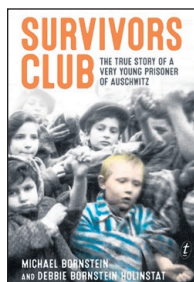


# Shelf improvement

The AJN presents a selection of entertaining and informative new releases.

Prices are RRP.

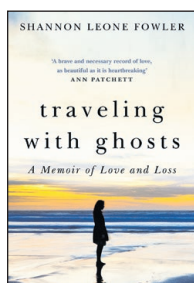
## SURVIVORS CLUB



**Michael Bornstein**  
Text, \$22.99

IN 1945, in a now-famous piece of archival footage, four-year-old Michael Bornstein was filmed by Soviet soldiers as he was carried out of Auschwitz in his grandmother's arms. Here is the unforgettable story of how a father's courageous wit, a mother's fierce love and a perfectly timed illness saved his life, and how others in his family dodged death at the hands of the Nazis. Working from his own recollections as well as interviews with relatives and survivors, Bornstein relates his shocking, heartbreaking and ultimately inspirational story. *Survivors Club* is a memoir of one of the youngest prisoners liberated from Auschwitz and of the miracle of his family's survival. Bornstein settled in New York City after World War II, where he worked in pharmaceutical research. Now retired, he visits schools to talk about his Holocaust story.

## TRAVELING WITH GHOSTS



**Shannon Leone Fowler**  
Hachette, \$32.99

IN the summer of 2002, Shannon Leone Fowler was backpacking with her fiancé Sean in Thailand. The couple was planning to return home after holidaying on the island of Koh Pha Ngan, but their world was turned upside down when a deadly box jellyfish wrapped itself around Sean's legs, stinging and killing him in minutes. Rejecting the Thai authorities' attempt to label Sean's death as 'drunk drowning', Shannon accompanied his body home to his stunned family – a family to which she suddenly no longer belonged. Shattered and alone, Shannon set out on

a journey to make sense of her loss. From contemplating the silence of Auschwitz to learning the rules for sitting shiva amid daily bombings in Israel, to finding humour and creativity in Sarajevo, a city still scarred by the recent war, Shannon charts a path through sorrow towards recovery. *Traveling with Ghosts* is a personal account of learning to live with grief.

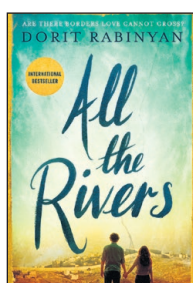
## AN EYE FOR AN EYE



**Arthur Klepfisz**  
Brolga Publishing, \$24.99

WHEN Dr Andrew Wright is subjected to major stress at the hands of a supposedly-corrupt police officer – who is also involved in the suspicious death of a disadvantaged Vietnamese refugee – he develops an obsessive thirst for revenge. This creates a destructive force damaging the doctor's moral values, his marriage and his ability to function as a husband, father and doctor. Arthur Klepfisz came to Australia from Poland with his parents as refugees after World War II. Despite having no English skills on arrival, he excelled at school and went on to study medicine, specialising in adolescent and child psychiatry. Dr Klepfisz has utilised his professional experiences in his debut novel, *An Eye for an Eye: Blinded in the Pursuit for Revenge*.

## ALL THE RIVERS



**Dorit Rabinyan**  
Allen & Unwin, \$24.99

A CHANCE encounter in New York brings two strangers together: Liat is an idealistic translation student and Hilmi is a talented young painter. Together they explore the city, share fantasies and fall in love. There is only one problem: Liat

is Israeli, Hilmi is Palestinian. Keeping their relationship secret, the two lovers build an intimate universe for two in this city far from home. But outside reality can only be kept at bay for so long. After a tempestuous visit from Hilmi's brother, cracks begin to form in the relationship, and their points of difference – Liat's military service, Hilmi's hopes for a Palestinian future – loom large. When they return separately to their homes, Liat and Hilmi must decide whether to keep going, or let go. Rabinyan is the author of *Persian Brides* and *Strand of a Thousand Pearls*.

## A LAND WITHOUT BORDERS

**Nir Baram**  
Text, \$32.99

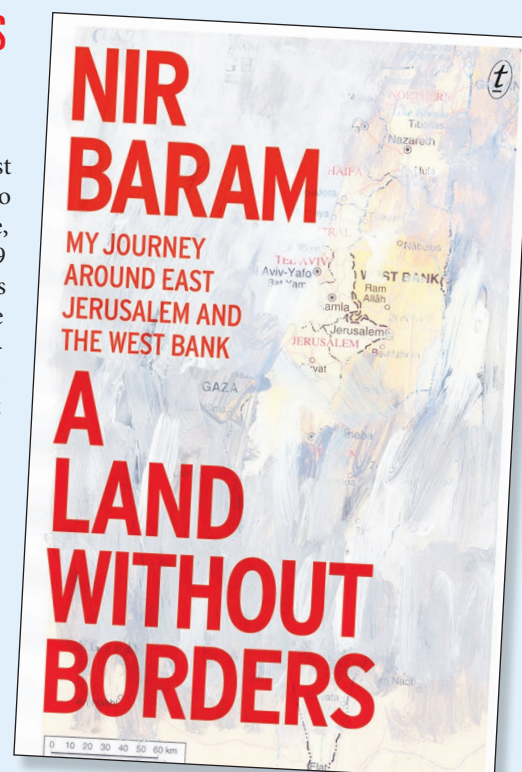
IN 2014, leading Israeli journalist and author Nir Baram decided to travel the length of the Green Line, the demarcation line from the 1949 armistice agreement. The result was 18 months travelling around the West Bank and East Jerusalem, regularly returning to Tel Aviv. His aim was to try to understand more about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and gain a comprehensive, accurate picture of the region and examine his own political views. In *A Land Without Borders: My Journey Around East Jerusalem*, Baram speaks with a wide range of people, among them Palestinian-Israeli citizens living behind the separation wall in Jerusalem and Jewish settlers determined to forge new lives on the West Bank. Baram also talks to children on Kibbutz Nirim who lived through the war in Gaza, and ex-prisoners from Fatah who, after spending years detained in Israeli jails, are now promoting a peace initiative. Baram was born into a political family in Jerusalem in 1976. His grandfather and father were both ministers in Israeli Labour Party governments. He has worked as a journalist and an editor, and as an advocate for equal rights for Palestinians. He began publishing fiction when he was 22, and is the author of five novels, including *The Remaker of Dreams*, *Good People* and *World Shadow*. In 2010 he received the Prime Minister's Award for Hebrew Literature.

## ELIJAHU'S MISTRESS



**Roger Mendelson**  
Sid Harta Publishing,  
\$24.95

IN *Eliyahu's Mistress*, the debut novel by Australian businessman and communal leader Roger Mendelson, we follow a love story that blends Judaism and Catholicism, as the two protagonists discuss religion, history and the past relationships that have shaped and defined them. The story is set around Steven, a dynamic marketing man who is Jewish but not overly religious. When Steven develops a new business strategy for an established chain of church-run op shops, he quickly forms a strong working relationship with Frances, one of the board members. Frances, who is middle-aged, is a practising Catholic living in the Dandenongs outside Melbourne. Her life is shaped by nature, her religion and the seasons, providing contentment and deep spirituality. Their business formality slowly becomes a friendship, then blossoms into something more, and as their relationship develops and intensifies, it begins heading towards a dramatic and powerful conclusion.



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