

Abbey's Choice

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Our pick of the new releases at Abbey's special prices



\$29.99 **\$24.99**
page 4



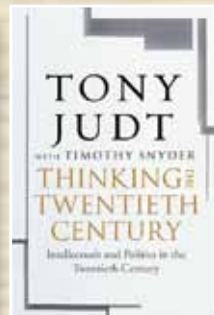
\$29.99 **\$24.99**
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\$49.95 **\$39.95**
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\$59.95 **\$49.95**
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\$59.95 **\$49.95**
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\$29.99 **\$16.95**
See Crime Chronicle

The INDIE Awards were held in March. Independent booksellers from all over Australia submit their choices for the annual awards, which were created four years ago to recognise excellent Australian writing. Panels of judges select winners in each category – Lindy from Abbey's is one of the judges. See abbey.com.au Craig (Ed.)

Notes from Eve Abbey...

I've been reading a most engrossing book which is a must for anyone interested in Asian history. Of course I was interested because my daughter, Jane, works on the Burma border... [page 10]

INDIE

FICTION

The Street Sweeper – Eliot Perlman (\$32.95 Pb 554pp)

NON-FICTION

Worse Things Happen at Sea
William McInnes & Sarah Watt (\$35 Hb 251pp)

DEBUT FICTION

All That I Am – Anna Funder (\$29.95 Pb 320pp)

CHILDREN'S

The Little Refugee – Anh & Suzanne Do
Illustrated by Bruce Whatley (\$24.99 Hb 32pp)



The Hanging Garden PATRICK WHITE

Two children are brought to a wild garden on the shores of Sydney Harbour to shelter from the Second World War. The boy's mother has died in the Blitz. The girl is the daughter of a Sydney woman and a Communist executed in a Greek prison. In wartime Australia, these two children form an extraordinary bond as they negotiate the dangers of life as strangers abandoned on the far side of the world. With the tenderness and rigour of an old, wise novelist, White explores the world of these children, the city of his childhood and the experience of war.

The Hanging Garden ends as the news reaches Sydney of victory in Europe, and the children face their inevitable separation. White put the novel aside at this point and how he planned to finish the work remains a mystery. But at his death in 1990, he left behind a masterpiece in the making, now published for the first time.

Hb **\$29.95**

WIN

iq2oz.com

intelligence²

The 2012 season of Intelligence Squared debates have been announced. A project of St James Ethics Centre, the debates run throughout the year and are being broadcast on ABC radio, television and podcasts. The first Sydney debate on May 29 is also being filmed by the BBC and will explore the proposition 'Same sex marriage should not be legalised'.

Abbey's has 5 double passes for you to win! Email your name and address to abbeynewsletters@abbey.com.au by 30 April. For bookings & info, visit iq2oz.com.

NOW ONLY
\$12.95

VINTAGE CLASSICS



The Origin of Species; The Voyage of the Beagle Charles Darwin

Great scientists don't necessarily make great writers, but with these books Darwin showed he was indeed both. *The Voyage* is part

travelogue, part natural history, describing his adventures and observations during the five-year voyage of the *Beagle*. Originally written as part of the official history of the voyage, it was so well written that it was published as a separate book. *The Origin* is one of the more accessible "great books of science" and a brilliant example of how to give people a multitude of reasons for accepting your argument.

Either of these books would be a bargain for \$12.95, but getting both for that price is a steal! Dave

WIN

30 VINTAGE CLASSICS
OF YOUR CHOICE

Simply buy any two *Vintage Classics* (\$12.95 each) during April to go in the draw. See abbey.com.au or in-store for details on how to enter.

HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS

EASTER Friday 6 April **Closed**
EASTER Sat/Sun/Mon 7-9 April **Open 10-5**
ANZAC DAY Wed 25 April **Open 10-5**



York Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Me and Earl and the Dying Girl Jesse Andrews

Greg is just waiting for high school to be over so he can get on with whatever life holds for him. He prides himself on not being part of any of the school cliques, while being friendly towards all of them. Really he only has one friend, Earl, a vertically challenged Afro-American with a seriously dysfunctional family. Together they make their own versions of cult classic films. When his mother forces him to spend time with a girl he has avoided since adolescence first hit, he has to move out of the self-protective bubble he's constructed. Rachel has leukaemia and has decided to stop treatment; and in an awkward attempt to cheer her on, Earl and Greg make a film of her life. This is a funny, profane (warning: lots of swearwords!) entertaining and poignant novel for mature readers. Pb \$19.99



Soonchild Russell Hoban

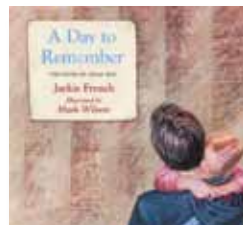
Sixteen Face John is the local shaman to a community somewhere beyond the Arctic Circle. His wife is expecting their first child, but something is wrong - it can't hear the Worldsongs, which are the only reason children are born: the beauty of the songs entices them to enter this world. John must confront his own wrongdoings, venture into worlds and lifetimes beyond number, and find bravery to set things right again. Beautifully illustrated by Alexis Deacon, the playfulness of the dialogue, married to

beautifully descriptive language of the senses, combine to make this book a pleasure to read. An imaginative story with a wellspring of philosophy and ethics; and knowing it was Hoban's last book adds to the poignancy of the tale. Fans will love it; ages 14 and onwards! 144pp Hb \$27.95



Australian Story An Illustrated Timeline Tania McCartney

Timelines are a good way to give children a cohesive overview of the sweep of history. This book traces the geological beginnings of Australia over the first few pages, deals with pre-contact society in a double-page spread, then follows European discovery and settlement in 22 pages of miscellaneous information (when capital cities were founded, minerals discovered, technological advances, inventions, sporting achievements - a real mix!). Aimed at very young readers and copiously illustrated with fine, full-colour images drawn from the National Library's collection! Pb \$24.95



A Day to Remember The Story of Anzac Day

Jackie French & Mark Wilson

Tracing the 25th of April through the years, this starts with double-spread pages describing the landing at Gallipoli in 1915, and how the legend of the day started. Named Anzac Day in 1916 to enlist men and generate more support

for the war effort, by 1918 it had a more contemplative aspect; in 1919 the Dawn Service tradition began. As years pass, and other wars erupt, Anzac Day changes, until the bitter years of involvement in Vietnam almost negate its memorial reasons. Then another shift occurs and pride regathers. A touching and respectful telling of the day, finely illustrated, that does not skirt around the horrors, nor negate the need for remembrance. Primary school ages. Pb \$24.99

CLASSIC CHILDRENS' TALES NAXOS CD SPECIAL 40% OFF

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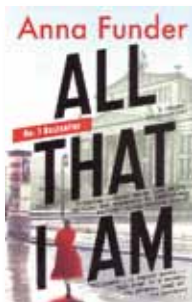


Aesop's Fables \$19.95 **\$11.95**
Andersen's Fairy Tales \$24.95 **\$14.95**
The Jungle Books \$29.95 **\$17.95**
Peter Pan \$24.95 **\$14.95**
Wind in the Willows \$29.95 **\$17.95**
Wonderful Wizard of Oz \$24.95 **\$14.95**
AND MANY MORE!

AUSTRALIAN FICTION

All That I Am Anna Funder

Ruth Becker, defiant and cantankerous, is living out her days in the eastern suburbs of Sydney, having made an uneasy peace with the ghosts of her past. Another lifetime away, it's 1939 and the world is going to war. Ernst Toller, self-doubting revolutionary and poet, sits in a New York hotel room settling up the account of his life. When Toller's story arrives on Ruth's doorstep, their shared past slips under her defences and she's right back among those friends who predicted the brutality of the Nazis... 384pp Pb \$22.95



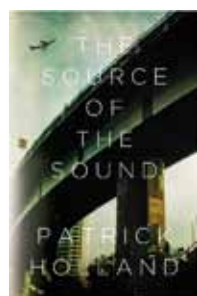
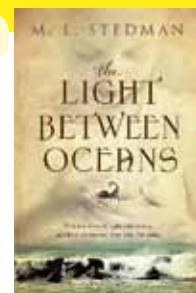
On Dangerous Ground A Gallipoli Story Bruce Scates

In 1915, Lieutenant Roy Irwin goes missing at Gallipoli. In 1919, historian CEW Bean returns to Anzac Cove with artist George Lambert and soldier Harry Vickers to solve the greatest mystery of the campaign: to discover Gallipoli's secret. Forward to 2015 and Dr Mark Troy's quest to preserve the peninsula from roadworks is sidetracked by political intervention and intrigue. But a flirtation with a dynamic young woman from Army Intelligence uncovers long-forgotten documents protecting Gallipoli's graves. 272pp Tp \$29.95



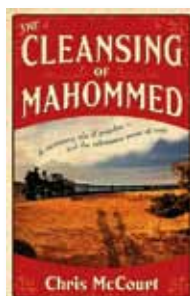
The Light Between Oceans M L Stedman

Tom Sherbourne finds that lighthouse keeping offers him respite from the horrors of his experiences of WWI. He takes on the posting of Janus Rock, far off the Western Australian coast, but he also falls in love with the vivacious Isabel, who marries him on his brief return to the mainland between stints. They have a happy life, but for one thing - none of Isabel's pregnancies produce a baby who lives for long. Desperate for a child, she persuades the upright and morally unambiguous Tom to not report the most serious incident that ever occurs on the island. A small boat washes up on their rock, with a dead man and a living baby, and for the love of Isabel, he acquiesces to her pleas... A powerful novel of moral choices, beautifully written and highly recommended. **Lindy** Tp \$32.95



The Source of the Sound Patrick Holland

This collection traces the journeys of exiles in search of home, through the terrestrial infernos and purgatories of super-modernity. In almost every story there is some elemental contact with light and sound; the characters' longing for simple, uncorrupted signs that would render life in the 21st century meaningful and justified. The collection's final story, *The Source of the Sound*, is a response to the murder of a close friend of the author's sister, many years ago in the town where they grew up. 160pp Pb \$19.95



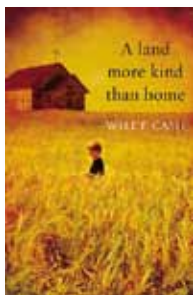
The Cleansing of Mahommed Chris McCourt

Broken Hill, 1914. Muslim immigrant Gool Mahommed is ready to embrace the Anglo-Australian lifestyle. Meanwhile, Alice Mercer yearns for a life in a place where the streets aren't named after the poisons that spew out of the smoke stacks. So when she encounters Mahommed on the train, she is immediately drawn to him. But prejudices prove an obstacle in their fledgling relationship and when a series of cruel acts are enacted against Mahommed and his friends, he is driven to despair - and then vengeance. 400pp Pb \$27.99

FICTION

A Land More Kind Than Home Wiley Cash

One Sunday, nine-year-old Jess Hall watches in horror as his autistic brother is smothered during a healing service in the mountains of North Carolina. The author uses this haunting image - inspired by an horrific true event - to spin us into a spellbinding, heartbreaking story about cruelty and innocence and the failure of faith and family to protect a child. This is a novel thick with stories and characters connected by faith, infidelity and hope that is both tragic and unforgettable. 400pp Tp \$32.95



BOOKSELLER'S PICK

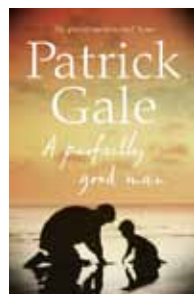
The Foundling Agnes Desartre

Jerome is calm and balanced, according to himself, but others find him somewhat cold and unfeeling. When his teenaged daughter's boyfriend dies in a motorcycle accident, however, Jerome is overwhelmed by an all-consuming grief. Images from his past start to assail him, and his ordered way of life starts to show cracks. He befriends a slightly sinister retired policeman, struggles with his feelings for his ex-wife and a free-spirited new client, and wonders if things really are as they seem. The author has won awards in her native France, and this clever and delicately rendered novel plays with the notion of the wolf-child as an adult. *Lindy* 240pp Tp \$27.99



A Perfectly Good Man Patrick Gale

When 20-year-old paraplegic Lenny Barnes commits suicide in the presence of Barnaby Johnson, the much-loved priest of West Cornwall parish, the tragedy's reverberations open up the fault-lines between Barnaby and his closest. The personal stories of his wife, children and lover illuminate his ostensibly happy life and the gulfs of sadness that separate them all. Across this web of relations scuttles Barnaby's nemesis - a man as wicked as his prey is virtuous. 416pp Tp \$27.99



The Confidant Hélène Grémillon

Paris, 1975. Sifting through the letters of condolence after her mother's death, Camille discovers a strange missive sent by someone she does not know. She thinks it is probably an error. But then, every Tuesday, a new letter arrives, recounting a tale of two impossible loves. Camille pieces together the puzzle and realises that the letters - from 1939 to 1943 - have a direct bearing upon her own life. 272pp Pb \$29.95



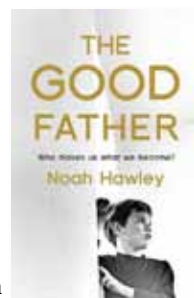
Painter of Silence Georgina Harding

Romania, 1950s. A mute man is given paper and pencils by Safta, a young nurse. Slowly, drawings appear on the pages: memories of a hillside, a stable, a car, a country house. The memories are also Safta's. For the man is Augustin, son of the cook at the manor at Poiana that was her family home. But while Augustin's world remained the same size, Safta's expanded to embrace languages, society and love. Safta left before the war. Augustin stayed. But he did not escape its horrors... 320pp Tp \$35



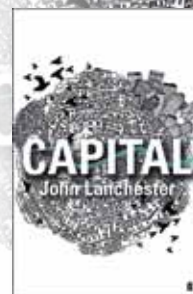
The Good Father Noah Hawley

Dr Paul Allen lives a comfortable life with his second wife and their family. Until the night when a popular presidential candidate is shot and the young man suspected of pulling the trigger is Paul's child from his first marriage. Paul is convinced Daniel is not capable of murder. Overwhelmed by a vortex of feelings, he embarks on a mission to understand what happened. Following the trail of his son's journey across America, he is forced to re-examine his life as a husband and a parent. 320pp Tp \$29.99



Capital John Lanchester

It's 2008 and things are falling apart. Bear Stearns and Lehman Brothers are going under. The residents of Pepys Road - a London banker and his shopaholic wife; an old woman dying of a brain tumor and her graffiti-artist grandson; a Pakistani shop owner; a refugee who works as the meter maid; a young soccer star from Senegal and his minder - are receiving anonymous postcards reading: "We Want What You Have". 592pp Pb \$29.99



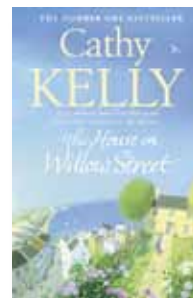
The Uninvited Guests Sadie Jones

One evening in 1912, preparations begin for an elegant supper party in honour of Emerald Torrington's 20th birthday. But only a few miles away, a dreadful accident propels a crowd of mysterious and not altogether savoury survivors to seek shelter at the manor - and the household is thrown into confusion and mischief. Nothing will go to plan. And Smudge Torrington, the wayward youngest daughter of the house, decides this is the perfect moment for her 'Great Undertaking'... 272pp Pb \$32.95



The House on Willow Street Cathy Kelly

In the idyllic Irish coastal village of Avalon, four women want to escape their pasts: the once happy Tess, whose marriage has fallen apart; her sister Suki, who fled Ireland to marry a politician and has now returned to Avalon to escape a nosy biographer; Danae, the village post mistress with a past that no one really knows; and Mara, who sits at another woman's wedding knowing that the groom actually loves her. These four women will find they must confront their pasts before looking to the future. 448pp Tp \$32.99



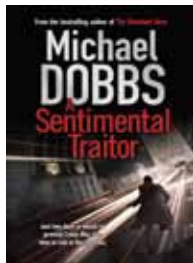
Dancing to the Flute Manisha Jolie Amin

Abandoned as a young child, Kalu has carved a life for himself in rural India. In the quiet village of Hastinapure, Kalu perches high in the branches of a banyan tree and - doing what he's done for as long as he can remember - blows through a tightly rolled leaf. His pure notes dance through the air and attracts a travelling healer whose interest will change Kalu's life forever - setting him on a path he would never have dreamed possible... 352pp Tp \$29.99



A Sentimental Traitor Michael Dobbs

A missile tears a passenger plane from the skies over London. As terror turns to international chaos, can the government survive? When Harry Jones searches for answers, he stumbles into the middle

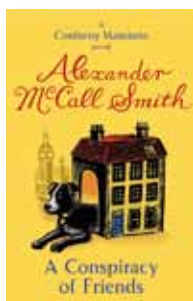


of a plot that stretches from Russia to the Islamic revolution in Egypt, from the shores of the Caspian Sea to an ancient church in rural Wiltshire. Yet every lead he pursues finds its way back to the secret corners of Brussels and a British woman named Patricia Vaine. 448pp Tp \$29.99

The Missing Shade of Blue Jennie Erdal

When translator Edgar arrives from his home in Paris to work in Edinburgh, he anticipates a period of enlightenment and calm. But a chance meeting with the philosopher Harry and his captivating artist wife propels Edgar's meticulously circumscribed life into drama and crisis. Drawn into the Harry's troubled marriage, Edgar must confront both his own deepest fears from the past and his growing attraction to the beguiling Carrie. 320pp Tp \$29.99





A Conspiracy of Friends
Corduroy Mansions #3
Alexander McCall Smith

Beneath the polite exterior of Corduroy Mansions, Pimlico, seismic change is stirring. Barbara Ragg makes an eye-popping discovery

about her stolid Scottish suitor's past, while Government Minister Oedipus Snark has a close encounter in Switzerland that leaves him a new man. Then canine Freddie de la Hay goes missing and his owner, widower William French, is so shaken by an unexpected declaration of love that he also seriously considers disappearing... 304pp Pb \$22.99

Silver

Return to Treasure Island

Andrew Motion

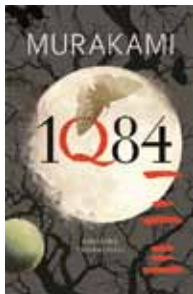
It is 1802. East of the Thames lies the *Hispaniola*, an inn kept by Jim Hawkins and his son, also named Jim. Late one night, a girl named Natty arrives on the river with a request from her father - Long John Silver. Old and weak, the pirate proposes that young Jim and Natty sail to Treasure Island in search of Captain Flint's hidden bounty - the "beautiful bar silver" left behind years before. Making haste from London, Jim and Natty set off in the footsteps of their fathers on a thrilling adventure! 432pp Tp \$32.95



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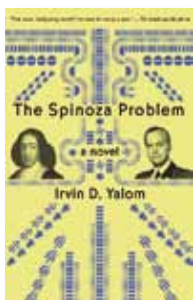
Books One, Two & Three
Haruki Murakami

This ode to George Orwell's **1984** is told in alternating male and female voices and relates the stories of Aomame, an assassin for a secret organisation who discovers she has been transported to an alternate reality, and Tengo, a mathematics lecturer and novice writer who becomes involved in a strange affair surrounding a literary prize to which a mysterious 17-year-old girl has submitted her remarkable first novel. 944pp Tp \$32.95



The Spinoza Problem
Irvin Yalom

In 1909, 16-year-old Alfred Rosenberg is called in to his headmaster's office for making anti-Semitic remarks. He is punished by having to memorise passages from Goethe and is stunned to discover that his idol was a great admirer of the 17th century Jewish philosopher Baruch Spinoza. Long after graduation, Rosenberg becomes a Nazi propagandist possessed by the 'Spinoza problem': how could Goethe have been inspired by a member of a race that Rosenberg considers inferior? 336pp Pb \$29.95



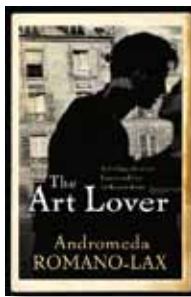
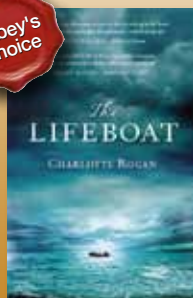
August and Then Some
David Prete

By day, J T Savage is a labourer on the Upper East Side; by night an insomniac in an East Village tenement. His childhood in Yonkers, New York had been superficially normal - a time of beers by the river, working in a garage, studying to go to college. Then one night everything changed. In this gripping family drama, horrifying secrets kept between father and daughter, mother and son, explode during one tragic night... 192pp Pb \$24.99



The Lifeboat
Charlotte Rogan

Grace Winter has been married for 10 weeks, widowed for 6, and finds herself on trial for her life. War had broken out, curtailing their honeymoon in Europe, but the liner they were on sank in mysterious circumstances halfway between London and New York. Her rich husband managed to get Grace on to a lifeboat, but it doesn't take long for the occupants to realise there are too many people crowded on to the lifeboat. Nor does it take long for them to be confronted by moral dilemmas, and as the days turn into weeks, and no sign of rescue is apparent, the veneer of civilisation wears very thin indeed. I very much enjoyed this finely written book. Grace is a well-drawn, but ultimately ambiguous, character who is not as innocent - or as guilty - as she seems. *Lindy* 288pp Tp \$29.99 **\$24.99**



The Art Lover
Andromeda Romano-Lax

In 1938, the *Sonderprojekte* is established under the watchful eye of Adolf Hitler, aka 'The Collector', and Germany begins to 'acquire' the great artworks of Europe. 26-year-old Ernst Vogler is sent to Rome to collect a famous marble statue, *The Discus Thrower*, and return with it to Berlin in three days. Three days that will change his life forever... 320pp Tp \$29.99

Invisible River
Helena McEwen

Evie has left her childhood behind in Cornwall to begin a very different life at an art school in London. Her new life is safe, peaceful and inspiring... until the moment her alcoholic father arrives and spins everything around so that the past is again her present. Evie struggles to carry on with everything she has built and it is her new friends, the city she has fallen in love with, and her growing friendship with a talented young sculptor that must hold it all together... 320pp Pb \$19.99



The Beginner's Goodbye
Anne Tyler

The accident that killed his wife Dorothy leaves Aaron bereft. As those around him fuss and flap and bring him casserole after casserole, he ploughs on, busying himself with work. But then Dorothy starts to materialise in the oddest places. At first, she only comes for a short while, leaving Aaron longing for more. Gradually she stays for longer and the cracks that reappear in their perfectly normal marriage serve as a poignant reminder that life moves on. 208pp Tp \$29.95

The new novel from the author of the bestseller
We Need to Talk About Kevin



The New Republic
Lionel Shriver

When he is offered the post of foreign correspondent in a Portuguese backwater sprouting a homegrown terrorist movement, Edgar Kellogg recognises the disappeared, larger-than-life reporter he's been sent to replace, Barrington Saddler, as the popular character he's always longed to be. Yet all is not as it seems. The Daring Soldiers of Barba have been blowing up the rest of the world for years to win independence. So why have the terrorist incidents suddenly dried up with Barrington's disappearance? 384pp Tp \$29.99 **\$24.99**

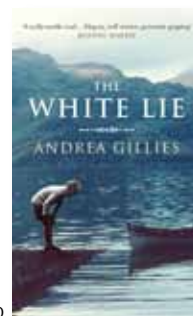


Noah's Child
Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt

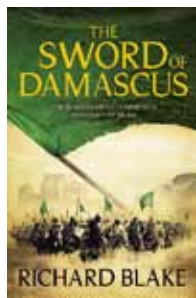
1942. The Jews are being deported from Belgium. Separated from his parents, seven-year-old Joseph is taken in the dead of night to an orphanage, the Villa Jaune, where the benign Father Pons presides over a motley assortment of children. With the threat of the Gestapo growing closer, Joseph discovers he must conceal his Jewish heritage to survive. He also discovers that Father Pons has a secret of his own: he is risking his life not only for the children, but for the Jewish faith itself. 144pp Hb \$24.99

The White Lie
Andrea Gillies

One afternoon, Ursula Salter runs sobbing from the loch on her parents' Scottish estate and confesses she has killed Michael, her 19-year-old nephew. But his body can't be found and Ursula's story is full of contradictions. In order to protect her, the Salters come up with another version of events - a decision that some of them will come to regret. Years later, at a family gathering, a witness speaks up and the web of deceit begins to unravel. And only Michael knows the whole truth... 320pp Tp \$29.99



HISTORICAL FICTION



The Sword of Damascus *The Roman Empire Confronts the Might of Islam*

Richard Blake

686 AD. The Byzantine Empire is a shattered rump. The armies of Arabia have overrun its African and Syrian provinces. Meekal

the Magnificent, the Greek turncoat who rules Damascus, dreams of conquering Constantinople itself. Far off in the wastes of Jarrow, old Aelric writes his memoirs and waits for death. Little does he expect a double siege, a kidnapping, a near-fatal chase through the ravaged Mediterranean... and a confrontation that will settle the future of mankind. 432pp Pb \$19.99



Spartacus *The Gladiator*

Ben Kane

Spartacus has returned to Thrace, ready to settle down after a decade away. But a new king has usurped the throne. Treacherous and violent, the King immediately seizes Spartacus and sells him to a Roman slave

trader. The odyssey has begun which will see Spartacus become one of the greatest legends of history, the hero of revolutionaries from Karl Marx to Che Guevara, immortalised on screen and now brought to life in Kane's great retelling! 448pp Tp \$32.95



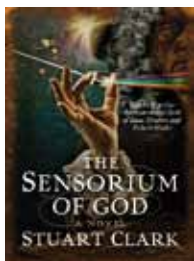
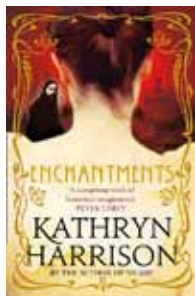
Hannibal *Enemy of Rome*

The great Carthaginian general, Hannibal, has never forgotten the defeat of his father by Rome. Now he plans his revenge. While Hannibal prepares for war, the young son of one of his

most trusted military commanders embarks on an innocent adventure with his best friend - and disappears. Captured by pirates, put up for sale in the slave market, one of the boys is sold as a gladiator, the other as a field slave. But their destiny is to be extraordinary and will change their lives - and history - forever. 576pp Pb \$19.95

Enchantments **Kathryn Harrison**

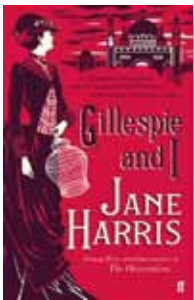
St Petersburg, 1917. A diver pulls the murdered body of Rasputin from the icy waters of the Neva River. Hours later, his daughters are taken to the Tsar's palace, where the Tsarina makes a shocking request: would Masha, 18, take on her father's role as healer at the sickbed of the Tsarevitch Alyosha? Shaken, Masha agrees to do what she can for the young prince... haunted by questions about her father's dubious powers and Russia's acceleration towards a political apocalypse. 320pp Tp \$29.99



The Sensorium of God

Stuart Clark

In the mid-17th century, Edmond Halley, adventurer and astronomer, visits reclusive alchemist and fearsome mathematician, Isaac Newton, in Cambridge. No one understands why the planets move as Kepler so elegantly described almost a century earlier and Halley seeks Newton's help. Little does Halley know that this simple question will plunge both their lives into crisis, push Europe towards the Age of the Enlightenment and catapult science into its next clash with religion! 272pp Tp \$29.99



Gillespie and I

As she sits in her Bloomsbury home with her two birds for company, the elderly Harriet Baxter sets out to relate the story of her acquaintance, nearly four decades previously, with Ned Gillespie, a

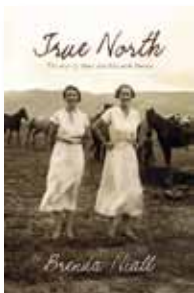
talented artist who never achieved the fame she maintains he deserved. Back in 1888, the young, art-loving Harriet arrives in Glasgow at the time of the International Exhibition. After a chance encounter, she befriends the Gillespie family and soon becomes a fixture in all their lives... until tragedy strikes. 624pp Pb \$19.99



The Book of Madness and Cures **Regina O'Melveny**

As a woman who practices medicine, Gabriella Mondini is a rarity in 16th century Venice. Her father, a renowned physician, has provided her entree to this all-male profession and inspired in her a shared mission to understand the secrets of the human body. But when her father disappears, Gabriella faces a crisis: without her father's patronage, she is no longer permitted to treat her patients. So she sets out across Europe to find him and opens new mysteries of her own! 336pp Tp \$29.99

BIOGRAPHY



True North *The Story of Mary and Elizabeth Durack* **Brenda Niall**

Growing up in suburban Perth in the 1920s, the two Durack girls were fascinated by the pioneering past of their father and grandfather, who set up four vast cattle stations in the remote north. A year spent on the stations in their early 20s ignited a lifelong love for the Kimberley, along with a growing unease about the plight of the Aboriginal people employed there. With unprecedented access to family documentation, Niall offers a uniquely Australian story spanning the 20th century. 272pp Tp \$32.95

A Youth Not Wasted **Ian Parkes**

At 16, Parkes left home in Perth to start work as a jackeroo on a merino stud in the South Australian outback. It was the early 1950s, Australia was riding on the sheep's back, the pastoralist was king and a stint as a jackeroo was a time-honoured rite of passage. The city-bred youth's expectations were simple: to become a station manager and learn all he could about horses. Tough, tender and poignant, his story is both a ripping yarn and a love letter to the Australian bush. 352pp Tp \$32.99



Am I Black Enough for You?

Anita Heiss

Heiss, author and campaigner for Aboriginal literacy, was born a member of the Wiradjuri nation of central New South Wales, but was raised in the suburbs of Sydney and educated at the local Catholic school. In this memoir, Heiss gives a first-hand account of her experiences as a woman with an Aboriginal mother and Austrian father and explains the development of her activist consciousness. Her story poses the question: what does it take for someone to be black enough for you? 304pp Tp \$34.95



"It's OK! I'm From the Daily Mail" *My Life as a Daily Mail Journalist* **Richard Shears**

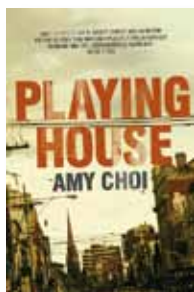
Working at the UK *Daily Mail*, the most extraordinary stories have come Shear's way. No politics, very little sport, but more murders, mysteries and mayhem than you can poke a stick at! His assignments - one of which won him a prestigious *UK Press Award for Foreign Reporting* - have included the conflicts in Iraq, Afghanistan and East Timor. Written in his inimitable style, this book is an entertaining collection of his most interesting adventures as a journalist. 304pp Tp \$29.95



Letters to My Daughter **Robert Menzies** **(Heather Henderson [Ed])**

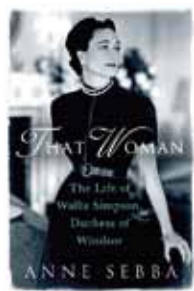
Menzies remains a towering figure in our political and cultural history. This collection of letters written to his only daughter, Heather, is brimful of warmth, love and humour, providing a fascinating insight into one of our most influential Australians. Love him or hate him, these intimate letters present him in a humane light that diverts from the usual political analysis. 320pp Pb \$24.99

Facebook Abbey's Bookshop



Playing House Amy Choi

This warm and humorous memoir in three parts reveals what it means to create a family. At its heart is a story of an enduring relationship between an Asian-Australian and an Australian. Elegant and insightful, it will encourage readers to realise love can be uncomplicated and that it's often the people you surround yourself with and the blessings in disguise that make life sweet. 256pp Pb \$29.95



That Woman The Life of Wallis Simpson, Duchess of Windsor

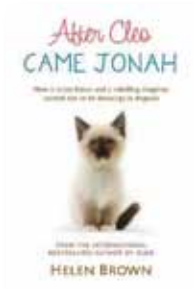
Anne Sebba

Referred to by the Queen Mother as "that woman", Wallis Simpson, Duchess of Windsor, became a hate figure for ensnaring a British king and destabilising the monarchy. Living by her wits, she became one of the most talked-about women of her generation, inspiring such love and adoration in Edward VIII that he gave up throne and empire for her. This biography sheds new light on the character of a powerful and complex woman. 384pp Pb \$22.99

The Churchills A Family at the Heart of History: From the Duke of Marlborough to Winston Churchill

Mary S Lovell

From the First Duke of Marlborough onwards, the Churchills have been politicians, gamblers and profligates, heroes and womanisers. This is a richly layered portrait of an extraordinary set of men and women - grandly ambitious, regularly impecunious, impulsive, arrogant and brave. And towering above the Churchill clan is the figure of Winston - his failures and triumphs shown in a new and revealing context, ultimately making him the "greatest Briton". 640pp Pb \$27.99



After Cleo Came Jonah Helen Brown

When Cleo died, Brown swore she'd never get another kitten. But after she was diagnosed with breast cancer, an unscheduled visit to a pet shop resulted in her acquiring a feisty kitten who often morphed into a highly strung and capricious escape artist. Still, as she recovered from a mastectomy, her kitty proved to be a healer in his own right. A warm and funny account of the highs and lows of mother-daughter relationships, life-threatening illness and a kitty called Jonah. 336pp Pb \$27.99

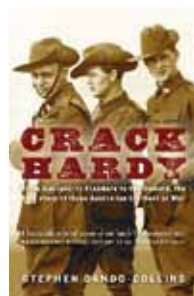
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AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

Crack Hardy From Gallipoli to Flanders to the Somme, the True Story of Three Australian Brothers at War.

Stephen Dando-Collins

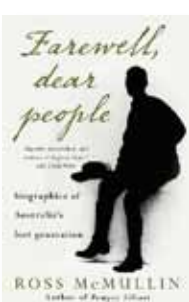
This is the true story of three Australian soldiers, the Searle brothers. One brother was killed at Gallipoli, another on the Western Front, while one came home a decorated hero. Back home in Australia, the Searle family had to face bad news after bad news delivered from the war front. Told by the Searle brothers' great-nephew, Dando-Collins presents a compelling book that describes Australia and Australians during the making of our nation on the battlefields of WWI. 352pp Pb \$19.95



Farewell, Dear People

Biographies of Australia's Lost Generation

Ross McMullin



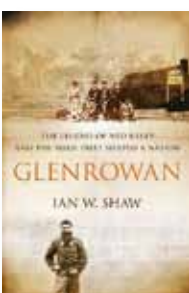
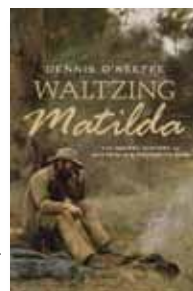
For Australia, a new nation with a relatively small population, the death of 60,000 soldiers during WWI was catastrophic. It

is hardly surprising that in evaluating the consequences of the conflict, Australians tend to focus on the sheer number of countrymen who didn't return. While there must have been extraordinary individuals among them, these special Australians are largely unknown today. This book seeks to retrieve their stories and fill the gaps in our collective memory. 608pp Pb \$45

Waltzing Matilda The Secret History of Australia's Favourite Song

Dennis O'Keeffe

Waltzing Matilda, written by our most popular poet Banjo Paterson, is our most loved song and unofficial national anthem. And yet it is embroiled in a web of secrecy, violence and a triangular love affair. 304pp Pb \$27.99



Glenrowan The Legend of Ned Kelly and the Siege that Shaped a Nation

Ian W Shaw

The 41 hours when the Kelly Gang took over Ann Jones' Glenrowan Inn and held the police at bay have become a part of the Australian psyche. In this vivid retelling, Shaw brings the characters to life through their own words. The real heroes - and the real villains - take centre stage, just as they did at Glenrowan in June 1880. Above it all sits the enigmatic figure of Ned Kelly - cunning and brave - but who made too many mistakes for his gang to survive. 352pp Pb \$34.99

Anzac's Dirty Dozen 12 Myths of Australian Military History

Craig Stockings [Ed]

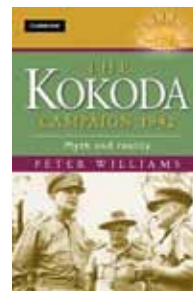
A team of renowned historians expose a host of stubborn fantasies that obscure the real story of Australian military history. Did our military history start at Gallipoli? Do we really punch above our weight in military might? Are our soldiers more ethical than others in combat? Confronting and clear-eyed, this goes beyond the emotionally-charged rhetoric of Anzac to examine what it means to be an Australian at war and proud of it. 348pp Pb \$34.99



The Kokoda Campaign 1942 Myth and Reality

Peter Williams

Unlike most other books written about Kokoda from an Australian perspective, this book focuses on the strategies, tactics and battle plans of the Japanese, demonstrating that the Australians were in fact rarely outnumbered, as the story usually goes. For the first time, this book combines narrative with analysis to present an undistorted picture of the events of the campaign. 288pp Hb \$59.95

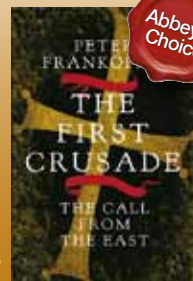


HISTORY

The First Crusade The Call from the East

Peter Frankopan

In this fascinating and innovative study, Frankopan shifts the paradigm: rather than concentrating on the pope and the knights of western Europe who have dominated the history of the First Crusade for centuries, he focuses on Constantinople and the Byzantine Empire, brilliantly restoring the Emperor Alexios I Komnenos to the heart of the story, with a series of catastrophic events in the mid-1090s serving to paint a compelling and strikingly original picture. 288pp Hb \$49.95 **\$39.95**



All the King's Men The British Soldier from the Restoration to Waterloo

Saul David

From the restoration of Charles II in 1660 to the downfall of Napoleon in 1815, Britain won a series of major wars against France that enabled her to lay the foundations of a global empire. By Waterloo, she was the paramount maritime and industrial power in the world and would remain so for much of the 19th century. This is the story of that extraordinary century of martial success - and the people who made it possible. 592pp Hb \$45



SEAL Target Geronimo

The Inside Story of the Mission to Kill Osama Bin Laden

Chuck Pfarrer

This is the story of Bin Laden's relentless hunters and how they took down the terrorist mastermind, told by

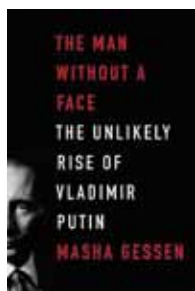
Pfarrer, a former assault element commander of the US Navy's SEAL Team Six. After talking to members of the SEAL team involved in the raid, he shares never-before-revealed details of the historic raid and the men who planned and conducted it. An exclusive, boots-on-the-ground account of what happened during each minute of the mission. 240pp Tp \$32.99

The Man Without a Face

The Unlikely Rise of Vladimir Putin

Masha Gessen

Since coming to power in 1999, Putin has ruthlessly seized control of media, exiled or killed political rivals and dismantled Russia's fragile electoral system. Gessen has experienced this history first-hand, in the form of death-threats and the murder, exile and mysterious disappearance of friends and colleagues. Here she courageously returns to Moscow to report on Putin's alarming ascent, tracking down sources who dared speak to no one else. 320pp Tp \$29.99

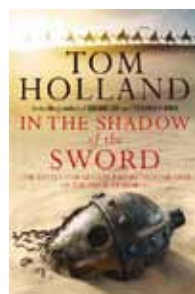


In the Shadow of the Sword

The Battle for Global Empire and the End of the Ancient World

Tom Holland

In the 6th century, the Near East was divided between two venerable empires: the Persian and the Roman. 100 years later, one empire had vanished forever, the other seemed almost finished. Ruling in their place were the Arabs: an upheaval so profound it spelt the end of the ancient world. Spanning Constantinople to the Arabian desert and starring some of the most remarkable rulers who ever lived, Holland tells a story vivid with drama, horror and startling achievement. 544pp Tp \$35



Blue-Water Empire

The British in the Mediterranean Since 1800

Robert Holland

For nearly 200 years, the Mediterranean lay at the heart of British power overseas. Holland tells the story of an extraordinary experience, combining the military imposition of British rule with a constant enthusiasm for Mediterranean life that endures today. From Nelson's great victories against the French, to El Alamein and the Malta convoys of WWII, the Mediterranean shaped Britain's own fate as much as Britain shaped the future of the Mediterranean. 438pp Hb \$49.95



Shadow of the Titanic

The Extraordinary Stories of Those Who Survived

Andrew Wilson

Although we think we know the story of the *Titanic*, little has been written about what happened to the survivors after

the tragedy. Timed to coincide with the 100th anniversary of the sinking, this book sheds new light on this fascinating story by showing how the disaster continued to shape the lives of the survivors. 400pp Pb \$22.99

And the Band Played on...

The Enthralling Account of What Happened After the Titanic Sank

Christopher Ward

On 14 April 1912, the *Titanic* struck an iceberg on her maiden voyage and sank. As the order to abandon ship was given, the orchestra took their instruments on deck and continued to play, even as the ship went down. The violinist, 21-year-old Jock Hume, knew that his fiancée Mary was expecting their first child - the author's mother. 100 years later, Ward reveals a dramatic story of love, loss and betrayal and the catastrophic impact of Jock's death on two Scottish families. 304pp Pb \$22.99

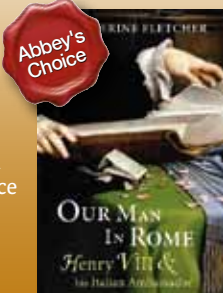


Our Man in Rome

Henry VIII and His Italian Ambassador

Catherine Fletcher

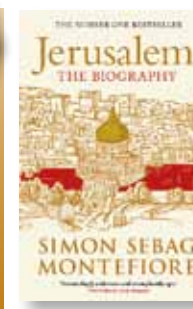
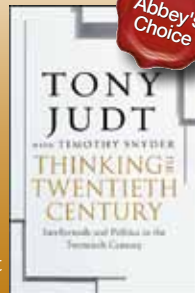
1527. Gregorio Casali is King Henry VIII's man in Rome. An Italian freelance diplomat, he charmed his way into the English service before he was 20. But now he faces an almighty challenge. Henry wants a divorce from Catherine of Aragon and Casali must persuade Pope Clement VII of his master's case. Set against the backdrop of war-torn Renaissance Italy, this account explores the underbelly of Tudor politics to reveal the extraordinary story behind history's most infamous divorce. 288pp Hb \$59.95 \$49.95



Thinking the Twentieth Century

Tony Judt & Timothy Snyder

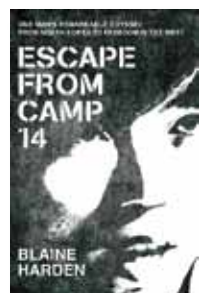
The 20th century comes to life as an age of ideas - a time when, for good and for ill, the thoughts of the few reigned over the lives of the many. Judt presents the triumphs and the failures of prominent intellectuals, adeptly explaining both their ideas and the risks of their political commitments. Spanning an era with unprecedented clarity and insight, this is a tour de force, a classic study of modern thought by one of our most incisive thinkers. 432pp Hb \$59.95 \$49.95



Jerusalem

The Biography
Simon Sebag Montefiore
Jerusalem is the universal city, the capital of two peoples, the shrine of three faiths. It is the prize of empires, the site of Judgement Day and the battlefield of today's

'clash of civilisations'. From King David to Barack Obama, from the birth of Judaism, Christianity and Islam to the Israel-Palestine conflict, this is the epic history of 3,000 years of faith, slaughter, fanaticism and coexistence. Sebag Montefiore reveals this city in its many incarnations, bringing it blazingly to life. 768pp Pb \$24.99



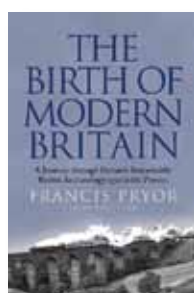
Escape from Camp 14

One Man's Remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West

Blaine Harden

26 years ago, Shin Dong-hyuk was born inside Camp 14 - one of five political prisons in the mountains of North

Korea. Located 55 miles north of Pyongyang, the labour camp is a no-exit prison where the only sentence is life. Inmates work 12 to 15-hour days until they are executed, killed in work-related accidents, or die of illness usually triggered by hunger. No one born in any North Korean political prison has escaped. No one except Shin. 256pp Tp \$29.99



The Birth of Modern Britain

A Journey Through Britain's Remarkable Recent Archaeology: 1550 to the Present

Francis Pryor

The final part in Pryor's acclaimed series on Britain's archaeological past. During WWII,

the imminent threat of invasion meant that constructing strong defences was more important than keeping precise records. As a result, when towns were flattened, archaeology provided the only means of discovering what had been destroyed. Pryor takes readers on an exhilarating journey. 320pp Pb \$19.99



A Brief History of Ireland

Land, People, History
Richard Killeen

Over the centuries, Ireland has been shaped by geography, war and the fight for liberty. It has been home to successive groups of settlers - Celts, Vikings, Normans, Anglo-

Scots and Huguenots. It has imported huge ideas, none bigger than Christianity, which it then re-exported to Europe after the fall of the Roman Empire. It has also been an English colony. But its own culture and identity have remained strong. The perfect introduction to this exceptional country! 288pp Pb \$14.99

How to Cure a Fanatic

Amos Oz

Oz analyses the historical roots of violence and confronts truths about the extremism nurtured throughout society. By bringing us face to face with fanaticism, he suggests ways in which we can all respond. Here he convinces readers that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a dispute over 'whose house this is'. In his characteristically lucid, intelligent and inspiring prose, he is unafraid to advocate solutions to the dispute and to espouse his belief that there will be a resolution to the conflict. 96pp Pb \$12.95

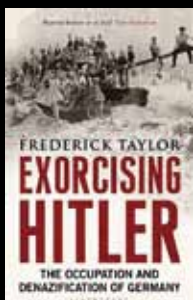


Exorcising Hitler

The Occupation and Denazification of Germany

Frederick Taylor

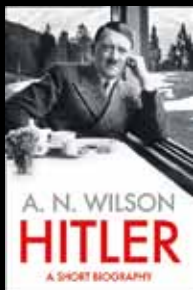
Germany entered the 20th century as a united and prosperous nation. During the 1930s - embittered by one lost war and scarred by mass unemployment - Germany embraced the cult of National Socialism. In less than a generation, its great cities lay in ruins and its cultural heritage seemed beyond saving. The Germans themselves had come to be regarded as evil monsters outside their country. Taylor tells the story of Germany's year zero and what came after. 480pp Pb \$19.99



Hitler

A Short Biography
A N Wilson

In 1923, Hitler was languishing in prison after leading a failed putsch to overthrow the German government. Within a decade, he was German Chancellor. How did he do it? Wilson demonstrates how Hitler had an intuitive sense amounting to genius. In this respect, the Fuhrer is presented as a man ahead of his time. In a field dense with lengthy tomes, this short and penetrating portrait is a compelling introduction to a man whose evil continues to fascinate and appal. 208pp Pb \$35



Letters to Hitler

From 1925 to 1945, thousands of Germans wrote letters to Hitler. Lost for decades, a large cache of these letters was recently discovered in the KGB Special Archive in Moscow. Ranging from gushing love letters and expressions of gratitude, to protestations and desperate pleas, this is the first time they have been published in English. Including contextualising commentary and details of how the letter was dealt with, this volume provides a fascinating insight into Nazi Germany. 240pp Hb \$39.95

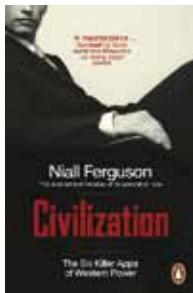


Civilization

The Six Killer Apps of Western Power

Niall Ferguson

If you'd been able to circle the globe in 1411 and compare the civilisations of the Orient with Europe and North America, the idea that the West would dominate for the next half millennium would seem wildly fanciful. So how did it happen? Ferguson argues that it was the West's development of six 'killer applications': competition, science, democracy, medicine, consumerism and the work ethic. But if the West has lost its monopoly on these, are we living through the end of Western ascendancy? 432pp Pb \$22.95



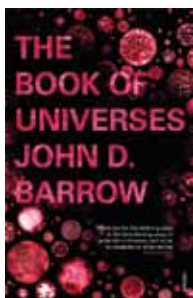
SCIENCE

Self Comes to Mind

Constructing the Conscious Brain

Antonio Damasio

Damasio has spent the past 30 years writing about how the brain operates and his work has garnered acclaim for its singular melding of the scientific and the humanistic. Here he goes against the long-standing idea that consciousness is separate from the body, presenting compelling new scientific evidence that consciousness is a biological process created by a living organism. The result is a groundbreaking journey into neurobiological foundations of mind and self. 384pp Pb \$19.95



The Book of Universes

John D Barrow

This book revolves around a single fact: that Einstein's famous theory of relativity describes a series of entire universes. Not many solutions to Einstein's tantalising universe equations have ever been found, but those that have are remarkable. Some describe universes that expand in size, while others contract. Some permit time travel into the past. Here we are confronted with the most fantastic and far-reaching speculations within the entire realm of science. 368pp Tp \$29.95



Clouds That Look Like Things

From the Cloud Appreciation Society

Gavin Pretor-Pinney

Creator of The Cloud Appreciation Society, Pretor-Pinney's mission is to fight blue-sky thinking and encourage us to love and understand clouds. His new book is divided by themes such as 'Celestial Celebrities' and 'Airborne Animals' and includes an informative section on what clouds are and how they are formed. A perfect gift book for anyone willing to look skywards and discover the beauty and fascination of clouds! 112pp Hb \$27.99

25 Things You Need to Know About the Future

Christopher Barnatt

This is the essential book for understanding the challenges and technologies that will shape the next few decades. In this fascinating guide, futurist Barnatt examines 25 known challenges and technologies that will help shape the next few decades. From Peak Water to vertical farms, nanotechnology to augmented reality, electric cars to space travel, a startling picture is painted of future possibilities that no individual or business will be able to ignore. 340pp Pb \$19.99

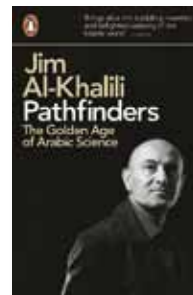


Pathfinders

The Golden Age of Arabic Science

Jim Al-Khalili

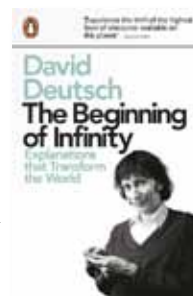
For over 700 years, the international language of science was Arabic. Al-Khalili celebrates the forgotten, inspiring pioneers who helped shape our understanding of the world during the golden age of Arabic science, including Iraqi physicist Ibn al-Haytham, who practised the modern scientific method over half a century before Bacon; al-Khwarizmi, the greatest mathematician of the medieval world; and Abu Rayhan al-Biruni, a Persian polymath to rival Leonardo da Vinci. 336pp Pb \$22.95



The Beginning of Infinity

Explanations that Transform the World
David Deutsch

The quest for good explanations has driven amazing improvements in everything from scientific understanding and technology to politics, moral values and human welfare. But will progress end, or will it continue indefinitely? In this profound book, Deutsch explores the furthest reaches of our current understanding to instil a wonder at what we have achieved - and to demonstrate that this is just the beginning of humanity's infinite possibility. 496pp Pb \$22.95

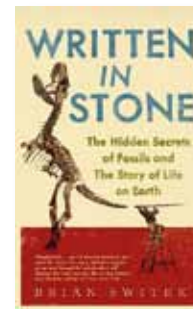


Written in Stone

The Hidden Secrets of Fossils and the Story of Life on Earth

Brian Switek

For more than a century, Darwin's theory was dogged by a major problem: the absence of evidence proving connections between the main groups of organisms. By the 1970s, this absence of 'transitional fossils' was hotly debated. But during the past 30 years, fossils of walking whales from Pakistan, feathered dinosaurs from China and much more have been unearthed. Here is the first account of these remarkable discoveries and the new stories they tell about evolution. 320pp Pb \$19.99



Imagine *The Science of Creativity* Jonah Lehrer

Lehrer is on a mission to unlock the mysteries of creativity and invention, starting at the source: inside our head. Discover why humans are the creative species, where original ideas come from and how we can learn to generate more of them. Leaping agilely from anecdotes to scientific theories, from Bob Dylan to the benefits of office ping-pong tables, Lehrer brings clarity and insight to the most mysterious function of our brain: creativity. 284pp Tp \$32.95



Nest *The Art of Birds* Janine Burke

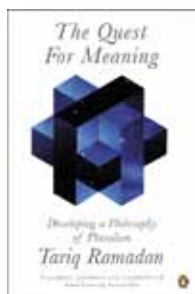
What are bird nests, if not art created by nature? Art historian Burke has spent many years observing birds. This is the story of her passion, a personal, wide-ranging and intimate book - part natural history, part folklore, part exploration of art and aesthetics, part memoir. This book reveals both the art and mystery found in nature and celebrates them with lyricism, insight and great affection. 192pp Tp \$32.99



TODAY'S WORLD

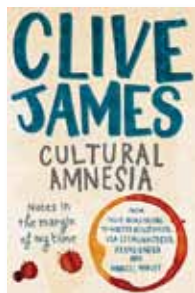
The Quest for Meaning *Developing a Philosophy of Pluralism* Tariq Ramadan

In a world so full of different beliefs and viewpoints, how can we find peace in our shared humanity? Acclaimed thinker and philosopher Ramadan explores universal ideas such as love, respect, truth and tolerance and examines questions such as how can men and women relate to each other? What is the true nature of equality? What does 'civilization' really mean? In doing so, he opens our minds to a new view of humanity. 224pp Pb \$22.95



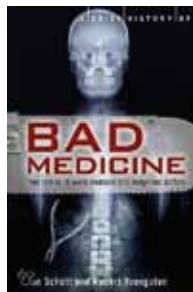
Cultural Amnesia *Notes in the Margin of My Time* Clive James

Finally in paperback after six hardcover printings, this international bestseller is an encyclopaedic A-Z masterpiece and the perfect introduction to Western humanism. James rescues, or occasionally destroys, the careers of many of the greatest thinkers, humanists, musicians, artists and philosophers of the 20th century. Soaring to Montaigne-like heights, this is precisely the book to burnish these memories of a Western civilisation that James fears is nearly lost. 912pp Pb \$24.99



A Brief History of Bad Medicine *True Stories of Weird Medicine and Dangerous Doctors*

Ian Schott & Robert Youngston
A doctor removes the normal, healthy side of a patient's brain instead of the malignant tumor. A man whose leg is scheduled for amputation wakes up to find his healthy leg removed. These recent examples are part of a history of medical disasters and embarrassments as old as the profession itself. The authors have written the definitive account of medical mishap in modern and not-so-modern times, while exploring the line between the comical and the tragic. 400pp Pb \$14.99



The Age of Insight *The Quest to Understand the Unconscious in Art, Mind and Brain, from Vienna 1900 to the Present*

Eric R Kandel
A leader in neuroscience and intellectual history, Kandel takes us into the world of 20th century Vienna to provide us with a new understanding of the modernist art of Klimt, Kokoschka and Schiele, as well as the school of thought of Freud and Schnitzler. Reinvigorating the intellectual enquiry that began in 1900, this is a wonderfully written, superbly researched and beautifully illustrated book that provides a foundation for future work in neuroscience and the humanities. 656pp Hb \$57



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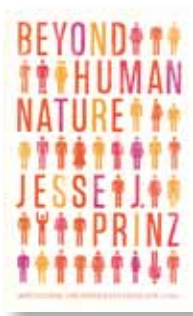
Beyond Human Nature

How Culture and Experience Shape Our Lives

Jesse J Prinz

In this provocative, revelatory tour de force, Prinz reveals how the cultures we live in determine how we think and feel.

He examines all aspects of our behaviour, looking at everything from our intellects and emotions, to love and sex, morality and even madness. This book seeks to go beyond traditional debates of nature and nurture. By picking up where biology leaves off, Prinz is not interested in finding universal laws, but in understanding, explaining and celebrating our differences. 416pp Hb \$45



The Sydney Morning Herald Everyday Eats 2012 Angie Schiavone

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Mike Haskins

A rip-roaring guide to over 50 nations' opposing gestures, manners and ways of expressing themselves physically when there is a communication breakdown in the language barrier. When abroad, take this amazing travel guide with you and read it, learn from it... and when you happen to meet a foreign traveller, remember what you've learnt and, please, please, please be on your best behaviour! 128pp Pb \$14.99

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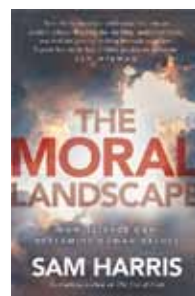
The Victorian Guide to Parenting
Tyers & Beach

Learn How to Have It All from Queen Victoria, how to tell which twin is the Good One and which is the Evil, how to turn a Bad Seed into a Good Egg, and all about the Medicinal benefits of Gin and Tobacco. Liberally sprinkled with authentically hilarious Victoriana illustrations, this book will make parents everywhere wish it were 1896! 160pp Hb \$19.99

The Moral Landscape

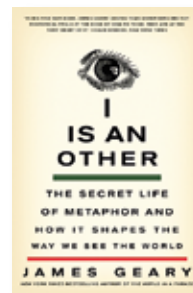
How Science Can Determine Human Values
Sam Harris

Harris controversially seeks to link morality to the rest of human knowledge. Defining morality in terms of human and animal well-being, he argues that science can do more than tell how we are; it can also tell us how we ought to be. Using his expertise in philosophy and neuroscience, Harris delivers a game-changing book about the future of science and the real basis of human cooperation. 384pp Pb \$19.95



I is an Other *The Secret Life of Metaphor and How it Shapes the Way We See the World* James Geary

Geary takes readers from Aristotle's investigation of metaphor right up to the latest neuroscientific insights into how



metaphor works in the brain. Along the way, he demonstrates how metaphor affects financial decision making, how it lurks behind effective advertisements, how it inspires learning and discovery, and how it can be used as a tool to achieve emotional insight and psychological change. This book opens your eyes to the secret life of metaphor and its role in influencing life. 304pp Pb \$19.99



T

alking of our website – have you ever clicked on the Weekly Bestsellers list in the News section on the homepage? This can be a good way to choose a popular gift for someone. But a backlist title pops up sometimes unexpectedly – recently on the list was that famous book first published in 1918 by Strunk & White on how to write, **Elements of Style** (\$18.95 Pb 105pp), so it must have been set for a course.

We have now removed a large number of titles from our website database, mainly Wikipedia entries and miscellaneous other non-standard publications, so it is now easier to find what you want and less filtering is required.

Did you enjoy the BBC adaptation of **Great Expectations**? Did it inspire you to read this great novel again (or for the first time)? There are many life lessons that make this well worth reading. The many editions we have in stock for you include: *Penguin Classic* (\$9.95 544pp), the original 1861 edition with Dickens' working notes, plus a map of Kent and the original alternative ending; *Oxford World's Classic* (\$11.95); *Vintage Classic* (\$12.95); *Everyman* (Hb \$32.95); audio abridged (4 CDs \$34.95) or audio unabridged (15 CDs \$59.99). Also great value is a beautifully produced boxed set, **The Major Works of Charles Dickens** (\$150 Hb), which contains *Great Expectations*, *Hard Times*, *Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Bleak House* and *A Tale of Two Cities*. In Language Book Centre, you can find it in French (\$19.95), as well as the *Oxford BookWorm* easy reader (\$12.95) and even a graphic novel for English learners (\$37.95 incl CD). Of course you may prefer the movie (DVD \$14.95 or Blu-ray \$19.95) or the latest BBC adaptation (DVD \$29.95). Quite a selection from which to choose!

In the February *Abbey's Advocate*, I wrote about Claire Tomalin's wonderful biography of **Charles Dickens** (\$39.95 Hb 576pp) and mentioned I'd like to read about the original Mrs Fanny Trollope. Not Frances, the older sister of Dickens' young mistress (who married the older brother of Anthony Trollope and thus became *another* Mrs Francis Trollope, not to be confused with the astonishingly successful novelist of that time). A friend of mine soon arrived with a copy of Fanny Trollope by Teresa Ransom with a foreword by Victoria Glendinning. This was lots of fun. (It is now out of print, but you may find it in your library or a second-hand store or website). It was amusing to see that both Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Mary Russell Mitford considered the real Mrs Trollope rather vulgar – too forthright and too popular for their liking.

We now have the new edition of **The Selected Letters of Charles Dickens** (\$37.95 Hb 496pp), selected by Jenny Hartley, and taken from the famous 12-volume *Pilgrim* edition from Oxford University Press. The closest you can get to an autobiography! Dickens loved writing letters.

Talking of Trollopes, a descendent - the prolific Joanna Trollope - has a new book called **The Soldier's Wife** (\$32.95 Pb 352pp), about modern army wives. I read an interview with her recently where she said "on a good day, I am rather good, but not to be compared to Jane Austen." One of her more popular titles was **The Other Family** (\$19.95 Pb 448pp, \$49.95 audio CD). Another is **Daughters-in-Law** (\$19.95 Pb 432pp). My friend Joyce Nicholson used to love these stories. I think Joanna Trollope has written about 30 books, including **Britannia's Daughters: Women of the British Empire** (\$29.95 Pb 272pp). Both Anthony and Fanny would be proud of her.

In 2006, when I was part of the judging panel for the *Miles Franklin Award*, we put the first novel by Carrie Tiffany on the shortlist, called **Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living** (\$22.95 Pb 288pp). It was totally original, set in Australian farmland in 1934 just as the Second World War began and featured the Better Farming Train, which did indeed roll through the countryside dispensing modern advice to farmers. Charming, funny and sad.

Tiffany's second novel is now out, called **Mateship with Birds** (\$14.99 Pb 208pp). Again, so original as to be almost surreal. It is now 1953. The two main characters are a divorced lonely

farmer and his neighbour, a single mother with a son and small daughter. There are many pages of verse describing the family of kookaburras which sit on the dividing fence. The descriptions of farming life in that era are excellent. The lonely neighbour decides he should tell the young man about the Facts of Life, which he does in letters, and unfortunately uses cows for comparison! Again, both funny and touching. I hope Tiffany has given up her job as an agricultural journalist before she writes her next novel. I didn't need all that bovine detail, despite my own affection for cows thanks to my own childhood!

There is a very nice new board book for young people written by the daughter of Hungarian migrants, and illustrated by the daughter of Italian migrants. It is called **Ships in the Field** (\$26.95 Hb 30pp) by award-winning author Susan Gervay, illustrated by Anna Pignataro. It remembers the confusion among new arrivals about how to pronounce 'ship' and 'sheep', as well as the little girl's wish for a real dog and for everyone's happiness, far away from war. It is totally charming and perhaps you have some grandchildren who would identify with this. Two other titles by Gervay are **I am Jack** (\$14.95 Pb 128pp), which deals with bullying, and **Always Jack** (\$14.99 Pb 160pp), which explores the effect of cancer on a family.

Here's a splendid book which many people will like and which would also be at home in a high school library. **Celebrating 100 Years at Duntroon: Royal Military College of Australia 1911-2011** is a large paperback with full-colour illustrations and index (\$49.99 330pp). There is also a hardback available to order (\$179).

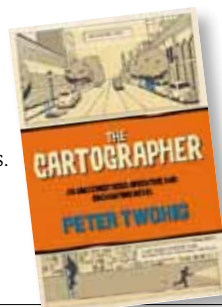
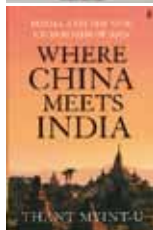
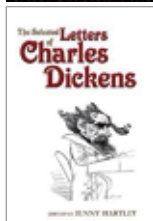
I've been reading a most engrossing book which is a must for anyone interested in Asian history. It is called **Where China Meets India: Burma and the New Crossroads of Asia** by Thant Myint-U (\$39.99 Hb 358pp incl index). Of course I was interested because daughter Jane works on the Burma border with the Karen refugees from Burma, but there is so much information in this book that I feel everyone should read it. I had to have my atlas at the ready because the author describes so many small places in that Himalayan hinterland between India, Burma and China - places I've never heard of, which are now throbbing with progress. He describes places in Yunnan, the south-western province of China, where grand highways now snake, shopping malls are thronged with thousands of domestic tourists and the people are well-dressed and full of optimism. Even Luke Nguyen was there recently in his TV series *Beyond the Mekong*. Consumerism is replacing ideology. Thant has all the qualifications to write such a book. He is the grandson of the Burmese U-Thant, who was Secretary-General of the UN when I was young. He was born in America and studied at Harvard and Cambridge, as well as universities in China and Burma. He speaks many languages, including Mandarin, and has the right contacts wherever he goes. He has been a history lecturer at Cambridge and has travelled widely. This book is a mixture of history, travel writing and memoir. Fascinating!

I thoroughly approved of the winners of the **Indie Award**, chosen by independent booksellers, and feel a certain pride that Australian writers and publishers can produce such a wonderfully varied assortment.

A final very enthusiastic recommendation for **The Cartographer** by Peter Twohig (\$29.99 Pb 386pp), which is suitable for both adults and teenagers. Written in the voice of a 12-year-old boy who is left to his own devices following the death of his twin brother. Set in Melbourne in 1959, a time which is very successfully evoked. Our hero seems to attract trouble and takes advice from his grandfather, who seems to live a somewhat shady life. Holden Caulfield (from **The Catcher in the Rye**) he is not. This is a ridgy-didge Aussie kid. There is a murder and lots of scary bits. Very enjoyable!

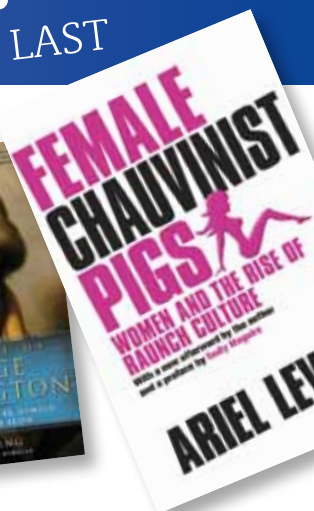
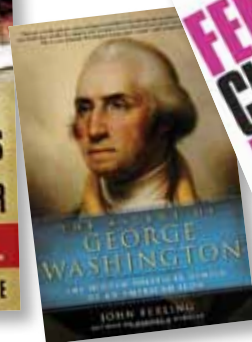
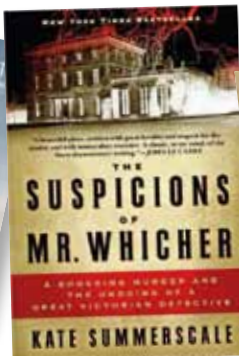
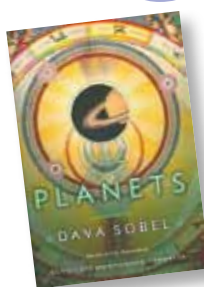
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Eve



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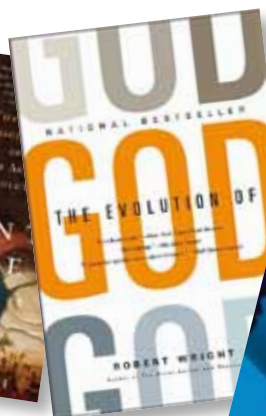
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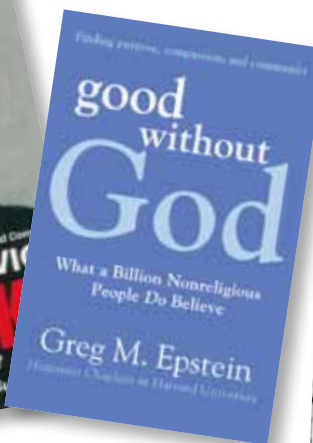
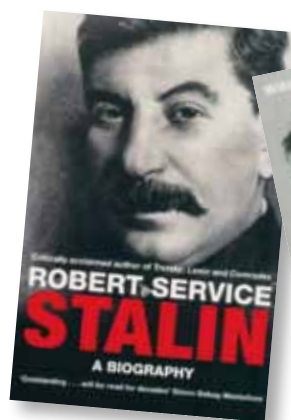
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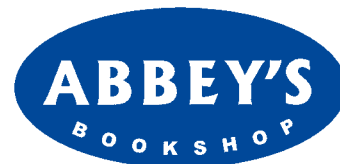
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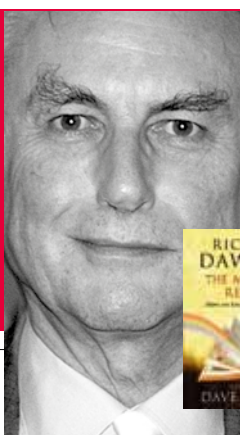
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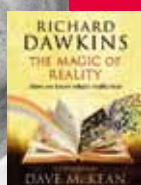
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