

# Kirsty Brooks

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## BOOKS PUBLISHED

- *The Lady Splash* (Hodder Headline Australia, 2006)
- *The Millionaire Float* (Hodder Headline Australia, 2005)
- *The Happiness Punch* (Hodder Headline Australia, 2004)
- *The Vodka Dialogue* (Hodder Headline Australia, 2003; Russian translation RedFish, 2006)
- *Lady Luck* (Wakefield Press, 2002)
- *Mad Love* (Wakefield Press, 2000)
- *Hitching: tales from the byways and superhighways* (Wakefield Press, 1999)

## AWARDS

- Barbara Hanrahan Fellowship, SA Premier's Literary Awards (2004)
- Adelaide Institute of TAFE Professional Writing Merit Award (2004)
- *The Vodka Dialogue* nominated for Best Novel in the Ned Kelly Awards (2004)
- *Lady Luck* nominated for Best First Novel in the Ned Kelly Awards and Davitt Awards (2003)

## DRIFTWOOD MANUSCRIPTS

- Director (2000 – present). Driftwood Manuscripts is a leading provider of detailed manuscript assessments for fiction and non-fiction authors.

## TEACHING & BOARD POSITIONS

- Arts SA Board of Peer Assessors for Literature Grants (2007–08)
- Lecturer, TAFE SA Adelaide Centre for the Arts Professional Writing program (2005 – present)
- Chair, SA Writers' Centre (2004) and Board Member (1998–2003)

## ARTICLES & OTHER WRITING PUBLISHED

- Contributor to *All about the Money, Honey: Recipes for Financial Success* by Julianne Dowling (Wrightbooks, 2007)
- 'Danger at a Safe Distance: Kirsty Brooks on her Approach to Crime Fiction' article published in *Southern Write: SA Writers' Centre newsletter* and *Victorian Writer: Vic Writers' Centre newsletter* (2007)
- 'The Reputation Tonic' short story published in *The Advertiser* over two editions (2006)
- 'More on Manuscript Assessment' article published in *Writing Queensland: Qld Writers' Centre newsletter* (2006)
- Articles published in three consecutive issues of *The Adelaide Magazine* (2005)
- 'Posh Must be Brought to Book' article published in *The Advertiser* (2005)
- Article published in *Australian Writers' Marketplace Guide* (2004)
- Article published in *The Southern Write: SA Writers' Centre newsletter* (2004)
- Contributor to 'A Girl's Own Adventure' article published in *Vogue* (2004)
- Article published in *Writing Queensland: Qld Writers' Centre newsletter* (2004)
- 'Bring on the Retrosexual' article published in the *Sydney City Weekly Courier* (2003)
- Article published in *The Southern Write: SA Writers' Centre newsletter* (2003)
- 'Private Passions' column interview in *The Advertiser* (2002)
- *Battle of the Sexes* board game supplementary card pack (Imagination, 2002)
- Article published in *Write On* (2002)
- *Big Brother* board game (Imagination, 2002)
- Article published in *Stiletto* magazine (2002)
- Article published in *The Word* (2002)
- Article published in *Australian Bookseller & Publisher* (2002)
- Wrote internet-based play with ABC online and TAFE (2002)

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- *Secret Sounds* board game (Imagination, 2002)
- Reviewer for *Netsurfer Digest* (2002)
- Article published in *The Southern Write: SA Writers' Centre newsletter* (2001)
- 'Skeletons in the Closet' article published in *Herald Sun Sunday* (2001)
- Popstars board game (Imagination, 2001)
- Article published in *Adelaide Matters* (2001)
- *Big Brother Uncut* board game (Imagination, 2001)
- *Battle of the Sexes* board game (Imagination, 2001)
- Article published in *Cleo* (2001)
- Article published in *Australian Bookseller & Publisher* (2001)
- Columnist for Tribe.com website (2001)
- Article published in *The Southern Write: SA Writers' Centre newsletter* (2000)
- *Sex and the City* board game (Imagination, 2000)
- Short story published in *Mitch? Anthology* (2000)
- Features writer, *Essential Australia* (1999)
- Short story published in *Cosmopolitan* (1999)
- Editor, Seaview Press (1999)
- Columnist, *The Republican* (1999)
- Trainee editor, Era Publications (1999)

## FESTIVALS & WORKSHOPS

- Workshop leader, 'Crime Writing with Kirsty Brooks', SA Writers' Centre (2007)
- Keynote speaker, Annual General Meeting, SA Writers' Centre (2007)
- Guest presenter, Merit Awards for Literature, Senior Secondary Assessment Board of SA (2007)
- Panelist, 'The Passion Within: Love, Crime and Sport' with Ashley Mallet and Rory Barnes, South Australian Writers Festival (2007)
- Panelist, 'Romance Writing' with Lucy Clarke and Astrid Cooper, Salisbury Writers Festival (2006)
- Workshop leader, 'Presenting and Submitting Manuscripts. So You've Written a Masterpiece: What to do Next?', SA Writers' Centre (2006)
- Panelist, 'Romance is Diversity' and 'Writing Books that Sell', NSW Writers' Centre Romance Writing Festival (2006)
- Celebrity librarian at Burnside Library for the McGuinness McDermott Foundation (2005)
- Guest and panelist, Melbourne Writers Festival (2005)
- Guest and panelist, Brisbane Writers Festival (2004)
- Workshop leader and masterclass week of talks and classes with emerging writers, Qld Writers' Centre (2004)
- Wordpool literary cabaret participant, Qld Writers' Centre (2004)
- Panelist with Tara Moss at Sisters in Crime (Vic) event (2004)
- Guest speaker at Marion Cultural Centre/Dymocks event (2004)
- Organiser and speaker at Dymocks Crime Club (2004)
- Workshop leader, 'Professional Writers' Muster', SA Writers' Centre (2004)
- Guest speaker, The Lyceum Club Adelaide (2004)
- Guest speaker, Friends of the State Library of SA (2004)
- Guest and panelist, Adelaide Festival of Arts Writers' Week (2004)
- Invited to create a 'celebrity pillow' for silent auction at the Adelaide Festival of Arts (2004)
- Tutor, POD fiction writing workshops for young people, SA Writers' Centre (2003)
- Guest and panelist, South Australian Writers' Festival (2003)
- Judge, Borders Rundle Mall Driftwood Manuscripts Prize (2003)
- Tasmanian Writers' and Readers' Festival (2003)
- Guest speaker, 'Writers and their Worlds' seminar series, Flinders University (2002)
- Guest speaker, Independent Arts Foundation (2002)
- Workshop leader, 'Crime Writing', SA Writers' Centre (2002)
- Guest and panelist, Sydney Writers' Festival (2002)
- Launched *Off One's Tits* by John Birmingham at Adelaide Festival of Arts Writers' Week (2002)
- Presented Driftwood Manuscripts Prize for the best manuscript from Adelaide University's Creative Writing course (2002)

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- Panelist, Borders event (2001)
- Guest and panelist, Word of Mouth Writers' Festival (2001)
- Workshop leader, 'Writing as a Business', SA Writers' Centre (2001)
- Guest and panelist, National Young Writers' Festival (2000)
- Workshop joint leader with Sean Williams, 'Selling Your Work Without Selling Your Soul', SA Writers' Centre (2000)
- Guest speaker, 'Writers and their Worlds' seminar series, Flinders University (2000)
- Team Leader, Writers in Schools Literature Club (2000)
- Reader, The Lee Marvin Readings, Supermild (1999)
- Reader, The Writers' Caf (1999)
- Reader, West Fest (1999)
- Guest speaker, 'Lighting the Fuse: Writing for the Young and Old (1999)
- Guest speaker, Romance Writers of America (1999)

## MEDIA COVERAGE

- Featured in Open Up program promoting SA writers (SA Writers' Centre, 2007)
- Interview in *Wet Ink* magazine (2007)
- 'Falling for You' article in *Eastern Courier* (2007)
- Entry in *Who's Who in South Australia* (2007)
- 'Through the Looking Glass' article in *Eastern Courier* (2007)
- 'The Murderous Women Writers of Oz' featured author in *World Literature Today* (2006)
- *The Lady Splash* reviewed in *The Age A2* magazine: 'When it comes to chick-lit, Kirsty Brooks is a definite fave. Her sassy sleuth Cassidy Blair has an ironic one-liner for every occasion. ...Another hilarious page-turner.'). *The Weekend Australian*: 'Kirsty Brooks's sassy PI Cassidy Blair returns in *The Lady Splash*, carrying an iron will and an ironic overview in her brand-name handbag.' Also reviewed in *B* magazine, *The Advertiser*, *Who* ('A Nancy Drew for the Noughties'), *Madison*, etc
- Featured in the TAFE SA Adelaide Centre for the Arts Professional Writing brochure (2006)
- 'Kirsty's Crime of Passion' article in *The Advertiser* (2006)
- 'Mark it up to Market Madness' article in *The Advertiser* Living Adelaide section (2006)
- Promotional advertising for *The Advertiser* Big Book Club; SA Great; and SA libraries (2006)
- Created regular e-newsletter for fans of the Cassidy Blair series with more than 300 subscribers (2006 – present)
- Featured on cover of inaugural edition of *The Adelaide Magazine* and in article as one of seven Adelaide top achievers (2005)
- Interview in *Media Culture* (2005)
- 'Kirsty's Word on Marriage' article in *The Advertiser* (2005)
- 'The Books for 2005' in *The Weekend Australian* Review featured *The Millionaire Float* (2005)
- 'What Writers Read' featured writer in *The Independent Weekly* (2005)
- 'Inside Story' interview in Home section of *The Sunday Mail* (2005)
- *The Millionaire Float* reviewed in *The Advertiser*: 'Brooks creates a wild, cartoon-like underbelly of Adelaide criminality, and when one is not giggling at Cass's fashion disasters, one is raising one's eyebrows at the very idea of the sinful activities in the Brookesque Hindley Street.' Also reviewed in *Cleo*: 'It's fun and easy to read. Curl up in bed and it'll be past your bedtime before you know it.' Other articles and reviews published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* Spectrum magazine, *The Age*, *The Messenger Press*, *Empire Times*, *North Central News*, *Dymocks* catalogue, etc (2005)
- 'Fast Talking' interview in *Adelaide Matters* (2005)
- 'Be Entertained by... Kirsty Brooks' interview in *The Sunday Magazine* (2005)
- *The Happiness Punch* is the cover of the Saturday Review section in *The Advertiser* for the Christmas weekend and an extract from the book featured for summer reading (2004)
- Cover and interview in *HeartsTalk: Romance Writers of Australia* magazine (2004)
- Interview in *Writing Queensland: Qld Writers' Centre* newsletter (2004)
- 'Pink Packs a Punch' article in *Scribble 1*: newsletter of the Brisbane Writers Festival (2004)
- Book listed for recommended reading by the libraries in Payneham, Norwood and St Peters (2004)

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- 'A Trio of Sisters' interview with Tara Moss and Sue Turnball in *Stiletto: Sisters in Crime* magazine (2004)
- The Little Big Book Club – images and quotes featured in posters, leaflets and promotional material (2004)
- *The Happiness Punch* reviewed in *The Courier Mail*: 'If only crime's modern era could be half as esoteric as Brooks makes this bizarre mix of sexual misunderstandings and fast-paced adventure.' Other reviews in *The Age*, *The Australian*, *The Sunday Mail*, *The Advertiser*, *The Sunday Canberra Times* and *Country Life* magazine: 'A comic masterpiece. There's an upbeat ending but you sense that soon it will all start to go pear-shaped and if this means another Cassidy Blair thriller – yes please. PS Why isn't Kirsty Brooks writing a comedy series for television?' (2004)
- Point of sale promotion for *The Happiness Punch* included window displays, bookmarks, promotional handbags, etc (2004)
- 'Local Heroine' article *Adelaide Matters* (2004)
- Interview in *CheetSheet* (2004)
- *The Happiness Punch* recommended by *The Age* and *The Weekend Australian* Review 'Hot Books: the top titles for 2004' (2003)
- Guest speaker and author of the month for The Big Book Club. Subsequent articles in *The Advertiser* and interview event at the Jade Monkey bar (2003)
- *The Vodka Dialogue* reviewed in *The Sydney Morning Herald*: 'snappy dialogue ... a tasty tippie'. Also reviewed in *The Herald Sun* Sunday magazine: 'Smart-mouthed, soft-hearted Cassidy Blair is the creation of Kirsty Brooks, an Adelaide writer tipped to be the next big thing in Australian crime fiction. *The Vodka Dialogue* is Brooks' second crime novel and it has caused a shiver of excitement in the publishing world.' Critics' choice in Dymocks' magazine *The Booklover*. Also reviewed in *B* magazine: 'Brooks is being touted as Australia's answer to Janet Evanovich.' (2003)
- *Lady Luck* listed in 'Top Books for 2002' in *The Weekend Australian* and named Pick of the Week in *The Age*: 'Lady Luck is a trash-fest so hip it's almost pelvic. Just think Janet Evanovich and John Birmingham in some kind of unholy union.' Also reviewed in *Your Health* magazine (2002)

## EDUCATION

- Advanced Diploma in Professional Writing, Adelaide Institute of TAFE (2004)
- Bachelor of Arts (Journalism), University of South Australia (1994)