



The Text Publishing Company



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The Text Publishing Company acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the country on which we work, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

Recent Acquisitions

Children and Young Adult

Gale, Emily & Weetman, Nova	Outlaw Girls	World	Authors
He, Joan	Strike the Zither duology	UK & Comm (ex Canada)	The Rights People
Laguna, Ingrid	Kasia	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Laguna, Ingrid	Come On, Otto	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Levithan, David	Answers in the Pages	ANZ	United Agents on behalf of the Clegg Agency

Adult

Calaby, Tara	<i>Untitled historical novel</i>	World	Author
Cave, Nick and O'Hagan, Sean	<i>Faith, Hope and Carnage</i>	ANZ	Canongate Books
Darriussecq, Marie	<i>Pas Dormir</i>	UK & Comm (ex Canada)	Editions P.O.L.
Halloran, Jacinta	<i>Resistance Is Futile</i>	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Ísberg, Fríða	<i>Merking / The Mark</i>	ANZ	RCW Literary Agency
Jones, Gail	<i>Salonika Burning</i>	World	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Kwaymullina, Ambelin	<i>Liar's Test and its untitled sequel</i>	ANZ	Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Malcolm, Janet	<i>Pictures</i>	ANZ	Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Morrissey, John	<i>Autoc</i>	World	Author
Morrissey, John	<i>Bird Deity Alpha</i>	World	Author
Salasc, Emmanuelle	<i>Hors Gel / Alarm</i>	UK & Comm (ex Canada)	Editions P.O.L.
Schwartz, Selby Wynn	<i>After Sappho</i>	ANZ	Galley Beggar Press
Wilson, Kevin	<i>Now Is Not the Time to Panic</i>	UK & Comm (ex Canada)	Abner Stein in association with The Book Group

Recent Publications

Children and Young Adult

Arnold, David	<i>The Electric Kingdom</i>	Writers House USA
Dabos, Christelle	<i>The Storm of Echoes: The Mirror Visitor, Book Four</i>	Gallimard Jeunesse
Kelly, Erin Entrada	<i>Those Kids from Fawn Creek</i>	The Rights People
King, A. S.	<i>Switch</i>	Penguin Random House USA
Meyer, Marissa	<i>Gilded</i>	Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Meyer, Marissa (editor)	<i>Serendipity: Ten Romantic Tropes, Transformed</i>	Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Obama, Barack	<i>Dreams From My Father: Adapted for Young Adults</i>	Abner Stein
Saeed, Aisha	<i>Omar Rising</i>	Penguin Random House USA
Smith, Mark	<i>If Not Us</i>	Author

Adult

Collette, Katherine	<i>The Competition</i>	Jacinta di Mase Management
Disher, Garry	<i>The Way It Is Now</i>	Jenny Darling & Associates
Down, Jennifer	<i>Bodies of Light</i>	Author
Durastanti, Claudia	<i>La Straniera / Strangers I Know</i>	Casanovas & Lynch Literary Agency
Fenster, Gigi	<i>A Good Winter</i>	High Spot Literary
Garner, Helen	<i>How to End a Story: Diaries Volume 3</i>	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Holbe, Julia	<i>Unsere glücklichen Tage / Our Happy Days</i>	Penguin Random House Germany
Jones, Kimberly	<i>How We Can Win: Race, History and Changing the Money Game That's Rigged</i>	Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Macrae Burnet, Graeme	<i>Case Study</i>	Blake Friedmann Literary Agency Ltd
McGirr, Michael	<i>Ideas to Save Your Life: Philosophy for Wisdom, Solace and Pleasure</i>	Curtis Brown Australia
Melchor, Fernanda	<i>Páradais / Paradais</i>	Literarische Agentur Michael Gaeb
Sherborne, Craig	<i>The Grass Hotel</i>	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Simsion, Graeme	<i>The Novel Project</i>	Author
Simsion, Graeme & Buist, Anne	<i>Two Steps Onward</i>	Authors
Tokarczuk, Olga	<i>Księgi Jakubowe / The Books of Jacob</i>	RCW Literary Agency
Wang, Weike	<i>Joan Is Okay</i>	David Higham Associates

After You Were Gone by Vikki Wakefield

Not knowing was like living inside a well with slippery sides and the occasional crack between stones, a foothold, a scrabbling place...That damned pink dress Sarah was wearing. I tortured myself, going over the things I could have changed if I had been paying attention...After Sarah was gone, I still yearned for answers. I moved on, but I'd built my house around the well. While I was busy living, it sank deeper; the distance was greater, the light dimmer. This time the climb might be impossible, but I had no choice—I let myself fall.

My life is a story in two parts.

Before.

After.

What happens to a family when a child goes missing? How far would you go to learn the truth?

In a busy street market, Abbie lets go of six-year-old Sarah's hand. She isn't a bad mother, just exhausted. When she turns around, her daughter isn't there. After a full-scale search and a high-profile investigation, there is still no trace of Sarah.

Six years later, Abbie is in love and getting married. Her family, despite their problems, have seen her through her worst imaginings—only Abbie's mother seems unwilling to let her move on. Her fragile peace is constantly threatened: not knowing what happened to Sarah is like living with a curse.

Then a phone call from an unknown number offers closure. A man claims to know what happened to Sarah, but if Abbie tells anyone or fails to follow instructions, she'll never find out. What price must Abbie pay to know the truth?

Vikki Wakefield writes fiction for young adults and adults. Her books explore family, class and relationships in a contemporary setting. Her novels *All I Ever Wanted*, *Friday Brown*, *Inbetween Days* and *Ballad for a Mad Girl* have been shortlisted for numerous awards. *This Is How We Change the Ending* was named Book of the Year: Older Readers in the 2020 Children's Book Council Awards. *After You Were Gone*, a psychological thriller, is her first novel for adults. She is working on her second one.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

October 2022

Manuscript available

The Carnival Is Over by Greg Woodland

1971—Hal is seventeen, with dreams of escaping from Moorabool to a life in the city. But right now he’s on a good-behaviour bond and stuck in a job he hates, paying off the car he ‘borrowed’ and crashed. Hal’s packing-room job makes him a target for workplace bullies and the friendship of the older, more worldly Christine is all that makes each day bearable. So when she doesn’t turn up for work, he’s on the alert.

So is Sergeant Mick Goodenough. But he already knows what’s happened to Christine: the same thing that happened to the newly elected deputy mayor. When another gruesome ‘accident’ occurs in Moorabool, Goodenough suspects there’s something sinister going on behind the scenes at the abattoir.

Mick and Hal are both determined to dig up the truth. Before long each of them is going to find himself in mortal danger and running for his life.

Greg Woodland, author of the acclaimed *The Night Whistler*, returns with another nail-biting rural thriller that will have you on the edge of your seat.

Praise for Greg Woodland:

‘Troubling undercurrents swirl in a seductively involving story of small-town secrets and obsessions.’ Garry Disher on *The Night Whistler*

Greg Woodland is an author, screenwriter and former director. Since 2000 he’s worked as a freelance script editor and consultant for film funding bodies and the Australian Writers’ Guild and taught screenwriting at Sydney film schools and universities. His first novel, *The Night Whistler*, was shortlisted for a 2021 Ned Kelly Award.

Rights Held: World

Option Publishers: France—Editions Belfond; Russia—Ast

Fiction

August 2022

Manuscript available

Salonika Burning by Gail Jones

How he wished to paint it. The razed city. The human drama. He saw the old forms broken, shaped in new alignments, the destructible world abstracted in splendid innovations...Already he understood the power of derangement, and how a single window might contain an entire fate.

Greece, 1917. The great city Salonika is ravaged by an enormous fire as Europe is engulfed by war.

Amid the destruction, there are those who have come to the frontlines to heal: surgeons, ambulance drivers, nurses, orderlies and other volunteers. Four of these people—Olive, Grace, Stella and Stanley—are at the centre of Gail Jones' extraordinary new novel, which takes its inspiration from the wartime experiences of Australians Miles Franklin and Olive King, and those of British painters Grace Pailthorpe and Stanley Spenser.

Propulsive and gripping, *Salonika Burning* is a formidable work of historical fiction that illuminates not only the devastation of war but also the social upheaval of the times. It shows Gail Jones at the height of her powers.

Praise for Gail Jones:

'Jones is one of our greatest writers—for her enormous wisdom and insight as well as the shimmering intensity of her descriptive language.' *West Australian* on *The Death of Noah Glass*

'A beautifully written and finely imagined novel.' *Weekly Times* on *Our Shadows*

Gail Jones is one of Australia's most celebrated writers. She is the author of two short-story collections and nine novels, and her work has been translated into several languages. She has received numerous literary awards, including the Prime Minister's Literary Award, the Age Book of the Year, the South Australian Premier's Award, the ALS Gold Medal and the Kibble Award, and has been shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award, the International Dublin Literary Award and the Prix Femina Étranger. Originally from Western Australia, she now lives in Sydney.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

November 2022

Manuscript available

Paper Cage by Tom Baragwanath

Masterton isn't a big town. The community's tight, if not always harmonious. So when a child goes missing it's a big deal for everyone. And when a second kid disappears, the whole town's holding their own children that little bit tighter.

Lorraine doesn't have kids, but she has a nephew. She's holding him a bit tighter, too, because she works for the police, and she knows they don't have any idea.

Lo's not a cop, she's a records clerk. She sits out back among the piles of paper, making connections, remembering things. Working things out that the actual cops don't want to hear about.

Until the new investigator, Hayes, arrives from Wellington, and realises Lo's the only person there with answers to any of his questions. Which is just as well—because the clock is running down for the children of the town.

Both a nail-biting thriller and a beautifully written, acutely observed portrait of a community, *Paper Cage* is the prize-winning debut from young New Zealand novelist Tom Baragwanath.

Tom Baragwanath is a writer originally from Masterton, New Zealand, currently living in Paris. His short fiction has been widely published. He completed an MA in Creative Writing at Kent University in 2020.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

September 2022

Manuscript available

Bootstrap by Georgina Young

Jackson Sweeney is stewing in his tiny hometown, feeling stuck as he spends his days working at Al's Takeaway and fending off homophobic losers. His childhood friend Marnie returns to Ginsborough on her family's annual visit, but she's reeling from a break-up and is determined to lie low. After all, nothing ever happens in this part of the world.

But then one night an odd-looking stranger shows up: he has long black hair, a leather trench coat and the improbable name of Bootstrap. What's more, he says he's here to see the night Jackson Sweeney becomes a hero.

Soon, Sweeney and Marnie find themselves swept up in an adventure they never could have dreamt of—with a fugitive from the future.

Both a thrilling race against time and a witty contemporary love story, *Bootstrap* is the genre-bending new novel from the brilliant Georgina Young.

Praise for Georgina Young:

'Georgina Young made me squirm and swoon and sigh as I fell head over heels for the exquisite paradoxes of her protagonist. This is a book to push into the hands of everyone you know, especially those who ever had trouble knowing themselves.' Kate Mildenhall on *Loner*

Georgina Young is a writer and designer from Melbourne. Her first novel, *Loner*, which was published in 2020, won the Text Prize, was commended by the CBCA as a notable book for older readers, and was shortlisted for a Prime Minister's Literary Award.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

| July 2022

| Finished pages available

The Secret Wife by Mark Lamprell

In 1961, the day the first human went into outer space, Edith Devine moves into her brand-new suburban home—and meets her new neighbour, Frankie Heyman. Frankie is a glamorous, sophisticated foil to the quiet, clever Edith, and the two housewives become firm friends.

Then, when Frankie's domineering husband, Ralph, refuses to let her get a job, Edith hatches a plan to keep her friend's household running while Frankie secretly goes out to work—and so Edith becomes Frankie's secret wife. As Frankie builds a business empire, Edith runs both their homes: dusting, cleaning and cooking her way through the sexual revolution, the summer of love and the second wave of feminism. Throughout the 1960s, the world's great events seem to be mirrored in the lives of two women—until the day in 1969 when the first humans step out onto the surface of the moon, and Frankie and Edith face a calamitous reckoning.

The Secret Wife is an irresistible story of fierce love, unconditional sacrifice and the transcendent power of pulling together.

Praise for *The Secret Wife*:

'What a gorgeous pair of women Lamprell has created in Frankie and Edith. By turns heartbreaking and hilarious—*The Secret Wife* is a tender love song to a decade that changed the world.' Kathryn Heyman, author of *Fury*

'Moving, wry and powerful, Mark Lamprell's compelling new novel is laden with secrets and brimming with wit, warmth and razor-sharp observations. I loved it.' Suzanne Leal, author of *The Teacher's Secret*

Mark Lamprell is a writer of novels and children's books published in sixteen countries and twelve languages, including the novels *The Full Ridiculous* and *The Lovers' Guide to Rome*. He also works internationally as a writer and director in film, with movie credits including *Babe: Pig in the City*, *My Mother Frank*, *Goddess*, *A Few Less Men* and *Never Too Late*.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

April 2022

Finished pages available

Death at the Belvedere by Sue Williams

My shop bell rang. I glanced up, thinking it would just be Vern with another update on his Sunset-Over-The-Silos series. Vern's General Store and my shop constitute the CBD of Rusty Bore. Along with a row of much-photographed galvanised steel silos...at least by Vern.

But it wasn't him. A woman—tall and slim with short, dark, spiky hair. Oversized sunglasses. She was wearing a pinstriped black trouser suit; white shirt blazing under the jacket. Long elegant legs, made even longer by soaring red heels.

'Helen?' I dropped my Jex in surprise.

It's a mostly normal Friday evening in the Rusty Bore Takeaway. Cass Tuplin's cleaning down the grill when her glamorous sister Helen walks in, all bones in an Italian-weave suit and the kind of state that calls for the full comfort: double bacon cheeseburger with extra chips.

It's man trouble as usual. But this time it turns out the trouble is less emotional and more fatal. Helen's boyfriend has been pushed off the rooftop terrace of his Fitzroy apartment, and Helen's trying not to become a person of interest. She's also trying to retrieve something rare and valuable from Ben's place—which is where Cass comes in.

Cass doesn't do investigations anymore, of course, being unlicensed. And she's not particularly keen on breaking into a crime scene, even if it's not strictly breaking when you've got a key.

On the other hand, Helen is her only sister. And she has been getting Cass into trouble for more than forty years. Why stop now? But this time Helen's little problem will drop Cass into deeper trouble than ever before.

Praise for Sue Williams:

'Williams has put together a recipe for madcap adventure, the main ingredient an engaging female lead whose nosiness solves the mysteries of her tiny hometown.' *Adelaide Advertiser* on *Dead Men Don't Order Flake*

'Sue Williams is Australia's answer to New Jersey's Janet Evanovich. Both mix murder with mirth, and both feature semi-competent female investigators who bounce in and out of trouble...Great light entertainment.' *New Zealand Listener*

Sue Williams is a science and travel writer and a chartered accountant who also holds a PhD in marine biology. She was raised in country Victoria and currently lives in Melbourne with her husband.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

June 2022

Finished pages available

The Settlement by Jock Serong

On the windswept point of an island at the edge of van Diemen's Land, the Commandant huddles with a small force of white men and women.

He has gathered together, under varying degrees of coercion and duress, the last of the Tasmanians, or so he believes. His purpose is to save them—from a number of things, but most pressingly from the murderous intent of the pastoral settlers on their country.

The orphans Whelk and Pipi, fighting for their survival against the malevolent old man they know as the Catechist, watch as almost everything about this situation proves resistant to the Commandant's will. The wind, the spread of disease, the strange black dog that floats in on the prow of a wrecked ship...

But above all the Chief, the leader of the exiles, before whom the Commandant performs a perverse, intimate dance of violence and betrayal.

In *The Settlement*, Jock Serong reimagines in urgent, compelling prose the ill-fated exploits of George Augustus Robinson at the settlement of Wybalenna—a venture whose blinkered, self-interested cruelty might stand for the colonial enterprise itself.

Praise for Jock Serong:

'Serong is a talented storyteller.' *Booklist*

'One of Australia's most innovative and ambitious crime writers.' *New Zealand Listener*

Jock Serong's novels have received the Ned Kelly Award for First Fiction, the Colin Roderick Award and the inaugural Staunch Prize (UK). He lives with his family on Victoria's far west coast.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

September 2022

Manuscript available

Limberlost by Robbie Arnott

A brilliant new novel by one of the brightest stars of Australian fiction.

In the heat of a long summer Ned hunts rabbits in a river valley, hoping the pelts will earn him enough money to buy a small boat.

His two brothers are away at war, their whereabouts unknown. His father and older sister struggle to hold things together on the family orchard, Limberlost.

Desperate to ignore it all—to avoid the future rushing towards him—Ned dreams of open water.

As his story unfolds over the following decades, we see how Ned’s choices that summer come to shape the course of his life, the fate of his family and the future of the valley, with its seasons of death and rebirth.

The third novel by the award-winning author of *Flames* and *The Rain Heron*, *Limberlost* is an extraordinary chronicle of life and land: of carnage and kindness, blood ties and love.

Robbie Arnott’s acclaimed debut, *Flames* (2018), won a *Sydney Morning Herald* Best Young Novelist award and a Tasmanian Premier’s Literary Prize, and was shortlisted for a Victorian Premier’s Literary Award, a New South Wales Premier’s Literary Award, a Queensland Literary Award, the Readings Prize for New Australian Fiction and the Not the Booker Prize. His follow-up, *The Rain Heron* (2020), won the *Age* Book of the Year award, and was shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award, the ALS Gold Medal, the Voss Literary Prize and an Adelaide Festival Award. He lives in Hobart.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: UK and Comm. (ex. ANZ and Canada)—Atlantic; Norway—Cappelen Damm; Italy—NN

Fiction | October 2022 | Manuscript available

Creative Differences by Graeme Simsion

If not for money, then maybe for love.

Three years ago, Emily was a struggling literary author when she met Scott, a struggling screenwriter. Combining her elegant writing with his gripping story, the pair crafted a novel that became an international bestseller—and fell in love along the way.

Now her latest manuscript is stuck, his solo novel has flopped, and their relationship is on the rocks. The situation is made even messier when an eager aspiring writer gets involved. Can Emily and Scott come together and produce another hit?

Creative Differences is a wry and incisive study of partnerships—in love, in writing—and creativity, from internationally bestselling author Graeme Simsion.

Praise for Graeme Simsion:

‘Funny and heartwarming, a gem of a book.’ Marian Keyes on *The Rosie Project*

‘An extraordinarily clever, funny, and moving book...’ Bill Gates on *The Rosie Project*

‘Oscillates between profound emotional depths and absolute hilarity...So much fun!’ Toni Collette on *The Best of Adam Sharp*

Graeme Simsion is the internationally bestselling author of *The Rosie Project*, *The Rosie Effect*, *The Rosie Result* and *The Best of Adam Sharp*, as well as *The Novel Project*, *Don Tillman’s Standardized Meal System* and *Data Modeling Essentials*. He and Anne Buist, co-authors of *Two Steps Forward* and *Two Steps Onward*, live together in Melbourne.

Rights Held: World (excluding audio)

First Published: Audible Originals

Novella

October 2022

Finished pages available

Unknown by Akuch Kuol Anyieth

A moving, confronting and ultimately uplifting story about a young girl's escape, with her family, from war-torn South Sudan to Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya, and then to Australia.

In 1996, when Akuch Kuol Anyieth is five, her mother flees to Kakuma with her children, intent on finding safety and freedom for her family, while her husband stays behind in South Sudan to fight in the civil war. The family spends nine years in the camp, eking out an existence amid famine, disease, unbearable heat and chronic violence. Despite their suffering, Akuch never loses hope or her sense of humour. She's a bright student who loves learning and does well at the local school.

In 2005, the family is finally granted humanitarian visas to Australia. They are on the way to paradise. But the reality of their new lives in Melbourne is complex. As Akuch's brother's behaviour spirals out of control, the family find themselves isolated and struggling with various forms of racism.

But Akuch is determined. She learns English from scratch, excels in her educational achievements and tries to live the life of a regular teenager. Above all she does everything she can to help her family emerge from the bonds of violence.

Akuch Kuol Anyieth's *Unknown* is a remarkable memoir. It's a homage to the strength of her mother in protecting her family against all the odds, a story of sadness, anger, humour, determination, survival and love.

Praise for *Unknown*:

'Akuch's story took me back to Africa, but with her strength and spirit she has become a remarkable Australian. *Unknown* offers an extraordinary insight into the refugee experience. I could not put it down.' Abdi Aden, author (with Robert Hillman) of *Shining: The Story of a Lucky Man*

'Akuch Kuol Anyieth's story is unwavering in its power, insight and grace. A riveting, necessary book.' Sarah Krasnostein, author of *The Trauma Cleaner* and *The Believer*

Akuch Kuol Anyieth is a graduate researcher in crime, justice and legal studies. Her research engages with masculinity and domestic violence, examining customary law, pre- and post-migration experiences of South Sudanese families and how they adapt to the western rule of law in the diaspora. She is a frequent contributor to discussions about her community. Her book *South Sudanese Manhood and Family Crisis in the Diaspora* was published in February 2021. She lives in Melbourne.

Rights Held: World

Non-fiction

May 2022

Finished pages available

Childless: A Story of Freedom and Longing by Sian Prior

I always wanted to have children. The earth might be in trouble—overpopulated, descending into ecological crisis—but I was always sure my kids would help make the world a better place. I would be a green-feminist supermum, having it all. Nothing turned out the way I expected.

Like many women, Sian Prior arrived at the point where she was ready to start having babies—and found they were not hers to have. Three miscarriages with a supportive partner; a new partner who already had all the children he wanted; step-children; step-grandchildren; the decision to parent solo, followed by many rounds of fertility treatments.

After all this Sian found herself, at fifty, childless and coming to terms. Weighing up the freedoms against the losses. Dealing with the unacknowledged legacy of her own lost father. Observing parenthood itself—how we succeed at it and how we fail—from a perspective outside the trenches.

Compelling, moving, beautifully written and unexpectedly uplifting, *Childless* is her story.

Praise for *Childless*:

‘An acutely observed, beautifully written and moving account of the pain—and consolations—of childlessness. *Childless* is shot through with life, joy and the willingness to face the present with a powerful and unflinching gaze. A wonderful book.’ Lucy Treloar

‘Honest, gentle, full of grief, joy, and wisdom. I adored this book.’ Monica Dux

Sian Prior is a Melbourne-based writer, broadcaster, musician and creative-writing teacher. She has been an ABC radio host and a regular columnist for the *Age/Sydney Morning Herald*. Her first book, *Shy: a memoir* was published in 2014.

Rights Held: World

Non-fiction

April 2022

Finished pages available

Childhood by Shannon Burns

Things may have been good for a while, but it didn't last: they argued fiercely and he left. Weeks later, she tracked him down and said she was pregnant. So he moved back in with her and they prepared themselves for parenthood.

Eleven months later I was born. By the time my father discovered the deception, it was too late.

There is something chastening about this mode of conception, about knowing that, by most standards, your beginning was aberrant.

In this arresting memoir, Shannon Burns recalls a childhood spent bouncing between dysfunctional homes in impoverished suburbs, between families unwilling or unable to care for him. Aged nine, he beats his head against the pillow to get himself to sleep. Aged ten, he knows his mother will never be able to look after him: he is alone, and can trust no-one.

Five years later, he is working in a recycling centre—hard labour, poorly paid—yet reading offers hope. He begins reciting lines from Dante, Keats, Whitman, speeches by Martin Luther King, while sifting through the filthy cans and bottles. An affair with the mother of a schoolfriend eventually offers a way out, a path to a life utterly unlike the one he was born into.

With its clarity of purpose and vividness of expression, *Childhood* is a powerful act of remembering that is destined to be a classic.

Shannon Burns is a writer, critic and academic from Adelaide. His work has appeared in the *Monthly, Meanjin, Australian Book Review* and the *Sydney Review of Books*.

Rights Held: World

Non-fiction

October 2022

Manuscript available

The works of Helen Garner

Helen Garner writes novels, stories, screenplays and works of non-fiction. In 2006 she received the inaugural Melbourne Prize for Literature, and in 2016 she won the prestigious Windham–Campbell Literature Prize for non-fiction and the Western Australian Premier’s Book Award. In 2019 she was honoured with the Australia Council Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature. Her books include *Monkey Grip*, *The Children’s Bach*, *Cosmo Cosmolino*, *The Spare Room*, *This House of Grief*, *Everywhere I Look*, *Yellow Notebook* and *One Day I’ll Remember This*.

Yellow Notebook, Diaries 1978–1987

Helen Garner has kept a diary for almost all her life. But until now, those exercise books filled with her thoughts, observations, frustrations and joys have been locked away in a laundry cupboard. Finally, Garner has invited readers into the world behind her books. Recorded with frankness, humour and steel-sharp wit, these accounts of her everyday life provide an intimate insight into the work of one of our greatest living writers.

‘The sensory nature of her observations are glorious.’ *Guardian*

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: NA (Pantheon); UK Comm (ex. ANZ & Canada)—W&N

One Day I’ll Remember This, Diaries 1987–1995

Helen Garner’s second volume of diaries charts a tumultuous stage in her life as she embarks on an affair that she knows will be all-consuming, and publishes *The First Stone* into a storm of controversy. Garner reveals the inner life of a woman in love and a great writer at work.

‘Helen Garner...has a poet’s ear, a painter’s eye and she understands profoundly and without self-pity the mystery of the tears in things.’ *Australian*

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: NA (Pantheon); UK Comm (ex. ANZ & Canada)—W&N

How to End a Story, Diaries 1995–1998

Helen Garner’s third volume of diaries is a mesmerising account of a woman fighting to hold on to a marriage that is disintegrating. Living with an ambitious writer who is consumed by his work, and trying to find a place for her own spirit to thrive, she rails against the confines, desperate to find the truth in their relationship—and the truth of her own self.

‘A shockingly relatable account of a woman trying to chip out a space to live and work...A monumental achievement.’ *Harper’s Bazaar*

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: NA (Pantheon); UK Comm (ex. ANZ & Canada)—W&N

Text Classics: Madeleine St John

Madeleine St John was born in Sydney in 1941. She studied arts at Sydney University, where her contemporaries included Bruce Beresford, Clive James and Robert Hughes. She was the first Australian woman to be shortlisted for the Booker Prize. Madeleine St John died in 2006.

The Women in Black

Now a major film (*The Ladies in Black*) directed by Bruce Beresford and starring Julia Ormond, Angourie Rice and Rachael Taylor, *The Women in Black* is a fairytale which illuminates the extraordinariness of ordinary lives. The women in black are run off their feet, what with the Christmas rush and the summer sales that follow. But it's Sydney in the 1950s, and there's still just enough time left on a hot day to dream and scheme...

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: France—Albin Michel; Germany—S. Fischer Verlag; Israel—Tchelet; Italy—Garzanti; Netherlands—Nijgh & Van Ditmar; North America—Scribner; Spain—Planeta; UK & Comm. (ex. ANZ and Canada)—Little, Brown

The Essence of the Thing

SHORTLISTED, 1997 BOOKER PRIZE

A comic and tender look at the vicissitudes of love. Nicola should never have stepped out to buy that pack of cigarettes, because the man she discovers in her living room when she returns is not the Jonathan with whom she has been sharing her life—that Jonathan would never have unilaterally decided that she should 'move out'. Nicola packs her bags and sets out on the bumpy course that will take her to the essence of the thing.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: France—Albin Michel; Italy—Garzanti; Netherlands—Nijgh & Van Ditmar

A Pure Clear Light

A Pure Clear Light examines a marriage at the moment it goes haplessly off-track: when Simon succumbs to the temptation of his cool blond accountant and Flora heeds the cry of her reawakened faith. Ultimately, though, neither Simon nor Flora can escape the revelation that lies beyond excuses and remorse and candour, at the heart of the phenomenon called love.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Italy—Garzanti; Netherlands—Nijgh & Van Ditmar

A Stairway to Paradise

Here is the eternal triangle, the story of three people—Alex, Andrew and Barbara—in an unhappy tangle of emotions, none able to articulate the precise quality of their longing and dissatisfaction. Are any of them truly interested in reaching the 'paradise' they claim to be seeking, or are they actually trying to avoid it? In St John's hands, what is commonplace is transformed and transcendent.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Germany—S. Fischer Verlag; Italy—Garzanti; Netherlands—Nijgh & Van Ditmar

'A pocket masterpiece. A jewel.' Hilary Mantel on *The Women in Black*

'A delicious book. Funny and happy, it's like the breath of youth again.' Jane Gardam on *The Women in Black*

'Brisk, sophisticated and artful.' *New York Times Book Review* on *The Essence of the Thing*

Text Classics: Elizabeth Harrower

Elizabeth Harrower was the celebrated author of the novels *Down in the City*, *The Long Prospect*, *The Catherine Wheel* and *The Watch Tower*—all of which have been republished as Text Classics—and *In Certain Circles*, which was published to wide acclaim in 2014 and shortlisted for the Prime Minister’s Literary Award for Fiction. She died in July 2020.

The Watch Tower

With its backdrop of the leafy northern suburbs of Sydney during the 1940s, *The Watch Tower* is a character study of relentless and acute psychological power.

After Laura and Clare are abandoned by their mother, Felix is there to help, even to marry Laura if she will have him. Little by little the two sisters grow complicit with his obsessions, his cruelty, his need to control.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Denmark—Lindhardt & Ringhof; France—Rivages; Germany—Aufbau; Italy—Baldini & Castoldi; Netherlands—Atlas Contact; Romania—Univers Ltd; Spain—Impedimenta; Turkey—Metis

In Certain Circles

Zoe Howard is seventeen when her brother, Russell, introduces her to Stephen Quayle. Aloof and harsh, Stephen is unlike anyone she has ever met, ‘a weird, irascible character out of some dense Russian novel’. His sister, Anna, is shy and thoughtful, ‘a little orphan’.

Zoe and Russell, Stephen and Anna: they may come from different social worlds but all four will spend their lives moving in and out of each other’s shadow.

Set amid the lush gardens and grand stone houses that line the north side of Sydney Harbour, *In Certain Circles* is an intense psychological drama about family and love, tyranny and freedom.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Finland—Fabriikki; France—Rivages; Germany—Aufbau; Greece—Dardanos; Italy—Baldini & Castoldi; Netherlands—Atlas Contact; Slovak—Inaque; Turkey—Metis

The Long Prospect

Originally published in 1958, *The Long Prospect* was hailed by Christina Stead and has been described as second only to Patrick White’s *Voss* in the ranks of postwar Australian literature.

Sharply observed, bitter and humorous, *The Long Prospect* is a story of life in an Australian industrial town. Growing up neglected in a seedy boarding house, twelve-year-old Emily Lawrence befriends Max, a middle-aged scientist who encourages her to pursue her intellectual interests. Innocent Emily will face scandal, suburban snobbery and psychological torment.

Rights Held: World

Text Classics: Amy Witting

Amy Witting was born in Annandale, an inner suburb of Sydney, in 1918. She attended Sydney University, then taught French and English in state schools. Beginning late in life she published six novels, including *The Visit*, *I for Isobel*, *Isobel on the Way to the Corner Shop* and *Maria's War*; two collections of short stories; two books of verse, *Travel Diary* and *Beauty Is the Straw*; and her *Collected Poems*. Witting was awarded the 1993 Patrick White Prize. She died in 2001.

I for Isobel

Born into a world without welcome, Isobel observes it as warily as an alien trying to pass for a native. Her collection of imaginary friends includes the Virgin Mary and Sherlock Holmes. Later she meets Byron, W. H. Auden and T. S. Eliot.

'Amy Witting is comparable to Jean Rhys, but she has more starch, or vinegar. The effect is bracing.'
New Yorker

I for Isobel, a modern-day Australian classic, was followed by *Isobel on the Way to the Corner Shop*, winner of the Age Book of the Year Award.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Italy—Garzanti; Japan—Iwanami Shoten Publishers

The Visit

Amy Witting's debut novel, first published when she was almost sixty, centres on a group of Bangoree residents who gather to read plays by Beckett and Brecht. But their literary pursuits, and their lives, take an unexpected turn after it is revealed that the late Roderick Fitzallan set some of his celebrated love poems in their small country town. Who is the local mystery woman who inspired Fitzallan's verse all those years ago?

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Italy—Garzanti

A Change in The Lighting

When her husband of three decades announces he has a younger lover and wants a divorce, Ella Ferguson realises how protected her life has been—she has 'seen no evil, heard no evil and spoken no evil'. Alone, enraged, she must come to terms with her failed marriage and her relationships with her adult children. *A Change in the Lighting*, Amy Witting's third novel, is the compelling story of a woman cast adrift.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Italy—Garzanti

Text Classics

Helen Hodgman

Helen Hodgman is the author of the novels *Blue Skies* (1976), *Jack and Jill* (1978; winner of the Somerset Maugham Award), *Broken Words* (1988; winner of the Christina Stead Prize), *Passing Remarks* (1996), *Waiting for Matindi* (1998) and *The Bad Policeman* (2001).

Blue Skies

In Helen Hodgman's dazzlingly written debut a young woman is trapped in a small city on an island at the end of the world—by motherhood and an absent husband, by busybody in-laws and neighbours, by a drab society yet to throw off the shackles of its colonial past. A darkly funny tale of a crack-up in stultifying suburbia, *Blue Skies* marked the emergence of a unique, acerbic voice in Australian fiction.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Germany—Verlagsgruppe Random House; Italy—Edizioni Socrates

Kenneth Cook

Kenneth Cook was born in Sydney. *Wake in Fright*, which drew on his time as a journalist in Broken Hill, was first published in 1961 when Cook was thirty-two. It was published in England and America, was translated into several languages, and became a prescribed text in schools.

Wake in Fright

John Grant is a young teacher who arrives in the rough outback town of Bundanyabba planning to stay overnight before catching a plane to Sydney. But his one night stretches to five as he spirals into an alcoholic, sexual and spiritual nightmare. *Wake in Fright* is the original greatest outback horror story.

'A true dark classic of Australian literature.' J. M. Coetzee

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Brazil—Grua Livros; Catalan—Males Herbes; France—Autrement; Italy—Enrico Damiani; Netherlands—Podium; Spain—Seix Barral; Turkey—Ayrinti

Craig Harrison

Craig Harrison was born in Leeds in 1942. He left for New Zealand in 1966 after being appointed a lecturer at Massey University. There he devised a course in art history, which he taught until his retirement in 2000. His award winning plays have been performed for over twenty-five years.

The Quiet Earth

John Hobson wakes one morning to find his watch stopped at 6.12. The streets are deserted, there are no signs of life or death anywhere, and every clock he finds has stopped: at 6.12. Is Hobson the last person left on the planet? Inventive and suspenseful, *The Quiet Earth* is a confronting journey into the future—and a dark past.

'Excellent...The inevitability of the horror has a Hitchcock quality.' *Listener*

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Film—Triptych Pictures; Turkey—Ayrinti

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