



NOVELLAS

2024

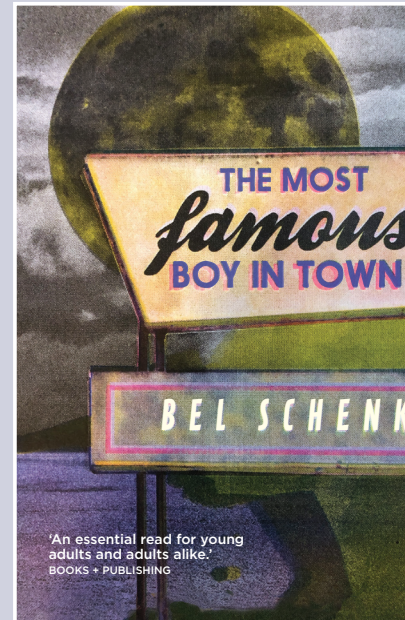


SHORT | FULL STRENGTH

The Most Famous Boy in Town

BY BEL SCHENK

Set in Charlotte Bay, a masculine town with a feminine name, *The Most Famous Boy in Town* explores the ramifications of toxic masculinity in a football-obsessed town in Victoria.



'An essential read for young adults and adults alike, tackling heavy themes with nuance and empathy.'

BOOKS + PUBLISHING

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

BEL SCHENK is a Community Development Practitioner currently working as the Victorian Coordinator at Welcoming Cities. Between 2008 - 2011 she was the Artistic Director and Co-CEO of Express Media. She has written three collections of poetry, *Ambulances & Dreamers*, *Urban Squeeze* and *Every Time You Close Your Eyes* (Wakefield Press, 2014).



SHORT | FULL STRENGTH

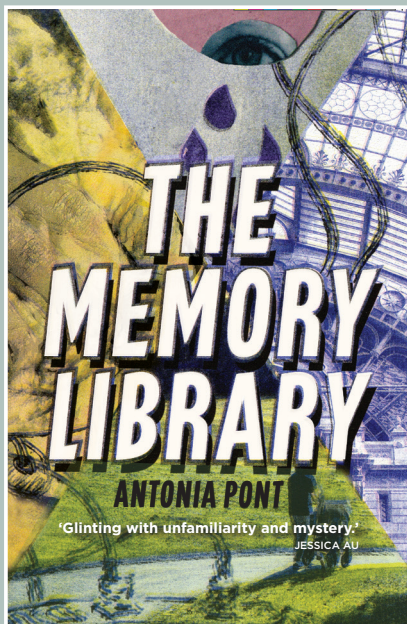


The Memory Library

BY ANTONIA PONT

Retro-tainment, existential eavesdropping, or the future of self-help?

After an unspecified disaster, the future is quiet and analogue. Behind a doorway in the old town, a private library service flourishes. Signed up by the inscrutable Charlie, patrons subscribe to a membership they don't fully understand. Whether heartbreak, a rainstorm, or habitual brittleness leads you to *The Memory Library*, your contributions can be accommodated.



'An ageless, fable-like work of glinting unfamiliarity and mystery..'

JESSICA AU, COLD ENOUGH FOR SNOW

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

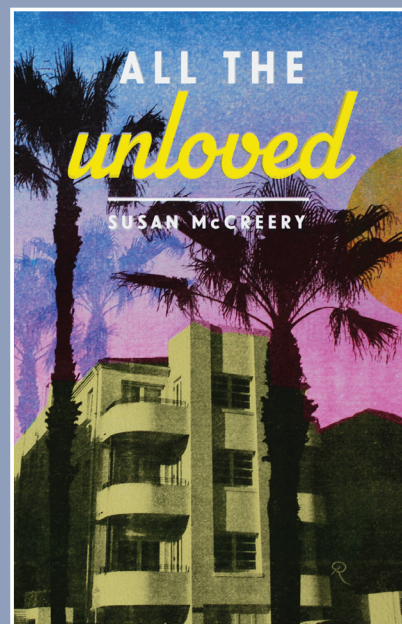
ANTONIA PONT is a widely published author of fiction, essays, poetry and theory. She lives in Naarm (Melbourne), where she teaches and mentors writers, artists, yogis and humans.



All the Unloved

BY SUSAN MCCREERY

Jade, skateboard under her arm, teeters on the edge of womanhood in nineties Bondi. When the brilliant Rebecca, a young author, arrives on the scene, wounds and desires are exposed, and secrets unravel. From poetry to microfiction, short stories and now a novella, Susan McCreery captures in *All the Unloved* a story of love – mother love, unrequited love, queer love, elderly love – as well as the iconic Bondi scents of sand, salt and sunscreen.



Fiction Pick of the Week, Cameron Woodhead and Steven Carroll, Sydney Morning Herald, February 10, 2023

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

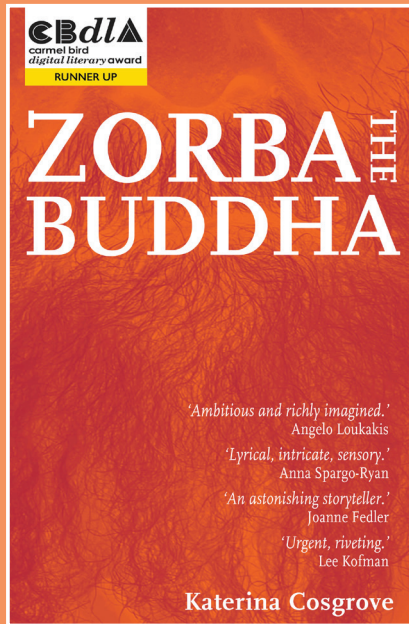
SUSAN MCCREERY lives in Thirroul, on the NSW south coast. Her books include a poetry collection, *Waiting for the Southerly* (Ginnindera), *Loopholes* (SW) and *This Person Is Not That Person* (Puncher & Wattmann)



Zorba the Buddha

BY KATERINA COSGROVE

The year is 1986, Guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh has been exiled from the United States after the highly scandalous failure of his Oregon ashram, Rajneeshpuram. Told from four different perspectives and through various time jumps, *Zorba the Buddha* documents how this movement fell apart from the inside out.



'Ambitious and richly imagined.'
ANGELO LOUKAKIS

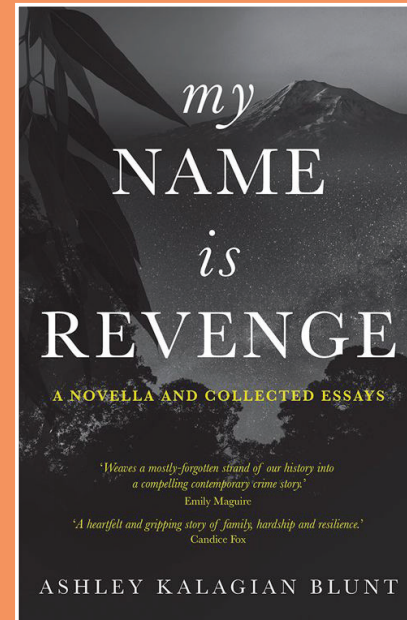
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

KATERINA COSGROVE is the author of *The Glass Heart*, *Bone Ash Sky* and *Intimate Distance*, which won the Griffith Review Novella Prize. She has written for local and overseas publications such as Al-Jazeera, SBS Voices, Island, Daily Life, The Big Issue and has co-judged the Nib Award for Literature from 2014.

My Name is Revenge

BY ASHLEY KALAGIAN BLUNT

On 17 December 1980, at 9:47 am, two men shot the Turkish consul-general to Sydney and his bodyguard near the consul's home in Vaucluse. The assassins aimed, fired, and vanished. A literary thriller novella set in 1980s Sydney and drawn from true events, including a series of international terrorist attacks, *My Name is Revenge* is the story of a young man seeking justice.



'Weaves a mostly-forgotten strand of our history into a compelling contemporary crime story.'
EMILY MAGUIRE

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

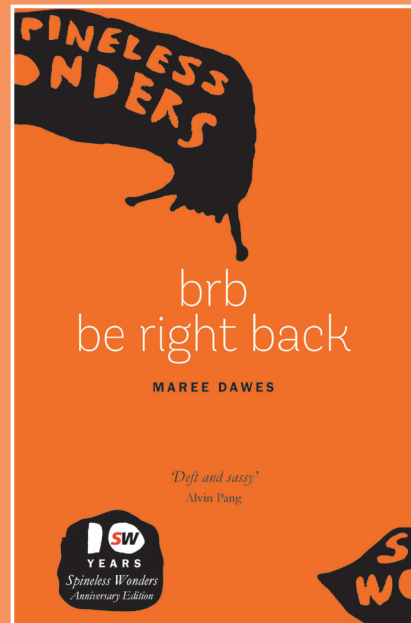
ASHLEY KALAGIAN BLUNT is a writer, speaker and podcaster. Her bestselling psychological thriller, *Dark Mode* (Ultimo Press) is out now in Australia and the UK, and forthcoming in Germany. Her memoir, *How to Be Australian* is published by Affirm Press.

brb: Be Right Back

BY MAREE DAWES

Can online sex life becomes more technicoloured than the real thing?

Told in first person, this verse novel uses the language and shape of online chat, email, fragments and stream of consciousness to take the reader headfirst into the world of online life in the nineties. *brb: be right back* relives the beginnings of social networking with the humour, excitement and dilemmas it can pose.



'Dawes deftly parses the sad sass, seductive disassociation and weightless absurdity of cybersex and an online affair with biting fidelity.'

ALVIN PANG

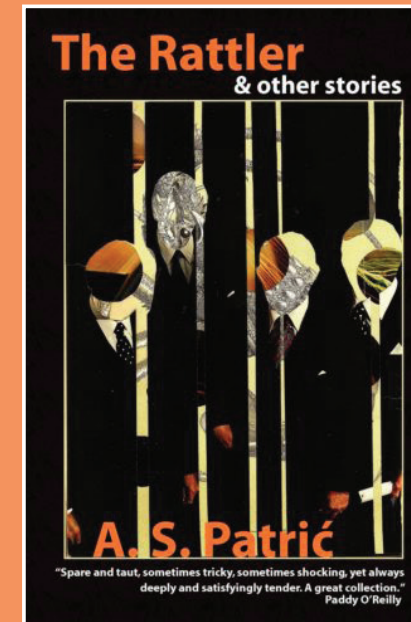
ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

MAREE DAWES is an West Australian poet, published nationally and internationally. Maree's first collection *Women of the Minotaur* was dramatised for the PIAF writers festival 2010. Her short story *'I am so sweet and truthful'* was adapted into a short film. Maree has collaborated with artists, dancers and embroiderers.

The Rattler

BY A.S. PATRIĆ

A romp of a novella set in and around contemporary Melbourne. Sometimes serious, sometimes seriously playful –always written in breathtakingly beautiful prose – these stories uncover the heartbreaking tragedies, slow-burning emotions and serendipity of ordinary lives.



'Spare and taut, sometimes tricky, sometimes shocking, yet always deeply and satisfyingly tender.'

PADDY O'REILLY, OTHER HOUSES

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

A. (ALEC) S. PATRIĆ is an Australian novelist and short story writer. Patric was born in Zemun, Serbia and migrated to Australia with his family when he was still a child. He won the 2016 Miles Franklin Award for his debut novel *Black Rock White City*.



Spineless Wonders' novellas

For over a decade, Spineless Wonders has been publishing high quality, innovative short-form prose including novella and verse novel. Our novellas and verse novels are published in a range of formats including audiobooks, audio-drama as well as in print and ebook form.

In 2024, we launched our new imprint **Espresso**, which provides a platform for high quality novella and verse novels. The first of these titles, *The Most Famous Boy in Town* by Bel Schenk and *The Memory Library* by Antonia Pont were released in April.

We are also thrilled to be partnering with the Australasian Association of Writing Programs to offer The Novella Prize. We look forward to unearthing fresh and exciting short form writing through this award.

For more information:

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