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'Who Steals My Purse ...' [Book Review]

Quadrant

Volume 49 Issue 4 (Apr 2005)

Izzard, John (Reviewed by)

Abstract: Standing under an ancient blackwood tree in the top corner of our back paddock you can see across the Norfolk Plains to distant Mt Arthur, north to the edge of the Meander Valley and south to the great spread of the 'midlands' of Tasmania. About fifteen kilometres to the east you see the town of Cressy, where the local high school students take an oath not to go on the dole when they graduate. A few miles south of the school is Brumbies Creek and Lake River and nearby, the site

of Western Lagoon. Our various neighbours breed deer and black Angus cattle, raise sheep, grow opium poppies (which supply Australia's opiate-based pain-killers) as well as crops of potatoes, cabbages and onions for Singapore. Others work in research (the illness of the Tasmanian devil), one is a pathologist in the laboratories at Launceston General Hospital, another breeds horses. One neighbour fights to save forests while another issues chainsaw licences. Review(s) of: Washout: On the Academic Response to The Fabrication of Aboriginal History, by John Dawson, Macleay, 2004, \$39.95.



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