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All The Green Year: Text Classics

Don Charlwood



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It was the end of an era; a year of 'outlandish happenings'; a time when everything seemed to change for Charlie Reeve, a daydreaming lad growing up in a small town on the Mornington Peninsula.

His teacher and dad are giving him a hard time, his neighbour Squid keeps getting him into trouble, and his best mate Johnno is busy seeing a girl, which leads Charlie to a nasty fight with Big Simmons.

First published in 1965, and subsequently made into a popular ABC TV series, *All the Green Year* is the story of a boy's journey towards adulthood: 'not only the humour of it but its drama and pain', as the 96-year-old Don Charlwood writes in his revised afterword.

This Text Classics edition of one of Australia's most loved coming-of-age novels comes with a new introduction by Michael McGirr, author of the bestseller *Things You Get for Free*.

Don Charlwood was born in Melbourne in 1915. He joined the RAAF in 1940, and his wartime experience and subsequent career in air-traffic control took him throughout Australia, and to New Guinea, the United Kingdom and Canada. Among Don's many books are his acclaimed debut, *No Moon Tonight* (1956), an account of his time with Bomber Command, and a two-volume autobiography. Don was made a Member of the Order of Australia for services to literature in 1992. He died in June 2012, shortly before the Text Classic edition of *All the Green Year* was published.

Michael McGirr, the author of *The Lost Art of Sleep* and *Bypass: The Story of a Road*, is the head of faith and mission at St Kevin's College in Melbourne.

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'Charlwood catches the idiom of his characters, projects them and brings them to glowing life.' Australian

'It has the Huckleberry Finn touch.' Age

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