

Writing *Into the Loneliness*: The situation and the story



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Ernestine Hill (left) with swag, leaning against large ant hill, Kimberley, Western Australia, c 1931 (University of Queensland. UQ:734073); Daisy Bates at Sunny Brae farm, Westall, 1947. Photographer: Robert Hill. (National Library of Australia MS 8392 III)

This workshop will address the challenges of researching and writing *Into the Loneliness: The Unholy Alliance of Ernestine Hill and Daisy Bates*. I will discuss why, in telling this story of an amateur ethnologist and a journalist who wrote about First Nations people during the early-to-mid 20th century, I foregrounded my own position as a biographer. Related to this is my 'optical research' in a campervan and the incorporation of contemporary Anangu stories about Bates into the narrative. I will also reflect on my choice of a braided narrative as a vehicle for conveying a women's partnership and my use of scriptwriting techniques to structure the narrative, rather than employing a conventional biographical structure.

Eleanor Hogan is a literary non-fiction writer and independent researcher with a PhD in Australian literature from Melbourne University, whose writing draws on her experience of Central Australia. She is the author of NewSouth Publishing's *Alice Springs* (2012) and *Into the Loneliness: The Unholy Alliance of Ernestine Hill and Daisy Bates* (2021). *Into the Loneliness* received several shortlistings, including for the Magarey Medal for Biography (2022) and the National Biography Award (2022).

BIOGRAPHY WORKSHOP
SERIES 2022

Biography Workshop National
Centre of Biography (ANU)

Time:

Thursday 29 September
2022, 11:00am

Zoom only seminar:

Meeting ID:
849 0058 9945

Password: 630803

Join Zoom Meeting:
bit.ly/BioWorkshop2022