

Dark Roots Stories Cate Kennedy

The Best Australian Stories 2010 Australian Love Stories The Best Australian Stories 2009 The Best Australian Poems 2011 Sunny Days Portable Curiosities An Astronaut's Life Going Home Like You'd Understand, Anyway The Hunter and other stories of men Where You Find it The World Beneath Sing, and Don't Cry An Elderly Lady Is Up to No Good Thrill Me Souls in the Twilight The Butcherbird Stories The Dead Fish Museum Million Dollar Baby Like a House on Fire Bound for the Promised Land Goodnight, Nobody The Best Australian Stories 2011 The Taste of River Water The Best Australian Stories 2010 My Life in the Sea of Cars Why Visit America A Room Made of Leaves Arms Race The Penguin Book of Modern British Short Stories The Best Australian Stories 2007 Just Sex Document Z Literacy World Satellites Fiction Stage 3 Short Stories 1 Dark Roots What Now, Tilda B? Civil War Stories (Book Center Editions) Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living The Weight of a Human Heart The First Stone

The Best Australian Stories 2010

In sparkling prose, Sonja Dechian's profound, moving and wry stories speak to our deepest yearning for connection and the inevitability of our isolation. From a terrorist cell of cyber-bullying victims working to annihilate the digital memory of their humiliation to a pandemic that leaves grieving parents battling for the media spotlight, these affecting tales invite us to examine our inability to control the world around us—and our own desires. *An Astronaut's Life* is a beautiful debut from an intelligent new voice in Australian writing. Sonja Dechian is a writer, editor, and radio and TV producer. She has co-edited two collections of stories about the Australian refugee experience, *Dark Dreams* and *No Place Like Home* (Wakefield Press). 'Head-spinning, sometimes spine-tingling. Every story here is a strange and remarkable gem.' Wayne Macauley 'By the final page I was fully immersed in the book's world—one both fantastical and eerily similar to real life. I wished I could have stayed longer.' Bookseller & Publisher '[It's] great reading the work of such an inventive writer, and I'm incredibly interested to see where she takes us next.' Readings '[Dechian's] best stories have a sustained voice, simple and nimble...The places she takes you turn out to be well worth the time.' Saturday Paper 'An Astronaut's Life announces the arrival of a deeply original voice.' Weekend Australian 'These stories don't contain all the answers to the questions they pose, but they illuminate the ways humans adapt or otherwise to life's challenges - both big and seemingly extreme, as well as small, domestic, and apparently insignificant. Dechian has a light touch so that while her writing is intelligent it is never dense, and *An Astronaut's Life* is the salve for anyone who thinks plot-driven literary fiction is an oxymoron.' Age/Sydney Morning Herald '[An Astronaut's Life] is a well-written book by an accomplished author who skillfully manages to draw you completely into the lives of the people she is writing about.' Weekly Times 'With a steady, no-nonsense prose style, peculiar scenarios and subtle turns in plot, *An Astronaut's Life* reflects our messy world [The stories] all share a unique quirk-quality that mixes with profound compassion.' Rochford Street Review

Australian Love Stories

Maud is an irascible 88-year-old Swedish woman with no family, no friends, and no qualms about a little murder. This funny, irreverent story collection by Helene Tursten, author of the Irene Huss investigations, features two-never-before translated stories that will keep you laughing all the way to the retirement home. Ever since her darling father's untimely death when she was only eighteen, Maud has lived in the family's spacious apartment in downtown Gothenburg rent-free, thanks to a minor clause in a hastily negotiated contract. That was how Maud learned that good things can come from tragedy. Now in her late eighties, Maud contents herself with traveling the world and surfing the net from the comfort of her father's ancient armchair. It's a solitary existence, and she likes it that way. Over the course of her adventures--or misadventures--this little bold lady will handle a crisis with a local celebrity who has her eyes on Maud's apartment, foil the engagement of her long-ago lover, and dispose of some pesky neighbors. But when the local authorities are called to investigate a dead body found in Maud's apartment, will Maud finally become a suspect?

The Best Australian Stories 2009

The first new novel in almost ten years from award-winning, best-selling author Kate Grenville.

The Best Australian Poems 2011

Hot on the heels of the highest-selling Best Stories in 2006, Robert Drewe is promising another sparkling collection of the best short work our fiction writers have produced in the last twelve months.

Sunny Days

The essential, "richly researched"* biography of Harriet Tubman, revealing a complex woman who "led a remarkable life, one that her race, her sex, and her origins make all the more extraordinary" (*The New York Times Book Review). Harriet Tubman is one of the giants of American history—a fearless visionary who led scores of her fellow slaves to freedom and battled courageously behind enemy lines during the Civil War. Now, in this magnificent biography, historian Kate Clifford Larson gives us a powerful, intimate, meticulously detailed portrait of Tubman and her times. Drawing from a trove of new documents and sources as well as extensive genealogical data, Larson presents Harriet Tubman as a complete human being—brilliant, shrewd, deeply religious, and passionate in her pursuit of freedom. A true American hero, Tubman was also a woman who loved, suffered, and sacrificed. Praise for *Bound for the Promised Land* "[Bound for the Promised Land] appropriately reads like fiction, for Tubman's exploits required such intelligence, physical stamina and pure fearlessness that only a very few would have even contemplated the feats that she actually undertook. . . . Larson captures Tubman's determination and seeming imperviousness to pain and suffering, coupled with an extraordinary selflessness and caring for others."—The Seattle Times "Essential for those interested in Tubman and her causes . . . Larson does an especially thorough job of . . . uncovering relevant documents, some of them long hidden by history and neglect."—The Plain Dealer "Larson has captured

Harriet Tubman's clandestine nature . . . reading Ms. Larson made me wonder if Tubman is not, in fact, the greatest spy this country has ever produced."—The New York Sun

Portable Curiosities

This is a book of six short stories. First is about an inexperienced young girl who, when she was publicly humiliated, instead of running and crying, she gets the ultimate revenge when she becomes an Internet star. Next is an average girl who changed her life when she answered an ad to become a licensed sex worker at a brothel in Pahrump, Nevada. where after a tragedy, she finds unexpected love. The third story is about a girl who grew up in a very old house in Maine, only to find out she ha

An Astronaut's Life

Newspaperman, short-story writer, poet, and satirist, Ambrose Bierce (1842–1914) is one of the most striking and unusual literary figures America has produced. Dubbed "Bitter Bierce" for his vitriolic wit and biting satire, his fame rests largely on a celebrated compilation of barbed epigrams, *The Devil's Dictionary*, and a book of short stories (*Tales of Soldiers and Civilians*, 1891). Most of the 16 selections in this volume have been taken from the latter collection. The stories in this edition include: "What I Saw at Shiloh," "A Son of the Gods," "Four Days in Dixie," "One of the Missing," "A Horseman in the Sky," "The Coup de Grace," "An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge," "The Story of Conscience," "One Kind of Officer," "Chickamauga," and five more. Bierce's stories employ a buildup of suggestive realistic detail to produce grim and vivid tales often disturbing in their mood of fatalism and impending calamity. Hauntingly suggestive, they offer excellent examples of the author's dark pessimism and storytelling power.

Going Home

Sometimes comic, sometimes tragic, this collection turns the rules of storytelling on their head. A series of graphs illustrates the disintegration of a marriage, step by excruciating step. A literary stoush – and an affair – play out in the book review section of a national newspaper. The heartbreaking story of a Rwandan boy is hidden within his English exam paper. A young girl learns her mother's disturbing secrets through the broken key on a typewriter. Ranging from Australia to Africa to China and back again, *The Weight of a Human Heart* heralds a fresh new voice in Australian literature. "Stories full of wit, irony, wild invention, love and pain — and sometimes shocking power." – Paddy O'Reilly "By turns acerbic, playful and serious, O'Neill is equally at home with satire and pathos." – Cate Kennedy "With each new story O'Neill redefines the boundaries of what is possible" – Patrick Cullen

Like You'd Understand, Anyway

'One of the most singular and impressive collections of contemporary stories to appear in Australia.' Adam Shoemaker, *The Australian* From Archie Weller, a

pioneering Aboriginal writer, comes an outstanding collection of stories which should, according to Nancy Keesing in the Sydney Morning Herald, be read by 'Every one of us, white, black, brindle, old, or about 13-plus.' 'Weller invokes romantic visions of Aboriginal ancestors, kings of the old civilisation with its laws and religions.' L.V. Kepert, Sun Herald

The Hunter and other stories of men

There is little to match the pleasurable, exhilarating rush when we know we are in the hands of a writer with authority. Their power is like a kind of charisma - we allow ourselves to be willingly, absolutely persuaded.' - Cate Kennedy In The Best Australian Stories 2010, Cate Kennedy presents a seductive line - up of the year's most exciting short fiction, featuring the best work from publications around the country alongside pieces published here for the first time. A literary feud unfolds, blow by comical blow, in the books pages of a Sydney newspaper. Ned Kelly's mother has her day in court. And as flood waters slowly rise in a small Australian town, a woman quietly watches and waits. By turns playful, heart - wrenching, intimate and exuberant, these twenty - nine stories reveal the strength and variety of Australian fiction today. The authors include first - timers as well as established masters, and the result is a stimulatingly diverse collection. Contributors include: Robert Drewe, Nam Le, Karen Hitchcock, Paddy O'Reilly, John Kinsella, Anna Krien, David Francis, Chris Womersley, Ryan O'Neill, Dorothy Simmons, Louise D'Arcy, Joshua Lobb, Tim Herbert, Michael Sala, Sherryl Clarke, A.S. Patric, Josephine Rowe, Mike Ladd, Meg Mundell, David Mence, Fiona McFarlane, Cory Taylor, Antonia Baldo, Suvi Mahonen, David Kelly, Joanne Riccioni, Stephanie Buckle, Gillian Essex, Michael McGirr.

Where You Find it

WINNER OF THE 2013 STEELE RUDD AWARD, QUEENSLAND LITERARY AWARDS SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2013 STELLA PRIZE SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2013 KIBBLE AWARD From prize-winning short-story writer Cate Kennedy comes a new collection to rival her highly acclaimed Dark Roots. In Like a House on Fire, Kennedy once again takes ordinary lives and dissects their ironies, injustices and pleasures with her humane eye and wry sense of humour. In 'Laminex and Mirrors', a young woman working as a cleaner in a hospital helps an elderly patient defy doctor's orders. In 'Cross-Country', a jilted lover manages to misinterpret her ex's new life. And in 'Ashes', a son accompanies his mother on a journey to scatter his father's remains, while lifelong resentments simmer in the background. Cate Kennedy's poignant short stories find the beauty and tragedy in illness and mortality, life and love. PRAISE FOR CATE KENNEDY 'This is a heartfelt and moving collection of short stories that cuts right to the emotional centre of everyday life.' Bookseller and Publisher 'Cate Kennedy is a singular artist who looks to the ordinary in a small rural community and is particularly astute on exploring the fallout left by the aftermath of the personal disasters that change everything.' The Irish Times

The World Beneath

Evdokia knew that the crowd was here for her. Hunting her. From the back seat of the Cadillac, she peered into their faces beyond the glass. Angry looks. Perplexed and desolate. Some were already shouting, trying the handles on the doors. There were Russian voices. English voices. Several times the sound of her name. She was certain these people would kill her before they'd let her through the terminal and onto the plane. Beside her, Zharkov thrust the door open and Evdokia stepped out following, thinking she must be mad. Just close your eyes, she thought. Keep your feet marching like the Pioneer Youth. Guns under the jackets of her escorts. This might be it, she realised. A chaos building, a climbing potential. Defector's Wife Dies in Airport Shootout. Canberra, 1951. The Cold War is at its height. Into an atmosphere of paranoia, rumour and suspicion, Vladimir and Evdokia Petrov are among a group of new arrivals at the Soviet Embassy in Canberra. Both are party loyalists, working for the MVD, Moscow intelligence. Yet all is not well in the new city of Canberra. The atmosphere in the Embassy is tense and suspicious; the Ambassador resents their presence, and is secretly working to have Vladimir disgraced and recalled. In the meantime, ASIO are determined to discover who in this new group works for the MVD. Only three short years later, Vladimir has defected and his wife Evdokia is held prisoner at the Soviet Embassy, waiting to be transported back to Russia to face punishment or death for his crime. How did it come to this? A tightly told story of secrets, lies, deception and betrayal - both personal and political - Document Z, the winner of The Australian/Vogel Literary Award, is a taut and atmospheric novel of political espionage and intrigue which brings our recent history vividly and immediately to life. 'Impressive. A distinctive voice, taut writing a brooding atmosphere of shadows and spooks.' - Marele Day 'A remarkable achievement . . . a story that is emotionally and politically complex as well as consistently human . . . distinctive and significant' - Matt Rubinstein 'Very impressive . . . absorbing, sophisticated beautiful suspenseful writing. A powerful and complex piece, wonderfully crafted.' - Cate Kennedy

Sing, and Don't Cry

This anthology is in many ways a 'best of the best', containing gems from thirty-four of Britain's outstanding contemporary writers. It is a book to dip into, to read from cover to cover, to lend to friends and read again. It includes stories of love and crime, stories touched with comedy and the supernatural, stories set in London, Los Angeles, Bucharest and Tokyo. Above all, as you will discover, it satisfies Samuel Butler's anarchic pleasure principle: 'I should like to like Schumann's music better than I do; I daresay I could make myself like it better if I tried; but I do not like having to try to make myself like things; I like things that make me like them at once and no trying at all'

An Elderly Lady Is Up to No Good

Brimming with anticipation, humour, desire and strangeness these stories will quicken your senses. In Thrill Me, thirty-one award-winning and emerging Australian storytellers write to thrill and move you. Read on if you dare. These stories will leave an unshakable imprint on you.

Thrill Me

Sing, and Don't Cry is Cate Kennedy's sensual and touching evocation of her time spent working as a volunteer in small town Mexico. The people she comes to love in Tequisquiapan, and their gusto for celebration, pilgrimage and family, force her to cast a penetrating light on her own Western values and ways. 'What is truly essential, and who is truly poor?' asks Kennedy in a book that also challenges the reader to care more for his or her world. Described as 'a travel book with a social conscience' this essential memoir, from the award-winning fiction writer and poet, is funny, warm, yet ultimately disarming.

Souls in the Twilight

"Heartbreakingly detailed . . . vibrant—and vital" prize-winning stories by an Australian contributor to *The New Yorker* (*Entertainment Weekly*). In this "coolly exact . . . sharp, evocative and often poetic" collection of award-winning short fiction, Cate Kennedy daringly travels to the deepest depths of the human psyche to explore the collision between simmering inner lives, the cold outside world, and the hidden motivations that propel us all to act (*The New York Times Book Review*). Kennedy captures entire lives, expertly documenting the risks and compromises made in both forging and escaping relationships. Her "17 standout stories" are populated by people on the brink: whether it's a woman floundering with her own loss and emotional immobility as her lover lies in a coma; a neglected wife who cannot convince her husband of the truth about his two brutish, shamelessly libidinous friends; or a married woman who comes to realize that her too-tight wedding ring isn't the only thing that's stuck in her relationship (*Elle*). Each character must make a choice and none is without consequence—even the smallest decisions have the power to destroy or renew, to recover and relinquish. Devastating, evocative, richly comic, and "full of provocative messages, tantalizingly revealed", *Dark Roots* deftly unveils the traumas that incite us to desperate measures and the coincidences that drive our lives (*O, The Oprah Magazine*). "With an effortless talent for the comic and the chilling, Cate Kennedy has crafted stories that are sly, seductive, and surprising. A standout debut" (*Alicia Erian*, author of *Towelhead*).

The Butcherbird Stories

Data theft, internet memes, advertising, terrorism, indigenous sovereignty, drone warfare, opium addiction, syphilis, the moon landing, mining, oil slicks, climate change, giant octopuses: nothing is spared in this collection. Nic Low's stories go beyond satire, aiming for the dark heart of our collective obsession with technology, power and image. Set variously in London, an Indian village, remote Mongolia, the West Australian outback and mountainous New Zealand, these are prescient visions of the future and outlandish reimaginings of the past. *Arms Race* is an arresting debut from a fierce, playful new voice in Australian writing. Nic Low is an author and artist of Ngai Tahu and European descent. Born in Christchurch, he now divides his time between Melbourne and a bush retreat near Castlemaine. Nic's fiction, essays and criticism have appeared in the *Big Issue*, *Monthly*, *Griffith REVIEW*, *Lifted Brow*, *Art Monthly* and *Australian Book Review*, and until recently he ran *Asialink's* international writing program. His second book, a literary exploration of New Zealand's Southern Alps, will be published by Text in 2016. 'I would not be surprised to rediscover these stories thirty, twenty, even ten years from now, and

remark at their prescience.' Readings

The Dead Fish Museum

A biting collection of stories from a bold new voice. A young girl sees ghosts from her third eye, located where her belly button should be. A corporate lawyer feels increasingly disconnected from his job in a soulless 1200-storey skyscraper. And a one-dimensional yellow man steps out from a cinema screen in the hope of leading a three-dimensional life, but everyone around him is fixated only on the color of his skin. Welcome to Portable Curiosities. In these dark and often fantastical stories, Julie Koh combines absurd humour with searing critiques on modern society, proving herself to be one of Australia's most original and daring young writers.

Million Dollar Baby

The boxing stories that inspired the Oscar-winning Clint Eastwood film: a New York Times Notable Book from "a heavyweight fiction contender" (Publishers Weekly). F. X. Toole knew boxing. Between bouts, he wrote, and two years before his death he published this collection of stories, giving readers an unprecedented look at the gritty life around the ring. He tells of a cutman with a sweet tooth, young fighters with dreams of celebrity, and a talented boxer who goes to Atlantic City for his biggest bout, only to be humiliated by the prejudices of a callous promoter. In "Million \$\$\$ Baby," the inspiration for the Oscar-winning Clint Eastwood film, an aged trainer takes on a female fighter, guiding her through disappointment, pain, and tragedy. And in "Rope Burns," Toole realizes his epic vision, showing that even the purest fighter can succumb to the pressures of the world outside the sport. Throughout these stories, boxing's violence is redeemed by the respect these men and women share, as they strap on gloves and prepare their bodies for the ultimate test. This ebook features an illustrated biography of F. X. Toole including rare images and never-before-seen documents from the author's estate.

Like a House on Fire

Between these pages lie imaginary lovers, unattainable lovers, star-crossed lovers and predestined lovers. There is straight love, same sex love and some very curious love. And all the while, Love's attendants - Cupid, lust, obsession, and betrayal - dance through this volume that contributes to the growing tradition of writing on an Australian kind of love.

Bound for the Promised Land

A short story collection by the acclaimed author whom Esquire called a "writer of the first rank" finds magic in the lives of an ornithologist, Confederate soldiers, and other ordinary people who populate such tales as "Birdland" and "Killing Stonewall Jackson." Reprint.

Goodnight, Nobody

Equal parts speculative and satirical, the stories in Why Visit America form an

exegesis of our current political predicament, while offering an eloquent plea for connection and hope. The citizens of Plainfield, Texas, have had it with the broke-down United States. So they vote to secede, rename themselves America in memory of their former country, and happily set themselves up to receive tourists from their closest neighbor: America. Couldn't happen? Well, it might, and so it goes in the thirteen stories in Matthew Baker's brilliantly illuminating, incisive, and heartbreaking collection *Why Visit America*. The book opens with a seemingly traditional story in which the speculative element is extremely minimal—the narrator has a job that doesn't actually exist—a story that wouldn't seem much out of place in a collection of literary realism. From there the stories get progressively stranger: a young man breaks the news to his family that he is going to transition—from an analog body to a digital existence. A young woman abducts a child—her own—from a government-run childcare facility. A man returns home after committing a great crime, his sentence being that his memory—his entire life—is wiped clean. As the book moves from universe to universe, the stories cross between different American genres: from bildungsroman to rom com, western to dystopian, including fantasy, horror, erotica, and a noir detective mystery. Read together, these parallel-universe stories create a composite portrait of the true nature of the United States and a *Through the Looking-Glass* reflection of who we are as a country.

The Best Australian Stories 2011

'What a rich, strange and diverse lot these poems turned out to be I suspect that these baroque and potent imaginings can only have come into existence as fragments of dreams or nightmares.' - John Tranter In "The Best Australian Poems 2011," celebrated poet John Tranter selects the most vigorous, varied and interesting poems of the last year. This sparkling collection shines a light on the phantasmagorical nature of poetry, evoking images, transformations and events that range from the playful to the melancholy by way of exuberance and satire. Featuring award-winning poems alongside brand-new works, as well as a mix of emerging and renowned poets, this is a volume of surreal beauty and emotional resonance. Poets include: Robert Adamson, Ali Alizadeh, Jude Aquilina, Ken Bolton, Pam Brown, Joanne Burns, Sarah Day, Bruce Dawe, Kate Fagan, Michael Farrell, Angela Gardner, Geoff Goodfellow, Lisa Gorton, Jennifer Harrison, Sarah Holland-Batt, Jill Jones, Cate Kennedy, Andy Kissane, Mike Ladd, Kate Lilley, Jennifer Maiden, David McCooey, Les Murray, Ouyang Yu, Felicity Plunkett, Peter Rose, Gig Ryan, Jaya Savige, Thomas Shapcott, Craig Sherborne, Pete Spence, Peter Steele, Maria Takolander, Andrew Taylor, Tim Thorne, Chris Wallace-Crabbe, Alan Wearne and many more

The Taste of River Water

Independent young Jean Finnegan embarks on a scientific life in Australia at the side of agricultural expert Robert Pettergree, with whom she shares a passionate marriage at the beginning of World War II.

The Best Australian Stories 2010

James Murray recounts nine days spent in the remote and beautiful landscapes of the Northern Territory, yet this is much more than a book about bushwalking. A delicate hymn to the wilderness of Northern Australia, *My Life in the Sea of Cars: A Letter from Arnhem Land* is a journey of personal exploration and self discovery, and a passionate argument for a new way of living. The ways in which rampant consumerism, and an obsession with the motor car have become so entrenched in people's lives is explored through relationships, memory, culture, identity and the meditative act of walking. When Murray candidly reveals his own family secrets and likely ancestry his book takes on yet another dimension. Totally original, and heartbreakingly honest, Murray asks us the difficult, awkward questions that will not go away. Where has our culture gone so wrong?

My Life in the Sea of Cars

Years after the breakup of her idealistically minded parents, 15-year-old Sophie accompanies her father on a backpacking trip through Tasmania in the hopes of establishing their bond before suspicion and overconfidence trigger an unexpected chain of events. Original.

Why Visit America

From the Scottish author of "Foreign Parts" comes a collection of short stories that gazes unflinchingly at the struggle to love against the odds.

A Room Made of Leaves

Following his widely acclaimed *Project X* and *Love and Hydrogen*—"Here is the effect of these two books," wrote the *Chicago Tribune*: "A reader finishes them buzzing with awe"—Jim Shepard now gives us his first entirely new collection in more than a decade. Like *You'd Understand, Anyway* reaches from Chernobyl to Bridgeport, with a host of narrators only Shepard could bring to pitch-perfect life. Among them: a middle-aged Aeschylus taking his place at Marathon, still vying for parental approval. A maddeningly indefatigable Victorian explorer hauling his expedition, whaleboat and all, through the Great Australian Desert in midsummer. The first woman in space and her cosmonaut lover, caught in the star-crossed orbits of their joint mission. Two Texas high school football players at the top of their food chain, soliciting their fathers' attention by leveling everything before them on the field. And the rational and compassionate chief executioner of Paris, whose occupation, during the height of the Terror, eats away at all he holds dear. Brimming with irony, compassion, and withering humor, these eleven stories are at once eerily pertinent and dazzlingly exotic, and they showcase the work of a protean, prodigiously gifted writer at the height of his form. Reading Jim Shepard, according to Michael Chabon, "is like encountering our national literature in microcosm."

Arms Race

"In the fall, I went for walks and brought home bones. The best bones weren't on trails—deer and moose don't die conveniently—and soon I was wandering so far

into the woods that I needed a map and compass to find my way home. When winter came and snow blew into the mountains, burying the bones, I continued to spend my days and often my nights in the woods. I vaguely understood that I was doing this because I could no longer think; I found relief in walking up hills. When the night temperatures dropped below zero, I felt visited by necessity, a baseline purpose, and I walked for miles, my only objective to remain upright, keep moving, preserve warmth. When I was lost, I told myself stories . . .” So Charles D’Ambrosio recounted his life in Philipsburg, Montana, the genesis of the brilliant stories collected here, six of which originally appeared in *The New Yorker*. Each of these eight burnished, terrifying, masterfully crafted stories is set against a landscape that is both deeply American and unmistakably universal. A son confronts his father’s madness and his own hunger for connection on a misguided hike in the Pacific Northwest. A screenwriter fights for his sanity in the bleak corridors of a Manhattan psych ward while lusting after a ballerina who sets herself ablaze. A Thanksgiving hunting trip in Northern Michigan becomes the scene of a haunting reckoning with marital infidelity and desperation. And in the magnificent title story, carpenters building sets for a porn movie drift dreamily beneath a surface of sexual tension toward a racial violence they will never fully comprehend. Taking place in remote cabins, asylums, Indian reservations, the backroads of Iowa and the streets of Seattle, this collection of stories, as muscular and challenging as the best novels, is about people who have been orphaned, who have lost connection, and who have exhausted the ability to generate meaning in their lives. Yet in the midst of lacerating difficulty, the sensibility at work in these fictions boldly insists on the enduring power of love. D’Ambrosio conjures a world that is fearfully inhospitable, darkly humorous, and touched by glory; here are characters, tested by every kind of failure, who struggle to remain human, whose lives have been sharpened rather than numbed by adversity, whose apprehension of truth and beauty has been deepened rather than defeated by their troubles. Many writers speak of the abyss. Charles D’Ambrosio writes as if he is inside of it, gazing upward, and the gaze itself is redemptive, a great yearning ache, poignant and wondrous, equal parts grit and grace. A must read for everyone who cares about literary writing, *The Dead Fish Museum* belongs on the same shelf with the best American short fiction.

The Penguin Book of Modern British Short Stories

In *The Best Australian Stories 2011*, Cate Kennedy presents the most outstanding short fiction of the past year.

The Best Australian Stories 2007

Only a day ago, things were normal. As normal as this year gets anyway. Tilda Braint is nearly sixteen, restless and having trouble figuring out what on earth she's supposed to do next. Living in a small coastal town doesn't help either. When two seals land in the middle of Tilda's life, they turn it upside down. They're a long way from home and may well be lost. For Tilda, the seals may turn out to be in exactly the right place at exactly the right time. A novel about finding yourself, your friends and your future

Just Sex

A complete solution for literacy at Key Stage 2

Document Z

After searching high and low for the year's outstanding short fiction, Delia Falconer has selected masterful stories from some of the country's best-loved authors and exciting work from the up-and-coming. 'Stories don't have the novel's luxury of great swathes of time, its layerings, its wanderings, its counterpoints,' she observes. 'Instead, they must cut to the bone straightaway . . . Sometimes they capture a shift in a whole world; at other times they put into words a mood or tone that we might not have seen, until it appears so beautifully before us.' With their wry humour, quiet intensity and elegant economy, these stories display Australian writing at its diverse, unpredictable best.

Literacy World Satellites Fiction Stage 3 Short Stories 1

As the lights that have guided us go out, people begin to wander in the twilight, seeking their place of belonging. In these stories, set in recent times, but before the blinding glare of social media, Roger Scruton describes the remembered landscapes of people who are not where they belong, and not quite where they wished to be. With unfailing lightness of touch, Scruton portrays characters who cannot let go of the past: Yusuf, set on a path of revenge that bears no relation to his teenage life; Bill who wanders the world in his imagination but cannot leave his suburban living room; Sarah, whose insane mission to save the Lebanese Christians brings disaster to the only person she loves; Veronica, whose determination to look the truth in the face wraps her young life in deception--all of them lost to their surroundings and yet touchingly seeking a home in them. For lovers of the short story, these exquisite pictures of modern people will be cherished for their insight and poetic drama.

Dark Roots

Eleven stories. Each like a matchstick struck to illuminate the darkness. Evocations of place ranging from a Bangla jungle to the deep, blue Danube to a winter beach in Melbourne excite and seduce. But what truly draws the reader in are the unexpected landscapes of people's lives, explored with rare sensitivity, grace and a fearless truthfulness. A lonely St Kilda chef invites a beautiful busker to use his spare room. A father sings a lullaby to comfort his young daughter who has woken from a nightmare. A taxi driver picks up an old-world gentleman who is reluctant to disclose his destination. A young immigrant boy growing up in the western suburbs of Melbourne daydreams of infinite possibility. Death, loneliness, passion and belief: Patrić takes on the big questions in life and writes about the small people of the world with stylistic verve and deep humanity. This collection of stories reveals the author, best known for his award-winning novels, as a true master of the short story form. 'One of the most interesting and valuable writers working in Australia today.' — The Australian

What Now, Tilda B?

In the autumn of 1992, two young women students at Melbourne University went to the police claiming that they had been indecently assaulted at a party. The man they accused was the head of their co-ed residential college. The shock of these charges split the community and painfully focused the debate about sex and power. 'This is writing of great boldness and it will wring the heart an intense, eloquent and enthralling work'-AUSTRALIAN'This was never going to be an easy book to write, its pages are bathed in anguish and self-doubt, but suffused also with a white-hot anger'-GOOD WEEKEND'Travelling with Garner along the complex paths of this sad story is, strangely enough, enjoyable. The First Stone [is] a book worth reading for its writing'-SYDNEY MORNING HERALD ' Garner has ensured one thing: the debate about sexual harassment will now have a very public airing. And it will have it in the language of experience to which all women and men have access'-AGE

Civil War Stories (Book Center Editions)

'There is little to match the pleasurable, exhilarating rush when we know we are in the hands of a writer with authority. Their power is like a kind of charisma - we allow ourselves to be willingly, absolutely persuaded.' - Cate Kennedy In The Best Australian Stories 2010, Cate Kennedy presents a seductive line-up of the year's most exciting short fiction, featuring the best work from publications around the country alongside pieces published here for the first time. A literary feud unfolds, blow by comical blow, in the books pages of a Sydney newspaper. Ned Kelly's mother has her day in court. And as flood waters slowly rise in a small Australian town, a woman quietly watches and waits. By turns playful, heart-wrenching, intimate and exuberant, these twenty-nine stories reveal the strength and variety of Australian fiction today. The authors include first-timers as well as established masters, and the result is a stimulatingly diverse collection. Contributors include Robert Drewe, Nam Le, Karen Hitchcock, John Kinsella, Paddy O'Reilly, Anna Krien and many more.

Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living

From bestselling writer David Kamp, the engrossing, behind-the-scenes story of the cultural heroes who created the beloved children's TV programs Sesame Street, The Electric Company, Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Free to Be You and Me, and Schoolhouse Rock!—which collectively transformed American childhood for the better, teaching kids about diversity, the ABCs, and feminism through a fun, funky 1970s lens. With a foreword by Questlove In 1970, on a soundstage on Manhattan's Upper West Side, a group of men, women, and Muppets of various ages and colors worked doggedly to finish the first season of a children's TV program that was not yet assured a second season: Sesame Street. They were conducting an experiment to see if television could be used to better prepare disadvantaged preschoolers for kindergarten. What they didn't know then was that they were starting a cultural revolution that would affect all American kids. In Sunny Days, bestselling author David Kamp captures the unique political and social moment that gave us not only Sesame Street, but also Fred Rogers's gentle yet

brave Mister Rogers' Neighborhood; Marlo Thomas's unabashed gender-politics primer *Free to Be You and Me*; *Schoolhouse Rock!*, an infectious series of educational shorts dreamed up by Madison Avenue admen; and more, including *The Electric Company*, *ZOOM*, and *Fat Albert and the Cosby Kids*. It was a unique time when an uncommon number of media professionals and thought leaders leveraged their influence to help children learn—and, just as notably, a time of unprecedented buy-in from American parents. Kamp conducted rigorous research and interviewed such *Sesame Street* figures as Joan Ganz Cooney, Lloyd Morrisett, Sonia Manzano, Emilio Delgado, Loretta Long, Bob McGrath, and Frank Oz, along with *Free to Be's* Marlo Thomas and *The Electric Company's* Rita Moreno—and in *Sunny Days*, he explains how these and other like-minded individuals found their way into children's television not for fame or money, but to make a difference. Fun, fascinating, and a masterful work of cultural history, *Sunny Days* captures a wondrous period in the US when a determined few proved that, with persistence and effort, they could change the lives of millions. It's both a rollicking ride through a turbulent time and a joyful testament to what Americans are capable of at their best.

The Weight of a Human Heart

A property developer fears that a burgeoning ibis population will prevent the construction of a high rise apartment complex; a bus stop outside a dementia care facility in Düsseldorf suffers its own identity crisis; a young man's new job requires him to pose as a woodcutter and wave at a trainload of tourists; an aging, reclusive archivist becomes locked in a strange battle of wills with a courier; a backpacker in Israel has a bizarre religious experience. In these award winning stories, David Cohen explores the oddities of human behaviour with wit, affection and startling brilliance. 'AN EXCEPTIONAL WRITER ' Newtown Review of Books

The First Stone

WINNER OF THE VICTORIAN PREMIER'S LITERARY AWARDS C.J. DENNIS PRIZE FOR POETRY SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2011 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PREMIER'S BOOK AWARDS Disarming, warm, and always accessible, Cate Kennedy's poems make ordinary experiences glow. Everything that suffuses her well-loved prose is here: compassion, insight, lyrical precision, and the clear, minimalist eye that reveals how life can turn on a single moment. Musing on the undercurrents and interconnections between legacy, memory, motherhood, and the natural world, the poems in this exhilarating collection begin on the surface and then take us, gracefully and effortlessly, to a far more thought-provoking place. Grounded in lived experience, with all its mysteries and consolations, they resonate with a passionate, sensuous honesty. PRAISE FOR CATE KENNEDY 'Kennedy writes fine poetry marvellous.' The Age 'Pack[s] an emotional punch. Kennedy excels at drawing extraordinary details out of the seemingly mundane minutiae of everyday life, with a sharp, focused eye for the politics of the personal. Her depictions of rural life and the Australian landscape are particularly evocative. It's a welcome addition to the often-underrated canon of Australian poetry.' The Herald Sun

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