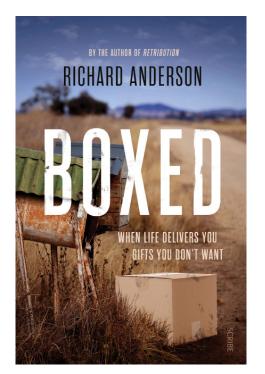
BOOK CLUB NOTES





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AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHY

Richard Anderson is a second-generation farmer from northern New South Wales. He has been running a beef-cattle farm for twenty-five years, but has also worked as a miner and had a stint on the local council. Richard is the author of two rural-crime novels, *Retribution* and *Boxed*, both published by Scribe. He lives with his wife, four dogs, and a cat.

When life delivers you gifts you don't want.

Dave Martin is down on his luck: his wife has left him; his farm is a failure; his house is a mess; he has withdrawn from his community and friends; and tragedy has stolen his capacity to care. He passes the time drinking too much and buying cheap tools online, treating the delivered parcels as gifts from people who care about him.

And then boxes begin to arrive in the mail: boxes that he didn't order, but ones that everyone around him seems to want desperately. As he tries to find out the secret of the boxes, Dave is drawn into a crazy world of red herrings and wrong turns, good guys and bad, false friends and true, violence, lust, fear, revenge, and a lot, lot more. It's not a world he understands, but is it the only one Dave can live in?

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- I. Is Dave's world real or allegorical?
- 2. Why are there so many coincidences?
- 3. Does Elaine like Dave or is she just using him?
- **4**. What do you feel about Elaine? Do you like her? Trust her? What do you feel about Dave?
- 5. Are the boxes symbolically important or are they only a plot device?
- 6. What is the significance of loss in the book?
- 7. What part does 'community' play in the story?
- 8. Is the setting particularly Australian or could the story happen anywhere?
- 9. Is there humour in the book?
- 10. Was every question answered for you in the end?

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