

ABBEY'S ADVOCATE

1968 Celebrating 40 Years of Independent Bookselling 2008

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Abbey's Turns 40

A Continuing Retrospective - Part 9



I was wondering what to write about for the 'almost last' segment in this series of retrospectives when our buyer for Penguin books, Greg Waldron, told me that we will soon receive a new series from the world's most famous publisher. (Anyone who disagrees, be quiet).

The new series is called *Popular Penguins* and they will look just like the original Penguins seventy-three years ago - with a big band of orange and a plain title. So... I felt I should write about our special connection with Penguin.

Not only did Ron Abbey open, for Colletts, an all-Penguin Bookshop in Charing Cross Road in 1962, at various times we also operated four different Penguin Bookshops in Sydney: in Rowe Street; Oxford Street, Paddington; 66 King Street; and 131 York Street - until we amalgamated the stock of this last shop with books from all other publishers.

We did special historic displays for Penguin's 50th and 60th Anniversaries, and for Penguin Australia's 50 years. Ron Abbey, Jim Thorburn (of Pocket Bookshop fame) and Ed Campion all lent books for these displays. Alec Sheppard lent us some wonderful material about his involvement in getting Lady Chatterley's Lover published in Australia. In 1985, I went to a big party in London's Festival Hall to celebrate Penguin's 50th Birthday.

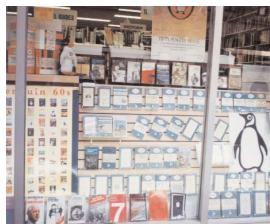
At one stage, we stocked every single Penguin title, but nowadays we can't quite say that, although we do carry most Penguin Classics (even those titles that only sell once or twice a year). In the past, Penguin has reissued some crime Penguins in their original green jackets, so maybe some time they will reissue some pale-blue non-fiction Pelicans?

Is it possible Penguin today does not carry quite the same cachet? When I lived in New Zealand and England, a Penguin paperback was the only book to carry! If you were going to widen your knowledge, there surely was a Penguin book for you. There are fifty titles in the *Popular Penguins* series and it is interesting to see the chosen titles, which include *Perfume* by Patrick Suskind, *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote, *The Classical World* by Robin Lane Fox, *My Family and Other Animals* by Gerald Durrell and *What is History?* by E H Carr, as well as *Run Rabbit Run* by John Updike and *Delta of Venus* by Anaïs Nin. All only \$9.95 and how lovely to have an orange Penguin on your shelves!

Eve Abbey



Eve with Peter Blake and Peter Field from Penguin at Abbey's 50th birthday party for Penguin Australia, 1996



Historic Penguin window display, 2006



RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA

20% OFF

40 HISTORY TITLES FROM

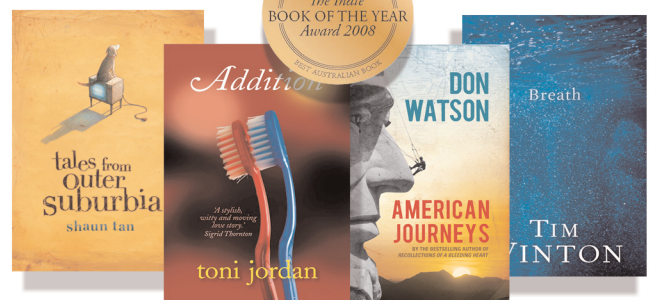
RANDOM HOUSE

IN SEPTEMBER

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INDIE AWARD 2008



Abbey's is proud to be associated with the inaugural Australian Indie Award

winner announced

6 October

more details page 3



Indigenous
Literacy
Day

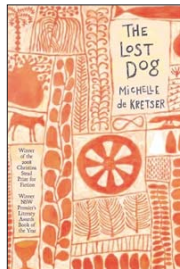
Abbey's will donate 10% of all sales on Wednesday 3 September to The Indigenous Literacy Project

The Indigenous Literacy Project is a unique book industry initiative designed to improve literacy in remote indigenous communities. To help, come in and buy any book from Abbey's, Language Book Centre or Galaxy Bookshop on Wednesday 3 September. We will donate 10% of the day's sales to the project.

The Lost Dog

Michelle DE KRETZER 372pp Pb \$23.95

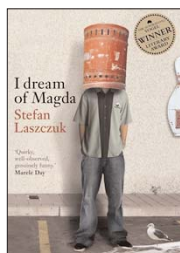
Tom Loxley is holed up in a remote bush shack trying to finish his book on Henry James when his beloved dog goes missing. What follows is a triumph of storytelling, as the story loops back and forth in time to take the reader on a spellbinding journey into worlds far removed from the present tragedy. Set in present-day Australia and mid-20th century India, here is a haunting, layered work that brilliantly counterpoints new cityscapes and their inhabitants with the untamed, ancient continent beyond. With its atmosphere of menace and an acute sense of the unexplained, it illuminates the collision of the wild and the civilised, modernity and the past, home and exile. Accolades are pouring in for this gripping contemporary novel, winner of the NSW Premier's Literary Awards Book of the Year, the Christina Stead Award for Fiction and most recently longlisted for the Man Booker Prize.



I Dream of Magda

Stefan LASZCZUK 288pp Pb \$23.95

"Happy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its own way." Tolstoy wasn't thinking specifically of the Harrison family when he wrote those words, but maybe he should have been. George Harrison is 28 and afraid of the dark. His father is dead and his mother lives in la-la land. Reeling from a broken heart and still coping with the trauma of a childhood home invasion, he works in a dead-end job in a bowling alley and finds rare solace in the giant painting of an alien that sits outside his room. His brother Matthew isn't much better off. After losing the love of his life in a traumatic car accident, he is retreated into a private world of sleep, where he dreams about falling in love with comedienne Magda Szubanski. Matthew and George are each stuck in their own little messed-up world, with no idea how to get out, and neither of them is sure whether their unhappy family will ever finally pull together, or simply just fall apart. The winner of the 2007 *The Australian Vogel Literary Award*, this is a quirky, left-field, yet deeply felt and wholly engaging story of families, love, loss and grieving.



Children

Charlotte WOOD 336pp Pb \$23.95

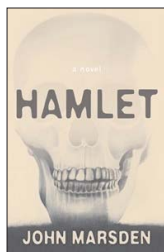
You bring your children up to escape sorrow. You spend your best years trying to stop them witnessing it on TV, in you, in your neighbours' faces. Then you realise, slowly, that there is no escape, that they must steer their own way through life's cruelties. Wood, one of Australian fiction's rising stars, delivers a short, sharp shock of a novel that takes you into the heart of a family that is as normal, and as broken, as any other. *Due Sep*

Hamlet

A Novel

John MARSDEN 224pp Hb \$29.95

Hamlet is bored and restless. His friend Horatio can't work him out, but then who can? His father has just died and his mother has already remarried. He seems damaged by the sudden changes in his life. Or maybe he was always a little damaged. Or maybe he wasn't. Then, on a still night, the ghost of Hamlet's father comes walking, his long silver hair blowing wildly... Marsden follows the contours of the original story, but powerfully re-imagines its characters and story lines, rather as Shakespeare treated his sources. We are aware not only of the strength of Marsden's own writing, but the sensitivity of his insight into Shakespeare. *Due Sep*



Stray Dog Winter

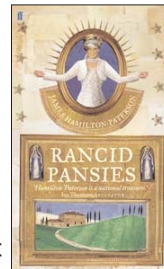
David FRANCIS 332pp Tp \$32.95

Darcy, a restless young artist, travels to the Soviet Union to visit his elusive half-sister Fin. Together only briefly during their youth, Darcy and Fin are estranged by the distance between them, yet inextricably bound by the secrets and betrayals of their childhood. Upon his arrival in the depths of a bleak Moscow winter, Darcy is immediately embroiled in Fin's mysterious life there, and also drawn to Moscow's forbidden underground, finding himself swept up in political and sexual intrigues of a nature he could never have imagined. As the past resurfaces and the present closes in, the intricacies of their bond as brother and sister are revealed, and Darcy uncovers Fin's involvement in a dangerous game of her own. Their worlds threaten to collide with profound and deadly consequences. *Due Sep*

Rancid Pansies

James HAMILTON-PATTERSON 320pp Tp \$29.95

The hero of this black farce of a book is Gerald Samper, camp as Christmas and a man with his mind on higher things than he has yet managed to reach. A ghost-writer to unbearable sports celebrities and rock stars, his dream is to write the libretto to an opera. A sojourn in Suffolk ends in the death of an ancient aristocrat, thanks to a little mistake in the concoction of Gerry's field-mouse vol-au-vents. Returning to Tuscany, Gerry finds that the site of his collapsed house is now a place of pilgrimage, after the appearance of a strange apparition, a deceased English princess with great legs. A sinister estate agent smells a chance to make serious money and Gerry is persuaded to go along with the scam in return for certain favours. Meanwhile, Gerry is inspired to collaborate on an opera about the life of Princess Diana, the not-quite-saint who has inspired such strange devotion. The premiere will be the high point of his life, though not quite in the way he imagines... *Due Sep*



The Other Hand

Chris CLEAVE 368pp Tp \$33.00

We don't want to tell you too much about this book. It is a truly special story and we don't want to spoil it. Nevertheless, you need to know something, so we will just say this: it is extremely funny, but the African beach scene is horrific. The story starts there, but the book doesn't. And it's what happens afterwards that is most important. Once you have read it, you will want to tell everyone about it. When you do, please don't tell them what happens either. The magic is in how it unfolds. *Due Sep*



Chicago

Alaa Al ASWANY 356pp Tp \$33.00

A medley of Egyptian and American lives collides on the campus of the University of Illinois Medical Centre in a post-9/11 Chicago, and crises of identity abound. Among the players are an atheistic anti-establishment American professor of the 60s generation, whose relationship with a younger African-American woman becomes a moving target for intolerance; a veiled PhD candidate whose conviction in the code of her traditional upbringing is shaken by her exposure to American society; an émigré who has fervently embraced his new American identity, but who cannot escape his Egyptian roots when faced with the issue of his daughter's 'honour'; an Egyptian State Security informant who spouts religious doctrines while hankering after money and power; and a dissident student poet who comes to America with the sole aim of financing his literary aspirations, but whose experience in Chicago turns out to be more than he bargained for. This tightly plotted page-turner is set far from the downtown Cairo of Aswany's *The Yacoubian Building* (Pb \$25), but is no less unflinching an examination of contemporary Egyptian lives. *Due Sep*



The Lace Reader

Brunonia BARRY 384pp Pb \$33.00

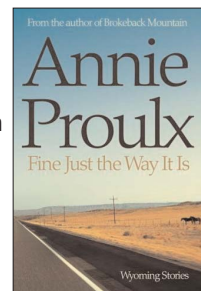
Would knowing the future be a gift or a burden? Or even a curse? The Whitney women of Salem, Massachusetts are renowned for reading the future in the patterns of lace. But the future doesn't always bring good news, as Towner Whitney knows all too well. When she was just 15, her gift sent her whole world crashing to pieces. She predicted, then witnessed, something so horrific that she vowed never to read lace again, fleeing her home and family for good. Salem is a place of ghosts for Towner and she swore she would never return. Yet family is a powerful tie. So it is that 15 years later, she finds herself back in Salem. Her beloved Great Aunt Eva has suddenly disappeared, and when you've lived a life like Eva's, that could mean real trouble. But Salem is wreathed in sickly shadows and whispered half-memories. It's fast becoming clear that the ghosts of Towner's fractured past have not been brought fully into the light. And with them comes the threat of terrifying new disaster. *Due Sep*

Fine Just the Way It Is

Wyoming Stories

Annie PROULX 240pp Pb \$28.00

This fantastic new collection of stories marks Proulx's return to the Wyoming of *Brokeback Mountain* and the familiar cast of hardy, unsentimental prairie folk. The stories are cast over centuries and capture the voices and lives of the settlers of this sage-brushed and weatherworn country, from the native Indian tribes to the modern day ranch owners and politicians, and their cowboy forebears. Enlivened by folk tales, flights of fancy and details of ranch and rural work, they juxtapose Wyoming's traditional character and attitudes - confrontation of tough problems, prejudice, and persistence in the face of difficulty - with the more benign values of the new West. *Due Sep*

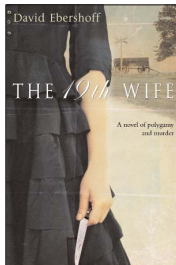


The 19th Wife

David EBERSHOFF

528pp Tp \$32.95

This thick novel - alliteratively, if misleadingly, described as "a story of multiple marriage and murder among the Mormons" - spreads its story over two entwined narratives. In one, a modern tale of a "lost boy", an outcast from a polygynist sect, returns to help his mother, a 19th wife, who has been arrested for the shooting of her husband. In the other story, Ebershoff presents a fictionalised version of a historical figure: Anna Eliza Young, Brigham Young's 19th wife (though perhaps 52nd). Abandoned by Church-leader Young and in turn abandoning the Church, her crusade against the then-polygynist Mormons in the late 19th century was instrumental in the Church's decision to outlaw the practice. The historical details of the rise of Mormonism, their dangerous journey westward and conflicts within this new religion, and between it and the US Government, are the novel's bed in which the religion's strange turn to "celestial marriage" lies. The strength of Ebershoff's novel is in its insight into this controversial practice and the damaging effect upon the family to which it was supposed to reinforce. But despite the heaviness of its theme, though in part due to the fascination of its subject, this is not a difficult book; seldom do 500 pages rush by so quickly and rarely does it read so lightly. *Adrian*

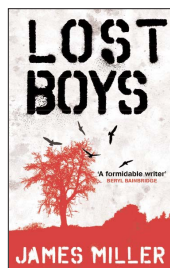


Lost Boys

James MILLER

288pp Tp \$33.00

Arthur Dashwood is an important man, working for important oil interests. Kidnapped in Baghdad and released less than a day later, he insists nothing happened, that he said nothing, his captors asked nothing, but he is suffering immense guilt. His 12-year-old son Timothy is unhappy in his new private London school, unable to settle after years abroad living in Middle Eastern compounds. Young boys from his school start disappearing. He is haunted by dreams of a strange boy playing flute music and promising him - what? Timothy himself disappears. Arthur is driven to desperation in his attempt to find out what happened, including hiring a detective with unusual methods. A brilliant novel, drawing on imagery from Peter Pan to portray worlds on the brink of collapse. *Due Sep Lindy*

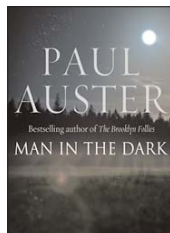


Man in the Dark

Paul AUSTER

192pp Tp \$29.95

This is definitely more your almost-mellow Auster, rather than your weirdly-disorienting Auster, but that doesn't mean he has given up his looping, narrative style, or his keen insights into human nature and the small cruelties of life, or his intimately constructed characters. August Brill is mourning the loss of his wife, his daughter is mourning the loss of her marriage, and his granddaughter is grieving over the awful death of her boyfriend. At night, suffering from insomnia, August tells himself stories, one of which takes on a multi-layered reality all its own; during the day, he watches classic movies with Katya and reflects on the stories told, and unspoken. I really enjoyed this - you always know, whatever Auster writes, it will be involving, slightly provoking, occasionally unsettling and certainly worth reading. *Due Sep Lindy*

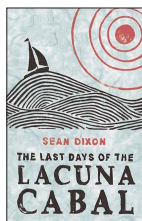


The Last Days of the Lacuna Cabal

Sean DIXON

352pp Hb \$33.00

The Lacuna Cabal Montreal Young Women's Book Club is THE foremost book club in Canada, no, in the world. Priding themselves on their good taste, intelligent discussions and impeccable opinions, they are a group of misfits and oddballs, living on the edge of normality. There are only two rules: what Missy says goes (ok, there is a nod to democracy, but let's be honest here) and NO BOYS. EVER. Of course, the premier book club in the world must read the first book ever written: **The Epic of Gilgamesh**. But this monumental book leads them to break all their rules, shed members who end up missing out on EVERYTHING, and travel across the open seas to Bahrain in search of a wise man who will hopefully have all the answers. Set in a time of upheaval, the Iraq war is exploding and people across the world are marching in protest. It is the story of a group of friends who find a family of sorts within their book group, who learn to cope with love and the lack of it, loss and the lack of that, and with growing up in a world that is falling apart... *Due Sep*



The Gargoyle

Andrew DAVIDSON

400pp Tp \$32.95

After rolling his car down an embankment, a man lies in hospital with severe burns to most of his body. He endures his pain, his disfigurement and the excruciating treatments to remove his dead and rotting skin only in the hope of getting well enough to be able to end his life. But then along comes Marianne Engel, sculptor of gargoyles. She is convinced she nursed him when he was burned once before, long ago. And she unravels a tale of their meeting in 14th century Germany at the monastery of Engelthal. Weaving stories within the story-fables of love in Japan, Iceland, Italy and England, Marianne slowly brings beauty and love into his life. *Due Sep*

Indie Award 2008



Abbey's is proud to be involved with *The Indie Award*. Chosen by Australian independent booksellers, this \$18,000 prize honours an Australian author for the best book of the previous 12 months. The award is managed by Leading Edge Books, a group of independent bookstores with member stores across Australia, both metropolitan and regional, including many of

Australia's iconic independent bookshops. The award demonstrates the commitment of independent booksellers to Australian books and writers, with over 120 bookshops working together to sponsor the award. This year, our very own Lindy Jones is one of the judges. Here are the category winners:

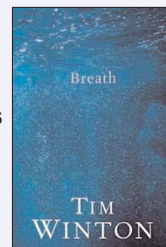
Fiction

Breath

Tim WINTON

224pp Hb \$45.00

Tim Winton's latest novel tells the story of paramedic Bruce Pike who, upon attending a supposed suicide of a young man, begins to reflect on his own youth. As well as Pike, we met his friend Loonie and their idolisation of an older surfer, Sando. It is through Sando that Pike meets Eva and it is the consequences of this relationship that moulds Pike's future. When reading this, I found myself referencing films such as *Big Wednesday* and *Summer of '42* more than other novels. Winton shows how the events of our youth can only reveal their true meaning upon reflection, and it is the ramifications of these incidences that shape our present psyche. Although this novel may not scale the same thematic heights as *Cloudstreet* (\$26.95), its beauty is to sympathise with its characters, exposing the fragility of teenage friendships and highlighting the human frailties that reside in us all. *Greg*



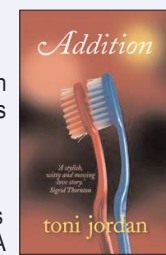
Addition

Toni JORDAN

240pp Tp \$29.95

Grace is intelligent, funny and troubled by an obsession to count everything - letters in names, poppy seeds on her morning piece of cake, sprouts on her salad sandwiches, steps to the shops, the minutes she needs to do things, the bristles on her toothbrush... the list goes on. She needs to know these things so she can control them, but then she meets Seamus, a man with the sexiest hands she has ever seen. And somehow, she loses control anyway. A warm and lovely novel, light-hearted and enjoyably skewed, sympathetic but definitely not sentimental! It's going to make a wonderful movie one day... *Lindy*

Debut-Fiction



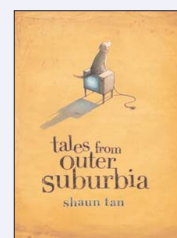
Tales from Outer Suburbia

Shaun TAN

96pp Hb \$35.00

Where to start in describing this new and wonderful creation from the talented Shaun Tan? It is a collection of 15 stories, some little more than a couple of paragraphs, some a handful of pages of text, but all of them illustrated in Tan's whimsical and technically proficient styles. There are pencil drawings, lushly coloured paintings, references to his other books (particularly *Lost Thing* Pb \$16.95) and other paintings. There is a special sort of magic in his work and readers will find extraordinary images that resonate and reverberate, even when he is presenting small subversive stories of domestic and suburban life. Enchanting, exceptional and endearing for all ages! *Lindy*

Children's Book



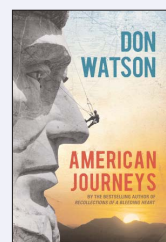
American Journeys

Don WATSON

320pp Hb \$29.95

As a judge in this section, I read 40 submitted books. *American Journeys* is a delight to read - well-crafted, as you would expect from such an amazing stylist of thought and words. Watson travels across the USA, mostly by train - the poorer person's choice of transport - and partially by car, and wherever he goes he strikes up conversations with his fellow travellers. A fascinating meditation on American society and politics, with penetrating insights from someone who is fond of, and bemused by, them both. *Lindy*

Non-Fiction



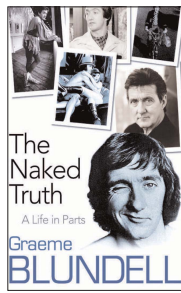
Winner announced 6 October

The Naked Truth

A Life in Parts

Graeme BLUNDELL 400pp Tp \$35.00

The hit movie *Alvin Purple* made Graeme Blundell Australia's first permissive pin-up and he became a symbol of the early 70s, an era everyone still wants to be a part of. Actor, director, producer, biographer, critic and journalist, Blundell established theatre companies and was there when they closed. He watched the film industry through its many renaissances and television as it became an addictive digital environment. He writes about Australian life in the 40s, 50s and on with the insight of someone who was always part of the action, whether he wanted to be or not. He also takes us into his life in the early years of truly independent Australian theatre, the wild local film industry in the 1970s, to the rise of local TV programs. Writing in the same accessible and engaging style that made King (his biography of Graham Kennedy) a bestseller, Blundell tells us so much about our country over the past decades. *Due Sep*

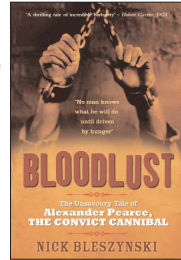


Bloodlust

The Unsavoury Tale of Alexander Pearce, the Convict Cannibal

Nick BLESZYNSKI 387pp Tp \$32.95

Set in Van Diemen's Land during the early convict era, this book tells the story of Alexander Pearce, who killed and ate six fellow bolters while on the run from the draconian convict regime at Tasmania's Port Macquarie. What caused Pearce to stray towards the dark side? Was it something in his past? Was it the institutional injustice and violence he suffered at the hands of the church, the courts and the prison authorities? Or were there other contributory factors? Bleszynski explores the part that starvation, exhaustion and isolation played in the return to an almost primal state in the Tasmanian wilderness. Was Pearce indeed a cannibal or just a ne'er-do-well who became a victim of a brutal regime and a quirk of nature?

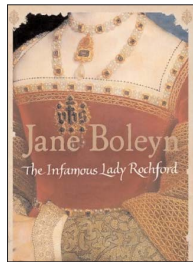


Jane Boleyn

The Infamous Lady Rochford

Julia FOX 432pp Pb \$27.00

Jane Rochford was sister-in-law to Anne Boleyn and Lady of the Bedchamber to Katherine Howard, whom she followed to the scaffold in 1542. Hers is a life of extraordinary drama as a witness to, and participant in, the greatest events of Henry's reign. She arrived at court as a teenager when Katherine of Aragon was queen. Even before Henry's marriage to Anne, her own marriage to George Boleyn brought her into the closest royal circles, and there she remained through the unfolding spectacle and tragedy of Henry's succession of marriages. She survived the trauma of Anne and George's executions and, despite briefly being banned from Court, managed to regain her place there to attend on Jane Seymour and Anne of Cleves. Her supposed part in both Anne Boleyn's and Katherine Howard's downfall has led to her being reviled through the centuries. Fox repudiates the idea of the infamous Lady Rochford and Jane emerges as a rather modern woman forced by brutal circumstance to fend for herself in a politically lethal world. *Due Sep*

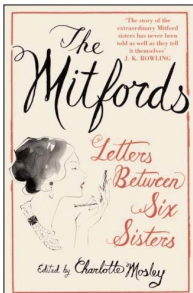


The Mitfords

Letters Between Six Sisters

Charlotte MOSLEY (Ed) 32pp Pb \$30.00

The never-before published letters of the legendary Mitford sisters - alive with wit, affection, tragedy and gossip - form a charismatic history of last century's signal events played out in the lives of a controversial and uniquely gifted family. Nancy, the scolding wit who parlayed her family life into bestselling novels. Diana, the fascist jailed with her husband, Oswald Mosley, during WWII. Unity, a suicide, torn by her worship of Hitler and loyalty to home. Debo, who adored pleasure and fun, and found herself Duchess of Devonshire. Pamela, who craved nothing more than a quiet country life. Jessica, the runaway, a communist and fighter for social change. The Mitfords became myth in their own time: the great wits and beauties of their age, they were immoderate in their passions for ideas and people. As noted by editor Charlotte Mosley (Diana's niece), not since the Brontes has a single family written so much about themselves, or been so written about. *Due Sep*

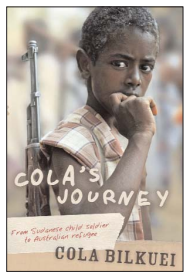


Cola's Journey

Cola BILKUEI

256pp Tp \$33.00

In 1987, Cola Bilkuei, a young boy from the Dinka tribe in southern Sudan, was forcibly recruited into the Sudan People's Liberation Army. For three months, he and hundreds of other children from his tribe were marched to a military training camp inside Ethiopia. Once they arrived at the camp, exhausted and terrified, they were systematically brutalised as SPLA officers began to turn them into child soldiers. The children were taught how to handle a rifle, how to fight and how to kill. Yet Cola refused to be brutalised. He knew there was a better life somewhere and was determined to find it. After two years, he escaped from the camp and began an extraordinary odyssey down the length of Africa. Without money, a passport or official papers, he fled back into Sudan, then travelled to Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa. Finally, after getting accepted into a UN refugee program in South Africa, he managed to come to Australia in 2003 as a refugee. His journey from that military camp had taken him 14 years, living illegally, relying on strangers for help and scraping a living at whatever he could do, as well as teaching himself to read and write along the way. This is the story of his extraordinary journey. *Due Sep*



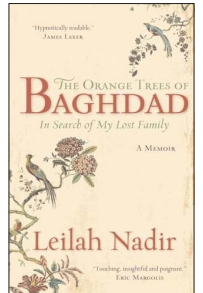
The Orange Trees of Baghdad

In Search of a Vanishing Life

Leilah NADIR

336pp Tp \$32.95

Born to an Iraqi-Christian father and a British mother, and raised in Britain and Canada, Leilah Nadir has never set foot on Iraqi soil. Distanced from her Iraqi roots through immigration and now cut off by war, the closest link she has to the nation is through her father, who left Baghdad in the 1960s to pursue his studies in England. His Iraq is of mythical origins; his beginnings are in a garden at the family home that now lies vacant. Through her father's memories, Leilah recounts her family's lost story, from Iraq at the turn of the 20th century during the British occupation, to the Iraq-Iran War and the Gulf War. Through her cousins still living in Baghdad, she experiences the thunderous explosions of the present-day conflict. *Due Sep*



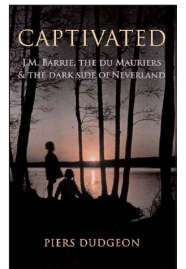
Captivated

J M Barrie, the Du Mauriers and the Dark Side of Neverland

Piers DUDGEON

320pp Tp \$34.95

This is a true story of genius and possession. The background is the turn of the century, when a late-19th century world of mesmerists, psychics, trancers and table-turners gave way to a new 20th century age of psychology. The central character is the creator of Peter Pan, the famous novelist and playwright J M Barrie, a man tormented by inner demons since childhood. Barrie developed a consuming interest in the du Maurier family, beginning with George du Maurier, author of *Trilby*, a bestselling novel featuring his creation Svengali, which showed how it is possible, by means of hypnosis, for one person to gain control over the mind of another. Barrie made his move on the du Maurier family immediately after George died, assuming George's mantle and using his ideas to dominate both his daughter Sylvia and his son Gerald. Soon Barrie was 'Uncle Jim' to Sylvia's five sons and Gerald's three daughters, playing romping games of adventure and make-believe, and inviting the children into the transcendental world of Neverland. Four of the boys (the 'lost boys' of Peter Pan) and one of the girls (the imaginative tomboy Daphne) were captivated. Dudgeon tells how these children, whom Barrie would not have grow up, were lost to breakdown, suicide or early death. Daphne du Maurier, author of *Rebecca*, emerges as the surprise companion of the 'lost boys' and the enigmatic chronicler of their fate. This extraordinary story is about writing and the world of the imagination: it is a singular example of art being used not only to imitate life, but to darkly transform it.

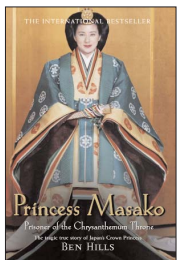


Princess Masako

Ben HILLS

306pp Pb \$24.95

Diana, Princess of Wales, had it easy compared with another lonely princess, Crown Princess Masako of Japan! A thoroughly modern woman in collision with an ancient and unreformed system, Masako is a brilliant woman who sacrificed her career to marry a love-struck royal, Crown Prince Naruhito. Hills steals a fascinating look behind the 'Chrysanthemum Curtain' into the arcane world of the Japanese royal family. This dramatic portrayal of a modern-day oriental fairytale turned on its head details how Masako Owada struggles with the daily pressures of life in Japan's imperial court. *Due Sep*

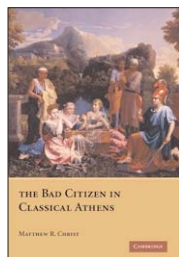


The Bad Citizen in

Classical Athens

Matthew CHRIST 264pp Pb \$49.95

This book provides a fresh perspective on Athenian democracy by exploring bad citizenship, both as a reality and an idea, in classical Athens, from the late 6th century to 322. If called upon, Athenian citizens were expected to support their city through military service and financial outlay. These obligations were fundamental to Athenian understandings of citizenship and it was essential to the city's wellbeing that citizens fulfil them. The ancient sources, however, are full of allegations that individuals have avoided these duties or performed them deficiently. Claims of draft evasion, cowardice on the battlefield and avoidance of liturgies and the war tax are common. By examining the nature and scope of bad citizenship in Athens and the city's responses (institutional and ideological) to the phenomenon, this study illuminates the relationship between citizen and city under the Athenian democracy, and more broadly, the tension between private interests and public authority in human societies.



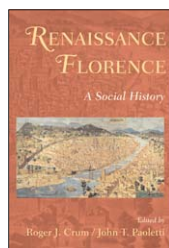
Renaissance Florence

A Social History

Roger CRUM & John PAOLETT (Eds)

692pp Pb \$75.00

This book examines the social history of Florence during the critical period of its growth and development in the early modern period, from the 14th to 16th centuries. Treating the city, its art and its rituals, the contributors to this volume consider well-known objects, monuments, sites and events in the vivifying context of a variety of spaces, which are here understood as a dimension of physical, psychological, religious and political perceptions for the city of Florence during the Renaissance. The volume provides a multi-dimensional view of Florence as it evolved into an economic powerhouse and dynamic centre of artistic achievement, as well as the setting for political and religious struggles. It also demonstrates how permeable boundaries between the disciplines of history and art history have become.

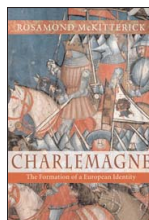


Charlemagne

The Formation of a European Identity

Rosamond McKITTERICK 478pp Pb \$39.95

Charlemagne is often claimed as the greatest ruler in Europe before Napoleon. In this magisterial new study, McKitterick re-examines Charlemagne the ruler and his reputation. She analyses the narrative representations of Charlemagne produced after his death, and thereafter focuses on the evidence from Charlemagne's lifetime concerning the creation of the Carolingian dynasty and the growth of the kingdom, the court and the royal household, communications and identities in the Frankish realm in the context of government, and Charlemagne's religious and cultural strategies. She offers a completely fresh and critical examination of the contemporary sources and in so doing transforms our understanding of the development of the Carolingian empire, the formation of Carolingian political identity, and the astonishing changes effected throughout Charlemagne's 46-year period of rule.

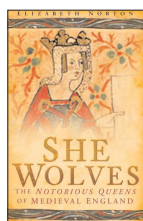


She Wolves

The Notorious Queens of Medieval England

Elizabeth NORTON 256pp Hb \$59.95

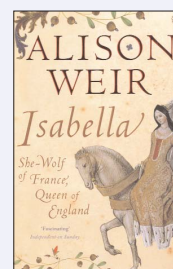
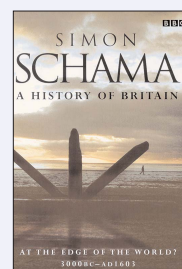
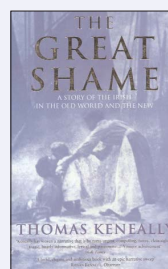
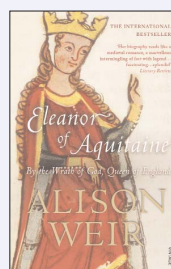
This book deals with the bad girls of England's medieval royal dynasties, the queens who earned themselves the reputation of being somehow notorious. Some of them are well known and have been the subject of biography, such as Eleanor of Aquitaine, Emma of Normandy, Isabella of France and Anne Boleyn. Others have not been written about outside academic journals. The appeal of these notorious queens, apart from their shared taste for witchcraft, murder, adultery and incest, is that because they were notorious, they attracted a great deal of attention during their lifetimes. Norton reveals much about the role of the medieval queen and the evolution of the role that led, ultimately, to the reign of Elizabeth I and a new concept of queenship.



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Elizabeth	David Starkey	\$27.95	\$22.35
Nelson: A Dream of Glory	John Sugden	\$30.00	\$24.00
Charlemagne	Derek Wilson	\$30.00	\$24.00

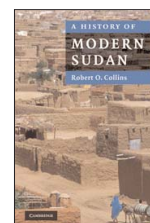


A History of Modern Sudan

Robert COLLINS

360pp Hb \$45.00

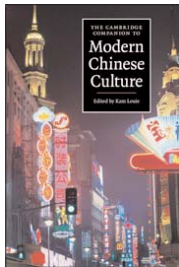
Sudan's modern history has been consumed by revolution and civil war. The country attracted international attention in the 1990s as a breeding ground of Islamist terrorism and recently tensions between the prosperous centre and the periphery, between north and south, have exploded in Darfur. In his latest book, Collins, a frequent visitor and veteran scholar of the region, traces Sudan's history across 200 years to show how many of the tragedies of today have been planted in its past. The story begins with the conquest of Muhammad Ali in 1821 and moves through the Anglo-Egyptian condominium to independence in 1956. It then focuses on Sudanese rule in the post-independence years when the fragile democracy established by the British collapsed under sectarian strife. It is these religious and ethnic divides, the author contends, in conjunction with failed leadership, that have prolonged and sustained the conflict in Sudan.



The Cambridge Companion to Modern Chinese Culture

Kam LOUIE (Ed) 424pp Pb \$55.00

At the start of the 21st century, China is now poised to become a major global power. Understanding its culture is more important than ever before for Western audiences. But for many, China remains a mysterious and exotic country. This Companion explains key aspects of modern Chinese culture without assuming prior knowledge of China or the Chinese language. It acknowledges the interconnected nature of the different cultural forms, from 'high culture' such as literature, religion and philosophy, to more popular issues such as sport, cinema, performance and the internet. Each chapter is written by a world expert in the field.



A Concise History of Sweden

Neil KENT 314pp Pb \$39.95

A comprehensive history of Sweden is much needed. Kent sweeps through Sweden's history from the Stone Age to the present day. Early coverage includes Viking hegemony, the Scandinavian Union, the Reformation and Sweden's political zenith as Europe's greatest superpower in the 17th century. Later chapters explore the Swedish Enlightenment, royal absolutism, the commitment to military neutrality and Pan-Scandinavianism. Kent brings his account up to date by focusing on recent developments: the rise of Social Democracy, the establishment of the welfare state, the country's acceptance of membership in the European Union and its progressive ecological programme. The book successfully combines the politics, economics and social and cultural mores of one of the world's most successfully functioning and humane societies.

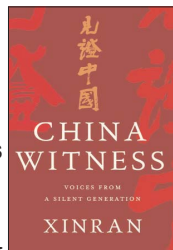


China Witness

Voices from a Silent Generation

XINRAN 352pp Tp \$34.95

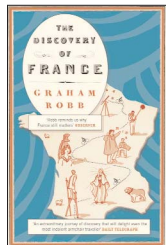
In 1912, 5,000 years of feudal rule ended in China. Warlords, Western businessmen, soldiers, missionaries and Japanese all ruled China. They exploited and fought both one another and the Chinese. In 1949, Mao Zedong came to power. This is a personal testimony from a normally silent generation, a huge, major work of oral history that sums up, in their own words, the vast changes which have overtaken China and its people over a century. The book is at once a journey by the author through time and through her own country, and a memorial to an extraordinary generation who have lived through war and civil war, invasion, revolution, famine, modernisation and Westernisation, and have survived into the 21st century to tell the story of their times. In the lifetimes of these men and women, China has transformed from a largely peasant, agricultural country of more than 1.3 billion people into a modern state. These are ordinary people - a herb woman at a market, retired teachers, a legendary 'bandit' woman, Red Guards, oil pioneers, an acrobat, a naval general, a shoe mender, a lantern maker, taxi drivers and others - from across the vast country, now in their 70s, 80s and 90s, and whose memories will soon die with them. *Due Sep*



The Discovery of France

Graham ROBB 480pp Pb \$25.00

We may think we know its history, its culture and its people from long-ago lessons at school. However, the notion of "the French" as one nation is relatively recent and actually rather misleading; in order to discover the "real" past of France, it's not only necessary to go back in time, but also to go at a slower pace than modern life generally allows. The result of 14,000 miles covered by bicycle (and four years spent in the library), here, at last, is a book that tells the whole story. *Due Sep*



The Rise and Fall of the Great Empires

Andrew TAYLOR 256pp Hb \$45.00

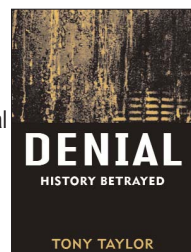
Taylor provides lucid and elegant descriptions of individual empires, characterises the power structures, and the social and cultural values at the heart of each, and identifies reasons for their rise and eventual fall. This book also looks at some recurrent themes in the history of empire: the ways in which imperial structures collapse, their reliance on single, powerful individuals, and the way they cope with the problem of disparate peoples and religions within their borders. *Due Sep*

Denial

History Betrayed

Tony TAYLOR 384pp Pb \$34.95

Taylor surveys major cases in 20th and 21st century historical denial that illustrate the nature of prejudice and how it relates to techniques of the instigators of denial, including their use of popular media and the internet. Among the issues canvassed are denial and the Armenian atrocities as a governmental phenomenon; Holocaust denial in Australia and overseas as a racist phenomenon; Stalinist denial by Marxist historians post-1945 as an ideological phenomenon; Japanese ultra-nationalist denial from the 1960s to date as a cultural phenomenon; Serbian denial of 1990s Balkan atrocities as an ethnic phenomenon, and others. Denial is also now a major online industry: hate / denial / conspiracy sites have proliferated in the past 10 years, a development complicated by new technological developments, such as blogging, the strategic diversion of readers from apparently legitimate sites to racist sites, and the jamming of mainstream sites with denial messages.



What is America?

A Short History of the New World Order

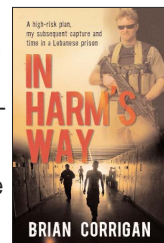
Ronald WRIGHT 304pp Tp \$34.95

The USA is now the world's lone superpower, whose deeds could make or break this century. For better and worse, America has Americanised the world. How did a marginal frontier society, in a mere two centuries, become the de facto ruler of the world? Why do America's great achievements in democracy, prosperity and civil rights now seem threatened by forces within itself? Written in Wright's captivating style and brimming with insight into history and human behaviour, this book shows how this came to pass; how the US, which regards itself as the most modern country on earth, is also deeply archaic, a stronghold not only of religious fundamentalism, but of 'modern' beliefs in limitless progress and a universal mission that have fallen under suspicion elsewhere in the west, a rethinking driven by two World Wars and the reckless looting of our planet. *Due Sep*

In Harm's Way

Brian CORRIGAN with Jeff APTER 288pp Tp \$33.00

In late 2006, Brian Corrigan led an SAS team into Lebanon to retrieve the two small children of Melissa Hawach. The children - Cedar, 3, and Hannah, 5 - were successfully reunited with their mother, but Brian and another member of his team were detained at the airport and thrown into a Lebanese prison for the next three months. This is Brian's story of what really happened in Lebanon, their daring rescue mission and subsequent capture, as well as the inside story of life in Roumieh (Beirut's notorious maximum security prison) and how he used his innate courage, mental discipline and military training to stay focused and alive. It is also a fascinating account of the life of a modern-day soldier who has served in Australia's elite airborne unit in East Timor and worked as a private security contractor at the height of the insurgency in Iraq, and now works in conflict zones around the world. *Due Sep*



A Choice of Enemies

America Confronts the Middle East

Lawrence FREEDMAN 640pp Tp \$35.00

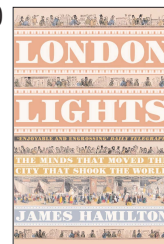
The US is locked into three prolonged conflicts, without much hope of early resolution. Iran is pursuing a nuclear program; the aftermath of the overthrow of Saddam Hussein has seen unrelenting inter-communal violence; the Taliban have got back into Afghanistan. George W Bush will almost certainly leave office without solving any of these big foreign policy issues that have defined his presidency. Freedman, one of the UK's most distinguished historians of 20th century military and political strategy, teases out the roots of each engagement over the last 30 years and demonstrates with clarity and scholarship the influence of these conflicts upon each other. *Due Sep*

London Lights

The Minds that Moved the City that Shook the World

James HAMILTON 416pp Pb \$30.00

From the time of Nelson's death at Trafalgar to the opening of the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park nearly 50 years later, London spread like a disease across the fields of Middlesex and Surrey. Foul and dangerous though it was to inhabit, in these decades London developed a new confidence in the intellectual purpose and lucrative promise of art, technology and science. This book is about the men and women who, through their genius and courage, luck and misfortune, anger and charm, put London at the cutting edge of cultural change. They worked in basements and drawing rooms, in studios and museums, in learned societies and in the squalor of the debtors' prison. Charles Babbage created his calculating machines; John Martin devised a new system of clean water supply for London; John Mayall and Antoine Claudet perfected the daguerreotype and Michael Faraday harnessed electricity. They argued and fought, loved and envied, searched and dreamed, to convert the laws of nature into the purposes of life. *Due Sep*

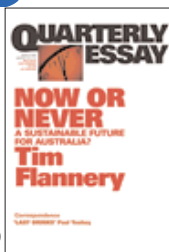


Now or Never

A Sustainable Future for Australia? Quarterly Essay #31

Tim FLANNERY 130pp Pb \$15.95

Professor Tim Flannery investigates the latest climate science and the challenges facing Australia and the world. He looks at what the Rudd government needs to do if the nation is to play its part in averting a global catastrophe. This is an essential intervention, an invitation to debate and a reflection from Australia's leading thinker and writer on the natural world. *Due Sep*

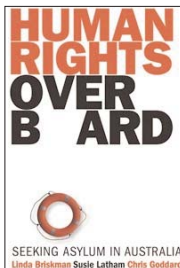


Human Rights Overboard

Seeking Asylum in Australia

Linda BRISKMAN & Chris GODDARD 448pp Tp \$32.95

In 2005, in the wake of the Cornelia Rau scandal, a citizen's inquiry was established to bear witness to events in Australian immigration-detention facilities. Until then, the federal government had refused to conduct a broad-ranging investigation into immigration detention in Australia, and the operations within detention centres had been largely shrouded in official secrecy. The People's Inquiry into Detention (as it came to be called) heard heartbreaking evidence about asylum-seekers' journeys to Australia, their detention process, life in detention and life after detention. In total, around 200 people testified to the inquiry, and a similar number of written submissions were received. This powerful book draws together, for the first time, the oral testimony and written submissions from the inquiry that stands as an indelible record of one of Australia's bleakest legacies. Clearly and comprehensively presented, this is a haunting journey guided by voices from every side of the fence: former immigration detainees, refugee advocates, lawyers, doctors, psychiatrists and former detention and immigration staff. Together, their stories bear testimony to a humanitarian disaster that Australia caused, and that must be remembered so that it never happens again. *Due Sep*

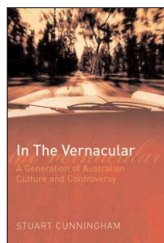


In the Vernacular

A Generation of Australian Culture and Controversy

Stuart CUNNINGHAM 300pp Tp \$45.00

Cunningham brings together important writing over a 20-year period from one of Australia's leading scholars of media, culture and policy. This insightful book engages with the notion of Australia's lack of a sense of cultural history, and the ways in which critical engagement with it do not complement or reinforce each other. It reflects upon Australia's still-neglected film heritage, the achievements of Australian television in recent decades and engages with the global debate on multi-ethnic societies. Cunningham presents this history to the present, exploring the ideas that industrial and social trends in media, communications and culture are outstripping the frameworks that were erected to deal with them. *Due Sep*



Advance Australia... Where?

Hugh MACKAY 368pp Pb \$25.00

16 years ago, Mackay wrote the bestseller *Reinventing Australia* that analysed, with forensic skill, what was happening to our society. Now he takes another long, hard look at us. While we enjoy unprecedented levels of prosperity and the promise of more to come, we are still battling an epidemic of depression, taking on record levels of debt, and yearning for a deeper sense of meaning in our lives. While many Australians complain about feeling powerless and isolated, Mackay sees some encouraging signs that we are learning how to absorb the impact of the revolutionary changes that have reshaped us. *Due Sep*



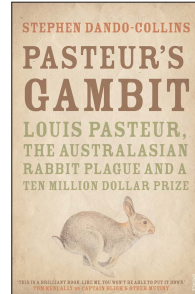
Pasteur's Gambit

Louis Pasteur, the Australian Rabbit Plague and a Ten Million Dollar Prize

Stephen DANDO-COLLINS

Tp \$34.95

In 1887, the desperate NSW Government of Sir Henry Parkes advertised an international competition for a biological cure for the rabbit plague then ravaging the farms of Australia and New Zealand. The competition, with a prize equivalent to \$10 million today, would attract 1,500 entries and generate a sensational episode in Australasian history that combined science, subterfuge and scandal. In Paris, famous microbiologist Dr Louis Pasteur, struggling to raise the funds to open his prestigious Pasteur Institute, saw the Australasian rabbit competition as the answer to his financial prayers as he was convinced he had the biological remedy to the rabbit plague. To Australia came Pasteur's dashing 25-year-old nephew, Adrien Loir, sent to prove Pasteur's remedy and return home within six weeks with the prize money. But Pasteur had not reckoned on sabotage by his greatest scientific rival, or on the self-interest of the competition's Australasian judges, or the private agendas of local politicians. Young Loir, determined not to fail his uncle, was in for the fight of his life. Featuring a cast of characters ranging from great names in science to legendary French actress Sarah Bernhardt and a fast-talking Sydney larrikin, this is the previously untold true story of an amazing episode in both scientific and national history. *Due Sep*



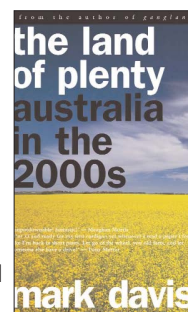
The Land of Plenty

Australia in the 2000s

Mark DAVIS

464pp Pb \$36.95

The book that tells the story of Australia today: how we got here and where we're going. A blistering exposé and manifesto for every Australian. Australia, Davis argues, is built on a dream. A unique democratic experiment, we were once world leaders in developing a uniquely pluralist society. But this has become a dream unfulfilled; a dream betrayed. Davis explains how we have gone backwards and betrayed our national ethos, why this has happened and how to rebuild it. But unlike other recent books on Australia today, this is written entirely from the perspective of suburban Australia. Like Donald Horne's seminal *The Lucky Country*, this book assumes that the suburb is the fundamental social unit of Australian society and that all political change will be measured in terms of the anxieties and aspirations of the millions of Australians who live there, either in major cities or increasingly suburbanised country towns. *Due Sep*



1942

Australia's Greatest Peril

Bob WURTH

480pp Tp \$35.00

1942 was the year of Australia's greatest peril, as Darwin was destroyed by bombing, Australian ships were torpedoed within sight of our coast, midget Japanese submarines attacked shipping in Sydney Harbour and the Japanese army invaded New Guinea on its inexorable march south. This is the real story of the genuine and imminent threat to Australia in that fateful year. On the beautiful Inland Sea of Japan, the heartland of the Imperial Japanese Navy, and in frenetic wartime Tokyo, zealous staff officers and their illogical admirals debated the invasion of an almost defenceless nation. The Imperial Japanese Army, meanwhile, opposed the attack, foreseeing a looming military quagmire. In Australia, Allied defence chiefs all but dismissed the chances of holding Darwin. For months, Australia's fate hung in the balance. This is a story of desperate bravery and criminal stupidity. Most of all, it is the story of Australians left high and dry, under the looming shadow of a terrible invasion, and the steps that an inexperienced leader, John Curtin, took to save his country in its darkest days. *Due Sep*



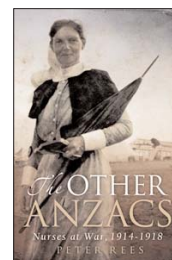
The Other Anzacs

Nurses at War 1914-1918

Peter REES

Hb \$49.95

"I had my right arm under a leg, which I thought was (the patient's), but when I lifted it I found to my horror that it was a loose leg with a boot and a puttee on it. It was one of the orderly's legs, which had been blown off and had landed on the patient's bed. The next day, they found the trunk about 20 yards away." By the end of The Great War, 45 Australian and New Zealand nurses had died on overseas service and over 200 had been decorated. These were women who left for war on an adventure, but were soon confronted with remarkable challenges for which their civilian lives could never have prepared them. They were there for the horrors of Gallipoli and they were there for the savagery of the Western Front. Within 12 hours of the slaughter at Anzac Cove, they had over 500 horrifically injured patients to tend on one crammed hospital ship, and scores of deaths on each of the harrowing days that followed. Every night was a nightmare. Their strength and humanity were remarkable. Using diaries and letters, Rees takes us into the hospital camps and the wards and the tent surgeries on the edge of some of the most horrific battlefronts of human history. But he also allows the friendships and loves of these courageous and compassionate women to enrich their experiences, and ours. *Due Sep*

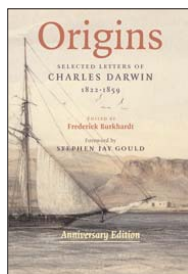


Origins

Selected Letters of Charles Darwin, 1822-1859

Charles DARWIN, Frederick BURKHARDT (Ed)
286pp Hb \$39.95

This fascinating selection of letters offers a glimpse of his daily experiences, scientific observations, personal concerns and friendships. Beginning with a charming set of letters at the age of 12, through his university years in Edinburgh and Cambridge up to the publication in 1859 of his most famous work, **On the Origin of Species**, these letters chart one of the most exciting periods of Darwin's life, including the voyage of the Beagle and subsequent studies which led him to develop his theory of natural selection. Darwin's vivid writing style enables the reader to see the world through his eyes, as he matures from grubby schoolboy in Shropshire to one of the most controversial thinkers of modern times.

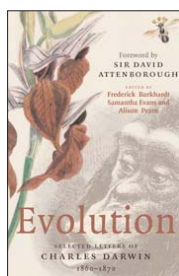


Evolution

Selected Letters of Charles Darwin, 1860-1870

Charles DARWIN, Frederick BURKHARDT (Ed) 336pp Hb \$39.95

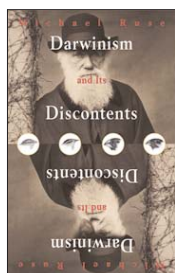
With a foreword by Sir David Attenborough, this is a fascinating insight into Darwin's life as he first directly addressed the issues of humanity's place in nature, and the consequences of his ideas for religious belief. Incorporating previously unpublished material, this volume includes letters written by Darwin, and also those written to him by friends and scientific colleagues worldwide, by critics who tried to stamp out his ideas, and admirers who helped them to spread. They take up the story of Darwin's life in 1860, in the immediate aftermath of the publication of **On the Origin of Species**, and carry it through one of the most intense and productive decades of his career, to the eve of publication of *Descent of Man* in 1871.



Darwinism and its Discontents

Michael RUSE 326pp Pb \$36.95

Presenting an ardent defence of Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, this book offers a clear and comprehensive exposition of Darwin's thinking. Ruse brings the story up to date, examining the origins of life, the fossil record and the mechanism of natural selection. Rival theories are explored, from punctuated equilibrium to human evolution (including the recently found 'hobbits', *Homo floresiensis*). The philosophical and religious implications of Darwinism are discussed, including a discussion of Creationism and its modern-day offshoot, Intelligent Design Theory. Ruse draws upon the most recent discoveries, writing with a minimum of jargon in order to appeal to all readers, from professional biologists to those concerned that Darwinism is a naturalistic religion forced on school children despite their own Christian convictions. Openly revealing his beliefs, Ruse presents readers with all the information and critical tools they need to make an informed decision on evolutionary theory.

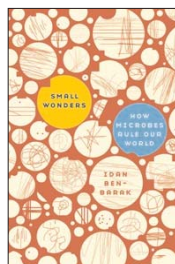


Small Wonders

How Microbes Rule our World

Idan BEN-BARAK 240pp Pb \$26.95

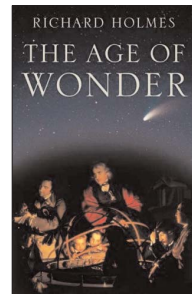
Ben-Barak takes the reader on a fantastic voyage to the microscopic, but massively influential, world of microbiology - a strange and dangerous world where oxygen is a lethal poison, sulphur is a delicious treat, deception is a basic survival skill and perfectly good alcohol is simply thrown away. He wears his learning lightly as he introduces us to the amazing lives of genes and proteins, bugs and viruses, and the myriad ways in which they interact to shape life on earth. On the journey, we learn about the teamwork required to rot human teeth; the microbe superheroes who feed on radioactive waste; suicide genes; the origins of diseases and antibiotic resistance; and the numerous respects in which microbes benefit human life - from manufacturing food and medicine, to mining gold, finding oil, cleaning up the mess we make and generally rendering the earth habitable. *Due Sep*



The Age of Wonder

Richard HOLMES 380pp Hb \$60.00

This book opens with Joseph Banks stepping onto a Tahitian beach in 1769, hoping to discover Paradise. Many other voyages of discovery swiftly follow, while Banks, now President of the Royal Society in London, becomes our narrative guide to what truly emerges as an 'Age of Wonder'. Banks introduces us to the two scientific figures who dominate the book: astronomer William Herschel and chemist Humphry Davy. Herschel's tireless dedication to the stars, assisted (and perhaps rivalled) by his comet-finding sister Caroline, changed forever the public conception of the solar system, the Milky Way galaxy and the meaning of the universe itself. Davy first shocked the scientific community with his near-suicidal gas experiments in Bristol, then went on to save thousands of lives with his Safety Lamp and established British chemistry as the leading professional science in Europe. Holmes proposes a radical vision of science before Darwin, exploring the earliest ideas of deep time and deep space, the creative rivalry with the French scientific establishment, and the startling impact of discovery on great writers and poets. Holmes shows how great ideas and experiments are born out of lonely passion, how scientific discoveries (and errors) are made, how intense relationships are forged and broken by research, and how religious faith and scientific truth collide. *Due Sep*

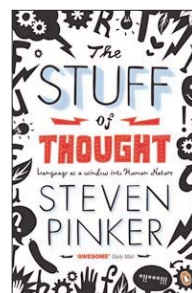


The Stuff of Thought

Language as a Window into Human Nature

Steven PINKER 512pp Pb \$26.95

Why do so many swear words involve topics like sex, bodily functions or the divine? Why do some children's names thrive, while others fall out of favour? Why do we threaten and bribe and seduce in such elaborate, often comical, ways? How can a choice of metaphor damn a politician or start a war? And why do we rarely say what we actually mean? Language, as Pinker shows, is at the heart of our lives. Through the way we use it - whether to inform, persuade, entertain or manipulate - we can glimpse the very essence of what makes us human. *Due Sep*

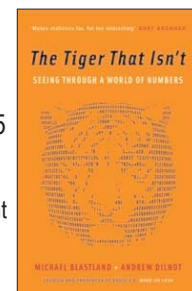


The Tiger That Isn't

Seeing Through a World of Numbers

Michael BLASTLAND & Andrew DILNOT 528pp Pb \$23.95

Numbers have become the all-powerful language of public argument. Too often that power is abused and the numbers bamboozle. This book shows how to see straight through them and seize the power for yourself. Public spending, health risks, environmental disasters, who is rich, who is poor, Aids or war deaths, pensions, teenage offenders, the best and worst schools and hospitals and immigration - life comes in numbers. The trick to seeing through them is strikingly simple. It is to apply something everyone has - the lessons of their own experience. Using vivid and everyday images and ideas, this book shows how close to hand insight and understanding can be, and how we can all use what is familiar to make sense of what is baffling. It is also a revelation - of how little the principles are understood, even by many who claim to know better. *Due Sep*

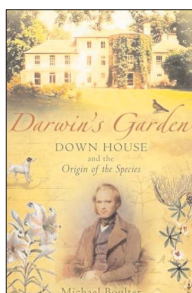


Darwin's Garden

Down House and the Origin of the Species

Michael BOULTER 320pp Pb \$54.95

Five years after returning from his trip around the world on *HMS Beagle*, the young Charles Darwin became the owner of Down House in Kent, where he moved his growing family, far away from the turmoil and distractions of London. He would live here for the rest of his life. It would become the place where he began work on his masterpiece **On the Origin of Species**. For almost 20 years, he used the garden around him as his laboratory. In the orchard, he conducted experiments on pollination. He built a dovecote where he could breed new strains of pigeons that helped him understand the questions of generation. On his daily walk along the sandbank, he observed how plants competed for survival. In his heated greenhouse, he conducted experiments on orchids and primulas. In solitude, he was also able to struggle with the ideas of evolution that had haunted him since his voyage, and give him the courage to publish his revolutionary new ideas. *Due Sep*



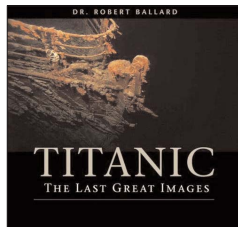
Books - Where Ideas Grow

Titanic

The Last Great Images

Dr Robert BALLARD 192pp Hb \$62.00

Over 70 years after the great ocean liner sank, marine geologist Robert Ballard discovered the wreck of the *Titanic* 12,500 feet beneath the surface of the icy North Atlantic. Now Ballard presents the world with an opportunity to live the story of the famous ship through his amazing last great images, before the remains of the *Titanic* are gone forever. This is a story told in rusted, twisted metal and debris, but it is also a human story told in a porcelain doll's face, an empty shoe and an abandoned derby hat. This book maps the wreck of the ship from a variety of perspectives to give a completely new picture of the triumph and tragedy that was *Titanic*. Ballard provides the clearest, most accurate view of the ship we have ever seen. In crisply detailed underwater photography, the disintegrating ruins and shattered pieces reveal the pride of workmanship, a rigidly defined class system and indelible images of terror and courage. *Due Sep*

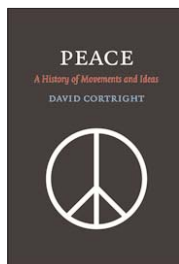


Peace

A History of Movements and Ideas

David CORTRIGHT 392pp Pb \$49.95

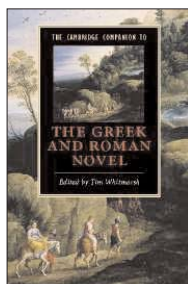
Veteran scholar and peace activist David Cortright offers a definitive history of the human striving for peace and an analysis of its religious and intellectual roots. This authoritative, balanced and highly readable volume traces the rise of peace advocacy and internationalism from their origins in earlier centuries through the mass movements of recent decades: the pacifist campaigns of the 1930s, the Vietnam anti-war movement and the waves of disarmament activism that peaked in the 1980s. Also explored are the underlying principles of peace - non-violence, democracy, social justice and human rights - all placed within a framework of 'realistic pacifism'. Cortright brings the story up-to-date by examining opposition to the Iraq War and responses to the War on Terror. This is history with a modern twist, set in the context of current debates about 'the responsibility to protect', nuclear proliferation, Darfur and conflict transformation.



The Cambridge Companion to the Greek and Roman Novel

Tim WHITMARSH (Ed) 412pp Pb \$59.95

The Greek and Roman novels of Petronius, Apuleius, Longus, Heliodorus and others have been cherished for millennia, but never more so than now. This Companion contains 19 original essays by an international cast of experts in the field. The emphasis is upon the critical interpretation of the texts within historical settings, both in antiquity and in the later generations that have been, and continue to be, inspired by them. All the central issues of current scholarship are addressed: sexuality, cultural identity, class, religion, politics, narrative, style, readership and much more. Four sections cover the cultural context of the novels, their contents, literary form and their reception in classical antiquity and beyond.

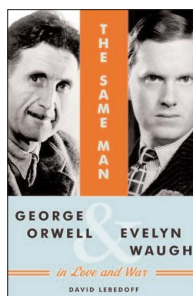


The Same Man

George Orwell and Evelyn Waugh in Love and War

David LEBEDOFF 288pp Pb \$29.95

Orwell and Waugh were born in 1903 and there the resemblance seems (at first) to end. The savagely sarcastic Waugh was rich and famous in his 20s and a champion social climber who married into the aristocracy and became a country squire, a strict conservative and devout Catholic. His life was a succession of parties with the most glamorous people of his generation. In between his wild revels, he managed to write peerless comic novels and a great elegy to lost splendour, *Brideshead Revisited*. Orwell was a tall, gaunt man who dedicated his life to fighting the English class system. He fought fascism in Spain and, under conditions of severe adversity, wrote essays as great as any in the language. He died young, at 46, and left behind two of the most widely read books in all of literature, *Animal Farm* and *1984*. Yet, all appearances to the contrary, the party-loving snob and the dour socialist were in many ways the same man. They were among the few of their peers who saw what the future would bring. And they hated it. Their lives were dedicated to warning us about what was coming - a world of material wealth but few values, a pointless existence without tradition or community or common purposes; lives measured in dollars, not sense. Lebedoff tells their parallel stories with warmth, humour and a fresh eye towards the past and present.



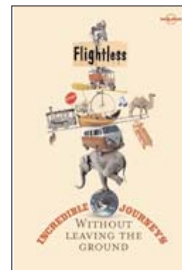
Flightless

Incredible Journeys

Without Leaving the Ground

LONELY PLANET 232pp Pb \$24.95

Is getting there really half the fun? The 26 real-life stories in this extraordinary collection explore the complexities, delights and insights of surface travel, from walking to pedal boating, from camels to cargo ships and anything from two to four wheels, or no wheels at all. Ever wondered just how far a tuk-tuk can take you? Who do you call when the ice cracks as you're walking across the Bering Straits? Do you know how long it takes to rollerblade across the US? Ever considered riding a pizza-delivery bike through South America? Some of these writers explore a single destination, be it Oman, Japan or Italy, while others cross whole continents or circumnavigate the world. This inspiring and eclectic anthology includes contributions from well-known travel writers such as Tony Wheeler and Rory Stewart, environmentally responsible travel-bloggers and record-setting expeditioners. So sit back, relax and let your imagination do the flying.

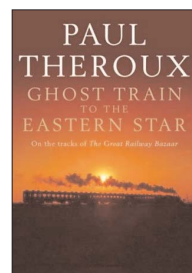


Ghost Train to the Eastern Star

On the Tracks of the Great Railway Bazaar

Paul THEROUX 512pp Tp \$35.00

Theroux retraces the steps he took 30 years ago in the bestselling and hugely acclaimed *The Great Railway Bazaar* (Pb \$22.95). From the Eurostar in London, he once again sets out on a journey to the East, travelling overland through Eastern Europe, India and Asia. Infused with the changes that have shaped the exterior landscape, and enriched with developments to his own perceptions and psychology, this is as rich with incident and local colour as any of Theroux's most loved travel books. *Due Sep*

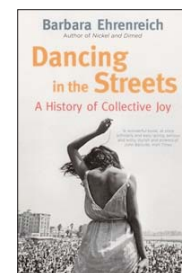


Dancing in the Streets

A History of Collective Joy

Barbara EHRENREICH 240pp Pb \$24.95

Ehrenreich uncovers the origins of communal celebration in human biology and culture. She discovers that the same elements come up in every human culture throughout history: a love of masking, carnival, music-making and dance. Although 16th century Europeans began to view mass festivities as foreign and savage, Ehrenreich shows that they were indigenous to the West, from the ancient Greeks' worship of Dionysus to the medieval practices of Christianity as a danced religion. Exhilarating in its scholarly range, humane, witty and impassioned, this book will generate much debate and soul searching.

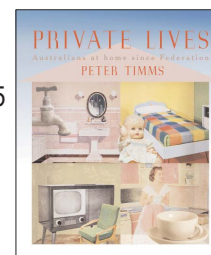


Private Lives

Australians at home since Federation

Peter TIMMS 256pp Pb \$49.95

Beginning at the front door, Timms explores the suburban dwelling, room by room, tracing the evolution of its furnishings and fittings, the technological and social developments affecting its layout and design, and the many ways people have organised their work and leisure activities, be it in a Kings Cross flat in the 30s or an outer-suburban McMansion today. Five different kitchens are carefully reconstructed, from 1910 to 2007, to map the development of cooking equipment, the rituals of dining and the revolution in women's work schedules. In the bedroom, Timms looks at everything from mattress fillings and the symbolic role of the bed to changing sex-roles and child-rearing practices. The labour involved in doing laundry 100 years ago is described in all its hair-raising detail! Plumbing, he says, more than electricity, TV or computers, is the most important technological advance of the past 200 years. *Due Sep*



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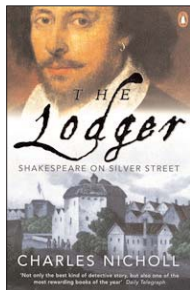
The Lodger

Shakespeare on Silver Street

Charles NICHOLL

400pp Pb \$26.95

In 1612, Shakespeare gave evidence at the Court of Requests in Westminster. This was the only occasion his spoken words were recorded. The case seems routine - a dispute over an unpaid marriage-dowry - but it opens up an unexpected window into the dramatist's famously obscure life-story. Nicholl applies a powerful biographical magnifying glass to this fascinating episode in Shakespeare's life. Marshalling evidence from a wide variety of sources, including previously unknown documentary material on the Mountjoys, he conjures up a detailed and compelling description of the circumstances in which Shakespeare lived and worked, and in which he wrote such plays as *Othello*, *Measure for Measure* and *King Lear*. *Due Sep*



Distraction

A Philosopher's Guide to Being Free

Damon YOUNG

192pp Pb \$26.95

We all know what it is to be distracted, a feeling that our attention is not quite where it should be. While it is not a new complaint, modern life is plagued by distractions. At work and at home, in relationships and in the bedroom, our attention is often torn between one thing and another. What does it mean to be distracted and why? In this insightful romp through the history of philosophy, Young shows how a patient, sensitive and thoughtful attention to the world can be very rewarding. He suggests that the opposite of a life of distraction is one of genuine freedom. *Due Sep*

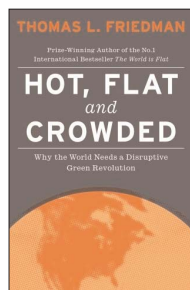
Hot, Flat and Crowded

Why the World Needs a Disruptive Green Revolution

Thomas FREIDMAN

448pp Hb \$49.95

Friedman's bestseller *The World is Flat* (Pb \$26.95) has helped millions of readers see globalisation in a new way. Now he brings a fresh outlook to the crises of destabilising climate change and rising competition for energy, both of which could poison our world if we don't act quickly and collectively. His argument speaks to all who are concerned about the state of the world in the global future. He proposes that an ambitious national strategy, which he calls "Geo-Greenism", is not only what we need to save the planet from overheating, it is what we need to make us all healthier, richer, more innovative, more productive and more secure. He sets out the clean-technology breakthroughs the world will need; he shows that the ET (Energy Technology) revolution will be both transformative and disruptive; and he explains why America must lead this revolution - with the first Green President and a Green New Deal, spurred by the Greenest Generation. *Due Sep*



The Blogging Revolution

Antony LOEWENSTEIN

336pp Pb \$32.95

In many countries, internet censorship has become one of the key human rights issues of the 21st century. Loewenstein conducts a searching examination of the ways the internet is threatening the rule of some of the planet's most repressive governments in countries such as Iran, Saudi Arabia, China, Cuba, Egypt and Syria. With first-hand investigative reporting, Loewenstein discovers the ways that Western multinationals are assisting the restriction of information in these countries, how bloggers are leading the charge for change and how, thanks to the Web, we in the West now have a unique insight into cultures at once radically different from, yet distinctly similar to, our own. *Due Sep*

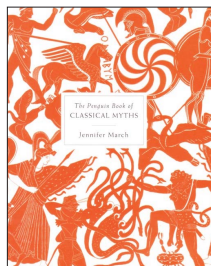


The Penguin Book of Classical Myths

Jennifer MARCH

624pp Hb \$49.95

The figures and events of classical myths underpin our culture; the constellations named after them fill the night sky. Whether it's the raging Minotaur trapped in the Cretan labyrinth or the 12 labours of Hercules, Aphrodite's birth from the waves or Zeus visiting Danae as a shower of gold, the mythology of Greece and Rome is full of unforgettable stories. The Greek tragedies - Oedipus, Medea, Antigone - are also included, as well as the Trojan wars, Odysseus and Aeneas' epic journeys and the founding of Athens and of Rome. These are the strangest tales of love, war, betrayal and heroism ever told and, while brilliantly retelling them, this book shows how they echo through the works of much later writers, from Chaucer and Shakespeare to Camus and Ted Hughes. *Due Sep*



Oxford World's Classics

Congratulations to John Englefield of Gladesville, winner of 100 Oxford World's Classics in our July promotion.

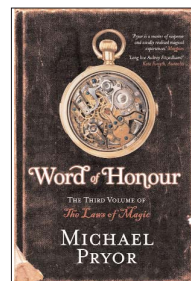
Word of Honour

Laws of Magic #3

Michael PRYOR

Pb \$17.95

Is there anything better than the next instalment in a brilliant series finally arriving on the shelves? Well of course - it's reading it! And what a treat this is - a crackling pace set from the very first, the characters developing, the plots thickening and the magic fairly lifting from the page! Aubrey and George have started at University and are thriving in the intellectual and physical challenges. Aubrey may have a solution to his problem of keeping body and soul attached to each other; an old acquaintance of Aubrey's father suddenly turns up, with dodgy schemes on his mind; George's father faces financial difficulties; a famous singer isn't who he seems to be. Mix in street urchins, Holmlander plots to destabilise the Albionish economy, a mysterious stone fragment from the past that may unlock an unknown script, and the fact that Aubrey still can't open his mouth in front of Caroline without turning into an instant moron (although there is hope for him, by the novel's end) and you have a tremendous feat of storytelling. Pick a superlative and it will fit this vastly entertaining tale. And yes, there is a fourth one being written (very quickly, Mr Pryor, I fervently hope!) *Due Sep*



Stravaganza

City of Secrets

Mary HOFFMAN

400pp Pb \$16.95

The many fans of this series will be delighted that we have a fourth volume set in 16th century Talia and contemporary London. Matt has just turned 17, struggles with dyslexia and self-esteem issues, and suddenly finds himself thrown into Padavia, an independent city-state with an important university. Luciano is studying there and he befriends the newest Stravagante. Intrigues abound - Matt finds himself acting as a printer's devil and his overseer is involved in the illicit printing of proscribed texts. And of course the di Chimici family want revenge on Luciano for the death of their former leader, whilst outlawing any worship in their cities other than that of the Roman Church - a direct attack on Ariana of Bellezza. All the pace and sophisticated plotting that fans can expect, and any weaknesses can be forgiven for the chance to return to the wonderfully conceived world of Talia! *Due Sep*



The Kid Who Named Pluto

And the Stories of Other Extraordinary Young People in Science

Marc McCUTCHEON & Jon CANNELL

85pp Pb \$11.95

As an 11-year-old girl, Venetia Burney (whose great-uncle had named the satellites of Mars) came up with the name for the recently discovered ninth planet. A sickly boy with the desire to reach space became the father of space flight; a voracious reader became a prolific author; a blind teenager invented a system for the blind to read; a young girl became the most renowned paleontologist in Britain. The stories of nine extraordinary young people who contributed to science. Ages 9-12

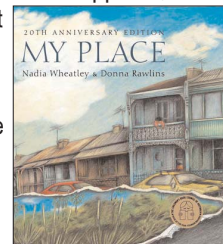


My Place

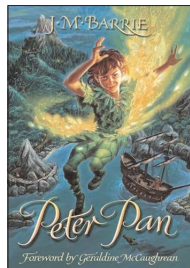
Nadia WHEATLEY & Donna RAWLINS

40pp Pb \$19.95

This is the 20th anniversary edition of what is rightfully a modern classic. Starting in 1988 and stepping back 10 years at a time, young children tell the story of their place - the house, their neighbours and the surrounding area they are familiar with. It is a marvellous way of introducing children to social history. Pencil drawings and maps give young readers visual clues to the changes of time. This edition differs from the original in the timeline at the front, which includes the Mabo and Wik judgements in 1998, and the Sorry Day this year. Primary-aged children.



When I watched *The First Tuesday Book Club* on TV in July, I was interested to hear that some of the panel thought they had read **Peter Pan**, but in fact they had not. Marieke Hardy was in that boat and, when she did read it, she thought it terrific. As I usually agree with her comments and I too felt maybe I had not read Peter Pan, I brought home a lovely edition, **The Centenary Edition of Peter Pan and Wendy**, illustrated by Australian artist Robert Ingpen (\$39.95 Hb 216pp) and I had a great time. The book is SO much better than the DVD!

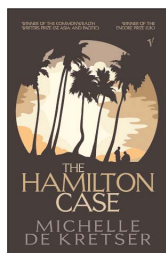


Anxious-making danger followed by reassurance, cruelty followed by kindness, familiarity and mysteriousness. Adventure galore. Read chapter by chapter, it is a truly wonderful book and I now better appreciate all those famous references. In this edition, the illustrations are both careful and intriguing. There are other choices, such as **Peter Pan with various classic illustrations of the time** edited by Cooper Eden (\$29.95 Hb 173pp), **Peter Pan illustrated by David Wyatt** (\$24.95 Hb, \$12.95 Pb), **Peter Pan illustrated by Elisa Trimby** (Penguin Pb \$9.95 256pp, Oxford University Press Pb \$12.95), as well as the OUP Worlds Classic edition **Peter Pan in Kensington Gardens with Peter and Wendy** (\$14.95 Pb 288pp).

There is also **Peter Pan and Other Plays** in OUP Classics (\$16.95 Pb 384pp), which includes *The Admirable Crichton*, *When Wendy Grew Up*, *What Every Woman Knows* and *Mary Rose* (a Ghost Story), with critical introduction and cultural contexts (of which there are many). You can also have it in Italian from Language Book Centre upstairs (\$25.95 Pb) and there is an 'official sequel', **Peter Pan in Scarlet** (\$14.95 Pb 274pp), written by famous children's author Geraldine McCaughrean and first published in 2004. Don't ignore this. Read it to see if you agree with the denouement when the children return to Neverland because dreams are leaking out and worrying them. I enjoyed it a lot.

Murray Bail has a legion of fans for his good writing and they will not be disappointed with his latest, the finely produced **The Pages** (\$34.95 Hb 199pp), which is full of wonderful similes as it struggles to discover just what makes a 'philosopher'.

Michelle de Kretser must be pleased, as her third book is on the long list for the *Man Booker Prize*! I greatly enjoyed her first two books, **The Rose Grower** and **The Hamilton Case** (both \$24.95 Pb), and her latest has received very steady praise, as well as many prizes. It is called **The Lost Dog** (\$35 Hb 342pp), a title that will not appeal to everyone. It is set partly in India after WWII and partly in contemporary Melbourne amongst aspiring artists. It is subtle, thought-provoking and beautifully written. It would be nice for her to win. Remember when Kiran Desai won for **Inheritance of Loss** (\$24.95 Pb)? But as she is up against Salman Rushdie and Amitav Ghosh, it will be hard.



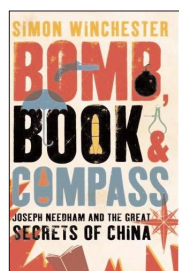
An amusing book I recommended to you recently is also on the long list. This is **The Clothes on their Backs** by Linda Grant (\$33 Pb). More nice news is that a young Sydney writer, Steve Toltz, has also been long-listed for his first novel, **A Fraction of the Whole** (\$35 Pb). Good Luck to them both!



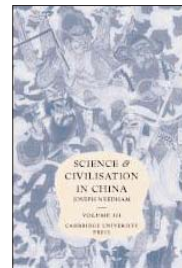
It is one hundred and fifty years since the letters of Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Darwin were read to a meeting of the Linnean Society, so almost an anniversary for **Origin of the Species**. We have several editions, such as Modern Library (\$21.95 Pb), Everyman's Library (\$60.95 Hb), Oxford Worlds Classic (\$18.95 Pb) or even a facsimile of the First Edition (\$29.95).

Our big Life Science section is always buzzing and you will always find the books of Richard Dawkins and Stephen Jay Gould, but I want to recommend a new title to you. It is **A Guinea Pig's History of Biology** by Jim Endersby (\$27.95 Pb 499pp). The author is a historian of science and this engrossing book traces the progress of biology from Darwin to the present day. You'll be surprised how exciting it is! It is long-listed for the *Guardian First Book Award*. Although it is really History of Science, we shelve this in Life Sciences because it is so focused on that subject.

Another scientific book which I found absolutely thrilling is Simon Winchester's **Bomb, Book and Compass: Joseph Needham and the Great Secrets of China** (\$32.95 Pb 316pp incl index). Find this in Biography. Needham is the only person to be not only a Companion of Honour, but also a Fellow of the Royal Society and a Fellow of the British Academy, yet not everyone knows Joseph Needham. In fact, most people I asked did not. I felt he was a familiar person because for quite a few years when I worked in the Oxford & Cambridge Bookshop, I stood in front of the shelf where we



displayed, together with **The Complete Oxford English Dictionary**, the many volumes of his magisterial work, **Science and Civilization in China**. I think we would be one of the few bookshops in the world to carry the complete set (thanks to our special arrangement with Cambridge University Press). We sometimes even sell a copy! The series continues and is now 25 volumes. Of course, not Volumes 1 to 25; volumes have various sub-parts! For instance, Volume 6 Part 2 is the first volume given to another author - Francesca Bray is responsible for this volume on **Agriculture** (\$475), while Volume 5 Part 6 is on **Military Technology, Missiles and Sieges** (\$399). There is an abridgement done by Ronan and Needham called **Shorter Science and Civilization in China**, currently in 5 volumes (prices from \$79.95 to \$99.95).



When Simon Winchester gets into his research, we are always in for a feast, and he is full of admiration for the irrepressible Joseph Needham. Needham was an aspiring young bio-chemist working in the laboratories of Frederick Hopkins in Cambridge. Very intelligent, charming and full of curiosity. In 1937, a young Chinese student, Lu Gwei-djen, arrived to study in the laboratory. Needham not only fell in love with her, but also fell in love with China. He learnt Chinese, both written and spoken, and began to wonder why, if China had discovered so many things so much earlier than the West, this spirit of enquiry faded in the 15th century. This became known as 'the Needham Question' and, fuelled by the fact that the British Government sent him to China in the early 1940s when Japan was invading and trying to destroy China's universities, he set out to write **Science and Civilization in China**. He began thinking it would be one volume, then six volumes. Now it is 25 volumes and still continues. He did eventually have to pass over to other authors. He left masses of diaries and letters - most of which are in the Needham Institute in Cambridge - so Winchester has had a field day! Needham's own joyful words are a delight. For instance, this is his description of studying written Chinese: "a liberation, like going for a swim on a hot day, for it got you entirely out of the prison of alphabetical words and into the glittering crystalline world of ideographic characters." This must be the most fascinating biography I have read this year. I could go on... We have a CD of this read by Simon Winchester himself, with the American title **The Man Who Loved China** (\$75).

Winchester's earlier books have all been very successful. Remember when **The Surgeon of Crowthorne** (\$19.95 Pb) - about an obscure contributor to **The Oxford English Dictionary** - was the absolute bestseller for Christmas? This will come out again in September as a *Popular Penguin* (only \$9.95 Pb). Winchester also wrote another book about the OED called **The Meaning of Everything** (\$26.95 Pb), which I found wonderful. Other books include **The Map that Changed the World: A Tale of Rocks, Ruin and Redemption** (\$25 Pb) about fossil hunting in Britain, and **The River at the Centre of the World: A Journey up the Yangtze and Back in Chinese Time** (\$24.95 Pb), **Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded** (\$24.95 Pb) and **The Crack at the Edge of the World: America and the Great Californian Earthquake of 1906** (\$26.95 Pb). Two lesser-known books we have in stock are **Outposts: Journeys to the Surviving Relics of the British Empire** (\$24.95 Pb) and Simon Winchester's **Calcutta** (\$22 Pb). I must read these, he's my latest favourite author.

By the way, we have some very smart black shoulder bags showing the Penguin logo. We'll give you one of these free when you buy two Penguin Classics, which remain very good value, do they not?

We also now have two new Abbey's T-shirts to celebrate our 40th birthday - a white T-shirt with our popular 'field of books' graphic and the caption "Where Ideas Grow", and a blue T-shirt with a big "68" (the year we started) and the caption that makes most booklovers smile, "Where is human nature so weak as in a bookstore?" Available in S, M, L and XL. Very nice quality and only \$9.95.

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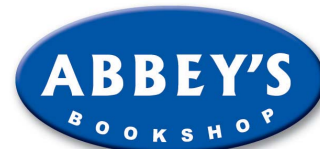
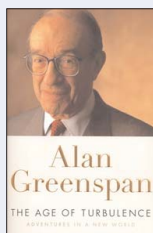
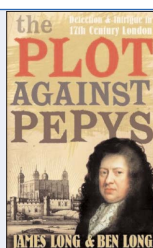
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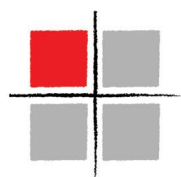


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