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REVIEWS

# BOOKS

celebrating  
**15 YEARS**

## di morrissey

★ *The Photographs Of Baldwin Spencer* Edited by Philip Batty et al (MUP, \$69.95) In 1894, anthropologist Baldwin Spencer documented the Aborigines of central Australia. This book reproduces his photographs with impressive clarity, providing a fascinating insight into a unique way of life. ★ *The Shadow Of The Wind* by Carlos Ruiz Zafón (Text Publishing, \$25) A wonderful journey of love, lust, tragedy and betrayal set in Franco's Spain. ★ *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak (Picador, \$19.95) This is the story of Liesel, growing up in Nazi Germany under the watchful eyes of foster parents. Originally a book for teenagers, this beautifully written novel is loved by all ages. ★ *The Turning* by Tim Winton (Picador, \$24.95) Connected by the theme of leaving or returning to country towns, this collection of short stories is about the real Australia – tales set in a harsh landscape, sensitively and evocatively told. Di Morrissey's latest novel is *The Silent Country* (Pan Australia, \$22.99)



## kate holden

★ *Your Skirt's Too Short* by Emily Maguire (Text Publishing, \$24.95) and *Female Chauvinist Pigs* by Ariel Levy (Schwartz Publishing, \$27.95) These two books revitalised debates about feminism. They differ in their arguments, but agree that sexuality is still a battleground. ★ *IKEA Catalogue* Not a real book, but boy has it changed people's lives. The sacred volume of IKEA's catalogue has shaped millions of homes to make them either more beautiful or more boring, depending how you think. ★ *Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama (Text Publishing, \$26.95) Long before Obama changed history by becoming America's first black president, he wrote a wonderfully engaging memoir of a life already less ordinary. Kate Holden's upcoming memoir, *The Romantic* (Text Publishing, \$34.95), is out in September.

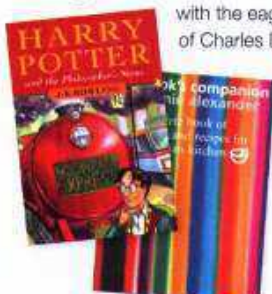


# TOMES THAT HAVE SHAPED THE PAST 15 YEARS

Four authors scour their bookshelves to find their favourite inspirational reads

## carmel bird

★ *The Life You Can Save* by Peter Singer (Text Publishing, \$26.95) Since 1975's *Animal Liberation*, Peter Singer has been making a difference to the way people think. This latest book is a clarion call to end world poverty. ★ *Harry Potter And The Philosopher's Stone* by JK Rowling (Bloomsbury, \$15.95) The first in a series of novels initially for children that rode the zeitgeist into the 21st century. Each book was anticipated with the eagerness that greeted the works of Charles Dickens in the 19th century. ★ *The Cook's Companion* by Stephanie Alexander (Penguin, \$130) *The Cook's Companion* went straight to the heart of Australian kitchens, heralding a new fascination with the joys of eating. Carmel Bird's latest novel is *Child Of The Twilight* (4th Estate, \$27.99)



## claire hooper

★ *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy (Picador, \$22.99) I waited years to read this, afraid that it would be too bleak for my fragile little mind. When I finally picked it up, I read it in just a few nights and still feel deeply affected. In fact, I'm planning to build a shelter and fill it with tinned food. Not for myself, but for the father and son who will discover it in 50 years time after an environmental catastrophe. ★ *Naked* by David Sedaris (Abacus, \$24.99) My sure-fire cure for depression. *Naked* was my first Sedaris book and I raced out to get everything else he's written. Read it to cheer yourself up after *The Road*. ★ *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer (Orbit, \$16.95) What? Don't give me that look. You read it, too. This sweet little piece of book-candy was so delicious that women everywhere were outting themselves as still having the emotional maturity of 13 year olds. Claire Hooper's first book, *Love Bites* (ABC Books, \$19.99), is available now.



COMPILED BY JOHN ROPER