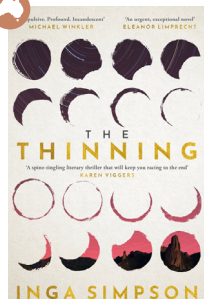


BookPeople Gift Guide

The best books for the holiday season as chosen by Australia's leading booksellers

Australian Fiction

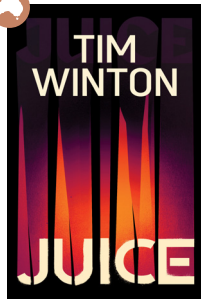


The Thinning Inga Simpson

Hachette Australia
TPB \$32.99

Fin has grown up in her parents' world of astronomy. In a future world riven with mass extinctions and environmental

decline, she and her off-grid community are wary of outsiders. In a thrilling race against time, Fin works with Terry, born as part of a new breed of evolved human, to fend off looming natural disasters.

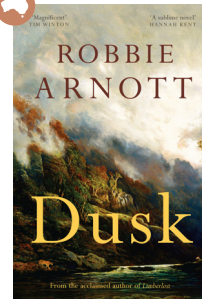


Juice Tim Winton

Hamish Hamilton
Australia
HB \$49.99

In the latest by the thrice-Miles Franklin Award winner, a man and child, fugitives driving at night, arrive

at an abandoned mine site that may provide refuge. Climate has ravaged the land and people have regressed to subsistence and barbarism. Winton writes spectacularly here, building the story of our protagonists and the broader context of humanity's shortcomings with precise and hypnotic prose.

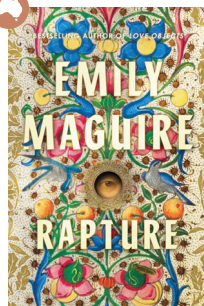


Dusk Robbie Arnott

Picador Australia
TPB \$34.99

Robbie Arnott returns with an extraordinary story of twins Iris and Floyd Renshaw, struggling at the margins of early settler

Tasmania. Word of a bounty on a puma named Dusk that has been killing shepherds leads them to join the hunt, and the search takes them deep into a landscape whose people and history demand more of them than they could possibly imagine. Richly conceived and masterfully written. Arnott is a wonder.

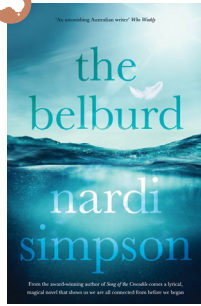


Rapture Emily Maguire

Allen & Unwin
TPB \$32.99

In ninth-century Mainz, 18-year-old Agnes refuses to become a nun or a wife. With the help of a lovesick Benedictine

monk, she disguises herself as a man and becomes John the Englishman—an incomparable scholar and scribe. By middle-age she is a revered teacher in Rome and when the only person who knows the truth arrives, she will risk everything to feel known and loved again.

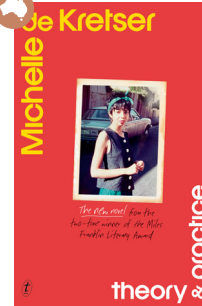


The Belburd Nardi Simpson

Hachette Australia
TPB \$32.99

Nardi Simpson has followed up her debut *Song of the Crocodile* with the story of Ginny, a poet exploring her connection to

Country, family and art. Through the story of a birth spirit with Mother Eel, Ginny discovers the interconnectedness and beauty of life and death. Drawing on First Nations knowledge, *The Belburd* is powerfully evocative and rich in its appreciation of nature.



Theory & Practice Michelle de Kretser

Text Publishing
TPB \$32.99

It's 1986, and 'beautiful, radical ideas' are in the air. A young woman arrives in Melbourne to

research the novels of Virginia Woolf and falls in love with the bohemians of St Kilda. This mesmerising account of desire and jealousy, truth and shame, plays with the forms of fiction, and is deservedly one of this year's most anticipated novels.

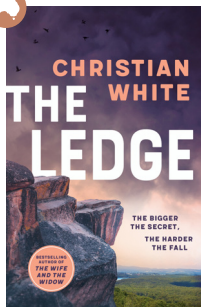


Leave the Girls Behind Jacqueline Bublitz

Allen & Unwin
TPB \$34.99

Nineteen years ago, Ruth's childhood friend was murdered by a convicted killer.

Convinced the killer had other victims, Ruth delves back into the investigation when another girl goes missing in the present day. The acclaimed author of *Before You Knew My Name* returns with another taut suspense thriller exploring the ways in which violent crime ricochets through the lives of those left behind.



The Ledge Christian White

Affirm Press
TPB \$34.99

When human remains are discovered in a forest, the past comes rushing into the present for Justin, forcing him to return

to the regional town he'd fled as a 16-year-old and revisit the events that led to his hasty departure. From the bestselling author of *The Nowhere Child*, this page-turner will keep you on the edge of your seat. As Michael Robotham says, 'you won't see the twist coming.'

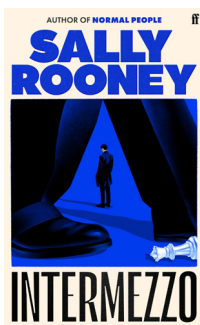


Everyone This Christmas Has a Secret Benjamin Stevenson

Penguin
HB \$29.99

Benjamin Stevenson returns with a Christmas addition to

his bestselling Ernest Cunningham mysteries. Finding himself backstage at the show of world-famous magician Rylan Blaze, whose benefactor has just been murdered, it's up to Ernest to see through the illusions of his professional trickster suspects and get back to some hard-earned holiday rest.



Intermezzo
Sally Rooney

Faber Fiction
Demy \$34.99

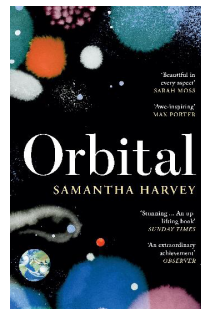
In this latest by the bestselling author of *Normal People*, competitive chess player Ivan and his lawyer brother Peter are united in grief over their father's death, but with little else in common. As the two brothers each face the prospect of new romance, it falls to them to manoeuvre through sorrow, ambition, and love, all told in Rooney's tenderly keen-eyed style. Also available in a special inverted colour hardcover edition at \$39.99. *While stocks last



The City and Its Uncertain Walls
Haruki Murakami

Harvill Secker
HB \$49.99

In his forties, Boku still grieves his teenage love, a girl who believes her true self resides in a walled off library of dreams. She disappears, and when Boku, disgruntled with his career, takes a job at a library, he comes to believe he might unlock the key to the place of his long-lost love. A love-letter to magic realism, the novel reads like an extended Miyazaki film—surreal, spiritual and transcendent.



Orbital
Samantha Harvey

Vintage
PB \$22.99

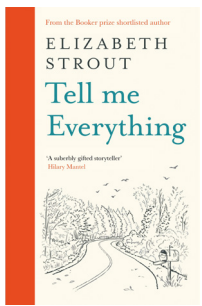
Samantha Harvey's *Orbital*, winner of the 2024 Booker Prize, is a profound meditation on the fragility of life and humanity's bond with Earth. Through the eyes of astronauts orbiting the planet, it explores awe, grief, and connection. Stunning and deeply reflective, this slim volume captures life's beauty and fragility with unparalleled grace.



Time of the Child
Niall Williams

Bloomsbury Publishing
TPB \$32.99

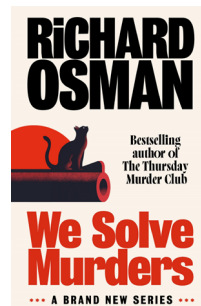
Doctor Jack Troy was born and raised in a small town in Ireland but has always been set apart from his community. His daughter Ronnie, has grown up in his shadow, missing out on her chance of love. But in the advent of 1962, their lives are torn upside down when a baby is left in their care. A heartbreaking and life-affirming novel by the author of *This is Happiness*.



Tell Me Everything
Elizabeth Strout

Viking
HB \$34.99

Elizabeth Strout returns to the town of Crosby, Maine and her beloved cast of characters—Lucy Barton, Olive Kitteridge and Bob Burgess. Bob becomes entangled in a murder investigation, while Lucy befriends the feisty Olive, spending afternoons together telling each other's stories. Brimming with empathy and pathos, *Tell Me Everything* is a hopeful novel of friendship, old loves and the very human desire to leave a mark on the world.



We Solve Murders
Richard Osman

Viking
TPB \$34.99

A bodyguard, a romance writer and an ex-policeman walk into a room. Richard Osman's latest mystery brings us a new cast of sleuths, some international travel, assassins, trivia competitions and some very bad people. Told with his usual panache and humour, fans of *The Thursday Murder Club* and newcomers alike will not be disappointed.

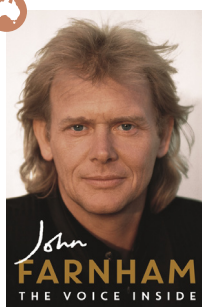
Biography & Memoir



We Are the Stars
Gina Chick

Summit Books
TPB \$36.99

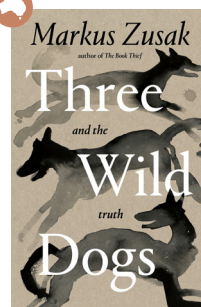
From day one of her wildly unconventional childhood, Gina Chick, inaugural winner of *Alone Australia*, has blazed her own trail in life. Fleeing to the wilderness to find healing began a wondrous love affair with the deepest lessons life—and death—can offer. She discovered that all the answers are written in the wisdom of the body, the whirling silence of stars and most of all being true to yourself.



The Voice Inside
John Farnham with Poppy Stockell

Hachette Australia
HB \$49.99

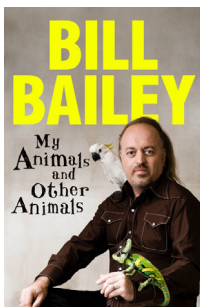
Discover the highs and lows of John Farnham's legendary musical and personal life, reflecting on his resilience when his career stalled, record companies abandoned him, and he faced financial ruin. From staying true to himself in a ruthless industry to battling cancer, this is a tale of Farnham finding his own voice through adversity, and the deep human connections made through music.



Three Wild Dogs and the Truth
Markus Zusak

Picador Australia
HB \$36.99

Australian favourite Markus Zusak has written a beautiful memoir centred on Reuben, Archer and Frosty, three wild dogs the Zusak family decided to bring into their home. The results are predictably chaotic, with all the attendant destruction and disruption you might imagine as the new family members adjust to life beyond the pound. A story of life's compromises, challenges, and the joys of giving unconditional love. A wonderful book from a masterful storyteller.



My Animals and Other Animals
Bill Bailey

Quercus
TPB \$34.99

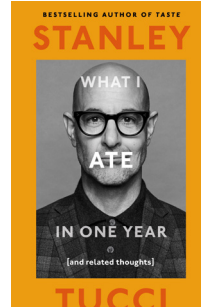
Beloved comedian Bill Bailey has written a hilarious and heartwarming memoir filled with stories of the animals that have enriched his life. With his trademark wit and wisdom, he reflects on how animals bring joy, connection and meaning, reminding us how our lives are enhanced by the animals who share our world.



Dropping the Mask
Noni Hazlehurst

HarperCollins Australia
HB \$39.99

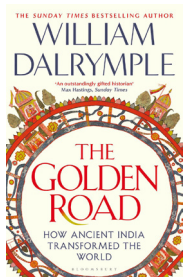
One of our best-loved actors, Noni Hazlehurst is finally telling a story of her own. A single mother of two boys, and a freelance worker, Noni knows about the challenges of constant juggling and being stretched to the limit. She has always been committed to telling Australian stories—and this memoir is an impressive addition to her remarkable opus.



What I Ate in One Year
Stanley Tucci

Fig Tree
HB \$45.00

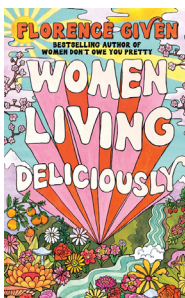
Some people eat to live, and others live to eat. Stanley Tucci is definitely the latter. A follow up to the bestselling *Taste*, we now get a year in the life of Stanley Tucci. A year of family, friends, work and, of course, food. From high-end restaurants to simple, delicious, home-made food, Tucci opens another window into a life of eating well.



The Golden Road
William Dalrymple

Bloomsbury Publishing
TPB \$39.99

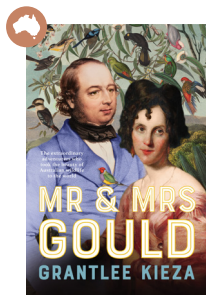
Dalrymple draws on his extensive scholarship in detailing India's position as the central civilisation of ancient Eurasia. Diverse and sprawling, India transformed the world in cultural, intellectual and technological terms. From the temples at Angkor Wat, the development of still-used numerals, the trade that helped fund the growth of the Roman Empire and the spread of Buddhism across the globe, India shaped the world we live in today.



Women Living Deliciously
Florence Given

Brazen
HB \$39.99

From the bestselling author of *Women Don't Owe You Pretty* comes a guide to helping women fall in love with their lives again. Florence Given unpacks how awe and wonder is buried by the layers of shame and self-objectification that are enforced by the patriarchy, all fully illustrated with her trademark colourful artwork.



Mr & Mrs Gould
Grantlee Kieza

ABC Books
HB \$49.99

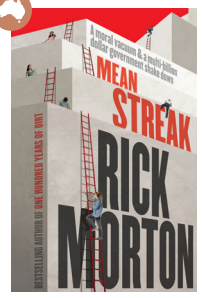
Renowned historical writer Grantlee Kieza invites us into the colourful collaborative world of the Goulds—two incredibly passionate naturalists who made it their life's adventure to catalogue every bird species in Australia. John, the articulate scientific man who can describe in exquisite detail each fauna they encountered, and Elizabeth who can recreate the descriptions and taxidermy in perfect strokes on the paper.



The Season
Helen Garner

Text Publishing
TPB \$34.99

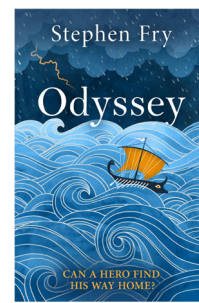
26th November release, pre-orders welcome
In her inimitable style, Helen Garner invites us to join her for a year of bonding with her youngest grandchild, a passionate football player with the local under 16s team. Garner's words bewitch until, you too, are deeply involved in the highs and lows of a footy season, the icy practice nights, the passion, the friendship and the community that develops.



Mean Streak
Rick Morton

4th Estate
TPB \$35.99

A gripping and horrifying account of how, over the course of four and a half years, Australia's government turned on its most vulnerable citizens. Robodebt, as it became known, was used to illegally pursue close to half a million Australian welfare recipients for fake debts generated by the thousands. From award-winning journalist Rick Morton, *Mean Streak* reveals disturbing truths about the country we have become and the government that was.



Odyssey
Stephen Fry

Michael Joseph
TPB \$36.99

Stephen Fry is back with the final volume in his retelling of the Greek myths. 2800 years in the making, we trace the story of Odysseus, the cunning and strong king of Ithaca. After the fall of Troy, he sails for home but is cursed by the god Poseidon to wander for ten years. What follows is series of shipwrecks, escapes, encounters with gods and goddesses, and ultimately a return home—but to what?

Food & Illustrated



65,000 Years
Marcia Langton & Judith Ryan (eds)

Thames & Hudson
Australia | HB \$79.99

Indigenous Australian art began many millennia before the British invasion of Australia. First peoples' art flourished for thousands of generations and shaped the continent as we know it today. This landmark publication, richly illustrated with over 300 cultural objects and works of art across time periods, celebrates the longevity and brilliance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, and addresses art history in the context of Australia's colonial history of invasion, dispossession and subjection.



Ottolenghi Comfort
Yotam Ottolenghi & Helen Goh

Ebury Press
HB \$65.00

Yotam Ottolenghi brings his inspiring, flavour-forward approach to comfort cooking, delivering new classics that taste of home. Weaving memories of childhood and travel with over 100 irresistible recipes, *Comfort* is a celebration of food and home—of the connections we make as we cook and pass on from generation to generation.



Good Cooking Every Day
Julia Busuttill & Nishimura

Plum
PB \$44.99

Julia Busuttill Nishimura's fourth cookbook is all about going back to basics—simple recipes for home cooking and creating memorable meals from good-quality seasonal produce. Grouped to create menus for every occasion—from the ideal long lunch or an intimate dinner with friends to a festive celebration of summer produce, this is a cookbook for every season, occasion and moment.



Salad for Days
Alice Zaslavsky

Murdoch Books
PB \$45.00

Another creative delight from Alice Zaslavsky, *Salad for Days* is packed with inventive recipes and promises salads for years to come. Each recipe is bursting with flavour and creativity, making salad the centrepiece of any occasion. This cookbook is a game-changer for good-food enthusiasts and anyone eager to elevate their veg.



Big Garden Design
Paul Bangay

Thames & Hudson
Australia
HB \$90.00

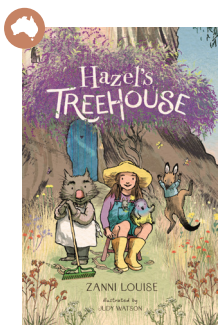
Esteemed landscape designer Paul Bangay has an extraordinary ability to envisage scale and create gardens that feel as though they have been there forever. With borrowed landscapes and dramatic views as key elements, he creates spaces that bring a sense of wonder.



About Face
Amber Creswell Bell

Thames & Hudson
Australia
HB \$69.99

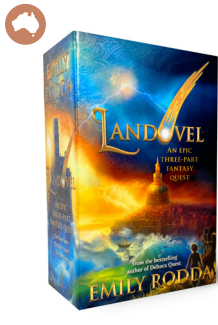
This wonderful compendium features thirty-nine diverse portrait painters from Australia and New Zealand. Curator Amber Creswell Bell has interviewed each artist to provide a description of their style and practices, as well as their career path and sources of inspiration.



Hazel's Treehouse
Zanni Louise & Judy Watson (illus)

Walker Books Australia
HB \$19.99

Hazel and her delightful animal companions—a pademelon, wombat, honey possum, and echidna—call a treehouse in the bush their home, where new adventures unfold each day. This enchanting collection of whimsical tales, paired with beautiful illustrations, make a perfect gift for young readers.



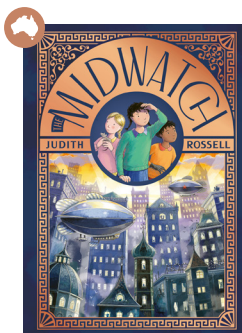
Landovel
Emily Rodda
Allen & Unwin Children's Publishing
Box Set \$39.99

Derry lives in isolated captivity as a poison taster and secret reader. Everything changes when a traveller appears and leaves a notebook brimming with secrets that could change Derry's destiny. From the author of *Deltora Quest* comes this new epic fantasy series where all three books are published together, and only together, in a unique and stunning embellished gift box.



The 113th Assistant Librarian
Stuart Wilson
Penguin
HB \$19.99

Who wouldn't want to live in a library? This particular library is filled with magic, mysterious cats, bats and some very dangerous books. Oliver Wormwood, the newly appointed Librarian Assistant, must look after the library, serve customers and most importantly survive longer than the previous 112 Librarian assistants. Full of fun, fantasy and adventure.



The Midwatch
Judith Rossell
Hardie Grant Children's Publishing
HB \$24.99

Abandoned at The Midwatch Institute for Orphans, Runaways and Unwanted Girls, Maggie is sure her life will be nothing but misery. She soon discovers that The Midwatch is a training institute for young spies and the girls must investigate the mysterious disappearance of valuable jewels. Lavishly illustrated, this is a charming mystery and adventure story for fans of Amelia Mellor.



All the Beautiful Things
Katrina Nannestad
ABC Kids Books
HB \$22.99

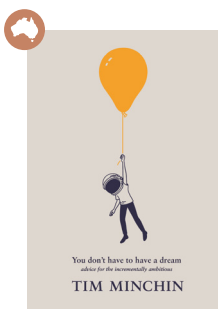
Anna's little sister Eva acts and sees the world differently from other children, but there is no place for difference in Nazi Germany. To keep Eva safe, she is hidden away with others, and Anna and her friends must show tremendous bravery and courage to keep them safe. This is a powerful historical novel based on true events for readers aged 10+ year



To Stir With Love
Kate Mildenhall & Jess Racklyeft (illus)
Simon & Schuster Australia
HB \$24.99

Grandma sometimes forgets things, but when she is making her famous 'everything cake' she has lots of stories to share. Featuring real photos of Kate Mildenhall's grandma, stunning illustrations from Jess Racklyeft and a tasty recipe for 'everything cake' in the back, this beautiful book deserves to be in every family's collection.

Travel & Gift



You Don't Have to Have a Dream
Tim Minchin
Penguin
HB \$36.99

Drawn from three iconic graduation speeches, this is Tim Minchin's inimitable thoughts and advice on life, art, success, kindness, love, and thriving in a meaningless universe. Beautifully designed with specially commissioned illustrations throughout, it's a rallying cry for creativity, critical thinking and compassion in our daily lives.



Murdle Australia
G.T. Karber
Allen & Unwin
PB \$32.99

The *Murdle* puzzle phenomenon comes to Australia with 50 new mysteries to solve. Dive headfirst into mind-bending detective work with Deductive Logico as he revisits his postgraduate days at the University of Deduction in Australia. Uncover a series of campus murders, while utilising the codes, illustrations and maps to work out the truth of who, what, and where.



Best in Travel 2025
Lonely Planet
Lonely Planet
HB \$32.99

This bestselling annual guide ranks the world's hottest destinations right now. It features the top 10 cities, countries and region to visit in 2025, plus a new top 10 of emerging trends. From travel hotspots, underrated and overlooked places to fresh take on well-known destinations, this is a must-have travel guide!

