

Ourselves: 100 Micro Memoirs

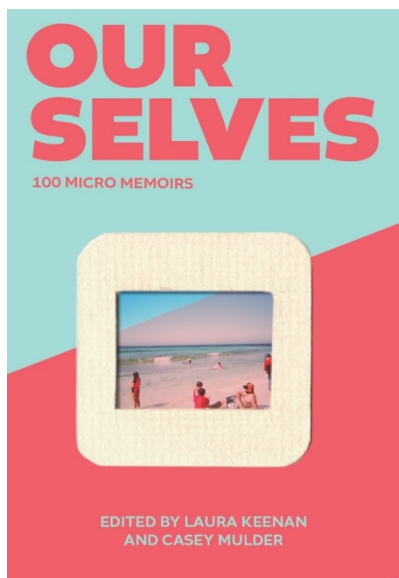
Edited by Laura Keenan and Casey Mulder

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a celebration of real life

Highlights

- 100 short memoirs (under 750 words) by 100 writers
- Night Parrot Press's fourth collection of writing from West Australian writers
- The first published collection of Micro Memoir in Australia
- The collection includes writing by new and established authors including Zoe Deleuil, Barry Divola, Mabel Gibson, Seth Malacari, Shirley Marr, Donna Mazza, Susan Midalia, Scott-Patrick Mitchell, Rashida Murphy, Gillian O'Shaughnessy, Maria Papas, Cindy Solonec and Ros Thomas
- The collection features the work of 6 First Nations writers and is co-edited by First Nations editor Casey Mulder

Perth-based independent publisher Night Parrot Press has released *Ourselves: 100 Micro Memoirs* as its fourth anthology, mixing new and established voices who tell short, sharp, memorable true stories in this exciting genre of micro memoir.

Micro memoirs are small moments from a person's life. Drawn from personal experience, these moments might at first seem insignificant, but when written with care and imagination can reveal large insights into life and identity. Night Parrot Press has been teaching this exciting form of writing in workshops and universities and in festivals over the last few years and now, for the first time, these micro memoirs have been published in a ground-breaking anthology.

'A micro memoir has the same narrative tension as fiction or a full-length memoir, but reveals a truth in a very distilled form,' says co-editor and Night Parrot Press publisher, Laura Keenan.

Opening lines and titles of micro memoir do a lot of the heavy lifting, positioning the reader right in the action:

Eight is such a brilliant age, full of reckless certainty. (Scott-Patrick Mitchell from 'School Spirit')

The first time I met Daniel, he put a lizard into my hands. (Katherine Allum from 'Animals of the Mojave Desert')

I was the colour of a long, drawn-out cuppa tea with a splash of milk, but so was she. (Sabrina Dudgeon-Swift from 'Blak No Sugar')

I stand in front of the 'Sanitary Care' wall at the pharmacy, overwhelmed. (Brodi Snook from 'Forever Eleven')

Friday sunset, and the man is sitting on a plastic chair at the edge of his driveway again. (Maria Papas from 'The Man on the Driveway')

*'Youse dogs are f*cked!'* (Alexander Thorpe from 'A Non-exhaustive Review of Things that Have Been Yelled at Me from the Window of a Holden Commodore')

From school and childhood moments, to love and heartbreak, from siblings and family, to grief and loss, the voices in the collection offer beautiful threads of shared experience that resonate across cultures and generations.

As co-editor Casey Mulder says, 'The pieces in the collection work together as a whole community might. They are also stand-alone pieces that explore a moment of life. And it's these small moments that are impactful.'

The collection is available to order online through Night Parrot Press, and across WA in select independent and chain bookstores.

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