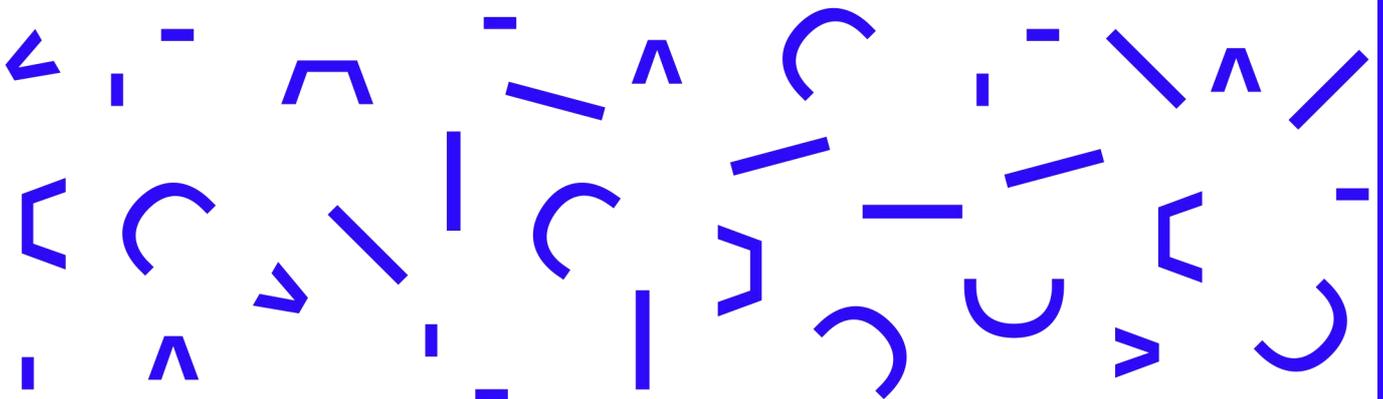


Highlights

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David Higham Associates

Welcome to our 2026 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.

Contents

Fiction

Literary and Upmarket Fiction	5
Commercial Fiction	25
Crime and Thriller	35
Science Fiction and Fantasy	48
Short Stories	57
Poetry	58

Non-Fiction

Health, Medicine and Psychology	60
Politics and Current Affairs	61
History	66
Science and Nature	75
Arts and Culture	81
Biography and Memoir	89
Self Help	94

Prizes 2026	95
Film and TV News	97
Recent and Upcoming Publications	100

Primary Agents

UK/US Rights: Andrew Gordon (AMG); Christabel McKinley (CMK); Elise Dillsworth (ED); Georgia Glover (GG); Jemima Forrester (JF); Jessica Woollard (JW); Lizzy Kremer (LK); Maddalena Cavaciuti (MC); Molly Ker Hawn (MKH), Martha Perotto-Wills (MPW), Nicola Chang (NC); Orli Vogt-Vincent (OVV); Stephanie Glencross (SG); Sara Langham (SL); Veronique Baxter (VB)

Film & TV Rights: Clare Israel (CI); Georgie Smith (GS); Nicky Lund (NL)

Translation Rights

Translation Rights Director:

Alice Howe (AH) - alicehowe@davidhigham.co.uk

Translation Rights Agents:

Giulia Bernabè (GB) - giuliabernabe@davidhigham.co.uk; Rachael Sharples (RS) - rachaelsharples@davidhigham.co.uk; Anna Watkins (AW) - annawatkins@davidhigham.co.uk

Translation Rights Manager:

Sam Norman (SN) - samnorman@davidhigham.co.uk

Associate Translation Rights Executives:

Zara Petranova (ZP) - zarapetranova@davidhigham.co.uk; Rhian Kane (RK) - rhiankane@davidhigham.co.uk

Contact

t: +44 (0)20 7434 5900 / www.davidhigham.co.uk

David Higham Associates

Translation Team

Alice Howe

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

Giulia Bernabè

Represents the authors of Jemima Forrester, Stephanie Glencross, 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 (excluding Veronique Baxter and Lizzy Kremer), Italy, the Netherlands, Scandinavia, Brazil, Portugal, Spain and Latin America

Anna Watkins

Represents the authors of Nicola Chang, Elise Dillsworth, Andrew Gordon and Jessica Woollard (fiction) in Brazil, France, Germany (excluding Andrew Gordon), 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, Spain and Latin America

Sam Norman

Represents the authors of Jemima Forrester, Stephanie Glencross, 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, Spain and Latin America

Zara Petranova

Represents the authors of Maddalena Cavaciuti, Nicola Chang, Elise Dillsworth, 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, 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

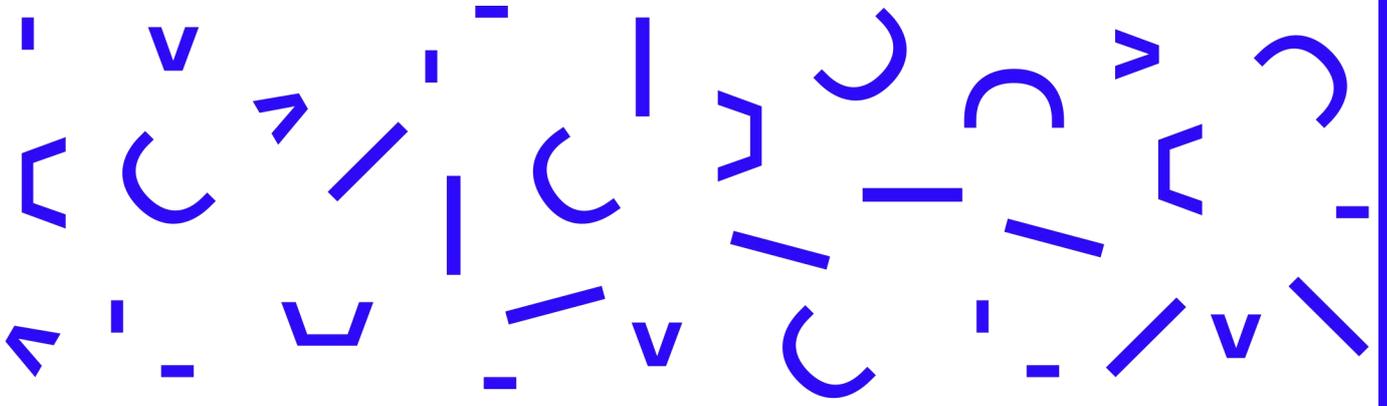
Rhian Kane

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

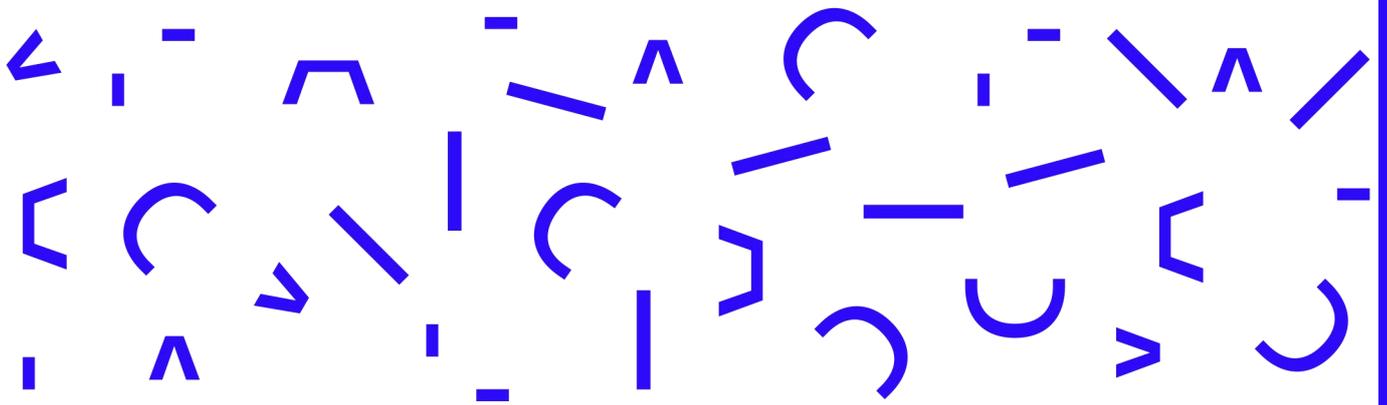
Emma Lagarde

Represents the authors of Molly Ker Hawn and Martha Perotto-Wills 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)

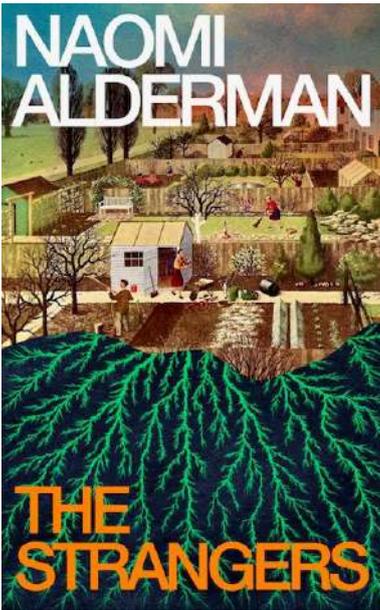


Fiction



THE STRANGERS

Naomi Alderman



UK: Fig Tree, September 2026

UK Editor: Helen Garnon-Williams

US: Little, Brown, September 2026

US Editor: Asya Mushnik

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: Sylvie Rabineau at WME

Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Rights sold:

Italian (under offer)

Options:

French - Gallimard

Finnish - Otava

German - Heyne

Hungarian - 21. Szazad Kiadó

Japanese - Kawade Shobo

Korean - Minumsa

Lithuanian - Baltos Lankos

Portuguese in Portugal

Polish - Marginesy

Spanish - Roca

Turkish - Ithaki

Ukrainian - Knigolove

Additional info:

Extent: 65,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Naomi Alderman's novel *The Power* was the winner of the 2017 Baileys' Women's Prize for Fiction. Her first novel, *Disobedience*, was adapted into a feature-length film by Oscar-winning director Sebastián Lelio, starring Rachel Weisz and Rachel McAdams. In 2006 she won the Orange Award for New Writers. In 2007 she was named *Sunday Times*' Young Writer of the Year, and one of Waterstones' 25 Writers for the Future. Naomi has been mentored by Margaret Atwood and in April 2013 she was named one of Granta's Best British Novelists. She is Professor of Creative Writing at Bath Spa University and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. Her essay collection on the Information Crisis, *Don't Burn Anyone at the Stake Today*, was published in November 2025.

They had come from nowhere, and now they are everywhere.

A few months after her mother dies, the novelist Naomi Alderman sets up a wildlife camera in the back garden of her parents' home. It captures the first image of a strange new animal. Low to the ground, about the size of a badger, flat face, long trunk-like noses. Suddenly these 'mimmoths' are as common as foxes or dogs. And no one knows where they've come from.

As Alderman negotiates the territory of grief – a place with its own logic and rhythms – the mimmoths spread. From the UK east and west, to the United States, to Russia, to India. They seem harmless, but oddly intelligent. They cannot be captured, they will not take food from humans, they have their own purposes.

Alderman cannot shake the feeling that she has a particular connection to the creatures. Or is she just succumbing to 'mimmoth psychosis'? As the impact of the mimmoths increases, she is pulled into the cross-currents of conspiracy theories and global power struggles. Have her deeply personal forms of mourning lent recent events a surreal air, or is our reality changing drastically and irrevocably?

From the award-winning author of the international bestseller, *The Power*, *The Strangers* is a thrillingly original and devastatingly moving novel that blurs the lines between fiction and reality, inviting us to reconsider what it means to be human. It's like nothing you've read before.

Praise for *The Future*:

'Alderman has gone from promising young author to publishing phenomenon, a writer gifted with the double Midas touch of commercial success and literary prestige... Alderman is a fabulous, witty writer on the digital world.'

- *Sunday Times*

'It is the genius of Naomi Alderman to embed a smart and thought-provoking meditation inside a page-turner of a book. This is one wild (and thoughtful) ride. Many things to think! Many things to feel!'

- Karen Joy Fowler, author of *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*

'A nail-biting love story and a witty page-turner about the pros and cons of human civilization, *The Future* is a wow.' - Emma Donoghue, author of *Room*

SANDCASTLES

Marni Appleton



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

Additional info:
Extent: 150 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

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

An electrifying gut punch of a novel about two sisters who travel to Sardinia to scatter their mother's ashes.

When Cassie and Jade's mother dies, they discover a letter she's written asking that her ashes be scattered in Calasetta, the Sardinian village they visited as children. Cassie, affluent and recently married with a baby of her own, is excited to return. She wants to honour their mother and capture a version of the trip she can hold onto, at least on Instagram. Jade, on the other hand, is reluctant. A single mother to 14-year-old Mia, whom she had as a teenager herself, she is broke, bitter and struggling to deal with the death of a woman with whom she had a deeply complicated relationship.

Their conflicting feelings extend beyond their mother to Calasetta itself. For Jade, it's a place of unease and uncertainty, one where memories obfuscate and refuse to settle. Cassie, by contrast, seems to remember everything: the dinners in the piazza, the watermelon drinks they loved, the ferry to the picture-perfect island of Carloforte. But why does she fail to recall other details: their mother's friend whose flat they stayed in, someone crying in the shadows, the loneliness of a beach at night. And what secrets might Mia be hiding beneath the cover of her mother's rage?

As tensions rise, old patterns resurface and cracks in their shared history are revealed, Cassie and Jade must grapple with how truthful a memory really is and whether that even matters. Will they find out before they tear each other apart?

Set over five days and narrated in Jade's brilliantly prickly first-person voice, *Sandcastles* is a fierce sun-soaked burst of a novel which considers themes such as motherhood, sisterhood and the stories we tell each other to survive.

Praise for *I Hope You're Happy*:

'A darkly comic look at millennial womanhood... Appleton's wry observational style is well suited to these tales of young women navigating the modern world. She writes with empathy for her vulnerable protagonists, conveying their inner conflicts and deceptions.' – *The Observer*

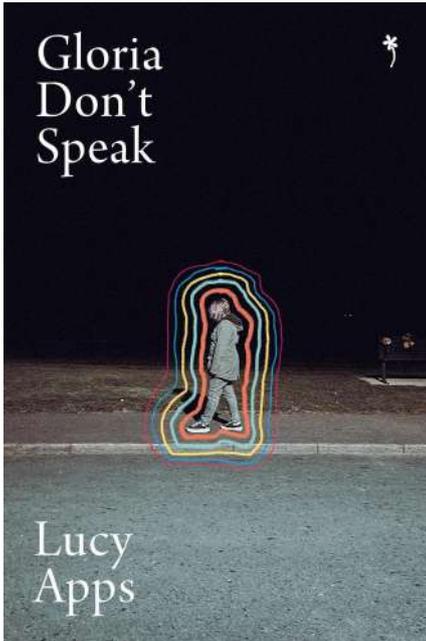
'A thunderous first collection.' – *The Irish Times*

'Truthful, dark, and walking the line between delicious and disturbing, *I Hope You're Happy* is a rich and haunting read. Savour or gorge, this is a very special collection of deceptively cutting stories.' – Lottie Hazell, author of *Piglet*

Marni Appleton is a writer living in London. She holds a PhD in creative-critical writing from the University of East Anglia. Her research considers feminism and the politics of feeling in contemporary women's short stories. Marni's writing has been published in literary and academic journals including *Banshee*, *The Tangerine*, *Contemporary Women's Writing* and *Comparative American Studies*, and has been exhibited at *BOXPARK* in Shoreditch. Her debut collection of short stories, *I Hope You're Happy*, was published by Indigo Press in February 2025.

GLORIA DON'T SPEAK

Lucy Apps



Longlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction 2026.

Gloria has a learning disability. She's nineteen, and there's nothing to do except wander the local parks, look for friendship and keep out of trouble - or go round Jack's. Jack needs Gloria's company, but he's unpredictable and angry at the world.

After an act of violence, their friendship has to end. Now Gloria's on her own.

But when she hears Jack's out of prison, her whole world is turned upside-down.

Heart-breaking and beautiful, *Gloria Don't Speak* is an insightful portrait of a woman dealing with vulnerability, violence - and the desire for connection.

UK: Weatherglass Books, February 2026

UK Editor: Neil Griffiths

Primary Agent: NC

TV/Film Agent: TBC

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 300 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

Praise for *Gloria Don't Speak*:

'A carefully structured novel that grows in impact and tension. Gentle, tender and troubling, it takes us inside the life of a person whose world would generally be closed to us.' - *Guardian*

'Lucid and beautifully observed, this story of a vulnerable person navigating the world brims with pinpoint detail and creeping threat. A brilliant and assured debut.' - Simon Wroe, author of *Here Comes Trouble*

'Gloria Don't Speak is unflinching and full of heart; a moving story, told with uncommon tenderness, that offers a window to a life rarely found in literature.' - Tom Newlands, author of *Only Here, Only Now*

Lucy Apps was born in East London, trained as a doctor, and works as a GP. She volunteers with women with learning disabilities. *Gloria Don't Speak* is Lucy's debut novel. Lucy was selected as an *Observer* Best Debut Novelist of 2026.

HORSEMEN

Daisy Black



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

Additional info:

Extent: 300 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni

A novel of the astonishing real beginnings of circus.

Dubbed ‘the English rose’ by Marie Antoinette, John Astley, senses dulled with opium as he lies dying in 1820’s Paris, recalls his wild, unfettered life, spooling stories to his young son while teaching the boy his legacy; how to train a horse. All the while, the circus, his father’s creation, continues to blossom and grow throughout Europe and beyond.

This novel fizzes with the drama, the astonishing real history of circus — the Astleys built an empire throughout Europe patronised by monarchs, surviving shipwreck, betrayal, fire, the French Revolution (in which Astley fought) imprisonment by Napoleon, creating an art-form that still endures to this day — the backdrop to an exploration of parental expectations, of legacy and luck, of guilt and grief, of intergenerational familial relationships. Of private versus public, of our relationship to landscape and place, of ownership and wilderness. Of the nature of story, and the moments that constitute a life – the people behind the glamour, the costumes, the paint, muscles held tight and straining with effort under the lights.

With the boldness of Ali Smith, the sensory attention of Maggie O’Farrell and the breathing ghosts of Hilary Mantel, *Horsemen* delivers.

Praise for Daisy Black:

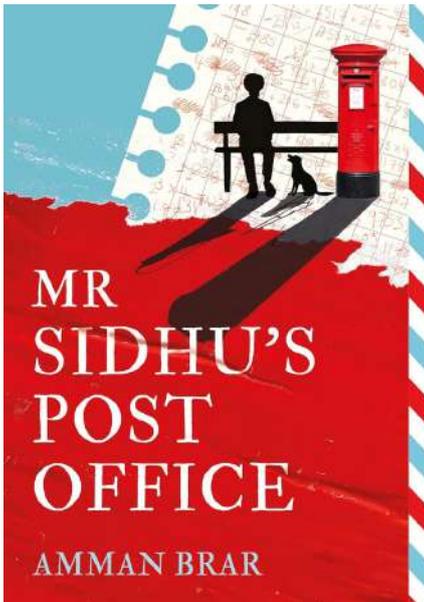
‘I love Daisy’s work. She is the most risk-taking lyrical and baroque of the writers I’ve ever encountered in tutorial, a writer with an original and exciting palette, sensorily and atmospherically lush and jagged both, and an instinctual understanding of the strangeness of story, an unearther of the many possibilities in the quotidian if you just shift your gaze a little sideways or upwards. I think she’s exceptionally talented.’

– Ali Smith, author of the *Seasonal Quartet*

Daisy Black is a freelance circus performer based in Norwich, and co-director of Gossamer Thread’s Vaudeville Co. She is also a producer and teaches circus skills in Norwich. She writes short stories, and is working on her second novel. She holds a Creative Writing MA from the University of East Anglia.

MR SIDHU'S POST OFFICE

Amman Brar



UK: Juniper, July 2026
UK Editor: Manpreet Grewal
Primary Agent: NC
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 384 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni

An unforgettable and achingly beautiful debut novel about family, love, loss, and the power of communities coming together, for fans of *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* and *A Man Called Ove*.

It's 2007, and Mr Sidhu is the sub-postmaster of the local post office in Richmond. He's grieving the passing of his wife and is preoccupied with honouring his final promise to her: to make sure his two grown-up children are settled and comfortable, which means helping his son Raju, buy his own place and seeing to it that his daughter Meenu finally marries her long-term fiancé, Craig. But Mr Sidhu is thrown off course when he begins developing feelings for his co-worker Rose, and everything starts to change, including his relationship with his children.

And then Mr Sidhu's weekly accounts at the post office begin reporting a loss. He doesn't know what's happening or where that money has gone, but as the collective losses increase, Mr Sidhu has no way of paying it back. Will those in the community who Mr Sidhu has served so loyally rally around him before it's too late? Or could this be the end of Mr Sidhu's post office ... ?

Praise for *Mr Sidhu's Post Office*:

'Mr Sidhu is a wonderful character – he's someone you will remember and think about long after you've finished the book.' - Sarah Morgan, author of *All Together for Christmas*

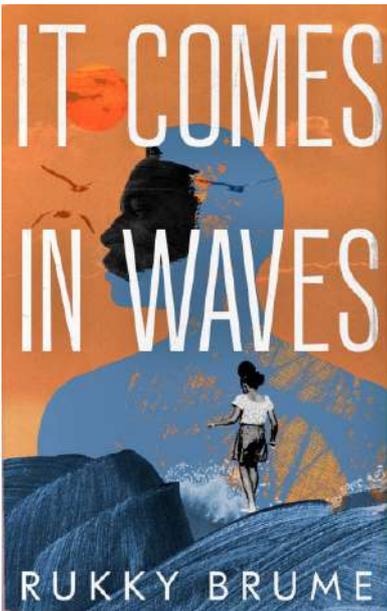
'What a special debut ... I couldn't put it down.'
- Louise Hare, author of *This Lovely City*

'Amman Brar's storytelling is warm, funny, and culturally astute ... As the story unfolds, Mr Sidhu's dignified reserve is peeled back to reveal a big heart.'
- Natalie Gregory, author of *Mother Ghost Mango Seed*

Amman Brar is a writer and theatre maker. He has an MA in Creative Writing from UEA. He was one of the inaugural winners of the BBC Writersroom 10 Award for his play *Punjabi Boy* with Tamasha Theatre Co where he was also Artist in Residence. Amman's father was a sub-postmaster during the 1980s and 1990s, and as soon as he was able, Amman was 'encouraged' to work in the shop after school and at weekends. He saw how respected his father was and how the locals loved having a post office as a hub for the community. *Mr Sidhu's Post Office* is Amman's debut novel and pays tribute to his father and the community he served for decades, while also honouring the struggle of the victims of the Horizon scandal.

IT COMES IN WAVES

Rukky Brume



UK: #Merky Books, June 2026

UK Editor: Joelle Owusu

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

An unforgettable debut, *It Comes in Waves* is both an honest exploration of grief and a captivating story of the lives we lead and leave behind.

Death sneaks up on Onome Odafe. She has little experience of what it means to lose someone she truly loves. So when her sister calls to tell her that their father didn't survive a stroke, she isn't sure how to act, what grieving is meant to look or feel like. She passes the days until she returns to Nigeria for the funeral in a haze of performance and distraction, holding together what little of herself is left.

Reunited with her siblings and mother in Nigeria, Onome is thrown into the depths of various funeral events, uncomfortable customs, meddling religious figures and both unfamiliar and familiar faces. One of which, is Auntie Eguono, her father's sister. A woman who has never shied away from making a scene, and whose careless words one afternoon upend the only image of her father Onome has ever known. As she struggles to accept the reality of her father's death, she finds herself on a path of discovery leading towards an unsettling truth: a man can be more than one thing, and the man in question may be her father.

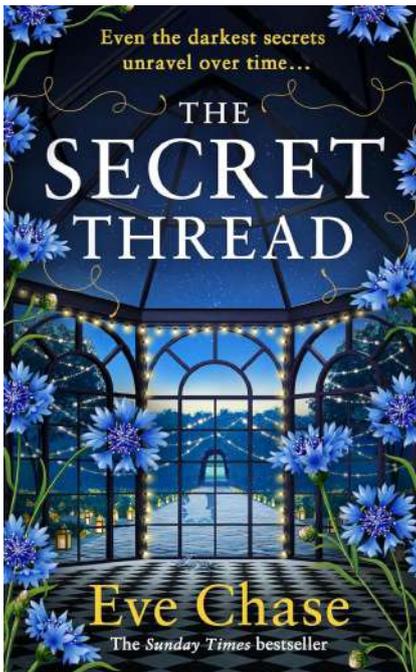
Praise for *It Comes In Waves*:

'This is a meditation on those first difficult moments that grip you after someone you love has died. It's painfully true, minutely observed and disastrously human in its unfolding. *It Comes in Waves* will leave you gasping for air, in the best ways' - Maame Blue, author of *Bad Love*

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

Eve Chase



UK: Michael Joseph, May 2026

UK Editor: Maxine Hitchcock

US: Ballantine, May 2026

US Editor: Susanna Porter

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Options:

Arabic - Falak

Estonian - Rahva Raamat

French - Robert Laffont

Norwegian - Gyldendal Norsk

Polish - Kobieca

Romanian - Grup Media Litera

Spanish - Urano

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

Even the darkest secrets unravel in time...

Mimi Mott, celebrated designer and famously private style icon, is auctioning off her legendary estate, intent on telling the true story of her life in objects.

In London, her new assistant, Jo O'Mara, is determined to win Mimi's trust. But Jo carries a secret of her own, and time is running out to unpick the past before the auctioneer's hammer falls.

Who is Mimi, really? A woman who rose from humble beginnings to build an interiors empire – but at what cost? What happened in that remote Wiltshire manor house where Mimi and her family worked during the summer of 1969? Who died the night of the glittering party that stole the headlines?

As the auction countdown begins, Jo is drawn into an intoxicating world of obsession, sisters and secrets – and must risk everything to unravel the truth, one thread at a time.

Praise for *The Secret Thread*:

'Chase's numerous fans are in for a treat with a propulsive mystery, luminous writing, and characters who stayed with me. Quite possibly her best yet.'

- Sarah Vaughan, Sunday Times bestselling author of *Anatomy of a Scandal*

'Exquisite! Shimmering with allure, *The Secret Thread* is a story of embroidered memories, naked ambition and families ripped asunder. With rich, textured prose, the star-crossed lives of the earthy Bramleys and the celestial Caswells unfold deliciously in this addictive read.'

- Evie Woods, internationally bestselling author of *The Lost Bookshop*

'*The Secret Thread* is a stunning, evocative novel that pulls you into a hot summer on a grand country estate, in which the lives of two families become fatally entwined. Characters you feel like you know coupled with descriptions that are wonderfully lush and vivid meant I couldn't turn the pages fast enough. I had to find out what happened to them all.'

Eve Chase writes bestselling, page-turning mysteries. Her novels include *The Midnight Hour*, a Richard and Judy Book Club pick and Amazon no.1; *The Glass House*, a Richard and Judy Book Club pick and *Sunday Times* bestseller; *The Birdcage*, *The Vanishing of Audrey Wilde* and *Black Rabbit Hall*. A winner of the Saint-Maur en Poche prize in Paris for Best Foreign Fiction and longlisted for the HWA Gold Crown Award, her work has been translated into twenty languages. She has sold over 1.2 million copies of her books, which have all been eBook bestsellers.

SAINT DEATH

Kate Collins



UK: Dead Ink, Spring 2027
UK Editor: Harriet Hirshman
US: Liveright, tbc
US Editor: Gina Iaquinta
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 blackly funny 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.

DESERT ROAD OPEN

Jane Copland



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

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

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

The story of a fight between two rugby players in a Twickenham hotel that unravels the empire of New Zealand's most dangerous businessman.

Andrew McBride fled Auckland thirteen years ago after a harassment campaign orchestrated by his ex-girlfriend's powerful father destroyed his rugby career. He built his life in London, became a veteran of the England squad, and buried his past as deeply as he could. But when his father's health begins to fail, Andrew must return to the country that rejected him, finally rejoining the New Zealand team. For thirteen months, his homecoming goes to plan, until a drunken fight between rookie teammates on tour in London, an unlucky twist on the pitch, and a few careless words to a tabloid journalist give his tormenter the perfect opportunity to finish what he started.

Alongside threatening his career and hard-won reputation, the scandal exposes secrets he's kept from his partner Bella, who refuses to passively witness their destruction. As anonymous commenters on the notorious gossip forum Snitch City dissect her life, and a neighbour feeds their movements to the press, she turns her analytical mind to dismantling the machinery arrayed against them. Their most unexpected ally is the twenty-year-old rookie whose drunken mistake ignited the scandal: a character who arrives as an insufferable liability and becomes a force none of them anticipated. But cornered and running out of time, can Andrew override his survival instincts to outmanoeuvre his adversary and, even if he does so, can he actually win?

Jane Copland is a New Zealand/British author based in Oxford. In her teens and early twenties, she swam competitively for both New Zealand and Washington State University, holding the New Zealand women's 200m breaststroke record for four years. Her short fiction and nonfiction has appeared in *Witness Magazine*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *Newsroom New Zealand*, and *The Independent*. Her work was longlisted for the Brick Lane Bookshop Short Story Prize and nominated for both the Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net. After a decade in digital marketing, she now writes fiction exploring institutional power, identity, and belonging.

SKY CITY

Jacqueline Crooks



Spellbinding, incantatory and star-spangled, *Sky City* is a novel about friendship and loneliness, connection and redemption, from the critically acclaimed author of *Fire Rush*.

Sky City – an estate in North London, 1992. After years in a hostel for young homeless women, Jaycee finally has a room of her own, high up in the sky. But the past is not so easily forgotten and her childhood continues to haunt her. When an old classmate, Sol, reappears, he seems to offer her a lifeline. Sol was her first love, and the only person who looked out for Jaycee when they were kids. Can she trust him now?

Jaycee doesn't wait to find out. Her only friend from the hostel is Ella-G, who has left London for the glamorous world of the New York music scene. She convinces Jaycee to join her for the trip of a lifetime. But the past is never far behind and on a journey into the wetlands of Atlantic City, Jaycee is forced to confront the secrets she has been keeping from others, and herself. Back in London, can she find justice and healing, even as Sol, Ella-G and Jaycee's worlds threaten to crash together and splinter apart?

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

Additional info:

Extent: 320 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Page proofs

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni

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*

'Scorching . . . We follow Yamaye through love, loss and peril, as she chases her dreams and connects with her heritage.' - *Guardian*

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

AGONY IN THE GARDEN

Gabriel Krauze



The long-awaited follow-up by Gabriel Krauze, the Booker Prize longlisted author of *Who They Was*, *Agony in the Garden* is a personal reckoning and work of autofiction from the frontlines of the Russia-Ukraine war for readers of George Orwell, Annie Ernaux, Karl Ove Knausgård, and Edouard Louis.

In the early 2020s, novelist Gabriel Krauze journeys to Ukraine during the heat of Russia's onslaught on the country. As troops assemble and encroach on Ukrainian soil, Krauze comes searching for answers. We follow the narrator through two rotations in Ukraine as a volunteer paramedic as his tours take him closer and closer to the frontline, the zone of danger and destruction known to troops as 'Zero' and he searches for meaning in a world in which the moral order has broken down.

On his quest, a dark night of the soul, Krauze has many brutally honest conversations with the young men fighting on the frontline. He reflects on the extremes of humanity, the despair and the absurdity of war, and the comradeship and hope found in fighting together.

Agony in the Garden is a literary journey and portrayal of the lived experience of war in the 21st century, in the tradition of Sebald, Céline and Isaac Babel. A dazzling and frantic blend of novelistic prose and travelogue written in a breathless, stream-of-consciousness style, it is an inexorable and uncompromising investigation into masculinity and violence; what the brutality of conflict imposes on a generation of young men and what it brings out of them.

Rejecting the geopolitical handwringing and patriotic fervour which typifies so much of what is written about the war in Ukraine, *Agony in the Garden* stages an existential and moral confrontation, a "punch in the face" and positions Krauze as one of the most illuminating chroniclers of contemporary life on the edge and humanity under duress.

UK: Fig Tree, Spring 2027

UK Editor: Helen Garnons-Williams

Primary Agent: NC

TV/Film Agent: tbc

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 100,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Previous publishers:

German – Kein & Aber

Polish – Czarne

Serbian - Beograd: Dokaz izdavaštvo

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *Who They Was*:

'Rich in detail and motivation and consequence... Striking.' - *New York Times*

'Gripping... the shock value is high, but so is the level of pathos imbued in Krauze's writing.' - *Time*

'A wild ride from the very first page.' - Douglas Stuart, author of *Shuggie Bain*

Gabriel Krauze is a writer from London whose debut novel *Who They Was*, an urgent and electrifying work of autofiction, was nominated for the Booker Prize in 2020.

THE KNOTTED CORD

Harriet Matthews



'I'll remember, on my life I will.'

Rebekah of York is an educated young Jewish woman with a purpose: serving her neighbours as healer, midwife, and friend. She dreams of studying medicine at a prestigious school in Salerno, but her hopes are dashed when a wave of violence against England's Jews reaches her door. With King Richard waging holy war in Palestine, leaving the rule of England to his scheming brother John, Rebekah and her community find they are under constant threat. When she meets a wounded Christian crusader by the name of Wilfred of Ivanhoe, Rebekah is drawn yet further into danger, and into a love that seems doomed before it begins.

Tangled up in royal plots, knightly intrigues, and accusations of witchcraft, Rebekah must discover a new way to live with purpose. How to choose the right path. How to honour the dead. How to survive.

The Knotted Cord is a searing portrayal of a grieving community, but also a brilliantly realised adventure story of knights and crusades, witch burnings, destiny and betrayal with cameos from Robin of Sherwood and Richard the Lionheart.

Most of all, it is Rebekah's story. The story of a modern woman learning how to live in a traditional world, of rushing into danger instead of away from it, of being upright, brave and bold. A story of heartbreak, love and remembering.

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

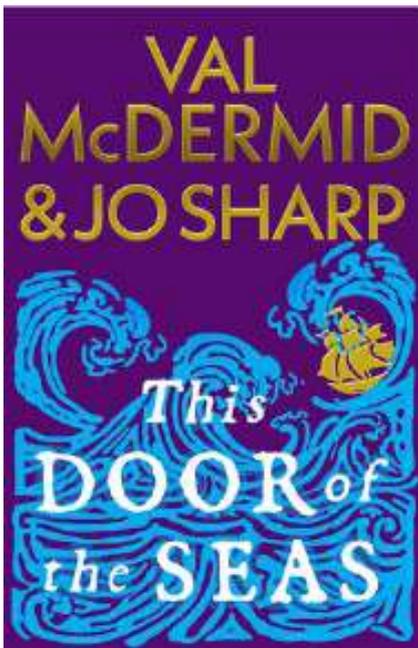
Additional info:
Extent: 121,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni

Harriet Matthews is a London based writer of novels, short stories and essays. She takes inspiration from the history, folklore and landscape of Britain, and is drawn to stories of memory and resilience. She has been selected for emerging writer programmes at both the London Library and the Jewish Literary Foundation, and her short stories have been published in *The Ghastling* and longlisted for the Ink of Ages Fiction Prize. As a novel-in-progress, *The Knotted Cord* was longlisted for the 2025 Discoveries Prize. She can be found at @hmatthewswriter.

THIS DOOR OF THE SEAS

Val McDermid and Jo Sharp



UK: Polygon (Birlinn), August 2026
UK Editor: Jamie Crawford
Primary Agent: LK
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Options:

Bulgarian - Ednorog
Dutch - Luitingh-Sijthoff
German - Droemer Knaur
Norwegian - Cappelen Damm

Additional info:

Extent: 40,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni

Val McDermid is an international number one bestselling author whose books have been translated into more than forty languages. Val has been chair of the judges for the Wellcome Book Prize and the Gordon Burns Prize, and has served as a judge for the Women's Prize for Fiction, the Man Booker Prize and the Royal Society Book Prize. She is the recipient of eight honorary doctorates and is an Honorary Fellow of St Hilda's College, Oxford. She is a visiting professor in the Centre for Irish and Scottish Studies at the University of Otago in New Zealand. Among her many awards are the CWA Diamond Dagger for lifetime achievement and the Theakston's Old Peculier Award for Outstanding Contribution to Crime Writing. Her books have been adapted for radio, film and TV, most recently in ITV's Karen Pirie series.

Jo Sharp is Professor of Geography at the University of St Andrews with expertise in geopolitics, global health, feminism, and international development. She has over 100 publications, including 13 books. Jo has been awarded medals from both the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Scottish Geographical Society and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. She was named the Geographer Royal for Scotland in 2022 – the first woman to hold this title – and it was her investigation into the first person to hold this role in 1682, Sir Robert Sibbald, that led her to write this book.

The Darien Venture was the singular event at the end of the seventeenth century that fundamentally altered Scotland's future.

It took place on the other side of the world, amid the jungle-coastline at the junction between the continents of North and South America. And most of us know next to nothing about it.

Now it's time to remedy that. Award-winning novelist Val McDermid and Geographer Royal for Scotland Jo Sharp unite in this revelatory novella to trace the story of Scotland's only trading colony, which turned from a dream of prosperity to a nightmare that bankrupted an already impoverished nation and propelled it towards political union with England.

Written as a series of letters home from expedition scientist Dr James Wallace to his wife Eliza and Sir Robert Sibbald, the first Geographer Royal, this epistolary tale offers a devastating account of the forces that doomed the endeavour and completely changed the history of the British Isles in the process.

Praise for *Queen Macbeth*:

'A page turning tale of adversity and adventure, laughter and love, death and defiance.' - Janet Christie, *The Scotsman*

'It is Thelma and Louise with crossbows.'
- Roger Hutchinson, *West Highland Free Press*

'A hugely enjoyable heart-stopping afternoon in the company of Queen Macbeth and her three wise women.' - Damien Barr, author of *The Two Roberts*

WHITEADDER / WOLFSPIDER

Benjamin Myers



UK: Bloomsbury, Spring 2027

UK Editor: Allegra Le Fanu

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Rights sold:

German - DuMont

Additional info:

Extent: 70,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A novel in two halves: from the dog days of the 1960s hippy dream to the dark, corrupt England of the early 1970s.

Whiteadder: Late summer 1973 and psychedelic folk band Once Upon A Time retreat to live communally on the remote Scottish Borders. Here, by the wild Whiteadder river, they go back to the land while the songwriters work on their next album. Watching on is the sole child in the group, Kit, a reluctant thirteen year old on the cusp of adolescence. Kit's only solace is the surrounding moors and woods - and an increasingly fertile imagination. Life is upended by the arrival of the mysterious fan Jonathan, who soon upsets the hierarchy of the hippy commune. When autumn storms plunge rural life further into primitive conditions, only Kit begins to learn of Jonathan's true past, and as winter approaches their collective idyll is shattered by catastrophic events.

Wolfspider: Spring 1974 and Kit flees the commune for freedom in London. But the city is equally hard and unforgiving. Kit is briefly sucked into the Soho street life of runaways and rent boys. With the onset of puberty he is faced with further threats, and takes drastic measures to survive. Only Once Upon A Time roadie Gibby can offer refuge in his squat. Here, a new extended family is found, including Kit's first girlfriend Loopy. When the band return to play the Wolfspider festival, Kit is pulled back into their dysfunctional world. As conditions turn torrid and the party is dosed with drugs, teenagers Kit and Loopy realise their future lies elsewhere - and things will never be the same after this weekend.

Whiteadder/Wolfspider is an unflinching and haunting portrait of the naivete of bohemian ideals and reflects that moment when the 1960s dream turned into a dark 1970s nightmare.

Praise for *Rare Singles*:

'A tale of soul music and second chances.' - *Guardian*

'A meditation on grief, love, and the redemptive power of music.'
- *Observer*

'An entertaining tale of grit, fecklessness and Northern Soul.'

- *Daily Telegraph*

Benjamin Myers is an award-winning author based in Yorkshire, UK. His novel *Cuddy* won the Goldsmiths' Prize and Winston Graham Prize, *The Gallows Pole* was recipient of the Walter Scott Prize and was adapted for the BBC/A24 by director Shane Meadows. *The Offing* was an international best-seller, adapted for stage, Radio 4 and a forthcoming film starring Helena Bonham-Carter. Other acclaimed titles include *Jesus Christ Kinski* (currently being adapted for stage), *Pig Iron*, and *The Perfect Golden Circle* and *Beastings*, both of which are in development with Warp/Matriarch Films (*Adolescence*, *This Is England*, *Boiling Point*) in 2026.

BON VIVANT

Rebecca K Reilly



A witty, sprawling novel about desire, regret, and the tangled webs we weave, *Bon Vivant* follows its central love triangle across decades and continents, reintroducing readers to Rebecca K Reilly's beloved Vladisavljevic family.

In the mid-1980s, Auckland university student Beatrice is on her first trip abroad. Noisy, cosmopolitan Sicily is a far cry from the isolated Māori community where Betty grew up. But the biggest surprise is her friend Xabi's charismatic, troubled brother, Giuseppe, visiting from Rome. In smoky discotecas and cramped bedrooms, they fall headlong into a secretive romance.

Back home, Betty struggles to maintain her fragile connection to Giuseppe over long-distance calls and separate lives. When his distance turns emotional as well as literal, Betty finds solace in Xabi's flatmate, Linsh – an intense, attentive scientist who looks at her like she hung the moon... and who has his own reasons to dislike Giuseppe.

Decades later, Betty and Linsh are happily married when Giuseppe is flung back into her orbit: now with a family of his own, still running from his feelings. Their reconnection fans an old flame. Will they find a way to rekindle it without burning everything down?

UK: Hutchinson Heinemann/PRH, April 2027

UK Editor: Dredheza Maloku

US: Avid Reader Press/S&S, April 2027

US Editor: Amy Guay

Primary Agent: MPW

TV/Film Agent: Mary Pender, WME

Translation Agent: EL

Options:

Brazil – Astral Cultural

Portugal – PRH

World Spanish – Ediciones Urano

Germany – Gutkind Verlag

France – Eilean Books

Additional info:

Extent: TBC

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Unedited manuscript expected April 2026

Praise for *Greta and Valdin*:

'Delightfully confident . . . a total pleasure' - *Times*

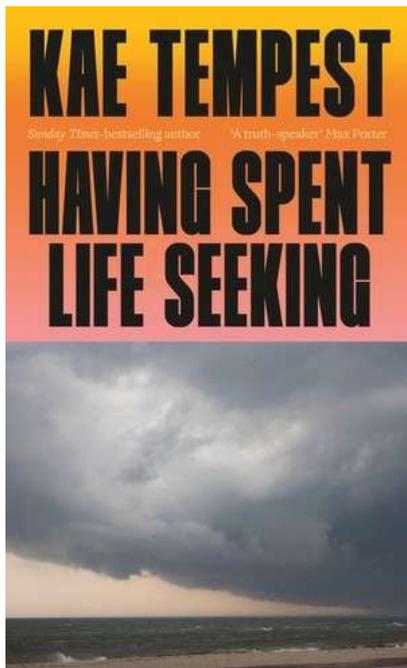
'Warm, witty and utterly idiosyncratic' - Alice Slater, author of *Let the Bad Times Roll*

'Hilarious, touching and hotly sublime' - Julia Armfield, author of *Private Rites*

Rebecca K Reilly (Ngaati Hine, Ngaati Rehua Ngaatiwai ki Aotea) is a Maaori novelist from Waitaakere, New Zealand. She has a BA (hons) in German and European studies from the University of Auckland and an MA from the International Institute of Modern Letters at Victoria University of Wellington, where she won the Adam Foundation Prize in Creative Writing for 2019. Her debut novel, *Greta and Valdin*, was shortlisted for the Waterstones Debut Fiction Prize in 2024.

HAVING SPENT LIFE SEEKING

Kae Tempest



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

Rights sold:

Catalan - L'Altra
German - Suhrkamp
French - Editions de l'Olivier
Spanish - Literatura Random

Additional info:

Extent: 352 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Page proofs

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

'They were coming back to life. They were free and getting freer.'

The heart-breaking, soul-building new novel about the transformative power of love, from the *Sunday Times*-bestselling Kae Tempest.

Rothko Taylor has washed up with the tide, back in their hometown, Edgecliff. Fifteen years since they left it behind.

The past is accelerating towards them: the skateboard kids on the high street that remind them of their teenage years, the splintered benches looking out to sea, where their mum Meg clutched her cans. The nice bit of town, where their dad Ezra tried and failed to build a happy home. And Dionne's block. Beautiful, extraordinary Dionne, the only person who had ever looked at them and seen what was there.

Back then, overwhelmed and full of fear, they sank beneath the surface into chaos. But they made it out alive. And this time, Rothko is determined that things will be different.

A decade in the making, *Having Spent Life Seeking* is about family and forgiveness; redemption and atonement; desire and abandon; selfhood and community. The things we seek when we are hiding, and what finds us, if we can let ourselves be seen.

Praise for *Having Spent Life Seeking*:

'A wonderful, moving and enlightening state-of-Britain novel stuffed with memorable characters, depicting an individual's struggle for self-realization in a society punitive to those who refuse to stand in its prescribed boxes.'
- Irvine Welsh, author of *Trainspotting*

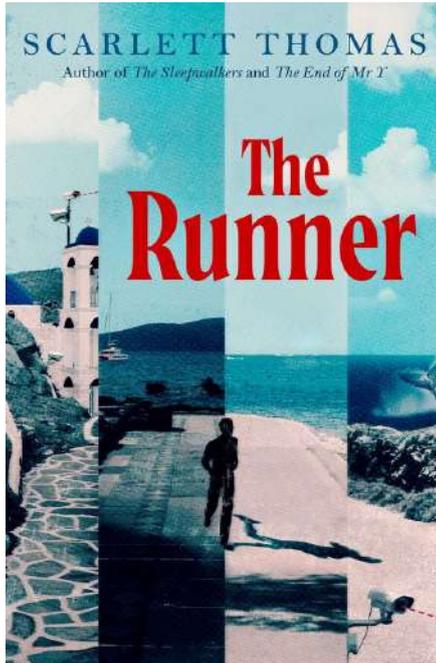
'Unboundedly beautiful. *Having Spent Life Seeking* rings the heart like a bell.'
- Michael Pedersen, author of *Boy Friends*

'*Having Spent Life Seeking* is Kae at his finest, his uncanny skill of focussing on detail, noticing and observing ordinariness – all while allowing slippery truths to surface in this gentle, volatile book.'
- Anthony Shapland, author of *A Room Above a Shop*

Kae Tempest has been putting words together since he was a teenager. He has published plays, poetry collections, non-fiction, a *Sunday Times*-bestselling novel and released six studio albums. In 2013 Tempest won the Ted Hughes award making him the youngest ever to receive it. He was named a Next Generation Poet in 2014, a once in a decade honour and in the same year he received the first of two Mercury Prize nominations. He is the only person to have achieved both accolades. In 2021 he was awarded the Silver Lion in Venice for his work as a playwright and in 2023 he won an Ivor Novello for his songwriting. His books have been translated into multiple languages and published to critical acclaim around the world. He hopes he will continue putting words together for the rest of his life.

THE RUNNER

Scarlett Thomas



A mind-expanding story about high finance, con artists, ultramarathons – and how falling in love can change everything.

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

On a sun-soaked Greek island, Jay is on the run. He's been hunted since he was twenty years old: a contract on his life traded like a commodity, rising and falling with the price of Bitcoin.

Stranded with no passport, loyalty points as his only currency and an assassin in hot pursuit, Jay's only hope is to escape on a catamaran with a crew on their way to perform an exorcism on a dictator's private island. When it becomes clear that his shipmates are even more dubious than they first seemed, Jay has to run again – this time into the arms of the beautiful Ellie, who is either his doom or his salvation.

Caught in a web of high-finance, con-artists, the Book of Jonah and ultramarathons, Jay will have to choose between love and survival, and run for his life!

Darkly funny, sexy, exciting, philosophical and thrilling, *The Runner* is an unmissable literary treat from Britain's most exciting novelist.

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.
LA.

Translation Agent: AH / 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*:

'Thomas's taut, bone-dry style, and her vivid evocations of a Greek tourist destination running to seed, ensure that her narrative experiments are gorgeously readable.' – *Irish Times*

'Cleverly layered, this novel reveals its secrets slowly and is by turns dark, mysterious and sometimes funny.' – *Yours*

'This is a shocking, wickedly funny, totally unpredictable and unputdownable summer holiday read.' – Jemima Kelly, *Financial Times*

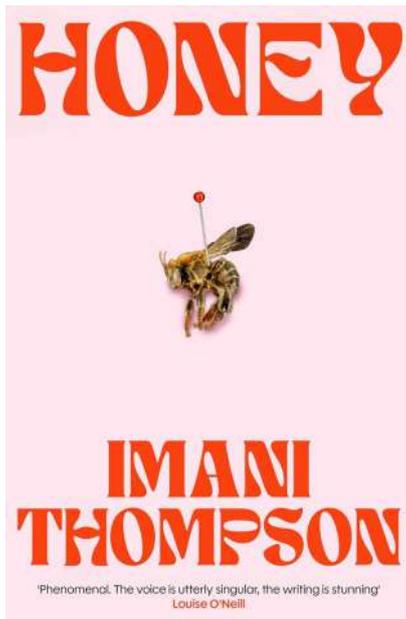
'One of our most consistently surprising and inventive novelists, Thomas fashions here an ambiguous chiller worth of Patricia Highsmith or Daphne du Maurier, with added comic bite.' – *The Telegraph*

'Violence, corruption and sexual secrets swelter just beneath the surface in this atmospheric thriller.' – *The Guardian*

Scarlett Thomas was born in London. She is the author of highly acclaimed contemporary cult novels including *The Sleepwalkers*, *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. Her book on writing fiction, *Monkeys With Typewriters*, is popular with both established and beginning writers.

HONEY

Imani Thompson



The killer debut novel of 2026.

She just wants to know what justice feels like.

Yrsa is bored: bored with her PhD program, her entitled students, and the never-ending pages of racial violence and feminist theory she has to read. But most of all, she's bored with the men in her life—especially the bad ones.

And then, one sunny afternoon, she accidentally kills one.

Suddenly a problematic professor is dead, and Yrsa, well—she's no longer bored.

Emboldened, she starts to chase the high, and soon no misbehaving sexist man within commuting distance is safe.

Finally Yrsa's academic research feels useful. But how long can killing in the name of feminist and racial solidarity justify her actions? And how long until her actions—and buried family secrets—come back to unravel her?

UK: The Borough Press, May 2026

UK Editor: Jo Thompson

US: Random House, May 2026

US Editor: Marie Pantojan

Primary Agent: NC

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Rights sold:

Catalan - Bromera

Dutch - Ambo/Anthos

French - Mercure de France

German - Rowohlt

Italian - Sellerio

Latvian - Zvaigzne

Polish - Wielka Litera

Portuguese in Brazil - Record

Spanish - Urano

Ukrainian - Zhorzh

Additional info:

Extent: 335 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Page proofs

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

Picked as a book to look out for by *Vogue*, *Esquire*, *Marie Claire*, *The New Yorker*, *Stylist*, *Elle*, and *Glamour*

Praise for *Honey*:

'Phenomenal. The voice is utterly singular, the writing is stunning.'
- Louise O'Neill, author of *Idol*

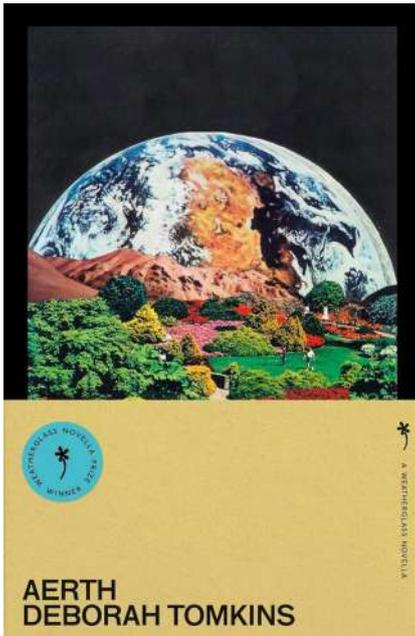
'Wow, basically.' - Harriet Tyce, author of *Witch Trial*

'A marvel of a novel, a story that breathes beyond its pages.'
- Ore Agbaje-Williams, author of *The Three of Us*

Imani Thompson is a British writer of Jamaican heritage. She has been published in *The Mays* and *British Vogue*. After studying Sociology at Cambridge University she wrote *Honey* while working as a bookseller at Daunt Books. She is working on her second novel.

AERTH

Deborah Tomkins



Joint winner of Weatherglass Books' Inaugural Novella Prize, chosen by Ali Smith, and included in best new sci-fi roundup in the *Financial Times* and chosen as one of *The Telegraph's* Top 100 books of the year 2025.

Magnus lives on Aerth, which is currently moving into an Ice Age, with a strange virus limiting the population. When the planet Urth is discovered, he vows to become an astronaut and travel there, but on arriving he finds it hot, crowded, corrupt and violent, despite it being initially welcoming.

Slowly Magnus realises he will not find what he's looking for, but there seems no way back. *Aerth* is a story about migration, climate, conspiracy theories and interplanetary homelessness.

UK: Weatherglass Books, January 2025

UK Editor: Neil Griffiths

US: On submission

Primary Agent: SL

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Rights sold:

Italian - Zona 42

Additional info:

Extent: 160 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

Praise for *Aerth*:

'Deep-forged, witty and resonant, this dimensionally stunning novella deals with dystopia and hope in a way that reveals them as profoundly related. A work of real energy and narrative grip, brilliantly earthy and airy at once, it blasts open a reader's past/future consciousness and taps into literary antecedents as disparate as Hardy and Atwood. Funny, terrifying, humane, this is a thrilling journey in a story the size of a planet - no, the size of several, all of them altogether strange and uncannily familiar.' - Ali Smith, author of the *Seasonal Quartet*

'This novella, so concisely written, is a triumph: both an intelligent sci-fi thriller and a thought-provoking parable.' - Luke Kennard, *The Daily Telegraph*

'Moving and thought-provoking, this is a memorable debut from a writer to watch.' - *The Guardian*

Deborah Tomkins is a novelist and short story writer. Rooted in nature, her writing explores climate change and humankind's complex relationships with the natural world. She is the author of *Aerth* (Weatherglass Books, 2025), and *The Wilder Path* (Aurora Metro Books, 2025). *Aerth* was joint winner of the Weatherglass Novella Prize in 2024, judged by Ali Smith, and *The Wilder Path* won the Virginia Prize for Fiction, also in 2024. Several of Deborah's shorter fictions have been published in print and online. In 2017, Deborah founded Bristol Climate Writers, a network of writers working in all genres, from fiction to non-fiction, poetry, memoir, and more. Deborah lives in Bristol with her family.

THE RED ZONE

Sarah Young



NZ : Te Herenga Waka University,
September 2026
NZ Editor: Fergus Barrowman
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.

THE BREAKUP, BREAK-IN

Charlotte Avery



UK: On submission
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 sizzling, fake-dating campus romance about a student whose ex is holding her possessions hostage after a bad break-up... and the possibly-criminal, definitely-irresistible man she teams up with to steal them back.

Cassidy Jones just wants to get her head down and finish her final year at Holbrook University without distraction. Instead, she finds her boyfriend cheating on her in the middle of a student social—and worse, he’s holding the possessions she left at his house hostage until she agrees to forgive and forget.

Cass doesn’t want to forgive him. And she sure as hell isn’t going to forget the treasured items she left behind. Which leaves her only one option...

She’s not breaking down.
She’s breaking *in*.

When the first retrieval attempt ends with Cass caught shimmying down a drainpipe with concert tickets between her teeth, she realises she’ll need help to pull off her plan. Enter Ezra Hall. Ezra, whose bedroom is known to be a revolving door of women he never sees again. Ezra, who is notorious on campus for skipping lectures and missing deadlines. Ezra, who is on his last warning at Holbrook after a mysterious but much gossiped about incident the year before.

Despite her better instincts, Cass enlists Ezra to help her scheme. And what better way to explain their sudden partnership (ok, and aggravate her ex) than to do so under the guise of a relationship? But as they reluctantly join forces, Cass realises that there’s more to Ezra than the rumours...

And the way she feels when they’re together? Well, that’s even more dangerous than the heists they’re planning.

Charlotte Avery lives by the seaside with her husband, two children, a podgy cat and a very energetic Springer Spaniel. Shaped by years of reading and writing across a wide variety of genres, she’s passionate about romance, the intricacies of growing up and raising awareness for invisible disabilities (which she also lives with daily). Charlotte studied an undergraduate degree in Creative Writing at the University of Roehampton before securing a role planning student graduations, whilst always writing on the side.

PLAYING WITH FIRE

Olivia Belle



UK: Transworld, April 2027
UK Editor: Cara Digby-Patel
US: Ballantine, Spring 2027
US Editor: Sydney Collins
Primary Agent: MC
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Options:

German - Bastei Luebbe
Italian - Sperling and Kupfer

Additional info:

Extent: 92,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardonia Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

One summer. No strings. And a spark neither of them knows how to ignore...

When dance teacher Lily Garcia loses her job, she needs a new way to earn money and quickly. Laser-focused on her dream of opening a studio of her own, she jumps at a position to teach dance at a lakeside summer camp. On paper it's perfect: eight weeks to work, save and finally put her studio plans into action. And even better, there's someone there who makes it far too easy to forget everything she's meant to be worrying about.

Jack Wren never stays anywhere long enough to get tangled. A talent agent for Hollywood's best, the last place he expected to be trapped was at his parents' camp all summer with the memories he's been running from. And now the one temptation he never quite outran is there too, sharing the same lake for the summer.

Between all the late nights and running into each other in every corner of camp, it doesn't take long for the tension between them to simmer—and suddenly a summer fling doesn't seem like such a bad idea. But what starts as a harmless distraction quickly begins to blur into something far more complicated.

Boundaries slip, the stakes rise, and the closer they get, the harder it becomes to walk away. But Jack never stays anywhere long—and Lily has built her whole life around things that don't leave, which makes falling for him the one thing she can't afford to do.

If summer at the lake proves anything, it's that some fires never really go out.

Praise for *On Thin Ice*:

'Romantic, spicy and laugh out loud funny. Olivia perfectly blends the glam of showbiz with emotional vulnerability. You don't want to miss this one!'
- Lana Ferguson, author of *The Fake Mate*

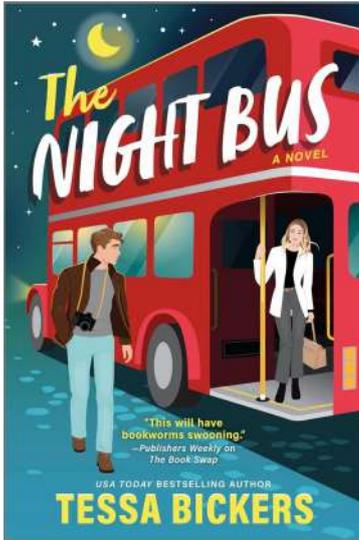
'A fresh take on sports romance with heart, humor, and a heroine you'll root for. . . This one's for the tender-hearted people pleasers!'
- Ki Stephens, author of *Spring Tide*

'Tender, captivating and sexy . . . A debut that bursts onto the scene with an agonisingly delicious slowburn, and charismatic characters you root for at the top of your lungs!' - Soraya Bouazzaoui, author of *Aicha*

Olivia Belle, an English Literature graduate, traded the Western literary canon for uplifting, swoony romances the moment she tossed her cap in the air—and she hasn't looked back since. In 2023, she won the HarperCollins Path to Publication writing competition. Passionate about blending laughter, heat, and heart in her stories, Olivia's voice has been shaped by years in the Bookstagram and BookTok communities. When she's not reading or writing, she's walking her golden retriever puppy (but probably still listening to an audiobook!). Her debut romance, *On Thin Ice*, will be published by Transworld (UK) and Ballantine (US) in April 2026.

THE NIGHT BUS

Tessa Bickers



UK: Quercus, May 2026
UK Editor: Vanessa Phan
US: Graydon House, May 2026
US Editor: Sara Rodgers
Primary Agent: JF
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: GB / SN

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

Subagents:
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni

Is the next stop... connection? A heartwarming and hopeful love story for fans of Notting Hill and Beth O'Leary.

Every day at 4 a.m. Daisy takes the N28 night bus to her job in the newsroom of Good Morning London. And every day for the past six months she's seen the same man sitting in the same seat, obsessively turning the pages of the same novel. What's his story? Does he really just love *Orlando*? Or is there some deeper reason for his furrowed brow and furious page turning?

Ever since his girlfriend left him on the day he'd planned to propose, Tom hasn't been able to sleep. Sophie never fully explained her reasons for ending the relationship, just that she'd read a book that made her realise they weren't meant to be together. Tom has questions and the answers must be hidden somewhere in the novel she was reading right before she broke his heart. If he can just find out the truth of why she left, maybe he can win her back.

When their bus terminates unexpectedly one night, Daisy and Tom finish their journey on foot, talking through the night, and Daisy finally learns why Tom has been reading the same novel over and over.

Intrigued by his story, Daisy offers to help Tom solve his puzzle and win back the girl. But it isn't just Tom who should be asking himself questions. Daisy has some big ones of her own that she's kept buried for years.

As the two grow ever closer, catching up each night on the N28, Daisy wonders if her heart is actually in the quest or if she's secretly hoping Tom might see that what he really wants is actually sitting on the seat beside him.

Praise for *The Book Swap*:

'This will have bookworms swooning.' - *Publishers Weekly*

'Catnip for any book geek. I just loved it.'
- Cesca Major, author of *Maybe Next Time*

'Heartwarming and hopeful and a testament to the power of a good read.'
- Julie Cohen, author of *Bad Men: A Novel*

'Moving and romantic. Tessa Bickers writes with a fresh and warm-hearted voice.'
- Lia Louis, author of *The Key to my Heart*

Tessa Bickers has always been fascinated by people. What makes them different and what makes them the same. Those universal experiences from grief and loneliness, to heartbreak and love. She's always told stories, either through songs or the books she's been writing since her teens. Tessa lives in Bristol with her partner, their young but very loud daughter and their one-eyed ginger cat, Rocky, with his mean left hook. Her debut novel, *The Book Swap*, was published in 2024 by Hodder & Stoughton in the UK and Graydon House in the US.

FANBOY

Dan Cash



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

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

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

What happens when you fall in love with somebody who isn't allowed to be yours?

Falling in love is not on Nathan Bright's list of priorities. His dad's health is declining, his older brother is breaking under the pressure, and he's in a toxic one-sided relationship with a man who will never like him back. Nathan hasn't told anyone he is bisexual, but when his first week at Chateringham University offers him a fresh start, he vows to grasp it with both hands and start living openly.

Then he walks headfirst into a tall, beautiful stranger.

Nathan doesn't know it yet, but Luke is famous: Lucas Lamé, internationally recognised popstar, actor and nepo baby. After years of defying his label, his management and his mother, Luke is attending university to repair his tarnished reputation. When he learns Nathan might be the only eighteen-year-old in the country who doesn't know who he is, Luke offers him a deal: he will tutor Nathan in French if he shields Luke from the fans by partnering with him on every project.

It's almost funny how quickly Nathan falls desperately in love with Luke. His confession is followed by a first date, then a romantic getaway in Paris where the pair are papped kissing in the street, and the harsh realities of dating a closeted popstar come forward. While Luke battles between his longing for a meaningful relationship and the successful career he is sure to lose if he comes out, Nathan grapples with his troubled homelife and the challenges of sharing his own identity with his dying dad.

Loving Luke is the only thing holding Nathan together.
Loving Nathan is the only freedom Luke has.

Is it possible to hide the love you cannot live without?

Dan Cash comes from a big working-class family in Wiltshire and has always dreamed of being a published author. He studied French at the University of Exeter and is now a full-time content creator, sharing videos about pop culture and fandom. He has 217,000 engaged followers on Instagram and 580,000 followers on TikTok, where his videos have amassed 70m likes. Dan lives with his wife, two daughters, and cat with grey hair to rival his own. *Fanboy* is his debut novel.

PRESS PLAY

Matt Glasby



A frightening and fast-paced horror/ 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?

UK: Hera, Spring 2027
UK Editor: Dan O'Brien
Primary Agent: SL
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:
Extent: 70,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni

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!' - *Horrified*

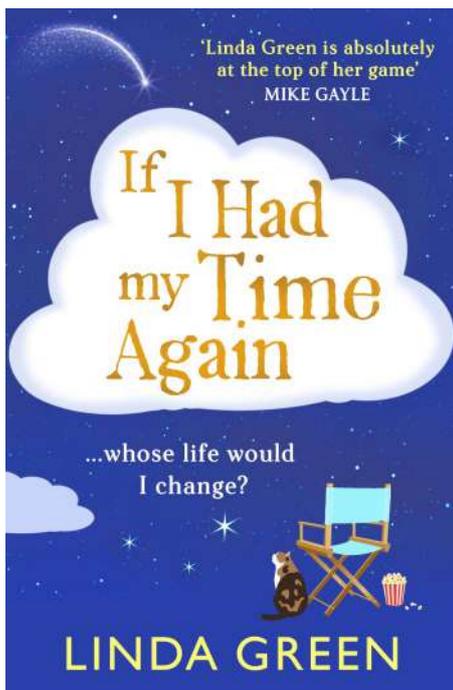
'...thoughtful, engagingly written, moodily illustrated compendium of terrors...' - *Through The Trees*

'[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. Matt is currently writing the sequel, *Springheel* about the Victorian serial killer Springheeled Jack. Hera will publish this in Spring 2028.

IF I HAD MY TIME AGAIN

Linda Green



How would you live your life differently, if you had a second chance?

Emily, Carl and Jules have all 'gone before their time'. After dying on the same day in Halifax, West Yorkshire, they each wake up in a room in a hotel on the outskirts of town. They're instructed to meet in the basement headquarters of film production company 'End Credits', where no-nonsense producer Suzi tells them their lives have been secretly filmed and they must edit their own biopic before they are able to move on.

There are only three rules: they can't prevent their own deaths or anyone else's, they can't kill anyone but they can make a director's cut - one change which will alter everything that comes after.

With the chance to undo their regrets and explore life's infinite possibilities, what will they choose?

The magical, heartbreaking and life-affirming new novel from Richard & Judy bestseller Linda Green. Perfect for fans of Matt Haig's *The Midnight Library*, Mike Gayle and Ruth Jones.

UK: Boldwood Books, March 2026

UK Editor: Francesca Best

Primary Agent: MC

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for Linda Green:

'Linda Green is bloody brilliant!' - Amanda Prowse, author of *This One Life*

'Heart-warming and inspiring: a great read.'

- Katie Fforde, author of *Practically Perfect*

'I felt so invested in the characters' lives.'

- Lucy Diamond, author of *The Beach Café*

'Warm, wise and very moving.' - Araminta Hall, author of *Unreliable Narrator*

Linda Green is a bestselling author whose novels have sold more than 1.4 million copies and have been translated into 12 languages. Her emotional drama, *One Moment*, was selected as a BBC Radio 2 Book Club pick. Linda has lived in West Yorkshire since 2001 but was born in North London in 1970 and brought up in Hertfordshire.

THE BEST EX OF MY LIFE

Emmy Hart



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 who they 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 an ex at all. Elliot was her almost - the gorgeous colleague she spent one incredible night with over a year ago before they both decided they 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.

WEL: HarperNorth, Summer 2026

WEL: Megan Jones

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

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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.'

- Fíona 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.

LIFT ME UP

Milly Johnson



UK: Amazon Publishing, June 2026

UK Editor: Maisie Lawrence

Primary Agent: LK

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Options:

Danish - JP Politikens

Dutch - Bruna

Finnish - Bazar

German - Piper

Hungarian - Alexandra

Italian - Newton Compton

Latvian - Apgads Kontinent

Norwegian - Cappelen Damm

Slovak - Fortuna

Swedish - Polaris

Ukrainian - Knigolove

Additional info:

Extent: 25,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

The new novella from the *Sunday Times* bestseller Milly Johnson.

Tam Remington is getting married. Her fiancé Harrison is clever, handsome and knows her better than she knows herself. That's why he's always suggesting ways she can improve, which is a good thing - right?

Tam certainly feels as if she needs some help in that department - she has never been able to fit in with the family ideal, however hard she's tried.

Then, at work, she lands the top job that will finally give her all the credibility she needs... only for her to be quickly replaced by Jack Cesaroni, a dashing, handsome, infuriatingly brilliant business genius, and a hatchet man - and Tam knows she is for the chop.

But when Tam and Jack are trapped in a lift together, one little word said in that confined space changes EVERYTHING for Tam. It makes her think that maybe fitting in isn't what she was put on this earth for.

Praise for *Let The Bells Ring Out*:

'Milly is the most wonderful, life-affirming writer about women's lives, love and friendship; her books are a joy.'

- Jenny Colgan, author of *The Secret Christmas Library*

'Real women, real life, real feeling, Milly brings it all.'

- Cathy Bramley, author of *Somewhere Only We Know*

'Reading a Milly Johnson book is like spending time with a best friend - you always end up feeling better about the world. Written with genuine warmth and heart, they're an absolute treat.'

- Lucy Diamond, author of *The Island Getaway*

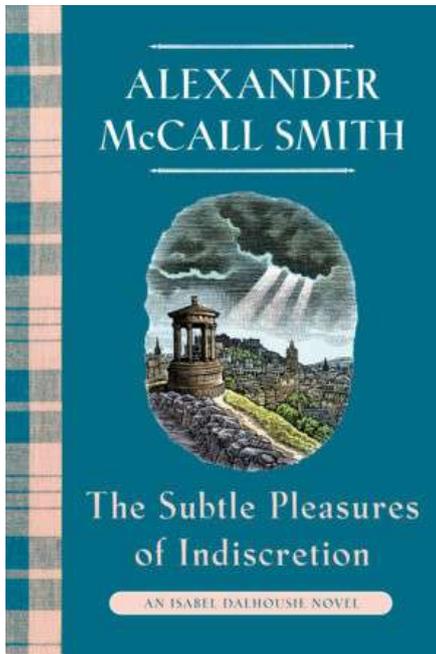
'Milly Johnson always delivers an absolutely cracking read.'

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

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 sold across the world. 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.

THE SUBTLE PLEASURES OF INDISCRETION (Isabel Dalhousie #16)

Alexander McCall Smith



In this latest instalment of the beloved *Isabel Dalhousie* series, everyone's favourite moral philosopher and amateur sleuth takes on a new set of delicate disputes.

Isabel has an unwavering commitment to her principles, which means she is often asked to advise on the sensitive, personal affairs of others—even those whose business she would prefer to stay out of.

When Isabel receives a surprise visit from a friend who has recently discovered the existence of a long-lost brother, she will have to face this quandary in her usual deft and thoughtful way. The friend has always held her father in high regard, and is worried that knowledge of his affair will tarnish her siblings' perception of him. Meanwhile, Isabel's husband Jamie has been offered the gig of his dreams—the opportunity to play in a series of concerts at a prestigious venue in London. After meeting the series coordinator, it becomes clear to Isabel that the woman has a massive crush on Jamie. Isabel isn't sure whether to reveal the woman's intentions. Should she tell Jamie of her suspicions, or would that mean calling his talent into question?

UK: Little Brown, June 2026

UK Editor: Richard Beswick

US: Pantheon, July 2026

US Editor: Edward Kastenmeier

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: Haworth Agency

Translation Agent: AH / GB / SN

Options:

Italian - TEA

Additional info:

Extent: 240 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

And finally, the ever-frustrating Professor Lettuce returns, this time embroiled in a ridiculous dispute with his friend Professor Dove. Somehow, Isabel gets dragged into resolving the affair. As always, Isabel will have to use her pragmatic sensibility and kindness to navigate these tricky situations.

Praise for Alexander McCall Smith:

'There is no end to the pleasure that may be extracted from these books.'
– *New York Times*

'For an author to entertain and instruct with such effortless simplicity is one thing, but to achieve this effect upon readers is remarkable. I can think of no author save Dickens who has achieved it, and no author now writing currently more deserving of an enormous audience.' – *The New Statesman*

'McCall Smith's saga is evolving into a tapestry of extraordinary nuance and richness.' – *Wall Street Journal*

Alexander McCall Smith is the author of the highly successful *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series, which has sold over twenty-five million copies. His various novels and book series have been translated into over forty languages and have become bestsellers throughout the world. These include the *44 Scotland Street* novels, first published as a serial novel in the *Scotsman*, the *Isabel Dalhousie* series, *My Italian Bulldozer* and the hilarious *Von Igelfeld* stories.

THE SECRET AT SUMMER'S END

Lulu Taylor



The new engrossing historical mystery from Lulu Taylor.

Germany, 1932: On their honeymoon, William and Dinah Conway cross paths with Winston Churchill and witness a meeting that almost changed history. Back in London, as the threat of war looms, the young couple is pulled into a perilous world of secrecy, taking great risks for the sake of conscience.

The arrival of William's mysterious cousin Victoria Gauntlett brings another threat to their happiness. What is her real aim as she works her way into their lives? And what is her pull to Munich, where William and Dinah must return for the sake of young Rosemary, another cousin?

UK: Macmillan, July 2026
UK Editor: Katie Loughnane
Primary Agent: LK
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 88,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni

Kent, 2001: Lottie Conway has lived with her family's notoriety, knowing that her grandfather, William, was a traitor, and that two women – Victoria and Rosemary – caused a scandal that still fascinates the world.

Sent to New York to report on the sale of Victoria Gauntlett's paintings, Lottie starts to learn about her family history. Only one person knows the truth about what happened all those years: her grandmother, Dinah, now increasingly lost to dementia. But is it too late for her to reveal her secrets?

Praise for *A Legacy of Secrets*:

'Absorbing, compelling and completely unputdownable, every Lulu Taylor novel grips you to the very end.' - Lisa Jewell, author of *None of This is True*

'I love Lulu Taylor's enchanting novels - captivating stories that keep me hooked until the final page!' - Veronica Henry, author of *The Secret Beach*

'Utterly compelling.' - Lucy Diamond, author of *The Island Getaway*

Lulu Taylor is the author of engrossing novels with entwined story lines in the past and present, encompassing family secrets, relationships and mysteries, in vivid and evocative settings. After studying English Literature, she began her career as a commissioning editor of fiction in publishing houses and then turned to her own writing. She has had six *Sunday Times* bestselling novels and her novel *The Last Song of Winter* was the winner of the RNA Historical Romantic Novel Award 2025. After raising her own family in London, she moved to Dorset where she now finds inspiration in its many historic houses and beautiful countryside.

CRASH

Belinda Bauer



UK: Transworld, July 2026

UK Editor: Finn Cotton

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Options:

Dutch - Bruna

German - Kunstmann

Norwegian - Cappelen Damm

Additional info:

Extent: 464 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

Brace yourself for high-octane, high risk... high rollers!

When the engine of a 737 tears itself apart at Los Angeles Airport, Tom Patrick is in the wrong place at the wrong time – playing poker at a nearby casino.

He's been losing at cards and probing pipeline leaks ever since his big mouth led to his fall from grace as the National Transportation Safety Board's top air-crash investigator. Now he can't wait to come in from the cold.

Sidelined by the official investigation, Tom starts to dig anyway. And when another 737 crashes for what looks like similar reasons, it's clear that something could be terribly wrong with the world's most popular passenger jet.

Risking everything, Tom Patrick sets out on a global paperchase, racing against time and ruthless killers – before planes and people start falling out of the sky like bloody confetti...

Crash was first published as *High Rollers* in 2014 under the

Praise for *The Impossible Thing*:

'An extraordinary novel. . . packs a real punch.'

- Ann Cleeves, author of *A Lesson in Dying*

'Belinda Bauer is a genius - she can turn any idea into a solid gold, suspenseful, immersive and intriguing story. This could be her best ever.' – Lee Child, author of the Jack Reacher series

'A funny, moving and beautifully written tale of misfits and oological obsession.' – *The Guardian*

'Suspenseful, charming mystery.' – *New York Times*, in 'Best thrillers of the year so far'

Belinda Bauer grew up in England and South Africa and now lives in Wales. She worked as a journalist and a screenwriter before finally writing a book to appease her nagging mother. For her debut, *Blacklands*, Belinda was awarded the CWA Gold Dagger for Crime Novel of the Year. She went on to win the CWA Dagger in the Library for her body of work. Her fourth novel, *Rubbernecker*, was voted Theakston's Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year. Her eighth novel, *Snap*, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller. It was longlisted for the Man Booker prize and voted Crime & Thriller Book of the Year at the Specsavers National Book Awards. Her books have been translated into twenty-five languages.

THE DISASSOCIATED

Harriet Crouzières



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.

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*.

UK: On submission

Primary Agent: SG

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: GB / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 92,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

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

Paula Daly



UK: Wildfire, Summer 2027
UK Editor: Rachel Hart
US: Minotaur, Summer 2027
US Editor: Kelley Ragland and Catherine Richards
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

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*

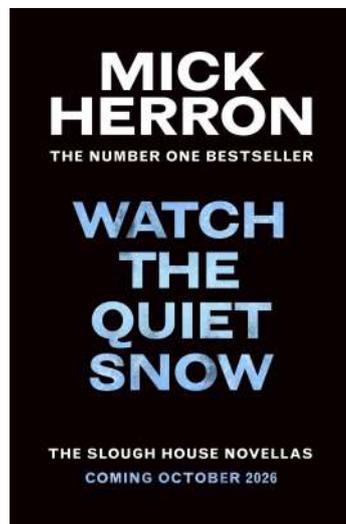
'The UK's answer to Liane Moriarty. Amazing.'

- 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*.

WATCH THE QUIET SNOW: The Slough House novellas

Mick Herron



UK: Baskerville, Autumn 2026
UK Editor: Yassine Belkacemi
Primary Agent: LK
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Options:

Chinese (Simplified) - New Star Press
Czech - Albatros Media
Danish - Forlaget Olga
Dutch - The House of Books
Estonia - Varrak
Finnish - Docendo
French - Actes Sud
Georgian - Palitra
German - Diogenes
Greek - Aiolos
Italian - Feltrinelli
Korean - Gimm-Young
Lithuanian - Jotema
Norwegian - Aschehoug
Polish - Insignis
Portuguese (Brazil) - Intrínseca
Romanian - Alice Books
Spanish - Salamandra
Turkish - Dogan

Additional info:

Extent: 300 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

At last in one volume: the collected Slough House spy novellas, perfect for fans of the #1 bestselling Slough House series.

Espionage. Blackmail. Revenge. Cunning. Secrets.

From the troubled recruitment of a new MI5 informant to the buried secrets of the Cold War, Herron's novellas capture the drama, humour, and high stakes of everyday life in the world of spycraft. A world rife with both legends and secrets, where thrill-seeking and loneliness are ubiquitous and deadly, and where the lines between friends, enemies, and lovers are perpetually blurred by circumstance and subterfuge.

Watch The Quiet Snow is an excellent introduction to the wider world of Mick Herron's Slough House. The collection includes: *The List*, *The Drop*, *The Catch*, *The Last Dead Letter*, and *Standing by the Wall*.

These tangential stories and back stories are essential reading for any fan of Slow Horses and the world of Slough House.

Praise for Mick Herron:

'Mick Herron is our best and most topical spy writer.' - Ian Rankin

'An authentic megastar of the genre.' - Sam Leith, *Guardian*

'No one can rival Mick Herron' - *The Times*

'A totemic figure in the spy fiction boom...' - *Telegraph*

'Mick Herron has that rare gift of being able to write exquisitely and hilariously while keeping us on the edge of our seats.'
- Liz Nugent, author of *Strange Sally Diamond*

'Pure class: thrilling, funny and moving. By now it's obvious that the Slough House novels are not just suspenseful, laugh-out-loud entertainments, not just literary marvels, but important too, essential stories of the state of the UK in the twenty first century.' - Simon Mason, author of *A Voice in the Night*

Mick Herron is the #1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of the Slough House thrillers, which have been published in over twenty-five languages and are the basis of the award-winning TV series *Slow Horses*, starring Gary Oldman as Jackson Lamb. Among his other novels are the Zoë Boehm series, also now adapted for TV starring Emma Thompson and Ruth Wilson, and the standalone novels *The Secret Hours* and *Nobody Walks*. Mick's awards include the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year and the CWA Gold, Steel and Diamond Daggers. A fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, he was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, and now lives in Oxford.

THE CUTTING STONE (DS Joseph Ashe Series #2)

Sarah Hilary



The gripping new thriller in the acclaimed series from the bestselling author.

A terrible discovery at a Peak District beauty spot shocks the inhabitants of Edenscar, and brings the past rushing back for Joe and Laurie, in this second thriller in the DS Joseph Ashe series.

When a half-frozen body is found under the Bawd Stone, a local landmark linked with pagan ritual, DI Laurie Bower's first call is to her best detective sergeant, Joseph Ashe. On leave after a traumatic case, Joe is still haunted by the tragedy he survived 17 years ago, when a school bus veered off the road and everyone drowned except him.

Joe and Laurie join forces as this new case takes them back to her old stamping ground of inner-city Manchester. But when the body is identified as Godfrey Hulme, her dead sister's counsellor, it quickly becomes a deeply personal murder investigation. The truth of what happened, in both the past and the present, will have devastating consequences for Laurie and Joe alike.

UK: Harvill Secker, April 2027

UK Editor: Cassie Brown

US: On submission

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 351 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

Praise for *The Drowning Place*:

'Will chill you to the bone... Fantastic.'

- Paula Hawkins, author of *The Blue Hour*

'Brilliant... a terrific start to a series.' - Mick Herron, author of *Slow Horses*

'An immersive, spine chilling mystery that will haunt you long after you put it down, *The Drowning Place* is an emotionally charged thriller that showcases Sarah Hilary's masterful writing,' - Vanessa Fox O'Loughlin, bestselling author of *Sam Blake*

'A character-driven plot that will take your breath away. A first class read.'

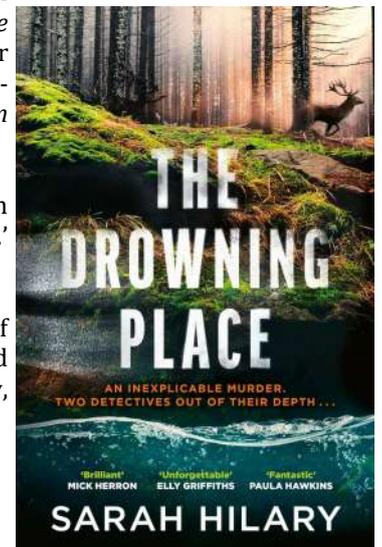
- Janice Hallett, author of *The Appeal*

'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.'

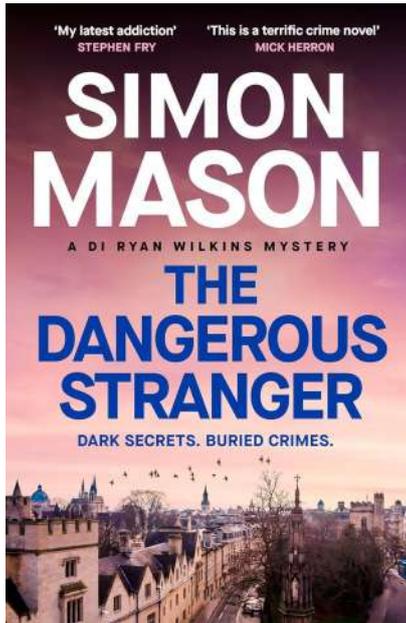
- Andrew Taylor, author of *The American Boy*



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 also 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. 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 Histories Prize, the Cheshire Prize for Literature, and the SENSE Prize.

THE DANGEROUS STRANGER (DI Wilkins series #5)

Simon Mason



UK: Hodder & Stoughton (Quercus),
March 2026

UK Editor: Jon Riley

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: AH / GB / SN

Options:

Dutch - Luitingh-Sijthoff

Estonian - Varrak

German - Goldmann

Hungarian - General Press

Italian - Sellerio

Additional info:

Extent: 384 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

The latest instalment in the bestselling, Oxford-set DI Ryan Wilkins series heralded as the “new Morse”.

On a warm and pleasant evening in Oxford, gentle city of poets and scholars, rioters outside a hotel full of asylum seekers set a young refugee on fire. The city - the country - convulses in shock. Is this who we are? It's international news of the very worst kind, and the Chief Constable demands immediate and exemplary action in bringing the perpetrators to justice. The detectives leading the investigation fill him with misgivings, however: DIs Ryan and Ray Wilkins (no relation), Thames Valley's detective pantomime horse, one Oxford-educated, the other Oxford-trailer park. He doesn't understand why they work together. 'Do they even get on?' 'Somehow that doesn't seem necessary,' their Superintendent replies.

Who burned the boy alive? Was it a far-right extremist? Was it an ordinary person who had simply gone along to watch and got caught up in the emotion? Could it even be one of the children who were there? Deploying a range of investigative skills, some standard, some unconventional and some frankly nuts, the Wilkinsees do what they do: results with chaos. But when they discover that the victim was not an asylum seeker after all, or even a resident of the hotel, the whole investigation kicks into a completely different configuration.

Praise for the *DI Wilkins* Series:

'Probably the most original contribution to crime writing in a decade.'
- *Daily Express*

'This is absolutely first class.' - Stephen Fry, author of *Odyssey*

'Simon Mason has created crime fiction's most entertaining double act in decades.' - Mick Herron, author of the *Slough House* series

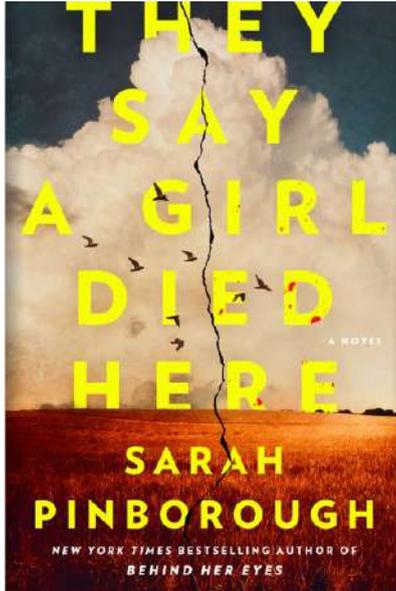
'Move over Morse.' - Val McDermid, author of the *Karen Pirie* series

'My favourite UK series.' - M W Craven, author of *The Final Vow*

Simon Mason is a writer of fiction whose latest novels are crime thrillers in the *Ryan Wilkins* series. The first, *A Killing in November*, was published in January 2022 and was followed by *The Broken Afternoon* (2023) and *Lost and Never Found* (2024). He was a former Managing Director of David Fickling Books, where he worked with many wonderful writers, including Philip Pullman. He has also taught at Oxford Brookes University and is currently a Royal Literary Fund Fellow at Exeter College, Oxford. The German edition of *A Killing in November* was a Spiegel bestseller.

THEY SAY A GIRL DIED HERE

Sarah Pinborough



UK: Orion, August 2026
UK Editor: Emad Akhtar
US: Flatiron, August 2026
US Editor: Christine Kopprasch
Primary Agent: VB
TV/Film Agent: Sean Gascoine at United Agents
Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Rights sold:

Dutch - Muelenhoff Boekerij
Greek - Harlenic Hellas
Hungarian - Agave

Options:

Bulgarian - Ciela
French - 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

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 McClure. Her latest novel, *We Live Here Now*, was an instant USA Today bestseller.

From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Behind Her Eyes* and *We Live Here Now* comes a thrilling, genre-bending mystery about two murdered girls, the ones who might be next, and a town with dark secrets.

Anna Maybourne feels trapped in Harper's Creek, a nowhere town of dusty farmland plagued by drought, known for the murders of two young women who died exactly three years apart. The presumed perpetrator, killed as he tried to escape the police, was known as The Farmhand. But Anna, new to town and caring for her grandmother with dementia, wonders if the closed case is actually unsolved.

As the three-year anniversary of the Farmhand murders nears, young women, including Anna's sister, worry it could happen again and they might be next. Anna's grandmother's paranoid episodes have grown stranger, and grandma claims to know things about the girls who died. Anna begins to think her grandmother's delusional moments may be the key to discovering the truth about the murders.

Because something strange is happening in their old house, grandma knows more than she should, and instead of being over, the mystery seems like it's all starting again.

With a devastating mystery at its core, *They Say a Girl Died Here* is a novel of thrilling and terrifying secrets, with a mind-bending twist that could only come from Sarah Pinborough.

Praise for *We Live Here Now*:

'Very scary. Turns out there's life in the haunted house plot, after all. Original and my God, so dark. You'll never guess the ending.'
- Stephen King, author of *Holly*

'*We Live Here Now* deals with grief, infidelity and dying love, in addition to blackmail, lies and murder. It's an intoxicating mix. This story is urgent and bold until the very end.' - *New York Times*

'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*

'*We Live Here Now* by Sarah Pinborough is a dazzling reinvention of the haunted house mystery for a modern audience.' - MJ Arlidge in *Daily Express*

THE MURDER TREE (DCI Christine Caplan #5)

Caro Ramsay



WEL: Severn House, August 2026

WEL Editor: Rachel Slatter

Primary Agent: MC

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 95,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A reclusive old woman is crushed to death beneath decades of her hoarded magazines.

An old man in shoes not fit for walking is found dead in the woods, his loyal dog still tucked by his side.

Then a resident at a care home dies alone in the wild gardens of the property – somewhere she is not supposed to be.

All the victims are elderly; their deaths deemed non-suspicious. Until another body floats ashore on the day DCI Christine Caplan's daughter is married, and the threads suddenly start to pull together.

As Caplan untangles a bloody chain leading back to a significant inheritance, her old friend – and occasional thorn in her side – DCI Fergusson arrives to head up his own investigation, bringing with him a polished major-drugs task force in sharp suits and sharper attitudes. Their presence raises questions Caplan can't answer.

Meanwhile, in sleepy Sycamore Square, three eccentric women—known locally as “the witches”—watch events unfold with unnerving interest. Their secrets run deep, their loyalties deeper still.

At the centre of it all is Doro Holland, a mother fighting for her six-year-old son's life as his illness tightens its grip. Desperate for money, desperate for hope, she is surrounded by people who want something from her.

As the bodies mount and the truth twists into ever-darker shapes, one question haunts Caplan's every step: who needs the money most... *and how far will they go to get it?*

Praise for DCI Christine Caplan Thriller series:

'Brilliant . . . twisting the tension tauter with each page.' - *Guardian*

'[Ramsay] is a titan of Tartan Noir.' - Helen Fields, author of *Perfect Remains*

'[A] dark, suspenseful and atmospheric thriller starring a charismatic heroine.' - *Booklist* (starred review)

'Fans of contemporary British police procedurals will want to have a look.' - *Publishers Weekly*

Caro Ramsay was born in Govan, on Glasgow's south side. A graduate of the British School of Osteopathy, she runs a large osteopath centre in West Scotland, treating animals and humans, and writes in her spare time. Her first novel *Absolution* was shortlisted for the CWA New Blood Dagger 2008 and her second *Singing to the Dead* was longlisted for the Theakston's Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award 2010. Ramsay was the subject of a 2007 BBC documentary film, and appeared on STV show *The Hour* in 2010.

LIE FOR YOUR LIFE

Anna Sharpe



The thoroughly gripping new thriller from critically claimed and award-winning author Anna Sharpe.

Nicole, a senior prosecutor, is working to secure the conviction of The Tattooist, a brutal serial killer who has murdered three innocent victims, when she discovers that the defendant may be innocent.

Forced to continue with the case after her loved ones are threatened, Nicole is in a race against time to identify the murderer before the jury reach their verdict and the killer strikes again...

UK: Orion, January 2027

UK Editor: Louisa Cusworth

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: The Haworth Agency

Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 349 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

Praise for *Notes on a Drowning*:

'Razor-sharp writing, a gripping plot and a level of authenticity that comes straight from years of legal experience right at the coal face. Highly recommended.' - Harriet Tyce, author of *Witch Trial*

'I loved *Notes on a Drowning*... A tense political thriller but one that never forgets its heart. A new venture from mega-talented Anna Sharpe. Read it!' - Elly Griffiths, author of *The Last Word*

'A rare thing - a high-octane, page turning thriller, but with characters who are fully rounded.' - Jennie Godfrey, author of *The List of Suspicious Things*

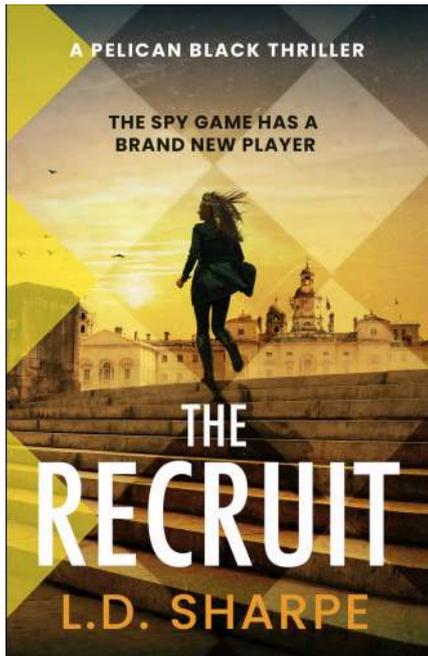
'Thought-provoking, timely, and elegant in execution... a novel that marries the intelligence of legal noir with the tension of a cutting-edge thriller... Simply outstanding..' - Abir Mukherjee, author of *Hunted*

Anna Sharpe is the pen name of acclaimed author and criminal justice solicitor Anna Mazzola. *Lie For Your Life* is grounded in real courtroom experience and written with razor-sharp authenticity and insight.

Anna Mazzola is the award-winning author of crime, historical and Gothic novels. She also writes legal thrillers under the name Anna Sharpe. Her debut novel, *The Unseeing*, won an Edgar Allan Poe award. Her latest, *The Book of Secrets*, won the CWA Gold Dagger for Best Crime Novel of the Year. Her fourth, *The House of Whispers*, won the Fingerprint Award for Best Historical Crime. Her bestselling third novel, *The Clockwork Girl*, was nominated for various awards including the Dublin Literary award. Her novels explore the impact of crime and injustice and her influences include Sarah Waters, Daphne du Maurier and Shirley Jackson. When not writing or teaching, Anna is a human rights and criminal justice solicitor, working with survivors of crime. She lives in South London with her husband, their two children, a snake and a cat.

THE RECRUIT (Pelican Black Series #1)

L.D. Sharpe



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

Additional info:

Extent: tbc
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni

The first book in the Pelican Black series, a contemporary, international thriller series with espionage DNA.

Sarah Black: young, idealistic, and dangerously inexperienced – a brand-new recruit into the opaque world of international intelligence.

She is recruited, fresh out of university, into international intelligence with little preparation for the realities of the job – or the cost of getting it wrong. When she is attached to Michael, a charismatic and elusive senior agent, Sarah is drawn into a covert investigation surrounding rumours of an imminent attack on a new oil pipeline stretching across the Caucasus. What begins as an intelligence exercise quickly becomes something far more dangerous. Stranded in a volatile corner of Eastern Europe, cut off from reliable support and unsure who she can trust, Sarah must learn the rules of the espionage game at speed – or become expendable.

In a world where everyone believes they are a player, Sarah discovers how easily even the most powerful are reduced to pawns – and how quickly survival depends on understanding who is really moving the board.

With the propulsive pacing of *The Trap* by Ava Glass and the international intrigue of *Black Doves*, this is espionage with real geopolitical stakes and emotional depth.

#2: *Rogue Agency* (October 2026)

In a game without rules, every move counts.

#3: *Black's Gambit* (January 2027)

Everything to play for. Everything to lose.

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

'If you're looking for the next Le Carré, Ludlum or Silva, then she has arrived and her name is Lucy Hooft, the 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, writing as L.D. Sharpe, joined the UK Foreign Office straight out of university before moving to the Department for International Development. Her work took her across Africa and the Middle East, including several years living in a remote jungle camp in Gabon. Her first-hand experience directly informs the *Pelican Black* novels. She has always plausibly denied being a spy – but these books explore what that life might look like from the inside... She later lived in Jordan, where she worked in close proximity to Queen Rania of Jordan, experience that informs the setting of the forthcoming fourth novel. Lucy currently lives in Namibia with her family, growing giant kelp and running the Luderitz Blue School.

VOICES OF THE DEAD (Josephine Tey series #12)

Nicola Upson



The latest novel in Nicola Upson's much-loved 'Josephine Tey' series.

Summer, 1941. As London is devastated by the Blitz, the National Gallery's most precious paintings find a new sanctuary in the slate mines of north Wales. When a woman's grave is found amid the debris of a roof fall, Josephine Tey and Detective Chief Inspector Archie Penrose are plunged into a forty year-old mystery, and a death that threatens to tear apart the close-knit Welsh community.

Meanwhile, the actress Margaret Rutherford prepares to play a clairvoyant in Noel Coward's defiant new play, *Blithe Spirit*. As her research unwittingly exposes a painful secret from her own past, it seems that no one is immune to messages from the dead.

UK: Faber, November 2026

UK Editor: Lochlann Binney

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: NL

Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Options:

German - Kein und Aber

Additional info:

Extent: 100,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

Praise for *Shot With Crimson*:

'Outstanding. Upson makes all of her complex characters' motivations, guilt, and lies understandable while subtly inserting clues into the ingeniously twisty plot.' - *Publishers Weekly*

'Always a delight.' - *Sunday Times*

'Classy, clever, endlessly entertaining, and perfectly stitched together, *Shot With Crimson* is a joy from start to finish.' - *Lancashire Evening Post*

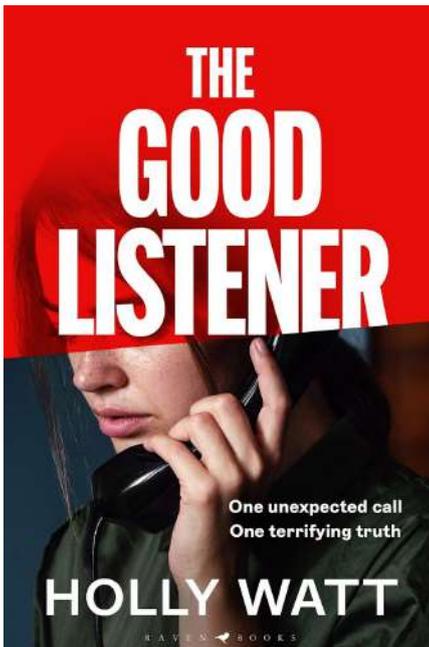
'There's a wonderful golden age feel . . . containing wonderful twists and turns which single out Upson as a talented author of historical crime.' - *Scotland on Sunday*

'Elaborately plotted and rich with detail.' - *Daily Mail*

Nicola Upson was born in Suffolk and read English at Downing College, Cambridge. Her debut, *An Expert in Murder*, was the first in a series of crime novels to feature Josephine Tey – one of Britain's finest Golden Age crime writers – and was dramatised for BBC Radio 4. Several of Nicola's novels have been listed for the CWA Gold and Historical Daggers, and *A Christmas Clue* was a 2025 Waterstones Thriller of the Month. She is a member of the Detection Club, and in 2024 curated the acclaimed exhibition *Murder by the Book: a celebration of twentieth century British crime fiction* at Cambridge University Library. She is also the author of *Stanley and Elsie*, a novel about the painter Stanley Spencer, and lives with her partner in Cambridge and Cornwall.

THE GOOD LISTENER

Holly Watt



UK: Raven, May 2026

UK Editor: Alison Hennessey

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Rights sold:

Dutch- De Fontain

Options:

Estonian-Varrak

Additional info:

Extent: 336 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 Good Listener*:

'I adore Holly Watts' storytelling. *The Good Listener* is an intelligent, involving novel with the pace of the most propulsive thriller, and a story that sweeps you into its emotional heart.'

– Charlotte Philby, author of *The End of Summer*

'A fabulous thriller with a premise that had me hooked right from the start . . . A truly emotional, utterly gripping read – this is perfect book-club material. I loved it.'

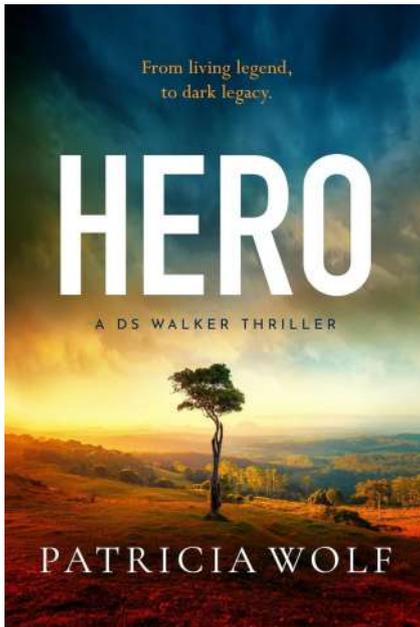
– Nikki Smith, author of *All in Her Head*

'Tense, heartfelt and profoundly moving. Even murderers need Good Listeners.' – Sarah Sultoon, author of *Blackwater*

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. Two more in the series have followed, along with a standalone thriller, *The Last Truths We Told*.

HERO (DS Walker series #5)

Patricia Wolf



UK: Embla, May 2026
UK Editor: Jane Snelgrove
Primary Agent: SG
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: GB / SN

Options:
German - Goldmann Verlag

Additional info:
Extent: 352 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni

Over 500,000 copies of DS Walker sold worldwide.

A sporting legend. A brutal death. A dark legacy.

DS Lucas Walker is back home in Queensland, following the dramatic fallout from his last case. He is just getting to grips with his new role in the small outback town of Katima, when the body of an unknown young man is found hanging from a tree in the park.

What at first looks like a tragic suicide soon has Walker's detective instincts on alert, and he and his young partner throw themselves into the case - discovering a connection with an unsolved death.

And then a brutal murder changes everything. The victim is Caden Conroy, national cricketer hero, and the dark nature of his death leads to an unparalleled media frenzy.

When Walker is sidelined by Brisbane Homicide after being first on the scene, he must go his own way to unpick the deceit and corruption at the heart of these cases. Only then will he know if they are connected, and how - but at what cost?

Still reeling from Berlin, and with his own family in freefall, DS Lucas Walker faces one of his toughest cases yet in the fifth instalment of this

Praise for the DS Walker series:

'Another stunner in the series... A rip-roaring thriller Down Under. Loved the characters and a great plot. Her best yet!' - Michelle Teahan, author of *Go Seek*

'Tense, atmospheric and gripping. I eagerly await the next DS Walker thriller.' - Chris Whitaker, author of *We Begin at the End*

'A hot read. I highly recommend it.' - Lynda La Plante CBE, author of *Vanished*

'A tense, twisty read that gripped me from its shocking start, immersed me in its sun-scorched landscape, then raced to its satisfying conclusion.' - Sarah Yarwood-Lovett, author of the *Nell Ward* series

Patricia Wolf has been a journalist for more than 15 years. She is from Australia and moved to Berlin in early 2020. Prior to that she lived in Lisbon for eight years, working as a correspondent in Portugal and the Portuguese speaking world. She is a regular contributor including the *Guardian*, the *Financial Times*, the *New York Times* and the *Telegraph*, among others. Formerly a design columnist at the *Independent* and the Lisbon correspondent for *Monocle magazine*, she covers subjects ranging from design, art and culture to travel, politics and human interest pieces from around the world.

QUEENS OF VILLAINY SERIES

Stephanie Burgis



UK: Bramble/Tor/Macmillan
UK Editor: Monique Patterson
US: Bramble/Tor/Macmillan
US Editor: Erika Tsang
Primary Agent: MKH
TV/Film Agent: DHA
Translation Agent: EL

Rights sold:

France - City Editions
Italy - Oscar Mondadori

Additional info:

Extent: 204 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Final files

Queens of Villainy is a delightful, funny, and seductive romantasy trilogy, set in a gaslamp-lit world where hags and ogres lurk in thick pine forests and genteel court intrigues can turn deadly.

Wooing the Witch Queen: Saskia is the sorceress queen of a fiercely independent kingdom bordered by a sinister empire. When she hires a mysterious dark wizard as her librarian, she's already falling for him by the time she realises he's actually a nerdy, non-magical archduke in disguise – on the run from her sworn enemies, the imperial royal family...

Enchanting the Fae Queen: Lorelei is a notorious fae seductress with a glamorous, outrageous lifestyle. She couldn't be more different the virtuous, buttoned-up imperial high general who has long been her nemesis. But when they're swept up into a deadly fae tournament, they discover how perfectly opposites can attract...

***Melting the Ice Queen* coming in February 2027.**

Wooing the Witch Queen has sold over 50,000 copies and was a Bookish Box selection (9000 copies).

Praise for *Wooing the Witch Queen*:

'This book delightfully upends the gender dynamics of romantasy while staying true to the core appeal: a warmhearted innocent falling prey to someone hot and sinister.' - *The New York Times*

'Burgis keeps the pages flying while impressively balancing political intrigue, slow-burning romance, and comic relief. Readers will be enchanted.' - *Publishers Weekly*

'Witty dialogue, a slow-burn romance, and secrets keep this story moving at a steady clip.... Burgis's clever romantasy is ideal for readers of Travis Baldree and Freya Marske.' - *Library Journal*

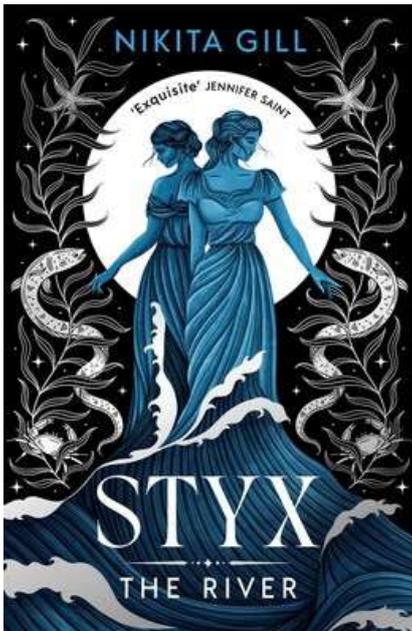
'*Wooing the Witch Queen* is spectacular!!! Full of charm, wit, and magic, with two pitch-perfect main characters and a swoonworthy romance, it's absolutely irresistible! I loved it!'

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

Stephanie Burgis grew up in Michigan but now lives in Wales with her husband and two kids, surrounded by mountains, castles and coffee shops. She writes sparkling fantasy rom-coms and has also had eight fun MG fantasy novels published, including 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. *Enchanting the Fae Queen* is a *USA Today* bestseller.

STYX: The River

Nikita Gill



UK: Simon & Schuster, September 2026

UK Editor: Gemma Creffield

US: Little, Brown, September 2026

US Editor: Samantha Gentry

Primary Agent: NC

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Options:

French - Hachette Livre

Hungarian - Konyvmolykepzo Kiado

Additional info:

Extent: 400 pages

Illustrations: Yes, B&W

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

The second in the trilogy and follow-up to the *Sunday Times* and *New York Times* bestselling *Hekate*, *Styx* sings the story of Hekate's mother, Asteria, 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. And as they seek to learn their divine purpose and their place within the Titanomachy, they discover both the joy sparked by true love and the fierce resilience birthed from motherhood.

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 *A Thousand Ships* and *Stone Blind*

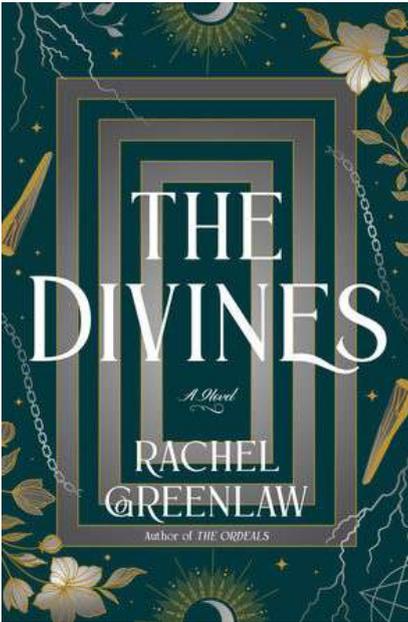
'A vivid and imaginatively wrought divine world that is monstrous, magical and beautiful.' - Jennifer Saint, author of *Hera* and *Ariadne*

'A powerful reflection on magic, power, family and the consequences of war. I absolutely loved it.' - Costanza Casati, 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.

THE DIVINES

Rachel Greenlaw



Dangers and magics new and old build to God-like proportions as Sophia and her allies fight for their lives, and their very world, in this steamy, propulsive follow-up to *The Ordeals*.

The Great Hunt has begun. Still mourning the loss of her friends and mentors, and adjusting to her awakening powers, Sophia has no time to waste honing her abilities. As the waves of attacks by the Cold Ones continue to escalate, the group is led into dangerous territories and an even more dangerous need for vengeance. But when a loved one is attacked by a Cold One, Sophia and her closest allies must turn their attention to a new critical task: finding an antidote.

As Sophia and her friends learn more about the origins of the Cold Ones, they also uncover disturbing secrets being kept by the Crown. It's clear there's something even bigger at play than they could have ever imagined. As they navigate the maze of who can or cannot be trusted, new and unknown threats ambush them at every turn.

UK: HQ, October 2026
UK Editor: Seema Mitra
US: Ballantine, October 2026
US Editor: Alicia Clancy
Primary Agent: MC
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Rights sold:

French - Le MacGuffin
German - Klett-Cotta
Italian - Giunti
Spanish - Alma
Polish - Swiat Ksiazki

Additional info:

Extent: 384 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Japan Uni

Sophia has always heard the stories of the Old Gods, long since gone from their world. But what if they weren't truly gone, just simply biding their time? What if the Great Hunt is only the beginning? For the gods are hungry and have a will of their own, and to save the world as they know it, Sophia will have to face their wrath.

Praise for *The Ordeals*:

'Combines captivating world building, a seriously twisty plot, and a steamy romance...impossible to put down.' - Demi Winters, author of *The Road of Bones*

'A rich romantasy ideal for fans of dark academia.' - *The Mirror*

'The magic system is captivating, and the ending will leave you yearning for the second book.' - *The Express*

Rachel Greenlaw grew up in North Cornwall, surrounded by wild moorland. She studied English with Creative Writing at Falmouth University before moving to an island in the Atlantic, where she lives with her husband and two children. The *Compass and Blade* trilogy is her first YA fiction series. Rachel's first novel for adults, *One Christmas Morning* was shortlisted for The Fantasy Romantic Novel Award 2024. Her other books, *The Woodsmoke Women's Books of Spells* and *The Ordeals*, have both featured on Waterstones' Best Romantasy Books of the year for 2025.

THE LAST VERSE OF THE HARP LORD

Lucy Holland



UK: Head of Zeus, April 2027

UK Editor: Greg Rees

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Options:

Spanish - Urano

Additional info:

Extent: 150,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

A Celtic *Song of Achilles*, *The Last Verse of the Harp Lord* is a magical and devastating romantic fantasy that will captivate your heart and break it.

In the tribal courts of yr Hen Ogledd – the Old North – kings fight over territory and inheritance, over women and insults. And bards celebrate their deeds in elegy and epic. Yet the bards do more than merely sing, for their dark speech, gramarye, is a subtle form of magical control with the secret power to topple kingdoms. And no bard is more adept, or held in higher esteem than the legendary Harp Lord, Taliesin.

A young son of the troubled realm of Rheged, Aneirin always expected to take up the sword, despite being tutored in music by his mother, a renowned harper. But after a chance encounter with Taliesin, he instead finds himself competing for a coveted place at the bardic school of Ynys Môn, where aspiring bards hope to unlock the mysteries of awen: divine inspiration and the source of their power. It isn't long before whispers start to circulate – could Aneirin one day rival Taliesin himself?

Aneirin will discover, however, that the price of awen is greater than he could have imagined. Beneath Taliesin's arrogant façade, the great Harp Lord is a man pursued, forced to shift from shape to shape to evade the wrath of the witch, Ceridwen, from whom he stole his power. What begins as a game between the two greatest bards of their age becomes something more, as Aneirin fights to free Taliesin from Ceridwen's hold.

Praise for *Song of the Huntress*:

'Magic, myth, political intrigue, and a fierce and unique love story... I devoured it' – Cassandra Clare, author of *Sword Catcher*

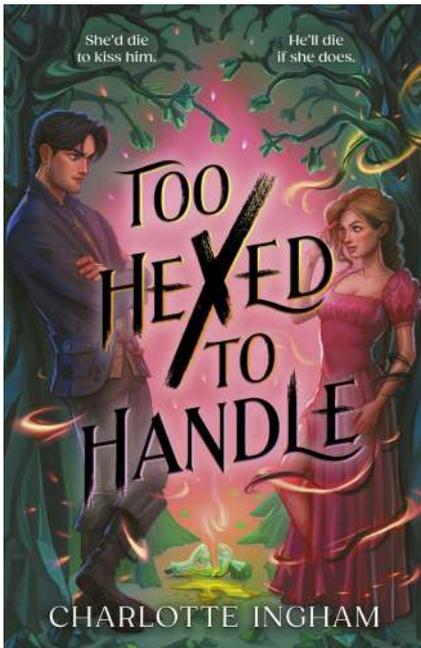
'Richly imagined and meticulously researched, *Song of the Huntress* makes history vibrant'

- Hannah Whitten, New York Times bestselling author of *For the Wolf*

Lucy Holland is a former Waterstones bookseller and has a BA in English and Creative Writing from Royal Holloway. She went on to complete an MA in Creative Writing under Andrew Motion in 2010. Lucy lives in Devon and co-hosts *Breaking the Glass Slipper*, an award-winning feminist podcast. She is the author of *Sistersong* and *Song of the Huntress*.

TOO HEXED TO HANDLE

Charlotte Ingham



She'd die to kiss him. He'll die if she does.

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, Spring 2027

US Editor: Nicole Ellul

Primary Agent: MC

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Options:

Hungarian - Mano Konyvek

Italian - Mondadori

Polish - Zielona Sowa

Portuguese in Brazil - Record

Ukrainian - Family Leisure Club

Additional info:

Extent: 100,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

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.'

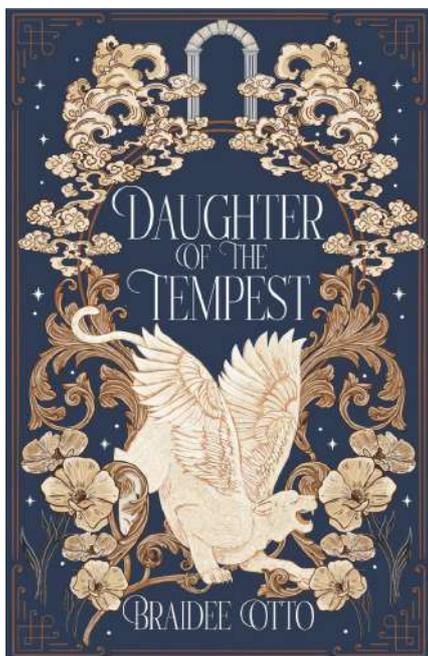
- Amy de la Force, author of *A Kiss of Hammer & Flame*

'Sexy, edgy and laced with just the right amount of wicked humour.' - *Booklist*

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*, sold in eight territories, 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).

DAUGHTER OF THE TEMPEST (Myths of the Empyrieos #2)

Braidee Otto



US: Dial Press, October 2026

US Editor: Katy Nishimoto

AUS: PRH, October 2026

AUS Editor: Christine Ebbs

Primary Agent: CMK

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Rights sold:

German - cbj

Hungarian - Kossuth

Italian - Mondadori

Polish - Wydawnictwo Niezwykłe

Spanish - V&R Editoras

Additional info:

Extent: 140,000 words

Illustrations: Yes, B/W map

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

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.

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.

Praise for *Songbird of the Sorrows*:

'Simmering with tension and intrigue, *Songbird of the 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.'

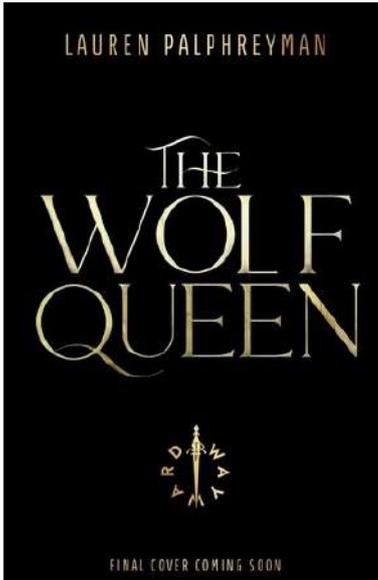
- Nisha J. Tuli, USA Today bestselling author of *Trial of the Sun Queen*

'*Songbird of the Sorrows* is a new addictive romantic fantasy that combines beautiful world-building, a thrilling combination of heist and trials, and a toe-curling forbidden romance. Between the romantic intrigue and the unravelling mysteries, it kept me guessing until the very last page!'

- Demi Winters, author of *The Road of Bones*

THE WOLF QUEEN (The Wolf King trilogy #3)

Lauren Palphreyman



UK: Wayward TxF, Septmber 2026
UK Editor: Rachel Winterbottom
US: Bloom Books, September 2026
US Editor: Christa Désir
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Rights sold:

Bulgarian - Ciela
Czech - Familium
Danish - Gyldendal
Dutch - SVM
French - Fleuve
German - Carlson
Hungarian - Kiado
Italian - Rizzoli
Lithuanian - Alma Littera
Polish - Filia
Portuguese in Brazil - Companhia das Letras
Portuguese in Portugal - Leya
Romanian - Storia Books
Serbian (under offer)
Slovak - Tatran
Spanish - PRH Spain
Turkish - Juno
Ukrainian- RM

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Final manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni

Lauren Paphreyman 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!

As dark forces rise, Princess Aurora is caught between two powerful alphas.

Princess Aurora may have survived the Wolf King, but now he wants her back.

To take his throne, Aurora and Callum form a dangerous alliance with one of the most feared Wolves in the Kingdom, Blake. He's the enemy, but Aurora's life is bound to his. If he dies, so does she.

As she fights their connection, she suspects Blake is keeping secrets. There is a bigger game at play than who sits on the Wolf Throne – one that threatens every kingdom.

With enemies closing in, Aurora may be the only one who can stop an ancient evil from rising.

To survive, she must decide where she – and her heart – belong.

ROGUE CHARMERS

Caitlyn Paxson



UK: Arcadia, April 2027
UK Editor: Anne Perry
US: Del Rey, April 2027
US Editor: Anne Groell
CAN: Doubleday, April 2027
CAN Editor: Megan Kwan
Primary Agent: CMK
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Options:

Italian - Mondadori

Additional info:

Extent: 117,000 words
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Ten years after the events of *A Widow's Charm*, Han and Lady Isobel get a second chance at romance in this love letter to horse girls and highway robbery.

After marrying a scoundrel and losing her fortune to his debts, Issie is trying to stay afloat and care for her two young children. When she hears of the successful exploits of Neck's most notorious duo of highwaymen, Roaring Tom and the Gentle Knave, she makes a decision: if she can't make an honest living, she might as well make a dishonest one.

Han never intended to be a highwayman but, armed with her Charm for unlocking and knack for horses, soon Han finds her calling riding the roads with her mentor as highwaymen who rob from the wealthy. Imagine her surprise when her next target turns out to be none other than Lady Isobel – a woman who Han fell hopelessly in love with ten years ago and has never managed to get over.

Han and Issie join criminal forces, but their new partnership struggles to stay strictly professional. It's not only jewels being stolen but hearts, and when their daring exploits land them in hot water, it's both liberty and love at stake.

Praise for *A Widow's Charm*:

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

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

'A delightfully grown-up fairy tale: witty, sexy, and deeply romantic. Hilde and Elmwood are instantly loveable leads - two bruised charmers in a broken world, drawn together by love's irresistible spell. This is a warm, glowing hearth of a book, perfect for a night when the world seems too cold.'

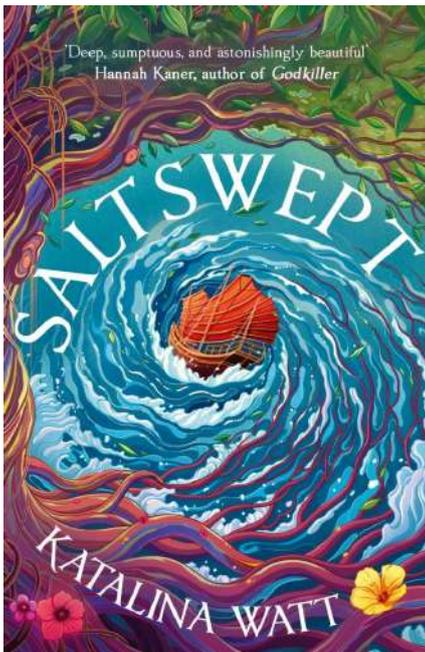
- Tessa Dare, author of *The Duchess Duel*

'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.

SALTSWEPT

Katalina Watt



UK: Hodderscape, February 2026

UK Editor: Delayna Spencer

US: On submission

Primary Agent: CMK

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 400 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A ragtag crew embarks on a perilous quest at sea in this immersive and swashbuckling fantasy debut.

A pirate faces the gallows drop. A farmer is given a terrible ultimatum to save her daughter. An acolyte ascends to priestesshood, only to find that a blessing really can be a curse. These unlikely bedfellows band together with an inscrutable pickpocket and a talking ottercat in pursuit of the most hopeless of causes: to sail into the Maelstrom, a raging whirlpool from which no one has ever escaped, and find the mysterious treasure hidden within it.

The quest will test their fragile allegiance to its limits, but there is more at stake here than getting rich: the magic of the world is in peril, and the barrier between life and death has never been so thin. And in the Bastion, the seat of power in Paranish, the queen has an unquenchable thirst that threatens the world and everyone in it.

Can there be honour amongst thieves? Without it, they might never see another sunrise.

The second book in the duology, *Saltsworn*, will publish in April 2027.

Praise for *Saltswept*:

'*Saltswept* is going to make waves in epic fantasy. Katalina's writing is deep, sumptuous, and astonishingly beautiful, perfectly crafting a tale of seas and magic set in a queernorm world... I can't wait to follow this found family to whatever end.'

- Hannah Kaner, #1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Godkiller*

'Richly layered and beautifully told, *Saltswept* is a story worth savoring.'

- Julie Leong, author of *The Teller of Small Fortunes*

'*Saltswept* is an exhilarating adventure on the high seas, brimming with dark secrets, forbidden magic and a found family of misfits. Thrilling and ferocious.'

- Eliza Chan, #1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Fathomfolk* and *Tideborn*

Katalina Watt is an Edinburgh-based author of speculative fiction. They were selected for a 2025 Literature Matters Award from Royal Society of Literature, AIR Literature UNESCO 2024 Gothenburg Writer in Residence, and 2023 Hugo Award Finalist for Best Semiprozine as founding Audio Director for khōrēō. They are a writing coach at The Novelry, and *Saltswept* is their debut novel.

A LOVELY DAY TO DIE AND OTHER STORIES

Celia Fremlin



Welcome to Celia Fremlin's nightmare world.

Celia Fremlin's third collection of stories, first published in 1984, is a baker's dozen of gripping tales by the mistress of suspense. Within these covers are stories of family frustrations and fury - a young wife who wants rid of her husband, an elderly daughter who cannot endure her mother. Fremlin deals in the uncanny, too, constantly confounding our expectations, and those of her characters.

UK: Faber, October 2026
UK Editor: Ella Griffiths
Primary Agent: MC
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: GB / SN / ZP

Options:

German - Dumont
Italian - Sellerio

Additional info:

Extent: 150 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, bestselling author of *The Examiner*

'Fremlin was a genius.' - Nicola Upson, author of *The Christmas Clue*

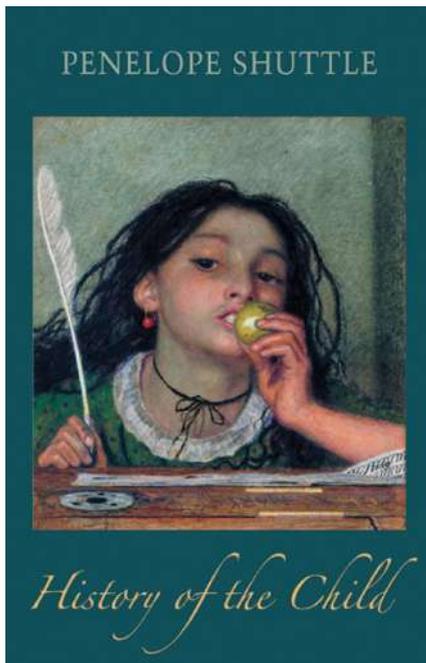
'Celia Fremlin is an astonishing writer, who explores that nightmare country where brain, mind and self battle to establish the truth. She illuminates her dark world with acute perception and great wit.'

- 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 other works include *Uncle Paul* (which was Waterstones Thriller of the Month in June 2023), *The Jealous One*, *Trouble Makers* and several short story collections.

HISTORY OF THE CHILD

Penelope Shuttle



A highly evocative exploration of childhood, memory, and imagination, personal and historical perspectives.

The themes of *History of a Child* include parenting, grief, nature, emotional recovery and connections to the past, guided by the idea of childhood as a transformative and rebellious space.

The first of its four sections features poems about Katherine of Aragon, the Vestal Virgins, Stanley Spencer and Wallace Stevens, with a focus on grief, nature, and animals. The second, *Book of Lullabies*, steps closer to the theme of the child, with poems about memory, inwardness, climate change, sexuality in older age, and the natural world.

The third part, *History of the Child*, is a journey back to Penelope Shuttle's own childhood, blending personal memories with imagined perspectives to explore psychological crises, emotional recovery, and the traumas of childhood. It introduces an 'alternative girl child self', inspired by Persian legends, by her late husband Peter Redgrove's dream of such a girl ('my death, and she is my soul'), and by a friend's fanciful wish. The culminating fourth section is a playful sequence about a little table, inspired by her mother and her childhood. The table symbolises connection to her mother, who lived to be 100 years old, and their shared history.

Penelope Shuttle's *History of the Child* is guided by themes of memory, imagination, foreboding, magic, history and humour, and seeks to articulate the essence of 'being' through fiery language and elemental imagery. She draws inspiration from Donald Winnicott's concept of the 'potentive space' where play, fantasy and reality intersect.

WEL: Bloodaxe Books, February 2026

WEL Editor: Neil Astley

Primary Agent: SL

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: RS / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 128 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

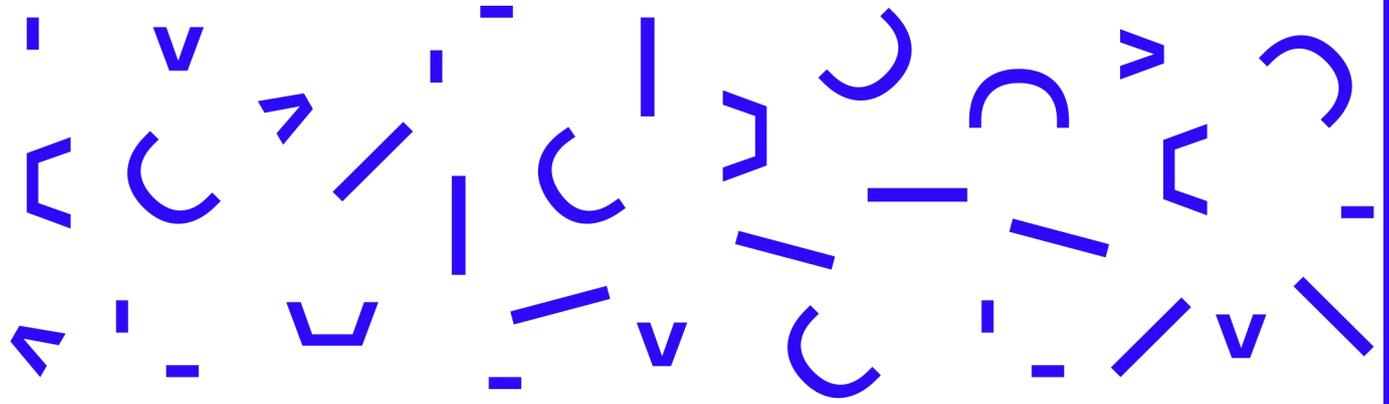
Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

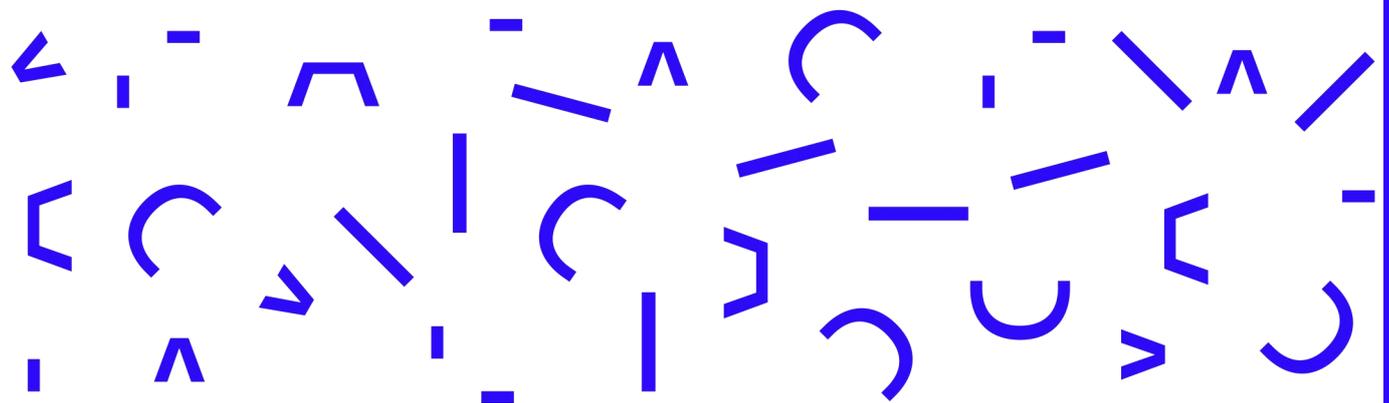
Praise for *History of the Child*:

'The capacious and playful latest from Shuttle (*Lyonnesse*) offers twin poles of memory and imagination, taking place in part among the scenes, recollections, and visions of childhood... Quietly witty and slyly allusive, this dispenses poignant reflections on the poet's personal history.' – *Publishers' Weekly*

Penelope Shuttle is a well-known poet and novelist. Her *Selected Poems* (OUP, 1998) was a Poetry Book Society Recommendation, and the collection she wrote following her husband's death, *Redgrove's Wife* (Bloodaxe Books), was shortlisted for the TS Eliot Prize 2006. *Sandgrain and Hourglass*, was published by Bloodaxe in October 2010, and was chosen as a Recommendation of the Poetry Book Society. *Unsent: New and Selected Poems* was published by Bloodaxe in 2012. *In the Snowy Air* was published as an iOTA Shot pamphlet by Templar Poetry in 2014. *Will you walk a little faster?*, was published by Bloodaxe in 2017, *Lyonnesse* was published by Bloodaxe in 2021. She lives in Cornwall, where she founded the Falmouth Poetry Group with Peter Redgrove over thirty years ago.

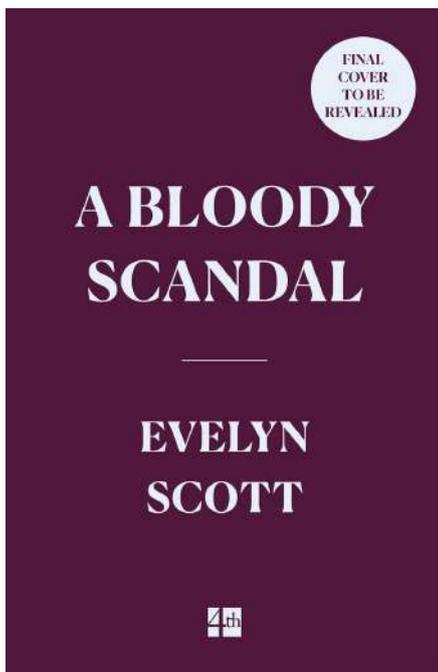


Non-Fiction



A BLOODY SCANDAL

Evelyn Scott



A personal and explosive investigation into modern day gynaecological neglect and medical misogyny.

Evelyn Scott was a teenager when she first began suffering from the symptoms of endometriosis, a condition which affects one in ten women. For fifteen years she endured constant, agonising pain, dismissals of hysteria, irresponsible misdiagnoses and a deplorable lack of support. With every refusal to take her experience seriously, the medical industry's position was made clear: to be female is to inevitably live in pain.

In this searing and deeply personal exposé, Evelyn refutes this narrative and reveals the shocking realities of gynaecological neglect that has left so many women in the shadow of their own bodies. Weaving her own story of debilitating pain with those from others all across the world, Evelyn chronicles the systemic failures that are causing harm to women with reproductive conditions globally, from the first period all the way through to treatment and beyond.

With unflinching honesty, *A Bloody Scandal* is an urgent call to action for empathy-led approaches in understanding and treating female pain.

UK: Fourth Estate, August 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 is an academic with degrees from Royal Holloway and University College London, who originally qualified as a Classical and Forensic Archaeologist. Evelyn suffers from severe endometriosis, and shares her journey on social media, where she created an empowering and supportive network of over 60,000 of women. She has written for national publications about her experiences, including *Stylist*, *The Times* and *the Metro*, and has appeared on various news television outlets advocating for women with endometriosis and other chronic conditions. *A Bloody Scandal* is her first book.

THIS IS NOT AN EXERCISE

Tom Evans



One spring, Tom Seymour Evans travels to the Outer Hebrides chasing a missile launch — and finds himself inside a much larger story about how the world is quietly preparing for war.

All around the world military expenditure is surging, justified everywhere as a necessary precaution in an age of unprecedented dangers. Yet public debate remains astonishingly limited, reduced to abstract figures and budgetary percentages. In the rush to rearm, the most fundamental questions are going unasked: What are countries actually rearming for? And how is military preparation transforming the world beyond the battlefield?

For over a decade, Tom Seymour Evans has been visiting the sites where military power is rehearsed, tested, and manufactured – sometimes invited, sometimes not. In *This is Not an Exercise*, he takes readers on a journey through the dispersed and often hidden landscape of British military preparation, using it as a keyhole view onto a rapidly militarising planet.

Moving far beyond the narrow lens of geopolitics, the book offers a gripping, embodied, inquisitive, open-eyed tour from a metal mine in the Mojave Desert to a mock city on a German heath. Through the lives and histories of these places, Evans shows that current military preparations are not the neutral insurance policy they are made out to be, but a hidden force actively reshaping our politics, economics and ecologies — and making war more rather than less likely.

This is Not an Exercise will topple the house-of-cards consensus on contemporary rearmament and start a debate that urgently needs to be had. A travelogue, a radical history, a work of militarised nature writing, a bootleg geography: here is a book that will shed genuinely new light on the defining issue of our time.

UK: Vintage, February 2027
UK Editor: Will Hammond
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: JW
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:
Extent: 125,000 words
Illustrations: Yes, photographs
Material Available: Manuscript

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

Tom Seymour Evans has been shortlisted for the Anthony Burgess/ Observer Prize for arts journalism, and his proposal for a collective biography, *The Canyons*, won the 2019 Tony Lothian Prize, whose judges described it as a ‘thrilling story of sexual and political dissent’. His writing has appeared in the *Times Literary Supplement* and elsewhere. *This is Not an Exercise* is his first book.

SUGARHEADS

Lucy Jones



UK: Penguin Allen Lane, February 2027

UK Editor: Chloe Currens

US: Pantheon, Spring 2027

US Editor: Naomi Gibbs

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW/ SN

Options:

Chinese (simplified) - Beijing Time

Imaginist Culture

Czech - Host

Dutch - Uitgeverij Nieuwezijds

Estonian - Tanapaev

French—Actes Sud

Hungarian - Helikon

Italian - Laterza

Korean - Cocoon Books

Lithuania - Vaga

Polish - Znak

Portuguese in Brazil- Fosforo

Portuguese in Portugal - Leya

Turkish - Say

Additional info:

Extent: 70,000-80,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

The Women's Prize longlisted author puts sugar under her now signature multi-disciplinary lens.

Sugarheads takes this seemingly innocuous, even trivial foodstuff and enquire deeply about what our relationship with sugar tells us about power, our mental and emotional health, the ideas and ideologies that have got us so far, and how the world could be different, fairer and more balanced.

The store-cupboard staple has many faces - colonial export; modern political carrot; emotional crutch; parental bargaining chip; sustainer of late stage capitalism; destroyer of habitats; symbol of celebration; ersatz reward for care work or social reproduction. Lucy confronts sugar and sweetness in all of its guises.

The book answers questions both personal and political. Are we eating too much and does it matter? Is overconsumption a choice? Who holds the power over how sugar is marketed - and produced? How does sugar trouble our ideas of 'the natural'? How can we make sense of a world where sugar means love and happy birthday, as well as slave-like conditions for the world's cane cutters? What do our relations to sugar tell us about the conditions in which we live and think?

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

Praise for *Matrescence*:

'The best book I've ever read about motherhood.' - Jude Rogers, *Observer*

'*Matrescence* is a wild and beautiful book, a blend of memoir, science, psychoanalytical thinking and nature writing with a poetic sensibility and a strong sense of political purpose.' - *New Statesman*

'A deep dive into the radical transformation of becoming a mother...An intimate, insightful memoir.' - *Kirkus*

Lucy Jones is a writer and journalist. She was Deputy Editor of NME.com and previously at the *Daily Telegraph*. Lucy's latest book *Matrescence: On the Metamorphosis of Pregnancy, Childbirth and Motherhood* was published by Allen Lane in June 2023 and by Pantheon in the US in May 2024. It was a *New Statesman* and *Daily Mail* book of the year and was longlisted for the inaugural Women's Prize for Non-Fiction.

THE FALL OF THE WEST

Owen Jones



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.

UK: Allen Lane, October 2026

UK Editor: Tom Penn

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Rights sold:

Catalan - Ara Llibres

Italian - Gius. Laterza & Figli

Japanese - Uni-to-Tsukisha

Korean - Bookinthegap

Spanish - Seix Barral

Additional info:

Extent: 110,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *This Land*:

'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*.

DEEPER THINKING

Tej Parikh



A practical and timely guide to thinking more deeply about the problems we face.

US Marines in Afghanistan tried to win hearts and minds by building water wells in villages, only to be baffled when the new wells were mysteriously destroyed. What the Americans had failed to realise was that the daily trek to a far-away water source was the only time Afghan women got to escape for a few hours and chat with other women.

Our world is complex – and growing more so. But academic inquiry, politics, evolutionary biases and even technology keep us tethered to simple narratives and solutions. Very often, the simple solution is not the best, and leads to unintended and unwelcome consequences.

Full of real-world case studies and practical advice and insights for everyone from policy-makers to ordinary individuals trying to make sense of the complexity of modern life, *Deeper Thinking* is an essential guide to the pitfalls of not asking: *Why might I be wrong?*

UK: On submission

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

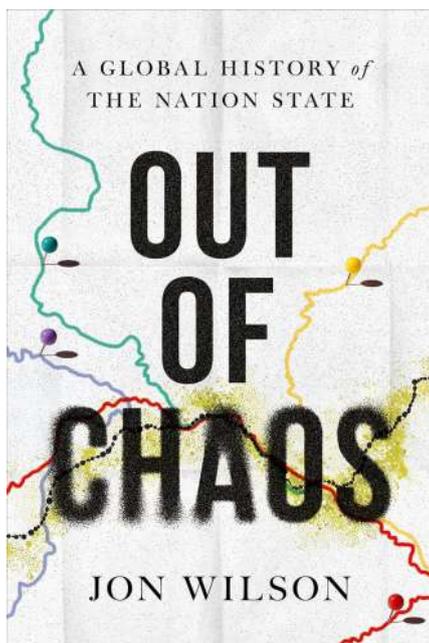
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

Tej Parikh is the economics leader writer for the *Financial Times*. Before joining the *FT* he was a director of economics at Fitch Ratings and chief economist at the Institute of Directors. This is his first book.

OUT OF CHAOS

Jon Wilson



UK: OUP, July 2026

UK Editor: Thomas Stottor

US: Basic Books, Sept 2026

US Editor: Meagan Levinson

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 314 pages

Illustrations: Maps

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A provocative and sweeping new global history of the nation-state.

The nation-state, we are told, was created in the West hundreds of years ago. It grew, so the story goes, from the steady development of national identities and as a triumphant product of Western political order and progress. Such oft-told stories are wrong. Before the Second World War, the world was organized into empires or federations. Few thought nations could be the basis of political order.

In his brilliant new book, acclaimed historian Jon Wilson shows how the crises which followed 1945 upended common-sense ideas about how the world should be organized. In a truly global story with as much to say about what happened in Montevideo, Yogyakarta, New Delhi and Jerusalem as New York or London, *Out of Chaos* shows how political leaders debating the postwar order ended up with an unexpected compromise: the partition of the people, territory, and economies of the world into nation-states. It traces a truly global tale; of how ideas from Latin America were picked up in Indonesia; or of how Indian military officials shaped the fate of central Africa.

Out of Chaos radically reframes how we think about the history of the twentieth century, showing that the conflicts of the present day are rooted in the process by which nation-states emerged from the postwar crisis.

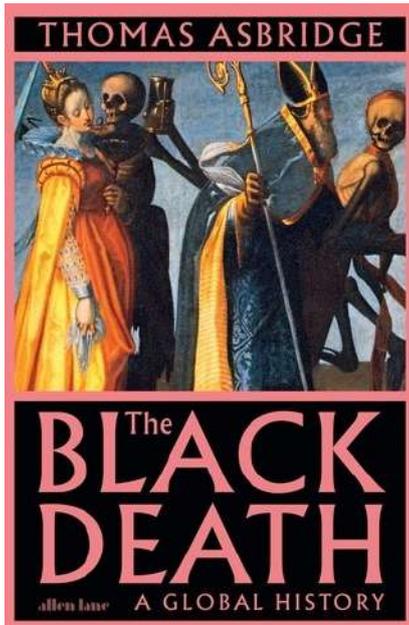
Praise for *India Conquered*:

'Without question the best one-volume history of the Raj currently in print.'
- William Dalrymple, *Guardian*

Jon Wilson studied at Oxford University and the New School for Social Research in New York and then taught at King's College London for twenty-five years. He is the dean of the College of Arts and Social Sciences at Nanyang Technological University and is the author of *India Conquered*. He lives in Singapore.

THE BLACK DEATH: A Global History

Thomas Asbridge



UK: Allen Lane, April 2026
UK Editor: Sam Fulton
US: Random House, May 2026
US Editor: Molly Turpin
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: NL
Translation Agent: AH / 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: 560 pages
Illustrations: Yes
Material Available: Page proofs

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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 Tom published *The Greatest Knight*, an acclaimed biography of William Marshal, and in 2018 a study of Richard I for Penguin's Monarchs series.

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.

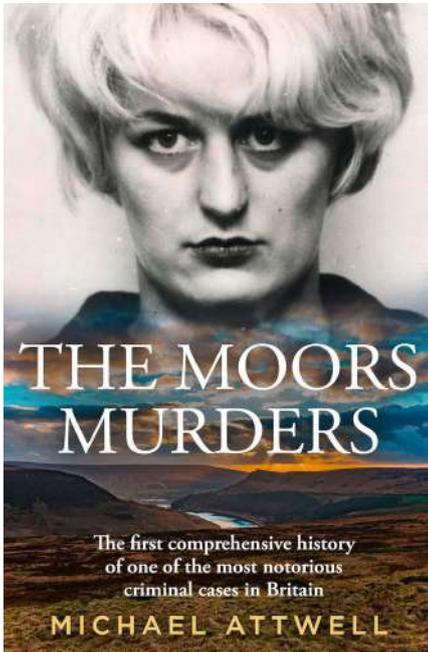
Uncovering a story that speaks to our own age, *The Black Death* highlights humankind's capacity for compassion and resilience amidst a global crisis to explain how the medieval world confronted, and ultimately overcame, this shattering pandemic.

Praise for *The Black Death*:

'An up-to-the-hour work of scholarship that is at the same time a page turner... Asbridge's definitive biography of yersinia pestis, the germ that caused the world's deadliest disease, is a masterpiece.' - Thomas W. Laqueur, author of *Solitary Sex*

THE MOORS MURDERS: The Unanswered Questions

Michael Attwell



UK: HarperElement, June 2026

UK Editor: Ajda Vucicevic

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 90-100,000 words

Illustrations: Yes

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

What drives seemingly ordinary individuals to commit unimaginable acts of evil?

In the case of Ian Brady and Myra Hindley, this question has haunted Britain for decades. Known as the Moors Murderers, this notorious pair lured, abducted, and ultimately murdered at least five innocent children, subjecting them to unspeakable horrors. Their actions, documented in photographs and recordings, have left a lasting scar on the national consciousness.

In *The Moors Murders*, Michael Attwell presents a comprehensive examination of this chilling chapter in British history. Based on research conducted over five decades, Attwell seeks to understand how the pair transformed into figures of unspeakable evil.

As Attwell revisits the timeline of the Moors Murders, he confronts the enduring question that has perplexed the public for decades:

Why did they do it?

The Moors Murders invites readers to reflect on the chilling realities of this case, encouraging a deeper understanding of the events and the individuals involved. It is a sobering reminder of the capacity for evil that can exist in the most unexpected places.

Praise for *The Moors Murders*:

'First-class: an objective examination of all the available evidence, much of the later content put together for the first time . . . I read it with great interest and fascination.'

– Jean Ritchie, author of *Myra Hindley: Inside the Mind of a Murderess*

Michael Attwell is a distinguished television producer and director. He was previously a senior commissioning editor at the BBC, Channel 4, and Channel 5, and was also chairman of BAFTA, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts. He has made a number of programmes about the Moors Murders.

WHERE ARE WE?: A Global History of Navigation

Seb Falk



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

Options:

Chinese (simplified) - Gingko
Dutch - Het Spectrum
Italian - Ponte
Japanese - Kashiwashobo
Portuguese in Portugal - Bertrand Editora
Russian - Alpine Books
Spanish - Atico

Additional info:

Extent: 120,000 words
Illustrations: Yes, B&W
Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Bold, sweeping new history of the ways in which we have worked out where we are, and where we're going.

For as long as humans have moved from one place to another – for all of our history, in other words – we have sought ways to work out where we are, and how best to get to where we want to go.

Navigation is about knowledge, and is different from exploration and discovery – many new places, species or phenomena were discovered by people stumbling about blindly. But navigation implies intent, even if the destination is uncertain.

A global topic needs a global approach, and that is exactly what Seb Falk provides in his dazzling new book. From outrigger canoes in Polynesia to camel-trekking in the Sahara, he traces the evolution of our understanding of how to get where we want to go, and the amazing things we have invented to help us. Once upon a time we looked at the pattern of waves, the positions of the stars; now we look at our phones. In many ways navigation has never been easier. But its story tells us much about human ingenuity.

Praise for *The Light Ages*:

'Compulsive, brilliantly clear and superbly well-written, it's a charismatic evocation of another world.' - Ian Mortimer, author of *The Time Traveller's Guide to Medieval England*

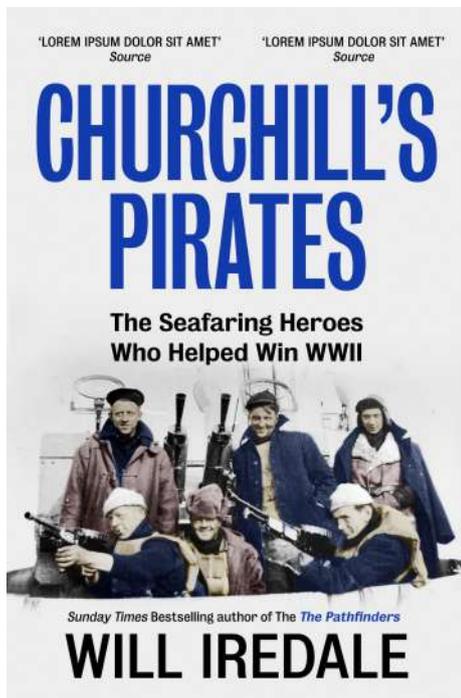
'A wonderful book, as at home bringing to life the obscure details of a Hertfordshire monk as it is explicating the infinite reaches of space and time. Required reading for anyone who thinks that the Middle Ages were a dark age.' - Tom Holland, author of *Dominion*

'As fascinating as it is exquisitely written . . . the range of mathematics, astronomy, and engineering is impressive. More impressive still is the elegance with which Falk tells the tale.' - Tom Whipple, *Times Books of the Year*

Seb Falk is a Research Fellow at Girton College, the University of Cambridge. He worked for the UK Civil Service and as a teacher after studying at Oxford, and then took his M.Phil and Ph.D. at Cambridge. He was named a New Generation Thinker by the BBC for 2016–17. His first book, *The Light Ages*, was published by Allen Lane / Penguin in the UK and by W. W. Norton in the US.

CHURCHILL'S PIRATES: The Seafaring Heroes who Helped Win WWII

Will Iredale



The story of the seafaring heroes who helped win WWII.

Churchill's Pirates was the naval force whose "toils and tireless courage" - in the words of Churchill himself -helped the Allies defeat Hitler's mighty war machine. At its heart was the Royal Naval Patrol Service (RNPS), a "navy within a navy" that was bought together to fight the Nazis and their fellow Axis nations across the world.

The 70,000 men and women are largely forgotten today, but they played a vital role in winning World War II. Manning 6,000 ships, at least 3,218 men officially lost their lives, and more of their vessels were attacked and sunk by the enemy than any other branch of the Royal Navy.

Told through fascinating first-hand accounts with surviving veterans, exclusive interviews, original papers and new archive material this will be the defining story of the overlooked unit who worked night and day to keep Britain safe in her darkest hour.

UK: WH Allen, August 2026

UK Editor: Emily Martin

Primary Agent: VB

TV/Film Agent: NL

Translation Agent: AH / RS/ RK

Additional info:

Extent: 100,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *The Pathfinders*:

'A sensitive, colourful and moving account... Compelling.' - *Telegraph*

'Another excellent book by Will Iredale, delving into the story of Bomber Command's Pathfinder Squadrons with drama and pace. The human stories, and the incredible advancements in aerial warfare, leap from the page from start to finish.' - John Nichol, author of *Tornado - In the Eye of the Storm*

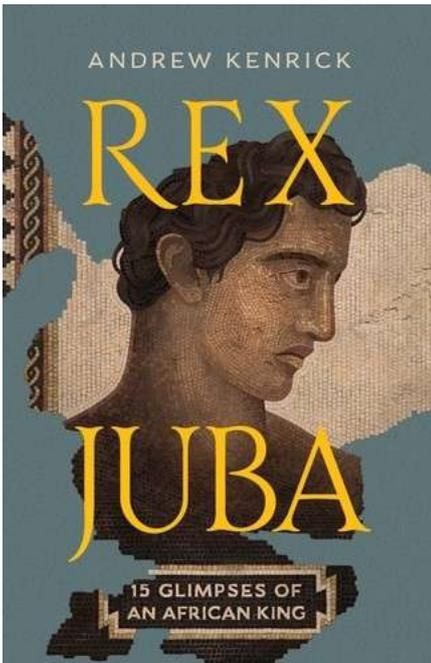
'Fascinating and utterly gripping ... Will Iredale's painstaking research is impeccable, as is his storytelling. This stunning book is scored with unforgettable characters, reminding us this is a human story of resourcefulness, ingenuity, and above all, extraordinary courage.' - James Holland, author of *Cassino '44*

'Painstakingly researched and brilliantly told: Will Iredale has really captured the essence of the RAF's elite pathfinder force.' - Keith Lowe, bestselling author of *Savage Continent*

Will Iredale is a bestselling author, journalist and media consultant. After a decade working at the *Sunday Times*, first on the foreign news desk and subsequently the home news desk specialising in domestic news and investigations, he wrote the bestselling book *The Kamikaze Hunters*, followed by *The Pathfinders*. He is currently a media consultant and lives in Kent with his family.

REX JUBA: 15 Glimpses of an African King

Andrew Kenrick



A new look at Ancient Rome through the eyes of Juba II who went from slave to African king through a biography of objects.

In 46 BC, at just two years old, a young North African prince named Juba was paraded through the streets of Rome as part of Julius Caesar's victory parade. This traumatic beginning, however, did not define his future. As a young man, Juba fought alongside Emperor Augustus and was sent back to rule over Mauretania as king.

Juba's reign was marked not by tyranny, but by scholarship. A famed antiquarian, travel writer, and explorer, he discovered and named the Canary Islands, penned histories of Arabia and Libya, and led diplomatic missions to his fellow kings. Ruling alongside his wife, Cleopatra Selene, the daughter of Antony and Cleopatra, these heirs to African dynasties were potent symbols of Romanisation.

Their dynasty would be cut dramatically short by the mad emperor Caligula, their history buried for centuries. In this ambitious work of historical recovery, Dr Andrew Kenrick pieces together clues etched in coin and stone to reveal a Roman civilization that flourished just as much in Africa as it did in Europe. By inviting us to shift our gaze to the southern shores of the Mediterranean, *Rex Juba* offers a surprising new perspective on the heyday of the ancient world.

UK: Transworld, August 2026

UK Editor: Alex Christofi

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 70,000 words

Illustrations: B/W chapter headings

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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.

SUPER K

Barbara Keys



The making, breaking and remaking of Henry Kissinger's legacy.

A Nobel Peace Prize laureate, the Einstein of diplomacy, a war criminal? Henry Kissinger served just under seven years as the US National Security Adviser and less than four years as Secretary of State. And yet somehow he's the most garlanded – and notorious – diplomat of the twentieth century, outshining presidents and world leaders in name recognition. How did this happen? In the last half of his life, Kissinger wrote and rewrote his own legacy, determined to secure his place in the pantheon of great statesmen.

Drawing upon thousands of personal papers with highly restricted access in the Yale Library collection, this is the first book to reassess how this fascinating and divisive figure leveraged his power and influence long after he left office. Barbara Keys unveils Kissinger as a master of reputation management: lavishing hospitality and access on sympathetic journalists, editors and broadcasters, and deploying legal threats and complaints against his critics. He got what he wanted: he went down in history.

UK: Oneworld, November 2026

UK Editor: Rida Vaquas

US: Simon & Schuster, October 2026

US Editor: Mia Robertson

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: AMG

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 336 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *Reclaiming American Virtue*:

'A genuine masterpiece of the historian's craft ... Today's world no longer looks the same after this revelatory book.'

– Samuel Moyn, author of *The Last Utopia: Human Rights in History*

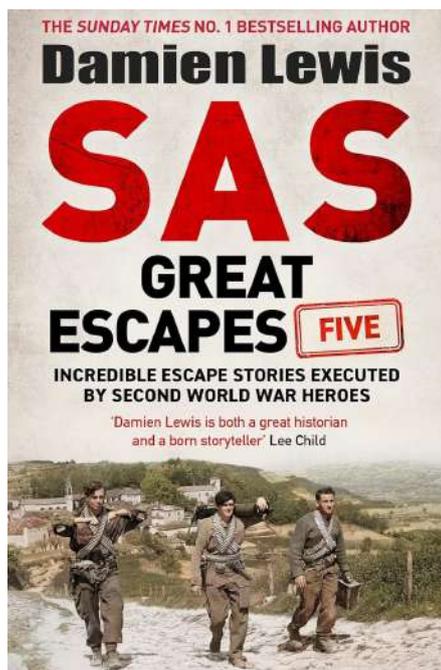
'(A) timely, well-reasoned study.' – *Publishers Weekly*

'An accessible, searching study of an idea that seems to have been forgotten in favor of the steely, cost-cutting pragmatism of today.' – *Kirkus Reviews*

Barbara J. Keys is a professor of US history at the University of Durham. She is the author of *Reclaiming American Virtue: The Human Rights Revolution of the 1970s*, which was awarded the Woodward Medal in Humanities and Social Science.

SAS: GREAT ESCAPES FIVE

Damien Lewis



In the spirit of previous volumes, Damien Lewis 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, and Operation Colossus, 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 sun-blasted Sahara desert, as one man, long given up for dead, achieves the seemingly impossible. It goes on to chronicle one of the most successful raids by the SAS deep behind enemy lines, and 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.

From there, the reader is plunged into a series of daring POW-rescue missions, laced with Robin-Hood-style assassinations and robberies, plus a breathtaking getaway at mission's end. And finally, we learn of how one patrol's desperate, close-quarter battle to take an enemy-held fortress, led to tragic loss but an equally daring getaway. 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.

UK: Quercus, May 2026

UK Editor: Richard Milner

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: Lucy Fawcett at Sheil Land Associates

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 352 pages

Illustrations: Yes, B&W

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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*

'Thrilling.'
- *Express*

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.

THE COLD WAR AT SEA

Evan Mawdsley



Magisterial history of the powerful maritime angle to the Cold Wars – both 1945–90 and up to the present day.

The state of the world in 2026 increasingly suggests that historians should regard the period after 1945 and before the collapse of the Soviet Union as the 'First Cold War'. That is certainly the approach taken by prize-winning author Evan Mawdsley, who brings the naval aspect of superpower manoeuvring right up to date, given the renewed tensions between China, the US and Russia over arenas like the Arctic, Greenland and Taiwan.

But his survey offers a rich and highly readable analysis of the postwar decades too, showing how important the maritime perspective was, with occasional outbreaks of actual fighting in places like Vietnam, Korea and the Falklands. As the Soviet threat receded, for a while it looked like US naval supremacy, having already surpassed the British, would be unrivalled. The world of Trump, Putin and Xi, however, promises to be different, and this essential book helps us understand how we got here.

UK: Yale University Press

UK Editor: Joanna Godfrey

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: NL

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 130,000 words

Illustrations: tbc

Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *Supremacy at Sea*:

'The author analyses the rise of [the] navy through . . . the introduction of new carriers; the development of new aircraft to fly off those carriers and the pilots to fly them; and most important, but often overlooked in many histories, the development of the forward basing and at sea logistics capabilities... Excellent battle narrative.' - *New York Journal of Books*

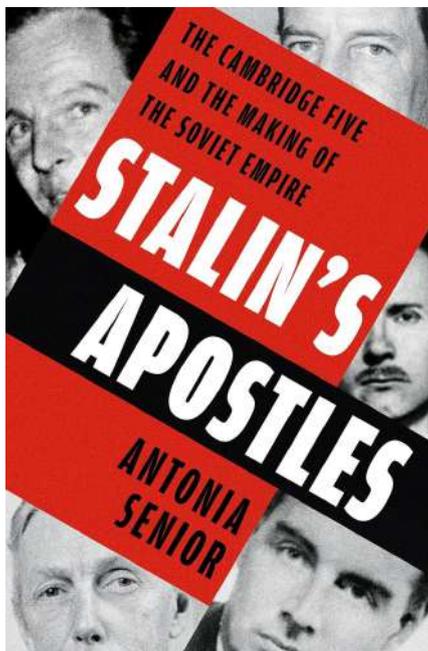
'Evan Mawdsley deftly weaves together the human, technical, and logistical advances that forged this mighty naval warhammer, and then grippingly relates how the Americans wielded it during their victorious campaigns in the Pacific in early 1944. Highly recommended.'

- Jon Parshall, author of *Shattered Sword*

Evan Mawdsley is an historian and former professor of international history at the University of Glasgow. His book, *The War for the Seas: A Maritime History of World War II*, won the Anderson Medal for the best maritime history of 2019. More recently his *Supremacy at Sea* won the Gilder Lehrman Prize as the best book on American military history published in 2024.

STALIN'S APOSTLES: The Cambridge Five and the Making of the Soviet Empire

Antonia Senior



UK: Hodder & Stoughton, April 2026

UK Editor: Rupert Lancaster

US: PublicAffairs, May 2026

US Editor: Lara Heimert

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 464 pages

Illustrations: Yes, B&W

Material Available: Proof pages

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A riveting new appraisal of Britain's most notorious traitors – showing who their victims really were.

Stalin's Apostles is a radical new look at the way five people allowed their obsession with Communist ideology to overshadow any sense of morality or decency—or loyalty to their country. Why did these gilded men, blessed with charm, brains and privilege, choose to betray their country?

Using recently declassified files, *Stalin's Apostles* explores as never before the treachery of Donald Maclean, Guy Burgess, Kim Philby, John Cairncross and Keeper of the Queen's Pictures Anthony Blunt, all radicalised while at Cambridge University in the 1930s. Their clandestine supply of British and US intelligence material gave Stalin an inside track on US and British decision-making until the implosion of the spy-ring in May 1951. The Five became tools in Stalin's imperial scheme, responsible directly and indirectly for the deaths of thousands of men and women fighting against Soviet domination.

Shielded for so long by the British Establishment, four of the five were never prosecuted for their crimes. As *Stalin's Apostles* reveals, they were exposed as much by their own incompetence as by forensic investigation by the CIA, MI5 or MI6. And in time another dictator emerged as ruthless as Stalin, but with an even greater desire to establish a Russian Empire that would threaten Western democracy. The legacy of the Cambridge Five is not only in the graveyards of eastern Europe, but at the heart of Putin's Kremlin.

Praise for *Stalin's Apostles*:

'Shocking. Gripping. Unputdownable. You thought you knew the Cambridge Five? Think again! Their level of treachery beggars belief, yet the British establishment's incompetence and cover-up is equally unbelievable.'
- Damien Lewis, author of *The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare*

'Meticulously researched, this is a fascinating analysis.'
- Nigel West, author of *A Matter of Trust: MI5, 1945-72*

'Beautifully written and utterly compelling, *Stalin's Apostles* is a brilliant reassessment of the Cambridge Five whose naive faith in communism is tellingly juxtaposed with the brutal reality of Stalin's rule... A cautionary tale by a rising star of non-fiction.' - Saul David, author of *Tunisgrad*

Antonia Senior studied the history of the intelligence services under Professor Christopher Andrew at Cambridge University. She was also taught the history of the Russian Revolution by Professor Orlando Figes. This led to a lifelong fascination with the impact of Marxism, the relationship between the West and Russia, the Cold War and espionage. She spent thirteen years at *The Times* covering business and finance before she became one of the paper's leader writers. The author of three novels, *Stalin's Apostles* is her first work of non-fiction.

WHAT HEALS THE WORLD GROWS HERE

Dr Yemisi Bokinni



The seven ways that modern medicine still relies on nature.

For centuries, traditional healers knew which plants could cure. When researchers paid attention, they found treatments for malaria, cancer, diabetes, heart disease and more. Today, those same plants guide scientists working towards HIV cures and next generation vaccines. But we are losing these species faster than we can study them, and when a plant is lost, we lose both the medicine and the knowledge of how to use it.

What Heals the World Grows Here reveals seven irreplaceable ways modern medicine depends on nature. From the Chilean tree that makes shingles, COVID and malaria vaccines work, to AI drug discovery that needs living plant diversity to train its algorithms. This is the story of the plants keeping us alive, and why they cannot be replaced.

UK: On submission

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 80,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

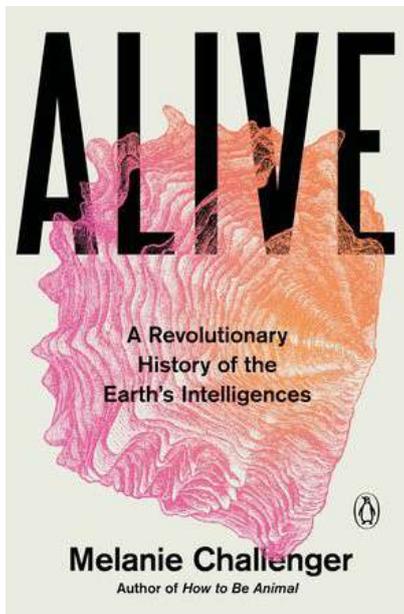
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Dr Yemisi Bokinni is a medical doctor turned health and science journalist with degrees in Medicine and Human Genetics from King's College London. She writes for the international features desk at The BMJ and her work appears in Nature Africa in English and French. A 2025 UN Foundation Press Fellow and member of the Association of British Science Writers, her reporting has been recognised for its depth and real-world impact. Her clinical placements in South and East Asia, West and Southern Africa have helped to shape her interest in medicine through the lens of culture. In 2026 she has a residency at UCL as a Science Journalism Fellow exploring modern drug discovery in nature. Yemisi regularly appears on BBC Radio London and ITV News, in podcasts and documentaries. *What Heals The World Grows Here* is her first book.

ALIVE: A Revolutionary History of Earth's Intelligences

Melanie Challenger



UK: Canongate, July 2026
UK Editor: Maddy Price
US: Viking Penguin, August 2026
US Editor: Camille Leblanc
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:

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

Additional info:

Extent: 304 pages

Illustrations: tbc

Material Available: Edited Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

Melanie Challenger writes, researches, and broadcasts on history of ideas, the history and philosophy of science, and the relationship between humans and the living world. She is the author of *How to Be Animal: What it Means to Be Human*, among other works, and host of the podcast *The Psychosphere*. She is also an award-winning poet and librettist for opera and oratorios, and a National Geographic Explorer. Melanie is internationally active in bioethics, co-director of *Animals in the Room*, and Vice President of the RSPCA.

An immersive and awe-inspiring exploration of the diversity of life on earth that reveals humans are far from the only intelligent species in our restless, ever-evolving world.

What does it mean to be alive, to be conscious, to possess a soul? If the Big Bang was an effect without a discernible cause, what does it mean to create meaning—to move through a seemingly arbitrary world with purpose and intelligence? Do we have free will? And if so, are we the only ones?

Drawing on modern science and ancient wisdom, *Alive* argues that purpose—the capacity to act intelligently and with intention—is life's defining quality. Rather than locating that purpose in a divine creator or the human mind, Challenger reveals it as something that arises from within our own intelligent, self-organizing bodies.

Part personal essay, part natural history, part philosophy, this searching examination guides readers through the vastness of life from its emergence on a cellular level to its unfolding into the realms of perception, consciousness, and agency. The result is the profound and revelatory assertion that intelligence is both far more common—and more extraordinary—than we could have ever imagined.

Praise for *Alive*:

'In *Alive*, Melanie Challenger has worked her magic to enlighten us in this extraordinary expedition into life itself.' - Carl Safina, author of *Alfie and Me: What Owls Know, What Humans Believe*

'*Alive* is a profound, provocative and moving meditation on the question of what makes living organisms so special and remarkable. By insisting that life is not an abstract but rather an embodied property, Melanie Challenger offers a vision of the living world that can restore to it the wonder and reverence it deserves.' - Philip Ball, author of *How Life Works*

'[A] Beautifully written and awe-inspiring book.'

- Marcelo Gleiser, author of *The Dawn of a Mindful Universe*

SEA, SEAL, SELKIE

Charles Foster



UK: Transworld, February 2027

UK Editor: Alex Christofi

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Options:

German - Piper

Additional info:

Extent: 50,000 words

Illustrations: TBC

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

A philosophical book on seal lore and seal love.

Charles Foster, *New York Times* Bestselling author of *Being a Beast*, set out around the coasts of Britain in search of Grey and Harbour seals. It turned into a search for the nature of the sea and its capricious relationship with everything else, into the various ways in which seals and humans negotiate very different ways of being, and into the nature of identity itself.

Seals – or some of them- are said to shed their skins, exposing a human body with an ambiguously human soul. These human seals are often to be found on the seashore, looking wistfully out at the sea. If they recover their skins they will be off beyond the surf. What do such stories tell us about ourselves, our relationship with the non-human world, and about reality itself?

But only grey seals behave this way. They, according to the old stories, have souls, and the harbour seals do not. Why?

Part memoir, part travel writing, part exposition of seal biology, part philosophical enquiry, *Sea, Seal, Selkie* is a wholly new literary departure and an exciting new development from this esteemed writer of nature and philosophy.

Praise for *The Edges of the World*:

‘This book plays pyrotechnics across the mind’s sky: outrageously erudite, mercilessly funny and spectacularly serious.’

- Jay Griffiths, author of *How Animals Heal Us* and *Wild*

‘Electrifying, wayward and compulsively brilliant, *The Edges of The World* lifts back the crackling wires of modernity and beckons to an earth still riven with the strange and the good. The writing is pungent with ideas and bursts of wit and grief in equal measure... *Edges* leaps in our hand like a gleeful salmon and we have little choice but to dive into the river after it.’

- Martin Shaw, author of *Liturgies of the Wild*

‘An ambitious, outrageous quest and a joyful rallying call.’

- Nick Hunt, author of *Outlandish* and *Red Smoking Mirror*

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. Some of his previous works are *Being a Beast* (Profile, 2016) and *Being a Human* (Profile, 2022).

THE SECRET OF LIFE

John Gribbin



UK: On submission

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 36,000 words

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Short and accessible introduction to the 'vital spark' of all life on Earth: the hydrogen bond.

In ancient times, and right up to the nineteenth century, people thought that there was a mysterious life force that energised living things and made them qualitatively different from things like rocks. In one of the triumphs of nineteenth-century science, it was established that exactly the same chemistry operates in both living and non-living systems, and there is no need for anything more than chemistry to explain the workings of even so complex an organism as the human body. All you needed to understand life was to understand chemistry.

But in the twentieth century it turned out that understanding chemistry might not be so simple. At its most basic, chemistry depends on physics – and not just any old physics, but quantum physics. It is quantum physics that determines how atoms join together to make molecules, and how molecules interact with one another to, among other things, produce living things.

It is a cliché, but true, that quantum physics is weird. And few things in the quantum world are weirder than a phenomenon known as the hydrogen bond. It operates in the non-living world, where it explains the peculiar properties of water (if you don't think water is peculiar, ask yourself why ice, the solid form, floats on top of liquid water). It also operates in the living world, where among other things it holds the strands of the DNA double helix together.

Without this force, there would be no liquid water on the surface of the Earth, and the molecules of life could not exist. The nineteenth-century scientists were both right and wrong. Right in thinking that the chemistry of life obeys the same rules as the chemistry of non-life. But wrong to think that there isn't a mysterious force that underpins the chemistry of life. The hydrogen bond is the secret of life.

Praise for *Six Impossible Things*:

'[A]n accessible primer on all things quantum ... rigorous and chatty.'
– *Sunday Times*

'Elegant and accessible ... Highly recommended for students of the sciences and fans of science fiction, as well as for anyone who is curious to understand the strange world of quantum physics.' – *Forbes*

'Gribbin has inspired generations with his popular science writing, and his latest offering is a compact and delightful summary of the main contenders for a true interpretation of quantum mechanics.'

– Jim Al-Khalili, author of *The World According to Physics*

John Gribbin gained a PhD from the Institute of Astronomy in Cambridge (then under the leadership of Fred Hoyle) before working as a science journalist for *Nature* and later *New Scientist*. He is the author of several bestselling popular science books, including *In Search of Schrödinger's Cat*, *Science: A History*, *In Search of the Multiverse*, *Quantum Computing*, and *Six Impossible Things*. He is a Senior Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Sussex and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

THE SKY ROAD

Simar Preet Kaur



***On the Road* by Jack Kerouac meets an anti version of *The Beautiful Forevers* by Katherine Boo.**

The Manali-Leh Highway is the highest road in the world, an incredibly beautiful high altitude desert peopled only by soldiers (on strict rotation) and truck drivers who in the summer drive relentlessly up and down this shimmering strip of potholed tarmac. Simar spent ten years hitching rides with them. What began as a journey to answer the question; *'What do these mountains do to you?* became something much more and quite else. The truckers are illiterate, identified by their number plates. There is no antifreeze, there are no snow chains, there is definitely no time for sleep. Cue Simar—she is obsessed with the beauty of the geological rock formations of the Himalaya, overcome by the depth of the night sky and the sheer numbers of stars. Two very different worlds collide. She is Scheherazade, telling stories of things these men never dreamed existed to shore up against potential violence. She becomes apprentice to 0425 and this book is the result of their collaboration. Each page represents a km of the road in real spatial time.

UK: Allen Lane, February 2027

UK Editor: Sam Fulton

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 485 pages

Illustrations: Yes, colour photographs

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

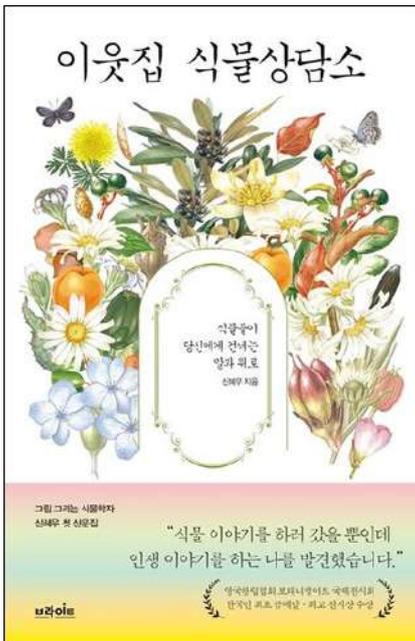
Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Simar Preet Kaur is based in the Indian Himalayas. She writes for Commonwealth Writers' and National Geographic Traveler. For her work on Sky Road she has received the 2022 PEN America/Jean Stein Grant for Literary Oral History, a Literature Fellowship at Akademie Schloss Solitude, Germany, the British Council's Charles Wallace Fellowship at University of Stirling, Scotland and a residency at Sangam House, India.

PLANT COUNSELLING CENTRE

Hye Woo Shin



A beautiful book reminding us to look again at plants - could the answers to even our most personal troubles might be hiding in plain sight?

Plant Counselling Centre is a book about how to live well told through the lens of our relationship with plants, imparting a lot of specialist botanical knowledge on the way.

Award-winning botanist Hye Woo Shin opened up a 'counselling centre' for people to come and bring their unhappy plants. But what begins as conversations about plants gently unfolds into honest exchanges about life - worries and hopes, exhaustion and renewal, dreams and direction. Dr Shin realised that the answers they have been searching for are not distant or abstract, but quietly present in the plants beside them: a wildflower blooming along the roadside, a potted plant in a living room corner, a small green companion on an office desk.

Accompanied by the author's delicate and richly detailed botanical illustrations - by the first Korean artist to receive both a Gold Medal and the Highest Exhibition Award from the Royal Horticultural Society - this book offers a moment of rest and reflection. Part botany, part philosophy, part stealth help, *Plant Counselling Centre* is a gentle invitation to slow down, listen closely, and rediscover everyday life through new eyes.

UK: Penguin Life, Spring 2027

UK Editor: Pippa Wright

US: Penguin Life US, Spring 2027

US Editor: John Siciliano

Korean: Bright

Primary Agent: JW

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Rights sold:

Italian - Giunti

Additional info:

Extent: TBC

Illustrations: Yes, colour

Material Available: Full Korean manuscript; English proposal

Dr. Hye Woo Shin is a botanist and scientific illustrator. She studied biology, received a PhD in plant taxonomy, and is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. She has conducted research in subjects ranging from traditional areas, such as plant morphological classification and phylogenetic evolution, to modern fields, including plant DNA barcoding and plant genome studies. As an illustrator, she has won four gold medals at the Royal Horticultural Society's International Exhibition of Botanical Art, as well as the Jill Smythies Award by the Linnean Society of London in 2025. She has held numerous exhibitions that uniquely blend plant taxonomy and botanical illustration.

RUBBLE: Art, The Blitz, and London in Ruins

Altair Brandon-Salmon



UK: Oneworld, Spring 2027
UK Editor: Cecilia Stein
Primary Agent: OVV
TV/Film Agent: OVV
Translation Agent: RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words
Illustrations: Photographs
Material Available: Proposal,
manuscript due August 2026

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardonia Chinese Media
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

When the fabric of the cities we call home - and the memories that stitch them together - are reduced to dust and ash, how do we live in its aftermath?

Rubble is an alternative and radical portrait of the Blitz, told through the art of aftermath. A fusion of art history, geography, and biography, its narrative follows nine individual bombsites, and a work of art or architecture created on each site.

Many of the artworks explored in *Rubble* reveal narratives and experiences omitted from official histories, from the art of queer men such as Cecil Beaton and Francis Bacon, to the art of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust such as Magda Cordell. The art of Guyanese migrant Denis Williams is also explored in its function as a response to the end of colonial empire and broader race relations in 1950s Britain.

These artworks not only illuminate how the Blitz changed British art, but also reveal the impact of war on communities, their anxieties and fears, and the competing hopes and utopias that emerged for a better future thereafter. The sites and their artists fill this story of the Blitz with vivid colour and imagination, repainting many of our ideas about this exceptional period of history.

In showing how life, art, and architecture emerged from the wreckage of war and transformed London as we know it today, the book offers a fresh perspective on how cities should work in the aftermath of conflict, and crucially for whom.

Praise for *Rubble*:

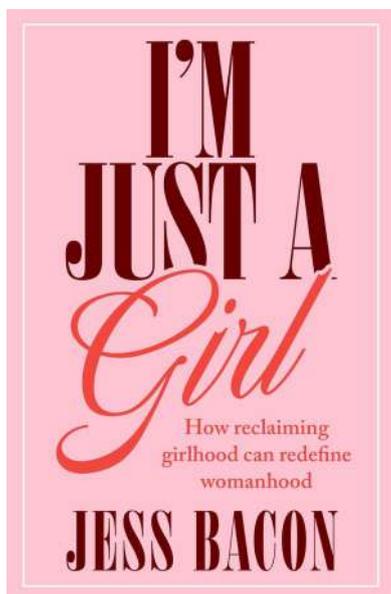
'This is essential reading for anyone who wishes to understand the power of art to resist authoritarianism.' - Sam Sussman, USA Today bestselling author of *Boy from the North Country*

'With a deft hand and sympathetic eye, Altair Brandon-Salmon is the perfect guide to a lost time that shapes London to this day.' - Alexander Nemerov, a National Book Critics Circle finalist

Altair Brandon-Salmon is a lecturer in Civic, Liberal, and Global Education at Stanford University. He holds undergraduate and master's degrees in art history from the University of Oxford and a doctorate from Stanford. He has written widely for popular audiences on modern art for leading national arts magazines, including *America*, *Commonweal*, *Literary Review*, *Oxford Review of Books*, and *Public Seminar*. His scholarship on art and the Second World War has been published in the three most prestigious art history academic journals, *Art History*, *Art Journal*, and the *Oxford Art Journal*. Simultaneously, he is a guest curator for the gallery Projects Twenty Two, where he curated the 2025 show Jethro Jackson: Moor Lands. Previously, he has been a curator for the Sheldonian Theatre and Campion Hall at Oxford. Bringing art to different audiences, from giving lectures to curating exhibitions and writing for national magazines, has been central to showing how it can transport and transform viewers.

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

Jess Bacon



UK: Piatkus, June 2026
UK Editor: Bernadette Marron
Primary Agent: OVV
TV/Film Agent: OVV
Translation Agent: RS / RK

Rights sold:
Ukrainian - Under offer

Additional info:
Extent: 272 pages
Illustrations: No
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni

It is a truth universally acknowledged that boys will be boys and girls have to grow up...

Over the past decade, girlhood has repainted the cultural landscape pink. From Taylor Swift's The Era's Tour to Barbiemania, this nostalgia for girlhood has become a billion-dollar business, seen in the music we listen to, the clothes we wear, and the 2000s movies (and their long-awaited sequels) we watch on repeat.

But at a time when women's rights are being rewritten, this resurgence in girlhood is complicated. Women are caught between a genuine desire to relive the wild freedom, joy and safety found in girlhood, while facing an ever-growing pressure to hold onto their youth. The world demands women continue to look like girls, yet they are rarely given the space to actually be girls.

In *I'm Just a Girl*, journalist Jess Bacon introduces readers to the 'second girlhood', the extended adolescence that adult women have crafted for themselves as a means to reconnect with the part of themselves they left behind: the girl.

Reconnecting with our inner girl is an empowering act of rebellion, allowing us to reclaim what was once taken from us. Jess shows us how our second girlhood offers a return to creativity and play that can ultimately improve our relationships, our mental wellbeing and establish a renewed sense of self. For far too long we have been presented with a false choice between womanhood and girlhood - this book is a celebration of a new way of being where we can fully embrace both.

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 250,000, 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.

I'LL BE YOUR MIRROR

Georgia Heneage



Stylish and provocative debut exploring feminism and culture in the 1960s.

We think of the 1960s as a golden age of freedom and progress – throwing off the shackles of postwar austerity and embracing cultural and artistic innovation alongside social change.

But how much did sexual liberation really advance the cause of women, especially the women enabling the work of geniuses by doing their laundry? In Ancient Greece, the nine original Muses encapsulated the idea of a woman inspiring great art – a concept resurrected by the Beat generation after rediscovering the work of Robert Graves. Throughout the '60s, their counterparts wrestled with being accessories to male creatives like Bob Dylan, the Rolling Stones and Miles Davis at a time when they were supposedly being liberated.

Tracing different archetypes of the countercultural muse from the domestic passivity of people like Leonard Cohen's partner Marianne Ihlen; through more active but still agency-deficient victims of The Factory like Edie Sedgwick and Nico; to artists later in the decade like Joni Mitchell who were both muse and 'musee', Georgia Heneage offers an entertaining and eye-opening new interpretation of this febrile decade.

UK: On submission

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 90,000 words

Illustrations: Yes, B&W

Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

Georgia Heneage is a staff obituaries writer at *The Times*, an occasional columnist and regular presence on Times Radio. She runs a literary, culture and politics festival in Kardamyli, Greece. This is her first book.

UNRAVELLED: How Women Unstitch Patriarchy

Gemma Mackenzie



How have female rebels – past and present – changed the world, one stitch at a time?

When we think of knitting or embroidery, we often picture women sitting silently in corners of their domestic spheres, accompanied by their needles, hooks, and threads. In *Unravelled*, Gemma McKenzie tears apart the seams of this image entirely. What if the pins and needles that we assume to uphold patriarchy were in fact quietly and powerfully unravelling it the whole time, and continue to do so?

Unravelled begins with a crochet hook, which Gemma picked up as a complete novice, wanting to find something for herself after struggling with the transition to motherhood. What follows is a feminist voyage through time, and across the globe. By picking up her crochet hook, Gemma found herself part of something much bigger – a female legacy where the stitch becomes political and powerful, a symbol of autonomy rather than submission.

Gemma weaves her own experiences into a wider story of historical resistance, taking us on a journey through the embroidered handkerchiefs of the British Suffragettes, the Palestinian tatreez, the Irish Aran sweater, and the Chilean arpilleras, to name a few. She also showcases a contemporary world of female textile resistance, conducting personal interviews with artists and activists fighting modern-day injustice through textiles, and participating in their projects. The reader themselves is invited to get involved through the simple act of picking up a hook, a needle, or a thread.

Gemma's innovative and beautiful tour of textiles and feminism makes one thing clear: women have in fact been using textiles to fight for their human rights for generations. In so doing, they have changed the world for all of us – and *Unravelled* shows us how.

UK: Icon Books, 2027
UK Editor: Connor Stait
Primary Agent: OVV
TV/Film Agent: OVV
Translation Agent: RS/ RK

Additional info:
Extent: 70,000 words
Illustrations: Yes
Material Available: Proposal

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

Originally from Liverpool, **Dr. Gemma McKenzie** is a post-doctoral researcher at King's College London specialising in human rights in childbirth. Before this, she trained as a lawyer and worked in various roles linked to human rights and gender-based violence, from interning on Louisiana's death row, to writing national policy and guidelines for police officers investigating domestic violence, female genital mutilation and forced marriage. She has created her own touring crochet exhibition entitled *Threads of Protest: Human Rights in Childbirth*, a project funded by the ESRC, Being Human Festival, and King's College London, where people donated crocheted or knitted 'granny squares' to challenge and inform. Her work in this area and others have developed a network of female activists, artists and textile creators from whom she draws inspiration and knowledge. She publishes widely in academic papers, blogs and media outlets. The full range of her published work is available on her website.

REWILDING THE MIND

Manchán Magan



The final book from the late, great Manchán Magan.

In Manchán Magan's final book, he talks us through the depth and expansiveness inherent in Irish culture, explaining how traditional Irish culture holds within it resonances of a profoundly ancient way of engaging with the world, with other people and cultures, with the myriad elements of the plant and animal kingdom, and the preternatural realms beyond our physical existence.

He makes the case for how the Irish psyche may have held on to elements of an indigenous understanding of the world. In focusing on Ireland, he acknowledges that he could have chosen any ancient culture. Ireland has no more claim to a deeper connection to land, lore, life force and ancestral resonance than any other nation, it is just that Ireland remained isolated and underdeveloped for longer than the rest of Europe, and therefore the resonances can be felt more clearly there. Ireland makes for a good example of how an ancient, nature-based mindset can survive beneath the skin of what now appears to be a modern, 'developed' culture.

WEL: Chelsea Green, Summer 2027

WEL Editor: Matthew Derr

IRL: Gill, July 2026

IRL Editor: Teresa Daly

Primary Agent: JW

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 70,000 words

Illustrations: Yes, chapter headers and B&W illustrations

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg

Associates

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Praise for *Thirty-Two Words for Field*:

'A riveting, fiercely individual book. From the lore and language of Ireland, Magan draws a model for the future: a richer, more compassionate outlook, deeply knit into the natural world.' - Tom Bullough, author of *Sarn Helen*

'Manchán creates a gorgeous tapestry that lingers in the mind's eye.'
- Kerri ní Dochartaigh, author of *Thin Places*

'Casual, warm, human.' - *Irish Independent*

'Marvellous.' - *The Sunday Times*

Manchán Magan was a writer, presenter and travel documentary maker with a life's mission to steer people back to nature through the old stories preserved in Irish culture and heritage. He published numerous travel books, wrote award-winning plays that have been performed internationally, and produced a theatrical installation, *Gaeilge Tamgagotchi* at the Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts in Washington DC. Manchán presented the first ever IMAX documentary on Ireland, directed by MacGillivray Freeman films and narrated by Liam Neeson.

THE LIT PACK: The Amis, Barnes, McEwan Circle; A Love Story

Ben Masters



UK: Granta, January 2027
UK Editor: Jason Arthur
Primary Agent: JW
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 73,000 words
Illustrations: Yes, integrated text images
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni

An unforgettable and strikingly original memoir about not getting round to writing a biography of the Amis, Barnes, McEwan circle.

They are the biggest names of the late-twentieth-century London literary scene – Martin Amis, Ian McEwan, Salman Rushdie, Julian Barnes, Christopher Hitchens, Clive James – a group of close friends that met weekly for lunch and dominated literary gossip for decades. He is an obscure, struggling writer setting out to write the first ever group biography of their circle.

Framed over the course of one day, *The Lit Pack* follows Ben Masters as he tries (but never quite gets round to) writing the opening sentence of his book about the writers that have loomed largest in his life. Surrounded with piles of notes, amassed from years of reading and archival research, he thinks about writing their biography while getting distracted by the travails of parenting, work and social media.

Part literary biography, part memoir, part autofiction, *The Lit Pack* tells – playfully, indirectly, tenderly – the story of the most influential literary set of the last fifty years. But it is an exploded biography in which the author’s life becomes entangled with those of his subjects, playing on a series of ironic opposites: success vs failure, glamour vs obscurity, sociality vs reclusiveness, and the metropolitan vs the regional.

A searching and sometimes fraught conversation between a millennial writer and his boomer heroes, *The Lit Pack* is an unforgettable meditation on what it is to be a writer and a reader, on fandom and rivalry, and on masculinity, friendship, ambition, generational differences and love.

Praise for *The Flitting*:

‘A masterwork. You will exit this book more curious, more thoughtful about the world, more capable of a wide breadth of feeling.’

- Hanif Abdurraqib, author of *They Can’t Kill Us Until They Kill Us*

‘A lyrical tribute to the power of connection.’

- Sara Dykman, author of *Bicycling with Butterflies*

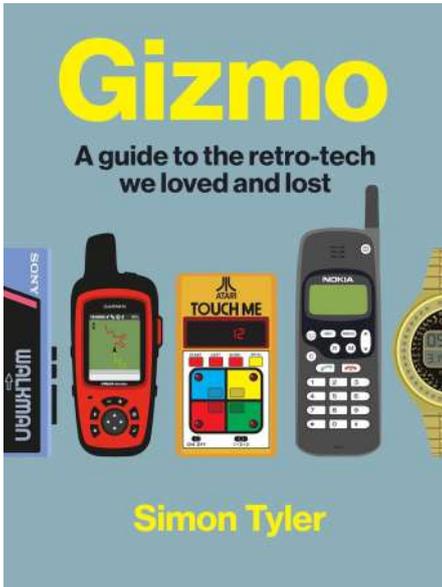
‘A dance and a dazzle of a book; at once a moving father-son memoir and the flicker-flutter story of a butterfly chase, in all its actual and metaphorical vibrancy. It tells of a life lost and a worldview discovered, in a voice that beautifully balances lightness and cleverness.’

- Robert Macfarlane, author of *Is A River Alive?*

Ben Masters is the author of a novel, *Noughties* (Hamish Hamilton, 2012), and a book of literary criticism, *Novel Style* (Oxford University Press, 2017). He teaches literature at the University of Nottingham, specialising in modern and contemporary literature. His literary journalism has appeared in the *Times Literary Supplement*, *Guardian*, *New York Times*, *Literary Review* and *Five Dials*. He lives in Northamptonshire. Granta Books and Tin House published *The Flitting* in 2024.

GIZMO

Simon Tyler



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.

UK: Laurence King Publishing, May 2026

UK Editor: Helen Rochester

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: GS

Translation Agent: SN

Rights Sold:

Chinese Complex (under offer)

Russian (under offer)

Additional info:

Extent: 224 pages

Illustrations: Yes, colours

Material Available: Page proofs

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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 including Pavilion and Faber & Faber.

FOLK

James Wade



UK: Faber, April 2027
UK Editor: Hannah Knowles
Primary Agent: JW
TV/Film Agent: CI
Translation Agent: AW / SN

Additional info:
Extent: 80,000
Illustrations: TBC
Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:
Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg
Associates
Japanese - Japan Uni

This book chronicles the author's quest to answer an essential and enduring question : what is folk?

In *Folk*, James Wade goes on twelve journeys across North America, Britain and Ireland. Stretching from the gold fields of the Klondike, the lonesome highways of Arkansas to the Maypoles in London and rural villages in Ireland.

In each chapter, he takes a particular folk song and looks at how it fits into the broader landscape of folk life and folk lore. He looks at how folk culture and folk art—the expressions of everyday life—can help us understand and connect to history, culture, art and indeed ourselves.

This book is not a cultural history of folk music, but a history of folk culture told through music.

While this book is uniquely expansive in how it situates folk music within broader traditions of folk culture, it is also personal. Through James's lyrical prose, *Folk* is fun and heartfelt, both illuminating and provocative.

Moving from the Brothers Grimm to Taylor Swift, the Venerable Bede to Bob Dylan, *Folk* will give a new take on those aspects of culture that always seem old, and will show the ancient roots of music that today seems strikingly new.

For fans of the genre-bending *Ghostland* by Edward Parnell, and literary music histories such as *Electric Eden* by Rob Young and *The Nightingale* by Sam Lee.

Dr James Wade is a College Associate Professor, Fellow, and Director of Studies 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.

BEYOND THE FRAME

Norman Coates



UK: Profile, Spring 2027
UK Editor: Rebecca Gray
Primary Agent: AMG
TV/Film Agent: GS
Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 55,000 words
Illustrations: Photographs
Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon 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*:

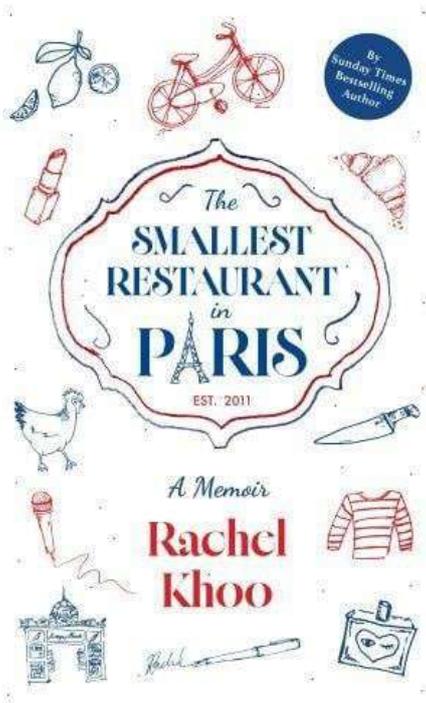
'Very moving... It's above all a story of friendship, rich in anecdotes and sidelong insights into famous figures, and an evocative and intimate portrait of a bygone era.' - Francesca Wade, author of *Square Haunting* and *Gertrude Stein*

'I absolutely loved it.' - Rev. Richard Coles

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

THE SMALLEST RESTAURANT IN PARIS

Rachel Khoo



AUS: Ultimo, May 2026
AUS Editor: Brigid Mullane
Primary Agent: LK
TV/Film Agent: Alice Russell
(Mirador Group)
Translation Agent: AH / RS / RK

Additional info:

Extent: 336 pages
Illustrations: Yes, B&W
Material Available: Final files

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates
Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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

In this warm, illustrated memoir, Rachel Khoo reflects on the years that took her from a secure London office job to a Bastille bedsit, and ultimately to finding her voice in food in Paris. Written with humour and heart, the book charts her early adult life as a young Brit abroad, navigating independence, ambition and creativity in a city far from home.

Drawing on her British, Chinese-Malaysian and Austrian heritage, Rachel offers a layered and personal portrait of Paris in the noughties, far removed from postcard clichés. She captures the everyday realities of life in the city, from cultural missteps and moments of wonder to the friendships, fashions and food obsessions that shaped her experience. Along the way, she studies at culinary school, experiments in the kitchen, and supports herself through a patchwork of jobs, including au pair, tour guide, English teacher, bookseller, recipe tester and perfume sales assistant.

As she struggles to make ends meet and finds herself questioning her direction, Paris is in the grip of cupcake crazes and experimental food trends. Rachel dabbles in pop-ups, bento boxes and picnic projects, yet by the time she approaches thirty, she feels she is still at the very

Praise for *The Smallest Restaurant in Paris*:

'Next time you wonder if you'll ever reach your goals, grab this book. Rachel Khoo is just like her recipes: inspiring, intrepid, and bold.'

- Bonnie Garmus, author of *Lessons in Chemistry*

'Comforting and quietly empowering.'

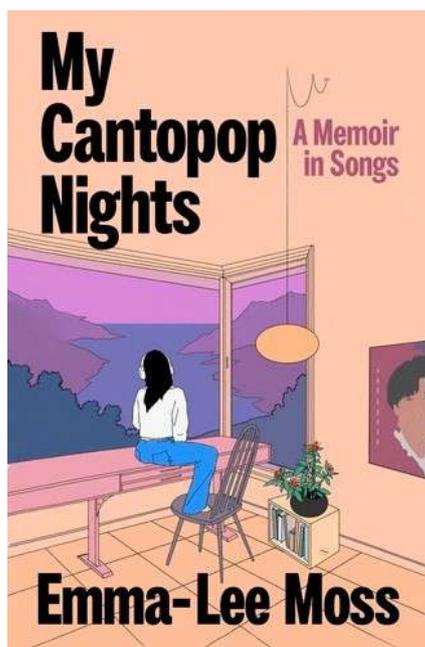
- Melissa Hemsley, bestselling cookbook author

'Rachel Khoo shaped a path for chefs like me . . . She's an icon.'

Rachel Khoo is a British cook, author, and broadcaster who has hosted and co-hosted television cooking shows on the BBC, Food Network, and Netflix and is the current host of *The Great Australian Bake Off*. Rachel was catapulted to fame when the tiny restaurant she operated out of her Parisian flat resulted in *The Little Paris Kitchen* cookbook and television show. Since then, her six cookbooks have been translated into fourteen languages. Rachel was born in Croydon, South London and now lives in Stockholm with her husband and three children.

MY CANTOPOP NIGHTS: A Memoir in Songs

Emma-Lee Moss



A story of pop music, identity crisis and Hong Kong, from the acclaimed singer-songwriter Emma Lee-Moss (a.k.a. Emmy the Great).

For 11-year-old Emma-Lee, the sound of Hong Kong in the summer of 1995 is Cantopop. The Cantopop stars she idolises, at the height of their stratospheric fame, are seen on every billboard and heard on every street corner. Later that year, she and her family will leave the city in England, pushing Emma-Lee's love of Cantopop underground—the sound and symbol of her secret childhood identity.

My Cantopop Nights is the story of how Emma found herself in a Hong Kong bar twenty years later, listening to a Cantopop song and realising that this music was her inheritance. It's about how she suffers an identity crisis just as the city's post-colonial tensions erupt into the 2019 protests. It's a story of uncanny coincidences, magical thinking and a quest to reconcile the different sides of her inheritance: Hong Konger and British, Cantopop and indie.

It's about falling in love with a city, a country, its people and its music, while she seeks to find her own place within it.

UK: Jonathan Cape, June 2026

UK Editor: Bea Hemming

Primary Agent: NC

TV/Film Agent: CI

Translation Agent: AW / ZP

Additional info:

Extent: 306 pages

Illustrations: No

Material Available: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Japanese - Japan Uni

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, her albums are *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), original soundtracks for *Austenland* (Sony Pictures) and *Out of Her Mind* (BBC 2).

WILLIAM MORRIS

Michael Robertson



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

William Morris is known throughout the world for his ground-breaking 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.

UK: Thames & Hudson, September 2027

UK Editor: Ben Hayes

Primary Agent: AMG

TV/Film Agent: DHA

Translation Agent: AH / AW / SN

Additional info:

Extent: 130,000 words

Illustrations: Yes; colour

Material Available: Proposal

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

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, VERA

Miranda Seymour



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: Manuscript

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Tuttle-Mori

Princess Vera Giedroytz was a towering, sweet-faced lesbian Princess who habitually wore a man's suit, played billiards with brilliance, and regularly performed true medical miracles of surgery, while on occasion forcibly ejecting an inquisitive Rasputin from her operating theatre by throwing him down the stairs.

In 1909, already lauded as a genius, Vera had been appointed by the doomed Tsarina to teach the women of the Romanov family how to assist Vera with her operations. Previously, while working for Cesar Roux at the world's best known medical institute in Lausanne, Vera had become the world's first woman surgeon. Later, back in Russia in 1905, she had supervised and revolutionised frontline surgery in the Russo Japanese War (1905). She won the Red Cross's highest honors – and saved the life of an enemy soldier, the Prince of Japan, while working in nightmarish conditions: a hospital train under fire; a clay-sealed tent in temperatures that regularly reached 22C below zero.

In 1919, Vera was sent to Kiev, where her hospital reforms, innovative work and academic papers crowned an extraordinary career as the only female surgeon in the world – and the first to demonstrate the life-saving abdominal procedure that Vera had evolved while working as the sole physician in a factory near her family home outside Moscow, following her return from Lausanne. In Kiev throughout the 1920s, Vera managed to combine a professional career with an unexpected burst of literary achievement.

In 1930, after founding a Ukraine hospital for facial reconstruction and being invited to head a senior department of the Kiev Medical Institute, Vera and her widowed lover (and medical assistant) Countess Maria Nirod were seized one midnight, and taken away at gunpoint during the Soviet purge of scientific intellectuals. Their whereabouts for the next ten months was never disclosed. Vera's pension was cancelled. The hospital and institute were closed. Living in extreme poverty, still with her lover and the Countess's children, an uncowed Vera died in 1932 of uterine cancer – for which, fearing malicious intervention, she refused treatment. She was 61.

The Princess's name was banished from official Soviet medical records and her tremendous contribution to medicine and the revolutionising of wartime surgery remains unacknowledged to this day. Now, Miranda Seymour recovers this lost story of a brilliant, politically outspoken woman who chose to make Ukraine her homeland, someone adored by her friends and patients, and whose achievements outrank even those of Florence Nightingale.

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 very impressive piece of work. A long and tangled life most authoritatively pieced together. I was completely absorbed.'

- Michael Frayn, author of *Noises Off*

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

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*.

A MUG OF LIFE: Strangers' Advice on What Makes a Good Life

The team behind social media phenomenon *A Mug of Life*



UK: Seven Dials, Orion, Autumn 2027

UK Editor: Abi Le Marquand

Primary Agent: OVV

TV/Film Agent: TBC

Translation Agent: RS / RK

Rights sold:

Italian - Rizzoli

Additional info:

Extent: 25,000-30,000 words

Illustrations: Yes, colour

Material Available: Proposal, unedited manuscript due December 2026

Subagents:

Chinese - Bardon Chinese Media

Japanese - Japan Uni

Have you ever wondered how everyone around you is experiencing life? What could we learn from one another, if we simply asked the question?

Based on the viral social media phenomenon, *A Mug of Life* is a beautifully illustrated and giftable book containing extraordinary life lessons from ordinary strangers on what makes a good life, all shared over a cup of tea on a park bench. For readers of all ages, *A Mug of Life* is a much-needed reminder of the power of human connection, the importance of kindness, and the life-changing magic of listening.

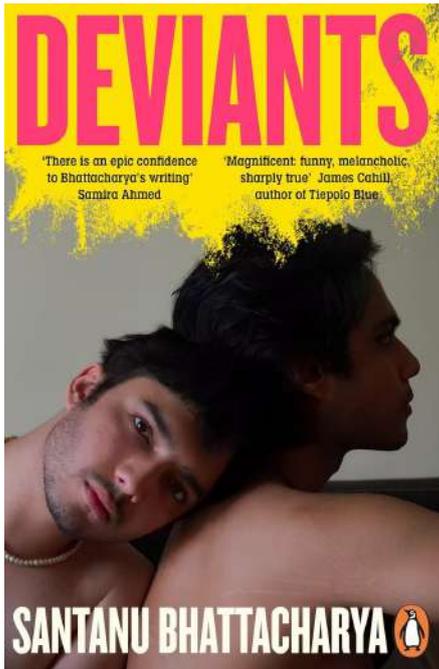
Living in a big city, and experiencing the impact of a disconnected world, filmmaker Will Shears came up with a very simple idea: offering someone a cup of tea on a park bench, in return for hearing about their story, and uploading the resulting conversations on social media. One year, fifty videos, 2 million followers, and 200 million views later, the platform had connected tens of millions of people around the world on Instagram, TikTok and Facebook. It became one of the fastest organic growing social media channels of 2025, with fans including Jimmy Kimmel and Bon Jovi.

This book pieces Will's conversations with strangers together for the first time. A beautiful journey of short excerpts from conversations, this warm and comforting collection of strangers' advice centres around one key question: what makes a good life?

The result is a truly moving tapestry of human experience, a reminder that we are all experiencing life together, and a nudge to action: go outside, connect with other people, ask them questions about their lives. Their stories might change your life.

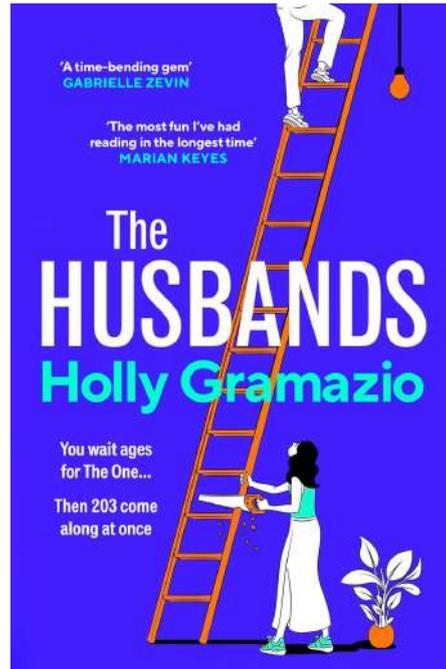
Over the past 12 months, **A Mug of Life** has amassed 200 million views and 2 million followers on its online platforms on Instagram, TikTok and Facebook. They see high engagement levels around the world, with hundreds of thousands of positive interactions, heartfelt comments and messages on every video. The channel has fostered a strong, and large, community of viewers who eagerly anticipate the next video and engage with the stories time and time again. The project has also been featured on international and media, from BBC Breakfast, ITV news, and BBC Radio 2, to Brazil's leading news network. Versions of the videos with translated subtitled have also garnered tens of millions views, and *A Mug of Life* are currently developing this opportunity further. They have plans to take *A Mug of Life* abroad in the near future.

Prizes 2026



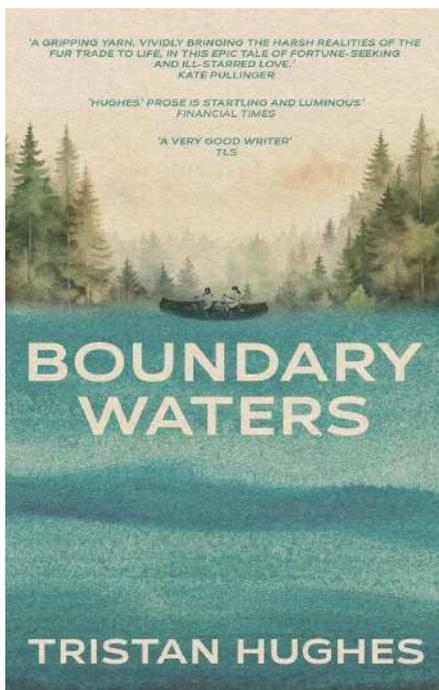
Deviants by Santanu Bhattacharya

Won the Rainbow Lit Fest Fiction Book of the Year, and the Bangalore Literature Festival-Atta Galata Fiction Prize



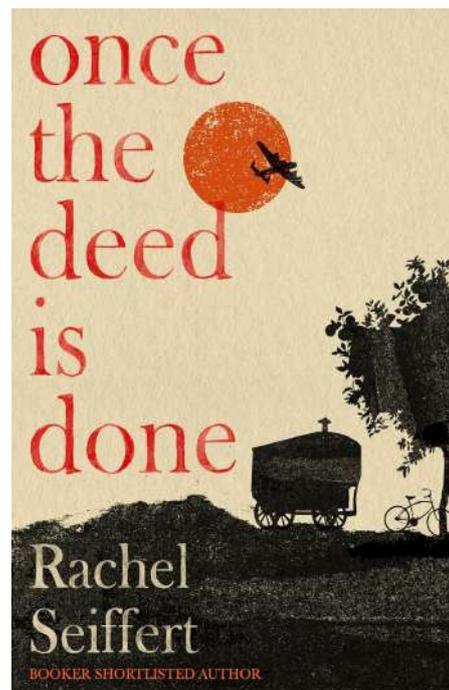
The Husbands by Holly Gramazio

Runner up for the Comedy Women in Print Prize



Boundary Waters by Tristan Hughes

Longlisted for the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction



Once the Deed is Done by Rachel Seiffert

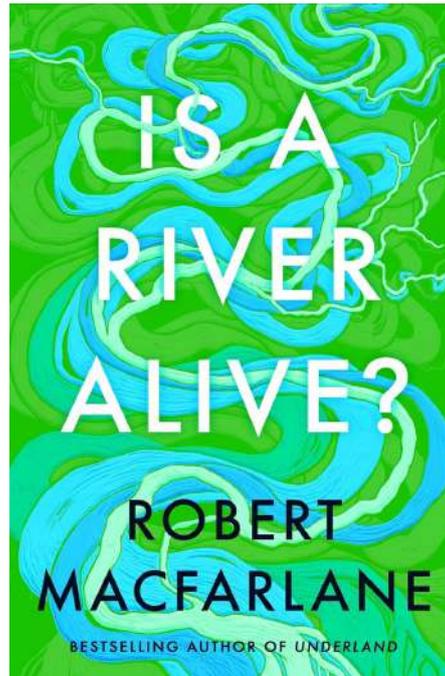
Longlisted for the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction

Prizes 2026



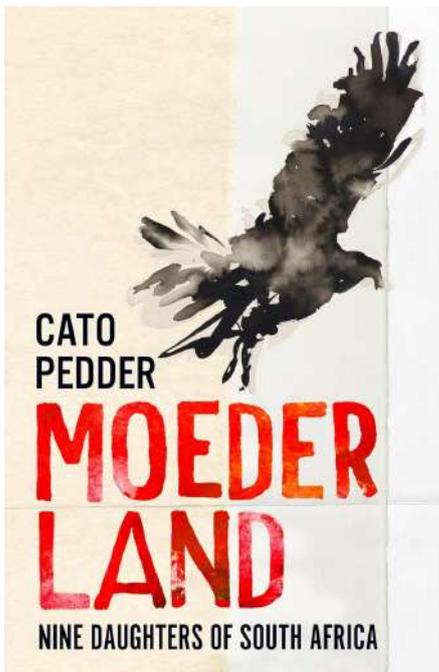
Miranda Seymour

Won the Exceptional Contribution to Biography Award from the



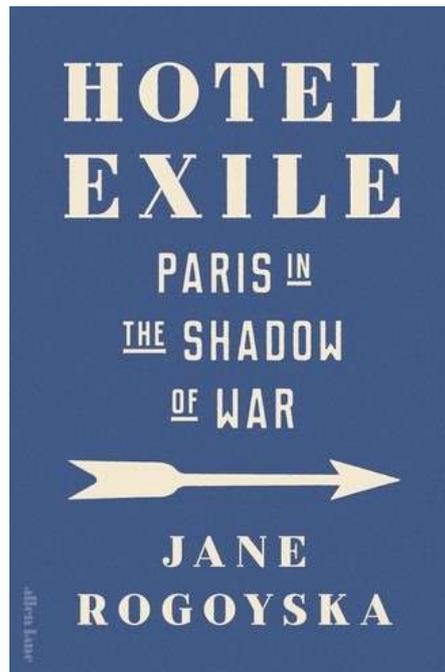
Is a River Alive? by Robert Macfarlane

Shortlisted for the Sherbone Prize for Travel Writing



Moederland by Cato Pedder

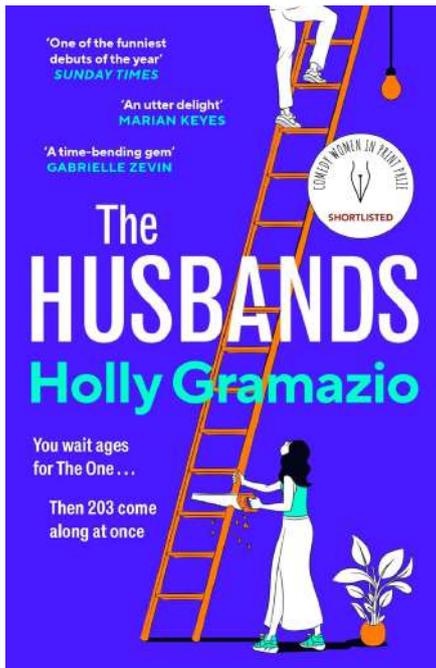
Won the HWA Crown Award for Non-fiction



Hotel Exile by Jane Rogoyska

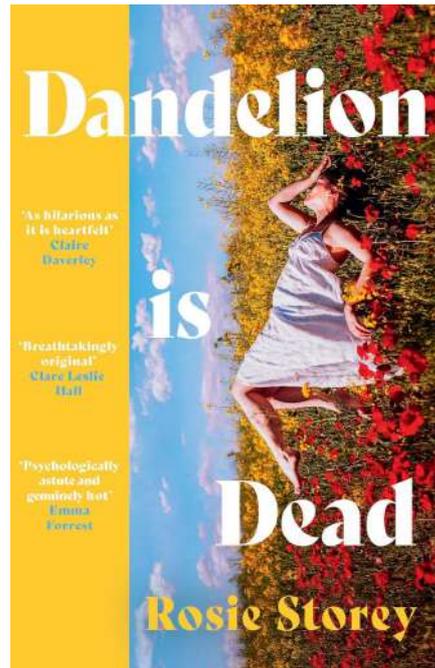
Longlisted for the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction

Film and TV news 2026



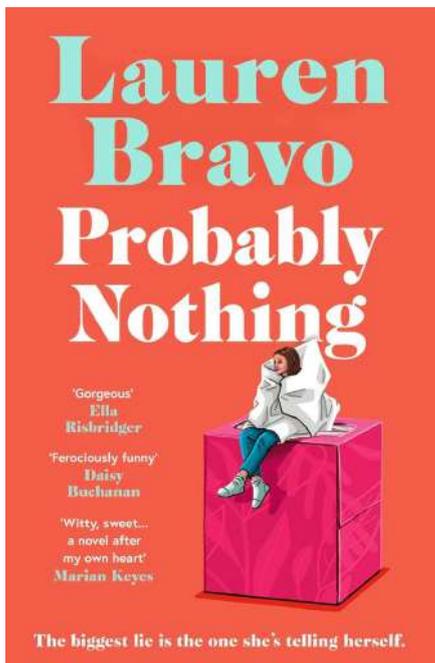
The Husbands by Holly Gramazio

A24/Apple TV+'s 8-part TV adaptation, starring Juno Temple, has begun filming



Dandelion is Dead by Rosie Storey

Optioned to See Saw Films



Probably Nothing by Lauren Bravo

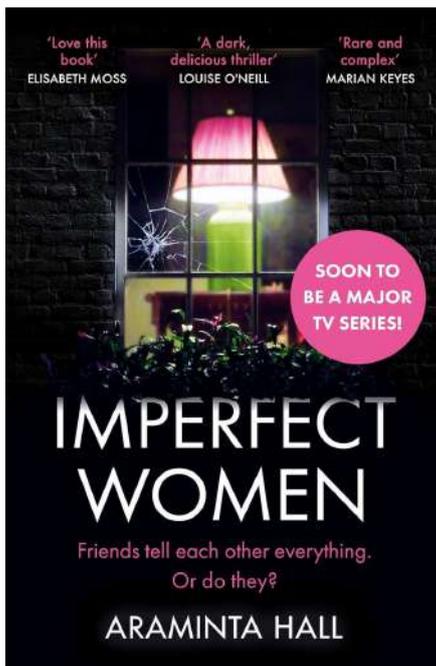
Optioned



Motherfucker by Anna Brook-Mitchell

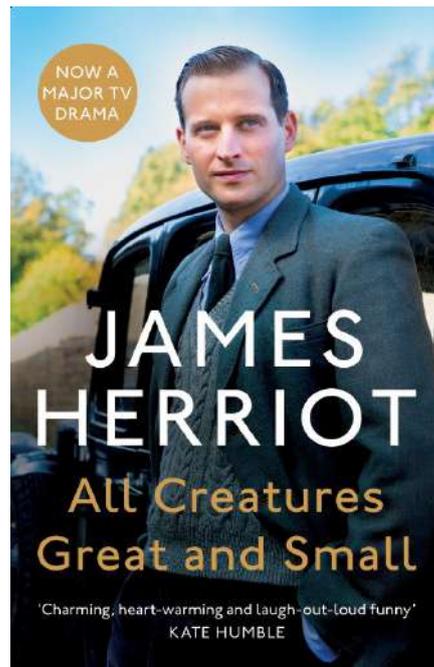
Optioned

Film and TV news 2026



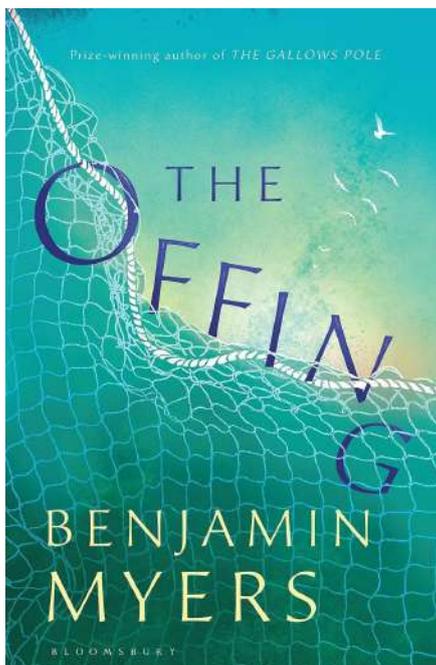
Imperfect Women by Araminta Hall

The eight-episode series is set to air on Apple TV in March, starring Elisabeth Moss, Kerry Washington and Kate Mara



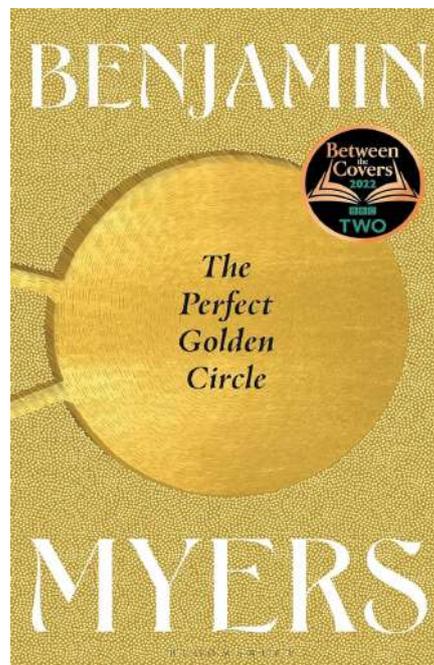
All Creatures Great and Small by James Herriot

Series 7 and 8 announced, and filming on S7 will commence later in the Spring



The Offing by Benjamin Myers

In pre-production



The Perfect Golden Circle by Benjamin Myers

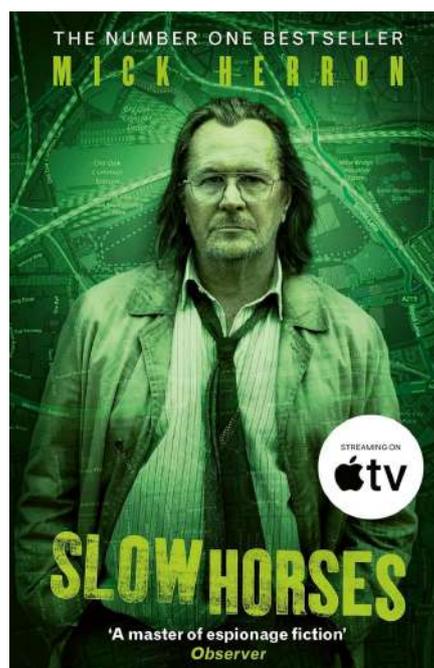
Optioned

Film and TV news 2026



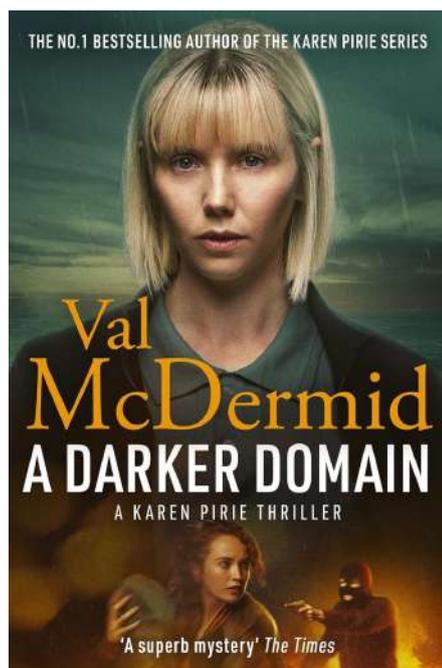
Down Cemetery Road by Mick Herron

Renewed for 2nd season at Apple TV+



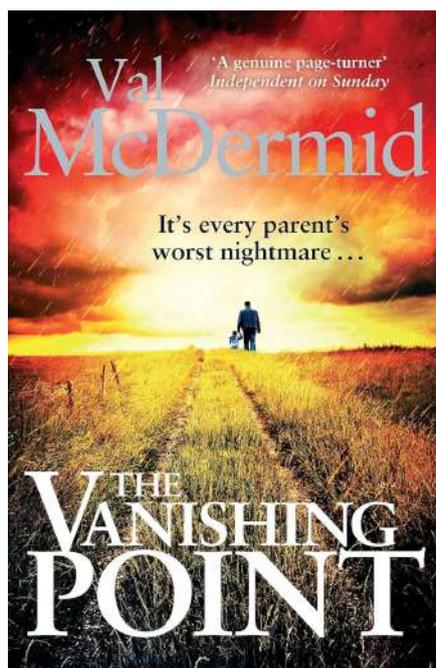
Slow Horses by Mick Herron

Season 7 has begun filming



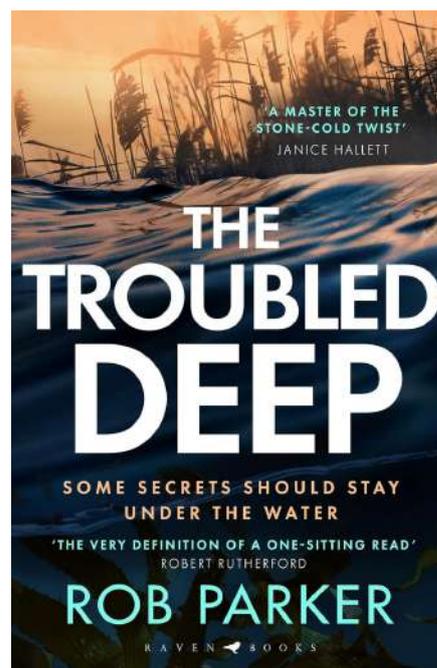
The Karen Pirie series by Val McDermid

Season 2 was broadcast in July to an average of 4.8m viewers per episode, and S3 is in early development



The Vanishing Point by Val McDermid

Optioned for TV



The Troubled Deep by Rob Parker

Optioned

Recent and Upcoming Publications

Fiction

Literary and Upmarket Fiction

Motherfaker by Anna Brook-Mitchell (February 2026)

Love By The Book by Jessica George (February 2026)

Sweetbitter Song by Rosie Hewlett (March 2026)

When the Party's Over by Katie Hoskins (March 2026)

Travel Light by Naomi Mitchison (March 2026)

A Short Road to Longbrook by Bethan Roberts (March 2026)

Mirrorstage by Peter Scalpello (March 2026)

Dandelion Is Dead by Rosie Storey (March 2026)

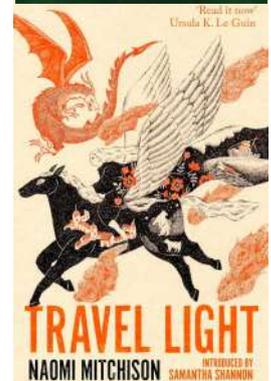
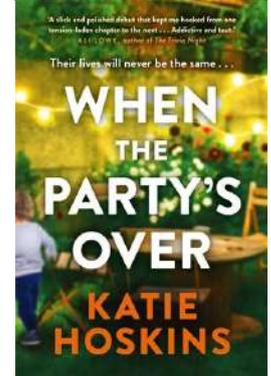
Commercial Fiction

Is That You, Beth Cherry? by Lucy Dillon (November 2025)

Skate It 'Til You Make It by Rufaro Faith Mazarura (February 2026)

On Thin Ice by Olivia Belle (April 2026)

The Subtle Pleasures of Indiscretion (Isabel Dalhousie series) by Alexander McCall Smith (June 2026)



Recent and Upcoming Publications

Fiction

Crime, Suspense and Thrillers

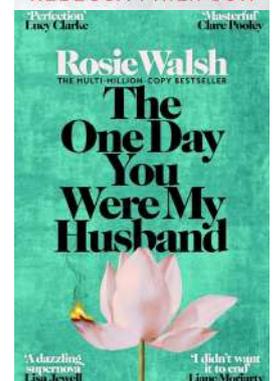
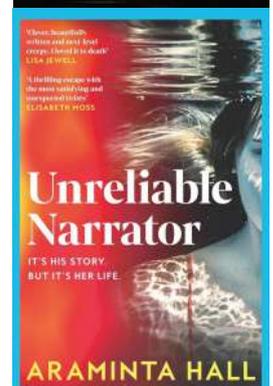
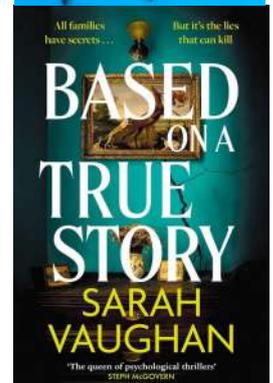
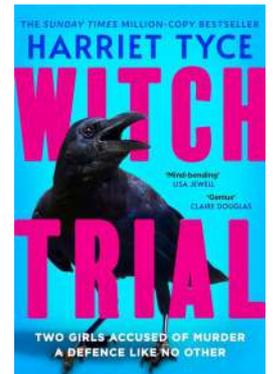
- The Whistler* by S. W. Kane (November 2025)
- The 10:12* by Anna Maloney (January 2026)
- Forbidden Waters* by Rob Parker (January 2026)
- The Institute* by Katherine Bradley (February 2026)
- Deception Island* by R. S. Burnett (February 2026)
- Witch Trial* by Harriet Tyce (February 2026)
- Unreliable Narrator* by Araminta Hall (March 2026)
- How To Get Away With Murder* by Rebecca Philipson (March 2026)
- Based on a True Story* by Sarah Vaughan (March 2026)
- A Degree of Murder* by Maz Evans (April 2026)
- The One Day You Were My Husband* by Rosie Walsh (June 2026)
- The Drowning Place* by Sarah Hilary (July 2026)

Science Fiction and Fantasy

- Enchanting the Fae Queen* by Stephanie Burgis (January 2026)
- Songbird of the Sorrows* by Braidee Otto (February 2026)
- The Red Winter* by Cameron Sullivan (February 2026)
- A Widow's Charm* by Caitlyn Paxson (April 2026)

Poetry

- History of the Child* by Penelope Shuttle (February 2026)



Recent and Upcoming Publications

Non-Fiction

History and Politics

It Started in Damascus by Rime Allaf (November 2025)

Advance Britannia by Allan Allport (November 2025)

Exit Stalin by Mark B Smith (January 2026)

Hotel Exile by Jane Rogoyska (February 2026)

Icarus Economics by John Rapley (February 2026)

The Black Death by Thomas Asbridge (April 2026)

Left to Rot by Daniel Hewitt (June 2026)

Science and Nature Writing

Don't Burn Anyone at the Stake Today by Naomi Alderman (November 2025)

Edges of the World by Charles Foster (January 2026)

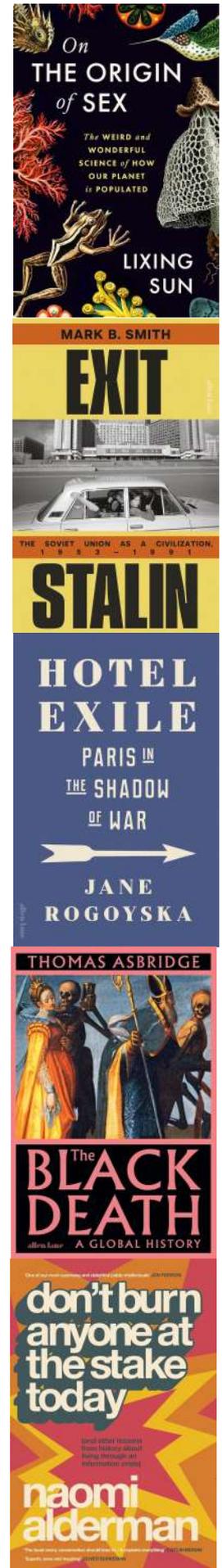
Despite it All by Fred Pearce (February 2026)

Liturgies of the Wild by Martin Shaw (February 2026)

On the Origin of Sex by Lixing Sun (March 2026)

Arts and Culture

Gizmo by Simon Tyler (May 2026)



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