

News From The Lane Bookshop

Autumn 2014

News from the shop

We've redesigned our website and would love to know what you think. Check it out at www.lanebook.com.au While you are there you can subscribe to our newsletter, see what books we recommend and find a list of books reviewed on the radio by Barb. It's not the kind of site that lists our entire inventory, but we are adding books every week as they arrive or as we read them so it's a great place to go if you are looking for a new book for yourself or when making a book club choice.

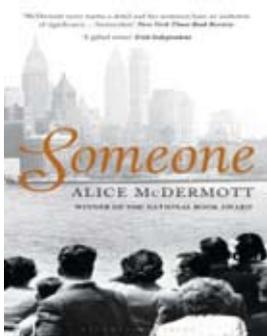
Literary Prizes

The book world is awash in literary prizes at the moment, including the Miles Franklin Award. Our website has links to most of the prizes. Just look under News & Events or Useful Links.

Customer Loyalty Programme

Our new Rewardle system is up and running with over 1500 members so far. If you haven't joined yet just ask a staff member.

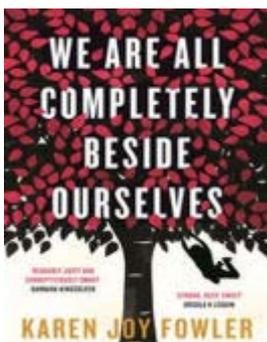
Someone by Alice McDermott \$27.99



Someone is a quiet, beautifully observant novel that celebrates the lives of ordinary people. Opening in 1920s Brooklyn, it captures in glimpses the life of Marie, her family, and others in their Irish-American neighbourhood. Every day Marie sits on the stoop of her building awaiting her father's return from work. As she sits, she observes the people around her, sometimes seeing right to the heart of things, but at other times misunderstanding what is happening. There's the blind war veteran sitting in the sun; the boys playing ball; a group of local nuns; and a disabled girl who is later institutionalised. And then there's her much loved brother Gabe, who leaves the priesthood suddenly and with little explanation. As

she grows older, Marie continues to observe the lives of others, but of course her perspective changes, not just on what she sees, but on what has gone before. Love, marriage, motherhood, grief and loss all make her reflections deeper and richer as time passes.

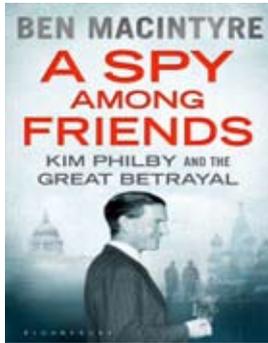
We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves by Karen Joy Fowler \$27.99



One of the characters in this novel is not as they seem, and this makes it a tricky book to talk about without giving away the secret. Rosemary, the narrator, used to have a brother and a sister whom she loved, but now she has neither. First her sister Fern vanished from her life, and a few years later her older brother Lowell was gone. Rosemary and her parents don't speak about Fern and Lowell, but Rosemary, once a non-stop talker but now studiously quiet, never really stops thinking about her missing siblings. Rosemary's dad is a professor of psychology at Indiana University and as a child she was used to the many grad students who filled the house observing her own and Fern's developmental milestones. Of course,

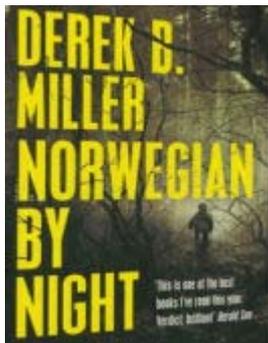
when Fern vanished so did the students. One day in the college cafeteria something about a fellow student reminds Rosemary of Fern and the memories come rushing back, this time not to be pushed aside. By turns funny and disturbing, *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* is a thoroughly enjoyable read. Underneath the light and snappy style is a serious consideration of ethics, memory, loss and culpability.

A Spy Among Friends by Ben Macintyre \$29.99



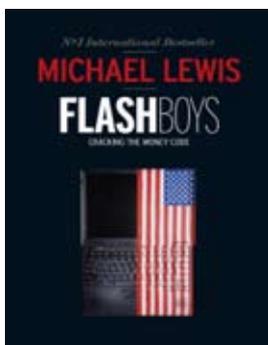
In 1963 in a small Beirut apartment one Englishman is interrogating another. The conversation appears polite, even amiable. It is anything but. The man being questioned is Kim Philby, the interrogator is his fellow spy and longtime friend Nicholas Elliott. Proof of Philby's duplicity has finally been found and Elliott, who has been his friend's greatest defender, is incensed by the betrayal and demands the right to lead the interrogation. Ben Macintyre specializes in writing the stories of Britain's spies and has the knack of turning cold hard facts into a narrative that has a boys own adventure ring to it. In *A Spy Among Friends* he cleverly tells the story of the most infamous member of the Cambridge spy ring via the story of his friendships. Philby's betrayal of his country unfolds in tandem with his personal betrayal of loyal friends. The inability of the British establishment to even consider one of their own capable of betrayal is thought to be in some part responsible for its failure to uncover the Cambridge spy ring for so long.

Norwegian by Night by Derek Miller \$24.95



Eighty-two year old widower Sheldon Horowitz has moved from New York to Norway to live with his granddaughter Rhea and her husband. When he is witness to a neighbour's murder, Sheldon decides he must rescue the woman's son and embarks with the boy on an unlikely journey across the country, unaware that Rhea, the police, and the murderer all know his destination. Sheldon is a stubborn, grumpy old man, often funny and always cantankerous. There is some doubt over whether he has dementia, but none at all that he feels tremendous guilt over the death of his son, who died in Vietnam after having been encouraged by his father to do his duty and sign up. This is a tense, often darkly funny novel that makes you think.

Flash Boys by Michael Lewis Hardback \$39.99



Canadian share trader Brad Katsuyama is puzzled when trades he would usually execute easily keep vanishing before his eyes, as though someone knows what he is about to do before he even gets a chance to do it. When he learns the same thing is happening to his fellow traders he decides to investigate what it is that has caused this change in the way markets behave. *Flash Boys* is the story of high frequency trading, dark pools and the way they are distorting the modern stock market. Michael Lewis, whose previous books include *Moneyball*, *Liar's Poker* and *Boomerang*, is a journalist with a gift for making seemingly incomprehensible financial subjects both understandable and interesting. *Flash Boys* is a fascinating, if alarming read.