



NZIER
PUBLIC GOOD
PROGRAMME

THINKING ABOUT AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND'S FUTURE

BusinessDesk.

2023

SUMMER READING

LIST

for the

PRIME MINISTER



ABOUT

This reading list is part of the NZIER Public Good Programme, which undertakes economic research and thinking to promote a better understanding of Aotearoa New Zealand's economic challenges.

2023 has been another watershed year. In Aotearoa New Zealand, a series of weather events combined with cost of living increases and inflation have challenged our resilience. Climate change, digital transformation and increasing international uncertainty are challenging our sense of future stability.

The books

Inclusion in the list does not imply that the selection panel (or NZIER) endorses the content of any entry.

Each of these books stimulates critical thinking, not in the sense of finding fault but in inviting reasoned responses to the plausibility of the asserted facts and the coherence of the argument. These processes are essential for drawing on economic theory for policy analysis and social discourse.



ABOUT

Purpose

This year's list has focused on sense making in disrupted times, what changes are needed, and how we make them happen. This year, we have another strong showing of home-grown titles. We hope this list will be of interest to the Prime Minister, his Cabinet, Ministerial advisers and anyone interested in economics and public policy.

We support New Zealanders' reading and taking time to reflect on our future. Summer is good for that.

Criteria

Nominations had to meet the following criteria:

- Be relevant to a contemporary issue
- Offer a different way of thinking or perspective
- Be relevant for New Zealand
- Be consistent with NZIER's Public Good objectives.

Selections were invited from NZIER's members, board, staff and selected collaborators.



Selection Panel



Philippa Miller Moore

Senior Economist, NZIER

Panel Chair



Craig Stobo

Director



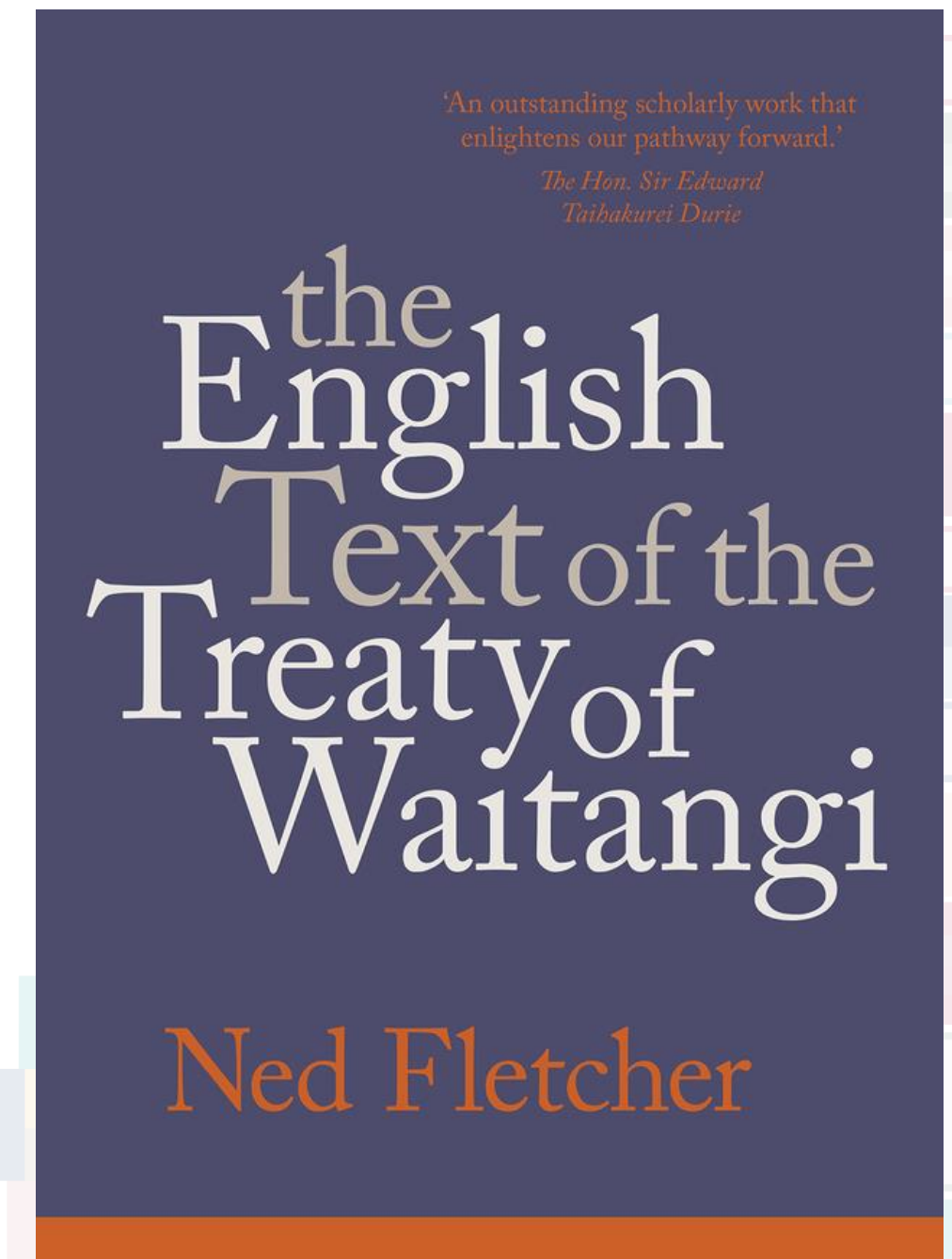
Dileepa Fonseka

Senior Correspondent, BusinessDesk

The English version of the Treaty of Waitangi

Ned Fletcher

The Treaty of Waitangi frames arguments about our past and discussions about our future. Knowing what it says and why, adds to our current understanding.



State of Threat

The challenges to Aotearoa New Zealand's national security

Edited by

Wil Hoverd and Deidre Ann McDonald

The international security outlook for New Zealand is more challenging, as the global environment appears to be more unpredictable and complex. Conflicts like those in the Ukraine and the Middle East have an indirect effect via economic and political channels but we have also experienced the direct effects of terrorist attacks, cyberattacks, transnational organised crime and disinformation, challenging us to reconsider our national security approach.

STATE OF THREAT

The Challenges to
Aotearoa New Zealand's
National Security



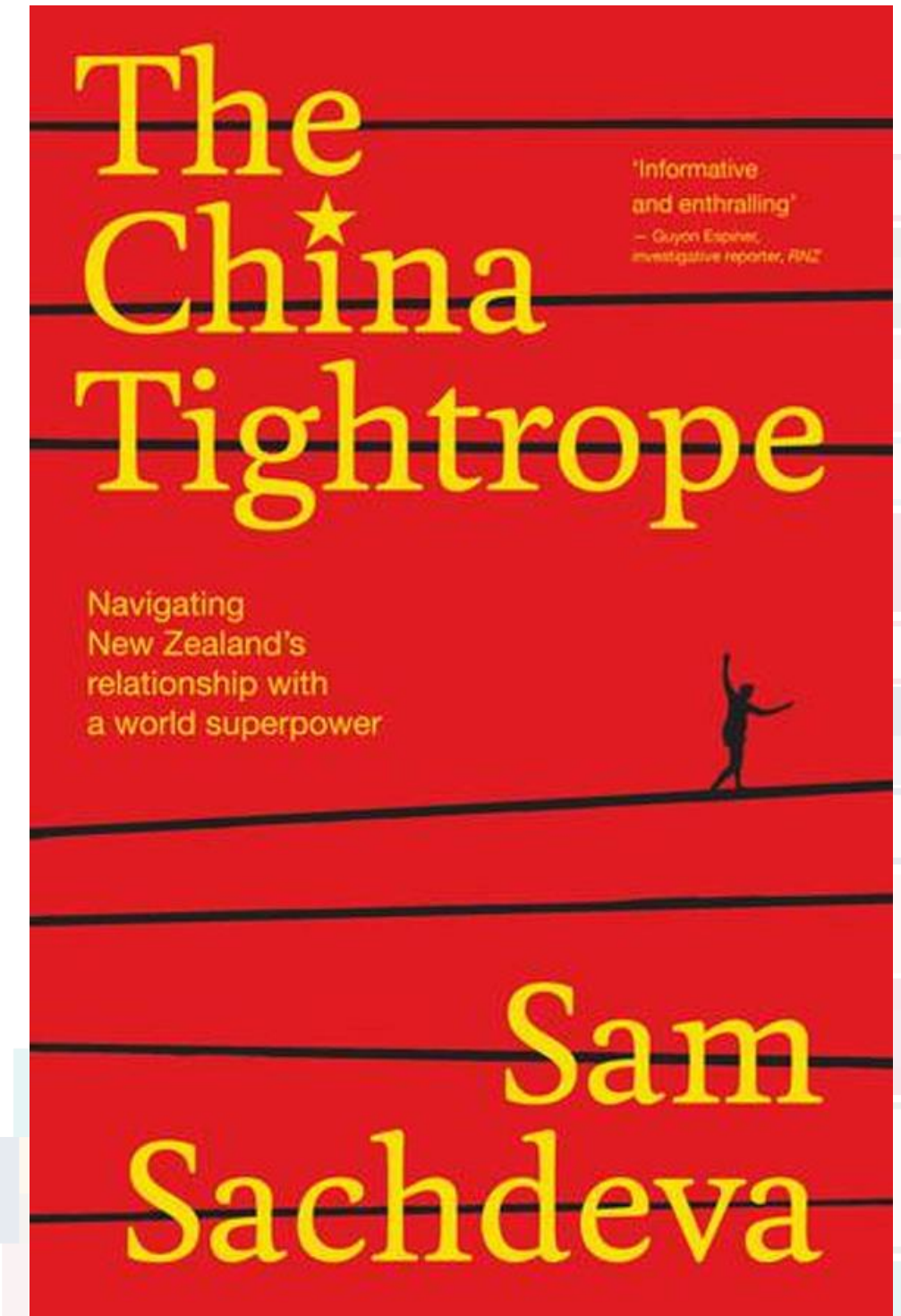
Edited by Wil Hoverd
& Deidre Ann McDonald

The China Tightrope

Navigating New Zealand's relationship with a world superpower

Sam Sachdev

China is New Zealand's most significant economic partner. As China's influence in the Asia Pacific increases, sometimes at odds with the interests of our allies and ourselves, how do we keep our balance on the tightrope between principles and pragmatism?

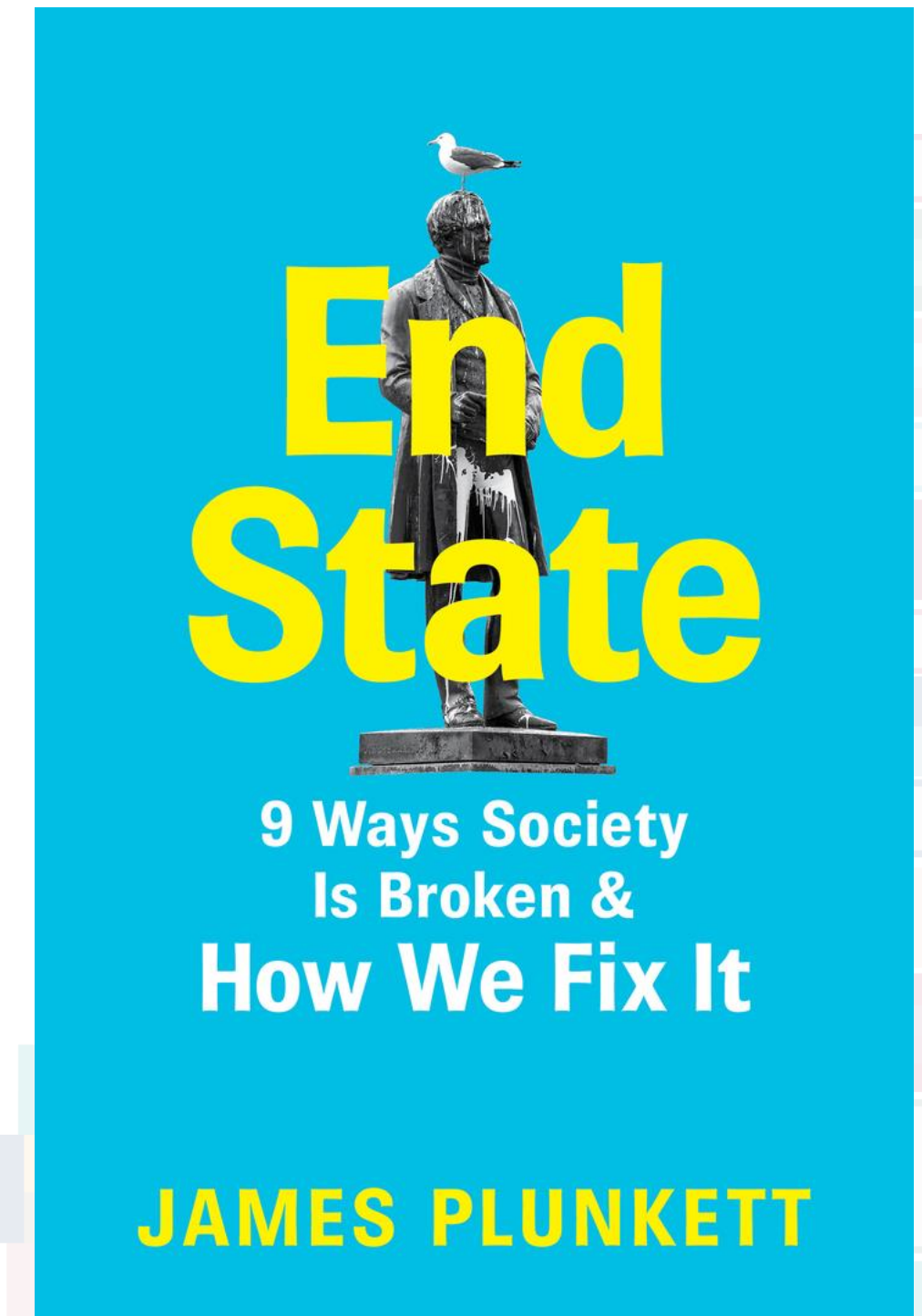


End State

9 Ways Society Is Broken & How We Fix It

James Plunkett

Society didn't survive the Industrial Revolution by tweaking old laws and institutions. How do we adapt the institutions of the 20th century state to govern our 21st century economy?

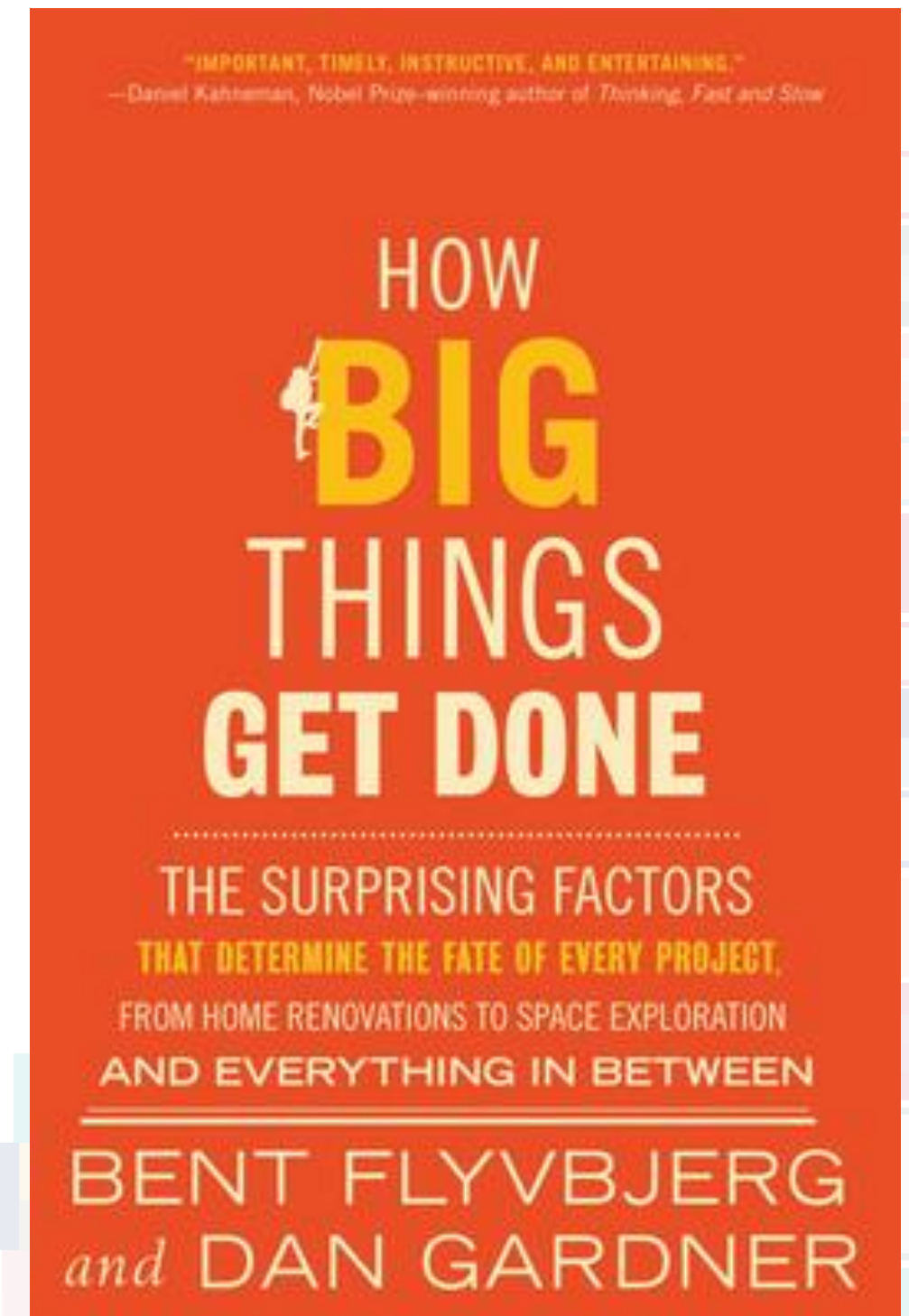


How Big Things Get Done

The surprising factors that determine the fate of every project, from home renovations to space exploration and everything in between

Bent Flyvbjerg & Dan Gardner

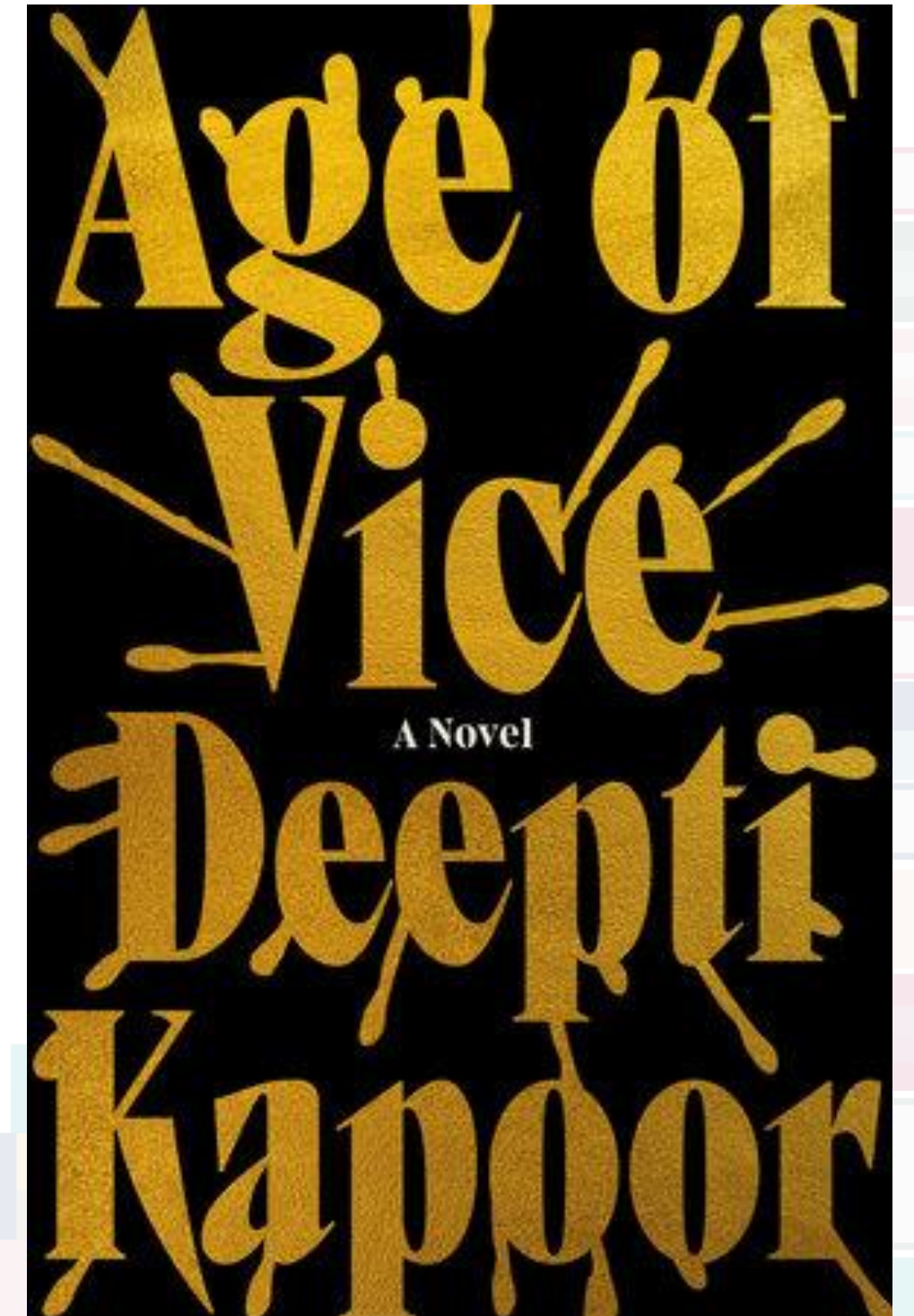
Projects run into problems for specific reasons as well as general ones, but plan rigorously and standardise where possible and you are less likely to dig yourself into a hole.



Age of Vice

Deepti Kapoor

“The only thing he’s guilty of is ambition. Of rising above his station. Did my father cut corners on the way? Yes. This is India. The game is rigged, the rules are stacked, you people make the rules in the first place. You already have everything, and you don’t want to share. So sometimes things must be taken.”



Q&A

Please submit all questions to [Slido.com](https://www.slido.com)

Code #1963767



THANKS

A big thank you to:

- Our 2023 selection panel
- Philippa Miller Moore for chairing the panel
- Authors of Aotearoa for supporting the kaupapa
- NZIER members and colleagues for nominating books
- Unity Books in Wellington and Auckland





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