

Frankfurt book fair 2011

# fiction

FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE

OCT 2010 – DEC 2012

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Greg Barron

SERIES, BOOK 1 OF 3  
 Book 2• Sept 2012  
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Rotten Gods

Dubai, mid-2019. Climate change has caused sea levels to rise and the world is in economic and ecological crisis. World leaders gather at a billion dollar conference centre, determined to make the decisions necessary to bring Western society back from the brink.

Explosives are smuggled into the centre. Doctor Ali Khalid Abukar, a former humanitarian worker pushed into extremism, holds the trigger. He and his 'colleagues' give selected governments seven days to comply with a series of demands or the centre will be obliterated. Certain heads of state are branded 'war criminals', and singled out for trial and execution, one by one.

Australian intelligence officer Marika Hartmann parachutes into Somalia in an attempt to track down Dr Akubar's wife, Sufia, who may hold the key to disarming the terrorists. An ambitious warlord, however, stands in her way at every turn.

British diplomat Isabella Thompson, forced to betray her country through the kidnap of her two daughters, plays a part in enabling the hijack of the conference centre. She faces charges of treason unless she can redeem herself. Her airline pilot husband, Simon, risks everything to rescue the girls, now captives on a remote island off the coast of Yemen.

For all the characters, it's a race against the clock as they hurtle towards the seven-day deadline set by the terrorists and certain death for all the hostages in Dubai.

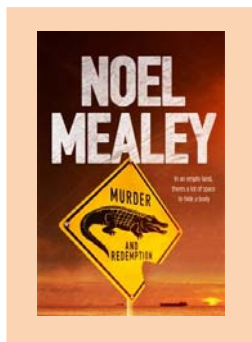
As *Rotten Gods* builds towards a shattering climax, its characters are forced to examine their consciences and motives; their faith and beliefs. Each has cause to wonder just who is right and wrong in this epic struggle set in a world that might soon become more fact than fiction.

Sept 2012 • trade paperback (234 x 153mm) • 464pp  
 English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
 Translation rights availability: all languages

Greg Barron has been a librarian, a music teacher, an educator in an Indigenous community, delivered newspapers in the winter snows of Canada, and worked as a consultant to big business. He has visited five of the world's seven continents, once canoed down a flooded tropical river and crossed Arnhem Land on foot. Greg's writing reflects his interests in political, social and environmental change. He lives on a small, sustainable farm in Eastern Australia's coastal hinterland with his wife and two sons.

Noel Mealey

SYD FIELDING SERIES, BOOK 1 OF 2  
 The Vigilante Murders • Book 2 • Jan 2013



Murder and Redemption

Sergeant Syd Fielding is on a fishing trip when he hears a horrifying scream ... What he doesn't yet know is that a young man is being fed to a saltwater crocodile.

So begins *Murder and Redemption*, an absorbing crime novel which follows in the traditions of Jon Cleary and Peter Temple. Moody and atmospheric, this novel takes us across the vast expanse of Western Australia, against a canvas of red iron ore mines, green seas, bulk ore carriers, ports, brothels, drugs, and gangland violence.

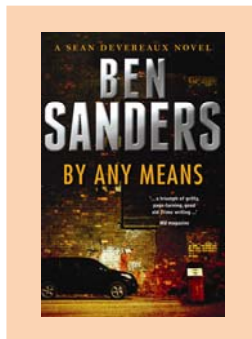
Having survived a brutal childhood in Bindoon orphanage, a tour in Vietnam and a spiral into alcoholism, Syd Fielding is now a detective sergeant in Geraldton. But when two men from the same cargo ship are murdered, he is drawn into the murky world of drug trafficking through WA's mining towns. His investigation takes him alarmingly close to home and he is forced to realise that even the people he loves may not be what they seem ...

Jan 2012 • trade paperback (234 X 153mm) • 352pp  
 English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
 Translation rights availability: all languages

Noel Mealey has travelled extensively through rural Australia, working in the construction industry. He was inspired to write by his father, who spun his outback yarns under the stars on hot summer nights in central Queensland. Having retired from business, Noel now lives in Brisbane with his wife, Therese.

Ben Sanders

A SEAN DEVEREAUX NOVEL, BOOK 2 OF 3  
 Fallen • Book 1 • Sept 2010



By Any Means

Friday rush hour, Auckland city. A lone shooter fires across a packed street and kills a man. Detective Sergeant Sean Devereaux is assigned the case. He's not complaining -- his Friday nights are seldom better spent.

But the inquiry is not straightforward. Witness accounts are conflicting. The dead man appears to be an unintended victim, with the true target unknown. It's a homicide that leaves police with no initial suspects and no apparent motive.

Devereaux's former colleague, John Hale, is in no position to help. Hale is on his own pursuit of darkness, made all the more sinister by a dogged senior police officer determined to engineer his ruin.

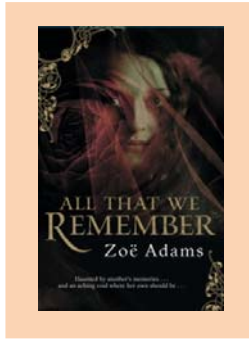
Together the two men hunt for the truth from those that pursue self-gain by any means.

Sept 2011 • paperback (198 x 128mm) • 432pp  
 English language rights: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
 Translation rights: all languages

Ben Sanders is a 21-year-old university student who lives on Auckland's North Shore. He has been a keen writer since his early teens and his debut novel, *The Fallen*, was published to high acclaim in 2010. This is his second Sean Devereaux novel.



## Zoë Adams



### All That We Remember

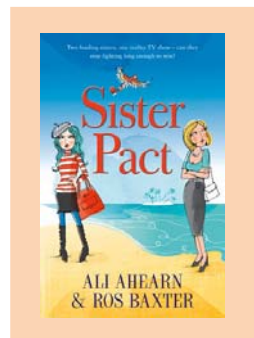
When a young woman loses her memory after a traumatic car accident, she decides to recuperate in her palatial family home—a gorgeous mansion set high on the cliffs—which is about to be sold. Seizing this as her last opportunity to enjoy summer there, and hoping it will stimulate her memory, which is 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.

Oct 2010 • paperback (210x 130mm) • 464pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
Translation rights: all languages

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

## Ali Ahearn & Ros Baxter



### Sister Pact

Two very different sisters. Once inseparable, they have long been estranged after an unimaginable betrayal.

Organised and uptight Frances married the only man she'd ever slept with. But no one told her that seven years later she'd be having sexual fantasies about everyone from the pizza delivery guy to Denis Thatcher.

Scatterbrained animal-lover Joni never knew she was so attached to her kneecaps until she thought she might have to say goodbye to them forever.

After their beloved grandmother - a game-show addict - dies, they discover that they have each been left one million pounds in her will. The kicker is that they can only inherit if they participate in a gruelling reality TV programme, *Endurance Island* as a team.

They can survive the jungle. They can survive the humiliating challenges. But can they survive each other?

Jan 2012 • paperback (210x 135mm) • 384pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
Translation rights availability: all languages

Ali and Rose are sisters who are as close as they are different. . . But for all their differences, they are fiercely close and desperately proud of each other. Nothing feels real until it has been spoken aloud to the other. They both love to talk, laugh and write, preferably over a bottle of bubbly and something coated in chocolate.

Two sisters.  
One reality TV show.  
A million reasons to win.

## Belinda Alexandra



### Golden Earrings

Paloma Batton is the grand-daughter of Spanish refugees who fled Barcelona after the Civil War. A disciplined student with the School of the Paris Opera Ballet, Paloma lets little get in the way of her career until she receives a visit from an otherworldly being who leaves her with a pair of golden earrings.

Sensing that she has been given a quest, Paloma begins exploring her own Spanish heritage and makes the connection between the visitor and 'La Rusa', a woman who rose from poverty to become one of the great flamenco dancers of modern times.

La Rusa died while living in exile in Paris in 1952. Her death was ruled a suicide but as Paloma begins to unravel the secrets of the past, she discovers more than one person who had good reason for wanting La Rusa dead, including Paloma's own grandmother.

*Golden Earrings* is a story that moves between two great cities: Barcelona in the lead-up to the Civil War and Paris in the 1970s. It is the story of two women and the extremes to which they are willing to go for love. It is a story of great passions—and great betrayals—where nothing is quite as it seems.

Oct 2011 • trade paperback (234 X 153mm) • 576pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
Translation rights availability: all languages

Rights sold: English language (UK and Europe): *Simon & Schuster*,  
Translation: German: *Verlagsgruppe Weltbild*; Hungarian: *IPC Könyvek*;  
Polish: *Wydawnictwo Albatros*; Portugese: *Editora Fundamenta*,  
Turkish: *Nemesis Kitap*

Belinda Alexandra 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, where she is a volunteer rescuer and carer for the NSW Wildlife Information Rescue and Education Service (WIREs). Her novels have been published to wide international acclaim.

#### PRIOR TITLES



A powerful saga of family,  
Love, honour and betrayal.

## Sally Breen



COVER NOT FINAL

### Ante Up

Jade, on the run from her conservative upbringing, arrives on the coast to forge a new identity and make her fortune. She recruits 'The Dealer', a hard-boiled, disillusioned croupier with a shady past, to be her grifting partner and they embark on a series of scams targeting fellow swindlers Anthony, a self-important businessman and PJ, an international conman.

The transitory streets of the coastal city is a place where identity is malleable, and Jade assumes the key characteristics and excesses of her new city as she creates new selves and lodges herself deeper and deeper into its underbelly. The Dealer soon realises he has more than met his match and wonders what exactly the mysterious, all-consuming femme fatale's motivations are.

In the throes of an addictive and turbulent attachment, Jade and The Dealer set up an illegal casino and raise the stakes of their criminal activities dangerously high - until their avaricious ride is dramatically cut short and their day of reckoning arrives.

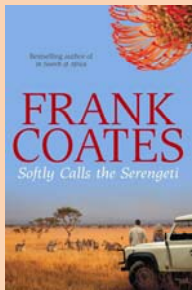
This masterful and visceral novel of white-collar crime, fraud, identity theft, artifice and the postmodern city heralds the arrival of an exhilarating new author on the literary scene.

Sept 2012 • trade paperback (234 x 153mm) • 352pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
Translation rights: all languages

Sydney-born in 1974, Brisbane grown and now Gold Coast resident and lecturer in Writing & Publishing at Griffith University (where she also gained her doctorate), **Sally Breen** has worked in the university sector in creative writing and the broader creative arts community for over ten years. She was associate editor of the Griffith REVIEW from 2006 to 2008, and her fiction and non-fiction work have appeared in a variety of publications and collections.

## Frank Coates



### Softly Calls the Serengeti

Fires light the sky over Kibera—East Africa's largest slum. It is the prelude to the bloody violence that erupts during Kenya's presidential elections.

Joshua Otieng is caught between the brutal realities of life in the slum and his dream of a return to the glories of his ancestral past. Mayasa is a young woman he believes could share his dreams, but he becomes inexorably swept along in the tide of tribal conflict stirred up by the upcoming elections.

Journalist Mark Riley travels to Kenya to find a missing orphan, and to escape the pain of his past. Two women—feisty anthropologist Charlotte Manning and beautiful, mysterious Kazlana Ramanova—rekindle his interest in 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 ...

'remarkable ... adventuresome ... suffused with tenderness'

AUSTRALIAN BOOK REVIEW

Mar 2011 • trade paperback (234 X 153mm) • 416pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
Translation rights availability: all languages

Frank Coates worked for several years as UN technical specialist in Nairobi and Kenya, working, travelling and researching in Africa. Frank now lives in Sydney.

The people, the landscape, the legends ... no one knows Africa like **Frank Coates**.

### Echoes from a Distant Land

During the 1930s, a white English woman has an illicit affair with a black Kenyan businessman, which results in the birth of twins. The fair-skinned girl goes to England with her mother. The boy is dark-skinned and is adopted by a Kikuyu family living in a tribal village.

Years later, against the turmoil of Kenya's independence from Britain, father and son face off across the political divide - and the twins' paths cross, with devastating consequences.

Mar 2012 • trade paperback (234 X 153mm) • 416pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
Translation rights availability: all languages

#### PRIOR TITLES



Rights sold:

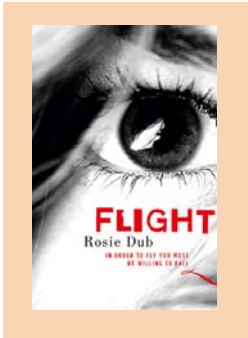
*Roar of the Lion*: German: Verlagsgruppe Droemer Knauer; Poland: The Last Massai Warrior: German: Verlagsgruppe Droemer Knauer, *Tears of the Maasai*: German: Verlagsgruppe Droemer Knauer, *Beyond Mombasa*: German: Verlagsgruppe Droemer Knauer; Polish: Muza SA  
*In Search of Africa*: Polish: Muza SA



COVER NOT FINAL

The bestselling author of 'In Search of Africa' returns with another spellbinding novel.

## Rosie Dub



*In order to fly, one must first be willing to fall.*

### Flight

*'That one will be the death of her father ... Mark my words, the death of him.'*

Fern has taken a raincheck from her everyday routine. Abandoning work, her studies and any human interaction, she holes up in her room where she is haunted by strange dreams and the idea that there must be something more to life.

When loved ones try to reach her, Fern takes flight on to the streets of Sydney, where she meets an array of unlikely helpers: a woman cursed with the gift of prophecy, a mysterious bartender, and Adam, an ex-soldier haunted by his past.

On discovering that she is genuinely in danger, Fern embarks on a journey with Adam into the labyrinthine depths of the Tasmanian wilderness, where she must finally face down her demons. There, she learns that help can come from mysterious and surprising sources, and that the greatest danger of all is the life un-lived.

Interwoven with myth and metaphor, *Flight* is a compelling and original story; sometimes eerie, sometimes earthy, always spellbinding.

Feb 2012 • paperback (210x 135mm) • 384pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights availability: not available

**Rosie Dub** is the author of the critically acclaimed novel *Gathering Storm*. She grew up in Adelaide before moving to Sydney and then London, where she completed an MA in Writing at Sheffield Hallam University. Rosie works as a structural editor and teacher of creative writing and is currently completing a PhD at Swinburne University exploring the origins of stories and their role in human evolution. She lives in Tasmania with her family.

## Michelle Holman



### Hand Me Down

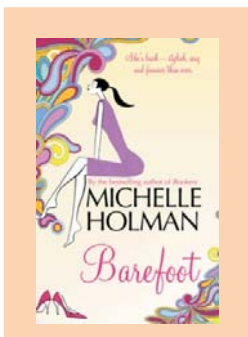
When bad girl April Ritchie returns home to Pisa after a nine-year absence, not many of the townsfolk are glad to see her back. April's spoilt-brat behaviour never won her many friends, and her fast exit from town the night of her seventeenth birthday left more questions than answers. So it isn't too surprising people get a kick out of seeing Daddy's little princess reduced to earning her keep as a kiss-o-gram girl in a red rubber dress. It seems everyone has a bone to pick with April, especially Tarn Elliott, whose reputation she unfairly ruined. Tarn has a score to settle, April has secrets she doesn't want to share. Can the good people of Pisa and Tarn Elliott in particular, see beyond the petite blonde's wisecracks to the real April underneath?

Nov 2011 • paperback (198 x 128mm) • 368pp

English language rights: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights: all languages (excl. German)

**Michelle Holman** lives with her family and assorted animals on a lifestyle block in Waikato, New Zealand. Author of four bestselling contemporary novels, Michelle is also the mother of two teenagers.



### Barefoot

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.

Dec 2010 • paperback (198 x 128mm) • 368pp

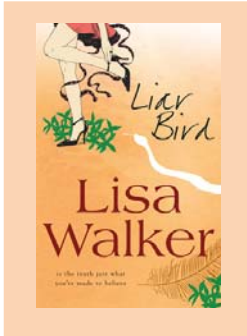
English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Rights sold: German: *Verlagsgruppe Droemer Knaur*



## Lisa Walker



A classic fish out-of-water romantic comedy.

### Liar Bird

PR whizz Cassandra Daley isn't afraid of using all the dirty tricks of the trade to spin a story her way. A glamorous city-slicker, she has never given much thought to wildlife until she humiliatingly loses a PR war with a potoroo.

Sacked and disgraced, she flees the city for an anonymous bolt-hole. But small-town Beechville has other plans for her.

Feral pigs, a snake in the dunny, a philosopher frog and a town with a secret - could things get worse? Add one man who has the sexiest way with maps she's ever seen and they soon do. Her best friend Jessica thinks she's been brain-washed by some kind of rural cult, and Jessica could be right. Can Cassandra reinvent herself or will she always be a liar bird?

Jan 2012 • paperback (210x 135mm) • 352pp

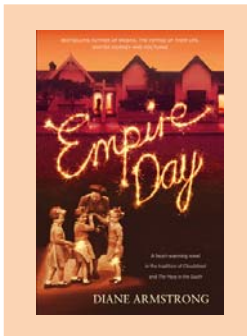
English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights availability: not available

**Lisa Walker** is a community relations officer for the National Parks and Wildlife Service on the far north coast of NSW.

Lisa has had a radio play produced for ABC Radio National and was the winner of the Byron Bay Writers Festival short story award. She was a finalist in the ABC Short Story Award and won second place in the Henry Savery and Port Stephens Literature Awards.

## Diane Armstrong



### Empire Day

Bondi Junction in the late 1940s is a microcosm of changing Australia, and life is changing too fast for locals like salt-of-the-earth Pop Wilson, prickly Miss McNulty and feisty single mum Kath, all of whom resent the European 'reffos' who have moved in.

The newcomers are struggling to rebuild their lives while the unhealed wounds of the past threaten to overwhelm them. As the lives of the neighbours interweave, unexpected new relationships cause tragedy for some, but forgiveness and salvation for others.

Ultimately the residents of Wattle Street discover that behind closed doors, Old as well as New Australians have secret heartaches which poison their lives. Can we ever forget the past, or does it continue to fester inside us? Can understanding be forged from prejudice and fear?

Part love story, part mystery and part crime investigation, *Empire Day* confirms Diane Armstrong as one of our most gifted and compelling storytellers.

Sept 2011 • trade paperback (234 X 153mm) • 576pp

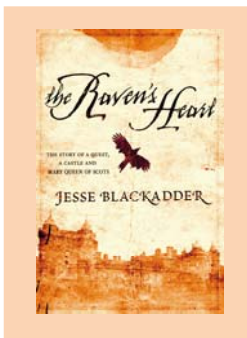
English language rights: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights: all languages

**Diane Armstrong** was born in Poland and arrived in Australia in 1948. At the age of seven she decided to become a writer. She has enjoyed a hugely successful career as a freelance journalist. *Empire Day* is her fifth book. All her books have been bestsellers, with international acclaim.

## LITERARY FICTION

## Jesse Blackadder



### The Raven's Heart

#### The Story of a Quest, a Castle and Mary Queen of Scots

'I am awaiting my castle and the Queen is waiting for love.'

Scotland, 1561.

A ship carries Mary, the young Queen of Scots, home from the French court to wrest back control of her throne. Masquerading as a male crew member, Alison Blackadder must find a way to gain the Queen's favour so she can win back her family's castle and lands, cruelly stolen by a murderous clan a generation before.

Surrounded by treachery and deep suspicion, the Queen can trust nobody in the Scottish court until Alison, with her flair for disguise, becomes her most valued confidante and spy. But Alison's drive to reclaim the Blackadder birthright is relentless, setting off events that threaten to bring down the monarchy. Alison discovers lies, danger and betrayal at every turn. Then, unexpectedly, she finds love ...

This sweeping and imaginative tale of political intrigue, secret passion and implacable revenge is a breathtaking epic from a remarkable literary talent.

'The story is utterly intriguing and completely unputdownable.... evocative and powerful', *GOODREADING*

Feb 2011 • Trade paperback (234 X 153mm) • 464pp

English language rights: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights: all languages

**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. Her first novel was *After the Party*. She is writing her next novel about the first woman to reach Antarctica.

## Stephen Downes



### Willy and Roy

*Willy and Roy* tells the unique true story of two separate but interconnected lives: New Yorker, William Kapell, America's greatest home-grown concert pianist and, Roy Preston, Melbourne-based Myer-comestics salesman and classical music aficionado.

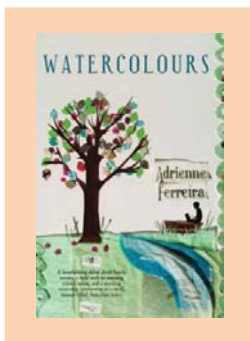
Kapell and Preston are united by one single acetate, containing a Chopin sonata recorded by Roy from Kapell's last concert in the regional Australian city of Geelong. With a mix of detective work and imagination, from this single acetate, Stephen Downes tells a spellbinding tale of the greatest pianist who almost never was, and his eccentric and passionate fan.

Sept 2012 • hardback (181 x 111mm) • 224pp

English language rights: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
Translation rights: all languages

Stephen Downes is the author of *Adagio for a Simple Clarinet*, a writer and journalist who wanted to be a concert pianist, he has 'collected' for decades live performances by some of the world's greatest pianists, including Sviatoslav Richter, Daniel Barenboim, and Julius Katchen.

## Adrienne Ferreira



### Watercolours

The story of a boy artist, a river town and its mysterious underworld

Eleven-year-old Novi just wants to blend in—not easy when you're named after a silkworm and have the most eccentric family in town. A descendent 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.

Young teacher Dom Best is new in town and must overcome his lack of confidence to support Novi's talent. Together with Camille, the enigmatic school librarian, Dom encourages the boy to release his inhibitions and unravel his unusual family history through his art—though little can he imagine the consequences this will bring. *Watercolours* is a poignant debut novel with a mystery at its heart, an unexpected love story and a surprising twist.

Most of all, it celebrates the clarity and colour a child's-eye view brings to the adult world.

'A stunner. ... the descriptions of Novi's painting and his way of seeing the world are gut-wrenching.'

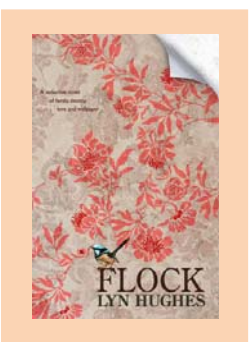
MALCOLM KNOX

May 2011 • trade paperback (234 x 153mm) • 352pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)  
Translation rights: all languages (excl. German)

Adrienne Ferreira was born in Sydney in 1975 and grew up on the mid north coast of NSW. The idea for her debut novel *Watercolours* came to her while lazing around eating figs in Sicily. She is currently working on her second novel about rapture and madness in the city of Florence. Adrienne lives on the NSW Central Coast with her husband (actor, producer, playwright and screenwriter Rob Carlton) and their twin sons.

## Lyn Hughes



A seductive novel of family, destiny, love and wallpaper  
They met on a train.  
They fell in love.  
They got married.  
They lived happily ever after.  
Or not.

### Flock

Francis Sprigge and Lilian Powys, two strangers escaping their past, move to the Blue Mountains together, following their dreams of creativity and love. But as Francis pursues his gift for designing exquisite wallpaper, Lilian finds that the ordinary life she craves remains frustratingly beyond reach. Despite her adoring husband and spirited young daughter Adelaide, Lilian cannot outrun her demons, and cracks soon appear in the family's harmonious veneer.

Nearly thirty years later, Addie Sprigge returns to her childhood haunts to lead a small team of conservators in the restoration of a historic mansion. But as they peel back the layers of wallpaper and begin to uncover the secrets of the house, the past resurfaces in unexpected ways. Addie learns much more about herself, and her parents, than she ever could have anticipated. *Flock* is the captivating story of talented and passionate people and the ghosts they must lay to rest, as well as a ravishing exploration of the nature of love—and wallpaper.

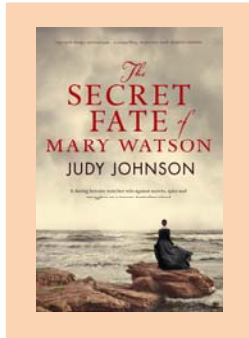
'Hughes demonstrates the unevenness of life itself, and how it rarely unfolds in one clean sheet', GOODREADING

Mar 2011 • trade paperback (234 x 153mm), 384pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Born in Wales in 1952, Lyn Hughes spent eighteen years in South Africa before settling in Australia in 1982. Her first two novels were *The Factory* (1990) -- shortlisted for the National Book Council's New Writing Award -- and *One Way Mirrors* (1993). Lyn's third novel, *The Bright House* (Random House, 2000), is set in South Africa and Britain. Lyn lives in Sydney.

## Judy Johnson



a thrilling tale of peril and intrigue, infused with a heady combination of beauty and foreboding.

### The Secret Fate of Mary Watson

*'It's peculiar, the assumptions we all make. For instance, how, in a diary, the truth bone's connected to the hand bone ... You shouldn't believe everything you read.'*

1879, Queensland. Fleeing her family home, 19-year-old Mary Oxnam has few prospects and no connections. Plain and penniless, she must rely on her audacious wit and fierce intelligence to survive.

Mary soon finds work as a pianist in a Cooktown brothel, a cover for more lucrative employment as a spy into smuggling operations. Within a year she has moved to Lizard Island, locked into a marriage of convenience. It's a rough, isolated place, crawling with hidden enemies—and unexpected temptation.

Mary dreams of making enough money to live on her own terms, far from the murky world of espionage in which she has become embroiled. But as the plot of her secret employers nears fruition, the stakes climb ever higher and Mary's life is in great danger. Can her daring and luck save her one last time?

**'a ripping yarn, with a remarkable heroine in Mary'**

THE SUNDAY TIMES

April 2011 • trade paperback (234 X 153mm) • 464pp

English language rights: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights: all languages (excl. German)

Judy Johnson 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.

## Chris McCourt



### The Cleansing of Mahommed (w/t)

It is 1914 and Mahommed, a young Afghani is returning to Broken Hill, after being sent back to his homeland by his mentor and benefactor, Abdullah, a camel driver who has learned through bitter experience that smalltown Australia is not the place to be an immigrant, much less a Muslim one. But Mahommed has hopeful visions of himself as an assimilated citizen, embracing the Anglo-Australian lifestyle.

On the train to Broken Hill he first encounters Alice Mercer, whose beauty immediately disorients him. She is drawn to the exotic and handsome Mahommed. But of course, nothing between them can be anything but doomed, and their lives are entirely derailed by their own shortcomings as well as the prejudices and cruelty of others—not to mention the outbreak of World War I, as Mahommed and Abdullah's allegiances lie with the Turkish army.

With a cast of complex and fascinating characters in addition to Alice and Mahommed—*The Cleansing of Mahommed* has a deeply affecting fable-like quality, with a beautiful but tragic story of star-crossed lovers at its heart, while being based on a disturbing true story of racial tension and violence.

Jan 2012 • paperback (210 x 135mm) • 384pp

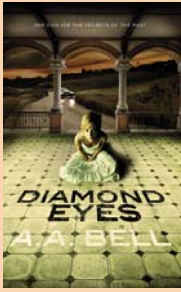
English language rights: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights: all languages

Chris McCourt was born and educated in Sydney, but also lived in PNG during her childhood. After a brief career as an actress, she joined Crawford Productions in Melbourne as a trainee script editor. *The Cleansing of Mahommed*, set in Broken Hill, is her first novel.

## A A Bell

A MIRA CHAMBERS NOVEL



### Diamond Eyes [Book 1]

winner of the Norma K Hemming Award 2011

Mira Chambers has an unusual gift for solving mysteries ...

Blind, institutionalised and frustrated by her loss of independence, Mira has been driven to the brink of insanity by medications that make her life unbearable. When she astounds two medical scientists by 'seeing' the impossible, they begin an exploration of Mira's strange perspectives. Together with Bennet Chiron, an enigmatic ex-con, Mira becomes entangled in a dangerous adventure of self-discovery that leads them to a killer – and exposed to a manipulative sociopath whose own unique talent is more than a match for Mira's.

Layers of secrets are about to be peeled away ... and no one will be safe from what is revealed.

**'a rare and special tale!' AUREALIS XPRESS**

Nov 2010 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 544pp

Translation rights availability: all languages



### Hindsight [Book 2]

Determined to regain her independence after ten years in orphanages and asylums, Mira leaps at the chance to help her friend, Bennet Chiron, an enigmatic ex-con who risked his life to save hers. Mira plans to investigate the murder—robbery that put him behind bars for six years in the hope of clearing his name. But people are turning up dead under bizarre circumstances, and Mira discovers that she's being hunted by two old adversaries.

Layers of secrets are about to be ripped apart ... is Mira the only one with a steep price to pay?

June 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 544pp

Translation rights availability: all languages



### Leopard Dreaming [Book 3]

When the matron who helped Mira to regain her independence is abducted, Mira attempts to save her with the help of ex-army lieutenant, Adam Lockman. But Freddie Leopard, a dangerous sociopath, tries to destroy Lockman's reputation ... and Mira.

Cut off and alone for the first time in her life, Mira is swept into a world of conspiracies and betrayals, where her dream of achieving a normal life is constantly thwarted by the far darker desires of her enemies.

Lives unravel as her world falls apart - until the ultimate sacrifice presents a chance to save her friend and revisit her lost love in the 'echoes of yesterday'.

June 2012 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 544pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

COVER NOT FINAL

A. A. Bell's short story 'Diamond Eyes' won Highly Commended in the 2008 FAW Jim Hamilton Awards. She has published non-fiction bestsellers about finance and donates her time to speak to groups on this subject. She also enjoys sharing her passion for creative writing with school groups of all ages.

## Kylie Chan

### JOURNEY TO WUDANG TRILOGY



### Heaven to Wudang [Book 3]

Human and demon, heaven and hell battle for the fate of the world in this fabulous bestselling series ... The demons that could control stones and elementals have been defeated, but the most powerful of Simon Wong's associates still remains to create almost undetectable copies of humans and Shen. This demon allies with Kitty Kwok to prepare a torturous trap for Emma and Simone from which they may never return. Wudang Mountain is enveloped by dark foreboding as Xuan Wu begins to reappear – sometimes human, sometimes turtle, but always without memory. Emma and Simone are in a race against time as they try to rescue Xuan Wu ... before the demons capture him.

**'a rich tapestry of culture, action and love'** *HORRORSCOPE*

June 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 576pp  
Translation rights availability: all languages

Earth to Hell [Book 1] • Jan 2010

Hell to Heaven [Book 2] • Aug 2010

Twenty years ago, **Kylie Chan** married a Hong Kong national in a traditional Chinese wedding ceremony in Eastern China and immersed herself in Chinese culture and mythology. Now living in Brisbane with her two children, she weaves her knowledge of Buddhism, Taoism and martial arts into fabulous and original storytelling.

## Kylie Chan & Queenie Chan (illustrator)

### A STORY OF THE DARK HEAVENS AND XUAN



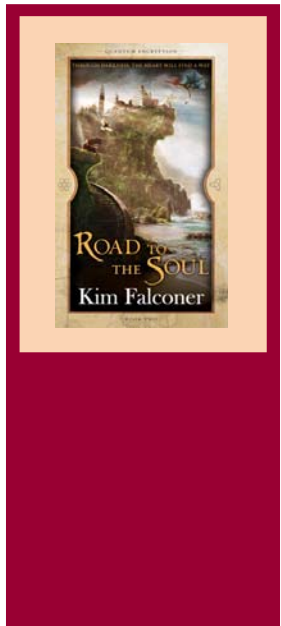
### Small Shen

A spin-off story from Kylie Chan's wildly popular and bestselling series of books set in the contemporary world alongside ancient Chinese gods and demons, martial arts and shapeshifters, the world and the otherworld, science and magic. This novel, with illustration work by the critically acclaimed Queenie Chan—who is the artist on the Dean Koontz graphic novels—will be an instant bestseller to the legion of fans of this author plus drawing in many new readers to the series.

Nov 2012 • paperback (190 x 135mm) 192pp  
Translation rights availability: all languages

## Kim Falconer

### QUANTUM ENCRYPTION TRILOGY



### Road to the Soul [Book 2]

Through darkness, the heart will find a way

A mysterious artefact leads Jarrod back to Gaela's lost southern continent where he discovers a sentient being like himself. Ruthless and extremely dangerous, this other version has captured Janis Richter. Luka Paree and Janis' daughter, Ruby, are playing a dangerous game with Earth's dictatorship. They have laid their escape plans, but the hunters are closing in. If ASSIST discovers the portal to Gaela, all is lost ...

**'This is a powerful and challenging read... to be different. And succeeds.'** *www.specusphere.com*

Mar 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 656pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

### Journey by Night [Book 3]

A fast-paced story of fantasy and occult adventure, astrology and martial arts ...

Kreshkali works the streets of a future Earth, rejecting her heritage and hating her life. When she discovers the portal to Gaela, she crosses over vowing never to return. There, as Nellion Paree, she trains at Treon Temple, meets a young An' Lawrence, fights in the temple wars and conceives a child.

When captured by trackers her genetic memories awaken and she decides to go back. But, after

**Kim Falconer** lives in Byron Bay with two gorgeous black cats. As well as her author website, she runs an astrology forum and alternative science site, trains with a sword and is completing a Masters Degree. Her novel writing is done early every morning. Her previous trilogy, *The Spell of Rosette, Arrows of Time and Strange Attractors* has gathered a strong fan base.

so many years away, she has no idea of what dangers await her there ...

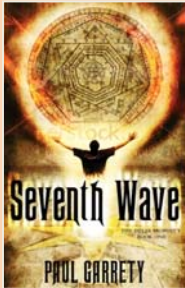
‘an utterly unique and thrillingly complex story of magic and science as you’ve never read before’ *GOODREADING*

Sept 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 576pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

Path of the Stray [Book 1] • Aug 2010

**Paul Garrety**  
HELIX PROPHECY, trilogy



## The Seventh Wave [Book 1]

Take a thief, a witch and a journo ... and strange things start to happen.

Especially to Callum who, after breaking into a house, is caught up in a terrifying occult world. He soon finds himself charged with protecting an ancient artifact from a deadly army of assassins, vampires and sorcerous Robes who are all desperate to recover it. Callum must work out who he can trust in a world he no longer recognises. There can only be one winner. And if Callum loses, so do we all.

‘a tight story with plenty of action and thrills ... unique and fresh’ *FRINGE MAGAZINE*

Feb 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 512pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

**Paul Garrety** is a Brisbane writer and was chosen to pitch this manuscript to the Voyager publisher at the NZ sci-fi convention in Wellington in 2007. He has also written and published prize-winning short stories. In 2009 Paul was awarded a week-long retreat at the Olvar Wood Writing Retreat.



COVER NOT FINAL

## The Emerald Tablets [Book 2]

In 2012 Callum’s world changed ... to the future.

Only seconds from death Callum is thrust ahead fifty years. It’s 2062 and a technologically advanced society is ruled by a cabal of Immortals – the world is on the brink of annihilation. Only the mythical Emerald Tablets of Atlantis have the power to stop the destruction.

The quest for the tablets takes Callum and Maggy to ancient Egypt and into strange interdimensional realms where deadly creatures and relics lie in wait for the unwary.

The Immortals dog their steps at every twist and turn, until Callum and Maggy finally realise that love is their greatest weapon. But to wield it requires courage and trust ... and sheer blind faith.

Sept 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 416pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

**Duncan Lay**  
EMPIRE OF BONES, trilogy



COVER NOT FINAL

## Black Book of Elves [Book 1]

A tale of history and legend, myth and belief, truth and lies ... but at its heart is a story of fathers and children and what is passed from one generation to another.

Long ago, a group of men became the Elfarans, altered by magic to resemble the elves of the great sagas. An internal dispute caused a number of Elfarans to leave their home on Dragonara Isle and found a new homeland on a new continent. Their descendants have sealed themselves away from any contact with others.

But one of these elves fails his magic test and is banished to live in the human world.

‘Fast paced and dramatic, Lay writes the kind of battle scenes that I have not seen since the late David Gemmell.’ *BOOKSELLER + PUBLISHER*

April 2012 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 640pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

**Duncan Lay** is a sub-editor at the *Daily Telegraph*. He has always been in journalism and has worked for a number of different newspapers and media outlets. He has published the *Dragon Sword Histories* (*Wounded Guardian*, *Risen Queen*, *Radiant Child*) with Harper Voyager. He lives on the Central Coast with his wife and two young children.

## Red Book of Vales [Book 2]

After discovering his magic, the elf Ben, the bard Huw and the dancer Tasha travel to the elven lands, where they find the elves are not the peaceful, kind, wonderful folk the legends say. They despise humans and will do nothing to help them.

King Ward sees the elves as the new barrier to his ambition, and decides the fabled treasures

of the elven lands are just what he needs to secure his place as the undisputed ruler of all lands.

Will the human and elven lands will both be plunged into darkness, ruled by a man who sees slavery as his due and death as his currency?

*Oct 2012 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 640pp*

Translation rights availability: all languages

## Bevan McGuiness

THE ELEVEN KINGDOMS, trilogy



### Slave of Sondelle

[Book 1]

A fabulous epic of deadly assassins, desperate journeys and the desire for vengeance ... Slave has been owned by Sondelle, and kept prisoner, since he was a child. Finally escaping through the catacombs, Slave is almost killed by a revenant warrior spirit. He gains his freedom only by swearing fealty to this dangerous creature.

Befriended by lleki, Slave begins to learn about the world outside. However, in a fight to the death, Slave discovers that the revenant warrior has given him a 'blessing'—a form of berserk rage that makes him virtually unbeatable in combat, but also makes him lethal to anyone in the immediate area, friends and foes alike. When he is left alone, Slave heads for lleki's home city to make amends and seek help. Meanwhile, an evil pirit imprisoned for centuries beneath a city finds its freedom ... and seeks its revenge.

Bevan McGuiness has a background in scientific analysis and education. He has published the *Triumvirate* trilogy (*The Awakening*, *The First Weapon*, *The Way of Purity*). He lives near Perth with his wife and daughter.

'Leave your preconceptions about fantasy behind ...

McGuiness continues to do the unexpected' *BOOKSELLER + PUBLISHER*

[Praise for *The First Weapon* (BK 2)]

*Dec 2010 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 512pp*

Translation rights availability: all languages



### Scarred Man

[Book 2]

*'If it wants her dead, we should keep her alive ...'*

With Myrrhini taken, Slave heads off in pursuit through the wilderness. Keshik, meanwhile, has problems of his own to deal with, problems that could see him executed. The Revenants, now free, are moving through the world, following their own plans, seeking their own goals. Goals that involve the Scarred Man and the woman with him. But which Scarred Man?

Far away in her hidden city, the Blindfolded Queen is manipulating things to her own ends. Will she aid the Scarred Man, or will her actions put all the Eleven Kingdoms at risk?

'reads beautifully ... sweeping and grand in its vision'

[four stars] *GOODREADING*

*July 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 512pp*

Translation rights availability: all languages



COVER NOT FINAL

### Revenant

[Book 3]

The actions of the Revenants are sending shock waves through the Eleven Kingdoms. No matter what happens, the impact of their release will be felt for a generation.

Slave and Keshik leave the hidden city of the Blindfolded Queen together with Maida and Myrrhini to seek out the Revenants for their own reasons and with their own purposes.

Myrrhini, troubled by her visions into the Mertian 'world of could be' is struggling to come to terms with her burgeoning power and complex relationship with Slave, while Keshik comes face to face with the reason for his exile from the Tulugma.

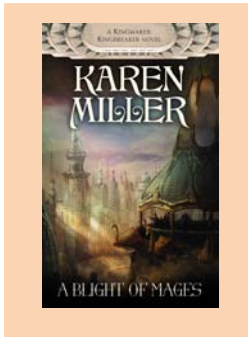
Slave continues to wrestle with the twin 'blessings' of the Scaren Revenant as he seeks the peace promised him by Myrrhini.

*Nov 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 624pp*

Translation rights availability: all languages

## Karen Miller

### A KINGMAKER, KINGBREAKER NOVEL



## A Blight of Mages

A prequel to the story told in *The Innocent Mage* and *Innocence Lost* ...

Barl Linden is one of the greatest mages Dorana has seen, but she is still socially inferior to those she works with. In fighting for the right to be treated as an equal, Barl comes to the attention of the all-powerful Council of Mages.

Morgan Danfey is the youngest mage ever to be appointed to the Council. Proud and talented, he senses that some terrible, unknown danger looms ahead for Dorana ... problem is, he can't prove it.

When Barl and Morgan cross paths the sparks fly, and a chain of events is set in motion that will change their lives—and the fate of nations—forever.

**'not just another fantasy writer, she is a sorceress whose spells become books'** *TICONDEROGA ONLINE*

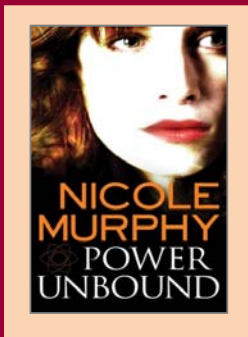
May 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 688 pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

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.

## Nicole Murphy

### DREAM OF ASARLAI, trilogy



## Power Unbound [Book 2]

For centuries, the gadda have worked to keep their identity secret from the rapidly expanding human race. All this is now at risk - the most terrible of gadda teachings, the Forbidden Texts, have been stolen and the race is on to find them.

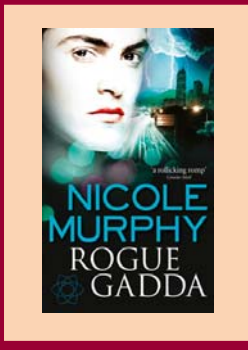
Ione Gorton may have got her best friend back, but Maggie's elevation to the ranks of the guardians means that she's not around as much. So when Stephen O'Malley, almost the youngest - and definitely the hottest - ever candidate for the sixth-order test, needs a place to stay after strange and violent happenings hit Sclossin, Ione is all too happy to lend a hand ... But Ione, like Maggie before her, is soon a target for those using the Forbidden Texts. The missing artefact is changing life for gadda and human alike ...

**'blends all that is good in a romance story with the adventure of a fantasy ... perfect weekend curl up and read material'** *FANGTASTIC.COM*

Jan 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 416pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

Nicole Murphy has been a teacher and journalist, but is now concentrating on her writing. She has had many short stories published, and has edited speculative fiction magazines. She lives in Queanbeyan with her husband, Tim.



## Rogue Gadda [Book 3]

Hampton Rourke has always lived under his father's shadow, and he's not convinced he's the right man to be leading the search for Asarlai and the Forbidden Texts. When the clues lead to Boston and he stumbles upon one of the fabled lost families, Hampton faces challenges that will test his faith in himself.

Charlotte Haraldson has been taught to hate the bardria, so it stinks that the man of her dreams isn't just from Sclossin but is the most powerful of them all. Then she learns that everything she's been taught is lies and she has to find new meaning for her and the gadda.

With Asarlai setting loose one of the most dangerous gadda who had ever lived and then gaining a powerful ally, the pressure builds to stop her and retrieve the texts before she can finalise her terrible plan and change the world forever.

July 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 416pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

The Secret Ones [Book 1] • July 2010

## Tansy Rayner Roberts

CREATURE COURT, trilogy



### The Shattered City [Book 2]

*She could hear that laughter again, and for a moment Velody was confused, not sure which dead man was mocking her.*

A series of murders and disappearances throw suspicion on one of the Creature Court. Ashiol finds Aufleur's many festivals frivolous, until a major one is cancelled. Unease grows. It seems nothing can save the city from a massacre ... nothing but the ultimate sacrifice from one of the Creature Kings.

**'a richly decadent world ... far too morish to be good for anyone's sleeping patterns' ASIF**

April 2011 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 528pp.

Translation rights availability: all languages

Tansy Rayner Roberts is the author of the award-winning *Splashdance Silver*, and its sequel *Liquid Gold*. She has also published a children's book in an ongoing ABC multi-author series. Tansy lives in Tasmania with her partner and two children.



### Reign of Beasts [Book 3]

Velody now holds the leadership of the Creature Court, but the unsteady alliances within the Court have been torn asunder by a series of murders and disappearances. As *Power and Majesty*, it is up to Velody to stop the surviving Lords and Court from tearing each other apart.

There are those manipulating the Court for their own ends and those who love chaos for its own sake ... will Velody be able to survive long enough to change ancient feuds and balances.

**'Charming, mysterious and occasionally grim, this is a silky and sophisticated new entry to fantasy'**

**BOOKSELLER + PUBLISHER** (on *Power and Majesty*, bk 1)

Feb 2012 • paperback (181 x 111mm) • 512pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

The Power and the Majesty [Book 1] • June 2010



COVER NOT FINAL

## Kim Westwood



### The Courier's New Bicycle

Salisbury Forth is a courier of contraband in the alleyways of inner Melbourne, a city of fuel rationing, rolling power outages and curfews.

It's a stressful life, post-pandemic. A vaccine dispensed Australia-wide is causing mass infertility, and the government has banned all remedies except prayer.

Vigilantes prowl for transgressors while the pious gather like moths under the streetlights at dusk. Then someone starts trading tainted hormones on the boss's patch. Salisbury must find who's trying to destroy the business before everything goes belly up ...

**'compelling, intriguing and unpredictable. Settle yourself down on the couch and let yourself fall into this bewitching novel by an exciting new Australian talent' Auralis Express [on *The Daughters of Moab*]**

Aug 2011 • paperback (198 x 128mm) • 336pp

Translation rights availability: all languages

Kim Westwood was born in Sydney, Australia, and spent several years of her childhood in New Zealand. In 2002 her short story 'The Oracle' won an Aurealis Award. She is the recipient of a prestigious Varuna Writer's Fellowship for her first novel, the critically acclaimed *The Daughters of Moab*.

## Ant Sang



### Shaolin Burning

In ancient China, martial arts have been outlawed. When the Qing Emperor's army attacks the dissident monks of the Shaolin Temple, only five escape the resulting inferno. The fugitives flee, vowing to spread their forbidden knowledge. One survivor, Monk Who Doubts, plans bloody revenge, while another, the nun Ng Mui, raises an orphaned girl child. By the time Deadly Plum Blossom is in her teens, she is lethal.

*Shaolin Burning* is a graphic novel about two very different kung-fu fighters, whose lives intersect as they are offered self-discovery through the wisdom of martial arts, in a masterful interweaving of kung-fu myths and legends.

Mar 2011 • paperback (229 x 165mm), 192pp

English language rights availability: world (excl. ANZ territories)

Translation rights availability: all languages

**Ant Sang** is an award-winning cartoonist. He was one of the original creatives on the successful *broTown* animated television series. Author and illustrator of the celebrated *Dharma Punk* series, he has a cult following among graphic art fans and comic art aficionados.