



BLACK INC.

JULY-DECEMBER 2024
CATALOGUE

COVER ARTWORK:

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Growing Up Indian in Australia

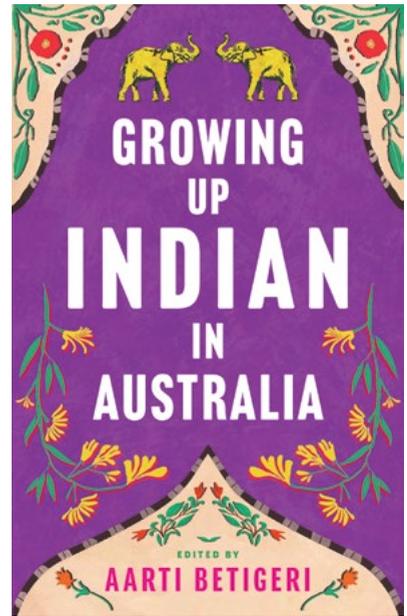
Aarti Betigeri (ed.)

Vibrant, moving and diverse stories of shape-shifting between cultures

‘To be Indian growing up in Australia is to tread the narrow line between here and there, to constantly code-switch and navigate between filling the needs and aspirations of your family, your community – and yourself.’

‘Indian-Australian’ is not a one-size-fits-all descriptor. Given the depth and richness of diversity of the Indian subcontinent, it is fitting that its diaspora is similarly varied.

Growing Up Indian in Australia reflects and celebrates this vibrant diversity. It features contributions from Australian-Indian writers, both established and emerging, who hail from a wide range of backgrounds, religions and experiences. This colourful, energetic anthology offers reflections on identity, culture, family, food and expectations, ultimately revealing deep truths about both Australian and Indian life.



Contributors include Sunil Badami, Swagata Bapat, Kavita Bedford, Elana Benjamin, Tejas Bhat, Nicholas Brown, Michelle Cahill, Tasneem Chopra, Shaheen De Souza Hughes, Hardeep Dhanoa, Rakhee Ghelani, Kavita Ivy Nandan, Rachael Jacobs, Jessica Joseph, Joseph Jude, Sukhjit Kaur Khalsa, Meenal Khare, Sneha Lees, Daizy Maan, Preeti Maharaj, Kishor Napier-Raman, Zoya Patel and Ikebal Patel, Mia Pandey Gordon, Natasha Pinto, Shamna Sanam, Priya SaratChandran, Shreya Tekumalla and Sharon Verghis.

Aarti Betigeri is a journalist, writer, broadcaster and former foreign correspondent, born in Melbourne to parents from Maharashtra and Karnataka. After an early career as a radio and television news presenter and producer with SBS and the ABC, she moved to India to fulfill a long-held dream to report on South Asia, and lived in New Delhi for almost a decade. Currently, she works as a journalist and advisor focusing on international relations. Her name is surprisingly easy to pronounce.

JULY 2024

Anthology

9781760644697

Imprint: Black Inc.

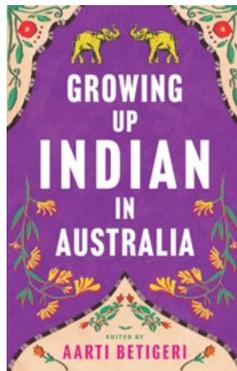
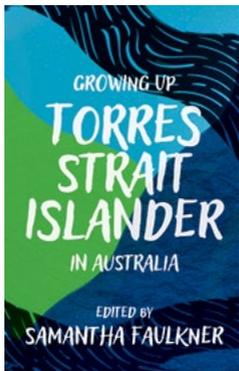
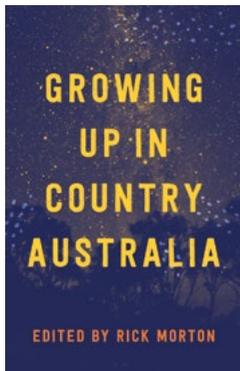
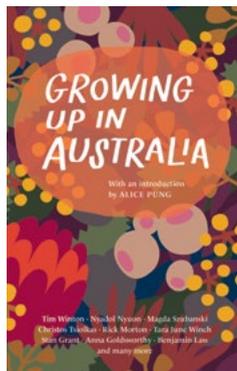
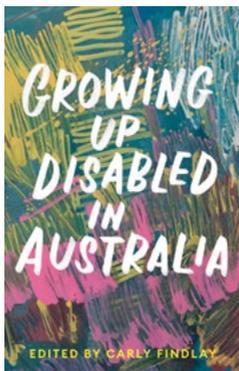
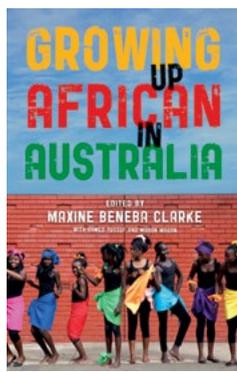
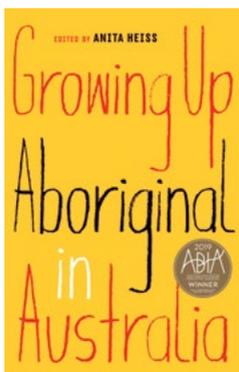
RRP: AU\$32.99,

NZ\$38.00

B+ PB (210 x 135mm)

272pp

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blackincbooks.com.au/teachers

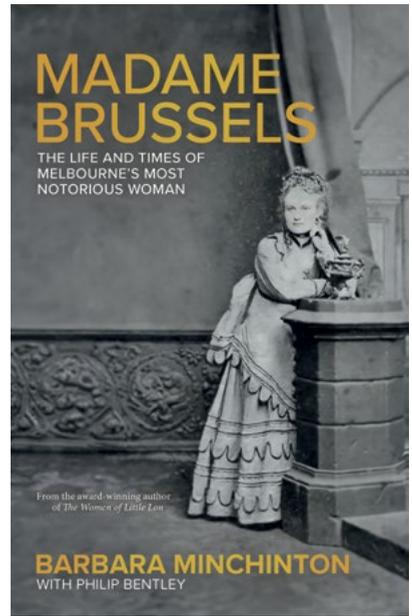
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Madame Brussels

The Life and Times of Melbourne's Most Notorious Woman

Barbara Minchinton

A must-read biography of an enigmatic personality who helped shape early Melbourne



Madame Brussels, the most legendary brothel keeper in nineteenth-century Melbourne, is still remembered and celebrated today. But until now, little has been known about Caroline Hodgson, the woman behind the alter ego.

Born in Prussia to a working-class family, Caroline arrived in Melbourne in 1871. Left alone when her police-officer husband was sent to work in remote Victoria, she turned her hand to running brothels. Before long, she had proved herself brilliantly entrepreneurial: her principal establishment was a stone's throw from Parliament House, lavishly furnished and catered to Melbourne's ruling classes.

Caroline rode Melbourne's boom in the 1880s, weathered the storm of the depression years in the 1890s and suffered in the moral panic of the 1900s. Her death in 1908 signified

the end of one kind of Melbourne and the beginning of another: in terms of prostitution, the city went from tolerance to complete prohibition in her lifetime.

Drawing on extensive research, author and historian Barbara Minchinton deftly pieces together Madame Brussels' story and guides readers on a journey through a fascinating, colourful period in Melbourne's history. This is a major biography of an Australian icon.

Barbara Minchinton is a historian and independent researcher. She is the co-editor of *The Commonwealth Block, Melbourne*, a historical archaeology of the city's working-class and immigrant communities, and author of the award-winning *The Women of Little Lon: Sex Workers in Nineteenth-Century Melbourne*.

JULY 2024

Australian history

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9781760644932

Imprint: La Trobe

University Press

RRP: AU\$36.99.

NZ\$45.00

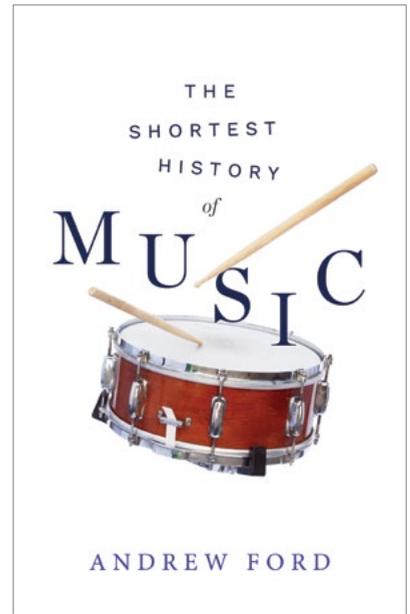
C PB (234 x 153mm)

336pp

The Shortest History of Music

Andrew Ford

From prehistory to now, the fascinating story of why music is vital to the human experience



From award-winning broadcaster and composer Andrew Ford, *The Shortest History of Music* is a lively, authoritative tour through several thousand years of music. Packed with colourful characters and surprising details, it sets out to understand what exactly music is – and why humans are irresistibly drawn to making it.

This is not a traditional chronological account. Instead, Andrew Ford focuses on key themes in the history of music and considers how they have played out across the ages. How has music interacted with other social forces, such as religion and the economy? How have technological changes shaped the kinds of music humans make? From lullabies to concert halls, songlines to streaming services, what has music meant to humans at different times and in different places?

Andrew Ford OAM is an award-winning composer, writer and broadcaster. He has been composer-in-residence for the Australian Chamber Orchestra, the Australian National Academy of Music and the Australian Festival of Chamber Music, his music played from Hong Kong to Helsinki, from Bogota to Bradford. He has written widely on all manner of music and published ten books, most recently *The Song Remains the Same* with Anni Heino. Since 1995 he has presented *The Music Show* each weekend on ABC's Radio National.

AUGUST 2024

Music/history

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9781760644086

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$27.99,

NZ\$35.00

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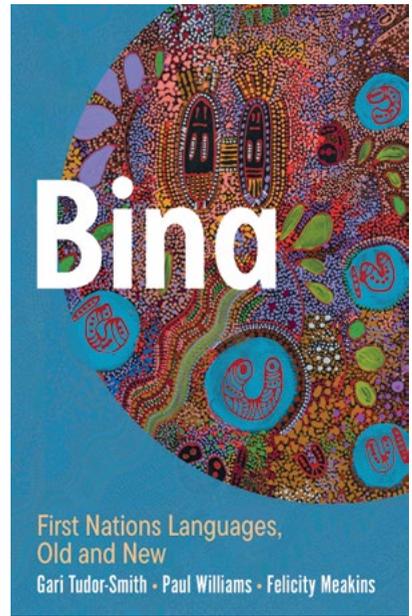
256pp

Bina

First Nations Languages, Old and New

Gari Tudor-Smith, Paul Williams
and Felicity Meakins

*The incredible story of the resilience
and recovery of Australia's First
Nations languages*



Australia's language diversity is truly breathtaking. This continent lays claim to the world's longest continuous collection of cultures, including over 440 unique languages and many more dialects. Sadly, European invasion has had severe consequences for the vitality of these languages.

Amid devastating loss, there has also been the birth of new languages such as Kriol and Yumplatok, both English-based Creoles. Aboriginal English dialects are spoken widely, and recently there has been an inspiring renaissance of First Nations languages, as communities reclaim and renew them.

Bina: First Nations Languages Old and New tells this story, from the earliest exchange of words between colonists and First Nations people to today's reclamations. It is a creative and exciting introduction to a vital and dynamic world of language.

Gari Tudor-Smith is a Barada, Yiman, Gangulu and Gureng Gureng linguist. Gari's focus is on language and cultural reclamation and empowering First Nations communities. They are currently working as a linguist at the University of Queensland, contributing to the development of a Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Language Revitalisation and working on legacy language collections.

Paul Williams is a Gamilaraay man from Tamworth, New South Wales. Since 2020, Paul has worked as a linguist at the University of Queensland, where he has contributed to a number of Indigenous language projects including dictionaries and grammars and working with archival materials.

Felicity Meakins is a professor of linguistics at the University of Queensland. She has worked for over two decades with Indigenous communities documenting their languages. This work extends beyond the traditional boundaries of linguistic research, such as dictionaries and grammars, to projects grounded in the artistic, cultural and land-based practices of these communities.

AUGUST 2024

Indigenous studies

9781760644987

Imprint: La Trobe

University Press

RRP: AU\$37.99,

NZ\$45.00

C PB (234 x 153mm)

384pp

Repeat

A Warning from History

Dennis Glover

*Are we about to see
history repeat?*

'Do you ever stop and ask, "Is it all going to happen again?"

—Siegfried Sassoon

We live in an age that seems eerily familiar. A time of dictators, populists, organised lying, European wars, grabs for territory, ideological extremism, and even antisemitism, when things are falling apart and the centre is struggling to hold. It has all happened before, in the 1920s and '30s. History is sending us a warning, and unless we heed it, history will have its revenge by making us repeat the disaster of the 1940s.

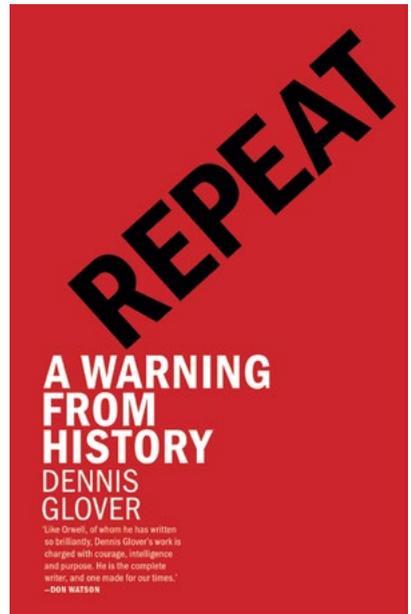
The world needs to learn the lessons of the 1920s and '30s, and fast. Dennis Glover retells the story of the inter-war years in a series of lessons drawn from unfolding events and the unheeded omens of those who spoke out but were ignored.

An urgent, surprising and altogether persuasive read, *Repeat: A Warning from History* will open your eyes.

'Like Orwell, of whom he has written so brilliantly, Dennis Glover's work is charged with courage, intelligence and purpose. He is the complete writer, and one made for our times.'

—Don Watson

Dennis Glover was educated at Monash and Cambridge universities and has made a career as one of Australia's leading speechwriters. His first novel, *The Last Man in Europe*, was published around the world and nominated for several literary prizes, including the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction. His second novel, *Factory 19*, was published in 2020, and his third, *Thaw*, in 2023. His book-length essay *An Economy Is Not A Society* was published in 2015.



AUGUST 2024

Politics & government

9781760645311

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$26.99,

NZ\$30.00

B PB (198 x 128mm)

160pp

Broken Heart

A True History of the
Voice Referendum

Shireen Morris

*The inside story of the
2023 Voice Referendum,
from Yes to No*

In late 2023, Australians voted No to recognising Indigenous peoples through a constitutional Voice. *Broken Heart* unpacks the true complex history of the referendum, illuminating how an alliance with constitutional conservatives fractured under political pressure, and a proposal conceived in compromise got killed by partisan politics.

Told from the unique insider perspective of a constitutional lawyer who worked closely with Noel Pearson for over a decade, this book analyses the mistakes of the government and Yes advocates, the fickleness and ultimate intransigence of the right, and the betrayals and lies that led to the referendum's defeat.

Broken Heart tells a story of hope and tragedy. But its lessons will assist future reformers and leaders who want to make Australia a better place.

Shireen Morris is an associate professor at Macquarie University Law School and director of its Radical Centre Reform Lab. She formerly worked at the Cape York Institute as a senior adviser on Indigenous constitutional recognition. Her books include *A Rightful Place*, *Radical Heart* and *Statements from the Soul: Making the Moral Case for the Uluru Statement from the Heart*, which she co-edited with Damien Freeman.

A TRUE HISTORY
BROKEN
OF THE VOICE
HEART
REFERENDUM
SHIREEN MORRIS

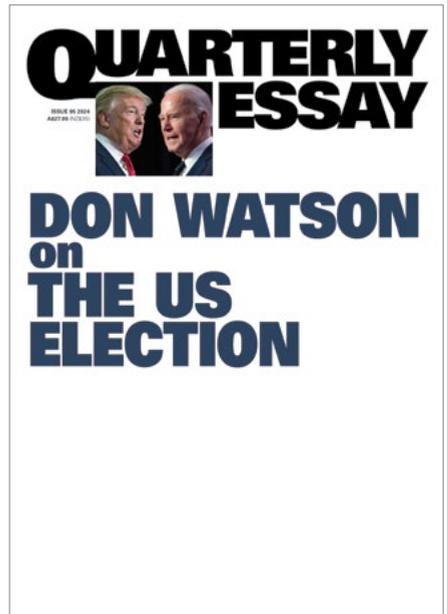
AUGUST 2024
Society & culture

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9781760645205
Imprint: La Trobe
University Press
RRP: AU\$36.99,
NZ\$45.00
C PB (234 x 153mm)
256pp

On the US Election

Don Watson

*Is the United States
disintegrating?*



Don Watson offers a report from America that catches the madness and the politics of an election like no other.

This is a deeply historically informed, characteristically mordant account of Donald Trump, Joe Biden and a divided country. Watson considers how things reached this pass, and what might lie ahead.

An essential essay about a crucial moment of choice.

Don Watson is the author of two previous Quarterly Essays and many acclaimed books, including *Caledonia Australis*, *Recollections of a Bleeding Heart*, *American Journeys*, *The Bush*, *Watsonia*, *The Story of Australia* and *The Passion of Private White*.

SEPTEMBER 2024

Politics & government

—

9781760644406
Imprint: Quarterly
Essay

RRP: AU\$27.99,

NZ\$35.00

PB (234 x 167mm)

128pp

Battlers and Billionaires

The Updated Story of Inequality in Australia

Andrew Leigh

Unpacking inequality in Australia by renowned economist and MP Andrew Leigh

Is Australia fair enough? And why does inequality matter anyway?

From egalitarian beginnings, Australian inequality rose through the nineteenth century. Then we became more equal again, with inequality falling markedly from the 1920s to the 1970s. Now, inequality is returning to the heights of the 1820s. The housing and cost-of-living crises we face are some of the defining issues of our time.

In *Battlers and Billionaires*, Andrew Leigh shows that while inequality can fuel growth, it also poses dangers to society. Too much inequality risks cleaving us into two Australias, with little contact between the haves and the have-nots. And the further apart the rungs on the ladder of opportunity, the harder it is for a kid born into poverty to enter the middle class.

Battlers and Billionaires sheds fresh light on what makes Australia distinctive, and what it means to have – and keep – a fair go.

'Fun, fascinating and fundamentally important. A must-read for anyone who cares about bridging our divides.'

—Julia Gillard

'Be warned: this book will open your eyes and prick your conscience.'

—Ross Gittins

Andrew Leigh is Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities, Treasury and Employment, and the Federal Member for Fenner in the ACT. Before being elected in 2010, he was a professor of economics at the Australian National University. His books include *The Shortest History of Economics*, *The Luck of Politics* and *Randomistas*.

'Fun, fascinating and fundamentally important. A must-read for anyone who cares about bridging our divides.' —Julia Gillard

'A thought-provoking book' —Laura Tingle

Battlers & Billionaires

THE UPDATED STORY OF INEQUALITY IN AUSTRALIA

Andrew Leigh

OCTOBER 2024

Economics

9781760645243

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$29.99,

NZ\$37.00

B PB (198 x 128mm)

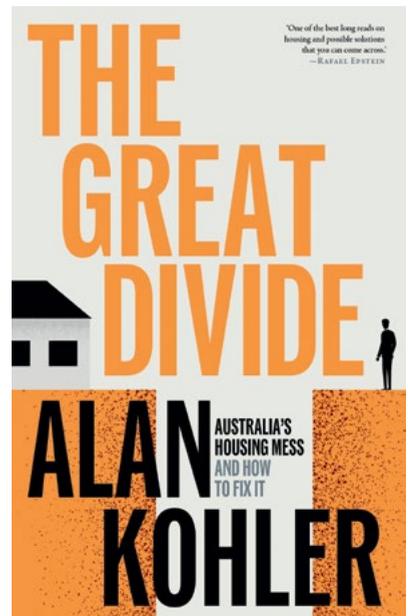
240pp

The Great Divide

Australia's Housing Mess and How to Fix It

Alan Kohler

*An updated and expanded edition
of the bestselling Quarterly Essay*



One of the great mysteries of Australian life is that a land of sweeping plains, with one of the lowest population densities on the planet, has a shortage of land for houses. As a result, Sydney is the second most expensive place to buy a house on Earth, after Hong Kong.

The escalation in house prices is a pain that has altered Australian society; it has increased inequality and profoundly changed the relationship between generations – between those who have a house and those who don't. It has caused a rental crisis, a dearth of public housing and a mortgage crunch.

Things went seriously wrong at the start of the twenty-first century, when there was a huge and permanent rise in the price of housing. In this crisp, clarifying and forward-looking book, Alan Kohler tells the story of how we got into this mess – and how we might get out of it.

This new edition adds material on homelessness, how much house prices in each city need to come down to be affordable, and lessons from overseas.

'One of the best long reads on housing and possible solutions that you can come across'

—Rafael Epstein

'A timely contribution from a master communicator'

—Cameron Murray, *Crikey*

Alan Kohler is the founder of *Eureka Report*, which has been integrated into Intelligent Investor. Alan is also the finance presenter on ABC News and a columnist for *The New Daily*. A former editor of *The Age* and *The Australian Financial Review*, he has written for *The Australian*, *AFR*, *The Age* and *The Sydney Morning Herald*. His books include *It's Your Money*.

OCTOBER 2024

Economics

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9781760645373

Imprint: Black Inc.

RRP: AU\$27.99,

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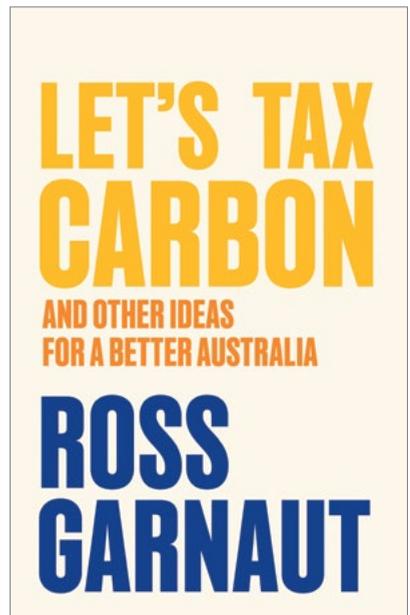
208pp

Let's Tax Carbon

And Other Ideas for a
Better Australia

Ross Garnaut

*A new path for Australia, by
eminent economist and author
of the bestselling Superpower*



Could Australia become a full-employment, renewable-energy superpower? Ross Garnaut says yes, and it starts with taxing carbon. A levy on the big polluters will help fund Australia to become a carbon-free energy giant, lower the cost of living and assist the world to cut emissions.

In this path-breaking book Ross Garnaut makes two linked arguments. He focuses on the underpinnings of successful social democracy and traces when economic policy has worked for Australia and when it hasn't. He leads off with a critique of the Albanese government – is this a case of policy half-done, or a government sailing at half-mast?

His second argument is about the low-carbon opportunity that Australia has before it. Garnaut brings to bear his unrivalled expertise on industrial development, here and internationally. He calls for a new Carbon Solutions Levy. Getting this right is a way to secure the economic base of Australia's social democracy.

A thought-provoking book by a visionary thinker.

Ross Garnaut is the professorial research fellow in economics at the University of Melbourne. In 2008, he produced the Garnaut Climate Change Review for the Australian government. He is the author of many books, including the bestselling *Dog Days*, *Superpower* and *Reset*.

NOVEMBER 2024

Climate change

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9781760645335

Imprint: La Trobe

University Press

RRP: AU\$36.99,

NZ\$45.00

C PB (234 x 153mm)

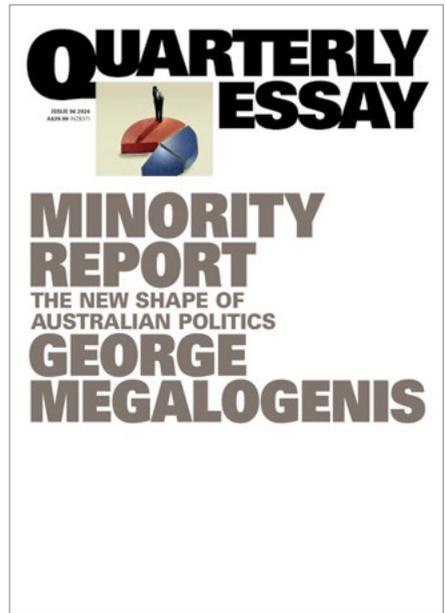
336pp

Minority Report

The new shape of
Australian politics

George Megalogenis

*What does the new political
landscape look like in Australia?*



Australian politics is shifting. The two-party system was broken at the last federal election, and another minority government is a real possibility in the future. Politics-as-usual is not enough for many voters.

In this richly insightful essay, George Megalogenis traces the how and why of a political realignment. This is an essay about the teals, the Greens and the Coalition. In a contest between new and old, progressive and conservative, which vision of Australia will win out? But it's also about Labor in power – is careful centrism the right strategy for the times, or is something more required?

In *Minority Report*, Megalogenis explores the strategies and secret understandings of a political culture under pressure.

George Megalogenis has written three previous Quarterly Essays. His book *The Australian Moment* won the 2013 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Nonfiction and the 2012 Walkley Award for Nonfiction. He is also the author of *Faultlines*, *The Longest Decade*, *Australia's Second Chance* and *The Football Solution*.

NOVEMBER 2024
Politics & government
—
9781760644413
Imprint: Quarterly
Essay
RRP: AU\$29.99,
NZ\$37.00
PB (234 x 167mm)
128 pp

Australian Gospel

A Family Saga

Lech Blaine

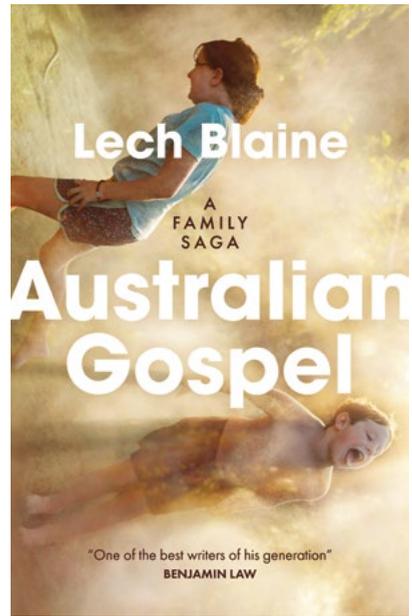
From one of Australia's most brilliant writers, a dark comedy about the tangled fates of two couples and the children trapped between them

Michael and Mary Shelley are Christian fanatics who loathe their fellow Australians – especially their ‘foul language, reckless indulgence of alcohol and obsession with idiotic ball sports’.

Lenore and Tom Blaine are working-class Queensland publicans raising a large family in a raucous, loving, rugby-league-obsessed home.

There’s just one problem. The Blaines are foster parents to three of the Shelleys’ children, who were removed from Michael and Mary as infants. And the Shelleys are prepared to do anything to get them back. Anything.

Australian Gospel is a family saga like no other – heartbreaking, hilarious and altogether astonishing.



‘One of the best writers of his generation.’
—Benjamin Law

‘Blaine’s native tongue, an ocker irreverence, gives his writing an amiable charm and reflects the styles of artists such as Tim Winton, Stella Franklin and Helen Garner.’

—*Australian Book Review*

Lech Blaine is the author of the memoir *Car Crash* and the Quarterly Essays *Top Blokes* and *Bad Cop*. His writing has appeared in *The Monthly*, *Guardian Australia*, *The Best Australian Essays*, *Griffith Review*, *Kill Your Darlings* and *Meanjin*. He was an inaugural recipient of a Griffith Review Queensland Writing Fellowship.

NOVEMBER 2024
Memoir

9781760643973
Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$36.99,
NZ\$45.00
C PB (234 x 153mm)
384 pp

Car Crash

Lech Blaine

What is it like to survive a crash that kills your best friends, and how do you move on? Car Crash is a stunning memoir about grief, perseverance and courage.



At seventeen, Lech Blaine walked away unharmed from a car crash that killed three of his friends and left two in comas.

On a May night in 2009, seven boys in Toowoomba, Queensland, piled into a car. They never arrived at their destination. The driver made a routine error, leading to a head-on collision.

In the aftermath, rumours about speed and drink driving erupted. There was intense scrutiny from media and police. Lech used alcohol to numb his grief and social media to show stoicism, while secretly spiralling towards depression and disgrace. This is a riveting account of family, friendship, grief and love after tragedy. In a country where class and sport dominate, and car crashes compete with floods and pandemics for headlines, our connection with others is what propels us on.

Heartbreaking and darkly hilarious, *Car Crash* is a story for our times.

‘Scarifying and unforgettable ... A brave and unsettling account.’

—Tim Winton

‘Car Crash is a phenomenal book. Beautiful and dark and compelling.’

—Rick Morton

Lech Blaine is the author of the memoir *Car Crash* and the Quarterly Essays *Top Blokes* and *Bad Cop*. His writing has appeared in *The Monthly*, *Guardian Australia*, *The Best Australian Essays*, *Griffith Review*, *Kill Your Darlings* and *Meanjin*. He was an inaugural recipient of a Griffith Review Queensland Writing Fellowship.

NOVEMBER 2024
Memoir

9781760645182
Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: AU\$24.99,
NZ\$30.00
B PB (198 x 128mm)
272 pp

The Shortest History of Ancient Rome

Ross King

The epic story of one of the world's most enduring civilisations and empires

'For who is so indifferent or indolent as not to wish to know by what means the Romans succeeded in subjecting nearly the whole inhabited world to their sole government – a thing unique in history?'

—Polybius, second century BCE

The Roman Empire is one of history's most remarkable civilisations. It flourished for around 500 years and encompassed over twenty-five modern-day countries – including such remote (from Rome) places as Saudi Arabia, Ukraine and England. It left an indelible mark on the world, shaping politics, laws, philosophy and architecture, and giving us Roman numerals, the calendar, aqueducts and concrete. Alongside the Greeks, the Romans laid the groundwork for Western civilisation.

From the foundation myths of a beloved city to the decline and fall of the empire, author and historian

Ross King shares the astonishing, entertaining story of Ancient Rome. He introduces the emperors and warriors, the madmen and upstarts, and the artists and gladiators responsible for its rise, its reign – and its ruin.

'King has the gift of clear, unpretentious exposition, and an instinctive narrative flair.'

—*The Guardian*

Ross King is a renowned expert in the Italian Renaissance. He is the author of numerous bestselling and acclaimed books including *The Bookseller of Florence*, *Brunelleschi's Dome*, *Machiavelli*, *Michelangelo and the Pope's Ceiling*, *Leonardo and the Last Supper* and *The Shortest History of Italy*. He lives just outside Oxford.

THE SHORTEST HISTORY OF ANCIENT ROME



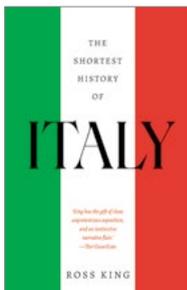
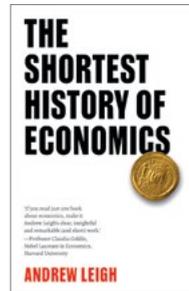
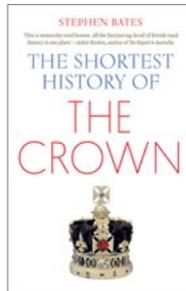
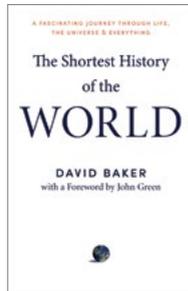
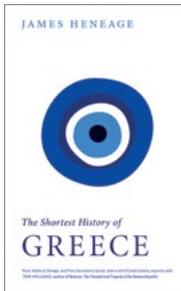
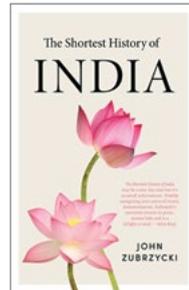
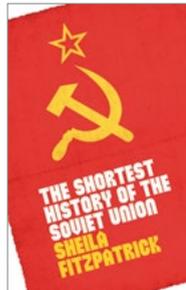
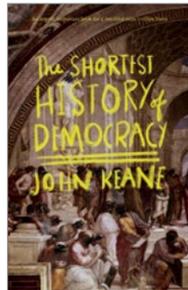
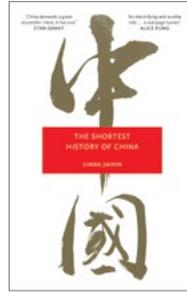
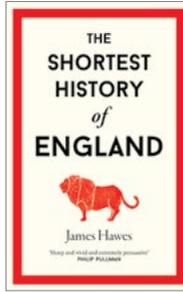
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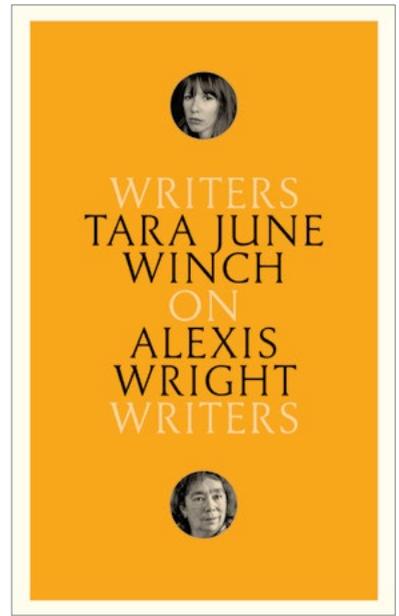
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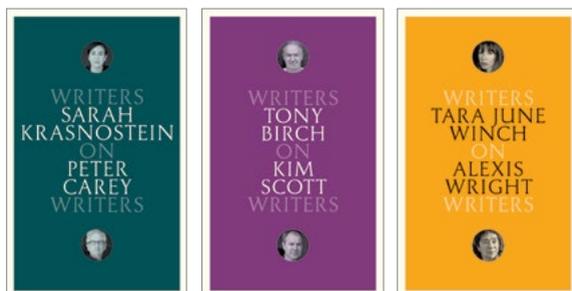
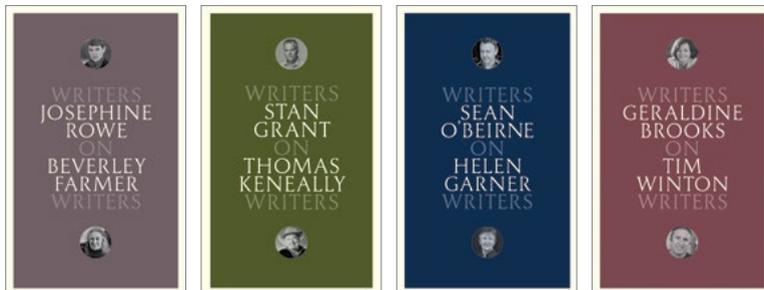


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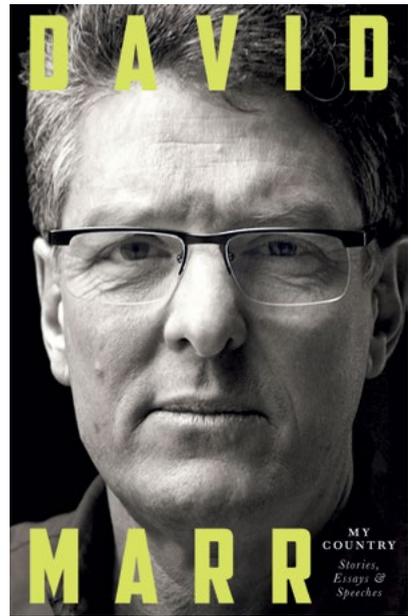
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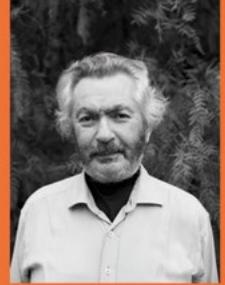
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