

Crow's Breath

JOHN KINSELLA

Winner of the Prime Minister's Literary Award for Poetry and Christopher Brennan Award (for lifetime achievement in poetry) and shortlisted in the Steele Rudd Prize for a collection of short fiction, John Kinsella returns with a not-to-be-missed addition to the canon of one of Australia's most original and incisive writers.

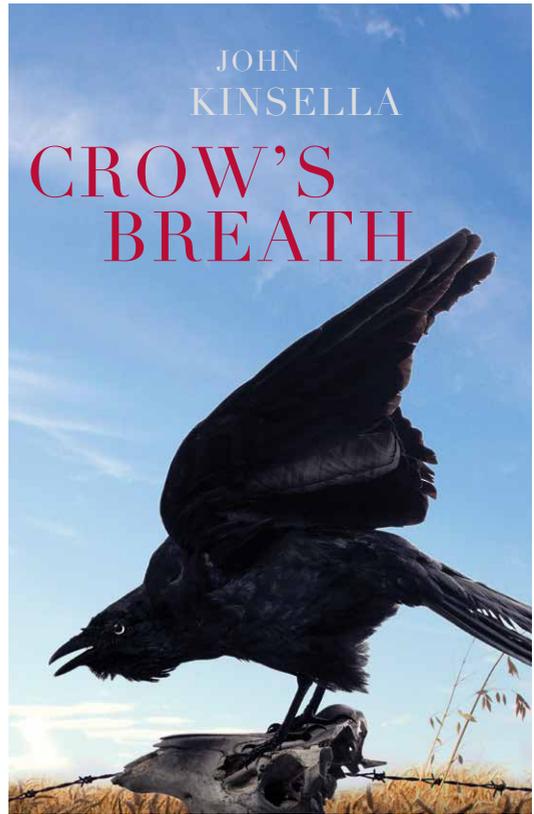
A man who never sleeps takes a cross-continent train journey into landscape and memory. A gregarious woman and a reclusive man move to an Irish village where history and tradition (the famine pit nearby, the festival of Halloween) enact their dark forces. In an Australian town dying from the encroachment of salinity, a young girl attempts to bring life to a dead dog. Whether documenting love or horror, or finding quotidian absurdities in Australia or the world, the powerful stories in *Crow's Breath* capture the precariousness of everything we most value with unsettling tenderness and beauty.

ISBN: 978-1-921924-81-1
TRADE PB 208PP
RRP: \$25.95

PUBLICATION DATE:
1 MAY 2015
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD

KINSELLA'S
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PETER PIERCE, AGE/SMH



Praise for *Crows' Breath*

From a literary perspective, the collection excels within the conventions Kinsella subverts in other prose works - offering the same kind of contrast and pleasure as reading Joyce's *Dubliners* after *Ulysses*. These are well-crafted short stories, full of the pleasures the best short stories offer - twists, moments, epiphanies. They inhabit a wide range of modes, most commonly the gothic and realist. They are united in their concise intensity. nathanhobby.wordpress.com

Kinsella's work is magnificent, raw; the words coming together in form and shape to evoke the essence of the moment in time he is creating. bluewolf-reviews



John Kinsella's most recent volumes of poetry are *The Vision of Error: A Sextet of Activist Poems* (Five Islands Press, 2013) and *Sack* (Freemantle Press and Picador, UK 2014) His collection, *Jam Tree Gully* (WW Norton, 2012), won the 2013 Prime Minister's Prize for Poetry. *Tide*, a collection of stories, was published by Transit Lounge in 2013.