

Paradise

(point of transmission)

by **ANDREW SUTHERLAND**

ABOUT THE BOOK

This brilliant debut examines a queer PLHIV identity, across spaces and citizenships both physical and imagined. Here, histories and mythologies, both personal and observed, are recast over the spectre of transmission. *Paradise (point of transmission)* is a poetry collection placed within a sequence of transitional spaces: from seronegative to seropositive; from 'adopted' Singaporean to the poet finding his place again as an adult in the Perth of his childhood; and from being secretive about his HIV-status (in which the art he produced was rooted in the trauma of HIV transmission without naming it), towards living a more public life, in which living openly with HIV is characterised by Queer intimacy, yearning and transformation.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrew Sutherland is a Queer poz (PLHIV) writer and performance-maker creating work between Boorloo in Western Australia, and Singapore. His work draws upon intercultural and Queer critical theories, and the vital instabilities of identity, pop culture and the autobiographical self. He was awarded *Overland's* Fair Australia Poetry Prize 2017 and placed third in FAWWA's Tom Collins Prize 2021. He is grateful to reside on Whadjuk Noongar boodja

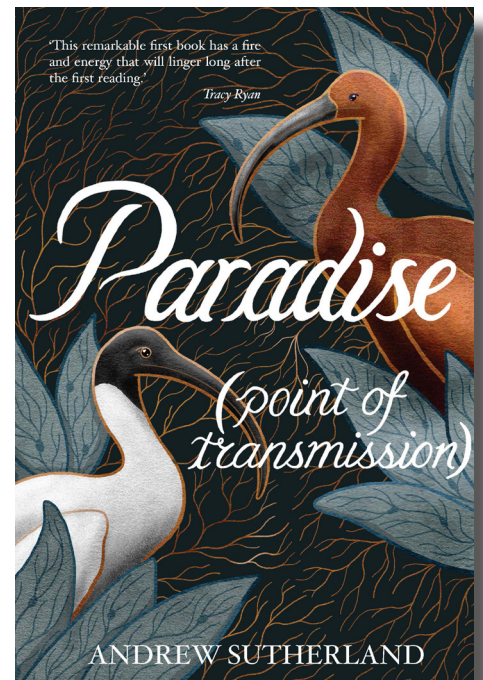


KEY POINTS

- Andrew's poetry, fiction and non-fiction can be found in a raft of national and international literary journals and anthologies, including *Cordite*, *Westerly*, *Portside Review*, *Voice & Verse*, *Exhale: an anthology of Queer Singapore Voices*, and Margaret River Press's *We'll Stand in That Place*, in which he was shortlisted for their 2019 Short Story Prize.
- The structure of the collection displays a psychic and literal autobiographical progression from hidden state to revelation. In (*narrative*), metaphorical and actual transmission is written as moments of rupture: of sacrifice or violence, movement and severance. In (*metaphor*), poems track the deep ambivalence of residence, citizenship and the self, in the s that lies between Singapore and Perth. Finally, in (*paradise*), the poems coalesce into a different set of hauntings: attempts toward new signifiers and new mythologies set within a Queer framework.

PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

'This remarkable first book marks Sutherland's appearance on the poetic horizon with a fire and energy that will linger long after the first reading.'
Tracy Ryan



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