

The Text Publishing Company



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Recent Acquisitions

Children and Young Adult

Gale, Emily	<i>The Wild Unknown</i>	ANZ & translation	Annabel Barker
Stead, Rebecca	<i>The Experiment</i>	ANZ	Macmillan USA
Stills, Caroline	<i>A Gift from the Birds</i>	World	Author
Timms, Jade	<i>Golden</i>	World	Author

Adult

Costello, Mary	<i>A Beautiful Loan</i>	ANZ	PEW Literary
Darrieussecq, Marie	<i>Fabriquer une femme</i>	ANZ	Editions P. O. L.
de Kretser, Michelle	<i>The Hamilton Case</i>	ANZ	Lutyens & Rubinstein
Del Amo, Jean-Baptiste	<i>La nuit ravagée</i>	ANZ	RCW Literary Agency
Demick, Barbara	<i>Daughters of the Bamboo Grove</i>	ANZ	Abner Stein in assoc. with Sterling Lord Literistic
Disher, Garry	<i>Untitled stand alone thriller</i>	World	Jenny Darling & Associates
Jennings, Karen	<i>The First of December</i>	ANZ	C&W Agency
Kessler, David A.	<i>Diet, Drugs and Dopamine: The New Science of Achieving a Healthy Weight</i>	ANZ	Susanna Lea Assoc in assoc. with the Robbins Agency
Macrae Burnet, Graeme	<i>Macphee</i>	ANZ	Polygon
Martel, Yann	<i>The Son of Nobody</i>	ANZ	Westwood Creative Artists
Montrone, Sofia	<i>Nymph</i>	ANZ	Canongate Books
Ozeki, Ruth	<i>The Typing Lady and To Live, For Now</i>	ANZ	Abner Stein in assoc. with the Friedrich Agency
Peterson, Britt	<i>The Maidenheads</i>	UK & Comm (excl. Canada)	Abner Stein in assoc. with HG Literary
Sala, Michael	<i>The Drift Trilogy</i>	World	Author
Sloley, Emma	<i>The Island of Lost Things</i>	UK & Comm. (excl. Canada)	Flatiron Books
Stanley, Jessica	<i>Consider Yourself Kissed</i>	ANZ	David Higham Assoc
Wilde, Eleanor	<i>June in the Garden</i>	UK & Comm (excl. Canada)	Peters, Fraser and Dunlop
Wilson, Kevin	<i>Run for the Hills</i>	UK & Comm (excl. Canada)	Abner Stein in assoc. with The Book Group

Recent Publications

Children and Young Adult

Bowe, Steph	<i>Sunny at the End of the World</i>	Ginger Clark Literary
Crozier, Lauren	<i>The Best Witch in Paris</i>	Author
Kwaymullina, Ambelin	<i>Liar's Test</i>	Jill Grinberg Literary Management
Nugent, Carly	<i>Birdy</i>	Author
Shepard, Sara	<i>Penny Draws</i> series	PRH USA
Stead, Rebecca and Mass, Wendy	<i>The Lost Library</i>	Macmillan USA

Adult

Carlyle, Rose	<i>No One Will Know</i>	Jenny Meyer Literary Agency
Coetzee, J. M.	<i>The Pole and Other Stories</i>	David Higham Assoc.
de Kretser, Michelle	<i>Theory & Practice</i>	Lutyens & Rubinstein
Del Amo, Jean-Baptiste	<i>The Son of Man</i>	Rogers, Coleridge & White
el Akkad, Omar	<i>One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This</i>	Canongate Books
Islington, James	<i>The Will of the Many</i>	Simon & Schuster USA
Latronico, Vincenzo	<i>Perfection</i>	Fitzcarraldo Editions
Le Nay, Louise	<i>Edenhope</i>	Australian Literary Management
Macrae Burnet, Graeme	<i>A Case of Matricide</i>	Saraband
Peck, Jo	<i>Suddenly Single at Sixty</i>	Author
Richardson, Raeden	<i>The Degenerates</i>	Writers House
Shibli, Adania	<i>Minor Detail</i>	Fitzcarraldo Editions
Smee, Sebastian	<i>Paris in Ruins</i>	The Zoë Pagnamenta Agency
Solace, Rosalia Aguilar	<i>The Book of Wisdom</i> trilogy	Blackstone
Stewart, Amy	<i>The Tree Collectors: Tales of Arboreal Obsession</i>	Tessler Literary Agency
Tokarczuk, Olga	<i>The Empusion</i>	Rogers, Coleridge & White

Side Character Energy by Olivia Tolich

Before she met Bee, Gertrude was alone—like a whale singing on a different frequency so that none of the other whales could find it. Then Bee decided they were friends, and now they're not just best friends: they live in the same house and work together too.

Gertrude's whole life, in fact, seems to revolve around Bee. Not that it's a problem; she's just not sure why she's going on double dates with Bee and her new boyfriend Will, a douchebag-finance-bro, and his friend Arthur, who is apparently also a jerk.

Apparently. Because there might be more to Arthur than Gertrude thinks. And, according to Arthur, there might be more to Gertrude than she thinks as well. And if that's true? Where would that leave her life with Bee?

Side Character Energy is a sharp, wise, hilarious novel about love—romantic, platonic and toxic—from a brilliant new voice in Australian fiction.

Olivia Tolich is an emerging author based in Melbourne (Naarm). She holds a Masters of Creative Writing, Publishing and Editing from the University of Melbourne and works as an educational publisher.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

February 2026

Manuscript available
June 2025

Mischance Creek by Garry Disher

It's the worst drought in a generation, and the people of the towns, farms and sheep stations of Senior Constable Paul Hirschhausen's vast outback beat are suffering. Foreclosures. Failing businesses. Farmers shooting sheep too costly to support. Strangers dumping dangerous waste. And all the usual small problems that could easily turn into big ones. Unlicensed guns. Local officials and their little rural fiefdoms...

It's a relief for Hirsch to do something useful for someone. Like help the young woman roaming the back country looking for the remains of her mother, who'd disappeared during a gemstone-fossicking trip six years ago. Her father's body was found at the time—at the bottom of a mineshaft; ruled an accidental death by the coroner—but Annika Nordrum won't feel complete until she knows why her mother was never found.

When Hirsch digs out the old files, he soon sees how inadequate the original investigation was. Why was her father found at a long-abandoned gold diggings and not the Anna Gorge gem field? Why was he found with some possessions, but not others? And who was it that brought in his dog, found wandering along a lonely road with a blood-stained collar?

'Disher is brilliant.' *The Times* on *Day's End*

'Peter Temple and Garry Disher will be identified as the crime writers who redefined Australian crime fiction in terms of its form, content and style.' *Age* on *Consolation*

'Hirsch is one of my favourite characters.' Hayley Scrivenor on *Day's End*

'Utterly compelling.' Dervla McTiernan on *Peace*

'Smooth, assured mastery.' *New York Times Book Review* on *Bitter Wash Road*

Garry Disher has published sixty titles across multiple genres. With a growing international reputation for his bestselling crime novels, he has won four German and three Australian awards for best crime novel of the year, and has been longlisted twice for a British CWA Dagger Award. In 2018 he received the Ned Kelly Lifetime Achievement Award.

Rights Held: World excl. North America

Other Rights: Jenny Darling & Associates

Rights Sold: ANZ Audio—Wavesound; UK & Comm (excl. ANZ & Canada)—Viper.

Option Publishers: Germany—Unionsverlag; UK & Comm (excl. ANZ & Canada) audio—W. F. Howes.

Fiction

October 2025

Manuscript available

Lucky Thing by Tom Baragwanath

When brilliant young student Jessica Mowbrie is found beaten nearly to death in a remote patch of New Zealand bush, nobody has a clue what happened—or how to begin piecing it together. Except long-serving police records clerk Lorraine Henry.

Lorraine knows the Mowbries, like she knows everyone in her part of Masterton, and soon she'll know a lot more. Because as something of an institution at Masterton police station, Lorraine is a woman people don't expect much from. But sometimes, that's an advantage. When her colleagues are busy stomping around making threats and accusations, Lorraine is listening and observing, quietly piecing together a different understanding of what happened to Jessica—an understanding that threatens everything she thought she knew about her community, her friends, and even her own family.

To get to the bottom of things, Lorraine must navigate fractured neighbourhood allegiances, and unearth all kinds of long-buried secrets—secrets that could provoke a danger hiding in plain sight and threaten those she loves the most.

In this follow-up to his award-winning debut novel *Paper Cage*, Tom Baragwanath delivers another bone-deep exploration of life in the margins of small-town New Zealand. *Lucky Thing* is a thrilling new instalment in the Lorraine Henry series.

Praise for Tom Baragwanath and *Paper Cage*:

'Just the kind of dark, disturbing, gritty, and unusual treat thriller lovers are looking for.' *Kirkus* [starred review]

'Magnetic...This beautifully constructed plot has already won awards, and it is easy to see why with a protagonist who is impossible not to root for...Breathtakingly compelling.' *Daily Mail*

Tom Baragwanath is originally from Masterton, New Zealand, and now lives in Paris. His debut novel, *Paper Cage*, published in 2022, introduced the world to records clerk Lorraine Henry. It was the winner of the 2021 *Michael Gifkins Prize*, shortlisted for *Best International Crime Fiction* in the 2023 *Ned Kelly Awards* and shortlisted for *Best First Novel* in the 2023 *Ngaio Marsh Awards*.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—Baskerville/Hachette.

Option Publisher: North America—Knopf.

Fiction

September 2025

Manuscript available

The Body Next Door by Zane Lovitt

The most intriguing new crime novel of the year from Ned Kelly Award-winning author Zane Lovitt, perfect for fans of Richard Osman and Aoife Clifford

Everybody needs good neighbours...

When Claire Corral goes missing from her home on Carnation Way, neighbour Jamie isn't too concerned. He's busy—caring for his dad, recovering from a broken heart and eating himself into a bigger pair of pants.

Then the police turn up.

Is Claire's disappearance connected with the body found next door thirteen years ago? Does Jamie's father, now grappling with dementia, know more about these events than he should? And then there's Tess, equal parts mysterious and charming, who just moved in at number thirty-five...

As Jamie asks around, an unsettling picture begins to form. Perhaps quiet, respectable Carnation Way is home to the same secrets and heartaches as any other neighbourhood—with a few more murders thrown in.

Zane Lovitt, the Ned Kelly Award-winning author of *The Midnight Promise*, returns with a gloriously entertaining and compelling suburban mystery-thriller.

'Lovitt is a wonderfully inventive writer.' *NZ Listener* on *Black Teeth*

'Original Australian crime fiction of the first order.' *Age* on *Black Teeth*

'There are only a few authors who I can still vividly remember the first time I ever discovered them. The moment, the feeling, stuck in my reading memory... You knew you've just read a writer who you will follow anywhere. I'm adding Zane Lovitt to that list.' Jon Page, *Bite the Book* on *The Midnight Promise*

Zane Lovitt's debut novel, *The Midnight Promise*, won the Ned Kelly Award for Best First Fiction and led to Zane being named one of the Best Young Novelists of 2013 by the *Sydney Morning Herald*. His second novel, *Black Teeth*, was a witty, dynamic contemporary thriller. He lives in Melbourne.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—W. F. Howes.

Fiction

March 2025

Finished copies available

***Do We Deserve This?* by Eleanor Elliott Thomas**

Do We Deserve This? is a mordantly funny family drama exploring questions of luck, misfortune and privilege. Do any of us get what we deserve?

When Nina Halloway is left unconscious after a car accident, her three adult children—histrionic pop star Jeremy, uptight lawyer Genevieve, and hapless twenty-something Bean—think it's the most dramatic thing that will happen to them all year. Then they discover that the lottery ticket Bean bought her mother just before the accident is worth money—a *lot* of money.

At first, the three of them agree that holding on to the ticket until Nina wakes up is the right thing to do. Then, as various financial problems arise for Jeremy and Genevieve, their resolution is tested. Bean, meanwhile, begins an ambiguous relationship with a colleague whose motivations are unclear: does he know about the lottery win? When Bean finds out that her mother's estranged family has made their money in some problematic ways, she begins to doubt whether the Halloways deserve their good fortune at all.

This smart and snarky novel explores big themes and complicated relationships with a light touch, and will appeal to readers of *The Rachel Incident*, *The Long Island Compromise* and *Such a Fun Age*.

'Raucously funny and gloriously, painfully real. Think Fleabag as an Australian mum. It's utterly endearing—I never wanted it to end!' Emily Bitto on *The Opposite of Success*

'Like a brilliant conversation, *The Opposite of Success* is witty, honest and full of natural charisma.' Jessica Au

'A zany comedy with broad appeal...Laugh-out-loud funny.' Age on *The Opposite of Success*

Eleanor Elliott Thomas worked for many years as a lawyer before devoting herself to writing full time. She lives in Melbourne with her partner and two daughters. Her debut, *The Opposite of Success*, was published in 2023 and was shortlisted for the 2024 *Readings Prize for New Australian Fiction*.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

October 2025

Manuscript available

The Minstrels by Eva Hornung

Minstrels, a dry, sibilant, singing word, was Gem's favourite word. 'The Minstrels' fell from adult lips with a subtle change of expression in their faces. The Minstrels, unlike the drought, were real, possibly the centre of everything.

Gem Thurston, quick and clever. Her older brother Will adores her, her parents do not. Gem's father farms the land overlooked by the Minstrels, the plunging gorge in which the myths of Country reside, and in which the young people of the district enact their dangerous rituals and desires. It is here that Gem grows restlessly to adulthood, and where she suffers the wrenching trauma that severs her from her family—most dreadfully, from Will.

This is where she returns, too, after her father and mother are gone, to make her peace with the land, with Will, and perhaps even with herself. Trying to hear what the Minstrels are singing as the world we have all known passes and crumbles.

The Minstrels is a novel of time and place that speaks of connections to the land, both ancient and modern, with a sense of nostalgia for the future as well as the past. In this extraordinary work—thoughtful, subtly humorous, effortlessly readable—Eva Hornung has written both the history and the probable fate of humanity into the life of one woman.

'Utterly compelling.' Yann Martel on *Dog Boy*

'A wonderful novel, a tour de force.' *Guardian* on *Dog Boy*

'A cut black gem of a book: beautiful, compact, and sinister.' *Australian Book Review* on *The Last Garden*

Eva Hornung was born in Bendigo and now lives in rural South Australia. Formerly published as Eva Sallis, Hornung is an award-winning writer of literary fiction and criticism: her first novel *Hiam* won the *Australian/Vogel* Literary Award in 1997 and the Nita May Dobbie Award in 1999. Her novel *The Marsh Birds* won the Asher Literary Award 2005 and was shortlisted for numerous awards including the *Age* Book of the Year 2005, NSW Premier's Literary Award and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize. Eva Hornung's highly acclaimed *Dog Boy* was shortlisted for numerous prizes and won the Prime Minister's Literary Award in 2010. Her most recently published book, *The Last Garden*, won the South Australian Premier's Prize for Literature in 2018 and was shortlisted for multiple other awards.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

April 2026

Manuscript available
August 2025

Grieffdogg by Michael Winkler

Jeffrey Watson-Johnson is a hydrologist living with his wife Martine and child Reggie in Mildura, a country town on the edge of the desert. Jeffrey strives to be the best he can be, at work, on the tennis court, in the community.

After he inherits a large sum of money following the death of an obscure aunt, Jeffrey rethinks his life. He decides he no longer wants to be a husband, father or employee.

He wants to live as Hubert—a family pet. He does not want to dress up as an animal or act like one. Rather, he wants to relinquish all his rights and obligations.

Martine is furious with her husband, but Reggie, who is resolving their own gender identity, is cautiously supportive.

As he adjusts to his new life, Hubert discovers a new power: he can sense secret grief in others. What to do with this gift? Or with his awareness, just as overwhelming, of the endless streams of water flowing unseen beneath the earth.

Michael Winkler's first novel, *Grimmish*, was the first self-published novel to be shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award. It became a cult phenomenon. Writers including J. M. Coetzee, Helen Garner and Robbie Arnott were fans, and it drew praise from *the Times*, the *TLS* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Funny, humane and entrancing from the outset, *Grieffdogg* is equally unexpected, a crazy-sane story about grief, family, guilt, sex and forgiveness.

Praise for *Grimmish*:

'The strangest book you are likely to read this year.' J. M. Coetzee

'Rambunctious.' *Wall Street Journal*

'Playful, touching, eccentric, full of feeling...a blast against publishing by numbers.' *The Times*

Michael Winkler is a writer from Melbourne, living on the unceded lands of the Kulin nation. He is the author, co-author and editor of numerous books, and won the Calibre Essay Prize for 'The Great Red Whale'. His journalism, short fiction, reviews and essays have been widely published and anthologised.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

March 2026

Manuscript available
July 2025

***The Birds Began to Sing* by Jeffrey Buchanan**

Winner, Michael Gifkins Prize for an Unpublished Novel, 2024

Reggie was still missing after five days, and Gladys Harris was saying things about him that quivered in my mind, which now, four years later, I see as being the opening sentence leading me to this burden of what happened to Reggie Kingsley.

In the harbour city of New Plymouth in the 1960s there's a fizz of seedy sexuality beneath a veneer of respectability. Godfrey's world is the Balmoral Hotel his parents own, where visiting sailors drink and local fringe-dwellers congregate.

When Reggie, the openly gay barman, goes missing Godfrey senses something sinister. There's a prevailing attitude of inevitability. Godfrey doesn't get it, but he's hungry to understand. Guided by his daytime-television and pulp-fiction detective heroes and a very active imagination, he attempts to solve the mystery—in the process stumbling into his own sexual adventures and discovering a new-found power in a perplexing adult world.

The Birds Began to Sing delves into a world of shadows, nods and unspoken understandings with a warmth and humour that make this novel a delight.

Jeffrey Buchanan has written five novels concerned primarily with LGBTQI+ issues, *Sucking Feijoas* being his first. He worked in international development for thirty years and lives with his husband on a remote stretch of beach in North Canterbury in New Zealand's South Island.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

August 2025

Manuscript available

The Burrow by Melanie Cheng

Shortlisted, Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, Fiction, 2025

Amy, Jin and Lucie are leading isolated lives in their partially renovated, inner-city home. They are not happy, but they are also terrified of change. When they buy a pet rabbit for Lucie, and then Amy's mother, Pauline, comes to stay, the family is forced to confront long-buried secrets. Will opening their hearts to the rabbit help them to heal, or only invite further tragedy?

The Burrow tells an unforgettable story about grief and hope.

'Melanie Cheng's exquisite novel about a grieving family is a superb balance of unexpected laughter, surprising grace, and the ubiquitous human need for furry love.'
Shelf Awareness

'Each character's bond with the rabbit proves restorative...Readers will be moved.'
Publishers Weekly

'How rare, this delicacy—this calm, sweet, desolated wisdom.' Helen Garner

'Stupendously good.' Christos Tsiolkas

'A beautiful book...Restrained and multifaceted...I couldn't put it down.' Pip Williams

'Skilfully brings coherence to its explorations of compassion, commitment, and suffering.' *Booklist*

'It conveys so much human experience so sparingly that it seems to defy the laws of gravity. Stunning.' Sarah Krasnostein

Melanie Cheng is a writer and general practitioner. She was born in Adelaide, grew up in Hong Kong and now lives in Melbourne. Her debut collection of short stories, *Australia Day*, won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an Unpublished Manuscript in 2016 and the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction in 2018. *Room for a Stranger*, her highly acclaimed first novel, was published in 2019.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—W. F. Howes; North America—Tin House.

Fiction

October 2024

Finished copies available

***Bird Deity* by John Morrissey**

Bird Deity is a science-fiction novel set in a colony on a distant planet. The protagonist, David, is a young man who works as a 'scout', retrieving artifacts made by a now-vanished species called the parasapes. These artifacts encode the memories of the parasapes from a time before their civilisation was destroyed by a mysterious catastrophe.

After ten years, David is due to return to Earth. But he is worried about leaving. His mentor, Tom, has recently gone missing on a plateau where the parasapes used to live. Is he dead? Tom's girlfriend, Eliza, thinks so and is trying to organise passage home for herself and her baby.

Just before he is due to depart, David is approached by a newly arrived anthropologist named Sarah, who has been sponsored by a billionaire philanthropist to study the lost culture of the parasapes. David agrees to take her to the plateau in exchange for a massive fee.

But when they get there, David's story begins to overlap with the story of a parasape astronomer in the months before his civilisation was destroyed. Searching for Tom, David finds himself drawn back into his childhood until he is ultimately confronted by the horrifying *Bird Deity*.

Praise for John Morrissey and *Firelight*:

'Exhilarating...Blends and bends genres.' Jennifer Down

'An exemplary collection of Indigenous literary speculative fiction.' Claire G. Coleman

'Superb.' Tony Birch

'A highly original and compelling collection.' *Conversation*

John Morrissey is a multi-award-winning Melbourne writer of Kalkadoon descent. His work has been published in *Overland*, *Voiceworks*, *Meanjin* and the anthology *This All Come Back Now*. He was the winner of the 2020 Boundless Mentorship, the runner-up for the 2018 Nakata Brophy Prize and named one of the *Sydney Morning Herald's* Best Young Novelists of 2024. His debut short story collection, *Firelight*, was published in 2023 and won Best Collection in the Aurealis Awards 2023 as well as the Steele Rudd Award for a Short Story Collection in the 2024 Queensland Literary Awards.

Rights Held: World
Fiction

August 2026

Manuscript available
August 2025

The Name of the Sister by Gail Jones

A young woman stumbles onto an outback road at night, and is caught in the headlights of an approaching car. Who is she? Nobody knows, and she has lost the ability to speak. She is rushed to hospital, but not before being caught in the glare of the TV cameras.

This is how the story of the Unknown Woman begins, setting off a media firestorm that catches the eye of Angie, a freelance journalist and childhood friend of Bev, the police inspector in charge of identifying Jane, as the Unknown Woman is dubbed, and tracking down her assailant.

Dozens of people step forward claiming to know Jane and to hold the key to her identity. And then the stories redouble once the Unknown Woman is identified and given a name. In an urgent finale that neither of the major characters could have anticipated, contradictory clues will proliferate about the true name of the sister.

Gail Jones's new novel, *The Name of the Sister*, set in Sydney and the Mars-red landscapes surrounding the remote mining town of Broken Hill, explores how stories about identity and history multiply in the absence of reliable facts.

Praise for Gail Jones:

'Gail Jones has to be one of Australia's most consistently impressive writers. Her prose is evocative, her plots meaningful and her characters drawn with considerable care.'

Guardian on *Salonika Burning*

'As in all Jones's work, the lyricism and precision of the writing rewards patient reading. This is her most beautifully paced novel...Eloquent and profound.' *Australian Book Review* on *One Another*

Gail Jones is one of Australia's most celebrated writers. She is the author of two short-story collections and ten novels, and her work has been translated into several languages and has received numerous literary awards. Originally from Western Australia, she now lives in Sydney, where she is Professor Emerita of Writing at the University of Western Sydney. She was awarded the 2024 Creative Australia Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Bolinda.

Fiction

June 2025

Manuscript available

The Pearl of Tagai Town by Lenora Thaker

A sweeping, heart-warming and ultimately triumphant story of the life of a young First Nations woman from Tagai Town, a shantytown on the northernmost tip of Australia, in the decades before, during and after World War II.

Growing up in the 1930s, Pearl strives for a place in the wider world, battling deep-seated prejudices. When she rescues a white shopkeeper trapped under a fallen beam, a bond forms between the two women, and Pearl becomes the first Black woman to work front-of-shop in the nearby white town. Not everyone is happy, of course, but Pearl, with her quiet, kind determination, earns a degree of respect from the affronted white customers. Her budding romance with the bank manager's son, though, must always be kept secret, even from her own family.

When Teddy's parents inevitably discover their son's secret marriage, Teddy suddenly enlists in the army and Pearl faces a cruel punishment. Their love is strong and their baby is Pearl's joy amid the hardship. But the devastating telegram that Teddy's parents receive from the war office puts an end to all hope of a happy reunion.

Until Pearl has reason to doubt the veracity of the telegram's contents.

Lenora Thaker's debut novel brings a fresh angle to Australian historical fiction, with a First Nations wartime love story.

Lenora Thaker is a proud Torres Strait Islander woman (home Islands: Erub and Mabuiag), born and living on Yidinji country in far north Queensland. She is a descendant of the Torres Strait Islanders of Malaytown (a makeshift town on the Cairns swampland from the late 1800s to the early 1950s), who are the inspiration for her novel. Lenora Thaker won the Boundless Mentorship for her novel *The Pearl of Tagai Town*.

Rights Held: World

Fiction

| July 2025

| Manuscript available

***A Brief History of Climate Folly* by Tim and Emma Flannery**

In this entertaining and at times terrifying book Tim and Emma Flannery tell the story of how human beings have tried to change the weather. It's a long story that goes back to priests and shamans who prayed to weather gods and sang and danced to make it rain. It's a story of shysters and charlatans and snake-oil salesmen. And it's a story of shocking schemes to reshape nature.

Climate shapes species and plays a key role in evolution. But we are the only species that has ever dreamed of making the weather suit ourselves. And now that we are in danger of triggering catastrophic global warming, the history of human climate folly is more alarming than ever. Hitler, for instance, wanted to drain the Mediterranean. In the 1950s Soviet and US governments contemplated nuking the Arctic ice cap in order to create a warmer climate.

These schemes seem ludicrous to us, but are they any stranger than the idea that we can arrest runaway climate change by burying our carbon emissions deep in the earth or by seeding clouds with sulphur to block out the sun.

This book reveals an outrageous history of dreamers and schemers who wanted to bend the climate to their will.

'Big Meg is big fun!' Sy Montgomery

Tim Flannery is a paleontologist, an explorer, a conservationist and a leading writer on climate change. His books include the award-winning international bestseller *The Weather Makers*, and *Here on Earth, Atmosphere of Hope* and *Europe: The First 100 Million Years*, as well as his previous collaboration with his daughter, Emma Flannery, *Big Meg*.

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

Option Publishers: ANZ audio—Bolinda; Netherlands—Noordboek; North America—Grove Atlantic; Spain—Planeta; UK & Comm (excl. ANZ & Canada)—Transworld.

Non-Fiction

October 2026

Manuscript available
March 2026

The Season by Helen Garner

Shortlisted, Indie Book Awards, Non-Fiction 2025

It's footy season in Melbourne, and Helen Garner is following her grandson's suburban team. She not only goes to every game (give or take), but to every training session too, shivering on the sidelines at dusk, fascinated by the spectacle.

She's a passionate Western Bulldogs supporter (with an imperfect grasp of the rules) who loves the epic theatre of Australian Rules football. But this is something more than that. It is a chance to connect with her youngest grandchild, to be close to him before he rushes headlong into manhood. To witness his triumphs and defeats, to fear for his safety in battle, to gasp and to cheer for the team as it fights for a place in the finals.

With her sharp eye, her generous wit and her warm humour, Garner documents this pivotal moment, both as part of the story and as a silent witness. *The Season* is an unexpected and exuberant book: a celebration of the nobility, grace and grit of team spirit, a reflection on the nature of masculinity, and a tribute to the game's power to thrill us.

'There are very few writers that I admire more than Helen Garner.' David Nicholls

'A voice of great honesty and energy.' Anne Enright

'Not long ago I read Helen Garner for the first time and was so stunned that I wanted to run around the block; how strange, how wonderful, that a book can still make me feel that way.' Rumaan Alam

'I understand zip about football or any sport, but I cried. Glorious.' Charlotte Wood

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 Prize for non-fiction. In 2019 she was honoured with the Australia Council Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature. And in 2023 she was awarded the ASA Medal for her outstanding contribution to Australian literature. Her works include *Monkey Grip*, *The Children's Bach*, *The First Stone*, *The Spare Room*, *This House of Grief* and three volumes of her diaries. She lives in Melbourne.

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—W. F. Howes; Germany—Berlin Verlag; North America—Pantheon; UK & Comm (excl. ANZ & Canada)—Weidenfeld & Nicolson.

Non-Fiction

December 2024

Finished copies available

Chameleon by Robert Dessaix

Robert Dessaix's *Chameleon* is about everything that matters, a book of memories that flow so freely they seem to happen as we read. Cartwheeling from story to story, Dessaix describes an identity in flux: his beginnings as an adopted child named Thomas Robert Jones, his youthful interest in religious thinking, his obsession with all things Russian, his marriage to Lisa and divorce, his discovery of travel. In North Africa he finds different ways of feeling and being, and in Australia he begins his abiding relationship with his partner Peter Timms. At every point he muses on pleasure, art, sex, literature, infatuation, happiness, music, life, death and all the rest. *Chameleon* is a virtuoso performance of self-revelation, as Dessaix explores how the restless mind takes constant detours to search for what makes life good, a place of wisdom and love.

'Sweet Jesus, this is beautiful.' David Marr

'Wise, witty, and sumptuously idiosyncratic, Robert Dessaix is a writer for all seasons.'
Andrea Goldsmith

'In this flinty yet fond conversation with his long-ago self, Robert Dessaix explores the myriad contradictions that make us fully human. His words, and his singular wisdom, shimmer.' Ailsa Piper

'Robert Dessaix is one of Australia's finest writers, as this sad, funny and moving novel proves, again.' John Banville on *Corfu*

'An absolutely unique book: intelligent, funny, rich, tender at the right moments, a plum pudding of stories, observations and discoveries.' Alberto Manguel on *Night Letters*

'Dessaix is one of perhaps three Australian writers whose every appearance is a not-to-be-missed event.' *Sydney Morning Herald*

Robert Dessaix is a writer, translator and broadcaster, whose best-known books are the autobiography *A Mother's Disgrace*, the novels *Night Letters* and *Corfu*, and the travel memoirs *Twilight of Love* and *Arabesques*. His books have been published in a number of languages. He was the recipient of the 2022 Australia Council Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature. He lives in Hobart, Tasmania.

Rights Held: World

Non-Fiction

March 2025

Finished copies available

Snake Talk by Tyson Yunkaporta and Megan Kelleher

Tyson Yunkaporta's bestselling *Sand Talk* and *Right Story, Wrong Story* cast an Indigenous lens on contemporary society. *Snake Talk* is the third book in this trilogy. Co-authored with Megan Kelleher, *Snake Talk* explores Indigenous thinking through the symbol of serpent, a common foundational narrative. Snake myths echo from a time before truth, and retain the capacity, at this inflection point in history where truth is daily manipulated by bad actors, to unify, humble and inspire us.

The serpent in Australian Aboriginal stories is both a creator and destroyer, dwelling in the liminal spaces between physical and spiritual worlds, story and history. What if this ancient lore extended around the globe? What if the creation stories of the Basilisk, Wyvern, Naga, Quetzalcoatl and many others carried secrets that might help resolve global issues of existential crisis?

In this exhilarating book, the authors speak to elders from Kathmandu to Aotearoa to South America and Europe about a pluriverse of serpent stories, seeking answers to the age-old riddle of how to align the genius of our species with the regenerative patterns of creation. They speak to the makers—the artists and craftspeople who keep the sacred lore of these serpent entities in the ritual images and objects they create. They explore everything from artificial intelligence to immigration through the lens of global serpent lore—through the eye of the snake.

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

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. **Megan Kelleher** is a PhD candidate and one of RMIT's Vice Chancellor's Indigenous Pre-Doctoral Fellows in the School of Media and Communication.

Rights Held: World

Option Publishers: ANZ audio—Audible; Germany—Mattes & Seitz; North America—Harper One; Spain—Herder Editorial.

Non-Fiction

September 2025

Manuscript available

The Best Witch in Paris by Lauren Crozier

Winner, Text Prize for Young Adult and Children's Writing, 2023

Luna rides a battered old broom that keeps crashing itself into the school pond. She has a witch's hat and wand and sometimes she's quite good at magic, but she isn't completely sure that she's a real witch. She doesn't have a familiar for one, and she doesn't know where she came from—only that she was found by the three witches she now calls her aunts.

When she swaps her moonstone ring for an Australian boobook owl in the Lost Forest, the mysterious bird seller makes her promise to keep the bird hidden.

This is not easy when you live with very inquisitive aunts. And it's not easy when you find out that the fearsome Madame Valadon, the Best Witch in Paris, is missing her boobook owl and she's sure that Luna knows something about it.

Could it be that Luna has Madame Valadon's boobook? Why then did the mysterious bird seller give it to Luna? Why did she say the bird belonged to her? A familiar can only belong to one witch, after all.

Luna has lots of questions—the biggest one of all is who she really is.

Fun and funny and full of life, *The Best Witch in Paris* is a delightful story of courage and self-belief, with vibrant characters, fabulous magic and a puzzling mystery to solve.

'Nobody should be surprised that the Text Prize is producing some of Australia's finest young adult and children's writing.' *Alpha Reader*

'A delight! A very funny and original adventure.' Jaclyn Moriarty

'Crozier has crafted a big story about found family, courage and resilience—with humour to cut through the tensions of early adolescence and self-discovery...Snappy sentences conveying clear emotions, motivations and actions...[*The Best Witch in Paris*] demonstrates the continuing high standard of Text Prize-winning novels for young readers.' *Books+Publishing*

Lauren Crozier won the 2023 Text Prize for her debut novel *The Best Witch in Paris*. She lives in Sydney with her partner and their two children.

Rights Held: World

Middle Grade Fiction

September 2024

Finished copies available

***The Glass Horse of Venice* by Arnold Zable, illustrated by Anita Lester**

Each morning on her way to school Claudia passes the glassblower's workshop and admires the animals in the window, especially the winged horses. One day the glassblower calls Claudia inside and gives her a damaged horse. It is beautiful, but its wings are broken. And Claudia sees only its imperfection.

When a terrible storm floods their home, Claudia and her family have to leave. The glass horse is packed away, all but forgotten. Until one night it comes to life. And takes Claudia flying through the night sky, back to her beloved Venice.

Arnold Zable's picture story book *The Glass Horse of Venice*, sumptuously illustrated by Anita Lester, is a tale of the power of imagination that will delight children young and the not so young.

'Has a fairy-tale like quality and celebrates the power of the imagination...A book to be enjoyed by many age groups.' *CBCA Reading Time*

'Set in Venice, Zable's first picture book is wildly imaginative and beautifully rendered thanks to Lester's captivating illustrations.' Frances Atkinson, Top Children's Picks for 2024, *Age*

'Endlessly beautiful...explores longing, home, displacement and natural disasters. For readers 3+ who enjoy fable-like stories and spectacular visuals.' *Books+Publishing*

'An enchanting book...Children will marvel at the images of the glass animals, especially the winged horse as it takes Claudia on her longed-for ride.' *ReadPlus*

'It's simply quite magical.' *Good Reading*

Arnold Zable is a highly acclaimed novelist, storyteller and human rights advocate. His works include *Cafe Scheherazade*, *Scraps of Heaven*, *Violin Lessons* and *The Fighter*, which was shortlisted for a Victorian Premier's Literary Award and a New South Wales Premier's Literary Award. In 2021 Zable was awarded the Australia Council Award for Lifetime Achievement in Literature. He lives in Melbourne. **Anita Lester** is a Melbourne artist, musician and filmmaker.

Rights Held: World

Picture Book

September 2024

Finished copies available

Eddie Tells a Lie by Ingrid Laguna

Eddie lives with her mum—it's just the two of them. Her best friend, Bowie, lives right next door, until Bowie moves to the country. Eddie feels alone and forgotten, but she soon meets Aleki, and she's happy to have a new friend. Aleki has a big family with lots going on all the time. Eddie wishes she had a big, interesting family too. So she invents a story—a lie. It's only a small story, but it soon grows, and it lands her in trouble. Suddenly Eddie is lonelier than ever.

But then she finds a mysterious letter in an old book. It's written in Polish, the language of her dad's family, and Eddie discovers she has a famous great aunt who lived a remarkable life with wild animals in a forest in Poland. Eddie is proud of her Polish heritage, and she wants to tell her classmates about her amazing auntie. But, after her lie, will anyone believe her?

Eddie Tells a Lie is a heartfelt story about friendship and family, loneliness, and the consequences of making a mistake.

Praise for Ingrid Laguna's earlier works:

'This novel incorporates the important topics of grief, environmental activism, pets, and friendship so beautifully in a novel that is both gentle and hard to put down.'
SAETA on *Bailey Finch Takes a Stand*

'A gentle story about starting over, making friends and finding a place in the world...A worthy addition to school libraries.' *Magpies* on *Songbird*

'A big-hearted novel...Full of hope and humour.' *Books+Publishing* on *Sunflower*

Ingrid Laguna is an award-winning Australian author and educator. Her books include *Songbird*, *Sunflower*, *Serenade for a Small Family*, and *Bailey Finch Takes a Stand*, which was awarded best chapter book and overall primary resource winner in the 2022 Educational Publishing Awards, and *Kit and Arlo Find a Way*, which won the same awards in 2023. Her writing has featured in various publications and she regularly presents to teachers and students at schools, libraries, festivals and conferences.

Rights Held: World

Middle Grade Fiction

July 2025

Manuscript available

Backlist Highlights

***Limberlost* by Robbie Arnott**

Winner—Dick and Joan Green Family Award for Tasmanian History, 2024; *Age* Book of the Year Award, Fiction, 2023; Adult Fiction Book of the Year, BookPeople Book of the Year Awards 2023;

Shortlisted—Tasmanian Literary Awards, Premier's Prize for Fiction 2025; Miles Franklin Literary Award 2023; Literary Fiction Book of the Year, Australian Book Industry Awards 2023; Dylan Thomas Prize 2023; Fiction, Indie Book Awards 2023; ALS Gold Medal 2023; Longlisted—Dublin Literary Prize 2024; ARA Historical Novel Prize 2023; 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; Spain—Mapa Editorial; Taiwan—Akker / Book Republic Group; Turkey—Holden Kitap; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—Atlantic Books

***Paper Cage* by Tom Baragwanath**

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: ANZ audio—Bolinda; North America—PRH USA; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—John Murray

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

Winner—Miles Franklin Literary Award 2022

Shortlisted—Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, Fiction 2022; Stella Prize 2022; *Age* Book of the Year Award, Fiction 2022; Voss Literary Prize 2022; Barbara Jefferis Award 2022; 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; Brazil—Todavia; France—Christian Bourgois; Germany—Berlin Verlag in der Piper Verlag; Greece—Dardanos; Italy—Nottetempo; North America—Pantheon; Norway—Aschehoug; Poland—Wydawnictwo Cyranka; Romania—Editura Trei; Turkey—Yapi Kredi Kultur Sanat; UK & Comm (excl ANZ & Canada)—Weidenfeld & Nicolson

***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; Korea—EunHaeng NaMu; Netherlands—Uitgeverij Signatuur; Norway—Det Norske Samlaget; Poland—Wydawnictwo Czarne; Portugal—Relógio D'Água; Romania—Litera; Serbia—Mali vrt; Slovenia—Litera; Spain—Miniscula; Sweden—Albert Bonniers Forlag; Turkey—Harfa

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