

The Night Guest Fiona McFarlane

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The Night Guest Open Road + Grove/Atlantic

De levens van drie vrouwen, allen verbonden met het Engelse koloniale Indië.

Work Like Any Other riverrun

Laura Fraser grows up in Sydney, motherless, with a cold, professional father and an artistic bent. Ravi Mendis lives on the other side of the globe -- exploring the seductive new world of the Internet, his father dead, his mother struggling to get by. Their stories alternate throughout Michelle de Kretser's ravishing novel, culminating in unlikely fates for them both, destinies influenced by travel -- voluntary in her case, enforced in his. With money from an inheritance, Laura sets off to see the world, eventually returning to Sydney to work for a publisher of travel guides. There she meets Ravi, now a Sri Lankan political exile who wants only to see a bit of Australia and make a living. Where do these two disparate characters, and an enthralling array of others, truly belong? With her trademark subtlety, wit, and dazzling prose, Michelle de Kretser shows us that, in the 21st century, they belong wherever they want to and can be -- home or away. "It is not really possible to describe, in a short space, the originality and depth of this long and beautifully crafted book." -- A.S. Byatt, *The Guardian*

The Night Guest Farrar, Straus and Giroux

"A debut short-story collection from the author of *The Night Guest*" -- *Things to Make and Break* Minotaur Books

International superstar Yrsa Sigurdardottir has captivated the attention of readers around the world with her mystery series featuring attorney Thora Gudmundsdottir. Now, with *I Remember You*, Yrsa will stun readers once again with this out-of-this-world ghost story

that will leave you shivering. In an isolated village in the Icelandic Westfjords, three friends set to work renovating a rundown house. But soon, they realize they are not as alone as they thought. Something wants them to leave, and it's making its presence felt. Meanwhile, in a town across the fjord, a young doctor investigating the suicide of an elderly woman discovers that she was obsessed with his vanished son. When the two stories collide, the terrifying truth is uncovered. In the vein of Stephen King and John Ajvide Lindqvist, this horrifying thriller, partly based on a true story, is the scariest novel yet from Yrsa Sigurdardottir, who has taken the international crime fiction world by storm. *I Remember You* won the Icelandic Crime Fiction Award and also was nominated for The Glass Key Award.

Home and Other Hiding Places Text Publishing

Shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award Winner of the inaugural Voss Literary Prize Joint winner of the Barbara Jefferis Award In an isolated house on the New South Wales coast, Ruth, a widow whose sons have flown the nest, lives alone. Until one day a stranger bowls up, announcing that she's Frida, sent to be Ruth's carer. At first, Ruth welcomes Frida's vigorous presence and her willingness to hear Ruth's tales of growing up in Fiji. She even helps reunite Ruth with a childhood sweetheart. But why does Ruth sense a tiger prowling through the house at night? Is she losing her wits? Can she trust the enigmatic Frida? And how far can she trust herself?

Dear Reader Weidenfeld & Nicolson

A blockbuster collection from one of Ireland's most exciting young voices: "Sharp and lively . . . a rough, charged, and surprisingly fun read" (Interview). A National Book Foundation 5 Under 35 Honoree * Winner of the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award * Winner of the Guardian First Book Award * Winner of the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature Enter the small, rural town of Glanbeigh, a place whose fate took a downturn with the Celtic Tiger, a desolate spot where buffoonery and tension simmer and erupt, and booze-sodden boredom fills the corners of every pub and nightclub. Here, and in the towns beyond, the

young live hard and wear the scars. Amongst them, there's jilted Jimmy, whose best friend Tug is the terror of the town and Jimmy's sole company in his search for the missing Clancy kid; Bat, a lovesick soul with a face like "a bowl of mashed up spuds" even before Nubbin Tansey's boot kicked it in; and Arm, a young and desperate criminal whose destiny is shaped when he and his partner, Dympna, fail to carry out a job. In each story, a local voice delineates the grittiness of post boom Irish society. These are unforgettable characters rendered through silence, humor, and violence. "Lyrical and tough and smart . . . What seems to be about sorrow and foreboding turns into an adventure, instead, in the tender art of the unexpected." —Anne Enright, Man Booker Prize Award-winning author "Sometimes comic, sometimes melancholy, *Young Skins* touches the heart, as well as the mind." —Irish American Post

The Gift of Rain Little, Brown

Inis has run away from her husband and children. Her new neighbour Trixie is eighty-four years old and a hymn-singing Salvation Army veteran. Trixie's life is one of apparent calm but beneath the surface lie not one but three different personalities. One of them is very private. And very dangerous.

The Dyehouse Penguin Group Australia

What a terrible thing at a time like this: to own a house, and the trees around it. Janet sat rigid in her seat. The plane lifted from the city and her house fell away, consumed by the other houses. Janet worried about her own particular garden and her emptied refrigerator and her lamps that had been timed to come on at six. So begins "Mycenae," a story in *The High Places*, Fiona McFarlane's first story collection. Her stories skip across continents, eras, and genres to chart the borderlands of emotional life. In "Mycenae," she describes a middle-aged couple's disastrous vacation with old friends. In "Good News for Modern Man," a scientist lives on a small island with only a colossal squid and the ghost of Charles Darwin for company. And in the title story, an Australian farmer turns to Old Testament methods to relieve a fatal drought. Each story explores what Flannery O'Connor called

"mystery and manners." The collection dissects the feelings--longing, contempt, love, fear--that animate our existence and hints at a reality beyond the smallness of our lives. Salon's Laura Miller called McFarlane's *The Night Guest* "a novel of uncanny emotional penetration . . . How could anyone so young portray so persuasively what it feels like to look back on a lot more life than you can see in front of you?" *The High Places* is further evidence of McFarlane's preternatural talent, a debut collection that reads like the selected works of a literary great.

***The Character of Rain* Macmillan**

A mesmerizing first novel about trust, dependence, and fear, from a major new writer Ruth is widowed, her sons are grown, and she lives in an isolated beach house outside of town. Her routines are few and small. One day a stranger arrives at her door, looking as if she has been blown in from the sea. This woman—Frida—claims to be a care worker sent by the government. Ruth lets her in. Now that Frida is in her house, is Ruth right to fear the tiger she hears on the prowl at night, far from its jungle habitat? Why do memories of childhood in Fiji press upon her with increasing urgency? How far can she trust this mysterious woman, Frida, who seems to carry with her own troubled past? And how far can Ruth trust herself? *The Night Guest*, Fiona McFarlane's hypnotic first novel, is no simple tale of a crime committed and a mystery solved. This is a tale that soars above its own suspense to tell us, with exceptional grace and beauty, about ageing, love, trust, dependence, and fear; about processes of colonization; and about things (and people) in places they shouldn't be. Here is a new writer who comes to us fully formed, working wonders with language, renewing our faith in the power of fiction to describe the mysterious workings of our minds. A Kirkus Reviews Best Fiction Book of 2013

***You're Still Hot to Me* Penguin Books**

Sarah doesn't talk to strangers. Aiden won't shut up. When they find themselves next to each other on a plane, unexpected sparks begin to fly . . . - - - Sarah doesn't talk to strangers. It's awkward, stressful, and there's the uncontrollable blushing to worry about. When she boards a plane to fly home after an overseas holiday, she plans to stick her nose in a book and ignore everyone around her. Aiden's terrified of flying, and it's his first time on a plane. If he can distract himself by talking non-stop for the entire flight, he will. Too bad for Sarah he's sitting right next to her. Against all Sarah's expectations, she ends up enjoying Aiden's company. They laugh, argue, concoct stories about other passengers, and accidentally hold hands during the turbulence. When the time comes to say goodbye, Sarah can't help the crazy thought that she shouldn't let Aiden go. Then he kisses her. And then he's gone. With her world turning upside down in more ways than one, Sarah has to make a decision: stick with the safe, predictable life that's been mapped out for her, or find the courage to go after what she truly wants. - - - Nominated as an IND'tale RONE Award Finalist in 2015, The

Trouble with Flying is a sweet, clean contemporary romance that can be read as a standalone novel.

***The Elephant of Belfast* Catapult**
From one of Granta's Best Young British Novelists, a stunningly insightful, emotionally powerful new novel about an outsider haunted by an inescapable past: a story of loneliness and survival, guilt and loss, and the power of forgiveness. Jake Whyte is living on her own in an old farmhouse on a craggy British island, a place of ceaseless rain and battering wind. Her disobedient collie, Dog, and a flock of sheep are her sole companions, which is how she wants it to be. But every few nights something—or someone—picks off one of the sheep and sounds a new deep pulse of terror. There are foxes in the woods, a strange boy and a strange man, and rumors of an obscure, formidable beast. And there is also Jake's past, hidden thousands of miles away and years ago, held in the silences about her family and the scars that stripe her back—a past that threatens to break into the present. With exceptional artistry and empathy, *All the Birds, Singing* reveals an isolated life in all its struggles and stubborn hopes, unexpected beauty, and hard-won redemption. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

***Questions of Travel* Text Publishing**
Thirty major contemporary writers examine life in a deeply divided New York In a city where the top one percent earns more than a half-million dollars per year while twenty-five thousand children are homeless, public discourse about our entrenched and worsening wealth gap has never been more sorely needed. This remarkable anthology is the literary world's response, with leading lights including Zadie Smith, Junot Díaz, and Lydia Davis bearing witness to the experience of ordinary New Yorkers in extraordinarily unequal circumstances. Through fiction and reportage, these writers convey the indignities and heartbreak, the callousness and solidarities, of living side by side with people of starkly different means. They shed light on the subterranean lives of homeless people who must find a bed in the city's tunnels; the stresses that gentrification can bring to neighbors in a Brooklyn apartment block; the shenanigans of seriously alienated night-shift paralegals; the trials of a housing defendant standing up for tenants' rights; and the humanity that survives in the midst of a deeply divided city. *Tales of Two Cities* is a brilliant, moving, and ultimately galvanizing clarion call for a city—and a nation—in crisis.

***Rosalee Station* Scribner**

A New York Times Bestseller Shortlisted for both the Guardian First Book Prize and the

Costa Book Award Longlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction A Finalist for the Pol Roger Duff Cooper Prize A Finalist for the Wellcome Book Prize A Financial Times Best Book of the Year An Economist Best Book of the Year A Washington Post Notable Book of the Year What is it like to be a brain surgeon? How does it feel to hold someone's life in your hands, to cut into the stuff that creates thought, feeling, and reason? How do you live with the consequences of performing a potentially lifesaving operation when it all goes wrong? In neurosurgery, more than in any other branch of medicine, the doctor's oath to "do no harm" holds a bitter irony. Operations on the brain carry grave risks. Every day, leading neurosurgeon Henry Marsh must make agonizing decisions, often in the face of great urgency and uncertainty. If you believe that brain surgery is a precise and exquisite craft, practiced by calm and detached doctors, this gripping, brutally honest account will make you think again. With astonishing compassion and candor, Marsh reveals the fierce joy of operating, the profoundly moving triumphs, the harrowing disasters, the haunting regrets, and the moments of black humor that characterize a brain surgeon's life. *Do No Harm* provides unforgettable insight into the countless human dramas that take place in a busy modern hospital. Above all, it is a lesson in the need for hope when faced with life's most difficult decisions.

***The Abbot's Tale* Macmillan**

One morning Ruth wakes thinking a tiger has been in her seaside house. Later that day a formidable woman called Frida arrives, looking as if she's blown in from the sea. In fact she's come to care for Ruth. Frida and the tiger: both are here to stay, and neither is what they seem. Which of them can Ruth trust? And as memories of her childhood in Fiji press upon her with increasing urgency, can she even trust herself? *The Night Guest* is a mesmerising novel about love, dependence, and the fear that the things you know best can become the things you're least certain about. It introduces a writer who comes to us fully formed, working wonders with language, renewing our faith in the power of fiction to tap the mysterious workings of our minds, and keeping us spellbound. Shortlisted for the 2014 Miles Franklin Literary Award 'The Night Guest is such an accomplished and polished debut. There's a delicacy and poignancy to the writing, combined with almost unbearable suspense. I love books in which I have no idea what's going to happen next.' Kate Atkinson, author of *Life After Life* 'A rapturous, fearsome fable of grief and love.' Susanna Moore, author of *In the Cut* 'The Night Guest is an extraordinary novel. At once a tender thriller and an exquisitely constructed meditation on time and memory, it is propelled by sentence after sentence of masterful prose. With *The Night Guest*,

Fiona MacFarlane announces herself as a writer to be read, admired, and read again.' Kevin Powers, author of *The Yellow Birds* 'An enrapturing debut novel that toys with magical realism while delivering a fresh fable.' *Kirkus Review* 'impressive debut ... (with) broad appeal to literary readers and bookclubs.' *Australian Bookseller & Publisher* 'Rich and suspenseful . . . McFarlane gives a flourish to even the smallest observations . . . This book is at once a beautifully imagined portrait of isolation and an unsettling psychological thriller.' *Publishers Weekly* 'Impressive ... McFarlane is in complete control ... dotting her narrative with careful, cumulative details like a pointillist painter ... There's precision in her choice of words and their sense of anticipation dangles the reader over the lip of every page ... [The novel] is a clear sighted and compelling exploration of the metaphors and realities of ageing with all its anxiety and wobbly paranoia, and you love Ruth as you travel with her to the book's end and the dreadful pragmatism of familial grief.' *Weekend Australian* 'An assured, elegiac first novel ... McFarlane gives an uncanny sense of Ruth's onset of dementia ... An exceptional debut by a writer of great talent.' *West Australian* 'Haunting ... When I finished the novel I was taken by [McFarlane's] skill. Now I'm mesmerised by it ... While McFarlane pulls the most stirring emotional strings with ease, she tells a poignant, unsettlingly beautiful story that still keeps me up at night.' *Booktopia* 'Compelling.' *Vogue Australia* 'Excellent and highly original.' *Country Style* 'A lovely book.' *Caroline Overington* 'McFarlane is not content to be predictable. Having mingled two genres already, the realist and the fabulist (probably the best descriptor here), she then introduces another, quite seamlessly. The novel mutates into a narrative that is increasingly sinister, with a mystery at its core. There is subterfuge, smuggling, in the writing of *The Night Guest*. It imports 'genre' techniques into the genre 'literary'. . . In this novel, the captor ultimately comes to care, beyond mercenary play-acting, for the frail, defenseless creature she had originally intended no good. This point is subtle and interesting; it shows, perhaps more than anything else, that McFarlane is no ordinary young novelist. Not many debut novelists make you think about technique by deploying it with such sophistication. This aspect of the book is particularly evident in its ending. McFarlane has to bring the narrative to a close and she has a lot of information to impart and threads to tie up. She could try for a mystery ending, with all revealed, or an equally conventional realist literary conclusion. Or, daringly, she could do both . . . McFarlane

has taken a number of diverse elements – the nursery tale tiger of Victoriana, allegory, advances in neuroscience, the callous greed of those who exploit the mentally impaired aged – and shaped them into a narrative that is not only coherent, but for the most part, adroitly controlled. *The Night Guest* is a novel both unpredictable and unusual . . . [McFarlane] deserves a space in the national literature.' *Sydney Review of Books* 'A very gripping study of loneliness; it's a slow burn.' *Global Comment*

The Night Guest Simon and Schuster
In the tradition of celebrated wartime storytellers Somerset Maugham and Graham Greene, Tan Twan Eng's debut novel casts a powerful spell. The recipient of extraordinary acclaim from critics and the bookselling community, Tan Twan Eng's debut novel casts a powerful spell and has garnered comparisons to celebrated wartime storytellers Somerset Maugham and Graham Greene. Set during the tumult of World War II, on the lush Malayan island of Penang, *The Gift of Rain* tells a riveting and poignant tale about a young man caught in the tangle of wartime loyalties and deceits. In 1939, sixteen-year-old Philip Hutton—the half-Chinese, half-English youngest child of the head of one of Penang's great trading families—feels alienated from both the Chinese and British communities. He at last discovers a sense of belonging in his unexpected friendship with Hayato Endo, a Japanese diplomat. Philip proudly shows his new friend around his adored island, and in return Endo teaches him about Japanese language and culture and trains him in the art and discipline of aikido. But such knowledge comes at a terrible price. When the Japanese savagely invade Malaya, Philip realizes that his mentor and sensei—to whom he owes absolute loyalty—is a Japanese spy. Young Philip has been an unwitting traitor, and must now work in secret to save as many lives as possible, even as his own family is brought to its knees.

All the Birds, Singing Hachette Books
One morning Ruth wakes thinking a tiger has been in her seaside house. Later that day a formidable woman called Frida arrives, looking as if she's blown in from the sea. In fact she's come to care for Ruth. Frida and the tiger: both are here to stay, and neither is what they seem. Which of them can Ruth trust? And as memories of her childhood in Fiji press upon her with increasing urgency, can she even trust herself? *The Night Guest* is such an accomplished and polished debut. A delicacy and poignancy to the writing is combined with almost unbearable suspense.' *Kate Atkinson*, author of *Life After Life* 'I will be haunted by its beauty and its truths for along time to come . . . A rapturous, fearsome fable of grief and love.' *Susanna Moore*,

author of *In the Cut* 'Clear-sighted and compelling . . . and you love Ruth as you travel with her to the book's end.' *Ashley Hay*, *Weekend Australian* 'An extraordinary novel. At once a tender thriller and an exquisitely constructed meditation on time and memory, it is propelled by sentence after sentence of masterful prose. With *The Night Guest*, Fiona McFarlane announces herself as a writer to be read, admired, and read again.' *Kevin Powers*, author of *The Yellow Birds* 'The best Australian first novel I've read in years. I so much admire the intelligence that animates it, and her calm sentences that contain surprises.' *Michelle de Kretser*, winner of the 2013 Miles Franklin Award for Questions of Travel 'An utterly charming book. Ruth is mischievous, adventurous, and unconventional . . . McFarlane's style is fresh and full of surprising delights.' *Australian Book Review* 'Astonishingly brilliant . . . Such a very rare voice.' *Evie Wyld*, a *Granta* Best Young Writer 'Sometimes a debut novel burns brighter than the rest, and offers up the promise of literary greatness. *The Night Guest* is one of these books.' *LA Review of Books* 'An enthralling psychological thriller in which every gesture and detail is loaded with meaning. This stellar debut will haunt you.' *Entertainment Weekly* 'Mesmerising and suspenseful . . . a masterful, magical novel crafted around a very modern dilemma . . . McFarlane's talent shines.' *Newtown Review of Books* 'A debut of uncommon assurance . . . It seems to rise above the shiny trivia of the last decade's novels . . . and do what serious fiction can: leave you more interested in the world, more conscious of its enigmas of love and memory, than you were before you read it.' *Chicago Tribune* 'Precise and elegant . . . [with] extraordinary maturity for such a young writer.' *The Independent (UK)*

The Tiger Who Came to Tea Farrar, Straus and Giroux
From the Sunday Times bestselling author of *The Last Act of Love*, Cathy Rentzenbrink's *Dear Reader* is the ultimate love letter to reading and to finding the comfort and joy in stories. 'Exquisite' - *Marian Keyes*, author of *Grown Ups* 'A warm, unpretentious manifesto for why books matter' - *Sunday Express*
Growing up, Cathy Rentzenbrink was rarely seen without her nose in a book and read in secret long after lights out. When tragedy struck, it was books that kept her afloat. Eventually they lit the way to a new path, first as a bookseller and then as a writer. No matter what the future holds, reading will always help. A moving, funny and joyous exploration of how books can change the course of your life, packed with recommendations from one reader to another.
Do No Harm Hardie Grant Publishing
A tiger comes to tea at Sophie's house and eats and drinks everything in sight, so that there is nothing left for Daddy's supper.

In Shakespeare's Shadow St. Martin's Press
'A fun romance-drama romp . . . with beautiful scenery thrown in.' **SUNDAY**

MAIL BRISBANE Sarah Clarke's dream is to experience life in the real outback. When her boyfriend Brad offers her a job with him on Rosalee Station, she can't believe her luck. But within days of arriving, her relationship is in tatters, and the dream is fast losing its lustre. Sarah stays on to prove herself in the unforgiving land, earning the admiration of Matt, the station owners' son. Beneath the wide outback skies, the pair are irresistibly drawn to each other, until a stolen kiss leads to disaster. Sarah leaves Rosalee, convinced she'll never see Matt again - but fate has a way of intervening . . . From the thrill of mustering cattle to the wild adrenaline of a country rodeo, this passionate love story takes you to the very heart of the Australian outback.

Dignity National Geographic Books

Written with unerring skill and insight, *The Dyehouse* is a masterly portrait of postwar Australia, when industrial work was radically transformed by new technologies and society changed with it. Mena Calthorpe—who herself worked in a textile factory—takes us inside this world, vividly bringing to life the people of an inner-Sydney company in the mid-1950s: the bosses, middlemen and underlings; their dramatic struggles and their loves. This powerful and affecting novel was first published in 1961, and is the hundredth book in the Text Classics series. The new edition comes with an introduction by Fiona McFarlane, acclaimed author of *The Night Guest*.