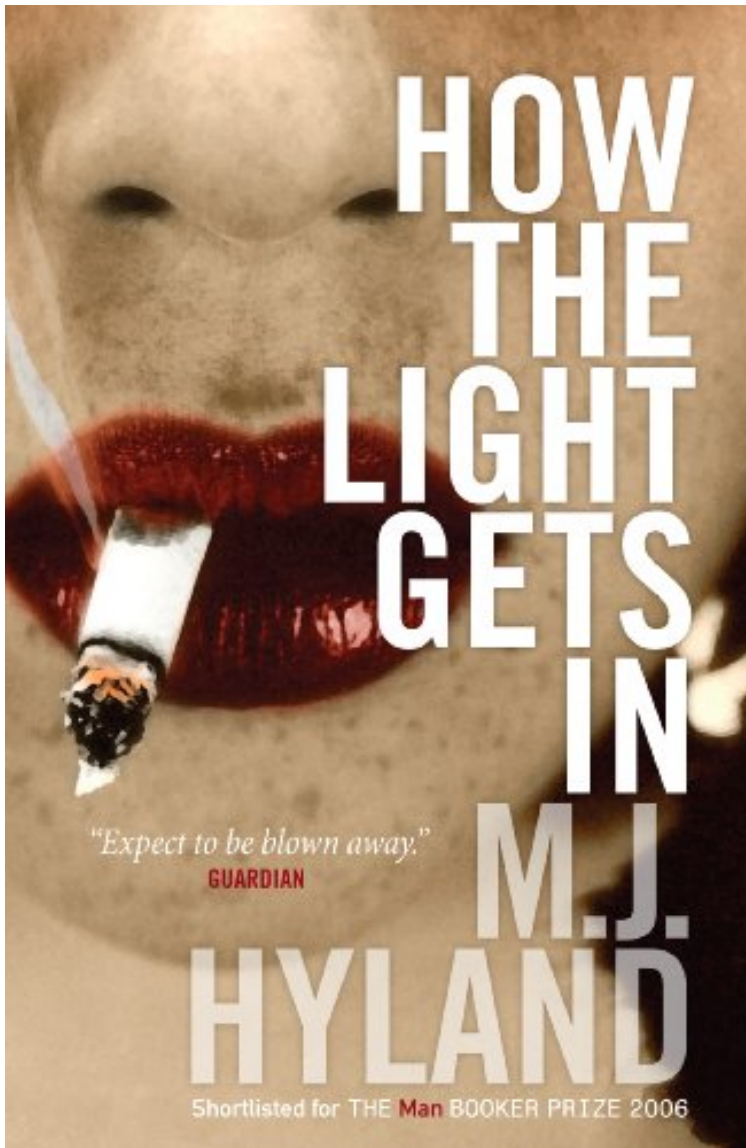


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# How The Light Gets In



Par M.J. Hyland  
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## Description :

Prsentation de l'diteurA powerful debut from an Australian novelist that features one of the most likeable but contrary figures you are likely to meet in contemporary fiction. Lou Connor, a gifted, unhappy sixteen-year-old, is desperate to escape her life of poverty in Sydney. When she is offered an exchange student placement at a school in America it seems as if her dreams will be fulfilled. Her host family has a beautiful house in Illinois and couldn't be more welcoming . . . until she starts to be distubed by the suffocating and repressed atmosphere of their suburban mansion and things begin to go terribly wrong. How the Light Gets In is an acutely observed story of adolescence, reminiscent of American Beauty in its dissection of engrained prejudices and middle-class hypocrisy. In Lou Connor, Hyland has created a larger-than-life protagonist who

mesmerises the reader with her vivacity and vulnerability, from hopeful beginning to unexpected, haunting end.

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**Biographie de l'auteur** M. J. HYLAND was born in London in 1968 to Irish parents and spent her early childhood in Dublin. She studied law and English at the University of Melbourne and worked for several years as a lawyer. Her first novel, *How the Light Gets In*, was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers Prize for Best First Book (Eurasia Region) and for The Age Book of the Year in Australia and, in 2004, she was named Young Australian Writer of the Year. *How the Light Gets In* also took third place in the 2004 Barnes Noble Discover Award for fiction. M. J. Hyland lives in London, England.