



COVER ART BY SONJA DRAKE



Ōtaki writer Robin Peace lives in the margin land of Otepua wetland with her partner, observing and interacting with the natural world. A retired geographer, teacher and academic, her first collection of poetry, *A Passage of Yellow Red Birds*, was published in 2018. She

contributed a poem 'In the Moment' to *More Favourable Waters: Aotearoa poets respond to Dante's Purgatory* and 'Intricate Relationships' to *The Power in Our Truth: the Truth of Our Power*.

# Detritus of Empire

*feather / grass / rock*

Robin Peace

To be released April 2024

ISBN 978-1-98-859578-8

RRP \$25 • 148 × 210mm • softcover

98pp • poetry

- powerful second collection by Kāpiti Coast poet
- poems about colonialism via the natural world

---

*Like the grass she writes about, these poems 'speak of multitudes / and shine'.* —Brian Evans-Jones

*Detritus* are the pieces that are left when something or someone breaks, falls apart or is destroyed: gravel from rocks, the organic matter from plants. At the edge of an endangered wetland in Te Ika-a-Māui, Robin Peace writes of what is left of a country colonised not just by people but by the plants and creatures they brought with them, especially the most ignored invader: the grass that replaced Aotearoa's forests and lowlands with lawns and farms. Robin's observations of the natural world are meticulous and often surprising, fertilised with the wonder and rage she feels at what's in front of her and supported by her own stories of settlement and displacement.

*Robin Peace's new collection sings of plants and animals, insects and hills, all the while meditating on family history and the troubling inheritances of colonialism ... I was struck by how sweeping gestures are always engaged through particular, beautiful images born of surprising perceptions.*

—Bryan Walpert



Sales / distribution: Expensive Hobby  
www.expensivehobby.org • hello@expensivehobby.org

www.thecubapress.nz • hello@thecubapress.nz • Box 9321, Wellington 6141