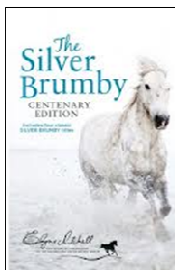


## BOOK REVIEWS

## Fiction

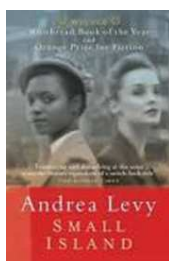
**THE SILVER BRUMBY** by Elyne Mitchell (Centenary Edition)



This special edition contains *The Silver Brumby*, and three other favourites: *Silver Brumby's Daughter*, *Silver Brumbies of the South* and *Silver Brumby Kingdom*. These much-loved classics tell the story of Thowra, the magnificent silver stallion, king of the brumbies. Whether you are enjoying the Silver Brumby series for the first time or rediscovering it after many years, this is a book to be treasured.

Lorraine Powers

**SMALL ISLAND** by Andrea Levy



"Small Island" is a prize winning novel by British Author Andrea Levy. It was adapted for television by the BBC in 2009.

It is based on four main characters – Hortense, Queenie, Gilbert and Bernard, and the story is told from each one's point of view. Its main plot is set in 1948, and focuses on the fortunes of Jamaican immigrants who, escaping economic

hardship in their own "small island," move to England, the Mother Country, for which the men have fought during WW2. Their reception is not quite the warm embrace that they expected; some chapters skip to earlier memories of their growing up years in Jamaica.

This book is well researched and historically faithful, and the characters are realistically drawn. A good read!

Jill Kerr

## Crime Fiction

**A WANTED MAN** by Lee Child



Jack Reacher, Child's hero, is in Nebraska with his nose broken and still trying to hitch a ride east to Virginia. Reacher is the ex-MP drifter with the seldom-talked-about past, who has an almost psychotic obsession with being his own man, of no fixed address and who carries nothing but, almost literally, the shirt on his back. This chivalrous superman journeys the US at

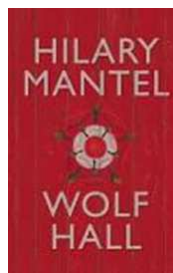
whim, dispensing his own brand of justice, transcending the tawdry and corrupt routines of the legal system.

A good thriller which draws you in and makes you feel you're reading faster than the action is occurring on the page!

Lorraine Powers

## Historical Fiction

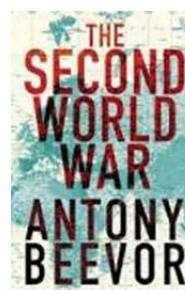
**WOLF HALL AND BRING UP THE BODIES** by Hilary Mantel



This Literary Award Winner is the second volume of Hilary Mantel's astounding account of the life of Thomas Cromwell and was the first sequel to win the **Man Booker Prize for Fiction**. Wolf Hall was the First Volume.

Lorraine Powers

**THE SECOND WORLD WAR** by Antony Beevor

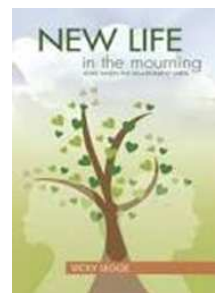


Antony Beevor make this weighty history hard to put down, with its broad sweep of events coupled with personal details of the people involved. He describes it as "the greatest man-made disaster in history", causing the death of some sixty to seventy million people and the dislocation of the lives of further millions.

The background to the main conflict is provided for Europe and Asia: the Japanese were remorselessly attacking China in 1937 and Hitler (afraid of Bolshevism) was experimentally bombing Spain in 1936, before starting the European war by invading Poland in 1939. Some light relief is provided by the mistakes made by the great leaders, even Churchill, Stalin and Hitler: disaster often followed when they intervened in military operations. Some prominent generals were vain, gloriously competing with their colleagues. The sad fact is that all sides behaved inhumanely.

Bryan Forbes

## Body Mind and Spirit



**NEW LIFE IN MOURNING: Hope When the Relationship Ends** by Vicky Legge

And they lived happily ever after. That's the dream ending we all expect from a committed relationship, but dreams can become nightmares, and relationships end. But as Vicky Legge

explains with authority and compassion, the end of a relationship doesn't have to be "the end" It can be a challenging, confronting and painful time that brings mourning, but there is hope for a new life.

New Life in the Mourning offers practical guidance to navigate the end of a relationship caused by separation, divorce or relationship breakdown.

Lorraine Powers

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