

KINTSUGI

by MARIE O'ROURKE

'Affirming and revealing' *Simone Lazaroo*

'Remarkable, careful and passionate' *Katharine Coles*

ABOUT THE BOOK

All her life, Marie O'Rourke has been a Good Girl, a perfectionist, using words to apply golden seams to an imperfect life in an attempt to make something beautiful out of things that are flawed or broken. A volatile father, the death of a sister far too young, a faltering marriage, the ghosts of lovers past: these are just some of the fragments that Marie puts together in essays that explore her closest relationships as a daughter, sister, mother, wife and lover. With exquisite prose, Marie reflects on the beauty of brokenness and the ways in which time can transform our understanding of truth, forgiveness and healing. These essays are a poignant reminder that some things cannot be fixed they can still hold immense beauty and meaning. Whether you've experienced similar struggles, or are seeking a deeper understanding of the human experience, Marie's collection will leave you moved and inspired.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marie O'Rourke is an Australian author, researcher, critic and educator. She is – and always has been – entranced by the power of words. Marie's essays slide across and through genres as they attempt to capture the shape-shifting nature of memory and identity. Her work has been published in many respected national and international journals and she holds a PhD from Curtin University, where she lectured in Creative Writing, English & Literacy Studies, and Professional Writing & Publishing.



MEDIA NOTES

- *Kintsugi* was shortlisted for the 2022 City of Fremantle Hungerford Award and her work has been published in many respected national and international journals, such as *a/b*, *Axon*, *Essay Daily*, *Meanjin*, *Meniscus*, *New Writing*, *TEXT* and *Westerly*.
- In this collection of essays, Marie O'Rourke uses a flawed protagonist/narrator to connect deeply with readers and explores the human condition through family dynamics and universal themes of love and loss. The book will resonate with many people whose family life is not picture perfect.
- Marie says her writing aims to mimic our mind's quirks and inconsistencies and through a series of breaks and repairs, the essays consider—implicitly and explicitly—the very nature of remembering, and how, over time, memory and the self work on each other.



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