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Highlights

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Welcome to our 2025 International Book Rights Highlights

For more information please go to our website to browse our shelves and find out more about what we do and who we represent.

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Primary Agents

UK/US Rights: Andrew Gordon (AMG); Caroline Walsh (CW); Christabel McKinley (CMK); Elise Dillsworth (ED); David Evans (DE); Georgia Glover (GG); Jemima Forrester (JF); Jessica Woollard (JW); Lizzy Kremer (LK); Maddalena Cavaciuti (MC); Nicola Chang (NC); Orli Vogt-Vincent (OVV); Stephanie Glencross (SG); Sara Langham (SL); Veronique Baxter (VB)

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David Higham Associates

Translation Team

Alice Howe

Represents the authors of Veronique Baxter, Andrew Gordon, Lizzy Kremer and Caroline Walsh in Germany

Giulia Bernabè

Represents the authors of Jemima Forrester, Stephanie Glencross, Caroline Walsh, and all Estates in France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Scandinavia

Rachael Sharples

Represents the authors of Veronique Baxter, Maddalena Cavaciuti, Lizzy Kremer, Sara Langham, Christabel McKinley and Orli Vogt-Vincent in France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Scandinavia and Spain and Latin America

Anna Watkins

Represents the authors of Nicola Chang, Elise Dillsworth, David Evans, Andrew Gordon and Jessica Woollard (fiction) in Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Latin America, the Netherlands, Portugal, Scandinavia and Spain and Latin America. She handles the list of Jessica Woollard (non-fiction) in all the above markets except Brazil, Portugal and Spain and Latin America

Sam Norman

Represents the authors of Jemima Forrester, Stephanie Glencross, Caroline Walsh, Jessica Woollard (non-fiction) and all Estates into Arabic, Albania, Brazil, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and Latin America, Ukraine and Vietnam for both the frontlist and Estates. He handles the list of Andrew Gordon in all the above markets except Brazil, Portugal and Spain and Latin America

Zara Petranova

Represents the authors of Maddalena Cavaciuti, Nicola Chang, Elise Dillsworth, David Evans, Sara Langham, Christabel McKinley and Jessica Woollard (fiction), in Arabic; Albania; Bulgaria; Croatia; Estonia; Georgia; Greece; Indonesia; Israel; Latvia; Lithuania; Macedonia; Slovenia; Ukraine; Vietnam. Zara handles Bulgarian rights for the authors of Jemima Forrester, Stephanie Glencross, Andrew Gordon, Caroline Walsh, Jessica Woollard (non-fiction), and all Estates. She also looks after all adult frontlist titles in Turkey, Russia and Czech/Slovak, and Estates in all Eastern European co-agented markets

Rhian Kane

Represents the authors of Lizzy Kremer, Veronique Baxter, and Orli Vogt-Vincent in Arabic; Albania; Bulgaria; Croatia; Estonia; Georgia; Greece; Indonesia; Israel; Latvia; Lithuania; Macedonia; Slovenia; Ukraine; Vietnam. She also looks after all adult frontlist titles in Serbia, Poland, Romania and Hungary and all audio in Germany

Emma Lagarde

Represents all TBA authors on the adult list

Co-agented territories: China, Czech, Hungary, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey (please see co-agents page for details)

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Fiction

MOTHERFAKER



UK: Pan Macmillan, February 2026
UK Editor: Katie Loughnane
Primary Agent: JF
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: GB / SN

Rights sold:

German - dtv
Hungarian - Libri Konyvkiado
Polish - Media Rodzina
Portuguese in Portugal - Porto Editora

Additional info:

Extent: 400 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

A hilarious debut about what to expect when you're expecting. For readers of Monica Heisey's *Really Good Actually*, Charlotte Levin's *If I Can't Have You* and R.F. Kuang's *Yellowface*.

Rebel-in-a-smock-dress Barri Brown has spent years slaving away as an English teacher in Guernsey, covering for colleagues with kids and barely tolerating her colleagues' unhygienic staff kitchen etiquette.

With a distant family and a husband who has just vanished along with her savings, Barri dreams of escape. Her wild plan? Pretend she's having a baby and use the paid year off work to start over somewhere new.

And so Barri tells the school she's pregnant, orders seven bumps on the internet and sets the wheels in motion for her great pregnancy heist.

All she has to do is blag it until she can disappear for good – without getting caught and being sent to prison for fraud. How hard could it be?

Praise for *Motherfucker*:

'Hilarious, surprising, and sneakily tender. I was rooting for the witty main character, Barri, who has an uncanny knack for getting herself into trouble as she navigates the chaos of her own making. While packed with shenanigans, it's also a tale of heartwarming connections, set in a charming small town, and the beautiful mess that comes with finding out where you belong.'

- Natalie Sue, bestselling author of *I Hope This Finds You Well*

'An unforgettable story with an unforgettable main character . . . at once funny, moving and relatable . . . A five-star read!'

- Libby Page, author of *The Lido*

'A crazy screwball comedy with real heart and soul.'

- Sarah Haywood, NYT bestselling author of *The Cactus*

Anna Brook-Mitchell is a BAFTA Rocliffe Comedy-winning writer, actor and filmmaker. Her BBC Comedy Short Film, *Man Eater* – written with her screenwriting partner, Angela Nesi – TX'd on BBC Three in 2023 and was selected for Raindance 2024 as part of the Nova Express Shorts Programme. The idea is currently being developed into a feature film alongside other projects. Anna and Angela also produce, write, direct and perform in their own short films. *Motherfucker* is her first novel.

IT COMES IN WAVES



UK: Merky Books, June 2026

UK Editor: Helen Conford

Primary Agent: JF

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 320 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Set between London and Lagos, *It Comes in Waves* is a raw, authentic and beautifully written debut novel about grief, betrayal, family secrets and forgiveness.

A dead man's secret is spilled in this way, like grains on a kitchen floor – rolling into corners, nestling between floor tiles. It's the kind of spill where days after, bits still turn up. They crunch under slippers and are disturbed by the tips of the brooms, those upside-down bouquets of palm frond stalks. Peter Odafe is the deceased. The spiller is his sister, Aunt Eguono.

When Onome Odafe receives a call from her older sister telling her her beloved father has passed away suddenly and unexpectedly, her whole world crumbles. A student in London, embracing her independence for the first time, Onome must now put her studies on hold and return to her family home to say goodbye to the man she loves most in the world.

As the family gather to observe the traditional mourning period, Onome begins to feel that something is being kept from her. Her siblings are acting suspicious and whispering between themselves, a mysterious wailing woman at the gates of the house is quickly ushered away. When Onome's aunt lets slip a long-held secret about her brother's past, Onome is forced to reassess everything she thought she once knew about her father and about her place in her family.

Rukky Brume grew up in Lagos, Nigeria. She studied Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and works as a finance lawyer. Rukky is an alumna of the Faber Academy's 'Writing a Novel' course. In 2021, her writing was included on the inaugural longlist for the Women's Prize for Fiction's Discoveries programme. She lives in London.

THE SECRET THREAD



Even the darkest secrets unravel in time...

Mimi Caswell, style icon and interiors queen, is famously private, her life shrouded in mystery – until she sensationally announces she's quitting Manhattan for London, selling off her legendary estate, and staging a confessional my-life-in-objects auction.

Her new assistant, Jo, carries a secret of her own. As she unpicks Mimi's glamorous life – and the stories behind each beautiful possession – she begins to expose what Mimi kept hidden: humble beginnings, an estranged sister, a shattering death at a country house party long ago. And a secret thread woven through it all – a far darker version of events that could upend everything.

Will Jo reveal the truth, before the auctioneer's hammer falls?

UK: Michael Joseph, May 2026
UK Editor: Maxine Hitchcock
US: Ballantine, June 2026
US Editor: Susanna Porter
Primary Agent: LK
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: RS / RK

Options:

Arabic - Falak
Estonian - Rahva Raamat
French - Robert Laffont
Norwegian - Gyldendal Norsk
Polish - Kobiiece
Romanian - Grup Media Litera
Spanish - Urano

Additional info:

Extent: TBC
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Praise for *The Midnight Hour*:

'Evocative, beautifully written and absolutely gripping, *The Midnight Hour* is sensational.' - Rosie Walsh, author of *The Love of My Life*

'A wonderful twisty novel of family and secrets.'
- Kate Morton, author of *Homecoming*

'Engrossing, atmospheric and beautifully written.'
- Anna Mazzola, author of *The Book of Secrets*

Eve Chase is *The Sunday Times* bestselling author of *The Birdcage*, *The Glass House*, *The Vanishing of Audrey Wilde*, *Black Rabbit Hall* and *The Midnight Hour*, published by Penguin in the UK, and translated into many languages worldwide. Her layered, lush page-turners, spanning families and decades, have won widespread acclaim. *The Glass House* was a Richard and Judy Book Club pick. *The Vanishing of Audrey Wilde* was longlisted for the HWA Gold Crown Prize, 2018. *Black Rabbit Hall* won the Saint Maur en Poche Best Foreign Fiction Novel prize in France, 2019. Eve Chase lives in Oxford with her family and her beloved golden retriever.

SAINT DEATH



UK: Dead Ink, Spring 2027
UK Editor: Harriet Hirshman
Primary Agent: SL
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 300 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

An unsettling, deeply mannered and dark literary horror novel, which follows Hester, a receptionist at a rundown hotel, who is thrilled when a film crew chooses it as the location for a new TV show.

In a once grand hotel in the English countryside, Hester works as the receptionist for a Manager she hates and guests whom she despises. Hiding from a previous transgression, Hester's days are monotonous and claustrophobic, so when in the middle of a boiling hot summer, a production studio hires the hotel as the primary location for a TV pilot, it feels like everything might be looking up at last. Not only will filming take place in the hotel but the five main actors: The Doctor, The Spiritualist, The Housekeeper, The Husband and Wife; Ned and Laura, will also be staying there.

As the Director, Wardrobe, Props Manager and the rest of the cast and crew arrive, the hotel is suddenly alive with activity. But, as the lines between fiction and reality start to blur, Hester begins to obsess over her new guests with rather grim consequences for all.

Set over a three week period where the hotel becomes a stage, brimming with body horror and full of pin-sharp writing and ferocious noticing, *Saint Death* is a novel which examines inherited ghosts, thwarted desire, and our relationships with our physical selves.

Praise for *A Good House for Children*:

'I absolutely loved this claustrophobic and chilling story.'

- Rebecca Netley, author of *The Whistling*

'*A Good House for Children* is a wonderfully dark fable, filled with subtle dread. Kate Collins mixes folklore and the gothic in a perceptive exploration of the terrors of motherhood and the ravages of grief.'

- Amanda Mason, author of *The Hiding Place*

'Collins intertwines the tales of Orla and Lydia, who have each lived in the Reeve: a house subject to haunting, but also a place where boundaries blur . . . between different times, but also of the sense of reality and the other, and ultimately, the edge of sanity itself. A beautifully written, creepy tale reminiscent of Shirley Jackson.'

- Alison Littlewood, author of *Mistletoe* and *The Hidden People*

Kate Collins is a writer of long-form and short fiction. From West Cork, Ireland, she now lives and works in Oxfordshire. Her debut novel *A Good House For Children* (Serpent's Tail UK, Mariner, US) was published in 2023. It was longlisted for the Author's Club Best First Novel Award 2024. Kate is currently working on her third novel, *Needles*, set around a tight-knit community in Nevada and an itinerant cult that invades it.



UK: Jonathan Cape, August 2026
UK Editor: Zeljka Marosevic
Primary Agent: NC
TV/Film Agent: NL
Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Options:

French - Denoel
 Spanish - Bruxismo

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000
 Illustrations: No
 Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
 Agency
 Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

A haunting and incantatory literary novel of urban alienation from award-winning author Jacqueline Crooks.

London in the early nineties: Jaycee finally has a room of her own after being housed for several years in a hostel for young homeless women, where she meets and is befriended by the firecracker Ella-G. Beautiful, otherworldly, strange, Jaycee lives with one ear glued to her Hitachi boombox, tuning into DJ Macca's pirate radio station and doing what she does best in secret: dancing.

Her flat sits on top of a shopping centre with its faux slabs of palatial marble and plate-glass mirrors. Pizza restaurants, clothes shops, hair salons, supermarkets. No one is buying much, not after the financial crisis of Black Wednesday. But people continue to stroll through the piped chords of a floating, flanged electric piano—old women with coiffed hairdos that resemble thought bubbles and schoolgirls with sparkling eyeshadow, lips tinted in stardust.

Girls with a freedom never permitted to Jaycee.

When a mysterious man from her past reappears, Jaycee is forced to reckon with the secrets she has been keeping, not just from those who know her, but from herself. And the careful seam of hard-won safety, nestled among layers of loneliness accreted over decades, threatens to be exposed and extracted against her will, at what cost?

Sky City is an acute and atmospheric meditation on memory and the past, human nature and its capacity for love and violence, kindness and brutality, and the limits of the mind and body under duress.

Praise for *Fire Rush*:

'Mesmerising' - Bernardine Evaristo, author of *Girl, Woman, Other*

'Fabulous.' - Maggie O'Farrell, author of *Hamnet*

'Beautiful.' - Caleb Azumah Nelson, author of *Open Water*

'A wonderfully literary, musical and original novel about a culture and era that rarely makes the pages of fiction.' - *TLS*

Jacqueline Crooks is a Jamaican-born author who writes about Caribbean migration and sub-cultures, in particular the supernatural and supranational stories that sustain the diaspora. Her short story collection, *The Ice Migration*, was longlisted for the 2019 Orwell Prize in the Political Fiction category, and she has also been shortlisted for the Asham and Wasafiri New Writing awards. Her short story, 'Silver Fish in the Midnight Sea', was shortlisted for the BBC National Short Story Award 2019. Her stories have appeared in Wasafiri, Virago, Granta and Mslexia. Jacqueline's debut novel, *Fire Rush*, was published by Jonathan Cape in the UK and Viking in the US in 2023. It was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction in 2023 and Waterstones Debut Author Prize, and won the 2024 PEN America Open Book Award and the Society of Authors Paul Torday Prize.

LOVE BY THE BOOK



From the NYT bestselling author of *Maame*, a brilliant novel on the restorative nature of friendship and the life-changing power of

Two women. A chance meeting. Friendship is the love story you can count on.

Remy is lucky. Her three best friends have always been there for her - until the day that they're not. One of them is moving to New York. One of them is pregnant. And one is busy with her (awful) boyfriend. Suddenly, their foursome is splitting - and it feels like a break-up.

Simone doesn't need friends. The only people she needs are her family - but when they cut her off, she realises how alone she is.

UK:

Hodder & Stoughton, February 2026

UK Editor: Phoebe Morgan

US: St Martin's Press, April 2026

US Editor: Sarah Cantin

Primary Agent: JF

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: GB / SN

When Simone and Remy meet in a bookshop, they don't immediately click. But as life keeps throwing them together, they realise that they might just have bumped into exactly what they need, if they can only be brave enough to let each other in.

This isn't a romance. But it is about love.

Rights sold:

German - btb Verlag

Options:

Arabic - Dar Kalamat

Bulgarian - Orange International

Hebrew - Aryeh Nir

Polish - Grupa Wydawnicza Filia

Portuguese in Brazil - Companhia das Letras

Portuguese in Portugal - PRH

Portugal

Turkish - Nemesis

Additional info:

Extent: 95,000

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media Agency

Praise for *Maame*:

'One of the must-reads of the year' - *The Sunday Times*

'Lively, funny, poignant... Prepare to fall in love with Maddie. I did!'

- Bonnie Garmus, author of *Lessons in Chemistry*

'Utterly charming and deeply moving... Maddie's journey will resonate with anyone who's had to grow up - or who's still trying to'

- Celeste Ng, author of *Little Fires Everywhere*

Jessica George was born and raised in London to Ghanaian parents and studied English Literature at the University of Sheffield. After working at a literary agency and a theatre, she landed a job in the editorial department of a publishing house. Jessica's debut novel, *Maame*, was published as a lead hardback in 2023 by Hodder & Stoughton in the UK and by St Martin's Press in the US. It was an instant *New York Times* Bestseller, a Read With Jenna Book Club Pick and won the Diverse Book Awards in 2024. Film and TV rights were optioned by Universal International Studios.



UK: Simon & Schuster, September 2026

UK Editor: Charlotte Trumble

US: Little, Brown, September 2026

US editor: Margaret Raymo

Primary Agent: NC

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Options:

French - Hachette Livre

Hungarian - Konyvmolykepzo Kiado

Additional info:

Extent: 50,000 words

Illustrations: Yes, B&W

Material Available: Unedited manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Agency

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

The richly imagined retelling of the Greek myth of Styx, goddess of the underworld river, is the second standalone book in Nikita Gill's electrifying trilogy.

Beginning a generation before *Hekate*, *Styx* sings the story of the goddess of the underworld river that bears her name. The firstborn child of Titans, Styx is revered as the first of her kind—until she is eclipsed and forgotten amid her scores of siblings, the Oceanids and the Potamoi.

Coming of age in a world simmering with paranoia and unspoken fear of Zeus, the volatile and unchecked god-king, Styx learns to conceal the rage ignited by her growing disillusionment with her parents and her vain and unkind siblings. Instead, she finds solace and sisterhood in her cousin, Asteria. Together, they train in the arts of creation and magic, eager to discover their divine purpose and their place in the Titanomachy.

In this lyrical and heartrending tale of sisterhood, identity, love, and war, Styx must carve her own path to womanhood—and ultimately, godhood.

Praise for *Hekate*:

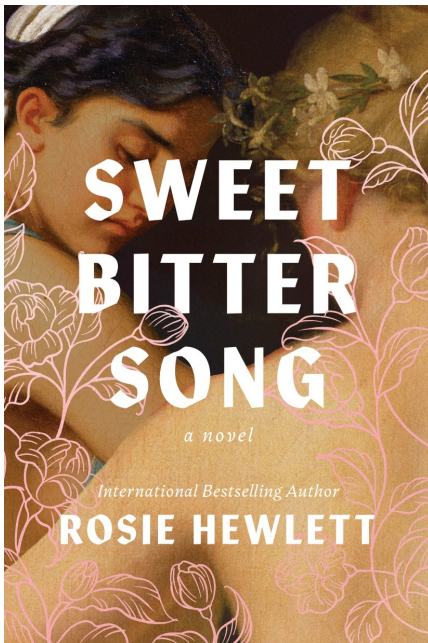
'Atmospheric, engrossing, beautiful and sad, one of those books you find yourself wanting to be back inside when you've had to put it down.'
- Natalie Haynes, author of *Stone Blind* and *A Thousand Ships*

'A vivid and imaginatively wrought divine world that is monstrous, magical and beautiful.' - Jennifer Saint, author of *Ariadne*

'A powerful reflection on magic, power, family and the consequences of war. I absolutely loved it.' - Constanza Casati, bestselling author of *Clytemnestra*

Nikita Gill is an Irish-Indian poet who has the attention of over 800,000 Instagram followers worldwide. Her work offers a shift of perspective which centres women in both Greek and Hindu myth, as well as folklore. She has given a TEDx Talk, spoken at every major literary festival in the UK and been shortlisted for the Goodreads Choice Award in poetry three times, the Children's Poetry Award two times and longlisted for the Jhalak Prize. Gill has written seven poetry collections and two verse novels. Her book of fables for children, *Animal Tales from India*, won highly commended in Week Junior Kids Awards and her novel in verse, *The Angel of Redemption* was published for Doctor Who's 60th Anniversary in 2023. *Hekate*, published September 2025, is the first novel in a loosely connected trilogy about the Greek goddesses of the Underworld. It was a *Sunday Times*, *New York Times*, *National Indie*, and a *USA Today* bestseller.

SWEETBITTER SONG



UK: Transworld, February 2026

UK Editor: Lara Stevenson

US: Sourcebooks, March 2026

US Editor: MJ Johnson

Primary Agent: JF

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Rights sold:

Italian - Nord

Options:

Bulgarian - Noble Star

French - Bragelonne

German - HarperCollins

Polish - Swiat Ksiazki

Portuguese in Brazil - Editora Trama.

Additional info:

Extent: 400

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Copyedited manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

A powerful feminist reimagining of a forgotten story from Greek mythology from the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Medea* and *Medusa*.

A wife to a hero. A handmaid to a queen. A love story waiting to be told.

One fateful night in Sparta, a young slave girl encounters a mysterious, grey-eyed princess. Melantho and Penelope, though from different worlds, are instantly connected. But betrayal soon tears them apart.

Years later, on Ithaca's rocky shores, Melantho is sent to serve Princess Penelope and her new husband, Prince Odysseus. Hardened by slavery, Melantho vows to stay distant from Penelope. Yet, the undeniable pull between them proves stronger than ever.

As war ignites Greece, Odysseus and Ithaca's men are called away and, in their absence, Melantho finds a new world opening up before her – one where women rule, where family can be found, and where love is finally given the space to bloom.

But all wars eventually end, and as Troy falls, Penelope and Melantho must face the King's return and decide how far they will go to protect what matters most to them.

Praise for *Medea*:

'Delightfully devastating' - Bea Fitzgerald, author of *Girl, Goddess, Queen*

'A fiery and dramatic novel, starring one of mythology's most notorious women, this is a fascinating descent into darkness' - Jennifer Saint, author of *Ariadne*

'Full of thwarted love and dark magic . . . Vivid and powerful, this is a book with teeth' - Luna McNamara, author of *Psyche and Eros*

Having secured a First Class Honours degree in Classical Literature and Civilisation at the University of Birmingham, **Rosie Hewlett** has studied Greek mythology in depth and is passionate about unearthing strong female voices within the classical world. Rosie currently lives in Kent with her husband and is now a full-time author spending her days lost inside her favourite stories from mythology.

THE WELL



The Miles Franklin award winning, tense, darkly humorous and subtly queer gothic modern classic; *The Dry* meets Shirley Jackson.

Miss Hester Harper, middle-aged and eccentric, brings Katherine into her emotionally impoverished life. Together they sew, cook gourmet dishes for two, run the farm, make music and throw dirty dishes down the well.

One night, driving along the deserted track that leads to the farm, they run into a mysterious creature. They heave the body from the roo bar and dump it into the farm's deep well. But the voice of the injured intruder will not be stilled and, most disturbing of all, the closer Katherine is drawn to the edge of the well, the farther away she gets from Hester.

First published in Australia in 1986, *The Well* is to be re-published in the UK by Virago Modern Classics as one of their 'heroine' titles.

UK: Virago, Autumn 2026

UK Editor: Olivia Barber

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: Jenny Darling
Associates

Translation Agent: GB / SN / ZP

Rights sold:

Italian - Garzanti

Additional info:

Extent: 252 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final Files

Praise for Elizabeth Jolley:

'Jolley is one of our most daring writers.'

- Helen Garner, author of *The Children's Bach*

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

'An extremely elegant work ... Without a single scratch or smudge to dull its gleam.'

- *Australian Book Review*

'The lump never leaves the reader's throat; suspicion and horror multiply; here is a book that will not let you go.' - *Publishers Weekly*

'Elizabeth Jolley['s] books are able to alter the direction of one's inner life.'

- *The Washington Post*

Elizabeth Jolley (1923-2007) was an award-winning writer who settled in Western Australia in the late 1950s. She was 53 years old when her first book was published, and she went on to publish fifteen novels, four short story collections, and three non-fiction books, publishing well into her 70s and achieving significant critical acclaim. She was also a pioneer of creative writing teaching in Australia, counting many well known writers such as Tim Winton among her students. Her novels explore alienated characters and the nature of loneliness and entrapment.

NATURAL BORN CHICKEN



WEL: HarperVia, Autumn 2027

WEL Editor: Alexa Frank

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Rights sold:

German - Eichborn

Options:

French - Phebus

Italian - Mondadori

Additional info:

Extent: 211 pages (Japanese ms)

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Full Japanese manuscript; sample translation

A quietly radical novel about friendship, reinvention, and the strange grace of late bloom.

Natural Born Chicken marks a hopeful new turn in Kanehara's celebrated body of work - warm, witty, and still thrillingly unsentimental.

Ayano Hamano is forty-five, single, and perfectly content keeping life at arm's length. Her world is built on quiet routines: a steady desk job at a publishing house, the same dinner every night, and an unbroken solitude she has no intention of disturbing. But when she's asked to check on a young editor who's gone AWOL with a sprained ankle, Ayano is thrust into the chaotic orbit of Naori Hiraki - free-spirited, unpredictable, and unapologetically obsessed with Tokyo's host club scene.

What begins as an awkward visit turns into something far more unexpected: a tentative, cross-generational friendship that challenges everything Ayano thought she knew about joy, connection, and what it means to live fully - at any age.

Set against the electric backdrop of Shibuya's punk subculture, *Natural Born Chicken* is a tender and funny meditation on loneliness, reinvention, and the brilliant risk that is letting someone in. Kanehara confronts taboos around infertility, social anxiety, and the invisible struggles of adulthood with empathy and edge, delivering a novel as fierce as it is full of heart.

Praise for *Autofiction*:

'The most elegant postmodern escape act by a contemporary novelist yet'
- *Independent*

'Kanehara is an instant star' - *International Herald Tribune*

'Kanehara is a new voice who owes nothing to anyone and reinvents the novel afresh' - Matt Thorne, author of *Cherry*

'Kanehara has a confidence in her writing that belies her years... even in translation, Kanehara's gritty and honest prose will get under your skin' - *The Skinny*

Hitomi Kanehara shot to fame with her debut novel *Hebi ni Piasu* or *Snakes and Earrings* (Vintage), which she wrote as a teenager. It was awarded both the Shōsetsu Subaru Literary Prize and the Akutagawa Prize, Japan's highest literary accolade. Selling over a million copies in Japan, it was made into a feature film and translated into thirty languages. Since then, Kanehara has published thirteen works of fiction, including *Autofiction* (Vintage), which was longlisted for the Man Asian Literary Prize. *Mothers*, written while she was living in France, was awarded the Bunkamura Deux Magots Literary Prize.



UK: Polygon, Winter 2027
UK Editor: Alison Rae
ANZ: Allen & Unwin, Winter 2027
ANZ Editor: Cate Paterson
Primary Agent: SL
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 316 pages
 Illustrations: No
 Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
 Associates
 Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A former Hollywood child star comes to Scotland to shoot an indie horror film, only to realise that the monster she's awakening might be within.

Meredith Baxter is a washed-up former child actor, once as famous for being the unacknowledged love child of actor Richard Thorne as for her roles in two classic sitcoms, as well as her final part - the teenage scream queen in 'that' underground horror film, *Kin*.

When clips of *Kin* start to resurface on the internet, Meri receives an unexpected opportunity from two upcoming directors. Calum and Kiran are filming a low budget indie horror film *Prodigy*, set in Scotland and inspired by *Kin*. Meri jumps at the chance to take the lead role, and why wouldn't she? Her toxic mom Cici's megachurch is trying to recruit her, the bills for her beloved New York apartment are racking up and no one stops her on the street anymore. This could be the second chance she's been dreaming of.

But online rumours are also beginning to swirl about a certain producer, who just happens to be the person who gave Meri and her former co-star Sav (currently the hottest pop star on the planet), their breaks. Back in LA, Cici has got wind of all that's going on and, in the woods of Burntisland, where filming is taking place, something is stirring. Will resurrecting her career unearth secrets from the past Meri would rather keep buried?

Praise for *Weak Teeth*:

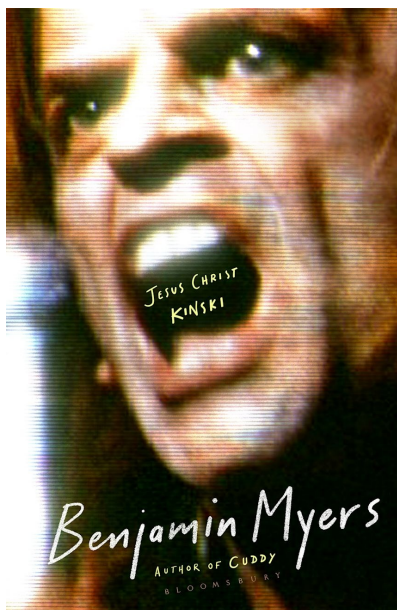
'There's a huge emotional punch packed into this deceptively light novel'
 - Sally Morris, *Daily Mail*

'An agreeably light novel which is also a serious examination of human relationships ... it treats the everyday world of common experience as serious matter for fiction. This is refreshingly unusual today'
 - Allan Massie, *The Scotsman*

'Compulsively readable, darkly funny... May has a keen eye for the manifestation of emotional complexity in all human interaction and a talent for dramatising it' -
 Venezia Castro, *The Skinny*

Lynsey May lives, loves and writes in Edinburgh. She won first place in the Fresh Ink novel contest in 2020, a Scottish Book Trust New Writers Award in 2013, a Robert Louis Stevenson Fellowship in 2015 and a spot as Cove Park's Emerging Scottish Writer in 2016. She's also been longlisted in the Mslexia novel competition and runner up in Borough Press' open novel competition. Her short fiction has been published *The Stinging Fly*, *Gutter*, *New Writing Scotland* and *Banshee*. Her debut novel *Weak Teeth* was published by Polygon in May 2023. It was chosen as Waterstones Scottish Book of the Month for May 2024.

JESUS CHRIST KINSKI



UK: Bloomsbury, October 2025

UK Editor: Allegra Le Fanu

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Options:

German - DuMont

Greek - Klidarithmos

Italian - Bollati Boringhieri

Spanish - Piel de Zapa

Additional info:

Extent: 224 pages

Illustrations: Yes; B&W photos

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A bold and brilliant short work by the author of the Goldsmiths Prize-winning *Cuddy*.

November, 1971. Berlin, Germany. Opening night.

Klaus Kinski, Germany's most controversial actor, steps into the spotlight to a crowd of thousands.

After years of making movies abroad, he has returned to the stage for a much-publicized one-man performance about Jesus Christ. As the crowd turn on him and violence is threatened, it is also very nearly his last. After this week, he will never perform on stage again.

Exactly fifty years later, a hypochondriac writer, housebound by winter snowstorms, becomes fixated with video footage of Kinski at his most manic.

In this forensic analysis, he strays into the darker corners of modern culture, and finally begins to understand the compulsive urge that drives artists to the edge of sanity in their pursuit of perfection.

Jesus Christ Kinski is a novel about a film about a performance about Jesus. It is a daring act of literary ventriloquism, a meditation on censorship, creativity, loneliness – and just how far our tolerance is tested by bad people who make great art.

Praise for *Jesus Christ Kinski*:

'A hair-raising performance written and directed by one of the most outrageously imaginative writers of our time.'

- Kit Fan, author of *Diamond Hill*

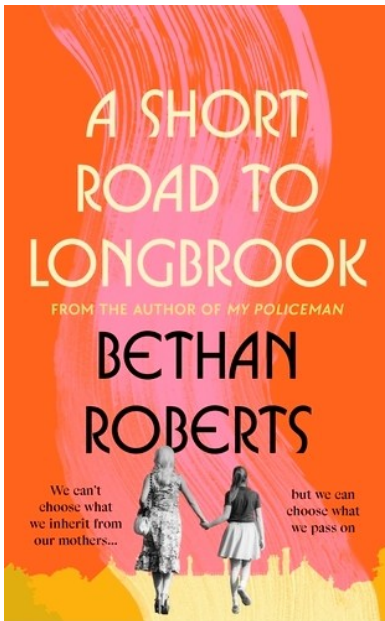
'*Jesus Christ Kinski* is a kaleidoscopic portrait of an unravelling mind. Unflinching, audacious and brutally beautiful, like nothing else you'll read this year.'

- Jan Carson, author of *The Raptures*

'Rabid with life-force and intrinsically confrontational... Benjamin Myers' timely novel at once asks us how we are to reckon with society's brilliant-bad, and considers how each of us must accommodate the raging demons that threaten to devour us.' - Rob Doyle, author of *Threshold*

Benjamin Myers was born in Durham in 1976. He is the author of ten books, including *The Offing*, which was an international bestseller and selected for the Radio 2 Book Club; *The Gallows Pole*, which won the Walter Scott Prize for historical fiction and has been adapted as a BBC series by Shane Meadows; *Beastings* which was awarded the Portico Prize for Literature, and *Pig Iron* which won the inaugural Gordon Burn Prize. He has also published non-fiction, poetry and crime novels and his journalism has appeared in publications including the *Guardian*, *New Statesman*, *TLS*, *Caught by the River* and many more. He lives in the Upper Calder Valley, West Yorkshire.

A SHORT ROAD TO LONGBROOK



UK: Chatto, March 2026

UK Editor: Molly Slight

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 384 Pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

A tender story of mothers, daughters and breaking family patterns, from the author of bestseller *My Policeman* which became the hit film starring Harry Styles.

It's the mid-1960s and Lillian Wells is a clever teenager with a daring pixie cut, tangerine mini-dress and new boyfriend, Jim, who works at the brewery. Even better, he lives across the road, so she's never far from her bee-hived, high-heeled single mother, Winnie, who is prone to attacks of the nerves. But Lillian harbours secret dreams of going to art school in London. When she gets in, how will she tell her mother – and Jim – that she's leaving Abingdon – and them?

Forty years later, Lillian's own daughter Rachel is heading off to university, but Lillian is not sure either of them are ready. She sees herself and Winnie in Rachel, who is ambitious and intelligent, but also prone to nervous habits. As Lillian tries to bite her tongue about Rachel's symptoms, she is reminded of what everyone in Abingdon used to say: It's a short road to Longbrook... the local institution for the mentally ill. Lillian knows this is all too true, but in a family where secrets run through generations like the rushing waters of the local river, can she bring herself to break the cycle and tell Rachel the truth about her past?

Praise for *My Policeman*:

'The era and the seaside locale are beautifully rendered and observed, not least the social and sexual undercurrents of the time.' - *Sunday Times*

'A humane and evocative portrait of a time when lives were destroyed by intolerance.' - *Guardian*

'This spiky portrait of love makes for a gripping read.' - *Independent*

'Roberts gives us two strong, absorbing voices, whose competing claims on our sympathies...make *My Policeman* a satisfyingly taut and involving read.'
- *Times Literary Supplement*

Bethan Roberts has published five novels and writes stories and drama for BBC Radio 4. Her books include *The Good Plain Cook* (Serpent's Tail, 2008), which was a Radio 4 Book at Bedtime; *My Policeman* (Chatto & Windus, 2012), the story of a 1950s policeman, his wife, and his male lover (now a major Amazon Original movie starring Harry Styles and Emma Corrin), *Mother Island* (Chatto, 2014), which received a Jerwood Fiction Uncovered prize, and *Graceland* (Chatto, 2019), which tells the story of Elvis Presley and his mother, Gladys. She also writes short fiction, for which she has won the Society of Authors' Olive Cook Prize and the RA Pin Drop Award. Bethan has taught Creative Writing at Chichester University and Goldsmiths College, London. She lives in Brighton with her family.

DANDELION IS DEAD



UK: Borough Press, March 2026

UK Editor: Jo Thompson

US: Berkley, January 2026

US Editor: Jen Monroe

Primary Agent: JF

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Rights sold:

French– Bragelonne

German - dtv

Italian - Neri Pozza

Russian - Azbooka Atticus

Additional info:

Extent: 352 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

**Jake has fallen head over heels for Dandelion. The only problem?
Dandelion is dead.**

Seven months after Dandelion's death, Poppy resurrects her sister's phone and finds a message from a man on a dating app. Jake.

Dandelion delighted in bad behaviour. She pushed Poppy to be brave. So, on what would have been her sister's 40th birthday, Poppy decides to do something wild and – for one night only – she goes on a date as Dandelion.

Only when Poppy meets Jake, they have unexpected chemistry. Thrillingly hot, confusing chemistry. They become tangled in deceit while discovering something electric, shockingly real.

As a precarious dare spirals somewhere unexpected, *Dandelion is Dead* becomes a love story, a ballad of sisterhood and an ode to bad behaviour.

What happens when you fall in love with a lie?

Praise for *Dandelion is Dead*:

'Psychologically astute... emotionally complex... elegant prose... one of the fiction debuts of the year.' - Emma Forrest, author of *Father Figure*

'Wildly entertaining and crackling with life. I tore through it; it's as hilarious as it is heartfelt and sharply captures the chaos of grief.'

- Claire Daverley, author of *Talking at Night*

'A funny book about grief, an honest book about lying, and a heartbreaking book about finding love, *Dandelion is Dead* is captivating, generous, and deeply alive.'

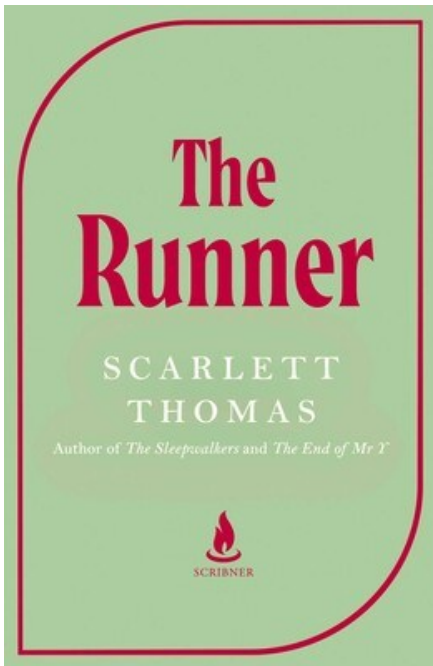
- Jenny Jackson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Pineapple Street*

'*Dandelion is Dead* is breathtakingly original. A brilliant premise, smart, funny and heartbreaking in equal measure. I adored it.'

- Clare Leslie Hall, *NYT* bestselling author of *Broken Country*

Rosie Storey grew up on a farm in the south of England, and was raised on a diet of Edam cheese, Wendy Cope poems and Joni Mitchell songs. Having been a passionate writer all her life, she left a fifteen-year career working in Big Tech to finish her first novel. In *Dandelion is Dead*, Rosie explores truth, lies and personal authenticity in today's society. She is fascinated by relationship dynamics, the complexities of love and the realities of loss. In her writing, Rosie examines those moments when life can feel a little too real, wonderfully funny, or sometimes – just achingly sad. Rosie holds a Masters in Creative Writing, and works as a freelance copywriter and writing coach.

THE RUNNER



A mind-expanding story about high finance, con artists, the Book of Jonah, ultra-marathons – and how falling in love can change everything.

He's running for his life. And he's running out of time.

Jay has been hunted since he was twenty years old. A contract on his life has been traded like a commodity, rising and falling with Bitcoin. On the run once again, with no passport, and airmiles as his only currency, Jay will have to choose between love and survival, and run for his life!

The Runner is a high concept literary thriller featuring high-finance, con-artists, the Book of Jonah, ultramarathons and how falling in love can change everything.

Darkly funny, sexy, exciting, philosophical and thrilling, *The Runner* is the most gripping and intelligent novel you will read in 2026.

UK: Simon and Schuster, July 2026

UK Editor: Chris White

US: Simon and Schuster, July 2026

US Editor: Olivia Taylor-Smith

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: Will Watkins at CAA

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 80,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle Mori

Praise for *The Sleepwalkers*:

'Vibey, dark, and weird, *The Sleepwalkers* is like a poetic, sinister *The White Lotus* with even more plot twists. I loved it.' –Allie Rowbottom, author of *Aesthetica*

'*The Sleepwalkers* is never-endingly surprising and full of keen observations on relationships, politics, and art. Thomas makes real life so fraught with meaning, it feels hauntingly supernatural. A twisty gothic tale of vertiginous depths and power.'

– Sandra Newman, author of *Julia* and *The Heavens*

Scarlett Thomas was born in London. She is the author of highly acclaimed contemporary cult novels including *The End of Mr. Y*, *Oligarchy*, *The Seed Collector*, *Popco*, and *The Worldquake* series of middle-grade books. Her novels have sold over half a million copies worldwide, and been translated into 26 languages. Scarlett is Professor of Creative Writing and Contemporary Fiction at the University of Kent, where for the last 18 years she has run writing seminars and mentored junior staff and emerging writers. Her book on writing fiction, *Monkeys With Typewriters*, is popular with both established and beginning writers.

THE RED ZONE



UK: On submission
Primary Agent: SL
TV/Film Agent: DHA
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:
Extent: 388 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A piercingly affecting story of a young New Zealander learning to let go of her mother before she can find her own voice.

Anna has spent her whole adult life running from jobs, cities and relationships. Now, she finds herself returning to her home city of Christchurch to face yet another family crisis. Her mother Sylvia has been assaulted by her husband, Anna's stepfather. Powerless to do more, Anna moves in with Sylvia who is renting a house in the red zone, an area which has been deemed uninhabitable in the wake of the devastating earthquake eight years before, whilst Sylvia awaits her husband's court appearance.

In the year that follows, Anna and Sylvia attempt to make their own domestic red zone a place they can exist within but with Anna escaping into nature or burying herself in work and Sylvia drinking more to cope, their closeness struggles to survive. As Anna starts a new relationship, she risks walking into the same life she wishes her own mother would leave. Does she renew the cycle yet again, or step into something else?

The Red Zone is a beautifully realised, powerful and ultimately optimistic study of family, imagination, friendship and the beauty of the natural world. These characters might appear stuck, but they remain acutely alive to the world and interested in it, helping us see these cycles and dilemmas anew.

Praise for *The Red Zone*:

'A work of haunting beauty, *The Red Zone* explores the dark recesses of family life with rare courage and candour. At its heart is a moving mother-daughter relationship that is as tender as it is turbulent. This is a powerful, poetic and richly complex novel in which every word is weighted with significance. It's unforgettable.' - Nicolas Padamsee, author of *England Is Mine*

Sarah Young is a former journalist from New Zealand. She graduated with an MA in Creative Writing with distinction from the University of East Anglia in 2014, where she was the UEA Booker scholarship recipient, and was recently awarded a PhD in Creative Writing at the Victoria University of Wellington. She has been long listed for the Bath Short Story award, the BBC National Short Story award, and the Masters Review Winter Short Story award, and was a finalist in the 2022 Curt Johnson Prose Award for Fiction. She has published short stories in journals such as *December*, as well as essays in *Hinterland* magazine and others. She has twice been nominated for a Pushcart Prize.

IS THAT YOU, BETH CHERRY?



UK: Hodder, November 2025

UK Editor: Jo Dickinson

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Rights sold:

Swedish - Bokförlaget Forum

Additional info:

Extent: 273 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates

Japanese - Tuttle Mori

The story you tell the world isn't always the truth you hold in your heart...

Beth's life, like the unfinished screenplay on her laptop, is stuck between scenes. Since her breakup with Fraser – which was not part of the script – she's retreated into a lonely working-from-home world of sweatpants, disordered hours and comfort eating. The one luminous constant in her life is her love for her rescue dog, Toms, and his for her.

When Beth's house share falls apart, she thinks she might have to give Toms up until she is thrown a lifeline by the least likely person: her ex, Fraser's, mother Martine, who offers Beth and Toms a temporary space above her unglamorous garage in which to start over. It feels like a second chance and might this be a sign that she and Fraser are meant to be?

Beth hopes to make progress with her screenplay, but when she is recruited as a writer for a local project for older residents, she starts to gain more perspective. Some stories she hears are heartwarming, some are heartbreaking. All of them, Beth notes, reveal a little more than the teller intended.

As Beth gets to know Lewis, the manager of Rosemount, a failing retirement community, she realises that she has no idea what his story is – or her own. And yet Lewis seems determined to change the story for everyone around him with an unselfconscious joy that is new to Beth. She is starting to wonder if she can be...whatever she wants to be?

When *The Story of Your Life* is sent an anonymous story of first love that threatens to destroy more than one family's identity, Beth has to decide: whose story is it to tell? And, if no one can be guaranteed a happy ever after, how should love stories be told?

Praise for *Is That You, Beth Cherry?*:

'An uplifting hug of a novel about second chances, saying yes to life, and what it takes to become the hero of your own story.' - Lucy Diamond, author of *The Island Getaway*

'Sweet, funny, and oh-so-relatable, *Is That You, Beth Cherry?* is an ultimately uplifting tale of love, loss and the enduring power of stories. A cracking read!' - Mike Gayle, author of *Hope Street*

Lucy Dillon grew up on the west coast of Cumbria, and now lives in Herefordshire with her husband and dogs. She is the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of twelve novels set in the much-loved fictional market town of Longhampton, including *Lost Dogs and Lonely Hearts* (2009) which was the RNA Novel of the Year in 2010 and *A Hundred Pieces of Me* (2015) which won the RNA Contemporary Novel of the Year Award. *Where the Light Gets In* was shortlisted for the same award in 2019. *Irresponsible Adult* was published in May 2024, and *Is That You, Beth Cherry?* is her most recent novel.

THE BEST EX OF MY LIFE



UK: On submission
Primary Agent: MC
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 313 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Agency
Japanese - Tuttle Mori

For fans of Christina Lauren's *Love and Other Words* and Emily Henry's *People We Meet on Vacation*, this messy friends-to-lovers romance is about not-so-perfect timing, female friendship and the hardest kind of love story – the one you never dared to start.

Best friends Lizzie, Teddy and Karina are over dating. Between them, the girls have been out with every dead-beat, ick-ridden commitment-phobe in the book, and wish there was a way someone could vet these men for them before another Friday night is wasted on a dating disaster.

So, the trio come up with a plan: The Ex-Swap. Instead of swiping right on more Mr. Wrongs, each woman will offer up their very best ex - someone great on paper but who they just didn't spark with - and they'll each take a chance on a man who, at the very least, has passed the best friend check. What could possibly go wrong?

Well, for Lizzie - everything. Because her "best ex" isn't really an ex at all. Elliot was her almost - the gorgeous colleague she spent one incredible night with just over a year ago before they both decided they were better off as friends. As soon as his name leaves her mouth, Lizzie realises her mistake. Now, he's her biggest what-if. And, thanks to The Ex-Swap, he's dating Teddy.

Praise for *One Month of You*:

'This tender love story will warm your heart.'
- Anita Frank, author of *The Lost Ones*

'It's funny, warm and so, so sad but also bursting with love and hope. Jess and Alec will be with me for a very long time.'
- Fiona Scarlett, author of *Boys Don't Cry*

'Full of heart and warmth with a cast of loveable characters, *One Month of You* will break your heart and piece it back together again. I loved it!' Lynsey James, author of *The Single Dad's Handbook*

'A love story that is simultaneously so unique and so relatable.'
- Mary Hargreaves, author of *Enough Already*

Emmy Hart is a pseudonym for RNA nominee and winner of the eHarmony/Trapeze Books Write Your Own Love Story Competition, Suzanne Ewart (née Hart). Suzanne's debut novel *One Month of You* was published by Trapeze (UK) in July 2021 and Sourcebooks (US) in 2023, and nominated by the RNA for the Katie Fforde Debut Romantic Novel Award. It was followed by *Young Love* in 2025, which was published by UCLan Publishing. Suzanne lives in Warrington with her husband and two children.

WHEN THE PARTY'S OVER



ANZ: Pan Macmillan, Spring 2026

ANZ Editor: Jayne Osborne

Primary Agent: JF

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 95,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Set in Sydney's wealthy beachside suburbs, *When the Party's Over* explores female friendship, school-gates tension, spiralling consequences and questions of moral responsibility. For readers of Liane Moriarty, *The Herd*, *The Slap*, and *Other Parents*.

When mum-of-three Natalie throws a party for her thirty-sixth birthday, she wants to reconnect with her friends, relive her youth and escape the mundane for one wild night.

Now she'd give anything to have mundane back.

When her toddler swallows half an ecstasy pill left by a guest, Natalie is plunged into a nightmare as she faces judgement from police, social services and the school community.

Natalie's two best friends also find their lives upturned by the night of the party.

Amanda's relationship with her girlfriend Sammy is already strained since Sammy refuses to investigate why their attempts to grow their family are failing. But Sammy's erratic and secretive behaviour on the night of the party make Amanda question if she can ever trust Sammy again.

And Lisa, who is shocked to find she is pregnant by her party hook-up, the unattainable love of her life, now faces a decision that could destroy their friendship circle for good.

When the truths about what happened at the party are revealed, Natalie and her friends must all decide what's worth holding on to, and where to draw the line.

Katie Hoskins is a communications professional and copywriter. Originally from England, she moved to Australia in 2007 to study journalism. Easily seduced by sunshine and great coffee, she's still there. Katie loves writing about women's lives and exploring friendship and family dynamics. As one of six siblings, and 30 first cousins, she's never short of inspiration. She lives in Sydney, with her partner and two young bookworms. *When the Party's Over* is her debut novel.

LET THE BELLS RING OUT



UK: Simon and Schuster, October 2025

UK Editor: Clare Hey

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Rights sold:

Finnish - Bazar

Additional info:

Extent: 450 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final Files

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Agency

Japanese - Tuttle Mori

A Christmas treat brought you by Sunday Times bestselling author and "Queen of all the Feels" Milly Johnson.

A heavy fall of unexpected snow forces seven travellers to spend Christmas together on a broken down luxury train on its way to Scotland to pick up its wealthy owner and his family.

Unable to get to her own engagement party in Durham, will a few days away from everything make Elizabeth realise what she has is not what she wants?

Businessman Vince has never been lucky in love, but will he find 'the one' this Christmas, and what can come of it when she belongs to someone else?

Young Roo is rudderless after her fiancé has dumped her for her best friend. Lost in her own life, will she find the confidence and direction she needs to rally and realise her massive potential?

Frank's plans of a cosy cottage getaway to try and mend his thirty year marriage with Grace have been thwarted. Can this change of venue finally heal them or is it the end of the road?

Grace is still reeling from the loss of her soldier son and still blaming her husband Frank. Can people she never meant to cross paths with help her move on?

Jane - recently widowed - is heading for Lancaster and her step-son and his wife who have pressured her to take up residence with them. Will Jane discover this Christmas that she's not ready for the rocking chair yet?

Santa-for-hire Tim nurses regrets that he wasn't there for his daughter growing up, but can this Christmas give him the sort of present the real Santa might pull from his sack for him?

Not reaching their Christmas destinations makes this Christmas a magical blessing these travellers never hoped to find onboard one of the world's most luxurious trains - the Yorkshire Belle. And life for all of them will never be the same again.

Praise for *Same Time Next Week*:

'Milly Johnson always delivers an absolutely cracking read.'

- Katie Fforde, author of *From London with Love*

'Funny and brilliant and gorgeously warm, Milly Johnson always, always delivers.' - Paige Toon, author of *What if I Never Get Over You*

Milly Johnson was born, raised and still lives in Barnsley, South Yorkshire. A Sunday Times bestseller, she is one of the Top 10 Female Fiction authors in the UK, and has sold millions of copies of her books across the world. *The Happiest Ever After* is her twenty-first novel and was published in February 2024. Milly's writing highlights the importance of community spirit and the magic of kindness. Her books inspire and uplift but she packs a punch and never shies away from the hard realities of life and the complexities of relationships in her stories. Her books champion women, their strength and resilience, and celebrate love, friendship and the possibility and joy of second chances and renaissances. Milly has sold over 3 million copies of her books in the UK.

SKATE IT TILL YOU MAKE IT



UK: Headline / February 2026
UK Editor: Soraya Bouazzaoui
US: Macmillan / February 2026
US Editor: Kukuwa Fraser
Primary Agent: JF
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:
Extent: 352 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Final Files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

The weather might be icy, but the tension is red-hot in the this fake dating hockey rom-com from the author of *Let the Games Begin*.

Ari Shumba never expected to make it to the Winter Games, let alone be the one to lead Great Britain's women's hockey team through the most important competition of their lives. But when an unexpected injury catapults her to the role of team captain, Ari reluctantly shoulders the responsibility, all while trying to dodge her toxic ex.

Drew Dlamini has always feared taking risks. But after uncovering a family secret, breaking up with his ex-girlfriend and dropping out of graduate school, he's desperate for a fresh start. So when he finds himself in London for the holidays, he decides to rekindle his hidden dream of becoming a professional photographer.

When Ari and Drew bump into each other on New Year's Eve, neither one is looking to fall in love. Despite their instant chemistry, they're from opposite sides of the Atlantic, and when they reveal all of their red flags, they realize that things between them would never work out. But then, when their paths unexpectedly cross two months later in the snowy Swiss Alps, memories of what they almost did that night resurface. And the combination of complicated exes, over-involved families, and stress-inducing teammates convinces them that the perfect solution to their problems is to fake date their way through the Games.

After all, there's no risk of falling in love if it is doomed from the start . . . right?

Praise for *Let The Games Begin*:

'A debut deserving of a gold medal' - *Kirkus* (starred review)

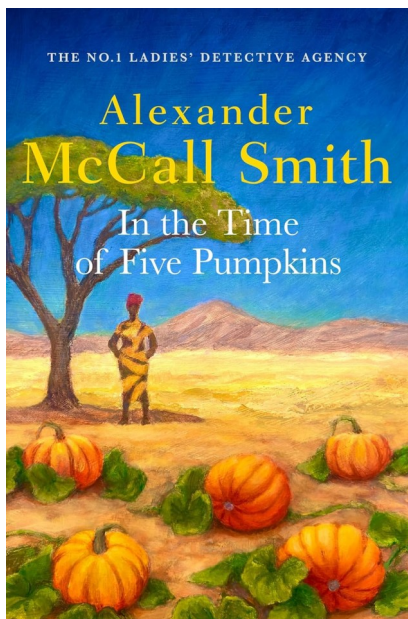
'A radiant, joyful debut novel with a particularly fun setting' - *ELLE*

'Rufaro is such a fresh and exciting new voice. If you need me, I'll be in Athens'
-Tessa Bickers, author of *The Book Swap*

'A beautiful romance' - Lauren Ho, author of *Last Tang Standing*

Rufaro Faith Mazarura is a British Zimbabwean writer who grew up in Birmingham and studied English and Creative Writing at The University of Surrey. Rufaro works as a podcast producer, bringing stories to life through audio, and has written and produced podcasts for the BBC, iHeartRadio and Seven Stories The National Centre for Children's Books. Her debut novel, *Let the Games Begin*, was published in 2024 in the UK by Viking and in the US by Flatiron Books.

IN THE TIME OF FIVE PUMPKINS (The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency #26)



UK: Abacus, September 2025

UK Editor: Richard Beswick

US: Knopf, October 2025

US Editor: Edward Kastenmeier

Primary Agent: CW

TV/Film Agent: Haworth Agency

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Rights sold:

Finnish - Otava

Options:

Italian - TEA

Additional info:

Extent: 224 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Book 26 in the multi-million copy bestselling and perennially adored No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series.

The rains are coming, but not just yet. When they do, there will be green shoots of growth throughout Botswana. Pumpkins will flourish - particularly those of Mma Potokwani, matron of a children's home and old friend of Precious Ramotswe. Mma Potokwani and Mma Ramotswe have many other things to talk about, including a new friendship that Mr J.L.B. Matekoni has struck up with Mr Freddie Mogorosi, a prominent figure in the motor trade. Freddie Mogorosi has invited Mr J.L.B. Matekoni to go fishing with him on the local dam - which is home to some fairly nasty crocodiles. They do not catch anything, but something nearly catches them.

In the meantime, Mma Ramotswe looks into what seems to be a straightforward matter involving a husband who thinks his wife may be having an affair. But there is a surprise in store: she, it transpires, suspects that he himself has a lover. This is obviously a case that will require tact - which of course is a quality Mma Ramotswe has in abundance. Along with kindness.

For Botswana is a kind country, and in this latest visit to The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency we are reassured that no matter how unhappy the world may be, there is always an oasis of courtesy and peace in that special place in southern Africa, to which you are now invited.

Praise for *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series:

'Delightful . . . The warm humanity infused throughout [these] novels is what brings readers back . . . [McCall Smith] brings out the profound importance of everyday revelations.' - *San Francisco Chronicle*

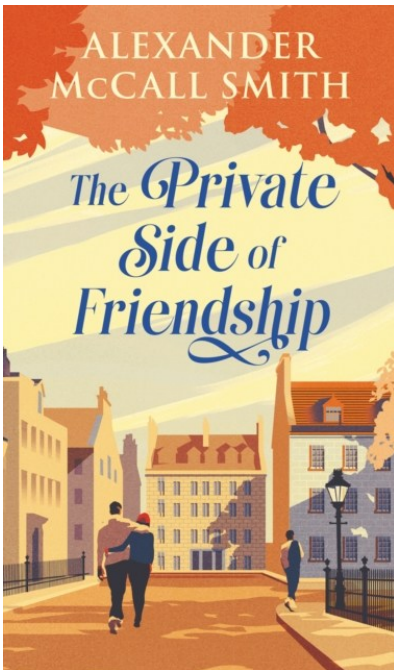
'The author's prose has the merits of simplicity, euphony and precision. This is art that conceals art.' - *Sunday Telegraph*

'Bags of warmth and wisdom and easy, accomplished writing that begs for a comfy chair.' - *The Times*

'Charming, delightful, feel-good stuff.' - *Daily Express*

Alexander McCall Smith is the author of over one hundred books on a wide array of subjects, including the award-winning *The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series. He has also written the *Isabel Dalhousie* novels and the world's longest-running serial novel, *44 Scotland Street*. His books have been translated into forty-six languages. Alexander McCall Smith is Professor Emeritus of Medical Law at the University of Edinburgh and holds honorary doctorates from thirteen universities. He was knighted by King Charles in 2024.

THE PRIVATE SIDE OF FRIENDSHIP



Polygon, October 2025

UK Editor: Edward Crossan

US: Knopf, TBC

US Editor: Edward Kastenmeier

Primary Agent: CW

TV/Film Agent: The Haworth
Agency

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 272 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Six friends. One City. The time of their lives.

It's 1988, and on the verge of a reunion with friends she hasn't seen since graduation, Julie recalls her halcyon student days of 1984 and the strange tumultuous time they lived through.

The friends – each from a very different background – are living in a gorgeous terraced flat in their Edinburgh idyll. As they navigate relationships and the unspoken rules of flat sharing, the troubled world all around them seems rather distant. But in the nearby hometown of one of the flatmates, the Miners' Strike is bringing about a huge political shift.

UK: Despite their differences, can these six strangers help each other see the world from a different perspective? Is there such a thing as being too close? And what are the limits of love between friends?

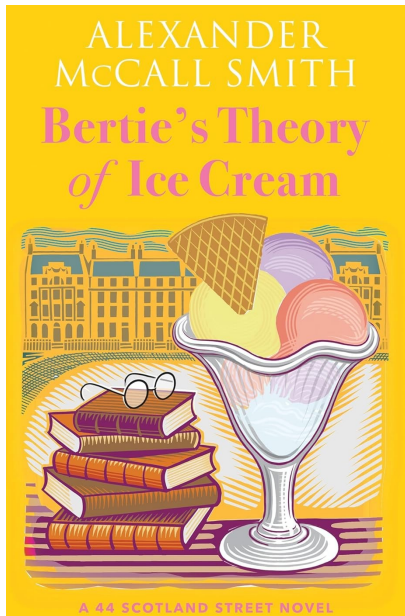
Praise for Alexander McCall Smith:

'McCall Smith writes about the enduring, patient qualities of love.' - *The Times*

'McCall Smith's generous writing and dry humour, his gentleness and humanity, and his ability to evoke a place and a set of characters without caricature or condescension have endeared his books to readers.'
- *New York Times*

Alexander McCall Smith is the author of over one hundred books on a wide array of subjects, including the award-winning *The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series. He has also written the *Isabel Dalhousie* novels and the world's longest-running serial novel, *44 Scotland Street*. His books have been translated into forty-six languages. Alexander McCall Smith is Professor Emeritus of Medical Law at the University of Edinburgh and holds honorary doctorates from thirteen universities. He was knighted by King Charles in 2024.

BERTIE'S THEORY OF ICE CREAM



UK: Polygon, August 2025
UK Editor: Edward Crossan
US: Knopf, publication tbc
US Editor: Edward Kastenmeier
Primary Agent: CW
TV/Film Agent: Haworth Agency
Translation Agent: GB / SN

Options:
Italian - TEA

Additional info:
Extent: 224 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A 44 Scotland Street Novel

"It's like ice cream, Mr Flynn," Bertie continued. "When you have ice cream, you need to eat it straight away, otherwise it melts. If there are people who haven't got any, you should share it, if you can."

When despair for the world grows, Bertie's theory of ice cream reminds us that it's the simple pleasures in life that we should hold onto. And everyone's favourite seven-year-old has a lot to put up with: at home, Irene is planning lessons on Irish Culture for Bertie; at school, he is forced to join Olive and Pansy's book group, and during a day out with his best friend Ranald Braveheart Macpherson, the boys find themselves unexpectedly invited to a wedding.

Meanwhile, Bruce's latest property venture goes horribly wrong after trying to move a flat's front door to give it a more prestigious address. At Nine Mile Burn, Matthew and the triplets try to adopt an unwillingly-vegan dog. And Sister Maria-Fiori dei Fiore Montagna discovers the missing part of the Stone of Scone in Drummond Place Gardens.

Filled with Alexander McCall Smith's trademark warmth and humour, this latest book in the series is a must-read.

Praise for *44 Scotland Street*:

'Today there is hardly anyone who reads English at all who does not know and enjoy the doings of the denizens at that address and their friends and associates' - Peter Costello, *Irish Catholic*

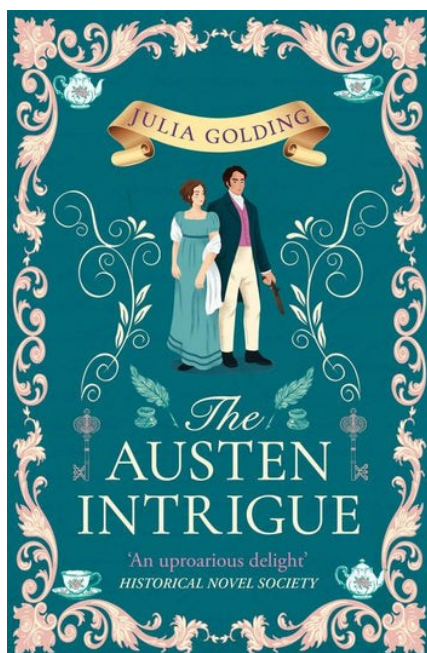
'Funny, bracing and cheerful' - *The Lady*

'McCall Smith's capacity to deliver quality new instalments is unparalleled by any other modern writer' - *The Independent*

'A joyous, charming portrait of city life and human foibles' - *Sunday Express*

Alexander McCall Smith is the author of over one hundred books on a wide array of subjects, including the award-winning *The No.1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series. He has also written the *Isabel Dalhousie* novels and the world's longest-running serial novel, *44 Scotland Street*. His books have been translated into forty-six languages. Alexander McCall Smith is Professor Emeritus of Medical Law at the University of Edinburgh and holds honorary doctorates from thirteen universities. He was knighted by King Charles in 2024.

THE AUSTEN INTRIGUE (REGENCY SECRETS, #4)



‘A rip-roaring, helter-skelter adventure careening breathlessly through Regency society... An uproarious delight’ - *Historical Novel Society*

London, 1812.

Up-and-coming novelist Jane Austen joins forces with London's most esteemed investigative duo – actress Dora Fitz-Pennington and Dr Jacob Sandys – to solve the brutal murder of a French count and his opera singer wife. The killer took his own life immediately after the crime – but who sent him, and why?

As they find themselves swept up in the shadowy world of international espionage, can Dora and Jacob uncover the truth without jeopardising national security, and with their betrothal still intact? And will their unique love story end up in the pages of one of Austen's novels?

UK: HarperCollins, November 2025

UK Editor: Charlotte Ledger

Primary Agent: CW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 384 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Agency

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *The Regency Secrets* series:

‘Who can resist a smart, resourceful and independent Regency heroine? Prepare to fall head over heels’ - *Good Housekeeping*

‘The deliciously audacious writing style perfectly illuminates the quicksilver plot, beguiling the reader with the equally mercurial interaction of the likeable sleuths in love’ - *Historical Novel Society*

‘Non-stop, heart-pounding action, sexual tension and dark, dangerous intrigue, this is the Regency as we've never seen it before. I loved this book and its fiercely independent heroine, and raced through it at high speed, desperate to know what would happen’ - Emma Orchard, author of *The Second Lady Silverwood*

Julia Golding was born in Essex. After reading English at Cambridge, she joined the Foreign Office before taking a doctorate in the literature of the English Romantic Period at Oxford. She then joined Oxfam as a lobbyist on conflict issues, until she left to become a full-time writer. Her Georgian adventure, *The Diamond of Drury Lane*, won the Waterstones Children's Book Prize as well as being nominated for the Costa Award. She has published over fifty other novels in genres ranging from fantasy to romance to thriller and in 2015 won the Romantic Novel of the Year Award with *Struck*. *The Austen Intrigue* is the fourth instalment in her Regency Secrets series of historical adventure romance novels.

THE WIDOWS' WINE AND BOOK CLUB (THE WIDOWS' WINE CLUB, #4)



Julia Jarman's warm, wise and witty novels are perfect for everyone who believes age is just a number. Perfect for fans of Caroline James, Judy Leigh and Maddie Please.

When her old friends Christobel and Lewis announce that they are leaving London and moving near to Elmsley, Janet is a little put out. She's always loved going to stay with them for theatre and gallery trips but having them on her doorstep feels like pressure!

Christobel, in particular, is so clever and well-organised and impressive, how will she fit in with the more easy-going wine club members? On the spur of the moment, in an effort to impress, Janet mentions her (non-existent) book group and Christobel invites herself along to the next meeting. Before they know it, the Muscateers are reading *Anna Karenina* and sharpening their literary analysis.

But as it turns out, the book group is the least of their worries: there's Janet's reawakening feelings for henpecked Lewis; the question of what to do about pushy young mother Quianna; and getting to the bottom of Viv's sense that she and partner Patrick are just not listening to each other the way they used to.

Twists and turns lie ahead for the widows as they continue to navigate life

WEL: Boldwood, TBC
WEL Editor: Francesca Best
Primary Agent: CW
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:
Extent: 75,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Agency
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *The Widows' Wine Club*:

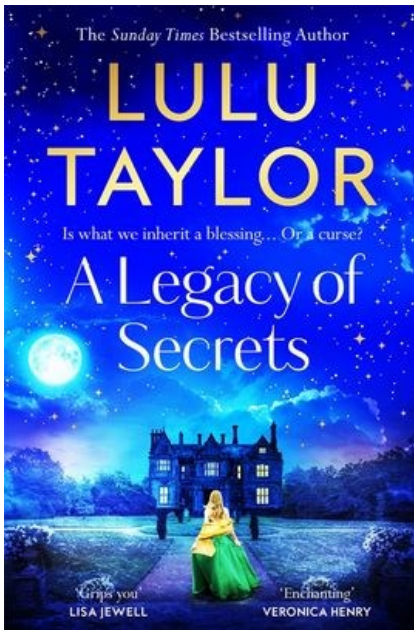
'Julia Jarman has an original entertaining style that makes you want to read on' - Katie Fforde, author of *One Enchanted Evening*

'What a brilliant premise for a novel! Julia's writing is a sparkling delight' - Sophie Hannah, author of *The Killings at Kingfisher Hill*

'Three women meet as they're choosing coffins for their husbands and their stories grow from that day. The result is a book full of humanity, heartache and humour. I loved it!' - Adèle Geras, author of *Troy*

Julia Jarman read English and Drama at Manchester University and worked as a teacher before publishing her first novel for children in 1985 with Andersen Press. A popular children's author for over thirty years, her adult fiction is inspired by the power and strength of female friendships. Now living in a Bedfordshire village, she is a frequent visitor to schools and libraries at home and abroad. The first book in her new series, *The Widows' Wine Club*, was published in 2023. It was followed by *Widows on the Wine Path* and *Widows Waive the Rules*.

A LEGACY OF SECRETS



UK: Macmillan, December 2025

UK Editor: Katie Loughnane

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 528 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Is what we inherit a blessing... or a curse?

The Carrington family is blessed with good looks, brains and talent – and far more than their fair share of money. The business acumen of an eighteenth-century ancestor has blossomed into an empire in which generations have played their part and taken their share.

But the family is also cursed – pursued by drama, addiction and bad fortune. These things poison their world, each generation handing down its problems to the next. Can the cycle ever be stopped?

In *A Legacy of Secrets* we meet the beautiful but wounded Flick Templeton and her daughter Etta. Flick's quest is to find an identity apart from her family, and to meet the man who can love her for herself, not her money or name. For Etta, it is surviving her own and her mother's pain, and discovering the answer to the question: who is my father?

Seen through the eyes of Flick, and then her daughter Etta, the story is told alternately through their changing perspectives over the years, as the drama unfolds and secrets are revealed . . .

Praise for Lulu Taylor:

'An absorbing read that switches intriguingly between the Sixties and the present day.' - Pamela Hartshorne, author of *The Cursed Wife*

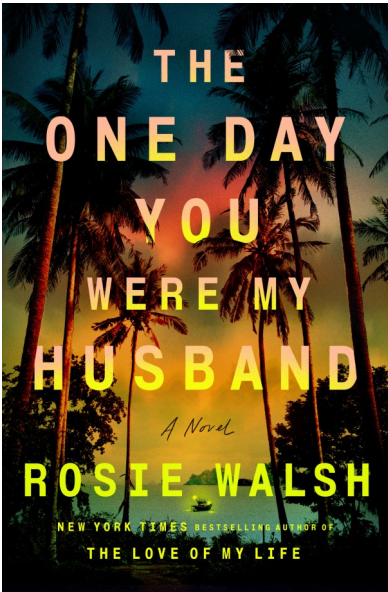
'Utterly compelling. A really excellent winter's story.'
- Lucy Diamond, author of *The Island Getaway*

'Don't you just want to grab this, switch off the phone and curl up on the sofa? Winter bliss from Lulu Taylor.' - Veronica Henry, author of *The Secret Beach*

'Pure indulgence and perfect reading for a dull January evening.' - *The Sun*

This is **Lulu Taylor's** fifteenth novel, all of them set in the world of high society depicting intertwined lives unpuzzling the mysteries of the past and striving for love and happiness in the present.

THE ONE DAY YOU WERE MY HUSBAND



UK: Macmillan, June 2026

UK Editor: Katie Loughnane

US: Pam Dorman Books, May 2026

US Editor: Pam Dorman

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: NL

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Rights sold:

Estonian - Helios

Finnish - Otava

French - Éditions Leduc

German - Goldmann

Hungarian - Maxim

Norwegian - Gyldendal Norsk

Romanian - Nemira

Ukrainian - Vivat

Additional info:

Extent: 377 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Agency

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Rosie Walsh is the internationally bestselling author of two novels, the global smash hit *The Man Who Didn't Call* (titled *Ghosted* in the US), and *The Love of My Life*, a heart-wrenching, keep-you-up-all-night emotional thriller, which was an instant New York Times bestseller and a Good Morning America book club pick. Prior to writing under her own name she wrote four romantic comedies under the pseudonym Lucy Robinson. When she isn't parenting or writing, Rosie can be found walking on Dartmoor, growing vegetables and throwing raves for adults and children in leaking barns.

Another love story wrapped in a mystery by NYT bestseller Rosie Walsh.

Twelve years ago, Carrie impulsively married the man she was crazy about, Johan, on the beach in Thailand. But their marriage was to last only one day: later that night, armed men swarmed the beach and arrested Johan for crimes unknown. Johan refused to see or speak to Carrie and she never saw him again. Until.

Today - Carrie lives in the countryside with her husband, Robin, and their six-year-old twins. After their premature births Carrie gave up her career as a surgeon and has convinced herself her small, more sheltered life - that being a mother, a wife - is enough.

But just as Carrie is wondering if it's time for her to rejoin the world, she stumbles across an internet post that makes her realize Johan is out of prison - has been out, for years. As the memories of their intense, passionate relationship return to her, she becomes obsessed with discovering what happened on that beach so many years ago.

A shocking twist reveals that everyone has something to hide. What is Carrie willing to give up to return to a first love - or at least to the woman she once was?

Praise for *The Love of My Life*:

'It made me cry, smile, and hug my own loved ones a little tighter.'

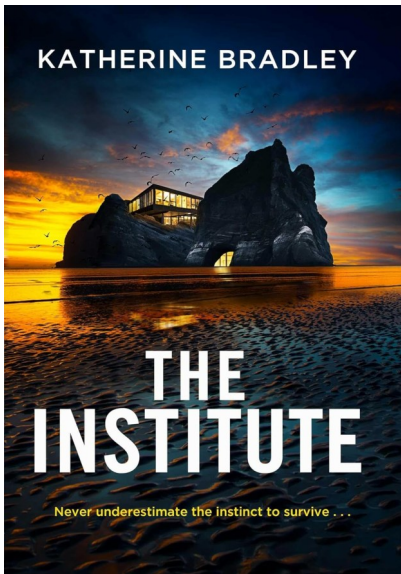
-Beth O'Leary, author of *The Flatshare*

'*The Love of My Life* is a dazzling supernova of a book, which picks you up on line one and doesn't let you go until the very end. Each chapter is filled with heart-breaking twists and revelations, and it's brimming with human warmth and intelligence' - Lisa Jewell, author of *The Night She Disappeared*

'This is the story of the secrets within a marriage, told with real insight and compassion. The writing is vivid and tender, the plot so skilfully constructed, I couldn't turn the pages fast enough and the characters have stayed with me, long after reaching the end' - Lucy Diamond, author of *The Island Getaway*

'An absolute triumph' - Jill Mansell, author of *Promise Me*

THE INSTITUTE



UK: Simon & Schuster, February 2026

UK Editor: Katherine Armstrong

Primary Agent: SG

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 400 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

The Sanctuary meets *Shutter Island* in this high-concept psychological thriller from the critically acclaimed author of *The Sisterhood*.

A group of students jump off a train platform into the path of an arriving train. The lone survivor, Billie, cannot recall the incident, but is adamant that she and her friends weren't suicidal. Desperate for answers, Billie agrees to sign herself into the care of the Arbor Institute, a mysterious, corporate-backed research body investigating a disturbing rise in similar incidents around the globe.

At the Institute, Billie learns more about 'flock phenomena', where people band together to self-destruct. She is told that she's at risk of 're-flocking', and if she does, she will likely die.

But not everything is as it seems. When Billie discovers that she and her fellow survivors have been completely cut off from the outside world, she realizes they may not be safe.

And as she sets her sights on survival, the Institute may regret taking her under their wing. Because this wounded fledgling might turn out to be a bird of prey.

Praise for *The Sisterhood*:

'A gut-wrenching, heart-breaking journey through the looking glass of 1984. Compulsively written, Julia's is a story begging to be told'

- Freya Berry, author of *The Dictator's Wife*

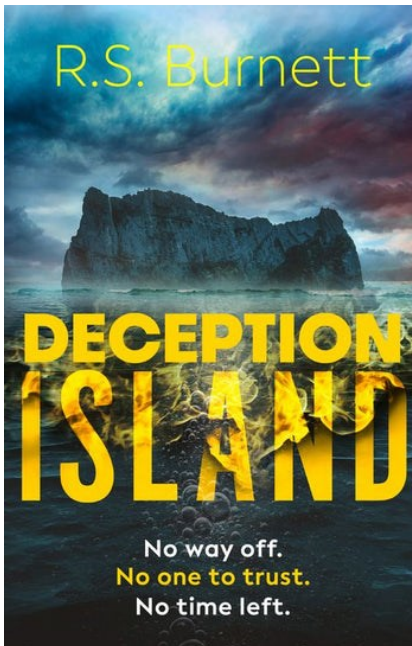
'A shockingly relevant take on a classic'

- Clare McGowan, author of *This Could Be Us*

'Fast-paced and suspenseful . . . *The Sisterhood's* greatest gift, however, may be in its message of hope, capable of surmounting even the most formidable of odds and the most uncertain of futures' - Katherine J Chen, author of *Joan*

Katherine Bradley has worked in both education and psychiatric services. She holds a first-class English literature Degree, a certificate in creative writing from Sussex University, in addition to qualifications in teaching and coaching. She has been shortlisted or won a clutch of competitions and most recently, was selected for mentoring through The WoMentoring Project. Her previous books include *To Keep You Safe* (Bonnier) and *What I Did* (Bonnier, 2021). Her most recent book, *The Sisterhood*, a feminist reimagining on 1984, was published by Simon & Schuster in 2024. Kate lives in a small coastal town just outside of Brighton with her young sons and husband.

DECEPTION ISLAND



UK: HarperCollins, February 2026

UK Editor: Morgan Springett

Primary Agent: JF

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Options:

Romanian - Crime Scene Press

Additional info:

Extent: 384 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Agency

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

No way off. No one to trust. No time left.

On a small boat in the remote South Atlantic, Abbie and her team are on a rescue mission.

Deception Island, a sunken volcano, is about to blow – and the scientists studying it need evacuating. It's a race against time, and nature.

But when they land on the island they find it completely deserted.

As they search for signs of life other strange things start to happen: the radio is cut-off, and then their boat disappears...

Deception Island holds many secrets, but Abbie is worried about just one question:

Will she make it off it alive?

Praise for *Whiteout*:

'Gripping debut ... Cracking' – *The Times*

'Gripping and chilling' - Amy McCulloch, author of *Runner 13*

'A superb survival thriller' - Steve Cavanagh, author of *Two Kinds of Stranger*

'A fast-paced and gripping thriller'

– Clare Mackintosh, author of *Other People's Houses*

R. S. Burnett grew up in the Falkland Islands and began his writing career on the local newspaper, *Penguin News*. He studied English at the University of Leicester and then worked as a journalist in London until he returned to the Falklands in 2021.

THE DISASSOCIATED



Three lawyers. One countdown. One shockwave.

"People you work with are never your friends, Luce."

Trapped amidst ticking clocks, labyrinthian corridors and overflowing inboxes, this is a world where sociopaths hide in plain sight and everyone is haunted by lives unlived.

On a countdown to closing a deal, engaged City lawyer Boydy has fallen for trainee Lucy. A drunken kiss in an infamous rooftop bar begins their affair, providing Lucy with the momentary escapism she seeks. The kiss, though, is witnessed by fellow lawyer Tom, who, seeking revenge against Boydy, secretly films him having sex with Lucy in the office. When the sex-tape inadvertently goes viral, the trio are propelled through escalating deceptions, misunderstandings and missed opportunities towards a fatal conclusion.

UK: On submission

Primary Agent: SG

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: pages/words: 92,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

A brutal depiction of corporate society, and intertwining three points of view, this claustrophobic novel is a sharply observed portrayal of a broken system—weaponised by those trapped within it.

An upmarket take on a legal thriller (with no courtroom) that explores the nuances of culpability and consent, *The Disassociated* is for viewers of *Severance* and readers of *Assembly*.

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Harriet Crouzières studied English at Cambridge before becoming a Banking lawyer in the City. She has spent the past decade as a Chief of Staff, including at a creative not-for-profit originated by the Nike Foundation to develop brands for social change. In 2024 she ended that career to write, using her experiences to enrich stories about the darker aspects of capitalism and humanity within it. *The Disassociated* is her debut novel.

IN A PREVIOUS LIFE



UK: Under offer
Primary Agent: SG
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

What if you had to relive the day of your murder over and over?

West Yorkshire, 1974. Heidi Quick is a newly qualified junior doctor. Keen to please and prove her worth, she agrees to a long, triple shift, which ends in disaster. Heidi's colleague offers her a lift home only to strangle her inside her flat.

She wakes alive in the on-call room ready to repeat the day again. At the end of which, her colleague tries to murder her - again. Trapped in an unusual set of circumstances, Heidi is forced to turn killer herself.

But what if that's not enough?

Dr Heidi Quick is trapped in a nightmarish time loop - one that resets not with the sunrise, but with her death. Each time she dies, she wakes again in 1974, memories intact, and haunted by a single unchanging truth: someone she trusts wants her dead. That someone is a respected colleague, and also Britain's biggest serial killer, whose charm and authority mask a darkness rooted in a real-life UK serial killer case.

Would you go back to change that one day when doing so would mean losing absolutely everything?

Praise for *Clear My Name*:

'I loved *Clear My Name*. It features two strong women, one in prison for murder, one working to reinvestigate the case. Add in secrets, lies, and family drama and it's an immediate page turner.'

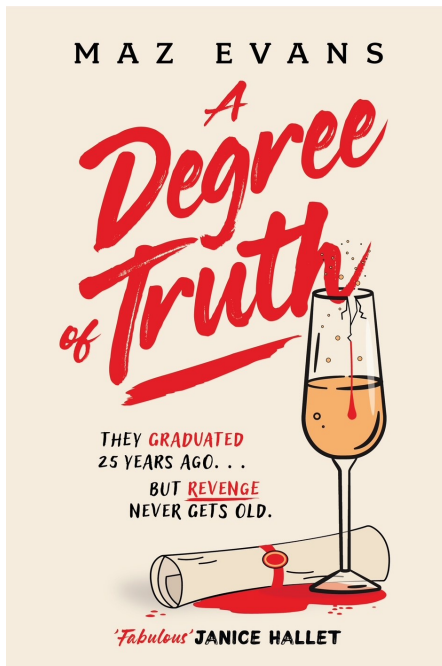
- Lisa Gardner, bestselling author of *When You See Me*

'The UK's answer to Liane Moriarty. Amazing.'

- Claire McGowan, bestselling author of *The Other Wife*

Paula Daly is the highly acclaimed author of six novels. Her work has been sold in fifteen countries, shortlisted for CWA Gold Dagger Crime Novel of the Year award, and has been developed for television both in the UK and France. She is currently working on her next novel, inspired by the JonBenet Ramsey murder case with echoes of the movie *Awakenings*.

A DEGREE OF TRUTH



It's been 25 years since they graduated... but revenge never gets old.

When murder strikes at Bathory College's 25-year reunion, the clues to the killing can be found a quarter of a century ago on Graduation Day 2000. As the secrets, tragedies and betrayals from twenty-five years before play out at the reunion, someone from the Class of 2000 was taught a deadly lesson.

Eleven witnesses - or are they suspects? - from the Bathory students and staff recount events in the years 2000 and 2025 while the murder trial unfolds before us. But who is the victim? Who is accused of being the killer? And is the right person even on trial? The truth will be uncovered... but only by degrees.

UK: Headline, April 2026
UK Editor: Toby Jones
Primary Agent: VB
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 85,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Praise for *That'll Teach Her*:

'Brilliantly witty and suspenseful...a delightful blend of humour and mystery that kept me guessing until the end.'

- Joanna Wallace, author of *The Dead Friend Project*

'Laugh-out-loud hilarious, moving and life affirming. How can one book be so many things? I couldn't put this fabulous, first class, five star read down.'

- Janice Hallett, author of *The Appeal*

'Sometimes a book comes along that reminds you why you fell in love with reading. Imaginative, witty and original...an absolute joy!'

- *Woman and Home*

Maz Evans is a bestselling, award-winning author of the *Who Let The Gods Out?*, *VI Spy* and *Scarlett Fife* series for children, and *Over My Dead Body* and *That'll Teach Her* for adults, which have collectively travelled to 24 countries. *Over My Dead Body* was shortlisted for the CWA Gold Dagger and won the Capital Crime Fingerprint Award for her self-narrated audiobook. Her work for children has garnered over 50 nominations, including the Carnegie Medal, Branford Boase, Books Are My Bag, Waterstone's Children's Book of the Year, Indie Children's Book of the Year and CrimeFest Best Children's Book. Maz narrates the audiobooks for her series and her acclaimed live events have regularly featured at Hay, Imagine, Edinburgh, Bath, Cheltenham, Bestival, Wilderness, CarFest and countless literary festivals around the UK. Maz can be found on Twitter @MaryAliceEvans.



A razor-sharp debut novel offering a dark but horribly believable vision of how the world really works.

Felix is down on his luck. A bored economics professor with a gambling problem and debts to pay, he is unusually receptive when after a particularly lacklustre lecture he is offered a short-term job. Very well paid, very discreet. A couple of summer months offering tuition at a castle in the Austrian alps. What could possibly go wrong?

The students are a bit older than he expected, and some of the other classes ... well, the curriculum is unorthodox. Advanced interrogation techniques. How to write a constitution that dispenses with tedious elections. Money-laundering and arms dealing, among other life skills.

UK: On submission

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 75,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

It soon emerges that Felix is in fact working for the secret power behind the thrones and parliaments of the modern world: The Institute. And if he is to survive and thrive, he is going to need all his wits about him – as well as another Negroni.

Tom Everett-Heath has led Kroll's global Investigations practice since 2018 and has worked at the firm for more than twenty years. Advising numerous governments, financial institutions and multinational corporations, Tom has conducted hundreds of assignments focused on sanctions breaches, commercial disputes, asset recoveries, reputational exposure, political risk, money laundering and internal fraud and corruption. This is his first novel.



UK: Under offer

Primary Agent: SL

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 70,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

A frightening and fast-paced thriller set in London in the early 2000s, and the first in an envisaged series featuring film critic Felix Faraday.

Felix Faraday is a failing writer living in the shadow of his famous dad, the late, great Freddie Faraday, aka TV's Mr Smooth. One night, Felix, perhaps the living embodiment of non-smoothness, receives a mysterious videotape showing Freddie visiting a film set by a lake. But could that be Thomas Abbott, a director who went missing years ago, in the footage? And is that a terrifying face staring out from the water?

As Felix, his best friend Steph and movie store know-it-all Aubrey investigate, they uncover a decades-old mystery that runs right to the heart of the British film industry. But is whatever came for Abbott – and, perhaps, Felix's father – coming for him too? And if so, how can he stop it?

Praise for *The Book of Horror*:

'A feast for the eyes as well as the mind and bound to delight any horror fan. Heartily recommended!' - *Horrificed*

'...thoughtful, engagingly written, moodily illustrated compendium of terrors...' - *Through The Trees*

'[Matt Glasby] lives and breathes horror and his latest book is testament to this.' - *Shortlist*

Matt Glasby is an author and entertainment journalist based in Glasgow. His writing has appeared in *Radio Times*, *GQ*, *Empire* and more, and his books include *A-Z Great Film Directors*, *Britpop Cinema: From Trainspotting to This Is England* and *The Book of Horror: The Anatomy of Fear in Film*, which was longlisted for a Bram Stoker Award. He is a member of the Critics' Circle and the Horror Writers Association.

UNRELIABLE NARRATOR



UK: Macmillan, March 2026
UK Editor: Francesca Pathak
US: Putnam, Summer 2026
US Editor: Brianna Fairman and Daphne Durham
Primary Agent: LK
TV/Film Agent: NL
Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 85,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

What if the story of your life turned out to be fiction?

Curious and beautiful, Hope longs to be a writer and is thrilled when she lands her dream job working for a famous author for the summer. Drawn into the orbit of a glamorous bohemian elite in the idyllic English countryside, she quickly falls under the spell of Tom, another young star circling the twin suns that are the bestselling author and his artist wife. But, as we find out through Hope's youthful journal from those months, her stay ends in the disaster of a violent death.

In the present day, when Hope realises the famous novelist used her youthful life experiences in his home as the inspiration for his bestselling book *The Ruined Girl*, she decides to seek revenge. But is anything in his novel - in her own journal from that summer - really true?

When Hope realises that a young child in her care is in danger, what lengths will she go to, to make him safe? She has thought of herself as a bad person for so long: perhaps one more murderous act will be easy?

Set between the heady days of a youthful summer and the cold light of the present day, this book asks the question - who is a reliable narrator of their own life? And at what cost do you take control of the narrative?

Praise for *One of the Good Guys*:

'Clever, disturbing, challenging, twisty and utterly compelling. A brilliant, thought-provoking novel for our times.'

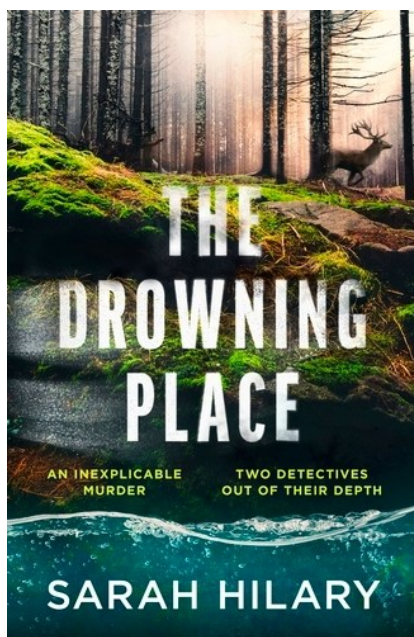
- Peter James, author of the DS Roy Grace series

'Razor-sharp, spine-tinglingly convincing and unputdownable I binged this in three sittings.' - Lisa Jewell, author of *None of This is True*

'I've been a fan of Araminta's from the start; she is one of the most daring and intriguing writers working today. Her writing is so addictive, her characters so sharply realized. *One of the Good Guys* is a resonant, razor-laced and dangerously glittering novel.' - Gillian Flynn, author of *Gone Girl*

Araminta Hall's novels are highly regarded by her peers, with Gillian Flynn saying of *Our Kind of Cruelty* "I loved it – right down to the utterly chilling final line" and Lisa Taddeo describing *One of The Good Guys* as "full of breathless cliffside terror and fresh feminist theory". TV adaptations of four of Araminta's thrillers are in development including *Imperfect Women* which is to be an Apple TV series starring Elisabeth Moss, Kerry Washington and Kate Mara. Oliver Hermanus (Living) is attached to direct *Our Kind of Cruelty*. Araminta lives in Brighton with her family and teaches Creative Writing.

THE DROWNING PLACE (DARK PEAK #1)



Every place has its ghosts.

Edenscar, a town in the Peak District, has more than most. 17 years ago, its inhabitants were hit by tragedy when a school bus veered off the road and everyone on board drowned. Everyone, that is, except Joseph Ashe. His miraculous survival has haunted him and the town ever since.

Now a Detective Sergeant in the local police, Joe is called to the scene of a crime that bears a striking resemblance to a brutal unsolved murder decades earlier. The whole town is spooked, but Joe's new boss, DI Laurie Bower, more used to inner-city police work, has no time for superstition or the supernatural. Laurie just wants to find the very real killer who has left no trace and apparently had no motive.

Joining forces, Joe and Laurie work to uncover the secrets of Edenscar, both past and present. But when you dig up the dead, expect to get your hands dirty ...

UK: Harvill Secker, April 2026

UK Editor: Cassie Brown

US: On submission

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 349 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

The Cutting Edge (Dark Peak #2):

When a half-frozen body is discovered under the Bawd Stone, a local landmark linked with pagan ritual, DI Laurie Bower is horrified to identify Godfrey Hulme, her dead sister's addiction counsellor. The case takes her and Joe to her old stamping ground in Manchester where it quickly becomes clear Godfrey Hulme was living a double life. What starts as a simple road trip descends into a murder investigation with high personal stakes for Laurie.

Praise for *The Drowning Place*:

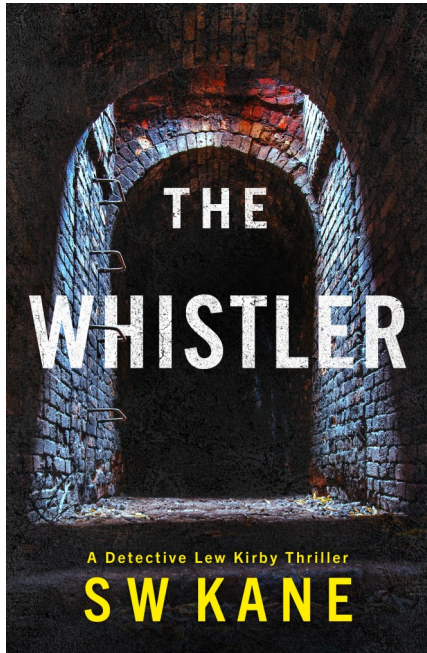
'A crime fiction masterclass. Sarah Hilary's latest touches on survivor's guilt, small towns, murders and driven detectives in prose that rivals the best in the business.'
- Steve Cavanagh, author of *Two Kinds of Stranger*

'A moving, gripping and unique exploration of survivor's guilt, and the web of relationships and secrets in a small-town community. Happy Valley, but haunted.'
- Anna Mazzola, author of *The Book of Secrets*

'Brilliant Breaks new ground for the genre'
- Andrew Taylor, author of *The American Boy*

Sarah Hilary is the critically-acclaimed author of nine novels. Her debut, *Someone Else's Skin*, won the Theakston Crime Novel of the Year 2015 and was a World Book Night selection, a Richard & Judy Book Club pick and a finalist for both the Silver Falchion and Macavity Awards in the US. *No Other Darkness*, the second in her DI Marnie Rome series, was shortlisted for a Barry Award. In April 2026, *The Drowning Place* will introduce readers to DS Joseph Ashe at the start of a brand new series set in the Peak District. Sarah is Programme Director for St Hilda's Crime Fiction Weekend, and co-founder of Ledburied, a crime fiction festival in her home town. Her short stories have won the Fish Criminally Short Stories Prize, the Cheshire Prize for Literature, and the SENSE Prize.

THE WHISTLER



UK: Amazon Publishing, November 2025

Primary Agent: MC

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 85,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

One is chasing justice. One is chasing the past. Both are being followed.

Deep beneath London, urban explorer Connie Darke stumbles across a mutilated body in the city's decaying sewer system. Moments later, a strange whistling sound follows her through the tunnels—low, eerie, impossible to trace.

DI Lew Kirby is assigned the case. The victim is a wealthy financier with no clear reason to be underground—and no shortage of enemies above it. As Kirby investigates, Connie uncovers chilling new clues about the unexplained death of her sister. Both are drawn deeper into a world of hidden networks, buried secrets, and obsession.

And someone out there is watching them both, following them both...

As the city's hidden layers begin to crack open, Kirby and Connie must confront the terrifying possibility that whoever, or whatever, is stalking them has been waiting a long time to emerge.

Praise for *The Whistler*:

'A cleverly constructed plot that kept me guessing from the moment urban explorer Connie Darke discovers a grisly murder. The atmosphere of disused, abandoned urban buildings and the people who drift through or feel compelled to linger in them is conveyed superbly.'

- Jo Leever, author of *Tell Me How This Ends*

'S W Kane weaves the threads together so cleverly with a conclusion that packs a terrifying punch. Just brilliant!'

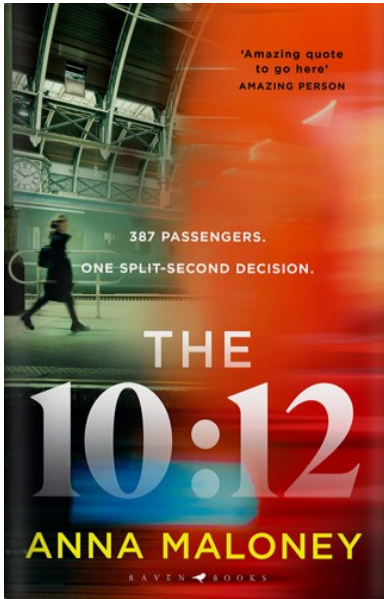
- Marion Todd, author of the DI Clare Mackay crime series

'Daring and gripping...leaving you gasping and enraptured. A unique, standout addition to crime fiction's top table.'

- Rob Parker, author of *The Troubled Deep*

S. W. Kane has a degree in History of Design and an MA in Creative (Crime) Writing from City University. She began reading crime fiction at an early age and developed an obsession with crime set in cold places. A chance encounter with a derelict fort in rural Pembrokeshire led to a fascination with urban exploration, which in turn became the inspiration for her novels. *The Bone Jar* was shortlisted for the CWA John Creasey (New Blood) Dagger in 2021 and was the first in the Detective Lew Kirby series. *The Drowning Place* followed in October 2023.

THE 10.12



UK: Bloomsbury, January 2026

UK Editor: Therese Keating

US: Harper US, October 2026

US Editor: Sarah Stein

Primary Agent: SG

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 432 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

A breathtaking race against time thriller where nothing is as it seems and saving the day is only the beginning, *The 10.12* is the perfect read for fans of Sarah Vaughan, Catherine Ryan Howard and Ava Glass.

Claire Fitzroy was just trying to get home when her train from Manchester to London was hijacked by a group of armed men. In one terrifying moment she faced the starkest of choices: to stand back. To fight back. And maybe to die either way.

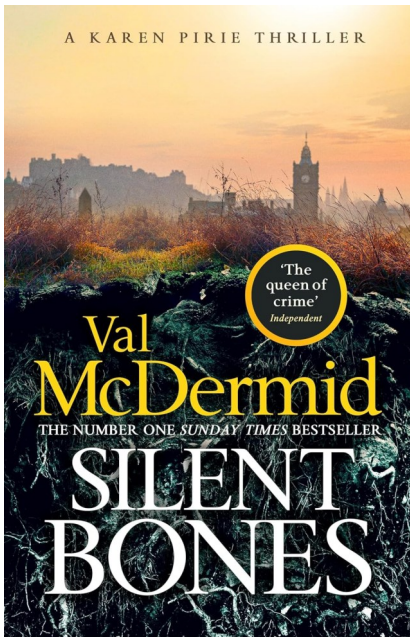
Claire chose to fight back. The middle-aged art lecturer led a squad of passengers who, against all odds, overcame the hijackers and saved hundreds of lives. But what looks like heroism in the heat of the moment can play out very differently in the courts and the eyes of the public. Especially when you have the blood of two men on your hands.

Selfless and quick-thinking. Attention-seeking vigilante. Unrepentant murderer. Whichever she is, Claire is finally now sharing her story of that morning on the 10:12.

But is it the whole story?

Anna Maloney has written for TV (one BAFTA win), film and radio, taught screenwriting and also works as a script consultant. Previously, she worked in factual TV, journalism and PR as well as being a qualified children's playleader and sometime usherette. Anna lives in south-east London and can often be found swimming at her local lido while working on a plot problem.

SILENT BONES (Karen Pirie #8)



UK: Little, Brown, October 2025

UK Editor: Lucy Malagoni

US: Grove Atlantic, October 2025

US Editor: Amy Hundley

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Rights sold:

German - Droemer Knaur

Options:

Bulgarian - Ednorog

Danish - Politikens

Dutch - Luitingh-Sijthoff

Finnish - Otava

French - HarperCollins France

Italian - HarperCollins Italia

Norwegian - Cappelen Damm

Portuguese in Portugal - Alma dos Livros

Additional info:

Extent: TBC

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

A thrilling new novel in the Karen Pirie series from number one bestseller Val McDermid.

Scotland, 2025. When torrential winter rain causes a landslip on the M73 motorway, it dislodges more than mud and tarmac: it reveals a skeleton.

Back in 2014, when the road was being built, journalist Sam Nimmo had been investigating the murky politics of the impending independence referendum. Then he vanished and his girlfriend was found murdered. He has always been prime suspect for her murder. Now he's reappeared, buried under the motorway.

It's the perfect cold case for Scottish cop Karen Pirie, boss of Police Scotland's Historic Cases Unit. What was Nimmo investigating that was worth killing him for? Or was it revenge for murdering his girlfriend?

Meanwhile, an allegation of murder has surfaced over the supposedly accidental death of a hotel manager. It may have links to another accident on a remote Highland road. And what has this to do with an Edinburgh book club?

It's a series of puzzles that tests Karen and her team to their limits...

The latest triumph in McDermid's series of novels investigating cold cases that now forms the basis of the successful TV series, *Karen Pirie*.

Praise for *Silent Bones*:

'*Silent Bones* is brilliant - really intricate, gripping and asking some tough questions; a perfect crime novel'

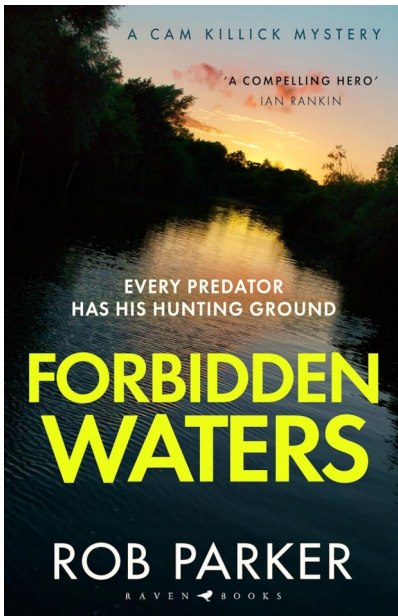
- Kate Mosse, author of *The Burning Chambers*

'A beautifully structured, witty and twisty novel with the friendship between the magnificent Karen Pirie and her team at its heart'

- Ann Cleeves, author of *The Killing Stones*

Val McDermid has sold over 19 million books to date across the globe and her work has been translated into more than 40 languages. She has written five series of crime novels as well as several award-winning standalone novels, books of non-fiction, short story collections and a children's picture book. She is a Fellow of both the Royal Society of Literature and the Royal Society of Edinburgh and has been a judge for the Women's Prize for Fiction and the Man Booker Prize, as well as chairing the Wellcome Book Prize in 2017. She is also the recipient of eight honorary doctorates, is an Honorary Fellow of St Hilda's College, Oxford and a Professor at the University of Otago in New Zealand. She lives in Edinburgh and the East

FORBIDDEN WATERS (Cam Killick #2)



UK: Bloomsbury Raven, January 2026

UK Editor: Therese Keating

Primary Agent: MC

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A serial killer is on the loose in Norfolk in this breathtaking thriller from 'the master of the stone-cold twist', perfect for fans of Elly Griffiths, Peter James and Ann Cleeves.

It starts with the knife. Found at the bottom of a hidden lake in the Norfolk Broads, covered in blood and heart tissue so fresh the water hasn't yet washed it all away. What salvage diver Cam Killick has found is a murder weapon from a very recent crime - but how do you solve a murder without a body?

The remoteness of the setting is itself a clue. Only a handful of people know the location of the lake, let alone how to access it. But no sooner have Cam and DS Claire Rogers started working through this ready-made suspect pool than one of them disappears.

The ripples from Cam's discovery have disturbed a dangerous predator, one who knows the water even better than Cam himself. The question now is what they want - and how many more people will die before Cam can stop them?

Praise for *The Troubled Deep*:

'What a romp! I raced through this murky tale of murder, aching mystery and long-buried truth like a hot knife through butter! Rob Parker is a master of the stone cold twist' - Janice Hallett, author of *The Appeal*

'Rob Parker's novel scores with his descriptions of its watery settings and late revelations about the bonds of love and trauma.' - *The Times*

'A story that propels you through the pages at a rate of knots and one that is the very definition of a one-sitting read'

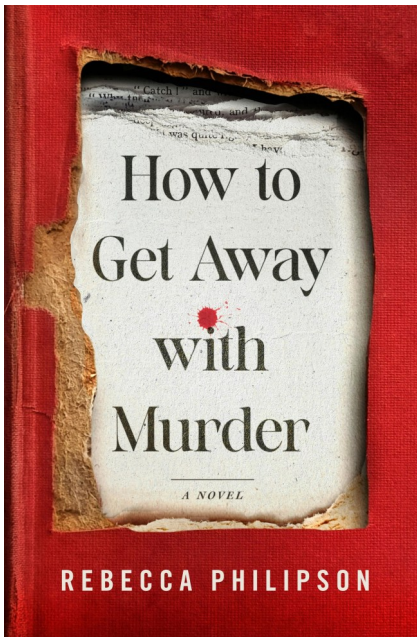
- Robert Rutherford, author of *Seven Days*

'I loved Cam. Flawed and broken, but undoubtably human, he's brave, and loyal to a fault. A brilliant start to an exciting new series'

- Sam Holland, author of the Major Crimes series

Rob Parker is the author of *The Troubled Deep* (Bloomsbury Raven; the first in the Cam Killick Norfolk Mysteries Series), *Far From The Tree*, the #1 bestselling thriller for Audible Original (narrated by *Luther's* Warren Brown), and eight novels for independent publishers. Rob lives in Warrington where he runs Wire Writers with his wife and is a member of the Northern Crime Syndicate. He hosts both Crime Central Manchester, a monthly event at Manchester Central Library to showcase emerging crime writing talent

HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER



Every serial killer has a story to tell.

Denver Brady claims to be the most successful serial killer of our time – and that’s precisely why you’ve never heard of him.

But with the publication of his manual for aspiring serial killers, *How to Get Away With Murder*, that’s about to change.

When a copy is found at the home of a girl who was tragically murdered, DI Samantha Hansen is given the job of tracking down the elusive author.

As Denver and Sam’s stories unfold and converge, it becomes clear that there’s more to both than meets the eye. And once Denver’s book goes viral, the pressure to find and bring him to justice brings Sam close to breaking point.

But who is hunting whom?

UK: Bantam, March 2026
UK Editor: Ryan Thorne
US: Minotaur, February 2026
US Editor: Kelley Ragland
Primary Agent: SG
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: GB / SN

Rights sold:

Chinese - Unread Sky Culture
French - Albin Michel
German - Piper Verlag
Italian—Longanesi
Portuguese in Portugal - Porto Editora
Spanish - Maeva
Ukrainian - Family Leisure Club

Additional info:

Extent: 336 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Praise for *How To Get Away With Murder*:

‘How To Get Away With Murder is the best thriller I have ever read. Gripping, clever, and powerful, Philipson has crafted a novel which had me hooked from the very first page, all the way through to the last nail-biting line.’
- Eirinie Lapidaki, author of *The Wives of Halycon*

Rebecca Jayne Philipson grew up in a mining town in County Durham, where she still lives. Educated in a small convent, she deferred her university degree to set up her own business at 21. Rebecca became North East Young Entrepreneur of the Year and won the Artemis Award for inspirational women in business. Having sold her business in 2020, she graduated from the University of East Anglia Masters Program and won a scholarship to Liverpool University where she will be reading for a PhD in Creative Writing.

THE SPY'S GAMBIT (A PELICAN BLACK THRILLER)



Meet Sarah Black.

Sarah Black is young, naïve, inexperienced, and the latest recruit into the world of international espionage. Thrown into a world where nothing is as it seems, and no one can be trusted, Sarah must learn the rules of the game quickly, just to survive.

Drawn to the enigmatic Michael, a suave and elusive secret agent, she falls into a world of adventure and intrigue.

When Michael hears rumours of a potential attack on a new oil pipeline across the Caucasus, Sarah finds herself thrust into a sticky web of deceit and danger.

Alone and without support in an unstable Eastern Europe, can Sarah foil the plot before it's too late? Can she draw on all her ingenuity and courage to survive in a world where everyone thinks they are a king, but actually are all just pawns?

Book 2 in the series will be publishing October 2026.

UK: Constable, July 2026
UK Editor: Jen Shannon
Primary Agent: SG
TV/Film Agent: TBC
Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:
Extent: 384 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

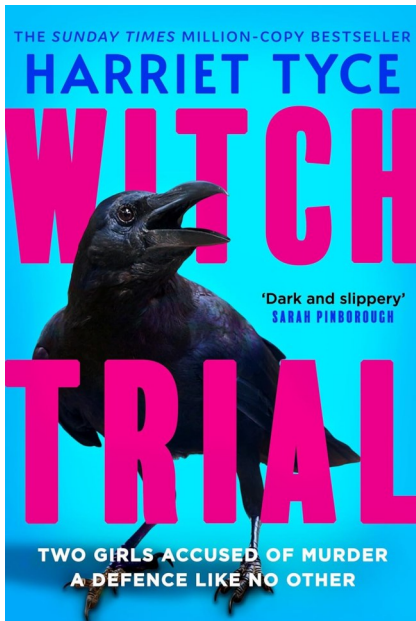
Praise for L. D. Sharpe :

'I loved *The King's Pawn* - it's just so exciting to see a powerful female character like Sarah Black emerging. This is a fast-paced espionage thriller that feels fresh and exciting - and takes you to some shocking places. It will keep you up far too late!" - Holly Watt, author of the *Casey Benedict* series

'[A] refreshingly new female spy author. Steel yourself for her spectacular and much anticipated British spy series set in Eastern Europe that catapults you into a world of 21st Century intrigue, deception, and a perilous slalom of twists and turns you—I'll warn you now—might never recover from.' - Richard Lyntton, author of *The Deception* series

Lucy Hooft joined the Foreign Office straight out of university in search of adventure and new people and places and quickly moved across to the Department for International Development. She spent several years in a jungle camp in Gabon surrounded by elephants and humpback whales, which is where her Sarah Black female spy thrillers began. Lucy has always plausibly denied being a spy – but her Sarah Black books were written to show what that life might have been like. *The King's Pawn*, the first in the series was published in 2022 and the second in the series, *The Head of the Snake*, was published in 2023. They are now relaunched by Constable.

WITCH TRIAL



UK: Wildfire, February 2026
UK Editor: Rachel Hart
Primary Agent: VB
TV/Film Agent: United Agents
Translation Agent: RS / RK

Options:

Bulgarian - Ciela
Finnish - Otava
Polish - Swiat Ksiazki
Portuguese in Portugal - Topseller
Romanian - Grup Media Litera

Additional info:

Extent: 366 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Two teenage girls. One murdered classmate.

When 18-year-old Christian Shaw is found dead in an Edinburgh park, the city reels - and the shock only deepens when police charge her best friends, Eliza Lawson and Isobel Smyth, with her murder.

As social media explodes and headlines scream for justice, rumours of bullying spiral into something darker: whispers of rituals, obsession, and a teenage pact gone wrong.

Matthew Phillips, a respected heart surgeon, is reluctantly called for jury duty on the case. But as the trial unfolds - and the girls reveal a chilling defence no one saw coming - he begins to question everything: the motives, the evidence, even his own judgement.

Who's telling the truth? Who can be trusted?
And what really happened to Christian Shaw?

Let the Witch Trial begin...

Praise for *Witch Trial*:

'Supremely plotted, elegantly written and with an ending that'll shake you up!
An absolute triumph of a book.' - Abir Mukherjee, author of *Hunted*

'A legal thriller unlike any you've ever read, this mind-melting page-turner is
Tyce at her whip-smart best.'
- Ellery Lloyd, author of *The Final Act of Juliette Willoughby*

'Dark, wry, and slippery underfoot, I adored it!'
- Sarah Pinborough, author of *We Live Here Now*

'Clever, propulsive, with a wickedly satisfying twist. Excellent. My favourite
Tyce book yet.' - C.E. Hulse, author of *Vivian Dies Again*

'Delves deeply into the perceptions of female cunning. Brilliant.'
- Heather Critchlow, author of *The Tomorrow Project*

Harriet Tyce grew up in Edinburgh and studied English at Oxford University before doing a law conversion course at City University. She practised as a criminal barrister in London for nearly a decade, and subsequently completed an MA in Creative Writing - Crime Fiction at the University of East Anglia. She lives in north London. Her first novel, *Blood Orange*, published in 2019 to huge critical acclaim. It was followed by *The Lies You Told* and *It Ends At Midnight*, both also *Sunday Times* bestsellers, and her fourth novel *A Lesson in Cruelty*. *Witch Trial* is her fifth novel.

BASED ON A TRUE STORY



The new novel by the author of *Anatomy of a Scandal* is a suspenseful, atmospheric mystery with a glamorous family drama at its heart set on the wildly beautiful coast of Cornwall.

Eleanor Kingman, national treasure and bestselling novelist for children, is the dazzling new owner of a sprawlingly lovely mansion high on the Cornish cliffs – the perfect setting for her 70th birthday party. Only the reader knows that someone will be dead on the cliffs by the end of the party...

Ellie's three grown up daughters will be there: Gemma, who assists Ellie and is always close at hand; Rachel, Ellie's accountant, who is trying not to let the fact that her marriage is under tremendous strain ruin the weekend; and then there's Delia. She is younger and more famous than her older sisters, thrust into the public eye as a child when her mother based her most famous character on her, and in part because of the yoga poses and inspirational messages about her addiction recovery that she posts on her Instagram feed.

As well as family, Ellie has invited all of her friends -- and enemies— in the hope that over the course of the weekend she will work out who it is who has been writing her the most poisonous of letters...

The woman Ellie is today is poised, rich and successful. The woman Ellie used to be was called Leah: unsophisticated, ambitious and desperate for security after a troubled childhood... but no one at the party knows about that earlier version of Ellie surely? That story has only been told once and the manuscript was lost years ago. Hasn't it?

Sometimes even the best of authors can lose control of the narrative... fortunately for us, Sarah Vaughan is not one of them.

Praise for *Little Disasters*:

'A deep dive into the dark side of motherhood. Highly recommended'
- Erin Kelly, author of *He Said/She Said*

'Compelling, beautifully written, so perceptive and emotionally devastating. Like *Anatomy of a Scandal*, it feels like an important book as well as a brilliant read' - Lucy Foley, author of *The Hunting Party*

UK: Simon and Schuster, March 2026

UK Editor: Clare Hey

US: Harper, June 2026

US Editor: Sarah Stein

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Rights sold:

French - JC Lattès

Additional info:

Extent: 350 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Agency

Japanese - Tuttle Mori

Sarah Vaughan read English at Oxford and went on to become a journalist, including working at the *Guardian* as a news reporter and political correspondent. *The Farm at the Edge of the World*, her second novel, was a French bestseller. *Anatomy of a Scandal*, her next novel, became an instant international bestseller and *Sunday Times* top five bestseller. Sold in 26 territories, it was also a Kindle #1 bestseller and was adapted into a hugely successful six-part mini-series for Netflix, written by David E Kelley. Her next novel, *Little Disasters*, was a Waterstones thriller of the month and was adapted for screen by Paramount+. *Reputation*, her fifth novel, has been optioned by the team that developed *Anatomy of a Scandal* for TV.

THEY SAY A GIRL DIED HERE



From the New York Times bestselling author of *Behind Her Eyes*, a thrilling, genre-bending mystery about two murdered girls, a town with dark secrets, and a race to break a deadly cycle.

Anna was once the life and soul of the party - until a terrible night unravelled everything - a night she can't remember, but can't forget either...

Moving with her family back to where Grandma grew up, Anna becomes obsessed with two murders that took place in the town - three years apart, with the third anniversary looming...

The town of Harper's Creek suffers through a drought - people talk, people pray, and people wait. As Anna's trauma deepens, and Grandma's Alzheimer's worsens - they share a bond made of missing memories. They say both are, in their own ways, mad.

But when Grandma speaks, Anna listens, and she understands - but above all she fears that the girls are in there, and they're trying to tell her something...

UK: Orion, August 2026

UK Editor: Emad Akhtar

US: Flatiron, August 2026

US Editor: Christine Kopprasch

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: United Agent's

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Options:

Bulgarian - Ciela

French - Éditions Leduc

Italian - Piemme

Polish - Foksal

Ukrainian - Ridna Mova

Additional info:

Extent: 304 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *We Live Here Now*:

'Stunning. Shocking. Terrifying. *We Live Here Now* is a twisting, funny and frightening journey from calm to storm, from a dream right into a nightmare. I loved every page. No one tells stories like Sarah Pinborough.'

– Chris Whitaker, author of *We Begin at the End*

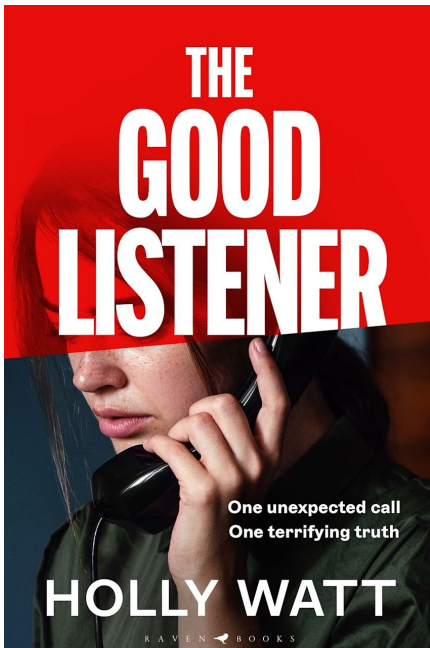
'Clever, compelling and creepy, you'll never want to move to the country again!'– Harriet Tyce, author of *Sharp Glass*

'I read it in a frenzy in one day and the twist completely blew my mind. I adored every page'– Lisa Jewell, author of *None of This is True*

'Genre-bending and cunning, *We Live Here Now* is a riveting modern Gothic, full of the clever twists and surprises that have become Sarah Pinborough's trademark. I'm a big fan.' – Harlan Coben, author of *The Stranger*

Sarah Pinborough is an award-winning and *New York Times*, *Sunday Times*, and internationally bestselling author and screenwriter who is published in over 30 territories worldwide. Having published more than 25 novels across various genres, her recent books include *Behind Her Eyes*, now a smash-hit Netflix limited series; *Dead to Her*, in development with Topic Studios; *The Death House*, which she's adapting herself for Compelling Pictures; and *Insomnia*, which she's adapted for Left Bank Pictures and is available on Paramount+, starring Vicky McC lure.

THE GOOD LISTENER



UK: Raven, May 2026
UK Editor: Alison Hennessey
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Options:

Czech – Albatros
Slovak – Ikar Publishers

Additional info:

Extent: 352 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

One unexpected call. One terrifying truth.

The Good Listeners are there for anyone who needs to talk.

When the phone rings, a Good Listener has no idea who could be at the other end. The woman cheating on her husband, the man who has lost yet another job, the teenager struggling at school...

And Clara is prepared for every kind of caller. Except this one.

Because the woman on the other end of the line has just told her 'my husband killed a little girl.'

And two years ago, Clara's own daughter was murdered and her killer never caught.

The police have no leads. This is Clara's only chance of justice. But when the caller is anonymous, what chance does she have of finding them?

Praise for *The End of the Game*:

'Superb... The thinking person's action-thriller of the season' - *The Telegraph*

'Clever, intriguing, fast-moving writing... The final chase scene is one of the best I've read' - *Observer*, Thrillers of the Month

Holly Watt started her career at the *Sunday Times*, before working on the investigation teams at the *Telegraph*, where she played a key role in exposing the MPs' expenses scandal, and the *Guardian*. She is now freelance. Holly's debut thriller, *To the Lions*, was published in 2019 by Raven Books / Bloomsbury. *To the Lions* was shortlisted for the 2019 Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize and was awarded the Crime Writers' Association Ian Fleming Steel Dagger. A sequel, *The Dead Line*, was published in April 2020 again by Raven, and was longlisted for the Steel Dagger. Book three in the series, *The Hunt and the Kill*, was published in summer 2021, and the fourth, *The End of the Game*, in 2023.

ENCHANTING THE FAE QUEEN (Queens of Villainy trilogy #2)



UK: Bramble/Tor, January 2026

UK Editor: Gillian Green

US: Bramble/Tor, January 2026

US Editor: Erika Tsang

Primary Agent: Molly Ker Hawn

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: EL

Rights sold:

French - City Editions

Italian - Oscar Mondadori

Additional info:

Extent: 204 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Page Proofs

The highly anticipated sequel to *Wooing the Witch Queen*, an OwlCrate selection.

Queen Lorelei is a notorious fae seductress, with a trail of broken hearts in her wake. But behind her glamorous lifestyle and sparkling mask lurks a dangerously intelligent woman who'd do anything to keep her people safe, including kidnap the empire's most famous hero.

The virtuous high general Gerard de Moireul represents all that is moral and true. He has to, after his parents were executed for treason. The last thing he needs is the Queen of Balravia, who showers glitter and rainbow-colored sparkles everywhere she goes without the slightest regard for good taste, decorum, or royal dignity.

They're opposites in every way, but when they're swept up together in a grand--and deadly--fae tournament, they discover all of each other's most hidden truths--and how perfectly they might be suited for each other after all.

Praise for *Wooing the Witch Queen*:

'If you're looking for the perfect blend of swoon-worthy romance and delightful fantasy world-building, *Wooing the Witch Queen* should be your next read. Filled with found family, cozy vibes and characters who care deeply about one another, I blazed through it at record speed because I couldn't wait to get to the happily ever after – and Burgis delivered! I adored it, and I can't wait to see what book two holds!' - Jessie Mihalik, author of *Hunt the Stars*

'*Wooing the Witch Queen* is spectacular! Full of charm, wit and magic, with two pitch-perfect main characters and a swoon-worthy romance, it's absolutely irresistible. I loved it!'

- Sarah Beth Durst, New York Times bestselling author of *The Spellshop*

Stephanie Burgis grew up in Michigan (USA), but now lives in Wales with her husband and two kids, surrounded by mountains, castles and coffee shops. She writes sparkling fantasy rom-coms, including *Wooing the Witch Queen* (the first in the Queens of Villainy trilogy), the Regency Dragons series, the Harwood Spellbook series, and more. She has also had eight fun middle-grade fantasy novels published, including the Raven Crown duology and the Dragon with a Chocolate Heart trilogy. A graduate of the Clarion West workshop, she has had over forty short stories published in various magazines and anthologies.

TOO HEXED TO HANDLE



She's cursed to kill with a kiss. He's sworn to destroy her kind.

Daisy has a secret: she's a Souleater, an outlawed magical being who can feed off of emotions. She's also hexed: her kiss cursed to kill. So she's built a quiet life running a crumbling inn on the edge of town, matchmaking guests while keeping her own heart firmly off-limits.

But when a mysterious contest promises a cure for Souleater magic and a reward big enough to save her inn, Daisy sets off on a perilous quest with Astin, her emotionally unavailable (and infuriatingly attractive) gardener. There's just one problem: Astin hunts Souleaters. And he doesn't know Daisy is one of them.

As secrets unravel and feelings get far too complicated, Daisy must choose: the cure, the truth ... or the one man she might love enough to kiss.

UK: Hot Key Press, Autumn 2026

UK Editor: Ella Whiddett

US: Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers, Autumn 2026

US Editor: Nicole Ellul

Primary Agent: MC

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Options:

Hungarian - Mano Konyvek

Italian - Mondadori

Portuguese in Brazil - Record

Ukrainian - Family Leisure Club

Additional info:

Extent: 100,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Praise for *A Match Made in Hell*:

'Falling for the devil has never been more fun. *A Match Made in Hell* is a real page turner, hilarious, sexy and emotive in turn. Readers will love following Willow through all the levels of hell.'

- Rachel Greenlaw, author of *The Ordeals*

'This searing, high-concept romantasy is not only a wickedly clever dance with the devil, but also a study in nuanced characterisation. Ingham's wry, relatable Willow is for every woman who's ever burned beneath the label of messy or too much, and the impossibility of perfection, and triumphed anyway. As for Willow and Sath's forced proximity (emphasis on proximity)? Tip: invest in a swoony fainting couch. Right now.'

- Amy de la Force, author of *A Kiss of Hammer & Flame*

Charlotte Ingham is a fantasy writer who loves stories with magic, humour, and plenty of romance. In 2023, she was selected as a RevPit winner. Her first novel, *A Match Made in Hell* was published by Hot Key Books (UK) and Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers (US) in September 2025 and tells the story of a woman who makes a deal with the devil to escape hell—only to fall for him instead. When Charlotte's not writing, she can be found attempting to befriend every animal she meets (past accomplishments include hugging an alligator).



UK: On submission

US: On submission

Primary Agent: Molly Ker Hawn and Martha Perotto-Wills

TV/Film Agent: Dana Spector/ CAA

Translation Agent: EL

Additional info:

Extent: 57,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

A genre-smashing investigation of what it means to live and to die — and a very human story of queer love that spans time and space.

In a hotel lobby, two exes meet for the first time in thirty years. Vesper, prickly and cynical, is in her fifties now — but Fern looks exactly the same as she did when they broke up. And she's got a proposition to make.

Fifteen thousand years earlier, a restless girl plagued by strange visions meets a monster in the shadows beyond her campfire — a monster who tells her they already know each other.

Earlier even than that, a Palaeolithic tribal community makes a deal with an unearthly figure with bright white eyes. A deal no one has ever made before. A deal that will bind them together for eternity.

And, at every moment that has been or ever will be, Death smokes his elegant cigarettes (with a slightly limp wrist) and takes the departed by the hand. It's a satisfying job, keeping things tidy. But it does get so lonely...

Heartbreaking World flings the reader from the forests of the Stone Age to the goth clubs of 1980s London, from the battlefields of Passchendaele to a locked bathroom in 2020s Boston. Freddie Kölsch's debut adult novel is epic and intimate, contemporary and timeless, irreverent and sincere. Told in propulsive, structurally inventive prose, it's *This Is How You Lose the Time War* meets *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* by way of Tamsyn Muir.

Praise for Freddie Kölsch:

'A beautiful, horrifying dream. Freddie Kölsch is a genius.'

- Courtney Smyth, author of *The Undetectables*

'Kölsch holistically integrates serious issues with a deft touch that keeps the book both eerie and light in pleasantly equal measure.' – *Kirkus* starred review

'This sensational YA debut blends tense, terrifying horror with dark humour, queer romance and hugely original storytelling.' - *Guardian*

Freddie Kölsch is a connoisseur and crafter of frightful fiction (with a dash of hope). She has published two horror novels for teenagers, *NOW*, *CONJURERS* (2024) and *EMPTY HEAVEN* (2025), and her first middle-grade, *SPINDLEWOOD*, is out in 2026. She lives in Salem, Massachusetts with her high school sweetheart-turned-wife, a handful of cats, a houseful of art, and a mind's eye full of ghosts.

TRAVEL LIGHT



'Perhaps she did not die,' said Halla, 'perhaps her nurse turned into a bear and carried her away into the forest. Perhaps she was brought up by bears and dragons. Perhaps it was better for her in the end than

A gorgeous fantasy tale with a witty, feminist twist, *Travel Light* is the story of Halla, a girl born to a king but cast out onto the hills to die. She lives among bears; she lives among dragons. But the time of dragons is passing, and Odin All-Father offers Halla a choice: Will she stay dragonish and hoard wealth and possessions, or will she travel light?

Travel Light is a fantastic and philosophical fairy-tale journey that will appeal to fans of *Harry Potter*, Diana Wynne Jones, and T. H. White's *The Sword in the Stone*. It will be relaunched by Virago Modern Classics with an introduction by Samantha Shannon.

UK: Virago, March 2026

UK Editor: Olivia Barber

Primary Agent: GG

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Rights sold:

French - Editions Callidor

Italian - Fazi Editore

Additional info:

Extent: 192 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final files

Praise for *Travel Light*:

'No one knows better how to spin a fairy tale than Naomi Mitchison.' - *The Observer*

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

'One of the great subversive thinkers and peaceable transgressors of the 20th century.' - Ursula K. Le Guin, author of the *Earthsea* series

'You will love this book.' - Holly Black, author of the *Folk of the Air* series

'A gem of a book.' - *Strange Horizons*

'Every page is full of magic and wonder....well worth seeking out.' - *Rambles*

Naomi Mitchison (1897-1999), a doyenne of Scottish literature, was a committed socialist and vocal campaigner for women's rights. Born in Scotland, she travelled widely throughout the world. In the 1960s she was adopted as adviser and mother of the Bakgatla tribe in Botswana. Her writing career spanned more than seventy years during which time she produced more than 90 books, including historical fiction, science fiction, poetry, autobiography and travel-writing. Her best-known works include *The Corn King and the Spring Queen*, *The Conquered* and *Memoirs of a Spacewoman*.

DAUGHTER OF THE TEMPEST (MYTHS OF THE EMPYRIEOS #2)



Aella battles political games, dormant gods and her own burgeoning powers in this action-packed sequel to *Songbird of the Sorrows*.

Betrayed and abducted by the very man she sought to rescue; Aella finds herself bound for the northern kingdom of Arkhadia. After a disastrous confrontation reveals she has been branded a traitor by the Aviary, Aella and Lyxander forge a tenuous alliance. Together, they flee into the northern mountains, where Aella unearths secrets from her mother's past, begins to harness the potential of her own powers, and learns of a prophecy entangled with her own fate.

When news of Prince Keres' rise to power reaches her, Aella and Lyxander set out to gather allies amongst the political backdrop of the Empyrieos Games. But as the Games take a deadly turn, Aella makes a desperate bid to save her dearest friend, sparking the flame that sets fire to the fragile peace the kingdoms have maintained since the God War.

Aella seizes the chaos as an opportunity for revenge against Keres, unleashing her power and inadvertently calling back the missing Gods, the Anemoi, fracturing the protective spell they have maintained for centuries to keep a far greater threat at bay.

US: Dial Press, Autumn 2026

US Editor: Katy Nishimoto

AUS: PRH, Autumn 2026

AUS Editor: Christine Ebbs

Primary Agent: CMK

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Rights sold:

German - cbj

Italian - Mondadori

Polish - Wydawnictwo Niezwykle

Spanish - V&R Editoras

Additional info:

Extent: 165,000 words

Illustrations: Yes, B/W map

Material Available: Manuscript

Praise for *Songbird of the Sorrows*:

'Simmering with tension and intrigue, *Songbird of Sorrows* is about to become your new romantasy obsession. Braidee Otto has crafted a gorgeous tale with effortless writing and lovable characters who come alive on the page. Trials and heists, friendship and forbidden romance, secrets and banter--this has it all.'

- Nisha J. Tuli, *USA Today* bestselling author of *Trial of the Sun Queen*

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media Agency

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Braidee Otto is an adult romantic fantasy author, with her debut novel, *Songbird of the Sorrows*, self-published in June 2024. As a self-described hopeless romantic, her writing style paints vivid imagery, bringing to life lush landscapes, complex characters, and intricate relationships to immerse readers in a world where love, loss, and redemption intertwine. Braidee lives in Adelaide, South Australia, with her partner, two dogs and a recently acquired rescue kitten. It has been her lifelong dream to become a published author, and she's nothing if not a dreamer.

THE WOLF KING (THE WOLF KING TRILOGY, #1)



UK: Wayward TxF, October 2025
UK Editor: Rachel Winterbottom
US: Bloom Books, November 2025
US Editor: Christa Désir
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Rights sold:

Danish - Gyldendal
Dutch - SVM
French - Fleuve
German - Carlson
Italian - Rizzoli
Portuguese in Brazil - Companhia das Letras
Romanian - Storia Books
Spanish - PRH Spain

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Lauren Palphreyman is an Amazon bestselling romantasy author. She likes to write strong and complicated men who respect women, women who can be soft as well as fierce, and romantasy tropes with a twist. She got her start by writing serial fiction online, and you might also know her from her mythological paranormal series, CUPID'S MATCH, which was one of the top stories on Wattpad, garnered over 70 million 'reads' online, and was adapted into a digital pilot for The CW. She used to work as an analyst in the publishing industry. Now she spends her days writing about werewolves. A Yorkshire girl at heart, she currently lives in Surrey with her partner and their mischievous cockapoo – who steals far too much of her attention (and socks) while she's trying to write!

When a princess is kidnapped by an alpha, war rages between the humans and the wolves. But soon, forbidden attraction starts to grow...

Princess Aurora longs to escape the castle and the marriage that has been arranged for her.

But on the night before her wedding, at a dog fight where captured werewolves are made to fight for sport, she spares the life of a young wolf. It puts her on the radar of the powerful alpha who was going to kill him. And it changes everything.

That night, when the alpha escapes, he kidnaps her and takes her to the rugged lands north of the border — where the once warring werewolf clans are beginning to unite. He thinks that she is the key to winning the war against the humans.

Only, as they spend time around one another, forbidden attraction starts to grow. And as Aurora learns that not all wolves are bad, the alpha discovers that she is in danger from both his enemies, and those he once considered friends.

With monsters on both sides, a bloodthirsty war between humans and wolves raging, and undeniable passion growing between them — will their story end in love? Or tragedy?

And will Aurora ever get home?

Does she even want to?

Book 2 in the series, *The Night Prince*, will be publishing February 2026.

THE FOXFIRE PROPHECY (Adamant trilogy #1)



UK: Gollancz, 2027
UK Editor: Molly Powell
Primary Agent: Molly Ker Hawn
TV/Film Agent: DHA
Translation Agent: EL

Additional info:
Extent: 115,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

A sweeping fantasy with a delicious love triangle, perfect for fans of Naomi Novik, Melissa Albert and Hannah Whitten.

In the wild Adamant Mountains, Wren lives in the shadow of her older sisters, who use their magical talents to serve the Queen as judge and guard. When the Queen demands that Wren be trained in the art of spycraft and married off to Prince Mathieu, the son of a rival king, Wren is shocked — she has no skill in the folk magic her sisters practice, and no training in espionage. But her sisters' lives will be forfeit if she refuses the assignment, so of course she agrees.

Because Wren has so much to learn before her betrothal, the queen assigns her nephew Fleet to train her. He's a talented, driven young lieutenant with a flair for spycraft conjuration. It doesn't hurt that he's also got a jawline sharp as obsidian and eyes the color of late winter honey. What does hurt is the history between Wren and Fleet, and the embers of their feelings for each other that are reignited when they see each other for the first time in years.

Terrified—of losing Fleet, of the queen's wrath, of failing—Wren resolves to work hard and make the best of the situation. And it's not easy, even with the help of the local fae. Prince Mathieu is drunk, he's spoiled, he's rude...until Wren discovers that he's not what he seems to be. He has a mission of his own, and it will tear Wren's world apart.

Praise for K. S. Patterson:

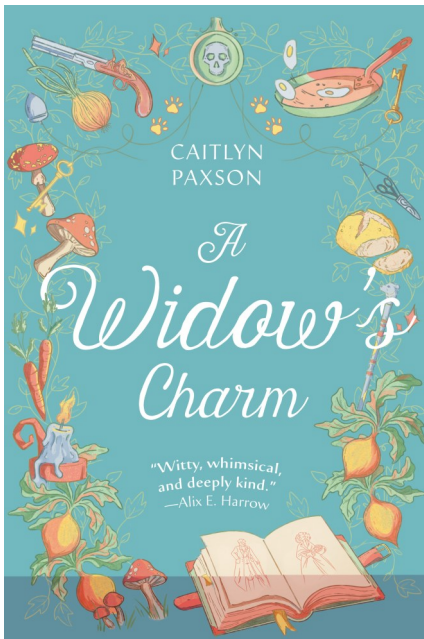
'Rich worldbuilding... An intriguing premise and well-constructed setting anchor this fantasy debut.' - Kirkus Reviews

'Two fierce young people battle a fiery landscape and vicious foes in a race for freedom. I was glued to my seat!'
- Tamora Pierce, author of *The Song of the Lioness*

'A fascinating and wholly original novel. Bo and Vi are fierce, complex characters, and I couldn't devour their story fast enough!'
- Amy Tintera, author of *Ruined*

K.S. Patterson lives and works in her hometown of Knoxville, Tennessee. As Kaitlyn Sage Patterson, she's the author of books for children and young adults. Kaitlyn loves living in the heart of Appalachia with her spouse and their many pets.

A WIDOW'S CHARM



UK: Arcadia, March 2026

UK Editor: Anne Perry

US: Del Rey, March 2026

US Editor: Anne Groell

CAN: Doubleday, March 2026

CAN Editor: Megan Kwan

Primary Agent: CMK

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Rights sold:

Italian - Mondadori

Additional info:

Extent: 105,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

In this witty fantasy romance, a widow blackmails her rakish necromancer neighbour to bring her husband back to life and save her home... only to find herself falling for him instead.

Lady Hildegard Croft is accustomed to changes in position. After all, she rose from maidservant to lady of the manor when she married Lord Thorgoode Croft. But when he drops dead quite unexpectedly, the plans that would have protected her and the people of Croftholde from her malevolent brother-in-law die along with him. What's a widow to do?

Fortunately, potential salvation arrives in the form of Lord Erol Elmwood, who is fleeing the consequences of using his forbidden Charm to raise the dead and save his own life. Now he's injured, destitute, and miserable, stuck hiding out at the neighbouring estate.

For Hilde, blackmailing Lord Elmwood to resurrect Thorgoode seems like the perfect solution. For Elmwood, beautiful Lady Croft seems like the ideal distraction from his troubles. The problem is, all she wants from him is the horrifying power he knows he can never use again.

Praise for *A Widow's Charm*:

'Witty, whimsical and deeply kind... wholly enchanting'

- Alix E. Harrow, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Everlasting*

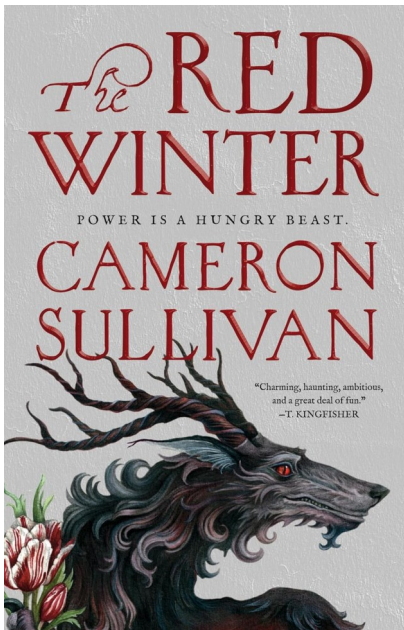
'Engrossing, flirtatious, sensual, spirited, and highly original'

- Connie Willis, bestselling author of *The Road to Roswell*

'Clever, funny, charmingly written, this tale of unexpected love and yes, dead bodies, will run away with your heart. I was rooting for Hilde and Elmwood from the very first page' - Lucy Holland, author of *Sistersong*

Caitlyn Paxson is a writer and performer. She reviews books for NPR Books and Quill & Quire and has been the artistic director of storytelling performances, a fiber arts consultant, a legal document and poetry transcriber, a 19th century jack of all trades, and a shepherdess. She currently interprets haunted historic house museums on Prince Edward Island and moonlights as a fake spirit medium.

THE RED WINTER



US: Tor, February 2026

US Editor: Ali Fisher

UK: Tor, February 2026

UK Editor: Sophie Robinson

ANZ: Pan Macmillan, February 2026

ANZ Editor: Claire Craig

Primary Agent: CMK

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Rights sold:

German - Fischer Tor

Italian - Nord

Polish - Rebis

Ukrainian - Laboratory

Additional info:

Extent: 554 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle Mori

A devastating love story. A bewitching twist on history. A blood-drenched hunt for purpose, power, and redemption.

In 1785, Professor Sebastian Grave receives the news he fears most: the terrible Beast of Gevaudan has returned, and the French countryside runs red in its wake. Sebastian knows the Beast. A monster-slayer with centuries of experience, he joined the hunt for the creature twenty years ago and watched it slaughter its way through a long and bloody winter. Even with the help of the demon, Sarmodel, he plays host to, it nearly cost him his life to bring the monster down.

Now, two decades later, Sebastian has been recalled to the hunt by Antoine Avenel d'Ocerne, an estranged lover who shares a dark history with the Beast and a terrible secret with Sebastian. Drawn by both the chance to finish the Beast for good and the promise of a reconciliation with Antoine, Sebastian cannot refuse.

Some monsters, it seems, simply won't stay buried...

Praise for *The Red Winter*:

'So bloody good that it makes me suspect that Sullivan—like his drolly immortal protagonist—has been lurking beneath mundane notice for a very long time, only to emerge seemingly overnight to thrill us with pure mastery. *The Red Winter* is pungent, page-turning, absolute ripper entertainment—miss it at your peril!' - Shelley Parker-Chan, bestselling author of *She Who Became the Sun*

'Charming, haunting, ambitious, and a great deal of fun.' - T. Kingfisher, New York Times bestselling author of *A Sorceress Comes to Call*

'*The Red Winter* is a hell of a debut. An absolute feast of a book: rich, red, sinfully delicious. I've rarely been this satisfied--or this hungry for more.' - Alix E. Harrow, New York Times bestselling author of *Starling House*

Cameron Sullivan was born in Perth, Western Australia. He grew up with the dark fantasy and horror icons of the 80s and went on to study classics and creative writing at the University of Western Australia. After several years working and studying in Italy and the UK, he returned to Australia and settled in Melbourne, which is the best place for Australians who actually enjoy the winter. He will easily lose a weekend to a good book, a new recipe or games of any kind, from tabletop DnD to pub trivia.

BY HORROR HAUNTED



He was smiling, and covered in blood - face, hands, pyjamas - everything and in his hands - thrust towards her like a birthday gift - was Julie's teddy-bear, soaked and dripping with blood.

Her Number On It is a compelling portrait of kleptomania; the *Unsuspected Talent* of a dissatisfied wife has dangerous consequences; and *Don't Tell Cissie* upends our expectations of a ghost story. This collection of spine-chilling Gothic miniatures from Celia Fremlin ('Britain's Patricia Highsmith' - *Sunday Times*) is a showcase of macabre domesticity: controlling husbands rub shoulders with manipulative wives, parasitic visitors meet fatal accidents, there are nervous breakdowns, toxic relationships, sinister villagers and mob justice.

With an unerring nail, Fremlin picks the scabs concealing domestic fault lines.

UK: Faber, October 2025

UK Editor: Ella Griffiths

Primary Agent: MC

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: GB / SN / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 208 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final Files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for Celia Fremlin:

'Britain's Patricia Highsmith' - *The Sunday Times*

'A master of suspense.' – Janice Hallett, author of *The Appeal*

'Fremlin was a genius' – Nicola Upson, author of the Josephine Tey series

'Celia Fremlin is an astonishing writer, who explores that nightmare country where brain, mind and self battle to establish the truth. She illuminates her dark world with acute perception and great wit.'

– Natasha Cooper, author of the Trish Maguire series

Celia Fremlin (1914-2009) was born in Kent, and went on to read classics and then philosophy at Somerville College, Oxford. In 1960 she received the Mystery Writers of America Edgar Allan Poe award. Famous for creating terrifying suspense from ordinary domestic situations in her many crime novels and short stories, she won the Edgar for Best Novel in 1958 with *The Hours Before Dawn*. Her work has been relaunched by Faber to great success since 2023, and include *Uncle Paul* (which was Waterstones Thriller of the Month in June 2023), *The Jealous One*, *Trouble Makers* and several short story collections.

A decorative border composed of various blue geometric shapes, including lines, curves, and angles, arranged in a pattern around the central text.

Non-Fiction

EX: THE SCIENCE OF HEARTBREAK



UK: Under offer

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:

German- At auction

Hungarian- 21. Század

Italian - Einaudi

Spanish - Under offer

Additional info:

Extent: TBC

Illustrations: TBC

Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

The Science of Breakups and How We Heal.

What if we've been getting heartbreak wrong? We talk about it like it's something to be fixed, an illness to medicate or an embarrassment to suppress. But what if it might just be good for us?

Part scientific investigation, part personal journey, and part madcap self-experimentation, this book shows us how romantic loss, once we know how to work with it, can be a transformative process, the body and mind rewiring.

The chapters fuse personal narrative with peer-reviewed research, case studies, interviews, and practical tools. This book is a witty, intellectually-grounded case for why our devastation might be the best thing that ever happened to our nervous system.

Whatever our relationship style or sexual preference, this book is for readers who want more than advice. They want clarity; they want agency. They want to know what the hell just happened to their body and brain, and what they're supposed to do about it now.

Ex: The Science of Heartbreak makes the case that with science, determination, and a little chaos, heartbreak is more than something we survive; it's how we change.

Anne Freier is a German/British writer, scientist, and musician. Born in Dresden but based in London since 2003, she holds a Master's in Neuroscience and Neuropsychology from Birkbeck University and a Master's in Biomedical Research from Imperial College London, where she won the Galen Award. Anne's writing, both nonfiction and fiction has been shortlisted for numerous prizes. *The Science of Breakup* originated from a 2020 blog post that went viral and led to interviews in *Die Ziet*, *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* amongst others.

WOMEN HAVE GUTS: The Untold Guide to the Female Gut



UK: Profile, March 2027

UK Editor: Cindy Chan

US: On submission

Primary Agent: OVV

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 70,000 words

Illustrations: Yes, B&W

Material Available: Proposal, unedited manuscript due May 2026

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

The definitive guide to female gut health.

While it seems entirely obvious that the female gut would operate differently to the male gut, the vast majority of books, public messaging, and nutritional guidance on gut health has been rooted in research based on *male* bodies. Until now.

An urgent and overdue contribution, *Women Have Guts* accessibly breaks down how the female gut works and interacts with our hormones, how this changes throughout a woman's life, and the gut's role in common digestive and chronic conditions, from bloating to endometriosis. Sandra offers targeted advice and tools for optimising gut health through nutrition, sleep, and understanding the mind-gut connection.

In guiding the reader through a previously under-researched, frustratingly unknown cornerstone of female health, Sandra explains how to understand the science behind female gut health, and offers the tools to apply that science meaningfully in your own life. Through science-backed nutritional and lifestyle guidance, Sandra sheds light on optimising diet and self-care routines, managing common gut-related symptoms, advocating for oneself in conversations with medical professionals, and navigating hormonal shifts across our lives.

The result truly has the capacity to change lives: after all, if we have comprehensive knowledge we have about our bodies, we can make empowered decisions about how we live, something that has too often been denied to women. *Women Have Guts* intends to change that in the world of gut health.

Sandra Mikhail is an internationally known accredited practising dietitian, author and the founder and director of Nutrition A-Z by Sandra Mikhail. She holds a Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics (Monash University, Australia), a Master of Advanced Studies in Nutrition and Health (ETHZ) and is a member of Dietitians Australia. She also holds a Sports Nutrition Diploma by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Being a globe-trotting dietitian, she has extensive experience in clinical practice, nutrition consulting and health promotion, working in Australia, the UAE and Switzerland. As a mental health advocate, her workshops and articles on stress and nutrition have gained popularity internationally. Sandra is the co-host of the podcast The Gastroenterologist and His Daughter and co-founder of HER, a platform for co-ordinating events for leaders in women's health across the globe.

THE REFLEX TRAP



UK: On submission
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: TBC
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: TBC
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Understanding the defence mechanisms that hold you back.

The term 'defence mechanisms' conjures the image of vast immovable cogs, forged in steel and working like clockwork. But this is entirely inaccurate and is inhibiting us from seizing control of how we respond to triggers.

In this new book, bestselling author and trained psychotherapist Eleanor Morgan will reposition defence from noun to verb and doing so, reshape our understanding of ourselves.

This book will explore what makes us triggered, why we each respond to it a certain way, and show how recognising this immediate response can set you free.

Just as *Attached* gave us the framework to investigate how we love, *The Reflex Trap* will give readers the tools to better understand how we react and enable them to unlock their psychological protective patterns.

Praise for *Hormonal*:

'A personal yet scientific, subtle and often lyrical work' - *The Times*

'An essential guide in helping us truly understand our cores' - *Vogue*

'Both fascinating and a huge relief' - *Grazia*

Eleanor Morgan (MSc, PGDip, MBACP) is a BACP-registered psychotherapist, journalist and author. She has written for *The Guardian*, *The Observer*, *The Times*, *The New York Times*, *GQ*, *Esquire*, *ELLE*, *VOGUE*, *VICE* and many others, specialising in long-form, investigative pieces relating to psychology and health. She worked as a lecturer in journalism at Goldsmiths University. Morgan is the author of two non-fiction books: *Anxiety for Beginners: A Personal Investigation* (Bluebird, 2016) and *Hormonal: A Conversation About Women's Bodies, Mental Health and Why We Need to Be Heard* (Virago, 2019).

A BLOODY SCANDAL



UK: Fourth Estate, May 2026

UK Editor: Michelle Kane

Primary Agent: OVV

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 65,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese –Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Evelyn Scott never set out to be an advocate for women's health. But when nobody is there to advocate for you, what do you have left?

From first periods, to childbirth and the menopause, we are taught that to be a woman is to live with inevitable, in-built, necessary pain. This is a narrative we have accepted for far too long.

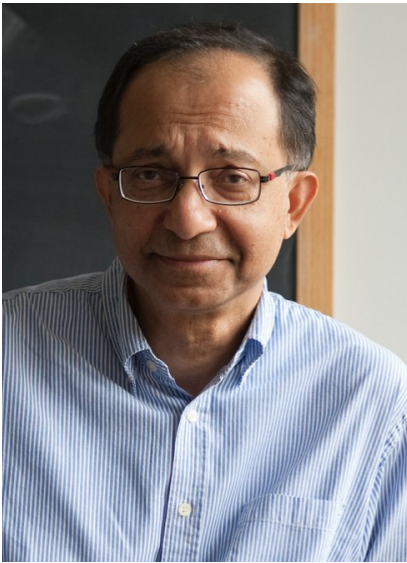
It took fifteen years of debilitating pain and misdiagnosis for Evelyn Scott to finally be told she had endometriosis. *A Bloody Scandal* is her story, but it is also the unspoken story of millions of others. A searingly brave, intimately personal manifesto for change, in her book Evelyn lays bare the gynaecological neglect that impacts women across the globe. Evelyn shares her own unbelievable experiences of medical neglect, misogyny, and misdiagnosis in her ongoing treatment for endometriosis, and for a basic quality of life.

In telling her story, Evelyn ties in the stories of hundreds of women across the globe who she has surveyed about their experiences of gynaecological neglect. She places these experiences in context through the many interviews she has conducted with medical professionals and whistleblowers, as well as her own analysis of the most recent research on reproductive conditions and gynaecological neglect around the world.

A Bloody Scandal puts forward a unique set of recommendations for how we might reform our institutions to support ourselves and our loved ones, whose pain have been dismissed throughout time as being inherent to womanhood.

Evelyn Scott is a writer, former university lecturer and an advocate for endometriosis, disability, and women's health. Evelyn was a teenager when she first began suffering from the symptoms that she would (15 years later) find out were due to endometriosis, a condition which affects 1 in 10 women. These fifteen years were defined by constant pain, detrimental misdiagnoses, and medical failings at every turn, which forced her to abandon her PhD programme and left her disabled. She has written for and/or been featured on Channel 5 News, *The Times*, *The Metro*, *iNews*, *The Mirror*, *WalesOnline*, *CoventryLive*, *Tortoise Media*, *Get Surrey* and the *Daily Mail*, and has a loyal following of over 65,000 on Instagram.

HOW DICTATORS GET AWAY WITH IT



UK: On submission
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: tbc
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Options:

Chinese (complex) - Spark Press
Chinese (simplified) - CITIC Press
Korean - Influential Inc.
Serbian - Vulkan
Spanish - Planeta Mexicana
Romanian - Publica

Additional info:

Extent: 55,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A thought-provoking and incisive exploration of the mechanics of power.

The 'strongman' leader is on the march, all over the world. It seems much easier for them than ever before to achieve power, abuse it, and hang on to it for as long as possible. But how is it done? What can economics teach us about how they prosper, and how we can resist?

A genuinely original contribution to the debates around the rise of authoritarianism and the retreat of democracy, *How Dictators Get Away With It* applies the clarifying lens of game theory to such questions as: why do leaders with an autocratic streak so often morph into tyrants? How can a dictator with a finite number of prison cells marshal his powers of arrest to ensure that no uprising will ever succeed? And why do these people cling on to power for so long?

Full of Kaushik Basu's customary breadth of reference and story-telling, this is a timely contribution to a debate that is only becoming more acute.

Praise for *Reason to be Happy* :

'Reason to Be Happy is a wise and witty book that shows how thinking clearly can help us find happiness in our daily lives, get more of what we want, and even make the world a better place' - Professor Hannah Fry, co-author of *Rutherford and Fry's Complete Guide to Absolutely Everything*

'Compelling... Eminently readable... The economist makes brilliant points and readers will learn a lot.' - *New Scientist*

Kaushik Basu is Professor of Economics and the Carl Marks Professor of International Studies at Cornell University. From 2012 to 2016 he was Senior Vice-President and Chief Economist of the World Bank, and, prior to that, Chief Economic Adviser to the Indian Government. Professor Basu has contributed popular articles to magazines and newspapers, such as the New York Times, Scientific American, India Today and BBC News Online. In May 2008 he was awarded one of India's highest civilian awards, the Padma Bhushan, by the President of India. He has held visiting positions at the London School of Economics, Harvard University, Princeton University and MIT. He can be found on Twitter @kaushikbasu, where he has 220,000 followers.

SUGARHEADS



UK: Penguin Allen Lane, February 2027

UK Editor: Chloe Currens

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW/ SN

Options:

Chinese (simplified) - Beijing Time
Imaginist Culture

Dutch - Uitgeverij Nieuwezijds

Estonian - Tanapae

Hungarian - Helikon

Italian - Laterza

Korean - Cocoon Books

Lithuania - Vaga

Polish - Znak

Portuguese in Brazil - Fosforo

Spanish - Lunweg

Turkish - Say

Additional info:

Extent: 70,000-80,000 words

Illustrations: TBC

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Agency

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

From the Women's Prize longlisted author, Lucy Jones puts sugar

Sugarheads will take what seems like an innocuous, even trivial foodstuff, and enquire deeply about what our relationship with sugar today tells us about power, our mental and emotional health, the ideas that have got us so far, and how the world could be different, fairer, more balanced.

Lucy will consider the many faces of this store-cupboard staple and consider the role of sugar as colonial export; modern political carrot; emotional crutch; parental bargaining chip; sustainer of late-stage capitalism; destroyer of habitats; social anaesthetic; symbol of celebration and enemy of physical health.

The book will answer questions ranging from the political to the personal, the medical to the philosophical - Are we eating too much, and does it matter? Is overconsumption a choice? Who holds the power over how sugar is marketed? How does sugar trouble ideas of 'the natural'? What does it mean to live in a world where sugar both symbolises a happy birthday and annihilates indigenous populations? How does over-indulgence work morally in an economy predicated on excess? Would quitting sugar stop Lucy's recurrent depression?

Crucially, the book is not an anti-sugar book, but rather something much broader and deeper. Lucy relishes the idea of using language to convey the sensory delights of molten chocolate and oozing syrup sponge - only for this prose to harden and crystallise into an important work of ecofeminism and environmental philosophy.

Praise for *Matrescence*:

'*Matrescence*, the best book I've ever read about motherhood.' - *Guardian*

'Wide-ranging in scope and hugely ambitious, the book is part memoir, part explanation of the science and sociology of motherhood.' - *The New Yorker*

'This is a book that will be passed among friends and will no doubt bring solace to those reeling from a loss of self, still grappling with their maternal ambivalence and a postpartum universe of fear.' - *New Statesman*

Lucy Jones is a writer and journalist, who previously worked at the *NME* and the *Daily Telegraph*. She won the Society of Author's Roger Deakin Award for *Foxes Unearthed*. *Losing Eden* was selected as a Book of the Year by *The Times* and *The Telegraph*. Her last book, *Matrescence*, was longlisted for the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction. It was both a *New Statesman* and *Daily Mail* Book of the Year.

THE FALL OF THE WEST



UK: Allen Lane, May 2026
UK Editor: Tom Penn
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:

Italian - Gius. Laterza & Figli
Japanese - Uni-to-Tsukisha
Korean - Bookinthegap
Spanish - Seix Barral

Additional info:

Extent: 100,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media Agency
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A devastating obituary of Western liberal democracy, by one of our most fearless commentators.

Just a short generation ago, the West seemed unstoppable. Before 9/11 the victory of the neoliberal economic model seemed undeniable, inexorable. The West not only seemed united; it was expanding, absorbing former adversaries, while its culture exerted a seemingly irresistible pull.

Twenty-five years later, the story could not be more different. Military prestige was shaken to its core by the disasters of Iraq and Afghanistan; economic complacency torn to shreds by the financial crisis. The years since, a sorry merry-go-round of austerity, misery and blame-seeking facilitating the rise of the far right, have now culminated in the outstanding moral lacuna of our age: the destruction of Gaza.

Written with characteristic clarity and passion, *The Fall of the West* lays bare the astonishing depth and rapidity of this decline, and is Owen Jones' most important book to date.

Praise for *This Land: The Struggle for the Left*:

'A whodunnit political page-turner' - Melissa Benn, *New Statesman*

'The best political book I have read for a long while' - Rod Liddle, *The Spectator*

'An absorbing, nuanced account of the making of electoral disaster.

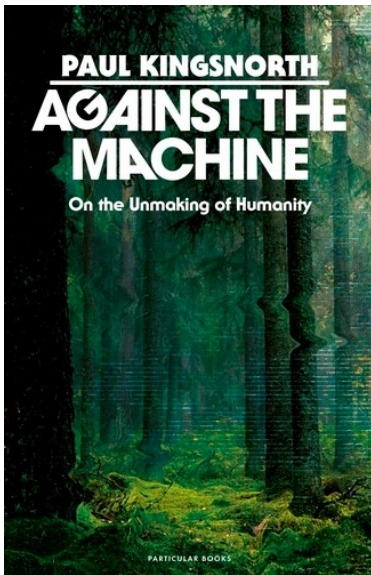
- Gaby Hinsliff, *Guardian*

'Very, very powerful ... you will not come away from reading *This Land* without your understanding of what happened to the Labour Party over the last five years massively enhanced.'

- James O'Brien, author of *How to be Right in a World Gone Wrong*

Owen Jones is a columnist for the *Guardian* and a frequent broadcaster. His first book, *Chavs: The Demonization of the Working Class*, was published by Verso in June 2011 to considerable acclaim and attention, and became the bestselling political book of 2011. *Chavs* was longlisted for the *Guardian* First Book Award and picked by the *New York Times* as one of their Top 10 Non-fiction Books of 2011. His second book, *The Establishment: And How They Get Away With It*, was published in 2014 by Allen Lane / Penguin and became a top 10 bestseller. *The Establishment* was shortlisted for one of the 2014 Political Book Awards. In 2020 Owen published *This Land: The Story of a Movement*.

AGAINST THE MACHINE



US: PRH, September 2025
US Editor: Bria Sandford
UK: Penguin, Allen Lane
UK Editor: Casiana Ionita
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:
Dutch - KokBoekencentrum

Options:
Catalan - Abacus
Estonian - Postimehe Kirjastus OÜ
French - Éditions La Lenteur
German - Matthes & Seitz Berlin
Polish - Fundacja Romanian - SC
Cartea Ardeleana
Spanish - Errata Naturae
Swedish - Cultura Aetatis

Additional info:
Extent: 368 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Final manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

On the Unmaking of Humanity

In *Against the Machine*, “furiously gifted” (*The Washington Post*) novelist, poet, and essayist Paul Kingsnorth presents a wholly original—and terrifying—account of the technological-cultural matrix enveloping all of us. With insight into the spiritual and economic roots of techno-capitalism, Kingsnorth reveals how the Machine, in the name of progress, has choked Western civilization, is destroying the Earth itself, and is reshaping us in its image. From the First Industrial Revolution to the rise of artificial intelligence, he shows how the hollowing out of humanity has been a long game—and how your very soul is at stake.

It takes effort to remain truly human in the age of the Machine. Here Kingsnorth reminds us what humanity requires: a healthy suspicion of entrenched power; connection to land, nature and heritage; and a deep attention to matters of the spirit. Prophetic and poetic, *Against the Machine* is a spiritual manual for dissidents in the technological age.

Praise for *Against the Machine*:

‘The most powerful and important book I have read in years. This book should be required reading not only for politicians, technocrats, teachers and all who help shape our world, but for every still-living soul in this terrifying age of the Machine’ - Iain McGilchrist, author of *The Master and His Emissary*

‘*Against the Machine* is an eloquent and erudite critique of the perils of modern technology. But it’s much more than that. It’s a searching, moving meditation on the fate of humanity in a world where money and mechanism have displaced meaning’ - Nicholas Carr, author of *Superbloom* and *The Shallows*

Paul Kingsnorth’s debut novel, *The Wake* (2014), was longlisted for The Man Booker Prize and won the Gordon Burn Prize. His second, *Beast*, was described by Jay Griffiths as ‘a portrait of the psyche in gaunt, glittering transcendence’. He is also the author of the highly-acclaimed travelogues *One No, Many Yeses* (2003) and *Real England* (2008), the award-winning poetry collection, *Kidland* (2011), and prize-winning essay collection *Confessions of a Recovering Environmentalist* (2017). He is also the co-founder of The Dark Mountain Project, a global network of radical writers and artists and writes a substack with almost 50,000 subscribers.

THE TECH TAKEOVER



UK: On submission
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: DHA
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 80,000 words
Illustrations: no
Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardonia Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A timely and frankly alarming exposé of the ultimate goal of the 'broligarchs'.

The rise and rise of Big Tech seems inexorable; the concentration of so much power and influence in so few hands, unprecedented.

Most people, if they think about it at all, assume the end-goal is money. And that is certainly part of it. But there is another agenda at play, one with devastating and alarming consequences for the West and the wider world. The goal is to shift first the US – but then other countries too – from liberal democratic states to a version of a corporation controlled by a tiny 'Board of Directors' rather than being answerable to an electorate. This project is being openly pursued and encouraged by the tech oligarchs who first opposed the Trump MAGA movement but have since become its most ardent supporters.

Offering a fascinating and sobering overview of the project, its principal adherents and methods of delivery, *The Tech Takeover* shows both the dangers of this path and the ways in which we can resist.

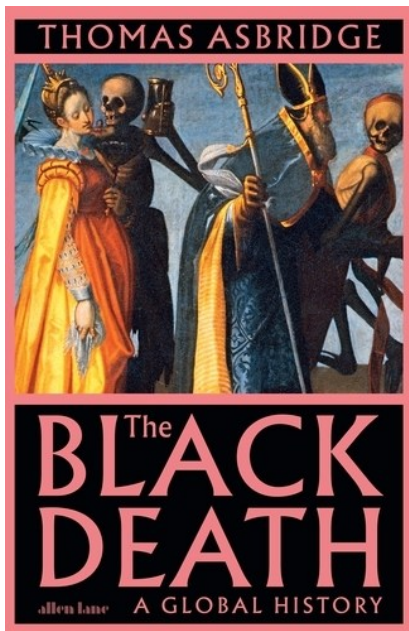
Praise for *Smart Money*:

'Excellent' - Vince Cable

'A must-read' - Jo Johnson

Brunello Rosa is a financial economist and geopolitical strategist who advises market participants, policy-makers and institutions. He is CEO and Head of Research at Rosa & Roubini Associates. With his co-author Casey Larsen, he is the author of *Smart Money: How Digital Currencies Will Shape the New World Order* (Bloomsbury), which was named an Economics Book of the Year by the *Financial Times*.

THE BLACK DEATH



UK: Allen Lane, April 2026
UK Editor: Simon Winder
US: Penguin, April 2026
US Editor: Molly Turpin
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: NL
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:

Chinese (simplified) - Gingko
Dutch - Hey Spectrum
French - Flammarion
German - DVA
Italian - Mondadori
Korean - Rok Media
Romanian - Editura Polirom
Spanish - Atico

Additional info:

Extent: 160,000 words
Illustrations: Yes
Material Available: Page proofs

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Thomas Asbridge's remarkable new book reveals the global impact of humanity's greatest natural disaster, and the terrible human cost of this calamity.

In the mid-fourteenth century, a lethal plague struck the medieval world, causing unimaginable suffering and destruction. This terrifying pandemic – the Black Death – was unquestionably one of history's defining episodes, yet a critical feature of its progress has often been ignored: the disease was not confined to Europe, but rather affected almost all of the known world, including the Near and Middle East, Byzantium, north Africa and Asia.

Tracing the pandemic's course across the medieval globe, *The Black Death* contrasts the experiences of different peoples, including Christians, Muslims and Jews, charting this catastrophe's transformative effects on diverse aspects of medieval life. And crucially, Asbridge demonstrates that the plague was often at its most destructive in the Islamic world, where it ultimately played a role in the collapse of the mighty Mamluk Empire.

The Black Death also brings the human drama of this calamitous era to life, evoking the terror and the turmoil that beset cities such as London, Cairo and Florence. Asbridge reconstructs the lives of the men, women and children who faced the Black Death – from ruling monarchs to peasant farmers – laying bare both the abject horror they endured and the courageous resolve they often demonstrated while striving to survive.

Uncovering a story that speaks to our own age, *The Black Death* highlights humankind's capacity for compassion and resilience amidst a global crisis to explain how the medieval world confronted, and ultimately overcame, this shattering pandemic.

Praise for *The Crusades*:

'Asbridge can't help but tell a ripping yarn, often breezily dramatic, whipping the narrative along' - *The Times*

'A dramatic and powerful look at both sides of the story' - *Sunday Times*

Dr Thomas Asbridge is a medieval historian specialising in the study of the Crusades and the broader history of relations between Islam and the West. Currently based at Queen Mary, the University of London, he has previously taught at the universities of St Andrews and Reading. His first trade book, *The First Crusade*, was published to considerable acclaim in 2004. In 2010 he published a one-volume account of the entire period, *The Crusades*, which has been translated into seven languages, and in 2012 he wrote and presented an accompanying three-part television series on BBC Two. In 2015 he published *The Greatest Knight*, an acclaimed biography of William Marshal, and in 2018 a study of Richard I for Penguin's Monarchs series.

REX JUBA



UK: Transworld, Spring 2026

UK Editor: Alex Christofi

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 100,000 words

Illustrations: B/W chapter headings

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A new look at Ancient Rome through the eyes of Juba II who went

Rex Juba delivers Ancient Rome from an exciting new angle. Kenrick uses Juba as a lens, a vehicle allowing us to look with fresh eyes at a period that is incredibly familiar to us, adjusting our Western centric approach. Juba II turns out to be a lynch pin, a missing thread connecting so many well-known figures from Roman history: Anthony and Cleopatra, Julius Caesar, Herod, Octavia and Octavian, later Emperor Augustus, Caligula. Perfect for fans of *Catullus's Bedspreed* by Daisy Dunn, *Pax* by Tom Holland and *River Kings* by Cat Jarman.

Juba II was a slave who went on to become an African King. He was one half of an extremely successful marriage, indeed his was the only kingdom in which the king and queen were invested with equal power. He was a renowned scholar who wrote many books (he was known as the Most Scholarly King), an avid collector of art and a patron of artists. This biography takes that rich material culture as a springboard, telling the story of his kingdom through the artefacts that have been found by archaeologists excavating in North Africa; from carnelian signet rings to rare gold coins and exquisite ancient Egyptian statues. In adopting this approach, a new story of the ancient world can be told, one that has too-often been pushed to the margins. For while Juba's story is fascinating in its own right it is his identity as a Roman-African citizen that makes it all the more important that it be told now, challenging as it does prevailing perspectives on race and ethnicity in ancient Rome.

This book works to lower our gaze from the northern shores of the Mediterranean to the southern, for of course Roman civilisation flourished just as much in Africa as it did in Europe. In doing so, the book will complicate the image that springs to mind when we think of the Romans, as well as pose the question that the Romans were constantly asking themselves: Who gets to be called 'Roman'? And what did being a Roman citizen really mean?

Andrew Kenrick teaches Creative Writing and Archaeology at UEA. His first degree was in Ancient History and Archaeology and his MA dissertation was on Roman Cookery and its celebrity chefs. His PhD at UEA in Life Writing focused on finding new ways to write ancient biographies. He is the winner of the 2023 Tony Lothian Award for Best Unpublished Biography. *Rex Juba* is his first trade book.

SAS GREAT ESCAPES FIVE

Damien Lewis



Five most daring escapes by the world's most famous fighting force.

SAS Great Escapes 5 is the newest instalment of the bestselling *Great Escapes* series written by internationally bestselling author Damien Lewis. In the spirit of previous volumes, it reveals the untold stories of the war's most daring and audacious escapes as executed by the world's most famous fighting force, the SAS.

Reaching back into the earliest origins of the SAS legend, the volume opens with a series of death-defying escapes in Italy, where bluff, deception and audacity win the day. It moves on to an epic solo escape across the sunblasted Sahara desert, as one man, long given up for dead, achieves the seemingly impossible. And here too is one of the most successful raids by the SAS deep behind enemy lines, describing how a terribly injured veteran of that mission used the secret escape lines of the Vatican to make it back to Allied lines, in a tale replete with cloak-and-dagger intrigue.

UK: Quercus, May 2026
UK Editor: Richard Milner
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: Sheil Land Associates
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:
Extent: 352 pages
Illustrations: Yes, colour
Material Available: Unedited manuscript due December 2025

Subagents:
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Working with the family members of those portrayed, and relying upon unpublished manuscripts, letters, diaries, war reports and more, this is gripping narrative history at its finest, delivered in typical Damien Lewis edge-of-the-seat style.

Praise for *SAS Great Escapes*:

'Damien Lewis is both a meticulous historian and a born storyteller'
- Lee Child, author of the Jack Reacher series

'A must read. Honesty, integrity and real experience that puts you in the thick of the action.' - Billy Billingham, author of *Call to Kill and Survive to Fight*

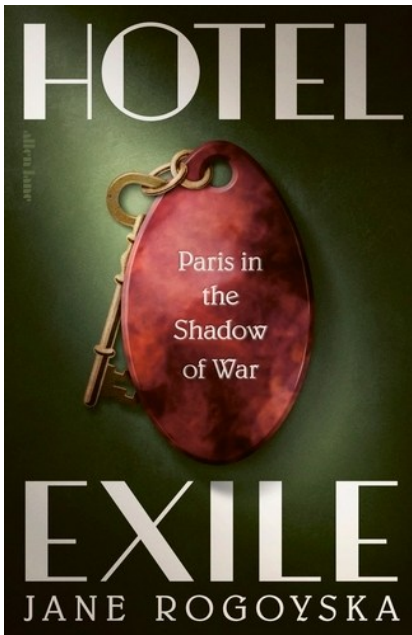
'The attention to detail is unbelievable.' - Tim Lovejoy

'Thrilling.' - *Express*

'It was a privilege to be able to read.' - *The Last Word Book Review*

Damien Lewis is a number one bestselling author whose books have been translated into over forty languages worldwide. For decades he worked as a war and conflict reporter for the world's major broadcasters, reporting from across Africa, South America, the Middle and Far East and winning numerous awards. His books include the World War Two classics *The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare*, *Hunting the Nazi Bomb*, *SAS Nazi Hunters*, *SAS Ghost Patrol*, *SAS Italian Job*, *SAS Band of Brothers* and *SAS Brothers In Arms*. A dozen of his books have been made, or are being made, into movies or TV drama series and several have been adapted as plays for the stage.

HOTEL EXILE: PARIS IN THE SHADOW OF WAR



UK: Allen Lane, February 2026
UK Editor: Chloe Currens
US: W.W. Norton, May 2026
US Editor: John Glusman
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights Sold:

German - Surhkamp
Italian - Laterza
Romanian - Polirom
Spanish - Salamandra

Additional info:

Extent: 70-80,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Agency
Japanese - Tuttle Mori

Beautifully written, a moving story of Paris before, during and after the Second World War, told through the prism of a landmark Left Bank hotel.

The Hotel Lutetia is a Paris institution, the only 'grand' hotel on the city's bohemian Left Bank. Ever since it opened, it has served as a meeting place for artists, musicians and politicians. André Gide took his lunch here, James Joyce lived in one of its rooms, Picasso and Matisse were regular guests. It has a darker history, too. During one short period, it became a focus for some of the most dramatic and terrible events in recent history.

In the 1930s the Hotel Lutetia attracted intellectuals and political activists, forced to flee their homes when Hitler came to power, who met here with the hope of forming an alternative government. But when war came, Paris was occupied, and the hotel became the headquarters of the German military intelligence service – and the centre of their operation to root out enemies of the Reich. In 1945, the Lutetia was requisitioned once more, this time transformed into a reception centre for deportees returning from concentration camps.

Hotel Exile is about what happens on the edges of a war. At its heart are three groups of people connected to a place, to one another, and to the dark ideology which dictates the course of their lives. A masterpiece of empathy and concision, Jane Rogoyska's extraordinary new book offers us a vision of individual human beings desperately trying to find a path through some of the twentieth century's most devastating events.

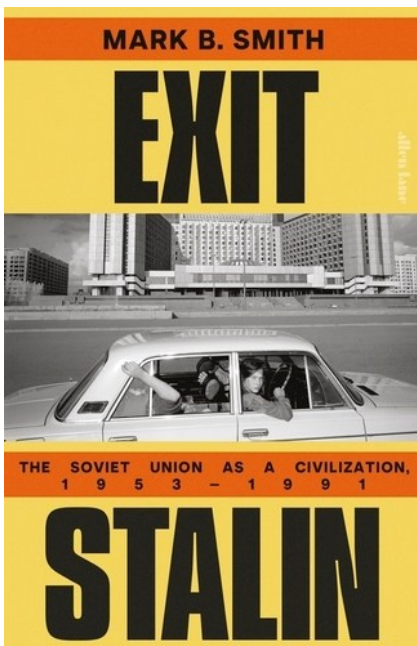
Praise for *Surviving Katyń*:

'A gripping reconstruction of one of the most gruesome and haunting crimes of the Second World War. Jane Rogoyska's sensitive yet dispassionate use of the harrowing evidence provided by victims, perpetrators and survivors makes for utterly compelling reading, and lays bare its toxic legacy.' - Adam Zamoyski, author of *Poland: A History*

'This is a grim story, thoroughly researched and brilliantly told.'
- Geoffrey Alderman, *Times Higher Education*

Jane Rogoyska is the author of *Surviving Katyń* (Oneworld, 2021), about the 1940 massacre of 22,000 Polish prisoners of war by the Soviet secret police (winner of the Mark Lynton History Prize, 2022; longlisted for the Ondaatje Prize, 2022; Second Prize, Pilecki International Book Award, 2022). Her first book, *Gerda Taro: Inventing Robert Capa* (Jonathan Cape, 2013), charts the life of the first female photojournalist to be killed on the front line of battle during the Spanish Civil War. She has collaborated on related projects in radio, film, theatre and photography, including the documentary *Still Here: A Polish Odyssey* (2018), which she wrote and presented for BBC Radio 4.

EXIT STALIN



UK: Allen Lane, January 2026
UK Editor: Simon Winder
US: Liveright, April 2026
US Editor: Dan Gerstle
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:
Hungarian - HVG Kiado Zrt

Additional info:
Extent: 752 pages
Illustrations: Yes, B&W
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

The Soviet Union as a Civilization, 1953-1991.

With Stalin's death, the Soviet Union remained a repressive, harsh and belligerent place, but one which became more predictable for its citizens and one which made a genuine attempt to create the egalitarian, progressive country that the Russian Revolution had once promised. That this attempt would fail was not clear until the 1980s.

Mark B. Smith's remarkable book recreates the day-to-day life of this vast state, the largest ever to exist. What was life like in a country which made such absolute claims for the future, which claimed to be on its way to creating a people's utopia and which, like the USA, owned enough atomic weapons to end human life on Earth?

Exit Stalin is filled with extraordinary stories about those who lived in the USSR and the distinctive and functioning civilization that they built. Many of them embraced its values, understood its goals and could not imagine life outside such a vastly ambitious and progressive project. The shortages, coercion and incompetence that underlay the USSR - and which by the late 1980s would doom it - has to be understood alongside the acceptance it always had from many of its citizens. And this in turn is a crucial issue for understanding Russia and the rest of the former Soviet Union in the 21st century.

Praise for *The Russia Anxiety*:

'Fizzing with energy, Mark B. Smith's book explodes many myths about the Russians and compels us to reflect critically on ourselves.'

- Simon Dixon, author of *Catherine the Great*

'The author is a highly informed guide, [who] prompts a review of prejudices ... Smith makes an important fundamental point: we must talk to the Russians and live alongside them.'

- Max Hastings, author of *Vietnam: An Epic Tragedy*

Mark B. Smith teaches history at Cambridge, where he is a University Lecturer and a Fellow of King's College. He specialises in the history of the Soviet Union and is the author of several academic articles and a book on the subject. His first book for general readers is *The Russia Anxiety*, published by Allen Lane / Penguin in 2019.



UK: Canongate, Spring 2027
UK Editor: Maddy Pirce
US: Viking Penguin, Spring 2027
US Editor: Camille Leblanc
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:
 Dutch - Ten Have
 Chinese (simplified) - China
 Translation and Publishing House

Additional info:
 Extent: 80,000 words
 Illustrations: No
 Material Available: Proposal;
 manuscript due October 2025

Subagents:
 Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
 Associates
 Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

A revolutionary understanding of our planet's intelligences.

Part personal essay, part science, part philosophy, Mel proposes to go on a series of both physical and mental journeys to write a portrait of our planet as a tapestry of intelligence. She is working alongside some of the world's leading specialists on intelligence, cognition and consciousness. To help us make sense of this new look at the intelligences we encounter in nature and the way they interact, she has coined a term that feels really fresh: the *psychosphere*. She explains that the original meaning of psyche was life itself, it is used here as a combination of intelligence and agency to talk about the world as a place where life forms interact intelligently.

Her premise is that life is rebellious. Intelligence and the way it interacts is rebellious. Interactions between different life forms cannot be easily predicted. Not only that but interactions between different life forms, different intelligences, can actually transform the genome, chemical changes can occur to the DNA during the lifetime of the organism that can alter how they are expressed and handed down.

The upshot of this is a book which opens our eyes to what is wonderful about life and helps us to appreciate its huge diversity and re-evaluate our place in it as human beings.

Praise for *How to be Animal*:

'Provocative . . . Challenger [writes] with the logic of a researcher and the lyricism of a poet.' - *Herald*

'This is a brilliant book that, like many brilliant books, explores what it means to be human. The difference here is that the author answers this by highlighting one central human dilemma: we are an animal in denial that we are actually an animal.'
 - Matt Haig, *Observer*

Melanie Challenger studied English literature and language at Oxford University and has since worked as a researcher on the history of humanity and the natural world, and environmental philosophy. Her first book *On Extinction: How we became estranged from nature* was published in 2011 (Granta/Counterpoint). It was selected by Publishers Weekly as one of the best non-fiction books of 2012, longlisted for the Dolman Travel Book of the Year and received the Santa Barbara Library's Green Award for environmental writing. Her 2021 book *How to Be Animal* (Canongate/ Pantheon) was received to great praise.

THE EDGES OF THE WORLD



UK: Transworld, January 2026

UK Editor: Alex Christofi

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 288 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final Files

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

At the margins of life, lands and history.

We tend to think that everything important comes from the centre: from big cities, from established orthodoxies in the sciences and the arts, from the Establishment in all its forms. We think this because the centre tells us it is so, but it's a lie. It is only at the edges that we think, innovate and thrive.

This book travels to the far frontiers of the planet, and of human culture and consciousness; to the edges of continents, of evolution, of artistic and political movements, and of life itself: from a rocky precipice in the Peloponnese where the first human set foot in Europe to an ancient Egyptian temple where monotheism was invented; from St Francis, kissing lepers' sores to the giant bird-eating mice of St Kilda.

Why do we stare at sunsets? Why do we celebrate birthdays and grieve for those who are gone? Why do all adventures begin when we leave and get lost? Who has the better view of reality – the Government or the dispossessed? And what happens when we live with the knowledge that we're all teetering on the edge of the dark?

Praise for *Cry of the Wild* :

'Evocative and beautifully written, it's a deeply immersive read.' - *Observer*

'Charles Foster is the most original voice in nature writing today - funny, urgent, poetic, philosophical and deeply moving.'

- Patrick Barkham, author of *The Swimmer: The Wild Life of Roger Deakin*

'Utterly exhilarating... This book demands we change our ways.'

- Lee Schofield, author of *Wild Fell*

Charles Foster is a *New York Times* bestselling author whose work has been longlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize, shortlisted for the Wainwright Prize for nature writing, and won the Ig Nobel Prize for Biology and the 30 Millions d'Amis Prize. He is a fellow of Exeter College, University of Oxford, and has particular passions for Greece, waves, the Upper Palaeolithic, mountains and swifts.

THE AGE OF IMMERSION



UK: On submission
US: Astra Publishing House, Spring 2027

US Editor: Tara Sharma
Primary Agent: VB
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:
Extent: 90,000 words
Illustrations: TBC
Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

A book about humanity's quest for immersion throughout history.

"Immersive" is the defining quality of 21st century art, uniting everything from Van Gogh projection shows and immersive theatre to video games, virtual reality, and installation art. But while cutting-edge technology may seem key to these immersive experiences, the quest for immersion is as old as humanity itself. From ancient Roman frescos to theme parks, from 19th century Parisian waxworks to the \$2 billion Sphere in Las Vegas, and from extravagant medieval pageants reserved for nobility to high-tech live action role playing games played by masses, *The Age of Immersion* shows how we've always harnessed imagination, craft, and technology to transport ourselves to other worlds – for enlightenment, for an encounter with the divine, and often, just for fun. Today's immersive experiences, grander and more powerful than ever, offer us a more intense version of real life and demand more from us in turn. Understanding the history of this art form is crucial to navigating the exciting, and sometimes unsettling, possibilities of our immersive future.

In *The Age of Immersion*, Adrian seeks to understand the explosion in "immersive" experiences in the past thirty years, and more broadly, figure out why "immersion" has become the primary quality desired in everything from entertainment and education to art and technology.

Praise for *You've Been Played*:

'*You've Been Played* is the urgent wake-up call we need to the dangers of the gamification run amok, where manipulation masquerades as fun and politics and profit are the only real winners. Essential reading for lovers of games, human freedom, and anyone who still believes that playing should be fun'

- David Sax, bestselling author of *The Revenge of Analog*

'*You've Been Played* is a must-read examination of the rise of gamification and how technologies that subtly interface directly with our minds are being deployed in ways that are exploitative and dehumanizing'

- Martin Ford, bestselling author of *Rise of the Robots: Technology and the Threat of a Jobless Future*

Adrian Hon is a game designer, author, and former CEO and founder of Six to Start. His work has won multiple awards including Best of Show at SXSW, and has been exhibited at MOMA and the Design Museum. At Six to Start, he co-created the world's bestselling smartphone fitness game "Zombies, Run!" with ten million players. Before becoming a game designer, Adrian was a neuroscientist and experimental psychologist at Cambridge, UCSD, and Oxford. His first book, *You've Been Played*, was published by Swift Press in the UK and Basic Books in the US in 2022.

SURVIVAL OF THE KINDEST



UK: On submission
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Options:

Arabic - Dar Tashkeel
Chinese Simplified - Golden Rose Books
Czech - Grada
Dutch - De Bezige Bij
Estonian - Postimehe Kirjastus
Greek - Dioptra
Korean - ACANET
Norwegian - Manuskript
Polish - Filtry
Romanian - Editura Polirom
Russian - Alpina
Spanish - Salamandra
Turkish - Ayrinti

Additional info:

Extent: pages/words tbc
Illustrations: Tbc
Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Jonathan Kennedy teaches global public health at Queen Mary University of London. He has a PhD in sociology from the University of Cambridge. His interdisciplinary research has been published in leading medical, public health, sociology and history journals, and he has written for newspapers including the *Guardian* and *El Pais*. His first book, *Pathogenesis* was a National bestseller in America, a *BBC Radio 4* Book of the week, a names Science Book of the Year by *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*.

A radical re-evaluation of accepted wisdom.

The dominant narrative of evolution tells us that nature is governed by ruthless competition — red in tooth and claw. But a growing body of evidence reveals that cooperation is not an exception; it's a fundamental characteristic of life on Earth. This book tells the story of that shift: from Darwin to Kropotkin, from cooperative genes to fungal networks, and from bacterial symbiosis to mutual aid among humans.

This idea has had an impact well beyond the natural sciences. It has provided a veneer of scientific respectability to some of the most horrific episodes in modern history.

However, a deluge of recent research in microbiology, genetics, botany, zoology, psychology, anthropology, economics, etc, has revealed something remarkable: cooperation and altruism are crucial forces in nature. This body of knowledge is forcing us to rethink the way we see the natural world. It no longer makes sense to argue that nature is characterised exclusively by violent conflict.

Kennedy will place this research on cooperation and altruism in its intellectual context, summarize the body of knowledge; and consider the implications of all this for humans.

Praise for *Pathogenesis*:

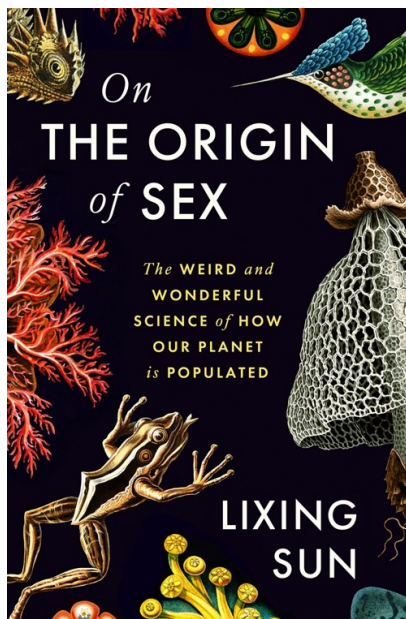
'Powerfully argued... Fascinating and pacy' - *Sunday Times, Book of the Week*

'Superbly written... sure to please readers of Yuval Noah Harari or Rutger Bregman' - *The Times*

'The book shines when it brings cutting-edge science to bear' - *Financial Times*

'A humbling story for humankind' - *Spectator*

ON THE ORIGIN OF SEX



UK: Profile, March 2026
UK Editor: Izzy Everington
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: DHA
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:

Chinese simplified - Beijing World Publishing

Additional info:

Extent: 320 pages
Illustrations: tbc
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

The weird and wonderful science of how our planet is populated.

Let's talk about sex. Not boring, human sex, but the endlessly fascinating, varied and complex forms of reproduction that can be found in the rest of the natural world.

Whiptail lizards and California condors are capable of immaculate conception, while clownfish and bearded dragons regularly switch between male and female. Sex in slime molds can involve three mating types. For some fungi, it's twenty-three thousand. And for algae, every single organism is a potential mate - a veritable bonanza.

Lixing Sun has spent decades expanding the bounds of what we know about reproduction, in all its many flavours. And as it turns out, sex is far more complex and eye-opening than we ever could have imagined.

Praise for *The Liars of Nature* and *the Nature of Liars*:

'The world is full of liars, a fact brilliantly depicted in Lixing Sun's slender but important book about cheating and deception among animals and plants, as well as that hairless bipedal species that is the biggest deceiver of them all. . . . A tour de force of evolutionary biology. . . . Fascinating.'

- *Wall Street Journal*

'[An] intriguing introduction to the domain of dishonesty.'

- *Booklist*

'Buckle up for a riveting journey into the wide world of deception.'

- *Psychology Today*

Dr Lixing Sun first studied at East China Normal University in Shanghai before completing a PhD in ecology, behavior and evolution at the State University of New York and Syracuse University. He is currently a Distinguished Research Professor at Central Washington University. He has authored or coauthored over 60 research articles in scientific journals, and contributed extensively to a number of academic books, as well as authoring three non-trade books, the most recent of which was selected as a Book of the Week by the *Wall Street Journal* and the *New Yorker*. He was awarded a Harvard Radcliffe Fellowship in 2024.



UK: Little Brown, October 2027

UK Editor: Sarah Castleton

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 25,000 words (5 essays, 40 poems)

Illustrations: Yes, B&W; 10 full page illustrations, 40 decorative initial

letters, 5 decorative section openers

Material available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan-Uni Agency

Dr James Wade is Associate Professor of English Literature at Girton College, Cambridge. James grew up on a wilderness homestead in Alaska and has spent the last twenty years at Cambridge University researching and teaching the folklore of the Middle Ages. There, he specialises in early English literature, especially the romances, secular literature, popular writings, folklore, minstrelsy, and songs of the Middle Ages. His first book, *Folk*, is forthcoming from Faber.

Dr Adam Crothers is a Fellow in English at Girton College, Cambridge. He is also the author of two collections of poems published by Carcanet. *Several Deer* (2016) won both the Shine/Strong Poetry Award and the Seamus Heaney Centre Prize. Adam's work has appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies, and he has given readings in Canada, the US, Mexico, France and Ireland, as well as the UK.

Amy Jeffs is a Sunday Times bestselling author and illustrator. Her books include *Storyland: A New Mythology of Britain*, *Wild: Tales from Early Medieval Britain* and *Saints: Medieval Legends of Heroes, Humans and Magic*. She is also the author of *Old Songs: Tales of Love and Death from Traditional Ballads* created in collaboration with illustrator Gwen Burns and due to be published in September 2025. *Storyland* was shortlisted for Waterstones Book of the Year and *Wild*, illustrated with original songs in the audio edition, was named Audiobook of the Week in the Guardian and the Times. Amy holds a PhD in History of Art from the University of Cambridge and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art. She is a guest curator for Cheltenham Literature Festival 2025.

Songs and tales of Fairy Folk.

We are witnessing is the first folk revival of the twenty-first century and *Greenwild* is the first poetry collection responding to this movement.

Seeped in ancient folklore, fairies and fungi, this collection seeks to re-enchant our relationship with the natural world and see it as more magical, more mysterious, more dynamically 'alive' than the modern world wants us to believe.

Greenwild features 40 poems written by two Cambridge professors, essays on fairies and folklore by expert Dr James Wade, and beautiful woodcuts created by the bestselling author and illustrator Amy Jeffs.

For readers of Robert Macfarlane, Nick Hayes and Simon Armitage; *Greenwild* is sure to be both a pleasure to read and behold.

MY CANTOPOP NIGHTS



A memoir and exploration of Hong Kong's shifting identities through the history of Cantopop from musician and writer Emma-Lee Moss.

In 1997, Hong Kong was 'returned' to China, ending 156 years of British colonial rule. Emma-Lee was eleven years old when she and her family left Hong Kong for England, her father's country, two years before authority over the country transitioned from London to Beijing. Leaving her country of birth and the place she had grown up with her siblings and her Hong Kong Chinese mother's family, with no plans to return, and landing on the chilly, grey coast of Sussex, England, presented a deep cognitive dissonance, otherwise known as heartbreak.

Arriving in the UK and on the cusp of puberty, Emma-Lee packaged up all her feelings – the memories, language and sounds of Hong Kong – into a box she buried deep inside of herself as she tried to navigate her mixed-race identity in 1990s England, where no one had ever heard of Aaron Kwok, one of the biggest stars of Cantopop back in Hong Kong, and where Tony Blair's landslide Labour victory had ushered in an era of Cool Britannia with the Spice Girls, Blur and Oasis ruling the radio waves.

Over twenty years later, after honing her craft as a musician in the US and China, thirtysomething Emma-Lee finds herself back in Hong Kong and falling in love. Soon her daughter is born in the very same hospital in which she herself was born over three decades earlier. Returning to Hong Kong and becoming a mother there, as well as reencountering the city's homegrown musical genre, Cantopop, unlocks everything she has kept hidden away, before she is forced to leave again in the wake of the 2019 protests.

Blending memoir, cultural history and music writing, *My Cantopop Nights* is a tender exploration of the past through the sounds of childhood, and reveals Hong Kong's music, its stars, and its cultural and historical significance in the context of a deeply fractured society and increasingly unstable political climate – for readers of *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner, *Stay True* by Hua Hsu and *Free* by Lea Ypi.

UK: Jonathan Cape, Summer 2026

UK Editor: Bea Hemming

Primary Agent: NC

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 85,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Edited manuscript due October

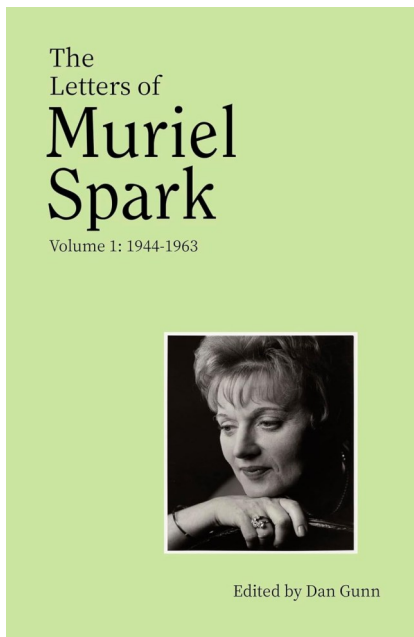
Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Emma-Lee Moss is a writer, musician and broadcaster. She has contributed to the *Guardian*, *Vice*, *i-D*, *British GQ*, *Wired*, *the Good Journal* and more. Emma-Lee writes about music, books, motherhood, identity and Hong Kong, her birthplace. As the singer-songwriter Emmy the Great. She has released the albums *First Love*, *Virtue*, *Second Love* and *April*/月音. As a composer, she has worked on music and lyrics for Sara Pascoe's *Pride and Prejudice* (Nottingham Playhouse), and original soundtracks for *Austenland* (Sony Pictures) and *Out of Her Mind* (BBC 2).

THE LETTERS OF MURIEL SPARK (Vol 1: 1944-1963)



UK: Virago, August 2025

UK Editor: Olivia Barber

Primary Agent: GG

TV/Film Agent: Casarotto Ramsay & Associates

Translation Agent: GB / SN / ZP

Options:

French - Robert Laffont

German - Diogenes

Italian - Adelphi

Additional info:

Extent: 688 pages

Illustrations: Yes, photographs

Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Selected from her extensive correspondence and insightfully edited and annotated, this is an essential read for anyone interested in Spark's work and world.

In 1944, on her return to England after a disastrous marriage, Muriel Spark was unknown as a writer except to a handful of close friends; by 1963 she was the internationally renowned author of seven critically acclaimed, bestselling novels.

Her letters - witty, affectionate, sharp, mercurial - reveal the turbulence of her early career in post-war London: her struggles to earn a living as a writer, her difficult love affairs, a terrifying breakdown, and her conversion to Catholicism. They also trace her development from little-known poet to celebrated novelist, with glittering insights into the emergence of her unique literary voice, as well as her relationships with friends, lovers, writers and publishers.

Praise for *The Letters of Muriel Spark*:

'[An] immaculately-edited collection . . . Feisty, fun-filled, witty and, of course, sparky, the letters are a window into a remarkable life that was lived in devotion to literature.'

- Alan Taylor, author of *Appointment in Arezzo: A Friendship with Muriel Spark*

'What an extraordinary life of adventure the young Muriel Spark led. These funny and fraught early letters capture her triumphs and disasters vast and small, not to mention the curious predicaments—personal, artistic, familial—to which she seemed fated. A marvellous book.'

- Joseph O'Neill, author of *Netherland*

Muriel Spark, D.B.E., C. Litt, was born in Edinburgh in 1918. A poet and novelist, she also wrote children's books, radio plays, a comedy, and biographies. She is best known for her stories and many successful novels, including *Memento Mori*, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*, *Loitering With Intent*, *The Comforters*, *A Far Cry from Kensington* and *The Public Image*. For her long career of literary achievement, Muriel Spark won international praise and many awards, including the David Cohen British Literature Award, the T. S. Eliot Award, the Saltire Prize, the Boccaccio Prize for European Literature, the Gold Pen Award and the Italia Prize for dramatic radio. She died in 2006.

THE SMALLEST RESTAURANT IN PARIS



Like *Amelie*, if Amelie had street savvy and a passion for cooking...oh, and if Amelie were a British-Austrian-Malay girl from Croydon.

Paris! Where better to follow your dreams than to beautiful Paris? For Rachel Khoo, a young woman from the unglamorous Croydon suburbs, studying at *Le Cordon Bleu* was her chosen adventure. But when she took a chance and threw herself into Paris life without a Euro to her name, even she couldn't have dreamed that it would lead to her opening what the press would crown *The Smallest Restaurant in Paris*.

We all dream of Paris but the Paris you'll find in this book isn't all twinkly lights on the Seine and cute balconies overlooking the Eiffel Tower (although they are there). This is also the Paris of rooms the size of a cupboard, neighbourhoods whose food culture and *joie de vivre* owes everything to their immigrant populations, a city of gifters, queer life and of party animals.

Rachel's Paris life in her adorable (and miniscule) apartment has already been captured in her cookbook and TV show, *The Little Paris Kitchen*. This book is an account of Rachel's high-street-to-Boulevard self-transformation: an inspiring story of how you can reach for your dreams and achieve them through determination and hard work, deciding to love the journey as much as the destination.

UK/ANZ: Ultimo

UK/ANZ Editor: Brigid Mullane

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: NL

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: TBC

Illustrations: Yes, B&W

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *The Little Swedish Kitchen*:

'I am so ready to race home and devour these fun, effortless and beautiful recipes that just beg to be cooked . . . this will no doubt be *the* book of 2018.'

- Melissa Hemsley, author of *Real Healthy*

'A joy to behold.' - Yotam Ottolenghi

'Rachel Khoo made a life-change when she left Paris and moved to Sweden for love. Now, having made the country her home she shares recipes and lifestyle tips from her new little Scandi Kitchen.' - *Tatler*

'Rachel Khoo's sharing the joys of simple, satisfying Swedish food. Mushroom toast with bacon and thyme, almond and lingonberry buns . . . What's Swedish for 'nom'?' - *The Sunday Telegraph*

Rachel Khoo's unconventional food background helped formulate her unique culinary touch. When *The Little Paris Kitchen* was published by Penguin in March 2012, it became a number one bestseller. Rachel's TV show of the same name was aired on BBC 2. *The Little Paris Kitchen* has been translated into Dutch, French, Italian, German, Danish, Russian, Norwegian, German, Danish, Brazilian, Latvian, Chinese, Polish, Hungarian and Japanese and was published in the US. Author of five cookery books since, Rachel now lives in Sweden with her young family.

WILLIAM MORRIS



UK: Under offer

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: TBC

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 130,000 words

Illustrations: Yes; colour

Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

The first fully rounded biography of one of the most fascinating and eminent Victorians.

William Morris is known throughout the world for his groundbreaking interior and textile design. His wallpaper patterns have graced innumerable houses as well as being endlessly reproduced as gifts and household items.

But the real Morris was so much more than a designer. As this groundbreaking new book makes clear, his work and business acumen were driven not just by his fearsome energy and appetite for work, but his passion for social justice. The mid-nineteenth century was the period in which international socialist movements were forged, and Morris was one of the earliest and most famous people to endorse their cause.

Full of new insights and original archival research, and beautifully written, *William Morris: Remaking the World* is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand one of the architects of modern society.

Praise for *The Last Utopians*:

‘[An] accessible introduction to the ferment of utopian ideas and practical experiments that ... made the politics of the late nineteenth century fizz with an almost unprecedented sense of political possibility’

- *Times Literary Supplement*

Michael Robertson is Honorary Research Fellow at Birkbeck, University of London, and the author of two well-received books: *Worshipping Walt* and *The Last Utopians*. Between graduating from Stanford University and entering the Ph.D. program at Princeton, he earned an MA at Columbia and worked as a freelance arts journalist in New York, publishing articles and reviews in the *New York Times* and numerous other newspapers and magazines.

I WILL CLEAN UP AFTER THE DEAD



“모든 최 지나갔던 이웃들의 고단했던 마지막을 비워
역설적으로 삶의 강렬한 의지와 소중함을 진한다.”
서울대학교 의과대학 법의학고실 유성호 교수 추천
[간행사]

UK: Headline, Autumn 2026
UK Editor: Bianca Bexton
Korean: Grimm-Young
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: DHA
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:

Chinese - White Horse Time
Hungarian - Európa Könyvkiadó
Japanese - Zitsugyono Nihhon
Russian - AST
Spanish - PRH Mexico
Taiwanese - Walkers Cultural
Thai - Biblio
Vietnamese - Nguoi Tre Viet

Additional info:

Extent: 252 pages (Korean text)
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Full Korean text;
sample translation

Kim Wan is a cleaner. A special kind of cleaner. Kim Wan cleans for the dead.

In this candid, moving and thought-provoking memoir, Kim Wan invites readers into the homes of those who have passed away alone - spaces where the traces of a life once lived linger in silence. As he meticulously cleans away the remnants of the departed, he confronts the profound questions that his work raises: Is it immoral to make a living from the dead? What does it mean to bear witness to a life's final chapter? And can thinking about how we leave change how we live?

With moments that are both heart-wrenching and quietly beautiful, Kim shares what it is like to stand where life has ended. But as confronting as this sounds, it is written with a delicate poetic attention. Kim Wan treats each day, each job, each life, with respect and empathy; an equally heartbreaking and affirming memoir provides an entirely new perspective on life.

Ultimately, this book offers not just a new way of looking at death, but a new way of living.

Kim Wan was born in Seoul and raised in Busan. He majored in poetry at university. After working in the publishing and trend industry, he moved to the mountains in his late thirties to live as a full-time writer. Over the next few years, while staying in Japan to report and write, he became interested in what was left of the dead and rehabilitation. After the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami, he returned to Korea and established a special cleaning service company called “Hard Works”. *I Will Clean up After the Dead* was published May 2020 in Korea where it has been a huge bestseller, selling over 150,000 copies. It was the Kyobo Bookstore All Time Bestseller in 2020, the Yes24 Book of the Year and Aladin 24 Week Bestseller.



The true life of a radical princess.

A pioneering surgeon. A passionate lesbian. A poet. A princess. Who was Princess Vera Giedroytz, and why have we never heard of her?

Born in Ukraine in 1870, this new book from the award-winning biographer Miranda Seymour explores the life of this extraordinary polymath. The action charges across Europe and moves between high and low circles. From Vera's time running hospitals on the Eastern frontline to hosting literary salons; from her friendship with the Romanovs to being held at gunpoint by Stalin's henchman.

What emerges is a portrait of a woman who knew no boundaries. She was not only the world's first fully qualified woman surgeon. She smoked cigars, worked in a cement factory, operated on the battlefield, lived in war-torn Kiev, and was a political dissident. She was passionate, intelligent and utterly fearless.

Known to the western world only through a couple of old articles in respected medical journals, Vera is an extraordinary figure: a true lost hero.

This suspense-filled biography tells the unknown story of a courageous rebel who broke the mould of history and who offers inspiration to all women who dream of making a difference.

UK: HarperCollins, May 2026

UK Editor: Arabella Pike

US: WW Norton & Company, Autumn 2026

US Editor: John Glusman

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: NL

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 100,000 words

Illustrations: Yes, tbc

Material Available: Proposal; unedited manuscript due October 25

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *I Used to Live Here Once*:

'Brilliantly written, compulsively readable and insightful, Miranda Seymour's biography does full justice to a remarkable and complex life.'

- Pat Barker, author of *The Silence of the Girls*

'A masterpiece.' - *The Sunday Times*

'[Seymour] is a bewitching writer.' - *The Times*

'An absolute belter of a biography.' - Marina Hyde

Miranda Seymour, celebrated as a biographer, novelist, memoir writer and critic, has been a visiting professor at Nottingham Trent University. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. She is the author of the award-winning memoir, *In My Father's House*. Her many acclaimed biographies include: *A Ring of Conspirators*, an innovative study of Henry James and his literary circle; *Ottoline Morrell: Life on a Grand Scale*; *Robert Graves: Life on the Edge*; *Mary Shelley*; *In Byron's Wake* and *The Bugatti Queen*.

I'M JUST A GIRL: How Reclaiming Girlhood Can Rewrite Womanhood



Boys will be boys. Girls must be...women?

It's official: we are living through the era of the 'girl'. All around us, and with unprecedented power and pull, popular culture has adopted the concept of 'girlhood' in film, fashion, music, our relationships, and more. Adult women are finding ways to reconnect and be empowered by the concept of the 'girl'... but to what end?

The phenomenon of forging one's adult way back to girlhood is not a new one. We might call this phenomenon 'the second girlhood', an adult state wherein (predominantly) women relive the emotions associated with their childhood through film, fashion, literature, hobbies and music, which capitalise on their nostalgia for a carefree, simpler time. It is a small rebellion against facing the reality of womanhood.

However, reclaiming one's girlhood is not without its dangers. Girlhood is accused of encouraging the sexist idea of female youth as currency, for example. Moreover, as girlhood becomes increasingly capitalised upon by corporations who see its potential for profit, it could be argued that we are being exploited in the name of our own empowerment. So how can women reclaim their girlhood for their own personal gain?

Told with the personal warmth and pop culture expertise that her hundreds of thousands of online followers adore Jess for, *I'm Just A Girl* examines the pleasures and pitfalls of 'the second girlhood' in different spheres of the female identity. Oversized bows and noughties reboots might be limited in their ability to change the world, but they are emblematic of a bigger shift. Reclaiming our girlhood might just be a crucial and poignant way to start rewriting the script of womanhood.

UK: Piatkus, May 2026

UK Editor: Bernadette Maron

Primary Agent: OVV

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 70,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Proposal, manuscript due October 2025

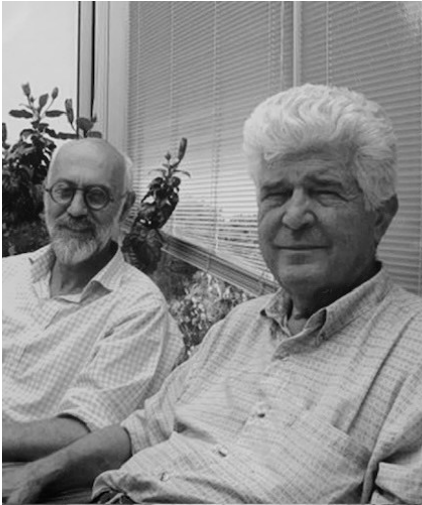
Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni Agency

Jess Bacon is a freelance writer, culture critic, and speaker who specialises in film, digital culture, and feminism. With degrees in English Literature and Creative Writing, she writes for publications such as *Rolling Stone*, *GQ*, *The Guardian*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Stylist*, *Dazed*, *Radio Times*, *The Telegraph* and *Woman & Home*. She has a strong social presence, with a combined following on Instagram, Twitter and TikTok of over 150,000, and also has her own Substack newsletter. She has been a UN Women UK delegate at the Commission for the Status of Women three times. In 2023, she wrote for *Dazed* on the resurgence of girl culture and the commodification of girlhood, a piece which garnered such a thought-provoking response that she realised she had far more to say.

BEYOND THE FRAME



UK: On submission

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 55,000 words

Illustrations: Photographs

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardonia Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan-Uni

A charming and fascinating 'autobiography' of a remarkable witness to postwar British culture.

Mattei Radev had an extraordinary life, culminating in being bequeathed a fabulous array of paintings now known as the Radev Collection, with works by artists including Braque, Picasso and Ben Nicholson, as well as Bloomsburyites like Duncan Grant and Vanessa Bell who Mattei came to know personally.

How did this young man, who fled Communist Bulgaria in 1950 by trekking for days before stowing away on a Glasgow-bound ship with only some chocolate and a bag of lemons, end up owning these paintings? From living in a doss house in Camden and working as a hospital orderly, Mattei's life took many twists and turns, but throughout was marked by the kindness of friends and mentors. The world he was given access to was a fascinating Venn diagram of artists and aristocrats, many of them living a privileged but covert gay life, and his story is an anecdote-filled, name-dropping gem.

Norman Coates has now reconstructed his story by mining Mattei's extensive collection of papers, letters and journals – including the 120 letters that emerged from Mattei's decade-long affair with E. M. Forster, despite the near fifty-year age gap. It is a remarkable act of ventriloquism which not only does justice to Mattei's circuitous route to making a small mark on history, but is also a fascinating, moving and often funny book in its own right.

Praise for *Beyond the Frame*:

'Very moving ... It's above all a story of friendship, rich in anecdotes and sidelong insights into famous figures, and an evocative and intimate portrait of a bygone era'
- Francesca Wade, author of *Square Haunting and Gertrude Stein*

'I absolutely loved it' - Rev. Richard Coles

Norman Coates is a retired theatre designer who lived with Mattei for nearly forty years. This is his first book.

SLAVES TO LOVE



A landmark new collection of essays on love by a leading philosopher.

Slaves to Love is a collection of essays that seeks to transform the language we use to understand love. Composed by Jessie Munton, an Associate Professor in Philosophy at the University of Cambridge, these intimate, reframing essays are not only built of Dr. Munton's philosophical perspective, but also her innermost human perspective. These essays, which pose questions on what sex truly is, what the point of modern-day marriage really is, and what we actually mean by freedom and commitment, contain the perspective of Munton's philosophical ingenuity, but also her perspective borne from being a mother to young children, a partner in a romantic and sexual relationship, a daughter, a teacher, a friend, and at the heart of all of it: a person who loves others.

Moving between the perspectives of the domestic sphere and the philosophical academy, in each essay Munton uses her experiences and knowledge of both to explore a different aspect of loving and living. Munton is an academic who teaches Hegel's master/slave dialectic, yet at home she feels herself a slave to her children's physical and emotional needs. In her long-term, monogamous marriage it is obligation, loyalty and kindness that concern her; in her work it is freedom, autonomy and consent. It is this deeply observational and contradictory middle ground that allows Munton to offer her radically new frameworks through which to understand the feelings and structures that underpin all our lives. Munton therefore uses her essays to ask questions, but does not seek to provide answers – instead, she tackles the unavoidable tensions of life and love, sex and virginity, marrying and parenting, consent and freedom, head on, and seeks to offer us a structure through which to survive and find meaning in them.

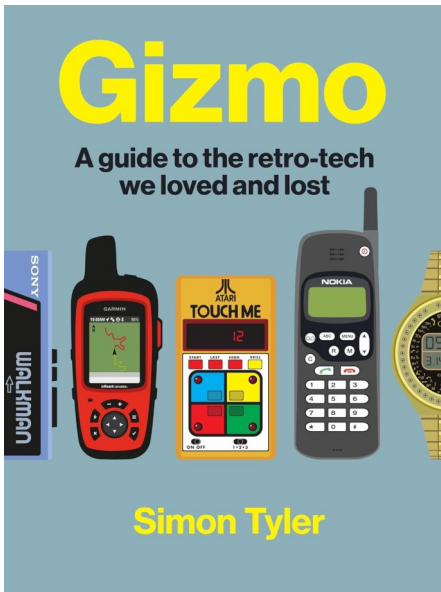
The essays contained in *Slaves to Love* are a container of transformative thinking, a gift in understanding ourselves, our relationships, and the contradictions that lie in the space between them. In Munton's company, and in the unique and radical space between her roles as philosopher and caregiver, we are left feeling alive in the perspectives she offers about the lives we all lead.

Jessie Munton completed her graduate studies at the University of Oxford, before completing her PhD from Yale University. She is now an Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of Cambridge and a Fellow in Philosophy at St John's College, with her main areas of research as philosophy of mind, epistemology, and philosophy of cognitive science. She is the winner of a 2023 Philip Leverhulme Prize and the 2020 Sanders Prize in Philosophy of Mind.

UK: On submission
Primary Agent: LK
TV/Film Agent: DHA
Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:
Extent: TBC
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan-Uni



UK: Laurence King Publishing , May 2026

UK Editor: Helen Rochester

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: SN

Additional info:

Extent: tbc

Illustrations: Yes, colours

Material Available: Page proofs

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A nostalgic visual guide to the gadgets that have shaped our lives.

We live in a world where many aspects of late twentieth century science fiction have become technological reality. As gadgets and technology in general have become more miniaturised, sleek and capable, so too has an appetite for the sort of quirky, retro tech that wistfully reminds us of earlier times. Nintendo has enjoyed great success with the re-release of their console systems from the 1980s, and US brand Analogue has created a hardware emulator for Sega's classic Mega Drive games. Audio formats such as vinyl records and cassettes have seen a resurgence, along with the devices that can play them.

This book sets out to provide a comprehensive survey of electronic and time-saving gadgets and devices, their evolution and genealogy, revealing where they come from, and how they are developed. In charting the diverse spectrum of gizmos by type and purpose, it uncovers the sometimes unexpected connections between them. We hear from the inventors designing new gadgets and from the people who use them for their own creative endeavours. Finally, we discover how these technologies have become the nexus of our interaction with each other and the world around us, shaping creativity and culture, storing memories, helping, guiding and, increasingly, thinking for us.

Praise for *Adventures on Earth*:

'Handsomely illustrated this information book is full of stories of adventure and exploration ... Tyler's striking graphic illustrations make the information even more memorable' - *Lovereading4kids.co.uk*, 'Books of the Year'

'Bursting with information and illustrated in bold and colourful graphics, this book will grab the attention of all avid explorers – big and small'

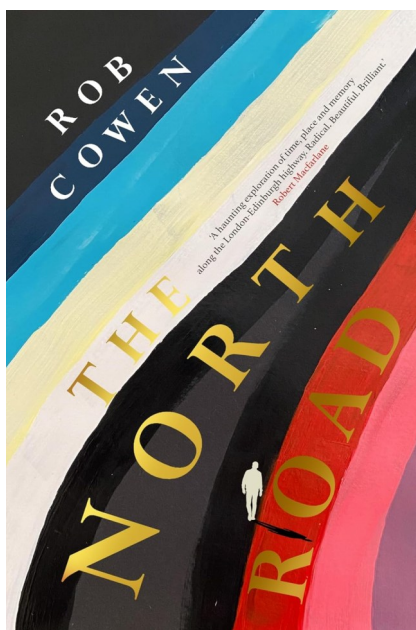
- *Parents in Touch*

'Special mention must go to the illustrations throughout the book. The versatile talent of Simon Tyler is displayed by his use of the map to outline the great maritime expeditions... on eye-catching double page spreads'

- *The School Librarian*

Simon Tyler is an author, illustrator and multidisciplinary designer based in St Leonards-on-Sea. His work has featured in *The Times*, *Telegraph*, *Mail Online*, *Guardian*, *Independent*, *Elle Decoration*, *It's Nice That*, and others. Simon founded the infographic poster brand Atomic Printworks in 2013. This series of posters was distributed across Europe, Scandinavia and the USA. The posters and Isotopiks knowledge cards have been sold in the Design Museum, the Science Museum, the National Gallery of Singapore, and design shops around the world. As a graphic designer, Simon has most recently had experience in environmental graphics, wayfinding and signage, branding, pictogram design and supergraphics. He has written, designed and illustrated children's non-fiction books for some of the UK's leading publishers.

Prizes 2025

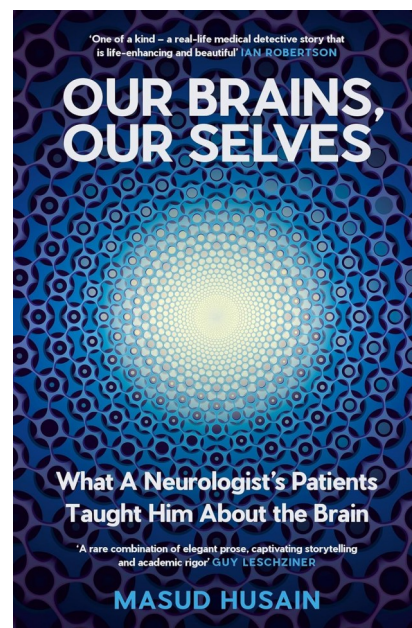


Longlisted for the Wainwright Prize

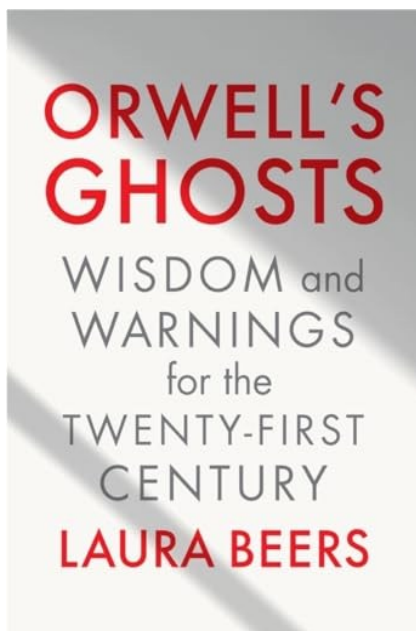


Received the 2025 Henry David Thoreau Prize for Literary Excellence in Nature Writing

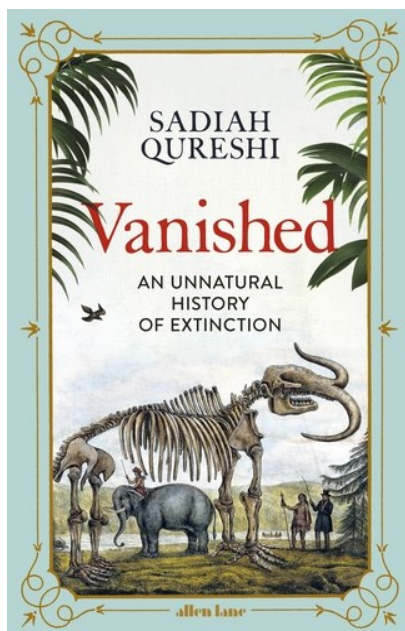
Shortlisted for the Wainwright prize x2 (World to Come and IARA)



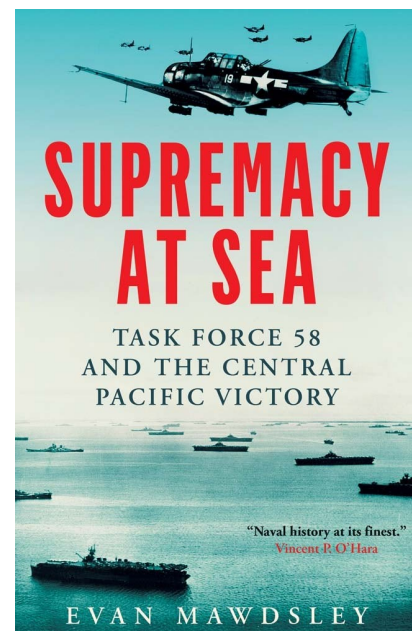
Shortlisted for the 2025 Royal Society Trivedi Science Book Prize



Winner of the 2025 L.A. Times Book Prize for Biography

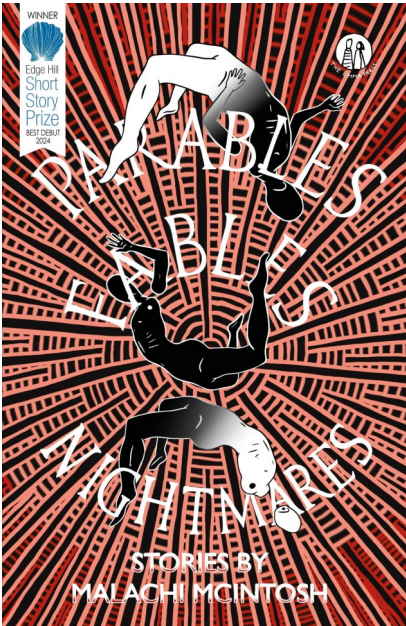


Shortlisted for the 2025 Royal Society Trivedi Science Book Prize

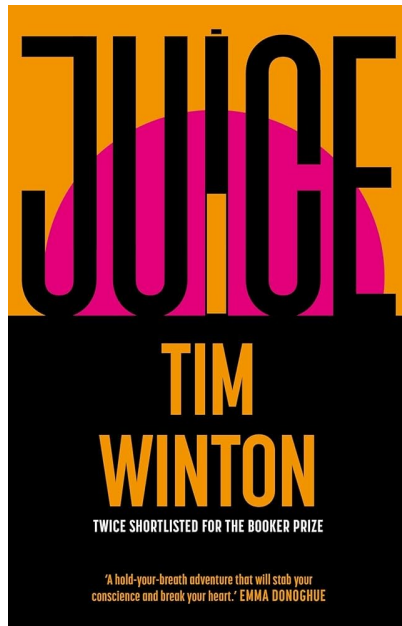


Shortlisted for the 2025 Gilder Lehrman Military History Prize

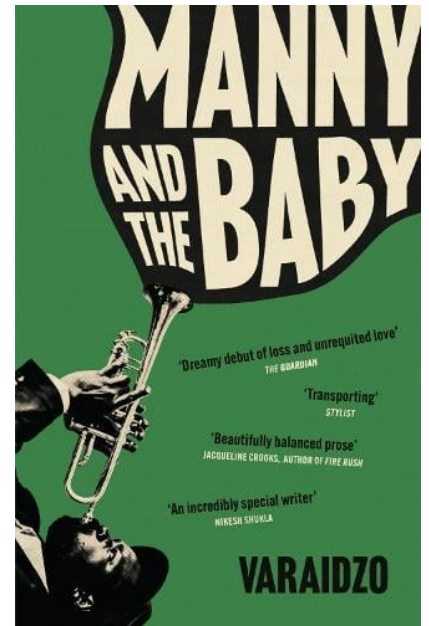
Prizes 2025



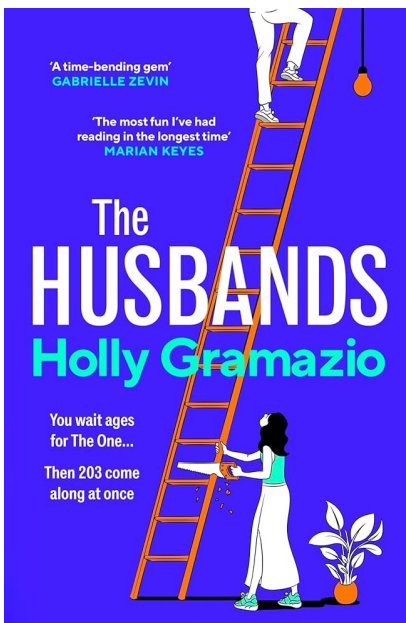
Won the Edge Hill Short Story Prize for Best Debut



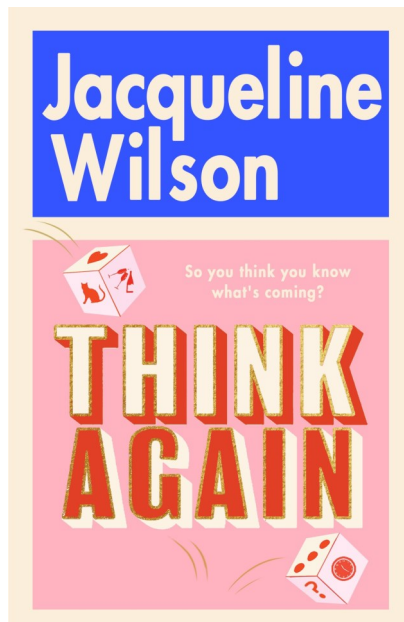
Indie Book of the Month in October



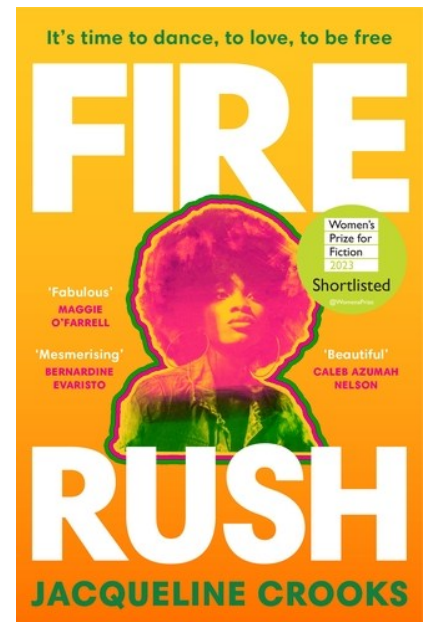
Shortlisted for 2025 Jhalak Prose Prize



Shortlisted for the 2025 Comedy Women In Print Prize

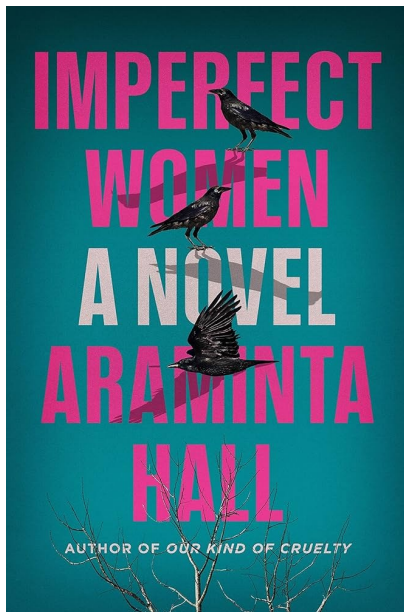


Shortlisted for Fiction Book of the Year at the British Book Awards



Shortlisted for the 2025 Gordon Burn Prize and longlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize

Film and TV news 2025



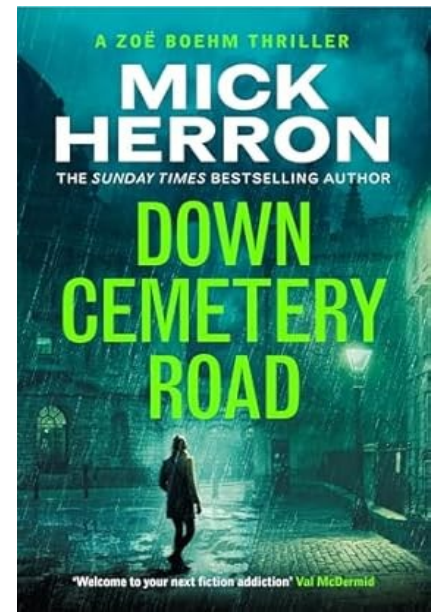
Imperfect Women

20th Television/Apple Studios began filming for their TV adaptation of Araminta Hall's *Imperfect Women*, starring Elisabeth Moss, Kerry Washington and



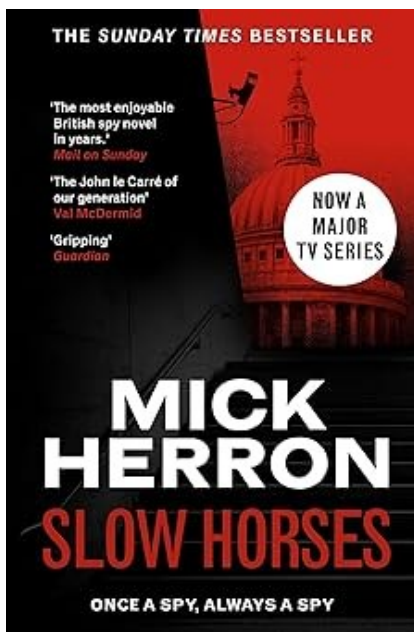
Little Disasters

TV series adapted from the novel by Sarah Vaughan premiered on Paramount+ in UK May 2025



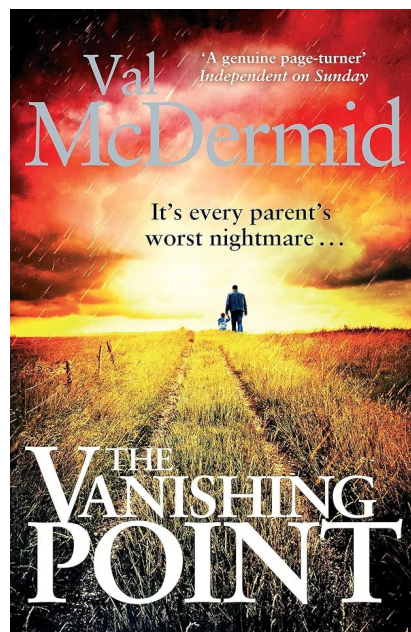
Down Cemetery Road

The TV series adaptation of the Mick Herron novels will premiere on Apple TV+ October 2025



Slow Horses

The TV series adaptation of the Mick Herron novels, has been renewed for a seventh series



The Vanishing Point

Optioned



Inspector Karen Pirie

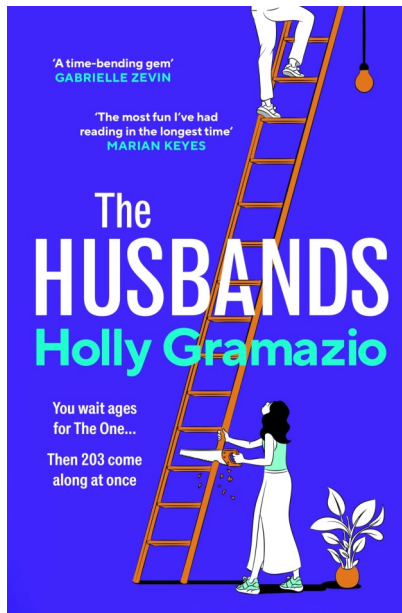
TV series adapted from the novel by Val McDermid, premiered in July

Film and TV news 2025



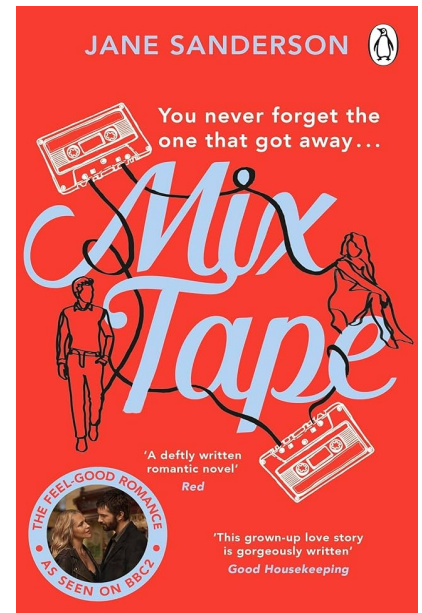
When The Party's Over

The upcoming novel from Katie Hoskins has been optioned



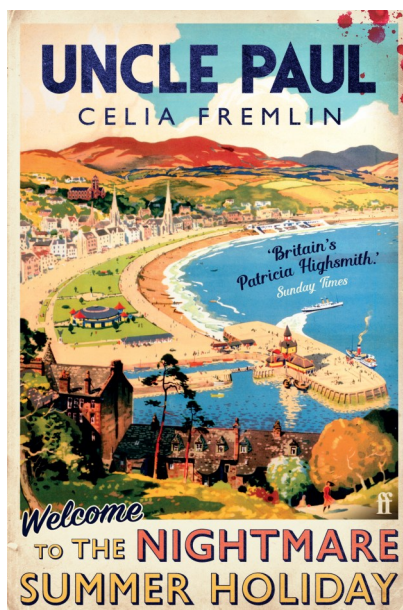
The Husbands

A24/Apple TV+ officially announced the new 8-part adaptation of The Husbands, starring Juno Temple, written by Mariam Battye and directed by Craig Gillespie



Mix Tape

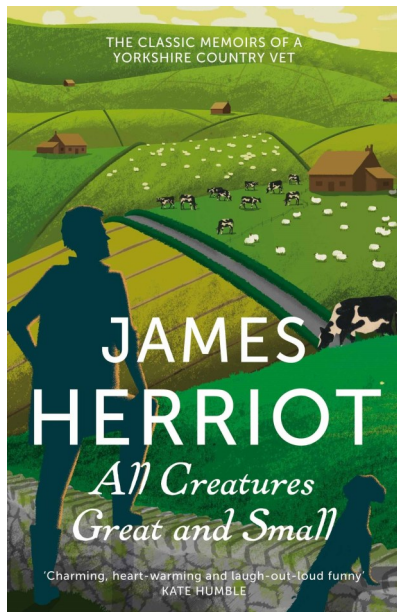
TV series adapted from the novel by Jane Sanderson, has premiered on Binge in Australia and BBC iPlayer in UK July 2025



Uncle Paul

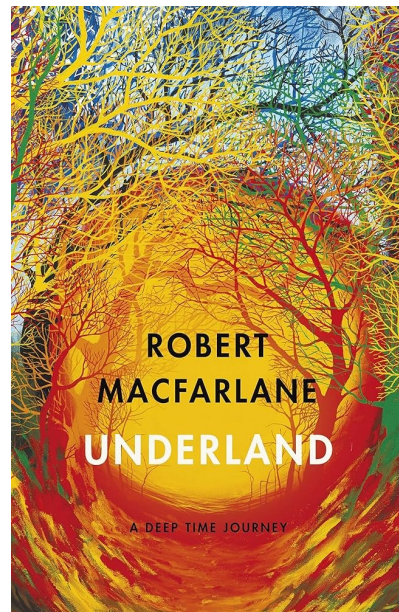
Optioned

Film and TV news 2025



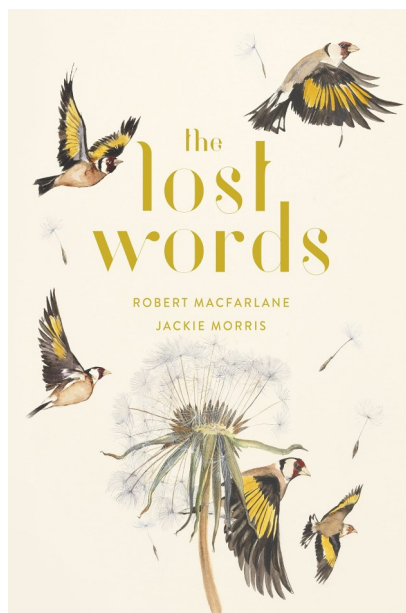
All Creatures Great and Small

TV series adapted from the novel by James Herriot, has been renewed for a seventh series



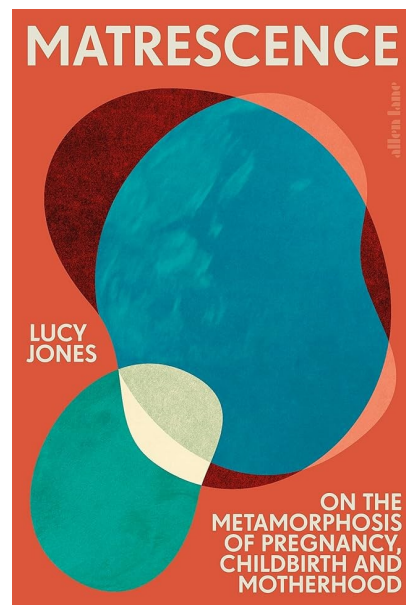
Underland

A documentary based on the book by Robert Macfarlane, premiered at Tribeca Festival 2025



The Lost Words

Lost for Words, a documentary based on Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris' The Lost Words, had its UK premiere at Sheffield Doc Fest 2025



Matrescence

Optioned

Recent and Upcoming Publications

Fiction

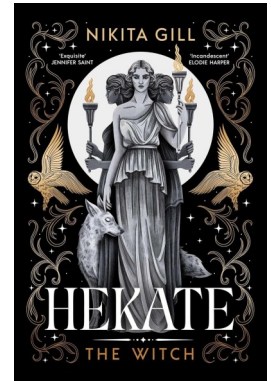
Literary and Upmarket Fiction

Duel Duet by Graham Greene (August 2025)

Hekate by Nikita Gill (September 2025)

No is Not a Lonely Utterance by Sara Ahmed (September 2025)

Jesus Christ Kinski by Benjamin Myers (October 2025)



Commercial Fiction

Bertie's Theory of Ice cream (44 Scotland St Series) by Alexander McCall Smith (August 2025)

Picture Imperfect by Jacqueline Wilson (August 2025)

This Wasn't Meant to Happen by Ali Harris (September 2025)

In the Time of Five Pumpkins (No.1 Ladies 'Detective Agency Series) by Alexander McCall Smith (September 2025)

This Wasn't Meant to Happen by Ali Harris (September 2025)

A Match Made in Hell by Charlotte Ingham (September 2025)

The Private Side of Friendship by Alexander McCall Smith (October 2025)

Let The Bells Ring Out by Milly Johnson (October 2025)

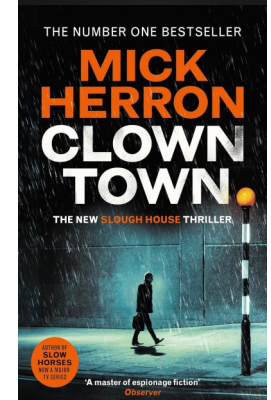
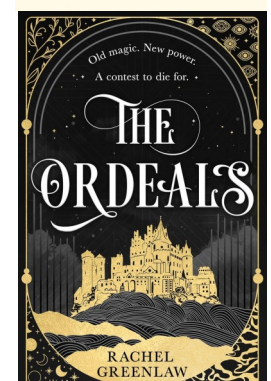
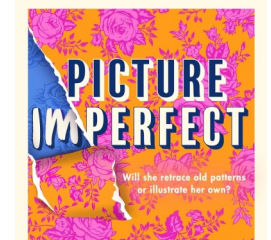
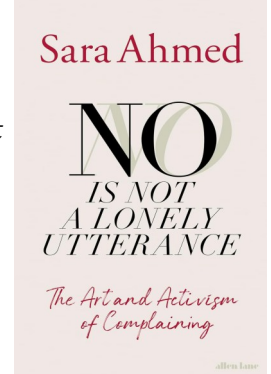
Sharpe's Storm by Bernard Cornwell (October 2025)

The Woodsmoke Women's Book of Spells by Rachel Greenlaw (September 2025)

The Ordeals by Rachel Greenlaw (October 2025)

Is That You, Beth Cherry? by Lucy Dillon (November 2025)

A Legacy of Secrets by Luly Taylor (December 2025)



Crime, Suspense and Thrillers

Clown Town by Mick Herron (September 2025)

The Vanishing Place by Zoe Rankin (October 2025)

Silent Bones by Val McDermid (October 2025)

The Whistler by S.W Kane (November 2025)

Recent and Upcoming Publications

Non-Fiction

Biography and Memoir

Frankly by Nicola Sturgeon (August 2025)

The Quiet Ear by Raymond Antrobus (August 2025)

History and Politics

Augustine the African by Catherine Conybeare (August 2025)

Everything We Do Is Music by Elizabeth Alker (August 2025)

Complicit by Peter Osborne (October 2025)

It Started in Damascus by Rime Allaf (November 2025)

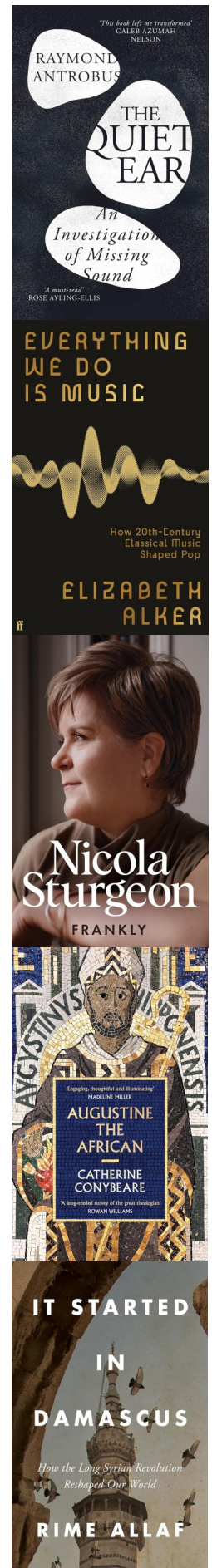
Advance Britannia: How the Second World War Was Won, 1942-1945 by Alan Allport (November 2025)

Science and Nature Writing

99 Words for Rain by Manchan Magan (September 2025)

Against the Machine by Paul Kingsnorth (October 2025)

Human Nature by Thomas Bell (November 2025)



Co-Agents

China: Andrew Nurnberg Associates / Bardon Chinese Media
(SN)

Czech and Slovak: Kristin Olson Literarni Agentura
(ZP)

Hungary: Katai & Bolza
(RK)

Indonesia: Maxima Creative Agency
(SN)

Japan: Tuttle-Mori / Japan Uni Agency
(SN)

Korea: Eric Yang Agency
(SN)

Poland: Andrew Nurnberg Associates
(RK)

Romania: Simona Kessler Agency
(RK)

Russia: Van Lear Agency
(ZP)

Serbia: Plima Literary Agency
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Thailand: The Silkroad Agency
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