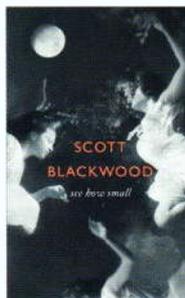
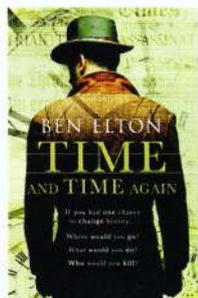
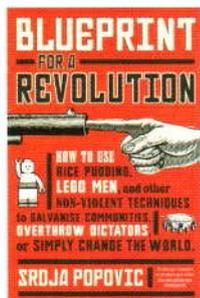


+ REVIEW



the modern art of public shaming. Ronson (*The Psychopath Test*, *The Men Who Stare at Goats*) has certainly put in the leg work, but I found his persona – so carefully cultivated and archly self-aware – starts to rub a little thin. **JOANNA WANE**

THE ALTOGETHER UNEXPECTED DISAPPEARANCE OF ATTICUS CRAFTSMAN
MAMEN SANCHEZ (PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE, \$36.99)

If this novel were bottled, it'd be the rosé – or Spanish rosado – everyone recommends next summer. Deliberately, pleasantly light, it is the book to open when a big, complex Bordeaux novel feels too heavy. The Spanish author's characters are as much fun as they are clichéd. A repressed Englishman with an Earl Grey tea addiction disappears after flying into Madrid to close down a literary magazine owned by his family. Enter: one bumbling detective, five feisty female magazine employees, a comically English uptight mother, a smattering of literary references and a village full of fiery, musical Spaniards. When occasion demands something easy to quaff, try *Atticus Craftsman*. Before you know it, the bottle will be empty.

SUE HOFFART

BLUEPRINT FOR REVOLUTION
SRDJA POPOVIC (SCRIBE, \$35)

Back in 2000, Srdja Popovic became a leader of the student movement Otpor! that led to the overthrow of dictator Slobodan Milošević and the establishment of democracy in Serbia. The key to that success was what he terms the “smiling barrel” of humour. “The only thing that could trump fear was laughter... humour doesn't just make you chuckle – it makes you think,” he writes in this fascinating and entertaining book. Popovic tracks around the world to show that non-violent resistance repeatedly wins where violence fails, and is more likely to effect long-term change. New Zealand may not be under the yoke of dictatorship, but his clear ideas and guidelines apply to any social campaign or movement. Anyone with an appetite for change should find real value here.

JIM ROBINSON

TIME AND TIME AGAIN
BEN ELTON (PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE, \$36.99)

Istanbul, 1914. Boots are on the ground. Boots from the year 2025, bearing Hugh Stanton, ex-soldier and professional adventurer,

who would rather be dead. Carrying the ghosts of his family, with nothing to lose and millions of lives to gain, Stanton has been sent back to save humanity from the consequences of the 20th century's mistakes. We watch the world change as Stanton subverts cusp-of-war Europe, seduces passionate Irish suffragette Bernadette, and suffers the apocalyptic, tattooed rage of fellow time-traveller Katie. Elton's grasp of the era's geopolitics, eye for evocative period detail and understanding of the vagaries of human nature deliver a book of brutal action, poignancy, hope and loss – resonant with warning bells. And just when you think you're on sure ground, the story shifts under your feet like a Newtonian time loop. It's a thought-provoking surprise. **JULIE COOK**

BECOMING WESTERLY: THE TRANSFORMATION OF SURFING CHAMPION PETER DROUYN INTO WESTERLY WINDINA
JAMIE BRISICK (ALLEN & UNWIN, \$36.99)

Australian surfer Peter Drouyn burst onto the world scene in the mid-60s and quickly established a reputation as an innovator and entertainer who mastered moves on a surfboard that others

couldn't. Off the water, he had a propensity for excess and did things that others wouldn't. So the surfing community wasn't overly shocked when he began a new life a decade ago, living as a woman, Westerly Windina. Brisick's biography stems from a documentary he was making about Drouyn/Windina, during which he was variously puzzled, frustrated and amused by his subject, her divaish demands, fantastical plans and accounts of her previous identity. All that makes for a compelling read as Brisick wonders how an Aussie beach bloke became a flamboyant woman sending him dozens of selfies late at night, posing as Marilyn Monroe.

MATT ELLIOTT

SEE HOW SMALL
SCOTT BLACKWOOD (HARPERCOLLINS, \$26.99)



In a small Texas town, three teenage girls are bound, raped and set alight in an ice-cream shop. In his debut novel, Scott Blackwood focuses on those trying to come to terms with the brutal murders, including the mother of two of the girls, the fireman who found the bodies, an Iraq War veteran with post-traumatic stress disorder who may have seen something, and the unsuspecting getaway driver. Based on a 1991 event, the story builds upon the grief of lives cut short, of loss that never ends and justice that remains elusive. The only jarring element is the dead girls, who show up occasionally to try and connect with those they left behind. That aside, Blackwood has nailed it.

SHARON STEPHENSON