

# DADDY COOL

**Darleen Bungey  
(Allen & Unwin,  
\$32.99)**

When author Darleen Bungey (sister of Pulitzer Prize winner Geraldine Brooks,) was growing up in Sydney, she was aware that her American-born father was a talented singer who slotted in

performances around his day job. But when she “began paying close attention to the lives of others” while writing biographies of artists Arthur Boyd and John Olsen, Bungey began to consider her dad afresh. Starting with a trove of family mementos, she reconstructs his previously mysterious life, from his early career success and his involvement in a scandalous Hollywood divorce to changing his name and coming to Australia, where he “shed a life of glamour and travel for a packed lunch, for a nine-to-five job”.

