

SPINNING AROUND: THE KYLIE PLAYLIST

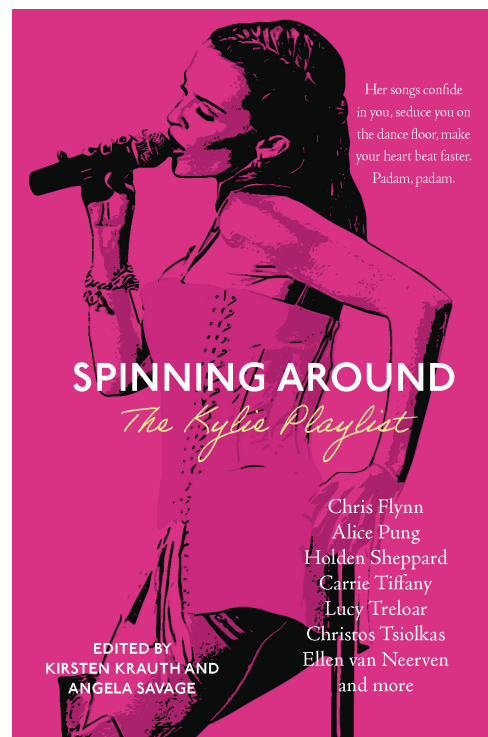
EDITED BY KIRSTEN KRAUTH & ANGELA SAVAGE

ABOUT THE BOOK

Australian icon Kylie Minogue is the musical muse for this sparkling new anthology. Twenty-four writers, a third of whom identify as LGBTQIA+, used a Kylie Minogue song as the springboard for a new, original piece of work, covering the genres of crime, memoir, speculative fiction, poetry and science fiction – from Kylie’s 1987 release ‘I Should Be So Lucky’ all the way through to her newest album, *Tension*.

Featuring stories or poems from:

- Grace Chan
- Eileen Chong
- Nathan Curnow
- Chris Flynn
- Nick Gadd
- Dmetri Kakmi
- Kris Kneen
- Julie Koh
- Kirsten Krauth
- Jes Layton
- Patrick Marlborough
- Thuy On
- Adam Ouston
- Alice Pung
- Angela Savage
- Holden Sheppard
- Miriam Sved
- Andrea Thompson
- Carrie Tiffany
- Lucy Treloar
- Christos Tsiolkas
- Ellen van Neerven
- Emma Viskic
- Jessica White



We encourage you to read and discuss Kirsten Krauth and Angela Savage’s Q&A before diving in.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

Kirsten Krauth is a Castlemaine-based author and arts journalist, poet and podcaster, and the commissioning editor of the anthologies *Spinning Around: The Kylie Playlist* and *Into Your Arms: Nick Cave’s Songs Reimagined*. Her latest novel, *Almost a Mirror*, was shortlisted for the Small Press Network Book of the Year Award and the Penguin Literary Prize, and was named one of *The Guardian’s* Best 20 Books of 2020; her first novel was *just_a_girl*. An 80s tragic, Kirsten received the Donald Horne Fellowship to develop her podcast, *Almost a Mirror*, which revolves around Australian 80s songs and went to number one on the Apple Music Podcast charts.

Angela Savage is an award-winning writer and CEO of Public Libraries Victoria and the commissioning editor, with Kirsten Krauth of *Spinning Around: The Kylie Playlist*. Angela’s short stories have been published in Australia and the UK, and she won the 2011 Scarlet Stiletto Award for short crime fiction. Her most recent novel is *Mother of Pearl*. She was a contributor to *Minds Went Walking: Paul Kelly’s Songs Reimagined*. Like Kylie, Angela holds a PhD, giving her the Bond villain-like name of Doctor Savage.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is it about Kylie that has ensured her longevity and her popularity?
2. What words would you use to describe her body of work?
3. Why do you think she is a gay icon?
4. Do you see her as a feminist icon too?
5. What is your favourite story from the collection and why? Thinking about that story, can you answer:
 - a. What is its relationship with the song it was inspired by?
 - b. To what extent are the lyrics or structure of the song visible in the story?
 - c. What is its meaning and does it differ from the meaning of the song?

- d. Which other story in the collection shares similarities with your favourite? What are they?
6. Which story feels the most autobiographical to you (in relation to its author rather than to Kylie)?
7. Which story was the most unexpected?
8. Which was the most moving?
9. Do any common themes arise from the collection?
10. Are these aligned with common themes in Kylie's own songs?
11. What is your favourite Kylie song/album? Has this answer changed over time?
12. If you were to write your own story based on a Kylie song, which song would you choose and why?
13. What would that story be about?
14. If you were to create an anthology like this one, which artist would you choose to base it on, and which authors would you invite to contribute?