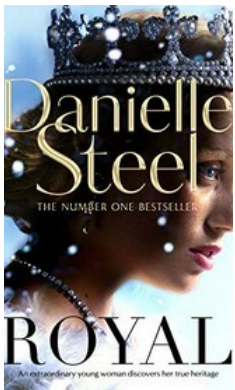


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Issue 3 – 2021

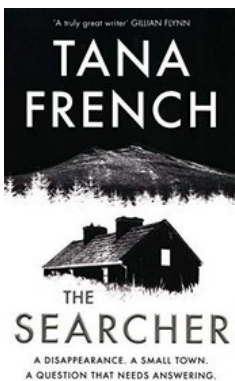
Adult fiction



ROYAL by *Danielle Steel*

F/STEE

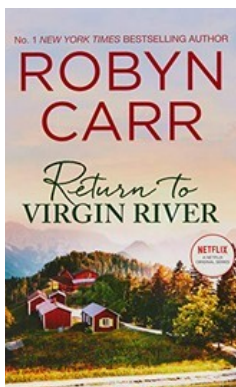
As the war rages on in the summer of 1943, causing massive destruction and widespread fear, the King and Queen choose to quietly send their youngest daughter, Princess Charlotte, to live with a trusted noble family in the Yorkshire countryside. Despite her fiery, headstrong nature, the princess's fragile health poses far too great a risk for her to remain in war-torn London. Third in line to the throne, seventeen year-old Charlotte reluctantly uses an alias upon her arrival in Yorkshire, her two guardians the only keepers of her true identity. A talented horsewoman, Charlotte begins to enjoy life out of the spotlight, concentrating on training with her beloved horse. But no one predicts that in the coming months she will fall deeply in love with her protectors' son.



THE SEARCHER by *Tana French*

F/FREN

Cal Hooper thought a fixer-upper in a bucolic Irish village would be the perfect escape. After twenty-five years in the Chicago police force and a bruising divorce, he just wants to build a new life in a pretty spot with a good pub where nothing much happens. But when a local kid whose brother has gone missing arm-twists him into investigating, Cal uncovers layers of darkness beneath his picturesque retreat, and starts to realise that even small towns shelter dangerous secrets.

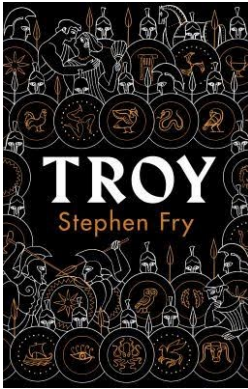


RETURN TO VIRGIN RIVER by *Robyn Carr*

F/CARR

Kaylee Sloan's home in Southern California is full of wonderful memories of the woman who raised her. But the memories are prolonging her grief over her mother's recent death. A successful author, Kaylee hoped she could pour herself into her work. Instead she has terrible writer's block and a looming deadline. Determined to escape distractions and avoid the holiday season, Kaylee borrows a cabin in Virgin River. She knows the isolation will help her writing, and as she drives north through the mountains and the majestic redwoods, she immediately feels inspired. She's surprised to be embraced by the people of Virgin River, who are more than willing to help a friend--or a stranger--in need. Kaylee's world is expanding in ways she never dreamed possible.

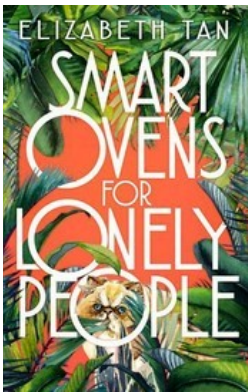
Adult fiction



TROY by Stephen Fry

F/FRY

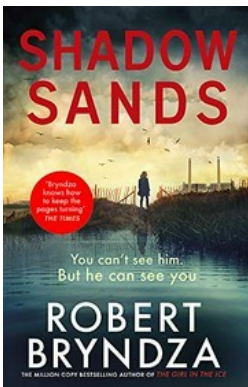
The story of Troy speaks to all of us - the kidnapping of Helen, a queen celebrated for her beauty, sees the Greeks launch a thousand ships against the city of Troy, to which they will lay siege for ten whole years. It is a terrible war with casualties on all sides as well as strained relations between allies, whose consequences become tragedies. In Troy you will find heroism and hatred, love and loss, revenge and regret, desire and despair. It is these human passions, written bloodily in the sands of a distant shore, that still speak to us today.



SMART OVENS FOR LONELY PEOPLE by Elizabeth Tan

F/TAN

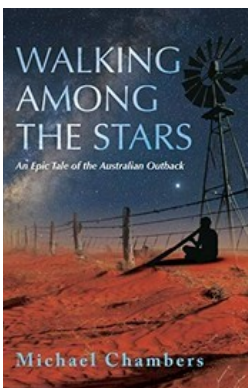
In the titular story, a cat-shaped oven tells a depressed woman she doesn't have to be sorry anymore. A Yourtopia Bespoke Terraria employee becomes paranoid about the mounting coincidences in her life. Four girls gather to celebrate their underwear in 'Happy Smiling Underwear Girls Party', a hilarious take-down of saccharine advertisements. With her trademark wit and slicing social commentary, Elizabeth Tan's short stories are as funny as they are insightful. This collection cements her role as one of Australia's most inventive writers.



SHADOW SANDS by Robert BRYNDZA

F/BRYN

When Kate Marshall finds the bloated body of a young man floating in the Shadow Sands reservoir, the authorities label it a tragic accident. But the details don't add up: why was the victim there, in the middle of the night? If he was such a strong swimmer, how did he drown? Kate is certain there is more to this case than meets the eye. As she and her research assistant Tristan Harper dig deeper, they discover a bloody trail that points towards an active serial killer hiding in plain sight. People have been silently disappearing for years, and when another woman is taken, Kate and Tristan have a matter of days to save her from meeting the same fate.



WALKING AMONG THE STARS by Michael Chambers F/CHAM

A story spanning twenty thousand years. Barak, the one-legged warrior, challenges Thylacoleo the feared Marsupial Lion; Mundawal, forced to leave his island home and the woman he loves. Beaufort Harris survives the battlefields of Crimea to vanquish the vast waterless Outback. Kathleen O'Hara travels the world to marry and founds a global dynasty. Billy Christmas, blackfella, searches for his culture and his heritage. Tom Duncan is a Jackaroo, from New Zealand. He transitions from youth to man. He learns hard work and values that will define his future. Suddenly, he finds love. These are stories of the Outback, of two peoples, one ancient, one modern. There is a Treaty; can either man understand what is promised? Can there be harmony? Here is a story of the ancient land: its fertility, its degradation, and its powers of recovery. And redemption.

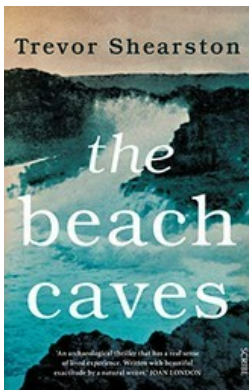
Adult fiction



THE ANIMALS IN THAT COUNTRY by *Laura Jean McKay*

F/MACK

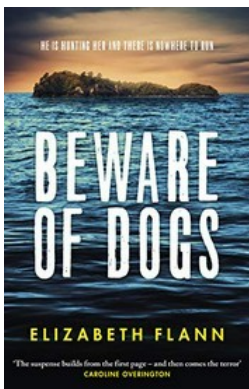
Hard-drinking, foul-mouthed, and allergic to bullshit, Jean is not your usual grandma. She's never been good at getting on with other humans. Instead, she surrounds herself with animals, working as a guide in an outback wildlife park. And although Jean talks to all her charges, she has a particular soft spot for a young dingo called Sue. As disturbing news arrives of a pandemic sweeping the country, Jean realises this is no ordinary flu: its chief symptom is that its victims begin to understand the language of animals.



THE BEACH CAVES by *Trevor Shearston*

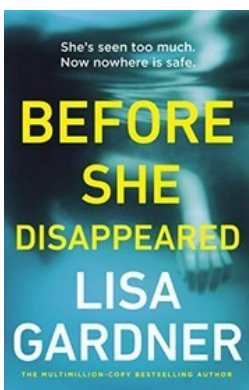
F/SHEAR

It's 1970, and young Annette Cooley is part of a small team working on an archaeological dig on the New South Wales south coast - a site that appears to prove that Aboriginal societies in the late Holocene were becoming less nomadic, even sedentary. The discovery is thrilling and the atmosphere in the group is one of charged excitement. The team is led by Aled Wray and Marilyn Herr, and working on their sites promises to be the making of Annette as an archaeologist. Then one of their party mysteriously disappears.



BEWARE OF DOGS by *Elizabeth Flann* **F/FLAN**

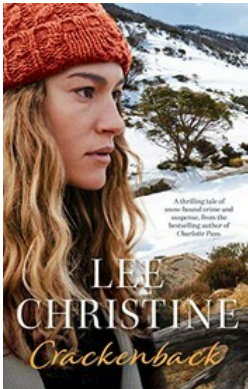
Not much daylight left now. So begins the field diary of Alix Verhoeven whose impulsive acceptance of an offer to spend Easter on a remote island has turned into a terrifying ordeal. Hiding in a tiny cave she carefully rations out her meagre supplies while desperately trying to figure out how to escape the men hunting her. She is determined not to be a victim. What do they want with her? She knows it's nothing good - she overheard enough on that first night to flee. But now she's got little food or water no way of calling for help and only her skills as an exploration geologist and memories of Atkinson's Bushcraft Guide to survive.



BEFORE SHE DISAPPEARED by *Lisa Gardner* **F/GARD**

A recovering alcoholic with more regrets than belongings, Frankie Elkin spends her life doing what no one else will-- searching for missing people the world has stopped looking for. A new case brings her to Mattapan, a Boston neighbourhood with a rough reputation. She is searching for Angelique Badeau, a Haitian teenager who vanished from her high school months earlier. Resistance from the Boston PD and the victim's wary family tells Frankie she's on her own. She soon learns she's asking questions someone doesn't want answered. Now the next person to go missing could be her.

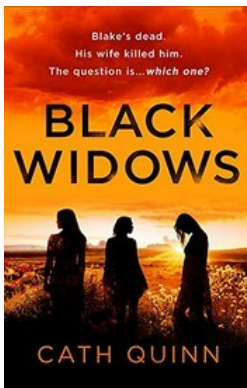
Adult fiction



CRACKENBACK by Lee Christine

F/CHRI

Detective Sergeant Pierce Ryder of the Sydney Homicide Squad is on the hunt for notorious fugitive Gavin Hutton. After years of investigation and numerous dead-ends, the breakthrough that Ryder has been hoping for leads him back to the New South Wales Snowy Mountains on the trail of the suspected killer. Meanwhile, when an injured man bursts into the remote Thredbo lodge managed by Eva Bell, her first instinct is to protect her daughter, Poppy. The terrifying arrival of Jack Walker turns Eva's world upside down, as she tries desperately to shield Poppy from the dangerous consequences of Jack's presence, and what it might mean for their future.



BLACK WIDOWS by Cate Quinn

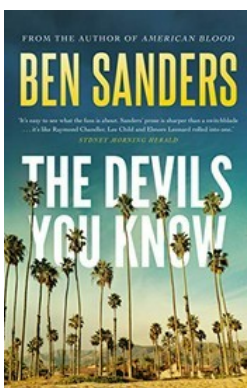
F/QUIN

The only thing the three women had in common was their husband. And, as of this morning, that they're each accused of his murder. Blake Nelson moved into a hidden stretch of land - a raw paradise in the wilds of Utah - where he lived with his three wives: Rachel, the chief wife, obedient and doting to a fault. Tina, the other wife, who is everything Rachel isn't. And Emily, the youngest wife, who knows little else. When their husband is found dead under the desert sun, the questions pile up. But none of the widows know who would want to kill a good man like Blake. Or, at least, that's what they'll tell the police...



BRIDGERTON: THE DUKE AND I by Julia Quinn

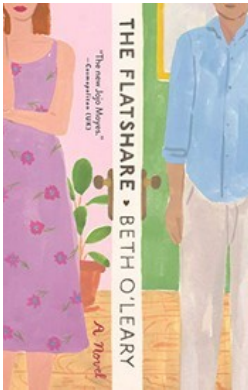
In the ballrooms and drawing rooms of Regency London, rules abound. From their earliest days, children of aristocrats learn how to address an earl and curtsy before a prince - while other dictates of the ton are unspoken yet universally understood. A proper duke should be imperious and aloof. A young, marriageable lady should be amiable... but not too amiable. Daphne Bridgerton has always failed at the latter. The fourth of eight siblings in her close-knit family, she has formed friendships with the most eligible young men in London. Everyone likes Daphne for her kindness and wit. But no one truly desires her. She is simply too honest for that, too unwilling to play the romantic games that captivate gentlemen.



THE DEVILS YOU KNOW by ben Sanders F/SAND

Vincent needs a change. He's spent the last fifteen years in covert operations for the US government, but after a botched and fatal mission, he decides he's done with pulling triggers. He lucks into a dream job in Santa Barbara as head of security for supermarket mogul Eugene Lamar: nothing more than driving the boss to and from golf, with ample downtime for surfing, or sitting by the pool contemplating life-and how to live it with a zero body count. But there's a problem: if Lamar's business is confined to supermarkets, why does he need a panic room full of assault rifles, and a .357 revolver in his car? It doesn't take long for Vincent to find out that Lamar owes a debt to bad people - and that's only the start of it.

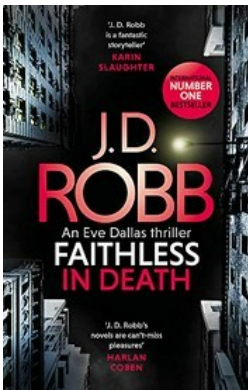
Adult fiction



THE FLATSHARE by *Beth O'Leary*

F/OLEA

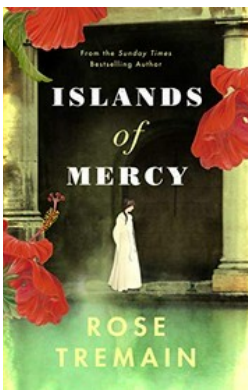
Entering a flat share arrangement with a man on an opposite work shift, a heartbroken woman begins exchanging notes with the roommate she has never met and becomes his best friend, and possibly soulmate, through their correspondence.



FAITHLESS IN DEATH by *J.D. Robb*

F/ROBB

The scene in the West Village studio appears to be classic crime-of-passion: two wineglasses by the bed, music playing, and a young sculptor named Ariel Byrd with the back of her head bashed in. But when Dallas tracks down the wealthy Upper East Side woman who called 911, the details don't add up. Gwen Huffman is wealthy, elegant, comforted by her handsome fiancé as she sheds tears over the trauma of finding the body, but why did it take an hour to report it? And why is she lying about little things? As Eve and her team look into Gwen, her past, and the people around her, they find that the lies are about more than murder.



ISLANDS OF MERCY by *Rose Tremain*

F/TREM

In the city of Bath, in the year 1865, an extraordinary young woman renowned for her nursing skills is convinced that some other destiny will one day show itself to her. But when she finds herself torn between a dangerous affair with a female lover and the promise of a conventional marriage to an apparently respectable doctor, her desires begin to lead her towards a future she had never imagined. Meanwhile, on the wild island of Borneo, an eccentric British 'rajah', Sir Ralph Savage, overflowing with philanthropy but compromised by his passions, sees his schemes relentlessly undermined by his own fragility, by man's innate greed and by the invasive power of the forest itself.



THE FOUR WINDS by *Kristin Hannah*

F/HANN

Texas, 1934. Millions are out of work and a drought has broken the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and their livelihoods as the crops are failing, the water is drying up, and dust threatens to bury them all. One of the darkest periods of the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl era, has arrived with a vengeance. In this uncertain and dangerous time, Elsa Martinelli-like so many of her neighbors-must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or go west, to California, in search of a better life. The Four Winds is an indelible portrait of America and the American Dream, as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation.

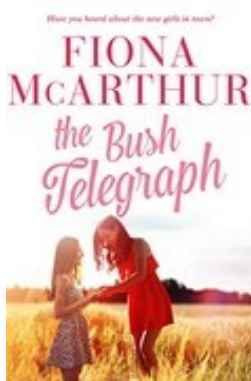
Rural Romance



HOME SWEET HOME By Mandy Magro

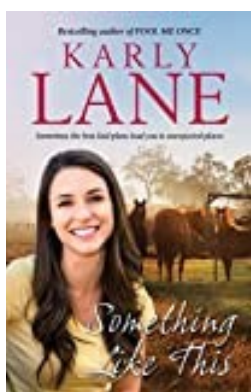
F/MAGR

What happens when fate gets a little helping hand? Sienna Lewis knows firsthand about being an Aussie battler, but she has her beautiful daughter, Zara, to keep fighting for. One day she dreams of giving Zara the life and big family she deserves. For now, Sienna can only focus on her work at the hospital. But when she connects with a new patient who has driven away nearly everyone in his life, she is astounded when he leaves her his sprawling Far-North Queensland property.



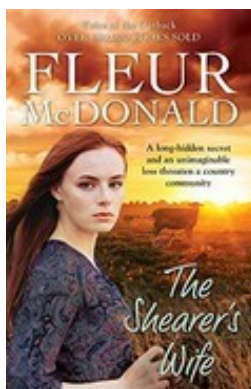
THE BUSH TELEGRAPH by Fiona McArthur F/MACA

It's been more than ten years since Maddy Locke left Spinifex, the small outback town where she gave birth to her daughter, Bridget. Now she's back to prove she's got what it takes to run the medical centre and face the memories of that challenging time in her life. But everything's changed -- the old pub is gone, her new colleagues aren't pleased to see her and it's drier and hotter than ever. Station owner, Connor Fairhall, thought he'd left the drama behind in Sydney, but moving back to Spinifex with his rebellious son, Jayden, hasn't been the fresh start he'd envisioned. His brother, Kyle, is drinking too much and the only bright spot on the horizon is meeting Nurse Maddy, who's breathing new life into the weary town up the road, little by little.



SOMETHING LIKE THIS by Karly Lane F/LANE

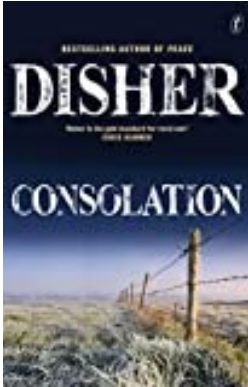
Jason Weaver just wants to be left alone. It was a tough transition from his army days to civilian life, and he's looking forward to settling into a solitary life. Tilly Hollis is working two jobs to save for her dream career: running an equine therapy program. Tilly loves her horses more than anything, and after losing her husband and business partner just a few years earlier, she's determined to make it work on her own. When Jason walks into the cafe where Tilly works, they're immediately drawn to one another. But can they overcome their pasts to find a future together?



THE SHEARER'S WIFE by Fleur McDonald

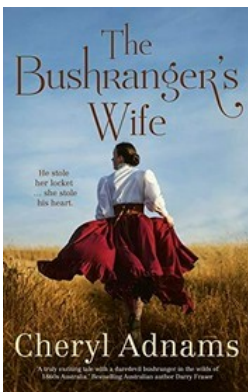
1980: Rose and Ian Kelly arrive in the small South Australian town of Barker for supplies, before driving a further couple of hundred kilometres to begin shearing at Jacksonville Station. Rose, heavily pregnant with their first babies, worries that despite Ian's impending fatherhood he remains a drifter who dreams of the open road. 2020: When the Australian Federal Police swoop unheralded into Barker and make a shocking arrest for possession of narcotics, Detective Dave Burrows is certain there is more to the story than meets the eye.

Australian Fiction



CONSOLATION by Garry Disher

Winter in Tiverton. Constable Paul Hirschhausen has a snowdropper on his patch. Someone is stealing women's underwear, and Hirsch knows enough about that kind of crime-how it can escalate-not to take it lightly. But the more immediate concerns are a call from the high school, a teacher worried about a student who may be in danger at home. Another call, a different school- a man enraged about the principal's treatment of his daughter. A little girl in harm's way and an elderly woman in danger. An absent father who isn't where he's supposed to be; another who flees to the back country armed with a rifle. Families under pressure. And the cold, seeping feeling that something is very, very wrong.



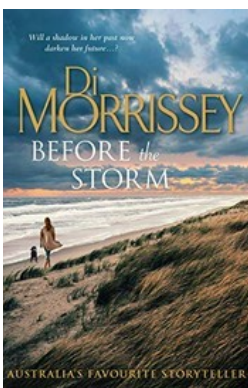
THE BUSHRANGER'S WIFE by Cheryl Adnams

Central Highlands of Victoria, 1861. Jack the Devil's reputation precedes him. The most notorious bushranger on the Central Highlands, nothing throws him off his game ... until he holds up Prudence Stanforth and her grandmother. Jack can't help but be captivated by the feisty Pru, with her sweeping red hair and complete lack of fear. Weeks later, Pru crosses paths with the respectable businessman Jack Fairweather, and it's not long before she recognises him as the bushranger who stole her beloved necklace. His price for the locket's return is her silence ... and a kiss. A kiss that sparks something inside them both. When Pru discovers her grandmother has been keeping a devastating secret, running away with Jack the Devil is the perfect escape for her broken heart.



THE BURNING ISLAND by Jock Serong F/SERO

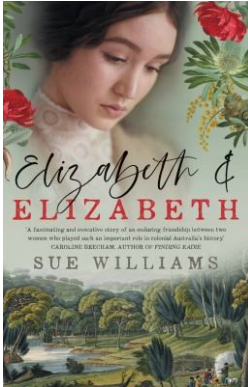
Eliza Grayling, born in Sydney when the colony itself was still an infant, has lived there all her thirty-two years. Too tall, too stern-too old, now-for marriage, she lives by herself, looking in on her reclusive father in case he has injured himself while drunk. There is a shadow in his past, she knows. Something obsessive. Something to do with a man who bested him thirty-three years ago. Then Srinivas, another figure from that dark past, offers Joshua Grayling the chance for a reckoning with his nemesis. The plan entails a sea voyage far to the south and an uncertain, possibly violent, outcome.



BEFORE THE STORM by Di Morrissey F/MORR

Face her demons? Or run? After being double-crossed by a devious colleague, career woman Ellie Conlan quits her job on principle. With no idea what to do next, she retreats to Storm Harbour, an idyllic Victorian beach town. Ellie's grandfather runs The Storm Harbour Chronicle, the trusted local newspaper. As Ellie is drawn into a story about a development which could split the coastal community - and involves her with the influential O'Neill family - an event she has long suppressed threatens to overwhelm her. Dark clouds gather as rumours fly and tensions mount. And when a violent storm breaks and rages, Ellie will finally have to confront her past.

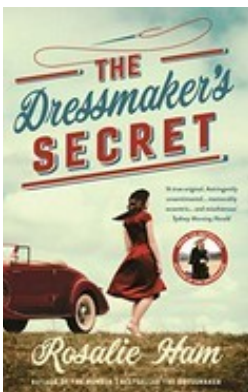
Australian Fiction



ELIZABETH & ELIZABETH by Sue Williams

F/WILL

There was a short time in Australia's European history when two women wielded extraordinary power and influence behind the scenes of the fledgling colony. One was Elizabeth Macquarie, the wife of the new governor Lachlan Macquarie, nudging him towards social reform and magnificent buildings and town planning. The other was Elizabeth Macarthur, credited with creating Australia's wool industry and married to John Macarthur, a dangerous enemy of the establishment. These women came from strikingly different backgrounds with husbands who held sharply conflicting views. They should have been bitter foes. *Elizabeth & Elizabeth* is about two courageous women thrown together in impossible times.



THE DRESSMAKER'S SECRET by Rosalie Ham

F/HAM

Bestselling author Rosalie Ham re-joins her famous dressmaker, Tilly Dunnage, two years after she left her home town in flames. Now it is 1953 and the fashion pages are awash with royal fever. The young queen's coronation means a season of society balls and a rush to reproduce the latest styles of the Houses of Dior, Valentino and Balenciaga. Why, then, is the best dressmaker in Melbourne squandering her talents in a second-rate Collins Street salon? From whom, or what, is she hiding?



THE LAST TRUEHART by Darryl Fraser

F/FRAS

1898, Geelong, Victoria. Stella Truehart is all alone in the world. Her good-for-nothing husband has died violently at the hands of an unknown assailant. Her mother is dead, her father deserted them before she was born, and now her kindly Truehart grandparents are also in their graves. Private detective Bendigo Barrett has been tasked with finding Stella. He believes his client's intentions are good, but it is evident that someone with darker motives is also seeking her. For her own part Stella is fiercely independent, but as danger mounts she agrees to work with Bendigo and before long they travel together to Sydney to meet his mysterious client where they discover more questions than answers.



FLYING THE NEST by Rachael Johns

F/JOHN

The first time Ashling Wood realises her marriage is on the rocks is when her husband, Adrian, suggests they try nest parenting. Heartbroken, Ash suddenly finds herself living a double life - one week with her children, the next cohabiting with her happily single sister-in-law. Her friends think the modern custody solution is an exciting opportunity for her to spread her wings, but all Ash wants is her family back together. An offer to renovate a seaside cottage seems like the perfect distraction for Ash while waiting for Adrian to come to his senses. She's determined to fix her marriage as well as the cottage, but life gets even more complicated when she meets local fisherman Dan Emerson.

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Friday	9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday	Closed