# books to give read

elcome to Abbey's book selection for the summer of 2010 – just a small taste of the huge range of interesting and unusual books we have for you to give and read this Christmas and beyond.

Here at Abbey's we source books from all over the world, so we're bound to have something you won't find elsewhere. And if we don't have the title you're after, our helpful staff will happily order it for you.

So browse online or visit our three specialist stores in York Street – opposite the QVB and only 100m from Town Hall. We are looking forward to making your summer of reading more enjoyable!



Since 1968, we have been selling books from the extensive range in our central Sydney store to readers around the country. We are a great place to browse for whatever interests you – especially our famous shelves of History, Science, the Classics and Crime. With a strong selection in most other areas, such as Fiction, Travel, Biography and Children's books, Abbey's goes well beyond the latest bestsellers.



Upstairs at Abbey's, you will find Australia's largest range of language learning materials, as well as novels, cookbooks and children's books – all in foreign languages, plus modern and classic film on DVD from around the world!



Australia's largest and most experienced specialist for Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror, plus the latest and hottest in Paranormal Romance. For something out of this world, come and visit our Galaxy!

Cover image by Rex Dupain from his new book Australia: 150 Photographs (Hb \$59.95) see page 29. Printed courtesy of Rex Dupain and Penguin Books Australia. Prices in this guide are correct at time of publication but unfortunately are subject to change.



#### To the End of the Land

David Grossman Pb \$35

Ora and her son Ofer plan to walk the Israel National Trail together, but when Ofer re-enlists in the army, Ora decides to do the walk anyway. She is accompanied by her ex-lover Avram, and during the walk their past lives are revealed. It's hard not



to be guilty of hyperbole when recommending this book as it is such an achievement of characterisation, with emotions carefully flowering as Ora and Avram reignite the embers of their past. A simply glorious book, this is easily my pick of the year. *Greg* 

#### The Empty Family

#### Colm Tóibín Pb \$29.99

From a writer who never disappoints (**Brooklyn** Pb \$22.99, **The Master** Pb \$22.95) come nine captivating stories which delineate, with a tender and unique sensibility, lives of unspoken or unconscious longing, of individuals cast adrift, often willingly, from their history.



Each story manages to contain whole worlds – stories of fleeing the past and returning home, of family threads lost and ultimately regained.

#### Mr Shakespeare's Bastard

#### Richard Wright Pb \$29.99

It is 1658 and Aerlene Ward has lived quietly in Oxfordshire for many years. Now in ill-health, she needs to confess her deepest secret – she is the illegitimate daughter of England's greatest writer, William Shakespeare. Telling how her beautiful,



superstitious mother came to know the struggling young player, Aerlene explains the consequences and shame, but also the love and comfort, of her mother's actions. Richly detailed, this is an enjoyable, absorbing and sprightly novel. *Lindy* 

#### The Penguin Book of the Ocean

#### James Bradley (editor) Pb \$35

This is a dazzling selection of writing that explores this grandest of obsessions, combining fact and fiction, classical and contemporary, to create a collection like no other. From Rachel Carson's luminous account of our planet's birth to the story of the wreck that inspired



Moby-Dick to Tim Winton's award-winning dissection of the dark side of surfing, this new collection is a hymn to the mystery, beauty and majesty of the ocean and to the poets and explorers it has inspired.

In between the accounts of Cyril's perils, letters from another famous explorer portray ever more fantastic tales as he searches for a rare

#### The Lost Kings

#### Bruno Hare Pb \$29.99

London, 1893. Cyril King dreams of being an explorer, and when he comes into possession of clues to a fabulous treasure, his wish is granted. High in the Karakorum Mountains on the border of India and Afghanistan, he meets a real explorer and learns that adventures are not all they're made out to be.

creature. A stirring novel of derring-do and danger.

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#### Bereft

Chris Womersley Pb \$32.95

In 1919, after the Great War, the Spanish flu epidemic is raging across Australia. In the NSW town of Flint, Quinn Walker returns to the home he fled 10 years earlier when accused of an unspeakable crime. From the author of the bleak award-winner **The** 

Low Road (Pb \$32.95) comes a different kind of page-turner. Womersley's wonderfully written, economical yet expressive prose makes this a compelling account of an era, a place and a mind. Very, very good. *Adrian* 

#### Luka and the Fire of Life

#### Salman Rushdie Pb \$29.95

On a beautiful starry night in the city of Kahani in the land of Alifbay, a terrible thing happened: Rashid, the storyteller father of 12-year-old Luka, fell suddenly and inexplicably into a sleep so deep that nothing and no one could rouse him. To save him from slipping away

entirely, Luka embarks on a journey through the Magic World. Written for Rushdie's son on his 12th birthday, this story is rich with word-play and the narrative tension of classic quest stories.

#### When Colts Ran

#### Roger McDonald Pb \$32.95

In this sweeping epic of friendship, toil, hope and failed promise, the multi-award-winning author follow the story of Kingsley Colts as he chases the ghost of himself through the decades, and in and out of the lives and affections of the citizens of 'The Isabel', a

slice of Australia scattered with prospectors, artists, no-hopers and visionaries. Written in a rich and piercingly observant style, this is a tale of how loyalties shape us in the most unexpected ways.

#### **The English Class**

#### Ouyang Yu Pb \$32.95

It is the late 1970s, at the end of the Cultural Revolution in China. Jing, an educated youth who has spent a few years as a peasant in the countryside, becomes a truck driver in a provincial shipyard. He meets with

classmates from vastly different cultural backgrounds and falls in love with Deirdre, the estranged partner of Dr Wagner, the English teacher. This engaging novel explores the aspiration of many to migrate to an English-speaking country. A novel at once wise, brave and entertaining.

#### The Elephant's Journey

#### José Saramago Pb \$29.95

The life of Solomon the elephant is about to be upturned. For two years, he has been in Lisbon, brought from the Portuguese colonies in India. The King now wishes to make him a wedding gift for the Hapsburg archduke. So begins a journey that takes Solomon across Castile, over the sea to Genoa and up





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## fiction

#### **Notorious**

Roberta Lowing Pb \$32.99

A nameless woman lies horribly scarred and close to death in an Asylum deep in the North African desert. An Australian official has come to question her, despite the protests of her carers. It is clear that the woman



and Devlin share some past. They and others in the Asylum are linked by a diary written by the poet Rimbaud, with secrets mapped on the precious pages. This quite striking debut novel is a literary mystery, a love story and much, much more...

#### **Of Beasts and Beings**

#### Ian Holding Pb \$32.99

An unnamed man is captured as he scavenges in a post-apocalyptic wasteland, then subjected to a terrifying journey to an unknown destination. A white Zimbabwean teacher is selling up to emigrate, tired and disillusioned at feeling like an alien in his land of birth.



Each man fights for survival, but which one is in greatest danger? A highly original, timely and thought-provoking novel on the dehumanising effects of racial violence.

#### Nourishment

#### Gerard Woodward Pb \$32.99

Tory's quiet life is thrown into turmoil when her husband Donald, a prisoner of war, makes an outrageous demand for sexual gratification – he wants a dirty letter, by return post! So she begins a quest to master the language of carnal desire – a quest that takes a

the language of carnal desire – a quest that takes a sudden and unexpected turn into far more dangerous territory. Equally funny and moving, this is from the author of **I'll Go to Bed at Noon** (Pb \$23.95), shortlisted for the 2004 Man Booker Prize.

#### **Rocks in the Belly**

#### Jon Bauer Pb \$32.95

This compelling novel is about a precocious 8-yearold boy and the volatile adult he becomes. During childhood, his mother fosters boys, despite the jealous turmoil it arouses in her son. This is about the destruction we wreak on one another in the pursuit of



our own happiness; how we never escape our upbringing; and a stark reminder that the most dangerous place for a child is within the family. An intriguing, powerful, yet beautiful and funny novel.

### Man Booker Prize 2010

Julian Treslove is mugged after an evening with two Jewish widower friends and becomes even more obsessed with all things Jewish – 'Finklers', he calls them, after his anti-Zionist friend, a famous pop philosopher. A novel that explores love, loss, politics, history, middle-aged male angst and modern morals. *Lindy* 



Pb \$32.99

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## fiction

#### The Mary Smokes Boys

Patrick Holland Pb \$29.95

This haunting novel is set in a small town in

Queensland. After Grey's mother dies giving birth to his sister Irene, he has the responsibility of caring for Irene while his father sinks further into alcoholism. There is an unspoken menace that pervades this book, almost gothic in its intensity. Holland imbues the story with a biblical-like glare, calling to mind the work of Cormac McCarthy, yet he manages to lighten this at times with deft, humorous touches. This work leaves a muddy footprint-like stain on you long after reading it. Highly recommended. *Greg* 

#### **That Deadman Dance**

#### Kim Scott Pb \$32.99

Set in the first decades of the 19th century in the area around what is now Albany, Western Australia, Bobby, a young Noongar man, befriends the new European arrivals. Clever, resourceful and eager to please, he joins them hunting whales, tilling the land, exploring

the hinterland and establishing the fledgling colony. As the colonists impose ever stricter rules, Bobby is drawn into a series of events that will forever change not just the colony, but the future of Australia.

#### Insurrection

#### Robyn Young Pb \$32.99

1286 and the King of Scotland has died, murdered by one of his retainers. Edward I of England has just set in place his plans for domination, but the grandest families of Scotland don't know this and are engaged in their own feuds to secure succession to the throne.

A young nobleman finds himself embroiled in the plots, defying Edward. His name – Robert the Bruce. A breathlessly exciting read, full of detail and vivid characterisation. *Lindy* 

#### 3 for 2 offer

Buy 2 books in Young's previous trilogy and get the third one free (\$19.99 ea).



### Miles Franklin Award 2010



Pb \$23.95

Temple's follow-up to his award-winning The Broken Shore (Pb \$23.95) has garnered him even more accolades. Not only one of this country's finest crime writers, he is now among Australia's best writers of any genre. In this novel, his uncluttered prose tells the story of violence and corruption in Melbourne's grimy underbelly with great precision and more than enough skill to take out the big literary prize. *Adrian* 

## crime

#### **Our Kind of Traitor**

John le Carré Pb \$32.95

This is the sort of book you read in one sitting! British couple Perry and Gail, holidaying in Antigua, meet the aggressive, charismatic



Dima, a Russian of huge wealth who dreams of settling his family in England and is prepared to betray his fellow oligarchs by divulging illegalities involving the UK banking and political establishment. Tension builds relentlessly as Perry and Gail become entangled in Dima's plans. Le Carré gives Dima an original and authentic voice – the best dialogue since Mark Dapin's **King of the Cross** (Pb \$22.99). Venturing behind the headlines, this story is immediate, compulsively readable and disturbing in its implications. *Peter* 

#### **The Attenbury Emeralds**

Jill Paton Walsh Pb \$32.99

Dorothy Sayers' character Lord Peter Wimsey tells the story of his first – and last – case. In 1921, he had been asked to investigate the theft of the magnificent Attenbury emerald, which set him on his career as a detective. Now in 1951, the grandson of Lord Attenbury asks for Wimsey's help in determining



ownership of the emerald he last saw 30 years ago. So starts the most intricate puzzle of Wimsey's career...

#### A Few Right Thinking Men

Sulari Gentill Pb \$29.99

The Sinclair name is respectable and influential, but the youngest son, Rowland – an 'artist and a gentleman' – has a talent for scandal... This gripping debut crime novel set in Depression-era Sydney brilliantly contrasts Rowland's world of opulent wealth and



impeccable tailoring with the surrounding unemployment and social upheaval. One for both crime readers and those interested in Australia's history; beautifully researched, it brings to life an era of Sydney that is fascinating and lively. *Annabel* 

#### **Black Diamond**

#### Martin Walker Pb \$32.95

If you like character-based crime novels, set in an exotic location, with smatterings of local culture and cuisine thrown in, then the novels featuring Bruno Courreges, Chief of Police in St Denis, will be just the thing! The only policeman in this Perigord village,



he must deal with hate crimes, arson attacks against vineyards and truffle substitution rackets. Nothing is ever as straightforward as it first appears, in this the third of his investigations. But Bruno has intelligence and political nous, plus the brute strength of a rugby player.

We have the first two Bruno novels, Bruno Chief of Police (normally \$24.95) and The Dark Vineyard (normally \$29.95), reduced to \$14.95 each, while stocks last.





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#### **Between Summer's Longing** and Winter's End

Leif Persson Pb \$32.95

Investigating the apparent suicide of a young American student in Stockholm - at first an open and shut case – police superintendent Lars Johansson's inquiry unearths more than he bargained for. It all leads to a

complex web of international espionage and treachery, and ultimately the murder of the Swedish Prime Minister. Hailed as one of the greatest ever Swedish crime novels, this now debuts in English.

#### **Field Grey**

#### Philip Kerr Pb \$32.95

PHILIP KERR Bernie Gunther is tired. It's 1954 and he secretly buys ID a boat, sails to Florida... and gets arrested. Sent to Cuba - where he meets Fidel Castro - he is imprisoned FIELD GREY and then flown back to Berlin where he must choose between hanging for murder or working with the

French intelligence. He soon finds his past as a German POW in Russia is about to catch up with him. The 7th Bernie Gunther mystery - the last of which, If the Dead Rise Not (Pb \$32.95), won the 2009 CWA Ellis Peters' Award for Best Historical Crime Novel.

#### Nowhere Man

#### John Green Pb \$32.99

When her husband, a wealthy Sydney stock trader, suddenly goes missing, Sonya is left in debt and despair. Until she stumbles on some strange computer files... This thriller virtually turns the pages itself as Sonya tries to stave off financial collapse and find her

husband. The plot speeds across rollercoaster stock markets, a lovetriangle murder and conspiracy.

#### **Operation Napoleon**

#### Arnaldur Indridason Pb \$32.95

The CWA Gold Dagger-winning Nordic crime author leaves his Reykjavik Murder Mysteries series for this thriller that travels from modern Iceland to America and Nazi Germany at the end of WWII. As the US Army secretively tries to remove an aeroplane from a glacier,

two young Icelanders pay with their lives. And the sister of one will not rest until she discovers the truth of her brother's fate...

#### Millennium Trilogy Boxed Set

#### Stieg Larsson Hb \$99.95

The three amazing 'Girls' in handsome hardback editions, stylishly packaged in a cloth slipcase, together with a volume of essays by people who knew and worked with Larsson. A nice gift for fans of this edgy Scandinavian series, or a lovely way to introduce newcomers.



#### Of course all three novels - The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, The Girl Who Played with Fire and The Girl Who Kicked the Hornets' Nest - are still available separately (Pb \$24.95, Audio 6 CDs \$32.95).

#### **Dark Clouds on the Mountain**

#### John Tully Pb \$29.95

Set in Tasmania in the early 1990s, with flashbacks to Europe during WWII and post-war Hobart, Tully creates a fictional world strongly embedded in authentic details of real locations and well-conceived characters. Conveyed with a sense of brooding violence, the tightly



#### Sharp Turn

#### Marianne Delacourt Pb \$29.99

Snappy, funny and smart. Tara Sharp might have been just another unemployable twenty-something, but she has an unusual gift - she can read people's auras. It's lost her a job or two, but it makes her a very handy private investigator. This time, though, she might have bitten off more than she can chew, for Johnny Viaspa,



the local crime lord, has reappeared... Packed with kick-arse action, this is great for fans of Janet Evanovich, or anyone who loves a feisty, fab, female character. Annabel

Comes with a FREE copy of the first Tara Sharp novel, Sharp Shooter (normally \$29.99), while stocks last.

#### **Dead Man's Chest**

#### Kerry Greenwood Pb \$22.99

In her 18th adventure, the divine Phryne Fisher promises her household a nice relaxing holiday by the sea, but of course events conspire against her! Starting with the disappearance of the hired help, a gang of teenage louts, a phantom hair-snipper, rumoured buried treasure, a silent film being made, rum smuggling and a very odd bunch of Surrealists,





the holiday soon starts looking like hard work. Great fun as always! If you haven't yet plunged into the roaring world of Phryne, her first three adventures are now available in an omnibus edition, Introducing the Honourable Phryne Fisher (Pb \$29.99). Lindy

#### Started Early, Took My Dog Kate Atkinson Pb \$32.95

A deliciously complex, intelligent and witty addition to the Jackson Brodie series. As always, the action revolves around our unlikely hero Jackson. We also meet a



cast of characters who initially seem to have nothing in common, but whose lives rapidly entangle. What I love about Atkinson's books is the way she is always fresh and surprising, and this book, packed with unlikely heroes and villains, plus one very lovable dog, is definitely a page-turner. If you haven't read any of her earlier books, this is an excellent place to start. Annabel



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