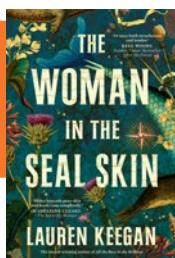


Fiction and poetry



The Woman in the Seal Skin

Lauren Keegan

A wonderfully atmospheric and compelling historic novel set in Scotland in 1695. Based on the selkie myths of the time, this is the story of Malie, a young woman struggling with grief, oppression, her relationship with nature and her own inherent wildness within during Europe's 'little ice age'. Malie grew up hearing tales of selkies: shape-shifting women who shed their seal skins to seduce fishermen on the Orkney shores. That's the story of how her parents met, and it must be true because one day her mother slipped into the sea and was never seen again. Raised by her father, Malie has always done what she's been told, and now she's married and expecting her first baby. Life on land is predictable and safe, and her future is all mapped out for her. But, just like the seals in the sea, there's a wildness in Malie's soul – one that cannot be tamed and deeply yearns for the sea. Dealing with themes of motherhood, grief, violence and female oppression, *The Woman in the Seal Skin* is a wonderfully haunting and atmospheric tale of a woman living in a cloistered community on a wild Scottish island, who one day meets her wildness within.



Kataraina

Becky Manawatu

The much-awaited follow-up to the award-winning international bestseller *Auē*. In *Auē*, eight-year-old Ārama was taken by his brother, Taukiri, to live with Kat and Stu at the farm in Kaikōura, setting in motion the ensuing tragedy, which resulted in Stu's death. Aunty Kat was at the centre of events, but, silenced by abuse, her voice was absent from the story. In *Kataraina*, Kat and her whānau take over the telling. As one, the family recounts her childhood and the time when she first began to feel the greenness of the swamp in her veins -- the swamp that holds her tears and the tears of generations of tīpuna; the swamp on the land owned by Stu that has been growing

since the day he was killed. Unflinching in its portrayal of intergenerational trauma and violence, tender in its harnessing of the hope that future generations represent, *Kataraina* is a stunning novel that confirms Becky Manawatu as one of the most talented and powerful writers working in Aotearoa/New Zealand today.



Let me go mad in my own way

Elaine Feeney

Claire O'Connor's life has been on hold since she broke up with Tom Morton and moved from London back home to the rugged West of Ireland to care for her dying father. But glimpses of her old life are sure to follow when Tom unexpectedly moves nearby. As Claire is thrown into a love she thought she'd left behind, she questions if Tom has come for her or for himself. Living in her childhood home brings its own challenges. While Claire tries to maintain a normal life – getting lost online, going to work and minding her own business – Tom's return stirs up haunting memories trapped within the walls of the old family house. *Let Me Go Mad in My Own Way* is a story of love and resilience, rich with history and drama, and the legacies of violence and redemption. As the secrets of the past are revealed, Claire must confront whether she can escape her history to make a future for herself.



Gold Digger

Lisa Collyer

This bold second collection of formally daring poems traverses female experience across generations – from grape picking and gold prospecting to the switchboard, the factory floor, the barmaid's bar, the seamstress's atelier, and the corridors of Parliament House. The collection is both literary and visceral, unsparing in its examination of domestic violence, precarious employment, ageing, sexuality, class, and ethnicity while in dialogue with Hardy, Austen, Brontë, Plath, Irigaray, Tess of the d'Urbervilles, and Barbie.



The Names Florence Knapp

In the wake of an enormous, history-making storm, Cora sets off with her nine-year-old daughter, Maia, to register her son's birth. Her

husband, Gordon, a local doctor, respected in the community but a terrifying and controlling presence at home, intends for her to name the child after him. But when the registrar asks which name she wants to pick, Cora hesitates... What follows are three alternate and alternating versions of both Cora's and her young son's life, shaped by her brave last-minute choice of name. Spanning thirty-five years, the novel draws us in from the first page, as we follow three unforgettable journeys of one young man, but also his mother, grandmother, and sister. In richly layered prose, *The Names* explores the painful ripple effects of domestic abuse, the messy ties of family, and the possibilities of autonomy and healing. With exceptional sensitivity and depth, Knapp draws us into the story of one family, told through a prism of what-ifs, and shows us what we each can do with the "one precious life" we are given.



Rabbitbox Wayne Holloway-Smith

A transfixing, heart-rending work which follows a mother and her young son living under the shadow of an all-consuming domestic threat, by T.S. Eliot

Prize-shortlisted poet Wayne Holloway-Smith. 24 Coalbrook Street. The house is trembling with a father's anger. It makes a rabbit of a young boy, sends him burrowing into a wardrobe, and leaves his mother standing hapless and mute over the kitchen sink. In this house, how far can a mother's comfort travel? From the safety of his hiding place, from the magnitude of his fear, a young girl appears offering a way out. Taking him by the hand, reaching through time, she leads him elsewhere; a mother's love dreaming him away from their reality to the promise - beautiful yet flickering - of a river.



Where the Birds Call Her Name Claire van Ryn

Broome 2023: When Saskia's free-spirited mother leaves her a caravan in her will, it doesn't

make sense. Saskia is a schoolteacher, tied to plans and schedules, even if they are beginning to feel restrictive. Then she finds clues in the van about her mother's mysterious past, setting her on a journey to Tasmania with her young daughter Anouk, who shares her late grandmother's fascination with birds. In 1968, teenager Greta De Winter seeks solace in the Stanley wetlands, a swamp that attracts all manner of wildlife. Her father is the local councillor and her mother a taxidermist, working to create bird dioramas for the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. But while the De Winter household seems harmless from the outside, a dark secret hides within. When Saskia and Anouk arrive in Stanley, they search for the missing pieces to the puzzle of Greta's tragic childhood. In the process of uncovering her family history, Saskia realises that her mother's final act might also enable her to rediscover who she really is, and what she is truly capable of.

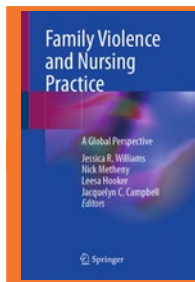


Nesting Roisin O'Donnell

On a bright spring afternoon in Dublin, Ciara makes a split-second decision that will change everything. Grabbing an armful of clothes from the washing

line, Ciara straps her two young daughters into her car and drives away. Head spinning, all she knows for certain is that home is no longer safe. It was meant to be an escape. But with dwindling savings, no job, and her family across the sea, Ciara finds herself adrift, facing a broken housing system and the voice of her own demons. As summer passes and winter closes in, she must navigate raising her children in a hotel room, searching for a new home and dealing with her husband Ryan's relentless campaign to get her to come back. Because leaving is one thing, but staying away is another. What will it take for Ciara to reinvent her life? Can she ever truly break away from Ryan's control - and what will be the cost?

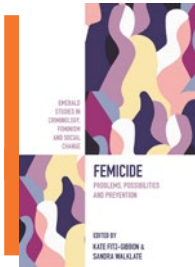
Non-fiction



Family Violence and Nursing practice: A Global Perspective

Edited by Jessica R. Williams, Nick Metheny, Leesa Hooker, Jacquelyn C. Campbell

The new edition of this textbook provides uniquely comprehensive and nursing-focused coverage of family violence from an international perspective. Family violence is a global health crisis that impacts millions of people worldwide.



Femicide: Problems, Possibilities, and Prevention

Kate Fitz-Gibbon, Sandra Walklate

Femicide – the killing of women and girls – has gained increasing prominence on global and national agendas since the United Nations and the World Health Organisation, amongst others, started to respond to femicide as an issue of global concern. This edited collection explores the nature and extent of femicide, from intimate partner femicide to its connections with women's suicide, and the institutional failures associated with Indigenous women's deaths in the context of intimate partner violence. This collection contributes to progressing Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5.2.1: the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls in public and in private, which sits within SDG5 focused on improving gender equality worldwide. In extending recent work done by the editors on the measurement of women's deaths as a result of male violence, *Femicide: Problems, Possibilities and Prevention* considers how theory, research, activism, policy, and prevention in different contemporary environments impact on how femicide is defined, understood and prevented. The debates explored within this book pose particular challenges for practitioners in developing effective risk informed prevention.



Same River, Twice: Putin's War on Women

Sofi Oksanen; translated from the Finnish by Owen F. Witesman

During the Soviet occupation of Estonia, Oksanen's great aunt was arrested and brutally interrogated -- a terrifying experience that permanently traumatized her, leaving her silent for the rest of her life. *Same River, Twice* uses this family story to illustrate the systematic crimes perpetrated by Russian soldiers and the Russian government for nearly a century. From the Russian military's entry into Berlin in 1945 to its modern invasion of Ukraine, Russia has continually employed violence against women when fighting its enemies -- including using rape as an instrument of war. But as Oksanen reveals, such violence has never before been used on such a widespread scale. Life for women in Putin's Russia is little better; gender equality is in decline, women are silenced by the legal system, and rape is used to humiliate victims, especially women in media. Oksanen's sober analysis exposes how, under Putin, genocide and misogyny are inextricably linked: misogyny undergirds Russia's international alliances, threatening the rights of women and minorities worldwide. As Oksanen ominously reminds us, "In Ukraine, sexual violence is an integral part of genocide. In domestic politics, misogyny is a tool used by the Kremlin to prevent women from rising to power. In international politics, it is a tool of Russian imperialism." As the threats to democracy grow stronger around the globe, this powerful and timely book is a warning that must not be ignored.



The War Against Women

Rita Segato; translated by Ramsey McGlazer

Recent decades of neoliberal rule have seen authoritarian turns in many governments, and these decades have also been marked by increasing violence against women. The systematic killing of women in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, has given way to a violent surge that is worldwide in its scope, concentrated in places where the state's traditional, sovereign functions have broken down. Femicide is no longer just an intimate event: it has become anonymous and systematic, a crime of power. An intensified form of capitalism, the product of a colonial modernity that is still with us, now fuels new wars on women, which destroy society while targeting women's bodies. Understanding this new, violent turn within patriarchy-which Rita Segato considers the primal form of human domination-means moving patriarchy from the margins to the centre of our social analysis. According to Segato, it is only by revitalizing community and repoliticising domestic space that we can redirect history towards a different destiny. At stake is nothing less than the future of humanity.



Women of a Certain Courage

Bron Bateman

Women of a Certain Courage is an uplifting read that follows the long tradition of women supporting and guiding other women. These 18 stories of courage will have you weeping, laughing and celebrating moments of bravery. With tales of activism, of finding a voice, escaping domestic violence, battling and much more, Women of a Certain Courage will inspire awe with the myriad ways women prevail and demonstrate courage.