

# NOCK LOOSE

by Patrick Marlborough

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Joy is a gifted archer, a retired Olympian and a former stuntwoman on a cult Japanese tokusatsu show. Raised by a feckless grifter, her home is Bodkins Point. For 150 years, this small town has hosted an annual ultra-violent medieval festival called 'Agincourt'. During the festival, Bodkins Point transforms – assuming a parallel identity that plays tug-of-war with the way its townsfolk live for the rest of the year.

In the aftermath of a terrible fire, Joy's past and the town's dark history are set on a collision course as she takes the furious road to revenge.

In this screwball comedy revenge thriller, *Game of Thrones* meets *Wake in Fright* meets *Kill Bill* meets *The Simpsons* – *Nock Loose* is like nothing else in OzLit.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Patrick Marlborough is an underemployed writer/comedian/drongo living with their parents in Walyalup, Western Australia. They have been published in Vice, Rolling Stone, The Guardian, The Saturday Paper, Slate, Gawker, Meanjin, Crikey, Kotaku, The Lifted Brow, Kill Your Darlings, Cordite, Going Down Swinging and various other forgotten blogs, magazines and anthologies. The manuscript for their first novel, *A Horse Held at Gunpoint*, was shortlisted for the Fogarty Literary Award in 2021 and is still looking for a publisher. They are the founder and editor of The Yeah Nah Review, and co-host The Battler podcast. They co-author all of their work with the ghost of their bad dog, Buckley, who is solely responsible for any problematic elements therein. *Nock Loose* is their critically acclaimed debut novel.



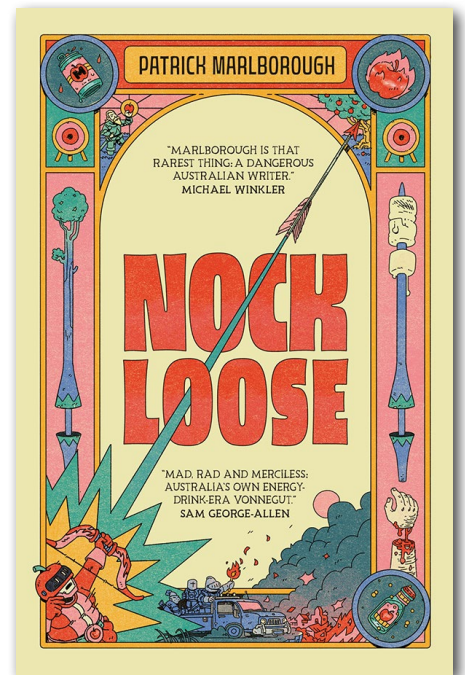
## PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

'Refreshingly unpredictable and fun, with emotional weight building quietly in the chaos.' *The Guardian*, Top 25 Australian books of 2025

'Marlborough's debut is ... an impressive feat: a feral work of madcap ambition from a novelist well worth keeping an eye on.' *Joseph Steinberg, The Conversation*

'Marlborough is that rarest thing: a dangerous Australian writer. Read them before it's too late.' *Michael Winkler*

'Mad, rad and merciless: Australia's own energy-drink-era Vonnegut.' *Sam George-Allen*



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Book

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