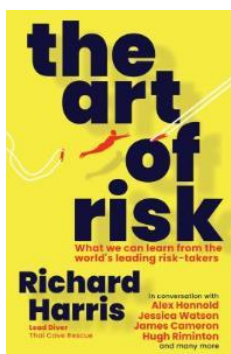


The art of risk

Richard Harris | Non Fiction | 155.2 HARR

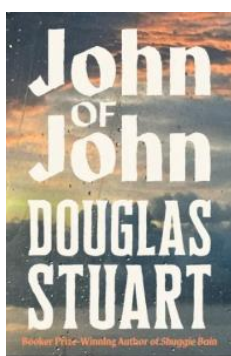
Are free-solo climbers, underwater cave explorers and big-wave surfers crazy ... or cautious? How do soldiers and fighter pilots manage risk? What can we learn from how BASE jumpers and drag racers prepare that we can take into our own lives? 'Harry' Harris - Thai Cave Rescuer, joint Australian of the Year - has an unusual idea of fun, he crawls through pitch-black, confined caves, deep underground and usually underwater. To most, that's a nightmare. To him, it's recreation. He's prepared for all conceivable risks, he's completely focused. And the discipline and danger involved leave him better prepared for everyday life. Each gripping story is a masterclass in risk from the experts: when to go, when to say no, how to prepare and above all, how pushing ourselves a little further helps us become more courageous and resilient in all of our challenges.



John of John

Douglas Stuart | Fiction

Out of money and with little to show for his art school education, John-Calum Macleod takes the ferry home to the island of Harris to find that not much has changed except for him. In the windswept croft where he grew up, Cal resumes his old life, caught between the two poles of his childhood: his father John, a sheep farmer, weaver, and pillar of their local Presbyterian church, and his Glaswegian grandmother Ella, who has kept a faltering peace with her son-in-law for decades. While Cal wonders if any lonely men might be found on the barren hillsides of home, John is dismayed by his son's long hair and how he seems unwilling to be Saved. As the seasons pass, everything is poised to change as the threads holding together the fragile community become increasingly entangled.



The nocturnals

Frances Whiting | Fiction

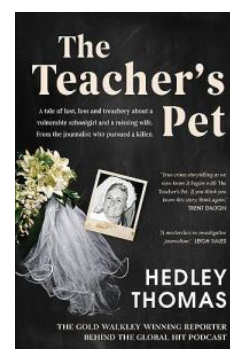
In the summer of 1997, five high school students meet. Nina, the Good Girl. Beatrice, the Poetess. Harriet, the Ghost. Cosmo, the Professor. And Hunter, the Golden Boy. In their last year of school, they become inseparable, five sides of the same star, until a fault line cracks between them, scattering them to all corners of the globe. Now, fifteen years later, Hunter has called them with his conch shell lips to return to the place where they lived and laughed and cried together, before secrets were whispered, and promises were broken. No-one knows why he has assembled them, but there is no question they will go. Because to outsiders they might be, in turns, a little bit weird, a little bit glamorous and a little bit dangerous. But to each other, they are, and always will be, the Nocturnals.



The teacher's pet

Hedley Thomas | Non Fiction | 364.152 THOM

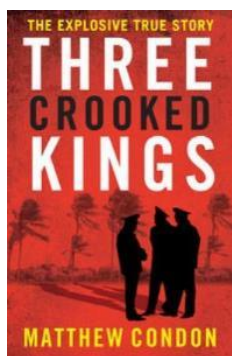
Lynette Simms disappeared from Sydney's idyllic Northern Beaches in 1982 and was never seen again. Lyn was a caring nurse, loving mother and devoted wife. Her husband Chris Dawson was a rugby league star, a popular teacher and exceptionally close to his identical twin brother, Paul. But this facade of domestic bliss was shattered when Chris became infatuated with the family's babysitter - his 16-year-old student - a girl he moved into Lyn's home and bed just two days after her disappearance. Thirty-six years later, investigative journalist Hedley Thomas revisited the story in a record-breaking podcast series that captured the unconditional support of Lyn's friends, colleagues, neighbours and family, and an international audience.



Three crooked kings

Matthew Condon | Non Fiction | 364.132 COND

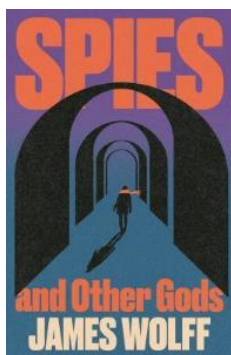
Three Crooked Kings is the shocking true story of Queensland and how a society was shaped by almost half a century of corruption. At its core is Terence Murray Lewis, deposed and jailed former police commissioner. From his entry into the force in 1949, Lewis rose through the ranks, becoming part of the so-called Rat Pack with detectives Glendon Patrick Hallahan and Tony Murphy under the guiding influence of Commissioner Frank Bischof. The next four decades make for a searing tale of cops and killings, bagmen and blackmail, and sin and sleaze that exposes a police underworld which operated from Queensland and into New South Wales.



Spies and other Gods

James Wolff | Fiction

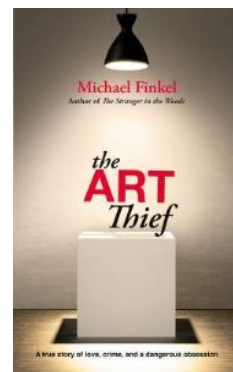
The Head of British Intelligence is having a bad day. Only six months off retirement and Sir William Rentoul is wondering if he'll make it that far, what with the sudden descent of a brain fog dense enough to turn every day into a series of small humiliations. To make matters worse, Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee - the body that oversees Sir William - has received an anonymous complaint from one of his officers. Sir William dimly recalls accepting that there should be a channel for whistleblowers, but he never expected that they would pick his most sensitive case, one involving an Iranian assassin and a trail of dead bodies, or that the person who turned up to poke their nose into his files should be a lowly parliamentary researcher named Aphra McQueen, who displays smarts, tenacity and rebelliousness in unsettling measures. Aphra seems to know more about the operation than she is letting on. What will she uncover? What is she really up to?



The Art Thief

Michael Finkel | Non Fiction | 364.162 FINK

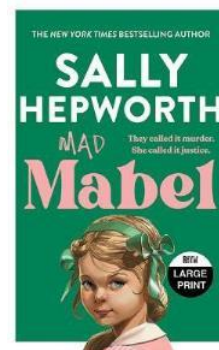
For centuries, works of art have been stolen in countless ways from all over the world, but no one has been quite as successful at it as the master thief Stéphane Breitwieser. Carrying out more than two hundred heists over nearly ten years in museums and cathedrals all over Europe-Breitwieser, along with his girlfriend who worked as his lookout, stole more than three hundred objects, until it all fell apart in spectacular fashion. Unlike most thieves, he never stole for money, keeping all his treasures in a single room where he could admire them to his heart's content. Possessed of a remarkable athleticism and an innate ability to assess practically any security system, Breitwieser managed to pull off a breathtakingly number of audacious thefts.



Mad Mabel

Sally Hepworth | Fiction

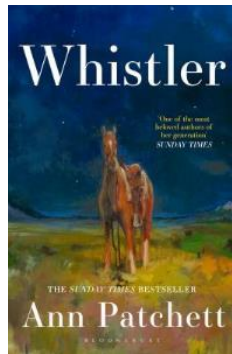
They called it murder. She called it justice. In 1959, at just fifteen years of age, Mabel Waller became the youngest Australian in history to be convicted of murder. In 2025, on a quiet Melbourne lane, an elderly man is found dead by his neighbour, 81-year-old Elsie Fitzpatrick. No one suspects any foul play. Until they discover Elsie's past. In the 1950s, her name was not Elsie. It was Mabel. She is known around the world as Mad Mabel. But is she mad? More importantly, is she guilty? When the police open a new investigation and the media descend upon her, the elderly Mabel decides it's time to set the record straight. In a world first, at the age of 81, Mabel Waller is speaking. New York Times bestselling author Sally Hepworth is at her finest in this twisty, compulsive thriller of friendship, family and murder. Or is it justice ...?



Whistler

Ann Patchett | Fiction

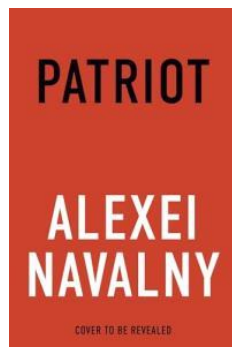
At the Metropolitan Museum of Art, fifty-three-year-old Daphne Fuller unexpectedly reunites with Eddie Triplett, the former stepfather she has not seen since childhood. Though Eddie was married to Daphne's mother for only a brief period, their bond profoundly shaped both of their lives. As they reconnect decades later, the novel reflects on memory, loss, love, and the lasting effects of choices and relationships across time.



Patriot

Alexei Navalny | Non Fiction | 923.2 NAVA

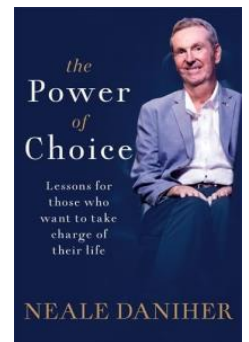
Patriot is the exhilarating life story of one of the most fearless and inspiring figures of our time, who became a beacon to millions and the sole political threat to Vladimir Putin. This is Alexei Navalny's life in his own words: his Soviet childhood, political awakening, his marriage and beloved family, his total commitment to taking on a corrupt regime and his enduring love of Russia and its people. His 2020 poisoning by the Russian security services was a global news event. In 2024 he died in a brutal Siberian prison. He began writing Patriot whilst recovering from his poisoning; it ends with his prison diaries, seen here for the first time. We witness the growth of his nationwide support. We see his many arrests and harassment and, in stunning detail, the attempt on his life. We understand why he felt he had to return to Russia. In prison, he shows a spirit and a sense of humour that cannot be crushed. Patriot is as dramatic as its author's life - passionate that good and freedom will prevail. It is Alexei Navalny's final letter to the world, a rousing call to continue his work, an unforgettably positive account of a life that will inspire every reader.



The power of choice : lessons for those who want to take charge of their life

Neale Daniher | Non Fiction | 158.1 DANI

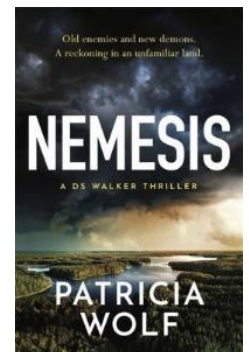
Neale Daniher is in his thirteenth year of living with Motor Neurone Disease. His body is broken and he can no longer speak, but his mind is sharp and his capacity to give, unvanquished. With the terminal diagnosis came a choice: to retreat into the comfort of home and family, or to look for opportunity in the darkest of times.



Nemesis

Patricia Wolf | Fiction

DS Lucas Walker is on assignment for the Australian Federal Police, and it couldn't be more personal. This is his last chance to take down Stefan Markovich - leader of the Vandals outlaw motorcycle gang - the man who has managed to evade justice ever since Walker uncovered his drug operation in Australia's remote interior.

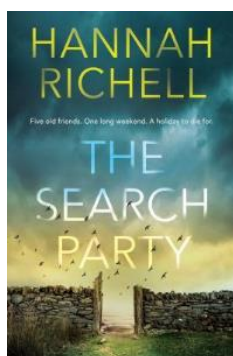


Having tracked Markovich to Berlin, Walker heads to Germany to lure his nemesis out of hiding and into custody. And there is another draw for Walker in Berlin: he finally gets to see Barbara Guerra again. After meeting in Australia two years earlier, Lucas and the German detective have formed a long-distance friendship ... and maybe something more. Now Barbara is leading an investigation into a suspicious death that has cast a dark shadow over the peaceful lakeside community of Mildersee. Everything about the horrific scene tells her that it's murder. When a second gruesome death occurs, Barbara realises she is hunting a killer who poisons their victims and then watches them die in agony. As Walker and Barbara grapple with their complex and dangerous cases, they are finally forced to confront their feelings for each other.

The search party

Hannah Richell | Fiction

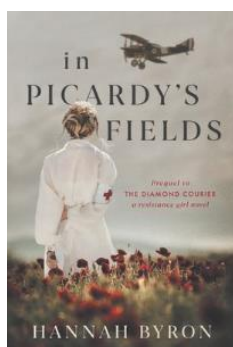
Five old friends reunite for an idyllic glamping holiday on the rugged Cornwall coast, but tensions rise when a storm leaves them stranded and someone goes missing. Max and Annie Kingsley have left the London rat race with their twelve-year-old son to set up a glamping site in the wilds of Cornwall. Eager for a dry run ahead of their opening, they invite three old university friends and their families for a long-needed reunion and a relaxing weekend. But the festivities soon go awry as tensions arise between the children (and subsequently their parents), explosive secrets come to light, and a sudden storm moves in, cutting them off from help as one in the group disappears.



In Picardy's fields

Hannah Byron | Fiction

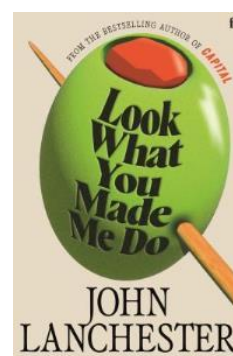
Baroness Agnès de Saint-Aubin is a young Parisian doctor with a mysterious past. She follows the attractive-but married-Dr. Alan Bell to the front lines at the Château de Dragoncourt in Picardy, where they help battle the horrors of the trench war. When the castle is captured by German soldiers, the war turns personal as Agnès's secret becomes both a terrible liability--and a mighty weapon. Until Alan is severely injured and her world falls apart. Countess Madeleine, the young go-getter of the Dragoncourt family, is furious that she's been sidelined to a Swiss finishing school. Knowing her place is in the thick of the action, she runs away to join her siblings who are working as medics at the Château. Upon learning that it's fallen to the Germans, Madeleine is determined to effect a rescue of the French doctors and nurses held prisoner within. But what can a mere teenager do against the German army?



Look what you made me do

John Lancaster | Fiction

Have you seen Cheating? Do you think it's as good as everyone says? Better than Succession, White Lotus, Dallas, the Old Testament, Tolstoy? Imagine the most intimate parts of your marriage stolen and turned into the subject of the year's hottest TV sensation. How would you take it? What do you make of the younger girlfriend?



Is she really supposed to be as horrible as she seems? Do you think you're supposed to hate the wife? And are you supposed to like the husband? Because I can't stand him. Actually, is there a single person in it you don't hate - or is sort of the point? Are the boomers worse than the millennials, or is it the other way round? Who's more oblivious, more spoilt? What's she going to do when she finds out? She won't find out, will she...

London falling : a mysterious death in a gilded city and a family's search for truth

Patrick Radden Keefe | Non Fiction | 364.152 KEEF

In 2019, a London teenager, Zac Brettler, mysteriously fell to his death from a luxury apartment building on the banks of the Thames. When his grieving parents began their desperate quest to understand how their son had died, they made a terrible discovery: Zac had been leading a fantasy life, posing as the son of a wealthy Russian oligarch. In his inimitably gripping and forensic prose, Baillie Gifford Prize winner and New Yorker writer Patrick Radden Keefe follows Zac's parents on a dark journey to find out what brought Zac to the balcony that night - and how a teenager's world of make-believe drew him into the city's terrifying underworld.

