

The Text Publishing Company
Frankfurt Rights Guide
2020



The Text Publishing Company

Frankfurt Rights Guide 2020

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Recent Acquisitions

Children and Young Adult

Archbold, Charlie	<i>Red-Bottomed Boat</i>	World	Author
Arnold, David	<i>The Electric Kingdom</i>	ANZ	Writers House USA
Draper, Lauren	<i>The Museum of Broken Things</i>	World	Author
Emery, Kate	<i>The Not So Chosen One</i>	World	Author
Laguna, Ingrid	<i>Bailey Finch Takes a Stand</i>	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Luby, Miranda	<i>Therefore I Am</i>	World	Author
McEwen, Karys	<i>Bertie</i>	World	Author
Young, Georgina	<i>Bootstrap</i>	World	Author

Adult

Bail, Murray	<i>He.</i>	ANZ	Author
Cotter, Andrew	<i>Olive, Mabel & Me</i>	ANZ	Black & White Publishing
Cousins, Sophie	<i>Renewal</i>	World	Author
Demick, Barbara	<i>Double Purity</i>	ANZ	Abner Stein in assoc with Sterling Lord Literistic
Holbe, Julia	<i>Our Happy Days</i>	World English	Penguin Random House Germany
Fenster, Gigi	<i>A Good Winter</i>	World	Author
Garner, Helen	<i>Diaries Volume 3</i>	World	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Prior, Sian	<i>A Terrible Freedom</i>	World	Jenny Darling & Associates
Rothwell, Nicolas	<i>Anadyr</i>	World	Margaret Connolly & Associates
Sentilles, Sarah	<i>Stranger Care</i>	UK & Commonwealth	Penguin Random House USA
Singer, Peter	<i>The Golden Ass</i>	ANZ	W. W. Norton
Webb, Tiger	<i>An Anti-Usage Guide</i>	World	Author

Recent Publications

Children and Young Adult

Bell, Davina	<i>The End of The World is Bigger than Love</i>	Curtis Brown Australia
Brubaker Bradley, Kimberly	<i>Fighting Words</i>	Penguin Random House USA
Kerr, Kay	<i>Please Don't Hug Me</i>	Jacinta di Mase Management
Moore, Cath	<i>Metal Fish, Falling Snow</i>	Author
Stead, Rebecca	<i>The List of Things That Will Not Change</i>	Penguin Random House USA

Adult

Arnott, Robbie	<i>The Rain Heron</i>	Author
Barbery, Muriel	<i>A Strange Country</i>	Éditions Gallimard
Biss, Eula	<i>Having and Being Had</i>	David Grossman Literary Agency
Buijsman, Stefan	<i>Pluses and Minuses: How Maths Solves Our Problems</i>	De Bezige Bij
Buist, Anne	<i>The Long Shadow</i>	Author
Cain, Amina	<i>Indelicacy</i>	Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Davies, Carys	<i>The Mission House</i>	Granta Books
Demick, Barbara	<i>Eat the Buddha: Life and Death in a Tibetan Town</i>	Abner Stein in assoc with Sterling Lord Literistic
Donati, Massimo	<i>The Mountain</i>	The Italian Literary Agency
Grenville, Kate	<i>A Room Made of Leaves</i>	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Lianke, Yan	<i>Three Brothers: Memories of My Family</i>	The Susijn Agency
Lohrey, Amanda	<i>The Labyrinth</i>	Australian Literary Management
McAnulty, Dara	<i>Diary of a Young Naturalist</i>	Little Toller Books
Melchor, Fernanda	<i>Hurricane Season</i>	New Directions Publishing
Pagano, Emmanuelle	<i>One Day I'll Tell You Everything</i>	Éditions P.O.L.
Raabe, Melanie	<i>The Shadow</i>	Penguin Random House Germany
Savage, Ellena	<i>Blueberries</i>	Lutyens & Rubinstein
Serong, Jock	<i>The Burning Island</i>	Author
Shibli, Adania	<i>Minor Detail</i>	Fitzcarraldo Editions
Watson, S. J.	<i>Final Cut</i>	Conville and Walsh Ltd
Woodland, Greg	<i>The Night Whistler</i>	Melanie Ostell Literary
Young, Georgina	<i>Loner</i>	Author
Zable, Arnold	<i>The Watermill</i>	Author

The Second Son by Loraine Peck

The Second Son is a brilliant action-packed crime debut that depicts a world where honour is everything, violence is its own language, and love means breaking all the rules.

When Ivan Novak is shot dead putting out his garbage bins in Sydney's west, his family wants revenge, especially his father Milan, a notorious crime boss. It's a job for the second son, Ivan's younger brother Johnny. But Johnny loves his wife Amy and their son Sasha. And she's about to deliver her ultimatum: either the three of them escape this wave of killing or she'll leave, taking Sasha.

Torn between loyalty to his family and love for his wife, Johnny plans the heist of a lifetime and takes a huge risk. Is he prepared to pay the price? And what choice will Amy make?

The Second Son is Loraine Peck's first novel and she is at work on the sequel.

'At first glance, *The Second Son* is a modern-day *Godfather* that paints a brutal, bullet-ridden picture of gang warfare in Sydney's western suburbs. Look again, and it's a compelling exploration of inherited trauma and the endless cycle of violence. Get right up close and it's a tender story of fear, love and—ultimately—hope. A sharp and striking debut.'

Anna Downes, author of *The Safe Place*

Loraine Peck started her career as a portrait painter and magician's assistant in Sydney. After being sawn in half one too many times, she switched to dealing blackjack on the Gold Coast. Bartending and slinging lobsters in the US led to a sales job in the movie industry, before she was propelled into an international career in marketing. Consumed by a desire to write crime thrillers, she decided to stop everything and do a writing course—to learn how to write the kind of book she loves to read.



Rights held: ANZ and North America

All other rights: Curtis Brown UK

Fiction

Publication date: February 2021

Manuscript available: now

Two Steps Onward by Graeme Simsion and Anne Buist

Three years after any hope for their transatlantic relationship fizzled out, Californian illustrator Zoe and Northern English engineer Martin have another opportunity to follow in the footsteps of pilgrims. This time they won't be walking the well-travelled Camino but the Chemin d'Assise, the path from rural France to Rome.

And this time, rather than each setting off solo in search of themselves, they will be together, accompanying Zoe's outspoken college friend Camille—who, despite her terminal illness, insists she will walk all of the trail to seek an audience with the Pope at the end of the journey. And they are accompanied by Martin's daughter Sarah, whose own life may be about to fall to bits...

Two Steps Onward is a wise, witty and wine-filled sequel to Graeme Simsion's and Anne Buist's bestseller about walking the Camino, *Two Steps Forward*. It is a novel about the challenge of walking a great distance to figure out what you really want. It's about helping the people you love, and knowing when to let them go. Most of all, it's about seizing the second chances life offers.

Praise for *Two Steps Forward*

'A novel of mature love and self-discovery set against the scenic backdrop of the pilgrims' walk.' *Age*

'A beautifully crafted tale of love, self-acceptance and blisters.' *Sunday Express*

Graeme Simsion is the internationally bestselling author of *The Rosie Project*, *The Rosie Effect* and *The Rosie Result*, as well as *The Best of Adam Sharp*. He co-authored *Two Steps Forward* with Anne Buist.

Anne Buist is the author of the psychological thrillers *Dangerous to Know*, *Medea's Curse*, *This I Would Kill For*, and *The Long Shadow*, and co-author of *Two Steps Forward*. She is Professor of Women's Mental Health at the University of Melbourne.



Rights held: World

Option publishers: Brazil—Record; Canada—HarperCollins Canada; Czech—Mladà Fronta; Dutch—Luitingh-Sijthoff; Germany—Fischer; Israel—Tchelet; UK & Comm (ex. ANZ & Canada)—Two Roads; North America—Morrow

Fiction

Publication date: June 2021

Manuscript available: October 2020

The Tulip Tree by Suzanne McCourt

A vivid, immersive, historical saga from beloved author Suzanne McCourt.

Henryk reached out to embrace him, formally, awkwardly. How rarely they'd touched since childhood, thought Adi, as he sank against his brother, how clumsy their love. 'If I can recover Polish property,' said Henryk, 'I can surely find a way to repatriate my own brother.'

Brothers Henryk and Adam Radecki's relationship is one of fraught love and jealousy. Henryk, unhappily married, becomes a rich and successful industrialist, while Adi, a devoted vet, finds and loses love. Their bond is tested throughout their lives, from the 1920s, against the background of Poland's tragic and tumultuous relationship with Russia, until 1954 in the Snowy Mountains of Australia.

Family secrets constantly threaten to pull their lives apart, as Adi's wife Ela and son Stefan provide a dramatic twist to this riveting tale. Caught up in momentous events, McCourt's characters reveal the power of the moral choices we make in our lives.

Beautifully written, full of the detail of everyday life, its joys and suffering, *The Tulip Tree* is engrossing historical fiction at its very best, a profoundly moving story of love, sacrifice and loyalty.

Praise for *The Lost Child*

'A haunting tale of family life, identity and coming-of-age from an author who writes with a vivid sense of time and place.' *Launceston Examiner*

'A remarkable ability to discover within the most concrete details a rich and raw emotion...a novel that is at once familiar and entirely fresh.' *Weekend Australian*

'Gripping and at times heart-wrenching...will keep you turning the pages.' *Big Book Club*

Suzanne McCourt's debut novel, *The Lost Child*, was published by Text in 2014 and was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award. She lives in Melbourne.



Rights held: World

Fiction

Publication date: June 2021

Manuscript available: October 2020

Consolation by Garry Disher

Consolation is the new novel by Garry Disher, the celebrated, bestselling author of *Peace*, and one of Australia's greatest crime writers.

It's winter in Tiverton. After the fires of the previous summer, the rains have come at last. There are green shoots in the paddocks and snow on the Razorback—and Constable Paul Hirschhausen has his hands full, with a child in danger at home and a father on the rampage over at the primary school.

Hirsch knows how quickly problems like these can escalate, when families are under pressure and financial problems become overwhelming. But it's always a surprise when the killing starts.

Bestselling crime writer Garry Disher is a master of the form. *Consolation* takes us back to the world of *Bitter Wash Road* and *Peace*, the hardscrabble landscape in South Australia's dry country patrolled by Constable Paul Hirschhausen.

Praise for *Peace*

'Disher is the gold standard for rural noir.' Chris Hammer

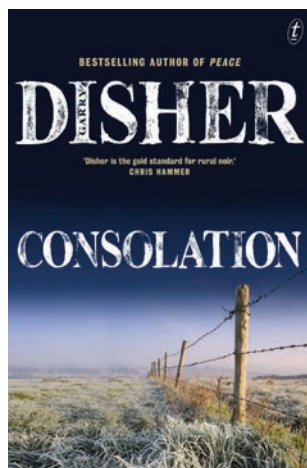
'There is no peace for a good man when the mercury rises, tempers fray and violence simmers.

This is a scorchingly good novel.' Michael Robotham

'I loved *Peace*. It is an uplifting book, an utterly compelling mystery with rare heart and humanity.

If you enjoyed Jane Harper's *The Lost Man*, this novel is for you.' Dervla McTiernan

Garry Disher grew up in South Australia and now lives on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula. He is the author of more than fifty novels and has won numerous awards, including the German Crime Prize (twice) and the Ned Kelly Award for Best Crime Fiction twice. In 2018, he won the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Ned Kelly Awards.



Rights held: World

Rights sold: Germany—Unionsverlag; UK & Comm (ex. ANZ & Canada)—Serpent's Tail

Fiction

Publication date: November 2020

Manuscript available: now

The Missing by Dirk Kurbjuweit, translated by Imogen Taylor

Based on the deeds of the most notorious serial killer in German history, Dirk Kurbjuweit's *The Missing* is a sophisticated exploration of the relationship between crime, politics and society in a world in which anything seems possible.

Hanover, Germany, in the 1920s—the heady days of the Weimar Republic, of clashes between the police and political radicals, while the firebrand demagogue Adolf Hitler languishes in prison. A time of brutality and passion, of traumatised souls and attacks on democracy—and of grisly crime.

Boys are disappearing from the streets of Hanover, one by one. Every day new and gruesome rumours take wing. It's as if the missing have vanished from the face of the earth, leaving no trace.

Detective Inspector Robert Lahnstein is assigned to the case, and is soon convinced that he is on the trail of a psychopath. Lahnstein knows he needs a new victim to lead him to the killer but he dreads the day when news will reach him of another lost boy.

The Missing is that rare book: a breathtaking thriller that also provides a complex social portrait of a fabled time. Dirk Kurbjuweit not only looks into the dark heart of a murderer but of an entire society.

'An exciting crime novel and a complex social portrait of the early Weimar Republic.' *Stern Crime*

'Compelling—and scarily topical.' *Münchener Merkur*

'A gripping thriller about Germany's cruellest criminal.' *Kleine Zeitung*

Dirk Kurbjuweit is a journalist at *Der Spiegel* and lives in Berlin. He has received numerous awards for his writing, including the Egon Erwin Kisch Prize for journalism, and is the author of nine critically acclaimed novels, many of which have been adapted for film, television, theatre and radio.

Imogen Taylor is a translator who has lived in Berlin since 2001. Her translations include *Promise Me You'll Shoot Yourself* by Florian Huber, *Fear* by Dirk Kurbjuweit and *The Truth and Other Lies* by Sascha Arango.



Rights held: World (ex. Germany)

Rights sold: Romania—Lebada Neagra

Other rights: Penguin Random House Germany

Fiction

Publication date: April 2021

Manuscript available: now

Text licensed rights in *Fear* to the following publishers: Canada—Anansi; Catalan—Ara Llibres; China—Beijing White Horse Time; Czech—Euromedia; Estonia—Pegasus; France—Delcourt Literature; Greece—Potamos; Israel—Kinneret; Italy—Bollati; Lithuania—Baltos Lankos; Netherlands—Ambo Anthos; Poland—Sonia Draga; Spain—Salamandra; Taiwan—Emily Publishing; Turkey—Hep Kitap; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—Orion; USA—HarperCollins

The Burning Island by Jock Serong

We both looked at the chart and at the pattern of our plans. Then, without warning, my pleasure darkened and vanished.

'Doctor Gideon,' I said, 'the spiral can only curl inwardly.'

'Yes, in a fixed rotation that corresponds to an infinitely recurring pattern.'

Inward and inward, coiled upon itself and eternally tightening. It came upon me so suddenly, like the rushing water of a new tide: a desperate urge to leave the room, cancel the voyage, and drag my recalcitrant father off the cold carcass of his vengeance.

'But doctor, how will we get home?'

Eliza Grayling, born in Sydney in 1798, when the colony itself was still an infant, has lived there all her thirty-two years. Too tall, too stern—too old, now—for marriage, she lives by herself, looking after her reclusive father Joshua, who has become overly fond of a drink. There is a shadow in his past, she knows. Something obsessive. Something to do with a man who bested him thirty-three years ago.

Then Srinivas, another figure from that dark past, offers Joshua Grayling the chance for a reckoning with his nemesis. The plan entails a sea voyage far to the south and an uncertain, possibly violent, outcome. Eliza is horrified: this is out of the question for an elderly man—insanity for a helpless drunkard who also happens to be blind.

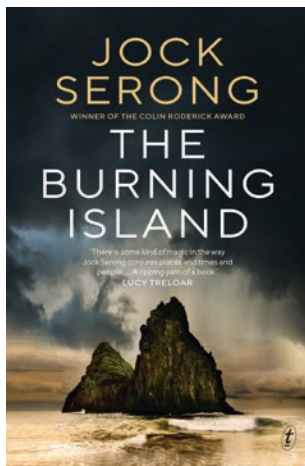
Unable to dissuade her father from his mad quest, Eliza begins to understand she may be forced to go with him. Then she sees the ship they will be sailing on. And, in that instant, the voyage of the *Moonbird* becomes Eliza's mission too.

Praise for *Preservation*

'Gripping and extremely accomplished.' *Australian Book Review*

'One of Australia's most innovative and ambitious crime writers.' *NZ Listener*

Jock Serong's novels have received the Ned Kelly Award for First Fiction, the Colin Roderick Award and the inaugural Staunch Prize (UK). He lives with his family on Victoria's far west coast.



Rights held: World

Option Publishers: France—Éditions 10/18

Fiction

Publication date: September 2020

Manuscript available: now

Fog by Kaja Malanowska, translated by Bill Johnston

She'd thought she was done with the trances. They risked too much. Not just her own life, but also the lives of others.

When a young woman is found murdered in her Warsaw apartment, the detectives—Marcin Sawicki and his new colleague, the talented but enigmatic Ada Rochniewicz—are under pressure to close the case quickly. But Ada's powers of intuition have got her into trouble once before. And the sexist police force is not on her side.

As the investigation proceeds, we meet the victim's jilted lover, a mentally unstable working-class youth; her cleaner, a Chechen refugee in desperate circumstances; and the man who broke her heart and joined a cult. And let's not forget Ada's eccentric sister, Kasia, or her grumpy cat Albert-Amelia.

Getting to the truth becomes a darker and more complex matter than Marcin and Ada can imagine, as they confront a corrupt political and religious establishment.

Expertly crafted, *Fog* is an unputdownable crime novel.

'This book has everything that a good crime novel needs: a fast-paced plot, solidly constructed characters, surprising plot twists and an unforeseen ending. It's superbly crafted, made to measure for our times.' Olga Tokarczuk, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature

Kaja Malanowska has been nominated for two of Poland's most prestigious literary awards, the Paszport Polityki and the Nike. She has published a collection of short stories and three novels—*Fog* is the first to appear in English. She is also a columnist for the prominent left-wing periodical *Political Critique* and holds a PhD in bacterial genetics. She is currently working on a prequel to *Fog*.

Bill Johnston is a prize-winning Polish-language literary translator and Professor of Comparative Literature at Indiana University.



Rights held: World English
Other rights: The Barbara J. Zitwer Agency
Fiction
Publication date: March 2021
Manuscript available: now

A Million Things by Emily Spurr

A Million Things is a brilliant debut novel, a tender, funny, and heartbreaking story of how we cope with grief.

Sometimes I'd flip through the fat blue dictionary, looking for the right word for it, the feeling inside. 'Agitated' was almost right, but it didn't quite fit. It matched the chill of the tiny bubbles popping in my chest but not the stillness. 'Aimless' felt close: floaty. I floated, but I always had something to do. When it was summer we'd go outside and I'd cut the grass. Or weed the veggie patch you liked in theory. And sometimes we'd just lie in the sun, Splinter's big head on my lap, and I'd watch the swirling red behind my eyelids. I guess I was 'ambivalent'. But that wasn't right either because it hurt, you being gone. I never did find the right word.

Rae is ten years old, and she's tough. She's had to be: life with her mother has taught her the world is not her friend. Now something has happened and her mum is gone and Rae is alone except for her dog, Splinter.

Rae can do a lot of things pretty well for a kid. She can shop and cook—a little—and take care of Splinter and keep the front yard neat enough that the neighbours won't get curious. But she is gnawed at by shadows, anxieties that she cannot put into words.

With Lettie, the old woman who lives next door, the words are not the problem. Lettie's problem is a house full of objects that can't make up for the things she has lost.

Their friendship gives them both an escape, but how long can it last?

Emily Spurr is a past recipient of the NEEF Australia Maurice Saxby Mentorship for Writing for Children. In 2020 *A Million Things* was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Award's Unpublished Manuscript prize. She lives in Melbourne with her family and a deaf geriatric cat.



Rights held: World

Rights sold: North America—Berkley; Netherlands—Uitgeverij Mozaïek
Fiction

Publication date: April 2021

Manuscript available: now

The Beautiful Fall by Hugh Breakey

Read this now. Right now. Don't even think of going near that door. Not until you know what's going on. Your name is Robert Penfold. Age thirty-one. The apartment you're standing in is your home: 116 Dornoch Terrace, Brisbane, Australia.

(If you're not in the apartment, you need to get there right away. Don't speak to anyone. This is for your own safety. Look for a street sign to find out where you are. There's a map in your back pocket. Follow it home. Your apartment is on the fifth floor, number 509. Whatever you do, don't ask for help.)

Every 179 days Robbie's memory resets. He knows this because he told himself in the letter he found after his last forgetting. To survive his recurring amnesia, Robbie leads a life that's solitary and regimented. Alone in his apartment, he works to complete a bizarre, herculean task bequeathed to him by his former self.

And then, with twelve days left before his next forgetting, Julie invades his life. Who is this aloof and beautiful young woman, who clearly has plans of her own?

As the hour draws near, Robbie is forced to confront the fact that his past is very different from how he had imagined it. When Julie reveals her own terrible secret, he must come to terms with the truth about his own identity and their shared history.

Is he about to lose everything all over again?

The Beautiful Fall is a cinematic, page-turning romance. It's both an intellectual puzzle and a compulsively readable love story.

Hugh Breakey is an award-winning and widely published philosopher. He has previously worked as a kitchen hand, editor, airport construction worker, theatre director, ethics consultant, pinball repairer, disk jockey, tennis-court builder and university lecturer. Hugh lives in rural Australia with his two children and his wife, novelist and *New York Times* bestseller, Kylie Scott.



Rights held: World (ex. North America)

Other Rights: Alex Adsett Publishing Services

Rights Sold: France—Fleuve; German—Blanvalet

Fiction

Publication date: May 2021

Manuscript available: now

The Bride Of Almond Tree by Robert Hillman

Bob Hardy gave the bouquet a shake. 'What am I supposed to do with these?'

'For Beth.'

'What's Beth supposed to do with them?'

Wes lifted his shoulders. 'Stick them in a vase.'

Hardy nodded. 'She'll be reading,' he said. 'The collected works of Red Joe Stalin. Can try the flowers if you like. This is courtship, is it? Romance?'

'That sort of thing.'

Robert Hillman's previous novel, *The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted*, captivated readers around the world.

His new novel is also a story about unlikely love. World War II is over and Hiroshima lies in a heap of poisoned rubble when young Quaker Wesley Cunningham returns home to the village of Almond Tree. He served as a stretcher-bearer and has seen his fair share of horror. Now he intends to build beautiful houses and to marry, having fallen in love with his neighbour Beth Hardy.

Beth has other plans. An ardent Communist, she is convinced that the Party and Stalin's Soviet Union hold the answers to all the world's evils. She doesn't believe in marriage; in any case, her devotion is to the cause.

Beth's ideals will exact a ruinously high price. But Wes will not stop loving her. This is the story of their journey through the catastrophic mid-twentieth century—from summer in Almond Tree to Moscow's bitter winter and back again—to find a way of being together.

The Bride of Almond Tree is a book of great loves and difficult choices.

Robert Hillman has written a number of books including his memoir *The Boy in the Green Suit*, which won the National Biography Award, *Joyful* and *The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted*. He lives in Melbourne.



Rights held: World

Rights Sold: UK & Comm (ex. ANZ)—Faber
Fiction

Publication date: July 2021

Manuscript available: now

Week On Week Off by Claire Christian

Honest, raw, and hilariously funny, *Week On Week Off* is a love letter to female friendship and a do-it-yourself guide to choosing your real family.

Cleo and Jude are more than best friends—they're soulmates. Cleo was eight-and-a-half-months pregnant when her husband left her and their daughter, Frankie, two days before Christmas. A few weeks later, Jude discovered that her wife had been having an affair and kicked her out, deciding that she and their son would be better off without her.

Over the next two years, Cleo and Jude take care of each other through tears, arguments, grief, divorce and all the demands of single-parenthood. Eventually they decide to share a house together so they can work smarter, not harder. And now that they're both ready to start dating, their week-on-week-off childcare arrangement is about to get a lot more fun...one week at a time.

Week On Week Off is a romantic comedy that obliterates the notion of finding the one, because if your soul mate is your best friend, then you're actually searching for number two, three or four...



Rights held: World

Option publishers: Netherlands—De Fontein; North America—Harlequin Fiction

Publication date: October 2021

Manuscript available: December 2020

It's Been A Pleasure, Noni Blake by Claire Christian

Noni Blake knows she wants more: more adventures, more joy, more romance, more orgasms, more pleasure...more everything. Now she just has to figure out how to get it.

Noni didn't expect to be starting over at the age of thirty-six. But eighteen months after the end of her long-term relationship, she decides it's time to start living her life again. That's how she finds herself travelling to Europe to track down the one that got away: the alluring, elusive Molly. But Europe may have other surprises in store...

Claire Christian lives in Brisbane. She has had four plays published by Playlab, and her play *Lysa and the Freeborn Dames* premiered at La Boite in 2018. Her debut novel *Beautiful Mess* won the Text Prize in 2016. *It's Been a Pleasure, Noni Blake* is her first novel for adults.



Rights held: World

Rights Sold: Netherlands—De Fontein; North America—Harlequin Fiction

Publication date: October 2020

Manuscript available: now

Our Shadows by Gail Jones

Our Shadows, Gail Jones' beguiling new book after her prize-winning novel *The Death of Noah Glass*, tells the story of three generations of family living in the goldfields of Western Australia.

Sisters Nell and Frances were raised by their grandparents and were once closely bound by reading and fantasy. Now they live in Sydney and are estranged. Each in her own way struggles with the loss of their parents.

Little by little the sisters grow to understand the imaginative force of the past and the legacy of their shared orphanhood. Then Frances decides to make a journey home to the goldfields to explore what lies hidden and unspoken in their lives, in the shadowy tunnels of the past.

Praise for *The Death of Noah Glass*

'An oblique and poetic novel...A vivid, unsettling study of mortality.' *Sunday Times*

'Weaving together multiple narratives...the novel sketches a family portrait full of love, loss, and regret.' *Kirkus Reviews*

'An intellectually strenuous entertainment concerned with the nature and loss of senses, of filial obligations and their cost, of the vertiginous role of chance...Another rich and accomplished work.' *Sydney Morning Herald*

Gail Jones is one of Australia's most celebrated writers. Her work has been translated into twelve languages, longlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the Orange Prize, and shortlisted for the IMPAC Award and the Prix Femina Étranger. *The Death of Noah Glass*, won the Prime Minister's Literary Award, and the Adelaide Festival Award for Fiction. It was shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award and the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction.



Rights held: World

Fiction

Publication date: October 2020

Manuscript available: now

The Shape of Sound by Fiona Murphy

I am unlearning the habit of secrecy. And yet, whenever somebody discovers that I am deaf, my body still reacts with churning terror. How do you build up a sense of robust pride when your body has taught itself to be fearful?

Fiona Murphy's exquisitely written memoir about being deaf is a revelatory exploration of disability, of secrets, and learning how to survive.

Secrets are heavy, burdensome things. Imagine carrying a secret that if exposed could jeopardise your chances of securing a job, and make you a social outcast. Fiona Murphy kept her deafness a secret for over twenty-five years.

But then, desperate to hold onto a career she'd worked hard to pursue, she tried hearing aids. Shocked by how the world sounded, she vowed never to wear them again. After an accident to her hand, she discovered that sign language could change her life, and that deaf culture could be part of her identity.

Just as Fiona thought she was beginning to truly accept her body, she was diagnosed with a rare condition that causes the bones of the ears to harden. She was steadily losing her residual hearing. The news left her reeling.

Blending memoir with observations on the healthcare industry, *The Shape of Sound* is a story about the corrosive power of secrets, stigma and shame, and how deaf experiences and disability are shaped by economics, social policy, medicine and societal expectations.

This is the story of how Fiona learned to listen to her body.

Fiona Murphy is an award-winning writer, editor and podcaster. *The Shape of Sound*, is her first full-length work.



Rights held: World

Non-fiction

Publication date: April 2021

Manuscript available: October 2020

The Believer: Encounters with Love, Death & Faith by Sarah Krasnostein

This extraordinary new book by the bestselling and multi-award-winning author Sarah Krasnostein explores the power of belief.

What do we believe? Who do we believe? Why do we believe them?

Sarah Krasnostein has been spending time with interview subjects around the world. Some of them believe in things most people don't. Ghosts. UFOs. The literal creation of the universe in six days by an all-powerful God.

Some of them believe in things most people would like to. Living with integrity and compassion. Dying with dignity and autonomy. Facing up to our transgressions with a truthful heart.

In this intensely personal and gorgeously written new book Krasnostein, the acclaimed author of *The Trauma Cleaner*, talks to these believers with compassion and empathy—and finds out what happens when their beliefs crash into her own.

Praise for *The Trauma Cleaner*

'Krasnostein's playful yet heartfelt debut is one of the most arresting works of biography you will read in a long time.' *Guardian*

'Intriguing...A complex protagonist makes for engaging material.' *Publishers Weekly*

'Wields emotion, truth and reality with one-of-a-kind dexterity.' *Elle Australia*

'*The Trauma Cleaner* is a disturbing and fascinating read with a heavy, beating heart at its centre.' *Australian*

Sarah Krasnostein won the Victorian Prize for Literature and was shortlisted for the Wellcome Book Prize for her first book, *The Trauma Cleaner*. She lives in Melbourne and spends part of the year working in New York.



Rights held: ANZ and translation
Other Rights: Jane Novak Literary Agency
Non-fiction
Publication date: March 2021
Manuscript available: October 2020

Two Afternoons in Kabul Stadium: A History through Clothes, Carpets and the Camera by Tim Bonyhady

Two Afternoons in Kabul Stadium is an exciting history of life in the second half of the twentieth century in Afghanistan. This book offers not just a new way of seeing Afghanistan but also a new way of understanding it.

For its first thirty-five years, Kabul stadium was closed to Afghan women. That changed one afternoon in August 1959 when women from the country's ruling elite appeared unveiled in western dress at a celebration of Afghanistan's independence, having discarded their customary chadaris. This dramatic change in where and how women were seen was recognised almost immediately as a turning point, not only for women in Afghanistan's cities but for the country itself, symbolising its embrace of the modern. But the Kabul stadium is now remembered very differently, as the Taliban's prime place of public execution.

Bonyhady explores life in modern Afghanistan using dress, traditional crafts and images as a lens through which to examine this extraordinary country and the extraordinary changes it has undergone in the last six decades.

Professor Tim Bonyhady is one of Australia's foremost environmental and cultural historians. His many books include *Images in Opposition: Australian Landscape Painting 1801–1890*, *Burke and Wills: From Melbourne to Myth*, *Places Worth Keeping: Conservationists, Politics and Law*, the award-winning *The Colonial Earth* and *The Enchantment of the Long-haired Rat: A Rodent History of Australia*.



Rights held: World

Non-fiction

Publication date: August 2021

Manuscript available: October 2020

A Letter to Layla: Travels to Our Deep Past and Near Future by Ramona Koval

Layla held my hand tightly and began to run. I took small pretend-running steps beside her and said *We are running*. She was delighted, maintaining the pace all the way. I said *We have to turn here*, and she said *Why?*

She asked *Why?* to many things. *Don't do that, Layla*, one of us would admonish. *Why?* It seems so comical coming from one so young, too young to understand most explanations. But *why* is what makes us human, Layla and me and you.

How might the origins of our species inform the way we think about our planet? At a point of unparalleled crisis, can human ingenuity save us from ourselves?

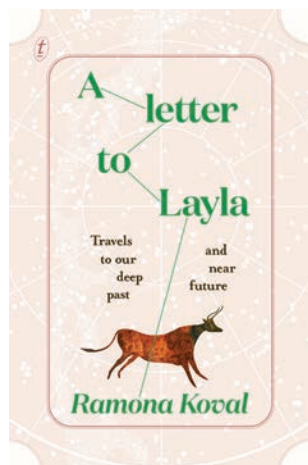
Much-loved writer Ramona Koval travels the globe in a quest for answers, and encounters the unexpected. She talks to an eminent paleo-archaeologist about a two-million-year-old skull in the Republic of Georgia, meets the next generation of robots in Berlin, attends a festival against death in California and explores an ice-age cave in southern France, speaking with the world's leading authority on cave art.

Between these and other adventures she returns to her ever-engaging granddaughter Layla, whose development in infancy spurs Koval to find out what makes us human, what separates us from the other apes.

Full of revealing exchanges with scientists and writers whose knowledge of the past and visions for the future could hold the key to our next evolution, *A Letter to Layla* will surprise and delight in equal measure.

'[Koval is] a shining presence in the world of literature, here in Australia and right across the globe...Her voice is always recognisable, invigorating, familiar to us and greatly loved.' Helen Garner

Ramona Koval is a writer and journalist, a former broadcaster, and an honorary fellow at the University of Melbourne's Centre for Advancing Journalism. Her books include *Bloodhound: Searching for My Father* and *By the Book: A Reader's Guide to Life*.



Rights held: World
Non-fiction
Publication date: October 2020
Manuscript available: now

Uprising: Walking the Southern Alps of New Zealand by Nic Low

There were mountains outside my window: a range of peaks lifting cold and fierce into the blue. Looking up from my desk, I felt the rush of joy that mountain lovers feel in the presence of the real thing. I felt at home. There was Aoraki, the highest in New Zealand, cloaked in snow. There were his brothers, with their stone faces tattooed by glacial ice. But I was in Australia, where the hills are stumps like old men's teeth. I looked again. The peaks grew before my eyes, boiling into the sky, and I had to laugh. For a moment, I'd erased the dusty plains of Western Victoria, and turned a bank of storm clouds into Kā Tiritiri o te Moana, New Zealand's Southern Alps.

This wonderful book is about walking and about mountains. It's about storytelling and the past. And it's about the quest for identity.

In *Uprising* Nic Low charts a series of climbs and hikes across the magnificent Southern Alps, his bold attempt to walk the histories—Maori and European—of New Zealand's South Island.

Setting out with maps from the Ngai Tahu tribe, Low crosses the Main Divide of the Alps on the paths of his tribal ancestors and European explorers. He introduces the reader to Maori legends and their literal relationship to the ground beneath his feet. And what began as an investigation of wilderness, walking cultures and indigenous history becomes a personal journey to a deeper sense of belonging.

A stunning work that combines narrative non-fiction and nature writing, weaving oral histories and archival research with jaw-dropping tales of mountaintop adventure, *Uprising* thrillingly shows how the past is alive in the high mountains of Te Waipounamu, the South Island. Low's clear-eyed intelligence and passion is evident on every page.

Nic Low is an author and artist of Ngai Tahu and European descent. Born in Christchurch, New Zealand, he now lives in a bush retreat near Castlemaine, Victoria. He is the author of the award-winning short-story collection *Arms Race*.



Rights held: World

Non-fiction

Publication date: July 2021

Manuscript available: October 2020

The Climate Cure: Solving the Climate Emergency in the Era of COVID-19 by Tim Flannery

In the summer of 2019–20, Australia burst into flames. More than five million hectares were ravaged by megafires so vast that they created their own weather. Major cities choked on smoke whose particles then circled the globe. As many as a billion animals perished, and thousands of properties were destroyed.

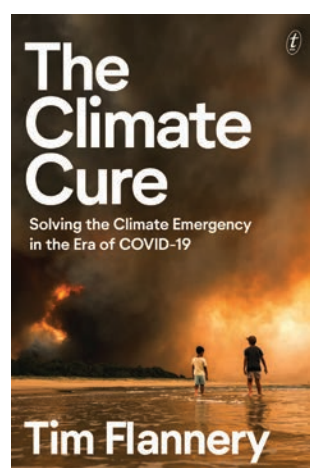
Emergencies test governments, organisations and individuals. Although Australia's prompt, science-led response to COVID-19 has not been perfect, it has saved tens of thousands of lives. But for decades, governments have ignored, ridiculed or understated the advice of scientists on the climate emergency.

Now, in the wake of the megafires, a time of reckoning has arrived. In *The Climate Cure* renowned climate scientist Tim Flannery takes aim at those responsible for the campaign of obfuscation and denial that has already cost so many Australian lives and held back action on climate change.

Flannery demands a new approach, based on the nation's consultative response to COVID-19, that will lead to effective government policies. *The Climate Cure* is an action plan for our future. We face a fork in the road, and must decide now between catastrophe and survival.

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

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*, *Atmosphere of Hope* and *Sunlight and Seaweed*. He is currently chief councillor of the Climate Council.



Rights held: World

Option publishers: China—United Sky New Media; France—Flammarion; Germany—Insel Verlag; Italy—Garzanti; Netherlands—Atlas Contact; North America—Grove; Poland—Dressler Dublin; Romania—Grup Media Litera; Russia—Eksmo; Slovenia—Modrijan Zalozba; Spain—Biblioteca Nueva; Turkey—Panama Yayincilik; UK—Penguin Press

Non-fiction

Publication date: November 2020

Manuscript available: now

Show Me Where it Hurts: Living with Invisible Illness by Kylie Maslen

My body dictates who I am. I work the way I do because of my body, I vote the way I do because of my body and I live the way I do because of my body. It is not my body that is at fault, but society's failure to deal with bodies like mine. I might be in pain, but I am whole. I refuse to have the difficult parts cropped out.

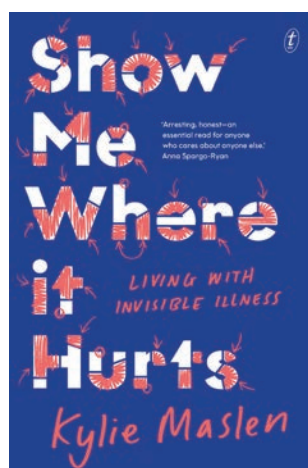
Kylie Maslen has been living with invisible illness for twenty years—more than half her life. Its impact is felt in every aspect of her day-to-day existence: from work to dating; from her fears for what the future holds to her difficulty getting out of bed some mornings.

Through pop music, art, literature, TV, film and online culture, Maslen explores the lived experience of invisible illness with sensitivity and wit, revealing a reality that many struggle—or refuse—to recognise. *Show Me Where it Hurts* speaks to those who have encountered the brush-off from doctors, faced endless tests and treatments, and endured chronic pain and suffering. But it is also a bridge reaching out to partners, families, friends, colleagues, doctors: all those who want to better understand what life looks like when you cannot simply show others where it hurts.

‘Maslen is a writer of formidable intelligence...*Show Me Where it Hurts* is honest, powerful and brilliant. It will change minds.’ Hannah Kent

‘Arresting, honest and rightfully angry. An essential read for anyone who cares about anyone else.’ Anna Spargo-Ryan

Kylie Maslen is a writer and critic. Her work has appeared in the *Guardian*, *Meanjin*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *Adelaide Review*, *Crikey* and *Junkee*, among other outlets. In 2018 she was the recipient of the *Kill Your Darlings* New Critics Award, and her essay ‘I’m Trying to Tell You I’m Not Okay’ was longlisted for the *Lifted Brow* & RMIT non/fictionLab Prize for Experimental Non-fiction. She lives in Adelaide.



Rights held: World

Non-fiction

Publication date: September 2020

Manuscript available: now

Social Queue by Kay Kerr

Maia waves me over to her desk. It's one of the plush ones in the corner, and it's decorated as though she knows she is secure in her position here. Lots of photos, stacks of nice stationary. With her staggering ability to break exclusive news on the regular, it's no wonder.

'So it turns out you're a bit of a heartbreaker, Zoe Kelly,' she says, opening up a document filled with what looks like web comments and links.

Zoe has just finished school and started an internship at a local newspaper. Her first assignment is to write about romance, but where to begin? Zoe hasn't been in love. She doesn't think anyone has ever even liked her. So when her article is published and she's contacted by a number of young men who had been interested in her in their schooldays, Zoe realises that somehow she had missed the social cues.

Social Queue is a funny-serious own-voices story about being a young autistic woman navigating the dating scene and sorting out complex and often confusing feelings on the road to finding love.

Kay Kerr's debut novel *Please Don't Hug Me* was beloved by readers for its portrayal of the life of an autistic teenager. Her second novel, *Social Queue*, is another heartwarming contemporary YA novel with huge appeal for neuro-diverse and neuro-typical readers alike.

Praise for *Please Don't Hug Me*

'This book is beautifully intimate, and so authentic. You're going to love getting to know it's central character, Erin. I'm so thrilled this book exists.' Claire Christian, author of *Beautiful Mess*

'A moving and insightful story about finding your place in the world.' Nina Kenwood, author of *It Sounded Better in My Head*

'This own-voices Australian debut about a young woman who is shaped—but not defined—by her autism, balances its funny and serious sides perfectly, and is a heartwarming read about self-acceptance and authenticity.' Leanne Hall, author of *Iris and the Tiger* and *This Is Shyness*

Kay Kerr lives on the Sunshine Coast with her husband and daughter, and works as a freelance writer. Kay was writing the first draft of *Please Don't Hug Me*, her first novel, when she received her own autism-spectrum diagnosis.



Rights held: World

Young adult fiction

Publication date: October 2021

Manuscript available: March 2021

Elsewhere Girls by Emily Gale and Nova Weetman

It's midnight and I'm alone in the kitchen eating a cold potato scallop. Coach O'Call would say something like...that's not what I expect from a scholarship girl! Because I have to be up for squad training in five hours, I'm not supposed to go near potato scallops, and—oh, yeah—it's my fifth.

Elsewhere Girls is a delightful middle-grade novel about two talented young swimmers, each facing her own challenges. Cat is at a prestigious school on a sports scholarship. Struggling with the pressure of 5 am training sessions, she is starting to question whether she really wants to be a competitive swimmer. Fanny loves to swim but family chores and low expectations make it very hard for her to fit in even the occasional training session. They live in different worlds, or at least in different eras: Cat in contemporary Sydney, and Fanny (who is based on Olympic gold medallist Fanny Durack) in the same city a century earlier.

Mysteriously, they swap places.

As each girl lives the other's life, with all the challenges and confusion that creates, she comes to appreciate and understand herself and the role of swimming in her own life.

Narrated in alternating chapters by Cat and Fanny, *Elsewhere Girls* is a fresh and engaging exploration of life for young women in the past and of the challenges and pressures of the here and now. And a heartwarming story of two girls with a deep connection.

Emily Gale has been involved in the children's book industry for twenty years. Her books include *Eliza Bloom's Diary*, *Girl, Aloud* and *Steal My Sunshine*. In 2017 her novel *The Other Side of Summer* was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards (Writing for Young Adults) and the Aurealis Awards (Best Young Adult Novel).

Nova Weetman has published three middle-grade novels. Her first novel, *The Haunting of Lily Frost*, was shortlisted in the 2014 Aurealis Awards for Best Young Adult Novel. Nova lives in Melbourne.



Rights held: World
Middle-grade fiction
Publication date: May 2021
Manuscript available: now

Rainfish by Andrew Paterson

Winner of the 2020 Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing

A tender, heartfelt and funny middle-grade novel about a boy grappling with the rather large consequences of a minor misdeed, set against the backdrop of his mum's new relationship and the lush landscape of tropical north Queensland.

Damon spooned the medallions into his shorts pockets with the cricket ball and cards.

'Umm...' For god's sake stop stealing stuff, is what I was going to say, but before I could he said, 'Hey look,' and from under the desk produced a bottle. 'Wine.' He twisted the top but it wouldn't open.

'Let's take it!' I said, 'Take it and we can drink it later,' all the while thinking, What the hell are you saying? and also Now he can't say you're a chicken, and Maybe now he'll stop and we can get the hell out of here.

Aaron lives with his single mother and his bookish older brother Connor in a small town at the edge of a rainforest, home of the legendary rainfish. Wanting to make an impression on an older, cool kid, Aaron reluctantly takes part in a burglary that he immediately regrets. When the theft is reported in the local newspaper, Connor decides to try out some amateur sleuthing and the police begin an investigation.

Aaron tries to cover his tracks, but when torrential rains and a fast-flowing flood lead to tragedy, Aaron he feels desperate guilt. His attempts to make amends take him on a journey that's unexpected, humorous and ultimately redemptive.

Rainfish is a delightfully engaging story that explores big feelings—joy, happiness, regret, guilt and fear—and the importance of knowing when to tell the truth, no matter how hard that might seem.

Andrew Paterson is a general practitioner who lives in tropical far north Queensland. *Rainfish*, his debut novel, won the 2020 Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing.



Rights held: World
Middle-grade fiction
Publication date: July 2021
Manuscript available: now

Sunflower by Ingrid Laguna

Jamila is happy in her new home in Australia, though she still misses her old life in Iraq. She and her new best friend Eva sing in the choir at school and have picnics together on the weekends.

One day, Jamila gets some exciting news: Mina, her oldest friend from Iraq, is coming to Australia. Jamila can't wait to see her and introduce her to Eva. But when Mina arrives, things do not go as planned.

Jamila feels torn between her two friends, and sad that Mina isn't the same person she remembers. Can Jamila be a true friend to Mina, and help her feel safe and happy in her new home?



'*Sunflower* is brave, moving and very real. Everyone growing up in Australia should read this book.' Carly Nugent

'A beautifully observed story of identity, friendship and belonging.'

Nova Weetman

Rights held: World

Middle-grade fiction

Publication date: August 2020

Manuscript available: now

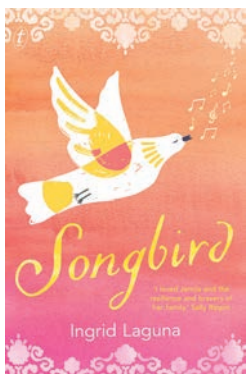
Songbird by Ingrid Laguna

Jamila has left her friends, her school and her home in Iraq, and now she has a new home. It's safe in Australia, but Jamila is finding it hard to settle in. She misses her best friend and worries for her dad's safety back in Iraq. It's hard to speak and write in English all day. And Jamila has a secret she wants to keep hidden.

When she joins the choir, Jamila begins to feel happy. Singing helps take her worries away. And singing will help her find her place in her new life, a place where she can shine.

'An inspiring story...reading *Songbird* together is a great way to start conversations with your children about topical issues, refugees, and to help create understanding around differences in culture and family.' *Better Reading*

Ingrid Laguna is a writer, teacher and musician. She lives in Melbourne and has taught English to children and adults from all over the world, many of whom have refugee backgrounds. *Sunflower* is her third book.



Rights held: World

Middle-grade fiction

Publication date: May 2019

Manuscript available: now

Focus on Elizabeth Harrower

On 7 July 2020, at the age of ninety-two, Elizabeth Harrower died. She was the celebrated author of the novels *Down in the City*, *The Long Prospect*, *The Catherine Wheel* and *The Watch Tower*—all of which have been republished as Text Classics—and *In Certain Circles*, which was published to wide acclaim in 2014 and shortlisted for the Prime Minister’s Literary Award for Fiction.

The Watch Tower

With its backdrop of the leafy northern suburbs of Sydney during the 1940s, *The Watch Tower* is a character study of relentless and acute psychological power.

After Laura and Clare are abandoned by their mother, Felix is there to help, even to marry Laura if she will have him. Little by little the two sisters grow complicit with his obsessions, his cruelty, his need to control.

Rights held: World

Rights sold: Denmark—Lindhardt & Ringhof; France—Rivages; Germany—Aufbau; Italy—Baldini & Castoldi; Netherlands—Atlas Contact; Romania—Univers Ltd; Spain—Impedimenta; Turkey—Metis

In Certain Circles

Zoe and Russell, Stephen and Anna: they may come from different social worlds but all four will spend their lives moving in and out of each other’s shadow.

Set amid the lush gardens and grand stone houses that line the north side of Sydney Harbour, *In Certain Circles* is an intense drama about family and love, tyranny and freedom.

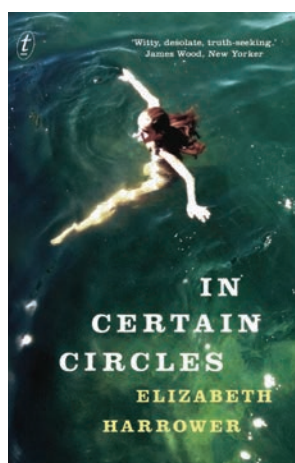
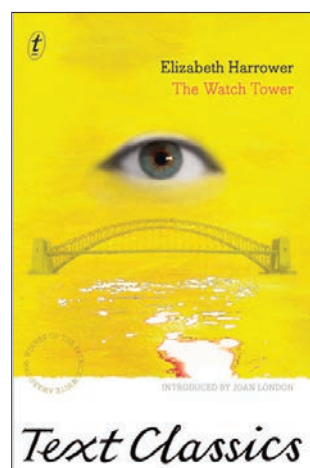
Rights held: World

Rights sold: Finland—Fabriikki; France—Rivages; Germany—Aufbau; Greece—Dardanos; Italy—Baldini & Castoldi; Netherlands—Atlas Contact; Slovakia—Inaque; Turkey—Metis

The Long Prospect

Originally published in 1958, *The Long Prospect* was hailed by Christina Stead who declared that it ‘has no equal in our writing’. Growing up neglected in a seedy boarding house, twelve-year-old Emily Lawrence befriends Max, a middle-aged scientist who encourages her to pursue her intellectual interests. Innocent Emily will face scandal, suburban snobbery and psychological torment.

Rights held: World



Focus on Helen Garner

Born in 1942, Helen Garner is one of Australia's most beloved writers. For more than four decades her fiction and non-fiction have captivated Australian and international readers alike. Her books include *Monkey Grip*, *The Children's Bach*, *Cosmo Cosmolino*, *The Spare Room*, *The First Stone*, *This House of Grief*, *Everywhere I Look*, and her two volumes of diaries, *Yellow Notebook* and the forthcoming *One Day I'll Remember This*.

Helen Garner has kept a diary for almost all her life. But, until now, those exercise books filled with her thoughts, observations, frustrations and joys have been locked away, out of bounds, in a laundry cupboard. Finally, Garner has opened her diaries and invited readers into the world behind her books. Recorded with frankness, humour and steel-sharp wit, these accounts of her everyday life provide an intimate insight into the work of one of Australia's greatest living writers.

Yellow Notebook

Yellow Notebook: Diaries Volume I, spans a decade beginning in the late 1970s just after the publication of Helen Garner's first novel, *Monkey Grip*.

Rights: World, **Published:** November 2019, **Non-fiction**

One Day I'll Remember This

Helen Garner's second volume of diaries charts a tumultuous stage in her life. Beginning in 1987, as she embarks on an affair that she knows will be all-consuming, and ending in 1995 with the publication of *The First Stone* and the furore that followed it, Garner reveals the inner life of a woman in love and a great writer at work.

Rights: World, **Published:** November 2020, **Non-fiction**, pages available now

The Children's Bach

In this captivating and deeply personal novel, 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 to their doorstep. And Athena finds herself straining at the confines of her life.

Rights: World, **First published:** 1984, **Fiction**



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