

# KATE COLE-ADAMS

KATECOLEADAMS.COM



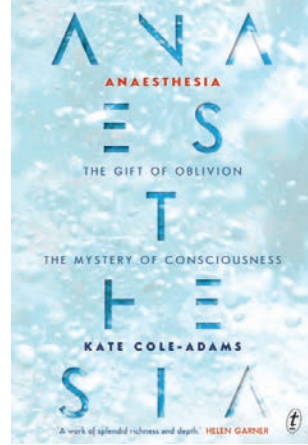
— KATE COLE-ADAMS is a Melbourne-based writer and journalist. Her book, *Anaesthesia: The Gift of Oblivion and the Mystery of Consciousness* is a personal, journalistic and philosophical exploration of what happens when we go under. It won the 2017 Mark and Evette Moran Nib Literary Award, was shortlisted for the 2018 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Non-fiction and longlisted for the 2018 Stella Prize. — KATE'S 2008 NOVEL, *Walking to the Moon*, was shortlisted for the 2006 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards for an Unpublished Manuscript. She is fascinated by unconscious processes and other things she can't understand. She writes very slowly.

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PETER  
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ABOUT  
ENTERED WORK

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LITERARY CAREER

QUOTE FROM  
ANAESTHESIA  
(2017)



— UNTIL A HUNDRED and seventy years ago many people chose death over the ordeal of surgery. Now hundreds of thousands undergo operations every day. Anaesthesia has made it possible.

— BUT HOW MUCH do we really know about what happens to us on the operating table? Can we hear what's going on around us? Is pain still pain if we are not awake to feel it, or don't remember it afterwards? How does the unconscious mind deal with the body's experience of being cut open and ransacked? And how can we help ourselves through it? — HAUNTING, LYRICAL, SOMETIMES shattering, *Anaesthesia* leavens science with personal experience to bring an intensely human curiosity to the unknowable realm beyond consciousness.

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“LIKE DEATH, YOU GO THERE ALONE;  
AND, LIKE BIRTH, YOU EMERGE  
SEEMINGLY EMPTY-HANDED.”