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Milnerton author sets down the frontier his family came from



Grant A. Poulton's father's line runs back to John Poulton, a shoemaker from Wendover who landed at Algoa Bay in April 1820 and was settled at Salem Hills on the Eastern Cape frontier. Both of his grandmothers were Cape Dutch.

His first novel, *The Leopard's Bloody Veil: The Forging of the Veldtsman*, is set on the ground where those families met. A boy on the Winterberg survives a leopard mauling and carries its mark for the rest of his life. The road takes him across the Karoo, into the gold rush at De Kaap and the diamond fields at Kimberley, and down through Knysna to the Cape. The book runs from 1827 to 1888 and is the first of four books that follow one family into the twentieth century.

"Our history folds into the sands of time as the older generation leaves us, and the stories go with them," Poulton writes. "Lost, unless someone sets them down somewhere. That is what I am trying to do here."

Poulton grew up in George, in the Southern Cape, and lives in Milnerton, Cape Town. Much of the novel began as stories told by uncles, aunts and grandparents. A school history teacher gave him the ambition behind it: to describe South Africa to a stranger who had never smelled it or felt the heat come off the ground. He has spent his working life in IT, and publishes under his own imprint, Wardenclyffe Press.

The novel is stocked by Clarke's Bookshop and Exclusive Books in Cape Town, and sold on Amazon, Takealot, Makro and Clowder. Signed copies, inscribed to any name the buyer gives, cost R495 collected in Cape Town or R575 posted anywhere in South Africa, from grantapoulton.com. Book Two, *War and the Wire*, is being written.

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The book	
Title	The Leopard's Bloody Veil: The Forging of the Veldtsman (Book One of four)
Author · Publisher	Grant A. Poulton · Wardenclyffe Press, Cape Town
Published	July 2026 · ISBN 978-1-0492-6975-7
Format · Price	Paperback, 602 pages · R495. Kindle and EPUB editions
Setting	South Africa, 1827–1888: the Winterberg, the Karoo, De Kaap, Kimberley, Knysna, the Cape

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