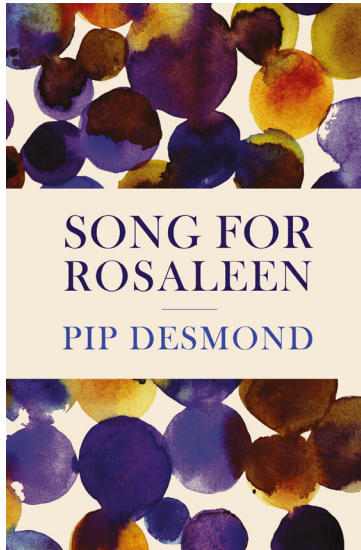




# Song for Rosaleen

PIP DESMOND



\$29.99

CATEGORY: Adult non-fiction, memoir

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## LOSING AND FINDING A MOTHER IN DEMENTIA

A beautifully crafted memoir of a family coping with their mother's dementia, *Song for Rosaleen* is both a celebration of Rosaleen Desmond's life and an unflinching account of the practical and ethical dilemmas that faced her six children. Told with love, insight, humour and compassion, it raises important questions about who we become when our memories fail, how our rapidly ageing population can best be cared for, and what this means for us all.

*'Song for Rosaleen is a beautiful, honest and deeply moving memoir. I have no doubt this book will resonate with a huge portion of readers — especially anyone who has watched a loved one decline due to a degenerative illness.'* — Mandy Hager

*'This book is an outstanding example of memoir — creative non-fiction at its best. Its compelling narrative flow creates a moving and enriching work that will be an important addition to this country's literature.'* — Alison Parr

*'Song for Rosaleen is gripping. It is at one level a personal account, at another a meditation on memory itself, and at yet another an erudite critique of how our society treats the frail, dependent and voiceless. For this latter reason alone it should be essential reading for everyone who works in health: management, non-clinical and clinical staff alike.'* — Sue Wootton, Corpus

*'It is dementia's nature to erode the idea of a continuous story of the self. Along with the many Rosaleens described here, we have many Desmonds as well: the Desmond who is a frustrated advocate for her mother, the Desmond who strives for familial responsibility, and the Desmond who, childlike, is filled with grief and loss. This book is a last great, and articulate, act of care.'* — Michalia Arathimos, Overland

LONGLISTED FOR THE 2019 OCKHAM NEW ZEALAND BOOK AWARDS

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Pip Desmond** is a Wellington writer, editor and oral historian. She is the author of the award-winning *Trust: A True Story of Women and Gangs* and *The War That Never Ended: New Zealand Veterans Remember Korea*. Pip has an MA in creative writing and runs communications company 2Write with her husband Pat. They have three children and four beautiful grandchildren.

## SALES POINTS

- A beautiful and compelling read
- Of great interest to families with parents with dementia, those anticipating this situation in their families, workers in the field, the general reader

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