

BOOKSELLERS' CHOICE YOUR MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

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



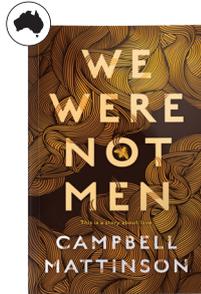
ADULT FICTION & POETRY



Animal
Lisa Taddeo

BLOOMSBURY
PUBLISHING
TPB \$32.99

Joan flees New York for Los Angeles when she is witness to a brutally violent death. She is an enigmatic woman, complex, vulnerable and sympathetic, but also ruthless and deceitful. Her past is a landscape of trauma that is slowly revealed, where men loom as actors of bad intent. It is a morally ambiguous psychology, and Joan's interactions reach into some darkly distressing places. An incisive, raging story of a life tethered to the abuses of the past.



We Were Not Men
Campbell Mattinson

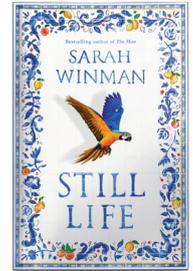
4TH ESTATE
TPB \$32.99

9 year-old twins Jon and Eden Hardacre have their world shattered when a car accident kills their parents. The boys are injured too, and move in with their grandmother, Bobbie, who is herself grieving the loss of her husband. As the boys recover and grow, they support and compete with each other in equal measure. A beautiful story of loss and grief, and the resilience required to overcome our flaws and navigate life's complexities.

Still Life
Sarah Winman

4TH ESTATE
TPB \$32.99

This remarkable novel begins in a ruined villa in the Tuscan hills. It is 1944, and art historian Evelyn Skinner and soldier Ulysses Temper strike up an unlikely relationship over a bottle of wine, art and reminiscences. Thus a story spanning three decades is launched, capturing fleeting moments of different characters lives from Italy to London's East End. A beautiful, complex, sprawling story of friendship, art, love, and the kindnesses that sustain and bind us.



One Hundred Days
Alice Pung

BLACK INC.
TPB \$32.99

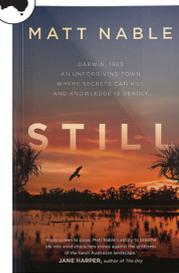
Karuna is sixteen, mixed-raced, and pregnant. She is far better equipped for the modern world than her working-class parents, but as a minor she is under their guardianship. With the world of adult responsibilities hurtling towards her, Karuna's mother decides to hold her captive in their high-rise housing-commission flat for 100 days. A story of love and control in which multiple tensions - cultural, demographic, gender, class - play out as Karuna wrestles with her predicament.



The Other Black Girl
Zakiya Dalila Harris

BLOOMSBURY
PUBLISHING
PB \$29.99

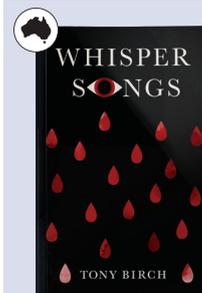
Nella is an editorial assistant at Wagner publishing, and the only black person on staff. When Hazel, another black woman, is hired, Nella is thrilled to have someone who will understand the daily racism she endures. However, Hazel is extremely ambitious and soon becomes the office darling and threatening notes start to appear telling Nella to LEAVE WAGNER NOW. The drama of racism and office politics pave the way for an explosive conspiracy that will have you guessing until the end.



Still
Matt Nable

HACHETTE
AUSTRALIA
TPB \$32.99

Darwin in the 1960s is a final frontier of punishing heat and endemic sexism, racism and corruption. Add murder into the mix and Senior Constable Ned Potter begins to investigate, but not everyone is happy with Ned's pursuit of the truth. Ned's narrative runs alongside the story of Charlotte Clarke, who married too young and is weary of her absent drunk of a husband and the drudgery of being a housewife. As Ned and Charlotte push boundaries they unearth some dark truths. Richly atmospheric, *Still* is a brilliant addition to the burgeoning Australian crime fiction scene.

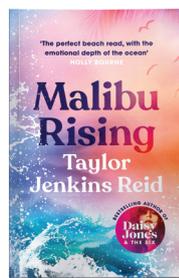


Whisper Songs
Tony Birch

UQP
TPB \$24.99

In this stunning collection of poems, Tony Birch invites the reader into a tender conversation with those he loves - and has loved - the most.

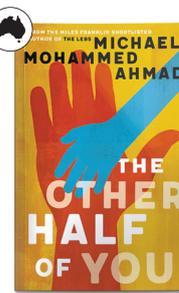
He also challenges the past to speak up by interrogating the archive, including documents from his own family history, highlighting forcefully the ways in which the personal is also intensely political. *Whisper Songs* addresses themes of loss, the legacies of colonial history and violence, and the relationships between Country and memory, and reveals Birch at his lyrical and intimate best.



Malibu Rising
Taylor Jenkins Reid

HUTCHINSON
PUBLISHING
TPB \$32.99

It's the day of Nina Riva's annual end-of-summer party, and anticipation is at a fever pitch. Everyone wants to be around the famous Rivas but by midnight the party will be completely out of control and by morning, the Riva mansion will have gone up in flames. This is a story about one unforgettable night in the life of a family: the night they each have to choose what they will keep from the people who made them . . . and what they will leave behind. A compulsively readable new novel from the author of *Daisy Jones & The Six*.

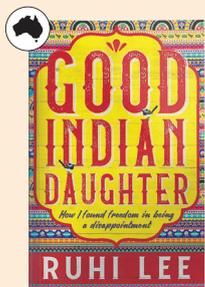


The Other Half of You
Michael Mohammed Ahmad

HACHETTE
AUSTRALIA
TPB \$29.99

Bani Adam has known all his life what was expected of him. To marry the right kind of girl and make the House of Adam proud. But Bani wanted more than this - he wanted to make his own choices. Being the first in his Australian Muslim family to go to university, he could see a different way. This moving and timely novel balances the complexities of modern love with the demands of family, tradition and faith.

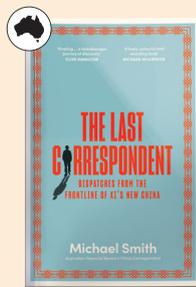
NON FICTION



Good Indian Daughter
Ruhi Lee

AFFIRM PRESS
TPB \$32.99

Long before Ruhi fell pregnant, she knew she was never going to be the 'good Indian daughter' her parents demanded. But when the discovery that she is having a girl sends her into a slump of disappointment, Ruhi sets herself a mission to deal with the potholes in her past before her baby is born. Delving into her youth in suburban Melbourne, she draws a heartrending yet often hilarious picture of a family in crisis, struggling to connect across generational, cultural and personal divides.



The Last Correspondent
Michael Smith

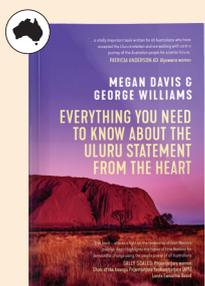
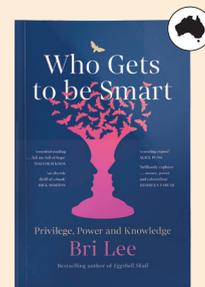
ULTIMO PRESS
TPB \$34.99

A late-night visit by China's secret police abruptly ended Michael Smith's stint as one of Australia's last foreign correspondents in China. It also marked a new twist in Australia's 50-year diplomatic relationship with China. From Xinjiang's re-education camps to the tear-gas filled streets of Hong Kong, *The Last Correspondent* is the ultimate insider's account: living and working in China in a period of unprecedented economic and social upheaval.

Who Gets to be Smart
Bri Lee

ALLEN & UNWIN
TPB \$29.99

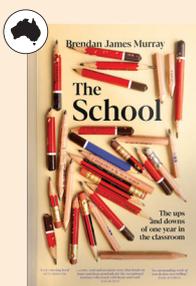
In this forensic and hard-hitting exploration of knowledge, power and privilege, the award-winning author of *Eggshell Skulls* turns her attention to education and asks the question: Who gets to be smart? Far from offering any 'equality of opportunity', Australia's education system exacerbates social stratification and perpetuates the system of privilege and entitlement - the 'stream of gold and silver' as described over a century earlier by Virginia Woolf - that is still accessible to only the elite.



Everything You Need to Know About the Uluru Statement from the Heart
Megan Davis & George Williams

NEWSOUTH BOOKS
TPB \$27.99

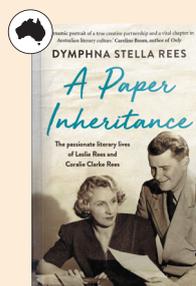
On 26 May 2017, after a historic process of consultation, the *Uluru Statement from the Heart* was read out. This clear and urgent call for reform from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples asked for the establishment of a First Nations Voice to Parliament. Written by two of Australia's best-known constitutional experts, this book explains how the *Uluru Statement* offers change that will benefit the whole nation.



The School
Brendan James Murray

PICADOR AUSTRALIA
TPB \$34.99

Brendan James Murray has been a high school teacher for more than ten years. In *The School*, he paints an astonishingly vivid portrait of a single school year, perfectly capturing the highs and lows of being a teenager, as well as the fire, passion and occasional heartbreak of being their teacher. Hilarious, heartfelt and true, it is a timeless story of a teacher and his classes, a must-read for any parent, and a tribute to the art of teaching.

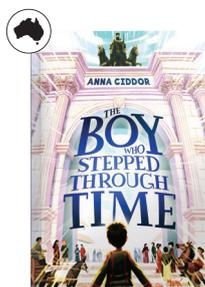


A Paper Inheritance
Dymphna Stella Rees

UQP
TPB \$32.99

When Dymphna Stella Rees - named after family friends Dymphna Cusack and Stella Miles Franklin - finds bundles of love letters buried in her parents' archive, she is intrigued by the discovery. Leslie Rees and Coralie Clarke Rees were a power couple of the Australian literary scene in the mid-20th century. They took their shared dream of being writers from Perth to London before settling in Sydney to establish prolific careers. *A Paper Inheritance* is a celebration of their love and their passion for words.

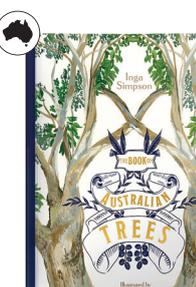
CHILDREN'S & YOUNG ADULT



The Boy Who Stepped Through Time
Anna Ciddor

ALLEN & UNWIN CHILDREN'S
PB \$16.95

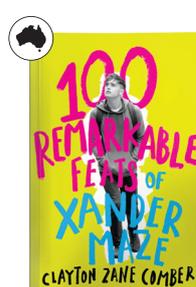
When Perry steps into a crumbling ruin while on holiday in France, he is not expecting to be transported back 1700 years to Roman times. Caught up in the fascinating world of grand Villa Rubia, Perry makes a new friend but thinks he might already know her terrible fate. Does he try to find his way home or stay and guard his friend's life - and risk being trapped in the past forever. A thrilling time-slip adventure.



The Book of Australian Trees
Inga Simpson

LOTHIAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS
HB \$26.99

Australia has some of the tallest, oldest, fattest and most unusual trees in the world. They have changed over thousands of years, adapting to this continent's deserts, mountains, and coasts. This book is a love song to those trees, from the red ironbark to the grey gum, the Moreton Bay fig to the Queensland bottle tree from one of Australia's most beloved authors.



100 Remarkable Feats of Xander Maze
Clayton Zane Comber

HARPERCOLLINS
PB \$19.99

Xander Maze loves lists, and his grandmother is #1 in his list of People I Love Most in the World. But now that Nanna has stage 4 cancer, can a new list of 100 Remarkable Feats really save her life? Heartbreaking and heartwarming and with a protagonist you can't help but fall in love with, *100 Remarkable Feats of Xander Maze* is about defying the odds, not accepting the unacceptable, and one boy's unconditional love for his nanna.



AUSTRALIAN BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION