



Doing Life in Paradise

By Gary N. Lines

PRESS RELEASE

The absurdity of life, and the human condition, is examined through a group of hyper-real characters connected by a tragic and galvanizing event that both shapes, and misshapes their worlds, in this thought-provoking literary fiction debut.

“It wasn’t for the ordinary to ponder the extraordinary; there was enough to do to wrestle with the everyday.”

Doing Life in Paradise discusses the expectations and consequences for the citizens of a city, which suddenly changes its name to Paradise.

Ruby and Peter were nine years old when they witnessed the death of a classmate in a car accident on the Great Southern Road. Now in her early twenties, Ruby lives alone and craves to love and be loved. She wakes one day and decides to start a new career. She hopes this might be a beginning. Peter is a young successful architect but has already lost two great loves in his life - Ruby was one of them. Tommy drove the car that killed the young girl and now must go through life knowing he is a killer, and that he is at the mercy of the lethal disinterest of life’s coincidences and synchronicity. Despite the many

differences in their lives today, Ruby, Peter, Tommy, Steve (Hawkey) and Peter’s mother Madeline, who also witnessed the accident, become inextricably linked by the ripple effect caused by the collision. Their stories become critical to their survival and escape, but how can life in Paradise feel anything but cruelly ironic, how can it not be anything but a life sentence?

Doing Life in Paradise by Gary N. Lines is a post-modern story that discusses coincidence, synchronicity and the absurdity of life and our dependence on hope in particular. In its clipped, distinctive prose, the novel explores the peculiar places life can take us, while exposing the curious strategies we each employ in order to survive. Through the eyes of his hyper-surreal characters, Lines searches for meaning and finds only surface and routine, and in that, exposes the absurdity of life. This arresting novel will touch anyone who has ever felt lost in life and found comfort in the *absurd*.

About the author: Gary Lines was born in Adelaide, Australia. He completed a masters degree in creative writing at Flinders University and studied at the New York University and The New School in New York. He has previously written for the television series *Twisted Tales*; in addition to his successes in short story competitions, his work has been performed by the Queensland Theatre Company and also featured in the acclaimed Australian Book Review. This is his first published novel. **Doing Life in Paradise** by Gary N. Lines (published by Clink Street Publishing, RRP \$11.99 paperback, \$5.99 ebook) will be available to purchase from online retailers including [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), as well as retailers in both the UK and Australia, and to be ordered from all good bookstores.

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