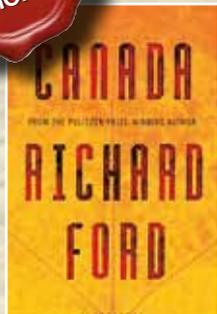


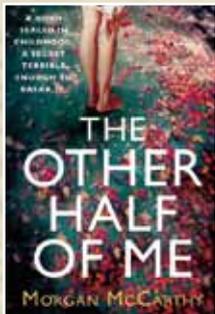
Abbey's Choice

**Abbey's Choice**

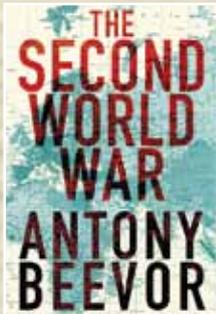
Our pick of the new releases at Abbey's special prices



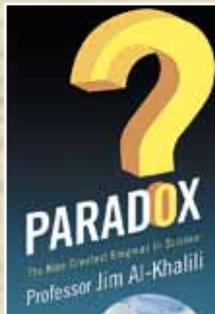
\$29.99 **\$24.99**  
page 3



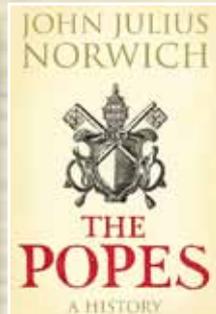
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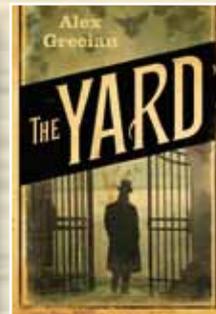
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See Crime Chronicle



**Great Expectations: Government, Entitlement and an Angry Nation**  
Quarterly Essay #46  
Laura Tingle

Rather than relaxed and comfortable, Australians are disenchanted with politics and politicians.

The problem runs deep in Australian culture: our great expectations of government. Since the deregulation era, governments can now do less, but we wish they could do more. From Hawke to Gillard, each prime minister has grappled with this – government as saviour and provider. Now the Age of Entitlement is coming to an end. But what will a different politics look like? What answer can be given to our great expectations? 128pp Tp \$19.99

*Notes from Eve Abbey...*

I must enthusiastically recommend Gillian Mears' wonderfully well-written book **Foal's Bread**. It is not a good title, but... [page 10]

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David Xiong who won our 30 Vintage Classics competition.

What a fantastic prize and a big thank you to Random House for making the prize available.

*Text Classics*

**The Glass Canoe**  
David Ireland



When the *Text Classics* range was first announced, this was the book that really got me excited! I consider David Ireland to be one of THE best writers and it has always staggered me that the works of this three-time winner of the *Miles Franklin Award* have been allowed to go out of print. So you can be forgiven if you don't know them - and more so if you read this novel, the 1976 *Miles Franklin* winner. Lance, better known as Meat Man, is chronicling his 'tribe' - the habitués of the Southern Cross Hotel, somewhere in blue-collar Northmead. Theirs is a life of casual attitudes to sex, work and violence, centred around alcohol and their own particular watering hole, but there is also loyalty (no matter how misplaced) and inarticulate tolerance towards each other (unless they transgress - as one character does). Meat Man is capable of appreciating nature with an almost pagan and poetic sensibility, but it is the colourful tales of the characters that makes an unforgettable, impressionistic portrait of working class life. The story is in the glimpses, and the power of it is in the reading. See for yourself! *Lindy*

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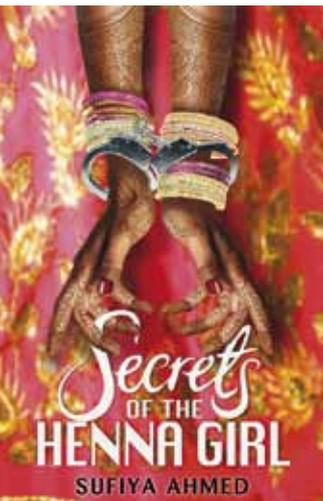
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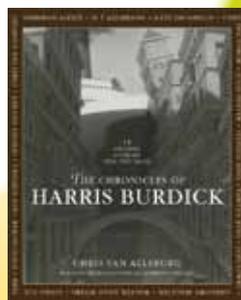
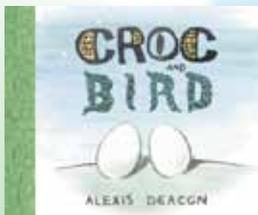


## Secrets of the Henna Girl Sufiya Ahmed

Zeba has grown up in England, an obedient daughter to her Pakistani parents. She is planning university studies and generally looking forward to life and love. She goes on holiday to visit relations in rural Pakistan, only to find that her father has promised her in marriage to her cousin, without her knowledge or consent. How can she reconcile her lovingly indulgent father with the prideful tyrant he becomes, and how can she escape from the unwanted marriage? An interesting and absorbing novel of cultural expectations and differences. Ages 14+ 288pp Pb \$16.95

## Croc and Bird Alexis Deacon

Two eggs hatch, side-by-side. One has a bird, the other a crocodile, but they don't know they're not brothers, so together they grow and share, teaching each other the skills they need. When the river carries them down to a place with more birds and crocodiles, they realise they're not related, and separate: but do they find happiness amongst the others who look like them? A deceptively simple, profound and moving picture book, with delightful illustrations that convey cleverness, warmth and whimsy. 32pp Hb \$24.95



## The Chronicles of Harris Burdick Chris van Allsburg

Back in 1984, van Allsburg published a mostly wordless and haunting book **The Mysteries of Harris Burdick** (Pb \$17.95). This new book is a collection of well known authors' responses to the loosely related images - people like Sherman Alexie, M T Anderson, Kate DiCamillo, Cory Doctorow, Stephen King, Lois Lowry, Gregory Maguire, Linda Sue Park, Louis Sachar, Jon Scieszka and Lemony Snicket weave their word magic to match the black and white illustrations. A fascinating exercise that will appeal to readers of many ages! 236pp Hb \$29.95

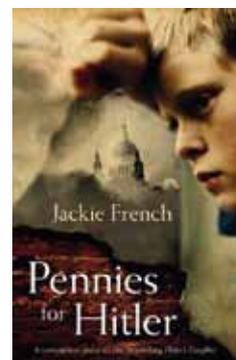
## I'll Save You Bobo! Eileen & Mark Rosenthal

Willy doesn't like the book he's just read - the big dinosaur doesn't eat the little one - so he decides to write one of his own, using his toy monkey Bobo as the hero. It would be easier if Earl the cat didn't keep getting in the way... Simply coloured, almost retro illustrations, but the concept is very easily recognisable: who hasn't heard a young boy making up a story with mounting excitement as he keeps adding more and more dangers and details? A lot of fun! Hb \$19.99



## Pennies for Hitler Jackie French

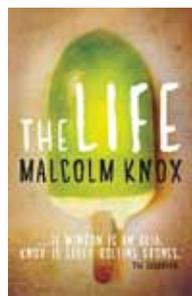
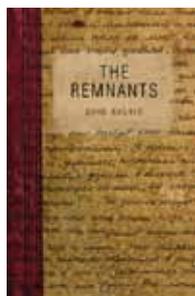
Georg loves his life in Germany, but his parents realise that Hitler means war and it is not safe for a half-English boy to stay in the country. He is smuggled out to England, where it is no safer; and then across the oceans to Australia. There he has to live a lie, denying his past and his identity - his German background would automatically make him a despised enemy, and his attitudes and what he has been taught to believe in pro-Nazi Germany will find no sympathy in his new home. As always, French writes simply and powerfully and this thoughtful novel will please her fans. Ages 12+ 224pp Pb \$14.95



## AUSTRALIAN FICTION

## The Remnants John Hughes

A manuscript written by an Australian art historian is discovered (after his death) by his son. Claiming to have discovered a series of lost paintings by Piero della Francesca in the Tuscan city of Arezzo, the manuscript moves between Renaissance Italy and post-Revolutionary Russia. The son makes his own journey to Italy, opening up Australia in the form of a journey he took with his father to the Simpson Desert 30 years before. 240pp Tp \$29.95



## The Life Malcolm Knox

Former world champion Australian surfer, Dennis Keith, is now bloated and paranoid - holed up in his mother's retirement village. Years before he'd been robbed of the world title that had his name on it - and then drugs, his brother and the murder of his girlfriend had done the rest. Out of the blue, a young would-be biographer comes knocking and stirs up buried memories. It takes Dennis a while to realise that she's not there to write his story at all... 416pp Pb \$23.99

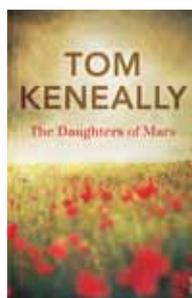


## My Hundred Lovers Susan Johnson

Turning 50 can make anyone look back on their life, and in 100 short chapters, the narrator of this novel tells of her many loves and reveals the way her life has turned out. Not all of the hundred are lovers; as often as not it is the woman's recollection of sensual moments, rather than erotic, and of her responses to them. A novel of self-awareness, hard-won wisdom, and tender forgiveness and acceptance of self. *Lindy* 240pp Tp \$27.99

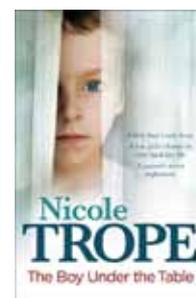
## The Daughters of Mars Tom Keneally

In 1915, sisters Naomi and Sally Durance answer a call for nurses to join the war effort. In Egypt, they are put to work on the Red Cross hospital ship *Archimedes* as it patrols the Dardanelles. Here they must face the inhumanity of war in its terrible guises - where trench warfare and gas abound. But it is here that the sisters meet the remarkable men with whom they wish to spend the rest of their lives. A tale inspired by journals of Australian nursing sisters during the Great War effort. 608pp Tp \$32.95



## The Boy Under the Table Nicole Trope

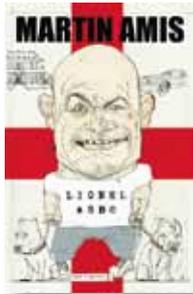
Tina is a young woman on the streets of Kings Cross. Entering into sex work, she agrees to go home with a customer one night. What she finds in his house will change her life forever. Sarah and Doug are frozen in grief on their farm in Cootamundra, unable to come to terms with the tragedy that has taken over their lives. Pete is the local police sergeant, powerless to stop the slow death of a treasured local family. Every day brings a fresh hell for each of them - but also hope. 280pp Tp \$29.99



## FICTION

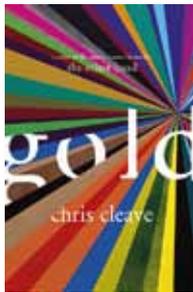
### Lionel Asbo *State of England* Martin Amis

Lionel Asbo - a very violent, but not very successful, young criminal - is going about his morning duties in a London prison when he learns he has just won £139,999,999.50 on the National Lottery. This is not necessarily good news for his ward and nephew, the orphaned Des Pepperdine, who still has reason to fear his uncle's implacable vengeance. Savage, funny and mysteriously poignant, this is a modern fairy tale from one of the world's most popular writers. 288pp Tp \$32.95



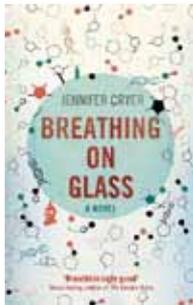
### Gold Chris Cleave

A story about the limits of human endurance, both physical and emotional. It will make you cry. A story about what drives us to succeed and what we sacrifice for success. It will make you glad to be alive. A story about the struggles we face every day; the conflict between winning on others' terms and triumphing on your own. It will make you count your blessings. 384pp Tp \$32.99



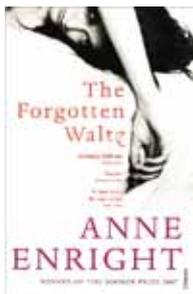
### Breathing on Glass Jennifer Cryer

Rhea and her sister Amber are not alike, but they are bound by love. Lewis is Amber's husband and the director of the biotech lab where Rhea is a rising star. In search of funding, academic advancement and the perfect stem cell, Rhea and Lewis trust in science. Amber, embarking on fertility treatment, must confront her physicality. A Faustian pact is forged and the three are drawn into a transgressive relationship, resulting in a series of betrayals that none will be able to forgive... 320pp Tp \$29.99



### The Forgotten Waltz Anne Enright

"If it hadn't been for the child, then none of this might have happened. She saw me kissing her father. She saw her father kissing me. The fact that a child got mixed up in it all made us feel that it mattered, that there was no going back." This story is that rare thing: the literary page-turner. An acutely tender depiction of the complex familial bonds joining us, a delicate portrait of love, loss and hope, from a formidably talented writer. 240pp Pb \$19.95

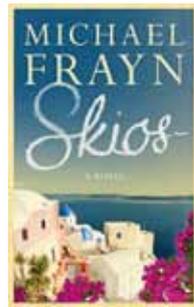


### Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk Ben Fountain

Returning to Texas from the war, 19-year-old Billy Lynn has become a national celebrity. A Fox News crew filmed Billy and the rest of the Bravo squad defeating Iraqi insurgents in a ferocious firefight. The story follows Billy and his fellow Bravos through a climactic afternoon, as they mix with the rich and powerful. They will learn hard truths about love and death, family and friendship, duty and honour. Tomorrow, they must go back to war. 320pp Tp \$29.99

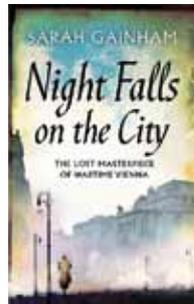
### Skios Michael Frayn

On the Greek island of Skios, the Fred Toppler Foundation's annual lecture is to be given by the surprisingly young and charming Dr Norman Wilfred, the authority on the scientific organisation of science. Meanwhile, at the other end of the island, Georgie waits for the man she has rashly agreed to go on holiday with - and who has failed to turn up. Trapped in the villa with her is an old gent called Dr Norman Wilfred, whose only possession is the text on the scientific organisation of science... 288pp Tp \$29.99



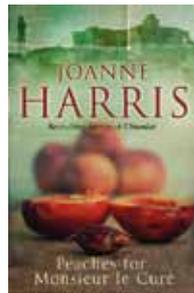
### Night Falls on the City *The Lost Masterpiece of Wartime Vienna* Sarah Gainham

Vienna, 1938. Beautiful actress Julia Homburg and her politician husband Franz Wedeker embody all the enlightened brilliance of their native city. But Wedeker is Jewish and just across the border the tanks of the Nazi Reich are primed for the Anschluss. When the SS invades and disappearances become routine, Franz must be concealed. With daring ingenuity, Julia must strike a series of hateful bargains with the new order if she and her husband are to survive. 640pp Tp \$29.99

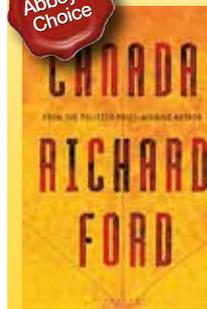


### Peaches for Monsieur le Curé Joanne Harris

When Vianne Rocher receives a letter from beyond the grave, she has no choice but to follow the wind that blows her back to Lansquenet, the village in which eight years ago she opened up a chocolate shop. But returning to her old home, Vianne is completely unprepared for what she finds there. Women veiled in black, the scent of spices and peppermint tea - and there, on the bank of the river Tannes, facing the church, a minaret... 464pp Tp \$32.95



Abbey's  
Choice



### Canada Richard Ford

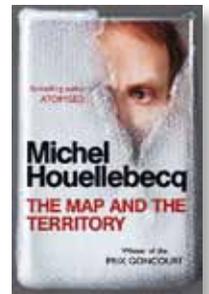
This wonderful new book, set in the 50's is lengthy, engrossing and quite unique. The story is narrated by Dell, the teenage son of Bev and Neeva, and twin of his bossy sister Berner. Dell has been used to moving around while his father is employed by the military. But now Bev has left the air force and has brought his family to Great Falls, a small, dull town in America's south.

It's the summer holidays and Dell can't wait for them to end so he can attend the local school for he has a strong thirst for knowledge. Father Bev tries his hand at various jobs, selling cars and then farm plots, but he's not very successful and when an opportunity to make some money selling cattle rustled by the local Indians arises he is immediately involved and very soon out of his depth. Neeva, his artistic and ethereal wife, is a teacher, a loving mother and soon to be a party to his criminal activities.

This is a worrying, tense and strange book with memorable characters and a surprising, yet utterly believable, plot. Written in a plain style, but with descriptions that vividly depict the dusty towns where Dell and his family live happily - until an act of desperation by his parents tears the family apart and sends Dell to Canada, where he meets the unpredictable and charismatic Arthur and gets to work in his sleazy hotel. A great book! **Peter** 432pp Tp \$29.99 **\$24.99**

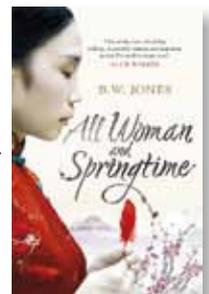
### The Map and the Territory Michel Houellebecq

Artist Jed Martin emerges from a 10-year hiatus with good news: for his new exhibition, he has secured the involvement of none other than celebrated novelist Michel Houellebecq. The exhibition brings Jed new levels of global fame. But his boiler is still broken, his ailing father flirts with oblivion and, worst of all, he is contacted by an inspector requiring his help in solving an unspeakable and gruesome crime involving... Michel Houellebecq! 304pp Pb \$19.95



### All Woman and Springtime B W Jones

Gi and Il-sun live behind North Korea's iron curtain under the watchful eye of Dear Leader. As orphans, life is a struggle against hunger and fear. But tender Gi and headstrong Il-sun find consolation in each other and their friendship deepens into that of sisterhood. But when a man comes into their lives, Gi and Il-sun are taken from their jobs in a clothing factory and spirited to the South, where their entire understanding of the world will be tested. 384pp Tp \$29.99

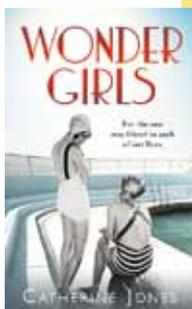


ABBEY'S CHOICE



## Wonder Girls Catherine Jones

In 1928, a plucky young Welsh girl named Ida Gaze swims the Bristol Channel with the help of her best friend Freda and the inspiration of her heroine, Amelia Earhart. In 1937, on the instructions of the matron, a young skivvy at a grand maternity hospital in London smuggles out an orphaned baby. Now, in a small town in Wales, an old lady named Ceci pieces together these stories and is about to discover the link to her own story... 416pp Tp \$29.99



## The Other Half of Me Morgan McCarthy

Jonathan and Theo grow up on an impressive Welsh estate. They are largely neglected, as their beautiful but remote mother prefers gin to children, their father died when they were tiny, and the servants are busy looking after their own interests. When their glamorous grandmother, Eve, returns to her family home after years in America where she became a legendary - indeed, iconic - feminist and politician, the children's lives improve. At least someone is paying attention to them. As they grow up, Theo's fragile hold on reality starts to unravel and Jonathan finds that not everything falls into his lap as he has been led to believe. Nor is everything they've been told about their past true... A lushly written debut novel of privilege and family secrets. **Lindy** 384pp Tp ~~\$29.99~~ **\$24.99**



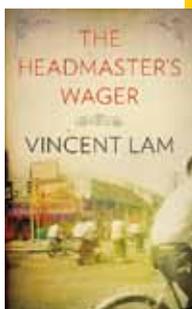
## Seating Arrangements Maggie Shipstead

59-year-old patriarch Winn Van Meter is going to his family's retreat on the New England island of Waskeke, to marry off his daughter Daphne. Winn's wife Biddy has arranged the wedding with military precision and though Winn loves Biddy, is it enough? His unrequited yearning for Daphne's bridesmaid, Agatha, comes to boiling point as she taunts him at every turn, prompting him to ask questions about his life. Did he marry the right woman? Did he make the most of his youth? 320pp Tp \$29.99



## The Headmaster's Wager Vincent Lam

Percival Chen is the business-savvy and well-connected headmaster of the most respected English school in Saigon. But when his only son gets into trouble with the Vietnamese authorities, Percival is forced to send him away. In the loneliness that follows, Percival finds solace in Jacqueline and a new son. But as the complexities of war encroach further into his world, he must confront the tragedy of all he has refused to see... 432pp Tp \$27.99



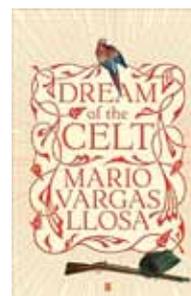
## This is How it Ends Kathleen MacMahon

A story of unexpected, life-changing love, set in the autumn of 2008. Ireland. Family secrets. Laughter. Tragedy. Lehman Brothers. Obama's election. Swimming. Dogs. Big beaches. Loneliness. And the lovers, Addie and Bruno... 416pp Tp \$29.99



## The Dream of the Celt Mario Vargas Llosa

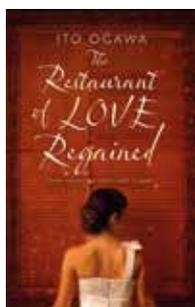
It is 1916 and Roger Casement awaits the hangman in London's Pentonville Prison. Dublin is in ruins after the disastrous Easter Rising led by his comrades of the Irish Volunteers. For the past year, Casement has attempted to raise an Irish brigade from prisoners of war to fight beside the Germans against the British Empire. But now his petition for clemency is threatened by the leaking of his private diary and his secret life as a gay man... 416pp Tp \$29.99



## Bertie Plays the Blues Scotland St #7

### Alexander McCall Smith

On Scotland Street, in Edinburgh, domestic accord is in short supply. Matthew and Elspeth welcome three new arrivals, though the joys of multiple parenthood are somewhat lost due to sleep deprivation and the difficulties of telling their brood apart. Angus and Domenica are to marry and Domenica has ambitious and disturbing plans for their living arrangements. And little Bertie, feeling blue, puts himself up for adoption on eBay. 272pp Pb \$19.99



## The Restaurant of Love Regained Ito Ogawa

Returning home from work, Rinko finds her flat totally empty - all her kitchen tools and her boyfriend - gone. She has no choice but to return to her mother in her native village. There she decides to open a very special restaurant, one that serves food for only one couple every day, according to their personal tastes and wishes. Welcome to the Katatsumuri, the magic restaurant whose delicate food can heal heartache and help its customers find love again. 256pp Pb \$19.99

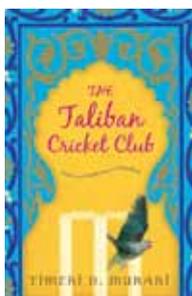


## The Submission Amy Waldman

A jury gathers in Manhattan to select a memorial for the victims of a terrorist attack. Their deliberations complete, the jurors open the envelope containing the anonymous winner's name and discover he is an American Muslim - an enigmatic, ambitious architect named Mohammad Khan. Instantly they are cast into a roiling debate about the claims of grief, the ambiguities of art and the meaning of Islam. This is a story about remembering and understanding national tragedy. 416pp Pb \$19.95

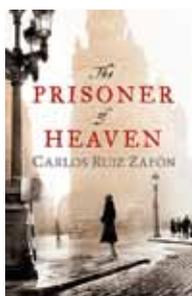
## The Taliban Cricket Club Timeri Murari

Rukhsana, a spirited young journalist in Kabul, is summoned to the Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and Prevention of Vice to face its minister, Zorak Wahidi. A cricket tournament is announced, with the winning team destined to represent Afghanistan on an international level. But no one in Afghanistan knows how to play cricket - except Rukhsana. The tournament offers hope and with the help of her cousins, Rukhsana devises a plan that could ensure their freedom. 328pp Tp \$29.99



## The Prisoner of Heaven Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Barcelona, 1957. Daniel and Bea have a son and are living with Daniel's father at Sempere & Sons. One morning, a mysterious man enters the shop wanting to buy an expensive edition of *The Count of Monte Cristo*. To Daniel's surprise, the man inscribes the book with the words "To Fermin Romero de Torres, who came back from the dead and who holds the key to the future". This visit leads back to a story of imprisonment, betrayal and the return of a deadly rival... 304pp Tp \$29.95



## The Age of Miracles Karen Thompson Walker

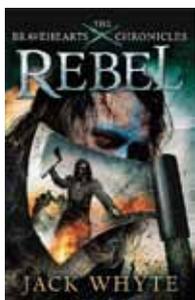
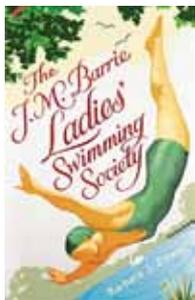
One morning, Julia and her parents wake up in their suburban home in California to discover, along with the rest of the world, that Earth's rotation is noticeably slowing. The enormity of this is almost beyond comprehension. But even if the world is coming to an end, day-to-day life must go on. Julia, facing the loneliness and despair of an awkward adolescence, witnesses the impact of this phenomenon on the world, the community, her family and herself. 384pp Tp \$29.99



## The J M Barrie Ladies' Swimming Society

Barbara Jane Zitwer

New York architect Joey Rubin has come to the Cotswolds to oversee the restoration of Stanway House - the stately home that inspired J M Barrie to write *Peter Pan*. But the local residents aren't welcoming and the brooding caretaker seems to be undermining her plans. She soon feels she can't do anything right... until she encounters the J M Barrie Ladies' Swimming Society, whose members teach her that it's not the house that needs restoring - it's her. 304pp Pb \$22.99



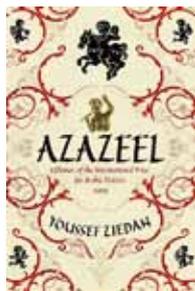
## Rebel Bravehearts Chronicles #1 Jack Whyte

1305. In a dank London cell, the outlaw William Wallace waits to be executed at first light. He is visited by a Scottish priest who has come to hear his last confession - the

confession of a life even more exciting, violent and astonishing than the legend that survived. A story of brutal battles and high adventure, of heroism and redemption - this is the story of William Wallace as the world has never heard it before! 464pp Pb \$19.99

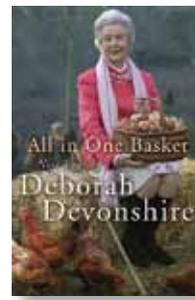
## Azazel Youssef Ziedan

5th century. Hypa, the Coptic monk, embarks on a physical and spiritual journey, encountering the devil, Azazel. At times able to resist, while at others bending to the strengths of his desire, Hypa learns that physical pleasure and spiritual enlightenment can be two sides of the same coin. Winner of the Arab Booker Prize, this story highlights how the history of our civilisation has been warped by greed and avarice since its very beginnings. 320pp Tp \$29.99



## All in One Basket Deborah Devonshire

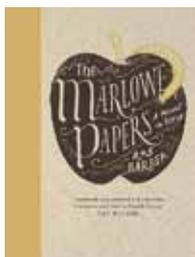
The unmistakable voice of Deborah Devonshire rings out of this volume which combines her two collections of writings - **Home to Roost** and **Counting my Chickens**. The pieces are broad and eclectic in their subjects, ranging from treasures unearthed while the kitchen was being redecorated, musings on the reason for the reworded town sign, tourism at Chatsworth, a ringside view of both JFK's inauguration and funeral, and the value of deportment. 368pp Pb \$22.99



## HISTORICAL FICTION

### The Marlowe Papers Ros Barber

In 1593, a celebrated young playwright was killed in a tavern brawl in London. That, at least, was the official version. Now let Christopher Marlowe tell you the truth: that his 'death' was an elaborate ruse to avoid his being hanged for heresy; that he was spirited across the Channel to live in lonely exile, longing for his true love and pining for the streets of London; that he continued to write plays and poetry, hiding behind the name of a man from Stratford: William Shakespeare... 464pp Tp \$29.99



### The Knot Jane Borodale

1565. In a remote corner of Somerset, English botanist Henry Lyte has begun neglecting his other responsibilities in pursuit of knowledge. Married again after the death of his first wife, he tries to forget the past, but he is uneasy and plagued by old family troubles. When the unexpected death of his father unleashes the malevolence of his stepmother, he is unprepared for this new threat that could destroy everything he has come to love... 448pp Pb \$24.99



### Conquest Kydd #12 Julian Stockwin

Victory at the Battle of Trafalgar removed the spectre of invasion and England is now free to conquer and colonise the world. Captain Kydd joins an expedition to take Dutch-held Cape Town, a strategic imperative to secure the trade route to India. But even if the British can take possession of the capital, there is still more fighting to be done. Kydd and his men must defend the fragile colony from attacks, while braving the hostile environment of Africa's hinterland. 352pp Pb \$22.99



## BIOGRAPHY

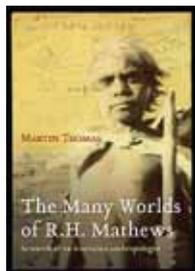
### The Lost Woman Sydney Smith

When Sydney Smith was nine, she thought about killing herself because of her mother's cruelty. When she reached puberty, her mother sexually assaulted her - a pattern repeated over the years. By the time Sydney was 20, she believed there were cameras behind every mirror in the house, that her mother could read her mind, that anybody who looked at her could see the bloody fantasies of murder and mutilation which tormented her. A rare and disturbing memoir. 256pp Tp \$32.95



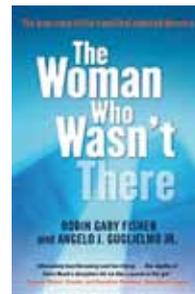
### The Many Worlds of R H Mathews In Search of an Australian Anthropologist Martin Thomas

19th century ethnologist R H Mathews grew up with Aboriginal children as playmates. When he began documenting Aboriginal life, he approached the subject with fond familiarity - not with the freak show interest that spurred many English anthropologists of the time. His legacy is now being used by contemporary Aboriginal people to rejuvenate their culture. This is not a conventional biography, but an account more tuned to the revelations it contains. Winner of the 2012 National Biography Award. 472pp Tp \$35



### The Woman Who Wasn't There Robin Gaby Fisher & Angelo Guglielmo Jr

Tania Head's account of her harrowing experience as a 9/11 survivor transformed her into one of the greatest heroes of that tragic day. But it eventually emerged that her account was completely false! This is the story of one of the most audacious quests for acclaim in recent memory - a story that poses questions about morality and the human need for connection at any cost. 288pp Tp \$29.99



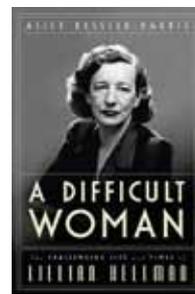
### I Suck at Girls Justin Halpern

Soon after the TV show *Sh\*t My Dad Says* began to take off, comic writer Justin Halpern decided to propose to his girlfriend. Before doing so, he asked for his dad's advice, which was very simple: "Just take a day to think about it." This is a trip down memory lane, to the adventures and misadventures of youthful relationships. An amusing, true book about life, sex and love. 300pp Pb \$19.99



### A Difficult Woman The Challenging Life and Times of Lillian Hellman Alice Kessler-Harris

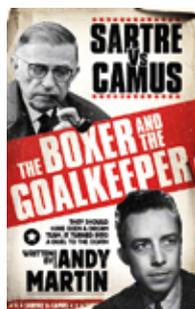
Lillian Hellman was one of the most successful female playwrights on Broadway. As a non-Jewish Jew, a displaced Southerner, a passionate political voice without a party, an artist immersed in commerce, a sexually free woman and a writer of memoirs, she was a woman who made her own way in a man's world. Kessler-Harris has crafted a nuanced life of Hellman - empathetic yet unsparing - situating her in the varied contexts which she moved, from New Orleans to Broadway. 448pp Hb \$39.99



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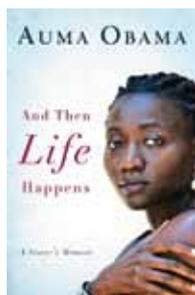
**The Boxer and the Goalkeeper**  
*Sartre versus Camus*  
**Andy Martin**

Jean-Paul Sartre and Albert Camus first became friends in Occupied Paris during WWII. In 1943, they sat in a cafe with Simone de Beauvoir and began a discussion about life, love and literature that would finally tear them apart. What if the friction between the two is also the source of our own inevitable conflicts? Martin relives the existential drama that binds Sartre and Camus, remixing a philosophical dialogue that speaks to us now. 352pp Hb \$29.99



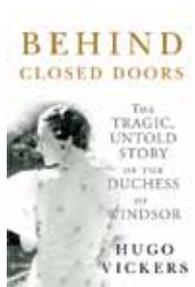
**And Then Life Happens**  
*A Sister's Memoir*  
**Auma Obama**

While her younger brother Barack grew up in the US and Indonesia, Auma Obama's childhood played out in a village in Kenya, the birthplace of the siblings' shared father. Barack and Auma met for the first time in the 1980s, building a lasting relationship that led to Auma's support for her brother's political career. In this candid and emotional memoir, Auma shares her own story, as well as her recollections and experiences with her famous brother. 352pp Pb \$29.99



**Behind Closed Doors**  
*The Tragic, Untold Story of the Duchess of Windsor*  
**Hugo Vickers**

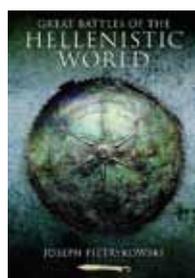
There have been a number of books written about the Duchess of Windsor, but this account brings a new perspective to the story by focusing on the later years of exile. Vickers makes it clear that Mrs Simpson did not lure the King from the throne; the drama of this narrative comes from the criminal exploitation of an old, sick woman after the death of her husband. This is a tragic story that has lost none of its resonance since the Duchess died in 1986. 480pp Pb \$19.95



**HISTORY**

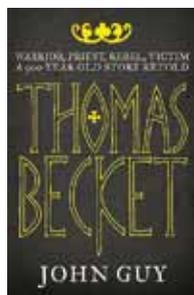
**Great Battles of the Hellenistic World**  
**Joseph Pietrykowski**

For almost 200 years the Macedonian phalanx - created by Philip II and refined by his son, Alexander the Great - dominated the battlefields of the ancient world, from the sweltering riverbanks of India to the wooded hills of Italy. Pietrykowski explores the struggles that shook the ancient world and shaped history, examining 17 landmark conflicts - from Chaironeia to Pydna - over the course of 170 years of bloody warfare. 256pp Pb \$29.99



**Thomas Becket**  
*Warrior, Priest, Rebel, Victim: A 900-Year-Old Story Retold*  
**John Guy**

In 1120, the wife of a merchant gave birth in London's bustling Cheapside. Despite his sickly constitution and middle-class background, Thomas Becket became the most powerful man in the kingdom, second only to Henry II himself. He led knights into battle, brokered peace between nations, held the ear of the Pope and brought one of the strongest rulers in Christendom to his knees. Drawing on a vast array of records, this is a compelling account of a remarkable man. 448pp Hb \$39.95



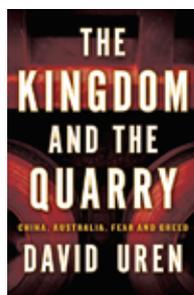
**Left Turn**  
*Political Essays for the New Left*  
**Antony Loewenstein & Jeff Sparrow [eds]**

This book is aimed at the many Australians disillusioned with the political process. It includes essays by writers and thinkers who openly identify with the Left - including Larissa Berendht, Christos Tsiolkas, Lee Rhiannon and Nazeem Hussain. They do not all agree with each other, but they do open windows in Australian public life and let in some much needed fresh air. 240pp Tp \$32.99



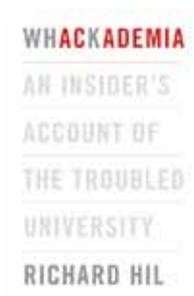
**The Kingdom and the Quarry**  
*China, Australia, Fear and Greed*  
**David Uren**

China has rapidly become Australia's most important trading partner, as well as the rising power in our region. Uren takes us inside the high-stakes world of the two countries' relationship. From resource grabs to cyber-surveillance, this authoritative and news-breaking book takes us inside key political and business events of recent times and tells us what really happened, portraying the sense of fear and greed in the corridors of power. 272pp Tp \$29.95



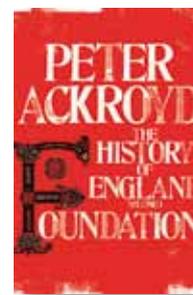
**Whackademia**  
*An Insider's Account of the Troubled University*  
**Richard Hil**

Despite the shiny rhetoric of excellence, quality, innovation and creativity, Australian universities face a barrage of criticism over claims of declining standards, decreased funding, compromised assessment, increased vocationalism, overburdened academics and never-ending reviews and restructures. Hil lifts the lid on a higher education system that is corporatised beyond recognition, steeped in bureaucracy and dominated by marketing, rather than intellectual pursuit. 240pp Tp \$34.99



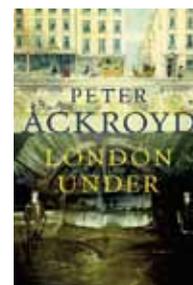
**Foundation**  
*The History of England Volume 1*  
**Peter Ackroyd**

Ackroyd takes us from Neolithic England 15,000 years ago to the glories of medieval England with its great churches and common law. With his extraordinary skill for evoking time and place, he tells the familiar story of king succeeding king, with profound insight and some surprising details - whether it be the food that was eaten or the jokes that were told. 356pp Pb \$22.99



**London Under**  
**Peter Ackroyd**

An introduction to everything that goes on beneath London - from original springs and streams and Roman amphitheatres to Victorian sewers, gang hideouts and modern Underground stations. This book tunnels down through the geological layers, meeting the creatures that dwell in the darkness - rats and eels, monsters and ghosts. From the Anglo-Saxon graves under St Paul's, to the gold bars within the Bank of England's vaults, Ackroyd takes readers on a journey to a hidden world. 208pp Pb \$19.95



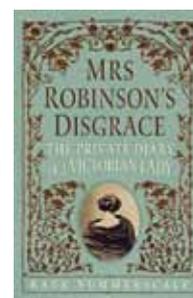
**A History of England in 100 Places**  
*From Stonehenge to the Gherkin*  
**John Julius Norwich**

From battlefield to sacred building, from castle to cottage, from the Bridgewater Canal to Blackpool Pier, Norwich tells the political, cultural, social, religious and economic story of England through 100 key places you can still visit today. Part narrative history, part exploration of our national heritage, his wide-ranging selection of sites will stimulate, entertain, inform and provoke a debate about the most significant moments in English history. 512pp Pb \$26.99



**Mrs Robinson's Disgrace**  
*The Private Diary of a Victorian Lady*  
**Kate Summerscale**

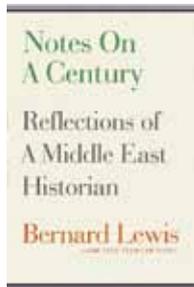
In 1850, Isabella Robinson set out for a party at the Edinburgh home of a rich widow, Lady Drysdale, a vivacious hostess whose soirees were the centre of an intellectual scene. When Mrs Robinson joined the throng, she was introduced to Lady Drysdale's son-in-law, Edward Lane. She was at once enchanted by the handsome Mr Lane, a medical student 10 years her junior. This is a compelling story of a society clinging to rigid ideas about marriage and female sexuality. 320pp Hb \$29.99



## Notes on a Century

*Reflections of a Middle East Historian*  
**Bernard Lewis**

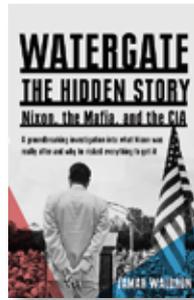
Coming from a relatively secular Jewish family, Lewis' interest in the Middle East seemed to be innate, rather than a reflection of his own personal history. Although his primary focus is on the Ottoman Empire, his expertise and language knowledge led to his involvement in the modern-day Middle Eastern conflict. This memoir addresses the difficult recent history of the Middle East from the perspective of one of the region's most famous historians. 400pp Hb \$49.99



## Watergate

*The Hidden Story: Nixon, the Mafia and the CIA*  
**Lamar Waldron**

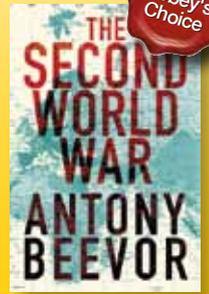
After almost 40 years, this book adds crucial missing pieces to the Watergate story - information that President Nixon wanted, but couldn't get. This new information reveals remarkable insights into Nixon's motivation for Watergate, and answers the two most important questions: What were the Watergate burglars after? And why was Nixon willing to risk his Presidency to get it? This book builds on decades of investigations by noted journalists and historians. 368pp Pb \$39.95



## The Second World War

**Antony Beevor**

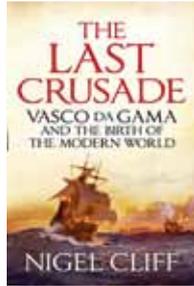
WWII began in August 1939 on the edge of Manchuria and ended there exactly six years later with the Soviet invasion of northern China. The war in Europe appeared completely divorced from the war in the Pacific and China, and yet events on opposite sides of the world had profound effects. Using the most up-to-date scholarship and research, Beevor assembles the whole picture in a gripping narrative that extends from the North Atlantic to the South Pacific. 880pp Hb ~~\$49.99~~ **\$44.99**



## The Last Crusade

*Vasco Da Gama and the Birth of the Modern World*  
**Nigel Cliff**

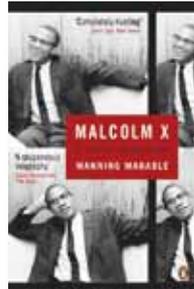
This is the complete account of Vasco da Gama's historic and audacious attempt to seize the spice routes and re-conquer the Holy Land in the 1400s. Outmaned and outgunned, He and his crew journeyed straight into the heart of the enemy, carving out the first accessible route to the riches of the East. Today, as the Arab world reclaims oil fields and the West flocks to the strength of India's tiger economy, the tide of religious imperialism continues to ebb and flow. 560pp Pb \$35



## Malcolm X

*A Life of Reinvention*  
**Manning Marable**

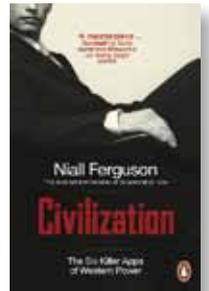
This biography of Malcolm X does justice to one of the most influential and controversial figures of the 20th century, unfolding a sweeping story of race and class in America. Reaching into his troubled youth, it traces a path from his parents' activism as followers of Marcus Garvey, through his own work with the Nation of Islam, and his rise in the world of black nationalism, culminating in the story of his assassination. 608pp Pb \$24.95



## Civilization

*The Six Killer Apps of Western Power*  
**Niall Ferguson**

If you had been able to compare the dazzling civilisations of the Orient with Europe and North America in 1411, the idea that the West would eventually dominate the rest would have struck you as wildly fanciful. So how did it happen? Ferguson argues for the West's development of six 'killer applications': competition, science, democracy, medicine, consumerism and the work ethic. But has the West now lost its monopoly on these? 432pp Pb \$22.95



## Sister Queens

*Katherine of Aragon and Juana, Queen of Castile*  
**Julia Fox**

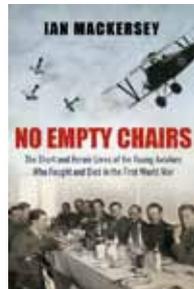
Katherine of Aragon, Henry VIII's first bride, is iconic. Her sister, Juana of Castile - wife of Philip of Burgundy and mother of the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V - is a legend. She was 'Juana the Mad', the wife so passionately in love with her husband that she kept his coffin by her side for year upon year. Katherine and Juana were Sister Queens during a time when even royal women had to fight for their positions in society. This vibrant biography teems with life in a turbulent age. 432pp Pb \$27.99



## No Empty Chairs

*The Short and Heroic Lives of the Young Aviators Who Fought and Died in the First World War*  
**Ian Mackersey**

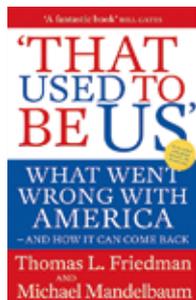
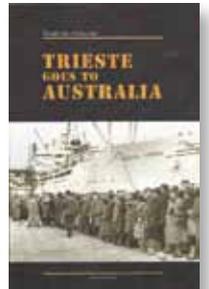
In the spring of 1917, when the world's first great air war was at its height, British squadrons were losing 200 pilots a month. Their life expectancy was just 11 days. This is the story of that first great air war, illustrating its devastating emotional impact on the participants and their families in a narrative enriched by the private correspondence that flowed between them, as well as diaries, reports and interviews. 384pp Hb \$49.99



## Trieste Goes to Australia

**Gianfranco Cresciani**

This history of Italian immigrants to Australia documents the controversial departure from Trieste of 'political refugees', their integration into the Australian way of life, and their successes and failures. Using interviews, archival and private documents and migrant newspapers, Cresciani reveals the heartaches and joys of the Triestine diaspora. Pb \$30

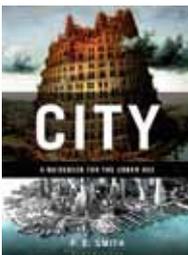


## That Used to Be Us

*What Went Wrong with America - and How it Can Come Back*  
**Thomas Friedman & Michael Mandelbaum**

America faces four major challenges - globalisation, information technology, chronic deficits and energy consumption

- and it is failing to meet them. Friedman demonstrates how America's history, when properly understood, provides the key to coping successfully and how the paralysis of the US political system has made it impossible to carry out the policies the country needs. A rousing manifesto for American renewal. 400pp Pb \$27.99



## City

*A Guidebook for the Urban Age*  
**P D Smith**

For the first time in the history of our planet, more than half the population - 3.3 billion people - are now living in cities. 200 years ago,

only three per cent of the world's population were 3%, a figure that had remained fairly stable for about 1,000 years. By 2030, 60% of us will be urban dwellers. This is the ultimate handbook for the archetypal city and explores why people first built cities and why urban populations are expanding. 400pp Tp \$35

## SCIENCE

### Time Warped

*Unlocking the Mysteries of Time Perception*  
**Claudia Hammond**

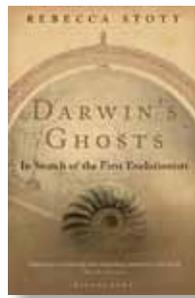
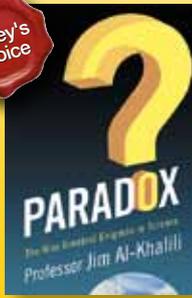
Time rules our lives, but how much do we understand it? Drawing on psychology, neuroscience and biology as to explain how memory shapes our understanding of time, Hammond delves into the mysteries of time perception. Discover how to manage time more efficiently, speed it up or slow it down at will, plan with more accuracy and use time warping to your advantage! 352pp Tp \$32.99



## Paradox

*The Nine Greatest Enigmas in Physics*  
**Jim Al-Khalili**

Throughout history, scientists have come up with theories and ideas that don't seem to make sense. This book draws paradoxes - chiefly from physics and astronomy that have stumped some of the finest minds. How can a cat be both dead and alive? Why will Achilles never beat a tortoise in a race? How can a man be 10 years older than his twin? The elegant explanations help readers understand that paradoxes can be solved if seen from the right angle. Mind-expanding fun!  
256pp Tp ~~\$32.95~~ **\$27.95**

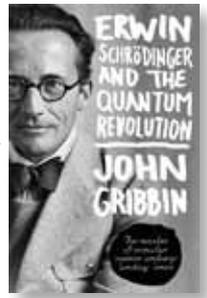


**Darwin's Ghosts**  
*In Search of the First Evolutionists*  
**Rebecca Stott**

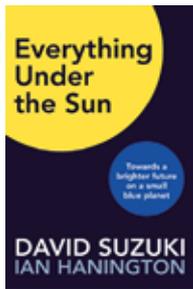
Just one month after the publication of *On the Origin of Species* in 1859, Darwin received a letter from the Reverend Powell accusing him of failing to acknowledge his predecessors and taking credit for a theory that had already been discovered by others. This is a masterful retelling of the collective daring of a few like-minded men with the imagination to speculate on nature's ways and the courage to publish at a time when to do so - for political and religious reasons - was to risk everything. 400pp Hb \$39.99

**Erwin Schrodinger and the Quantum Revolution**  
**John Gribbin**

Erwin Schrödinger was an Austrian physicist famous for his contribution to quantum physics. He won the Nobel Prize in 1933 and is best known for his thought experiment of a cat in a box, both alive and dead at the same time, which revealed the seemingly paradoxical nature of quantum mechanics. In this biography, Gribbin takes us into the heart of the quantum revolution. He tells the story of Schrödinger's surprisingly colourful life in an accessible style. 336pp Tp \$35



## TODAY'S WORLD



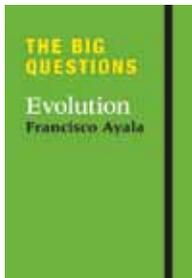
**Everything Under the Sun**  
*Towards a Brighter Future on a Small Blue Planet*

**David Suzuki & Ian Hanington**

Suzuki explores the myriad environmental challenges the world faces and their interconnected causes. He argues that the solutions are there; we just need the will to act together to bring about change. Delving into provocative topics such as the difference between human hunters and other predators, the recent meltdown of the nuclear reactors in Japan, and our dependence on the sun for food and energy, he doesn't shy away from controversial opinion. 288pp Pb \$29.99

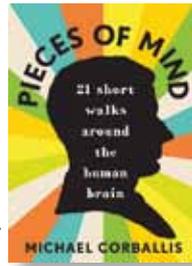
**Evolution**  
*The Big Questions*  
**Francisco Ayala**

What is evolution? What is natural selection? Is evolution a random process? What are chromosomes, genes and DNA? What is molecular evolution? What is the tree of life? What does the fossil record tell us? Is intelligence inherited? Can I clone myself? Ayala examines key facets of genetics, evolution and cloning. Using the most up-to-date research, he answers the 20 key questions of evolution and investigates what they tell us about life on Earth.  
208pp Pb \$19.99



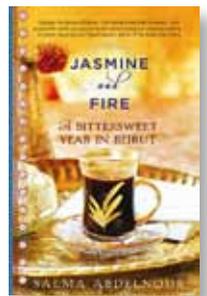
**Pieces of Mind**  
*21 Short Walks Around the Human Brain*

**Michael Corballis**  
The human mind is arguably the most complex organ in the universe. Modern computers might be faster and whales' brains might be larger, but neither can match the sheer intellect and creativity that we humans enjoy. Corballis introduces us to what we've learned about the intricacies of the human brain over the last 50 years - leading us through behavioural experiments and neuroscience, cognitive theory and Darwinian evolution - and uncovering the capabilities that make us human. 112pp Pb \$19.95



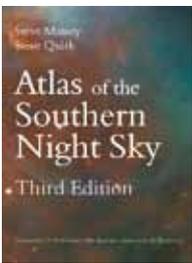
**Jasmine and Fire**  
*A Bittersweet Year in Beirut*

**Salma Abdelnour**  
In 1981, Salma Abdelnour was just nine years old when she and her family fled the civil war in Lebanon to find a new life in America. 30 years later, she returns, hoping to rediscover a home where she'll never feel like a stranger. This is her intimate journey through today's Beirut - from making a new home in the family's old apartment, to rediscovering the favourite dishes of her childhood. With all the ingredients of a Lebanese meal, this is a love letter to a city full of tragedy and hope.  
336pp Tp \$29.99



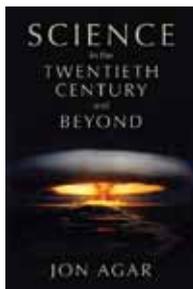
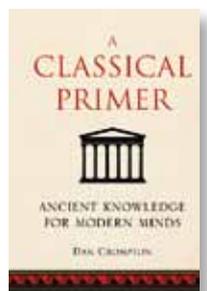
**Atlas of the Southern Night Sky**  
**Steve Massey & Steve Quirk**

Unlock the wonder of the cosmos with all the maps and photographs you need to guide you! This revised edition is packed with useful information, including details of telescopes and other accessories, charts for navigating the features of the Moon and instructions on how to observe the Sun and the planets. A fascinating and educational book that provides stargazers with all they need to appreciate the wonders of the night sky.  
288pp Hb \$45



**A Classical Primer**  
*Ancient Knowledge for Modern Minds*

**Dan Crompton**  
This is an accessible and enjoyable look at classical civilisation; how people lived and how modern society has been directly influenced by the classical - from roads and concrete, to central heating, the 12-month calendar, cranes... and pizza! This handy, informative and enjoyable book is the perfect primer for people of all ages and demonstrates that even a basic knowledge of Classics is not only essential, but also incredibly fascinating!  
192pp Pb \$19.95

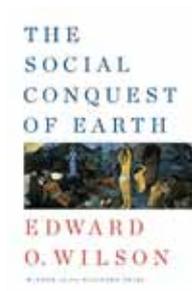


**Science in the Twentieth Century and Beyond**  
**Jon Agar**

Science's claim to access universal truths about the natural world has made it an irresistible resource for industrial empires, ideological programs and environmental campaigners during the 20th century. From Einstein's new physics to the promises of biotechnology, Agar offers an accessible synthesis for anyone curious about the place of science in the modern world.  
256pp Hb \$59.95

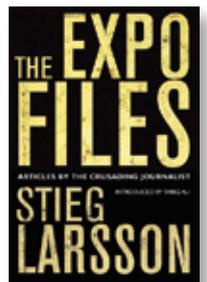
**The Social Conquest of Earth**  
**Edward O Wilson**

Wilson addresses three fundamental questions of religion, philosophy and science. Refashioning the story of human evolution, he draws on biology and social behaviour to show that group selection, not kin selection, is the primary driving force of human evolution. Demonstrating that the sources of morality, religion and the creative arts are biological in nature, Wilson offers an explanation of the origin of the human condition and why it resulted in our domination of the Earth's biosphere.  
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**The Expo Files**  
*Articles by the Crusading Journalist*  
**Stieg Larsson**

Stieg Larsson was an untiring crusader for democracy and equality. Collected here are essays and articles on right-wing extremism and racism, on violence against women and women's rights, on homophobia and honour killings. These important writings illustrate the breadth of his journalistic and political activities in connection with matters that were closest to his heart and to which he devoted his life. 224pp Pb \$29.99

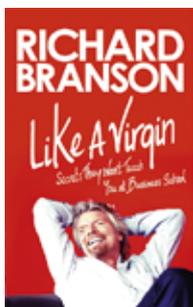


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**Richard Branson**

Branson brings together some of his best advice, collected from his internationally syndicated *New York Times* column, which appears in publications all over the world. From his 'Top 5 secrets of Business Success,' to hard hitting discussions about the global financial crisis, Branson distills and shares the wisdom and experience that has made him one of the world's most recognised and respected entrepreneurs. 352pp Tp \$32.95



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Economic history states that money replaced a bartering system, yet there isn't any evidence to support this axiom. Anthropologist Graeber presents a stunning reversal of this conventional wisdom. For more than 5,000 years, humans have used elaborate credit systems to buy and sell goods. Humans have been divided into debtors and creditors. Over time, virtual credit money was replaced by gold and the system went into decline. This is fascinating history, told for the first time! 544pp Tp \$29.95

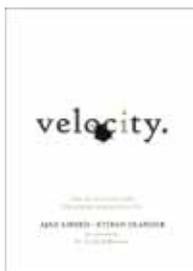


## Velocity

*The Seven New Laws for a World Gone Digital*

**Ajaz Ahmed & Stefan Olander**

Accessible, lively and inspiring, this book draws upon the authors' unique perspectives and experiences to present seven timeless new laws for businesses and individuals in a world that is dominated by rapid change and digital technology. Written as a fascinating and enjoyable conversation between the two authors, it offers key lessons, insights, ideas and inspiration that individuals and businesses can adopt to thrive. 272pp Pb \$34.95



## The Big Handout

*How US Subsidies and Corporate Welfare Corrupt the World We Live in and Wreak Havoc on Our Food Bills*

**Thomas Kostigen**

A subsidy is a grant by the government to a private business that is deemed advantageous to the public. Cotton, wheat, corn, soy and oil are the most subsidised commodities in the US. This book exposes how toxic America's subsidy system has become and serves as a wake-up call for farmers, consumers and politicians. 288pp Pb \$29.95

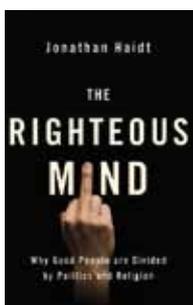


## The Righteous Mind

*Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion*

**Jonathan Haidt**

Haidt reveals that the reason we find it so hard to get along is because our minds are designed to be moralistic, judgmental and self-righteous. Our intrinsic morality enabled us to form communities and create civilisation, and it is the key to understanding political and religious divisions. Morality binds and blinds, but with new evidence from his own empirical research, Haidt shows that it is possible to liberate ourselves from the disputes that divide good people. 448pp Hb \$39.95

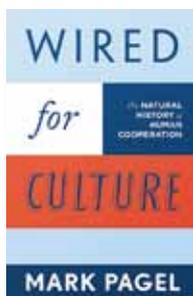


## Wired for Culture

*The Natural History of Human Cooperation*

**Mark Pagel**

Humans are usually seen as differing from other animals because of our inherent traits of consciousness, language and intelligence. Pagel shows how these traits would not exist without our propensity for culture. Weaving together evolutionary biology, anthropology, natural history and philosophy, he sheds light on everything from art, morality and affection to jealousy, self-interest and prejudice. 432pp Hb \$39.95

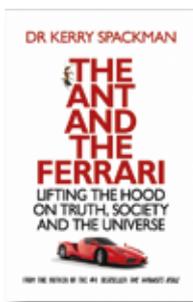


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*Lifting the Hood on Truth, Society and the Universe*

**Dr Kerry Spackman**

This magical tour-de-force tackles the big questions in life, answering them in an easily accessible way. This is one of those rare books that will change your beliefs - and in doing so will change your life. Offering readers a clear path through the big questions that confront us all today, Spackman addresses the meaning of life, the role of ethics in today's world, life after death, Absolute Truth, what caused the Big Bang and why you should care. 208pp Tp \$29.99

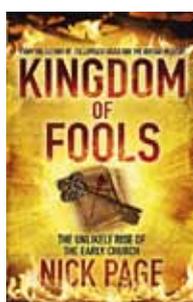


## Kingdom of Fools

*The Unlikely Rise of the Early Church*

**Nick Page**

In this biography of the early church, Page sets the biblical accounts alongside the latest historical and archaeological research, exploring how the early Christians lived and worshipped - and just why the Romans found this new branch of the Jewish faith so difficult to comprehend. This is a fresh and accessible portrait of a movement so radical that it outlasted the empire that tried to destroy it, and went on to become the driving force of our cultural development. 400pp Tp \$32.99



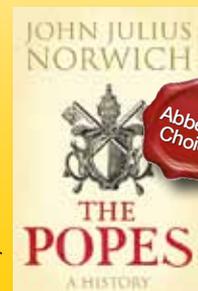
# ABBEY'S CHOICE

## The Popes

*A History*

**John Julius Norwich**

Norwich examines the oldest continuing institution in the world, tracing the papal line down the centuries from St Peter to the present. Of the 280-odd holders of the supreme office, some have unquestionably been saints; others have wallowed in unspeakable iniquity. From the glories of Byzantium to the decay of Rome, from the Albigensian Heresy to controversy within the Church today, this is a superbly written, witty and revealing account of papal history. 528pp Pb ~~\$19.95~~ **\$16.95**



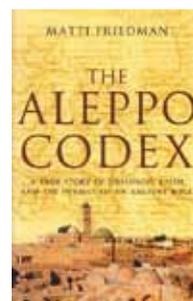
Abbey's Choice

## The Aleppo Codex

*The True Story of Obsession, Faith and the International Pursuit of an Ancient Bible*

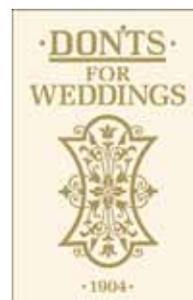
**Matti Friedman**

Based on documents kept secret for 50 years, Friedman proposes a new theory of what happened when the Aleppo Codex left Syria in the late 1940s, eventually resurfacing in Jerusalem, mysteriously incomplete. By recounting this history, Friedman explores the once vibrant Jewish communities in Islamic lands and follows the thread into the present, uncovering difficult truths about how the manuscript was taken to Israel and how its most important pages went missing. 256pp Pb \$27.95



## Don'ts for Weddings

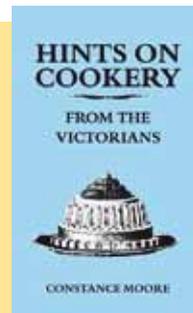
A brand new old collection of advice for couples from courtship to the honeymoon. On Gifts: "Don't be thoughtless - Good silver is always a joy, but remember the young wife with only one servant will have to rub up her own silver-backed brushes and sweetmeat dishes if she wants them to look nice." 80pp Hb \$7.99



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For tips on how to be a goddess of domesticity and a purveyor of familial joy, look no further than this miscellany of hints.



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**Constance Moore**



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I

hope you have seen the front page of this *Abbey's Advocate* and *Crime Chronicle* and noticed that from 15 to 30 June all customers, in-store and online, **receive a 15% discount!** This is an on-the-spot, store-wide discount across Abbey's, Galaxy and Language Book Centre.

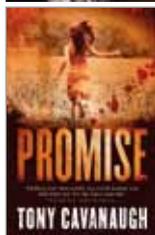
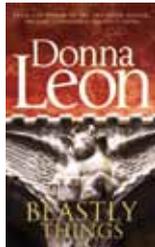
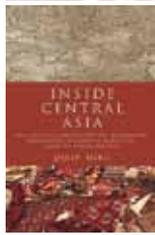
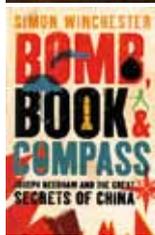
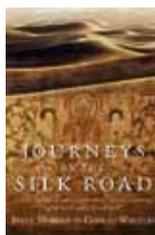
Publishers are also responding to the demand for cheaper books and there are an increasing number of announcements about new ranges such as the **Penguin Black Classics** and **Popular Penguins** (\$9.95), the **Vintage Classics** (\$12.95) and the latest collection to appear, **Text Classics** for Australian authors (\$12.95).

Abbey's stock ALL of these titles all the time. Stocking the backlist titles is one of Abbey's virtues. If one is temporarily out of stock, we'll do a special order for you. And publishers are responding to the cry for cheaper books. Many are now reissuing good titles in new formats at much lower prices. There would be more than a hundred good books in these new series which you can enjoy for less than \$20.

Amongst the many exhibitions at the National Museum of Australia in Canberra there is an excellent display from the American Museum of Natural History in New York. It is called *Travelling the Silk Road* and is on until 29 July. This is about the legendary trading route from China to the Mediterranean, through desert lands and exotic places such as Tashkent and Samarkand. I once landed in an aeroplane at Samarkand. It was very disappointing – but then most airports are! The journey along this route enabled Chinese inventions such as paper, gunpowder and silk to become available in Europe. I looked at **Journeys on the Silk Road** by two Sydney journalists, Joyce Morgan and Conrad Walters (\$34.99 Pb 323pp incl. index), but this turned out to be rather specific – about the discovery in the Taklamakan Desert of a buried Buddhist library by Aurel Stein in 1901. More specifically it is about the discovery and journey of the oldest printed book – the Diamond Sutra – and its journey to England. A journey not yet finished I think. I also want to remind you about another book that talks about the early Chinese discoveries which came to the West, and that is Simon Winchester's marvellous book **Bomb, Book and Compass: Joseph Needham & the Great Secrets of China** (\$26.95 Pb).

I then looked at **Inside Central Asia** by Dilip Hiro (\$32.99 Pb 480pp incl. index). This is subtitled **A Political and Cultural History of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Iran**. It was published in 2009 and has an epilogue added in 2011. Dilip Hiro is the ultimate expert on this area (together with India and the Middle East). So although it is not quite the old Silk Road, it is your chance to make sense of all those strangely named places which are now becoming important to the West.

I've had a lovely time reading the latest Donna Leon which is called **Beastly Things** (\$29.95 Pb). You can also get this on CD (\$35). Commissario Brunetti now has his very own computer although Signorina Elletra is the one who works wonders. This time the setting is in the abattoirs outside Venice and I notice Donna Leon is becoming more ardent about vegetarianism – with Chiara her spokesperson. And Inspector Vianello is becoming more important. This is number 21 in the series and you can find the earlier ones in our Crime section.



I have (sort of) read and enjoyed **Promise** by Tony Cavanaugh (\$29.99 Pb 327pp), a well-known scriptwriter. Graeme Blundell, whose opinion I respect, calls it "chilling and memorable: top-notch Aussie noir, definitely not for the faint-hearted". This explains my "sort of" remark because I did indeed need to skip some parts. Nonetheless, braver readers than I will think this is terrific. A tense and thrilling story.

I must enthusiastically recommend Gillian Mears' wonderfully well-written book **Foal's Bread** (\$32.99 Pb 376pp). It is not a good title, but this is a great book and I am hoping it will win the *Miles Franklin*. The story is set on the NSW North Coast where the son of a struggling dairy farming family is a champion show-jumper. He marries a very hard-working girl from the wrong side of the tracks who is also obsessed with show-jumping. The time is just before WWII and onwards. If you like horses even a little bit, you will love this. A memorable book.

I also read one of the new writers included on the *Miles Franklin* long list – which is what the long list is about, is it not? This is **Blood** by Tony Birch (\$29.95 Pb 253pp). This is written in the voice of a boy who has taken on responsibility for his sister and himself because his mother is just not up to it. They are always on the move, mostly on the back roads, and there are plenty of other people scraping by to keep them company. A well told story.

Did you see a little snippet in the paper about parts of an important 'lost' papyrus found at the Queensland Museum by an expert who was visiting to open their big new exhibition of mummies? It seems it was a fragment from Amenhotep's *Book of the Dead*, so I had a look in our Egyptology section and found **The Ancient Egyptian Book of the Dead** translated by R O Faulkner (\$39.95 Pb 192pp incl. index), published by British Museum Press.

Here's something for our special community of history buffs. Remember Colin McEvedy who wrote and compiled **The New Penguin Atlas of Medieval History** (\$19.95 Pb) and **The New Penguin Atlas of Recent History: Europe Since 1815** (\$24.95 Pb)? His friend, Douglas Stuart Oles, has edited **Cities of the Classical World: An Atlas and Gazetteer of 120 Centres of Ancient Civilization** (\$39.95 Hb 432pp incl. index) in a very nicely produced format. He goes from Alexandria to York and there is a terrific list of sources at the back.

Thank you for all your support for Abbey's, Language Book Centre and Galaxy. Without you we could not continue stocking such a wide and eclectic range of books.

Keep well,

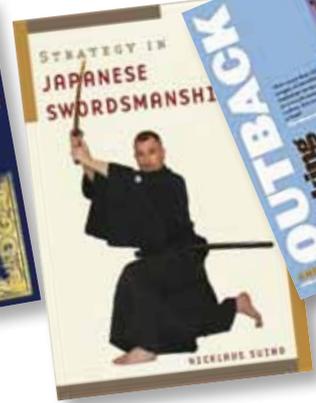
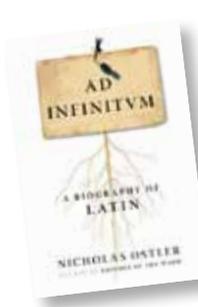
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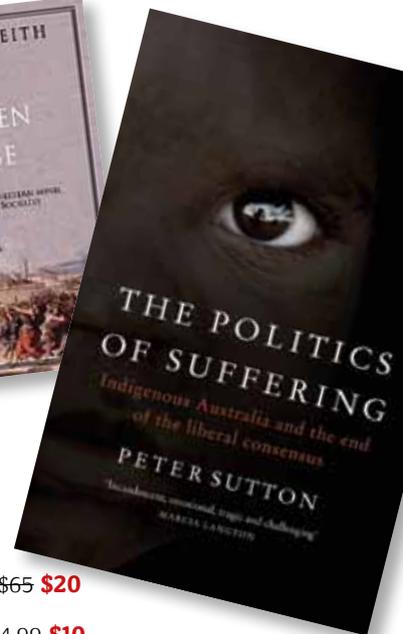
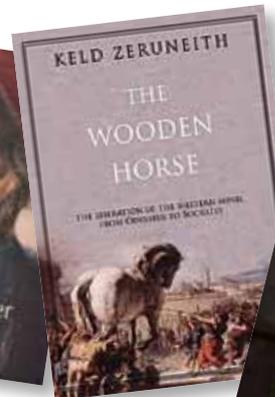
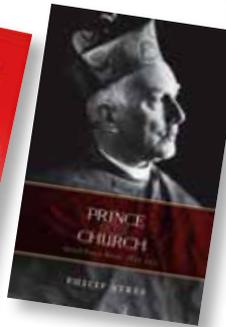
**Robert Menzies' Forgotten People** Judith Brett Pb \$34.95 **\$10**

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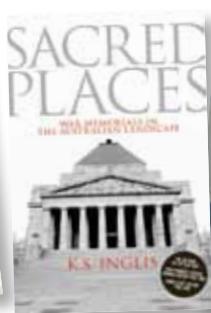
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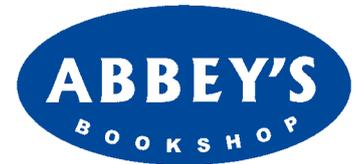


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