

A Free Newsletter for Abbey's Customers

# ABBEY'S ADVOCATE

*Independent Booksellers Since 1968*

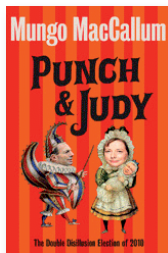
## Punch & Judy

### The Double Disillusion Election of 2010

Mungo MACCALLUM

304pp Pb \$22.95

Who better than MacCallum to guide us through the sweat and semantics of the campaign trail? He follows Canberra's finest in action, peddling furiously between news cycles and racing from the pulpit to the mines in an effort to win over an increasingly sceptical electorate. He considers Labor's eventful first term in office, from Copenhagen and the GFC to its dramatic 11th-hour leadership change. He looks back on the Liberals' own series of leaders before the arrival of seasoned campaigner Tony Abbott and his no-holds-barred campaign to wrestle power from Julia Gillard, the first woman ever to lead the nation.

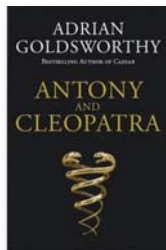


## Antony and Cleopatra

Adrian GOLDSWORTHY

496pp Tp \$39.99

The love affair between Antony and Cleopatra is one of the most famous stories from the ancient world, and has been depicted in countless novels, plays and films. As one of the three men in control of the Roman Empire, Antony was perhaps the most powerful man of his day; while Cleopatra, who had already been Julius Caesar's lover, was the beautiful queen of Egypt, Rome's most important province. The popular image of Cleopatra in ancient Egyptian costume is a fallacy; she was actually Greek, and far better versed in Roman culture than most storytellers give her credit for. Despite her local dominance in Egypt, her real power came from her ability to forge strong personal allegiances with the most important men in Rome. Likewise, Antony was not the bluff soldier of legend, brought low by his love for an exotic woman - he was first and foremost a politician - and never allowed Cleopatra to dictate policy to him. In this history, based exclusively on ancient sources and archaeological evidence, Goldsworthy gives us the facts behind this famous couple. It may not be the story we expect or even wish for, but it is every bit as fascinating as the myth.



## Quarterly Essay #39

### China, America & Australia's Future in Asia

Hugh WHITE

144pp Pb \$19.95

Throughout our history, we have counted first on British and then on American diplomacy in Asia. The rise of China as an economic powerhouse has challenged US dominance in the region and raised questions for Australia: Will China replace the US as regional leader? If so, we will be dealing with an undemocratic and vastly more powerful nation. Will China wield its power differently from the US? If so, should we continue to support America and so divide Asia between our biggest ally and our biggest trading partner? This visionary essay considers the shape of the world to come and the implications for Australia as it seeks to carve out a place in a new world order.



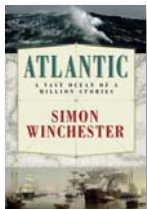
## Atlantic

### A Vast Ocean of a Million Stories

Simon WINCHESTER

400pp Tp \$35.00

The Atlantic - which stretches for 9,000 miles from pole to pole - has profoundly influenced the lives of those who have lived along its shores; from hardscrabble pioneers in windswept locations such as the Aran Islands and Newfoundland, to the inhabitants of the great port cities of Lisbon, Rio, London and New York. Travelling by small sailing craft, container ship and general cargo vessel, Winchester journeys around the edges and across the vast expanse of the ocean to report from the places that encapsulate its most fascinating stories.

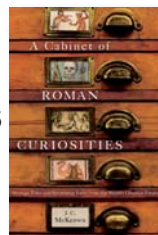


## A Cabinet of Roman Curiosities

J C McKEOWN

256pp Hb \$32.95

The ancient Romans have left us far more information about themselves than has any other Western society until much more recent times. But what we know about them is sometimes bizarre, and hardly fits the conventional view of the Romans as a pragmatic people with a ruthlessly efficient army and a very logical and well ordered language. This is a serendipitous collection of odd facts and opinions, carefully gleaned from the wide body of evidence left to us by the Romans themselves. Each chapter highlights a unique and curious feature of life in ancient Rome; from the fantastical (a description of werewolves) to the quotidian (styles of chamber pots) and from the refined (dining etiquette of Pompeians) to the crude (punishments for mutineers). A fascinating look at the ancient world's most remarkable and abundantly documented empire.



## GET READING!

Welcome to Get Reading!



Get Reading! is Australia's largest annual celebration of books and reading. Get Reading! runs from 1 - 30 September and encourages us all to pick up a book, put up our feet and get reading!

Look out for your **FREE** copy of the **50 Books You Can't Put Down** guide. There's something for everyone in the guide. Two-thirds of the books listed are Australian and they include new releases, new editions and popular recent releases.

Buy one of the 50 books listed in the guide and you'll receive a **FREE** book. Choose either of these new books written for Get Reading!

## Ten Short Stories You Must Read in 2010

10 of Australia's best writers serve up moreish morsels to savour. There's something for everyone in this all-new collection featuring; Maggie Alderson, Georgia Blain, Mark Dapin, Nick Earls, Alex Miller, Judy Nunn, Malla Nunn, Craig Silvey, Rachael Treasure and Christos Tsiolkas.



## Tickled Onions

Kids in a pickle, parents in a jam - this fun collection, which includes four new stories.



**GET LOST  
GET FRESH  
GET HOOKED  
GET REAL  
GET COMFY  
GET READING!**

1 - 30 SEPTEMBER

Father's Day

Sunday 5 Sept

Gift suggestions - page 2

September Bargains - page 7

## Father's Day Suggestions

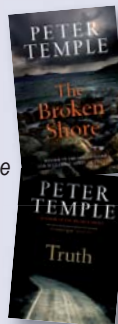
There is a good reason that Peter Temple's writing consistently wins major awards. He regularly tops both the crime and literary bestseller lists. **The Broken Shore** (Pb \$23.95) won the world's most prestigious award for crime fiction in 2007, *The Duncan Lawrie Dagger* (formerly known as the *Gold Dagger*). This is a sparse, lyrical thriller which explores themes of the Australian landscape and society, including redneck attitudes to indigenous people. The sequel, **Truth** (Tp \$32.95 or Pb \$23.95 due this month) won this year's *Miles Franklin Award*, the only crime novel ever to have been nominated for, let alone win the country's most well regarded literary prize. Set in Victoria on the eve of the Black Saturday bushfires, it centres on Steve Villani, the principled, uncorrupted head of homicide. Married to the job, his personal life a shambles, he is on the trail of some very brutal killers as well as attempting to do justice for a young woman found dead in a new high security, luxury unit above a casino on the outskirts of Melbourne.

I am a latecomer to **Jasper Jones** by Craig Silvey (Pb \$23.99). This was last year's winner of the *Indie Book of the Year* and also won the *Bookseller's Choice Award*. This is like an Australian take on *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Pb \$21.95). Set in the regional mining town of Corrigan during the hot summer holidays in 1965, panic grips the town when a young girl goes missing. Charlie Bucktin, a pale, bookish teenager, forms an unlikely and dangerous friendship with an Aboriginal boy, Jasper Jones and is drawn into the heart of the mystery. Jasper is so sure of himself; Charlie trusts him implicitly and longs for his approval. Charlie spends most days with his Vietnamese friend Jeffrey Lu and witnesses shocking, yet entirely believable, racial discrimination. The dialogue between Charlie and Jeffrey is a delight, yet surely a little too quick and witty to come from the mouths of most teenagers. This is an immensely enjoyable read.

Two Australian authors have made the longest for this year's *Man-Booker Prize*, with UK literary heavyweights Martin Amis and Ian McEwan overlooked - a shame in McEwan's case - as **Solar** (Tp \$32.95), a darkly humorous tale, loosely related to global warming, is a masterpiece. Christos Tsiolkas made the list with **The Slap** (Tp \$32.95, smaller format due next month \$24.99). I first noticed this when I saw copies being passed underhand, from mum-to-mum, like a contraband substance in my son's school playground, so I knew I had to get hold of one. He writes each chapter from the point of view of a different character, and his ability to get inside the minds of so many different, and sometimes thoroughly unlikeable types, is the key to this extraordinary novel. Peter Carey has won the *Man-Booker* twice already and has another chance with **Parrot and Oliver in America** (Tp \$32.95), a dazzlingly inventive reimagining of Alex de Tocqueville's famous journey on the run from the French Revolution to the New World.

Five of Michael Palin's terrific travel tales come in an attractive boxed set: **The Best of Michael Palin** \$69.99. Includes *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Pole to Pole*, *Full Circle*, *Himalaya* and *Sahara*.

Mike Carlton's **Cruiser: The Life and Loss of HMAS Perth and Her Crew** has also been attractively boxed for Father's Day (Hb \$55.00). *Ann*



## FICTION

### The Body in the Clouds

Ashley HAY

304pp Tp \$29.99

What if you looked up at just the right moment and saw - out of the corner of your eye - something unexpected? What if it was something so marvellous, so extraordinary, that it transformed time and space forever? This is the story of one such extraordinary moment - a man falling from the sky, and surviving - and of three men who see it, in different ways and different times, as they stand on the same piece of land. An astronomer in the late 1700s, a bridge-worker in the 1930s and an expatriate banker returning home in the early 21st century: all three are transformed by one magical event. All are searching for the same thing: how to understand what it means to call a place home, and how to be able to tell when you get there.



### Campaign Ruby

Jessica RUDD

336pp Tp \$32.95

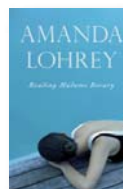
When she gets the email announcing her redundancy, Ruby Stanhope hopes to maintain the composure expected of your average London investment banker. Instead, the next day's hangover brings two unfortunate discoveries. First, her impromptu reply to the bosses has gone viral, published everywhere from Facebook to the *Financial Times*. Second, she has a non-refundable, same-day ticket to Melbourne thanks to a dangerous cocktail of Victorian pinot noir, broadband internet and a dash of melancholy. Landing in Australia, Ruby plans a quiet stay with her aunt in the Yarra Valley - but a party at the local winery results in an unexpected job offer: financial policy adviser to the Federal Leader of the Opposition. Intrigued, she heads to Melbourne for morning coffee with the Chief of Staff - and finds herself in the middle of the Treasurer's overthrow of the Prime Minister and the announcement of an early election. Rookie Ruby, dubbed 'Roo' by her Aussie colleagues, is thrown into the campaign and spends four weeks circumnavigating Australia while trying to stay afloat in the deep end of politics. Rudd (yes she is Kevin's daughter) has had plenty of real life experience to draw on in her debut novel.



### Reading Madame Bovary

Amanda LOHREY 304pp Tp \$32.95

A woman finds her everyday world engulfed by vivid fantasies, a businessman finds a new way to deal with his rage, a couple contemplate the best way to educate their children, a young woman finds herself on a boat with a bunch of delinquent schoolkids, a diary is discovered, a commune goes wrong. In these riveting stories, characters deal with crises of body and spirit. They find themselves caught between order and chaos, and must face the need to change or be trapped. Shot through with serene intelligence and a keen eye for character, these tales enlighten and entertain in equal measure.



## Lights out in Wonderland

DBC PIERRE

336pp Tp \$32.99

Gabriel Brockwell, aesthete, poet, philosopher, disaffected 20-something decadent, is thinking terminal. His philosophical enquiries, the abstractions he indulges and how these relate to a life lived, all point in the same direction. His destination is Wonderland. Committed to the pursuit of pleasure and in search of the Bacchanal to obliterate all previous parties, Gabriel's adventure takes in a spell in rehab, a near-death experience with fugu ovaries, a sexual encounter with an octopus and finally an orgasmic feast in the bowels of Berlin's majestic Tempelhof Airport. Along the way we see a character disintegrate and re-shape before our eyes. An allegorical banquet and a sly commentary on these End Times and the march towards insensate banality, Pierre's third novel completes a loose trilogy of fictions, each of which stands alone as a joyful expression of the human spirit.

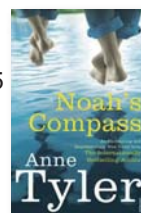


## Noah's Compass

Anne TYLER

256pp Pb \$24.95

With the humour and poignancy of her classic **The Accidental Tourist** (Pb \$24.95) - though with a protagonist who doesn't venture far from home - Tyler's new novel tells the story of a year in the life of Liam Pennywell, a man in his 61st year. A classical pedant, he's just been 'let go' from his school-teaching job and downsizes to a tiny out-of-town apartment, where he goes to bed early and alone on his first night. Widowed, re-married, divorced and the father of three daughters, he is proud of his recall but has learned to dodge issues and skirt adventure. An unpleasant event occurs, though, to jolt him out of his certainty. Obsessed with a frightening gap in his memory, he sets out to uncover what happened, and finds instead an unusual woman with secrets of her own, and a late-flowering love that brings its own thorny problems. His ex-wife (sensible Barbara) and daughters worry about him but he blunders on. This is a thoughtful novel about incidents and relationships which open up sight lines into a painful past long dead for a man who becomes aware that merely trying to stay afloat may not be enough.

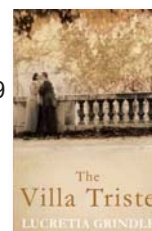


## The Villa Triste

Lucretia GRINDLE

400pp Tp \$32.99

It is the autumn of 1943. Italy signs the armistice that will take it out of the war and slides into chaos. In Florence, two sisters, Isabella and Caterina, find themselves surrounded by terror and death. As the winter grinds on, they will be forced to make the most important decisions of their lives. In the present day, Alessandro Pallioti, one of Florence's most senior policemen, would not normally oversee a murder investigation. He agrees only because the victim - an old man found dead in his apartment - was once a hero, one of the few surviving Partisans who took part in the city's liberation in 1944. The memories of old heroes should be nothing more than a diversion. But, as the case begins to unravel, he finds himself working to uncover a crime lost in the twilight of war, the consequences of which are as deadly today as they were over 60 years ago.



## FICTION

### Freedom

Jonathan FRANZEN  
570pp Tp \$32.95

In his first novel since **The Corrections** (Pb \$22.99), Franzen has given us an epic of contemporary love and marriage. He comically and tragically captures the temptations and burdens of liberty: the thrills of teenage lust, the shaken compromises of middle age, the wages of suburban sprawl and the heavy weight of empire. In charting the mistakes and joys of his intensely realised characters as they struggle to learn how to live in an ever more confusing world, he has produced an indelible and deeply moving portrait of our time.



### Bereft

Chris WOMERSLEY  
320pp Tp \$32.95

It is 1919. The Great War has ended, but the Spanish flu epidemic is raging through Australia. Schools are closed, state borders are guarded by armed men and train travel is severely restricted. There are rumours it is the end of the world. In the NSW town of Flint, Quinn Walker returns to the home he fled 10 years earlier when he was falsely accused of an unspeakable crime. Aware that his father and uncle would surely hang him, he hides in the surrounding hills. There, he meets a mysterious young girl called Sadie Fox, who encourages him to seek justice and seems to know more about the crime than she should.



### The Charming Quirks of Others

Isabel Dalhousie #7  
Alexander McCALL SMITH  
256pp Tp \$32.95

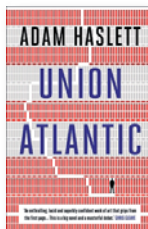
Isabel Dalhousie, Edinburgh philosopher and curious observer of the behaviour of her fellow man, is approached by a friend at a local boarding school that is planning to appoint a new headmaster; an anonymous letter has arrived suggesting that one of the shortlisted candidates has a compromising past. But which one is it? Isabel is once again drawn into an investigation and finds herself exploring dilemmas of human weakness and forgiveness. She turns to her fiancé Jamie for advice, but he too appears to have something to hide...



### Union Atlantic

Adam HASLETT  
320pp Pb \$29.99

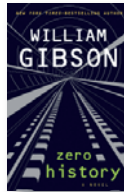
Doug Fanning lives an apparently gilded existence. A Gulf war veteran turned banker at the vast investment bank Union Atlantic, he is wealthy, handsome and powerful - the epitome of Wall Street success. Charlotte Graves lives in self-imposed exile deep in the forests of rural Massachusetts, stubbornly refusing to engage with a country she feels to be morally bankrupt. When Doug decides to build himself a sprawling mansion adjacent to her home, Charlotte's isolation is threatened and she is determined to evict him from his land and, if she can, his kind from her country. A deeply involving novel of the modern world-in-crisis, where individual humanity is pitted against the global marketplace.



### Zero History

William GIBSON  
332pp Tp \$32.95

Former rock singer Hollis Henry has lost a lot of money in the crash, which means she can't turn down the offer of a job from Hubertus Bigend, sinister Belgian proprietor of mysterious ad agency Blue Ant. Milgrim is working for Bigend too. Bigend admires the ex-addict's linguistic skills and street knowledge so much that he's even paid for his costly rehab. So together Hollis and Milgrim are at the front line of Bigend's attempts to get a slice of the military budget, and they gradually realise he has some very dangerous competitors. Which is not a great thought when you don't much trust your boss either. Gibson's new novel, set largely in London, spookily captures the paranoia and fear of our post-Crash times.



### A Secret Kept

Tatiana DE ROSNAY  
320pp Tp \$32.95

Antoine Rey thought he had the perfect surprise for his sister Melanie's birthday: a weekend by the sea at Noirmoutier Island, where the pair spent many happy childhood summers playing on the beach. It has been too long since they've returned to the island - over 30 years, since their mother died and the family holidays ceased. But the island's haunting beauty triggers more than happy memories - it reminds Melanie of something unexpected and deeply disturbing about their last island summer. When, on the drive home to Paris, she finally summons the courage to reveal what she knows to Antoine, her emotions overcome her and she loses control of the car. Recovering from the accident in a nearby hospital, Melanie tries to recall what caused her to crash. Suddenly, however, the past comes swinging back at both siblings, burdened with a dark truth about their mother, Clarisse.



### Juliet

Anne FORTIER  
512pp Tp \$32.99

When a young woman inherits the key to a safety deposit box in Siena, she is told it will lead to an old family treasure. But her mysterious inheritance leads her on a perilous journey into the past - and to the true history of her ancestor, Giulietta, whose legendary love for a young man named Romeo turned medieval Siena upside down. As she crosses paths with descendants of the families involved in the unforgettable blood feud that inspired Shakespeare's famous tale, it becomes clear that the notorious curse "A plague on both your houses" is still at work, and that she is the next target.



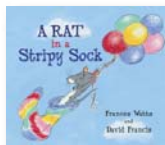
## CHILDREN'S

REVIEWED BY LINDY JONES

### A Rat in a Stripy Sock

Frances WATTS & David FRANCIS  
24pp Hb \$24.99

With the weather we've been experiencing this winter, any book which begins "The rain poured down like misery, washing the city in grey" sounds appropriate! In the city is a cold grey rat, but when he finds a stripy sock, his little ratty heart is full of colour and hope. A rat in a stripy sock could do anything, and even better, he can make the lives of his friends a lot brighter as well. A charming little story with lively illustrations and a nice message.



### The Spook's Nightmare

Joseph DELANEY  
400pp Hb \$29.95

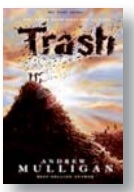
This is the seventh in this excellent series, so those of you who have been following young Thomas Ward's apprenticeship will know what to expect! Tom, Alice and the Spook find the County overrun by soldiers, and flee to the island of Mona. There they find the local ruler in cahoots with the dark powers, and an old dangerous enemy on the loose again. Mr Gregory seems to be failing as well... This hasn't lost the momentum of the previous books and there is obviously more to come before Thomas finishes his training!



### Trash

Andy MULLIGAN  
224pp Pb \$24.95

Raphael is little and quick and has spent his life living and working on a rubbish dump. One day he finds a leather bag, which has money and bits of paper. When the local police start asking questions of the inhabitants of the tip, Raphael, his friends Gardo and Rat find themselves in danger. Only their resourceful, brave and cunning natures will save them, as the contents of the bag have the power to bring down powerful men. Told in their different voices, with the atmosphere of a corrupt unnamed country which does not value its people, this is a rich and rewarding read. Ages 12+



### There Are No Cats in This Book

Viviane SCHWARZ  
24pp Hb \$27.95

Following on after the utterly delightful **There Are Cats in This Book** (pb \$17.95) this is also an interactive book that will involve readers old and young alike from the very beginning of the book. Tiny, Moonpie and Andre have decided to go and see the world, but they need a bit of help getting out of the book. With folds and flaps and directly addressing the reader, this is great fun for the pre-schooler (or cat-lover) in your life!

### Good Oil

Laura BUZO 283pp Pb \$18.99

Amelia is 15, has distracted parents, is full of interesting thoughts about literature, and has gotten a part-time job at the local supermarket. There she learns about life, customers and love, because she falls seriously in love with Chris. The problem with that is Chris is a final year university student, and the six year age difference may as well be sixty, for all that she has a chance with him. Even though, really, they are very well suited... A warm, authentic, enjoyable and sweet-natured novel about first love and all the difficulties that entails. Ages 14+



### Mirror

Jeannie BAKER  
48pp Hb \$39.95

This special book tells two stories simultaneously, using a special split-page format. Side-by-side, the left hand page shows a day in the life of an Australian family, while the right hand side shows the equivalent story, but set in Morocco. Different cultures, different families, but the daily activities are mirrored, showing that there are more similarities in human lives than true differences. Done in Baker's trademark painstakingly constructed collages, a beautiful and important book.



## BIOGRAPHY

### Caravaggio

#### A Life Sacred and Profane

Andrew GRAHAM-DIXON  
568pp Hb \$59.95

Caravaggio lived the darkest and most dangerous life of any of the great painters. The worlds of Milan, Rome and Naples through which he moved, were those of cardinals and whores, prayer and violence. The patrons of the church competed to have the leading artists of the day in their households, and artists jostled for their favour. On the streets surrounding the churches and palaces, brawls and swordfights were regular occurrences. In one such fight he killed Ranuccio Tomassoni, a pimp, and fled afterwards to Naples and then Malta. Shortly afterwards, he fell victim to a crippling vendetta attack. He died while returning to Rome to seek a papal pardon for his crimes. He was just 38 years old. In the course of this desperate life he created the most dramatic paintings of his age, using ordinary men and women - often prostitutes and the very poor - to model for his depictions of classic religious scenes.



### Hell on the Way to Heaven

Chrissie FOSTER with Paul KENNEDY  
320pp Tp \$34.95

Chrissie and Anthony Foster were like any other young family, raising their three daughters in suburban Melbourne with what they hoped were the right values. Chrissie could not have known that the stranger-danger she feared actually lurked in the presbytery attached to the girls' Catholic primary school. Father Kevin O'Donnell, a long-term paedophile, lived and worked there. Two of their young daughters became his victims. And once the truth was revealed, the Fosters began a battle to find out how this could have happened. The Church offered silence, lies, denials and threats. Meanwhile, their daughters tried to piece together their fractured lives. This is the chilling true story that made national and international headlines. Chrissie's heartbreaking account of her family's suffering and their determination to stand up for themselves against the might of the Catholic Church, is testament to the strength of a mother's love and the resilience of the human spirit.



### Puzzled

#### Secrets and Clues from a Life Lost in Words

David ASTLE 256pp Tp \$29.99

"I used to regret not being born Catholic because it meant I'd been denied the joys of self-flagellation. Then I discovered DA and he solved my problem." - Bill Leak, cartoonist, and anagram of Killable. Many a puzzle solver has battled against the devilish mind of long-time crossword maker and wordaholic David Astle, known to many as DA. In this book he holds out a helping hand to the lost and perplexed taking us on a personal tour into the secret life of words. Clue by clue, chapter by chapter, we step through a central puzzle, uncovering and unravelling word-secrets as we go. The Steve Irwin Fluke, the Swastika Accident, the Abracadabra Pyramid - hidden meanings, anagrams, reversals - all the Dark Arts are finally revealed.



### A Journey

Tony BLAIR 736pp Hb \$59.95

In 1997, Tony Blair won the biggest Labour victory in history to sweep the party to power and end 18 years of Conservative government. He has been one of the most dynamic leaders of modern times; few British prime ministers have shaped the nation's course as profoundly as Blair during his 10 years in power. He provides a candid insight into his successes, controversies and disappointments.

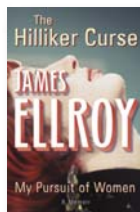


### The Hilliker Curse

James ELLROY

208pp Tp \$32.95

The year was 1958. Jean Hilliker had divorced her fast-buck hustler husband and resurrected her maiden name. Her son, James, was 10 years old. He hated and lusted for his mother and 'summoned her dead.' Three months later, she was murdered. The Hilliker Curse is a predator's confession, a treatise on guilt and the power of malediction. Ellroy single-mindedly seeks 'atonement in women.' He unsparingly describes his shattered childhood, his delinquent teens, his writing life, his love affairs and marriages, a nervous breakdown and the beginning of a relationship with an extraordinary woman who may just be the long-sought Her. Reported with a gut-wrenching and heart-rending candour, this is a brilliant and soul-baring revelation of self.



### An Exclusive Love

Johanna ADORJAN 192pp Pb \$27.95

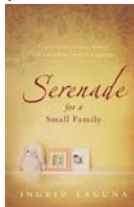
She is a healthy 71-year-old woman. He is a dying 82-year-old man. This couple, who have been united through the horrors of 20th century Europe, and through the joys of love and family, cannot live up to the vows they made nearly 50 years ago to stay together "until death do us part": they will die as one, never to be parted. On 13 October, 1991 they took their own lives, together. 16 years later, their granddaughter Johanna digs through her family history to piece together the puzzle of the exotic and mysterious couple she knew only in fragments. She dares to give voice to her grandparents' experiences as Hungarian Jews in the Holocaust, which her family has always labelled "something we don't talk about". She learns, too, how these experiences have shaped her family and the person she is today.

### Serenade for a Small Family

Ingrid LAGUNA

216pp Pb \$24.99

Ingrid never did things the easy way - she spent much of her young adulthood rebelling against conformism, playing in a mostly girl band and travelling around Australia, before marrying Ben and going to live in Alice Springs. Pregnancy didn't come easily either but, through IVF, she finally fell pregnant. She went into premature labour at 23 weeks and her twin sons were born, each weighing about the same as a pat of butter and small enough to fit into the palm of her hand. She had to call on all her reserves of strength and stubbornness to see the journey through and be the mother that her sons needed. This is an earthy, honest and heartbreaking memoir about what it means to love; and about the terrible powerlessness and torment involved when there is fear of losing a child.



### The Happiest Refugee

#### My Journey from Tragedy to Comedy

Anh DO 304pp Tp \$32.99

Anh nearly didn't make it to Australia. His entire family came close to losing their lives on the sea as they escaped from war-torn Vietnam in an overcrowded boat. But nothing - not murderous pirates, nor the imminent threat of death by hunger, disease or dehydration as they drifted for days - could quench their desire to make a better life in the country they had dreamed about. Life in Australia was hard, an endless succession of back-breaking work, crowded rooms, ruthless landlords and make-do everything. Then, when Anh was 13, his father left home. His mother's sacrifice was an inspiration to him and he worked hard during his teenage years to help her make ends meet, also managing to graduate high school and then university. Another inspiration was the comedian he met when he was about to sign on for a 60-hour a week corporate job. Anh asked how many hours he worked. 'Four,' the answer came back, and that was it. He was going to be a comedian!



### Rainbow Pie

#### A Redneck Memoir

Joe BAGEANT

352pp Tp \$35.00

This is a coming-of-age memoir set between 1950 and 1963 in a small Appalachian farming community along a West Virginia road named Shanghai (from the 17th-century Scots Irish, 'Shangi', meaning to celebrate). Combining recollection, stories, accounts, remembrance and analysis, we get an intimate look at what America lost in its post-war transformation - it went from a nation of interconnecting families and communities to a consumer culture of 'individuals'. This loss of meaningful work and community is illustrated through Joe's family and the Shanghai Road community, as post-World War II America experienced a massive social and economic shift from agrarian to urban consciousness.

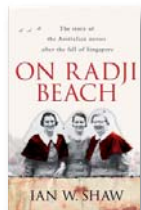


### On Radji Beach

#### The Story of Australian Nurses after the Fall of Singapore

Ian SHAW Tp \$34.99

When Singapore fell dramatically to the Japanese on 15 February 1942, hundreds of people scrambled to the docks to flee. Amongst the evacuees were 65 Australian nurses who boarded a coastal freighter named the Vyner Brooke. They only made it as far as the waters off Muntok Island near Sumatra. There, Japanese bombers sank the small ship. Those who survived the sinking drifted for up to three days before making landfall on one of the many beaches on Muntok. A group of about 60 shipwreck survivors, including 22 nurses, gathered at Radji Beach. They voted to surrender to the Japanese rather than slowly starve to death, but the Japanese patrol that found them did not accept their surrender. Instead, it divided the Europeans into three groups and killed them all in turn. The Australian nurses were in the third group, and 21 of them died in a hail of bullets as they walked, abreast, into the sea. Miraculously, there was one survivor, Vivian Bullwinkel, who brought the truth about this appalling atrocity to light.



## HISTORY Babylon

### Mesopotamia and the Birth of Civilization

Paul KRIWACZEK

320pp Hb \$50.00

Kriwaczek tells the story of ancient Mesopotamia from the earliest settlements around 5400 BC, to the eclipse of Babylon by the Persians in the sixth century BC. He chronicles the rise and fall of dynastic power during this period; he examines its numerous material, social and cultural innovations and inventions: the wheel, civil, engineering, building bricks, the centralised state, the division of labour, organised religion, sculpture, education, mathematics, law and monumental building. At the heart of his account is the glory of Babylon - 'gateway to the gods' - which rose to glorious prominence under the Amorite king Hammurabi, who unified Babylonia between 1800-1750 BC. While Babylonian power would rise and fall over the ensuing centuries, it retained its importance as a cultural, religious and political centre until its fall to Cyrus the Great of Persia, in 539 BC.



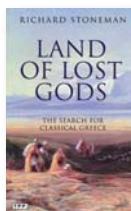
## Land of Lost Gods

### The Search for Classical Greece

Richard STONEMAN

376pp Pb \$34.00

The glories of classical Greece are an essential part of our heritage and are echoed every day in the buildings and institutions we see around us. But who were the visitors from afar who first appreciated the riches of the archaeological past of Greece and the Greek lands; who opened up the culture and its ancient remains? From as early as 1420 a few intrepid explorers made their way to Greece and Turkey, to recover - from brambles or burial, lime-kilns or building sites - the precious relics of the Greeks' classical past. Stoneman tells the riveting stories of Cyriac of Ancona's quest to record the appearance of the Parthenon; Jacques Spon's quarrel with Guillet de St-Georges about the topography of Athens; the painstaking expeditions of the Society of Dilettanti and the deluded forgeries of the Abbe Fourmont. When the archaeologist succeeds the antiquary, the dilettante and the adventurer, the theme of this book draws to a close.

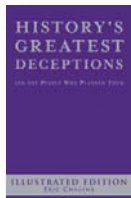


## History's Greatest Deceptions And the People Who Planned Them

Eric CHARLINE

256pp Pb \$34.95

According to the Bible, human history began with the first big lie (the Serpent's deception of Eve), closely followed by the second (Eve's deception of Adam). And, as you peruse the 50 entries listed in this book, you will realise that humans have been trying to put one over on the other guy ever since. The most obvious deceptions are financial. But even though money is at the root of many deceptions, it is by no means the only motivation. Scientists have tampered with evidence in the vain hope of proving their pet theories; failed artists have forged the works of past masters to garner some of their kudos; impostors have sought to hide their own drab, uninteresting origins under the mantle of borrowed names; and hoaxers have more than strained the envelope of truth to amuse themselves at the expense of others.

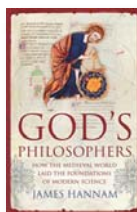


## God's Philosophers How the Medieval World Laid the Foundations of Modern Science

James HANNAM

448pp Pb \$22.99

The adjective 'medieval' has become a synonym for brutality and uncivilised behaviour. Yet without the work of medieval scholars there could have been no Galileo, no Newton and no Scientific Revolution. Hannam debunks many of the myths about the Middle Ages, showing that medieval people did not think the earth was flat, nor did Columbus prove that it is a sphere; the Inquisition burnt nobody for their science nor was Copernicus afraid of persecution; no Pope tried to ban human dissection or the number zero. This is a celebration of the forgotten scientific and technological achievements of the Middle Ages. Charting an epic journey through six centuries of history, it brings back to light the discoveries of neglected geniuses like John Buridan, Nicole Oresme and Thomas Bradwardine, as well as putting into context the contributions of more familiar figures like Roger Bacon, William of Ockham and Saint Thomas Aquinas.



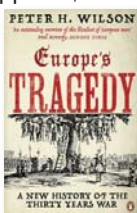
## Europe's Tragedy

### A New History of the Thirty Years War

Peter WILSON

1,040pp Pb \$29.95

The horrific series of conflicts known as the Thirty Years War (1618-48) tore the heart out of Europe, killing perhaps a quarter of all Germans and laying waste to whole areas of Central Europe to such a degree that many towns and regions never recovered. All the major European powers apart from Russia were heavily involved and, while each country started out with rational war aims, the fighting rapidly spiralled out of control, with great battles giving way to marauding bands of starving soldiers spreading plague and murder. The war was both a religious and a political one and it was this tangle of motives that made it impossible to stop. Whether motivated by idealism or cynicism, everyone drawn into the conflict was destroyed by it. At its end a recognisably modern Europe had been created but at a terrible price.



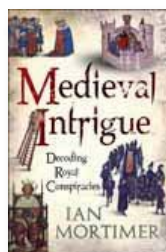
## Medieval Intrigue

### Royal Murder and Regnal Legitimacy

Ian MORTIMER

256pp Hb \$56.00

Mortimer considers some of the key questions in Medieval history and rethinks the nature of historical evidence. He examines some of the most controversial questions in medieval history, including whether Edward II was murdered, his possible later life in Italy, the weakness of the Lancastrian claim to the throne in 1399 and the origins of the idea of the royal pretender. Central to this book is his groundbreaking approach to medieval evidence. He explains how an information-based method allows a more certain reading of a series of texts. He criticises existing modes of arriving at consensus and outlines a process of historical analysis that ultimately leads to questioning historical doubts as well as historical facts, with profound implications for what we can say about the past with certainty.



## Otto Katz

### The Nine Lives of a Master Spy

Jonathan MILES

384pp Tp \$35.00

Communist spy Otto Katz played a crucial role in the history of the first half of the 20th Century. His story takes us from Bohemian Prague to Weimar Berlin, from the Reichstag Fire to the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War, from Paris to London and New York. We see behind the curtain of Communist espionage in America and Britain - with the man who was the inspiration for the character of Victor Lazlo in Casablanca and who the FBI described as "an extremely dangerous man".



## The Great Explorers

Robin HANBURY-TENISON

304pp Hb \$65.00

This book profiles 40 of the world's greatest explorers, from Europe, America, Asia and Australia. These are the men and women who changed our perception of the world through their courageous explorations, opening our eyes to the physical, natural and historical wealth around us. An international team of distinguished travel writers, broadcasters and historians describes these great explorers' lives, motives and passions in a series of penetrating biographies, illustrated throughout with beautiful paintings, photographs, engravings and maps.



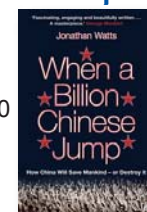
## When a Billion Chinese Jump

### How China will Save Mankind - or Destroy It

Jonathan WATTS

320pp Tp \$35.00

Watts tells the story of China's - and the world's - biggest crisis. With foul air, filthy water, rising temperatures and encroaching deserts, China is already suffering an environmental disaster. Now it faces a stark choice: either accept catastrophe, or make radical changes. Travelling the vast country to witness this environmental challenge, he moves from mountain paradises to industrial wastelands, examining the responses of those at the top of society to the problems and hopes of those below. At heart his book is not a call for panic, but a demonstration that - even with the crisis so severe, and the political scope so limited - the actions of individuals can make a difference. Consistently attentive to human detail, he vividly portrays individual lives in a country all too often viewed from outside as a faceless state.



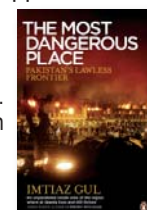
## The Most Dangerous Place

### Pakistan's Lawless Frontier

Imtiaz GUL

320pp Pb \$26.95

The tribal region located on the frontier between Pakistan and Afghanistan is the centre of terrorist activity in the world today. Since 2001, Al Qaeda and Taliban fighters have regrouped here, using its mountainous terrain as a safe haven in which to train, plan major terror attacks, send insurgents to Afghanistan, and recruit ever-younger fighters. Gul follows the trail of militancy to show how a fatal mix of ultra-conservatism, economic under-development and an absence of law and order have radicalised a region and its people, with grave consequences for the stability of Pakistan.



## HISTORY

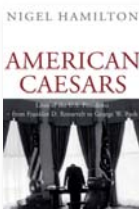
### American Caesars

**Lives of the US Presidents From Franklin D Roosevelt to George W Bush**

Nigel HAMILTON

608pp Tp \$32.95

Suetonius' **The Twelve Caesars** (Pb \$16.95) became a classic of classical times: a virtuoso literary imperial portrait gallery by an already distinguished author, not only remarkable for its frank dissections of Rome's great emperors, but also because the 12 men whom he chose were the embodiment - both good and bad - of Rome's greatest century. The 20th century has been called 'the American century', given its economic and military rise to superpower status in WWII, as well as its seemingly irresistible influence over global popular culture, politics and language ever since. The time is ripe for a new work on the US presidents of recent history, from FDR to George W Bush. Hamilton offers an informative but intensely readable gallery of historical portraits that encapsulates the age of American empire through the lives of its chief executives and the women they loved.



### Dismantling the Empire

**America's Last Best Hope**

Chalmers JOHNSON

224pp Tp \$35.00

Johnson explores the subject he introduced in **Blowback** (Pb \$29.99) which argues that, in the 21st century, America will reap the global resentments it is now sowing. Current concerns are Barack Obama's Afghanistan conundrum, including inept spies, bad behaviour in other countries, ill-fought wars and capitulation to a military that has taken ever more control of the federal budget. There is, he proposes, only one way out: President Obama must begin to dismantle the empire before the Pentagon dismantles the American Dream. If we do not learn from the fates of past empires, he suggests, our decline and fall are foreordained.

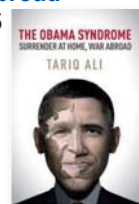


### The Obama Syndrome

**Surrender at Home, War Abroad**

Tariq ALI 128pp Hb \$29.95

What has really changed since Bush left the White House? Very little, argues Ali, apart from the mood music. The hopes aroused during Obama's election campaign have rapidly receded - the honeymoon has been short. Following the financial crisis, the reform president bailed out Wall Street without getting anything in return. With Democratic Party leaders and representatives mired in the corrupt lobbying system, the plans for reforming the healthcare system lie wrecked on the Senate floor. Abroad, the war on terror continues: Iraq is occupied indefinitely, Israel permanently appeased and there are more troops in Afghanistan and more drone attacks in Pakistan than there were under Bush. The fact that Obama has proved incapable of shifting the political terrain even a few inches in a reformist direction will pave the way for a Republican surge and triumph in the not too distant future.



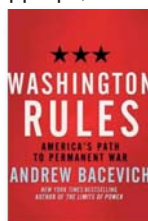
## Washington Rules

**America's Path to Permanent War**

Andrew BACEVICH

224pp Tp \$35.00

For the last half century, as administrations have come and gone, the fundamental assumptions about America's military policy have remained unchanged: American security requires the United States (and us alone) to maintain a permanent armed presence around the globe, to prepare our forces for military operations in far-flung regions, and to be ready to intervene anywhere at any time. In the Obama era, just as in the Bush years, these beliefs remain unquestioned gospel. In a vivid, incisive analysis, Bacevich succinctly presents the origins of this consensus, forged at a moment when American power was at its height. He exposes the preconceptions, biases and habits that underlie our pervasive faith in military might, especially the notion that overwhelming superiority will oblige others to accommodate America's needs and desires - whether for cheap oil, cheap credit or cheap consumer goods. And he challenges the usefulness of US militarism as it has become both unaffordable and increasingly dangerous. Replacing this Washington consensus is crucial to America's future, and may yet offer the key to the country's salvation.



## Europe Since 1980

Ivan BEREND

342pp Pb \$65.00

Berend tells the dramatic story of the economic, social, political, and cultural transformation of Europe during the transition from the Cold War to the European Union. He charts the overwhelming impact of the collapse of communism on every aspect of European life. Europe became safer and more united, and Central and Eastern Europe started on the difficult road to economic modernisation. However, the Western half of Europe also changed. European integration gained momentum. The single market and the common currency were introduced, and the Union enlarged from nine to 27 countries. This period also saw a revolution in information and communication technology, the increasing impact of globalisation and the radical restructuring of the political system. The book explores the impact of all of these changes as well as the new challenges posed by the economic crisis of 2008-9 and asks which way now for Europe?



## Ireland

**A History**

Thomas BARTLETT

648pp Hb \$69.95

Ireland has rarely been out of the news during the past 30 years. Whether as a war-zone in which Catholic nationalists and Protestant Unionists struggled for supremacy, a case study in conflict resolution or an economy that for a time promised to make the Irish among the wealthiest people on the planet, the two Irelands have truly captured the world's imagination. Bartlett, one of the country's leading historians, sets out a fascinating new history that ranges from prehistory to the present. Integrating politics, society and culture, he offers an authoritative historical road map that shows exactly how - and why - Ireland, north and south, arrived at where it is today.



## AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

### King Brown Country

**The Betrayal of Papunya**

Russell SKELTON

320pp Tp \$35.00

"Why don't you check out Papunya? It's the sniffing capital of Australia; it's a Bermuda triangle for taxpayer funds. Nobody in the NT government gives a rats. The council just tossed out World Vision. People are frightened to talk." For award-winning journalist Skelton, a five year journey of inquiry that coincided with one of the biggest shifts in indigenous policy in Australian history, began on the day he received this email. Set with the backdrop of Papunya, a Northern Territory Aboriginal community whose history showed so much promise but whose dysfunction is now more prominent than its famous artwork, this is a book that had to be written. Digging down into the core of indigenous issues today, he exposes unmitigated misery, shocking levels of neglect and the devastating consequences of substance abuse. This is a powerful and shaming portrait of a community in crisis.



### The Coast Watchers

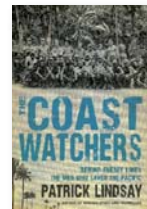
**Behind Enemy Lines**

**The Men Who**

**Saved the Pacific**

Patrick LINDSAY Tp \$34.95

After Pearl Harbour, Japan swept unchecked through the Pacific. But a tiny band of brave men stayed behind the enemy lines. Aided by loyal islanders, they watched and they warned. They were the Coast Watchers. They saved countless lives - including that of future US President John F Kennedy - and they changed the course of the Pacific War. As the inscription on the Coastwatcher Memorial at Madang, PNG reads, "They watched and warned and died that we might live."



### 36 Days

**The Untold Story Behind the Gallipoli Landings**

Hugh DOLAN

400pp Tp \$34.99

When Australian troops stormed ashore in the pre-dawn darkness of April 25th 1915, it was the culmination of one of the most complex and daunting operations in the history of warfare - the seaborne assault of a heavily fortified shore, defended by a well-prepared and forewarned enemy. The risks were enormous, and the death toll on the beach at Anzac Cove could have been murderous - as it was with the British landings further south. Yet the Anzacs had been allowed to organise their own assault, their ingenuity, intelligence gathering and willingness to do the unorthodox allowed them to seize a foothold and fulfil the task they had been set by their commanders. All too often the scale of that task and the successful way the Anzacs approached it have been overshadowed by events later in the campaign. Dolan, an intelligence officer in the Australian Defence Force, has minutely re-examined the assault itself, giving us a day-by-day account of the build-up to the landing that shows a very different side to the Gallipoli story. Using a host of previously unpublished material and research, he has produced a riveting work of narrative history that sheds a fresh light on the original Anzacs.





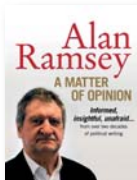
## AUSTRALIAN HISTORY

### Matter of Opinion

Alan RAMSEY

412pp Pb \$26.99

Ramsey presents his unflinching views of key political events, drawn from his 22 years of political journalism. He recalls the often turbulent Hawke/Keating years, the 1990 recession "we had to have", Labor's dumping of Bob Hawke in December 1991, the Howard Government's slavish subservience to the Bush White House, John Howard's "never ever" GST, the invasion of Iraq, the disintegration of the Democrats and the manipulation by both sides of politics of the 2001 children overboard incident. Yet his keen eye often observes with affection the values and behaviour of others in national life, and he is as ready to give credit as he was to lay into the humbug, pomposity and deceit of political, personal and sectional self-interest.



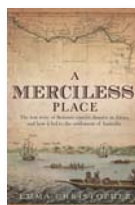
### A Merciless Place

**The Lost Story of Britain's Convict Disaster in Africa and How it Led to the Settlement of Australia**

Emma CHRISTOPHER

424pp Tp \$35.00

This is a story lost to history for over 200 years; a dirty secret of failure, fatal misjudgement and desperate measures which the British Empire chose to forget almost as soon as it was over. In the wake of its most crushing defeat, the American War of Independence, the British Government began shipping its criminals to West Africa. Some were transported aboard ships going to pick up their other human cargo: African slaves. When they arrived at their destination, soldiers and even convicts were forced to work in the region's slave-trading forts guarding the human merchandise. In a few short years the scheme brought death, wholesale desertions, mutiny, piracy and even murder. As jail and prison hulks overflowed and as every other alternative settlement proved unsuitable, the British Government gambled and decided to send its criminals as far away as possible, to the great south land sighted years before by Captain James Cook. Out of the embers of the African debacle came the modern nation of Australia.



### Fire in the Sky

**The Australian Flying Corps in the First World War**

Michael MOKKENTIN

416pp Tp \$35.00

When WWI began in August 1914, aeroplanes were a novelty, barely a decade old. Despite this, Australia was one of just a few nations outside Europe to establish a military flying school and corps. From a first class of four student pilots the Australian Flying Corps would grow to number almost 4,000 by the armistice. Its young volunteers were pioneers in a completely new dimension of warfare as they struggled for control of the skies over the Western Front and Middle East. Using private letters, diaries and official records, Molkentin reveals, for the first time in over 90 years, the remarkable story of the airmen and mechanics of the Australian Flying Corps. It is a tale of heroism and endurance; of a war fought thousands of feet above the trenches in aircraft of timber and fabric.



## September Bargains - while stocks last

### Michelangelo and the Sistine Chapel

Andrew GRAHAM-DIXON Hb

~~\$45.00~~ \$19.95

The fascinating human story behind the ceiling's creation: four years of toil and a goading patron. Also analyses the many layers of meaning and multitude ambiguities within the imagery.

### The Death of Sigmund Freud

**Fascism, Psychoanalysis and the Rise of Fundamentalism**

Mark EDMUNDSON Hb

~~\$59.95~~ \$19.95

Traces Hitler and Freud's oddly converging lives, and then zeroes in on the last two years of Freud's life, during which he was at last rescued from Vienna and brought safely to London.

### Thomas Cromwell

**The Rise and Fall of Henry VIII's Most Notorious Minister**

Robert HUTCHINSON Hb

~~\$59.99~~ \$25.00

From the author of *House of Treason: The Rise and Fall of a Tudor Dynasty* (Pb \$27.99), here is the story of Cromwell's intrigue, bribery and sheer force of personality in a court dominated by the malevolent King Henry VIII.

### In Search of Civilization

**Remaking a Tarnished Idea**

John ARMSTRONG Pb

~~\$35.00~~ \$12.95

Argues cogently and passionately that our sources of wisdom, maturity and happiness are rapidly drying up. Only by reviving a conversation about civilisation, can we put in place the conditions for our renaissance.

### The Mughal World

**Life in India's Last Golden Age**

Abraham ERALY Hb

~~\$59.99~~ \$25.00

From bizarre religious cults to the Mughal fondness for formal gardening, from murderous female bandits to the sex lives of the nobles, almost every angle of life is examined in this comprehensive and absorbing account of India's last Golden Age.

### Kate

**The Woman Who Was Katherine Hepburn**

William J MANN Hb

~~\$49.95~~ \$19.95

Beyond the legend, this considers the life and the persona of Hepburn, from her movies, her loves, her bisexuality and her extraordinary life in the golden age of film-making.

### London

**The Wicked City**

Fergus LINNANE Pb

~~\$24.99~~ \$9.95

Surveys 1,000 years of commercial sex in London, from the Bishop of Bankside's licensed brothels to the sleazy massage parlours and suburban brothels of today's city.

### Primo Levi

**A Life**

Ian THOMSON Hb

~~\$49.95~~ \$19.95

Levi wrote books that have been called the essential works of humankind. Yet he remained until his death in the house in which he'd been born; managing a paint and varnish factory for 30 years and tending his invalid mother to the last. The story of the most modest of men who became a universal touchstone of humanism.

### Beasts of the Field

**The Revealing Natural History of Animals in the Bible**

Michael BRIGHT Tp

~~\$44.99~~ \$14.95

Why are animals classified as 'clean' or 'unclean'? Why are mythical beasts, such as unicorns, satyrs and cockatrices, mentioned in the Bible? How much of the Supernatural has crept into English translations? This unique book answers these questions, and poses others about the birds, bees and beasts that inhabit the varied landscape of the Levant. An original take on natural history as well as an introduction to Bible stories.

### Milton

**Poet, Pamphleteer and Patriot**

Anna BEER Hb

~~\$59.95~~ \$19.95

Neither tyrant nor saint, John Milton was a man who had intense and often troubled relationships with both men and women throughout his life. His ideals invariably proved unlivable. But he emerges from this biography for the first time as a fully rounded human being.

### Towards the Light

**The Story of the Struggles for Liberty and Rights That Made the Modern West**

A C GRAYLING Hb

~~\$49.95~~ \$19.95

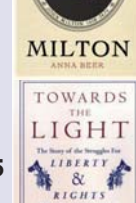
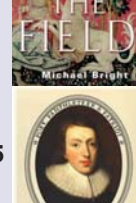
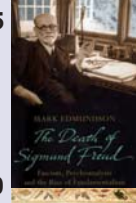
The rights enjoyed in the West today were won in a series of hard-fought struggles over 500 years. A human story, Grayling tells the inspirational history of ideas in action.

### Winnie and Wolf

A N WILSON Pb

~~\$27.95~~ \$9.95

Wilson's acclaimed novel of the extraordinary relationship between Winifred Wagner and Adolf Hitler that took place during the years 1923-40, as seen through the eyes of the secretary at the Wagner house in Bayreuth. "An outstanding novel, brilliantly imaginative and hypnotically readable" Books of the Year, *Sunday Telegraph*



## SCIENCE

### Eaten By a Giant Clam

#### Great Adventures in Natural Science

Joseph CUMMINS 344pp Hb \$34.95

The history of natural science across its many disciplines, including zoology, botany, geology or even malacology (the study of molluscs) is often a case of truth being stranger than fiction. There are countless stirring, occasionally alarming, natural history adventure stories to be told, rollicking tales of men and women risking life and limb in the name of science and in the cause of the broadening of human knowledge. This book focuses on the work of these natural scientists in the field. It comprises 22 stories, with a focus on the heyday of natural history endeavours between the 18th and 20th centuries. Each story surveys the life and career of the scientist, with the main focus being career highlights and their most striking adventures.

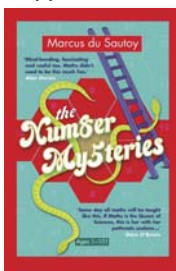


### The Number Mysteries

#### An Odyssey through Everyday Life

Marcus DU SAUTOY 320pp Hb \$35.00

Every time we download a song from i-tunes, take a flight across the Atlantic or talk on our mobile phones, we are relying on great mathematical inventions. Maths may fail to provide answers to several of its own problems, but it can provide answers to problems that don't seem to be its own - how prime numbers are the key to Real Madrid's success, to secrets on the Internet and to the survival of insects in the forests of North America. This book explains how to fake a Jackson Pollock; how to work out whether or not the universe has a hole in the middle of it; how to make the world's roundest football. It shows us how to see shapes in four dimensions - and how maths makes a better gambler. It tells us about the quest to predict the future - from the flight of asteroids to an impending storm, from bending a ball like Beckham to predicting population growth.



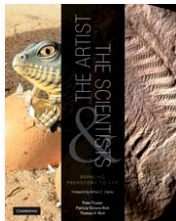
### The Artist and the Scientists

#### Bringing Prehistory to Life

Patricia VICKERS-RICH et al

320pp Pb \$59.95

Over more than 30 years, the authors have travelled across Eastern Europe, Asia, the Americas, Africa, Australia and New Zealand in search of the remains of early life, including fish, dinosaurs, birds and mammals. Their successful expeditions, and the many publications and exquisite artworks that have ensued are a testament to their scientific methodology, thirst for knowledge and eye for detail. The book follows the development of selected works of art covering the last 600 million years of the geological record. Told from the viewpoints of both scientist and artist, the reader is given a unique insight into the process of preserving and recording the evolution of prehistoric life.



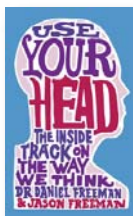
### Use Your Head

#### The Inside Track on the Way We Think

Dr Daniel FREEMAN & Jason FREEMAN

336pp Tp \$35.00

Ever wondered what goes on up there? Why do we think, feel and act in the way we do? What makes us happy or sad, angry or anxious? The Freeman brothers unravel the secrets of the mind and explain the scientific facts behind our behaviour. Armed with key psychological insights you'll be able to apply them to everyday situations and understand why we are attracted to certain people or remember faces rather than names.



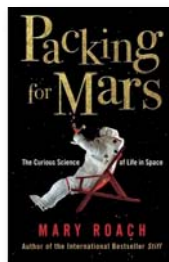
### Packing for Mars

#### The Curious Science of Life in Space

Mary ROACH

312pp Hb \$32.00

Space is devoid of the stuff humans need to live: air, gravity, hot showers, fresh veg, privacy, beer. How much can a person give up? What happens when you can't walk for a year? Is sex any fun in zero gravity? What's it like being cooped up in a metal box with a few people for months at a time? As Roach discovers, it's possible to explore space without ever leaving Earth. From the space shuttle training toilet to a 17,000 mile-per-hour crash test of NASA's space capsule (cadaver stepping in), she takes us on a surreally entertaining trip into the science of living in space.



### The Disappearing Spoon

Sam KEAN

400pp Hb \$35.00

This is the story of the periodic table, told through the people who worked on originating the concepts, discovered the elements and came up with whole new ways of thinking about life, the universe and everything. Like any science, chemistry is full of villains, unacknowledged geniuses and plodders who discover amazing things. It is also full of interesting tales, foibles and passions. Quirky and entertaining, but not to the detriment of the science behind the chemistry, well written without being 'dumbed down' this is the book for chemistry buffs and general science readers. *Lindy*



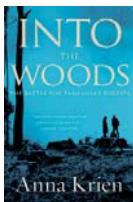
### Into the Woods

#### The Battle for Tasmania's Forests

Anna KRIEN

304pp Pb \$29.95

For decades, the Tasmanian wilderness has been the site of bitter struggle. Saw-millers and police face off with protestors deep in the forest, while political games are played in the courts and parliaments. At stake is the future of old-growth forests, of the logging industry - and of the people on both sides, deeply divided years of suspicion. Armed with notebooks, a sleeping bag and a rusty sedan, Krien ventures behind the fiercely drawn battlelines. She speaks to ferrets and premiers, loggers and whistle-blowers and asks challenging questions about their motives and methods. Brave and revealing, this is a dramatic work of reporting by a bold new voice, a journey deep into the heart of Australia's most perplexing state.



### Dunk Your Biscuit Horizontally

#### 106 Strange Scientific Facts

Rik KUIPER & Tonie MUDDE 128pp Pb \$19.95

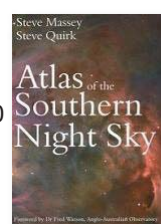
Always dunk your biscuit horizontally. Drinking beer is good for the environment. A wig is safer than a cycling helmet. Based on international scientific research but presented in a tongue-in-cheek style, "this book reveals startling truths guaranteed to change your life - or at least make you popular at dinner parties. Discover the best time of day to be operated on, how kissing is good for hay fever, how to appear more intelligent effortlessly - plus many other tips for work and home, for eating and drinking and for a better love life. It includes features and extracts in national broadsheets and 'red top' newspapers; reviews in consumer science, parenting and teaching press as well as men's magazines. It also features internet coverage on science and student websites and blogs.



### Atlas of the Southern Night Sky

Steve MASSEY & Steve QUIRK 288pp Hb \$45.00

This second edition is a complete reference to everything in our southern sky. With hundreds of full colour star charts and maps of the Moon and planets of our solar system, this book will ensure you get the most out of a pair of binoculars or a small telescope from suburban and dark country sky locations. With a foreword by Dr Fred Watson of the Anglo-Australian Observatory this book includes tips and advice on how to both understand, observe and even photograph the night sky. Observe the stars, galaxies, nebulae, Sun, Moon, asteroids, comets and planets from your backyard with this essential reference to the celestial wonders of the southern night sky.



### The Tiger

#### A True Story of Vengeance and Survival

John VAILLANT

352pp Tp \$35.00

When Yuri Trush was called to investigate an attack by a Siberian tiger in December 1997, what he found was unlike anything he had ever encountered. Nothing remained of the victim but stumps of bone protruding from his boots. Even more chilling was the evidence that this attack had been carefully orchestrated, as if the tiger was seeking revenge. Before long, the beast struck again, and Trush, leader of a tiger conservation unit, found himself forced to hunt this animal through the brutal cold of a Siberian winter, becoming intimately acquainted with the tiger's history, motives and unique method of attack - until their harrowing final encounter. Vaillant recreates these astonishing events against a backdrop of Russia's most remote frontier, a place where the native peoples worship tigers but poachers threaten the species' survival. He describes the historic collisions between Chinese and Russian settlers (trappers, thieves, deserters and exiles) and the struggles of their descendants, who, in the chaotic aftermath of perestroika, turn to poaching to survive - in this case with deadly consequences.



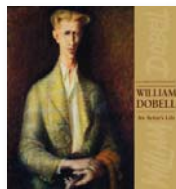
## MISCELLANEOUS

### William Dobell

#### An Artist's Life

Elizabeth DONALDSON  
208pp Hb \$49.99

This exquisitely produced book is a celebration of the life and art of William Dobell, considered to be one of Australia's greatest artists and the first to win both the Wynne Prize for landscapes and the Archibald Prize for portraiture in the same year. However, Dobell was a quintessential Australian – more at home in the local pub with his friends than on the international art stage. He was also no stranger to controversy, famously being sued by fellow competitors after winning the Archibald Prize in 1943. Lavishly illustrated with artworks, personal photographs and newspaper clippings, this is a compelling portrait of both the man and the artist.



### The Bird King and Other Sketches

Shaun TAN Hb \$39.95

The bird king, the anthropologists, the thing in the bathroom, the paraffin-oil koala, the secret birthday party - what do they all have in common? Nothing! Except for the fact that they all come from the sketchbooks of Shaun Tan, acclaimed creator of *The Lost Thing* (Pb \$17.99), *The Arrival* (Hb \$39.99) and *Tales from Outer Suburbia* (Hb \$35.00). Also selected by the artist are preliminary drawings for book, film and theatre projects, portrait and landscape studies, along with pages from travelling notebooks.



### The Confidence Gap

#### From Fear to Freedom

Dr Russ HARRIS  
288pp Pb \$29.95

This is a hands-on guide to gaining long-lasting confidence and overcoming fear using mindfulness-based therapy. Harris explains how many of us are playing the "confidence game" using the wrong rules. He guides the reader through clear, simple exercises designed to help manage difficult emotions such as anxiety and build genuine confidence.



### Why We Lie

Dorothy ROWE  
384pp Hb \$45.00

We lie because we are frightened of being humiliated, being treated like an object, losing control of things, and, most of all, because we fear uncertainty. Often we get our lies in before any of these things can happen. We lie to maintain our vanity. We lie when we call our fantasies the truth. Lying is much easier than searching for the truth and accepting it, no matter how inconvenient it is. We lie to others, and, even worse, we lie to ourselves. Lies have played a major part in the global economic crisis. Fearing to change how we live, we continue lying rather than acknowledge that we are facing a very uncertain future, but comforting lies may ultimately betray us. We are capable of changing, but will we choose to do this?



### What Men Want

#### (In Bed)

Bettina ARNDT  
336pp Tp \$34.99

Across the world, the story is the same. Sex scandal. Media frenzy. Another prominent man caught with his pants down. So why do men take such risks for sex? Sex therapist Bettina Arndt's new book is all about why sex matters so much to men. More than 150 men kept diaries for her, talking about what it is like to live with that constant, sparking, sexual energy. Their painfully honest, confronting, often hilarious stories explain their quest for sexual adventure, their secret delights, the thrill of giving pleasure, why some men turn to pornography and men's delight in the Viagra revolution. With every second man over 50 dealing with erection problems, she offers advice on the wondrous new treatments giving men a new lease of sexual life. Her diarists reveal what it is like to pop little blue pills, or inject their best friend, or face impotence after prostate cancer treatments, or use treatments with a reluctant partner.

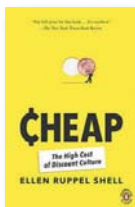


### Cheap

#### The High Cost of Discount Culture

Ellen Ruppel SHELL 320pp Pb \$24.95

From the shuttered factories of the Rust Belt to the strip malls of the Sun Belt - and almost everywhere in between - America has been transformed by its relentless fixation on low price. This pervasive yet little-examined obsession with bargains is arguably the most powerful and devastating market force of our time, having fuelled an excess of consumerism that blights our landscapes, escalates personal debt, lowers our standard of living, and even skews our concept of time. Spotting the peculiar forces that drove Americans away from quality, durability and craftsmanship and towards quantity, quantity, and more quantity, Shell traces the rise of the bargain through our current big-box profusion to expose the astronomically high cost of cheap.

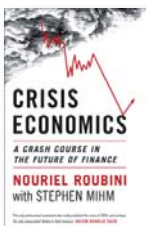


### Crisis Economics

#### A Crash Course in the Future of Finance

Nouriel ROUBINI & Stephen MIHM  
354pp Tp \$32.95

One man saw it coming. As far back as 2005, Professor Roubini (aka Dr Doom) warned that the US housing bubble was set to crash, and what would begin as a national disease would soon spread overseas resulting in a deep recession. Free market fundamentalism would fail and we'd be faced with the worst economic crisis in history, crippling our global economy and bringing the world's financial systems to a shuddering halt. Sound familiar? By guiding us through a crash course in 'crisis economics' - black swans and white swans, pressure points in the global economy, crises that extend beyond national borders and bubbles in the financial sector that spill over into the real economy - he shows us that boom to bust economics does not have to be destiny. He offers a course for the future: radical reform of the international financial order and a clear view of regulation, supervision and greater coordination between central banks in Europe, Asia and the United States.

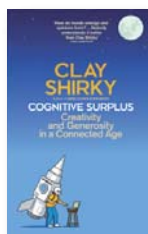


### Cognitive Surplus

#### Creativity and Generosity in a Connected Age

Clay SHIRKY  
242pp Pb \$29.95

For decades, technology encouraged us to squander our time and intellect as passive consumers. Today, tech has finally caught up with human potential. Shirky examines the changes we will all enjoy as our untapped resources of talent and good will are put to use at last. Since the postwar boom, we've had a surfeit of intellect, energy and time - a 'cognitive surplus'. Shirky argues persuasively that this cognitive surplus - rather than being some strange new departure from normal behavior - actually returns our society to forms of collaboration that were natural to us up to and through the early 20th Century. He also charts the vast effects that our cognitive surplus, aided by new technologies, will have on 21st Century society, how we can best exploit those effects and how the choices we make are not only economically motivated but driven by the desire for autonomy, competence and community.

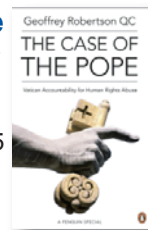


### The Case of the Pope

#### Vatican Accountability for Human Rights Abuse

Geoffrey ROBERTSON QC  
192pp Pb \$14.95

This book delivers a devastating indictment of the way the Vatican has been wrongly elevated to statehood and allowed to exploit its powers - not only to demean gays and women and damage UN efforts to combat AIDS but, in particular, to run a secret legal system that shields paedophiles from criminal trial and punishment. Is the Pope morally or legally responsible for the negligence that has allowed crimes to go unpunished? Should he and his seat of power, the Holy See, continue to enjoy an immunity that places them above the law? Robertson QC, a distinguished human rights lawyer and judge, reveals a deep respect for the good works of Catholics and their church, but he argues that unless Benedict XVI can divest himself of the beguilements of statehood and devotion to obsolescent canon law, the Vatican will remain a serious enemy to the advance of human rights. And more children will suffer.

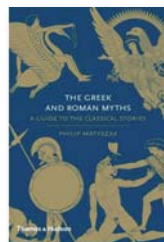


### The Greek and Roman Myths

#### A Guide to the Classical Stories

Philip MATYSZAK  
224pp Hb \$35.00

This handy guide to the Greek and Roman Myths brings classical mythology to life. Written by a bestselling author on Ancient Greece and Rome, it features an engaging blend of stories, facts and quotations from ancient authors. Placing ancient myths in a modern context it discusses the afterlives of the myths and the relevance of their messages today. Fact-files on heroes and heroines and family trees of the gods also make this a useful reference book for students.



## MISCELLANEOUS

### Watch This Space

#### The Future of Australian Journalism

Milissa DEITZ

228pp Pb \$29.95

With traditional print media sinking under shrinking readerships, redundancies and declining advertising revenue, the imminent death of 'quality' journalism is being prophesied by academics, publishers and journalists. Are we losing a vital public sphere for interrogating those in power and creating local and national communities? Or is a moribund media status quo getting a long overdue shake up? Deitz argues that far from being the grave digger, the internet is in fact reinventing and reinvigorating 'citizen journalism'. More democratic through interactivity and participation, more immediately responsive to rapidly changing events and issues, we increasingly go online for our news. Far from undermining traditional journalism, a changing media-scape composed of dedicated online journals, blogs, social networking, twitter and mobile telephony, is returning journalism to its radical and democratic roots, recreating the feisty, informed public domain extinguished over the 20th century by the concentration of media ownership in Australia.



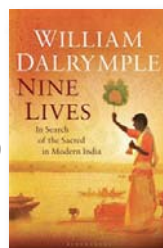
### Nine Lives

#### In Search of the Sacred in Modern India

William DALRYMPLE

304pp Pb \$24.99

Three brothers from a remote village in the Himalayas are driven by poverty to become monks. One becomes a famous masked dancer; the second an accomplished player of the Tibetan temple trumpet; and the third a great Buddhist scholar. A woman leaves her middle class family in Calcutta and her job in a jute factory, only to find unexpected love and fulfilment living as a tantric in a skull-filled hut in a remote cremation ground. A prison warder from Kerala becomes for two months of the year a temple dancer and is worshipped as an incarnate deity; then, at the end of February each year, he returns to prison. An illiterate goatherd from Rajasthan keeps alive an ancient 200,000-stanza sacred epic that he, virtually alone, still knows by heart. Told with an almost biblical simplicity, Dalrymple's first travel book in a decade explores how traditional forms of religious life in South Asia have been transformed in the vortex of the region's rapid change.



### Half the Sky

#### How to Change the World

Nicholas KRISTOF & Sheryl WUDUNN

352pp Pb \$27.99

"A brilliantly argued case for investing in the health and autonomy of women worldwide. Far from making moral appeals, the authors posit that it is impossible for countries to climb out of poverty if only a fraction of women participate in the labour force. The authors reveal local women to be the most effective change agents." *Publishers' Weekly*



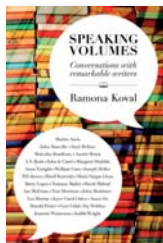
### Speaking Volumes

#### Conversations with Remarkable Writers

Ramona KOVAL

432pp Pb \$35.00

Koval has been praised as a master of the interview genre, renowned for engaging writers in conversations that are incisive, provocative and downright funny. In this new collection she shares the most fascinating interviews from her 2005 book **Tasting Life Twice** (Pb \$34.95), along with brand new interviews with some of the most important writers of our times. Through Koval, we are privy to the extraordinary minds of Joseph Heller, Joyce Carol Oates, Mario Vargas Llosa, Saul Bellow, Norman Mailer, David Malouf, John Mortimer, Ian McEwan, Gore Vidal, Harold Pinter, John le Carré, Judith Wright, Les Murray, Fay Weldon, A S Byatt, Margaret Drabble, Martin Amis, John Banville, Jeanette Winterson, Hanif Kureishi and Anne Enright, among others.



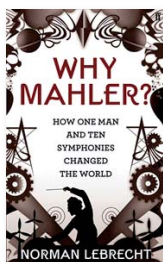
### Why Mahler?

#### How One Man and Ten Symphonies Changed the World

Norman LEBRECHT

320pp Hb \$39.99

A century after his death, Gustav Mahler is the most important composer of modern times. Displacing Beethoven as a box-office draw, his music offers more than the usual listening satisfactions. Long, loud and seldom easy, his symphonies are used to accompany acts of mourning and Hollywood melodramas. Sometimes dismissed as death-obsessed, Mahler is more alive in the 21st century than ever before. Why does a Jewish musician from a land without a name capture the yearnings and anxieties of post-industrial society? In this highly original account of Mahler's life and work, Lebrecht - renowned writer, critical and cultural commentator - explores the Mahler Effect, a phenomenon that reaches deep into unsuspecting lives, altering the self-perceptions of world leaders, finance chiefs and working musicians.



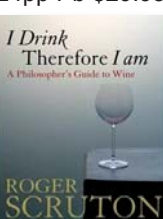
### I Drink Therefore I am

#### A Philosopher's Guide to Wine

Roger SCRUTON

224pp Pb \$29.95

The ancients had a solution to the alcohol problem, which was to wrap the drink in religious rituals, to treat it as the incarnation of a God, and to marginalise disruptive behaviour as the God's doing, not the worshipper's. Gradually, under the discipline of ritual, prayer and theology, wine was tamed from its orgiastic origins to become a solemn libation to the Olympians and then the Christian Eucharist - that brief encounter with salvation which has reconciliation as its goal. We are familiar with the medical opinion that a daily glass of wine is good for the health and also the rival opinion that any more than a glass or two will set us on the road to ruin. Whether or not good for the body, Scruton argues, wine, drunk in the right frame of mind, is definitely good for the soul. And there is no better accompaniment to wine than philosophy. By thinking with wine, you can learn not only to drink in thoughts but to think in draughts.



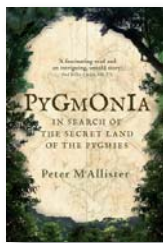
### Pygmonia

#### In Search of the Secret Land of the Pygmies

Peter McALLISTER

272pp Tp \$34.95

In the tradition of the bestselling **Longitude** (Pb \$24.99) comes the fascinating story of one man's quest to discover the secret land of the Pygmies, in northern Australia. A recent chapter in the history wars has returned a colonial-era mystery to the limelight: the existence of several tribes of Pygmy Aboriginal peoples in the Cairns and Yarrabah Peninsula regions in Queensland. Despite a general belief in their extinction, their descendants still live around Cairns, as McAllister found on a recent research trip. Attempting to unravel their origins led him to discover the fascinating truth about Pygmy peoples, who, contrary to common belief, still live in isolated pockets around the world, from South America to South-East Asia. But are these distinct populations related? How do the Greek and Roman Pygmy myths hold up against reality? Is the short stature of Pygmy peoples due to genetic codes or environmental conditions? And are today's Pygmies remnants of an ancient Pygmonia (land of the Pygmies) which early anthropologists believed had once spanned the globe?



### Sydney Morning Herald Good Food Guide 2011

Joanna SAVILL & Terry DURACK

352pp Pb \$29.95

This guide gives Sydney diners expert advice on the many restaurants, bars and cafes in Sydney, from cheap and cheerful locals to fine dining for special occasions, keeping residents and visitors in touch with the best, most interesting and most innovative places to dine in the city and suburbs, and further afield in regional New South Wales, as well as tips on dining highlights interstate and the wine regions of NSW. It also provides those all-important practical details such as opening hours, price ranges, whether a restaurant takes cards, what their wine list is like and whether they are child-friendly and/or cater for vegetarians.

### Eat, Pray, Love

#### One Woman's Search for Everything

Elizabeth GILBERT

384pp Pb \$24.99

I recently caught up with this memoir before I realised it was soon-to-be a movie. Gilbert lives in New York, she's a successful writer and she and her husband spend the weekends looking for furniture for their new home and hope to fill its empty rooms with children. But her heart is not in it. Numerous sessions of crying on the bathroom floor in the wee hours convince her to end her marriage. A torrid affair does not help and she finds the one thing she loves is learning Italian. So she goes to Rome to immerse herself in the language and embarks on an orgy of eating wonderful Italian food. A few months and many kilos later, she heads to India to an Ashram. Normally this new-age talk would make me cringe, but Gilbert actually explains the essence of Eastern spirituality and the quest for enlightenment very well. Needless to say, she finds the love of her life in Bali and is deliriously happy by the end of the book. *Ann*



## FROM EVE ABBEY



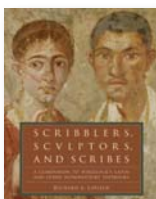
There is an excellent exhibition on at the State Library, until 10 October about Governor Macquarie, so I also want to recommend to you a good biography by Harry Dillon and Peter Butler called **Macquarie: From Colony to Country** (\$34.95 Pb 374pp incl index) In presenting Macquarie's life in such a readable fashion, the authors have, in effect, written a very clear history of the settlement of Sydney from 1810 onwards.

Have you discovered Australian novelist Kathleen Stewart? She is a first class writer and her books are not sentimental – in fact just the opposite. Her latest is called **Men of Bad Character** (\$32.95 Tp 306pp). This is a wry self-examination of a 40-something woman whose husband has, for some not yet explained reason, been sent to jail. There is an ominous air all through the book till we finally discover the reason. Meanwhile the narrator chooses yet another wrong man. Excellent descriptions and subtle examination of modern relationships. Both humorous and sad with an excellent plot.



There are many interesting books in the area upstairs dedicated to Young History, Young Science and Young Non Fiction. Such as **Somme Mud: An Australian Teenager in the First World War**, by Private Edward Lynch and edited by Will Davies (abridged edition \$18.95 Pb 342pp). There is not only a good glossary but also suggested questions from the History Teaching Support Kit. Another book especially suitable for school libraries is **Omnivore's Dilemma: The Secrets Behind What You Eat** (\$24.95 Hb 298pp). This is a Young Readers Edition of the *New York Times* bestseller by Michael Pollan. It is based in America but nonetheless the advice and information given is timely. A good place for school librarians to browse.

Also upstairs in the Greek and Latin sections there is a recently arrived addition to the famous series, Wheelock's Latin. This is called **Scribblers, Sculptors and Scribes: A Companion to Wheelock's Latin and Other Introductory Textbooks** (\$32.99 Lp 307pp including glossary and verb conjugations). This selection of authentic, unabridged texts includes proverbs, inscriptions and literary texts, and provides an insight into the life of average Romans. Although linked to Wheelock it can be used with other texts. Of course we always have **Wheelock's Latin** (\$36.00 Lp) and **Wheelock's Latin Reader** (\$34.00 Pb) as well as **Wheelock's Latin: Workbook** (\$38.95 Pb). You can also have **Vocabulary Cards and Grammatical Forms: Summary for Wheelock's Latin** (\$62.00 Pb) as well as **Comprehensive Guide to Wheelock's Latin** (\$86.00 Pb) and four CD's containing **Readings from Wheelock's Latin** (\$96.00)

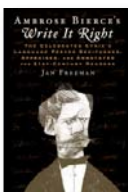


I once gave the **Illustrated Edition** of that timeless classic **Strunk and White's Elements of Style** with quirky illustrations by famous illustrator Maira Kalman (\$39.95 Hb 145pages) to a word-conscious friend and it was received with glee. I remember thinking at the time "not many people will want this little gem" but in fact there are many people who appreciate the humour as well as the advice and it has been a constant seller. You can now have the Illustrated Edition in paperback for \$19.95 but many people prefer the hardback. If you just want the inimitable advice without the illustrations **Elements of Style** is \$18.95. Perhaps you have a friend who will appreciate this excellent advice?



I notice there is another entry in this competition – it is Mark Garvey's **Stylized: A Slightly Obsessive History of Strunk and White's Elements of Style** (\$39.99 Hb 207pp). In itself it is a celebration of truth in writing and the power of the individual voice, while Mark also delves into the letters between E B White and his Professor, William Strunk Jr and takes his favourite little book with him to the *New Yorker* and to Hollywood scriptwriting. The competition I refer to is one where the names of the authors have become as famous as the title, if not more so.

I found another little book in the same pernicky fashion. Namely Ambrose Bierce's **Write It Right: The Celebrated Cynic's Language Peeves Deciphered, Appraised, and Annotated for 21st Century Readers** by Jan Freeman (\$39.99 Hb 220pp), (there's a comma in there that I wouldn't use). Jan writes a weekly language column for the *Boston Sunday Globe* and she has taken the Victorian-era grammar strictures and definitions of the famously grouchy Ambrose Bierce (author of **The Devil's Dictionary** \$23.95 Pb illustrated by none other than Ralph Steadman) and looks at how his strictures fare today.

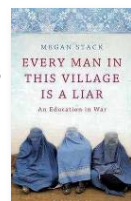


If you are interested there is an **Unabridged Devil's Dictionary** (\$34.00 Pb 440pp) downstairs in Humour. I think this is only for the obsessive as it "contains bibliographic detail for every entry".

I am sure Lindy has already mentioned the enormously successful **Chaos Walking** trilogy by Patrick Ness. Daughter Jane read the first volume when she was here at Christmas and, by request, I have had to send the second and third volumes up to her on the Burma Border where several of her friends have been waiting anxiously. Neither real fantasy nor science fiction the story is about a group of people colonising another planet where they discover the thoughts of all men and boys are audible to everyone else, (it is called **The NOISE**) but the thoughts of women are not heard. This certainly changes the way people interact. The narrator is a boy just becoming a man and having to make choices about life. Jane says the books are a good tool to present social and moral issues to be considered by young people, especially gender issues. Volume 1 is **The Knife of Never Letting Go** (\$24.95 Pb 479pp), Volume 2 is **The Ask and the Answer** \$24.95 Pb 536pp) while the thrilling climax, Volume 3 is **Monsters of Men** (\$32.95 Tp 608pp).



I read a very interesting book by a young American foreign correspondent. It is called **Every Man in this Village is a Liar** (\$35.00 Pb 255pp) and is by Megan Stack who recounts her own personal experiences in "the region". This means Iraq, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Kurdistan, Yemen and even Libya and Afghanistan. Bad places to be yet she survives and is able to report both sides of the story. The early part, in Afghanistan, unfortunately is rendered in rather purple prose but this fades until, in the epilogue, she admits, "I didn't want to write this last part with any decorations or adornment". She now represents the *Los Angeles Times* in Moscow, where she hopes there is no war.



I have another bit of Penguin memorabilia for fans like me. It is **Postcards from Penguin: 100 Book Jackets in One Box** \$39.95. In a sturdy box, looking like a book, you will find 100 ready to use postcards, each showing an original Penguin cover. Dare I say, in September, that it would be a useful Christmas present? It will set you up for a year at least – there are some people without email! And you will enjoy choosing a suitable title for each of your friends. I haven't yet been brave enough to break the set. Perhaps I will not!



Have you noticed that each month we have a few books at a special price which we have bought in especially? This month there is one especially for bibliomaniacs. Do you remember the books of Larry McMurtry, author of many quality Westerns, including **Lonesome Dove** (Pb \$14.95)? He has made his home town of Archer City, Texas into a book paradise similar to Hay-on-Wye. In **Books: A Memoir** (\$16.95 special-priced Hb 259pp) he reminisces about all the books he's bought and sold (especially antiquarian books) and all the booksellers he's known over the years. It's a charming conversation between booklovers, one in which the titles of certain books become the characters in the story. Very nostalgic for me.



Yes, I know we've been talking about a new website for a long time – but it is here now, up and running, and it is rather marvellous. As well as the approximately 100,000 books we have in stock or on order, we have feeds from Australian, American and British databases so that more than three million titles are available on the site! Naturally this means that you can narrow your search if you only want to see what we have in the shop. We would love to know if you have any thoughts when negotiating this wonderful site so please send your comments to [feedback@abbeyes.com.au](mailto:feedback@abbeyes.com.au)

Keep well,

Eve



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- Lords of the Sea: The Epic Story of the Athenian Navy and the Birth of Democracy** by John R Hale (Pb \$24.95)
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- The Passage** by Justin Cronin (Tp \$35.00)
- Tinkers** by Paul Harding (Pb \$24.95)
- Matterhorn** by Karl Marlantes (Tp \$32.99)

**Editor:** Ann Leahy

**Contributors:** Eve Abbey, David Hall, Adrian Hardingham & Ann Leahy

### Binding Key

Pb Paperback  
Tp Trade paperback (slightly larger)  
Hb Hardback

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**The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest** by Steig Larsson \$24.95  
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by Alan Bennett \$19.99  
In this poignant family memoir Bennett offers a portrait of his parents' marriage and recalls his Leeds childhood, Christmases with Grandma Peel, and the lives, loves and deaths of his unforgettable aunts Kathleen and Myra.

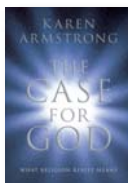
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by Peter Ackroyd \$29.95  
Ackroyd at his most magical and magisterial - a glittering, evocative, fascinating, story-filled portrait of Venice: the ultimate city.

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#### What Religion Really Means

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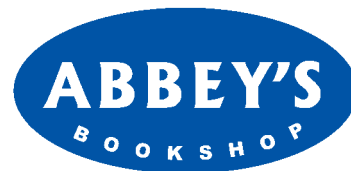


#### James Lee Milne

by Michael Bloch \$29.99  
Milne is remembered for his work for the National Trust, rescuing some of England's greatest architectural treasures, and for the vivid and entertaining diaries which have earned him a reputation as 'the 20th century Pepys'.

#### The Third Man Factor: The Secret to Survival in Extreme Conditions

by John Geiger \$25.95  
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