

BOOKSELLERS' CHOICE YOUR MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

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



ADULT FICTION



Mammoth
Chris Flynn
UQP
TPB \$29.99

In this wildly inventive novel Chris Flynn channels the voice of the skeletal remains of an extinct mammoth. The skeleton

is to be sold at an auction of natural history alongside exotica such as a Tyrannosaurus bataar's skull and the hand of Egyptian mummy. Mammoth's narration spans the 13,000 years post-extinction, and recounts historical times the skeleton experienced, with rolling commentary from the other exhibits for sale. A book of sparkling insight, intelligence and wit.

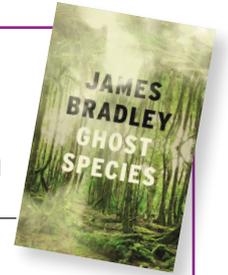


In the Time of Foxes
Jo Lennan
SCRIBNER AUS
TPB \$29.99

In this compelling collection of short stories, Jo Lennan presents a diverse array of characters and scenarios. A journalist on Mars, a cafe owner in Sydney, an animal activist with a secret. All are shaped by the world to be capable of fox-like cunning and shapeshifting. But has the world instilled in them the much rarer commodity of wisdom?

Ghost Species
James Bradley
HAMISH HAMILTON
TPB \$29.99

To counter the devastation of climate induced extinctions, scientists are bio-engineering ancient species to re-wild Earth's scarred ecosystems. Eve, the engineered Neanderthal daughter of scientists Kate and Jay, is one of these 'ghost species' conjured to existence. Her story interweaves grander narrative tensions encompassing human ingenuity, frailty, love and betrayal. Ghost Species is a rare treat, a novel both profoundly intelligent and devastatingly real.



The Book of Longings
Sue Monk Kidd
HEADLINE
TPB \$32.99

It is simply impossible not to be completely pulled into this powerful story of

Ana, wife of Jesus in Sue Monk Kidd's, author of bestselling *The Secret Life of Bees*, new book. Rich in historical context, detail and insight into both the lives of individuals and the social and political currents of the time, *The Book of Longings* is about a woman in search of her destiny in a time of great despair but also hope.



We Begin At the End
Chris Whitaker
BONNIER
TPB \$29.99

A brilliant character study set in small-town California. Vincent King has been released from prison thirty years after killing his girlfriend Star's sister. The world has changed so much, but the repercussions of Vincent's crime are still playing out. Star's thirteen year old daughter takes care of her mother and five-year old brother. The dynamic of her hardened heart, paucity of role models, and the release of Vincent build inexorably to a calamity of violence and retribution.

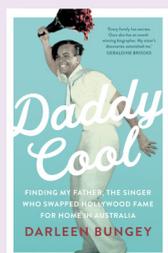


The Satapur Moonstone
Sujata Massey
ALLEN & UNWIN
TPB \$29.99

The delightfully clever Perveen Mistry, Bombay's first female lawyer, returns in an adventure of treacherous intrigues and suspicious deaths. Family curses, maharajs, political power plays and a wonderful female protagonist all add up to a captivating historical mystery set during India's rainy season in 1922.

'Vivid and clever...love her to bits.'
Kerry Greenwood, bestselling author of the Miss Phryne Fisher series

NON FICTION



Daddy Cool
Darleen Bungey
ALLEN & UNWIN
TPB \$32.99

Following two award winning biographies, Darleen Bungey takes a more personal look at the

life of Lawrie Brooks, once a heartthrob crooner who outsold Bing Crosby, who also happens to be Bungey's father. As a child, Lawrie's past was simply background conversation, but after he passed away Bungey set out to discover more about the man she knew as dad. Warm and conversational, a sweet family history.



Bringing the Fight
Merle Thornton
HARPER COLLINS
PB \$29.99

An inspiring memoir from pioneering Australian feminist Merle Thornton, whose Regatta Hotel protest against banning women from public bars predates the first meeting of a women's liberation group in Australia. Thornton campaigned over her life for women's rights including equal pay and an end to the ban on married women in the public service. Thornton is an academic, scriptwriter (for *Prisoner!*) and advocate for the education of Indigenous Australians.



Fathoms
Rebecca Giggs
SCRIBE PUBLICATIONS
PB \$35.00

When Rebecca Giggs found a beached whale on her local beat in Perth, she wondered what the lives of whales could tell us about the condition of our seas. Giggs explores these creatures from the impact of the whaling in Japan to the plastic problem in the oceans. For readers of Rachel Carson and Rebecca Solnit, Rebecca Giggs is an essential new voice in this time of environmental crisis.

NON FICTION



Still
Natalie Walton
HARDIE GRANT
BOOKS
HB \$60.00

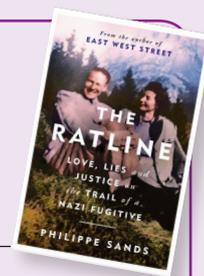
Can we incorporate the SLOW movement into the very fabric of our homes – Living Sustainable. Local. Organic. And Whole? Our homes are ideally placed to support this philosophy. This beautiful book explores the homes of twenty people from around the world - enlightening us as to why they chose the SLOW path and how it has benefitted their lives.



Nonna Knows Best
Jaclyn Crupi and
Felicitia Sala (illus)
AFFIRM PRESS
HB \$24.99

You don't have to be a Nonna to live the way Nonna's do! Jaclyn Crupi breaks down the essential elements, from a love of food and family to living a slow, purposeful life. Dotted with recipes, stories and a quiz to test your "Nonna Potential", this book will remind you of all the little important things we often forget.

The Ratline
Philippe Sands
HACHETTE
TPB \$34.99



Leading Nazi Otto Von Wachter was Governor of Galicia, where hundreds of thousands of Jews and Poles were killed (including the author's own family). As in his award-winning East West Street, Sands tells a detailed story of the daily life of Von Wachter's life after the war, as a complex fugitive who still loved his wife and died mysteriously on his way to Argentina via 'the Ratline'.

CHILDREN'S & YA BOOKS



Bin Chicken
Kate & Jol Temple
SCHOLASTIC
HB \$17.99

Diving in dumpsters, traipsing through trash! Rummaging through rubbish,

making a splash! 'Revolting!' they snort, starting to sicken, 'Trash Turkey! Dumpster Duck! BIN CHICKEN!' One bird's trash is another bird's treasure-find out why the ibis is the queen of the rubbish pile! A side splitting read-aloud!



**The Besties Party On/
The Besties Make a Splash**
Felice Arena
PUFFIN PB
\$9.99

Based around the friendship of Oliver and Ruby, who have been besties forever, these stories follow them while they have some fun and adventure. The last few pages in both books are full of fun activities like how to make a pinata and giggle inducing jokes. The perfect series to appeal to brand new readers.

The Year the Maps Changed
Danielle Binks
LOTHIAN
PB \$17.99



Fred lives in a coastal town with her grandfather, adoptive father, his girlfriend, and her son. Combine that with a new baby on the way and hanging friendships at school and it doesn't feel like there's much room left for Fred. It gets even more complicated when a group of Kosovar-Albanian refugees are brought to stay just down the road and people's true colours are brought to the fore. A fabulous coming of age story with lots of heart.



Her Perilous Mansion
Sean Williams
A&U CHILDREN'S
PB \$16.99

Almanac and Etta find themselves employed in a mostly deserted mansion where the inhabitants and things are not as they seem. They find that words have magic, and they must solve the mystery of this strange house before it's too late.



The Tell
Martin Chatterton
PUFFIN
PB \$16.99

A 'tell' is a sign a person gives out accidentally and 14-year old Ray Tanic is an expert at picking them. With his dad—a mafia boss and in jail—Ray wants nothing to do with the 'family business'. But these 'tells' keep coming at Ray and he knows something is about to go down. A pacey adventure story for readers 12+.



More Than A Kick
Tayla Harris and
Jennifer Castles
A&U CHILDREN'S
PB \$19.99

Tayla Harris is not only an incredible athlete, she is an inspiration to young people in how to stand up for yourself in times of adversity, to be resilient and most importantly, still be yourself. Actually, it's not just for young people, there are lessons here for everyone.