

# VERTIGO

by **KAREN HERBERT**

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Frances, a public servant, is struggling to come to terms with the disappearance of her colleague Eric, and the death of her brother. Asked to review Eric's last work file, Frances becomes an accidental sleuth, analysing spreadsheets and reports for clues that may help solve Eric's mysterious disappearance. As Frances uncovers a trail of corruption that leads to the highest levels of government, she must use her wits and resourcefulness to stay one step ahead of those who want to keep the truth hidden. But will her personal vendetta lead her straight into danger? From the best-selling author of *The River Mouth*, *Vertigo* is full of twists and turns around every corner, making it a must-read for mystery fans.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Karen Herbert is the author of *The River Mouth* and *The Cast Aways of Harewood Hall* (Fremantle Press). Karen spent her childhood in Geraldton, on the midwest coast of Australia, before moving to Perth to study at the University of Western Australia. In 2021, she was awarded a residential fellowship at the Katharine Susannah Prichard Writers' Centre for her then-unpublished manuscript *Vertigo*.



## NOTES

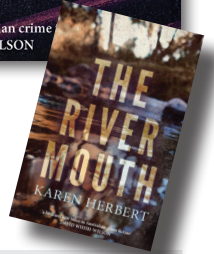
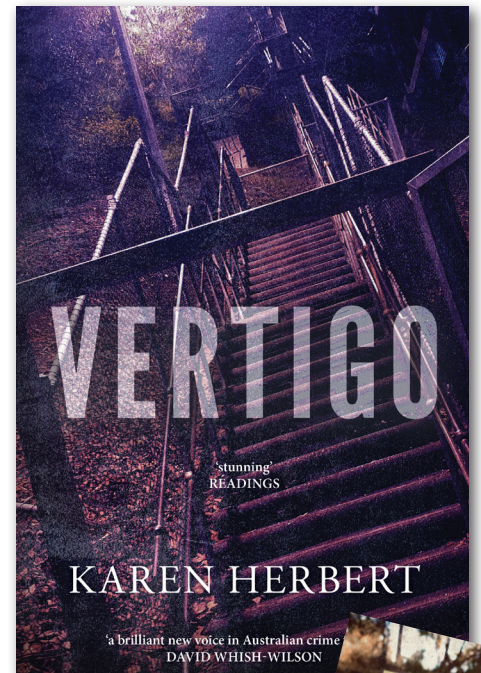
- Frances is a fresh and distinctive amateur sleuth who breaks the crime formula by using her forensic accounting skills to fight the system from within. More than a public servant, she is a social justice warrior who fights back against government's willingness to put the ambitions of big business before the needs of the disadvantaged and homeless.
- To write this book, Karen tapped into her own experiences working as a public investigator for the Office of the Auditor General in Western Australia. Like her main protagonist, Karen Herbert has Meniere's disease – an inner ear problem that can cause vertigo and hearing loss.
- Karen's debut novel, *The River Mouth*, has been optioned for film and television. *Vertigo* features some characters and settings from *The River Mouth*.

## PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

'Hooks you in from the first chapter and doesn't let up until the very end.' *Better Reading*

'A stunning debut that will keep you guessing till the last chapter'  
*Readings*

'A gripping crime debut' *Weekend Australian*



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**CONTACT: Claire Miller**  
**MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**  
**MANAGER**

**M** +61 (0)419 837 841

**T** +61 (0)8 9430 6331

**E** [cmiller@fremantlepress.com.au](mailto:cmiller@fremantlepress.com.au)

**f** @FremantlePress

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