

Pet Reads

Compelling books on pets, care and just fun reading too

Mongrel Country & Outback Mongrel

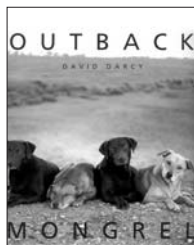
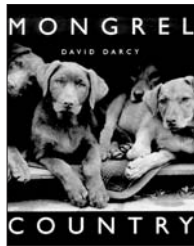
Photos and words by David Darcy

David Darcy is a photographer based in the Blue Mountains where he has his own gallery in Leura. For Mongrel Country, David travelled through the high country of Victoria, New South Wales and the ACT photographing working farm dogs using the backdrop of shearing sheds and classic Australian settings. Mongrel Country captures the many faces of farmers' working dogs and muddy mates in colour and black and white photographs.

Outback Mongrel is the result of over 23,000 kilometres of Darcy's hard travel with a Ute full of dust-covered dogs throughout the outback. His photos reveal the often eerie realities of the harsh and hot conditions of remote outback locations. There are some confronting photos of the Dingo Fence and death warnings to dingos and feral dogs. Overall there are many stunning dog and landscape shots of this unforgiving but beautiful part of our country.

Available through good bookstores and from David Darcy direct - published by Lothian Books Mongrel Country rrp \$34.95; Outback Mongrel rrp \$39.95

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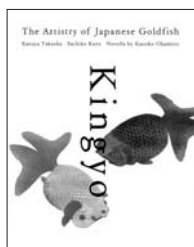


Kingyo: The Art Of Japanese Goldfish

Graphic design by Kazuya Takaoka
Photos by Sachiko Kuru
Novella by Kanoko Okamoto

For lovers of Japanese art and design, this book is a visual celebration of Goldfish and the breeds that have been cultivated in Japan over hundreds of years. It's packed with stunning photos of goldfish depicted on ceramic, carvings, textiles, paintings and everyday household items. Contained within is a novella written in the 1930s which tells the tale of the forbidden love of a breeder's son and his obsession with the daughter of a wealthy patron. His fixation with her leads him to try to breed a goldfish that will reflect her beauty and his love for her. There are some stunning photos of the various types of goldfish, and they seemingly float and swim off the pages.

Available through good bookstores - published by Kodansha International, distributed by Bookwise International rrp \$59.95



The Twelve Days Of Christmas: A Feline Classic

Written and illustrated by Don Daily

Here's a charming twist of the classic carol "Twelve Days Of Christmas" for feline lovers. Beautiful and creative illustrations of playful cats, lounging leopards, marvellous manxes and prancing panthers feasting on holiday food and popping out of presents. Cat fanciers of all ages will love this enchanting and colourful book for the festive season.

Available through good bookstores - published by Courage Books, distributed by Bookwise International rrp \$17.95

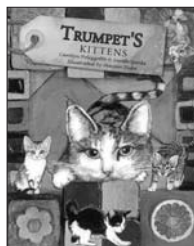


Trumpet's Kittens

Written by Carolyn Polizzotto and Sarah Spikes
Illustrated by Marion Duke

Sarah's always wanted a cat so when her friends move away and can't take their cat Trumpet with them, Sarah's family adopt her. Trumpet, however comes with some extra baggage - she's about to have kittens! This children's book simply depicts the process of a cat having kittens and the preparations needed to care for a pregnant cat and her litter.

Available through good bookstores - published by Fremantle Arts Centre Press rrp \$24.95

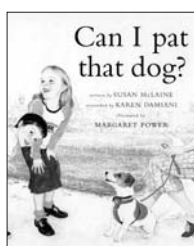


Can I Pat That Dog?

Written by Susan McLaine & illustrations by Margaret Power
Researched by Karen Damiani

Author, Susan McLaine is an education officer for the Dromkeen Children's Literature Centre in Victoria. She worked closely with dog trainer Karen Damiani to create this book so that parents and teachers can help children interpret a dog's body language. With bright, colourful illustrations and simply written, this book looks at the range of situations where children should not approach a dog - including eating, sleeping or if it looks frightened. Teaching children to ask permission to pat a dog and the best way to approach dogs is included. What to look for if an angry dog approaches you and to safely and quietly walk away is also covered. This is a great little book for dog and non-dog households - often parents with dogs don't pass on basic approach methods to their children because of the trust they have with their own family dog. Children will enjoy the attractive illustrations and simplicity of the text.

Available through good bookstores - published by HarperCollins rrp \$24.95

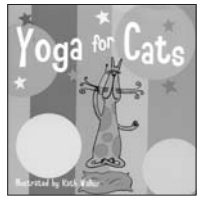


Yoga For Cats & Pilates For Dogs

Written and illustrated by Kath Walker

The author of these two books describes them as utterly silly and hopes that no one would be crazy enough to try to make their cat perform sun salutations or expect dogs to perform double leg lifts or hundreds. The illustrations are candy coloured and cute depictions of yoga poses and pilates exercises. It will appeal to the cat and dog within us who have panted, pretzeled, flopped and farted through a yoga or pilates class.

Available through good bookstores - published by MQ Publications, distributed by Bookwise International rrp \$16.95



Sage's Ark

Written by Felicity Marshall

Sage is an orphan and unable to speak. She lives on a small island with her aunt and her talkative Cockatoo companion, Larrikin. When she receives a gift of some magic paintbrushes from local Aboriginal friend, Jimmy Possum, Sage is able to create paintings of endangered animals that spring alive from her canvas. All this magical beauty that she paints leads to danger in the form of two strangers who kidnap her for their own gains. It's then through courage and heart that Sage must find a way to return to her island home.

This children's book is beautifully illustrated and will capture imaginative minds. Little people will enjoy the challenge of finding the hidden Tasmanian Tiger on each page.

Available through good bookstores - published by Sandcastle Picture Books, distributed by Fremantle Arts Centre Press rrp \$23.95



"A dog's best friend is his illiteracy."
Ogden Nash



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