# THE SUN COMING UP IS LIKE GOLD

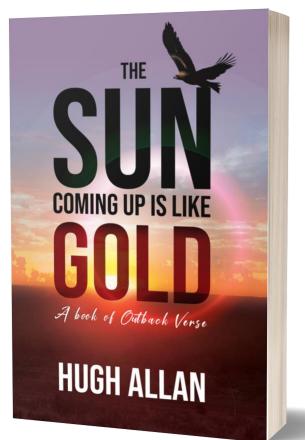
## HUGH ALLAN

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Hugh Allan is the Australian author of HIGH LATITUDE FOR DYING and EXPECTATIONS, all published by Shawline Publishing Group and available everywhere great books are sold.

He is a retired scientist. He and his family have travelled extensively around Australia and the world. Hugh is an active member of the Australian Bush Poets Association, the Fellowship of Australian Writers Queensland and the Australian Association of Authors.



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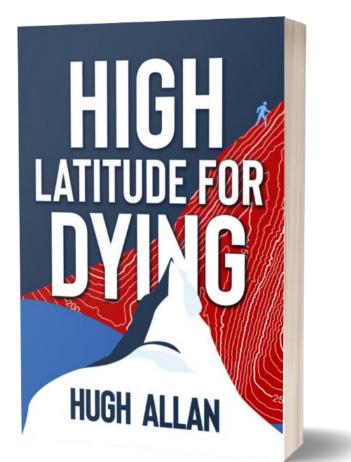
## Also by the author: Hugh Allan

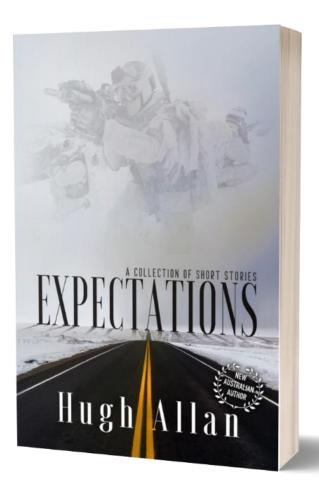
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## A Conversation with Hugh

## What was an early experience where you learned that language had power?

As a young teenager one episode of a radio series ended in a forest scene and one voice said – "Look behind you Bill, look behind you." I couldn't wait for the next episode to find out what was lurking behind Bill!

#### Why did you write this collection of poems? What were your inspirations?

Over the past ten years, as well as writing a novel, I have been writing poetry inspired by observations of people and nature, the latter including storms, drought, bushfires, and climate change. My poems also cover car-trips I have done and workplaces. I entered many of the poems in competitions, which acted as a motivator, especially when a few of them won awards. As the number of poems grew, I assembled them into a personal anthology, which ultimately became published as this book.

## What drew you to the subject matter of the book and also these characters within?

The subject matter, being observations of people and nature arise from a personal affinity for the subjects addressed.

#### When did you first realize you wanted to write?

From age 25, I wrote because I wanted to record events, such a holidays, and I wrote reports as part of my career. I decided to write a novel a year or two before my retirement.

#### If you had to do something differently as a child or teenager to become a better writer as an adult, what would you do?

I would join my local library. I sometimes went to the library with my father but never thought about joining.

#### How do you select the names of your

**characters?** Usually names that I like, or in poetry names that fit into the rhyming and metre of the poem.

What other authors are you friends with, and how do they help you become a better writer? My friend Henry Jesuadian is also an aging writer and had two books published recently. We compare notes on our respective publishers and write reviews of each other's books.

#### What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Believing a good book is easy to write; believing their work won't be rejected; believing they don't need to do a writing course.

#### What did you edit out of this book?

A poem about Mankind and his failings.

## How do you create or model your characters to fit the requirements of the story and the expectations of the readers?

The characters grow with the story, revealing new characteristics of the character, and yet maintaining a consistency appropriate to the character.

**Do you have any suggestions to help others become a better writer? If so, what are they?** Join a State Writers' Centre and do a few of their writing courses.

