

## Growing Up Asian In Australia Alice Pung

Alice Pung's Growing Up Asian in Australia Growing Up Queer Growing Up Queer in Australia Growing Up African in Australia Are Prisons Obsolete? The Golden Country Growing Up Disabled in Australia The Family Law How to American Social Studies Education in East Asian Contexts Gaysia Telling Tales Child of Vietnam Coming of Age A Country Too Far Minor Feelings Growing up Indigenous: Developing Effective Pedagogy for Education and Development Fed & Fit Growing up Female in Multi-Ethnic Malaysia Unpolished Gem Growing Up African in Australia The Bollywood Beauty Our Australian Girl: Marly's Business (Book 2) Lucy and Linh The Exotic Rissole Sh\*t Asian Mothers Say Growing Up Aboriginal in Australia Growing Up the Chinese Way Growing Up Asian in Australia Growing Up Asian in Australia Mao's Last Dancer (Movie Tie-In) Her Father's Daughter Growing Up in Transit Once Were Radicals Postcolonial Past & Present Sometimes Gladness On John Marsden It's Every Monkey For Themselves Look Who's Morphing Close to Home

### Alice Pung's Growing Up Asian in Australia

'I don't think I've seen a more impressive collection of Australian writers in a single book.' Stephen Romei, *The Australian*

One of the central moral issues of our time is the question of asylum seekers, arguably the most controversial subject in Australia today. In this landmark anthology, twenty-seven of Australia's finest writers have focused their intelligence and creativity on the theme of the dispossessed, bringing a whole new perspective of depth and truthfulness to what has become a fraught, distorted war of words. This anthology confirms that the experience of seeking asylum – the journeys of escape from death, starvation, poverty or terror to an imagined paradise – is part of the Australian mindset and deeply embedded in our culture and personal histories. *A Country Too Far* is a tour de force of stunning fiction, memoir, poetry and essays. Edited by award-winning writers Rosie Scott and Tom Keneally, and featuring contributors including Anna Funder, Christos Tsiolkas, Elliot Perlman, Gail Jones, Raimond Gaita, Les Murray, Rodney Hall and Geraldine Brooks, this rich anthology is by turns thoughtful, fierce, evocative, lyrical and moving, and always extraordinarily powerful. *A Country Too Far* makes an indispensable contribution to the national debate.

### Growing Up Queer

Standup comic, actor and fan favorite from HBO's *Silicon Valley* and the film *Crazy Rich Asians* shares his memoir of growing up as a Chinese immigrant in California and making it in Hollywood. "I turned down a job in finance to pursue a career in stand-up comedy. My dad thought I was crazy. But I figured it was better to disappoint my parents for a few years than to disappoint myself for the rest of my life. I had to disappoint them in order to pursue what I loved. That was the only

way to have my Chinese turnip cake and eat an American apple pie too." Jimmy O. Yang is a standup comedian, film and TV actor and fan favorite as the character Jian Yang from the popular HBO series Silicon Valley. In How to American, he shares his story of growing up as a Chinese immigrant who pursued a Hollywood career against the wishes of his parents: Yang arrived in Los Angeles from Hong Kong at age 13, learned English by watching BET RapCity for three hours a day, and worked as a strip club DJ while pursuing his comedy career. He chronicles a near deportation episode during a college trip Tijuana to finally becoming a proud US citizen ten years later. Featuring those and many other hilarious stories, while sharing some hard-earned lessons, How to American mocks stereotypes while offering tongue in cheek advice on pursuing the American dreams of fame, fortune, and strippers.

### **Growing Up Queer in Australia**

In this compelling study of the children of serial migrants, Danau Tanu argues that the international schools they attend promote an ideology of being "international" that is Eurocentric. Despite the cosmopolitan rhetoric, hierarchies of race, culture and class shape popularity, friendships and romance on campus. By going back to high school for a year, Tanu befriended transnational youth, often called "Third Culture Kids", to present their struggles with identity, belonging and internalized racism in their own words. The result is the first engaging, anthropological critique of the way Western-style cosmopolitanism is institutionalized as cultural capital to reproduce global socio-cultural inequalities.

### **Growing Up African in Australia**

The culture-clash showdown between the bold and the dutiful Kesh: born and bred in Australia, drinks at the pub, studies feminist theory. Considers herself NRI - 'Not Really Indian'. Rupa: born and bred in Fiji, scared to leave the house, makes own roti. A full-bloom 'Bollywood Beauty'. They found it hard enough to get along as kids, but when a grown-up Rupa comes to Melbourne to stay with her cousin Kesh, it's a complete culture-clash. As Kesh and Rupa's worlds collide, they each hurtle toward answering the same question - are we ever truly what we seem? In this delicious and highly spiced novel, Shalini Akhil dishes up tears, laughter, music and food, with a truly scary dinner dance thrown in. If you've ever found yourself caught between your cultural background and a hard place, this is the read for you. " a universally appealing novel about identity, flawed families and the struggle to be yourself " - The Age

### **Are Prisons Obsolete?**

'No amount of YouTube videos and queer think pieces prepared me for this moment.' 'The mantle of "queer migrant" compelled me to keep going - to go further.' 'I never "came out" to my parents. I felt I owed them no explanation.' 'All I

heard from the pulpit were grim hints.’ ‘I became acutely aware of the parts of myself that were unpalatable to queers who grew up in the city.’ ‘My queerness was born in a hot dry land that was never ceded.’ ‘Even now, I sometimes think that I don’t know my own desire.’ Compiled by celebrated author and journalist Benjamin Law, *Growing Up Queer in Australia* assembles voices from across the spectrum of LGBTIQ+ identity. Spanning diverse places, eras, ethnicities and experiences, these are the stories of growing up queer in Australia. ‘For better or worse, sooner or later, life conspires to reveal you to yourself, and this is growing up.’ With contributions from David Marr, Fiona Wright, Nayuka Gorrie, Steve Dow, Holly Throsby, Sally Rugg, Tony Ayres, Nic Holas, Rebecca Shaw and many more.

### **The Golden Country**

#### **Growing Up Disabled in Australia**

“Poignant, provocative, sometimes laugh-out-loud funny, Pung’s rollicking tale of two worlds is not to be missed.”—Kirkus Reviews (starred review) After Alice Pung’s family fled to Australia from the killing fields of Cambodia, her father chose Alice as her name because he thought their new country was a Wonderland. In this lyrical, bittersweet debut memoir—already an award-winning bestseller when it was published in Australia—Alice grows up straddling two worlds, East and West, her insular family and the Australia outside. With wisdom beyond her years and a keen eye for comedy in everyday life, she writes of the trials of assimilation and cultural misunderstanding, and of the tender but fraught relationships between three generations of women trying to live the Australian dream without losing themselves. *Unpolished Gem* is a moving, vivid journey about identity and the ultimate search for acceptance and healing, delivered by a writer possessed of rare empathy, penetrating insight, and undeniable narrative gifts.

### **The Family Law**

‘Of all the continents, Asia is the gayest. Deep down, you’ve probably had your suspicions all along, and I’m here to tell you those suspicions are correct.’ So begins *Gaysia*, Benjamin Law’s wildly witty investigation of gay life in the biggest continent. We follow him as he takes an in-depth look at resorts for gay nudists in Bali; transexualism and three formal genders in Thailand; China’s underground gay resistance; Japan and ‘the most breathtakingly messed-up porn’; religious fundamentalists of all persuasions keen on ‘curing’ homosexuality in Malaysia; sex workers and the spread of HIV in Myanmar; and the decriminalisation of homosexuality, gay pride parades and encounters with gay royalty and a popular spiritual guru in India. Hilarious, perceptive, and poignant, *Gaysia* is a refreshing look at an aspect of Asia that has gone ignored too long.

## **How to American**

This study has found that 16% of young people who identify as lesbian, gay, bi, trans, intersex or queer have attempted suicide and 33% have harmed themselves as a result of widespread homophobic and transphobic harassment and violence in Australian society. More than 1000 young people aged between 16–27 years of age participated in the national research study, with almost two-thirds reporting homophobic or transphobic harassment or violence across different aspects of their lives, including in schools, families, the workplace, the streets and other public sites, such as sporting events. The findings of this study highlight the serious impact that homophobia, transphobia and heteronormativity can have on the health and well being of young people who are gender variant or sexuality diverse.--Website.

## **Social Studies Education in East Asian Contexts**

This is a fascinating account of traditional socialisation and Indigenous forms of learning in Australia and Melanesia. It draws from rich ethnographic, historical and educational material. There has never been a greater need for a socially and historically informed, yet critical account, of the mismatch between traditional ways, realities of life in Indigenous communities, villages and enclaves, and the forms of education provided in schools. Raymond Nichol, a specialist in Indigenous education and pedagogy, surveys the links, too often disparities, between ethnographic detail of life 'on the ground' and the schooling provided by nation states in this vast region. Most importantly, he explores and suggests ways community developers and educators, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, may work to bridge the gaps in social rights, educational and economic development. This is relevant for all Indigenous communities, their survival and development. Many vexed issues are discussed, such as race, ethnicity, identity, discrimination, self-determination, development, and relevant, effective pedagogical, learning and schooling strategies.

## **Gaysia**

This book provides a rich, detailed analysis of the experiences of young women growing up in post-colonial, rapidly modernizing Malaysia. It considers the impact of ethnicity, socio-economic status, and school experiences and achievement. It discusses the effects of Malaysia's ethnic affirmative action programmes and of the country's Islamisation. It sets out and compares the life trajectories of Malay, Indian and Chinese young women, making use of interview and questionnaire data gathered over a long period. It thereby depicts individuals' transformations as they experience maturing into adulthood against a background of social and economic changes, and varying levels of inter-racial tension.

## **Telling Tales**

Cassy Joy Garcia draws from her years of research and experience to deliver a roadmap to mastering her 'Four Pillars of True Health'. With over 150 gluten-free and Paleo-friendly recipes, a 28-day food and fitness plan, portion guides, program guides and supplemental online tools, Fed & Fit provides readers a foundation for lasting success. Joy's recipes were hand selected to complement each of 'The Four Pillars' and include step-by-step instructions, full-colour photos and personalisation guides to help you achieve your individual wellness goals.

### **Child of Vietnam**

In this refreshing and fascinating collection, twelve Muslim-Australians - some well known, some not - reveal their candid, funny and touching stories of growing up with a dual identity.

### **Coming of Age**

I was born in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe. My dad was a freedom fighter, waging war for an independent state: South Sudan. We lived in a small country town, in the deep south of Western Australia. I never knew black people could be Muslim until I met my North African friends. My mum and my dad courted illegally under the Apartheid regime. My first impression of Australia was a housing commission in the north of Tasmania. Somalis use this term, “Dhaqan Celis”. “Dhaqan” means culture and “Celis” means return. Learning to kick a football in a suburban schoolyard. Finding your feet as a young black dancer. Discovering your grandfather’s poetry. Meeting Nelson Mandela at your local church. Facing racism from those who should protect you. Dreading a visit to the hairdresser. House-hopping across the suburbs. Being too black. Not being black enough. Singing to find your soul, and then losing yourself again. Welcome to African Australia. Compiled by award-winning author Maxine Beneba Clarke, with curatorial assistance from writers Ahmed Yussuf and Magan Magan, this anthology brings together voices from the regions of Africa and the African diaspora, including the Caribbean and the Americas. Told with passion, power and poise, these are the stories of African-diaspora Australians. Contributors include Faustina Agolley, Santilla Chingaibe, Carly Findlay, Khalid Warsame, Nyadol Nyuon, Tariro Mavondo and many, many more. ‘A deeply moving and unforgettable read - there is something to learn from each page. FOUR AND A HALF STARS’ —Books+Publishing ‘A complex tapestry of stories specific in every thread and illuminating as a whole The wonderful strength of this anthology lies in the easily understood and the never imagined.’ —Readings ‘In the face of structural barriers to health care, education, housing and employment, the narratives in Growing Up African are tempered with stories of deep courage, hope, resilience and endurance.’ —The Conversation ‘Growing Up African in Australia is almost painfully timely. It speaks to the richness of a diaspora that is all too often deprived of its nuances Lively, moving, and often deeply affecting, it is an absolute must-read. FOUR AND A HALF STARS’ —The AU Review

## A Country Too Far

From an author Amy Tan calls “a gem,” this is a witty, highly acclaimed novel that’s “part Mean Girls, part Lord of the Flies” (The Bulletin, Starred review) about navigating life in private school while remaining true to yourself. Lucy is a bit of a pushover, but she’s ambitious and smart, and she has just received the opportunity of a lifetime: a scholarship to a prestigious school, and a ticket out of her broken-down suburb. Though she’s worried she will stick out like badly cut bangs among the razor-straight students, she is soon welcomed into the Cabinet, the supremely popular trio who wield influence over classmates and teachers alike. Linh is blunt, strong-willed, and fearless—everything Lucy once loved about herself. She is also Lucy’s last solid link to her life before private school, but she is growing tired of being eclipsed by the glamour of the Cabinet. As Lucy floats further away from the world she once knew, her connection to Linh—and to her old life—threatens to snap. Sharp and honest, Alice Pung’s novel examines what it means to grow into the person you want to be without leaving yourself behind. An NPR Best Book of the Year A Kirkus Reviews Best Book of the Year A YALSA Best Fiction for Young Adults selection A Texas Tayhas Reading List Selection "A bracing, enthralling gut-punch and an essential read for teens, teachers, and parents alike." —Kirkus Reviews, Starred review "This daring work with an authentic protagonist teaches important lessons about being yourself while navigating through life."—School Library Journal, Starred review "Lucy’s struggle to find her place and sense of self will have a wide appeal for teen readers and is a welcome addition to the prep-school canon."—Booklist, Starred review "Lyrical, enchanting prose from a narrator with perception so acute she cannot help but share it immerses readers into the very heart of every scene. This is highly recommended for classrooms and libraries [and] a superb choice for book discussion groups and world young adult literature survey courses."--VOYA, Starred review "Part Mean Girls, part Lord of the Flies, and part Special Topics in Calamity Physics, this well-observed and unsentimental novel taps into what is primal within privileged adolescent girls."—The Bulletin, Starred review "Lucy’s narration pulls readers alongside her uncertain navigation of two worlds, and we can’t help but cheer in solidarity as Lucy recognizes assimilation masquerading as inclusion, refuses to back down, and instead embraces who she is."—Horn Book Magazine "In a novel filled with strong visual images, Pung draws a sharp contrast between authenticity and deception, integrity and manipulation. Against the vividly painted backdrops of two very different communities, she traces Lucy’s struggle to form a new identity without compromising the values she holds closest to her heart."—Publishers Weekly

## Minor Feelings

With her characteristic brilliance, grace and radical audacity, Angela Y. Davis has put the case for the latest abolition movement in American life: the abolition of the prison. As she quite correctly notes, American life is replete with abolition movements, and when they were engaged in these struggles, their chances of success seemed almost unthinkable. For

generations of Americans, the abolition of slavery was sheerest illusion. Similarly, the entrenched system of racial segregation seemed to last forever, and generations lived in the midst of the practice, with few predicting its passage from custom. The brutal, exploitative (dare one say lucrative?) convict-lease system that succeeded formal slavery reaped millions to southern jurisdictions (and untold miseries for tens of thousands of men, and women). Few predicted its passing from the American penal landscape. Davis expertly argues how social movements transformed these social, political and cultural institutions, and made such practices untenable. In *Are Prisons Obsolete?*, Professor Davis seeks to illustrate that the time for the prison is approaching an end. She argues forthrightly for "decarceration", and argues for the transformation of the society as a whole.

### **Growing up Indigenous: Developing Effective Pedagogy for Education and Development**

The book explores the state of social studies education within selected East Asian societies and provides some insights into distinctive classroom practices. In an increasingly volatile and unpredictable world, the education of young people who both understand the contexts in which they are growing up and see the need for engaging with them is a top priority. This task falls to social studies education which carries the responsibility for inducting young people into their social world and helping them to see the role they can play within it. This is particularly important in East Asia where strong economic growth, long held cultural values and diverse political systems create an environment that challenges young people on multiple fronts. This book, with its team of regional authors, shows how different societies in the region are dealing with these challenges and what can be expected from future citizens. The book will appeal to policy makers, researchers and teachers interested in the current state of social studies education in East Asian societies.

### **Fed & Fit**

In *Postcolonial Past & Present* twelve outstanding scholars look to those spaces Epeli Hau'ofa has insisted are full not empty to analyse the ways artists and intellectuals in the postcolonial world make sense of turbulent local and global forces.

### **Growing up Female in Multi-Ethnic Malaysia**

A ruthlessly honest, emotionally charged, and utterly original exploration of Asian American consciousness and the struggle to be human "Brilliant . . . To read this book is to become more human."—Claudia Rankine, author of *Citizen Poet* and essayist Cathy Park Hong fearlessly and provocatively blends memoir, cultural criticism, and history to expose fresh truths about racialized consciousness in America. Part memoir and part cultural criticism, this collection is vulnerable, humorous, and provocative—and its relentless and riveting pursuit of vital questions around family and friendship, art and politics,

identity and individuality, will change the way you think about our world. Binding these essays together is Hong's theory of "minor feelings." As the daughter of Korean immigrants, Cathy Park Hong grew up steeped in shame, suspicion, and melancholy. She would later understand that these "minor feelings" occur when American optimism contradicts your own reality—when you believe the lies you're told about your own racial identity. Minor feelings are not small, they're dissonant—and in their tension Hong finds the key to the questions that haunt her. With sly humor and a poet's searching mind, Hong uses her own story as a portal into a deeper examination of racial consciousness in America today. This intimate and devastating book traces her relationship to the English language, to shame and depression, to poetry and female friendship. A radically honest work of art, *Minor Feelings* forms a portrait of one Asian American psyche—and of a writer's search to both uncover and speak the truth. Praise for *Minor Feelings* "Hong begins her new book of essays with a bang. . . .The essays wander a variegated terrain of memoir, criticism and polemic, oscillating between smooth proclamations of certainty and twitches of self-doubt. . . . *Minor Feelings* is studded with moments [of] candor and dark humor shot through with glittering self-awareness."—The New York Times "Hong uses her own experiences as a jumping off point to examine race and emotion in the United States."—Newsweek (40 Must-Read Fiction and Nonfiction Books to Savor This Spring) "Powerful . . . [Hong] brings together memoiristic personal essay and reflection, historical accounts and modern reporting, and other works of art and writing, in order to amplify a multitude of voices and capture Asian America as a collection of contradictions. She does so with sharp wit and radical transparency."—Salon

### **Unpolished Gem**

'My body and its place in the world seemed quite normal to me.' 'I didn't grow up disabled, I grew up with a problem. A problem those around me wanted to fix.' 'We have all felt that uncanny sensation that someone is watching us.' 'The diagnosis helped but it didn't fix everything.' 'Don't fear the labels.' One in five Australians have a disability. And disability presents itself in many ways. Yet disabled people are still underrepresented in the media and in literature. *Growing Up Disabled in Australia* is the fifth book in the highly acclaimed, bestselling *Growing Up* series. It includes interviews with prominent Australians such as Senator Jordon Steele-John and Paralympian Isis Holt, poetry and graphic art, as well as more than 40 original pieces by writers with a disability or chronic illness. Contributors include Dion Beasley, Astrid Edwards, Jessica Walton, Carly-Jay Metcalfe, Gayle Kennedy and El Gibbs.

### **Growing Up African in Australia**

Asian-Australians have often been written about by outsiders, as outsiders. In this collection, compiled by award-winning author Alice Pung, they tell their own stories with verve, courage and a large dose of humour. These are not predictable tales of food, festivals and traditional dress. The food is here in all its steaming glory - but listen more closely to the dinner-

table chatter and you might be surprised by what you hear. Here are tales of leaving home, falling in love, coming out and finding one's feet. A young Cindy Pan vows to win every single category of Nobel Prize. Tony Ayres blows a kiss to a skinhead and lives to tell the tale. Benjamin Law has a close encounter with some angry Australian fauna, and Kylie Kwong makes a moving pilgrimage to her great-grandfather's Chinese village. Here are well-known authors and exciting new voices, spanning several generations and drawn from all over Australia. In sharing their stories, they show us what it is really like to grow up Asian, and Australian. Contributors include: Shaun Tan, Jason Yat-Sen Li, John So, Annette Shun Wah, Quan Yeomans, Jenny Kee, Anh Do, Khoa Do, Caroline Tran and many more.

### **The Bollywood Beauty**

I put some rissoles in sandwiches for you two. Dig in. Lynchy grabbed two and handed me one. We bit into them while sipping our SodaStream-manufactured soft drink. A rush came over me as I tasted the spice-free rissole bursting across my taste buds. It was worth the wait.

### **Our Australian Girl: Marly's Business (Book 2)**

It's 1983 . . . and Marly needs a job. She wants to buy Donkey Kong cards to swap with the other kids at school, but her parents think the cards are a waste of money. Then Marly's friend Yousra gives her an idea, and she decides to start her own business. But working on your own isn't easy, and when she catches a bus that goes in the wrong direction, it's just the start of Marly's problems! Follow Marly on her adventure in the second of four stories about a daring girl torn between two worlds.

### **Lucy and Linh**

A brilliant collection from one of Australia's leading writers Close to Home brings together Alice Pung's most loved writing, on topics such as migration, family, art, belonging and identity. Warm, funny, moving and unfailingly honest, this is Alice at her best - an irresistible pleasure for fans and new readers alike. In 2006, Alice Pung published Unpolished Gem, her award-winning memoir of growing up Chinese-Australian in Melbourne's western suburbs. Since then, she has written on everything from the role of grandparents to the corrosive effects of racism; from the importance of literature to the legacy of her parents' migration from Cambodia as asylum seekers. In all of this, a central idea is home: how the places we live and the connections we form shape who we become, and what homecoming can mean to those who build their lives in Australia. 'Most people have an idea of home as a place of comfort and safety. But it is more than that. Your home is a place where your suffering can take shelter.' —Alice Pung 'A beautiful book brimming with rich thoughts and intimate

details Pung's writing celebrates who we are, where we've come from and the shape of things to come. ★★★★★.' —The AU Review 'A warm, wide-ranging selection Pung's writing is crisp and colourful.' —The Age 'Mixes vivid personal stories with a sharply nuanced examination of Australia's knotty, turbulent race history.' —The Weekend Australian 'Alice Pung is a gem. Her voice is the real thing.' —Amy Tan

### **The Exotic Rissolo**

First published to acclaim in Australia, *Look Who's Morphing* by Asian Australian writer Tom Cho is a funny, fantastical, often outlandish collection of stories firmly grounded in popular culture. Often with his family, the book's central character undergoes a series of startling physical transformations, shape-shifting through figures drawn from film and television, music and books, porn flicks and comics. He is Godzilla, a Muppet, a gay white male stud, and Whitney Houston's bodyguard; the Fonz, a robot, the von Trapp family's caretaker, a Ford Bronco 4x4—and in the book's lavish climax, a one-hundred-foot-tall guitar-wielding rock star performing for an adoring troupe of fans in Tokyo. Throughout the stories, there is a pervasive questioning of the nature of identity, whether cultural, racial, sexual, gender, or all of the above, and the way it is constructed in a world filled with the white noise of pop culture. *Look Who's Morphing* is a stylish, highly entertaining literary debut in which nothing—not even one's body—can be taken for granted. Tom Cho is a trans writer who began writing fiction in his mid teens in Australia, where he was influenced by the YA series *Sweet Valley High*. His stories have appeared in publications in Australia and elsewhere, and he has performed at events and festivals around the world, including in the award-winning show *Hello Kitty*, which combines literature with power ballads. *Look Who's Morphing* is his first book.

### **Sh\*t Asian Mothers Say**

From the author of *Their Guilty Pleasures*: In postwar England, a young woman reopens her late father's nightclub and faces his criminal past. Southampton, 1945. Food, fuel, and other necessities continue to be scarce in England, but when former Wren Victoria Teglia's reopens her late father's Club Valletta, it's an event that excites potential members with the desire—and the money—to be entertained. Victoria can't help wondering what her father would think. While his exclusive club was once a hotbed of prostitution, illegal gambling, and vice, Victoria intends to run the new establishment on the up and up. But changing the ways of Club Valletta is no easy task. With her father's former right-hand man as her business partner, the underworld connections run deep. And perhaps most dangerous of all is Johnny Daniels, the handsome son of gangster Big Pat Daniels. Johnny wants a piece of the action . . . and he knows how to be persuasive. Will Victoria be swayed by his criminal charms, or will she manage to maintain her principles? "Tate provides a satisfying ending and suggests dark doings that could prove haunting." —Booklist "Her Father's Daughter is an entertaining, light read [that]

keeps the pages turning.” —Historical Novel Society

## **Growing Up Aboriginal in Australia**

I keep coming back to John Marsden. What makes him so fascinating to me is that he approaches writing for young adults with a whole philosophy of what it means to be a teenager – a philosophy that’s embedded in the two schools he runs, but also in his early experiences with mental illness and hospitalisation. His perspective raises interesting questions about YA fiction – how much darkness is allowed, before you are considered a “bad influence”? An original and moving look by award-winning writer Alice Pung at one of her biggest influences – the much-loved and hugely successful writer John Marsden. In the Writers on Writers series, leading authors reflect on an Australian writer who has inspired and fascinated them. Provocative and crisp, these books start a fresh conversation between past and present, shed new light on the craft of writing, and introduce some intriguing and talented authors and their work. Published by Black Inc. in association with the University of Melbourne and State Library Victoria. Alice Pung is an award-winning writer, editor, teacher and lawyer based in Melbourne. She is the bestselling author of *Unpolished Gem* and *Her Father’s Daughter* and the editor of the anthologies *Growing Up Asian in Australia* and *My First Lesson*. Her first novel, *Laurinda*, won the Ethel Turner Prize at the 2016 NSW Premier’s Literary Awards.

## **Growing Up the Chinese Way**

## **Growing Up Asian in Australia**

I was born in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe. My dad was a freedom fighter, waging war for an independent state: South Sudan. We lived in a small country town, in the deep south of Western Australia. I never knew black people could be Muslim until I met my North African friends. My mum and my dad courted illegally under the Apartheid regime. My first impression of Australia was a housing commission in the north of Tasmania. Somalis use this term, “Dhaqan Celis”. “Dhaqan” means culture and “Celis” means return. Learning to kick a football in a suburban schoolyard. Finding your feet as a young black dancer. Discovering your grandfather’s poetry. Meeting Nelson Mandela at your local church. Facing racism from those who should protect you. Dreading a visit to the hairdresser. House-hopping across the suburbs. Being too black. Not being black enough. Singing to find your soul, and then losing yourself again. Welcome to African Australia. Compiled by award-winning author Maxine Beneba Clarke, with curatorial assistance from writers Ahmed Yussuf and Magan Magan, this anthology brings together voices from the regions of Africa and the African diaspora, including the Caribbean and the Americas. Told with passion, power and poise, these are the stories of African-diaspora Australians. Contributors include Faustina Agolley,

Santilla Chingaipe, Carly Findlay, Khalid Warsame, Nyadol Nyuon, Tariro Mavondo and many, many more. 'A deeply moving and unforgettable read - there is something to learn from each page. FOUR AND A HALF STARS' —Books+Publishing 'A complex tapestry of stories specific in every thread and illuminating as a whole The wonderful strength of this anthology lies in the easily understood and the never imagined.' —Readings 'In the face of structural barriers to health care, education, housing and employment, the narratives in Growing Up African are tempered with stories of deep courage, hope, resilience and endurance.' —The Conversation 'Growing Up African in Australia is almost painfully timely. It speaks to the richness of a diaspora that is all too often deprived of its nuances Lively, moving, and often deeply affecting, it is an absolute must-read. FOUR AND A HALF STARS' —The AU Review

### **Growing Up Asian in Australia**

This volume is a collection of current research on Chinese child development: the context of development, cognitive development, social development, and new issues related to the topic.

### **Mao's Last Dancer (Movie Tie-In)**

### **Her Father's Daughter**

Now a major SBS television series! Meet the Law family - eccentric, endearing and hard to resist. Your guide: Benjamin, the third of five children and a born humorist. Join him as he tries to answer some puzzling questions: Why won't his Chinese dad wear made-in-China underpants? Why was most of his extended family deported in the 1980s? Will his childhood dreams of Home and Away stardom come to nothing? What are his chances of finding love? Hilarious and moving, The Family Law is a linked series of tales from a beloved Australian writer. 'Very funny you may find yourself at times almost barking with laughter' —The Monthly 'Law is a writer of great wit and warmth who combines apparently artless and effortless comedian's patter with a high level of technical skill.' —Sydney Morning Herald 'Simultaneously weird and instantly recognisable, the Laws are an Australian family it's well worth getting to know' —The Enthusiast 'Enjoyable, easy reading Law is a considerable talent with a long future ahead of him.' —Literary Minded 'The eccentric, clever and beautifully resonant The Family Law. It's sharply written, brilliantly observed and infused with an authenticity that makes it compelling.' —The Saturday Age 'An engaging read.' —West Weekend Magazine 'Benjamin Law manages to be scatagological, hilarious and heartbreaking all at the same time. Every sentence fizzles like an exploding fireball of energy.' —Alice Pung 'A vivid, gorgeously garish, Technicolour portrait of a family. It's impossible not to let oneself go along for the ride and emerge at the book's end enlightened, touched, thrilling with laughter.' —Marieke Hardy

## **Growing Up in Transit**

Childhood stories of family, country and belonging What is it like to grow up Aboriginal in Australia? This anthology, compiled by award-winning author Anita Heiss, showcases many diverse voices, experiences and stories in order to answer that question. Accounts from well-known authors and high-profile identities sit alongside those from newly discovered writers of all ages. All of the contributors speak from the heart - sometimes calling for empathy, oftentimes challenging stereotypes, always demanding respect. This groundbreaking collection will enlighten, inspire and educate about the lives of Aboriginal people in Australia today. Contributors include: Tony Birch, Deborah Cheetham, Adam Goodes, Terri Janke, Patrick Johnson, Ambelin Kwaymullina, Jack Latimore, Celeste Liddle, Amy McQuire, Kerry Reed-Gilbert, Miranda Tapsell, Jared Thomas, Aileen Walsh, Alexis West, Tara June Winch, and many, many more.

## **Once Were Radicals**

Aiming to put as much distance as she could between herself and a dysfunctional relationship, Vanessa Woods left her Pleasantville life in the leafy but safe suburbs of Canberra and headed for the remote, wild and distinctly unsafe jungles of Costa Rica. She had a research job, a contract with Disney Channel and would spend the year working with a small community of dedicated like-minded scientific souls researching the behaviour of capuchin monkeys while making a documentary about Costa Rican wildlife. Or so she thought. As it turned out, Vanessa's housemates in the monkey house didn't appreciate her Australian sense of humour, she was stung so often by wasps and killer bees she developed a lethal allergy, and the monkeys were evasive, mean and aggressive - with the only difference between them and her housemates being that at least she could tell her housemates apart. Over the course of a wild, bruising and tumultuous year that can most accurately be characterized as Dian Fossey meets Big Brother, Vanessa learned that not all monkeys - or people - are alike, that friendship can be more important than sex, and that sometimes it takes a brush with death and an abscess the size of a melon on your head to make you realise that being pretty isn't always enough. This is a story of love, loss, bitter rivalry and vicious battles - and that's just the monkeys.

## **Postcolonial Past & Present**

Asian - Australians have often been written about by outsiders, as outsiders. In this collection, compiled by award-winning author Alice Pung, they tell their own stories with verve, courage and a large dose of humour. These are not predictable tales of food, festivals and traditional dress. The food is here in all its steaming glory - but listen more closely to the dinner-table chatter and you might be surprised by what you hear. Here are tales of leaving home, falling in love, coming out and finding one's feet. A young Cindy Pan vows to win every single category of Nobel Prize. Tony Ayres blows a kiss to a

skinhead and lives to tell the tale. Benjamin Law has a close encounter with some angry Australian fauna, and Kylie Kwong makes a moving pilgrimage to her great - grandfather's Chinese village. Here are well - known authors and exciting new voices, spanning several generations and drawn from all over Australia. In sharing their stories, they show us what it is really like to grow up Asian, and Australian. Contributors include: Shaun Tan, Jason Yat - Sen Li, John So, Annette Shun Wah, Quan Yeomans, Jenny Kee, Anh Do, Khoa Do, Caroline Tran and many more.

### **Sometimes Gladness**

THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER The extraordinary memoir of a peasant boy raised in rural Maoist China who was plucked from his village to study ballet and went on to become one of the greatest dancers of his generation. From a desperately poor village in northeast China, at age eleven, Li Cunxin was chosen by Madame Mao's cultural delegates to be taken from his rural home and brought to Beijing, where he would study ballet. In 1979, the young dancer arrived in Texas as part of a cultural exchange, only to fall in love with America-and with an American woman. Two years later, through a series of events worthy of the most exciting cloak-and-dagger fiction, he defected to the United States, where he quickly became known as one of the greatest ballet dancers in the world. This is his story, told in his own inimitable voice. THE BASIS FOR A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE From the Trade Paperback edition.

### **On John Marsden**

A topical and provocative exploration of Australian identity by Federal MP and author Tim Watts.

### **It's Every Monkey For Themselves**

Young writers have historically played a pivotal role in shaping autobiographical genres and this continues into the graphic and digital texts which characterise contemporary life writing. This volume offers a selection of pertinent case studies which illuminate some of the core themes which have come to characterise autobiographical writings of childhood, including: cultural and identity representations and tensions, coming into knowledge and education, sexuality, prejudice, war, and trauma. The book also reveals preoccupations with the cultural forms of autobiographical writings of childhood and youth take, engaging in discussions of archives, graphic texts, digital forms, testimony, didacticism in autobiography and the anthologising of life writing. This collection will open up broader conversations about the scope of life writing about childhood and youth and the importance of life writing genres in prompting dialogues about literary cultures and coming of age. This book was originally published as a special issue of Prose Studies.

## **Look Who's Morphing**

Your Asian Mother Says: “You look just like Mummy when she was your age.” Your Asian Mother Means: “You will secure love and happiness thanks to my genes so essentially you owe me everything.” Benjamin Law and Michelle Law, the long-suffering children of an Asian Mother, bring you the hilarious *Sh\*t Asian Mothers Say*, featuring the wisdom of Asian Mothers the world over, from “Eat every grain of rice, otherwise that’s how many pimples your future spouse will have” to “She’s just jealous – and racist”. The book also includes quizzes (“Have You Failed Your Asian Mother?”), an interpretation guide to “What your Asian Mother is really saying”, Ten Asian Mother Commandments (Thou shalt not sleepover) and an Asian Mothers’ Guide to Beauty (bad perms, colour, eyelids). With illustrations by Oslo Davis that bring the disapproving Asian Mother to life, this is the perfect gift for the Asian Mother in your life – or perhaps her children.

## **Close to Home**

Why did a nice middle class Australian Muslim boy want to become a soldier for Islam? Irfan Yusuf tells his story of growing up Muslim in the suburbs.

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