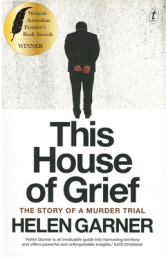




2016 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PREMIER'S BOOK AWARDS WINNERS



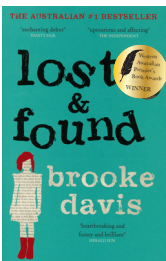
Premier's Prize and Non-Fiction category – *This House of Grief* by Helen Garner
Published by Text Publishing, 2014

Garner, by exposing her own emotions and reactions to the evidence presented during the court cases against Robert Farquharson, challenges the reader to do the same. What is revealed is a dialogue between author, reader and the case that rips at the human heart. Masterfully written, this is a deeply mesmerising and honest book.



State Library of WA Western Australian History – *Running Out? Water in WA* by Ruth A. Morgan
Published by UWA Publishing, 2015

Morgan's subject is topical and most relevant to Western Australian readers, but it also has a wider appeal. It presents impeccable research and referencing, while Morgan's wit and humour is engaging. This is a pioneering study of value to other scholars, and the seriously interested reader.



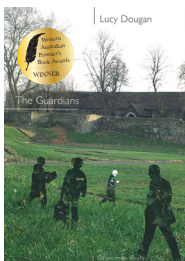
Western Australian Emerging Writers – *Lost and Found* by Brooke Davis
Published by Hachette Australia, 2014

This is a charming story of three quirky characters on a journey of search and discovery who, on a road trip across Australia, find much more. Davis explores love, death, and friendship through the whimsy and wisdom of her child protagonist. Her unique voice delivers a compassionate story.



Fiction – *The Golden Age* by Joan London
Published by Vintage, 2014

London tells the story of Frank Gold who is alone on two counts, first his polio, which sets him apart from 'normal' children and second his status as a 'reffo' from wartime Hungary. Already celebrated as the winner of the Prime Minister's Literary Award (2015), *The Golden Age* is a beautifully written novel which takes up a little examined aspect of Australian life, during a polio epidemic.



Poetry – *The Guardians* by Lucy Dougan
Published by Giramondo Poets, 2015

Seemingly simple, actually very dense poetry, Dougan's elliptical work hints at a life that hovers just beyond our comprehension; in dreams, tales, the past, in the imagination of the poet. This other world surrounds even the most domestic of the poems. Often funny as well as serious, the work is at the same time mysterious and haunting.



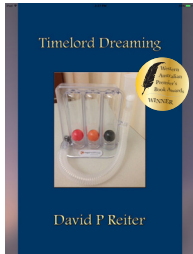
Scripts – *Dust* by Suzie Miller
Commissioned by Black Swan Theatre Company WA for 2014 Mainstage season

Intriguing stage drama pushing Australian naturalism into an effective surreal realm employing the potent core metaphor of red dust. Ostensibly that element evokes a dystopian, end-time sci-fi trope but the greater appeal of this strategy is that the playwright - who has an admirable grasp of this performance material and a most effective application of stage design possibilities and mechanics - delivers the audience to wider concerns in our antipodean culture through the shifting structure of the character elements. Risk taking evident in this well-crafted and challenging creation.



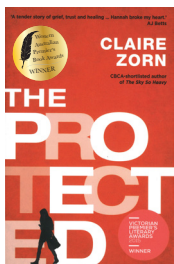
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2016 WESTERN AUSTRALIAN PREMIER'S BOOK AWARDS WINNERS



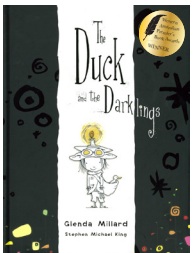
Digital Narrative – *Timelord Dreaming* by David P. Reiter
Published by IP (Interactive Publications Pty Ltd), 2014

This intriguing electronic book is written in short sections the author describes as 'tweetems', which give a sense of the sometimes confusing world experienced by a patient in hospital. Acting as memory snippets, the fragments build a story; each short narrative segment being enhanced by links to web-based content that enlarges on the 'tweetem' text. The reader is taken on a surreal journey, and can choose when to follow links for more information and when to move on to the next piece of the narrative.



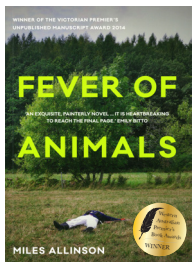
Young Adult – *The Protected* by Claire Zorn
Published by University of Queensland Press, 2014

A powerful yet sensitively written book, this story follows protagonist, Hannah, through a difficult period of her life. Examining themes of loss, grief and bullying, Zorn manages not to overwhelm the reader with 'issues', but rather carefully unpacks Hannah's journey in a realistic, heart-breaking but ultimately hopeful story. With immaculately paced tension and potent emotional punch, leavened with genuine humour and warmth, *The Protected* is a superb example of a contemporary young adult novel.



Children's – *The Duck and the Darklings* by Glenda Millard, illustrated by Stephen Michael King
Published by Allen & Unwin, 2014

Millard's poetic, alliterative text instantly engages, intrigues and captivates. The whimsical illustrations extend and perfectly reflect the warm poignancy of the story. An outstanding and enriching book.



People's Choice Award sponsored and presented by The West Australian
Fever of Animals by Miles Allinson
Published by Scribe Publications, 2015

From the beginning of this atmospheric and painterly journey, Allinson carries readers with him as he explores themes of surrealism, doomed love and growing up. In a highly original faux autobiographical narrative, Allinson is not afraid to leave questions open. The novel is an outstanding example of its genre, aesthetically appealing and moving.

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