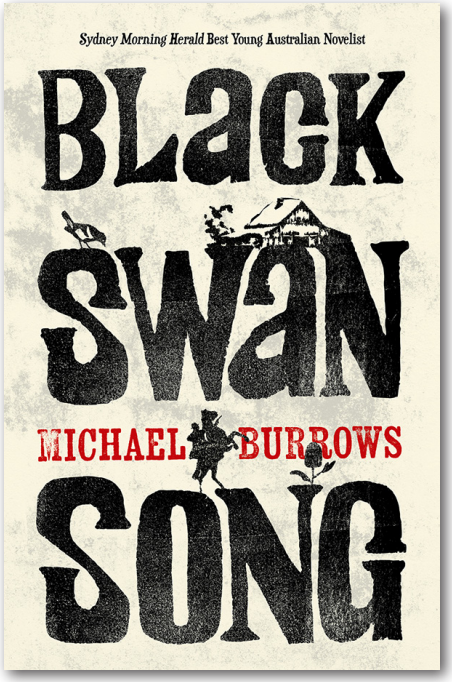
MEDIA RELEASE

BLACKSWANSONG

by Michael Burrows



'A rollicking good read and a subversive look at Australia's past, *BLACKSWANSONG* is at once surreal, funny, tragic and romantic. With a deeply moving novel that both sweeps across time and place, and is anchored in the tenderness of human experience, Burrows tells a powerful Western Australian story.' *Lyn Dickens*

'An exciting read. It's freewheeling and raucous yet beautifully rendered and intricately crafted. I enjoyed this riveting, vivid novel so much.' *Mirandi Riwoe*

ABOUT THE BOOK

Some legends fade. Others refuse to die.

Spanning from the early days of the Swan River settlement to present-day Perth, *BLACKSWANSONG* is the sweeping tale of Western Australia's most elusive and enigmatic bushranger.

Told through the voices of outlaws and lovers, soldiers and rockstars, this novel unearths a long-buried past, one chapter at a time – each set to the rhythm of a classic Western Australian folk song. Blood-soaked feuds, modern-day secrets and the echoes of a legend long forgotten come together in a bold, Western-style reimagining – set against the backdrop of Australia's wild frontier. For those who want to hear the legend as well as read it, original recordings bring the story to life in song.

For fans of Peter Carey's *True History of the Kelly Gang* and anyone drawn to stories that blur the lines between truth and legend, *BLACKSWANSONG* is a journey into a past that still haunts us today.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Michael Burrows is an author, poet and screenwriter from Perth, and was named *Sydney Morning Herald*'s Best Young Australian Novelist for his debut novel *Where the Line Breaks* (also shortlisted for the Fogarty Literary Award).

NOTES

- *BLACKSWANSONG* was shortlisted for the Australian Fiction Prize 2024.
- The author has written, performed and recorded folk songs to go with each chapter. These are available to listen to via a QR code in the book.
- The popularity of the bushranger myth endures and the slow reveal of the identity of The Black Swan, features a plot twist you'll never see coming.

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