

# fiction

HarperCollins Australia  
SUBSIDIARY RIGHTS GUIDE

OCTOBER 2010

 HarperCollins Publishers

  
ABC  
Books



**Tuscan Rose**

**BELINDA  
ALEXANDRA**

Popular Fiction

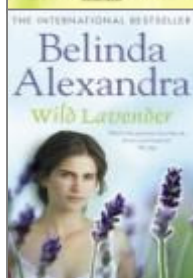
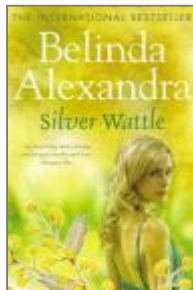
March 2010

9780732281328

234 x 153 mm PB

448pp

Rights: World



**The internationally bestselling author of *White Gardenia* returns with an unforgettable story of a young woman in Florence in the 1930s. A novel of passion, mystery, danger and hope in Mussolini's Italy.**

A mysterious stranger known as 'The Wolf' leaves an infant with the sisters of Santo Spirito. A tiny silver key hidden in her wrappings is the only clue to the child's identity and so begins a story as intriguing and beautiful as the city of Florence itself. A richly woven tale of passion, love, longing, witchcraft and magic.

- Internationally bestselling author
- The brilliant new novel from the bestselling author, set against the danger and romance of Italy in the 1930s and 1940s.
- Fall in love with Rosa and she fights to survive – and searches for the truth of her birth.
- Unputdownable storytelling, with Belinda's trademark warmth of spirit.
- Belinda's books have sold over 300,000 copies in Australia and NZ alone

'a novel teeming with passion, longing, secrets and magic' *Daily News*

**Rights sold: German**

**Silver Wattle:** In fear for their lives after the sudden death of their mother, Adela and Klara must flee Prague to find refuge with their uncle in Australia. There, Adela becomes a film director at a time when the local industry is starting to feel the competition from Hollywood. But while success is imminent, the issues of family and an impossible love are never far away. And ultimately dreams of the silver screen must compete with the bonds of a lifetime ...

'An absorbing story of hope and despair, loyalty and love' *Woman's Day*

**Rights sold: France, Spain**

**White Gardenia:** from the glamorous nightclubs of Shanghai to the harshness of Cold War Soviet Russia in the 1960s; from a desolate island in the Pacific Ocean to a new life in post-war Australia, a mother and daughter must make sacrifices, but is the price too high? Most importantly of all, will they ever find each other again? Rich in incident and historical detail, this is a compelling and beautifully written tale about yearning and forgiveness.

'A passionate and powerful family saga' *Australian Women's Weekly*

**Rights sold: UK, The Netherlands, Germany, France, Spain, Russia, Greece and Poland**

• 240,000 copies sold!

**Wild Lavender:** At 14, Simone Fleurier is wrenched from her home on a Provençal lavender farm and sent to work at the boarding house of her Aunt Augustine in Marseilles. Her life there is hard and impoverished – until she discovers the local music hall. Suddenly Simone has a dream: one day she will be a famous singer and dancer. In Paris, she is drawn to André Blanchard, the son of a powerful French family, and Simone Fleurier becomes the city's brightest light. But slowly the world around her grows darker. When Nazi troops occupy her beloved city, Simone must make a decision that will prove to her that love, just like wild lavender, can grow in the least likely of places...

'consolidates her position as a great story-teller' *Sunday Telegraph*

**Rights sold: Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, Germany, France, Spain, Greece and the UK.**

**Belinda Alexandra** has been published to wide acclaim in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Holland, Poland, Norway and Russia. She is the daughter of a Russian mother and an Australian father and has been an intrepid traveller since her youth. Her love of other cultures is matched by her passion for her home country, Australia.



**Sofly Calls the Serengeti**

**FRANK COATES**

Popular fiction

March 2011

9780732286491

181 x 112 mm PB

608pp

Rights: World

**The people, the tribes, the landscape, the legends ... no one knows Africa like Frank Coates. The bestselling author of *In Search of Africa* returns with another spellbinding novel.**

Joshua Otieng is struggling to carve out a life for himself in the sprawling slum of Kibera. Angry with his father for not teaching him the ways of his tribe, he becomes inexorably caught up in the tide of violence and conflict surrounding the upcoming elections.

Journalist Mark Riley travels to Kenya in search of a missing orphan, and in an attempt to recover from the death of his wife. Two women – spiky historian Charlotte Manning and beautiful, mysterious Kazlana Ramanova – begin to draw him back into the world.

On a journey to the Serengeti, surrounded by the epic landscapes of Africa, they each discover that danger lurks everywhere and there is more to fear than just the wildlife ...

Frank Coates's compelling new novel is at once a thrilling adventure and a poignant exploration of grief, family and identity, all set against the upheavals of twenty-first century Kenya.

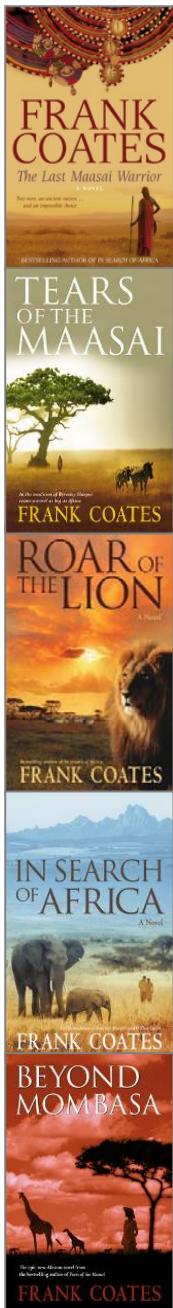
**Praise for Frank Coates:**

'blockbuster adventure with authenticity' *The Weekend Australian*

'engaging and entertaining' *The Advertiser*

'suffused with tenderness' *Australian Book Review*

**Frank Coates** worked for many years as a telecommunications specialist in Australia and overseas. In 1989 he was appointed as a UN technical specialist in Nairobi, Kenya, and travelled extensively throughout the eastern and southern parts of Africa over the next four years.



***The Last Massai Warrior:*** *For so long as the Maasai shall exist as a people* – this is the land tenure promised by the British government in their 1904 treaty with the Maasai. Seven years later the promise is broken and the leader of the Maasai warriors has just two options – to confront the white's superior power, or to bow to them and make the perilous journey to the new reserve. As the Maasai gather to make their historic decision, the white settlers and government forces are determined to seize the land they need.

**Rights sold:** Germany

***Roar of the Lion:*** What drives a man to walk from the Cape to Cairo? From his early days fighting in the Matabele wars, Ewart Grogan's passion uniquely equipped him to conquer a continent. He risked all to trek across darkest Africa for the woman he loves, and has gone on to dominate the business world of the burgeoning new colony of British East Africa. However, domination has come at a price and Grogan's ambition divides him from those who gave him his start – and those who love him most.

**Rights sold:** Germany

***In Search of Africa:*** a sweeping saga of forbidden romance and exotic locations. A young boy taken to a small town in Africa finds himself caught up in the violence of colonial Kenya. In Uganda, a girl uses her beauty to escape the nightmare of civil war, but learn her new life can be equally destructive. Across the boundaries of time and race, Kip and Rose discover that the paths they travel alone, and ultimately together, lead them inexorably to their greatest discovery.

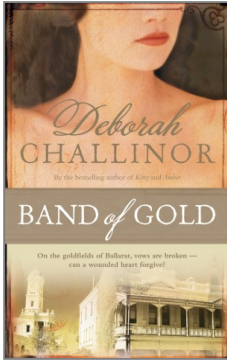
**Rights sold:** Germany, Poland

***Tears of the Maasai*** is a gripping love story set over a period of 100 years in the Maasai Mara region of Kenya. At its centre is the contemporary romance between a Maasai 'princess' named Malaika and a UN worker named Jack.

**Rights sold:** Germany

***Beyond Mombasa*** tells the unforgettable story of Ronald and Florence Preston, the 19<sup>th</sup> century couple who, with the help of 1000 mutinous coolies, attempt the seemingly impossible – building a railway line from exotic Mombasa on the east coast to Lake Victoria, deep in Africa's wild heart.

**Rights sold:** Germany, Poland



**Band of Gold**  
**DEBORAH**  
**CHALLINOR**

Popular Fiction  
July 2010  
9781869506346  
233 x 154 mm PB  
320pp  
Rights: World

**On the goldfields, vows are broken – can a wounded heart ever forgive?**

When the Yarrowee River bursts its banks, Rian Farrell, a dashing Irish sea captain and part-time gunrunner, disappears in the torrential flood. Believing herself a widow, the headstrong and passionate Kitty Farrell's heart is left in tatters after the sudden death of her beloved husband. In her grief, she finally succumbs to the attractions of his long-time shipmate, Daniel, who has loved her from afar for many years.

The consequences are disastrous, and will challenge Kitty Farrell both physically and mentally. The resulting novel is a heady mix of powerful relationships and memorable, passionate characters, whose compelling story plays out against a skilfully depicted and utterly realistic backdrop of Old Ballarat.

**Deborah Challinor** is a freelance writer and historian living in Hamilton, and author of the bestselling Children of War trilogy – *Tamar*, *White Feathers* and *Blue Smoke* – and a string of number-one bestsellers, including *Fire*, *Kitty*, *Union Belle* and *Amber*. Deborah has also written several non-fiction titles.

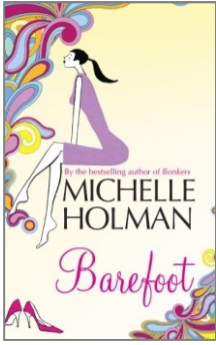


**Isle of Tears:** In a thrilling tale of love and loss during the land wars of New Zealand's colonial era – when simmering tensions between Maori and the encroaching Pakeha settlements exploded into bloody warfare – love and trust are put cruelly to the test. Separated from her husband and her family and restored to Auckland society, Isla must learn to survive in both worlds. Inevitably though, she must decide between them, and lose part of her heart forever.

**Fire:** In the week before Christmas 1953, the country prepares for a Royal Visit by the young Queen Elizabeth. Four employees of the most glamorous department store in the country are distracted by the strain of their changing friendships. As the store is crammed with wealthy shoppers, smoke is discovered drifting from the basement lift shaft. What happens next will sear the heart of the city, tearing families apart and testing friendship, love and loyalty, opening wounds that will never heal.

**Kitty:** When 18-year-old Kitty Carlisle's father dies in 1838, her mother is left with little more than the possibility of her beautiful daughter making a good marriage. But when Kitty is compromised by an unscrupulous adventurer, her reputation is destroyed. In disgrace, she is banished to the colonies. There her independent heart leads her into a web of illicit sexual liaison and betrayal.

**Amber:** Sequel to the bestselling *Kitty*. When Kitty Farrell is offered a trinket by a street urchin, her impulsive response will change both of their lives forever, and place an unexpected strain on Kitty's marriage. For the past four years, she has sailed the high seas on the trading vessel *Katipo* with her wild Irish adventurer, but when they return to the Bay of Islands in 1845, they find themselves in the midst of a bloody affray. Their loyalties and their love are sorely tested, and Kitty's past comes back to haunt her when she encounters the bewitching child she names Amber.



### **Barefoot**

**MICHELLE HOLMAN**

Commercial Fiction

December 2011

9781869508708

198 mm x 128 mm PB

368 pp

Rights: World

### **When life decides to slam dunk you, it's hard to keep score.**

When Sherry slept with Glenn, she had a career and a future. Little did she know she'd leave them all behind in a motel bedroom. What was she thinking?

In this blistering tale of two self-centred, headstrong high-achievers, Michelle Holman continues the story she began in her bestselling first novel, *Bonkers*.

The brother- and sister-in-law – who famously met when she nearly arrested him for breaching bio-security with a banana – have three things in common. They're uncommonly tall, neither is anything like their married siblings, and they fancy each other something rotten. Trouble is, Sherry can't stand the arrogant former American NBA star, while Glenn can't stand the aloof 'don't mess with me' policewoman.

Ending up in bed together is a great surprise. Neither wanting to admit it was a nice surprise is a complicating factor. And then the fun begins.

With Michelle's trademark talent for sizzling sex and the best one-liners you've heard in a long time, readers and characters alike are in for a treat.

**Michelle Holman's** bestselling first novel, *Bonkers*, was a comedic hit with women and men of all ages, as followed them with the equally successful *Divine* and *Knotted*. Originally from West Auckland, Michelle is a registered nurse who now manages community youth health projects in the Waikato.

***Knotted* (2009)** tells the story of Danny Lawson, short for Danneka, who's struggling to pay a mortgage, raise her twin sister's orphaned children and hold down a full-time job as charge nurse in a busy A&E department. When the children's American uncle, Ross Fabello, contacts her out of the blue and wants to take the children back to meet their father's family, sparks fly and two stubborn, strong-minded and independent people clash.

In a classic battle of wills and inevitable sexual attraction, the story of how Danny and Ross finally get together is a brilliantly funny and poignant tale of modern love and misadventure that's sassy, sexy and never takes itself too seriously, Michelle Holman has tapped into a rich indigenous vein of female warmth, wit and earthy sexuality writing the sort of book Cheryl West would read and recommend.

**Rights sold:** Germany

***Divine* (2009):** Tara Whitehead's perfect suburban life is turned upside down when her gorgeous husband Richard leaves her – not for another woman but to *become* another woman.

At the same time, his disgusting old reprobate uncle suddenly develops a suspicious case of immobility and signs himself up at the local rest-home, where he has designs on one of the residents, Miss Lillian. He leaves his plum property to Tara's daughter. So when the sale of their mansion goes to fund the sex-change surgery, Tara has little choice but to decamp to life on the farm as fast as her designer stilettos will take her. The sleepy little town of Divine will never be the same ...

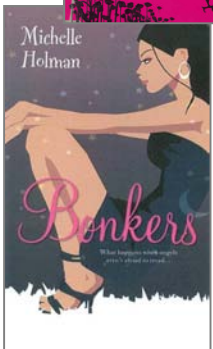
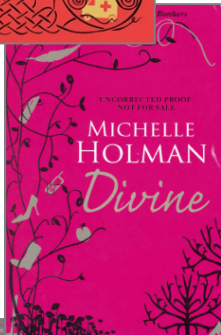
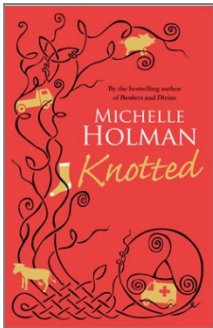
***Bonkers* (2007):** After a head on collision between a glamorous sports car and a serviceable but very plain little car, a kind-hearted angel does a swap in the anteroom to Heaven.

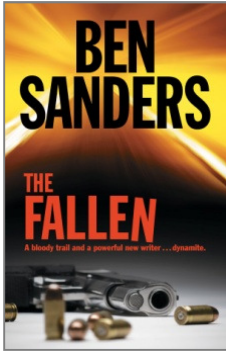
As a result, the funny, loveable but very short and flat-chested rugby-loving schoolteacher gets a second chance and finds herself in hospital in the body of a drop-dead gorgeous, glamorous philandering American wife. She has a very rich husband who looks as if he's just stepped out of a Ralph Lauren catalogue, but for some reason he can't stand her.

She thinks she's gone crazy, and if she tells anyone they'll *know* she has ... They'll think she's bonkers. And she can't even run away and hide: she's got a broken leg.

**Rights sold:** Germany

**Film rights optioned**





**The Fallen**  
**BEN SANDERS**  
Crime fiction  
September 2010  
9781869508760  
195 x 115 mm PB  
432 pp  
Rights: World

#### **An exciting new voice in crime fiction**

When local cop Sean Devereaux, who enjoys skating close to the edge, does a favour for his attractive neighbour, he unwittingly exposes a web of deceit and corruption.

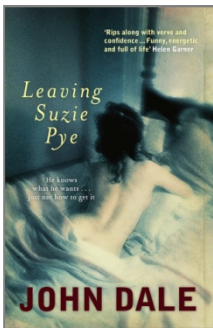
As he investigates the murder of a 16-year-old Epsom 'princess' in his day job, his after-hours efforts have him stumbling into the aftermath of a scam involving senior colleagues, and he is soon enmeshed in an escalating cycle of kidnapping, murder and violent mayhem.

With his unconventional ex-colleague-turned-security-specialist John Hale, Devereaux slowly begins to unravel the truth as the body count climbs and the stakes become personal. As an outwardly terse, street-savvy operator, Sean Devereaux emerges as an engaging and irreverent hero, becoming the catalyst for an absorbing, strangely uneasy murder mystery, set in unnervingly familiar surroundings.

A superb blend of international standard crime-writing with a strong local ambience that lures you in and delivers a strong and emotionally satisfying read.

'Sanders writes in a punchy, crisp style, employing short sentences and terse but telling descriptions – rather than languid or overwrought prose – to evoke a strong sense of the various Auckland settings, and his characters' thoughts, actions, and motivations. There is a sleekness to his storytelling that would be impressive for any crime writer, let alone one so young ... Devereaux's first outing is an absorbing debut that also entices with future promise.' *Weekend Herald*

**Ben Sanders** is a 20-year-old University of Auckland student, whose mature and edgy style belies his age and signals the emergence of a major new writing talent. He has been contracted for two Sean Devereaux novels.



**Leaving Suzie Pye**  
**JOHN DALE**  
Literary fiction  
May 2011  
9780732290047  
211 x 130 mm PB  
352 pp  
Rights: World

#### **A frank, funny and sexy story of what men really think about women**

'Rips along with verve and confidence ... Funny, energetic and full of life' Helen Garner

He knows what he wants . . . just not how to get it

Everyone at work wants to know why an associate professor of philosophy would stoop to having sexual relations with a man as spectacularly unsuccessful as myself. Well, I don't like to blow my own trumpet, but I think that, deep down, Suzie views me as someone financially, morally and intellectually her inferior. Joe has had a great life, untroubled by career or monogamy. He's convinced that whatever he's doing, he'd still really rather be having sex -- if only middle age hadn't made it so hard to find a woman who will share his enthusiasm.

When he meets Suzie Pye she seems just the ticket -- she even says she only wants a sexual relationship. But nothing is ever that simple ... As Joe struggles to hold Suzie to her promise, he finds himself entangled in the complexities of her life, her teenage children, her job -- and his feelings towards her. Not to mention the complications of his life: e-mail surveillance, a workplace panel of inquiry, and his own family.

Breezy, hilarious and insightful, this new novel from John Dale examines the nature of lust, love, ambition and what it means to be a man. Set in Sydney, Istanbul and Gallipoli, it is the story of an ordinary guy living at the mercy of his desires.

'This is a witty, spirited take on love in the modern world.' *Herald Sun*

**John Dale** is the author of the bestselling true-crime biography *Huckstepp*, about the infamous prostitute, drug addict and police informer Sallie Anne Huckstepp, which sold 35,000 copies. He is also the author of two crime novels, *Dark Angel* and *The Dogs Are Barking*, published in 1995 and 1998 respectively by HarperCollins Australia and in the UK by Serpent's Tail. His family memoir, *Wild Life*, was published in 2004. He has also edited *Car Lovers*, published by ABC Books. John is currently director of the UTS Centre for New Writing and lives in Sydney.

Visit John's website at <http://www.john-dale.net>



## **Watercolours**

**ADRIENNE FERREIRA**

Literary fiction

March 2011

9780732292164

234 x 153 mm PB

336 pp

Rights: World

**A breathtaking debut about family secrets, a child with an amazing artistic talent, and a startling censorship controversy in a small, tension-filled Australian town.**

Eleven-year-old Novi just wants to blend in, but it isn't easy when you're named after a type of silkworm and have the most eccentric family in town. A descendant of the first Italian silk-growers in northern New South Wales, he is an obsessive artist with a habit of drawing the stories of the people around him and a secret conviction that the river murdered his grandfather.

Dom Best is new in town, new to teaching and alarmed to discover that one of his young students is gifted. Hindered by inexperience, he must overcome his lack of confidence to support Novi's talent, encouraging the boy to unleash the secrets of his unusual family history through his art. Little does he know the devastating consequences his involvement in Novi's life will have.

Drawing on the little-known history of silk growing in Australia, *Watercolour* explores how people are shaped by their links to the past and their relationship to the place in which they live. This surprising and poignant debut novel explores the struggle between art and censorship, personal faith and self-doubt, and celebrates the beautiful clarity and colour a child's eye-view can bring to the adult world.

- Will appeal to readers of Sonya Hartnett and Michelle de Kretser

**Adrienne Ferreira** was born in Sydney in 1975 and grew up on the mid north coast of NSW. After completing a Bachelor of Arts at the University of Sydney, she worked and travelled in Europe (the idea for *Watercolour* came to her while lazing around eating figs in Sicily). On her return to Australia, she worked at Planet Ark and then as a copywriter. She is currently working on her second novel about rapture and madness in the city of Florence.

## **The Secret Fate of Mary Watson**

**JUDY JOHNSON**

Fiction

April 2011

9780732292508

234 x 153 mm PB

464 pp

Rights: World

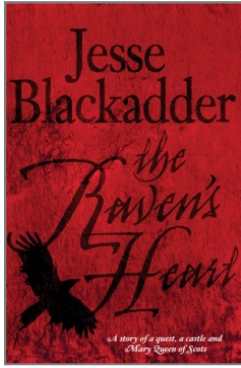
**A gripping tale of a daring heroine testing her wits against a backdrop of secrets, spies and smugglers in perilous Far North Queensland in the late nineteenth century and based on a true story ...**

Having just fled her parents' home in Rockhampton, 19-year-old Mary Oxnam is penniless and living in a Brisbane boarding house. With few prospects and no connections, the only things she can really rely on are her audacious intelligence and wits to find a job.

Mary soon finds herself working as a pianist in a Cooktown brothel, a cover for more profitable work as a spy into smuggling operations. Within a year, she has moved to Lizard Island, locked into a marriage of convenience with an unstable sea-slug fisherman. It's an isolated place, but its location is central to her spying activities and at last she is within reach of making enough money to live independently, far away from the murky world in which she has become embroiled.

The island crawls not only with lizards, but with hidden enemies, and sometimes it seems that Mary's only ally is a quiet crewman who works the slug boats and is sensitive to what lies behind her bravado. As the plot of her secret employers nears its fruition, the stakes become much higher, and Mary's life is in great danger. Can her audacity and luck save her one last time?

**Judy Johnson** is an Australian writer who has won numerous awards for her poetry over the past decade. Her verse novel, *Jack*, won the prestigious CJ Dennis Award in 2007 and the Victorian Premier's Award for Poetry. She lives in Newcastle with her three sons.



### **The Raven's Heart**

**JESSE  
BLACKADDER**

Commercial  
fiction  
Feb 2011  
9780732291884  
234 x 153 mm PB  
464 pp  
Rights: World

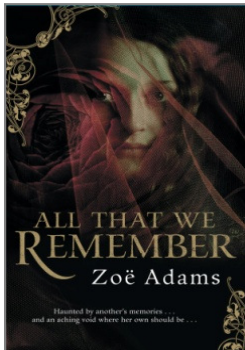
A sweeping, imaginative and epic tale of passion and betrayal, **THE RAVEN'S HEART** is a rip-roaring story set in 16<sup>th</sup>-century Scotland about the quest of the notorious Blackadder family to regain their castle, seized by a murderous clan a generation before.

Written by an Australian descendant of the Blackadder family featured in the novel, Jesse Blackadder, the lyrical prose of **THE RAVEN'S HEART** seduces you straight into the realm of Mary Queen of Scots's royal court, with all of its extravagance, romance, feuds and intrigue, as Alison Blackadder, a lady-in-waiting, tries to enlist the Queen's help to have her castle restored to her. Queen Mary can trust nobody in the royal court, not even her new husband Lord Darnley, and so Alison, with her ability to dress convincingly as a man when the situation requires, becomes Mary's valued spy in return for the Queen's help. Alison loves her queen almost enough to be distracted from her quest to regain the castle for her father. But then Mary betrays her unforgivably, and Alison's renewed drive to reclaim the Blackadder birthright is relentless, setting off a chain of events that threatens to bring down the Scottish monarchy.

*The Raven's Heart* pulsates with formidable and alluring characters, political intrigue, intimate explorations, power plays, and dangerous complications. Erotic and sexy, dark and eerie, adventurous and playful, *The Raven's Heart* is an exhilarating debut from an author with Antonia Fraser's authority and Sarah Waters's eye for arresting description and fabulous romance. Galloping horses, racing hearts, ominous ravens, crafty disguises — Jesse Blackadder's novel is a glorious romp that leaves even readers who aren't normally fans of historical fiction breathless with delight.

**Jesse Blackadder** finally had enough of people asking if she was related to Rowan Atkinson. She travelled to Scotland to find the origins of her surname and discovered the ruins of Blackadder House on the banks of the Blackadder River. *The Raven's Heart* grew from there.

Born in Sydney, Jesse now lives near Byron Bay. She is an award-winning short-story writer and freelance journalist, fascinated by landscapes and belonging.



### **All That We**

**Remember**  
**ZOE ADAMS**

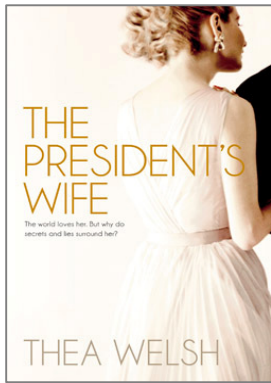
Fiction  
October 2010  
9781869508821  
210 x 130 mm PB  
464 pp  
Rights: World

**Haunted by another's memories ... and an aching void where her own should be ...**

When a young woman loses her memory after a traumatic car accident, she decides to recuperate in her palatial family home – a gorgeous mansion set high on the cliffs – which is about to be sold. Seizing this as her last opportunity to enjoy summer there, and hoping it will stimulate her memory, which is alarmingly blank for large sections of her childhood, she moves in. But instead of the peace she is seeking, she begins to relive someone else's memories of the house, and her every movement stirs another presence. As the tension builds, her trust in both old and new relationships is tested, and tragic secrets begin to surface. A haunting image of a white wisp-like veil winds through her dreams and into unfolding events – and the unveiling of the final secret leaves her changed forever.

• A mysterious ghost story reminiscent of *A Place Like Home* and *If You Could See Me Now*

**Zoe Adams** is the pseudonym by which the author wishes to be known.



### **The President's Wife**

**THEA WELSH**

Fiction

March 2010

9780732290122

234 x 153mm PB

464pp

Rights: World excl US,  
Canada, Germany

### **She's just become the youngest, and most famous, First Lady of the United States ...**

Governor Marshall Avery is America's most eligible bachelor, a millionaire businessman positioning himself to run for the highest office in the land. Marshall is smart enough and tough enough, but not quite warm enough for the job. He needs a wife who can soften his image, show his human side.

Beth Wilford is all that, and more. Once her presence in his life becomes public, she becomes a magnet for journalists – and a public – hungry for a political romance. Young, beautiful, and with an impeccable political pedigree, Beth has the poise not to falter under the barrage of flashbulbs.

But even Beth could not imagine that she would take an assassin's bullet ...

Sharp, witty, insightful and unputdownable, *The President's Wife* is not only a suspenseful story of a public marriage and a telling account of political spin and manipulation, but an examination of society's obsession with 'princesses' – those women like Diana, Jackie and Evita, who exercise a deep fascination in the lives of millions.

- Dazzling, long-awaited new novel from award-winning author
- Compulsive from the very first page
- Witty, gossipy, surprising -- and beautifully crafted to keep the pages turning
- Will appeal to our ongoing fascination with 'behind the scenes' stories of celebrity life and famous women's lives in particular – enter the goldfish bowl
- Will appear to fans of *The West Wing*, Curtis Sittenfeld's *American Wife*, Joyce Carol Oates' *Blonde*

'I very much enjoyed *The President's Wife*, it's engaging and well written.' *Bookseller + Publisher*

**Thea Welsh** is the author of the memoir *The Cat Who Looked At The Sky* (Flamingo 2003), and the novels *Welcome Back* (Random House 1999) and *The Story Of The Year Of 1912 In The Village Of Elza Darzins*, which won the 1990 National Book Council 'Banjo' Award. She lives in Sydney with her partner.



### **Remember June**

**DAMIEN LEITH**

Fiction

March 2010

9780732286828

210 x 153mm pb

256pp

Rights: World

### **A stunning story of Ireland, of fathers and sons, and the power of memories ...**

Matti Finch is just a kid living with his aunt in the south of Ireland in the late 1980s. Life is hard, unemployment is high, and the Finch family's circumstances are desperate.

Matti talks to his mother every day, but he hasn't seen his father Dave for six months.

Dave's been trying to face his family, but there are just too many demons. He can't stop remembering how he and his brother Matthew escaped the troubles of Northern Ireland and made a new home down South. And how they both fell in love with the same woman ...

For Matti and Dave, it won't be easy finding a way back to each other. But even when it seems there's nothing left to lose, hope is never far away ...

- Author's previous novel, *One More Time*, sold over 7000 copies (BookScan) – a strong debut
- Perennial popularity of Irish family stories – think Frank McCourt
- Author's new album of the same name releases late 2009 – hear the song 'Remember June' at [www.sendspace.com/pro/dl/vs4cx2](http://www.sendspace.com/pro/dl/vs4cx2)

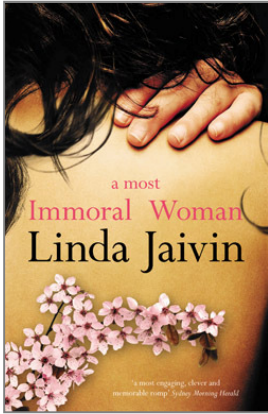
Praise for *One More Time*:

'...a deceptively simple story with a nice twist at the end and deeper meanings that sink in on reflection.' *Canberra Times*

'an entertaining yarn that's well-written to boot' *NW Magazine*.

'an absorbing first novel' *Woman's Day*

**Damien Leith** was born in Ireland and became an Australian citizen in January 2007. He is the winner of television's Australian Idol 2006. Damien lives in Sydney with his wife and two sons. HarperCollins published Damien's first novel, *One More Time*, in 2007.



**A Most Immoral Woman**

**LINDA JAIVIN**

Fiction

March 2009

9780732282769

234 x 153mm PB

384pp

Rights: World

Rights sold: Hungary

**He was our man in Peking. She was ... everybody's.**

'Cleverly constructed, this is to bodice ripping what Harvard is to Play School.' *Qantas: The Australian Way*

George Ernest Morrison is 'our man in Peking' – the London *Times*' correspondent in China. Born in Australia, Morrison has travelled widely, but now in his middle forties has settled into China. He is something of a hero – wounded in the Boxer rebellion, and actually reported in the *Times* as dead – and highly respected for his knowledge of China. It is time he married, but he has no time for fools or missionaries – and besides, who would put up with him?

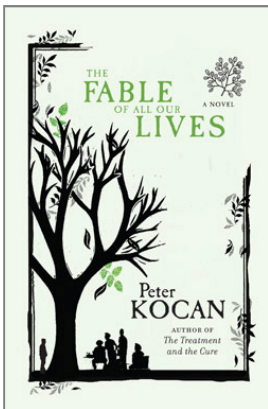
When he meets young Mae Perkins, a beautiful, vivacious American heiress, he is instantly smitten. But Mae is more worldly than many women of the time ... and it is only with difficulty that Morrison understands the true nature of her free spirit.

Meanwhile, war has broken out between Russia and Japan. At its start, this was called 'Morrison's War' because of his agitation for it through the columns of the *Times*. But as the war has progressed, he finds access to it impossible. So near and yet so far, and so much information unconfirmed ... Does he really understand the Chinese as well as he believes? Professionally and personally Morrison must work hard to get what he wants ... but like the Chinese proverb about interesting times, nothing is ever as he expects ...

Suspenseful, deeply erotic and beautifully written, the bestselling author of *Eat Me* returns with a mesmerising novel inspired by the real-life meeting of charismatic journalist G.E. Morrison and the sensual, irresistible, American heiress Mae Ruth Perkins.

'A highly charged erotic tale' *Vogue*

'This is ... a most engaging, clever and memorable romp through and important recounting of rival imperialist ambitions' *Sydney Morning Herald*



**The Fable For All Our Lives**

**PETER KOCAN**

Literary Fiction

August 2010

9780732289928

234 x 153mm

640pp tbc

Rights: World

**The major new novel from the award-winning author of *Fresh Fields*. A passionate, deeply human novel of poetry and politics**

Tait has just been released from a psychiatric institution. With the help of his friend Jim and his wife, he begins to adapt to the outside world. He has received a grant to write poetry – something his probation officer remains suspicious of – and is eager to create a settled routine and focus on his work.

But his experiences have left him feeling that there are those who understand and celebrate freedom and those – epitomised by 'the Regime' that runs places like the institution where he was incarcerated – who will do all they can to take freedom away. Tait finds inspiration and solace in things that are 'quaint and old-fashioned' – or QO, as he and Jim refer to it. Certain poets embody these values for Tait, as do – as Tait begins to read Scottish history – the Jacobites.

All this feeds into his poetry. But poetry and poets do not exist in a vacuum, and as the novel builds to its shocking climax, Tait finds himself a target in the middle of a violent and angry mob ...

As with all Peter's work, there is a strong autobiographical element in this new novel, but in taking the raw material of his life he has created a work that is not only beautifully written, by turns passionate, lyrical and humorous, but also touches the heart of larger questions of belonging, self-worth, and poetry. This is a novel that is always sharply observed as it builds to its devastating climax.

'... lyrical and profoundly thoughtful ... Written with a simplicity that belies the weight and wisdom of its ideas, *The Fable of All Our Lives* is an eloquent and heartfelt novel that will delight anyone who's ever been affected by poetry' *Bookseller + Publisher*

'Written with a poet's craftsmanship, this novel is effortlessly beautiful, peppered with dry, witty dialogue and a privilege to read' *West Australian*



**Siren**

**TARA MOSS**

Crime Fiction  
 September 2009  
 9780732285128  
 234 x 153 mm PB  
 384 pp  
 Rights: Translation,  
 excl. Germany  
 and France

**Mak is back ... edge of the seat fiction from Australia's # 1 crime writer**

**'Tara Moss has reawakened my passion for [thrillers] ...' Hugh Jackman**  
**'Glamorous and menacing' Herald Sun.**

Mak Vanderwall – street-wise former model, graduate in forensic psychology, and now PI – is back in Sydney and has been hired by a concerned mother to track down her missing nineteen-year-old son. Mak finds that he has run off with a troupe of French performers sweeping through Australia with a modern and alternative performance of the 'Grand Guignol Theatre of Fear', which was famous in Paris in the early 1900s. Has he been seduced by the alluring and amoral older French woman who has a terrifying starring role in the show? And what of the rumours of death and murder that have plagued the mysterious troupe for the past decade? Is their shady past fact or fiction?

Meanwhile, Mak is increasingly obsessed with the powerful and ruthless Cavanagh family – one of Australia's richest and most influential families, whom she believes got away with murder. And it seems their security advisor Mr White, and his hit man, Luther Hand, may not have forgotten about Mak either ...

- Tara Moss's books have sold over 514,000 copies in Australia – according to Bookscan, she is officially Australia's number one selling crime writer!
- Tara develops Mak's career in each novel – she has gone from student of forensic psychology to graduate to fully fledged PI – an evolving and exciting heroine

**Praise for Tara Moss:**

**'Tara Moss is Australia's answer to Patricia Cornwell...'** *The Midwest Book Review, USA.*

**'A steamy fast-paced romantic thriller...This marks the arrival of a bold new female voice for American crime-fiction fans.'**  
*Publishers Weekly, USA*

**'Bestselling Australian author Tara Moss bursts onto the U.S. scene with a fast-paced romantic thriller set in the semi-glamorous midrange modeling business. Moss makes everything seem fresh in this book, from the heroine to the setting. And readers will love the pace of this cat-and-mouse thriller while enjoying the details of the fashion business. An American debut to cheer!'** *Barnes & Noble*

**'Moss is a meticulous researcher of investigative procedures while writing, earning much praise for the authenticity of her thrillers ... she may well become one of the world's best-sellers.'** *World Literature Today*

**'Fetish is steamy, dark, and grisly ... Ms. Moss' characters are firmly drawn, and her chilling plot is a white-knuckle tale of suspense. Lust, passion, and danger abound in this psycho thriller.'** *Affaire de Coeur*



**Fetish, Split, Covet & Hit**

**TARA MOSS**  
 Crime Fiction  
 181x111, 280pp  
 Rights:  
 Translation, excl.  
 Germany and  
 France

Born in Victoria, BC, Canada, **Tara Moss** is an internationally bestselling novelist, award-winning short story writer and former top model. In her spare time she studies psychology, forensic science, criminology and violent crime. Tara currently lives in Sydney.

**Rights sold:** Russia, Italy, Germany, France, Romania, Czech Republic, Spain, Brazil, Japan, Hungary, Portugal, UK

# EXCLUSIVE FOREIGN AGENTS

## Italy

Maria Stefania Fietta  
Agenzia Letteraria  
Internazionale  
Via Valpetrosa 1  
20123 Milano,  
Italy  
T: +39 (0)2 861572  
F: +39 (0)2 876222  
E: [fietta@aglettinternazionale.it](mailto:fietta@aglettinternazionale.it)

## France

Eliane Bénisti  
Agence Eliane Bénisti  
80, rue des Saints-Pères  
75007 Paris,  
France  
T: +33 (0)1 42228533  
F: +33 (0)1 45441817  
E: [benisti@elianebenisti.com](mailto:benisti@elianebenisti.com)

## Spain

Alicia González Sterling  
Bookbank S.L. Agencia  
Literaria  
San Martín de Porres 14  
28035 Madrid,  
Spain  
T: +34 91 3733539  
F: +34 91 3165591  
E: [alicia@bookbank.es](mailto:alicia@bookbank.es)

## Germany

Franka Zastrow  
Michael Meller Agency  
Landwehrstrasse 17  
80336 München Germany  
T: +49 (0)89 366371  
F: +49 (0)89 366372  
E: [C.Bernardi@melleragency.com](mailto:C.Bernardi@melleragency.com)

## Greece

Nike Davarinou  
Read 'n' Right Agency  
9 Amazonon St  
34100 Chalkida,  
Greece  
T: + 30 2 221029798  
E: [readrht@ath.forthnet.gr](mailto:readrht@ath.forthnet.gr)

## The Netherlands, Czech Republic, Slovakia

Ilene Strickler Kreshka  
Transnet Contracts Limited  
Schlossgasse 15/4  
A-1050 Vienna,  
Austria  
T: +43 1 545 92 40  
F: +43 1 545 92 40  
E: [kreshka2002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kreshka2002@yahoo.co.uk)

## The Netherlands (children's)

Linda Kohn  
International Literatuur Bureau BV  
Keizersgracht 188-hs  
1016 DW Amsterdam  
The Netherlands  
T: +31 (0)35 6213500  
F: +31 (0)35 215771  
E: [kohn@planet.nl](mailto:kohn@planet.nl)

## Poland

Marcin Biegaj  
Graal Literary Agency  
ul. Pruszkowska 29/252  
02-119 Warszawa,  
Poland  
T: +48 (22) 895 2000  
F: +48 (22) 895 2001  
E: [marcin@graal.com.pl](mailto:marcin@graal.com.pl)

## Israel

Ilana Kurshan  
The Deborah Harris Agency  
P.O. Box 8528  
Jerusalem 91083,  
Israel  
T: +972 (0)2 5633237  
F: +972 (0)2 5618711  
E: [ilana@thedeborahharrisagency.com](mailto:ilana@thedeborahharrisagency.com)

## Romania

Marina Adriana  
Simona Kessler International  
CopyrightAgency  
Str. Banul Antonache 37  
011663 Bucharest 1  
ROMANIA  
T: +4021 3164806  
F: +4021 3164794  
E: [marina@kessler-agency.ro](mailto:marina@kessler-agency.ro)

## Hungary

Miklos Lekli  
Katai & Bolza Literary Agents  
Vamhaz krt 15  
1093 Budapest,  
Hungary  
T: +36 1 456 0313  
F: +36 1 215 4420  
E: [miki@kataibolza.hu](mailto:miki@kataibolza.hu)

## Scandinavia

Ia Atterholm  
Ia Atterholm Agency  
PO Box 17615  
SE-200 10 Malmö,  
Sweden  
T: +46 (0)40 305 883  
E: [ia.atterholm@telia.com](mailto:ia.atterholm@telia.com)

## Bulgaria, Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania), Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia

Nada Popovic  
Prava I Prevodi International Literary Agency  
Yu-Business Centre, Blvd.  
Mihaila Pupina 10B/I  
5th Floor, Suite 4,  
11070 Belgrade,  
Serbia  
T +381 11/ 3016141 & 3119880;  
F: +381 11/ 3119879  
E: [nada@pravaiprevodi.org](mailto:nada@pravaiprevodi.org)

## Enquiries about all other territories:

Hollie Zondanos  
Rights & Co-editions Manager  
HarperCollins Publishers Australia  
PO Box 321, 25 Ryde Rd  
Pymble NSW 2073 Australia  
T: +612 9952 5475  
M: + (0) 434 734 233  
F: +612 9952 5444  
E: [Hollie.zondanos@harpercollins.com.au](mailto:Hollie.zondanos@harpercollins.com.au)