

Wainwrights' Mountain

In 1957 Chester Eagle began to explore the mountains of eastern Victoria, and discovered a fascinating place, and the events that had happened there: the long development of Wainwrights' Mountain had begun. In 1991, after decades of brooding, the book unveiled its two stories - one simple in outline, pioneering, somehow fundamental, yet needing explication. The other, the fugal response, takes up the challenge of the Wainwright tale; it begins modestly enough, but picks up the wildness of war and some of the madness of the apparently peaceful world that ensues. This second tale, of the Bowdens and Morrises of Melbourne, winds through generations and the interplay of families and strangers, until, in a splendidly ridiculous climax - the book's self-created peak - the two apparently unrelated stories, which have been edging closer for some time, make their merger on the mountain Wainwright claimed, is snow-grassed peak becomes a metaphor inclusive of everything human beings get up to, and a mood of joyful, if submissive, acceptance is the last gift the book offers its readers.

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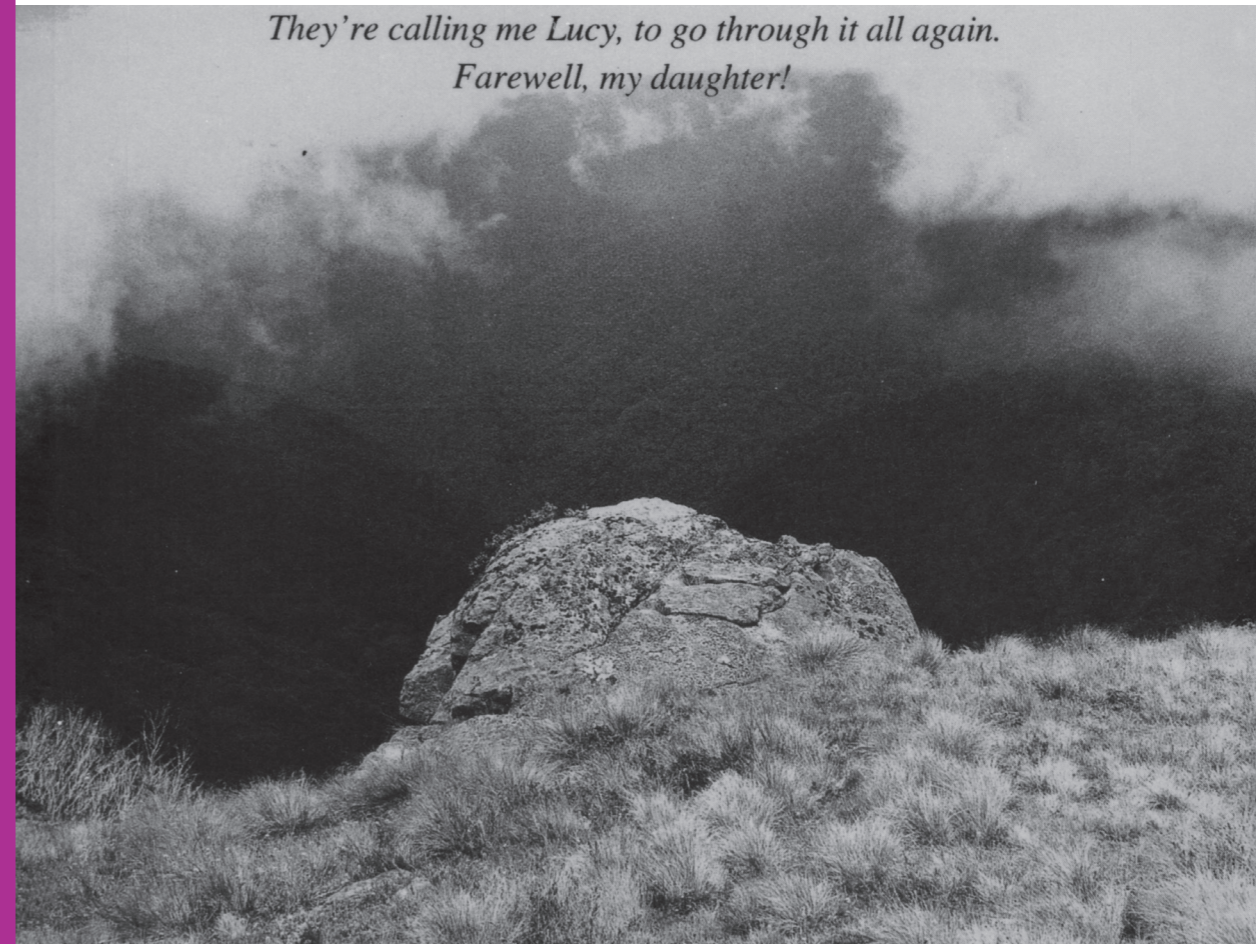
Chester Eagle

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TROJAN

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*They're calling me Lucy, to go through it all again.
Farewell, my daughter!*



a novel by **Chester Eagle**