

**Kirsten Krauth**

novelist

Kirsten has worked in and around words for 20 years, as a writer and editor. She lives in Castlemaine, regional Victoria, nestled into the ever-broadening expanse of writers moving to the region.

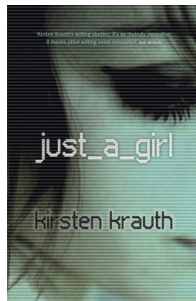
**Writing and editing background**

- Kirsten's novel *just\_a\_girl* (contemporary literary fiction for adults) was published by UWA Publishing in 2013 to critical and popular acclaim.
- She was one of the judges for the 2013 Sydney Morning Herald Best Young Australian Novelists Award.
- She blogs on all things literary (*Wild Colonial Girl*) including 'Writing Mothers' series and 'Friday Night Fictions' focusing on debut authors.
- She writes personal essays, and film and literary criticism, for *Good Weekend*, *Australian*, *Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Age*, *Peppermint Magazine*, *Metro Magazine*, *Empire*, *Screen Education*, *Island Magazine* and *RealTime*.
- She regularly writes on regional arts for ABC Arts Online.
- She is Commissioning Editor of the NSW Writers' Centre magazine, *Newswrite*, and has edited a compilation of best-of articles from *Newswrite* in an ebook, *Talking Writing*.

**Debut novel: *just\_a\_girl***

*just\_a\_girl* explores provocative and challenging issues in Australian (and online) contemporary life: internet privacy, online dating, the frayed fabric of relationships between single mothers and daughters, female sexuality, modern families, and feeling disconnected in a connected world.

"I love the edginess of it, the unpretentiousness and honesty. It's gripping and unforgettable: it's a quiet revolution in fiction." — Sue Woolfe



"Krauth's debut is alive with ideas about isolation and connection in the digital age, particularly the way the internet raises the stakes of teenage rebellion."

— Jo Case, *The Australian*

A full list of reviews (including *The Australian*; *Sydney Morning Herald*; *Newtown Review of Books*; *Lip Magazine*; *Birdee*; *Literary Minded*; *YEN*) is here:

[http://wildcolonialgirl.wordpress.com/my-book\\_just\\_a\\_girl/just\\_a\\_girl-reviews-media/](http://wildcolonialgirl.wordpress.com/my-book_just_a_girl/just_a_girl-reviews-media/)

- Donica Bettanin, programming manager of the Wheeler Centre, named *just\_a\_girl* as one of her Best Reads of 2013, describing it as a book "which vividly took me back to being a young woman grappling for the first time with sexual power and vulnerability".
- It reached number four on the bestseller list at Gleebooks and has had a hugely enthusiastic response on Goodreads, Amazon, Twitter and in the blogosphere.

**Highlights**

- Bendigo Writers Festival: coming up in August 2014.
- Sydney Writers' Festival 2014, 2 sessions: 'Here and Now: Debut Fiction'; (with Felicity Castagna); and 'The Author as Marketing Machine' (with Kate Forsyth, Darrell Pitt), Forest for the Trees seminar.
- Clunes Booktown Festival 2014, featured writer, 2 sessions: 'Pushing the Boundaries of the Novel' (with Nicki Greenberg); and 'Writing the Father, Writing the Daughter' (with my father, novelist Nigel Krauth).
- Speech, 'Can self-promotion be a creative act?', NSW Writers' Centre Open Access seminar on marketing books in the digital age, 21 September 2013.

**Kirsten's favourite topics**

writing female sexuality; dark places; the place of girls/women in contemporary culture; modern families; wild teenagers; confronting literature; writing styles that challenge; writing mothers; debut novelists; being an editor and writer; arts criticism; finding a strong voice; marketing and author branding for aspiring writers; social media for authors; cross-cultural characters (Japan).