

The Text Publishing Company



London Rights Guide 2023

Recent Acquisitions	3
Recent Publications.....	4
Fiction.....	5–12
<i>The Opposite of Success</i> by Eleanor Elliott Thomas.....	5
<i>House of Longing</i> by Tara Calaby.....	6
<i>Restless Dolly Maunder</i> by Kate Grenville	7
<i>The Conversion</i> by Amanda Lohrey	8
<i>Beatrix and Fred</i> by Emily Spurr	9
<i>Resistance</i> by Jacinta Halloran	10
<i>To the River</i> by Vikki Wakefield	11
<i>A Woman in Sardinia</i> by Valeria Usala.....	12
Non-Fiction	13–18
<i>Voyagers</i> by Lauren Fuge	13
<i>Did I Ever Tell You This?</i> by Sam Neill	14
<i>The Last Daughter</i> by Brenda Matthews	15
<i>Right Story, Wrong Story</i> by Tyson Yunkaporta.....	16
<i>Big Meg</i> by Tim and Emma Flannery	17
<i>Fat Girl Dancing</i> by Kris Kneen	18
Young Adult & Middle Grade	19–23
<i>Let's Never Speak of This Again</i> by Megan Williams.....	19
<i>Blind Spot</i> by Robyn Dennison.....	20
<i>Selfie</i> by Allayne L. Webster	21
<i>The Brink</i> by Holden Sheppard	22
<i>The Hotel Witch</i> by Jessica Miller	23
Backlist highlights.....	24
Text Publishing Agents	25–26

For additional information, please contact:

Michael Heyward, Publisher
michael.heyward@textpublishing.com.au

Penny Hueston, Senior Editor
penny.hueston@textpublishing.com.au

Anne Beilby, Rights & Contracts Director
anne.beilby@textpublishing.com.au

The Text Publishing Company
Wurunderji Country
Level 6, Royal Bank Chambers,
287 Collins Street,
Melbourne Victoria 3000
Victoria 3000

tel: +61 3 8610 4500

www.textpublishing.com.au

Recent Acquisitions

Children and Young Adult

Bowe, Steph	<i>Sunny at the End of the World</i>	World English	Ginger Clark Literary
Brubaker Bradley, Kimberly	<i>The Night War</i>	UK & Comm. (excl. Canada)	PRH USA
Stead, Rebecca & Mass, Wendy	<i>The Lost Library</i>	ANZ	Macmillan USA
Laguna, Ingrid	<i>Kasia and Come On, Otto</i>	World	Curtis Brown Australia
Shepard, Sara	Penny Draws series	ANZ	PRH USA

Adult

Boehme, Jacob	<i>Dancing Back to My People</i>	World	Author
Coetzee, J. M.	<i>The Pole and Other Stories</i>	ANZ	David Higham Assoc.
Everett, Percival	<i>The Trees and Dr. No</i>	ANZ	Graywolf Press
Ísberg, Fríða	<i>Merking / The Mark</i>	ANZ	RCW Literary Agency
Jones, Gail	<i>untitled novel</i>	World	Jane Novak Literary Agency
Karam, Balsam	<i>Singulariteten / The Singularity</i>	ANZ	Norstedts Agency
Latronico, Vincenzo	<i>Le Perfezioni / Perfection</i>	ANZ	Fitzcarraldo
Martel, Yann	<i>The Son of Nobody</i>	ANZ	Westwood Creative Artists
Morrissey, John	<i>Firelight and Bird Deity Alpha</i>	World	Author
Salasc, Emmanuelle	<i>Hors Gel / My Sister</i>	UK & Comm. (excl. Canada)	Editions P.O.L.
Singer, Peter & Chao-hwei	<i>The Buddhist and the Ethicist</i>	ANZ	Susanna Lea Assoc
Thaker, Lenora	<i>The Pearl of Shantytown</i>	World	Author
Tokarczuk, Olga	<i>Empuzjon / Symposium</i>	ANZ	RCW Literary Agency
Wilson, Kevin	<i>untitled novel</i>	UK & Comm. (excl. Canada)	Abner Stein in assoc. 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
Emery, Kate	<i>The Not So Chosen One</i>	Author
Gale, Emily	<i>The Goodbye Year</i>	Author
Kenwood, Nina	<i>Unnecessary Drama</i>	Author
Levithan, David	<i>Answers in the Pages</i>	United Agents
Luby, Miranda	<i>Sadie Starr's Guide to Starting Over</i>	Author
Meyer, Marissa (editor)	<i>Gilded, Cursed and Serendipity: Ten Romantic Tropes, Transformed</i>	Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Miller, Jessica	<i>The Hotel Witch</i>	InkWell Management
Obama, Barack	<i>Dreams From My Father: Adapted for Young Adults</i>	Abner Stein

Adult

Cave, Nick and O'Hagan, Seán	<i>Faith, Hope and Carnage</i>	Canongate Books
Everett, Percival	<i>The Trees and Dr. No</i>	Graywolf Press
Halloran, Jacinta	<i>Resistance</i>	Curtis Brown Australia
Hertmans, Stefan	<i>De opgang / The Ascent</i>	De Bezige Bij
Lim, Louisa	<i>Indelible City: Dispossession and Defiance in Hong Kong</i>	Penguin Random House USA
Ma, Ling	<i>Bliss Montage</i>	The Wylie Agency
Macrae Burnet, Graeme	<i>Case Study</i>	Blake Friedmann Literary Agency Ltd
Melchor, Fernanda	<i>Páradais / Paradais</i>	Literarische Agentur Michael Gaeb
Schwartz, Selby Wynn	<i>After Sappho</i>	Galley Beggar Press
Simsion, Graeme	<i>Creative Differences and Other Stories</i>	Author
Suiter Clarke, Amy	<i>Lay Your Body Down</i>	Abner Stein in assoc. with Dystel, Goderich & Bourret
Tokarczuk, Olga	<i>Księgi Jakubowe / The Books of Jacob</i>	RCW Literary Agency
Wilson, Kevin	<i>Now Is Not the Time To Panic</i>	Abner Stein in assoc. with The Book Group

The Opposite of Success by Eleanor Elliott Thomas

Lorrie Hope has a steady job, a partner she adores and two wonderful kids. All she wants is to get promoted, love her body and end global warming. By Friday. What could possibly go wrong?

Lorrie Hope is about to have the worst day of her life.

Lorrie has been stuck for years in a mediocre job at the local council, and she's applied for a promotion she's not entirely sure she wants. Her best friend of twenty years, Alex, is stuck in a very different mess—one that involves Lorrie's rakish ex, Ruben; or, more accurately, his wife. Oh, and Ruben's boss happens to be the mining magnate Sebastian Glup, who is sponsoring Lorrie's most important project at work...

As the day spirals from bad to worse to frankly unhinged, Lorrie and Alex are forced to reconsider what they can expect from life, love and middle management. *The Opposite of Success* is a hilarious debut novel about our work, motherhood, friendship and ambition.

Eleanor Elliott Thomas worked for many years as a lawyer before devoting herself to writing full-time. She is a graduate of the Faber Writing Academy's 'Writing a Novel' course, in which she was taught by Sophie Cunningham and Emily Bitto. She lives with her partner and two daughters in Naarm/Melbourne. *The Opposite of Success* is her first novel.

eleanorelliottthomas.substack.com

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Germany—DuMont Buchverlag

Fiction

October 2023

Manuscript available

House of Longing by Tara Calaby

An irresistible sapphic historical romance from a dazzling new Australian talent

Charlotte has always known she is different. Where other young women see their destiny in marriage and motherhood, the reclusive Charlotte wants only to continue working with her father in his stationery business. Then Flora Dalton bursts through the shop door and into Charlotte's life—and a new world of baffling desires and aching possibility seems to open up to her.

But Melbourne society of the 1890s is not built to embrace unorthodoxy. When tragedy strikes and Charlotte is unmoored by grief, she finds herself admitted to Kew Lunatic Asylum 'for her own safety'.

There she learns that women enter the big white house on the hill for many reasons, not all of them to do with lunacy. That her capacity for love, loyalty and friendship is greater than she had ever understood. And that it will take all of these things—along with an unexpected talent for guile—to extract herself from the care of men and make her way back to her heart's desire.

A compulsively readable historical romance, *House of Longing* combines an effortless instinct for narrative with impeccable research, lightly worn. *House of Longing* is the commercial debut of a major talent.

Tara Calaby is an author of historical and speculative fiction, currently living in West Gippsland. She is also a PhD candidate at La Trobe University, researching community among female patients of Victorian lunatic asylums.

taracalaby.com

Rights Held: World

Fiction

June 2023

Manuscript available

***Restless Dolly Maunder* by Kate Grenville**

An exquisite fictional portrait of Kate Grenville’s complex, conflicted grandmother—a woman Kate feared as a child, and only came to understand in adulthood.

Dolly Maunder was born at the end of the nineteenth century, when society’s long-locked doors were finally starting to creak ajar for women. Born into a poor farming family in country New South Wales but clever, energetic and determined, she spent her restless life pushing at those doors.

Most women like Dolly have more or less disappeared from view, remembered only in a family photo album as a remote figure in impossible clothes, and maybe for a lemon-pudding recipe. *Restless Dolly Maunder* brings one of them to life as a person we can recognise and whose struggles we can empathise with.

In this novel Kate Grenville uses family memories and research to dramatise the life of her grandmother. This is the story of a woman born into a world of limits and obstacles who was able—though at a cost—to make a life for herself. Her battles and triumphs helped to open doors for the women who came after.

‘There is no doubt Grenville is one of our greatest writers.’ *Sunday Mail*

‘[Grenville] is a gift of a writer.’ *Age*

Kate Grenville is one of Australia’s most celebrated writers. Her international bestseller *The Secret River* was awarded local and overseas prizes, has been adapted for the stage and as an acclaimed television miniseries, and is now a much-loved classic. Grenville’s other novels include *Sarah Thornhill*, *The Lieutenant*, *Dark Places* and the Orange Prize winner *The Idea of Perfection*. Her recent non-fiction includes *One Life: My Mother’s Story*, *The Case Against Fragrance* and *Elizabeth Macarthur’s Letters*. Her most recent novel is the bestselling *A Room Made of Leaves*. She has also written three books about the writing process. In 2017 Grenville was awarded the Australia Council Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature.

kategrenville.com.au

Rights Held: World

Fiction

July 2023

Manuscript available
May

The Conversion by Amanda Lohrey

The conversion was Nick's idea.

Nick: so persuasive, ever the optimist, still boyishly handsome. Always on a quest to design the perfect environment, convinced it could heal a wounded soul.

The conversion was Nick's idea, but it's Zoe who's here now, in a valley of old coalmines and new vineyards, working out how to live in a deconsecrated church.

What to do with all that vertical space, those oppressive stained-glass windows? Can a church become a home or, even with all its vestiges removed, will it remain forever what it was intended to be?

For Zoe, alone and troubled by a ghost from the recent past, the little church seems empty of the possibilities Nick is enthused about. She is stuck in purgatory—until a determined young teacher pushes her way into Zoe's life, convinced of her own peculiar mission for the building.

Melanie has something of Nick's unquenchable zeal about her. And it's clear to Zoe that she won't take no for an answer.

Readers who loved Amanda Lohrey's bestselling, multi-award-winning *The Labyrinth* will find the same deep intelligence, eye for human drama and effortlessly readable prose in *The Conversion*, a strange and startling novel about the homes we live in: how we shape them, and how they shape us.

Praise for *The Labyrinth*:

'Lohrey's writing is excellent, and she mixes pastoral and gothic tropes beautifully.'
Books+Publishing

'My novel of the year, full stop...A story told without a syllable of excess sentiment or false feeling, yet which sails full square into the mystic.'
Australian

Amanda Lohrey lives in Tasmania and writes fiction and non-fiction. She has taught at the University of Tasmania, the University of Technology Sydney and the University of Queensland. Amanda is a regular contributor to the *Monthly* magazine and a former senior fellow of the Australia Council's Literature Board. She received the 2012 Patrick White Award. *The Labyrinth* (2021), her eighth work of fiction, won the Miles Franklin Literary Award, a Prime Minister's Literary Award, a Tasmanian Literary Award and the Voss Literary Prize.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

November 2023

Manuscript available May

Beatrix and Fred by Emily Spurr

A bizarre and beautiful tale of an unlikely friendship; *Beatrix and Fred* will be the warmest and weirdest book you'll read all year.

Beatrix is a loner. She has a love-hate relationship with her friend Ray and a hate-hate relationship with everyone else in her office. She drinks alone way too much and spends a lot of her time talking to a stuffed canary. Lately, she's been finding the edge of the railway platform perilously seductive.

Her life needs to change. Then she crosses paths with an old woman who seems to be stalking her, and that's exactly what happens.

Eighty-something-year-old Fred is smart, earthy, funny—and not the harmless elderly lady she appears to be. But what is she?

As the connection between Fred and Beatrix deepens, Fred starts to reveal herself. But when Ray blunders into their strange friendship, Beatrix realises she has some agonising choices to make.

Beatrix and Fred is an off-kilter love story wrapped in a psychological thriller and tied up with a ribbon of science. Warm, witty and beautifully written, it will beguile you from the first page.

Praise for *A Million Things*:

'In this excellent debut...Spurr delicately illustrates the complexity of loss and isolation. Fans of Liane Moriarty should take a look.' *Publishers Weekly*

Originally from Tasmania, **Emily Spurr** lives in Melbourne with her partner, their twins, and the ghost of a recently departed, deaf geriatric cat. Her debut novel, *A Million Things*, was shortlisted for the prestigious Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an Unpublished Manuscript, voted BookBrowse Best Debut Novel of 2021, longlisted for the 2022 Margaret and Colin Roderick Literary Award and Highly Commended for the 2022 Barbara Jefferis Award.

emilyspurr.com

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: North America—Berkley.

Option Publishers: ANZ audio—Wavesound; Chinese (Complex)—Star East; Chinese (Simplified)—China Translation & Publishing House; Netherlands—Uitgeverij Mozaïek; Turkey—Konu Kitap

Fiction

September 2023

Manuscript available

***Resistance* by Jacinta Halloran**

As a family therapist, Nina is the ultimate listener. Yet this is of little use with her latest clients, the Agostinos, who have been mandated to see her after stealing a car and disappearing into the outback.

For support with the case, Nina meets with a supervising therapist, Erin. What they unearth in their sessions goes beyond the Agostino story into confronting personal territory for Nina. Meanwhile, despite her efforts, the Agostinos remain unwilling to speak—so how can Nina be sure that the two children are safe with their parents?

In the tradition of Rachel Cusk's Outline trilogy, *Resistance* is an elegant, hypnotic novel of stories within stories. Examining the unfathomable mysteries within our families, it also questions how we retell our history, both personal and collective.

'Resistance is a novel about secrets and shame, as well as the place of women among men in their families. Halloran...writes very elegantly.' *Guardian*

'A taut, delicate record of the ultimate act of listening. Halloran exposes both the knowingness and unwillingness of the human psyche.' Jessica Au, author of *Cold Enough for Snow*

'Sublime and affecting, a novel that speaks intimately to both mind and heart.' Peggy Frew, author of *Wildflowers*

'A daring and richly layered novel that examines the unreliability of conscience and memory, and our own invented truths. A compelling read from a masterful storyteller.' Kristina Olsson, author of *Shell*

Jacinta Halloran is the author of the novels *Dissection* (also published by Text), shortlisted for the 2007 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an Unpublished Manuscript; *Pilgrimage*, shortlisted for the 2014 Barbara Jefferis Award; and *The Science of Appearances*. She is a former board member of the Stella Prize, and was a GP for many years.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

March 2023

Finished copies available

To the River by Vikki Wakefield

How long can you hide the truth?

The Kelly family has always been in trouble.

When a remote caravan community in a mining town burns to the ground, seventeen-year-old Sabine Kelly walks from the inferno, barely touched by the flames. Nine people are killed, including her mother and sister. When Sabine confesses to the murders, nobody is shocked.

Shortly after her arrest, she escapes custody and disappears.

Twelve years later, journalist Rachel Weidermann has been investigating the ‘Caravan Murders’ for the better part of a decade. Recently made redundant from marriage, motherhood and her career, she has long suspected Sabine made her way back to the river—now Rachel has time to indulge her obsession.

And her tenaciousness pays off: under cover of darkness, a houseboat moors nearby and a woman steps ashore. The story of the year has landed in Rachel’s lap; the arrest of the fugitive and a high-profile murder trial promise to bring it to a satisfying end.

But Rachel’s ambition lights the fuse leading to a brutal chain of events.

This time Sabine Kelly isn’t running—the web she weaves will entangle enemies and allies alike, forcing Rachel to question everything she believes about herself, about what it takes to be a survivor.

To the River is a compulsively readable, character-driven psychological thriller about two determined women who, over the course of three suspenseful weeks, take the law into their own hands to reveal the truth about a shocking crime. Vikki Wakefield’s compelling story is about class, corruption, and big-picture values of love, loyalty and the vindication of truth and justice. And a very brave dog called Blue.

Vikki Wakefield writes fiction for adults and young adults. Her novels have been shortlisted for numerous awards. *After You Were Gone*, a psychological thriller, was her first novel for adults and was published in 2022 to much acclaim.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: World English (excl ANZ)—Bedford Square Publishers

Fiction

February 2024

Manuscript available
Aug

***A Woman in Sardinia (La Rinnegata)* by Valeria Usala translated by Katherine Gregor**

A story of three generations of women, their courage and search for independence in the face of superstition and prejudice, in the spirit of Natalia Ginzberg and Elena Ferrante.

Based on a true story, *A Woman in Sardinia* is also a timeless tale of generations of women who are betrayed—for a pregnancy, for commercial success, for beauty. In this striking debut, Valeria Usala bears witness to an age-old story of violence against women and takes us into the heart of rural Sardinia, where superstitions and cruelty coexist with the joys and companionship of a tight-knit community, as courageous mothers and daughters challenge age-old prejudices.

Teresa runs a successful shop and a tavern. She has never believed in the saying that without a man beside her a woman is nothing. But not even the family she has created with the man she loves will protect her from the wagging tongues and malicious rumours of jealous locals—no one believes that the wealth she has accumulated is the fruit of her labour. Just as her own mother, Maria, was made an outcast, Teresa is in turn forsaken by the villagers, who are threatened by her independence. Like a character in Greek tragedy, is her destiny inevitable? Will Teresa's daughter Maddalena find a better future?

Valeria Usala gives voice to the forgotten women of Sardinia—and to the courage of so many women.

Valeria Usala was born in Cagliari, Sardinia, in 1993. After a degree in Languages and Communication, she studied filmmaking in Rome and then moved to Turin to study writing at the Holden School. She lives in Cagliari.

Katherine Gregor translates from Italian and French. Recent credits include *The Memory of the Air*, by Caroline Lamarche, and *Ashes in the Snow*, by Oriana Ramunno. Katherine is also a writer.

Rights Held: World English

Other Rights: 2 Seas Literary Agency

Fiction

April 2024

Manuscript available

Voyagers: Our Journey into the Anthropocene by Lauren Fuge

At night, as I stargazed from my tiny tent, I'd hear the primal whalesong roll up along the ocean floor and onto the beach where I lay. The ethereal melodies seeped through my shivering skin, like a relic of an ancient time. I felt as if I was eavesdropping across millennia, the sound stirring some faint genetic memory deep inside me.

Come home.

Since the beginning of human history, we have been wanderers. Modern humans left Africa by 150,000 years ago, heading first to Asia and Europe, then Australia, the Americas, and finally—in an incredible feat of innovation and imagination—across the Pacific. Our explorations yielded great rewards: land and resources, food and knowledge.

In every landscape we have explored, we have become a force of change. Humans are the dominant influence on the environment. And our surging population and insatiable industrial metabolism are outgunning the planet's own forces: the sea is sucking at our doorsteps; the forests fall too quickly for us to hear. Still, we seek new seas to fish, new oil deposits to drill, new land to develop.

A compelling blend of natural history, science and memoir, journeying from the dramatic fjords of British Columbia to the ancient geology of outback Australia to the shifting coastlines of Norway, *Voyagers* asks: What drives our urge to explore? How has it influenced our relationship with the planet? And, in the face of imminent environmental collapse, can we find in our voyaging history the tools to reimagine our future?

Lauren Fuge is an award-winning science writer. She has been a science journalist for *Cosmos* magazine and was awarded the 2022 UNSW Bragg Prize for Science Writing; her writing features regularly in the *Best Australian Science Writing* anthology. She is undertaking a PhD exploring creative forms of climate communication.

Rights Held: World

Non-Fiction

August 2024

Manuscript available
Sept

Did I Ever Tell You This? A Memoir by Sam Neill

In this unexpected memoir, written in a creative burst of just a few months in 2022, Sam Neill tells the story of how he became one of the world's most celebrated actors, who has worked with everyone from Meryl Streep to Isabel Adjani, from Jeff Goldblum to Sean Connery, from Steven Spielberg to Jane Campion.

Did I Ever Tell You This? is a joy to read, a marvellous and often very funny book, the work of a natural storyteller who is a superb observer of other people, and who writes with love and warmth about his family. It is also his account of his life outside film, especially in Central Otago where he established Two Paddocks, his vineyard famous for its pinot noir.

'Just wonderful, so funny and charming and sharp. Sam Neill's lively, lovely book made me laugh out loud.' Meryl Streep

'Sam Neill is a legend, and in this magnificent book he shares his stories of family, friends and film with delicious irreverence, compassion and grace.' Laura Dern

'Fabulously entertaining, insanely readable.' Stephen Fry

'*Did I Ever Tell You This?* is tender, funny and emotional, modest and generous, both unbearably sad and deliciously companionable.' Jane Campion

'Sam Neill is one of my favourite people in the world, and a great entertainer. *Did I Ever Tell You This?* is full of warm, funny, and sometimes heartbreaking stories. It will make you feel like you have just sat down under a tree to chat with a dear friend.'

Jimmy Barnes

Sam Neill was born in 1947. He has appeared in almost 100 feature films and dozens of TV series in a career spanning half a century.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Wavesound; ANZ large print—Ulverscroft; Czech Republic—Dobrovsky; Estonia—Uhinenu Kirjastus; North American audio—Recorded Books; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada) large print—Ulverscroft; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—Michael Joseph/Penguin Random House UK

Non-Fiction

April 2023

Finished copies available

The Last Daughter: A True Story of Love, Loss and Reconnection by Brenda Matthews

'I share this story out of love and forgiveness.' Brenda Matthews

When she was two years old, Brenda and her siblings were taken from their parents.

For the next five years she was a much-loved daughter in a white family, a happy child in a country town on the outskirts of Sydney, unaware of the existence of her Aboriginal family or how hard her parents were fighting for her return—unaware of her Aboriginal identity.

Then, suddenly, she was reunited with her birth family, the last daughter to come home.

Decades later, Brenda searches for her foster family and her beloved white sister. Along the way she uncovers long-buried secrets and government bungling, and finds a deep connection to her Aboriginal culture.

The Last Daughter is an account of Brenda's journey to discover the truth about her past—and to unite her two families. It's a story of heartbreak, love and hope, one that shows a way forward for all divided communities.

'Powerful and inspirational—a must-read.' Taryn Brumfitt, Australian of the Year

'*The Last Daughter* might be one of the most important books an Australian could read.'
Books+Publishing

Brenda Matthews is a proud Wiradjuri woman. She lives with her husband, Mark, in Bundjalung country, Queensland. Brenda is a mother, a grandmother, a sister, a daughter, an aunty, a storyteller, a speaker and co-director of the feature film, *The Last Daughter*, a feature documentary of her life.

thelastdaughter.com.au

Rights Held: World excl. Brazil, Germany, Portuguese

Other Rights: Omundo Media GmbH Germany

Non-Fiction

| April 2023

| Finished copies available

***Right Story, Wrong Story: Adventures in Indigenous Thinking* by Tyson Yunkaporta**

When Tyson Yunkaporta's *Sand Talk* was published in 2019, the American writer Tommy Orange commented that it 'shows how vital and alive and essential Indigenous ways of being and thinking are.' *Sand Talk* examined global systems from an Indigenous point of view. It was, as Miles Franklin-winning author Melissa Lukashenko remarked, 'an extraordinary invitation into the world of the Dreaming'.

Right Story, Wrong Story extends his explorations of how we can think and act and speak by combining an analysis of Indigenous thinking and living with an equally revelatory critique of post-industrial society. Like *Sand Talk*, this new book is a formidably original essay. It describes how the ways that we relate to each other are inseparable from how we relate to the environments we live in. It is about how we talk to each other, or yarn: how we teach and learn. Along the way, Tyson talks to a range of people: liberal economists, performance and memorisation experts, Nordic stone carvers, Frisian ecologists, and Indigenous Australian thought-leaders, mathematicians and storytellers.

This book is a sequence of thought experiments, which are, as Yunkaporta writes, 'crowd-sourced narratives where everybody's contribution to the story, no matter how contradictory, is honoured and included...the closest thing I can find in the world to the Aboriginal collective process of what we call "yarning".'

Praise for *Sand Talk*:

'Thought-provoking.' *New York Times*

'*Sand Talk* is an important book. Tyson Yunkaporta is an important and original thinker and writer. This book shows how vital and alive and essential Indigenous ways of being and thinking are.' Tommy Orange, author of *There There*

Tyson Yunkaporta is an Aboriginal scholar, and founder of the Indigenous Knowledge Systems Lab at Deakin University in Melbourne. His work focuses on applying Indigenous methods of inquiry to resolve complex issues and explore global issues. His first book, *Sand Talk: How Indigenous Thinking Can Save the World*, was published in 2019 and won the Small Publishers' Adult Book of the Year at the Australian Book Industry Awards and the Ansari Institute's Randa and Sherif Nasr Book Prize on Religion & the World.

Rights Held: World

Option publishers: ANZ audio—Audible; France—Editions la Maisnie/Tredaniel; North America—Harper One; Russia—Ad Marginem Press; Spain—Herder Editorial

Non-fiction

October 2023

Manuscript available May

***Big Meg: the Story of the Largest and Most Mysterious Predator that Ever Lived* by Tim and Emma Flannery**

Its name means giant tooth but everything about it is gigantic, including its pull on the human imagination. Tim and Emma Flannery's *Big Meg* tells the story of the megalodon—what we know about where and how it lived, bred, hunted and became extinct—a shark whose size and ferocity are the stuff of nightmares and whose teeth are probably the most sought after fossils in the world.

The great shark, aka *Otodus megalodon*, the big meg, was the largest predator that ever stalked the planet, weighing somewhere between fifty and 100 tonnes. We know that this leviathan was warm-blooded, that it had the most powerful bite of any animal ever to have lived and that it could open that mighty jaw to a gape of three metres, wide enough to take a killer whale whole.

Big Meg is not only the biography of a phenomenal animal, but a compelling exploration of the role it plays in the popular imagination. The megalodon might have been extinct for more than three million years but it flourishes in the stories we tell about it, in our hunt for its relics, and our quest to uncover more of the mystery surrounding it.

Professor Tim Flannery, and his daughter, Emma Flannery, bring the ancient megalodon to life in this fascinating and engaging natural history.

Tim Flannery is a palaeontologist, an explorer, a conservationist and a leading writer on climate change. He has held various academic positions including visiting Professor in Evolutionary and Organismic Biology at Harvard University, Director of the South Australian Museum, Principal Research Scientist at the Australian Museum, Professorial Fellow at the Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute, University of Melbourne, and Panasonic Professor of Environmental Sustainability, Macquarie University. His books include the award-winning international bestseller *The Weather Makers, Here on Earth, Atmosphere of Hope* and *Europe: The First 100 Million Years*.

Emma Flannery is a scientist and writer. She has explored caves, forests and oceans across most of the globe's continents in search of elusive fossils, animals and plants. Her research and writing on geology, chemistry and palaeontology has been published in scientific journals, children's books and a number of museum-based adult education tours.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Bolinda; North America—Grove Atlantic; UK & Comm. (excl. ANZ & Canada)—Transworld

Non-fiction

August 2023

Manuscript available

Fat Girl Dancing by Kris Kneen

Fat child, self-denying adolescent, hungry young woman; a body now burgeoning uncontrolled into middle age. Kris Kneen has borne the usual indignities: the confrontations with clothes that won't fasten, with mirrors that defame, with strangers whose gaze judges and dismisses. This is the story of how Kris learned to look unblinkingly at their recalcitrant body, and ultimately found the courage to carry it to freedom.

Fat Girl Dancing is a frank, beautiful and triumphant ode to self-respect from one of Australia's most original and acclaimed writers.

'Muscular, dexterous, and superbly inventive, *Fat Girl Dancing* is an extraordinary investigation—and expression—of the self.' Sarah Krasnostein, author of *The Trauma Cleaner*

'Insightful and poetic, *Fat Girl Dancing* is a triumph. I am better for having read it, perhaps even a little more human. This book may be Kneen's specific story, but it is for every mind and every body.' Bri Lee, author of *Eggshell Skull*

'A prism of a book, relighting the world around us, page by page.' Chloe Hooper, author of *Bedtime Story* and *A Child's True Book of Crime*

'Visceral and transportive, *Fat Girl Dancing* is a triumph of storytelling, at once sharp and compassionate, critical yet subjective. In this wildly creative memoir, the body is explored in all its richness, controversy and taboo. This is Kneen at their finest.' Mirandi Riwoe, author of *Stone Sky Gold Mountain* and *The Burnished Sun*

'A raw yet lyrical memoir that digs into the hidden parts of ourselves with a tender and unflinching gaze. On each page, Kneen breathes poetry into the pain of having the "wrong" body.' Yves Rees, author of *All About Yves*

Kris Kneen is the award-winning author of memoir—*Affection*—and fiction: *An Uncertain Grace*, *Steeplechase*, *Triptych*, *The Adventures of Holly White* and *the Incredible Sex Machine* and *Wintering*. They have also published the Thomas Shapcott Award-winning poetry collection *Eating My Grandmother*. They have written and directed broadcast documentaries for SBS and ABC Television.

Rights Held: World

Non-fiction

May 2023

Manuscript available

Let's Never Speak of This Again by Megan Williams

Winner of the 2022 Text Prize

Ella and I have been best friends since grade one. We can spend hours talking about everything and nothing. We know each other's greatest fears, things that irrationally annoy us, and ideal career if money and skill weren't an issue. If there was only one Hartford Bakery brownie left in the whole world and it was somehow in my possession, Ella is the only person I'd consider sharing it with.

Life is pretty good for sixteen-year-old Abby. Okay, her grandma doesn't remember things anymore, her relationship with her mum is increasingly strained and she accidentally kissed her cousin's cousin on the weekend, so things aren't exactly perfect. But everything is manageable with her best friend, Ella, by her side.

And with Ella's brother, Will—interesting and attentive—on the sidelines.

When new girl Chloe arrives, Abby is pleased to be the one to show her around, to welcome her to the group. But Abby doesn't imagine Chloe fitting in so well or quite so quickly. And before long Abby is feeling just a little left out, a little unsure of Ella's friendship. In a moment of anger and confusion she wishes something bad would happen.

When it does—with tragic consequences—everything shifts again. And Abby has to face her own feelings and work out what friendship really means.

Megan Williams' brilliant debut novel *Let's Never Speak of This Again* is a tender, moving, often funny celebration of female friendship, about the things that test it, and about what matters most.

Megan Williams won the 2022 Text Prize for her debut YA novel *Let's Never Speak of This Again*. She lives in Brisbane with her husband and their three children.

Rights Held: World

Young Adult Fiction

September 2023

Manuscript available

***Blind Spot* by Robyn Dennison**

Shortlisted for the 2021 Text Prize

Dale is grappling with guilt and intense regret after stumbling in on what looked like a rape in a bedroom at a party. In his drunken confusion, he froze—and then bolted. Why didn't he do anything? Why didn't he tell someone? He can't stop thinking about what happened. He wants to make things right—but he doesn't know how.

There's no way he can talk to his dad. His mum walked out four months ago. And his best friend, Kieran, wouldn't understand. Dale's not even sure Kieran would see a problem with what happened. Kieran is so casual about sex. And drugs. And life in general. The opposite of Dale.

Then Max arrives, Dale's cousin. She's older, smart, cool—with her own perspective on Dale's problem. But she's also suffering from an eating disorder, and Dale once again is powerless to help.

Meanwhile, Dale meets Brent: he's a year older, and hot. And they hook up. It's intense and intimate and seems destined to become the perfect relationship. And Dale holds on tight—too tight.

Blind Spot is a nuanced and insightful exploration of the responsibility that comes with being a witness, the culpability of inaction and the complex nature of friendship—from a vibrant and exciting new voice in Australian young adult literature.

Robyn Dennison's fiction has appeared in Australian literary journals, including as a runner-up for the *Overland* VU Short Story Prize. She is a PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne, where she teaches creative writing. *Blind Spot*, her first novel, was shortlisted for the Text Prize.

Rights Held: World

Young Adult Fiction

July 2023

Manuscript available

Selfie by Allayne L. Webster

An exploration of the complexities of teen friendships and the difficulties of navigating social media in a captivating novel for younger YA readers.

Dene Walker picked me to be her best friend. She had the whole of Tonsley High's year eight to choose from—and she chose me. Me!

Tully can't believe her luck. Dene is famous. Everyone loves her. She has thousands of followers online and hundreds of sponsorship deals. Being best friends with Dene Walker is a dream come true.

Tully is soon hardly aware that her long-time bestie, Kira, exists, as she shapes her own interests and cares to be the person worthy of Dene's attention. And she's not prepared for the heartache and confusion when Dene's friendship is not all she imagined it to be.

Selfie is an engaging and very real exploration of social media and the trickiness of separating what's real from the glossiness of the online world. It's a tender story about friendship and staying true to yourself.

'Social media, teenage fame, and a girl trying to work out where she fits. Loved it.'
Nova Weetman, author of *The Age of Thirteen*

'Webster takes her readers on an authentic teenage journey in *Selfie*...Young adults can learn a lot about miscommunications, as well as what is truly important in a friendship, from this contemporary story that understands the importance placed upon an online presence in today's world.' Anneliese Gates, *Books+Publishing*

Allayne L. Webster grew up in rural South Australia and now lives in Adelaide. Her books include the CBCA notable novel *Paper Planes* and *A Cardboard Palace*, *Our Little Secret*, *The Centre of My Everything*, *That Thing I Did* and *Sensitive*, which has been selected for the 2023 IBBY catalogue.

Rights Held: World

Young Adult Fiction

April 2023

Finished copies available

***The Brink* by Holden Sheppard**

Winner, *Young Adult, Indie Book Award, 2023*

Shortlisted, *Ethel Turner Prize for Young People's Literature, NSW Premier's Literary Awards, 2023*

A group of school-leavers: free at last, ready to party, expectations high.

A remote island on the Western Australian coast wasn't exactly the plan, but they're not going to let that hold them back.

Leonardo, geeky, asthmatic, shy and prone to anxiety, has landed with them. He's terrified—he's definitely not part of this cool gang. Super high-achiever Kaiya is trying to forget her frustration with her drug-addicted sister as well as dealing with pressure from the popular girls to lose her virginity. Mason, footy jock with the physique to match, is coming to terms with his secret desire for his best mate, Jared. And Jared wants a week off from his relationship with Val so he can have sex with as many girls as possible.

But the party takes a dangerous turn when Val is drugged and a man is later found dead on the beach. Blame, fear, mistrust, coverups, power plays and dark secrets tear the group apart and expose the deadly tensions beneath the surface. And each teen is forced to confront demons that will lead them either to devastating tragedy or transformative triumph.

Whoever survives the week will never be the same again.

The Brink is a raw, powerful novel that pulls no punches in its authentic exploration of masculinity, sexuality, mental health, drug and alcohol use, relationships and sex. Holden Sheppard takes the teenage experience to the next level.

Holden Sheppard is an award-winning author born in Geraldton, Western Australia. His debut novel, *Invisible Boys* (Fremantle Press, 2019), was published to both critical and commercial success. It won the WA Premier's Prize for an Emerging Writer, was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards and was named a Notable Book by the Children's Book Council of Australia. *Invisible Boys* is currently in production as a television series. Holden is currently writing a novel for adults.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Wavesound

Young Adult Fiction

| August 2022

| Finished copies available

***The Hotel Witch* by Jessica Miller**

Sometimes the simplest spells are the most powerful.

Sibyl is the apprentice hotel witch at the splendid Grand Mirror Hotel.

She is busy each day drawing useful spell patterns to keep the hotel guests happy: spells to shine shoes, spells to remove dust and spells to return lost belongings like hats and gloves to their owners.

But Sibyl dreams of other possibilities—wonderful possibilities like her mother returning from the Black Mountains, and like Grandma letting her draw spell patterns from the *Book of Advanced and Dangerous Magic*.

When Grandma gets stuck in last Tuesday, somewhere on the hotel’s thirteenth floor, Sibyl is left to take charge of all the hotel magic—and to solve a mysterious and perplexing problem.

Can she find a way to open the *Book of Advanced and Dangerous Magic*?

And will it contain the spell she needs?

The Hotel Witch is a magical tale of courage, love and the power of imagining possibilities.

‘This story crackles with clever magic and page-turning escapades, but it also contains an artful wisdom about self-belief and a giant heart. Book yourself a room in the Grand Mirror Hotel as soon as possible.’ Emily Gale, author of *The Goodbye Year*

‘This magical novel for primary years students will no doubt become a favourite.’
CBCA VIC

‘[*The Hotel Witch*] is a magical, fun tale with exciting imagery that allows the story to come alive.’ *Readings*

Jessica Miller is a children’s writer from Brisbane, currently living in London. Her first novel, *Elizabeth and Zenobia*, was shortlisted for the *Text Prize* and the *Readings Prize* and was a *Children’s Book Council Awards (CBCA) Notable Book*, as was her second book, *The Republic of Birds*.

Rights Held: World excl. North America

Other Rights: InkWell Management

Middle Grade Fiction

March 2023

Finished copies available

Backlist Highlights

***Limberlost* by Robbie Arnott**

Shortlisted, Dylan Thomas Prize, 2023

Shortlisted, Indie Book Awards, Fiction, 2023

Longlisted, Booktopia Favourite Australian Book Award, Fiction, 2022

Highly Commended, Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, Fiction, 2023

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Wavesound; France—Actes Sud; Germany—Berlin Verlag; Italy—NN Editore; Norway—CappelenDamm; Russia—Foliant; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—Atlantic Books

***Day's End* by Garry Disher**

Longlisted, Booktopia Favourite Australian Book Award, Fiction, 2022

Rights Held: World excl North America

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Wavesound; Germany—Unionsverlag; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—Serpent's Tail

***Bodies of Light* by Jennifer Down**

Winner, Miles Franklin Literary Award, 2022

Shortlisted, Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, Fiction, 2022

Shortlisted, Stella Prize, 2022

Shortlisted, *The Age* Book of the Year Award, Fiction, 2022

Shortlisted, Voss Literary Prize, 2022

Shortlisted, Barbara Jefferis Award, 2022

Shortlisted, Sisters in Crime Davitt Awards, Adult Crime Novel, 2022

Longlisted, Dublin Literary Award, 2023

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Wavesound; Catalan—Editorial Navona; Germany—Ullstein Verlag; North American audio—Recorded Books; Poland—Foksal; Spain—Editorial Navona; Russia—Eksmo; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada) audio—W. F. Howes

***The Children's Bach* by Helen Garner**

Winner, Windham-Campbell Prize, 2016

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Bolinda; Greece—Dardanos; Italy—Nottetempo; North America—Pantheon; Poland—Wydawnictwo Cyranka; Turkey—Yapi Kredi Kultur Sanat; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—Weidenfeld & Nicolson

***Salonika Burning* by Gail Jones**

Shortlisted, Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, Fiction, 2023

Rights Held: World

***The Plains* by Gerald Murnane**

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Brazil—Todavia; Catalan—Miniscula; China—Ginkgo (Shanghai) Book Co. Ltd; Denmark—THP; Finland—Lurra Editions; Germany—Suhrkamp Verlag; Greece—Kastaniotis Editions; Israel—Carmel Publishing House; Italy—Safara Editore; Netherlands—Uitgeverij Signatuur; Norway—Det Norske Samlaget; Poland—Wydawnictwo Czarne; Portugal—Bazarov; Serbia—Mali vrt; Slovenia—Litera; Spain—Miniscula; Sweden—Albert Bonniers Forlag; Turkey—Harfa

***After You Were Gone* by Vikki Wakefield**

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Wavesound; World English (excl ANZ)—Bedford Square Publishers

Text Publishing Agents

Baltic Region

Tatjana Zoldnere
Andrew Nurnberg Associates
PO Box 77, Riga LV 1011, Latvia
Phone: +371 6 7506 495
Email: zoldnere@anab.apollo.lv

Brazil

Laura Riff
The Riff Agency
Avenida Calógeras, no. 6, sala 1007,
Centro, Rio de Janeiro RJ, 20030-070,
Brazil
Phone: +55 21 2287 6299
Email: laura@agenciariff.com.br

China and Taiwan

Gray Tan
The Grayhawk Agency
1F, No. 18, Lane 206, Sec 1
Daan Road, Daan Dist., Taipei 106685,
Taiwan
Phone: +886 2 2705 9231
Email: grayhawk@grayhawk-agency.com

Czech Republic and Slovak Republic

Kristin Olson
Kristin Olson Literary Agency
Klimentská 24, 110 00 Praha 1
Czech Republic
Phone +420 222 582 042
Email: kristin.olson@litag.cz

France

Eliane Benisti
Eliane Benisti Agency
80 Rue des Saints-Pères
75007 Paris, France
Phone: +33 1 42 22 85 33
Email: eliane@elianebenisti.com

German Language

Christian Dittus [adult titles]
Antonia Fritz [children's and YA titles]
Paul & Peter Fritz AG
Neptunstrasse 20, 8032 Zürich,
Switzerland
Phone: +41 1 44 388 4140
Email: afritz@fritzagency.com
Email: cdittus@fritzagency.com

Greece

Evangelia Avioniti
Ersilia Literary Agency
Phone: +30 693 8454 332
Email: info@ersilialit.com

Hungary

Peter Bolza
Kátai & Bolza Literary Agents
PO Box 1474, H-1464 Budapest
Hungary
Phone: +36 1 456 0313
Email: peter@kataibolza.hu

Italy

Erica Berla
Berla & Griffini Rights Agency
Via Gian Giacomo Mora 7, 20123 Milano,
Italy
Phone: +39 02 80 50 41 79
Email: berla@bgagency.it

Israel

Beverley Levit
The Book Publishers Association of Israel
29 Carlebach Street
Tel Aviv, 67132
Israel
Phone: +972 3 5614121 (ext 123)
Email: rights1@tbpai.co.il

Japan

Maiko Fujinaga
Japan Uni Agency, Inc.
Tokyodo Jinbacho, no. 2 Building
1-27 Kanda Jinbo-cho
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0051
Japan
Phone: +81 3 3295 0301
Email: maiko.fujinaga@japanuni.co.jp

Hamish Macaskill
The English Agency (Japan) Ltd.
Sakuragi Bldg. 4F
6-7-3 Minami Aoyama,
Minato-ku
Tokyo 107-0062
Japan
Phone: +81 3 3406 5385
Fax: +81 3 3406 5387
Email: hamish@ej.co.jp

Korea

Joeun Lee
KCC (Korea Copyright Center Inc.)
Gyonghigung-achim, Officetel Rm 520
Compound 3, Naesu-dong 72, Chongno,
Seoul 110-070
Korea
Phone: +82 2 725 3350
Email: jelee@kccseoul.com

The Netherlands & Scandinavia

Jeanine Langenberg
Sebes & Bisseling Literary Agency
Herengracht 623, 1017 CE Amsterdam,
The Netherlands
Phone: +31 20 616 09 40
Email: sebes@sebes.nl

Poland

Paulina Machnik
GRAAL Literary Agency
Pruszkowska 29/252
02-119 Warszawa, Poland
Phone: +48 609 626 243
Email: paulina.machnik@graal.com.pl

Romania

Simona Kessler
International Copyright Agency Ltd
Str. banul Antonache 37
70 000 Bucharest 1, Romania
Phone: +401 231 8150
Email: simona@kessler-agency.ro

Russia

Olga Zasetskaya
Synopsis Literary Agency
PO Box 114
Moscow 129090, Russia
Phone: +7095 781 0182
Email: oz@synopsis-agency.ru

Southeast Europe

Diana Matulić
Corto Literary Agency
Braće Domany 8, 1000 Zagreb, Croatia
Email: diana@cortoliterary.com

Spain & Portugal

Maribel Luque
Agencia Balcells
Av. Diagonal, 580
08021 Barcelona, Spain
Phone: +34 93 200 8933
Email: maribel.luque@agenciabalcells.com

Turkey

Amy Spangler
Anatolialit Agency
Caferaga Mah.
Gunesli Bahce Sok. no: 48 Or-Ko Apt. B
Blok D:4 34710 Kadıköy-Istanbul, Turkey
Phone: +90 216 700 1088
Email: amy@anatolialit.com

UK

Sarah Lutyens
Lutyens & Rubinstein
21 Kensington Park Road
London W11 2EU
United Kingdom
Phone: +44 207 792 4855
Email: sarah@lutyensrubinstein.co.uk

USA & Canada

David Forrer
InkWell Management
521 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2600
New York, NY 10175
USA
Phone: + 212 922 3500
Email: david@inkwellmanagement.com