

## SONG OF THE SHADOW OF A SEED

by **Luisa Mitchell**

'Hers is the rarest of gifts - the ability to hold history and hope in one hand.' *Sisonke Msimang*

'Mitchell's work is a rematriation, returning us back to the soil. Please plant this book in the ground, so our children can sit beneath it.' *Dakota Feirer*

'This passionate avowal of Country and justice for its peoples is also a deeply personal journey into community.' *John Kinsella*

### ABOUT THE BOOK

*Seeds are sacred. They are the minutiae of all life, along with Boodjar (Country), Beeliar (rivers), women, and all bodies and vessels that carry living things.*

Mitchell's debut collection is divided into different cycles around the life of a seed - elders, memory, language, hunger, burning, flowering, flight - and the poems within reflect the ways in which a seed, a person and a nation can contain the long history of what has been, as well as the promise of what is to come.

Inventive, moving and accessible, Mitchell's work includes conversations-in-poetry with family members that weave connection and shared history into every line. They are a call to listen, to learn and to engage with the lived truths of Whadjuk Nyungar Country.

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

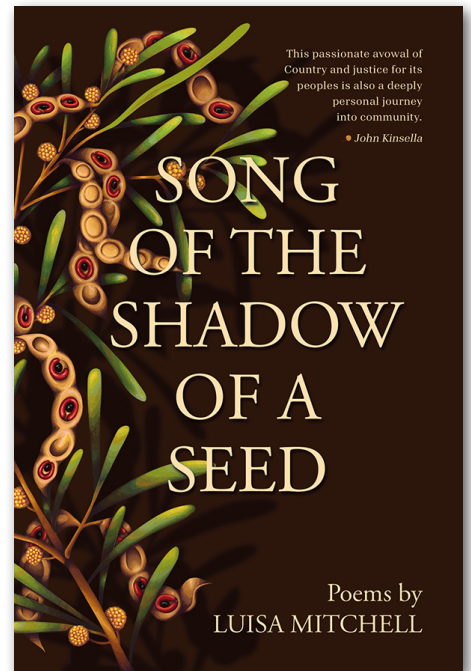
Born and raised in Rubibi/Broome, Luisa Mitchell (Shaw) is a Whadjuk Nyungar and Australian writer, filmmaker and arts producer living in Boorloo/Perth. She has ties to Yued Country and is also of English, Irish and Swedish heritage.

Luisa co-founded the youth journal *Pulch Mag*, The Uni Goonies Film Festival and the Centre for Stories First Nations Writing Program, with Ballardong editor Casey Mulder. Her poetry has been widely published and she currently facilitates storytelling projects with First Nations communities across Western Australia.



### NOTES

- Luisa is an emerging poet and filmmaker, her voice is distinctive and her perspective valuable.
- This collection contains themes of belonging, recognition, dispossession and cultural inheritance, as well as colonial-settler flashpoints, like the Aboriginal deaths in custody on Wadjemup (Rottnest Island) and the fallout from the Voice referendum.
- Her poetry opens conversations about connection to Country, the resilience of culture and the complex articulation of identity as a First Nations descendant.



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