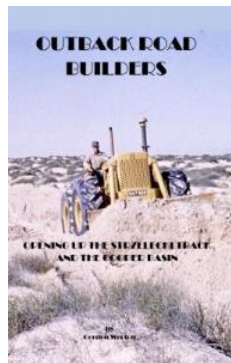


Outback road builders : opening up the Strzelecki Track and the Cooper Basin

Gordon Wooton | Non Fiction | 625.7 WOOT

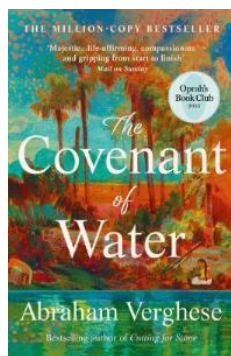
At just sixteen years old, Gordon Wooton joined the Engineering & Water Supply Department's road gang in Burra, South Australia. It was 1958 - the year the State Premier promised Delhi Santos that if they searched for oil and gas in South Australia, roads would be built to reach the remote Cooper Basin. What followed was an extraordinary chapter in Australia's outback history. Gordon and the Burra Gang were tasked with carving a route up the Strzelecki Track to Innamincka and across the vast, unforgiving expanse of the Cooper Basin. From Blanchwater to Mount Hopeless, through the Cobler Sand Hills and along the Strzelecki Creek, they built the roads that would open the desert to exploration and industry.



The covenant of water

Abraham Verghese | Fiction

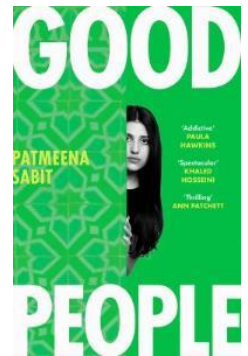
Spanning the years 1900 to 1977, *The Covenant of Water* follows a family in southern India that suffers a peculiar affliction: in every generation, at least one person dies by drowning - and in Kerala, water is everywhere. At the turn of the century a twelve-year-old girl, grieving the death of her father, is sent by boat to her wedding, where she will meet her forty-year-old husband for the first time. From this poignant beginning, the young girl and future matriarch - known as Big Ammachi - will witness unthinkable changes at home and at large over the span of her extraordinary life, full of the joys and trials of love and the struggles of hardship. A shimmering evocation of a lost India and of the passage of time itself.



Good people

Patmeena Sabit | Fiction

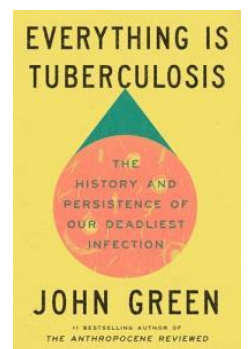
The Sharaf family is the picture of success. They arrived in America as refugees with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. And now, after years of hard work, they live in the most exclusive neighbourhood, their growing family attending the most prestigious schools. Zorah, the eldest daughter, is the apple of her father's eye. But when Zorah dies in an unthinkable tragedy, the family is thrust into the court of public opinion. There is talk that the Sharafs' happy household was anything but, and soon the veneer of the model immigrant family starts to crumble. Those who knew her best - and those who never met her - all have an opinion on who Zorah really was, and what really happened to her...



Everything is tuberculosis : the history and persistence of our deadliest infection

John Green | Non Fiction | 616.995 GREE

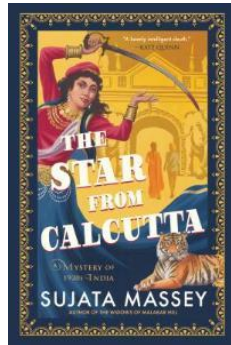
Tuberculosis has been entwined with humanity for millennia. Once romanticized as a malady of poets, today tuberculosis is a disease of poverty that walks the trails of injustice and inequity we blazed for it. In 2019, John Green met Henry, a young tuberculosis patient at Lakka Government Hospital in Sierra Leone while traveling with Partners in Health. John became fast friends with Henry, a boy with spindly legs and a big, goofy smile. In the years since that first visit to Lakka, Green has become a vocal and dynamic advocate for increased access to treatment and wider awareness of the healthcare inequities that allow this curable, treatable infectious disease to also be the deadliest, killing 1.5 million people every year.



The Star from Calcutta

Sujata Massey | Fiction

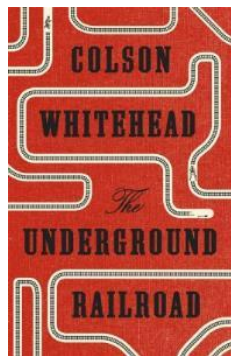
India, 1922: Perveen Mistry, the only female lawyer in Bombay, has secured her biggest client yet: Champa Films, a movie studio run by director Subhas Ghoshal and his wife, Rochana, the biggest name in Indian cinema.



The underground railroad

Colson Whitehead | Fiction

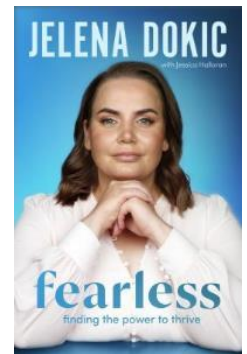
Cora is a slave on a cotton plantation in Georgia. Life is hellish for all the slaves, but Cora is an outcast even among her fellow Africans, and she is coming into womanhood; even greater pain awaits. Caesar, a recent arrival from Virginia, tells her about the Underground Railroad, and they plot their escape. Matters do not go as planned - Cora kills a young white boy who tries to capture her - but they manage to find a station and head north. In Whitehead's ingenious conception, the Underground Railroad is not a metaphor - a secret network of tracks and tunnels has been built beneath the Southern soil. Cora and Caesar's first stop is South Carolina, where both find work in a city that at first seems like a haven. But the city's placid surface masks an insidious scheme designed for its black denizens - and Ridgeway, the relentless slave-catcher sent to find her, arrives in town. Forced to flee again, Cora embarks on a harrowing journey, state-by-state, seeking true freedom. Like Gulliver, Cora encounters different worlds at each stage of her journey.



Fearless : finding the power to thrive

Jelena Dokic | Non Fiction | 927.96 DOKI

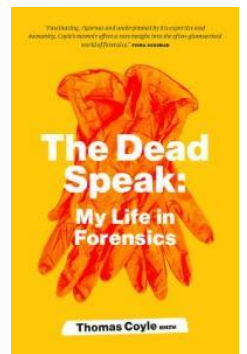
Fearless is about how you reclaim life when all feels lost. It's about learning to reach out for help and healing. It's about speaking up and the power of sharing our stories. In past years Jelena has dealt with disordered eating and reclaimed her body; she has stood up to body shaming and online abuse. She has faced her mental health demons had-on to find stability in the chaos of life. She has endured a devastating relationship breakdown. This book is about starting at the bottom and building yourself back up. Jelena opens up on how she has survived trauma and heartache to establish herself as a leading tennis commentator and motivational speaker.



The dead speak : my life in forensics

Thomas Coyle | Non Fiction | 363.25 COYL

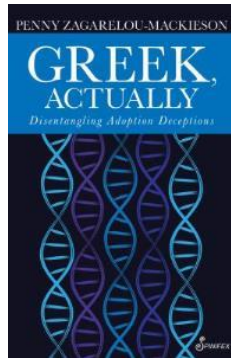
In this empathetic and darkly funny memoir, Thomas Coyle - one of New Zealand's most seasoned forensic investigators - pulls back the police tape and walks us straight into the crime scenes. With sharp detail, he reveals how the tiniest fragment of evidence can expose a suspect, prove a motive or confirm an identity. Sometimes, all at once. But crime scenes are only part of his story. The Dead Speak also plunges us into the world of disaster victim identification - a discipline where time, science and compassion collide. Where forensic experts are flung into a race against time to identify bodies in makeshift morgues as desperate families wait for news of their loved ones. Fair warning, though: it's not for the faint-hearted.



Greek, actually : disentangling adoption deceptions

Penny Zagarelou-Mackieson
Non Fiction | 362.734 MACK

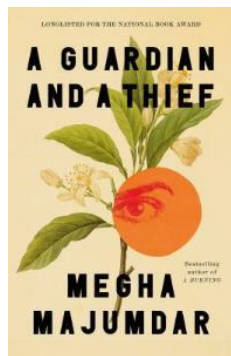
Penny Zagarelou-Mackieson always knew she was adopted. But she didn't know she was swapped at birth. Penny discovered that her natural mother, according to her adoption records, is genetically unrelated to her. Her ancestry is Greek, not Celtic-Anglo as she was led to believe. So begins Penny's new quest to learn about her origins. She confronts a shocking legacy of babies misidentified in the heyday of Australia's forced and closed adoptions and appalling medical record-keeping -- meaning many adoptees may never know their true origins. Penny's quest leads her to court seeking legal recognition of her true identity, involving her 'de-adoption' -- termination of the Adoption Order imposed on her in infancy.



A guardian and a thief

Megha Majumdar | Fiction

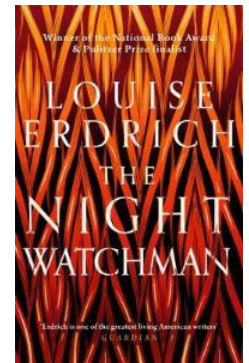
In a near-future Kolkata beset by flooding and famine, Ma, her two-year-old daughter Mishti, and her elderly father Dadu are just days from leaving the collapsing city behind to join Ma's husband in Ann Arbor, Michigan. After procuring long-awaited visas from the consulate, they pack their bags for the flight to America. But in the morning they awaken to discover that Ma's purse, with all the treasured immigration documents within it, has been stolen. Set over the course of one week, A Guardian and a Thief tells two stories: the story of Ma's frantic search for the thief while keeping hunger at bay during a worsening food shortage; and the story of Boomba, the thief, whose desperation to care for his family drives him to commit a series of escalating crimes whose consequences he cannot fathom.



The night watchman

Louise Erdrich | Fiction

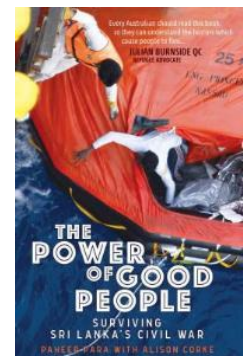
It is 1953. Thomas Wazhushk is the night watchman at the first factory to open near the Turtle Mountain Reservation in rural North Dakota. He is also a prominent Chippewa Council member, trying to understand a new bill that is soon to be put before Congress. The US Government calls it an 'emancipation' bill; but it isn't about freedom - it threatens the rights of Native Americans to their land, their very identity. How can he fight this betrayal? Unlike most of the girls on the reservation, Pixie - 'Patrice' - Paranteau has no desire to wear herself down on a husband and kids. She works at the factory, earning barely enough to support her mother and brother, let alone her alcoholic father who sometimes returns home to bully her for money. But Patrice needs every penny to get if she's ever going to get to Minnesota to find her missing sister Vera.



The power of good people : surviving Sri Lanka's civil war : a refugee's remarkable journey, and those who made it possible

Paheer Para with Alison Corke
Non Fiction | 954.93 PAHE

Para was barely five years old when civil war erupted in Sri Lanka. Nearly three decades later it ended in appalling horror and bloodshed. Tens of thousands of innocent civilians died. Survival required courage, ingenuity - and the kindness of strangers. This is Para's story of survival against all odds.





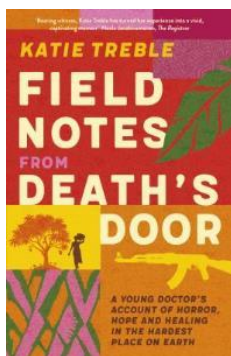
GOONDIWINDI
1st Tuesday of the month

INGLEWOOD
3rd Tuesday of the month

Field notes from death's door

Katie Treble | Non Fiction | 926.1 TREC

In her early 30s, Katie Treble felt stuck - in her life, in her career as an emergency doctor, and in a dead-end relationship. Wanting to put her starry-eyed idealism into action, she signed up to work for Médecins Sans Frontières. Katie was dispatched to Bria, in the war-torn Central African Republic, a blood-diamond-mining town, one of the poorest, most violent places on Earth - and a grinding humanitarian crisis largely ignored by the world. Against a backdrop of hunger, disease and gunfire, Katie fought to save an endless stream of patients with only the most basic resources, while her heart broke again and again at how little a human life could be worth. She had to dig deep within herself to understand the meaning of resilience, the fundamental nature of human interconnectedness and, when all seemed lost, the power of bearing witness.



When sleeping women wake

Emma Pei Yin | Fiction

1941. The wealthy Tang family has settled in Hong Kong after fleeing Shanghai. As the First Wife of the family, Mingzhu leads a glamorous but lonely existence - mothering the son of her husband's concubine, overseeing her daughter Qiang's education, and directing their household of servants, including her long-time confidante, Biyu. When the Japanese invade the island, the three women's paths wildly diverge. Mingzhu's affinity for languages spares her physical labour but she's coerced into serving an enemy captain. Qiang and Biyu suffer brutal factory work and food rations until an encounter with the East River Column Resistance fighters separates them. As war rages around them, each woman holds onto the hope that the others are alive. Can they fight for their freedom and still find their way back to each other?



One day, everyone will have always been against this

Omar El Akkad | Non Fiction | 928 ELAK

From award-winning novelist and journalist Omar El Akkad comes a powerful reckoning with what it means to live in the heart of an empire that doesn't consider you fully human. On October 25th, 2023, after just three weeks of the bombardment of Gaza, Omar El Akkad put out a tweet: "One day, when it's safe, when there's no personal downside to calling a thing what it is, when it's too late to hold anyone accountable, everyone will have always been against this." This tweet was viewed more than ten million times. One Day Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This chronicles the deep fracture that has occurred for Black, brown, Indigenous Americans, as well as the upcoming generation, many of whom had clung to a thread of faith in Western ideals, in the idea that their countries, or the countries of their adoption, actually attempted to live up to the values they espouse.



The unlikely pilgrimage of Harold Fry

Rachel Joyce | Fiction

Harold Fry is convinced that he must deliver a letter to an old love in order to save her, meeting various characters along the way and reminiscing about the events of his past and people he has known, as he tries to find peace and acceptance.

