

A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

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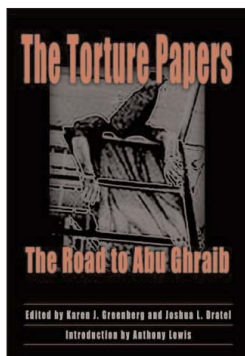
books@abbey.com.au

The Torture Papers

The Road to Abu Ghraib

Karen GREENBERG & Joshua DRATEL (eds) 900pp Hb \$89.95

This book consists of the so-called "torture memos" and reports which US government officials wrote to prepare the way for, and to document, coercive interrogation and torture in Afghanistan, Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib. It presents for the first time a compilation of materials that prior to publication have existed only piecemeal in the public domain. The Bush Administration, concerned about the legality of harsh interrogation techniques, understood the need to establish a legally viable argument to justify such procedures. The memos and reports document the systematic attempt by the US Government to prepare the way for torture techniques and coercive interrogation practices, forbidden under international law, with the express intent of evading legal punishment in the aftermath of discovery of these practices and policies.



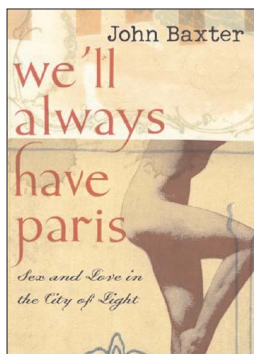
We'll Always Have Paris

Sex and Love in the City of Light

John BAXTER 389pp Hb \$49.95

Contained within these pages is a rather pleasant and endlessly amusing tour of gay Páree. Enlivened by the author's idiosyncratic knowledge of films, books and the visual arts, old brothels (and old rumours) are explored while erotic bookshops are given the nod after a literary cafe or two for good measure. Baxter's deliberately old-fashioned style sets the tone.

As he is falling in love with his wife-to-be, the reader, too, is seduced and surprised into wild imaginings and breathless excitement. His powers of observation are keen and his candid affection for Paris and the many friends he made there over the years warm this gorgeous little tome the whole way through. It is exactly the kind of travelogue-cum-memoir that is as much a pleasure to read as it would have been to experience firsthand. Delicious! *due April*



Cara

The first five copies sold will be accompanied by a free copy of Baxter's earlier memoir, **A Pound of Paper** (Pb \$24.95), with many thanks to Random House Australia.

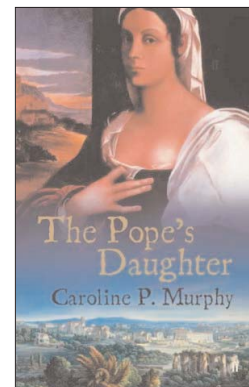
World Book Day was designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and was marked in over 30 countries last year. The origins of the day we now celebrate come from Catalonia, where roses and books were given as gifts to loved ones on St George's Day, a tradition started around 80 years ago. Despite this day being celebrated on different dates around the world, Abbey's remembers **World Book Day on 23 April**, which coincides with the birthday of Miguel de Cervantes, and the birth (and death) of Shakespeare. As usual on this date, you receive 10% discount off all titles associated with Spain and Shakespeare.



The Pope's Daughter

Caroline MURPHY 359pp Hb \$49.95

Felice della Rovere was born in 1483 into an extraordinary time in Rome's history, its new Golden Age, the High Renaissance. Felice was to witness Michelangelo paint the Sistine Ceiling, her father Pope Julius II lay the foundation stone for New Saint Peter's, and herself immortalised by Raphael in the frescoes in the Vatican Palace apartments. But she was no reticent bystander. When she became regent, Felice fought off all attempts to interfere with her rule, engaging in a bitter feud with her stepson which culminated in murder. Murphy sheds fascinating light on Felice's daily life - how she dealt with squabbles amongst servants, why she always knew the exact contents of her wine cellar, and her advice on the best way to bribe a Pope.



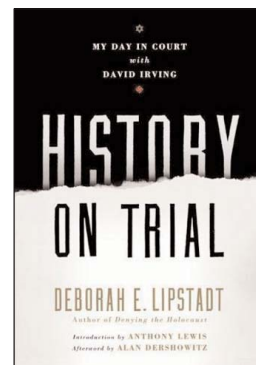
History on Trial

My Day in Court with David Irving

Deborah LIPSTADT

346pp Hb \$45.00

By 1995, two years after the publication of her **Denying the Holocaust** (Pb \$32.95), Deborah Lipstadt thought her scholarly work on holocaust denial was done. Then came the letter from Penguin advising her she was being sued for libel by David Irving. This book is her story of the five years she spent defending herself. It is a fascinating mixture of history, law and memoir woven into a narrative that doesn't flag for a moment. She writes candidly about her feelings and the people involved in her case, and if the day of the verdict is the most joyous part of the book, the visit by her and the defence team to Auschwitz is probably the most moving. *Dave*



Meet Maryanne Confoy

In **Morris West: Literary Maverick** (Pb \$29.95), Maryanne Confoy captures the essence of Australia's highest-selling author, outspoken Catholic, literary icon and private man. Come and meet Maryanne at Abbey's on Thursday 7 April. Light refreshments will be served.

Thursday 7 April 6-7pm

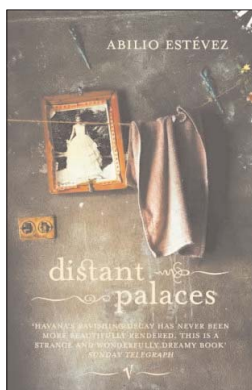
Anzac Day
Monday 25 April
12-5pm



Books - Where Ideas Grow

Distant Palaces

Abilio ESTEVEZ 288pp Pb \$27.95
 Abilio Estevez conjures up the melancholy beauty of contemporary Havana with passion and eloquence in this story about a trio of misfits. When Victorio learns that his home is about to be demolished, he leaves his job, burns his possessions and takes to the streets. Wandering the city, he meets two people who change his life: Salma, a young prostitute, and Don Fuco, an enigmatic old man who performs as a clown. In the ruins of an old theatre, Don Fuco initiates his new friends into the secrets of poetry and theatre, bringing beauty, magic and exuberance into the pinched lives of Havana's citizens.

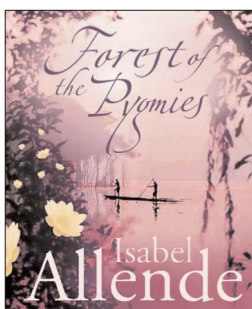


Winter Journey

Diane ARMSTRONG 464pp Tp \$29.95
 Polish-born Halina Shore is a forensic dentist working in Sydney. Her mother has just died, and while going through her mother's papers, she comes across a letter from a woman she has never heard of, asking about a strange child. Intrigued, Halina sets out to learn more. Meanwhile, a war crimes tribunal is about to undertake an investigation into a mass grave in Poland, believed to be the site of the massacre of a village's entire Jewish population during the war. Halina is asked to assist. As Halina's story unfolds, she must confront not only the grimmest of evils, but the truth about her own past, and the fact that the human spirit is a far bolder and more courageous thing than she could ever have imagined...

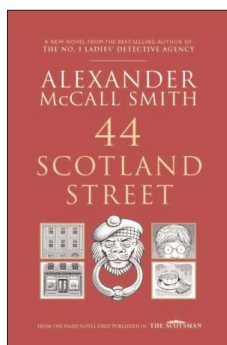
Forest of the Pygmies

Isabel ALLENDE 304pp Hb \$29.95
 Alexander Cold knows all too well his grandmother Kate is never far from an adventure. When *International Geographic* commissions her to write an article about the first elephant-led safaris in Africa, they head to the blazing, red plains of Kenya, with Nadia Santos and the magazine's photography crew. Days into the tour, a Catholic missionary approaches the camp in search of his companions who have mysteriously disappeared. Kate, Alexander, Nadia and their team, agreeing to aid the rescue, enlist the help of a local pilot to lead them to the swampy forests of Ngoube. There they discover a clan of Pygmies who unveil a harsh and surprising world of corruption, slavery and poaching. Alexander and Nadia, entrusting the magical strengths of Jaguar and Eagle - their totemic animal spirits - launch a spectacular and precarious struggle to restore freedom and return leadership to its rightful hands. This is the final instalment of Allende's celebrated trilogy of the journeys, **City of the Beasts** (Pb \$21.95) and **Kingdom of the Golden Dragon** (Pb \$22.95).



44 Scotland Street

Alexander McCALL SMITH 368pp Hb \$34.95
 One of McCall Smith's particular talents is his ability to portray archetypes without resorting to stereotype or cliché. Thus we immediately recognise the Edinburgh chartered surveyor, stalwart of the Conservative Association, who dreams of membership to Muirfield Golf Club. We have the pushy Stockbridge mother and her prodigiously talented five-year-old son, who is making good progress with the saxophone and with his Italian. Then there is Domenica Macdonald who, rather like Miss Jean Brodie, is that type of Edinburgh lady who sees herself as a citizen of a broader intellectual world. In McCall Smith's hands, such characters retain charm and novelty, simultaneously arousing both mirth and empathy. Clever, elegant and funny, this is a novel that provides huge entertainment, but which is underpinned by the moral dilemmas of everyday life and the characters' struggles to resolve them.



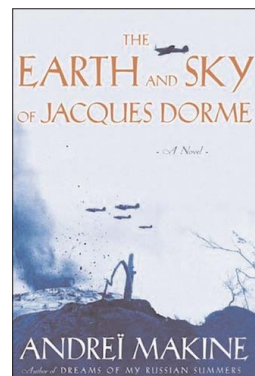
Is There Anything You Want?

Margaret FORSTER 244pp Hb \$54.95
 Mrs Hibbert is a Friend of St Mary's Hospital, a woman of bustling helpfulness and occasionally comical generosity, often misread as something of a busybody by others. Her determined good humour covers an abiding sorrow, although none of the women she wishes to help are remotely aware of it, as they are variously ensnared in their own private hells. A doctor is unable to remain at the clinic where she has treated patients with clumsy compassion, a wife and mother struggles to engage emotionally within the confines of her family and a priest fails a parishioner in remission completely. All of which adds up to vintage Forster; women as walking wounded and the ways and means employed to survive (cancer, in this instance) with sanity intact. This is not a terribly complicated tale, but it is poignant and affecting, and a tissue or two at hand may be of service.

Cara

The Earth and Sky of Jacques Dorme

Andre MAKINE 216pp Hb \$39.95
 In present-day France, a Russian writer recalls his harsh childhood at a Stalingrad orphanage in the 1960s, and the old Frenchwoman, a family friend, whose tales fed his dreams of a better world. One story in particular has stayed with him: that of her brief, passionate affair during WWII with the French fighter pilot Jacques Dorme, who subsequently died in a plane crash in the Siberian mountains. So the narrator decides to retrace Jacques's steps, beginning a journey which leads him not only to revisit the land of his birth, but also to see his adopted homeland in an unflattering new light. A profound and moving novel about the dangers of ideology and of war, delivered with humour, sensuousness and great lyricism.



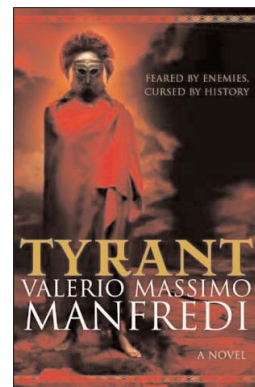
Another

Joel DEANE 214pp Pb \$27.00
 Another is a suburban estate, but it could also double for one of the smaller circles in Hell. The tale reads as if it was made for a television drama or short film, the kind you come out of feeling slightly soiled by the sheer ugliness of it all. Toby and Suzie are the main characters, two teenagers from the wrong side of the tracks with no hope and a future so bleak as to make a stone weep. The casual violence and pointless wanderings, theft and emotional abuse, are described in careful detail with a nod to urban lyricism which underscores the grinding misery of their lives. It's not pleasant reading, but it is compelling.

Cara

Tyrant

Valerio Massimo MANFREDI 272pp Tp \$30.00
 Sicily 405 AD: the infinite duel between a man and a superpower begins. The man is Dionysius, who has just made himself Tyrant of Syracuse. The superpower is Carthage, mercantile megalopolis and mistress of the seas. Over the next eight years, Dionysius's brutal military conquests will strike down countless enemies and many friends to make Syracuse the most powerful Greek city west of mainland Greece. He builds the largest army of antiquity and invents horrific war machines to use against the Carthaginians, who he will fight in five wars. But who was Dionysius? Historians have condemned him as one of the most ruthless, egocentric despots. But he was also a patron of the arts, a dramatist, poet and tender lover. Manfredi, bestselling author of the Alexander trilogy, has recreated a memorable protagonist full of Homeric energy combined with Machiavellian rationality.



The Full Catastrophe

Edna MAZYA

348pp Pb \$22.00

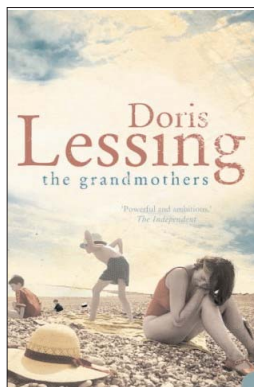
Things aren't going well for Ilan. The book he is writing is months overdue. One of his students is stalking him, he's addicted to Valium and he has just discovered that his beautiful wife Naomi, more than 20 years his junior, is having an affair. His mother always said it would end badly. Ashamed, but powerless to stop himself, Ilan tracks down Naomi's lover and confronts him. After one mad and spontaneous act, an unexpected chain of events is set in motion. With his life fast unravelling and tortured by his guilty conscience, Ilan finds himself driven to increasingly bizarre and irrational behaviour. Suspenseful and pitch-black funny, this is an exhilarating new novel from Israel's pre-eminent playwright and scriptwriter.

The Grandmothers

Doris LESSING

311pp Pb \$22.95

With the four short novels in this collection, Doris Lessing once again proves that she is unequalled in her ability to capture the truth of the human condition. The title story is a shockingly intimate portrait of an unconventional extended family and the lengths to which they will go to find happiness and love. Written with a keen cinematic eye, the story is a ruthless dissection of the veneer of middle-class morality and convention which manages to be at once universal and desperately, heartbreakingly personal. *Victoria and the Staveney's* takes us through 20 years of the life of a young underprivileged black girl in London. A chance meeting introduces her to the world of the Staveney's - a liberal white middle-class family - and, seduced, she falls pregnant by one of the sons. As her young daughter grows up, Victoria feels her parental control diminishing as the attractions of the Staveney's world exert themselves. An honest and often uncomfortable look at race relations in London over the past few decades, Lessing reaffirms her brilliance at demonstrating the effect of society on the individual.

**New Beginnings**

VARIOUS AUTHORS

175pp Pb \$14.95

In an unprecedented publishing move, some of the world's leading writers have come together to publish the first chapters of their new works in a single volume, with all proceeds going to charities working in Tsunami-hit countries. Authors include Margaret Atwood, Harlan Coben, Joanna Trollope, Alexander McCall Smith, Ian McEwan, Maeve Binchy, Mark Haddon, Marian Keyes, Scott Turow, Nicholas Evans, Nick Hornby, Paulo Coelho, Stephen King, Tracey Chevalier, Vikram Seth and J M Coetzee.

Ghost Tide

YO YO

292pp Pb \$27.95

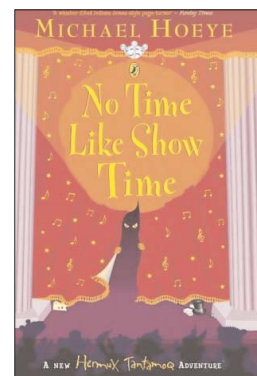
In the tradition of *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress* (Pb \$22.95) comes an earthy, wildly imaginative and tragi-comic love story set in a remote mountain village in north-western China. Xiezi (meaning "peg"), the eldest of four girls, is tall, athletic and dark skinned. Living with her downtrodden mother and tyrannical party official father, she daily suffers the scorn of being born female. If this isn't enough, she must also live with the tragic deaths of her three younger brothers. Next door lives Dandan, born a boy but, according to ancient tradition, raised by his grandmother as a girl till the age of 12. After suffering endless schoolyard taunts for his feminine ways, he is then initiated into 'manhood' in an ancient and bizarre ritual. Of course, 12 years as a girl can't be shaken off so easily, and Dandan struggles with his new identity. As the madness of the Cultural Revolution conspires with mother nature and sweeps through the village, Xiezi, Dandan and their families suffer and triumph, laugh and cry, and try as best they can to make sense of the new world order. And then, incredibly, after flood and famine, violence and hypocrisy, denunciation and recrimination, a tender love blooms between two outcasts, as yin and yang are miraculously fused.

No Time Like Show Time

Michael HOEYE

277pp Pb \$17.95

Hermux Tantamoq, watchmaker and sometime reluctant adventurer (*Time Stops for No Mouse* and *The Sands of Time*, both Pb \$17.95), is back! This time our mousy hero gets a mysterious summons to the Varmint Theatre, where he quickly finds himself involved in everything from alarm clocks to set design. His nasty neighbour Tucka Mertslin is up to no good as usual, Terfle the ladybird gets to see a bit of the world and, of course, the dashing avatrix Linka Perflinger causes Hermux all sorts of anxieties! Fun, well-paced and inventively clever.

**The King of Whatever**

Kirsten MURPHY

287pp Pb \$18.95

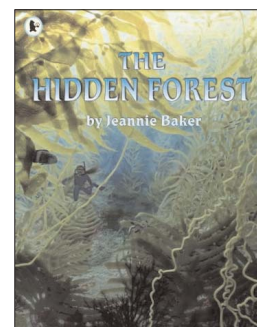
It's hard being Joe King; the name doesn't help! He's 17, has no idea what he wants to do after high school, suffers from having brilliant and confident siblings and a Dad who is definitely not into praise. Add a dead-end part-time job, a difficult dog, perpetual unpunctuality, a best friend who gets the girl Joe wanted and you can see why he hates being teenaged. An engaging story about acceptance, optimism, discovery and friendship. 14+

The Hidden Forest

Jeannie BAKER

32pp Pb \$14.95

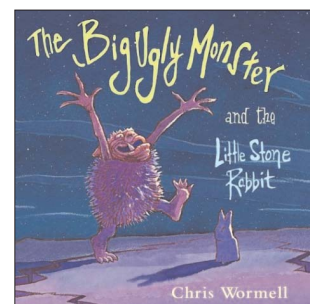
Finally in paperback, the story of the giant kelp forests of southern Australia portrayed in Baker's stunning collages. Ben accompanies Sophie underwater in an effort to retrieve his traps; the experience opens his eyes to the amazing intricacy of the underwater world. Beautiful artwork means no age limits to the enjoyment of this book.

**The Big Ugly Monster and the Little Stone Rabbit**

Chris WORMELL

32pp Pb \$17.95

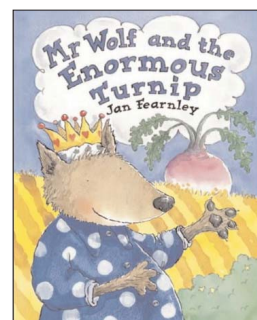
Once there was a monster so ugly the leaves would fall off trees, the sky would cloud over and stones would crack. Although ugly on the outside, all the monster wanted was someone to talk to - so he makes a friend, a stone rabbit. A very simple book on the surface, with Wormell's typical use of earthy pinky browns and inky blues and purples in the illustrations, but a profoundly moving testament to the joys of having a friend.

**Mr Wolf and the Enormous Turnip**

Jan FEARNLEY

36pp Pb \$14.95

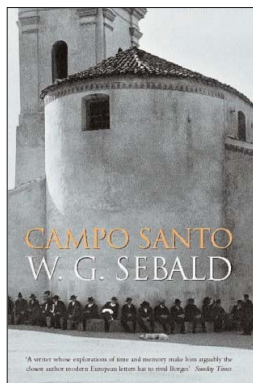
Mr Wolf finds an enormous turnip in his garden - just the thing to make his favourite dish, turnip stew. But it's too big to pull up without help. A nearby frog tells him he is really a prince and if Mr Wolf could only find a princess to kiss him better, then he would be able to command help to dig the turnip up. So off Mr Wolf goes to the nearby palace.... A funny and charming, fractured fairytale that only goes to prove that sometimes the enchanted prince gets what he deserves and that good manners always win out! Ages 4-6.



Campo Santo

W G SEBALD 240pp Hb \$39.95

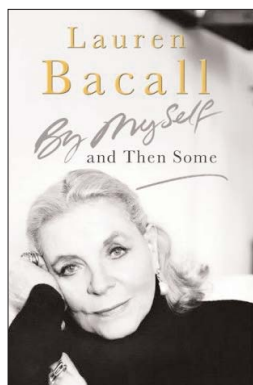
At the heart of this volume are four lyrical and meditative prose fragments. The title piece takes a Corsican graveyard as Sebald's starting point for his musings on cemeteries, natural history, ghosts, anthropology and the tenuous barrier between life and death. The literary essays making up the rest of the book touch upon writers with whom Sebald felt a particular affinity: Nabokov, Kafka, Gunter Grass and Bruce Chatwin. This fine collection is a fitting memorial to an author who studied the shifting nature of memory and time with such sensitivity.



By Myself and Then Some

Lauren BACALL 512pp Hb \$49.95

Lauren Bacall was barely 20 when she made her Hollywood debut with Humphrey Bogart and became an overnight sex symbol. Their romance on and off screen made them Hollywood's most celebrated couple and together they produced some of the most electric scenes in movie history. But when Bogart died of cancer in 1957, Bacall had to find a way of living beyond the fairytale. In a time of post-war communism, Hollywood blacklisting and revolutionary politics, she moved with the legends: Hemingway, the Oliviers, Katharine Hepburn, Bobby Kennedy, an engagement to Frank Sinatra and a second turbulent marriage to Jason Robards. Now 80, Bacall brings her story up to date, including her recent films and Broadway runs, fond memories of her children and many close lifelong friendships, not least the greatest love of her life, Humphrey Bogart.

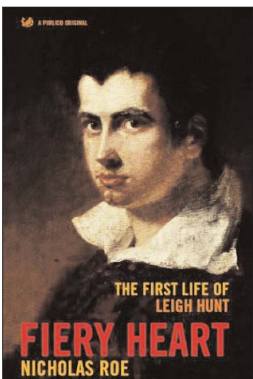


Fiery Heart

The First Life of Leigh Hunt

Nicholas ROE 428pp Tp \$45.00

Leigh Hunt (1784-1859) is the lost giant of English culture - the "spiritual grandfather" of the modern world, according to Virginia Woolf. Descended from black Caribbeans, Hunt was a child of the American and French Revolutions, determined to throw off the old order. As a poet and radical journalist, he was a passionate advocate of liberal causes and was jailed for his daring campaign against establishment corruption embodied by the Prince Regent. A complex and contradictory figure, he enjoyed the role of political martyr and the homage of writers like Lord Byron, while battling with psychic vulnerability and private phobias. His genius discovered poets like Keats, Shelley and Tennyson, and his own sparkingly controversial poetry advocates the sexual freedom that characterised all his relationships. In the first full biography in over 70 years, Roe brilliantly captures this fascinating man and his turbulent times.



Excerpts from a Family Medical Dictionary

Rebecca BROWN

113pp Pb \$21.95

Within this slim volume is a powerfully honest story, spare and elegant and moving. The author's mother was diagnosed with cancer in 1996 and, in 17 chapters, Brown chronicles her mother's decline from health to death. Counterpointing medical definitions of the physical effects of the disease are unsentimental descriptions of her mother's symptoms. Far from being cold and unfeeling, this is a beautifully composed testimony to the loss of a loved one. Won't be for everyone, but for others it will be both tough and touching.

Lindy

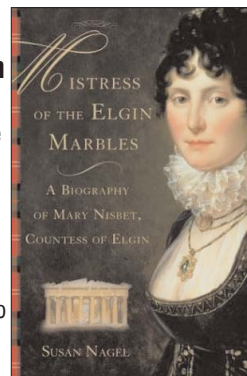
Mistress of the Elgin Marbles

A Biography of Mary Nisbet, Countess of Elgin

Susan NAGEL

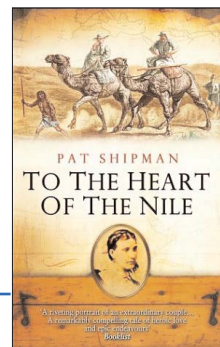
320pp Hb \$48.95

Filled with romance, danger and scandal, this is the intriguing story of Mary Nisbet, the Countess of Elgin, one of the most influential women of the Romantic era, whose exploits enriched world culture immeasurably. The richest heiress in Scotland and the wife of accomplished diplomat Thomas Bruce, the 7th Earl of Elgin, she travelled to Turkey when Elgin was appointed the Ambassador Extraordinaire to the Ottoman Empire, a journey that would change history. Interweaving extensive details gleaned from primary sources and excerpts from the countess's own letters, Nagel draws a vivid portrait of this formidable woman, who helped bring the smallpox vaccine to the Middle East, financed the removal and safe passage to England of classical marbles from the Parthenon, and struck a deal with Napoleon that no politician could have accomplished. Yet those achievements were overshadowed by scandal when Mary's passionate affair with her husband's best friend flamed into the most lurid and salacious divorce trial in London's history.



Another fascinating biography from the same time is **To the Heart of the Nile**

by Pat Shipman (542pp Pb \$27.95). Florence Szász was a child in Eastern Europe when her family was slaughtered during the Hungarian revolution. After the war, she was kidnapped from a refugee camp in the Ottoman Empire and sold to be raised for the harem. In 1859, aged 14, she stood before a room full of men and waited to be auctioned to the highest bidder. But slavery was not to be her destiny. One of the witnesses was moved by an immediate, overpowering empathy for the helpless young woman. His name was Samuel Baker, an eminent English adventurer who braved extraordinary perils to aid her escape. Ultimately they would wed and venture together into some of the most inaccessible regions on Earth.



History

Pompeii and Herculaneum

Interpreting the Evidence

Brian BRENNAN & Estelle LAZAR

156pp Lp \$26.00

This book is produced by the Ancient History Seminar's group, which each year provides thousands of HSC students with lectures by archaeologists and historians. This textbook provides everything a student of Pompeii needs to know to get a decent mark in their exams, but we have included it here because it is a marvellous introduction to the subject for anyone planning a reader's journey through the monumental writings on the subject due to the editors' informative Further Reading lists.

The Hollow Crown

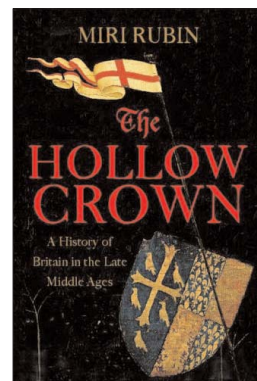
A History of Britain in the Late Middle Ages

Miri RUBIN

320pp Hb \$59.95

There is no more haunting, compelling period in Britain's history than the later middle ages. The extraordinary kings: Edward III and Henry V; the great warriors: Richard II and Henry VI, tragic inadequates killed by their failure to use their power; and Richard III, the demon king. The extraordinary events: the Black Death that destroyed a third of the population; the Peasants' Revolt; the Wars of the Roses; and the Battle of Agincourt. The extraordinary artistic achievements: the great churches, castles and tombs that still dominate the landscape; the birth of the English language in **The Canterbury Tales**.

This spell-binding account of the era that was immortalised by Shakespeare's history plays illuminates a lost world - a strange, Catholic, rural country of monks, peasants, knights and merchants, almost perpetually at war - which continues to define so much of England's national myth.

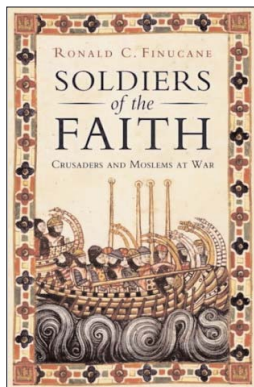


Soldiers of the Faith

Crusaders and Moslems at War

Ronald FINUCANE 272pp Pb \$24.95

The battles and political scheming that took place during the medieval crusades have often been described, but little has been written about crusading from the point of view of the actual participants. This refreshingly different book redresses this situation by asking what inspired those recruits who marched across Europe and fought the 'infidel', as well as those they actually fought against. What did it feel like to be a crusader? How did the long marches, bad food and lack of medicine affect the average armed pilgrim? Were the original ideas sustained in the face of the perils of the journey? What image of the enemy did each side carry into battle? Drawing on a wide variety of sources, Finucane also discusses such matters as the social composition of the fighting forces, the role of women in the crusades, the part played by superstitious ideas, supernatural omens, and the conduct of both Christian and Moslem soldiers on and off the field of battle.



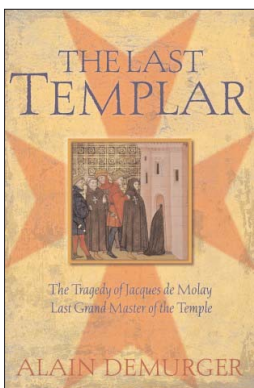
The Last Templar

The Tragedy of Jacques De Molay

Last Grand Master of the Temple

Alain DEMURGER 288pp Pb \$29.95

The end of the mighty Order of the Temple is one of the great stories of the Middle Ages. In 1307, Philip the Fair, the devious King of France, brought one of the most powerful and wealthy institutions in the world to trial - and to an ignominious end. Jacques de Molay, the Temple's last Grand Master, was at the heart of the events in which the chivalric ideal was ousted by treachery and greed. In this pioneering investigation, one of France's great medieval scholars describes Jacques de Molay's dazzling career and provides a vivid retelling of the drama of his Order's last days. De Molay's life took him from Burgundy to a career in the Middle East. Elected head of the Temple, he had to face the loss of the Latin Crusader States. He withdrew to Cyprus and dreamed of the reconquest of Jerusalem. Summoned to France by the Pope for discussions, he was caught up in the King of France's trap and burned at the stake for refusing to repudiate his order.



Ancient Egyptians

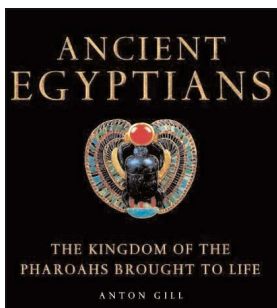
The Kingdom of the Pharaohs Brought to Life

Anton GILL 256pp Lp \$34.95

This is the book of the spectacular TV mini-series. Travel back in time 4,500 years to the most advanced civilisation on Earth. The most ambitious series about ancient Egypt ever seen on television, this is a high-tech, high-budget combination of drama, feature film special effects and in-depth historical research which brings to life the true stories of real people who lived thousands of years ago. This book is a colourful and well-researched catalogue of the mini-series and would warm the heart of any fledgling Egyptology buff, as well as the connoisseur.

A great companion read is the fully revised third edition of Brian Fagan's **The Rape of the Nile: Tomb Robbers, Tourists, and Archaeologists in Egypt** (301pp Tp \$49.95). It is a sophisticated adventure, brimming with fascinating characters from Herodotus to Coptic Christians, from obelisk-stealing Romans to major European museums. The most awesome in the line-up has to be Giovanni Belzoni, a circus strongman who removed more antiquities than Napoleon's armies. It updates the saga with accounts of amazing new discoveries including the Royal Tombs of Tanis, the Valley of Golden Mummies, the Tomb of the Sons of Ramses and the sunken city of Alexandria, whose lighthouse was one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Shelley

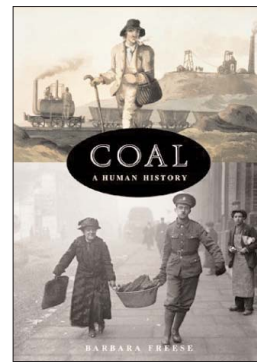


Coal

A Human History

Barbara FREESE 320pp Hb \$39.95

The Romans called it "the best stone in Britain" and used it to make jewellery. Coal has transformed societies and launched empires. It fuelled the industrial revolution, inspired the Communist manifesto and was a catalyst for some of the greatest inventions of all time - from the steam engine to the railroad. Taking us on a rich historical journey that began hundreds of years ago on the banks of the River Tyne and spanned the globe, Freese shows us the profound and often surprising role coal has played in human history. A gifted and lively storyteller, she tells the riveting story of how a shiny black lump changed the modern world. *due April*

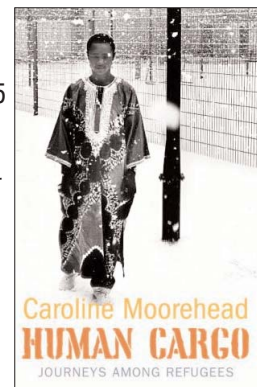


Human Cargo

Journeys Among Refugees

Caroline MOOREHEAD 336pp Hb \$44.95

This book celebrates the will to survive of 'ordinary' human beings, those who have fled their homes and countries in search of a better life and who are willing to do almost anything to achieve this dream. They are from Afghanistan, Liberia, Palestine, the Sudan and many other places where desperation leads to terrifying and perilous journeys. Although unscrupulous politicians beg to differ, no one wants to leave their home to become a refugee, particularly now, when refugees have become a despised underclass harried and vilified throughout the Western world. While covering escape both to and from misery, Moorehead spent time in a variety of countries, travelling to refugee camps in Guinea, Palestinian settlements in Lebanon, communities of Liberian boat people in Sicily and the detention centres of Australia's own "Pacific Solution". Some of what she reports is not news to us here, but there is much of interest. I recommend this wholeheartedly to all. *due April Cara*



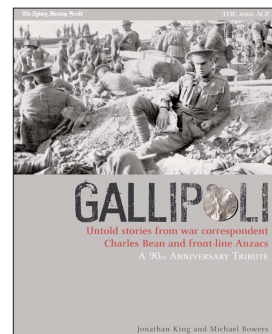
Gallipoli

Untold Stories from War Correspondent Charles Bean and Front-line Anzacs

Jonathan KING & Michael BOWERS

324pp Hb \$49.95

To commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Anzac landing, this book tells the real story through the private diaries and newspaper reports of Charles Bean, Australia's official war correspondent and *Sydney Morning Herald* journalist. Bean's misgivings about the campaign are reinforced by graphic and rarely seen photographs taken by *Age* photographer Phillip Schuler. There are also precious stories from the front line, collected in an exhaustive search for letters, diaries and memorabilia from the families of Australian and New Zealand soldiers who served on Gallipoli.



British Military Greats

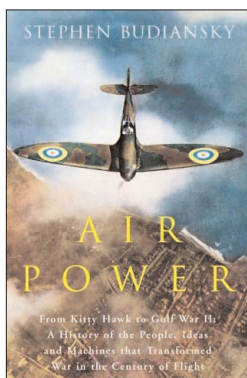
Annabel MERULLO & Neil WENBORN (eds) 191pp Hb \$69.95

Experts and enthusiasts in the field of military history and culture examine 40 military figures, events and wartime objects that shaped and inspired Britain's politics, social activity and even entertainment. Pioneering leaders like Alfred the Great and Boadicea sit alongside the spectacular bravery of the Spanish Armada's defeat and the Charge of the Light Brigade, and the pride and motivation given to soldiers by figures such as Lawrence of Arabia and Winston Churchill. Whether triumph, disaster or send-up of the situation, this book celebrates the central importance of the forces and wartime activity to Britain's identity.

Air Power

**From Kitty Hawk to Gulf War II
A History of the People, Ideas and Machines
That Transformed War in the Century of
Flight**

Stephen BUDIANSKY 528pp Pb \$26.95
Aircraft have had a profound influence on the way wars are fought ever since they were used in the First World War. The way they have been used and misused by the world's armed forces is a fascinating story, full of amazing machines, great ideas (and some really lousy ones) and an incredible cast of characters, from inventors and pilots to generals and presidents. The overarching theme of this book is the rise and fall of strategic bombing, and how the full potency of air power on the battlefield has finally been realised in the war in Afghanistan and the two Gulf Wars. As he showed with **Battle of Wits** (Pb \$23.00), Budiansky is a fine writer. If you like military history, buy this book. You won't be disappointed.

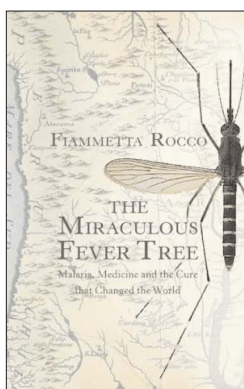


Dave

The Miraculous Fever Tree

Malaria, Medicine and the Cure That Changed the World

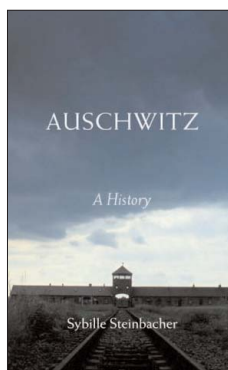
Fiammetta ROCCO 348pp Pb \$24.95
Malaria comes from the Italian word "Mal'aria" or "bad air". For centuries, malaria killed millions - Alexander the Great was one of its better-known victims - and its debilitating effects have been linked to the demise of ancient Greece and the Roman Empire. It killed thousands of British troops fighting Napoleon and soldiers on both sides of the US Civil War, and it brought the building of the Panama Canal to a standstill. Fiammetta Rocco, who has had malaria herself, explores the history of the ravages of the disease, of the heroism and tragedy of those who have attempted to find cures and the manner in which the discovery of quinine opened the door of the tropics to Western imperial adventure.



Auschwitz

A History

Sybille STEINBACHER 176pp Pb \$19.95
At the terrible heart of the modern age lies Auschwitz. In a total inversion of earlier hopes about the use of science and technology to improve, extend and protect human life, Auschwitz manipulated the same systems to quite different ends. In this terse, powerful new book, the reader is led through the process by which something unthinkable to any European in the 1930s had become a sprawling, industrial reality during the course of the world war. How Auschwitz grew and mutated into an entire dreadful city, how both those who managed it and those who were killed by it came to be in Poland in the 1940s, and how it was allowed to happen, is something everyone needs to understand.



The Tragedy of the Middle East

Barry RUBIN

287pp Pb \$49.95

The Middle East has changed dramatically during the last decade, yet scholarly and public understanding lags far behind these events. This book explains why the previous era came to end. Three interlinked themes are crucial to the book. First, a reinterpretation of the era of upheaval that the Middle East has just passed through. During that period, many Arabs believed that some leader, country or radical movement would unite the region, solving all its problems. Second, an evaluation of how the historical experience of the period between the 1940s and the 1990s undermined the old system, making change necessary. Third, an analysis of the region today that helps explain future developments, in what the author terms the Era of Reluctant Pragmatism, as the Middle Eastern societies decide their relationships with the West.

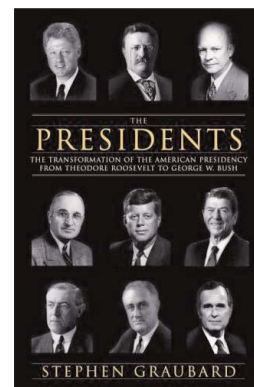
Presidents

**The Transformation of the American Presidency from
Theodore Roosevelt to George W Bush**

Stephen GRAUBARD

944pp Hb \$69.95

In this magisterial examination of the Presidency over the course of the 20th Century, Graubard explores the history of the world's greatest elective office and the role each incumbent has played in changing the scope of its powers. Using portraits of each of the presidents of the past century, he asks, and answers, a wide variety of crucial questions about each President. What intellectual, social and political assets did they bring to the White House, and how quickly did they deplete or mortgage that capital? How well did they cope with crises, foreign and domestic? How much attention did they pay to their election pledges after they were elected? How did they use the media, old and new? Above all, how did they conduct themselves in office and what legacy did they leave to their successors? Graubard provides original analysis in each case, and reaches many surprising conclusions.



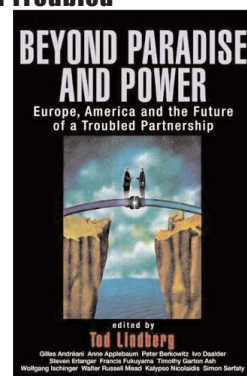
Beyond Paradise and Power

Europe, America and the Future of a Troubled Partnership

Tod LINDBERG (ed) 245pp Tp \$36.00

One of the wonderful things about freedom of speech is that within the pages of a single volume, considerable disagreement can be penned. In this volume, there are many disagreements about whether the USA and Europe still have any common interests. However, on the subject of the Bush Administration's foreign policy, especially its war in Iraq, everybody agrees it has damaged transatlantic relations. Francis Fukuyama's essay, *Does 'The West' Still Exist?* is a call to the USA to tax energy use far more than it currently does in a bid to moderate its need to go to war every decade to keep open access to Middle Eastern oil. Walter Russell Mead's *American Endurance* offers the idea that extremism in US policy will be curtailed, over time, by domestic political balance. These 13 readable essays mostly call for American moderation.

Shelley



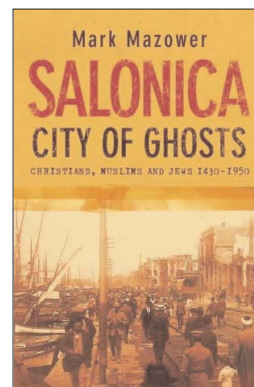
Salonica City of Ghosts

Christians, Muslims and Jews 1430-1950

Mark MAZOWER 525pp Hb \$69.95

Over the centuries, Salonica has undergone many metamorphoses. Up until 1912, the largest ethnic minority of this then Ottoman city (situated in an Orthodox Christian land) were the Jews, who had maintained a vital presence in the city since the expulsion of the Iberian Jews in the 15th century. Invited by the Muslims (who ruled the city from 1430 to 1912), Salonica became a thriving centre of rabbinical learning and a city remarkable for its cultural and religious coexistence. As with many European cities, the 20th century saw vast changes, particularly the deportation of the Jews to Auschwitz in 1943. This thoroughly researched book is both readable and illuminating, with greater emphasis on the last few centuries. Highly recommended.

Lindy

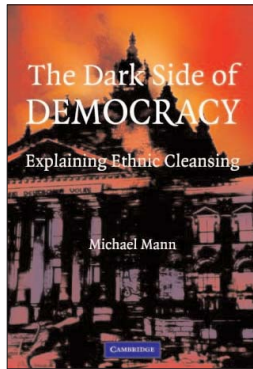


The Dark Side of Democracy

Explaining Ethnic Cleansing

Michael MANN 580pp Tp \$59.95

This important book presents a new theory of ethnic cleansing based on the most terrible cases (colonial genocides, Armenia, the Nazi Holocaust, Cambodia, Yugoslavia, Rwanda) and cases of lesser violence (early modern Europe, contemporary India, Indonesia). Murderous cleansing is modern, "the dark side of democracy". It occurs where the demos (democracy) is confused with the ethnos (the ethnic group). Danger arises when two rival ethno-national movements each claim their own state over the same territory. Ethnic cleansing results from complex interactions between leaders, militants and 'core constituencies' of ethno-nationalism. Understanding this complex process helps us devise policies to avoid ethnic cleansing in the future.

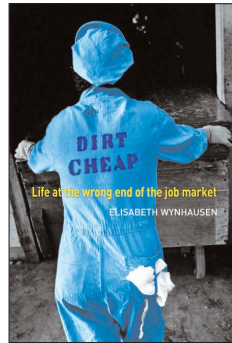


Dirt Cheap

Life at the Wrong End of the Job Market

Elisabeth WYNHAUSEN 240pp Tp \$30.00

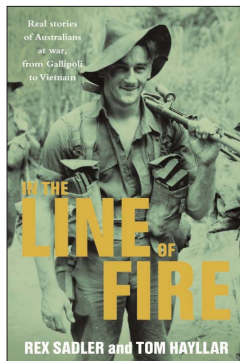
Over three decades, award-winning journalist Wynhausen has written compelling accounts of the lives of the working poor and the downside of Australia's 'miracle economy'. In late 2001, she decided to join them. Over a period of 10 months, she went undercover and worked as a factory hand, an office cleaner, a retail worker and a kitchen hand, moving from state to state and attempting to live on her meagre earnings. This is the inside story of what it's like to work 12-hour days on a factory line sorting eggs at a battery hen farm; of working a split shift of 13 hours cleaning a nursing home for just over \$10 an hour. Caustic, courageous and often funny, this is a unique view of class, power and middle management seen from the other side of the serving counter, and a very personal experience of what it is like to be under-paid, under-appreciated and part of Australia's emerging underclass.



In the Line of Fire

Rex SADLER & Tom HAYLLAR 368pp Tp \$30.00

Over 100,000 Australians have laid down their lives in the service of their country over the past 100 years. Conflicts including the two World Wars, Korea and Vietnam have been fought by young men from every state in the country. Using diaries, letters, pictures and newspaper articles, this book explores the nature of combat from the point of the view of the men doing the actual fighting. From the heights of Gallipoli to the trenches of the Western Front, from the deserts of North Africa to the jungle POW camps of the Thai-Burma Railway, from the savage cold of a Korean winter to the steamy heat of Vietnam, this is what it's really like to be in the line of fire.



The Civil War

The War of the Three Kingdoms 1638-1660

Trevor ROYLE

888pp Pb \$29.95

One late summer's day in 1642, two rival armies faced each other across the rolling Warwickshire countryside at Edgehill. Royalists faithful to King Charles I engaged in a battle with the supporters of the Parliament. Ahead lay even more desperate battles like Marston Moor and Naseby. The fighting was also to rage through Scotland and Ireland, notably at the siege of Drogheda and the decisive battle of Dunbar. The tumultuous Civil War was a pivotal one in British history. From his shrewd analyses of the multifarious characters that played their parts in the wars to his brilliantly concise descriptions of battles, Royle has produced a vivid and dramatic narrative of those turbulent years. His book also reveals how the new ideas and dispensations that followed from the wars - Cromwell's Protectorate, the Restoration of Charles II and the 'Glorious Revolution' of 1689 - made it possible for England, Ireland and Scotland to progress towards their own more distant future as democratic societies.

A History of Modern Tunisia by Kenneth Perkins (249pp Pb \$49.95), is the first English-language history of modern Tunisia which traces the story of Tunisia from the mid 19th century to the present day. This readable and informed introduction will be a necessity for students of the region, and also for anyone travelling there who wants a more comprehensive approach than most guide books can offer.

Sir Harold Nicolson and International Relations (244pp Hb \$170.00) by Derek Drinkwater is the first study of Nicolson's contribution to international thought. He emerges from it as an important thinker, alongside theorists as diverse as E H Carr and Leonard Woolf.

Zachary Lockman's **Contending Visions of the Middle East** (308pp Pb \$59.95) offers a broad survey of the development of Western knowledge about Islam and the region we today call the Middle East. It relates many of today's critical issues, including Muslim extremism, terrorism, the "clash of civilisations" and US policy in the Middle East to their broader historical, political and intellectual contexts.

Gillian Clark's **Christianity and Roman Society** (137pp Pb \$49.95) addresses key issues on early Christianity such as how early Christian accounts of pagans, Jews and heretics can be challenged and the degree to which Christian groups offered support to their members and to those in need. She also examines how non-Christians reacted to the spectacle of martyrdom and to Christian reverence for relics.

In **The Cambridge Companion to Homer** (419pp Pb \$49.95) edited by Robert Fowler, an international team of scholars discusses the poems, their background and composition and, most originally, their subsequent reception down to the present day.

Early Modern Japanese Literature: An Anthology 1600-1900 (1027pp Pb \$68.95) edited by Haruo Shirane is the first representative collection of Japanese literature from one of the most creative periods in Japanese culture, known variously as the Edo or the Tokugawa. Many of the works included here have never before been translated into English, and several classics have been newly translated for this collection.

In **Hannibal's Dynasty: Power and Politics in the Western Mediterranean, 247-183 BC** (336pp Pb \$63.00), Dexter Hoyos shows how the aristocratic Barcid family won dominance in the free republic of Carthage, and how they exploited family connections to lead Carthage to greatness at home and abroad. This book provides the full story of Carthage's achievement, going beyond the usual focus on Hannibal and military matters alone to look at a wide range of political and diplomatic issues too.

The Nazi Dictatorship and the Deutsche Bank (286pp Hb \$99.00) by Harold James examines the role of Germany's largest bank in the Nazi dictatorship and asks how the bank accommodated the transition from democracy and a market economy to dictatorship and a planned economy. It offers new material on the bank's expansion in central and Eastern Europe and summarises recent research on the bank's role in financing the construction of Auschwitz.

In **How Children Learn Language** (240pp Pb \$49.95), William O'Grady provides a highly readable overview not only of the process of language acquisition itself, but also of the ingenious experiments and techniques that researchers use to investigate this mysterious phenomenon.

The French Architecture Academy has awarded architect and critic Francis Fromont its prestigious *Architecture Book Prize* for 2004 for **Glenn Murcutt, Buildings and Projects 1962-2003** (325pp Hb \$120.00). The book spans Murcutt's entire career, from the early modernist houses to his most recent commissions in the 21st century.

Faith, Reason and the Existence of God (271pp Pb \$65.00) by Denys Turner argues that there are reasons of faith why, in principle, the existence of God should be thought rationally demonstrable and that it is worthwhile revisiting the theology of Thomas Aquinas to see why this is so.

In his **Ethics of Identity** (358pp Hb \$55.95), Kwame Anthony Appiah develops an account of ethics that connects moral obligations with collective allegiances, our individuality with our identities. As he observes, the question of who we are has always been linked to the question of what we are.

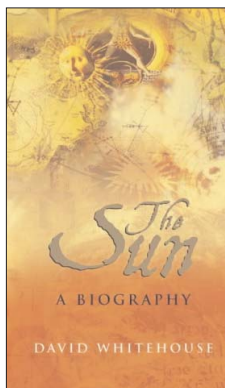
Dave

The Sun

A Biography

David WHITEHOUSE 344pp Hb \$48.95

This is a comprehensive biography of the sun, written by leading BBC journalist David Whitehouse. Since man first became conscious, he has sought to understand the nature of the sun; he has worshipped it, been inspired to produce great art about it, researched it and even died for it. Understanding the nature of the sun is central to understanding our universe and to life on earth. Whitehouse skilfully weaves his extraordinary scientific knowledge with history, philosophy, archaeology and religion to produce this fascinating account of the life and future of the sun.



Black Box

David Warren and the Creator of the Cockpit Voice Recorder

Janice Peterson WITHAM 215pp Pb \$34.95

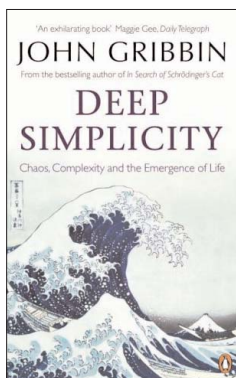
50 years ago, 28-year-old Australian research scientist David Warren conceived the idea of recording cockpit conversation as a tool for air accident investigation. This brilliant insight changed the course of aviation history. This book chronicles the human aspects of the cockpit voice recorder story - the inspiration, the setbacks, the encouragement and the disappointments.

Deep Simplicity

Chaos, Complexity and the Emergence of Life

John GRIBBIN 272pp Pb \$24.95

In this brilliantly enlightening book, John Gribbin, the man who clarified quantum theory with **In Search of Schrödinger's Cat** (Pb \$27.95) shows that complexity is simple, and explains how life has emerged from simple systems. This is the first book to synthesise all the various ideas about chaos and complexity - from the butterfly effect to the intriguing concept of Gaia. It reveals that, at the root of even what seems to be the most random behaviour, there are actually simple laws of cause and effect - essentially the same ones discovered by Newton 300 years ago. But the sensitive way in which systems respond to those basic laws, combined with feedback, can explain why, for example, just one vehicle braking on a motorway can cause a traffic jam; how a tiny genetic mutation or environmental change may make a species develop in a wholly different way; or why wild weather fluctuations can result from a slight change in atmospheric pressure. It can even explain people, the most complex systems of all, showing how we evolved from the most widely available raw materials in the Universe.

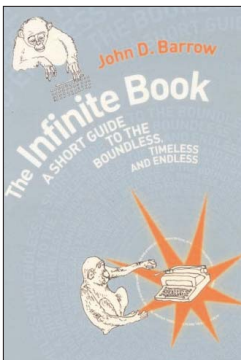


The Infinite Book

A Short Guide to the Boundless, Timeless and Endless

John BARROW 328pp Hb \$54.95

All manner of strange paradoxes and fantasies characterise an infinite universe. If our Universe is infinite, then an infinite number of exact copies of you are at this very moment reading an identical sentence on an identical planet somewhere else in the Universe. So what is it like to live in a Universe where nothing is original, where you can live forever, where anything that can be done, is done, over and over again? These are some of the deep questions that the idea of the infinite pushes us to ask. Throughout history, the infinite has been a dangerous idea. Many have lost their lives, their careers, or their freedom for talking about it. This book will take you on a tour of these dangerous questions and the strange answers that scientists, mathematicians, philosophers and theologians have come up with to deal with its threats to our sanity.

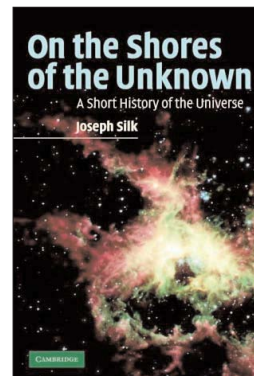


On the Shores of the Unknown

A Short History of the Universe

Joseph SILK 246pp Hb \$59.95

In this book, the author of **The Big Bang** (Pb \$39.95) explores the Universe from its beginnings to its ultimate fate. He shows how cosmologists study cosmic fossils and relics from the distant past to construct theories of the birth, evolution and future of the Universe. He describes how physicists apply theories of subatomic particles to recreate the first moments of the Big Bang, and how astronomers chart the vast depths of space to glimpse how the most distant galaxies formed. This highly readable and up-to-date account will appeal to all those with an interest in the story of the Universe.



The 100 Greatest Inventions of All Time

A Ranking Past to Present

Tom PHILBIN 294pp Tp \$29.95

Here, for the first time ever, is an in-depth look at the top 100 inventions through the ages, ranked in order of their impact on the world. Discover the scientific, historical and cultural factors that determine each invention's rank and read how the inventors brought seeds of inspiration to fruition. Also included is a fantastic array of authentic patent drawings that illustrate with meticulous detail exactly how these ingenious creations actually work. Packed with details of the setbacks and the breakthroughs, plus anecdotes describing the methods and the madness behind the innovations that have shaped our world, this book is entertaining and illuminating reading for anyone interested by the miracles of ingenuity.

Sperm Wars

The Rights and Wrongs of Reproduction

Heather Grace JONES & Dr Maggie KIRKMAN (eds) 305pp Tp \$32.95

Who has the right to use sperm? What makes a father? Is it sperm or changing nappies? Should donors be allowed to decide who can have their gametes? Where do the rights of children fit in? What role should government play in the new reproductive technologies? In this crucial new collection, Heather Grace Jones and Maggie Kirkman have invited contributors from every angle of the sperm debate to have their say on these and many other questions. The breadth of perspectives not only makes for compelling reading; it demonstrates that, as the Sperm Wars range from defensive skirmishes and battles over territory to bloody ideological crusades, we are all potential combatants.



The Last Giant of Beringia

The Mystery of the Bering Land Bridge

Dan O'NEILL 231pp Hb \$49.00

The intriguing theory of a land bridge periodically linking Siberia and Alaska during the coldest pulsations of the Ice Ages had been much debated since Jos de Acosta, a Spanish missionary working in Mexico and Peru, first proposed the idea of a connection between the continents in 1589. But proof of the land bridge - now named Beringia after 18th century Danish explorer Vitus Bering - eluded scientists until an inquiring geologist named Dave Hopkins emerged from rural New England and set himself to the task of solving the mystery. O'Neill reveals the fascinating science detective story that at last confirmed the existence of the land bridge that served as the intercontinental migration route for such massive Ice Age beasts as woolly mammoths, steppe bison, giant stag-moose, dire wolves, short-faced bears and saber-toothed cats - and for the first humans to enter the New World from Asia.

Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest (616pp Hb \$235.00) by Wendy Cooper is a magnificent guide to Australian tropical rainforest plants and their fruits. Superbly illustrated by the legendary William Cooper, it describes and identifies 2,436 species and includes paintings of 1,236 of these.

In **My Life as a Quant** (304pp Hb \$49.95), Emanuel Derman reflects on the 40 years he spent as a “quant”, someone employed to produce quantitative financial models for investment firms. He was one of the first physicists to move to Wall Street and he traces his transformation from ambitious young scientist to managing director and head of the renowned Quantitative Strategies group at Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Norbert Wiener was one of the giants of science in the first half of the 20th century, launching a scientific revolution with his book **Cybernetics** (Pb \$46.95) and greatly influencing people such as John von Neumann, Claude Shannon and Margaret Mead.

Dark Hero of the Information Age (423pp Hb \$59.95) by Flo Conway and Jim Siegelman is a compelling biography of Wiener that also looks at how his ideas continue to shape our lives.

James Essinger's **Jacquard's Web** (302pp Hb \$49.95) tells one of the greatest untold stories of science - how the Jacquard loom, invented in 1804 by Joseph-Marie Jacquard, caused a revolution in the potential of machinery that is still going on today.

The second edition of **Glaciers** (376pp Hb \$99.00) by Michael Hambrey and Jurg Alean describes how glaciers grow and decay, how they move and their influence on human civilisation. The text is very accessible and is supplemented by plenty of colour photographs. Read about them now before they disappear...

The Standard Model of particle physics is one of the crowning achievements of 20th-century science and Bruce Schumm's **Deep Down Things** (378pp Hb \$56.95) makes it accessible to anyone interested in the fundamental nature of the physical world. The subjects discussed range from the wave-particle duality and basic quantum mechanical ideas, through description of the four fundamental forces, to the inner theoretical world of particle physics - symmetries and gauge theory.

Co-written by a member of the Mars Pathfinder team is **Going to Mars** (241pp Lp \$34.95) by Brian Muirhead and Judith Reeves-Stevens. It tells the fascinating stories of the past and current missions to explore the Red Planet, as well as looking at what lies ahead.

New discoveries reveal how crucial interactions that determine our destiny occur before birth, when our genes interact with their environment as the embryo and fetus develop. These exciting insights into predictive adaptive responses suggest new ways of protecting the health of the fetus, infant and adult and are discussed in **The Fetal Matrix** (257pp Pb \$75.00) by Peter Gluckman and Mark Hanson.

Evolving Cosmos (136pp Hb \$75.00) by Govert Schilling takes the reader on a whirlwind journey through space and time in a combination of compelling text and breathtaking photographs that provides an impressive vision of the place of Man in the Cosmos.

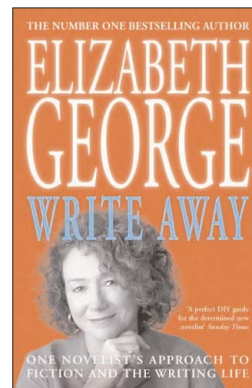
If you enjoyed the wonderful series *The Elegant Universe* which aired on SBS earlier this year, you might like to know that Brian Greene's book **The Elegant Universe** (Pb \$27.95) is back in stock and his latest book **Fabric of the Cosmos** (Pb \$26.95) is due this month.

Observing variable stars has long been a way for amateur astronomers to make very useful contributions to their science, and **Observing Variable Stars, Novae and Supernovae** (230pp Hb \$110.00) by Gerald North is an excellent introduction to the practise of observing variables and the science behind it. It comes with a CD-ROM containing hundreds of light-curves and over 600 printable finder charts.

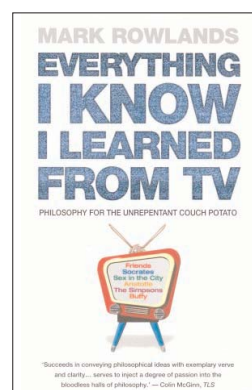
Dave

Write Away**One Novelist's Approach to Fiction and the Writing Life**

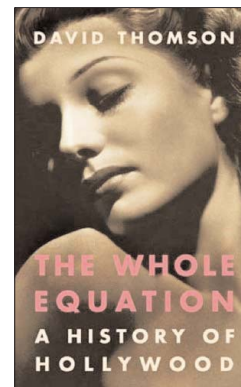
Elizabeth GEORGE 560pp Pb \$22.95
Elizabeth George is one of the world's most successful writers of crime fiction. Her 12 novels have appeared on bestseller lists in the UK, USA and Australia, and several of them have been dramatised by BBC Television as the Inspector Lynley Mysteries. She has also written a collection of short stories and edited a crime anthology. Now she shares this wealth of experience with would-be novelists and crime fiction fans. Drawing extensively on her own work and that of other bestselling writers, including Stephen King, Harper Lee, Dennis Lehane and many others, she illustrates her points about plotting, characterisation and technique with great clarity. She also includes extracts from her own Journals - the diaries she keeps as she writes each of her novels - and these give an unprecedented insight into the creative mind, with all its highs and lows.

**Everything I Know I Learned from TV****Philosophy for the Unrepentant Couch Potato**

Mark ROWLANDS 288pp Tp \$32.95
Rowlands uses characters we all know and love, and their TV worlds, to explain the great questions of philosophy. How do you define what is a good life to lead? The Simpsons disagree over the right way to live, with Nietzsche and Diogenes on hand to take sides. What is real happiness? Aristotle fights Descartes for the heart and mind of *Sex and the City's* Carrie Bradshaw. Can a good person do a bad thing? Kant and Socrates pay a call on Tony Soprano and his latter-day Mob to talk moral philosophy. Where does love end and friendship begin? Rachel and Ross ask Plato about the philosophy of emotions and wonder if they're just good friends. Is the pursuit of self-knowledge a good thing? Socrates helps Niles and Frasier Crane and their dad deal with the relative merit of the examined and the unexamined life. And much more.

**The Whole Equation****A History of Hollywood**

David THOMSON 433pp Hb \$55.00
A book that sees Hollywood as an idea, a trick, a religion that swept the world, a book that knows what the bosses did, but which also feels the impact on the mass audiences in the dark auditoriums. Until now, there has not been a book that explains the full story of how the business, the money, of pictures operates. Thomson takes the history of Hollywood and describes the grand panorama so that the reader knows how individuals fitted in, along with Bogart, the Marx Brothers and Daryl Zanuck. 'The business' is the neglected aspect of the story, because its truths threaten the alleged magic and romance of the movies. Yet the money is the true sexual secret of Hollywood and Thomson makes it quite clear that, amid all the hype and pretension, we should always “follow the money”.

**The Hutchinson Encyclopedia 2005**

1,050pp Hb \$69.95

First produced in 1948, editor Walter Hutchinson recognised that a new encyclopedia was needed to reflect the immense changes that had occurred since the end of the Victorian era. This new 12th edition is an encyclopedia for a new age again, packed with over 17,000 full-length articles including genetically modified foods, globalisation and much more, making it a foundation stone for 21st century knowledge. Brim-full of newly commissioned artwork and photographs, fact boxes, timelines and web links, this book also contains 15 Focus Features, including: The World's Changing Climate; Using Computers in Design; Fuels of the Future; The Origins of Mathematics; The Fate of the Rainforests and The Human Genome Project.

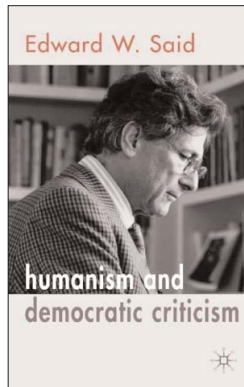
Humanism and Democratic Criticism

Edward SAID

154pp Tp \$36.00

When Edward Said died in 2003, the world suffered the loss of a great 20th century intellectual who, via his American education, was *the* agenda setter for the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s - a period of massive industrial and technological transition. This is Said's last book, based on lectures about "American humanism and its bearing on the world we live in". It is neither a definitive statement nor a call-to-arms: mainly an open expression of "how and in what ways humanism, normally thought of as a fairly restricted field of endeavour, relates to other dimensions of intellectual undertaking without becoming something like sociology or political science". He also analyses his vast subject from a more personal association: of how different the world is now, post-9/11, to the world in which he was educated, and how that is often at odds with what is expected of him. This book is a call to philology and reading; a request for intellectual openness, as well as a call for resistance to enslavement. God Bless Edward Said.

Shelley



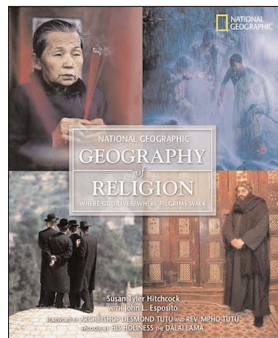
Geography of Religion

Where God Lives, Where Pilgrims Walk

Susan Tyler HITCHCOCK (editor)

416pp Hb \$69.95

This is an invitation to understand the great religions of the world. Gorgeously illustrated, this authoritative text portrays the great religions of humankind with vivid photographs, tracing each from its ancient roots to its role in modern life. Eminent scholars share the faiths they have lived and studied. For each of five major religions, explore the landscapes, areas and cultures where these faiths took hold and flourished. See them spread around the world, survive conflict and translate into other enduring faiths based on their geographic location and cultures. Learn what it means to be a Hindu and bathe in the sacred Ganges; for a Buddhist to revere a statue of the Enlightened One; for a Muslim to trek to Mecca; for Christian martyrs to welcome death. With a foreword by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and an epilogue by His Holiness the Dalai Lama, this book is a valuable contribution to any library.



When They Severed Earth from Sky

How the Human Mind Shapes Myth

Elizabeth & Paul BARBER

290pp Hb \$49.95

What was the Golden Calf? Why are mirrors believed to carry bad luck? How could anyone think that mortals like Perseus, Beowulf and St George actually fought dragons, since dragons don't exist? Strange though they sound, however, these 'myths' did not begin as fiction. This absorbing book shows that myths originally transmitted real information about real events and observations, preserving the information sometimes for millennia within non-literate societies. We, however, have been literate so long that we've forgotten how myths encode reality. Recent studies of how our brains work, applied to a wide range of data from the Pacific Northwest to ancient Egypt to modern stories reported in newspapers, have helped the Barbers deduce the characteristic principles by which such tales both develop and degrade through time.

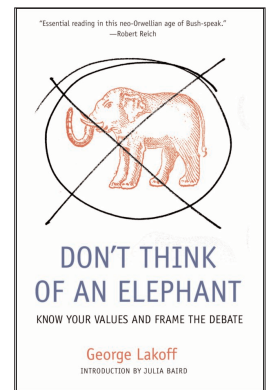
Don't Think of an Elephant

Know Your Values and Frame the Debate

George LAKOFF

121pp Pb \$22.00

This is the antidote to decades of conservative strategising and the right wing's stranglehold on political dialogue in the US and around the world. More specifically, it is the definitive handbook for understanding and communicating effectively about key social and political issues beyond the 2004 elections, here and in the US. Conservatives now dominate politics because they understand the power of political metaphors as rhetorical framing devices: inherently positive terms like "family values", "war on terror" and "tax relief" make it impossible to argue without sounding foolish, treacherous or dangerously radical. Lakoff explains in detail exactly how the right has managed to co-opt traditional values in order to popularise its political agenda. He also provides examples of how the centre-left can address the community's core values and re-frame political debate to establish a civil discourse that reinforces progressive positions. Lakoff's years of research and work with environmental and political leaders have been distilled into this essential guide, which shows how to think in terms of values instead of programs.



Degenerates and Perverts

The 1939 Herald Exhibition

of French and British Contemporary Art

Eileen CHANIN, Steven MILLER & Judith PUGH

320pp Hb \$69.95

The 1939 Herald Exhibition of French and British Contemporary Art was the most momentous art exhibition ever held in Australia. Over 200 works by modern masters, including Cézanne, Dali, Picasso and Modigliani, arrived in Australia on the eve of WWII and remained in the country until the end of the war. The exhibition attracted many thousands of visitors around Australia and the public greeted the opportunity to view major works by modern masters with enthusiasm. But it divided Australia's art establishment. J S MacDonald, director of the National Gallery of Victoria, along with many others, described the art as "the work of degenerates and perverts". Public galleries also declined the opportunity to acquire much-needed key works for their collections. Richly illustrated and meticulously researched, this book dispels the myths associated with the exhibition and explores the evolution of modernism in Australian art.

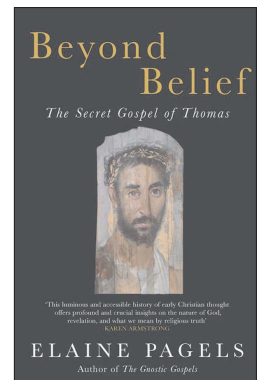
Beyond Belief

The Secret Gospel of Thomas

Elaine PAGELS

256pp Pb \$30.00

When her infant son is diagnosed with fatal pulmonary hypertension, award-winning author Elaine Pagels is moved to explore her faith. Her spiritual journey becomes a springboard for an intellectual and professional re-examination of early Christian faith. Controversial and thought-provoking, this international bestseller investigates the politics of Christianity and how the church crafted a Bible and a faith far more stringent than previously thought. In her search for meaning, Pagels discovers that the history of the Church - and therefore the history of the Western world - could have been significantly different.

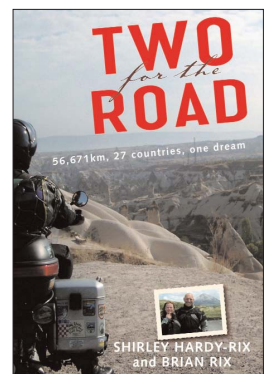


Two for the Road

Shirley HARDY-RIX & Brian RIX

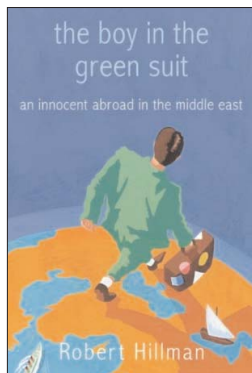
320pp Pb \$30.00

In 2003, Shirley and her husband Brian set out to fulfill a lifelong dream of motorcycling around the world. In an incredible 350-day journey, they crossed 32 countries and covered 56,671 kilometres, outran the Taliban, survived Iran's traffic and competed in the Isle of Man motorcycle race. Their story is an epic account of the ups and downs of seeing the world on two wheels: the majestic scenery and the potholes, foreign countries and flat tyres. A must for anyone who has ever dreamed of escaping and experiencing the romance of the open road.



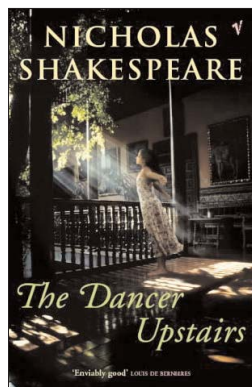
If you want a real treat, get Tim Winton's collection of short stories **The Turning** (\$46 Hb 317pp). Wonderful, compassionate stories with a punch at the end, as required in a good short story. All set in a small West Australian coastal town, as expected, but golly these are terrific short stories. Recommended.

The *National Biography Award* was announced last month with a lovely surprise winner, **The Boy in the Green Suit** by Robert Hillman (\$30 Pb 232pp). This book has been out for some time, with not much attention. The judges have shown good taste to choose this wonderfully funny and beautifully written book. Robert Hillman was a bewildered young man in a small Victorian country town, dreaming of fabled, fragrant islands inhabited by obliging women with soft breasts. At 16, young and innocent, after adventures in Myer Emporium, he sets out for the Seychelles, but the authorities won't let him land in Colombo because he only has two pounds and no return ticket. He blunders on - reading voraciously as he goes - to Greece, Turkey, Kuwait and Pakistan. Interspersed with these adventures of a boy out of touch with the 60s are memories of his father's own struggle. I want to press this book upon lots of people and I know they will enjoy it. Like *Candide*, innocence was his best protection.



I've read and enjoyed another Australian novel, **Dancing with the Hurricane** by Leon Silver (\$27.95 Pb 373pp). Set in Melbourne, where the narrator is holding the hand of his admired Uncle while talking in a headlong rush, remembering the exuberant years spent together in Israel in the 50s, in an effort to bring him out of a coma. The central figure was born in Singapore, after his parents fled Poland just before the Second World War, and spent his teenage years in Israel before migrating to Australia (rather like the author). The book is both affecting and funny. At the end, a young nephew arrives in Melbourne from Israel and, amongst other things, says "Israel's next challenge will be a civil war".

A friend is setting off in June to do some voluntary teaching in Peru, at Cuzco, that marvellous city which is the gateway to Macchu Pichu. I suggested she read a good novel set in "an unnamed South American country", probably Peru, about past political troubles. This is **The Dancer Upstairs** by Nicholas Shakespeare (\$22 Pb). A good film was made from this book, but if you plan to see it on video or DVD, try to read the book first, as you'll enjoy the movie more.



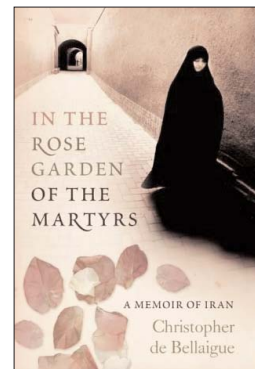
Nicholas Shakespeare is an author you might like to follow up. He not only wrote the marvellous biography of **Bruce Chatwin** (\$27.95 Pb), but he is also a recent convert to the pleasures of living in Tasmania, where he has bought a house (and was delighted to discover that one of his ancestors was the notorious Anthony Fenn Kemp, now regarded as a Tasmanian forefather). His latest book, **In Tasmania** (\$39.95 Hb 374pp incl index), is a fascinating family memoir, as well as a coast through 200 years of Tasmanian history. I've discovered that another of his books, **The Vision of Elena Silves** (\$24.95 Pb), which is set in Peru, is probably a prequel to **The Dancer Upstairs** (but each can be read separately). Two of his earlier novels now reissued are **High Flyer** (\$24.95) and **Snow Leg** (\$24.95), which is set in East Germany, so would be interesting to all those people, including me, who thought **Stasiland** by Anna Funder (\$24 Pb) was one of the best books of 2004. Find **Stasiland** in German History. Tasmania is looking very attractive these days. I plan to visit some time this year and call on some booksellers who used to work at Abbey's, such as Tim Gott and Chris Pearce, and also visit Launceston, where there will be an exhibition of French Masters from the Musee Leon Dierx (which is on Reunion Island) from 12 March to 12 June. For information about this, phone 1300 365 501.

If you have an inclination to be better informed about the ancient cultures in South America, check the Ancient America section in the History aisles. I couldn't resist suggesting **History of the Inca Realm** by Maria Rostworowski de Diez Canseco, translated by Harry B Iceland (\$52.95 Pb 259pp incl bibliography). The person rejoicing in this wonderful name is Peruvian and *the* expert on Andean Pre-History. A new arrival is **The Inca Princesses: Tales of the Indies** by (\$49.95 Hb 230pp). The author, Stuart Stirling, claims one of Pizarro's conquistadores as an ancestor. In this book, he traces the end of Inca civilisation told through the fate of the female royalty - trophy wives of the conquistadores. In contrast, there is also **History of the Inca Empire: An Account of the Indians' Customs and their Origins, Together with a Treatise on Inca Legends, History and Social Institutions** by Father Bernabe Cobo, translated and edited by Roland Hamilton (\$63 Pb 279pp). You may guess from this elaborate title that it was written in the 17th century and is regarded as a seminal text. Finally, a useful book is **Pre-Columbian Art** by Esther Pasztor (\$49.95 Pb 176pp incl index and bibliography, plus coloured illustrations).

Have you enjoyed the fabulously dressed and overcooked remakes of Miss Marple on ABC TV? I read a publicity blurb that said at least one of the stories had been altered, with a different culprit! Goodness Gracious Me! Our indefatigable Peter Milne promptly advised me that it was the first one, **The Body in the Library**. I did think Agatha Christie writing about lesbians in the 30s was a bit unusual! If you want to know the real culprit, try getting your hands on the original book. Of course, all Agatha Christie's novels (prices around \$14.95) are in stock at Abbey's, or you can get the 12 Miss Marple novels in three Pb volumes - **Miss Marple Omnibus Volume 1** (which contains *The Body in the Library*) is \$27.95, while **Volume 2** and **Volume 3** are \$22.95. We also have **Miss Marple Complete Short Stories** (20 of them) for \$22.95 Pb. Usually hard to find in one place.

For those of you who loved Carlos Ruiz Zafon's **Shadow of the Wind** (\$29.95 Pb), Text Publishing have another successful first novel translated from the Spanish. This time, the modern magical fabulist story is set in the Philippines. **Roses from San Gabriel** by Jose Sevilla Ho (\$29.95 Pb 276pp) is a grand family saga of fortunes and tragedies and mysteries. I'm intrigued by the author's name because one review says he now lives in Beijing. I guess he is part Chinese - not uncommon in the melting pot that is 20th century Philippines. By the way, you can buy the Spanish edition of *Shadow of the Wind*, **Sombra del Viento** (\$43 Pb), upstairs in Language Book Centre.


After reading one of those nice short reviews in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, I took home **In the Rose Garden of the Martyrs** by Christopher de Bellaigue (\$35 Pb 283pp including 3-page bibliography) because it promised to tell me the difference between Shi'ites and Sunnis. It did more than this. It lived up to its subtitle, **A Memoir of Iran**, and I've now moved it from Middle Eastern History (which is rather full these days) to Travel, where it will please more general readers. Journalist de Bellaigue not only read Persian Studies at Cambridge, he has lived in the Middle East for many years and is married to an Iranian. He writes with much affection, but with clear eyes, about the complicated social, religious and political life in his new country. (Coincidentally, Robert Hillman gives a fascinating picture of Persia in several chapters of his prize-winning biography, **The Boy in the Green Suit**).



As a sidelight, you might like to look at **Persian Letters** by Montesquieu (\$14.95 Pb 342pp) in Penguin Classics. Described by the author as "a sort of novel", it takes the form of letters written to, and by, two Persian travellers in Europe. By writing in the voice of mock-innocent newcomers pondering the differences between Europe and Persia, Montesquieu is able to freely comment on all sorts of manners, customs, justice, government, religion and sexual freedom. In the great age of satire, this book - when first published in 1721 - was a red-hot seller.

Our lovely Kathryn, who is so helpful on the front desk, is getting married next month and off for a long honeymoon, but she'll be back. Congratulations and good wishes to Kathryn and Rodney.

Eve



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- 9 **Winter Journey** by Diane Armstrong (Tp \$29.95)
- 10 **The Line of Beauty** by Alan Hollinghurst (Pb \$28.00)



Congratulations to Brian Hudson, Timothy Game, Marita Palmano, M C Anderson and Thomas Gillespie who won backlist packs of three Ian McEwan novels.

Now in Paperback

The Spiral Staircase by Karen Armstrong \$24.95

A raw, intensely personal memoir of spiritual exploration from one of the world's great commentators on religion.

Perdita: The Life of Mary Robinson by Paula Byrne \$32.95

Sex, fame and scandal in the theatrical, literary and social circles of late 18th century England.

Andalus: Unlocking the Secrets of Moorish Spain by Jason Webster \$24.95

After the success of **Duende** (Pb \$24.95), Webster continues his search for the essence of Spain, this time on a journey into the secrets of Moorish Spain.

The Traveller's Tree: A Journey Through the Caribbean Islands by Patrick Leigh Fermor \$27.95

Dubbed "a classic of travel writing" by *The Observer*, this is a new edition of the first book by the legendary Leigh Fermor, who was finally knighted in the 2004 New Year Honours list.

Mouse or Rat: Translation as Negotiation by Umberto Eco \$24.95

From the world-famous author of **The Name of the Rose** (Pb \$24.95), this is an illuminating and humorous study of the pleasures and pitfalls of translation.

The Secret Power of Beauty by John Armstrong \$22.95

A discursive and graceful journey through various and complementary interpretations of beauty, leading us from Hogarth's belief that the essence of beauty lies in shapely curves, to Kant's discourses on the meaning of pleasure.

Oyster by Janette Turner Hospital \$22.95

Two strangers arrive in an opal mining town in the remote Australian outback, a place where the rough-hewn bushfolk square off against religious fundamentalists, searching for a stepdaughter and a son who have mysteriously disappeared.

The Hot Seat by Richard Woolcott \$35.00

During his 50 years of public life, Australian diplomat Richard Woolcott witnessed - and often played a part in - many of the 20th century's pivotal moments. Here he offers a rare glimpse into the behind-the-scenes world of international debate and deal-making.

The Penguin Guide to Jazz on CD by Richard Cook & Brian Morton \$70.00

Now firmly established as the world's leading guide to recorded jazz, this revised seventh edition reassesses each artist's entry and incorporates thousands of additional CDs. The result is an endlessly browsable companion that is required reading for aficionados and jazz novices.

The Pig Who Sang to the Moon by Jeffrey Masson \$24.95

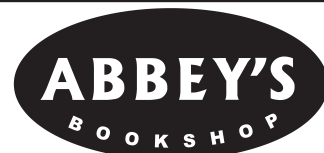
The first ever book to tell us what pigs (and cows and sheep and chickens) think and feel.

Binding Key

Pb	Paperback
Tp	Trade paperback (larger format)
Lp	Large paperback (very large)
Hb	Hardback
Lh	Large hardback (very large)
Ca	Cassettes

Editor: Ann Leahy

Contributors: Eve Abbey, David Hall, Lindy Jones, Shelley Kay, Ann Leahy & Cara Willetts



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