

Featured Author: Richard Glover

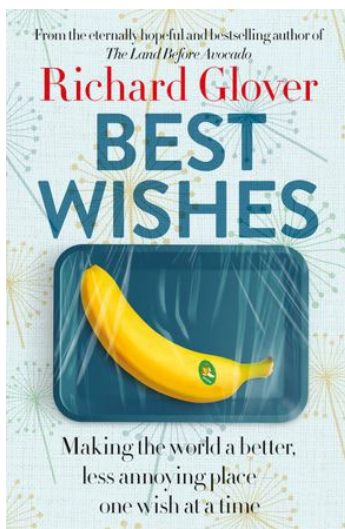


Richard Glover's most recent book is *Best Wishes*, a book about making the world a better, less annoying place, one wish at a time. He is also author of *Love, Clancy* – a collection of the letters sent home by his dog Clancy to his parents in the bush; and of the bestseller *The Land Before Avocado* – a journey into the bizarre Australia of the late 60s and early 70s.

Richard's previous books include *Flesh Wounds*, which was voted one of the top five books of the year by viewers of ABC television's "The Book Club" and won the Readers' Choice Award as Biography of the Year in the 2016 Australian Book Industry Awards.

Richard's weekly humour column has been published in the Sydney Morning Herald and The Age for over thirty years. He writes regularly for The Washington Post and also presents Thank God It's Friday on ABC local radio.

<https://www.richardglover.com.au/>

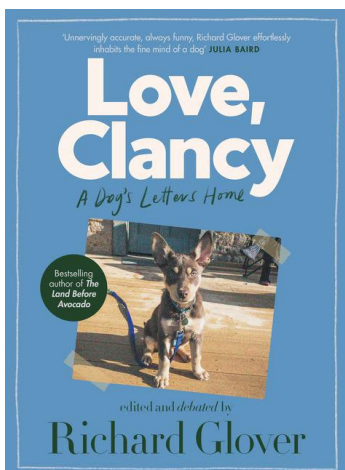


Do you hate noisy restaurants, pre-ripped jeans and pedestrians who walk five abreast?

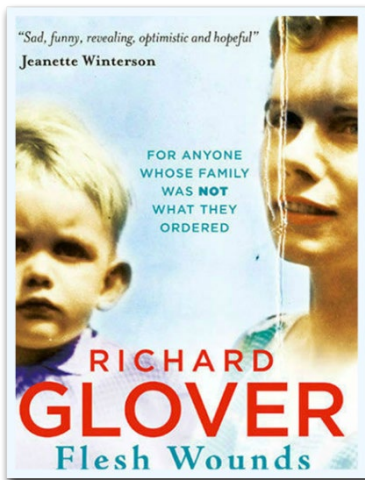
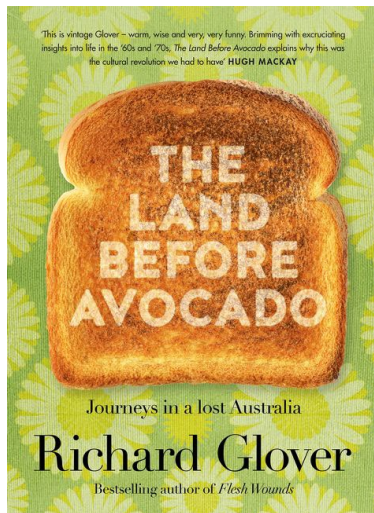
Do you also have a problem with plastic-wrapped fruit, climate-change deniers and take-away sandwiches priced at \$14.95?

And, most of all, do you think the world would be a better place if people got back their sense of humour?

Here's proof you are not alone. Heartfelt and hilarious, serious but sly, *Best Wishes* is the encyclopedia of 'can do better'. It's a plea for a better world - one wish at a time.



Human beings often write about their dogs, but the dogs don't usually get a right of reply. In *Love, Clancy*, Richard Glover has collated the letters sent by Clancy to his parents in the bush. They are full of the young dog's musings about the oddities of human behaviour, life in the big city and his own attempts to fit in. You'll meet Clancy as a puppy, making his first attempt to train his humans, then see him grow into a mature activist, demanding more attention be paid to a dog's view of the world. Along the way, there are adventures aplenty, involving robotic vacuum cleaners, songs about cheese, trips to the country, stolen legs of ham, all told with a dog's deep wisdom when it comes to what's important in life.



In *The Land Before Avocado*, Richard Glover takes a journey to an almost unrecognisable Australia. It's a vivid portrait of a quite peculiar land: a place that is scary and weird, dangerous and incomprehensible, and, now and then, surprisingly appealing. It's the Australia of his childhood. The Australia of the late '60s and early '70s. Let's break the news now: they didn't have avocado. It's a place of funny clothing and food that was appalling, but amusingly so. It also the land of staggeringly awful attitudes - often enshrined in law - towards anybody who didn't fit in. It will make you laugh and cry, be angry and inspired. And leave you wondering how bizarre things were, not so long ago. Most of all it will make you realise how far we've come - and how much further we can go.

A mother who invented her past, a father who was often absent, a son who wondered if this could really be his family. Richard Glover's favourite dinner party game is called 'Who's Got the Weirdest Parents?'. It's a game he always thinks he'll win. Truth can leave wounds - even if they are only flesh wounds. Part poignant family memoir, part rollicking venture into a 1970s Australia, this is a book for anyone who's wondered if their family is the oddest one on the planet. The answer: 'No'. There is always something stranger out there.

Industry Reviews

"It's just wonderful"

Bill Bryson

"Sad, funny, revealing, optimistic and hopeful"

Jeanette Winterson

"Unputdownable"

Matthew Parris

"Poignant and wildly entertaining"

The Sydney Morning Herald

"Engrossing and extremely funny"

The Saturday Paper

"Heartbreaking, hilarious; couldn't put it down"

Tracey Spicer

"A new classic ... a breathtaking accomplishment in style and empathy"

The Australian

"A wonderful story of survival and growth."

Jennifer Byrne, The Book Club, ABC TV

"Not since 'Unreliable Memoirs' by Clive James has there been a funnier, more poignant portrait of an Australian childhood."

Simon Hughes, AFR Magazine

"Magnificent. It is *Catcher in the Rye*, but sweeter and more raw."

Caroline Overington

What people are saying about *Why Men are Necessary* and *More News from Nowhere*:

"24-carat comedy gold...told with sly wit and side-splitting one-liners."

Leila McKinnon, Australian Women's Weekly