

MEDIA RELEASE

JASPER CLIFF

by JOSH KEMP

ABOUT THE BOOK

The tiny outback town of Jasper Cliff is a place where people have a habit of vanishing – and it is the place where Lachlan’s brother Toby was last seen. As Lachlan drives north to look for his brother, he too is drawn into the foreboding, timeless landscape of the East Pilbara – to a place called The Rift, where the truth of Toby’s disappearance could finally be revealed.

This gothic thriller reveals the scars of a colonial legacy in a landscape of such forbidding conditions that dying is easier than living.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Josh Kemp is an author of Australian gothic fiction. His debut novel, *Banjawarn*, won the 2021 Dorothy Hewett Award, the 2022 Ned Kelly Award for Best Debut Crime Fiction and the Western Australian Premier’s Prize for Best Emerging Writer. He lives in the South West of WA but finds himself drawn, over and over again, to the red dirt of the state’s north.



NOTES

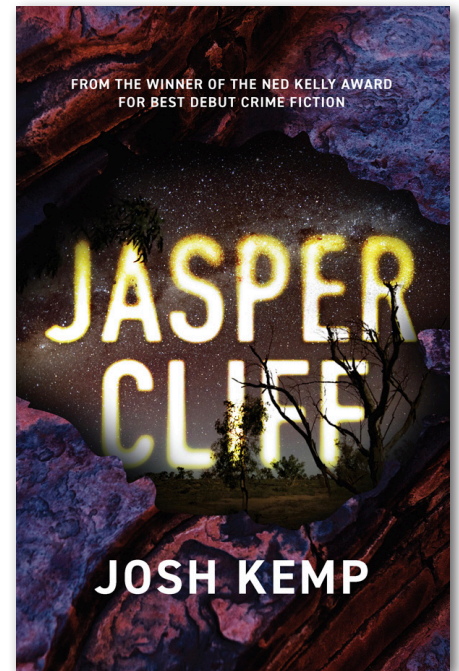
- *Jasper Cliff* follows in the Australian gothic tradition, exploring themes such as the gulf between non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal Australians, our fraught relationship with the landscape itself and the legacy of colonial horrors. The novel doubles as a crime story and is a celebration of place, situating the reader within the East Pilbara, a landscape rarely featured in Australian literature
- Shortlisted for the Fogarty Literary Award, this is a confronting and compelling read from the very first chapter.
- Josh Kemp has a Phd (Writing and Literature) from Edith Cowan University. He specialises in Australian gothic literature and the history of how it applies to the Western Australian landscape in fiction.

PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

‘Kemp writes with a compelling voice, the kind you want to follow into dark places, no matter how gruesome things get.’

Australian Book Review

‘An impressive, propulsive debut laced with dark humour and a menacing undercurrent of violence that builds towards a brutal, vividly rendered conclusion.’ *The West Australian*



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