



The Cardboard Crown

Martin Boyd

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A classic of Australian literature, with an introduction by Dr Brenda Niall.

It is 1949, and Guy Langton's house, like his family's fortunes, has seen better days. The wealth and social standing that his grandparent's generation enjoyed is all but gone. Only ageing uncles and half-remembered stories from childhood offer any insight into his family's rise and fall over three generations. But in his grandmother Alice's diaries he uncovers more than just a story of a dynasty in decline. He finds a tale of England and Australia, a saga of deception, disappointment and loss. Most of all he discovers Alice's inner life, as she is torn between the confines of family demands and the prospect of love and emotional truth in the winding streets of Rome. Alice emerges as one of the truly remarkable characters in Australian literature.

'A rueful, cheerfully savage novel of changing generations under Australian and English skies...a superior entertainment lit with unearthly fires and enchantments.' *New York Times*

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