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Measuring the World

Daniel KEHLMANN 272pp Tp \$34.95 In its native Germany, this book has sold over a million copies and it deserves to be read in any language. Carl Freidrich Gauss and Alexander von Humboldt are the main characters, both geniuses, both eccentric, both exasperatingly fascinating. Gauss has no desire to travel because he can perceive space as simply as breathing; his mind is full of insights which he doesn't bother to share. Let others solve their problems, he thinks. Humboldt is the product of an

experimental upbringing and needs to travel in order to measure everything as accurately as possible, not trusting the work of others before him. Moving backwards and forwards in time, this highly original novel is full of sly humour and absorbing details. Deft in style and dense in content, it is a true joy to read! *Due Apr Lindy*

On Chesil Beach

Ian McEWAN 176pp Hb \$29.95 It is June 1962. In a hotel on the Dorset coast, overlooking Chesil Beach, Edward and Florence, who got married that morning, are sitting down to dinner in their room. Neither is entirely able to suppress their anxieties about the wedding night to come. In this short novel of remarkable depth, McEwan considers how the entire course of a life can be changed by a gesture not made or a word not spoken. *Due Apr*

David Golder

Irene NEMIROVSKY 176pp Tp \$27.95 In 1929, 26-year-old Nemirovsky shot to fame in France with the publication of this, her first novel. Before her death at Auschwitz, she was working on her masterwork **Suite Française** (recently uncovered and published in English, the small format paperback is due this month \$23.95). Golder is the astonishingly mature story of an elderly Jewish businessman who has sold his soul. Born into poverty on the Black Sea, he clawed his way to fabulous wealth by speculating on gold and oil. When the novel opens, he is at work in his magnificent Parisian apartment while

his wife and beloved daughter spend his money at their villa in Biarritz. But Golder's security is fragile. For years, he has defended his business interests from cut-throat competitors. Now his health is beginning to show the strain. As his body betrays him, so too do his wife and child, leaving him to decide which to pursue: revenge or altruism. *Due Apr*

Burning Bright

Tracy CHEVALIER

400pp Pb \$28.00

London 1792. The Kellaways move from familiar rural Dorset to the tumult of a cramped, unforgiving city. They leave behind a terrible loss, a blow that only a completely new life may soften. Against the backdrop of a city jittery over the increasingly bloody French Revolution, a surprising bond forms between Jem, the youngest Kellaway boy, and streetwise Londoner Maggie Butterfield. Their friendship takes a dramatic turn when they become

entangled in the life of their neighbour - the printer, poet and radical, William Blake. He is a guiding spirit as Jem and Maggie navigate the unpredictable, exhilarating passage from innocence to experience. Their journey inspires one of Blake's most entrancing works. *Due Apr*

The Great Pyramid Ancient Egypt Revisited

A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

DVOCAT

John ROMER 586pp Hb \$49.95 The eerily precise architecture of the Great Pyramid has astounded and puzzled archaeologists for centuries, giving rise to many modern fantasies concerning the socalled Mystery of the Pyramids. Sweeping away centuries of myth and confusion, Romer describes for the first time exactly how the pyramid was designed and built. He argues that the pyramid makers worked from a single



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plan whose existence has long been doubted and even denied by scholars. Moreover, the unique architecture is integral to the way it was built and, for its builders, the tasks of design and construction were not separate, as they are now. By placing this awesome monument in a genuine contemporary context, this book underlines the extraordinary talents and originality of the ancient Egyptians at the time of King Khufu. *Due Apr*

I am a Strange Loop

Douglas HOFSTADTER 384pp Hb \$35.00 This is Hofstadter's long-awaited return to the themes of **Godel, Escher, Bach** (Tp \$45) - an original and controversial view of the nature of consciousness and identity. Why do we say "I"? Can thought arise out of matter? By "thought" we mean not mere calculation, the manipulation of algorithms and patterns according to fixed rules, but something deeper: experience, selfawareness, consciousness. This book argues that

the key to understanding the level on which



consciousness operates is the feedback loop. After introducing the reader to simple feedback systems like a flush toilet and his own experiments with a video camera pointed at its own monitor, Hofstadter turns to the idea of "strange loops" - feedback loops, which exist on two levels of meaning. Like Godel's logical statements, the brain also exists on at least two levels: a deterministic level of atoms and neurons, and a higher level of large mental structures we call symbols. One of these symbols, perhaps the central one which relates to all others in our minds, is the strange loop we call "I". By the time we reach adulthood, Hofstadter writes, "I" is an endless hall of mirrors, encompassing everything that has ever happened to us, vast numbers of counterfactual replays of important episodes in our lives, invented memories and expectations. But is it real? And if so, what does it consist of? *Due Apr*

Cultural Amnesia Notes in the Margin of My Time

Clive JAMES 768pp Hb \$49.95 Containing over 100 original essays, organised by quotations from A to Z, James illuminates, rescues or occasionally destroys the careers of many of the greatest thinkers, humanists, musicians, artists and philosophers of the 20th century. In discussing, among others, Louis Armstrong, Walter Benjamin, Sigmund Freud, F Scott Fitzgerald, Franz Kafka, Marcel Proust and Ludwig Wittgenstein, he writes, "If the humanism that makes civilisation civilised is to be preserved into



the new century, it will need advocates. These advocates will need a memory, and part of that memory will need to be of an age in which they were not yet alive." *Due Apr*

Easter Hours	& Anz	ac Day
Good Friday	6 Apr	Closed
Easter Monday	9 Apr	10am - 5pm
Anzac Day Wednesday	25 Apr	10am - 5pm





Fiction

Imposture

Benjamin MARKOVITS 200pp Tp \$29.95 Having been dismissed from Lord Byron's

service, Dr John Polidori had fallen on hard times. Three years earlier, he had accompanied the poet on a tour of the continent, as Poladori had literary ambitions and wanted to test his talents against the greatest writer of his age. That summer had become famous in literary history. Byron and Shelley met and became friends, Mary Shelley wrote Frankenstein. And now a young woman mistakes the doctor for the poet. As the pair fall in

love, Polidori knows that he can only emerge from Byron's shadow if he confesses his true identity to the deluded girl, but was it only Byron's shadow that led her to love him in the first place?

Nights in the Asylum Carol LEFEVRE

Tp \$32.95 Miri is running away, leaving Sydney behind, if not her sorrows. Outside of her home town (Broken Hill, even if it is not specified), she picks up a man, Aziz, from beside the highway; an escapee himself, it turns out. In her Cuban grandmother's house, long a refuge for waifs and strays, she has to stop running and face some truths - her marriage is failed, her career is stalled and her beloved daughter is dead. When the abused wife of the local policeman turns up,



AMIN

MARKOVITS

IMPOSTURE

baby in tow, trying to escape his violence, and when Aziz reappears seeking assistance, Miri has no choice but to put aside her problems and help them all. A finely written novel, where the characters (major and minor) are believable and the settings true to life. Should be a contender Lindy in any award going... Due Apr

The Widow and Her Hero

Tom KENEALLY 288pp Hb \$49.95 When Grace married the genial and handsome Captain Leo Waterhouse in Australia in 1943, they were young, in love - and at war. Like many other young men and women, they were ready, willing and able to put the war effort first. But Leo never returned from a commando mission masterminded by his own hero figure, an eccentric and charismatic man who inspired total loyalty from those under his command. The world moved on to new alliances, leaving Grace, like so

many widows, to bear the pain of losing the love of her life and wonder what it had all been for. 60 years on, Grace is still haunted by the tragedy of her doomed hero when the real story of his ill-fated secret mission is at last unearthed. As new fragments of her hero's story emerge, Grace is forced to keep revising her picture of what happened to Leo and his fellow commandoes, until she learns about the final piece in the jigsaw and the ultimate betrayal.

Provenance

Jane MESSER

Tp \$23.95 Growing up in an Italian family in 1950s Queensland, Rafi longs to move to Melbourne and start her own life. When she finally seizes her chance, floodwaters halt her train's progress south and a beautiful young Sikh scientist, Chanchal, captures her heart. While both their families search for their wayward children, Rafi and Chanchal forge ahead with their life together, living briefly in isolation and bliss on a farm, unaware that their story is travelling. Set against



and

the stifling heat of the Queensland canefields, the lush farmland of northern NSW and the bustle of Melbourne in the early 1960s, Chanchal's and Rafi's stories unfold and intersect over the following years, as their chance encounter becomes a story of two countries on the cusp of modernity. This accomplished and original novel explores colour and cultural difference at a moment in India and Australia's post-Independence and post-war history when the West was keen, as one character puts it, to get on with the sexy part of the 20th century.

The Time We Have Taken

Steven CARROLL

One suburban morning in summer 1970, Peter van Rijn, proprietor of the television and wireless shop, realises that his suburb is 100 years old. He contacts the Mayor, who assembles a Committee and celebrations are eagerly planned. That same morning, just a few streets way, Rita is awakened by a dream of her husband's snores. It is years since Vic moved north and left their house of empty silences. Their son, too, has moved on - Michael is at university, exploring



new ideas and the heady world of grown-up love. Yet Rita still stubbornly stays in the old street, unable to imagine leaving the house she has tended so lovingly for so long. Instead she has taken on the care of another house as well - that of the widowed Mrs Webster, owner of the suburb's landmark factory, now in decline. As these lives entwine and the Committee commissions its centenary mural and prepares to commemorate Progress, History - in the shape of the new, post-war generation represented by Michael and his friends - is heading straight for them...

The Book of Fathers

Miklos VAMOS 480pp Pb \$24.95 In 1705, Kornel Csillag's grandfather happens across a miraculous gold fob-watch gleaming in the mud of an ancient Magyar battlefield, which is to improve dramatically his family's shipwrecked fortunes, for the timepiece bestows an unexpected gift on succeeding generations of male Csillags - the gift of seeing. And each clairvoyant, first-born son in turn passes down the Book of Fathers, a battered folio in which the family records its astonishing and revelatory visions and which



takes in 300 years of Csillag history, bearing vivid witness to holocaust and wedding feast alike. Headlong, exuberant, riotous and packed tight with stories, jokes and tragedy, this is an irresistibly rich Central European feast of a book - parable, folk-tale and epic all rolled into one - that is set to become a European classic.

The Solitude of Thomas Cave

Georgina HARDING 256pp Tp \$29.95 It is August 1616. The whaling ship Heartsease has ventured high into the Arctic, but the crew must return home before the ice closes in. All, that is, save Thomas Cave. He makes a wager that he will remain there alone until the next season, though no man has yet been known to have survived a winter this far north. So he is left with provisions, shelter and a journal - should he not live to tell the tale. As the light recedes, so begins Cave's lonely contest with the



realities and phantasms of the Arctic winter. He is vulnerable to blizzards, avalanches and bears, as well as his own demons - fear, apathy, superstition and memory. For in this wilderness that is without human history, his own past returns to him: the woman he had loved and the grief that drove him north. Beautiful, strange and haunting, this is an unforgettable first novel.

The Welsh Girl

Peter Ho DAVIES

356pp Tp \$32.95 In 1944, a German Jewish refugee is sent to Wales to interview Rudolf Hess; in Snowdonia, a 17-year-old girl, the daughter of a fiercely nationalistic shepherd, dreams of the bright lights of an English city; and in a nearby POW camp, a German soldier struggles to reconcile his surrender with his sense of honour. As their lives intersect, all three come to question where they belong and where their loyalties lie. This thought-provoking and profoundly moving first novel traces a perilous wartime



romance as it explores the bonds of love and duty that hold us to family, country and ultimately our fellow man.

The Diary of Phar Lap

Robert BAKER

What if Phar Lap had kept a diary? What would he have written about? This book provides the answers to those questions. Beginning in August 1929, when Phar Lap was a three-year-old, the diary traces his life until his death in April 1932. We read of the harshness of his training regime, the love and 'mateship' he experienced from his stable-hand Tommy Woodcock, the thrill and excitement of winning a race, and his curiosity about the world beyond his stable. Released on the 75th anniversary of his death, this is a fitting tribute to a horse that united a country and became a legend.



Fiction

The Steep Approach to Garbadale 400pp Tp \$32.95

Iain BANKS

Dark family secrets, a long-lost love affair and a multi-million pound gaming business lie at the heart of this fabulous new novel. The Wopuld family built its fortune on a board game called Empire! - now a hugely successful computer game. So successful that the American Spraint Corp wants to buy them out. Young renegade Alban, who has been evading the family tentacles for years, thinks Spraint should be treated with

suspicion, but he has other things on his mind. What drove his mother to take her own life? And is he yet ready to see Sophie,

his beautiful, enchanting cousin and teenage love - who will be present at the family gathering - part birthday, part Extraordinary General Meeting - at Garbadale, their Highland castle?

Lies

Enrique de HERIZ

496pp Tp \$32.95 What does it really mean to be dead? This is the question that vexes Isobel, mother of three adult children and an anthropologist, as she has officially been pronounced dead following a boat accident in a remote part of the Guatemalan jungle. But Isobel is very much alive, hiding in a remote shack in the jungle. The news of her own death is especially ironic because, as an anthropologist, she studies death rituals. Serena,

Isobel's daughter, is trying to write the family history before it is lost. Above all, she is obsessed with the story of Simon, her grandfather who was in a shipwreck and survived three days at sea before being rescued. The story of his life has become a family legend that has tantalised Serena since she was a child, always asking questions, turning the 'facts' over in her mind, always trying to piece the 'truth' together. Yet the irony is that she isn't investigating the one story that she really should.

Nineteen Minutes

Jodi PICOULT

464pp Tp \$32.95 Set in a small town in the wake of a horrific school shooting, Picoult features the return of her beloved characters Jordan McAfee, the lawyer from The Pact and Salem Falls (both Pb \$22.95), who once again finds himself representing a boy who desperately needs someone on his side, and Patrick Ducharme, the intrepid detective introduced in Perfect Match (Pb \$22.95), whose best witness is the daughter of the superior court judge assigned to the case. As the story unfolds, layer after layer is

peeled back to reveal some hard-hitting questions about the nature of justice, the balance of power and what it means to be different. This is a riveting, thoughtprovoking tale with a jaw-dropping finale. Due Apr

The Crimes of Billy Fish

Sarah HOPKINS

320pp Pb \$22.95

A highly commended entry in the ABC Fiction awards, this remarkable novel explores redemption, the dark pervasiveness of addiction and violence, and the power of sibling love. After serving H o three years for a violent robbery, Billy Fish is granted parole and walks out the prison gates. His pattern has been a simple one of drugs, crime and custody. Billy's sister Rose has taken a different path. Her life is filled with work and caring for her infant son, a structured existence that has become a buffer between Rose and the outside world. Both Billy and Rose are fighting against their

past in very different ways. Then one rainy morning, Rose's son is killed in an accident. The lives of Billy and Rose begin to unravel, testing the strength of their sibling love and forcing them to face the reality of their terrifying past. Due Apr

Love and the Platypus

Nicholas DRAYSON

320pp Tp \$32.95

In 1883, young British naturalist William Caldwell arrives in Australia with a mission: to determine for the scientific record whether platypuses really are egg-laying. But first he must travel overland to the Burnett River in Queensland, where he intends to set up camp. On his journey, he is by turns hindered and assisted by a cast of characters, including a drunken bullocky and an inscrutable, poetical bushman. Once there, William commences his investigations and encounters the local Aboriginal people, enlisting their help and ultimately learning their tragic history. He

also meets a young blind woman with many closely held secrets of her own. Due Apr



Children's reviewed by Lindy Jones Skulduggery Pleasant Derek LANDY

368pp Pb \$20 Stephanie's favourite uncle is an author and, when he dies suddenly, her life is changed. She inherits the bulk of his estate, but more importantly meets his best friend. Snappily dressed Skulduggery Pleasant is a detective, and in more ways than one, most unusual. Perhaps being a skeleton and neither technically dead nor alive is the first of his oddnesses, not to mention his ability to work elemental magic



or his dogged refusal to believe his arch-enemy really has reformed his evil ways. Stephanie insists on being his helper and of course that leads to all sorts of complications and adventures. She discovers there really is another world behind the one she has always known. A lot of fun, with wisecracks galore.

Bonnie and Sam The Shadow Brumby Alison LESTER & Roland HARVEY

64pp Pb \$12.95

The first in a new series for young readers. Bonnie and Samantha live in a small Australian country town, and know every horse within. Sam's Dad is the local policeman who needs a horse for his work and a friend gives him a former stockhorse who gets spooked by trains. Drover, a



brumby mare, one day runs away with a mob of passing brumbies. But Shadow, one of the wild horses, stays behind. Bonnie and Sam realise she is a different horse and train her up. A charming story for the newly confident reader, particularly the little girl who yearns for horse stories. Colourful illustrations by Harvey convey the characters and surroundings with his trademark wit and deftness.

Snakehead

Ann HALAM

215pp Pb \$15.95

Set in a time and a land where humans knew the Great Immortals walked among them, this is a retelling of the story of Perseus, son of Danae and Zeus. It differs from the traditional version, but is heavily based on ancient Mediterranean history. Andromeda is god-touched herself, and together the two of them must fulfil prophecies that will take them to dark places. A lively novel, fresh and immediate, certainly with modern terms, but also with the flavour of the ancient days.

The Tinderbox

Hans Christian ANDERSEN

Retold by Stephen Mitchell, this classic story is told with a wry sense of humour. A young soldier is marching home from war when an old woman asks a favour of him. True to his military nature, he doesn't exactly keep his side of the bargain, but of course he gets into a fair bit of trouble! A fine version, but the truly wonderful illustrations by Bagram Ibatoulline are what make this book so desirable.



40pp Hb \$29.95

Delicately drawn in the manner of old engravings and coloured in a soft, faded style, with intricate details and expressive characters, this will be treasured by young and old.

Girls' Book How to be the Best at Everything

Amanda ENRIGHT

128pp Hb \$16.95

The boys have had their turn, so now it's the girls who have their own book! This will tell you everything from how to do a French plait, how to put up a tent, how to deal with a bully, how to set up a web page, how to do the perfect manicure and how to predict the future. All good practical advice and tips - entertaining, interesting and active. There is a lot of fun to be had here!

ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP



Biography

Wild Mary The Life of Mary Wesley

Patrick MARNHAM 352pp Pb \$24.95 Mary Wesley published her first novel when she was 70. then went on to write nine more bestsellers before her death in 2002 at the age of 89. Wesley was a pen-name, derived from the family name of Wellesley. She was born Mary Farmar, descended from the Duke of Wellington, and grew up a rebel who believed that she was her mother's least-favourite child. Like many girls of her

background, she married for escape, but her first marriage (to Lord Swinfen) was conventional. Her second husband, Eric Siepmann, a writer who never managed to make any money at all, was feckless and bohemian. At the outbreak of WWII, she was "roped into intelligence", where she worked on breaking codes. Her experiences in MI5 and her many wartime love affairs, which form the core of this biography, also formed the core of her novels. She wrote about the atmosphere of the home front, how war dislocates families and how a sense of the imminence of death loosens inhibitions. Due Apr

Becoming Jane A Biography of Young Jane Austen

308pp Pb \$24.95

Jon SPENCE Spence's brilliant biography of Jane Austen is an intimate portrait of the much-loved novelist. He paints a vivid picture of Jane's world; her situation and circumstances, their benefits and drawbacks, and the people who influenced her - family and friends, rejected suitors, tiresome acquaintances and unruly nephews. This book shows how Austen's own personal experiences resonated throughout her work and how one person, above all,



SINCE

PRINCES

Jacqueline

Pascarl

affected her life and caught her imagination - the young Irish lawyer, Tom Lefroy. Due Apr

Since I was a Princess

My 14-Year Fight to Get my Children Back

Jacqueline PASCARL 304pp Pb \$33.00 In Once I was a Princess (Pb \$25.00), Pascarl told how her marriage to a Malaysian prince from the Islamic state of Terengganu went horribly wrong, descending from fairy tale into a cycle of abuse, deception and virtual imprisonment. When she decided to leave him and return to Australia with their two children, her former husband exacted a terrible revenge, kidnapping the children. Here, in a long awaited sequel, she reveals how she channelled her grief and loss into a positive force, helping other parents whose children had been abducted.

Marrying again, she began another family, and worked as a CARE ambassador in refugee camps. But all the time she hoped to hear something of her two young children and of their lives in Malaysia. Finally, she received an email which became the first step in the highly anticipated and emotional reunion with her daughter earlier this year. Due Apr

Translating Lives Living with Two Languages and Cultures Mary BESEMERES & Anna WIERZBICKA (Eds)

208pp Tp \$32.95

This is a book of revelations. It is a journey through an Australia composed of a multiplicity of languages and, therefore, many inner worlds. The journey moves, in a series of personal encounters - from indigenous languages (many of which were tragically lost) - to the languages of our newest arrivals from all continents of



Judas Kisses

Debbie RITCHIE & Donna CARSON

RANSLATING

In April 1994 in a remote NSW town, Donna Carson was bashed, doused in petrol and set alight by her de facto partner. She suffered horrific burns to 65% of her body and spent the next six months in hospital lapsing in and out of consciousness. What kept her alive was the thought of her two young sons, Coe and Bodean. While she recuperated, social services stepped in and took them away. This book traces Donna's astonishing journey through the darkest days and into the light. Due Apr

The Sleeping Buddha An Afghan Family Memoir

Hamida GHAFOUR 320pp Tp \$32.95 This is an evocative family memoir and unique portrait of Afghanistan from a young Afghan journalist. Ghafour's family fled Kabul after the Russian invasion. In 2003, she was sent back by the Telegraph to cover the country's reconstruction. She finds a place changed utterly



from the world her parents had described and her grandmother - an Afghan Virginia Woolf - had written about. All around her is the West's first post-9/11 experiment with an Islamic democracy. But the people she meets reveal a different kind of nation building: the 'beautician without borders' whose school teaches women a new kind of independence; her cousin's determined parliamentary campaign; the archaeologist digging for his country's lost civilisation in the form of a giant sleeping Buddha. As she participates in her country's present, its elusive past and her family's own story come vividly together for Hamida. Due Apr

Sweet Mandarin

Helen TSE

288pp Tp \$32.95 Spanning almost 100 years, this rich and evocative true story recounts the lives of three generations of remarkable Chinese women. Their extraordinary journey takes us from the brutal poverty of village life in mainland China to newly prosperous 1930s Hong Kong and finally to the West. Their lives were as dramatic as the times they lived through. A love of food and a talent for



cooking pulled each generation through the most devastating of upheavals. Helen's grandmother, Lily Kowk, was forced to work as an amah after the violent murder of her father. She honed her famous chicken curry recipe as she crossed the ocean from Hong Kong in the 1950s and eventually opened her own restaurant where her daughter, Mabel, worked from the tender age of seven. But gambling and the Triads were pervasive in the Chinese immigrant community and they tragically lost the restaurant. It was up to Helen and her sisters, the third generation of these exceptional women, to re-establish their grandmother's dream. Due Apr

Swing By, Sailor

Catherine DYSON 272pp Tp \$32.95 In the of winter 1946, the British aircraft carrier. HMS Victorious, was modified to ensure the safe passage of over 600 Australian war brides from Sydney to Plymouth. The reverberations of WWII were still being felt around the world, but for these women the trip of a lifetime lay ahead and the chance to finally begin their married lives with their British husbands on the other side of the world. Dyson has brought together



G. D. MITCHELL

the stories of 17 of these women, now in their 80s. What emerges are some delightful, funny and sad tales - the tumult of the era, the fear of leaving home, the highlights of the sea voyage, the conditions onboard and the emotional experience of stepping into a future unknown. Each woman remembers the time from a different perspective. From Woolloomooloo to Fremantle, then on to Colombo and beyond, the voyage would prove a rite of passage for many who had previously never left their hometowns, let alone dreamt of foreign shores. Due Apr

Backs to the Wall A Larrikin on the Western Front G D MITCHELL (intro Robert MACKLIN)

352pp Pb \$29.95

Originally published in 1937 (and long out of print), this is a gripping, firsthand account of a young soldier's experiences in France and Belgium during WWI. "In that hour was born in me a fear that lasted throughout the whole winter. It was the dread of dying in the mud, going down in that stinking morass and,





History The Trojan War A New History Barry STRAUSS

Barry STRAUSS 288pp Hb \$59.95 The Trojan War is the most famous conflict in history,

the subject of Homer's Iliad and one of the cornerstones of Western literature. Although many readers know that this literary masterwork is based on actual events, there is disagreement about how much

of Homer's tale is true. Drawing on recent archaeological research, Strauss explains what really happened in Troy more than 3,000 years ago. For many years, it was thought that Troy was an insignificant place that never had a chance against the Greek warriors who laid siege and overwhelmed the city. Today we know that Troy was indeed a large and prosperous city, just as Homer said. The Trojans themselves were not Greeks, but vassals of the powerful Hittite Empire to the east in modern-day Turkey, and they probably spoke a Hittite-related language called Luwian. The Trojan War was most likely the culmination of a long feud over power, wealth and honour in western Turkey and the offshore islands. *Due Apr*

Portrait of a Priestess Women and Ritual in Ancient Greece

Joan Breton CONNELLY

456pp Hb \$80.00

STRAUSS

In this sumptuously illustrated book, Connelly provides the first comprehensive cultural history of priestesses in the ancient Greek world. She presents the fullest and most vivid picture yet of how priestesses lived and worked, from the most famous and sacred of them - the Delphic Oracle and the priestess of Athena Polias - to basket bearers and handmaidens. Along the way, she challenges long-held beliefs to show that priestesses played far more significant public roles in ancient Greece than previously acknowledged. Ranging from southern Italy to Asia Minor, from the late Bronze Age to the 5th century AD, she brings the priestesses to life - their social origins, how they progressed through many sacred roles on the path to priesthood, and even how they dressed. She sheds light on the rituals they performed, the political power they wielded, their systems of patronage and compensation, and how they were honoured, including in death.

Assassins

The Story of Medieval Islam's Secret Sect

W B BARTLETT 336pp Pb \$30.00 The so-called 'Assassins' are one of most spectacular legends of medieval history. In the popular imagination, they are drug-crazed fanatics who launched murderous attacks on their enemies, terrorising the medieval world. The group we know as the Assassins first appeared in the late 11th century. They called themselves Nizaris, but to other Muslims they were "hashishin", a



derogatory term meaning "hashish taker" and applied to those they regarded as moral reprobates. When the group came into contact with Westerners, "hashishin" became "assassin" and has remained ever since a common noun meaning murderer. Universally loathed and feared, they were especially frightening because they apparently had no fear of death. Bartlett's new book deftly traces the origins of the sect out of the schisms within the early Islamic religion and examines the impact of Hasan-i Sabbah, its founder, and Sinan - the legendary 'Old Man of the Mountain'. This popular history follows the vivid history of the group over the next two centuries, including its clash with the crusaders, its near destruction at the hands of the Mongols and its subsequent history. *Due Apr*

Lords of Battle The World of the Celtic Warrior

Stephen ALLEN 224pp Hb \$54.95 To the classical civilisations of Greece and Rome, the Celtic warrior of the late Iron Age was the archetypal barbarian; savage, undisciplined and bloodthirsty. In a clash of cultures that lasted almost 500 years, the rich and vibrant society in which he lived, fought and died was virtually destroyed, becoming the stuff of myth and legend. Covering the period from the first mention of the Celts by



ancient Greek writers to the Roman conquest of Britain, this book examines the Celtic warrior, his society and his place within it, and the conflicts that would eventually destroy his world. Beautifully illustrated with many examples of Celtic art and craftsmanship, this book provides a fascinating insight into a culture whose legacy has endured to the present day.

The Rosetta Stone And the Rebirth of Ancient Egypt

John RAY 224pp Hb \$39.95 Part of the fine Wonders of the World series, this book takes the most visited object in the British Museum and tells the story of the birth of Egyptology. The key to deciphering the mysterious written languages of a civilisation that existed long ago and far away, the



Stone has a mystique beyond its mere presence and an importance far beyond its bureaucratic proclamations. The modern history of the Stone, which was discovered by the French, but taken as spoils of war by the British, is traced and the two men instrumental in its decipherment are given their due credit. With a light touch and nice turns of phrase, Ray not only considers how a new branch of knowledge came into being, he also questions the notions of ownership regarding cultural treasures. An excellent read. *Due Apr*

The Jesus Tomb

The Discovery that Will Change History Forever

Charles PELLEGRINO & Schima JACOBOVICI 368pp Tp \$33.00 Were the remains of Jesus's body found over 25 years ago and the truth hidden? Now this book tells the shattering story of what may very well be the greatest archaeological find of all time - the discovery of the Jesus family tomb. In 1980, a crypt was accidentally discovered in Jerusalem. Inside were ossuaries (bone boxes) with inscriptions bearing the names of Jesus of Nazareth, the Virgin Mary, Mary Magdalene and Judah, the son of Jesus. The artefacts were recorded and catalogued, then locked away for over a quarter of a century. But the tomb itself wasn't destroyed - it lies under the foundations of a modern apartment. In 2005, documentary filmmaker Jacobovici gained permission to break the floor and re-enter the tomb. Together with top forensic archaeologist Pellegrino and the team involved in the original discovery, he started an earth-shattering investigation that will shock the Judeo-Christian world. *Due Apr*

Elizabeth and Leicester

Sarah GRISTWOOD 448pp Hb \$59.95 Few relationships fire our imagination like that of Elizabeth I and her "bonnie sweet Robin", the Earl of Leicester, Robert Dudley. They both grew up amid the palaces and plots of Henry VIII's court and they were both imprisoned in the Tower of London by Elizabeth's sister, Mary. Soon after Elizabeth became queen, scandalised letters from ambassadors told of her infatuation with the married Robert Dudley. This was followed a mere two years



later by the suspicious death of his wife Amy. Speculation ran for years that Elizabeth and Robert in their turn would marry. Instead, they developed a working partnership and - an even more extraordinary intimacy - a bond of mutual dependence and affection. By the time Robert died, he had been Elizabeth's councillor and commander of her army, sat by her bed in sickness and represented her on state occasions. But she had also humiliated him, made him dance attendance on her other suitors and tried to have him clapped in prison when finally he broke loose and married again. This is an intimate portrait of two people who forged their age; of a relationship where, very unusually, a woman held all the power. *Due Apr*

Edward VI The Lost King of England

Chris SKIDMORE 384pp Hb \$65.00 On the death of Henry VIII, the crown passed to his nine-year-old son, Edward. However, real power went to the Protector, Edward's uncle, the Duke of Somerset. The first challenger was the Duke's brother, who married Henry VIII's former queen, Katherine Parr, then pursued Princess Elizabeth and later was accused of trying to kidnap Edward at gunpoint. He was beheaded. Somerset ultimately



met the same fate, after a coup d'etat organised by the Duke of Warwick. Edward was a precocious child, as his letters in French and Latin demonstrate. He kept a secret diary, written partly in Greek, which few of his courtiers could read. In 1551, at the age of 14, he took part in his first jousting tournament, an essential demonstration of physical prowess in a very physical age. Within a year, it is his signature we find at the bottom of the Council minutes. However, early in 1553, he contracted a chest infection and later died, rumours circulating that he might have been poisoned.

ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP

131 York Street, Sydney NSW 2000

History

Perfect Hostage A Life of Aung San Suu Kyi

Justin WINTLE

336pp Tp \$32.95 Like Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela, Aung San Suu Kyi has become an iconic figure. Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991, since 1988 she has steadfastly opposed Burma's brutal military regime, instituted by General Ne Win in 1962. But her leadership of the Burmese democracy movement and her ardent advocacy of human rights have landed her in desperate



trouble. In 1989, she was placed under house arrest. Today, she is again under house arrest, seemingly for good. In the years between, she has faced constant physical and psychological harassment. In 2003, during an attempt on her life at Depayin, she witnessed the massacre of scores of her followers. Suu Kyi has also endured involuntary separation from her family - her English husband Dr Michael Aris and their two sons. The death of her husband in 1999 was yet another cruel twist of the knife. But having given her commitment to her people, nothing can deflect Suu Kyi from the course she has adopted. Wintle gives us the fullest biography of Aung San Suu Kyi to date, asking searching questions along the way. Due Apr

Imperial Life in the Emerald City Inside Baghdad's Green Zone

Rajiv CHANDRASEKARAN 368pp Tp \$35.00 This is an unprecedented account of life in Baghdad's Green Zone, a walled-off enclave of towering plants, posh villas and sparkling swimming pools that was the headquarters for the American occupation of Iraq. The Washington Post's former Baghdad bureau chief takes us with him into the Zone - a bubble, cut off from wartime realities, where the task of reconstructing a devastated nation competed with the distractions of a Little America -



bars stocked with cold beer, a disco where women showed up in hot pants, a movie theatre that screened shoot-'em-up films, an all-you-could-eat buffet piled high with pork, a shopping mall that sold pornographic movies, a parking lot filled with shiny SUVs - much of it run by Halliburton. Most Iraqis were barred from entering the Emerald City for fear they would blow it up. Drawing on hundreds of interviews and internal documents, Chandrasekaran tells the story of the people and ideas that inhabited the Green Zone during the occupation, from the imperial viceroy Paul Bremer III to the fleet of men hired to implement the idea that Americans could build a Jeffersonian democracy in an embattled Middle Eastern country. Due Apr

Nemesis

The Last Days of the American Republic

Chalmers JOHNSON 368pp Hb \$47.00 In his prophetic book Blowback (Pb \$24.95), Johnson linked the CIA's clandestine activities abroad to disaster at home. In The Sorrows of Empire (Pb \$32), he explored the ways in which the growth of American militarism and the garrisoning of the planet have jeopardised our stability. Here he shows how imperial overstretch is undermining the republic itself, both



economically and politically. Drawing comparisons to empires past, he explores in vivid detail just what the unintended consequences of US dependence on a permanent war economy are likely to be. What does it mean when a nation's main intelligence organisation becomes the president's secret

army? Or when the globe's sole 'hyper-power', no longer capable of paying for the vaulting ambitions of its leaders, becomes the greatest 'hyper-debtor' of all time? In his stunning conclusion, Johnson suggests that financial bankruptcy could herald the breakdown of constitutional government in America, a crisis that may ultimately prove to be the only path to a renewed nation. Due Apr

An Incomplete History of World War I

Edwin KEISTER

208pp Hb \$29.95

In the first title to be launched in this new series, Hammitt takes the reader on an eccentric and exciting journey. Instead of providing a complicated and dense overview, he focuses on poignant events -

extraordinary, heroic and obscure - ranging from littleknown episodes in major Western Front battles to the valiant exploits of outlandish individuals on the remote frontiers of the conflict. Due Apr



Rites of Peace The Fall of Napoleon

and the Congress of Vienna 416pp Pb \$35.00 Adam ZAMOYSKI Following his epic and bestselling 1812: Napoleon's Fatal March on Moscow (Pb \$24.95), Zamoyski has written the dramatic story of the Congress of Vienna (1813-15), which was to bring about the political reshaping of Europe and



whose legacy affected international relations for a century. The collapse of the French Empire and Napoleon's swift disappearance into exile left a void which 'the big four' - Russia, Prussia, Britain and Austria - were desperate to fill. Taking advantage of the riches left behind were important personalities that included Tsar Alexander, King Frederick William III of Prussia, Count Matternich, the Machiavellian Prince de Talleyrand (likened by Napoleon to "shit in a silk stocking") and the British Lord Castlereagh. Following in close succession were the sabre-rattling generals, heartened by their recent victories and obsessed with gaining as many fortresses and strong river boundaries for their countries as possible. The final act was to dash many of the liberal hopes and dreams for a more equitable order throughout Europe, with fatal consequences for the future. Due Apr

Colossus **Bletchley Park's Greatest Secret**

Paul GANNON 588pp Pb \$26.95 In 1940, almost a year after the outbreak of WWII, Allied radio operators at an interception station in South London began picking up messages in a strange new code. Using science, maths, innovation and improvisation, Bletchley Park codebreakers worked furiously to invent a machine to decipher what turned out to be the secrets of Nazi



high command. It was called Colossus. What these code-breakers didn't realise was that they had fashioned the world's first true computer. When the war ended, this incredible invention was dismantled and hidden away for almost 50 years. Gannon has pieced together the tremendous story of what is now recognised as the greatest secret of Bletchley Park. Due Apr

American Fascists The Christian Right and the War on America

Chris HEDGES 256pp Pb \$37.95 They disseminate their ideas on the alternative broadcast networks and through their own publishers and schools. Their intellectual leaders demand the complete dismantling of the secular state; their followers have been roused to a fever pitch of resentment and despair. Describing themselves as true patriots, they wrap themselves in the flag, but all it might take, writes veteran journalist (and Harvard Divinity School graduate) Chris Hedges, is one more national crisis of the order of September 11 for the Christian Right to seize power and reveal



themselves for what they really are - the American heirs to Fascism. With a step-by-step breakdown of how they started and where they are, Hedges conducts brilliant on-the-ground reporting and produces a deeply compelling work of cultural and political anthropology and an impassioned, no-holds-barred polemic. Due Apr

Letters from Iwo Jima

Kumiko KAKEHASHI

248pp Tp \$29.95

This moving account of the Japanese defence of Iwo Jima is based on letters written home by the doomed soldiers on the island, mostly family men who had been conscripted late in the war. At the heart of the story is the maverick general Kuriyabashi - a devoted family man, humanitarian and brilliant commander - and the first man on the island to know they were all going to die. Unlike most Japanese officers, he had travelled widely, spent time in Europe and the US, and was under no illusions as to their ultimate fate. He fought and died to delay the Americans for as long as he could. He knew that once the island fell, it would be used as an airbase by US bombers to strike at Tokyo. This reveals a very different Japanese army from the popular image of Hollywood movies. These letters inspired the new Clint Eastwood film of the same title.

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Australian History

To Hell and Back

The Banned Account of Gallipoli by Sydney Loch Susanna & Jake De VRIES 234pp Tp \$33.00

Banned in 1916, the "best book on Gallipoli" now returns to print. As a young soldier in the battlefields of Gallipoli, Sydney Loch witnessed the horror of war firsthand. His journal of what he saw became a book on his return to Australia. Hoping to avoid military censorship, his publishers dubbed Sydney's book a novel, The Straits Impregnable. But as the war ground on



and casualties grew, the publisher inserted a note saying the book was in fact true and, despite huge literary acclaim, the censors immediately withdrew it from sale. Historians Susanna and Jake de Vries have recovered and edited Sydney's book for a new generation of readers - and written a biography of his remarkable life. Due Apr

Captain Bligh's Second Chance An Eyewitness Account of his Return to the South Seas

George TOBIN (Roy SCHREIBER Ed) 256pp Tp \$29.95 This is the story of William Bligh's second and successful voyage to bring breadfruit trees from Tahiti to the West Indies in the year 1791, in the ship HMS Providence. The British Admiralty also gave him the assignment of mapping the treacherous Torres Straits between Australia and New Guinea on his way home. Here Schreiber presents the journal entries and sketches of the young George Tobin, Bligh's young third



lieutenant on the Providence. Matthew Flinders was a fellow crew member on the journey. Due Apr

Sydney From Settlement to the Bridge Ian COLLIS

From the pioneer days of slab huts, through to the building of

the bridge, this book details often forgotten and overlooked aspects of the city's history. Marvellous photos inlcude: The Francis Greenway-designed markets that once graced the site of the QVB; Anthony Hordern's Department Store and the fire that destroyed it; the construction of Martin Place (and cars in

the plaza!); the township of Moruya and its significance to building the Harbour Bridge; workers heating rivets on the bridge, the joining of the arches and opening day, including De Groot's infamous ribbon-slashing.

Pandemonium How Globalization and Trade are Putting the World at Risk

Andrew NIKIFORUK

324pp Pb \$26.95

Hb \$50.00

Is the pace and scale of global trade endangering our livestock, hospitals and waterways? How vulnerable is our food to bacterial, viral and fungal invaders? Do certain trade goods cause more biological trouble than others? And - most importantly - how can we do things differently? Whether it's pandemics like avian flu, the potential loss of most of the world's

banana crops to disease, or the devastation of a foot-and-mouth epidemic, the deadly pace of globalisation and biological traffic in all living things invites disaster. While we enjoy our 21st century global lifestyle - international travel, cheap imported cars, summer fruit in the supermarket all year round thanks to global food sourcing - it's all too easy to forget the downside. Due Apr

Inferno

The Devastation of Hamburg 1943 512pp Hb \$55.00

Keith LOWE

In July 1943, British and American bombers launched an attack on the German city of Hamburg that was unlike anything the world had ever seen. For 10 days, the city was drenched with over 9,000 tons of bombs, creating fires so huge they burned for a month and were visible for 200 miles. As those who survived emerged from their ruined cellars and air-raid shelters, they were confronted with a unique vision of hell: a sea of flame that stretched to the horizon, the burned-out husks of fire engines that had tried to rescue them, charcoaled



corpses and roads that had become flaming rivers of melted tarmac. Using many new firsthand accounts. Lowe gives the human side of an inhuman story. The result is an epic tale of devastation and survival, and a much-needed reminder of the human face of war. Due Apr

From the Academic Presses

Germany: The Long Road West 1789-1933 (599pp Hb \$120) by Heinrich Winkler offers the history of a nation through two turbulent centuries. This first volume (of two) begins with the origins and consequences of the medieval myth of the 'Reich', which was to experience a fateful renaissance in the 20th century, and ends with the collapse of the first German democracy.

The Cambridge Companion to the Qur'an (348pp Pb \$49.95) edited by Jane McAuliffe brings together an international team of scholars to explain the complexities of the Qur'an. Comprising 14 chapters, each devoted to a topic of central importance, the book is rich in historical, linguistic and literary detail, while also reflecting the influence of other disciplines.



The Cambridge History of Russia (2,412pp Hb 3-volume set \$850, individual volumes \$325 each) is a definitive new history of Russia. Volume I encompasses developments before the reign of Peter I. Volume II covers the 'imperial era' from Peter's time to the fall of the monarchy in March 1917. Volume III continues the story to the end of the 20th century. At the core of all three volumes are the Russians and the lands they have inhabited. Other peoples and territories are also given generous coverage for the periods



when they came under Riurikid, Romanov and Soviet rule. In Little America (259pp Pb \$59.95), Erik Paul dissects the relationship between Australia and the US. He shows how Australia has become a key player in maintaining American dominance in South East Asia, and looks critically at the contrast between Australia's

wealth and the comparative poverty of surrounding nations. Most people believe that WWII ended because two atomic bombs were dropped on Japan, forcing surrender. Five Days in August (226pp Hb \$45.95) by Michael Gordin boldly presents a different interpretation: that the military did not clearly understand the atomic bomb's revolutionary strategic potential, that the Allies were almost as stunned by the surrender as the Japanese were by the attack, and that not only had experts planned and fully anticipated the need for a third bomb, they were sceptical about whether the atomic bomb would work at all.



The Art of Argument: A Guide to Mooting (168pp Pb \$39.95) by Christopher Kee guides readers through the process of developing, defending and presenting a compelling argument. Primarily aimed at students who are about to undertake or participate in an international mooting competition, it explains in a step-by-step process what to do when you first get the moot problem, how to begin researching the subject matter, the emotional highs and lows, why practice makes perfect, how to handle



Inside Lawyers' Ethics (288pp Pb \$69.95) by Christine Parker and Adrian Evans is designed to help law students and new lawyers understand and modify their own ethical priorities, not just because this knowledge makes it easier to practice law and earn an income, but because self-aware, ethical legal practice is right and feels better than anything else. Packed with case studies of ethical scandals and dilemmas from real-life legal practice in Australia, each chapter delves into the most difficult issues lawyers face.

Byzantium's Balkan Frontier: A Political Study of the Northern Balkans, 900-1204 (364pp Pb \$99) by Paul Stephenson regards Byzantine political authority as a unifying factor in the various lands which formed the empire's frontier in the north and west. It takes as its central concern Byzantine relations with all Slavic and non-Slavic peoples, including the Serbs, Croats, Bulgarians and Hungarians, in and beyond the Balkan Peninsula. It explores imperial responses, first to the migrations of nomadic peoples and subsequently to the expansion of Latin Christendom. Dave

ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP

Science

The Last Generation How Nature will Take Revenge for Man-Made Climate Change

Fred PEARCE 400pp Tp \$29.95 Climate change is not a matter of gradually increasing temperatures. New scientific findings about how our planet works show that it does not change gradually, but rapidly. Under pressure, it lurches into another mode of operation. Man-made global warming is on the verge of

unleashing unstoppable planetary forces. Biological and geological monsters are being woken and will consume us. Virtually overnight, Nature's revenge will be sudden and brutal, like a climatic tsunami sweeping across the globe. No question, we are the last generation to live with any kind of climatic stability. In this impassioned report, Pearce travels the world on the story to end them all. Most troubling, while visiting the places where the action may start: deep in the Amazon, high in the Arctic and among the bogs of Siberia, he uncovers the first signs that nature's revenge is already under way.

Now #4 The 3rd Degree Frontline in Australia's Climate War

Murray HOGARTH Pb \$17.95 Hogarth sees climate change as humanity's greatest challenge: "I began reporting regularly on climate change as an environmental journalist over a decade ago. Back then, a global warming story was treated as a curious theory only a couple of steps above wacky



science fiction. Now it's the daily fare of mainstream political columnists, a compelling topic for economic debate with trillions of dollars at stake. When this book ends, in about 25,000 words time, Australia will be accelerating towards its inescapable climate change destiny. I'm calling that The 3rd Degree - the battleground on which we'll fight to avert truly disastrous impacts of global warming. This is a war we have to win, and we're all going to be conscripted. Welcome to the frontline." *Due Apr*

The Chilling Stars A New Theory of Climate Change Henrik SVENSMARK & Nigel CALDER

020nn Dh ¢07

272pp Pb \$27.95 On a clear, starry night, you can catch a cold, and our ancestors were sometimes tempted to think that the Moon and the stars sucked heat from the Earth and made people ill. It was good observation, but dodgy theorising. Astronomers will now tell you that most of the bright stars are far hotter than the Sun. Yet when the biggest of them

expire in mighty supernova explosions they spray the Galaxy with atomic bullets, the cosmic rays. As a result, those exploded stars do indeed chill the world, by making it cloudier. Like other big discoveries, it seemed crazy at first. Who would think that the ordinary clouds that decorate the sky take their orders from exploded stars far off in space? Or that the climate obeys the swarms of atomic particles that rain down on us from the Milky Way? Many experts scoffed when the Danish physicist Svensmark linked those cosmic rays to clouds and temperatures, but investigations around the world confirm his theory, altering much of what scientists believed they knew about the weather, the climate and the long history of life on the Earth. *Due Apr*

E = Einstein His Life, His Thought, and His Influence on Our Culture

Donald W GOLDSMITH & Marcia BARTUSIAK (Editors) 352pp Pb \$24.95 In the history of physics, there has been no greater

visionary than Albert Einstein. Through his revolutionary Theory of Relativity, he fundamentally changed the way we look at the universe. But there

is more to Einstein than just E=mc2. This anthology of 30 fascinating essays, presented by three renowned scientist/editors, captures his various facets. Complete with more than 125 colour illustrations and explanatory sidebars that make the information accessible to the layperson, these revelatory articles explore his life, theories and legacy. *Due Apr*

The Evolution Revolution Design Without Intelligence

Ken McNAMARA & John LONG 336pp Pb \$32.95 Two of Australia's most accomplished popular science writers - the palaeontologists McNamara and Long take us on a rollicking ride through the past 3.8 billion years of life on Earth. Their field trips unearth some of the world's most significant fossils, from microbes to mighty mammals, including the feathered dinosaurs that make the link between reptiles and birds. They take us



through the dramatic transition from fins to limbs, how the first insects flew, why dinosaurs got so big and how life has evolved into nearly every nook and cranny on Earth. The major fossil discoveries of the past decade that they have documented comprehensively debunk the notion of intelligent design. Like it or not, along with dinosaurs, donkeys and dahlias, we too came from bacteria that swam in the primordial soup. *Due Apr*

Endless Forms Most Beautiful The New Science of Evo Devo and the Making of the Animal Kingdom

Sean CARROLL 288pp Pb \$27.00 Evo Devo is evolutionary development biology, the third revolution in evolutionary biology. The first was marked by the publication of **Origin of Species** (Pb \$14.95). The second occurred in the early 20th century, when Darwin's theories were merged with the study of genetics. Now the insights of Evo Devo astonish the biology world by showing how the



endless forms of animals - butterflies and zebras, trilobites and dinosaurs, apes and humans - are made and evolved. Perhaps the most surprising finding of Evo Devo is the discovery that a small number of primitive genes led to the formation of fundamental organs and appendages in all animal forms. The gene that causes humans to form arms and legs is the same gene that causes birds and insects to form wings, and fish to form fins. Similarly, one ancient gene has led to the creation of eyes across the animal kingdom. Changes in the way this ancient toolkit of genes is used have created all the diversity that surrounds us. *Due Apr*

The Kiwi's Egg Charles Darwin & Natural Selection

David QUAMMEN 286pp Hb \$49.95 Evolution, during the early 19th century, was an idea in the air. Other thinkers had suggested it, but no one had proposed a cogent explanation for HOW evolution occurs. Then, in September 1838, a young Englishman named Charles Darwin hit upon the idea that 'natural selection' among competing individuals would lead to wondrous adaptations and species diversity. 21 years



passed between that epiphany and publication of **Origin of Species**. The human drama and scientific basis of Darwin's delay constitute a fascinating, tangled tale that elucidates the character of a cautious naturalist who initiated an intellectual revolution. Drawing from Darwin's secret 'transmutation' notebooks and his personal letters, Quammen has sketched a vivid life portrait of the man whose work never ceases to be controversial.

In Search of Memory The Emergence of a New Science of Mind

Eric KANDEL 512pp Pb \$25.95 Charting the intellectual history of the emerging biology of mind, Kandel illuminates how behavioural psychology, cognitive psychology, neuroscience and molecular biology have converged into a powerful new science of mind. This science now provides nuanced insights into normal mental functioning and disease, and simultaneously opens pathways to more effective healing. Beginning with his childhood in Nazi-occupied



Vienna, Kandel's initial fascination with history and psychoanalysis led to his groundbreaking work on the biological process of memory, which earned him the *Nobel Prize*. A deft mixture of memoir and history, modern biology and behaviour, this book traces how a brilliant scientist's intellectual journey intersected with one of the great scientific endeavours of the 20th century: the search for the biological basis of memory.



E=Einstein

Briefly noted...

Music: A Mathematical Offering (411pp Pb \$79.95) by David Benson provides a wealth of information to enable the teacher, student or interested amateur to understand, at varying levels of technicality, the real interplay between mathematics and music. Starting with the structure of the human ear and its relationship with Fourier analysis, the story proceeds via the mathematics of musical instruments to the ideas of consonance and dissonance, then to scales and temperaments.

In Over the Mountains: An Aerial View of Geology (128pp Hb \$59.95), Michael Collier showcases some of the spectacular photographs of the mountains of America that he has taken from the window of his Cessna. He also describes the geology that is revealed in these superb photographs.

The Last Forest (312pp Hb \$56) by Mark London and Brian Kelly looks at the transformation of the Amazon basin. It considers

the impact of new roads and wireless technology, and chronicles the ongoing destruction of forests and displacement of forest people to make way for cattle ranches and soybean fields. It also profiles the environmentalists, politicians, ranchers and ordinary citizens involved. Along the way, it tries to answer the question of whether

it's possible to strike a balance between economic prosperity and protection of the world's last great forest.

The second edition of Gerrit Verschuur's The Invisible Universe (156pp Hb \$54.95) tells the story of radio astronomy, of how radio waves are generated by stars, supernova, guasars, colliding galaxies and by the very beginnings of the universe itself.

Into the Black: JPL and the American Space Program, 1976-2004 (416pp Hb \$80) by Peter Westwick recounts the extraordinary story of the lab's accomplishments, failures and evolution from 1976 to the present day. This history of JPL encompasses far more than the story of the events and individuals that have shaped the institution. It also engages wider questions about relations between civilian and military space programs, the place of science and technology in American politics, and the

Into the Black

impact that the work at JPL has on the way we imagine the place of humankind in the universe.

In With Speed and Violence (278pp Hb \$54), Fred Pearce (author of When the Rivers Run Dry Hb \$59.95) shows that where once scientists were concerned about gradual climate change, now more and more of them fear we will soon be dealing with abrupt change resulting from the triggering of hidden tipping points. This is the most up-to-date and readable book yet about the growing evidence for global warming and the large climatic effects it may unleash.

Is Pluto a Planet? (254pp Hb \$54.95) by David Weintraub tells the story of how the meaning of the word 'planet' has changed from antiquity to the present day as new objects in our solar system have been discovered. In lively prose, the author provides the historical, philosophical and astronomical background that allows us to decide for ourselves whether Pluto is indeed a planet.

In Earthquakes in Human History (304pp Pb \$39.95), Jelle

Zeilinga de Boer and Donald Sanders vividly explain the geological processes responsible for earthquakes and describe how these events have had long-lasting after-effects on human societies and cultures. Ranging from an examination of temblors mentioned in the Bible, to a richly-detailed account of the 1906 catastrophe in San Francisco, to Japan's Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, this book is testament to a natural phenomenon that can threaten humankind's fragile existence. Dave

ABBEY'S BOOKSHOP

Philosophy & Religion

Ritual Sacrifice Blood and Redemption

Brenda Ralph LEWIS 192pp Hb \$40.00 The principle of sacrifice is as old as human life itself. Human, animal or inanimate offerings were an essential part of an effort to handle natural disasters, secure good luck or good health, ensure success in war or commerce, in fact to produce any outcome that could better life on Earth. This fascinating book provides the first general, fully illustrated overview of sacrificial practices around the world



101 Ethical Dilemmas Second Edition

Martin COHEN

400pp Pb \$35.00 Will meat-eaters get into heaven? Do trees have rights? Is it ever right to design a baby? What would you do? Would you always do the right thing? Is there a right thing? In this second edition of his thought-provoking and highly engaging introduction to ethics, Cohen brings us brand-new ethical dilemmas including: the Dodgy Donor Clinic, the Famous Footbridge Dilemma and the Human Canonball. From overcrowded lifeboats to the censor's pen, Cohen's stimulating and amusing dilemmas reveal the subtleties,

complexities and contradictions that make up the rich tapestry of ethics. Due Apr

101 Philosophy Problems

Martin COHEN

Does Farmer Field really know his prize cow, Daisy, is in the field? When is an unexpected exam not wholly unexpected? Are all bachelors (really) unmarried? This is a witty and engaging introduction to philosophy, covering classical, as well as contemporary, problems from the fields of medical ethics, modern physics and artificial intelligence. For the third edition, many of the problems have been revised and there are several brand new ones, including Lewis Carroll's problem of people who don't eat lentils and Poincare's problem of the gaseous people whose measurements keep changing. Due Apr

The Ethical Imagination

Margaret SOMERVILLE 280pp Pb \$26.95 Science and technology confront us with some of the most challenging and unprecedented ethical questions in the world today. These issues encompass what it means to be human, how we relate to others and our world and how we find meaning in life. Somerville tackles some of the most contentious issues of our times and proposes a brilliant new kind of ethical language and thought to help us navigate them. She eloquently proposes that it is only through our willingness to undertake a journey of the human imagination - by heeding

our stories, myths and moral intuition - that we can truly see, understand, speak about and relate to the world around us, and thereby develop an ethics to guide us. Due Apr

The Great Theft Wrestling Islam from the Extremists Khaled Abou EL FADL

336pp Pb \$25.00 This is a passionate defence of Islam against the

encroaching tide of fundamentalists corrupting the true faith. El Fadl, one of the world's pre-eminent Islamic scholars, argues that Islam is currently passing through a

transformative moment no less dramatic than the movements that swept through Europe during the Reformation. At this critical juncture, there are two completely opposed worldviews within Islam competing to define this great world religion. From the role of women in Islam to the nature of

jihad, from democracy and human rights to terrorism and warfare, El Fadl builds a vital vision for a moderate Islam. At long last, the great majority of Muslims who oppose extremism have a desperately needed voice to help reclaim Islam's great moral tradition. Due Apr















MUSI





Miscellaneous

Harrius Potter et Camera Secretorum

(The Chamber of Secrets) **J K ROWLING**

288pp Hb \$39.95 The second in the Harry Potter series to be translated into Latin, this follows in the steps of other great children's classics. The huge task of translating into Latin (most translations are done from Latin) has been undertaken by Peter Needham, who taught Latin at Eton for over 30 years.

A Natural History of Latin **Tore JANSON**

320pp Pb \$28.95

Beginning in Rome around 600 BC, Latin became the language of the civilised world and remained so for more than two millennia. French, Spanish, Italian and Romanian are among its progeny and it provides the international vocabulary of law and life science. No known language, including English itself enriched by Latin words and phrases - has achieved such success and longevity. Janson tells its history from its origins to the present. He shows how spoken and written Latin evolved in different places and its central role in European history and culture. He ends with a concise Latin grammar and lists of Latin words and phrases still in common use. Due Apr

Dying was the Best Thing That Ever Happened to Me Stories of Healing and Wisdom Along Life's Journey

William HABLITZEL

256pp Pb \$22.95 A profound guide to what is important in life written by a doctor privileged to have seen many of his patients discover the secret to happiness. Due Apr

Inner Workings Literary Essays 2000-2005

J M COETZEE 256pp Hb \$39.95 Of the writers discussed in these essays, several - Italo

Svevo, Joseph Roth, Bruno Schulz, Sandor Marai lived through the Austro-Hungarian fin de siecle and felt the influence of Schopenhauer, Nietzsche and Freud. Coetzee further explores the work of six of 20th century German literature's greatest writers: Robert Musil, Robert Walser, Walter Benjamin (the Arcades Project), Joseph Roth, Gunter Grass, W G Sebald and the poet Paul Celan in his "wrestlings with the German

language". There is an essay on Graham Greene's Brighton Rock and on the short fiction of Samuel Beckett, a writer whom Coetzee has long admired. American literature is strongly represented, from Walt Whitman, through William Faulkner, Saul Bellow and Arthur Miller to Philip Roth. Coetzee rounds off the collection with essays on three fellow Nobel laureates: Nadine Gordimer, Gabriel Garcia Marguez and V S Naipaul. Due Apr

"Shakespeare" by Another Name The Life of Edward De Vere, Earl of Oxford, the Man Who Was Shakespeare

Mark ANDERSON 640pp Tp \$29.95 The debate over the true author of Shakespeare's body of work began not long after the death of William Shakespeare, the obscure actor and entrepreneur from



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Stratford-Upon-Avon who was conventionally assumed to be the author. Early investigations into the mystery argued for such eminent figures as Christopher Marlowe or Francis Bacon, but recent scholarship has turned towards Edward de Vere.

This is the first complete literary biography of de Vere that tells the story of his action-packed life - as student, soldier, courtier, lawyer, sophisticate, traveller and writer - finding in it uncanny similarities to situations and characters found in Shakespeare's plays.



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320pp Tp \$34.95 In the summer of 2002-03, acclaimed writer and historian Tom Griffiths voyaged the Southern Ocean to Antarctica. He was on board the first Australian ship to "slice the silence" of a year, arriving at Casey Station to deliver the new team of 'winterers' and take away the old. Griffiths interweaves his own diary entries with rich and engaging essays on Antarctic history, science and culture. Due Apr

Bad Lands A Tourist on the Axis of Evil

Tony WHEELER 334pp Pb \$29.95 This is Lonely Planet founder Tony Wheeler's personal account of his experiences in some of the most repressed and dangerous regimes in the world. He selected these 'Bad Lands' based on a simple criterion - how each country treats its own citizens, if it is involved in terrorism and if it is a threat to other countries. He examines nine countries - Afghanistan, Albania, Burma, Cuba, Iran, Irag, Libva, North Korea and Saudi Arabia - in an incisive political and social commentary that asks "What makes a country truly evil?" Due Apr

An Umbrian Love Story Coming Home to Via del Duomo

Marlena de BLASI 368pp Hb \$29.95 "The realtor can only push open the massive wooden doors to the apartment and invite me to lean into the debris. Save a few skeletal boards, there is no floor. The walls are bared to medieval bricks. Where a chandelier once hung, a rusted, hand-wrought iron chain swings from an 18-foot, frescoed vault like a hangman's rope. With a tempestuous calculation of its potential, I say to



the realtor, "I'll take it" before Fernando has even climbed the stairs." After two years in their barely comfortable stable in San Casciano, Marlena and Fernando de Blasi know it's time to move on. They are looking for a home in which to set a sumptuous table and, in Orvieto, they find it. The town is known as La Divina, the Divine, for its abundance of treasures, but it's the friendships that Marlena and Fernando make that bring richness to their lives, Due Apr

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400pp Pb \$35.00

What's Left? How Liberals Lost Their Way **Nick COHEN**

From the much-loved, witty and excoriating voice of

journalist Nick Cohen, comes a powerful and irreverent dissection of the agonies, idiocies and compromises of mainstream liberal thought. As he tours the follies of the Left, Cohen asks us to reconsider what it means to be liberal in this confused and topsy-turvy time. With the angry satire of Swift, he reclaims the values of



democracy and solidarity that united the movement against fascism, and asks: What's Left?





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HAPPENED TO ME

News from Eve Abbey

The Miles Franklin long list has been announced - only eight books this year: Peter Carey Theft (\$45.00 Hb) John Charalamous Silent Parts (\$24.95 Pb) Richard Flanagan The Unknown Terrorist (\$45 Hb, \$32.95 Pb) Sandra Hall Beyond the Break (\$27.95 Pb) Gail Jones Dreams of Speaking (\$32.95 Pb) Kate Legge Unexpected Elements of Love (\$29.95 Pb) Deborah Robertson Careless (\$32.95 Pb) Alexis Wright Carpentaria (\$29.95 Pb)

I was happy to hear that Lloyd Jones's wonderful story Mister Pip (\$29.95 Pb), which I recommended to you last month, has won for our region of the Commonwealth Writers' Prize. I hope he wins the overall prize when it is announced on 27 May, just as Kate Grenville did last year with The Secret River (\$29.95 Pb). Don't forget Grenville's advisory memoir, Searching for the Secret River (\$32.95 Pb), which is shelved next to the novel at the moment. It is a most unusual and satisfying book.



Elizabeth Jolley died in February, aged 83. How lucky we were to have her ironical stories to amuse us in the 70s. My favourite was The Newspaper of Claremont Street (\$18.95 Pb). What was yours? Perhaps Milk and Honey (\$18.95 Pb) or Miss Peabody's Inheritance (\$19.95 Pb). French philosopher Jean Baudrillard also died recently. He once came into our shop, at a time when we were selling baseball caps with the names of

JOLLEY

philosophers on the front. His wife came to the counter to

tell us that actually that was her husband over there - Jean Baudrillard. I'm not sure how true that was, but we were thrilled at the time. Books by him that we currently have in stock include: Simulations (\$27 Pb), Cool Memories V: 2000-2004 (\$45.95 Pb), System of Objects (\$19.95 Pb) Utopia Deferred: Writings for Utopia 1967-68 (\$33.95 Pb), America (\$42 Pb), Ecstasy of Communication (\$27 Pb), Forget Foucault: An Interview with Sylvere Lotringer (\$27 Pb) and, due soon, In the Shadow of Silent Majorities (\$24.95 Tp).

As soon as it arrived in the shop, I bought a copy of Steven Carroll's The Time We Have Taken (\$28 Pb 327pp). This is the third in his series about the inhabitants of an outer Melbourne suburb for each decade after WWII. The first is Art of the Engine Driver (\$22.95 Pb 278pp), followed by The Gift of Speed (\$22.95 Pb 448pp), both of which were shortlisted for the Miles Franklin. These are not bestsellers but are, in my opinion, Australian classics. Very little happens, but each moment is carefully contemplated. The style is measured and intimate. Only to be read slowly. If I say Proustian, will that put you off? Do have a look.

I've had fun reading A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian (\$24.95 Pb) by Marina Lewycka. As well as being very amusing, this book is an important reminder of what happened to the displaced people of Europe after WWII. The blatant gold-digging blonde of today, keen to marry absolutely anyone in order to get her visa, is a long way from the very law-abiding, anxious-toplease, people who arrived in England in the 1940s, yet by the end, you find yourself missing her large presence. Not a lot to do with tractors, but a lot to do with looking after lonely, ageing fathers.

Having recommended you read Margaret Lane's A Tale of Beatrix Potter (\$22 Pb), which seems to be reprinting at the moment, I now discover that a new biography has arrived, Beatrix Potter: A Life in Nature by Linda Lear

(\$49.95 Hb 583pp incl 36pp of notes and index). I found this very interesting, especially as Lear paid a lot of attention to Beatrix's interest in scientific illustration. From being a dedicated amateur, she became a very professional artist, especially



interested in fungi. At that time, Natural History was very much in vogue, Over 90,000 books as indeed was at your fingertips illustration for children's stories.

Caldecott and Greenaway were regarded as collectable artists (and still are). Beatrix comes through as a serious-minded person with good business instincts, always able to observe other people with affectionate interest

Now here is a title to puzzle you: Miss Thistlebottom's Hobgoblins (\$24.95 Pb 260pp nice cream paper with good clear print). The subtitle solves the problem: The Careful Writer's Guide to the Taboos, Bugbears and Outmoded Rules of English Usage by Theodore Bernstein. If you want to have fun disputing some of these, or give to a friend as a present for them to mull over, this would be a good choice. Find it in Writing and Publishing, which has a huge variety of titles, ranging from the



very professional Chicago Manual of Style for Authors, Editors and Copywriters, 15th edition (\$110 Hb 984pp or \$120 CD) or Nancy Mulvany's famous text Indexing Books, 2nd edition 2005 (\$86 Hb 320pp) through to Janet Evanovich's How I Write (\$29.95 Pb) and How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper, 6th edition (\$59.95 Pb 302pp incl index).

THE BRIDGE has had pride of place this past month and there are several excellent books from which to choose as a keepsake for the future. My two favourites are Peter Spearitt's The Sydney Harbour Bridge: A Life, 75th Anniversary Edition (\$29.95 landscape Pb 175pp incl index), which has excellent text and an absorbing selection of photographs, drawings and memorabilia, and Peter Luck's Sydney Harbour Bridge: 75 Fascinating Facts (\$19.95 small Hb on glossy paper 160pp, with a photograph on each alternate page).

The Museum of Sydney currently has a terrific exhibition about the bridge. There is also an interesting exhibition in the Mitchell Galleries at the State Library called Sydney Harbour: Seldom Scene, which displays 40 different paintings of the harbour that are seldom seen (extracted from the archives for your pleasure). There is a very nice, small catalogue that goes with them. You can see the Doug Moran Portrait Prize paintings at the same time.

I noticed a new arrival upstairs in Latin: Beginning Latin Poetry Reader: 70 Selections from the Great Periods of Roman Verse and Drama (\$22.95 Pb 342pp), including overview of Latin syntax and the metrics of Latin verse, plus a glossary and timeline. Edited by Gavin Betts and Daniel Franklin. Downstairs, next to Roman History, we have a section devoted to Classical Studies, where you will find more serious discussions, including Cambridge Companion to Virgil edited by Charles Martindale (\$49.95 Pb 370pp incl index) or Ariadne's Thread: A Guide to International Tales Found in Classical Literature by William Hansen (\$100 Hb 548 well-bound pages).

In World History, I found what I thought was a lovely forgotten expression, but not quite so... A book by A Roger Ekirch called At Day's Close: A History of Nighttime (\$22.95 Pb 447pp incl index) is about all those interesting things that people did at night before the coming of bright artificial light. I especially liked the expression "a blanket fair" to describe how people got into bed together to keep warm and have a good talk. Describing this to some younger friends, I discovered they use the expression "blanket show" to indicate it's time for their kids to go to bed. Nice!



I was thinking recently about the Copyright Agency Limited and all the money it distributes to authors and donates to sponsoring literary endeavours. I remember when this idea was first mooted, and now look how important it is! So I checked out a few titles on our system and came up with these books in stock: Michael Brown: Who Owns Native Culture? (\$37 Pb 336pp), Jessica Litman: Digital Copyright: Protecting International Copyright on the Internet (\$56 Hb 208pp), Susan Sell: Private Power, Public Law: Globalisation of Intellectual Property Rights (\$27.50 Pb 240pp).

One of the new titles in Audio Fiction is Kenneth Branagh reading Chekhov's In the Ravine and Other Short Stories (\$36 3 CDs). In Audio Non-Fiction, we have The Life and Times of Queen Elizabeth I and II (\$55 12 CDs), or by contrast there is Bob Dylan's Chronicles Volume 1 read by Sean Penn (\$39.95 6 CDs). Recommended is Robert Drewe's The Shark Net: Memories and Murder (\$44.95 7 CDs) and upstairs in Kids Audio, I noticed Once Upon a Time: Favourite Fairy Tales, all by Hans Christian Andersen and all read by Australians (\$24.95 cassette).

I haven't talked about Travel much lately and I find we have a number of big picture books on the top shelf (almost out of my reach these days!). I liked the idea of Lonely Planet Guide to the Middle of Nowhere (\$59.95 Hb 271pp of essays and splendid photographs). Another title of interest to many people is Matt McLachlan's Walking with the Anzacs:a Walking Guide to Australian Battlefields of the Western Front (\$40 Pb).

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A Royal Affair by Stella Tillyard \$27.95

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God's Terrorists by Charles Allen \$29.95

A fascinating history of the religious fanatics that would come to be known as the founding fathers of Islamic terrorism and who set down the intellectual roots of Al Queda.

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St Aubyn examines the web of false promises that entangle a once-illustrious family whose last vestige of wealth - an old house in the south of France - is about to be donated to a New Age foundation. An upto-the-minute dissection of the mores of child-rearing, marriage, adultery and assisted suicide, this Man Booker shortlisted title showcases St Aubyn's luminous and acidic prose.

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When a young, rebellious writer from Leningrad arrives in a remote Russian village to study local customs, one woman stands out - Vera, who has been waiting 30 years for her lover to return from WWII. As fascinated as he is appalled by the fruitless fidelity of this still beautiful woman, he sets out to win her affections.

Six Impossible Things Before Breakfast: The Evolutionary Origins of Belief by Lewis Wolpert \$24.95

Why do so many people believe so many daft things? Why do even 'sensible' people touch wood, believe in angels and avoid walking under ladders? Wolpert investigates the nature of belief and its causes. He looks at belief's psychological basis and its possible evolutionary origins in physical cause and effect.

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