

CONVERSATIONS I'VE NEVER HAD

by **CAITLIN MALING**

ABOUT THE BOOK

In her debut collection, award-winning talent Caitlin Maling explores coming of age in contemporary Australia. Writing from Perth, Houston and Cambridge, Maling's early years to adulthood are told through the lens of the Australian landscape. For young settler Australians this is a place that both defines and undermines identity. A place that claims but can't be claimed in return. Restlessly questioning and slipping between promise and possibility, Maling's Australia is richly evoked in narratives of raw power and feeling.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Caitlin Maling grew up in Western Australia, mainly in the suburbs around Fremantle. She moved to Melbourne to complete her BA in 2007, then to Cambridge to complete a Masters of Philosophy in Criminological Research. She returned to Perth and then left for Houston to complete an MFA in poetry, for which she received the WA Department of Culture and the Arts International Scholarship.

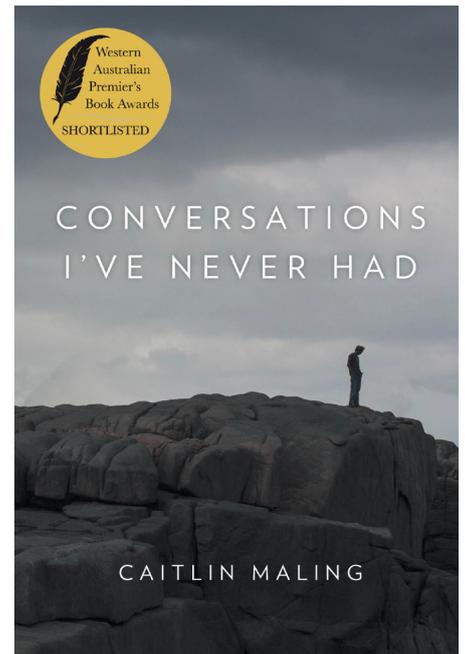


NOTES

- This debut collection from an exciting new voice in Australian poetry has recently been shortlisted for the 2016 Western Australian Premier's Book Award.
- *Conversations I've Never Had* won the Newcastle Poetry Prize under 35s (2014) and was shortlisted for the Judith Wright Poetry Prize and the Newcastle Poetry Prize (2014). Poems from *Conversations I've Never Had* were reproduced in *Best Australian Poems*, *Australian Book Review*, *Westerly*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Threepenny*, *Australian Poetry* and *Meanjin*, among others.
- The collection's preoccupations with childhood and adolescence, and the poems' accessibility, make it a strong candidate for classroom use in Australian secondary schools. Teaching notes are available from fremantlepress.com.au.
- Maling's second book, *Border Crossing*, will be published in February 2017. Poems from it are already gaining recognition: 'Conversion' has just won the 2016 Val Vallis Award and 'February in Oregon' has just been shortlisted for the Newcastle Poetry Prize.

PRAISE FOR THE AUTHOR

'... Caitlin Maling continues the strong debut of her award-winning book *Conversations I've Never Had* ... Maling's borders – those that mark the wonder and complexity of geography, mind and body – are always open to allow us through.' Caroline Caddy



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