Jenny Darling & Associates Literary Agents

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2023 - THE YEAR THAT WAS

- a novel on the Stella Prize short-list
- a debut gothic thriller novel with a twist
- a new novel from one of Australia's boldest writers
- a real life detective memoir



2024 - BEYOND THE RIVER

by Kylie Mirmohamadi

Scribe Publications August

Edwina Preston – BAD ART MOTHER

A vibrant portrait of the woman artist as lover, wife, mother, and dreamer struggling against the patriarchy.

Set in post-War Melbourne when society had set expectations of women, and newly arrived immigrants and refugees brought the city to life with their cosmopolitan tastes in food, fashion, art and bohemian ways of thinking and living, BAD ART MOTHER unfolds in alternating voices, between Veda (in letters to her sister and her publishers), and Owen, Veda's cherished but neglected son.

Christina Stead Prize for Fiction - short-list

The Stella Prize - short-list

BAD ART MOTHER is an extraordinary novel exploring the cost of compromise and selfishness for women as artists and writers.

".... this book is a battle cry for history's forgotten females – frozen out of creativity, careers, family inheritances, and sometime, life itself. 'You don't know a book until you're inside it,' writes Preston.

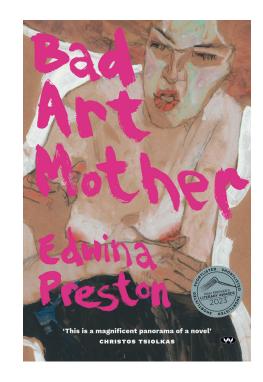
This is certainly true of BAD ART MOTHER, which will strike multiple chords among parents, artists, poets, and those who dare to believe (ArtsHub)

Edwina Preston is an Australian writer, spoken word artist, and performer who is passionate about exploring the intersections between art, creativity and identity in her work. She is the author of the acclaimed Howard Arkley biography NOT JUST A SUBURBAN BOY.

Fiction

ANZ: Wakefield, May 2022 Paperback I 336 pages Pages available Rights: Jenny Darling & Associates Jenny Darling Associates Literary Agents

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Monica Vuu - WHEN ONE OF US HURTS

'Monica Vuu is a bright new talent in Australian crime fiction. The twists and surprises came fast and deadly. I was up all night!' Candice Fox

Death 1: an abandoned baby dies at the foot of a lighthouse Death 2: a drunken teenager drowns

In the small coastal town of Port Brighton, the local constable declares these two deaths a straight-forward murder-suicide. But the mother of the baby has her own theory. And the teenager's best mate has his own suspicions.

Rumours abound, nerves begin to fray and deep cracks appear in the long-running fault-lines of the community.

A stunning debut with more than one twist that will keep avid crime readers on edge as they race through the pages to determine whose story is true.

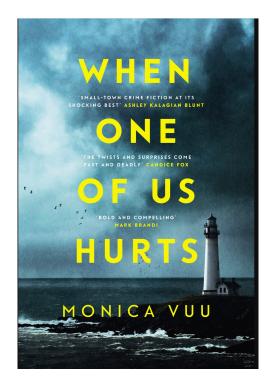
This is Tasmanian Noir at its finest.

WHEN ONE OF US HURTS is a small-town crime fiction at its shocking best. Monica Vuu has crafted a memorable debut full of macabre surprises.' Ashley Kalagian Blunt

MONICA VUU was born in British Columbia. She has a background in Cognitive Systems and after graduating worked with Emirates airlines, based in Dubai. In 2019 she moved to Tasmania with her Australian partner. **WHEN ONE OF US HURTS** is her first novel and was inspired by the remoteness of rural Tasmania.

Fiction ANZ: Pan Macmillan ANZ: June 2023 Paperback | 320 pages Final pages available Rights: Jenny Darling & Associates Jenny Darling Associates Literary Agents

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Charlotte Wood - STONE YARD DEVOTIONAL

"... this is a novel about seeking, searching, many kinds of prayer. Each character is doing their best, and each takes a different approach; Wood treats them all with humanity and great dignity – and it is this that gives the novel its quiet power." Fiona Wright

Burnt out and in need of retreat, a middle-aged woman leaves Sydney to return to the place she grew up, taking refuge in a small religious community hidden away on the stark plains of the Australian outback. She doesn't believe in God, or know what prayer is, and finds herself living this strange, reclusive existence almost by accident. But then, in a number of ways, trouble and disquiet interrupts this secluded life and plunges the narrator back into her past.

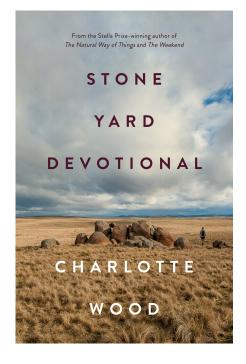
"Beautiful, strange and otherworldly, Charlotte Wood's latest novel is an absorbing mediation on grief, forgiveness and our relationship to the natural world." Paula Hawkins

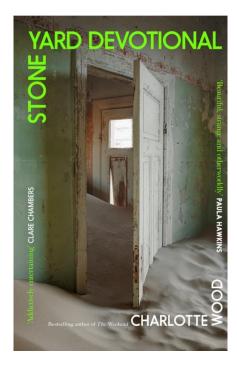
Described as "one of our [Australia's] most original and provocative writers" **Charlotte Wood** is the author of ten books - seven novels and three non-fiction works. She has won many awards for her books including the Stella Prize and the Prime Minister's Literary Prize.

Fiction

ANZ: Allen & Unwin, October 2023 UK: Sceptre, March 2024 German: Kein & Aber, October 2023 Paperback I 320 pages Final Pages available **Rights: Jenny Darling & Associates** Jenny Darling Associates Literary Agents

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Marele Day – RECKLESS

RECKLESS is the true story of how an Australian woman set out with her bags packed, no-one to notify, for a future alone – and entangled herself in a lifelong friendship with the most unlikely of companions: a hijacker, embezzler, soldier of fortune, shapeshifter.

After the death of her first love, Marele Day finds herself adrift and so embarks on a journey around Australia. Along the way she joins the crew of a catamaran and forms a lifelong friendship with the easy-going skipper Jean Kay, not knowing that he is on the run for committing an eight-million-franc bank heist.

For 30 years they correspond before reuniting, both older and wiser, in France. Marele is now an accomplished crime writer, and while she knew of her travel companion's previous reputation as 'the hijacker with heart' and 'brother to the poor', she is intrigued to discover his connection to the disappearance of eight million francs and a secret dossier that made global headlines.

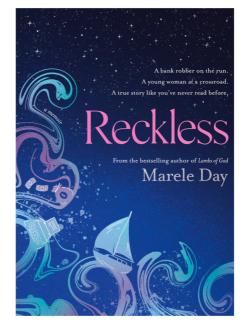
Starting in Paris and working her way to Brazil, Marele uncovers the truth about Jean Kay's identity and motives by piecing together clues from their letters, her diaries, and a stash of newspaper clippings. In the process Marele slowly reveals the extraordinary true events behind the multi-million-dollar heist that rocked French politics in the mid-1970s.

A bank robber on the run. A young woman at a crossroad. A real-life detective memoir A true story.

Marele Day is the author of four literary novels and four classics of Australian crime fiction, the much-loved novels of the Claudia Valentine mystery series which won her a Ned Kelly Lifetime Achievement Award for crime writing. Her novel, *Lambs of God*, became a multi-award-winning miniseries. She lives on Bundjalung country in Northern New South Wales.

Non-Fiction ANZ: Ultimo Press, May 2023 Pages available Rights: Jenny Darling & Associates Jenny Darling & Associates Literary Agents

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Kylie Mirmohamadi - BEYOND THE RIVER

Oh, during that period of grief, the pleasure of having someone - a man - looking at me with something other than concern. With desire. His touch was strange. Exciting.

Leila Whittaker, novelist, knows what it takes to keep the peace. For years she's done just that. Between her sons. With their father, the acclaimed Australian artist Ken Black. And his lovers. Theirs was a marriage of creative minds. A drunken drug-fucked gaiety. Of alliance, appeasement, and damage control. Ken's sullenness, anger and adultery a small price to pay. Or was it really?

When Ken dies leaving his Artist's Estate to their two sons and the pointed amount of sixty-nine thousand dollars to his muse Anita, the wife of his art dealer, Leila decides she's had enough. It's time to seek some peace of her own – with a little pleasure on the side. Fuck it.

Long lunches. Whisky in the afternoon. Reading poetry in bed. And her own piece of Scandi noir; Magnus, a Mads Mikkelsen look alike who, if a touch possessive, becomes a regular fixture in her bedroom inside Ken Black's brutalist polished concrete and glass bunker on the riverbend at Kew.

But her dead husband; barely disguised in the pages of a new novel by a mutual friend, on the walls of a new photography exhibition by his muse, and in the complicated psyches of their sons, is weighing Leila down. Not to mention the ambitious plans of her soon to be daughter-in-law and the upcoming anniversary of the death of her brother. Leila needs a project – an obsession, to occupy her errant mind. So, she is intrigued when the mysterious private buyer of her late husband's final painting reaches out with an unusual request.

I spent too long on our email conversation that first day, like Virginia Woolf talking on the phone in the morning, skimming the cream off her mind before she got to her writing. But something interested me about Remy Pascal...

Unashamedly bold and sexy, BEYOND THE RIVER is a clever, entertaining and quietly profound novel ripe with wickedly wry observations about the calculations and sacrifices women make to keep the peace, escape past entrapments, and find the agency to pursue their own passions.

Fiction ANZ: Scribe Publications, August 2024 Unedited manuscript available Rights: Jenny Darling & Associates