

# RETURN TICKET

by JON DOUST

## ABOUT THE BOOK

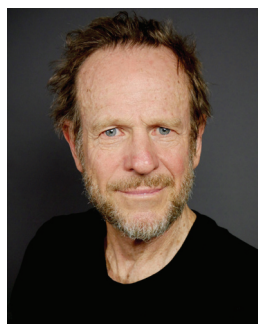
It's 1972. When hot-headed, impetuous Jack Muir gets off the ship in Durban, he fails to get back on. Instead, he sails into misadventure, fleeing the stifling town of Genoralup to try to lose himself in South Africa at the height of apartheid. But the past has a way of catching up with you, and soon Jack is running again, this time to a kibbutz in Israel.

In the course of a lifetime, Jack will travel far, always caught between fleeing from and seeking those things he needs: a mother's precious gift, a lover in a time of war, the loss of a child, a kind and steady woman.

And, across time and across continents, old Jack Muir will remember those who helped him become a decent man, a better father and a friend.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jon Doust is the author of three novels: *Boy on a Wire*, *To the Highlands* and now *Return Ticket*. Jon was born into a farming and retailing family, and after a short career farming and retailing, he left for a life on the hippy trail in South Africa and then to live on a kibbutz in Israel. In a desperate state, with his first marriage and his life falling apart, he sought solace in study at Curtin University (then the WA Institute of Technology) where he gained a BA in English. He has worked as a journalist, professional speaker, comedian and facilitator. These days he lives in a place he has loved all his life – Kincannup, Kinjarling, better known as Albany, Western Australia.



## NOTES

- Jon's first book, *Boy on a Wire*, has sold thousands of copies as an adult title and was published in a young adult edition in 2019. It was longlisted for a Miles Franklin Literary Award in 2009.
- Jon Doust is a performer and well-versed public speaker who has appeared at library, school and festival events across Australia.

## PRAISE FOR THE OTHER BOOKS IN

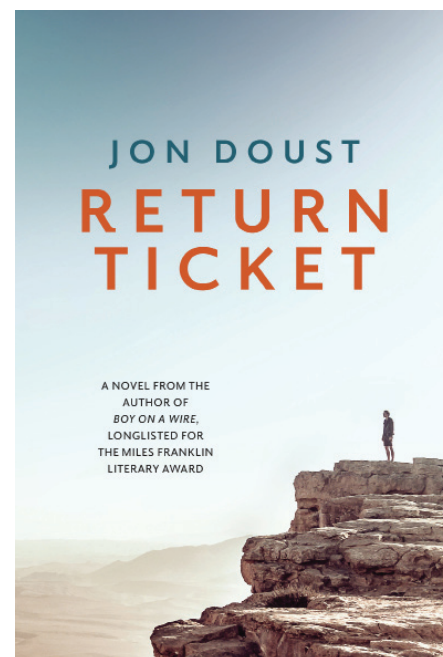
'... a hilarious, angry and sympathetic portrait of boys behaving badly, teeming with sadistic bullies, imperfect heroes, adolescent onanists and ice-cream gorging hedonists.' *The West Australian*

'Doust [is] firmly establishing himself as a rare contemporary voice ...' *The Australian*

'There is a relentless rawness to this book that make its moments of tenderness hit their mark even more keenly.' *Books+Publishing*

'From the opening sentence, it is clear that we are in the presence of a writer with a distinctive voice.' *The Age*

'In the long literary historical view ... this will seem another small, but significant shift in the social reckonings that Australian fiction makes.' *Canberra Time*



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