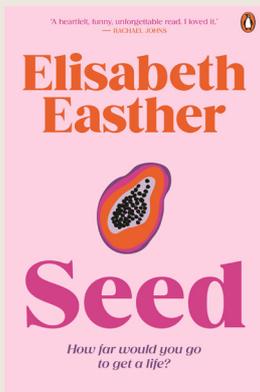


February Highlights

THIS MONTH'S MOST ANTICIPATED BOOK RELEASES



BOOK OF THE MONTH



Seed
Elisabeth Easter
Penguin | \$38.00

Four friends, two pregnancies and the mother of all awkward situations...

Hillary and her partner are eager for a baby, their sex life dictated by the automated texts from their fertility agency, MotherWorld. Her best friend Maggie is a single mother living her best life, enjoying a healthy relationship with her ex, and a healthy appetite on the dating apps. With her youngest now at school, Shelley is returning to the office, hoping to prove her value at the gold-star advertising agency she works for. Meanwhile, midwife Virginia has made a career of helping other people have babies, but is suddenly yearning for one of her own. With no partner in sight, she cooks up an unhinged plan...

FICTION

Vigil
George Saunders

Bloomsbury | \$37.00

For the 343rd time, afterlife guide Jill "Doll" Blaine accompanies a soul toward death, but oil tycoon K.J. Boone refuses regret. As the dying man's room fills with living and dead visitors, this imaginative, darkly funny novel reckons with power, morality, and the lives we choose.

Lost Lambs
Madeline Cash

Doubleday | \$38.00

After their parents open up their marriage, the Flynn sisters spiral into chaos: disastrous relationships, dark obsessions, and paranoia. When the youngest uncovers a conspiracy involving a powerful local billionaire, the family is dragged into criminal trouble that may finally pull them back together, in this funny, warm, and sharply observed literary novel.

The Final Problem
Arturo Pérez-Reverte

Atlantic | \$37.99

1960: Stranded by rough seas on a Greek island, a group of hotel guests are drawn into a locked-room mystery when a British tourist is found dead. With no escape and suspicion everywhere, a washed-up actor famed for playing Sherlock Holmes must uncover the truth before the killer strikes again.

Of Blood And Fire
Ryan Cahill

Watkins | \$38.00

In a war-torn land of dragons, magic, and ancient grudges, a grieving village boy is thrust into a conflict centuries in the making. When strangers arrive with a deadly secret, his coming-of-age test becomes the first step in a brutal epic where there is no prophecy, only blood, loyalty, and survival.

The Persian
David McCloskey

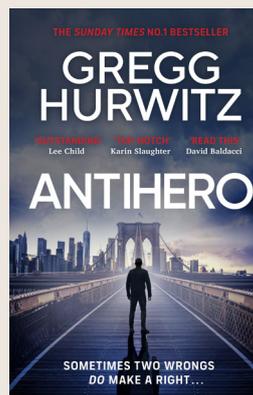
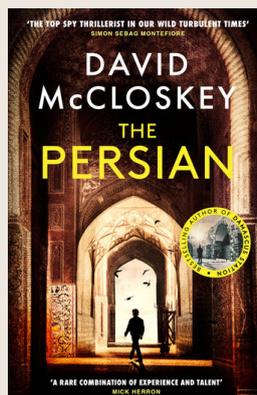
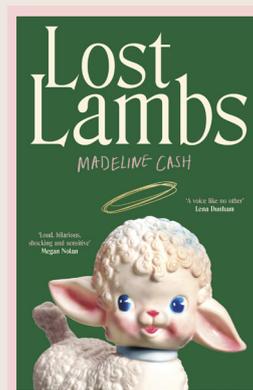
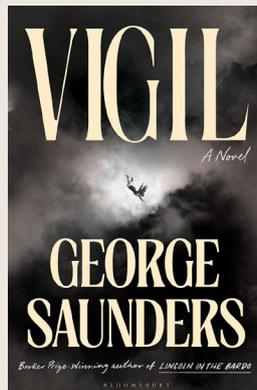
Swift Press | \$37.99

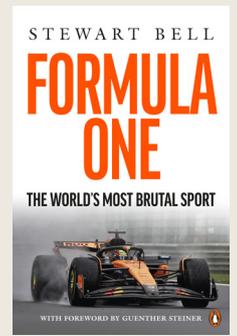
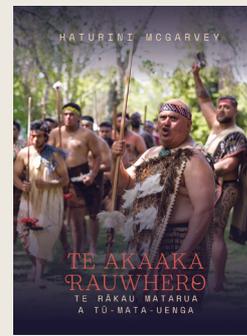
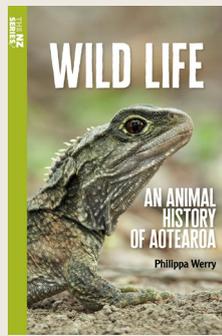
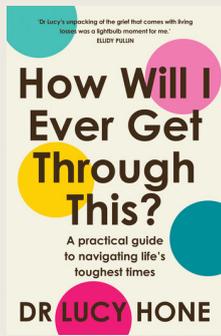
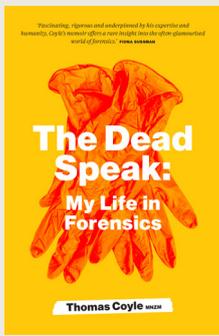
A Persian Jewish dentist agrees to spy for Mossad to fund a new life in California, only to be captured inside Iran. Forced to confess his secret past, he reckons with deception, loyalty, and love amid the shadow war between Iran and Israel, in a propulsive thriller rich in tension and tradecraft.

Antihero
Gregg Hurwitz

Michael Joseph | \$38.00

Former black-ops assassin Evan Smoak is drawn into a race to save a kidnapped woman and hunt her attackers. But she demands justice without killing, forcing the legendary Orphan X to confront his most difficult mission yet: protecting the innocent while balancing vengeance, mercy, and mounting threats from every side.





NON-FICTION

The Dead Speak Thomas Coyle

Allen & Unwin | \$38.00

With a career that spans investigating murders at Scotland Yard to identifying bodies after global disasters, one of NZ's leading forensic scientists takes us behind the tape of a lifetime of working on crime scenes in this empathetic and darkly funny memoir.



Wild Life Philippa Werry

Oratia Books | \$29.99

Told from the viewpoint of animals, birds and insects, this book traces Aotearoa's natural history from Gondwanaland to today. It explores how species arrived, evolved and adapted, what changed with human arrival, and how introduced pests, conservation efforts and climate change now shape their future in New Zealand.



Te Akaaka Rauwhero Haturini McGarvey

Huia | \$50.00

This is the first of its kind – a foundational, authoritative text introducing the pedagogy, history and intricate knowledge systems of mau rākau. Written in te reo Māori by leading expert Haturini McGarvey, this book covers the origins of mau rākau, its protocols, philosophies, karakia and more.



How Will I Ever Get Through This Lucy Hone

Allen & Unwin | \$37.99

This practical guide explores living loss: the grief that follows divorce, illness, redundancy, estrangement and other life upheavals. Drawing on resilience research and lived experience, it guides readers from overwhelm and isolation toward clarity, meaning and renewed hope, using twenty key questions to help navigate change and rebuild a sense of self.

A Hymn to Life Gisèle Pelicot

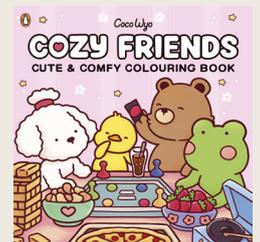
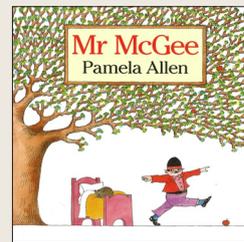
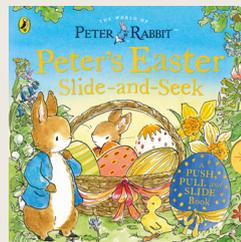
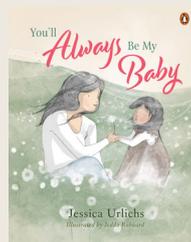
Bodley Head | \$40.00

Gisèle Pelicot's life was shattered when she discovered her husband had secretly drugged and abused her for nearly a decade. Courageously speaking out and waiving her anonymity, she became a global symbol of defiance, reshaping public conversation on sexual violence, and her memoir traces her journey from betrayal and loss to resilience, hope, and renewed life.

Formula One Stewart Bell

Penguin | \$40.00

Get behind the scenes of Formula One with a veteran journalist. From cockpit heat and superhuman pressure to multi-billion-dollar team operations and nonstop global travel, this insider account reveals the brutal, thrilling reality of the world's fastest sport, far beyond the Netflix spotlight, and what it takes to survive and succeed.



KIDS' & YOUNG ADULT

Stepping Up David Hill

Penguin | \$22.00

After a mountain accident crushes his leg, 14-year-old Ben must relearn how to live. Recovering from limb loss, he wrestles with regret, pain and uncertainty, driven by one goal: to return to the mountain and finish the climb he began, one hard-won step at a time.



You'll Always Be My Baby Jessica Urlichs

Penguin | \$24.00

This gentle rhyming picture book celebrates the forever love between parent and child. As a baby grows older and heavier to hold, love remains constant, reassuring and deep. Told in soft, lyrical verse and tender illustrations, it's a comfort story for sharing across generations.



Mr McGee Pamela Allen

Puffin | \$21.00

This board book edition of the first Mr McGee adventure invites very young readers into a playful, magical romp. Full of rhyme, humour and imagination, it encourages little ones to wonder, fly and float through a world where anything can happen – a joyful story made just for fun.

Wild Robot (Deluxe Special Edition) Peter Brown

Bonnier | \$19.99

When robot Roz wakes alone on a wild island, survival means learning from the animals around her. Battling storms and predators, she slowly adapts, forms unexpected friendships and finds a place to belong. But just as the island feels like home, her mysterious past returns, threatening everything she's built.

Peter's Easter Slide-and-Seek Beatrix Potter

Puffin | \$21.00

Join Peter Rabbit on a springtime Easter egg hunt in this interactive slide-and-seek adventure. As Peter searches the meadow, young readers can push and pull tabs on every page to spot his friends along the way. With sturdy board sliders for little hands, it's a playful Easter story for the youngest fans.

Cozy Friends Coco Wyo

Penguin | \$21.00

Step into the comforting world of Cozy Friends, a colouring book filled with sweet animal characters enjoying everyday moments. With 45 hand-drawn pages, bold designs and uplifting scenes, it's designed to help you relax, unwind and get creative. Perfect for colouring fans of all ages, anytime, anywhere.