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## The Forrests Emily Perkins

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The Goose Bath St. Martin's Press

Maya's Notebook is a startling novel of suspense from New York Times bestselling author Isabel Allende. This contemporary coming-of-age story centers upon Maya Vidal, a remarkable

teenager abandoned by her parents. Maya grew up in a rambling old house in Berkeley with her grandmother Nini, whose formidable strength helped her build a new life after emigrating from Chile in 1973 with a young son, and her grandfather Popo, a gentle African-American astronomer. When Popo dies, Maya goes off the rails. Along with a circle of girlfriends known as "the vampires," she turns to drugs, alcohol, and petty crime--a downward spiral that eventually leads to Las Vegas

and a dangerous underworld, with Maya caught between warring forces: a gang of assassins, the police, the FBI, and Interpol. Her one chance for survival is Nini, who helps her escape to a remote island off the coast of Chile. In the care of her grandmother's old friend, Manuel Arias, and surrounded by strange new acquaintances, Maya begins to record her story in her notebook, as she tries to make sense of her past and unravel the mysteries of her family and her own life.

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### **Mateship with Birds** Picador USA

This volume weaves together the Scottish otter stories from Gavin Maxwell's three non-fiction books, *Ring of Bright Water* (1960), *The Rocks Remain* (1963), and *Raven Meet Thy Brother* (1969). Maxwell was both an extraordinarily evocative writer and a highly unusual man. While touring the Iraqi marshes, he was captivated by an otter and became a devoted advocate of and spokesman for the species. He moved to a remote house in the Scottish highlands, co-habiting there with three otters and living an idyllic and isolated life – at least for a while. Fate, fame, and fire conspired against this paradise, and it, too, came to an end, though the journey was filled with incident and wonder. Maxwell was also talented as an artist, and his sinuous line drawings of these amphibious and engaging creatures, and the homes they occupied, illustrate his story. This book stands as a lasting tribute to a man, his work, and his passion. It was received and has endured as a classic for its portrait not only of otters but also of a man who endured heartaches and disappointments, whose life embodied both greatness and tragedy. He writes with rare eloquence about his birth, his devotion to the beloved Scottish highlands, and the wildlife he loved, while refusing to ignore the darker aspects of his nature and of nature in its larger sense.

### **The Marlowe Papers** Exisle Publishing

A successful young lawyer in Wellington, Lecretia Seales met and fell in love with

Matt Vickers in 2003. In *Lecretia's Choice*, Matt tells the story of their life together, and how it changed when his proud, fiercely independent wife was diagnosed with a brain tumour and forced to confront her own mortality. The death she faced—slow, painful, dependent—was completely at odds with how she had lived her life. Lecretia wanted to die with dignity, to be able to say goodbye well, and not to suffer unnecessarily—but the law denied her that choice. With her characteristic spirit, she decided to mount a challenge in New Zealand's High Court, but as the battle raged, Lecretia's strength faded. She died on 5 June 2015, at the age of forty-two, the day after her family learned that the court had ruled against her. *Lecretia's Choice* is not only a moving love story but compulsory reading for everyone who cares about the dignity we afford terminally ill people who want to die on their own terms. In 2015 Matt Vickers supported his wife, Lecretia Seales, in her campaign to gain the right to choose how she died. *Lecretia's Choice* is his first book. 'This is a brave, intimate book, both agonizing and uplifting, and unflinchingly honest.' Andrew

Solomon, National Book Award winner, president of PEN American Center 'Matt Vickers asserts "stories are the most powerful force in the universe." This is the story of his wife, Lecretia, and her extraordinary advocacy in the face of ordinary tragedy. It will help change the world.' Barbara Coombs Lee, President of Compassion and Choices USA 'A tragic story, heart-breaking; so beautifully written...*Lecretia's Choice* was an almost un-put-downable book. Every home should have a copy, for a reminder, if nothing more, of what it is to have heart, humility and hope.' *Off the Tracks* 'A very human story... Articulate, thought provoking, honest and poignant.' Page & Blackmore Booksellers ' "The unwinding skein of her life was blowing free in the wind, and it tormented her." If the case for assisted dying could be won through emotional appeals, this sentence would surely clinch it...Vickers is an assured writer who knows the importance of letting the moment speak for itself.' Sydney Morning Herald  
Black Box Bloomsbury Publishing USA  
One sunny spring morning the Tasman

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Bay settlement of Kahukura is overwhelmed by a mysterious mass insanity. A handful of survivors find themselves cut off from the world, and surrounded by the dead. As they try to take care of one another, and survive in ever more difficult circumstances, it becomes apparent that this isn't the first time that this has happened, and that they aren't all survivors and victims—two of them are something quite other. And, it seems, they are trapped with something. Something unseen is picking at the loose threads of their characters, corrupting, provoking, and haunting them. *Wake* is a novel about what it really means to try to do one's best, about the choices and sacrifices people face in order to keep a promise like "I will take care of you." It is a novel that asks: What are the last things left when the worst has happened? and about extreme events, ordinary people, heroic compassion—and invisible monsters. An invisible monster is what one can't see coming; with an invisible monster one never knows when they're in danger and when they're safe—if they retreat to their fortress they can't be sure they haven't locked it in with them.

[The Impersonators](#) Sydney University Press  
A mix of poetry and prose, this compilation by New Zealand's Fiona Ferrell is simultaneously a memoir, a meandering travel book, and a

poetry collection. Demonstrating how a natural disaster can turn a life upside down in an instant, this book consists of four essays about walking, interrupted by poems about the Christchurch earthquakes and their aftermath. Funny, timely, and deeply personal, it will resonate with a wide range of readers due to its references to France, Dunedin, Christchurch, Robert Louis Stevenson, Katherine Mansfield, and Voltaire.  
[Passport to Hell](#) Scholastic Inc.

This is a story of two young people who fall in love - and then life gets in the way. Ursula is part dreamer, part radical in the making. Raised in a matriarchal household by a CND-loving activist, she is impatient to begin a life of adventure. But this is Newcastle in the mid-80s where girls are getting permed and their dreams go no further than copping off down the Bigg Market. Then Ursula meets Jerry, a class warrior from the wrong side of town, intellectually hungry, erudite and ambitious. It is a meeting of bodies, souls, minds and ideals. Keen to pursue the road less travelled, Ursula heads to India while Jerry goes to Oxford and the promise of politics and

power. But Ursula's family is clouded with secrets, and the past threatens to repeat itself. As Ursula searches for answers, she is soon drifting - and Jerry loses touch. What happens to young love when it is tested by real life? In this second novel from the acclaimed author of *The Whole Wide Beauty*, Emily Woof interweaves across generations asking us to question the nature of love in all its forms.

**And This Is True** Picador Australia  
Longlisted for the Womens Prize for Fiction 2013 After the disappearance of their father and the sudden death of their mother, Lee Hart and his deaf brother, Ned, imagine all is lost until Lee starts an apprenticeship at the local funeral home. Here, in the company of a crooning ex-publican, a closet pole vaulter, a terminally-ill hearse driver, and the dead of their local town, old wounds begin to heal and love arrives as a beautiful florist aboard a 'Fleurtations' delivery van, and Lee discovers there is life after death after all.

**The Night Guest** Vintage  
This is the last great masterwork by a writer nominated three times for the Nobel Prize for Literature. A selection of over 100 poems that illustrate the shape of her life: her childhood and the

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subsequent difficult years in mental hospitals; her travels around the world; her life as a writer, growing older and facing illness and death.

*The Intentions Book* Victoria University Press  
When Kate catches Daniel sneaking into the Auckland cinema in which she works, she wonders where she has seen him before.

*The Forrests* Gallic Books

The Forrests A&C Black

Little, Brown

When Tom moves with his wife Ann from their tiny Camden flat into a large house in Hackney, he feels as if it's the start of the rest of their life together. Deeply in love, and with a baby on the way, everything, Tom thinks, is finally coming together. He and Ann anticipate the arrival of the baby, as Ann, particularly galvanized, spends hours cleaning and reorganizing the house, and sitting up all night talking with a renewed passion about life, love, and art. But there is a darker side to this new fervour, somehow linked with her conviction that someone is lingering threateningly around their new home. Someone who - Tom soon realizes - may not exist at all.

### **Auckland Penguin**

When an affair ends badly and her career takes a nosedive, Erin returns to spend a holiday weekend at the family farm with her chronically ill mother, and her aunt-turned-carer. She learns shortly before her arrival that her mother has decided to take matters into her own hands and end her own life . . . the following Tuesday. Doing her imperfect best to follow her mother's wishes, Erin finds herself having to grow up quickly as she prepares for the loss of a fiery, independent woman - a former competitive swimmer, like her sister and daughter - and one last swim together in the cold New Zealand sea. *The Swimmers* is a witty, smart, unsentimental yet quietly moving novel following three difficult women trying to repair their complex relationships in the time they have left.

*Maya's Notebook* Melville House

Cynthia can understand how Anahera feels just by looking at her body. Cynthia is twenty-one, bored and desperately waiting for something big to happen. Her striking fitness instructor, Anahera, is ready to throw in the towel on her job and marriage. With stolen money and a dog in tow they run away and buy 'Baby', an old boat docked in a beautiful bay, where Cynthia dreams they will live in a state of love. But strange events on an empty

island turn their life together in a different direction. *Baby* is a sunburnt psychological thriller of obsession and escape by one of the most exciting new voices in New Zealand fiction.

*Bitter Greens* Harper Collins

An e-book edition of *War Horse* with movie stills, behind-the-scenes photos, storyboards, and more! In 1914, Joey, a beautiful bay-red foal with a distinctive cross on his nose, is sold to the army and thrust into the midst of the war on the Western Front. With his officer, he charges toward the enemy, witnessing the horror of the battles in France. But even in the desolation of the trenches, Joey's courage touches the soldiers around him and he is able to find warmth and hope. But his heart aches for Albert, the farmer's son he left behind. Will he ever see his true master again?

*The Swimmers* A&C Black

"The Big Chill for the Facebook generation." --Adam Gopnik, author of *Paris to the Moon*  
Clover, Addison, Mia, and Jane were roommates at Harvard until their graduation in 1989. Twenty years later, their lives are in

free fall. Clover, once a securities broker, is out of a job and struggling to reproduce before her fertility window shuts. Addison's marriage to a writer's-blocked novelist is as stale as her so-called career as a painter. Hollywood closed its gold-plated gates to Mia, who now stays home with her children, renovating and acquiring faster than her husband can pay the bills. Jane, the Paris bureau chief for a newspaper whose foreign bureaus are now shuttered, is caught in a vortex of loss. Like all Harvard grads, they've kept abreast of one another via the red book, a class report published every five years, containing alumni autobiographical essays. But there's the story we tell the world, and then there's the real story, as these former classmates will learn during their twentieth reunion, a relationship-changing, score-settling, unforgettable weekend. "Utterly engrossing."  
 --Entertainment Weekly "A wonderfully epic 'cradle to grave' story . . . about the enduring power of friendship." --Sunday Express "Destined to be a classic."

--Vanity Fair  
Lives Bodies Catapult  
 \*\*\* Winner of the 2012 Costa First Novel Award \*\*\* \*\*\* Winner of the 2013 Harold U. Ribalow Prize, the 2013 Sam Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature, the 2012 Costa First Novel Award, and the 2012 National Jewish Book Award for Fiction \*\*\* A smart and slyly funny tale of love, temptation, confusion, and commitment; a triumphant and beautifully executed recasting of Edith Wharton's *The Age of Innocence*. Newly engaged and unthinkingly self-satisfied, twenty-eight-year-old Adam Newman is the prize catch of Temple Fortune, a small, tight-knit Jewish suburb of London. He has been dating Rachel Gilbert since they were both sixteen and now, to the relief and happiness of the entire Gilbert family, they are finally to marry. To Adam, Rachel embodies the highest values of Temple Fortune; she is innocent, conventional, and entirely secure in her community--a place in which everyone still knows the whereabouts of their nursery school classmates. Marrying

Rachel will cement Adam's role in a warm, inclusive family he loves. But as the vast machinery of the wedding gathers momentum, Adam feels the first faint touches of claustrophobia, and when Rachel's younger cousin Ellie Schneider moves home from New York, she unsettles Adam more than he'd care to admit. Ellie--beautiful, vulnerable, and fiercely independent--offers a liberation that he hadn't known existed: a freedom from the loving interference and frustrating parochialism of North West London. Adam finds himself questioning everything, suddenly torn between security and exhilaration, tradition and independence. What might he be missing by staying close to home?  
**Lecretia's Choice** Harper Collins  
 This man is the biggest, laziest, rottenest, most troublesome— And in the trenches he's one of the best soldiers I ever had.' Passport to Hell is the story of James Douglas Stark—Starkie—and his war. Journalist and novelist Robin Hyde came across Starkie while reporting in Mt Eden Gaol in the 1930s and immediately knew she had to write his 'queer true terrible

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story'. The result was greeted by John A. Lee, war veteran, author and politician, as 'the most important New Zealand war book yet published'. Born in Southland and finding himself in early trouble with the law, the young Starkie tricked his way into a draft in 1914 by means of a subterfuge involving whisky and tea. In his subsequent chequered career in Egypt, Gallipoli, Armentières, the Somme, Ypres, he showed himself 'a soldier and not a soldier', with a 'contempt of danger and discipline alike'. Hyde took the raw horrors, respites and reversals of Starkie's experiences and composed a work of literature much greater than a mere documentary of war. She portrays a man carousing in the brothels of Cairo and the estaminets of Flanders; looting a dead man's money-belt and filching beer from the Tommies; attempting to shoot a sergeant through a lavatory door in a haze of absinthe, yet carrying his wounded captain back across No Man's Land; a man recommended for the V.C. and honoured for his bravery – but also subject to nine court martials. It is a portrait of a singular individual – 'something of a visionary', in Hyde's words – who has also been described as the quintessential

New Zealand soldier. And against the contradictory elements of Starkie's character, Hyde shows a war machine that preaches 'Thalt shall do no murder' one moment and sends men over the top the following day to kill. Robin Hyde was one of New Zealand's true literary trailblazers, and in this book she redefined the parameters of novel and memoir. In its psychological acuity and emotional depth, *Passport to Hell* is one of the finest *A Trick I Learned from Dead Men* Hachette UK

WINNER OF THE STELLA PRIZE 2013 "clever, original and richly rewarding" Australian Bookseller & Publisher "it might just be the sweetest book about sex you will ever read" Sydney Morning Herald On the outskirts of an Australian country town in the 1950s, a lonely farmer trains his binoculars on a family of kookaburras that roost in a tree near his house. Harry observes the kookaburras through a year of feast, famine, birth, death, war, romance and song. As Harry watches the birds, his next door neighbour has her own set of binoculars trained on him. Ardent, hard-working Betty has escaped to the country with her two fatherless children. Betty is pleased that her son, Michael,

wants to spend time with the gentle farmer next door. But when Harry decides to teach Michael about the opposite sex, perilous boundaries are crossed. *Mateship with Birds* is a novel about young lust and mature love. It is a hymn to the rhythm of country life - to vicious birds, virginal cows, adored dogs and ill-used sheep. On one small farm in a vast, ancient landscape, a collection of misfits question the nature of what a family can be. Shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award 2013 Winner of the NSW Premier's Literary Awards' Christina Stead Prize 2013 Finalist of the Melbourne Prize for Literature for Best Writing Award 2012 Shortlisted for the VIC Premier's Literary Awards' Prize for Fiction 2013 and Prime Minister's Literary Awards' Prize for Fiction 2013 Longlisted for Nita B Kibble Literary Awards for Women Writers' Kibble Literary Award 2013 *God Beneath The Sea* Auckland University Press  
The sensational first novel from the Man Booker Prize-winning author of *The Luminaries*. Set in the aftermath of a sex scandal at an all-girls' high school, Eleanor Catton's internationally acclaimed award-winning debut is a

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provocative and darkly funny novel about the elusiveness of truth, the slipperiness of identity, and the emotional compromises we make to belong. When news spreads of a high school teacher's relationship with one of his students, the teenage girls at Abbey Grange are jolted into a new awareness of their own potency and power. Although no one knows the whole truth, the girls have their own ideas about what happened. As they obsessively examine the details of the affair with the curiosity and jealousy native to any adolescent girl, they confide in their saxophone teacher, an enigmatic woman who is only too happy to play both confidante and stage manager to her students. But when the local drama school decides to turn the scandal into a play, the boundaries between fact and fantasy soon break down as dramas both real and imagined begin to unfold. Sharply observed, brilliantly crafted, and infused with a deliciously subversive wit, *The Rehearsal* is at once a vibrant portrait of teenage longing and adult regret, and a

shrewd exposé of how we are all performers in life, from one of the most bold and exciting voices in contemporary fiction.

*The Invisible Rider* Victoria University Press  
Winner of the 2013 Desmond Elliott Prize  
Longlisted for the 2013 Women's Prize for Fiction  
You're the author of the greatest plays of all time. But nobody knows. And if it gets out, you're dead. On May 30, 1593, a celebrated young playwright was killed in a tavern brawl in London. That, at least, was the official version. Now Christopher Marlowe reveals the truth: that his "death" was an elaborate ruse to avoid a conviction of heresy; that he was spirited across the English Channel to live on in lonely exile; that he continued to write plays and poetry, hiding behind the name of a colorless man from Stratford—one William Shakespeare. With the grip of a thriller and the emotional force of a sonnet, this remarkable novel in verse gives voice to a man who was brilliant, passionate, and mercurial. A cobbler's son who counted nobles among his friends, a spy in the Queen's service, a fickle lover and a declared religious skeptic, Christopher Marlowe always courted trouble. In this memoir, love letter, confession, and settling of accounts, Ros Barber brings Christopher Marlowe and his era to vivid life in *The Marlowe Papers*.