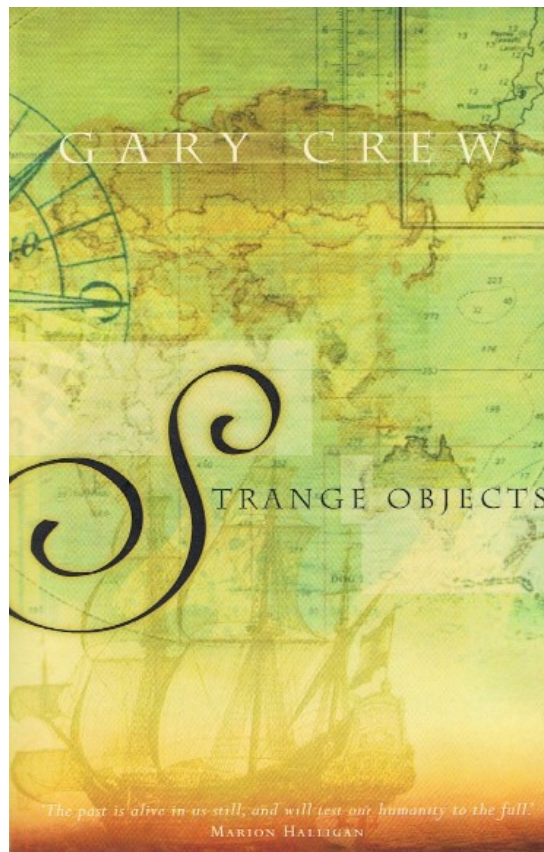


## Strange Objects by Gary Crew

Exploring the cover

The compass suggests ideas of exploration but also ideas about direction, journeys and negotiating paths/routes to a destination.



Gary Crew is a well-known Australian author who writes for a YA audience. Maybe the main character(s) will be teenagers?

The pale washed out colours suggest a map that has aged, possibly washed out by water.

The S of the title looks like copperplate, an old-fashioned writing. It draws our attention to the word 'strange', which suggests difference or mystery.

The map appears to be a navigation map, given the annotations on it. It may be that there are two maps, one overlaying the other. It also appears old, suggesting the novel might be historical. Australia is easily apparent on it and our eye is drawn to it because it is located near the title – an Australian connection then?

The ship is obviously historical, suggesting the novel has an historical element. Ships also suggest journeys. Its ghostly, washed out nature might imply ideas of haunting. Ghost ships are usually associated with terrible disasters.

The Halligan quote confirms that this novel will deal with the past, but also that the past has relevance to today. The fact that it is 'within us' implies a connection to ideas of identity. The idea of a 'test' implies conflict.