

With the compliments of

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THE GREAT GREAT AUSTRALIAN DREAM ROBIN BOYD

Under an outer wrapping of entertainment, the binding preoccupation of this book is the character and the style of Australians and of the peculiar twists that make up Australian life: the things of the spirit and the wallet and the mind and the mantelpiece which tend to differentiate Australian men and women from others of the 1970s.

The book is a cry of despair for Australia, and an hysterical joke about it. It is solemn social comment and it is wild parody. It is fiction and it is history.

The reader may sometimes find it hard for a moment to tell where he is being led (is this or that part satirical or serious, fact or fiction?). But behind all the parts there is a consistent attitude—the attitude of a patriot with a four-generation Australian background tearing his country to shreds, with love.

Behind the cruelest or funniest parts, even behind the horrifying parts, the temper of the criticism is constructive.

It is written from an intensely personal viewpoint and some of the opinions are bound to infuriate some readers some of the time.

Several of the aspects of Australiana selected for examination have never before been discussed in a book—either because of what the author describes at one time (seriously or satirically?) as a conspiracy of silence, or because Australia has been too isolated, too close to herself, to recognize these matters as peculiar to Australia.

Recommended Price \$5.95

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