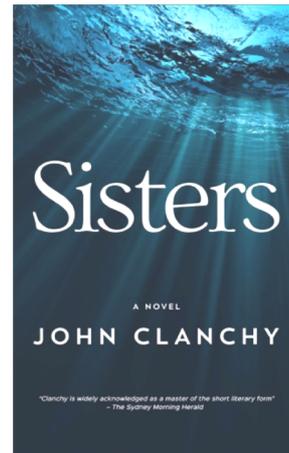
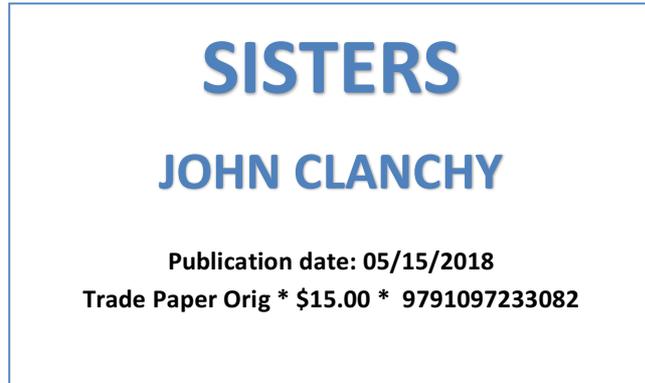


Press Release



A richly moving new novel of intricate family relations by award-winning Australian author John Clanchy.

Three sisters revisit the coastal house where they'd spent their childhood summers.

Neither Grace nor Rose, now both in their sixties, know why they are there for the first time in decades. But neither has been able to resist the summons of their imperious older sister, Sarah.

As the days of summer unfold, the intimate narratives of the sisters' lives unfold. Each sister remembers the tragic fragments of a common past, but whenever they try to fit those fragments together, they find they never quite do.

Exactly why has Sarah summoned them to this last summer together, and why now? And why does she let day after day go by without telling them? Is she ill? Has it something to do with the estate, the house, the gardens, the orchards? What is Sarah's secret? And why do the thoughts of all three sisters return time and again to their brother Billy?

—Clanchy, an internationally respected author and one of the most important writers of his generation in Australia, is based in Canberra and available for interview

—Like L. P. Hartley's *THE GO-BETWEEN*, or the past-haunted stories of William Trevor, *SISTERS* reminds us the past is never truly past. That even the strongest bonds between siblings can be stretched to breaking point by the resurrection of long buried sorrows.

Clanchy is widely acknowledged as a master of the short literary form. — The Sydney Morning Herald

Clanchy's style achieves a timeless suspension as characters rebuild their present through detailed memories.
— Newcastle Herald

John Clanchy was born in Melbourne in 1943. He is the author of five novels and five collections of short stories, as well as many uncollected short stories in magazines, newspapers and anthologies. His stories have won many awards, in Australia, Europe, the US and New Zealand. His novel *The Hard Word* won the Australia Capital Territory Book of the Year in 2003, and his collection of stories *Vincenzo's Garden* won both the same prize in 2006 and the Queensland Premier's Steele Rudd Award the year before.