

# HUMAN DOINGS

**If you aren't really who you're told you are, being true to yourself can demand more than courage and cost more than just pride.**

**Secrets and judgment wreak unseen consequences that can reverberate through a lifetime. When early retirement is forced on her and lockdown pushes Josie into close quarters with family for the first time in decades, she is forced to face truths that forever alter how she sees herself and those she loves the most.**

Josie grieves the disappearance of her daughter nearly twenty years ago. Brianna resents the conflict between the roles in her life – mother, daughter, wife, sister – and is torn by the secret that weighs her down. Josie and husband Sam face more than they bargained for when they sell their business in 2019.

Set in regional Victoria where belonging is everything and isolation happens under the gaze of a close-knit community this book tackles themes of identity and intergenerational trauma with the all too familiar backdrop of Covid19 restrictions. The pandemic in Australia, where border closures created postcode stigma, brings home to middle class white Australia a taste of the reality of what being 'the other' can mean. Human Doings explores the devastating impact that words and actions have as we walk the difficult but necessary path towards acceptance of 'the other' as 'us'.