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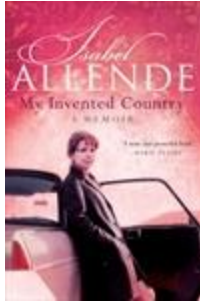


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FOR
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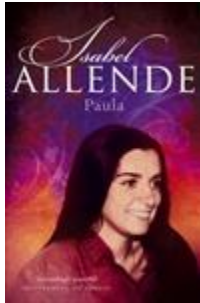


MY INVENTED COUNTRY Isabel Allende 9780007163106

'The biggest straitjacket is all the prejudices that we carry around, and all the fears. But what if we just surrender to the fear? There are things greater than fear. The great, wonderful quality of human beings is that we can overcome even absolute terror, and we do.'

Just three when her parents divorced, Isabel Allende was raised in her grandparents' home in Chile. She left school at 16 and married Miguel Frias at 19. She then juggled her work as a journalist, editor, advice columnist and television interviewer with looking after her two children.

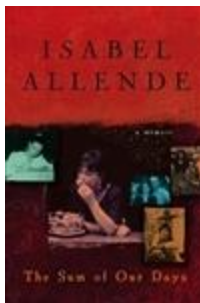
When her uncle, the Chilean president Salvador Allende, was assassinated in 1973 in Pinochet's right-wing military coup, her life changed profoundly. It was too dangerous to stay in Chile, and she, her husband, and their two children fled to Venezuela. During her impoverished exile, she started writing *The House of the Spirits*. Based on her memories of her family and the political upheaval in her native country, it became an international bestseller and everything changed again.



PAULA Isabel Allende 9780007205257

In December 1991, Allende's daughter Paula, aged 26, fell gravely ill and sank into a coma. This book started as a letter to Paula written during the hours spent at her bedside, and became a personal memoir and a testament to the ties that bind families – a brave, enlightening, inspiring true story.

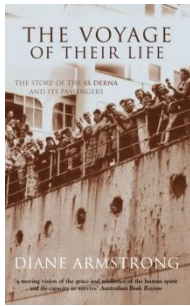
This book was written during the interminable hours the novelist Isabel Allende spent in the corridors of a Madrid hospital, in her hotel room and beside her daughter Paula's bed during the summer and autumn of 1992. Faced with the loss of her child, Isabel Allende turned to storytelling, to sustain her own spirit and to convey to her daughter the will to wake up, to survive. The story she tells is that of her own life, her family history and the tragedy of her nation, Chile, in the years leading up to Pinochet's brutal military coup.



SUM OF OUR DAYS Isabel Allende 9780007269501

An exceptionally vivid, human and deeply personal story of her life in California where she has lived for more than 25 years.

The first page picks up from where Paula ends – her daughter never did wake up from her coma and died in 1992 – when Allende recounts spreading Paula's ashes in her favourite part of the woods by their home. It is fair to say that Isabel has never recovered from losing her daughter but has managed to survive by keeping her husband, son, grandchildren as well as close friends – kindred spirits – central to her life. The book is particularly illuminating and revealing about her working life – she must begin every new book she writes on January 8th or else abandon it for a year. 'The Sum of Our Days', based on Allende's own journals and daily correspondence with her mother in Chile, reveals the author to be a dazzling, generous, warm and hysterically funny matriarch within her swirl of family and friends.



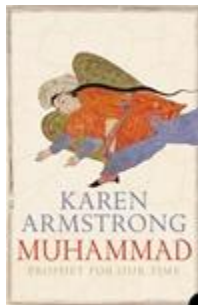
VOYAGE OF THEIR LIFE Diane Armstrong 9780732281502

In August 1948, 545 passengers boarded an overcrowded, clapped-out vessel in Marseilles to face an uncertain future in Australia and New Zealand.

They came from displaced persons camps in Germany, death camps in Poland, labour camps in Hungary, gulags in Siberia and stony Aegean islands. There were those who had been hunted by the Nazis and those who had welcomed them; those who had followed the Communists and those who had fled from them.

The epic voyage lasted almost three months and was marked by conflict and controversy until it seemed as though this hellship had absorbed the traumas of its passengers. As the conditions on board deteriorated, tension and violence simmered above and below decks. But romances and seductions also flourished, and lifelong bonds were formed.

Diane Armstrong set sail on the Derna with her parents when she was nine years old. Like a detective searching for clues, she has located over a hundred of the passengers. Through their recollections and memorabilia, as well as archival documents, she has recreated the voyage and traced what became of their hopes and dreams. The result is the unique portrayal of a migrant ship and its passengers.



MUHAMMAD Prophet for our Time Karen Armstrong 9780007232482

Karen Armstrong has become one of our most important and relevant commentators on religious world affairs today, consistently providing a scholarly but accessible approach to humanity's relationships with God and religion.

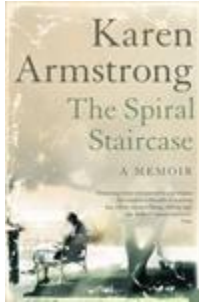
To date, there have been very few books written on the Islamic prophet of the religion that is followed by over the 1.2 billion Muslims who make up a fifth of the world's population.

Muhammad's staggering achievements as a human being quite simply altered the course of history as we know it and continue to this day to inspire humanity.

Muslims claim that in 650 AD, at the age of forty, Muhammad had a visitation from the Angel Gabriel telling him that he had been chosen to learn, recite and spread the words of God to man in verses that would later make up the Qu'ran. He slowly developed into a prophet, preaching monotheism to the masses.

He was initially mocked and rejected by many and risked numerous assassination attempts throughout his life. At a critical time, he also made the revolutionary decision to break all ties with his Muslim tribe thereby proclaiming that the bonds of Islam took precedence over anything else. The Islamic empire thus expanded into Palestine, Syria, Mesopotamia, Persia, Egypt, North Africa and Spain.

Karen Armstrong has written a fascinating account of this figure whose life and influence has determined the course of the spiritual life of human kind.



SPIRAL STAIRCASE Karen Armstrong 9780007122295

After seven years in a convent, which she left, dismayed by its restrictions, an experience recounted in *Through the Narrow Gate*, Karen Armstrong struggled to establish herself in a new way of life, and became entrapped in a downwards spiral, haunted by despair, anorexia and suicidal feelings.

Despite her departure from the convent she remained within the Catholic Church until the God she believed in 'died on me', and she entered a 'wild and Godless period of crazy parties and numerous lovers'. Her attempts to reach happiness and carve out a career failed repeatedly, in spectacular fashion. She began writing her bestseller *A History of God* in a spirit of scepticism, but through studying other religious traditions she found a very different kind of faith which drew from Christianity, Judaism and Islam and, eventually, spiritual and personal calm.

In her own words, her 'story is a graphic illustration – almost an allegory – of a widespread dilemma. It is emblematic of a more general flight from institutional religion and a groping towards a form of faith that has not yet been fully articulated but which is nevertheless in the process of declaring itself.' Her lifelong inability to pray and to conform to traditional structures of worship is shared by the many who are leaving the established churches but who desire intensely a spiritual aspect to their lives.

The *Spiral Staircase* grapples with the issue of how we can be religious in the contemporary world, and the place and possibility of belief in the twenty-first century.



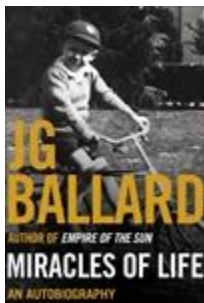
FIFTIETH GATE Mark Raphael Baker 9780732258047

A love story and a detective story, a study of history and of memory, this spellbinding work explores a son's confrontation with the terror of his parents' childhood.

Moving from Poland and Germany to Jerusalem and Melbourne, Mark Raphael Baker travels across the silence of fifty years, through the gates of Auschwitz, and into a dark bunker where a little girl hides in fear. As he returns to scenes of his parents' captivity, he struggles to unveil the mystery of their survival.

The *Fiftieth Gate* is a journey from despair and death towards hope and life; the story of a son who enters his parents' memories and, inside the darkness, finds light.

* Winner, NSW Premier's Literary Award 1997 * Teaching Notes available.



MIRACLES OF LIFE J.G. Ballard 9780007272341

In the intervening chapters Ballard creates a memoir that is both an enthralling narrative and a detailed examination of the events which would profoundly influence his work. Beginning with his early childhood spent exploring the vibrant surroundings of pre-war Shanghai, Ballard charts the course of his remarkable life from the deprivations and unexpected freedoms of the Lunghua Camp to his return to a Britain physically and psychologically crippled by war. He explores his subsequent involvement in the dramatic social changes of the 1960s, and the adjustments to life following the premature death of his wife.

In prose displaying his characteristic precision and eye for detail, Ballard recounts the experiences which would fundamentally shape his writing, while simultaneously providing a striking social analysis of the fragmented post-war Britain that lies behind so many of his novels. 'Miracles of Life' is an utterly captivating account of an extraordinary writer's extraordinary life.



DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY Jean-Dominique Bauby 9780007139842

On 8 December 1995, Jean–Dominique Bauby suffered a massive stroke and slipped into a coma. When he regained consciousness three weeks later, the only muscle left functioning was in his left eyelid although his mind remained as active and alert as it had ever been. He spent most of 1996 writing this book, letter by letter, blinking as an alphabet was repeatedly read out to him. The Diving–Bell and the Butterfly was published in France on Thursday 6 March 1997. It was immediately hailed as a masterpiece. And then, three days later, he died.

The Diving–Bell and the Butterfly, which records Bauby’s lonely existence, is probably the most remarkable book about the triumph of the human spirit and the ability to invent a life for oneself in the most appalling of circumstances that you will ever read.



WRITING THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE Carmel Bird 9780732284565

In Writing the Story of Your Life, Carmel Bird, author of the classic writing guide *Dear Writer*, brings you down–to–earth advice, inspirational quotations and suggestions and practical exercises.

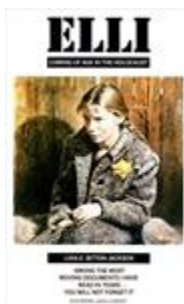
Clear and easy–to–use, it is an essential reference tool for anyone thinking about writing, or anyone who loves writing.



MY GOD! IT'S A WOMAN Nancy Bird 9780732273705

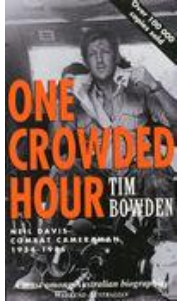
Nancy Bird’s training began in 1933, at the age of seventeen, in Sydney, where she was one of Charles Kingsford Smith’s first pupils. Despite many obstacles, including being too small to reach an aeroplane’s controls without the aid of cushions, Nancy was determined to fly, and obtained her commercial pilot’s licence in 1935.

My God! It’s a Woman spans Nancy’s flying experiences in the Outback, her travels in Europe and the USA, her association with famous aviators, such as Jean Batten and Amy Johnson, and her flying comeback in the 1950’s. In 1966, Nancy was awarded the Order of the British Empire in recognition of her support of charities, and in 1990 her significant contribution to aviation and her courageous work in the Outback was recognised with an Order of Australia. This biography is a fascinating glimpse of a determined and courageous aviatrix, who has remained an active supporter of aviation throughout the world.



ELLI: Coming of Age in the Holocaust Livia E Bitton-Jackson 9780586062586

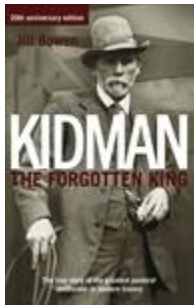
At a time when most girls are growing up, having boyfriends and embarking upon the adventure of life, Elli Friedman was taken from her small, sunny hometown and thrown into the murderous hell of Hitler’s Final Solution. When Elli emerged from Auschwitz and Dachau just over a year later, she was fourteen. She looked like a sixty–year–old. This account of horrifyingly brutal inhumanity , and dogged survival is Elli’s true story.



ONE CROWDED HOUR Tim Bowden 9780207187636

The amazing biography of one of the world's greatest cine-cameramen and an extraordinary Australian.

For over twenty years journalist Neil Davis covered the conflicts in South East Asia. Always at the battle front, he brought enduring images of the full horror of modern war to the world. Ironically, in September 1985, having survived so much war, Neil Davis was killed filming an attempted coup in the streets of Bangkok.



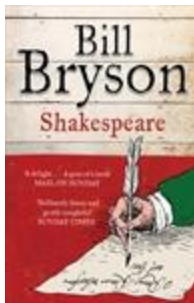
KIDMAN: The Forgotten King Jill Bowen 9780732286101

The true story of the greatest pastoral landholder in modern history

As a barely literate youth of thirteen, Sidney Kidman ran away from home and worked as an odd-job boy in a grog shanty in outback Australia. He went on to become the greatest pastoral landholder in modern history, acquiring a legendary reputation both at home and abroad as the Cattle King.

Kidman was much more than a grazier. In addition to his many successful business ventures and his contributions to the war effort, he was driven by a grand plan for the remote arid areas of Australia. This kept him locked in a battle with the land – and against drought.

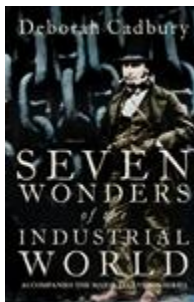
Wealth, power, fame and honours did not change Sidney Kidman. He remained the homespun, gregarious bushman for whom men worked with an almost savage loyalty. Greatly admired, he also had many enemies, and in his later years was dogged by controversies and untruths. This book explores the fascinating Kidman legend, and gives a balanced, thoroughly entertaining account of this larger-than-life Australian and his exceptional achievements.



SHAKESPEARE Bill Bryson 9780007197903

Shakespeare's life, despite the scrutiny of generations of biographers and scholars, is still a thicket of myths and traditions, some preposterous, some conflicting, arranged around the few scant facts known about the Bard – from his birth in Stratford to the bequest of his second best bed to his wife when he died.

Bill Bryson has written a short biography of William Shakespeare for the Eminent Lives series – which seeks to pair great subjects with writers known for their strong sensibilities and sharp, lively points of view.



SEVEN WONDERS OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD Deborah Cadbury
9780007163052

The nineteenth century saw the creation of some of the world's most incredible feats of engineering. Deborah Cadbury explores the history behind the epic monuments that spanned the industrial revolution - from Brunel's extraordinary Great Eastern, the Titanic of its day that joined the two ends of the empire, to the Panama Canal, which linked the Atlantic and Pacific oceans half a century later.

Seven Wonders of the Industrial World recreates the stories of the most brilliant

pioneers of the industrial age, their burning ambition, extravagant dreams, passion and rivalry as great minds clashed. Men such as Arthur Powell-Davis, the engineer behind the Hoover Dam, who dreamed of creating the largest dam in the world by diverting the entire Colorado River, one of the world's most dangerous and unpredictable waterways; or John Roebling, who lost his life (and later his son Washington, who fell seriously ill) creating the longest suspension bridge ever built - the Brooklyn Bridge. These are also the stories of countless unsung heroes – the craftsmen and workers without whose perseverance nothing would have been achieved. Not to mention financiers and shareholders hanging on for the ride as fortunes, and reputations, were lost and won.

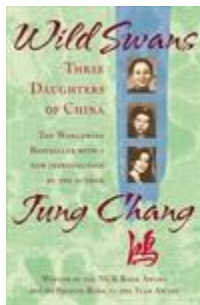


SPACE RACE Deborah Cadbury 9780007209941

With the end of the Cold War it is now possible to reveal its generation of secrets and cover-ups, bringing an historical opportunity: the unmasking of the true heroes and villains behind the race to be the first to conquer space.

This is one of the greatest stories in history, beginning in the throes of the Second World War and spanning through to the moon landings. With the US and Russia pitched against one another during the Cold War, it was the race to create the most powerful rocket and dominate the world, culminating in 1969's 'giant leap for mankind'. The most pioneering and high-risk experiments ever undertaken cost untold millions – and hundreds of lives, as mistakes were made, some too horrific to be made public.

It is a tale that plays out against a backdrop of communism and espionage. Buried within this multi-million-dollar battle between nations, are the dramatic accounts of the individuals who seek to be the winners at any cost. With ex-Nazi Wernher von Braun on the American side pitted against the enigmatic Sergei Korolev on the Soviet side, this revealing new history shows the extent to which politics and personal ambition combined to create an explosive race for the glory of victory.



WILD SWANS Jung Chan 9780007176151

The publication of Wild Swans in 1991 was a worldwide phenomenon. Not only did it become the best-selling non-fiction book in British publishing history, it was received with unanimous critical acclaim, and was named the winner of the 1992 NCR Book Award and the 1993 British Book of the Year Award.

Few books have ever had such an impact on their readers. Through the story of three generations of women – grandmother, mother and daughter – Wild Swans tells nothing less than the whole tumultuous history of China's tragic twentieth century, from sword-bearing warlords to Chairman Mao, from the Manchu Empire to the Cultural Revolution. At times terrifying, at times astonishing, always deeply moving, Wild Swans is unforgettable.

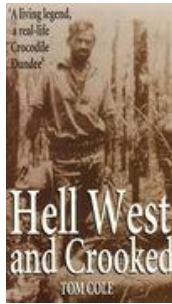


PAPILLON
Henri Charriere
9780007179961

Condemned for a murder he had not committed, Henri Charriere (nicknamed Papillon) was sent to the penal colony of French Guiana. Forty-two days after his arrival, he made his first escape, travelling a thousand gruelling miles in an open boat. Recaptured, he went into solitary confinement and was sent eventually to Devil's Island, a hell-hole of disease and brutality. No one had ever escaped from this notorious prison – no one until Papillon took to the shark-infested sea supported only by a makeshift coconut-sack raft. In thirteen years he made nine daring escapes, living through many fantastic adventures

while on the run – including a sojourn with South American Indians whose women Papillon found welcomingly free of European restraints.

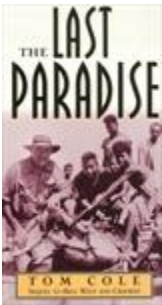
Papillon is filled with tension, adventure and high excitement. It is also one of the most vivid stories of human endurance ever written. Henri Charriere died in 1973 at the age of 66.



HELL WEST AND CROOKED Tom Cole 9780207189845

"The horses are hell west and crooked – it'll take a week to muster them."

In this remarkable autobiographical account, Tom Cole tells the stories of his life in the outback during the 1920s and 1930s. With great humour and drama, he recounts his adventures as a drover and station-hand in the toughest country in Australia and later on as a buffalo shooter and crocodile hunter in the Northern Territory before the war.

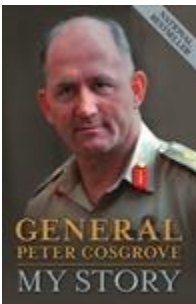


LAST PARADISE Tom Cole 9780207190391

The Last Paradise is the sequel to Tom Cole's bestselling autobiography Hell West and Crooked and recounts his story of thirty years in New Guinea amongst "crocodiles, cannibals and coffee".

Operating as the first professional crocodile shooter in New Guinea, Tom Cole risked life and limb hunting from frail canoes in wild and sometimes unexplored country, working with everyone from cannibals to missionaries to government officials, and the larger-than-life characters still drifting around the Pacific after the war.

Tom Cole hunted crocodiles and buffalo, was a horse-breaker, brumby runner and drover, owned and managed cattle stations and a coffee plantation.



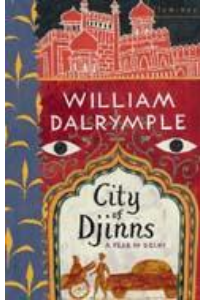
MY STORY Peter Cosgrove 9780732283858

'This book is my personal story, from boyhood to battlefield and beyond, written in my own words, reflecting on my life.'

In 1999, General Peter Cosgrove was thrust into the full glare of the nation's spotlight following his appointment as Commander of the International Forces in East Timor (INTERFET). Always in his slouch hat, he was a reassuring figure and we watched with pride the professionalism and concern of our peacekeeping forces who under his direction helped lay the foundations of a new nation.

In his subsequent rise to Chief of the Army and then, in July 2002, to Chief of the Defence Force, the General cemented his reputation as a modern-day warrior chieftain as he displayed those characteristics we value most as Australians – strength, determination, intelligence, compassion and humour.

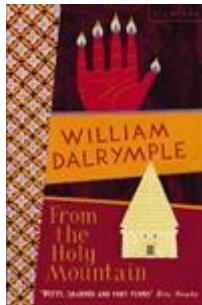
In these memoirs, Peter Cosgrove writes colourfully of his early years and the influences that shaped him before deciding on a military career. We follow him from raw recruit at Duntroon to early duty in Malaysia and then Vietnam, where he won the Military Cross, through to major events in recent times, including 9/11, the 'children overboard' issue, the liberation of East Timor and the conflict in Iraq. General Cosgrove is not a man who flinches from telling it how it was.



CITY OF DJINNS William Dalrymple 9780006375951

A scintillating memoir of a year spent in Delhi by one of the best young writers at work today.

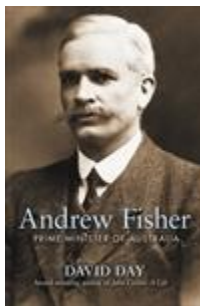
Watched over and protected by the mischievous, invisible djinns, Delhi has, through their good offices, been saved from destruction many times over the centuries. With an extraordinary array of characters, from elusive eunuchs to the last remnants of the Raj, Dalrymple's book is a unique and dazzling feat of research. Over the course of a year he comes to know the bewildering city intimately, and brilliantly conveys its magical nature, peeling back successive layers of history, and interlacing innumerable stories from Delhi's past and present.



FROM THE HOLY MOUNTAIN William Dalrymple 9780006547747

In the spring of 587 AD, two monks set off on an extraordinary journey that would take them in an arc across the entire Byzantine world, from the shores of the Bosphorus to the sand dunes of Egypt. On the way John Moschos and his pupil Sophronius the Sophist stayed in caves, monasteries and remote hermitages, collecting the wisdom of the stylites and the desert fathers before their world shattered under the great eruption of Islam. More than a thousand years later, using Moschos's writings as his guide, William Dalrymple set off to retrace their footsteps.

Despite centuries of isolation, a surprising number of the monasteries and churches visited by the two monks still survive today, surrounded by often hostile populations. Dalrymple's pilgrimage took him through a bloody civil war in eastern Turkey, the ruins of Beirut, the vicious tensions of the West Bank and a fundamentalist uprising in southern Egypt. His book is an elegy to the slowly dying civilisation of Eastern Christianity and the peoples that have kept its flame alive. It is a rich and gripping blend of history and spirituality, adventure and politics, laced with a thread of black comedy familiar to readers of Dalrymple's previous work



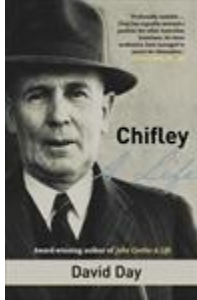
ANDREW FISHER David Day 9780732276102

Prime Minister Andrew Fisher was one of Australia's great nation-builders, yet his story is largely unknown. He left school early to work in the coalmines of Scotland, educating himself at night. In 1885, at the age of 22, he immigrated to Queensland where he found work as a miner and as a Sunday school teacher.

A staunch Presbyterian and fervent unionist, Fisher committed himself to politics and was soon elected to the Queensland parliament, then to the first federal parliament. In 1908 he became prime minister for the first of three stints in the job, serving Australia for longer than John Curtin, Ben Chifley, Gough Whitlam or Paul Keating.

As prime minister, Fisher launched a massive nation-building program, which included the establishment of the national capital, the Commonwealth Bank, old age pensions, and a transcontinental railway line. His most pressing concern was to populate and defend the new nation. To this end he famously pledged to back Britain in the Great War 'to the last man and the last shilling' – a commitment that came at the heavy cost of Gallipoli and the Western Front.

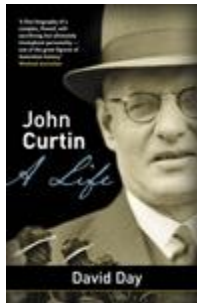
Andrew Fisher was a man who hated imperial honours, yet enjoyed the trappings of office; a leader who believed in world socialism, yet took Australians into the First World War. In this authoritative and immensely readable biography, David Day reveals the man, his politics and his remarkable legacy.



CHIFLEY David Day 9780732279974

Ben Chifley was arguably twentieth-century Australia's greatest and most popular prime minister. Many of the policies that his Labor government introduced after the Second World War came to define modern Australia: mass immigration, improved social services, the beginnings of a free health-care scheme, commitment to full employment, and greater engagement with Asia.

From his years in central New South Wales through to his controversial marriage outside his Catholic religion, Chifley was not afraid to confront the status quo. A leading opponent of conscription during the First World War and later a leader of Bathurst engineers during the great strike of 1917, he was also the prime minister who sent troops into the coalmines to break a strike.



JOHN CURTIN David Day 9780732280000

John Curtin is, for many Australians regardless of political affiliation, the most significant Australian political leader of the twentieth century. In this remarkable biography, David Day follows Curtin from his peripatetic childhood in small-town Victoria to his courageous and dramatic leadership of the nation in the darkest hours of the Second World War.

For the first time, the full breadth of Curtin's life is revealed: the tortured decline of his father; the untimely deaths of his first sweetheart and his best friend; his rejection of Catholicism for socialism, unionism and the ALP; his early condemnation of parliament and of war, yet his later role as national and wartime leader; and the exhaustion that finally destroyed him six weeks before the Japanese surrender in 1945.

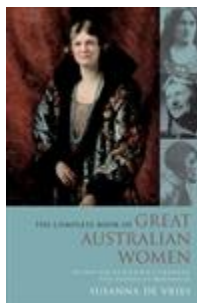
Day also sheds light on the inherent contradictions of Curtin's personality in a diptych-like portrait of a complex, brilliant man wounded by his personal failures and disappointments, but energised by his political and social achievements.



GREAT AUSTRALIAN WOMEN Susanna De Vries 9780732269319

Every nation needs both heroes and heroines, but the lives of Australia's greatest women have largely been ignored. Great Australian Women details the life stories of twenty-five courageous Australian women who broke down the barriers of prejudice against women entering the professions, the arts and sport, in the period from colonisation to the mid-twentieth century. Australian women profiled include:

- *Fanny Durack and Annette Kellerman – Swimming champs
- *Lillie Goodisson – Pioneer of family planning
- *Florence Taylor – Australia's first female architect



GREAT PIONEER WOMEN OF THE OUTBACK Susanna De Vries 9780732276638

In the 1800s, the first white farmers and graziers making their homes in the outback were joined by their wives, many of whom had no idea what lay in store.

Expecting a tropical paradise, these female pioneers encountered instead conditions which would test, and often defeat them; relentless heat and dust, isolation, hostile wildlife, the threat of rape and violence, no medical facilities and never-ending, backbreaking work.

The outback was, according to the mantra of the day, 'no place for a lady', and yet many women with no previous experience of hardship rose to the challenge, turning their skills to creating homes,

nursing, farming, grazing – and recording their endeavours in diaries, which today provide a startling picture of the hurdles they faced. Great Pioneer Women of the Outback profiles Australia’s women pioneers, from Jeannie Gunn, author of *We of the Never Never*, to lesser known figures like Atlanta Bradshaw and Evelyn Maunsell.

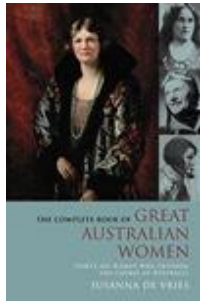


GREAT AUSTRALIAN WOMEN VOL II Susanna De Vries 9780732271268

These women had the grit and intelligence to succeed in a variety of occupations from wine-making to surgery, from spying behind enemy lines to writing books, composing music and painting.

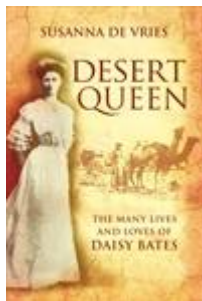
The achievements of Australian women have long been overshadowed by the deeds of Australian men. Susanna de Vries remedied this with her outstanding book *Great Australian Women*. Now, in this second volume more Australian women are celebrated for their hard work, intelligence, talent, dedication and compassion. These are women who have affected the lives of thousands through their achievements in chosen fields, be they inspired painters, writers, pianists, singers, humanitarians, wine-makers, spies, aviators, nurses or doctors. These are the women that helped to forge the Australia we know today.

Mary Penfold, Margaret Sutherland, Sister Lucy Osburn, Louise Bertha Hanson–Dyer, Mary McConnel, Ethel Cooper. Mary MacKillop, Margaret Rose Preston, Nellie Melba, Kylie Tennant, Stella Miles Franklin, Oodgeroo Noonucca, I Rose Scott, Nancy de Low Bird Walton, Jane Sutherland, Dr Catherine Hamlin.



COMPLETE BOOK OF GREAT AUSTRALIAN WOMEN Susanna De Vries 978073227804X

The Complete Book of Great Australian Women, a combination of Susanna deVries best-selling books *Great Australian Women* and *Great Australian Women Volume Two*, tells the story of women who changed the course of history.



DESERT QUEEN Susanna De Vries 97807322824312

In the 1890s, when a woman’s role was seen as marrying well and raising a family, Daisy Bates reinvented herself from humble governess to heiress–traveller and ‘woman of science’. She would become one of the best-known and most controversial ethnologists in history, and one of the first people to put Aboriginal culture on the map.

Born into tough circumstances, Daisy’s prospects were dim; her father an alcoholic boot-maker and her mother dying of consumption when Daisy was only four years old. Through sheer strength of will, young Daisy overcame her miserable beginnings, and in 1883 she migrated to Australia with a boatload of orphans, passing herself off as an heiress who taught for fun. Marriage followed – first with the young Breaker Morant, then bigamously with two other husbands.

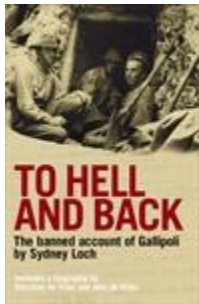
For decades she led a double life. But who was the real Daisy Bates? While other biographies have presented her as a saint, historian Susanna de Vries gives readers a more complex portrait of the ‘Queen of the Never Never’



HEROIC AUSTRALIAN WOMEN IN WAR Susanna De Vries 9780732276690

The brave deeds of women in war have long been overshadowed by male heroics. In this inspiring new book, renowned writer and historian Susanna de Vries profiles the grit, determination and selflessness of eleven outstanding Australian women serving in two World Wars: from Olive King, volunteer ambulance driver who saved countless lives in France and Serbia during World War I, to Vivian Bullwinkel, Joyce Twedell and Sylvia Muir, all three of whom endured years of starvation and cruelty on Bangka Island at the hands of their Japanese captors. Other women featured include Sister Alice Kitchen, Dr Agnes Bennett, Dr Lilian Cooper, Louise Mack, Joice Nankivell Loch, Mavis Parkinson and Sister May Hayman. These are all women who deserve to be known, recognised and celebrated alongside their male peers.

In her informal, vivid style, de Vries focuses not only on the astounding courage these women displayed in battle, but also on their personal struggles and accomplishments – proving that they were each as influential and heroic in life as they were in war.

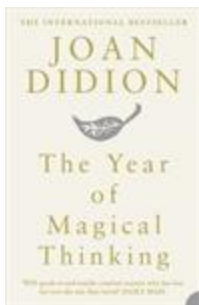


TO HELL AND BACK Sidney Loch Ed by Jake & Susanna De Vries
9780732285456

As a young soldier in the battlefields of Gallipoli, Sydney Loch witnessed the horror of war first-hand. On his return to Australia he detailed what he saw in his book, *The Straits Impregnable*. Hoping to avoid military censorship, his publishers dubbed Sydney's book a novel. But as the war ground on and the numbers of casualties grew, the publisher inserted a note saying the story was factual. The book, which had enjoyed huge literary acclaim, was immediately withdrawn from sale by the censors.

Sydney Loch's experiences in the war shaped his life afterwards. With his wife, Joice, he went on to work in refugee camps in Poland and Palestine, and his many subsequent books, set in war-torn countries, reflected his humanitarian beliefs.

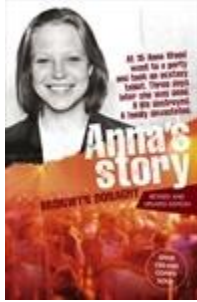
In *To Hell and Back*, historians Susanna and Jake de Vries have recovered and edited Sydney's book for a new generation of readers and written a biography of his remarkable life.



YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING Joan Didion 9780007216857

Several days before Christmas 2003, John Gregory Dunne and Joan Didion saw their only daughter, Quintana, fall ill. At first they thought it was flu, then pneumonia, then complete septic shock. She was put into an induced coma and placed on life support. Days later – the night before New Year's Eve – the Dunnes were just sitting down to dinner after visiting the hospital when John suffered a massive and fatal coronary. In a second, this close, symbiotic partnership of 40 years was over. Four weeks later, their daughter pulled through. Two months after that, arriving at LA airport, she collapsed and underwent six hours of brain surgery at UCLA Medical Centre to relieve a massive hematoma.

This powerful book is Didion's 'attempt to make sense of the weeks and then months that cut loose any fixed idea I ever had about death, about illness ... about marriage and children and memory ... about the shallowness of sanity, about life itself'. The result is an exploration of an intensely personal yet universal experience: a portrait of a marriage, and a life, in good times and bad.



ANNA'S STORY Bronwyn Donaghy 9780732283025

At 15 Anna Wood went to a party and took an ecstasy tablet. Three days later she was dead. A life destroyed. A family devastated.

She was just fifteen. She was leaving school to start the job of her dreams. She was beautiful, she had a loving family and countless friends. Yet on 21 October 1995, Anna Wood took an ecstasy tablet at a dance party and died three days later. A life destroyed, a family devastated, a community in shock.

Bronwyn Donaghy interviewed friends, family members and numerous professionals in order to write the story of the circumstances surrounding Anna's death and of her family's decision to try and turn tragedy into a positive force for good. It is a story of our times, a story with powerful resonances for Anna's generation and their parents, for counsellors, doctors and teachers, for anyone who values the sanctity of life.

I have never tried illicit drugs and although I was curious to do so ... the information provided in this book has scared me away from that forever.' LO, aged 16, Western Australia

, I've had Mum and Dad give me lectures about not taking drugs and stuff but it didn't really affect me until I read Anna's Story and realised what they do to ordinary people just like me.' AE, aged 15, Queensland

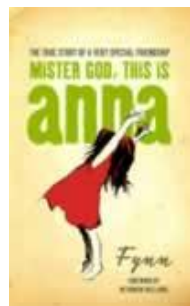


NANCY WAKE Peter Fitzsimons 9780732274566

In the early 1930s, Nancy Wake was a young woman enjoying a bohemian life in Paris. By the end of the Second World War, she was the Gestapo's most wanted person.

As a naïve, young journalist, Nancy Wake witnessed a horrific scene of Nazi violence in a Viennese street. From that moment, she declared that she would do everything in her power to rid Europe of the Nazis. What began as a courier job here and there became a highly successful escape network for Allied soldiers, perfectly camouflaged by Nancy's high-society life in Marseille. Her network was soon so successful – and so notorious – that she was forced to flee France to escape the Gestapo, who had dubbed her 'the white mouse' for her knack of slipping through its traps.

But Nancy was a passionate enemy of the Nazis and refused to stay away. Supplying weapons and training members of a powerful underground fighting force, organising Allied parachute drops, cycling four hundred kilometres across a mountain range to find a new transmitting radio – nothing seemed too difficult in her fight against the Nazis.



MR GOD, THIS IS ANNA FYNN 9780007202027

Anna was four years old when Fynn, then only 16 himself, found her wandering round London's Docklands one foggy night in the 1930s. Badly neglected and abandoned by her parents, he took her home to be cared for by his own family.

The impact of this extraordinary child on Fynn, his friends and the people in their neighbourhood, was to be immense. Nobody who met Anna could remain the same: this intelligent, lively, precocious chatterbox had an outlook on life which completely undercut adult pretensions and illusions.

Anna's influence continues today. Anyone dipping into her thought-processes falls under the spell of her luminous innocence, wisdom and intimate relationship with 'Mister God'.

The explosive individuality of Anna is not sentimentally touching but sometimes almost frightening. I hope that a new edition will introduce a new generation to this formidable and astonishing figure.

Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury



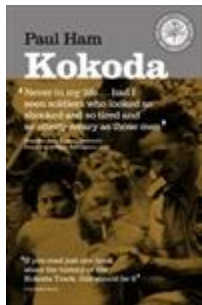
TOO CLOSE TO THE FALLS Catherine Gildiner 9780007152834

It is the mid-1950s in Lewiston, a sleepy town near Niagara Falls, famous only for the invention of the cocktail. Divorce is unheard of, mothers wear high heels to the beauty salon, and television has only just arrived. But with no siblings to provide role-models; a workaholic father chosen by most of her class as Lewiston's present-day saint; a mother who looks the part of the perfect 50's housewife but refuses to play it (*We ate all of our dinners in restaurants...Our fridge contained only allergy serum, coke and maraschino cherries. Our oven was only turned on to dry wet mittens on the door and the only cooking smell I remember from my youth is that of burning wool*); and a gambling-obsessed best friend, Roy, who is 30 years older, perhaps it's hardly surprising that

Cathy grows up a little eccentric. Especially considering that the family doctor's prescription for her hyperactivity is a full-time job in her father's pharmacy – at four.

Cathy is rarely out of trouble whether it's asking why seeing Elvis below the waist is a sin, stabbing the school bully with a compass, breaking through police cordons to interview the Tuscadora Indians or swapping holy water for vodka to test the local priest's alcoholism. She even delivers Nembutal to a sleazy Marilyn Monroe who promptly makes an assignation with Roy.

Like all really good memoirs, *Too Close to the Falls* sneaks up on you; at first you're just reading it quietly to yourself and suddenly you're having to restrain yourself from reading great chunks out to everyone around you.



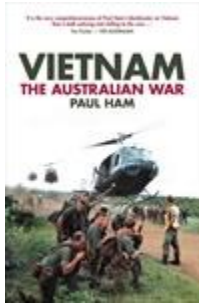
KOKODA Paul Ham 9780732282325

For the first time ever, the compelling story of the infamous Kokoda Track campaign has been told from both sides of the conflict. In a unique and balanced portrayal, renowned journalist Paul Ham recounts both the Australian and Japanese perspectives of the events on the hellish Papuan jungle trail where thousands fought and died during World War II.

Based on extensive research in Australia and Japan, and including previously unpublished documents, *Kokoda* intimately relates the stories of ordinary soldiers in 'the world's worst killing field', and examines the role of commanders in sending ill-equipped, unqualified Australian troops into battles that resulted in near 100 per cent casualty rates.

It was a war without mercy, fought back and forth along 90 miles (145 km) of river crossings, steep inclines and precipitous descents, with both sides wracked by hunger and disease, and terrified of falling into enemy hands. Defeat was unthinkable: the Australian soldier was fighting for his homeland against an unyielding aggressor; the Japanese ordered to fight to the death in a bid to conquer 'Greater East Asia'.

Paul Ham captures the spirits of those soldiers and commanders who clashed in this war of exceptional savagery, and tells of the brave souls on both sides of the campaign whose courage and sacrifices must never be forgotten.



VIETNAM Paul Ham 9780732287801

'It is the very comprehensiveness of Paul Ham's blockbuster on Vietnam that is both enticing and chilling to the core ...' Tim Fischer – THE AUSTRALIAN

'This is unquestionably the best single-author, single-volume history of Australia's Vietnam war. Ham's prose is fluent, trenchant, aphoristic.' Bulletin with Newsweek

'Surely God weeps,' an Australian soldier wrote in despair of the conflict in Vietnam. But no God intervened to shorten the years of carnage and devastation in this most controversial of wars.

The ten-year struggle in the rice paddies and jungles of South Vietnam unleashed the most devastating firepower on the Vietnamese nation, visiting terrible harm on both civilians and soldiers. Yet the Australian experience was very different from that of the Americans. Guided by their commanders' knowledge of jungle combat, Australian troops operated with stealth, deception and restraint to pursue a 'better war'.

In reconstructing for the first time the full history of our longest military campaign, Paul Ham draws on hundreds of accounts by soldiers, politicians, aid workers, entertainers and the Vietnamese people.

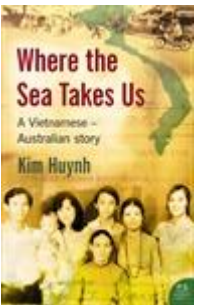
From the commitment to engage, through the fight over conscription and the rise of the anti-war movement, to the tactics and horror of the battlefield, Ham exhumes the truth about this politicians' war – which sealed the fate of 50,000 Australian servicemen and women. More than 500 Australian soldiers were killed and thousands wounded. Those who made it home returned to a hostile and ignorant country and a reception that scarred them forever. This is their story.



MODOC Ralph Heller 9780060929510

Spanning several decades and three continents, *Modoc* is one of the most amazing true animal stories ever told. Raised together in a small German circus town, a boy and an elephant formed a bond that would last their entire lives, and would be tested time and again; through a near-fatal shipwreck in the Indian Ocean, an apprenticeship with the legendary Mahout elephant trainers in the Indian teak forests, and their eventual rise to circus stardom in 1940s New York City.

Modoc is a captivating true story of loyalty, friendship, and high adventure, to be treasured by animal lovers everywhere.



WHERE THE SEA TAKES US Kim Huynh 9780732285609

In the 1970s and 1980s, hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese families set out on perilous journeys in rickety boats to escape communist rule and seek out a better life. Kim Huynh's family was one of them.

In this unique memoir, Kim traces his parents' precarious lives, from their poor villages in central and southern Vietnam, through relative affluence in Saigon, to their harrowing experiences after the American withdrawal and the fall of Saigon in 1975, which led them to a new life in Australia. As Kim explores his parents' stories, he unveils the tragedy and inner strength of ordinary Vietnamese people struggling to survive in a country beset by colonisation and ravaged by war.

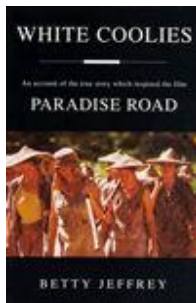
This gripping story is not only an invaluable piece of political history, but a moving tribute from a son to his parents. All royalties from sales of this book are donated to Médecins Sans Frontières Australia



CATTLE KING Ion Idriess 9780207197826

At the age of 13 Sidney Kidman ran away from home with only five shillings in his pocket. He went on to become a horse dealer, drover, cattle buyer and bush jockey and he also ran a coach business. Above all Kidman created a mighty cattle empire of more than a hundred stations, fighting droughts, bushfires, floods and plagues of vermin to do so. His enterprise and courage won him a huge fortune and made him a legend.

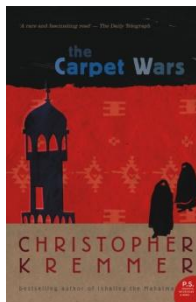
This engrossing story by famous Australian author Ion Idriess is an inspiring tribute to the remarkable life of Sir Sidney Kidman – the Cattle King.



WHITE COOLIES Betty Jeffries 9780207196287

An account of the true story which inspired the film Paradise Road.

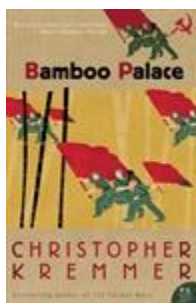
In 1942, a group of Australian Army nursing sisters was evacuated from Malaya a few days before the fall of Singapore. Two days later their ship was bombed and sunk by the Japanese. Of the fifty-three survivors who scrambled ashore, twenty-one were murdered and the remainder were taken prisoner. This engrossing record was kept by one of the surviving sisters, Betty Jeffrey, during the three-and-a-half gruelling years of imprisonment that followed.



CARPET WARS Christopher Kremmer 9780732271220

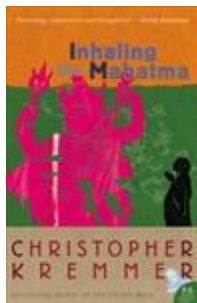
The Carpet Wars is foreign correspondent Christopher Kremmer's riveting and timely account of a decade spent living, travelling and reporting from Asia and the Middle East. During that time he formed an obsession with carpets and the 'perfect rug' -- an obsession that saw him trace the threads of the carpet-making trade through the Islamic nations of Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and the former Soviet republics of Central Asia.

Along the way he made lifelong friendships, but he also discovered societies ripped apart by war, religion and fratricide, and ruled over by warlords like 'The Lion of Panjsher' Ahmed Shah Massoud – and terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden.



BAMBOO PALACE Christopher Kremmer 9780732285579

In the dying days of the Vietnam War, a royal family is rounded up and flown by helicopter to a remote prison camp. Behind the bamboo curtain erected by victorious communist guerillas, the tragic final days of an Asian king and his dynasty will play out. Christopher Kremmer takes readers on a gripping odyssey to Indochina's heart of darkness, the remote prison camp where the Kingdom of the Million Elephants and the White Parasol finally ends.



INHALING THE MAHATMA Christopher Kremmer 9780732280918

In the searing summer of 2004, Christopher Kremmer returns to India, a country in the grip of enormous and sometimes violent change. As a young reporter in the 1990s, he first encountered this ancient and complex civilisation. Now, embarking on a yatra, or pilgrimage, he travels the dangerous frontier where religion and politics face off. Tracking down the players in a decisive decade, he takes us inside the enigmatic Gandhi dynasty, and introduces an operatic cast of political Brahmins, 'cyber coolies', low-caste messiahs and wrestling priests.

A sprawling portrait of India at the crossroads, *Inhaling the Mahatma* is also an intensely personal story about coming to terms with a dazzlingly different culture, as the author's fate is entwined with a cosmopolitan Hindu family of Old Delhi, and a guru who might just change his life.



HOUSE OF STONE Christina Lamb 9780007219391

One bright morning Nigel Hough, one of the few remaining white farmers in Mugabe's Zimbabwe, received news he was dreading – a crowd were at the gate demanding he surrender his home and land. To his horror, his family's much-loved nanny Aqwi was at the head of the violent mob that then stole his homestead and imprisoned him.

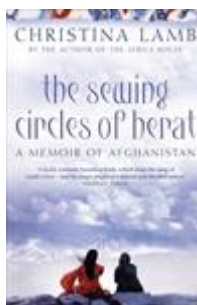
By tracing the intertwined lives of Nigel and Aqwi – rich and poor, white and black, master and maid – through intimate and moving interviews, Christina Lamb captures not just the source of a terrible conflict, but also her own conviction that there is still hope for one of

Africa's most beautiful countries.



SMALL WARS PERMITTING Christina Lamb 9780007256891

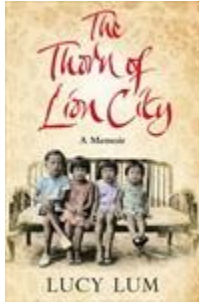
This selection of Lamb's most important work as a correspondent for the Financial Times and the Sunday Times represents non-fiction writing about foreign lands at its finest- in turns edifying, moving and horrifying. Through the stories of the people encountered over the course of her career, Lamb attempts to comprehend the human consequences of conflict in the countries she has come to know. Her skill as a chronicler of human suffering under tragic circumstances is unrivalled, as is her ability to get under the skin of the societies she documents. The pieces in this collection not only bear witness to some of the major political events of the past twenty years, but also bring to light the atmosphere of these regions – the smells, sights and people that define them.



SEWING CIRCLES OF HEART Christina Lamb 9780007142521

Over ten years ago, Christina Lamb reported on the war the Afghan people were fighting against the Soviet Union. Long haunted by her experiences in Afghanistan, Lamb returned there after the 2001 attack on the World Trade Center to find out what had become of the people and places that had marked her life as a young graduate. This time seeing the land through the eyes of a mother and experienced foreign correspondent, Lamb's journey brings her in touch with the people no-one else is writing about: the abandoned victims of almost a quarter-century of war.

Lamb's book combines a love of Afghanistan with a fearless search for the human stories behind the past 23 years of war Her book is not only a necessary education for the Western reader in the political warring that generated the torture, murder and poverty, but also a stirring lament for the country of ruins that was once better known for its poetry and mosques – James Hopkin, The Times



THORN OF LION CITY Lucy Lum 9780007200351

Lucy Lum was the third of seven children, born in Singapore in 1933 into a Chinese immigrant family ruled with an iron hand by Popo, her fearsome and superstitious grandmother. Popo is a firm believer in the old ways, in stomach-churning herbalist remedies, in the dubious fortune-telling of mystics, and in mischievous little girls like Lucy knowing their place, and is forever keen to dispense her own wicked brand of justice.

Yet the suffering does not end at home. This is Singapore in the forties, a former British colony now living under the spectre of the invading Japanese – the hungry worms crawling down from the north as Lucy knows them – and fear floods the streets outside the family home. Lucy's father, a kind-hearted and talented linguist, finds himself being used by the occupiers as a translator, and brings back terrifying stories of his merciless employers, family friends blown apart inside their rickety shelters, dead bodies heaped on top of one another by the roadside, that he confides to his daughter under the heavy teak table in the dining room.

Both a fascinating and honest account of wartime occupation and of a little girl's upbringing in a repressive Chinese family. Both harrowing, touching, it breaks the long silence of the Singaporean Chinese and speaks of hardship, family and the softly-spoken, redemptive relationship between a father and daughter.



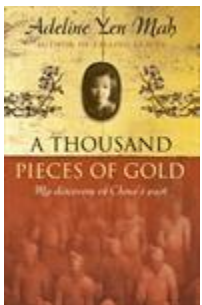
OCEAN DEVIL James MacManus 9780007270750

The author, James MacManus, was working as a reporter in Shanghai in 1980s when he heard talk of a statue standing in the remote town of Shandon on the Mongolian border in memory of an Englishman called George Hogg. This book is the result of his investigations – and the basis for a major feature film called 'The Children of the Silk Road', directed by Roger Spottiswoode and starring Jonathan Rhys Myers.

One westerner who lived in China throughout the Cultural Revolution described Hogg as "an outstanding young Englishman who fell in love with foreign people and devoted his life to their betterment. What he did made him deeply and widely loved."

MacManus has been back to China to interview the surviving old boys of Hogg's school. Hogg's reputation is kept alive by their loyalty to this day.

The dramatic trajectory of Hogg's life took him within a few months from a privileged existence at Oxford to life on the run from Japanese secret police in China.

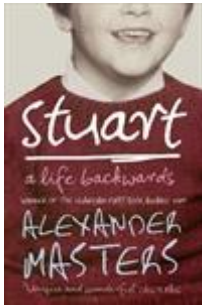


A THOUSAND PIECES OF GOLD Adeline Yen Mah 9780007124510

The majority of Chinese proverbs are drawn from the first century, when the First King of All China established his leadership over the whole country and its warring kingdoms. In ancient China, a scholar's conversation would be studded with appropriate sayings, and a man's status in society would be defined by his use and knowledge of proverbs. In modern China, much of this is still true, and proverbs are used daily.

Adeline Yen Mah introduces us to the rich picture of the first-century BC when, after the long 'wars between states', China was finally united and the richness of the literature and art could flourish. She portrays the leaders, the plots and the counter-revolutions with great vividness and liveliness so that even those ignorant of Chinese history become absorbed. And as in all her other books, she relates the historical episodes and the proverbs derived from these to experiences in her own life.

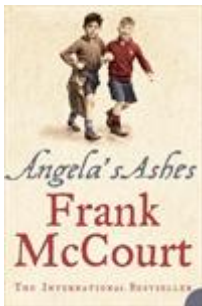
One of the major expressions of this age was the First King's tomb with its terracotta soldiers, horses and carriages, and the stones of the building. The re-finding of this monument – now open to us all – and Adeline Yen Mah's own experiences there, are extraordinary.



STUART: A Life Backwards Alexander Masters 9780007200375

Stuart, A Life Backwards, is the story of a remarkable friendship between a reclusive writer and illustrator ('a middle class scum ponce, if you want to be honest about it, Alexander') and a chaotic, knife-wielding beggar whom he gets to know during a campaign to release two charity workers from prison. Interwoven into this is Stuart's confession: the story of his life, told backwards.

With humour, compassion (and exasperation) Masters slowly works back through post-office heists, prison riots and the exact day Stuart discovered violence, to unfold the reasons why he changed from a happy-go-lucky little boy into a polydrug-addicted-alcoholic Jekyll and Hyde personality, with a fondness for what he called 'little strips of silver' (knives to you and me). Funny, despairing, brilliantly written and full of surprises: this is the most original and moving biography of recent years.



ANGELA'S ASHES Frank McCourt 9780007205233

A story of extreme hardship and suffering, in Brooklyn tenements and Limerick slums – too many children, too little money, his mother Angela barely coping as his father Malachy's drinking bouts constantly brings the family to the brink of disaster. It is a story of courage and survival against apparently overwhelming odds.

Written with the vitality and resonance, and with a remarkable absence of sentimentality, 'Angela's Ashes' is imbued on every page with Frank McCourt's distinctive humour and compassion. Out of terrible circumstances, he has created a glorious book in the tradition of Ireland's literary masters, which bears all the marks of a great classic

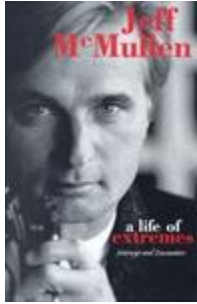


TEACHER MAN Frank McCourt 9780007173990

Frank McCourt arrived in New York as a young, impoverished and idealistic Irish boy – but one who crucially had an American passport, having been born in Brooklyn. He didn't know what he wanted except to stop being hungry and to better himself. On the subway he watched students carrying books. He saw how they read and underlined and wrote things in the margin and he liked the look of this very much. He joined the New York Public Library and every night when he came back from his hotel work he would sit up reading the great novels.

Building his confidence and his determination, he talked his way into NYU and gained a literature degree and so began a teaching career that was to last 30 years, working in New York's public high schools. Frank estimates that he probably taught 12,000 children during this time and it is on this relationship between teacher and student that he reflects in 'Teacher Man', the third in his series of memoirs.

The New York high school is a restless, noisy and unpredictable place and Frank believes that it was his attempts to control and cajole these thousands of children into learning and achieving something for themselves that turned him into a writer. At least once a day someone would put up their hand and shout 'Mr. McCourt, Mr. McCourt, tell us about Ireland, tell us about how poor you were ...' Through sharing his own life with these kids he learnt the power of narrative storytelling.



LIFE OF EXTREMES Jeff McMullen 9780732275099

For over thirty years, Jeff McMullen has been a prominent feature on the Australian media landscape - as an ABC foreign correspondent, then as a 'Four Corners' reporter, and famously as a '60 Minutes' stalwart. In that time, he has quite literally gone to the ends of the earth in pursuit of a good story and, more importantly, the truth.

From the breathtaking wilds of the Amazon to the timeless beauty of Antarctica, McMullen has seen more of the world than most people could ever hope to see in ten lifetimes. Such commitment and devotion to his craft has brought him fame and peer respect, but it has also had a great impact on his relationships with family and friends and exposed him to sights and sounds beyond the parameters of everyday life.

A Life of Extremes is a rare book. It spans Jeff's years as a reporter as he takes us on a fascinating global journey. Both a compelling memoir and gripping travelogue, it is suffused with the sort of compassion, empathy and humanity that only a journalist of McMullen's experience and calibre can provide.



WE BOUGHT A ZOO Benjamin Mee 9780007274895

A few years ago, Ben and his wife, Katherine, sold their small flat in Primrose Hill and moved to France to pursue their dream of restoring an old barn near Nimes. That dream then became much, much bigger for, last October, they moved with their two young children, Ben's 76 year-old mother and his brother, into a run-down zoo on the edge of Dartmoor which they had bought, and found themselves responsible for 200 animals including four huge tigers, lions, pumas, three massive bears, a tapir and a wolf pack.

Ben's new extended family now included: Solomon, an African lion and scourge of the local golf course; Zak, the rickety Alpha wolf, a broadly benevolent dictator clinging to power; Ronnie, a Brazilian tapir, easily capable of killing a man, but hopelessly sappy; and Sovereign, a jaguar who is also a would-be ninja, and has devised a long term escape plan and implemented it.

But tragedy was to strike for, in the midst of dealing with escaping wolves and jaguars, and troublesome adolescent vervet monkeys, Katherine, who had developed, and had removed, a brain tumour while in France, began to experience symptoms again. The prognosis was poor, and so Ben found himself juggling the complexities of managing the zoo and getting it ready for re-opening, and at the same time having to care for his rapidly deteriorating wife, their two young children, and their ever growing menagerie of animals.

Ben's story will both move and entertain - charting, simultaneously, the family's attempts to improve the animals' lives, the build-up to the Zoo's official reopening, as well as Katherine's decline, her final days, and how the family went on.



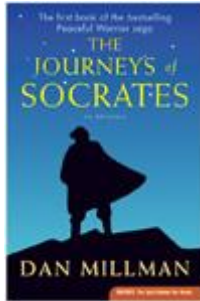
THE LOST Daniel Mendelsohn 9780732285302

As a child, acclaimed writer Daniel Mendelsohn bore such a resemblance to his long-lost great-uncle Shmiel that relatives would cry at the sight of him. Yet the fate of Shmiel and his family in World War II remained a long-taboo topic.

When Daniel stumbles across a cache of desperate letters written by Shmiel in 1939 hinting at a horrible betrayal, he is moved to investigate what became of his relatives. A five-year quest eventually takes him to a dozen countries on four continents, and leads him, finally, back to the small Ukrainian town where his family's story began, and where

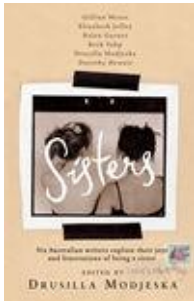
the solution to a decades–old mystery awaits him.

The Lost transforms the story of one family into a profound, morally searching meditation on our fragile hold on the past. Deeply personal, grippingly suspenseful, and beautifully written, this literary tour de force illuminates all that is lost, and found, in the passage of time.



JOURNEYS OF SOCRATES Dan Millman 9780060833022

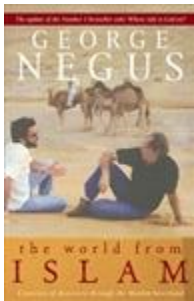
Sergei was three when the soldiers took him. At fifteen he fled into the wilderness, with nothing to cling to but the memories of a grandfather who called him Socrates and the promise of a gift buried near St. Petersburg. Thus begins *The Journeys of Socrates* -- an odyssey that forged the character of Sergei Ivanov, whose story would one day change the lives of millions of readers worldwide. This saga of courage and faith, of love and loss, reveals the arts of war and the path to peace. Ultimately, it speaks to the quest we all share for a meaningful life in a challenging world



SISTERS Ed Drusilla Modjeska 9780732257927

Edited by Drusilla Modjeska, acclaimed author of *The Orchard*, *Poppy* and *Exiles at Home*, this famous anthology explores the sometimes joyous, sometimes vexed world of sisters, with stories and essays by six of Australia's finest writers comprising:

Gillian Mears; Elizabeth Jolley; Helen Garner; Beth Yahp; Drusilla Modjeska; and Dorothy Hewett.

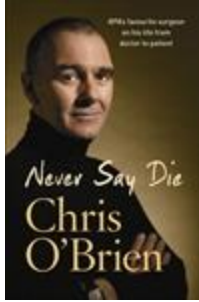


WORLD FROM ISLAM George Negus 9780732280482

What is Islam? What is it that Muslims believe, and why? Why do they fight not just wars but jihads – holy wars? How great are the belief chasms between Muslims, Jews and Christians?

George Negus has travelled extensively throughout the Middle East and Asia, from his days on Foreign Correspondent to the present, and since returned from the Middle East after researching both post–September 11 and post–Bali problems, and the Iraqi issues surrounding the Iraq war.

In this book George dispels the myths and explores the mutual ignorance, beliefs, differences and philosophies concerning these religions, while explaining the entirely different way of life that is Islam. Through his personal and professional contacts and experience with the Islamic world, he examines the issues that have set Islamic and non–Islamic worlds against each other.

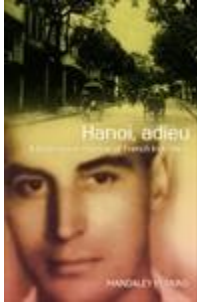


NEVER SAY DIE Chris O'Brien 9780732288099

It was a cruel twist of fate: in November 2006 Chris O'Brien, one of the country's leading head and neck cancer surgeons, was diagnosed with glioblastoma multiforme, an aggressive and almost inevitably lethal form of brain cancer. As he knew, few sufferers survive past 12 months. Nevertheless, he was determined to beat the odds.

With the support of his close family, O'Brien took the option of radical brain surgery under the supervision of well-known neurosurgeon Dr Charlie Teo. His health and relative youth – he was 54 when diagnosed – have helped him make the painful transition from doctor to patient, and renewed his faith in the importance of an optimistic outlook as the cornerstone of recovery.

Here, in his warm and lively memoir, Chris O'Brien takes a look back over his life and the forces that have shaped him – from his modest beginnings and early years as a doctor, to becoming the popular face of RPA and his crusade for the establishment of cancer centres, through to the shocking news that literally changed his life.

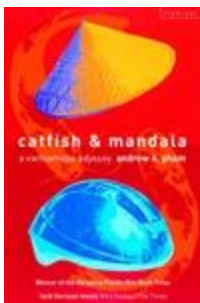


HANOI ADIEU Mandaley Perkins 9780732281977

Michel L'Herpinier arrived in Hanoi as a teenager in the years before World War II. He fell in love with the country and the people, but gradually became aware that not all those around him felt the same way. Michel's story, brilliantly recreated by his stepdaughter Mandaley Perkins, is inevitably entwined with the history of Vietnam: the rise of the nationalist movement; the Japanese occupation; the revolution by the Vietminh and the United States' refusal to aid a 'colonial regime' and the chaotic and tragic aftermath of World War II. In the heat and passion of the time, nothing and no-one can be read on the surface.

Hanoi, Adieu is an intimate and compelling journey through the exotic and tumultuous final decades of French Indochina, as well as a moving story of love and loss.

Shortlisted for the 2006 New South Wales Premier's Award for Non-fiction "an exquisitely beautiful and most beguiling story" Judges' comments



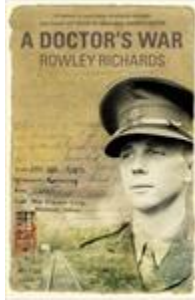
CATFISH & MANDALA Andrew Pham 9780006375951

'Andrew Pham left his native land as a "boat person", grew up in California and was recently impelled to return to his roots. But not the easy way: alone, by bicycle, eating and sleeping among the poor: Pham's occasionally brandished knife – and inborn streak of violence – powered him through hair-raising encounters. As he is an acute and evocative writer; the result is a rough guide to make the Rough Guide to Vietnam sound like the obscene lap of luxury.

His tale is interwoven with a finely calibrated network of flashbacks in which war, imprisonment, escape and exile are shown to leave their indelible mark on everyone.

Terrible and graphic, the book is as much about the future as the past: every event is scrutinised for what it may portend.

Catfish and Mandala's real power is visceral. Pham records his encounters with beggars, sadists, prostitutes and simple country folk with a bursting heart and a Dickensian eye for detail. The deaf-mute boy who befriends him in Hanoi, the despairing jade-cutter who jumps from the roof of the internment camp in Indonesia, the one-legged veteran who scoops him off the road when he can't go a step further – they are all unforgettable. Independent



A DOCTOR'S WAR Rowley Richards 9780732280093

Eminent surgeon Rowley Richards was a young doctor and officer in the army reserve when war broke out. He embarked for Singapore in 1941, a year before the Allies capitulated to invading Japanese forces. Richards became a POW and, as a medical officer, found himself tending to other prisoners in shocking conditions. In a diary, he recorded the horrors he witnessed as well as the courage, humour and mateship of his fellow prisoners. As the Allies advanced, he buried his writings in a bottle in a soldier's grave and made a map of the site which, remarkably, stayed intact during his transfer and imprisonment in Japan.

Dr Rowley Richards' memoir begins with his carefree childhood in Australia, covers time spent in conditions which could – and did – prove fatal to so many others, and describes a vigorous and busy post-war career as a doctor. An engagingly personal story, it's also a reflection on humanity and on the will to survive,



LOVE OUR WAY Julia Rollings 9780732288136

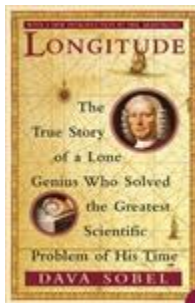
Your children are not your children.
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.
They come through you but not from you,
And though they are with you yet they belong not to you. -- Kahlil Gibran

Managing a household of eight children is not for the faint-hearted. And when you have adopted six children from overseas and succeeded in weaving together a riotously happy family, there's a good chance you can deal with any challenge life throws at you.

That's what Julia and Barry Rollings thought until they received the devastating news that two of their children had not been willingly given up for adoption in India. Much worse, Akil and Sabi had been stolen from their mother while she slept – and sold by their father.

How do you deal with such heartbreaking news? Bow to the advice that 'You adopt the child, not the family'? Perhaps not tell the children until they are older – or not at all? But Julia Rollings is not one to take the easy road. She takes the courageous decision to reunite Akil and Sabi, 13 and 12, with their birth mother, Sunama, and her family.

In Love Our Way Julia shares her moving journey of discovery to India and how it has expanded and enriched her family in more ways than one.



LONGITUDE Dava Sobel 9780007214228

In the 18th century 'the longitude problem' was the thorniest scientific dilemma of the day – and had been for centuries. Lacking the ability to measure their longitude, sailors throughout the great ages of exploration had been literally lost at sea as soon as they lost sight of land. Thousands of lives, and the increasing fortunes of nations, hung on a resolution.

The quest for a solution had occupied scientists and their patrons for the better part of two centuries when, in 1714, Parliament upped the ante by offering a king's ransom to anyone whose method or device proved successful. Countless quacks weighed in with preposterous suggestions. The scientific establishment throughout Europe – from Galileo to Sir Isaac Newton – had mapped the heavens in both hemispheres in its certain pursuit of a celestial answer. In stark contrast, one man, John Harrison, dared to imagine a mechanical solution.

Full of heroism and chicanery, brilliance and the absurd, Longitude is also a fascinating brief history of astronomy, navigation and clock making.



TEN THOUSAND MILES WITHOUT A CLOUD Sun Shuyun 9780007129744

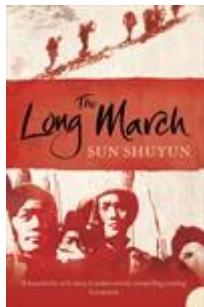
Ten Thousand Miles Without a Cloud is a beautifully written account of Sun Shuyun's journey to retrace the steps of one of the most popular figures in Chinese history – the monk Xuanzang, who travelled to India searching for true Buddhism.

Xuanzang should be known as one of the world's great heroes. In the eight century, he crossed 110 kingdoms in eighteen years to reach India from China. On his return he brought true Buddhism to China. He opened up the east and west of Asia to each other – and to us. His own book provides a unique record of the history and culture of his

time. Yet he is unknown to most of us and even to most Chinese, because of the suppression of Buddhism in China during the last fifty years.

Sun Shuyun, who grew up in China, was determined to follow in his footsteps, to discover more about Xuanzang and restore his fame. She retraced his journey from China to India and back. A man of great faith and determination, Xuanzang won the hearts of kings and robbers with his teaching, his charm and his indomitable will. Against all odds he persuaded the Confucian emperors to allow Buddhism to flourish in China.

At the heart of the book lies Sun Shuyun's own personal journey towards understanding the Buddhist faith of her grandmother, recognising also the passionate idealism of the communist beliefs of her own family and discovering her own beliefs.



THE LONG MARCH Sun Shuyun 9780007194803

In 1934, the fledgling Communist Party and its 200,000 strong armies were forced out of their bases by Chiang Kaishek and his National troops. Walking more than 10,000 miles over mountains, grassland and swamps, they suffered appalling casualties and ended up in the remote barren North. Just one-fifth survived; they went on to launch the new China in the heat of revolution. A legend was born. Justified by a remarkable feat, the Long March was also a triumph of propaganda, for Mao and for the revolution.

Seventy years later Sun Shuyun set out to retrace the Marchers' steps. The rugged landscape has changed little. Her greatest difficulty was in wrestling with the scenes lodged in her mind since childhood, part of the upbringing of every Chinese. On each stage of her journey, she found hidden stories: the ruthless purges, the terrible toll of hunger and disease, the fate of women on the March, the huge number of desertions, the futile deaths.

The real story of the March, the most vivid pictures, come from the veterans whom Sun Shuyun has found. She follows their trail through all those harsh miles, discovers their faith and disillusion, their pain and their hopes, and also recounts how many suffered even after the March's end in 1936.

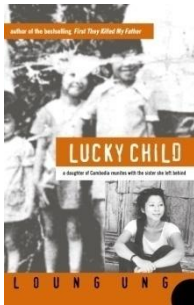
'The Long March' was an epic journey of endurance, even more severe than history books say, and courage against impossible odds. It is a brave, exciting and tragic story. Sun Shuyun tells it for the first time, as it really happened.



FIRST THEY KILLED MY FATHER Luong Ung 9780732265915

A daughter of Cambodia remembers. Until age five, Loung Ung lived in Phnom Penh, one of seven children of an educated, high-ranking government official. When the Khmer Rouge stormed the city in 1975, the young girl and her family fled from village to village. Fighting to hide their identity, the Uungs eventually were forced to separate to survive. Loung was trained as a child soldier in a work camp for orphans. As half her family died in labour camps by execution, starvation, and disease, Loung herself grew increasingly resilient and determined – armed with indomitable will, she miraculously managed to outlast the Khmer Rouge and survive the killing fields. *First They Killed My Father* is her astonishing story, a memorable human drama of courage and survival against all odds.

*Teaching Notes available.

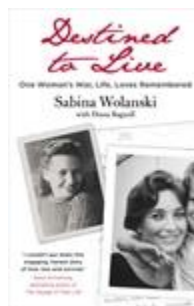


LUCKY CHILD Luong Ung 9780732283483

In the summer of 1980, a faith-based group in Vermont sponsored three members of the Ung family to relocate from war-torn Cambodia to the US. *Lucky Child* is Loung's triumphant and heartbreaking history of the obstacles of assimilation as a young girl in Vermont, the dogged memories of the genocide, and the grasp for the equilibrium and strength to forge a new life in a place where violence is not the norm.

Loung's sister, Chou, was left behind as her siblings relocated to Vermont. Their wrenching separation was exacerbated by a silence between the US and Cambodia that prevented them from keeping in close contact. In alternating chapters, these parallel lives unfold, highlighting the harsh realities of chance and circumstance, both on a personal level for the Ung family and historically for Cambodia.

Loung is an accomplished activist and writer, vibrant and healthy despite having to come to terms with the physical ravages of war and the memories of her family whose honour she struggles to uphold. *Lucky Child* is a powerful reminder that wars don't end just because the guns have fallen silent.



DESTINED TO LIVE Sabina Wolanski/Diana Bagnall 9780732285227

Sabina Wolanski was just 12 years old when her home town in Poland was invaded by Nazis. In her diary, along with innocent adolescent longings, she recorded what happened next: the humiliations and terrors, the murder of her beloved family and the startling story of her own survival.

Leaving Europe after the war, Sabina forged a new life in Australia, juggling a thriving design business, her family, and an unorthodox love life. But as time wore on, she began asking herself why had she survived when so many died? And what kind of justice fitted such crimes? Those questions came to a head when, at the trial of the man who had killed her father and brother, she met the daughter of a former Nazi who was researching her own, agonising past.

In May 2005, when Germany opened its controversial Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe, in Berlin, Sabina was chosen to speak as the voice of the six million dead. In her speech she noted that although the Holocaust had taken everything she valued, it had also taught her that hatred and discrimination are doomed to fail. Her ability to survive, to love, and to live well, have been her greatest triumph.

I couldn't put down this engaging, honest story of love, loss and survival.
Diane Armstrong, bestselling author of *The Voyage of Their Life*



BEIJING CONFIDENTIAL Jan Wong 9780732287474

'I contemplate my own mission impossible. How will I find a stranger in a country of 1.3 billion. The bittersweet irony is that, 33 years after I turned her in, I am on a planeload of mainland Chinese returning home of their own free will ...'

Jan Wong first arrived in China at the height of the Cultural Revolution in the 1970s as a fervent young Maoist. Determined to change the world, instead she found her own world turned upside down. The result was a groundbreaking memoir, *Red China Blues*.

In *Beijing Confidential* Wong returns to witness one of history's most extreme makeovers as the city feverishly prepares for its moment on the world stage for the 2008 Olympics. But she has a much more compelling personal reason to revisit her past. Haunted by her guilty conscience, Wong is convinced she ruined the life of a former fellow student, Yin Luoyi, all those years ago. When Yin asked for help to get to America, Wong promptly reported her comrade. More than three decades later she needs to make peace with the woman she betrayed --- and herself.

But finding absolution proves difficult in a country where cultural amnesia has become a way of life. As Wong searches for answers in a city where the past is being bulldozed daily, she is confronted with the breathless pace of change that's transformed Mao's once xenophobic country into the Great Mall of China, former comrades into capitalists, and much more.

Beijing Confidential is a fascinating journey into China's past and present as two extraordinary women's journeys come full circle against the backdrop of a city in the midst of yet another transformation.