### LIBRARY BOOK L®VERS' GROUP

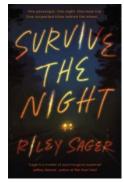
# FROM LOCAL READERS

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### Survive the night

### Riley Sager | Fiction

Behind the wheel is Josh Baxter, a stranger Charlie met by the college ride share board, who also has a good reason for leaving university in the middle of term. On the road they share their stories, carefully avoiding the subject dominating the news - the Campus Killer, who's tied up and stabbed three students in the



span of a year, has just struck again. Travelling the lengthy journey between university and their final destination, Charlie begins to notice discrepancies in Josh's story. As she begins to plan her escape from the man she is becoming certain is the killer, she starts to suspect that Josh knows exactly what she's thinking. Meaning that she could very well end up as his next victim.

### The Wild Silence

### Raynor Winn | 920.72 WINN | Non Fiction

Nature holds the answers for Raynor and her husband Moth. After walking 630 miles homeless along The Salt Path, windswept and wild English coastline now feels like their And despite Moth's home. terminal diagnosis, against all medical odds. he seems revitalized in nature - outside,



they discover that anything is possible. Now, life beyond The Salt Path awaits. As they return to four walls, the sense of home is illusive and returning to normality is proving difficult - until an incredible gesture by someone who reads their story changes everything: A chance to breathe life back into a beautiful but neglected farmhouse nestled deep in the Cornish hills; rewilding the land and returning nature to its hedgerows becomes their new path. Along the way, Raynor and Moth learn more about the land that envelopes them, find friends both new and old, and, of course, embark on another windswept adventure when the opportunity arises.

### Meadow's Law

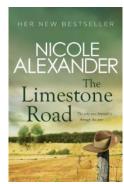
### Quentin McDermott | 364.152 MCDE Non Fiction

In 2003, Kathleen Folbigg was found guilty of smothering her four young children to death, one by one. Medical experts told her trial that they had never come across a family like hers, where three or more infants had died from natural causes. Extracts from diaries she had written were judged to be virtual admissions of guilt, and Folbigg was sentenced to 40 years in jail. But did she do it? This is a gripping and meticulously researched account of one of Australia's most infamous criminal cases, written by investigative journalist Quentin McDermott, whose groundbreaking work with ABC's Australian Story helped trigger a push by scientists to uncover the genetic cause of two of the children's deaths. It is also the story of how dedicated teams of lawyers, friends and supporters fought to achieve Kathleen Folbigg's eventual pardon, release and acquittal after 20 years behind bars.

#### **Limestone Road**

### **Nicole Alexander | Fiction**

In the summer of 1944 returning soldiers Canning Christie and his father Michael arrive in South Australia from the desert sands of North Africa. Inexplicably drawn to a vineyard on their land, Canning dreams of producing his own wine. And a chance meeting with Grace Huntley, daughter of the local landowner, offers him



hope for that future. But dormant memories keep rising up: his childhood with his mother, the years traversing the interior with his father and his time at the front. Soon, viniculture becomes an obsession one he suspects lies in a hazy recollection of a night in battle. To move forward Canning must reconcile the past, even if that means working with Italian POWs and accepting help from an immigrant German... And ultimately taking a stand against his own father, whose increasingly reckless behaviour is threatening to destroy their new life.



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## RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LOCAL READERS

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### **Unfinished Woman**

### Robyn Davidson | 928 DAVI | Non Fiction

In 1977, twenty-seven-year-old Robyn Davidson set off with a dog and four camels to cross 1,700 miles of Australian desert to the sea. A life of almost constant travelling followed. From the deserts of Australia, to Sydney's underworld; from Sixties street life, to the London literary scene; from migrating



with nomads in Tibet, to 'marrying' an Indian prince, Davidson's quest was motivated by an unquenchable curiosity about other ways of seeing and understanding the world. The only terrain she had no interest in exploring was the past. Unfinished Woman is an unforgettable investigation of time and memory, and a powerful interrogation of how we can live with and find beauty in the uncertainty and strangeness of being.

### The bluff

#### Joanna Jenkins | Fiction

People like Dash didn't die. He was only what? Mid-thirties? Well off. Adored. By some anyway. World at his feet. Well, Myddle at his feet, which was his world. Ruth Dawson has taken a break from big city law to fill in for a few months at a mate's small-town legal practice in Myddle. It's not what she's used to ... So, when

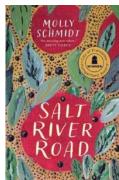


she hears the front door of her office open she's expecting a weird demand, or a question she doesn't know the answer to. But it's Bea Baulderstone's mum, worried that she hasn't seen her seventeen-year-old daughter for five days, and Constable Gazza Parker is refusing to report the girl missing. Ruth tries to find Bea, but Myddle is a wall of indifference. Then Dash Rogers is found at his farm gate, dead from a gunshot wound, and suddenly the town is very interested in Bea's whereabouts.

### Salt River Road

### Molly Schmidt | Fiction

In the aftermath of their mother's death, the lives of the five Tetley siblings fall apart. Rose is abandoned by her beloved brother Frank, while their father, Eddie, is undone by his grief. When Noongar Elders Patsy and Herbert encounter Rose marching away from the mess, they take her home in a storm of

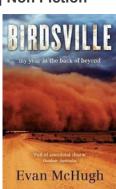


red gravel dust that stirs up memories Eddie Tetley would rather forget. Rose finds herself welcomed into a home where she has the chance to discover the true power of belonging. With the help of Patsy and Herbert, she'll find a way to begin to heal not only her family's pain, but wounds hidden for a generation.

### **Birdsville**

### Evan McHugh | 920.71 MACH | Non Fiction

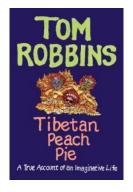
After nearly 10 years researching and writing about the heroes and pioneers of Australia's outback Evan McHugh decided it was time to sample the dust himself, so he packed up his Sydney home, bought a 4-wheel drive and headed off with his wife to live in Birdsville for a year.



#### **Tibetan Peach Pie**

### Tom Robbins | 920.71 ROBB | Non Fiction

Shares stories from the author's unconventional life, from his Appalachian childhood to his adventures around the world, that is as unlikely, magical and bizarre as those of his quixotic characters.





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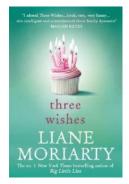
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### **Three Wishes**

### **Liane Moriarty | Fiction**

It happens sometimes that you accidentally star in a little public performance, your very own comedy, tragedy or melodrama. The three Kettle sisters have been accidentally starring in public performances all their lives, affecting their audiences in more ways than they'll ever know. This time, however, they

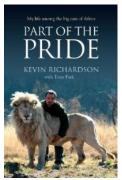


give a particularly spectacular show when a raucous, champagne-soaked birthday dinner ends in a violent argument and an emergency dash to the hospital. So who started it this time?

### Part of the Pride

### Kevin Richardson | 590.92 RICH | Non Fiction

Kevin Richardson has been dubbed "The Lion Whisperer". It's a title he doesn't like, but how else can you label his extraordinary relationship with these beautiful yet deadly animals? As a zoologist and animal behaviourist, he works at a lion park in South Africa. Here he has formed incredible

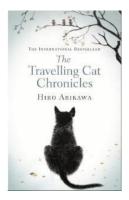


relationships with the big cats - playing with them, lying down with them, being included in every part of their lives as "one of the pride". Those who work with lions in the traditional way - using sticks, chains and coercion - call him crazy. But Kevin's ability to get inside the head of a lion, using love, patience and a unique empathy, have kept him safe in situations that would result in certain death to anyone else. This is Kevin's incredible story. How a man could become part of a lion pride, and a fascinating insight into the lives of one of the world's most beautiful and powerful animals.

### The Travelling Cat Chronicles

### Hiro Arikawa | Fiction

Nana is on a road trip, but he is not sure where he is going. All that matters is that he can sit beside his beloved owner, Satoru, in the front seat of his silver van. Satoru is keen to visit three old friends from his youth, though Nana doesn't know why, and Satoru won't say. Set against the backdrop of Japan's changing seasons and narrated

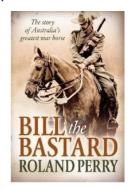


with a rare gentleness and humour, Nana's story explores the wonder and thrill of life's unexpected detours. It is about the value of friendship and solitude and knowing when to give and when to take.

### Bill the Bastard

### Roland Perry | 363.132 PERR | Non Fiction

An epic yarn based on the true story of a great Australian war horse who rode with bravery and valour at Gallipoli, the desert campaigns of Egypt, and Palestine. Bill was massive. He had power, intelligence and unmatched courage and in performance and character he stood above all the other 200,000



Australian horses sent to the Middle East in the Great War. But as war horses go, he had one serious problem. He was unrideable except by a single man, Major Michael Shanahan. Bill, it seemed, was reliable in every way including his ability to unseat men from his saddle. Some even thought he took a sneering pleasure in watching would-be riders hit the dust. Bill the Bastard is the remarkable tale of a bond between a determined trooper and his stoic but cantankerous mount. They fought together. They depended on each other for their survival. And when the chips were down, Bill's heroic efforts and exceptional instincts in battle saved the lives of Shanahan and four of his men. By September 1918, Bill the Bastard was so named, not as an insult, but as a term of endearment from the entire Light Horse force.



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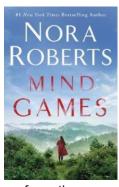
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### **Mind Games**

### Nora Roberts | Fiction

The Foxes have driven the winding roads of Appalachia to drop off their children for a stay at their grandmother's. Here, twelve-year-old Thea can run free. But as her parents head back to suburban Virginia, they have no idea they're about to cross paths with a ticking time bomb. Back in Kentucky, Thea



and her grandmothers both awaken from the same nightmare. And though the two never discussed the special kind of sight they share, they know something terrible has happened. Over time, Thea will make friends, build a career, find love. But that ability to see into minds still lurks within her, and the inmate who shattered her childhood hungers for vengeance.

### Should we fall to ruin

### Harrison Christian | 940.542 CHRI | Non Fiction

When the Japanese invade in 1942, the Australian men and women stationed at the New Guinea port of Rabaul flee into the jungle. Written off by their government as 'hostages to fortune', the little-known garrison on Australia's tropic frontier has been left with no modern equipment, no lifeline to the

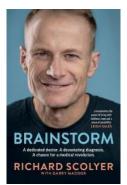


outside, and no means of escape. Most are captured and killed in the sinking of the prison ship Montevideo Maru, which remains Australia's worst sea disaster. But the surviving soldiers and nurses carry on, to fight the Japanese on other fronts, or to witness the collapse of the Japanese Empire from the inside. Having borne the brunt of defeat, their letters and diaries also record the turning point of the war and the march to victory. Rich in detail drawn from first person accounts, Should We Fall To Ruin illuminates this untold period in military history. It is a compelling tale of bravery and resilience in the face of a seemingly unstoppable enemy.

#### **Brainstorm**

### Richard Scolyer with Garry Maddox 926.1 SCOL | Non Fiction

Skin cancer is this country's most common cancer, and melanoma the deadliest form of it. Richard, together with his colleagues at Melanoma Institute Australia, has dedicated years to groundbreaking research and succeeded in transforming even the most advanced forms of melanoma into a largely curable



disease, bringing hope and healing to many. Then in 2023, at the peak of his life, Richard was diagnosed with brain cancer. As an internationally respected leading clinician and researcher, Richard was never going to accept the status quo-a medical approach unchanged in nearly two decades and an expectation of little more than a year to live. He instead chose to undertake world-first experimental treatment based on melanoma science. His brave decision could shorten his life or save it-the only certainty is that it will advance scientific understanding and ultimately help save the lives of others.

### More or less Maddy

### Lisa Genova | Fiction

Maddy Banks, an NYU student recently diagnosed with bipolar disorder after experiencing a wild and terrifying mania, rejects the stability of a "normal" life for a career in stand-up comedy, in a novel from a Harvard-trained neuroscientist and New York Times bestselling author.



