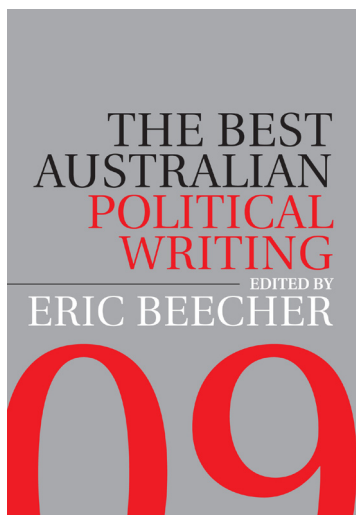


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Eric Beecher is publisher of *Crikey* and a founding shareholder and chairman of online media ventures: SmartCompany.com.au, EurekaReport.com.au and BusinessSpectator.com. He is Chair of the Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas in Victoria and in 2007 was awarded the Walkley Award for Journalistic Leadership. He has worked as a newspaper editor and journalist in Australia, the US and the UK.