



# SCRIBE

July–December 2023



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## What an Owl Knows

the new science of the world's most enigmatic birds



JENNIFER ACKERMAN has been writing about science and nature for more than three decades. *What an Owl Knows* follows *The Bird Way: a new look at how birds talk, work, play, parent, and think*, which was a finalist for the PEN/E.O. Wilson Literary Science Writing Award, and her *New York Times* bestselling book *The Genius of Birds*, which has been translated into 25 languages and was named one of the best nonfiction books of 2016 by *The Wall Street Journal* and a Nature Book of the Year by the *London Sunday Times*. Ackerman's articles and essays have appeared in *National Geographic*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Scientific American*, and many other publications. She is the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships, including a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship in Nonfiction, a Bunting Fellowship, and a grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Genius of Birds* and *The Bird Way*, a brilliant scientific exploration of owls, the most elusive group of birds, and an investigation into why these remarkable and yet mysterious animals exert such a hold on human imagination.

For centuries, owls have captivated and intrigued us. Our fascination with these mysterious birds was first documented over 30,000 years ago, and to this day we see them as symbols of wisdom and knowledge, foresight and intuition. But what, really, does an owl know?

Joining scientists on this maddening and elusive treasure hunt, Jennifer Ackerman brings alive the rich biological history of these animals and reveals the remarkable scientific discoveries into their brains and behaviour. She explores how, with modern technology and tools, researchers now know that owls talk all night long — without opening their bills. That their hoots follow a series of complex rules, allowing them to express needs and desires. That owls duet. They migrate. They use tools. They hoard their prey. Some live in underground burrows, some dine on scorpions.

An extraordinary glimpse into the mind of these brilliant animals, *What an Owl Knows* pulls back the curtain on the hidden and still undiscovered realities of our shared world.

'A revelatory glimpse into the lives of the "enigmatic" raptors. Bird lovers will be enthralled' *Publishers Weekly*, starred review

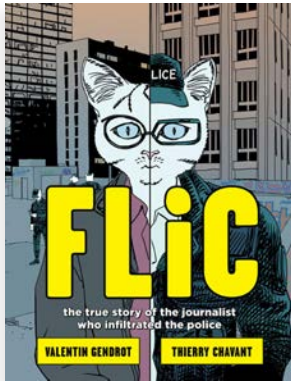
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RIGHTS HELD: ANZ  
OTHER RIGHTS: Melanie Jackson  
Agency

## Valentin Gendrot

Translated by Frank Wynne

Illustrated by Thierry Chavant



Born in 1988, VALENTIN GENDROT worked on local newspapers and radio after graduating from journalism college, and carried out several undercover investigations — including working on a Toyota production line and in a Lidl supermarket — before joining the Paris police force.

A seasoned author-illustrator, THIERRY CHAVANT specialises in comics journalism.

## Flic

the true story of the journalist who infiltrated the police

*flic*

(French noun, masculine) (slang, derogatory)  
cop; police officer

*Flic*

(noun)

The gripping and groundbreaking work of French comics journalism.

What happens behind the walls of a police station? What kind of living does a cop make? And how does a culture of racism and violence become entrenched? Valentin Gendrot went undercover in Paris to find the answers — revelations that rocked France and led to a series of investigations, including an internal affairs case on Gendrot himself.

*Flic* is an exposé of a world never before seen by outsiders, an urgent story for our times, powerfully illustrated by the talented Thierry Chavant.

‘Explosive’ *NBC News*

‘Remarkable’ *The Times*

‘Courageous’ *The Saturday Paper*

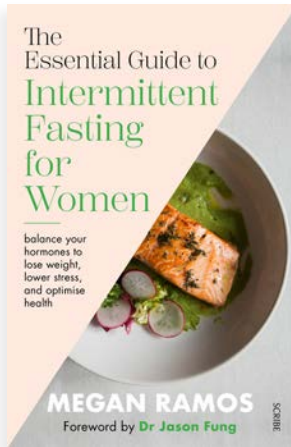
‘Engrossing’ *Irish Examiner*

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RIGHTS HELD: World English  
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## Megan Ramos

Foreword by Dr Jason Fung



MEGAN RAMOS is a clinical educator, researcher, and co-founder, with Dr Jason Fung, of 'The Fasting Method'. After losing 86 pounds and reversing her own metabolic conditions, she has become a world-leading expert on therapeutic fasting and low-carbohydrate diets and has guided thousands of people worldwide to weight loss and better health. She is a co-author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Life in the Fasting Lane*.

# The Essential Guide to Intermittent Fasting for Women

balance your hormones to lose weight, lower stress, and optimise health

With a foreword from Dr Jason Fung, author of *The Obesity Code*, this groundbreaking guide to intermittent fasting for women includes step-by-step advice for preventing and reversing metabolic disease.

As a teenager, Megan Ramos suffered from non-alcoholic fatty liver disease and polycystic ovarian syndrome. By her mid-twenties, she had developed type 2 diabetes. But everything changed when she heard about intermittent fasting at the clinic where she was a researcher. Within six months of giving up snacks, adopting a diet high in natural fats and low in carbs, and fasting regularly for short periods, she reversed her metabolic conditions. And she began to counsel other people — especially women — about therapeutic fasting.

Today, Ramos has helped over 20,000 people improve their health through intermittent fasting. In *The Essential Guide to Intermittent Fasting for Women*, she shares what she's learned about fasting through clinical research, her own lived experience, and the experiences of the many women she's worked with. Women — juggling kids, careers, and their roles in their communities — are prone to stress, which drives up cortisol and estrogen levels in the body. Too much estrogen at any time is bad. But as we age, we produce less estradiol and more of its evil twin, estrone, which leads to weight gain, depression, and abnormal growths. Recognising this fact, Megan provides practical advice about when and what to eat, and how and when to fast, in ways that work with and support women first.

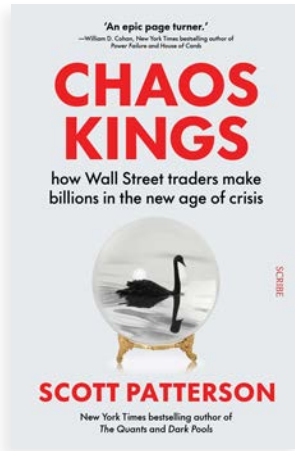
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Scott Patterson

## Chaos Kings

how Wall Street traders make billions in the new age of crisis



SCOTT PATTERSON has been a reporter for nearly two decades, mostly at *The Wall Street Journal* in New York City; Washington, DC; and London. Most recently, he has been focused on the negative impacts of climate change and their effect on the financial system. His 2010 *New York Times* bestseller *The Quants* was about the rise of mathematical traders and their near destruction of the financial system. His second book, *Dark Pools*, exposed high-frequency trading risks and was lauded by a pantheon of financial writers, including James Stewart and Michael Lewis. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia, with his wife and son.

For fans of *The Black Swan* and written by a veteran *Wall Street Journal* reporter, this is a fascinating deep dive into the world of billion-dollar traders and high-stakes crisis predictors who strive to turn extreme events into financial windfalls.

There's no doubt that our world has gotten more extreme. Pandemics, climate change, superpower rivalries, technological disruption, political radicalisation, religious fundamentalism — all threaten chaos that put trillions in assets at risk. But around the world, across a wide variety of disciplines, would-be super-forecasters are trying to take the guesswork out of what formerly seemed like random chance. Some put their faith in 'black swans' — unpredictable, catastrophic events that can't be foreseen but send exotic financial instruments screaming in high-profit directions — while others cling to the hope that paying close attention to the data will foreclose any true surprises from happening. Most famous among the former group of big-bet traders are those who run the Universa fund, helmed by manager Mark Spitznagel and built on the strategy of one of its chief investors, *Black Swan* author Nicholas Taleb. On days of extreme upheaval, Universa has made as much as \$1 billion.

In researching *Chaos Kings*, author Scott Patterson not only gained exclusive access to Universa strategists, but he also combed Wall Street to find market players with similar models. Additionally, he met with savvy seers in a variety of fields, from earthquake prediction to counterterrorism to climatology, to see if it's actually possible to bet on disaster — and win. Riveting, relevant, and revelatory, this is a must-read for anyone curious about how some of today's investors alchemise catastrophe into profit.

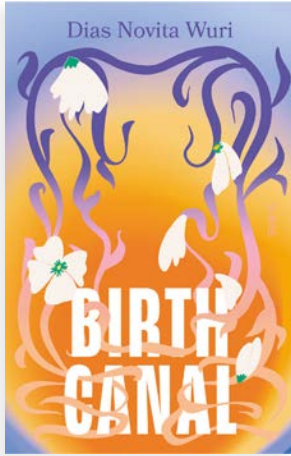
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US



## Dias Novita Wuri

Translated by Dias Novita Wuri



DIAS NOVITA WURi was born in Jakarta, Indonesia, in 1989. She graduated from Universitas Indonesia, majoring in Russian Language and Literature. In 2019, she earned a master's degree in Comparative Literature from Queen Mary University of London. She has had short stories published in Indonesian newspapers since 2012. She has published two books, *Jalan Lahir* and *Makramé*, which was on the Khatulistiwa Literary Award longlist. She served as adviser in the literary section of the editorial board of [jakartabeat.net](http://jakartabeat.net).

## Birth Canal

**A dazzling novella from a rising star of Indonesian literature that explores what it means to be a woman — whoever you are, wherever you are, and whenever it is in history and time.**

In today's Jakarta, an unnamed man tells the story of his lifelong friend Nastiti, and what happened on the day she vanished. In the Dutch East Indies' Semarang, a young Indo-Dutch girl, Rukmini, is captured by the Japanese military and is forced into prostitution. Years later, Arini travels to the Netherlands to share her mother's dark past with a researcher.

After the American occupation of Japan in WWII ends, a former war photographer revisits his memories of Hanako, the wife of a traumatised ex-Imperial soldier, but can't escape his own darkness. And in present-day Osaka, a young Indonesian woman, Dara, haunted by her past and struggling to conceive, becomes obsessed with a Japanese porn star.

Through these interconnected narratives, in stunning prose, Dias Novita Wuri explores generational legacies, lost loves, the damage that war does to men, and the damage that men do to women.

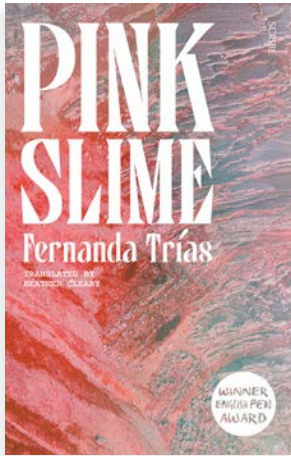
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Fernanda Trías

Translated by Heather Cleary

## Pink Slime



Winner of the Uruguayan National Literature Prize for Fiction, the Bartolomé-Hidalgo Fiction Prize, and the Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Literature Prize.

A port city is in the grips of an ecological crisis. The river has filled with toxic algae, and a deadly 'red wind' blows through its streets; much of the coast has been evacuated as the wealthy migrate inland to safety, leaving the rest to shelter in abandoned houses as blackouts and food shortages abound.

The unnamed narrator is one of those who has stayed. She spends her days trying to disentangle herself from the two relationships that had once meant everything to her, and looking after the young boy who's been placed in her care. As the world in which they move becomes smaller, she reflects on the collapse of the other emotional ties in her life and the emergence of a radical yet tender solitude.

With striking prose and vivid characters, the multi-award-winning *Pink Slime* offers profound reflections on motherhood, marriage, and caregiving, set against the backdrop of a crumbling city.

FERNANDA TRÍAS (Uruguay, 1976) is the author of novels *La Azotea* (*The Rooftop*, Charco Press 2020), *La ciudad invencible* (*The Invincible City*), and the multi-award winning *Mugre rosa* (*Pink Slime*), as well as the short story collection *No soñarás flores* (*Thou Shall Not Dream Flowers*). She lives, writes, and teaches in Bogotá, Colombia.

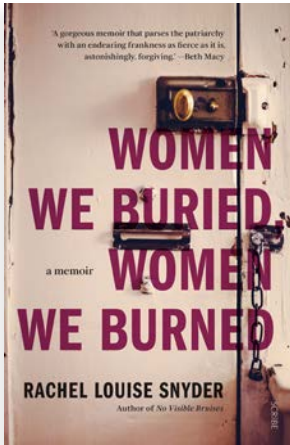
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Rachel Louise Snyder

## Women We Buried, Women We Burned

a memoir



RACHEL LOUISE SNYDER is the author of *Fugitive Denim*, the novel *What We've Lost is Nothing*, and *No Visible Bruises*, winner of the J. Anthony Lukas Award, the Hillman Prize, and the Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism, and finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, *LA Times* Book Prize, and *Kirkus* Prize. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *Slate*, and elsewhere. Snyder is a Professor of Creative Writing and Journalism at American University and a 2020–2021 Guggenheim Fellow. She lives in Washington, DC.

Following the acclaimed *No Visible Bruises*, a piercing account of the author's childhood in an Evangelic Christian community, her teenage escape, and her career as a reporter at the frontline of the global epidemic of violence against women.

Award-winning journalist Rachel Louise Snyder has spent her career reporting on abuse that happens under the cover of 'private life'. And yet the story of her own troubled family is one she has always kept locked away.

Snyder was eight when her mother died, and her distraught father thrust the family into an evangelical, cult-like existence halfway across the country. Furiously rebellious against this life, she was expelled from school, and then from home. Living out of her car and relying on strangers, she soon found herself masquerading as an adult, talking her way into college, and eventually travelling the globe. In places like India, Tibet, and Niger, she interviewed those who had been through the unimaginable. In Cambodia, where she lived for six years, she watched a country reckon with the horrors of its own recent history.

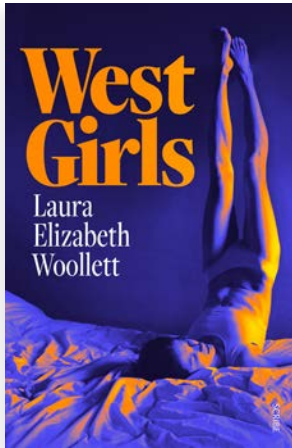
Written with a storyteller's gift for immediacy, and weaving the personal with the universal, *Women We Buried, Women We Burned* is a necessary story of family struggle, female survival, and the passionate drive to bear witness.

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Associates

Laura Elizabeth  
Woollett

## West Girls



LAURA ELIZABETH WOOLLETT is the author of a short story collection, *The Love of a Bad Man* (Scribe, 2016), and two novels, *Beautiful Revolutionary* (Scribe, 2018) and *The Newcomer* (Scribe, 2021). *The Love of a Bad Man* was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction and the Ned Kelly Award for Best First Fiction. *Beautiful Revolutionary* was shortlisted for the 2019 Prime Minister's Literary Award for Fiction, the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal, and the Kathleen Mitchell Award. Laura was the City of Melbourne's 2020 Boyd Garret writer-in-residence and a 2020–22 Marten Bequest scholar for prose.

**'I chose the jagged rocks, the broken bones, the spattered brains. I chose beauty. I'd choose it again.'**

Luna Lewis is white. But her friends aren't, nor are her brothers, nor her one-time Princess of Indonesia—finalist stepmother. After transforming from pudgy preteen to 'exotic' beauty, Luna reinvents herself as 'Luna Lu' and takes her ticket out of the most isolated city on earth. However, as her international modelling career approaches its expiry date, Luna must grapple with what she's sacrificed — and who she's become — in her mission to conquer the world.

Featuring an intersecting cast of glamour-hungry public schoolgirls, WAGs, mining heiresses, backpacker-barmaids, and cosmetic nurses, *West Girls* examines beauty, race, class divisions, and social mobility in Australia's richest state. It's also a devastating catalogue of the myriad, inventive ways in which women love and hurt one another.

### PRAISE FOR *THE NEWCOMER*

**'With its refreshingly real voice, Laura Elizabeth Woollett's *The Newcomer* takes Australian crime fiction to a whole new level. Haunting. Raw. Compulsive. I can't stop thinking about it.'** Anna Snoekstra, author of *Only Daughter*

**'A brilliant evisceration of the stories we tell about gendered violence and "good" victimhood.'** Dr Yves Rees, *Sydney Morning Herald*

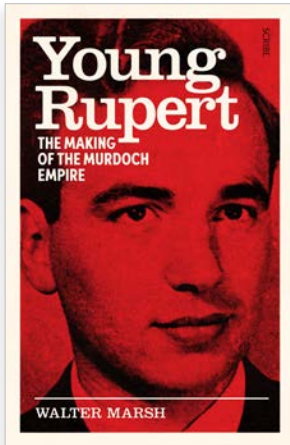
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RIGHTS HELD: World

Walter Marsh

## Young Rupert

the making of the Murdoch empire



WALTER MARSH is a journalist based in Tarntanya / Adelaide with a background in history and culture. A former editor and staff writer at *The Adelaide Review* and *Rip It Up*, his writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *The Monthly*, *The Saturday Paper*, and *InDaily*.

In September 1953, 22-year-old Rupert Murdoch landed in Adelaide, South Australia. Fresh from Oxford with a radical reputation, the young and brash son of Sir Keith Murdoch had arrived to fulfill his father's dying wish: for Rupert to live a 'useful altruistic and full life' in the media.

For decades, Sir Keith had been a giant of the Australian press, but his final years were spent bitterly fending off rivals and would-be successors. When the dust settled on his father's estate, Rupert was left with the Adelaide-based News Ltd and its afternoon paper *The News* — a minor player in a small, parochial city.

But even this inheritance was soon under siege, as the left-wing 'Boy Publisher' stared down his father's old colleagues at the city's paper of record, *The Advertiser*, and a conservative establishment kept in power by a decades-old gerrymander.

Led by Rupert's friend, ally, and editor-in-chief, Rohan Rivett, the fledgling Murdoch press began a seven-year campaign of circulation wars, expansion, and courtroom battles that divided the city and laid the foundations for a global empire — if Rupert and Rohan didn't end up in custody first.

Drawing on unpublished archival material and new reportage, *Young Rupert* pieces together a paper trail of succession, sedition, and power — and a fascinating time capsule of Australian media on the cusp of an extraordinary ascension.

'From schoolboy socialist to boy publisher to mogul on the make: *Young Rupert* offers a revelatory glimpse of Murdoch becoming Murdoch.' **Jeff Sparrow**, author of *Crimes Against Nature*

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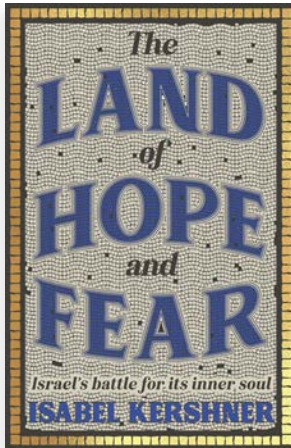
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RIGHTS HELD: World

Isabel Kershner

## The Land of Hope and Fear

Israel's battle for its inner soul



ISABEL KERSHNER was born and raised in Manchester, England, and graduated from Oxford University with a degree in Oriental Studies. After working for a political-risk consultancy in London, she migrated to Israel. In 2007, she became a correspondent for *The New York Times* in Jerusalem, covering both Israeli and Palestinian politics and society. Previously, she was a senior editor for the Middle East and Palestinian affairs at *The Jerusalem Report*. She is the author of *Barrier: the seam of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict*. She has been living with her family in Jerusalem since 1990.

A correspondent who has spent thirty years in Israel presents a rich, wide-ranging portrait of the Israeli people at a critical juncture in their country's history.

Despite Israel's determined staying power in a hostile environment, its military might, and the innovation it fosters in businesses globally, the country is more divided than ever. The old guard — socialist secular elites and idealists — are a dying breed, and the state's democratic foundations are being challenged. A dynamic and exuberant country of nine million, Israel now largely comprises native-born Hebrew speakers, and yet any permanent sense of security and normalcy is elusive.

In *The Land of Hope and Fear*, we meet Israelis — Jews and Arabs, religious and secular, Eastern and Western, liberals and zealots — plagued by perennial conflict and existential threats. Its citizens remain deeply polarised politically, socially, and ideologically, even as they undergo generational change and redefine what it is to be an Israeli. Who are these people, and to what do they aspire?

In moving narratives and with on-the-ground reporting, Isabel Kershner reveals the core of what holds Israel together and the forces that threaten its future through the lens of real people, laying bare the question, Who is an Israeli?

'Once I started reading *The Land of Hope and Fear* I couldn't put it down until I finished. For someone living in this country it felt nonetheless as if I was learning about it for the first time. With masterful style, Isabel Kershner peels off all the outer layers of society's multifaceted aspects ... Israel in its tumultuous eighth decade is laid bare, its inner strengths and weaknesses enmeshed in a vibrant dynamic that both promises and forewarns.' Sari Nusseibeh, author of *Once Upon a Country*

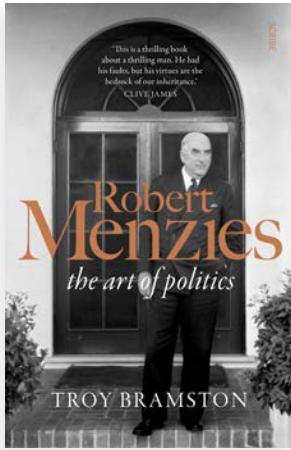
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OTHER RIGHTS: PRH US

Troy Bramston

## Robert Menzies

the art of politics



A paperback edition, with a new Preface, of the revelatory biography of Australia's longest-serving prime minister.

Robert Menzies claimed the prime ministership in 1939 and led the nation during the early years of the war, but resigned two years later when he lost the confidence of his party. His political career seemed over, and yet he staged one of the great comebacks to forge a new political party with a new philosophy, and to craft a winning electoral approach that was to make him Australia's longest-serving prime minister.

The lessons Menzies learned — and the way he applied them — made him a model that every Liberal leader since has looked to for inspiration. But debate over Menzies' life and legacy has never settled.

Who was Robert Menzies, what did he stand for, and what did he achieve? To find out, Troy Bramston not only researched the official record and published accounts, but also interviewed members of Menzies' family, and his former advisers and ministers. He was also given exclusive access to family letters, as well as to a series of interviews that Menzies gave that had never been revealed before.

*Robert Menzies* contains important contemporary lessons for the Liberal Party, and for those who want to understand and master the art and science of politics.

'Troy Bramston spent an enormous amount of time finding out all he could about my father, Robert Menzies. This included interviewing me at length. *Robert Menzies* is accurate, interesting, and easy to read.' **Heather Henderson, daughter of Sir Robert and Dame Pattie Menzies**

TROY BRAMSTON has been a senior writer and columnist with *The Australian* newspaper, and a contributor to Sky News, since 2011. He was previously a columnist with *The Sunday Telegraph*. Troy is the author or editor of nine books, including *Paul Keating: the big-picture leader* (2016), and, co-authored with Paul Kelly, *The Dismissal: in the Queen's Name* (2015). He was the co-winner of the Australian Book Industry Award for *The Dismissal*. His biography of Paul Keating was a finalist for the Walkley Award, shortlisted for the National Biography Award, and longlisted for the Australian Book Industry Award. He was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2001.

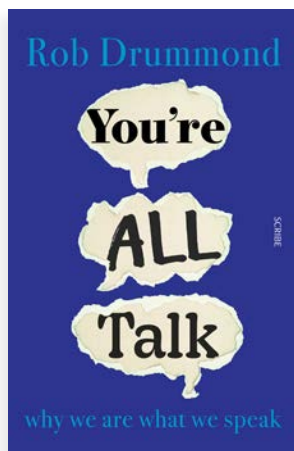
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RIGHTS HELD: World

Rob Drummond

## You're All Talk

why we are what we speak



Why do we have different accents and where do they come from? Why do you say *tomayto* and I say *tomahto*? And is one way of speaking better than another?

In *You're All Talk*, linguist Rob Drummond explores the enormous diversity in how language is spoken to reveal extraordinary insights into how humans operate — how we perceive (and judge) other people and how we would like ourselves to be perceived. He investigates how and why we automatically associate different accents with particular social characteristics — degrees of friendliness, authority, social class, level of education, race, and so on — and how we, consciously or subconsciously, change the way we speak in order to create different versions of ourselves to fit different environments.

Ultimately, *You're All Talk* demonstrates the beauty of linguistic diversity and how embracing it can give us a better understanding of other people — and ourselves.

ROB DRUMMOND teaches linguistics at Manchester Metropolitan University, where he is currently working on a large project exploring the accents and dialects of people in Greater Manchester. He appears regularly on radio and TV talking about language-related issues. He is 'resident linguist' on BBC Radio 3's *The Verb* and appeared in the recent Radio 4 documentary *East Meets West*, as well as featuring on *BBC Breakfast*.

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Sidney Bloch &  
Nick Haslam

## Troubled Minds

understanding and treating mental illness



SIDNEY BLOCH AM is emeritus professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Melbourne. His 14 books, many of which have been translated, deal with the psychotherapies, the interface between psychology and cancer, and medical ethics.

NICK HASLAM, professor of psychology at the University of Melbourne, has chaired its School of Psychological Sciences and co-directs its Mental Health PhD Program. He trained as a clinical psychologist in the US, and has taught social and personality psychology for over 25 years.

An authoritative resource for understanding the nature of mental illnesses and for pointing the way to treatment, written by two eminent mental health professionals with almost a century of academic achievement and clinical experience between them.

Many of us take our mental health for granted. But we can feel overwhelmed when confronted by mental illness in ourselves, a family member, or a friend. *Troubled Minds* is an invaluable guide for anyone whose life has been touched by mental ill-health and who wants to understand and deal effectively with it.

It serves as an ideal introduction to common mental illnesses, developmental disorders, and neurological variations that can lead to distress such as autism, anorexia nervosa, anxiety, depression, alcoholism, post-traumatic stress disorder, and dementia. Innovative chapters cover mental health problems of children and adolescents, and how we have the potential to promote our own mental health and wellbeing.

Bloch and Haslam tell illuminating stories of people they have treated, discuss public figures who have wrestled with mental ill-health, and share their personal experiences. Their book is informed by the latest research, warmed by lived experience and empathy, and seasoned by the insights of philosophers, writers, and artists.

*Troubled Minds* is essential reading for anyone who seeks deeper psychological insights to help deal with the challenges of contemporary life. It is a balanced and accessible account of a subject that is of profound significance in everyone's life.

RRP: \$35.00

234 x 153mm paperback, 384pp

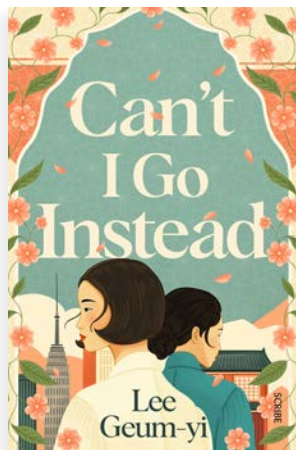
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RIGHTS HELD: World

Lee Geum-yi

Translated by An Seon Jae

## Can't I Go Instead



LEE GEUM-YI is a bestselling YA author in Korea. Her debut adult novel, *The Picture Bride*, was published in 2022.

Two women's lives and identities are intertwined — through World War II and the Korean War — revealing the harsh realities of class division in the early part of the 20th century.

*Can't I Go Instead* follows the lives of the daughter of a Korean nobleman and her maidservant in the early 20th century. When the daughter's suitor is arrested as a Korean Independence activist, and she is implicated during the investigation, she is quickly forced into marriage to one of her father's Japanese employees and shipped off to the United States. At the same time, her maidservant is sent in her mistress's place to be a comfort woman to the Japanese Imperial army.

Years of hardship, survival, and even happiness follow. In the aftermath of WWII, the women make their way home, where they must reckon with the tangled lives they've led, in an attempt to reclaim their identities, and find their place in an independent Korea.

'*Can't I Go Instead*'s complex and profoundly human characters will captivate, devastate, and move you, all at once.' **Juhea Kim**, author of *Beasts of a Little Land* and Dayton Literary Peace Prize finalist

RRP: \$32.99  
234 x 153mm paperback, 384pp  
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Todd Rogers & Jessica  
Lasky-Fink

## Writing for Busy Readers

communicate more effectively in the  
real world

You are Writing  
more than ever,  
competing for  
the attention of  
Busy Readers  
who skim.

communicate  
more effectively in  
the real world

Todd Rogers and  
Jessica Lasky-Fink

TODD ROGERS is a professor of public policy at Harvard University, where he has won teaching awards for the past six consecutive years. A behavioural scientist and the co-founder of the Analyst Institute and Everyday Labs, his opinion pieces have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and *Politico*, among others.

JESSICA LASKY-FINK is a PhD candidate at the University of California, Berkeley, a senior analyst at Everyday Labs, and an associate fellow with the Office of Evaluation Sciences. Her research focuses on improving the delivery of social services by connecting low-income populations to government programs.

We were all taught the fundamentals of writing *well* in school. But how do we write *effectively* in today's hyper-interactive world?

When *The Elements of Style* and *On Writing Well* were published in 1959 and 1976, the internet hadn't been invented. Since then, there has been a radical transformation in how we communicate. The average adult receives over 100 emails and tens of text messages each day. With all this correspondence, gaining a busy reader's attention is now a competition.

Todd Rogers and Jessica Lasky-Fink, both behavioural scientists, offer practical writing advice you can use today. They begin by outlining cognitive facts about how busy people read, then detail six research-backed principles for effective writing:

- Use fewer words
- Lower the reading level
- Use formatting judiciously
- Make the purpose clear for skimmers
- Emphasise value for readers
- Make responding as easy as possible.

Including many examples, a checklist, and other tools for the most effective writing, this handbook will make you a more effective communicator. Rogers and Lasky-Fink bring conventional ideas about text-based communication into the 21st century's radically transformed attention marketplace.

RRP: \$32.99  
216 x 135mm paperback, 272pp  
ISBN: 9781922585530

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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. Her debut novel *Nachts ist es leise in Teheran* (2016) won the Blogger Literary Award, Ulla Hahn Prize, and Uwe Johnson Prize, among others, and has been translated into Dutch, Farsi, French, and Turkish. *Sisters in Arms* is her second novel, and her first to be translated into English.

## Sisters in Arms

An explosive feminist and anti-racist novel about the importance of friendship.

*'We don't exist in this world. Here, we are neither Germans nor refugees, we don't report the news and we aren't the experts. We're some sort of wildcard.'*

Hani, Kasih, and Saya have shared a deep friendship ever since they were kids. After years apart, the three young women meet again for a few days, to pick up where they left off. But regardless of what they have achieved, it becomes clear, again and again, that they can't escape the racism that accompanies their daily lives: the glances, the chatter, the hatred, and the outright rightwing terror. But their friendship gives them stability. Until one dramatic night shakes everything up.

*Sisters in Arms* is a provocative, uncompromising, and moving novel about the extraordinary alliance between three young women and the only thing that makes a self-determined life possible in a society that doesn't tolerate otherness: unconditional friendship.

*'Will appeal to fans of Elena Ferrante, Zadie Smith, and Kamila Shamsie ... An immersive and thought-provoking read with a strong plot and relatable characters, and which explores urgent contemporary questions around racism and sexism in society.'*

*New Books in German*

*'Sends us on a journey of exploration, right into the abyss of German identity politics — a magnificent book.'*

*Süddeutsche Zeitung*

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Laura Jean McKay

## Gunflower



LAURA JEAN MCKAY is the author of *The Animals in That Country* (Scribe, 2020) — winner of The Arthur C. Clarke Award, The Victorian Prize for Literature, the ABIA Small Publishers Adult Book of the Year and co-winner of the Aurealis Award for Best Science Fiction Novel. Laura is also the author of *Holiday in Cambodia* (Black Inc., 2013). She was awarded the NZSA Waitangi Day Literary Honours in 2022.

The brilliant new short story collection from the Arthur C. Clarke Award-winning author of *The Animals in That Country*.

A family of cat farmers gets the chance to set the felines free. A group of chickens tells it like it is. A female-crewed ship ploughs through the patriarchy. A support group finds solace in a world without men.

With her trademark humour, energy, and flair, McKay offers hallucinogenic glimpses of places where dreams subsume reality, where childhood restarts, where humans behave like animals and animals talk like humans.

The stories in *Gunflower* explode and bloom in mesmerising ways, showing the world both as it is and as it could be.

### PRAISE FOR *THE ANIMALS IN THAT COUNTRY*

‘A fierce debut novel ... Her writing about people is filthy, fresh, and funny; this is prose on high alert, hackles up and teeth bared in every sentence. The novel becomes both a stirring attempt to inhabit other consciousnesses and a wry demonstration of the limits of our own language and empathy.’

**Justine Jordan, *The Guardian***

‘This is an absorbing and affecting book, and one to which I’m able to pay the highest compliment: that, in the days after finishing it, the world felt different to me, its animals not speaking but not silent either.’ **Ben Brooker, *Australian Book Review***

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ISBN: 9781922585943

RIGHTS HELD: World

Aisha Dow &  
Melissa Cunningham

## Life As We Knew It

the extraordinary story of Australia's  
pandemic



AISHA DOW and MELISSA CUNNINGHAM are multi-awarding-winning journalists based at *The Age* newspaper. They reported on the pandemic for more than three years, through six lockdowns in Melbourne. Together, they have won several Quill or Walkley awards, including for their pandemic reporting, which sparked policy change and several inquiries. They helped to expose the collapse of Victoria's triple-zero system, and have reported tirelessly on conditions in Australia's overwhelmed health system.

The gripping inside account of Australia's extraordinary pandemic story.

It was never part of the plan that Australia would be locked down and shut off from the world for two years. But when the Covid-19 pandemic arrived in 2020, and the bodies began piling up overseas, Australians took unprecedented steps to avoid a catastrophe heading their way. The country's near-elimination of the deadly virus in the first phase of the pandemic saw it avoid tens of thousands of deaths. But not all Australians were sheltered from disaster, and the strategy came with heavy costs. Many said goodbye to life as they knew it.

With unmatched access to Australia's top politicians and pandemic officials, *Life As We Knew It* is a gripping investigation into the nation's Covid-19 response and its incredible untold human stories. It delves into the worst days of the pandemic and its terrible disasters. But it also shows Australians at their best, the weird and the wonderful, and a public spirit of collectivism over individualism that set the country apart.

The authors travel across the nation shedding new light on the disruptive outbreaks that plunged Victoria and New South Wales into lockdowns. Based on more than 150 interviews, it also examines the unique experience of Australia's Covid-zero states: Western Australia, Queensland, South Australia, and the Northern Territory — places where it sometimes felt like the pandemic didn't exist.

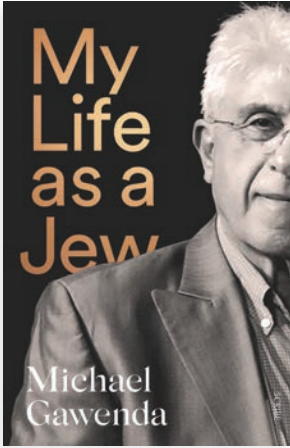
Many of the most significant moments in Australia's pandemic happened behind closed doors. *Life As We Knew It* lifts the curtain.

RRP: \$32.99  
234 x 153mm paperback, 240pp  
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RIGHTS HELD: World

Michael Gawenda

## My Life as a Jew



MICHAEL GAWENDA is one of Australia's best-known journalists and authors. In a career spanning four decades, he was a political reporter, a foreign correspondent based in London and in Washington, a columnist, a feature writer, and a senior editor at *Time Magazine*. He was editor and editor-in-chief of *The Age* from 1997 to 2004. Michael Gawenda has won numerous journalism awards, including three Walkley awards. He was the inaugural director of the Centre for Advancing Journalism at the University of Melbourne, and is the author of four books.

A multi-award-winning journalist and former editor-in-chief of a major Australian newspaper searingly explores his Jewish identity at a time when a substantial — and growing — part of the left is opposed to the very existence of Israel as a Jewish state.

Born in a displaced persons' camp two years after the end of the Holocaust, Michael Gawenda spent his childhood and teenage years in a left-wing non-Zionist Jewish youth group in Melbourne. This shaped the sort of Jew he became — a secular Jew who loved the Yiddish language and Yiddish culture.

Gawenda went on to become a public figure during his 40 years as a journalist, including his role as editor-in-chief of *The Age* — the only Jewish editor-in-chief in the newspaper's history. Throughout this time, and since, he became dismayed and pained by the growing hostility of the left to Israel and to Jews like him who were not prepared to declare themselves as anti-Zionists. This has also forced him to examine his own Jewish identity and his relationships with his Jewish friends, and to forensically examine the basis of the critiques of Israel.

At a time of rising anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism, *My Life as a Jew* is a controversial book. It is also a vital book. It should be read by activists for Israel and Zionism, as well as for the Palestinians. It should be read by readers of all political stripes. It should be read by journalists, as it is in part about journalism and its failings. And it should also be read by people interested in the remarkable life and career of its author, Michael Gawenda.

RRP: \$32.99

234 x 153mm paperback, 288pp

ISBN: 9781761380471

RIGHTS HELD: World

Nathan Mete

## Retro Sydney 1950–2000



NATHAN METE is a civil engineer from the Northern Beaches of Sydney with a keen interest in the postwar history of Sydney, and founder of the popular Instagram page @retrosydney, which has attracted over 100,000 followers. You can preview some of the interesting and wonderful past of Sydney at @retrosydney\_ on Instagram.

A collection of beautiful photographs of Australia's first city that invites you to immerse yourself and revisit the cool, quirky, glamorous, exciting, menacing, and wonderful times of Retro Sydney.

This collection of photographs celebrates the vibrant and exciting coming of age of Australia's first city in the postwar 'golden era' from 1950 until 2000. From the bustling heart of the CBD, the quaint suburbia of the outer suburbs, and the fashionable streets of Double Bay, to the seedy and glamorous Kings Cross, and

the carefree beachside suburbs of Sydney, *Retro Sydney* captures the city's most significant postwar milestones, and highlights its development and transformation into an international metropolis.

Adapted from the highly popular 'Retro Sydney' Instagram account, this collection is a celebration of Sydney. It allows us to behold iconic sights and scenes — some as they were, and some as they still are, generations later. For many readers, it offers a chance to indulge in rare memories of growing up in Australia's first city.

RRP: \$55.00  
263 x 297mm hardback, 160pp  
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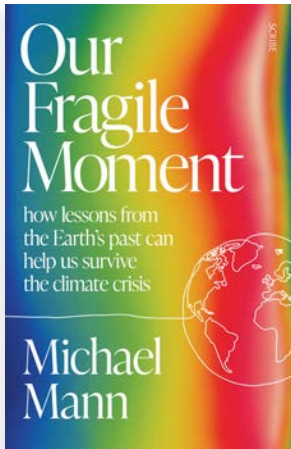
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Michael Mann

## Our Fragile Moment

how lessons from the Earth's past can help us survive the climate crisis



MICHAEL MANN is Distinguished Professor of Atmospheric Science at Penn State. He has received many honours and awards, including his selection by *Scientific American* as one of the fifty leading visionaries in science and technology in 2002. Additionally, he contributed, with other IPCC authors, to the award of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. In 2018 he received the Award for Public Engagement with Science from the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Climate Communication Prize from the American Geophysical Union. In 2020 he was elected to the US National Academy of Sciences. He is the author of numerous books, including *Dire Predictions* and *The Hockey Stick and the Climate Wars*. He lives in State College, Pennsylvania.

In this sweeping work of science and history, the renowned climate scientist and author of *The New Climate War* shows us the conditions on Earth that allowed humans not only to exist but thrive, and how they are imperiled if we veer off course.

For the vast majority of its 4.54 billion years, Earth has proven it can manage just fine without human beings. Then came the first proto-humans, who emerged just a little more than 2 million years ago — a fleeting moment in geological time. What is it that made this benevolent moment of ours possible? Ironically, it's the very same thing that now threatens us — climate change.

The conditions that allowed humans to live on this earth are fragile, incredibly so. Climate variability has at times created new niches that humans or their ancestors could potentially exploit, and challenges that at times have spurred innovation. But there's a relatively narrow envelope of climate variability within which human civilisation remains viable. And our survival depends on conditions remaining within that range.

In this book, renowned climate scientist Michael Mann arms readers with the knowledge necessary to appreciate the gravity of the unfolding climate crisis, while emboldening them — and others — to act before it truly does become too late.

RRP: \$35.00  
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Jake Adelstein



JAKE ADELSTEIN was a reporter for the *Yomiuri Shinbun*, Japan's largest newspaper, from 1993 to 2005. From 2006 to 2007 he was the chief investigator for a US State Department-sponsored study of human trafficking in Japan. Considered one of the foremost experts on organised crime in Japan, he works as a writer and consultant in Japan and the United States. He is also the public relations director for the Washington, DC-based Polaris Project Japan, which combats human trafficking and the exploitation of women and children in the sex trade.

## The Last Yakuza

life and death in the Japanese underworld

By the author of *Tokyo Vice*, *The Last Yakuza* tells the history of the yakuza like it's never been told before.

Makoto Saigo is half-American and half-Japanese in small-town Japan with a set of talents limited to playing guitar and picking fights. With rock stardom off the table, he turns toward the only place where you can start from the bottom and move up through sheer merit, loyalty, and brute force — the yakuza.

Saigo, nicknamed 'The Tsunami', quickly realises that even within the organisation, opinions are as varied as they come, and a clash of philosophies can quickly become deadly. One screw-up can cost you your life, or at least a finger.

The internal politics of the yakuza are dizzyingly complex, and between the ever-shifting web of alliances and the encroaching hand of the law that pushes them further and further underground, Saigo finds himself in the middle of a defining decades-long battle that will determine the future of the yakuza.

Written with the insight of an expert on Japanese organised crime and the compassion of a longtime friend, investigative journalist Jake Adelstein presents a sprawling biography of a yakuza, through postwar desperation, to bubble-era optimism, to the present. Including a cast of memorable yakuza bosses — The Coach, The Buddha, and more — this is a story about the rise and fall of a man, a country, and a dishonest but sometimes honourable way of life on the brink of being lost.

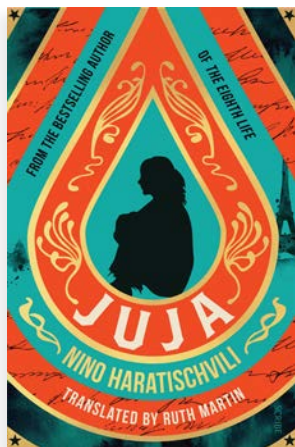
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Associates

## Nino Haratischvili

Translated by Ruth Martin

## Juja



NINO HARATISCHVILI was born in Georgia in 1983, and is an award-winning novelist, playwright, and theatre director. In 2010, her debut novel *Juja* was nominated for the German Book Prize, as was *Die Katze und der General* in 2018. Her third novel, *The Eighth Life*, has been translated into many languages and is an international bestseller. It won the Anna Seghers Prize, the Lessing Prize Stipend, and the Bertolt Brecht Prize, and was longlisted for the International Booker Prize in 2020.

The debut novel by international bestseller Nino Haratischvili, author of *The Eighth Life*, published for the first time in English.

In 1953, a teenage girl, Jeanne Saré, jumps in front of a train at the Gare du Nord station in Paris. She leaves behind writings that to some are unreadable, but to others tell universal, unspoken truths about the lives and struggles of women. When published in the 1970s, her work triggers a rash of copycat suicides. It is withdrawn from sale and eventually forgotten about.

Then, in 2004, two women from opposite corners of the globe — Amsterdam and Sydney — rediscover Jeanne Saré's book and set out to discover who the author was and what happened to her.

So many women across the ages have attached their own stories to Saré's, often with devastating results, but the truth about her may be even stranger than the fictions they have invented.

RRP: \$32.99

234 x 153mm paperback, 288pp

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RIGHTS HELD: World English

Russ Radcliffe

## Best Australian Political Cartoons 2023



The year in politics as observed by Australia's funniest and most perceptive political cartoonists.

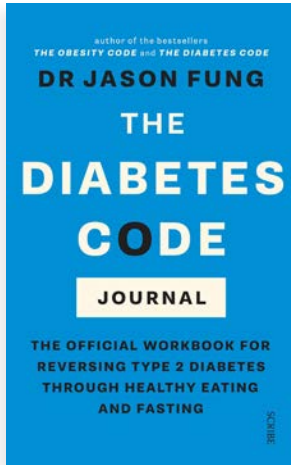
Featuring Dean Alston, Peter Broelman, Andrew Dyson, John Farmer, First Dog on the Moon, Matt Golding, Fiona Katauskas, Mark Knight, Jon Kudelka, Johannes Leak, Sean Leahy, Alan Moir, David Pope, David Rowe, John Spooner, Andrew Weldon, Cathy Wilcox, and more ...

RUSS RADCLIFFE created the annual *Best Australian Political Cartoons* series in 2003. His other books include: *Man of Steel* in 2007; *Dirt Files*; and *My Brilliant Career* in 2016. Russ has edited collections from some of Australia's finest political cartoonists, including Matt Golding, Judy Horacek, Bill Leak, Alan Moir, Bruce Petty, John Spooner, and David Rowe, and curated several exhibitions, including *Moments of Truth*, *Dirt Files*, and *Suppositories of Wisdom*. In 2013 Russ was awarded the Australian Cartoonists Association's Jim Russell Award for his contribution to Australian cartooning.

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RIGHTS HELD: World

Dr Jason Fung



DR JASON FUNG is a medical doctor recognised as one of the world's leading experts on fasting to lose weight and reverse diabetes, and his work has been featured in *The Atlantic*, the *New York Post*, *Forbes*, and on Fox News. He is the founder of the Intensive Dietary Management program and the author of several books, including *The Complete Guide to Fasting* (co-authored with Jimmy Moore); *The Obesity Code*, which is an international bestseller; and *The Diabetes Code*. He lives in Toronto, Canada.

## The Diabetes Code Journal

the official workbook for reversing type 2 diabetes through healthy eating and fasting

A companion journal to *The Diabetes Code* from Dr Jason Fung, *New York Times* bestselling author, creator of *The Obesity Code*, and 'founder of intermittent fasting'.

*The Diabetes Code Journal* begins by outlining Dr Fung's trademark, proven approach to treating type 2 diabetes: intermittent fasting, and a low-carb, healthy high-fat diet that has helped thousands of people lose weight and transform their health for good.

Modeled on the groundbreaking approach outlined in *The Diabetes Code*, this 12-week journal includes:

- Space to record your daily food intake
- Tools for monitoring glucose spikes and dips
- A fun weekly challenge!
- Mindfulness prompts for developing a positive relationship with food
- A selection of recipes from *The Diabetes Code Cookbook*
- A shopping list

With Dr Fung's empathetic approach and science-backed information and tips, *The Diabetes Code Journal* offers a daily practice that anyone can follow. Get ready to kickstart your journey to better health today.

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