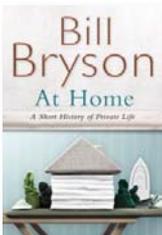


A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

ABBHEY'S ADVOCATE

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At Home

A Short History of Private Life

Bill BRYSON 544pp Hb \$55.00

This month only \$49.95!

It struck Bryson one day that we devote more time to the Wars of the Roses or the Normandy landings than considering what most of history really consists of: centuries upon centuries of people quietly going about their daily business - eating, sleeping, having sex and endeavouring to be amused. So he started a journey around his house - an old rectory in Norfolk - wandering from room to room considering how the ordinary things in life came to be. He allowed himself delightful digressions on the history of everything from architecture to epidemics, from food preservation to the discovery of electricity, from crinolines to toilets. And to his dismay, he also encountered a terrifying variety of dangers to our health and happiness. Whereas the prize-winning **A Short History of Nearly Everything** (Pb \$29.95) was a sweeping survey of Earth, the universe and everything, this is an inward look at all human life through a domestic microscope. Because, as Bryson contends, our homes are not refuges from history. They are where history begins and ends.

AGAIN AVAILABLE!

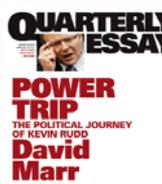


Woodblock Painting of Cressida Campbell

John McDONALD

360pp Hb \$130.00

Cressida Campbell is a renowned and gifted artist who depicts the essence of her familiar subjects in watercolour, painted woodblocks and woodblock prints. Conscious of the legacy of Margaret Preston, Campbell portrays beauty in everyday scenes such as domestic still lifes, industrial maritime scenes and rooftops overlooking Sydney Harbour. A strong designer, her works show graphic elements reminiscent of Japanese prints. This is the first comprehensive survey of her work spanning the last 20 years. Now available again in limited numbers, this could be the last chance to secure a copy as there is no guarantee of a future reprint.



Quarterly Essay #38 Power Trip

The Political Journey of Kevin Rudd

David MARR 144pp Pb \$19.95

"Rudd has sold himself to the Australian people as a new kind of leader: a man of intellect and values out to reshape the future. If he isn't that, people are asking, what is he? And who is he?...Millions of words have been written about him since he emerged from the Labor pack half a dozen years ago, but Rudd remains hidden in full view." - David Marr

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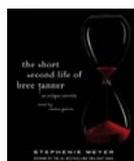
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The Short Second Life of Bree Tanner

An Eclipse Novella

Stephenie MEYER
192pp Hb \$22.99

Fans of the Twilight Saga will be enthralled by the riveting story of Bree Tanner, a character introduced in **Eclipse** (Pb \$22.99), and the darker side of the newborn vampire world she inhabits. In another irresistible combination of danger, mystery and romance, Meyer tells the devastating story of Bree and the newborn army as they prepare to close in on Bella Swan and the Cullens, following their encounter to its unforgettable conclusion.

CLOSED FOR STOCKTAKE

Language Book Centre
Tue 1 June from 4pm

Abbey's
Tue 8 June from 4pm

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HOLIDAY

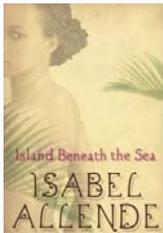
Mon 14 June 10am - 5pm



FICTION

Island Beneath the Sea

Isabel ALLENDE 400pp Tp \$32.99



From the sugar plantations of Saint-Domingue to the lavish parlours of New Orleans at the turn of the 19th century, Allende's latest novel tells the story of a mulatta woman - a slave and concubine - determined to take control of her own destiny in a society where that would seem

impossible. Born a slave on the island of Saint-Domingue, Zarite - known as Tete - is the daughter of an African mother she never knew and one of the white sailors who brought her into bondage. When 20-year-old Toulouse Valmorain arrives on the island in 1770, it is with powdered wigs in his trunks and dreams of financial success in his mind. But running his father's plantation, Saint Lazare, is neither glamorous nor easy. Against the merciless backdrop of sugarcane fields, the lives of Tete and Valmorain become intertwined.

Indelible Ink

Fiona MCGREGOR 352pp Tp \$32.95

Marie King is a 59-year-old divorcée from Sydney's affluent north shore. Having devoted her rather conventional life to looking after her husband and three children - who have now all departed the family home - she is experiencing something of an identity crisis, especially as she must now sell the family home and thus lose her beloved garden. On a folly she gets a tattoo. She forges a friendship with her tattoo artist, Rhys, who introduces her to an alternative side of Sydney. Through their burgeoning connection, Marie's two worlds collide, causing great friction within her family and her circle of rich friends. With echoes of Christos Tsiolkas's *The Slap* (Tp \$32.95), this is a multi-layered examination of how we live now. One family becomes a microcosm for the changes operating in society at large.



Beautiful Malice

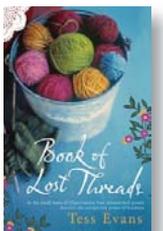
Rebecca JAMES 304pp Pb \$24.99

Katherine has moved away from her shattered, once-perfect family to start a new life in Sydney. There she keeps her head down until she is befriended by the charismatic Alice, and her life

takes her in new directions. But there is a dark side to Alice, and as we learn the truth about the death of Katherine's sister and Alice's background, their story spirals to an explosive finale.

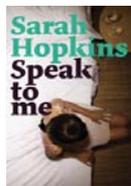
Book of Lost Threads

Tess EVANS 368pp Pb \$27.99



Moss has run away from Melbourne to Opportunity on the trail of a man she knows only by name. But her arrival sets in train events that disturb the long-held secrets of three of the town's inhabitants: Finn, a brilliant mathematician, who has become a recluse; Lily Pargetter, 83-year-old knitter

of tea cosies; and Sandy, the town buffoon, who dreams of a Great Galah. It is only as Moss, Finn, Lily and Sandy develop unlikely friendships that they find a way to lay their sorrows to rest and knit together the threads that will restore them to life.



Speak to Me

Sarah HOPKINS 313pp Tp \$32.95

Five years after psychiatrist Michael Byrnes lost his sight during surgery to remove a brain tumour, his family has settled into a pattern of dysfunction. Over

the course of six days, a series of events now converge to bring them to the brink of implosion. While Michael and his wife Elizabeth struggle to remember what it was that held them together, their teenage children want only to tear their worlds apart...

The Life and Opinions of Maf the Dog, and of his Friend Marilyn Monroe

Andrew O'HAGAN 288pp Tp \$32.99

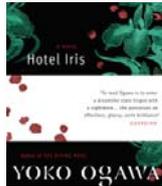


Maf the dog was a gift given to Marilyn Monroe by Frank Sinatra. Maf was with Marilyn for the last two years of her life during the rise of America's new liberalism, civil rights and the space race. A complex canine hero, he was very much a real historical figure, with his

licence and photographs sold at auction along with Marilyn's other personal effects. Through the eyes of Maf we get an insight into the life of Monroe herself, and a fascinating take on one of the most extraordinary periods of the 20th century.

Hotel Iris

Yoko OGAWA 176pp Pb \$27.95

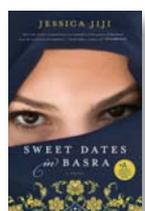


In a crumbling, seaside hotel on the coast of Japan, quiet, 17-year-old Mari works the front desk as her mother fusses over the off-season customers. One night they are forced to eject a middle-aged man and a prostitute

from their room and Mari finds herself drawn to the man's voice, in what will become the first gesture of a long seduction. The mysterious man lives quietly as a translator on an island off the coast. A widower, there are murmurs around town that he may have murdered his wife. Mari begins to visit him, but as he initiates her into a dark realm of both pain and pleasure, she finds herself also attracted to his earnest young nephew. As her mother and the police begin to close in on the illicit affair, events move to a dramatic climax.

Sweet Dates in Basra

Jessica JIJI 368pp Tp \$27.99



Just when her family should be arranging her marriage, Kathmiya Mahmoud, a young Marsh Arab maiden, is sent from her home in Iraq's idyllic countryside to the unfamiliar city of Basra, where she must survive on her paltry earnings as a servant. Her only asset - her exquisite beauty -

brings more peril than peace. In this lost Iraq of the 1940s, a time of rich traditions and converging worlds, she meets Shafiq, a Jewish boy whose brotherhood with his Muslim neighbour proves that religion is no barrier to friendship. But in a world where loss of honour is punishable by death, the closeness that grows between them becomes dangerous as a doomed love takes root. When British warplanes begin bombing Iraq, the country's long-simmering tensions explode, and they face the deepening fractures of a collapsing society.

The Breaking of Eggs

Jim POWELL 224pp Pb \$29.99

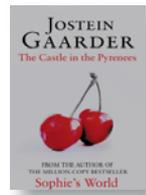


Separated from his family as a child when the Nazis invaded Poland, Feliks has spent his life producing a travel guide to Iron Curtain countries for Western readers. In 1991, with the Curtain now fallen, he finds his beliefs beginning to crumble

around him. When a rapacious American publisher offers to buy out his life's work, Feliks must travel to the country he has long despised, and so begins the wry and moving tale of a man who awakens from self-imposed isolation into a changed world he must get to know all over again. So unfolds a story of family, war, politics, a second chance at love, and one man's quest for himself.

The Castle in the Pyrenees

Jostein GAARDER 256pp Hb \$29.99



Through five intense years in the 1970s, Steinn and Solrunn had a happy life together. Then they suddenly parted ways, for reasons that are unclear to both. In the summer of 2007, they meet again on a balcony of an old wooden hotel by a fjord in

Western Norway. It is a place they both have fond memories of and their meeting turns out to be fateful. But is it purely coincidental that they meet at that particular spot at that particular time? From the author of *Sophie's World* (Pb \$22.99), this is both a love story and a novel of ideas, exploring the place of human consciousness in the universe.



Ilustrado

Miguel SYJUCO Tp \$32.95

Crispin Salvador, lion of Philippine letters, is found dead in the Hudson River. His young acolyte, Miguel, sets out to investigate the author's suspicious death and the strange

disappearance of an unfinished manuscript - a work that had been planned not just to return the once-great author to fame, but to expose the corruption behind the rich families who have ruled the Philippines for generations. To understand the death, Miguel scours Salvador's life, charting his trajectory via his poetry, interviews, novels, polemics and memoirs. The literary fragments gradually reveal a family saga of four generations, tracing 150 years of Philippine history forged under the Spanish, the Americans and the Filipinos themselves. Winner of the 2008 *Man-Asian Prize*.

Lost

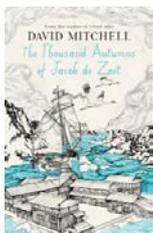
Alice LICHTENSTEIN 256pp Tp \$32.99



On a cold January morning, Susan leaves her husband alone for a few minutes and returns to find him gone. Suffering from dementia, no longer able to dress or feed or wash himself, he has wandered alone into a frigid landscape with no sense of home or direction. The

massive search for him brings Susan together with Jeff, a search-and-rescue expert and social worker preoccupied with his young wife's betrayal. As the search and rescue effort threatens to become one of search and recovery, they each confront haunting memories and difficult choices that will have an unexpected impact on their collective future.

FICTION



The Thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet

David MITCHELL
480pp Tp \$32.99

Imagine an empire that has shut out the world for a century and a half. No one can leave, foreigners are excluded, their religions banned and their ideas deeply mistrusted. Yet a narrow window onto this nation-fortress still exists: an artificial walled island connected to a mainland port and manned by a handful of European traders. And locked as the land-gate may be, it cannot prevent the meeting of minds - or hearts. The nation was Japan, the port was Nagasaki and the island was Dejima, to where Mitchell's panoramic novel transports us in the year 1799. For one Dutch clerk, Jacob de Zoet, a dark adventure of duplicity, love, guilt, faith and murder is about to begin - and all the while, unbeknownst to him and his feuding compatriots, the axis of global power is turning...



Anthill

A Novel
E O WILSON

378pp Hb \$32.95

I readily admit that Wilson is a hero of mine. An extraordinary scientist and wonderful writer, he has, for the first time, turned his hand to fiction.

A fishing accident when he was a boy left him with short-sight in only one eye and he became fascinated by tiny creatures, especially ants. In terms of specialised knowledge, you could say that he is 'Mr Ant'. As Wilson himself spent his boyhood exploring forests and swamps, collecting snakes, butterflies and ants - young Raff, a modern-day Huck Finn - explores the pristine beauty of the Nokobee wildland, witnessing the remarkable creation and destruction of four separate ant colonies. He records the histories and epics that unfold on picnic grounds, becoming a young naturalist in the process. Inspirational and magical, this is the story of a boy who grows up determined to save the world from its most savage ecological predator: Man himself. *Ann*

Android Karenina



Leo TOLSTOY
& Ben WINTERS
320pp Pb \$24.95

The **Sense and Sensibility and Sea Monsters** (Pb \$24.95) co-author is back with an all-new collaborator, legendary Russian novelist Leo Tolstoy. The result is an enhanced

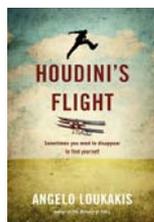
edition of the classic love story set in a dystopian world of robots, cyborgs and interstellar space travel. As in the original novel, our story follows two relationships: The tragic, adulterous love affair of Anna Karenina and Count Alexei Vronsky, and the more hopeful marriage of Nikolai Levin and Princess Kitty Shcherbatskaya. These characters live in a world of robotic butlers, clumsy automatons and rudimentary mechanical devices. But when these copper-plated machines begin to revolt against their human masters, our characters must fight back using state-of-the-art 19th century technology and a sleek new model of ultra-human cyborg.



The Marrowbone Marble Company

Glenn TAYLOR
368pp Tp \$32.99

Loyal Ledford works the swing shift, tending furnace at the Mann Glass factory in Huntington, West Virginia in 1941. He courts Rachel, the boss's daughter, a company nurse with spike-straight posture and coal black hair. But when Pearl Harbour is attacked, Ledford, like so many young men of his time, sets his life on a new course. Upon his return from military service, he starts a family with Rachel, but he chafes under the authority at Mann Glass. He is a lost man, unconnected from the present and haunted by his violent past, until he meets his cousins the Bonecutter brothers. Their land - mysterious, elemental Marrowbone Cut - calls to Ledford and it is there, with help from an unlikely bunch, that the Marrowbone Marble Company is slowly forged. Over the next two decades, the factory town becomes a vanguard of the civil rights movement and the war on poverty, a home for those intent on change. Such a home inevitably invites trouble, and Ledford must soon fight for his family.



Houdini's Flight

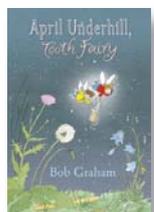
Angelo LOUKAKIS
352pp Tp \$32.99

Terry Voulos is struggling. His marriage, his relationship with his son and his work prospects are shaky. He finds solace in the possibility of a new career as a magician, before a tragic accident sends him into exile, estranged from all that is familiar. Hal Sargeson, a one-time magician and lifelong disciple of Harry Houdini, takes Terry under his wing. He begins to school Terry in the same arts of escape that the great Houdini used 100 years earlier, but keeps to himself a knot that might have beaten even the master. Terry is eventually brought to truths more disturbing than his present troubles, and to a moment when the healing power of magic is truly needed.



CHILDREN'S

REVIEWED BY LINDY JONES

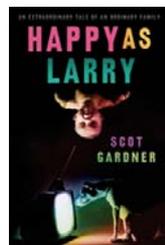


April Underhill, Tooth Fairy

Bob GRAHAM
32pp Hb \$27.95

It is always such a delight to announce a new Bob Graham and this charming new picture book will please his many fans.

April has never collected a tooth before - that is what Mum and Dad do - but when a grandmother requests her assistance to exchange her grandson Daniel's tooth for the traditional coin, she persuades her parents to let her (and her little sister Esme) go. Taking with them a bag (for the coin going and the tooth coming) and a mobile phone (!), April and Esme venture out into the big world and overcome a couple of small obstacles to achieve their goal. Full of observant and touching details (Dad fairy has golden dreadlocks, Mum has a bluebird of happiness tattoo on her arm, Esme wears glasses) and of course a couple of gorgeous canines, this is a truly gentle book with a lovely message.



Happy as Larry

Scot GARDNER
280pp Pb \$19.99

Laurence Augustine Rainbow is born on 13 July 1990, the only child of Denise and Malcolm, just as the first Gulf War is about to take off. He is a happy and honest child, with the knack of making friends of

all sorts of people, including the nasty boy across the road. As he grows up, the world is experiencing disasters, wars and political upheavals - things that are distantly mirrored in his own, very ordinary family. As life tries to knock his family and friends about, his natural resilience and innocence come under attack, but he learns to be true to himself. A glorious book which reminded me of Peter Carey's best and earliest novels, at times dark and heart-clenchingly awful, but with an inner light and *joie de vivre* that made this a delight to read. Written for young adults, but that doesn't mean older ones won't find this worthwhile!



The Glass Demon

Helen GRANT
416pp Pb \$17.95

17-year-old Lin's father - a rather poisonously charming but ruthless academic - has uprooted the entire family to a rural part of Germany, partly out of spite and partly because he has learnt about

the possible survival of a set of medieval stained glass windows long since thought destroyed. The windows were said to harbour a demon and be cursed, according to local superstition. As he delves into local history, unexpected deaths start to occur. Lin finds herself at the scene of a couple of them, where shattered glass is scattered around the bodies. Worse is to come, as family members become the victims of dangerous pranks. A suspenseful, tightly plotted novel that weaves a peculiarly medieval fairy tale sensibility with contemporary family issues. Highly recommended. Ages 15+



Slice Juicy Moments from My Impossible Life

Steven HERRICK
Pb \$17.95

Leaving aside his usual verse-novel style, Herrick tells the story of 17-year-old Darcy, who has the usual crosses of a teenaged boy to bear. His

parents are ex-hippies-joined-the-establishment, which means that although they could afford to send Darcy to private school, he attends the local high school so he can associate with all types (although if his folks really knew what went on at Stacey's parties, maybe they wouldn't think that such a good thing!) Darcy loves Shakespeare, and Audrey, who lives down the road from him, but who he has never really spoken to - unbelievably, as his mouth gets the most exercise and he never thinks before he speaks. He can deal with the jocks, and his nerdy chess-playing friend Noah, and the fact his Dad named him after soccer players, but he does have a bit to learn. A good-natured and entertaining novel. Ages 15+



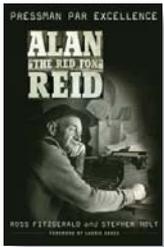
Madam Lash
Gretel Pinniger's
Scandalous Life of
Sex, Art and Bondage
 Sam EVERINGHAM
 456pp Tp \$35.00

Gretel Pinniger - dominatrix, fetishist, artist and courtesan to the rich and famous - has been shocking and outraging

Australia for decades. Never shy of publicity, this introverted daughter of a handsome war hero from the Melbourne establishment once wanted to become a nun. Instead, she threw her leather-clad body into a world of sex, drugs and riotous parties. She danced with Elton John, catered to Clyde Packer's more creative sexual fantasies and was supported by a fabulously wealthy patron, who bequeathed her a generous allowance so long as his name was never disclosed by her. Despite marrying and becoming a mother, there is nothing ordinary about her. Everingham delves into the colourful reality of our most misunderstood eccentric in a portrait as revealing, provocative and outrageous as Madam Lash herself.

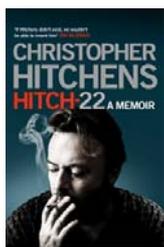
Alan 'The Red Fox' Reid
Pressman Par Excellence

Ross FITZGERALD, Stephen HOLT
 & Laurie OAKES 384pp Hb \$49.95



Arguably Australia's most influential political journalist, Alan 'The Red Fox' Reid covered Australian politics from the 1930s to the 1980s. During his career he was both a chronicler of, and player in, Australian politics. The authors take us into a Machiavellian world behind-the-scenes world of recurrent plots, crises

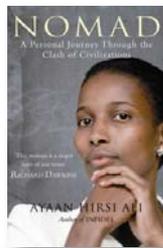
and leadership challenges, showing how it was possible for a skilled journalist to help shape both public perceptions and actual outcomes of political power plays.



Hitch-22
A Memoir
 Christopher HITCHENS
 352pp Tp \$35.00

The acid, hilarious, confessional and provocative memoirs of the bestselling author of **God is Not Great** (Pb \$26.95) - a story of a life, lived large. Over the last 30

years Hitchens has established himself as one of the world's most influential public intellectuals. His originality, bravery, range and wit made him first a leading iconoclast of the political left, and then later a formidable advocate of secular liberalism. As a socialist he opposed the war in Vietnam, yet after September 11 he emerged as one of the fiercest advocates of war in Iraq. In this long-awaited and candid memoir, he retraces the footsteps of his life to date, from his childhood in Portsmouth with his adoring, tragic mother and reserved Naval officer father, to his life in Washington DC, the base from which he would launch fierce attacks on tyranny of all kinds. Along the way, he recalls the girls, boys and booze; the friendships and the feuds; the grand struggles and lost causes, as well as the mistakes and misgivings that have characterised his life.



Nomad
A Personal Journey
Through the Clash of
Civilizations
 Ayaan Hirsi ALI
 304pp Tp \$35.00

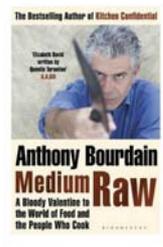
Ali's gutsy memoir **Infidel** (Pb \$24.99), which exposed Islam's hypocrisy about the status of women, caused a

worldwide sensation. In it she spoke out about her own experiences as a good Somali Muslim woman, forced to submit to outmoded rules and often reduced to an invisible, silent presence. But there is a price to pay for speaking out and in this very personal follow-up, she examines the high cost of freedom - estrangement from her family and country, the loud criticism of her by many Muslims (some of them women), the 24-hour security which came as a result of death threats and her struggle to come to terms with an often lonely independence. She records the painful reconciliation with her beloved father, who had disowned her when she began criticising Islam, and the sorts of conflicts inherent in feeling torn between heart and mind.

Medium Raw

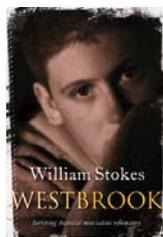
A Bloody Valentine to the World of
Food and the People Who Cook

Anthony BOURDAIN Tp \$35.00



A lot has changed since Bourdain's **Kitchen Confidential** (Pb \$24.95) for the subculture of chefs, cooks and the restaurant business. Tracking his own strange and unexpected voyage from journeyman cook to globe-travelling professional eater and drinker, Bourdain compares and contrasts

what he's seen and what he's seeing, pausing along the way for a series of confessions, rants, investigations and interrogations of some of the most controversial figures in food. And always he returns to the question: Why cook? Or the harder one to answer: Why cook well? Beginning with a secret and highly illegal after-hours gathering of powerful chefs, which he compares to a Mafia summit, he cuts to the bone on every subject he tackles.



Westbrook
Surviving Australia's
Most Sadistic
Reformatory
 William STOKES
 Tp \$34.99

Towards the close of the 1950s, 14-year-old William Stokes was sentenced to

Westbrook Farm Home for Boys after committing a series of petty crimes. At that time, Westbrook was the most feared institution for boys in the whole of Queensland - a brutal tyranny ruled by a sadistic warden, where boys laboured in the fields from dawn to dusk and where flogging was the answer for any misdemeanour, however minor. Inmates were systematically demeaned and cowed in a regimen designed to break them. Stokes' story of his years there catalogue the horrors endured by children and young adults at the hands of the authorities, and how they managed to survive. He also reveals the damaged and broken lives that resulted, and how the repercussions continue to be felt by the boys and by society long after their original sentences were served.

The Man Who Left Too Soon
The Biography of Stieg Larsson

Barry FORSHAW
 288pp Pb \$29.95

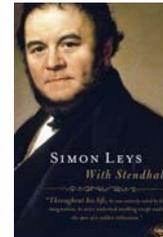


His best-selling books are violent, terrifying, brilliantly written and have sold millions of copies around the world, but Stieg Larsson was not there to witness any of their international success. That he died in 2004

and his fame as an author is entirely posthumous demonstrates the dizzying speed with which his star has risen. Larsson was a workaholic: a keen political activist, photographer, graphic designer, respected journalist and editor of numerous science fiction magazines - and at night, to relax, he wrote crime novels. By the time of his death at just 50 years of age he had completed the *Millennium trilogy*, featuring his hypnotic character, Lisbeth Salander. But his relentless personality and political convictions did not make his life easy. He famously reported about some dangerous neo-Nazi organisations in Sweden, which led to numerous death threats. In fact, since his death, officially caused by a massive heart attack, there has been much speculation that his enemies had a hand in his premature demise.

With Stendhal

Simon LEYS
 96pp Pb \$19.95



This is a delightful portrait of the 19th century French novelist Henri Beyle, better known to us as Stendhal. Two linked texts - introduced, annotated and translated into English for the first time by

Simon Leys - illuminate the life and mind of the great writer. The first piece is a set of impressions and memories written by Stendhal's famous friend Prosper Merimee. Several vignettes reveal Stendhal's character - charismatic, engaging, frenetic, hyper-romantic - accompanied by amusing anecdotes of him duelling, falling in love and holding forth in the company of friends. The second is by Stendhal himself, a fantasy composed one idle afternoon near the end of his life and for his own pleasure: a whimsical list of the supernatural powers he wished he possessed.



Young Mandela
 David James SMITH
 368pp Tp \$35.00

Nelson Mandela is the greatest political figure of our age and is universally known as a heroic leader who symbolises freedom and moral authority. He will soon be 90 years old and is fixed

in the public mind as the world's elder statesman - the dignified, grey-haired man with a kindly smile who spent 27 years in prison from 1962 and somehow emerged intact to become the first black President of a newly liberated South Africa. But he was not always elderly or benign. This book is about the man that people have forgotten - Young Mandela, the committed terrorist who left his wife and children behind to spend a year living on the run in the racist South Africa of the early 1960s, adopting false names and disguises and sleeping in safe houses as he organised and prepared the first strikes in a campaign of violence to overthrow the apartheid state.

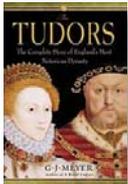
HISTORY

The Tudors

The Complete Story of England's Most Notorious Dynasty

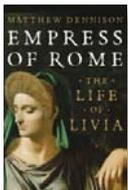
G J MEYER

640pp Hb \$49.95



Arguably the most famous rulers in world history, Tudor monarchs Henry VIII and his daughter Elizabeth I were, according to journalist and author Meyer (**A World Undone** Pb \$42.95), cold and ruthless egotists whose self-created myths have prevailed over reality in our historical memory of them. Henry

VII, the first Tudor, was a competent ruler who filled the royal treasury with gold, avoided war and shrewdly consolidated his power by stripping away the nobility's autonomy. By contrast, Henry VIII's determination to enforce his religious change on his people led to a reign of terror, and his squandering of his riches contributed to the monarchy's later collapse under Charles I. His children fared little better, from the fervently evangelical boy-king Edward VI to the fanatically Catholic Mary, England's first woman ruler, who burned 300 of her subjects for heresy. Elizabeth is portrayed as selfish to the point of childishness, aspiring only to preserve her life and her rule. History buffs will savour Meyer's cheeky, nuanced and authoritative perspective on an entire dynasty.



Empress of Rome

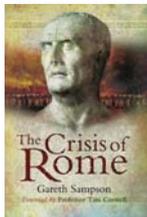
The Life of Livia

Matthew DENNISON

352pp Hb \$45.00

The empress Livia was one of the most fascinating, perplexing and powerful figures of the ancient world. Second wife of the emperor

Augustus and the mother of his successor Tiberius, Livia has been vilified by posterity (most notably by Tacitus and Robert Graves) as the quintessence of the scheming Roman matriarch, poisoning her relatives one by one to smooth her son's path to the imperial throne. In this elegant and rigorously researched biography, Dennison rescues the historical Livia from this crudely drawn caricature of the popular imagination. He depicts a complex, courageous and richly gifted woman whose true crime was not murder, but the exercise of power, and who, in a male-dominated society, had the energy to create for herself both a prominent public profile and a significant sphere of political influence.



The Crisis of Rome

Gareth SAMPSON

192pp Hb \$59.95

In the later 2nd century BC, after a period of rapid expansion and conquest, the Roman Republic found itself in crisis. In North Africa, her armies were already bogged down in a long guerrilla

war in a harsh environment when invasion by a coalition of Germanic tribes threatened Italy and Rome itself. Gaius Marius was the man of the hour. The first war he brought to an end through tactical brilliance, bringing the Numidian King Jugurtha back in chains. Before his ship even returned to Italy, the senate elected Marius to lead the war against the northern invaders. Reorganising and reinvigorating the demoralised Roman legions, he led them to two remarkable victories in the space of months, crushing the Teutones and Ambrones at Aquiae Sextae and the Cimbri at Vercellae.

Empires and Barbarians

Migration, Development and the Birth of Europe

Peter HEATHER

300pp Pb \$29.99



At the start of the first millennium AD, southern and western Europe formed part of the Mediterranean-based Roman Empire, the largest

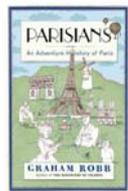
state western Eurasia has ever known, and was set firmly on a trajectory towards towns, writing, mosaics and central heating. Central, northern and eastern Europe was home to subsistence farmers, living in wooden houses with mud floors, whose largest political units weighed in at no more than a few thousand people. By the year 1000, Mediterranean domination of the European landscape had been destroyed. Instead of one huge Empire facing loosely organised subsistence farmers, Europe – from the Atlantic almost to the Urals – was home to an interacting commonwealth of Christian states, many of which are still with us today. This book tells the story of the transformations which changed western Eurasia forever: of the birth of Europe itself.

Parisians

An Adventure History of Paris

Graham ROBB

Hb \$49.99



No-one knows a city like the people who live there – so who better to relate the history of Paris than its inhabitants through the ages? Taking us from 1750 to the new millennium, Robb introduces us to some of those inhabitants: we meet

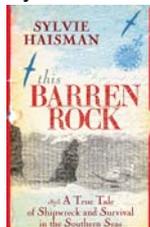
spies, soldiers, scientists and alchemists; police commissioners, photographers and philosophers; adulterers, murderers, prisoners and prostitutes. We encounter political and sexual intrigues, witness real and would-be revolutions, assassination attempts and several all too successful executions; we visit underground caverns and catacombs, enjoy the view from the top of the Eiffel Tower, are there for the opening of the Metro and accompany Hitler on a flying visit to the French capital. Part history, travel guide, memoir and mystery, this is a book to lose yourself in, to dip in and out of at leisure and return to again and again – rather like the city itself.

This Barren Rock

1875: A True Tale of Shipwreck and Survival in the Southern Seas

Sylvie HAISMAN

256pp Pb \$27.99



The Scottish clipper *Strathmore* sailed from London in 1875, laden with gunpowder, iron and immigrants. Wrecked at night in furious seas, half her passengers struggled ashore to the bare, inhospitable rocks of the remote Crozet Islands.

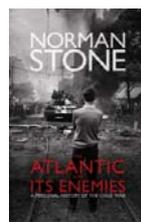
There they remained stranded, struggling to survive the bitter southern winter, given up for lost by their families and friends. Over 130 years later, Haisman rediscovered her ancestors' epic adventure. Drawing on her journals, faded photographs and letters, she unearthed a story of gallant sailors, orphaned children, cruel hunger and debilitating cold. The *Strathmore* shipwreck was a sensation in Victorian times. Now this compelling story of courage, endurance and the determination to survive will move and inspire readers once more.

The Atlantic and its Enemies

A Personal History of the Cold War

Norman STONE

712pp Hb \$65.00



Those who survived the Second World War stared out onto a devastated, morally ruined world. Much of Europe and Asia had been so ravaged that it was unclear whether any form of normal life could ever be established again - coups, collapsing empires and civil wars, some on a vast scale,

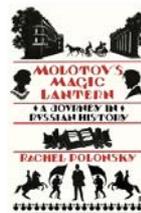
continued to reshape country after country long after the fighting was meant to have ended. Everywhere the 'Atlantic' world (the USA, Britain and a handful of allies) was on the defensive and its enemies on the move. For all the astonishing productivity of the American, Japanese and mainland Western European economies, most of the world was either under Communist rule or lost in a violent stagnancy that seemed doomed to permanence. Even in the late 1970s, with the collapse of Iran, the oil shock and the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, the initiative seemed to lie with the Communist forces. Then suddenly the Atlantic won - economically, ideologically and militarily - with astonishing speed and completeness. This is a surprising and highly entertaining history of this tumultuous period.

Molotov's Magic Lantern

A Journey in Russian History

Rachel POLONSKY

400pp Hb \$49.99



When Polonsky went to live in Moscow, she found an apartment block in Romanov Street, once a residence of the Soviet elite. One of those ghostly neighbours was Stalin's henchman Vyacheslav Molotov. In Molotov's former apartment, she discovered his library

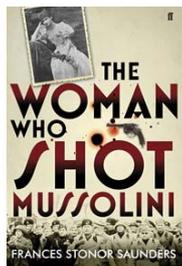
and an old magic lantern. Molotov - ruthless apparatchik, participant in the collectivisations and the Great Purge - was also an ardent bibliophile. Molotov's library and his magic lantern became the prisms through which she renewed her vision of Russia. She visited cities and landscapes associated with the books in the library - Chekhov, Dostoevsky, Pushkin, Akhmatova and many less well-known figures. Some were sent to the Gulag by the man who collected their books. She writes exceptionally well about the longings and aspirations of Russian writers in the course of a journey that takes her to the Arctic and Siberia, the Crimean summer and Lake Baikal to the forests around Moscow and the vast steppes. In each place she encountered the spirit of great artists and the terrible past of a country ravaged by war, famine and totalitarianism.

Conspirator

Helen RAPPAPORT

400pp Pb \$24.95

This is the compelling story of Lenin's exile: the years in which he and his political collaborators plotted a revolution that would change 20th century history. It tells the story of Lenin in the long and difficult years leading up to the Russian Revolution, years that were spent constantly on the move in and around Europe in the company of his loyal and long-suffering wife Nadezhda Krupskaya. It strips away the arid politics of Lenin's official life and reveals the real man, as well as describing his many conflicts - personal and political - with those who shared his exile.

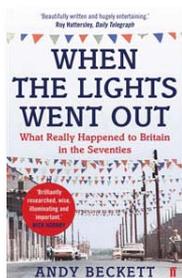


The Woman Who Shot Mussolini

Frances Stonor SAUNDERS Tp \$32.99

7 April 1926: on the steps of the Capitol in Rome, surrounded by chanting Fascists, The Honourable Violet Gibson raises her old revolver and fires at the Italian head of state, the

darling of Europe's ruling class. The bullet narrowly misses the dictator's bald head, hitting him in the nose. Of all his would-be assassins, she came closest to changing the course of history. What brought her to this moment? She was the daughter of an Anglo-Irish lord, had once consorted with royalty and the peerage. Yet terrible unhappiness lurked beneath that glittering surface. She was a serious-minded young woman in an age when girls were meant to marry well and think little. Her spiritual quest took her to a kind of left-wing Catholicism, sympathy for Irish nationalism and a passionate love for Italy. When Mussolini's thugs took it into the moral cesspit of Fascism, she felt she had to act. She paid for it for the rest of her life, confined to a lunatic asylum, like other difficult women of her class.

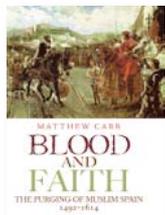


When the Lights Went Out What Really Happened to Britain in the Seventies

Andy BECKETT 592pp Pb \$24.99

The 1970s encompassed strikes that brought down governments, shock general election results, the rise of

Margaret Thatcher and the fall of Edward Heath, the IMF crisis, the Winter of Discontent and the three-day week. Beckett goes in search of what really happened, what it felt like at the time and where it was all leading. He includes vivid interviews with many of the leading participants, from Heath to Jack Jones to Arthur Scargill, and travels from the once-famous factories where the great industrial confrontations took place to the suburbs where Thatcherism was created and to remote North Sea oil rigs. He also unearths the stories of the forgotten political actors, from the Gay Liberation Front to the hippie anarchists of the free festival movement.



Blood and Faith The Purging of Muslim Spain, 1492-1614

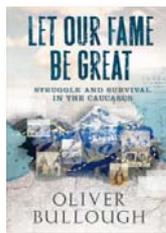
Matthew CARR 387pp Hb \$59.95

In 1609, King Philip III signed an edict denouncing the Muslim inhabitants of Spain

as heretics, traitors and apostates. Later that year, the entire Muslim population was given three days to leave Spanish territory, on threat of death. In a brutal and traumatic exodus, entire families and communities were obliged to abandon homes and villages where they had lived for generations. By 1614 Muslim Spain had effectively ceased to exist. Here is a riveting chronicle of this virtually unknown episode, set against the vivid historical backdrop of Muslim Spain.

Let Our Fame be Great Struggle and Survival in the Caucasus

Oliver BULLOUGH 520pp Hb \$49.95



Two centuries ago, the Russians pushed out of the cold north towards the Caucasus Mountains, the range that blocked their access to Georgia, Turkey, Persia and India. They were forging their colonial destiny and the mountains were in their way. The Caucasus had

to be conquered and, for the highlanders who lived there, life would never be the same again. If the Russians expected it to be an easy fight, however, they were mistaken. Their armies would go on to defeat Napoleon and Hitler, as well as lesser foes, but no one resisted them for as long as these supposed savages. Bullough explains: "To hear the stories of the conquest, I travelled far from the mountains. I wandered through the steppes of Central Asia and the cities of Turkey. I squatted outside internment camps in Poland, and drank tea beneath the gentle hills of Israel. The stories I heard amplified the outrages I saw in the mountains themselves. Their stories have not been told, and there fame is not great, but truly it deserves to be."

Katherine the Queen

The Remarkable Life of Katherine Parr

Linda PORTER 456pp Tp \$34.99



The general perception of Katherine Parr, the sixth and last wife of Henry VIII, is that she was a provincial nobody with intellectual pretensions who became queen of England because the king needed a matronly consort to nurse him as his health declined. In the various studies of the six wives

of Henry VIII, she receives much less attention than Katherine of Aragon or Anne Boleyn. Yet the real Katherine Parr was attractive, passionate (she had a mighty temper when aroused), ambitious and highly intelligent. Twice widowed, held hostage by the northern rebels during the great uprising of 1536-37 known as the Pilgrimage of Grace, her life had been dramatic even before she became queen. It would remain so after Henry's death, when she hastily and secretly married her old flame, the rakish Sir Thomas Seymour. She died shortly after giving birth to her only child in September 1548. A fascinating study of a woman who was, in reality, one of the most influential and active queen consorts in English history.

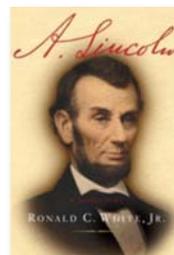
England's Forgotten Past

Richard TAMES 192pp Hb \$35.00



Written in an engaging and often humorous style, Tames brings to life the various colourful characters, famous in their day, who have now sunk into obscurity, from St Cuthbert and Nicholas Breakspear (the only English pope) to Octavia Hill and the Marquis

of Granby. Did you know, for example, that Barking was once home to the largest fishing fleet in the world? Or that coffee houses were once known as penny universities? An entertaining exploration of the bits of English history that have been sidelined, lost or somehow overlooked.

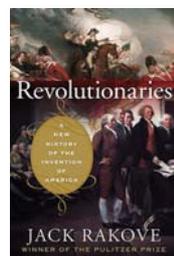


A. Lincoln A Biography

Ronald C WHITE, JR 796pp Tp \$34.00

In his lifetime and ever since, friend and foe have taken it upon themselves to characterise Lincoln according to their own label or libel. White offers a fresh

and compelling definition of Lincoln as a man of integrity - what today's commentators would call 'authenticity' - whose moral compass holds the key to understanding his life. He shows us Lincoln as a man who would leave a trail of thoughts in his wake, jotting ideas on scraps of paper and filing them in his top hat or the bottom drawer of his desk; a country lawyer who asked questions in order to figure out his own thinking on an issue, as much as to argue the case; a hands-on commander in chief; a man who struggled with the immorality of slavery and as president acted publicly and privately to outlaw it forever.

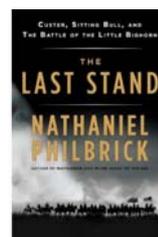


Revolutionaries A New History of the Invention of America

Jack RAKOVE 487pp Hb \$49.95

In the early 1770s, the men who invented America were living quiet, provincial lives in the rustic backwaters of the New World, devoted

primarily to family, craft and the private pursuit of wealth and happiness. None set out to become 'revolutionary' by ambition, but when events in Boston escalated, they found themselves thrust into a crisis that moved, in a matter of months, from protest to war. Rakove shows how the private lives of these men were suddenly transformed into public careers - how Washington became a strategist, Franklin a pioneering cultural diplomat, Madison a sophisticated constitutional thinker and Hamilton a brilliant policymaker. Rakove shakes off accepted notions of these men as godlike visionaries, focusing instead on the evolution of their ideas and the crystallising of their purpose.



The Last Stand Custer, Sitting Bull, and the Battle of the Little Bighorn

Nathaniel PHILBRICK 496pp Hb \$49.95

Philbrick sheds new light on one of the iconic stories of the American West. Little

Bighorn and Custer are names synonymous in the American imagination with unmatched bravery and spectacular defeat. Mythologised as 'Custer's Last Stand', the June 1876 battle has been equated with other famous last stands, from the Spartans' defeat at Thermopylae to Davy Crockett at the Alamo. In his tightly structured narrative, Philbrick brilliantly sketches the two larger-than-life antagonists - Sitting Bull, whose charisma and political savvy earned him the position of leader of the Plains Indians - and George Armstrong Custer, one of the Union's greatest cavalry officers and a man with a reputation for fearless and often reckless courage. The Battle of the Little Bighorn was also, even in victory, the last stand for the Sioux and Cheyenne Indian nations. Within a few years of Little Bighorn, however, all the major tribal leaders would be confined to Indian reservations.

AUSTRALIAN HISTORY



Radical Sydney Places, Portraits and Unruly Episodes

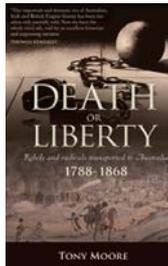
Terry IRVING
& Rowan CAHILL
384pp Pb \$39.95

Sydney: a beautiful international city with impressive buildings, harbour-side walkways,

public gardens, cafes, restaurants, theatres and hotels. This is the way Sydney is represented to its citizens and to the rest of the world. But there has always been another Sydney not viewed so fondly by the city's rulers, a radical part of Sydney. The working-class suburbs to the south and west were large and explosive places of marginalised ideas, bohemian neighbourhoods, dissident politics and contentious action. Through a series of snapshots, this book traces Sydney's development from The Rocks in the 1830s to the inner suburbs of the 1980s. It includes a range of incidents, people and places, from freeing protestors in the anti-conscription movement, resident action movements in Kings Cross, anarchists in Glebe, to Gay Rights marches on Oxford Street and Black Power in Redfern.

Death or Liberty Rebels and Radicals Transported to Australia 1788-1868

Tony MOORE
432pp Tp \$34.95



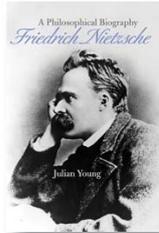
This is the first narrative history that brings together the stories of the political prisoners sent as convicts to Australia from all over Britain and parts of her Empire, spanning the early days of the penal settlement at Sydney Cove until transportation ended in 1868. Who were these prisoners and what led

them to take the radical actions they did? Why did the authorities so fear these dissenters and rebels, and was transportation effective in halting dissent? Most crucially, what influence did these political activists in exile have on colonial life and politics, from the Castle Hill Rebellion to trade unionism and the early appearance of responsible and democratic government? In our contemporary climate, where laws are being tightened to curtail dissent in the interests of national security, Moore seeks to raise questions about the violence of both the state and its opponents, the causes of zeal, ruthlessness and idealism, and to reveal the crucial place of hope, courage and conviction in human progress.

Mary MacKillop's Sisters A Life Unveiled

Anne HENDERSON
320pp Pb \$24.99
Through their own words, the sisters reflect on their work, their vows of poverty, celibacy and obedience, and what these mean in the modern world. Always interesting and sometimes surprising, this book is an invaluable social and historical document. It is also a wonderful read.

PHILOSOPHY

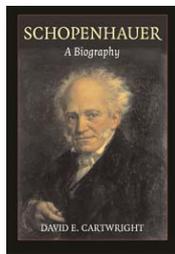


Friedrich Nietzsche A Philosophical Biography

Julian YOUNG
676pp Hb \$85.00

Young provides the most comprehensive biography available today of the life and philosophy of this 19th century German philosopher.

Young deals with the many puzzles created by the conjunction of Nietzsche's personal history and his work: why the son of a Lutheran pastor developed into the self-styled 'Antichrist'; why this archetypal Prussian came to loath Bismarck's Prussia; and why this enemy of feminism preferred the company of feminist women. Setting Nietzsche's thought in the context of his times - the rise of Prussian militarism, anti-Semitism, Darwinian science, the 'Youth' and emancipationist movements, as well as the 'death of God' - Young emphasises the decisive influence of Plato and Richard Wagner on Nietzsche's attempted reform of Western culture.

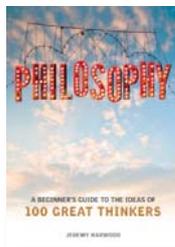


Schopenhauer A Biography

David CARTWRIGHT
602pp Hb \$85.00

In his quest to solve "the ever-disquieting riddle of existence", Schopenhauer explored almost every dimension of human existence, developing a darkly compelling worldview

that found deep resonance in contemporary literature, music, philosophy and psychology. This is the first comprehensive biography of Schopenhauer written in English. Placing him in his historical and philosophical contexts, Cartwright tells the story of Schopenhauer's life to convey the full range of his philosophy. He offers a fully documented portrait exploring Schopenhauer's fractured family life, his early formative influences, his critical loyalty to Kant, his personal interactions with Fichte and Goethe, his ambivalent relationship with Schelling, his contempt for Hegel, his struggle to make his philosophy known and his reaction to his late-arriving fame.



Philosophy A Beginner's Guide to the Ideas of 100 Great Thinkers

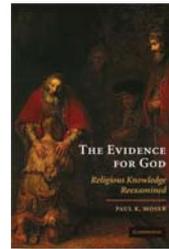
Jeremy HARDWOOD
192pp Pb \$19.95

From philosophy's founding fathers like Thales, Socrates and Plato to great minds of the post-modern era, including Satre, Ayer and Feyerabend, this concise new guide presents 100 of the world's most influential thinkers. Arranged from the ancient world to the present day, each philosopher's key ideas, notable works and pronouncements are encapsulated in a series of succinct biographies, accompanied by illustrations, at-a-glance fact panels and thought-provoking quotations.

RELIGION

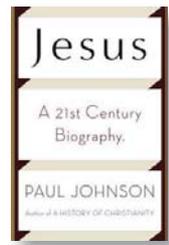
The Evidence for God Religious Knowledge Reexamined

Paul MOSER
290pp Pb \$41.95



If God exists, where can we find adequate evidence for God's existence? Moser offers a new perspective on the evidence for God that centres on a morally robust version of theism that is cognitively resilient. The resulting evidence for God is not speculative, abstract or casual. Rather, it is morally and existentially challenging

to humans, as they themselves responsibly and willingly become evidence of God's reality in receiving and reflecting God's moral character for others. Moser calls this "personifying evidence of God", because it requires the evidence to be personified in an intentional agent - such as a human - and thereby to be inherent evidence of an intentional agent. Contrasting this approach with skepticism, scientific naturalism, fideism and natural theology, Moser also grapples with the potential problems of divine hiddenness, religious diversity and vast evil.

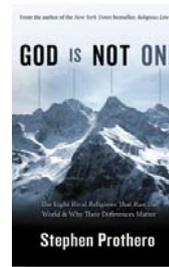


Jesus A 21st Century Biography

Paul JOHNSON
208pp Hb \$35.00

Is Jesus relevant to us today? Few figures have had such an influence on history as Jesus of Nazareth. His teachings have inspired discussion,

arguments, even war, and yet few have ever held forth as movingly on the need for peace, forgiveness and mercy. This is a lively biography of the man who inspired one of the world's great religions and whose lessons still guide us in current times.



God is Not One The Eight Rival Religions that Run the World and Why their Differences Matter

Stephen PROTHERO
400pp Tp \$34.95

Is religion toxic or tonic? Is it a force for good or evil? The answer is "all of the above", which is to say that

religion is a force far too powerful to be ignored. This is the essential guide to learning about and understanding religion and its place in our global culture today, written for religious and non-religious people alike, and for people in between. Prothero's fresh and controversial argument that the great religions present us with different paths up different mountains creates a new context for understanding the world's religions in the 21st century, and disproves the assumptions most of us make about the way the major religions work. There is a chapter-by-chapter overview and analysis of Islam, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Yoruba Religion, Judaism, Daoism and atheism.

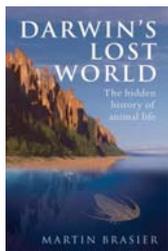
SCIENCE



Darwin's Lost World

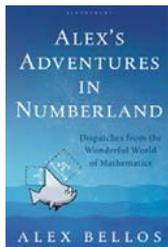
The Hidden History of Animal Life

Martin BRASIER 320pp Pb \$24.95



Darwin made a powerful argument for evolution in **The Origin of Species** (Pb \$11.95), based on all the evidence available to him. But a few things puzzled him. One was how inheritance works - he did not know about genes. This book concerns another of Darwin's Dilemmas and the efforts of

modern palaeontologists to solve it. What puzzled Darwin is that the most ancient rocks, before the Cambrian, seemed to be barren, when he would expect them to be teeming with life. Darwin speculated that this was probably because the fossils had not yet been found. Decades of work by modern palaeontologists have indeed brought us amazing fossils from far beyond the Cambrian, from the depths of the Precambrian, so life was certainly around. Yet the fossils are enigmatic, and something does seem to happen around the Cambrian to speed up evolution drastically and produce many of the early forms of animals we know today. Brasier, a leading palaeontologist working on early life, takes us into the deep, dark ages of the Precambrian to explore Darwin's Lost World.



Alex's Adventures in Numberland

Dispatches from the Wonderful World of Mathematics

Alex BELLOS 448pp Tp \$29.99

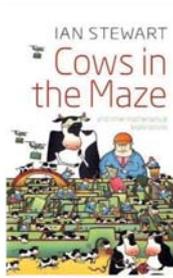
In this richly entertaining and accessible book, Bellos explodes the myth that maths

is best left to the geeks. Covering subjects from adding to algebra, from set theory to statistics, and from logarithms to logical paradoxes, he explains how mathematical ideas underpin just about everything in our lives. He shines a light on the mathematical patterns in nature and on the peculiar predictability of random behaviour. He eats a potato crisp whose revolutionary shape was unpalatable to the ancient Greeks, and he shows the deep connections between maths, religion and philosophy.

Cows in the Maze

And Other Mathematical Explorations

Ian STEWART 320pp Pb \$24.95



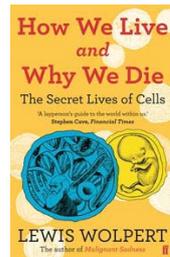
From the mathematics of mazes, to cones with a twist, and the amazing sphericon - and how to make one - Stewart is back with more mathematical stories and puzzles that are as quirky as they are fascinating, and each from the cutting edge of the world of mathematics.

We find out about the mathematics of time travel, explore the shape of teardrops (which are not tear-drop shaped, but something much stranger), dance with dodecahedra and play the game of Hex, amongst many more strange and delightful mathematical diversions.

How We Live and Why We Die

The Secret Lives of Cells

Lewis WOLPERT 288pp Pb \$23.99



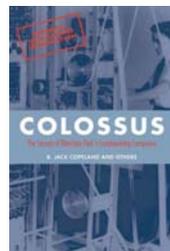
Cells are the basis of all life in the universe. Our bodies are made up of billions of them: an incredibly complex society that governs everything, from movement to memory and imagination. When we age, it is because our cells slow down; when we get ill, it is because our cells mutate or stop working. Wolpert

provides a clear explanation of the science that underpins our lives. He explains how our bodies function and how we are derived from a single cell - the embryo. He examines the science behind the topics that are much discussed, but rarely understood - stem-cell research, cloning, DNA - and explains how all life evolved from just one cell.

Colossus

The Secrets of Bletchley Park's Code-Breaking Computers

Jack COPELAND (Ed) 480pp Tp \$32.95

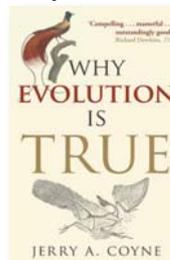


At last - the secrets of Bletchley Park's powerful codebreaking computers. This is a history of Colossus, the world's first fully-functioning electronic digital computer. Colossus was used during the Second World War at the Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, where it played an

invaluable role cracking enemy codes. Until very recently, much about the Colossus machine was shrouded in secrecy, largely because the codes that were employed remained in use by the British security services until a short time ago. This book only became possible due to the declassification in the US of wartime documents. With an introductory essay on cryptography and the history of code-breaking by Simon Singh, this book reveals the workings of Colossus and the extraordinary staff at Bletchley Park through personal accounts by those who lived and worked with the computer. Among them is the testimony of Thomas Flowers, who was the architect of Colossus and whose personal account, written shortly before he died, is published here for the first time. Other essays consider the historical importance of this remarkable machine and its impact on the generations of computing technology that followed.

Why Evolution is True

Jerry COYNE 336pp Pb \$24.95

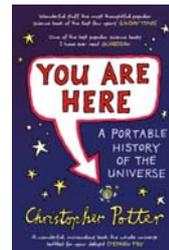


"I once wrote that anybody who didn't believe in evolution must be stupid, insane or ignorant, and I was then careful to add that ignorance is no crime. I should now update my statement: anybody who doesn't believe in evolution is stupid, insane, or hasn't read Jerry Coyne." - Richard Dawkins

You are Here

A Portable History of the Universe

Christopher POTTER 304pp Pb \$24.95



This is a dazzling exploration of the universe and our relationship to it. It is the story of how something evolved from nothing, and how something became everything. It is the story of science: the greatest story ever told. Here, for the first time in a single span, is the life of the universe, from

quarks to galaxy super-clusters, and from slime to Homo sapiens. The universe was once a moment of perfect symmetry, and is now 13.7 billion years of history. Clouds of gas were woven into whatever complexity we find in the universe today: the hierarchies of stars, or the brains of mammals. With wit and erudition, Potter takes us on a voyage beyond even time and space, to present the state of scientific knowledge at its most up-to-date and exhilarating.

A Blueprint for a Safer Planet

How We Can Save the World and Create Prosperity

Nicholas STERN 256pp Pb \$27.95



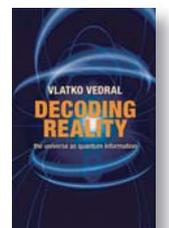
Further substantial climate change is unavoidable and the risks to the natural world, the economy and our everyday lives are immense. The way we live in the next 30 years - how we invest, use energy, organise transport and treat forests - will determine whether these risks become realities. Lord Stern,

author of **The Economics of Climate Change: The Stern Review** (Pb \$75.00) and former World Bank Chief Economist, is a leading authority on what we can do in the face of such unprecedented threat. Focusing on the economic management of investment and growth from the perspective of both adaptation and mitigation, Stern confronts the most urgent questions facing us now: what is the problem; what are the dangers; what can be done to reduce emissions and at what cost; how can the world adapt; and what does all this mean for corporations, governments and individuals?

Decoding Reality

The Universe as Quantum Information

Vlatko VEDRAL 256pp Hb \$44.95



Vedral considers some of the deepest questions about the Universe and the implications of interpreting it in terms of information. He explains the nature of information, the idea of entropy and the roots of this thinking in thermodynamics. He describes the bizarre effects of quantum behaviour - effects

such as 'entanglement', which Einstein called 'spooky action at a distance' and explores cutting edge work on harnessing quantum effects in hyperfast quantum computers and how recent evidence suggests that the weirdness of the quantum world, once thought limited to the tiniest scales, may reach into the macro world. He finishes by considering the answer to the ultimate question: where did all of the information in the Universe come from?



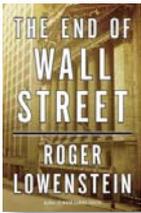
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If you are after one of the fine titles from Cambridge University Press, please ask us first. We stock virtually all titles held by Cambridge in Australia, plus a few more!

ECONOMICS

The End of Wall Street

Roger LOWENSTEIN 368pp Tp \$35.00



This is a blow-by-blow account of America's biggest financial collapse since the Great Depression. Drawing on 180 interviews, including sit-downs with top government officials and Wall Street CEOs, Lowenstein tells, with grace, wit and razor-sharp understanding, the full story of the end of Wall Street

as we knew it. Displaying the qualities that made **When Genius Failed** (Pb \$24.99) a timeless classic of Wall Street - his sixth sense for narrative drama and his unmatched ability to tell complicated financial stories in ways that resonate with the ordinary reader - Lowenstein weaves a financial, economic and sociological thriller that indicts America for succumbing to the siren song of easy debt and speculative mortgages. Rife with historical lessons and bursting with fast-paced action, this is essential reading as we work to identify the lessons of the market failure and start to rebuild.

The Future of Money

Oliver CHITTENDEN (Ed)
Vince CABLE (Intro)
416pp Tp \$35.00



The state of the global economy affects every single one of us. With economic growth threatened by financial regulation and the East and West at

competitive odds, the real solutions to global recession can only come through international co-operation. Featuring World leaders, Nobel Prize-winning economists, award-winning writers and opinion formers, this book brings together the finest thinking to suggest solutions to this global predicament. It breaks free from old ideas to provide new strategies for success by drawing on our real future strengths: collaboration and global cooperation.

Plenitude

The New Economics of True Wealth

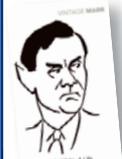
Juliet SCHOR 288pp Tp \$35.00



Humans are degrading the planet far faster than they are regenerating it. The economic downturn that has accompanied the ecological crisis has led to another type of scarcity: incomes, jobs and credit are also in short supply. Our usual way back to growth - a debt-financed consumer boom - is no longer an

option we can afford. This book puts sustainability at its core, but it is not a paradigm of sacrifice. Instead it is an argument that through a major shift to new sources of wealth, green technologies and different ways of living, we can actually be better off and more economically secure. And as Schor observes, Plenitude is already emerging. People are busy creating lifestyles that offer a way out of the work and spend cycle. These pioneers' lives are scarce in conventional consumer goods and rich in the newly abundant resources of time, information, creativity and community. Taken together, these trends represent a movement away from the conventional market and offer a way towards an efficient, rewarding life in an era of high prices and traditional resource scarcity.

VINTAGE CLASSICS



Buy any Vintage Classic this month and receive a copy of **Patrick White: A Life** by David Marr **Free!** (normally \$19.95)

Some of the most popular Vintage Classics:

War and Peace
Leo TOLSTOY Pb \$29.95

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Patrick WHITE Pb \$29.95

The Tree of Man
Patrick WHITE Pb \$24.95

David Copperfield
Charles DICKENS Pb \$16.95

The Sound and the Fury
William FAULKNER Pb \$24.95

Possession
A S BYATT Pb \$24.95

MISCELLANEOUS

Globish

How the English Language Became the World's Language

Robert McCURM
320pp Tp \$32.95



A small island in the North Atlantic, colonised by Rome, then pillaged for hundreds

of years by marauding neighbours, becomes the dominant world power in the 19th century. As its power spreads, its language inevitably follows. Then, across the Atlantic, a colony of that tiny island grows into the military and cultural colossus of the 20th century. These centuries of empire-building and war, international trade and industrial ingenuity produce great works of literature and extraordinary movies, cricket pitches and episodes of *Dallas*, the printing press and the internet. But then what? As McCrum demonstrates, what happens next is quite unprecedented. While the global dominance of Anglo-American power appears to be on the wane, the English language has acquired an astonishing new life of its own. It is now able to zoom across time and space at previously unimaginable speeds. In the 21st century "English + Microsoft = Globish".

Vintage Keating His Wit and Wisdom

Brian CARROLL
192pp Pb \$19.95



Even before he became Prime Minister, Keating had made a name for himself as someone who could dominate Parliament with his rapid and cutting

ripostes. Nobody was safe, not even people on his own side of politics. Just ask 'Old Silver' (Bob Hawke). Carroll has found and arranged enough of Keating's utterances to keep you chuckling (or clucking your tongue) for a long time.

MISCELLANEOUS

War

Sebastian JUNGER
300pp Tp \$29.99



They were known as 'The Rock'. For one year, in 2007-2008, Junger (author of **The Perfect Storm** Pb \$26) accompanied a single platoon of 30 men from the storied 2nd battalion of the US Army

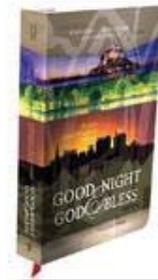
as they fought their way through a remote valley in Eastern Afghanistan. Over the course of five trips, Junger was in more firefights than he can count. Men he knew were killed or wounded, and he himself was almost killed. His relationship with these soldiers grew so close that they considered him part of the platoon, he enjoyed an access and a candidness that few, if any, journalists ever attain. This is a narrative about combat: the fear of dying, the trauma of killing and the love between platoon-mates who would rather die than let each other down. Gripping, honest and intense, it explores the neurological, psychological and social elements of combat and the incredible bonds that form between these small groups of men.

Good Night and God Bless

A Guide to Convent and Monastery Accommodation in Europe

Volume #2: France, United Kingdom and Ireland

Trish CLARK
352pp Pb \$32.95

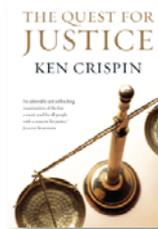


This is the modern traveller's Bible. It lists details of atmospheric and affordable accommodation in convents, monasteries, abbeys and Christian hotels across Europe. **Volume #1 Austria, Czech Republic and Italy** (Pb \$29.95) has been surprisingly popular.

The Quest for Justice

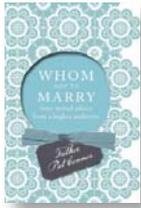
Ken CRISPIN 320pp Tp \$35.00

The law is one of the cornerstones of Western democracy and the judiciary one of its most cherished institutions. From a heritage of feudalism and repression, our highly complex criminal justice system has evolved to encompass a respect for social values and the rights of individuals. Recently, however, it has become obvious that rights such as freedom of



speech, freedom of association and freedom from detention without trial are becoming increasingly endangered. The tough-on-crime rhetoric of police and politicians, the 'war on drugs', the 'reforms' designed to increase conviction rates, and the loss of rights due to fear of terrorism - all point to an erosion of justice in Western societies. Crispin's wealth of experience on both sides of the bar - from appearing for high-profile defendants such as Lindy and Michael Chamberlain to prosecuting murderers and rapists, and later sitting on the ACT Supreme Court bench - makes him the ideal guide for finding a way through these thorny legal thickets. He lays bare the strengths and weaknesses of the legal system with great clarity and compassion.

MISCELLANEOUS

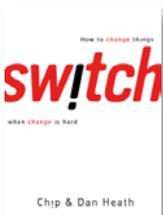


Whom Not to Marry

Pat CONNOR

224pp Hb \$29.99

Catholic priest and marriage counsellor, Father Pat Connor, has spent 40 years counselling and lecturing (high school seniors, mostly girls) on 'Whom Not to Marry'. Some of his advice includes: Never marry a man who has no friends. Steer clear of someone whose life you can run, who never makes demands counter to yours. It's good to have a doormat in the home, but not if it's your husband. Is he overly attached to his mother and her mythical apron strings? Does he have a sense of humour? Take a good, unsentimental look at his family - you'll learn a lot about him and his attitude towards women. Ultimately, does he possess those character traits that add up to a good human being - the willingness to forgive, to praise, to be courteous?



Switch

How to Change Things When Change is Hard

Chip & Dan HEATH

320pp Tp \$32.95

The compulsive eater who can't seem to stick to his diet. The office manager who can't get people to hand in their expenses on time. The aid worker who needs to combat child malnutrition. Why is it so hard to make change happen? The authors argue that the reason lies deep within our psychology. The rational part of our brain may know that it makes good sense to get up earlier, to recycle more, to go for that new job, but the emotional part likes things the way they are, and its short-term desire for an easy life tends to get in the way of our long-term plans. So how do we deal with these two parts of our brains? How do we make the switch? The answer is to get them to work together, and this book explores the best ways to make changes not only in our own lives, but also in the lives of others.



59 Seconds

Think a Little Change a Lot

Richard WISEMAN

256pp Pb \$24.99

For years, gurus, coaches and motivational speakers have urged people to improve their lives by changing the way they think and behave. Research has revealed that many of their techniques are ineffective. Visualisation exercises often hinder, rather than help, and group brainstorming produces fewer, and less original, ideas than individuals working alone. Wiseman explodes the myths of existing self-development techniques and demonstrates that personal and professional success may be less than a minute away... How you can become more creative by just lying down; how placing a pencil in your mouth instantly makes you feel significantly happier; and how merely thinking about the gym helps keep you in shape.



A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Future... Twists and Turns and Lessons Learned

Michael J FOX Hb \$19.99

Fox didn't finish high school, but he has gone on to receive honorary degrees from several universities and has achieved the highest accolades for his acting, as well as his writing. In his new book, he inspires and motivates his readers to work hard, achieve the most they can and maximise their abilities - all with his trademark optimism, warmth and humour. From moving to Los Angeles fresh from Canada, without a high school degree and learning to live on a wage; to taking on roles in *Family Ties* and *Back to the Future*; nearly crashing and burning; and then learning to cope first with the death of his father and then with his own diagnosis of Parkinson's disease, Fox shares what he has learned about life, work, love, family and happiness and everything else along the way.

War at the Wall Street Journal How Rupert Murdoch Bought an American Icon

Sarah ELLISON

304pp Tp \$34.95

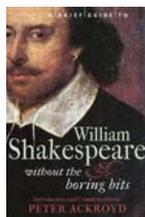


This is a comprehensive and readable account of how Rupert Murdoch came to own the crown jewel of American business journalism, written by former *Journal* media writer Sarah Ellison. It is a behind-the-scenes portrait of the most powerful person in media pouncing on the chance to add to his global empire. It offers fascinating insights into a landmark business sale - perhaps the last major print media deal - and provides a fair and detailed account from the lead-up to and aftermath of the acquisition. Ellison raises significant questions about the future of print journalism and declining newspaper readership, about online news content and News Corp's strategy. A fast-paced look into big business, a crumbling old-money dynasty and the infamous media mogul himself.

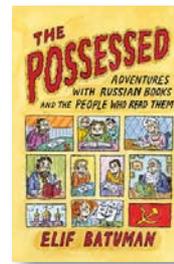
A Brief Guide to William Shakespeare Without the Boring Bits

Peter ACKROYD

432pp Pb \$26.99



This is an accessible and entertaining journey through the life, times and work of the Bard - Enigma, Master of language. Is he the greatest comedian in history or the most famous writer in the world? But isn't he a little bit boring? This is an essential guide for anyone who has previously avoided the Bard and is the perfect introduction both for first-time students and seasoned theatre lovers. Ackroyd provides a full commentary of Shakespeare's plays, as well as descriptions of the cast and the drama; not forgetting the best speeches, wit and wisdom from across the works. There is also an opportunity to explore the poems and a complete set of sonnets, as well as an investigation of who the dark lady might have been.



The Possessed Adventures with Russian Books and the People Who Read Them

Elif BATUMAN

304pp Pb \$26.95

Based on Batuman's articles in the *New Yorker* and *Harper's Magazine*, this book tells the true story of one woman's intellectual and sentimental education and her many strange encounters with scholars devoted to classic Russian writers. In a series of intertwined essays about her life, and other people's lives, in the world of Russian literature and scholarship, Batuman has written a funny, smart and self-deprecating book about Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy and Chekhov and the academics who worship them. It is full of stories of ice palaces and giant apes, conference disasters and excursions into Uzbek poetry; but there is also wisdom, and deep appreciation of the great Russian novels.

The Rational Optimist

How Prosperity Evolves

Matt RIDLEY

448pp Tp \$35.00



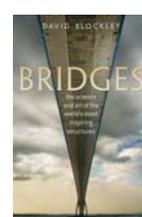
Over 10,000 years ago, there were fewer than 10 million people on the planet. Today there are more than 6 billion, 99 percent of whom are better fed, sheltered, entertained and protected against disease than their Stone Age ancestors. The availability of almost everything a person could want or need has been going erratically upwards for 10,000 years and has rapidly accelerated over the last 200 years: calories; vitamins; clean water; machines; privacy; the means to travel faster than we can run; and the ability to communicate over longer distances than we can shout. Yet, bizarrely, however much things improve, people still cling to the belief that the future will be nothing but disastrous. In this original, optimistic book, Ridley puts forward his surprisingly simple answer to how humans progress, arguing that we progress when we trade and we only really trade productively when we trust each other.

Bridges

The Science and Art of the World's Most Inspiring Structures

David BLOCKLEY

328pp Hb \$39.95

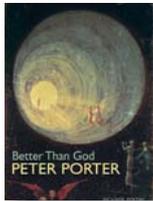


Bridge building is a magnificent example of the practical and every day use of science. However, the story of bridges goes beyond science and technology, and involves issues relating to artistic and cultural development. Bridges can be icons for whole cities; just consider New York's Brooklyn Bridge, London's Tower Bridge, and Sydney's Harbour Bridge. Such bridges can be considered functional public art, as they have the power to delight or be an eyesore. Blockley combines the engineering of how bridges stand up with the cultural, aesthetic and historical importance they hold. Drawing on examples of particular bridges from around the world, he also looks in detail at the risk engineers take when building bridges, and examines why things sometimes go wrong.

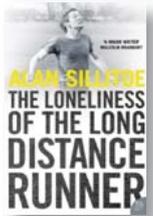
FROM EVE ABBEY



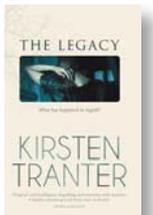
Another good story to tell you. In my page in the March *Abbey's Advocate*, I mentioned a book written by one of our customers, **Practical Applications of Radioactivity and Nuclear Radiation** by Lowenthal and Airey (\$115 Hb at Pb price 368pp). We hadn't sold it for several years, so I promised Dr Lowenthal I would mention it in the *Advocate*. Well, we promptly sold a copy. And not only that, it was bought by an ex-colleague of his who wanted to get in touch with him! So we feel very pleased.



Two stalwarts of Australian literature have died recently. Peter Porter died in London in April. One of his daughters, Katherine, worked in Abbey's some years ago. His latest publication is **Better than God** (\$35 Pb 96pp). Patricia Wrightson also died in April. This much loved author led the way for Australian fantasy writing for young people and graciously encouraged other writers. You'll find her most famous book, **Nargun and the Stars** (\$14.95 Pb), upstairs in the Children's section. Her son Peter used to manage our Galaxy Bookshop when it was in Castlereagh Street.



Another of my favourite authors also died in April. Alan Sillitoe's **The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner** (\$25.99 Pb 176pp) was a groundbreaking book in the 60s and these stories are still a potent picture of the grim, working class Midlands. He also wrote **Saturday Night and Sunday Morning** (Pb \$28.99). Do you remember Albert Finney in that movie?



I recently enjoyed **The Legacy** (\$32.99 Pb 438pp) by Sydney writer Kirsten Tranter. This is a riff on Henry James's **The Portrait of a Lady** (\$9.95 Pb 656pp). It helps if you know this when you start (you might even want to reread Henry James), but this is a much easier read. It is set in Sydney and New York, where the rather well-off Ingrid (not Isabel this time) impresses all who meet her, including her gay cousin, the rich Ralph. Ingrid inherits yet more money from Ralph's father and sets off to blossom overseas, but makes an unfortunate marriage to an older,

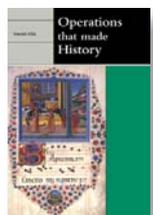
controlling art dealer. It seems Ingrid has been lost in the 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers. Ralph arranges for another of their group to go to New York to discover just what Ingrid's life was like there, so we are shown the sort of life led by rich young things in the art world of both Sydney and New York. There is much drinking and watching of videos. I'm not sure how they found the time to read all the books they seem to buy. In New York, no-one ever seems to cook. They send out or go out! This is an intriguing story told by a very observant narrator. Recommended.

Admirers of Rodney Hall, one of our best writers, will be pleased with his small memoir of several years growing up in England during WWII. It is called **Popeye Never Told You** (\$29.95 Hb 276pp) and is presented in the disarming, puzzled voice of a small child. A touching little book.



I want to recommend to you the new book by Yann Martel, who won the *Man Booker Prize* in 2002 for the puzzling **Life of Pi** (\$24.95 Pb, or \$33.95 Pb in Indonesian, upstairs in Language Book Centre!) Here is a writer who can be truly original, without striving. The book is called **Beatrice and Virgil** (\$32.95 Hb 196pp). Beatrice is a howler monkey and Virgil is a donkey. It is the most interesting, intriguing and ultimately shocking novel I have read for a long time. The narrator seems to be Yann Martel himself (certainly a man with a famous book behind him). He is struggling to

finish a book he is writing about the Holocaust. He becomes involved with a strange old man, a taxidermist, who wants help from him to finish a play he is writing about the extinction of animals. Both men are called Henry. This is a book worth keeping and rereading and rethinking. Interestingly, it has a notable design on the inside board cover, well hidden by the book's dust jacket. Altogether a great package.



I don't watch those TV shows featuring hospitals and surgery, but I know many people are interested, and might enjoy a book that Cambridge University Press has just reprinted called **Operations that Made History** by Harold Ellis (\$39.95 Pb 134pp). First published in 1996, it seems a bit old-fashioned (the author thanks "Mrs Katherine Ellis for her meticulous typing" - his wife surely?). Divided into *Major Breakthroughs*, *Innovations* and *Famous Patients*, even I think this is fascinating.

I don't often tell you about books in our Classical Studies section, located next to Roman History, but I can't resist this great title: **Transvestite Achilles: Gender and Genre in Statilius' Achilleid** (\$170 Hb, \$60.95 Pb 372pp). Students of Latin literature and gender in antiquity will look this up on our website for more details, but I just love the title!

Now I want to tell you about the most enjoyable book I have read this year. It is Antonia Fraser's **Must You Go? My Life with Harold Pinter** (\$50 Hb 328pp). This contains edited extracts from her diary covering the thirty-four years they lived together. For the first five years they could not marry because Harold was still married to actress Vivien Merchant. They had to withstand all the scandalous press when Lady Antonia - famous author, wife of a Conservative MP and mother of six children - went off with the stirrer for the East End! (Although Pinter did win the *Nobel Prize for Literature* in 2005). This is such a cheerful and interesting book.

They were so in love and so happy, happiness just oozes out of the book. Such a nice change! An endless line-up of famous writers and theatrical people pass through and, I am pleased to say, the children make frequent appearances as well. Harold's political forays also play a big part. The final years, when he was so sick, are sad but compelling. I had to stay up late to finish it. I also made a note to reread some of Antonia Fraser's historical biographies. She is such a lovely writer, with a nice sense of humour. She knows how to make a wonderful pen picture. Her most famous book is **Mary, Queen of Scots**, now out in a 40th Anniversary edition (\$27.99 Pb). She says this was the first time she had any money to speak of! Others include **Cromwell: Our Chief of Men** (\$32.99 Pb), **The Gunpowder Plot: Terror and Faith in 1605** (\$29.99 Pb), **King Charles II** (\$29.99 Pb), **Love and Louis XIV: The Women in the Life of the Sun King** (\$25 Pb), **Marie Antoinette** (\$27.99 Pb), **The Six Wives of Henry VIII** (\$27.99), **The Weaker Vessel: Woman's Lot in 17th Century England** (\$29.99 Pb) and her Jemima Shore detective stories in one volume, **Three Great Novels** (\$45 Pb), including **Cool Repentance**, **Oxford Blood** and **Your Royal Stage**.



I picked up a new title in Biography because it was by Chloe Schama. Yes, *that* Schama, because it is dedicated to "my father, who taught me how to tell a story". It is called **Wild Romance: The True Story of a Victorian Scandal** (\$29.99 Pb 249pp). Chloe has learnt her lesson well because she has made something out of nothing, but nevertheless it is an interesting picture of the life of a romantic and independent single woman in a society that really did not have a place for her.

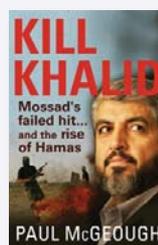
Our Food section once had a sub-section for Food History, but the pressure of so many cookbooks meant we shifted these history books into World History, where you will now find a rather enjoyable illustrated book by Anna Selby called **Food Through the Ages: Stuffed Dormice to Pineapple Hedgehogs** (\$35 Hb 272pp). Remember Pineapple Hedgehogs? I do! This is a special price and stocks are limited.

Our famous Annual Sale is on this month (19 to 27 June). You will find lots of interesting and obscure books at much reduced prices and also receive one Discount Dollar for every \$10 worth of books you buy (including the reduced books) which can be used to buy anything here until 30 September. So come in often and see what's available. Remember to go upstairs to check the sale stock on the tables in Language Book Centre too. I've seen a box of fiction in French just waiting to be reduced. Good Luck!

Eve

NSW Premier's Literary Award Winners

Non-Fiction &
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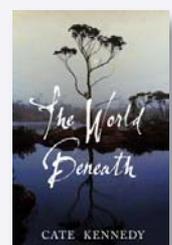
Tp \$35.00

Christina Stead
Prize for Fiction



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People's Choice
Award



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NON-FICTION

- The Fall of the West: The Death of the Roman Superpower** by Adrian Goldsworthy (Tp \$32.99)
- What's Wrong with Anzac?: The Militarisation of Australian History** by Marilyn Lake & Henry Reynolds (Pb \$29.95)
- Carthage Must be Destroyed: The Rise and Fall of an Ancient Civilization** by Richard Miles (Hb \$59.95)
- Ill Fares the Land: A Treatise on Our Present Discontents** by Tony Judt (Pb \$29.95)
- Priceless: The Myth of Fair Value (and How to Take Advantage of It)** by William Poundstone (Tp \$35.00)
- Quarterly Essay #37: What's Right? On the Future of Conservatism** by Waleed Aly (Pb \$19.95)
- The Big Short: Inside the Doomsday Machine** by Michael Lewis (Hb \$39.95)
- The Anzac Book** Edited by C E W Bean (Hb \$49.95)
- A Little Book of Language** by David Crystal (Hb \$29.95)
- The Invention of the Jewish People** by Shlomo Sand (Hb \$57.00)

FICTION

- Solar** by Ian McEwan (Tp \$32.95)
- Wolf Hall** by Hilary Mantel (Pb \$24.99)
- Corduroy Mansions** by Alexander McCall Smith (Pb \$22.95)
- Parrot and Olivier in America** by Peter Carey (Tp \$32.95)
- Ransom** by David Malouf (Pb \$24.95)
- So Much for That** by Lionel Shriver (Tp \$32.99)
- The White Woman on the Green Bicycle** by Monique Roffey (Pb \$24.95)
- Lunch in Paris: A Delicious Love Story, with Recipes** by Elizabeth Bard (Tp \$35.00)
- Major Pettigrew's Last Stand** by Helen Simonson (Tp \$32.99)
- Beatrice and Virgil** by Yann Martel (Hb \$39.95)

Editor: Ann Leahy

Contributors: Eve Abbey, Lindy Jones, Adrian Hardingham & Ann Leahy

Binding Key

- Pb Paperback
- Tp Trade paperback (slightly larger)
- Hb Hardback

NOW IN PAPERBACK

FICTION

The Infinities by John Banville Pb \$22.99
Old Adam Godley's time on earth is drawing to an end, and as his wife and children gather at the family home, little do they realise that they are not the only ones who have come to observe the spectacle. The mischievous Greek gods have come too; as tensions fray and desire bubbles over, their spying soon becomes an intrusion, until the mortals' lives seem to be changing faster than they can cope with.

Italian Shoes by Henning Mankell \$24.95
A moving, compelling and powerful new novel by the author of the Wallander mysteries.

NON-FICTION

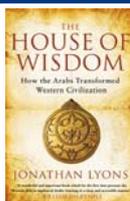
Public Enemies by Michel Houellebecq & Bernard-Henri Levy \$29.99
Two of France's most celebrated and notorious thinkers clash head-on in an awe-inspiring, hilarious and revealing battle of the literary titans.

Strange Days Indeed: The Golden Age of Paranoia by Francis Wheen \$24.99
Wheen tells the story of how the paranoia exemplified by Nixon and Wilson became the defining characteristic of Western politics and culture in the 1970s.

The Bitter Sea: The Brutal World War II Fight for the Mediterranean by Simon Ball \$24.99
A gripping history of the Mediterranean campaigns from the first rumblings of conflict through the Second World War and into the uneasy peace of the late 1940s.

Catherine the Great by Simon Dixon \$27.99
Empress, empire-builder, intellectual, art-collector and lover - this magnificent new biography does full justice to a truly remarkable ruler.

Trotsky: A Biography by Robert Service \$29.99
"There is much to attract the general reader of biography, and there are fascinating findings from the archives for the specialist. Service's biography is a Trotsky for our times." - *History Today*



The House of Wisdom: How the Arabs Transformed Western Civilization by Jonathan Lyons \$24.99
The fascinating story of how an English scholar brought Arab learning to the West and rescued it from the Dark Ages.

Churchill's Bunker:

The Secret Quarters at the Heart of Britain's War Victory by Richard Holmes \$23.99
It was from the secret, cramped confines of the Cabinet War Rooms that Winston Churchill helped turn a seemingly inevitable defeat at the hands of the Nazis into a famous victory. Now, for the first time, the history of the bunker - and daily life inside it - is revealed.

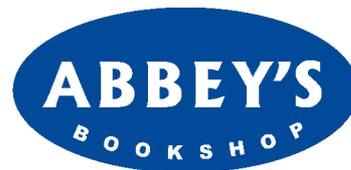
Not with a Bang But a Whimper: The Politics and Culture of Decline

by Theodore Dalrymple \$26.95
Dalrymple takes the measure of our cultural decline, with special attention to Britain - its bureaucratic muddle, oppressive welfare mentality and aimless young - all pursued in the name of democracy and freedom. He shows how terrorism and the growing numbers of Muslim minorities have changed our public life.



The Pleasures and Sorrows of Work by Alain De Botton \$26.95
Work makes us. Without it we are at a loss; in work we hope to have a measure of control over our lives. Yet for many of us, work is a straitjacket from which we cannot free ourselves. Criss-crossing

the world to visit workplaces and workers, both ordinary and extraordinary, and drawing on the wit and wisdom of great artists, writers and thinkers, De Botton explores our love-hate relationship with our jobs.



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