

Wicked stepmother

To secure a quiet "new life" some accounts of the author's life were used by the *Small Business*...



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Writer turns literary internet into his friend



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OFF THE SHELF

BIOGRAPHY

Breaking News: the Golden Age of Graham Perkin

Ben Hills

(Scribe, 536pp, \$59.95)

Review: Christina Houen

★★★★★



Even if you don't read the Age newspaper, you will enjoy this riveting life of Australia's greatest 20th century editor. Hills, himself an award-winning investigative journalist, chronicles the life and times of a

man who rose from a cadetship with the Age in 1949 to become editor in 1965. He led a dedicated team to transform the moribund newspaper into the voice of its times, and one of the world's top 10 broadsheets, in the golden age of newspapers. The book opens with his funeral, attended by hundreds from all walks of life, and ends with his premature death at the age of 45. The explosive energy and commanding personality of the man burst from the pages of this splendid biography.