



MIDDLE RAGE
Hachette, $34.99

hasn't changed, so I have to force myself to shut the world out completely when I'm writing. I can't listen to music at all, and of late I've had to force myself to put my phone in another room because if I open up any of the social medias for research reasons, I end up scrolling for hours. I always must have a cup of tea at the ready too.

What were the challenges of writing when your usual job of broadcasting is immediate?

I've always felt like I didn't get the sense of ease and pleasure that other writers seemed to. I always struggled to really immerse myself in the process and get that magical feeling of flow. I thought this book was going to be the same. Weekends were the time I blocked out to dig deep and concentrate. I pretty much didn't leave the house, aside from work, for at least six months. About halfway through the book, something switched and I finally felt like I hit my stride in a way I never have before. I felt like I was flying. I'll probably never get that feeling again, but for a moment, it was all worth it.



NO GOOD DEED
by Katherine Kovacic

After her husband's unexpected death, Rena embarks on the road trip they were about to do together, hoping to be distracted from her devastating loss. But she hasn't been driving for long when she sees a fire burning in the distance and decides to investigate, in case someone's in trouble. When she sees it's a car and the person trapped inside is a fellow geologist she hasn't seen in two decades, Rena is plunged into a mystery involving missing diamonds, deceit and murder.

Penguin, $34.99

LIVING WITH FREDDIE
by Anna Heyward

For every dog lover who's learned to see the world through their canine companion's eyes comes this memoir about a rescued Italian greyhound. When Anna welcomes Freddie into her life, she quickly realises the anxious dog has severe separation anxiety and if left alone, bites his tail or scratches himself. Determined to help Freddie feel secure, Anna smuggles her pal into work and abandons her social life. Soon, she's seeing the world in a different way too.

Hachette, $34.99

THE TIME AFTER NOW
by Anne Freeman

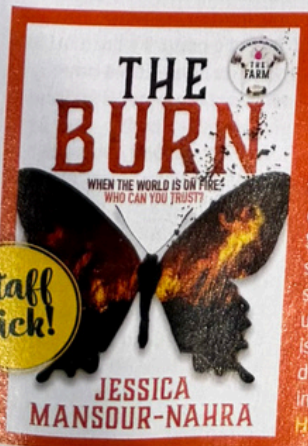
Twenty years after Drew broke Olivia's heart, he dies suddenly and her feelings for him begin to resurface. But Olivia is now living a picture-perfect life as a wife and mum in suburbia and the world she shared with Drew – clubbing, drugs, art – is long in the past. Then someone using Drew's Facebook identity contacts her and begins blackmailing her with the threat of releasing intimate photos taken years ago. Should Olivia outrun her past or own it?

Hawkeye, $34.99

HATE YOU TO LOVE YOU
by Joshua Hortinela

Carlos Reyes is having a quarter-life crisis when the work gig of a lifetime is offered up – following star author Claudia Leighton on her book tour and writing a tell-all. But everything comes at a price and if he takes up the opportunity he'll have to put up with Claudia's arrogant publicist, Elliot Simpson, who broke Carlos' heart. A second-chance romance novel that will leave readers glowing with happiness and, as an additional treat, it's also a love letter to old-school romcoms.

Simon & Schuster, $24.99



THE BURN
by Jessica Mansour-Nahra

It's 2030 and bushfires have ravaged Australia's cities and suburbs, forcing its population into "airlock" for months. When the government announces that lockdown's over, Carmen and her mates meet for a much-needed reunion. They journey to NSW's South Coast, hoping for a weekend of ocean swims, bushwalks and laughter. But everything seems off kilter from the start – from the unrelenting heat to the endless squabbles, isolated cabins and faint scent of burning in the distance. Then friendships begin to splinter. An intense read about what we sacrifice for survival.

Hachette, $34.99



Books Editor Emma Sabbington gives us her ... and more!