, to anchor her, Ali is lost.

In a city steeped in political and social changes, where you can buy gender-changing drugs on the street, Ali's search—for her missing brother, for her identity— will take her on a journey for connection and belonging, asking questions that lead to sometimes startling answers.

This dazzling novel transports its readers from a village in early twentieth century Odessa, to a small post-Soviet era Moscow apartment, to a failing coup d'état in Istanbul in July 2016. *Beside Myself* is a brilliant literary debut about belonging, about family and love, and about the enigmatic nature of identity.

**Sasha Marianna Salzmann** was born in Russia in 1985 and moved to Germany when she was ten. She is a playwright and director whom *Die Deutsche Bühne* has described as 'possibly the German playwright of the times.' *Beside Myself* was published in Germany in September 2017 and was shortlisted for the German Book Prize. Rights have been sold in thirteen territories.

**Imogen Taylor** is a freelance literary translator based in Berlin. She is the translator of *The Truth and Other Lies* by Sascha Arango, *The Trap* by Melanie Raabe and *Fear* by Dirk Kurbjuweit.

**Rights Held:** World English

**Other Rights:** Suhrkamp Verlag

Fiction

March 2019

Manuscript available

# *World Shadow* by Nir Baram

TRANSLATED FROM THE HEBREW BY JESSICA COHEN

It's the mid 1990s. Gabriel Mantzur, born in Jerusalem in the 1960s, wants to take advantage of all the business opportunities he can see opening up in Israel. Moving in political and financial circles, he finds his way into the upper reaches of power—but the higher he goes, the less he understands the intrigues in which he is involved.

Cut to the present. A group of young Londoners—homeless, unemployed, and disaffected—decides to organise a worldwide strike to protest against globalisation and inequality. Sick of being screwed over, they want to overturn the prevailing order.

Meanwhile, we meet the principal players in an eerily familiar American political consulting firm. With interests everywhere from Bolivia to the Congo, it ostensibly exists to further liberal and progressive causes—until the veil is drawn back on the truth about its activities.

*World Shadow* is a novel about politics, money, power and corruption. With its masterly interwoven narrative strands and its global perspective, it holds a mirror up to the present day. This novel confirms Nir Baram as a major contemporary writer on the world stage.

**Nir Baram** was born into a political family in Jerusalem in 1976. His grandfather and father were both ministers in Israeli Labor Party governments. He has worked as a journalist and as an advocate for equal rights for Palestinians. He is the author of five novels, including *Good People*, and the work of reportage *A Land without Borders*. His novels have been translated into more than ten languages. In 2010 he received the Prime Minister's Award for Hebrew Literature.

**Jessica Cohen** is a British-Israeli-American translator. She shared the 2017 Man Booker International Prize for translating David Grossman's 2014 novel *A Horse Walks into a Bar*.

**Rights Held:** World English

**Rights Held:** Liepmann Agency

Fiction

January 2019

Manuscript available  
June 2018

# *The Plotters* by Un-su Kim

TRANSLATED FROM THE KOREAN BY SORA KIM-RUSSELL

Behind assassinations that change the course of history, there are masterminds working in the shadows. Raised by Old Raccoon in *The Library of Dogs*, Reseng has always been surrounded by assassination plots—and by books that no one ever reads—and he was always destined to become an assassin.

But when Reseng steps out of line on his latest job, things soon spiral out of control. Will he be next on the kill list? Who will look after his cats, Desk and Lampshade? Who planted the bomb in his toilet? And when Reseng meets a trio of young women with an extraordinary plot of their own, he can see that all hell is about to break loose.

Un-su Kim's writing has been compared to Murakami's and he has been hailed as a rising star of Korean literature. *The Plotters* is a classy noir thriller and a complex, fascinating tale about the changing of the guard in a corrupt underworld, where people live with an entirely different code of honour.

'This second novel by Un-su Kim demands to be read for its incredible cast of characters...a first-rate thriller.' *Le Monde*

'A rich, funny, cynical Korean roman noir...A delicious surprise.' *La Croix*

**Un-su Kim** was born in 1972 in Busan and is the author of several highly praised novels. He has won the Munhakdongne Novel Prize, Korea's most prestigious literary prize, and was nominated for the 2016 Grand Prix de la Littéraire Policière. He lives in Jinhae-gu, South Korea. *The Plotters* is his first novel to be translated into English, and rights have been sold in seven territories.

**Sora Kim-Russell's** recent translations include *The Hole* and *City of Ash and Red* by Hye-young Pyun, *Familiar Things* and *At Dusk* by Hwang Sok-yong, and the short story collection *Wolves* by Jeon Sungtae.

**Rights Held:** World English

**Rights Sold:** NA—Doubleday; UK and Comm. (exc. ANZ and Canada)—Fourth Estate.

**Other Rights:** Barbara J. Zitwer Agency

Fiction

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September 2018

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Manuscript available

## *Ada Bloom's Last Summer* by Martine Murray

In a small country town during one long, hot summer, the Bloom family begins to unravel. Marital secrets, new and long-hidden, surface—with devastating effect.

Martha is straining against the confines of her life, lost in regret for what might have been, when an old flame shows up. In turn, her husband, Mike, becomes frustrated with his increasingly distant wife. Teenagers Tilly and Ben are about to step out into the world. And nine-year-old Ada is holding on to a childhood that will soon be lost to her.

When Ada discovers an abandoned well beneath a rusting windmill in the bush outside the town, she is drawn to its dark danger. And when she witnesses a shocking and confusing event, the well's foreboding looms large as events lead inexorably towards tragedy.

*Ada Bloom's Last Summer* is a beguiling story about the fragility of family relationships, about the secrets we keep and the power they hold to shape our lives, and about the love that somehow holds it all together.

**Martine Murray** was born in Melbourne and now lives in Castlemaine. She is the author of the internationally bestselling Cedar B. Hartley books, and her middle-grade novel, *Molly and Pim and the Millions of Stars*, was shortlisted for the 2016 CBCA Award for Younger Readers. *Marsh and Me* was longlisted for the 2017 CBCA Award. *Ada Bloom's Last Summer* is her first book for adults.

**Rights Held:** World (exc. NA)

**Other Rights:** InkWell Management

Fiction

September 2018

Manuscript available  
June 2018

## *Songwoman* by Ilka Tampke

The long-awaited new novel by the acclaimed author of *Skin*. In 47AD, Rome has colonised southeast Britain. Tortured by her part in the Roman attack that destroyed her township, Ailia has been living alone in a remote Welsh forest for a year.

She returns to a world that has been turned upside down. The tribespeople cling to what little land remains to them, investing all their hope in the charismatic war-king, Caradog, who has been leading a guerrilla campaign against the encroaching army.

As the fighting escalates, Ailia proves herself an indispensable advisor to the war-king—but she must overcome a fellow tribesman who has resolved to sabotage her efforts, and subdue her passionate attraction to Caradog. The soul of her country will only survive if she succeeds in becoming a Songwoman.

Set in Iron-Age Britain during the turmoil of Roman invasion, *Songwoman* explores one woman's quest to defend her culture.

**Ilka Tampke** lives in Woodend, Australia. *Songwoman* can be read as a stand-alone, or as the sequel to Ilka's first novel, *Skin*, published in 2015. *Skin* was shortlisted for the Aurealis Award for Best Fantasy Novel in 2015 and longlisted for the Voss Literary Prize in 2016.

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** Denmark—Rosinante & Co.; Germany—Blanvalet; North America—Thomas Dunne; UK and Comm. (exc. ANZ and Canada)—Hodder.

**Option Publishers:** Netherlands—Luitingh-Sijthoff; Sweden—Forum; Vietnam—The Women's Publishing House.

Fiction

October 2018

Manuscript available  
June 2018

## *The Death of Noah Glass* by Gail Jones

At the age of sixty-seven, having just returned from a trip to Sicily, the art historian Noah Glass is discovered floating face down in the swimming pool at his Sydney apartment block.

His grieving children Martin and Evie must come to terms not only with the shock of their father's death, but also with the case of a sculpture stolen from a museum in Palermo. Noah is a suspect and the police are investigating.

None of it makes any sense. Martin sets off to Palermo in search of answers about his father's activities, while Evie moves into Noah's apartment in Elizabeth Bay, waiting to learn where her life might take her.

Retracing their father's steps in their own way, neither of his children can see the path ahead.

Gail Jones's mesmerising new novel tells a story about parents and children, and explores the overlapping patterns of life. *The Death of Noah Glass* is about love and art, grief and happiness. It is about memory and the mystery of time.

'Told masterfully from the perspectives of three finely drawn characters, *The Death of Noah Glass* combines an enjoyable escapade involving art theft, mafia conspiracy, romance, and a suspicious death with a literary exploration of grief, identity and the power of the past to damage present lives. Fans of Jones will not be disappointed, and new readers should find much to recommend it.' *Books+Publishing* on *The Death of Noah Glass*

'A significant presence in contemporary Australian fiction. Thoughtful, intelligent and intensely lyrical.' *Guardian* on *Five Bells*

'There is an intelligence and honesty to Jones's writing that brings the characters powerfully to life. Its meanings are prismatic in their possibilities, its human dimensions deeply and perhaps unexpectedly affecting.' *Age* on *Sixty Lights*

**Gail Jones** is one of Australia's most celebrated fiction writers. Her work has been translated into nine languages, and has been longlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the Orange Prize. It has been shortlisted for the IMPAC Award, and the Prix Femina Etranger. In addition, Gail Jones has been shortlisted three times for the Miles Franklin Award. She lives in Sydney.

**Rights Held:** World

Fiction

|

April 2018

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Finished copies available



## ***Monkey Grip* by Helen Garner**

*I rolled and rolled in the water, deafening my ears while I thought of, and discarded, all the reasons why I shouldn't go. I popped up, hanging on to the rail, hair streaming on my neck.*

*'OK. I'll come.'*

*Javo was looking at me.*

*So, afterwards, it is possible to see the beginning of things, the point at which you had already plunged in, while at the time you thought you were only testing the water with your toe.*

Helen Garner's gritty, lyrical first novel divided the critics on its publication in 1977. Today, *Monkey Grip* is regarded as a masterpiece—the novel that shines a light on a time and a place and a way of living never before presented in Australian literature: communal households, music, friendships, children, love, drugs, and sex.

When Nora falls in love with Javo, she is caught in the web of his addiction; and as he moves between loving her and leaving, between his need for her and promises broken, Nora's life becomes an intense dance of loving and trying to let go.

## ***The Children's Bach* by Helen Garner, introduced by Ben Lerner**

*There was a piano in the kitchen and during the day Athena would shut herself in there under the portrait of Dexter's father and pick away at Bartok's Mikrokosmos or the easiest of Bach's Small Preludes. Preludes to what? Even under her ignorant fingers those simple chords rang out like a shout of triumph, and she would run to stick her hot face out of the window.*

Athena and Dexter live a happy but insular life, bound by routine and the care of their young sons. When Elizabeth, an old friend from Dexter's university days, turns up with her much younger sister, Vicki, and her lover, Philip, she brings an enticing world into their doorstep. And Athena finds herself straining at the confines of her life.

Helen Garner portrays her characters with a clear eye for their dreams, their insecurities and their deep humanity in this intimate and engaging short novel, which was first published in 1984. *The Children's Bach* is 'a jewel,' in Ben Lerner's description, 'beautiful, lapidary, rare.'

**Helen Garner** is one of Australia's greatest living writers. In 2006 she received the inaugural Melbourne Prize for Literature, and in 2016 she won the prestigious Windham–Campbell Prize for non-fiction. She lives in Melbourne.

**Rights Held:** World

Fiction

| November 2018

| Manuscripts available

## *Europe: A Natural History* by Tim Flannery

Around 100 million years ago, the interaction of three continents—Asia, North America and Africa—formed the tropical island archipelago that would become the Europe of today, a place of exceptional diversity, rapid change, and high energy. Over the millennia the continent has taken in countless immigrant species and transformed them.

*Europe: A Natural History* is full of surprises. Europe is where the first coral reefs were formed. It played a vital role in the evolution of our own tribe, the hominins. It was once home to some of the world's largest elephants. While dinosaurs, crocodiles and giant sharks have come and gone, Europe's extraordinary midwife toad has endured.

When the first modern humans arrived 40,000 years ago, hybridised with the Neanderthals, they began to exert an astonishing influence on the continent's flora and fauna. The Europeans have led the world in the great arc of human population trends, from rapid increase to stabilisation. And now, they lead the way in wildlife restoration—there are more wolves in Europe today than in the USA.

This enthralling ecological history is more than the story of Europe and the Europeans. It will change our understanding of life itself.

Praise for Tim Flannery:

'This man is a national treasure, and we should heed his every word.' *Sunday Telegraph*

'In lucid and authoritative prose...his book becomes a hymn to life.' *The Times*

'The eloquent clarity of this book is a delight. It makes a grim subject exciting.' *Australian Book Review*

'A wonderful book...Flannery's erudite, engaging text...is a must for optimists and pessimists alike.' *New Scientist*

**Tim Flannery** is a paleontologist, explorer and conservationist, a leading writer on climate change and the 2007 Australian of the Year. His books include the award-winning international bestseller *The Weather Makers*, *Here on Earth* and *Atmosphere of Hope*. He is currently head of the Climate Council.

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** UK and Comm. (exc. ANZ and Canada)—Penguin Press; NA—Grove Atlantic.

**Option Publishers:** France—Bouchet/Chastel; Italy—Corbaccio; Romania—Seneca.

Non-fiction

October 2018

Manuscript available  
June 2018

# *Books that Saved My Life: Reading for Wisdom, Solace and Pleasure* by Michael McGirr

*Reading great literature is thrilling. It will feed your hungry mind and take your heart on a journey. It will help you on the path of one of life's most elusive and hard-won freedoms, freedom from the ego.*

Here are forty texts to read at some stage in your life: forty texts that can enrich you in all manner of ways. Some are recent, like *Harry Potter*; some ancient, like works by Homer and Lao Tzu. There are memoirs (Nelson Mandela), poetry (Les Murray) and many of the world's great novels, from George Eliot's *Middlemarch* to Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.

Our guide, in entertaining short essays about each of these works, is Michael McGirr: schoolteacher and former priest, reviewer of more than a thousand novels and lifelong lover of literature. His humour and wisdom shine through in anecdotes that connect the texts he has selected with each other, and connect us to them.

Never prescriptive, and often very funny, this book is an invitation to reflect on—and share with others—the extraordinary gift of reading. 'It is a gift that is taking me a lifetime to unwrap,' McGirr writes. 'The excitement has never worn off.'

**Michael McGirr** is the bestselling author of *Snooze, Things You Get for Free* and *Bypass: The Story of a Road*. He has reviewed books for the *Age*, *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Canberra Times*; his short fiction has appeared in numerous publications in Australia and overseas; and he has been the publisher of *Eureka Street* and fiction editor of *Meanjin*.

**Rights Held:** World (exc. North America)

**Option Publisher:** Korea—Hyeonamsa

**Other Rights:** Curtis Brown Australia

Non-fiction

November 2018

Manuscript available  
May 2018

## *Staying: A Memoir* by Jessie Cole

Jessie Cole grew up in a rainforest paradise, a magical place of her parents' making. Free to roam as they pleased, Jessie and her brother, Jake, felt at one with the plants and animals whose home they shared. They had each other, and parents who adored them, and two mysterious, beautiful, clever half-sisters, Billie and Zoe, who came to visit every holidays. But when Jessie was on the brink of adolescence, tragedy struck.

The suicide of her sister Zoe exposed the cracks in the facade of their happy, loving family. Jessie's father—a psychiatrist—slowly went mad with grief, becoming increasingly erratic and violent, until Jessie, Jake and their mother had no choice but to leave. When her father killed himself too, in the rainforest home they had shared, Jessie was devastated. It was only when she returned there, with children of her own, that she found a way to heal.

This heartbreaking memoir asks: what happens to those who are left behind when someone takes their own life? It's about the importance of home, family and forgiveness—and finding peace in a place of pain.

'A wounded, lovely, luminous book about grief, trauma and the strange healing potential of words.' Tim Winton

'A work of shining brilliance...Jessie Cole breaks your heart, and then, very carefully, she mends it.' Romy Ash

'*Staying* aches and pulses with life...Cole is a writer of immense talent.' Anna Krien

**Jessie Cole** grew up in an isolated valley in northern New South Wales and lived a bush childhood of creek swimming and barefoot free-range adventuring. Her first novel, *Darkness on the Edge of Town*, was shortlisted for the 2013 ALS Gold Medal and longlisted for the Dobbie Literary Award. Her second novel, *Deeper Water*, was released in 2014 to much critical acclaim.

**Rights Held:** ANZ and US

**Other Rights:** Jenny Darling and Associates

Non-fiction

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May 2018

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Finished copies available

# *How We Desire* by Carolin Emcke

TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN BY IMOGEN TAYLOR

*What if, instead of discovering our sexuality only once, during puberty, we discover it again later — and then again, after that? What if our sexuality reinvents itself every time our desire shifts, every time the object of our desire changes? What if the nature of our desire is constantly changing — growing deeper, lighter, wilder, more reckless, more tender, more selfish, more devoted, more radical?*

*How We Desire* is an enthralling essay about gender, sexuality and love by one of Germany's most admired writers. It's about growing up, and discovering the contours of desire and difference, about understanding that we sometimes 'slip into norms the way we slip into clothes, putting them on because they're laid out ready for us'. In telling her own story, Emcke draws back the veil on how we experience desire, no matter what our sexual orientation. And she examines how prejudice against homosexuality has survived its decriminalisation in the west.

This marvellous book covers some of the same terrain as Maggie Nelson's *The Argonauts*, and pays homage to the radical magic and liberating tenderness of desire itself.

'Delicate and vulnerable, angry, passionate, clever and thoughtful. An amazing work.'

*Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*

**Carolin Emcke** was born in 1967. She studied philosophy, politics and history in London and Frankfurt and at Harvard. From 1998 to 2013 she reported from war and crisis zones including Kosovo, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Gaza and Haiti, mainly writing for *Die Zeit*. She is the author of a number of books, and has won the Theodor Wolff Prize, the Otto Brenner Prize for critical journalism and the German Reporter Prize. In 2016 she received the German Book Trade's Peace Prize, which has also been won by Svetlana Alexievich, Orhan Pamuk and Susan Sontag.

**Imogen Taylor** is a freelance literary translator based in Berlin. She is the translator of *The Truth and Other Lies* by Sascha Arango, *Fear* by Dirk Kurbjuweit and *The Trap* by Melanie Raabe.

**Rights Held:** World English

**Other Rights:** S. Fischer Verlag

Non-fiction

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June 2018

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Manuscript available

## *The Dead Still Cry Out* by Helen Lewis

Helen Lewis was just a child when she found an old suitcase hidden in a cupboard at home. Inside it were the most horrifying photographs she'd ever seen. She put them back, shut the suitcase and never told anyone.

The photographs—a record of the atrocities committed at Bergen-Belsen—belonged to her father, British paratrooper and combat cameraman Mike Lewis. Many years after her parents had died, when uncomfortable memories of her childhood began to surface, Helen dug out the suitcase and began to piece together the story of her father's life.

The child of Jewish refugees who had fled the pogroms in Poland, Mike had grown up in London's East End and experienced anti-Semitism firsthand in the England of the 1930s. When war was declared, he enlisted. He filmed the battle for Arnhem in 1944, and in the following year documented the liberation of the camp at Bergen-Belsen, where 60,000 starving prisoners were discovered—along with 13,000 unburied corpses. Those first images shot by Mike Lewis and others like him shocked the world.

In *The Dead Still Cry Out* Helen uses photographs and film stills to reconstruct her father's life, while exploring broader questions too: what it means to belong; how history and memory are shaped—and how anyone can deny the Holocaust in the face of such powerful evidence.

**Helen Lewis** is a writer, editor and researcher who was born in England and moved to Australia when she was twenty-one. She wrote her PhD thesis on her father's experiences as a combat cameraman and has presented conference papers in Australia and overseas on the ethics and aesthetics of disseminating images of atrocity. In 2012 she was a research associate at the Imperial War Museum, London. She lives in the hinterland of Eden, New South Wales, where she indulges her love of gardening.

**Rights Held:** World

Non-fiction

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June 2018

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Manuscript available

# *Shakespeare's Library* by Stuart Kells

Millions of words of scholarship have been expended on the world's most famous author and his work. And yet a critical part of the puzzle, Shakespeare's library, is a mystery. For four centuries people have searched for it: in mansions, palaces and libraries; in riverbeds, sheep pens and partridge coops; and in the corridors of the mind. Yet no trace of the bard's manuscripts, books or letters has ever been found.

The search for Shakespeare's library is much more than a treasure hunt. The library's fate has profound implications for literature, for national and cultural identity, and for the global Shakespeare industry. It bears upon fundamental principles of art, identity, history, meaning and truth.

Unfolding the search like the mystery story that it is, acclaimed author Stuart Kells follows the trail of the hunters, taking us through different conceptions of the library and of the man himself. Entertaining and enlightening, *Shakespeare's Library* is a captivating exploration of one of literature's most enduring enigmas.

'If you think you know what a library is, this marvellously idiosyncratic book will make you think again...An enchanting compendium of well-told tales and musings both on the physical and metaphysical dimensions of these multi-storied places.' *Age on The Library*

'Almost like poetry, a rich ode to all things books and everything we love about them. The enjoyment and engagement is so palpable you can almost taste it and Kells proves to be the perfect guide through the subject matter and history.' *AU Review on The Library*

**Stuart Kells** is an author, bibliophile and book-trade historian. His 2015 book, *Penguin and the Lane Brothers*, was shortlisted for the Ashurst Business Literature Prize. An authority on rare books, he has written and published on many aspects of print culture and the book world. Stuart lives in Melbourne with his family. His most recent book is *The Library: A Catalogue of Wonders*.

**Rights Held:** World

**Option Publishers:** Italy—Mondadori Libri; Japan—Hayakawa Publishing; Korea—Hyeonamsa; North America—Counterpoint; UK and Comm. (exc. ANZ and Canada)—Duckworth Overlook.

Non-fiction

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September 2017

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Manuscript available

## The Huggabie Falls Series by Adam Cece

Kipp Kindle and his friends Tobias Treachery and Cymphany Chan live in Huggabie Falls, the weirdest town on Earth. It's home to Dutch werewolves, vegetarian piranhas, a bottomless lake and a topless hill. And weird things happen all the time—that's normal.

'Wonderfully weird and lots of fun!' Andy Griffiths

### *The Extremely Weird Thing that Happened in Huggabie Falls*

WINNER, 2017 TEXT PRIZE FOR YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S WRITING

When an *extremely* weird thing happens one day in Huggabie Falls, Kipp and his friends must battle the evil Felonious Dark, as well as a creepy scientist and her muscly henchmen, and far too much strawberry jam, in order to foil a sinister plot and save their families—and their town. The winner of the 2017 Text Prize is a laugh-out-loud madcap adventure that turns weirdness upside down.

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** France—Bayard; Italy—Salani; Netherlands—Lannoo; Portugal—Castor de Papel; Spain—Duomo.

Children's fiction | April 2018 | Finished copies available

### *The Unbelievably Scary Thing that Happened in Huggabie Falls*

Just when Kipp and his friends think they can relax after saving Huggabie Falls from becoming forever normal, unbelievably scary things start happening. Kipp, Tobias and Cymphany, along with the now-reformed Felonious Dark, must discover who is creating the mysterious and terrifying 'scare balls' and save the residents of Huggabie Falls from their worst fears.

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** France—Bayard; Netherlands—Lannoo.

**Option Publishers:** Italy—Salani; Portugal—Castor de Papel; Spain—Duomo.

Children's fiction | October 2018 | Manuscript available  
June 2018

**Adam Cece's** first book, *Wesley Booth Super Sleuth*, was published in 2015. In 2017, Adam won the Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing for *The Extremely Weird Thing that Happened in Huggabie Falls*, the first book in the Huggabie Falls series.



# *The Peacock Detectives* by Carly Nugent

SHORTLISTED, 2017 TEXT PRIZE FOR YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S WRITING

*Today would have been an ordinary Saturday, except that two things happened:*

- 1) The peacocks escaped, and*
- 2) I started writing this story.*

*Dad says if you want to write a story you should start by choosing a topic that you know a lot about.*

*That's why this is a story about peacocks. I know a lot about peacocks because:*

- (a) Two peacocks live in the holiday flats across the road from me and*
- (b) I'm good at finding them when they go missing.*

The last time her neighbour's peacocks went missing, Cassie found them sitting on a coiled hose behind the fire station, and Dad called her 'Cassie Andersen, Peacock Detective'. So this time, she knows exactly what clues to look for.

Cassie sets out to investigate the peacocks' disappearance, writing the story of what she discovers, but the clues lead her in unexpected directions and Cassie soon finds herself unravelling a surprising mystery about her own family. As she writes the story of her journey, Cassie comes to realise that 'the truth' is something she can face.

*The Peacock Detectives* is a charming and warm-hearted story about growing up and learning to deal with change, for readers of Rebecca Stead and Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

**Carly Nugent** lives in regional Victoria. Her short fiction has featured in numerous publications, including the *Bellevue Literary Review* and *Award Winning Australian Writing*. *The Peacock Detectives* is her first novel.

**Rights Held:** World

Children's fiction

|

June 2018

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Manuscript available

# ***Bonesland* by Brendan Lawley**

**SHORTLISTED, 2017 TEXT PRIZE FOR YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S WRITING**

*As soon as I finish school, I'll have the car packed. I'll thunder past the dull cardboard boxes that Banarang calls shops, I'll skim over the Bridge Street potholes without feeling a bump and I'll fly up the freeway, bound for the city and civilisation.*

Bones Carter is done with Banarang and his backwater existence: the school bully won't give him a break, his family is falling apart and his germ phobia is barely under control. There's not much to do but hang out with his friends, make bad rap music and count down the days until the end of school and the beginning of his new life in the city.

Then Naya comes to town. Brilliant, black and beautiful, she wants to change the world. Maybe she'll start with changing Bones. After all, she thinks he is a well of untapped potential. Bones thinks she's delusional—but she does make him feel more hopeful than he has in a long time.

A wild ride through the small-town agonies of adolescence, *Bonesland* is an impressive and affecting debut full of oddball humour.

**Brendan Lawley** is a writer living in Melbourne. Many of the events depicted in *Bonesland* are inspired by his and others' experiences growing up in country Victoria. This is his first novel.

**Rights Held:** World

Young-adult fiction

|

May 2018

|

Finished copies available

# *The Art of Taxidermy*, a verse novel by Sharon Kernot

SHORTLISTED, 2017 TEXT PRIZE FOR YOUNG ADULT AND CHILDREN'S WRITING

*Later, I found a crow.  
Its feathers so black  
they shone  
with a blue tinge  
in the bright sunshine.*

*It lay on its side  
at the base of a jacaranda—  
purple flowers scattered beneath—  
as if it had fallen asleep,  
floated down serenely  
from a branch above.*

*I stroked its sleek feathers  
expecting it to wake,  
flap strong wings and fly off,  
but it slept on.*

*The Art of Taxidermy* is a moving and evocative verse novel that explores love, loss and grief, and the way beauty can help to make sense of it all.

Loss has a palpable presence in Lottie's world. Her father is still mourning the death of her mother, and the suffering of her grandparents as German prisoners-of-war lingers in all their lives. And as for Lottie, well, she collects the dead creatures that she finds in the bush, lovingly caring for them in the hope of preserving them from disintegration.

Yearning to be closer to the mother she has lost, Lottie immerses herself even deeper in the world of her preserved treasures. When her worried aunt steps in to stop Lottie's 'morbid behaviour', Lottie is devastated—until she meets an Aboriginal boy, Jeffrey, whose friendship opens up the world for her.

**Sharon Kernot** writes poetry and fiction. Her first novel, *Underground Road*, was published by Wakefield Press in 2013. Her work has appeared in a variety of journals and anthologies including *Island*, *Mascara Literary Journal*, *Best Australian Poems* and *Australian Love Stories*.

**Rights Held:** World

Young-adult fiction

|

July 2018

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Manuscript available

## *The Finder* by Kate Hendrick

*Elias was tall and lanky, wearing skinny jeans that were loose on even skinnier legs. Black combat boots. A fitted short-sleeved shirt buttoned up all the way, and black-framed glasses. His hair was shiny with some sort of product and combed back in what looked like an homage to Elvis.*

*I know, I know—don't judge a book by its cover. But a book doesn't get to choose its own cover. A person does get to choose what they look like. There's a thought process behind gelling your hair up like Elvis or choosing to wear combat boots. It says something about a person, just like any other action a person does. And why would anybody act like a tool unless that's exactly what they are?*

When Lindsay meets Elias, the signs aren't promising. She's a grungy introvert who doesn't want to talk to anyone. He's a teen fashionista who can't shut the hell up.

But since Lindsay tracked down a young runaway, word has got around that she knows how to find people. And Elias is looking for his birth mother.

But the thing is, Lindsay wasn't actually *trying* to find anyone. It's just how she looks at the world, scanning every house, every face, every car. That's because someone is missing in Lindsay's life: her identical twin Frankie, who disappeared when they were eight. Since then, her parents have kept themselves busy. And Lindsay has been...looking.

In Elias, despite their differences, she might have found someone to look with.

Praise for Kate Hendrick and *The Accident*:

'Hendrick's writing shows that sometimes families can let us down. Her vulnerable characters voice our secrets, remind us we are not alone and offer a light at the end of the tunnel.'

*Books+Publishing*

**Kate Hendrick** lives in Sydney with her husband and their two children. Her first novel, *The Accident*, was shortlisted for the Queensland Literary Awards in 2014.

**Rights Held:** World

Young-adult fiction

|

August 2018

|

Manuscript available

## *The Boy from Earth* by Darrell Pitt

*'No child from Earth has ever been chosen to attend the Galactic Space Academy.'* The hologram's eyes narrowed on Bobby. *'Until now.'*

*'Why me?'* Bobby's voice went up a notch.

*'It's a mystery to me,'* the hologram assured him.

*'What if I don't want to go?'*

*'You may reject our offer,'* the hologram said. *'But it would reflect badly on Earth. Not that people are thinking Earth is backward and primitive,'* he quickly added. *'But if they were thinking it, well, they'd be thinking it even more. If you know what I mean.'*

Bobby Baxter's not the bravest kid on Earth. His list of things that scare him is up to number 689, and includes lightning, crowds, spiders, alien abductions, crocodiles, falling from great heights, falling from small heights and eggs. So when he learns that he's the first Earthling ever chosen to attend the Galactic Space Academy, light years away from home, he's terrified.

The training program at the GSA is tough. If you pass, you're accepted into the Space League—the greatest force for good the universe has ever seen. If you don't, you're flushed out of the airlock as space garbage. But that's not Bobby's only worry. Someone at the GSA is trying to get rid of him—and that's only the first step in a much bigger, more sinister plot. With the future of the universe at stake, it's time for Bobby to face his fears.

Praise for Darrell Pitt and *A Toaster on Mars*:

*'This pseudo-science-fiction book provides laughs of all types: readers will progress from snickers to giggles to, finally, belly laughs and shouts of outrage.'* *Kirkus Reviews*

*'This satirical, quirky sci-fi adventure might appeal to fans of Douglas Adams' well-loved Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.'* *Booklist*

**Darrell Pitt** is the author of *A Toaster on Mars* and the Jack Mason Adventures, a series of five novels including *The Firebird Mystery* (a Notable book in the 2015 CBCA awards) and, most recently, *The Lost Sword*. He lives in Melbourne.

**Rights Held:** World

Children's fiction

|

March 2018

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Finished copies available

## Various titles by Thea Astley

### ***A Kindness Cup* introduced by Kate Grenville**

Two decades after a massacre of local Aboriginal people, the former residents of a Queensland town have reunited to celebrate the progress and prosperity of their community. Tom Dorahy, returning to his hometown, is having none of it: he wants those responsible to own up to their actions. A reckoning with oppression, guilt and the weight of the past, *A Kindness Cup* is one of Thea Astley's greatest achievements.

'Smart, compassionate.' *New York Times*

### ***The Multiple Effects of Rainshadow* introduced by Chloe Hooper**

In 1930 the superintendent of a mission on a Queensland island, driven mad by his wife's death, goes on a murderous rampage. Fearing for their lives, the other whites arm a young Indigenous man and order him to shoot Uncle Boss dead. *The Multiple Effects of Rainshadow* traces the lead-up to this bloody showdown and the repercussions in the years after—for Aboriginal people and the colonial overseers.

'Formidable...Uniquely provocative, acerbic and glittering.' *Australian*

### ***Reaching Tin River* introduced by Jennifer Down**

Researching in the archives Belle discovers the long-dead Gaden Lockyer, a colonial pioneer in Jericho Flats, and soon becomes obsessed. Belle's quest for Lockyer is her way of coming to terms with the past—her mother, 'a drummer in her own all-women's group'; her absent American father; and her ineffectual husband, Seb. Thea Astley's satire is at its sharpest and most entertaining.

'Dazzling imagery on every page...Beautifully written.' *Publishers Weekly*

### ***Drylands* introduced by Emily Maguire**

In the dying town of Drylands, Janet Deakin sells papers to lonely locals. At night, in her flat above the newsagency, she attempts to write a novel for a world in which no one reads—'full of people, she envisaged, glaring at a screen that glared glassily back.' *Drylands* is the story of the townsfolk and their harsh, violent lives. Trenchant and brilliant, Thea Astley's final novel is a dark portrait of outback Australia in decline.

'It is impossible to put this book down. It seethes with energy and passion.' *Herald Sun*

**Rights Held:** World

Fiction

|

May 2018

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Finished copies available

## ***The Brush-Off* by Shane Maloney introduced by Michael Robotham**

Murray Whelan, hero of *Stiff*, is back at his richly futile best in *The Brush-Off*. When the body of an artist is fished from the moat outside the National Gallery, Murray—political minder, brushed-off lover and art buff on the make—goes looking for the big picture. The second adventure in Shane Maloney's series brilliantly mixes high art with low blows. Winner of the 1996 Ned Kelly Award for Crime Fiction.

'*The Brush-Off* brilliantly mixes the comic and the tragic: this amusing thriller has you laughing at the moments where a gasp may be more appropriate.' *Rolling Stone*

**Rights Held:** World

## ***The Young Desire It* by Kenneth Mackenzie introduced by David Malouf**

Fifteen-year-old Charles Fox is sent away to boarding school, innocent and afraid. There, one of his masters develops an intense attachment to him. But when Charles meets Margaret, a girl staying at a nearby farm for the holidays, he is besotted, and a passionate, unforgettable romance begins. Published in London in 1937 to wide acclaim, *The Young Desire It* is a stunning novel about coming of age: an intimate and lyrical account of first love, and a rich evocation of rural Australia.

'Why isn't this stunning novel famous?' Michael Dirda, *Washington Post*

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** Germany—Hanser Verlag

## ***Wake in Fright* by Kenneth Cook introduced by Peter Temple**

John Grant is a young teacher who arrives in the rough outback mining town of Bundanyabba, planning to stay overnight before catching the plane to Sydney. But his one night stretches to five and he spirals into an alcoholic, sexual and spiritual nightmare. *Wake in Fright* is the original and the greatest outback horror story. It was made into a film in 1971, arguably the greatest film ever made in Australia. Lost for many years, the restored film was re-released to acclaim in 2009.

'A true dark classic of Australian literature.' J. M. Coetzee

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** Brazil—Grua Livros; France—Autrement; Netherlands—Podium; Spain—Seix Barral; Turkey—Ayrinti.

## ***The Quiet Earth* by Craig Harrison introduced by Bernard Beckett**

John Hobson, a geneticist, wakes one morning to find his watch stopped at 6.12. The streets are deserted, there are no signs of life or death anywhere, and every clock he finds has stopped: at 6.12. Is Hobson the last person left on the planet? Inventive and suspenseful, *The Quiet Earth* is a confronting journey into the future—and a dark past.

**Rights Held:** World

**Rights Sold:** Film—Triptych Pictures; Turkey—Ayrinti.

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