

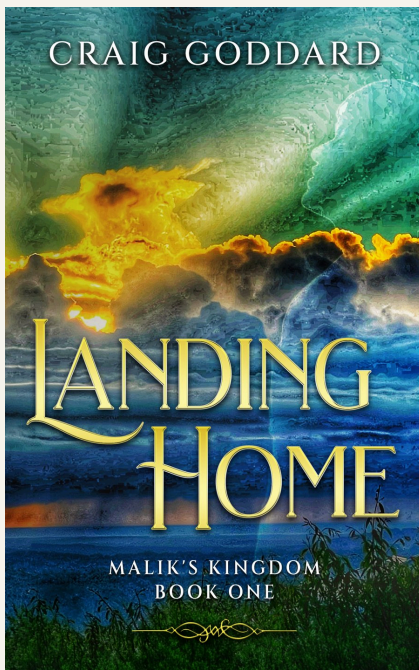
MEDIA KIT · 2026

Craig Goddard

Writer · Photographer · Facilitator

Author of *Landing Home*

MALIK'S KINGDOM — BOOK ONE



Portrait: Kara Gray Smith

*Stories about
identity, mystery,
wonder, and the
deeper things we
begin to notice when
we're paying
attention.*

CRAIGGODDARD.COM

About Craig Goddard

Craig Goddard is a writer and photographer living and working in Australia. His debut novel, *Landing Home* — Book One of Malik’s Kingdom — is published by Goddard Publishing in November 2026.

The first sign came early. In Year Nine, an English teacher told Craig she believed he had a talent for writing, and encouraged him to pursue it. The idea stayed with him.

More than thirty years later, through a deeper and more intuitive period of exploration, Craig came to recognise writing as one of the mediums through which his heart most naturally seeks expression. He began to write in the spirit of honouring that.

He soon realised that having a story was not enough — he wanted to learn to tell it well. Encouraged by Jeannie Chapman to study the craft seriously, he began a long apprenticeship of reading, study and repeated refinement, over which *Landing Home* passed through many iterations. When an earlier publishing pathway fell away, the setback led him to take fuller ownership of the book and its future, and to publish it independently. In the later stages of that apprenticeship he also used AI as a way to interrogate craft and accelerate his learning — never as a ghostwriter, and never as the source of the story, which remained his own.

Writing has become an increasingly important and deeply loved part of Craig’s life. Photography is another expression of the same orientation — toward attention, truth, restraint, curiosity and wonder. His principal photographic body of work is *The Quiet Architecture of Nature*.

SHORT BIO · FOR REUSE

Craig Goddard is an Australian author and photographer. His debut novel, *Landing Home* — Book One of Malik’s Kingdom — is published by Goddard Publishing in November 2026. His work explores identity, belonging and the quiet search for home, drawn from a lifelong attention to the wonder in ordinary things. He lives and works in Australia.

THE BOOK

Landing Home

MALIK'S KINGDOM — BOOK ONE

He had always sensed there was more to life than the world around him seemed able to see. Yet life had taught him to trust fear and expect failure. A series of unexplainable experiences begins to unravel everything Tyler thought he knew, shattering the certainty he had always clung to. What if his searching had been the very thing keeping him from coming home?

The more he follows what can't be explained, the more impossible it becomes to return to the life he once believed was real.

Along the way, his path becomes entwined with Bel's—a fiercely independent young woman whose own life has been shaped by survival, loss and an unexpected invitation to begin again.

As each is drawn deeper into questions neither can answer, the familiar world around them begins to reveal something larger—something that seems to have been waiting for them all along.

And as those closest to them become part of the mystery, Tyler discovers that some journeys can only be taken without knowing how.

SHORT DESCRIPTION · FOR LISTINGS

A man who has always sensed there is more to life follows a series of unexplainable experiences past the edge of the world he thought he knew — and discovers that some journeys can only be taken without knowing how.

PRESS FACTS

Book facts

TITLE	<i>Landing Home</i>
SERIES	Malik’s Kingdom — Book One
AUTHOR	Craig Goddard
GENRE	Fiction — Visionary & Metaphysical
PUBLISHER	Goddard Publishing
PUBLICATION	15 November 2026
FORMATS	Paperback & eBook <i>hardcover edition planned</i>
PAPERBACK ISBN	978-1-7646542-0-3
EBOOK ISBN	978-1-7646542-1-0
PAPERBACK TRIM	5.5 × 8.5 in
INTERIOR	Black & white, cream paper
PAGE COUNT	250 pages
AVAILABILITY	Paperback — Amazon and selected booksellers worldwide Kindle eBook — Amazon <i>purchase links added closer to publication</i>

Genre & positioning

Visionary & Metaphysical Fiction.

Landing Home is character-driven and psychologically grounded — a literary, metaphysical novel that moves through identity, belonging and mystery toward questions of consciousness, wonder, the nature of home, the limits of certainty, and the relationship between perception and reality. Its ideas are encountered through story, not taught.

Readers who may be drawn to *Landing Home*

- character-led stories that gradually open into larger questions
- mystery woven through ordinary life
- fiction exploring identity, belonging and consciousness
- philosophical or metaphysical ideas experienced through story rather than taught
- emotionally grounded relationships
- stories where certainty slowly gives way to possibility
- books that leave some things for the reader to discover

Early reader responses

Two first-reader responses, shared with each reader's written permission.

“I quickly got totally hooked by the story.”

Nicole · First Reader, *Landing Home*

“It’s the first book in a loooooong time that I’ve read cover to cover, without switching to one of the other four books I’ve got on the go.”

Kit · First Reader, *Landing Home*

Themes recurring across first readers: the story becomes hard to put down; ideas feel naturally woven into the narrative rather than taught; a strong emotional connection with Bel; Tyler feels authentic and relatable; and an immediate appetite for Book Two.

An excerpt

CHAPTER ONE — SURVIVING IN METROPOLIS

Bel stood in a column of early morning sunlight that had found its way to her through a gap between the tall buildings across the street from the secluded alley.

Steam rose lazily from a nearby manhole cover as she savoured the subtle kiss of warmth on her face—though blissful, it failed to distract her from the never-ending need for vigilance. She was always poised—ready to flee should one of her unwitting victims ever connect her to the theft of their belongings.

The golden hue highlighted the faint dusting of freckles across Bel’s nose and cheeks, illuminating the iridescent hazel-green of her alert eyes.

An unconscious smile grew across her face as she took another sip of strong, hot black coffee to wash down the first mouthful of a warm cinnamon breakfast bagel—swiped with ease from the morning chaos at the café window.

Bel savoured the peace that came with certainty—the quiet pride that she could rely on no one but herself.

Swiping someone’s order—already paid for, steaming hot—while they stood distracted by caffeine cravings, wasn’t easy. But nobody ever saw her. Luck had nothing to do with it.

“You gotta be certain—like it’s yours. Use distraction.” Her dad used to say.

Feeling free in the execution of her strategy, Bel still heard his reassuring voice sometimes—always a step behind her in the crowd. He taught her how to be resourceful—how to survive the unforgiving streets of this bustling city from a very young age.

The more recent months had brought change, and with it, Bel’s sense of inner power. She’d noticed that hiding in plain sight had become easier.

Her developing physicality was now part of the game. She’d smirk, hidden by the distraction of her own femininity. Passing the man who’d paid for the steaming coffee she now sipped as he, blinded by his own male urges, watched, oblivious, as his coffee walked away in her hands.

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Sighing with satisfaction, Bel wiped the paper serviette across her lips. Off to a good start, she thought, smiling as she tossed her balled-up rubbish into the smelly blue dumpster.

Hope Dad’s already scored too. They each had their preferred locations to work the morning crowds.

She glanced left, then right—cautious, discreet, automatic—as she returned to the bustling street. Relaxed, but always alert.

Just then, a shout tore her attention to the right. The sound of skidding shoes on gritty pavement erupted just twenty paces from where she stood.

As the wild scene came into focus, Bel’s heart sank into deep sorrow. The warm contentment in her hazel-green eyes, changed in an instant—replaced with horror and disbelief.

Her body froze. Fear gripped her chest—grief rising fast behind it.

“Dad,” she gasped.

She couldn’t move. Couldn’t breathe. Just watched—powerless—as her slightly-built father was beaten—brutally—by a broad-shouldered man in a dark blue suit. Ron’s pick-pocket target... gone terribly wrong.

Bel felt sick as this man—moving more like a professional boxer—unleashed his pent-up rage at the world on her gentle, loving dad.

Stop! her mind screamed—but her lips could only whisper.

Such a public display of violence quickly drew the attention of the authorities.

It took two beat cops to pull the man back. Ron lay bleeding—stunned. After giving his statement, the man who had done the beating was sent on his way.

Bel looked on—heart aching—in silence.

Ron was hauled to the response vehicle, with no consideration for his obvious injuries.

As she watched the police car disappear from sight, Bel felt her whole world vanish with it.

FROM *LANDING HOME*, CHAPTER ONE — SURVIVING IN METROPOLIS

Conversation areas

Prompts, not a script — starting points for a genuine conversation.

1. When did writing first become part of your life?
2. Why did *Landing Home* become the story you kept returning to?
3. What does “home” mean within the novel — and has that meaning changed for you while writing it?
4. Tyler begins with a sense that there is more to life than the world around him seems able to see. Where did that come from?
5. Why did you choose fiction to explore questions you could have addressed directly through teaching or nonfiction?
6. How do you introduce metaphysical possibilities without asking the reader to believe them?
7. Bel and Tyler come from very different worlds. What interested you about bringing those two lives together?
8. Wonder seems central to the book. What is the relationship between wonder and uncertainty for you?
9. *Landing Home* took many years to become the book it is now. What did that apprenticeship teach you?
10. Your original publishing pathway fell apart. How did that affect the book and your decision to publish independently?
11. How did AI become part of your writing apprenticeship, and where do you draw the line between assistance and authorship?
12. Your photography and writing seem to share a sensibility. What connects the two for you?
13. What is Malik’s Kingdom, and how much can you say about where the series is heading?
14. What do you hope readers experience when they close the final page?

Where the conversation can go

Writing & creativity

- the long apprenticeship behind a first novel
- learning when to stop revising
- how reader feedback reveals what needs protecting, not only what needs changing
- writing from intuition without abandoning craft
- the relationship between restraint and reader trust

Creative life

- writing and photography as two forms of paying attention
- intuition and creative practice
- honouring creative work before knowing where it will lead

Story & ideas

- identity and the stories we mistake for ourselves
- why humans search for home
- certainty, curiosity and wonder
- metaphysical fiction without doctrine
- the extraordinary hiding inside ordinary life
- questions that fiction can hold better than answers

Publishing

- surviving the collapse of a publishing pathway
- choosing independent publishing
- learning the craft rather than rushing to publication
- the role of AI in a contemporary writer's apprenticeship

Selected conversations & appearances

The Genius Portal · Episode 19

“Weaving Magic with Craig Goddard”

with Ellie Deighton · [Listen on Spotify](#)

A wide-ranging conversation on creativity, the writing life, and following what genuinely draws us.

True North Aligned Life

“Letting the Cat out of the Bag” — in conversation

with Gayle Lawrence · [Watch on YouTube](#)

Gayle Lawrence in conversation with Craig and Linda on creativity and the life around the work.

Each conversation links directly to the episode in the digital edition.

Photography



The Quiet Architecture of Nature

Photography is a second form of Craig's attention. *The Quiet Architecture of Nature* is his principal body of photographic work — still, contemplative images of light, texture and the moment before it passes.

Writing and photography are two expressions of the same orientation: attention, curiosity, restraint, truth and wonder. See craiggodard.com/photography.

True North

Alongside his writing and photography, Craig co-facilitates creative- and personal-development work with his wife and business partner, Linda, through True North. It is part of his wider life; the literary work stands on its own.

PRESS RESOURCES

Images & downloads

- Current author portrait — portrait orientation
- Current author portrait — landscape orientation (if available)
- Current *Landing Home* front cover
- 3D book mock-up (if useful)
- Craig Goddard wordmark / author branding (if available)

USAGE

Approved for editorial and media use in connection with Craig Goddard and *Landing Home*.

High-resolution files are available on the Media page at craiggoddard.com/media. For additional press images, contact hello@craiggoddard.com.

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Author social: Instagram [@craiggoddardauthor](https://www.instagram.com/craiggoddardauthor) · Facebook. Email and website remain the primary first-contact channels.

*The mystery is part of the experience — this kit is an invitation into *Landing Home*, not an explanation of it.*