

Nat's the way to do it! Social media sensation *Nat's What I Reckon* wins Booktopia's Favourite Australian Book Award

- Aussie superstar takes out title for second year running after topping public vote
- Hannah Kent's *Devotion* and Gary Lonesborough's *Boy From The Mish* named winners of Booktopia's two inaugural book awards

Australia, 3 February 2022: Australian social media star, *Nat's What I Reckon*, has been announced as the winner of Booktopia's **Favourite Australian Book (FAB)** Award for the second year in a row following a public vote which went down to the wire. Nat, who shot to fame with his popular comedy cooking videos on his YouTube channel during the lockdowns, picked up the award for the best homegrown material of 2021 with his cookbook, *Death to Jar Sauce*.

Death to Jar Sauce continues Nat's stance against pre-made jar sauces and features a collection of simple, tasty recipes to make from scratch at home, designed to empower amateur cooks and delivered through Nat's trademark cheeky, humorous style.

This win follows his triumph in 2020, where he scooped the top prize with his book, *Uncook Yourself*.

More than 170,000 votes were cast in a record-breaking year for the award which saw a number of top established Australian authors and high-profile Australian personalities who had made forays into the world of books in 2021, battle it out to take the crown. Stars including music icon, Jimmy Barnes, comedian, Christian Hull and literary giants, Liane Moriarty and Matthew Reilly were among those authors who made the top ten Australian books of the year.

Top 10 Favourite Australian Books - Booktopia's Favourite Australian Book Award 2021		booktopia
1.	Death to Jar Sauce - Nat's What I Reckon	
2.	Your Head Is A Houseboat - Campbell Walker	
3.	The Backyard Adventurer - Beau Miles	
4.	Leave Me Alone - Christian Hull	
5.	The One Impossible Labyrinth - Matthew Reilly	
6.	Where The River Bends - Jane and Jimmy Barnes	
7.	Rosie the Rhinoceros - Jimmy Barnes	
8.	Heartsick - Jessie Stephens	
9.	Apples Never Fall - Liane Moriarty	
10.	The Prison Healer - Lynette Noni	

On his second win, Nat said: "I remember going to Jamberoo Recreation Park when I was a kid and going on heaps of rides and having the sickest time ever. This feels like going on all the rides at once. Stoked doesn't even come close to describing how touched I am by everyone's support."

Nat is donating his \$5,000 prize money for winning the award, to Beyond Blue, to help support those in need with their mental health.

Alongside the Favourite Australian Book Award, Booktopia has also announced winners of two inaugural book awards.

Hannah Kent's book, *Devotion*, has been named **Booktopia's Favourite Australian Book**, judged by Booktopia's team of book experts as *their* favourite book of the year. The [book](#) is a historical novel where the natural and modern worlds collide and marries themes of tragedy and a love story, in a style which has propelled Kent to become a prominent best-seller.

Ben Hunter, Fiction Category Manager at Booktopia, said: "In a time of grief and isolation, Hannah Kent has provided the perfect literary tonic - inviting readers to contemplate the indelible and eternal energy of love. No other book this year has struck a chord with so many staff members here at Booktopia. We were unanimous in our decision – *Devotion* is a triumph!"

Meanwhile, **Gary Lonesborough's** *Boy From the Mish* has been named **Booktopia's Favourite Australian Debut Book**, which champions an Australian author who made their debut in 2021. The [book](#) features a compelling 'will-they-won't-they' romance between two Aboriginal boys, supported by a narrative that mixes sweetness and honesty.

Sarah McDuling, Category Manager for Kids & Young Adults at Booktopia, said: "A warm and tender-hearted debut from a refreshing new voice in young adult fiction, *The Boy from the Mish* is a queer First Nations novel about self-discovery and first love. Raw in its honesty yet also disarmingly sweet, reading this book was a joyful and illuminating experience. I can't wait to see what Gary Lonesborough writes next!"

Both authors also receive \$5,000 prizes for their award wins.

Following on from the awards, Booktopia is continuing to celebrate great Australian talent and book lovers can find more homegrown books and inspiration in the brand's new *Australian Stories* campaign, featuring some of the best writing across fiction, true stories, kids, cooking and more. For more information, click [here](#).

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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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