JENNYDARLING

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Kylie Mirmohamadi – DIVING FALLING

'Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.' (Seneca)

In lyrical prose, Kylie Mirmohamadi tells the story of author Leila Whittaker, whose husband, the art-world giant, Ken Black, has died leaving his artist's estate to his two sons and \$69,000 to his mistress.

Leila had always been the family mediator. She's the one who made sure that her husband and sons, Sebastian and Otis, were happy and calm and that any tensions in the family home – a brutalist edifice, all glass windows and concrete – were smoothed over. But not any longer.

Leila takes charge of the world that has been thrust upon her, forging new paths, claiming new spaces, finding a fresh authority, and as she does so family structures and friendships shift...

DIVING, FALLING is an elegant, exhilarating journey through grief, betrayal, and the intoxicating rediscovery of joy. Unashamedly bold and sexy, and ripe with wickedly wry observations.

'This is a debut novel, but Mirmohamadi is no ingenue. Her writing is tight, the pacing is superb, and her characterisations are exquisite. This novel is a must-read.' Danielle Bagnato, Books+Publishing

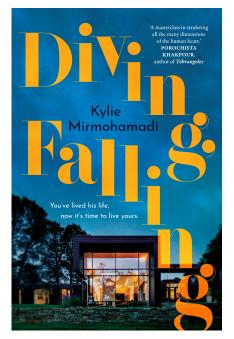
'Her rendering of family and friendship dynamics in the aftermath of grief and betrayal is wry and nuanced. Mirmohamadi draws on river and ocean metaphors, the writing of Virginia Woolf, mystery drownings, lost siblings and the mythology of selkies to saturate Leila's unmooring and resurfacing. In illustrating how a woman's life can be diminished by her husband's, Leila rightly asks, "Why are all the big sea narratives about the male endeavours of conquering and horizons and equators, and white whales, when women hide a sea inside us?'

Justine Hyde, The Saturday Paper

'Bravo Kylie. What a marvellous debut.'

Caroline Overington, The Australian

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Rosalie Ham – MOLLY

Molly stepped down onto the Dungator railway platform looking stylish in a waistless, ankle-length shift dress. The neck was square, unusually high and narrow, the sleeves capped over sheer net sleeves with beaded cuffs.

It's 1914. Molly Dunnage is a well-dressed modern woman in her mid-20s who wants to see change: change at home, change at work and change in underwear.

Her corsetry business is starting to take off. She's marching with Melbourne's suffragists. Her eccentric, confounding, adored father and aunt are turning their minds to country retirement – at last - and might finally leave her in peace.

As the clouds of war arrive, Molly's dreams start to falter. But then, true love drops out of the sky and her hopes for her life and the world are entirely upended.

MOLLY is an unforgettable story of hopes lost, love found - and corsets loosened - with the dark humour, richly detailed settings and vividly drawn characters we've come to expect from Rosalie Ham.

MOLLY is a riveting prequel to THE DRESSMAKER but for those who love historical fiction it can also be enjoyed as a standalone novel. It all begins with MOLLY.

'Ham's eye for the absurd, the comical, and the poignant are highly tuned.' Weekend Australian

'Rosalie Ham.... is a true original. Blessed with an astringently unsentimental tone and a talent for creating memorably eccentric characters, Ham also possesses a confidently brisk and mischievous sense of plot.'

Sydney Morning Herald

Rosalie Ham

With sales of over 350,000 copies, Rosalie Ham is the author of five previous books, including the acerbic Gothic satire and bestseller THE DRESSMAKER, which was made into an award-winning film, and translated into 15 languages. She lives in Melbourne.

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