



**POETRY/ART**

## **Birdlife**

*Edited by Nyanda Smith and Perdita Phillips*

Lethologica Press,  
\$25

This beautiful bird book contains poetry and poetic prose by Nandi Chinna, Michael Farrell, Graeme Miles and Nyanda Smith, plus Perdita Phillips' appealing line drawings and striking photographs. If you're fascinated by birds, or looking for a lovely gift, get this book. The fabulous final poem, Chinna's *Tempest*, plays with Shakespearean ideas. Its first verse sums up many of the delights of *Birdlife*: "There is a drama unfolding/ down at Tempest Park: the cricket players/ have laid down their bats,/ the junkies have exited stage left,/ leaving their discarded syringes on the ground./ In the trees the wattle birds' rasping cries/ warn of treachery, and defeat."

Writing WA. 2011. "Writing WA recommends... *Birdlife*." *The West Australian*, December 8, 7.

<http://www.writingwa.org/booksreviewed/2011-reviews/>