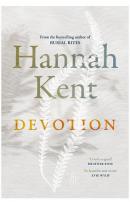
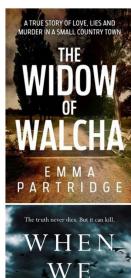
# CURTIS BROWN

## FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2021 **RIGHTS CATALOGUE**



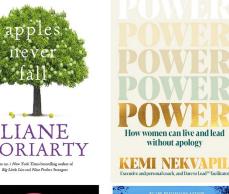




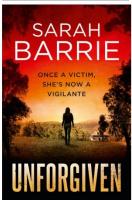








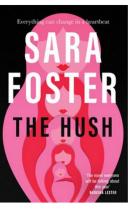




AOIFE

**CLIFFORD** 







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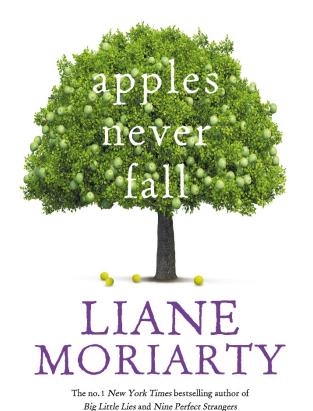
# FICTION

### APPLES NEVER FALL

Liane Moriarty

496 pages

September 2021



From the outside, the Delaneys appear to be an enviably contented family. Even after all these years, former tennis coaches Joy and Stan are still winning tournaments, and now that they've sold the family business, they have all the time in the world to learn how to 'relax'.

But now Joy Delaney has disappeared and her adult children are re-examining their parents' marriage and their family history with fresh, frightened eyes.

Is Joy's disappearance related to their mysterious house guest from last year? Or were things never as rosy as they seemed in the Delaney household?

**Publisher:** Pan Macmillan (ANZ) Penguin Books (UK)

Macmillan Publishers (US)

Format: Paperback Rights available: Translation

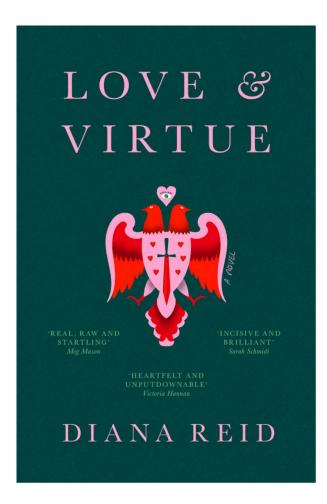
Contact: benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

'I loved it. Apples Never Fall is an absolute page-turner with all the wit and nuance that has put Liane Moriarty head and shoulders above the crowd and shows once again why she leads the pack.'

Jane Harper

## LOVE & VIRTUE

Diana Reid 320 pages September 2021



Whenever I say I was at university with Eve, people ask me what she was like, sceptical perhaps that she could have always been as whole and self-assured as she now appears. To which I say something like: 'People are infinitely complex.' But I say it in such a way – so pregnant with misanthropy – that it's obvious I hate her.

Michaela and Eve are two bright, bold women who befriend each other their first year at a residential college at university, where they live in adjacent rooms. They could not be more different; one assured and popular – the other uncertain and eager-to-please. But something happens one night in O-week – a drunken encounter, a foggy memory that will force them to confront the realities of consent and wrestle with the dynamics of power.

Initially bonded by their wit and sharp eye for the colleges' mix of material wealth and moral poverty, Michaela and Eve soon discover how fragile friendship is, and how capable of betrayal they both are.

**Publisher:** Ultimo Press (ANZ) The Orion Publishing Group (UK)

Format: Paperback Rights available: US, Translation

Contact: benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

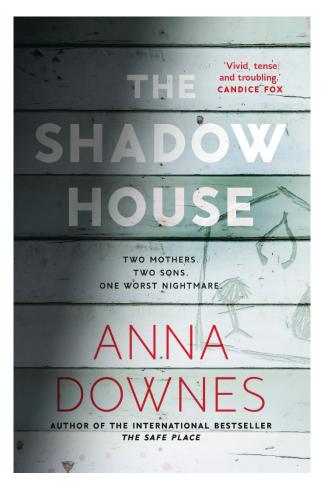
Sold in an 8-way auction, Love & VIrtue is the ultimate COVID-19 lockdown debut novel dream. In 2020, Diana Reid was set to direct and write theatre performances in Sydney and the Edinburgh Fringe. Instead, she wrote a novel.

### THE SHADOW HOUSE

Anna Downes

384 pages

September 2021



When single mother Alex flees her abusive relationship and moves with her teenage son and baby girl to a rural ecovillage, she thinks she's made the best decision of her life. Pine Ridge is idyllic: the off-grid lifestyle and remote location are perfect, and the community is welcoming – mostly. Charmed by its magnetic founder, Kit, and the natural beauty of the former farmland, Alex settles easily into her new home.

But her arrival at Pine Ridge disturbs barely submerged secrets, and she's shaken by a series of eerily familiar events that seem to be connected to the abandoned farmhouse on the hill. Alex realises that, in escaping her own shadowy past, she may have stumbled into someone else's. And this time, there may be nowhere to run.

The Shadow House lures you in and keeps you on edge at every turn.

**Publisher:** Affirm Press (ANZ) St Martin's Press (USA) Hodder & Stoughton (UK)

Format: Paperback Rights available: Translation

Contact: caitlan@curtisbrown.com.au

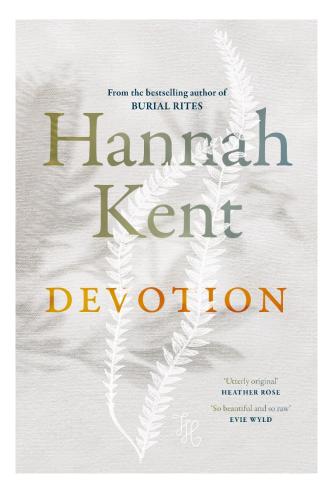
Anna Downes bestselling debut novel, The Safe Place, was published in 2020. The Shadow House is her second novel.

### **DEVOTION**

#### Hannah Kent

432 pages

October 2021



Prussia, 1836

Hanne Nussbaum is a child of nature – she would rather run wild in the forest than conform to the limitations of womanhood. In her village of Kay, Hanne is friendless and considered an oddity...until she meets Thea.

Ocean, 1838

The Nussbaums are Old Lutherans, bound by God's law and at odds with their King's order for reform. Forced to flee religious persecution the families of Kay board a crowded, disease-riddled ship bound for the new colony of South Australia. In the face of brutal hardship, the beauty of whale song enters Hanne's heart, along with the miracle of her love for Thea. Theirs is a bond that nothing can break.

The whale passed. The music faded.

South Australia, 1838 A new start in an old land. God, society and nature itself decree Hanne and Thea cannot be together. But within the impossible...is devotion.

**Publisher:** Pan Macmillan (ANZ) MacMillan Publishers (UK)

Format: Paperback

**Rights available:** US, Translation (ex Greece, Spain, Lithuania)

**Contact:** caitlan@curtisbrown.com.au

'Such a glorious love story. And the poetry of the landscape had, for me, a Whitmanesque sensibility. A mighty impassioned cry to love and the land.'

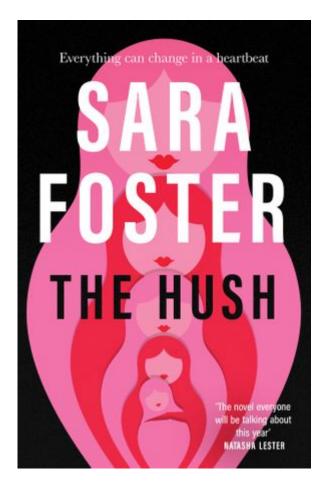
Sarah Winman

#### THE HUSH

Sara Foster

368 pages

November 2021



Lainey's friend Ellis is missing. And she's not the only one.

In the six months since the first case of a terrifying new epidemic – when a healthy baby wouldn't take a breath at birth – the country has been thrown into turmoil. The government has passed sweeping new laws to monitor all citizens. And several young pregnant women have vanished without trace.

As a midwife, Lainey's mum Emma is determined to be there for those who need her. But when seventeen-year-old Lainey finds herself in trouble, this dangerous new world becomes very real. The one person who might help is Emma's estranged mother, but reaching out to her will put them all in jeopardy...

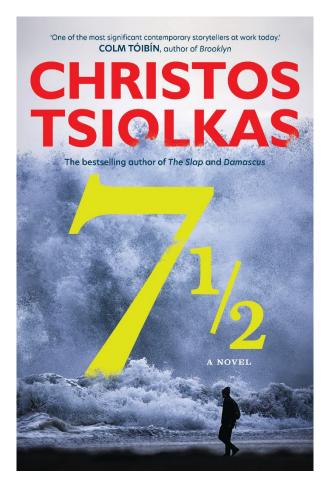
The Hush is a new breed of near-future thriller, an unflinching look at a society close to tipping point and a story for our times, highlighting the power of female friendship through a dynamic group of women determined to triumph against the odds.

**Publisher:** HarperCollins (ANZ) Blackstone Publishing (USA)

Format: Paperback Rights available: UK, Translation

**Contact:** caitlan@curtisbrown.com.au

Everything can change in a heartbeat...The pulse-pounding new thriller from the bestselling author of You Don't Know Me



A man arrives at a house on the coast to write a book. Separated from his lover, family and friends, he finds the solitude he craves in the pyrotechnic beauty of nature, just as the world he has shut out is experiencing a cataclysmic shift. The preoccupations that have galvanised him and his work fall away, and he becomes lost in memory and beauty...

He also begins to tell us a story...

A retired porn star is made an offer he can't refuse for the sake of his family and future. So, he returns to the world he fled years before, all too aware of the danger of opening the door to past temptations and long-buried desires. Can he resist the oblivion and bliss they promise?

A breathtakingly audacious novel by the acclaimed author of The Slap and Damascus about finding joy and beauty in a raging and punitive world, about the refractions of memory and time and, most subversive of all, about the mystery of art and its creation.

**Publisher:** Allen & Unwin (ANZ)

Format: Paperback Rights available: UK, US, Translation

Contact: benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

Art is not only about rage and justice and politics. It is also about pleasure and joy; it is also about beauty...

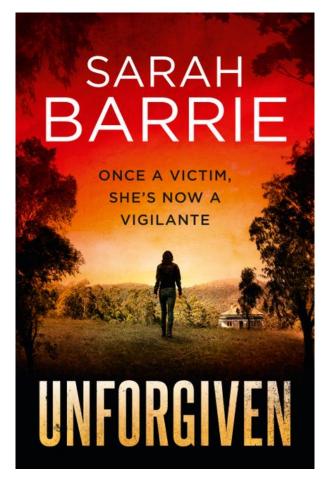
In a time of rage and confusion, I wanted to write about beauty.

Christos Tsiolkas

#### UNFORGIVEN

Sarah Barrie

384 pages December 2021



Once a victim, she's now a vigilante.

Lexi Winter is tough, street-smart and has stood on her own two feet since childhood, when she was a victim of notorious paedophile the Spider. All she cares about now is a roof over her head and her long-term relationship with Johnny Walker.

Lexi is also an ace hacker, tracking and entrapping local paedophiles and reporting them to the cops. When she finds a particularly dangerous paedophile who the police can't touch, she decides to gather enough evidence to put him away. Instead, she's a witness to his death...

Detective Inspector Rachael Langley is the cop who cracked the Spider case, 18 years earlier - but failed to protect Lexi. Now a man claiming to be the real Spider is emulating his murderous acts, and Rachael is under pressure from government, media and her police colleagues. Did she get it wrong all those years ago, or is this killer is a copycat?

**Publisher:** HarperCollins Publishers (ANZ)

Format: Paperback Rights available: US, UK, Translation

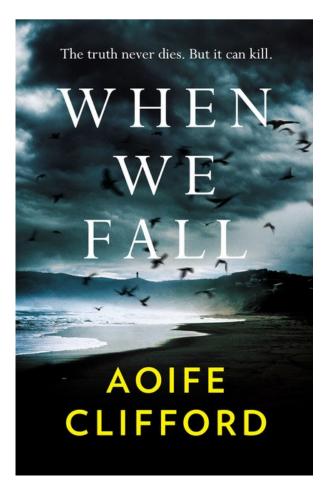
Contact: benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

'Phenomenal. Lexi Winter is the gritty hero I didn't know I needed...I'm now desperate for more'

Best-selling Australian author Nicola Moriarty

### WHEN WE FALL

Aoife Clifford 304 pages March 2022



It isn't strangers you need to worry about here. Blood lines run deep and in unexpected places. Every victim, every accused, we'll know. The past runs alongside us all the time. Some days it spills into the open.

In the wild, coastal town of Merritt, Alex Tillerson and her mother make a shocking find on the beach. The police claim it's an accidental death but there are whispers of murder and that it is not the first.

Bella Greggs was found dead at the bottom of a ravine but drowned in salt water. Maxine McFarlane was pulled from the ocean but with no water in her lungs. Black feathers were found with both bodies but what do they mean?

As Alex fights for answers to honour the dead, and to discover why her mother fled town as a teenager, good people keep looking the other way, memories become unreliable and secrets threaten to reveal the past.

Alex discovers the truth never dies but it can kill...

**Publisher:** Ultimo Press (ANZ)

Format: Paperback
Rights available: US, UK, Translation

**Contact:** benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

Aoife Clifford has won the Ned Kelly Award (Aust) and was shortlisted for the Debut Dagger (UK), with her short fiction published in Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine, Kill Your Darlings, and Big Issue Fiction Edition.

#### THE WINTER DRESS

Lauren Chater April 2022



Two women separated by centuries but connected by one beautiful silk dress. A captivating novel based on a real-life shipwreck discovered off Texel Island.

Jo Baaker, a textiles historian and Dutch ex-pat is drawn back to the island where she was born to investigate the provenance of a 17th century silk dress. Retrieved by local divers from a sunken shipwreck, the dress offers tantalising clues about the way people lived and died during Holland's famous Golden Age.

Jo's research leads her to Anna Tesseltje, a poor Amsterdam laundress turned ladies' companion who served the artist Catharina van Shurman. The two women were said to be close, so why did Anna abandon Catharina at the height of her misfortune? And was the dress a gift or did Anna come by it through less honest means? Jo is determined to find out, but as she delves deeper into Anna's history, troubling details about her own past begin to emerge, disrupting the personal narrative she has trusted for sixteen years.

**Publisher:** Simon & Schuster (ANZ)

Format: Paperback
Rights available: US, UK, Translation

**Contact:** caitlan@curtisbrown.com.au

Lauren Chater is the bestselling author of Gulliver's Wife and The Lace Weaver. She lives in Sydney with her husband and two children.

### THE TRICKY ART OF FORGIVENESS

Meredith Jaffé

352 pages

May 2022



After thirty years of marriage, can there be any secrets left? The charming new novel from the author of *The Dressmakers of Yarrandarrah Prison.* 

Diana Forsyth is in the midst of planning The Big Party, a combined celebration of her husband Will's 60th and their 30th wedding anniversary. The whole family is flying in and unbeknownst to Will, Diana is planning a Big Surprise.

But then she finds a torn scrap of paper hidden inside the folds of one of his cashmere sweaters, with the words, "I forgive you". And all of a sudden, Diana realises she's not the only one keeping Big Secrets. Maybe her rock-solid marriage isn't so secure after all.

Publisher: HarperCollins (ANZ)

Format: Paperback Rights available: US, UK, Translation

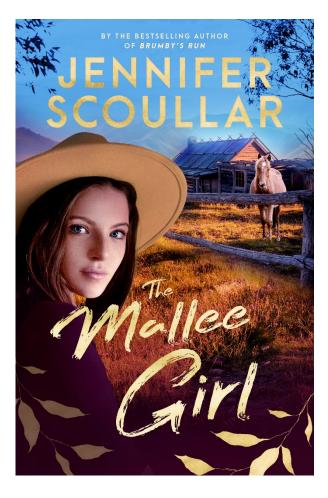
**Contact:** caitlan@curtisbrown.com.au

Meredith Jaffé is the Festival Director of StoryFest, held on the NSW South Coast. Previously, she wrote the weekly literary column for the online women's magazine The Hoopla. Her feature articles, reviews, and opinion pieces have also appeared in The Guardian Australia, The Huffington Post, and Mamamia.

### THE MALLEE GIRL

**Jennifer Scoullar** 

352 pages April 2022



Born-and-bred Mallee girl, Pippa Black, endures a far from perfect marriage. When she finds the courage to flee, two cryptic words written on a paper napkin send her in search of the one person who might help her – a person who may not even exist.

Her quest leads her to a remote town in the Victorian Alps. As a runaway seeking refuge among strangers, Pippa learns that she's been mistakenly implicated in a shocking crime. She's now hiding from the police, as well as from her violent husband. Pippa changes her name, her appearance and begins to forge a new life for herself. But it's not easy to run from your past. It has a way of catching up with you...

**Publisher:** Penguin Random House (ANZ)

Format: Paperback Riahts available: US, UK, Translation

Contact: benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

'Outstanding writing. The beautiful portrayal of remote highlands, the bush settings, the wild animals... All done in a way to make the reader feel deeply involved in the story.'

Australian Historical Fiction Roundup

#### **ANAM**

#### André Dao May 2023



Winner, 2021 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for an Unpublished Manuscript

"Anam began from conversations with my paternal grandparents, uncles, aunts and old family friends - all scattered around the world by the wars in Vietnam. In making sense of the history that emerged - especially my grandfather's 10-year-imprisonment - I came to write a novel about memory, colonialism and inheritances; to find, or imagine, a place in the world for this family to belong' - André Dao

"Brilliant and essential" Meredith Curnow, PRH publisher

Picador (UK)

**Publisher:** Penguin Random House (ANZ)

Format: Paperback Rights available: US, Translation

Contact: benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

André Dao is a Melbourne-based writer, editor and artist. He is the co-founder of Behind the Wire, an award-winning oral history project documenting the experiences of people detained by the Australian government after seeking asylum.

### **BLUE HOUR**

Sarah Schmidt June 2022



1936: At nineteen, Kitty was ready to leave behind the stifling control of her parents and all those constantly telling her how to live her life.

Kitty told herself if she ever had her own daughter, she'd never control her. She'd make sure her voice never left a mark behind.

1973: Growing up, Eleanor's home was strained by sorrow and the echoes of war that silenced her parents. And always, her mother's bitterness, twisting and poisoning everything she touched. She thought she knew what made her parents this way... but Eleanor would never know all her mother's secrets.

Afraid, unsure and alone, Eleanor will be driven to erase her mother's voice in her head.

But still the question remains, can she bear the burden of her own secrets?

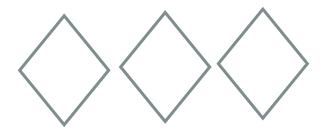
Powerfully magnifying the fractures between a mother and daughter, *Blue Hour* reveals the brutal cost when we allow grief and trauma to reach down generations.

**Publisher:** Hachette (ANZ) Headline Publishing (UK)

Format: Paperback Rights available: US, Translation

Contact: caitlan@curtisbrown.com.au

Sarah Schmidt's debut novel, the bestselling See What I Have Done, is a haunting re-imagining of the Lizzie Borden murders. The novel won the 2018 ABIA Literary Fiction Book of the Year and Best Debut Australian Novel at Adelaide Writers Week in the same year.

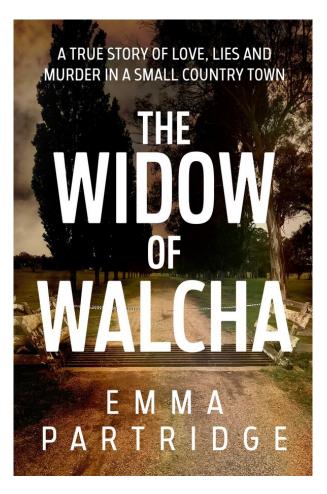


## NON-FICTION

## THE WIDOW OF WALCHA

Emma Partridge

320 pages February 2022



A shocking true story involving a mysterious death, love and lies in the small NSW town of Walcha.

In 2017, locals were rocked by the death of a wealthy and much-loved sheep farmer, Mathew Dunbar, who had signed over his multimillion-dollar property to his new partner, Natasha Darcy, just months after meeting her.

"Don't forget you need to change your will", the 46-year-old had texted Mr Dunbar.

The story of one of the most extraordinary criminal trials in Australia's history, The Widow of Walcha takes you inside Darcy's twisted mind and her shocking history of crimes against her partners.

Publisher: Simon & Schuster (ANZ)

Format: Paperback Rights available: US, UK, Translation

Contact: benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

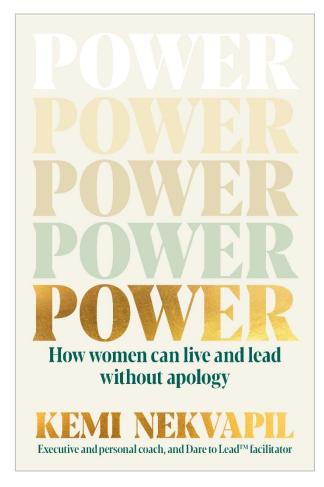
Emma Partridge has been covering crime for various media for many years and is now the Senior Crime Editor at Nine News.

### POWER

Kemi Nekvapil

224 pages

March 2022



Who could you become if you fully stepped into your own power?

Kemi Nekvapil knows the feelings of fear, vulnerability and powerlessness. Growing up in foster care, many times she had the doors to validation and opportunity closed to her because of her race and gender. Learning to make her own choices and use her voice without apology were her first steps towards a bold, purpose-filled life.

Now a highly respected executive and personal coach, Kemi has created a five-step process to guide other women to build their power and transform their lives through the principles of Presence, Ownership, Wisdom, Equality and Responsibility.

Blending inspiring stories with reflective coaching practices, *Power* provides the tools to navigate the challenges that impact who we are, from discrimination and burnout to trauma and self-doubt.

**Publisher:** Penguin Random House (ANZ)

Format: Paperback Rights available: US, UK, Translation

Contact: caitlan@curtisbrown.com.au

In 2018 Kemi was invited to Richard Branson's Necker Island and was asked to sit on a panel discussing 'humanity at work'. She has also trained with Dr Brenè Brown as a Dare To Lead™ Facilitator to work with teams and organisations to create daring leaders and courageous cultures.

# STOP PRESS

### FIVE BUSH WEDDINGS

#### Clare Fletcher September 2022

Sold in a six-way auction, with a second novel in the same world to follow, this is a joyous and charming romantic comedy debut.

Wedding photographer Stevie-Jean feels like she's an expert on romance – she just can't find the right person herself.

Through her gloriously warm and funny story of exploration, disaster, reconnection and starting afresh, we come to care about Stevie and her friend Jonno, and their community doing it tough in small towns and on the land.

#### **Publisher:**

Penguin Random House (World)

Format:

Paperback

Rights available:

Translation

Contact:

benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

Clare Fletcher grew up in regional Queensland, a setting she returns to in her debut romantic comedy, Five Bush Weddings.

#### **NIMBLEFOOT**

#### Robert Drewe August 2022

This is a tale of Johnny Day, his country's first – and youngest –international sporting champion.

In 1866, by the age of ten, and against adult competition, he was an undefeated world champion walker, the so-called 'Famous Boy' and 'Australian Wonder'. Then, as a fourteen-year-old jockey – and in record time – he won the 1870 Melbourne Cup.

He was feted by royalty. Then he dropped out of sight forever. People wondered what had happened. Wild stories started up...

#### **Publisher:**

Penguin Random House (ANZ)

Format:

Paperback

Rights available:

US, UK, Translation

Contact:

benjamin@curtisbrown.com.au

'Drewe's literary instincts are as impeccable as his ear for the English language is unfaltering'

The Weekend Australian

### LOVE KNIFE

#### Naima Brown

#### April 2023

Inspired by the author's time working on The Bachelor, this is the story of Christy Shaw who is so desperate to win back her first true love, Max, that she agrees to be a part of a reality TV show called Love Knife which offers contestants total body transformation as a way to rekindle flames with lost loves. But, as is the case with any reality TV show, there is a catch: if she doesn't win Max's heart in 30 days, she won't get to keep her new life.

Mara Bolt, reality TV supremo and creator of Love Knife, is confident this show will be her best and ratings will go through the roof–and she will stop at nothing to get there.

This whip smart commercial women's fiction novel explores class, privilege and body image. And, of course, the psychological mess that is reality TV

#### **Publisher:**

Pan Macmillan (ANZ)

Format:

Paperback

Rights available:

US, UK, Translation

Contact:

caitlan@curtisbrown.com.au

Naima Brown is a highly experienced producer, filmmaker and journalist who has worked across the media spectrum. Although American by birth she now calls Australia home.

