



# SCRIBE

January–June 2024



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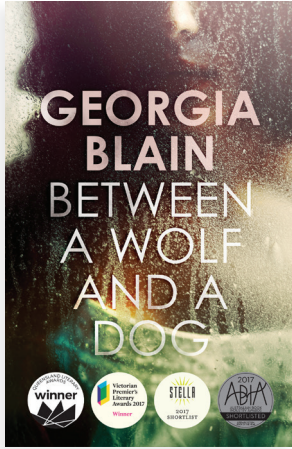
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Gerbrand Bakker

Georgia Blain

**Between a Wolf and a Dog**B-FORMAT  
EDITION

GEORGIA BLAIN published novels for adults and young adults, essays, short stories, and a memoir. Her first novel was the bestselling *Closed for Winter*, and later works include *The Secret Lives of Men*, *Too Close to Home*, the multi-award-winning *Between a Wolf and a Dog* and the YA novels *Darkwater* and *Special*. Georgia passed away in December 2016.

**WINNER OF THE 2017 VICTORIAN PREMIER'S LITERARY AWARD FOR FICTION**

**WINNER OF THE 2016 UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND FICTION BOOK AWARD**

**SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2017 STELLA PRIZE**

Ester is a family therapist with an appointment book that catalogues the anxieties of the middle class: loneliness, relationships, death. She spends her days helping others find happiness, but her own family relationships are tense and frayed. Estranged from both her sister, April, and her ex-husband, Lawrence, Ester wants to fall in love again. Meanwhile, April is struggling through her own directionless life; Lawrence's reckless past decisions are catching up with him; and Ester and April's mother, Hilary, is about to make a choice that will profoundly affect them all.

Taking place largely over one rainy day in Sydney, and rendered with the evocative and powerful prose Blain is known for, *Between a Wolf and a Dog* is a celebration of the best in all of us — our capacity to live in the face of ordinary sorrows, and to draw strength from the transformative power of art. Ultimately, it is a joyous tribute to the beauty of being alive.

RRP: \$24.99

198 x 129mm paperback, 272pp

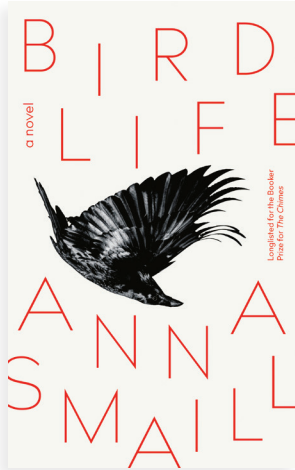
ISBN: 9781761380778

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD

Anna Smaill

## Bird Life

a novel



ANNA SMAILL is a poet and novelist. She was born in Auckland, New Zealand, and lived in Tokyo for two years before moving to the United Kingdom where she completed a PhD at University College London. In 2015, she published her debut novel, *The Chimes*, which won the World Fantasy Award and was longlisted for the Booker Prize. She lives on Wellington's south coast with her husband and their two children.

The second novel by Booker Prize–longlisted author Anna Smaill. A lyrical and ambitious exploration of madness and what it is like to experience the world differently.

In Ueno Park, Tokyo, as workers and tourists gather for lunch, the pollen blows, a fountain erupts, pigeons scatter, and two women meet, changing the course of one another's lives.

Dinah has come to Japan from New Zealand to teach English and grieve the death of her brother, Michael, a troubled genius who was able to channel his problems into music as a classical pianist — until he wasn't. In the seemingly empty, eerie apartment block where Dinah has been housed, she sees Michael everywhere, even as she feels his absence sharply.

Yasuko is polished, precise, and keenly observant — of her students and colleagues at the language school, and of the natural world. When she was thirteen, animals began to speak to her, to tell her things she did not always want to hear. She has suppressed these powers for many years, but sometimes she allows them to resurface, to the dismay of her adult son, Jun. One day, she returns home, and Jun has gone. Even her special gifts cannot bring him back.

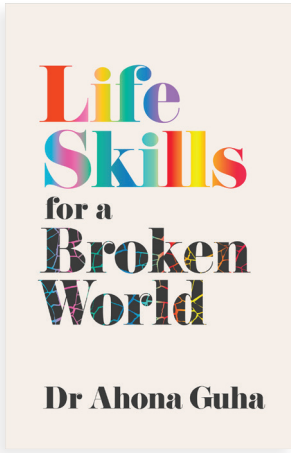
As these two women deal with their individual traumas, they form an unlikely friendship in which each will help the other to see a different possible world, as Smaill teases out the tension between our internal and external lives and asks what we lose by having to choose between them.

RRP: \$29.99  
210 x 135mm paperback, 304pp  
ISBN: 9781761380112

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Dr Ahona Guha

## Life Skills for a Broken World



**A revolutionary framework for living well in a broken world, from an acclaimed author and psychologist.**

How can I manage heartbreak? How do I cope with death? How can I learn to tolerate anxiety and hold hope?

In this helpful, practical guide to good psychological health, Dr Ahona Guha shows us how to cope, thrive, and still feel hopeful for the future. Combining techniques from a range of therapeutic modalities, she demonstrates how we can build a range of essential psychological skills, and apply them to live a more tranquil and joyful life.

*Life Skills for a Broken World* is a breath of fresh air, cutting through the confusion to provide solid, practical, and evidence-based answers to existential questions, big and small.

DR AHONA GUHA is a clinical and forensic psychologist. Her first book, *Reclaim: understanding complex trauma and those who abuse*, was published by Scribe in 2023. She works with victims of abuse and trauma, and clients with a range of other difficulties – such as anxiety, depression, perfectionism, burn-out, and relationship problems. She also works with perpetrators of harmful behaviours to assess risk, and provides treatment to reduce the risk they pose to others. She writes widely for the media on matters related to mental health, health, social justice, and equity. Her work has appeared in *The Age*, *The Guardian*, *The Saturday Paper*, *Breathe Magazine*, SBS, and ABC.

‘Like therapy, activism, and a pep talk all rolled into one ... give it a read and prepare to be the change you’ve been waiting for.’  
**Chantelle Otten, sexologist and author of *The Sex Ed You Never Had***

‘I already know this book is going to live on my bedside table. Dr Guha puts language and frameworks to help order the mess in our heads and hearts. *Life Skills for a Broken World* is grounding, consoling, and so practical.’ **Benjamin Law, author of *The Family Law and Gaysia***

RRP: \$27.99  
198 x 129mm hardback, 208pp  
ISBN: 9781922585950

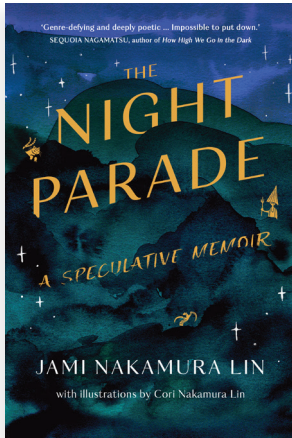
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Jami Nakamura Lin

Illustrated by Cori Nakamura Lin

## The Night Parade

a speculative memoir



CORI NAKAMURA LIN is a Japanese Taiwanese American illustrator and designer specialising in culture-centred storytelling and radical information sharing. Her work has been published in the *LA Times*, *Eater Chicago*, *WBEZ Curious City Chicago*, *PBS Learning Media*, and the *Twin Cities Daily Planet*, and has been featured on the History Channel.

In the groundbreaking tradition of *In the Dream House* and *The Collected Schizophrenias*, a gorgeously illustrated lyrical memoir that draws upon the Japanese myth of the Hyakki Yagyō — the Night Parade of One Hundred Demons — to shift the cultural narrative around mental illness, grief, and remembrance.

Jami Nakamura Lin spent much of her life feeling monstrous for reasons outside of her control. As a Japanese Taiwanese American woman with undiagnosed bipolar disorder, her adolescence was marked by periods of extreme rage and self-medicating, an ever-evolving array of psychiatric treatments, and her relationships with those she loved — especially her father — suffered as a result.

Frustrated with the tidy arc of the typical mental illness memoir, the kind whose trajectory leads toward being ‘better’, Lin sought comfort in the Japanese folklore she’d loved as a child, tales of supernatural creatures known to terrify in the night. Through the lens of the yōkai and other East Asian mythology, she set out to interrogate the Western notion of conflict and resolution, grief, loss, mental illness, and the myriad ways fear of difference shapes who we are as a people.

Divided into four acts in the traditional Japanese narrative structure and featuring stunning watercolour illustrations, Jami Nakamura Lin has crafted an innovative, genre-bending, and deeply emotional memoir that mirrors the sensation of being caught between worlds. Braiding her experience of mental illness, the death of her father, and other haunted topics with the folkloric tradition, *The Night Parade* shines a light into dark corners in search of a new way, driven by the question: How do we learn to live with the things that haunt us?

RRP: \$45.00  
210 x 148mm hardback, 352pp  
ISBN: 9781914484070

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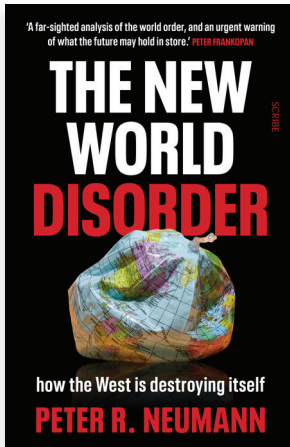


Peter R. Neumann

Translated by David Shaw

## The New World Disorder

how the West is destroying itself



PETER R. NEUMANN is Professor of Security Studies at King's College London, where he directed the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation (ICSR) for many years. As an internationally sought-after expert, Neumann served as advisor to the USA at the United Nations in 2014. In 2017 he was special representative to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). He also writes for *The New York Times* and *Der Spiegel*, among others. His book *The New Jihadists* was a bestseller. He lives in Oxford.

A coruscating analysis of current international relations, setting out the dangers the world will face if the West does not succeed in reinventing itself.

The West is facing an unprecedented crisis. Russia has launched a war of aggression against Ukraine — just months after the USA suffered a foreign policy debacle in Afghanistan. And China, the West's rival in the battle for system superiority, has long since become a decisive superpower.

Yet the triumph of the West had seemed unstoppable not that long ago. After the end of the Cold War, the democratic market economy took hold in the former Eastern Bloc, Russia went from being an enemy to a partner, and even China turned to capitalism. Then came the major turning point: the terrorist attacks of 9/11 that shook the West. The American War on Terror destabilised an entire region of the world; the Arab Spring only brought forth new autocracies; and, following the annexation of Crimea, the confrontation with Russia intensified. Instead of a liberal world order, a new world disorder has emerged.

Peter R. Neumann, an internationally acclaimed expert on terrorism and geopolitics, shows how this transpired and what must happen now. He offers an unsparing critique of the current situation of the West, which has fatally overestimated itself.

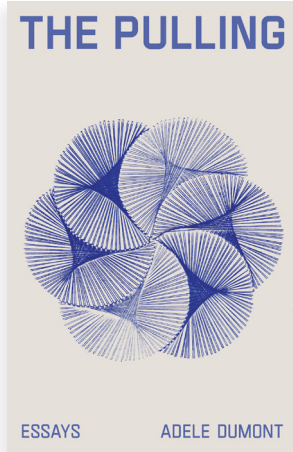
'A far-sighted analysis of the world order, and an urgent warning of what the future may hold in store.' Peter Frankopan, author of *The New Silk Roads*

RRP: \$36.99  
234 x 153mm paperback, 368pp  
ISBN: 9781761380242

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Adele Dumont

## The Pulling



*When I've been overtaken, I have stood and watched the water in my porridge simmer away into the air, and then the oats turn black and crackle with dryness, and my ears fill with the smoke alarm's shriek.*

When Adele Dumont is diagnosed with trichotillomania — compulsive hair-pulling — it makes sense of much of her life to date. The seemingly harmless quirk of her late teens, which rapidly developed into almost uncontrollable urges and then into trance-like episodes, is a hallmark of the disease, as is the secrecy with which she guarded her condition from her family, friends, and the world at large.

The diagnosis also opens up a rich line of inquiry. Where might the origins of this condition be found? How can we distinguish between a nervous habit and a compulsion? And how do we balance the relief of being 'seen' by others with our experience of shame?

Reminiscent of the writing of Leslie Jamison and Fiona Wright, *The Pulling* is a fascinating exploration of the inner workings of a mind. In perfectly judged prose, both probing and affecting, Dumont illuminates how easily ritual can slide into obsession, and how close beneath the surface horror and darkness can lie.

'Adele Dumont's *The Pulling* is a compulsively readable, frank, and disquieting memoir. Dumont wields Ernaux-like precision to analyse and contextualise the obsession that has made and unmade her life. The writing is candid, fearless, and profound, and it takes on questions most of us lack the backbone to face ...'  
**Ellena Savage, author of *Blueberries***

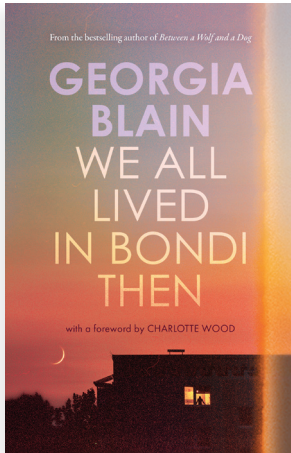
ADELE DUMONT is an Australian writer and critic. Her work has appeared in *Griffith Review*, *Meanjin*, *Southerly*, *ABR*, and *Sydney Review of Books*. Adele's first book, *No Man is an Island*, is an account of her experiences teaching English to asylum seekers in detention. Adele lives in Sydney, where she works as an English language teacher and examiner. When she needs a break from text and from screens, she enjoys baking, bushwalking, and eavesdropping.

RRP: \$29.99  
 210 x 135mm paperback, 288pp  
 ISBN: 9781922585912

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 COMMONWEALTH, EU  
 OTHER RIGHTS: BOLD TYPE  
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## Georgia Blain

Foreword by Charlotte Wood



GEORGIA BLAIN published novels for adults and young adults, essays, short stories, and a memoir. Her first novel was the bestselling *Closed for Winter*, which was made into a feature film. Her books have been shortlisted for numerous awards including the NSW, Victorian, and SA Premiers' Literary Awards, the ALS Gold Medal, the Stella Prize, and the Nita B. Kibble Award for her memoir *Births Deaths Marriages*. Georgia's works include *The Secret Lives of Men*, *Too Close to Home*, and the YA novel *Darkwater*. In 2016, Georgia published *Between a Wolf and a Dog* and the YA novel *Special* (Penguin Random House Australia). *Between a Wolf and a Dog* was shortlisted for the 2017 Stella Prize, and was awarded the 2017 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Fiction and the 2016 University of Queensland Fiction Book Award. Georgia passed away in December 2016.

## We All Lived in Bondi Then

From the author of the multi-award-winning bestseller *Between a Wolf and a Dog*, a powerful collection of previously unpublished stories.

A sister is haunted by the consequences of a simple mistake. A daughter searches for certainty as her mother's memory degrades. An encounter at a house party changes the course of a life.

In *We All Lived in Bondi Then*, beloved Australian author Georgia Blain returns to her resonant themes of relationships and family, illness and health, love and death. Composed in Blain's final years, these nine stories grapple with large questions on a human scale, brimming with her trademark acuity, nuance, and warmth.

### PRAISE FOR GEORGIA BLAIN:

'Picking a favourite Georgia Blain novel is like picking a favourite child ... Blain intelligently asks the big questions — about mortality, grief, forgiveness and how hard it can sometimes be to love those we're supposed to.' *North and South*

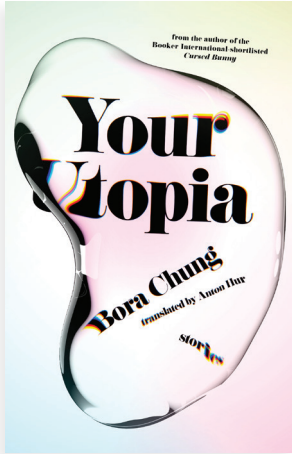
'Blain writes enchantingly about the interstices of life, the places where morality and meaningfulness blur, and characters try to justify their actions or deal with their emotions ... lyrical and lucid.' *Herald Sun*

RRP: \$29.99  
210 x 135mm hardback, 176pp  
ISBN: 9781761380730

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD

## Bora Chung

Translated by Anton Hur



BORA CHUNG has written three novels and three collections of short stories. She has an MA in Russian and East European area studies from Yale University, and a PhD in Slavic literature from Indiana University. She currently teaches Russian language and literature and science fiction studies at Yonsei University, and translates modern literary works from Russian and Polish into Korean.

## Your Utopia

By the internationally acclaimed author of *Cursed Bunny*, in another thrilling translation from the Korean by Anton Hur, *Your Utopia* is full of tales of loss and discovery, idealism and dystopia, death and immortality.

In ‘The Center for Immortality Research’, a low-level employee runs herself ragged planning a fancy gala for donors, only to be blamed for a crime she witnessed during the event, under the noses of the mysterious celebrity benefactors hoping to live forever. But she can’t be fired — no one can. In ‘One More Kiss, Dear’, a tender, one-sided love blooms in the AI-elevator of an apartment complex; as in, the elevator develops a profound affection for one of the residents. In ‘Seeds’, we see the final frontier of capitalism’s destruction of the planet and the GMO companies who rule the agricultural industry in this bleak future, but nature has ways of creeping back to life.

Chung’s writing is ‘haunting, funny, gross, terrifying — and yet when we reach the end, we just want more’ (Alexander Chee). If you haven’t yet experienced the fruits of this singular imagination, *Your Utopia* is waiting.

### PRAISE FOR *CURSED BUNNY*:

‘Sharp, wildly inventive, and slightly demented (in the most enjoyable way, of course) ... All we can say is buckle in, because when these stories take their horrific turn there’s no setting them down.’ *Chicago Review of Books*

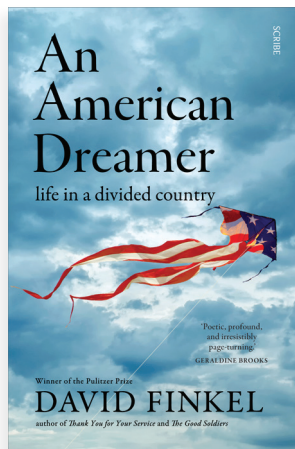
RRP: \$27.99  
210 x 135mm paperback, 256pp  
ISBN: 9781761380846

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David Finkel

## An American Dreamer

life in a divided country



DAVID FINKEL is the author of *The Good Soldiers*, the bestselling, critically acclaimed account of the US 'surge' during the Iraq War and a *New York Times* Best Book of the Year. An editor and writer for *The Washington Post*, Finkel has reported from Africa, Asia, Central America, Europe, and across the United States, and has covered wars in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq. Among Finkel's honours are a Pulitzer Prize in 2006 and a MacArthur Foundation 'genius' grant in 2012. He lives in the Washington, DC, area.

An immersive account of a man navigating the startling changes underway in contemporary America, from the Pulitzer Prize and MacArthur Award-winning author of *The Good Soldiers* and *Thank You for Your Service*.

Brent Cummings, an Iraq war veteran, has come home feeling he survived one war only to find himself in the midst of another one. The country he loves and defended for twenty-eight years seems to be unravelling in front of his eyes. Raised to believe in a vision of America that values fairness, honesty, and respect for others, Cummings is increasingly engulfed by the fear and anger sweeping through his beloved country as he tries to hold onto hope about America's future.

David Finkel, known for his unique, in-depth reporting, spent fifteen years immersed in Brent Cummings's world to create this intimate, acutely observed, and beautifully written portrait of a man's life, thoughts, and feelings as America becomes ever more divided. Cummings was one of the unforgettable figures in Finkel's *The Good Soldiers*, a book about which *The New York Times* stated, 'Finkel has made art out of a defining moment in history. You will be able to take this book down from the shelf years from now and say, "This is what happened. This is what it felt like."'

Like George Packer and Tracy Kidder, Finkel chronicles the everyday experiences of people, through moments of hope and despair, illuminating the struggles of many Americans today in a deeply fractured country at a time of crisis.

'Finkel's account is poetic, profound, and irresistibly page turning.'  
**Geraldine Brooks, author of *Horse***

RRP: \$36.99  
 234 x 153mm paperback, 256pp  
 ISBN: 9781761380099

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## Juan José Millás & Juan Luis Arsuaga

Translated by Thomas Bunstead  
& Daniel Hahn

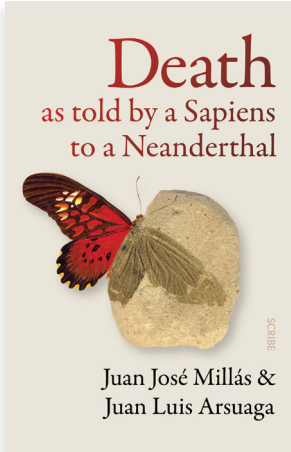
## Death As Told by a Sapiens to a Neanderthal

A dazzling follow-up to *Life As Told by a Sapiens to a Neanderthal*.

'We would love to discover that each species has a biological clock in its cells, because, if that clock existed and if we were able to find it, perhaps we could stop it and thus become eternal,' Arsuaga tells Millás in this book, in which science is intertwined with literature. The paleontologist reveals essential aspects of our existence to the writer, and debates the advisability of transmitting his random vision of life to a dieting Millás, who discovers that old age is a country in which he still feels like a foreigner.

After the extraordinary international reception of *Life As Told by a Sapiens to a Neanderthal*, the most brilliant double act in Spanish literature once again dazzle the reader by addressing topics such as death and eternity, longevity, disease, ageing, natural selection, programmed death, and survival.

Here you will find humour, biology, nature, life, a lot of life ... and two fascinating characters, the Sapiens and the Neanderthal, who surprise us on every page with their sharp reflections on how evolution has treated us as a species. And also as individuals.



JUAN JOSÉ MILLÁS is a bestselling, multi-award-winning writer. His works have been translated into more than 20 languages.

JUAN LUIS ARSUAGA is a professor of paleontology and the recipient of many awards. He is the author of more than a dozen works.

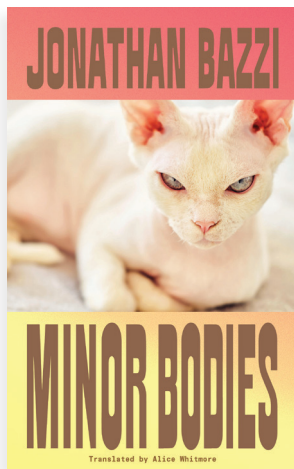
RRP: \$32.99  
210 x 135mm paperback, 304pp  
ISBN: 9781922585936

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## Jonathan Bazzi

Translated by Alice Whitmore

## Minor Bodies



JONATHAN BAZZI was born in Milan in 1985. They have written for various newspapers and magazines, including *Gay.it*, *Vice*, and *The Vision*. Their first novel, *Fever*, was hailed as a significant addition to queer literature and won the Sila, Premio Opera Prima, Edoardo Kihlgren, and Bagutta literary prizes.

*Minor is the desiring body that runs, rises, gravitates towards larger, brighter, more dazzling bodies, that bestows on other bodies the status of suns and planets, fires to be orbited, the reason for everything. There is no centre of the universe except the one we invent for ourselves.*

Jonathan is twenty years old, gay, and full of life. He's set out to escape the insignificance of his suburban home, to give himself instead and forever to the real city, Milan, where he hopes also to find love.

But when Jonathan finds love in all its messy, complicated, sexy reality, it is not enough. He has escaped the place and people of his childhood, but can he escape the man raised by those people and in that place, the man he has grown up to be?

PRAISE FOR *FEVER*:

'Tells us real things, in a rich voice, with force and passion and insight.' **Ronnie Scott**, author of *The Adversary*

'I couldn't put it down.' **Tomasz Jedrowski**, author of *Swimming in the Dark*

'Bazzi captures the longing, the wounds, and the joys of growing up queer and working class in 1980s Milan — and what it means to recalibrate your world amid the aftershocks of a life-changing diagnosis.' **Jennifer Down**, author of *Bodies of Light*

'A stark and searing account of class, crisis, and contemporary queer life; a portrait of what the body weathers and what it remembers.' **Jack Parlett**, author of *Fire Island*

Author photograph © Claudia Beretta

RRP: \$32.99  
210 x 135mm paperback, 352pp  
ISBN: 9781761380433

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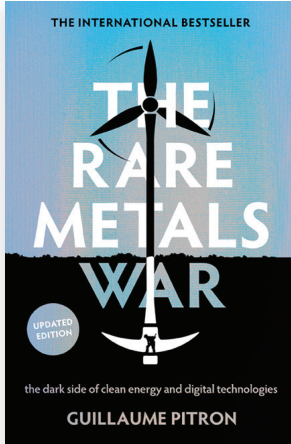
Guillaume Pitron

Translated by Bianca Jacobsohn

## The Rare Metals War

the dark side of clean energy  
and digital technologies

UPDATED  
EDITION



GUILLAUME PITRON, born in 1980, is a French award-winning journalist and documentary maker for France's leading television channels. His work focuses on commodities and on the economic, political, and environmental issues associated with their use. *The Rare Metals War*, his first book, sold 80,000 copies in France and has been translated into ten languages. Guillaume Pitron holds a master's degree in international law from the University of Georgetown (Washington, DC), and is a TEDx speaker.

The resources race is on. Powering our digital lives and green technologies are some of the Earth's most precious metals — but they are running out. And what will happen when they do?

The green-tech revolution has been lauded as the silver bullet to a new world. One that is at last free of oil, pollution, shortages, and cross-border tensions. Now updated after several years of research across a dozen countries, this book cuts across conventional green thinking to probe the hidden, dark side of green technology.

By breaking free of fossil fuels, we are in fact setting ourselves up for a new dependence — on rare metals such as cobalt, gold, and palladium. They are essential to electric vehicles, wind turbines, solar panels, smartphones, computers, tablets, and other everyday connected objects. China has captured the lion's share of the rare metals industry, but consumers know very little about how they are mined and traded, or their environmental, economic, and geopolitical costs.

*The Rare Metals War* is a vital exposé of the ticking time-bomb that lies beneath our new technological order. It uncovers the reality of our lavish and ambitious environmental quest that involves risks as formidable as those it seeks to resolve.

'Ablly blends investigative journalism with insights from science, politics, and business.' *New Scientist*

'An expert account of a poorly understood but critical element in our economy.' *Kirkus Reviews*

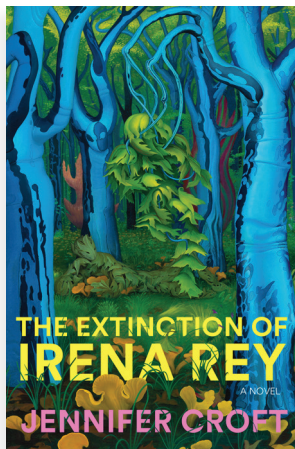
RRP: \$36.99  
234 x 153mm paperback, 304pp  
ISBN: 9781761380952

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Jennifer Croft

## The Extinction of Irena Rey



JENNIFER CROFT won a Guggenheim Fellowship for *The Extinction of Irena Rey*, and her memoir *Homesick* won the William Saroyan International Prize for Writing and was longlisted for the Women's Prize, while her translation of Nobel laureate Olga Tokarczuk's *Flights* won the International Booker Prize. She is the translator of Federico Falco's *A Perfect Cemetery*, Romina Paula's *August*, Pedro Mairal's *The Woman from Uruguay*, and Olga Tokarczuk's *The Books of Jacob*. She has also received the American Academy of Arts and Letters Award in Literature. She lives in Los Angeles.

From the International Booker Prize–winning translator, a propulsive, beguiling novel about eight translators and their search for a world-renowned author who goes missing in a Polish forest.

Eight translators arrive at a house in a primeval Polish forest. It belongs to the world-renowned author Irena Rey, and they are there to translate her magnum opus, *Gray Eminence*. But within days of their arrival, Irena disappears without a trace.

The translators begin to investigate where she may have gone while proceeding with work on her masterpiece. They explore this ancient wooded refuge with its intoxicating slime molds and lichens, and study her exotic belongings and layered texts for clues. But doing so reveals secrets — and deceptions — of Irena Rey's that they are utterly unprepared for. Forced to face their differences as they grow increasingly paranoid in this fever dream of isolation and obsession, soon the translators are tangled up in a web of rivalries and desire, threatening not only their work but the fate of their beloved author herself.

This hilarious, thought-provoking debut by award-winning translator and author Jennifer Croft is a brilliant examination of art, celebrity, the natural world, and the power of language. It is an unforgettable, unputdownable adventure with a small but global cast of characters shaken by the shocks of love, destruction, and creation in one of Europe's last great wildernesses.

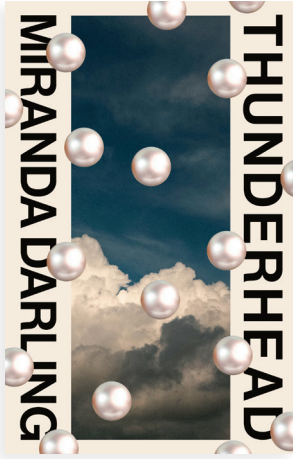
'Croft writes with an extraordinary intensity.' **Olga Tokarczuk**, Nobel Prize–winning author of *Flights* and *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead*

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Miranda Darling

## Thunderhead



A black comedy, set in suburbia, about one woman's struggle to be free.

When Winona Dalloway begins her day — in the peaceful early hours before her children, that ‘tiny tornado of little hands and feet’, wake up — she doesn’t know that by the end of it, everything in her world will have changed.

On the outside, Winona is a seemingly unremarkable young mother: unobtrusive, quietly going about her tasks. But within is a vivid, chaotic self, teeming with voices — a mind both wild and precise.

And meanwhile, a storm is brewing ...

MIRANDA DARLING is a writer, poet, and co-founder of Vanishing Pictures. She has published two thrillers, a novel, and a nonfiction work on the Empress of Iran. She read English and Modern Languages at Oxford then took on a Masters in Strategic Studies and Defence from the ANU (GSSD). She became an adjunct scholar at a public policy think tank specialising in non-traditional security threats. Miranda regularly performs spoken word poetry and writes essays for *RUSSH* magazine. Ex-model, mamma, short-order cook, divemaster, fencer, nomad ... like every woman, she wears many hats.

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## Elisa Shua Dusapin

Translated by Ancesa Abbas  
Higgins

## Vladivostok Circus



ELISA SHUA DUSAPIN was born in France in 1992 and raised in Paris, Seoul, and Switzerland. Her first novel, *Winter in Sokcho*, was published in 2016 to wide acclaim and was awarded the Prix Robert Walser, the Prix Régine Desforges, and, after its translation into English, the 2021 National Book Award for Translated Literature.

*Tonight is the opening night. There are birds perched everywhere, on the power lines, the guy ropes, the strings of light that festoon the tent ... when I think of all those little bodies suspended between earth and sky, it makes me smile to remind myself that for some of them, their first flight begins with a fall.*

Nathalie arrives at the circus in Vladivostok, Russia, fresh out of fashion school in Geneva. She is there to design the costumes for a trio of artists who are due to perform one of the most dangerous acts of all: the Russian Bar.

As winter approaches, the season at Vladivostok is winding down, leaving the windy port city empty as the performers rush off to catch trains, boats, and buses home; all except the Russian bar trio and their manager. They are scheduled to perform at a festival in Ulan Ude, just before Christmas.

What ensues is an intimate and beguiling account of four people learning to work with and trust one another. This is a book about the delicate balance that must be achieved when flirting with death in such spectacular fashion, set against the backdrop of a cloudy ocean and immersing the reader in Dusapin's trademark dreamlike prose.

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Maja Göpel

Translated by David Shaw

## We Can Do Better

a departure into the world of tomorrow



DR MAJA GÖPEL is a political economist and an important voice for a sustainable transformation of society, working at the intersection of the economy, politics, and society. From 2017 to 2020, she was secretary-general of the German Advisory Council on Global Change, and in 2019 was appointed honorary professor at the Leuphana University of Lüneburg. She is a member of the Club of Rome, the World Future Council, the Balaton Group, the German government's Bioeconomy Council, and a co-founder of the Scientists for Future network.

'A profound diagnosis and wake-up call.'  
–Deutschlandfunk Kultur

After her previous book, *Rethinking Our World*, eloquently untangled the complex world we live in, Maja Göpel delivers the encouragement and the tools we need to go into action and build the world we want to live in.

Humanity is undergoing a massive process of transformation, and the way we live will change fundamentally, because things we have taken for granted about the environment, the economy, politics, society, and technology are crumbling. In *We Can Do Better*, Maja Göpel explains how we can understand such complex developments and use this knowledge to achieve a better world.

There have always been great transformations in history, triggered by humans — thus, we can also shape them. Our window to the future is as open as never before. With this attitude, structural change is not an imposition, but an opportunity. It is time that we — each of us individually, but also society as a whole — allowed ourselves to think anew, to dream, and to ask two related, radical questions: Who do we want to be, and how do we want to live?

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Jeff Sparrow & Sam Wallman

## 12 Rules for Strife



This is a handbook for change. Because we all know ways in which life could be better. And it *can* be better. We can *make* it better.

We don't need to wait for a leader or saviour. We don't need to limit ourselves to comments and clicks. In this stunningly original comic-book tour of a serious topic, Jeff Sparrow and Sam Wallman explore 12 powerful ideas distilled from the history of struggle for better lives, better working conditions, and a better world. They show how solidarity can be built across growing divisions — without compromising our values.

'Strife' is just another word for making yourself heard. In fun, short, shareable chapters, *12 Rules for Strife* shows how together we can change everything.

JEFF SPARROW is a writer, editor, broadcaster, and Walkley Award-winning journalist. His books include *Crimes Against Nature: capitalism and global heating* and *Trigger Warnings: political correctness and the rise of the right*. He lectures at the Centre for Advancing Journalism at The University of Melbourne.

SAM WALLMAN is a comics journalist and cartoonist based in Melbourne. His drawings have been published in *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *The Age*, the ABC, and SBS. His first book was *Our Members Be Unlimited: a comic about workers and their unions*.

### PRAISE FOR THE AUTHORS:

'Sparrow is one of Australia's leading public intellectuals.'  
*SALife*

'Sparrow tells these stories with the lucidity and animation of a true crime podcast.'  
*The Saturday Paper*

'Wallman's distinctive style, wit, and historical knowledge make this something to relish.'  
*The Sydney Morning Herald*

'Activist and comics journalist Wallman debuts with a convincing, transfixing graphic history of the impact and future potential of unions ... This is a dynamic, persuasive look at labour power.'  
*Publishers Weekly*

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full-colour throughout

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## Hanna Johansson

Translated by Kira Josefsson

## Antiquity



HANNA JOHANSSON began her writing career as a critic and essayist covering topics like fashion, literature, art, and performance, and currently works as the art editor at the Swedish newspaper *Svenska Dagbladet*. Her debut novel, *Antiquity*, was awarded the Katapultpriset prize in 2021.

Elegant, slippery, and provocative, *Antiquity* is a queer *Lolita* story by prize-winning Swedish author Hanna Johansson — a story of desire, power, obsession, observation, and taboo.

*Antiquity* follows its unnamed narrator, a lonely woman in her thirties who becomes enamoured of a chic older artist, Helena, after interviewing her for a magazine. Helena invites the narrator to join her in the Greek city of Ermoupoli where she summers with her teenage daughter Olga. At first an object of jealousy, Olga morphs into an object of desire as the pull of Helena is transposed onto her daughter and the prospect of becoming someone's first, if perverse, lover.

With echoes of *Death in Venice*, *Call Me by Your Name*, *The Lover*, and *Lolita*, but wholly original and contemporary, *Antiquity* probes the depths of memory, power, and the narratives that arrange our experience of the world.

Author photo © Evelina Boberg

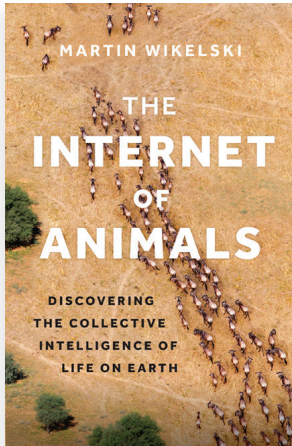
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Martin Wikelski

## The Internet of Animals

discovering the collective intelligence of life on Earth



MARTIN WIKELSKI is the director of the Max Planck Institute of Animal Behavior and honorary professor of ornithology at the University of Konstanz. Previously, he was a research fellow at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama, assistant professor at the University of Illinois and associate professor at Princeton.

For readers of *An Immense World*, this thrilling book unveils a new scientific technology that tracks animal movements from space and ‘could fundamentally reshape the way we understand the role of mobility on our changing planet’. *The New York Times*

Animal senses are finely tuned to their environments. Rats are known to flee hours before an earthquake and birds to take flight before a tornado. Yet animal movements themselves are rarely glimpsed by humans, save for a flattened patch of grass here or a snapped twig there. What if we could track secret animal movements all over the world? What would they tell us about how our planet is changing? Would humans be more prepared for natural disasters and disease? Could we prevent further species loss and climate catastrophe?

These questions are closer to being answered than ever before. As part of a groundbreaking new project called ICARUS, scientists all over the world have begun equipping animals with tracking devices that weigh less than 5 grams and are solar-powered. The data they collect feeds up to satellites and back to computers on the ground, creating a living map of animal behaviour previously thought impossible to obtain. In this page-turning book, the founder of ICARUS, Martin Wikelski, shares this compelling story for the first time.

In witty, heartfelt prose, Wikelski reveals intimate and delightful insights into the behaviour of animals, and indicates what his research means for our future. ICARUS may usher in a new epoch more hopeful than the Anthropocene — an epoch that Wikelski calls the Interspecies, when humans finally listen to animals and respond to what they have to say about the health of our world.

RRP: \$36.99  
234 x 153mm paperback, 256pp  
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BOOKS



Veronica Gorrie (ed.)

## When Cops Are Criminals



VERONICA GORRIE is a Gunaï/Kurnai woman who lives and writes in Victoria. Her first book, *Black and Blue*, a memoir of her childhood and the decade she spent in the police force, won the 2022 Victorian Prize for Literature and the 2022 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Indigenous Writing.

A powerful indictment of the criminal behaviour of police officers, and a call for institutional reform, edited by the multi-award-winning author of *Black and Blue*.

*When Cops Are Criminals* examines the widespread problem of police brutality and corruption from the perspectives of those who understand it in depth. Pulling together the accounts of survivors, campaigners, and academics, it explores different forms of criminal behaviour by police, the factors that contribute to it, the impact it has on victims, and the challenges of holding perpetrators accountable.

Told with candour, honesty, bravery, and rage, these stories will challenge readers to reflect on the institutions that so many people take for granted. Whose interests are they really serving? And where can people turn when the institutions that are supposed to protect them are the ones doing the damage?

### PRAISE FOR *BLACK AND BLUE*:

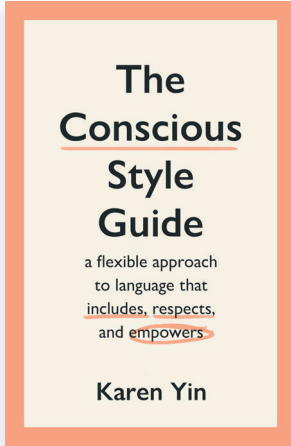
'Every now and then, a story comes along that astonishes with its degree of truth, trauma, and resilience. Veronica Gorrie's memoir, *Black and Blue*, is one such ... Her book should be mandatory reading material for all emerging and current cops ... Women who have historically been silenced: now more than ever, we need to be reading their stories.' **Jessie Tu**, *Sydney Morning Herald*



Karen Yin

## The Conscious Style Guide

COVER YET TO BE APPROVED



**An adaptable guide for anyone who wants to communicate with compassion in a rapidly changing environment.**

Most of us want to choose inclusive, respectful, and empowering language when communicating with or about others. But language — and how we use it — continually evolves, along with cultural norms. When contradictory opinions muddle our purpose, how do we align our word choices with our beliefs? Who has the final say when people disagree? And why is it so hard to let go of certain words? Afraid of getting something wrong or offending, we too often treat specific words as right or wrong, regardless of context and nuance. Thankfully, *The Conscious Style Guide* provides a roadmap for communicating with sensitivity and awareness — no matter how the world around us progresses. Readers will learn:

- How to identify biased language
- How to implement the overarching principles that guide us toward conscious language
- How to adopt conscious language as a tool for self-awareness and empowerment
- How to alleviate the stress of experiencing exclusionary language
- How to create a style sheet and reference stack to help support your practice
- And much more

KAREN YIN is the founder of ConsciousStyleGuide.com and other resources for writers and editors, including The Conscious Language Newsletter and the Editors of Color Database. Named by Poynter as one of the top tools for journalists, ConsciousStyleGuide.com is an official reference for countless schools, businesses, media outlets, organisations, and government agencies. Yin is a member of the *Chicago Manual of Style* advisory board and has been consulted by *The Associated Press Stylebook* and other industry leaders.

With practical advice and hundreds of relatable examples, *The Conscious Style Guide* invites us to weigh contradictions, examine the pitfalls of binary thinking, and explore truly effective communication — in all aspects of our lives.

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Varaidzo

## Manny and the Baby



VARAIDZO is a writer, editor, and artist. She was previously the Digital Editor at *Wasafiri*, and the Arts & Culture Editor at *gal-dem*. Her short story 'Bus Stop' was shortlisted for the *Guardian* 4thWrite Prize 2018. She is a contributor to the bestselling anthology *The Good Immigrant* (Unbound, 2016) and the romance anthology *Who's Loving You* (Trapeze, 2021). Her essays and articles have been featured in *The Guardian*, *New Statesman*, and *Dazed*, amongst other publications. Her art project 'Black British Figures', which documents notable Black British figures pre-Windrush, has been featured in *Metro*, *Vice UK*, and BBC Two, and has been exhibited in Theatre Peckham. She has presented radio shows for BBC Radio 4, Re-present Radio, and Worldwide FM, and moonlights as a podcast producer.

London, 1936. Two sisters are ready to take the city and the world by storm.

Bath, 2012. Two young Black men are figuring out who they are, and who they want to become.

Manny is forthright, intellectual, and determined to make her mark on the London literary scene. Her younger sister Rita, the Baby, just wants to dance. In the smoky clubs that pulsate underneath Soho's vibrant streets, Rita finds herself drawn into a new world of Black ambition, along with the masterful mimic and trumpeter, Ezekiel Brown, from Jamaica. As tensions rise and the shadow of fascism and war snaps at their heels, the two sisters are faced with choices that will alter their lives forever.

Itai has fled London to his late father's flat in Bath. Listening to cassette tapes his father made, he feels both drawn in and shut out of his former life — who is Rita? Why did his father record her life story? And where can he find her now, to return the tapes? Meanwhile, his developing friendship with Josh, a young athlete who moonlights as a dealer to fund his training for the next Olympics, is on unsteady ground, as Josh has been sent by his bosses to find out what the hell Itai is doing in Bath.

*Manny and the Baby* is a character-driven debut novel, full of heart, about what it means to be Black and British, now and in the past.

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Amorina Kingdon

## Sing Like Fish

how sound rules life under water



AMORINA KINGDON is a science writer whose work has been anthologised in *Best Canadian Essays* and received honours including a Digital Publishing Award, a Jack Webster Award, and Best New Magazine Writer from the National Magazine Awards. Previously, she was a staff writer for *Hakai Magazine*, and a science writer for the University of Victoria and the Science Media Center of Canada. She lives in Victoria, British Columbia.

**A captivating exploration of how underwater animals tap into sound to survive, and a clarion call for humans to address the ways we invade these critical soundscapes — from an award-winning science writer.**

For centuries humans ignored sound in the ‘silent world’ of the ocean, assuming that what we couldn’t perceive didn’t exist. But we couldn’t have been more wrong. Marine scientists now have the technology to record and study the complex interplay of the myriad sounds in the sea. Finally, we can trace how sounds travel with the currents, bounce from the seafloor and surface, bend with temperature, and even saltiness; how sounds help marine life survive; and how human noise can transform entire marine ecosystems.

In *Sing Like Fish*, award-winning science journalist Amorina Kingdon synthesises historical discoveries with the latest research in a clear and compelling portrait of this sonic undersea world. From plainfin midshipman fish, whose swim-bladder drumming is so loud it keeps houseboat-dwellers awake, to the syntax of whalesong, from the deafening crackle of snapping shrimp, to underwater earthquakes and volcanoes, sound plays a vital role in feeding, mating, parenting, navigating, and warning. Meanwhile, our seas also echo with human-made sound, and we are only just learning how these pervasive noises can mask mating calls, chase animals from their food, and even wound creatures.

Intimate and artful, *Sing Like Fish* tells a uniquely complete story of ocean animals’ submerged sounds, envisions a quieter future, and offers a profound new understanding of the world below the surface.

Author photograph © Shanna Baker

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## Gerbrand Bakker

Translated by David Colmer



GERBRAND BAKKER was born in 1962. He studied Dutch language and literature and worked as a subtitler for nature films before becoming a gardener. Bakker won the 2010 International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award for his novel *The Twin* (Vintage, 2009) and the 2013 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize for his novel *The Detour* (Vintage, 2013).

## The Hairdresser's Son

More than ten years after his last novel, the multi-award-winning Dutch author Gerbrand Bakker has written a phenomenal new novel about bereavement and the unavoidable power of family ties.

Simon never knew his father, Cornelis. When his wife told him she was pregnant, Cornelis packed his bags, and a day later he was dead. Or everyone assumed he was dead; after all, he was on the passenger list of the KLM plane that crashed on Tenerife in 1977.

Simon is a hairdresser, just like his father and grandfather, but he is not very passionate about cutting and shaving. With him, the sign 'shut' appears on his shop's front door more often than the sign 'open', because every customer is a person, and people suck energy from him. But there is one client he interacts with outside the business: the writer. The writer is looking for a subject for his next book, and is captivated by the story of Simon's father. Spurred on by the writer, Simon consults his mother and grandfather, who do not intend to reveal much.

Eventually, the mystery around Simon's father is both solved and unsolved in a wonderful, mysterious ending. As usual with Gerbrand Bakker's books, there is a deep humanity to his character portraits — in particular, in the way he shows the loneliness at the core of some of these lives.

'To say that Gerbrand Bakker hasn't forgotten how to write a novel would be an understatement. With *The Hairdresser's Son* he presents himself as one of the very best writers the Netherlands has to offer.' – *NRC*

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