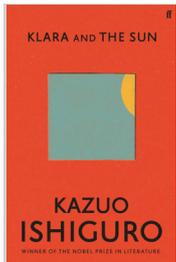


BOOKSELLERS' CHOICE YOUR MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS



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

ADULT FICTION



Klara and the Sun
Kazuo Ishiguro

FABER
TPB \$32.99

Past Nobel Prize winner Ishiguro sees us in familiar territory. Klara is an Artificial Friend tasked with befriending

young, privileged Josie. Perceptive and empathic, Klara narrates this slowly revealed mystery with an outsider's perspective of an eerily familiar dystopia. Notions of what it is to live and love and be human are stripped back and laid bare by the ultimate question: why are we here? Exquisitely written, unnerving and deeply affecting.



Bright Burning Things
Lisa Harding

BLOOMSBURY
TPB \$29.99

Sonya Moriarty was once a successful actress on the London stage but now she is

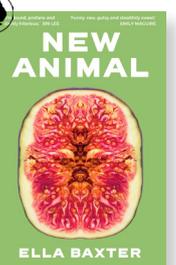
a single mother living back in Ireland. Her life is spiralling out of control into alcoholism and there are blackouts and bare cupboards and the ever-present risk of losing her son Tommy forever. An immensely powerful and compulsive novel of maternal love, control and a woman at the mercy of addiction.

The Performance

Claire Thomas

HACHETTE AUSTRALIA
TPB \$32.99

Three women watch a performance of Beckett's *Happy Days* while bushfires burn through Victoria. In the cool dark privilege of the theatre, the women reflect on their lives, their interior and exterior selves, and their plans for the future. Their different narratives unfold - 20 years separate each of them - as the play does, with art as an illuminator of life. A brilliant exploration of women's lives in all their complexity.

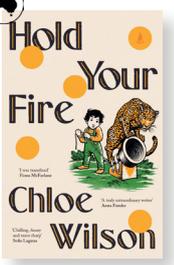


New Animal
Ella Baxter

ALLEN & UNWIN
TPB \$32.99

Amelia's family owns the local mortuary business where she works as the cosmetician. She loves her job but not much

else. Outside of work she has meaningless sex with different men unable to make emotional connections. After her mother has an accident, it sets in motion a chain of events both hilarious and disastrous that force Amelia to stop running and face her feelings. A heartbreakingly funny debut.



Hold Your Fire
Chloe Wilson

SCRIBNER AUSTRALIA
TPB \$32.99

Savagely funny and darkly insightful, this collection of stories takes you to the underbelly of life's

mundane thoughts and everyday moments. With precise control and surprising originality, and characters that are wonderfully strange but intensely relatable, Wilson details complex humanity in every story, leaving the reader completely satisfied while also wanting just one more. *Hold Your Fire* is the debut of an unforgettable new voice in Australian fiction.



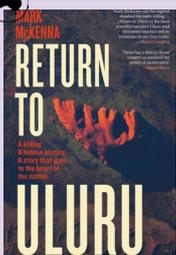
Sincerely, Ethel Malley
Stephen Orr

WAKEFIELD PRESS
TPB \$34.95

When Max Harris, co-editor of modernist magazine *Angry Penguins* receives

a collection of poems from Ethel Malley written by her late brother Ern, he declares Ern an undiscovered genius. Determined to help publish the poems, Ethel moves in with Max and soon becomes a presence he can't understand, or control. He gets the feeling something is not quite right. About Ethel. About Ern. A darkly funny fictional take on Australia's most infamous literary hoax..

NON FICTION



Return to Uluru
Mark McKenna

BLACK INC
TPB \$34.99

Setting out to write the history of the centre of Australia, Mark McKenna chances

upon an event in 1934 - the shooting at Uluru of Aboriginal man Yokunnuna by white policeman Bill McKinnon, and the subsequent Commonwealth inquiry. Through speaking with families of both the victim and the killer, McKenna unearths new evidence, bringing this cold case to life. It is superbly written, moving and full of astonishing, unexpected twists.



Sumac
Anas Atassi

MURDOCH BOOKS
HB \$49.99

This beautifully photographed cookbook includes over 80 recipes inspired by Atassi's

memories of celebrations and travel in Syria. Atassi says creating this book was an 'edible way of reminiscing'. *Sumac* is an evocative and inspiring food journey that offers a glimpse into Syrian cuisine's deep roots. Atassi was inspired by his mother and you too will want to create delicious breakfasts, street food, mezze, delectable desserts and much more.



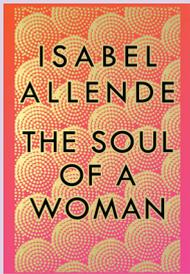
Preserving the Italian Way
Pietro Demaio

PLUM
TPB \$39.99

A bestseller when it was first published in 2008, *Preserving the Italian Way* has had

a makeover. Pietro Demaio has meticulously collected family recipes handed down for generations. So that we, alongside our COVID sourdough, can learn how to preserve vegetables and fish in oil, vinegar or salt, how to make cheese, cure meats and dry herbs and make our own wine! An ultimate recipe collection for preserving enthusiasts.

NON FICTION



The Soul of a Woman
Isabel Allende

BLOOMSBURY
TPB \$22.99

As a child, Allende watched her mother provide for her three children. As a young woman coming of age in the late 1960s, she rode the first wave of feminism and over the course of three marriages learned how to grow as a woman. In this memoir Allende shares her thoughts on aging, romance, sex, love, and feminism. A call to arms for women of all ages to continue finding their way in the world.

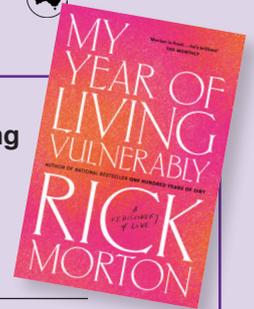


The Believer: Encounters with Love, Death & Faith

Sarah Krasnostein

TEXT PUBLISHING
TPB \$34.99

In her follow up to *The Trauma Cleaner*, Sarah Krasnostein spent four years interviewing a disparate group of subjects united only by the strength of their convictions. There are creationists, a murderer, and paranormal investigators, all of whom reveal themselves over time. Krasnostein's skill is her patience in the process of assembling these portraits. They are richly human and deftly drawn, and their eccentricities make them all the more human.

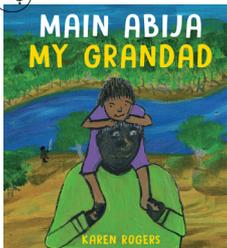


My Year of Living Vulnerably
Rick Morton

HARPER COLLINS
TPB \$34.99

Rick Morton's diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder led him to search for the something he was denied in his childhood: love. The journey was not a search for a cure but the desire to reclaim a fuller self, leading to the acknowledgment that it is not tangible returns but love that gets us out of bed and into our daily grind. Infused with compassion and honesty, this is a book everyone Australian should read.

CHILDREN'S & YA



Main Abija My Grandad

Karen Rogers

A&U CHILDREN'S
HB \$24.99

Written as a tribute to a much-loved

grandfather who passed on his love of culture and country. Told in Kriol and English, Karen Rogers lovingly recalls a childhood holidays spent in remote Northern Territory fishing, hunting and looking for sugarbag honey. Bursting with brightly coloured illustrations this is a beautiful way to pass on the First Nations knowledge to the next generation.

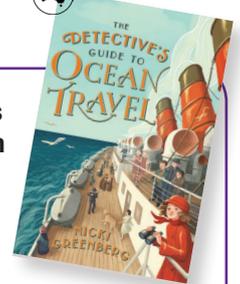


Oli and Basil: The Dashing Frogs of Travel

Megan Hess

HARDIE GRANT CHILDREN'S
HB \$24.99

Oli is an artist who dreams up wild, fabulous machines, but he doesn't know how to build them. And Basil is a master craftsman who can build anything from scratch – except he doesn't know what to build. If only there was a way that these two dashing frogs could become friends. A hear-warming adventure from the creator of the Claris stories.



The Detective's Guide to Ocean Travel

Nikki Greenberg

AFFIRM PUBLISHING
PB \$17.99

For as long as she can remember, Pepper Stark has wanted one thing: to join her father, the Captain, aboard the magnificent RMS Aquitania on a voyage to New York. She has never been allowed to set foot on her father's ship – until now. But once aboard amongst the glamour and the glitz she finds herself trying to solve the mystery of a missing diamond. A thrilling adventure with a fabulously feisty new heroine.



Mary Has the Best Pet/Hairy Sam Loves Bread and Jam/Deb and Dot and the Mix-Up Plot/Pete's Big Feet
Sally Rippin & Chris Kennett (illus)

HARDIE GRANT CHILDREN'S
PB \$8.99 EACH

Welcome to the School of Monsters, a fabulous new series for first readers from one of Australia's best loved children's authors. With tumbling rhymes and an infectious sense of humour, guaranteed to spark a love of reading!



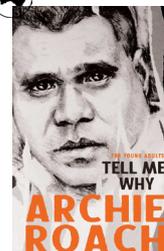
The Edge of Thirteen

Nova Weetman

UQP
PB \$16.99

The Edge of Thirteen invites us to experience the anticipation and

awkwardness of entering adolescence through the eyes of soon-to-be teen, Clem. She shares the joys and tensions of her friendships with best friends Bridge and Ellie as they start Year 8 and navigate diverging feelings about their relationships, bodies and sexual attraction. Nova Weetman presents a relatable portrayal of early adolescence that will entertain and comfort its young readers.



Tell Me Why for Young Adults
Archie Roach

SIMON & SCHUSTER
PB \$19.99

In his inspirational memoir Archie Roach tells the story of his life and his music. Only two when he was forcibly removed from his family, and brought up by a series of foster parents until his early teens, Archie's world imploded when he received a letter that spoke of a life he had no memory of. It took him almost a lifetime to find out who he really was. An unforgettable story of resilience, strength of spirit and hope.