



## Fiction

**11.22.63:** by Stephen King (RRP: \$39.99, paperback)

On November 22, 1963, three shots rang out in Dallas, President Kennedy died, and the world changed. If you had the chance to change history would you? Would the consequences be worth it? The day that changed the world. What if you could change it back? In this monumental book, the reader feels the benefit of Stephen King's 40 years of narrative craftsmanship and reflection on his nation's history. Going backwards proves to be another step forward for the most remarkable storyteller in modern American literature. — Bill

You can't go wrong with David Eddings' **Belgariad:**

1. **Pawn of Prophecy** (RRP: \$21.99, paperback)
2. **Queen of Sorcery** (RRP: \$21.99, paperback)
3. **Magician's Gambit** (RRP: \$21.99, paperback)
4. **Castle of Wizardry** (RRP: \$21.99, paperback)
5. **Enchanters' End Game** (RRP: \$25.99, paperback)

If you like Harry Potter why not give these a go. Highly recommended for young and old alike.— James

**The Complaints** by Ian Rankin (RRP: \$29.99, paperback)

When I found this on the shelf at the bookshop I thought “Yay, a new Edinburgh detective to fill the gap after Rebus’ departure!” Well it wasn’t another Rebus, but it was still a good read. The story revolves around Inspector Malcolm Fox who works for the Complaints Division of the police force. (They are the ones who police the police). He is gritty, middle-aged, divorced and off the drink, but I found his character less engaging than I had expected it would be. There are plenty of twists and turns, and it was entertaining tagging along behind ‘Foxy’ as he tried to sort out who he could and couldn’t trust. By the end of the book I was feeling more inclined to buy the next one in the series (The Impossible Dead) to see how Foxy’s character develops. This is no too demanding of the reader and would make a great Summer-time read.

— Kirsten

**Dune** by Frank Herbert (RRP: \$29.99, paperback)

One of the monument's of modern science fiction. I enjoyed it so much I have reread it.— Peter (C)

**The Game of Thrones Series** by George R. R. Martin

Martin is a wonderful fantasy writer, the books are full of intrigue and keep you guessing – there's never a dull moment. The books have adult themes and violence so perhaps are not for anyone under the age of 16 but for those who enjoy fantasy it is a must-read , full of vivid writing.  
— Libby

**Housekeeping** by Marilyn Robinson (RRP: \$27.99, paperback)

I have not felt so rewarded from reading a novel in a long time. This is a rich, haunting, poetic story set in a small town in the northwest of America. The tale revolves around the lives of two sisters who find themselves in the care of their enigmatic aunt. I am not a great novel reader and wasn't aware of Marilyn Robinson until Bronwyn introduced her work to me. I can't recommend Housekeeping highly enough, it is an extraordinary work that stayed with me long after the last page had been read. — Rhian

**The Night Circus** by Erin Morgenstern (RRP: \$37.99, paperback)

In 1886 a mysterious circus arrives without warning in various cities and only opens at night, it's only colours black and white, it creates an international sensation. A fantastical mix of clever machinery and skilled performers, there are also tents that hint at more than illusion, that hint that perhaps magic is in the air...Celia, the enchanter's daughter and Marco the sorcerer's apprentice are bound together in a duel to prove their magical prowess, a duel that creates some of the circus's most intriguing sights and experiences - the ones you wish, once you finish the book, you could go and see for yourself. This debut novel is a fabulous fin-de-siècle feast for the senses, ornate and rich - Morgenstern has created a world you don't want to leave. — Bronwyn

**The Magus** by John Fowles (RRP: \$29.99, paperback)

The craziest book I have read in a long time. On a remote Greek Island Nicholas Urfe becomes wrapped up in the deceptions of a master trickster. Reality and illusion merge as Urfe is embroiled in dark psychological games. Disturbing, thrilling, packed with amazing imagery and an incredible twist at the end.— Peter (W)

**The Larnachs** by Owen Marshall (RRP:\$39.99, paperback)

This is a superbly written novel told through the eyes of Larnach's third and much younger wife, Connie. Her close relationship with William Larnach's son Dougie unfolds and causes much pain and suffering in the socially restricted world of the late 19th C. The acute observations on human character, the meticulous historic detail and the visual picture created as the family went about their lives, make this a compelling read. — Erin

**The Other Boleyn Girl** by Philippa Gregory

(RRP: \$24.99, paperback)

Fiction based on historical fact. Two sisters competing for the greatest prize: the love of a king. A rich and compelling novel of love, sex, ambition, and intrigue, *The Other Boleyn Girl* introduces a woman of extraordinary determination and desire who lived at the heart of the most exciting and glamorous court in Europe and survived by following her heart. The tale made me want to find out more about the Tudors. There is a movie and TV series—read the book first! — Annette

**The Prague Cemetery** by Umberto Eco

(RRP: \$38.99, paperback)

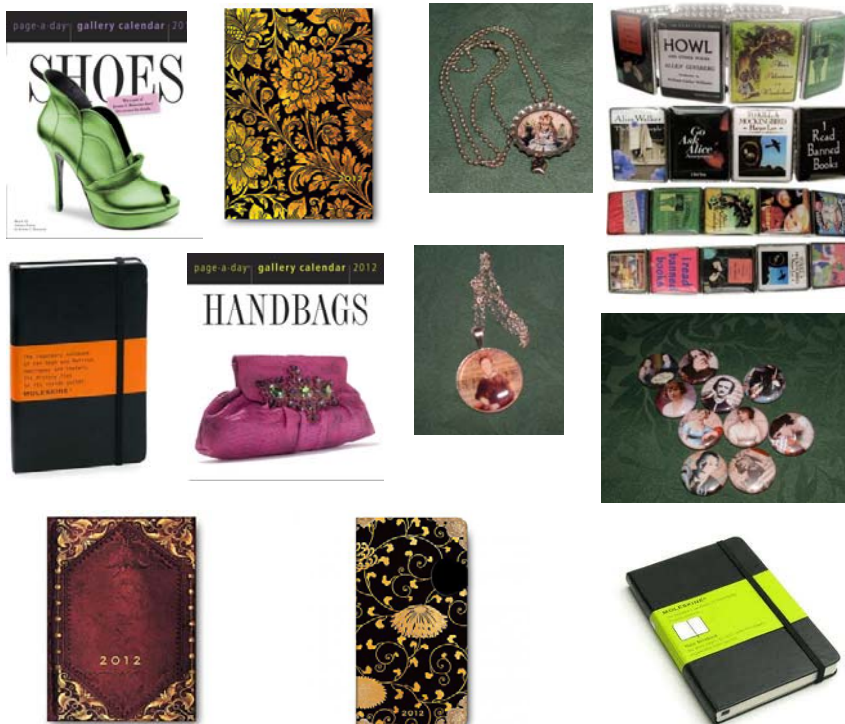
Beautifully written and very clever, this macabre, unusual novel is set in 19th century, in the cities of Turin, Prague and Paris. It is a time when conspiracies shape and change histories, when each nation's secret service perpetrates forgeries, plots, massacres and various groups from the Jesuits to the Freemasons to the Jews are allegedly in mortal combat with each other - except when they are reportedly in league with each other to destroy the Illuminati. Europe is in tumult - the unification of Italy, the Paris Commune, the Dreyfus Affair, the surfacing of the infamous Protocols of Zion - and needs a scapegoat. Eco asks, what if, behind all these conspiracies, real, imagined, carefully constructed, lies just one man, a master forger who can turn his hand to creating any document to implicate any group that his various and often antithetical employers wish...complicated, chaotic (at first) and fascinating this is a really satisfying read: fascinating plot. Something really interesting: only the protagonist is a fictional character. ALL the other characters existed and wrote/said/did what Eco reports them as doing. The book is also illustrated with real drawings and newspaper articles from Eco's own collection of 19th century ephemera.

— Bronwyn

**Embassytown** by China Miéville (RRP:\$39.99, paperback)

Too many scifi writers have great ideas, but lack a story or characters to hang them on. Not so China Miéville. Sure, he too has ideas so extreme that you wonder which dimension he's plucked them from, but the ideas are there to serve the story. And the story's a cracker: humans settling a far distant planet have finally worked out how to communicate with the dominant native life-form there. Unfortunately, one of our attempts at communication becomes a drug to the natives – they have to have it, even while it degrades them and their planet. Their only hope to escape the drug is to deny themselves, and then they must make sure no one hears this drug again. The human settlers, with no way of leaving the planet, see the approaching army of maddened natives as the end for their colony, unless a few brave and imaginative souls can find another

### Diaries & Calendars & Notebooks Special Edition Literary Gifts



## Non-Fiction

### **The Hare with Amber Eyes** by Edmund de Waal

(RRP: \$29.99, paperback)

This has been out for a while but it is still one of my favourite books of the last couple of years. It won the 2010 Costa Biography Award and is the story, over two centuries, of the Ephrussi family from Odessa, wealthy and cultured, who spread out through beaux-arts Paris, art-deco (and then occupied) Vienna and post-war Tokyo. De Waal inherits a collection of netsuke, small Japanese carvings, from his Great Uncle Iggy which sets him off on the trail of his unusual family. I'm just going to quote some of the reviews: "The most brilliant book I have read for years..."Daily Telegraph, "A story as durable and elegant as this is a rare pleasure...Like the netsuke themselves, this book is impossible to put down." Sunday Times. It is a fantastic book but a word of warning - it isn't easy to get into - a bit like cracking a nut to get the prize, it took me three chapters, thinking, so what is the fuss about? And most people I have talked to have had the same process, just reading along, then suddenly, you can't put it down. Fascinating characters, amazing stories and beautiful writing. Try it.

### **The illustrated Edition of Hare with Amber Eyes**

(RRP: \$ 69.99, hardcover)

Has also just been released with gorgeous new photography of the celebrated netsuke collection, and sumptuous full-colour images selected by Edmund de Waal from his family archive. — Bronwyn

### **The Perfumier and the Stinkhorn** by Richard Mabey

(RRP: \$29.99, hardcover)

I am a Mabey fan and this small book, comprised of meditations on the senses in relation to nature, is a delight. Mabey owns up to his own romanticism but together with this emotional response to nature he is also a scientist. He discovers that close observation and awareness of the environment is enduringly rewarding and that the romantic and the scientist are not mutually exclusive. Each essay is illustrated with black and white linocuts and the book jacket is embossed. Would make a lovely gift for those who enjoy being actively engaged with the world around them. — Rhian

**Collin's Field Guide to New Zealand Wildlife** by Terry Lindsay and Rod Morris (RRP: \$44.99, Flexi-binding)

This is a great reference book for anyone wanting to identify and learn more about NZ's wildlife. All the native and introduced species are here, from aphids to albatrosses, katydids to kiwis. The text is clearly written and is complemented by superb coloured photographs. It has been completely revised and updated with an additional 175 species. An ideal family gift for Christmas. — Erin

**Fear and Loathing at Rolling Stone: The Essential Writing of Hunter S. Thompson** edited with an introduction by Jann S. Warner (RRP: \$36.99, paperback)

Having been an avid reader of *Rolling Stone Magazine* and particularly of Hunter S Thompson's articles, to have most of his work in one volume is extremely handy. Although it is fairly obvious he wasn't a 'very nice person' he could write well about politics and the death of the American Dream. Edgy and a guaranteed good read! — Alastair

**A History of the World in 100 Objects** by Neil MacGregor (RRP:\$44.99, hardback)

Hooray, one of my favourite books from last Christmas has just been released in a small format! Based on the celebrated BBC Radio 4 series where the Director of the British Museum was asked to select 100 objects from the museum's collections that would give an overview of human history, and then talk about them on the radio for about 10 minutes. These are the objects and the transcripts of those talks. What is fascinating is how they are not really described as such for the listeners. We, the readers, get a photo of each object but really by the end of the book you realise you don't need to see the objects to learn about and understand them and why they matter. Very readable, it ranges from a 2 million year old hand tool to a credit card - although it starts with an Egyptian mummy because, as MacGregor acknowledges, mummies and their cases remain some of the museum's most potent artefacts. A great read, a fantastic gift, and a source of endless discussion - what would you include? — Bronwyn

**Walking the Amazon** by Ed Stafford (RRP:\$34.99, paperback)

They said it could never be done! In August 2010 Ed Stafford became the first person to walk the full length of the Amazon. His source-to-sea adventure took 860 days to complete. Ed's account of this epic journey is a portrait of bloody-minded survival and endurance; there's something wholly admirably about his 7,000km epic trek. — Peter (C)

**How to be a Woman** By Caitlin Moran (RRP: \$37.99, paperback)

This book is a wonderfully funny look at Caitlin Moran's life and of what it means to be a feminist. This is the first book on feminism I have read and I was delighted to find it both humorous and insightful. Moran is very open about her experiences and invites you to look at her point of view but does not demand unflinching agreement with her opinions making it relatable and easy to read. Aimed at my age group (20's – 30's) 'How to be a Woman' encourages people to consider their own ideas on what it means to be a feminist. — Libby

**Notes From a Small Island** by Bill Bryson

(RRP: \$29.99, paperback)

'Notes From a Small Island' is Bill Bryson's nostalgic trip round Britain, on foot and by public transport (except for a short period traveling by hire car which he claims to have hated). Full of interesting snippets of history and geography and in many places laugh out loud funny. Rereading this has made me want to revisit all of his other books. — Anne

**George** by Dave Nassar (RRP: \$27.99, paperback)

If you are an animal lover, you will love this book. It is interesting, informative and above all a story of love and true devotion. George was the runt of the litter, then became the biggest dog in the world. You can look George up in the Guinness Book of Records. — Marion

**How to Make Bread: Step-by-step Recipes for Yeasted Breads, Sourdoughs, Soda Breads & Pastries** by E. Hadjiandreou

(RRP: \$59.99, hardcover)

Wonderfully presented with step by step illustrations, but also uses easy-to-find ingredients in exciting ways. — Penelope

**Booze for Free** by A. Hamilton (RRP: \$34.99, hardcover)

A must for any brewer. — Penelope

## Children's Books

**Son of Neptune: Heroes of Olympus, vol 2** by Rick Riordan  
(RRP:\$25.99, paperback)

My 9-year-old has been loving the Percy Jackson books this year. It's a great premise – what if the old Greek gods were real and still living today? Percy is the son of Poseidon, god of the sea, and like so many of the legendary Greek half-human-half-god heroes he has many adventures: battling titans, medusae and other monsters, descending into the underworld, and generally saving the planet. If you haven't read any of the books, start with Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief, but Son of Neptune is the latest, volume 2 in a new series mingling the Greek legends with the Roman ones (Neptune = Poseidon, right?) Here, Percy wakes up amongst a group of teenagers who are all half-divine like him, but with no memory of how he got there, no idea who these people are, and no end of trouble in putting things to rights. — Greg

**Sensational Survivors** by Sandra Morris  
(RRP: \$29.99, paperback)

This is a beautifully illustrated guide for children to NZ's weird and wonderful wildlife. The bite-sized chunks of quirky facts, coupled with lively illustrations, makes this an ideal first encyclopedia for any child interested in nature (and for every school library!). — Erin

**Press Here** by Hervé Tullet (RRP: \$24.99, hardcover)

This is a wonderful book to be shared with children 2-years and over. It is very much a hands-on book, and is designed to withstand the treatment this involves. It all starts with one big yellow dot, and you just follow the instructions, turn the pages and see what happens next. Children of all ages will love the journey, and there are lots of surprises along the way! I can't wait to share it! — Kirsten

**Eloise in Paris** by Kay Thompson  
(RRP: \$19.99, paperback)

Paris has just been discovered by Eloise, the little girl from the Plaza ... Here is what Eloise does in Paris: everything. If you come to Paris with Eloise you will always be glad you did. First published in 1957, Eloise in Paris was an immediate bestseller. The illustrations are dotted with celebrities of the time: Richard Avedon takes Eloise's passport photograph; Christian Dior prods her tummy, while his young assistant, Yves Saint Laurent, looks on; Lena Horne sits at an outdoor café. This is one-of-a-kind, gorgeous, sophisticated picture book for older readers. — Jess

Our children's book section is bursting with great books, from the classics to modern; quality fiction to captivate young readers and gorgeously illustrated books for the very beginners. Baby books, interactive sound and play books, non-fiction books to inspire, engage and entertain children of all ages. My picks for the year include the following:

#### Up to Five Years

**Where are the Green Sheep?** by Mem Fox, boardbook  
(RRP:\$17.99 )

Plus free toy sheep to go with the book while stock lasts.

**What the Ladybird Heard?** by Julia Donaldson (RRP: \$34.99)  
An interactive sound book

**Wind-Up Train Book** published by Osborne  
(RRP: \$39.99, hardcover)

includes a wind-up train and 3 separate tracks, a wonderful play book!

**The Margaret Mahy Treasury** (RRP: \$44.99, hardcover)

A New Zealand classic from one of our most esteemed children's authors

**Moon and Farmer McPhee** by Dunedin's David Elliot  
(RRP:\$36.99, hardcover). Also the wonderful classic by David Elliot

**The Adventure's of Sydney Penguin** (RRP: \$16.99, paperback)  
two adventures in one book.

**Pepetuna** by Denise Whitmore (\$19.99, paperback)

**The Odd Egg** by Emily Gravatt (\$18.99, paperback)

**Christmas Caravan** by Jennifer Beck and Robyn Belton  
(\$19.50, paperback)

A much-loved Kiwi Christmas book.

#### Younger Readers

**Dragon Creativity Book!** (RRP: \$22.99, spiral bound)

Packed with things to do!

**Where's Asterix?** (RRP: 29.99, hardcover) Game book, similar to  
Where's Wally?

**The Ideas Lego Book** by Daniel Lipkowitz  
(RRP: \$49.99, hardcover)

A must-have for every lego fan, good for beginners as well as experienced architects!

**How to Catch Fish** by Colin Anderson, (\$19.99, paperback)  
NZ non-fiction

**Horse Crazy** by Alison Lester (\$24.99, paperback)

**Tumtum and Nutmeg** by Emily Bean (\$14.99, paperback)

## Older readers

**Travelling Restaurant** by Barbara Else (\$24.99, paperback)

**Inheritance** by Christopher Paolini (RRP: \$37.99, paperback)

The last book in the series.

**Wildwood** by Colin Meloy & Carson Ellis (RRP: \$25.99, hardcover) Fantastic illustrations and a fantastic price! A spellbinding tale full of wonder, danger, and magic juxtaposing the thrill of a secret world and modern city life — suitable for upper primary to intermediate.

**People's Republic** latest book by Robert Muchamore, (RRP: \$34.99, hardback)

**Hunger Games trilogy** by Susan Collins (RRP: \$18.99, paperback) Coming out as a movie.

**Great Space Race** by Joshua Moll (RRP: \$24.99)

Enticing format, a book that would encourage resistant boy readers.

**Inkheart Trilogy** by Cornelia Funke (RRP: \$22.99/\$23.99)

**Leviathan**, book in trilogy, by Scott Westerfield (RRP: \$17.99)

**Matched** by Ally Condie (RRP:\$19.99, paperback)

**The Adventures of Tintin** by Hergé (RRP: \$21.99, paperback) There are 24 affordable, fantastic titles in the Adventures of Tintin collection. These timeless comic books have a huge fan following and are a great way to get children excited about reading. A huge budget 3D film based on The Adventures of Tintin (directed by Steven Spielberg and produced by Peter Jackson) is due for international release mid-December.

**Tales from Outer Suburbia** by Shaun Tan  
(RRP:\$39.99, hardcover)

An incredibly imaginative and delightfully open ended style of children's fiction from the much-acclaimed creator of *The Arrival*, *The Red Tree* and *The Lost Thing*.

**Secret Lives of Princesses** by Philippe Lechermeier  
(RRP: \$45.99, hardcover)

Translated from French, a luscious picture book - whimsical and imaginative and very unique.— Jan (Children's Book Buyer)

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Prices are correct at time of publication but can change without notice.

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*The University Book Shop*

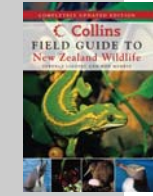
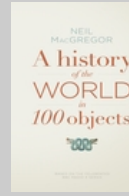
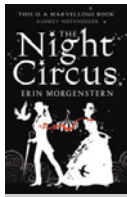
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From all of us at the UBS!

