

Belletrista

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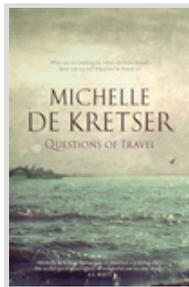
New & Notable

Whether you are a seasoned reader of international literature or a reader just venturing out beyond your own literary shores, we know you will find our New and Notable section a book browser's paradise! Reading literature from around the world has a way of opening up one's perspective to create as vast a world within us as there is without. Here are more than **130** new or notable books we hope will bring the world to you. **Remember—depending on what country you are shopping in, these books might be sold under slightly different titles or ISBNs, in different formats or with different covers; or be published in different months. However, the author's name is always likely to be the same!** (a book published in another country may not always be available to your library or local bookstore, but individuals usually can purchase them from the publishers or other online resources)

In this issue, because of our delayed publication, we have broadened our selection of books to include those which may have been published anywhere from this past August through February of *next* year. We hope this helps you plan all your winter (or summer, depending on where you live) reading! Enjoy!

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AUSTRALIA & the PACIFIC ISLANDS



QUESTIONS OF TRAVEL

Michelle de Kretser

A mesmerising literary novel, *Questions of Travel* charts two very different lives. Laura travels the world before returning to Sydney, where she works for a publisher of travel guides. Ravi dreams of being a tourist until he is driven from Sri Lanka by devastating events.

Around these two superbly drawn characters, a double narrative assembles an enthralling array of people,

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RED DIRT TALKING

Jacqueline Wright

It's build-up time in the northwestern town of Ransom, just before the big wet, when people go off the rails. In the midst of a bitter custody battle, an eight year old girl goes missing. Annie, an anthropology graduate fresh from the city, is determined to uncover the mystery of the child's disappearance.

PILGRIMAGE

Jacinta Halloran

places and stories—from Theo, whose life plays out in the long shadow of the past, to Hana, an Ethiopian woman determined to reinvent herself in Australia.

Award-winning author Michelle de Kretser illuminates travel, work and modern dreams in this brilliant evocation of the way we live now. Wonderfully written, *Questions of Travel* is an extraordinary work of imagination—a transformative, very funny and intensely moving novel.

Allen & Unwin (PB), hardcover, 9781743311004; Little, Brown & Co. (US), hardcover, 9780316219228 (May 2013)

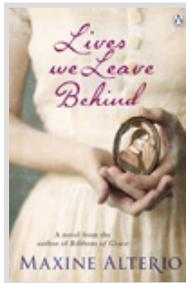


LIKE A HOUSE ON FIRE

Cate Kennedy

From prize-winning short-story writer Cate Kennedy comes a new collection to rival her highly acclaimed *Dark Roots*. In *Like a House on Fire*, Kennedy once again examines ordinary lives and dissects their ironies and injustices with her humane eye and wry sense of humour. In 'Laminex and Mirrors', a cleaner at a nursing home helps a patient to escape, if only temporarily. In 'Cross Country', a jilted lover manages to misinterpret her ex's new life. And in 'Whirlpool', two sisters bond in the face of their mother's resentment at the life she's been given. Cate Kennedy's poignant short stories reveal the beauty and tragedy of everyday life.

Scribe Publications (AUS), paperback, 9781922070067



LIVES WE LEAVE BEHIND

Maxine Alterio

In July 1915 the hospital ship Maheno leaves Wellington with seventy New Zealand nurses on board. Addie Harrington and Meg Dutton are assigned to the same cabin. Quiet and cautious, Addie is taken aback by her impetuous, fun-loving roommate. The two women seem to have little in common other than a desire to serve their country. But as they care for injured and dying soldiers in Egypt and France, they discover that deep connections can develop under unusual circumstances. When Meg meets British surgeon Wallace Madison, she falls for him immediately and amidst the chaos of overloaded military hospitals they embark on an intense love affair. Addie suspects Wallace has much to hide and fears the relationship will destroy her friend.



At forty-nine, Celeste has long renounced the religion of her childhood. Yet she finds herself reluctantly accompanying her mother and sister to a pilgrimage site in Romania, where her devout mother seeks a miracle—a cure for her terminal illness.

As Celeste tries to come to terms with her mother's impending decline, she realises she has to confront the unspoken conflicts buried in the foundations of her family. Away from her husband, she must also face her fear of what the future holds for them both.

Full of compassion, warmth and grace, *Pilgrimage* is a powerful meditation on how our personal histories haunt us, and an affirmation of the hope and sustenance that may be found in our imperfect families.

Scribe Publications (AUS), paperback, 9781921844904



SUFFICIENT GRACE: A NOVEL

Amy Espeseth

Ruth and her cousin Naomi live in rural Wisconsin, part of an isolated religious community. The girls' lives are ruled by the rhythms of nature—the harsh winters, the hunting seasons, the harvesting of crops—and by their families' beliefs. Beneath the surface of this closed, frozen world, hidden dangers lurk.

Then Ruth learns that Naomi harbours a terrible secret. She searches for solace in the mysteries of the natural world: broken fawns, migrating birds, and the strange fish deep beneath the ice. Can the girls' prayers for deliverance be answered?

Sufficient Grace is a haunting story of lost innocence and an unforgettable bond between two young women. It is at once devastating and beautiful, and ultimately transcendent.

Born in rural Wisconsin, Amy Espeseth lives in Melbourne, having immigrated to Australia in the late 1990s.

Scribe Publications (AUS), paperback, 9781922070029

ANIMAL PEOPLE

Charlotte Wood

Animal People is an hilarious, tender and heartbreaking story of a watershed day in the life of

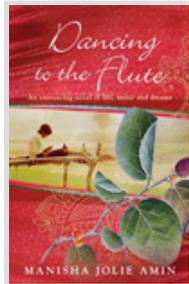


AN UNKNOWN SKY
Susan Midalia

Susan Midalia's second collection of short stories offers us a compelling variety of characters, all of them 'travellers' in search of connection and belonging. Tourists in Moscow and Vienna confronted by the weight of history. A young student teacher discovering her capacity for compassion. A teenage boy defending his mother's reputation. A brother anguished by his sister's illness. An ageing widow infatuated with a troubled young man. Conflicts between the silent burdens of the past and the drama of everyday lives.

Written with eloquence, grace and emotional generosity, these stories seek understanding rather than judgement, inviting us to reflect on the unspoken longings and regrets that make up who we are.

UWAP, paperback, 9781742584270



DANCING TO THE FLUTE
Manisha Jolie Amin

Abandoned as a young child, Kalu, a cheeky street kid, has against all odds carved out a life for himself in rural India. In the quiet village of Hastinapore, Kalu makes friends: Bal, the solitary buffalo boy, and Malti, a gentle servant girl, who, with her mistress, Ganga Ba, has watched out for Kalu from the first day.

Perched high in the branches of a banyan tree, Kalu chooses a leaf, rolls it tightly and, doing what he's done for as long as he can remember, blows through it. His pure simple notes dance through the air attracting a travelling healer whose interest will change Kalu's life forever, setting him on a path he would never have dreamed possible, testing his self-belief and his friendships.

With all the energy and colour of India and its people, *Dancing to the Flute* is a magical, heart-warming story of this community's joys and sorrows, the nature of friendship and the astonishing transformative powers of music.

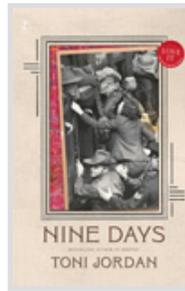
Allen & Unwin, paperback, 9781742378572

THE INVISIBLE RIDER



Stephen—aimless, unhappy and unfulfilled, this stiflingly hot December day is the day he has decided to dump his girlfriend. A sharply observed, 24-hour urban love story.

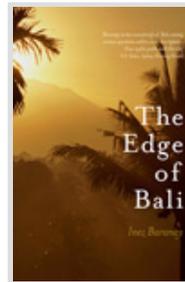
Allen & Unwin (AUS), paperback, 9781743311844



NINE DAYS
Toni Jordan

It is 1939 and although Australia is about to go to war, it doesn't quite realise yet that the situation is serious. Deep in the working-class Melbourne suburb of Richmond it is business—your own and everyone else's—as usual. And young Kip Westaway, failed scholar and stablehand, is living the most important day of his life. Kip's momentous day is one of nine that will set the course for each member of the Westaway clan in the years that follow. Kip's mother, his brother Francis and, eventually, Kip's wife Annabel and their daughters and grandson: all of them will find their own turning points, their triumphs and catastrophes, in days to come. But at the heart of all their stories is Kip, and at the centre of Kip's fifteen-year-old heart is his adored sister Connie. They hold the threads that will weave a family.

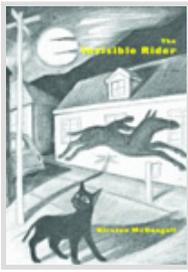
Text Publishing (AUS), paperback, 9781921922831



THE EDGE OF BALI AND OTHER WRITINGS
Inez Baranay

Marla is well read in Bali's culture; she distrusts false ideologies, orientalism and tourism. To her surprise she finds the echoes of a golden age and a passionate lover. Nelson, a young woman from Sydney returns in the hope of reuniting with her Balinese boyfriend, but encounters the unexpected. Tyler, a New Yorker searching for a lost friend, enters a world of mystery and intrigue. All three are on the edge, unsure of whether they should stay in Bali any longer, but are increasingly drawn into the heart of this complex and alluring island.

Through subtle storytelling and compelling characters, Inez Baranay unravels the exotic, ways of knowing and the culture of tourism, in one of the world's



Kirsten McDougall

Philip Fetch is a lawyer with an office in a suburban shopping mall, a husband and father, and a cyclist on Wellington's narrow and winding streets. He is also a man who increasingly finds simple things in life baffling. As he moves through the sometimes alarming and sometimes comical episodes of this novel, a break in the hurtling flow of events looms ahead. Is it safe for Philip to pull out and pass? Tender and magical, and fired by a quietly burning moral engagement, *The Invisible Rider* asks what it takes to be happy in the world.

Victoria University Press (NZ), paperback, 9780864737670

favourite destinations. Twenty years on from its initial release, *The Edge of Bali* has a renewed pertinence and relevance, exploring as it does, with great prescience, the relationship between Bali and the West, in all its beauty, darkness and hope. For the first time, the novel is accompanied by the author's non-fiction writings on Bali.

Transit Lounge (AUS), paperback, 9781921924194

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