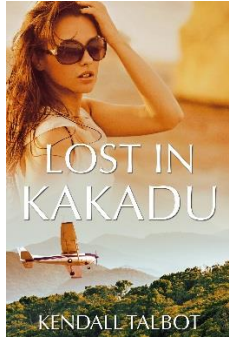


[Media Release](#)

LOCAL AUTHOR WINS TOP ROMANCE AWARD

Local Brisbane author Kendal Talbot won the Ruby Award - The Romantic Book of the Year Award - at a gala awards night held at the Romance Writers of Australia (RWA) conference in Sydney last week.



Talbot is thrilled to have won such a prestigious award for her debut romantic suspense novel, *Lost in Kakadu*. 'The Ruby awards are like the academy award of the Australian romance writing world. I'm still in shock to have won with the first book I've published.' *Lost in Kakadu* won the 'stories with romantic elements' category.

When Talbot wrote, 'Write A Novel' on her bucket list, she had no idea how much those three little words would change her life. 'I discovered a passion I never knew existed and embraced every opportunity to create new and exciting worlds with characters who experience exciting, danger fuelled journeys.'

Winning a place on RWA writing mentoring program a few years ago propelled her writing to a new level. 'Being mentored by one of the best in the business gave me enormous confidence and I knew I wouldn't stop until I was published.'

Lost in Kakadu has been nominated for a clutch of other awards too including: finalist in the Australia Romance Reader's Awards earlier this year for Best Romantic Suspense and Best New Author and Talbot was listed in Booktopia's Australia's Favourite Novelist Top 100.



Talbot has three books due for release in 2015. *Treasured Love* and *Treasured Secrets* are the first two books in a romantic suspense trilogy and *Double Take*, the first book in a detective series.

Managing Editor of Escape Publishing Kate Cuthbert was so proud of Talbot for winning an award of this standing with her debut novel. 'We're so excited about what this award means: not only an acceptance, but a celebration of risk-taking fiction, genre-bending stories, and the legitimacy of publishing into the digital space.'

No-one is more surprised than Talbot that she won this award. 'Maybe *Lost in Kakadu* is what Australian readers wanted right now,' says Talbot. 'With a survival theme, fabulous Australian setting, mystery, secrets, grit, grief, adventure, and of course a happy ending, what more could a reader want?'

Lost in Kakadu is available at all good ebook stores including Amazon, Booktopia, iTunes, Kobo and Google Play. Visit Talbot at www.kendalltalbot.com.au.

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