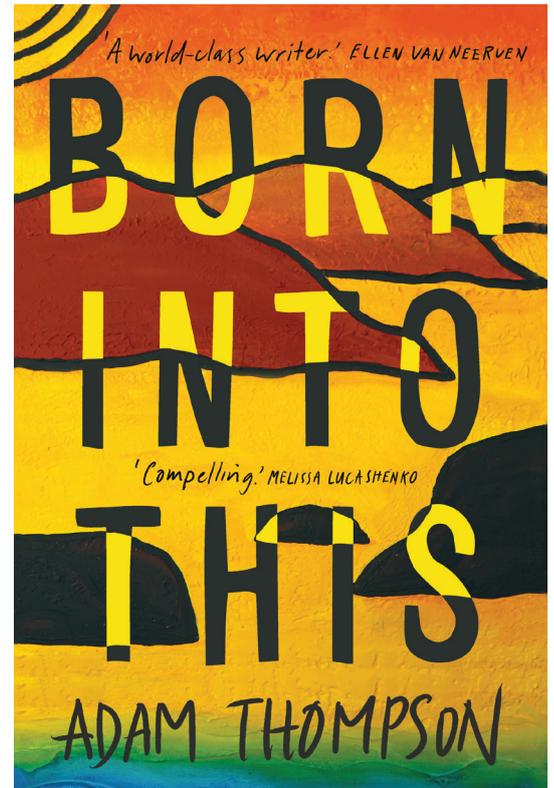


Engaging, thought-provoking stories from a young Tasmanian Australian author who addresses universal themes – identity, racism, heritage destruction – from a wholly original perspective.

The remarkable stories in *Born Into This* are eye-opening, razor-sharp and entertaining, often all at once. From an Aboriginal ranger trying to instil some pride in wayward urban teens on the harsh islands off the coast of Tasmania, to those scraping by on the margins of white society railroaded into complex and compromised decisions, Adam Thompson presents a powerful indictment of colonialism and racism.

With humour, pathos and occasional sly twist, Thompson's characters confront discrimination, untimely funerals, classroom politics, the ongoing legacy of cultural destruction and – overhanging all like a discomfiting, burgeoning awareness for both white and black Australia – the inexorable disappearance of the remnant natural world.



BOOK DETAILS

C-format paperback | 978 0 7022 6311 8
\$29.99

Questions

1. In 'The Old Tin Mine', did Ben fail in his responsibilities to the group, or did they let him down?
2. In 'Honey', what does the way Nathan deals with Sharkey's casual racism tell you about his character?
3. What do you think happened to Uncle Donnie in 'Jack's Island'? Was he really on the island?
4. The character in 'Summer Girl' exploits his new girlfriend's white guilt. How did this make you feel?
5. Did the story 'Descendant' make you reconsider your ideas about Aboriginal identity and how it is defined?
6. Is Kat in 'The Blackfellas from Here' a hero, a villain, or neither?

[MORE QUESTIONS OVER PAGE](#)

Questions cont.

7. There are two stories set on 26 January: 'Invasion Day' and 'Kite'. What do these stories tell you about how Aboriginal people experience that day?
8. How might Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people view the stories in this collection differently?
9. At the end of 'Bleak Conditions', the character decides not to take his son to the barbers for a haircut. Why not?
10. Do you have a favourite story in the book? Which one and why?
11. Is *Born Into This* more than a sum of its stories? If so, in what ways?
12. What have you learned about Tasmanian Aboriginal people from the characters and scenarios in *Born Into This*?

'A compelling new voice, tough yet tender, from the heart of Aboriginal Tasmania.'

Melissa Lucashenko

'I knew from the first page that *Born Into This* was going to be something special.'

Ellen van Neerven

'*Born Into This* delivers refreshing and vital reading ... He delivers on every page, with every word.'

Tony Birch

'It's not often a new literary voice seems to spring fully formed from a world so unique and yet so achingly recognisable.'

Cate Kennedy

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Adam Thompson is an emerging Aboriginal (pakana) writer from Launceston, Tasmania. He has won several local writing awards and has been published by the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, *Kill Your Darlings* and *Griffith Review*. Adam is passionate about his community and has worked for the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre for almost twenty years, caring for Aboriginal land and heritage, and preserving community history. In addition to short fiction, Adam has written for television and performance art.



VISIT

<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2021/feb/19/born-into-this-by-adam-thompson-review-witty-versatile-and-thrumming-with-voice>

<https://www.readings.com.au/products/33019263/born-into-this>

**FURTHER
READING**

