





# fiction


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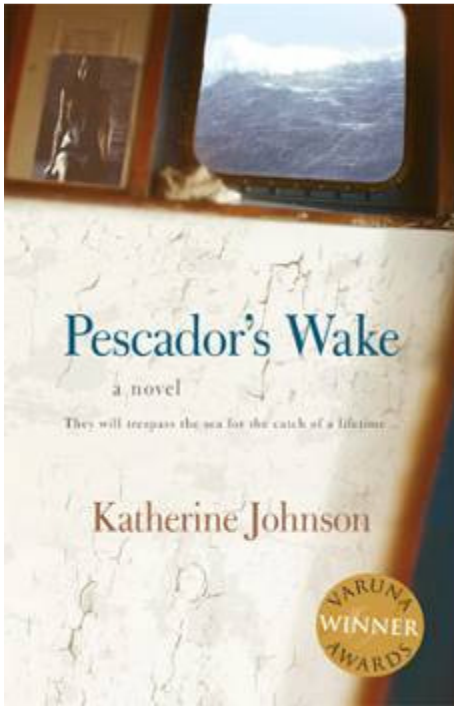


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 HarperCollins Publishers

 HARPER PERENNIAL

 Voyager



**Pescador's Wake**

KATHERINE JOHNSON

Fiction

January 2009 9780732288266

198 x 128mm PB 400pp

Rights: World

**They will trespass the sea for the catch of a lifetime**

Amid the storms and icebergs of the far Southern Ocean, a deadly chase is underway.

The Uruguayan-flagged *Pescador* has been spotted fishing illegally for Patagonian toothfish in the waters off Heard Island. An Australian patrol vessel, the *Australis*, has been given instructions to pursue it – at any cost. Equally determined, Carlos, the *Pescador*'s master, sets his escape course south, into a storm.

But the pursuing Australian boat is not the only source of anxiety among the crew of *Pescador*. Each has his own secrets and ambitions.

As the drama unfolds at sea, so too do the stories of the human lives caught in its nets. For the men on board the boats, and their families left behind on shore, there is much at stake.

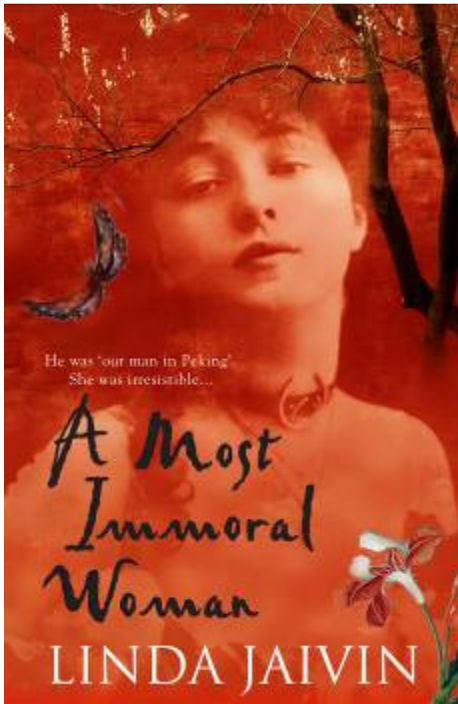
*Pescador's Wake* is a thrilling and moving story that takes its inspiration from the real-life pursuit of an illegal fishing vessel that resulted in the longest chase in maritime history, covering 4000 nautical miles.

In this gripping debut, Katherine Johnson creates the danger and the heartbreak of lives at the mercy of the sea, and weaves a compelling story of betrayal, love, loss and resilience.

- Both a thrilling chase novel and a story about the personal lives of those involved
- Will appeal to both men and women
- Timely topic, and a fresh new voice in fiction from a promotable author with a big future
- Author is an oceanographer and knows her subject

**Katherine Johnson** was born in Brisbane, Australia, in 1971. She has a Bachelor of Arts (Journalism) and holds an honours degree in marine science. Katherine now lives in Tasmania where she works as a science journalist and lives on a cliff-top at the edge of the bush with her husband and two children. Her non-fiction articles have been published internationally. *Pescador's Wake*, which won a HarperCollins Varuna award for Manuscript Development in 2007, is her first novel.





(not final cover)

**A Most Immoral Woman**

LINDA JAIVIN

Fiction

March 2009 9780732282769

234 x 153mm PB 384pp

Rights: World

**He was our man in Peking ... she was irresistible. The ravishing new novel from the author of bestselling *Eat Me***

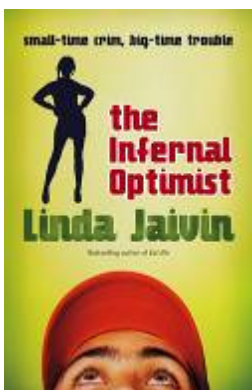
George Ernest Morrison is 'our man in Peking' -- the *London Times*' correspondent in China. Born in Australia, Morrison has travelled widely, but now in his middle forties has settled into China. He is something of a hero -- wounded in the Boxer rebellion, and actually reported in the *Times* as dead -- 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 ...

- A story of love, politics and China that is suspenseful, deeply erotic and beautifully written.
- The bestselling author of *Eat Me* (published in the US by Broadway, Vintage in UK) 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.
- There are few western novels that take Chinese history as their backdrop and so this is an exciting development for Linda and a fresh new story for readers.



**The Infernal Optimist**

LINDA JAIVIN

Fiction/Comedy

April 2006 9780732282752

210 x 135mm PB 336pp

Rights: World

**Meet Zeke Togan, a small-time crim in big-time trouble...**

'Making *The Infernal Optimist* a comedy was a wonderful idea, because it allows Jaivin to get in the human side of the refugee equation through the back door. It's a sneaky ploy, and it works because the realities of life in detention are presented in an almost documentary style, without being preachy in the least. And then there's the fact that some of this novel is pants-wettingly funny' *The Age*

'Jaivin's Zeki tells an horrific story in the way that some outlandish Ali G - *Pizza* hybrid would tell it, laced with irreverent humour and simple insight that always allows the reader to appreciate the injustice of his position.' *Adelaide Bookshelf*

**Linda Jaivin** is the author of four best-selling novels and a novella, most of which have been published internationally. Her fiction includes the comic-erotic cult classic *Eat Me* and her most recent book, *The Infernal Optimist*, a dark comedy set in Villawood Detention Centre. Linda is also a translator (from Chinese), essayist and writer on Chinese politics and culture, which she studied at university before spending nine years in Taiwan, Hong Kong and China.



**Devil's Eye**

IAN TOWNSEND  
 Literary Fiction  
 September 2008  
 9780732283667  
 210 x 135 mm 400 pp  
 Rights: World

**'Vivid, complex and assured' Sunday Age Book of the Week**

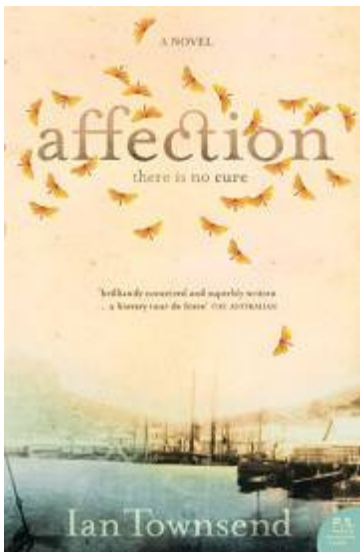
It is the end of the nineteenth century, and one of the most powerful storms in history is born when a hurricane named Mahina moves across the Coral Sea.

To a remote part of the Queensland coast come the hundreds of sails of the northern pearling fleets, and a native policeman trying to solve a murder. Nearly two thousand men, women and children are gathering around Cape Melville, right in the path of the storm that is about to cause Australia's deadliest natural disaster.

Based on real events, this is the story of an unstoppable force of nature and the birth and death of an Australian dream.

'Townsend draws the force of a cyclone with true authenticity... Part of the accomplishment of this novel is its use of dialogue, presented with anachronisms, direct as script, and loaded with covert meaning' – *Sunday Age*

**Ian Townsend** is a journalist with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. His first novel, *Affection*, was shortlisted for the 2005 Victorian Premiers Literary Awards, the 2006 Commonwealth Writers Prize for a first novel, and the 2006 Colin Roderick Award.



**Affection**

IAN TOWNSEND  
 Literary Fiction  
 April 2005  
 9780732280550  
 210 x 135mm 416pp  
 Rights: World

**There is no cure...**

January 1900, and Australia's tropical north just got a little hotter. An outbreak of plague is suspected, and the Queensland Government sends Dr Alfred Jefferis Turner - small, refined and immaculately dressed - to assess the situation. Turner, armed with a microscope, a butterfly net and his lovelorn yet devout colleague,

Dr Linford Row, is met with incredulity, not least by local councillors who insist it's only typhoid. Fifty-two possible plague-carriers - including two prominent MPs - are isolated in a dilapidated quarantine station on Magnetic Island. Meanwhile, in town, the sewers overflow, the streets choke with rubbish; and still no-one wants to listen.

When Dr Row delivers a letter from one of the quarantined men to his hauntingly beautiful wife, he ensnares both himself and the eccentric Dr Turner in a hotbed of small-town scandal and fear.

Written with wit and wonder, *Affection* uncovers a unique period in Australian history. A novel based on a true story of shonky politics, courageous medicos, and humidity, it's also a mystery of heart and mind.

**Praise for Affection:**

'Brilliantly conceived and superbly written...*Affection* is a must-read book for 2005. As a powerful mix of truth and invention, it is literary tour de force.'  
*The Australian*

'I love Robert Louis Stevenson, Joseph Conrad, American realists like John Steinbeck, Faulkner, not that he was a realist really. I like Hemingway. And I tell you what, I read Ian Townsend's book. Now that was fantastic.' William McInnes, *The Advertiser*

'This is strong stuff. The oppressive humidity of Townsville seems almost to drip from the page and lends *Affection* a hypnotic, dreamlike quality that is hard to shake... an astonishing novel' *Vogue*

'accomplished... downright hilarious at times' *Courier Mail*



**Isle of Tears**

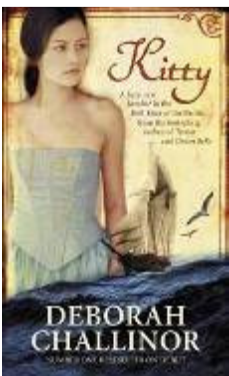
DEBORAH CHALLINOR  
April 2009  
9781869506339  
Commercial Fiction  
234 x 154 mm 592pp  
Rights: World

**A powerful story of love and loss set during the tumultuous years of the Land Wars of New Zealand**

After the murder of their parents Megan Jamieson and her older brothers and younger brother and sister are abducted by Maori. Separated and endangered by the events that swirl around them, Megan grows up fast, and through her eyes we see the effect of the war and the rebel movement on both Maori and white men alike as the battle for supremacy and control of the rich lands progresses.

Raised by Maori, 'rescued' by British forces and the object of Victorian curiosity, Megan's loyalties and affections are sorely tested before she finds her true destiny.

- Deborah Challinor's rich talents as both historian and best selling novelist combine to produce an epic stand-alone tale of a colonial past that will resonate with all lovers of historical romance.



**Kitty**

DEBORAH CHALLINOR  
January 2007  
9781869506292

**Amber**

DEBORAH CHALLINOR  
October 2007  
9781869506322

Commercial Fiction  
234 x 154 mm 352pp  
Rights: World  
Rights sold *Kitty*: Russian (AST)

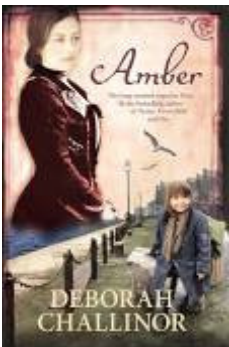
**A fiery new series from the bestselling historical novelist**

When 18-year-old Kitty Carlisle's father dies unexpectedly in Norfolk in 1838, Kitty and her mother are left impoverished. After Kitty is discovered in a compromising position with an unscrupulous adventurer, her reputation is left in shreds. In desperation, her mother banishes Kitty to the colonies in disgrace, under the guardianship of her dour missionary uncle and his long-suffering wife.

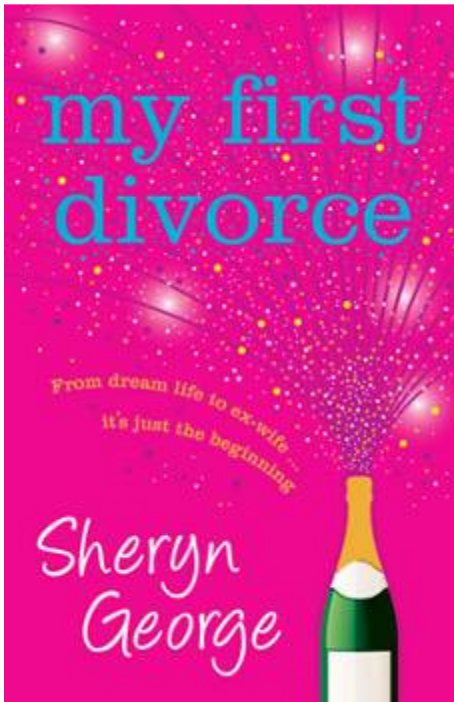
Against the backdrop of the wild and unruly Bay of Islands in the period leading up to the signing of New Zealand's historical Treaty of Waitangi, Kitty meets and falls in love with Ryan Farrell, a rude, aloof and atheistic ship's captain.

When she discovers he is also a gun runner, her loyalties are torn and her tempestuous nature leads to an estrangement. The path to true love is tortuous, involving rampaging Maori war parties, illicit sexual liaisons and incarceration in Sydney's Hyde Park Barracks, forgery, betrayal and death at sea...

- A tempestuous romance and a lively adventure with a fiery and memorable heroine
- *Kitty* works as both a stand-alone novel, and with its companion novels, as an ongoing saga of love and adventure on the high seas in the Pacific of the 1800s
- The third book in this compelling historical series due October 2009



**Deborah Challinor** is a freelance writer and historian living in Whakatane in New Zealand



**My First Divorce**

SHERYN GEORGE

Fiction

September 2008 9780732284169

198 x 128mm PB 400pp

Rights: World



'George has a bouncy style that makes you giggle'  
*Sunday Telegraph on Miss Lonely Hearts*

**From dream life to ex-wife.... It's just the beginning!**

Caitlin Cooper is living life full-tilt - she's a red-hot television producer, her husband is gorgeous and devoted and her kids are bright and beautiful. She's launching her latest smash-hit reality show at a harbourside gala and her Gucci corset is a bit too tight, but that's not why she's holding her breath ... the two people she trusts more than anyone else in the world have just betrayed her. Big time.

Caitlin doesn't do breakdowns, but she didn't think she did scandal and divorce either. Now her biggest struggle is deciding whether to swear bloody revenge - or crawl under the doona and stay there. But there's no time for tears and Cait discovers she might just be able to get through anything - even her first divorce.

A sparkling romantic comedy that deals with what for so many women is a reality – life after a divorce. Because once the shock wears off, there's nothing like plotting revenge... and an even better life!

'... this highly readable and entertaining book grabs you from the very first page. It will appeal to women who enjoy a well-written, light and funny book.' *Australian Bookseller and Publisher*

'A gentle, wry look at the modern woman for whom having it all is a stage just before losing everything' *Sun Herald*

'A light-hearted page-turner' *New Idea*.

- A book women will read for the title alone – taking on a difficult subject with attitude!
- Fresh and sassy take on women's experience of divorce
- For fans of Marian Keyes, Cathy Kelly, Jennifer Weiner and Lauren Weisberger

**Sheryn George** is an experienced journalist, with a stint as editor of *Australian Women's Forum*. Her previous book was *Miss Lonely Hearts*. She lives in inner Sydney.

**Handpicked**

SIEW SIANG TAY

Fiction

April 2009

9780732287924

198 x 128mm PB 336pp

Rights: World

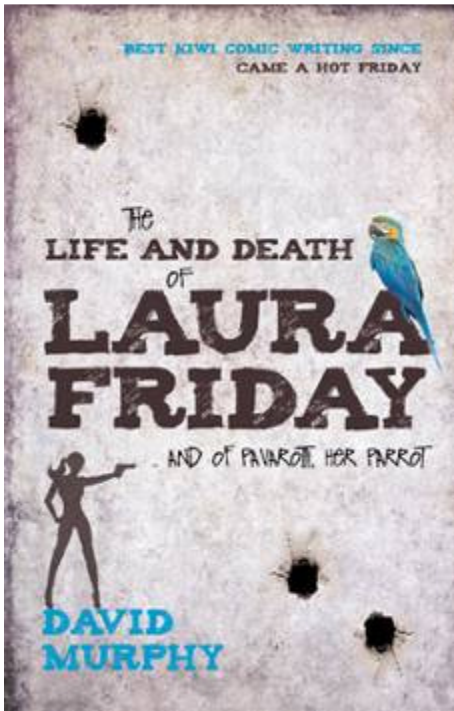
Laila is desperate to escape life in the longhouse in her tiny Malaysian village. Desperate enough to defy her family and travel to Australia to marry Jim, a middle-aged fruitpicker living just outside Renmark.

Jim hasn't had much luck with women - they're always giving him a hard time. Gradually he's come to believe that Laila might change all that. A new life, the two of them together ...

But when Laila and Jim finally meet, and each discovers the reality of the other, things don't go according to plan.

- Both an unusual and very engaging love story, and a compelling and finely observed account of cross-cultural expectations and consequences.

**Siew Siang Tay** was born in Malacca, Malaysia, and migrated to Australia in 1992. She has a degree in journalism and currently works as web editor for University of South Australia. She lives with her daughter in Adelaide. Siang has been writing since 1999 and in 2006 won a HarperCollins Varuna Award for Manuscript Development for *Handpicked*.



**The Life and Death of Laura Friday**  
 DAVID MURPHY  
 Comic Fiction  
 September 2008 9781869507008  
 198 x 128mm PB 336pp  
 Rights: World

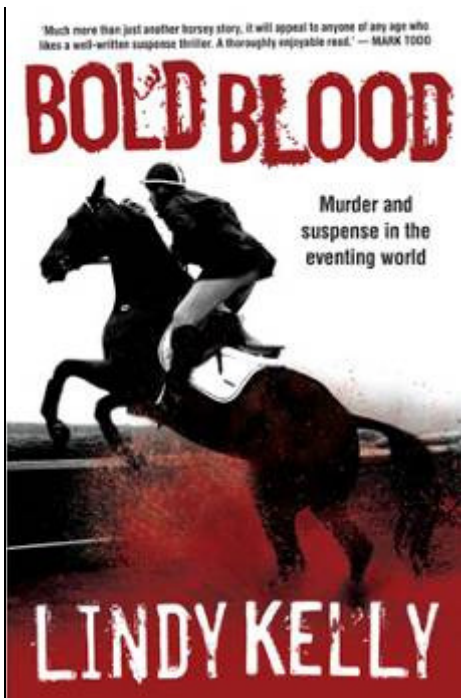
**In Bullock, a proud little town somewhere on the coast, they do things differently.**

It's probably something to do with the way their pioneering ancestors survived months at sea by ingesting seed of hemp, a wondrous medicinal herb they've grown ever since. And when a local man accidentally cuts off his penis, only to be saved by a selfless transplant offer from his transgender brother, the international media come swarming.

Fitz Kennedy, Cub reporter for the *Bullock Telegraph*, loses his scoop and his heart to Frankie Wilton, the scheming femme fatale sent to cover the story for the London tabloids.

His revenge is sweet when he turns her into the heartless assassin Laura Friday, who with her parrot, Pavarotti, feature in his first novel. The book is an overnight success. And that's when the fun really starts...

Born in London despite the best efforts of the Luftwaffe, first-time novelist **David Murphy** lives and writes in Greytown, New Zealand. He has also lived in Zambia and South East Asia before embarking on a successful career in advertising, then becoming a full-time writer.



**Bold Blood**  
 LINDY KELLY  
 Thriller  
 March 2009 9781869507336  
 234 x 153 PB 288pp  
 Rights: World

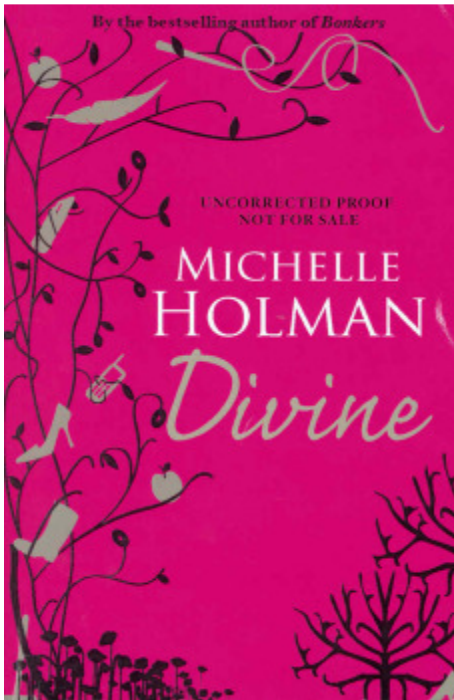
**The phone call ended seven years of exile, but was a catalyst for murder . . .**

When Dr Caitlin Summerfield took the message, her satisfying life included a rich, sexy boyfriend, an exciting career and, best of all, she was free of the emotional maelstrom that characterised her disastrous relationship with her mother.

Her father and brother are both long dead, and reluctantly Caitlin returns home when her mother is left in a coma after a riding accident. Someone has to look after her mother's horses. But instead of the well-run training business she expects, she finds financial chaos and a dangerous mystery.

As the tension mounts, Caitlin begins to realise her mother's accident was something far more sinister. *Bold Blood*, a fast-paced contemporary crime novel set within the world of horses and eventing, is a compelling and powerful debut novel for an exciting and talented writer.

**Lindy Kelly** is a former event rider herself and has maintained her love of and interest in horses on the family farm in Nelson. Lindy is an experienced journalist and the author of many short stories, poems and plays. She has been published in New Zealand, Australia and the USA and has won, or been commended in 29 awards. Her stories have been broadcast on National Radio and she is the author of 20 books for children and adults. Lindy teaches creative writing at the Nelson Women's Centre, Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology and Nayland Adult Education classes.



**Divine**  
 MICHELLE HOLMAN  
 Fiction  
 January 2009 9781869507404  
 198 x 128mm PB 368pp  
 Rights: World

**Tara, I have something to tell you...**

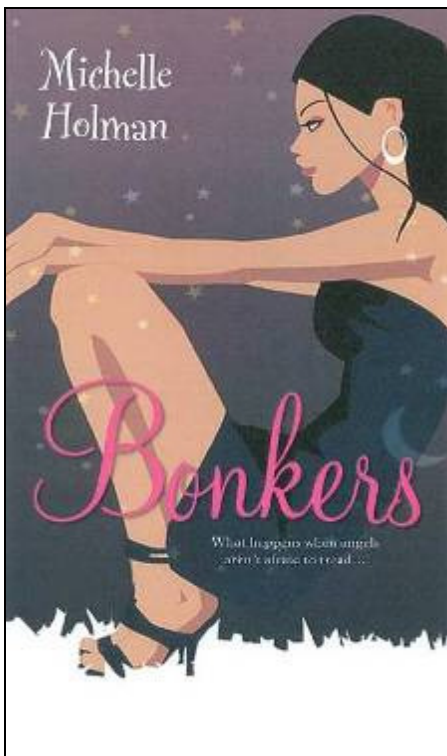
Ominous words that change trophy wife Tara Whitehead's perfect suburban life. It's how she discovers that her gorgeous husband Richard is leaving her – not for another woman but to become another woman. At the same time, his disgusting old reprobate uncle suddenly develops a suspicious case of immobility 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, and 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.

It doesn't go well. Things get very messy, not least when a local developer tries to throw her together with Gil Sorenson, the gorgeous hunk who owns the farm next door. Things get very steamy, especially when she ends up with her head in Gil's, err, lap at her first town meeting and no one will believe it was an accident!

When she struggles to pay her bills, help arrives from a most unlikely quarter – the mysterious Sian. The sleepy little town of Divine will never be the same ...

This is a hilarious light-hearted romp that will entertain women of all ages, offend some, and have most laughing out loud.

- Fresh, funny commercial women's fiction
- Backlist title *Bonkers* sold to Germany



**Bonkers**  
 MICHELLE HOLMAN  
 Fiction  
 December 2007 9781869506797  
 198 x 128mm PB 336pp  
 Rights: World  
**Rights sold:** Germany

**A very unusual, warm and funny love story – chick-lit at its best.**

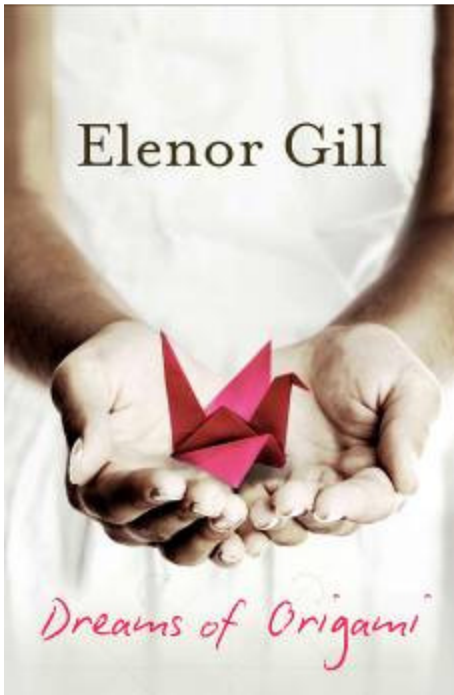
After a head on collision between a glamorous sports car and a serviceable but very plain little car, a kind-hearted angel does a swap in the anteroom to Heaven.

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.

A love story with a difference – one for the girls to read with a box of chocolates – and a new author to watch.

**Michelle Holman** is a forty-something wife and mother living in the Waikato in New Zealand. A registered nurse, she has also been a Butlins holiday camp chalet maid, kibbutz worker and tissue transplant coordinator at the Coroner's Office in Auckland. She now manages community youth health projects. This is her second novel.



Not final cover

**Dreams of Origami**

ELENOR GILL

Fiction

April 2009 9781869507725

234 x 164mm PB 304pp TBC

Rights: World

**Gideon dreams of hands folding white paper, unaware that time, and those hands, are waiting to enfold him. Lacey stands on the edge, afraid to open her heart. And Triss, grieving the loss of her baby, looks up to find that her husband has vanished.**

The inexplicable disappearance of Matthew Caxton brings together an unlikely collection of people, each unaware that a series of uncanny events will challenge what they believe and who they trust. In the wide Fenlands, ancient mysteries lie beneath the drained soil, and the ghosts of past lives are never far away. As unseasonal storms, violence and sudden death are unleashed, an old schoolhouse bell begins to toll in Gainsborough Street.

With his origami dreams becoming more urgent, psychic researcher Gideon Wakefield knows something powerful is close. And when your home becomes a centre of cataclysmic change, no one can predict the outcome ...

**Elenor Gill** was born in England, and now lives and writes in Gisborne, NZ. An accomplished Celtic musician with a lifetime interest in folk music and the paranormal, this is her fourth novel. Her earlier books, *In the Shadow of Trees*, *Miriam's Talisman* and *The Moon Spun Round* have all been published to critical acclaim – even Barbara Erskine is a fan.



**The Moon Spun Round (2008)**

'The Moon Spun Round is a story of ordinary women living ordinary lives, yet being able to call on the most extraordinary personal power.'

*Gisborne Herald*

Sally Lavender has been betrayed. With the sharp, jagged remains of her life still capable of drawing blood, she takes refuge in the village of Hallowfield. But where she expected solitude, she finds friendship, and a strangely insistent sense of connection. As the moon slowly turns, Sally discovers how strong and deep are the ties that bind her to this place and to the five very different women who take her under their protection.

**Miriam's Talisman (2007)**

'Magical, riveting, enchanting . . . so beautifully written. I went back to reread some parts just to enjoy them again.' Barbara Erskine

**In the Shadow of Trees (2005)**

'Mystery, fantasy and romance lovers will lose themselves in this novel...Steeped in Celtic myth and druidism...Gill generates considerable tension in a story that will keep you hanging to the last' *The Sunday Times*

'Elegantly narrated, embellished by dreams and a feeling of forces out of control, the novel oozes evil and foreboding' *Sunday Canberra Times*

'A well-paced spooky story, with added atmospheric and Celtic myth.' *The Sunday Age*

### **The Sea Between**

CAROL THOMAS

Historical Fiction

May 2009

9781869507626

234 x 153mm PB 368pp

Rights: World

### **A tale of star-crossed lovers set in the early days of the suffrage movement**

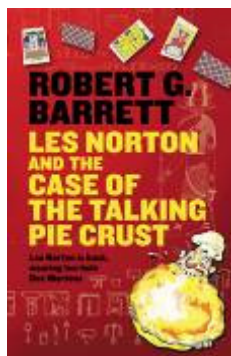
Charlotte is a young woman from a conservative farming background who resists the proposal of the man she loves – a dashing sea captain – when he refuses to give up his seafaring life to be a husband and father, expecting her to be content with the life of a wife left alone onshore for months on end.

When he marries on the rebound, a complex web of family relationships and thwarted love results in tragic consequences that threaten to destroy both families.

- A great story with wonderful characters, set in a time of social change with early feminism butting against the Victorian expectations for young women.
- Long-awaited third novel from an established and popular author.

**Carol Thomas** emigrated from the UK over 25 years ago and settled with her husband in rural Canterbury, where they raised a family together. With her children off her hands, she has turned her hand to writing - *Consequences*, a historical romance, was published by HarperCollins (NZ) in 2001 and *Cost of Courage* in 2003. She has previously had a novel, *Dark Talisman*, published in the UK by Robert Hale.

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### **High Noon in Nimbin**

ROBERT G BARRETT

March 2009

9780732287573

### **Les Norton and the case of the talking pie crust**

ROBERT G BARRETT

November 2007

9780732283964

Fiction

234 x 153mm PB

240pp

Rights: World

**High Noon in Nimbin:** What could Les Norton possibly be doing in Nimbin, the hippie capital of Australia? And how did the little green tree-frog in Les's backyard start it all?

Robert G. Barrett's latest novel, *High Noon in Nimbin*, is a cracking new tale for fans old and new and another unputdownable Les Norton adventure from Australia's king of popular fiction.

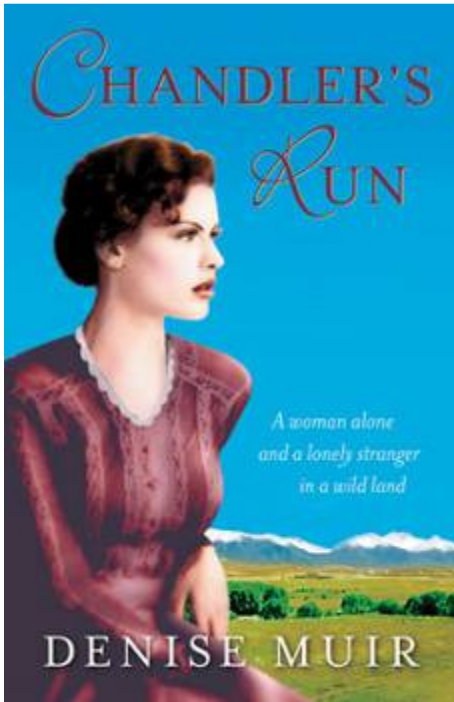
**Les Norton and the case of the talking pie crust:** Norton's mate from the Albanian Mafia, Bodene Menjou, is planning to make the most politically correct movie ever made in Australia, *Gone With the Willy Willy*, and has a script stolen. If Les can find it, a lazy \$50,000 could fall his way. How can Norton say no? But after almost getting his head blown off in a drug lab, being attacked by crazed women with broomsticks, and beaten up by monstrous drag queens, Les wonders if it is all worth it.

'Barrett weaves a cracking tale' *Herald Sun*

'Barrett is in pleasingly vintage form' *Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin*

- Les Norton doing exactly what he does best: his worst.
- Robert G. Barrett is, according to *The Australian*, the king of popular fiction.
- Official website at [www.robertgbarrett.com.au](http://www.robertgbarrett.com.au)

**Robert G. Barrett** was raised in Sydney's Bondi, where he worked mainly as a butcher. After thirty years he moved to Terrigal on the Central Coast of New South Wales. Robert has appeared in a number of films and TV commercials but prefers to concentrate on his writing career.



**Chandler's Run**

DENISE MUIR

Fiction

April 2008

99781869506780

198 x 128mm PB 480pp

Rights: World

**A woman alone and a lonely stranger in a wild land...**

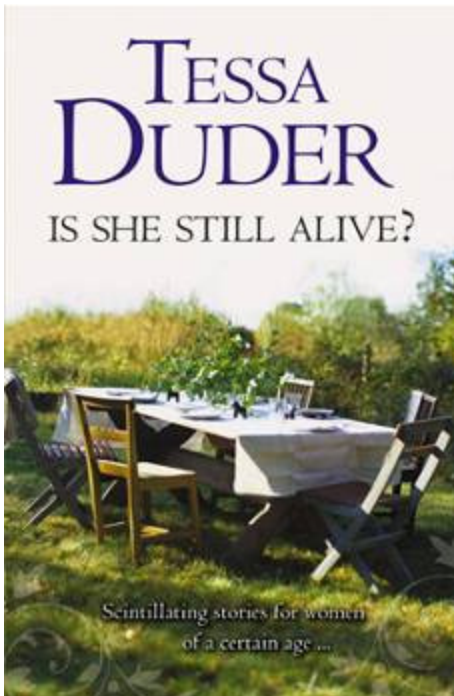
A sweeping traditional historical romance set in the rugged southern mountains, *Chandler's Run* is the story of a passionate wife who follows her consumptive husband to colonial New Zealand, expecting to join his wealthy uncle on a well established sheep run, where the pure mountain air will help him recover. Instead they arrive to a burnt out shell of a house with no sign of the uncle, his stock or station hands.

The family only survive by letting go of their 'civilised' English ways and adapting to this rough new world - with the help of Black Ruby, a surly widow on the neighbouring property. Into their shattered lives rides James McKenzie, an itinerant Scottish master drover, and his black and white dog, Friday – and Lucy soon finds herself torn between two very different men.

- A passionate romance featuring the mysterious historical figure of James MacKenzie, and the stunning landscape of the Southern Alps, by an exciting new writer.
- Will appeal to lovers of historical romance

**Denise Muir** is an active and lively grandmother in her seventies, who began writing following a battle with breast cancer.

Rights sold: Germany (Weltbild)



**Is She Still Alive?**

TESSA DUDER

Short Stories

May 2008

9781869507107

234 x 153mm PB 368pp

Rights: World

**Is she still alive?... Scintillating tales for women of a certain age.**

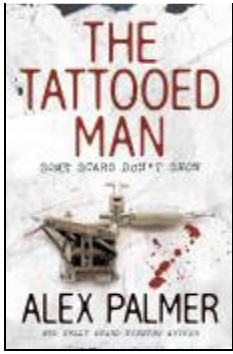
They have something in common, these women: the well-dressed widow listening to the reading of her husband's will; the publisher's secretary with her eye on marriage and her boss's job; the Italian immigrant looking back over sixty bitter years; the three 60-something friends lunching before sallying forth to another's dreadful rest-home 70<sup>th</sup> birthday party...

The common thread binding all thirteen stories here is the starring role they give to older women. Coping with sweeping changes in family and society values, they know about loss, ingratitude, yearning and grief, but also about loyalty, stamina, laughter and love. They are, mostly, survivors.

The wonderful, wise and witty women here will strike a chord with their tales of loves and dreams they have lived and lost, their tragedies and their triumphs and most of all, their enduring spirit and often unexpected strength. *Is she still alive?* is the question women of a certain age hear all too often - in Tessa Duder's wonderful new stories the answer is defiantly yes.

**Tessa Duder** is one of New Zealand's most accomplished writers, internationally known for a host of children's novels, including *Night Race to Kawau*, the *Alex Quartet* and her *Tiggie Thompson* series of young adult novels. Author of the acclaimed literary biography of Margaret Mahy, *A Writer's Life*, Tessa has also edited several bestselling collections of maritime non-fiction





### **Tattooed Man**

ALEX PALMER  
Crime Fiction  
February 2008  
9780732285722  
234 x 153mm PB  
448pp  
Rights: World

**Politics, corruption, big business and murder, woven into a heart-stopping race for the truth.**

Paul Harrigan and Grace Riordan are back, cops who have survived the corruption and political manoeuvrings of the NSW Police. So far...

Paul is called to a grisly murder scene on Sydney's wealthy northern beaches: four dinner guests are seated around the dinner table – all dead. One of them a Senator's ex-wife; one of them a missing corrupt NSW detective. And the mummified condition of the detective's body (identified by a distinctive tattoo) suggests he has been dead for quite some time ...

Politics, corruption, big business and murder ... award-winning author Alex Palmer weaves them all into a heart-stopping race for the truth.

- Taut, compelling storytelling -- a heart-stopping read and a thriller with substance.
- An award-winning talent: Alex Palmer's first novel, *Blood Redemption*, won three major awards: the 2003 Ned Kelly Award for Best First Crime Novel, the Canberra Critics Circle Award, and the 2003 Sisters in Crime Davitt Award.
- An author with real potential – Alex Palmer's third novel *Labyrinth of Drowning* due out Feb 2009, with themes of people trafficking and identity theft, and the psychology of obsession
- Will appeal to readers who enjoy Minette Walters and Gabrielle Lord



### **Blood Redemption**

9780732271312  
2003, 181 x 111mm  
PB 496pp  
Rights: World

### **Blood Redemption**

'[An] intelligent and compelling thriller that turns the notion of evil inside out'  
*Canberra Times*

'An impressive debut from Palmer, who has stepped confidently into the cutting edge psychological thriller genre inhabited by authors of the ilk of Gabrielle Lord and Minette Walters' *Adelaide Advertiser*

**Rights sold:** Germany (Random House)

### **Labyrinth of Drowning**

9780732285746  
July 2009  
234 x 153mm PB  
384 pp  
Rights: World

### **New in 2009: Labyrinth of Drowning**

Agent Grace Riordan and former police officer Paul Harrigan have survived a lot, and they're going to need every shred of their courage and experience to make a go of their life together -- especially as the past just won't let go.

Safely out of the force and happy with another chance at fatherhood, Harrigan is in court observing when Grace's old stalker escapes. It isn't long before their house is being watched, and it gets even harder for Grace to get through her rewarding but difficult job. A job, needless to say, she still can't discuss with Harrigan. When a woman who shouldn't be in the country at all washes up dead on one of Sydney's beaches, Grace is put in an untenable position by her increasingly unstable boss, who seems to be expecting more of her than even running a secretive government agency gives him the right to expect. And a scam victimising the region's most desperate people has ties to the very cream of the city's elite ...

Suspenseful, smart and chilling; two of Australian crime's most memorable characters are in a race to save themselves and their baby daughter from evil that even they have never faced before.

**Alex Palmer** was born in London in 1952, and arrived in Sydney in the late 1960s. She studied English literature and language at Macquarie University and later gained a postgraduate diploma in information management at the University of New South Wales. Alex now writes full time. She is married and lives in Canberra.



**Making Lemonade**

KATE LANGDON

Fiction

September 2007

9781869506247

198 x 128mm PB

336pp

Rights: World

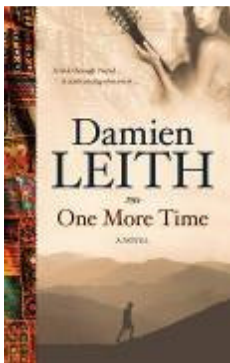
**'Chick-lit at its snazziest, wittiest and frothiest... funniness that rivals a *Friends* script'**  
**New Zealand Herald**

Meet three thirty-somethings whose lives have swerved way off the beaten track... Jools has an addiction to married men, but this time she finds herself knocked up, the father unknown. Is it her charming but arrogant ex-boss? Or the man-child she met one drunken night? If only she could remember his name... Sally is married to Vincent, a self-absorbed televangelist, obsessed with his tv show and his beauty treatments. How could her hopes and dreams have been so unimportant she waved them goodbye without a second thought? Kat has the perfect life all mapped out – the perfect job, the perfect husband, the perfect home and the soon-to-come perfect children. But when her suspicions that her husband is having an affair are proved correct, she suddenly finds herself single with a handbag full of broken dreams. Can they find their way back to the dreams of their youth – or is it time to accept life's lemons and start making lemonade?



**Kate Langdon** is an outgoing thirty-two year old living in New Zealand.

**Rights sold:** *Famous* and *That Slippery Slope* sold to Germany (Rowohlt)



**One More Time**

DAMIEN LEITH

Fiction

October 2007

9780732286415

210 x 153mm 368pp

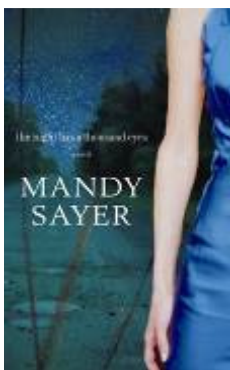
Rights: World

**One more step... One more secret...One more time.**

Sean is in Nepal on a trek through some of the most beautiful – and dangerous – country in the world. His path takes him deep into territory held by Maoist guerrillas determined to overthrow the Nepalese government. Yet the local people are friendly, the air is clear, and it's easy to become accustomed to the national dish of *dhal bat* for every meal. With each step, however, Sean's thoughts turn towards home and his family in Dublin, and it becomes clear that the obstacles he faces are greater than the threat of guerrillas demanding 'donations' or the reckless behaviour of fellow travellers. As Sean travels through Nepal, events run out of his control, and to survive he must find the courage to let his secret go ...

A compelling psychological drama with a mystery at its heart, that will appeal to readers of *The Beach*.

**Irish-born Damien Leith** 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 baby son. This is the first of many novels he has planned.



**The Night Has a  
Thousand Eyes**

MANDY SAYER

Fiction

September 2007

9780732286019

210 x 135mm HB

180pp

Rights: World

**People always talks about the dangers of speeding; no one ever mentions the risks of travelling too slowly through life.**

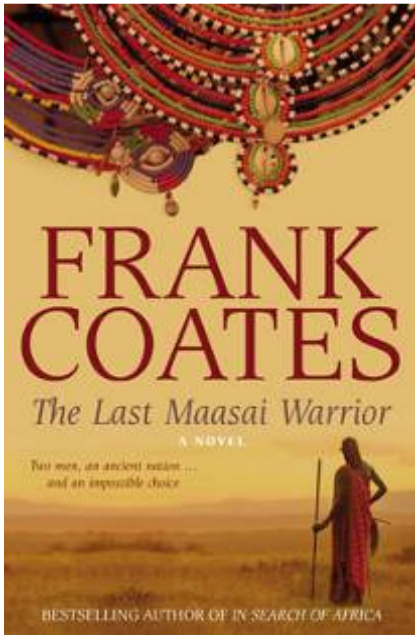
When Mark Stamp fires an air gun through the window of his father's shed, he's afraid he may have damaged something. But what he discovers is far worse. Peering through the broken window, he sees such a horrifying sight that he has to flee for his life. His older sister, Ruby, may not be officially old enough to drive, but she can handle the family's van, and Mark, Ruby and the baby set off on a hair-raising adventure across country, escaping the past and their violent father. In her electrifying new novel of family secrets and small-town scandals, Mandy Sayer deftly weaves raw suspense with exquisite prose.

'Searing...an exciting chase thriller and a probing study of family, love, hope and courage' *Gold Coast Bulletin*

'Poised and economical' *Canberra Times*

'Sayer has a knack for the patter of teenage siblings – the bickering, the bravado and the brief glimpses of emotion. Recommended for fans of Sonya Hartnett' *Bookseller + Publisher*

**Mandy Sayer** won the Australian/Vogel Literary Award with her first novel, *Mood Indigo*. Since then she has been named one of Australia's Best Young Novelists by the Sydney Morning Herald and has published seven books, including *Dreamtime Alice*.



**The Last Maasai Warrior**

FRANK COATES

Popular Fiction

September 2008 9780732282721

234x153mm 464pp

Rights: World

**'Exposes a history of anguish and lies; a history that changed an unassuming people forever' Australian Bookseller+Publisher, 4 stars**

*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. In the meantime he struggles to resist his forbidden desires for another man's wife.

George Coll arrives in East Africa to begin work in the new administration but finds himself in an impossible situation. Should he toe the government line and watch an innocent and previously peaceful people be unjustly thrown out of their homeland, or help them to resist? Coll also has a very personal decision to make. Hilda Wallace will share whatever life has to offer him, but can he accept knowing a ticking time bomb hangs over his head?

As the Maasai gather to make their historic decision, the white settlers and government forces are determined to seize the land they need.

'A powerful historically accurate account' – *Illawarra Mercury*

**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.

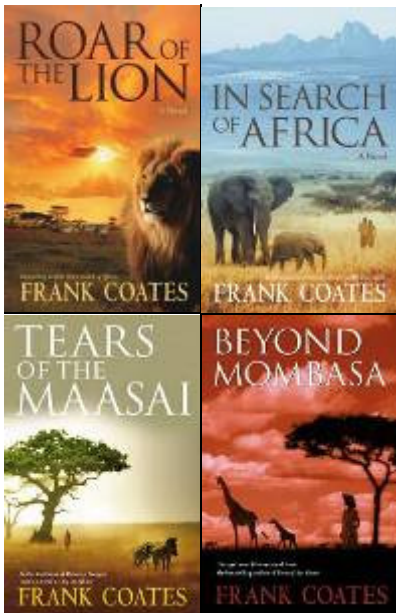
**Roar of the Lion:** What drives a man to walk from the Cape to Cairo? From his early days fighting in the Matabele wars, Ewart Grogan's passion uniquely equipped him to conquer a continent. He risked all to trek across darkest Africa for the woman he loves, and has gone on to dominate the business 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...

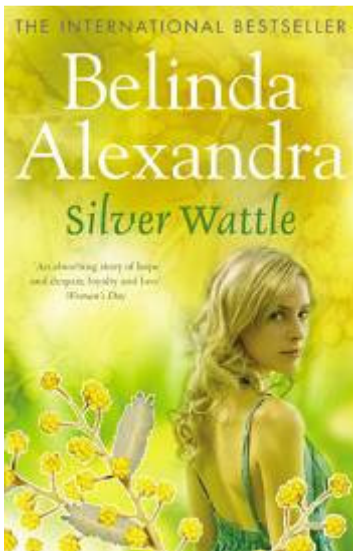
**Rights sold:** Germany

**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





**Silver Wattle**

BELINDA ALEXANDRA  
Popular Fiction

Oct 2007 9780732281342  
234 x 153mm, 448pp  
Rights: World  
Rights sold: French

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

Deserted by their father, Klara, Adela and their mother must leave their home in Prague. It is the 1920s, and the three hope for a fresh start in distant Australia.

In Sydney, Klara and Adela become involved in developing the slides their Uncle Ota has taken into silent films. Eventually, they set up their own production company at a time when the industry is starting to feel the competition from Hollywood. As success waxes and wanes, issues of family are never far away. Ultimately, the dreams of the silver screen cannot compete with the bonds of a lifetime...

*Silver Wattle* confirms Belinda Alexandra as one of Australia's foremost storytellers. Weaving fact into inspiring fiction with great flair and imagination, this is a novel as full of hope, glamour and heartbreak as the film industry itself.

- Evocative European and Australian setting
- Internationally bestselling author



**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.

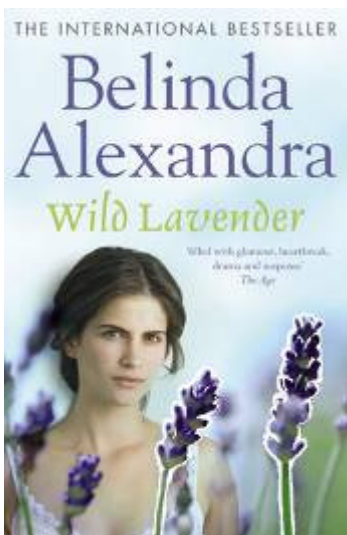


**White Gardenia:** from the glamorous nightclubs of Shanghai to the harshness of Cold War Soviet Russia in the 1960s; from a desolate island in the Pacific Ocean to a new life in post-war Australia, a mother and daughter must make sacrifices, but is the price too high? Most importantly of all, will 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 for *White Gardenia* have been sold to the UK, The Netherlands, Germany, France, Spain, Russia, and Poland.**

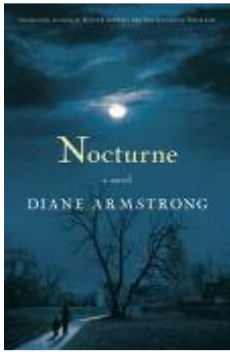


**Wild Lavender:** At 14, Simone Fleurier is wrenched from her home on a Provençal lavender farm and sent to work at the boarding house of her Aunt Augustine in Marseilles. Her life there is hard and impoverished — until she discovers the local music hall. Suddenly Simone has a dream: one day she will 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...



**Rights to *Wild Lavender* have been sold to Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, Germany, France, Greece and the UK.**

- In Germany, Heyne Verlag has already sold almost 225,000 copies of *White Gardenia*.
- Belinda's books have sold over 300,000 in Australia and NZ.



**Nocturne**  
DIANE ARMSTRONG  
Literary Fiction  
May 2008  
9780732284305  
234 x 153 mm  
576 pp  
Rights: World

**Few know the story of the Warsaw Ghetto and the Polish Resistance ... Even fewer know the stories of the children caught in it ...**

In Warsaw in 1939, Elzunia is an indulged teenager who longs for a heroic life filled with romance. The outbreak of war shatters her hopes and illusions, and destroys her trust in those she loves. In the first days of the war, she meets Adam, a taciturn airman who, in despair over the occupation of his country, joins the Polish resistance and later flies bombers for the RAF. When her father is arrested by the SS, and her mother is accused of being Jewish, Elzunia is forced to live in the Warsaw Ghetto where children, and teenagers like her, have to make their own rules to survive....

As Elzunia and Adam's stories unfold, *Nocturne* reveals the extraordinary courage of children at war. This is a story of heroism, resilience and moral triumph in the face of cruelty and betrayal, reminiscent of Sebastian Faulks.

**Diane Armstrong** left her native Poland with her parents after World War II and came to Australia. She has won national and international awards for her freelance journalism.

'Armstrong's research is expertly woven into the fabric... providing an engrossing 'faction' of heroism and resilience that will appeal to fans of fictional dramatic/romantic sagas as well as lovers of insightful history'  
*Australian Bookseller + Publisher, 4-star review*  
'Engaging' *A Daily Telegraph* 'Must Read'  
'The story moves along at a blistering pace' *Canberra Times*



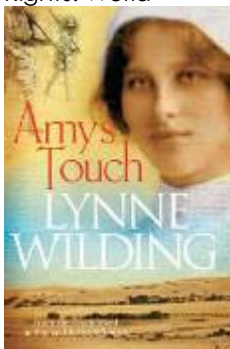
**Black Diamonds**  
KIM KELLY  
Popular Fiction  
May 2007  
9780732284138  
234 x 153mm 512pp  
Rights: World

**A sweeping novel of love and war, in the tradition of Paullina Simons**

'A lively and confident historical romance, based on real-life letters and diaries, so sounding an unusual but convincing ring of authenticity' *Sydney Morning Herald*

- An engrossing read, written with freshness and a light but sure touch.
- The first of two books contracted by this author.
- Popular fiction perfect for book clubs.
- Comparable authors: Paullina Simons, Belinda Alexandra, Barbara Taylor Bradford

**Kim Kelly** has worked in the publishing industry for the past 10 years and is a widely respected editor.

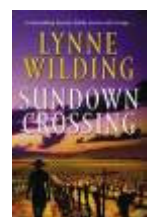
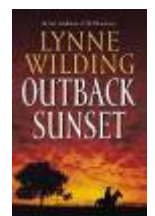


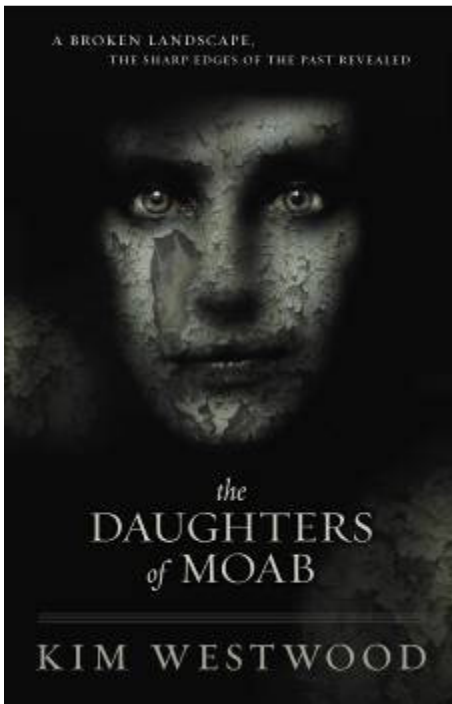
**Amy's Touch**  
LYNNE WILDING  
Romance  
May 2007 0732285631  
181x111mm 352pp  
Rights: World

**'The old-fashioned love story is not dead' Adelaide Advertiser**

After working as a nurse with Australian soldiers in World War I, Amy Carmichael is reunited with one of her former patients, good-natured Danny McLean, and his moody brother Randall. The McLeans own Drovers Way, a big station just out of the small outback town of Gindaroo. But Drovers Way is in trouble – and so is Amy. She becomes engaged to Danny, but is dismayed to find that it is Randall for whom her feelings are strongest. *Amy's Touch* features the unforgettable characters and atmosphere for which Lynne Wilding, one of Australia's best-loved storytellers is well known

'An exciting story of love and hardship in the Australian outback' *SA Life*  
**Rights to backlist sold to:** Germany (Blanvalet), France (Editions Harlequin)





### ***The Daughters of Moab***

KIM WESTWOOD

Science Fiction

August 2008

9780732286330

198 x 128mm 352 pp

Rights: World

**'Kim Westwood makes a grand debut... a gorgeous journey, a strong declaration of the arrival of a distinctive voice in Australian literature'**  
***Courier Mail***

Assassin. Protector. Blood sister. A story of our times seen through the lens of the future. A story of love, justice and the difficult nature of truth....

*'Down in the generator rooms at Kingdom Fort True Believer Centre, transfect 'E' is confessing, and the Nathans are taking it very badly ...'*

Assumpta Viali likes her solitude. A chronic loner, she dispenses rough justice as required for Eustace Crane II, the Nathans' crotchety Head of Council.

For Eustace, however, nothing has gone right since Tribulation.

He's been left the leader of a bunch of pithless wonders hiding in their crumbling citadels, something blasphemous tucked in their basements. And while his scary minder heads off on secret business of her own, out in the Sorry Plains the Children of the Maglev prepare for the Afterlife.

But one among them has a far less sacrificial future in mind...

In the tradition of Margaret Atwood's *The Handmaid's Tale*, this is a haunting view into our future.

*'Often lush prose...An impressive debut'* *Canberra Times*

- Provocative, beautifully written sci fi from hugely talented newcomer
- Great characters, evocative settings
- Aurealis Award-winning author for her short fiction
- Author's first novel is eagerly anticipated
- Writing style is as compelling as the story itself
- Author's stories have been chosen for many Australian magazines and for prestigious US Year's Bests

### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

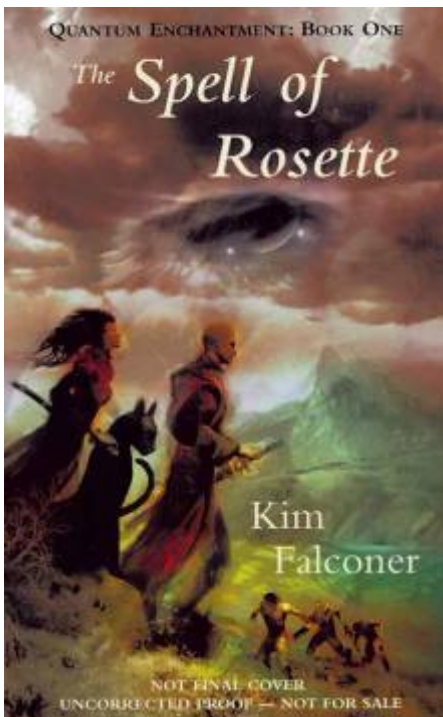
**Kim Westwood** is an Aurealis Award-winner for her short story writing, and has stories have been chosen for Year's Best anthologies in Australia and the US, and for radio broadcast. She is the recipient of a Varuna Writer's Fellowship for this, her first novel. Kim lives in Canberra with her partner and her RSPCA special dog, Biscuit.





**The Quantum Enchantment Trilogy**  
KIM FALCONER

**Book 1: The Spell of Rosette**  
January 2009 9780732287719  
**Book 2: The Arrow of Time**  
August 2009 9780732287726  
**Book 3: Strange Attractors**  
Feb 2010 9780732287733  
Fantasy fiction  
181 x 111mm 576pp TBC  
Rights: World



**A fast-paced story of fantasy and occult adventure ... a journey through time and space, through magic and quantum physics ...**

Born under the sign of the Twins, Rosette is a child of two worlds: Gaela, steeped in magic, and an Earth choked with failing technology. The key to their survival is literally in her blood – part of her DNA -- a spell passed down through her family line to preserve the one they're sworn to protect.

Unaware of her lineage, Rosette runs scared when her family is murdered, narrowly escaping the same fate. Jarrod, a good friend, helps to cover her tracks while Rosette travels to the Dumarkian Woods and takes refuge with Nell, a shape-shifting high priestess of the ancient blood. There she learns the arts of witchcraft, stars and sword.

Shadowed by the fabled Kreshkali, queen of the underworld and mistress of the wolf-like Lupins, Rosette and the Temple Cat, Drayco – her familiar -- find themselves on the run, hardly ever more than a step ahead of those who will do anything to control the portal that links the many-worlds ...

- Exciting new author with a fantastic new series
- Magic, astrology, martial arts and adventure
- Will appeal to fans of Traci Harding
- An author with a fascinating backstory, and already has a loyal web following

**Kim Falconer** lives in Byron Bay with two gorgeous black cats. She runs an astrology and alternative science website. She has worked as a medical assistant, animal health technician and board certified lactation consultant. She holds diplomas in herbal medicine, nutrition, vet nursing, farrier science and literature. She's also studied yoga, music, mythology, Jungian psychology, tarot, astrology, the Japanese art of the sword, Hokushin Shinoh Ryu Iaido, and web design.

Although these are her first novels, she has written magazine articles, text books, web site articles and papers, as well as everything from lyrics to funding applications and course outlines to web content.

**The Gene Thieves**

MARIA QUINN

Feb 2009 9780732287177

Fantasy fiction

198 x 128mm 432pp

Rights: World

**The future is closer than you think ...**

Lonely genetic scientist Piggy Brown is desperate for a child, but he's in a tricky situation: he needs a lawyer to help him. Dancer – a conjugal contract lawyer - is used to deals which push the envelope of the law, and he has his own reasons for wanting to find a way to grant this brilliant man's wish.

Dancer visits The Nest, the official centre for surrogates, and inveigles them into recommending someone they have used before, someone who won't ask too many questions about the baby she carries. But choosing a surrogate can be risky, and this one, Angela, comes with baggage: her own child, Molly ... a six-year-old who has already seen too much of her mother's world.

When a grotesque kidnapping happens, everyone's life is thrown into chaos and Jack Lee, Chief Investigator for UN Ethical Science Council, decides it's time to take charge, for the sake of the future.

Family bloodlines, genetics, legal shenanigans, a horrific kidnapping combine in a thrilling, fast-paced story.

**Maria Quinn's** writing career began in Sydney as an advertising copywriter. After working in the US and Canada, she moved to the London agency Garrods as Creative Director. She later returned to Australia, and worked as magazine editor, feature writer and columnist. Maria has published non-fiction, but this is her first novel. Maria Quinn lives in Sydney.

**The Dragon Sword Trilogy**

DUNCAN LAY

**Book 1: Wounded Guardian**

July 2009 9780732287689

**Book 2: The Risen Queen**

April 2010 9780732287696

**Book 3: The Radiant Child**

October 2010 9780732287702

Fantasy fiction

181 x 111mm 608pp

Rights: World

**A terrific action adventure ... a fallen war hero and a little girl on a road trip in search of her relatives find far more than they needed or wanted ...**

Bitter and disillusioned, derided as a 'Butcher of Bellic', Ralloran war hero Martil leaves his homeland in search of peace after spending half his life freeing his country from the brutal Berellians. In Norstalos he kills the bandits who try to rob him, only to find himself tricked by a dying bandit into taking a small child, Karia, to her uncle.

They eventually arrive at the uncle's village to find it has been gutted of all its people – except for one ex-bandit who has in his possession the Dragon Sword, a magical relic belonging to the rulers of Norstalos. However, Norstalos' queen is caught in a struggle for power against her cousin, Duke Gello, because she has been unable to find a champion who can wield the Dragon Sword. Now Martil finds he is the one who is - against his wishes -- able to wield the sword.

Now he is responsible for a child, finds himself wielding a magical sword which sometimes has a mind of its own, and is fighting for the queen of Norstalos; he must train her army, learn how to be a father, control his growing affections for the queen, and control his jealousy and dislike for the queen's magician, Barrett ... and it seems that no one has any knowledge of the history of the Dragon Sword ...

An orphaned child and her reluctant companion ... a humorous, sometimes harsh, but ultimately heartwarming fantasy of finding one's true self and, perhaps, forgiveness ...

**Duncan Lay** is chief sub-editor at the Daily Telegraph. He has always worked in journalism and has worked for a number of different newspapers and media outlets. This is his first novel. He lives on the Central Coast of NSW with his wife and two young children.



**The Mystique Trilogy**  
TRACI HARDING

*Gene of Isis* April 2005  
*The Dragon Queens* April 2007  
*Black Madonna* July 2008

Fiction  
234 x 153mm 528pp  
Rights: Translation, excl.  
Germany

**Comparable:** Kate Mosse's *Labyrinth*

**Rights sold:** Czech, Slovak, Romanian, Greek

**Traci Harding** is the author of incredibly popular novel *The Ancient Future*, voted one of Australia's favourite books in the ABC's national poll and in the Dymocks 'Booklover's Best 101'

**The bestselling author of *The Ancient Future* returns with the final instalment of this compelling new series about an ancient and powerful female lineage ...**

The Black Madonna has always been affiliated with Mary Magdalene, yet it also has a far more ancient and secret association ...

Archeological linguist Mia Montrose has discovered that the Black Madonna is a code used by secret societies throughout time to refer to a lost key that will unlock an ancient power source: the Sphere of Amenti. Through the ages since the demise of Atlantis, malign forces have manipulated world events in their search for this key.

Unlike all who have sought the key of keys before her, Mia knows exactly where the Black Madonna can be found and she must protect the information at all costs ... nothing less than the future of the Earth is at stake.

**Book 1: Gene of Isis**

Mia Montrose is a 21st-century woman with a doctorate in Ancient Languages who has just scored the most promising job of her career... Ashlee Granville is a 19<sup>th</sup> century clairvoyant, forced to suppress her talents as she enters the marriage market of English upper-class society... Lillet du Lac is a 13<sup>th</sup> century woman, priestess of an ancient order now protected by the Cathar faith, who are making their last stand against the Roman Catholic Franks at the giant hill fort of Montségur. Despite the time, distance and cultures that separate them, these women have several things in common. They belong to an ancient bloodline of Grail kings, protected by a Sion knight named Albry, and they are each compelled to visit an ancient mountain in the Sinai. This mount contains the keys which may unlock a gateway to a dimension of light and the Gene of Isis.

**Book 2: The Dragon Queens**

Ashlee Devere, 19th century clairvoyant, adventurer and historian is called upon by the Sangreal Knighthood to authenticate an ancient Sumerian text. The document was copied from a column unearthed by archaeologists in the ancient city of Ur, in modern-day Iraq. The text predates the Old Testament and tells a very different Genesis story from the one Ashlee knows so well. It tells of the Dragon Queens, and of disputes between great gods who would merge to become One. Tamar, daughter of the renowned 21st century archaeologist, Mia Montrose, is going through a crisis. While reading Ashlee's diaries for the first time Tamar is contacted by a powerful goddess — and endures an astoundingly rapid transformation of her psychic abilities and physical appearance.

**Praise for *The Mystique Trilogy*:**

'*The Mystique Trilogy* moves seamlessly between the centuries, across the continents and over some of the great religions of the ancient and modern world, linking Egyptian mythology with the Grail myths and tapping into current interest in the conspiracy theories surrounding the bloodline of Jesus Christ. It's an excellent start to what promises to be a great series of books from an accomplished storyteller.' *Good Reading*

'Harding weaves the three tales together, creating three richly detailed and overlapping worlds. The three female characters are each unique and their male champion a nice blend of strength, good counsel and humour.. An absorbing read.' *Australian Reviews*

**COMING IN LATE 2009: a brand new trilogy from Traci Harding begins – *Being of the Field***



**The Triumvirate Trilogy**

BEVAN MCGUINESS

**Book One: The Awakening**

August 2007 9780732285494

**Book Two: First Weapon**

February 2008 9780732285500

**Book Three: The Way of Purity:**

August 2008 9780732285517

181x111mm PB 512pp

Rights: World



**A stunning new epic fantasy trilogy exploring power, decay and the hard path to redemption ...**

**The Awakening:** In a remote coastal outpost of the Asan Empire, Hwenfayre is an outsider, taking pleasure only in her beautiful driftwood harp. The harp has extraordinary powers, and when Hwenfayre tries to use it she finds herself in mortal danger.

In the decadent Asan capital, Shanek, the third most important man in the Empire, becomes disturbed by a growing ability to sense the thoughts and feelings of others, while in a quiet village, a young man unleashes forces within himself that compel him to journey into the wider world.

But these strange powers will not be allowed to emerge unchecked, especially when Shanek becomes aware that the Empire's ancient enemy is on the rise once more ...

**First Weapon:**

**'Leave your preconceptions about fantasy behind with this one because McGuiness continues to do the unexpected' Bookseller and Publisher**

In a corrupt society unaware of its ancient gifts, Hwenfayre has discovered the extraordinary powers of the driftwood harp and, in the aftermath of the terrible storm she wreaked on the raging clans of the Sea, is still without self-control or discipline. If she cannot learn enough about her powers, they might consume her and those she has been awakened to rule.

Meanwhile, Shanek has become a fugitive from his own people. Could his powers provide him with the means of defeating the Empire's ancient enemy, or will the earth take him too far from his humanity?

On Tanissan, a man with many names is scheming for the downfall of the Triumvirate and the world it protects, and a boy who has never met his father discovers his true inheritance.

And Aldere continues a journey that will have greater consequences than he could ever imagine ...

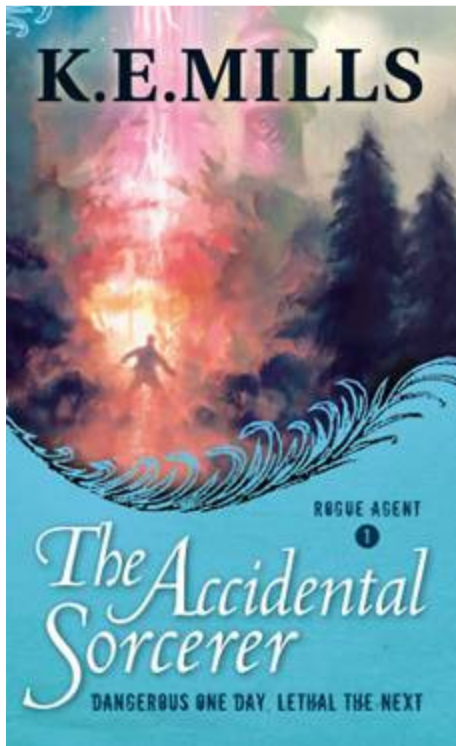
**'a good recommendation for fans of Martin, Hobb and Fallon ... I suspect the phrase "will appeal to fans of McGuiness" will soon be entering booksellers' vocabulary' Bookseller and Publisher**

**KEY POINTS:**

- An exciting new world and an epic story of conflict
- *The Awakening* is a beautifully written and realised story of a nomad Princess, a courtier and a villager as their power stirs ...
- Our Voyager debut for 2007
- Traditional, popular style with a fresh and unique voice.
- Similar to Guy Gavriel Kaye and Robin Hobb

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

Bevan McGuiness lives in Western Australia with his wife and daughter. Although he has worked as a factory hand, geophysicist and laboratory assistant, he is now a teacher of chemistry at a boys' school. He has been writing for fifteen years and has published short stories, book reviews, a novel and science text books.



**The Accidental Sorcerer**  
**Rogue Agent Book One**

KE MILLS  
 Fantasy  
 April 2008 9780732286040

**Witches Incorporated**  
**Rogue Agent Book 2**

October 2008 9780732286057

234 x 153 mm, 448pp  
 Rights: World excl. North America  
 Rights sold: UK (Orbit)

**Dangerous one day, lethal the next**

His last assignment blew up in his face! Is New Ottosland ready for their new Grade Three Wizard?

For the life of him, Gerald Dunwoody can't seem to keep a job or a roof over his head. When career disaster strikes again, it looks like his days of being a wizard are over for good ... until his friend Monk, genius of the government's secret research department, helps him to get appointed as Royal Court Wizard to the King of New Ottosland. His offsider, Reg, an ensorcelled bird with a mysterious past, isn't so sure this is a good idea. But Gerald's choices are limited ... It's New Ottosland, or starve.

Once he arrives it quickly becomes clear that King Lional isn't just the vain, indolent young man he first appeared to be. And with the passing of time, it becomes even clearer that Lional's plans may not, in fact, be in Gerald's best interests ...

'a rip-roaring Harry Potter for grown-ups ... magic' *Herald Sun*

'magic, dragons and wild and wacky fun galore' *Weekend Gold Coast Bulletin*

'a thumping good read with explosions, talking birds, magic wands and dragons...the prose is funny, tight and strangely believable' *Cairns Post*

'unputdownable' *Nexus*

'Delightful... a lively, energetic, original romp' [www.asif.dreamhosters.com](http://www.asif.dreamhosters.com)

**Witches Incorporated, the second book in this explosive new series will blow your mind when the accidental sorcerer finds himself in charge of secrets he can't actually keep ...**

Gerald is deep in training for his first official assignment - a case of espionage with international consequences. Meanwhile, Princess Melissande discovers the quiet life is still elusive. She's opened her own witching locum agency - a one-stop-shop where magical problems are solved, for a reasonable price.

But then she's offered a job that puts her on a collision course with Gerald ... and soon any kind of future together looks increasingly unlikely.

**KEY POINTS:**

- A dark and humorous beginning to a series about Gerald, an inexperienced wizard, and his very fast track to being an experienced one!
- Fantasy with a lighter touch
- For fans of Terry Pratchett

**K. E. Mills** is the pseudonym of an internationally published author, and is a writer and former-bookshop owner. She lives in Sydney.



**A truly epic fantasy of power and politics and the rise and fall of Empires.**

When a scrawny unwanted girl child is sold into slavery, a chain of events is set in motion that will have a profound impact on all the civilized world. Hekat is taken in chains to Mijak's largest city, home of the warlord Raktion. She is sold into his service and learns all she can about power - its wielding and its uses - as she fetches and carries and cleans and serves. She grows into a beautiful woman and through ambition and manipulation, Hekat becomes a powerful woman eventually taking over the rulership of Mijak ... and then she sets about making it the greatest Empire ever known.

'seductive' *The Advertiser*

'finds new heights of drama' *Aurealis Xpress*

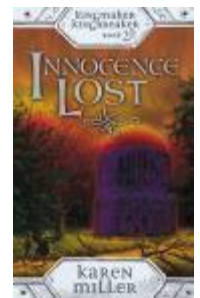
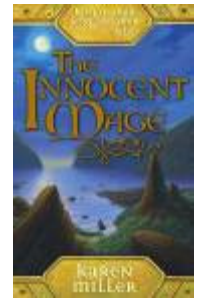
'devious plot twists and an intriguing love triangle' *Specusphere*

**Praise for *Innocent Mage*:**

'The pace is steered with a deft hand and Miller skilfully weaves a poignant, heartfelt ending for her debut fantasy series...Miller's debut is a blockbuster story crafted with a strong sense of wonder...Fans of Fiona McIntosh will devour this book.' *Nexus*

'Miller demonstrates that she has honed her craft to near-perfection to draw forth a climax of cataclysmic proportions... Together, [the two volumes] comprise a blockbuster in the heroic tradition, demonstrating that Miller is indeed a writer to watch.' *Specusphere*

'Top-notch fantasy. With excellent use of language in a well-told story that has a quiet raunchiness, and a piquancy that tickles the palate, Karen Miller keeps us wanting more...a master class writer.' *SFFWorld*



**The Godspeaker Trilogy**  
KAREN MILLER

**Empress of Mijak,**

Godspeaker Book One  
June 2007 9780732284510

**The Riven Kingdom,**

Godspeaker Book Two  
December 2007 9780732284527

**Hammer of God,**

Godspeaker Book Three  
June 2008 9780732284534

Fantasy

181x111, 560pp

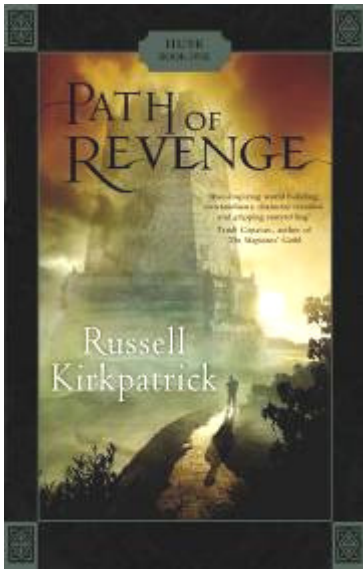
Rights: World excl. North America

**Karen Miller** started writing stories while still in primary school, where she fell in love with speculative fiction. She worked as a freelance writer and her plays have been performed in Australia and New Zealand. Her bookshop, Phantasia, was renowned among speculative fiction and mystery fans.

**Rights sold:** *Godspeaker*: UK (Orbit), US (Orbit), Poland (Arrakis), France (Univers Poche), Germany (Random House).

*Innocent Mage*: UK (Orbit), US (Orbit), Poland (Arrakis), France (Univers Poche), Russia (AST), Spain (Editora ViaMagna), Hungary (Ulpius-Ház), the Netherlands (Luitingh-Sijthoff), Germany (Random House), Denmark (Tellerup)





**The Husk Trilogy**  
RUSSEL KIRKPATRICK

**Path of Revenge:**  
Husk Trilogy Book One, January 2007  
9780732283902



**Dark Heart:**  
Husk Trilogy Book Two, January 2008  
9780732283926

**Beyond the Wall of Time:**  
Husk Trilogy Book Three, June 2009  
9780732283940

Fantasy  
234x153 PB 508pp  
Rights: World  
Rights Sold: UK

**A brand new epic fantasy series from the acclaimed author of *Across the Face of the World*.**

Seventy years after the conclusion of the Faltha War, this trilogy sees three great continents, and their gods, at war for truth and immortality ...

Husk is the remnant of a once-powerful magician, defeated decades ago by the Undying Man, Lord of Bhрудwo. He lies, eviscerated, in the dungeon of Andratan, planning his revenge.

There are three things he needs: the stone, the blood and a hand of hate. The three people he has manipulated from afar to bring these things to him are on their way ... with no way of knowing what they are about.

But even Husk cannot know everything ...

**Rights sold:** North America and UK (Orbit)

**Praise for the *Fire of Heaven Trilogy*:**

'Awe-inspiring world-building, extraordinary character creation and gripping storytelling' Trudi Canavan, author of *The Magicians' Guild*  
'...action and adventure. With vistas ... What more could a self-respecting Tolkienite ask for?' *The Age*  
'A dazzling, epic fantasy' *Adelaide Matters*  
'A must-read for lovers of quest fantasy, it is a fantasy world that is well articulated and defined.' *Canberra Times*  
'A fantasy novel of biblical proportions ... immerse yourself' *Good Reading*

**Russell Kirkpatrick's** love of literature and a chance encounter with fantasy novels as a teenager opened up a vast number of possibilities to him. He realised that he could combine storytelling with his interest in mapmaking in the one project. He hasn't looked back since.

**Fire of Heaven Trilogy**

Book 1: *Across the Face of the World*  
Book 2: *In the Earth Abides the Flame*  
Book 3: *The Right Hand of God*

**Rights sold:** *Fire of Heaven* has been sold to US & UK, Korea, Greece and Czech Republic





**Dark Heavens Trilogy**  
KYLIE CHAN

**White Tiger:**

*Dark Heavens Book One,*  
August 2006 9780732282967

**Red Phoenix:**

*Dark Heavens Book Two,*  
Feb 2007 9780732282974

**Blue Dragon:**

*Dark Heavens Book Three,*  
August 2008 9780732282981

Fiction  
181x111mm 512pp  
Rights: World



**An ancient god falls in love with a young Australian woman... a fast-paced fantasy debut with elements of Chinese mythology and martial arts, set in modern-day Hong Kong,**

When 28 year old Emma Donahoe becomes a nanny to John Chen's daughter, Simone, she does not expect to be drawn into a world of martial arts, magic, and extreme danger, where both gods and demons can exist in the mortal world.

Emma gradually realises that John Chen is no ordinary businessman and that nearly all the demons in hell would like to see him dead. She's also battling an attraction to him that might kill them both. John and his American bodyguard, Leo, begin to teach Emma their particular brand of martial arts and special defensive techniques ... they also begin to realise that there is something that is different about Emma, but exactly what it is, nobody can say.

**Key Points:**

- Brings together pacy, compelling storytelling and Eastern mythology with demons, genetic manipulation and martial arts;
- Full of action and adventure;
- New author with a bright future;
- EXCELLENT reader feedback

**Praise for White Tiger:**

'*White Tiger* is a wonderful rollicking yarn that kept me engrossed right to the end....This is fantasy with a twist – there are no elves and witches here, instead we have Chinese gods who flirt with human women and hide dark secrets, demons with charm and viciousness, martial arts and an every day girl as our heroine....This fabulous mix weaves around a delicious cast of characters. Chan's first novel has none of the flatness that is often found in first novels, ...If Kylie Chan's next books live up to the promise of the first then we will have a trilogy to rival Sara Douglass' *Battle Axe* trilogy.' Robbi Neal

'*White Tiger* is a fast paced novel with liberal quantities of romance, action and fantasy. The present-day setting blends seamlessly with the solid grounding the book has in myth and folklore. It is solidly researched and the characters are brought to convincing life by the incorporation of such an extensive background... *White Tiger* is a rich tapestry of culture, action and love and makes for good entertainment.' *OzHorrorScope*

'Packed with Chinese mythology, kick-ass action and sexual tension...a smart, entertaining read.' *Australian Specific*

**Comparable:** *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

Twenty years ago **Kylie Chan** married a Hong Kong national in a traditional Chinese wedding ceremony in Eastern China. She has seen a great deal of Chinese culture and come to appreciate the customs and way of life. Kylie has decided to use her knowledge of Chinese mythology, culture, and martial arts to weave a story that would appeal to a wide audience.



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

Mak Vanderwall – street-wise former model, graduate in forensic psychology, and now PI – is back in town 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 has 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...

**Siren**

TARA MOSS  
Crime Fiction  
September 2009  
9780732285128  
234 x 153 mm, 384 pp  
Rights: World

**Praise for Tara Moss:**

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

'Moss makes her U.S. debut with 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*



Tara Moss's books have sold over 200,000 copies in Australia – according to Bookscan, she is officially Australia's number one selling crime writer!

**Tara Moss** is a former model who writes gripping, psychological serial-killer thrillers and also studies forensic psychology.

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

**Fetish, Split, Covet & Hit**  
TARA MOSS

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





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