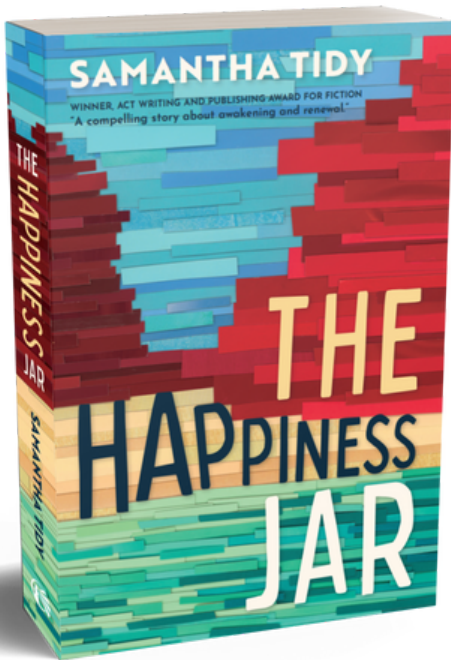


# THE HAPPINESS JAR



"This year's winner is a compelling story about awakening and renewal. Written in a beautiful and direct style, its journey of transformation takes us from the Australian city, to remote country, to the crowded streets of India. Its characters are wonderfully and vividly drawn: raw and never sentimental. *The Happiness Jar* is powerfully constructed. Above all, it is a satisfying, original and engaging novel with a unique perspective, and a worthy winner." JUDGE, ACT WRITING AND PUBLISHING AWARD FOR FICTION

"This is one of the best Australian novels related to what Tidy calls the war nobody would talk about. Tidy does a marvelous job creating and bringing alive the alien world of Australia for this American reader. Her prose is so evocative." – VIETNAM VETERAN'S MAGAZINE OF AMERICA

Winner, ACT Writing & Publishing Award for Fiction 2014  
Runner Up, FAW Christina Stead Award 2013  
Runner Up, FAW Jim Hamilton Award, 2010  
Shortlist, Penguin Varuna Scholarship, 2011  
Shortlist, HarperCollins Varuna Award, 2011



## SUMMARY

Nature has the power to restore us, but can it wash away our darkest truths?

Set against the red dust of the Australian Kimberley wet season and the smoky backdrop of the holy river Ganges in India, this is a novel about rebirth and remembrance.

Brian, a Vietnam veteran, has been missing for twenty years. Matt dreams of one day finding his own path like his heroic father, as Beth's religious fervour propagates a childhood of parental disappointment.

Losing her battle with Cystic Fibrosis, Rachel Hudson asks her family for one last request: a journey to the exotic and the unknown. Ever the free spirit, she administers a dose of her notorious wanderlust.

*The Happiness Jar* reveals the power of letting go of the memories that we think sustain us. It's a story about tightly held beliefs, the fragility of family and how quickly faith can fold when we release the burdens we place on ourselves and each other.

## SALES POINTS

- Award-winning title (and Runner Up to Hannah Kent's *Burial Rites*, FAW Christina Stead Award)
- Vibrant and visceral landscapes
- High end production values, SPOT UV plus embossing on matt laminate cover
- Previous sales figures: 5,000 copies in small paperback format

## SAMANTHA TIDY

An award-winning Australia author of fiction and non-fiction for both children and adults, Samantha has four children's titles due out in 2023 including *Cloudspotting* (Windy Hollow Books, 2023), *Wollemi: Saving a Dinosaur Tree* (CSIRO, 2023) *When Grandma Burnt Her Bra* (EK Books, 2023) and *The Friendship Flight* (NLA Publishing, 2023) plus more in 2024. She seeks out stories that cultivate connection, resilience and build community. She is passionate about sustainable stewardship of our planet and regenerating our future. She has just been announced as the Anne Edgeworth Fellow for 2023.

320pp Trade Paperback | 234mm x 154mm Portrait x 21mm | Storytorch Press

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