

AND THEN I FOUND ME

A bold and deeply moving memoir from Australia's first male Indigenous ballet dancer that shows the depths and resilience of the human spirit

Noel Tovey's previous memoir, *Little Black Bastard* (Hodder Headline Australia 2004, shortlisted 2006 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards Prize for Indigenous Writing) chronicled his extraordinary life – from a childhood lived in poverty, through to his international stage career, return to Australia and eventual reconciliation with his past.

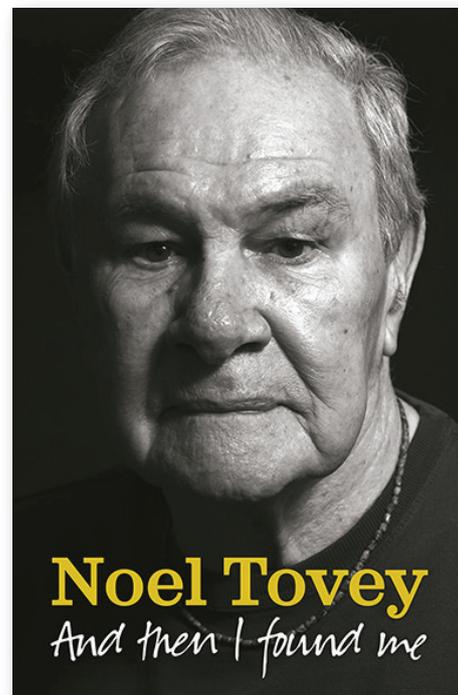
In this uplifting new work, Tovey crafts a tale that reveals a creative and sensitive spirit. *And then I found me* is the triumphant story of his stellar career in London as an actor, singer, dancer, choreographer, director and curator. For more than 30 years, his stage productions reached audiences across Europe, South Africa and Australia. Martin Luther King's assassination, the end of apartheid, the criminalisation of homosexuality and the rise of AIDS are the global backdrop to this bold recollection of glamour and politics. As a trailblazer for Indigenous people and an advocate for underprivileged artists, Tovey's new memoir is both moving and timely.

About the author



Noel Tovey AM was born in Melbourne, the son of an Aboriginal–New Zealand mother and a father of Scottish–African descent. Tovey's early years were entrenched in poverty, abuse and neglect. Against all odds, and despite these hardships, he forged a successful theatre career in Australia and the UK.

Tovey taught at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, and he co-founded the London Theatre for Children. He returned to Australia in 1990. Tovey was the artistic director of the Indigenous Welcoming Ceremony at the Sydney 2000 Olympics. In 2014, he was awarded the Uncle Bob Maza Memorial Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding contribution to Victorian Indigenous theatre. In 2015, he received an Order of Australia.



Available March 2017 in all good bookshops and online from Magabala Books RRP \$33.00.

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