

# Poems that do not sleep

by **HASSAN AL NAWWAB**

## KEYNOTE

*'I write scenes from life that the eye cannot see, as if I was trying to paint air or spirit.'* Written from the perspective of an Iraqi soldier this is a bilingual collection of poems on war and exile, and of making a new life in a strange country.

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Hassan Al Nawwab is a former Iraqi soldier who came to Australia after the war with his family 20 years ago. With devastating simplicity, these imagistic poems speak of war and terror, of homesickness in exile, the blessings of peace and the pain of belonging. The collection is in two parts, 'Tree Flying' and 'Diaspora', and each poem is presented with its counterpart in Arabic on the opposite page, as translated from English by the poet himself.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hassan Al Nawwab was born in Iraq in 1960 and came to Australia in 2003 with his wife and children. He is a poet and journalist who has published three volumes of poetry and two plays in Arabic and has received numerous awards for his poems. This is Hassan's first collection in English.



## KEY POINTS

- Hassan has been a recipient of the League of Arab States Prize / Arab Media Day award, and the international Al-Tayeb Salih Creative Writing Award.
- He provides weekly articles to a newspaper called *Al Zaman*, which is published in London and Iraq.
- Hassan has previous experience at poetry festivals and his story would make him a unique speaker at events.



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