

psp

sarah day
slack tide

ISBN 978-1-922080-04-2
RRP paperback A\$28, e-book A\$5.
122 pages.
B format paperback 128 x198 mm
Full colour cover.
Publication Date September 2022.

About Pitt Street Poetry

This new Sydney-based poetry imprint uses a judicious mix of traditional and contemporary technologies to publish reprints of classic Australian poetry and a selective new list.

Visit

pittstreetpoetry.com/poet/sarah-day/
to order the book or for teachers' notes
and other background material

psp

SARAH DAY

SLACK TIDE

Slack tide is the turning point when a body of tidal water can seem uncertain as to whether it is coming in or going out. While surface water may be deceptively calm at this time, below the surface huge divergent forces are at work. In the title of Sarah Day's ninth collection the term is an expression of twenty-first century unease. World events and global forces are an oblique presence in much of this collection in whose poems private and public disturb one another's space and boundaries.

"These poems open up moments in a heightened ongoing present: statistics read out on the news as a honey-eater's tongue is observed through a window extracting nectar from a flower; a row of lights from a squid-boat raiding the ocean at night; the effect of a comment by a young refugee about a violent attack; falling snow; the underwater world of salt-marshes. Longer poems explore wide themes—the incarceration of women, embodied in the journey to find a missing grandmother; ivy as metaphor for global corporations—moments and narratives as they emerge out of today, yesterday, tomorrow, or some continuum through time. While the themes often hold considerable gravitas, there is playfulness and whimsy too, in tone, voice, and angle of approach. These poems seek what Robert Pinsky called "a collaboration between the external world and the self, between language and intention".

About the Author

Since Sarah Day's first book in 1987, her works have received a number of awards including the Anne Elder and the Queensland Premier's Awards and Michel Wesley Wright Prizes, and have been shortlisted for the NSW, Tasmanian Premier's, and Prime Minister's Literary Awards. She has taught creative writing to year 12 students over the past twenty years, has collaborated with musicians, and judged national poetry, fiction, and nature-writing competitions. She lives in Hobart.



Author photograph © Gordon Harrison-Williams