

# BOOKSELLERS' CHOICE YOUR MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

The best books for **JANUARY** as chosen by Australia's leading booksellers

BOOKS

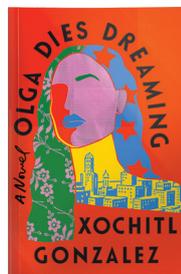


## ADULT FICTION



**Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens**  
Shankari Chandran  
ULTIMO PRESS  
TPB \$32.99

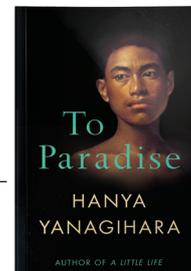
An engrossing and important novel about the unexpected families we create around us. Cinnamon Gardens Nursing Home was a safe space for its colourful residents until malignant forces became more interested in what makes this refuge different rather than embracing the calm companionship that makes this place a home. *Chai Time at Cinnamon Gardens* is about family, community and race, but is ultimately a love letter to storytelling and how our stories shape who we are.



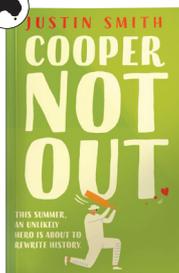
**Olga Dies Dreaming**  
Xochitl Gonzalez  
FLEET  
TPB \$32.99

A dazzling debut set against the backdrop of Puerto Rico's most devastating hurricane, *Olga Dies Dreaming* follows a brother and sister's search for love, happiness, and fulfillment in Latinx New York. Their mother, Blanca, abandoned her children to advance a militant political cause, leaving them to be raised by their grandmother. Now, with the winds of hurricane season, Blanca has come barreling back into their lives.

**To Paradise**  
Hanya Yanagihara  
MACMILLAN  
TPB \$32.99

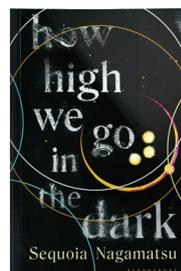


The much anticipated novel from Hanya Yanagihara, author of the modern classic *A Little Life*, spans three centuries and three alternative visions of the American experiment. This is a story driven by our desire to protect those we love and the pain when we cannot. A brilliant exploration of inclusion and exclusion, race and empire, sexuality and disease, love and family.



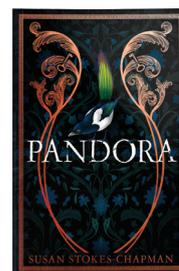
**Cooper Not Out**  
Justin Smith  
MICHAEL JOSEPH  
TPB \$32.99

It's 1984 and the West Indies are thrashing Australia. In the small town of Penguin Hill an unlikely hero may help the nation revive its fading love of cricket. Sergeant Roy Cooper has been on the local team for decades and has never been dismissed. The remarkable story finds its way into the hands of Donna Garrett, a female sports columnist and captures the nation's imagination. A funny and heartwarming novel.



**How High We Go in the Dark**  
Sequoia Nagamatsu  
BLOOMSBURY  
TPB \$29.99

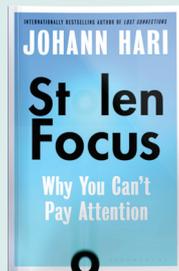
From funerary skyscrapers to hotels for the dead, *How High We Go in the Dark* follows a cast of intricately linked characters spanning hundreds of years as humanity endeavours to restore the delicate balance of the world. This is a story of unshakable hope that crosses literary lines to give us a world rebuilding itself. An ambitious, and haunting debut that announces the arrival of an astonishing new voice in science fiction.



**Pandora**  
Susan Stokes-Chapman  
HARVILL SECKER  
TPB \$32.99

A must for fans of historical fiction weaving together Ancient Greek myth with suspense and romance in Georgian London. A frustrated young artisan and an ambitious antiquarian scholar find their futures enmeshed with the discovery of an ancient vase that holds secrets as dangerous as they are tempting. A page-turning and addictive debut mystery.

## NON-FICTION



**Stolen Focus**  
Johann Hari  
BLOOMSBURY  
TPB \$32.99

In *Stolen Focus* bestselling author Johann Hari sets out on a global investigative journey into our shortening attention spans. Drawing on more than two hundred interviews with the world's leading experts, *Stolen Focus* moves beyond individual solutions towards a collective understanding of a problem facing us all and shows us how we – as individuals, and as a society – can get our focus back if we are determined to fight for it.



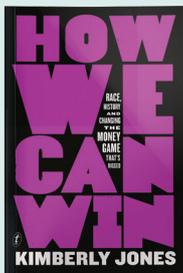
**Mothers, Fathers, and Others**  
Siri Hustvedt  
HODDER & STOUGHTON  
TPB \$32.99

Feminist philosophy meets family memoir in this fresh essay collection by the award-winning essayist and novelist Siri Hustvedt, author of the bestselling *What I Loved* and *The Blazing World*. Subjects range from the nature of memory and time, to what we inherit from our parents, the power of art during tragedy, misogyny, motherhood, neuroscience, and the books we turn to during a pandemic.



**Mala's Cat**  
Mala Kacenberg  
MICHAEL JOSEPH  
HB \$35.00

Growing up in the Polish village of Tarnograd gives Mala the happiest childhood she could have hoped for. But, as the German invasion begins, her beloved village becomes a ghetto and her family and friends reduced to starvation. With only her cat, Malach, and the strength of the stories taught by her family, she walks away from everything she holds dear. Mala finds a way to navigate the dangerous forests, outwit German soldiers and hostile villagers, and survive, against all odds.

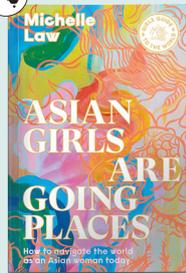


### How We Can Win Kimberly Jones

TEXT PUBLISHING  
TPB \$29.99

*How We Can Win* expands upon statements Kimberly Jones made in a viral video posted in June 2020 following the

murder of George Floyd at the hands of police. Through her personal experience, observations, and Monopoly analogy, she illuminates the economic disparities Black Americans have faced for generations and offers ways to fight against a system that is still rigged.

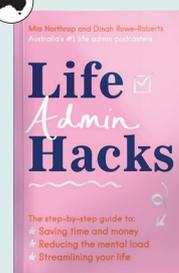


### Asian Girls are Going Places Michelle Law

HARDIE GRANT  
TPB \$29.99

The second in the Girls Guide to the World series, *Asian Girls are Going Places* is a gift

book with a difference: it features practical advice (and more) from author Michelle Law and her interviewees that specifically targets the joys, fears and obligations unique to Asian women travelling the world. Told through Michelle's signature offbeat style, this is a deeply relatable travel companion for Asian women.

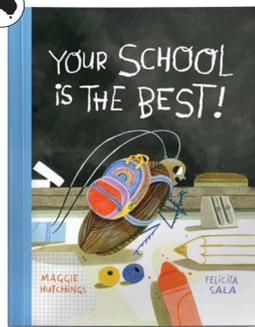


### Life Admin Hacks Mia Northrop and Dinah Rowe-Roberts

HARPERCOLLINS  
AUSTRALIA  
TPBB \$34.99

You have no idea what's for dinner tonight. You need a gift for that party next week. You still haven't consolidated your super. Sound familiar? Life admin can't be eliminated but it can be minimised, automated, and better shared within families. In this no-nonsense book, working parents Mia and Dinah outline a clear system to transform your life for a complete life admin makeover.

## CHILDREN'S & YA



### Your School is the Best! Maggie Hutchings and Felicita Sala (Illus)

AFFIRM  
PRESS  
HB \$24.99

Everyone's  
favourite

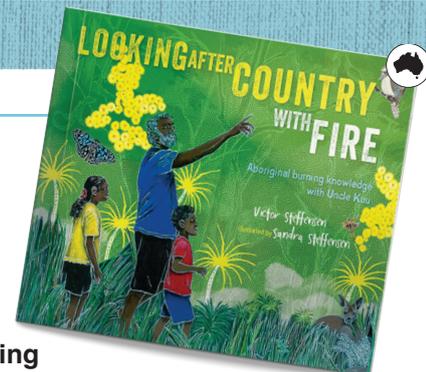
cockroach is back, and this time he's going to school! From show-and-tell to arts and crafts, this little stowaway can't wait to try it all...and maybe become the new teachers' pet! Charming, hilarious and just a tiny bit disgusting, this is a back-to-school tale with a twist.



### The Wild Guide to Starting School Laura Bunting and Philip Bunting (Illus)

OMNIBUS BOOKS  
HB \$19.99

Are you about to start school? Follow this simple guide and you'll learn everything you need to know. Kookaburra, Liarbird, Koala, Quokka, and a their friends will guide you from starting the day just right to first day jitters, meeting teachers, making friends, lunch time, home time and all the things in between!

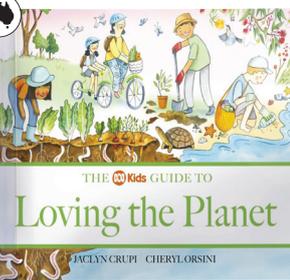


### Looking After Country with Fire

Victor Steffensen and Sandra  
Steffensen (Illus)

HARDIE GRANT  
HB \$24.99

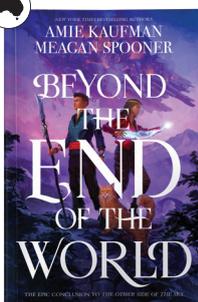
Join Uncle Kuu as he takes us out on Country and explains cultural burning which has been used for thousands of years to create beautiful places for both animals and people to live in. A powerful and timely story of understanding Australia's ecosystems through Indigenous fire management.



### The ABC Kids Guide to Loving the Planet Jaclyn Crupi and Cheryl Orsini

Cheryl Orsini (Illus)  
ABC BOOKS AUSTRALIA HB \$24.99

This charming picture book is a gentle introduction to caring for the world around us. The simple, engaging text and beautiful illustrations explore ideas like planting veggie gardens and recycling, to show the ways every person, no matter how big or small, can make a difference.



### Beyond the End of the World: The Other Side of the Sky 2 Amie Kaufman and Meagan Spooner

A & U CHILDREN  
PB \$19.99

This much-anticipated sequel to *The Other Side of the Sky* has something for every reader: a star-crossed love full of tantalising longing, unique and immersive new worlds to explore, and nonstop thrills that escalate into an unforgettably electric conclusion. 12+



### Here's to Us Adam Silvera and Becky Albertalli

SIMON &  
SCHUSTER  
CHILDREN'S  
PB \$21.99

In the follow-up to, the bestselling *What If It's Us*, Adam Silvera and

Becky Albertalli reunite to give Arthur and Ben another shot at true love. Since school finished, the boys have gone their separate ways to pursue dreams and form new relationships but somehow their paths keep crossing. Is this the universe telling them that they are meant to be together?

