

PENNY ZAGARELOU-MACKIESON

GREEK, ACTUALLY

Disentangling Adoption Deceptions



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LAURA LECUONA

GENDER IDENTITY, LIES AND DANGERS



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ROBIN MORGAN



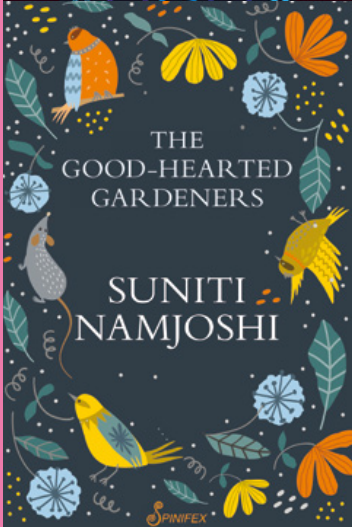
HARVESTING DARKNESS

NEW POEMS 2019-2023

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THE GOOD-HEARTED GARDENERS

SUNITI NAMJOSHI



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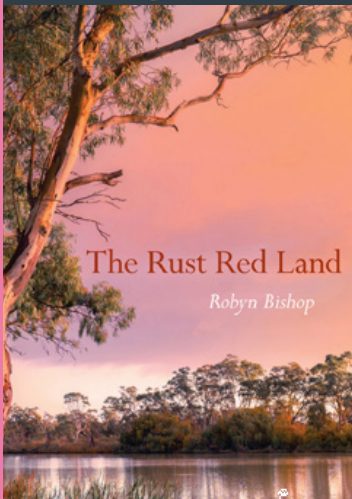
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The Rust Red Land

Robyn Bishop



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Chinogwa

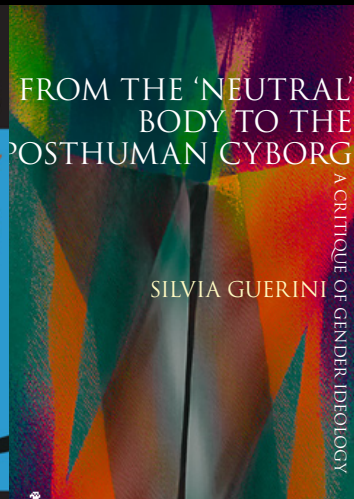
LUCY MUSHITA



SPINIFEX

FROM THE 'NEUTRAL' BODY TO THE POSTHUMAN CYBORG

SILVIA GUERINI



SPINIFEX

A CRITIQUE OF GENDER IDEOLOGY



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We acknowledge the assistance of the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

Publisher's note 2023–2024

This year's catalogue brings you writers from around the world with fiction, poetry and non-fiction titles that will make you want to rush to your nearest bookshop and insist that they order these books – or visit the Spinifex Press website.

As always, poetry is important to us and who but Robin Morgan should open our catalogue this year with *Harvesting Darkness*. Her poems have kept feminists inspired for fifty years since the heady days of the Women's Liberation Movement in the 1970s. And these new poems are among her best. Robin always takes you to the edge. Her meditations on ceilings, regret, past relationships, colonisation, icicles and death will keep you more than engaged.

Zimbabwean-born, Lucy Mushita, and Australian author, Robyn Bishop, take us to the early twentieth century when young girls were sold to old men in return for some cows or consigned to household drudgery and not allowed an education. Though set in in completely different locations, *Chinongwa* and *The Rust Red Land* resonate with one another revealing the harsh Zimbabwean countryside and the dry Riverina in Australia. Pauline Hopkins' international anthology *It's All Connected: Feminist Fiction and Poetry* brings together poets and short story writers from twelve countries who reflect on the lives of contemporary women in all their diversity. Finally, the heartwarming new book by Suniti Namjoshi, *The Good-Hearted Gardeners*, takes us to a future that could be just around the corner. Demo and Sybil – neighbours who fall in love with each other – face a big conundrum and ask for help from birds, cows and trees for the planet's survival. The result is both astonishing and funny: they might succeed.

Our non-fiction is as controversial as our fiction and poetry is innovative. Swedish author, Kajsa Ekis Ekman, asks in *On the Meaning of Sex: Thoughts on the New Definition of Woman* why gender has taken over our public conversations instead of sex. Should women give up their spaces in bathrooms, refuges and sports to men? Are these ideas really as progressive as they are made out to be? Cherry Smiley, in her book *Not Sacred, Not Squaws: Indigenous Feminism Redefined*, gives a resounding 'No' to Ekman's questions. Smiley examines the role of colonisation in prostituting Indigenous women in Canada and asks why don't so-called progressives recognise the oppression of women who are missing and murdered, most of them Indigenous and caught in the sex trade?

Silvia Guerini from Italy and Laura Lecuona from Mexico continue the discussion about transgenderism. In *From the 'Neutral' Body to the Posthuman Cyborg*, Silvia Guerini follows the future trajectory towards transhumanism. She is concerned about the increasing dissociation from the body and the embracing of synthetic life forms. Laura Lecuona in *Gender Identity: Lies and Dangers* delves deeply into 'gender identity' and outlines the lies and dangers inherent in this nebulous concept. She also sets the record straight by reviewing the origin of the key term *gender* and shows how it has achieved such a hold on people who consider themselves progressive at the expense of half the world's population: women.

Greek Actually: Disentangling Adoption Deceptions tells Penny Zagarelou-Mackieson's amazing story of being swapped at birth. While she always knew she was adopted, through DNA analysis she recently discovered that she had Greek ancestry not Anglo-

Celtic as she had been told. This discovery turned her life upside-down. Through dogged persistence she became de-adopted and has met members of her new biological family in both Greece and Australia including her mother.

Sandy Jeffs' life was changed for ever when she was diagnosed with schizophrenia at the age of 23. Her autobiography *Flying with Paper Wings: Reflections on Living with Madness* takes the reader through that journey in psychiatric hospitals, her life as a poet, and her much lauded work as an advocate for people dealing with mental health issues.

When You Cross a Street You're at the Edge of a Cliff: Surviving the Sex Trade in Korea by Korean prostitution activist, Bomnal, tells the gripping story of her struggle within the sex trade. And she recalls how many obstacles were put in her way after she managed to leave.

These three autobiographical books will keep you on the edge of your seat. Two other books which draw on the lives of the writers are Renate Klein's *Radical Reckonings: Survival in Patriarchy* and Susan Hawthorne's *Lesbian: Essays on Politics and Existence*. Both draw together decades of writing and speaking out about key feminist issues. For Renate Klein her background in science took her to engage critically with reproductive technologies including surrogacy, as well as menopause and HRT, cloning and cyberfeminism. She also spent many years teaching Women's Studies and writes about her passion for a radical feminist research methodology. Susan Hawthorne's collection of essays includes early writings about women's spaces and lesbian feminist strategies. She analyses the ways in which lesbians are dismissed as a political force despite years of life-changing activism. As a poet, novelist, critic and aerialist, Susan Hawthorne highlights the importance of lesbian culture and the crucial role it plays for women everywhere.

We are also very pleased to announce the completion of our trilogy: Spinifex Books in German. After Robert Jensen's *Das Ende des Patriarchats* and Renate Klein's *Mietmutterchaft*, Janice G. Raymond's pathbreaking *Doublethink*, translated as *Doppeldenk*, is published in 2023.

Spinifex Press now has two audio books, *Detransition: Beyond Before and After* by Max Robinson and *Lillian's Eden* by Cheryl Adam. We invite you to find out more about them, our previous books as well as a list of books recently translated. To keep in touch, please sign up on our website to our monthly newsletter where we share information on book launches and other news. And follow us on social media platforms. Should you miss a launch you can find them on our Spinifex Press YouTube channel.

These books by authors from Australia, Zimbabwe, Sweden, Canada, Italy, Mexico, India and the US will not only broaden your horizons and knowledge of feminism, but also open new ways of understanding the world, our histories, and the connections between women wherever we live.

The Spinifex Team



eBook available

Robin Morgan

Harvesting Darkness: New Poems 2019–2023

She sleeps naked, wearing pearls, to play her part.

Robin Morgan's latest collection is a tour-de-force: poetry that thrills the intellect and stirs the emotions. Robin shares her joys and intimacies which take centre stage and laments 'the ringmaster's desertion' as death hovers in the wings and aging unfolds, *while laughing at the pain / through the gridlocked traffic in my brain.*

Light and shadow, sleep and wakefulness, holding tight and letting go, regret and contentment, order and chaos, battle it out simultaneously through the interplanetary and domestic worlds.

*So trust disorder's order,
be glad all permanence*

*is temporary, since
no matter what you lose
you gain: chaos composts
grief and love together.*

Harvesting Darkness is **Robin Morgan's** eighth poetry collection, furthering a tonal arc begun with *A Hot January* and following her recent collection, *Dark Matter*. She is a recipient of the U.S. National Endowment for the Arts Prize in Poetry as well as numerous other honours, and her work has been widely translated. An activist in the global Women's Movement for decades, recognized as a leading architect of U.S. feminism, and a former Editor-in-Chief of *Ms.* magazine, she also co-founded The Sisterhood Is Global Institute with the late Simone de Beauvoir and co-founded The Women's Media Center with Jane Fonda and Gloria Steinem.



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Poetry 64 pp
Rights: World

Lucy Mushita

Chinongwa



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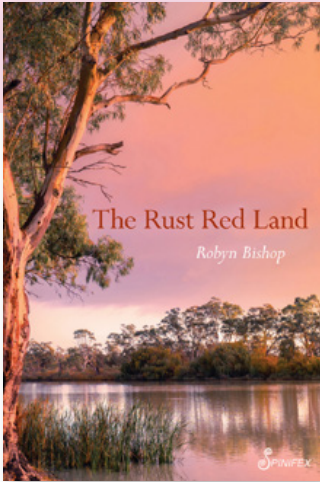
My only dream that's ever come true, and one I relish with a vengeance, is being able to whistle like a man. I was told a woman fit to be married should not whistle. I don't want to be married so the more they point at me, the louder I whistle. My load is still heavy on my head, but my heart is light, for I know, like the sun, that I shall rise every morning. Be it cloudy, cold or wet, I shall not fail to rise. And I shall whistle as loudly as I like. To me, it is the sound of freedom.

In the village where *Chinongwa* lives, her family, displaced from their lands by colonisation, are very poor. One desperate solution to permanent hunger is to trade young daughters into marriage. At first, to their shame, her father and aunt's attempts to marry off their youngest child fail. No one is interested in this small, thin girl. Eventually, a childless woman, Amai Chitsva, offers *Chinongwa* as a second wife to her own husband who is old enough to be the girl's grandfather. *Chinongwa* is forced to grow up very fast and rely on her survival instincts. She does her best to do what is expected of her and become a good wife and mother. But being very young, very alone, and female, the odds are stacked against her. Eventually, after spending her whole life doing the bidding of others, all *Chinongwa* wants is her independence. But how can one gain such a thing even as an adult woman? Will she ever truly be free?

Lucy Mushita, a novelist, essayist and public speaker, was born and grew up in a small village in Rhodesia (today's Zimbabwe) during apartheid. After apartheid, she left for France, spent some time in the USA and now lives between France and Australia. She holds an MA in Creative Writing from Sydney University. *Chinongwa* was translated into French, published by Actes Sud in 2012 and received the Prix de Ville d'Hagondange in 2013.



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 Fiction 248 pp
 Rights: World X Africa



eBook available

Robyn Bishop

The Rust Red Land

'You ask too many questions, Matilda. It's not becoming in a girl.'

But Matilda is full of questions. It's the late 1800s in rural New South Wales and Matilda, as the oldest daughter, is expected to cook, clean and help Mama with her brothers and sisters. But her inquiring mind will not be stilled nor her rebellious spirit tamed. When frustration overcomes her, she finds escape in the land she loves and in her imagination, nourished by books.

In the rust red landscape, both striking and harsh, and against the backdrop of World Wars I and II and a changing Australia, Matilda is torn by her desire for freedom and an allegiance to her growing family. With their never-ending demands, and crises of poverty, drought and illness, what Matilda really wants seems impossible to reach. Will she ever see the sea? Have a vocation and earn her own money? Have the time to read?

This sweeping novel brings to life the injustices faced by women in the 1800s and 1900s. Punctuated with betrayal and loyalty, hope and despair, love and loss, Matilda and her family come alive showing how the grip of patriarchy tried to strangle the ambitions of women, but there were women who refused to give up.

Robyn Bishop is a Melbourne-based writer, actor and drama teacher. Her plays, two of which are published, have been performed at La Mama's Carlton Courthouse. Her debut novel *The Girl in the Bath* was published in 2014. Robyn is passionate about telling Australian women's stories. She is a contributor to *It's All Connected: Feminist Fiction and Poetry* (2023).



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 Fiction 320 pp
 Rights: World

Edited by Pauline Hopkins

It's All Connected: Feminist Fiction and Poetry



eBook available

Feminists have long known that it's all connected. *The stories, the families, the country, the River.* In this international anthology, poets and short story writers create worlds with words. This book includes stories that draw on mythic traditions rewritten for our time. There are thieves, grandmothers, teenagers breaking out, dark caves to explore and real estate to sell; there are mysteries from the grave, experiments that go wrong, road trips, a circus, an opera, families that break and families that hold together; there are birds and animals and babies, and there is the pandemic. There is stillness and movement; closeness and distance.

This eclectic group of authors brings their unique perspectives to storytelling as they each grapple to understand the past and meet the challenges ahead, daring to share their joy and pain, their fear and anger, their hopes and disappointments. These are women who have the courage to remember, to claim their own stories and to wonder what might have been.

A bold and powerful anthology offering poetry and prose from a diversity of new and established women writers, It's All Connected ripples and blazes across a universe of topics, a galaxy of tones. Deftly constructed, moving from ancient myth to present day narratives, from pre-history to future worlds, this book arrives as an elegant feminist fanfare.

—Carmel Bird

A feisty, vigorous and eclectic volume; feminism is alive and well as a creative force ...

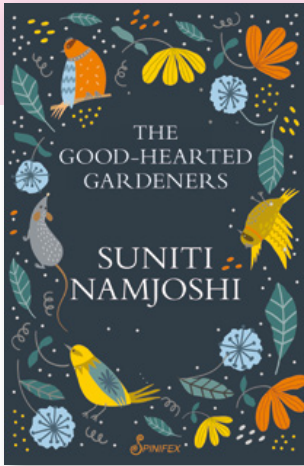
—Gail Jones

A wonderfully rich and diverse expression of full throttle womanhood. —Amanda Lohrey

Pauline Hopkins is an editor at Spinifex Press and a bookseller. She majored in psychology at university and completed further studies in English and Professional Writing and Editing. She has worked in local government, as a speechwriter and media adviser in state government. She is an avid swimmer, has been a swim teacher, swim coach and lifeguard. She volunteers in the health sector.

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Suniti Namjoshi

The Good-Hearted Gardeners

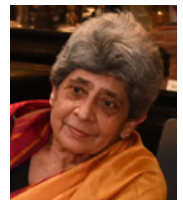
What do you do when you fall in love with your next-door neighbour? You peer at each other through a hole in the fence and eventually climb over.

Sybil is a member of The Good-Hearted Gardeners, a Society for Well-Meaning Efforts for the Betterment of Language and the Salvation of the Planet, which her lover, Demo, is allowed to join. It's funded by M15, who ask them to monetise and weaponise the English language. Soon afterwards they discover that English is even more widespread than anyone had thought. Even the birds and the fish, the cows and the kangaroos can speak it – when they choose. The Good-Hearted Gardeners set about trying to talk to anyone – crows, magpies, robins, goldfish, cows, horses, rats, mice – who will talk to them.

With climate change and technology gone mad, what's in store is a frightening scenario that threatens everyone – humans, animals, plants. Can the headlong rush to extinction be halted?

When the birds, and the cows and the horses and the mice and all the rest come together, much is made possible. But at what cost? Will the planet and its inhabitants be saved?

Internationally acclaimed author **Suniti Namjoshi** is an important figure in contemporary literature in English. A writer of fables, poetry, satirical fiction and children's fiction, she has published over 30 titles in India, Australia, Canada and Britain. Born in Mumbai in 1941, she first wrote and published in India, then moved to Canada, and then to a small seaside village in the south-west of England with writer, Gillian Hanscombe. She was recently made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. Her books include *Feminist Fables*, *Goja*, *Suki*, *Blue* and *Aesop the Fox*, all from Spinifex Press.



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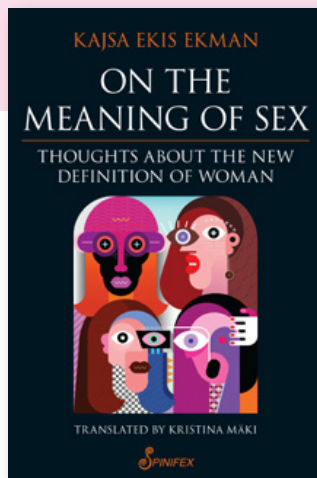
NEW RELEASE

NON-FICTION

Kajsa Ekis Ekman

On the Meaning of Sex: Thoughts about the New Definition of Woman

Translated by Kristina Mäki



eBook available

A brilliant examination of the intellectually incoherent and anti-feminist character of gender identity theory.

In this groundbreaking book, Swedish feminist and Marxist, Kajsa Ekis Ekman, traces the ideological roots of the new definition of woman. She shows how biological determinism is back – but minus the biology. So too are stereotypes: womanhood is no longer about having a vagina, but pink ribbons and dolls. Masculinity is no longer synonymous with having a penis but with war and machines. We are told being a woman is a 'gender identity' that anyone can claim and that can only be determined by one's own feelings.

In countries such as Norway, Canada, Argentina, Australia and New Zealand, self-identity laws have been enacted that give anyone the right to change his or her legal sex. At the same time, the industry for gender reassignment surgery is growing at an unprecedented pace. Seven out of ten teenagers who seek interventions are now girls.

The new definition of sex has been hailed as progressive. But is it really? What ideology is expressed by it? What consequences will it have? And for whom?

Kajsa Ekis Ekman is a Swedish author and journalist, born in 1980. She has written four books on women's rights, capitalism and economic crisis. Her book *Being and Being Bought: Prostitution, Surrogacy and the Split Self* was published by Spinifex in 2013. She lectures internationally on trafficking and surrogacy and her TEDx talk 'Everyone talks about capitalism, but what is it?' has been seen by 250,000 people. She is a critic at the Swedish major daily *Aftonbladet* and the founder of the workers' blog portal *arbetarbloggen.se*.

SWEDISH
ARTSCOUNCIL



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Non-Fiction 337 pp
Rights: World X Swedish and Spanish





eBook available

Cherry Smiley

Not Sacred, Not Squaws: Indigenous Feminism Redefined

Decolonizing feminism always prioritizes the collective liberation of Indigenous and other women and names patriarchy as the central component of women's oppression.

In *Not Sacred, Not Squaws*, Cherry Smiley analyses colonization and proposes a new decolonized feminism enlivened by Indigenous feminist theory.

Building on the work of grassroots radical feminist theorists, Cherry Smiley outlines a female-centered theory of colonization and describes the historical and contemporary landscape in which male violence against Indigenous women in Canada and New Zealand is the norm. She calls out 'sex work' as a patriarchal colonizing practice and a form of male violence against women.

Questioning her own uncritical acceptance of the historical social and political status of Indigenous women in Canada – which she now recognizes as male-centred Indigenous theorizing – she examines the roles of culture and tradition in the oppression of Indigenous women and constructs an alternative decolonizing feminist methodology.

This book is a refreshing feminist contemporary challenge to the patriarchal ideology that governs our world and a vigorous and irreverent defence against the attempts to silence Indigenous radical feminists.

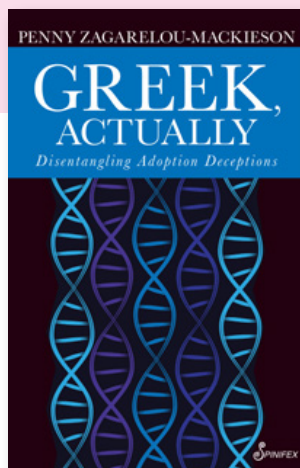
Cherry Smiley, PhD, is a radical feminist artist from the Nlaka'pamux and Diné Nations. She has worked to expose missing and murdered Indigenous women and with survivors of the prostitution industry. She has written for *Globe & Mail*, *Policy Options*, and *Herizons*.



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Non-Fiction 257 pp
Rights: World

Penny Zagarelou-Mackieson

Greek, Actually: Distentangling Adoption Deception



eBook available

All I've ever wanted is the deep sense of belonging associated with knowing and being connected with who and where I've come from.

Penny Zagarelou-Mackieson always knew she was adopted. But she didn't know she was swapped at birth. After a lifetime grappling with issues of belonging, outlined in her earlier book *Adoption Deception*, Penny discovered through DNA analysis that her natural mother was genetically unrelated to her. Penny's family reunion of two decades was based on falsehoods.

So begins Penny's new quest to learn about her origins. She confronts a shocking legacy of babies misidentified in the heyday of Australia's forced and closed adoptions and appalling medical record-keeping – meaning many adoptees may never know their true origins. Penny's search leads her to court seeking legal recognition of her true identity and termination of the Adoption Order imposed on her in infancy.

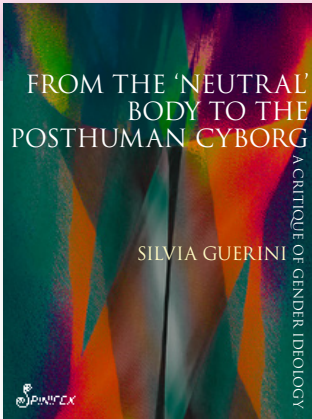
This remarkable story of one woman's determination to uncover the truth and restore her dignity reveals human rights violations inherent in adoption. Penny Zagarelou-Mackieson questions continuing laws and practices that cement stigmatising secrecy and harm adopted people, arguing for wide-reaching reforms.

Penny Zagarelou-Mackieson is an Australian author who was adopted as a newborn in 1963 and 'de-adopted' in 2022. A social worker by profession, Penny worked for three decades in the child and family services sector. Her PhD research explored Permanent Care Orders for children in Victoria. From 2014-19, she was Chair of VANISH Inc., a community-based organisation providing support services to people separated from their families through adoption.



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 Non-Fiction 232 pp
 Rights: World





eBook available

Silvia Guerini

From the 'Neutral' Body to the Posthuman Cyborg: A Critique of Gender Ideology

If the human being is allowed to be genetically manipulated and made by artificial means in the laboratory in an unstoppable crescendo of experimentation, what will be left to defend?

This book is a radical critique of gender ideology and transhuman design. Silvia Guerini shows how the TQ+ rights agenda is being pushed by eugenicist capitalist technocrats at the top of Big Business, Big Philanthropy, Big Tech and Big Pharma companies. She argues that dissociation from our sexed bodies leads to dissociation from reality, with the human body transformed into a permanent construction site besieged by synthetic and artificial interventions. Erasure of the material dimension of bodies and sexual difference is an erasure of women. She explains how fundamental struggles such as the fight against genetic engineering and the fight against artificial reproduction can only advance in conjunction with an opposition to gender ideology. By linking 'gender identity' to the genetic modification of bodies, she warns that humanity itself is at risk of becoming a synthetic life form with synthetic emotions within a virtual, fluid, deconstructed metaverse. Today, being revolutionary means preserving everything that makes us human. It means defending the living world and nature as entities to be respected, not as parts that can be broken down and redesigned in a laboratory world.

The idea of the 'neutral' body and body modification pave the way for the construction of the post-human cyborg and the genetic engineering of bodies. Is the last bioethical barrier about to be breached to give way to transhumanist demands? And at what cost?

Silvia Guerini, is a radical ecologist of Resistenze al nanomondo, editor of the newspaper *L'Urlo della Terra* and one of the founders of FINAARGIT (International feminist network against all artificial reproduction, gender ideology and transhumanism). In the early 2000s, she was one of the founders of the Coalizione Contro Ogni Nocività (Coalition Against Every Harm) which launched a mobilisation campaign against the entry of GMOs into Europe and later a campaign against nanotechnologies.



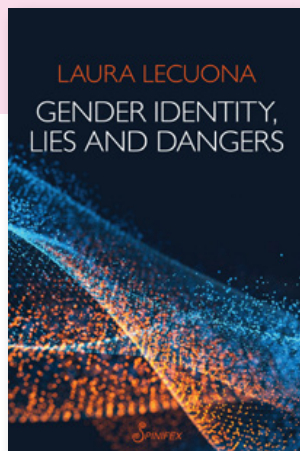
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 Non-Fiction 168 pp
 Rights: World X Italy

NEW RELEASE

NON-FICTION

Laura Lecuona

Gender Identity, Lies and Dangers



eBook available

Thousands of pages of books, millions of characters in tweets and hundreds of blogs have been devoted to explaining the distinction between sex and gender, but far from clarifying anything, bewilderment for ordinary people is only growing.

The concept of *gender* is central to a vaguely progressive-looking set of ideas based on the maxim that people possess a so-called 'gender identity'. The real problem arises when this nebulous concept, bandied about with different and even incompatible meanings by different groups, is used as a prop to introduce policies that mark a huge setback for the rights of women and girls. The general public, watching the controversy from the sidelines, is confused by conflicting claims about whose rights are being infringed.

In this incisive book, Laura Lecuona sets the record straight by reviewing the origin of the current uses of the key term *gender* and exploring the main theories of transgenderism. She discusses what lies behind the claims about pronoun usage and warns about the consequences of promoting the recognition of so-called transgender children. She points out the collateral damage arising from this activism, from the perpetuation of sexist roles to limitations on freedom of speech.

Gender Identity: Lies and Dangers is essential reading for the urgently needed conversation we need to have about whose interests are being served with the advancement of transgender ideology and what this means for women's sex-based rights.

Laura Lecuona studied Philosophy at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. An editor and translator specializing in philosophy and social sciences, she has held editorial coordination positions at Paidós Mexicana, Fondo de Cultura Económica and Ediciones SM. As a communicator of feminism, she is a regular lecturer and writer. In the Spanish-speaking world, she is one of the main referents of the feminist criticism of the doctrine of gender identity.



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Non-Fiction 350 pp
Rights: World X Spanish



eBook available

Sandy Jeffs

Flying with Paper Wings: Reflections on Living with Madness

**Highly Commended, Human Rights Commission's
Non-Fiction Award 2010**

SANE Book of the Year 2010

Shortlisted for *The Age* Book of the Year Award 2010

Sandy Jeffs was born in Ballarat in 1953. She was diagnosed with schizophrenia in 1976, a time when recovery was seen as unlikely. She was in and out of institutional care for 15 years, including at the infamous Larundel Psychiatric Hospital.

Sandy was among the first to start speaking publicly about living with a mental illness, and much of her writing has been about her struggle to live a full life despite this, including in eight volumes of poetry. She is well-known as a community educator, speaking to doctors and psychiatrists, at community health centres, and educational institutions. She has been honoured in the Victorian Honour Roll of Women, Her Place Women's Museum, and with an OAM in 2020.

Read this exceptional book. It takes you beyond your own narrow terror towards something that might be called insight. —Helen Elliott, *The Age*

Sandy Jeffs OAM is a prize-winning poet and the author of eight collections including the bestselling collection *Poems from the Madhouse*, *Blood Relations*, *The Wings of Angels: A Memoir of Madness*, *The Mad Poet's Tea Party* and *The Poetics of a Plague* which documents the COVID-19 Melbourne lockdowns. Her non-fiction includes the prize-winning *Out of the Madhouse* (with Margaret Leggatt). Sandy has been an advocate for people with mental illness for many years.

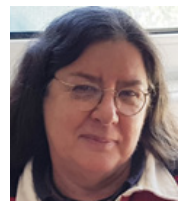


Photo: Sabin Fernbacher



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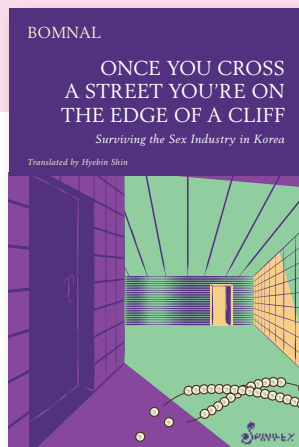
NEW RELEASE

NON-FICTION: AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Bomnal

Once You Cross a Street, You're on the Edge of a Cliff: Surviving the Sex Trade in Korea

Translated by Hyebin Shin



eBook available

Prostitution is the oldest 'profession' in the world – that's what they say. According to Havoscope, total prostitution revenue is US \$186 billion worldwide, with 40-42 million women prostituted. The number itself is staggering, but the reality is hard to grasp with the statistics only. Bomnal's memoir *Once You Cross a Street, You're on the Edge of a Cliff* is a personal record of her twenty years in prostitution and a firsthand report of the industry people call 'sex trade' with a clear statement that prostitution is not a profession, but oppression.

Bomnal's personal history starkly presents a larger picture of the prostitution industry: how the pimps trap women with 'advance payments'; the physical and sexual abuse of the 'clients'; and the close relationship between the police and brothels. This system built upon the exploitation of women makes it very easy for women to take a step into the industry and much harder to seek escape from it. At this point, the boundary between 'forced' versus 'voluntary' prostitution is pointless – all it takes is one misstep.

With an honest and brave voice, Bomnal not only revisits her past but also calls for hope and solidarity. "When I crossed a street, I never knew I would be standing on a cliff. I couldn't avoid the plunge, but I found people waiting down there. It took a long time until I climbed back, and I'm still in the middle of the process. But the point is, some people reached out their hands to me and helped me get back on my feet," said Bomnal in an interview. Beyond all the myths surrounding the 'sex trade', there is truth resounding in her trace: prostitution is not a choice and should never be one. And there's always a way out.

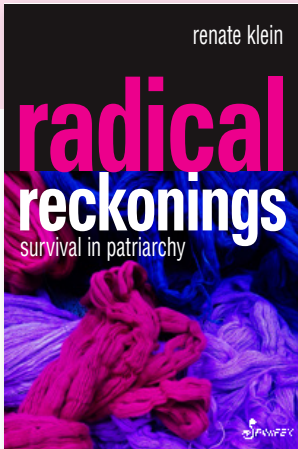
Bomnal is a Korean writer and anti-prostitution activist. Bomnal is her pen name, meaning 'spring day' in Korean. Her memoir *Once You Cross a Street, You're on the Edge of a Cliff* received the 2021 Culture for Sexual Equality Award of Korea.



Pb \$39.95
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eBook \$29.95
ISBN 9781925950939
Non-Fiction 400 pp
Rights: World X Korea



This book is published with the support of the Literature Translation Institute of Korea (LTI Korea).



eBook available

Renate Klein

Radical Reckonings: Survival in Patriarchy

What happens when an old radical lesbian feminist has the idea of publishing a collection of her papers? She looks at her writings and despairs. She has written too much. The idea gets shelved. Fifteen years later, she revisits the project. But it is worse now because she has written more ... But being stared down by her publisher she gets a grip and (painfully) pares down her oeuvre to a manageable size.

This then is a skeleton journey through Renate's life and her survival in patriarchy. The book starts with her passion for autonomous Women's Studies as an intellectual necessity and radical feminist research methodology to give women a voice. And why men don't belong in Women's Studies classes. Next, she documents some part of her immersion in a critique of reproductive technologies as a member of FINRRAGE. We hear about the 'exploitation of a desire' in IVF followed with problems of egg 'donations', cloning, and of course the human rights violation of women and children in surrogacy. A critique of population control and the illusion of 'choice' – endorsed by liberal feminists – has to be in the book and with it papers on long-acting contraceptives. Necessary warnings about the unethics of hormone replacement therapy and the French abortion pill RU 486 are included too.

As a feminist women's health activist, Renate Klein has always been concerned about the fact that women *are* our bodies and that reproductive technologies in tandem with postmodern and queer theories result in the fragmentation and dismemberment of women: from the one an egg, from the other a uterus ... this erasure of women is helped by dissociation and a belief in delusions – such as the assault on women's existence by transgender ideologies.

Dr Renate Klein is a Swiss-Australian biologist and sociologist. She was Associate Professor in Women's Studies at Deakin University until 2006 and is the (co-)author/(co)editor of 15 books. She is co-founder of FINRRAGE, Stop Surrogacy Now, ABSA (Abolish Surrogacy Australia) and of Spinifex Press with Susan Hawthorne in 1991.



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Photo: Susan Kelly

NEW RELEASE

NON-FICTION

Susan Hawthorne

ΙΞΖΒΙΘΝ: Essays on Politics and Existence



eBook available

Across almost 50 years of writing, Susan Hawthorne's essays on lesbian culture and politics take the reader on a journey through the concerns of radical feminists engaged in the Women's Liberation Movement. Not only does she trace the experiments of lesbians creating a vibrant woman-loving culture, she also traces the backlash against lesbians and a history of violence perpetrated by the state, corporations and individual men.

She begins in 1976 with a critique of the institution of heterosexuality and the role of lesbian feminism as a strategy and is soon asking questions about lesbian existence. The essays span reflections on lesbian literature and the development of lesbian culture, including the politics of physical expression in circus.

Susan writes about cultural appropriation, depoliticisation and the erasure of lesbian inventiveness. She researches violence against lesbians including rape, torture and murder and the way in which this violence is ignored and often distorted by the media.

Her investigations include lesbian refugees, lesbian economics, violation of lesbian human rights and the impact of the transgender industrial complex on the existence of lesbians as a political force.

Susan Hawthorne is a poet, novelist and theorist. She joined the Women's Liberation Movement in 1973 and worked with unemployed youth, in Aboriginal education and teaching English to Arabic-speaking women. She was an aerialist in two women's circuses and has written not only about lesbians, but also about disability, globalisation, war and ecology.



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Photo: Susan Kelly



Janice G. Raymond

Doppeldenk: Eine feministische Herausforderung an die Transgenderideologie

Die Medikalisierung von geschlechtsspezifischer Unzufriedenheit, die Janice Raymond in ihrem visionären Buch *The Transsexual Empire* (1979) beschrieb, hat sich exponentiell vergrößert. Transgenderideologie manifestiert sich im industriellen Komplex von Big Pharma, Big Banks und Big Research Centres von denen viele Universitäten angeschlossen sind. *Doppeldenk* entlarvt diese gefährliche und frauenfeindliche ideologie.

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Non-Fiction 336 Seiten
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Renate Klein

Mietmutterchaft: Eine Menschenrechtsverletzung

Mit einem aktualisierten Vorwort zur Neuauflage

In diesem weitgreifenden Buch warnt Renate Klein vor kapitalistischen-neoliberalen Versuchen, Mietmutterchaft (auch Leihmutterchaft genannt) zu regulieren. Sie fordert den totalen und globalen Stopp dieser unethischen, frauen- und kinderfeindlichen industrie.

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eBook €9.99 AUD\$12.99
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Non-Fiction 244 Seiten
Rights: World



Robert Jensen

Das Ende des Patriarchats: Radikaler Feminismus für Männer

Die Schlüsselfrage dieses Buches ist: Was brauchen wir, um stabile und gerechte menschliche Gemeinschaften schaffen, die ein gutes Leben in Austausch mit und Respekt vor der Erde ermöglichen? Robert Jensens Antwort ist Feminismus und Patriarchatskritik.

Das Ende des Patriarchats zeigt auf, wie eine radikalfeministische Theorie und Praxis uns helfen kann, das Ziel einer gerechten und lebenswerten Gesellschaft zu erreichen.

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 Non-Fiction 310 pp
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Edited by Melinda Tankard Reist and Abigail Bray

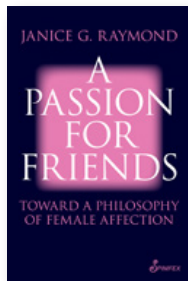
Big Porn Inc: Exposing the Harms of the Global Pornography Industry

It is now widely acknowledged that the mainstreaming of the global pornography industry is transforming the sexual politics of intimate and public life, popularising new forms of hardcore misogyny, and strongly contributing to the sexualisation of children. Yet challenges to the pornography industry continue to be dismissed as uncool, anti-sex and moral panics.

With contributions from leading world experts and activists, *Big Porn Inc* offers a cutting-edge exposé of the hidden realities of a multi-billion-dollar global industry that promotes itself as a fashionable life-style choice.

Unmasking the lies behind the selling of porn as 'just a bit of fun' *Big Porn Inc* reveals the shocking truths of an industry that trades in violence, crime and degradation. This fearless book will change the way you think about pornography forever.

Melinda Tankard Reist's latest book is "*He Chose Porn Over Me*".
Abigail Bray is the author of *Misogyny Re-loaded*.



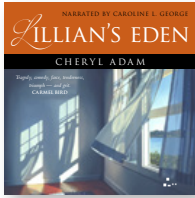
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 Non-Fiction 275 pp
 Rights: World

Janice G. Raymond

A Passion for Friends: Toward a Philosophy of Female Friendship

Janice Raymond offers a vision of female friendship that is as exhilarating as it is controversial. In this feminist classic, she explores the many manifestations of friendship between women, including the ancient Greek *hetairai*, the sisterhood of medieval nuns and the marriage resisters of China. Thousands of women have created their own communities and destinies through friendship. She also examines the contemporary women's movement and its networks and friendships – as well as the forces operating against friendship between women. A tough and clear-sighted analysis, and a book to read again and again.

Janice Raymond is the author of *Doublethink* and *Women as Wombs*.



Audio \$25.99
 Libraries \$60.00
 ISBN 9781925950878
 Length 10h 13m 13s
 Fiction
 Rights: World

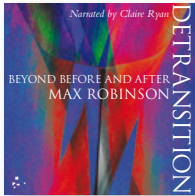
Cheryl Adam
Narrator: Caroline L George

Lillian's Eden

In *Lillian's Eden*, novelist Cheryl Adam takes the reader to Australian rural post-war life through the life of a family struggling to survive. With their farm destroyed by fire, Lillian agrees to the demands of her philandering, violent husband to move to the coastal town of Eden to help look after his Aunt Maggie.

Juggling the demands of caring for her children and two households, and stoically enduring her husband's continued indiscretions, Lillian finds an unlikely ally and friend in the feisty, eccentric Aunt Maggie who lives next door.

Cheryl Adam is the author of the Eden Trilogy which includes *Lillian's Eden*, *Out of Eden* and *Africa's Eden*.



Audio \$29.95
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 ISBN 9781925950786
 Length 4h 31m
 Non-Fiction
 Rights: World

Max Robinson
Narrator: Claire Ryan

Detransition: Beyond Before and After

In this brave and thoughtful book, Max Robinson goes beyond the 'before' and 'after' of the transition she underwent and takes us through the processes that led her, first, to transition in an attempt to get relief from her distress, and then to detransition as she discovered feminist thought and community.

The author makes a case for a world in which all medical interventions for the purpose of assimilation are open to criticism. This book is a far-reaching discussion of women's struggles to survive under patriarchy, which draws upon a legacy of radical and lesbian feminist ideas to arrive at conclusions. Robinson's bold discussion of both transition and detransition is meant to provoke a much-needed conversation about who benefits from transgender medicine and who has to bear the hidden cost of these interventions.

When **Max Robinson** became involved with lesbian feminism it made sense of her experiences with medical transition. She works providing support services for developmentally disabled women.

Carol Lefevre

The Tower

A perfect mosaic of women's lives and rooms lit by sinuous, perceptive writing. —Susan Wyndham.



eBook available

The wooden stair was just as she had imagined it, even down to the creak in its second-to-bottom step. But the tower room was lovely beyond anything she could have dreamed – afloat at the level of the treetops, it seemed to Dorelia more like a boat than a room, with everything that might trouble her banished.

Widowed after a long marriage, Dorelia MacCraith swaps the family home for a house with a tower, and there, raised above the run of daily life, sets out to rewrite the stories of old women poorly treated by literature.

Throughout this winding story, Dorelia and the elderly artist Elizabeth Bunting are sustained by a friendship that reaches back to their years at art school, and bonded by the secrets of a six-month period when they painted together in France.

The loneliness of not belonging, of being cut adrift by grief, betrayal, or old age, binds these twelve connected stories into a dazzling composite novel. Within its complex crossings and connections, young and old inhabit separate yet overlapping firmaments; grown children, though loved and loving, cannot imagine their parents' young lives. For most, the past is not past, but exerts a magnetic pull, while future happiness hinges on retreat, or escape.

Stories of tenderness and compassion, with a keen eye for the telling detail. —Susan Midalia

Carol Lefevre is the author of *Murmurations*, shortlisted for the 2021 Christina Stead Prize for Fiction, and the 2022 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature. Carol has a PhD in Creative Writing from the University of Adelaide where she is a Visiting Research Fellow. Her novel *Nights in the Asylum* was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers Prize and won the 2008 Nita B. Kibble Award for Women Writers.



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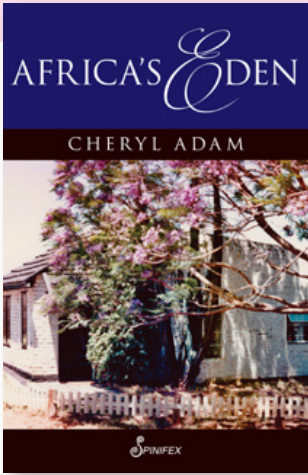
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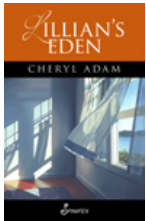
Cheryl Adam

Africa's Eden

As a young unmarried mother in the 1960s, Maureen faces stifling disapproval and condemnation from mainstream society. Desperate to create a new life for herself and her baby, she rekindles an old romance and moves to South Africa under Apartheid.

But her precarious journey to *Africa's Eden* is not the paradise she anticipated. Cultures smash against each other, family relationships are strained, there is death and despair, violence and injustice. But there is also humour, fun, family and friendship, as Maureen has to decide where her future lies. Is it here in Africa or back home in distant Eden, in her Australian homeland?

Cheryl Adam spent her childhood in rural Australia where her love of storytelling began. In adulthood, she travelled widely and lived overseas including in Zambia (then Northern Rhodesia), Kenya, South Africa, Norway, Jersey, England and Sweden. She has been evicted, kidnapped, abandoned, made homeless and discriminated against in her foreign adventures and this helped develop her deep empathy for the plight of immigrant women. She completed a Masters in Fine Arts at Monash University. In 2018 at the age of 74, her first novel *Lillian's Eden* was published. *Out of Eden* followed in 2021 and *Africa's Eden* is the final volume of the Eden trilogy.



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 Fiction 288 pp
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Rose Hunter

Body Shell Girl: A memoir

*think of my body as a shell
that I could vacate, not as metaphor, or symbol
but as a real possibility*



eBook available

Body Shell Girl is a memoir in verse about the first two years of a decade that Rose Hunter spent in the sex industry in Canada. When Rose walked into a massage parlour in Toronto in 1997, she was looking for a temporary fix to pay rent and avoid having to go back to her home country of Australia.

Awkward, shy and looking for a place to belong, she found herself in a strange world she understood little about, other than here she could make more than rent. She planned to use her earnings to buy herself an education that would secure the career of her dreams.

Naively believing she could do only what was required of her, without trauma or side effects and leave the industry on her own terms, she was shattered by what unfolded. This is her story. It is also a searing portrayal of this dehumanising industry in all its destructive power.

Rose Hunter has ploughed her memory and her 'radioactive' journals to take us not just inside the debilitating machinations of her time in the sex industry but right inside the experience itself. —Sally Breen, author of *The Casuals* and *Atomic City*

Body Shell Girl is incredible. It is a captivating and honest account of a woman's experiences, thoughts, and feelings in the sex trade. —Cherry Smiley, founder of Women's Studies Online, Canada

Shimmering, relentless and candid. You didn't expect to find yourself here and neither did she; the author takes you deftly through hell with an unexpected tenderness. —Simone Watson, from Latji Latji Country in Victoria, Director, Nordic Model Australia Coalition (NorMAC)

Rose Hunter is the author of six books of poetry. In 2020 she received an Australian Council for the Arts grant. She was born in Australia and lived in Canada for ten years, then Mexico for ten more. She is currently undertaking a PhD at Griffith University.

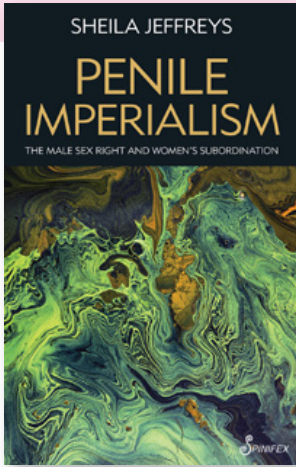


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Poetry 152 pp
Rights: World



eBook available

Sheila Jeffreys

Penile Imperialism: The Male Sex Right and Women's Subordination

In this blisteringly persuasive and piercingly intelligent book, Sheila Jeffreys argues that women live under penile imperialism, a regime in which men are assumed to have a 'sex right' of access to the bodies of women and girls.

She reasons that the 'sexual revolution' that began in the 1960s unleashed an explicit male sexual liberation and that even now, under current laws and cultural mores, women do not have the right to self-determination in relation to their bodies.

The power dynamics of sex, rather than being eliminated, have been eroticised, supported by state regulations and structures that have further entrenched male domination. And while men's sexual fetichisms such as BDSM and transvestism have been normalised, women now have to fight as their spaces are being erased and their voices silenced in a faux inclusivity that has 'naturalised' sexual harassment.

Sheila Jeffreys has written a sobering, devastating – indeed, an exceptionally lucid book about male sexual violence and the consequent erasure of womankind. —Phyllis Chesler, PhD, author of *Women and Madness* and *Requiem for a Female Serial Killer*

Incisive and prescient. —Vaishnavi Sundar, feminist writer, filmmaker and activist from India

In three simple words Sheila Jeffreys exposes the truth behind the havoc wreaked in the lives of women and children in every generation: 'men's sex right'. —Betty McLellan, PhD, feminist therapist and author of *Beyond Psychopression: A Feminist Alternative Therapy*

Sheila Jeffreys is a radical feminist writer and activist who has worked mainly against male violence and for lesbian feminism. She joined her first Women's Liberation Movement group in the UK in 1973. Her most recent book is *Trigger Warning: My Lesbian Feminist Life* (2020).



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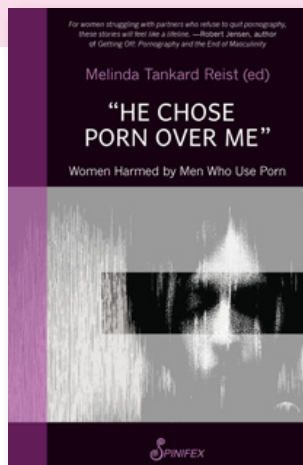
Non-Fiction 384 pp

Rights: World X Germany

Melinda Tankard Reist (Ed)

“He Chose Porn Over Me”: Women Harmed by Men Who Use Porn

He chose porn over me. Porn killed my marriage. It killed my trust. It destroyed my sense of self and understanding of true intimacy. —Courtney



eBook available

Shattering the popular myth that porn is harmless, the personal accounts of 25 brave women in “*He Chose Porn Over Me*” reveal the real-life trauma experienced by women at the hands of their porn-consuming partners – men who were supposed to care for them.

The women in this book were collateral damage in their partner’s insatiable greed for porn. Their stories tell of the crushing of intimacy, respect, connection, love. Porn colonised their families, leaving women rejected and scarred. They were subjected to sexual terrorism in their own homes. The men, turbo-charged by pornography, were intoxicated by sexualised power. They didn’t care if they lost everything, including their partners.

In this haunting exposé, pornography is rightfully situated as an insidious tool of violence against women. The contributors, now working to re-build their lives, found a confidante in Melinda Tankard Reist who supported them in the sharing of their experiences in these pages, and to warn other women – *don’t date men who use porn ...*

Occasionally a book comes along that changes the way we think about the world. “He Chose Porn Over Me”: Women Harmed by Men Who Use Porn is such a book. —Gail Dines PhD, Professor Emerita of Sociology, and President, Culture Reframed.

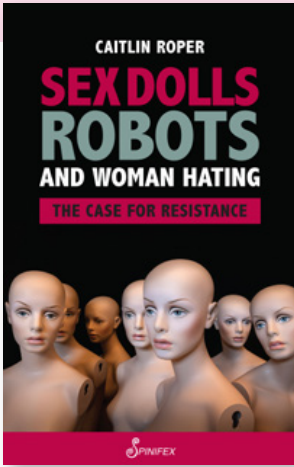
Thank goodness for this very much needed and extremely powerful book. —Sheila Jeffreys, author of *Penile Imperialism: The Male Sex Right and Women’s Subordination*

For women struggling with partners who refuse to quit pornography these stories will feel like a lifeline. —Robert Jensen, author of *Getting Off: Pornography and the End of Masculinity*

Melinda Tankard Reist is an author, speaker, media commentator and advocate for young people. She is co-founder and Movement Director of the grassroots campaigning group, Collective Shout, exposing corporations who sell sexualised products and services.



Pb \$26.95
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eBook \$16.95
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Non-Fiction 208 pp
Rights: World X Greece



eBook available

Caitlin Roper

Sex Dolls, Robots and Woman Hating: The Case for Resistance

Sex dolls and robots in the female form function as an endorsement of men's sexual rights, with women and girls positioned as sexual objects. The production of these products further cements women's second class status.

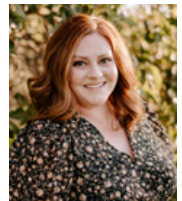
Lifelike, replica women and girls produced for men's sexual use, sex dolls and robots represent the literal objectification of women. They are marketed as companions, the means for men to create their 'ideal' woman, and as the 'perfect girlfriend' that can be stored away after its use.

Advocates claim the development of sex dolls and robots should be actively encouraged and will have many benefits – but for whom?

Sex Dolls, Robots and Woman Hating exposes the inherent misogyny in the trade in sex dolls and robots modelled on the bodies of women and girls for men's unlimited sexual use. From doll owners enacting violence and torture on their dolls, men choosing their dolls over their wives, dolls made in the likeness of specific women and the production of child sex abuse dolls, sex dolls and robots pose a serious threat to the status of women and girls.

Caitlin Roper's Sex Dolls, Robots and Woman Hating is both brilliant and chilling. Her in-depth analysis of how sex dolls and robots are tied into the misogynist commercial sex industry brings to light the degree to which woman- and girl-hating are both monetized and normalized. Roper's call for global resistance to the objectification of women and girls cannot be ignored after reading this tour de force of a book. —Gail Dines, PhD, Professor Emerita of Sociology, and President, Culture Reframed.

Caitlin Roper is an activist, writer and Campaigns Manager at Collective Shout: for a world free of sexploitation, a grassroots campaigning group against the objectification of women and sexualisation of girls in media, advertising and popular culture. She is a founding member of Adopt Nordic Model WA and a co-founder of the Feminist Academy of Technology and Ethics.



Pb \$32.95
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 ISBN 9781925950618
 Non-Fiction 216 pp
 Rights: World

Renée Gerlich

Out of the Fog: On Politics, Feminism and Coming Alive



eBook available

... understanding how our private heartbreak relates to our large-scale problems is the only way we can unravel the helplessness we feel, claim our voices, and take action in the way we deeply crave. We cannot do any of these things while living with the cognitive dissonance of competing ideas, priorities, solutions, and top-down paternalism.

From racialised police brutality to climate change, #MeToo, 'trans rights', COVID-19, the prospect of nuclear war and the prevalence of trauma – we are constantly bombarded with high stakes problems that we are expected to speak out about and act on. On closer inspection, the popular solutions to each of these problems aren't easy to reconcile. Black Lives Matter activists demand prison abolition, while #MeToo feminists want rapists in jail – and while our objections to war and police brutality make us suspicious of state institutions in general, our responses to climate change and COVID-19 reinforce our dependency on them.

Out of the Fog cuts through the confusion. Renée Gerlich suggests that readers move beyond feeling overwhelmed and emotionally manipulated. She draws on a radical feminist tradition that demonstrates how our despair is connected to our most pressing social problems, and offers a framework for assessing and interpreting the current political landscape.

Out of the Fog delivers clarity and guidance in this bewildering time. Renée Gerlich's insights will help you develop the capacity to speak with an authentic voice and to act purposefully and with impact in the world.

Renée Gerlich is a New Zealand-based writer whose work can be found on Feminist Current, Savage Minds, and her blog, reneej.net. In 2021, she founded Dragon Cloud Press to publish *A Brief Complete Herstory*, a female-centred history of the world from the Big Bang to neoliberalism, available at dragoncloudpress.com.



Pb \$34.95
 ISBN 9781925950540
 eBook \$24.95
 ISBN 9781925950557
 Non-Fiction 256 pp
 Rights: World



eBook available

Vandana Shiva

Terra Viva: My Life in a Biodiversity of Movements

Trained as a physicist, Vandana Shiva says, “It was Chipko that made me realise, in intimate detail, how biodiversity is at the heart of sustainable economies.” Working with peasant women in her home state of Uttarakhand, she learnt her first lessons in ecology, transferring fertility from the forest to the field. Chipko was her ‘university’ and, turning away from quantum physics, she made the preservation of biodiversity, and of sustainable societies her life’s work.

For over four decades Vandana Shiva has worked with farmers’ and people’s movements across the world, against what she calls ‘seed imperialism’, economic polarisation, and the digital colonisation of our ecological and social diversity.

This powerful and eloquent memoir looks back at the most memorable campaigns and movements that she has been part of, while looking ahead to the challenges posed by the COVID crisis, the privatisation of biotechnology, and the commodification of our biological and natural resources.

Just as our world would be a lesser place without Vandana Shiva, our literary heritage would also be diminished without this crucial book. —Maude Barlow, author of *Blue Covenant*, activist and Right Livelihood Award Laureate

I warmly recommend this brilliant and deeply moving book. —Fritjof Capra, author of *The Tao of Physics*

Vandana Shiva is the author of *Staying Alive* (1988/2010), *Soil Not Oil* (2008), *Making Peace with the Earth* (2012), *Oneness vs the 1%* (with Kartikey Shiva, 2018) and the editor of *Seed Sovereignty, Food Security* (2015) all available from Spinifex Press.



Pb \$29.95
 ISBN 9781925950526
 eBook \$19.95
 ISBN 9781925950533
 Non-Fiction 250 pp
 Rights: ANZ

Adaptations

Poetics of a Plague: A Haiku Diary by Sandy Jeffs

Four-part symphony composed by Barry McKim based on the haikus in this book.

The Abbotsford Mysteries by Patricia Sykes

Song cycle by Andrew Aronowicz premiered in May 2019. A podcast is forthcoming.

Symphony for the Man by Sarah Brill

Film and stage options have been sold to Spark Plug Films.

Recent Translations

Fiction and Poetry

Parallax by Robin Morgan, Turkey, Çınar Publishing, 2022.

My Sister Chaos by Lara Fergus, India, English, Zero Degree, 2022.

Dark Matters by Susan Hawthorne, India, Tamil, Kalachuvadu Publishing, 2022.

The Sacking of the Muses by Susan Hawthorne, Hungary, Szkholion, 2022.

Locust Girl by Merlinda Bobis. India, Tamil, Kalachuvadu Publishing, 2023.

Locust Girl by Merlinda Bobis. Italy, Progetto Moscabianca, 2023.

Non-Fiction

Defiant Birth: Women Who Resist Medical Eugenics, by Melinda Tankard Reist (ed.) Greece, En Plo Editions, 2023.

“He Chose Porn over Me”: Women Harmed by Men Who Use Porn, edited by Melinda Tankard Reist, Greece, En Plo, 2023.

The Aerial Letter by Nicole Brossard, Brazil, Os Ondas Editora, 2023.

Being and Being Bought: Prostitution Surrogacy and the Split Self by Kajsa Ekis Ekman. Italy, Meltemi Press Srl, 2023.

Broken Bonds: Surrogate Mothers Speak Out, edited by Jennifer Lahl, Melinda Tankard Reist and Renate Klein, Japan, Seikatsushoin Co, 2022.

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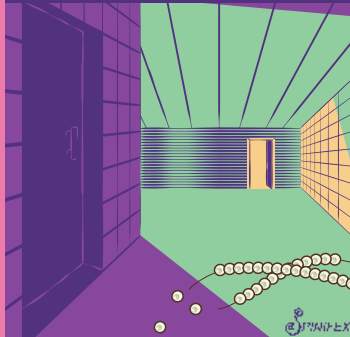
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