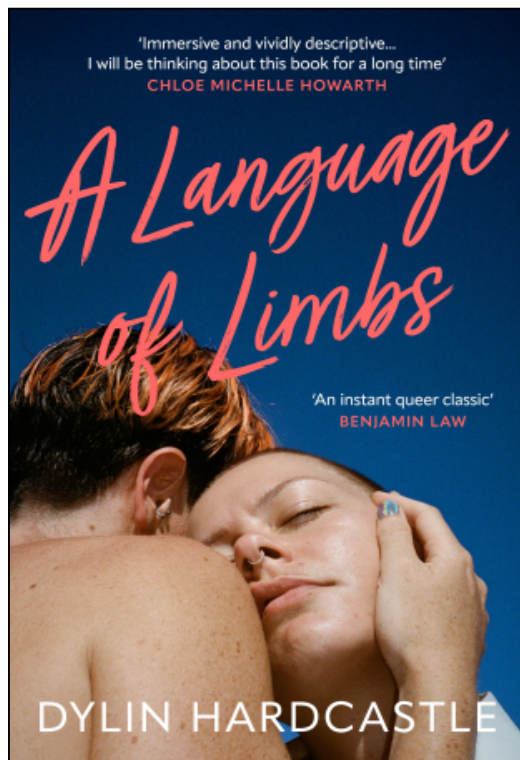




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A LANGUAGE OF LIMBS

by DYLÍN HARDCASTLE

THE BOOK

A love story about the almost crossovers of our lives...

1972. On a quiet summer night in Newcastle, Australia, two teenage girls must each make a choice: to act upon their desires or suppress them? To live an openly queer life or to try desperately not to?

Over the following three decades, these girls grow into women and live out their decisions, always almost crossing paths at pivotal moments. In an era that spans Australia's first Mardi Gras and the AIDS pandemic, there is joy and grief and loss and desire for each of them – but will their lives ever collide?

A Language of Limbs is about love and how it's policed, friendship and how it transcends, and hilarity in the face of heartbreak. A celebration of queer life in all its vibrancy and colour, this story finds the humanity in all of us and demands we claim our futures for ourselves.

DYLÍN HARDCASTLE (Location: Sydney, Australia)

Dylín Hardcastle (they/them) is an award-winning author, artist, screenwriter and former Provost's Scholar at the University of Oxford. They are the author of four critically acclaimed books. Their work has been translated into eight languages. Dylín is the co-writer and co-director of *Cloudy River*. Their most recent novel, *A Language of Limbs*, has been optioned by Sony Pictures and is in development.



MARKETING & SALES POINTS

A Language of Limbs offers an intimate portrait of queer bodies, art, heartbreak, joy and the unseen connections that bind us

For fans of contemporary queer fiction and coming-of-age narratives. Perfect for readers who loved Chloe Michelle Howarth's *Sunburn*, Carol Rifka Brunt's *Tell the Wolves I'm Home* and Joseph Cassara's *The House of Impossible Beauties*, as well as fans of *Pose*, *Call Me By Your Name* and *Angels in America*

Sheds a light on an important period in Australian history – from the AIDS epidemic to the first Mardi Gras – and the country's changing attitudes towards sexuality and gender politics

Shortlisted for the Dymocks Book of the Year 2024

Key narrative settings include: Sydney and New South Wales (Australia), Cardiff and northwest Wales (UK)

ANZ edition by Picador Australia (June 2024). US edition by Dutton (forthcoming May 2025). Turkish rights sold to Amorf Kitap. TV rights optioned and currently in development with Curio (Sony Pictures)

PRAISE FOR A LANGUAGE OF LIMBS

'Immersive and vividly descriptive... instances of queer joy in the novel, and moments of hardship are written with such grace. I will be thinking about this book for a long time' - **Chloe Michelle Howarth, author of *Sunburn***

'A life-affirming, deeply-felt novel of the decisions we make and the lives that unspool from them. To read *A Language of Limbs* is to be reminded of the power of queer joy and community. I loved it' - **Hannah Kent, author of *Burial Rights***

'Dylín Hardcastle's novel carried me away like a tidal current. Expansive across time, yet intimate in its focus, *A Language of Limbs* is that rare book that's equally poetic and propulsive - with twin protagonists who are impossible to shake. Nothing short of an instant queer classic' - **Benjamin Law, author of *The Family Law***

'Poetic, fresh and mesmerising, Hardcastle's work is like nothing I have ever read. *A Language of Limbs* is full of feeling; a love story about the family we make ourselves. Upon finishing this book I was overwhelmed by a sense of, *more*. I am desperate for more stories like this' - **Jessie Stephens, author of *Something Bad is Going to Happen***

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