## SUGGESTED READS

LOCATION, LOCATION NOVEMBER 2025

GOONDIWINDI
1st Tuesday of the month

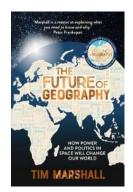
INGLEWOOD

3rd Tuesday of the month

# The future of geography: how power and politics in space will change our world

Tim Marshall | Non Fiction | 919.904 MARS

Spy satellites orbiting the moon. Space metals worth more than most countries' GDP. People on Mars within the next ten years. This isn't science fiction. It's astropolitics. We're entering a new space race - and it could revolutionise life on Earth. Humans are heading up and out, and we're taking our power struggles with us. Soon, what



happens in space will shape human history as much as the mountains, rivers and seas have on Earth. It's no coincidence that Russia, China and the USA are leading the way. The next fifty years will change the face of global politics. In this gripping book, best-selling author Tim Marshall lays bare the new geopolitical realities to show how we got here and where we're going.

### **Everything lost, everything found**

Matthew Hooton | Fiction

In 1929, young Jack travels with his parents to Henry Ford's rubber tree plantation in the Brazilian Amazon. In this lushly beautiful but dangerous place, he loses his much-loved mother to a horrific accident. This has terrible repercussions for his family, and Jack is eventually forced into the jungle to search for his absent

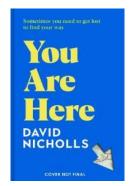


father. Seven decades later, living in the heart of Michigan's rust belt on the cusp of a new millennium, Jack faces the challenges of old age, including the gradual loss of his wife of fifty years, whose memory is disappearing even as Jack's own memories insistently resurface to invade and colonise his present.

#### You are here

**David Nicholls | Fiction** 

Michael is coming undone. Adrift after his wife's departure, he has begun taking himself on long, solitary walks across the English countryside. Becoming ever more reclusive, he'll do anything to avoid his empty house. Marnie, on the other hand, is stuck. Hiding alone in her London flat, she avoids old friends and

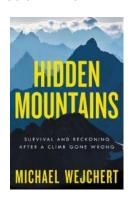


any reminders of her rotten, selfish ex-husband. Curled up with a good book, she's battling the long afternoons of a life that feels like it's passing her by. When a persistent mutual friend and some very unpredictable weather conspire to toss Michael and Marnie together on the most epic of ten-day hikes, neither of them can think of anything worse. Until, of course, they discover exactly what they've been looking for. Michael and Marnie are on the precipice of a bright future... if they can survive.

## Hidden mountains : survival and reckoning after a climb gone wrong.

Michael Weichert | Non Fiction | 796.522 WEJC

In 2018, two couples set out on an expedition to Alaska's Hidden Mountains, one of the last wild ranges in North America. A rarity in modern climbing, the peaks were nearly unexplored and untouched, a place where few people had ever visited and granite spires still awaited first ascents. Inspired by generations of daring alpinists before them,



the four friends were now compelled to strike out into uncharted territory themselves. This trip to the Hidden Mountains would be the culmination of years of climbing together, promising to test the foursome's skill and dedication to the sport. But as they would soon discover, no amount of preparation can account for the unknowns of true wilderness.



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#### All these perfect strangers

**Aoife Clifford | Fiction** 

You don't have to believe in ghosts for the dead to haunt you. You don't have to be a murderer to be guilty. 'This is about three deaths. Actually more, if you go back far enough. I say deaths but perhaps all of them were murders. It's a grey area. Murder, like beauty, is in the eye of the beholder. So let's just call them

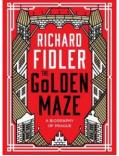


deaths and say I was involved. This story could be told a hundred different ways.' For Penelope Sheppard, university offers an escape from her troubled past. Running from a life weighed down with scandal and tragedy, Pen sees this as the ideal place to reinvent herself among perfect strangers. Life in her new halls of residence feels like a wonderland of sex, drugs, and maybe even love. But all too soon Pen realises you never can run far or fast enough. And when Pen's secrets are revealed, the consequences are deadly.

## The golden maze : a biography of Prague

Richard Fidler | Non Fiction | 943.712 FIDL

In 1989, Richard Fidler was living in London as part of the provocative Australian comedy trio The Doug Anthony All Stars when revolution broke out across Europe. Excited by this galvanising historic, human, moment, he travelled to Prague, where a decrepit police state was

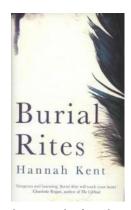


being overthrown by crowds of ecstatic citizens. His experience of the Velvet Revolution never let go of him. Thirty years later Fidler returns to Prague to uncover the glorious and grotesque history of Europe's most instagrammed and uncanny city: a jumble of gothic towers, baroque palaces and zig-zag lanes that has survived plagues, pogroms, Nazi terror and Soviet tanks. Founded in the ninth Century, Prague gave the world the golem, the robot, and the world's biggest statue of Stalin, a behemoth that killed almost everyone who touched it.

#### **Burial rites**

Hannah Kent | Fiction

Agnes is sent to wait out the time leading to her execution on the farm of District Officer Jon Jonssonm, his wife and their two daughters. Horrified to have a convicted murderess in their midst, the family avoids speaking with Agnes. Only Toti, the young assistant reverend appointed as Agnes's spiritual guardian, is compelled to try to understand

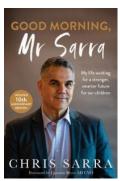


her, as he attempts to salvage her soul. As the summer months fall away to winter and the hardships of rural life force the household to work side by side, Agnes's illfated tale of longing and betrayal begins to emerge. And as the days to her execution draw closer, the question burns: did she or didn't she?

# Good morning, Mr Sarra: my life working for a stronger, smarter future for our children

Chris Sarra | Non Fiction | 923.7 SARR

One man's fight to turn the tide of low expectations. When Chris Sarra arrived as the first Aboriginal principal of Cherbourg State School, it was a time of high hopes but low expectations in Indigenous education. Over six years, he transformed the school into a national success story. Along the way, he battled the



media, the education system and a culture of complacency. Good Morning, Mr Sarra is the inspiring life story of a young boy from a country town who grew up to become Queensland's Australian of the Year, a subject of ABC's Australian Story and one of the most outspoken and recognised educators in the country. His leadership institute and its nationally acclaimed 'strong and smart' philosophy, now used in many schools, means that Indigenous children no longer hope for a better education; they can expect it.



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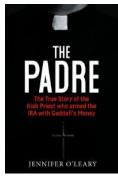
GOONDIWINDI 1st Tuesday of the month INGLEWOOD

3rd Tuesday of the month

# The Padre: the true story of the Irish priest who armed the IRA with Gaddafi's money

Jennifer O'Leary | Non Fiction | 922.2 OLEA

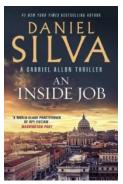
For almost two decades, Father Patrick Ryan evaded intelligence agencies across Europe and was, for a time, one of the most wanted men in Britain. In The Padre, award winning investigative journalist Jennifer O'Leary exposes the exploits of this notorious former Irish priest and active IRA supporter. Revealing



sensational details divulged to her during exclusive secret meetings with Ryan, the book lifts the lid on the true extent of the priest's involvement with the IRA and its campaign of terror across Europe, Britain and Ireland - from being a trusted link between the regime of Muammar Gaddafi and the IRA, to his involvement in improving IRA explosive devices, which made possible the almost successful assassination attempt on Margaret Thatcher and her Cabinet in Brighton.

## An inside job: a Gabriel Allon thriller Daniel Silva | Fiction

Gabriel Allon has been awarded a commission to restore one of the most important paintings in Venice. But when he discovers the body of a mysterious woman floating in the waters of the Venetian Lagoon, he finds himself in a desperate race to recover a lost masterpiece by Leonardo da Vinci. The painting,

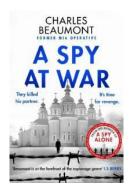


a portrait of a beautiful young girl, has been gathering dust in a storeroom at the Vatican Museums for more than a century, misattributed and hidden beneath a worthless picture by an unknown artist. Because no one knows that the Leonardo is there, no one notices when it disappears one night during a suspicious power outage. No one but the ruthless mobsters and moneymen behind the theft -- and the mysterious woman whom Gabriel found in a watery grave.

#### A spy at war

**Charles Beaumont | Fiction** 

Russia is struggling to defeat Ukraine on the battlefield. But can it win the war for influence? August 2022. Simon Sharman is out for revenge, pursuing the assassin of his former colleague across war-torn Ukraine. Back in London, a Russian spy ring at the heart of the British Government



remains active and a secret struggle is underway to counter its attempts to sabotage the West's support of Ukraine. In the fiercely contested Donbas region, Simon finds himself sucked into a terrifying shadow conflict between Russia and the West. Can a lone spy make a difference to the course of a conflict? From the ruins of Bakhmut to the corridors of Whitehall, A spy at war reveals the secret struggle for Ukraine, on the frontlines and in the arena of global public opinion.

# The strange affair of Madeleine Smith: Victorian Scotland's trial of the century

Douglas MacGowan | Non Fiction | 364.152 MACG

Emile L'Angelier was a workingclass immigrant from the Channel Islands who began a clandestine affair with prominent Glasgow socialite Madeleine Smith. Six weeks after Emile threatened to show Madeleine's father their passionate letters, on 23 March 1857, he was found dead from arsenic poisoning.



The evidence against Madeleine seemed overwhelming as she went to trial for murdering her lover. Douglas MacGowan's vivid account reads by turns like a thriller, a love story and a courtroom drama. He quotes extensively from contemporary sources, notably the pathology reports, the trial testimony and the infamous correspondence between Madeleine and Emile, whose explicit content so shocked Victorian sensibilities. Ultimately it is up to the reader to judge Madeleine's guilt or innocence.



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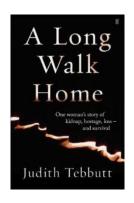
INGLEWOOD

3rd Tuesday of the month

# A long walk home : one woman's story of kidnap, hostage, loss - and survival

Judith Tebbutt with Richard T Kelly Non Fiction | 362.76 TEBB

In September 2011 Judith Tebbutt and her husband David set out on an adventurous holiday to Kenya. A couple for thirty-three years, they had first met in Zambia: Africa had played a major part in their life together. After a joyous week on safari in the Masai Mara, they flew on to a beach resort forty kilometres south of Somalia. And there, in



the early hours of 11 September, tragedy struck them. Judith was torn away from David by a band of armed pirates, dragged over sea and land to a village in the arid heart of lawless Somalia, and there held hostage in a squalid room, a ransom on her head. There, too, she learned the terrible truth that the responsibility of securing her release now rested with her son Ollie. But though she was isolated, intimidated and near-starved, Judith resolved to survive - walking endless circuits of her nine-foot prison, trying to make her captors see her as a human being, keeping her faith at all times in Ollie.

### Whale Fjord

Michael Ridpath | Fiction

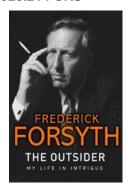
Iceland 1940. Britain invades Iceland. Lieutenant Tom Marks is a British officer tasked with defending Whale Fjord. He meets Kristín, a young widow from a nearby farm, who has a small son. Tom is smitten. Iceland 2023. Inspector Magnus Ragnarsson is called to the shores of Whale Fjord where the skeletons of a man and a woman



have been discovered, both shot with British wartime bullets. Magnus uncovers a web of anger and revenge that stretches back eighty years and forward to a shocking murder in Reykjavík.

#### The outsider: my life in intrigue Frederick Forsyth | Non Fiction | 928.21 FORS

During the course of my life, I've barely escaped the wrath of an arms dealer in Hamburg, been strafed by a MiG during the Nigerian civil war, and landed during a bloody coup in Guinea-Bissau. The Stasi arrested me, the Israelis regaled me, the IRA prompted a quick move from Ireland to England, and a certain

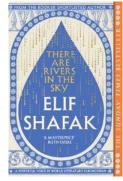


attractive Czech secret police agent - well, her actions were a bit more intimate. And that's just for starters. All of that I saw from the inside. But all that time I was, nonetheless, an outsider.' Trained first as a pilot, then as a journalist, Frederick Forsyth finally turned to fiction and became one of the most lauded thriller writers of our time.

### There are rivers in the sky

Elif Shafak | Fiction

This is the story of one lost poem, two great rivers, and three remarkable lives - all connected by a single drop of water. In the ruins of Nineveh, that ancient city of Mesopotamia, there lies hidden in the sand fragments of a long-forgotten poem, the Epic of Gilgamesh. In Victorian London, an extraordinary child is born at



the edge of the dirt-black Thames. Arthur's only chance of escaping poverty is his brilliant memory. When his gift earns him a spot as an apprentice at a printing press. In 2014 Turkey, Narin, a Yazidi girl living by the River Tigris, waits to be baptised with water brought from the holy sit of Lalish in Iraq. In 2018 London, broken-hearted Zaleekhah, a hydrologist, moves to a houseboat on the Thames to escape the wreckage of her marriage. Zaleekhah foresees a life drained of all love and meaning - until an unexpected connection to her homeland changes everything.

