

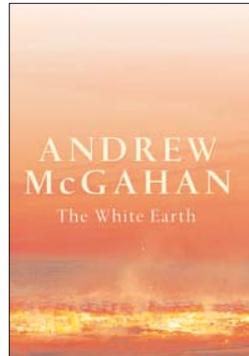
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The White Earth

Andrew McGAHAN 386pp Tp \$29.95

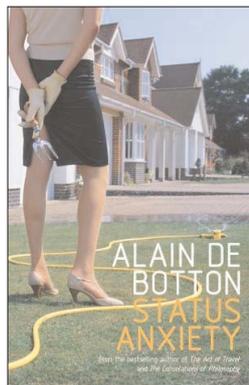
It's a very long time since I've read a novel that impressed me as much as this one has. Certainly it came with great praise, which was worrying - could it be so good? The answer is a resounding YES! If there is a tradition of excellence in Australian Literature as typified by Tim Winton and David Malouf, then this is worthy of a place in the pantheon - and of major literary recognition. In 1993, 9-year-old William and his fragile, needy mother are given shelter by Will's great-uncle, John McIvor, who owns Kuran House, the original station in that part of the Darling Downs. The imminent passage of Native Title is of great concern for landowners of the district, but McIvor, a hard and driven man, is organising a rally against it. At the same time, he is testing Will as a potential inheritor of Kuran House. The pressure from his mother and his uncle are unrelenting, just like the drought that has the area in its grip. This powerful and moving novel is thought-provoking and thoughtful. Do we own the land - or does it own us? With excellent characterisation, a strong narrative structure and assured prose style, this is a satisfying novel that will have you wanting to reread it as soon as you've reached the last page. *Lindy*



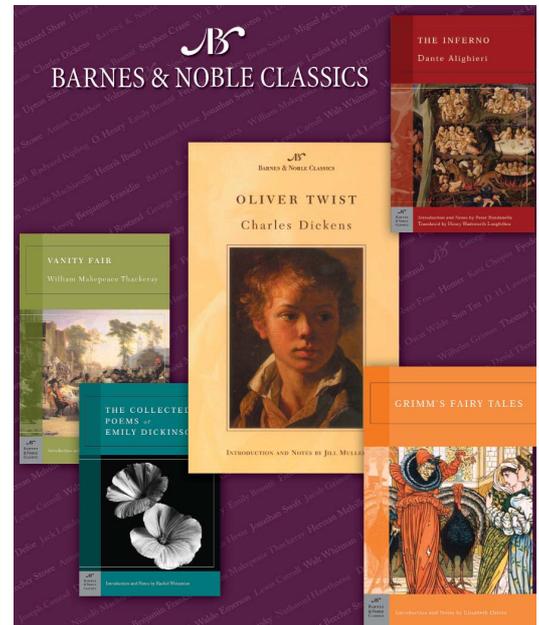
Status Anxiety

Alain DE BOTTON 314pp Hb \$39.95

The main points of de Botton's thesis are that status anxiety has a terrible potential for misery, that it can also be a useful tool for inspiring excellence while promoting a common value system within a society and that the most useful way to address the condition is to understand and discuss it. His book is divided into chapters which explain the causes - lovelessness, snobbery, expectation, meritocracy, dependence - and the possible solutions - philosophy, art, politics, Christianity, Bohemia - in their historical context. This meditation on humanity's 'quest for love from the world' is thought-provoking and amusing in equal measure, particularly as one considers how lucky we are to be able to navel-gaze in such erudite company while much of the world struggles with the more basic issue of surviving, to starve or be maimed another day - perhaps as a direct result of status anxiety run riot! Beautifully illustrated and with a perfectly informed index, this is a more enjoyable read than de Botton's *The Art of Travel* (Pb \$24.95), so you had best get two copies as one of them is bound to go astray. *due May*



Cara



BARNES & NOBLE CLASSICS

This new imprint boasts an attractive and competitively priced series of paperback Classic titles.

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Winner announced in July Advocate

Mother's Day

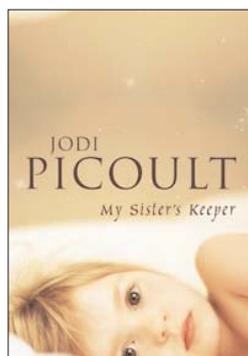
A new novel from Jodi Picoult is a sure-fire winner for Mother's Day.

My Sister's Keeper

Jodi PICOULT 432pp Pb \$29.95

At the age of 13, Anna has had many invasive surgical procedures performed upon her. The trouble is, she's not ill - her older sister Kate has leukaemia and Anna was especially conceived to provide a perfect donor match for her. Anna has never questioned this, but when the next demand made on her is to give up a kidney, she starts legal action against her parents to gain control over her own body. An absolutely riveting - and at times, heart-rending - story of family obligations, love and individuality, posing moral and ethical questions you can't help but ponder. Highly recommended. *Lindy*

Sunday 9 May



For more ideas and suggestions, see box page 8.

BOOKMARK THE



Featuring:

V S Naipaul
John Dean
Alain de Botton
Salam Pax
Louis De Berniers
DBC Pierre
and more...

Pick up a program
at Abbey's

17-23 MAY

Sending Them Home

Quarterly Essay #13

Robert MANNE 125pp Pb \$12.95

Manne tells the stories of individual asylum seekers and finds in their experience the seeds of a devastating critique. Balancing sorrow and pity with a controlled anger, Manne develops a sustained argument about what could, and should, be done for the 9,000 refugees who remain in limbo on temporary protection visas. This issue also contains a groundbreaking account of conditions in the offshore processing camps on Nauru, whose operations have until now been shrouded in secrecy, and a damning forensic investigation of the recent efforts to return - frequently against their will - many of those people who sought our protection and whose countries remain in turmoil.

Lots of things in this Advocate, but we'll squeeze this in. Firstly, it's the Sydney Writer's Festival this month and there are some interesting international guests - like V S Naipaul, Alain De Botton, Susanna Moore, David Sedaris, Louis De Bernieres and DBC Pierre - doing the rounds. There are also a variety of locals in town with much to say, like Peter Skrzynecki and his long awaited memoir, **The Sparrow Garden** (235pp Pb \$22.95). We have programs in the shop and many of the books themselves. Secondly, there's a couple of yet-to-reads that I want to mention: a new novel from Garrison Keillor, **Love Me** (272pp Tp \$29.95), and Steve Coll's extremely well-reviewed 'secret history of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden', **Ghost Wars** (695pp Hb \$59.95). Plus sitting on my desk calling out to me is the 10 hours of Al Franken reading his own **Lies and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them** (8 CDs \$70) - a very popular book last year, it's now a *Grammy Award*-winning audiobook. And finally, if you can't make it to York Street, you can always order through our website, www.abbey.com.au, and if we have the book in stock (you'll know because the site will tell you that it "usually ships in 24 hours"), we can send it straight out. This is useful especially at this time of year (hint: second Sunday in May) as we can even gift-wrap. So, buy your mother a book... she likes to read.

Adrian

Fiction

Dr Mukti and Other Tales of Woe

Will SELF 257pp Hb \$45.00

Shiva Mukti is a hardworking and conscientious psychiatrist who, in the inauspicious surroundings of St Mungo's - a central London hospital of more than average decrepitude - does his level best to staunch the flow of mental illness. But Mukti is not a happy man, beset by thwarted ambition and sexual frustration, he now finds himself in thrall to the more successful and urbane Dr Zack Busner, consultant psychiatrist at Heath Hospital and an originator of the once modish Quantity Theory of Insanity. Why is it that Busner seems so intent on fostering a professional relationship with Mukti? Is it his way of putting his junior colleague in his place? Or is Busner, as Mukti begins to suspect, a member of a sinister cabal? And what about the schizophrenic patients Busner refers to Mukti for his opinion; are they merely sick people, or in fact human weapons in a bizarre psychological duel?

Islands

Dan SLEIGH (translated by Andre BRINK) 512pp Hb \$54.95

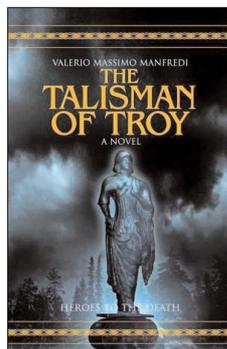
Covering the first half-century or so of Dutch settlement at the Cape, this book opens with a view from the inside of a Khoi nation. For the indigenous peoples, it is the beginning of the end of a way of life in close interaction with the subcontinent, its seasons and rhythms. It was during Autshumao's time that the first key woman of South Africa's post-colonisation story makes her appearance, her niece Krotoa, but it is her great-niece - Pieternella - who becomes the pivot of all the action in this unforgettable epic. Each section of the novel is focused on a man involved in one way or another with Pieternella. Through the life stories of these key figures, the reader is offered an understanding of the vast historical forces at work in the shaping of the world in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. *due May*

The Talisman of Troy

A Novel

Valerio Massimo MANFREDI 275pp Tp \$30.00

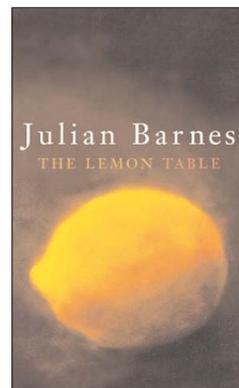
Another grandiose and brutal epic of the ancient world from the bestselling author of the Alexander trilogy, **Spartan** and **The Last Legion** (both Pb \$19.95). The protagonist of this tale is Diomedes, the last of the great ancient Greek Homeric heroes, who seeks to return to his beloved homeland after years of war against Troy. But destiny has other plans for him. Betrayed by his wife, who plots to murder him, and persecuted by hostile gods, he has no choice but to turn his sails west, towards Hesperia, the mysterious mist-shrouded land that will one day be called Italy. He ventures boldly into this new world, for he carries with him the magic Talisman of Troy, a mysterious, powerful idol that can make the nation that possesses it invincible...



The Lemon Table

Julian BARNES 218pp Hb \$45.00

Among the Chinese, the lemon is the symbol of death. At the *lemon table* (a coinage of Sibelius, protagonist of the final story), it is permissible - indeed obligatory - to talk about death. Each of Barnes' characters is facing death, in a variety of ways. The settings range from 18th century Sweden and 19th century Russia to the *Barnet Shop*, a hairdressing salon where an old man measures out his life in haircuts, or a South Bank concert hall where a music lover carries out an obsessive campaign against those who cough in concerts. In *Knowing French*, an 84-year-old woman, a former teacher incarcerated in an old people's home, begins a correspondence with an author - *Dear Dr Barnes* - that enriches both their lives. In *Appetite*, a woman reads elaborate recipes to her sick husband as a substitute for sex. In *Hygiene*, an old soldier makes his regular trip to town to do errands for his wife - stilton from Paxton's, rubber rings for Kilner jars, Elizabeth Arden powder - and to spend the afternoon with a tart called Babs. These stories are clever and moving but don't be fooled, if there is an overall theme here it is rage, against the dying of the light. *due May*



The Philosopher's Doll

Amanda LOHREY 305pp Tp \$29.95

What happens when one partner in a relationship wants to have a child and the other doesn't? Lindsay Eynon, a philosophy lecturer, isn't ready to start a family yet; he has other plans. But Kirsten's biological clock is ticking and she sees the world differently. As their arguments intensify, so does the probability of the unexpected. This is a highly unusual, constantly surprising novel about the perennial conflict between the head and the heart. Thought-provoking and compellingly readable, it reverberates with the dilemmas of contemporary life. In a culture of affluence, what do we need in order to be happy? And just how much control do we really have over our lives?

The House of the Eagle

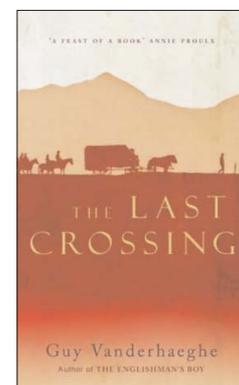
Duncan SPROTT 445pp Tp \$29.95

The first volume of *The Ptolemies Quartet*, this is a triumph of historical salvage that brings back to life the most bizarre family that ever existed. Book one chronicles the years of the first three Ptolemies - the shrewd Ptolemy Soter, the luxury-loving Ptolemy Philadelphus and the empire-building Ptolemy Euergetes. Narrated by Thoth, the ibis-headed Egyptian God of writing and wisdom, this book details the rise of the shrewd Ptolemy from ordinary soldier of Macedon to Satrap of Egypt, and his coronation as Pharaoh and a god in his own lifetime. We follow then the astonishing history of Ptolemy's 12 turbulent children in unending wars, domestic murders and incestuous marriages, all set against the exotic backdrop of Egypt.

The Last Crossing

Guy VANDERHAEGHE 470pp Hb \$35.00

Charles and Addington Gaunt must find their free-spirited brother, Simon, who has gone missing in the wilds of the American West. They enlist the services of a guide to lead them on their journey across a harsh and unknown landscape. This is the enigmatic Jerry Potts, half Blackfoot, half Scottish, who suffers his own painful past. They are joined by Lucy Stoveall, a woman filled with rage and sorrow over the loss of her young sister Madge, who was brutally murdered. She is on a vengeful mission to track down and kill the murderous Kelso brothers. The group is joined by a jumble of other characters en route, each of whom are forced to confront their own demons. Vanderhaeghe glides effortlessly through the patois and frontier talk, faultlessly switching from cultured English characters to American roughnecks to Scots-Canadians, and the natural prairie landscape is evoked brilliantly.



A Fortunate Life

A B FACEY

331pp Hb \$24.95

In 1904, Albert Facey was 10 years old; his dad was dead, his mum had left and he had already been a wage slave for two years. Mention this to my daughter, who was born exactly 100 years after Facey, and she just stares in disbelief. In her eyes, we're talking prehistory. What, children working in grown-ups' jobs? Unimaginable. This extraordinary life story of an ordinary man was first published in 1981, when the author was 87. At Abbey's, it is one of our most popular Australian biographies and this new hardback edition celebrates the sale of over half a million copies worldwide. Albert Facey lived with simple honesty, compassion and courage. A parentless boy who started work at eight on the rough West Australian frontier, he struggled as an itinerant rural worker, survived the gore of Gallipoli, the loss of his farm in the Depression, the death of his son in WWII and that of his beloved wife after 60 devoted years - yet felt that his life was fortunate! This is unputdownable reading and highly recommended.

Shelley

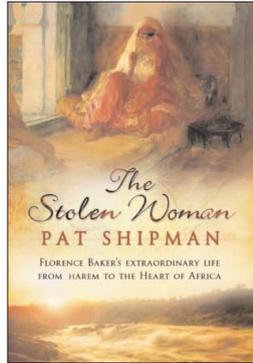
The Stolen Woman

Florence Baker's Extraordinary Life from Harem to the Heart of Africa

Pat SHIPMAN

329pp Tp \$32.95

Born in the 1840s into an aristocratic family (all murdered in the Hungarian revolution), Florence fled to the Ottoman empire with her nurse, where she was next heard of living in a harem, barely in her teens! In 1859, she was presented at auction and it was in this most unlikely of settings that she met her soul mate Sam Baker, a wealthy English adventurer whose geographic discoveries proved crucial to England's understanding of the African landscape. Saving her from slavery, Sam offered his paramour a life of danger, excitement and passion exploring the uncharted interior of Africa in search of the source of the Nile. They were to suffer years of deprivation and conflict with local tribes before their amazing fortitude brought ultimate victory. (Sam named the source of the Nile Albert N'yanza, after the Queen's consort). An even larger challenge awaited them - winning acceptance in polite Victorian society. This is the story of a remarkable woman, of an extraordinary love affair and also of the golden age of exploration. Reconstructed through journals, documents, maps and photographs, it chronicles the life of a tenacious, compassionate and unlikely explorer - a woman who stood alongside some of the toughest men in history to face the unknown. *due May*



Chopin's Funeral

Benita EISLER

256pp Pb \$24.95

Chopin's funeral, bisecting the 19th century, stands as a turning point. Both the life and music of this frail, elegant man played out at the crossroads. His decline and death following a series of catastrophes, particularly the breach with his lover Georges Sand and the ebb of his creative energy on the brink of a new style, were both final chapters in his often tragic life and reflected larger historical forces. This is about a death foretold as the sum of other tragedies: the end of a world that fostered his particular genius, the wounds of exile and, most fatally, the loss of love. An intimate close-up of the composer's last years, it is also the story of the artist as hero. At the close of his life, with no home or money, his physical powers failing, Chopin grappled with nothing less than a new musical form. This is also the larger story of a great 19th century city, Paris, in the grip of revolution.

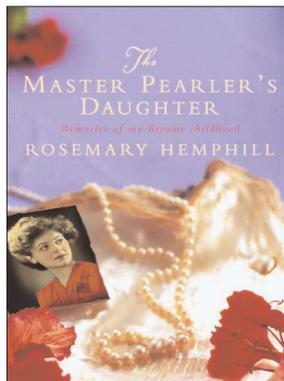
The Master Pearler's Daughter

Memories of my Broome Childhood

Rosemary HEMPHILL

270pp Hb \$30.00

Now in her 80s, Rosemary Hemphill has long been recognised as one of Australia's leading herb and spice experts. What few know is that she was born and raised in Broome during the last years of the pearling industry's boom time, the daughter of an Englishwoman and a master pearler. This is a memoir of an extraordinary childhood lived in this most isolated of Australian towns. We experience with her the heat and harshness of a frontier settlement, the racial divisions and strict social order of the 1920s and 30s, as well as the beauty and fun, the rich cultural influences, and the pearling way of life. Told with passion and gentle humour, this is a delightful and fascinating look at a world that has long gone.

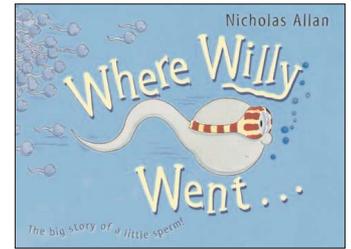


Where Willy Went...

Nicholas ALLAN

32pp Hb \$29.95

Willy is no good at maths but he is good at swimming - which will come in very useful for the Great Swimming Race, where the prize is - an egg. You see, Willy is a little sperm... This is a simple and accessible way of explaining where babies come from, told with good humour - all the adults chuckle when they read it - and a great deal of warmth.



Just You Wait

Megan de KANTZOW & Craig SMITH

32pp Hb \$27.95

On the first day of Royal Highness School, Prince Roderick tells everyone he is the king of the castle. On subsequent days, he makes Eleanor True's life a misery. He pulls her ribbons, throws away her golden ball, squashes her lunch, locks her up in the Dark Tower and gets away with his bullying behaviour. Eleanor can only retaliate with, "Just you wait." One day though, he goes too far and Eleanor screws up her courage to stand up to him. A nicely fractured fairytale with witty illustrations full of wonderful details.

Pastures of the Blue Crane

Hesba BRINSMEAD

358pp Pb \$18.95

This classic Australian novel has finally been reissued. Ryl has spent her young life in a boarding school without knowing her family. On the death of her mysterious father, she finds she has inherited a half share in a derelict farm - and a previously unknown grandfather. How she comes to maturity, lets go of her self-absorption and accepts the changed circumstances of her life, makes this a fine study of character. I loved this book as a teenager, and reading it today I am struck by the innocence (and ignorance) of the time depicted. A worthwhile addition to the shelves.

The Amazing Life of Dead Eric

Nury VITTACHI

182pp Pb \$16.95

This is a clever and quirky novel about a smelly, computer nerd boy who downloads his brain into a supercomputer and then clicks on SAVE instead of SAVE AS. The result is his death - in an analogue version. His copied brain manages to reanimate his body and then his true life begins. Told from the point of view of his only friend, Mindy, who has recently moved into town with her HIV positive Mum, this is an original story full of big ideas presented in an enjoyable style. Ages 12-15.

How to Disappear Completely and Never be Found

Sara NICKERSON

266pp Pb \$15.95

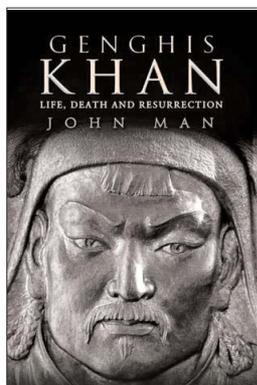
A beguiling title for a fabulous book! Margaret's father drowned four years ago and her mother has been sunk in a deep apathy ever since. When she one day drives to an island and places a "For Sale by Owner" sign on a dilapidated mansion, Margaret wants answers to a whole series of questions. Boyd, the boy next door to the old house, also wants answers. Who is Mr Ratt, where do the fabulous comics he borrows from the strange librarian come from and how can he stop the local bullies from picking on him? A mystery, an adventure and a satisfying story. Ages 11-14.

Genghis Khan

Life, Death and Resurrection

John MAN 400pp Hb \$59.95

The creator of the greatest empire the world has ever seen is one of history's immortals and, in Central Asia, they still use his name to frighten children. In China, he is honoured as the founder of a dynasty, the Yuan. In Mongolia, he is the father of the nation. In the USA, *Time* magazine, voted Genghis Khan "the most important person of the last millennium". But how much do we really know about this man? How is it that an unlettered, unsophisticated warrior-nomad came to have such a profound effect on world politics that his influence can still be felt some 800 years later? He was born, named Temujin, around the year 1162 on the slopes of the now sacred mountain Burkhan Kaldun in Outer Mongolia. His childhood, viewed through the distorted, mythologising lens of contemporary oral histories, includes all the usual tribulations of youth, as well as a few less common ones - such as killing his brother at the age of 13 in an argument over a dead bird. The man who emerged was a ruthless, brilliant tactician with a profound grasp of realpolitik, but with one eye fixed firmly on his destiny... *due May*

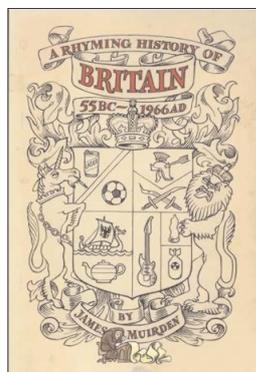


A Rhyming History of Britain

55BC-1996 AD

James MUIRDEN 214pp Hb \$29.95

Pick up at will and you will find such verses to enhance the mind; "Edward the Second disappeared: Murdered, no doubt: and it is feared A red-hot poker may have been Inserted in his intestine." Illustrated by David Eccles, this irreverent, humorous, singsong history is irresistible. *Ann*



Cannae

The Experience of Battle in the Second Punic War

Gregory DALY 280pp Pb \$49.00

On a hot and dusty summer's day in 216 BC, the forces of the Carthaginian general Hannibal faced the Roman army in a dramatic encounter at Cannae. Massively outnumbered, the Carthaginians nevertheless won an astonishing victory - one that left more than 50,000 men dead. Gregory Daly's enthralling study considers the reasons that led the two armies to the field of battle and why each followed the course that they did when they got there. It explores in detail the composition of the armies and the tactics and leadership methods of the opposing generals. Finally, by focusing on the experiences of those who fought, Daly gives an unparalleled portrait of the true horror and chaos of ancient warfare. This striking and vivid account is the fullest yet of the bloodiest battle in ancient history.

The Civilization of Ancient Crete

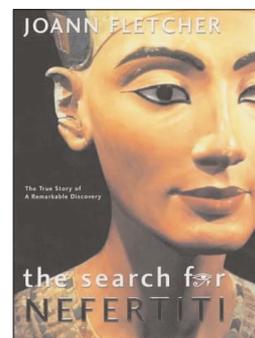
R F WILLETS 279pp Tp \$45.00

Professor Willets describes the development of Cretan civilisation from the arrival of the Neolithic farmers and their settlements during the early Bronze Age, through the spectacular Minoan civilisation of the Bronze Age, down to the Dorian aristocracy of the Iron Age which ended in the Roman Conquest of the first century BC. He then analyses and interprets the social and political institutions, and the art and religion, of the Minoan and Dorian phases and the invention of writing and the establishment of law codes and legal systems. Throughout, Professor Willets emphasises the constant features of Cretan civilisation: the persistence of 'community', the unusual stability of institutions and the island's genius for absorbing and remoulding outside influences into a unique culture of its own. This individuality can be seen in the island's later absorption of Byzantine, Venetian and Turkish invaders.

The Search for Nefertiti

Joann FLETCHER 350pp Tp \$39.95

Nefertiti (the "beautiful") - wife of the most unusual of pharaohs, Akhenaten - has long fascinated us. Living through a time of great upheaval and changes in Egyptian administration, art and religion, theories have abounded about the exact nature of her marriage and the extent of her influence during the Amarna Period. In this book, Fletcher pieces the evidence together to solve one of the biggest remaining mysteries of Egyptian history. Joann and a team of experts have helped identify the body which has been considered missing for more than 3,000 years, and the story it confirms casts Nefertiti in an astonishing new light. No mere wife of a pharaoh, Nefertiti herself became ruler of Egypt. Always the major player to a weak husband, following Akhenaten's death she held court in the new capital of Amarna enjoying unrivalled wealth and luxury while the country disintegrated around her. *due May*



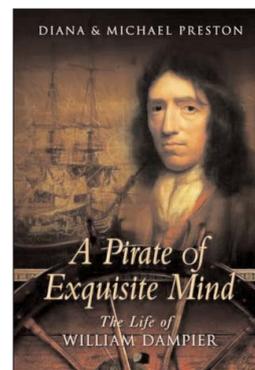
A Pirate of Exquisite Mind

The Life of William Dampier

Diana & Michael PRESTON

289pp Tp \$32.95

In 1676, Dampier began his career as a buccaneer preying on ships on the Spanish Main and struggling through the jungle of the Isthmus of Panama in search of gold. Poor and obscure, yet determined to sail the world and make his fortune, he was to become the first person to circumnavigate the globe three times. He had a uniquely questing and, in Coleridge's words, "exquisite" mind, and recorded with passion and dedication all that he discovered about the new world around him. Among his many extraordinary and pioneering achievements, he mapped the winds and currents of the world's oceans for the first time. He landed in Australia 80 years before Cook and brought back the first scientific specimens. He inspired Darwin 150 years later with his notes on the wildlife of the Galapagos Islands and elsewhere. He wrote the first bestselling travel books, which influenced Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* and Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*, and enriched the English language with many new words, from 'barbecue', 'avocado' and 'chopsticks' to 'sub-species'. A curious man in a curious age, once courted by Samuel Pepys as John Evelyn and now all but forgotten in his native country, Dampier combined a swashbuckling life of adventure with pioneering scientific achievements.

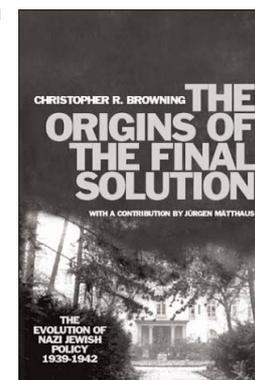


The Origins of the Final Solution

The Evolution of Nazi Jewish Policy 1939-1942

Christopher BROWNING 640pp Hb \$85.00

This potentially controversial title from the author of *Ordinary Men* (Pb \$22.95) is a comprehensive analysis of the evolution of Nazi anti-Jewish policies from discrimination and expulsions to outright systematic murder. Browning describes how Poland became a laboratory for experiments in racial policies, from expulsion and decimation to ghettoisation and exploitation under local occupation authorities. He reveals how the subsequent attack on the Soviet Union opened the door for an immense radicalisation of Nazi Jewish policy and marked the beginning of the Final Solution. It is the most detailed examination of this aspect of the Holocaust yet published (there are 113 pages of notes and a 29-page bibliography) and is sure to become the standard work on the emergence of the Holocaust. *due May*



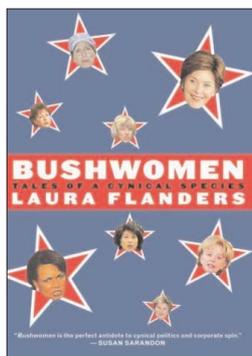
Bushwomen

Tales of a Cynical Species

Laura FLANDERS 342pp Hb \$35.00

No, this is not a collection of stories about the Aussie bushman's female counterpart, who probably is a cynical species. Laura Flanders is a political commentator in the USA. The Bush administration's cynical crusade to put a female face on anti-feminist policy is revealed in her scathing and entertaining investigation of the sinister politicians we call the "Bushwomen". From the workplace to the war zone, the Bush administration has wrapped female-friendly rhetoric around some of the most hard-core policy since Ronald Reagan. Some well-placed women have helped to pull off that con job. Invaluable to the president, under-scrutinised in the press, the women appointed to the inner circle of the president's cabinet and sub-cabinet are cast in the public mind as moderate, malleable, maverick, irrelevant or benign. Their carefully crafted images tap into stereotypes, while the reality of their records has remained out of sight, until now. This is the first book to investigate and report on how they rose to power and what they've done. Find out why Chevron named a tanker after National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice; how financial ties to big tobacco corporations got Secretary of the Interior Gale Ann Norton dubbed "The Woman from Marlboro Country"; how Labor Secretary Elaine Chao bullied union longshore workers to benefit her trading-with-China family and friends; read excerpts of Lynne Cheney's lesbian novel; and discover how Karen Hughes got her first job thanks to the National Organisation for Women.

Shelley



The Iraq War

John KEEGAN

288pp Hb \$59.95

The Iraq War remains highly controversial. In all the uncertainty about weapons of mass destruction, the use and misuse of intelligence, and the (now known) whereabouts of Saddam Hussein, it remains an awesome military and political event and a formidable exercise in American power, aided by the British army. Throughout the war and beyond it, Keegan's analysis proved more accurate than any other commentator's. He now brings his unrivalled knowledge of military history to bear on the war, its conduct and consequences. Written with special access to new sources of information, this book will be the most authoritative and challenging account of a war which could both set the pattern for military conflicts in the 21st century and significantly affect the world political order. *due May*

Against All Enemies

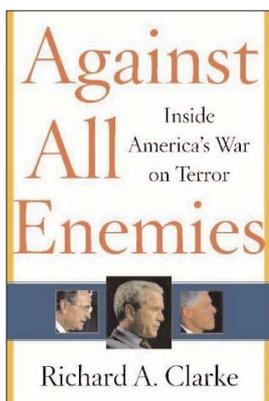
Inside America's War on Terror

Richard CLARKE

304pp Hb \$39.95

Richard Clarke has been one of America's foremost experts on counter-terrorism measures for more than two decades. He has served under four presidents from both parties, beginning in Ronald Reagan's State Department, becoming America's first Counter-terrorism Czar under Bill Clinton and remaining for the first two years of George W Bush's administration. He has seen every piece of intelligence on Al-Qaeda from the beginning; he was in the Situation Room on September 11 and he knows exactly what has taken place under the United States' new Department of Homeland Security. Through gripping, thriller-like scenes, he tells the full story for the first time and explains what the Bush Administration are doing. Another long-time White House insider now also being besmirched by the Bush regime is former US Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, whose book **The Price of Loyalty: George W Bush, the White House and the Education of Paul O'Neill** (Hb \$44.95) is equally fascinating.

Ann



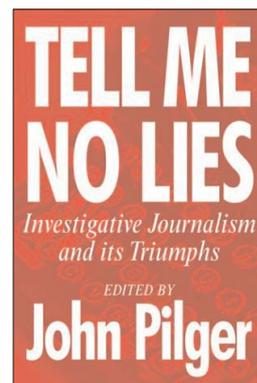
Tell Me No Lies

Investigative Journalism and Its Triumphs

John PILGER (Editor)

448pp Hb \$59.95

For this anthology, Pilger has selected 35 articles and extracts from books that have broken 'official silence' and exposed injustice and/or misuse of power. Ranging from the liberation of Dachau in 1945 to the Florida elections scandal of 2000, they form a 'secret history' of the last 50 years, told through the stories that revealed the truth behind the period's most important political events. Here are the famous 'muckrakers' (Seymour Hersh on My Lai, Woodward and Bernstein on Watergate), as well as the little known, (Will Burchett as the first Westerner to enter Hiroshima in August 1945 and the Israeli journalist Amira Hass living and reporting from the Gaza Strip in the 1990s). Here are the analysts of power (Noam Chomsky and Edward Said on the workings of the media), as well as the mavericks (I F Stone on McCarthy, Jessica Mitford on the 'American way of death'). With topics ranging from Vietnam and Cambodia to East Timor and Palestine, many of the pieces 'revisit' the locations of Pilger's own reporting of the last 30 years, making his introductions all the more compelling. *due May*



The Power of Speech

Australian Prime Ministers Defining the National Image

James CURRAN (foreword by Paul KELLY)

314pp Tp \$35.00

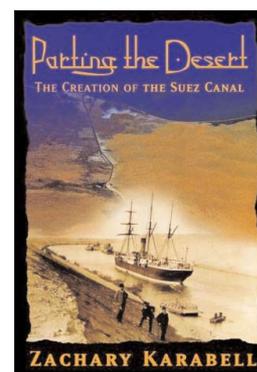
The subjects of this book are five fascinating Prime Ministers - Gough Whitlam, Malcolm Fraser, Bob Hawke, Paul Keating and John Howard - and how they view Australia. Until the 1960s, our nation believed itself to be British. Then, during a decade of momentous change, this concept of our national identity collapsed. It was buried by the forces of cultural and political renewal; by disturbing and exciting developments in Asia; and by a dawning recognition that the global era of colonial power was over. The result was a crisis of national meaning reflected in public debates about multiculturalism, Australia's relationships with its Asian neighbours, the dispossession of indigenous Australians, and the nation's involvement in war. In recent years, our political leaders have played a conspicuous role in the controversy. Curran explores the end of the idea of British Australia, and how successive Prime Ministers have attempted to assert personal, and often competing, visions of Australian nationalism in its place. This highly original study of prime ministerial rhetoric exposes the sources of our most powerful leaders' beliefs about Australia.

Parting the Desert

The Creation of the Suez Canal

Zachary KARABELL 310pp Pb \$24.95

As a child, I would often ask my mother to tell me the story of her first trip down the Suez Canal. I was astonished by the idea of all those gates holding water and ships and people; the whole parting of the sands to create an unnatural waterway seemed positively biblical. Well, here is a history of this successful engineering feat, which also marked the symbolic meeting of the East with the West. The canal was the vision of Ferdinand de Lesseps, a French diplomat, whose enthusiasm won the vital backing of Louis Napoleon and whose perseverance overcame the British Prime Minister Lord Palmerston's determination to prevent its completion. This vivid account traces the canal from its creation to its ecstatic international reception and its rather more complicated legacy. Simon Winchester in *The New York Times* commented, "Karabell writes with the authority and power of a gifted and fascinated Arabist... This entirely splendid book now stands to remind us of (de Lessep's) remarkable vision and all that he created in consequence." *Shelley*



Plan of Attack

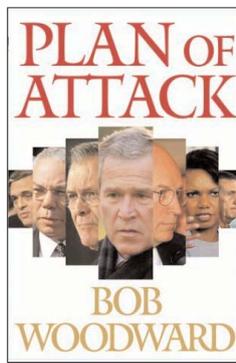
The Road to War

Bob WOODWARD

480pp Hb \$49.95

Making big headlines in the US is Woodward's new book on President Bush and the Iraq war. This is the definitive account of the turning point in history as Bush, his war council and allies launched a pre-emptive attack, toppling Saddam Hussein and taking over the country. From in-depth interviews with key players and notes from national security meetings, Woodward provides a thoroughly original, authoritative narrative of the behind-the-scenes manoeuvring, examining the causes and consequences of the most controversial war since Vietnam.

What emerges is an astonishingly intimate portrait of Bush, Dick Cheney, Colin Powell, Donald Rumsfeld, the generals, the CIA and key foreign leaders ranging from Tony Blair to Vladimir Putin. This is the how and why of decision-making - the secret meetings, secure phone calls, strategies, dilemmas and raw emotions of war, rarely seen in contemporary history. Woodward is assistant managing editor of *The Washington Post*, where his investigative reporting led to the Watergate scandal. His last book **Bush at War** (Pb \$29.95), is his account of America's response to the September 11 terrorist attacks and the war in Afghanistan.



The Bone Woman

Clea KOFF

328pp Tp \$32.95

To prosecute charges of genocide and crimes against humanity, one fact must be established absolutely: are the bodies those of ordinary people, rather than combatants? It is the role of forensic anthropologists to answer this question by proving precisely who the victims were and how they were killed. Their investigations into age, sex, ethnicity and other characteristics return individual identities from lifeless remains. In 1996, Clea Koff was a 23-year-old graduate student studying prehistoric skeletons in California. Then, after the cataclysmic horror of Rwanda, she was sent to that country by the UN to work with a small team, exhuming victims of the genocide. Her job was to find evidence to bring the perpetrators to trial. Over the next four years, her gruelling investigations into these, and other, murderous events transformed her from an idealistic student to a war crimes veteran. Her unflinching account of those years - what she found in the Rwandan hills and in Srebrenica; how it affected her; and who went to trial based on evidence she collected - makes mesmerising reading, alternately riveting, frightening and, miraculously, hopeful.

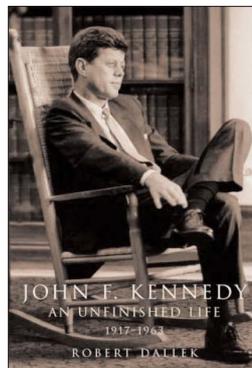
John F Kennedy

An Unfinished Life 1917-1963

Robert DALLEK

838pp Tp \$39.95

Drawing upon first-hand sources and never-before-opened archives, prize-winning historian Robert Dallek reveals more than we ever knew about Jack Kennedy, forever changing the way we think about his life, his presidency and his legacy. He also discloses that, while labouring to present an image of robust good health, Kennedy was secretly in and out of hospitals throughout his life, so ill that he was administered last rites on several occasions. Dallek never shies away from Kennedy's weaknesses, but also brilliantly explores his strengths. The result is a full portrait of a bold, brave and truly human John F Kennedy.

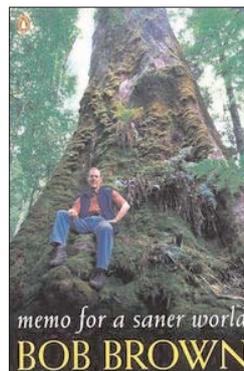


Memo for a Saner World

Bob BROWN

281pp Pb \$24.95

Over the years, Bob Brown has been assaulted, jailed, vilified and shot at for his stance on the environment and human rights. This is his account of the defining moments in that life of activism, from the famous Franklin River blockade to his parliamentary protest against George W Bush - a few minutes that gave voice to what many Australians felt, but had no way of saying. By turns inspiring, compassionate and outraged, this personal story of being green makes the key issues easily understood. If you avoid reading about the world because you think it is too depressing, here is the good news: it's worse if you don't know. While some of the facts Bob presents are less than cheerful, his message is powerfully hopeful. With Bob Brown and the Greens set to become even more influential in Australian life, this book is an essential record of what he stands for.



Washington's Crossing (564pp Hb \$70.00) by David Hackett Fischer is a marvellous examination of a pivotal moment in American history, six months after the Declaration of Independence, when Washington struck the British campaign a mortal blow in three battles. As well as showing the role of contingency in the events of this period, Fischer also shows that the open and flexible system adopted by the Americans, as well as their "policy of humanity", was crucial to their success.

Taking bodily materiality as a crucial starting point to the understanding and formation of self in any society, Lynn Meskell and Rosemary Joyce in **Embodied Lives** (184pp Pb \$51.00) offer a new approach to Mayan and Egyptian civilisations centred on understanding embodiment. They examine a wide range of archaeological data, using it to explore such issues as the sexual body, mind/body dualism, body modification and magical practices.

James McPherson's magnificent **Battle Cry of Freedom** (Pb \$28.00) is now also available in an illustrated edition (783pp Hb \$140.00). It features more than 700 illustrations, including 150 in full colour, as well as 24 full-colour maps and extensive captions totalling some 35,000 words. A special limited edition which is leather-bound with a slip case and gold foil pages is also available for \$275.00 (special order only).

In **The Invention of Cuneiform** (266pp Hb \$79.00), Jean-Jacques Glassner offers a compelling introduction to a seminal period in human history. Returning to early Mesopotamian texts, he traces the development of writing from the earliest attempts to the sophisticated system of roughly 640 signs that constituted the Sumerian repertory by about 3200 BC.

In **A New World Order** (341pp Hb \$49.95), Anne-Marie Slaughter argues that the world is actually run through a complex web of government networks. She provides a compelling description of a world in which government officials - police investigators, financial regulators, even judges and legislators - exchange information and coordinate activity across national borders to tackle crime, terrorism and the routine daily grind of international interactions.

R Larry Todd's **Mendelssohn: A Life in Music** (683pp Hb \$90.00) is the first major Mendelssohn biography in decades. He offers a remarkably fresh account of this musical giant, rejecting the view of Mendelssohn as a creator of felicitous but sentimental works and re-examining the composer's entire oeuvre, including many unpublished and little known works.

The Judith Butler Reader (374pp Pb \$66.00) is a collaborative effort to bring together writings that span Butler's impressive career as a critical philosopher, including selections from both well-known and lesser-known works. Salih's introduction emphasises the political and ethical importance of Butler's ideas and she supplies editorial material that will assist students in their readings of theories that stand at the forefront of contemporary theoretical and political debates.

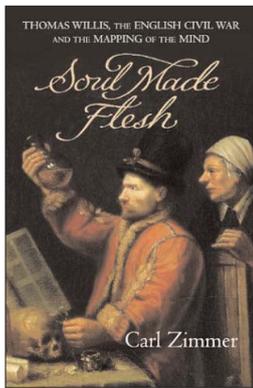
The New Crusades (416pp Pb \$46.95) edited by Emran Qureshi and Michael Sells takes head-on the idea of an emergent 'Cold War' between Islam and the West. The essays, by leading thinkers such as Edward Said and Roy Mottahedeh, expose the faults of the 'clash of civilisations' approach and remind us how much it has become a self-fulfilling prophecy.

In **The Hanged Man** (168pp Hb \$43.95), Robert Bartlett uses the story of the 'resurrection' of a Welsh Rebel 700 years ago to look into the politics, society, culture and devotional world of the late 13th and early 14th centuries. While unravelling the haunting tale of the hanged man, Bartlett leads us deep into the world of lords, rebels, churchmen, papal inquisitors and other individuals living at the time of conflict and conquest in Wales. *Dave*

Soul Made Flesh

Carl ZIMMER 367pp Hb \$59.95

We take it for granted that the brain is the seat of our minds, the part of the body that is most ourselves. 500 years ago, Europeans, if they thought about the brain at all, took it much less seriously - whether it was a refrigerator or a pump, it was seen as little more than a mechanism, its only products tears and snot. Among the revolutions of the 17th century was a revolution in the understanding of the brain and mind. Its central figure was an Englishman called Thomas Willis. To him, we owe our modern understanding of the miracle that is the human brain, the first dissections of the skull and the word 'psychology'. Zimmer's new book tells Willis' story against the background of Civil War, regicide and Restoration. Set in London and Oxford, we see the context of Willis' research and dissections, meet his famous friends, the founders of the Royal Society, Boyle, Hooke and Sir Christopher Wren, who attended Willis' dissections and sketched the results. Few stories in the history of science are as important and fascinating - and as little-known - as this one.



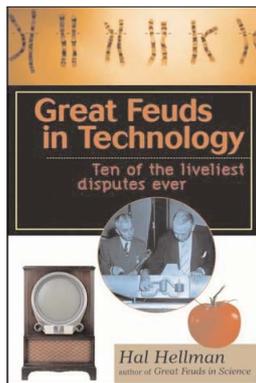
Great Feuds in Technology

Ten of the Liveliest Disputes Ever

Hal HELLMAN

The history of technology is full of heated disputes over who, exactly, invented what. In this encore to his international bestsellers **Great Feuds in Science** and **Great Feuds in Medicine** (both Tp \$29.95), Hellman brings to life ten of technology's most celebrated quarrels. Whether illuminating the battles between Philo Farnsworth and RCA (television), Nicola Tesla and Guglielmo Marconi (radio), and Samuel Morse and Joseph Henry (telegraph) or the feuds currently raging over nuclear submarines and genetically modified foods, Hellman clearly explains the technology involved, while providing vivid portraits of the disputants and their times.

248pp Hb \$39.95



The Whale Book

Whales and Other Marine Animals as Described by Adriaen Coenen in 1585

Adriaen COENEN, Florike EGMOND (ed) 224pp Hb \$79.95

In the late 16th century, the Dutch beachcomber Adriaen Coenen scanned the shores of Holland for interesting marine material. He produced several illustrated manuscripts of his findings, covering everything from the commonplace herring to the exotic moonfish. His work contains the earliest European pictures of whales, naïve but easily identifiable. There are over 100 full page colour facsimiles of pages from his delightful manuscripts, with the translation of his text and a modern commentary on the facing page. In addition, readers will gain unexpected insights into the experiences of an everyday figure caught up in the events of a turbulent period in Dutch history.

Another more contemporary whale book is **Beluga Days: Tracking a White Whale's Truths** by Nancy Lord (242pp Hb \$44.00).

A search for the endangered beluga whales of Cook Inlet, Alaska, becomes a personal journey and an expose of the forces arrayed against this fascinating and troubled species. Thought to number more than 1,000 in the early 1990s, a sharp population decline has brought them near extinction.

Sneaking a Look at God's Cards (488pp Hb \$53.95) by Giancarlo Ghirardi, provides the reader with a real understanding of the problems faced in interpreting quantum mechanics. Written by a leading physicist, it is a very readable look at all aspects of quantum mechanics, including quantum cryptography and quantum computation and presents a balanced view of current debates in the field.

Hypersonic (264pp Hb \$80.00) by Dennis Jenkins and Tony Landis is the definitive book on the X-15 rocket plane. It covers the entire X-15 story, from the establishment of the new science of hypersonics to the design, construction and systems of the three X-15s and the most productive flight research program ever undertaken. It features more than 550 photos, but the authors had another 400 excellent illustrations, so they put them in the **X-15 Photo Scrapbook** (Pb \$37.00). Also available is **X-15: The NASA Mission Reports** (Pb & CD-ROM \$39.95) and **At the Edge of Space: The X-15 Flight Program** (Pb \$48.00) by Milton Thompson.

Quantum Field Theory in a Nutshell (518pp Hb \$79.00) by A Zee is a clear, relatively brief and fully up-to-date introduction to one of the most vital, but notoriously difficult subjects in theoretical physics. It makes the essential tool of modern theoretical physics available to any student who has completed a course on quantum mechanics and wishes to go on.

Ice Age Cave Faunas of North America (299pp Hb \$110.00) edited by Blaine Schubert et al is an up-to-date exploration of vertebrate cave life during the Ice Age. The essays range from overviews of the significance of cave fossils to reports about new localities and studies of specific vertebrate groups.

Written from the perspective of one of the pioneers of the search for exoplanets, **New Worlds in the Cosmos** (260pp Hb \$49.95) by Michel Mayor and Pierre-Yves Frei describes the development of the modern observing technique that has enabled astronomers to find so many planets orbiting around other stars. It reveals the wealth of new planets that have now been discovered outside our Solar System, and what this means in terms of finding other life in the Universe.

Remarkable Physicists (389pp Pb \$59.95) by Ioan James describes the lives of 50 of the most remarkable physicists during the last 250 years. All the characters profiled have made important contributions to physics, either through their ideas, through their teaching or in other ways. The emphasis is on their varied life-stories, not on the details of their achievements, but when read in sequence the biographies, which are organised chronologically, convey in human terms something of the way in which physics was created.

David Quammen's latest book, **Monster of God** (515pp Hb \$58.00), is a provocative and richly detailed exploration of the critical relationship between humans and the great predators of the animal kingdom. He examines the fate of lions in India's Gir forest, of saltwater crocodiles in northern Australia, of brown bears in the mountains of Romania, and of Siberian tigers in the Russian Far East, reflecting on the traditional relationship between these top predators and the people who live among them and what our world will be like when they are gone.

The Complete Guide to Antarctic Wildlife (510pp Hb \$88.00) by Hadoram Shirihai is an invaluable guide for anyone visiting or just interested in this region. It features 35 colour plates and almost 600 photographs, plus maps of the distribution of all the region's breeding birds and marine mammals.

The nematode worm *C. elegans* is one of the world's least conspicuous animals. In 1998, it became the first animal to have its genome sequenced, and the story of how this was done is told in Andrew Brown's **In the Beginning Was the Worm** (244pp Pb \$19.95).

Lost in Space (391pp Hb \$49.95) by Greg Klerx argues that the future of humans in space will depend on free market activity. Despite opposition from NASA, a new space age is emerging, led by dreamers, investors and inventors and even renegades from NASA itself. The book describes their motivations, their ideas and how their work is driven by an almost biological need to reach for the stars.

Across the Board: The Mathematics of Chessboard Problems (257pp Hb \$44.95) by John Watkins is the definitive work on chessboard problems. It is not simply about chess, but the chessboard itself - that simple grid of squares so common to games around the world. And, more importantly, the fascinating mathematics behind it.

With the transit of Venus across the face of the Sun on June 8 not far away, we have two excellent books to help you prepare for this rare event. **Venus in Transit** (195pp Pb \$34.95) by Eli Maor is a very readable account of the five Venus transits previously observed and the fantastic efforts made to record them. **Transits of Venus** (407pp Hb \$59.95) is written by William Sheehan and John Westfall and is due late May/early June.

Dave

Mother's Day Specials

Bonus pack: Our pick for Mother's Day are these two excellent cookbooks, shrinkwrapped in a single pack for only \$60, a saving of \$24.95.

Stephanie's Menus for Food Lovers

by Stephanie Alexander (260pp Hb was \$49.95)

This is about what went on behind the scenes at her renowned restaurant and contains 20 of her favourite menus presented in her now-distinctive style, mingling anecdotes with precise and clear instruction.

Recipes to Nurture

by Aine McAteer (199pp Tp was \$35.00)

In this much-anticipated first cookbook, the former personal chef to Nicole Kidman, Pierce Brosnan and Robert Redford shares her secrets for creating food for maximum enjoyment, as well as nutrition.

Night Train to Granada: From Sydney's Bohemia to Franco's Spain: An Offbeat Memoir

by G B Harrison (was \$27.95 now \$14.95)

An autobiographical account of life in student and bohemian circles in post-WWII Sydney; a winter in the London of the last great pea-souper fogs; and life in Granada and elsewhere under the Franco dictatorship.

Olivia Joules and the Overactive Imagination

by Helen Fielding (Pb was \$25.00 now \$15.00)

From the white heat of Miami to the implants of LA, the glittering waters of the Caribbean to the deserts of Arabia, Olivia Joules pits herself against the forces of terror armed only with a hatpin, razor sharp wits and a very special underwired bra.

More Good Reading for Mother

The Bad Mother's Handbook by Kate Long (349 pp Tp \$30.00)

Warm, witty and true, this tale of three generations of women from one family is one to be cherished as the perfect companion for she who needs to laugh out loud.

Daylight by Elizabeth Knox (341pp Tp \$29.95)

From the author of the hugely successful *Vintner's Luck* (Pb \$22.95), comes a story about Brian "Bad" Phelan and a young woman who disappeared in a flooded French cave many years ago.

Name Dropping: An Incomplete Memoir by Kate Fitzpatrick (390pp Tp \$32.95)

With a delightful mix of humour, name-dropping and self-deprecation, Kate Fitzpatrick reveals the twists and turns of a life that has seen her become a respected actress, writer and speechwriter, and a not-so-respected cricket commentator!

Mourning Ruby by Helen Dunmore (309pp Hb \$45.00)

This is her most ambitious novel to date, hugely moving and strongly plotted, about memory and history, abandoned babies and shoeboxes and, ultimately, about the most important relationship in any novel - that of the reader to the writer.

The Kindness of Strangers by Kate Adie (438pp Pb \$24.95)

Having reported from many of the world's trouble spots since she joined the BBC in 1969, this autobiography covers her experiences in Northern Ireland, the Middle East, Tiananmen Square and the Gulf War of 1991, revealing her extraordinarily demanding life at the heart of the action.



Film

Keystone

The Life and Clowns of Mack Sennett

Simon LOUVISH

352pp Hb \$49.95

The Silent Cinema Reader

Lee GRIEVESON & Peter KRAMER (Eds)

423pp Tp \$57.00

Revolution!

The Explosion of World Cinema in the 60s

Peter COWIE

286pp Hb \$49.95

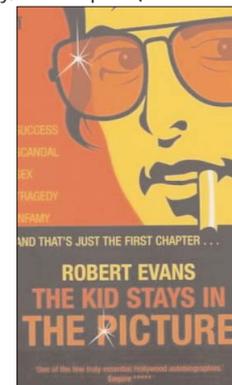
The Kid Stays in the Picture

Robert EVANS

462pp Pb \$24.95

In 1912, in southern California, Mack Sennett created the world's first comedy movie studio and from its reels sprung some of silent comedy's most famous names, including Chaplin and Fatty Arbuckle. Simon Louvish, adding Sennett to his list of biographies of film funny men (W C Fields, Laurel and Hardy and the Marx Brothers), nicely tracks Sennett's life and that of his studio, giving insight into that early 20th century world of pratfalls and pie-fights, and of unobtainable love and career-ending lust. Of course, cinema's silent era wasn't all Hollywood and twirling moustaches. A good overview, by way of a couple of dozen new and fascinating academic essays, is the Routledge **Silent Cinema Reader**. Chaplin reappears here, but Europe, editing, Eisenstein and Edison also feature. Another era, skipping ahead decades, is the focus of Peter Cowie's hard look at the cinema of 1960s: **Revolution!**. He argues here for understanding that decade's need to shock, but on the way visits almost everyone this side of Sunset Boulevard, dropping in on Bergman, Renais and Godard while watching *8 1/2*, *L'Avventura* and *A Hard Day's Night*. Shocking also, but perhaps in a different way, is the reprint (with a glaring new cover) of Hollywood producer Robert Evans' autobiography, **The Kid Stays in the Picture**. Timed to coincide with the DVD release of the 'documentary' (see separate box this page) of his adventures while acting and producing among the tinsel. Hanging out with Warren Beatty and Jack Nicholson and producing *The Godfather* and *Chinatown*, Evans is uniquely placed to remember the highs and lows of American film culture. Some of it may even be true.

Adrian



Peter Jackson

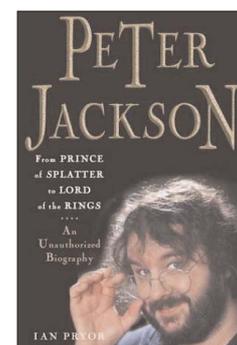
From Prince of Splatter to Lord of the Rings

Ian PRYOR

352pp Tp \$34.95

This fascinating look at the now celebrated director tells of the inspiration that led to the making of the three world-famous *Lord of the Rings* films and their six little known predecessors. This unauthorised biography traces the journey of a young movie fanatic, from Sunday afternoons spent fooling around with a camera, through low-budget cult movies, to control of the most ambitious film project ever, on one of the best-loved fantasy series ever written. This in-depth biography explores the many talents of the young Peter Jackson: the making of *Bad Taste*; *Meet the Feebles*; *Braindead*; *Heavenly Creatures*; *Forgotten Silver*; *The Frighteners*, and *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. Here is the story behind the Ring trilogy, which tells how Jackson got the rights to make the film and the permission and funding to make three films, rather than collapsing the story into just one or two. The author considers Jackson's achievements and possible future, including his remake of *King Kong*. From casts of zombies, traumatised puppets and murderous teenagers, to deal-making in Hollywood, this book is about following one's visions wherever they might lead.

Shelley



New and Upcoming DVDs

Master and Commander:

The Far Side of the World

DVD \$36.95, 2-Disc Special Edition \$44.95, VHS \$22.95

Based on a book in the extremely popular Patrick O'Brian series of historical novels (all in stock), this accurately detailed film, directed by Australian Peter Weir, follows the fate of the crew of the HMS Surprise - a British naval ship on a frantic search for her adversary, the French man o' war Acheron, during the Napoleonic War.



Much Ado About Something DVD \$29.95

The age-old argument about who wrote Shakespeare continues, with a look at Marlowe's contribution. As shown on ABC TV in April.

Simon Schama: A History of Britain:

The Complete Series 3000BC-AD1965

4 DVDs boxed set \$147.95

A great series with some amazing extras, including interviews with Simon Schama.

The Kid Stays in the Picture

DVD \$29.95

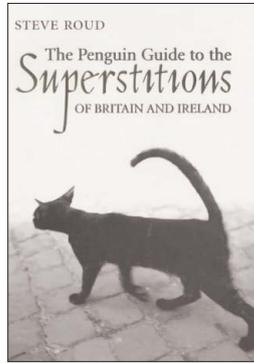
A fascinating documentary of Hollywood producer Robert Evans.

The Penguin Guide to the Superstitions of Britain and Ireland

Steve ROUD 546pp Hb \$49.95

The first major new survey in over a generation, this fascinating exploration of the superstitions of the British Isles, not only explains what people have believed over the centuries and why, but when particular superstitions arose, which parts of the country adopted them, how they evolved and what people believe today. Drawing extensively on literary and oral accounts from Roman times to the present, it offers intriguing insights into the beliefs and the bizarre rituals that often accompany them, debunks many popular myths, and provides in the process a fascinating sideways view of changing social customs and attitudes. The 10 most popular superstitions involve black cats, salt, ladders, mirrors, opening umbrellas, Friday 13th, shoes on tables, stairs, magpies and wood. However, the book is not a series of essays or personal opinions. It is more like an encyclopaedia with an A to Z layout on everything from apples to yews (funnily enough, no words beginning with z feature here). This is a highly entertaining study of the British psyche.

Shelley

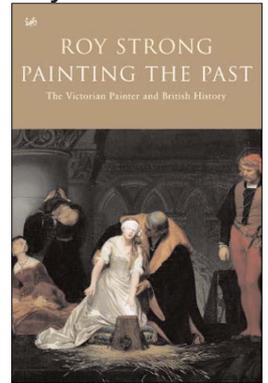


Painting the Past

The Victorian Painter and British History

Roy STRONG 256pp Tp \$40.00

Written by one of Britain's most celebrated historians, this is an entertaining and illuminating look at how the Victorians constructed their - and our - sense of the past and expressed it through art. Whole generations of schoolchildren were brought up on text books with reproductions of *And When Did You Last See Your Father?*, *The Boyhood of Raleigh* and *Flora Macdonald's Farewell to Prince Charles: Will ye no come back again?* The spell they cast is one of reality amplified by the history painting of the Victorian age and yet these paintings and so many others depicting the Wounded Cavalier, King Charles and Nell Gwyn, Alfred and the cakes (creations by Frith, Millais, Ford Madox Brown, Benjamin West, Cope and Ward) have been ignored or despised by art historians and critics under the modernistic influence. In this enthusiastic study, Strong shows how and why - through a unique alliance between painter, antiquarian and historian - these works came into being. He separates the fanciful recreations from the accurate reconstructions of the past, pinpoints the sources and identifies such literary parallels as the medieval romances of Walter Scott and charts the origins and course of the popular taste for history. *due May*

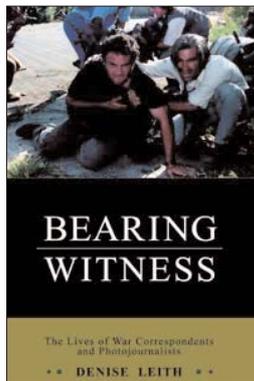


Bearing Witness

The Lives of War Correspondents and Photojournalists

Denise LEITH Tp \$32.95

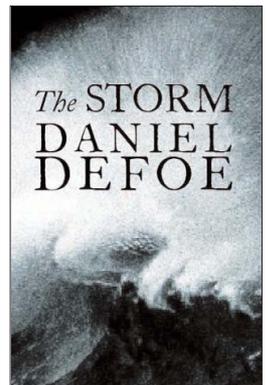
The journalists and photographers who document war and conflict are continually challenged, personally and professionally, by the scenes they witness. How do they live with the horrors of war and human suffering that they witness and the commonly expressed sense of impotence that results, while simultaneously claiming their job is a privilege and their work has given their life meaning? While passionately arguing their aim is to 'make a difference', why have many repeatedly refused to become witnesses in war crimes tribunals? And how do they deal with one of the most difficult dilemmas faced by war correspondents and photojournalists: whether to abandon their witnessing role to lend assistance to people suffering from the effects of war or famine, or whether to make the decision that the greatest assistance they can provide is to stand back and get the story or pictures out to the rest of the world? Many are drawn back again and again to the next conflict, while others have decided that the risk and personal toll is something they can no longer accept. The legacy of the job is as individual as its practitioners; a continuing dilemma for all is the question of whether or not it is professionally ethical to abandon one's role as witness and become a participant in events or is it even morally reprehensible not to do so. The answers are as varied as the people interviewed and it makes for fascinating reading. *due May*



The Storm

Daniel DEFOE 228pp Hb \$35.00

"Horror and Confusion seiz'd upon all, whether on Shore or at Sea: No Pen can describe it, no Tongue can express it, no Thought conceive it." On the evening of 26 November 1703, a cyclone from the North Atlantic hammered into Britain at over 70 miles an hour. Eyewitnesses reported seeing cows left stranded in the branches of trees and windmills ablaze from the friction of their whirling sails. Some 8,000 people lost their lives. For Defoe, just released from prison for his 'seditious' writings, bankrupt and desperate, the storm struck during one of his bleakest moments. But it also furnished him with the material for this, his first book. In his powerful depiction of private suffering and survival played out against a backdrop of natural devastation and public calamity, we can trace the outlines of his later masterpieces, **A Journal of the Plague Year** (Pb \$8.95) and **Robinson Crusoe** (Pb \$9.95). Out of print for nearly a century, this major new edition marks the 300th anniversary of what is still the worst storm in British history. Also included are two other pieces inspired by the events of that momentous night and written by Defoe during the same period: *The Layman's Sermon Upon the Late Storm* and the poem *The Storm: An Essay*.

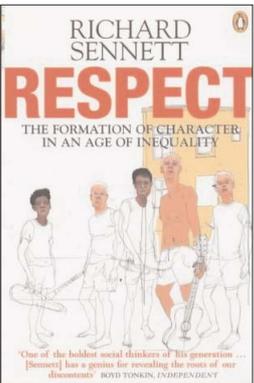


Respect

The Formation of Character in an Age of Inequality

Richard SENNETT 288pp Pb \$26.95

In the uncertain world of 'flexible' social relationships, all are troubled by issues of respect: whether it is an employee stuck with insensitive management, a social worker trying to aid a resentful client, or a virtuoso artist and an accompanist aiming for a perfect duet. Opening with a memoir of growing up in Chicago's infamous Cabrini Green housing project, Sennett looks at three factors that undermine mutual respect: unequal ability, adult dependency and degrading forms of compassion. In contrast to current welfare 'reforms', Sennett proposes a welfare system based on respect for those in need. He explores how self-worth can be nurtured in an unequal society; how self-esteem must be balanced with feeling for others; and how mutual respect can forge bonds across the divide of inequality. Where erasing inequality was once the goal of social radicals, Sennett seeks a more humane meritocracy: a society that, while accepting inequalities of talent, seeks to nurture the best in all its members and to connect them strongly to one another.



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High and Mighty

The Dangerous Rise of the SUV

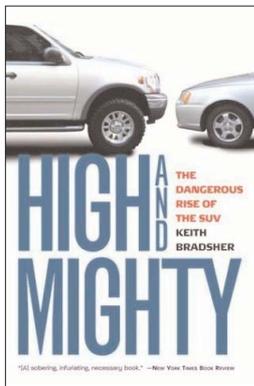
Keith BRADSHER 484pp Pb \$25.00

Car Wars

How the Car Won Our Hearts and Conquered Our Cities

Graeme DAVISON 308pp Tp \$29.95

The first thing Arnie Schwarzenegger did as Governor of California was to eradicate the profitable tax on cars and SUV's (sport utility vehicles, known here as 4WD's). To recoup the income, he began closing down fire stations, ambulance and other emergency services. Only the other day, I saw a woman, in the grip of road rage, leave her 4WD at the top of a steep incline, the motor running, while she disembarked to blast a fellow driver. This was bad enough, but the baby strapped in the back was gurgling as his young brother climbed into the driver's seat... Whether you like it or not, cars (and their big brother 4WD's) have taken over the planet. Ironically, many people are paying heavy freeway tolls to travel at 30km an hour, or less. Graeme Davison's book explores how the car entered the Australian national consciousness as an object of desire, a status symbol, a creator of freedoms and a shaper of sexual mores. Unfortunately for Sydneysiders, his book focuses on the well-planned roads of Melbourne, rather than the chaotic nightmare of Sydney, but it lays the groundwork for future historians. *New York Times* bureau chief Keith Bradsher's book is a masterpiece of investigative journalism and shows how a flawed regulatory system, a desperate American city (Detroit) and the American love of 'bigger and better' have combined to create a highway arms race. While the number of these Iraqi-oil-consuming machines is on the rise, so is the death toll. What the US loses on the warfront pales into insignificance compared with the death toll caused by these luxurious, but dangerous, vehicles. And it is happening here, now. If you don't read any other book this year, read this one!



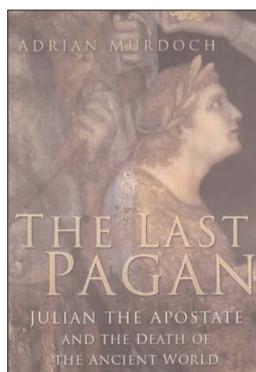
Shelley

The Last Pagan

Julian the Apostate and the Death of the Ancient World

Adrian MURDOCH 288pp Hb \$49.95

Since his death on a Persian battlefield in AD 363, the violent end of the Emperor Julian (Flavius Claudius Julianus, 331?-363) has become synonymous with the death of paganism. Vilified throughout history as the 'Apostate', the young philosopher-warrior was the last, and arguably the most potent, threat to Christianity. This work examines Julian's emergence as the sole survivor of a political dynasty soaked in blood. It traces his journey from an aristocratic Christian childhood to his initiation into pagan cults and his mission to establish paganism as the dominant faith of the Roman world. *due May*



A Brief History of the Smile

Angus TRUMBLE

226pp Tp \$35.00

A charming chronicle of smiles and smiling throughout history, from the saintly gleam of the Buddha to the plastic rictus of the game show host.. It has been said that supreme enlightenment is reflected in the holy smile of the Buddha. Yet the Victorians thought of open-mouthed smiling as obscene and 19th century English and American slang equated "smiling" with drinking whisky. Every smile is the product of physical processes common to all humans. But since the dawn of civilisation, the upward movement of the muscles of the face has carried a bewildering range of meanings. Trumble deftly weaves art, poetry, history and biology into an intriguing portrait of the many nuances of the human smile. Elegantly illustrating his points with emblematic works of art, from 18th and 19th century European paintings to Japanese woodblock prints, he explores the meanings of smiling in a variety of cultures and contexts. But he also asks key questions about the behavioural and psychological aspects of smiling: When and how in infancy does human smiling become a profound act of communication? Is smiling unique to human beings?

X-Treme Latin

Unleash Your Inner Gladiator

Henry BEARD

108pp Pb \$38.00

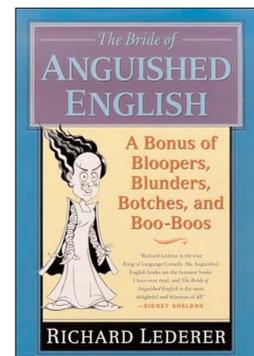
"Lingua Latina saepe dicitur mortua esse." Well, it isn't! This wonderful little volume (imported from the US) is full of lively insults, vivid quips and quick rejoinders. With this in your pocket, you are equipped to deal with just about anything modern life throws at you - road rage, homeland security, small talk during a colonoscopy, barbarian evildoers and reality television. A lot of fun, a bit of dirt, proving Latin is not dead! *Lindy*

The Bride of Anguished English

A Bonus of Bloopers, Blunders, Botches and Boo-Boos

Richard LEDERER 282pp Pb \$19.95

Following on from the bestselling title **Anguished English** (Pb \$27.45), Lederer's latest humorous collection comprises a wonderful concoction of fluffs, goofs, gaffes, botches and blunders, including new categories concerning the things kids say in churches ("Solomon had 300 wives and 500 porcupines"), a history of the United States according to students ("World War I made the people so sad that it brought on the Great Depression"), hilarious menu items that are lost in translation ("Our wines leave you nothing to hope for") and the Hall of Fame section that highlights the all-time bloopers. Filled with Lederer's trademark intelligence, humour and down-to-earth advice, this newest instalment of the gifts of our oddball language is a book to cherish. *due May*



The Secret Power of Beauty

Why Happiness is in the Eye of the Beholder

John ARMSTRONG

172pp Hb \$35.00

The calm and incisive style of writing Armstrong uses to communicate with his diverse audience is not only attractive and amusing, it leaves you satiated but, later, hankering for more, in the same way we desire good food. How does he do this? Well, to begin with, he takes a topic wondrous to us all: why is happiness in the eye of the beholder? Usually used to end our conversations when conciliation is non-negotiable, he uses it as a springboard for a multidisciplinary approach to help us understand why we are attracted to objects we think beautiful. Starting with Hogarth's *The Analysis of Beauty* and David Garrick's rebuke, he takes us on a journey through various historical moments from the Pythagorean view of beauty all the way forward to modern approaches such as evolutionary psychology's notion that attachment to beauty is a survival mechanism and an established basic capacity of the mind. I think this well-written book serves as a great introduction to the subject. I mean, why bother starting at the beginning when you can work backwards? This Glaswegian author, who now holds senior posts at both Monash and Melbourne universities, has created a sublime work of philosophical inquiry without resorting to postmodernism as a fall back explanation for anything. His **Conditions of Love: The Philosophy of Intimacy** (Pb \$22.95) has been a bestseller at Abbey's since it was released last year. *Shelley*

The Cambridge Guide to English Usage

Pam PETERS

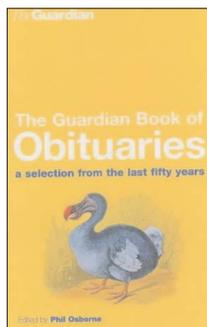
800pp Hb \$75.00

This is an A-Z reference book, giving an up-to-date account of the debatable issues of English usage and written style. Written by the author of **The Cambridge Australian English Style Guide** (Pb \$43.95), it is a descriptive, not prescriptive, guide. The book comprises more than 4,000 points of word meaning, spelling, grammar and punctuation, and larger issues of inclusive language, and effective writing and argument. It also provides guidance on grammatical terminology and covers topics in electronic communication and the internet. The discussion notes the major dictionaries, grammars and usage books in the USA, UK, Canada and Australia, allowing readers to calibrate their own practices as required. *due May*

The very beautiful film of Frances Mayes' **Under the Tuscan Sun** (\$24.95 Pb) is around now. I suppose one day there will be a film of Peter Mayles' books about life in France (or has there already been one?), but this month I read another charming, soothing book about life, mostly in the Cevennes in southern France. This is **Belonging** (\$22.95 Pb 329pp) by Isabel Huggan, a Canadian writer and teacher of creative writing who, with her aid worker husband, has lived in many places including Tasmania, Kenya and the Philippines. She delights in contemplating the people and landscape around her. If you have ever read the many journals of May Sarton, who lived outside Boston, you will have some idea. Find these both in Biography, although many memoirs are now finding their way into Travel.

I've also enjoyed many of the entries in **The Guardian Book of Obituaries** (\$35 Pb 333pp). (Is that a dodo on the cover? I think it is).

There are some fascinating people in here, from John Arlott, cricket commentator, Lew Grade, theatre impresario and musician Michael Tippett to Samuel Beckett and Anthony Powell. Phil Osborne is the editor, while Hugh Massingberd is the editor of the rival **Daily Telegraph Fifth Book of Obituaries** (\$25 Pb), or you can order **The Very Best of The Daily Telegraph Books of Obituaries** (\$30 Pb). We also have **The Daily Telegraph Book of Military Obituaries** by David Davies (\$39.95 Hb) or **Fade to Black: Movie Obituaries** by Paul Donnelley (\$50 Pb).



The marvellous Alistair Cooke died at the end of March, just after presenting his final (and 2,869th) *Letter from America*. He won't yet be included in any of the collections above, so take a look at the reissue of his inimitable take on his adopted country in **Alistair Cooke's America** (\$35 Pb) or the excellent biography by Nick Clarke (\$24.95 Pb). We also have **Letter from America Volume 1: 1946-68** (\$19.95 audio cassette), which will be especially interesting. Remember we have audio books ranging from classics, fiction, crime and children's titles to some non-fiction.

The first volume of poet Robert Adamson's autobiography is out, with the appropriate title of **Inside Out** (\$45 Hb 340pp), bearing in mind his early delinquent days. He touches on the rivalry between the poetry magazines in the 60s, but hasn't yet got to the introduction of *New Poetry* magazine. Abbey's Bookshop had just moved into the Queen Victoria Building then and we were thrilled to find ourselves mentioned by Robert in the *Sydney Morning Herald* as the only place to go for Australian poetry. I remember he described our shop as "within spitting distance of the Town Hall"! There are two poems at the back of the book and you can find more of his poetry in the various anthologies of Australian poetry. We still have a separate section for Australian Poetry.

Queensland University Press, always a supporter of Australian poetry, has just published a lovely book by another survivor from the Young Poets Generation of the Sixties. This is **The Sparrow Garden** by Peter Skrzynecki (\$22.95 Pb 235pp), a loving homage to his parents, who came to Australia as Displaced Persons after working as slave labourers in Germany at the end of World War Two. It is a collection of intensely observed memories and you will be entranced by the respect given to daily life and family love. Many poems, old and new, are included. A lovely book. Find this in New Australian Biography.

We've had several excellent reasons to celebrate Australian publishing this year, not least 21 years for Mem Fox's **Possum Magic** (\$14.95 Pb) and 25 years for A B Facey's **A Fortunate Life** (\$24.95 special Hb edition). These are books that should always be in print. **A Fortunate Life** is a true classic of Australian autobiography. I remember Nancy Keesing, who read the original manuscript before publication, telling me that hardly a word needed to be altered. This from a man who left school before he was 10.

I've just had great pleasure reading another Australian biography of a man who should be better remembered than he is. This is **The Man Who Died Twice: The Life and Adventures of Morrison of Peking** (\$32.95 Pb 380pp) by Peter Thompson and Robert Macklin. I knew Morrison was an influential and famous journalist. I did not know that he was an explorer in his youth and his hero was Henry Morton Stanley. When only 21, Morrison walked alone from the Gulf of Carpentaria to Melbourne! This was only 25 years after the ill-fated Burke and Wills expedition. Lindy gave you a great summary of his story last month, to which I should add that the final section gives a very interesting sidelight on the formation of the Chinese Republic at the start of the 20th century. This is one of our bestsellers, I'm happy to say.

I'm also looking forward to reading **Name Dropping: An Incomplete Memoir** (\$32.95 Pb) by Kate Fitzpatrick, who has such a witty way with words.

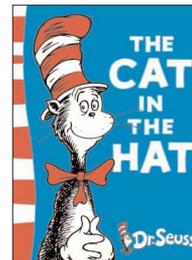
March 26th saw Peter Milne on the steps of the Town Hall, at the invitation of city historian Shirley Fitzgerald, ready to sell copies of **Sacked: Removing and Remaking the Sydney City Council 1853-1988** by Hilary Golder (\$38.50 Pb). Peter said that retiring Commissioner Lucy Turnbull's speech was very interesting from a historical perspective. Congratulations also to Clover Moore, our new Lord Mayor. Long May She Reign!

I was intrigued by an advance copy of a newly translated Spanish book that has been an enormous bestseller in Europe and is due here in June. The lush story concerns the quest of a young man growing up in Barcelona after the civil war to find out more about the life and death of the mysterious author of a very rare book he discovers in the "cemetery of lost books", a place he is taken to by his second-hand bookseller father. All very gothic. It is called **The Shadow of the Wind** (\$29.95 Pb 520pp) by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. I've mentioned before an unusual title in the Classics section, **The Manuscript Found in Saragossa** by Jan Potocki (\$28 Pb), a translation of a late 18th century Polish classic, which has a similar puzzling complexity to Zafon's novel. An Austrian captain in the midst of the Napoleonic Wars in Spain finds a manuscript at Saragossa and is surprised to find that it tells the story of his family. As he reads the book, the characters come to life. Perhaps because it is set in an earlier

historical period, I think I preferred this. A Polish film made from this story, *Saragossa Manuscript* (\$47 DVD), is also available upstairs in Language Book Centre's interesting foreign film collection.

I saw an article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* about a modern Latin course, suitable for primary students, called **Minimus the Mouse** by Barbara Bell. We have been selling this series for some time and it is indeed popular with schools and all those people teaching themselves Latin for fun. Have a look at our large sections for Latin and Classical Greek on the first floor.

While you're upstairs, take a look at all the Dr Seuss books over in Children's books. The movie of **The Cat in the Hat** (\$8.95 Pb) is now on, but perhaps this story is better read aloud (again and again).



We are happy to report that more bookshops have moved into our block of York Street, next to the Queen Victoria Building. Tea in the Library, which opened some months ago, is a good café/bookshop and often has talks, and now Napoleon's Military Bookshop has arrived right next door, up a few steps. Ashwoods is also next to Abbey's (across the lane and downstairs) and has second-hand books and music. There are plenty of coffee shops nearby, so this block of York Street has become a great meeting place, in tune with the slogan on our bags, 'Books - Where Ideas Grow'. This reminds me to mention that we have reduced the price of our nice natural calico bags to \$2 to encourage you to use them more often to carry your purchases, rather than plastic bags. The day must come when a charge will be made for plastic bags. Europe already does it and it seems the only way to convince people to use their own bags.

I went to Canberra to enjoy the Edwardians exhibition at the National Gallery and on the way home came via the Southern Highlands Book Trail, which of course included Ron Abbey's Bookhouse in Bowral, where we had a delicious and economical lunch on the verandah of the cafe. I noticed lots of leather-bound books on the shelves and I know people look for these for special anniversary presents, although they are often difficult to obtain these days. Some are old original editions, while some have been newly bound by Ron Abbey himself, an expert in this area. Call the Bookhouse on (02) 4861 4533 or see some of their range on their website at www.abebooks.com/home/rabookhouse.

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Abbey's Bestsellers - April 2004

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by Tracy Chevalier (Pb \$18.95)
- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**
by Mark Haddon (Hb \$29.95)
- The Kingdom of the Golden Dragon**
by Isabel Allende (Hb \$25.00)
- Oryx and Crake** by Margaret Atwood (Pb \$22.95)
- Train** by Pete Dexter (Tp \$32.95)
- Old School** by Tobias Wolff (Pb \$27.95)
- Master** by Colm Toibin (Tp \$30.00)
- Brick Lane** by Monica Ali (Pb \$24.95)
- Lighthousekeeping** by Jeanette Winterson (Tp \$27.95)

Non-Fiction

- Eats, Shoots and Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation** by Lynne Truss (Hb \$29.95)
- True Pleasures: A Memoir of Women in Paris**
by Lucinda Holdforth (Pb \$22.95)
- The Man Who Died Twice: The Life and Adventures of Morrison of Peking**
by Peter Thompson & Robert Macklin (Pb \$32.95)
- Death Sentence: The Decay of Modern Language**
by Don Watson (Hb \$29.95)
- Portraits on Yellow Paper**
by Roddy Meagher & Simon Fieldhouse (Pb \$25.95)
- Sacked: Removing and Remaking the Sydney City Council 1853-1988** by Hilary Golder (Pb \$38.50)
- Sending Them Home: Quarterly Essay #13** by Robert Manne (Pb \$12.95)
- Right and Wrong: How to Decide for Yourself**
by Hugh Mackay (Tp \$29.95)
- 1421: The Year that China Discovered the World**
by Gavin Menzies (Pb \$27.95)
- Against All Enemies** by Richard Clarke (Hb \$39.95)

Pulitzer Prize Winners 2004

FICTION

The Known World
by Edward P Jones (Hb \$45.00)

POETRY

Walking to Martha's Vineyard
by Franz Wright (Hb \$49.95)

BIOGRAPHY

Krushchev: The Man and his Era
by William Taubman (Pb \$39.95)

NON-FICTION

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by Anne Applebaum (Hb \$59.95)



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Six Wives: Queens of Henry VIII by David Starkey \$32.95

Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived. The fate of Henry's wives has never been more entertaining than in Starkey's brilliant version of history.

On the Natural History of Destruction by W G Sebald \$24.95

In the last years of WWII, the Allies dropped a million bombs on Germany. Yet the German people have been silent about the resulting devastation and loss of life, failing to recognise the terrible shadow that destruction from the air cast over their land. Sebald asks why it is we turn our backs on the horrors of war, and in addressing our response to the past, offers insights into how we live now.

Philosophy Gym by Stephen Law \$25.95

Where did the universe come from? Is time travel possible? Are genetically designed babies morally acceptable? If you have ever asked yourself such questions then you have already begun to think philosophically. This book is for those who want to take the next step.

Living History: Memoirs by Hillary Rodham Clinton \$27.95

Hillary Clinton's memoir focuses on her eight years at the White House - what she lived through, how she felt about her experiences then and now, why she made the choices she did. She talks about all the political events and highlights, including Bill Clinton's impeachment.

Krushchev: The Man and his Era by William Taubman \$39.95

This is a study in contrasts - how the boy from a peasant background rose to the heights of power; how a single-minded, ambitious political player survived 20 years under Stalin; how he opened up to the West after Stalin's death and yet brought the world close to oblivion in the Cuban Missile Crisis. What emerges is a fascinating picture of a man constantly torn between benevolence and malevolence - a man who made himself cultured and yet who could never really escape his image as a bullying country bumpkin.

Editor: Ann Leahy

Contributors: Eve Abbey,

David Hall, Adrian Hardingham, Lindy Jones,
Shelley Kay, Ann Leahy & Cara Willetts.

Binding Key

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

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