

DROWNING IN THE SHALLOWS

by DAN KAUFMAN

David's girlfriend dumped him, he writes about bars for a shrinking newspaper, and he's desperately searching for meaning amongst Sydney's shallow social and dating scene.

Then he meets a young woman at a party who just might be the answer to his life's meaninglessness. However, she's only 19 – and one of his journalism student's friends.

Drowning in the Shallows is about a man who tries to curb his sleazier tendencies in the #metoo era, about a cat's ruthless attempt to dominate its owner, and about how – in a society obsessed with networking – we're more estranged than ever.

I loved reading this. It's such a good social satire – so funny and human with lightness and depth. Like a negroni, it's bittersweet.

— Kerrie Davies, author of *A Wife's Heart*

Laugh out loud funny.

— Angie Kelly, ex *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Sun Herald* editor (travel, style and entertainment)

Kaufman has created that rare thing: a searing social satire – lampooning love, sex, masculinity, fakeness, Gen Z – wrapped around a glimmering, 21st century coming-of-age story about a man and his cat. Grab your martini and strap in for the ride.

— Amanda Crawford, director of Periplum

If anyone's qualified to write about cats and Sydney nightlife, it's Dan.

— Ms Darlinghurst (AKA Alex Adams), managing editor of *Eat Drink Play*

Dan Kaufman's droll, lols-filled chronicle lifts Sydney's velvet ropes and slings them into the harbour.

— Mark Broatch, journalist, ex books & culture editor *NZ Listener* and *Sunday Star-Times*, author of *Word to the Wise*



The Author

Dan is a former newspaper journo and editor (who still occasionally writes columns for *The Age* and *SMH*).

He launched, ran and wrote the very popular *Bar Zine* blog before starting his own media training, writing and editing consultancy business.