

# TO THE HIGHLANDS

BY JON DOUST

## ABOUT THE BOOK

It is 1968. All around the world people are marching, protesting, fighting for freedom and free love.

Jack Muir arrives in the islands fresh out of Grammar School: a failure, a virgin, and a reluctant employee of The Colonial Bank of Australia.

Life in the islands is raw, sensuous, real. Here, the white man takes what he wants. But the veneer of whiteness is flimsy, and brutality never far from the surface.

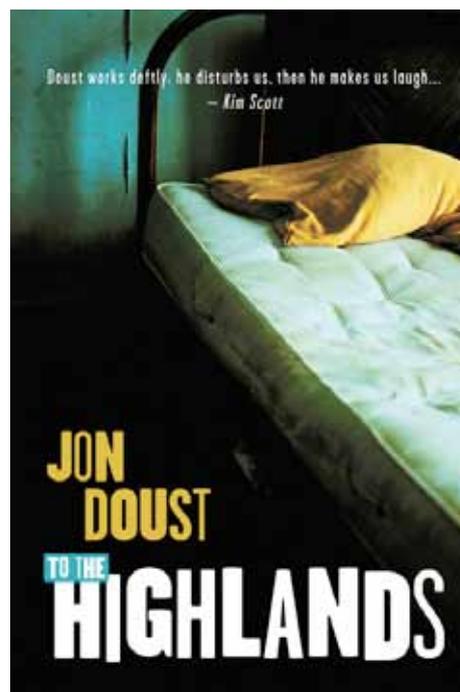
To be free, you must set free. So says George Kanluna, future leader of the islands. Yet there is a world of difference between freedom and those things you unleash in others – and in yourself.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jon Doust was born in Bridgetown, Western Australia, and spent his high school years at a private boys school in Perth. He failed his final year due to rebelliousness, drinking and surfing. After school his father insisted he take a job in a bank. The bank in its wisdom chose him for higher office on a South Pacific island. Out of that disaster came much good and Jon recovered well enough to attend a university and get a degree. He went on to write two children's books and a novel, *Boy on a Wire*, which was long-listed for the Miles Franklin in 2010. *To the Highlands* is the second work in a trilogy Jon is calling *One Boy's Journey to Man*. Jon lives with his wife in Albany, Western Australia, where he writes in a smart house, runs, surfs, grows vegetables and agonises over the future of everything.

## MEDIA NOTES

- This is a gripping, disturbing sequel to *Boy on a Wire*, the author's first novel, which was longlisted for a Miles Franklin Award.
- Author is a well known stand-up comedian and performer who has participated in the Sydney Writers Festival and will be touring NSW, QLD & Indonesia in 2012.
- *Boy on a Wire* was highly acclaimed by *The Age*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Canberra Times* and *The West Australian*, amongst others.



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