

Be The Woman You Admire: Booktopia celebrates inspirational women - in reality and fiction - for International Women's Day

- *Aussie book store encourages readers to #BeHer and embrace the Aussie icons they admire for IWD*

Australia, 1 March: From the many wonderful women in the world, who do you admire the most? That is the question Australia's biggest book store, Booktopia, is asking ahead of International Women's Day, encouraging Aussies to embrace their female idols, whether real or fictional.

Booktopia's team of experts have compiled a collection of books featuring compelling stories and enlightening journeys from a number of inspirational females, tackling a range of topics and issues, both provocative and empowering in equal measure.

The inspiration that women can hold also goes beyond our real-life world. As part of its celebration of women this International Women's Day, experts have also identified a list of fictional top women characters, who exhibit the most admirable qualities and ability to inspire others.

With a vast array of dynamic women to connect with, the campaign invites Australians to consider International Women's Day as a moment and opportunity to 'be the woman - or women - you admire'. The books and personalities in the list below provide a catalyst for the imagination.

Top Book Picks for International Women's Day

- [On Reckoning](#) by **Amy Remeikis**; a top-trending book from one of Australia's leading political journalists, offering a searing account which captures inside and outside Parliament during one of the most confronting and uncomfortable conversations in recent memory.
- [How We Love](#) by **Clementine Ford**; a heartfelt and revelatory memoir from the bestselling author and broadcaster, exploring love through Clementine's own experiences and the transformative journey throughout her life.
- [Work.Love.Body](#) by **Jamila Rizvi and Helen McCabe**; 2020 saw change thrust abruptly on modern Australian women, impacting working lives, relationships and health and wellbeing. Future Women offers answers as to the next steps.
- [Another Day in the Colony](#) by **Chelsea Watego**; this book examines the ongoing and daily racism faced by the First Nations community with a strategy for living in a social world and standing against colonialism.

- [The Success Experiment](#) by **Lillian Ahenkan aka Flex Mami**; find out how Lillian conducted her experiment, transforming herself from a uni drop-out stuck in a career paying in burnout, into a highly sought-after media personality.
- [Sheilas](#) by **Eliza Reilly**; take an entertaining trip through Australian history, reviving the forgotten stories of the badass Sheilas we were never taught about in school.
- [You're Doing It Wrong](#) by **Kaz Cooke**; take an outrageous tour through the centuries of terrible advice foisted upon women, telling them what they should and shouldn't be doing, complete with humour, rage, intelligence and wit.
- [Secrets of Women's Healthy Ageing](#) by **Cassandra Szoeki**; explore the findings of a unique study that provides the key ingredients for living a long and healthy life.
- [Bad Feminist](#) by **Roxane Gay**; the critically-acclaimed writer takes us on a fun journey of her evolution as a woman, including riding through modern day culture and feminism as it is today.
- [Power](#) by **Kemi Nekvapil**; a guide to living life in full and without apology and reclaiming your power, courtesy of one of Australia's most esteemed personal coaches.
- [Rising Heart](#) by **Aminata Conteh-Biger**; charting one woman's breathtaking and heartbreaking journey from unimaginable trauma to becoming a power for good.
- [Don't Be Too Polite. Girls](#) by **Wendy McCarthy**; gain a deeper insight into a trailblazing personality who has been on the leading edge of feminism for more than 50 years.

Top Fictional Female Icons, picked by the Booktopia Team

- Detective Sergeant Kate Miles from [The Torrent](#)
- Mim from [The Mother Fault](#)
- Suzy from [The Truth About Her](#)
- Billie Walker from [The War Widow](#)
- Kerry from [Too Much Lip](#)
- Calida from [Burnt Out](#)
- Dorothea Brooks from [Middlemarch](#)
- Helen Graham from [The Tenant of Wildfell Hall](#)
- Elizabeth Macarthur from [A Room Made of Leaves](#)
- Jo March from [Little Women and Good Wives](#)

Editor of Booktopia's book blog, *The Booktopian*, Olivia Fricot, said: "Not only are these books fantastic reads in their own right from some remarkable women, they speak frankly to the diversity of women's experiences, which can be as wonderful as it is challenging. It's tempting to see the abundance of books written by, about, and for

women as a relatively new trend, but the desire to share women's stories has always been there from readers and writers alike. We're now spoilt for choice and I couldn't be more thrilled about it."

For more book-spiration this International Women's Day, head to the Booktopia [website](#) and Booktopia's dedicated [blog](#). There will be a special series of content around the day, putting a number of great books - which are by and about women - into the spotlight, including highlighting some of the 'forgotten' women in fiction. To join the conversation and share the women you admire, visit Booktopia's [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages and use the hashtag #BeHer.

–ENDS–

Notes to Editors

Booktopia is Australia's biggest bookstore: listed on the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX:BKG), selling books, ebooks, DVDs, stationery, ereaders and audiobooks, delivering to every corner of Australia and New Zealand. Booktopia has access to over 6 million books in its database, offering Australian readers thousands of titles from a wide variety of international and local publishers. Whether you like to read physical books, or prefer reading via your computer, tablet, iPhone, Android smartphone or electronic reading device, Booktopia has readers covered – both online and offline.

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