

Geoff Dean left school at age 16 for an apprenticeship with a house-painting firm. He was sacked for writing rude words on the brick wall he was supposed to be painting. He was also sacked from his next job as cashier in a travelling side-show act (The Wall of Death) when it was found he couldn't do arithmetic. Since then he has been a carpenter, window-dresser, tourist guide and ticket writer in Australia, a lumber-jack and fisherman in Canada, and a sewing machine salesman in Britain. His longest full-time job, other than writing, was a fourteen year stint as dairy farmer and pig farmer in Tasmania.

Geoff Dean has published four books of short stories. His latest, *The Hadlee Stories*, is also published by Esperance Press.

“Geoff Dean is an accomplished writer of short stories with a fine reputation in Australia. His collection of stories, *Over the Fence*, contains his best work and I've admired these stories for over a decade. Australian Short Stories magazine has published a number of Dean's stories over the past 15 years and we consider him to be amongst the best storytellers in the country.”

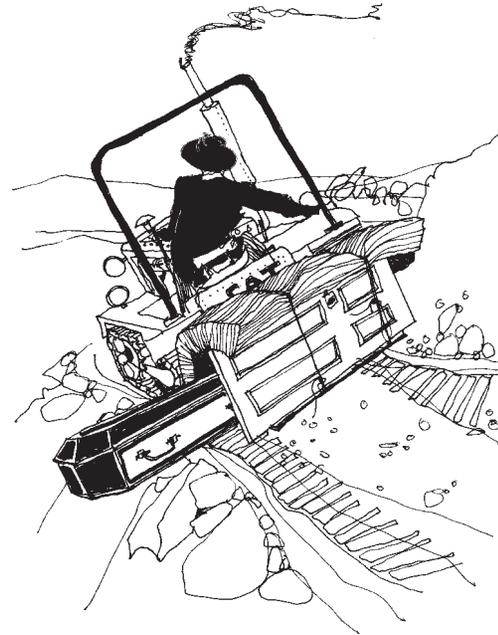
Bruce Pascoe
Australian Short Stories

“These simple yarns build to unexpected conclusions ... Dean's characters emerge fully-formed and unique. His deft descriptions and pithy dialogue are economical and highly amusing.”

Giles Hugo
The Mercury, Hobart

These are the front pages of
'Over the Fence' by Geoff Dean

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... You could always expect Elsa to say or do the unexpected.



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OVER THE FENCE

Geoff Dean



For Caroline, Benjamin and Annabel

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