



## BOOKS

# In search of dreams

### FURIES

By John Charalambous  
University of Queensland Press  
RRP \$22.95

**FURIES** is a wonderfully honest tale of parenting and the confusion it can bring into our world.

Nicky Daniels is a strong woman who has been deserted by her husband while at the same time accepting responsibility for Imogen, a child she has raised since her mother committed suicide.

Even though Nicky is not Imogen's birth mother their relationship resembles that of many traditional mother/daughter relationships and they endure many bumps in the road together.



Nicky, a strong-minded woman is forced to come to grips with Imogen being just as strong and believing, like many teenagers, that she is capable of making her own decisions.

Charalambous lets the story take you into Nicky and Imogen's inner thoughts, their respective families and, more importantly, their disappointments — particularly when it comes to each other.

Nicky, a 30-something woman, has many issues stemming from her childhood and teenage years, and from her dominating parents who insist she follows her Greek heritage.

As Nicky tries to embrace a simple country life with Imogen while teaching art at the local secondary school, she often lets her thoughts be dominated by her indifference towards her absent family.

Nicky believes she has done nothing spectacular with her life. These thoughts allow her to secretly dream of her hidden goal to turn her life around and go where the grass may be greener

— KELLI WILLENBRECHT