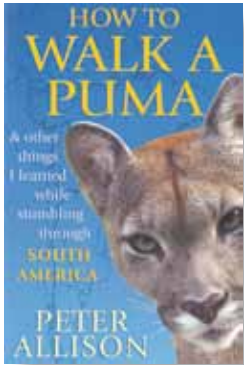


ADULT NON-FICTION VOLWASSE VAKLEKTUUR

ALLISON, Peter

How to walk a puma, and other things I learned while stumbling through South America.- Nicholas Brealey, 2012.



Peter Allison left behind his beloved Africa after eight years as a safari guide to try the corporate life back in his home town of Sydney, Australia. His African adventures were captured in two entertaining works called **Don't run whatever you do** and **Don't look behind you**.

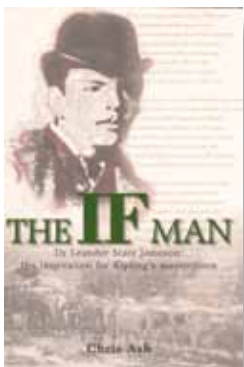
After a further eight years in Sydney, Australia, he became restless and finally made his way to Santiago, Chile, ready to seek out the continent's wildest adventures

and to chase the elusive jaguar. Chile was a disappointment as it did not measure up to his expectations. While impressed with Santiago's orderliness and cleanliness, the author was looking for something more undeveloped. His next destination was Central Bolivia where he volunteered to help out at a small reserve where hundreds of animals live. This was to be his first stop on a quest to learn about South America's wilderness. Part of his time there was spent walking Roy the puma - an experience Peter thought he'd never survive. And his knees will never be the same again.

From there he ventured to other locations to experience further adventures. Sadly Peter didn't get to see his jaguar, but he did write his third book, **How to walk a puma**, which is just as funny and entertaining as his previous books. Allison's fans are sure to laugh out loud at his antics in this delightful travel memoir: EB

ASH, Chris

The If man: Dr Leander Starr Jameson, the inspiration for Kipling's masterpiece.- Helion, 2012.



A biography of the colonial statesman Dr Jameson, best remembered for his part in the infamous raid that he and his Rhodesian and Bechuanaland policemen carried out against President Kruger's Transvaal Republic in 1896. He was also the source of a famous poem by Rudyard Kipling called *If*. But Jameson had other qualities and was a popular figure that would play an important part in Rhodesian early history. Few realise that it was through Jameson's

relationship with Lobengula that the chief granted a concession to Rhodes' agents that led to the formation of the British South Africa Company. He was instrumental in securing the greater part of

(what would eventually become) Mozambique for the Portuguese who were laying claim to it. In 1893 he was named administrator of Mashonaland, playing a key role in the First Matabele War.

Despite the disastrous Jameson Raid, Jameson could still pursue a successful political life, and when he died *The Times* estimated that his astonishing personal sway over his followers was equalled only by that of Parnell, the Irish patriot.

The author is an Englishman who has spent a large portion of his life in southern and central Africa. He is obviously a fan of Jameson and supposedly wrote this book to counter the bad press 'Dr Jim' has received. It is an engaging biography written in an easy-to-read style and full of interesting anecdotes, revealing that Jameson was a remarkable man of his time. EB

Chikane, Frank

Eight days in September: the removal of Thabo Mbeki.- Picador Africa, 2012.



Eight days in September refers to the eight-day period in September 2008 when Thabo Mbeki was removed from office as the President of South Africa. At the time, Frank Chikane was secretary of Cabinet and head (director-general) of the Presidency. In that capacity he was responsible for managing the transition from Mbeki to Kgalema Motlanthe and then on to Jacob Zuma. He thus had a front row seat to the unfolding drama and was one of very few insiders to be party

to the transition in such a unique way. In July 2010 Chikane published a series of articles with *Independent Newspapers* that came to be known as the 'Chikane files'. These form the basis of some of the content of this book (about a quarter of the book's total contents), which Chikane says he feels compelled to tell from his perspective in an effort to provide an insider's account of this key historical period. It is a riveting, behind-the-scenes account which examines the build-up to events, describes the details of those eight days in September 2008 and explores Mbeki's legacy. SSJ

Claassen, George en Gaum, Frits

God?: gesprekke oor die oorsprong en uiteinde van alles.- Tafelberg, 2012.

Essays waarin besin word oor die bestaan van God en wat dit beteken om gelowig of ateïsties te wees. George Claassen en Frits Gaum praat hier met bekendes oor die bestaan van God, geloof en hul ervaring van die spirituele. Dis in die vorm van 'n debat, met Claassen téén die onderwerp en Gaum daarvóór. Claassen en Gaum het elk twaalf mense genader, insluitend vroue soos Cecile Cilliers, Antjie Krog, Rhoda Kadalie, Lizette Rabe, Willemien Brümmer, Julie Claassens, Christina Landman en Christi van der Westhuizen. Die ondervraers het tien vrae aan hul gespreksgenote gestel en die gesprekke uit die twee kampe wissel mekaar in die boek af. 'Mens lees hier van mense wat nog gemaklik is met

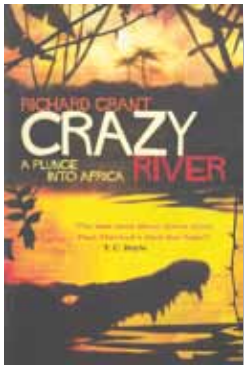


die meesterverhaal van die Westerse Christendom, asook van diegene wat hierdie verhaal die rug toegekeer het. Van die vroeë verband met die sondeval, die idee van verlossing en eindoordeel teenoor vroeë soos waarom mense die Christelike godsdiens die rug toegekeer het. En ook hoe mense sin gee aan hul lewe nadat hulle van die Christelike verhaal afskeid geneem het. Die boek is uiteindelik in sy totaliteit meer as net 'n gesprek oor godsdiens en

wetenskap; geloof en ongeloof. Hier word diepsinnig oor die lewe nagedink en gepraat - soms vanuit 'n Christelike, en soms vanuit 'n sekulêre perspektief. Elke gespreksgenoot vertel uiteindelik haar/ sy eie lewensverhaal. Sodoende leer die lesers die gespreksgenote beter ken en hoe hulle met die lewe omgaan en sin daaraan gee. Die boek bied heelwat stof tot nadenke.' (Die Burger.)SSJ

GRANT, Richard

Crazy river: a plunge into Africa.- Little, 2012.



This is the latest good read from the author of the award-winning travel book **Ghost riders**. The author goes on an unforgettable journey from Zanzibar into the heart of Africa. He had the idea to explore the Malagarasi, Tanzania's second longest river; and in the process to follow in the African footsteps of the nineteenth-century explorer Richard Burton. Grant teams up with Milan, a half-Dutch, half-South African golf pro in Zanzibar; who keeps him entertained with his offbeat

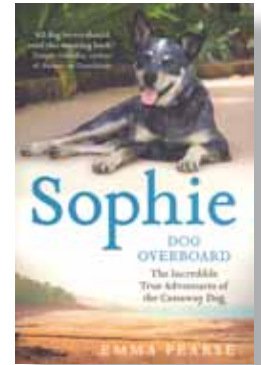
views on life, love, and making ends meet. En route he also gets an insight in the people and customs of the country, and talks to a wide medley of inhabitants that include prostitutes, expats, NGO workers, big-game hunters, corrupt government officials, poachers, and even the president of Rwanda. He travels by raft on an uncharted river in Tanzania, trying to avoid hippos, crocodiles, lions, snakes, malaria, and African sleeping sickness. The journey takes him through war-torn Burundi to the final destination in Rwanda. Gripping, illuminating, sometimes harrowing, often humorous, Grant's new book will decidedly thrill his devoted readers.EB

PEARSE, Emma

Sophie, dog overboard: the incredible true adventures of the castaway dog.- Hodder, 2011.

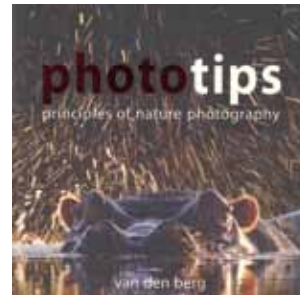
Sophie is the true story of Sophie, a dog who was lost at sea but managed to survive for five months on her own. The story follows the Australian Griffith family and their blue cattle dog, Sophie. When the last of their children goes off to college, it's just Jan,

Dave, and Sophie. One beautiful day they are out on their boat sailing to visit friends when the weather changes and Sophie somehow falls overboard. Sophie is an avid swimmer and they search for hours but there is no trace of her, so they assume because of the rough seas she must have hit her head on the boat and drowned quickly. The family is devastated and feel extremely guilty that their sailing trip has led to Sophie's demise. But, unbeknownst to them, Sophie did survive. She swam six miles through shark-infested waters to a remote Whitsunday island where she would survive for five months before being miraculously reunited with her owners. She had lived a feral existence and managed to survive on two different sparsely inhabited islands before she was discovered by national park rangers. This is a heartwarming, feel-good story that readers of animal stories will enjoy, even though the book is not particularly well written.EB



Van den Berg, Heinrich, Philip and Ingrid

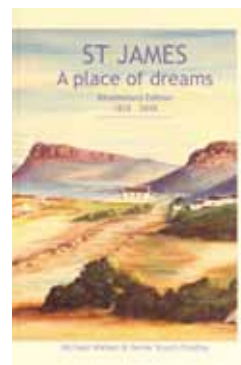
Phototips: principles of nature photography.- HPH Pub., 2011.



This book has magnificent photos of animals and flora. For each photograph there is a beginner and a pro tip, a lighting tip and advice on how you can photograph a similar image. They explain in detail how each photograph was taken and how the reader can produce similar photos. There are eleven pages with photo definitions as well as a page with pointers to help with nature photography.TGS

WALKER, Michael and Stuart-Findlay, Derek

St James: a place of dreams: bicentenary edition, 1810-2010.- Kalk Bay Historical Association, 2011.

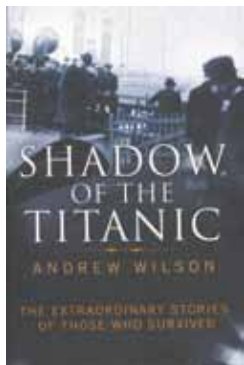


This book was written to celebrate the bicentenary of the historic suburb of St James, situated on the False Bay coast. Local author Michael Walker grew up in the area and still lives there. He covers the history and development of the coastal area in and around St James between the years 1810 to 2010. Some of the information is duplicated in the author's previous titles on the area such as his 2001 title **St James: a century by the sea 1850-1950**, but some earlier history as well as later developments have been added.

Like its predecessors the book is elegantly illustrated with original archival photographs, drawings and other artwork. All these combine to make for some entertaining and informative reading. EB

WILSON, Andrew

Shadow of the Titanic: the extraordinary stories of those who survived.- Simon, 2011.



This is but one of numerous titles which have recently appeared to mark the 100th anniversary of the unforgettable sinking of the RMS Titanic during the early hours of 15 April 1912. The author explores the ways in which escaping the disaster affected the lives of a cross-section of the 705 passengers who survived the sinking. While much has been written about the great ship, her shocking demise, and those who perished, very little has been devoted to the hundreds of survivors.

In **Shadow of the Titanic**, Andrew Wilson offers a moving look at how their lives were affected by living through this catastrophic event. Some reputations were destroyed, and some survivors were so psychologically damaged that they took their own lives years later.

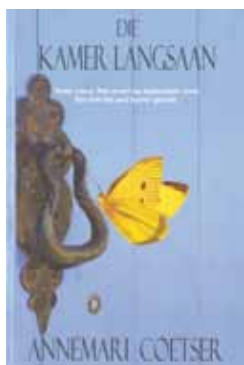
For the first time ever, those who lived to tell the tale reveal how they coped in the aftermath. Using archival research and interviews with family members, Wilson offers a unique take on this fascinating story. The personal stories are well grounded in letters, diaries, interviews and memoirs, and bring to light previously unpublished correspondence between Titanic survivors. The book is well researched and provides an important new dimension to our understanding of this legendary disaster. EB

ADULT FICTION

VOLWASSE VERHALENDE LEKTUUR

Coetsier, Annemari

Die kamer langsaan.- Lapa, 2012.

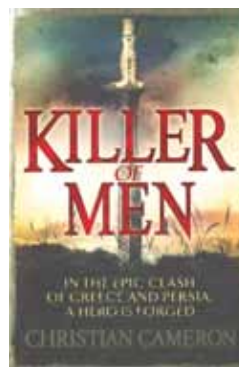


Donné verlaat haar man na 'n rusie en huur 'n meenthuis. Sy reken dis die ideale tyd om aan haar debuutroman te begin skryf. Die eienaar van die meenthuis, Theresa, het saam met haar bejaarde ma na 'n ouetehuis getrek. Donné bou haar roman rondom 'n fiktiewe Theresa en haar omstandighede, net om by die buurvrou uit te vind dat haar verhaal ontstellend na aan die waarheid is. Die roman fokus met deernis op 'n moeder-dogter-verhouding, huweliksontrou en

depressie. Theresa glo dat sy al haar hele lewe lank deur haar ma gemanipuleer word en het as gevolg hiervan nie met die liefde van haar lewe getrou nie. Haar ma weer, was 'n slagoffer van gesinsgeweld en het geglo sy doen reg deur mans van haar dogter weg te hou – om haar sodoende te 'beskerm'. Donné se man vra haar om terug huis toe te kom, maar sy worstel met haar eie demone en het tyd nodig. Die verhaal word 'n simbool van die dood en die leser besef dat 'n mens moet waak teen morele oordele, aangesien verhoudings broos is. Daar word deurlopend kommentaar gelewer oor die skryfproses en skrywer-wees. Dis 'n verhaal wat diep raak en baie realisties die stryd en frustrasies weergee wat mense met depressie deurmaak. SSJ

CAMERON, Christian

Killer of men.- Orion, 2011.



The latest novel from the author of the *Tyrant* series and the first title in the new series called *The long war*.

It is narrated by Arimnestos of Plataea, an elderly citizen living as a noble in Thrace, to his young daughter and companions.

Arimnestos is a farm boy when war breaks out between the citizens of his native Plataea and their overbearing neighbour, Thebes. Standing in the battle line for the first time alongside his father and brother in the wall of

bronze, he shares in a famous and unlikely victory. Arimnestos is wounded and cowardly betrayed by his jealous and cowardly cousin. He is sold into slavery and taken to Ephesus where by chance he is taken by rich merchant and poet Hyponnax as companion to his son Archilagos. Here he grows to manhood in a sort of luxury slavery but the conflict with Persia is looming on the horizon. Arimnestos eventually emerges as a fearsome warrior in the Aegean world and his path crosses those of important real-life historical figures like Miltiades of Athens, Artaphernes, Heraclitus and Aristagoras of Miletus, among others.

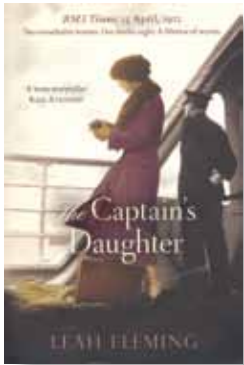
The story is based in the Aegean area of Greek and Persian influence during the late 5th century BCE. This is the time and place of the Ionian revolt and the events leading up to the Persian invasions of Greece in 490 and 480 BCE.

Cameron has a scholar's mastery of the ancient Greek world and readers who favour the historical novels set in the ancient world will be thoroughly absorbed by it. EB

FLEMING, Leah

The captain's daughter.- Simon, 2012.

The story is set around the myth that Captain Smith rescued a baby or a young child from the water after the Titanic sank. It follows the unusual friendship between two women of different classes, one a third class steerage passenger and the other a wealthy industrialist's wife, both of whom survive the sinking. For May Smith, travelling with her husband and baby girl Ellen, stepping foot on the



Titanic marks the start of an incredible journey, one which is destined to take her from the back streets of Bolton to the land of opportunity. Celeste is a first class traveller on her way back to her husband and son in Akron, USA after attending her mother's funeral in England. When the 'unsinkable' Titanic hits an iceberg, May's dreams are instantly shattered. She loses sight of Joe and Ellen, and is pulled into a lifeboat. Later, the real-life Captain Smith swims to the lifeboat and hands May a

baby which she believes to be Ellen. This rescue is witnessed by fellow survivor, Celeste Parkes. Later the two women are rescued by the Carpathia, and a friendship is formed that will last a lifetime. The book starts off with the Titanic and finishes in 1959. Although there are a couple of slow moments, it flies through the decades and with very short chapters, it's a fast read. It shares a lot of similarities with another popular Titanic fictional book, **No greater love**, by Danielle Steel. Both books deal with the Titanic and how it affects the lives of the characters for years afterwards. This can be recommended not only to fans of the Titanic, but to anyone interested in a good historical read. EB

Hugo, Helena

Fyn porselein.- Lapa, 2012.



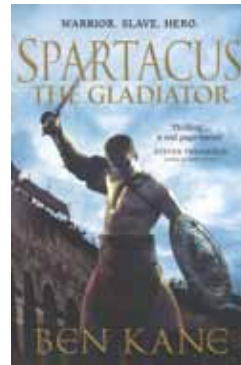
'In **Fyn porselein** ontgin Helena Hugo die broosheid van menslike verhoudings binne familieverband. Die roman dien as die bestekopname van 'n ouma, ma en kleindogter se lewe. Die verhaaldeure word gewef rondom die drink van tee en die gepaardgaande Victoriaanse etiket – die dek van teetafels, duur teeservies en die herinneringe aan deftige onthale kom aan bod. Eindelik word die 'vruggebruik van erfgoedjies' soos Noritaki en Royal Albert-tee-

stelle simbool van herhaalde familiegeheime en -herinneringe. Die werk is verdeel in sewe hoofstukke en word om die beurt uit die perspektiewe van Hanna, die ouma en hoofkarakter; haar dogter An en die kleindogter Mariëtte vertel ... Aunty Joan, 'n eksentrieke weduwee, lees op 'n dag die 16-jarige Hanna se fortuin in 'n teekoppie. Sy sien 'n huwelik wat nooit sal plaasvind nie. Jare later dink die 92-jarige Hanna terug. 'n Ou konflik vertroebel blykbaar die verhouding tussen Hanna en An. Mariëtte het eweneens 'n troebel verhouding met haar ma. Ouma Hanna se laaste wens is 'n deftige uithangteeparty voordat sy sterf. Dit gebeur nooit, maar sy leer dat 'n mens jou spoke moet konfronteer om berusting te vind. Ná 'n herontmoeting met 'n ou vriendin maak sy vrede met 'n geheim wat sy jare lank gedra het. Wanneer ouma Hanna sterf, druk Mariëtte 'n foto – 'n sleutel tot dié familiegeheim – in haar

sak. Sy is die een wat die gebeure van 'n afstand bekyk en skerp sosiale kommentaar lewer oor oorgelewerde mites, soos dat vroue altyd in wit geklee en maagdelik voor die kansel gestaan het. **Fyn porselein** is 'n geslaagde werk, al is die herhaalde verwysings na tee (en die tee-resepte aan die einde van elke hoofstuk) soms gedwonge en oordadig. Gelukkig vergoed die deernisvolle beelding van die sterwende Hanna vir die leemtes en styg die roman bo die fasiele uit.' (www.rapport.co.za)

KANE, Ben

Spartacus the gladiator.- Preface, 2012.



After the success of his earlier series, *The forgotten legion*, also set in Ancient Rome, Ben Kane once again takes us back in time in his latest adventure.

The novel opens with Spartacus's return to his old home in Thrace after years of serving as an auxiliary in the Roman legion. He finds his family dead and their murderer; Kotys, now king. Many things have changed in his absence and Spartacus finds himself trying to curb the excesses of this corrupt king. When Spartacus rescues the Dionysian priestess Ariadne from the lecherous Kotys, he is betrayed and sold into slavery to a Roman gladiatorial school. In this deadly new home, Spartacus must rely on his soldiering skills and instincts. Due to natural ability and considerable training, the skills that kept Spartacus alive in the legions serve him well in this new arena. There Spartacus slowly gains the respect of his fellow gladiators and devises a daring escape. He is a natural leader and tactician and defeats the small force sent after them. This inspires the band of 70 gladiators to journey to Mount Vesuvius where they are eventually joined by thousands of runaway slaves from the surrounding areas. Kane's telling of the story is full of drama, intrigue, betrayals, loyalty and love. He has chosen to rely as much as possible on actual historical accounts to bring to life a legendary figure that has inspired the imagination of both writers and filmmakers alike, despite little factual evidence. This powerful first volume is just the beginning of Spartacus's tale and a sequel is expected soon. Readers seeking an active and exciting plot in the tradition of Bernard Cornwell and Simon Scarrow, will not be disappointed. EB

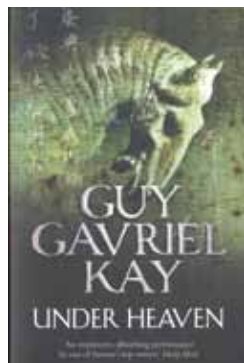
king. When Spartacus rescues the Dionysian priestess Ariadne from the lecherous Kotys, he is betrayed and sold into slavery to a Roman gladiatorial school. In this deadly new home, Spartacus must rely on his soldiering skills and instincts. Due to natural ability and considerable training, the skills that kept Spartacus alive in the legions serve him well in this new arena. There Spartacus slowly gains the respect of his fellow gladiators and devises a daring escape. He is a natural leader and tactician and defeats the small force sent after them. This inspires the band of 70 gladiators to journey to Mount Vesuvius where they are eventually joined by thousands of runaway slaves from the surrounding areas. Kane's telling of the story is full of drama, intrigue, betrayals, loyalty and love. He has chosen to rely as much as possible on actual historical accounts to bring to life a legendary figure that has inspired the imagination of both writers and filmmakers alike, despite little factual evidence. This powerful first volume is just the beginning of Spartacus's tale and a sequel is expected soon. Readers seeking an active and exciting plot in the tradition of Bernard Cornwell and Simon Scarrow, will not be disappointed. EB

KAY, Guy Gavriel

Under heaven.- HarperVoyager, 2011.

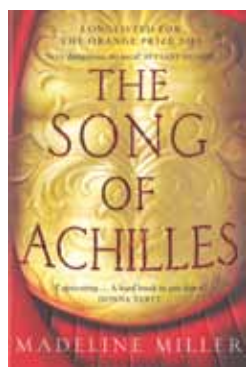
'To honour the death of his father, an Imperial general, Shen Tai spends two years burying the dead at a battle site on the empire's border. When he receives a gift of 250 coveted Sardinian horses from former enemies, he travels homeward to seek an audience with the emperor, knowing that the gift has not only conferred great power upon him but terrible danger as well. Just as he re-created an alternate Renaissance Italy in Tigana, the author of

The Fionavar Tapestry series evokes the subtle politics and careful social intercourse of eighth-century Tang dynasty China. Verdict: Meticulously researched yet seamlessly envisioned, the characters and culture present a timeless tale of filial piety and personal integrity. Highly recommended for all collections and particularly for fans of the author's distinctive approach to fantasy.' (*Library Journal*)



MILLER, Madeline

The song of Achilles.- Bloomsbury, 2011.



The polished debut novel **The song of Achilles** took the author 10 years to write. She follows in Mary Renault's footsteps, to deliver a novel that combines the poetic drama of **The Iliad** with a 21st-century understanding of war, sex, sexual politics, and Trojan War heroism. The story opens with Patroclus' unhappy childhood as the disappointing son of an ambitious king. He is exiled to Phthia due to his role in the death of a nobleman's son in a brawl. There as

an exiled Greek prince, the insecure and lonely Patroclus is taken in by Peleus, and befriended by his popular son, Achilles. Over the years the tentative friendship between Patroclus and Achilles grows into a deep and passionate love that stands firm in the face of the disapproval of their elders, dire prophecies, and the wrath of the gods themselves, especially the divine disapproval from Achilles' mother, sea nymph Thetis.

The story is told through the eyes of Patroclus, who as a lover, not a fighter, is swept up in the war because he is inseparable from Achilles when they follow Agamemnon to recapture Helen from Troy.

The close relationship between Achilles and Patroclus has been a subject of gossip for centuries. **The song of Achilles** deservedly won the Orange Prize 2012 due to the author's remarkable ability to make old stories feel fresh while staying true to the literary fabric of the ancient world depicted in **The Iliad**.EB

Murray, Tiffany

Diamond Star Halo.- Portobello Bks., 2010.

'The mixed blessings of growing up in the 1970s have been the subject of many memorable novels ... Murray's new book is one of the few to give the adjective "kooky" back its good name. Unlike other veterans of the era, Murray hasn't had to look far for inspiration ... she grew up at the legendary Rockfield Studios, where her father was a producer and her mother the resident cook ... Murray's novel is set in Rockfarm, home to five-year-old Halo Llewelyn and her unconventional family ... Murray's distinc-

tive debut ... earned comparisons to **Cold Comfort Farm**. Here a more Brontë-esque vibe is at play. Of all the visitors to the studios, the members of the American band Tequila are the ones to get under Halo's skin. On their departure ... an unusual parting gift: a jaw-droppingly beautiful baby boy. It's clear that this dark-eyed changeling "part seal-pup, part bloody Heathcliff" has all the makings of a future rock god. In lesser hands,



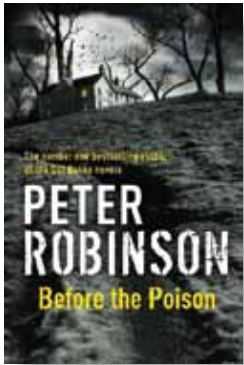
Murray's ensemble of eccentrics might have grown tiresome. It's testament to her talents that she has transformed this material into something more substantial. Thanks to Halo's presence, a tender coming-of-age story captures the ordinary pangs of growing up in unusual circumstances. The one enchantment that Halo can't wake up from is her attraction to Fred, the "cuckoo-brother" destined to break the heart of every girl, including her. Murray marries the prairie pathos of Tequila's better lyrics with home-grown pastoralism. Her lush prose will put a spring in your step and a smile on your face.' (*The Independent*)

'... Rockfield was the world's first residential recording facility, established in the early 1960s as a remote haven for jaded rock stars ... its first hit ... "I Hear You Knocking" ... a pile of stones there ... is supposed to have inspired Oasis's "Wonderwall" ... Freddie Mercury figured out the harmonies for **Bohemian Rhapsody** ... Murray's novel takes place ... [at] a place very much like it ... The riotous rhythm of life at Rock Farm could become quite distracting were it not narrated by someone as non-star-struck as Halo ... Some of the incidents are so outrageous they could only have been taken from life ... no names, though fans of classic rock will have endless fun spotting the references ... Murray's principal method is to filter Halo's growing perception through the literary works that can be found on the average teenage bookshelf ... the book it most clearly resembles is Dodie Smith's **I capture the castle**, with which it shares the depiction of an eccentric, impoverished family living in a fantasy of their own creation. Murray's most heartfelt writing occurs when the fantasy is broken ... But it mostly fizzles with the impressionistic sensations of Halo ... If Murray's debut was a psychedelic nod towards Stella Gibbons, in this one she proves herself the glam-rock Dodie Smith.' (*The Guardian*)

ROBINSON, Peter

Before the poison.- Hodder, 2011.

'After so many novels have centred on the solving of a decades-old murder; how is it possible to come up with something unhackneyed in this much-trodden territory? Peter Robinson's solution in **Before the poison** is not exactly innovative, and the cracking in the present of a long-forgotten mystery from the past has many antecedents ... But for an old hand at the crime genre such as Robinson, there are still fresh angles to be found. What we are given here is essentially a ghost story without the ghosts. Chris Lowndes has been making a lucrative living in Hollywood writing the music for big-budget



films. Lowndes's own soul is more stirred by Schubert piano sonatas, and his dream is to retire to his native Yorkshire to get down to some serious composition with his much-loved wife Laura. But his life is thrown into disarray when Laura dies . . . and he finds himself back in England – alone in his impressive old house, desperately struggling with grief. A ghost walks the oak-panelled corridors of Kilnsgate: a woman who has been dead for 60 years. Elizabeth Fox, however, is not

a supernatural presence, but still takes over Lowndes's life when he learns that she was hanged for the murder of her spouse. A variety of matters contrive to make Lowndes believe she was innocent, and he begins a trawl through history . . . gradually becoming obsessed with proving her innocence. A trip abroad to meet someone who had a sexual relationship with Elizabeth is revealing, but it is the dead woman's journal that leads to the real unearthing of secrets. Those expecting the author's signature character DCI Alan Banks to swan in and help Lowndes will be disappointed; this is a standalone novel and not part of Robynson's highly successful series. The revelations in store for the grief-troubled protagonist involve several combustible elements: the extent of government complicity in mass murder; the sexual mores of an earlier era in which women were granted far less leeway than men; and the limits of personal responsibility . . . In a very different way but with just as much significance guilt is at the centre of Robynson's new novel just as it is in his more straightforward police procedurals.' (*The Independent*)

Roux-de Jager, Lien

Donker leuens.- Lapa, 2012.



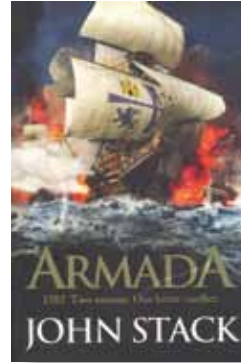
Kalli Krynauw is 'n forensiese psigofisioloog. Sy was vir 'n ruk met verlof omdat sy tydens die uitvoering van haar pligte deur 'n psigopaat aangerand is. Dit het haar emosioneel byna geknak, omdat sy gewoon was om ten alle tye in beheer te wees. Haar eerste werkskontrak na hierdie ongelukkige voorval is om 'n groepie mense te toets wat moontlik betrokke kon wees by die verdwyning van die wetenskaplike, Stefan de Villiers en sy navorsingsresultate. De Villiers het vin-

nig vordering gemaak met sy navorsing oor alternatiewe bronne vir brandstof en het daardeur vir homself baie internasionale vyande gemaak. Niemand weet wat van hom geword het nie – of hy vermoor is, en of hy vlug vir sy lewe. Kalli raak al dieper by die saak betrokke en daar is mense wat haar wil dood hê. Sy weet nie meer wie om te vertrou nie. Haar dwelmverslaafde suster maak sake ook nie makliker nie. Kalli weet nie of sy die konsultant in die saak, De Waal Brink, kan vertrou nie. Sy begin egter teen haar beterswete op hom verlief raak. En selfs haar jarelange vriend wat ook die saak hanteer; Joe, se gedrag raak al vreemder. Hierdie is 'n boeiende, lekker-lees

speur- en spanningsverhaal. SSJ

STACK, John

Armada.- HarperCollins, 2012.



John Stack is the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of the well-received series set in Ancient Rome called *Masters of the sea*. His latest novel is rich in military and naval history and is set during Elizabethan times around the time of the Spanish Armada.

Following the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots for treason in 1587, Philip II of Spain vowed to invade England in order to place a Catholic monarch on the throne. In England the English Lord High Admiral was

Charles Howard, Earl of Nottingham, and amongst his subordinates were Sir Francis Drake and John Hawkins. The main character in this novel is a lowborn Englishman named Robert Varian, who happens to be a skilled sailor. His courage and bravery as a naval officer earn him a position as a trusted officer in Drake's navy. But Robert guards a dangerous secret – he is a Catholic. Discovery of his secret would cost him his life. Ahead of his time, Robert believes it is possible to fight for his country and the queen while still following his conscience.

The story covers issues of politics, religion, and warfare as seen through the eyes of several different characters from both sides of the conflict. There is a clear sense of the dangers faced aboard ship, and Stack brings both the characters and the battles they face to life. The book makes that period of history come alive and the reader learns more about the Armada and the challenges faced by both navies. The author is an excellent writer that delivers a well-plotted and gripping read that is both entertaining and informative.EB

Steinmair, Deborah

Poppekas.- Lapa, 2012.



Wiesa Rabie is 'n sub in die nagkantoor van 'n dagblad. Op die dag toe die koeltorings opgeblaas word, sak haar kollega, Harm Stander, langs haar in mekaar op die sportveld in Pinelands. Vreemde mans kom hom onserimonieël optel en wegdra. Wat egter nog vreemder is, is dat Harm daarna soos 'n groot speld verdwyn. Hul werkgegewer beweer dat hy weens 'n hartkwaal skielik oorlede is en dreig Wiesa om nie vrae te vra nie. Kort daarna dank hulle haar af. Te veel vreemde en

onheilspellende dinge gebeur en sy begin dagboek hou daarvan. Sy voel gedryf om uit te vind waar Harm is en wat in die boonste verdiepings van die mediatoring aangaan. Wiesa durf die korporatiewe reus kaalvuis aan met die hulp van haar broer, Liam, en sy persoonlike soesji-sjef Enomoto. Moderne media soos Facebook Scrabble is, onder andere, 'n belangrike element van Wiesa se speurtog. Die

hooftema in hierdie boeiende verhaal is die ontmensliking van die individu in die korporatiewe kultuur. Die roman is veel meer as net 'n spanningsverhaal. Dit is vol sosiale kommentaar en ironie en die skrywer se eiesoortige humor. Dis geskik vir die populêre, sowel as 'n meer literêre mark en is deur 'n resesent beskryf as 'n aweregse speur-cum-liefdes-cum-wetenskapfiksie-cum-misdaadriller, of selfs spekulatiewe fiksie. Dit is die bekroonde Steinmair se tweede roman. SSJ

YOUNG ADULT FICTION JONG VOLWASSE VERHALENDE LEKTUUR

Viljoen, Fanie

Betower- Lapa, 2012.



Nadia het 'n geheim. En die geheim is die rede waarom sy by haar ouma in Magoebaskloof moet gaan bly. Hier ontmoet sy vir Poenk. Bos-Poenk. Geheimsinnige Poenk. Poenk wat haar leer hoe padda-eiertjies ruik. Wat haar wys dat daar kleure soos ritselgroen, bangmaakgroen, fluistergroen, kieliegroen en flikkergroen bestaan. Poenk wie se naam sy oor en oor in haar huiswerkboek skryf. Wat vir haar gedigte lees en vir haar sprokies vertel. Poenk wat self 'n

geheim in hom rondra.

Hierdie is 'n bosroman vir tieners deur die bekroonde Fanie Viljoen. Dit was die naaswenner in die LAPA-jeugromankompetisie 2010. SSJ

JUVENILE FICTION JEUGLEKTUUR

BYNUM, Janie

Kiki's blankie- Sterling, 2009.



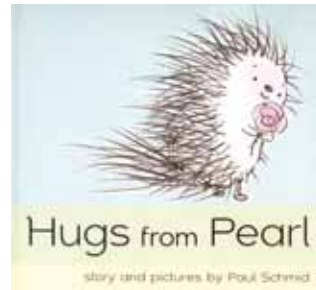
'Kiki, a little monkey with an expressive face, loves her blankie. Polka-dotted and sassy, it is her best friend – her napkin when she's messy, wings when she wants to fly, and more. It goes everywhere with her until the day it blows away, and she must find a way to rescue it from the jaws of a crocodile – a known nemesis of monkeys everywhere.

Brightly coloured, uncluttered illustrations are set on large areas of white space, making the objects and action easy for young children to find and follow. Pre-schoolers will relate to Kiki, her blankie at-

tachment, and to her energy and creative play. Her story will help them learn problem-solving strategies and how to be brave in scary situations.' (*School Library Journal*)

Schmid, Paul

Hugs from Pearl- Harper, 2011.



'In this welcome departure from the seemingly ubiquitous theme that finds porcupines looking for love, gentle-hearted Pearl experiments with ways to make her hugs more comfortable for others. From the first page, the text speaks directly to young readers in simple sentences that instantly establish a friendly rapport:

Pearl is sweet. She's a very good friend to have. She plays fair, shares her lunch treats, and best of all - Pearl loves to hug. But she does have those pesky quills. Even though everyone in her class likes Pearl, they find her hugs a little ouchy. So Pearl dedicates herself to finding a solution. Set against backgrounds of pale green or blue, the charcoal strokes delineating Pearl's soft, white body portray her as anything but prickly. A touch of pastel pink highlights her face and the myriad feelings she experiences while struggling with her prickliness. Using pincushions, taking a long bath and requesting a quillcut all prove futile. When she is at her most discouraged, some bees and rosebushes give her an idea. With a little ingenuity, some resourcefulness and a whole lot of heart, Pearl solves her own dilemma. Children and adults alike will cheer as she rushes to school to share her rosy success.' (www.kirkusreview.com)

Shields, Gillian



The littlest bear / illustrated by Polona Lovšin.- Macmillan, 2011.

The littlest bear loves to play and he longs for a friend who he can play with. One day he wanders off, and in the middle of nowhere he meets a furry white animal, crying because he was lost.

The little bear and the little wolf both realise that their mothers have warned them against each other. They both hide in the snow and wait to be caught. They wait and wait and after a while start playing with each other. When their mothers find them and see that they enjoy playing with each other, they allow them to play together every day. Glitter on the cover. The illustrations of the bears and wolves are realistic and beautiful. The book is aimed at 5 to 7-year-olds. TGS

Note: At the time of going to press some of these titles were still on order.

EB.....Erich Buchhaus
SSJ.....Stanley Jonck
TGS.....Theresa Sass