



BLACK INC.

FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2024
RIGHTS GUIDE

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NON-FICTION



Announcing the Shortest History Cities series!



Following the international success of the Shortest History series, Black Inc. will be launching an exciting new series on the world's great cities in September 2026.

Each book will be an authoritative distillation, with vivid details, a grand sweep – an irresistible entree into the author's chosen city. They will tell the story of the city from its origins to the present day with literary flair.

The books will cover each city's settlement, location, geography, climate, government, layout, main industries, movement of people and key historical moments. The final chapter or two will be something of a sophisticated tour guide, covering the essence, the zeitgeist, the city today.

For history buffs and intelligent travellers, these short guides are destined to be popular throughout the world.

Commissioned, with more to come:

The Shortest History of Paris by Andrew Hussey
The Shortest History of Florence by Ross King
The Shortest History of Dublin by Gillian O'Brien
The Shortest History of Berlin by Rory MacLean
The Shortest History of Delhi by John Zubrzycki
The Shortest History of Madrid by Linda Jaivin
The Shortest History of Hong Kong by Ilaria Maria Sala

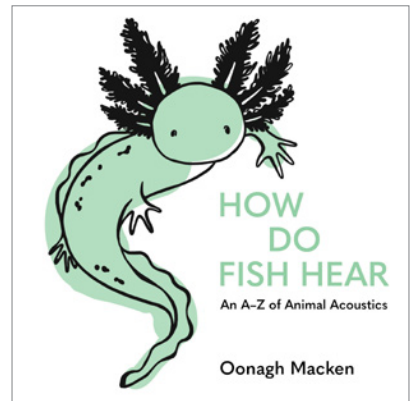
Original paperback, 198 x 128mm, AU\$24.99, 160pp
All rights: Black Inc.

How Do Fish Hear

An A-Z of Animal Acoustics

Oonagh Macken

A fun, educational and fascinating insight to the animal kingdom's hearing prowess.



How Do Fish Hear is an alphabetical guide to unique animal acoustics. Each chapter investigates the curious hearing capabilities of a specific animal, including ‘A for Axolotl’, ‘B for Bat’, and so on; as well as ‘honourable mentions’ peppered throughout. There is also an introductory section which provides readers an overview of our human ear anatomy and the way we process sound.

Oonagh Macken, audiologist and hearing-enthusiast, walks readers through the delightful auditory worlds of fish, insects, deep-sea creatures, birds, snakes, and so many other kinds of animals – all with a unique way of processing the sounds of the world around them!

Oonagh Macken is an audiologist who provides aural rehabilitation to adult populations across New South Wales. She has an undergraduate degree in Science (Psychology) and in Arts (Linguistics and English). She also completed my Masters in Clinical Audiology in 2020 and is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Audiology. She is interested in promoting hearing health and spurring an interest in the audiological profession among the general populace.

OCTOBER 2025

Non-fiction /
illustrated book
(all ages)

—

Imprint: Melbourne
Books
RRP: AU\$26.99
Hardback
170 x 170mm
160pp

Manuscript
Available

Rights held
World
film/TV

Living Art in Papua New Guinea

Susan Cochrane

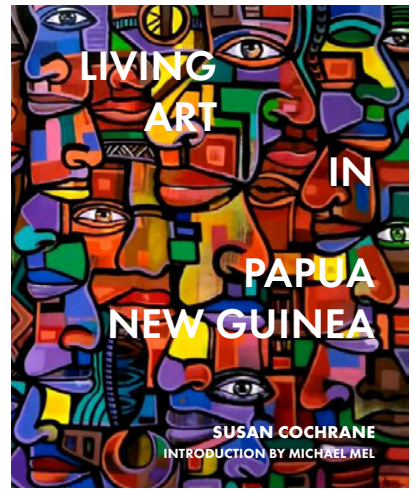
Lavishly illustrated and exceptionally researched, Dr Susan Cochrane's Living Art in Papua New Guinea brings alive the multiple contemporary realities of the country and its people through a celebration of arts and culture.

Living Art in Papua New Guinea brings alive the multiple contemporary realities of the country and its people. This full-colour art book – lavishly illustrated with over 100 photos – presents artworks and cultural performances that are astonishing for their dramatic visual effect and virtuosity. It is a highly visual experience of Papua New Guinea's spectacular cultures and aesthetic wealth in their own context.

Culture, politics, history, and identity are interlinking themes through which the book presents ideas about artists, creative processes and aesthetics; revealing Papua New Guinea's diversity of cultures and environments. It locates innovative artists in their villages, in downtown Port Moresby, and on to the international stage. Through this panorama, readers' ideas about what art is may be challenged.

Released in the month of Papua New Guinea's 50th Anniversary of Independence, this book explains and showcases the contemporary arts and culture of Papua New Guinea and its people.

Dr Susan Cochrane is a researcher, curator and writer who works closely with communities and organisations in Papua New Guinea. She has published extensively on contemporary Pacific art in books, catalogues of landmark exhibitions, essays and articles. Frequent fieldwork and a large cultural network contribute to her long-term professional relationships with Indigenous artists and communities.



SEPTEMBER 2025

Non-fiction /
illustrated book

Imprint: Melbourne
Books

RRP: AU\$74.95

Hardback

235 x 285mm

304pp

Manuscript

Mid-October

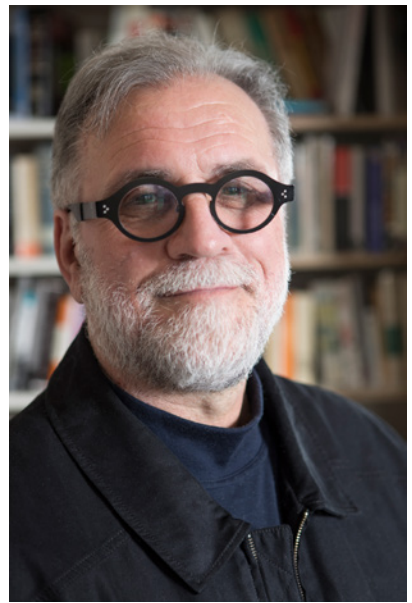
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translation rights

The Immigrants

Fabula Mirabilis

Moreno Giovannoni



“The magnificent, strong, young Italian women and men who come to the English colony on the ships grow old. Some die young and although, if they are asked before they die, they all say they came here for a better life, they do not always find a better life, do they?”

There is no “single story” of immigration – for a better life is a reassuring fiction. Instead there are stories of love and exile, industry and tragedy, and much more besides. In this astonishing and moving book, Moreno Giovannoni evokes the lives of Italian migrants from after the Second World War until the 1970s.

In the Australian town of Mitreño, tobacco is grown, an Italian cinema and café open, and people travel back and forth from Italy. A boy fishes and wanders the countryside, and watches a community form, with its joys, feuds and shared understandings. Interspersed with this are the “grotesques” – indelible

and terrible events that sit alongside the better life they all seek. This is a remarkable book about the world of the immigrant, told with heart-breaking beauty.

Moreno Giovannoni is the author of the critically acclaimed *The Fireflies of Autumn* and a freelance translator of long standing. His essay ‘The Percheron’ was published in *Southerly* and selected for *The Best Australian Essays* in 2014. He was the recipient of the prestigious Deborah Cass Prize in 2016.

Praise for *The Fireflies of Autumn*:

“There is immense beauty in this book, and there is great sadness and there is genuine tenderness. I can’t recall when I was last thrilled by a book as I am by this one.”

—Christos Tsiolkas

JULY 2025

Non-fiction

—

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$34.99

Paperback

234 x 153mm

208pp

Manuscript

Available

Rights held

World

film/TV

The Electrification Handbook

The Indispensable Guide to Electrifying Everything

Saul Griffith

Everything you need to know for your electrification journey by the bestselling author of The Big Switch

We all know that renewable energy is the future, but how can we ditch coal and gas in our own lives and homes? *The Electrification Handbook* is full of pro tips and essential information for your electrification journey.

Energy expert Saul Griffith, with help from some of his electrifying friends, covers the five big decisions:

1. Where you get your electricity
2. Hot water
3. House heat
4. Cooking
5. Transport

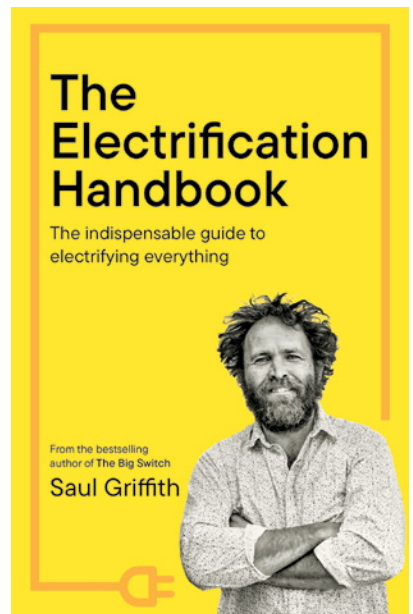
But wait, there's more: the new abundance agenda, all hail the tradie army, what to know about EVs – plus great graphics! Join the movement and electrify your world with *The Electrification Handbook*.

Saul Griffith is an engineer and inventor. He has been principal investigator on projects for NASA, the US National Science Foundation and US Special Operations Command. He was awarded the MacArthur 'Genius' Grant in 2007. He is the founder of Rewiring America and Rewiring Australia and author of *Electrify*, *The Big Switch* and *The Wires That Bind*.

Praise for *The Big Switch*:

'About f-cking time we have an actual plan written down that can be executed and financed. In a decarbonised world, Australia is a winner. The opportunity now is ours for the taking.'

—Mike Cannon-Brookes



JUNE 2025

Sustainability /
renewable energy

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$19.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
112pp

Manuscript

December 2024

Rights held

Translation rights
only

White Hibiscus

A Portrait in Words

Loribelle Spirovski

A meditation on how trauma casts stones into the strange waters of our lives, creating ripples that stretch on long after the stones have sunk



Loribelle Spirovski

White Hibiscus

a portrait in words

White Hibiscus is a poetic memoir, an archived memory unlocked by a woman during the captivity of a cruise ship journey. While her husband prepares for his piano recitals, she encounters portholes into her childhood, reliving memories of the Philippines with vivid clarity, and, at times, pain. For all its luxury, she can't help being affected by what she observes on the ship, the passengers' wealth, the crew's subservience. Always prone to motion sickness, onboard her nausea is constant.

This brilliant memoir is written in a lyrical style and carries some of Loribelle's painterly approaches to creating meaning.

Loribelle Spirovski is an internationally acclaimed artist represented by galleries around the world, including Arcadia Contemporary in New York and HOFA in London. Her painting practice works in the interstices between the human figure and space, movement and stillness. Working in a number of simultaneous styles, her work spans traditional portraiture, surrealism and pop art that marries dark and light themes in a single experimental practice. *White Hibiscus* is her first book.

MARCH 2025

Memoir

—
Imprint: Upswell
Publishing
RRP: AU\$29.99
Paperback
210 x 150mm
206pp

Manuscript

Available

Rights held

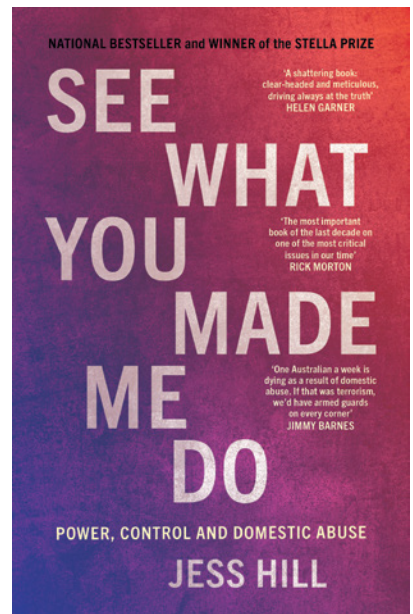
World
film/TV

See What You Made Me Do (updated edition)

Power, Control and Domestic Abuse

Jess Hill

A completely updated edition of Jess Hill's groundbreaking and award-winning investigation of domestic abuse.



Winner of the Stella Prize

Domestic abuse is a global emergency and in many countries over one in four women has experienced violence from a man she was intimate with. But too often we ask the wrong question: why didn't she leave? We should be asking: why did he do it?

Investigative journalist Jess Hill puts perpetrators – and the systems that enable them – in the spotlight. *See What You Made Me Do* is a deep dive into the abuse so many women and children experience – abuse that is often reinforced by the justice system that is meant to protect them. Critically, it shows that we can drastically reduce domestic violence – not in generations to come, but today.

Combining forensic research with riveting storytelling, this fully updated edition of Jess Hill's

acclaimed bestseller radically rethinks how to confront the crisis of fear and abuse in our homes.

This is an essential resource for anyone who works with survivors and those at risk of experiencing domestic abuse.

Jess Hill is an investigative journalist and the author of *See What You Made Me Do* and the Quarterly Essay *The Reckoning*. She has been a producer for ABC Radio, a journalist for *Background Briefing* and a Middle East correspondent for *The Global Mail*. Her reporting on domestic abuse has won two Walkley awards, an Amnesty International award and three Our Watch awards. *See What You Made Me Do* won the 2020 Stella Prize and the ABA Booksellers' Choice Adult Non-Fiction Book of the Year.

MARCH 2025

Domestic abuse / family violence

Imprint: Black Inc
RRP: AU\$36.99
PB (234 x 153mm)
432pp

First pages

December 2024

Rights held

World; film/TV

Rights sold

UK/Comm ex
ANZ, Can (Hurst);
North America
(Sourcebooks);
Taiwan (Sharp
Point Press);
Hungary (Alexandra
Könyvesház);
China (Beijing
Guangchen Culture
Communication Co.);
Turkey (Okuyanus);
Russia (Eksmo);
Documentary
(Northern Pictures);
ANZ Audio (Audiible);
ROW Audio (Tantor)

Praise for *See What You Made Me Do*

'Hill's lucid history of cultural attitudes toward domestic violence and harrowing survivor testimonies combine to powerful effect. This is a nuanced and eye-opening study of a hidden crisis.'

— *Publishers Weekly*

'The shared stories of coercion and control, the way in which Hill draws out the intimate and the personal to provide a picture of what happens in our country today should be compulsory reading for politicians at every level.'

— *Sydney Morning Herald*

'In See What You Made Me Do, Jess Hill provides a well-researched book on everything there is to know about domestic abuse... Hill writes with precision and a true passion for the topic. There is more to domestic violence than physical abuse, and you will learn about it all in this book.'

— *San Francisco Book Review*

'If See What You Made Me Do is a call for action then it is unlike any that has yet been written in Australia in its accessibility, depth of research and in its capacity, unlike government or academic reports, to capture the visceral feeling of domestic terror.'

— *Sydney Review of Books*

'An exhaustive, horrifying, and compelling consideration of domestic abuse, in its many guises and from multiple perspectives.'

— *Booklist*

'In the present climate it's hard to make predictions, but it's my bet that See What You Made Me Do will be the definitive text on domestic abuse for some time.'

— *Inside Story*

'A clinical view on why domestic abuse happens, why it's so prevalent across the world and what the psychology is behind it'

— *Joanne Froggatt, Harper's Bazaar UK*

'If See What You Made Me Do is a call for action then it is unlike any that has yet been written in Australia in its accessibility, depth of research and in its capacity, unlike government or academic reports, to capture the visceral feeling of domestic terror.'

— *Alecia Simmonds, Sydney Review of Books*

'A much-needed, thought-provoking exploration of how victims can be blamed or disbelieved, and their experiences dismissed, whilst their abusers are often excused. Hill asks difficult questions about perpetrators and their need to exert power and control. A must-read.'

— *Rosie Duffield MP*

'Domestic abuse is hard to write about, hard to read about, hard to think about - everything in our culture makes silence the easy option. Breaking the silence takes skill and courage, and Jess Hill has both. Essential reading.'

— *Laurie Penny, author of Unspeakable Things*

'An absolute must-read for anyone concerned about domestic abuse. It is well-researched, well-written and raises the voices of survivors everywhere. An important contribution to our understanding in the UK.'

— *Sarah Hill, Chair of Women's Aid, UK*

'... brilliant'

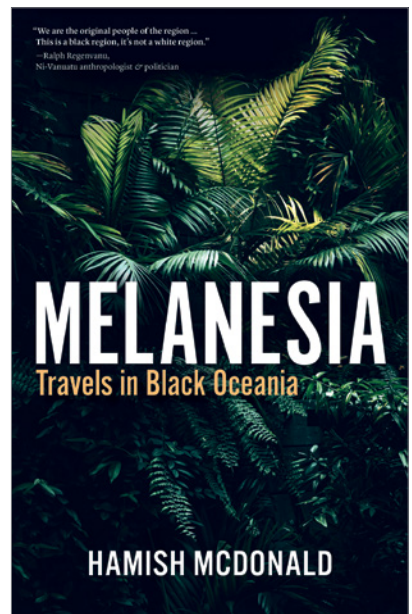
— *Sally Talbot, The West Australian*

Melanesia

Travels in Black Oceania

Hamish Macdonald

An immersive journey through the tumultuous past and fascinating present of Australia's nearest neighbours



Stretching from Fiji in the east to New Guinea in the west, Melanesia is astonishingly diverse. Its islands are home to some 1200 language groups, many of them still isolated from the outside world. In Australia, this complex region tends to make the news only in times of crisis: military coups in Fiji, Kanak unrest in New Caledonia, rioting in Solomon Islands. *Melanesia* offers readers a deeper insight into the people and places behind these headlines, combining travelogue, history and astute political analysis.

By land and sea, Hamish McDonald travels from one end of Melanesia to the other. Speaking with locals from all walks of life, he uncovers the histories, values, aspirations and tensions that have shaped their communities. He examines the impact of outsiders: the Indians recruited to work in Fiji; the white “black-birders” who kidnapped Islanders

for the Australian cane fields; the Americans during World War II; the Indonesians in New Guinea. And he considers the big changes unfolding today, as shifting demographics and the growing influence of China produce a new balance of power across the region.

Vividly written, *Melanesia* is essential reading for anyone looking to understand this fascinating part of the world and its growing international significance.

Hamish McDonald is an award-winning Australian journalist. He has been correspondent and foreign editor for *The Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Far Eastern Economic Review*, reporting from the Pacific Islands, Indonesia, Japan, Hong Kong, New Delhi and Beijing as well as around Australia.

MARCH 2025

Travel writing /
geopolitics

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$36.99
Paperback
234 x 153mm
366pp

Manuscript
Available

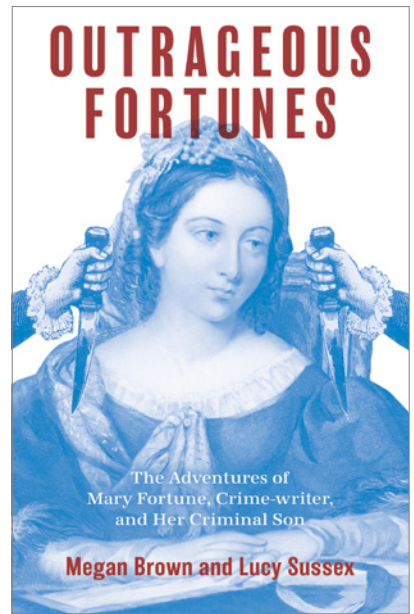
Rights held
World
film/TV

Outrageous Fortunes

The Adventures of Mary Fortune,
Crime-writer, and Her Criminal
Son George

Lucy Sussex and Megan Brown

*The gripping story of Australia's
first female crime writer and her
career-criminal son*



When Mary Fortune arrived in Melbourne with her infant son in 1855, she was determined to reinvent herself. The Victorian goldfields were just the place.

After a time selling sly-grog and a bigamous marriage to a policeman, Mary became a pioneering journalist and author. *The Detective's Album* was the first book of detective stories to be published in Australia and the first by a woman to be published anywhere in the world. Her work appeared in magazines and newspapers for over forty years – but none of her readers knew who she was. She wrote using pseudonyms, often adopting the voice of a male narrator to write about ‘unladylike’ subjects.

When Mary died in 1911, her identity was nearly lost. In *Outrageous Fortunes*, Megan Brown and Lucy Sussex retrieve Fortune’s astonishing career and discover an equally absorbing story in her illegitimate

son, George. While Mary was writing crime, George was committing it, with convictions for theft and bank robbery. In their intertwined stories, crime fiction meets true crime, and Melbourne’s literary bohemia consorts with the criminal underworld.

Megan Brown completed her PhD at the University of Wollongong, examining the work of Mary Fortune. She has contributed chapters to *The Routledge Companion to Australian Literature* and *The Unsocial Sociability of Women's Life Writing*.

Lucy Sussex's books include *Blockbuster! Fergus Hume* and *The Mystery of a Hansom Cab*, which won the 2015 Victorian Community History Award, *Women Writers and Detectives in the Nineteenth Century* and *Saltwater in the Ink: Voices from the Australian Seas*. She has a PhD from the University of Wales and is an honorary fellow at La Trobe University.

FEBRUARY 2025

Biography

Imprint: La Trobe
University Press
RRP: AU\$36.99
Paperback
234 x 153mm
336pp

Manuscript
Available

Rights held
World
film/TV

Fully Sikh

Hot Chips and Turmeric Stains

Sukhjit Kaur Khalsa

Sukhjit Kaur Khalsa is on a quest to describe how she became an all-round performer after a childhood in a quiet and undramatic migrant family. Where did it all go wrong?

Sukhjit Kaur Khalsa knows a thing or two about telling a story. From her experience on stage and in front of live and television audiences, she now offers us her first book. Sukhjit reflects on her own experience as a Sikh-Australian woman, performing it against a backdrop of comfort and calamity: how we live our lives in a messy and multi-layered society.

Using the staging of meals as her mode, Sukhjit explores presumptions and the nuances of all that we can bring to the table. She plays with the etiquette of what is carried into public arenas and what stays in our private worlds: our aspirations and heritage, and all our baggage. There are no exclusionary zones for this courageous, passionate, irreverent, and very funny, writer.

Sukhjit Kaur Khalsa is a writer, performer, theatre-maker, filmmaker, and producer based in Boorloo. Her work as a multi-form artist for the last ten years has been recognised widely. Sukhjit premiered her sell-out theatre work *Fully Sikh* with Barking Gecko Theatre Company and Black Swan Theatre Company (2019). Since then, she has been developing her comedy series *What Would Suki Do?* with support from ABC TV, and is currently producing *A Hairy Tale*, a documentary exploring female body hair. Sukhjit is currently the Executive Director of The Blue Room Theatre in Perth/Boorloo.



Sukhjit Kaur Khalsa

Fully Sikh

hot chips and turmeric stains

FEBRUARY 2025

Memoir

—

Imprint: Upswell
Publishing
RRP: AU\$29.99
Paperback
210 x 150mm
160pp

Manuscript:

October 2025

Rights held:

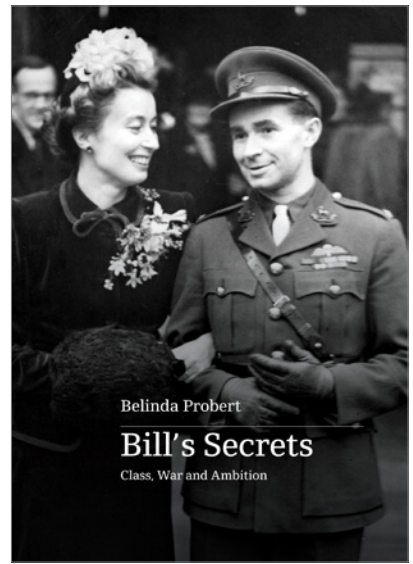
World
film/TV

Bill's Secrets

Class War and Ambition

Belinda Probert

After discovering the impoverished Welsh beginnings of her "English gentlemen" and "war hero" father only after his death, his daughter ponders his singular life in the context of a changing Britain in the 20th century.



Major Bill Probert emerged from the Second World War a decorated war hero, a gifted linguist in the Intelligence Corps. He met the love of his life, a beautiful Oxford graduate, when they were both posted to the Allied Control Commission occupying Vienna in 1945. He was a cultured and ambitious Englishman, with no living family of his own.

After a successful international business career, Bill retires at 59, only to reinvent himself first as a fly fisherman and farmer in Wales, and then – for the last decade of his life – as a resident of the Béarn, lover of the Pyrénées and everything French.

Four months after he was buried in St Faust de Haut a letter arrives for him, announcing that his nephew Denzil, from Brecon in Wales, has finally found him, and is coming to visit. Bill's wife and children were about to learn that Bill began life

as Roy, in an impoverished Welsh mining family in the Rhondda. His mother and three siblings were alive and well when his children were born.

Why did Roy decide to become Bill and erase Wales and his family? Thirty years after his death it was time to unearth his many secrets. This is the story of a daughter's hunt for her perplexing and unpredictable father.

Belinda Probert is the author of books about Northern Ireland, gender equity, and working lives in Australia. Her most recent book *Imaginative Possession: Learning to Live in the Antipodes*, describes her attempts to understand the landscapes of Australia and the people who have shaped them.

JANUARY 2025

Biography
Military / political
history

—
Imprint: Upswell
Publishing
RRP: AU\$29.99
Paperback
210 x 150mm
272pp

Manuscript
Available

Rights held
World
film/TV

Forthcoming in the Shortest History series



The Shortest History of Scandinavia

Mart Kuldkepp

APRIL 2025

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$27.99

Paperback

198 x 128mm

256pp

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World
film/TV



The Shortest History of AI

Toby Walsh

APRIL 2025

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$27.99

Paperback

198 x 128mm

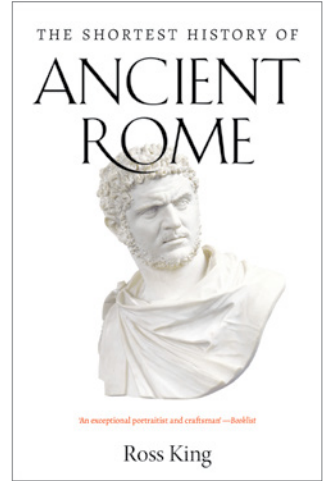
256pp

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World
film/TV



The Shortest History of Ancient Rome

Ross King

NOVEMBER 2024

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$27.99

Paperback

198 x 128mm

272pp

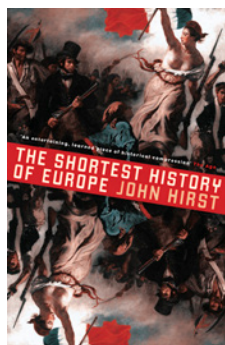
Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World
film/TV

The Shortest History series



The Shortest History of Europe

John Hirst

—

MAY 2012

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
192pp

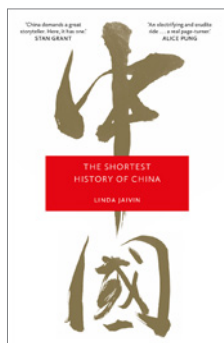
Manuscript:
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Rights sold:

China – Guangxi Normal University Press
Taiwan – Domain Publishing Company
Germany – Hoffmann und Campe
Finland – Kustantamo
Greece – Metaichmio Publications
Sweden – Natur och Kultur
UK & Comm. ex ANZ & Canada – Old Street Publishing
Saudi Arabia – Dar El Shorouk
Italy – Giunti Editore Spa
Portugal – Publicacoes Dom Quixote
Spain – RBA Libros
Turkey – Say Yayinlari

Korea – Wisdomhouse Publishing Co.
Brazil – Editores Sextante
France – City Editions
Japan – Tokyo Shoseki Co. Ltd.
Estonia – Eesti Raamat
Poland – Polskie Wydawnictwo Naukowe
Russia – Eksmo Publishing
Ukraine – Nash Format
Thailand – Paragraph Publishing House
Hungary – Athenaeum Kiadó Kft
Slovak – Silverzen
Czech Republic – Leda
North America – The Experiment
Romania – Litera
Audio – Tantor



The Shortest History of China

Linda Jaivin

—

MAY 2021

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
288pp

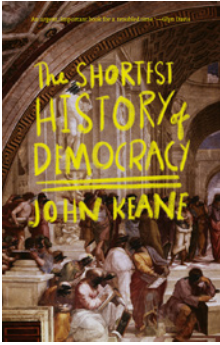
Manuscript:
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World
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Canada – Old Street Publishing
North America – The Experiment
Japan – Tokyo Shoseki Co
Portugal – Dom Quixote
Greece – Metaichmio
Bulgaria – Prozoretz
Italy – Bompiani
Turkey – Kronik Yayincilik
Russia – Azbooka-Atticus
Taiwan – Domain Publishing Company
Hungary – Athenaeum Kiadó Kft
Arabic – Dar El Shorouk
India – Picador

Israel – Kinneret Zmora
Slovak – Silverzen
Ukraine – Laboratory
Thailand – Paragraph Publishing House
Czech Republic – Leda
Korea – Jinsungbooks
Serbia – Laguna
Romania – Litera
De Bezige Bij – Netherlands
Audio – Tantor



The Shortest History of Democracy

John Keane

FEBRUARY 2022

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
240pp

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World
film/TV

Rights sold:

North America – The
Experiment
UK/Comm ex ANZ,
Canada – Old Street
Arabic – Al Sharq Forum
Turkey – Say Dagitim
India – Picador
Greece – Metaichmio
Taiwan – Ye-Ren
Publishing House
Spain – Antoni Bosch

Portugal – Editorial

Presença

Brazil – Alta

Japan – Diamond Inc.

Hungary – Athenaeum
Kiadó

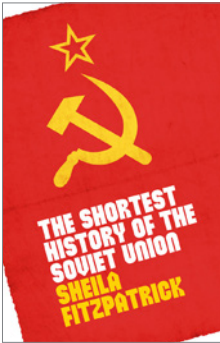
Israel – Tchelet Books

Korea – Jinsungbooks

Thailand – Paragraph

Publishing House

Audio – Tantor



The Shortest History of the Soviet Union

Sheila Fitzpatrick

MARCH 2022

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
256pp

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World
film/TV

Rights sold:

North America – Columbia
University Press
UK/Comm ex ANZ – Old
Street Publishing
Russia – Alpina
Portugal – Editorial
Presença S.A
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Turkey – Say Dagitim Ltd

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Publications

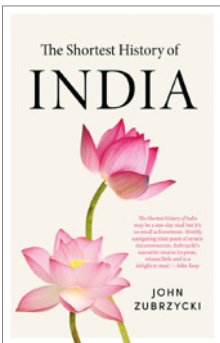
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The Shortest History of India

John Zubrzycki

MAY 2022

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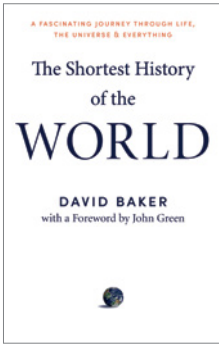
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The Shortest History of the World

David Baker,
with an introduction
from John Green

—
JULY 2022

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
256pp

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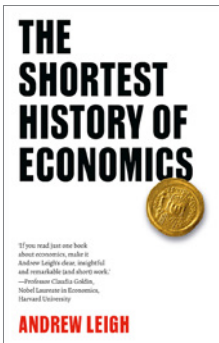
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The Shortest History of Economics

Andrew Leigh

—
FEBRUARY 2024

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RRP: AU\$27.99
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198 x 128mm
224pp

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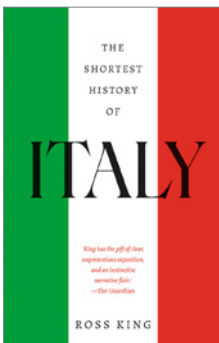
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Penguin Random House



The Shortest History of Italy

Ross King

—
MARCH 2024

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
256pp

Manuscript:

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Rights held:

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UK/Commonwealth ex
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The Shortest History of Japan

Lesley Downer

—

JUNE 2024

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
288pp

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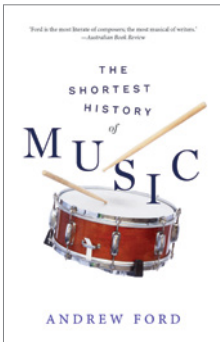
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Greece – Metaichmio
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The Shortest History of Music

Andrew Ford

—

JULY 2024

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$27.99
Paperback
198 x 128mm
288pp

Manuscript:

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Rights held:

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FICTION

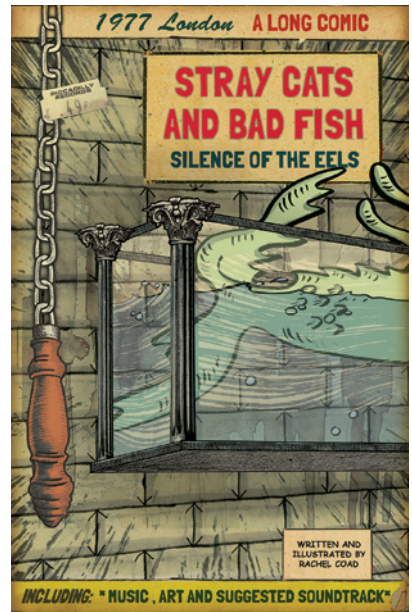


Stray Cats and Bad Fish

Silence of the Eels

Rachel Coad

It's war on the Thames. Punk is here, and punkfish rule the waterways of London. Coked-up eels, a lion finds his purpose and a fish improves his art collection.



It begins: Holborn tube station 1977. A fish called 'Creasy' lives in the cistern of the men's room. He's a key player in London's underworld. His nemesis, Ratty from Spitalfields, is gaining power. Ratty's money launderer disappears, all animal appendages' point to Creasy.

The characters include:

- A fish called Creasy. (An attendant at the Holborn Station men's room did actually keep a fish in the cistern of the Victorian facilities.)
- A lion called Christian (based on the actual lion purchased from Harrods in 1973 and who lived on the King's Road).
- The Thames eels on cocaine: which is a real thing. (A study from King's College London found that during floods and storms high traces of cocaine

from the sewers finds its way into the Thames. The local eels are particularly susceptible to the effects of the drug making them hyperactive.)

This is a beautifully drawn graphic novel from the author of *New York City Glow*. There are workers' strikes, the Silver Jubilee and Pink Floyd's pig floating high over Battersea power station as per the cover of their 1977 album *Animals*.

In a painting career spanning 20 years, **Rachel Coad** has exhibited in both Australia and the UK. In 2016 she was awarded The Lester Prize for portraiture. Rachel is a former newspaper artist and designer, her first graphic novel *New York City Glow* was published in 2023.

SEPTEMBER 2025

Graphic novel

Imprint: Upswell
Publishing
RRP: AU\$36.99
Paperback
260 x 175mm
208pp

Manuscript:
November 2025

Rights held:
World
film/TV

Little World

Josephine Rowe

An enigmatic novella from the author of Here Until August



'It was a curse in some places, some parts of the world: may the earth not eat you.'

Little World begins in the north-western corner of Australia, as a saint arrives, transported inside a horse float. She is a girl of indeterminate age, whose body remains exactly as it was when she died, incorruptible. And though no one knows it, she is conscious, reflecting on past and present. Then along comes Mathilde, a traveller who sees what the saint is hungering for – and makes a life-changing decision.

Little World is a mesmerising fable, in which perfectly etched characters grapple with the unknowable, and in this way come face to face with their deepest needs. It is beautiful, rich and strange.

Josephine Rowe is author of three collections of stories and two novels. Her debut novel, *A Loving, Faithful Animal*, was selected as a *New York Times* Editors' Choice. Her story collection *Here Until August* was shortlisted for the 2020 Stella Prize.

Josephine's writing has appeared in *Granta*, *The Paris Review*, *Zoetrope: All Story*, *The Harvard Review*, *Literary Hub*, *Neue Zürcher Zeitung* and elsewhere. Her fellowships and residencies include the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa, the Wallace Stegner Fellowship at Stanford University, the Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Fellowship at the New York Public Library, Literaturhaus Zürich and the Kyoto Writers Residency. She has been named a *Sydney Morning Herald* Best Young Australian Novelist twice.

MAY 2025

Novella

—

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$27.99

Paperback

198 x 128mm

160pp

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

ANZ audio rights only

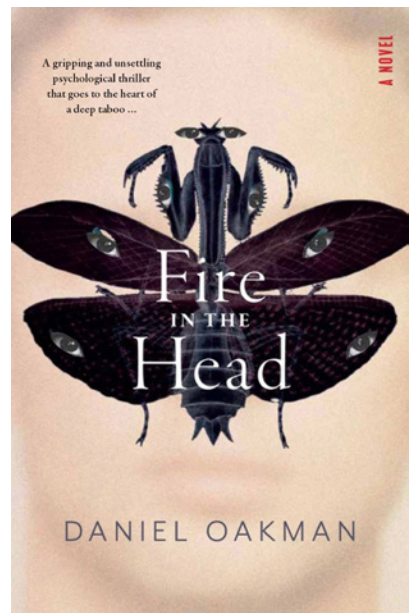
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Little World, will be published by Black Inc. (Aus) and Transit Books (US).

Fire in the Head

Daniel Oakman

A gripping and unsettling psychological thriller that goes to the heart of the deep taboo of child assault, and the ramifications of trauma later in life.



Part crime drama, part coming-of-age tale, part modern psychological odyssey, Oakman's novel is a gripping, unsettling and powerful story about self-discovery, the importance of friendship and the transcendent power of words. *Fire in the Head* addresses a deep taboo in modern society: the legacy of child sexual abuse and what victims must endure to bring perpetrators to justice.

In March 1999, twenty-seven-year-old James Harper, a shy public servant living in Canberra, is called to a police station to provide evidence on the suicide of his youngest sister nine years earlier. As the investigation gets underway, James confesses that he had been abused by his stepfather, Martin Jenkins, when he was a child. Could the two events be connected? But as he dives headfirst into the legal system

in a quest for justice, James must face some disturbing truths about himself and the past he thought he had left behind.

Daniel Oakman is a writer and historian, and previously the senior curator of the National Museum of Australia. His past publications include *Facing Asia* (2005), *Oppy* (2018), an acclaimed biography of the sporting icon and politician Hubert Opperman, and *Wild Ride* (2020), an immersive exploration of how the bicycle has long shaped understandings of the Australian continent and its people. His writing has also appeared in *Mountain Biking Australia*, *VeloNews*, *Australian Historical Studies*, *The Big Issue* and *Meanjin*.

MARCH 2025

Debut Fiction

—

Imprint: Melbourne Books

RRP: AU\$34.99

Paperback
235 x 154mm
280pp

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World
film/TV

POETRY



Fitzroy North 3068

Yvette Henry Holt

A wild and erotic ride following the author's psychogeographical, R.M. Williams-shod footprints from Hermannsburg in the Western Arrente to Westminster



In *Fitzroy North 3068* poet Yvette Henry Holt weaves a web of humour, confrontation, complaints, sex, childhood, livelihood, reflection, deferred intimacy, poetry, insecurity, truth, and emotional procrastination. This volume holds dialogue between a Jewish analyst and a geographically wayward east-coast blackfella travelling from Central Australia to Melbourne's inner city in order to figure out what it's all about. *Fitzroy North 3068* is awash with humour that holds similar in input and outcome, and equally as dry as the proverbial bone.

A collection of memories, temperament and Henry Holt's resolve to become neither patient nor client throughout her confessional sittings allows these poems to plunge cold hard and fast into the depths of a subconscious fortitude, all the while revealing follicles from life

with humour, insecurity, Lutheranism and Jewish wit. It is a wild and erotic ride.

Yvette Henry Holt is a multi-award-winning poet, social photographer, editor, and publisher. Chairperson of the First Nations Australia Writers Network FNAWN, Board Director AP Australian Poetry, Yvette holds more than twenty years of national literary associations and facilitations, including researcher to AustLit: Black Words Database 2006-2009, First Nations Advisor to the Bibliography of Australian Poetry 2018-current. Yvette's artistic queer lens of writing and photography include portfolios of urbane and religious erotica as well as subjective landscapes throughout the Central Australian deserts.

MARCH 2025

Poetry

Imprint: Upswell
Publishing
RRP: AU\$24.99
Paperback
210 x 150mm
108pp

Manuscript:

November 2024

Rights held:

World
film/TV

Overseas Co-Agents

Arab region

Mr. Fahad Al-Odah (Founder)
Kalamat Agency
Said Bin Zaid, Building No. 6113
Secondary No. 2678 Qurtubah
Dist. 12348
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
info@kalamatagency.com
www.kalamatagency.com
+966508442901

Brazil

João Paulo Riff & Laura Riff
Agência Riff
Avenida Calógeras nº 6, sl 1007
20030-070 – Centro
Rio de Janeiro, RJ Brasil
+55 21 2287-6299
joaopaulo@agenciarriff.com.br
laura@agenciarriff.com.br
www.agenciarriff.com.br

Czech Republic & Slovak Republic

Martina Knapkova
Kristin Olson Literary Agency
Klimentská 24
110 00 Praha 1
Czech Republic
+420 222 582 042
martina.knapkova@litag.cz
http://litag.cz

France

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

Germany

Christian Dittus
Paul & Peter Fritz AG
Neptunstrasse 20
8032 Zurich
Switzerland
+41 44 388 41 48
cdittus@fritzagency.com
www.fritzagency.com

Greece

Avgi Daferera
Ersilia Literary Agency
Van Kijfhoeklaan 94
Den Haag Zuid-Holland
2597 TE, Netherlands
childrensbooks@ersilialit.com
http://ersilialit.com/cms

Hungary

Margit Gruber
DS Budapest
Budapest
Bartók Béla út 79. fsz. 2
H-1115, Hungary
+36 1 4560363
margit@dsbudapest.hu

Iran

Majid Jafari
POL Literary Agency
polliteraryagency@gmail.com
http://www.pol-ir.ir

Israel

Sharon Galant & Thomasin
Chinnery
Zeitgeist Agency
75 Rue E. Van Driessche
1050 Brussels
Belgium
+32 479 262 843
sharon@zeitgeistagency.com
thomasin@zeitgeistagency.com
https://www.zeitgeistagency.com/

Italy

Beatrice Beraldo
The Italian Literary Agency
Via De Amicis, 53
20123 Milano, Italy
+39 02 86 54 45
beatrice.beraldo@italianliterary.com
http://www.italianliterary.com

Japan

Fumika Ogihara
Tuttle-Mori Agency
Kanda Jimbocho Bldg., 4F,
2-17 Kanda Jimbocho,
Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0051
Japan
+81(0)3 3230 4083
fumika-ogihara@tuttlemori.com
http://www.tuttlemori.com

Korea

Duran Kim
Duran Kim Agency
2F Taeyang Building
263 Hyoryeong-ro, Seocho-gu
Seoul 06653, Korea
+82-2-583-5724
duran@durankim.com
http://cafe.daum.net/durankim

Mainland China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand & Vietnam

Zoe Tso
Big Apple Agency
3F, No. 838, Zhong Shan Bei Road
Zha-Bei District
Shanghai 200070
PR China
+86-0-21-6658-0055
Zoe-tso@bigapple1-china.com
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Netherlands & Scandinavia

Monique Oosterhof
Mo Literary Services
Zwaluwtong 41
1141 KN Monnickendam
The Netherlands
+31 20 632 58 10
mo@moliterary.nl
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Poland

Paulina Machnik
Graal Literary Agency
Pruszkowska 29/252
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Poland
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paulina.machnik@graal.com.pl
graalagency.com

Russia & Georgia

Anastasya Markova
Synopsis Literary Agency
Office 404
Leninsky prospect 111, bld.1
Moscow 119421
Russia
+7 (095) 781 0183/82
ay@synopsis-agency.ru

Spain & Portugal

Jennifer Brooke Hoge
International Editors' Co
Calle Còrsega 288,
1º 2ª, 08008
Barcelona, Spain
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jennifer.hoge@internationaleditors.com
<http://www.internationaleditors.com>

Turkey

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filiz@nurcihankesim.net

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Poland
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