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**My Father's Daughter: Memories of an Australian Childhood** (Sheila Fitzpatrick, MUP, \$27.99 tpb, ISBN 9780522857474, August) ★★★★★

*My Father's Daughter* is Sheila Fitzpatrick's account of growing up in Melbourne in the 1940s and 1950s as the daughter of left-wing author and historian Brian Fitzpatrick. When she was a child, Fitzpatrick 'thought of our family identity as Left rather than Australian' and this memoir is a reflection of how her own political views, career choices and personal relationships developed as a product of her parents' and particularly her father's influence. Recounting her youth, through school days at Lauriston Girls' to student life at Melbourne University, and then leaving Australia for England and later the Soviet Union to pursue studies in Soviet history, Fitzpatrick provides a detailed character portrait of her father and her changing attitude towards him. The book blends a

historian's research of family letters and archives with the author's own memories, which she freely admits are not always entirely accurate; the inaccuracy of her memories is often as revealing as the researched truth. An interesting retrospective on the events, relationships and emotions of childhood and simply an engaging story, which will appeal to readers with an interest in Australian history or the intricacies of family relationships.

*Lyndal More is a bookseller and publishing student*

