

## Recent Books from New Zealand – June 2023

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### Biography & Memoirs

Billy Bush : A front row view on life / Kingita Ngahere (Bush) Te Pohe  
New Zealand: Upstart Press Ltd, 2023  
224p.  
9781776940233  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
360gm.

Bill Bush (Billy Bush) has a life story unlike any other All Black. A kina diver at primary school, a labourer at the Marsden Point refinery at 14, it took a promise of a Fanta and a pie to get him to play rugby, a sport he initially reckoned was too rough for him. The reluctant warrior became a fearsome, revered All Black prop, and captained and coached the Maori All Blacks. His insights on rugby, and its place in New Zealand life, are unique. The journey Bill takes readers on in Billy Bush is not all about playing rugby but explains his whakapapa (lineage), his upbringing, his beliefs, and hopefully demonstrates that there are other ways to get on in life and to be successful. Bill offers some simple life lessons: don't get trapped into seeing the grass as being greener on the other side of the fence. Stand tall and proud alongside others; enjoy the simple things in life along with your successes, however small they may be. Embrace the things you enjoy as a valued New Zealander by focusing on simple goals with honesty, hard work, and determination.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850708>

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The Burned Letter : A New Zealand's Holocaust Mystery / Helene Ritchie (A  
Memoir)  
New Zealand: Helene Ritchie (self publish), 2023  
562p. ; 23.4cm.  
9780473662417  
\$ 55.00 / PB  
1050gm.

A New Zealander's Holocaust Mystery. "Every day, I am in Auschwitz," she would say. Even though she never had been. During the Holocaust, Lidi, as a teenager, flees from Hitler and the Nazis. Forced to leave behind everyone whom she loves, she eventually arrives in New Zealand as a Jewish refugee, with her mother. Alive in their new country, but labelled again, they immediately are called 'enemy aliens', monitored by the police, their letters censored, their lives and movements restricted. Five years later in 1945, a few months after the liberation of Auschwitz, Lidi burns the letter written to her that tells her what happened to those she loved most dearly. She hopes that in turning the letter to ashes, her survivor guilt and trauma would disappear too. But her efforts are in vain. "They - all those relations - just perished," Lidi says over and over again. Nearly 70 years later, just before she dies at the age of 92, Lidi said she regrets burning the letter. Too late. "They" remain a mystery to Helene, Lidi's daughter. As does their fate. For 50 years, she travels the world, searching for her grandparents and her "just perished" family. It was as if "they" all just disappeared in a puff of smoke. But she does find traces in the killing centres, ghettos and death marches across Poland, Czechoslovakia and Germany, discovering murder, suicides, theft, and tragic love affairs.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850709>

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Soundings: Diving for stories in the beekoning sea / Kennedy Warne  
New Zealand: Massey University Press, 2023

240p. ; 21cm.

9781991016447

\$ 38.00 / PB

322gm.

Perhaps the closest a human being comes to visiting another planet is to descend into the sea. In *Soundings*, Kennedy Warne connects his lifelong exploration of the underwater world with a global story of humanity's relationship with the sea. Drawing on more than 20 years of fieldwork for National Geographic, he shares experiences that range from diving with harp seals under the sea ice of the Gulf of St Lawrence to following the legendary 'sardine run' along South Africa's Wild Coast; from watching turret-building ghost crabs in Arabia to witnessing the impact of dynamite fishing in the Philippines; from swimming with crocodiles in the Okavango Delta to finding seahorses on the Eastern Cape. From a myriad underwater encounters a wider conversation emerges about human engagement with the sea. One question dominates: How can we care for and reconnect with the oceans around us?

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850711>

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Frigate Birds: Forty years with the Solomons / Margaret Atkin

Australia: Sid Harta Books & Print Pty Ltd, 2023

xii, 328p. ; 23cm.

9780648491637

\$ 60.00 / PB  
556gm.

A young New Zealand nursing student is lunching in her college cafe in 1975 when an unknown 'Black man with a halo of corkscrew curls' sits uninvited next to her. Within a year, she marries the stranger in a traditional Solomon Islands' ceremony near the beach on which he was born, midway through his mother's four-hour walk to the clinic. Naked children and bare-breasted women greet the couple's arrival by canoe. She is the sole European at her wedding. Her only present is a shell. She discovers their home is a fibreboard house perched on stilts in a sea of mud on a muddy road. They bathe in a stream and fetch water from the river. The sea is the toilet. For most of the next forty years, this is her world - and the setting of the incredible story she reveals in *Frigate Birds*. Standards of health, nutrition, welfare and education are woefully low. But limited experience and basic knowledge are no deterrent as the young newlywed resolutely sets about improving the health and welfare of the islanders. She battles politicians, lawyers and health authorities. At home, she copes with bankruptcy, divorce and the birth of two sons.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850712>

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*Into The Woods* / Helen Innes  
New Zealand: Piwaiwaka Press, 2022  
70p. ; 16cm.  
9780473623319  
\$ 15.00 / PB  
62gm.

*Into the Woods* shows us the healing power of nature through a story set in the New Zealand bush. This candid yet unexpectedly beautiful little book follows the journey a grieving mother goes through after losing a child. Feeling alienated from the people around her she physically and emotionally retreats into the bush where she forms a new and, for her, unlikely attachment to the native birds. The story starts with a woman sitting alone on her lawn. The flowers and visitors have stopped arriving and her husband has returned to work, leaving her to grieve for her lost baby alone. She opens a flyer newly arrived in the mail and sees pictures of native birds - the tui, the riroriro, the kereru - and having no one else to talk to starts to form a relationship with them. 'It was during the spring the kaka arrived that I first noticed a grey warbler fledgling outside my window who couldn't get the tune quite right. He'd start singing, get a note wrong and falter, then try tentatively again. Like a child learning the recorder, I thought. Like a child ... '

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850713>

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*Voyages and Wanderings in Far-Off Seas and Lands* / J. Inches Thomson ;  
(Introduction by Rosy Fenwicke)

New Zealand : Wonderful World Ltd, 2023 (Re-published)

206p. ; 18.5cm.

9781991194206

\$ 45.00 / PB

420gm.

John Thomson's 'Voyages and Wanderings' begin in 1861 when at 17 he sets sail from Greenock, Scotland to start a new life on the other side of the world in Port Chalmers, New Zealand.

From his adventures as a 'new chum' on the Otago goldfields to his philosophical discussions with Te Whiti-o-Rongomai at Parihaka he reports his experiences with insight and humanity.

Then in 1877, along with the crew of the BenCleugh, he is shipwrecked on Macquarie Island. Before their rescue the men spend four winter months in the harsh sub-Antarctic environment where they must work together to ensure their survival or perish.

We meet sailors, pirates, whalers, and sealers as John recounts the beauty and danger of life under sail as he journeys around the coast of New Zealand and across the world's great oceans.

In her introduction, Rosy Fenwicke, John's great-great-great niece introduces the reader to the history of Māori in the southern most part of New Zealand up until the arrival from Scotland of the early settlers in the mid-nineteenth century. The New Zealand Company negotiated the sale of what would become Dunedin, the Edinburgh of the South and the deed was signed by twenty five Ngāi Tahu chiefs in 1844. Planned on Scottish principles of Presbyterianism, hard work and a focus on universal education, the settlers started arriving en masse in 1848. The Thomsons were one of the many Scottish families who sailed across oceans to make a new home for themselves and their descendents in Otago, New Zealand. This is their story too.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850714>

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From There to Here : A Memoir / Joe Bennett

New Zealand: Harper Collins Publishers Limited, 2023

288p. ; 23cm.

9781775540564

\$ 35.00 / PB

306gm.

From Willingdon to Lyttelton, a memoir about love, learning and the journey to thirty Joe Bennett is the author of countless columns, over twenty books, and now, at long last, a memoir. From There to Here describes a childhood of fishing, cricket, friends, a dog, some mild molestation and a few deaths. There's the long-haired gloom and vehemence of adolescence. There's love and heartache, an urge to write and a fruitless struggle against teaching for a living. Superbly written, of course, and laugh-out-loud funny in places, but it's also honest, unsparing,

unexpected and moving.'Every now and then in the twilight the door of the pub would open and emit a great sough of smoke and light and adult laughter and it seemed the most wonderful place in the world, the place you wanted to be.'

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=848638>

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Shear Will / Viki Jones and Linda Henderson (Eds) Kristy Martin and Chloe Cran  
Australia: Ocean Reeve Publishing, 2023

xv, 212p. ; 21.6cm.

9781922644558

\$ 50.00 / PB

278gm.

Does the sheep bolting down the shearing board collide with the unknowing rousie? Short answer: yes. Having taken many workers to hospital, this incident was a first for Viki. Have you ever wondered about the term 'full sheep'? Does this traditional, feisty, Chinese-Maori mix woman find acceptance in an industry that at the time choose mostly male-dominated ideas? A product of a dad who taught that you were equal to all if you had a job and worked at it hard, she did not change to that dominance. Viki's biography takes you back to a time that no longer exists. Browse through a photo collection that reflects her desire to honour the mates photographed long ago. Most don't include her, as she was the photographer. These are photos she kept in pristine condition. A few shearing sheds feature, but mostly the people who meant the world to her. The traditional industry of shearing sheep laid bare. Curiosity and sheer will were her super power (or got her through when others saw problems). Traveling barren roads for hours, unsure of what lay at the end, the only firm plan was to be away for weeks at a time.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850718>

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## Ecology & Environment

Great Stories of New Zealand Conservation / Alan Froggatt

New Zealand: Upstart Press, 2023

208p.

9781776940066

\$ 40.00 / PB

432gm.

New Zealand has an extraordinary range of plants and animals, yet a great many species are trending towards extinction. The arrival of humans to the country, and the predators we brought with us, pushed the natural world to the brink. But while

we are the villains of the story, we can also be heroes. Great Stories of New Zealand Conservation tells 50 inspiring and thought provoking stories, covering all matter of conservation and ecological projects from right across the motu. Some of the projects have been driven by national organisations - such as saving the kakapo and the yellow eyed penguin. Other chapters in the book focus on locally led initiatives, such as the creation of off-shore island sanctuaries. Because of conflicting demands on our land, conservation stories can be controversial. The author has not shied away from probing topics including the control of Himalayan tahr and the perils of commercial forestry. Learn how New Zealand has innovatively led the way on conservation initiatives - such as the translocation of birds and the development of predator-proof fences.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850720>

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Under The Weather: A Future Forecast for New Zealand / James Renwick  
New Zealand: Harper Collins Publishers Limited, 2023

318p. ; 25cm.  
9781775541721  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
398gm.

The must-read book on what New Zealand's changing climate means for our everyday lives A warmer world will change more than just our weather patterns. It will change the look of the land around us, what grows and lives on it - including us. In this must-read book, Professor James Renwick untangles how we know what the future holds and why it matters to our everyday lives. He looks at New Zealand's increasingly frequent natural disasters, warming and acidifying waters, the creep of rising sea levels, and the ways that the changing weather will affect our agriculture, lifestyle, food security and economy. Under the Weather is a picture of a planet in danger, a reality-check on what that means for this country, and a reminder that the shape of our future is up to us.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850722>

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## History

Our New Zealand Home: The USMC In Wairarapa / Mark Pacey  
New Zealand: Gosson Publishing, 2023

xii, 194p. ; 25.5cm.  
Includes Index.  
9780473657666  
\$ 75.00 / PB  
616gm.

In 1943 two battalions of the United States Marine Corps camped in Masterton. From February to September this small New Zealand town played host to the Americans. Many residents remember these young men fondly and all said they had livened up the town that had been darkened by years of war. Our New Zealand Home looks back at who these Marines were and where they had come from before they arrived in Masterton. The author visited many of the places they went to in New Zealand, making the same journey to see what is there now and if anything remains from the American visitors. Extensively researched, Our New Zealand Home tells the full story of this group of young men who called Wairarapa home for seven months in the middle of a world war.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850723>

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Sure To Rise : The Edmonds Story / Peter Alsop, Kate Parsonson, Richard Wolfe  
New Zealand: Canterbury University Press, 2023

304p. ; 26cm.

Includes Index.

9781988503318

\$ 65.00 / HB

1406gm.

Edmonds is one of New Zealand's best-known brands - its radiant sun and 'Sure to Rise' promise have embellished baking powder labels and the much-loved Edmonds Cookery Book for over a hundred years and are now embedded in our popular culture. The man behind the company, Thomas Edmonds, came to New Zealand with his wife Jane in 1879. While running a modest grocery store in Christchurch, he expanded into making baking powder. As his most famous product took off, he built new premises, the last of them the Art Deco factory with its nationally admired gardens. Thomas embraced new advertising and marketing techniques and ensured progressive working conditions for his loyal staff. A generous benefactor, he gave his city some of its landmark buildings. This is the story of a man from humble beginnings who, thanks to hard work, creativity and persistence, and with considerable support from his wife, created an iconic business. Richly illustrated, 'Sure to Rise' is a fascinating slice of New Zealand's social and culinary history.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850725>

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From The Paddocks to The Skies: A History: North Shore Aero Club the First 50 Years / Ivan Prince

New Zealand: The Publishing Launchpad, 2022

viii, 442p. ; 29.5cm.

Includes Index.

9780473662776

\$ 150.00 / PB

1350gm.



This large 450-page, A4-sized book is the story of the first fifty years (1963-2013) of the North Shore Aero Club and its affiliated airfield, originally known as Dairy Flat Airfield, but today named North Shore Airport. The history, supported by the newsletters and annals of the times, is related in the first 350 pages of the book and is copiously illustrated with photographs from the various time periods. The second part of the book contains 8 appendices covering another 75 pages and describing specific details related to the Club's history. Included are the names of Club Officers, Club Flying Instructors, Club trophies and holders, Club highlights and achievements over the years, aircraft operated by the Club and a detailed history and photograph of every aircraft that the Club has owned. Also in print for the first time is the story of the only Club member to have had his aircraft hijacked, written by the pilot himself.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850727>

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Through Shaded Glass : Women and Photography in Aotearoa New Zealand 1860-1960 / Lissa Mitchell

New Zealand: Te Papa Press, 2023

368p. ; 25cm.

9780995138490

\$ 80.00 / HB

1480gm.

The contribution of women to the first century of photography has been overlooked across the world, including in New Zealand. With few exceptions, photographic histories have tended to focus on the male maker. This important book tilts the balance, unearthing a large and hitherto unknown number of women photographers, both professional and amateur, who operated in New Zealand from the 1860s to 1960, either as assistants in the early studios or later running studios in their own right. It takes the reader on a journey through the backrooms of nineteenth and early twentieth-century photographic studios, into private homes, out onto the street and up into the mountains, and looks at the range of photographic practices in which women were involved. Through superb images and fascinating individual stories, it brings an important group of photographers into the light.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850729>

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#### Literature

James K. Baxter Complete Poems (Sets of 4 Books) / John Weir (Edited and Introduced by)

New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2022

4v.



Includes Index.  
9781776920587  
\$ 195.00 (Set) / HB  
5246gm.

Volume 1: Dunedin and Christchurch: The Early Years, 1933-1948  
xxxvi, 851p.

Volume 2: The Wellington Years, 1949-1965  
912p.

Volume 3: Return to Dunedin, 1966-1968: The Jerusalem Years, 1969-1972  
626p.

Volume 4: Edited and Introduced by John Weir  
766p.

James K. Baxter, one of New Zealand's greatest poets, began writing poetry when he was a seven-year-old pupil at Brighton Primary School. By the time his first book, *Beyond the Palisades*, was published when he was eighteen, he had written more than 600 poems. His life's work, contained in this four-volume set, runs to just over 3000 poems, more than half of which have never before been published. John Weir, a fellow poet, friend and confidant of Baxter, has achieved the Herculean task of sorting these into a coherent order, noting where poems have been reworked or repurposed, their possible inspirations and influences, and Baxter's own thoughts about his work.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850730>

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Garments of the Dead: old+new work / Koenraad Kuiper  
New Zealand: Quentin Wilson Publishing, 2023  
208p. ; 21cm.  
9781991103123  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
396gm.

Koenraad Kuiper's poems are animated by a frugal, astringent, ironic intelligence that reminds me of when the word 'wit' was used to describe or even name the verse of the Metaphysical poets. However, these poems are not historical pastiche, but are unmistakably contemporary, as in the several formal variations of his 'Benedictine Sonnets'. Most of the poems belong in sequences and play with variations on themes, a cumulative strategy that complements and extends their laconic humour. From time to time a translation is included, in Dutch mostly but occasionally in German - sometimes the English reads as though it is the translated version, a deliberate, playful oddness. Erudite, witty, economical, and

elegantly composed, these poems are a pleasure to read piecemeal but even more from beginning to end as a complete, sustained immersion. Ian Wedde  
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850731>

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Love & Money : The Writer's Cut / Greg McGee  
New Zealand: Upstart Press, 2023  
248p.  
9781776940172  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
360gm.

Film directors get to re-release with the changes they wish they had made. That is called The Director's Cut. Now, Greg McGee has done the same to his 2012 novel. Welcome to Love & Money: The Writer's Cut. New Zealand is in the middle of a share-market boom, there is an election coming up, a commune with bizarre sexual activities is causing questions, and the first Rugby World Cup is on the horizon. But for a failing actor with a chaotic personal life and friends and family who seem to be succeeding where he isn't, there are no silver linings. But this is 1987. Everybody's world is about to fall apart.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850734>

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The Spanish Garden : One day, one life, one hundred years / Cliff Taylor  
New Zealand: Quentin Wilson Publishing, 2023  
256p. ; 22.9cm.  
9781991103116  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
374gm.

"The Spanish Garden is about memory and how it serves and deceives us. It is about the casualties of war, both the dead and the living, and the need to acknowledge the unnamed and the disappeared. It is about buried secrets and their patient wait to be told. But it is also about the beauty of places which unite people, and how we are marked for life by the youthful experience of intense love and passion, even, or especially, when it is lost." On a hot summer morning, in a garden overlooking the Kaipara Harbour, Sidney King reluctantly prepares to mark his 100th birthday. In the same moment, on the opposite side of the world in Spain, a discovery is made which could unlock a mystery which has haunted him for 80 years. Volunteers disinterring skeletons of Spanish Civil War victims unearth a locket which has its own story to tell. As the day's tides advance and recede and visitors, welcome and unwelcome, arrive and depart, the old man walks with his ghosts, reliving episodes from his long life. He is also forced to confront, for the first time, the secrets buried within the land upon which he has created his famous garden. Set on a single day in 2016, in a time when the deadly political divisions

of the past are being redrawn, The Spanish Garden tells a story of memory and loss, the generational impact of war, the fatal history shared between two families, Pakeha and Maori, and a man's enduring obsession with love.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850736>

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A Petulance of Politicians 2023 : P.S. It's an election year / Richard

P Wisnesky

New Zealand: Copy Press Books, 2023

x, 82p. ; 21cm.

9781991190642

\$ 25.00 / PB

168gm.

Much has been written over the years about politicians and their philosophies and affiliations. It can be quite a daunting task to vote. This collection of poems has a political flavour and are the author's personal political perceptions at the time of writing. You, the reader, can choose to agree or disagree or use them as springboards of debate.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850738>

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The Artist / Ruby Solly

New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023

144p. ; 23cm.

9781776920709

\$ 35.00 / PB

306gm.

In a Southern land, where the veil of time and space has worn thin, twins with otherworldly ways are born to a stone carver and his wife. As they grow into themselves, the landscape and its histories will rise up to meet them and change their whanau forever. Cave art leaps from walls, pounamu birds sing, legends become reality, and history becomes the present in this verse novel by Ruby Solly (Waitaha, Kati Mamoe, Kai Tahu). The Artist brings to life the histories of our great Southern iwi through the whakapapa of its characters and the rich world they and their ancestors call their turakawaewae-their place to stand, their place to sing.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850739>

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Face To The Sky / Michele Leggott

New Zealand: Auckland University Press, 2023

92p. ; 23cm.

9781776711031

\$ 35.00 / PB

176gm.

In her latest collection, Michele Leggott speaks to the art and writings of nineteenth-century New Zealand painter Emily Cumming Harris. *Face to the Sky* tells stories of love and loss from two women in the shadow the same mountain, more than a century apart.

'Voices sing from the archive: a choir of breakers on a North Taranaki beach. Two women born more than a hundred years apart tell stories of love and loss in the shadow of the mountain that is always there. One of them becomes a painter of botanically accurate native flora, and writes all her life. The other, now without sight, lives in a world of sounds caught into expanding webs of memory. She listens for the other, tracing the delicate shapes of what she cannot see, taking her cue from the words of others. She listens and travels, picking up connections over time and place. Mothers and fathers come and go, adding their voices to the tumult on the beach, the shadow of the mountain, the hills above Nelson where the first woman comes to rest. The second, living between two small volcanos in a northern city, waits for a miracle that might cure the lymphoma that has been tracking her days. Through it all, the familiar phrases of the weather forecast sound their ever-hopeful, ever-changing predictions.'

— Michele Leggott

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850740>

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The Democracy Game : It couldn't happen in New Zealand, could it? / Riley Chance

New Zealand: Copy Press Books, 2023

274p. ; 23.4cm.

9781991190680

\$ 40.00 / PB

444gm.

Populist political parties are increasing their influence across the world. It couldn't happen in New Zealand, could it? Journalist Grace Marks is investigating two unrelated stories - New Zealand's alt-right, and the emergence of a new organisation, ProtectNZ. When she finds 'dead man's hand' stuck to her front door with a knife, it's obvious she's ruffling some feathers. Hiding in New Zealand after a mission went sour, former US agent Marla Simmons learns Grace is in danger and wants to help, but finding out who's orchestrating the threats won't be easy. ProtectNZ, and their populist slogan "Protecting the lives of ordinary New Zealanders", is gaining popularity. Grace worries they're treating democracy as a game, a game they're playing well. When their charismatic leader is shot, interest in ProtectNZ only increases. The two stories collide as Grace and Marla's investigations deepen. When a body is found, the question is not only who killed them and why, but who was the victim? As the ProtectNZ juggernaut steamrolls towards the election, Grace and Marla race to expose those pulling the strings. The voting public need to know the truth. 'Riley Chance is producing high-quality local

thrillers with a strong political thread, touching on significant issues facing New Zealand society in the modern world.' Editor, Geoff Walker.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850741>

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Calamities! / Jane Arthur

New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023

71p. ; 21cm.

9781776920723

\$ 25.00 / PB

124gm.

In her second, spine-cracking collection, Jane Arthur wants 'to get morbid'. Moving with ease between the cerebral and the ethereal she measures her anxieties against a cosmic canvas – taking in everything from meteorites and distant planets to pomanders and cat's ears. Whether contemplating time, regret, or the end of the world, these poems don't flinch. But in writing against hope, Arthur also writes against hopelessness, and finds, at the heart of it all, a bear, sleeping soundly – or perhaps dead.

'Calamities! is a compelling book of the unsettled and unsettling, set in a world where comfort is an endangered animal and the apocalypse lurks outside our front doors. Jane Arthur's perceptive and all-too-relatable poems are what we need in these uncertain times – they make me an even bigger fan of her already astonishing body of work.' —Chris Tse

'Calamities! is a glorious translation of being, of existence in an unsettled world. ... This is poetry of tilt and tremor and one reading wasn't enough.' —Paula Green, NZ Poetry Shelf

'It's hard for poems to be funny without undermining their own seriousness, but Arthur's are like that.' —Kate Camp, The Spinoff

'She seems to me a poet of scale and embodiment. Her moments are informed by awe and intelligence – quick and seamless. They don't have to try so hard. I felt novels and films in these poems. I thought: this is a poet of capacity.' —Eileen Myles.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850742>

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This Is a Story About Your Mother / Louise Wallace

New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023

86p. ; 21cm.

9781776920716

\$ 30.00 / PB

156gm.

In her latest collection, Louise Wallace raises an existential eyebrow at pregnancy-birth-motherhood. Is this universal rite-of-passage really an intimately personal event, down to the degree of fluid rising in your ankles, or is it a societal machine,

forever churning out the next generation to an unrelenting voiceover of parenting advice? Wrestling auto-generated Huggies text and her own sometimes heart-breaking experiences into meaning, Wallace weighs the evidence. With equal parts curiosity and pique, she writes her way through to the human. 'Wallace's exquisite poems declare that women's lives matter (mothers or otherwise), and domestic and emotional labour matters because this unseen and undervalued work permits society to function. Few other poets capture the possibilities of domestic mess so well, and make me laugh at the same time.' -Sarah Jane Barnett.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850743>

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Dream Girl / Joy Holley

New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023

239p. ; 21cm.

9781776920846

\$ 32.00 / PB

318gm.

Alice wants a heart-shaped bed. Mary, Genevieve and Angelica want to know the future. June says she wants Lena to rescue her from a rat, but really she wants Lena to make out with her. Eve wants to get Wallace alone at the strawberry farm. Olivia just wants to leave the haunted boarding school and go home. Bittersweet and intimate, comic and gothic, Dream Girl is a collection of stories about young women navigating desire in all its manifestations. In stories of romance and bad driving, ghosts and ghosting, playlists and competitive pet ownership, love never fails to leave its mark. 'Dream Girl is a winning concoction - sweet, heady, funny, tight, sharp - wittily charting the lightweight antics of "unattainably hot" girls, wearing its love-bites saucily and watching its crushes play out with wry sidelong glances. Its stories start as they mean to go on - with charm, chic, laughter, skill and sting.' -Tracey Slaughter

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850744>

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The Witching Tide : There Is Power in Silence / Margaret Meyer

New Zealand and Australia: Moa Press, 2023

336p. ; 23.3cm.

9781869715250

\$ 40.00 / PB

422gm.

A spellbinding historical debut which tells the story of a silent midwife hiding a secret and a witch-hunt that tears a community apart. Perfect for fans of Stacey Halls, Maggie O'Farrell, Jessie Burton and Hannah Kent. East Anglia, 1645. Martha Hallybread, a midwife, healer and servant, has lived for more than four decades in her beloved coastal village of Cleftwater. Everyone knows Martha, but no one has ever heard her speak. One morning, the peaceful atmosphere is violently shattered

and Martha becomes a silent witness to a witch hunt. As a trusted member of the community, she is enlisted to search the bodies of the accused women. But whilst Martha wants to help her friends, she also harbours a dark secret. In desperation, she revives a witching doll that she inherited from her mother, in the hope that it will bring protection. But the doll's true powers are unknowable, the tide is turning, and time is running out . . . A spellbinding and intoxicating novel inspired by true events, *The Witching Tide* breathes new life into history whilst holding up a mirror to the world we live in now. A story of loyalty and betrayal, fear and obsession, the impact of misogyny and the power of resistance, it is a magnificent debut from a striking new voice.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850745>

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Where Light Meets Water / Susan Paterson  
Australia: Simon & Schuster Pty Limited, 2023  
400p. ; 23.4cm.  
9781761102240  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
530gm.

An evocative novel of love and art, and one man's journey to find his place in the world. *Where Light Meets Water* is a moving debut traversing nineteenth-century London, Melbourne and New Zealand's rugged South Island. Where the sailor ends the artist begins . . . London, 1847: On shore leave while his ship is being repaired, sailor Thomas Rutherford is restless, waiting to return to sea. At twenty-eight years old, Tom knows nothing but life on tall ships and is determined to captain his own. But Tom has a second passion: painting. And so he passes time with his paintbox and sketchbook... until he is struck by the discovery of a delicate glove laced with the unmistakable scent of turpentine. The owner is Catherine Ogilvie - captivating, headstrong and a talented artist in her own right. Intrigued by this singular woman, Tom finds himself swept into Catherine's privileged yet stifling world. As Tom and Catherine grow closer, Tom's eyes are opened to a new way of life. But his ambitions remain and, when the sea calls to Tom, he must face an impossible choice. In her stunning debut, Susan Paterson explores the power of art to transform a life and to connect us to others. *Where Light Meets Water* is a multi-stranded novel of love - of a man and a woman, of a sailor and the sea, and of an artist and his gift. Praise for *Where Light Meets Water*: 'A splendidly engaging tale of the inner lives of artists' Gail Jones 'Susan Paterson wields her pen like an artist's brush and the result is beautiful and evocative' Pip Williams 'Perfectly paced and sumptuously visual ... A stunning debut' Catherine Chidgey 'This book is utterly magnificent. Susan Paterson is a wonder' Eliza Henry-Jones 'Sure to delight and dazzle readers' Melissa Ashley 'A shimmering, beautiful and deftly told story' Michelle Scott Tucker 'An extraordinary debut' Kristina Olsson

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850746>

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Everything Is Beautiful and Everything Hurts : How far would you go to achieve your dreams? / Josie Shapiro  
New Zealand: Allen & Unwin, 2023  
288p. ; 23.4cm.  
9781991006448  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
318gm.

'Everything is Beautiful and Everything Hurts plunges the reader into the gruelling world of the long distance runner - every pleasure, every pain. Shapiro deftly weaves the coming-of-age story of Mickey Bloom into a gripping account of adult Bloom running the Auckland Marathon. This is compelling storytelling that exposes the sacrifices - physical and emotional - demanded of our sporting elite. Chilling, yet ultimately heartwarming, it celebrates success without flinching from staring down its brutal costs. A sophisticated debut that will capture the racing hearts of its readers.' - Sue Orr, Loop Tracks 'Josie Shapiro's accomplished debut novel has the compulsive forward motion of a world-class race. You don't have to be a runner to get the high, just read this book!' - Kirsten McDougall, She's a Killer Mickey Bloom: five foot tall, dyslexic, and bullied at school. Mickey knows she's nothing special. Until one day, she discovers running. Mickey's new-found talent makes her realise she's everything she thought she wasn't - powerful, strong and special. But her success comes at a cost, and the relentless training and pressure to win leaves Mickey broken, her dream in tatters. Years later, when Mickey is working in a dead-end job with a drop-kick boyfriend, her mother becomes seriously ill. After nursing her, Mickey realises the only way she can overcome her grief - and find herself - is to run again. A chance encounter with a stranger sees Mickey re-ignite her dreams. The two women form an unbreakable bond, as Mickey is shown what it means to run in the right direction. An unforgettable debut novel about change, family and grit, and what it takes to achieve your dreams.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850747>

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A Questionable Virtue / Paul W. Feenstra  
New Zealand: Mellester Press, 2023  
448p. ; 20.3cm.  
9781991182449  
\$ 55.00 / PB  
620gm.

Assigned by the Evening Standard's editor to write a short community bulletin on a missing man, Leonard Hardy unwittingly stumbles upon a criminal enterprise of global proportions. The trail leads him into the dubious world of horse racing and gambling, where he painfully discovers the extreme lengths criminals will go to protect their illicit schemes. His own orderly and well-structured life falls apart

after meeting a young enigmatic and immoral woman with deadly intentions. Further seeking to undermine Leonard's reputation and honour, the Evening Standard's newest employee Neil Flanagan interferes, taking more than a casual interest in Leonard's beautiful fiancée, Mary Worthington. Can Leonard preserve his respectability and save his relationship with her? What he holds most dear to him is suddenly lost, leaving him clutching only fragments of his fragile sanity. Is there any way out; will the Chinese Tong come to his aid? Set in 1886, Wellington, New Zealand, this Victorian-era mystery will take you to the edge of your seat and keep you awake long into the night as Leonard scrambles to restore his name, his dignity and untangle a baffling criminal plot. A Questionable Virtue, is the second book in the Leonard Hardy series, and like the first, you will find yourself on Wellington's streets, captivated by unexpected twists and turns.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850748>

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The Rabbit Hunter / Christopher Worth  
New Zealand: Renaissance Publishing, 2023  
359p.  
9780994133496  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
520gm.

Athens, April 1941. Adolf Hitler has conquered most of Europe, and he's now turning his attention to the Balkans. The unstoppable Wehrmacht is unleashed on Greece. Standing in its way, on the imposing slopes of Mount Olympus, sacred home of the ancient Greek gods, are soldiers of the New Zealand Division, including a sharp shooter in the person of Second Lieutenant Neil Rankin. This fictional story places Rankin and his platoon at the heart of these actual events. The Greek nation's unfolding disaster, and the humour, farce, personal hurt and tragedy experienced by men at war are detailed in the well written debut novel. While ultimately the Battle of Greece was a military failure, it was the curtain-raiser for the campaigns to come, in which New Zealand would play a prominent part. Just 26 years after the name "Gallipoli" was seared into the national psyche, like their fathers before then, many of those involved in this battle would never see their homeland again.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850749>

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Broken is Beautiful: A Novel / Jane Shearer  
New Zealand: 3Eyes Publishing, 2023  
286p. ; 23.4cm.  
9780473669881  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
470gm.

How do you mend the broken, be it toasters, relationships or people? Julia once re-created broken objects to be better than before. However, a series of earthquakes triggered Julia's descent into apathy and now she's lost the will to repair anything, including herself. She's going to a support group for help - Obsessives Associated. Each member has their own obsession to overcome - eating plasterboard, amassing Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, brand-name tattoos. Finding a friend in Lynda, a doll-obsessed marathon runner, Julia feels as though she's finally on the mend until a dilemma fragments the group and threatens to break Julia all over again. Which glue repairs fractured humans? Broken is Beautiful is a novel about breaking, mending and how to be friends across ideological divides.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850750>

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Who Disturbs the Kukupa? / Kayleen M. Hazlehurst  
New Zealand: Blue Dragonfly Press, 2023  
398p. ; 23.4cm.  
9780473669317  
\$ 45.00 / PB  
626gm.

A lone man stands apart from a formidable enemy. Caught behind enemy lines after the Battle of Mount Olympus, Sonny Wirima must make his way through mainland Greece and the Aegean Islands to find his lost Maori Battalion, with only his instincts and traditional beliefs to guide him. An inspiring narrative of courage and survival, of love and awakening, during one of the world's darkest moments in history. A Hero's Journey with Soul

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850751>

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Celebration of the Straw Man / Murray Rodgers  
New Zealand: Quentin Wilson Publishing, 2022  
224p. ; 22.8cm.  
9780995105317  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
452gm.

A sensitive and evocative account of the life of a New Zealand World War Two artillery soldier that gives insight into New Zealand's rural culture from the pre-depression years, the impact of war on a family through generations, and the magic of companionship in the New Zealand backcountry. The story is loosely based on the author's parents, with his father never seeming to adjust to what he experienced in Italy during the Second World War. Bill's journey is about his growth from childhood and the character he forges until needing to deal with the effects of brutalizing trauma, and finding his path to self-acceptance through his relationship with his long-standing mate, Charlie, his wife Joan and their children.

The under-appreciated cost of war and its psychological impact are dealt with through a series of fictional incidents, largely based on the author's childhood and teenage experiences. The setting is non-specific but is consistent with the Southland and Canterbury regions of New Zealand and Monte Cassino, Italy. Beautifully written and laced with sardonic Kiwi humour, the author's style is fluent and engaging; an easy read that deals with a difficult and often painful topic in a meaningful way.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850752>

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A Kind of Shelter Whakaruru-Taha : An anthology of new writing for a changed world / Witi Ihimaera & Michelle Elvy  
New Zealand: Massey University Press, 2023  
359p. ; 23cm.  
9781991016225  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
610gm.

Sixty-eight writers and eight artists gather at a hui in a magnificent cave-like dwelling or meeting house. In the middle is a table, the tepu korero, from which the rangatira speak; they converse with honoured guests, and their rangatira-korero embody the tahuu, the over-arching horizontal ridge pole, of the shelter. In a series of rich conversations, those present discuss our world in the second decade of this century; they look at decolonisation, indigeneity, climate change . . . this is what they see. Edited by Witi Ihimaera and Michelle Elvy, this fresh, exciting anthology features poetry, short fiction and creative non-fiction, as well as korero or conversations between writers. The lineup from Aotearoa includes Alison Wong, Paula Morris, Anne Salmond, Tina Makereti, Ben Brown, David Eggleton, Cilla McQueen, Hinemoana Baker, Erik Kennedy, Ian Wedde, Nina Mingya Powles, Gregory O'Brien, Vincent O'Sullivan, Patricia Grace, Selina Tusitala Marsh and Whiti Hereaka. Guest writers from overseas include Jose-Luis Novo and Ru Freeman. Ihimaera and Elvy have curated a luminous hui, a book to return to time and again.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850753>

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Talia / Isla Huia  
New Zealand: Dead Bird Books, 2023  
87p.  
9781991150639  
\$ 30.00 / PB  
146gm.

Talia is the debut poetry collection from Isla Huia (Te Ati Haunui a-Paparangi, Uenuku). It is a critique of hometowns, an analysis of whakapapa, and a

reclamation of tongue. It is an ode to the earth she stands on, and to a sister she lost to the skies. It is a manifesto for a future full of aunties and islands and light.  
<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850754>

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Pinot & Puha : Mel should know better than to judge a book by its cover. / Nikki Perry & Kirsty Roby  
New Zealand: Pink Van Publishing, 2023  
264p. ; 20.3cm.  
9781991197207  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
208gm.

A modern day take on Jane Austen's classic *Pride and Prejudice*, set in Wellington, New Zealand. Mel has her bookstore. She doesn't need a man. Especially not a job like Jesse. Right? After an unconventional and nomadic childhood, all Mel wants is a successful business and a stable life. She's focussed on the new bookshop she's just opened with her best friend Ellie and the wine and cheese evenings they're about to start. But Mel is up against obstacles. There's drama with the neighbouring construction site, a boutique owner who seems hell bent on causing problems, interfering family members and baffling incidents of vandalism. If Mel WAS looking for a man, surely her suave, well-dressed landlord Nate would be the perfect match. Her mother certainly seems to think so. So why is it that she's so distracted by the sexy but surly builder working next door? Mel should know better than to judge a book by its cover.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850755>

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Pet / Catherine Chidgey  
New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023  
352p. ; 21cm.  
9781776920747  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
452gm.

Like every other girl in her class, twelve-year-old Justine is drawn to her glamorous, charismatic new teacher, and longs to be her pet. However, when a thief begins to target the school, Justine's sense that something isn't quite right grows ever stronger. With each twist of the plot, this gripping story of deception and the corrosive power of guilt takes a yet darker turn. Young as she is, Justine must decide where her loyalties lie. Set in New Zealand in 1984 and 2014, and probing themes of racism and misogyny, *Pet* is an elegant and chilling psychological thriller by the bestselling author of *The Wish Child*, *Remote Sympathy* and *The Axeman's Carnival*.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850756>

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As The Trees Have Grown / Stephanie de Montalk  
New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023  
104p. ; 21cm.  
9781776920778  
\$ 25.00 / PB  
146gm.

The poems in Stephanie de Montalk's new collection engage with the world as if through a window - cloaked, distanced, guided by the movements of the seasons, the weather, and always, trees. As de Montalk seeks a cure to the life-changing limitations of her physical self, she finds something close to solace in dreaming. These poems are always evocative, mysterious, reaching towards the possibility and hope of healing.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850757>

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Say I Do This : Poems 2018-2022 / C. K. Stead  
New Zealand: Auckland University Press, 2023  
108p. ; 22.4cm.  
9781776710997  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
182gm.

In this poignant new poetry collection, one of this country's most significant voices reflects on home, on away, and on friends living and dead. 'I lead a life of quiet medication', the poet claims, 'longing for foreign shores, adventure and death.' But whether swimming to the yellow buoy or remembering an encounter in Belsize Park, in the thick of it or asking, 'what next?', Stead's voice is intimate, amusing and always compelling.

Swimming in the dark I call on memory –  
    Rangitoto ahead, and those lights  
        of Kohi behind making  
a cosy half-circle. Overhead the moon's  
    a waka sailing west to escape  
        first light that will put it out.  
I'm reaching blind fingers for the yellow buoy  
    and touch it only as the sun does  
        dimly through a bank of cloud

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850770>

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A – wake – (e) nd / Audrey Brown-Pereira  
New Zealand: Saufo'i Press, 2023  
74p. ; 21cm.  
9780473674113

\$ 35.00 / PB  
132gm.

What does it mean to be a good Pacific woman? Audrey doesn't care. In her third collection, *a - wake - (e)nd*, acclaimed poet Audrey Brown-Pereira turns a lens to her own life, transforming a mid-life crisis into opportunity. Set against an unkind pandemic, a Pacific evolving revolving, and a deteriorating environment, truth and lies play side-by-side in a book that breaks convention in joyful, energetic verse. By pulling at the threads of her life, the narrator finds herself asserting independence, tasting delicious freedom ... and wanting more.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850771>

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### Politics

*The China Tightrope: Navigating New Zealand's relationship with a world superpower* / Sam Sachdeva  
New Zealand: Allen & Unwin, 2023  
304p. ; 23.4cm.  
9781991006172  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
332gm.

'Informative and enthralling: this is mission critical reading for anyone wanting to understand the New Zealand-China relationship.' - Guyon Espiner 'China presents an enormous challenge for New Zealand: It is our biggest trading partner by far, yet its leaders have no time for the democratic values that we hold dear. How we approach this challenge has huge implications across our entire economy and political system. Sam Sachdeva, the best Kiwi journalist writing about our place in the world, has done a public service with this comprehensive and lively account of New Zealand's history with China - and the tests that lie ahead.' -Anna Fifield, Asia-Pacific editor, *The Washington Post*, author of *The Great Successor* For the past 50 years, New Zealand has prided itself on a history of breaking new ground with China. We were the first to back the country joining the World Trade Organization and ink a free trade deal, with milk and meat flowing like water into the Middle Kingdom and enriching our exporters. But what might the next 50 years have in store? As foreign affairs minister Nanaia Mahuta has cautioned, we are moving beyond a 'relationship of firsts' into new territory - and the terrain is more treacherous than ever. *The China Tightrope* offers unique analysis and insight into how we got to where we are today and what the future may hold for the New Zealand-China relationship. China's military expansion into the South China Sea threatens the shipping routes that Kiwis rely on for everyday essentials, while its draconian crackdown in Hong Kong and mass detention of Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang is putting heat on Labour's claims to a values-based foreign



policy. The China Tightrope offers a behind-the-scenes look at key flashpoints in our relationship with China. Like the conditions on the ground for Kiwi companies and ex-pats and the political scandals that have called into question how willing our representatives are to call out China's wrongdoing. Why has our relationship with China taken a different route to the country's ties with our friends across the ditch, and is it a matter of time before we end up in Australia's shoes? Are we really the weak link in the Five Eyes spying alliance? How viable is our independent foreign policy in an age when the global superpowers are pushing nations to pick sides? Finally, and perhaps most importantly, what could the future hold for the Asian superpower - and its relationship with New Zealand? China is not the malevolent monster some critics make it out to be, but nor can we - or should we - turn a blind eye to its hardening edge under Xi Jinping. It's time for Kiwis to wake up to the risks of becoming over-reliant on one country before it's too late. Based on interviews with former and current politicians, diplomats and leading academics from home and abroad, this book is a valuable resource for those seeking to better understand the Asian superpower and how it is changing our world - for better and for worse.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850772>

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## Sociology

Honouring Our Ancestors: Takatapui, Two-Spirit and Indigenous LGBTQI + Well-being / Alison Green and Leonie Pihama (Edited by)  
New Zealand: Te Herenga Waka University Press, 2023  
376p. ; 23.2cm.  
9781776920730  
\$ 40.00 / PB  
580gm.

In these rigorous and challenging essays, writers from Aotearoa and Turtle Island (Canada and the United States of America) explore the well-being of takatapui, two-spirit, and Maori and Indigenous LGBTQI+ communities. Themes include resistance, reclamation, empowerment, transformation and healing. Central to Honouring Our Ancestors is the knowledge that, before colonisation, Indigenous peoples had their own healthy understandings of gender, sexual identities and sexuality. Some of these understandings have survived the onslaught of colonisation; others require decolonisation so that our Indigenous nations can begin to heal. Through this lens, the writers gathered here contribute their knowledge and experience of structural and social change. This collection was inspired by two major research projects: the HONOR Project, which investigated well-being in American Indian and Alaskan Native two-spirit communities, and the Honour Project Aotearoa, which investigated Kaupapa Maori strengths-based understandings of the health and well-being of takatapui and Maori LGBTQI+

communities. Edited by Alison Green and Leonie Pihama, Honouring Our Ancestors upholds the independent authorities and languages that distinguish our Indigenous nations and celebrates the relationships that bind us. Decolonised Indigenous knowledges are offered as a wellspring of unlimited potential for Indigenous communities and nations everywhere.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850773>

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Maori In Aotearoa New Zealand: Understanding the culture, protocols and customs / Buddy Mikaere

New Zealand: Upstart Press, 2023

64p. ; 28cm.

9781990003950

\$ 30.00 / PB

306gm.

Buddy Mikaere provides a highly readable historical overview of early settlement in New Zealand, and examines the impact of colonisation and later a developing urban world on Maori and their traditional way of life. Today, the importance of marae and community remains strong, as do many time-honoured rituals. The renaissance of Maori culture has included the revival of the language and the flourishing of creative arts, including: whakairo - carving kapa haka and haka - performing arts waka ama - outrigger canoe racing ta moko - tattooing music, arts and crafts. Maori in Aotearoa New Zealand introduces visitors and locals alike to the culture and customs of Maori in contemporary New Zealand.

<http://www.marymartin.com/web?pid=850774>

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