

Trust me!



Edited by Paul Collins
with a foreword by
Isobelle Carmody
Ford St
ISBN: 978 1 876462
57 4
RRP: \$22.95

Trust Me! features 46 contributions by some of Australia's best known children's authors, poets and illustrators. Original stories, poems and art cross all genres: mystery, romance, crime, fantasy, Science Fiction, humour and much more.

Short stories are a useful vehicle with which to encourage the reluctant reader. They have a tightness of plot, limitation on characters and their subsequent development; not to forget a smaller number of pages than your average novel. All these positives can give the reader a sense of quiet achievement once a story is completed; a boost to their confidence. However writing successful short stories can be tricky for all the same reasons.

The range and caliber of authors included in the anthology is impressive, vast and varied and magically Australian in voice. Those who have tackled the short story have done so with deft ability, and it is always wonderful to see poetry being offered to young readers.

Having a collection of writing in different genres allows for a range of tastes to be satisfied- it also allows for readers to tackle something new.

Some new titles for Children and Young Adult readers

The big little book of happy sadness



Colin Thompson
Random House
Australia
ISBN: 978 1 7416
6256 6
RRP: \$24.95

A standalone picture book for children aged 4 and up, this is a unique tale about a little boy, his grandmother and their three legged dog. Beautifully illustrated

Roland Wright: brand new page



Tony Davis and
illustrated by
Gregory Rogers
Random House
Australia
ISBN: 978 1 7416
6230 6

Aimed at boy readers aged 7 and up, this action story is full of medieval knights, castles royalty, competition, chivalry and honour, medieval life and customs, adventure, bullying and bravery.

Nathan Nuttboard upstaged



Anthony Eaton
Queensland University
Press
ISBN: 978 0 7022
3665 5
RRP: \$16.95

Grade 7 is not going well for Nathan Nuttboard. His mother is filling his sandwiches with pet food and his friends are crazy. His teacher is full of 'interesting' ideas and, when he is publicly dumped by the most popular girl in the class, he reckons that things can't get any worse. Or can they?

A brief history of Montmaray

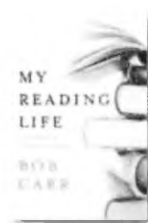


Michelle Cooper
Random House
Australia
ISBN: 978 1 74166
322 8
RRP: \$17.95

Targeted at 12 year old girls, this example of historical fiction has the feel of a great historical epic. Author Michelle Cooper uses accessible language, and situates her characters within their setting with ease. Her prose allows the reader to quickly picture location and atmosphere.

For the adults

My reading life: adventures in the world of books



Bob Carr
Penguin/Viking
RRP: \$35.00
ISBN: 9780670070664
The former NSW Premier has put

together an interesting selection of his favourite texts; titles that he believes are worth pushing as 'must reads'. This is a personal view of the literary world and the books recounted may not appeal to some readers. It is certainly an opinionated reflection and he has dismissed some notable authors, such as Austen and others that are commonly considered to be part of the canon. Contemporary Australian writers aren't given a look-in and he confesses to not even trying to read crime fiction since reading James Ellroy who he considers to be master of the genre.

But it is worth a browse—some interesting insights into a range of titles and into the mind of the man himself.

Out of the well: my battle with school bullying and severe depression



Lisa Eskinazi
ISBN 9781877096860
\$19.95
<http://www.melbournebooks.com.au>

Here is a book that shows us what happens when we refuse to face the truth about bullying. Lisa Eskinazi was a victim of extreme school bullying. Her subsequent struggle with depression, hospitalization and homelessness is recorded in diaries that form the basis of the text and the accompanying poems. Lisa had the courage to stand up to those who bullied her (and the school that failed in its duty of care to protect her) by taking her case to court and winning.

Lisa's inspirational story should be read by students, parents and teachers so that they may fully understand the consequences of ignoring the early signs and long-term effects of bullying.

At the launch of Out of the well, held at the Melbourne Athenaeum, a large crowd of well-wishers queued up to buy the book.

**Marjorie Dalvean
The Melbourne Athenaeum**

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