



## Like a House on Fire

By Cate Kennedy

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**Like a House on Fire** By Cate Kennedy

Taking ordinary lives and dissecting their ironies, injustices, and pleasures, this collection possesses a humane eye and wry sense of humor. A young woman working as a maid in a hospital helps an elderly patient defy doctor's orders; a jilted lover manages to misinterpret her ex's new life; and a son accompanies his mother on a journey to scatter his father's remains, while lifelong resentments simmer in the background. This poignant compilation of short stories finds the beauty and tragedy in illness and mortality, life and love.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"One of the world's finest short-story writers." —Robert Drewe, Australian novelist, *Grace*

"Cate Kennedy writes with the warm understanding and cold precision of a master." —David Malouf, Australian writer, *Ransom*

"Cate Kennedy's anger is a cleansing fire. Her stories ache with small mercies—tender, life-affirming, real." —Hilary McPhee, publisher, McPhee Gribble

#### About the Author

**Cate Kennedy** is an Australia writer and the author of *Sing, and Don't Cry*, *The World Beneath*, and the poetry collections *Joyflight* and *Signs of Other Fires*. She is the recipient of several awards, including the People's Choice Award in the New South Wales Premier's Literary Awards and the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards CJ Dennis Prize for Poetry.

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