



ACCESS ROAD
by Maurice Gee
Published by Penguin Group (NZ)
28 September 2009 | RRP\$37.00

Media contact:

Philippa.Muller@nz.penguin.com
Ph 09 442 7463

BY MAURICE GEE

NOVELS

The Big Season
A Special Flower
In My Father's Den
Games of Choice
Plumb
Meg
Sole Survivor
Prowlers
The Burning Boy
Going West
Crime Story
Loving Ways
Live Bodies
Ellie and the Shadow Man
The Scornful Moon
Blindsight
Access Road

STORIES

A Glorious Morning, Comrade
Collected Stories

FOR CHILDREN

Under the Mountain
The World Around the Corner
The Halfmen of O
The Priests of Ferris
Motherstone
The Fireraiser
The Chamption
Orchard Street
The Fat Man
Hostel Girl
Salt
Gool

MEDIA RELEASE



Penguin Books to release
ACCESS ROAD by MAURICE GEE,
the first adult novel to be published
by Gee in four years.

The old family home in Access Road, where Lionel, Roly and Rowan grew up, is crumbling away – but after more than fifty years Lionel and Roly are back. Rowan too, safe in 'upper crusty' Takapuna, is drawn more and more strongly 'out west'.

The past is dangerously alive. Clyde Buckley, violent as a boy, enigmatic, subterranean as an old man, returns to his childhood territory. What does he want? What crimes does he hide? And how is Lionel involved? Rowan must abandon safety if she is to find out ...

Maurice Gee is a master storyteller. *Access Road* is a novel of chilling tension and expansive humanity; both a beautifully crafted work of literature and an effortlessly seductive family story.

This is a novel of family secrets and tensions, and distant past grievances, set like so much of Maurice Gee's fiction in the West Auckland town of Loomis.

Penguin Publishing Director Geoff Walker says, *'It has been a delight and an honour for everybody at Penguin to work with Maurice over the years on a series of superb, award-winning books.'*

'For many of us it has been the highlight of our publishing careers,' says Walker.

2009 sees Maurice Gee receiving international recognition. *Access Road* is being published by Penguin Australia, and Maurice's children's series *The Salt Trilogy* is to be published by Melbourne-based Text Publishing.

Penguin Books will be re-releasing *Under the Mountain* (film tie-in edition) in December to coincide with the release of the movie adaptation of the novel, starring Sam Neill and directed by Jonathan King (Black Sheep).

Maurice Gee is one of New Zealand's best known writers, for both adults and children. He has won a number of literary awards, including the Wattie Award, the Deutz Medal for Fiction and the New Zealand Fiction Award. He has also won the New Zealand Children's Book of the Year Award. In 2003 he received an inaugural New Zealand Icon Award and in 2004 he received a Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement.



photo credit: Scooter

Maurice Gee's novels include the *Plumb Trilogy*, *Going West*, *Prowlers*, *Live Bodies* and *The Scornful Moon*. He has also written a number of children's novels, the most recent being *Salt* and *Gool*.

Maurice lives in Nelson with his wife Margareta, and has two daughters and a son.