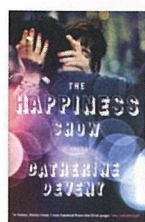


On the hunt for a few good books to get stuck into this summer? Here are just a few to get you started. Plus, find out why this month's book club is raving about Nicole Mones' novel *A Cup of Light*.

Favourite Summer Reads

New Releases

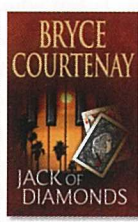


FICTION

The Happiness Show
By Catherine Deveny
Penguin

Lizzie Quealy is

happy in her relationship, has a couple of gorgeous kids, and is doing well at work. Then along comes Tom, an old flame from her globetrotting 20s that causes her to question her marriage, friendships, and everything else. How far will she go to learn a new lesson? *The Happiness Show* is a thoroughly enjoyable read.



FICTION

Jack Of Diamonds
By Bryce Courtenay
Penguin

Jack Spayd is a

boy from the slums of Toronto. When his dad wins a harmonica in a card game, Jack's world changes. He turns to making music as a way of escaping his drunken father, and his talent leads him to Vegas, where he becomes a target for the mob. After a close escape, he ends up in Africa, where life becomes even more interesting.



FICTION

The Racketeer
By John Grisham
Hachette

John Grisham returns to legal

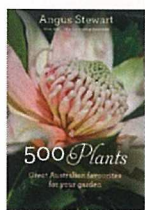
storytelling with *The Racketeer*. Raymond Fawcett, a federal judge, has been murdered. His body is found in the basement of his lakeside cabin beside his young secretary. Former lawyer Malcolm Bannister is serving a life sentence and knows who killed the judge. But telling tales from prison has dire consequences. Will he do it?



NONFICTION

Wired For Life
By Susan Pearse and Martina Sheehan
Hay House

Pearse and Sheehan claim that the reason some of us thrive while others survive is not because of our circumstances; instead, it lies in the depths of our brains. *Wired for Life* explores how fear impairs our path to happiness, and how if you can learn to harness the power of your mind, it's easy to create the wonderful life you dream of having.

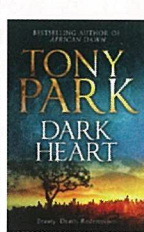


NONFICTION

500 Plants
By Angus Stewart
Allen & Unwin

Out of the thousands of

plants worthy of garden space, the new book from *MINDFOOD* gardening expert Angus Stewart showcases 500 of the best. From relatively new cultivars to old favourites, every plant is available at your local nursery. This beautifully illustrated book is filled with handy tips on making the most of your hedges, trees, and shrubs.

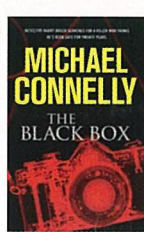


CRIME

Dark Heart
By Tony Park
Pan Macmillan

A story that spans across Kruger National Park,

to Australia, and back to Rwanda, creates the kind of African drama for which Tony Park is renowned. With the death of a lawyer and attempts on the lives of medico Richard Dunlop and photojournalist Leisl Nel, war-crimes prosecutor Carmel Shang is left joining the dots. This is a complex love triangle with intrigue and thrills aplenty.



CRIME

The Black Box
By Michael Connelly
Allen & Unwin

An unsolved murder from

1992 reopens when Harry Bosch gets back on the trail. Like an investigator foraging the remnants of a plane crash, Bosch is seeking the "black box" that holds the clues to what happened. Was it a random act of violence, or was it something more personal? Bosch will stop at nothing to uncover the truth.



CHILDREN

I Am Ivan Crocodile
By René Gouchoux
Berbay Publishing

Berbay Publishing

This is a gorgeous book for any child, but it's particularly lovely for kids who see the world in their own special way. There is something about six-year-old Ivan that makes him different from other children in the class, and they tease him for it. Why? Ivan believes he is a crocodile. This is a fantastic moral tale that provides great topics to discuss with your little ones.