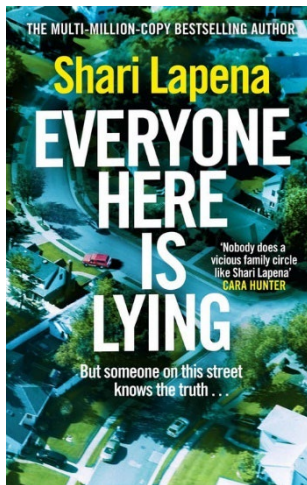


RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER READERS

<https://www.grc.qld.gov.au/homepage/108/library-lovers-book-group-online>

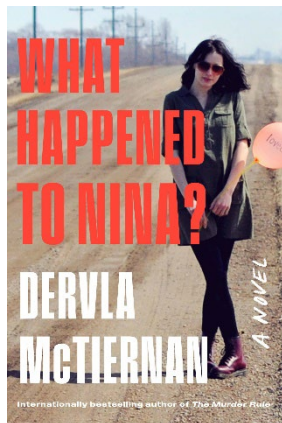
***Everyone Here is Lying* / Shari Lapena Fiction 2023**



Welcome to Stanhope! A safe neighbourhood. A place for families. William Wooler is a family man, on the surface. But he's been having an affair, an affair that ended horribly this afternoon at a motel up the road. So when he returns to his house, devastated and angry, to find his difficult nine-year-old daughter, Avery, unexpectedly home from school, William loses his temper.

Hours later, Avery's family declares her missing. Suddenly Stanhope doesn't feel so safe. And William isn't the only one on his street who's hiding a lie. As witnesses come forward with information that may or may not be true, Avery's neighbours become increasingly unhinged. Who took Avery Wooler? Nothing will prepare you for the truth.

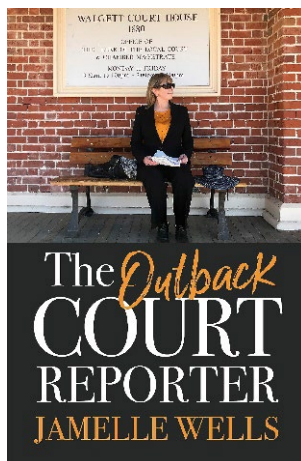
***What Happened to Nina?* / Dervla McTiernan Fiction 2024**



Nina and Simon are the perfect couple. Young, fun and deeply in love. Until they leave for a weekend at his family's cabin in Vermont, and only Simon comes home. What happened to Nina? Nobody knows. Simon's explanation about what happened in their last hours together doesn't add up. Nina's parents push the police for answers, and Simon's parents rush to protect him.... How far will his family go to keep him safe? Soon, facts are lost in a swirl of accusation and counter-accusation. Everyone chooses a side, and the story goes viral...Journalists descend on their small Vermont town. How far will her family go to get the truth? Nina's family is under siege, but they never lose sight of the only thing that really matters - finding their daughter. Out-gunned by Simon's wealthy, powerful family,

Nina's parents recognize that if playing by the rules won't get them anywhere, it's time to break them. How far will a family go in defence of their children?

***The Outback Court Reporter* / Jamelle Wells Non Fiction 2024**



A sometimes funny, sometimes tragic look at the comings and goings on inside the country courtrooms dotted across Australia.

Jamelle Wells takes you into our country courtrooms, from the grand sandstone edifices of Cobar and Grafton to the repurposed community halls and police stations in outback Queensland the Northern Territory - introducing you to the court staff - the solicitors, prosecutors, magistrates, witnesses and the accused, in cases that shock, captivate and divide communities. It is also a timely reminder of the need for reform as country magistrates struggle with massive caseloads and limited resources, the fall-out of failing regional health system and limited bail and sentencing options in a justice system that is under pressure and communities still disadvantaged by the vastness of our continent.

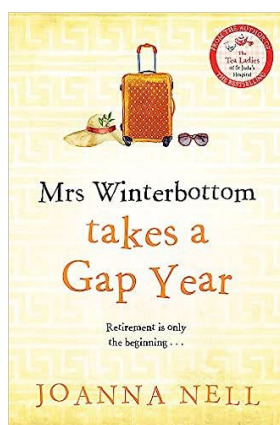
***A Home Like Ours* / Fiona Lowe Fiction 2021**



A picturesque small town, a cosy community garden, a facade of tolerance and acceptance - but when three women with wildly different loyalties come together, what secrets and lies will be revealed? A timely novel exploring prejudice and privilege, from bestselling Australian author Fiona Lowe.

Tara Hooper is at breaking point. With two young children, a business in a town struggling under an unexpected crime wave, and her husband more interested in his cricket team than their marriage, life is a juggling act. Then, when new neighbours arrive and they are exactly the sort of people the town doesn't want or need, things get worse. Life has taught Helen Demetriou two things: being homeless is terrifying and survival means keeping your cards close to your chest. Having clawed back some stability through her involvement in the community garden, she dares to relax. But as she uncovers some shady goings-on in the council, that stability turns to quicksand. For teenage mother Jade Innes, life can be lonely among the judgement of the town and the frequent absences of her boyfriend. A chance encounter draws her into the endangered community garden where she makes friends for the first time. Glimpsing a different way of life is enticing but its demands are terrifying. Does she even deserve to try? Can such disparate women unite to save the garden and ultimately stop the town from tearing itself apart?

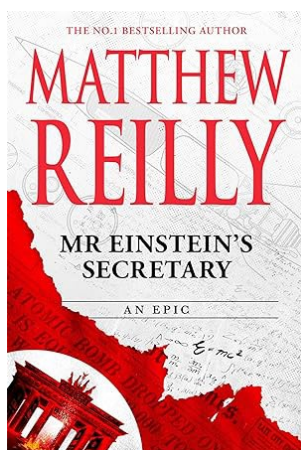
***Mrs Winterbottom Takes a Gap Year* / Joanna Nell Fiction 2023**



Husband and wife GPs Alan and Heather Winterbottom have worked side by side in their idyllic rural practice for over forty years but now they've decided to hangup their stethoscopes and retire. Joy! Celebration! Or not...

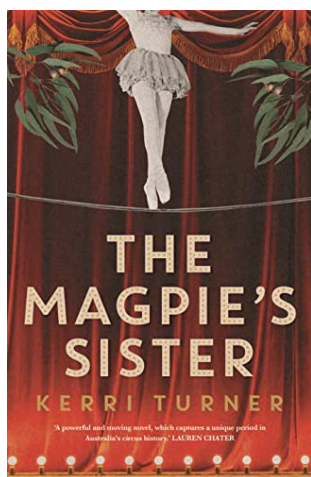
Heather dreams of exploring the Greek Islands, of escaping the shackles of her routine life and embracing an exciting new adventure. Alan dreams of growing his own vegetables. When things come to a head at a family lunch, Heather announces that she has decided to take a year off. From her old life, from her marriage - from Alan. Alone in beautiful Greece, Heather embarks on her very own odyssey - complete with unforgettable experiences, pitfalls and temptations. But could what's waiting for her back in Netherwood be Heather's biggest adventure yet?

***Mr Einstein's Secretary* / Matthew Reilly Fiction 2023**



All Hanna Fischer ever wanted to do was to study physics under the great Albert Einstein. But when, as a teenager in 1919, her life is suddenly turned upside-down, she is catapulted into a new and extraordinary life - as a secretary, a scientist, a sister and a spy. From racist gangs in Berlin to gangsters in New York City, Nazis in the 1930s and Hitler's inner circle during the Second World War, Hanna will encounter some of history's greatest minds and most terrible moments, all while desperately trying to stay alive. She is a unique secretary and she will work for many bosses - from shrewd businessmen to vile Nazis, to the greatest boss of them all, Mr Albert Einstein. Spanning 40 years, this is the thrilling tale of a young woman propelled through history's most dangerous times. But read it carefully, because all may not be as it seems.

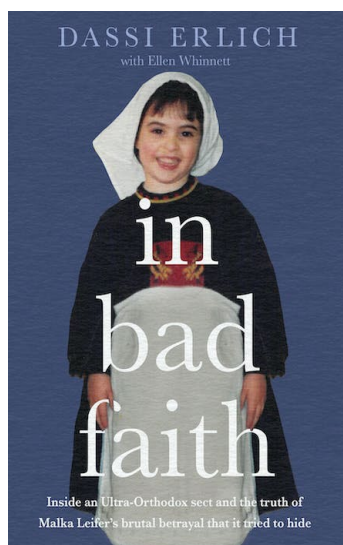
***The Magpie's Sister* / Kerri Turner Fiction 2023**



1911: Sydney, Australia. From the moment the tumours appeared on her face, Maggie Bright knew she would never live a normal life. Abandoned by her mother and then given away by her father, she spent her childhood learning to become the 'Lagoon Creature': part acrobat, part clown, part circus hand. It's not a bad life - Rafferty Braun, the ringmaster, provides her with an ongoing education, and now, as a young woman, she has the kind of freedom her condition could have easily taken away from her. As much as she tries not to, however, Maggie can't help wishing for more.

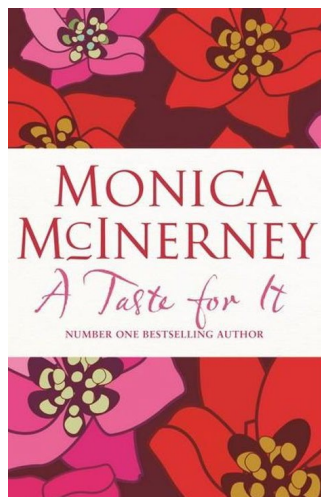
Charlotte Voigt could not be more different. The talented tightrope walker is a star of the circus, with the entertainment world at her slipper-clad feet. She is also a liar. When an opportunity arises to try on Charlotte's identity for her own, Maggie doesn't hesitate. Each new town or remote settlement brings the women closer to understanding one another. Resentments begin to fade, but in their place are secrets that could undo the delicate trust they've built. The sawdust road will test their willpower. The truth will determine their futures..

***In Bad Faith* / Dassi Erlich with Ellen Whinnett Non Fiction 2024**



As a young girl growing up in a strict ultra-Orthodox family, Dassi's life was preordained - marry young, live a devout life and raise children within the Adass community's religious rules. This righteous path would keep her safe from the immodest, secular world just a few blocks away in suburban Melbourne. But the Adass community was not safe for Dassi. She was fifteen when her revered school principal, Malka Leifer, started to single her out. Dassi's cloistered and harsh upbringing meant she didn't have the words for what was happening to her, but she knew it was very, very wrong. It would take her years to break free of the secrecy which pervaded the community and tell the police of her betrayal. And only then would she find out others, including two of her sisters, had also been abused, and would learn some in the Adass community had helped Leifer flee to Israel. Dassi found the strength to fight, leading a brave fifteen-year campaign to bring Leifer back to face Australian courts.

***A Taste for it* / Monica McInerney Fiction 2018**

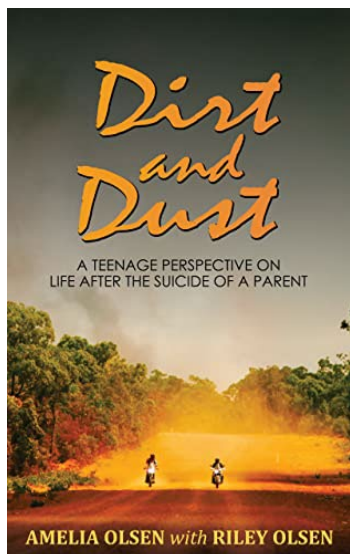


Maura Carmody's off on the trip of a lifetime. A talented chef, she's travelling around Ireland for a month to promote Australian food and wine. She's expecting a straightforward business trip.

But what she gets is a whirlwind of mishaps, misunderstandings, rivals and revelations - and Dominic Hanrahan, who's giving her plenty of food for thought. Set in Ireland and Australia.

Dirt and dust : a teenage perspective on life after the suicide of a parent

Amelia Olsen with Riley Olsen Non Fiction 2021

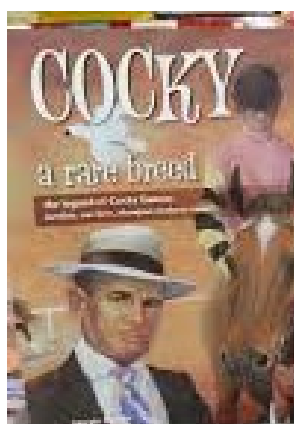


The tumultuous story of circumstances surrounding the death of a family member, told by eighteen-year-old Riley and his mum, Amelia, who rode 1400-kilometres on dirt bikes to the tip of Cape York, Queensland - the most northern point of Australia.

With a combination of Amelia's hilarious, yet heart-warming struggle to complete the physical challenges of the ride, along with Riley's attempt to comprehend the loss of his father, this account of their epic journey makes a tough topic an easy read.

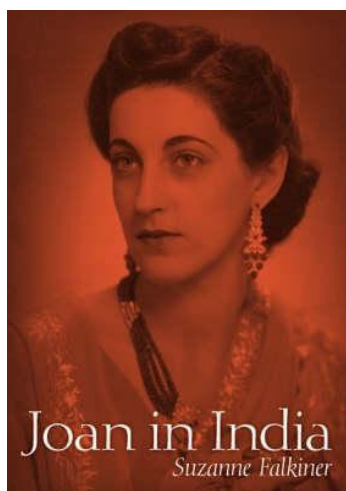
COCKY a Rare Breed : The Legend of Cocky Easton: Larrikin, War Hero, Champion Racehorse

Trainer / Brown, Margaret Non Fiction 2015



The Cocky Easton story is a remarkable tale of mateship and survival in the Australian bush, in the Japanese POW camps during WWII, and around the racetracks during the 1950s and 1960s. It is a compilation of other people's stories presented in a narrative style. Charles William 'Cocky' Easton was a war hero, awarded the highest honour for a volunteer during WWII, the Military Medal. He returned to South West Queensland at the end of the war to train racehorses and achieved seven winners in seven races at Eulo in 1956, and he did it a second time in Cunnamulla on 6 May 1961. Cocky was no saint and he will be remembered for his roguish behaviour and irreverent sense of humour. His racetrack antics are legendary and already celebrated in verse, including the time he moved the three-furlong post at Charleville. His natural talent for skulduggery was honed on the bush racetracks before the war, and put to good use when his life and the lives of his POW comrades depended on it. He stole, borrowed and pilfered food and drugs to keep his mates alive during their internment, but he will be remembered for lifting their spirits in the camps when all hope seemed lost. Cocky Easton was a rare breed...and we won't meet anyone quite like him again.

Joan in India / Suzanne Falkiner Non Fiction 2008



A biography of Joan Falkiner (1917-2003). In 1939 young Joan Falkiner's spirited flight from South Yarra to princely India and her marriage to the Muslim ruler of a small state in Gujarat sent shockwaves through Melbourne society and political reverberations throughout the Raj and the highest reaches of the British Government. How did it all come about? And who was Joan, exactly? Her names offer a glimpse Her Highness the Begum of Palanpur, Madame Palanpur, Jahan Ara, Jha, plain Joan, daughter of a family of self-made sheepmen from the Riverina. Through interviews conducted in Melbourne, Mumbai and the south of France, research in the India Office Library in London, and her own observations while travelling in modern India, Suzanne Falkiner succeeds remarkably in reassembling the pieces of the puzzle that was Joan.