

Welcome to the Summer of Romance!

A team of researchers from the University of Tasmania are conducting a research project into the significance of paperback Harlequin Mills & Boon novels in contemporary literary culture – and we need the help of booklovers to do it!

Between 1 December 2016 and 28 February 2017, we're asking people to contribute to our study by participating in a scavenger hunt. We've put together a list of fifty Harlequin Mills & Boon novels by Australian authors, published between 1996 and 2016, and now we're trying to find them in the wild.

Participating in this project is easy – this is what you need to do.

- 1) Find one (or more!) of the fifty novels on our list.
- 2) Photograph it where you find it – take a shelfie!
- 3) Share your photo on the Summer of Romance Facebook page, OR on Instagram or Twitter with the hashtag #loveyourshelfie
- 4) When you share your shelfie, tell us where you found this book.
- 5) Stay involved over summer by following us on Twitter and Instagram at @shelfiesummer and/or by liking the Summer of Romance Facebook page.

You can participate in this project as many times as you like. Maybe you stumble across one of these books randomly – or maybe you want to try and track down all fifty! Just don't forget to let us know if you find one of these books – and to tell us where you found it.

This project will be a lot of fun, but you'll also be contributing to important work about what happens to print books in Australian literary culture. So come December 1, get out there, start hunting, and send us your shelfies!

You can find the list of fifty books on our website: <https://summerofromanceutas.com/>

About the research team

Dr Lisa Fletcher is the Deputy Head of the School of Humanities and Senior Lecturer in English at the University of Tasmania. She is a Chief Investigator on the Australian Research Council Discovery Project *Genre Worlds: Australian Popular Fiction in the 21st Century*.

Dr Jodi McAlister is an Associate Lecturer in English at the University of Tasmania. She is the Area Co-Chair for Romance for the Popular Culture Association. Her debut young adult novel *Valentine* will be published by Penguin in 2017.

Dr Kathleen Williams is the Head of Journalism, Media and Communications at the University of Tasmania. Her work focuses on the material afterlives of media technologies and artefacts.

Mr Kurt Temple is a PhD candidate in English at the University of Tasmania. His research interests include digital scholarly editing and popular authorship.

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