

THE OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS



The Floral Dream

Olivia McCord

Potter & Burton | \$50.00

A practical and inspiring guide for New Zealand home gardeners who dream of growing their own cut flowers. Whether the reader is new to gardening or already has dirt under their nails, this book offers down-to-earth advice on how to grow beautiful blooms in the backyard.

It begins with preliminary advice on garden layout, soil preparation, a planting calendar and crucially, sowing seeds. At the heart of the book, though, is detailed advice on growing the specific flowers that flourish in New Zealand conditions, with the author's recommendations on favourite varieties. These include focal flowers that serve as the main attraction in arrangements, filler flowers that add volume and texture, and foliage varieties that provide greenery and structure. The book finishes with advice on how to pick and arrange flowers, as well as instructions for creating spectacular bouquets.

Written by Olivia McCord, a self-taught gardener who began as a novice before running an edible flower farm and now a cut flower seed business, *The Floral Dream* is born from her deep passion for flowers. It is a companion for gardeners of all levels, helping to transform any New Zealand garden into a flourishing space full of life and beauty.

NON-FICTION

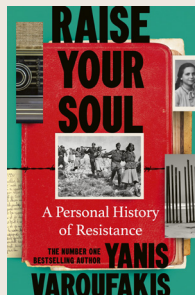


Mana

Tāme Iti

Allen & Unwin | \$50.00

Iconic Māori activist Tāme Iti shares his powerful life story of resistance, resilience, and rangatiratanga. From being silenced as a child to leading land marches, protests, and artistic movements, Tāme has spent five decades challenging Aotearoa's colonial legacy. Once seen as radical, now revered, his journey explores what it truly means to live with mana in a world that often seeks to suppress it.

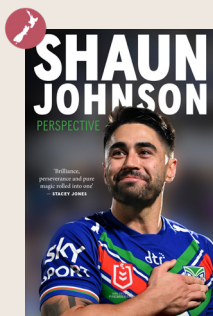


Raise Your Soul

Yanis Varoufakis

Bodley Head | \$40.00

An intimate portrait of Yanis Varoufakis's political awakening, shaped by his family's resilience amid Europe's turbulent twentieth century. Through stories of his mother, grandmothers, and partner, the book weaves Greece's history—from Nazi occupation to economic collapse—into a powerful narrative of resistance, endurance, and hope. It's a moving testament to how personal and political histories intertwine in shaping a fighter's spirit.



Perspective

Shaun Johnson

Penguin | \$40.00

In *Perspective*, rugby league star Shaun Johnson shares his life story—on and off the field—for the first time. From dazzling NRL debuts to personal struggles behind the spotlight, Shaun reflects on fame, family, and finding clarity beyond 80 minutes of footy. Candid and inspiring, this memoir explores his rise, setbacks, and triumphant return to the Warriors, offering a rare glimpse into the mindset of a true sporting legend.



Ancient Myths and Legends Without Men

Mara Gold

Ebury Press | \$55.00

Ancient Myths and Legends Without Men reclaims the stories of mythology's most powerful women—virgins, warriors, witches, and monsters. From Athena and Medusa to the Maenads and Echidna, this beautifully illustrated book explores how ancient archetypes shaped the way women have been seen—and silenced—for centuries. Uncover the truth behind these legendary figures and what they reveal about strength, resistance, and womanhood, then and now.

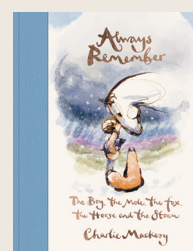


Eat Wild

Sophie Merkens

Penguin | \$55.00

Eat Wild is a beautifully illustrated guide to sourcing and cooking wild ingredients across Aotearoa—from coast to mountains to native bush. Sophie Merkens shares recipes, hunting tips, and stories from chefs, divers, and kaitiaki, spotlighting underused plants, fungi, seafood, and game. Perfect for seasoned foragers and curious food lovers alike, this book celebrates our deep connection to nature and the rich nourishment it offers.



Always Remember

Charlie Mackesy

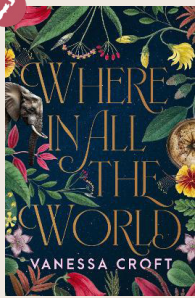
Ebury Press | \$55.00

Charlie Mackesy's highly anticipated follow-up revisits the beloved world of *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse*. Together, the four friends wander through uncertain times, searching for meaning. Though life can be tough, their love—and cake—help them through. With gentle wisdom and heartfelt moments, this new book offers comfort and hope to the millions who cherish Mackesy's timeless, bestselling classic.

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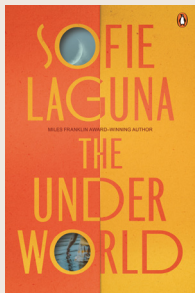
FICTION



Where In All the World

Vanessa Croft
Bateman Books | \$39.00

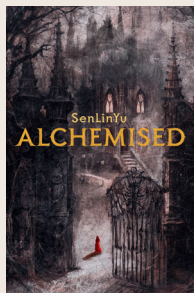
In 1890s New Zealand, Harriet Watson longs for more than provincial life. Swept into a whirlwind romance with famed explorer Curtis De Courcey, she soon finds herself trapped in a web of secrets and control. From London salons to Africa's brutal interior, *Where in All the World* follows Harriet's journey through betrayal and empire as she fights to reclaim her freedom—and forge a life on her own terms.



The Underworld

Sofie Laguna
Penguin | \$38.00

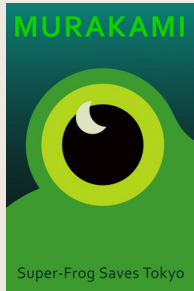
Martha Mullins is a misfit—academic, awkward, and yearning for more. Fascinated by Roman mythology's underworld, she finds refuge in its stories and in the messy joy of friendship. But when life unravels, Martha must navigate love, identity, and belonging in a world that doesn't always welcome difference. *The Underworld* is a tender, funny, and fearless coming-of-age novel for anyone who's ever felt out of place—or longed to belong.



Alchemised

SenLinYu
Michael Joseph | \$40.00

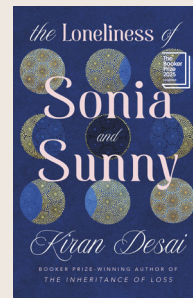
After a brutal war, Helena Marino is a prisoner of both her enemies and her fractured mind. Once a Resistance healer, her lost memories may hold vital secrets—and her captors know it. Sent to a powerful necromancer to extract the truth, Helena must survive his estate, uncover her past, and protect what remains of herself in a world built on alchemy, necromancy, and betrayal.



Super-Frog Saves Tokyo

Haruki Murakami
Harvill Secker | \$38.00

In this fully illustrated edition of Haruki Murakami's beloved short story, a weary Tokyo loan officer returns home to find a giant talking frog waiting for him. The frog needs his help to stop an impending disaster beneath the city. As Katagiri is swept into a surreal mission to save Tokyo, he's forced to confront the meaning of courage, purpose, and reality itself—with a frog as his unexpected guide.



The Loneliness of Sonia and Sunny

Kiran Desai
Hamish Hamilton | \$38.00

When Sonia and Sunny meet on a train, they're drawn to each other—despite a failed matchmaking attempt by their grandparents. From India to New York, each is haunted by family, past loves, and the burdens of heritage. As they search for connection in a fractured world, their story becomes a tender, sweeping exploration of love, identity, and the ties that bind one generation to the next.



Gone Before Goodbye

Reese Witherspoon & Harlan Coben
Century | \$38.00

After losing her medical license, elite combat surgeon Maggie McCabe accepts a secretive job treating a mysterious billionaire in a remote, high-tech compound. But when her patient vanishes under suspicious circumstances, Maggie is framed and forced to run. To clear her name, she must unravel a deadly conspiracy rooted in the world's most elite circles—before she becomes the next to disappear in this high-stakes thriller of power and deception.

CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULT



Wrapping Things

Linda Burgess
Allen & Unwin | \$30.00

A tender story for young children about welcoming a new baby into the family. Through Rosie's imaginative eyes, everyday moments become cozy and chaotic adventures. From wrapping crayons and toys to being tucked into bed by Granny, the theme of warmth and care weaves through the story. Finally, a brand-new baby arrives, lovingly wrapped in a soft blanket, completing the circle of family love and comfort.



The 113th Assistant Librarian: Lost in a Book

Stuart Wilson
Penguin | \$24.00

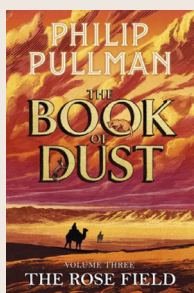
In the thrilling sequel to *The 113th Assistant Librarian*, Oliver embraces his quirky job—facing giant crabs and firedrakes—alongside his mostly-human friend, Agatha. When a rare history book's cryptic wording threatens the kingdom, they embark on a perilous quest, aided by a magical transporting book. Racing against time, Oliver and Agatha must outwit the cunning Annabel Clowritch to prevent war and protect their world.



Everything Under the Sun

Molly Oldfield
Ladybird | \$45.00

Based on the award-winning podcast, this global collection features 366 curious questions asked by children worldwide. Explore every topic, from how rollerskates were invented to why we daydream, from wormholes to frog jumps, each brought to life by stunning illustrations from international artists. Perfect for young minds eager to discover the wonders of the world around them.



The Rose Field

Philip Pullman
Penguin | \$38.00

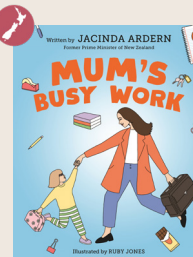
In the long-awaited finale of Philip Pullman's *The Book of Dust*, Lyra searches for her lost dæmon, Pantalaimon, while Malcolm journeys to find her. Their paths converge amid a world on fire, filled with spies, witches, and gryphons. Facing the Magisterium's war, they must uncover truths about Dust, roses, and imagination. *The Rose Field* brings thirty years of Pullman's beloved universe to a breathtaking, world-changing conclusion.



Taniwha

Gavin Bishop
Penguin | \$40.00

Award-winning storyteller Gavin Bishop brings to life the legends of Aotearoa's taniwha—shape-shifting guardians and tricksters of land and sea. From ancient waka voyages to modern-day encounters, these tales reveal the mysterious creatures that both protect and haunt the landscape. Blending rich storytelling with spooky, stunning visuals, this collection explores Māori culture and the powerful bond between people, place, and the supernatural world around them.



Mum's Busy Work

Jacinda Ardern
Picture Puffin | \$30.00

Based on real conversations between Jacinda Ardern and her daughter, *Mum's Busy Work* celebrates the special bond between working mums and their children. Even on busy days apart, there's always time for stories, games, hugs, and love. With beautiful illustrations by Ruby Jones, this heartwarming book shows that no matter the distance, a mother's love remains strong and unwavering.

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