



**FRANKFURT
BOOK FAIR 2025**

RIGHTS GUIDE

BLACK INC.

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NON-FICTION



Realms of Gold

The Remarkable Return of Jack de Crow

A.J. Mackinnon

The hilarious sequel to the much-loved classic The Unlikely Voyage of Jack de Crow.



In *Realms of Gold*, A.J. Mackinnon makes a remarkable return to the world of adventure and nautical mishap. In a fit of enthusiasm, he embarks on a new voyage in a tiny Mirror dinghy, from Sulina in Romania all the way to Venice. In the course of his travels, he encounters much kindness, a certain amount of bureaucratic resistance, and some very high seas. He becomes acquainted with the back blocks of Bulgaria, the ruins of Troy and the canals of Venice. This is a thoroughly delightful book about the classical world and the unexpected joys of slow travel. A book for every armchair traveller, and everyone who has ever set off into the unknown.

A.J. Mackinnon was born in Australia in 1963 and travelled as a boy on P&O liners between Australia and England, developing a love of slow travel. He has worked in various schools around the world, sharing his passion for English Literature, mathematics, drama, art and philosophy with countless students over the years. He now lives in the Victorian High Country of Australia, where he continues to love his teaching, his garden and various other creative projects. He is the author of the international bestseller *The Unlikely Voyage of Jack de Crow*, as well as *The Well at the World's End* and *Quaint Deeds*.

AUGUST 2026

Non-Fiction /
Travel Writing

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$36.99
PB (234 x 153mm)
336pp

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Manuscript:

January 2026

Rights held:

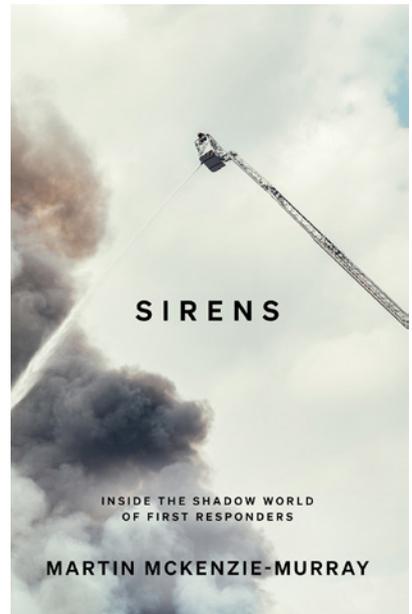
World; film/TV

Sirens

Inside the Shadow World of First Responders

Martin McKenzie-Murray

A startling, poetic insight into life on the front line



Three first responders – a paramedic, a police officer and a firefighter – are motivated by a desire to serve the community. But they are drawn to their work by more complicated impulses as well: a need for control, an acute awareness of danger, and childhood experiences they are still running from.

Peter, a paramedic, served at high-profile disasters including the Port Arthur massacre and the Beaconsfield mine collapse. Despite helping countless people, he is haunted by the lives he couldn't save.

Tara, a firefighter, experienced devastating loss at a young age. She found camaraderie in the fire brigade, but also confronting reminders of her past.

Brett, a police officer, survived childhood neglect and abuse. Policing offered a way to impose order, but eventually forced him to question his rigid

moral view of the world.

In telling their stories, Martin McKenzie-Murray draws on his own experience and research into trauma and recovery to ask profound questions about human motivation and survival. What draws people to these intense professions and how does their work reshape them? And what happens when their carefully built walls between past and present, personal and professional, start to crumble?

Martin McKenzie-Murray is associate editor of *The Saturday Paper*. He has worked as a teacher, speechwriter, columnist for *The Age* and adviser to the chief commissioner of Victoria Police. His writing has appeared in *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Monthly*, *The Guardian*, *Meanjin* and *The Best Australian Essays*. His first book, *A Murder Without Motive*, was shortlisted for the 2016 Ned Kelly Award for best true crime writing.

APRIL 2026

Non-Fiction /
Biography

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$36.99
PB (234 x 153mm)
256pp

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Manuscript:
Available

Rights held:
World; film/TV

The Enigmatic Echidna

Secrets of the World's Most Curious Creature

Danielle Clode

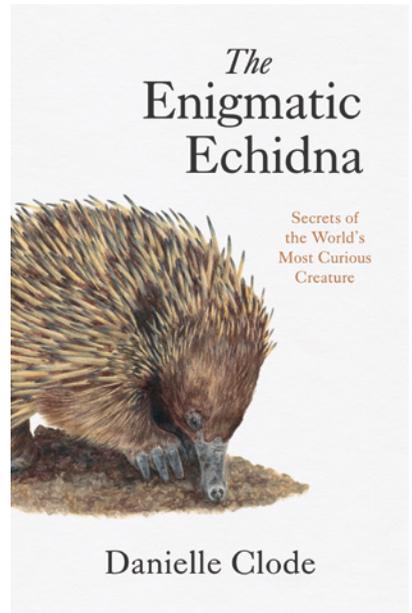
Step into the world of Australia's fascinating echidna, whose secrets are still being uncovered

There are few animals weirder than echidnas – a spiky egg-laying mammal that eats ants. But some of the weirdest things about echidnas are the things we don't know about. That they use their snout like a snorkel when they swim, that they can sense electromagnetic fields, that they have strangely complex brains, venomous glands and 'backwards' back feet. That they go into torpor when conditions are poor and they can survive fires underground. And during the mating season the males queue up after a female making cooing noises and forming an orderly echidna train, waiting their chance to impress her with some very strange reproductive equipment!

This book follows the echidna on its eclectic individual path, illustrated with quirky and characterful echidna sketches. The format builds on Danielle Clode's books across a range of

essay and fragmented nonfiction genres (*Continent of Curiosities*, *Voyages to the South Seas* and *The Wasp and the Orchid*). Rather than a systematic overview of echidna biology, the book will dip in and out of the fascinating aspects of echidna life – discursive and diverse, humorous and enlightening.

Danielle Clode is an award winning author of Australian non-fiction books. Her books have won the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for non-fiction, the Federation of Australian Writers award for excellence in nonfiction and two Whitley Awards. Danielle worked as a zookeeper before completing her doctorate in zoology at Oxford University, studying seabirds and feral mink in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland. She has been a freelance writer and researcher ever since.



MAY 2026

Non-Fiction /
Science, Nature &
The Environment

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$36.99
PB (234 x 153mm)
304pp

Manuscript:
Available

Rights held:
World

The Ruin of Magic

Longing and Belonging in Strange Times

Kate Holden

'Is it possible to live wondrously by fluorescent light?'



The Ruin of Magic is a poetic, roaming work from the formidable creativity and intellect of Kate Holden. She writes about home, belonging, enchantment and the risks and comforts of nostalgia. She meditates on the cultural belonging she feels to long-ago Europe versus the natural belonging she feels to the Australian landscape. And she laments the flattening influence of modernity while poking fun at her own seriousness – all the time consulting the literature and gathering fragrant bouquets of wisdom from other writers and thinkers. Eclectic, lush and deeply thoughtful, this book is a warm light in a dark room.

Kate Holden is the author of two acclaimed memoirs, *In My Skin* and *The Romantic*, and the true crime book *The Winter Road* which won the Walkley Book Prize, the Douglas Stewart Prize for Non-Fiction in the NSW Premier's Literary Awards and the Sisters In Crime Davitt Award for Non-Fiction. She is a regular contributor to *The Saturday Paper*, *The Monthly* and *The Age*.

MARCH 2026

Non-Fiction

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$36.99
PB (234 x 153mm)
304pp

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Manuscript:

Available

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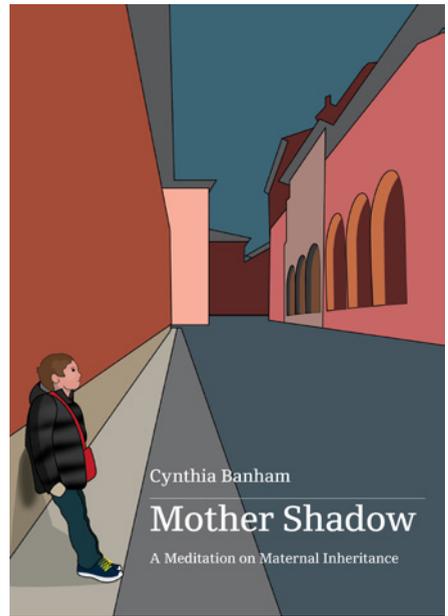
World

Mother Shadow

A Meditation on Maternal Inheritance

Cynthia Banham

A poignant telling of the legacies of mothering



Mother Shadow opens with the unearthing of a family secret. Cynthia Banham's great-grandmother was not an orphan, as she'd been told, but a foundling, abandoned at birth by a mother who 'did not consent to be named'. Cynthia's discovery triggers a passionate and indignant reaction: what kind of mother would relinquish her child?

Troubled by her rush to judge her ancestor, Cynthia becomes fixated on uncovering the mother's identity, a quest that takes her and her family to Bologna. As she pieces together the series of tragic events that led to the baby's abandonment, Cynthia wonders if her compulsion to understand the woman's act is linked to her own overwhelming sense of inadequacy as a mother.

Cynthia Banham is the author of *Liberal Democracies* and the *Torture of Their Citizens* and *A Certain Light: A Memoir of Family, Loss and Hope* – an account of surviving a plane crash with life-changing injuries. Previously, she worked as a lawyer, journalist and academic.

Praise for *Mother Shadow*:

'Stories about mothers and children are powerful. They are stories about love, about the gentleness (and cruelty) and resilience (and weakness) of human beings, and the enduring hope that connects generations. [Banham's] rich description of centuries-old Italian city streetscapes creates an atmosphere of mystery and suspense. The story draws you in and doesn't let go as clues about her search for her Italian great-grandmother arrive at a steady pace. I was on edge to the very end in anticipation of what was going to happen next.'

—Moreno Giovannoni,
author of *The Immigrants*

APRIL 2026

Narrative Non-Fiction

Imprint: Upswell.

RRP: \$32.99

PB (210 x 150mm)

220pp

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World; film/TV

The Shortest History of Antisemitism

Sir Simon Schama

A compelling and revealing exploration of the stains of the past and their echoes today.



From ancient times to modernity, antisemitism has endured as one of the most persistent forms of hatred. For thousands of years, as society embraced new ideas and discoveries – including the birth of Christianity and Islam, the enlightenment, the rise of nationalism and globalism, and great leaps of technology – the Jewish people served as a dark mirror on which fears, anxieties and hatreds have been reflected. Why?

In this crucial and unflinching history, Sir Simon Schama, the acclaimed British historian, examines the forces that have enabled this old hatred to surface, adapt and thrive, even in the age of liberal democracy.

With his characteristic blend of clarity, erudition and curiosity, Schama looks at the recurring beliefs and imagery that have coursed through the variants of antisemitism, including the latest outbreaks since the October 7 attacks and the war in Gaza.

Sir Simon Schama is an author and broadcaster and a professor of art history and history at Columbia University. He has won the National Book Critics Circle Award, the National Magazine Award for Criticism, and an Emmy award. His twenty books include *A History of Britain*, *The Power of Art*, and *The Story of the Jews* and he has written and presented more than fifty films and documentaries.

FEBRUARY 2026

History

Imprint: The Jewish Quarterly
RRP: \$29.99
PB (224 x 149mm)
98pp

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Manuscript:

February 2026

Rights held:

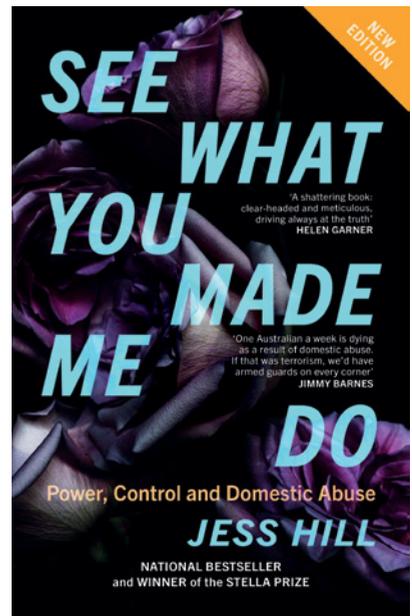
Translation

See What You Made Me Do

Power, Control and Domestic Abuse: Updated Edition

Jess Hill

A completely updated edition of Jess Hill's groundbreaking investigation of domestic abuse.



National bestseller and winner of the Stella Prize

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

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

Combining forensic research with riveting storytelling, Jess Hill's acclaimed bestseller

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

This new and updated edition features revised statistics, prefaces from Professor Clare Wright and domestic-violence educator Hannah Taylor-Civitarese, and a new afterword from the author.

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

Jess Hill is an investigative journalist, the author of *Losing It*, *See What You Made Me Do* and *The Reckoning*, and one of Australia's most recognised and respected thinkers on gendered violence. Her work has won three Walkley Awards, an Amnesty International Award and the Stella Prize in 2020. In 2023, she was named Marie Claire Changemaker of the Year and, in 2024, the NSW Premier's Woman of Excellence.

FEBRUARY 2026

Non-Fiction /
Domestic Abuse

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

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World

Rights sold:

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

Praise for *See What You Made Me Do*

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

— *Publishers Weekly*

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

— *San Francisco Book Review*

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

— *Booklist*

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

— **Joanne Froggatt**, Harper's Bazaar UK

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

— **Rosie Duffield MP**

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

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

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

— *Sydney Morning Herald*

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

— *Sydney Review of Books*

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

— *Inside Story*

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

— **Alecia Simmonds**, *Sydney Review of Books*

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

— **Laurie Penny**, author of *Unspeakable Things*

'... brilliant'

— **Sally Talbot**, *The West Australian*

Defiance

Stories from Nature and Its Defenders

Bob Brown

Stories of courage and conviction from the environmental frontline

For half a century, Bob Brown has been standing up to the powerful interests who would put profit before planet.

In *Defiance*, he draws on this experience to inspire a new generation of individual and collective action. He reflects on the people and places that have shaped him, celebrates the irreplaceable beauty and value of nature and shares what motivates him to keep fighting. He considers the challenges facing nature's defenders – hostile corporate lobbyists, vilification in the press, the powerful pull of consumerism – and shows how courage, persistence and community can defeat them all.

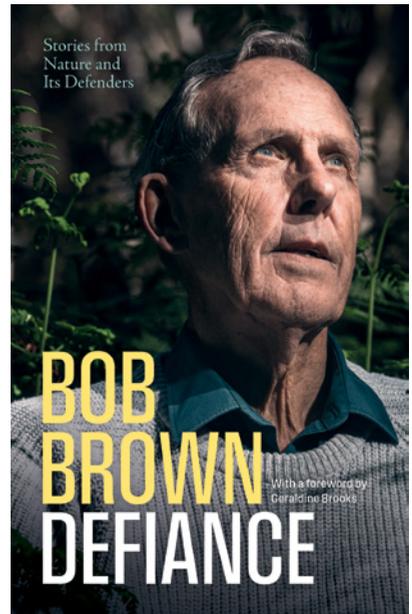
Told with Brown's trademark warmth and humour, these stories will galvanise, uplift and inspire.

With a foreword by Geraldine Brooks.

'Our unifying purpose ought to be safeguarding life on earth, honouring happiness and securing humanity for its future in the universe. This simple and obvious pursuit, far ahead of money, offers us meaning to life on our brilliant little planet.'

—Bob Brown

Bob Brown is an environmental and social justice campaigner and former senator. A founding member of the Wilderness Society, from 1978 he led the successful campaign against the construction of the Franklin Dam. He served in Tasmanian state parliament for a decade, was leader of the Australian Greens, and in 1996 was elected to the federal Senate. His books include *Memo for a Saner World* and *Optimism*. After retiring from the Senate in 2012, he established the Bob Brown Foundation, a not-for-profit organisation supporting environmental causes.



SEPTEMBER 2025

Non-Fiction /
Environmentalist,
Conservationist &
Green Organisations

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$36.99
PB (234 x 153mm)
320pp

Manuscript:
Available

Rights held:
World

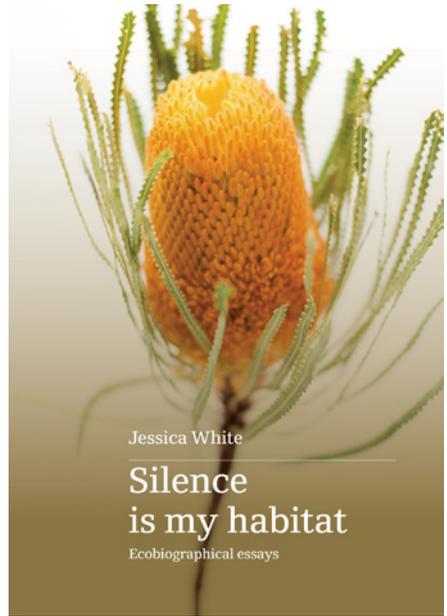
Rights sold:
World Audio (Audiible)

Silence is my habitat

Ecobiographical essays

Jessica White

A tactile and olfactory journey through a silent ecosystem



Jessica White has been deaf since she was four years old. Through ecobiography, which dwells on a person's interaction with their ecosystem and how this shapes their sense of self, she considers how deafness encouraged and moulded her relationship to the natural world. Unable to hear easily, she became observant, exploring her environments through the tactile and olfactory. In these poetic essays, she describes her responses to bodies of water, the university, the archive, the bush, and the quietened realm of the pandemic. She writes of burnt trees amidst the devastating loss of her mother. She finds a flock of deaf women writers who help her fly. White reveals that deafness, although it can bring fatigue and isolation, is also a portal to a rich, contemplative, and creative life.

Jessica White is an academic in the field of literature and a writer of novels, memoir and essays, with a PhD from the University of London. She won the 2020 Michael Crouch award for Debut Biography for her hybrid memoir *Hearing Maud* and was shortlisted for the Prime Minister's Award and the Queensland Literary Award. Her first novel, *A Curious Intimacy*, was published by Penguin in 2007, and won a Sydney Morning Herald Best Young Novelist award. It was shortlisted for the Western Australia Premier's award and the Dobbie award for a first book by a female writer and longlisted for the international IMPAC award. Her second novel, *Entitlement*, was published by Penguin in 2012.

Praise for *Silence is my habitat*:

'With tender and unflinching prose, Jessica White elegantly illuminates the hidden rhythms of our world.'

—Fiona Murphy, author of *The Shape of Sound*

OCTOBER 2025

Memoir / Essays

Imprint: Upswell.
RRP: \$32.99
PB (210 x 150mm)
176pp

Manuscript:

Available

Rights held:

World; film/TV

Rights sold:

World English-language ex ANZ (Milkweed Editions)

Forthcoming in the Shortest History series



The Shortest History of Australia

Mark McKenna

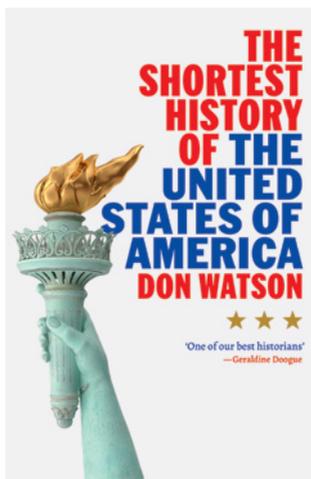
NOVEMBER 2025

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$39.99
HB (210 x 135mm)
304pp

Manuscript:
Available

Rights held:
World

Rights sold:
North America
(The Experiment)



The Shortest History of the United States of America

Don Watson

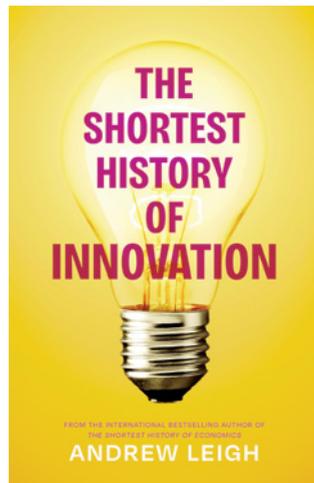
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Imprint: Black Inc.
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HB (210 x 135mm)
304pp

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World; film/TV

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North America (The Experiment);
UK/Commonwealth ex Canada,
ANZ, India (Old Street);
Greece (Metaichmio);
Korea (RollerCoaster Press);
Hungary (Athenaeum);
Taiwan (Sunrise Press);
Germany (Ullstein)



The Shortest History of Innovation

Andrew Leigh

FEBRUARY 2026

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$27.99
PB (198 x 128mm)
224pp

Manuscript:
Available

Rights held:
World; film/TV

Rights sold:
Taiwan (Sunrise Press);
China (China Machine
Press Co.);
Korea (Vision B&P)



The Shortest History of Egypt

Maria Golia

JUNE 2026

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$27.99
PB (198 x 128mm)
256pp

Manuscript:
Available

Rights held:
World; film/TV



The Shortest History of Reality

Geraint Lewis

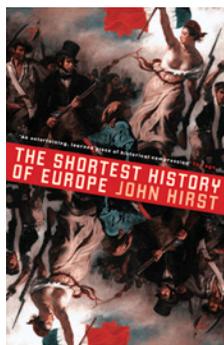
JUNE 2026

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$27.99
PB (198 x 128mm)
256pp

Manuscript:
Available

Rights held:
World; film/TV

The Shortest History series



The Shortest History of Europe

John Hirst

—

MAY 2012

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$27.99
PB (198 x 128mm)
192pp

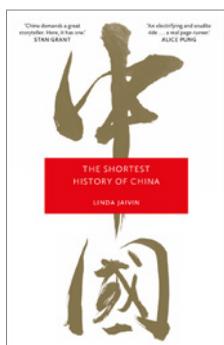
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World; film/TV

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Finland (Kustantamo);
Greece (Metaichmio Publications);
UK & Comm. ex ANZ & Canada (Old Street Publishing);
Saudi Arabia (Dar El Shorouk);
Italy (Giunti Editore Spa);
Portugal (Publicacoes Dom Quixote);
Spain (RBA Libros);
Turkey (Say Yayinlari);

Korea (Wisdomhouse Publishing Co.);
Brazil (Editores Sextante);
Japan (Tokyo Shoseki Co. Ltd.);
Poland (Polskie Wydawnictwo Naukowe);
Ukraine (Nash Format);
Thailand (Paragraph Publishing House);
Hungary (Athenaeum Kiadó Kft);
Slovak (Silverzen);
Czech Republic (Leda);
North America (The Experiment);
Romania (Litera);
Serbia (Laguna);
Iran (Ana Pol);
Audio (Tantor)



The Shortest History of China

Linda Jaivin

—

MAY 2021

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$27.99
PB (198 x 128mm)
288pp

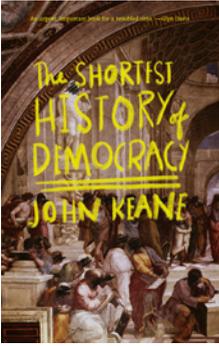
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Taiwan (Domain Publishing Company);
Hungary (Athenaeum Kiadó Kft);
Arabic (Dar El Shorouk);

India (Picador);
Israel (Kinneret Zmora);
Slovak (Silverzen);
Ukraine (Laboratory);
Thailand (Paragraph Publishing House);
Czech Republic (Leda);
Korea (Jinsungbooks);
Serbia (Laguna);
Romania (Litera);
The Netherlands (De Bezige Bij);
Germany (Ullstein);
Denmark (Svane & Bilgrav);
Audio (Tantor)



The Shortest History of Democracy

John Keane

FEBRUARY 2022

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$27.99
PB (198 x 128mm)
240pp

Manuscript:

Available

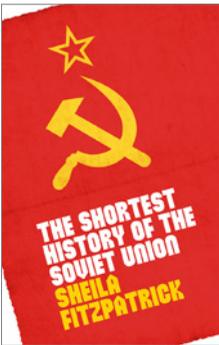
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Taiwan (Ye-Ren
Publishing House);

Spain (Antoni Bosch);
Portugal (Editorial
Presença);
Brazil (Alta);
Japan (Diamond Inc.);
Hungary (Athenaeum
Kiadó);
Israel (Tchelet Books);
Korea (Jinsungbooks);
Thailand (Paragraph
Publishing House);
Ukraine (Prometey
Publishing House);
Serbia (Laguna);
Audio (Tantor)



The Shortest History of the Soviet Union

Sheila Fitzpatrick

MARCH 2022

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$27.99
PB (198 x 128mm)
256pp

Manuscript:

Available

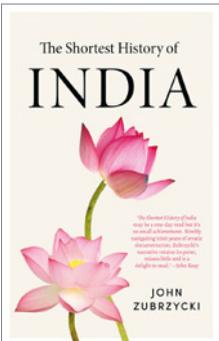
Rights held:

World: film/TV

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

Greece (Metaichmio);
Czech Republic
(Academia);
Brazil (Todavia);
Spain (Antoni Bosch);
Japan (Jimibun Shoin);
India (Picador);
Slovak (Silverzen);
Taiwan (Rye Field
Publications);
Korea (Rollercoaster Press);
Ukraine (Laboratory);
Albania (AIISS);
Sweden (Lind & Co);
Audio (Tantor)



The Shortest History of India

John Zubrzycki

MAY 2022

Imprint: Black Inc.
RRP: \$27.99
PB (198 x 128mm)
288pp

Manuscript:

Available

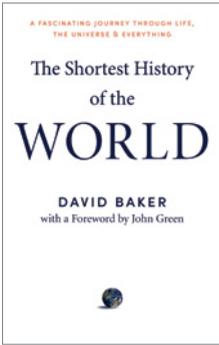
Rights held:

World

Rights sold:

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Canada, India (Old Street
Publishing);
Russia (Azbooka-Atticus);
Bulgaria (Prozoretz
Publishing House);
India (Picador);
Turkey (Say Yayinlari);
China (CITIC Press

Corporation);
Arabic (Dar El Shorouk);
Portugal (Editorial
Presença S.A);
Taiwan (As If Publishing);
Marathi (Madhushree
Publication);
Tamil (Kalachuvadu
Publications);
Hindi, Tamil, Telugu,
Kannada, Malayalam,
Marathi, Bangla
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David Baker,
with an introduction
from John Green

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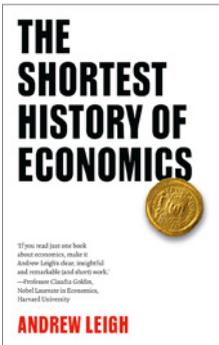
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Andrew Leigh

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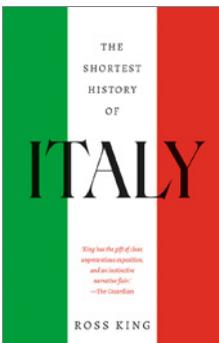
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Ross King

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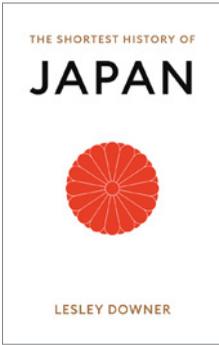
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Lesley Downer

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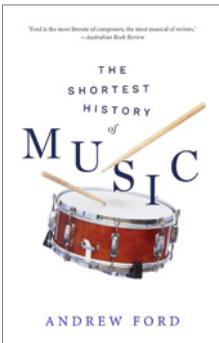
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Andrew Ford

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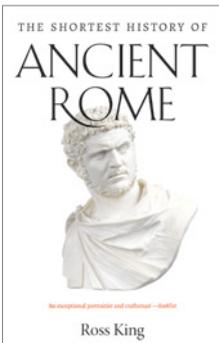
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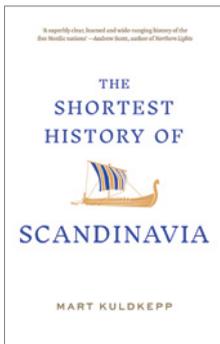
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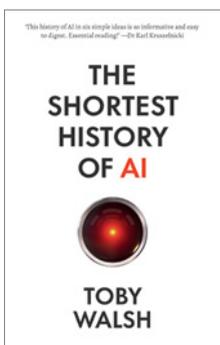
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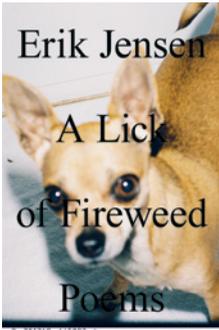
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POETRY





SEPTEMBER 2025

Poetry

Imprint: Black Inc.
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World

A lick of fireweed

Poems

Erik Jensen

Sweet, fragile poems about intimacy and separation

'In these sweet, fresh, fragile poems, Jensen demonstrates courage and skill at the arts of poetry and of love, and makes the sly suggestion that the one might be a metaphor for the other.'

—*The Weekend Australian on I said the sea was folded*

A sequel to Erik Jensen's first collection of memoir poems, *A lick of fireweed* takes a spare and unflinching look at love and landscape. These poems are the diary of a relationship ending and the story of how small details can make the world beautiful and whole.



MAY 2021

Poetry

Imprint: Black Inc.
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96pp

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I said the sea was folded

Love poems

Erik Jensen

From award-winning writer Erik Jensen comes a tender and involving narrative sequence of short love poems.

'These poems were intended first as gifts. They are the story of falling in love ... and realising that rejecting the gender binary is not one thing – it is everything.'

—**Erik Jensen**

Erik Jensen is an award-winning journalist, biographer and screenwriter. These poems announce a new phase in his work. They are startling in their simplicity and their honesty – reminiscent of Mary Oliver, Emily

Dickinson and Seamus Heaney. The poems chart the first three years of Jensen's relationship with his partner, a non-binary composer and musician. They are love poems, written against the complexity of understanding another person. Together they form a fragmentary memoir of hope, disagreement and love.

Erik Jensen is an award-winning journalist, biographer, screenwriter and poet. He is the founding editor of *The Saturday Paper* and editor-in-chief of Schwartz Media. His first book, *Acute Misfortune: The Life and Death of Adam Cullen*, was made into an acclaimed feature film and won the 2015 Nib Award for Literature. He is also the author of *On Kate Jennings*, Quarterly Essay 74: *The Prosperity Gospel* and *Angry at Breakfast*.

**LA TROBE
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A.D. Hope

A Life

Susan Lever

*A revelatory biography of one of
Australia's leading poets*

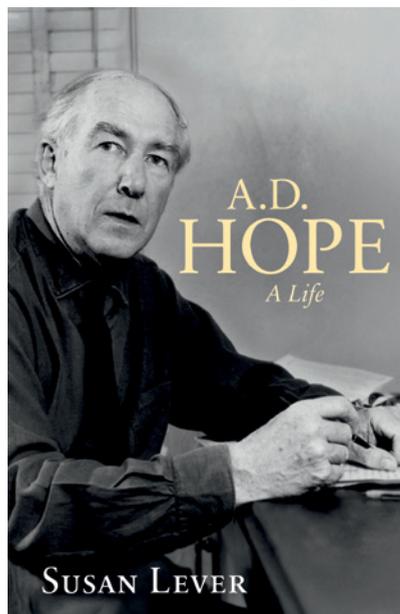
A. D. Hope (Alec Derwent Hope, 1907-2000) was one of Australia's most acclaimed poets, who was recognised throughout the English-speaking world after the publication of his poems in the UK and USA (1960-61). His poetry is intellectually challenging and formally brilliant as he responded to the major cultural shifts of the twentieth century, concluding that the task of the contemporary poet was the renewal of tradition. He was also a witty and penetrating critic, writing many controversial reviews and promoting the study of Australian literature through his essays and lectures.

This biography recounts his early life in rural Tasmania, the influences of his education at Sydney and Oxford universities, his notoriety as a book reviewer and wit in the 1940s and 1950s, and his career as an academic and promoter of Australian literature. It considers his role at the centre of Australian literary

life over more than 50 years.

Hope's first book of poetry was not published until he was 48 years old, mainly because of its sexual nature and the fear of censorship. Through his poems, his notebooks and many surviving letters to friends, this biography examines the contrasts in Hope's life and personality: the polite, softly spoken man with a savage wit, the professor who refused to confine himself to the narrow specialisations of the academy. Hope lived the life of an ordinary suburban Australian, most of it in Canberra, but the intellectual and emotional life evident in his poetry reveals a complex personality, responding to a changing intellectual world.

Susan Lever has written four monographs and edited several books and collections, including the *Oxford Book of Australian Women's Verse* (1992).



MARCH 2026

Biography

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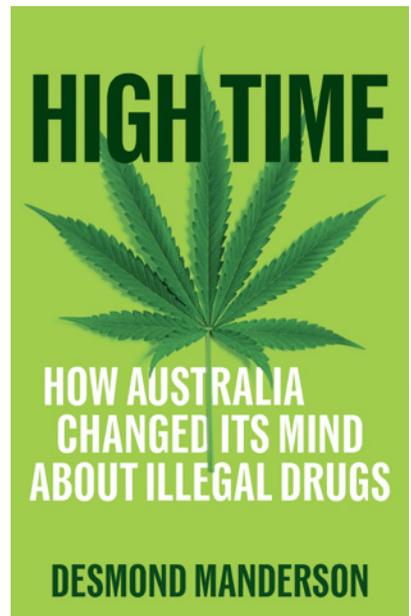
World; film/TV

High Time

How Australia Changed Its Mind About Drug Use

Desmond Manderson

A sparkling account of a revolution in how we think about drugs



Drug policy is always in the news and everything about it elicits controversy—from deaths at music festivals, to pill testing, to medicinal cannabis, to teenage vaping, to drug decriminalization. But books that take a careful look not just at the ideas but the history that has framed them are few and far between.

Australia's repressive treatment of illicit drugs began with racist anti-Chinese laws around 1900 and grew like topsy under the ardent influence of the United States. Forty years ago, prohibition seemed absolute and unalterable. This book tells the surprising story of what happened next. It provides remarkable stories and fresh insights, including:

- The hidden story of Tasmania's role in America's opioid crisis
- The reasons for and unexpected consequences of the explosion of legalized medicinal cannabis

- How MDMA went from promising therapy to horror drug – and back again
- How the debate over vaping has locked two closely allied medical communities in a fratricidal struggle that seems incapable of resolution

The book is written with elegance and accessibility, by one of Australia's leading experts. It will appeal to a general audience as well as specialists and students alike in the field of drug policy and history.

Manderson's previous book on drug policy was the first major Australian history of the subject. Since then there have not been any new books on the subject as a whole.

Professor Desmond Manderson FRSC, FAAL, FASSA is jointly appointed in the Colleges of Law and of Arts & Social Sciences at the Australian National University. He directs the Network for Law, Arts and the Humanities.

APRIL 2026

History

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