

DP

# A Distant Prospect

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Australia promised a fresh start for Lucy Straughan and her father when they fled war-torn Ireland. Instead, Lucy was stricken by polio.

Having mastered the cello during her prolonged confinement, Lucy is now fifteen, lonely and full of questions. Suddenly she is thrust into a string quartet and meets quixotic Della Sotheby, hot-headed Pim Connolly and precocious Phoebe Raye. The experience transforms each of their lives as they forge friendships and share not a few family secrets.

Set against the vivid backdrop of 1920s Sydney, *A Distant Prospect* is an intimate, hilarious and ultimately deeply moving coming-of-age adventure told with a touch of poetry by a quintessentially Irish narrator.

Grace Cossington Smith  
Australia 1892-1984  
*The bridge in-curve* 1930

tempera on cardboard  
83.6 x 111.8 cm  
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
Presented by the National Gallery Society of Victoria, 1967  
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Annette Young

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**"A Distant Prospect is a splendid account, full of wisdom, insight into the minds of young people on the brink of adulthood, and with a command of the fine points of musical practice and performance as well as of art." ... "a marvellous premiere" - Christine McCarthy**

**"I have never read music described so vividly and with such understanding, nor have I empathized with a character so deeply. Lucy's life is one we can all relate to, and Lucy's journey to wholeness can heal a bit of brokenness in us all. Enjoy, for this book is a song of love - a music that you will never forget." - Bookworm789**

*A Distant Prospect*, by Annette Young  
ISBN 9780987435101 (paperback)  
December 2012, 491 pages, \$29.95

**"so inventive that I wanted the book to be at least another 200 pages long." - Susan Moore**

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www.adistantprospect.com

## Annette Young



Annette Young was born in Sydney and grew up on Sydney's northern beaches and north shore. She studied music from an early age and it has remained a lifelong passion. Annette holds an honours degree in History from the University of Sydney and a Doctorate in English Literature from the University of New South Wales.

She currently lives in Maitland, New South Wales with her husband, Francis, and their 'quartet' of boys.

*A Distant Prospect* is her first novel.

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