



# A Few Days in the Country: And Other Stories

*Elizabeth Harrower*

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**A Few Days in the Country: And Other Stories** Elizabeth Harrower

Shortlisted for the 2016 Stella Prize

Internationally acclaimed for her five brilliant novels, Elizabeth Harrower is also the author of a small body of short fiction. *A Few Days in the Country* brings together for the first time her stories published in Australian journals in the 1960s and 1970s, along with those from her archives—including ‘Alice’, published for the first time earlier this year in the *New Yorker*.

Essential reading for Harrower fans, these finely turned pieces show a broader range than the novels, ranging from caustic satires to gentler explorations of friendship.

**Elizabeth Harrower** is the author of the novels *Down in the City*, *The Long Prospect*, *The Catherine Wheel* and *The Watch Tower*—all of which have been republished as Text Classics—and *In Certain Circles*, which was published in 2014 and in early 2015 was a BBC Radio 4 Book at Bedtime. Elizabeth lives in Sydney.

‘Harrower has the disconcerting knack of looking at life and seeing it unadorned.’ *Australian Financial Review*, Best Books of 2015

‘Vital, vivid stories by a master storyteller.’ Joan London, *Age/Sydney Morning Herald*, Best Books of 2015

‘One has to think hard of a book in which so much pleasure has been wrenched from so much pain. While the skies are overcast here, what happens on the ground is brightly lit, hilariously cast by lashings of irony and overstatement...This is the work of an activist in disguise as an entertainer.’ John Freeman, *Australian*

‘Enchanting...That Harrower has, up until recently, been denied a place in the Australian literary canon, is a tragedy—one that can only be remedied by reading her. *A Few Days in the Country: And Other Stories* is a fantastic place to start.’ *Lip Mag*

‘Lyrical, insightful and finely tuned.’ *Otago Daily Times*

‘The range of stories and styles demonstrates Harrower’s extraordinary literary skill...*A Few Days in the Country and Other Stories* offers no sure-fire formulas, but through its interrogation of characters’ psychological motivations it affords a deeper understanding of human behaviour.’ *Australian Book Review*

‘[Harrower] reveals an astonishing facility to reveal a world in a few brush strokes.’ *West Australian*

‘*A Few Days in the Country* continues [Harrower’s] remarkable literary rejuvenation.’ *Australian*, Best Books of 2015

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