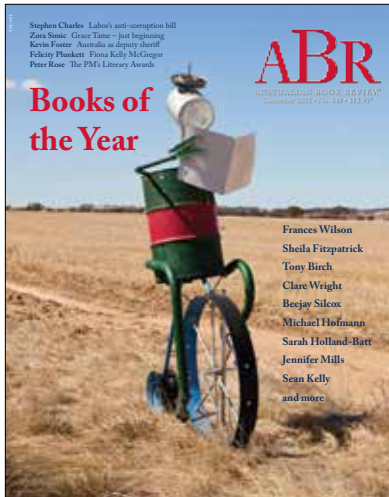


December 2022 issue highlights



Welcome to the December issue of *ABR*. This month we celebrate the books of the year, as chosen by thirty-six *ABR* writers and critics including Frances Wilson, Tony Birch, Yassmin Abdel-Magied, Yves Rees, and Sheila Fitzpatrick. The issue opens with a thoughtful examination of Labor's new anti-corruption bill by Stephen Charles SC. The issue also covers new works of biography and memoir with Zora Simic on Grace Tame's memoir, Patrick Mullins on a biography of Lachlan Murdoch, and Jacqueline Kent on Bryce Courtenay. December also includes reviews of new fiction by Inga Simpson, Fiona McFarlane, Fiona Kelly McGregor (our Open Page interview subject), and much more.

- ◆ **Stephen Charles SC on Labor's anti-corruption bill** In his considered commentary on Labor's new anti corruption bill Stephen Charles looks at the problems it may face as well as its potential to assist in 'the restoration of Australia's reputation for integrity in the eyes of the world'. Stephen Charles is a retired Australian judge, and a board member of the Accountability Round Table and the Centre for Public Integrity.
- ◆ **Zora Simic on Grace Tame's memoir** In her review of *The Ninth Life of a Diamond Miner* academic Zora Simic finds a 'compellingly digressive' memoir told on the author's own terms in which Tame's dark humour and courage shine. Zora Simic is a senior lecturer in History and Women's and Gender Studies at the University of New South Wales.
- ◆ **Patrick Mullins on a new biography of Lachlan Murdoch** Journalist Paddy Manning's *The Successor* has a dual focus on Lachlan and the sprawling Murdoch empire notes Patrick Mullins in his review of Manning's biography of the 'uncontested and publicly anointed heir'. Mullins is the co-author, with Matthew Ricketson, of *Who Needs the ABC?* (2022).
- ◆ **Kevin Foster on Clinton Fernandes's new book** *Subimperial Power* offers a compelling examination of Australia's international position finds Kevin Foster. As Foster writes, 'Fernandes points out, the much-trumpeted "rules-based international order" that Australian's have fought and died to uphold is nothing more than a euphemism for an imperial order in which the United States sets the rules'. Kevin Foster has published widely on war and the media, his latest book is *Anti-Social Media* (MUP, 2021).

Interview requests and further information

For interview requests, please contact *ABR*'s publicist: Holly Hendry-Saunders:
publicity@australianbookreview.com.au