

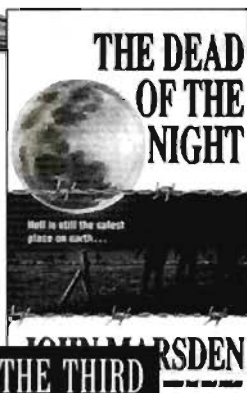


About the novels

Are you new to John Marsden's novels? Not sure which one to choose first or to read next? Read on! The first five novels listed are in the War Series and each one follows on from where the last leaves off.

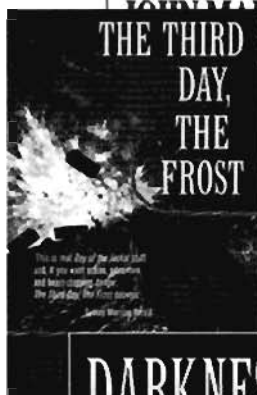
Tomorrow, When the War Began

Six teenagers spend five idyllic days camping in a remote beauty spot called Hell, but when they return, they find their families gone and their animals dead. The invasion has happened. It's war — and the friends find out the true meaning of hell, and of courage and friendship, as they swing into action. With no more time for dreaming, the friends prepare to battle for their country, their families and their lives.



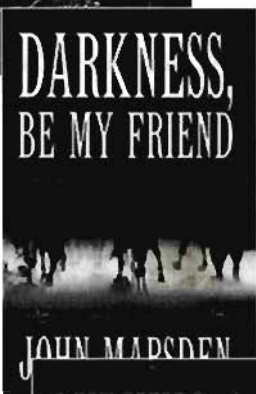
The Dead of the Night

Now in the midst of war, the friends fight on, making life difficult for the enemy and never ceasing to surprise them. They set about planning attack strategies and suffer setbacks as well as triumphs. Often finding it difficult to adapt to war and violence, the friends reflect on the ways in which their lives are changing, and try to make some sense of the horror that has invaded their very souls.



The Third Day, The Frost

It is now winter. The enemy still has control of the country. The lone group of teenagers is still on the loose. Increasingly the countryside is being colonised; small groups of the invading army are taking over farms using prison labour. The friends spot one of their old mates on one of these farms and the rescue operation is on, spurring them to amazing acts of courage in an atmosphere of even more action and suspense.



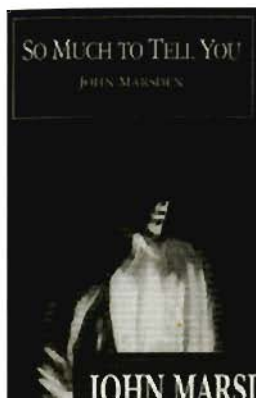
Darkness, Be My Friend

After their thrilling rescue by the New Zealand army, Ellie, Homer, Lee, Fi and Kevin return to Australia as guides on a top secret mission, only to find themselves once more left to defend themselves in a war that has no winners. The battle-weary friends not only have to face an army, but they have to face and combat personal fears, grief, rage, hatred and even guilt, emotions that could destroy them as surely as could the enemy.



Burning for Revenge

The war continues as the friends fight back with an awe-inspiring intensity. While trying to hold together their lives and relationships, they have to cope with the enemy — an enemy that seems to be everywhere, an enemy growing more skilful, more dangerous by the day. Ellie and Homer lead the single most daring raid of the entire war, and the friends ask themselves whether the price is too high.



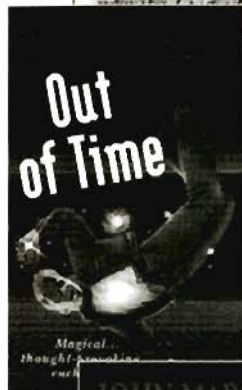
So Much to Tell You

The girl is mute, but through her diary she speaks from the heart in the only voice she can find. Aware of neither the writer's name, nor the calamity that befell her, the reader slowly builds up a picture of the girl, feeling her loneliness, her fears, her pain, and delighting in her wry humour. The heroine shares her perceptions of herself and of those around her as she battles with her self-image, the effects of her tragedy and the masks she wears, and strives to emerge from her prison of silence.



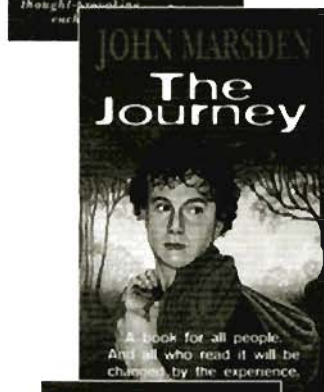
Take My Word For It

In *So Much to Tell You* we saw Lisa through Marina's eyes. Here Lisa tells her own story, and below the seemingly strong, cold, private exterior, we see the real Lisa emerge. She tells of her friends and family, her frustrations and successes, her thoughts and feelings. She describes her obsession with running and rowing, her problems with boys, and her difficulties coming to terms with her parents' divorce. Lisa, too, lives with shadows and searches for the security of friendship, and we meet Marina again as she struggles to find her voice in the turmoil of life in the Year 9 dormitory.



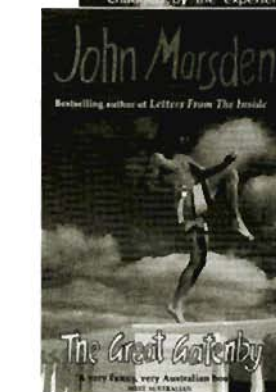
Out of Time

Out of time? out of mind? magic? secret worlds? time travel? beyond imagination? Sometimes we think we have the answers, sometimes we don't. This is the story of James, his wild imagination and a string of amazing adventures and mysteries. Read carefully as the tale unwinds or you may just miss a vital piece of the jigsaw. Follow all the exciting twists and unexpected, sometimes tragic, turns as the secrets of James's journey are finally revealed.



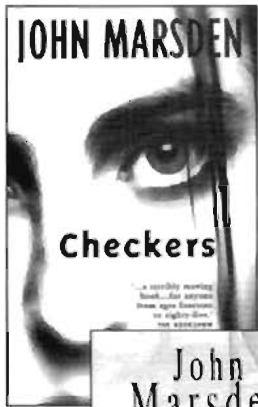
The Journey

This is a story of young people and adults in a world so different from, yet so like, our own. When Argus is fourteen he leaves home and, like the other children in his world, begins his journey. He knows that it will not be over until he has discovered and can tell seven stories. Argus travels far, learns to survive in the wild, joins a travelling fair and meets friends and foes who teach him a great deal about himself and about life. Argus's journey is one of independence, individuality, developing the courage to be different and, at heart, about growing up. His journey is a revelation to himself and to the reader.



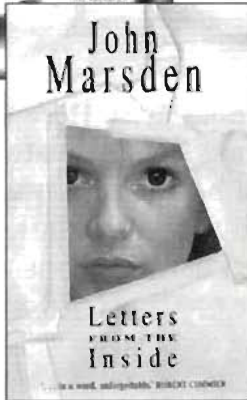
The Great Gatenby

This is a book that will have you in stitches. Erle Gatenby is a crazy smart-ass teenager spending his first year at Linley boarding school. His exploits include falling through the art room roof, giving up smoking, swimming like a fish on steroids, triumphing at the championships and falling in love with the beautiful star diver, Melanie Tozer. Gatenby's humour is witty and outrageous as he stumbles in and out of trouble, and his excuses are the tallest stories ever. Warning — this is a guaranteed laughter zone!



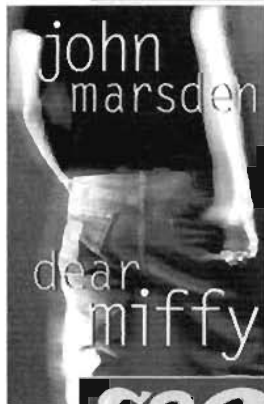
Checkers

She lived in the best suburb. She went to the finest school. Her family was wealthy and powerful. She had everything money could buy. But the best thing about life was the girl's devoted love of her dog, Checkers. Then something went wrong, terribly wrong. Why is she in hospital and why does life seem so fragile? This is the story of a girl trying to make sense of her life in the midst of political intrigue, corruption, deceit and a family falling apart.



Letters from the Inside

On a rainy Sunday afternoon, fifteen-year-old Mandy replies to Tracey's ad for a pen friend in a magazine. The girls exchange letters, talk about their families, schools, boys. Pretty normal stuff on the surface. But slowly and inevitably, through the news and gossip exchanged in the letters, we start to suspect that all may not be as it seems. Is Tracey's life really as idyllic as she suggests? And just how normal is Mandy's own family? And why, asks Mandy, do Tracey's letters take so long to reach her? This is a taut and intense novel, which has many mysteries, twists and surprises. It is deceptively simple at first, but frighteningly realistic, and builds to an unforgettable climax. It is a tough and emotional read but you won't be able to put it down.



Dear Miffy

Is there something wrong when your main ambition in life is to be dead? This is John Marsden's most powerful and controversial book. What really happened between Tony and Miffy? Where is Miffy now? Has Tony got any chance of putting his life back together? This is a tough novel about the new underclass of Australian youth: the purposeless, the angry, the inarticulate. It will take you out of the comfort zone and challenge you to remain unmoved. Have we really got choices? Are we trapped by where we've come from and how we are labelled? Can we break out of futile, going-nowhere lives? This confronting, punchy novel asks all these questions and more.



Cool School and Creep Street

These are choose-your-own-adventure books for all those kids who want to control the action. What you say goes because you make it happen! These books are as silly and funny as a computer game — and much more portable. In *Cool School*, it's your first day at school and whichever way you turn, you're in a heap of trouble. In *Creep Street* your new house turns out to be a house of horrors. You are the hero or heroine, and at each step you get to decide what happens next. Be a co-author with John Marsden!

