

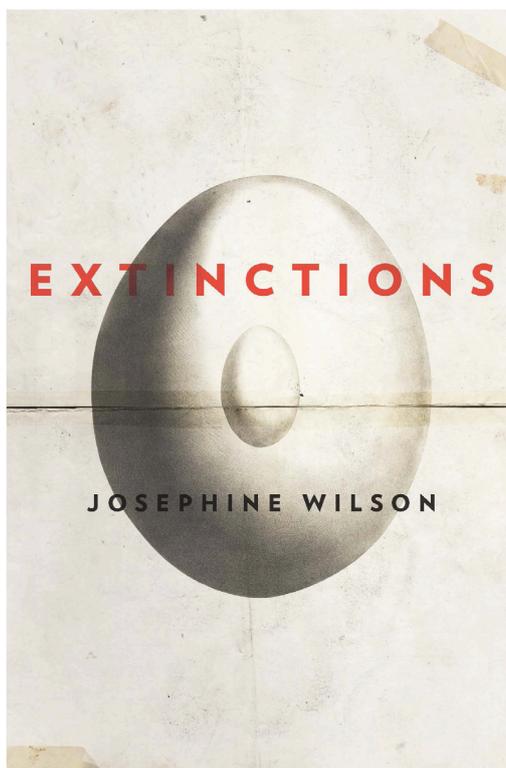
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## EXTINCTIONS

Josephine Wilson

RRP \$29.99

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*He hated the word 'retirement', but not as much as he hated the word 'village', as if ageing made you a peasant or a fool. Herein lives the village idiot.*

Professor Frederick Lothian, retired engineer, world expert on concrete and connoisseur of modernist design, has quarantined himself from life by moving to a retirement village. His wife, Martha, is dead and his two adult children are lost to him in their own ways. Surrounded and obstructed by the debris of his life – objects he has collected over many years and tells himself he is keeping for his daughter – he is determined to be miserable, but is tired of his existence and of the life he has chosen.

When a series of unfortunate incidents forces him and his neighbour, Jan, together, he begins to realise the damage done by the accumulation of a lifetime's secrets and lies, and to comprehend his own shortcomings. Finally, Frederick Lothian has the opportunity to build something meaningful for the ones he loves.

Humorous, poignant and galvanising by turns, *Extinctions* is a novel about all kinds of extinction – natural, racial, national and personal – and what we can do to prevent them.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Josephine Wilson was born in England and came to Australia in 1966. She is the co-author of the performance/theatre work *The Geography of Haunted Places*, and author of the novel *Cusp*. She has a PhD from UWA. She has reviewed for *Realtime*, *ArtLink Magazine* and for *The West Australian*, and is a board member for the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts.

Josephine was announced as the winner of the inaugural Dorothy Hewett Award at a ceremony as part of the 2016 Perth Writers Festival.