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Random House  
Australia & New Zealand

# Frankfurt Book Fair Rights Guide 2020

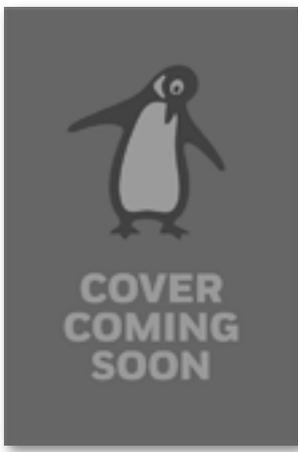
## Highlights Catalogue

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# NON-FICTION



## THE SINS OF SHEIKH MOHAMMED

Tom Steinfurt

August 2021

Penguin

Trade paperback – 352pp

Rights held: World

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### Torture, intimidation and intrigue inside the royal house of Dubai.

*Unorthodox* meets *James Bond* in this dark story of abduction, cover-ups, brutality and intimidation within the mysterious royal house of Dubai.

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum is one of the world's most powerful men: the Prime Minister of the UAE, a multi-billionaire, friend of US Presidents and Queen Elizabeth, the force behind Emirates Airlines, and the owner of the largest racing stable in the world, Godolphin. His Kingdom of Dubai promotes itself as a beacon of progression and modernity in the Middle East, and the Sheikh is also a self-proclaimed campaigner on women's rights.

So why were two of his daughters abducted when they tried to flee Dubai, and are now wrongly imprisoned back in the UAE? Why did he threaten his wife with guns and helicopters? Why is he accused of trying to marry off his 12-year-old daughter to a murderer, none other than the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohammed Bin Salman? This is a story of hypocrisy, cover-ups, brutality, intimidation, and mystery.

Tom Steinfurt has been investigating the dark palace intrigue of the royal family of Dubai since 2018, when *60 Minutes* became the first mainstream media outlet in the world to report on the abduction of Sheikh Mohammed's daughter, Sheikha Latifa, who fled the unbearable confines and strictures of the palace under the cover of darkness with her best friend Tina and a French ex-spy Hervé, aboard his yacht, *Nostramo*. Tracked by the Sheikh's elite forces, they would never reach freedom. The story was vehemently denied by the UAE, but has since been proved in court.

Now, the floodgates are opening. The Sheikh's youngest wife, Haya bint Hussein, has left him and taken their two children to seek asylum in London. Tom Steinfurt also revealed earlier this year that yet another Dubai princess has been begging to escape the abuse she has suffered in the royal family.

A scandal of global interest, told comprehensively for the first time, with exclusive details from those who've witnessed what really goes on behind the palace walls in Dubai.

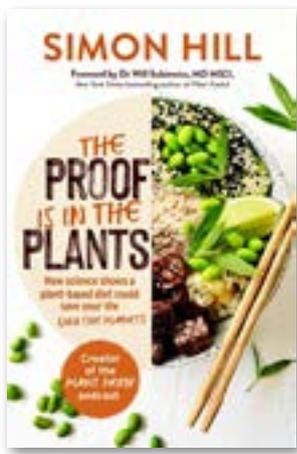
#### Sales points

- A true genre crossover with strong strands of true crime, spy thriller, royal intrigue and tabloid outrageousness
- This is a story with a built-in global audience
- There is enormous appetite for this story. The *60 Minutes* reports have been viewed by nearly 18 million people around the world



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Tom Steinfurt is a multi-award winning journalist, who after several years of filing reports for *60 Minutes*, has now joined the program as a full-time correspondent.



## THE PROOF IS IN THE PLANTS

Simon Hill

July 2021

Penguin Life Australia

Trade paperback – 368pp

Rights held: World

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**All the facts and advice for anyone curious about feeling and doing better through a plant-based diet.**

Our health is in crisis and so is our climate. What if there was a way of eating that could help us live healthier for longer and protect the future of our planet too? Evidence now shows that a plant-based diet can offer us exactly that.

Before transitioning to a plant-based diet, Simon held many of the common misperceptions and questions. What's the best diet for losing weight? Where will I get protein from? Will I lose muscle? These valid questions are all addressed, leaving the reader confident and ready to make changes.

By completing a master's degree in nutrition, poring over the latest scientific papers, and producing hundreds of hours of his Plant Proof podcast, Simon has pursued the answers to all the questions he had. His first book will address the reasons we are all so confused about what to eat; evidence showing that plant-based diets reduce our risk for heart attacks, strokes, type 2 diabetes, cancer and dementia; the positive impact of plant-based eating for the climate and animal welfare, and how to build healthy and satisfying plant-based plates, and practical tips for making the shift.

While Simon clearly points out the benefits of a 100% plant-based diet, the book is non-judgmental and encourages a 'flexitarian' style diet.

Simon has a huge, global community of followers (his podcast has 17 million downloads and he has 291k Instagram followers) and is well known in the nutrition and media worlds. He is also the plant-based food contributor on Chris Hemsworth's fitness app, Centr.

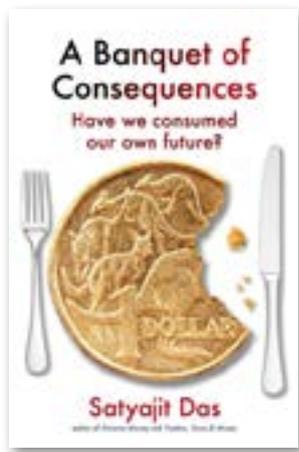
### Sales points

- Simon has a huge and growing community of followers: 291k Instagram followers and 200k weekly podcast listeners. He has already been featured widely in mainstream Australian media outlets
- Simon is the plant-based food contributor on Chris Hemsworth's fitness app, Centr, and has interviewed Dr Michael Greger, Rich Roll, Gaz Oakley and many others
- While there are many plant-based recipe books available, there is a distinct lack of books about the science that backs this diet and lifestyle



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Simon Hill is the founder of the hugely popular Plant Proof podcast and blog of the same name, and a nutritionist and qualified physiotherapist. On top of his formal education, Simon spends hours and hours deciphering scientific studies so he can break down how to fuel your body to promote longevity and reduce the chance of developing disease while simultaneously achieving whatever health and fitness goals you may have. In 2019 Simon opened a plant-based restaurant, Eden, in his Sydney neighbourhood of Bondi. Author photo © Zac Heath



## A BANQUET OF CONSEQUENCES (REVISED EDITION)

Satyajit Das

March 2021

Penguin

Trade Paperback – 384pp

Rights Held: Translation

**Satyajit Das, our finest writer on the forces underlying society and the global economy, returns with a substantially updated edition of his 2015 classic.**

Essential reading for anyone concerned about the dire future of the global economy, the deepening environmental crisis and the alarming deterioration of our social fabric, *A Banquet of Consequences* incisively explains the problems confronting us, how we're making those problems worse, and what the real solutions are.

For ordinary individuals, the goal of a steady job, a home of one's own, a comfortable retirement and a good life for our children is receding. In this brilliantly clear-eyed account, updated to include 150 pages of new insights and analysis, Satyajit Das links past, present and future to show that it's not just unrealistic expectations, but the poor performance of those governing us that are to blame.

The strategies and policies deployed to promote economic growth after the Great Recession have failed, not least because such growth cannot continue indefinitely. The solution – structural change – is electorally unpopular and therefore ignored. *A Banquet of Consequences* explains why the ultimate adjustment, whether stretched out over time or in the form of another sudden crash, will be life-changing.

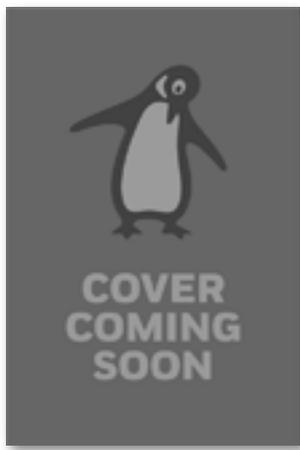
An internationally respected commentator on financial markets, credited with predicting the Global Financial Crisis and featured in the 2010 Oscar-winning documentary *Inside Job*, Satyajit Das is our finest writer about money and the global economy. Informed, impassioned, lively and witty, *A Banquet of Consequences* is the only book you need to understand what the future will bring.

### Sales points

- Das, who predicted the Global Financial Crisis, returns with an incisive, alarming and plain-spoken account of global events since 2015, with over 150 pages of new material – including an analysis of the global pandemic, and what we might expect for the future
- Global perspective: Das draws on evidence from all around the world equally – the US, Europe, China and other 'emerging markets'



Satyajit Das is a globally respected former banker and consultant with over forty years' experience in financial markets. In 2014, Bloomberg nominated him as one of the fifty most influential financial thinkers in the world. Das presciently anticipated the Global Financial Crisis. Subsequently, he accurately described the evolution of the post-crisis world – sluggish growth, disinflation, the increasing ineffectiveness of policy measures and retrenchment from globalisation. He identified the increasing political and social dimensions of the crisis, especially the growing democracy deficit and the end of trust. In 2016, in the context of the SARS and Ebola epidemics, he drew attention to the risk of disease and the lack of preparedness to deal with a global health crisis. Das is the author of two international bestsellers, *Traders, Guns & Money* (2006) and *Extreme Money* (2011). Author photo © Thomas Gallane Photography



## ESCAPE FROM MANUS

Jaivet Ealom

June 2021

Viking

Trade paperback – 320pp

Rights held: World

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**Jaivet Ealom is the only known person to successfully escape from Australia's notorious offshore detention centre on Manus Island.**

A bookish, quietly spoken Rohingya man, Ealom fled his native Myanmar at the age of 20 in 2013. Until then his hopes of liberty and a happy life had been strangled by Myanmar's military Junta, a brutal racist oppression that ultimately resulted in genocide against the Rohingya.

Determined to survive, Ealom fled to a refugee camp in Indonesia where he paid to board a boat of asylum seekers bound for sanctuary in Australia. Instead of receiving refuge, he was locked up on arrival, and after six months, terrified and alone, he was sent to the Manus Regional Processing Centre, Australia's infamous offshore 'solution' to refugees arriving by boat. Ealom describes his time imprisoned on this island as 'systematically designed torture'. Blistering hot days spent in shipping containers behind barbed wire melted into weeks, then years. Finally, with all options exhausted and facing either jail or being returned to almost certain death in Myanmar, Ealom took matters into his own hands.

Drawing inspiration from the show *Prison Break*, which he had watched as a teenager in Myanmar, Ealom spent months closely watching the movements of staff members as they cycled in and out of the prison. He exchanged rationed cigarettes for local currency, and raised enough money for a plane ticket to Port Moresby. Ealom slipped out of Manus and somehow dodged the guards and officials as he boarded his flight. The commuter plane was used by interpreters from different ethnic backgrounds, which allowed him to blend in with the other passengers.

To his relief, he made it to Port Moresby without detection. After a six-month odyssey traversing the South Pacific nations by foot, boat, car and plane, Ealom eventually found his way to Canada on Christmas Eve 2017. There, he told the immigration official his story and confessed to travelling on a fake passport. 'He had every right to detain me but he didn't,' Ealom says of the officer. 'He was so shocked by my story and how far I had come. He went out and bought me Subway with his own money. It was completely the opposite experience I'd had with Australia. Finally, I saw light at the end of the tunnel.'

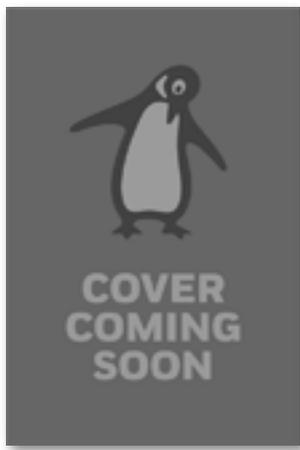
Ealom arrived in Toronto in December, when it can be as cold as minus 30 degrees. He had no winter clothes and only about \$50 to his name. He took a bus to an overcrowded homeless shelter, where he slept on the floor. He received an expedited hearing from the Canadian Refugee Board, which granted him refugee status after a 40-minute interview.

He has become a prominent spokesmen for the Rohingya community in Canada and works at a company that provides software to non-profit organisations.

*Escape From Manus* is his story.

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Jaivet Ealom is the first known asylum seeker to be resettled in a third country after successfully escaping from Australia's offshore detention system.



## NEW-HOW: LEADERSHIP KNOW-HOW FOR A NEW WORLD (W/T)

Holly Ransom

June 2021

Viking

Trade paperback – 320pp

Rights held: World

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### How to grow, lead and create real impact in our polarised world.

Leadership is an art and a science. Holly Ransom has interviewed leaders including Barack Obama, Malala Yousafzai, Condoleezza Rice, Richard Branson and Malcolm Gladwell, and worked with boards and leadership teams from some of the most cutting-edge, noteworthy and influential organisations. Unapologetically pragmatic, this book aims to consolidate the lessons she's learned, drawing together many points of light to illuminate a new path forward.

In an age of instantaneity and interconnectedness, we are watching leadership entropy. Whether it's around the dinner table, at the water cooler or flooding our Twitter feed, our conversations aren't about inspiring leaders, they're about how leadership is broken. This sense of polarisation is compounded with a dose of defeatism regarding our lack of belief in the potential for change.

This sense of leadership entropy is both entirely relatable and utterly inexcusable. In resigning ourselves to the idea that leadership is a deal we are yet to be invited into, not paid enough to take on, or too young, old, busy or broke to have a crack at change, we're handing over our agency – our ability to influence and shape our own lives, communities and children.

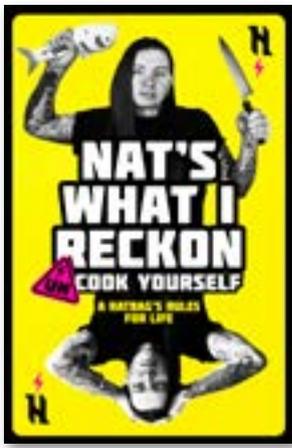
We need to reclaim that agency. But, to take poetic license with Einstein's famous quote, not by doing what's always been done and expecting a different result – the very definition of insanity! We need to do it by bringing new methods to bear on the status quo.

From thousands of hours of interviews and experience, prototyping and co-creating, devouring literature and volunteering for some of the world's best practitioners, Ransom developed a framework for 'new-how': the know-how we need to thrive and lead in a new world. It's packed with strategies for impact, influence and fulfilment, illuminated by the collective genius of new-how pioneers, that can pragmatically empower each of us to navigate the challenges of our personal and professional worlds. The book is based on learnings from a myriad of disciplines, industries and leadership stories, pulling together threads from Ethiopia, Jordan, New Zealand, Ireland, the Himalayas, Russia and many other corners of the earth.

Ransom's message is simple: she wants to meet you where you are and help you reach a little higher, move a little faster and delve a little deeper, to make a little more real the change you want to see in the world.

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Named one of Australia's 100 Most Influential Women by the *Australian Financial Review*, Holly Ransom is widely recognised as one of the world's top female keynote speakers. She has delivered a Peace Charter to the Dalai Lama, interviewed Barack Obama on stage, was Sir Richard Branson's nominee for *Wired Magazine's* 'Smart List' of Future Game Changers to watch in 2017 and was awarded the US Embassy's Eleanor Roosevelt Award for Leadership Excellence in 2019. Holly has presented over 500 sessions across six continents in the past three years, super-charging audiences and bringing a unique voice to public, not-for-profit and corporate decision-making forums.



## UN-COOK YOURSELF

### Nat's What I Reckon

December 2020

Ebury Australia

Trade paperback – 272pp

Rights held: World

**Learn how to be less of a d\*ckhead with Nat's deep and meaningful guide to life.**

From the biggest social media star of the year, this is a hilarious take on surviving the mundanity of modern life. Learn how to be less of a d\*ckhead with Nat's deep and meaningful guide to today's world!

Nat was the tattooed lockdown saviour we didn't know we needed, rescuing us from packet food, jar sauce and total boredom with his hilarious viral recipe videos that got us cooking at home like the bloody champions Nat knows we are. He attracted a worldwide fan base that now includes Dave Grohl and Yael Stone. Now that we're cooking our way out of lockdown and are wondering what the hell to do next, Nat's back – and he's ready to teach us more about life in this thoroughly unhelpful (but maybe actually kinda helpful) self-help guide.

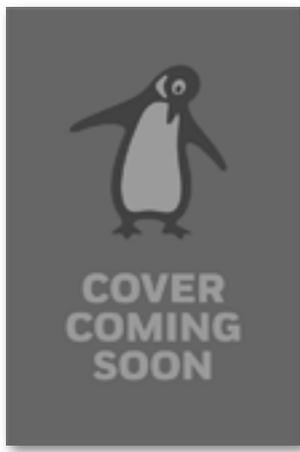
Nat's already shown us that jar sauce can get f\*cked. But what else is sh\*t – and what's actually *not* sh\*t? Is it all as bad as we feel like it is most of the time? No part of our weird world and idiotic behaviour is spared as our long-haired guru tells us what he reckons about it all – and amps up the flavour with some eye-watering stories from his early years before a swearsy video about pasta sauce shot him to global fame.

Beneath the swearing and hilarity you'll find Nat's outlook to be sweet, trustworthy and genuinely encouraging – this is clearly why his videos have struck a chord amidst so much chaos – and with Nat's no-nonsense rules, you'll be on the road to being less of a d\*ckhead faster than you can say 'quarantine spirit risotto with parsley on top'. The book will feature an illustrated selection of Nat's favourite recipes, in graphic novel style. It's for a typically non book-buying audience, those who might only read a handful of books a year – funny, entertaining and an easy read.

Nat has huge social media followings across the world. Do yourself a favour and check out some of his videos – Quarantine Spirit Risotto, Carbo-Rona, Sin Bin Soup and End of Days Bolognese are a good place to start!

Content creator, comedian, rock musician, isolation cooking champion and mental health ambassador Nat has been making videos as Nat's What I Reckon for almost a decade. His hilarious social commentary has collected Nat a fast-growing, dedicated audience of over 2 million along the way, and his videos have clocked up more than 100 million views across all platforms. Finding entertainment everywhere from the weird to the pedestrian, Nat has taken the playful and thorough piss out of everything from trade shows and tattoo events to burnout festivals and exploring Area 51. In response to the craziness he was seeing when COVID-19 crashed the party, Nat waged a war against processed food and launched a no-nonsense instructional video for one of his tried and true recipes. It struck a chord and sent views skyrocketing. This unlikely hero of lockdown got the internet cooking (and laughing) again. When he's not filming, cooking or foraging for rosemary, Nat can often be found indulging his love of rock'n'roll and comedy, playing in various bands and stand-up rooms around Sydney. Author photo © Julia Gee





## SUMMERTIME: REFLECTIONS ON A FRACTURED FUTURE

Danielle Celermajer

February 2021

Hamish Hamilton

Trade paperback – 192pp

Rights held: World

### A different kind of nature writing, for a different kind of landscape.

Written in the shadow of the bushfires that ravaged Australia at the end of 2019, philosopher Danielle Celermajer's collection of essays is a howl in the forest. She turns her gaze to our relationship with the planet's living beings. In the midst of the death and grief of animals, humans and trees, Celermajer asks us to look around us – *really* look around us – to become present to the animals and all living creatures and plants who are suffering the loss of our shared home.

In this beautifully written and heart-wrenching book, an elegy for a country's soul, the lyrical and profound come together to understand the intertwining of all living and dying inhabitants of our fragile planet.

Danielle brings a philosopher's eye as someone who has faced the fires and seen first-hand the devastation they have wrought.

### Sales points

- For fans of Rachel Carson, Mary Oliver and Henry David Thoreau, and nature lovers everywhere
- This is a seminal work. A fable for tomorrow, in the vein of Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*. Many books will be published about the natural world and our place in it, but Danielle brings a unique perspective as both a philosopher and someone who has faced the fires and seen first-hand the devastation they have wrought
- Danielle's writing about the bushfires has already been read and shared widely. Her pieces 'Jimmy the Pig', 'Omnicide' and 'The Two Australias' went viral. This is her first book intended for a general audience
- Danielle, an academic at the university of Sydney, was awarded the Vice Chancellor's Award for the best researcher of the year in 2019
- This book considers not just the impact of the fires and climate change on humans, but also gives empathy to the suffering of animals. Danielle's writing will appeal to animal lovers who are outraged and devastated by the loss of a billion of our native animals and the flora along with them
- Taking unusual moral and philosophical angles, this book resists redemptive or triumphant narratives, and explores the moral obligation to stay with the truth of suffering



An academic at the University of Sydney, Danielle Celermajer has written two previous books for Cambridge, the top publisher in her field (*The Prevention of Torture*, and *The Sins of the Nation and the Ritual of Apologies*). She has contributed to other books with Bloomsbury, Stanford and Routledge. She is a regular on Radio National's *The Minefield* with Waleed Aly and Scott Stephens and *The Philosopher's Zone*. She has also written for *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Guardian* and *The Conversation*.



## DOT: A BOOK FOR ANYONE FEELING A LITTLE BIT ANXIOUS

Kieran E. Scott

September 2020

Penguin New Zealand

Hardcover – 152pp

Rights held: World

**A little book to help anyone (big or small) take a moment and some nice, deep breaths.**

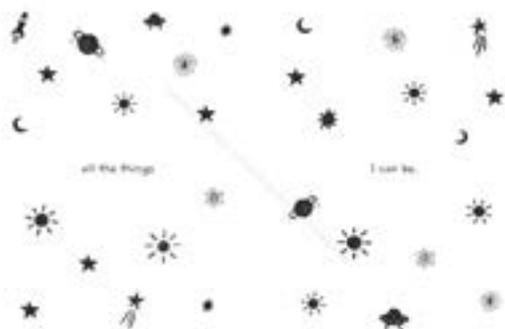
Are you feeling a little bit (or a lottle bit) anxious?

Meet DOT, who's here to help. In this beautiful little hand-drawn book, DOT offers a practical way to comfort and calm anyone anxious, stressed or overwhelmed. Flicking through *DOT* has the effect of a perfectly executed mindfulness exercise, in which the text and illustrations do the work for you.

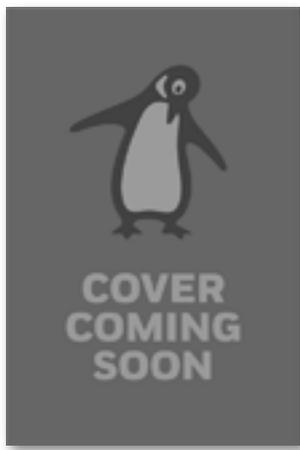
It's a gorgeous project (published in five colour ways!) that is sure to make readers smile. Most breathing tools these days are apps, but with screens being an added source of anxiety, *DOT* gives the reader an opportunity to step away from their phone.

### Sales points

- A practical tool to comfort and calm those feeling a little (or a lot) anxious
- Experts recommend using breathing exercises to reduce anxiety and stress. Breathing consciously and deeply while focusing on a single dot has been proven to quickly and effectively calm the mind and body
- Curious and whimsical, reminiscent of Ruby Jones's *All Of This Is For You*
- An interactive and intuitive book that speaks directly to the reader
- Kieran has suffered from anxiety on and off for years, but the prototype for *DOT* was handmade for his friend's daughter who was suffering from a significant anxiety disorder. It helped her immensely!
- A book for our times – in an age of global crisis, we are all feeling more stressed and anxious
- Small enough to carry with you and pull out in times of need



Kieran E. Scott is a highly acclaimed New Zealand photographer who accidentally wrote a book. He has produced photographs for more than forty books, and hundreds of advertising campaigns and design projects. His work has appeared in local and international magazines, including *Cuisine*, *Vogue*, *Inside Out* and *Country Style*. He has worked with many of New Zealand's top chefs, including Josh Emett, Al Brown, Chelsea Winter, Nadia Lim and Simon Gault. His most recent projects are the international bestseller *200 Women* and *The Recipe*. He lives in New Zealand with his partner, artist Tam West. Author photo © Tam West



## PIVOT

Shannah Kennedy

July 2021

Penguin Life Australia

Paperback – 224pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold previous titles: *Chaos to Calm* – Audio (Bolinda), Turkey (Egitim Yayinevi); *Shine* – Audio (Bolinda), Turkey (Egitim Yayinevi), Taiwan (China Times); *Ignite* – Russia (Portal), The Netherlands (Royal Jongbloed)

**A spinoff of Shannah’s bestselling book *The Life Plan*, teaching us to adapt, learn, grow and thrive in a changing environment.**

Life is in constant transition – sometimes at a slow pace, and other times it will hit you like a truck, completely unexpected. When you are left feeling broken, lost and emotionally paralysed, or when your first plan has failed, a change of direction is required.

*Pivot* is a gentle and comforting guide for when you need to pivot, turn, and face the fact that Plan A is no longer there – whether it was your decision or that of another, a life event, an accident, the loss of a loved one or a global pandemic. Whether it’s changing your career, facing a redundancy, becoming a parent or losing a relationship, *Pivot* will guide you through times of change in four parts – Accept, Restore, Explore and Activate.

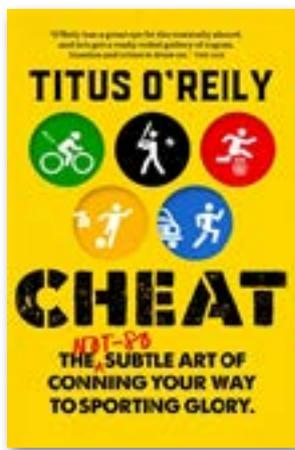
Bestselling author, coach, corporate speaker and successful business owner Shannah Kennedy has successfully pivoted during COVID-19, moving to online webinars and delivering her masterclasses to hundreds of people. The idea for this book came to Shannah in week one of the COVID-19 lockdown, when she realised that despite the world being in chaos and her business having come to a halt, she felt calm, accepting, and even a little excited, because she knew that she had a plan B and a plan C, and the opportunity to be at home with her family and reset.

As she noticed her friends and peers struggling, unable to adapt, she wanted to offer solutions – a map for how to progress forward.

Shannah first learned to pivot when she was a sports manager working with elite Olympic athletes. She developed chronic fatigue syndrome and depression and thought she would never be able to work again. Since then she has forged a new career as a life coach and her business is going from strength to strength.

Shannah Kennedy is a qualified and accredited life strategist, sought after business advisor, keynote speaker, facilitator and best-selling author. She has more than 10 years’ experience working in senior strategic sports marketing roles on major events and projects with leading sports brands, Olympians and other elite athletes. She saw, first hand, case after case of corporate/high performance burn-out and she herself succumbed to chronic fatigue syndrome. After this experience, Shannah established a new coaching business pioneering the application of wellness principles, working with a range of senior executives, elite athletes, entrepreneurs, organisations, teams and individuals wanting to find real balance and purpose in work and life. Shannah’s coaching process and insights challenge conventional values around what it means to be successful, what drives sustained high performance and how to find true balance. Shannah lives by the ethos: ‘Stop being a passenger in life, jump into the driver’s seat and take control with calm confidence.’





## CHEAT: THE NOT-SO-SUBTLE ART OF CONNING YOUR WAY TO SPORTING GLORY

Titus O'Reily

November 2020

Michael Joseph

Trade paperback – 304pp

Rights held: World

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### Mastering the not-so-subtle art of cheating in sport.

Where there's sport, there's cheating. No sport is immune; athletics, swimming, rugby, American Football, cricket, baseball, badminton, motorsports, tennis and curling. Yes, even that sport on the ice with brooms.

Almost as soon as humans started playing sport competitively, they started to cheat. They cheated to win, cheated for the fame, for the money and sometimes for reasons that are hard to understand. From the fiendishly clever to the outright hare-brained, the borderline to the blatant, Titus O'Reily takes us through the many and varied ways athletes and countries have tried to cheat over the years.

There's the winner of the New York marathon who was driven in a car part of the way, the male basketballer whose drug test revealed he was pregnant, the Tour De France where many of the riders took the train, the Spanish Paralympic basketball team who faked being intellectually disabled to win gold at the 2000 Paralympics.

As well as sharing an alarming amount of tales involving swapping bodily fluids, Titus takes you through doping, illegal equipment, bribes, playing dirty, faking injuries, wearing disguises, dodgy referees, ball tampering, eye gouging, itching powder, and licking an opponent to distract them.

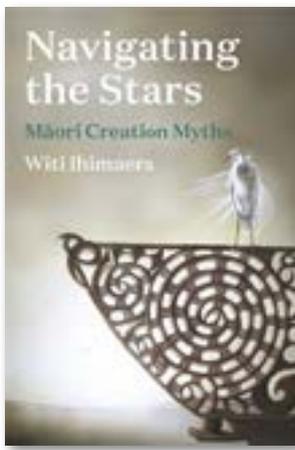
Just as sport has become more sophisticated, so has cheating in sport, from state-backed doping programs to tiny motors in Tour De France bikes. What does this say about us, that we cheat with such regularity and creativity? Will technology help stop cheating or will it only make it worse?

A hilarious trip through the history of cheating in sport, and a handy how-to guide for the professional athlete in your family. Covers athletes, teams and sports from all over the world including Tonya Harding, Marion Jones, Manchester City Football Club, The White Sox and many more.



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Titus O'Reily is a writer, presenter, performer and broadcaster known for capturing the trials and tribulations of being an obsessive sports fan. His commentary and sporting round-ups have attracted over 300k followers on social media. As well as his own national comedy tours, O'Reily appears on *The Front Bar*, *The Project* and is a regular on ABC Radio and NOVA FM. Titus has written four books: *A Thoroughly Unhelpful History of Australian Sport* (2017), *A Sporting Chance* (2018), *Please Gamble Irresponsibly* (2019) and *Cheat: The Not-So-subtle Art of Conning Your Way to Sporting Glory* (2020). His unique take on sport has been hailed by some of the most respected figures in sport as 'awful', 'childish' and 'barely comprehensible'. Others say 'hilarious'.



## NAVIGATING THE STARS: MAORI CREATION MYTHS

Witi Ihimaera

October 2020

Random House New Zealand Vintage

Trade paperback – 432pp

Rights held: World

### Maori myths retold.

From author of *The Whale Rider*, master storyteller Witi Ihimaera, a spellbinding and provocative retelling of traditional Maori myths for the twenty-first century.

In this milestone volume, Ihimaera traces the history of the Maori people through their creation myths. He follows Tawhaki up the vines into the firmament, Hine-titama down into the land of the dead, Maui to the ends of the earth, and the giants and turehu who sailed across the ocean to shores. From Hawaiki to Aotearoa, the ancient navigators brought their myths, while looking to the stars – bright with gods, ancestors and stories – to guide the way.

*'Step through the gateway now to stories that are as relevant today as they ever were.'*

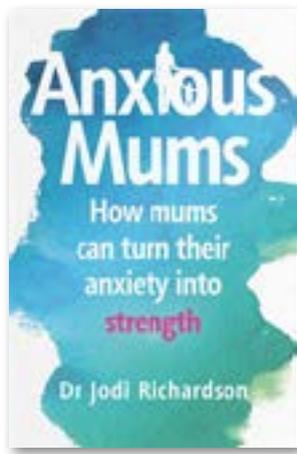
### Sales points

- It has been many years since the publication of a book on Maori myths for adults, and those currently in circulation tend to repeat the versions told over and over again by non-Maori sources
- Well researched, bringing in all sorts of extra angles (archaeology, DNA, different tribal traditions, Witi's own interpretations and more)
- This is not just about Maori myths but also about Maori origins and migration – a wide-ranging, fascinating read
- Witi Ihimaera's works have been translated widely. *The Whale Rider* alone has been licensed in the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Brazil, Macedonia, Estonia and Thailand

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Three-time winner of the Wattie/Montana Book of the Year award, Katherine Mansfield fellow, and playwright, Witi Ihimaera is one of New Zealand's most accomplished writers. His best-known novel is *The Whale Rider*, which was made into an internationally successful film in 2002. His first book, *Pounamu, Pounamu*, has not been out of print in the 40 years since publication. *Bulibasha, King of the Gypsies* won the Montana Book of the Year award in 1995. Ihimaera won the Wattie Book of the Year Award in 1974 and 1986 for *Tangi* and *The Matriarch* respectively. He has received numerous other awards. In 2004 he became a Distinguished Companion of the Order of New Zealand (the equivalent of a knighthood). Ihimaera's writing also opened the door to his political career. When the then US Ambassador to New Zealand read a copy of *Pounamu, Pounamu* he passed it on to the Prime Minister of New Zealand at the time, Norman Kirk. At Mr Kirk's request, Witi Ihimaera joined the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and served as a diplomat in Canberra, New York and Washington. He is a respected commentator on Maori, Pacific and indigenous peoples' affairs, and has been instrumental in ensuring Maori art and literature is supported. Author photo © Andi Crown





## ANXIOUS MUMS

Dr Jodi Richardson

November 2020

Penguin Life Australia

Trade paperback – 288pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold previous title (*Anxious Kids*): Taiwan (Yuan-Liou); China (Beijing Xiron); Romania (Curtea Veche); Russia (Portal); Germany (Trias Verlag)

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### How mums can turn their anxiety into strength.

The challenge of anxiety never tests you more than when you become a mother. From conceiving, to pregnancy, to birth, and forever more, there are infinite triggers for anxiety.

The impact on mothers isn't just the anxiety itself, it's the stop sign it seems to put up in front of you at almost every turn. Anxiety can stand in the way of living a rich, full and wonderful life, and from fulfilling your potential personally, professionally and as a mother. But this doesn't have to be your reality. Dr Jodi Richardson, co-author of the bestselling *Anxious Kids*, knows this because she lives with anxiety and is a wellbeing expert. Now, she wants to educate and inspire mothers to:

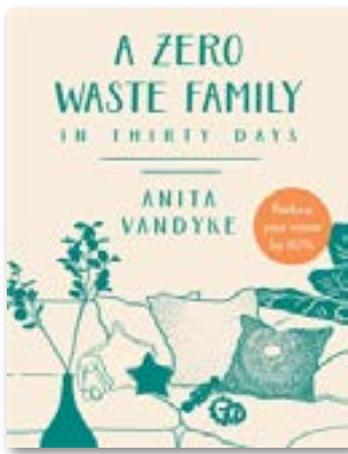
- Recognise and understand their anxiety
- Build the skills and lifestyle to manage and minimise symptoms
- Develop thinking skills to challenge unhelpful and worrying thoughts
- Cultivate the confidence to embrace change and uncertainty
- Strengthen the ability to tolerate discomfort
- Enrich relationships with partners, friends and children
- Understand emotional labour and manage 'mental load'
- Strive to fulfil personal and professional goals and ambitions
- Raise emotionally intelligent children with skills for flourishing mental health

Grounded in positive psychology, and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy, *Anxious Mums* gives mums the knowledge, tools, support and confidence to make a positive difference not just to their own mental health but also to that of their whole family.



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Dr Jodi Richardson is an expert on anxiety, having lived it and studied it. She has spent more than 25 years in the field of health, wellbeing, clinical practice, elite sport and education. She is the founder and director of Happier on Purpose, the Mental Health and Wellbeing expert for Parenting Ideas and co-creator of the Parenting Anxious Kids online course. She is also co-author of *Anxious Kids*. She writes regularly on parenting, mental health and wellbeing for magazines and online publications. Author photo © Laura Manariti



## A ZERO WASTE FAMILY: IN THIRTY DAYS

Anita Vandyke

December 2020

Penguin Life Australia

Trade paperback – 252pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold previous title (*A Zero Waste Life*): Audio (Bolinda); North America (Apollo); China (Beijing United); Czech Republic (Alpha Books); Poland (Proszynski Media); Indonesia (PT Elexmedia); Russia (Portal)

### How to reduce your family's waste by 80%.

Trying to live a zero waste life while simultaneously raising a family can feel almost impossible at times, but Anita Vandyke, bestselling author of *A Zero Waste Life*, is here to help.

*A Zero Waste Family* is a gentle thirty-day guide highlighting the lessons Anita learned during her first year navigating motherhood, while also studying medicine and still trying to reduce her waste. Here she shares innovative ideas about how families can work together to decrease their household waste and make their lives easier, richer and more purposeful, and less full of clutter and distractions.

As parents we are constantly juggling the needs of children, work, chores and money. This book is not designed to add to the guilt that we already feel. It's about showing how, by applying zero-waste and minimalist principles, being an eco-parent doesn't have to be difficult, and that by making small changes as a family we can make a big difference to our world for our children and future generations.

#### Sales points

- Easy and fun life hacks for parents and children to reduce household waste together, while also having fun as a family
- A gorgeous, essential gift book for anyone trying to reduce waste in their family and simplify their life
- More than just a book about families and reducing waste, the focus is also on making life easier for parents, and Anita, a qualified rocket scientist, has just the skills to help



Anita Vandyke is a qualified rocket scientist and medical doctor (Bachelor of Engineering – Aeronautical Space and Doctor of Medicine) and, most importantly, mother to Vivian. She was born in Guangzhou, China, raised in Australia, and currently splits her time between Sydney and San Francisco. Her first book, *A Zero Waste Life*, won Gold at the Nautilus Book Awards in 2019 and has been translated to five languages. Anita writes about motherhood, zero waste living and minimalism on Instagram, at @rocket\_science, or at anitavandyke.com. Author photo © Joi Ong



## SUPERGOOD

Chelsea Winter

September 2020

Random House New Zealand

Paperback – 240pp

Rights held: World

**Epic plant-based food for everyone, with gluten-free options for just about everything.**

There's everything to love about this much-anticipated new book from New Zealand's favourite bestselling home cook, Chelsea Winter. Sink your teeth into a massive selection of dishes that go way beyond what you'd expect from plant-based fare to deliver hearty, tasty, fussy-eater-approved satisfaction. From Chelsea's world-famous Lockdown Loaf and 10-second Aioli to creamy pastas, curries, burgers and lasagnes; clever classic reboots of cookies, brownies and ice cream; mouthwatering home baking and desserts and many more versatile staples, sides, sauces and snacks – there really is something for every occasion.

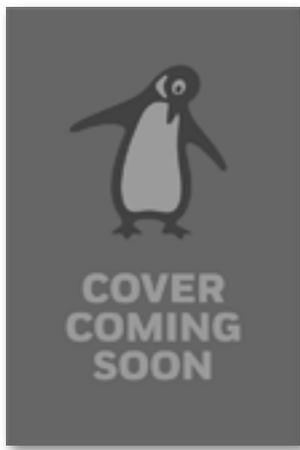
It's all 100% meat-free, egg-free and dairy-free with loads of gluten-free options and top tips to inspire every cook – whether you're catering for those people in your life who can't (or won't) eat certain foods or you're keen to try a few plantified meals and want to know where to start. This book is everything you'd expect from Chelsea: easily available ingredients and totally delicious, foolproof recipes that work. It's supergood!

### Sales points

- Not just salads and roasted kale! Instead, hearty, tasty and family-friendly recipes that everyone will love
- Plant-based cooking is an enormous and fast-growing trend. Good for you and good for the planet, this kind of eating is tied to large-scale environmental awareness, and it's not going away
- Chelsea has huge online followings across all social media platforms
- Fun, cheeky and non-preachy



Chelsea Winter is the bestselling author of five cookbooks.: *Eat, Scrumptious, Homemade Happiness, Everyday Delicious* and *At My Table*, and an all-round lover of good food. She's passionate about creating straightforward, home recipes that are simple to prepare, yet look great and taste fantastic, and bring people together. Chelsea was the winner of *MasterChef New Zealand's* third season and is always looking for new and inventive ways to inspire home cooks. She grew up as a farm girl in both Hamilton and Kumeu, yet she is also the ultimate beach baby, having spent childhood summers between Great Barrier Island, Raglan and Mount Maunganui. She has huge online followings on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and you can find her at [chelseawinter.co.nz](http://chelseawinter.co.nz). Author photo credit © Tam West



## SIMPLY FOOD

Eleanor Ozich

March 2021

Penguin New Zealand

Hardcover – 224pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold previous title (*Homemade*): Germany (Verlag Freies Geistesleben)

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### Stylish modern food made in fifteen minutes.

Everyone is short of time these days. And most people still want to eat tasty, healthy food. This stylish cookbook contains 80 recipes that can be made with just fifteen minutes of hands-on time to produce a healthy and delicious meal. Eleanor Ozich is well known for her blog tutorials and her previous successful books, and her fans are keen to see another cookbook in her effortlessly cool style.

Eleanor says: 'The truth is, I love to cook and spend time in the kitchen; however, being a mum of three busy kids and juggling various jobs means that it's often not a priority. I'm sure I'm not alone! With little time for preparation, and even less for cleaning up the mess afterwards, the idea for this exciting new cookbook became beautifully obvious.'

Including options for easy, healthy breakfasts, lunchbox fillers, no-mess tray bakes, one-pot wonders, throw-together salads and incredibly quick desserts, this book is perfect for the everyday person who enjoys eating well.

You'll find plenty of savvy ways to create quick weeknight meals, as well as recipes that are fancy enough for weekend entertaining. Combined with bright, colourful photography to accompany each dish, this cookbook is also a feast for the eyes.



*Homemade* (2019)



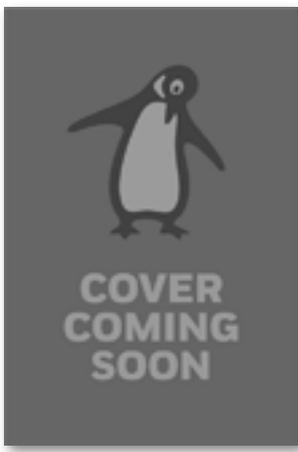
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Eleanor Ozich is a bestselling author and photographer and mother to three young children. Since starting a blog seven years ago, she has built a large following of loyal readers who look forward to her daily musings, recipes and ideas for living a less complicated way of life. Her unique approach to writing and photography showcases her love of all things simple in a natural, down-to-earth way. A self-taught cook, Eleanor grew up living above her parents' restaurant in Auckland. She has published three cookbooks, *Homemade*, *My Petite Kitchen* and *My Family Table*, a lifestyle guide *The Art of Simple*, and contributes to various publications including *Taste* magazine.



Penguin  
Random House  
Australia & New Zealand

# FICTION



## THE EIGHTH WONDER

Tania Farrelly

July 2021

Michael Joseph

Trade paperback – 368pp

Rights held: World

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**An exciting new author of romantic historical fiction in the style of Fiona McIntosh and Natasha Lester.**

New York, 1897. Manhattan is in the grip of money fever. It's the richest city in the world and wizards of progress like Edison, Tesla, Vanderbilt, Pulitzer and Twain walk the streets daily, illuminating life's expansive possibilities one household at a time.

Rose Kingsbury Smith is a well-heeled young woman, expected to play by the strict rules of social etiquette; to marry for familial advantage and forfeit any career aspirations. But she has a quietly rebellious streak and is determined to become an architect, in a field dominated by men. She's well on track to fulfil her ambition when the theft of a family heirloom plunges her family into financial difficulty. Rose finds herself as her family's most tradeable asset, quickly being railroaded into advantageous betrothal to a dashing millionaire, Chet Randall, who seems too good to be true.

Meanwhile, the enigmatic Ethan Salt's inglorious carnival days are behind him. He lives a quiet life on Coney Island with his beloved elephant Daisy, and is devoted to saving animals who've been brutalised by show business. When Ethan hires fledgling architect and suffrage advocate Rose to design a Winter House for his elephant, he promises himself that their relationship will remain professional, but as their work takes shape, so too does the bond between them. And it's on the verge of their shared success that the ghosts of Rose's past re-emerge, threatening to destroy everything they've worked for.

From Fifth Avenue mansions to the Lower East Side tenements, from the palaces of Newport, Rhode Island, to the side-shows of Coney Island, Rose must navigate prejudice and betrayal to live the life she chooses.

*The Suffragette* meets *The Greatest Showman*, this story explores the brilliance and brutality of one of the world's most progressive eras, and celebrates those who dare to rebel.

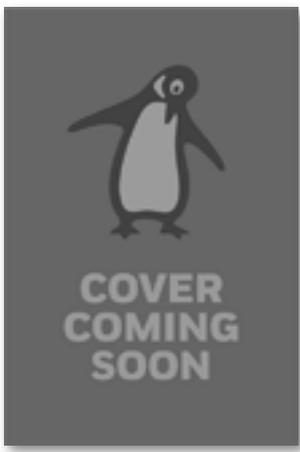
### Sales points

- For fans of Fiona McIntosh and Natasha Lester, this is blockbuster historical fiction at its finest
- *The Eighth Wonder* is inspired by the events and the pioneering women of the Gilded Age, and by the author's own family connection to New York and interest in science (thanks to her physics teacher father)
- An excerpt from *The Eighth Wonder* was placed in the top 6 in the Romance Writers of Australia First Kiss Competition



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Tania Farrelly is a well-awarded advertising strategist who has spent over twenty-five years working in Australia's leading advertising agencies, telling stories for the world's biggest brands; Nike, Cadbury, Nestlé, L'Oréal and Brand Victoria to name a few. She has more recently built her own successful, brand consultancy iSPY and contributed articles published in industry journals such as *B&T* and *Ad News*. With a background specialising in research and brand narrative, she has turned her hand from brand stories to human stories and with the help of creative writing courses at RMIT and Fiona McIntosh's Masterclass, completed *The Eighth Wonder*.



## SECRETS MY FATHER KEPT

Rachel Givney

June 2021

Michael Joseph

Trade paperback – 304pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold previous title (*Jane in Love*): North America (HarperCollins); Indonesia (Republika); Romania (RAO Distributie)

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**A captivating historical novel set in Poland on the eve of the Second World War, from the author of *Jane in Love*.**

Krakow, Poland, 1938.

As the Führer keeps looking east and total war threatens to break out across Europe, Marie Karski dreams of becoming a doctor – something unthinkable in Poland at that time. She also longs to know what happened to her mother, who disappeared fifteen years ago. She clashes with her secretive father, Dominick Karski, himself a doctor, who refuses to talk about what happened to her mother. He won't even tell her her mother's name, and seems more concerned with Marie finding a husband, which he tells her is the only way to keep her safe when a war is coming. Only after she fights for it does he finally reveal her mother's name: Helen.

With her father refusing to give her more information, Marie instead enlists Ben Rosen, her childhood friend, to help find her mother. Having returned to Marie's home town after a long, unexplained absence, Ben confesses that he has loved Marie since they were children. Ben is kind, clever and handsome and the two fall in love. But Marie is a Roman Catholic and Ben is a Jew, and her father refuses to permit the marriage.

Marie must explore who she is and what she stands for, just as the threat of the German invasion becomes all too real.

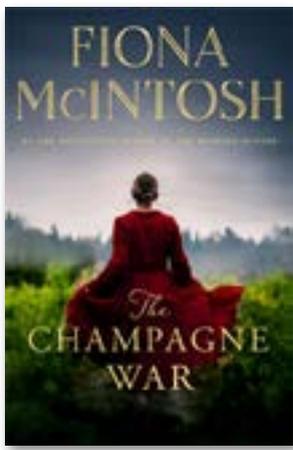
### Sales points

- Crossover historical women's fiction, great for the book club market
- A story with many talking points – the countdown to war before Germany's invasion of Poland, the plight of Jewish people during the Second World War, pioneering women in medicine and science, father-daughter relationships, and the search for a lost mother
- Rachel is an experienced scriptwriter with a fresh and captivating voice
- A strong central character, Marie is an ambitious and determined woman who not only wants to become a doctor (something almost impossible at the time for a woman) but also converts to Judaism in 1939 in order to marry the man she loves



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Rachel Givney is a writer and filmmaker originally from Sydney, Australia (currently based in Melbourne). She has worked on the shows *Offspring*, *The Warriors*, *McLeod's Daughters*, *Rescue: Special Ops* and *All Saints*. Her films have been official selections at the Sydney Film Festival, Flickerfest and many more. Her debut novel, *Jane in Love*, was published in February. Author photo © Tegan Louise.



## THE CHAMPAGNE WAR

Fiona McIntosh

November 2020

Michael Joseph

Trade paperback – 448pp

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold previous titles: *The Diamond Hunter* – United Kingdom (Ebury); Germany (Blanvalet); *The Pearl Thief* – United Kingdom (Ebury); Italy (DeA Planeta); *The Tea Gardens* – United Kingdom (Ebury); Lithuania (Alma littera); *The Chocolate Tin* – Bulgaria (SoftPress); *The Perfumer's Secret* – Portugal (Estrela Polar); Czech Republic (Baronet); Poland (Wydawnictwo Folia); Bulgaria (SoftPress)

**The heart-stopping new blockbuster by the bestselling author of *The Diamond Hunter*.**

‘Make these little vines count. Love them as I love you.’

In the summer of 1914, vigneron Jerome Mea heads off to war, certain he'll be home by Christmas. His new bride Sophie Delancre, a fifth generation champenoise, is determined to ensure the forthcoming vintages will be testament to their love and the power of the people of Épernay, especially its strong women who have elevated champagne to favourite beverage of the rich and royal worldwide. But as the years drag on, authorities advise that Jerome is missing, considered dead.

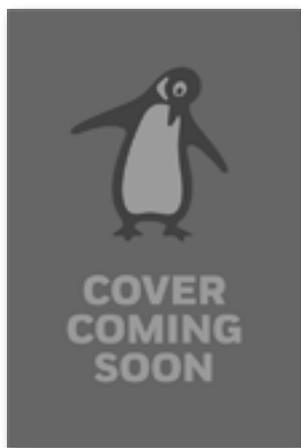
When poison gas is first used in Belgium by the Germans, British chemist Charles Nash jumps to enlist, refusing to be part of the scientific team that retaliates. A brilliant marksman, Charlie is seen by his men as a hero, but soon comes to feel that he'd rather die himself than take another life. When he is injured, he is brought to the champagne cellars in Reims, where Sophie has set up an underground hospital, and later to her mansion house in Épernay, now a retreat for the wounded. As Sophie struggles with strong feelings for her patient, she also battles to procure the sugar she needs for her 1918 vintage and attracts sinister advances from her brother-in-law. However, nothing can prepare her for the ultimate battle of the heart, when Jerome's bloodstained jacket and identification papers are found in Belgium, and her hopes of ever seeing her husband alive again are reignited. From the killing fields of Ypres to the sun-kissed vineyards of southern France, *The Champagne War* is a heart-stopping adventure about the true power of love and hope to light the way during war.

### Sales points

- Evocatively described setting of northeastern France – the very best way to armchair travel while present restrictions are in place
- Fiona McIntosh has sold over 680,000 copies in Australia and New Zealand alone
- With unforgettable dramatic scenes from the battlefields of Ypres, this book has the potential to widen Fiona's readership even further
- As well as being an incredibly successful commercial fiction author, Fiona is also the author of adult fantasy titles (published by HarperCollins) with rights sold in France, and has also written titles for children
- Her books *The Tea Gardens*, *The Chocolate Tin* and *The Perfumer's Secret* have all been shortlisted or longlisted in the ABIA awards



Fiona McIntosh is an internationally bestselling author of novels for adults and children. She co-founded an award-winning travel magazine with her husband, which they ran for fifteen years while raising their twin sons before she became a full-time author. Fiona roams the world researching and drawing inspiration for her novels, and runs a series of highly respected fiction masterclasses. She calls South Australia home. Author photo © Anne Stropin



## LOVEBIRDS

Amanda Hampson

May 2021

Michael Joseph

Trade paperback – 288pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold previous titles: *Sixty Summers* – Audio (WF Howes); *The Yellow Villa* – Audio (WF Howes); Italy (Newton Compton); Czech Republic (Baronet); *The French Perfumer* – Audio (WF Howes); Czech Republic (Baronet); Italy (Newton Compton); *Two For the Road* – Germany (Random House)

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### All love stories have a happy beginning, but what about the middle – and the end?

Liz, in her early 60s, is long estranged from her ex-husband Ray, who returned from the war a broken man determined to set her free from a tortured life with him. She rarely sees her two adult sons, and has strained relationships with her daughter-in-law, Louise, now a single parent, and her 14-year-old grandson, Zach, whom she adored as a small child. When Zach gets into trouble with the police, Louise turns to Liz for help.

She decides to take Zach on a road trip to see his grandfather, a recluse who went bush 25 years earlier. Two less compatible travelling companions would be hard to find. Everything his nana does is deeply embarrassing to Zach, and all her attempts to draw him out are met with silent resistance or one-word sentences.

Liz and Zach find that Ray has been living off the grid in a remote and primitive shack. Visitors to his kingdom are tolerated, but not welcome. Upon their arrival, Ray is nowhere to be found. Ray, it turns out, is in hospital battling a terminal illness, with weeks to live. Liz insists on taking him home with her to pass his final days. As Liz and Ray begin to open up to each other about the intervening years, they rediscover what drew them together all those years ago and cautiously rekindle their relationship. Liz realises that to save Zach, she and Ray need to mend the cracks that have broken their family apart.

Vignettes from the past alternate with the current-day story. Perfect for the commercial women's fiction market, this story crosses generations and explores family life and relationships.

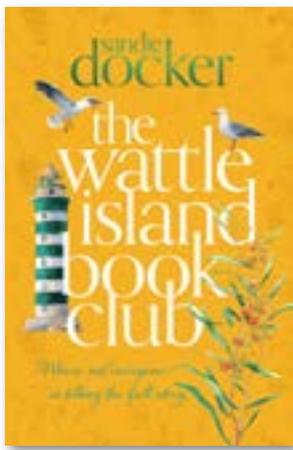
### Sales points

- Warm, witty, wise and wonderful, Amanda Hampson is an entertaining and insightful writer whose novels have broad crossover appeal
- *Lovebirds* is an astute, moving contemporary women's read, ideal for the older, 'Helen Mirren movie' market
- Multi-generational characters in a transformational, heartwarming story
- For fans of Liane Moriarty
- Beautifully written, escapist, bookclub-ready fiction



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Amanda Hampson grew up in rural New Zealand. She spent her early twenties travelling, finally settling in Australia in 1979 where she now lives, in Sydney's Northern Beaches. Writing professionally for more than 20 years, she is the author of two non-fiction books and the novels *The Olive Sisters*, *Two for the Road*, *The French Perfumer* and *The Yellow Villa*. Author photo © Christian Trinder



## THE WATTLE ISLAND BOOK CLUB

**Sandie Docker**

March 2021

Michael Joseph

Trade paperback – 384pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold previous title (*The Kookaburra Creek Café*): Germany (Random House)

**The heartwarming new family drama from the bestselling author of *The Banksia Bay Beach Shack*.**

Grace loves her job as the librarian of Wombat Warf Central Library. She has been surrounded by books all her life and her work gave her something to hold onto while she underwent chemotherapy for breast cancer. Now in remission, Grace is determined to build the library's book club membership and share her love of reading with more people. She will fight the funding cuts and prove how vital the library is to the local community. When her cancer returns, Grace's resolve is even stronger.

Five hundred kilometres off the coast is the quiet community of Wattle Island. Quiet until town matriarch, Leonie, decides to shake things up and broaden the town's horizons. She reaches out to Grace, the librarian on the mainland, and starts up the Wattle Island Book Club. They work out the logistics of getting the books across the ocean on the supply boat that services the island. The book club has a slow start, but when Leonie requests *The Bride Stripped Bare* as the next read, membership increases. If only she could get her broody nephew Sean to join. But ever since his wife was killed in a terrible boating accident two years before, he has shut himself off from the outside world, and the only motivation to get him out of bed is his 14-year-old daughter Eliza.

When Leonie is diagnosed with an illness she decides to keep from everyone, she asks Sean to help her run the book club. He agrees, reluctantly, and sends a note back to the mainland with the month's returned book-box, introducing himself. Grace is intrigued and replies and the two form a friendship through the notes they pass back and forth. Eliza notices a change in her usually melancholy dad but she knows he'll never leave the island to meet Grace – the only way on or off being by boat. So she stows away on the *Sea Trader* to try to convince Grace in person to come to Wattle Island. A moving and heartfelt story of taking risks and finding a new lease on life.

### Sales points

- Docker has developed a strong brand for herself, writing warm, feelgood stories set in evocative places
- Ideal as a gift
- Perfect for fans of Barbara Hannay

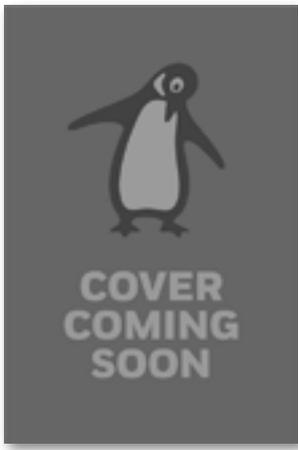
### Praise for Sandie Docker

- 'Docker soars from the absolute heart' – *Australian Women's Weekly*
- 'The best of heart-wrenching yarns' – *Woman's Day*



Sandie Docker grew up in Coff's Harbour, and first fell in love with reading when her father introduced her to fantasy books as a teenager.

But it wasn't until she was taking a translation course at university that her Mandarin lecturer suggested she might have a knack for writing – a seed of an idea that sat quietly at the back of her mind while she lived overseas and travelled the world. Sandie first decided to put pen to paper (yes, she still writes everything the old-fashioned way before hitting a keyboard) when living in London. Now back in Sydney with her husband and daughter, she writes every day. Author photo © Naomi Bartlett Photography



## THE EMPORIUM OF IMAGINATION

Tabitha Bird

March 2021

Viking

Trade paperback – 400pp

Rights held: World

Rights sold previous title (*A Lifetime of Impossible Days*): Audio (WF Howes); Italy (Biplane Edizioni)

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**A new novel of magical realism from the author of *A Lifetime of Impossible Days*.**

A fantastical shop and its magical custodian arrive in the small town of Boonah to inspire the various townsfolk and, in particular, to help a young boy who has recently been orphaned.

A little bit of magic is about to appear. Earlatidge Hubert Umbray can sense it. He has the nose for it. After all these years of being the custodian who travels with The Emporium of Imagination, he would. He's sixty-something years old, but he's dying. This most unusual shop needs a new custodian.

When the shop sets up in Boonah, no one can understand why it only sells antique telephones. They soon discover that the phones would connect them to whomever they are grieving for. A last chance to speak with a loved one. Many people in town are desperate for this gift. But the store is locked. The new custodian will be the person able to unlock the door and make that first phone call.

Enoch Raye is eleven years old and has just lost his father, Isaac Raye, in a flood. What only Enoch knows is that it wasn't an accident – he is the one responsible. And the last person he'd want to talk with is his father.

Earlatidge must help a grieving family face their secrets and find the new custodian to his shop before he dies. Or it won't only be Enoch who will miss the opportunity for that one last conversation with a loved one.

A beautiful, uplifting story of magical realism that will make you laugh and make you cry.

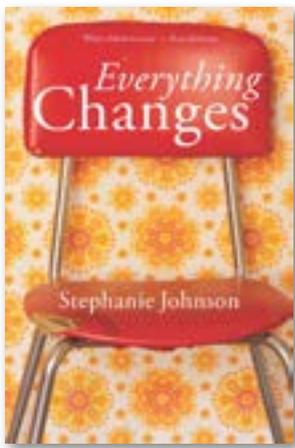
### Sales points

- Bird's writing is lyrical, poetic and full of vivid imagery
- Unique commercial women's fiction with crossover literary appeal
- Ideal for book clubs, with plenty of topics for discussion
- Bird's previous novel, *A Lifetime of Impossible Days*, was shortlisted for the MUD Literary Prize



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Tabitha Bird is a writer and poet who lives and works in the rural township of Boonah, Queensland. By day Tabitha may be found painting, working on her next book or with her husband, three beautiful boys and Chihuahua. Author photo © Mr Matthew Willmann



## EVERYTHING CHANGES

Stephanie Johnson

March 2021

Random House New Zealand Vintage

Trade paperback – 288pp

Rights held: World

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*'Not many people shift house because the dog killed the neighbour's cat, a blue-eyed Himalayan worth a thousand dollars, but that is what we're doing.'*

There are other reasons for the move, but this was what finally drove Col to move her reluctant husband, Davie, and disapproving daughter, Liv, to the crumbling tearooms at the top of a steep hill. The view is spectacular, but their new home is not. Liv would run if she could, but as she is single, pregnant and broke she doesn't have much choice. She must grin and bear it, or rather scowl and bear it, despite being plagued by her mother to reveal the father of her unborn child – an uncomfortable truth that Liv has absolutely no intention of sharing.

Col wants to set up the old tearooms as a soothing retreat free from wifi. While their renovations are underway, their first customers arrive: a mother with her anorexic daughter, Julia; and Aidan, a reclusive man that Col realises is the author and producer of the hit TV series and books *War of Thorns*. What would such a wealthy, successful man be doing in a dump like theirs? As it turns out, his intentions are about to turn everything upside down.

'What a fabulous read. Stephanie Johnson's characters choose an old motel with little to offer except an amazing view in order to start a "new life". Their first guests are a classic cast of the sorrowful and dysfunctional that everyday life throws at us these days. They are joined by their pregnant daughter, a mysterious young criminal from next door and a dog that knows more than all of them put together. The story is fast paced and unpredictable, it's smart, contemporary and heartbreaking all at once. And, just when it was about to make me cry, Johnson startled me into wild laughter. This is her best book ever, and I loved every page of it.' – Fiona Kidman, award-winning author of *This Mortal Boy*



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Stephanie Johnson is an accomplished writer whose work includes plays for stage and radio, poetry, scriptwriting and novels. She was shortlisted for the 1999 Montana Book Awards for her novel *The Whistler*. Her novel *The Heart's Wild Surf* was a great success in the UK, Australia and New Zealand. She is co-founder of the Auckland Writer's Festival and was the 2000 Katherine Mansfield Fellow.