

9780691263137 | February 2026 | Princeton  
University Press | HB | 144pp | 215x139mm |  
AU \$32.99 | NZ \$37.99

DISCOUNT: GEN

#### About the author and editor:



**Virginia Woolf** (1882-1941) was one of the twentieth century's most important writers. In addition to writing ten novels, including *Mrs. Dalloway* and *To the Lighthouse*,

Woolf was the cofounder of the Hogarth Press and a prolific essayist and critic. Her manifesto *A Room of One's Own* is a cornerstone of modern feminist thought.

**Urmila Seshagiri** is Distinguished Professor of Humanities and Professor of English at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She is the author of *Race and the Modernist Imagination*, the editor of the Oxford World's Classics edition of Virginia Woolf's *Jacob's Room*, and a contributor to the *Los Angeles Review of Books*.

### THE LIFE OF VIOLET

Three Early Stories

VIRGINIA WOOLF, EDITED BY URMILA SESHAGIRI

- Virginia Woolf's first fully realised work of fiction – published in its final, revised form for the first time
- A beguiling trio of fantastical and farcical anti-fairy tales about a giantess who builds a magical 'cottage of one's own', battles a silver-scaled sea monster, and defies governesses and gravity alike

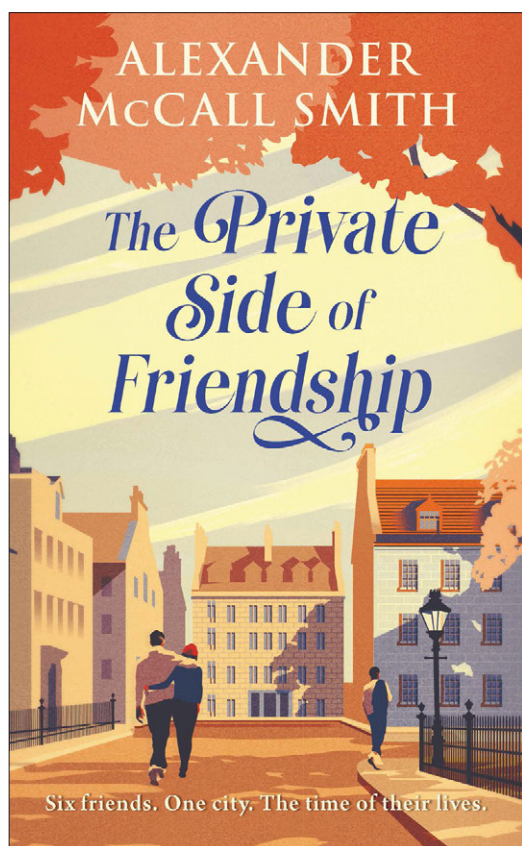
In 1907, eight years before she published her first novel, a twenty-five-year-old Virginia Woolf drafted three interconnected comic stories chronicling the adventures of a giantess named Violet – a teasing tribute to Woolf's friend Mary Violet Dickinson. But it was only in 2022 that Woolf scholar Urmila Seshagiri discovered a final, revised typescript of the stories. The typescript revealed that Woolf had finished this mock-biography, making it her first fully realised literary experiment and a work that anticipates her later masterpieces. Published here for the first time in its final form, *The Life of Violet* blends fantasy, fairy tale, and satire as it transports readers into a magical world where the heroine triumphs over sea-monsters as well as stifling social traditions.

In these irresistible and riotously plotted stories, Violet, who has powers 'as marvelous as her height', gleefully flouts aristocratic proprieties, finds joy in building 'a cottage of one's own', and travels to Japan to help create a radical new social order. Amid flights of fancy such as a snowfall of sugared almonds and bathtubs made of painted ostrich eggs, *The Life of Violet* upends the marriage plot, rejects the Victorian belief that women must choose between virtue and ambition, and celebrates women's friendships and laughter.

A major literary discovery that heralds Woolf's ambitions to revolutionise fiction and sheds new light on her great themes, *The Life of Violet* is first and foremost a delight to read.

This volume features a preface, afterword, notes, and photographs that provide rich historical, literary, and biographical context.

**'A fresh perspective on Woolf's early "literary experiments"...Suffused with delicate magic and penetrating wit, the stories in *The Life of Violet* foreground a radical world structured by laughter, magic, women's friendships, and egalitarian social relations.'** – *Foreword Reviews*



Polygon

9781846977299 | February 2026 | Polygon | HB |  
272pp | 216x135mm | AU \$39.99 | NZ \$44.99

DISCOUNT: GEN

## THE PRIVATE SIDE OF FRIENDSHIP

A Standalone Novel

ALEXANDER MCCALL SMITH

- Brand new stand alone novel from bestselling author Alexander McCall Smith
- A tale of nostalgia and grappling with a changing world, set against the backdrop of the 1980s miner's strikes
- Alexander McCall Smith's books have been translated into 46 languages and sold over 30 million copies worldwide
- Perfect holiday hardback gift

Six friends. One city. The time of their lives.

It's 1988, and on the verge of a reunion with friends she hasn't seen since graduation, Julie recalls her halcyon student days of 1984 and the strange tumultuous time they lived through.

The friends – each from a very different background – are living in a gorgeous terraced flat in their Edinburgh idyll. As they navigate relationships and the unspoken rules of flat sharing, the troubled world all around them seems rather distant. But in the nearby hometown of one of the flatmates, the Miners' Strike is bringing about a huge political shift.

Despite their differences, can these six strangers help each other see the world from a different perspective? Is there such a thing as being too close? And what are the limits of love between friends?



### About the author:

**Alexander McCall Smith** is the author of the highly successful *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series, which has sold over twenty-five million copies. Since then he has

devoted his time to the writing of fiction and has seen his various series of books translated into over forty-six languages and become bestsellers throughout the world. These include the *44 Scotland Street* novels, first published as a serial novel in the *Scotsman*, the *Isabel Dalhousie* novels, the *Von Igelfeld* series and the *Corduroy Mansions* novels.



9781923106574 | February 2026 | Giramondo  
Publishing | PB | 160pp | 210x148mm |  
AU \$29.95 | NZ \$34.99

DISCOUNT: GEN

#### About the author and translator:



**Helle Helle** was born in Denmark in 1965. She is a graduate of the Danish Academy of Creative Writing and the author of eleven novels as well as two collections of short stories. She is one of Scandinavia's most original and best-loved writers, with a career spanning three decades. Her books have been translated into twenty-four languages.

**Martin Aitken** is an acclaimed translator of Scandinavian literature, including works by Karl Ove Knausgaard, Hanne Ørstavik and Olga Ravn. He has received the American-Scandinavian Foundation's Nadia Christensen Translation Prize, the US National Translation Award in Prose and the PEN America Translation Prize, among other awards.

#### THEY

HELLE HELLE, TRANSLATED BY MARTIN AITKEN

- From the award-winning, cult Danish writer, an exquisite portrait of a mother and daughter
- The first in a trilogy, to be followed by *Hafni Says* in August 2026 and *Hey Hafni* in February 2027
- Published simultaneously by New Directions in the United States, and new UK independent Akoya Press

*'They go for a walk by the playing fields, the anemones are out.'*

They – a mother and her sixteen-year-old daughter – live in an apartment above a hairdresser's shop in a small island town. Each day is marked by routine and quiet intimacy. They are so enmeshed, so alike in their manners and opinions, it can be hard to tell them apart.

Then the mother begins to feel unwell. They carry on with their lives, talk about anything but the diagnosis. The mother goes in and out of hospital, and the daughter, just starting high school, makes new friends – Tove Dunk, Hafni, Bob, Desert Boots – but remains essentially alone. Illness, and the possibility of loss, cast a growing shadow over her life.

Writing in a multi-layered, perpetual present tense, Helle Helle finds a tender voice for the comedy and awkwardness of her heroines' lives, rendered into riveting and affecting English by acclaimed translator Martin Aitken. *they* is an exquisite portrait of the fragile love between a mother and daughter, and a love letter to 1980s life on the island of Lolland, where the author grew up.

#### Praise for Helle Helle:

**'Helle has enchanting gifts as a storyteller... the words so light they nearly float off the page.'**  
– *New York Times*

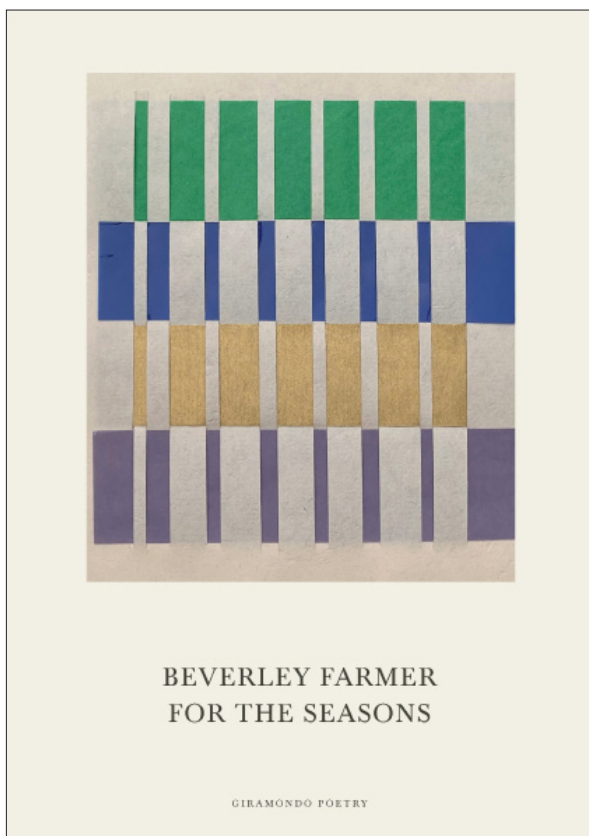
**'One of my favorite Danish writers – she's the master.'** – Olga Ravn, *The Guardian*

**'One of Scandinavia's finest authors.'** – *Dagbladet*

**'Helle Helle's minimalism isn't boring; it crackles with mystery. It's the everyday, and yet it's insistently beautiful.'** – *Weekendavisen*

**'You laugh and laugh, cry and cry. Not bawling or sobbing, but quiet and intense. That's what it's like reading Helle Helle.'** – *Politiken*





## FOR THE SEASONS

Haikus

BEVERLEY FARMER

- Recently rediscovered poetry collection by the late Beverley Farmer, showing her mastery of the haiku, the simplest of poetic forms
- New addition to Giramondo's program of bringing this distinguished author's works into print

Beverley Farmer is one of our finest prose writers, but her new book, *For the Seasons: Haikus*, is likely to make her reputation as a poet too. The manuscript of *For the Seasons*, composed over twenty-five years ago, was rediscovered by the critic and scholar Lyn Jacobs after Farmer's death in 2018. The collection has never been published in full before. It joins the three prose works by Farmer Giramondo has now brought back into print: the novels *Alone* and *The Seal Woman* and the journal *A Body of Water*.

The haikus collected in *For the Seasons* are arranged in sections, beginning with Spring then progressing to Summer and Autumn and ending with Winter. One is immediately struck by the delicacy of Farmer's observations, drawn from her immersion in the coastal landscape around Point Lonsdale on the Bellarine Peninsula in southern Victoria. The constraints imposed by the haiku form encourage attention to the finest details and textures – of light and colour, of air and sand and sea – and foster an awareness of the transient life they hold, its beauty, vitality and decay. The emotion is all in the detail, the 'I' barely features, yet the mood of the seasons, and their progression is keenly registered. Farmer's poetry is remarkable in this respect, modest, self-effacing, and yet revelatory in its intensity.



9781923106567 | February 2026 |  
Giramondo Publishing | PB | 118pp |  
210x148mm | AU \$27.00 | NZ \$32.99

DISCOUNT: GEN



Naarm  
(Melbourne)



### About the author:

**Beverley Farmer** (1941–2018) was the author of four collections of short stories, including *Milk*, which won the NSW Premier's Award for Fiction; the novels

*Alone*, *The Seal Woman* and *The House in the Light*, which was shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award; and the writer's notebook, *A Body of Water*. Giramondo first published *The Bone House*, Farmer's collection of essays on the life of the body and the life of the mind in 2005, and *This Water: Five Tales* in 2017: it was longlisted for the Stella Prize.

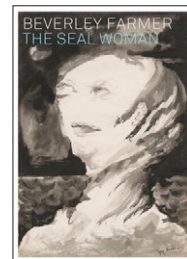
### Also available:

## THE SEAL WOMAN

BEVERLEY FARMER

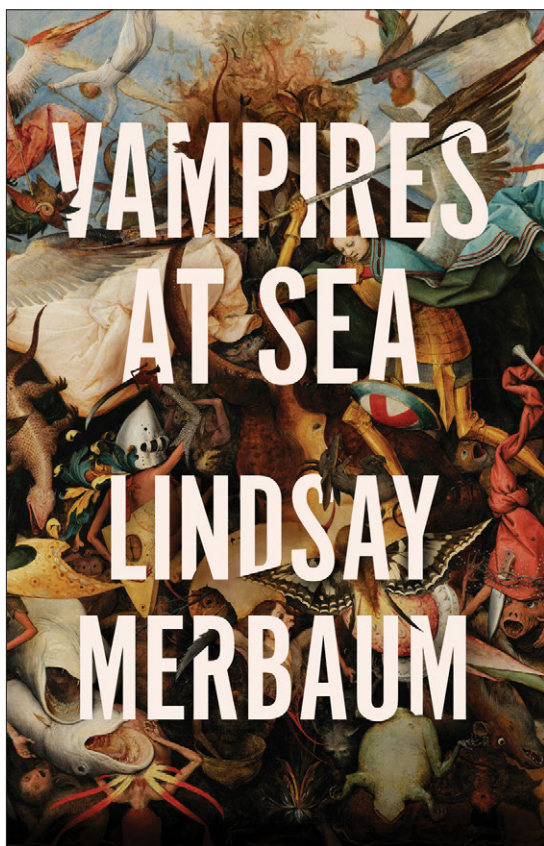


9781923106260 | March 2025 | Giramondo Publishing | PB |  
380pp | 210x148mm | AU \$34.95 | NZ \$39.99 | DISC: GEN



**‘Vampires at Sea is creepy, sexy fun; a book that’s small but mighty, pages bursting with electricity and raw heat. What a treat! I really loved it.’**

– Kristen Arnett, author of *Mostly Dead Things*



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9781951971229 | February 2026 | Creature Publishing, LLC | PB | 168pp | 198x129mm | AU \$29.99 | NZ \$34.99

DISCOUNT: GEN



#### About the author:

**Lindsay Merbaum** is a queer author of strange tales and the founder of Pick Your Potions, a consortium of mixology and witchery. Her first novel with Creature Publishing, *The Gold*

*Persimmon*, was a 2021 Foreword Indies Finalist. Lindsay lives in Flint, Michigan with her partner and cats.

## VAMPIRES AT SEA

LINDSAY MERBAUM

- A horror-based *White Lotus* that will appeal to viewers of *What We Do in the Shadows*, artsy queers, and anyone in need of a good romp
- A pitch perfect horror-comedy featuring an unlikeable female character
- A beach read! Offbeat, dark, hysterical
- Expert mixologist: Lindsay crafts booktails for authors on Electric Literature
- Award finalist: Lindsay Merbaum's previous novel *The Gold Persimmon* was a finalist for the 2021 Foreword INDIES award for Thriller & Suspense and received a starred review from *Library Journal*

If you liked *What We Do in the Shadows*, you should buy this book. If you hated *Twilight*, you should also buy this book.

Immortal beloveds Rebekah and Hugh are on vacation! Against a backdrop of ongoing war, this pair of chic emotional vampires from San Francisco sets off on a queer Black Sea Cruise, eager to relax, join an orgy, and feast upon their fellow passengers' desires and sorrows. When Hugh becomes enchanted by an alluring – and possibly magical – nonbinary social media influencer named Heaven, Rebekah's reality capsizes, and her true nature is unleashed.

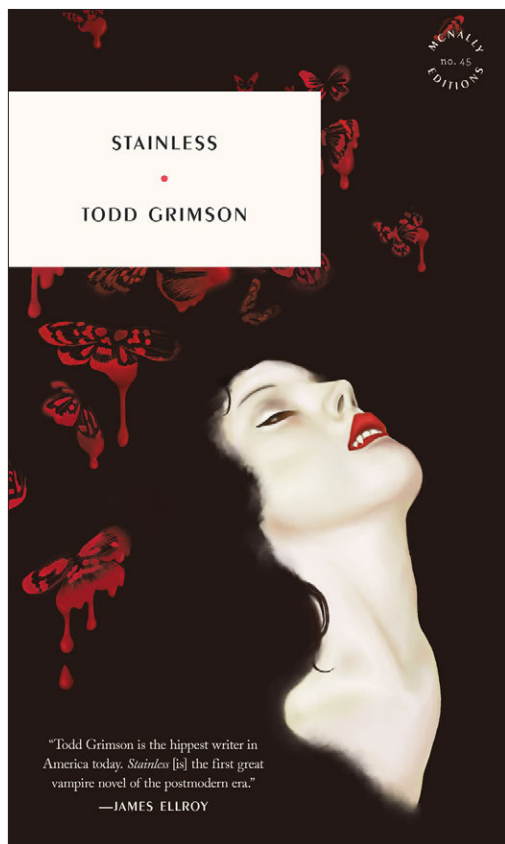
A smutty horror-comedy featuring unbridled narcissism, *Vampires at Sea* is a hilarious snack!

**“The ocean! Europe! Horny lonely people!” *Vampires at Sea* is smart, sexy, and wickedly fun. Merbaum delivers a story of insatiable appetites and fierce desires – a velvet-clad romp through queer love and longing.’** – Elizabeth Gonzalez James, author of *The Bullet Swallower*

**‘A deliciously dark cocktail of eternal romance, sensuous prose, and deep intrigue. *Vampires at Sea* is hilarious-horror, strikingly wise, and erotically charged. Lindsay Merbaum delivers a fangs-out, inventive voyage in this addictive, gorgeous novella. Dive in!’** – Margot Douaihy, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Scorched Grace* and *Blessed Water*

**‘*Stainless* [is] the first great vampire novel of the postmodern era.’**

– James Ellroy



## STAINLESS

TODD GRIMSON

- **The ultimate vampire novel:** hailed by *The Guardian* as ‘the Ultimate, Final Vampire Novel’, *Stainless* blends noir, horror, romance, and addiction in a way that reinvented the genre in 1996 – and it’s still on the bleeding edge
- **A dark love story for the ages:** Justine – melancholy, cruel, and seductive – is a centuries-old vampire and the muse, lover, and tormenter of Keith, her troubled-artist human companion. Theirs is a bond that blurs the line between life, death, and love
- **LA noir at its grittiest:** think Brett Easton Ellis meets James Ellroy: *The New York Times* called *Stainless* a ‘satanic *Less Than Zero*’
- **A gen-x gothic masterpiece:** with its gritty 1990s Los Angeles setting, *Stainless* perfectly captures the decadence, nihilism, and dark glamour of its era – one that feels all too familiar in our own post-moral (if not postmortal) age

Justine is a vampire. Keith just lives like one. An ex-junkie and ex-rock star, his hands mangled by his dead ex’s own jealous ex, he’s let go of his ambitions. He’s content to be Justine’s live-in Renfield, helping her pick up dinner when she needs a bite, keeping an eye on her lavish L.A. manor when the sun is out and she’s down for her beauty sleep. It’s true that Justine has been around for a few centuries and Keith barely three decades, but they’re good for each other: Justine is teaching Keith to take the long view; Keith is reminding her how it feels to be alive. Yet a cohort of criminals, desperate artists, dead-enders, hangers-on, and wanna-bes, undead and otherwise, threaten their curious union. Can love stay untainted in a world of monsters?

First published in 1996, Todd Grimson’s *Stainless* is a noir fantasia, a symphony of bloody horror, and a woozy, erotic tour of night-side L.A. Not only is it the greatest vampire novel of the twentieth century, it may be the last, best farewell to the mythic Los Angeles of Bette Davis, Dennis Hopper, and *Less than Zero*. In a league with the best of James Ellroy and Raymond Chandler – and closing the coffin for good on poor old Bram Stoker – *Stainless* is the final word on fangs, hangovers, and heartbreak.

**‘The greatest horror writer you’ve never read... In *Stainless*, Todd Grimson set out to write “the Ultimate, Final Vampire Novel” – and succeeded.’**  
– *The Guardian*



McNALLY  
EDITIONS

9781961341456 | February 2026 | McNally Editions |  
PB | 256pp | 216x127mm | AU \$32.99 | NZ \$37.99

DISCOUNT: GEN

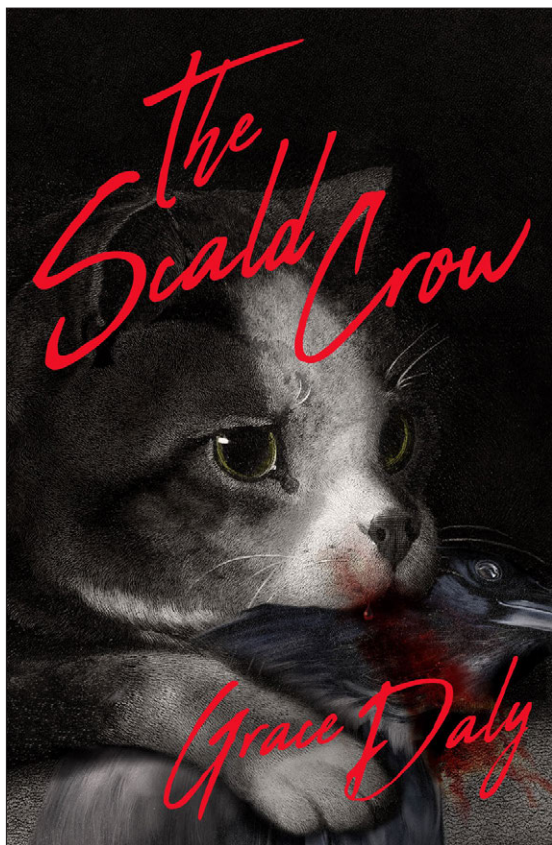


### About the author:

**Todd Grimson** was the author of three novels and a collection of short fiction. His debut novel, *Within Normal Limits*, was the winner of the Oregon Book

Award. His third, *Brand New Cherry Flavor*, was adapted into a Netflix limited series in 2021. He died in January 2025.



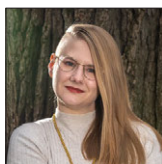


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9781951971311 | February 2026 | Creature Publishing,  
LLC | PB | 258pp | 198x129mm | AU \$29.99 |  
NZ \$34.99

DISCOUNT: GEN



#### About the author:

**Grace Daly** (she/her) is a disabled author who lives near Chicago with her pets. She spends most of her free time with her dog, who is a very good boy. Her fantasy

novella, *The Star of Kilnaely*, is forthcoming in 2026. *The Scald-Crow* is her first novel.

**‘A searing, urgent, and beautiful story. An absolute standout of 2025 and an astounding debut, this one will haunt your dreams...and your nightmares.’** – Gwendolyn Kiste, four-time Bram Stoker Award-winning author of *The Haunting of Velkwood* and *Reluctant Immortal*

## THE SCALD-CROW

GRACE DALY

- **Vital representation for those in the chronic invisible illness community**
- **Unique horror comedy that balances severity with levity**
- **Will resonate with any woman with chronic illness or an undiagnosed condition. More broadly, any woman who has ever interacted with U.S. healthcare**
- **Who else is it for? Irish folklore enthusiasts, healthcare professionals, Chicagoland locals, horror comedy lovers, anyone who has or wants a cat or who has hated a bird**
- **LGBTQ+ representation, honest therapy sessions, and a fraught mother-daughter relationship**

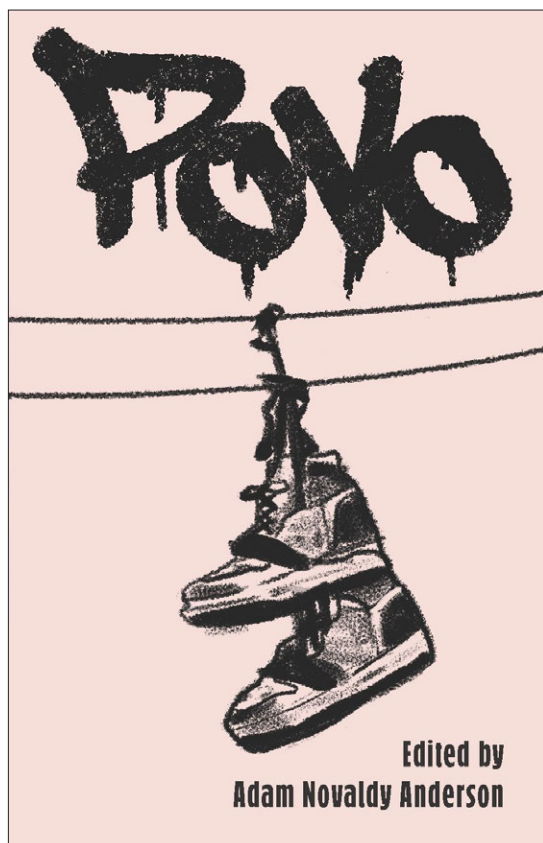
Shot through with gallows humour and speaking in the voice of a trusted best friend, this self-deprecating horror novel explores medical trauma through Irish folklore, asking ‘Can a sick woman ever be trusted?’

Brigid – that’s the Irish Breej, not ‘Bridge-id’, though it’s not like she’d correct you – has had a rough go of it. Her mother abused her when she was little, her best friend (and secret crush) is too busy chasing some blonde to answer Brigid’s calls, and she lost her job thanks to chronic pelvic pain with no identifiable cause. As a self-doubting, disabled adult, she’s certain that everything that has happened to her is her fault.

Now her mother has gone missing and Brigid’s only option is to move back into her childhood home in the idyllic Midwestern town of St. Charles, Illinois. Soon the uncanny begins: a particular crow that once harassed her reappears, following her everywhere. A painting of Jesus keeps coming back, no matter how many times she throws it away. Frozen body parts show up in places rubber band balls and door stoppers ought to be. Every night the same nightmare repeats: her real mother is dead and decaying in the closet, and the identical mother who raised her is not her mother. But it’s all in Brigid’s head. It’s all her fault. It must be. What other explanation could there be?

After all, since when can a sick woman be trusted?

**‘Daly’s strong debut uses a classic haunted house story to probe themes of chronic illness, religious trauma, and queer desire...Daly’s description of female pain and how it is treated (or ignored) by doctors is unflinching and refreshing...The ghostly imagery of the haunting is wonderfully eerie, complete with several effective jump scares. It’s a memorable first outing.’** – *Publishers Weekly*



9780645717907 | February 2024 |  
Sweatshop | PB | 160pp | 234x153mm  
| AU \$19.99 | NZ \$22.99

DISCOUNT: GEN



#### About the editor:

**Adam Novaldy Anderson** is a mixed-race Australian-Indonesian writer and activist. He grew up on Gomeri land in Tamworth, and is currently based on Darug land in Bankstown. Adam completed his Bachelor of Arts from Western Sydney University in 2018. *Povo* is his debut anthology as a literary editor.

## POVO

EDITED BY ADAM NOVALDY ANDERSON

- Reprint with refreshed cover design available now!
- Thirty-seven writers from First Nations, migrant and refugee backgrounds reveal the true wealth and beauty of Australia's cultural melting pots

Australia is often referred to as The Lucky Country – a land of economic opportunity and vast natural resources. But how does this myth square up against the true experiences of Indigenous and culturally diverse Australians living in our nation's most densely populated regions?

Featuring original works of prose, poetry and non-fiction which centre and celebrate the eclectic vibrancy and linguistic fluidity of a new generation of Australian writers.

*Povo* features a ground-breaking collection of works by emerging and established writers from diverse cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. The collection includes experimental writing from the Asylum Seekers Centre, Macquarie Fields High School and Leumeah High School.

#### Acclaimed & Award-Winning contributors include:

**Phoebe Grainer** is a Kuku Djungan, Muluridji, Wakaman, Tagalaka, Kunjen, Warrgamay and Yindinji actor, writer and editor from Far North Queensland. In 2023, Phoebe won the prestigious Australia Council Dreaming Award.

**Natalia Figueroa Barroso** is a Uruguayan-Australian writer from Penrith. Natalia is currently working on her debut novel, *Hailstones Fell Without Rain* (UQP, 2025).

**Daniel Nour** is an Egyptian-Australian writer. In 2020, Daniel won the New South Wales Premier's Young Journalist of the Year Award. Daniel is currently working on his debut novel as a recipient of the 2021 Affirm Press Mentorship for Sweatshop Writers.

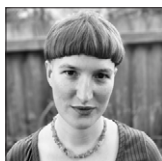




VERVE BOOKS

9780857309341 | February 2026 | Verve Books | PB |  
288pp | 198x129mm | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$29.99

DISCOUNT: GEN

**About the author:**

**Sophie Crawford** is an author, theatre maker and folk musician based in London. After studying English at Cambridge University, Sophie went on to work as a performer on the West End, at Shakespeare's Globe and touring internationally. She now helps run the theatre company Glimmer Theatre, the monthly poetry and music night Patterned Ground, the monthly folk singing session The Singaround and the drag king band Boyz. She also works independently as a solo musician. Her debut album, *Silver Pin*, was released in 2018. She is interested in women's history, queer history, traditional music, dance, drag and the way all of these intersect.

**MY EX-GIRLFRIEND'S WEDDING**

SOPHIE CRAWFORD

- A fun, fresh and eccentric romcom looking at the absurdities of the London lesbian scene with a lot of chaos and a sprinkling of magic
- Romance is a hugely popular genre with calls from the queer community for more sapphic literature. This novel not only features an array of lesbian characters but captures the current queer experience in London, poking fun at its absurdities and stereotypes through a heartwarming love story
- We anticipate that the novel will get strong traction across BookTok and Bookstagram
- Perfect for fans of *Looking for a Sign* by Susie Dumond, *Funny Story* by Emily Henry and *The Seven Year Slip* Ashley Poston with notes of *Really Good, Actually* by Monica Heisey

A romcom for the modern age filled with magic, heart and the absurdities of the sapphic dating scene.

Hope has nothing going for her. She's in a job she hates, she's been forced to quit her band after losing the ability to play guitar and, to make matters worse, her ex – the love of her life, Julia – is now getting married to her best friend's ex (messy, right?). But there's one silver lining: Hope has been invited to play at their wedding...and she's going to get Julia back.

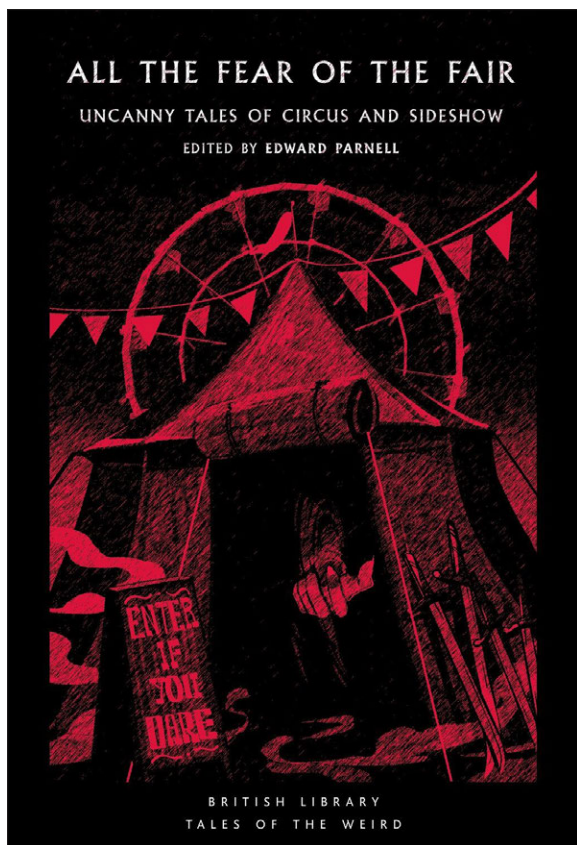
However, the road to true love is never easy, and Hope's journey is blocked by tarot readers, hen parties, visions from the past and, worst of all, Ruby. With their big eyes and extremely kissable mouth, Ruby is new to London's convoluted queer scene and a much-needed breath of fresh air for Hope.

Will Hope win back the woman she loves, or does the universe have something else in store?

**'Equal parts juicy lesbian drama and quick-witted comedy, *My Ex-Girlfriend's Wedding* is exactly the kind of romance I love most. Crawford's cheeky prose and lively characters made for a story I never wanted to end. If you love messy sapphics, you're going to adore this book'** – Susie Dumond, author of *Looking for a Sign*

**'Brilliantly astute, witty and heartfelt. *My Ex-Girlfriend's Wedding* is a razor sharp window into the dangerously small world of lesbian London. I loved it'** – Laura Kay, author of *Making It*

**'Crawford's witty debut is a sly take on the romcom, weaving in the supernatural to capture love's uncanny magic'** – Anna Dorn, author of *Perfume and Pain*



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BRITISH  
LIBRARY

9780712355094 | February 2026 | British Library  
Publishing | PB | 288pp | 190x130mm | AU \$22.99 |  
NZ \$27.99

DISCOUNT: GEN

#### About the editor:

**Edward Parnell** is the author of the award-winning *Ghostland: In Search of a Haunted Country* (2019), which was shortlisted for the PEN Ackerley Prize 2020 for memoir and autobiography, as well as the Norfolk-set novel *The Listeners* (2014). His *Tales of the Weird* anthology *Eerie East Anglia* was one of the series' bestsellers in 2024.

## ALL THE FEAR OF THE FAIR

Uncanny Tales of Circus and Sideshow

EDITED BY EDWARD PARNELL

- From the award-nominated author of *Ghostland*, editor of *Eerie East Anglia* in the *Tales of the Weird* series
- Exploring one of the core tropes of modern horror media popularised by *IT*, *American Horror Story* and Ray Bradbury's *Something Wicked this Way Comes*
- Featuring tales from classic horror and SF authors such as Robert Aickman, Ray Bradbury and Margery Lawrence as well as rarities from the British Library collections

Step right up to see the enchanted Ferris wheel whose magical gifts are to die for! Marvel at the man-eating menagerie and dreadful secrets of 'Satan's Circus'! Behold the nightmare waxworks of Mrs. Groby's Chamber of Horrors!

Carnivals and sideshows are settings closely entwined with the history of horror cinema, but in the realms of literature, there is a strain of uncanny fairground fiction with even deeper roots. Home to a sinister troupe of conjurers, puppeteers, beast tamers and crowds baying for blood beneath the Big Top, the performance spaces of these classic weird tales are borderlands where the unearthly meets the darker cravings of the human heart.

Presenting sixteen sensational short stories, hailing from Edgar Allan Poe's 1840s through to Robert Aickman's 1960s, Edward Parnell invites you to enjoy a cavalcade of uneasy thrills courtesy of Gerald Kersh, Ray Bradbury, Margery Lawrence and many more.

#### Also available:

## EERIE EAST ANGLIA

EDITED BY EDWARD  
PARNELL

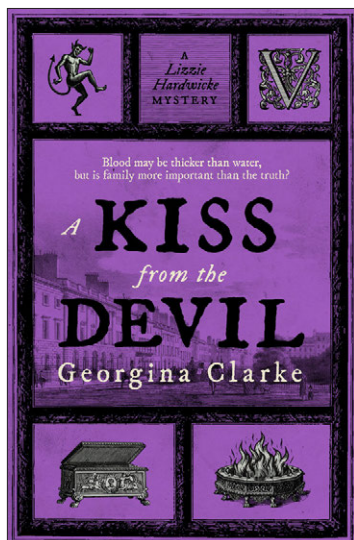


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9780712355711 | November 2024 | British Library Publishing | PB |  
320pp | 190x130mm | AU \$22.99 | NZ \$27.99 | DISC: GEN





## A KISS FROM THE DEVIL

GEORGINA CLARKE

- A gripping and vividly imagined historical mystery set in 18th-century London, from the author of acclaimed historical novel *The Dazzle of the Light*
- Perfect for fans of *The Household* by Stacey Halls, *Daughters of the Night* and *The Square of Sevens* by Laura Shepherd-Robinson, as well as readers of Laura Purcell, Sarah Waters and Diana Gabaldon

**Blood may be thicker than water, but is family more important than the truth?**

London, August 1759. Lizzie Hardwicke, society harlot and occasional investigator for the magistrate, is shaken by an encounter with her estranged brother during a riotous evening hosted by the notorious Devil's Brotherhood. Beyond the opulence of this Mayfair party, a streetwalker is found strangled on the doorstep of a well-known moral campaigner, her cheek branded with the letter V.

When more girls are discovered dead and similarly marked, Lizzie fears that someone stalks the streets with a violent hatred of women, and as the evidence begins to point to her own brother, any remaining family loyalty she has is severely tested.

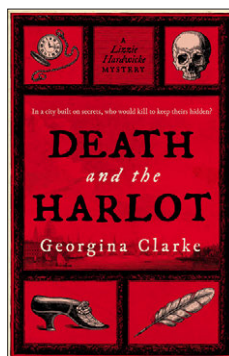
Her past catches up with her and her future becomes increasingly dangerous, yet Lizzie is still unaware of darker plots being hatched in the shadows.



9 780857 309303

9780857309303 | February 2026 | Verve Books | PB | 320pp | 198x128mm | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$29.99 | DISC: GEN

## Also available:



## DEATH AND THE HARLOT

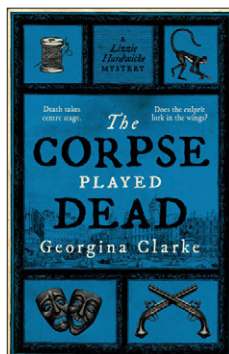
GEORGINA CLARKE

In a city built on secrets, who would kill to keep theirs hidden? The year is 1759, and London is shrouded in a cloak of fear. With the lawmen at the mercy of robbers and highwaymen, it's a perilous time to work the already dangerous streets of Soho.

9780857308979 | June 2025 | Verve Books | PB | 320pp | 198x129mm | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$29.99 | DISC: GEN



9 780857 308979



## THE CORPSE PLAYED DEAD

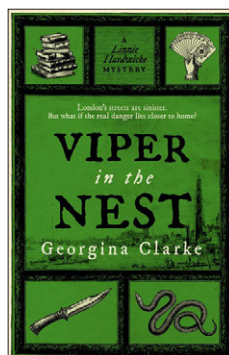
GEORGINA CLARKE

Death takes centre stage. Does the killer lie in the wings? An undercover assignment for the Bow Street magistrate sees Lizzie Hardwicke trade Mrs Farley's Bawdy House in Soho for life as a seamstress at a theatre on Drury Lane.

9780857308993 | June 2025 | Verve Books | PB | 304pp | 198x129mm | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$29.99 | DISC: GEN



9 780857 308993



## VIPER IN THE NEST

A Lizzie Hardwicke Novel

GEORGINA CLARKE

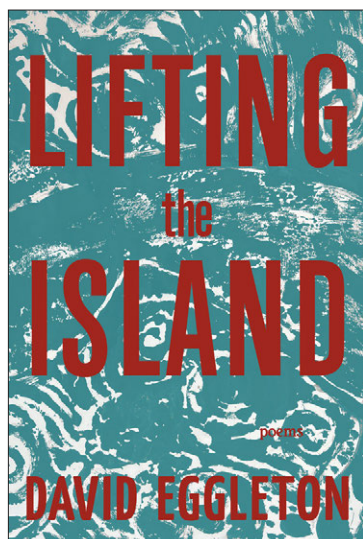
London's streets are sinister. But what if the real danger lies closer to home? When a charmless civil servant takes his own life and a gambling house owner is brutally murdered, Lizzie finds herself tangled in a chaos that she cannot control.

9780857308955 | July 2025 | Verve Books | PB | 320pp | 198x129mm | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$29.99 | DISC: GEN



9 780857 308955





**‘This is vital, elastic, expertly handled language in a Pacific voice of cultural and musical sensibility, poetry to be spoken aloud or in the mind.’**  
– Cilla McQueen, MNZM, and former New Zealand Poet Laureate

## LIFTING THE ISLAND

Poems

DAVID EGGLETON

- David Eggleton explores the voices of New Zealand, Australia, and Polynesia in his latest collection, *Lifting the Island*
- Award-winning poet: won the Ockham New Zealand Book Award for Poetry for *The Conch Trumpet*
- Former editor of New Zealand’s leading literary journal, *Landfall*, and the current editor of *Landfall Review Online*

This own-voices collection is a kind of lyrical world map of the South Pacific, built up through a lush epic catalog of flora, fauna, and artifacts.

This collection is a kind of lyrical word map of the South Pacific, built up through a lush epic catalog of flora, fauna, and artifacts. The poems are frequently infused with a wry humour – and while they often eschew both narrative and personal epiphany, they make intensely detailed, vigorous observations of place and landscape that are curious, sparkling, and sometimes hilarious.

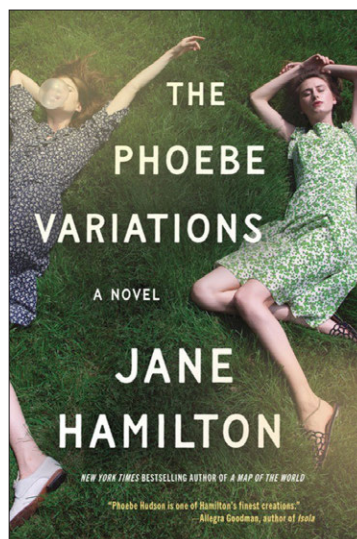
Linguistically agile, this book’s stanzas bring together the lyrical and the slangy, celebrating the local vernaculars of New Zealand, Australia, and Polynesia. Many of its poems work as cascading streams of image; of pronouncements; of dramatic tonal shifts almost line by line; and with dense, daring metaphor clusters.



9 781636 282909



9781636282909 | February 2026 | Red Hen Press | PB | 168pp  
| 229x152mm | AU \$29.99 | NZ \$34.99 | DISC: GEN



## THE PHOEBE VARIATIONS

A Novel

JANE HAMILTON

- Jane is the acclaimed author of seven previous novels, including *The Book of Ruth* and *A Map of the World*, which were Oprah’s Book Club selections
- Quirky, provocative, tender and complex – a delightfully thought-provoking look at mother archetypes, girlhood friendship, and the unexpected ways we strike out independently into the world

The acclaimed, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Book of Ruth* and *A Map of the World* returns with a stunning coming-of-age novel about girls, mothers, and finding one’s way in the world.

Seventeen-year-old Phoebe was never interested in her birth family. But on the cusp of her high school graduation, her adoptive mother, Greta, insists on a visit to meet her biological parents and siblings. The encounter is a jolt, a revelation that derails Phoebe.

With the help of her best friend Luna, Phoebe runs away – as far as their friend Patrick O’Connor’s chaotic home, where she hopes to go unnoticed among his thirteen siblings. But when Phoebe asks Patrick to chop off her hip-length hair, she’s suddenly transformed. Patrick’s older brothers can’t help but notice the striking, Peter Pan-like stranger who has suddenly appeared in their midst.



9 798992 427608

9798992427608 | February 2026 | Zibby Books | PB | 368pp  
| 210x140mm | AU \$32.99 | NZ \$37.99 | DISC: GEN



**‘As in the past we still hold our freedom and our pleasure in our own strong hands. Hands made even stronger when holding on to the hands of others.’**  
– Jewelle Gomez

## CARMELLE & CARMILLA

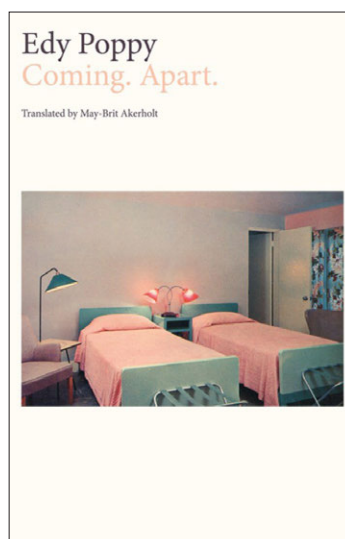
JOSEPH SHERIDAN LE FANU, JEWELLE GOMEZ

- A must-have for vampire lovers: before *Interview with the Vampire*, before *Dracula*, there was *Carmilla* – the mysterious and alluring vampire of readers’ dreams and nightmares
- Gomez’s foreword provides valuable context and analysis, bridging the 19th-century origins of vampire fiction with contemporary themes of identity, sexuality, and empowerment

**Two vampire stories, two authors, two striking meditations on dependency and desire.**

For readers of Octavia E. Butler, Tananarive Due, and Gwendolyn Christie, comes *Carmelle*, Jewelle Gomez’s latest addition to the universe of *The Gilda Stories*. This short story offers a supernatural alternate history where vampires seek love, laughter, and blood in 1860s slavery America.

In *Carmilla*, included here alongside *Carmelle*, Le Fanu serves the sensual, sapphic, and spooky packaged into the experience of girlhood in 19th Century Austria. This original vampire story predates *Dracula* and introduces the genre as reliant on themes of gender, sexuality, and race.



**‘Coming. Apart. is a knife-edge book that confirms that women have taken over the writing of interesting short stories.’**  
– Vidar Kvalshaug, *Aftenposten*

## COMING. APART.

EDY POPPY, TRANSLATED BY MAY-BRIT AKERHOLT

- The second work by Norwegian cult writer Edy Poppy to be released in English, the first being *Anatomy. Monotony*
- This book centres around doomed relationships, sexual obsession, and manipulation
- For fans of Annie Ernaux and Maggie Nelson
- Will expand readers’ ideas about contemporary Scandinavian literature

**In the stark, poetic voice that garnered her novel *Anatomy. Monotony*, cult status in Norway and abroad, writer and performance artist Edy Poppy offers a vision of sexuality and alienation unlike any other.**

The sharp, sensual stories of *Coming. Apart.* chart the unravelling of relationships in all their complexity. From rural Norway to Berlin, Edy Poppy follows characters caught between intimacy and escape – lovers who drift, clash, fracture. A couple’s erotic games slip into something darker. A woman retreats to the countryside, shadowed by memory. Another navigates obsession, ambivalence, and solitude with uneasy clarity.

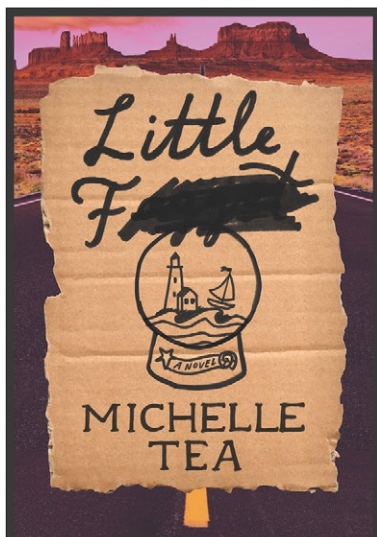
Written in a voice that is both visceral and exacting, Edy Poppy’s first story collection moves along the fault lines of connection and desire.



9781951874094 | February 2026 | Aunt Lute Books | PB | 170pp | 216x140mm | AU \$27.99 | NZ \$32.99 | DISC: GEN



9781628976281 | February 2026 | Dalkey Archive | PB | 125pp | 216x140mm | AU \$29.99 | NZ \$34.99 | DISC: GEN



## LITTLE F

MICHELLE TEA

- New novel by award-winning cult favourite author: Michelle Tea is highly regarded and well connected in the literary world, so her new novel will have a built-in audience and network of influential readers
- Crossover appeal with YA readers: although the novel is for adults, it is about runaway teenagers and is written in a very accessible way, comparable to *The Sapling Cage*

A new epic novel about a teenage queer runaway from cult classic author of *Black Wave* and *Valencia*, Michelle Tea.

In Spencer's fantasies, the breezy, queer streets of Provincetown, MA, are utopia, a place where he can be free. Yet when a violent attack in his suburban Arizona schoolyard sends him to the hospital, he decides queer utopia can't wait. And one night, with the help of his best friend, the teenage witch Joy, he hitches a ride to find it.

The cross-country road odyssey that follows brings Spencer from new moon rituals in Arizona canyons to Texas bus stations, from the luxe drag stages of Houston's Montrose district to the jazz-soaked streets of the French Quarter and beyond. This new novel from Michelle Tea tells the story, by turns raw, romantic, and sweet, of a sheltered boy taking his first leap into queer life, among all the complicated queers who live it.



9 781558 613560

9781558613560 | February 2026 | The Feminist Press at CUNY | PB | 232pp | 216x140mm | AU \$29.99 | NZ \$34.99 | DISC: GEN



## THE SUPERAUSTRALIANS

PAUL MASON, EDITED BY CHRISTOPHER SEQUEIRA, ILLUSTRATED BY MATT LIN

- Unique graphic novel based on Australian superheroes
- Christopher Sequeira is a conceptualist and commissioning editor of mystery, science fiction, horror and fantasy prose and comic-book anthologies, as well as being a writer himself. His comic-book scripts include work on the franchises *X-Men*, *Iron Man*, *Justice League*, *Star Trek*, and *The Human Fly*, as well as original concepts of his own

A dozen costumed heroes from every geographical landscape in the Australian continent battle Dr. Epoch and his legion of Zodiacal villains! Created by 28 top Australian creators.

Other contributors include:

Marcelo Baez, Michel Gerencir, Jonathon Saunders, W. Chew Chan, Anthony Calvert, Komala Singh, Adam Yusoff, Cristian Roux, Gregory Stewart, Bruce Mutard, Naomi Hatchman, Ian Gould, Jules Faber, Julie Ditrich, Queenie Chan, Jason Franks, Gary Chaloner, Cefn Ridout, Karen Beilharz, Amanda Bacchi, Simon Robins, Dan Lynch, Ana Marfa Mendez Salgado, J. Scherpenhuizen PhD

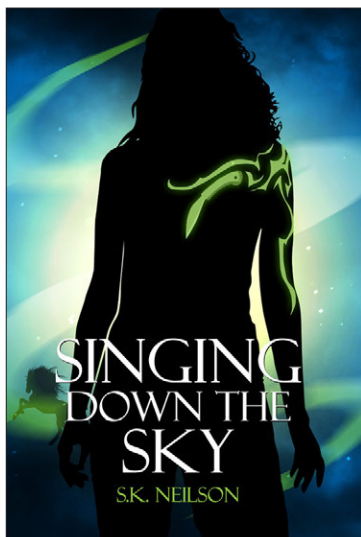


9 781923 382060

9781923382060 | October 2025 | ifwg Publishing International | PB | 144pp | 260x165mm | AU \$25.95 | NZ \$29.99 | DISC: GEN







## SINGING DOWN THE SKY

S. K. NEILSON

- Good fantasy novels are popular and *Singing Down the Sky* has a good, novel storyline, twisting gender roles to some extent

*All our scars tell a story.*

Eulo Juke's gambling debts have cost him his weapons, his horses and his pride. If he doesn't pay what he owes Iskarlia's Scabmen soldiers in enchanted kilili silveriron, they'll slaughter his brother.

Silveriron trader Tali Sarsega offers Eulo a marriage of convenience in Vernesia, dragging him into an unfamiliar world where women rule politics, society, and commerce.

The Vernese culture relies on wits and diplomacy, but the Scabmen are coming to take the kilili the Iskarlian way: with hard fists and sharp blades.

Can Eulo slip behind Tali's dedication to her horse breeding enterprise, rundown estate and dysfunctional family to find out her silveriron secrets before it's too late for his brother?

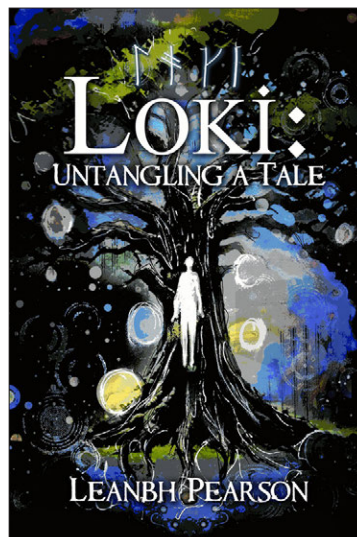
No-one is ready for what's coming their way, because some things are not free to be taken.

S. K. Neilson writes fantasy fiction in worlds inspired by Australia's unforgiving environment and tenacious outback folklore.



9 781923 382213

9781923382213 | October 2025 | ifwg Publishing International | PB | 306pp | 229x152mm | AU \$29.95 | NZ \$34.99 | DISC: GEN



## LOKI: UNTANGLING A TALE

LEANBH PEARSON

- Norse mythology and the character Loki are very popular with society at the moment, particularly due to Marvel movies

What if you were born different? Deformed and shunned by your race? What if you could change that and become all that you ever hoped to be? All it would cost you was an oath to a god. Loki. The notorious Trickster of Norse mythology and bonded-brother to the god Odin. How did these sworn brothers turn to enemies? How did they break apart the Nine Worlds and initiate Ragnarok – the end of everything? Take a peek behind Loki's mask in this new dark fantasy retelling of Norse mythology and the notorious Trickster.

**'Leanbh's novel is a reimagining of Norse Mythology and while the "reimagining" is clearly evident, it is also in many ways true to the old sagas and poems of medieval Scandinavia. Pearson was ambitious and pulled it off: a reimagining; a deep dive into the nature of the universal trickster; and most importantly, drawing powerful metaphors on the subject of isolation and not being "one with the crowd" – linked strongly with her focus on disabilities. This is a must-buy for anyone who wants to read any or all of these elements.'**  
– Gerry Huntman, Managing Director of IFWG



9 781923 382206

9781923382206 | October 2025 | ifwg Publishing International | PB | 260pp | 229x152mm | AU \$27.95 | NZ \$32.99 | DISC: GEN





## DROWNING IN THE DARK AND OTHER STORIES

MATT TIGHE

- The horror-reading community are keen on quality short and long fiction. This book is a very good example, with a number of stories prize-winning

A beach that wipes people from memory.

Aliens that just want to help humanity along a little bit.

Monsters who love their fight club.

A woman who trades a piece of her future to help a child.

Guilt that serves as a door to dark visions for a young boy.

Matt Tighe's *Drowning in the Dark and Other Stories* is a collection of the bitter sweet, the darkly comedic, and the disturbingly confronting. Including multi-award winning and nominated tales as well as originals, the characters within will scare you, hurt you, and raise you up for the truest of reasons – they are you.



## THE HUMAN FLY VOLUME 1

Terror Tour

JASON FRANKS, CHRISTOPHER SEQUEIRA, TONY BABINSKI, ILLUSTRATED BY J. SCHERPENHUIZEN PHD

- Quality graphic novels are popular, and *The Human Fly* (continuation of a Marvel superhero of the 1970s) will attract not only those who read back then, but also new fans of street-level superheroes

In 1976 the Human Fly became the sensation of talk shows and news reports – literally risking life and limb in the most dangerous of acts wearing a mask and costume to conceal his identity. The man who promised to 'out-Evel Knivel' Evel Knivel! So popular, at that time, that Marvel actually made him part of their comics universe for a year and a half!

And now, the anonymous adventurer has re-emerged, in a drama ripped from TODAY's headlines as the Fly confronts startling new adversaries: drug cartels, suspicious federal agents from three nations, and a men's-rights terrorist group led by Fire Sword!

Featuring glorious, insane stunts at real-life locations in Canada, the USA and Mexico! The Human Fly is back in a high-octane series containing everything fans loved about him in the sizzling '70s, but with intriguing new mysteries.



9781923382183 | October 2025 | ifwg Publishing International | PB | 200pp | 229x152mm | AU \$24.95 | NZ \$29.99 | DISC: GEN



9781923382176 | October 2025 | IPI Comics | PB | 122pp | 260x171mm | AU \$25.95 | NZ \$29.99 | DISC: GEN



## THE BRAZEN DRAGON

BARBARA J. ROSIE

- **Strong female protagonist fantasy is popular and this book (and series to come) contributes strongly to this field**

Kira Stillwater is blessed with the Eiran, a healer's gift that helps her to save lives, but a forbidden magic lies dormant inside her, and in Cabarac, magic is a death sentence.

Most eligible young women in Cabarac have two possible futures: accept an offer of marriage or risk being gathered for the quota and shipped to the Legion Isles, never to be seen again. But when Kira forgoes her only chance for a betrothal token to save the life of a young boy, she faces a fate far more terrifying. Accused of using magic by the fanatical dispatcher, Piscator, a bewildered Kira is imprisoned for execution inside the brazen dragon. Her only option is to escape as part of the quota and flee.

As she strives to control a magic that erupts whenever her life is threatened, Kira struggles to reconcile her burgeoning power with her healer's ethics to do no harm.

9781925956962 | October 2025 | ifwg Publishing International | PB | 314pp | 229x152mm | AU \$29.95 | NZ \$34.99 | DISC: GEN

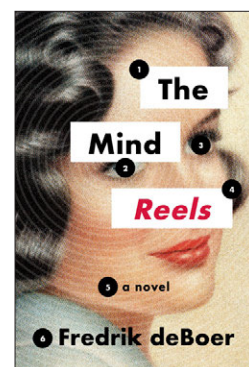


## THE MIND REELS

FREDRIK DEBOER

- **Fredrik deBoer's Substack has over 62,000 subscribers who are beyond excited to read his debut novel**
- **Freddie is incredibly open about his own experiences and struggles with Bipolar I which has informed his writing**
- **For fans of *My Year of Rest and Relaxation*, *The Guest*, and *Big Swiss***

In a dorm room at her safety school, surrounded by corn-fed boys and contemptuous girls, Alice is losing her mind. Her first semester is spent clinging to middling grades between drunken hookups and roommate fights. The next brings sleepless nights, extreme weight loss, and effortless, compulsive energy, paused only by an unexpected summoning from the RA for evaluation. Thus begins an endless march of lithium, antidepressants, and Klonopin; doctors and therapists – when health insurance allows – along with overwhelmed parents and well-intentioned friends; all helpless bystanders as Alice descends deeper into chaos.



9781566897372 | February 2026 | Coffee House Press | PB | 168pp | 210x140mm | AU \$29.99 | NZ \$34.99 | DISC: GEN

## CURSE OF THE SAVOY

A Priscilla Tempest Mystery, Book 4

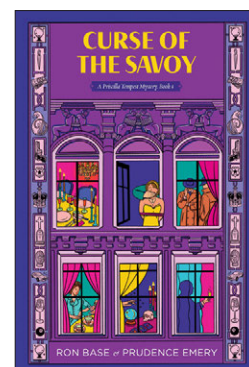
RON BASE, PRUDENCE EMERY

- **For fans of Kerry Greenwood's *Phryne Fisher* mysteries, Jacqueline Winspear's *Maisie Dobbs* series and Rhy Bowen's *The Royal Spyness* series**
- **Plucky heroine Priscilla Tempest is based on author Prudence Emery who worked in the press office at London's Savoy Hotel during the book's era**

*Curse of the Savoy*, the fourth in the *Priscilla Tempest Mystery* series, is a gripping tale of suspense set against the backdrop of high society and 1960s London.

In the luxurious setting of London's Savoy Hotel, an opulent dinner party hosted by the legendary filmmaker Orson Welles takes a sinister turn. Amidst the grandeur of the Pinafore Room, fourteen renowned guests, including Alfred Hitchcock, Cary Grant, and the scandalous Miss Christine Keeler, gather for an unforgettable evening. However, the spectre of an old curse looms over the event – a curse said to bring doom to the first guest who leaves.

9781771624381 | February 2026 | Douglas & McIntyre | PB | 304pp | 229x152mm | AU \$29.99 | NZ \$34.99 | DISC: GEN





## THE HURTING KIND

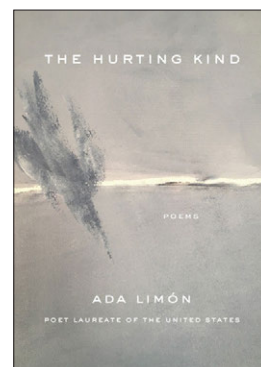
Poems

ADA LIMÓN

- **Now in paperback!**
- **Over 60,000 copies sold worldwide**

The astonishing collection about interconnectedness – between the human and nonhuman, ancestors and ourselves from US Poet Laureate and MacArthur Fellow Ada Limón.

'I have always been too sensitive, a weeper / from a long line of weepers', writes Limón. 'I am the hurting kind.' What does it mean to be the hurting kind? To be sensitive not only to the world's pain and joys, but to the meanings that bend in the scrim between the natural world and the human world? To divine the relationships between us all? To perceive ourselves in other beings – and to know that those beings are resolutely their own, that they 'do not / care to be seen as symbols'?



9781571315601 | February 2026 | Milkweed Editions | PB | 128pp | 216x152mm | AU \$29.99 | NZ \$34.99 | DISC: GEN

## STARTLEMENT

New and Selected Poems

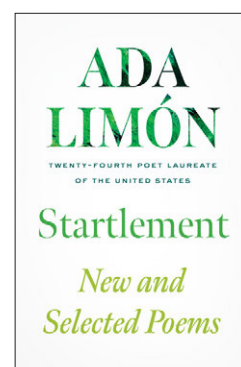
ADA LIMÓN

**'Startlement is a book of rare treasures.'** – Amy Tan

- **Beloved, award-winning poet with international recognition: named a *TIME* Woman of the Year, Ada Limón is the 24th US Poet Laureate, a winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award, a National Book Award finalist, and is a MacArthur Fellow**

Drawing from six previously published books – including widely acclaimed collections *The Hurting Kind*, *The Carrying*, and *Bright Dead Things* – as well as vibrant new work, *Startlement* exalts the mysterious. With a tender curiosity, Ada Limón wades into potent unknowns – the strangeness of our brief human lives, the ever-changing nature of the universe – and emerges each time with new revelations about our place in the world.

An essential collection spanning nearly twenty years of emphatic, fearlessly original poetry from one of America's most celebrated living writers.



9781639550517 | February 2026 | Milkweed Editions | HB | 232pp | 216x140mm | AU \$49.99 | NZ \$57.99 | DISC: GEN

## YOU MUST LIVE

New Poetry from Palestine

EDITED BY SHERAH BLOOR, TAYSEER ABU ODEH, GUEST EDITOR  
JORIE GRAHAM

- **One of the first and only anthologies presenting voices writing from within Gaza during the current war, providing a direct window into the region described by the people who live there**
- **A bilingual anthology of poems from Palestine (2023-2024), *You Must Live* attests to existence in the face of suppression**

Bearing witness to the realities of the Palestinian genocide, *You Must Live* is a bilingual anthology of recent poetry from Gaza and the West Bank. Translated from Arabic and edited by Tayseer Abu Odeh and Sherah Bloor, this collection gathers the voices of poets currently living in Palestinian territory, most of whom have never left. Yet the poems in *You Must Live* refuse to cast their speakers as perpetual victims.



9781556597206 | February 2026 | Copper Canyon Press | PB | 320pp | 235x187mm | AU \$34.99 | NZ \$39.99 | DISC: GEN

## ON SUBMISSION

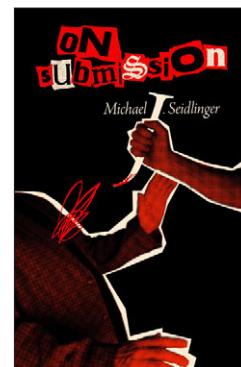
MICHAEL J. SEIDLINGER

- **Previous success:** the author's previous two books with CLASH Books have sold over 4,000 copies and have cultivated a cult following for the author
- **The author of home invasion horror hit, *Anybody Home?*, brings murder to the publishing sphere in *On Submission*, where *Scream* meets *Yellowface* when an A-List agent's top clients all end up dead**

Hotshot literary agent Henry Richmond Pendel knows how to find the next big thing and is even better at selling them. But a perfect career becomes increasingly disconcerting as he begins to feel like he's being watched. There are rumours of a boogeyman in publishing, a rejected writer who has cracked and started killing off writers.

When Pendel's star clients turn up brutally murdered and unsolicited queries become more and more frantic, Pendel must decide whether to act out of safety for himself and his clients or to capitalise on the attention.

9781960988812 | February 2026 | Clash Books | PB | 264pp | 216x140mm | AU \$34.99 | NZ \$39.99 | DISC: GEN



## OF MONSTERS AND MAINFRAMES

BARBARA TRUELOVE

- **Reprint due in November!**
- **Classic sci-fi and pulp horror fuse in this darkly absurd examination of family and revenge aboard the spaceship Demeter as she battles paranormal forces across the stars – perfect for fans of *The Murderbot Diaries* and *The Long Way to a Small, Angry Planet***

Demeter just wants to do her job: shuttling humans between Earth and Alpha Centauri. Unfortunately, her passengers keep dying – and not from equipment failures, as her AI medical system, Steward, would have her believe. These are paranormal murders, and they began when one nasty, ancient vampire decided to board Demeter and kill all her humans. To keep from getting decommissioned, Demeter must join forces with her own team of monsters. Together, this motley crew will face down the ultimate evil – Dracula.

**'A really charming and fun reworking of the Dracula story.'** – Sian Cain, *The Guardian Australia*

9781964721132 | June 2025 | Bindery Books | PB | 416pp | 210x140mm | AU \$34.99 | NZ \$39.99 | DISC: GEN



## BLACK DAYS AND BLOODY NIGHTS

GREG CHAPMAN, FOREWORD BY STEVE STRED

- **Chapman is well known in international horror circles, and those who know him will no doubt want to purchase his latest collection**
- **A few reprints are in the book – hard to get and lauded pieces**

**\*\*Winner, Australasian Shadows Awards 2025, Best Collected Work\*\***

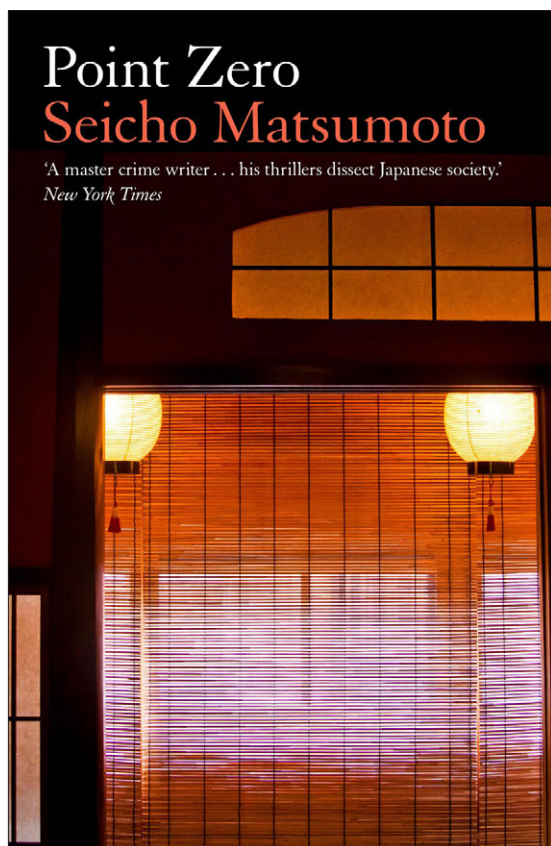
*Black Days & Bloody Nights*, a collection of Greg Chapman's acclaimed and original fiction: Is the world coming to an end, or is it all in Marion's head? Would you let in a monster to save your child? A writer's son is his most horrifying creation. A videotape captures murder in a cemetery and threatens a detective. A mother's last will and testament reveals a diabolical pact. A corpse and an eclipse usher in the end of all things.

In these stories, you'll discover how the end comes to those who wait, and those who seek it out. Also included are Chapman's acclaimed novellas, *Torment* and *The Followers*, and the short story, 'The Yellow House'.

9781922856869 | January 2025 | ifwg Publishing International | PB | 206pp | 229x152mm | AU \$22.99 | NZ \$27.99 | DISC: GEN



## Fiction highlight from Japan



9 781913 394936



9781913394936 | March 2024 | Bitter Lemon Press |  
PB | 288pp | 198x129mm | AU \$24.99 | NZ \$29.99

DISCOUNT: GEN

## POINT ZERO

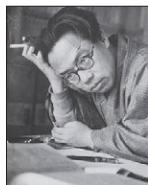
SEICHO MATSUMOTO

- A triumph by Seicho Matsumoto, the master of Japanese mystery writing. A beautifully written crime novel that takes on the taboo of Japanese prostitution catering to GIs during the American post-war occupation
- First published in Japanese in 1959, the novel abandoned the template of closed-room mysteries so popular in pre-war Japan to embrace social criticism
- In a radical departure from tradition, the novel has a female protagonist, a housewife seeking to find her missing husband. Respectful of the proprieties expected of a Japanese woman of the time, but stubborn, intrepid and a naturally intuitive sleuth

Tokyo, 1958. Teiko marries Kenichi Uhara, ten years her senior, an advertising man recommended by a go-between. After a four-day honeymoon, Kenichi vanishes. Teiko travels to the coastal and snow-bound city of Kanazawa, where Kenichi was last seen, to investigate his disappearance. When Kenichi's brother comes to help her, he is murdered, poisoned in his hotel room.

Soon, Teiko discovers that her husband's disappearance is tied up with the so-called 'pan-pan girls', women who worked as prostitutes catering to American GIs after the war. Now, ten years later, as the country is recovering, there are those who are willing to take extreme measures to hide that past.

**'A master crime writer...Seicho Matsumoto's thrillers dissect Japanese society.'** – *The New York Times Book Review*



## About the author:

**Seicho Matsumoto** (1909-1982) was Japan's most successful mystery writer. His first detective novel, *Points and Lines*, sold over a million copies in Japan. *Vessel of Sand*, published in English as *Inspector Imanishi Investigates* in 1989, sold over four million copies and became a movie box-office hit.