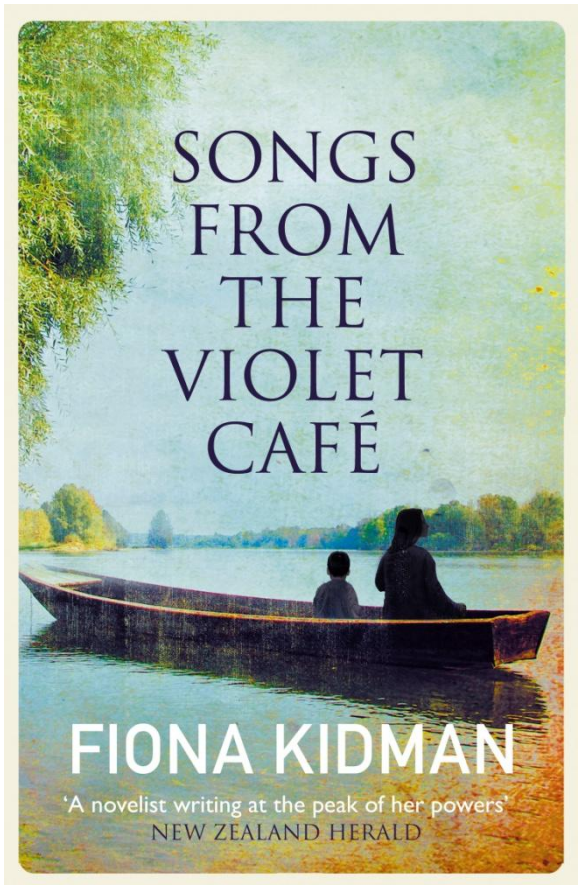




AARDVARK
BUREAU

Songs from the Violet Café

Fiona Kidman



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The Book:

A powerful story of women's lives spanning decades and continents, pivoting on a tragic moment in New Zealand in 1963.

Sales Points:

- Insight into small-town New Zealand in the 1960s and Cambodia in the aftermath of the Khmer Rouge
- Honest, unflinching portrayal of sexual politics and female friendship, reminiscent of Elena Ferrante's *My Brilliant Friend*

Market:

Maggie O'Farrell, Anne Tyler, Elena Ferrante

Description:

1943. Violet Trench crosses Lake Rotorua with a small boy, but rows back without him. Sixty years later, a boat is ritually set alight on the same body of water.

The intervening years see Violet open a café by the lake – the scene of an event in the summer of 1963 with lasting repercussions for Violet and her young employees. Their lives diverge, but Violet's influence on them all – and on runaway Jessie Sandle in particular – will linger like the scent of the truffles with which she infuses her dishes.

Praise for *The Infinite Air*:

'A fascinating read' *Red Magazine*

'A gripping historical read' *Woman's Own*

'A thrilling tale of adventure and heartbreak – Kidman has triumphantly brought this inspirational heroine to life' *The Lady*

'The extraordinary story of an extraordinary woman' *Irish News*

'Remarkable' *Saturday Magazine*

The Author: Dame Fiona Kidman OBE is a leading contemporary novelist, short story writer and poet. She lives in Wellington, New Zealand.