

ADVANCE INFORMATION

THE LAST OF THE NOMADS

by W.J. PEASLEY

KEYNOTE

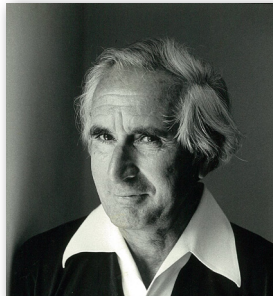
Described by the *Australian Book Review* as 'deeply moving', this is the story of Warri and Yatungka, an exiled couple who spent thirty years exiled in the Gibson Desert.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Partners for life, Warri and Yatungka were believed to be the last of the Mandildjara tribe of desert nomads to live permanently in the traditional way. Their deaths in the late 1970s marked the end of a tribal lifestyle that stretched back more than 30,000 years. *The Last of the Nomads* tells the journey of Mudjon, a Mandildjara elder, and anthropologist W.J. Peasley, as together they searched for the exiled couple. This is the extraordinary story of the rescue of Warri and Yatungka, and how they survived for thirty years in the unrelenting Gibson Desert.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

W.J. Peasley AM was born in the central west of New South Wales and spent his boyhood on his father's farm. While working as a flying doctor in Western Australia, he developed a strong interest in Indigenous history. He passed away on 2 January 2020.

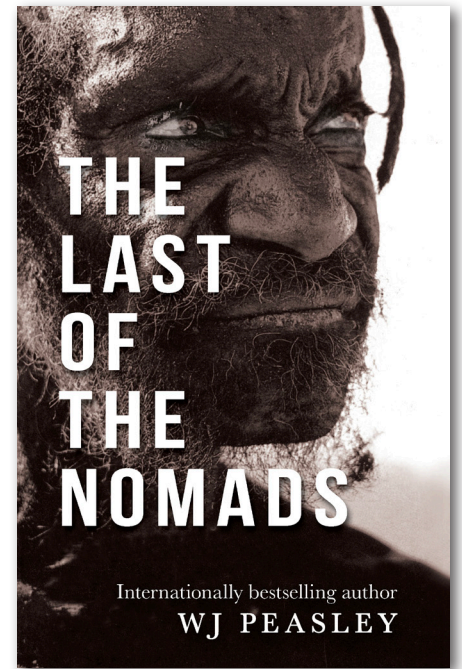


KEYPOINTS

- The relationship between Warri and Yatungka breached kinship laws. The retribution they faced, coupled with their deep connection to the land, resulted in them choosing to live alone in the desert for many years.
- Peasley recounts each stage of the journey in searching for Warri and Yatungka and bringing them back to Wiluna, and debates whether this journey is necessary or worthwhile, and if the couple will be happy back in Wiluna.
- Now in a new edition, this title has sold over 15,000 copies since it was first published in 1990.

PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

'The intriguing story of [the rescue of an elderly couple believed to be the last Australian nomads] and how they survived alone for the previous 30 years or so in the unrelenting western Gibson Desert region of WA is fascinating reading.' *West Australian*



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