

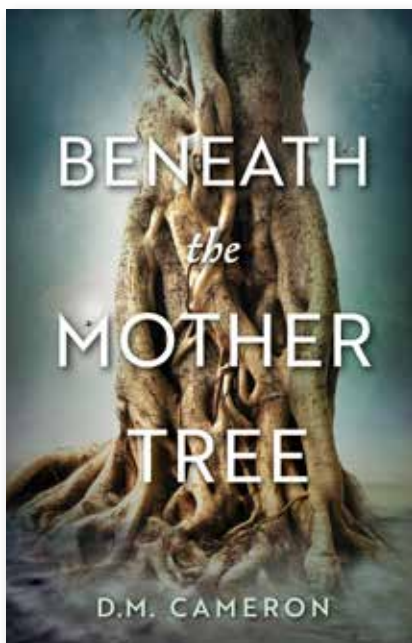


MidnightSun

Publishing Brilliance

2018

www.midnightsunpublishing.com



BENEATH THE MOTHER TREE

D.M. Cameron

Fiction | PB 400 | 233 x 154 | ISBN: 9781925227390

A spine-chilling mystery and contemporary love story, played out in a unique and wild Australian setting interwoven with Indigenous history and Irish mythology. This spiritual subtext becomes a stage for unforgettable characters who navigate vital questions of identity and belonging.

Beneath the Mother Tree is a compelling portrait of how our dark history and dreaming landscape can make extraordinary things of ordinary lives.

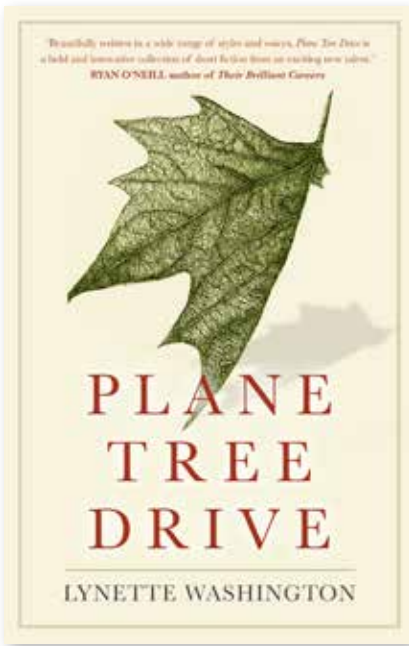
Wrought with sensuousness and lyricism, D.M. Cameron's debut novel is a thrilling journey, rhythmically fierce and eagerly awaited.

'Beneath the Mother Tree is a seductive, dark contemporary fairy tale, a story of stories, woven with magic and thrumming with a fierce, beguiling energy.'
Kim Lock, author of *Like I Can Love*



D.M. Cameron

Originally an actress, debut novelist, D.M. Cameron, is an AWGIE nominated radio dramatist, award-winning playwright and celebrated short film writer. She received funding to begin work on her first novel and was then selected for a Varuna Litlink residency to further develop this initial draft into what became *Beneath the Mother Tree*. www.dmcameron.com



- **HIGHLY COMMENDED**
Victorian Premier's Literary Awards 2018

PLANE TREE DRIVE

Lynette Washington

Fiction | PB 256 | 198 x 128 | ISBN: 9781925227345

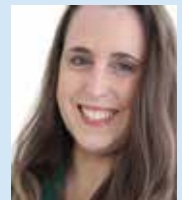
Peer through the windows and doors on Plane Tree Drive to find a streetscape that is humorous, heartbreaking, real and surreal. Here, the loneliness of domestic isolation and the joy of connection weave together to form an interlaced map of suburban life.

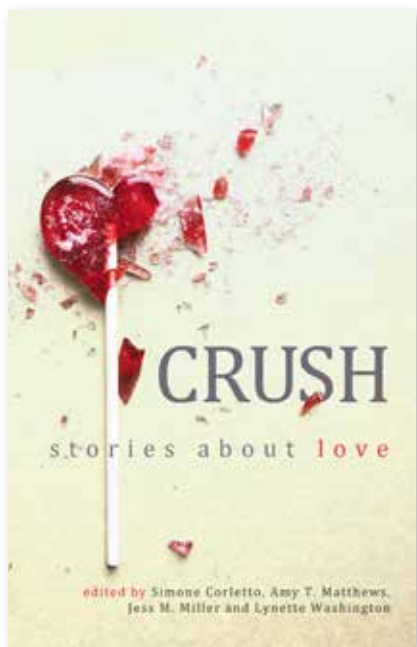
'Beautifully written in a wide range of styles and voices, Plane Tree Drive is a bold and innovative collection of short fiction from an exciting new talent.'
Ryan O'Neill, author of *Their Brilliant Careers*

'With each story in this complex fresco, layers are peeled away and others added, slowly revealing a delicate portrait of hurts and hopes, vulnerability and strength. Plane Tree Drive is a stunning and sensitive exploration of people, place and relationships.'
Michelle Wright, author of *Fine*

'Plane Tree Drive is a highly original and moving collection... Picking and prodding at the human condition in all its everyday passions, neuroses, sadnesses and kindnesses, these are superb stories that can be read again and again. Most highly recommended!'
Professor Donna Lee Brien

Lynette Washington is a short story writer, editor and teacher of creative and professional writing. She holds a PhD in Creative Writing from the University of Adelaide. Her stories have been published widely and in 2014 she edited the story collection, *Breaking Beauty*. In 2017 she co-edited the story collection, *Crush*. *Plane Tree Drive* is her debut. When she is not writing, she teaches police cadets the importance of sentence structure and grammar.





CRUSH: STORIES ABOUT LOVE

**Edited by Simone Corletto,
Amy T Matthews, Jess Miller
and Lynette Washington**

Fiction | PB 368 | 198 x 128 | ISBN: 9781925227307

Bursting with affection, wit, loss, sex and a whole lot of love, the authors in this collection face the burning beauty of love and write of both the blaze and the ashes left behind. *Crush* will quicken the pulses of cynics and believers alike as it reimagines everything that makes the heart leap.

'A delicious and captivating look at love in all its wonderful and varied forms. I'd love to read more from these fresh voices!' **Rachael Johns**

'Poignant, funny and heartbreaking, these short stories delve deep into secret longings, desires and love in all its intricacies and subtleties.' **Victoria Purman**

Simone Corletto is the Communications Officer for the South Australian Writers Centre, and spends her spare time crocheting and writing about teenage superheroes.

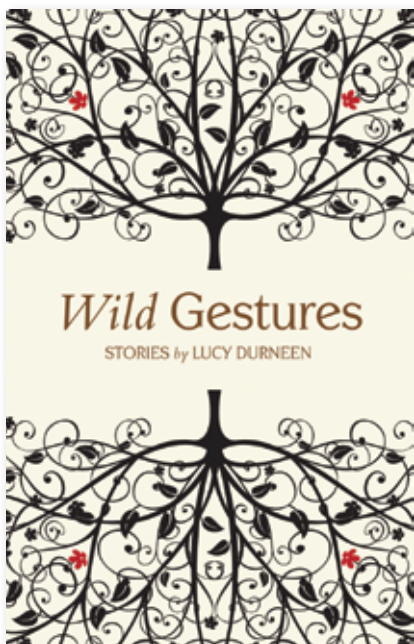
Amy T Matthews is an award winning novelist and academic who has published short stories in collections including *Best Australian Stories*.

Jess Miller is a PhD candidate in Creative Writing at Flinders University, researching time-travel fiction as a space for more empowering presentations of women.

Lynette Washington is a short story writer, editor and teacher of creative and professional writing. Her debut collection, *Plane Tree Drive*, was published in 2017.



Simone Corletto and Jess Miller



WILD GESTURES

Lucy Durneen

Fiction | PB 224 | 198 x 129 | ISBN: 9781925227208

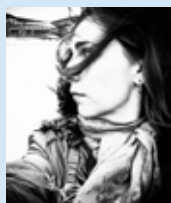
Against the backdrop of an Italian bird market, a holidaying teenager makes her first attempt at seduction. An exchange student sees green lights in the sky above South America and fears the worst. And an affair that never happens is deconstructed while tigers pace in a European zoo.

Wild Gestures is the first collection from British writer Lucy Durneen, bringing together stories of loss, desire and opportunities missed, all orbiting the painful knowledge that the things we most long for remain the furthest from reach.

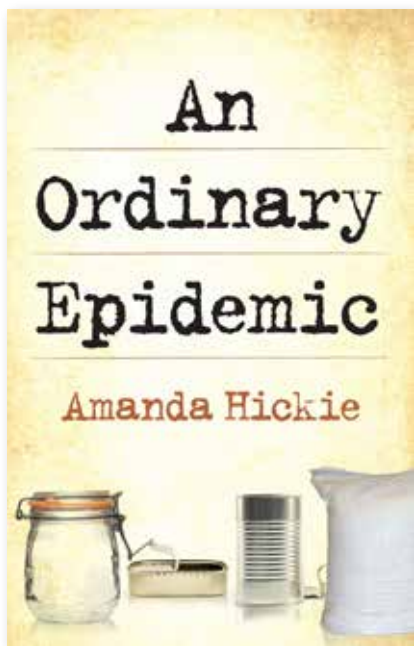
‘A writer of breathtaking precision, Lucy Durneen untangles the fears and longings of her characters with a surgeon’s eye and a poet’s tongue. These stories are whimsical and witty, incisive and sad; they will flip your heart.’ **Rebekah Clarkson, author of *Barking Dogs***

‘There is something vicious at the heart of these stories, something dark which unfurls and unsettles ... Distinguished by its measured yet speculative style, these stories will appeal to readers of Cate Kennedy and Mary Gaitskill.’ ★★☆☆ **Books+Publishing**

- WINNER
Saboteur Awards, UK, 2017



Lucy Durneen lectures in English and Creative Writing in Plymouth, England, and is Assistant Editor of the literary journal *Short Fiction*. Her short stories, poetry and non-fiction have appeared in *World Literature Today*, *The Manchester Review*, *The Letters Page*, *The Lightship Anthology* and *Litro*, amongst other places. She has been shortlisted four times for the Bridport Prize, Highly Commended in the 2014 Manchester Fiction Prize, and nominated for a Pushcart Prize.



AN ORDINARY EPIDEMIC

Amanda Hickie

Fiction | PB 374 | 198 x 129 | ISBN: 9781925227031

Rights sold: USA, UK

Hannah is stuck in the middle of a deadly outbreak.

As Sydney goes into lockdown, she attempts to quarantine her home and protect her family from the ominous infection around them. How far will a panicked mother go to keep her loved ones safe? In *An Ordinary Epidemic*, fear and compassion collide as Hannah, Sean and their two boys struggle to survive as the epidemic spreads. But what happens when their water supply is cut—and then the power...?

An Ordinary Epidemic is a riveting, topical novel from a new voice in Australian writing.

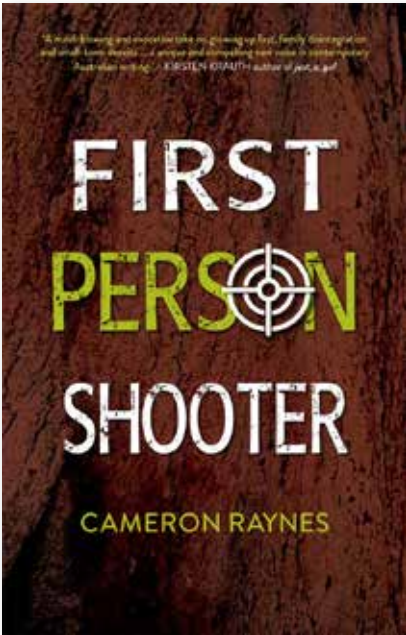
'It's utterly fascinating, a little gruesome and impossible to put down.' *Books+Publishing*



Amanda Hickie has always been interested in ethical questions, annoying her scripture teacher at the age of ten by asking if it was immoral to lie to a murderer. Despite a passion for writing, she studied Computer Science - but she quickly recovered.

A change of lifestyle when she and her family moved to Canada resulted in her first novel, *AfterZoe*. Living down the road from the SARS outbreak also provided the seed for *An Ordinary Epidemic*.

Amanda lives a pleasant stroll from Coogee Beach in Sydney with her two computer oriented sons and husband and two non-computer oriented cats.



- **SHORTLISTED**
Adelaide Festival Awards 2018

FIRST PERSON SHOOTER

Cameron Raynes

Fiction | PB 256 | 198 x 129 | ISBN: 9781925227079

Rights sold: Film/TV

Jayden lives with his father on the edge of a small country town. He stutters and is addicted to video games.

His best friend Shannon knows how to handle a rifle. When her mum is released from prison, the town waits to see whether her sociopathic stepson Pete will exact revenge for the manslaughter of his father.

Caught with ammunition at school and suspended, Jayden's world disintegrates. As a drug war erupts, Pete gears up for his violent assault.

Will it be left to Jayden to stop him?

'A mind-blowing and evocative take on growing up fast, family disintegration and small-town deceits ... a unique and compelling new voice in contemporary Australian writing.' **Kirsten Krauth** author of *just_a_girl*

'Menacing, brilliant, haunting.' **Sally Breen**, author of *Atomic City* and *The Casuals*

'a slice of Australian Gothic' ★ ★ ★ ★ **Books+Publishing**



Cameron Raynes is a prize-winning author who has chosen in *First Person Shooter* to explore the deeply personal experience of adolescent stuttering. Having survived bruising encounters with three psychopaths by the age of 30, Raynes turned away from welfare work and anthropology to find his voice as a writer. He teaches history at the University of South Australia and is the author of *The Last Protector* and the short story collection *The Colour of Kerosene*.



WE. ARE. FAMILY. Paul Mitchell

Fiction | PB 288 | 198 x 129 | ISBN: 9781925227109

Three generations are forced to confront the pervasive violence that hangs over them like a ghost, and the distances to which they have carried their forebears' pain.

We. Are. Family. is a sensitive and rugged episodic novel which ruminates on the damaging idea of Australian masculinity with tenderness and dry humour. Paul Mitchell unravels the twisting threads that tie us to the past and the trauma that is handed down through families.

Taking cues from Tim Winton's *The Turning*, it is a cyclic meditation on the slow grind of life and the interconnectedness of identity and family.

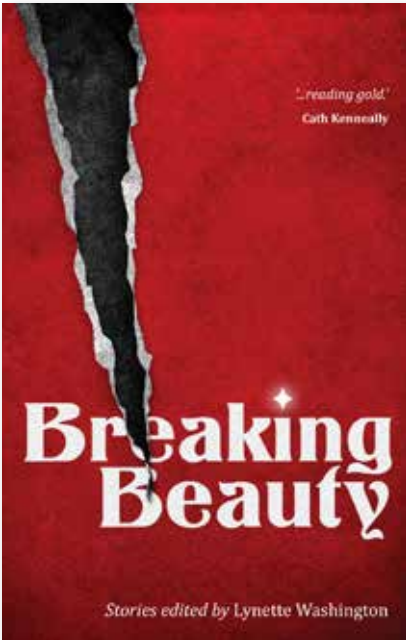
'Mitchell's writing is challenging, exhilarating and touched with a deep sense of humanity' **Tony Birch**

Paul Mitchell's wry and moving considerations of society's undercurrents chronicle an unsettlingly recognisable Australia. His three poetry collections have received national prizes and wide acclaim, and his short story collection *Dodging the Bull* was included in the 2008 *The Age* Summer Read program. He is also a playwright, screenwriter and essayist.

Mitchell's varied oeuvre explores the beauty in the seemingly mundane, the troubled history of Australian masculinity, and finds spirituality in the murky depths of life. He has continued this exploration with his sensitive and rugged first novel, *We. Are. Family.*



Photo: Virginia Cummins



BREAKING BEAUTY

Edited by Lynette Washington

Fiction | PB 228 | 198 x 129 | ISBN: 9781925227000

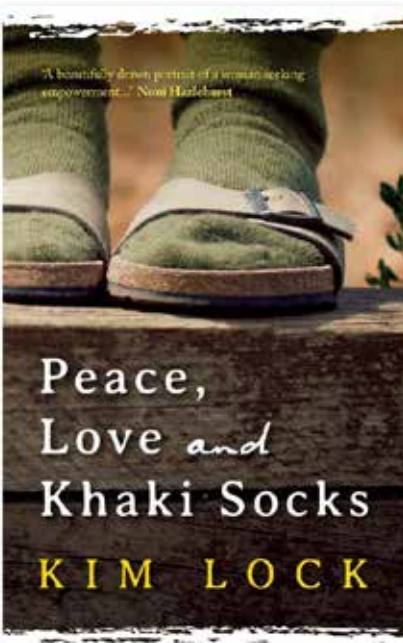
Twenty-seven brilliant short story writers unpack the idea of beauty and discover that there is no light without darkness. Cracking the core of all things lovely to reveal their innards, these writers ask: What is beauty anyway? The answers may surprise you.

Breaking Beauty contains stories that are funny, heartbreaking, sexy, illuminating, sweet and frightening, but always beautiful, even when that beauty is buried deep within.

With an introduction by Brian Castro.

The writers in *Breaking Beauty* attended the Creative Writing postgraduate program at the University of Adelaide, one of the pre-eminent creative writing programs in Australia. Many have received national awards and been published widely in Australia and internationally. This collection showcases some of our finest established and emerging writers.

- Stories address the theme of beauty, looking at its grubby underside and unravelling its murky truth.
- Including stories by both emerging and established writers such as Sean Williams, Heather Taylor Johnson and Stefan Laszczuk.
- With advance praise from J.M. Coetzee, Cath Kenneally and Brian Castro.



PEACE, LOVE AND KHAKI SOCKS

Kim Lock

Fiction | PB 336 | 198 x 129 | ISBN: 9780987380913

One sultry October morning in Darwin, hemp-wearing army wife Amy Silva grips a trembling fist around two pink lines on a plastic stick.

Struggling to come to terms with her rampant fertility, disillusioned with a haughty obstetrician and infuriated by an inordinate amount of peeing, Amy finds solace in a decision to homebirth. After all, it worked for the cavewomen, right?

But as a tropical cyclone threatens to whip down the main street, Amy finds herself facing more than biology.

An intimate tale of searching for peace, this is one woman's struggle to turn the ordinary into something extraordinary.



Kim Lock is the author of three novels. Her second novel, *Like I Can Love* (Pan Macmillan, 2016), has been published internationally. Her writing has also appeared in *Kill Your Darlings*, *The Guardian*, *Daily Life* and *The Sydney Morning Herald online*, amongst others. Her fiction explores the stories that shape people's lives, but that they hide from society. Kim lives in the Barossa Valley, South Australia, with her family. *Peace, Love and Khaki Socks* is her first novel.



THE HUM OF CONCRETE

Anna Solding

Fiction | PB 256 | 198 x 129 | ISBN: 9780987226501

The Hum of Concrete is an evocative novel about a city and its people. Set in the multicultural city of Malmö, Sweden, *The Hum of Concrete* is the story of five people whose lives intersect.

Consumed with despair, Palestinian Nassrin walks into the ocean with her baby in her arms. Susanna dares to take a stand against gay-bashers. By starlight, Bodil sees the city from the roof of a church. Estella meets her tough little half-brother for the first time. Lonely Rhyme seeks shelter in a tree full of fairy lights. And all round them, the hum of concrete.

With photographic precision, Anna Solding captures both light and shadow found in the fleeting beauty of everyday life. From the silences between people and the ordinariness of places, she conjures narrative jewels of intelligence and pleasure.

- **SHORTLISTED**
Adelaide Festival Awards, MUBA,
People's Choice Award
- **LOGLISTED**
Commonwealth Book Prize

Anna Solding is a writer, editor and publisher. She holds a Masters and a PhD in Creative Writing. She has had short fiction published widely and has co-edited two literary magazines. Her first novel, *The Hum of Concrete*, was nominated for six awards and the books she has worked on as a publisher have also been well awarded. She is the co-founder and co-director of The Australian Short Story Festival. Anna is interested in how people navigate life depending on their circumstances and she would happily spend her days travelling the globe observing people.



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