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Catastrophe is always happening somewhere, someone's life is always ending or changing, and being a paramedic brings you into close contact with these events

### books

cold justice

author:  
**katherine howell**

publisher:  
**pan macmillan**

available at all good  
book stores

rrp \$25

With two bestsellers already to her credit, her third novel certain to enjoy similar status and a fourth book begun, Gold Coast crime writer Katherine Howell understands patience is indeed a virtue.

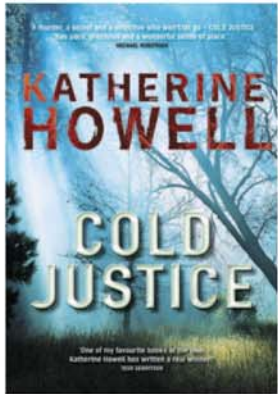
And not just patience, but also patients. A paramedic for 15 years before finally committing to the writing career she had desired for so long, Howell's experiences as an emergency worker have helped drive the gritty and compelling fiction within *Frantic*, *The Darkest Hour* and now *Cold Justice*.

"The paramedic experience is an emotional one, an ongoing battle of the emotions over many years," she says.

"The job truly changes your life. Catastrophe is always happening somewhere, someone's life is always ending or changing somewhere, and being a paramedic brings you into close and constant contact with these events.

"I've scrambled down cliff faces in the rain to reach people screaming in wrecked cars. I know the waxy feel of dead flesh, the sound of a dying man's last gasps.

"I've caught babies born on stained lounge room floors. I've done CPR until my back screamed and my shirt was soaked with sweat. I've held a mother's hand and looked into her



paramedic. I was a wreck when I finished up, but I do feel my experience adds authenticity to the stories I tell. "When you know what an ambulance siren sounds like from inside the cabin, and when you've seen, from a paramedic's perspective, what people have done and what they go through, the writing seems to have more life, or more reality."

*Cold Justice* confirms its author's claim as Howell's protagonist in *Frantic* and *The Darkest Hour*, Detective Ella Marconi, returns to become involved in a baffling cold case.

Eighteen years after teenager Georgie Riley discovered the body of murdered classmate Tim Pieters, the unsolved case is reopened.

Marconi tracks down Georgie, who is now a paramedic, and initially trusts her story. However, an anonymous caller insists Georgie is not telling all she knows and Marconi's suspicions are further heightened upon learning Georgie's ambulance partner Freya attended the same high school.

When the murdered boy's mother suddenly turns her back on the investigation, Marconi knows there are many secrets and deceptions to expose.

Australia has many talented crime writers, but *Cold Justice* proves Katherine Howell is among the best.

eyes and told her that her daughter was dead.

"I've been abused, assaulted, bitten and threatened, I've pressed desperately on haemorrhaging wounds while the blood ran off the stretcher, drenched the floor and escaped under the back door of the ambulance, and I've even done my best to resuscitate a dog whose owner thought the two of them were better off dead.

"I'm glad I'm no longer a

### otherbookreleases

tuscan rose

belinda alexandra



harper collins

rrp \$32.99

A novel filled with intrigue and heart. A silver key is the only clue to the identity of a child left with Italian nuns. At 15, Rosa becomes governess to an aristocrat and his alarming wife, but as fascism gathers strength under Mussolini, her courage, intuition and determination will be tested.

in a word: bold

making a world of difference

miles roston



exisle

rrp \$34.99

There are few finer qualities than selflessness and these stories prove generosity and self-sacrifice can have massive consequences. Whether saving lives, solving problems, offering compassion or just refusing to surrender, the act of giving reveals human nature at its best.

in a word: human

little paradise

gabrielle wang



penguin

rrp \$19.95

Inspired by a true story, author Wang's moving tale begins in 1943 in Melbourne where 17-year-old Mirabel falls for Chinese soldier JJ. When their forbidden affair is discovered and JJ is posted back to a China enmeshed in civil war, Mirabel risks everything and sets off for Shanghai to find him.

in a word: real

nightfall

stephen leather



hodder & stoughton

rrp \$32.99

Ex-police negotiator turned struggling PI Jack Nightingale is surprised to inherit a mansion with a priceless library. The price, however, is Jack's own soul, which Old Nick is coming to take when Jack turns 33. Then other people start dying. Sounds silly and it is, albeit in an entertaining way.

in a word: devilish

### riddled

what am I?

Though seen by eyes in dark of night, My nature stays concealed from sight. On sword, three-jewelled, there I lie, A hunter's mist for stronger eye

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