Historical Fiction

In 1850, sixteen year-old Irish lad, Ean McCloud, steps off the boat, his legs in iron shackles, and steps into serving a three-year sentence at the Port Arthur Penal Colony in Tasmania. Falsely convicted, he must now survive the brutal conditions, the backbreaking labor, and time in the silent prison—a place that breaks men's souls. Follow Ean's journey as he seeks not only to survive but to escape!

Early Reviews

...written with a professional's impeccable attention to historical fact...

Tasman lays out, in unflinching detail, an unforgettable testament to the resilience of the human spirit.

—EmilyHill, author of Jenkins: Confederate Blockade Runner and Ghosts of White Raven Estate.

I'm always on the lookout for well-written, thoughtful, fresh novels that would appeal to both boys and girls. Tasman fits this description! Readers learn a part of history most are unfamiliar with as they follow the journey of one determined young man.

As a literacy consultant, I am thrilled to have this novel to add to my "recommended must-reads" for older teens and adults. Kudos to author Paddy Eger for sharing her engaging story with us.

-Marilyn Melville-Irvine, Secondary ELA Consultant

A captivating journey about injustice, courage, love, and freedom. Tasman captured my soul.

-Dusty Cavaliere, writer

Ean McClaud's attempt to escape the inhumane island prison off the coast of Australia and gain the freedom he so desperately desires is a captivating tale the reader will not soon forget.

-Nancy Jo Jenkins, author of Coldwater Revival



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