



SCRIBE

January-June 2025
Australia

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Russell McGregor

Enchantment by Birds

a history of birdwatching in 22 species



RUSSELL MCGREGOR has been a birdwatcher since childhood and an historian for over 40 years. Formerly a professor of history at James Cook University, he has written numerous articles on birds and birdwatching, and is also the author of six previous books, including *Indifferent Inclusion: Aboriginal people and the Australian nation* (winner of the 2012 New South Wales Premier's Australian History Prize), and *Idling in Green Places: a life of Alec Chisholm* (shortlisted for the 2020 National Biography Award).

A fresh appreciation of the magic of birds and how watching them fulfills a human need to connect with nature.

Enchantment by birds is commonplace. Birdwatchers merely go a step further than others and actively seek to be enchanted. This book tells why they take that extra step. It takes the reader on a series of excursions into birdwatching's past, venturing forward to the present. With an intriguing cast of characters, avian as well as human, its lively narratives explore the emotional and aesthetic impulses behind the pastime as well as its scientific and conservationist components.

Its stories of 22 Australian birds range widely: from wordy squabbles over bird names to the artistic finessing of field guides; from the Paradise Parrot's tragic fall into extinction to the everyday enjoyment of a Magpie's carol; from the evolution of citizen science to the boom in birding tourism. Interlacing them all is the insight that birdwatching is a means by which modern, urban people reach out to touch the wild. A primal desire to connect with nature lies at the heart of the pastime.

Enchantment by Birds not only offers a compelling exposition of what makes birders tick; it also tells us, imaginatively and informatively, why birds have a special place in our hearts.

'Birdwatching is booming at the moment. If you like birds, this book will astonish and delight you. If you don't know what the fuss is all about, this brilliant book explains why so many people from all walks of life have picked up their binoculars and are heading out the door.' Darryl Jones, urban ecologist and author of *Curlwews on Culture Street*

'Russell McGregor has delved into the archives to bring us a beautifully written account of our relationship with birds.' Sarah Pizzey, scientific editor of *The Field Guide to the Birds of Australia*

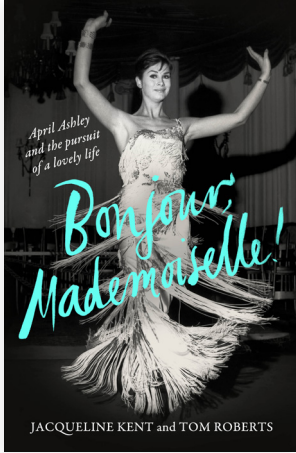
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col pic sec, 320pp
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Rights held: World

Jacqueline Kent & Tom Roberts

Bonjour, Mademoiselle!

April Ashley and the pursuit of a lovely life



JACQUELINE KENT is the author of five acclaimed biographies. *A Certain Style*, her biography of pioneering editor Beatrice Davis, won the National Biography Award, Australia's premier prize for life writing. She is also an award-winning book editor and reviewer.

TOM ROBERTS is an author and historian. He holds master's degrees from the universities of Westminster and Cambridge and a PhD in modern history from Macquarie University. His books include *Before Rupert*, winner of the 2017 National Biography Award, and *How Trump Thinks*, co-written with Peter Osborne.

The glittering story of April Ashley, model and trans pioneer, and the divorce case that gripped 1960s Britain and defined transgender rights for a generation.

As Britain emerged from postwar austerity in the 1960s, no one embodied its newfound spirit of hedonism and glamour like April Ashley. A fashion model and socialite who rose from poverty in Liverpool to the heights of London society via Le Carrousel nightclub in Paris, she was also one of the first Britons to undergo gender-affirming surgery.

Ashley was appointed MBE for services to transgender equality in 2012, but her journey towards acceptance was hard-won and bitterly contested. In 1961, a friend sold her story to a tabloid and she was told that she would never work in the UK again. Her brief marriage to Arthur Corbett, the son of a baron, set off a high-profile divorce battle, resulting in a landmark 1970 decision denying transgender women legal status as women — and denying Ashley her husband's inheritance.

Drawing on a wide variety of sources, award-winning biographers Jacqueline Kent and Tom Roberts tell the full story of April Ashley's extraordinary life at the vanguard of the sexual revolution and the movement for trans equality.

Praise for *A Certain Style: Beatrice Davis, a literary life*:

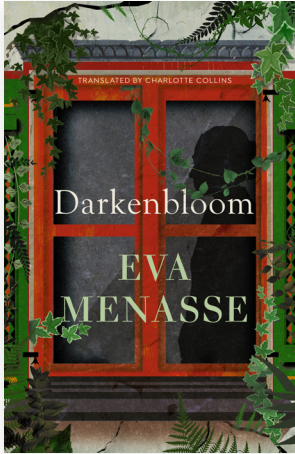
'A sharp-eyed and warm-hearted biography ... the pleasure of Davis' company is further enlivened by Kent's own quietly witty take on her material.' *Kerryn Goldsworthy, The Age*

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Eva Menasse

Translated by
Charlotte Collins



EVA MENASSE began her career as a journalist, and has published several bestselling novels and short story collections, as well as essay collections. Her accolades include the Heinrich Böll prize, the Friedrich Hölderlin prize, the Jonathan Swift prize, the Austrian Book Prize, the Ludwig Börne prize, and a fellowship at the Villa Massimo in Rome.

CHARLOTTE COLLINS's co-translation, with Ruth Martin, of Nino Haratischvili's *The Eighth Life* won the Warwick Prize for Women in Translation, and in 2017 she was awarded the Goethe-Institut's Helen and Kurt Wolff Translator's Prize for Robert Seethaler's *A Whole Life*.

Darkenbloom

A panoramic novel of European history, by an internationally bestselling writer.

The whole truth, as the name implies, is the collective knowledge of all those involved. Which is why you can never really piece it together again afterwards. Because some of those who possessed a part of it will already be dead. Or they're lying, or their memories are bad.

It's 1989, and in a small town on the Austria-Hungary border, nobody talks about the war; the older residents pretend not to remember, and the younger ones are too busy making plans to leave. The walls are thin, the curtains twitch, there is a face at every window, and everyone knows what they are not supposed to say.

But as thousands of East German refugees mass at the border, it seems that the past is knocking on *Darkenbloom's* door.

Still, though, nobody talks about the war.

Until a mysterious visitor shows up asking questions.

Until townspeople start receiving threatening letters and even disappearing.

Until a body is found.

Darkenbloom is a sweeping novel of exiled counts, Nazis-turned-Soviet-enforcers, secret marriages, mislabelled graves, remembrance, guilt, and the devastating power of silence, by one of Austria's most significant contemporary writers.

'A masterpiece ... *Darkenbloom* is both a gripping linguistic thrill and a thriller — a thriller about coming to terms with the past. Until the very end, you want to know who knew what, and what they covered up or hushed up ... Eva Menasse's novel is a stroke of genius.' *DIE ZEIT*

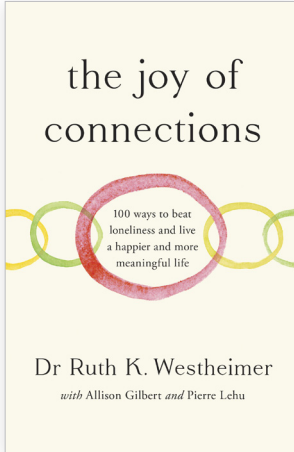
'*Darkenbloom* stirs up, saddens, pulls you along — especially through its characters and is undoubtedly one of the most important books of this fall. Great.' *NDR*

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Dr Ruth K. Westheimer

With Allison Gilbert & Pierre Lehu



DR RUTH K. WESTHEIMER broke stigmas for more than 40 years, beginning in the 1980s with her nationally syndicated US radio show *Sexually Speaking*. She authored or co-authored 46 books on many topics, and was named New York's Ambassador to Loneliness, the first such position in the United States. A beloved therapist known to millions as 'Dr Ruth', she died in July 2024.

ALLISON GILBERT is an Emmy Award-winning journalist and the author or co-author of numerous books.

PIERRE LEHU has collaborated with Dr Ruth for more than four decades.

The Joy of Connections

100 ways to beat loneliness and live a happier and more meaningful life

An urgent guide to combatting the loneliness epidemic, with 100 ways to increase connectivity right now, from the iconic therapist and Holocaust survivor appointed as New York's first-ever loneliness ambassador.

US surgeon general Dr Vivek Murthy recently sounded the alarm that loneliness 'represents an urgent public health concern' — social media overuse, the effects of the pandemic, and the lack of 'third places' have all combined to make us more alone than we've ever been. Now, trusted therapist Dr Ruth K. Westheimer has made it her mission to shine a light on the problem and help us break out of the box of isolation.

We are social animals. We are not meant to live in solitude. We have a shared desire to connect and create lasting bonds with the people around us. But the heaviness of loneliness can make this feel impossible. In tackling this problem with compassion and her trademark no-nonsense approach to therapy, Dr Ruth provides practical, sincere strategies for finding companionship, community, and intimacy.

With her tips on navigating family, finding friends and lovers, and using technology in healthy ways, you will find wisdom and help here, whether you've been struggling with loneliness for years or only recently. *The Joy of Connections* isn't just a guidebook for overcoming loneliness: it's a vital kick in the pants we all need to start seeking — and finding — deep and lasting human connections.

'Dr Ruth's strategies are essential for building the kinds of bonds that will reduce loneliness and transform lives.'

Gretchen Rubin, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Happiness Project*

'Who better to take on the loneliness epidemic than the legend who helped us talk about sex without blushing. As Dr Ruth knows, our needs go well beyond the bedroom. This is urgent work. We're lucky to have her in the fight.' **Dan Harris**

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Morgan Talty

Fire Exit



MORGAN TALTY is a citizen of the Penobscot Indian Nation. His debut short story collection, *Night of the Living Rez*, won the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize, the American Academy of Arts and Letters Sue Kaufman Prize, the National Book Critics Circle John Leonard Prize, the New England Book Award, and the National Book Foundation's 5 Under 35 Honor. His writing has appeared widely, including in *The Georgia Review*, *Granta*, and *Lit Hub*. Talty is an assistant professor of English in Creative Writing and Native American and Contemporary Literature at the University of Maine, Orono. He lives in Levant, Maine.

From the award-winning author of *Night of the Living Rez*, Morgan Talty's debut novel, *Fire Exit*, is a masterful and unforgettable story of family, legacy, bloodlines, culture, and inheritance, and what, if anything, we owe one another.

From the porch of his home, Charles Lamosway has watched the life he might have had unfold across the river on Maine's Penobscot Reservation. He caught brief moments of his neighbour Elizabeth's life — from the day she came home from the hospital to her early twenties. But there's something deeper and more dangerous than the river that divides him from her and the rest of the tribal community. It's the secret that Elizabeth is his daughter, a secret Charles is no longer willing to keep.

Now, it's been weeks since he's seen Elizabeth, and Charles is worried. As he attempts to hold on to and care for what he can — his home and property; his alcoholic and bighearted friend Bobby; and his mother, Louise, who is slipping deeper into dementia — he becomes increasingly haunted by his past. Forced to confront a lost childhood on the reservation, a love affair cut short, and the death of his beloved stepfather, Fredrick, Charles contends with questions he's long been afraid to ask. Is his secret about Elizabeth his to share? And would his daughter want to know the truth, even if it could cost her everything she's ever known?

'With its scrupulous reflection of wounded, dogged humanity, *Fire Exit* reminds us of why we still look to fiction for something beyond diversion and entertainment. This is soul food. For all its thwarted hopes, ceaseless yearning, and mortal mess, here is an act of imaginative solidarity to admire and be grateful for. I loved this book.' **Tim Winton**

'Remarkable.' **NPR**

'Spellbinding.' **TIME, A Best Book of Summer**

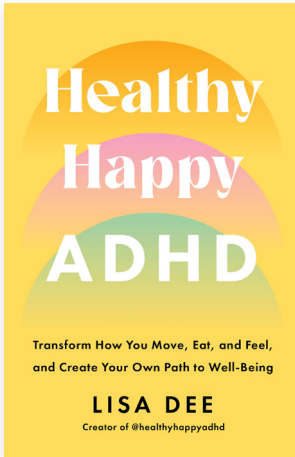
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Lisa Dee

Healthy Happy ADHD

transform how you move, eat, and feel,
and create your own path to well-being



A health coach with ADHD offers the ultimate wellness guide for neurodivergent women, full of easy-to-implement and adaptable advice to help you thrive.

ADHD makes it hard to maintain a healthy lifestyle, but an unhealthy lifestyle can make ADHD more difficult to live with. Health and fitness coach Lisa Dee experienced this firsthand when symptoms of her undiagnosed ADHD began wreaking havoc on her physical and mental health.

After finally receiving an ADHD diagnosis at the age of 31, Lisa realised she needed to consider the unique ways her brain and body operated if she wanted to feel her best. In *Healthy Happy ADHD*, she shares the mindset shifts, systems, and habits that transformed her life. She shows you how to revamp your routines, build new habits, and bring ease to your busy brain by learning to:

LISA DEE is an Irish health and fitness coach based in London with more than a decade's worth of experience. She has guided thousands of women through body and mindset transformations on the gym floor and through online programs. After being diagnosed with ADHD as an adult, Lisa created Healthy Happy ADHD Girls, an online platform to help women with ADHD to build healthy habits and improve their self-image.

- Ditch the restrictive rules, shame-based ideas, and neurotypical expectations about what exercise, healthy eating, and rest 'should' look like.
- Eat well with 'ADHD Easy Meals', get curious about how food affects your energy and mood, and avoid the decision paralysis that comes with meal planning and grocery shopping.
- Prepare for the impacts of hormonal fluctuations on your ADHD symptoms, and recognise the link between ADHD, PMS, and PMDD.
- Reconnect with yourself and practise self-compassion through introspective exercises that encourage self-reflection and mindfulness.

Featuring creative wellness hacks and empowering practices, *Healthy Happy ADHD* offers a life-changing blueprint for becoming your most vibrant self, both inside and out.

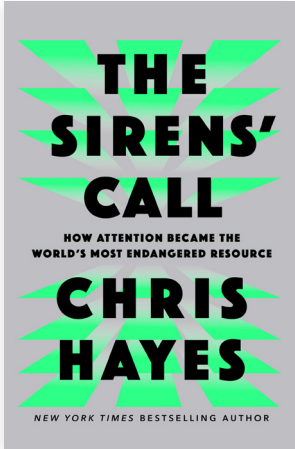
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Chris Hayes

The Sirens' Call

inner life in the age of attention capitalism



CHRIS HAYES is an award-winning author, journalist, and broadcaster. He's been the host of *All In with Chris Hayes* on MSNBC since 2013 and the podcast *Why Is This Happening?* since 2018. He's the author of three books: *Twilight of the Elites*, *A Colony in a Nation*, and *The Sirens' Call*. He lives in Brooklyn with his wife, Kate Shaw, and their three children.

From the *New York Times* bestselling author and television and podcast host, a powerful, wide-angle reckoning with how the assault from attention capitalism on our minds and our hearts has reordered our politics and the very fabric of our society.

We all feel it — the distraction, the loss of focus, the addictive focus on the wrong things for too long. We bump into the zombies on their phones in the street, and sometimes they're us. We stare in pity at the four people at the table in the restaurant, all on their phones, and then we feel the buzz in our pocket. Something has changed utterly: for most of human history, the boundary between public and private has been clear, at least in theory. Now, as Chris Hayes writes, 'With the help of a few tech firms, we basically tore it down in about a decade.' Hayes argues that we are in the midst of an epoch-defining transition: attention has become a commodified resource extracted from us, and from which we are increasingly alienated.

Because there is a breaking point. Sirens are designed to compel us, and now they are going off in our bedrooms and kitchens at all hours of the day and night, doing the bidding of vast empires, the most valuable companies in history, built on harvesting human attention. *The Sirens' Call* is the big book we all need to wrest back control of our lives, our politics, and our future.

Praise for *Twilight of the Elites*:

'Chris Hayes is a brilliant chronicler of the central crisis of our time — the failure of America's elites. His humane, spirited reporting and analysis capture what millions of Americans already know in their gut — the emperor has no clothes.'

Katrina vanden Heuvel, editor and publisher, *The Nation*

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Madeleine Ryan

The Knowing



MADELEINE RYAN is an Australian writer, director, and author. Her articles and essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *SBS*, *Vogue*, *The Daily Telegraph*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, and *Vice*. She is currently working on the screen adaptation of her first novel, *A Room Called Earth*. Madeleine lives in rural Victoria.

From the author of *A Room Called Earth*, a brilliant new novel about the mess that comes before salvation.

Camille lives in the country.

She's forgotten her phone.

She's taking the train to work.

She's got period pain.

She can't escape herself ... or her toxic boss, Holly. And it's Valentine's Day.

The Knowing is a day in the life of a woman who goes to work as usual while dreaming of more.

Praise for *A Room Called Earth*:

'As an autistic woman, I rarely see myself in novels, let alone ones that are by us and for us. *A Room Called Earth* spoke to me on every page.' **Naoise Dolan**, author of *Exciting Times*

'*A Room Called Earth* is visceral and voluptuous ... The book is a quiet celebration of holding dear to the space within yourself and if you look beyond your skin, how earth itself can bring comfort and wonder.' **Thuy On**, *The Sydney Morning Herald*

'Instead of keeping us at arm's length, Ryan's narrator allows us to loiter in her brain the entire time, with no feelings or thoughts off-limits. What unfolds is an act of radical generosity. It's less unfiltered stream of consciousness and more a continuous hum of deeply flawed, compassionate, curious, unpredictable thoughts that reveal a neurodivergent worldview.' **Nathania Gilson**, *The Saturday Paper*

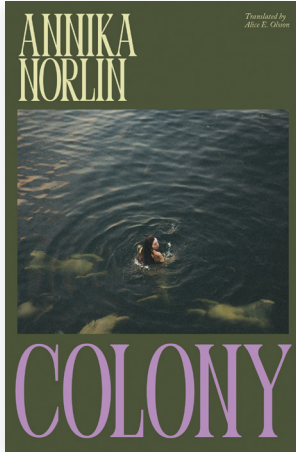
'Extraordinary ... The smart, magical voice Madeleine Ryan has found in *A Room Called Earth* is unlike anything else you'll find this year.' **Helen Brown**, *The Independent*

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Annika Norlin

Translated by
Alice E. Olsson



Born in the northern parts of Sweden, ANNIKA NORLIN is a writer and musician. She has won numerous awards for her lyrically driven indie pop in her own name, and in projects Hello Saferide and Säkert! *Colony* is her debut novel. It has won several awards in Sweden and will be published in fifteen languages.

ALICE E. OLSSON is a literary translator, writer, and editor working across Swedish and English. She has been shortlisted for the 2020 Peirene Stevns Translation Prize and the 2023 Bernard Shaw Prize.

Colony

***Ants live in communities, where everyone helps out.
Everyone has a task for the community ...
Everyone is needed.
No one has to know everything.***

One morning, Emelie can't get out of bed. Her therapist calls it burnout. Her neighbour calls it the *tiny work death*. She needs to get away from the brightness of the city lights, the noise of the people, the constant demands, so she goes to the woods, pitches her tent overlooking the lake, breathes. And that's where she sees them, the Colony:

A man with a sad face.

A tall, strong, older woman.

A woman in her forties, squatting to examine an ant hill.

Another woman in her forties, short, long hair, ample bosom, good posture — the leader?

An extremely beautiful man.

A slightly younger man, in a Helly Hansen jacket and trucker hat.

And a teenage boy, standing a little way from the group.

Who are they? What do they mean to each other? And why do they behave in such strange ways: thanking the fish they eat, sleeping under a tree, singing off key, dancing without music, never letting the boy fully in?

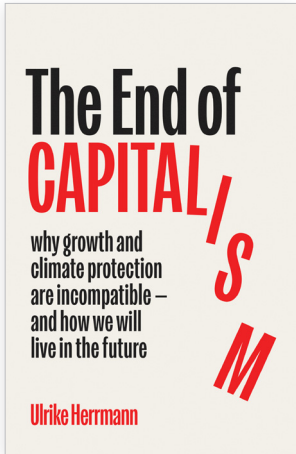
As Emelie becomes more and more drawn to the Colony, she begins to re-evaluate her own lifestyle. Wouldn't it be nice to live as these seven do? Apart from society and its expectations. But groups always have their dynamics and roles. Which are you? And what if you want to change?

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Ulrike Herrmann

Translated by
David Shaw



ULRIKE HERRMANN was born in Hamburg in 1964, trained as a bank clerk, studied philosophy and history, and graduated from the Henri Nannen School. Since 2000 she has been an economics correspondent for *taz*, writing about social and economic policy issues. She appears regularly on German TV and radio, is a board member for cultural and climate institutions, and often gives talks on economic topics at foundations, institutes, and universities. She has previously published four books, which all became bestsellers in Germany.

DAVID SHAW works as a journalist for Germany's international broadcaster, Deutsche Welle, as well as translating from several languages, including German, Dutch, Russian, and French. He lives in Berlin.

The End of Capitalism

why growth and climate protection are incompatible – and how we will live in the future

How do we manage to transition to a more sustainable world without the collapse of the economy?

Capitalism has brought about many positive things. At the same time, however, it is ruining the climate and the environment, so that humanity's very existence is now at risk. 'Green growth' is supposed to be the saviour, but economics expert and bestselling author Ulrike Herrmann disagrees. In this book, she explains in a clear and razor-sharp manner why we need 'green shrinkage' instead.

Greenhouse gases are increasing dramatically and unchecked. This failure is no coincidence, because the climate crisis goes to the heart of capitalism. Prosperity and growth are only possible if technology is used and energy is utilised. Unfortunately, however, green energy from the sun and wind will never be enough to fuel global growth. The industrialised countries must therefore bid farewell to capitalism and strive for a circular economy in which only what can be recycled is consumed.

Herrmann makes a convincing argument that we won't get anywhere without personal restrictions and government planning. Her example for a solution is the British war economy of the 1940s. This is not a utopian scenario, but a comprehensive example of the restrictions and government-led plans needed now and in the future.

'Ulrike Herrmann writes straightforwardly and with a great deal of expertise. This makes it clear once again how great a challenge climate change poses for us.' **Claas Christophersen**, *NDR Kultur*

'Herrmann's book is worth reading and sets a counterpoint to all those who may overestimate the technological possibilities of climate protection.' **Katja Scherer**, *Deutschlandfunk*

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Luke Horton

Time Together



LUKE HORTON's writing has appeared in various publications, including *The Guardian*, *The Saturday Paper*, and *The Australian*, and was shortlisted for the Viva La Novella prize. The former editor of *The Lifted Brow Review of Books*, he currently teaches creative writing at RMIT, and is a member of acclaimed indie-rock band Love of Diagrams. His debut novel, *The Fogging*, was highly commended for the Victorian Premier's Award for an Unpublished Manuscript in 2019.

Once they were just them. Now they're forty-something and there's kids. Whose time is this?

Phil is trying to feel closer to his recently passed mother by spending time alone at his parent's house on the coast. But he is lonely, and stupidly he's invited a bunch of old friends to visit. It's bound to be a mistake. All those children! But it's too late now, and tomorrow Bella and Tim will arrive with their two kids, one on the brink of puberty, and the next day Jo and Lucas will come too, with their little one. Then there's Annie, who will be by herself.

The story of a beach holiday told by four different people, *Time Together* is a novel about different kinds of love, different kinds of loneliness, and the way spending time together can bring out the best and worst in each other.

Praise for *The Fogging*:

'Claustrophobic and vertiginous ... an unshrinking and skilfully drawn portrait of a decaying relationship. In restrained prose, Horton illuminates the darker edges of masculinity. His is a frequency finely tuned to silences, gaps of language and meaning, things left unsaid — and their cumulative weight. Like a brewing storm on an oppressive summer day, *The Fogging* is quiet but assured, building towards the thunderclap of its final pages.' **Jennifer Down**, author of *Our Magic Hour*

'*The Fogging* is disquieting, compelling, and scrupulously observed, exploring themes of mental illness, interconnectedness, and selfhood. Horton observes his characters with a clear and compassionate eye, rendering his protagonist's utter humanity and chronic isolation with stark tenderness and an honesty that moves.' **Laura McPhee-Browne**, author of *Cherry Beach*

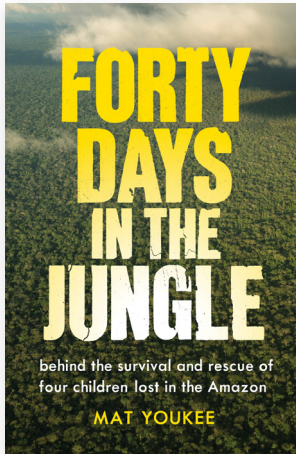
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Rights held: World

Mat Youkee

Forty Days in the Jungle

behind the survival and rescue of four children lost in the Amazon



An extraordinary, gripping survival story that also reveals the struggles for social justice of the Indigenous people of Colombia and the Amazon.

In June 2023, four children — Lesly, Soleiny, Tien, and Crispin — were found alive in the Colombian Amazon, 40 days after the aircraft they were travelling in had crashed and killed the three adults on board (the pilot, the co-pilot, and the children’s mother). The eldest child, 13-year-old Lesly, took the decision to leave her dying mother, gather her siblings — aged nine, five, and 11 months — and head into the jungle. She kept herself and her siblings alive for 40 days and nights, finally emerging when heavily armed soldiers closed in, yelling her name above the sound of barking dogs.

Forty Days in the Jungle follows the compelling characters involved in the crash and what followed: Maria Fatima Valencia, the children’s grandmother, who had taught Lesly how to survive in the jungle; General Pedro Sánchez who led the rescue team; the shady figure of Manuel Ranoque, the father of the two youngest children; and even the Colombian president, Gustavo Petro.

But there is much more to this than an extraordinary survival story. Interwoven chapters address key questions about Colombian and Latin American history, society, and political economy — the answers to which shed light on the socio-political state of much of the world today. Colombia’s problems mirror, in many ways, the rising Global South in its twenty-first-century struggles against colonial histories and a globalised world.

MAT YOUKEE has lived in Colombia since 2010, working as a freelance journalist and professional investigator. He has covered Indigenous-rights issues in Colombia, Panama, Chile, and Argentina for *The Guardian*. His reporting has also appeared in *The Economist*, *The Telegraph*, *The Financial Times*, *Americas Quarterly*, *Foreign Policy*, and other local and international publications.

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Rachel Ang

I Ate the Whole World to Find You



RACHEL ANG is an artist and writer working on the unceded lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation (Melbourne, Australia). Their work has been published by *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, and *ku?!* Rachel's first book *Swimsuit* was published by Glom Press in 2018, and they were a contributor to the Eisner Award-winning anthology *Drawing Power: women's stories of sexual violence, harassment, and survival* in 2019. Rachel still lives in their hometown, where they draw comics and work in Architecture.

An entire sea of water can't sink a ship ... unless it gets inside

I Ate the Whole World to Find You maps the topography of trauma, treasures, and loss imposed onto the body of Jenny, a twenty-something-going-on-thirty-something partial hot mess who's routing her way more firmly into adulthood. As she navigates friendship, family, and romantic relationships, will her inability to communicate destroy her, or ultimately be her rebirth?

A coworker-turned-prospective-lover confesses a hard-to-swallow fetish. A train ride fantastically goes off the rails as old habits get dragged across the tracks. Cousins revisit summer holiday bliss — or was it really horror? Exes fumble an attempt to reconnect over a dip in the pool on a squelching summer day. And an expectant mother slips into an unusual place as she embarks on a communion with her baby more pure than language can accommodate.

Set against an exquisitely lush Australian backdrop, Rachel Ang's pencils are fluid yet scratchy, precise and evocative, bringing to life the inner and external world of Jenny with stunning realism and gushing imagination. Sprinkled with speculative fiction and fantasy, Ang's radiant debut collection introduces a dynamic voice to comics, and establishes Ang as one of the most exciting short-story writers working in comics today.

'I devoured this book in one voracious go. It was explosive, blunt, biting, beautiful, and at times awful in the way those we most love can be. The characters are hard on themselves and soft on others, or tender on the inside and hard outside. Ang's bold and brave illustrations are so expressive, her bodies so corporeal, her faces so full of inner feeling. And she's so funny! I've never read a graphic novel quite like this one.'

Alice Pung, author of *One Hundred Days*

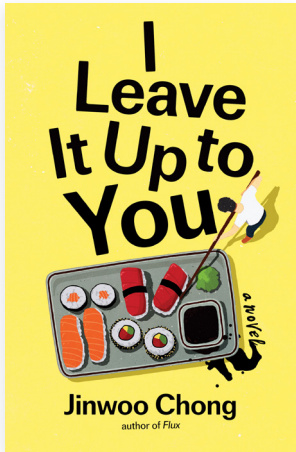
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Jinwoo Chong

I Leave It Up to You



A hilarious, heartwarming rom-com that proves that sometimes home is exactly where you belong.

Jack Jr woke up from a two-year coma with a sore neck, a brand new ex-fiancé, and the distinct feeling he'd missed something big. Like, global pandemic big. Reluctantly returning to New Jersey, and a kitchen job at the sushi restaurant his family runs, he finds himself suddenly dependent on his dysfunctional and very estranged Asian American family: headstrong fishmonger father, Jack Sr; his recovering alcoholic brother, James; and his rebellious teenage nephew, Juno. And then there's Emil Cuddy, Jack Jr's former nurse, who may offer a glimmer of hope, but who's struggling with complicated feelings of his own ...

Can Jack Jr navigate the family chaos, rebuild his life, and maybe even find love (or at least a decent date) in a world that's moved on without him?

JINWOO CHONG is the author of the novel *Flux*, a *New York Times* Editor's Choice that was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Novel and longlisted for the VCU Cabell First Novelist Award, and named a best book of 2023 by *Esquire*, *Apple Books*, *HuffPost*, *GQ*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *Goodreads*. His short stories and other work have appeared widely in print and online. His second novel, *I Leave It Up to You*, is forthcoming in 2025.

'Exuberant and emotional, hilarious and full of heart, Jinwoo Chong's *I Leave It Up to You* is alive and boisterous and entirely profound. Chong's prose is ambitious and emotional, rendering questions of love, family, queerness, and connection with empathy and delight. *I Leave It Up to You* is wise and surprising, irresistible and insightful, a riot and a tender exploration of (re)discovering your place in the world.' **Bryan Washington**, author of *Family Meal* and *Memorial*

'Tender, compassionate, and beautifully told, *I Leave It Up to You* is both a remarkable portrait of an American family and a moving examination of what it takes to remake a life.' **Grace D. Li**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Portrait of a Thief*

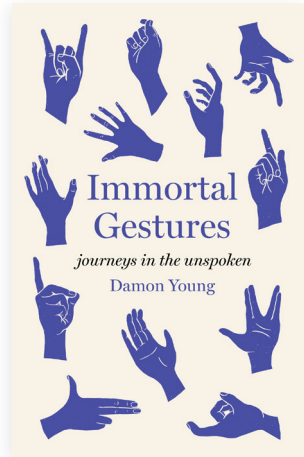
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Damon Young

Immortal Gestures

journeys in the unspoken



DAMON YOUNG is a prize-winning philosopher and writer. He is the author or editor of thirteen books, including *The Art of Reading*, *How to Think About Exercise*, *Philosophy in the Garden*, and *Distraction*. His works have been translated into eleven languages, and he has also written poetry, short fiction, and children's fiction. Young is an Associate in Philosophy at the University of Melbourne.

There is an old Buddhist adage: the teachings are like a finger pointing to the moon. To achieve enlightenment, you are not supposed to look at the finger. You are supposed to look to the celestial light.

I am asking you to look at the finger. The finger is also the moon.

A tilted head. A finger to the lips. A wave that could mean emphasis or dismissal. A raised palm of piety and fellowship.

Our gestures do not simply point to our thoughts, they *are* our thoughts made flesh. They can be instinctive, intuitive, or calculated — or all three. They exist in the briefest moment and through history, in a gently turned wrist and across whole nations.

Our gestures drag stories with them, whether they mean to or not. They are invitations to think about how our worlds are larger than they seem — how we are much larger than we seem.

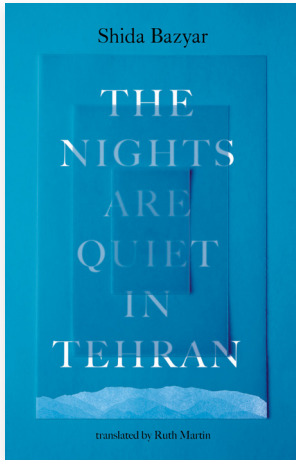
Join award-winning philosopher Damon Young — author of *The Art of Reading* and *Philosophy in the Garden* — as he sheds light on thirteen curious gestures. Drawing equally from classical poetry and science fiction, heavy metal and ballet, Young illuminates our varied humanity from prehistory to today.

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Shida Bazyar

Translated by
Ruth Martin



SHIDA BAZYAR, born in 1988, studied writing in Hildesheim, and, in addition to writing, worked in youth education for many years. She is the author of *The Nights Are Quiet in Tehran* — which has won the Blogger Literary Award, Ulla Hahn Prize, and Uwe Johnson Prize, among others, and has been translated into Dutch, Farsi, French, and Turkish — and *Sisters in Arms*.

RUTH MARTIN has been translating fiction and nonfiction books since 2010, by authors ranging from Joseph Roth to Hannah Arendt. She is a former co-chair of the Society of Authors Translators Association.

The Nights Are Quiet in Tehran

A captivating, polyphonic novel of one family's flight from and return to Iran.

1979. Behsad, a young communist revolutionary, fights with his friends for a new order after the Shah's expulsion. He tells of sparking hope, of clandestine political actions, and of how he finds the love of his life in the courageous, intelligent Nahid.

1989. Nahid lives her new life in West Germany with Behsad. With their young children, they spend hour after hour in front of the radio, hoping for news from others who went into hiding after the mullahs came to power.

1999. Laleh returns to Iran with her mother, Nahid. Between beauty rituals and family secrets, she gets to know a Tehran that hardly matches her childhood memories.

2009. Laleh's brother Mo is more concerned with a friend's heartbreak than with student demonstrations in Germany. But then the Green Revolution breaks out in Iran and turns the world upside down ...

A topical, moving novel about revolution, oppression, resistance, and the absolute desire for freedom.

'We always think we know something about people, but then Shida Bazyar brilliantly shows us how much we still have to learn.' **Olga Grjasnowa, author of *City of Jasmine***

'So lively, so touching, and more relevant than ever. Read it!' ***Cosmopolitan***

'With a clear, sharp eye and plenty of space and feeling for contradictions, Bazyar draws a family portrait of people who have started a new life in a foreign country and are trying to keep something of the old.' ***Books Magazine***

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Yun Ko-eun

Translated by
Lizzie Buehler



YUN KO-EUN was born in Seoul in 1980. In 2004, her short story 'Piercing' won the Daesan Literary Award for College Students. She received the Hankyorek Literature Award in 2008 for her novel *The Zero G Syndrome*, and the Yi Hyo-seok Literary Award in 2011 for her short story 'The Sea Horse Flies'. Her novel *The Disaster Tourist* was published by Serpent's Tail in 2020.

LIZZIE BUEHLER is the translator of *The Disaster Tourist* by Yun Ko-eun and *Korean Teachers* by Seo Su-jin. She holds an MFA in literary translation from the University of Iowa and has studied comparative literature at Princeton and Harvard.

Art on Fire

A darkly humorous and compelling satire of the art world from the author of *The Disaster Tourist*.

An Yiji's career had been stalling for some time when a representative of the illustrious Robert Foundation offers her a spot on their all-expenses-paid artist residency in California. The residency has launched many famous artists' careers, so she knows she can't waste this opportunity. Still, she feels reluctant to accept, and with good reason: the Foundation's patron is a small dog named Robert, known for both his talent as a photographer, but also his arrogance. Moreover, the offer comes with a condition: on the last day of the residency, one of An's paintings must be incinerated, and Robert gets to select which one.

When An reaches California, she finds the state ablaze with wildfires, but at the Foundation all is calm. She navigates awkward dinners with Robert, tries to find inspiration while being bombarded with sponsors who all want their business to be the subject of her art, and despairs at the prospect of her work being set on fire. Was coming to California a huge mistake?

Praise for *The Disaster Tourist*:

'The forces pitched against Yona reveal their true scale and monstrosity in a frothy-seeming satire that, in the end, shreds the very idea of commerce to bleeding tatters. I'd say this was a perfect short novel for reading on the beach, but given what's in store ...' **Simon Ings, *The Times***

'Throughout *The Disaster Tourist*, there is a sense of impending catastrophe, of something huge and uncontrollable swallowing up those who spend their lives packaging, controlling, and creating these macabre tours ... Phenomenal.' ***The Spectator***

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210 x 135mm paperback, 256pp
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Becky Manawatu

Kataraina



BECKY MANAWATU (Ngāi Tahu, Ngāti Māmoē, Waitaha) is a West Coast author and journalist. She was born in Nelson and grew up in Waimangaroa, living now in Westport with her family. Her debut novel, *Auē*, won Aotearoa's leading fiction prizes and became one of the country's all-time fiction bestsellers.

The much-awaited follow-up to the award-winning international bestseller *Auē*.

In *Auē*, eight-year-old Ārama was taken by his brother, Taukiri, to live with Kat and Stu at the farm in Kaikōura, setting in train the tragedy that unfolded. Ārama's aunty Kat was at the centre of events, but, silenced by abuse, her voice was absent from the story.

In *Kataraina*, Kat and her whānau take over the telling. As one, they return to her childhood and the time when she first began to feel the greenness of the swamp in her veins — the swamp that holds her tears and the tears of her tīpuna; the swamp on the land owned by Stu that has been growing since the girl shot the man.

Unflinching in its portrayal of the darkness, tender in its harnessing of the hope that future generations represent, *Kataraina* is a stunning novel that confirms Becky Manawatu as one of the most talented and powerful writers working in Aotearoa/New Zealand today.

Praise for *Auē*:

'There is something so assured and flawless in the delivery of the writing voice that is almost like acid on the skin.'

Tara June Winch

'A layered work weaves a striking tapestry of fierce love and unflinching violence worthy of its poetic title ... Manawatu excels at enriching her characters and story lines with heartbreaking detail ... A devastating, beautifully written tale imbued with Maori culture and language.'

Gregory Brown, *The New York Times*

'*Auē* has done well because it is expertly crafted, but also because it has something indefinable: enthralling, puzzling, gripping and familiar, yet otherworldly.' ***The Guardian***

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234 x 153mm paperback, 288pp
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Luke C. Jackson & Kelly Jackson

Illustrated by
Maya Graham



DR LUKE C. JACKSON is a teacher and a writer of novels, screenplays, games, and graphic novels, including *The Brownout Murders* and *Two-Week Wait*.

KELLY JACKSON is a teacher and educational writer. A graduate of the University of Melbourne with a major in Art History, she is the co-author of both *The Brownout Murders* and *Two-Week Wait*.

MAYA GRAHAM is an experienced artist and educator, and is the illustrator and letterer of *The Brownout Murders*.

The Brownout Murders

They blamed alcohol. They blamed men. But they blamed women most of all.

The year is 1942, the place Melbourne. A brownout is in effect to dim the night-time lights of the city, and thousands of American GIs are based in Royal Park. As the latter make plans to defend the Pacific, the women of Australia have stepped up to support the war effort at home. Beatrice is doing her part. She's enlisted as an air raid warden, preparing the city ahead of a possible Japanese attack. Her sister June is an operator at the telephone exchange, while her other sister, Lizzie, works as a shopgirl by day and parties with the Americans by night.

But the times are about to change again, and the three sisters will have to navigate the consequences of a new threat as a series of grisly murders are committed in the eerie half-light of the brownout. Inspired by true events, *The Brownout Murders* tells a story of fear, fortitude, and social change — and how the independence of all women is too often set against the violence of a single man.



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234 x 177mm paperback, 160pp
ISBN: 9781925849585

Rights held: World

Nana Howton

Burning Seasons



An unforgettable story of survival, sisterhood, and the fight for a brighter future.

In 1970s Brazil, two teenage sisters are thrust into a chaotic, violent world. Fear and hunger stalk them in a sugarcane town choked by a constant rain of ash, a grim testament to the ravaged environment in which they are trying to grow. With only each other for comfort, they set out to search for their missing mother and the father they've never known.

Every desolate road becomes a gauntlet, every stranger a potential threat. Yet, amidst the dangers, a fierce bond blossoms. Each sister clings to the other, a lifeline in a world teetering on the brink. Their dignity is their own quiet rebellion.

Burning Seasons lays bare the scars of a nation, the plight of marginalised people, and the silent suffering of women, girls, and the environment itself. It's also a story of resilience — a harrowing journey in which innocence is lost, but hope burns defiant.

NANA HOWTON is a Brazilian-born American writer with a BA from Stanford University and an MFA in fiction from Columbia University. She has attended the Iowa Writer's Workshop, and her stories and essays have appeared in various publications including *The Rio Grande Review*, *Litro Magazine*, *Pacific Review*, and *Fiction Fix*, where she won a Reader's Circle Award and Editor's Choice Award. *Burning Seasons* is her first novel.

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Nicholas Jubber



NICHOLAS JUBBER is an award-winning travel writer. Fascinated by history and its relationship with the present, he explores connections — and misconnections — across the centuries. In his book, *The Fairy Tellers*, this fascination carries him from Kashmir to Lapland to find out the history behind some of the world's most beloved, and many long-forgotten fairy tales. He has been shortlisted three times for the Stanford Dolman award, and won it for his debut *The Prester Quest*. He has spoken at literary festivals including Hay-on-Wye and Edinburgh, and has written articles for *The Guardian*, *The Telegraph*, and *The Irish Times*, among others.

Monsterland

a journey around the world's imagination

Monsters, in all their terrifying glory, have preoccupied humans since we began telling stories. But where did these stories come from?

In *Monsterland*, award-winning author Nicholas Jubber goes on a journey to discover more about the monsters we've invented, lurking in the dark and the wild places of the earth — giants, dragons, ogres, zombies, ghosts, demons — all with one thing in common: their ability to terrify.

His far-ranging adventure takes him across the world. He sits on the thrones of giants in Cornwall, visits the shrine of a beheaded ogre near Kyoto, travels to an eighteenth-century Balkan vampire's forest dwelling, and paddles among the shape-shifters of the Louisiana bayous. On his travels, he discovers that the stories of the people and places that birthed them are just as fascinating as the creatures themselves.

Artfully written, *Monsterland* is a fascinating interrogation into why we need these monsters and what they can tell us about ourselves — how they bind communities together as much as they cruelly cast away outsiders.

Praise for *The Fairy Tellers*:

'Prepare yourself for a wild ride.' *The Times*

'His cornucopia of tellers and tales is a delight, a riveting celebration of a genre that revels in its own hybridity and the imaginative riches produced by the crossing of cultural and literary borders.' *Financial Times*

'Engaging and interesting ... Jubber's book shows the long-sustained value of these narratives, and should make us wonder what might happen to us if they disappeared from somewhere at the back of our brains.' *The Spectator*

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Anjet Daanje

Translated by
David McKay



ANJET DAANJE, the pseudonym of Anjet den Boer, who was born in 1965, writes novels, short stories, and screenplays. *The Remembered Soldier* has won the top literary prizes in her native Netherlands, including the 2020 F Bordewijk Prize and the Best Book of Groningen Prize, and was longlisted for the 2020 Libris Literature Prize.

DAVID MCKAY is an award-winning translator of Dutch fiction and nonfiction. Born and educated in the United States, he has lived in and around The Hague since 1997.

The Remembered Soldier

An extraordinary love story and a captivating novel about the power of memory and imagination.

Flanders 1922. After serving as a soldier in the Great War, Noon Merckem has lost his memory and lives in a psychiatric asylum. Countless women, responding to a newspaper ad, visit him there in the hope of finding their spouse who vanished in battle. One day a woman, Julienne, appears and recognises Noon as her husband, the photographer Amand Coppens, and takes him home against medical advice. But their miraculous reunion doesn't turn out the way that Julienne wants her envious friends to believe. Only gradually do the two grow close, and Amand's biography is pieced together on the basis of Julienne's stories about him. But how can he be certain that she's telling the truth?

In *The Remembered Soldier*, Anjet Daanje immerses us in the psyche of a war-traumatised man who has lost his identity. When Amand comes to doubt Julienne's word, the reader is caught up in a riveting spiral of confusion that only the greatest works of literature can achieve.

'By far the best novel of recent years.' *NRC Handelsblad*

'A gripping story ... stirring, psychologically profound, and not a page too long.' *Deutschlandfunk*

'The book is phenomenal.' *Ivo van Hove, Tony and Olivier award-winning theatre director*

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Kei Yoshida



DR KEI YOSHIDA is an international human rights lawyer and qualified barrister. They are currently a senior legal advisor at the Center for Reproductive Rights. Prior to joining the Center, they worked as a barrister at Doughty Street Chambers on landmark cases on women's rights, and LGBTQ+ rights. Kei is the co-editor of *Feminist Conversations on Peace* (BUP, 2022) and co-author with Jennifer Robinson of *Silenced Women* (Octopus 2023). Kei has published academic articles in the *European Human Rights Law Review*, *International Affairs*, and *Human Rights Quarterly*, and led the FCDO funded project on gender, conflict, and environmental peace.

Pride and Prejudices

queer lives and the law

Internationally acclaimed human rights lawyer Kei Yoshida uncovers the ongoing battle for LGBTQ+ rights, how far we've come, and how much further we have to go.

The right to life and the right to live life free from discrimination are rights that are codified and legally protected, but — unlike those on women's rights, disability rights, children's rights, freedom from torture and racial discrimination — there is no dedicated and binding treaty or convention in international human rights law with respect to LGBTQ+ rights.

In *Pride and Prejudices*, Yoshida analyses case law from around the world, including *Rosanna Flamer Caldera v Sri Lanka*, the first global precedent to call for the decriminalisation of same-sex intimacy between women, in which Yoshida acted as counsel, as well as other timely cases such as the bitter debate over self-ID for trans people in the UK and Florida's recent 'Don't Say Gay' bill.

This pivotal book addresses the legal problems that still persist and contribute to the violence and discrimination that the international LGBTQ+ population experiences on a daily basis and demonstrates what more needs to be done to protect LGBTQ+ communities.

Praise for *How Many More Women?*

'A stunning book; as vital as it is compelling. A powerful warning about how the justice system can be used to silence women, and why urgent change is needed: a must-read for women and allies alike.' **Harriet Johnson, author of *Enough: the violence against women and how to end it***

'Witty, gritty, insightful, and true, this book is essential reading for all women.' **Kathy Lette, bestselling author of *Puberty Blues***

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