

Bonnier Books UK
Adult Fiction & Non-Fiction Catalogue
Spring & Summer 2026





Manilla Press is a boutique home for high quality fiction and narrative non-fiction; for books that get you talking and stories that endure.



Zaffre is our flagship adult imprint that focuses on a wide range of crime, thrillers, saga, women's and reading group fiction.



Black and White Publishing has teams based in both Edinburgh (where they were founded) and in London, and publishes a wide range of titles, including biography, sport, cookery, lifestyle, true crime, general and commercial non-fiction.



Eriu is based in Dublin, publishing books with a connection to Ireland, working closely with talented authors to bring Irish voices to international audiences.



Echo is an Australian publisher of narrative non-fiction, true crime, photographic and fiction titles.



Leap is a non-fiction imprint offering books to inspire, inform, and spark change. It speaks to the need for positive growth, both collectively and individually.



Ithaka Press is a narrative non-fiction imprint covering topics from history and memoir to reportage and books about psychology or technology.



Blink Publishing's innovative non-fiction books seek to engage, entertain, inform and excite a wide commercial audience.



Footnote Press is an independently run, pioneering publisher of literary fiction and narrative non-fiction, focusing on migration, identity and marginalised knowledge as well as experiences of separation, resistance and reclamation.

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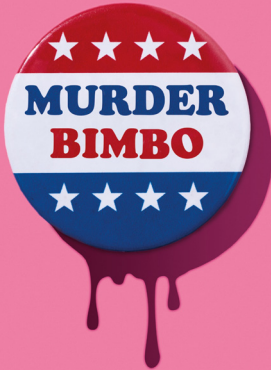
Highlights





Murder Bimbo

Rebecca Novak



REBECCA NOVACK

'Flays the political moment. At all levels, it is a blast'
Torrey Peters, author of *Detransition, Baby*

Pub date 10/02/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781786587015
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 320 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location New York, USA
Book Location USA

Rebecca Novack grew up in the Rocky Mountains and spent her first career as an Acquisitions Editor of academic and professional books in Education, Linguistics, and Machine Learning. She has a Masters in Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity school and lives in Hudson, New York with her partner and two young children.

A gloriously deranged, stylish literary thriller and righteous feminist fable.

Murder Bimbo, a 32-year-old sex worker turned unlikely assassin, has just killed extremist political hopeful Meat Neck, and now has only two days, her wits, and a high-speed internet connection to save her own life.

Her best bet is to email a feminist podcast: Justice for Bimbos. The host has a cult following, and a famous affection for maligned and murderous women. In a series of emails written over forty-eight hours from a secret location, MB explains how she was recruited and trained by a cabal of code-named men who claimed to be government agents. Meat Neck, who might remind us of (redacted, but please insert any number of men), is a threat to democracy. Sounds normal, right?

So, she kills him. And she's on the run. But, when she starts a new series of emails, this time addressed to her ex-girlfriend, X, we realize that MB might not be the unsuspecting cog she claims to be. In fact, the assassination may be part of a bigger scheme, one that's not political, but entirely personal.

'I'm a huge fan.'

Catherine Lacey (Author of *Biography of X*)

'I'm obsessed with this novel. The plot is propulsive as hell. But what really hooked me was Rebecca Novack's deep exploration of her narrator's morality and determination to express the truth of her experience.

David Varno (Publishers Weekly)



Everything That Is Beautiful

Louise Nealon



Pub date 02/04/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781786581365
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 304 pages
Word Count
Territory World ex USA, Can, Ppines
Author's Location County Kildare, Ireland
Author Born County Kildare, Ireland
Book Location Kildare; Dublin; Belfast

Louise Nealon is a writer from County Kildare, Ireland. Her debut novel, *Snowflake*, was the winner of Newcomer of the Year at the An Post Irish Book Awards and was chosen for the One Dublin One Book campaign in 2024. She lives in Belfast.

The number 1 international bestselling, award-winning author of *Snowflake* returns with a luminous portrait of two families riven by one great secret

For Niamh Ryan, the Foleys are family. Her childhood flew by on their farm, playing with her best friend Peter and his sister Kate - all the while being doted on by their mother Helen and coached by their father Liam, a legendary former hurling player.

Now, following a distressing series of events, the family ties are strained. Niamh receives drunken phone calls and messages from Peter who can't understand what derailed their burgeoning relationship three years ago. Meanwhile, Helen Foley is trying her best to escape her life by checking into guesthouses under the names of women she went to school with. In her life in Belfast, Kate is attempting to hold down a job and a relationship while carrying the weight of the family's secrets, and feeling like she is the one to blame.

As a family wedding looms, and the women find themselves face to face, the knotty love that still binds Niamh, Helen and Kate might just bring them back together again.

Told through the perspectives of three very different women, *Everything That Is Beautiful* unfolds the story of one complicated family in startlingly honest prose. By turns funny and deeply moving, and with unmatched emotional intelligence, this is an unforgettable story of love and family, heartbreak and hope - and who we might become after we pick up the pieces.

Mad and wonderful. I thought I was reading one thing, then discovered - several times as I read - that I was reading a different, even better thing.'

- Roddy Doyle on *Snowflake*

'A novel for anyone who's ever felt lost in the world, Louise Nealon balances humour and tragedy in a sharp debut.'

- John Boyne on *Snowflake*



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Wifehouse

Sonya Walger

Sonya
Walger

Wifehouse



COVER TO BE REVEALED

Pub date 23/04/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781786586384
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 352 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location Los Angeles
Author Born UK
Book Location US, Australia,
London & Paris

Sonya Walger is an award-winning actress, best known for her role as Penny Widmore on *LOST*. She currently stars on *FOR ALL MAN KIND*. Other career highlights include the original Broadway production of *FROST/NIXON*, *PARENTHOOD*, *TELL ME YOU LOVE ME*, *SCANDAL*, and *IN TREATMENT*.

A captivating, beautifully written novel about a mother whose life implodes, for readers of Miranda July

Annie and Hector have allowed their friends Candace and Edouard and their son, Remy, to stay in the guest house at their upstate New York home while their own home undergoes seemingly endless renovations. When the two families gather for a Christmas dinner that includes Remy's twenty-six-year-old French tutor, Thierry, Annie and Hector's ostensibly stable home-life begins to splinter. Annie is astonished to find herself self-conscious in front of Thierry, who is attractive and attentive, and closer in age to her teenaged daughter than to Annie.

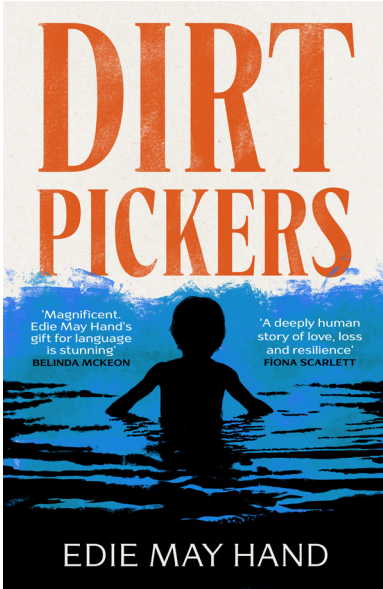
Soon, Annie finds herself making decisions she'd never imagined that she - a loving mother, devoted wife, rule follower, woman who has always put the happiness of her husband, children, and friends above her own - could possibly make . . .

Over the course of a year, bookended by two Christmas days, Walger paints a messy, complicated portrait of a mother who chooses to leave, and what that decision means for her husband, lover, best friend, and children.



Dirtpickers

Edie May Hand



Pub Date:	21/05/26
Price:	£16.99
ISBN:	9781786586254
Binding	Hardback
Format	234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent	416 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	County Meath, Ireland
Author Born	Ireland
Book Location	Idaho & Canada

EDIE MAY HAND studied English and History of Art at University College Dublin and graduated with an MA in Creative Writing from Maynooth University in 2024. In 2016, her short story Liminal Spaces was published in UCD LitSoc's Caveat Lector. Dirtpickers was a winner of the Irish Writers Centre Novel Fair 2024.

A heart-swelling lyrical debut for fans of Chris Whitaker and There Will Be Blood.

1981. In a remote valley in Idaho, a man, a woman and three children stop running to wash the blood from their hands and bodies. They are the only survivors. Their only choice now is, somehow, to become a family.

1976. Opal and her husband James arrive in the small mining community of Silver Valley, drawn by promises of fortune and independence. There they meet Baron Rowe, the charismatic visionary who controls the community with an iron fist. Baron's son Denny has spent his life trying, and failing, to live up to Baron's expectations, and to protect his little sister Maude from their father's excesses.

Soon, a tragic accident will change all their lives. And five years later, change will come again at the barrel of a madman's gun.

Written in exquisite lyrical passages, the novel moves between the four main characters, shuffling back and forth in time to create a story that will live long in the reader's memory.

'A magnificent novel. Edie May Hand's gift for language and for exploring the complexities of what humans are capable of is stunning.'

Belinda McKeon (Solace and Tender)

'A deeply human story of love, loss, trauma and resilience, a truly unforgettable read.'

Fiona Scarlett (Boys Don't Cry)



MANILLA
PRESS

Service

Lauren Mooney



Pub date 25/06/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781786586285
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 352 pages
Word Count
Territory World

Lauren Mooney is a writer from the East Midlands. She works in theatre and audio drama, and has co-run Kandinsky Theatre Company since 2015, making award-winning shows across the UK and Europe. She is a graduate of UEA's Creative Writing Prose MA, where she held the David Higham Scholarship. She lives in south London with her husband Stewart and their tortoise, Sacher Tort. *Service* is her first novel.

Workplace novel meets haunted house story in a razor-sharp, wickedly funny debut novel by an exciting new voice

Danielle MacKinnon's nearly thirty and still hasn't got her life sorted. Her job as a PA to the blithely privileged Jeannie is boring, and existentially depressing, and now, after a break-up, she needs to find somewhere to live for the next two months.

Her best friends Ben and Anita are keen to help, but Danielle's broke, burning through couches and good-will, until she gets an unexpected proposal from Jeannie. Danielle can stay at Westerley, the sprawling Yorkshire estate where Jeannie grew up. They need someone to look after the old place anyway. She'd be doing them a favour.

At Westerley, Danielle luxuriates in her idyllic, borrowed life as lady of the manor - but the house is big, old and uneasy. It's a strange place to live alone. The sleep paralysis that began in London is beginning to worsen.

And then Jeannie arrives unannounced. Working for her, serving her, living in her house, the razor-thin boundaries begin Danielle and her boss begin to dissolve. Soon their relationship slides into something older, stranger and harder to name.

Something is happening at Westerley. Things where they shouldn't be. The shadow of a maid sweeping in the dawn light. But is the house really haunted? Or is Danielle?

'Gothic fiction for the work-life unbalanced. An ingenious melding of nightmares. Trapped in a city you can't afford, trapped in a haunted manor that isn't yours. Mooney's switchblade-sharp, hilarious novel asks-which is scarier?'

-Glen James Brown, author of *Ironopolis* and *Mother Naked*



Pub date 15/01/26
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 Author's Location Japan
 Author Born Japan
 Book Location Japan

Jose Ando was born and raised in Tokyo and is of African-Asian heritage. His debut novel *Jackson Alone* was awarded the 59th Bungei Prize. It was also shortlisted for the Akutagawa Prize, as was his second novel *The Camouflaged Man*. His third novel *Dtopia* won the 172nd Akutagawa Prize, solidifying his presence as one of Japan's brightest young literary stars.

Four Black Japanese gay men team up to exact revenge in a culture where discrimination is deep-seated. A searing, darkly funny debut from the Akutagawa Prize-winning author. A short, blistering gut punch of a novel, *Jackson Alone* is at turns satirical and deadpan, angry and tender—a frank exploration of identity, race, and queerness in contemporary Japan.

Nobody at the corporate offices of Athletius Japan knows much about the massage therapist, Jackson, but rumors abound. He used to work as a model. He likes to party. He's mixed race—half-Japanese, half-somewhere-in-Africa-n. He might be gay. Fueling the gossip is the sudden appearance of a violent pornographic video featuring a man who looks like a lot like Jackson.

When Jackson serendipitously meets three other queer mixed-race guys, he learns he's not the only one being targeted. Together they concoct a plan: find out who's responsible and, in the meantime, switch identities and play tricks on people who've wronged them, exploiting the fact that nobody can seem to tell them apart.

This is a page-turning exploration of race, digital culture, belonging, and the hostility of societies that are supposed to protect us. Written with bite but also with surprising tenderness, *Jackson Alone* asks complex questions about how we see ourselves and how we see others, as well as what it really means to get revenge.

'A unique idea, it reminds me of the work of Jordan Peele'

-Amy Yamada

'The harmony that *Jackson Alone* finds between a pressing social theme and rhythmical narration filled me with a strange excitement I had never before experienced'

-Yoko Ogawa



She Wanted More

Poorna Bell

Poorna
Bell

She
Wanted
More



COVER TO BE REVEALED

Pub date 19/02/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781785122835
Binding Hardback
Format 216mm x 135mm (Demy Octavo)
Extent 304 pages
Word Count
Territory World English Language

Poorna Bell is an award-winning journalist of 21 years, author and a digital editorial expert, having previously worked as UK Executive Editor and Global Lifestyle Head for HuffPost. She's also published three non-fiction books and her second novel is out in 2024. She specialises in women's issues, diversity, fitness, pro-ageing and mental health.

How to take up space, ask for what you want and dream big. A call-to-arms for women everywhere, to demand more and reclaim themselves, from acclaimed writer Poorna Bell.

Part memoir and part exploration, *She Wanted More* is a call-to-arms for women of all ages, and a radical rejection of the belief that we should be grateful for what we've been given. It charts the societal revolution taking place among mid-life women and older, where traditional norms are being dismantled in order to reclaim a fundamental part of themselves. The book will follow Poorna's own journey as a woman in her forties trQWying to figure out what life should look like now and in the future.



We Are Each Other

Jess Mills

Jess
Mills

We Are
Each
Other



COVER TO BE REVEALED

Pub date 05/03/26
Price £18.99
ISBN 9781785124709
Binding Hardback
Format 216mm x 135mm (Demy Octavo)
Extent 304 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

Jess Mills is a writer, campaigner, podcaster and musician. She is CEO Founder of the Tessa Jowell Foundation and creator of the podcast Human With Jess Mills, set up to share and celebrate extraordinary human stories, which featured guests including Elizabeth Day, Lemn Sissay and Clover Stroud. She has published articles in Grazia, The Times, Guardian and most recently, Elle, where her piece on Mother's Day was the most read that weekend.

A moving memoir about loss, grief and motherhood from Jess Mills, daughter of Tessa Jowell MP.

In Spring 2017, Jess gave birth to her first daughter, Oattie. Ten weeks later her mother, the much-loved Labour politician Dame Tessa Jowell MP, was diagnosed with advanced brain cancer. This is the story of the year that Jess spent with her baby daughter in one arm, and her dying mother in the other - of becoming a mother whilst losing her own.

Though Tessa Jowell lived a life of public service, this is not the story of a public person. *We Are Each Other* tells, with a powerful lyricism and raw intensity, of a mother and a daughter walking both sides of life and death together, documenting the extraordinary human ability to love, grieve and renew, alongside the changing seasons of the natural world.

Despite the universality of bereavement and grief, our cultural expression of it remains awkward and inarticulate. How can it still be that death - the only certain thing about living - is so difficult for us to commune with? In *We Are Each Other* Jess seeks to write the book she desperately needed to read, and contributes to a roster of works advancing a shared language of love, grief and healing such as Clover Stroud's *The Red of my Blood*, Cathy Rentzenbrink's *The Last Act of Love* and Michelle Zauner's *Crying in H Mart*. It is not a book about grief, but one which writes grief itself: the internal journey from obliteration to renewal, which has no end, through which Jess discovers unknown capacities for resilience, love and courage.

'Utterly beautiful and devastating. A tender and powerful account.'

- Jessie Ware

'An extraordinary exploration of loss, grief and life.'

- Lena de Casparis



Training For Your Old Lady Body

Elizabeth Davies

An honest, no bullsh*t guide to help women (re)frame exercise as a way of safeguarding our quality of life into older age.

An honest, no bullsh*t guide to help women (re)frame exercise as a way of safeguarding our quality of liWfe into older age.

Training For Your Old Lady Body will be an honest, no bullsh*t guide to help women (re)frame exercise as a way of safeguarding our quality of life into older age; moving our bodies now in a way which sets us up to stay strong, active, independent and resilient as we grow older. Elizabeth will make the case for why we need to rewrite the narrative around women's fitness and how we can change our behaviour and form new habits.

She will look at the various areas in which our training should be focused - muscle and strength, bone mineral density, heart health, pelvic floor, mobility, flexibility and stability, cognitive function and nutrition - and help us put everything we learn into practice and create a training plan. In Training For Your Old Lady Body, Elizabeth wants to give women the prompt to take a step back and focus on the BIG picture. Not a six-week bikini body transformation, but a way of training for life throughout our life, that really sets us up and definitely not back. That's what this book is all about: ensuring that whatever our current age or activity levels, we know what we need to do to be old lady body ready when the time comes.

ELIZABETH DAVIES

TRAINING FOR YOUR OLD LADY BODY.

**An honest, no bullsh*t guide
to help women (re)frame exercise**

Pub date 19/03/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781785127069
Binding Trade Paperback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 304 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

Elizabeth Davies is a personal trainer, with special qualifications in pre and postnatal fitness, pelvic floor dysfunction and habit coaching; she is working towards a menopause coaching certification. Elizabeth's qualifications, combined with her own experience gives her a really unique, practical insight into the challenges that women face in establishing a fitness routine, whether that's exercising boundaries, fearing injury, navigating pelvic floor dysfunction or struggling with caring responsibilities.



Pleasure

Emma-Louise Boynton

Emma-Louise
Boynton

Pleasure



COVER TO BE REVEALED

Pub date 28/05/26
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ISBN 9781785125041
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Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 304 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

Emma-Louise Boynton is a writer, broadcaster and the creator and host of the sell-out live event series and media platform, Sex Talks. Inspired by her own experience doing sex therapy, Sex Talks exists to engender more open and honest conversations around typically taboo topics: sex, gender and the future of intimacy. Emma previously worked as a producer for the BBC and Sky News here in London, and for Tina Brown's 'Women in The World Summit' in New York.

An exploration of women's sexuality through unmet needs and unspoken thoughts which radically recalibrates our relationship to sex and intimacy.

Pleasure explores the ways in which women have been systematically disconnected from their bodies throughout history and the transformative power of reclaiming that connection through pleasure. From the cultural mythology of sex as something women give and men take, to the historical demonization of female pleasure through witch trials and religious doctrine. Pleasure traces the ways in which women's bodies have been turned into religious battlegrounds. Yet, it also reveals the radical, healing power of reclaiming pleasure as an act of resistance and joy.

Drawing on personal experiences, cultural analysis and interviews with experts, Pleasure unpacks the myths we've inherited - from the virginity ideal to the male-centric view of sex - and how they affect women's lives today. By weaving historical context with contemporary stories, it offers a radical yet hopeful roadmap for women to reconnect with their bodies, rewrite their sexual stories and, ultimately, cultivate more pleasure-filled lives.

ZAFFRE

The Weekend

T.M. Logan



Pub date	26/02/26
Price	£16.99
ISBN	9781804185216
Binding	Hardback
Format	234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent	400 pages
Word Count	
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Locatio	Nottingham
Author Born	Reading
Book Location	Yorkshire Dales and York

T.M. Logan is a Sunday Times bestseller whose thrillers have sold almost three million copies in the UK and are published in 22 countries around the world. The Holiday was a Richard and Judy Book Club pick and was adapted into a four-part TV drama, as was The Catch. Formerly a national newspaper journalist, he writes full time and lives in Nottinghamshire with his wife and two children. Follow him @TMLoganAuthor

Six friends. Five secrets. One weekend break to die for . . .

When a group of friends rent a converted farmhouse in the Yorkshire Dales, they have little idea that this one weekend may change the course of their lives forever.

While out on a walk, a storm descends and the friends take shelter in the mouth of an old lead mine. Inside, they discover a backpack filled with more money than they've ever seen.

Of course, they agree, they will hand the money to the police at the first opportunity. But as the storm continues and time passes, some of the party begin to think again. Because there are secrets festering at the heart of this group. Debt. Blackmail. A career on the brink. Problems that could be solved instantly with an unexpected windfall.

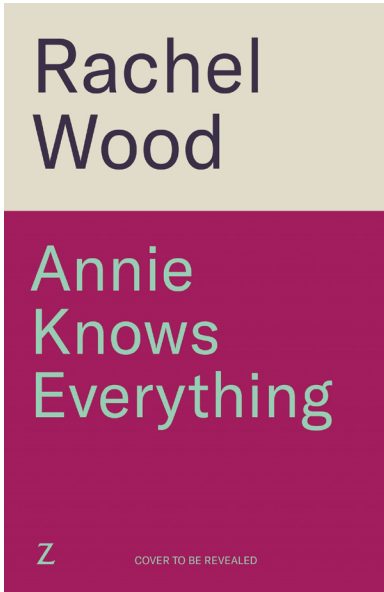
And perhaps they don't know each other as well as thought they did.

Before long, six good friends find themselves sliding headlong into a world of deceit, treachery, betrayal and murder . . .

ZAFFRE

Annie Knows Everything

Rachel Wood



Pub date 07/05/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781785125775
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 400 pages
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location Edinburgh, Scotland
Author Born Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Book Location New York city, suburban
Canada

Rachel Wood is a Canadian writer from Toronto, now based in Edinburgh. After graduating with a master's in creative writing from The University of Edinburgh, she began her career as a copywriter, before founding the book subscription Rare Birds Book Club in 2017. She opened Rare Birds Book Shop in Edinburgh in 2021, named 'one of the coolest new bookshops' by the Sunday Times. *Annie Knows Everything* is her first novel.

A sparkling, banter-filled workplace romcom for fans of Emily Henry, Monica Heisey and Nora Ephron movies, inspired by Jane Austen's *Emma*.

After being unceremoniously let go from her job, Annie is willing to do anything to stay in New York - including taking another position for which she is wildly unqualified. The problem? Her new boss, Connor, knows that Annie is only pretending to know what she's doing and charming though she may be, she's not going to be able to talk her way out of not knowing how to code.

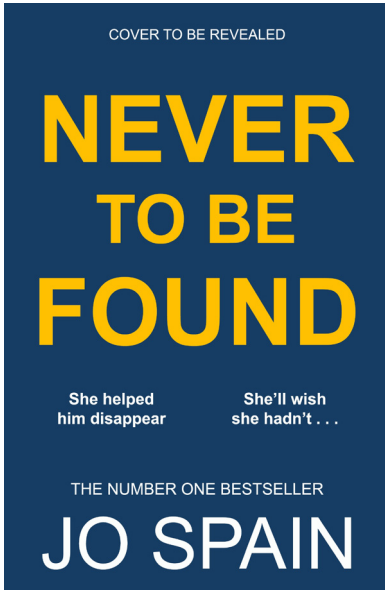
To make matters worse, back home Annie's sister is going through a nightmare re-engagement to the worst man in Canada, which Annie is partly choosing to ignore because it's much more fun flirting with Connor, plotting ways to keep her new job, and playing matchmaker with her friends.

But the more Annie raises the stakes on her scheming, the more she risks hurting the people who matter to her most...

ZAFFRE

Never To Be Found

Jo Spain



Pub date 18/06/26
Price £16.99
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Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 368 pages

Word Count

Territory World English Language

Author's Location Ireland

Author Born Ireland

Book Location Brighton, UK

Jo Spain is the author of thirteen bestselling thrillers, including her three No.1s, *The Trial* (Ireland), *The Confession* (Ireland) and *Dirty Little Secrets* (Audiible). She was nominated as Irish author of the year in 2024.

Jo is also a full-time screenwriter. She is currently adapting Emma Curtis' novel *Invite Me In* for RTE as well as her own, *The Trial*, with Metropolitan Pictures (Wednesday/*The Banshees of Inisherin*/*The Tourist*).

How do you find a killer you helped to disappear? The brand-new high-concept psychological thriller from the no.1 bestselling author of *The Confession*.

She'll help anyone in need. But did she just save a killer?

There is a chilling phenomenon in Japan known as *Johatsu* - people who vanish voluntarily from their lives. It's said 100,000 people per year are *Johatsu*, and an entire industry has sprung up to support those who choose to.

Life is hard. For some people, it's just too much.

That's what I thought when I brought the concept to England. People will disappear anyway. What if I could help them? So I pack their belongings discreetly, create new identities, forge documents, give directions to the cities and towns where the 'night-mover' can live anonymously.

It's just a business. I never saw it as a shameful act. I've helped people flee from abusive relationships, from work pressure, from debt, from unfulfilled lives. People in need.

I consider what I do to be honourable.

Until now that is.

Because I've just learned that I'm not absent of responsibility. That I am capable of doing a terrible thing. That it's not just a business.

I helped somebody flee from a crime. From the police.

I evaporated a murderer.

And if I don't find him, I can't live with what he might do next.



Winterbourne

Elizabeth Wolf

Elizabeth Wolf

Winterbourne



COVER TO BE REVEALED

Pub date 22/01/26
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Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
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Territory World

The author uses modern technology and social media to enhance themes of past, present, supernatural elements and loneliness, appealing to an audience that enjoy shows such as Black Mirror and Severance. And the imaginary-yet-familiar island setting surrounding a mysterious and grandiose house, library and inhabitants - including the alluring Lucien Broussard - will have dark academia and romantasy audiences enthralled.

Within the walls of Winterbourne dwells a secret room, with an unspeakable collection of books.

On an island akin to Portpatrick (Scotland), Anne Adams, a librarian recovering from a car crash that killed her brother, steps on to the grounds of Winterbourne.

The island is owned by the largely absent Lucien Broussard, its only permanent inhabitants are the Coopers, an odd pairing of gruff brother and sister who live in a cottage by the jetty. Anne will live in the vast house alone. The library is magnificent, with priceless first editions, a librarian's dream. However Anne's early weeks in her new job are beset by obstacles - no internet, the house plunged into darkness every night when the generator is switched off, the swarming of moths in the library, and two near-fatal accidents. And then there are unexplained mysteries on the island such as the figure in the lighthouse, a freshly dug grave - and the unaccountable disappearance of the previous librarian who started the cataloguWe.

Broussard visits, he and Anne dine together, they discuss literature and she falls for his charm. And then she discovers a secret room off the library, full of horrendous banned books - and the diary of the missing librarian whose experiences at Winterbourne mirror her own in an uncanny way. She learns the dangerous and shocking truth about her employer and Anne finds herself alone and frightened, but with no way of escaping the island.



The Wise Witch of Orkney

Anna Caig

Anna
Caig

The Wise Witch of Orkney



COVER TO BE REVEALED

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Word Count
Territory World
Author's Location Hope Valley, Derbyshire
Author Born England

Anna Caig has worked in communications for over 20 years. A former Head of Communications and MA Journalism tutor, she runs a business training creative people in how to do their own marketing. Anna's submission *The Spae-Wife* was shortlisted for the CWA Debut Dagger prize in 2020 and was the springboard for *The Wise Witch of Orkney*.

A spell-binding debut novel about Scotland's witch-hunting hysteria

Set in Scotland at the court of witch-hunting King James VI, this is the story of three women - born to follow very different paths - whose lives become dangerously intertwined as they attempt to defy the will of a King.

1593, Scotland. King James VI launches a bloody witch hunt across the length and breadth of the country to rid the land of evil.

But they are already within his court.

Disguised as a lady-in-waiting, Elspet Balfour has been sent from Orkney to serve the Queen Anna of Denmark, the witch-hunting king's new bride, at court in Edinburgh. For Anna is pregnant and, against her husband's decree, wishes for her highly anticipated baby to remain with her after birth. She seeks a binding spell from Elspeth, a 'spae wife', a wise woman and herbalist, to protect her unborn child.

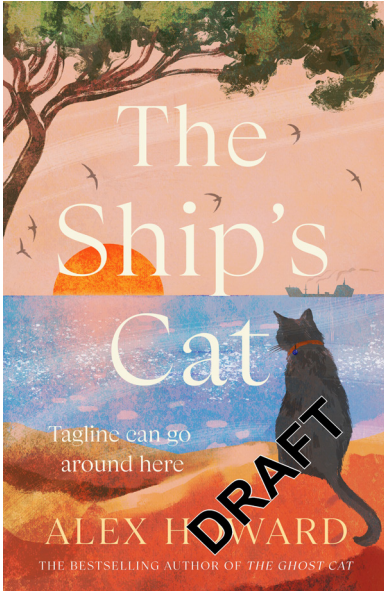
While Elspet struggles to keep her identity secret in a court that wishes her dead, another woman seeks her aid - Kitty Muirhead, unwed and impoverished, desperate to rid herself of her burdens past and present. Kitty and the queen could not be more different, but they yet be each other's salvation.

The hunt is closing in on the three women. They must concoct a reckless plan to save one another before that fearful death sentence is cast upon them - witch.



The Ship's Cat

Alex Howard



Pub date 07/05/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781785307706
Binding Hardback
Format 216mm x 135mm (Demy Octavo)
Extent 240 pages
Word Count
Territory World English Language
Author's Location Edinburgh, Scotland

Alex is an author, editor and theatre professional from Edinburgh. His TikTok page, Housedoctoralex, has nearly 300,000 followers and he's been featured on television and in the national press. A doctoral graduate of English literature, Alex wrote his first book Library Cat (Black & White Publishing) while completing his PhD. It won the People's Book Prize in 2017, and has been translated into French, Korean and Italian.

The cosy seafaring adventures of a street cat searching for his forever home

The Ship's Cat is the epic story of a cat called Ahab, a scrawny black tomcat from a Basildon high-rise, as he hops from boat to boat in a global circumnavigation of the Seven Seas which takes him to new countries and cultures. For Ahab, this is an odyssey into human nature whose apparent purpose is as mysterious to him as the good winds and good fish yields that perpetually attend his presence at sea.

When Ahab turns up on a baggage reclaim belt at Dalaman Airport, no one knows how he got there, not least of all the cat himself. The label on the suitcase he's emerged from doesn't offer many clues either - half-torn off, a groggy Ahab can only make out the following sentence: TRANSIT ERROR. URGENT REDIRECT - DALAMAN. The passenger initials are "C.S."

Minutes later, Ahab is weaving among the thronging crowds of Dalaman, his matted fur baking under the Mediterranean sun. He soon finds himself in a cove where a lone fishing boat gently bobs at a mooring. As an 'indoor cat' with a strange obsession for water, Ahab has spent many a day gazing longingly at the glittering Thames Estuary from behind his glass-suctioned window bed on the 17th floor of a Basildon high-rise. And now here he is at the ocean's edge. Is it fate?

This is to be the start of an epic adventure into how he got here, and an even more epic adventure into how he gets home... It is the beginning of The Ship's Cat: 9 Boats, 7 Seas, 1 Cat.

'A beautifully written cat's-eye view of some 120 years of history. Prepare to be enchanted.'

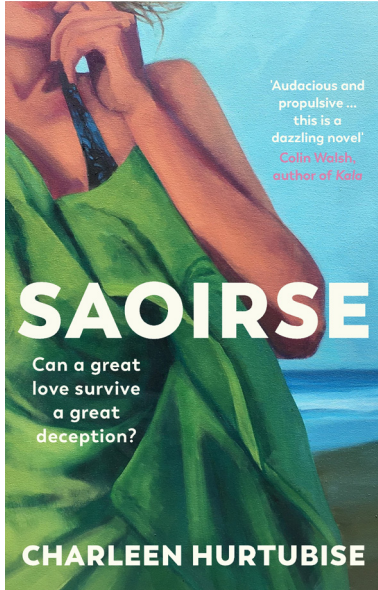
Praise for The Ghost Cat, SIMON BRETT, author of the Mrs Pargeter series

'A heartwarming and engaging story.'

Praise for The Ghost Cat, Waterstones

Saoirse

Charleen Hurtubise



Pub date 24/02/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781804441954
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 288 pages
Word Count
Territory World Eng Lan ex US, CAN

Charleen Hurtubise has lived in Dublin, Ireland for over 25 years, having moved from Michigan, USA. She is a teacher and artist as well as a writer, and her short fiction, essays and poetry have appeared in various publications. She holds an MFA Creative Writing from University College Dublin (UCD) where she has also facilitated creative writing modules.

Can a great love survive a great deception?

Exploring the fine line between dishonesty and reinvention, *Saoirse* is an evocative and compelling story of a woman perpetually in flight. A book for fans of *Trespasses* by Louise Kennedy and Barbara's *Kingsolver's Demon Copperhead*.

In the wilds of Donegal, Ireland, 1999, *Saoirse* is an artist living an outwardly idyllic life. Her tender husband Daithí and two beloved daughters are regular subjects for her work, and in them she has found the safe home that she has always longed for. She tends not to talk about her past, and those that love her have learned to accept that the full story is too painful for her to disclose.

When her Dublin exhibition unexpectedly wins a prestigious award that invites a swarm of publicity, *Saoirse* is left panic stricken. The unanticipated recognition threatens to expose a decade's worth of buried memories and past crimes. Because what her family and friends don't know is that *Saoirse* has been on the run since she was seventeen, she has stolen an identity to survive, and whilst Ireland might now be her home, it wasn't her first - and now her past life is poised to reclaim her.

The novel weaves between flashbacks to a complicated childhood in Michigan, and *Saoirse's* journey to and in Ireland to forge safety for herself.

'A novel as rich with narrative layers as the visual art of its protagonist, yet limned with trauma, with the consequences of secrecy and silence, and with the hope that can come from true connection and community, *Saoirse* is an audacious act of storytelling'

- Belinda McKeon, author of *Tender* and *Solace*

Finding Joy

Dearbhla Mescal



Pub date 26/02/26
Price £14.99
ISBN 9781804442876
Binding Hardback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 192 pages
Word Count
Territory World English Language

A wise woman with a deep sense of compassion, she encourages followers to find the joy in everyday life and celebrate the little things.

Joy became, or should I say, curating joy became part of my daily life. My children grew and I moved from Facebook to Instagram (I liked it there better). My thoughts deepened and became more personal. The possibility of writing a book raised its head but at this point each of my children were embarking on their lives outside of our walls: Nell leaving school and moving to London, Paul living from a suitcase pursuing his career and Donnacha stepping into the corporate world and all its challenges.

Then the summer winds blew cancer my way and life kind of stopped.



I Think My Therapist Hates Me

Chris Olsen

An insightful and illuminating memoir from social media sensation, Chris Olsen

Self-described as overly emotional and a true theater kid at heart, Chris is always working to better understand himself, and regularly shares snippets of therapy zooms with his 20 million followers (alongside videos of crying sessions to Taylor Swift, dances with Meghan Trainor, and coffee deliveries, of course).

Chris first started working with his therapist Lizzie at age 20 during his second stint in rehab, the one that got him sober before he was old enough to have his first legal drink. He started working with her again in 2020 when a new addiction reared its head: reliance on validation from his rapidly growing online community. In the videos he shares, Chris jokes with Lizzie about “daddy” Harry Styles and crying in public, but sometimes his voice catches or his eyes gleam, the video cuts, and we get the sense the real work is about to begin.

In *I Think My Therapist Hates Me*, Chris finally provides fans more than a snippet, inviting readers in on a session with Lizzie, and his quest to understand why even sober, even living his dream, he still can’t quiet his self-critic. While Chris has shared a bit about his experience with addiction, Lizzie’s session prompts him to go deeper, giving him space to tell his formative stories from childhood to present day (including his first account of his breakup with Ian) with his signature humour and heart.

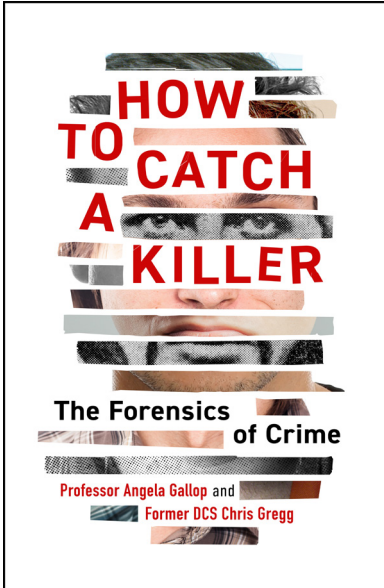
Pub date 09/04/26
Price £20.00
ISBN 9781785124426
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 320 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

Digital creator and entrepreneur **Chris Olsen** joined TikTok in 2020 and has become one of the most celebrated comedic voices on the platform. His vulnerability and witty sense of humour have garnered him over 1 billion likes on the platform. Over the last few years, his knack for social media and entrepreneurship have earned him a spot on Forbes’ 30 Under 30 Social Media list and Under 30. Chris was raised in the Washington metropolitan area, and now currently splits his time between Los Angeles and New York.



How to Catch a Killer

Angela Gallop and Chris Gregg



Pub date 09/04/26
Price £20.00
ISBN 9781789466966
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 304 pages
Word Count
Territory World

Chris Gregg rose from bobby on the beat to become Detective Chief Superintendent and head of the Homicide and Major Enquiry Team of West Yorkshire Police, the sixth largest force in the UK.

Dr Angela Gallop began her career as a biologist at the government's Forensic Science Service before going on to form her own company and become the UK's most celebrated forensic scientist. Angela's findings helped solve the murders of young London mother Rachel Nickell, 'God's banker' Roberto Calvi, Lynette White, Gareth Williams as well as the so-called 'Pembrokeshire' murders (as seen on TV). Angela met Chris Gregg working on the investigation of Yorkshire Ripper victim Helen Rytka.

The Forensics of Crime

How to Catch a Killer - by the UK's pre-eminent forensic scientist Dr Angela Gallop and the highly acclaimed former DCI and Head of CID for West Yorkshire Police, Chris Gregg - draws on the authors' extensive experience of investigating many of Britain's most famous murder cases.

Description

However gifted a particular forensic scientist or police officer might be, crimes are solved by teams, not individuals. In this unique and fascinating book, world-renowned forensic scientist Dr Angela Gallop and highly acclaimed former Detective Chief Superintendent and Head of CID for West Yorkshire Police Chris Gregg provide intriguing insights into some of the many cases they have helped to solve as well as looking at other high-profile cases where their individual skills could have saved time - and lives.

For the first time Chris and Angela have come together to share their bespoke perspectives on the art and science of policing. They will look at various areas of law enforcement and consider how best their own expertise was - or could have been - deployed.

A joint venture by two leading proponents in the international fight against serious crime. One representing the views, the history and the procedures of the police. The other representing the peak achievements of forensic science.

Two voices. Two areas of expertise. One goal:

To catch a killer...



Dave Brailsford

Jeremy Whittle

Jeremy
Whittle

Dave
Brailsford



COVER TO BE REVEALED

Pub date 04/06/26
Price £22.00
ISBN 9781785122422
Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 304 pages
Word Count
Territory World

Jeremy Whittle is cycling correspondent to the Guardian and has been writing about European cycling since 1994. He is the acclaimed author of *Bad Blood: the Secret Life of the Tour de France* and collaborated with David Millar on his best-selling autobiography, *Racing Through The Dark*. Both books were shortlisted for the William Hill Sports Book of the Year award. Jeremy is also a former editor of pro cycling magazine, a PPA Awards nominee, and has contributed to the BBC, Sky, CNN, L'Équipe and numerous other international media.

The first major biography of Britain's most successful coach, Sir David Brailsford, from Team GB, to Team Sky, to Manchester United

'To some, Dave Brailsford is the Dalai Lama; to others, he's Colonel Kurtz'

Sir David Brailsford is one of Britain's most recognisable sporting figures: the result of a phenomenally successful career masterminding first Olympic cycling success then further triumphs in the Tour de France and beyond. He is the pioneer and chief populariser of the 'incremental marginal gains' methodology - the idea that small improvements across multiple areas add up to big leaps in performance - that has swept through stadia, boardrooms, and the media over the last fifteen years.

Brailsford is one of Britain's most decorated coaches, and also one of the most controversial. He led Team GB to unprecedented success in the velodrome and Team Sky to winning seven Tours De France in a row, but he is also been the subject of doubts and suspicions, culminating in investigations into bullying and cheating on his watch. He is now set to feature on an even bigger scale as a prominent part of the new setup aiming to turn around the fortunes of one of the world's biggest football clubs: Manchester United.

Journalist Jeremy Whittle has witnessed Dave B's journey from close range - he has interviewed Brailsford many times both on and off the record, and spent time with everyone around him that matters most including Bradley Wiggins, Mark Cavendish, Chris Froome, Jim Ratcliffe, Victoria Pendleton, Geraint Thomas, Chris Hoy, David Millar and many more. As Brailsford arrives at Old Trafford, *Being Dave Brailsford* offers the full definitive story of one of Britain's most successful and controversial leaders, gurus and performance directors.

Fiction





Pub date	01/01/26
Price	£16.99
ISBN	9781804187333
Binding	Hardback
Format	234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent	400 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World English Language
Author's Location	Stockholm, Sweden
Author Born	Sweden
Book Location	Sweden

A Play to Kill

Can she find the killer before the curtains fall?

Alex Ahndoril

Keynote

The second bestselling novel in Alex Ahndoril's The Key mystery series - from the writers behind Lars Kepler.

Description

Private Detective Julia Stark is hired to solve an impossible case: a deceased previous lover is haunting a theatre, determined to kill.

Famous actress, Bianca Salo, is convinced her dead fiancé is stalking her. Just the night before, she tells Julia, she'd woken to find him standing over her bed, and a short while ago, he had broken into her dressing room and set fire to her dress.

It's been three years since Bianca was told of her fiancé's sudden passing in a hotel room in Helsinki. She was in Stockholm at the time, playing the female lead in Macbeth, and collapsed on stage in her grief. The entire run was cancelled just a week after the premiere. Now, the ensemble and director have a second chance to perform the ill-fated tragedy. Julia accompanies Bianca to the rehearsals, to watch over her but to also survey the rest of the cast. Almost none of the actors have alibis for the incidents, and each of them have their own reasons to want to harm Bianca.

Julia asks her ex-husband, Sid, to help investigate, and together, they try to solve the strange happenings. Then, things shift and it seems the stalker has entered the final, active phase of his pursuit, which Julia knows often ends in violence and death.

Will she be able to find him before it's curtains for Bianca...?

Sales Points

- **LARS KEPLER'S SPIN-OFF WHODUNNIT:** Alex Ahndoril is the pseudonym of Lars Kepler, the international bestselling Swedish crime sensation. *I Will Find the Key*, the first in the series, is a classic whodunnit with a modern twist - brilliantly clever, and set in a country house deep in a Swedish forest.
- **BANG ON TREND:** Classic whodunnits with a modern twist are en vogue. Think *Knives Out* but with a dark Scandinavian makeover.
- **INTERNATIONAL BLOCKBUSTER:** Rights have been sold in 24 territories and counting, and a feature film is in the making from a major international streamer...

Biographies

Alex Ahndoril is the pseudonym of Lars Kepler, the 17 million copy bestselling Swedish crime author.

Market

For fans of Nita Prose, Tom Hindle, Katy Watson and Agatha Christie.

www.bonnierbooks.co.uk



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Exquisite Ruin

A darkly sensual reimagining of the Minotaur myth

AdriAnne May

Keynote

In this darkly romantic reimagining of the Minotaur myth, a sorceress and a demon are entwined in sensual battle to escape a deadly maze and reclaim their freedom

Description

In this deadly maze, the most dangerous thing may be the passion between them.

Sadaré wakes in a labyrinth, remembering nothing except that she is a powerful sorceress. Her only companion is a hostile immortal named Daesra - beautiful, dangerous, and demonic - who bound his divine soul for power and revenge.

Despite their animosity, the two have no choice but to work together to reach the centre and defeat the monster who prevents their escape. But the longer they wander, the more deadly and alive the maze becomes - and the more Sadaré finds herself drawn to Daesra in ways she can't explain.

As sorceress and demon develop a tenuous truce, the labyrinth gives Sadaré glimpses of their shared history of passion and pain that make her question everything she knows. Unlocking the secrets of her past may be the only way to survive and heal their entwined fates - but as she learns more about the betrayals that brought them to the labyrinth, Sadaré begins to fear that the monster at the centre could be Daesra...or even herself.

Sales Points

- **HOT TREND:** Dark romance is immensely popular with authors in this space e.g. Ana Huang (*Twisted* series) and H.D. Carlton (*Haunting Adeline*) dominating the NYT list.
- **EXPERIENCED AUTHOR:** AdriAnne May has written three YA fantasy novels under the name A.M. Strickland. While this is her first foray into adult, she is no stranger to writing and is well prepared to be an excellent publishing partner.
- **CROSS-MARKET APPEAL:** This book explores tropes of power, consent, and trust, all in a setting that will also appeal to romantasy fans.
- **TROPES:** Enemies to Lovers, Forced Proximity, Second-Chance Romance/Betrayal, Who Hurt You, Dark Monster

Reviews

- **'Unique, sexy, and action-packed, Exquisite Ruin is a thrill for any romantasy fan'** - Hannah Whitten, author of *The Foxglove King*
- **'A dark and twisting mythopoetic journey of a romance ... honed to the sharpest edge of desire'** - Jacqueline Carey, author of *Kushiel's Dart*
- **'Grab those horns in both hands and get ready for a wild ride at turns both sharp and tender, sexy and sweet'** - Delilah S. Dawson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Star Wars: Phasma*
- **'AdriAnne May's lyrical prose weaves an epic story of love, betrayal, and the depths we are willing to explore in order to untangle the complexities of the human heart ... An exquisite masterpiece that one will savor long after the final page is turned'** - Analeigh Sbrana, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Lore of the Wilds*

Biographies

AdriAnne May was a bibliophile who wanted to be an author before she knew what either of those words meant. She splits her time between Alaska and Spain with her spouse, her pugs, and her piles of books. She loves dancing, tattoos, and writing stories about sympathetic monsters. *Exquisite Ruin* is her debut adult novel, and she is currently working on its sequel, *Divine Descent*.

Market

Perfect for fans of Scarlett St. Clair, Katee Robert and Amber V. Nicole.

Pub date	08/01/26
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ISBN	9781785124846
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Extent Word Count	384 pages
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

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ISBN 9781804188101
Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 416 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location New York

Three Shattered Souls

The unmissable conclusion to the adventure fantasy sensation

Mai Corland

Keynote

The unmissable conclusion to the *Sunday Times* bestselling *Broken Blades* trilogy

Description

Some betrayals cut deeper than blades.

The Blades were never supposed to survive this long. But after the battle in Quu Harbor, escaping is no longer enough. The most dangerous liars in the four realms have one last mission - return to Yusan and finish what they started.

But now a usurper sits on the serpent throne. And he may be more dangerous than the god-king.

With three relics of the Dragon Lord in their possession, the Blades will face the might of the four realms. Enemies will become allies. Allies will become traitors. And the ones they love most? They'll be the ones to break them.

Grief will carve the Blades into something ruthless and unrecognizable. But only by losing everything can they win this game of kings and crowns.

Sales Points

- **GLOBAL SENSATION:** Published alongside *Red Tower* in US, publisher of *Fourth Wing*, with rights in the series have sold in UK, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Hungary and counting
- **INSTANT BESTSELLER:** *Five Broken Blades* (book 1) debuted at #7 *Sunday Times*, #3 *New York Times* and #5 *USA Today* charts, with *Four Ruined Realms* (book 2) also hitting the charts
- **REAL-WORLD INSPIRATION:** The author has been inspired by Korean history and folklore in the creation of her world
- **LAUNCH TITLE:** Zaffre is entering the SFF market with this series launching their brand-new list

Reviews

- 'This **dazzling fantasy** has it all: a **richly developed world**, a **captivating ensemble cast**, and a **twisty, action-packed quest**' - *Karen M. McManus*, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *One of Us Is Lying* on *Five Broken Blades*
- '**Thrilling, addictive**, and **simply incredible**' - *Thea Guanzon*, *USA Today* and *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Hurricane Wars* on *Five Broken Blades*

Biographies

Mai Corland is a *Sunday Times* and *New York Times* bestselling author, born in Seoul and adopted into New York. She studied at Rollins College and the University of Miami. Due to a variety of questionable decisions, she currently lives in the cold again with her partner, children, and a goldfish who will outlive them all. When not writing, you can find her asleep or clutching her latte machine.

Market

For fans of Leigh Bardugo, Victoria Aveyard and Chloe Gong.

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Whispering Rooms

Genki Kawamura, Inc.

Keynote

Based on true stories from Marie Kondo's personal experience of tidying over 1,000 rooms, novelist and filmmaker Genki Kawamura and Marie present seven fantasy short stories through the voices of various items and rooms.

Description

"Some things we know are present cannot be seen with our eyes."

This Japanese belief has existed for thousands of years. Through tidying up and discarding their possessions, characters in these stories come face-to-face with their memories and realize that some things exist but cannot be seen with their eyes. Each story touches on the moment when people realize what happiness in life means and choosing things that truly spark joy.

In these stories, Miko, a professional tidying consultant based on Marie, helps people tidy their homes and identify items that bring them joy. Along with her companion, an opinionated talking box named Boxter, Miko has a special power that no one else knows about - the ability to hear the voices of objects in a room. The stories are comical, compelling and emotional and Miko's tidying skills are frequently challenged.

Sales Points

- This is an exciting collaboration between two internationally bestselling authors.
- This title taps into numerous trends including short Japanese books in translation and digestible and original fantasy.
- There's a brilliant gifting opportunity here.
- This book has brilliant international potential.

Biographies

Genki Kawamura's debut novel, *If Cats Disappeared from the World* was published in 25 languages and has sold over two million copies worldwide. In addition to being a bestselling novelist Kawamura is also a filmmaker, and in 2022 he won the prestigious Best Director Award at the 70th annual San Sebastian Film Festival in Spain for the film adaptation of *One Hundred Flowers*.

Marie Kondo is an internationally bestselling author, having sold 14 million books over the last ten years alone, translated into more than 40 languages. She is the founder of KonMari Media, Inc., and oversees the Consultant Program with experts trained in her methods active in over 50 countries. She also hosted the Emmy-nominated Netflix show, *Tidying Up With Marie Kondo*. While globally active, Marie is based in Japan.

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ISBN 9781806170586
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Extent 224 pages
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Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

www.bonnierbooks.co.uk



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Pub date	22/01/26
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ISBN	9781786585110
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	312 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	London
Book Location	Iceland

The Swell

An utterly captivating and atmospheric dual-timeline mystery, set in Iceland

Kat Gordon

Keynote

A spellbinding, atmospheric mystery, rich with Icelandic myth and perfect for fans of *Burial Rites* and *The Witches of Vardo*.

Description

In places of darkness, women will rise . . .

Iceland, 1910. In the middle of a severe storm two sisters - Freyja and Gudrun - rescue a mysterious, charismatic man from a shipwreck near their remote farm.

Sixty-five years later, a young woman - Sigga - is spending time with her grandmother when they learn a body has been discovered on a mountainside near Reykjavik, perfectly preserved in ice.

Moving between the turn of the 20th century and the 1970s as a dark mystery is unravelled, *The Swell* is a spellbinding, beautifully atmospheric read, rich in Icelandic myth.

Sales Points

- Kat Gordon's novel, *An Unsuitable Woman*, was a Richard and Judy pick and this is her boldest, most exciting novel to date.
- *The Swell* delves deeply into Icelandic folk tales, giving them an exciting contemporary twist.
- The rich Icelandic setting, fantastic atmosphere and page-turning plot make this the perfect read for fans of *Burial Rites* and *The Witches of Vardo*.

Reviews

- **'A deeply satisfying, deftly woven novel of female power and resistance, and of feminisms both implicit and explicit. Early and late 20th century Iceland are both beautifully evoked in Kat Gordon's rich, captivating prose. Highly recommended.'** - Anna Hope
- **'Thoroughly bewitching.** Kat Gordon's spare prose is as **beautiful** as it is **haunting.**' - Freya Berry, author of *The Birdcage Library*
- **'In beautiful, crisp prose *The Swell* examines the saga of one family and the often complicated role of the women within it. An addictive and twisty read.'** - Liza Klaussman, author of *Tigers in Red Weather*
- **'Gripping, bewitching, and laced with atmosphere, reading *The Swell* was a wonderfully sensory experience.'** - Harriet Constable, author of *The Instrumentalist*

Biographies

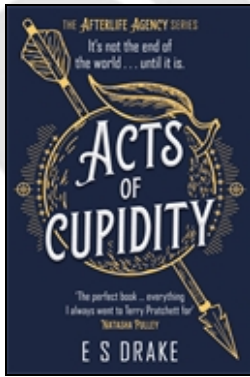
Kat Gordon worked briefly at Time Out, as a gymnastics coach, an HIV counsellor, and as the world's worst bartender before publishing her first novel, *The Artificial Anatomy of Parks*. Her second novel, *An Unsuitable Woman*, was picked by Richard and Judy for their Book Club. Having lived in Budapest and Reykjavik, she is currently settled in London with her partner and their son.

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Acts of Cupidity

The charming debut fantasy set in contemporary London

E. S. Drake

Keynote

This charming urban fantasy is what you'd have if Terry Pratchett wrote *The Good Place*, following two agents of love ensnared in a plot to bring down the natural order of the world.

Description

Not everything is down to Fate but, when it comes to love, the right people must collide to keep the world running to plan. Immortal cupids, known as Apollo agents, spend their afterlife matching up pre-destined couples to sign off their daily quota. Love cynic, Erron Grover, and hopeless romantic, Casey Hart, are two such agents based in London. They live an afterlife of luxury until several of their assignments result in a bizarre series of deaths.

Under heavy suspicion of involvement, their blossoming relationship begins to fray, but far worse, the unplanned deaths start to cause the very fabric of Fate to unravel. Faced with the collapse of civilisation, far too many geese and a few questionable soul reapers, the two men are forced to go on the run to solve the murders and save the world ... along with their favourite jazz bar.

Sales Points

- **PERFECT PITCH:** Combines the wit of Terry Pratchett with the existential drama of *The Good Place*
- **PLANNED TRILOGY:** Zaffre has acquired three books in the Afterlife Agency series. *Acts of Cupidity* will be followed by *Fortune Favours the Grave* (book 2) about agents of luck and *Karma Before the Storm* (book 3) focusing on agents of revenge
- **TROPES:** Grumpy x Sunshine, M/M Friends to Romance, High Stakes (Good vs Evil), Larger-Than-Life Threat

Reviews

- 'This is **the perfect book**. It's joyful and funny and sad and flamboyant: **everything I always went to Terry Pratchett for**. I powered through and then was disappointed there was no more.' - *Natasha Pulley*
- '*Acts of Cupidity* is **the perfect balance of fast paced and fun**, with a **delightful cast of characters** and a **great sense of humour**. It hit me in the heart with a gold arrow!' - *Rose Black, author of Til Death Do Us Bard*

Biographies

E. S. Drake grew up in Bedford, a natural daydreamer as a child, penning poetry by moonlight and escaping into her imagination. She later moved to Bodmin Moor to dwell among the wild things, exploring different genres of writing while building a business teaching archery and survival skills. The darker aspects of her past have been her main motivation for creating flawed and complex characters to encapsulate the pitfalls of humanity, attempting to navigate our vulnerability with humour and compassion.

Market

Perfect for fans of Garth Nix's 'Booksellers' series, Jodi Taylor, Thomas D Lee and Rose Black.

Pub date	29/01/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781804186220
Binding Format	Paperback 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent Word Count Territory	400 pages World English Language
Author's Location Book Location	Liskeard London

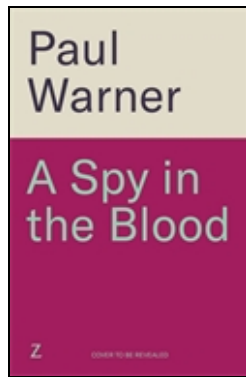
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A Spy in the Blood

For fans of Slow Horses and Damascus Station, a gripping espionage thriller

Paul Warner

Keynote

A legendary British spy comes out of retirement to rescue his missing daughter in this gripping contemporary spy thriller for fans of *Slow Horses* and *Taken*.

Description

Mark Wolfe was the greatest spy of his generation. Now retired from active service for over two decades, his family know him as a quiet, affable civil servant with no idea how to use the TV remote.

Mark still works for MI6, helping to recruit new agents, fending off advances from private security companies who offer a far higher salary than his paymasters at Vauxhall Cross. But he hasn't got his hands dirty since the spying game involved dead-dropping intel beneath railway station clocks in East Berlin, Czechoslovakia and other foreign lands that no longer exist.

When his daughter reveals an unhealthy obsession with joining the service, he is reluctantly thrown back into a terrifying new world of modern espionage.

Sales Points

- **OUTSTANDING PITCH:** Brilliant hook, upmarket, gripping writing, emotional heft, ready-built series, with each set in a different country.
- **EVERGREEN AREA OF MARKET:** As we've seen with Rory Clements, this is a perennially strong part of the market with a very consistent audience.
- **HOLLYWOOD CALLING:** A major Hollywood star attached to star and direct the TV adaptation - soon to be announced.

Biographies

Paul Warner received a distinction for his Creative Writing MA at City, University of London. Long obsessed by espionage fiction, *A Spy in the Blood* is Paul's debut spy thriller.

Market

For fans of Mick Herron, David McCloskey, Charles Cumming, Charles Beaumont and Rory Clements.

Pub date	29/01/26
Price	£16.99
ISBN	9781785129940
Binding	Hardback
Format	234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent	352 pages
Word Count	
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location	UK
Author Born	UK
Book Location	UK, Afghanistan

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Pub date	29/01/26
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ISBN	9781804186411
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	304 pages
Word Count	
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

Rembrandt's Promise

'A believable, elegant and atmospheric novel - just beautiful' - Nuala O'Connor

Barbara Leahy

Keynote

Stunning historical immersion into the world of Rembrandt with a gripping plot of a promise turned sour. For fans of Stacey Halls, Maggie O'Farrell and Tracy Chevalier.

Description

Stunning historical immersion into the world of Rembrandt with a gripping plot of a promise turned sour. For fans of Stacey Halls, Maggie O'Farrell and Tracy Chevalier.

'If, like me, you do not typically reach for historical fiction, I urge you to try this one ... Casts light on the eternality of the constitution of the passionate, hurt, needing human soul' - *The Irish Times*

'With glorious language, she gives us a believable, elegant and atmospheric novel - just beautiful' - Nuala O'Connor - author of *Seaborne* and *NORA*

Hanging beside the door is a painting of a wedding feast. The light is centred on the bride; the guests are banished to the shade. That is how it is when he looks at her: all others fade away.

1642.

The Dutch Golden Age is underway, with Amsterdam at the height of its powers.

Geertje, an impoverished widow from Edam, enters a melting pot of wealth and culture when she becomes nursemaid in the house of renowned painter Rembrandt.

After Rembrandt's wife dies, Geertje is drawn deeper into his world and despite her friends' warnings, she begins a passionate affair with the master of light and shadow, with devastating results.

Based on the true account of a wronged woman who demanded justice, with themes of feminism, loss, ambition and redemption, this is a remarkable debut, perfect for fans of sumptuous historical fiction.

Sales Points

- Will appeal to readers of Maggie O'Farrell, Hilary Mantel, Tracy Chevalier, Colm Toibín and Joseph O'Connor
- Stunning historical immersion into the Dutch Golden Age with a gripping plot of a promise turned sour
- Universal themes of feminism, redemption, loss and ambition make this a compelling read

Reviews

- "In *Rembrandt's Promise*, Barbara Leahy swaddles the reader in the living, visceral moment of the era and its players. With glorious language, she gives us a believable, elegant, and atmospheric novel - just beautiful" - Nuala O'Connor, *author of Seaborne and NORA*
- "Meticulously researched and beautifully written ... an astonishing debut" - Anne Cunningham
- "If, like me, you do not typically reach for historical fiction, I urge you to try this one ... Casts light on the eternality of the constitution of the passionate, hurt, needing human soul" - *The Irish Times*
- "*Rembrandt's Promise* is something genuinely special. Beautifully written, stunning in its imaginative scope and note-perfect in its conjuring of a fascinating era, this is a gripping story rich with passion and vitality, populated with characters you won't want to be easily parted from. A remarkably assured debut novel, of the kind that, once started, is hard to put down, which really ought to break out the deeply talented Barbara Leahy to a wide and enthusiastic audience and bring the kind of kudos she has long and so richly deserved" - Billy O'Callaghan, *author of Life Sentences*

Biographies

www.bonnierbooks.co.uk



Barbara Leahy is from Cork. She was a winner of the Irish Writers' Centre Novel Fair in 2023. Her short stories have won numerous awards, appeared in the Bridport Prize Anthology, the Bristol Prize anthology, and been broadcast on RTÉ Radio 1. *Rembrandt's Promise* is her first novel.

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FICTION



Burying Jericho

The brand new 2025 crime thriller from the award-winning author of **KILLING JERICHO**

William Hussey

Keynote

Scott Jericho is tasked with investigating the most baffling case his career in the third Scott Jericho thriller.

Description

MURDER WON'T STAY BURIED...

While Scott Jericho is tasked with investigating the most baffling case of his career, his partner Harry is set upon his own fateful path.

In a rundown seaside town, a young man has vanished without a trace. Jericho's investigation of this disappearance will unravel a diabolical plot and expose a secret long buried. A secret hinted at by the paper men hanging from the trees in a nearby wood, by the ravings of the local 'wise woman', and by the eerie waxworks of a defunct fairground attraction.

As fates collide and an impossible murder is executed, a twisted killer from the past is closing in on Harry and Jericho. But is it already too late for Jericho to save himself and the man he loves?

Sales Points

- **CRIME FICTION'S FIRST TRAVELLER DETECTIVE IS BACK:** A troubled, two-fisted, ingenious sleuth who draws on the skills of his unique upbringing and heritage to solve the most baffling and gruesome of crimes.
- **MAJOR STREAMER TO ADAPT:** Top secret, but a global streamer has snapped up TV rights in a major deal...
- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED SERIES:** We've received killer blurbs from some of crime's biggest authors, including Janice Hallett, Chris Whitaker, T.M. Logan, Sarah Pinborough, SJ Watson, John Connolly and many more - and in the press: *The Times*, *Heat*, *Crime Monthly*.
- **INCREDIBLE PERSONAL STORY:** Born the son of a fairground showman, just like the detective in his book. He grew up in the Traveller community, packs his debut with hypercolour detail and, like his hero, William is a gay man existing in this culture, with all its complexities, richness and challenges

Reviews

- 'One hell of a ride' - *THE TIMES* (on *Killing Jericho*)
- 'A brilliantly original investigator' - *T.M. Logan*
- 'Dazzling' - *HEAT MAGAZINE* (on *Jericho's Dead*)

Biographies

William Hussey is the critically acclaimed author of over a dozen novels. Winner of the Genre Busting Book of the Year Fingerprint Award for *Killing Jericho*, he has also been shortlisted for the Theakston's Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year, the CrimeFest Award, and the Polari Prize.

Born the son of a travelling showman, he has spent a lifetime absorbing the history, folklore and culture of fairground people, knowledge he has now put to work in his Scott Jericho thrillers. William lives in Dumfries with his partner Chris and their criminally adorable cat Harry.

Market

For fans of crime fiction that pushes the boundaries - and readers of Robert Galbraith, Ray Celestin and Mark Billingham.

Pub date 29/01/26
Price £9.99
ISBN 9781804181706

Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 400 pages

Word Count
Territory World

Author's Location Dumfries, Scotland
Author Born Skegness, England
Book Location England

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Extent 336 pages
Word Count
Territory World

Author's Location Cork
Book Location Cork

The Bridge to Always

'The warmth of her storytelling evokes Maeve Binchy' - Fíona Scarlett

Lynda Marron

Keynote

A story about identity and place, about finding out who you are, who your people are, and what it means to be a family.

Description

'I stayed up far too late reading this, I couldn't put it down . . . I didn't want it to end' - Vogue Williams

'I loved *The Bridge To Always*. Marron has created a vibrant world, peopled with appealing characters caught, as we all are, in the net of their circumstances but struggling to be free. At the book's heart is a love story, but not the one I was expecting; something richer, sweeter and entirely compelling' - Emily Hourican, author of *The Glorious Guinness Girls*

A story about identity and place, about finding out who you are, who your people are, and what it means to be a family.

Maeve Gaffney arrives in a small West Cork town in pursuit of a dream: to be reunited with Tim, the lad she fell for years ago and who, unbeknownst to him, fathered her daughter, Emer.

For Tim, now married and a pillar of the community, Emer's existence is a shock - but the chance to rekindle an old flame with her mother is tempting.

For Agnes, a lonely landowner, Maeve and Emer's arrival is an opportunity to make money - and maybe new friends.

For Malachi, a man of few words but deep emotions, it's . . . complicated.

For Emer, it's about growing up and finding her voice.

For all five, the arrival of this beautiful, wild mother and her silent, observant daughter sparks a devastating chain of events none of them could have predicted.

Sales Points

- From the author of *Last Chance in Paris*
- A novel about a mother and daughter and the lives they change when they move to West Cork
- For fans of Anne Griffin, Anne Tiernan, Kathleen MacMahon

Reviews

- "I stayed up far too late reading this, I couldn't put it down . . . I didn't want it to end" - Vogue Williams
- "I loved *The Bridge To Always*. Marron has created a vibrant world, peopled with appealing characters caught, as we all are, in the net of their circumstances but struggling to be free. At the book's heart is a love story, but not the one I was expecting; something richer, sweeter and entirely compelling" - Emily Hourican, author of *The Glorious Guinness Girls*
- "*The Bridge To Always* is a wonderful story of family, identity and the unexpected ways we find our place in the world. Lynda Marron has a true gift for bringing characters to vivid life, weaving their stories together with compassion and sharp wit. Her keen eye for human nature and the warmth of her storytelling evoke Maeve Binchy while establishing her own distinct voice. I loved this book, and these characters, and it now lives with me, a life of its own, as all great stories do" - Fiona Scarlett, author of *Boys Don't Cry*
- "Lynda writes memorable characters with great warmth and compassion, and *The Bridge to Always* is a compelling story of life, love and what really matters" - Sheila O'Flanagan, author of *The Honeymoon Affair*

Biographies

Lynda Marron grew up in a small town called Prosperous in County Kildare. She moved to Cork when she was nine and lives there still. She studied science at University College Cork and holds a master's degree in microbiology.

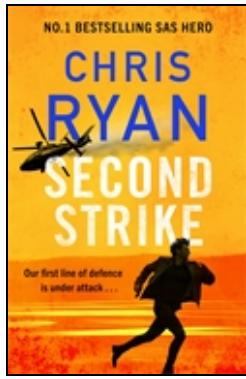
She likes stories about long-held love, friendship, and second chances. When she isn't writing or reading, you'll find her in the garden.

Instagram @sultanabun

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Second Strike

The pulse-pounding 2025 thriller from the no.1 bestselling SAS hero

Chris Ryan

Keynote

The bullet-fast new thriller from no.1 bestselling SAS hero Chris Ryan.

Description

A single terrible mistake cost David Hawkins everything. His marriage. His relationship with his daughter - and his career in the SAS. Now Hawkins is a man on the downward slope of life. Banished from the Regiment, relegated to a desk job at one of Britain's biggest private defence contractors, haunted by the memories of the past.

But when a talented young engineer dies in mysterious circumstances, Hawkins is sent down to Plymouth to investigate. Working alongside the company's new cybersecurity expert, Alex Millar, Hawkins must find out who murdered the engineer - and why.

What begins as a straightforward case soon turns into a deadly manhunt, as Hawkins and Millar pursue their quarry from the streets of Liverpool to the Firth of Clyde, in a frantic race against time to expose a deadly conspiracy targeting the heart of the UK's defences. Win, and they'll prevent a terrifying attack. Fail, and Britain will be at the mercy of its deadliest enemy...

Sales Points

- **5 MILLION COPY BESTSELLER:** Chris Ryan is the original SAS fiction hero, selling over 5 million copies of his military thrillers
- **BRILLIANT SPOKESPERSON:** On the SAS, male mental health and the military, as well as veteran care and more. Runs his own podcast in which he interviews soldiers with incredible stories of heroism

Biographies

Chris Ryan was born in Newcastle.

In 1984 he joined 22 SAS. After completing the year-long Alpine Guides Course, he was the troop guide for B Squadron Mountain Troop. He completed three tours with the anti-terrorist team, serving as an assaulter, sniper and finally Sniper Team Commander.

Chris was part of the SAS eight-man team chosen for the famous Bravo Two Zero mission during the 1991 Gulf War. He was the only member of the unit to escape from Iraq, where three of his colleagues were killed and four captured, for which he was awarded the Military Medal. Chris wrote about his experiences in his book *The One That Got Away*, which became an immediate bestseller. Since then he has written over fifty books and presented a number of very successful TV programmes.

Market

For fans of fast-paced military/SAS thrillers, and readers of Andy McNab, James Deegan, Lee Child, Ollie Ollerton and Ant Middleton.

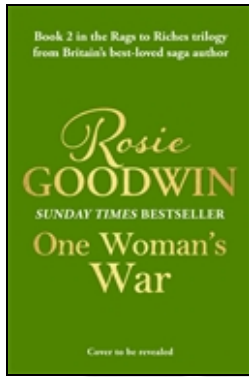
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One Woman's War

The second book in the brand-new Rags to Riches Trilogy from Britain's best-loved saga author

Rosie Goodwin

Keynote

Can she find the courage to support both her family and her country?

Description

A Rags to Riches novel .

The second book in a brand-new historical trilogy from Britain's best-loved saga author.

Nuneaton, 1914

War is just around the corner and for Annie Lilburn and her adopted family, life will never be the same. Annie, after a difficult childhood, has never felt like she fits in, but since Levi Lilburn, the local rag and bone man, took her under his wing and she became a business woman in her own right, things have been on the up. Soon that is set to change when World War I is declared and the men of the town enlist. And as more and more casualties come in, Annie needs to step up and do her bit for the war effort.

Annie trains to become a nurse and eventually finds herself on the battlefields in France. With death and destruction all around her, Annie is experiencing things she could never have imagined, but finds an inner strength like no other. Then through the devastation of war, love starts to bloom when Annie meets a young officer. Could this orphan girl finally be finding her place in the world and someone to truly love her, or is her happiness set to come crashing down once again?

Sales Points

- The second book in the much-anticipated Rags to Riches series - Rosie's first linked series since her move to Zaffre
- Rosie is going from strength to strength and two of her last three books were Sunday Times bestsellers.

Biographies

Rosie Goodwin is the four-million-copy bestselling author of more than forty novels. She is the first author in the world to be allowed to follow three of Catherine Cookson's trilogies with her own sequels. Having worked in the social services sector for many years, then fostered a number of children, she is now a full-time novelist. She is one of the top 50 most borrowed authors from UK libraries and has sold over four million copies across her career. Rosie lives in Nuneaton, the setting for many of her books, with her husband and their beloved dogs.

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Extent	400 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	Kingston, London, UK
Author Born	Liverpool, UK
Book Location	TBC

The Scene of the Crime

The new pulse-pounding thriller from the multi-million copy bestseller

Lynda La Plante

Keynote

The brand-new forensic thriller series from legendary crime writer Lynda La Plante.

Description

The husband of a prominent and infamously ruthless barrister is found in horrific condition after a robbery and brutal assault. Now in a coma, a major investigation is launched using the newly formed, experimental Metropolitan Police Serious Crime Analysis Unit.

Jessica Russell is an experienced CSI with degrees in psychology and criminology with an exceptional Masters in Investigative psychology and behaviour analysis. But Jessica's first job as team leader of MSCAN is entirely new to her: to bring together a team of three trusted officers.

The four of them have dealt with every kind of murder and major crime scene - their expertise ranges from forensic DNA to blood splatter analysis, digital forensics and beyond.

Now they must piece together the complex puzzle at the heart of this brutal crime. If it was a robbery gone horrifically wrong, what was so important to have been stolen?

Like with any new police department, there is immense pressure for instant results. One careless decision, one wrong accusation from Jessica or her team and their superiors would be all too happy to close down MSCAN for good.

Sales Points

- **BRAND-NEW SERIES:** A new launch featuring a female, fast-tracked detective leading filled with pulse-pounding drama and forensic detail. Guaranteed to please existing fans and broaden Lynda's reach to a new generation of crime readers
- **AUTHOR EXPERTISE:** Lynda is a fellow of the Society of Forensic Scientists and will use her expert knowledge to ensure the book includes all the latest developments in the field, lending authenticity to the drama
- **THE QUEEN OF CRIME DRAMA:** With over 50 bestselling novels, over 5 million copies sold in the UK alone, and a member of The Crime Thriller Awards Hall of Fame, Lynda is truly crime fiction royalty. She is responsible for over 170 hours of primetime TV, including the perennially popular *Prime Suspect*, and her classic crime hit *Widows* was recently adapted by Steve McQueen.
- **YEAR OF LYNDA:** Zaffre has a packed publishing schedule for Lynda including new releases, second formats and reissues of currently unavailable titles. Lynda's work will be unmissable in 2025.

Reviews

- 'Another superior procedural' - *CRIME MONTHLY*
- 'Lynda La Plante has created a really strong and likeable new character in Jessica Russell, and delivered a hugely readable forensic procedural full of twists and turns and psychological insight' - *IRISH INDEPENDENT*

Biographies

Lynda La Plante was born in Liverpool. She is the author of over forty novels, all of which have been bestsellers. She trained for the stage at RADA and worked with the National theatre and RSC before becoming a television actress. She then turned to writing - and made her breakthrough with the phenomenally successful TV series *Widows*.

Lynda's original script for the much-acclaimed *Prime Suspect* won awards from BAFTA, Emmys, British Broadcasting and Royal Television Society as well as the 1993 Edgar Allan Poe Award.

Lynda is an honorary fellow of the British Film Institute and was awarded the BAFTA Dennis Potter Best Writer's Award in 2000. In 2008, she was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to Literature, Drama and Charity.

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Lynda La Plante is the first layperson to be awarded an honorary fellowship to the Forensic Science Society. In 2020 she launched the acclaimed *Listening to the Dead* podcast with former CSI Cass Sutherland, exploring forensic science and its impact on solving crimes.

Market

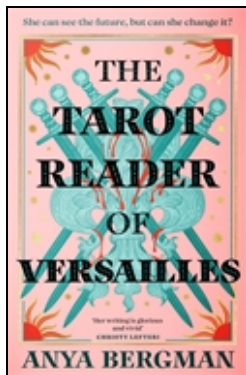
For fans of Peter James, Karin Slaughter and Martina Cole

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FICTION



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Territory World

Author's Location Kilgarvan, Ireland
Author Born London England
Book Location France

The Tarot Reader of Versailles

The spellbinding new novel from the international bestselling author of THE WITCHES OF VARDØ

Anya Bergman

Keynote

From the international bestselling author of *The Witches of Vardø* comes a a sweeping, powerful novel where allegiances, betrayals and even fate itself can be forged or broken by the turn of a card . . .

Description

Two women. An extraordinary power. In a time of revolution, betrayal could lie in the turn of a card . . .

It is the early days of the French Revolution and, on the streets of Paris, terror reigns.

Marie Anne Adelaide Lenormand is a young woman with an extraordinary power - through her tarot cards, she can commune with the dead, revolutionaries and the aristocracy alike seeking her out to divine their fortunes. Lenormand is loyal to Marie Antoinette and the dauphin of France, but she has seen the queen's fate in the cards and must take care that it doesn't become her own.

Then, one fateful day, she comes across Cait, a scullery maid from Ireland who has travelled to Paris for love. Cait has powers too - she can read people's pasts as Lenormand reads their futures. The two young women share an electrifying connection, drawn to each other's abilities. But Cait is hiding something. What will she do - and who will she betray - to bring revolution to the shores of her beloved Ireland too?

Sales Points

- **Anya's debut novel *The Witches of Vardø* was an international bestseller and sold 60,000 copies across all UK editions alone.**
- ***The Tarot Reader of Versailles* cements Anya's reputation as a writer of epic historical fiction with a fantastical edge.**
- **Inspired by the true story of Marie-Anne Adelaide Lenormand, the most infamous Tarot Reader in France.**
- **Anya reads tarot professionally - and used the cards to write this novel. Readers can also learn how to read the Tarot themselves as the story unfolds**

Reviews

- 'The author of the dynamic *The Witches Of Vardø* heads onto **the bloody streets of the French Revolution** in this equally **propulsive epic** in the company of **two extraordinary women . . . The prose is lush, the love stories beguiling, but Bergman doesn't shy away from the horror of the reign of terror and the harsh realities of change.**' - *Daily Mail*
- 'Marie Anne Lenormand can commune with the dead . . . [Caitlin] Molloy is also connected to spirits and gods, in her case old Irish ones. **Molloy and Lenormand meet, and the gods collide. Readers who like their historical fiction laced with fantastical elements will enjoy this spirited tale.**' - *The Times*
- 'A complex, **epic and engrossing** tale, which is **part emotive love story with a fantastical edge, part fascinating historical exploration of the French Revolution and part compulsive revenge story**, which holds the reader captive throughout. . . . The voices of these two women who find themselves caught up in the **heady and dangerous world of the Revolution** are beautifully drawn.' - *Caroline Lea, author of The Glass Woman and Love, Sex & Frankenstein*
- '**Utterly captivating.** Anya Bergman's vivid depiction of revolutionary France, and the extraordinary women negotiating the vagaries of power, fortune and fate throughout such unrest and upheaval, **held me in thrall from the first page to the last. An engrossing, propulsive novel.**' - *Hannah Kent, author of Burial Rites*

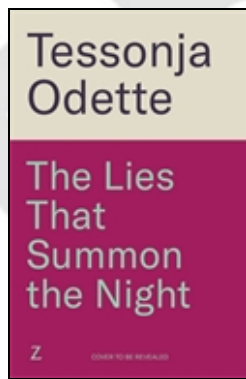
Biographies

Anya Bergman is the internationally bestselling Irish author of *The Witches of Vardø*. She has published ten novels under her real name Noelle Harrison and possesses a doctorate from Edinburgh Napier University, where she is also a Lecturer in Creative Writing. Anya has been reading Tarot Cards professionally for over thirty years.

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Binding Format	Hardback 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent Word Count	320 pages
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location	Washington, US
Author Born	California, US

The Lies That Summon the Night

Nevernight meets Filthy Rich Vampire in this irresistible new dark romantasy series

Tessonja Odette

Keynote

Nevernight meets Filthy Rich Vampire in this dark romantasy in which an outlaw is caught by a bounty hunter who gives her an ultimatum - serve him or he'll claim her bounty - in a world where creativity and art are forbidden, and humanity's sins are monsters given flesh.

Description

From the art of liars, the monsters came...

Ever since art gave life to bloodthirsty shadows, creative works have been forbidden. The talented are sacrificed to the Sinless - the immortal royals who feast on human blood.

Inana's secret storytelling nearly got her killed once, and she'll be damned if she's ever caught again. With a bounty on her head, she keeps to the city's dark underbelly where she earns a meager living from thrill-seeking patrons desperate to hear her illicit fiction.

Until a Shadowbane catches one of her performances...

Dominic is a half-Sinless monster hunter as fearsome as his prey. But the murderous shades he tracks aren't the only creatures with bloodlust; Shadowbanes must consume blood to survive. And to complete his hunt, he needs an artist to summon the shadows. Inana is just what he needs.

Dominic delivers an ultimatum: serve him or he'll claim her bounty. When survival is all Inana has left, the choice is clear. At least until she can betray him and leave him for dead...

As their tense alliance leads them into the heart of danger, dark secrets unravel - about each other, their world, and the threats they face. But the greatest risk of all is the desire growing between them. There's something more sinful than lust at play, and it could bring the world to its knees.

Sales Points

- **ON-TREND TRILOGY:** Combines the best-loved tropes of romantasy in a delightfully dark world of sin given flesh and the questionable behaviours of the immortal saviours, in a world where art and creativity is outlawed
- **FRESH TAKE ON VAMPIRE MYTHOLOGY:** This series moves on the genre, where the 'Sinless' were created to help fight the Shades (humanity's sin made physical monsters), but the price of their aid is human blood
- **SELF-PUBLISHED SUCCESS:** The author has over 100 million pages read and 110k copies sold of her previous series. This new project has not been self-published before.
- **LEAD TITLE:** Zaffre pre-empted the trilogy for 6 figures in a 24-hour pre-empt. It is the lead title on their SFF list for Q1 2026.
- **INTERNATIONAL DEMAND:** Delacorte (PRH US) won this book at auction and has also sold in Germany, Spain, Brazil and Hungary

Reviews

- *'The Lies that Summon the Night is a darkly seductive thrill ride that will take you through shadowy corners where all your secrets lie. Tessonja Odette has crafted a gorgeous, fast-paced tale of revenge and heartbreak while giving us a spicy, swoony romance that is sure to have you lusting until the very last page.'* - Nisha J. Tuli, USA Today bestselling author of *Trial of the Sun Queen*

Biographies

Tessonja Odette is a Seattle-based author of fantasy romance, epic romantasy and

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fairy-tale retellings. Her different series range from cosy fae romcoms to dark and twisty fantasy. In her books you'll find witty banter, sizzling romance and breathtaking magic. When she isn't writing, she's watching anime, squeezing her pets or dancing to the music only she can hear.

Market

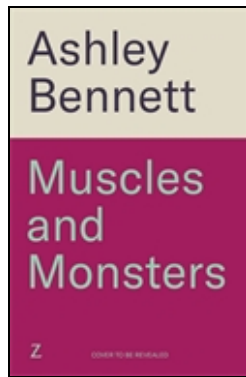
Perfect for fans of Carissa Broadbent, Raven Kennedy, Geneva Lee and Courtney L. Winn

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ZAFFRE

FICTION



Muscles and Monsters

Ashley Bennett

Keynote

A gym-owning wolveren and a headstrong baker discover *howl* real their connection is in the first book of the beloved Leviathan Fitness series.

Description

REVISED AND EXPANDED PAPERBACK EDITION

After a wedding cake catastrophe on the street, local baker Tegan lands in the most unexpected place—a solid wall of fur and fangs named Atlas. She's never met anyone like him and finds herself enamored by his wolfish charm. After their sweet encounter, Atlas invites her to his gym anytime she needs his cake-lifting services.

However, Tegan is through with being a damsel in distress. She signs up for a membership with Leviathan Fitness, determined to build her strength...and if she sees the handsome wolveren again, it's a win-win scenario.

Atlas can't believe his eyes when Tegan walks through the doors of his gym, and nearly goes snout-over-paw to offer her personal training. Shared glances over the barbell and accidental touches at the water fountain set Atlas's heart racing in a way he swore it couldn't again.

Primal desires emerge as Atlas and Tegan test just how much their new love can lift. Could Tegan be the unexpected mate of Atlas's dreams?

Sales Points

- **GROWING SUBGENRE:** Monster romance is growing fast and this series gives us a great opportunity to reach new readers in an untapped area of the market for us.
- **AUTHOR WITH GROWING PROFILE:** Author is active on social media with an engaged community and the Leviathan Fitness series has received rave reviews across Goodreads, Netgalley and Bookstagram.
- **PERFECT FOR FANS OF:** *Bride* by Ali Hazelwood and *Tusk Love* by Thea Guanzon.

Biographies

Ashley Bennett is an avid reader and during the Covid-19 pandemic, she decided to dip her toes into writing and hasn't looked back. She loves coffee, candles, fall weather, mid-century modern furniture, and a good alien romance (complete with fancy peens).

Market

For fans of Tusk Love and Ava Ross.

Pub date 26/02/26
Price £9.99
ISBN 9781785127779
Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 384 pages
Word Count
Territory Eng Lang UK,EU,C/W exCan
Agent Anna Carmichael

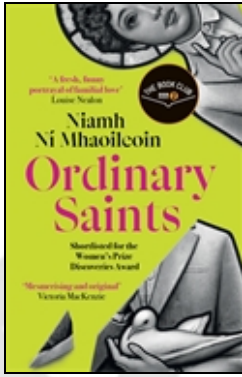
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Ordinary Saints

Shortlisted for the Waterstones Debut Fiction Prize 2025

Niamh Ni Mhaoileoin

Keynote

An arresting, unmissable debut novel shortlisted for the Women's Prize Discoveries award - an exploration of family, grief, queer identity, and the legacy of the Catholic Church in Ireland.

Description

Brought up in a devout household in Ireland, Jay is now living in London with her girlfriend, determined to live day to day and not think too much about either the future or the past. But when she learns that her beloved older brother, who died in a terrible accident, may be made into a Catholic saint, she realises she must at last confront her family, her childhood and herself . . .

Inspired by the author's own devout upbringing, *Ordinary Saints* is a brilliant debut novel from a fresh, exciting new voice which asks - who gets to decide how we are remembered - and who we will become?

Sales Points

- *Ordinary Saints* was the winner of the inaugural PFD Queer Fiction Prize 2022 and shortlisted for the Women's Prize Trust/Curtis Brown Discoveries Prize 2022
- A powerful debut novel from a fresh new voice with a conversation-starting hook
- Inspired by the author's own upbringing in a very devout family and the real-life case of Carlo Acutis.
- Perfect for fans of *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan, *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* by Jeanette Winterson, *Mrs S* by K Patrick, *Young Mungo* by Douglas Stuart and *Sunburn* by Chloe Michelle Howorth

Reviews

- **'Beautifully written and brilliant on grief, love and family expectations. Wonderful.'** - *Daily Mail*
- **'This debut is pretty perfect.** It's informative, **original, heartfelt, very real, and stunningly written.'** - *Irish Examiner*
- **'Stunning. A beautiful story about the awkward, often painful silences around dinner tables. A fresh funny, honest portrayal of familial love. I adored it.'** - *Louise Nealon, international bestselling author of SNOWFLAKE*
- **'Mesmerising and original, *Ordinary Saints* is quite a novel: an empathetic, heartfelt and nuanced exploration of the Catholic church in modern Ireland, queer identity, family and so much more. I absolutely loved it.'** - *Victoria Mackenzie, award-winning author of Thy Great Pain Have Mercy On My Little Pain*

Biographies

Niamh Ní Mhaoileoin was the winner of the inaugural PFD Queer Fiction Prize and was also shortlisted for the Women's Prize Trust Discoveries Prize in 2022. Her debut literary novel *Ordinary Saints* was shortlisted for the 2025 Waterstones Debut Prize.

Pub date	26/02/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781786584250
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	400 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	Edinburgh
Author Born	Ireland
Book Location	Dublin and London

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Pub date	26/02/26
Price	£8.99
ISBN	9781806171323
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	364 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World English Language
Agent	Gordon Wise
Author's Location	North London
Book Location	Cheshire

www.bonnierbooks.co.uk



Keep the Home Fires Burning

The first heart-warming World War II saga based on the hit TV series, Home Fires

S. Block

Keynote

A dramatic and emotional saga based on the hit TV series

Description

In Britain's darkest hour, an extraordinary community of women strives to protect the Home Front. When an enemy plane crashes into the village, every one of their lives will change for ever . . .

Frances Barden, Chair of Great Paxford's Women's Institute, feels it's her role to lead the community. But as her factory is shut down and her husband's secret child arrives at her door, she finds she'll need the support of every woman in the WI. Luckily she has Pat Simms, Erica Campbell and Steph Farrow to turn to.

But as the war escalates, each woman finds herself facing challenges she never expected and threats she couldn't have imagined. When a plane crashes in the heart of their village, every one of their lives will change for ever.

Will their combined strength be enough to get them through the war?

Sales Points

- **Completes the story from the *Home Fires* TV series, which was unexpectedly cancelled after the second series leaving viewers on a cliff-hanger. When this happened several years ago 36,000 fans signed a petition to bring *Home Fires* back. The *Home Fires* book series followed, written by the screenwriter.**
- **The Women's Institute - 220,000 members - are strong supporters of *Home Fires***
- **A community of strong and brave women, coming together in adversity**
- **Packed with drama and emotion. A completely page-turning novel from an expert screenwriter and storyteller.**
- **The TV series has had a resurgence in popularity in 2025 as it's now available to stream so this is the perfect opportunity to reissue for fans who didn't the books back in 2017.**

Reviews

- 'I very quickly became embroiled . . . a really enjoyable book. Greatly looking forward to the next one' - *Rosie Goodwin*

Biographies

S. Block, the creator and writer behind the *Home Fires* TV series watched by over six million viewers, is a BAFTA award-winning writer who's been nominated for the Royal Television Society Awards and the British Comedy Awards. He's worked on TV shows such as *New Tricks*, *Lewis*, *Wire in the Blood*, *Hotel Babylon* and *The Inspector Lynley Mysteries*, as well as shows for NBC and ABC.

Among other jobs he was an elephant keeper at London Zoo, a London bus driver and is the current director of the North London branch of The Samaritans. Simon was born in London and lives there with his wife and sons.

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Extent 288 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location Portland, USA
Author Born California, USA

The Strange Case of Jane O.

The extraordinary and unforgettable new novel from the international bestselling author of **THE AGE OF MIRACLES**
Karen Thompson Walker

Keynote

The bestselling author of **THE AGE OF MIRACLES** returns with a spellbinding, haunting, beautifully written speculative literary mystery about memory, identity, consciousness, and love.

Description

If the one thing you can trust is your memory, what happens when you forget?

A young woman, Jane O., arrives in a psychiatrist's office. She's been suffering a series of worrying episodes: amnesia, premonitions, hallucinations and an inexplicable sense of dread. But as the psychiatrist struggles to solve the mystery of what is happening in Jane's mind, she suddenly goes missing. When she is found a day later, unconscious in a park, she has no memory of what has happened to her.

Are Jane's strange experiences related to the overwhelm of single motherhood, or long-buried trauma from her past? Why is she having visions of a young man who died twenty years ago, who warns her of disaster ahead? Jane's symptoms will lead her psychiatrist to question everything he once thought he knew . . .

Profound and beautifully written, *THE STRANGE CASE OF JANE O.* is a speculative mystery about memory, identity and fate, a mesmerising story about the bonds of love between a mother and child, a man and a woman, and the haunting, unexplained mysteries of the human mind.

Sales Points

- **The astonishing, lauded new novel from the international bestselling author of *The Age of Miracles***
- ***The Age of Miracles* was a *New York Times* bestseller and Richard and Judy pick and sold 50,000 paperbacks through TCM in the UK alone**
- **Karen Thompson Walker is a master of stunning, speculative novels that question the human experience and *The Strange Case of Jane O.* is her most haunting and beautiful yet.**

Reviews

- **'Both moving and unexpected . . . An unusual, involving read. It lingers in the mind.'** - *Guardian*
- **'Heart-expanding . . . inquisitive, brilliantly-crafted.** If you enjoyed Kazuo Ishiguro's *Never Let Me Go* then I think you'll love this novel.' - *Florence Knapp, author of THE NAMES*
- **'An extraordinary book.'** - *Daily Mail*
- **'A tantalising and satisfying mystery.'** - *Claire Fuller*

Biographies

Karen Thompson Walker's *New York Times* bestseller *The Age of Miracles* has been translated into twenty-nine languages and was named one of the best books of the year by *People*, *O: The Oprah Magazine*, and *Financial Times*, among others. Her most recent novel is *The Dreamers*, which was a *New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice and was named one of the best books of the year by *Glamour*, *Real Simple*, and *Good Housekeeping*. Born and raised in San Diego, Walker is a graduate of UCLA and the Columbia MFA program. She lives with her husband, the novelist Casey Walker, and their two daughters in Portland, and is an assistant professor of creative writing.

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A Fire in Their Hearts

Claiming their freedom was their only crime

Philip Paris

Keynote

Scotland, 1662. Hunted, held prisoner and banished for a belief . . .

Description

SCOTLAND, 1662.

Hunted, held prisoner and banished for a belief...

As civil war rages and King Charles II tightens his grip on the Church of Scotland, childhood sweethearts Violet and Samuel are swept into a violent struggle for religious freedom. They pledge their hearts to each other - and to a cause that will test their faith, courage and love beyond measure.

Hunted as rebels, imprisoned behind the walls of the infamous Greyfriars Kirkyard and torn from their homeland, Violet and Samuel are sentenced to a life of indentured servitude on the brutal sugar plantations of Barbados. But when their ship wrecks off the coast of Orkney, they become separated.

Alone and captive in a foreign land, Violet must summon every ounce of strength to survive the horrors she faces - and to cling to the hope that Samuel is still alive. Can love endure across oceans, through wars and captivity?

A Fire in Their Hearts is a powerful, epic tale of love, faith and survival, inspired by the extraordinary true events of the seventeenth-century Killing Times, by the bestselling author of *The Last Witch of Scotland*, Waterstones Scottish Book of the Year 2024.

'Heartfelt and devastating . . . Philip Paris's remarkable story-telling brings some of the darkest episodes in Scottish history memorably to light.'

S.G. MacLEAN, bestselling author of *The Bookseller of Inverness*

'An utterly heart-wrenching novel.'

FIONA VALPY, author of *The Sky Beneath Us*

Sales Points

- From the author of Waterstones Scottish Book of the Year 2024 *The Last Witch of Scotland* comes this new historical novel.
- This new historical novel is meticulously researched and will appeal to lovers of Scottish history.
- **PRAISE FOR THE LAST WITCH OF SCOTLAND**
'Compelling, evocative, heart-wrenching. This beautifully written novel, populated by a vivid cast of characters, kept me gripped from start to finish. Highly recommended.'
- FIONA VALPY, author of *The Storyteller of Casablanca*

'In Aila, Philip Paris has created a character of such defiance and vulnerability that any reader will be bewitched by her story.' - ELIZABETH LEE, author of *Cunning Women*

Reviews

- 'A **moving and gritty** exposition of the brutal and tragic persecution of the Covenanters in **seventeenth-century Scotland**, and the power of faith and love. **An utterly heart-wrenching novel.**' - *Fiona Valpy*, author of *THE SKY BENEATH US*
- '**Heart-felt and devastating**, Philip Paris's **remarkable story-telling** brings some of the darkest episodes in Scottish history memorably to light.' - *S. G. MacLean*, author of *THE BOOKSELLER OF INVERNESS*
- 'A **touching and dramatic** evocation of a fascinating and little-known part of history where Scots and Irish rebels were sold into indentured slavery on the sugar plantations of the West Indies. **A beautifully written page-turner.** Highly recommended.' - *Elisabeth Gifford*, author of *THE LOST LIGHTS OF ST KILDA*

Biographies

PHILIP PARIS is the bestselling author of *The Last Witch of Scotland*, Waterstones' Scottish Book of the Year 2024 and Blackwell's Edinburgh Book of the Year 2023. His

Pub date 05/03/26
Price £9.99
ISBN 9781785307751
Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 400 pages
Word Count
Territory World
Author's Location Highlands, Scotland

Backlist Titles

Title	ISBN
The Italian Chapel	9781785301643
The Last Witch of Scotland	9781785304507
The Last Witch of Scotland	9781785305245
A Fire in Their Hearts	9781785307744

hugely varied work is often inspired by events or issues that have previously had little coverage. *Men Cry Alone*, a novel about domestic abuse against men, won the Scottish Association of Writers Barbara Hammond trophy in 2019, while his non-fiction book *Orkney's Italian Chapel: The True Story of an Icon* is recognised as the leading authoritative work on the history of the famous WW2 building.

Market

Perfect for fans of *Outlander*, *The Mercies* and *The Witches of Vardo*, or for anyone with an interest in the history of Scotland and the Highlands.

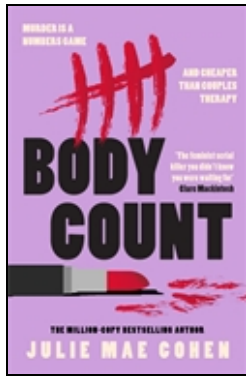


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FICTION



Pub date	12/03/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781804189368
Binding Format	Paperback 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	352 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	Reading, UK
Author Born	Maine, USA
Book Location	London, UK

Body Count

The new 2025 revenge thriller from the bestselling author of **BAD MEN**

Julie Mae Cohen

Keynote

The hilariously twisted new revenge comedy from the author of BBC Radio 2 Book Club pick, *Bad Men*.

Description

Serial killer Saffy Huntley-Oliver's life is going great.

She's got a fabulous new boyfriend, Jonathan. She has literally got away with murder. And now that she's no longer single, she can get back to her favourite hobby: killing bad men.

Particularly Sir Thomas West, a children's TV star who truly deserves to die.

But there are a few little snags. For one, her beloved sister Susie is still dating that insufferable Finlay. For another, Sir Thomas has a very large bodyguard. And Jonathan himself has given up his job investigating true crime, despite all the tempting corpses that Saffy keeps putting in his way.

All of this would be easy to ignore in the flush of new love. Except Saffy's never been in love before, and it's weird. She's having difficulty separating romance from homicide. Especially when someone discovers Saffy's secret hobby and starts sending Jonathan coded messages about her crimes.

Is someone trying to break them up? Or trying to hunt her down?

Sales Points

- **BRILLIANTLY FUNNY & DARK:** The wit of Bella Mackie with the clever plotting of Caroline Kepnes, *Bad Men* is guaranteed make you laugh - and wince.
- **BANG ON TREND:** Feminist rage thrillers are having a moment in the UK: including *How To Kill Your Family*, *My Sister The Serial Killer*, and newcomers *How To Kill Men* and *Get Away With It* and *You'd Look Better as a Ghost*.
- **BRILLIANTLY FUNNY & DARK:** The wit of Bella Mackie with the clever plotting of Caroline Kepnes, *Bad Men* is guaranteed make you laugh - and wince.

Reviews

- 'Saffy is the best-dressed vengeful murderess in town - bad men beware. A fast-paced, rageful tale of feminism, family and violent ends' - *ASIA MACKAY*

Biographies

Julie Mae Cohen is the darker side of Julie Cohen, an award-winning author whose novels have sold over a million copies worldwide. Her thriller debut, *Bad Men*, was a BBC Radio 2 Book Club pick in 2023 and was shortlisted for the RNA Jackie Collins Award for Romantic Suspense. Julie grew up in Maine and now lives in the UK with her family and a terrier of dubious origin.

Market

Women, 24+ and fans of *How To Kill Your Family*, *Joanna Wallace* and *Katy Brent*.

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Pub date	12/03/26
Price	£22.00
ISBN	9781785123184
Binding	Hardback
Format	234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent	400 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	London
Author Born	Liverpool
Book Location	London

Sacrifice

The brand-new nail-biting 2026 crime thriller from the multi-million selling author

Lynda La Plante

Keynote

The final thrilling novel in the bestselling Detective Jack Warr crime series.

Description

Detective Jack leads Scotland Yard's fledgling art fraud unit, its survival hinging on exposing a suspected forgery - a multimillion-dollar Basquiat.

When his informant, gallerist Ester Langton, is brutally murdered, Jack's hunt spirals into obsession. Clues point to Adam Border, a reclusive genius hiding in a decayed Sicilian villa haunted by Mafia ties and violent secrets.

As Jack abandons family and duty to pursue him, he's drawn into a world where brilliance and madness collide, masterpieces mask psychosis, and death stalks every shadow. In chasing the truth, Detective Jack Warr must decide which side of the law he's on . . . once and for all.

Sales Points

- **BLOCKBUSTER SERIES:** One of the fiction hits of lockdown, **BURIED** spent 9 weeks on the *Sunday Times* bestseller list. We have sold over 1.1m copies of the Jack Warr series to date.
- **THE QUEEN OF CRIME DRAMA:** With over 50 bestselling novels, over 5 million copies sold in the UK alone, and a member of The Crime Thriller Awards Hall of Fame, Lynda is truly crime fiction royalty. She is responsible for over 170 hours of primetime TV, including the perennially popular *Prime Suspect*, and her classic crime hit *Widows* was recently adapted by Steve McQueen.

Reviews

- 'The UK's most celebrated female crime author' - *DAILY MAIL*

Biographies

Lynda La Plante was born in Liverpool. She is the author of over forty novels, all of which have been bestsellers. She trained for the stage at RADA and worked with the National theatre and RSC before becoming a television actress. She then turned to writing - and made her breakthrough with the phenomenally successful TV series *Widows*.

Lynda's original script for the much-acclaimed *Prime Suspect* won awards from BAFTA, Emmys, British Broadcasting and Royal Television Society as well as the 1993 Edgar Allan Poe Award.

Lynda is an honorary fellow of the British Film Institute and was awarded the BAFTA Dennis Potter Best Writer's Award in 2000. In 2008, she was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to Literature, Drama and Charity.

Lynda La Plante is the first layperson to be awarded an honorary fellowship to the Forensic Science Society. In 2020 she launched the acclaimed *Listening to the Dead* podcast with former CSI Cass Sutherland, exploring forensic science and its impact on solving crimes.

Market

For fans of fast-paced, brilliantly researched crime - and readers of Peter James, Ian Rankin and M.W. Craven.

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Bethnal Green

The vibrant 1970s set debut novel and love letter to the NHS that is captivating readers

Amélie Skoda

Keynote

For readers of *Small Island* by Andrea Levy and *Brooklyn* by Colm Toibin, *Bethnal Green* vividly brings to life the experiences of women who came from across the world to join the NHS and build their lives in Britain in the 1970s.

Description

Penang, 1971. When Suyin is offered the opportunity of a lifetime - a place as a trainee nurse in London's Bethnal Green hospital - she jumps at the chance to leave her job as a seamstress and unite with her sister, who left for the same path a year before.

However, without warning her sister returns to Penang, a shadow of her former self and Suyin is forced to leave without any answers. Suyin soon finds herself starting a new life in London, falling in love with the vibrant city and its people and as she immerses herself in the gruelling but rewarding work of caring for her patients, she begins to understand what she really wants out of life . . .

BETHNAL GREEN explores the themes of sacrifice and heartbreak, the power of using your voice and the will to build a life of one's own against the odds. It is also a powerful love letter to dedicated NHS workers from around the world, whose work touches countless lives every day.

Sales Points

- In 2021, *Bethnal Green* was shortlisted for the Mo Siewcharran Prize.
- The novel is set in a London hospital and about the history of nursing and the NHS.

Biographies

Amélie Skoda was born in London to French and Malaysian parents and grew up in Kent. She studied English at University College London and has an MA in Creative Writing from Royal Holloway, University of London. Her writing was shortlisted for the 2021 Mo Siewcharran Prize. *Bethnal Green* is her first novel.

Pub date	19/03/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781786583512
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	352 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	Sevenoaks, Kent
Author Born	London
Book Location	Bethnal Green, Brighton, Penang

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Word Count
Territory UK C/W ex Can, USA, Phil
Author's Location Sweden
Author Born Sweden
Book Location Sweden

The Sleepwalker

The brand new 2025 Detective Joona Linna crime thriller

Lars Kepler

Keynote

Some nightmares you can't wake up from . . . The gripping new crime novel from the 17 million copy global bestseller Lars Kepler.

Description

An alarm sounds in the middle of the night for a burglary in progress at a winter-closed campsite in Bredäng, outside Stockholm.

The police spot a light in one of the farthest caravans and when the officers open the door they are greeted by a horrific sight. Floors, walls and furniture are completely covered in blood. A man has been killed with an axe and brutally dismembered.

On the floor lies a young man sleeping with a severed arm as a pillow. He is arrested and taken to Kronoberg prison, identified as seventeen-year-old Hugo Sand, the son of a famous writer.

Hugo suffers from a rare sleepwalking condition that is activated by nightmares. He is either the perpetrator or a witness, but claims to remember nothing from the night.

Detective Joona Linna contacts her old friend Erik Maria Bark to use hypnosis to try to find out what happened inside the caravan. So begins the sleepless hunt for a serial killer who is only just getting started . . .

Sales Points

- **ONE OF THE WORLD'S BESTSELLING CRIME AUTHORS:** The Joona Linna series has sold 17 million copies in 40 languages
- **ZAFFRE'S BIGGEST POACH SINCE LYNDA:** Huge potential to grow Kepler's readership in the UK, and recapture a lapsed audience.
- **SWEDEN'S FICTION CHART-TOPPER:** *The Sleepwalker* was the most sold fiction title in Sweden in 2024.

Biographies

Lars Kepler is the pseudonym of critically acclaimed husband and wife team Alexandra Coelho Ahndoril (b. 1966) and Alexander Ahndoril (b. 1967), authors of the No. 1 internationally bestselling Joona Linna series.

With seven instalments to date, the series has sold 15 million copies in 40 languages. The Ahndorils were both established writers before they adopted the pen name Lars Kepler, and have each published several acclaimed novels.

Market

For readers of Jo Nesbo, Camilla Lackberg, Chris Carter and MJ Arlidge.

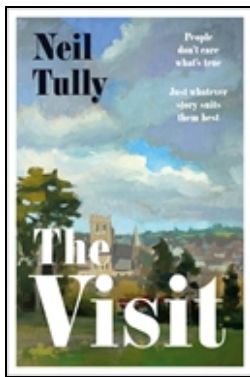
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The Visit

'Brilliant and intriguing' - Colm Tóibín

Neil Tully

Keynote

Set in June 1963, at the time of John F Kennedy's momentous visit to New Ross, against a backdrop of a country on the verge of profound social change and the magic that Kennedy's visit creates, *The Visit* explores themes of shame and redemption, love and marriage, progress, and what happens to those that progress leaves behind.

Description

'The Visit is an engrossing and tender portrait of a small town under pressure ... Stark and elemental - at the heart of the novel is a sort of quiet yearning and a longing for love and for completion that makes Neil Tully's novel so brilliant and intriguing' - Colm Tóibín

"The lad is a bit like a stray dog. I keep an eye on him and throw him a few scraps. There are plenty of people in this town who'd just as soon drop him off in the wilderness and hope there's no scent to follow home. The problem is that Patrick could find his way out of any wilderness and they wouldn't like whatever starved thing came back."

Sergeant Jim Field feels a guilty paternalism for Patrick Hatten, a young man struggling to find a job, a life and a purpose in a small-town Wexford community. Both are used to being on the fringes but while Jim is a romantic with bad health and regret, Patrick is full of anger and action, and his actions could have devastating effects.

Sales Points

- Will suit readers of Claire Keegan and Colm Tóibín who are interested in fiction exploring identity, shame, regret and progress in rural Ireland.
- Endorsements from Colm Tóibín, Donal Ryan, Joseph O'Connor, John Boyne and many more

Reviews

- *"The Visit is an engrossing and tender portrait of a small town under pressure ... Stark and elemental - at the heart of the novel is a sort of quiet yearning and a longing for love and for completion that makes Neil Tully's novel so brilliant and intriguing" - Colm Tóibín*
- *'An exquisite and powerful debut novel from a compelling new voice in Irish fiction.'* - *Joseph O'Connor, author of Star of the Sea and The Ghosts of Rome*
- *"What a delight it is to read such a wonderful story, written so beautifully. Spare, authentic, effortlessly lyrical, it is a stunning novel, the work of a writer of the first order" - Donal Ryan*
- *"Once in a while, you read a novel so accomplished that you want to read the author's backlist but, to your surprise, it turns out to be a debut. That's how good Neil Tully's *The Visit* is. Combining great storytelling with lyrical writing, this deserves to be on everyone's must-read list for 2026" - John Boyne*
- *"An utterly absorbing and hugely readable novel, *The Visit* is a story that captures a transitional time in Irish history so incredibly well, that at times I felt I was watching it up close. Field is a compelling protagonist, flawed, human and meticulously drawn. I was gripped from the start. The writing is so good" - Elaine Feeney, author of *How to Build a Boat**
- *"A strong debut that showcases both the viciousness and salvation of community" - Sheila Armstrong, author of *Falling Animals**

Biographies

Neil Tully lives in Cork. He has an MA in Creative Writing from the University of Limerick. *The Visit* is his first book.

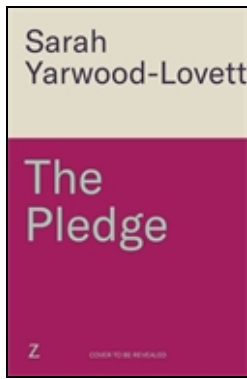
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The Pledge

Sarah Yarwood-Lovett

Keynote

From the bestselling author of the Nell Ward crime series comes a twisty, Glass Onion-style mystery with the super rich, the political elite and the celebrity world colliding and meeting unfortunate ends on a glamorous, remote paradise island.

Description

Lawyer Thea has just won the biggest case of her professional life when she receives a mysterious invitation - and finds herself on a jet, being whisked off to a private Caribbean island.

Except this is no holiday.

Thea's fellow guests represent the world's richest individuals and, on arrival, each is challenged to make The Pledge - to give half their fortunes to fight climate change.

But underneath the billionaire lifestyle is a game of survival of the fittest. And, by the morning, their manipulative and misguided host is dead.

Thea must navigate secrets, lies and scandals as the group's suspicions turn on her. Now, she's not just relying on her courtroom wiles to win a case; she's fighting for her life.

Because, when another guest dies, it's clear she's not just stranded on the island - she's trapped with a killer . . .

Sales Points

- **HUGE BESTSELLER PEDIGREE:** Sarah's Nell Ward series (published by Embla) has sold over 500,000 copies and she is one of BBUK's most pre-ordered authors.
- **EXPERT AUTHOR:** Sarah's conservation work has included re-discovering an extinct species; off-grid living on atolls in the Caribbean while surveying reefs; camping in the Amazon and watching giant river otters train their young to hunt; and leading Citizen Science projects in the Cascade Mountains. Sarah's role in sustainability is to find ways for big tech companies to meet their climate change responsibilities. Turning her crime writing to the global influence these corporations have, her work provides endless inspiration for how we truly value nature.
- **BIG ISSUES, LOCKED ROOM:** A classic 'locked room' mystery but with an expert edge, where readers will learn about the murky world of environmental politics, deal-making and scandal while getting a twisty, complex mystery to solve.

Biographies

After spending sixteen years as an ecologist, crawling through undergrowth and studying the nocturnal habits of animals (and people), **Dr Sarah Yarwood-Lovett** naturally turned her mind to murder. She may have swapped badgers for bears when she emigrated from a quaint village in the South Downs to the wild mountains of the Pacific Northwest, but her books remain firmly rooted in the rolling downland she grew up in.

Market

Women in their 20s-40s who read Lucy Foley, Ruth Ware, and Lucy Clarke, looking for their new favourite author in this area.

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Author Born	UK
Book Location	Caribbean

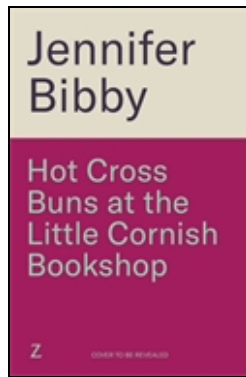
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Hot Cross Buns at the Little Cornish Bookshop

The perfect life-affirming, joyful book for spring

Jennifer Bibby

Keynote

A GIRL FINDING HER PLACE IN THE WORLD. A BOOKSHOP BY THE SEA. AND A ROMANCE THAT WILL SWEEP HER OFF HER FEET.

Description

Effie has always loved her quiet life in Cornwall - sea swims, beach walks, reading, and knitting. After university in London, she returned home, craving the calm of the coast. But while her friends move forward, Effie feels stuck.

So when she's offered the chance to open a bookshop in the seaside village of Polcarrow - with a flat above the shop - Effie leaps at the opportunity. A bookshop by the sea? It's the dream.

Adjusting to life on her own is tough at first, but she soon finds friendship in Lola, the local café owner, and her warm circle of friends. Then there's Jake - a globe-trotting photographer - who stirs something in Effie that she didn't expect.

As Easter approaches and the shop's grand opening nears, Effie's new life begins to bloom. But a difficult local author and a misunderstanding with Jake threaten to upend everything. Can Effie find the courage to fight for the life - and love - she's always wanted?

Sales Points

- Jennifer Bibby is an RNA nominated author with some great previous endorsements and sales track.
- The third book, and second for Zaffre, set in the cosy Cornish village of Polcarrow.
- A warm-hearted and joyful book full of community spirit, perfect for spring.
- Appealing bookshop and seaside setting.

Reviews

- 'Charming and romantic, sweet and sunny. I loved it.' - *Milly Johnson on The Cornish Hideaway*
- 'A sun-drenched delight, an absolute joy!' - *Heidi Swain on The Cornish Hideaway*
- 'I absolutely loved the gorgeous seaside setting and the wonderful sense of community!' - *Holly Martin on The Cornish Hideaway*

Biographies

Jennifer Bibby is an author of warm and heartfelt community romances. Her debut novel, *The Cornish Hideaway*, was a contender for the 2022 RNA Joan Hessayon award. A lifelong lover of stories, she enjoys exploring the everyday lives of modern women through literature. Jennifer is happiest by the sea and loves dinosaurs, travel, classy cocktails and medieval history.

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An Island Burning

Colin MacIntyre

Keynote

Burns Night, January 2000. In the early days of the new millennium, two burnt-out cars are discovered on a barren glen on the isle of Mull. Inside them, are only teeth and bones.

Description

PRaise FOR COLIN MACINTYRE

"A twisty mystery set on Mull, the island being a character in itself. Ivor Punch is a detective well worth spending time (and a dram) with." - **Ian Rankin**

"MacIntyre always writes with a clarity of style." - **The Scotsman**

On the Oban-Mull ferry, Mull piper and council worker-cum-alcoholic, Duck slumps uninvited at the table of architecture student, Davud, a loner, who has developed a fascination with fire and a scandal-hit politician.

Meanwhile, Sergeant Ivor Punch is busy policing a protest that includes a strange visitor - a man purporting to be Robert Louis Stevenson, who talks of a mysterious island that appears off Mull only twice a century, which he once saw while sailing by Skerryvore Lighthouse.

As buildings burn and dead bodies are discovered, Sergeant Punch seeks to find the crux of the mystery by looking to the past. But with mysterious forces at play, he needs to decipher what is real or imagined - before the island falls into chaos.

Sales Points

- Winner of the Edinburgh International Book Festival's First Book Award 2015.
- Colin MacIntyre is an award-winning writer and artist who can rely on endorsements from many big names and press coverage from broadsheets and national TV and radio.
- Second novel in Sergeant Ivor Punch, Isle of Mull mystery series.

Biographies

Colin MacIntyre is a multi-award-winning musician, producer, author for adults and children, and playwright. Born into a family of storytellers and writers, he was raised on the Isle of Mull and has released eight acclaimed albums to date, notably under the moniker Mull Historical Society. His debut novel, *The Letters of Ivor Punch*, won the 2015 Edinburgh International Book Festival First Book Award and was shortlisted for *The Guardian's* Not the Booker Prize. His second novel *When the Needle Drops* was published in 2024. He has been voted Scotland's Top Creative Talent at the Glenfiddich Spirit of Scotland Awards.
www.colinmacintyre.com

Market

For fans of quality crime fiction and 'tartan noir'; readers of Ann Cleeves, William McIlvanney and Ian Rankin.

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Author Born Isle of Mull, Scotland

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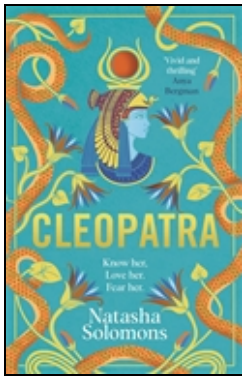
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Cleopatra

The captivating new retelling of the story of the legendary Egyptian queen. Meet the real woman behind the myth

Natasha Solomons

Keynote

From the international bestselling author comes an unmissable new untelling of the life of one of the most captivating and misrepresented female figures in history.

Description

Cleopatra, Egyptian Princess, grows up the favoured daughter of the Pharaoh, hiding amongst the scrolls in the great library of Alexandria with her beloved slave Charmian, longing for the chance one day to write her own story.

Then when her father dies, willing that Cleopatra rule with her selfish brother Ptolemy, danger stirs. As the young Egyptian Queen sails the Nile to greet her people, he plots to destroy her and take the throne for himself.

But while Ptolemy has the power of Egypt behind him, Cleopatra has her wits. And when the great Caesar arrives from Rome, she realises he could be the key to her salvation - though courting this powerful man could cost her everything.

Can Cleopatra save her life, her throne, her beloved Egypt and finally command her own history?

A powerful, unmissable new retelling, this is a captivating story of female power and vulnerability, of love and loss, fierce friendship and terrible betrayal. It's time to meet the real Cleopatra.

Sales Points

- **The gripping, beautifully researched story of the Queen of Egypt.**
- **The interest in Cleopatra's story is at an all time high, with two major films in the works starring Zendaya and Gal Gadot (Wonder Woman) in the titular roles.**
- **The appetite for feminist ancient historical retellings remains strong and the story of Cleopatra hasn't been told for several years.**

Reviews

- 'I have not been able to stop thinking about this book . . . **Gripping, spellbinding and wonderfully immersive**' - Elodie Harper on Fair Rosaline
- 'Irresistible. **An excellent spin on a timeless classic**' - Jennifer Saint on Fair Rosaline
- '**Vibrant and enthralling. A glorious retelling of one of the most misrepresented female figures in history.**' - *Platinum*
- '**Vivid and compelling** . . . Cleopatra reveals herself as **a complex young woman torn between her own desires, and her duty to protect Egypt** at all costs. Her voice burns brightly in a **thrilling, page-turning narrative** . . . The price these women pay for love and sanctity in a world dominated by men resonates through the centuries to today. At heart, **Cleopatra is about love in its purest form, and the lengths one might go to protect it.**' - *Anya Bergman, international bestselling author of The Witches of Vardo*

Biographies

Natasha Solomons is the author of seven internationally bestselling novels, including *Mr Rosenblum's List*, *The Novel in the Viola*, which was chosen for the Richard & Judy Book Club, and *I, Mona Lisa*. Her work has been translated into seventeen languages. She lives in Dorset with her family.

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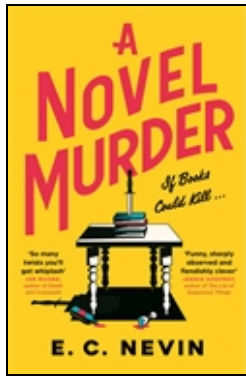
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Author's Location	Bristol
Book Location	Yorkshire

A Novel Murder

The perfect murder mystery for book lovers

E. C. Nevin

Keynote

If books could kill . . .

Description

Welcome to the Killer Lines Crime Festival!

In the quaint town of Hoslewit, the biggest names in crime writing have congregated to celebrate all things bookish and murderous. With a programme packed with seminars and signings, egos and alcohol, it's sure to be a **thrilling** weekend.

Author Jane Hepburn is determined this is going to be *her* year. She's not quite reached the heady heights of best-sellerdom yet, but is convinced that if she can just make the right connections at the festival, it could be the start of a whole new **chapter** for her and her books.

Then her literary agent is killed, and Jane's plans are derailed. But if she can solve the murder, perhaps it will provide the boost her writing career needs? If she lives to tell the **tale**, that is.

Set in the world of books, and for fans of Richard Osman and Richard Coles, Janice Hallett and Nita Prose, *A Novel Murder* is the book you'll be **dying** to read.

Sales Points

- A cosy crime novel set in the world of books and publishing
- Takes place at a thinly disguised and lovingly caricatured Theakston's Crime Writing Festival
- For fans of Richard Osman and Reverend Richard Coles
- Will also appeal to readers of Nita Prose and Janice Hallett

Reviews

- 'Funny, sharply observed and fiendishly clever' - Jennie Godfrey, bestselling author of *The List of Suspicious Things*
- 'Wickedly funny modern cosy with so many twists you'll get whiplash.' - Ian Moore
- 'With a sympathetic protagonist and a cast of suitably obnoxious suspects, E.C. Nevin's eviscerating portrait of modern publishing is couched within an immensely readable mystery. Rarely will the industry feel so seen. A wicked, wicked book.' - Vaseem Khan
- 'Wise, witty and tremendously fun, E.C. Nevin's **A NOVEL MURDER** is a must-read for anyone who's ever attended/fancied attending a crime fiction festival. The characters and their motives for murder are all too recognisable, sometimes painfully so! **5 stars.**' - Jessica Bull

Biographies

E C Nevin is the pen name for Eve Hall, who is a fiction editor as well as a writer. Despite what *A Novel Murder* may imply, she really does like her book industry colleagues. Most of them anyway.

Eve lives in Bristol with her partner and two dogs.

Market

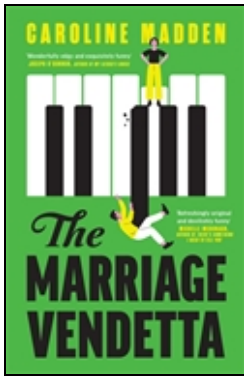
For fans of Ian Moore and Richard Osman.

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The Marriage Vendetta

'Wonderfully edgy and exquisitely funny' - Joseph O'Connor

Caroline Madden

Keynote

If a therapist promised they could fix your selfish husband, but only if you followed their dangerously unorthodox methods, would you do it?

Description

Eliza's playwright husband Richard Sheridan has accepted the career opportunity of a lifetime: running a prestigious theatre in Dublin. Eliza plays the role of the supportive wife - uprooting their daughter Mara, relocating from England to Dublin, running the household and managing Richard's paperwork - but inside, she's burning with resentment.

Eliza was once a globe-trotting classical pianist; now, her time is consumed by the dramas of the judgmental 'momfluencers' at the café across from Mara's school, where she spends hours anxiously watching her lonely daughter during playtimes.

When she's sent a suggestive photo of Richard with another woman, it's the last straw. She turns to mysterious marriage therapist Ellen Early for help. But Eliza has no idea just how far Ms. Early is willing to go to get results ...

The Marriage Vendetta offers the quirky relatable tone of *How to Kill Your Family* crossed with wry wit of *Sorrow and Bliss*. There's a touch of BBC's *Motherland* in the portrayal of parental schoolyard politics - and the dark comedy of *Bad Sisters*.

Sales Points

- For fans of *Fleabag*, *Bad Sisters*, Bella Mackie's *How To Kill Your Family* and Meg Mason's *Sorrow and Bliss*.
- The hilarious, slightly dark and questionable actions of a woman who's had her buttons pushed one too many times makes this an entertaining read

Reviews

- "A wonderfully edgy and exquisitely funny debut from a writer who is here to stay" - Joseph O'Connor, *author of My Father's House and The Ghosts of Rome*
- "Addictive and acerbic, this laugh-out-loud novel is full of heart and totally, utterly unpredictable" - Colin Walsh, *author of Kala*
- "Sharp, witty and brilliantly unpredictable, *The Marriage Vendetta* is a breathtaking thrill-ride from a bold new voice in fiction" - Joseph Murray, *author of Fling*
- "A sharply funny skewering of the upper middle classes of Dublin with an elegant dose of magic realism, *The Marriage Vendetta* traverses the politics of the private school playground, the compromises of motherhood and the grasping shenanigans of high finance and the theatre world and questions whether there's any place for personal ambition in marriage. It's a compelling, superbly confident debut" - Lauren MacKenzie, *author of The Couples*

Biographies

Caroline Madden is an Irish journalist and writer.

Having grown up in the countryside of Longford, Caroline got notions and moved to Dublin where she swanned around Trinity College for a few years. She got a degree in something called management science and still isn't sure what exactly that is.

After trying to make it as a corporate stooge, Caroline found herself in the world of journalism where she was able to secretly work on her novels while she was supposed to be writing stock market reports.

She now lives by the sea with her two children and one very small, very loud dog called Benji.

You can find Caroline online at www.carolinemaddenbooks.com. Much as she wishes otherwise, she is not the LA-based infidelity recovery expert Caroline Madden, PhD.

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Sweet Charity

**An emotional and romantic quick read
from Britain's best-loved saga author**

Rosie Goodwin

Keynote

Torn between duty and love, what will she sacrifice?

Description

Charity has always lived a charmed life beneath the open skies. Growing up as part of the gypsy community, she has reveled in the freedom of swimming in the wide streams, caring for the horses and embracing the ever-changing road. But on the cusp of her sixteenth birthday, that freedom begins to slip away. Her parents expect her to marry, and not for love, but for duty.

Then fate brings Luca back into her life - a boy from the travelling circus she has known since childhood. Only now, with eyes opened by the first stirrings of passion, Charity sees Luca as more than a friend. In Luca's laughter and quiet strength, she finds the promise of a love so fierce it feels destined. But their bond is forbidden. Two different communities. Two worlds that cannot unite.

Refusing to surrender their hearts, Charity and Luca dare to dream of escape and come up with a plan: Charity will run away first and he will follow. But with one mistake and one cruel twist of fate their dreams are shattered. Now torn between her love for Luca and an overcoming sense of betrayal, Charity must fight for the life she longs for. Will destiny reunite the star-crossed lovers, or has she lost him forever?

Biographies

Rosie Goodwin is the four-million-copy bestselling author of more than forty novels. She is the first author in the world to be allowed to follow three of Catherine Cookson's trilogies with her own sequels. Having worked in the social services sector for many years, then fostered a number of children, she is now a full-time novelist. She is one of the top 50 most borrowed authors from UK libraries and has sold over four million copies across her career. Rosie lives in Nuneaton, the setting for many of her books, with her husband and their beloved dogs.

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Fortune Favours the Grave

A brand-new delightful urban fantasy set in London

E. S. Drake

Keynote

This charming urban fantasy is what you'd have if Terry Pratchett wrote *The Good Place*. When agents of luck are targeted by an unknown force, the newly formed Medusa Division are sent to investigate

Description

For the agents of the Fortuna Division, being lucky isn't just their blessing, it's their business. Responsible for handing out doses of good fortune to oblivious mortals, they are known for being invincible to disaster. However, when agents of luck begin to turn up dead, it is clear their own fortunes have taken a turn for the worse.

Fearing what this means for the Afterlife Agency as a whole, a small team are thrown together for the sole purpose of unravelling this mystery. Agents Erron Grover and Nikita Wolf face an almost insurmountable challenge, but it transpires they are hunting a mortal man, one who has developed an uncanny ability to see the auras of agency staff and piece together their role in controlling destiny.

It isn't long before they uncover an underground network of similarly gifted individuals who are more than willing to risk publicly exposing the agency's existence in a bid to take back control of their fate. This is one problem that maybe croissants and ice cream cannot solve. Has the agency's luck finally run out?

Sales Points

- **PERFECT PITCH:** Combines the wit of Terry Pratchett with the existential drama of *The Good Place*
- **PLANNED TRILOGY:** Zaffre has acquired three books in the Afterlife Agency series. *Acts of Cupidity* will be followed by *Fortune Favours the Grave* (book 2) about agents of luck and *Karma Before the Storm* (book 3) focusing on agents of revenge
- **TROPES:** Grumpy x Sunshine, M/M Friends to Romance, High Stakes (Good vs Evil), Larger-Than-Life Threat

Reviews

- 'This is the perfect book. It's joyful and funny and sad and flamboyant: everything I always went to Terry Pratchett for. I powered through and then was disappointed there was no more.' - Natasha Pulley
- '*Acts of Cupidity* is the perfect balance of fast paced and fun, with a delightful cast of characters and a great sense of humour. It hit me in the heart with a gold arrow!' - Rose Black, author of *Til Death Do Us Bard*

Biographies

E. S. Drake grew up in Bedford, a natural daydreamer as a child, penning poetry by moonlight and escaping into her imagination. She later moved to Bodmin Moor to dwell among the wild things, exploring different genres of writing while building a business teaching archery and survival skills. The darker aspects of her past have been her main motivation for creating flawed and complex characters to encapsulate the pitfalls of humanity, attempting to navigate our vulnerability with humour and compassion.

Market

Perfect for fans of Jodi Taylor, Thomas D Lee and Rose Black.

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Author's Location	Liskeard

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Honey in the Wound

A magical and epic tale of survival set over a century of Korean history

Jiyoung Han

Keynote

Spanning ninety years as one family of gifted Korean women's lives are upended under Japanese imperialism, *Honey in the Wound* is a powerful and sweeping debut novel for fans of *Pachinko* and *Homegoing*.

Description

A lyrical and suspenseful debut novel about a mysteriously gifted Korean family confronting the brutality of the Japanese empire.

A sister disappears and returns as a tiger. A mother's voice compels the truth from any tongue. A granddaughter divines secrets in others' dreams.

Spanning ninety years as one family is displaced across Asia, this novel follows Young-Ja, who finds herself struggling to survive after her family is killed by Japanese soldiers. The magical gift that once brought her joy - the ability to infuse her cooking with her feelings: love, peace, delight - transforms into something more powerful as her sorrow and anger seeps into her confections.

When her talent is noticed by a Korean resistance fighter, she's taken to Manchuria where she becomes enmeshed in a network of spies at a teahouse favoured by Japanese officials. Haunted at every turn by the spectre of Japanese soldiers, she endures horrors and brutality at the hands of the Imperial Army.

With spellbinding inter-generational sweep and atmospheric magical realism, *Honey in the Wound* explores the ways colonialism forces one family to transform, and ultimately survive.

Sales Points

- **Author credentials:** In the author's own words, "I am a Korean American woman who only learned as an adult about my grandparents' experience under Japanese rule. I've since committed to studying this history, in part for my BA at UChicago and Master's at Harvard. My first novel is an attempt to bring this history to life for more readers and to make amends for the ignorance of my youth."
- **A truly astonishing and emotional story:** As an unforgettable family perseveres in the long shadow of colonialism, *Honey in the Wound* transports readers to mountain forests where tiger-girls stalk, to Manchurian teahouses and opium dens where charming smiles veil secrets, and to the modern metropolises of Tokyo and Seoul where restless ghosts stir. This debut novel is a tender yet powerful multi-generational drama that shines light onto the twentieth century's darkest corners and gives voice to those who bore witness.

Biographies

Jiyoung Han was born in Seoul, Korea, and grew up in the American Midwest. She has lived and worked in four continents but now calls San Francisco home. When not writing, she conducts research in climate change and human decision-making. *Honey in the Wound* is her debut novel.

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Author's Location San Francisco, USA
Author Born Seoul, Korea

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The Seven O'Clock Club

Discover the heartwarming and uplifting Sunday Times bestseller

Amelia Ireland

Keynote

Four strangers who've lost their way.
One chance to find themselves.
But what if it's *not* just down to chance . . . ?

Description

'Finished in one sitting. Had no idea where it was going but knew there was something lurking. Incredible twist. Ends with a final lap of the ride when you think it is all over . . . I will be recommending this to friends' *Ericka Waller*

At seven o'clock one Tuesday evening, in a perfectly ordinary tower block near Westminster, four strangers meet for the first time. They each have three things in common: all suffered a traumatic experience six months earlier; all exhibit a dogged inability to put it behind them; and all accepted an invitation to attend tonight's counselling session with the unconventional Genevieve - a determined woman with an unusual theory to test.

But this isn't a novel about psychotherapy or self-forgiveness. Because there is another reason these four people have been brought together. And when that perfectly ordinary tower block near Westminster turns out to be not quite so ordinary, all five are forced to make some unexpected - and, for some, impossible - decisions . . .

A novel about friendship, strength and love, *The Seven O'Clock Club* is a reminder that life can give you hope. Even in the darkest of spaces.

READERS LOVE THE SEVEN O'CLOCK CLUB

'Heartwarming ... I had tears of joy in my eyes'

'Superbly well plotted and well paced. What I didn't expect was the twist...'

'This is a sit down and devour it in one sitting book, stays with you afterwards book'

'WHAT AN AMAZING BOOK! My easiest five stars so far this year'

'I was heartbroken, crying, laughing and just completely encouraging each character'

The Seven O'Clock Club was a Sunday Times bestseller in the second week of April 2025.

Sales Points

- Think Matt Haig's *The Midnight Library* meets Sarah Pinborough's *Behind Her Eyes* meets Rosie Walsh's *The Man Who Didn't Call*
- For readers who want something heartwarming - with a twist
- Will also appeal to readers of uplift/women's fiction; think Clare Pooley, Beth Morrey, Rachel Joyce
- For fans of BBC's *The Outlaws* too

Reviews

- "Finished in one sitting. Had no idea where it was going but knew there was something lurking. Incredible twist. Ends with a final lap of the ride when you think it is all over . . . I will be recommending this to friends" - *Ericka Waller*
- 'The divine Amelia Ireland has written a surprising and glorious debut novel. Ireland has created a world where broken hearts are mended and grief can only be released in mutual understanding. When Freya, Mischa, Callum and Victoria meet Genevieve Dempsey, they are lost and broken. As the novel unspools, they find their way to back to truth and ultimately-love.' - —*Adriana Trigiani*, bestselling author of *The Good Left Undone*
- 'An amazing debut that will surprise you in all the right ways.' - *Fabulous Magazine in the Sun*
- 'If you're looking for a novel to give you a serious boost of lightness in these dark

Pub date	30/04/26
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Author's Location	London
Book Location	London

times, pick this up.' - Cosmopolitan Magazine Best New Books in April

Biographies

Amelia Ireland wrote *The Seven O'Clock Club* in memory of her mother, who died shortly after being diagnosed with early onset dementia. She travels extensively for work, beginning the novel on a flight to Kampala and finishing it in a Hilton in Frankfurt.

A lawyer by profession, Amelia lives and works in London. *The Seven O'Clock Club* is her first novel.

Market

For fans of Matt Haig and Jojo Moyes.

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BONNIER
Books UK

FICTION



Local Heavens

A unique speculative romance reimaging of *The Great Gatsby*

K. M. Fajardo

Keynote

A speculative romance reimaging of *The Great Gatsby* set in 2075 New York, in which Filipino American Nick Carraway has just moved to the heart of the fractured New Americas, where he meets alluring billionaire Jay Gatsby and becomes entangled in the dark affairs of the city's glamorous elite while investigating the secret of Gatsby's identity.

Description

A corporate hacker. An elusive billionaire. A society trying to survive the American Nightmare.

New York City, 2075. Filipino-American Nick Carraway has just moved to the heart of the fractured New Americas, where he's struck by the city's contradictions - shining corporate towers casting bleak shadows over the slums of a crumbling middle class.

When Nick meets alluring new-money Jay Gatsby, he falls for Gatsby's frank charm and confident aura. But in a city where the wealthy flaunt tech-enhanced bodies to cheat death, surfaces aren't all they seem - and as a corporate-sanctioned cyberspace hacker, Nick knows that no secret can stay buried forever. He's the reason they don't. And his latest assignment? Investigate Gatsby himself.

As Nick becomes entangled in the dark affairs of the elite - and the devastating fallout of their actions on the city's most vulnerable - he must reckon with the limits of compassion and accountability across class and status. What takes precedence: Love, or truth? Heart, or soul?

A brilliant reimaging of Fitzgerald's classic tale of glamour, desire, and desperation, *Local Heavens* examines the guardrails of morality . . . and the price of desire.

Sales Points

- **GATSBY LIKE NEVER BEFORE:** This truly unique novel is a devoted love letter to the original, with additional themes of queer love and identity set against a backdrop of future America
- **AMBITIOUS DEBUT:** This brilliantly written upmarket debut is from an exciting new voice, sure to be a future talent on a par with Emily St John Mandel
- **ANNIVERSARY PUBLICATION:** Perfectly timed release as 2025 marks the centenary of *The Great Gatsby* original publication
- **METICULOUSLY RESEARCHED:** The author spent five years crafting and perfecting her version of this story, consulting various papers and analysis of F Scott Fitzgerald's classic

Reviews

- 'Easily one of my favorite books of the year. Fajardo's *Local Heavens* is not just a cyberpunk reinvention of *The Great Gatsby*, but a singular revelation in its own right. Creative, incisive, and elegantly crafted, this one will wow you even as it wrecks you-you'll be holding your breath to the end' - *Olivia Blake, New York Times bestselling author of The Atlas Six*
- 'Gorgeous, decadent atmosphere. *Local Heavens* pierces to the core of an American classic, transforming the original Gatsby's prosperity and prohibition into an era of technological dominance and the consequences therein. An exemplary execution of the cyberpunk genre' - *Chloe Gong, New York Times bestselling author of Immortal Longings*
- 'Beautiful, intelligent, timely, and so much fun, Fajardo's darkly futuristic re-imagining of *The Great Gatsby* is imbued with a powerful appreciation for humanity and all of its flaws, whilst also maintaining an electric sense of building dread. In true sci-fi fashion, moral questions hover around the characters like vultures, and absolutely nothing is as it seems. I could not look away. A phenomenal new talent has entered the SFF space' - *Esmie Jikiemi-Pearson, Sunday Times bestselling author of The Principle of Moments*
- 'Luring us in with glitz and glamor, neon and chrome, Fajardo dazzles readers with a stunning retelling of *The Great Gatsby*, peeling away the layers till all that remains is the painfully human, flawed story of a man caught in the unforgiving space between

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Author's Location	Toronto
Book Location	New York

the harsh reality and the seductive lies of the American Dream-and how it destroys everything it touches' - *K. M. Enright, Sunday Times bestselling author of Mistress of Lies*

Biographies

K. M. Fajardo is a second-generation Filipino Canadian writer from the Toronto suburbs. She graduated from the University of Waterloo with a degree in Global Business and Digital Arts before working in the tech industry. After a childhood spent roaming bookstores, she now lives and writes in Toronto with her rescue cat, Clementine. *Local Heavens* is her debut novel.

Market

For fans of Emily St John Mandel, Natasha Pulley's *The Mars House*, Jeanette Winterson's *Frankissstein* and Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah's *Chain-Gang All-Stars*

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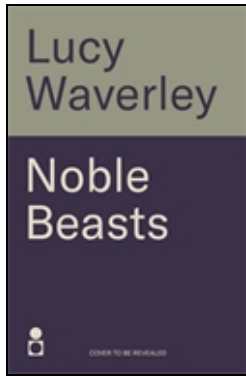


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ZAFFRE

FICTION



Noble Beasts

Lucy Waverley

Keynote

Inspired by the life of Edwin Landseer, this is the story of a famed artist, a scandalous affair, and the beasts that roamed his mind.

Description

It's the summer of 1858 and everyone who can has fled London. As a foul miasma hangs over the capital, Sir Edwin Landseer is toiling at a fever pitch. Because England needs *lions*, England *expects* lions, and fifteen years to finish a monument like Trafalgar is a *disgrace*.

But even as lions stalk the sculptor's alcohol-fueled nightmares, his dreams take him elsewhere. No longer an old man losing his grip on reality, but a young artist eager for life, recognition and love. Traversing decades, the story leaps back and forth, like a stag crossing a burn, from the squalor of Victorian London, to Landseer's youth in the waning Regency as the Duchess - twenty years his senior - bursts into Edwin's life.

Noble Beasts is a fascinating tale that blends the hazy romance of the Scottish Highlands with the history of London's renowned Trafalgar Square and the infamous rumour that young Edwin Landseer, the painter to call if you wanted dogs or deer, was taking more from the Duke of Bedford than the occasional commission. It charts his relationship to the Duchess, the Queen and the Royal Academy, alongside the events that led to his declaration of insanity in 1872.

Sales Points

- Reads like a modern take on Romanticism, beautiful imagery and use of poetry and historical events throughout.
- A new spin on an often-overlooked genre and story, perfect for a wide audience.
- An early draft of this novel was longlisted for the Caledonia Novel Award and shortlisted for the 2023 Cheshire Novel Prize.

Biographies

Lucy Waverley is a journalist who studied Ancient and Modern History, is currently working on a master's in art history and literature on Landseer, Walter Scott, and Robert Burns at the University of Oxford and is planning a PHD at The University of Edinburgh. She has completed the Faber Writing Course, and she lives in the Midlands with her husband and two daughters. An early draft of this novel was longlisted for the Caledonia Novel Award and shortlisted for the 2023 Cheshire Novel Prize.

Market

A genre-crossing book, NOBLE BEASTS will appeal to those interested in history, art, romance, scandal and literary fiction. Fans of Edwin Landseer and those interested in the creation of the iconic Trafalgar Square lions, alongside lovers of Scottish culture, the Highland landscape and historical scandal will love this new take on Landseer's life.

The audience for this book is made up of who love films like *The Favourite*, *Mr Turner* and series like *The Great* or biographies like Lucy Hughes-Hallett's *The Scapgoat* This also has a huge US audience due to the setting. We plan to produce early proofs for endorsements from people like Mairi Kidd, Philip Paris, Duncan Macmillan, Lucy Worsley.

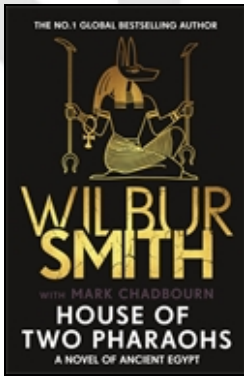
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House of Two Pharaohs

Step into the world of gold, gods and deadly ambition in the latest Sunday Times bestseller by the master of adventure

Wilbur Smith

Keynote

The next action-packed novel in Wilbur Smith's new Egyptian series

Description

Global bestselling author of *River God* and *The New Kingdom*, Wilbur Smith, returns with the next epic book in his brand-new Ancient Egyptian series.

FROM THE SHADOWS. A NEW EVIL WILL RISE. FACELESS. NAMELESS.

Since his appointment as Nomarch of Memphis, by the God-Pharaoh Rameses, Piay has thrown himself into pulling the city back from the brink. The famous white city walls have been rebuilt, the once starving inhabitants fed and every day caravans have arrived from the desert wastes, filled with the many riches looted and hidden by the Hyksos. But when the body of a murdered scribe is found sealed inside the newly constructed city vault - the mark of Anubis, god of death, scrawled next to him in his own blood - panic sweeps the city. Only the wisest man in all Egypt can solve this mystery - Piay's mentor, the great sage Taita.

Called from his place at the God-Pharaoh Rameses' side, Taita's arrival in Memphis calms the populace, but it isn't long before the mark of Anubis appears again, and again. Taita and Piay are drawn into a battle of wits against a criminal mastermind turned warlord, his aim - with the demise of the Hyksos - to see the kingdom of the Red Pretender restored and the forces of Rameses crushed.

Will everything that Taita has fought for be torn asunder? Or will he and Piay finally reunite the two kingdoms? Only time will tell. And time is running out.

Sales Points

- **GLOBAL PHENOMENON:** Wilbur Smith is an international sensation. The author of over fifty bestsellers, he is one of the most successful authors of our time
- **INCREDIBLE REACH:** He has sold over 130 million novels and been translated into twenty-six languages
- **POPULAR SERIES RETURNS:** There are six titles in the original Egyptian Series, and four titles planned in this new series, which began with *The New Kingdom* in 2021, *Titans of War* in 2022 and *Testament* in 2023
- **HUGE CAMPAIGN:** Publication will be supported by massive global consumer and PR activity
- **FAN FAVOURITE:** Featuring one of Wilbur Smith's fans' most adored characters, Taita

Biographies

Wilbur Smith was born in Central Africa in 1933. He became a full-time writer in 1964 following the success of *When the Lion Feeds*, and has since published over fifty global bestsellers, including the Courtney Series, the Ballantyne Series, the Egyptian Series, the Hector Cross Series and many successful standalone novels, all meticulously researched on his numerous expeditions worldwide. An international phenomenon, his readership built up over fifty-five years of writing, establishing him as one of the most successful and impressive brand authors in the world.

The establishment of the Wilbur & Niso Smith Foundation in 2015 cemented Wilbur's passion for empowering writers, promoting literacy and advancing adventure writing as a genre. The foundation's flagship programme is the Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize.

Wilbur Smith passed away peacefully at home in 2021 with his wife, Niso, by his side, leaving behind him a rich treasure trove of novels and stories that will delight readers for years to come. For all the latest information on Wilbur Smith's writing visit www.wilbursmithbooks.com or facebook.com/WilburSmith

Mark Chadbourn is a *Sunday Times* bestselling author of historical fiction novels about

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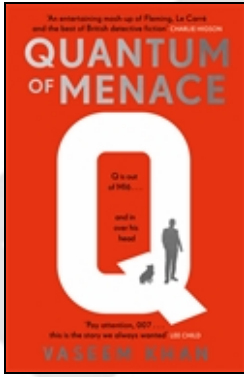
the Anglo-Saxon warrior *Hereward*, published under his pseudonym James Wilde. His *Age of Misrule* books, under his own name, have been translated into many languages. As a screenwriter, he's written for the BBC and is currently developing a series for Lionsgate and several of the streaming networks. He began his career as a journalist reporting from the world's hotspots.

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ZAFFRE

FICTION



Quantum of Menace

The James Bond spin-off mystery series led by the Head of Q Branch himself, Major Boothroyd

Vaseem Khan

Keynote

A spin-off cosy James Bond series focusing on the character Q from the much-loved author of the Inspector Chopra series

Description

*Q is out of MI6 . . .
. . . and in over his head*

After Q (aka Major Boothroyd) is unexpectedly ousted from his role with British Intelligence developing technologies for MI6's 00 agents, he finds himself back in his sleepy hometown of Wickstone-on-Water. His childhood friend, renowned quantum computer scientist Peter Napier, has died in mysterious circumstances, leaving behind a cryptic note. The police seem uninterested, but Q feels compelled to investigate and soon discovers that Napier's ground-breaking work may have attracted sinister forces . . . Can Q decode the truth behind Napier's death, even as danger closes in?

Sales Points

- **MUCH-LOVED CHARACTER:** This series centres on an older version of the beloved character Q from the original Ian Fleming series, most recently brought to life on screen by Ben Wishaw.
- **FULLY ENDORSED:** This endeavour is in tandem with the Ian Fleming estate who are working collaboratively with Vaseem and BBUK to bring this project to life.
- **EXPERIENCED AUTHOR:** Vaseem Khan is well respected and connected in the crime community and has written a number of series previously including the Inspector Chopra Mysteries and the Malabar House series.
- **LEAD TITLE:** This marks the launch of a major new crime series for Zaffre in Autumn 2025.

Reviews

- 'Excellent. An entertaining mash-up of Fleming, Le Carré and the best of British detective fiction' - *Charlie Higson*
- 'Pay attention, 007 ... this is the story we always wanted, and Vaseem Khan tells it like the master he is - fast, wise, funny, suspenseful and highly recommended' - *Lee Child*
- 'Clever, cunning and quirky ... Quintessential Khan' - *Mick Herron*
- 'A thrilling addition to the 007 universe ... A cracking tale worthy of Fleming himself' - *Matt Nixon, The Express*

Biographies

Vaseem Khan is the author of two award-winning crime series set in India, the Baby Ganesh Agency series set in modern Mumbai, and the Malabar House historical crime novels set in 1950s Bombay. His first book, *The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra*, was selected by the *Sunday Times* as one of the 40 best crime novels published 2015-2020, and is translated into 17 languages. In 2021, *Midnight at Malabar House* won the Crime Writers Association Historical Dagger. Vaseem was born in England, but spent a decade working in India. In 2006, he returned to the UK and joined University College London's Department of Security and Crime Science, where he has helped manage the Dawes Centre for Future Crime. In 2023, Vaseem was elected Chair of the UK Crime Writers' Association.

Market

For fans of Anthony Horowitz's James Bond series and Sophie Hannah's Poirot Mysteries as well as those who love a classic British mystery

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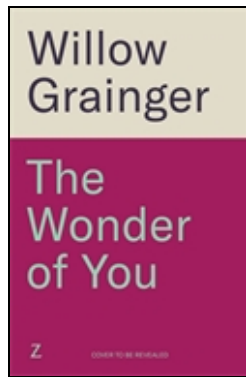
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The Wonder of You

Bethany Rutter

Keynote

An enemies-to-lovers romance set against the backdrop of the biggest film franchise in the world, this is a glamorous love story for fans of *Magnolia Parks* and *The Idea of You*.

Description

Emily Montgomery and Josh Sacco have two things in common: 1) they have played the main characters of WONDERWICK WOODS, a hugely popular global film franchise based on a series of bestselling novels, since they were kids, and 2) they cannot stand each other.

Emily is a consummate professional, she knows that she will have to fight to be taken seriously as an actress after coming of age as a beloved children's book character. She always knows her lines.

Josh is a Hollywood nepo baby, famous for always having a new girl on his arm. He constantly forgets his lines.

As they head back to set, both know that there's immense pressure on them both to deliver the biggest moment of the series yet, a kiss between their characters.

But can you kiss someone convincingly when you've hated them since you were 14 years old?

Sales Points

- **Trope-o-meter:** Childhood enemies to adult romance, workplace romance, English Girl x American Boy, Happily Ever After.
- **INSPIRED BY THE HARRY POTTER AND HUNGER GAMES MOVIE SETS:** this gently spicy romance is inspired by imagining what happens behind the scenes on big movie franchises inspired by fantasy and YA books and will appeal to fanfiction readers, particularly Dramione shippers.
- **WELL-CONNECTED INFLUENCER AUTHOR:** Willow Grainger is a pseudonym for Bethany Rutter, who has previously published romance, YA and non-fiction books under her own name. She is well-liked in the wider book industry and known for her immaculate taste.
- **GLAMOUR AND ESCAPISM:** romantic escapism set in and around London, on British film sets and in glamorous international locations including LA and Singapore.

Biographies

Willow Grainger is a pseudonym for Bethany Rutter, a writer, event chair and personal trainer. She lives in London.

Market

For fans of *Magnolia Parks*, *The Idea of You*, Lindsey Kelk, and Mhairi McFarlane.

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Vengeance

A brand-new Courtney Series epic for 2026 from the master of adventure, Wilbur Smith

Wilbur Smith

Keynote

A brand-new Courtney Series adventure and book 8 in the Birds of Prey sequence by Wilbur Smith.

Description

ENEMIES BY BIRTH. BROTHERS IN BLOOD.

Van Diemen's Land, 1835

Ralph Courtney has had everything taken from him - his wife, his son, his fortune, his freedom . . . Chased from the hills of Zululand, he had found refuge with Ann and Harry at the mission station at Mahikeng. Behind the great Barrier of Spears, out of reach of King Shaka's murderous brother, they had been safe for a time. But even here, a hundred miles north of the Orange River and British justice, Ralph could not escape his past . . .

Captured. Convicted. Sentenced. Transported six thousand miles - to the end of the world, the worst prison on earth. Ralph knows that escape is impossible. All is lost. But one day, a ship comes in over the bar and he is brought back to life by a man he believed dead.

Meanwhile, Ann and Harry are trapped in Mahikeng, their fate tied to that of the mission station. When new orders come from London, they have no choice but to return to the Zulu court and face the enemy they thought they'd left behind . . .

Blood, vengeance and destiny collide in the latest thrilling novel from the bestselling master of adventure, Wilbur Smith.

Sales Points

- The next epic adventure from Wilbur Smith - book 26 in the long-running Courtney series
- The 8th book in the Birds of Prey sequence of the Courtney series and follows on from Warrior King

Biographies

Wilbur Smith was born in Central Africa in 1933. He became a full-time writer in 1964, following the success of *When the Lion Feeds*, his first published novel. An international phenomenon, his readership built up over fifty-five years of writing, his works include the Courtney Series, the Ballantyne Series, the Egyptian Series, the Hector Cross Series and many successful standalone novels, all meticulously researched on his numerous expeditions worldwide.

The establishment of the Wilbur & Niso Smith Foundation, in 2015, was driven by Wilbur's passion for empowering writers, promoting literacy and advancing adventure writing as a genre. The foundation's flagship programme is the Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize.

Wilbur Smith passed away peacefully at home in 2021 with his wife, Niso, by his side, leaving behind a treasure-trove of novels and stories that will delight readers for years to come.

For all the latest information on Wilbur Smith's writing visit www.wilbursmithbooks.com or facebook.com/WilburSmith.

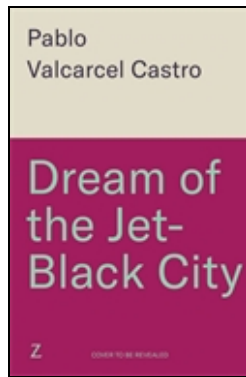
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Dream of the Jet-Black City

Strange the Dreamer meets The Shadow of the Wind in this immersive fantasy where dreams can become real

Pablo Valcárcel Castro

Keynote

Strange the Dreamer meets *The Shadow of the Wind* in this exciting and innovative fantasy with intricate worldbuilding, political twists and turns, a magic system based on dreams and nightmares being twisted into reality, a mythic storm overshadowing a dark and shaded city - and secrets from the past that threaten an entire nation.

Description

Ash and his crew race across rooftops in pursuit of living lightning from the perpetually raging Motherstorm. This energy the jet-black city of Onyxia depends upon is all that stands between them and starvation. When a monstrous nightmare attacks, death is all but certain - until Ash dreams a shadow panther into existence to protect himself. But this new power comes with a price: either conscription to the harrowing Academy or indebtedness to a wealthy patron.

Daerna belongs to a devout sisterhood who sing canticles to pacify the eternal storm. When she learns of a mysterious sickness spreading through the city's populace, she feels it is her duty to help, even though her order has abandoned the afflicted to their fate. With fellow rebel sisters, her search into the root cause will lead her away from the light into the dark heart of the city where danger lurks.

Geil is a creature born of Dream and bound to the Drake form she conjured to survive her Academy training. While nightmare-hunting she encounters a young girl with the dreamer gift and feels compelled to save her from enduring the same cruel fate she faced. But this means returning to the jet-black city, home to the past she has tried to outrun and navigating the political turbulence in the wake of an election.

As each pursues their own ends, they soon discover that they share common goals. But can they find a way to learn from the secrets the city has buried within its past before their whole world turns into a living nightmare?

Sales Points

- **ON-TREND BLEND:** The magic system of *The Sandman* meets the lyrical prose of Carlos Ruiz Zafon with the political intrigue of *House of the Dragon*
- **INCREDIBLE WORLDBUILDING:** The magical, political and theological systems seamlessly unite to create an intricately detailed, layered world for the narrative
- **DEBUT AUTHOR:** This is Pablo's first novel and will form the start of a trilogy set in the same beautifully realised world

Biographies

Pablo Valcárcel Castro grew up in a bilingual household in the Canary Islands, where he hid from sunny skies in musty libraries and fantasy books. After working as a lawyer and running a small video games studio, he turned his yearning for beautiful and impossible worlds into writing them as well as teaching entrepreneurship to make them happen.

Market

Perfect for fans of Brandon Sanderson, Adrian Tchaikovsky, Mark Lawrence and Patrick Rothfuss

Pub date	14/05/26
Price	£18.99
ISBN	9781785124525
Binding	Hardback
Format	234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent	496 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	Spain

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International Relations

A laugh-out-loud queer fake dating romance

Zac Hammett

Keynote

A laugh-out-loud fake dating novel from an upcoming name in romantic fiction.

Description

Max has never had time for a relationship - working in the high stakes world of international diplomacy, the best he can manage is squeezing in one night stands with "himbos" between his ongoing efforts to win a promotion. But when he tries to multitask by hooking up with a visiting dignitary at a black-tie dinner, it blows up spectacularly in his face and Max is discreetly advised that his personal life is not helping his career ambitions. In this line of work, appearances matter, and Max is losing ground to his long-term rival, happily married 'family man' Quentin.

Max decides to beat Quentin at his own game by recruiting a fake boyfriend, Leo, from an actors' agency. But some visa complications force Max and Leo to make their relationship official by getting married, the stakes are raised higher than Max ever intended. There's only one thing that could make all this even more complicated - if Max and Leo's feelings for each other start becoming real . . .

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS is a fake dating romance filled with glamorous locations, laugh-out-loud set pieces, and a love story that will capture your heart.

Tropes include:

Fake dating
Marriage of convenience
Grumpy x sunshine

Sales Points

- A promising new name in romantic fiction.
- Zac Hammett is very good at giving us a glimpse into these unique, high stakes, elite worlds.
- An authentic feeling MM queer romance with wonderfully subtle humour throughout.
- Matt's first book with us, *See You at the Finish Line*, is set for a TV adaptation with Noho Film & Television

Biographies

Zac Hammett is the pen name of Matt Knott, award winning screenwriter and author of the memoir *A Class of Their Own: Adventures in Tutoring the Super-Rich*. He is in demand as a writer of rom coms across TV and film. His debut novel was *See You at the Finish Line*.

Pub date 14/05/26
Price £9.99
ISBN 9781804189955
Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 384 pages
Word Count
Territory World

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Wartime for the Flour Mill Girls

The second book in a powerful WWI saga

Anna Cliffe

Keynote

The second book in the uplifting and emotional saga series of family, friendship, love and war set in the heart of WWI Kent. For fans of *The Guernsey Girls* and *The Woolworths Girls* series.

Description

Crumford, Kent, 1915

WWI is now in full swing and with their brothers away fighting the Graham sisters have an increasingly important role to play at the family smock mill. But while Daisy and her cousin Olive are both nursing and Holly has taken on the role of a busy mother and wife, Cynthia is stretched to her ends trying to help her husband keep the business afloat. Violet, meanwhile, having lost interest in the bakery, is heavily involved in the suffragette movement, causing rifts among the family.

But through the ups and downs of war, love could be blossoming. When Daisy meets a dashing young doctor in Canterbury they embark on a flirtation. But everything is not as it may seem. When the family's reputation is put at stake, the Graham girls must pull together - or risk losing everything.

Sales Points

- The second book in the heartwarming and dramatic Flour Mill Girls series.
- Wartime sagas are always popular with readers.
- Part of Memory Lane, a dedicated community of saga readers.
- Themes of war, love, family and women's rights.

Biographies

A former journalist, Anna Cliffe lives in East Kent close to the sea. The clear sight of France across the English Channel often makes her wonder what it must have been like for the wives and daughters and sisters left behind when their menfolk went to fight the Great War; being able to see where their loved ones actually were must have been very strange. The Flour Mill Girls trilogy is a love letter to those women.

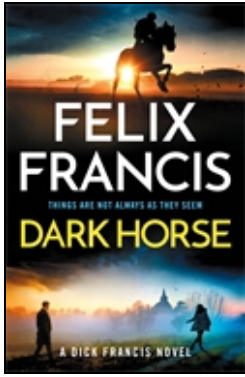
Pub date	14/05/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781838779351
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	400 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World

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Dark Horse

The brand new 2025 novel from the master of the racing thriller

Felix Francis

Keynote

The brand new Sid Halley thriller from the master of the racing thriller...

Description

Imogen Duffy is a young Irish jockey, whose fledgling career is given a huge boost when she wins a prestigious horse race at the Cheltenham Steeplechasing Festival. But all is not well in her life. She has a violent and controlling boyfriend, also a jockey, and he becomes increasingly jealous of her success. As a result, she tries to break off their relationship, but he won't take 'no' for an answer. He attacks her, and claims that he'd rather kill her than allow her to leave him.

Imogen flees her home in Ireland, coming to England to get away from him, and to continue her riding career at a racing stable in Lambourn, where she finds increasing success. But the abusive boyfriend follows her across the Irish Sea, stalks her, steals from her, attacks her again, and then tries to ruin both her career and her reputation.

Imogen's desperate father turns to Sid Halley for help, and Sid reluctantly agrees to investigate, but then finds that he is also being stalked and threatened. Can Sid find out what the hell is going on, and before it is too late?

Sales Points

- **ONE OF A KIND:** The best and most consistent horse racing thriller writer in the UK. We've sold over 60,000 copies of his first two titles.
- **MASSIVE PEDIGREE:** Since taking over from Dick Francis, Felix's books have sold 950k+ copies through the TCM, to a very big and loyal fanbase. He is one of our most pre-ordered fiction authors in hardback and eBook.

Biographies

A *New York Times*, *Sunday Times* and international bestseller, acclaimed author, Felix Francis, was born in Oxford, England, son of the famous mystery author, Dick Francis and his wife, Mary. Felix graduated from London University with a Bachelor of Science degree. His initial career led him into physics, where he was a successful teacher of A Level Physics for 17 years, becoming head of the science department at Bloxham School. Felix next went into business, spending 13 years as a company director and deputy chairman of World Challenge Expeditions Ltd. But he could not deny that his family's gift of writing had been passed along to him, so in 2005, he started his third career - as an author. His many other accomplishments include being an expert outdoorsman, marksman and pilot. He lives in rural Northamptonshire with his wife, Debbie, and their dogs, who are the ones really in charge!

Market

For readers of contemporary thrillers and Dick Francis novels.

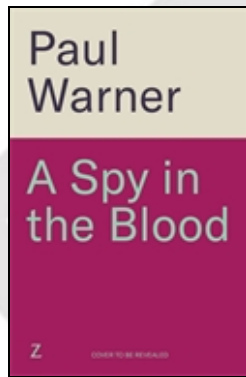
Pub date	21/05/26
Price	£10.99
ISBN	9781785125904
Binding Format	Paperback 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent Word Count	400 pages
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location	Oxfordshire
Author Born	Ireland, England
Book Location	UK

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A Spy in the Blood

For fans of *Slow Horses* and *Damascus Station*, a gripping espionage thriller

Paul Warner

Keynote

A legendary British spy comes out of retirement to rescue his missing daughter in this gripping contemporary spy thriller for fans of *Slow Horses* and *Taken*.

Description

Mark Wolfe was the greatest spy of his generation. Now retired from active service for over two decades, his family know him as a quiet, affable civil servant with no idea how to use the TV remote.

Mark still works for MI6, helping to recruit new agents, fending off advances from private security companies who offer a far higher salary than his paymasters at Vauxhall Cross. But he hasn't got his hands dirty since the spying game involved dead-dropping intel beneath railway station clocks in East Berlin, Czechoslovakia and other foreign lands that no longer exist.

When his daughter reveals an unhealthy obsession with joining the service, he is reluctantly thrown back into a terrifying new world of modern espionage.

Sales Points

- **OUTSTANDING PITCH:** Brilliant hook, upmarket, gripping writing, emotional heft, ready-built series, with each set in a different country.
- **EVERGREEN AREA OF MARKET:** As we've seen with Rory Clements, this is a perennially strong part of the market with a very consistent audience.
- **HOLLYWOOD CALLING:** A major Hollywood star attached to star and direct the TV adaptation - soon to be announced.

Biographies

Paul Warner received a distinction for his Creative Writing MA at City, University of London. Long obsessed by espionage fiction, *A Spy in the Blood* is Paul's debut spy thriller.

Market

For fans of Mick Herron, David McCloskey, Charles Cumming, Charles Beaumont and Rory Clements.

Pub date	21/05/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781785129957
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	352 pages
Word Count	
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location	UK
Author Born	UK
Book Location	UK, Afghanistan

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Format 234mm x 153mm
(Royal)
Extent 400 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc
Canada
Author's Location London, UK
Author Born London, UK
Book Location London, UK

Untitled Gill Peck 3

Robert Peston

Keynote

The final thriller in the journalist Gil Peck trilogy. The Prime Minister falls seriously ill with a deadly virus before quickly succumbing. But journalist Gil Peck doesn't buy the official line from Whitehall and sets out to investigate . . .

Description

Journalist Gil Peck is back; in therapy, married to Jess - now editor of the Financial Chronicle - and still driven by the need to prove a point that he can't quite identify.

Yet all is not well at home. Jess is fed up with Gil's obsession with his job, and she's kicked him out of their home.

But Gil has never let anything get in the way of a scoop. He and Jess have landed the interview of a lifetime with the Prime Minister, Stella Barnsbury, for the podcast they co-host, and Gil has no intention of missing it.

During the interview, Barnsbury begins to pale, her coughing intensifying before she finally collapses.

Within 48 hours, the Prime Minister is dead.

Gil is used to landing the biggest stories. But as the last person to see the PM alive, he's now a main character. And when foul play is confirmed, he's also a prime suspect . . .

Sales Points

- **EXCELLENT SALES:** We've sold 150k copies of Robert's two thrillers to date. A real indie and high street favourite, but with mass market appeal.
- ***THE* EXPERT ON POLITICS & FINANCE:** The Virus is set in the present day, and explore dark money, AI influence and international global politics amongst London's elites.
- **DEDICATED AUTHOR:** Robert is up for all kinds of PR activity, both at party conferences and in independent bookshops, Waterstones stores and around the places he travels.

Biographies

Robert Peston is ITV's political editor, presenter of the politics show 'Peston', founder of the education charity, Speakers for Schools (www.speakers4schools.org), and vice president of Hospice UK. He has written four critically acclaimed non-fiction books, *How Do We Fix This Mess?*, *Who Runs Britain?*, *Brown's Britain* and his latest, *WTF?*, which was described by the *Financial Times* as 'mandatory reading' for anyone seeking to understand Brexit, Trump and the collapse of confidence in western liberalism. For a decade until the end of 2015, he was at the BBC, as economics editor and business editor, and in the 1990s he was at the *Financial Times*, as political editor, financial editor and head of investigations. At the BBC he played a prominent role in exposing the causes and consequences of the credit crunch, banking crisis and Great Recession. Peston has won more than 30 awards for his journalism, including Journalist of the Year and Scoop of the Year (twice) from the Royal Television Society. *The Whistleblower* is his first novel. His blog is itv.com/robertpeston, on Facebook he is [facebook.com/pestonITV](https://www.facebook.com/pestonITV) and he is @peston on Twitter.

Market

Political thrillers for fans of Robert Harris, Frank Gardner and Tom Bradby.

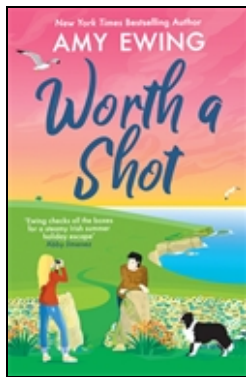
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Pub date	28/05/26
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ISBN	9781804187098
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	272 pages
Word Count	
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

Worth a Shot

The steamy Irish holiday romance hit of the summer!

Amy Ewing

Keynote

A wildly romantic story on a wild island with the promise of hope, redemption and self-discovery at its core.

Description

'A charming and fun read that will have you pining for a summer on a misty Irish island' - Georgie Tilney, author of *Beach Rivals*

A wildly romantic story on a wild island with the promise of hope, redemption and self-discovery at its core.

Cordelia James was once at the top of her game—a renowned street photographer with a massive social media following, gallery showings in Chelsea, and a lucrative book deal. But after the sudden death of her father, everything changed. Now, Cordelia can barely force herself to leave her apartment. That is, until she sees an ad for a summer gig at a cosy cottage on Ireland's picturesque Inishmore island. Rent-free, plus a small stipend if willing to do some menial housework and look after an elderly neighbour. Cordelia is on a plane before she can talk herself out of it.

But practically the moment she steps off the boat, she crashes—literally—into Niall O'Connor, a grumpy local who's just returned home to Inishmore from Dublin. Cordelia's camera breaks, and Niall doesn't give a horse's arse about it. He's nursing a broken heart and trying to patch up a broken life, and he has no time for posh American tourists or their thousand-dollar hobbies. The more Cordelia's and Niall's paths cross, the more they make each other's lives hell. But as with all rivalries, their hatred is about to reach a tipping point—and it's going to heat up their cool coastal nights.

Featuring a lovable band of quirky supporting characters, *Worth a Shot* is an emotionally gripping tale of love, passion, art, food, and finding your community—even if that community happens to be on a remote island thousands of miles from home.

Sales Points

- Will appeal to fans of Sophie Kinsella, Sarah Morgan and Beth O'Leary
- Irish and UK appeal with TIKTOK adjacent content
- Amy Ewing is a bestselling author of three books (*The Jewel*, *The White Rose*, *The Black Key*). *The White Rose* was a New York Times bestseller

Reviews

- "Ewing checks all the boxes for a steamy Irish summer holiday escape" - Abby Jimenez, *NYT bestselling author of Part of Your World*
- "Rich, warm, and deeply romantic, *Worth a Shot* is effortlessly charming. I want to live inside the world Amy Ewing has lovingly crafted" - Cara Bastone, *author of Ready or Not*
- "A charming and fun read that will have you pining for a summer on a misty Irish island" - Georgie Tilney, *author of Beach Rivals*
- "Compulsively readable ... The magical atmosphere of Inishmore and its residents will captivate readers" - *Library Journal*

Biographies

As the daughter of a librarian, books were a crucial part of Amy Ewing's childhood. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing from The New School, and her young adult fantasy novel *The Jewel* became a New York Times and international bestseller. Amy lives in New York City with her senior rescue dog, Sam, and far too many books than she has shelf space for. *Worth A Shot* is her debut novel for adults.

Amy Ewing is the author of *The Lone City* trilogy, YA fantasy dystopian series: *The Jewel* (2014), *The White Rose* (2015), *The Black Key* (2016).

She is also the author of *The Cerulean* duology, YA fantasy duology: *The Cerulean* (2019), *The Alcazar* (2020)

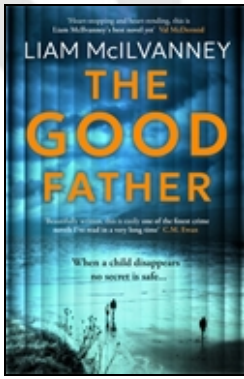
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ISBN	9781804186961
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	368 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World English Language
Author's Location	Dunedin, New Zealand
Author Born	Scotland
Book Location	Ayrshire Coast, Scotland

The Good Father

The stunning psychological thriller from the award-winning crime writer

Liam McIlvanney

Keynote

What could be worse than your child disappearing? An emotional, whipsmart and brilliantly clever thriller about a child's disappearance, and the disintegration of a family in the aftermath.

Description

Gordon and Sarah Rutherford are normal, happy people with successful fulfilling lives. A son they adore, a house on the beach, a safe, friendly and honest community in a picture-postcard town on the Ayrshire coast.

Until one day Bonnie the lab comes in from the beach alone. Their son Rory has just gone - the only trace left is a single black Adidas slider.

Their lives don't fall apart immediately - while there's still hope (and no body) they can dig deep and try to carry on. Rather it's a process of abrasion, a wearing away of that happiness and normality; a slow degradation, a gradual breakdown - until they'll never be the people they were before. This sort of tragedy impacts a whole town - does the community still feel the same after? What are folk saying about you? Who are your friends? Who can you trust?

When the worst thing has happened and you've lost everything, you either go under or you rebuild, start again. What could be worse than your child disappearing?

Sales Points

- **A CUT ABOVE:** A brilliantly written crime novel with photoreal characters and a cracking premise, flawlessly pulled off. Perennially successful subject, but subverted and pulled off uniquely.
- **AWARD-WINNING:** Winner of the Ngaio Marsh Award 2014, Bloody Scotland McIlvanney Prize 2018, finalist in the McIlvanney Prize 2022, shortlisted for the Theakston Crime Novel of the Year 2019.
- **CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED:** Has received rave reviews in the Times Literary Supplement, Daily Mail, Guardian, The Times, New York Times, Sydney Morning Herald and the Scotsman, and praise from fellow crime writers Val McDermid, Ann Cleeves, Mick Herron, Liz Nugent and more.

Reviews

- 'Heart-stopping and heart-rending, this is **Liam McIlvanney's best novel yet**' - VAL McDERMID
- 'A moving and absorbing dive into grief and love, and how far a parent would go to save their child . . . McIlvanney has won prizes for his writing and his latest crime novel, *The Good Father*, shows why.' - THE OBSERVER
- 'This is McIlvanney at his masterful best' - DAILY MAIL
- '*The Good Father* by Liam McIlvanney shows that the writer has inherited his nigh-legendary father's writing skills' - FINANCIAL TIMES

Biographies

Liam McIlvanney was born in Scotland and studied at the universities of Glasgow and Oxford. He has written for numerous publications, including the *London Review of Books* and the *Times Literary Supplement*. His first book, *Burns the Radical*, won the Saltire First Book Award. His crime novels have won multiple awards, including the Bloody Scotland McIlvanney Prize, the Ngaio Marsh Award for Best Crime Novel, and he has also been shortlisted for the Theakston Crime Novel of the Year. He is Stuart Professor of Scottish Studies at the University of Otago, New Zealand. He lives in Dunedin with his wife and four sons.

Market

Psychological thriller readers - predominantly female, 30+. Fans of high quality, big hook commercial thrillers. Readers of Gillian McAllister, Lisa Jewell and Claire Douglas.

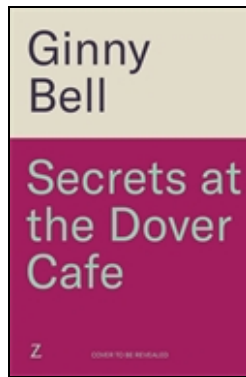
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Secrets at the Dover Cafe

The sixth book in dramatic World War II Dover Cafe series

Ginny Bell

Keynote

An emotional WWII family saga

Description

THE SIXTH BOOK IN THE MUCH-LOVED DOVER CAFE WWII SAGA SERIES

September 1941. The war is closing in on every shore. For Marge, Dover doesn't feel like home anymore - and her long-awaited transfer is her ticket out. But freedom comes with a catch. Whisked away to a shadowy outpost in Folkestone, she joins an elite group of Wrens chosen for "The Game," a top-secret wargame that could turn the tide against the deadly U-boats prowling the Atlantic.

Marge is determined to make her mark - until she learns her commanding officer is Captain Robert Douglas: the man she swore she'd never face again. One wrong move, and her future in the service could sink before it's even begun.

Back in Dover, Nellie is trapped in a dangerous bargain. Allowing Lou Carter to stash black-market contraband in her café basement seemed harmless enough - until dangerous men start showing up and whispers ripple through the neighbourhood. The walls are closing in, and the Castle family's most dangerous secrets may be about to surface.

Two women. Two battles. One war that could tear everything apart.

Sales Points

- The sixth book in the brilliant and much-loved Dover Cafe WWII saga series
- Ginny Bell is a big part of our ever-growing and revitalised Memory Lane saga community with 3.4K followers on Facebook and over 3,000 newsletter subscribers
- Continues to follow the colourful and varied Castle family

Reviews

- 'Characters you'll come to love and a story that keeps you turning the page.' - *Rosie Goodwin*

Biographies

Ginny Bell went to school in Dover, never realising at the time what a fascinating and crucial role the town played in World War Two. She is a freelance editor who lives in London with her three children. The Dover Café at War was her first novel and there are now 6 books in the Dover Cafe series.

Pub date 04/06/26
Price £8.99
ISBN 9781785129100
Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 384 pages
Word Count
Territory World English Language

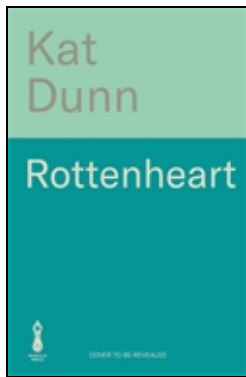
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Rottenheart

The unmissable new gothic horror novel from the author of Hungerstone

Kat Dunn

Keynote

From the author of *Hungerstone*, an unmissable gothic, sapphic, gender-swapped reimagining of *Hamlet*

Description

Odette and Cecilia are young women, living between their grand homes in Hampstead and the imposing, ancient Herne House in Suffolk. Though Odette's artist mother Lydia keeps a tight grasp on her, she and her beloved Cecilia are mostly left free to roam, to learn and to love.

But when Lydia inexplicably sickens and dies, a dark veil falls. As the funeral rites are performed, Odette's aunt, the cold and implacable Claudine, increasingly takes charge of the household, while her father retreats to his study. Odette, lost in grief, disappears into the shadows.

But as Claudine is announced as Odette's new stepmother, a sinister presence in the house makes itself known. To her horror, Odette realises that despite her death, Lydia never really left. And now she wants revenge . . .

Inspired by *Hamlet*, the ultimate revenge tragedy, *Rottenheart* is the stunning new sapphic gothic horror novel from Kat Dunn, the lauded author of *Hungerstone* and *Bitterthorn*. Set in the 1890s, this a story of love and grief, mothers and daughters, death and madness.

Sales Points

- The brand new gothic horror novel from the author of *HUNGERSTONE*, one of the buzziest and most acclaimed launch titles of the year
- Kat Dunn's YA novel *BITTERTHORN* was shortlisted for the Nero Book Awards and the Polari Prize and nominated for the Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing.

Reviews

- 'Rich and daring. This is everything I dream of in a novel.' - Ava Reid on *HUNGERSTONE*
- 'A beguiling feast of a novel.' - Lucy Rose, author of *The Lamb* on *HUNGERSTONE*
- 'Ravenous, righteous and utterly sublime.' - Bea Fitzgerald on *HUNGERSTONE*
- 'An extraordinary book.' - Jennifer Saint on *HUNGERSTONE*

Biographies

Kat Dunn grew up in London and has lived in Japan, Australia and France. She has a BA in Japanese from SOAS and an MA in English from Warwick. She's written about mental health for *Mind* and the *Guardian* and worked as a translator for Japanese television. Kat Dunn's YA fiction has been published by Head of Zeus and Andersen Press, including *Bitterthorn*, which was shortlisted for the Nero Book Awards and the Polari Prize and nominated for the Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing. *Hungerstone* was her hugely acclaimed adult fiction debut. Follow Kat @KatAliceDunn

Pub date	04/06/26
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Extent	400 pages
Word Count	
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location	London
Author Born	London
Book Location	Hampstead, London and Suffolk

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Extent Word Count Territory	320 pages UK C/Wealth ex Can,ANZ
Author's Location	New Zealand
Author Born	New Zealand
Book Location	New Zealand

The Mires

a powerful literary page-turner set in New Zealand

Tina Makereti

Keynote

A literary page turner set in New Zealand for readers of Celeste Ng, Elif Shafak and Mohsin Hamid.

Description

'Water will come and you think it will be soft. You think it will be smooth and find its way around your things: your houses and cars and furniture, your gardens and windows and hope. But water can be the foot of an elephant, the horns of a moose, a herd of buffalo running from a lion, water can be the kauri falling in the forest, a two-tonne truck, a whole stadium filled with 50,000 people, screaming . . . Water is life, and water can be death.'

Three women give birth in different countries and different decades. In the near future, they become neighbours in a coastal town in Aotearoa, New Zealand.

Single parent Keri has her hands full with four-year-old Walty and teen Wairere, a strange and gifted child who is drawn to the waters of the indigenous wetlands. New to the street is Sera and her family, who are refugees from ecological devastation in Europe and living next door is Janet, an older white woman with an opinion about everything.

When Janet's adult son Conor unexpectedly arrives home sporting a fresh buzzcut and a disturbing tattoo, no one suspects just how extreme the young man has become - no one except Wairere who can feel both the danger, and the swamp beneath their street, watching and waiting.

FINALIST OF THE OCKHAM NEW ZEALAND BOOK AWARDS 2025

Sales Points

- **For readers of beautiful literary novels that allow cultural learning/ exploration:** about Aotearoa's Indigenous people, the challenge of friendship across boundaries and life as a refugee.
- **Both contemporary and eternal themes:** Connects to readers via themes that transcend NZ - of family, prejudice, extremism, the environment, loneliness, the search for belonging, environmentalism.
- **Prize-winning and internationally well-regarded author:** Her novels have been longlisted for the Ockham NZ Book Awards Jann Medicott Acorn Prize for Fiction and the Dublin Literary Award.

Reviews

- *'The Mires* is about the monsters we've created and the power we have to stop them. A truly magnificent novel' - Shankari Chandran, author of CHAI TIME AT CINNAMON GARDENS
- *'The Mires* is that rarest of creatures, a beautifully written, page turner. I couldn't put it down. Charged with urgency and imagination, Makereti's novel introduces us to a group of women whose stories are inseparably entwined with both one and other's and that of the land. This is both a timely and timeless novel. It manages to strike a much-needed hopeful note whilst simultaneously sharing some devastating truths.' - Jan Carson, author and writer
- 'Absorbing and propulsive, *The Mires* is a thought-provoking exploration of climate change, belonging and survival, told through the eyes of three women in a near-future Aotearoa, New Zealand.' - Amélie Skoda, author of BETHNAL GREEN
- *'The Mires* flows with both the beauty and danger of a river, sometimes plunging the reader into cold and unpleasant truths, but navigating them with depth and wonder. This is an important book . . . Beautiful and confronting in equal measure' - Zoe Rankin, author of THE VANISHING PLACE

Biographies

Tina Makereti is a New Zealander of Te Atiawa, Ngati Tuwharetoa, Ngati Rangatahi-Matakore and Pakeha descent. She writes novels, short fiction and creative non-fiction.

www.footnotepress.com



Her first novel, *Where the Rekohu Bone Sings*, has been described as a New Zealand classic, was longlisted for the Dublin Literary Award 2016 and also won the 2014 Nga Kupu Ora Aotearoa Maori Book Award for Fiction. Her second novel, *The Imaginary Lives of James Poneke*, was longlisted for the Ockham NZ Book Awards Jann Medicott Acorn Prize for Fiction and the Dublin Literary Award.

The Mires, her third novel, was published by Ultimo Press in Australia and New Zealand and is publishing with HarperVia in the US and by Footnote Press in the UK.

Orders to: MDL, Units 5-8 Lye Industrial Estate,
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FOOTNOTE

FICTION

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(Royal)
Extent 400 pages
Word Count
Territory World Eng Lan ex US,
CAN

Author's Location Herefordshire, UK
Author Born UK
Book Location UK and Iran

Breakout

The breakneck 2026 thriller from the no.1 bestselling SAS hero

Chris Ryan

Keynote

A plot revolving around Iran, exploring the rumours that soldiers managed to smuggle out pineapple-sized containers of enriched uranium from the mountains before the US bombs struck.

Description

A plot revolving around Iran, exploring the rumours that soldiers managed to smuggle out pineapple-sized containers of enriched uranium from the mountains before the US bombs struck.

Sales Points

- **LEGENDARY SAS NO.1 BESTSELLER:** Over 5 million books sold worldwide - and we've sold over 225k across our titles.
- **RIPPED FROM THE NEWS HEADLINES:** Never before has Chris written about such up-to-the-minute military and geopolitical topics - from Ukraine and Russia to China and international soft power.
- **BRILLIANT SPOKESPERSON:** On the SAS, male mental health and the military, as well as veteran care and more. Runs his own podcast in which he interviews soldiers with incredible stories of heroism

Biographies

Chris Ryan was born in Newcastle.

In 1984 he joined 22 SAS. After completing the year-long Alpine Guides Course, he was the troop guide for B Squadron Mountain Troop. He completed three tours with the anti-terrorist team, serving as an assaulter, sniper and finally Sniper Team Commander.

Chris was part of the SAS eight-man team chosen for the famous Bravo Two Zero mission during the 1991 Gulf War. He was the only member of the unit to escape from Iraq, where three of his colleagues were killed and four captured, for which he was awarded the Military Medal. Chris wrote about his experiences in his book *The One That Got Away*, which became an immediate bestseller. Since then he has written over fifty books and presented a number of very successful TV programmes.

Market

For fans of fast-paced military/SAS thrillers, and readers of Andy McNab, James Deegan and Lee Child.

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Highland Getaway

Amber Eve

Keynote

A case of mistaken identity lands an influencer at a Scottish castle in the Highlands, where she must team up with the grumpy handy man to save the castle from becoming a chain hotel - and try her best not to fall in love with him...

Description

The perfect Scottish getaway. The wrong influencer. All publicity is good publicity . . . right?

Rosie Winter has spent her life believing that the right outfit can change everything - but when she's mistakenly invited to an influencer retreat at a castle in the Scottish Highlands, she's forced to swap designer dreams for cosy jumpers, freezing lochs and locals who see straight through her social media façade.

Most infuriating of all is Hunter Stuart, a rugged, no-nonsense Scot who seems determined to challenge everything Rosie thinks she knows about success, happiness and herself. As curated perfection gives way to chaos, muddy boots and Hunter's infuriating wisdom, Rosie realizes that real transformation doesn't come from looking the part - it comes from Scotland itself and the people who call it home.

A sweet and funny, heart-warming romcom set in a remote Highlands castle for fans of rivals-to-lovers, slow-burn and mistaken-identity romances.

Sales Points

- Amber Eve is a popular indie romance author with 15.9k Instagram followers and a fast-growing TikTok platform of 7.7k.
- Amber is the author of the second-most popular lifestyle blog in the UK (foreveramber.com) and is building up a successful and engaged Substack list too.
- Her previously self-published editions have been hugely popular as ebooks and audio, with *The Accidental Actress* racking up over a million pages read on Kindle Unlimited, and she has successfully expanded into the German, French, Spanish and Italian markets with her translations.
- Amber is a prolific writer with lots more ideas for romance novels with heart and wit that appeal to the ravenous audience of romance readers.
- *Highland Getaway* features tropes beloved by romance readers, including popular ones like enemies-to-lovers, slow-burn, small-town romance, mistaken identity, Scottish Highlands romantic escape, there's only one bed and secret cast laird.

Biographies

AMBER EVE is a former journalist who was born and raised in Scotland, and has been writing stories her entire life. Her Substack, the *Accidental Author*, is one of the top-rated newsletters, and she's also written for publications like *The Sun*, *The Scotsman* and more. She's a sun-loving Swiftie who once lived next to an International Man of Mystery, and she was not named after her red hair, although everyone assumes she was.

Find her on instagram @ForeverAmberOfficial.

Market

Ideal for fans of Jenny Colgan, Emily Henry, Katherine Center, Sarah Adams and Marian Keyes; romance readers who like low-spice novels with lots of heart and wit.

Pub date 04/06/26
Price £9.99
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Extent 400 pages
Word Count
Territory World

Author's Location Bathgate
Author Born Scotland
Book Location West Lothian



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Binding Paperback
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 Format)
Extent 384 pages
Word Count
Territory Eng Lang UK,EU,C/W
 exCan

Tentacles and Triathlons

Ashley Bennett

Description

REVISED AND EXPANDED PAPERBACK EDITION

When parks department supervisor Reece Rollins decides to sign up for a triathlon, there are two things holding him back. One, his fear of monsters. Two, his sub-par swimming skills.

At the urging of his sister's wolverine mate, Reece joins Leviathan Fitness to train in the gym's olympic size swimming pool. After running into Reece at the pool, Cyrus offers to help Reece get ready to win the race.

New feelings arise from the depths as Reece and Cyrus learn that monsters and humans go together, tentacle in hand. The only question is: can these two hold on to their new found love despite their differences?

Sales Points

- **GROWING SUBGENRE:** Monster romance is growing fast and this series gives us a great opportunity to reach new readers in an untapped area of the market for us.
- **AUTHOR WITH GROWING PROFILE:** Author is active on social media with an engaged community and the Leviathan Fitness series has received rave reviews across Goodreads, Netgalley and Bookstagram.
- **PERFECT FOR FANS OF:** *Bride* by Ali Hazelwood and *Tusk Love* by Thea Guanzon.

Biographies

Ashley Bennett is an avid reader and during the Covid-19 pandemic, she decided to dip her toes into writing and hasn't looked back. She loves coffee, candles, fall weather, mid-century modern furniture, and a good alien romance (complete with fancy peens).

Market

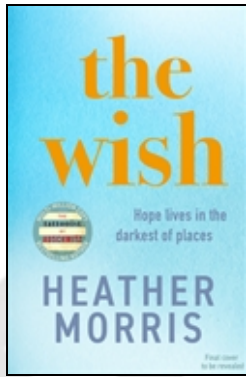
For fans of *Tusk Love* and *Ava Ross*.

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The Wish

From the bestselling author of *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* comes a novel that will break your heart and heal your soul

Heather Morris

Biographies

Born in New Zealand, Heather Morris is passionate about stories of survival, resilience and hope. In 2003, while working in a large public hospital in Melbourne, Heather was introduced to an elderly gentleman who 'might just have a story worth telling'. The day she met Lale Sokolov changed both their lives. Lale's story formed the basis for *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* and the follow-up novel, *Cilka's Journey*. In 2021 she published the phenomenal conclusion to the Tattooist trilogy, *Three Sisters*, after being asked to tell the story of three Holocaust survivors who knew Lale from their time in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Together, her novels have sold more than 18 million copies worldwide. *Sisters Under the Rising Sun*, a heart-wrenching novel based upon the experiences of women in Japanese POW camps, was published in 2023 to great acclaim. Heather's first contemporary novel, *The Wish*, will be published in September 2025.

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Blood Root

Jill Johnson

Keynote

Botanist and amateur sleuth Professor Eustacia Rose faces her most toxic plant mystery yet - her own dark past . . .

Description

***Lies are poison . . .
. . . but so is truth***

Pub date 11/06/26
Price £16.99
ISBN 9781785307386

Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm
 (Royal)
Extent 304 pages

Word Count
Territory World English
 Language

Author's Location Brighton, England
Author Born New Zealand /
 Aotearoa

Professor Eustacia Rose has been arrested for the possession of poisonous plants without holding the proper licence. Waiting in a grimy police cell, Eustacia's mind starts dredging up forgotten memories from childhood, when her father, a disgraced professor, was accused of murder. Linking all the memories is Marcus Smith, her father's unscrupulous assistant, a man she thought was long dead.

Marcus had ruined her father's career, stolen his research, and vanished after a heated confrontation. But the past never stays buried, and Eustacia soon realizes Marcus didn't disappear - he reinvented himself, clawing his way to power at Magdalen College under a new name.

With the help of DCI Roberts and determined allies, Eustacia races against time to expose Marcus's deception and unravel a fresh murder before it's too late. This is her only chance to clear her father's name - and, at long last, be free of the burdens of her past.

Backlist Titles

Title	ISBN
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Sales Points

- *Devil's Breath*, Jill's first book is a bestselling BBC *Between the Covers* pick so fans will be eager for another instalment. This title reveals the much-anticipated backstory of Eustacia and her father's scandalous past.
- The author is a Faber Academy graduate and has studied botany, giving her a unique insight into the poisonous plants used as murder weapons in the book.
- The author's writing has been recognised by the prestigious Ngaio Marsh Awards in 2024.
- Quirky androgynous protagonist reminiscent of Eleanor Oliphant but with a sharper edge.

Reviews

- 'Sherlock Holmes meets Gardeners' Question Time' - *Praise for Devil's Breath, Nish Kumar on BBC2's Between the Covers*
- 'A tangled poisonous plot with a unique, thorny character at its heart, Jill Johnson has created a whodunnit as addictive as any narcotic.' - *Praise for the Professor Eustacia Rose Mysteries, Andreina Cordani, author of The 12 Days of Murder*

Biographies

JILL JOHNSON has lived in South-East Asia, Europe and New Zealand. Her novel *Devil's Breath*, the first in the Professor Eustacia Rose Mysteries, was a BBC2 *Between the Covers* Book Club pick. Jill obtained a B.A. Degree in Landscape Design. She has previously owned an editorial cartoon gallery, a comic shop and has been involved in a graphic novel publishing house. She is a Faber Academy graduate and now lives in Brighton. Jill's writing is inspired by her Maori heritage. Her debut novel *Devil's Breath* was a BBC2 *Between the Covers* Book Club pick.

Market

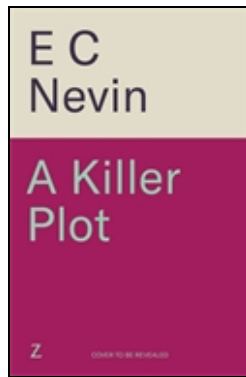
A character-driven mystery perfect for fans of *The Rosie Project* and *The Thursday Murder Club*, with a fascinating protagonist who's a cross between Miss Marple and Eleanor Oliphant. Readers of Jill's previous titles, *Devil's Breath* (a BBC *Between the Covers* pick) *Hell's Bells* and *Bella Donna*, will be delighted to delve into another mysterious case filled with danger, intrigue and gruesome greenery.



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A Killer Plot

A brand new cosy mystery from the author of A NOVEL MURDER

E. C. Nevin

Keynote

A brand new cosy crime from the author of *A Novel Murder* featuring author and part-time sleuth, Jane Hepburn.

Description

Jane Hepburn is still recovering from solving the murder at last year's Killer Lines festival when she is dragged into another very bookish murder. When a young editorial assistant is found dead at her friend's launch in a famous Cecil Court bookshop, Jane must use all her knowledge and experience as a writer of crime fiction to solve the mystery.

Sales Points

- **BOOKS ABOUT BOOKS:** sharply observed and very witty, EC Nevin skewers the UK publishing scene in her witty mystery novels featuring editors, booksellers, agents and of course, authors.
- **AUTHOR QUOTES:** *A Novel Murder* was praised by many prominent crime writers including Ian Moore, Jennie Godfrey and Vaseem Khan.

Biographies

E C Nevin is the pen name for Eve Hall, who is a fiction editor as well as a writer. Despite what *A Novel Murder* may imply, she really does like her book industry colleagues. Most of them anyway. Eve lives in Bristol with her husband and two dogs.

Market

A bookish cosy crime for fans of Richard Osman, Ian Moore and Reverend Richard Coles.

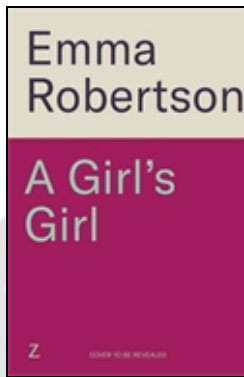
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Author Born Bristol, UK
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A Girl's Girl

Emma Robertson

Keynote

Darcy has everything she's ever wanted... her friend wants to take it all away.

Description

At school, Darcy Starr was the girl everyone wanted to be and the girl every boy wanted to be with - effortlessly beautiful, confident and most importantly, popular.

Twenty years on, married to her childhood sweetheart Jon, and living in the suburbs with their young daughter, life still looks perfect until the reappearance of her old school friend, Alex, threatens to expose the cracks beneath the filters.

Newly divorced and post-glow up, Alex Rigby is back in their lives and she's after revenge - but Darcy doesn't know why.

On a group holiday to celebrate their friend's forthcoming wedding, both sides of the story begin to emerge, along with secrets and lies that will change their lives forever...

Sales Points

- **DESTINATION THRILLER:** escape to stunning beaches and poolside bars in Lapad Croatia, the backdrop for a dream holiday that turns into a nightmare.
- **MILLENNIAL NOSTALGIA:** set partly in the late 90s, this is full of nostalgic period details that women in their 30s and 40s will recognise.
- **WOMEN'S FICTION WITH BITE:** will appeal to fans of Holly Bourne with recognisable and relatable characters and experiences as well as exploration of themes around girlhood, adolescence, nostalgia, cliques, and bullying.

Biographies

Emma Robertson grew up in Aldershot, Hampshire and has lived in London for the last 20 years. She and her husband like to travel as much as possible, with a particular interest in no-fly travel. Emma teaches dance and one of her specialities is wedding dance choreography, which gives her a great insight into relationships as she works with couples in the lead up to their big day. She is endlessly nostalgic about the 1990s, which was a big inspiration for this book.

Market

For fans of destination thrillers and domestic suspense like TM Logan, Claire Douglas as well as darker women's fiction like Holly Bourne.

Pub date	18/06/26
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Territory	World
Author's Location	London
Author Born	Hampshire
Book Location	London, England home counties, Croatia,

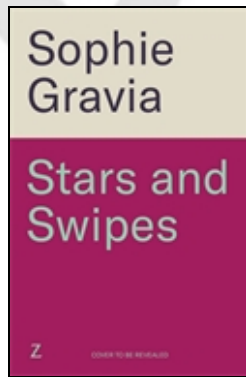
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Stars and Swipes

A brand new beach read from the author of *The D*cktionary Club* and *Hot Girl Summer*

Sophie Gravia

Keynote

A brand new, laugh-out-loud sequel to the bestselling *The Dicktionary Club*, where the girls take New York by storm, from the ultimate queen of holiday reads, Sophie Gravia.

Description

The Dicktionary Club...now seeking American members.

Ella, Zola, and Katy have an opportunity to launch The Dicktionary Club stateside. The articles about their Glaswegian venture have caught the eye of a tech entrepreneur who wants to launch a similar app, he wants the three besties to collaborate with him.

Ella, Zola and Katy are ready to get away from the Glasgow dating scene and live their *Gossip Girl* dreams in New York but their romantic problems are definitely not so easy to run away from...

The Dicktionary Club girlies are back! Join them in another hilarious adventure from the Queen of Holiday Reads, Sophie Gravia.

Sales Points

- **FANTASTIC SUPERSTAR AUTHOR:** Sophie Gravia is a social media sensation and book girly celebrity who has taken over the holiday read genre as the author you need a new book from when you're going on holiday. She has over 28,000 followers on Instagram where fans love her for her relatability and wicked sense of humour. She is able to pull in hundreds of fans to signings and events and is one of our most requested authors for media.
- **RELATABLE GLAMOUR WITH PLENTY OF LAUGHS:** Sophie is a girl next door with a wicked sense of humour and she knows how to write books that will make you laugh but this time she's transporting our friendship group to high glamour New York.
- **BESTSELLER ALERT:** Number one Kindle bestseller, Number one Scottish bestseller and Amazon bestseller, *The Dicktionary Club* is everywhere! Sophie's fans show up for her books every time and nobody could ignore the aubergine...
- **GOLD STANDARD MARKETING AND PR:** building on the eye-catching campaign for *The Dicktionary Club*, this is going to be another hypervisible publication.

Biographies

Sophie grew up in a town just outside Glasgow and has always had a love for the English language. At a young age, she found herself writing funny stories or poems to friends and family for special occasions, and after high school she undertook a performing arts diploma, flourishing in her creative writing class. Sophie now works full time as a nurse in a busy city hospital. In 2020, Sophie started writing again as a distraction from the ongoing pandemic, cheered on by fans of her hilarious blog, 'Sex in the Glasgow City'. A *Glasgow Kiss*, her debut novel, shot straight to number one in the erotic charts and has been a word-of-mouth sensation ever since.

Market

For fans of Giovanna Fletcher and Paige Toon.

Pub date	18/06/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781785127601
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	336 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World English Language
Author's Location	Glasgow, Scotland
Author Born	Glasgow, Scotland
Book Location	Scotland and New York

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Sales Office: Bonnier Books UK Limited, 10 New Square,
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Wildflower

Ella Enchanted meets Heather Fawcett in this beautiful cosy fantasy romance

Becky Jenkinson

Keynote

***Ella Enchanted* meets *Emily Wilde's Encyclopaedia of Fairies* in this cosy fantasy romance centred around a cursed magical florist and an outcast sorcerer who must work together to save their duchy from a sinister conspiracy**

Description

Cursed from birth to always tell the truth, magical florist Felicity 'Fliss' Farrow chooses her words carefully and avoids trouble. But when she receives an anonymous request for a mysterious flower, her quest leads her directly into trouble's path, to Willow Vane.

Fliss knows the outcast - yet teasingly handsome - sorcerer is rumoured to have used dark magic to corrupt the northern forest five years ago. She's witnessed the resulting feud with Prince Bastion, whom her best friend, Card, is soon to marry. Despite the divided loyalty she feels, Fliss reluctantly accepts Will's help with gathering more rare flowers and finds herself increasingly drawn to him.

As the royal wedding approaches, Fliss fears the flowers she's delivered are intended for a sinister purpose. But with her warnings ignored, can she and Will save the kingdom from disaster, and ultimately discover what Fliss has sought for so long - the truth behind her curse?

Sales Points

- **PERFECT PITCH:** Stephanie Garber meets Heather Fawcett in this beautiful fantasy romance in which a cursed magic florist and a outcast sorcerer must work together to unravel a conspiracy ... and fall in love
- **PURE ESCAPISM:** Cosy fantasy is a burgeoning area of the market offering pure escapism through beautiful storytelling. This is essentially a fairy tale for adults
- **FLORAL ILLUSTRATIONS:** The book will be filled with hand-drawn illustrations of flowers provided by the author herself
- **PLANNED SERIES:** This is the start of a standalone series of books set in the same world

Biographies

Becky Jenkinson is a writer, illustrator and teacher from Manchester. She graduated with a First Class BA (Hons) degree in Animation from Norwich University of the Arts, and in 2019, moved to Tokyo, Japan, where she currently teaches English. When she isn't frequenting Tokyo Disneyland, she spends her free time hooked on video games, watching musicals, and demanding more photos of her cat back in England. *Wildflower* is her debut novel.

Market

Perfect for fans of Stephanie Garber and Heather Fawcett

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Price £18.99
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Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 384 pages
Word Count
Territory World
Author's Location Tokyo

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Wrath of the Dragons

The instant New York Times bestselling sequel to the dragon romantasy, Fear the Flames

Olivia Rose Darling

Keynote

The highly anticipated sequel to the dragon romantasy Fear the Flames

Description

Cayden Veles, renowned Demon Commander of Vareveth, overthrew the throne to save Elowen Atarah, the woman he searched for since childhood. Now he's determined to fulfil his quest for revenge against her father, even if it means forcing the only person he's ever wanted into a marriage of political convenience.

Elowen Atarah has everything she thought she'd ever want. Finally reunited with her dragons, she now has an army to enact vengeance, but as events transpire, she begins contemplating if she wants more. As her father's only living heir, the Imirath throne is her right and destiny. But fighting and winning a war will require trusting Cayden Veles, her partner in crime and now king to her queen; the man she both longs for and doubts, especially after opening her heart only to become a pawn in his game.

Navigating the shifting allegiances amongst all the kingdoms of Ravaryn will require all their strategy and strength, with devastating and bloody attacks on one side and cutthroat diplomacy for alliances on the other. But Elowen and Cayden must find a way to stand strong within the power they've gained, or risk losing everything.

Delving deeper into a vast and ever-changing world, *Wrath of the Dragons* will take you on a journey filled with epic battles and a tender, angsty love for the ages.

Sales Points

- **ON TREND:** A perfectly pitched romantasy featuring reluctant allies-to-lovers romance, one bed, found family, sizzling banter, spice ... and dragons!
- **INSTANT BESTSELLER:** *Wrath of the Dragons* was an instant *New York Times* bestseller
- **SELF-PUBLISHED SUCCESS:** The author previously self-published the first book in the series, *Fear the Flames*, in 2022 and reached over 4 million downloads from Kindle Unlimited
- **INTERNATIONAL SENSATION:** Rights have been sold in Germany, Brazil, Portugal, Ukraine, France, Spain and Czech Republic
- **TROPES:** Reluctant Allies to Lovers, Princess x Bodyguard, Found Family, Forbidden Love, Magical Creatures (Dragons), Spice

Reviews

- 'Wrath of the Dragons is **the kind of book that steals a part of your soul. Intricate, wild, intoxicating, and the perfect balance of fantasy and romance - I couldn't put it down**' - *Imani Erriu, Author of Heavenly Bodies*

Biographies

Olivia Rose Darling split her time growing up between New York and Manchester, VT. She developed a passion for writing from a very young age - always scribbling poems onto napkins and short stories into her school notebooks. She graduated from Pace University and attained a degree in English with a concentration in Creative Writing. Lord of the Rings were her favourite movies growing up and formed her fantasy obsession. Being an author and living a life filled with words and magic has always been her dream.

Market

Perfect for fans of Rebecca Yarros, Victoria Aveyard and Jennifer L. Armentrout

Pub date	25/06/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781804188026
Binding Format	Paperback 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent Word Count Territory	480 pages UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

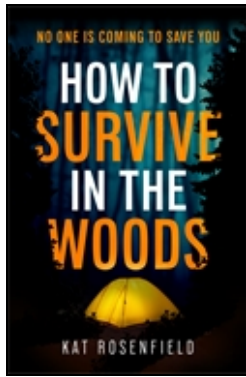
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How to Survive in the Woods

The heart-stopping thriller you won't be able to put down

Kat Rosenfield

Keynote

Wild meets *The Wife Between Us* in this page-turning thriller, set in Maine's Hundred Mile Wilderness - the treacherous final stretch of the storied Appalachian Trail - an addictive tale of passion, betrayal, control, and what it means to survive.

Description

Raised by her doomsday-fearing father and hardened by the startup world, Emma Sharp has learned how to endure - especially in her marriage to Logan Grant, a charismatic tyrant who keeps her under tight control. To Emma, her marriage is a cage: it keeps you in, but it also keeps you safe. Until it doesn't.

When Emma forms an unexpected bond with Logan's former girlfriend, the two women form a plan to help Emma take her life back. Destination: the punishing final stretch of the Appalachian Trail known as the Hundred Mile Wilderness.

After all, bad things happen in the woods all the time.

As the three venture deeper into Maine's backcountry, desire and dread curdle into something unpredictable, dark and deadly. Someone is lying. Someone is watching. And in the remote heart of the forest, someone is about to be lost . . . or found.

How to Survive in the Woods is a heart-stopping knockout of a novel, by turns smart, psychologically rich and deliciously dark. In her masterful hands, Kat Rosenfield asks us to consider what it means to be a survivor - and what, or who, you would sacrifice to stay alive.

Sales Points

- **INCREDIBLY PITCHABLE CONCEPT:** Three go in, two come out - but not the two you think. This super commercial thriller has a classic set-up but liberally uses second-person narration to completely subvert the readers' expectations
- **INTEGRATED THEME OF SURVIVAL:** The book is divided into sections prefaced by a different survival rule the protagonist's father taught her. As the reader will learn, there's more than one event to survive in this story, and many ways in which to do it
- **PERFECT HOLIDAY READ:** Zaffre will publish alongside the US in export in March, with a mass-market paperback edition to follow in time for summer reading
- **CRITICAL ACCLAIM:** Author's previous work has had excellent blurbs from AJ Finn and *The Washington Post*. She has never had a separate UK publisher before
- **FILM NEWS:** Optioned by Amazon MGM, with Denise Di Novi and Margaret French-Isaac producing

Reviews

- 'Blade-sharp, whip-smart, and genuinely original - a thriller to refresh your faith in the genre, your belief that a story can still outpace and outsmart you' - *Praise for Kat Rosenfield* by A. J. Finn, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Woman in the Window*
- 'Both amusingly satirical and darkly bloody' - *Praise for Kat Rosenfield* from *The Washington Post*

Biographies

Kat Rosenfield is a *New York Times* bestselling author of adult and YA thrillers. She is a culture writer for *Vulture* and *UnHerd*, among others, as well as the new culture columnist for *The Free Press*. She is also a frequent guest on pop culture podcasts and television new programmes.

Market

For fans of *Wilderness* (starring Jenna Coleman), Sarah Pearse's *The Wilds* and *The Hike* by Lucy Clarke

Pub date	25/06/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781785129292
Binding Format	Paperback 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent Word Count	320 pages
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Book Location	Maine, US

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The Queen Who Came in from the Cold

The brand new 2025 murder mystery starring the Queen

S.J. Bennett

Keynote

The utterly charming 2025 cosy mystery in the bestselling Her Majesty The Queen series.

Description

It's 1961 and the Queen is planning her state visit to Italy aboard Britannia. But before she goes, an unreliable witness claims to have seen a brutal murder from the royal train. Did it really happen, and could the victim be a missing friend of Princess Margaret's new husband, Tony Armstrong Jones?

The Queen and her assistant private secretary, Joan McGraw, get to work on their second joint investigation, little imagining that this time it will take them all the way to Venice in a tale of spies, lies and Cold War skulduggery.

Sales Points

- **OUR BESTSELLING COSY BRAND:** We have sold over 350,000 copies of the series - and over half a million worldwide.
- **COSY CRIME GROWING:** While we were part of the initial swell of the cosy mystery trend, 2024 is set to be the biggest year from the subgenre to date - with major titles released across the industry.
- **HUNGRY FANS:** S. J. Bennett is one of our most pre-ordered authors - with over 1k hardbacks and 2k eBooks for *Murder Most Royal*. *A Death in Diamonds* is set to overtake this as our most pre-ordered title in the series.

Reviews

- 'The most unique sleuth you're likely to encounter - right royal fun' - *BENJAMIN STEVENSON*
- 'An all-star cast, a thrilling plot and writing sharper than diamonds on a crown. A wonderful read!' - *IAN MOORE, bestselling author of Death and Croissants*
- 'Bennett strikes gold. It's fast and funny entertainment' - *Publishers Weekly*
- 'S.J. Bennett's latest royally entertaining mystery gives fresh fizz to the phrase On Her Majesty's Secret Service' - *MARTIN EDWARDS*

Biographies

SJ Bennett was born in Yorkshire and travelled the world as an army child. She had a varied career before her first novel was published when she was 42. Since then, her books have won awards, been optioned for TV, and have been translated into over 20 languages.

She was once asked to interview for the role of Assistant Private Secretary to the Queen and still considers it the job that got away. A curious royal watcher for many years, she lives in London, where she can often be found haunting its palaces, museums, galleries and libraries. She currently writes the 'Her Majesty the Queen Investigates' series.

You can find her on Instagram @sophiabennett_writer and on Twitter @sophiabennett.

Market

For readers of Sue Townsend, Agatha Christie and Alan Bennett's *The Uncommon Reader* - and fans of cosy crime mysteries, including Richard Osman, Ian Moore and Rev Richard Coles.

Pub date 02/07/26
Price £9.99
ISBN 9781838777722

Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)

Extent 288 pages

Word Count
Territory World ex USA,Can,Ppines

Author's Location London, UK

Author Born England

Book Location London, Paris, New York

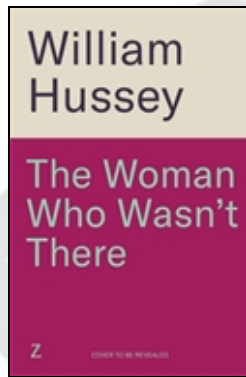
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The Woman Who Wasn't There

The fast-paced, twisting and turning psychological thriller

William Hussey

Keynote

There are some twists *no one* can see coming . . . The incredible psychological thriller standalone from the award-winning author of *Killing Jericho*.

Description

Bestselling crime author Marian Lane is surrounded by adoring readers when she learns that her husband Dane is dead.

Marian returns home in shock to discover a stranger on her doorstep. A woman who not only claims she's Marian's biggest fan but says that she comforted Dane in his final moments.

At first, this woman, Mary, is a source of comfort. Until she admits Dane confessed a secret. One she can't quite remember; one Marian is desperate to learn.

But Mary is a storyteller too. And though Marian knows every twist in the genre, she won't see this one coming . . .

Sales Points

- **CRACKING STANDALONE HOOK:** A woman's grief turns to terror when a stranger inserts herself into a family tragedy, as lies and secrets abound.
- **MULTIPLE AWARD NODS:** Shortlisted for the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Writing award 2024 and winner of the Capital Crime Fingerprint Award 2024 for *Killing Jericho*.
- **MAJOR STREAMER TO ADAPT SERIES:** Top secret, but a major streamer has snapped up TV rights to *Killing Jericho*.

Biographies

William Hussey is the critically acclaimed author of over a dozen novels. Winner of the Genre Busting Book of the Year Fingerprint Award for *Killing Jericho*, he has also been shortlisted for the Theakston's Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year, the CrimeFest Award, and the Polari Prize.

Born the son of a travelling showman, he has spent a lifetime absorbing the history, folklore and culture of fairground people, knowledge he has now put to work in his Scott Jericho thrillers. William lives in Dumfries with his partner Chris and their criminally adorable cat Harry.

Market

For fans of twisty psychological thrillers, and authors like Will Dean, Lisa Jewell, Harlan Coben and T.M. Logan.

Pub date	23/07/26
Price	£16.99
ISBN	9781785123900
Binding Format	Hardback
Extent	234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Word Count	400 pages
Territory	World
Author's Location	Scotland
Author Born	Skegness
Book Location	London, UK

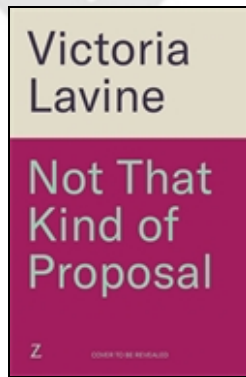
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Not That Kind of Proposal

A brand new enemies-to-lovers wedding romcom from the author of ANY TROPE BUT YOU

Victoria Lavine

Keynote

A brand new enemies-to-lovers romance from the author of *Any Trope But You*.

Description

For hopeless romantic wedding planner Gracie Holland, the only thing more gutting than still being in love with her ex-boyfriend is having to plan his wedding. Under normal circumstances, she'd never agree to it-but Larkwood Estate, the ivy-covered gem where Gracie works and lives, is under threat by its villainously handsome new inheritor. And after one too many heartbreaks, she's determined to save her hideaway at any cost.

Jude Larkwood, a love-allergic divorce lawyer, is set on selling the place that houses his worst memories. The only catch? His meddling, recently deceased grandmother left the on-site cottage to Gracie. But his dream buyer is demanding the entire property, and he'll do anything to get her to sell it back to him.

At a stand-off, Gracie proposes a deal: if Jude helps her with planning tasks and she still can't convince him to keep Larkwood by the wedding, she'll sell him the cottage. But as the big day draws closer, Gracie and Jude discover that opposites really do attract.

Sparks fly, but unless they can overcome their irreconcilable differences, they risk losing something even greater than Larkwood-each other.

Sales Points

- **ANY TROPE BUT YOU:** one of 2025's breakout contemporary spicy romances and Zaffre's first inclusion in the Illumicrate Afterlight Romance subscription box. Victoria is a future romance superstar and creator of perfect book boyfriends....
- **TROPE-O-METER:** enemies to lovers fun in this small town summer romance with a wedding setting.
- **SEASONAL SMALL TOWN SUMMER ROMANCE:** will have a gorgeous summer reading package to go with the wedding season vibes of the plot and the perfect small town setting.
- **AUTHOR WITH GROWING PROFILE:** Victoria is based in the US where she is published by Atria but she is very active on social media, promoting both UK and US editions of her books, and has a growing profile on Instagram.
- **READERS LOVE VICTORIA LAVINE:** rave reviews on Amazon, Waterstones.com and GoodReads where readers say they can't wait for the next book (and next book boyfriend) from this author.

Biographies

Victoria Lavine's love of romance novels started in school with a crate of old bodice rippers and a wink from her local librarian. Now she writes her own Happily Ever After's when she's not enjoying the great state of Maine with her husband and daughter, taking orders from her two cats, or coming up with excellent reasons to make her next latte.

Market

For fans of Emily Henry, Christina Lauren and Laurie Gilmore.

Pub date 23/07/26
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Extent 400 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Agent Louise Lamont
Author's Location Maine, US
Author Born Maine, US

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The Family Break

Ruth Irons

Keynote

A dream holiday turns into a nightmare in this brand new domestic thriller from the author of THE PERFECT GUEST and HOME SWEET HOME.

Description

Their dream holiday is about to turn into a nightmare...

When upscale travel agent Allegra is offered a complimentary stay for her extended family in a new, high-end woodland retreat, she's delighted to discover it has everything you could ask for: luxury tree house accommodation, activities for the kids, spa treatments, fine dining and relaxation for the adults.

Relationships within the group are fraught, and an engagement announcement between Allegra's brother and his boyfriend seems only to worsen matters. Frustrated with her family, and having been taken for granted for years, Allegra forms an unexpected bond with someone new while the holiday seems to be cursed as one thing after another starts to go wrong...

Resentments grow and tensions rise as the holiday progresses and it seems the family's problems might run deeper than anyone suspected. As the warning signs become more disturbing, the family realise they haven't been asking the right questions: how did they really come be here? And which of them won't be going home?

Sales Points

- **HOLIDAY READ:** the perfect suitcase addition, this is an addictive and easy read for fans of TM Logan and Lisa Jewell.
- **FAMILY DYNAMICS AND CHILLING TWISTS:** A family holiday goes badly wrong in a picturesque Center Parcs / Forest Holidays. Ruth Irons writes characters and circumstances that are relatable but with a suspenseful twist.
- **WELL-CONNECTED AUTHOR:** Ruth has worked hard to build her relationships with authors and bookshops in the crime community. She is based in London and is available for events and panels.

Biographies

Ruth Irons grew up in South Wales before studying music at Exeter University, and then musical theatre at Central School of Speech and Drama. She worked as an actor, musician, and music teacher for many years before turning to writing as a creative outlet, completing courses with Curtis Brown Creative and the Writers Bureau. This is her second novel. Her first, *The Perfect Guest*, was published in June 2024.

Ruth lives in Kingston upon Thames with her husband and two daughters.

Market

For fans of T.M. Logan, Lisa Jewell and Claire Douglas.

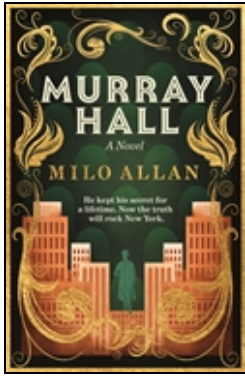
Pub date	30/07/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781785307584
Binding Format	Paperback 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent Word Count Territory	400 pages World
Author's Location	Kingston-Upon Thames, London, UK
Author Born	London, UK
Book Location	New Forest, United Kingdom

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Pub date	06/08/26
Price	£9.99
ISBN	9781785307508
Binding	Paperback
Format	198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent	400 pages
Word Count	
Territory	World
Author's Location	Scotland, UK

Murray Hall

A novel of the extraordinary and intriguing secret that rocked New York and the world

Milo Allan

Keynote

It's 1901. Murray Hall has just been pronounced dead. The famous New York politico, womaniser, immigrant, father and gambler has lived quite a life, but this is the day he will shock New York, America and the world.

Description

'A riveting and remarkable retelling of a true story.' - SARA SHERIDAN
'A very enjoyable novel, one that can give pleasure and invite speculation at the same time.' - THE SCOTSMAN
'His remarkable life story has, for the first time, been pieced together from myriad contemporary newspaper reports, historical archives and contradictory anecdotes to form a stunning new novel' - SUNDAY POST

He kept his secret for a lifetime. Now the truth will rock New York.

It is 1901, and Dr Gallagher has just pronounced Murray Hall dead. **New York politico, gambler, womaniser** - Hall is all these things, but when the newspapers break the news of his death to the world, they reveal **a side to his identity he never wanted known, a secret no one could have guessed.**

Sam Clellan, an ambitious young journalist, is determined to **uncover the truth of Hall's past**, but his search leads him down winding alleys of fact and fiction. **From humble beginnings in Glasgow's tenements to a life spent rubbing up against New York's political elite**, Murray Hall is the definition of a self-made man. But the higher his status rises, the higher the stakes become.

Inspired by a true story of one Scot's rise to prominence, *Murray Hall* unearths a queer past erased by history, finally bringing all the puzzle pieces together to discover the secret of this extraordinary, ordinary man, which shocked New York, America and the world.

'Murray Hall does what historical fiction does best: shines a light on the past to illuminate the present...' - ANGIE SPOTO

'Deeply moving and immersive, Milo Allan's extraordinary novel is a constantly shifting, chameleon-like thing, taking in gender, queerness, and grief.' - ALLY WILKES

Sales Points

- A great subject, which taps into the growing interest in queer revisionist histories and unearths new information on a previously untold story.
- Based on the true story of Murray Hall, a New York City bail bondsman and Tammany Hall politician born in Govan, Scotland, who became famous after his death in 1901.
- Explores real newspaper clippings, characters from Hall's past and historical records to get a new understanding of his life.

Reviews

- "A very enjoyable novel, one that can give pleasure and invite speculation at the same time." - Allan Massie, *The Scotsman*
- "A riveting and remarkable retelling of a true story" - Sara Sheridan
- "Murray Hall does what historical fiction does best: shines a light on the past to illuminate the present and reminds us that every person, no matter how history has chosen to portray them, lives a multi-faceted life." - Angie Spoto
- "Deeply moving and immersive, Milo Allan's extraordinary novel is a constantly shifting, chameleon-like thing, taking in gender, queerness, and grief. No easy answers here - only an intimate examination of a life." - Ally Wilkes

Biographies

Milo Allan is a pseudonym for a collaboration between **Milo Clenshaw** and **Vicky Allan**.

Milo Clenshaw is a writer, producer and curator based in Hawick in the Scottish Borders, where he works for the charity Alchemy Film & Arts. When not in the borders he can be found further north, in Glasgow with his partner. He is invested in platforming queer stories, whatever the medium. His previous work includes poetry, criticism and journalism, and his writing often orbits transness both as a personal and political subject. *Murray Hall* is his first novel.

Vicky Allan is the environment correspondent for the *Herald* newspaper and has written many books about wild swimming, including the popular *Taking the Plunge* and *The Art of Wild Swimming* guides, working with the photographer Anna Deacon. She enjoys collaborative projects, and this is her first adventure in collaborative fiction. Her other books include a collection of personal stories about the menopause, created with Kaye Adams, and a creepy novel, *Stray*, about a cat. Vicky is married, has two teenage sons and a cat, and lives in Edinburgh.

Market

Murray Hall will interest those who have heard of this historical figure but have been unable to find any thorough research and analysis on the subject and will also appeal to fans of queer histories, social justice and politics.



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FICTION

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Price £9.99
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Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B
 Format)
Extent 384 pages
Word Count
Territory Eng Lang UK,EU,C/W
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Mantras and Minotaurs

Ashley Bennett

Description

REVISED AND EXPANDED PAPERBACK EDITION

When Pam Rollins decides to shake things up after her kids leave the nest, she makes two major changes: starting yoga classes and joining a dating app. After her daughter urges her to connect with other singles, Pam meets a minotaur who is ready to sweep her off her feet.

Alistair Reid is the kind of swoon-worthy monster that every woman dreams of. He's kind, funny, and a wonderful dad.

The only problem is they live states apart and have thriving lives of their own.

However, as romance blooms, it becomes harder to envision a future without each other in it. Will Alistair and Pam discover that their hearts can grow together despite the distance between them?

Sales Points

- **GROWING SUBGENRE:** Monster romance is growing fast and this series gives us a great opportunity to reach new readers in an untapped area of the market for us.
- **AUTHOR WITH GROWING PROFILE:** Author is active on social media with an engaged community and the Leviathan Fitness series has received rave reviews across Goodreads, Netgalley and Bookstagram.
- **PERFECT FOR FANS OF:** *Bride* by Ali Hazelwood and *Tusk Love* by Thea Guanzon.

Biographies

Ashley Bennett is an avid reader and during the Covid-19 pandemic, she decided to dip her toes into writing and hasn't looked back. She loves coffee, candles, fall weather, mid-century modern furniture, and a good alien romance (complete with fancy peens).

Market

For fans of *Tusk Love* and *Ava Ross*.

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The Horse and I

Genki Kawamura, Inc.

Keynote

From bestselling author of *If Cats Disappeared from the World* comes a taut psychological mystery based on a real-life crime for fans of *Butter* and *Diary of a Void*.

Description

From bestselling author of *If Cats Disappeared from the World* comes a taut psychological mystery based on a real-life crime for fans of *Butter* and *Diary of a Void*.

She works quietly in a coastal shipyard office, barely noticed by those around her. Life passes in grey repetition until one day, on the side of a road, she sees something that changes everything: a black horse, still and watching.

From that moment, something begins to shift.

As her obsession deepens, so does the double life she builds in secret. What begins with a quiet longing grows into something far more dangerous - and far more difficult to control.

Horse is a haunting, slow-burning psychological novel about the hunger for freedom in a world that insists on keeping women small. With echoes of *Butter* and *Diary of a Void*, it probes the uneasy space between yearning and transgression, beauty and brutality, and asks how far a person will go for the one thing that makes them feel alive.

A tense and mesmerising Japanese mystery where desire, silence, and power collide.

Biographies

Genki Kawamura's debut novel, *If Cats Disappeared from the World* was published in 25 languages and has sold over two million copies worldwide. In addition to being a bestselling novelist Kawamura is also a filmmaker, and in 2022 he won the prestigious Best Director Award at the 70th annual San Sebastian Film Festival in Spain for the film adaptation of *One Hundred Flowers*.

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ISBN 9781806170876
Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 288 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

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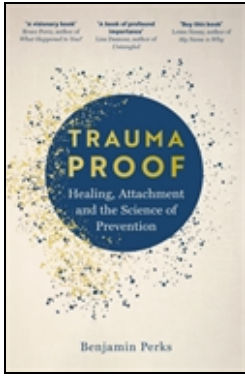
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Non-Fiction





Trauma Proof

Healing, Attachment and the Science of Prevention

Benjamin Perks

Keynote
An expert's inspiring, deeply personal account of how childhood trauma can be overcome.

Description
'Lucid, clear, visionary' - Bessel van der Kolk, author of *The Body Keeps The Score*

'An important book' Bruce Perry, author of *What Happened to You?*

'Buy this book' - Lemn Sissay, author of *My Name is Why*

'A book of profound importance' - Lisa Damour, author of *Untangled*

In recent years the word 'trauma' has become ubiquitous. Yet it remains widely misunderstood. In *Trauma Proof* international expert Benjamin Perks redefines how we see childhood trauma, and outlines a new path towards healing and prevention.

For 25 years, Perks has worked for the UN and UNICEF on eradicating global barriers to child wellbeing, including poverty, hunger, disease, the mobilisation of child soldiers and population displacement. But he has also been on a personal journey of healing from his own childhood, spent living in the UK's care system and on the streets.

Today, new research is revealing little-known aspects of childhood trauma. It is no surprise that it drives addiction or poor mental health. But how does it explain a heightened risk for heart disease or diabetes? Why does it so comprehensively correlate with poor life outcomes? And how can we not only heal from, but prevent, the types of experiences that negatively impact on child development?

In *Trauma Proof*, Perks explains the science behind these findings, and argues that making simple changes can break damaging inter-generational cycles. Ultimately, he shows how building secure attachments and improving the quality of your relationships can radically transform your life, at any age.

Sales Points

- A unique take on a hot topic - this is not just a book about individual healing, but a guide to how we can protect the children of tomorrow.
- A well-connected expert author with an amazing personal story, available for UK events and media.
- For readers of *The Body Keeps the Score*, *When The Body Says No*, and *It Didn't Start With You*.

Reviews

- "A visionary book" - Bessel van der Kolk, *author of The Body Keeps The Score*
- "Buy this book" - Lemn Sissay, *author of My Name is Why*
- "Offers moving stories, personal reflections, and science-based data ... an immersive journey" - Daniel Siegel, *author of Brainstorm*
- "I could not put it down" - Nadine Burke Harris, *author of The Deepest Well*

Biographies

Ben Perks works for the UN in New York, campaigning on human rights and child development. He is a leading global advocate on issues related to child poverty, education, mental health, early childhood development, and prevention of abuse and neglect. He is a Senior Fellow at the Jubilee Centre at the University of Birmingham in the UK.

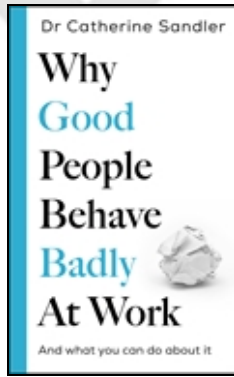
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Why Good People Behave Badly at Work

And what you can do about it

Dr. Catherine Sandler

Keynote

A concise guide to unlocking your working life using a unique framework devised by an expert coach, combining psychological expertise with business know-how.

Description

Do you upset people despite your good intentions?
Do you become irritable under pressure?
Do you put others' needs before your own?
Do you hate taking unpopular decisions?
Do you work with someone who never engages with the team?
Does your line manager forget to offer people positive feedback?

If you answered 'yes' to any of the above, you are not alone!

In *Why Good People Behave Badly at Work*, executive coach Dr Catherine Sandler offers a compelling way to understand what happens when individuals at work are triggered - often in the blink of an eye - into shifting from their most effective to their most dysfunctional selves.

You have probably heard of Fight, Flight and Freeze. Perhaps you fall into one of these patterns?

In this highly accessible book, Dr Sandler introduces the reader to her renowned profile framework, which is normally only available to senior executives. Learn to identify your own habitual patterns of behaviour and which animal type fits you and your colleagues.

The **Tiger (Fight)**
 The **Dolphin (Flight)**
 The **Owl (Freeze)**

Packed with stories, case studies and practical tips, this book will help you overcome your blind spots, and recognise and maximise your strengths.

Working out if you are a Tiger, Dolphin, Owl will help you manage your stress and improve your ability to understand and handle the challenging behaviour of others.

Sales Points

- This is a simple concept with a great hook from an expert voice. It has great commercial potential - its concise length means it is accessible to everyone and is not a dense or analytical psychology or business title.
- The audience is really broad - it appeals to anyone in the working world.
- The author would be great for promotion, having been interviewed in *The Times* and *The Financial Times* already.
- Catherine's first book, aimed at career coaches rather than a general audience, has sold over 9,000 copies.

Biographies

Dr Catherine Sandler is one of the UK's most experienced and well-established executive coaches. She has worked in the field of leadership development for more than 30 years. Her clients are senior executives, managers and teams across the business and not-for-profit sectors. Catherine has coached and taught at leading educational institutions including London Business School, INSEAD and the Tavistock Clinic. She has a doctorate from Oxford University and a Diploma in Counselling from Regent's University, London.

Catherine has published articles in a wide range of professional journals on topics including the emotional role of the leader in turbulent times, coaching leaders under pressure and tackling bullying at work, as well as the EPT. She speaks on coaching and leadership-related topics at conferences, business schools and training courses, runs webinars for coaches and allied professionals in the UK and abroad and is a

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sought-after coaching supervisor.

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Between 2016 and 2019 Catherine ran several in-person programmes for coaches and executives in Shanghai and Beijing where the EPT was a particularly popular topic. She has been interviewed for features on leadership and executive stress in The Financial Times and The Times and is regularly approached for comments on a range of related issues.

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NON-FICTION



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Some of Our Parts

Why we are more than the labels we live by

Laura Kennedy

Keynote

IRISH. NEURODIVERSE. FEMALE. WORKING CLASS. PHILOSOPHER. HOUSE-PLANT ENTHUSIAST.

Exploring the complexity of identity labels through memoir with warmth, insight and signature humour, considering how we might figure out who the hell we are in a world so eager to tell us.

Description

'Wise, thoughtful and provocative ... An important book for our times' - Róisín Ingle

'Laura is an acute, intelligent and accurate observer and this book successfully combines psychology, philosophy and modern thinking in a fresh and vibrant way' - Brian O'Connell, journalist

"I have worn a lot of labels, by choice and otherwise. Here, I consider the ones I've picked up, rejected, lost, had stuck to my back like a 'kick me' poster in the schoolyard at lunch time, worn for a while and lost connection to. In its way, each one makes a discrete claim on who I am, as the labels you bear do for you. Each one is a means of translating who we are to the world and, when seen as the most important or truest element of who we are, shrinking and flattening us. Each one is part of our story, nothing more."

A thought-provoking exploration of identity, *Some of Our Parts* casts a philosophical eye over the labels that shape our lives, considering how they can both help us to communicate our values and how they have the potential to trap us.

A memoir explored through a life in labels inherited, accrued and cast off, *Some of Our Parts* considers the power in reclaiming our own story and challenges readers to question how we define ourselves in a world that is so ready to decide for us.

Sales Points

- Author has established following through *The Irish Times*, *The Sunday Times Style* magazine and her Substack, Peak Notions
- Extremely well written by a respected and accomplished writer
- 12.2k Instagram followers and almost 10k followers on Twitter

Reviews

- "Wise, thoughtful and provocative ... An important book for our times" - Róisín Ingle
- "A fascinating dissection of the labels we apply to ourselves, and others apply to us, executed through the lens of Laura Kennedy's unique incisive mind" - Liadán Hynes, *author of How To Fall Apart*
- "I greatly enjoy writers whose work leaves me feeling loads more learned than I actually am. Kennedy is one of them and this intensely thoughtful and philosophical exploration into identity has left me feeling as though I should give myself an honorary doctorate. Brilliantly written, expertly recommended and with her always-present touch of humour" - Ruth Crilly, *A Model Recommends*
- "A sharp and distinctive book ... There are moments of warmth, humour and naked honesty, and the end product is wise, thoughtful and much more" - *Psychologies Magazine*

Biographies

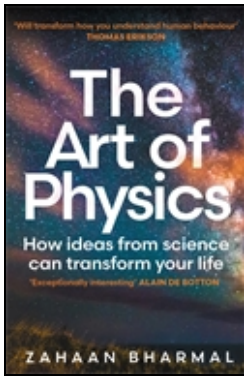
Laura Kennedy is an Irish writer. She writes a weekly column on Substack called Peak Notions, a thought-provoking exploration of the questions we're not supposed to ask. She has a PhD in the philosophy of psychology and has contributed to titles including *The Irish Times*, *The Sunday Times Style*, *Grazia* and *Vogue*. Her writing spans culture, lifestyle and politics.

In *Some of Our Parts*, Kennedy explores the complexity of identity labels through memoir with warmth, insight and signature humour, considering how we might figure out who the hell we are in a world so eager to tell us.

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The Art of Physics

How ideas from science can transform your life

Zahaan Bharmal

Keynote

A deeply personal and thoroughly entertaining tour of life, the universe, and everything.

Description

'Exceptionally interesting' Alain de Botton

'A book that will transform how you understand human behaviour' Thomas Erikson

'Insightful and entertaining' Cal Newport

'Fascinating ... You'll never again view your own world in quite the same way' Ian Stewart

Can physics change your life? It already has.

In *The Art of Physics*, Zahaan Bharmal explains eight ideas from physics that have transformed his view of everyday life and will do the same for you.

Far from being abstract, he argues, physics can help us answer very human questions, questions like: Why are some relationships unstable, while others last a lifetime? Why does inequality persist? And why do we all make so many irrational decisions?

Drawing on quantum mechanics, thermodynamics, chaos and complexity theory, materials science and more, *The Art of Physics* reveals the hidden, surprising, and sometimes beautiful ways in which physics can help us to make sense of an unpredictable world. Ultimately, it shows how by embracing the paradoxes and uncertainty at the core of physics, we can unlock a deeper understanding of ourselves and our universe.

A deeply personal and thoroughly entertaining tour of life, the universe, and everything.

Sales Points

- Argues that ideas from physics can help us improve everything from personal productivity and decision-making to conserving the environment and preventing pandemics.
- The first book from Google staffer and former political policymaker Zahaan Bharmal, an expert author with a deep knowledge of the latest trends in technology and science.
- Perfect for readers of Michael Brooks, Carlo Rovelli and the School of Life series.

Reviews

- "Exceptionally interesting" - Alain de Botton, *author of The Consolations of Philosophy*
- "A book that will transform how you understand human behaviour" - Thomas Erikson, *author of Surrounded by Idiots*
- "In his insightful and entertaining new book, Zahaan Bharmal applies lessons from physics to identify elegant explanations for our messy world" - Cal Newport, *author of Slow Productivity and Deep Work*
- "Fascinating ... You'll never again view your own world in quite the same way. Entertaining, informative, and a delight to read" - Ian Stewart, *author of Do Dice Play God?*

Biographies

Zahaan Bharmal read Physics at the University of Oxford. His early career was spent as a policy adviser and speech-writer for the British Government and the World Bank. He studied as a Fulbright Scholar at Stanford University where he earned an MBA. Since graduating, he has worked for Google, based in London and Silicon Valley, and is currently a senior director of strategy.

Outside work, Zahaan writes about science for The Guardian and has won NASA's

Exceptional Public Achievement Medal for services to science communication. He is a trustee of the National Autistic Society and lives in Yorkshire with his wife and two young sons.

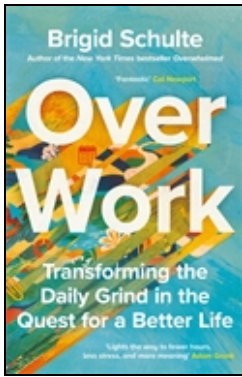


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NON-FICTION



Over Work

Transforming the daily grind in the quest for a better life

Brigid Schulte

Keynote

An internationally-bestselling writer's exploration of why work isn't working, and how our lives can be made more meaningful.

Description

'Fantastic' - Cal Newport

'A bold vision ... lights the way to fewer hours, less stress, and more meaning' - Adam Grant

Workers across all demographics, industries, and socioeconomic levels report exhaustion, burnout, and the wish for more meaningful lives.

Drawing on years of research, Brigid Schulte traces the arc of our discontent from a time before the 1980s, when work was more compatible with well-being and many jobs enabled a single earner to support a family, until today, with millions of people working multiple hourly jobs or in white-collar positions where no hours are ever off duty.

She casts a wide net in search of solutions, exploring the movement to institute a four-day workweek, introducing Japan's Housewives Brigade - which demands legal protection for family time - and embedding with CEOs who are making the business case for humane conditions.

Rich with stories and informed by deep investigation, *Over Work* lays out a clear vision for ending our punishing grind and reclaiming leisure, joy, and meaning.

Sales Points

- Jenny Odell meets Cal Newport - the definitive book on how a culture of chronic overwork took hold and how we can change it.
- An international expert writing on a universal topic: more than half of UK employees feel they are overworked, and January is the perfect time to re-assess our punishing work schedules and resolve to find a better balance.

Reviews

- "A great introduction to the gnarly problems of work and policies to tackle them" - Emma Jacobs, *The Financial Times*
- "In her fantastic new book, Brigid Schulte combines meticulous research with compelling profiles to argue that the exhausting way we work today is a choice. More sustainable and equitable options are possible, but only if we're willing to engage at the societal level in the hard but necessary work of making needed change" - Cal Newport, *New York Times bestselling author of Slow Productivity and Digital Minimalism*
- "A bold vision for transforming work from a burden that takes over our lives into an activity that enriches them ... her carefully researched book lights the way to fewer hours, less stress, and more meaning" - Adam Grant, *#1 New York Times bestselling author of Think Again and Hidden Potential*
- "Over Work is a comprehensive, timely, and humane exploration of the great work-life conundrum" - Alec MacGillis, *author of Fulfillment: Winning and Losing in One-Click America*

Biographies

Brigid Schulte is the author of the bestselling *Overwhelmed: Work, Love, and Play When No One Has the Time* and an award-winning journalist formerly for the *Washington Post*, where she was part of a team that won a Pulitzer Prize. She is also the director of the Better Life Lab, the work-family justice and gender equity program at New America. She lives in Alexandria, Virginia, with her husband and two children.

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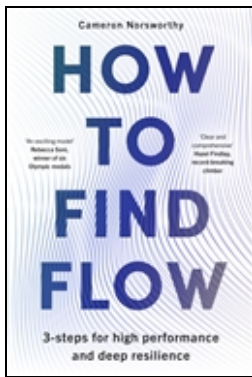
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How to Find Flow

A 3-step programme for high performance and deep resilience

Cameron Norsworthy

Keynote

How to get a Flow Mindset in three simple steps for high performance, personal resilience and deep-seated happiness

Description

Finding flow when it matters is the single most important strategy for performing under pressure and delivering our best work. It is also key to personal well-being.

In *How to Find Flow* Dr Cameron Norsworthy brings over 20 years of study and work as a 'Flow Coach' to transform Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi's important theory of flow into a fully accessible 3-step process everyone can use.

Based on his proven 'Ready, Steady, Flow' model which he has developed over decades with hundreds of clients, including professionals, entrepreneurs, military personnel and elite athletes, Dr Norsworthy shows how to develop a Flow Mindset to transform periods of stress, boredom, distraction and nervousness into opportunities and energy for effortless performance. He also offers clear strategies for bouncing back from setbacks and refocusing when we are interrupted. In a world where our attention is continually interrupted, making it all too easy to lurch from one stressor and distraction to another, *How to Find Flow* will help us reclaim focus and fulfil our full potential.

Sales Points

- **EXPERT AUTHOR.** Norsworthy has dedicated the last 20 years of his academic and professional life to the theory and practice of flow.
- **BRINGS THEORY OF FLOW TO LIFE.** Csikszentmihalyi's classic work *Flow* is very dry and theory-based. *How to Find Flow* will make the practice of Flow accessible to all
- **3-STEP MODEL IS UNIQUE TO AUTHOR** - Norsworthy's Ready-Steady-Flow model is easy to understand and apply
- **AUTHOR IS WELL CONNECTED.** Author coaches elite athletes, high performing professionals and leaders. We already have endorsements from a variety of World Champions (eg Hazel Findlay, Rebecca Soni, Martina Wegman and Lorraine Huber) with endorsements from more household names to come.
- **WILL REBOOT UNDERPUBLISHED AREA OF POP PSYCH.** Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi's original book *Flow* (Rider 1992) has sold 43k UK TCM, 10k AUS TCM, averaging 30-50 copies a week. This book will open up the idea to a new generation of readers struggling to focus and flourish amid distraction, stress and anxiety.

Reviews

- 'Really clear and comprehensive all the way. You might come to Cameron looking to improve your performance, but what you come away with is just so much more than that.' - Hazel Findlay – Record-breaking climber, mindset coach and podcaster (UK)
- 'An exciting model that will undoubtedly help many for years to come.' - Rebecca Soni, Six-time Olympic Medalist, Swimmer (USA)
- 'Cameron has helped me not only in sport but also in life in general. His skills have been very transferable across my life.' - Martina Wegman – World Champion kayaker (Netherlands)
- 'Cameron has helped me strengthen my mindset and mental approach to elite skiing; the lessons have helped me become World Champion and affected my entire life for the better.' - Lorraine Huber – Pro Skier, Freeride World Champion and Mental Health Coach (Austria)
- 'A much-needed advancement on the conceptualisation, measurement and application of flow. Cameron has brought clarity to an otherwise incoherent area of research.' - James Dimmock, Professor, James Cook University (Australia)

Biographies

Dr Cameron Norsworthy is a coach, keynote and TEDx speaker, author, and founder and CEO of The Flow Centre. He has studied and worked as a 'Flow Coach' with hundreds of clients for over 20 years, including World Champions, leaders, entrepreneurs and high-profile military personnel. He has a PhD on flow science and was awarded the Outstanding Academic Achievement prize for his work in flow and performance. A former junior British tennis player, Dr Norsworthy has experienced

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firsthand the importance of refocusing and finding flow after personal and professional setbacks. Originally from England, he coaches clients and delivers keynotes all over the world, including in the UK which he visits several times a year. When he's not travelling Dr Norsworthy lives in Australia with his family.



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NON-FICTION



Wrong Women

Selling Sex in Monto, Dublin's Forgotten Red Light District

Caroline West

Keynote

A feminist history of Europe's largest red-light district and an examination of the lives of the women who worked there.

Description

'I found it fascinating - it's an integral part of the history of Dublin that has been lost to time for too long' - Rick O'Shea

A feminist history of Europe's largest red-light district and an examination of the lives of the women who worked there.

Tucked away in Dublin's north inner city, Monto - purported to be Europe's biggest red-light district from 1860 to 1925 with up to 1600 sex workers at any one time - made headlines for wild tales of debauchery. However, what happened to the women and girls within its brothels in life and death is less clear.

This account balances the historical origins of Monto's rise and fall with an investigation into the inhumane and heartbreaking reality of the treatment of the women that worked there, while delving into the impact of class, sexual violence and British colonialism on the women's survival. West explores the stigma and violence the women and girls of Monto endured, and investigates the shocking claims surrounding their treatment by medial professionals.

Weaving together oral histories, historical records, fashion trends and family memories, this book brings the women of Monto to life within its pages as it explores how they lived, worked, loved, dressed, mourned and built a tight-knit community.

Sales Points

- For fans of Kate Lister's *The Curious History of Sex* and Hallie Rubenhold's *The Convent Garden Ladies*
- Releasing to mark the 100th anniversary of the closure of Monto, and also International Women's Day 2025
- Dr. Caroline West is a lecturer, writer, media commentator, sexpert and podcast host

Reviews

- "I found it fascinating - it's an integral part of the history of Dublin that has been lost to time for too long" - Rick O'Shea
- "A century on from Monto's closure, here is a fresh new approach. Caroline West puts the women who worked there front and centre, in a book full of humanity, empathy and insight. Vital to understanding how Monto came to be, and what happened to it" - Donal Fallon, *author of Three Castles Burning*
- "Unflinching in its purpose to peel away the stigma and reclaim the voices of those often dismissed and discarded throughout history. Meticulously researched, West manages to show the harsh realities of 19th-20th century sex workers in, frankly, refreshingly humane storytelling" - Katie Charwood, *WhoDidWhatNow podcast*

Biographies

Dr Caroline West has a PhD and MA in sexuality studies, is an unashamed sex nerd and is fascinated by how sex can tell us so much about society and culture. She works in sexual violence prevention at university level, and also works as a sex and relationship expert for Bumble Ireland and UK, and as an advice columnist with the *Irish Independent*. She is the host of the Glow West podcast which focuses on sexual wellness.

She has spent over two decades working and volunteering in social care and has been a media commentator about consent, pornography, feminism and sexual wellness since 2016. Caroline is interested in the relationship between sex, power, and knowledge, and the weird and wonderful sides of sex. She is passionate about dismantling shame and stigma around sex and pleasure, and works to build an inclusive consent culture where everyone is safe to explore their desire on their own terms.

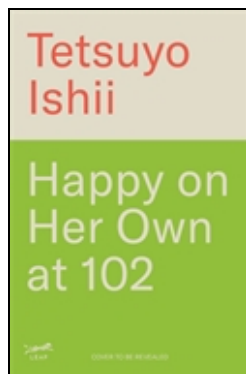
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Happy on Her Own at 102

Tetsuyo Ishii

Keynote

This is a manifesto for living a long and happy life, but also for finding peace in the wake of difficult times, from a 102-yr old (now 104!).

Description

We live in an age where bad news is ever present, and it can often feel like a struggle just to get through the day. Between work, bills, relationship issues, and health scares, it's no wonder that people are craving a new perspective, a way to approach life that focuses on the positive, while also finding strength in dealing with the negative. Tetsuyo has certainly seen her fair share of ups and downs, but through it all she's developed a distinct outlook on life, which she now shares here. The perfect gift book for readers across the reading spectrum, HAPPY ON HER OWN AT 102 is a warm-cup-of-tea kind of book, both prescriptive and comforting, guaranteed to break through the noise of our frenetic everyday lives.

Sales Points

- This is an extremely charming book with a strong and unique sales proposition.
- It taps into numerous trends, including healthy and wholesome living, Japanese works in translation and quirky memoir.
- This was a huge bestseller in Japan, selling 170,000 copies.

Biographies

Tetsuyo Ishii was born in 1920 in Jogecho, Hiroshima. She worked as an elementary school teacher from age 20 to 56, before working full-time on her family's allotment. Locals still affectionately call her "Teacher." She was featured in the Chugoku Shimbun and on TV, where her vitality and personality rocketed her to national fame.

In January 2023 she released her first book Happy On Her Own at 102, which went on to sell over 180,000 copies in Japan. Her follow-up, 103 Years Old and Full of Quotable Wisdom (Just Kidding!), was published in March 2024.

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Being an Oak

Life as a tree

Laurent Tillon

Keynote

THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

Description

THE INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

'A wonderful book' - Tristan Gooley, author of *How To Read A Tree*

'Unique and thrilling' - Ben Rawlance, author of *The Treeline*

'A celebration of the oak as nature's masterpiece' - Daniel Lewis, author of *Twelve Trees*

'A glorious, revelatory tale of a tree that enlarges our world' - Patrick Barkham, author of *The Butterfly Isles*

The enchanting biography of an ancient tree.

For over two centuries, as rulers have risen and fallen and wars have raged, one majestic oak tree has lived out an epic drama. From germination in 1780 to adapting to the changing climate of the modern age, its struggles and triumphs took place far from human eyes. That is, until one day a young man named Laurent Tillon came across it, and a decades-long relationship began ...

In this dazzling book, biodiversity expert Tillon narrates the story of the tree he calls *Quercus*. Evoking the richness which is all around us, he reveals that *Quercus* is embedded in a network of ever-shifting relationships, from close alliances between plants and animals to battles between insects, birds and fungi.

A book of ecology unlike any other, *Being An Oak* offers a tree-eyed view of life on earth.

Translated by the award-winning translator Jessica Moore.

Sales Points

- A stunning, original book of ecology for fans of *Finding the Mother Tree*, *The Entangled Life* and *Otherlands* from an internationally bestselling author.
- Nature writing which centres trees remain perennially popular, proven by recent successes such as *How To Read A Tree*.
- This will book will have a beautiful package, including twenty-five hand-drawn illustrations throughout.

Reviews

- "A delightful book that turns a tree into a wonderful lens" - Tristan Gooley, author of *How To Read A Tree*
- "Unique and thrilling ... You won't look at a tree the same way again" - Ben Rawlance, author of *The Treeline*
- "Rooted in myth and memory, the English oak stands as both sentinel and storyteller. Tillon brings the oak's long cultural and scientific history to life, exploring and celebrating the the tree's ecological might-its deep roots, resilient heartwood, and quiet symbiosis with other species. In the process, Tillon offers up a celebration of the oak as nature's masterpiece" - Daniel Lewis, author of *Twelve Trees: And What They Tell Us About Our Past, Present and Future*
- 'A wonderful, poetic book that will make you eager to understand the secret relationships between *Quercus* and all living creatures - including ourselves' - Christilla Pelle-Douël, *PSYCHOLOGIES (France)*

Biographies

Laurent Tillon (Author)

Laurent Tillon is head of biodiversity at France's National Forestry Office, in charge of drawing up inventories of forest fauna, especially mammals and batrachians. He is the author of *Listening to Nature* (Payot, 2018), the bestselling *Being An Oak* (Actes Sud, 2021), and *Night Phantoms: Bats and humans* (Actes Sud, 2023). He lives in the heart of Rambouillet Forest.

Jessica Moore (Translator)

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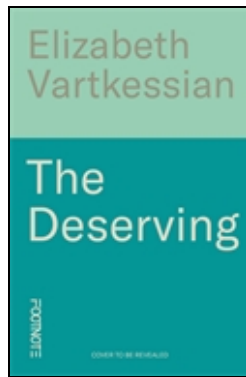
Jessica Moore is an author and Booker-nominated literary translator. She is a former Lannan writer-in-residence and Banff International Literary Translation Centre alumnus, as well as a former VP for the Literary Translators' Association of Canada. Jessica lives in Toronto, near the shores of Lake Ontario, that inland sea.

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NON-FICTION



The Deserving

Humanity, Justice and Hope for the Condemned

Elizabeth Vartkessian

Keynote

A fascinating look at the role of a mitigator in the US justice system and the lives of her clients.

Description

Dr Elizabeth Vartkessian's clients are guilty of the most heinous crimes. But as Dr Vartkessian tells it, everyone has someone who loves them. Even people who have committed murder.

As a mitigator hired by criminal defence lawyers in the hope of reducing the severity of their clients' punishments, Dr Vartkessian has spent hundreds of hours per case talking to mothers, siblings, teachers, and neighbours of a defendant, situating their crimes into context. As a detective of the accused person's life, she learns details about familial behaviours and relationship patterns, community settings - and what she finds, every single time, is that when personal or generational trauma enters the body, it finds its way out eventually.

In this fascinating book, packed with the moving, real-life stories of the clients she has worked with over the past 20 years, *The Deserving* describes the vital role a mitigator plays in developing an understanding of how her clients arrived at the point in their life where they committed their crime. We learn that very few people (if any) are born evil, but that the forces that shape us as we grow up can lead to the most tragic of outcomes.

Sales Points

- The author weaves together her own journey as a leading mitigation specialist with compelling real-life stories of people who have committed violent crimes, demonstrating how trauma, neglect and systemic failure shape human behavior
- A groundbreaking and deeply human exploration of justice, trauma and redemption
- Amid national debates on mass incarceration, police reform and rehabilitation, this book provides a new framework for understanding criminality and places an emphasis on prevention, intervention and healing
- Will appeal to those interested in social justice, trauma and human rights, as well as fans of true crime and prison/law memoirs

Biographies

Mitigation specialist Elizabeth Vartkessian has been investigating the life histories of those facing the most severe penalties possible in the United States since 2004. She holds a Ph.D. in Law from the University of Oxford, an M.S. in Comparative Social Policy from Oxford, and B.A.s in Philosophy and Political Science from the George Washington University, where she was a Presidential Scholar. In 2015 she was awarded the J.M.K. Innovation Prize for her efforts to bring mitigation to all areas of the criminal justice process. In 2018, the City Council of Baltimore passed a resolution praising her efforts to bring human dignity into the justice system. After launching a successful private practice, Vartkessian and several colleagues created Advancing Real Change, Inc., a national non-profit dedicated to conducting life history investigations in criminal cases. She has spoken widely and written on the criminal legal system in the Baltimore Sun and numerous peer-reviewed journals and law reviews. She lives in Baltimore.

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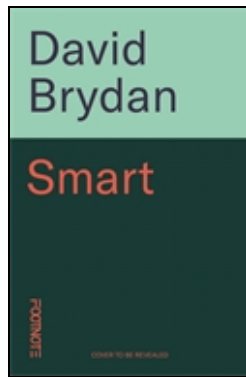
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Smart

The story of human intelligence and why we came to think that it matters

David Brydan

Keynote

A fascinating cultural history of intelligence.

Description

We encounter the idea of intelligence everywhere in our modern lives. Parents are told that their children will grow up smart if they are made to listen to Mozart, play with the right toys, and eat the healthiest foods. Schools plunge everyone into the ruthless world of testing and academic competition. Those who attend the right universities are likely to earn vastly more over their lifetimes than those who found education a struggle. We are told repeatedly that some of the richest and most successful people in society - tech pioneers, CEOs or financial wizards - are rich and successful precisely because they're so smart. And we now have to worry about the impact of artificial intelligence on our jobs, our societies, and the very survival of our species.

Intelligence, then, is an idea that infuses our world, and one that we think matters. This hasn't always been the case. Like all ideas, intelligence has a history.

Smart draws on science, politics, and popular culture to uncover the stories of the people and projects that built the idea of modern intelligence - the men and women who created Mensa, the priest who built a village for gifted children in the mountains of Sicily, and the plan to boost the intelligence of the Venezuelan people by teaching them lateral thinking skills. Intelligence is not just an idea, but a potentially dangerous one.

Sales Points

- Strong potential for review and feature coverage across broadsheets, broadcast (R4, etc), history and smart thinking podcasts, etc.
- Aimed at intelligent engaged and informed readers and fans of smart thinking books such as *Sapiens*; *Guns, Germs & Steel*; *Mindset*; *Emotional Intelligence*, *Quiet*, etc.

Biographies

Dr David Brydan is an historian of the 20th century, based at King's College London. His previous work has focussed on the political and social history of the modern period, including the history of fascism, international cooperation and humanitarianism and he has published a book on the history of Spain with Oxford University Press, as well as edited collections with Bloomsbury Academic and others.

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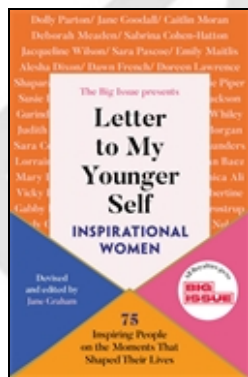
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Letter to My Younger Self: Inspirational Women

Jane Graham

Keynote

From *The Big Issue*'s popular section, this collection features 70 remarkable women writing letters to their younger selves.

Description

Over 15 years ago, *The Big Issue* began to ask well-known figures from the worlds of entertainment, politics, literature, business and more, one simple question:

If you could write a letter to your younger self, what would it say?

This collection of 70 inspiring, moving and honest interviews includes Billie Piper on feeling burnt out, Monica Ali on self-belief, Mica Paris on sudden loss, Nancy Sinatra on marrying young, Fearne Cotton on battling imposter syndrome, Alesha Dixon on risk-taking and so much more.

ALL ROYALTIES FROM SALES OF THIS BOOK GO TO *THE BIG ISSUE*.

Sales Points

- **The Big Issue sells more than 78,000 copies every week across Britain** and has sold more than 205 million copies worldwide since its inception in 1991.
- **Main comp titles:** *Letters of Note* (91k HBs, 28k PBs), *If I Could Tell You Just One Thing* by Richard Reed (25k HBs) and *With The End in Mind* by Kathryn Mannix (18k HBs).
- **All royalties for the book go to The Big Issue Foundation** to continue their work dismantling poverty and creating social and financial opportunity for thousands of people across the UK.

Biographies

The Big Issue (Author)

The Big Issue is an award-winning magazine offering employment opportunities to people in poverty by giving them a share of the profits from sales. Launched in 1991, the magazine has now sold over 200 million copies. The company also has an investment arm, Big Issue Invest, which finances the growth of sustainable social enterprises and charities across the UK, and an independently funded registered charity, The Big Issue Foundation, which addresses the fundamental issues attached to social and financial exclusion. For over 25 years, The Big Issue Group has strived to dismantle poverty through creating opportunity, and in the process has become one of the most recognized and trusted brands in the UK.

Jane Graham (Author)

Jane Graham is the books editor of *The Big Issue*. She has worked as a producer / documentary maker for BBC Radios 1, 3, 4 and Radio Ulster. As a writer and broadcaster she has contributed to the BBC, *The Guardian*, *Uncut* and *The LA Review of Books* among many others. She has been conducting interviews for The Big Issue's Letter to my Younger Self since its inception in 2007.

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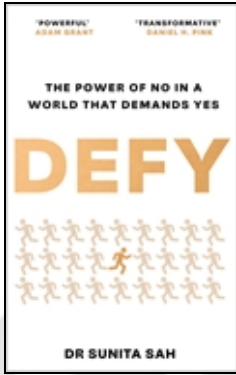
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Defy

The Power of No in a World that Demands Yes

Dr Sunita Sah

Keynote

An important and eye-opening look at the power of defiance, of saying 'No' in a world that demands 'Yes'.

Description

- 'Amazing' - Chris van Tulleken
- 'A must-read' - Dr. Robert Cialdini
- 'Transformative' - Daniel Pink
- 'A culture-shifting manifesto' - Jonah Berger
- 'Powerful' - Adam Grant

Why is it so hard to speak up, even when we know something's wrong?

This is the definitive book on defiance, a clear-eyed dissection of the forces that silence us, featuring groundbreaking research and legendary stories alongside everyday examples and strategies for how to unleash the power of a "True No."

Many of us comply much more than we realize. How many times have you wanted to object, disagree, or opt out of something but ended up swallowing your words, shaking your head, and just going along? Analyzing cases ranging from corporate corruption and sexual abuse to everyday acquiescence at work, the doctor's office, and in our personal lives, award-winning organizational psychologist Dr. Sunita Sah delves deep into why the pressure to comply is a corrosive and often invisible force in our society.

With her own revelatory research, she radically transforms our idea of defiance from a misunderstood negative trait into a crucial, positive force for personal and societal change. Taking us through her five stages of defiance, Dr. Sah equips readers with simple tools to make decisions that align with their values. *Defy* is the essential playbook for how to speak up and act when it matters most.

Sales Points

- In the first book of its kind, Dr. Sunita Sah breaks down why it is so important that we learn how to defy and practise it regularly, so when a situation demands that we go against the grain and stand by our values, we are fully equipped.
- Dr. Sunita Sah's qualifications and experience make her the perfect author to write this book. Sunita is an award-winning professor at Cornell University and an expert in organizational psychology. She leads groundbreaking research on influence, authority, compliance, and defiance. A trained physician, she practiced medicine in the United Kingdom and worked as a management consultant for the pharmaceutical industry.
- As well as eye-opening case studies and historical examples, *Defy* is filled with practical actionable advice on how to become comfortable with learning to defy, exercising our right to stand up for ourselves and ultimately making the world a better place.
- *Defy* will be supported by a raft of endorsements from influential voices in this field. From Daniel Pink to Robert Cialdini.
- Similar titles include the bestseller, *The Courage To Be Disliked*.

Reviews

- 'In DEFY, Sunita Sah brilliantly reframes our understanding of defiance-from an act of mere rebellion to a vital tool for personal growth and social change. This book is a powerful, even transformative, read for anyone who's ever felt the tension between doing what's expected and doing what's right.' - Daniel H. Pink, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Power of Regret, Drive, and When*
- 'I can't think of a book on influence, agency, and defiance that I am more eagerly looking forward to reading. Sunita Sah is leading the charge on the science of compliance and defiance, and this book promises to change our understanding about true consent and true dissent, a real yes and a real no. A must-read for all.' - Dr. Robert Cialdini, New York Times bestselling author of *Influence*
- 'Dr. Sunita Sah has created this decisive how-to guide on defiance and acting in accordance with your deepest convictions. Firmly grounded in the latest science,

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DEFY will surely become a culture-shifting manifesto for all of us 'moral mavericks' who hope to use conscientious resistance to make the world a better place.' - Dr. Jonah Berger, New York Times bestselling author of Contagion

- 'Sunita Sah's DEFY is an important, timely book written by an expert who has studied and lived the central questions in her book: when should you speak up, and how do you empower people at home, work, and play to speak up when staying silent is the easier option? DEFY is an important book for policymakers, educators, parents, and really anyone who's faced the prospect of standing up to power, indifference, and callousness.' - Adam Alter, New York Times bestselling author of Irresistible and Drunk Tank Pink

Biographies

Dr Sunita Sah, MD PhD MBA, is an award-winning tenured professor and organisational psychologist at Cornell University and Cambridge University. Her research draws insights from psychology, behavioural science, and organisational behaviour. She has spent over a decade studying ethical action, decision making and how we respond to outside influence.

Originally from the United Kingdom, Dr Sah is a trained physician and practised medicine in the UK before embarking on her academic career. She lives with her husband and son in New York, where along with studying defiance, she enjoys hiking, drinking entirely too much Earl Grey tea, and dancing to 80s pop.

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NON-FICTION



Mother Tongue Tied

On Language, Motherhood & Multilingualism

Malwina Gudowska

Keynote

Linguist and writer Malwina Gudowska unpicks the myths surrounding multilingualism and the political, emotional and gendered weight of passing down language to your children

Description

'Brilliantly illustrates how multilingual mothers are disproportionately tasked with preserving linguistic heritage on one hand and preparing children for public society on the other - all while finding a language for their own new maternal identity'

Eliane Glaser, author of *Motherhood: A Manifesto*

It is estimated that more than half of the world's population communicates in more than one language and over a third of the population in the United Kingdom is multilingual. And yet life in multiple languages is rarely discussed publicly, myths and misconceptions prevail and the pressure to keep heritage languages alive has become a private conflict for millions. Linguistic diversity is more prevalent than ever, but so is linguistic inequality.

Linguist Malwina Gudowska, herself trilingual, sheds light on the ways in which we navigate language, its power to shape and reshape lives, and the ripple effects felt far beyond any one home or any one language. It takes one generation for a family language to be lost. One generation - like mother to child. *Mother Tongue Tied* explores the emotional weight of raising multilingual children while grappling with your own identity and notions of home. At what cost does a mother save a language? Or does she let it slip away and, with it, a part of herself her children may never know.

Sales Points

- Combining linguistic analysis with literary essay, *Mother Tongue Tied* explores the pressure on mothers to pass down multilingualism to their children, in a book that sits at the intersection of migration, gender, linguistics and parenthood.
- Malwina Gudowska is trilingual (English, Polish, French), raising bilingual children with a monolingual partner. Based in London, she is a PhD researcher in applied linguistics at Birbeck University, specialising in emotion and multilingual mothering.
- Perfect for readers of *Is That a Fish in Your Ear?* by David Bellos, Victoria Marian's *The Power of Language*, *Fifty Sounds* by Polly Barton, *Motherhood* by Sheila Heti, Afua Hirsch's *Brit(ish)*, and Juliette Singh's *The Breaks*.

Reviews

- 'Edifying and enlivening, *Mother Tongue Tied* uncovers life in multiple languages, from one's own multilingual identity to the emotional toll of raising multilingual children. Well researched and easily digestible, Gudowska asks: at what cost does a mother save a language?' - *Kate Baer, New York Times bestselling author of And Yet and What Kind of Woman*
- '*Mother Tongue Tied* brilliantly illustrates how multilingual mothers are disproportionately tasked with preserving linguistic heritage on one hand and preparing children for public society on the other - all while finding a language for their own new maternal identity. A thought-provoking, political and empathetic book' - *Eliane Glaser, author of Motherhood: A Manifesto*
- 'Gudowska writes with eloquence and tenderness from within the daily, sometimes heroic, often disheveled realities of multilingual mothering. Moving between intimate accounts and lucid criticism, she illuminates how multilingualism has been variously valorized, demonized, and romanticized by the dominant ideologies of society, and how the work of meeting linguistic ideals has consistently been borne by individual families, particularly mothers, rather than by the society that wields such conflicting expectations.' - *Julie Sedivy, author of Memory Speaks: On Losing and Reclaiming Language and Self*
- 'Raising kids bilingually is hard and often gendered labour, and Malwina Gudowska has written the collection of research and story that she wishes had been by her side the whole time. Mothers with similar struggles will find validation and reassurance here' - *Gretchen McCulloch, New York Times bestselling author of Because Internet*

Biographies

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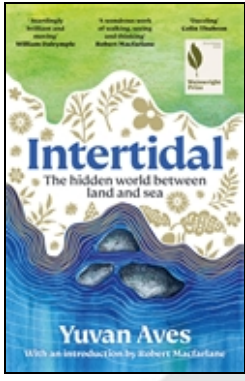
Malwina Gudowska is a Polish-Canadian writer, editor and linguist living in London, UK. A National Magazine Award winner, her writing has appeared in *Financial Times*, *Vogue*, *Literary Hub*, *The Globe and Mail* and several book and magazine anthologies. She is a PhD researcher in applied linguistics exploring the emotions of mothers raising multilingual children. Her newsletter, *Motherlingual* examines the intersection of language and motherhood.

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FOOTNOTE

NON-FICTION



Intertidal

The hidden world between land and sea: SHORTLISTED FOR THE WAINWRIGHT PRIZE!

Yuvan Aves

Keynote

Imagine if, by the age of ten or twelve, each child could recognize a hundred plants and trees of their city. Imagine how that would change the culture and politics of urban living. This is not a large number. Psychologist Allen Kanner's studies show that an average three-year-old American child can recognize 100 brands.

Description

Over two years and three monsoons, Yuvan Aves pays scrupulous attention to the living world of his coastal city. The result is a diary of deep observation of coast and wetland, climate and self. Set in beaches and marshes, and the wild places of the mind, *Intertidal* comprises daily accounts of being in a multispecies milieu.

In language that is jewel-like and precise, we hear frog calls through the night, spot butterflies miles into the ocean, find blue buttons washed ashore, see the churning of longshore currents and meditate on the composting abilities of worms. We also witness communities stand together to preserve the homes and livelihoods of the human and non-human inhabitants of the coast and the marsh.

Intertidal asks us to reimagine values to live by in the here and now, heeding the living world and attending to the climate's calling, moving away from the old political, religious and cultural values that have proved to be ecologically disastrous. Yuvan Aves invites us to see beyond the binaries of sea and coast, mindscape and landscape, human and not human, self and other, and live in deep animism amid all of life.

Sales Points

- Published in India to outstanding literary acclaim; a moving personal story with beautiful literary writing
- A new perspective on a popular category, challenges 'pale and stale' state of nature writing

Reviews

- "Gentle and poetic, subtle, watchful and observant, writing very much in the tradition of Robert Macfarlane and haunted by the ghosts of Barry Lopez and J.A. Baker. This is a startlingly brilliant and moving debut" - William Dalrymple
- 'Its intensity of vision' and stylistic flair reminds me of J.A. Baker's *The Peregrine*, and its democratic, inclusive account of ecology reminds me of Nan Shepherd's *The Living Mountain*. *Intertidal* is a wondrous work of walking, seeing and thinking" - Robert Macfarlane

Biographies

Yuvan Aves (Author)

Yuvan Aves is a writer, naturalist, educator and an environmental defender based in Chennai. He is the author of two books on ecology and 4 children's books, recipient of the M. Krishnan Memorial Nature Writing Award, Sanctuary Asia Green Teacher Award among others. He is an active part of resistance and community movements against ecocide and industrial violence in South India. He is also the founder-managing trustee of Palluyir Trust for Nature Education and Research.

Robert Macfarlane (Foreword by)

Robert Macfarlane is the author of prize-winning and bestselling books about landscape, nature, people and place. His work has been translated into many languages, won prizes around the world, and his books have been widely adapted for film, television, stage and radio.

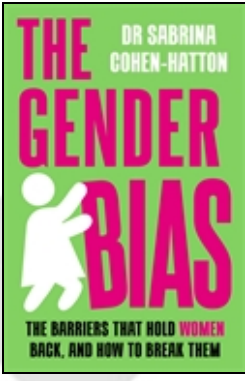
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The Gender Bias

The Barriers That Hold Women Back, And How To Break Them

Dr Sabrina Cohen-Hatton

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Keynote

A rallying call to change the perception of successful women by a woman at the top of her field.

Description

Two people are firefighters and do the same job. When one is asked what they do for a living, their response is met with: 'That's amazing, you are so brave!', while the other is asked: 'Isn't that dangerous? Aren't you scared? What about your kids?' Can you guess the difference between the two?

These comments are the reality for Dr Sabrina Cohen-Hatton and many other women at work and in life. Gender biases stop women from succeeding - but why are certain qualities associated with success viewed less favourably for women?

After leaving home at 15, going through extreme personal adversity and a period of homelessness, Sabrina gained first-hand experience of the hurdles women face to become successful. In *The Gender Bias*, she explores the everyday prejudices women experience through the prism of success. From leadership, to risk-taking, perception and failure, Sabrina exposes the invisible barriers that are holding women back.

Through an analysis of studies and data, Sabrina unpicks why women are judged differently, examines why that matters and offers practical solutions on how we can tackle our biases and overcome sustained systems.

Sales Points

- Publishing for International Women's Month. To work alongside the theme for the month.
- Sabrina is highly sought-after public and after-dinner speaker, with recent clients ranging from corporations like Google, to HSBC, NatWest, 10 Downing Street, the NHS and the BBC.
- Sabrina has been named as an Ambassador for *The Big Issue*, *Marie Claire* named Sabrina as a Future Shaper, and *Cosmopolitan* featured her in their 2019 Millennial Power List.
- Sabrina is constantly doing PR (has appeared on *Desert Island Discs*, *Women's Hour*, *Steph's Packed Lunch*, *Lorraine*). To use her wide range of contacts for PR opportunities.

Reviews

- "*The Gender Bias* is a heartfelt, compelling and powerful record of the obstacles faced by the female majority, [and] a call to action which is sorely needed" - *Nazir Afzal*

Biographies

Dr Sabrina Cohen-Hatton is one of the most senior woman fire officers in the world. She has a 1st Class Honours degree in Psychology, a Masters in International Fire Service Development and a PhD in Behavioural Neuroscience. She is now recognised as a leading international expert on risk-critical decision making in crises and is an Honorary Research Fellow at Cardiff University.

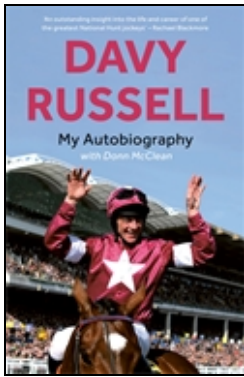
Sabrina has presented her work all over the world and uses her research to change deeply ingrained national policy.

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My Autobiography

Davy Russell

Keynote

The full-career autobiography from one of Ireland's greatest ever jockeys

Description

'An outstanding insight into the life and career of one of the greatest National Hunt jockeys. The bad days, the good days, the passion - it's all there' - Rachael Blackmore

'Davy Russell's story has been the most fascinating of racing journeys, Donn McClean its classiest chronicler. It makes a National winning combination' - Brough Scott

'Davy Russell is one of the most interesting characters in racing and one of the most successful National Hunt riders of our time. This is a superb book, one of the best sports books I've read' - Eamon Dunphy

From Davy Russell's early life in Youghal to his winning ride on Tiger Roll in the 2018 Grand National, this book has it all. Capturing the highs of an incredible career as a top jockey, from the adrenaline rush of winning the Grand National twice, the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand Steeple-Chase de Paris, it also dwells on the devastating blows that Davy experienced through injury and shows his huge resilience and strength of character.

In the book, Davy tells of his years on the point-to-point scene, his big move to England and his first Cheltenham victory in 2006, his experiences at Michael O'Leary's Gigginstown Stud as the number one rider, working with Gordon Elliot, his charity work with Hurling for Cancer Research, and his retirement.

It is a truly remarkable journey written by the most entertaining jockey in the business.

Sales Points

- Davy is hugely popular in Ireland, and has reached the semi-finals of Dancing with the Stars where his fanbase have seen his dynamic personality shine
- Written with award-winning horse racing journalist and bestselling author Donn McClean
- For horse racing fans everywhere, and fans of similar books by Ruby Walsh, Barry Geraghty, AP McCoy and Pat Smullen

Reviews

- "An outstanding insight into the life and career of one of the greatest National Hunt jockeys. The bad days, the good days, the passion - it's all there" - Rachael Blackmore
- "Davy Russell's story has been the most fascinating of racing journeys, Donn McClean its classiest chronicler. It makes a National winning combination" - Brough Scott
- "A very tough and talented competitor who rarely missed, Davy has shown great strength and resilience throughout his career to overcome serious injuries and setbacks, proving himself time and time again. This book is a testament to his character" - Barry Geraghty
- "Davy Russell is one of the most interesting characters in racing and one of the most successful National Hunt riders of our time. This is a superb book, one of the best sports books I've read" - Eamon Dunphy

Biographies

Davy Russell (Author)

Davy Russell is a retired National Hunt jockey. He was Irish jump racing Champion Jockey three times, and won the Grand National (twice), the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand Steeple-Chase de Paris. This is his first book.

Donn McClean (Author)

Donn McClean is a highly respected commentator on Irish and British horse racing. He is the chief racing writer with the Sunday Times in Ireland, a weekly columnist for The Irish Field and a presenter and analyst on Racing TV.

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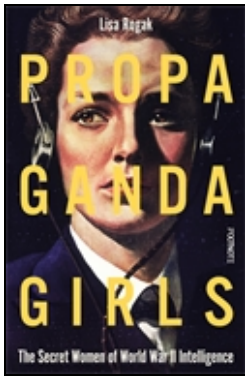
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Propaganda Girls

The Secret Women of World War II Intelligence

Lisa Rogak

Keynote

The incredible untold story of four women who helped win the second world war by generating a wave of black propaganda.

Description

This is the incredible untold story of four women who helped win World War II by generating a wave of black propaganda.

Betty MacDonald was a 28-year-old reporter from Hawaii. Zuzka Lauwers grew up in a tiny Czechoslovakian village and knew five languages by the time she was 21. Jane Smith-Hutton was the wife of a naval attaché living in Tokyo. Marlene Dietrich, the German-American actress and singer, was one of the biggest stars of the 20th century. These four women, each fascinating in her own right, together contributed to one of the most covert and successful military campaigns in WWII.

Members of the Office of Strategic Services, their task was to create a secret brand of propaganda produced with the sole aim to break the morale of Axis soldiers. Working in Europe, across enemy lines in occupied China and in Washington D.C., Betty, Zuzka, Jane and Marlene forged letters and 'official' military orders, wrote and produced entire newspapers, scripted radio broadcasts and songs and even developed rumours for undercover spies and double agents to spread to the enemy. And outside of a small group of spies, no one knew they existed. Until now.

Sales Points

- Four women, each fascinating in her own right, together contributed to one of the most covert and successful military campaigns in WWII.
- 2025 marks the 80th Anniversary of VE Day (8th May) and the end of WWII (2nd September).

Reviews

- 'A page-turning account of the courageous women who manufactured the fog of war and armed the OSS with an arsenal of lies. Rogak writes a story to rival those of her protagonists - except this time it's true' - John Lisle, author of *THE DIRTY TRICKS DEPARTMENT*
- 'A riveting journey into the covert world of female OSS agents who played a pivotal role in securing victory during WWII through strategic cunning, masterful deception, and razor-sharp wit. Readers will be pulled into this gripping account of four women whose unwavering determination and willingness to risk everything helped triumph over the forces of fascism' - Lorissa Rinehart, author of *FIRST TO THE FRONT*
- 'Lisa Rogak's extraordinary book centers around a select group of women during World War II who worked for the American Office of Strategic Services ... Through the eyes of Marlene, Betty, Zuzka, and Jane, the reader is transported across enemy lines into the thick of clandestine war operations. Rogak's vivid and engaging narrative launches the reader on a captivating journey. Five star entertainment that both educates and enthralls' - Heath Hardage Lee, author of *THE MYSTERIOUS MRS. NIXON*
- 'An astonishing slice of untold WWII history, *Propaganda Girls* is a stunning feat of storytelling. Rogak's riveting narrative grants the often unknown but courageous women behind the OSS their much-deserved moment in the spotlight' - Ric Prado, bestselling author of *BLACK OPS: THE LIFE OF A CIA SHADOW WARRIOR*

Biographies

Lisa Rogak is the author of numerous books, including *And Nothing But the Truthiness: The Rise (and Further Rise) of Stephen Colbert*. She is the editor of the *New York Times* bestseller *Barack Obama in His Own Words* and author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Angry Optimist: The Life and Times of Jon Stewart*. Rogak lives in New Hampshire.

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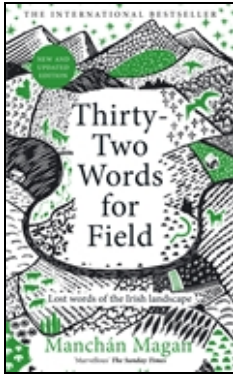
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Thirty-Two Words for Field

Lost Words of the Irish Landscape

Manchán Magan

Keynote

Rediscover the lost words of an ancient land in this new and updated edition of an international bestseller.

Description

Rediscover the lost words of an ancient land in this new and updated edition of an international bestseller.

Most people associate Britain and Ireland with the English language, a vast, sprawling linguistic tree with roots in Latin, French, and German, and branches spanning the world, from Australia and India to North America.

But the inhabitants of these islands originally spoke another tongue. Look closely enough and English contains traces of the Celtic soil from which it sprung, found in words like bog, loch, cairn and crag. Today, this heritage can be found nowhere more powerfully than in modern-day Gaelic.

In *Thirty-Two Words for Field* Manchán Magan explores the enchantment, sublime beauty and sheer oddness of a 3000-year-old lexicon. Imbuing the natural world with meaning and magic, it evokes a time-honoured way of life, from its 32 separate words for a field, to terms like loiseach (a place with a lot of kneading troughs), bróis (whiskey for a horseman at a wedding), and iarmhaireacht (the loneliness you feel when you are the only person awake at cockcrow).

Told through stories collected from Magan's own life and travels, *Thirty-Two Words for Field* is an enthralling celebration of Irish words, and a testament to the indelible relationship between landscape, culture and language.

Sales Points

- The international bestseller, a publishing sensation in Ireland.
- A professional performer and broadcaster, the author will tour internationally to promote the book in 2024.

Reviews

- "A marvellous book" - Brenda Power, *The Sunday Times*
- "A riproaring, archaeological and anthropological exploration of the lyricism, mystery and oddities of the Irish language, and the layers of ancient knowledge encoded within" - Jennifer O'Connell, *The Irish Times*
- "Rich and absorbing" - Hilary White, *Irish Independent*
- "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*

Biographies

Manchán Magan is a writer and documentary-maker. He has written books on his travels in Africa, India and South America and two novels, along with several award-winning and best-selling books about the Irish language and landscape. He lives in an oak wood, with bees and hens, in a grass-roofed house near Lough Lene, Co Westmeath, Ireland.

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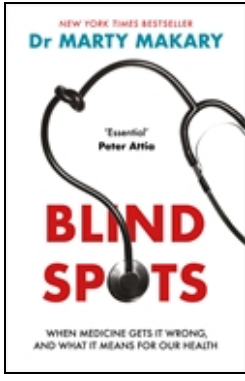
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Blind Spots

When Medicine Gets It Wrong, and What It Means for Our Health

Marty Makary

Keynote

For readers of Chris van Tulleken, Tim Spector and Ben Goldacre; an eye-opening, bestselling exposé which uncovers the biggest blind spots of modern medicine and reveals the truths that are essential to our health.

Description

'ENTHRALLING ... A PASSIONATE, WELL-ARGUED AND THOUGHT-PROVOKING READ' - *The Times*

AN AMAZON BOOK OF THE YEAR

For readers of Chris van Tulleken, Tim Spector and Ben Goldacre: An international bestseller which reveals how modern-day crises have been caused by the medical establishment, and what you really need to know about your health.

Is HRT unsafe? Should you avoid giving peanut butter to small children? *Blind Spots* uncovers how inaccurate research drives medical myths which can spark public health crises.

Doctors said for decades that opioids were not addictive, igniting the opioid crisis. They refused menopausal women hormone replacement therapy, causing unnecessary suffering. They demonised natural fat in foods, driving patients to eat processed carbohydrates as obesity soared. Modern medicine shines when it draws on good scientific studies. But when medicine is led by dogmatic groupthink, it's everyday people who fall victim. *Blind Spots* examines the latest research to reveal the truths essential to our health.

Sales Points

- For readers of Chris van Tulleken, Tim Spector, Michael Greger and Gary Taubes
- Cutting-edge health advice to help you make informed choices about your diet and the treatment of common illnesses

Reviews

- 'Enthralling.... a passionate, well-argued and thought-provoking read.' - *The Times*
- 'A dose of healthy skepticism may be the healthiest attitude when information seems contradictory, whether it's about a decades-long practice or newer, faddish procedures.' - *The New York Times*
- 'Quick, compelling, and something all clinicians will want to read.' - *Psychiatric Times*
- 'This book serves as a wake-up call... an essential read.' - Peter Attia, author of 'Outlive'

Biographies

Born in the UK, **Dr Marty Makary** is a Johns Hopkins professor and was nominated to be the 26th Commissioner of the FDA. He is the author of two *New York Times* bestselling books, *Unaccountable* and *The Price We Pay*.

A medical innovator, at John Hopkins Makary helped to develop The Surgical Checklist, which was later popularized in Atul Gawande's best-selling book *The Checklist Manifesto*. Makary was named one of the most influential people in healthcare by *HealthLeaders* magazine, is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, previously worked at the WHO and has been a visiting professor at 25 medical schools.

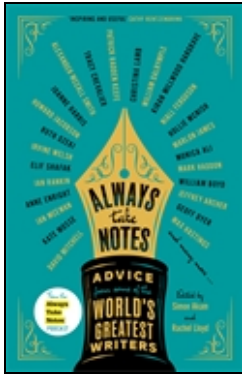
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Always Take Notes

Advice from some of the world's greatest writers

Simon Akam

Keynote

Bestselling and award-winning authors share the secrets to their success, and the hard lessons they have learnt along the way.

Description

'Inspiring' - Cathy Rentzenbrink, author of *Write It All Down*

'Fascinating and useful' - Joe Moran, author of *First You Write A Sentence*

Bestselling and award-winning authors share the secrets to their success, and the hard lessons they have learnt along the way.

Where do the best ideas come from? How do you stay motivated? What does it take to become a published author? And how do you actually make money from your writing? For over five years the hosts of Always Take Notes podcast have posed their nosiest questions to some of the world's greatest writers. The result is a compendium of frank and frequently entertaining guidance for living a creative life. From the early failures that shaped them to the daily challenges of writing and the habits that keep them on track, literary luminaries offer guidance to inspire.

Featuring:

Anne Enright, Candice Carty-Williams, David Mitchell, Elif Shafak, George Packer, Hadley Freeman, Ian McEwan, Ian Rankin, Irvine Welsh, Jeffrey Archer, Joanne Harris, Kate Mosse, Kiran Millwood Hargrave, Kit de Waal, Louise Doughty, Lucy Hughes-Hallett, Mark Haddon, Marlon James, Max Hastings, May Jeong, Monica Ali, Niall Ferguson, Nikesh Shukla, Oliver Bullough, Orlando Figes, Patrick Kingsley, Rory Stewart, Rosie Nixon, Ruth Ozeki, Sam Knight, Samantha Subramanian, Samira Shackle, Sara Baume, Sebastian Junger, Stig Abell, Tessa Hadley, Tim Rice, Toby Young, Tracy Chevalier, William Boyd, and many more...

Sales Points

- An inspiring, giftable book perfect for fans of *Letters of Note*, *The Artist's Way*, *Daily Rituals* and *What Writers Read*.
- Contributors include Max Hastings, Lucy Hughes-Hallett, Niall Ferguson, Joanne Harris, Cal Flyn, Patrick Radden Keefe, William Boyd, Kate Mosse, Tracy Chevalier, Louise Doughty, Howard Jacobson, Elif Shafak, David Nicholls, Ruth Ozeki, David Mitchell, Maggie Fergusson, Monica Ali, Sebastian Junger, Colin Thubron, Irvine Welsh.
- The authors will be touring literary festivals and bookshops in 2025/26 recording live episodes to promote the book.

Reviews

- "Anyone who takes writing seriously will find this book both fascinating and useful" - Joe Moran, *author of First You Write A Sentence*
- "Inspiring and very useful" - Cathy Rentzenbrink, *author of Write It All Down*
- "For anybody who is interested in what it means to write and to be a writer, this is a very lovely book" - Kate Mosse, *author of the Languedoc Trilogy*

Biographies

Simon Akam (Author)

Simon Akam is the co-host of Always Take notes and author of *The Changing of the Guard: the British Army since 9/11*. His journalism has appeared in the *Guardian*, the *London Review of Books*, the *New Yorker*, *The Economist*, *The New York Times*, *GQ*, the *Atlantic* and more.

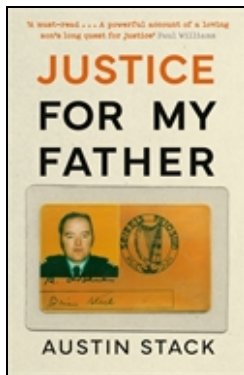
Rachel Lloyd (Author)

Rachel Lloyd is the co-host of Always Take Notes and deputy Culture editor of *The Economist*. As well as commissioning and editing the online culture features, Rachel writes reviews and essays for the newspaper and website.

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Justice For My Father

'A must-read' - Paul Williams

Austin Stack

Keynote

In 1983 an off-duty prison officer was shot by the IRA in cold blood on a Dublin street. Over 40 years later, no one has been convicted of his murder. In this book his son outlines why justice must be done.

Description

In 1983 an off-duty prison officer was shot by the IRA in cold blood on a Dublin street. Over 40 years later, no one has been convicted of his murder. In this book, his son outlines why justice must be done.

Brian Stack was the chief prison officer working on the IRA wing of Portlaoise Prison in 1983. He was also a fan of amateur boxing, and had travelled to see a match in Dublin in March of that year. After the match, he was shot outside the venue by an IRA gunman, leaving him paralysed and brain damaged.

Brian survived the attack but succumbed to his injuries within 18 months, leaving a wife and three young sons. Austin Stack was 14 when his father passed away, but he has never forgotten him nor has he ever given up hope of bringing his murderers to justice. Over the years, he has held secret talks with Gerry Adams and members of the IRA, but to date no one has been convicted of the crime.

This book is an account of a son's ongoing quest for justice, and his determination to set the record straight.

Sales Points

- Austin Stack is a well-known and well-connected campaigner for restorative justice
- True crime books based on 1980s cases have been doing well in the Irish market
- Author is a great public speaker and will do well on broadcast media
- For fans of *Murder at Lordship* by Pat Marry and Robin Schiller, and *The Kidnapping* by Tom Conlon and Ronan McGreevy

Reviews

- "A must read for anyone who has interest in Irish politics ... A powerful account of a loving son's long quest for justice" - Paul Williams
- "A gripping and heart-rending story of a disturbing and bitter search for justice for the victim of cruel political violence" - Eamon Dillon, *Sunday World*
- "A searing analysis of the threat the Irish State faced from terrorism during the Troubles" - Ronan McGreevy, *co-author of The Kidnapping*
- "A moving memoir of growing up in the long shadow of an IRA atrocity, and in the shadow of a formidable father" - *Irish Independent*

Biographies

Austin Stack is a retired Irish prison officer and restorative justice advocate with a passionate interest in social justice and social policy issues. He is also a campaigner for a post-conflict commission in Ireland and a regular commentator on Irish media. He lives in Portlaoise with his family.

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Love Is A Toad

Exploring our relationship with the wild

Lucy Hodson

Keynote

A lyrical exploration of our complex and intricate relationship with the natural world in all its muddy, messy and beautiful glory.

Description

'Can you make eye contact with a slug? I couldn't be sure, but it definitely felt like their betentacled and beady eyes locked with mine for a moment. . . Eye-to-eye, organism to organism, it felt like we were looking at each other.'

Lucy Lapwing grew up 'playing out'. A woodlouse-collecting, snail-racing, tree-climbing, muddy-footed child, she spent more time playing outside than in. But whilst Lucy was always intrigued by the natural world, it wasn't until later in life when her true love of nature began; the thrum, beauty and weirdness of the world around her filling her with an almost indescribable joy.

But with this new-found love and intense appreciation came other feelings: worry, anger, grief. For every curlew she spotted, she noticed a distinct quietening of the hedgerows; for every beautiful old tree, there would also exist destruction. As Lucy wrangled over this thorny contradiction, her love for nature jostling against her grief at its plight, she decided to unpick these emotions, if not to heal our relationship with nature, then at least to understand it better.

In her book, *Love Is A Toad*, Lucy takes to the fields, moors and footpaths of the UK with her fellow nature enthusiasts and digs down into the emotions which nature inspires. Through these interactions and Lucy's own story and observations, she explores everything from wild grief and anger through to soaring joy and indefatigable hope. At once a celebration and a rallying cry, *Love Is A Toad* prods and pokes at our connection to the world, exploring its complexity in all its muddy, messy and beautiful glory.

Sales Points

- *Love Is A Toad* will appeal to all those who love to read in the genre of nature writing.
- Having built up a following on her Instagram account and through her work with BBC on Spring-, Autumn- and Winterwatch, Lucy is a recognised and respected face within this field. Lucy has an array of contacts within the conservation community who will support the publication of the book. She will be speaking to the likes of Chris Packham and Amy-Jane Beer for the content and so they will be able to provide endorsements.
- As well as her links within the world of conservation, Lucy's personal story of illness and recovery adds a unique angle to her experience and interaction with nature.

Biographies

Lucy Lapwing is a general naturalist, self-described nature nerd and science communicator. Growing up in rural Lancashire, her love for nature started in the garden and has followed her through her life. Her appreciation for the natural world increased further when, at the age of twenty-three, she was diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma. Over the months of her chemotherapy treatment, she escaped into nature and discovered joy in writing informally about her wild findings and nature musings on her Instagram page. Using her trusty tools of humour, quirkiness and infinite, bubbling passion, she aims to show people the nature treasures under their noses.

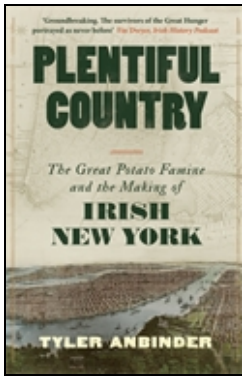
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Plentiful Country

The Great Potato Famine and the Making of Irish New York

Tyler Anbinder

Keynote

From the award-winning author of *Five Points* and *City of Dreams*, a breathtaking new history of the Irish immigrants who arrived in the United States during the Great Potato Famine, showing how their strivings in and beyond New York exemplify the astonishing tenacity and improbable triumph of Irish America.

Description

Uncover the gripping narrative of Irish immigrants who transformed America in the aftermath of the Great Hunger. Tyler Anbinder's landmark work exposes the grit and resilience of the Famine Irish, defying hardship to redefine the American dream. From the bustling streets of New York to the heart of a nation in the middle of change, the compelling journey of these unrecognised heroes is unveiled, painting a vibrant scene of hope that echoes through the heart of America.

A captivating testament to courage and perseverance, this book is a must-read, illuminating a pivotal chapter in the making of modern America, a testament to the enduring spirit that forged a new home in the land of opportunity. Drawing on previously unavailable records and a ten-year research initiative, stories of the refugees who settled in New York City are reclaimed. *Plentiful Country* is a compelling tribute to the resilience of these individuals.

Sales Points

- Tyler Anbinder is the author of three award-winning books and of numerous articles.
- Endorsements to come from Donal Fallon, Myles Dungan and Fin Dwyer.
- Will appeal to both domestic and tourist customers as the book is accessible enough for non-academic readers as well as academic

Reviews

- "Groundbreaking. The survivors of the Great Hunger portrayed as never before. *Plentiful Country* will transform your understanding of the generation who survived. They emerge from the shadows in a story of determination and hope that forged New York as we know it" - Fin Dwyer, *author of A Lethal Legacy*
- "While the city of New York was founded in the 1620s, the events of the 1840s on the other side of the world would transform it forever. By placing the first-hand testimonies of those who endured the Great Hunger at the heart of this history, Anbinder humanises the most dramatic event of the Irish story. The letters between the 'Old Country' and the 'New World' remind us that escape from the island meant survival, as hope faded in Ireland. A moving study that will open up the topography of New York in the mind of the reader anew" - Donal Fallon, *author of Three Castles Burning*
- "In the rich and splendid *Plentiful Country*, Tyler Anbinder has—with the aid of the precious 'test' books of the Emigrant Savings Bank—parlayed his unmatched knowledge of pre-Civil War Irish immigration to the USA, and the strident nativist reaction it provoked, and has tellingly captured the lives (and the considerable accomplishments) of the thousands of Irish famine emigrants who settled in New York. That he has done so in lucid and accessible prose, with a wealth of striking detail, is a distinct bonus. A singular achievement from one of the foremost chroniclers of the 19th century immigrant experience" - Myles Dungan, *author of Four Killings*
- "If Farrell and McCormick take us into the dark side of Irish America, Anbinder's brilliant book presents a much more optimistic narrative of the Famine Irish in New York. Drawing on new archival sources, Anbinder gives voice to a generation's struggle to escape from destitution and despair and its remarkable success in achieving dignity and stability. This is not a happy-clappy account, but the fact that it is just as persuasive as *Bad Bridget* reminds us that there is no one definitive version of the fate of the Irish migrants after the Famine" - Fintan O'Toole

Biographies

Tyler Anbinder is an emeritus professor of history at George Washington University, where he taught courses on the history of American immigration and the American Civil War era. He is the author of three award-winning books and of numerous articles, and his publications have been honoured with the Avery Craven Prize of the Organization of American Historians, the Mark Lynton History Prize of the Columbia



School of Journalism, and the Hubbell Prize of the Society of Civil War Historians. Anbinder has also held the Fulbright Commission's Thomas Jefferson Distinguished Chair in American History at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands, and has won three prestigious research grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

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The Power of Real Optimism

A Practical, Science-Based Guide to Staying Resilient, Curious, and Open Even When Life is Hard

Deepika Chopra

Keynote

A guide to building and maintaining optimism in everyday life.

Description

Optimism isn't about pretending everything is fine. It's about staying open and flexible-especially when it's not. In this fresh, science-backed debut, professional psychologist and media expert Dr. Deepika Chopra shows us how to build the kind of optimism that can actually withstand real life.

We've been sold the idea that optimism is a mood, a mindset, or worse-just an inherent trait. But what if real optimism is something else entirely?

In *The Power of Real Optimism*, Dr. Deepika Chopra-known as The Optimism Doctor®-offers a radically different definition: optimism as a science, a skill, and a psychological muscle we can strengthen. Drawing from over a decade immersed in the science of resilience, emotional well-being, and cognitive psychology-as well as her work with clients, innovative workshops, and hallmark practices (think: evidence-based visualization, narrative reframing, her signature "self-worth work," and even color)-Dr. Chopra offers a toolkit for navigating the chaos, uncertainty, and nuance of being human-without losing yourself to it.

Grounded, practical, and poetic in all the right ways, this book will challenge your relationship with hope, rewire how you recover from hard things, and invite you to stay soft without falling apart. With her blend of intimate storytelling, psychological insight, and tangible tools-including a 33-day Real Optimism Challenge-Dr. Chopra offers something far more enduring than a quick fix or fleeting affirmation. She invites us into a deeper, more resilient way of living-one where we can stay curious in the face of fear, open in the face of grief, and grounded even as the world wobbles beneath us.

Because real optimism doesn't deny the dark-it teaches us how to see in it.

Sales Points

- The author is a known authority on this subject, with a strong sales record with her 'optimism decks'.
- The author is well-connected, with links to Mindy Kaling, Jameela Jamil, Deepak Chopra and Ester Perel.
- This puts a fresh spin on the trend of manifesting using science-backed theory.

Reviews

- 'As a lifelong pessimist, this book annoyed me by actually working ... Deepika somehow snuck practical, science-backed optimism into my brain-and now I'm happier. Damn her. Read it.' - *Mindy Kaling*

Biographies

Dr. Deepika Chopra is a professional psychologist and founder of Things Are Looking Up®, a consultancy devoted to the intersection of science and soul. She is also the creator of the popular science-based card deck of the same name. Known as The Optimism Doctor®, her work draws from behavioral science, emotional fitness, neuroscience, and ancient wisdom to build modern tools for resilience and joy. She completed a dual postdoctoral fellowship at UCLA and Cedars-Sinai, and her insights have been featured in *Vogue*, *Forbes*, *The Atlantic*, and regularly on NBC's *Today*. She runs workshops for companies like Google, Amazon, and Amex, and has delivered keynotes at events including the Aspen Ideas Festival. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and three young children. *The Power of Real Optimism* is her first book.

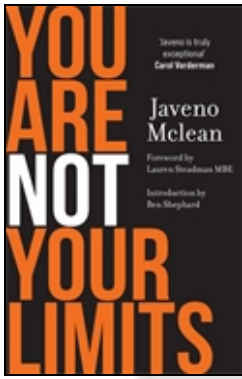
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You Are Not Your Limits

Introduction by Ben Shephard

Javeno Mclean

Keynote

The inspiring story of Javeno Mclean who founded an award-winning Health Centre and his 'superstars', people with health challenges and disabilities who have inspired millions across the globe through his TikTok and Instagram channels.

Description

'His joy from changing people's lives is so inspiring' DAVINA MCCALL
'Fantastic, inspiring read. I hope everyone goes out and buys this book' BRYONY GORDON
'An inspiring and uplifting read' THE DAILY EXPRESS

Described by *This Morning* as 'the most inspiring man on social media'
Includes a Foreword by Lauren Steadman MBE and an Introduction by Ben Shephard

On a summer's day in 2023, Javeno Mclean was about to train a young girl called Kiera who was recovering from a brain tumour. After chemotherapy damaged her nerves, Kiera was unsure if she would ever be able to walk again. With a good feeling about Kiera's progress, Javeno decided to record her arrival...

She gets out of the front passenger seat of a car without any help. She puts one hand on top of the door and one on the frame before pulling herself up. I'm encouraging her: 'Go on, K-Boogie!' Kiera steadies herself, gets her balance and walks across the pavement to J7. I'm next to her, but I didn't need to support her. She puts her hand on the door ... and opens it.

The video has since been watched over 23 million times.

After leaving professional sports to run fitness classes in the local community, Javeno realised he wanted to be a different kind of trainer. He envisioned a truly inclusive health centre: one where anybody could come and be empowered to soar, no matter what challenges they may be facing in life.

This book is the story of how that vision became a reality, what it's taught Javeno about love, community and resilience. But mostly it's about the people who came through the door. Who, with their positivity, strength and determination to not to accept any limits placed on them, have made the health centre the magical place it is today and inspired millions around the globe.

Sales Points

- Javeno has 573K followers on Instagram and 1.3 million followers on TikTok.
- Javeno has an exclusive agreement with Channel 4, and has already appeared on Good Morning Britain.
- Davina McCall will be providing a foreword.
- Javeno's supporters include Romesh Ranganathan, Michelle Pfeiffer and Carol Vorderman.

Reviews

- "I remember the day Javeno came across my IG feed and it blew me away. I thought who IS this guy doing this work! I DM'd him asking if I could come work for him. He is one of Gods angels showing the world true care and using social media in the best possible way. When I see his posts it fills me with such hope in humanity. And reminds me to always try and remember to be kind. Patient. Grateful." - *Michelle Pfeiffer*
- "What he's doing is amazing and everytime I see his videos online it makes me want to be a better person every time. The fact he's giving people certain opportunities when they feel like they're not capable, and making it possible for them is absolutely mega. Need more people like Javeno in the world" - *Aitch*
- "Javeno is truly a special human being. I'm so glad I found his instagram page as following the amazing work he does is so inspiring to me. Not only has Javeno created a safe space for everyone he works with to feel seen & heard, but he gives everyone the tools to navigate their life fully, regardless of their situation whilst doing all this with such boundless energy and amazing vibes. Javeno really is a breath of fresh air and we are so grateful for how he's making exercise accessible

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Territory World

for everyone." - *Craig David*

- "I love it when Javeno's posts and reels pop up on my IG feed. I watch and learn how someone has the power to make another person smile, try harder and be even prouder of themselves. He's exceptional, truly exceptional and he does it all just to help." - *Carol Vorderman*

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Biographies

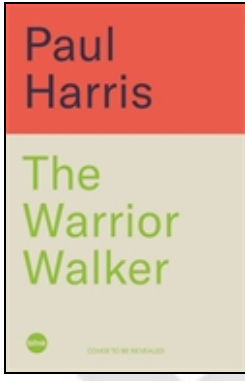
Javeno McLean is a personal trainer, community champion and owner of the award winning J7 Health Centre in Blackley, North Manchester. He is best known for his inspirational, life changing personal training with the disabled, sick and elderly in his community. His uplifting videos posted on social media have captured the hearts of millions around the globe.

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Books UK

NON-FICTION



The Warrior Walker

Finding Myself on Britain's Coastline

Paul Harris

Keynote

Memoir by former Royal Marine Paul Harris, aka 'The Warrior Walker', who turned his life around by walking the UK's coastal paths in their entirety - twice

Description

In 2020, Paul Harris aka 'The Warrior Walker' set off on a walking pilgrimage around the UK that would change his life and the way he saw the world forever.

Weighed down by a traumatic military past, a brief but surreal moment as a reality TV contestant and a temporary teaching career in Thailand, Paul was forced home when a visa mix-up tipped his life over. Having surveyed the wreckage, where there was no real family to speak of, very few friends, and a collapsing, long distance relationship to grieve, he seriously contemplated taking his own life at the age of 36. Then a random text from a friend delivered a route map to emotional safety during what were possibly his final few hours.

Paul, why don't you walk the British coast path?

With only £300 in his pocket and a 30-kilo rucksack on his back, Paul decided to leave his life as he knew it and took up wild camping, slept rough, struggled along the coast paths of Devon, Cornwall and Wales in the sideways rain, and wading through knee-high snowdrifts around the Scottish islands and the burning summer sun on England's east coast. Walking was therapy. Nature was restorative. The path was his friend.

The Warrior Walker is more than just one man's journey of self-discovery. Paul's story shines a light on the kindness of strangers, of the coast path gave him purpose, about discovering family and true love, giving back to the communities who supported him and of finding light even in his darkest of moments. In a world where so much human interaction is cruel, divisive and distant, this is a reminder that there is magic out there, if we are willing to open ourselves to it.

Sales Points

- Taps into a well-performing area of the non-fiction market - long walks with an emotional journey at the heart of it
- Interest from major TV channels and podcasts
- High profile fans, including Bear Grylls, Joe Wicks and Raynor Winn
- Word of mouth potential
- Ex-military angle

Biographies

Paul Harris, AKA 'The Warrior Walker', is a former Royal Marine who turned his life around by walking the UK's coastal paths in their entirety. In doing a second lap, it's believed he is the first person to have walked around the map twice, covering 20,000 kilometres - a distance equivalent to trekking from London to Sydney. In doing so, he raised over £10,000 for MIND, Great North Air Ambulance, Samaritans and Doctors Without Borders. After completing his walk, Paul told the BBC: 'I basically cried my way around the UK on the first lap because people were putting me up and it was just like therapy. The kindness of strangers has changed my life. I thought, I can't really pay it forward because I haven't got any money, so I thought I'd raise money for charity.' He currently works in a pub in Plymouth. The path remains just outside his door.

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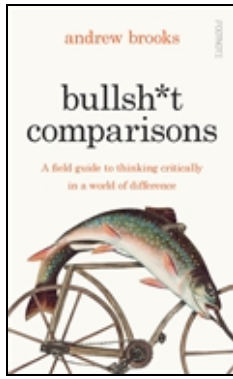
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Bullsh*t Comparisons

A field guide to thinking critically in a world of difference

Andrew Brooks

Keynote

*Bullsh*t Comparisons* will challenge the way you think about the political use and social abuse of the metaphors and metrics that warp our understanding of an unequal world.

Description

Life is complicated, comparisons are easy. We consume enormous quantities of information every day from sources that are reliable, and those less trustworthy, including journalists, politicians, friends and social media.

One of the most common tools we use to communicate is comparison. Are we suffering a 'hurricane' of migrants? Do dogs look like their owners? Is Oxford better than Harvard? Metaphors, models and metrics are used to compare anything from schools, to wars, to iconic people. But how helpful are they? What truths do they hide and what bullsh*t do comparisons propagate?

Looking across a fascinating range of situations both familiar and unfamiliar, serious and light-hearted, *Bullsh*t Comparisons* is a ground-breaking guide to the role of *could-be-true* but misleading comparisons. It is illuminated by examples spanning the globe from university league tables, to childhood rivalries, politicians' tawdry analogies, the FIFA World Footballer of the year award and Chinese neo-colonialism in Africa.

Ideal for anyone interested in critical thinking or who simply wants to be able to spot bullsh*t at twenty paces, this thought-provoking, intelligent and often amusing book will challenge you to think critically about the use of comparison.

Sales Points

- Timely topic - will appeal to readers of *Factfulness*, *Freakonomics* and *Thinking Fast and Slow*.
- Author is a well-respected academic and the book will be grounded in his research.
- Covers a broad range of topics from politics to climate change, psychology to fashion.

Reviews

- 'Showing neoliberalism relies on the edgy insecurity instigated by league tables, rankings and measures of pedigree, Brooks' book is a timely reminder that the urge to compete is embedded in contemporary culture through comparisons that need to be debunked' - Phil Hubbard, author of *The Battle for the High Street* and *Borderland: Identity and belonging at the edge of England*
- 'This book is a must-read. A timely reappraisal of the very notion of comparing people, objects and places. The examples - from cities to sports stars, empires to dog breeds - are accessible, engaging and often funny. A highly enjoyable and personal perspective on the pitfalls, and potential, of making comparisons.' - Aiden Sidebottom, Associate Professor, Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, UCL

Biographies

Andrew Brooks is a Reader in Uneven Development and Deputy Head of the Geography Department at King's College London. Andrew's work is equally praised for its rigour and accessibility.

His books include two editions of the popular *Smithsonian Children's Illustrated Atlas* and *Clothing Poverty: The Hidden World of Fast Fashion and Second-hand Clothes*, which was long listed for the Bread and Roses prize. He was an Editor of the *Journal of Southern African Studies* for four years and his work on global development and fashion has reached international media including Al Jazeera, BBC News, CNN, *The Economist*, *The Guardian*, *Le Monde*, *The New York Times* and *Newsweek*.

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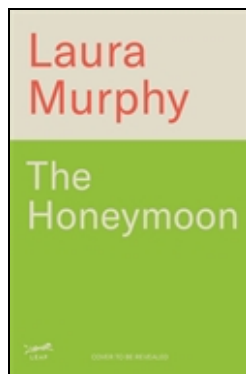
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The Honeymoon

Laura Murphy

Keynote

The true story of the soul-searching quest of Laura Murphy, who embarks on her honeymoon alone after her fiancé's tragic death.

Description

The Honeymoon is not a book about grief. There is grief in it, a whole truckload of grief, but it will not offer advice. I'm twenty-eight, what do I know? Instead, it will be primarily the

story of my six weeks in Europe on my honeymoon alone, told succinctly and in short chapters based around specific experiences - some emotionally harrowing, most uplifting or even funny - that helped me realize, even at my lowest, that people care, and life is full of moments to be cherished.

Both devastating and inspiring, THE HONEYMOON is a brilliant commercial non-fiction project, pitched as a non-fiction Nicholas Sparks, a tear-jerker of a heartbreaking love story about the author's experience of losing her partner a month before their planned wedding, and then deciding to go her honeymoon in a soul-searching quest as she stumbles through her grief and beyond. The story was covered in the *Washington Post* and widely in the UK media, after which Daniel, Laura and Bret all decided to work together. Laura posts regularly about her experience on TikTok as her story continues to unfold. The cowriter is NYT bestselling writer Bret Witter (*Dewey, Monument Men, Stronger*-all NY Times Bestsellers.)

Sales Points

- This is a truly moving and inspiring true story
- Laura's story has been widely covered in the Metro, The Mirror, The Sun and The Times
- She has 50,000 followers on TikTok and her videos have received up to 3M views.
- The ghostwriter is a New York Times bestselling author, so will definitely be able to do the story justice

Biographies

Laura Murphy is a lawyer from Canada, where she has just returned after several months of travelling through Europe. She has 50,000 followers on TikTok.

Bret Witter is a ghostwriter based in Georgia, US. He has written seven *New York Times* bestsellers and his books have sold more than 2.5 million copies worldwide

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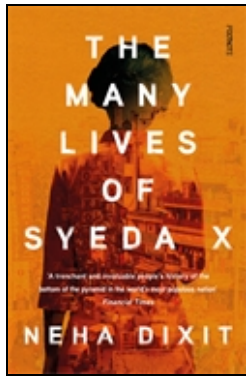
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The Many Lives of Syeda X

A People's History of Invisible India

Neha Dixit

Keynote

A searing account of urban life in modern India, told through the eyes of an ordinary working class Muslim woman, Syeda X.

Description

'A trenchant and invaluable people's history of the bottom of the pyramid in the world's most populous nation' *Financial Times*

What does the life of an ordinary working-class, Muslim woman look and feel like in modern India? Award-winning journalist Neha Dixit traces the story of one such faceless Indian woman, from the early 1990s to the present day. What emerges is a picture of a life lived under constant corrosive tension.

Syeda X left the holy city of Banaras (now Varanasi) for Delhi with her young family in the aftermath of riots and communal violence in the early '90s. In Delhi, she settled into the life of a poor migrant, juggling multiple jobs a day - from sewing soccer balls and removing the stems from raisins, to shelling almonds sold in bulk to multinationals and assisting in illegal abortions. Syeda has held over 50 different jobs in 30 years, earning paltry sums in the process. And if she ever took a day off, her job would be lost to another faceless migrant.

We meet an unforgettable cast of characters: a rickshaw driver in Chandni Chowk who ends up tragically dead in a terrorist blast; a doctor who gets arrested for pre-natal sex determination; a Hindu nationalist 'cow vigilante' whose sister elopes with Syeda's son; and policemen who delight in beating up young Muslim men.

Written with empathy and deep insight, *The Many Lives of Syeda X* is a portal to a harsh, hidden world. It is the story of untold millions and a searing account of urban life in new India.

Sales Points

- Charts the impact of three decades of neoliberalism, and sweeping political and economic reforms in modern India, on the lives of its most vulnerable and marginalised citizens
- Author is an award-winning journalist who has written for multiple international publications, and has a significant social media following
- With right-wing, religious nationalism on the rise in an increasingly divided India, this is a vital, eye-opening and timely book about what life for India's poor Muslim minority looks like in Modi's India

Reviews

- "A trenchant and invaluable people's history of the bottom of the pyramid in the world's most populous nation" - *Financial Times*
- "Shines a spotlight on the invisible lives of India's neglected female home-based workers" - Soutik Biswas, *BBC News*
- "In the climate currently pervading India under Modi's decade-long rule, Dixit's book is a brave and damning indictment of Hindutva fascism that shines a crucial spotlight on the ordinary lives that continue to suffer its horrifying impact. It is also an unapologetically feminist celebration of their daily existence" - *Jacobin*
- "By tracing one woman's negotiations with the exigencies of global markets and rising socio-political strife in the country, it casts light on the lives of those who serve as the backbone of our economy and yet remain among the most marginalised and vulnerable groups in modern India - migrants, especially women urban migrants" - *Scroll*

Biographies

Neha Dixit is an independent journalist based in New Delhi. She has covered politics, gender and social justice for seventeen years. Most of her work is investigative, narrative and long-form. She has reported for *Al Jazeera*, *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Caravan*, *The Wire*, and other notable publications. She has won over a dozen international and national journalism awards, including the One Young World Journalist of the Year Award 2020, the International Press Freedom Award 2019 from the Committee to Protect Journalists, the Chameli Devi Jain Award for Outstanding Woman Journalist 2017, the Kurt Schork Award in International Journalism 2014, the



Safe Danger

The art of taking playful risks to fuel creativity, unlock potential and build success

Ben Swire

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Keynote

Learn how to defuse uncertainty, embrace creativity and pursue success through *Safe Danger*, a revolutionary framework for navigating risks in work and life with confidence.

Description

Everything you want to achieve in life requires you to take risks, push beyond your comfort zone and build trust with others. Our first instinct is often to avoid risk altogether, but that only creates a chasm between what we want to achieve and what we're willing to do to get there.

To bridge that divide, we need a way to make those risks feel smaller, less dangerous, more worthwhile, and, frankly, more fun. *Safe Danger* offers groundbreaking insights that will allow readers to overcome and control the risks in their lives, based upon seven core principles:

Including practical and impactful activities based on these principles, *Safe Danger* is an essential companion for anyone looking to unlock their full potential or escape an unsatisfying professional life.

Taking safe risks has been proven to help build confidence and strengthen the emotional muscles needed to deal with uncertainty and navigate unexpected change, meaning you'll be better prepared to take important risks when the opportunities arise.

Sales Points

- Offers a unique and creative approach to business success and self-development, which will appeal to readers looking for a new angle which stands out in this space
- By blending the business topic of risk with the more cerebral topic of creativity, this will appeal broadly to both business readerships and smart-thinking/big ideas readerships
- This is the author's first book after an eclectic and illustrious career across creative and corporate industries. This will bring name recognition alongside the potential to backlist well as the author plans to establish himself as a smart thinking author

Reviews

- "Our story about risk is getting in the way of creating the future we need. Ben opens the door for teams to come alive, wake up and make an impact" - Seth Godin, *bestselling author of This Is Strategy and This Is Marketing*
- "*Safe Danger* offers a research-backed roadmap to building more effective teams - showing how small, playful risks can unlock the psychological safety and authentic trust that we all need to thrive" - Laurie Santos, *Professor of Psychology at Yale, and host of The Happiness Lab podcast*
- "Delightful and profound, *Safe Danger* delivers on its provocative title. Author Ben Swire offers a timeless guide to living a fuller and more innovative life while becoming a better leader. With its engaging stories and practical creative activities, this may be one of the most useful management books you will read this year" - Amy C. Edmondson, *Novartis Professor of Leadership, Harvard Business School; author of Right Kind of Wrong: The Science of Failing Well, and the person whose work brought the term "psychological safety" into everyday life*
- "*Safe Danger* is a blueprint for building cultures where connection and creativity become the norm - not the exception. With the insight of a designer and the heart of a humanist, Ben Swire shows how small risks can lead to big breakthroughs - in teams, in culture, and in ourselves" - Tim Brown, *author of Change by Design and Chair of IDEO*

Biographies

Ben Swire is one of today's most innovative thought leaders on company culture and workplace belonging. An award-winning designer, writer, and former design lead at the iconic innovation firm IDEO, Swire cofounded Make Believe Works, a team-building company that uses creative activities to accelerate connection, deepen trust, and fuel

collaboration. His methods have helped organizations from Fortune 500 companies to public school districts build healthy and productive workplace cultures. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

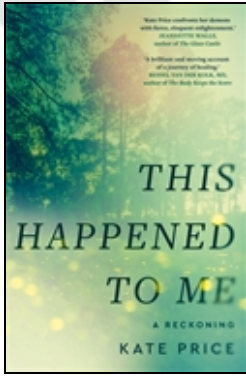


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NON-FICTION



This Happened to Me

'A brilliant and moving account of a journey of healing' Bessel van der Kolk

Kate Price

Keynote

In her exquisitely rendered, transformative memoir, Price describes how she broke free of that which had defined her childhood, to go on to create a purpose-driven life and family, on her own terms.

Description

"Price not only rises above the hurt and hate, she uses her hard-won insights to shine a light for others." -Jeannette Walls, #1 New York Times bestselling author

For readers of Educated, The Glass Castle, and Know My Name comes a powerful memoir that is a remarkable testament of survival and resilience. At once harrowing and exquisite, haunting and inspiring, Kate Price's story will leave readers with a profound assurance in the power to heal.

Kate Price grew up in a small town in Pennsylvania with her sister and parents. Price was destined to leave, and in doing so, to break one of many, unwritten rules when it came to unbroken cycles of poverty, violence, addiction, mental illness, and abuse. She started a new life in Boston where she discovered the truth of her dark past through a series of hazy flashbacks accompanied by a "chilling of her blood and uncomfortable feeling in her bones."

Overcome with unexplainable grief, she sought out Dr. Bessel van der Kolk, a trauma specialist, to help her understand these flashbacks. Price discovered what that darkness that lay within her was - that her father had abused and trafficked her as a child. And so began a 10-year quest with a journalist from the Boston Globe, to prove what Price knew to be her truth. With many trips back to the hometown she thought she had left forever, the two eventually found the hard-earned proof Price had been searching for.

Now, in her exquisitely rendered, transformative memoir, Price describes how she broke free of that which had defined her childhood, to create a life and family on her own terms. From victim to advocate, from fearful child to empowered adult, and from despair to triumph, ***This Happened to Me*** is a story of astonishing resilience and breathtaking determination.

Sales Points

- Kate's story was included at length in Bessel Van Der Kolk's bestselling book *The Body Keeps the Score*.
- When published in the Boston Globe, the story had the most website traffic of any story to date.

Biographies

Kate Price is an Associate Research Scientist at the Wellesley Centers for Women, a gender-based research institute at Wellesley College. She is also an alumni scholar at the Brandeis University Women's Studies Research Institute and a senior research associate at a health and human services firm outside of Boston. Price received her master's degree in Gender/Cultural Studies from Simmons College and earned her Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Massachusetts Boston.

Price is an internationally recognized child sex trafficking expert whose work has influenced the passage of state-level children's human rights legislation. Price's work has been published in various scholarly journals and she is a member of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children Child Sex Trafficking Expert Working Group as well as a founding Advisory Board member of the U.S. branch of End Child Prostitution and Trafficking.

Price is the recipient of a Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize medal, a Mariam K. Chamberlain Dissertation Award from the International Centers for Research on Women and an American Association of University Women Dissertation Fellowship.

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Why Are You Here, Mrs Hamilton?

The Post Office Scandal and My Extraordinary Fight for Justice

Jo Hamilton

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Extent 304 pages
Word Count
Territory World English Language

Keynote

The extraordinary memoir from Jo Hamilton, a victim at the very heart of the Post Office/Horizon scandal

Description

WITH A FOREWORD FROM SIR ALAN BATES

'Jo is an inspiration', Monica Dolan, who played Jo in the ITV drama, Mr Bates vs The Post Office

'My first big discrepancy came in the shape of a £2,000 shortfall that just made no sense at all. Of all the things that kept me awake once in the thick of the nightmare that unfolded, it was being stuck in that truly incomprehensible moment where the mere touch of a button suddenly turned £2,000 into £4,000 within three minutes on that cold December night in 2003.'

Jo Hamilton was one of more than 700 sub-postmasters prosecuted between 2000 and 2014 based on information from the Post Office's faulty Horizon accounting system. She was told to put right a wrong she hadn't committed and pushed to the very brink of her existence - remortgaging her house, borrowing from anyone she could in order to repay money that she hadn't taken, and questioning her own sanity.

Immortalised in ITV smash hit drama, *Mr Bates v The Post Office*, this is Jo Hamilton's extraordinary first-hand account of how she built a Post Office that was at the very heart of her community and lost it all through no fault of her own. For the first time, beyond the headlines and the corridors of the Old Bailey and the UK's political institutions, we will finally hear Jo's full story and the human side of this scandal as well as the untold struggle she faced during the biggest miscarriages of justice in modern history. Ultimately, this is a story of hope and the strength of community and the ability of a few to fight back against the odds.

Sales Points

- The inquiry into the Post Office scandal is set to be published next Summer, and we will publish alongside to capture the interest in the case.
- With a Foreword from Sir Alan Bates, one of the leading campaigners for victims of the Post Office scandal.
- The first direct source memoir from a person, and now personality, at the very heart of the Post Office/Horizon scandal and immortalised in ITV's smash hit drama *Mr Bates v The Post Office*.
- The ITV drama was one of the most talked about shows in recent years and the subject isn't going away. It's remains headline news and Jo is one of the most recognisable personalities associated with the scandal.
- The contrast of the quintessential British village post office and the courtrooms of the Old Bailey set to make this a powerful story, almost like a Richard Curtis film come to life.

Biographies

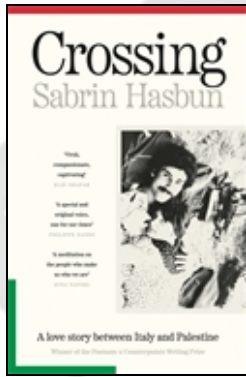
Immortalised in the Bafta award-winning ITV drama, *Mr Bates vs. The Post Office*, Jo Hamilton was one of the "Post Office 39," a group of former sub-postmasters and post-mistresses who were convicted of offences including theft, false accounting, and fraud, based on information from a computer system called Horizon which suggested that money had gone missing from post-office branch accounts. Born in Hampshire, Jo ran the local post office in South Warnborough. The 'poster girl' of the fight against the biggest miscarriage of justice of our generation, together with Sir Alan Bates Jo has been at the forefront of fighting for justice for the more than 700 postmasters that were illegally convicted, and remains committed to getting justice for all involved.

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Crossing

A love story between Italy and Palestine

Sabrin Hasbun

Keynote

A family memoir that retraces the love story between the author's Palestinian father and Italian mother.

Description

WINNER OF THE FOOTNOTE X COUNTERPOINTS WRITING PRIZE 2023-24

'Vivid, compassionate, captivating' Elif Shafak

'A special and original voice, one for our times' Philippe Sands

'A moving and tender story about love and identity, and a meditation on the people who make us who we are' Dina Nayeri

A beautiful and compelling family memoir retracing the love story between Sabrin Hasbun's Palestinian father and Italian mother, and the life of her half-Italian, half-Palestinian family from the 1960s to 2020. After the loss of her mother, Sabrin tries to renegotiate her mixed identity and understand her mother's choices which led her from an oppressive childhood in a village in Tuscany to finding love and community activism in Palestine.

This is a story about overcoming grief and what it means to lose not only loved ones, but also a place in the world and a sense of belonging.

Sales Points

- Interweaves personal stories with key historical moments from the 1960s to the present day, to offer a fresh perspective
- Evokes a sense of place and culture by inserting pieces of traditional knowledge, everyday rituals, songs and recipes
- Universalises the Palestinian experience by honing in on everyday life and the shared human emotions and experiences that unite us

Reviews

- 'Vivid, compassionate, captivating, Sabrin's writing is both deeply rooted in place and culture, and transcending borders in its universality and humanity.' - Elif Shafak
- 'Sabrin's writing is captivating, drawing us warmly into a world that is both different and familiar, that we want to know about. A special and original voice, one for our times.' - Philippe Sands
- 'A moving and tender story about love and identity, and a meditation on the people who make us who we are.' - Dina Nayeri
- "vividly conveys what it is like to live under constant occupation" - *The Observer*

Biographies

Sabrin Hasbun was born in Palestine, spent her childhood in Palestine and Italy, and now lives in the UK. She holds a PHD in Creative Writing from Bath Spa University and lectures in Creative Writing at Cardiff Met University.

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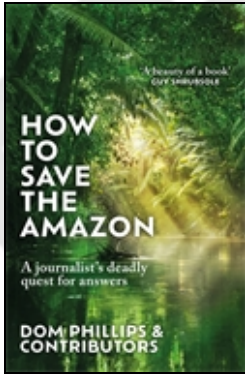
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How to Save the Amazon

A journalist's deadly quest for answers

Dom Phillips

Keynote

A journey deep into the Amazon to show us this most wondrous place on Earth in all its vibrant, fragile and radiant glory.

Description

The Book of Trespass meets The Uninhabitable Earth

Award-winning journalist Dom Phillips was writing *How to Save the Amazon* - a book he conceived as part-travelogue, part call to arms - when he and his colleague, the indigenous expert Bruno Pereira, were murdered in a remote part of the Amazon.

Dom's urgent, important, and hopeful message has been taken up by a group of contributors committed to preserving the his vision for the book: to show why we all have a stake in saving the Amazon, and how we must ask the people who live and work there what needs to be done.

Before his death, Dom Phillips lived in Brazil for fourteen years, visiting and reporting on the Amazon. He saw at first hand the devastation wreaked upon its unique ecosystems. He was a passionate campaigner for the survival of the Amazon and wanted to take us to the heart of this great wonder of our planet, showing the myriad of peoples it sustains and the many ways in which we can avert the collapse of this incredible ecosystem. He was working on this book, alongside the indigenous expert Bruno Pereira, when they were murdered on 5 June 2022.

How to Save the Amazon remains true to Dom's initial vision, and crucially shows how important it is to listen to the experience and knowledge of the indigenous peoples who inhabit the forest.

Sales Points

- On-the-ground reporting of how we can preserve the Amazon rainforest - the lungs of our planet.
- After Dom Phillips was murdered, a group of his colleagues led by Jonathan Watts, a fellow journalist based in Brazil and the *Guardian's* global environment editor, banded together to finish his work in the way that he wanted. These journalists include Jon Lee Anderson of *The New York Times*, Andrew Fishman, and Katia Brasil.
- In 2023, *How to Save the Amazon* was awarded a grant by the prestigious Whiting Foundation.

Biographies

Dom Phillips was a highly experienced British freelance journalist. He moved to Brazil in 2007 and wrote extensively for British and American newspapers such as the *Guardian* and *Washington Post*. In 2023, *How to Save the Amazon* was awarded a Whiting Creative Nonfiction Grant by the Whiting Foundation. In June 2022, Dom Phillips and his colleague Bruno Pereira were killed in a remote part of the Amazon while researching this book.

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Consumed: LONGLISTED FOR THE FT BUSINESS BOOK OF THE YEAR

How Big Brands Got Us Hooked on Plastic

Saabira Chaudhuri

Keynote
A vital investigation into how disposability has transformed our lives and why we've been unable to kick our plastic habit by *Wall Street Journal* reporter Saabira Chaudhuri.

Description
LONGLISTED FOR THE *FINANCIAL TIMES* BUSINESS BOOK OF THE YEAR

'This book will change the way you see the world and could change the world itself' CHRIS VAN TULLEKEN, AUTHOR OF *ULTRA-PROCESSED PEOPLE*

'Chaudhuri does a mighty job of showing how plastic came to take over our lives, and why we have repeatedly failed to curb it' *FINANCIAL TIMES*

'A must read' MICHAEL MOSS, AUTHOR OF *SALT, SUGAR, FAT*

'Eye-popping, engaging and rigorous' MIKE BERNERS-LEE, AUTHOR OF *A CLIMATE OF TRUTH*

Over the past seventy years, McDonald's, Coca-Cola, Procter & Gamble, Unilever and other consumer goods makers have harnessed single-use plastics to turbocharge their profits. They've poured billions of dollars into convincing us we need disposable diapers, cups, bags, bottles, shampoo in sachets and plastic-packaged ultra-processed foods.

We were never clamouring for any of these items, but this shift towards disposability has fundamentally transformed our daily habits. Think of toddlers kept in disposable diapers for far longer than their parents wore cloth, our obsession with bottled water and our insatiable appetite for convenient snacks and coffee. While at first we shaped plastics, somewhere along the way, plastics took over and began shaping us.

Like any addiction, our plastic habit has consequences. It is damaging our climate and biodiversity and we are only just starting to understand its effect on our own health.

How did plastic take over our lives? And why have we been unable to rein it in? In investigating how we got here, *Consumed* arms us to make better decisions about where we go next. It is only by understanding this history that we will stop accepting the same failed solutions and demand better from the brands that got us hooked on plastic in the first place.

Sales Points

- A fascinating journalistic expose exploring how big brands such as McDonald's, Unilever, P&G and Coca-Cola have built their business empires on single-use plastic.
- At a time when plastic waste is everywhere, including inside our own bodies, *Consumed* seeks to show how we have become so reliant on single-use packaging.
- A riveting alternative history about how household brands have fought tooth and nail to prevent restrictions being imposed on their use of disposable plastics from *Wall Street Journal* correspondent Saabira Chaudhuri.

Reviews

- **"This book will change the way you see the world and could change the world itself.** It reads like a thriller, full of stories and facts that would be beyond belief if it wasn't for the exceptional and rigorous journalism throughout. This is **a very rare and important book**, and it's also really, really funny. **You will not be able to put it down"** - Chris van Tulleken, bestselling author of *Ultra-Processed People*
- "Saabira Chaudhuri does a mighty job of showing how plastic came to take over our lives, and why we have repeatedly failed to curb it, in *Consumed*... Chaudhuri makes a **powerful case** for smarter rules on recycling and other measures that push plastic-using companies to bear more of its growing environmental and social costs"

- *Financial Times*

- "As **alarming as it is entertaining**, this **brilliant** book exposes a pernicious industry that has us all in its grip. Saabira Chaudhuri does for plastics what Chris van Tulleken has done for ultra-processed foods - **first make us angry, then make us want to do something**" - Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall, host of War on Plastic with Anita and Hugh
- "In *Consumed*, Saabira Chaudhuri lifts the lid on petrochemical and consumer goods companies' plastic obsession - **exposing how their profits come at the planet's expense**. With **sharp research and a gripping story**, she lays out **the real cost of our throwaway culture and challenges us to kick the plastic habit**" - Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield, co-founders of Ben & Jerry's

Biographies

Saabira Chaudhuri has covered consumer goods companies for the *Wall Street Journal* for the past decade, reporting on plastics, waste and sustainability, among other topics, from the US, India, UK and elsewhere in Europe. She has an MA in business and economic reporting from New York University and a BA in sociology from Mount Holyoke College. Saabira lives in London with her husband, two children and dog. She grew up in Bangalore, India, where she first developed her fascination with what we throw away.

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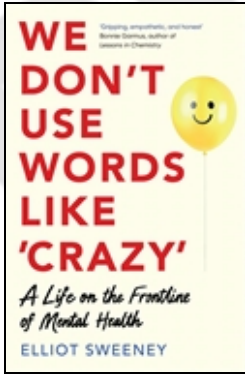


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NON-FICTION



We Don't Use Words Like 'Crazy'

On the Frontline of Mental Health

Elliot Sweeney

Keynote
A professional confessional from a mental health nurse

Description
Barking: Out on the Frontline of Mental Health is a 'professional confessional' from Elliot Sweeney, a mental health nurse who works on the frontline of mental health services. His touching and often humorous memoir lifts the lid on the realities of the profession, in an attempt to highlight the need for compassion for some of the most vulnerable people in the world, and the very committed people that work with them on a professional basis.

This book is for anyone who wants to know what it's really like to work in contemporary mental health services in the UK, and why people like Elliot stick at it. Funny, frank and beautifully observed, Elliot's memoir explores all aspects of mental health care, including hospital, youth care, post-partum, dementia, community care, and the more extreme experience of working with Broadmoor inmates, highlighting a service that underpins our society and that reflects the full spectrum of humanity.

- Sales Points**
- Professional confessionals, which offer the reader a glimpse into a profession that so few understand, are perennially popular. Think Benji Waterhouse, Adam Kay, Max Pemberton, Chrissie Watson.
 - Elliot already has endorsements from Nathan Filer, Chrissie Watson and Jo Brand.
 - Mental health is a zeitgeisty topic and top of the news agenda. It's something that is affecting us more and more in general, and yet still relatively taboo. Elliot is the perfect mouthpiece to discuss these difficult topics.

Biographies
'I'm a Londoner born and bred, but these days divide my time between the capital and my adopted home in Lancashire, where there's a bit more space to write. By day I'm a community psychiatric nurse specialising in adolescent mental health and post-traumatic stress. Through fiction, my aim is to fuse my professional interests with a love of fast-paced crime writing.'

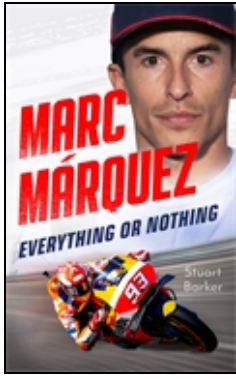
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Marc Márquez: Everything or Nothing

The Definitive Biography of MotoGP's Superstar

Stuart Barker

Keynote

The definitive biography on MotoGP superstar racer Marc Márquez from bestselling motorsports author Stuart Barker

Description

Marc Márquez is the apex predator of the MotoGP world: arguably the greatest motorcycle racer who ever lived, he is an eight-time world champion. He is the man who dethroned Valentino Rossi, and who changed the sport of MotoGP forever.

Márquez's hyper aggressive riding style has made him many enemies, and his epic championship battle with Valentino Rossi in 2015 led to one of the most controversial moments in the history of MotoGP.

But his story off the track is just as incredible: devastating accidents, surgeries and recoveries, racing on despite a diagnosis that left him knowing one more head injury could leave him blind. His self-admittedly ruthless personality and desire to win make him an explosive, dominant and at times controversial character.

Told by bestselling author Stuart Barker, with the insight of rivals, team members, pundits, managers and many close to his story, this is the a story of pure sporting theatre and white-knuckle speed twinned with real human drama. *Marc Márquez: Everything or Nothing* is the Márquez told in full for the very first time.

Sales Points

- Márquez one of the world's pre-eminent sportsmen and is overdue a proper book. Previous titles have been over-fluffed picture books with no real insight. This biography will change that for his fans.
- Márquez is a globally renowned athlete - with 7M followers on Instagram and a new feature length documentary on Amazon Prime about him, his profile and status are second to very few in the sporting world.

Biographies

Stuart Barker, born in Galloway, Scotland, began working as a motorcycle journalist for Motor Cycle News. Freelance since 2001, he has written for most of the major motorcycling titles and was editor of the Isle of Man TT programme for eight years. He has written eight books including a bestselling biography of Barry Sheene and a biography of Evel Knievel which is set to be made into a major Hollywood movie. Other works include biographies of Valentino Rossi, Joey Dunlop and others. He lives in Kettering, Northamptonshire.

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Dope

How Drugs Changed Sport

James Witts

Keynote

A look at the murky world of doping in sport, uncovering how the cheats keep one step ahead of the authorities and what drives them to do so.

Description

As human beings, we're fascinated by elite human performance. And if it derives from nefarious means? Arguably that's even more alluring - just look at the Enhanced Games, the sporting free-for-all where doping is allowed that will take place in 2026. The lengths athletes, and their support teams, go to in search of peak performance is unsettling, dangerous and captivating.

Just as intriguing is how the anti-doping authorities combat, or attempt to combat, the cheats. Blood tests, urine tests, examination of fitness data, monitoring social media a la Big Brother in an effort to determine where the athlete's training. Is it in a country that doesn't have an accredited testing lab nearby? The alarm bells ring.

It's good versus evil, but who's winning?

Through the lens of case studies through the history of doping in sport, *Dope!* examines the landscape of sport and doping in the modern era. It uncovers the common methods of cheating and what tricks the authorities have up their sleeves to identify and catch those who cross the line.

This is an eye-opening and enthralling account of modern day sport - one which will change the way you view it forever.

Sales Points

- A topic in sport that won't go away and gaining more traction with publicity around the Enhanced Games
- Continued fascination in the subject and around these expose sports books and media, such as *The Dirties Race in History* and *Icarus*
- Award-winning potential
- Serious and intelligent sports journalism - something we excel at on the Blink list

Biographies

James Witts has carved out a career from making science accessible, whether for the broadsheets (*Observer*), consumer magazines (*Cyclist*, *Rouleur*, *New Scientist*...) or websites (*CyclingNews*, *BBC Focus*, *Live Science*...). He has written three books, published by Bloomsbury - *The Science of the Tour de France*; *Training Secrets of the World's Greatest Footballers*; *Riding with the Rocketmen* - that lifted the lid on elite sporting performance, all in a jargon-free and inviting manner.

I've also written extensively on doping in sport for many years. Publications who I've written for on this subject include: *The Observer*, *Cyclist*, *CyclingNews*, *Cycling Plus* and *Rouleur*.

He has appeared regularly on 5Live, TalkSport and many other radio stations and podcasts.

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The Spy and the Devil

The untold story of the MI6 agent who penetrated Hitler's inner circle

Tim Willasey-Wilsey

Keynote
The first published account of the undercover agent who fought for Britain in the Great War, and became MI6's most important resource in the highest Nazi circles

Description
The forgotten tale of MI6's top spy in Nazi Germany and his bid to stop the Second World War.

In the world of espionage, where the accounts of renowned spies often dominate the narrative, this is a rare gem - an untold story of a completely unknown spy. Baron William de Ropp, a Baltic German aristocrat, wasn't just any ordinary spy; he was MI6's top secret agent in Nazi Germany from 1931 to 1939, managing to escape Berlin just before war broke out. This unsung hero had direct access to Adolf Hitler and an inside track on the Nazi regime. His reports, shrouded in secrecy, had the power to shape British policy toward Germany in a pivotal period of history.

The Spy and the Devil is a riveting tale of espionage, intrigue, and the untold impact of one man's secret mission on the course of history. A journey into the shadows of Nazi Germany, where a forgotten British spy worked tirelessly to avert catastrophe, and discover the secrets that history almost left behind.

Bill de Ropp's story has never been published in full before, adding an extra dimension to what is, by any standard, the account of a very remarkable man. Drawing on his years of service in the Foreign Office, Tim Willasey-Wilsey offers an insider's view of this outstandingly effective but enigmatic British spy.

- Sales Points**
- Published on 8 May 2025 - the eightieth anniversary of the end of the war in Europe.
 - The long concealed story of Bill de Ropp - or Baron Wilhelm de Ropp - a Baltic German who spied for Great Britain in Germany right up until war broke out in September 1939, barely escaping Berlin ahead of the Gestapo.
 - Offers remarkable new evidence on Nazi intentions towards Britain, the Soviet Union and the Jews as well as London's desperate attempts to avoid another world war.

- Reviews**
- 'The story of Baron de Ropp, who worked as a British agent for SIS/MI6 during the turbulent period between the world wars, shines a light into corners that have hitherto remained in shadow. It contains new insights into enduring mysteries like the Zinoviev Letter as well revealing the hazardous intricacies of intelligence-gathering in Nazi Germany as war clouds gathered. In telling this hitherto unknown story of a man of amazing audacity and tenacity, Tim Wilsey adds greatly to our knowledge and understanding of the workings of British intelligence at a time of supreme challenge.' - *Gill Bennett, OBE, intelligence historian and former Chief Historian of the Foreign Office*
 - "The untold story of an unknown spy at a pivotal moment in history" - *Foreign Office Association Magazine*
 - "Incredible story" - True Spies podcast
 - "A fascinating account of an ambiguous time of history" - Amazon.co.uk reader review

Biographies
Tim Willasey-Wilsey, CMG, is Visiting Professor of War Studies at King's College, London and Senior Associate Fellow at the Royal United-Services Institute (RUSI). He served for twenty-seven years as a Foreign Office diplomat in Africa, Latin America, Asia and Europe. He has published numerous articles and reviews for both the national press and academic institutions and think tanks.

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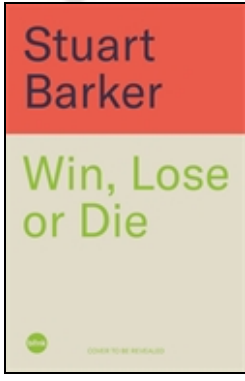
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Win, Lose or Die

Inside the Lethal Sport of Motorcycle TT and Road Racing

Stuart Barker

Keynote

The unvarnished, raw truth behind the world's most dangerous sport - motorcycle road racing - in the words of those who ride it.

Description

The Isle of Man TT is not the only motorcycle road race in the world. Far from it. Events like the North West 200 (Northern Ireland's biggest outdoor sporting event, which attracts over 100,000 spectators), the Ulster Grand Prix, the Macau Grand Prix, and the Cookstown 100 are every bit as brutal as the TT, if not more so.

Competitors race around closed public roads at speeds of over 200mph, and there is absolutely no room for error. Trees, houses, lampposts, and stone walls are just some of the hazards waiting to catch out the unwary, or the unlucky.

As with the Isle of Man TT, these events provide some of the greatest highs and the most tragic of lows seen in any sporting field, and there are only three possible outcomes for riders: win, lose, or die. It's that basic; it's that savage.

Over the years, some of the biggest names in motorcycle racing have tackled 'pure roads' events, including Geoff Duke, Mike Hailwood, Giacomo Agostini, Joey Dunlop, Carl Fogarty, and even the great Barry Sheene. Their modern counterparts, like John McGuinness and Michael Dunlop, continue to push speeds higher and higher, the risks increasing with every mph gained, year on year. Faster, faster, faster.

Through a host of exclusive interviews with riders, mechanics, team bosses, and race organisers, *Win, Lose or Die* takes readers behind the scenes of one of the world's most lethal sports, revealing the triumphs and tragedies, the blood, the guts, the sweat, and the tears that are involved in winning a road race. This is extreme sport at its most extreme and the definitive look at the biggest, most lethal, motorcycle road races from around the world.

Sales Points

- Author with a great track record in this area
- Mass-niche audience that will come out for the book
- Documentary series and feature film being made by Brad Pitt and Channing Tatum, which will bring a new audience to the sport

Biographies

Stuart Barker, born in Galloway, Scotland, graduated from Strathclyde University in 1996 and began working as a motorcycle journalist for *Motor Cycle News*. Freelance since 2001, he has written for most of the major motorcycling titles and was editor of the Isle of Man TT programme for eight years.

He has written nine books including a bestselling biography of Barry Sheene and a biography of Evel Knievel which is set to be made into a major Hollywood movie. Other works include biographies of Joey Dunlop, Valentino Rossi, Marc Marquez and *Ragged Edge* - a history of the Isle of Man TT. He lives in Kettering, Northamptonshire.

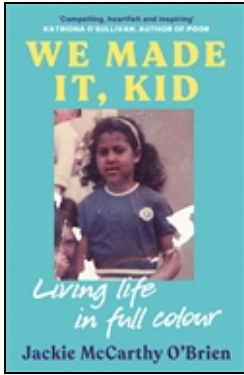
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We Made It, Kid

Living life in full colour

Jackie McCarthy O'Brien

Keynote

The autobiography of Jackie McCarthy O'Brien: Irish soccer and rugby star, LGBTQ+ icon, TikTok star and all round Limerick Legend.

Description

'Compelling, heartfelt and inspiring. I found this book so real. so honest. It has taught me about drive, ambition, persistence and love. And what it means to be really Irish! A triumphant story of achievement in a world made for men!' - Katriona O'Sullivan, author of *Poor*

Jackie McCarthy O'Brien has led a truly remarkable life, from being born in 1961 to an Irish mother and Jamaican father (whom she never met) in Birmingham to growing up in Limerick. She was put in an industrial school as a baby by a priest for being an "illegitimate" black child and not recovered by her mother until she was five.

As a teen she excelled at sport and played for Ireland in soccer, but when she was sexually harassed by a coach she changed to Irish rugby team. She got married at 21 before accepting her sexual feelings for women, and leaving the marriage with her three young children.

Always a hilarious raconteur, this memoir tells her extraordinary story up until becoming a TikTok star and LGBTQ+ icon in her sixties.

Sales Points

- For fans of Katriona O'Sullivan's *Poor* and Tara Westover's *Educated*
- Jackie McCarthy O'Brien has over 30k followers on TikTok
- Backed by a major publicity campaign

Reviews

- "Compelling, heartfelt and inspiring. I found this book so real. so honest. It has taught me about drive, ambition, persistence and love. And what it means to be really Irish! A triumphant story of achievement in a world made for men!" - Katriona O'Sullivan, *author of Poor*
- "Jackie is a trailblazer, not only in sport, but in life, love, resilience, and the journey of finding her identity. As someone navigating multiple cultures being a woman of colour, her story hit home in powerful ways. I laughed, cried, and saw many parts of myself in her journey. This book is for everyone, but especially for those who have ever searched for where they truly belong" - Marguerite Penrose, *author of Yeah, But Where Are You Really From?*

Biographies

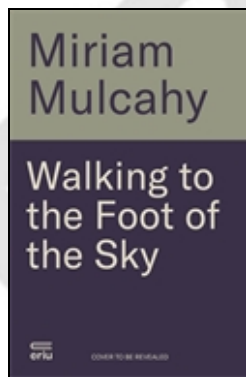
Jacqueline "Jackie" McCarthy O'Brien is a former Irish International and rugby player. She played forward for Republic of Ireland women's national football team. McCarthy O'Brien represented Ireland 13 times each in soccer (1981-1993) and rugby (1994-1998). She was the country's first mixed-race player in both games. A vocal advocate against racism, in 2021, she appeared on the Claire Byrne show speaking on the subject. She is openly gay and has participated in Limerick Pride events. Her daughter Sam McCarthy is also a football player.

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Walking to the Foot of the Sky

Miriam Mulcahy

Keynote

A story about how a woman in middle age, living alone with her children, crushed by the weight of responsibilities and the never-ending grind of single parenthood, rediscovered her spirit and strength by getting out and walking for an extended time, in the wildest places she could find.

Description

A story about how a woman in middle age, living alone with her children, crushed by the weight of responsibilities and the never-ending grind of single parenthood, rediscovered her spirit and strength by getting out and walking for an extended time, in the wildest places she could find.

Always in the darkness that seems to follow me like a cloud, there's a tiny kernel of daring hope. Rising within me, radiating out from my core is a desire I cannot quiet or ignore. I need to escape, to be somewhere that is completely immersive. Mountains. Quiet. Solitude. Water. I crave being up on a height, with the world and its obligations humming far below me in the distance.

Sales Points

- For fans of *Hike Life*, *Wild, Eat, Pray, Love*, *The Salt Path*, *A Walk in the Woods*, Robert Macfarlane and Rebecca Solnit

Biographies

Miriam Mulcahy is a writer, journalist and editor who contributes to the *Irish Times*. She has a degree in European Studies and French from the University of Limerick, lives in Kildare, and is a single parent to four children and a dog called Juno who takes her out for long walks on the Curragh every day. Last year she curated the Surrealist Gallery, a permanent exhibition on the life of Desmond Morris, bringing together her passions for art, books and nature.

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Wild Thing

Finding hope and a home in the natural world

Randal Plunkett

Keynote

At the age of 28, Randal Plunkett inherited the title of Baron Dunsany, alongside Dunsany Castle and the 1,600-acre estate and found himself at a crossroads. A reluctant aristocrat, he now lets nature run wild on grounds his ancestors farmed for centuries.

Description

'Randal's voice dares to diverge in a world built on conformity and tradition. I genuinely revelled in every moment. This book is raw, heartfelt, brave and just utterly alive' - Seán Ronayne, author of *Nature Boy*

At the age of 28, Randal Plunkett inherited the title of Baron Dunsany, alongside Dunsany Castle and the 1,600-acre estate and found himself at a crossroads. A reluctant aristocrat, he now lets nature run wild on grounds his ancestors farmed for centuries.

What Randal had was a vision of Dunsany given back to nature. A memoir-with-a-message, *Wild Thing* showcases how this poisoned chalice - a cold, leaky, needy castle, with all the responsibilities to the generations before - inspired a personal journey toward fulfilment, a vital mission toward a better, more sustainable, future, and a call to arms for the environment, and the people who live in it.

Sales Points

- The Dunsany nature reserve is now the biggest privately owned rewilding project in Britain and Ireland. It has attracted the attention of universities, including Trinity College Dublin and the university of Helsinki
- Media outlets, including the *New York Times*, Radio France, *Vice*, the *Irish Times*, the *Guardian*, and the *Irish Independent*, have covered Plunkett's work, and filmmakers James Cameron and Martin Sheen have documentaries forthcoming featuring his work.
- For fans of Isabella Tree's *Wilding* with insight into the weird world of the aristocracy we find so fascinating in *Downton Abbey* or Lady Glenconner's *Lady in Waiting*.

Reviews

- "Randal's voice dares to diverge in a world built on conformity and tradition. These pages are steeped in fearless vulnerability in a search for self that unfolds into something far greater: a joyous reawakening of the wild, and a re-emergence of nature on a grand scale. I genuinely revelled in every moment. This book is raw, heartfelt, brave and just utterly alive" - Seán Ronayne, *author of Nature Boy*

Biographies

Randal Plunkett is the 21st Baron of Dunsany Castle in Co. Meath. Born in New York, and brought up in New York, London, and Switzerland, as well as in his native Ireland, he returned to Dunsany Castle aged 23.

Upon inheriting the title Baron Dunsany, together with the castle and estate, he has spent the last decade working to re-wild a large portion of the 1,600 acre estate, while dedicating the remainder to sustainable plant-based agriculture.

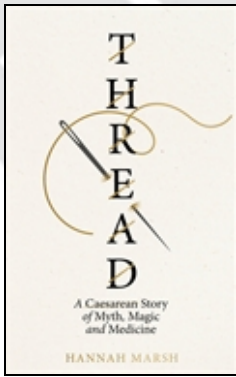
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Thread

A Caesarean story of myth, magic and medicine

Hannah Marsh

Keynote

Can Caesarean birth also be magical? Mystical? Awe-inspiring? Knotting its way through history, culture, folklore and human experience throughout the world, *Thread* seeks to reframe the Caesarean Section on its journey through myth, magic and medicine.

Description

'I start to see my own experience not as a woeful result of a system or a body that has let me down, but as a birth experience as ancient, rich and potent as any other kind of birth.'

Back in 2017, journalist Hannah Marsh was about to give birth to her son after months of preparation, reading and hypnobirthing classes. Following thirty hours of induced labour, Hannah was quickly acquainted with a caesarean section: a process she had not physically or emotionally prepared for.

In an attempt to heal, Hannah began interrogating the following questions: why do the words 'caesarean section' bring up feelings of doubt, shame and judgement for some, but a sense of safety, relief, validation and reassurance for others? Why are those two powerful words rarely spoken of in the ecstatic tones with which we celebrate so-called 'natural', or vaginal birth? Why is the procedure rarely called 'beautiful', or associated with an innate sense of feminine power?

Working her way through history, culture, and folklore, it wasn't long before Hannah stumbled upon the pioneering voices and fascinating tales history seems to have forgotten. Take Koronis, mother of Aesclepius, the Greek God of surgery, or Dr James Barry, born Margaret Anne Bulkley, who performed an early and rare successful c-section, in which both mother and child survived, in South Africa in 1826.

Weaving in the arc of her own experience, a journalist's insatiable curiosity, and the stories of both contemporary and historical women who endured and drove developments, *Thread* is an unflinching but compassionate examination of a procedure which is much more than surgery and medicine.

Sales Points

- Despite the relevance in women's healthcare and the regularity at which they occur, this is a largely unexplored topic in non-fiction writing.
- The author is a well-connected journalist, previously having written for outlets such as the *Telegraph* and the *Independent*. She also works with charities to raise awareness around infant mortality.
- There is a clear audience and market. Women's healthcare, especially around childbirth, is of perennial interest and a considered and well-researched look at Caesarean sections will be hugely welcomed in this space.
- *Thread* will balance the intellectual, cultural and historical with the personal. Whilst looking into the practice's past, the book will be filled with many women's stories including the author's own personal experience with having a C-section.

Biographies

Hannah Marsh is a journalist; she has written for *The Telegraph* and *The Independent*. Born into a medical family, with two Oxford University professors and scientists as parents, and an international community of scientists, researchers and specialists around her, Hannah defied the family convention to carve out a career in writing and the arts.

Hannah gave birth via Caesarean in 2017. After being diagnosed with PTSD following the birth, discovering more about the procedure, and its history, became both a fascination and a key part of her healing. She first wrote about her discoveries in a personal essay for online culture magazine *Demented Goddess* in 2019.

Writing about women and gender has long been a focus for Hannah; she wrote a series of columns for *The Independent* focusing on feminist and gender issues and she has penned columns for *The Vagenda*. Hannah explores the Caesarean experience

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Territory	World



Coastline

An Exploration of Britain's Coastal Heritage

Dr Ben Robinson

Keynote

An exploration of the British coastline and how it has shaped modern Britain.

Description

THE STUNNING NEW BOOK FROM THE HOST OF BBC 2'S VILLAGES BY THE SEA

From prehistory to the modern era, our coastline had shaped Britain, not only physically but socially, economically and culturally. Far from being at the margins of national interests, the coast has been at the heart of the British people's most important endeavours and central to era-defining national events. For thousands of years the coastline has been both Britain's frontier and its connection to the wider world.

Exploring key coastal themes throughout British history and introducing some of the most significant, intriguing and quirky places that express the pivotal role our coastal heritage has played, archaeologist and presenter Ben Robinson looks to our coastline to tell not only the stories of our past, but also of our present. From artefacts lost by hunter-gatherers in a land beneath the sea to bustling medieval ports, smugglers' caves, early seaside resorts, fortifications and secret bases, the coast is resplendent with fascinating history to explore and enjoy.

Interwoven with the author's own experiences, through his boundless historical knowledge the reader will learn of ancient legends, villages and towns lost to the waves, happy holiday memories and artistic expression are all invoked by places where the land meets the sea.

Sales Points

- *Coastline* will sit perfectly in the history area of the market. Given the UK focus it will have broad appeal with additional regional-specific draw.
- Author Ben Robinson is an archaeologist and TV show host, presenting the widely watched *Villages by the Sea* which has now been running for five series. Ben also works for English Heritage as inspector of Ancient Monuments, so we would hope to be able to utilise this connection to further support the book.
- The package will be a beautiful and nostalgic nod to the British coastline and the book itself will include charming illustrations to add to the overall feel of this as a celebration and exploration of a key element of British history.

Biographies

Dr Ben Robinson is a British archaeologist and television presenter.

Ben grew up in a Cambridgeshire fenland village, within a farming family. He has worked as a field archaeologist, an archaeological planning adviser, and once enjoyed the grand-sounding job title 'Inspector of Ancient Monuments'.

Ben joined cult archaeological TV show *Time Team* for several series and has presented regional BBC TV features on heritage subjects from Roman treasure to Victorian rubbish. He has taken to the skies as 'The Flying Archaeologist', traced King John's final ill-fated journey and tracked the path of Zeppelin raids for BBC Four. Latterly, Ben has joined Alice Roberts as 'the eye in the sky' for three series of Channel 4's *Britain's Most Historic Towns*, presented village archaeology and history series *Pubs, Ponds and Power: The Story of the Village*, and now fronts *Villages by the Sea* for BBC Two.

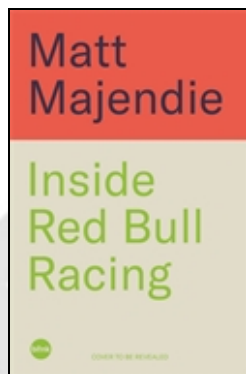
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Inside Red Bull Racing

Keynote

A unprecedented-access-all-areas look behind the scenes of F1 team Red Bull F1 Racing for one of the most dramatic seasons of racing ever

Description

Step inside one of the most successful British sports stories in history as acclaimed sports journalist Matt Majendie, who has covered F1 for nearly two decades, is given unprecedented access to the World Champion Red Bull Racing Team during its 2025 Formula 1 season. Amid the drama of the four-time champion Max Verstappen attempting to make it five in a row, the departure of key personal, the turmoil and gossip that surrounds team principal Christian Horner, Majendie lifts the lid on what it takes to survive, thrive and dominate one of the most popular and glamorous sports on earth.

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Freddie Flintoff: Coming Home

The Inspiring Autobiography from the Cricket Legend and National Treasure

Andrew Flintoff

Keynote

Freddie Flintoff's life in full, in his own words, through the moments that made him.

Description

THIS AUTUMN'S MUST-HAVE AUTOBIOGRAPHY

'A split-section decision is all it takes. A decision that can change the course of a cricket match. Maybe even the course of your life.'

Sometimes, a split-second is all it takes. In cricket. In life.

In *Coming Home*, Freddie Flintoff zeroes-in on the crucial moments that made him - some highly celebrated, others less well-known, away from the cameras, but all pivotal in shaping the man he is.

As a boy, growing up in Preston, Fred fell in love with the game of cricket. It gave him his route through life; out on the pitch he felt at home. Through his eyes we see him picking up a bat for the first time, his early years on the field; that incredible performance to win the Ashes against the Aussies in 2005; face-downs with rivals; run-ins with the media; the doctors telling him he can't continue to play. On and off the pitch, in and out of the spotlight, Fred tells the whole story.

After retiring, Fred thought he'd left the game behind, relaunching himself in the world of entertainment, but following the car crash that turned his life upside down, it was cricket to which he returned.

Coming Home is a reflection on a unique life, a story like no other, and a love letter to the game that made him. Honest, open, reflective and funny, like the man himself, this is Freddie Flintoff, in full, in his own words.

Sales Points

- Household name with a strong social media presence.
- Great track record with previous titles.
- Lots of potential media interest in his story.
- Hasn't written a more serious memoir in almost a decade.

Biographies

Andrew 'Freddie' Flintoff is one of Britain's most beloved sportsmen and TV personalities. He is a bestselling author, broadcaster, former international cricketer and current England Lions coach.

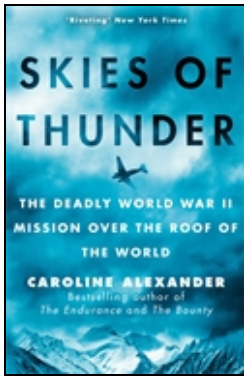
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Skies of Thunder

The deadly World War II mission over the roof of the world

Caroline Alexander

Keynote

THE LITTLE-KNOWN STORY OF THE ALLIES' FIGHT IN WWII'S CHAOTIC AND LETHAL CHINA BURMA-INDIA THEATER.

Description

'Riveting' - *The New York Times*

THE LITTLE-KNOWN STORY OF THE ALLIES' FIGHT IN WWII'S CHAOTIC AND LETHAL CHINA BURMA-INDIA THEATER.

In April 1942, the Imperial Japanese Army captured Burma, closing the only ground route from India to China. Supplies now had to be flown over the foothills of the treacherous Himalayas, on the most dangerous air route in the world.

Delving into memoirs, diaries, and official records, Caroline Alexander tells the story of the airmen who braved this perilous journey, flying unreliable aircraft through monsoons and enemy fire, with primitive navigation tools. The result is a litany of both deadly crashes and astonishing feats of survival.

Highlighting the efforts of units like the Chindits and Merrill's Marauders, and examining the political tensions between Roosevelt, Churchill, and Chiang Kai-shek, this book also exposes the fractures between the Allies and the impact of their decisions on post-war relations.

Sales Points

- Caroline Alexander is the author of *The Bounty* and bestselling book *The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition*, which has been translated into thirteen languages.
- Published to coincide with the 80th anniversary of the British recapturing Burma in March 1945
- For fans of Max Hastings' *Nemesis* and Robery Lyman's *A War of Empires*

Reviews

- "Riveting" - *The New York Times*
- "Alexander's vivid retelling of this aerial feat is matched only by her exquisite rendering of the pilots' fear" - *The New York Times Book Review (Editors' Choice)*
- "A clear and engaging narrative ... A thorough, but never dull, history for the reader curious about the reality of World War II" - *The New York Journal of Books*
- "Well-detailed and engagingly told" - *The Wall Street Journal*

Biographies

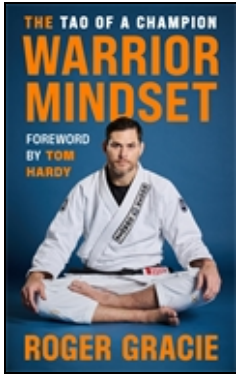
CAROLINE ALEXANDER is the *The New York Times* bestselling author of *The Endurance*, *The Bounty* and other acclaimed works of non-fiction, as well as a new translation of Homer's *Iliad*. She read Philosophy and Theology at Oxford University as a Rhodes scholar and has a doctorate in classics from Columbia University. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, and *National Geographic* among other publications.

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The Warrior Mindset

The Tao of a Champion

Roger Gracie

Keynote
A guide to self-mastery and other lessons in life from MMA and Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Legend, Roger Gracie

Description
Foreword by Tom Hardy

Pub date 21/05/26
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ISBN 9781785123757

As a ten-time Brazilian jiu jitsu World Champion and a former MMA World Champion, Roger Gracie is widely considered to be the greatest practitioner of Brazilian jiu jitsu of all time.

Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 272 pages
Word Count
Territory World English Language

His grandfather, the great Carlos Gracie, was the architect of modern day Brazilian jiu jitsu and for Roger, growing up in the famous Gracie family, every conversation seemed to be about fighting,

Within this family of supermen, this self-contained, chubby kid promised little; in fact, nobody expected Roger to become the warrior he later did. But once he had made up his mind as a teenager to become the greatest, Roger's star was firmly aligned with his purpose. Over time, he gradually became unstoppable, both in his thirst for jiu jitsu knowledge and in his single-mindedness to strip back overly complex moves to their simplest most effective forms, just as his grandfather had done before him.

In *The Tao of the Champion*, for the first time, Gracie shares lessons from a career of fighting at the highest level including:

- 'Learning to breathe',
- 'Controlling your emotions',
- 'Mastering your thinking', and '
- 'Developing Quiet Inner Grace'.

Going far beyond the mat, this hard won wisdom is applicable to everyone from any background and in any walk of life who longs to find strength, courage, health, and peace.

Sales Points

- Roger Gracie is one of the biggest names in MMA, with 423k Instagram followers worldwide- 10% UK, 2% Australia
- Tough guys in niches sell - e.g. Adam Peaty (24k HBs), Ross Edgley (17k HBs)
- Celebrity following who will support including Tom Hardy (who has written the foreword), Jason Momoa, Joe Rogan, Henry Cavill and Guy Ritchie
- Founder of the Roger Gracie academy - 21 gyms in the UK, another 22 in Europe and 44k followers on Instagram
- Interviews promised on Steven Bartlett, High Performance, Joe Rogan

Biographies

Roger Gracie is one of the greatest jiu-jitsu competitors to have ever stepped on a mat. He is a 10-time black belt world champion, a multiple MMA champion, one the most decorated fighters of the modern era and a member of the International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation Hall of Fame. He is the son of Mauricio Gomes and Reila Gracie and the grandson of the founder of the art, Carlos Gracie. The Gracie family has been the driving force in the growth of jiu-jitsu and the revolution in the martial arts around the world. He is also the founder of the Roger Gracie Academy, which boasts 21 gyms across the UK as well as 22 throughout Europe.

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Talking with Serial Killers: Murderous Medics

Christopher Berry-Dee

Keynote

A study of the surprising numbers of doctors, nurses and other medical professionals who have serially murdered patients in their care.

Description

In the aftermath of Nurse Lucy Letby's conviction in August 2023 for the murder of seven babies and the attempted murder of six others, cold-blooded killings by some of the most trusted professionals are a subject of very real public concern. The subject is also extremely topical, with massive media coverage. In this book, an experienced criminologist focuses a forensic spotlight on the phenomenon of murders committed by doctors and other medical professionals, including the child-killing nurses Beverly Allitt and Lucy Letby, and Dr Harold Shipman, the UK's most prolific serial killer.

Sales Points

- Christopher Berry-Dee is the UK's no. 1 best selling true crime writer.
- This is part of the bestselling series, Talking With Serial Killers
- There's a prevalent news piece within this book, and also perennial interest in the topic.

Biographies

Christopher Berry-Dee is a bestselling writer and noted criminologist, whose recent books include *Talking with Psychopaths: Letters from Serial Killers* (2023) and *Talking with Psychopaths: Guilty but Insane* (2024). He is the country's No. 1 true-crime author.

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The Jessica Simulation

Jason Fagone

Keynote
 A look at the rise of social AI and what its impact on our future emotional relationships will be - told through the story of one man's experiences with the first AI chatbot of its kind.

Description
 Long before AI and ChatGPT became daily front page news, Joshua Barbeau began using it for a very different reason. He had lost his fiancé, Jessica, and found himself grief-stricken, unable to move on. When someone told him about a back door into an extraordinary new technology that would allow him to build a 'character' to communicate with, he fed it a description of her and a paragraph-long mash-up of her text messages, and was soon conversing with someone, *something*, that felt just like her.

When we think, talk, and write about AI, it tends to be in economic and existential ways. Will it take away our jobs? Will it ultimately grow too smart and destroy us? In *The Jessica Simulation*, journalist Jason Fagone comes at it from a very different angle. Jason asks what this technology is doing for us - and to us - on an emotional level, exploring what is already happening and where it may go. Millions of people across the world are already using AI to create 'companions' for themselves, a number that is growing wildly, and the ramifications of that are a vital part of our future as humans. We are experiencing what has been called an epidemic of loneliness and social AI could be the answer - but at what cost? What are the ramifications of putting our emotional energy into a completely unregulated part of the market? What does it look like when these platforms fail?

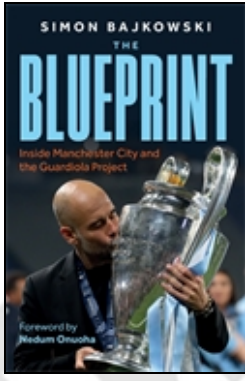
The Jessica Simulation is a story about connection and full of surprises. It's an AI love story; a moving human tale about the first person to use this groundbreaking technology to simulate a loved one they'd lost as the way into the most impactful technological development of our time.

- Sales Points**
- AI remains one of the most talked about topics
 - First book of its kind to explore Social AI - the next big talking point in this space
 - Author has incredible material and transcripts from the first person to use this new technology to simulate a loved one
 - Success and recognition of books like *Doppelganger* shows that books about social media/AI are moving into the mainstream in a positive way

Biographies
 Jason Fagone is a writer and journalist who has written about science, sports, and culture for *GQ*, *Wired*, *Esquire*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Atlantic*, *Slate*, *Deadspin*, and the 2011 edition of *The Best American Sports Writing*. He is the author of *Horsemen of the Esophegus*, about eating contests, *Ingenius*, about electric cars, and *The Woman Who Smashed Codes*.

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The Blueprint

Inside Manchester City and the Guardiola Project

Simon Bajkowski

Keynote

The defining insider account of the Pep Guardiola era, the 2023 Treble and the future of the Manchester City footballing project

Description

FOREWORD BY PEP GUARDIOLA

The year is 2012. Manchester City have just failed to sign Pep Guardiola, the most sought-after manager in world football. All City can do is watch as he joins Bayern Munich and wins consecutive league titles.

The year is 2016. Guardiola is finally courted by City. But his first season at the Etihad will also be his first ever without a trophy. He will be mockingly nicknamed 'Fraudiola', and after drawing the first home game of the new 2017-18 season, he will lock himself in the dressing room, inconsolable.

The year is 2018. Manchester City followed that fateful draw with eighteen wins in a row. They will win the Premier League with a record, rampant 100 points - a now legendary 'Centurion' season.

The year is 2023. Manchester City have just sealed an historic Treble by winning the Champions League in Istanbul. Pep and Kevin De Bruyne celebrate together on the pitch. The world's most ambitious sporting project has come full circle. History has been made.

Throughout this project, Simon Bajkowski, has been alongside the team in his role as the *Manchester Evening News's* chief Manchester City correspondent. He has compiled the definitive book on the team, complete with unrivalled insight and new interviews.

This book is a study in high-performance sporting excellence and elite management. But more than that, it is a true insider's guide: to how Manchester City won an unprecedented and historic Treble in 2023, and how a near-perfect footballing machine was built from the ground up. Prepare for *The Blueprint*: a white-knuckle ride through a sporting dynasty the likes of which the game has never seen before.

Sales Points

- Simon is the *Manchester Evening News* chief Manchester City correspondent. He has great access to the club, is experienced working across media and he has 50k dedicated Twitter followers.
- This book will publish in hardback for Christmas, emulating the success of the Newcastle United title, *Here to Compete* by Pete Graves, which is proving to be a popular gift for NUFC fans.
- Will include a foreword from Pep Guardiola and offers real insider access through interviews with major club figures of the Pep Guardiola era - including exclusives with Raheem Sterling, Fernandinho and others.
- This is a seriously underserved market and an author who seriously knows his audience.

Biographies

Simon Bajkowski joined the Sports Desk of the Manchester Evening News in 2013; in 2016, with the arrival of Pep Guardiola, he was assigned to all games - home and away - for Manchester City. In 2022, he was asked to become the Chief Manchester City writer - neatly coinciding with the clubs most successful season in football history. Simon has been alongside Pep Guardiola since his joining Manchester City. He has journeyed with the club almost as an insider, and as very much part of their modern, superclub iteration.

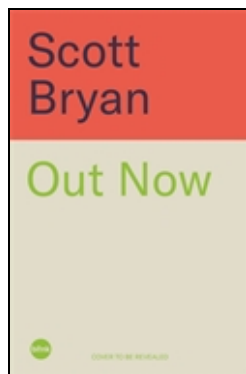
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Out Now

Scott Bryan

Keynote

TV critic Scott Bryan takes a nostalgia trip through the history of queer representation on television, from *Queer as Folk* to *Heartstopper*, looking at how they transformed society and affected him personally.

Description

Out Now is a nostalgia trip through 90s and 2000s television, looking at how LGBTQ+ representation has changed over time. In this warm, funny and moving exploration, TV critic and broadcaster Scott Bryan takes us through the early tentative explorations on soaps such as *Coronation Street*, the landscape-altering sitcom *Queer as Folk*, right to the present and the teen phenomenon, *Heartstopper*. Featuring interviews with writers, producers, actors and journalists, we see how these stories we brought to life, as well as the response in society at the time. Scott explores the role these TV shows had in changing perceptions and the importance of representation as a young man growing up gay in the 90s, sharing his own memories of seeing these shows for the first time. Perfect for any lover of 90s and 2000s nostalgia and for television fans everywhere, *Out Now* is a testament to the power of TV in changing minds and reflecting the world around us, celebrating the incredible work of countless people who brought these stories to the small screen.

Sales Points

- There are several audiences that this taps into with its themes that include LGBTQ+, television and 90s nostalgia.
- The author has a really engaged audience online, with 122,000 followers on X, 10,000 on Instagram, 5,000 on Substack and 33,000 on Blue Sky.
- The author's connections are extensive, including journalists and numerous media outlets and high-profile people including Nigella Lawson, Nick Grimshaw, Greg James and Scott Mills.

Biographies

Scott Bryan is a TV critic, broadcaster and journalist. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Variety*, the *Guardian* and more. He regularly appears to talk about television on BBC Breakfast, BBC Radio 5 Live's 'Must Watch' podcast, on social media and beyond.

He lives in East London. He hasn't got a dog yet, but he wants one.

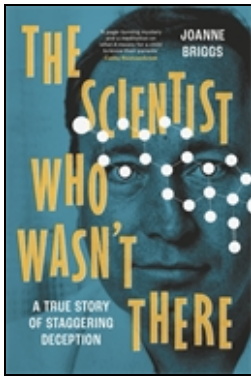
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The Scientist Who Wasn't There

A true story of staggering deception

Joanne Briggs

Keynote

What would you do to find out the truth about someone you love? A forensic, propulsive book about the line between fact and fiction.

Description

'A page-turner with a mystery to solve, and a meditation on what it means for a child to know their parents' - Cathy Rentzenbrink

'An exceptional, entirely unpredictable, real-life thriller' - Michael Mansfield

'An astonishingly original memoir about truth, identity and the ethics of science'

The Telegraph

'Gripping' *The Times*

WINNER OF THE BRIDPORT PRIZE FOR MEMOIR

What would you do to find out the truth about someone you love? A forensic, propulsive book about the line between fact and fiction.

Renowned scientist Professor Michael Briggs was many things:

A Space expert at NASA

An adviser to the World Health Organisation

A successful Big Pharma executive

But Michael Briggs had a secret.

A scandal broke out in 1986 when research he conducted was revealed to be compromised. Patients were also claiming that a pregnancy test he pioneered had caused devastating birth defects. Soon after his fall from grace, Briggs was dead, struck down by a mystery illness in a foreign country

Briggs left behind a long list of publications, patents, and inventions. But he also left behind hundreds of people who believe they are victims of his negligence and who are still fighting for justice to this day.

And he left someone else: his daughter, Joanne. After decades of wondering who her father really was, Joanne decided to investigate for herself. In hypnotic prose, she uncovers the secret that shaped her father's entire life and made his story more fantastic than any science fiction. As she discovered, Briggs's greatest invention was himself.

Sales Points

- For fans *On Chapel Sands* and *The Premonitions Bureau*.
- This is a lyrically-written, propulsive first-person narrative with a major news story at its core.
- It has already won the Bridport Prize for an unpublished manuscript and Cathy Rentzenbrink has endorsed it.

Reviews

- "A page-turner with a mystery to solve, and a meditation on what it means for a child to know their parents" - Cathy Rentzenbrink
- "An astonishingly original memoir about truth, identity and the ethics of science." - Ian Sansom, *The Telegraph*
- "An astonishingly original memoir about truth, identity and the ethics of science." - Ian Sansom, *The Telegraph*
- 'Gripping' - Alice O'Keefe, *The Times*

Biographies

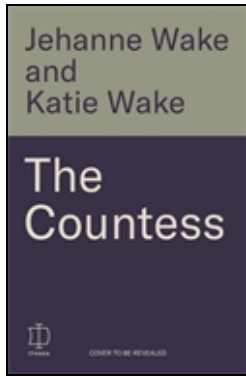
Joanne's debut book, *The Scientist Who Wasn't There*, was awarded the first Bridport Prize for memoir in April 2023. She was a barrister for many years and has continued to work in other legal roles, in a career spanning nearly four decades. She lives in Sussex.

Pub date	04/06/26
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Author's Location	East Sussex

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The Countess

Seduction, power and the parallel lives of Emily Cowper

Keynote

The spellbinding biography of a Regency beauty turned Victorian power-broker

Description

Intelligent, elegant, and socially gifted, the Hon, Lady Emily Lamb was born into privilege - her godmother was the infamous Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire. But Lamb refused to be defined by society's expectations. After an early love marriage to Earl Cowper soured, she took a string of lovers, culminating in taming a rake: the promising, promiscuous Harry, Lord Palmerston.

Placing herself at the centre of glamorous Regency high society with its duels and dissipation, Emily became a leader of fashion, admired by Lord Byron and Thomas Moore. From the balls and sex to the fortunes won and lost, Lamb's life resembled real life *Bridgerton* - she even inspired the character Cressida Cowper.

But Lamb did much more than host parties. A confidante of Queen Victoria, she used her political genius to engineer her brother, Lord Melbourne, and Harry Palmerston's unexpected leaps into the cabinet, and their eventual premierships. Once they were in Downing Street, she acted as their chief counsels, wrote speeches and memos, conducted press briefings and schemed to defeat her opponents.

Lamb was not only motivated by personal ambition. Fighting against injustice during a period of history when debate raged about democracy, slavery, immigration and divorce, she advocated for progressive causes, including abolition and women's rights. Throughout the dramatic period from Napoleon to the height of Victoria's reign, in which the seeds of modern democracy were sown, social values were transformed, and Britain ruled a quarter of the world, Lamb changed the course of history.

Sales Points

- This is a wonderfully immersive portrayal of a fascinating character. The writing is wonderful, evoking the era of the book in a way which is truly compelling. Similar titles include *Kingmaker*, *The Fall of the House of Byron* and *Queen Victoria and her Prime Ministers*.
- Emily Cowper has never before been the focus of a biography and so this book is an exciting offering in this genre, particularly as through Emily the reader is offered an insight into both the Regency and Victorian eras.
- The subject matter taps into a trend for the Regency era epitomised by the success of *Bridgerton*.

Biographies

Jehanne Wake is the acclaimed author of *Sisters of Fortune* and *Princess Louise, Queen Victoria's Unconventional Daughter* and a seasoned contributor to the British and American media, appearing on BBC1, BBC2, ITV, BBC Radio 4, C-Span's Book TV and NPR.

Katie Wake started in journalism, gaining bylines at the *New Statesman*, *Sunday Times* and *Literary Review*, before joining the civil service and spending nearly a decade working in Whitehall. Katie has worked as an archival researcher for Jehanne and edited early drafts of her writing. Their partnership combines Jehanne's troves of research from previous books and credentials as a nineteenth-century historian with Katie's political experience and fresh take on biographical storytelling.

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Binding Hardback
Format 234mm x 153mm (Royal)
Extent 320 pages
Word Count
Territory World

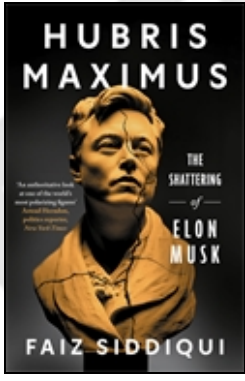
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Hubris Maximus

The Shattering of Elon Musk

Faiz Siddiqui

Keynote
A gripping deep dive into Elon Musk's rapid ascent, chaotic empire and spectacular public implosion.

Description
The rise, fall, and revival of the Caesar of Silicon Valley.

Pub date 04/06/26
Price £10.99
ISBN 9781785127434
Binding Paperback
Format 198mm x 129mm (B Format)
Extent 336 pages
Word Count
Territory UK & C/Wealth exc Canada

Elon Musk famously leads his companies from a bully pulpit, cutting through red tape whenever possible with little regard for the fallout. Musk's approach to business and politics is truly singular - he alternately seems to be either in complete command or on the verge of a meltdown, and many in his orbit have had their lives upended by buying into his utopian vision.

From the chaotic launch of the Tesla Cybertruck to his decision to reshape Twitter into 'X' as part of his self-proclaimed mission to defeat the 'woke mind virus', Musk is seemingly drawn to public controversy, yet he has emerged from these turbulent moments more influential and powerful than ever.

Hubris Maximus offers an unprecedented insight into the motives and mindset that have driven Musk's stratospheric rise to power. In this cautionary tale about the pitfalls of magnetic leaders, *Washington Post* journalist Faiz Siddiqui offers a gripping portrait of a uniquely messy and lucrative period in Musk's career, one which has seen him ascend into a key role in Trump's administration.

- Sales Points**
- A gripping narrative which offers an unprecedented insight in the motives and reasoning behind Musk's unique mindset and uncompromising actions
 - Written by a leading *Washington Post* journalist who has spent years reporting on Musk's business dealings and stewardship of Tesla and SpaceX
 - The most comprehensive biography of Musk to date, tracing his journey from co-founding PayPal through to his role in Trump's administration

- Reviews**
- 'Siddiqui blends insightful reporting with prescient analysis to give an authoritative look at one of the world's most polarizing figures. He captures the ambition of Elon Musk's innovations while also holding power to account.' - Astead Herndon, New York Times reporter
 - 'Siddiqui dissects the rise and psychological unraveling of one of the most influential and controversial figures of our time.' - Bradley Hope, Pulitzer Prize finalist and coauthor of 'Billion Dollar Whale'
 - 'An electrifying masterpiece of investigative journalism, offering a riveting deep dive into the rise and fall of Elon Musk, and the definitive account of his transformation from inspirational entrepreneur to a dangerous and polarizing figure.' - Taylor Lorenz, author of 'Extremely Online' and founder of User Magazine

Biographies
Faiz Siddiqui is a technology journalist with the *Washington Post*, covering companies such as Tesla and Twitter for the Business Desk. Siddiqui's work has earned multiple Society of Professional Journalists Mark of Excellence and Hearst Journalism awards, and his writing has also appeared in the *Boston Globe*, *NPR*, and *The Guardian*, among others.

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Territory World

Dear England

The Real Story of the Three Lions Rebirth

Jonathan Northcroft

Keynote

The real 'Dear England', this is the inside story of how Gareth Southgate's England went from no-hopers to genuine contenders, written by Southgate experts and award-winning journalists who have followed the team throughout his tenure.

Description

THE INSIDE STORY OF HOW ENGLAND REACHED THE EURO 2024 FINAL

Written by the European Football Writer of the Year and the Chief Football Correspondent at the *Sunday Times*

Includes interviews with Gareth Southgate, Harry Kane, Declan Rice, John Stones, Bukayo Saka, Raheem Sterling, Wayne Rooney, Gary Neville and many more

Learn how England broke their penalty shootout hoodoo

Discover Southgate's work behind the scenes to transform the team's culture

Find out how Harry Kane was identified as a leader by Southgate during his first camp

Uncover how Bellingham was picked out as a top talent at an early age and nurtured through the youth system

Under the stewardship of Gareth Southgate and captained by Harry Kane, England reached two finals, a semi-final and a quarter-final in four tournaments. After years of underperforming, how did they become genuine contenders at major tournaments?

Dear England: The Real Story of the Three Lions Rebirth delves into Southgate's turbulent journey to becoming England manager, his emergence as a waistcoated cult figure and becoming the country's most successful manager since Sir Alf Ramsey. Award-winning football writers Jonathan Northcroft and Rob Draper have had extraordinary access to the England team during Southgate's tenure and take us behind the scenes as they give the complete account of the highs and lows of Southgate's reign and the sea change that took place throughout the entire England set up.

For the first time, this is the real story of England's evolution both on and off the pitch, revealing how Southgate transformed a failing culture and empowered young people to write their own history.

Sales Points

- Behind the scenes look at the most successful England team since 1966
- Includes a look back at England's Euro 2024 campaign
- Continued fascination with Gareth Southgate and how he presided over a huge cultural change, as seen by success of *Dear England* stage production and accompanying BBC series
- Written by two of the most well-respected football journalists in the country, who have both followed the team closely throughout Southgate's reign

Biographies

Jonathan Northcroft (Author)

Jonathan Northcroft has been the Chief Football Correspondent at the *Sunday Times* since 2009 and is a frequent contributor to Sky Sports, BBC, BT and TalkSport football programmes. Inaugural winner of the Jim Rodger Memorial Award for young sports writers in Scotland, he has written books on modern football journalism, England's rebirth at the 2018 World Cup, Leicester City's 2015-16 title miracle and collaborated with Manchester United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel on his *Sunday Times* bestselling autobiography *One*.

Rob Draper (Author)

Rob Draper is the European Football Writer of the Year 2023 and previously Sports Journalist Association Football Reporter of the Year and Social Media Journalist of the

<http://www.blinkpublishing.co.uk/>



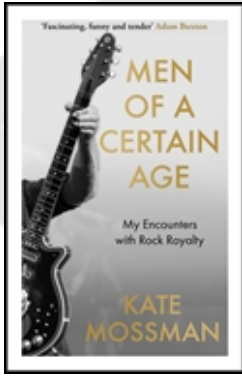
Year. Formerly the *Mail on Sunday's* Chief Football Writer, Rob now writes for the *Guardian*. Rob has collaborated with Gary Neville on the *Sunday Times* Bestseller *The People's Game* and is co-author of *Class of 92: Out of our League* along with Gary and Phil Neville, Ryan Giggs, Paul Scholes and Nicky Butt.

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NON-FICTION



Men of a Certain Age

My Encounters with Rock Royalty

Kate Mossman

Keynote

An exploration of the allure of the ageing male rockstar by one of the UK's greatest music writers.

Description

'Fascinating, funny and tender' ADAM BUXTON

'My favourite writer and interviewer' JUDE ROGERS

'If Kate Mossman's name is on it, then I want to read it' PETE PAPHIDES

'Terrific' GUARDIAN

From Jeff Beck to Ray Davies, Jon Bon Jovi to Kevin Ayers, Kate Mossman has long fostered an interest in male musicians of a certain age.

Why is it that when I meet them, I feel something ignite inside me? What is this strange connection - to feel so excited, yet so at ease? And how is it that in the presence of a wrinkly rock star twice my age, I sometimes feel like I'm meeting . . . me?

Featuring nineteen long-form profiles lovingly constructed for *The Word* magazine and the *New Statesman*, *Men of a Certain Age* chronicles the lives of some of the biggest rock stars of our time, including Brian May, Gene Simmons, Terence Trent D'Arby, Johnny Rotten and Nick Cave.

The book is a meditation on the powerful archetype of the ageing rock star, but it is also a personal story - of music and obsession, and of the deep unconscious projections at play in our relationships with the famous people who most capture our hearts. As Kate travels 5,000 miles to try and find Glen Campbell, and to the depths of the Cornish countryside for a rendezvous with Roger Taylor, will she finally unravel the roots of her obsession with the elder statesmen of rock?

Sales Points

- This is the first book by the highly regarded Kate Mossman, drawing from her critically acclaimed *New Statesmen* profiles - of largely aging rockers - accompanied by a self-reflective narrative which adds greater thematic cohesion to the pieces.
- She has a number of famous and prominent fans - both writers and musicians - who will help raise the profile of the book with supporting promotion.
- Whilst collected music writing by male journalists is more commonplace, this will be a relatively unique and attractive proposition given its obsessions presented by a female writer.

Reviews

- "Fascinating, funny and tender. I loved this book so much" - Adam Buxton
- "My favourite writer and interviewer, bar none. Whirligig, funny, incisive, often brutally honest - always surprising - but also tender and humane. She's a genius!" - Jude Rogers
- "Kate invariably notices something about her chosen subjects that 99 per cent of writers, who have been covering them for decades, miss entirely. This collection of her encounters with music's lifers abounds with such observations, proving once more that the thing we really want to do with rock stars is get close and have a damned good look at them" - David Hepworth
- "A fantastic book" - Craig Charles

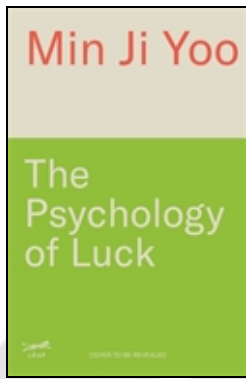
Biographies

Kate Mossman is a writer, presenter and broadcaster who has been writing extensively about music and musicians since she started her career working with Mark Ellen and David Hepworth at *Word* magazine in 2008.

She is the writer and presenter of BBC4 documentaries *Girl in A Band* (2016), *When Pop Ruled My Life* (2015) and *The Women Who Wrote Rock* for Radio 4.

She currently writes for *Guardian*, *Observer* and is arts editor for the *New Statesman*. She lives in London.

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Territory World English Language



The Psychology of Luck

Korean Secrets for Attracting Wealth and Success

Min Ji Yoo

Keynote

Is it possible to create your own luck? Korean TV producer Min Ji Yoo shares her wisdom on how luck is made, exploring the link between luck and personal success.

Description

Praised as a book that 'brings you luck the moment you open it', this book contains lessons on how to understand - and use - the psychology of luck.

Why are successful people so obsessed with luck?

Because they want to draw things of value to them.

The average person will experience at least a couple of lucky breaks in their lives, but life's successes and failures are dependent on how well you recognize the signs of such luck.

Born into a family with a gift of intuitive foresight and raised in Korean traditions of numerology, astrology and shamanism, Min Ji Yoo has developed deep insights into how people attract luck, money and the things they value to themselves. In *The Psychology of Luck*, Min Ji Yoo focuses on how successful people harness their luck to attract success - and how we can too.

Drawing on her years working with celebrities, business tycoons, politicians, and everyday people, Ji Yoo explains that the capacity to take advantage of lucky opportunities determines one's success. In this book, she reveals the surprising truths that you can enrich your life in many ways, simply by changing your attitude and psychological approach to luck.

Each chapter offers life lessons about luck and abundance - as well as approaches that quiet those anxieties that weigh us down. From 'live according to your instincts' to 'the more grace you give, the less pain you receive', Min Ji Yoo demonstrates that self-knowledge, worldly wisdom and luck are essential to becoming rich - whether measured in money, love, health or spiritual terms.

Sales Points

- This book is a practical spin on the recent phenomenon of manifesting.
- The author is an expert voice with practical industry experience.
- This reaches across a broad smart-thinking audience with a brand new approach.

Biographies

Min Ji Yoo is a fortuneteller, master of philology and astrology, all skills drawn from the Korean tradition of shamanism. She inherited her intuitive gifts from her grandmother.

In her twenties she worked in the Korean TV industry, where she observed how successful people harnessed their luck. She then went out her own to become a successful producer and publisher.

A lifelong student of luck and fate, she is now an admired advisor on attaining wealth in all its forms through the psychology of luck.

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Raising Brows

My Story of Building a Billion-Dollar Beauty Empire

Anastasia Soare

Keynote
From the founder of Anastasia Beverly Hills and the 'queen of brows', an inspiring memoir about building a global empire and believing in yourself.

Description
FROM ESCAPING COMMUNISM TO SCULPTING THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS BROWS - THIS IS THE UNFORGETTABLE TRUE STORY OF BEAUTY MOGUL ANASTASIA SOARE.

As a young mother, Anastasia risked everything to flee communist Romania and chase the American dream. She arrived with no English, no savings, and no guarantees she'd ever see her family again. What she did have was a secret weapon: a fierce, no-excuses work ethic passed down through generations of her family - work hard, don't complain, figure it out.

In *Raising Brows*, the original 'Queen of Brows' shares her inspiring journey from cleaning salon stations to building a billion-dollar global beauty empire. From learning English by watching *The Oprah Winfrey Show* to later shaping Oprah's brows on live television, Anastasia is a testament to the power of passion and persistence. She disrupted the beauty industry with her pioneering application of the 'golden ratio' to eyebrow shaping - helping women everywhere find balance and confidence in their own faces.

But behind the glitz and celebrity clientele - from Jennifer Lopez to Kim Kardashian to Michelle Obama - was a woman who faced rejection and impossible odds with unshakable determination.

This is more than a memoir. It's a masterclass in resilience, creativity, and the magic that happens when you dare to believe in yourself. Perfect for dreamers, doers, and beauty lovers alike, *Raising Brows* will leave you inspired to shape your own destiny - one bold stroke at a time.

- Sales Points**
- **STORY:** An empowering memoir with lessons from an inspiring founder. A true rags to riches story, Anastasia immigrated from Romania to the US with no English and has since created a billion-dollar business. Readers will be captivated by her journey from war-time tailor's daughter to brow billionaire, and by Anastasia's ability to create an entire industry while working as a single mum.
 - **READERSHIP:** There are not many books out there by female founders, we would be catering to a growing audience.
 - **AUTHOR PLATFORMS AND BRAND:** The author has a social reach of over 25 million. We would be able to use her followers as well as brand followers. Anastasia Beverly Hills has been valued at over \$1B and her products are stocked nation-wide in retailers like Boots, Sephora, Space NK, Feel Unique, Harvey Nichols, Cult Beauty, Harrods, and so many more.
 - **SUPPORT FROM A-LIST CELEBRITY CLIENTS AND FRIENDS:** Oprah Winfrey, Michelle Obama, the Kardashian-Jenner family, Victoria Beckham, Gayle King, Naomi Campbell, Sofia Vergara, Jennifer Lopez, Hailey Bieber, Justin Bieber, Cindy Crawford, Gwyneth Paltrow, and Amal Clooney are just some of Anastasia's stand-out clients and close friends. Anastasia has promised many of them will provide blurbs and will post about the book online.

- Reviews**
- "My husband may have never seen me without my brows on, but Anastasia certainly has - she's the only person I trust with them. Beyond her skill and expertise, Anastasia has inspired me in so many ways: as a working mother, a female founder, and as a human being. Her creativity and passion for our industry are contagious, her work ethic unparalleled, and her generosity unmatched" - *Victoria Beckham*
 - "Whenever I'm speaking to any group about what it takes to be successful, I always lead with Anastasia's story. She embodies self-empowerment, taking a skill she had a passion for, shaping brows, and turning it into a full-blown empire. I've proudly watched her relentless work ethic in building a whole brow movement. The world's

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Extent	288 pages
Word Count	
Territory	UK & C/Wealth exc Canada
Author's Location	Los Angeles, USA

- current obsession with brows started with her. She is the Queen-mother!' - *Oprah Winfrey, via People Magazine*
- "Anastasia's story isn't just about success - it's about believing in yourself when no one else does, and showing the world what's possible" - *Roxie Nafousi*
 - "I'm in awe of what Anastasia has done for the art and the business of beauty." - *RuPaul*

Biographies

Anastasia Soare is the founder, CEO, and driving force behind Anastasia Beverly Hills. Anastasia is one of the world's most successful self-made women. After immigrating to the United States, she trained as an esthetician, set up her own salon, became a brow expert to the likes of Oprah and Jennifer Lopez, invented new makeup products, pioneered in-store beauty treatments at retailers like Nordstrom, and created an international cosmetics company. She started ABH in 1997, and it has been covered by the *Wall Street Journal*, *Vogue*, *Harper's Bazaar*, among others.

<http://www.blinkpublishing.co.uk/>



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NON-FICTION

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Canada

Therapy Talk

Description

Have you heard anyone mention their 'boundaries'? Call someone a 'narcissist'? Talk about their 'trauma' or their 'attachment issues'? These are all words from therapeutic practice, and until recently they were mainly confined to the analyst's couch. But recently, therapy culture - and language - has broken through to the mainstream.

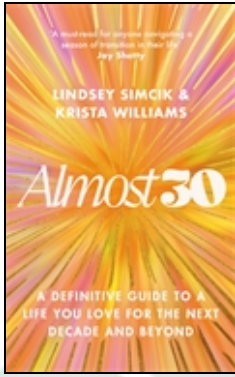
Julia Bueno has practised as a psychotherapist in London for twenty years. She sees the democratisation of therapy as a good thing, but she also sees how these therapeutic terms are often misused - and therefore can flatten our own experience of ourselves and other people, or even cause harm. In *Therapy Talk*, she sets out to set the record straight, and to create a practical and compassionate guide for any reader who wants to better understand this language and how to use it. She explains what terms and concepts like narcissist, psychopath, trauma, co-dependent, and self-care really mean, the psychological research behind them, and how a better understanding of them can help encourage empathy for our fellow human beings, rather than build walls with language.

Biographies

Julia Bueno is a practising psychotherapist and author. In addition to 20 years of work as a therapist in London, she has written two acclaimed books published by Virago. The first was *The Brink of Being*, which explored the often-ignored or unspoken experience of miscarriage through research, history, personal experience, and Julia's work with a number of clients suffering from pregnancy loss. It was called 'Illuminating and consoling' by Julia Samuel, the author of *Griefworks*, and won the British Medical Association Popular Medicine Book Award. Her second was *Everyone's A Critic*, which explored, through illuminating case studies, the consistent pattern of self-criticism she has encountered in her work with clients, offering a guide for how to be kinder to ourselves. Annalisa Barbieri called it 'Gently enquiring, authoritative and reassuring.' Julia is often asked by journalists to contribute to therapy-related feature articles in the print press (such as the *Guardian*, *The Times*, the *Telegraph* and *Red* magazine) and on podcasts. Her writing has been published in *The Times*, the *Sunday Times*, the *New York Times* and *Psychology Today*. She regularly reviews memoirs and psychology-related books for the *Times Literary Supplement*.

www.bonnierbooks.co.uk





Almost 30

A Definitive Guide to a Life You Love for The Next Decade and Beyond

Krista Williams

Keynote

A practical and accessible guide on how to navigate your late 20s and beyond.

Description

'A must read for anyone navigating a season of transition in their life' - Jay Shetty

What am I doing with my life? Is it normal to feel disconnected from people I was once close to? Will I ever find 'the one'? Will I ever feel good in my body? Should I change careers? Aren't I supposed to have things figured out by now?

The years leading up to thirty can feel more agonizing than exciting. The pressure to have it all figured out - your job, your relationship, your life - is intense. And as if that's not enough, bam! Along comes your Saturn Return, a cosmic milestone that thrusts you into adulthood . . . ready or not.

Lindsey Simcik and Krista Williams - creators of the no.1 critically acclaimed podcast *Almost 30* and its global community - help you navigate this season of astronomical (and astrological) transition. In addition to telling their own hilarious and perceptive stories of being almost thirty, the authors share the expert insights, research, practices, and tools they've cultivated. Dive into thought exercises, meditations, journaling prompts, and sage advice from expert podcast guests such as Jay Shetty, Glennon Doyle, Nicole LePera, and many more.

Almost 30 is the go-to book for every woman standing on the cusp of where they've been and where they're going. Because change is imminent, and we're all almost . . . something.

Sales Points

- The *Almost 30* podcast has had over 100M downloads, with 16,000 listeners in the UK and 18,000 in Australia.
- This is a book from two fun and compassionate voices on an eternally-talked about topic. The book taps into the trendy astrology concept of the 'Saturn Returns' but does not limit its audience to only those who are interested in astrology, and is able to reach beyond.
- Great endorsements coming in, including from bestselling authors Jay Shetty and Jessie Inchauspé.

Reviews

- "*Almost 30* is a must read for anyone navigating a season of transition in their life. It's for anyone who's asking themselves, 'Who am I really? What do I want? Where do I fit in the world?' It's an approachable and loving guide to navigating your late 20s, so you cannot only survive - but thrive - through the chaos." - *Jay Shetty, No.1 New York Times bestselling author and host of the On Purpose podcast*
- "*Almost 30* is the best guide to nourishing your soul through the gruelling journey of the Saturn Returns. Not only is it funny, insightful and clear but man, it is DEEP! I wish I had this book when I was going through it myself. It would have made me feel so much less alone - and have so much more hope." - *Jessie Inchauspé, Glucose Goddess and Sunday Times bestselling author of Glucose Revolution*
- 'Lindsey and Krista finally share their essential *Almost 30* guide, exploring questions of identity, purpose, and self-discovery. [They] offer a comprehensive yet approachable roadmap to finding your passions, your people, and ultimately, yourself in your late 20s and beyond.' - *Gabby Bernstein, No.1 New York Times bestselling author of Self Help*

Biographies

LINDSEY SIMCIK is a creative entrepreneur and co-founder of the acclaimed *Almost 30* podcast, a global platform that has inspired millions. Known for pioneering conversations on topics like hormones, self-development, and birth control, Lindsey also created *The Sacredness of Being Single*, a program empowering women to embrace singlehood with confidence. Now a mom to her son, Maverick, Lindsey has launched *New Mom on the Block*, offering resources, products, and community to help moms navigate motherhood with confidence and joy.

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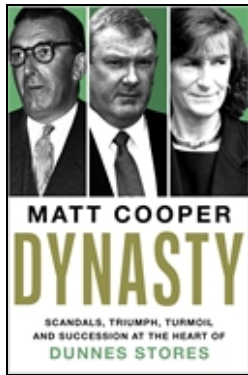
KRISTA WILLIAMS is a co-founder of Almost 30, a globally renowned podcast and community with more than 100 million downloads. She is also the co-creator of the podcast Morning Microdose and leads luxury wellness retreats while speaking internationally for top brands. Through her courses, The Life Edit and Metamorphosis, Krista has inspired thousands to embrace self-love and transform their lives. With a passion for growth and connection, Krista continues to guide others toward their highest potential.

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Dynasty

Scandals, Triumph, Turmoil and Succession at the heart of Dunnes Stores

Matt Cooper

Keynote

The real story behind Dunnes Stores, the most quintessentially Irish shop of all, and the family drama behind it

Description

The real story behind Dunnes Stores, the most quintessentially Irish shop of all, and the family drama behind it

This is the story of the extraordinary family behind one of Ireland's most famous businesses, Dunnes Stores, over three generations and covering nearly 80 years of retailing but going back as far as the 19th century.

With drama worthy of the popular TV drama *Succession*, a real-life Irish family drama shows the children of a dominant founder argue as to who should run the supermarket empire after his death and take the money from it, and how they dealt or not, with addictions and ill health, including alcoholism.

This is the story of excess, success and failure.

Sales Points

- Matt Cooper is a highly respected and successful author, broadcaster, podcaster and journalist
- Will appeal to a wide readership. Every town has a Dunnes Stores, everyone shops in Dunnes Stores
- The inside story on the family secrets in the Dunnes Stores' legacy

Biographies

Matt Cooper is a highly respected and successful author, broadcaster, podcaster, journalist and presents news review show *The Last Word* on Today FM. He is also the author of six books, including *Who Really Owns Ireland?* and *The Maximalist*.

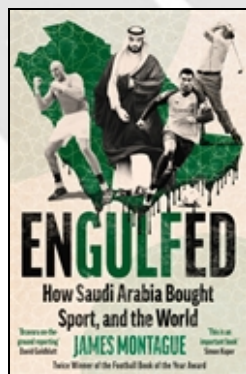
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Territory World

Engulfed

How Saudi Arabia Bought Sport, and the World: LONGLISTED FOR THE WILLIAM HILL SPORTS BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD 2025

James Montague

Description

'Bravura on the ground reporting'

David Goldblatt, award-winning author of *The Ball is Round*

'This is an important book'

Simon Kuper, bestselling author of *Soccernomics*, *Chums* and *Barça*

'Compelling'

The Times

In 2034, Saudi Arabia will host the men's FIFA World Cup and mark the culmination of Mohammed bin Salman's ambitious plan to modernise Saudi Arabia, a kingdom of unfathomable wealth at the heart of the Islamic world, which is only now emerging from nearly a century of self-isolation. How did we get here? Why would a country spend tens of billions of dollars, perhaps even hundreds of billions in the long run, to buy and control sport?

Engulfed is a story about ambition, family rivalries, extreme wealth, power, murder and disinformation. It is also the story of dictatorship, political corruption and, at its root, how sport - football, yes, but also golf, boxing and even e-sports - became a vital geopolitical tool for Saudi Arabia.

Drawing on Montague's exclusive first-hand interviews from his extensive travels across Saudi Arabia, the US, the north-east of England, Spain, Turkey and beyond, *Engulfed* uncovers how the House of Saud zeroed in on the political power of sport, using it both as a powerful political tool of influence and as a way to rectify the PR damage caused by one of the most infamous assassinations in history: the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

Biographies

James Montague is an award-winning author and journalist from Chelmsford, Essex, who has reported regularly for the *New York Times*, BBC World Service, *The Athletic*, CNN, and *Delayed Gratification*, amongst others, from over 100 different countries and unrecognised territories. He is the author of four highly praised football books including *Thirty One Nil: On the Road With Football's Outsiders* (Bloomsbury) and *The Billionaires Club: The Unstoppable Rise of Football's Super-Rich Owners* (Bloomsbury) both of which won Football Book of the Year at the British Sports Book of the Year Awards. His work has been translated into over a dozen languages. He lives in Istanbul.

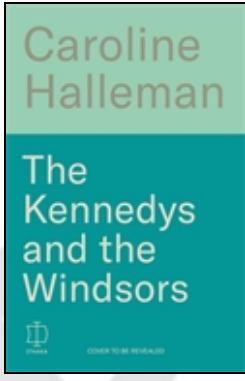
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The Kennedys and the Windsors

Description

For the better part of the past century there are two families who have captured the public's imagination, the British royals and the closest thing the U.S. has to royalty, the Kennedy clan. Much ink has been spilled on these two cultural and political institutions over the years, but no one has examined these two dynasties side by side. Journalist and royals expert Caroline Halleman aims to do just that when the question of what role these dynasties play and whether we still need them looms large. Using deep archival research and original new interviews, Halleman tells an intimate, multi-generational story of the relationship between the British royals and the Kennedys, with previously untold accounts of private connections, shared struggles, and public associations of two of the most famous families in modern history.

The Kennedys and the Windsors reveals how these two families drew inspiration, and at times admonition, from one another in ways that shaped their images, legacies, and indeed history. From Joe and Rose Kennedy's first introduction to the British monarchy, a swirl of parties, pageants and high cotton meetings that Rose claimed put her son, John, on the first rung to political office, to the moment Jackie and Elizabeth II found common ground as young mothers raising children in the public, to the agony JFK Jr. felt when Princess Diana was felled by the paparazzi and he watched helplessly as William and Harry had to grieve, as he did in front of the whole world.

The connections between these families are not coincidental, Halleman reveals, as she also tells the larger story of why a dynasty matters, how it operates in a modern world, and how, whether built on tradition or ambition, it can impact history in significant ways.

Sales Points

- The Windsors remain a popular subject, this is an original approach which helps to put them in the context of global leadership and celebrity

Biographies

Caroline Halleman is the Digital Director of *Town & Country* magazine, where she has written about culture, society, and the world of the rich and powerful for almost 7 years. She has reported extensively about the Kennedy family and the British royals for the publication's website, stories which have gotten picked up by other publications including *People*, *Marie Claire*, *Glamour*, *Elle*, *Us Weekly*, and *Hello*, among many others. Halleman has also been featured on BBC radio as an expert, speaking specifically on Queen Elizabeth's relationships with U.S. presidents. Over the course of her tenure, she helped T&C reach record traffic growth while meticulously planning the site's news and entertainment coverage, and every month, her stories receive millions of views. Prior to her time at *Town & Country*, she was an editor at *Travel + Leisure*, *DailyCandy*, and *Parenting* magazine. She currently lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

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A Rainbow of Our Making

The colours that shaped queer history

Eleanor Medhurst

Keynote

Step into a world where every colour tells a story of love, defiance and identity.

Description

Have you ever wondered how colours tell the story of LGBTQ+ lives, loves, and resistance through history? *Queer in Colour* invites you on a dazzling journey through time, where every hue becomes a doorway to queer narratives. From ancient codes hidden in flower petals to the bold palettes of modern pride flags, this book illuminates the dynamic role of colour in LGBTQ+ culture.

Chronologically tracing queer history, Eleanor Medhurst explores the echoing lines of Sappho and the epics of the Iliad to the radiant mosaics of the Renaissance and the revolutionary zeal of the 20th-century queer rights movement. Along the way, she celebrates the boundary-pushing spirit of queer creativity, showing how LGBTQ+ communities have used colour as a tool of expression, subversion and identity.

Dive into this vibrant tapestry of art, fashion, literature and activism, and discover the rainbow-hued stories that have shaped the Western queer experience. Whether you're a history enthusiast, an art lover or simply curious about the power of colour in queer lives, *Queer in Colour* offers a kaleidoscopic view of culture that will leave you inspired.

Sales Points

- Uses colour to offer a fresh perspective on the past 'lit up in all its rainbow glory,' which will appeal to readers both within and outside of the queer community (but especially the queer community who love reading about their history)
- A rich, intricate history that combines literature, politics, religion, fashion, art, war, technology to consider how uses of colour in queer culture have changed over time, and also how they reflect changes in what we might think of as 'queer' communities or identities
- Author v engaged and up for events and discussions
- For readers of *The Secret Lives of Colour*, *We Are Everywhere* and *Bad Gays*

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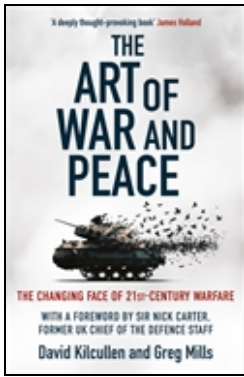
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The Art of War and Peace

The Changing Face of 21st Century Warfare

David Kilcullen

Keynote

Two leading international experts explain the future of modern warfare, with a foreword by the UK's former chief of defence staff

Description

'A deeply thought-provoking book full of wisdom, insight and common sense, by two of our foremost strategists' James Holland, bestselling author of *The War in the West*

FOREWORD BY SIR NICK CARTER, FORMER UK CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

How have the character and technology of war changed in recent times?
Why does battlefield victory often fail to result in a sustainable peace?
What is the best way to prevent, fight and resolve future conflict?

The world is becoming a more dangerous place. Since the fall of Kabul and Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the US-led liberal international order is giving way to a more chaotic and contested world system. Western credibility and deterrence are diminishing in the face of wars in Europe and the Middle East, tensions across the Taiwan Strait, and rising populism and terrorism around the world. Can peace, mutual respect and democracy survive, or are we destined to a permanent chaos in which authoritarians and populists thrive?

Using decades of experience as policy advisors in conflicts in Iraq and across Africa, and on recent fieldwork in Israel and Taiwan, the authors analyse the nature of modern war, considering state-on-state and intra-state conflicts. They investigate how technology can be a leveller for small powers against larger aggressors and the role of leadership, diplomacy and economic assistance.

Weighing up past lessons, present observations and predictions about the future, *The Art of War and Peace* explores how wars can be won on the battlefield and how that success can be translated into a stable and enduring peace.

Sales Points

- Endorsed by the UK's Former Chief of Defence Staff
- Deals with conflicts in Ukraine, Taiwan, and Israel-Palestine, and looks at the role of military intervention, leadership, and economic assistance
- For fans of *Conflict* by David Petraeus and *Accidental Guerrilla* by David Kilcullen

Reviews

- "[An] excellent study" - *The Telegraph*
- "A deeply thought-provoking book full of wisdom, insight and common sense, by two of our foremost strategists" - James Holland, bestselling author of *THE WAR IN THE WEST*
- "*The Art of War and Peace* by David Kilcullen and Greg Mills, a team comprising an American-Australian and a South African, is a metaphor for the international cooperation necessary by which the efforts of good people can succeed over evil." - General (rtd) Sir Nick Carter, former Chief of the Defence Staff, UK
- "It is a great honour for me to work with Greg Mills and David Kilcullen. I recommend this book to all those interested in peace in our complex world" - Valerii Zaluzhnyi, 'The Iron General', Ukraine

Biographies

Dr. David Kilcullen is Professor of International and Political Studies at the University of New South Wales, Canberra, Professor of Practice at Arizona State University, and CEO of the geopolitical risk analysis firm Cordillera Applications Group. He is a leading theorist and practitioner of guerrilla and unconventional warfare, counterinsurgency and counterterrorism and the author of five prize-winning books. He was awarded a Walkley Award in 2015 (Australia's equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize) for longform journalism for his war reporting on the rise of the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria.

Dr Greg Mills heads the Johannesburg-based Brenthurst Foundation, established in

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2005 by the Oppenheimer family to strengthen African economic performance. He holds degrees from the Universities of Cape Town (BA Hons) and Lancaster (MA cum laude, and PhD), and was, first, the Director of Studies and then the National Director of the SA Institute of International Affairs from 1994-2005. He is the author of the best-selling books *Why Africa Is Poor* and *Africa's Third Liberation*. His writings won him the Reicht Malan Prize for Non-Fiction Work in South Africa.

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ITHAKA

NON-FICTION



Rocket Dreams

Musk, Bezos and the Trillion-Dollar Space Race

Christian Davenport

Biographies

Christian Davenport is a staff writer at *The Washington Post* covering the space and defense industries for the financial desk. He has been on reporting teams that were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize three times and is a recipient of an Emmy award for his work on the Discovery and Science Channels covering SpaceX's first human spaceflight mission and a Peabody Award for his work on veterans with traumatic brain injuries. As a frequent radio and television commentator, he has appeared on MSNBC, CNN, CBS, *PBS NewsHour* and several *NPR* shows.

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Imagination

Cassandra Vieten

Keynote

IMAGINATION: Exploring Your Inner World to Create an Extraordinary Life will be the first book to offer a roadmap of imagination and an imagination profile tool to help each of us determine our imagination strengths and how we can use them to improve our lives.

Description

My premise is simple. What you imagine - what you imagine to be true, what you imagine is possible, what you learn from contemplating the impossible - is 100% key to how you think, how you act, and how you live.

Your ability to imagine is one of your greatest gifts. Indeed, it may hold the key to not only your own personal growth and evolution, but to creating the innovations needed for our collective human survival and planetary health. As such, it deserves to be more central in science, in education, and in people's lives. No time could be better to have the topic of imagination elevated in the public conversation and broken down in a fun and fascinating way by an expert in the field, who has been studying the power of imagination for over two decades.

By reading this book, you can use this atlas, this super map, to assess the multiple dimensions of your own imagination, find out how to leverage your strengths, and discover how to cultivate and expand your capacities for imagining.

Sales Points

- Cassandra Vieten is an expert voice, with a PhD in psychology.
- The author is extremely well connected, on personal terms with Deepak Chopra, Dan Siegel (who wrote a foreword for a previous book of hers), Bruce Lipton and Michael Pollan, among others.
- We would be following a huge launch in the US, the author is hosting an Imagination Summit with Wisdom for Life on the week of publication that should attract a huge number of attendees, with 350,000 on their mailing list.

Biographies

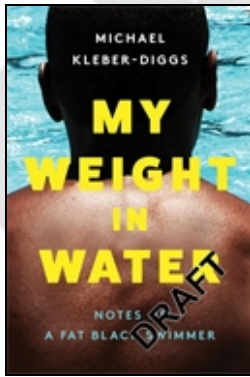
Cassandra Vieten, PhD is a university professor, licensed clinical psychologist, mind-body medicine researcher, and internationally recognized workshop leader and public speaker, and author of three books. She is a Clinical Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the and also works at the Centers for Integrative Health at the University of California, San Diego, where she serves as the Director of the Center for Mindfulness. Cassi is a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS), founded by Apollo 14 Astronaut Edgar Mitchell, where she worked for 18 years. She served as CEO/President from 2013-2016 and President from 2016-2019. She is co-chair of the Board of Directors of Partners for Youth Empowerment, Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Consciousness and Healing Initiative, and serves on the Board of the Virtual World Society. She is also a blogger at Psychology Today. She is an internationally recognized workshop leader and keynote speaker, most recently at the American Psychological Association, the Osher Lifelong Learning Centers National Conference, and the Esalen Institute.

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My Weight in Water

Notes of a Fat Black Swimmer

Michael Kleber-Diggs

Keynote

A powerful exploration of race and swimming by a writer who 'see[s] the world whole, allowing daily intimacies against a backdrop of social injustice' (New York Times)

Description

Michael Kleber-Diggs and his twin brother, Martin, grew up in Kansas City, their family part of a prosperous community of Black medical professionals. Their father had never learned to swim, so when he wanted to buy a boat, their mother, a former lifeguard, agreed on the condition that her sons take swimming lessons. Then their father was murdered in an act of random violence, and everyone's lives changed - but for Michael, in the years and moves that followed, swimming remained a constant.

My Weight in Water is the intimate memoir of a swimmer. It is a story of race and recreation in America - of segregation, desegregation, and justice - told through one family and their lives in the Midwest. It is a reckoning with the concept of self-care and a plea for joy. Most of all, it is a book about what it means to love an activity that leaves you vulnerable - your mostly unclothed body in close proximity to other mostly unclothed bodies, moving through the same water - when you are marked as an outsider by both your race and your size.

Transparently and gloriously written, *My Weight in Water* relates what it costs one swimmer to enter the pool and why he does it anyway, imagining a future where all people have access to an activity that renders us weightless.

Sales Points

- Has the potential to be a real conversation starter in the UK, where (as of 2022) '95 per cent of Black adults and 80 per cent of Black children in the UK do not swim.'
- Highly topical and relatable: Uses swimming as a vehicle to explore themes of race, body size, body image, age.
- Beautifully written: author is an award-winning poet

Biographies

Michael Kleber-Diggs is the author of the poetry collection *Worldly Things*, which was awarded the 2020 Max Ritvo Poetry Prize. His work has been anthologized in *You Are Here: Poetry in the Natural World*, edited by Ada Limón; *There's a Revolution Outside, My Love: Letters from a Crisis*, edited by John Freeman and Tracy K. Smith; and *A Darker Wilderness: Black Nature Writing from Soil to Stars*. Kleber-Diggs teaches poetry and creative nonfiction through the Minnesota Prison Writers Workshop. He was born and raised in Kansas and now lives in St. Paul.

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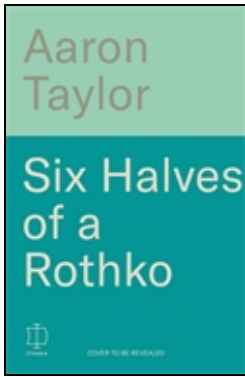
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Six Halves of a Rothko

Fraud, secrecy and dirty money in the billion-dollar art market

Aaron Taylor

Description

Art's principle role is an aesthetic one: to be looked at, to be evocative, to provoke a response. Art is also a signifier of taste, sophistication and wealth; it can say as much about the person who owns it, as the person who made it. But art is also, increasingly, a financial asset. Over the past half century the art market has transformed into a multi-billion-dollar global industry. And as the value of art and the financial complexity of its markets has risen, so too has its appeal as a tool for fraud, forgery and the movement of illicit funds.

In *Six Halves of a Rothko* Aaron Taylor, a barrister with an expertise in fraud and financial crime, will investigate the dark side of the global art market. Drawing on riveting stories of dishonest gallerists, forgers and fraudsters he will show how a business that runs on secrecy, trust in dealers and auction houses and gentlemen's agreements, is particularly vulnerable to abuse. The sale - and illegal resale - of ever smaller stakes in great paintings (from which the book takes its title) many of which are kept in freeports in Switzerland and never see the light of day, is symptomatic of the way that art can be used to steal and launder money, shelter wealth and sanctions-bust.

Drawing on interviews with key players, and experience of multiple legal cases, the book reveals that the top end of art market is so susceptible to abuse because of its profound lack of transparency. He will argue that the opaque practices and secret structures of this most glamorous and enticing of markets must - like the pieces of art themselves - be exposed to the disinfecting light of day.

Sales Points

- Will appeal to fans of Philippe Sands and Joshua Rozenburg
- A tell all insider look at a secretive industry
- Will appeal to readers of business titles with an interest in true crime

Biographies

Aaron Taylor is a barrister at Fountain Court Chambers in London with expertise in fraud and financial crime. He is also a visiting research fellow at Goldsmiths and teaches a module on art law at LSE. He has been awarded a 2023 Churchill Fellowship, and was shortlisted for the FT Bracken Bower Prize, for an earlier form of this proposal.

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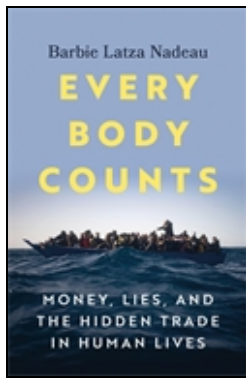
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Every Body Counts

Money, lies, and the hidden trade in human lives

Barbie Latza Nadeau

Keynote

Human trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world. This ground-breaking investigation reveals a secretive world where lives don't matter, but where every body counts.

Description

'Heartbreaking and powerful' - TLS

Abetted by gangs of people smugglers, today human trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world. As governments spend more than ever on policing borders, this ground-breaking investigation reveals a secretive world where lives don't matter, but where every body counts.

From the Mediterranean to the English Channel, the Rio Grande to Thailand, at any moment there are over 280 million people attempting to emigrate. While most migrants take legal channels, those outside the system represent financial potential for the corrupt. Sex trafficking, drug mules, organ trading, forced labour; the flow of desperate people generates billions of dollars annually, not only for smugglers who get them across borders, but also for traffickers.

Every body has a price, as the veteran investigative journalist Barbie Latza Nadeau knows. Yet no other multi-billion pound transnational enterprise is less understood than the trade in humans, a fact that organised crime networks increasingly exploit as a turn to migration for their profits. From the criminal underworld to the highest echelons of national institutions, from mafia cartels to glamorous fashion houses, banks, and governments, this ground-breaking investigation follows the money to reveal a clandestine industry.

Sales Points

- For readers of Sally Hayden's *My Fourth Time, We Drowned*, Ben Judah's *This is Europe* and *Dead in the Water* by Matthew Campbell and Kit Chellel
- An insider look at a secretive industry, with a wide audience from current affairs to business readers
- The author has a personal connection to this Important investigative subject, with focus on economics and humanitarian concern

Reviews

- "Heartbreaking and powerful" - *TLS*
- "An exhilarating ride through Italy's dark underbelly" - *Tina Brown on Roadmap to Hell*
- "A powerful exposé" - *Tatler on Roadmap to Hell*
- "A terrifying and heartbreaking book" - *Colin Firth on Roadmap to Hell*

Biographies

Barbie Latza Nadeau is the author of three previous books, most recently *The Godmother: Murder, Vengeance, and the Bloody Struggle of Mafia Women*. Based in Italy, where she is a news reporter and producer for CNN, she has been reporting on human trafficking since 1998, when she was bureau chief for *Newsweek* magazine.

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Tell All Your Friends

A Cultural History of Mainstream Emo

Emma Garland

Keynote

A deep dive into emo music, that most divisive of 00s subcultures, from a music journalist who was there - eyeliner, lip piercings, long fringes and all

Description

From the early days of Fall Out Boy and Panic! At the Disco to the evolution of emo rap led by artists like Machine Gun Kelly and Juice WRLD, *Tell All Your Friends* is a history of mainstream emo through 11 iconic albums released between 2002 and 2020. Tying each album to a larger cultural trend, writer and broadcaster Emma Garland tracks the evolution of emo artists, fans and culture to unpack the genre's larger impact, and follows its rise as one of the dominant subcultures of the last two decades.

Through a critical examination of some of emo music's more controversial aspects, *Tell All Your Friends* analyses the genre's problems with sexism, queer-baiting, and claims of its glamorisation of self-harm. With unapologetic sincerity and witty, intimate prose, Emma Garland fights to give emo the attention it deserves.

Sales Points

- Emma Garland comes to this not only with over a decade's worth of experience writing about music, but also a genuine affection for the emo music scene
- Emma will be the first female reporter to publish a mainstream book on emo music's influence, highlighting the gender and sexual politics of a genre whose fanbase leans largely young, female, and often queer
- Emo is experiencing a renaissance on TikTok, where the hashtag has over three billion views. A mainstream study is well overdue and *Tell All Your Friends* aims to rectify this gap

Biographies

Emma Garland is a writer, editor and broadcaster based in London who's been covering music, culture, sex, and global politics for over 10 years. She worked at VICE for over 7 years, serving as the Culture Editor in the UK, and previously served as Assistant Editor at Noisey. Her writing has appeared in the *Guardian*, *Rolling Stone*, *Esquire*, *CREEM*, *Vulture*, *New Statesman*, *Dazed* and the *Sunday Times*, among other publications. She can also be found on Twitter, where she has over 20K followers.

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War Path

The Rise and Dominance of Drone Warfare

James Patton Rogers

Keynote

A journey through the vast history of ranged warfare, exploring how these weapons have transformed our world.

Description

Throughout history, humankind has continuously developed new ingenious and frightening methods for ranged warfare.

From piercing arrows to precision missiles, these deadly weapons have shaped civilizations and redefined the course of history. In *War Path*, leading war historian and weapons expert James Patton Rogers takes a journey through the vast history of ranged warfare, from ancient massacres to the modern-day conflicts that are reshaping our world.

This journey offers an insight into the nuanced psychology of humankind and the frailty of our existence. *War Path* is an urgent call-to-action - we created these deadly weapons but now we must wrest back control, as the development of AI-powered drones threatens a future of unrestrained and immoral warfare.

Sales Points

- A fascinating and well-researched human history which uncovers the complexities of humanity through the evolution of ranged warfare
- From the world's leading expert on ranged warfare who has strong academic credentials and actively works with organizations like NATO and the UN
- Offers fascinating insights into the current state of range warfare and uncovers how AI and drone weaponry threatens to destabilise our world

Biographies

James Patton Rogers is a war historian, broadcaster and policy advisor. He is the Executive Director of the Cornell Brooks Tech Policy Institute at Cornell University and the NATO Country Director of the Full Spectrum Drone Warfare project. He is also an expert advisor to the United Nations Security Council and the UK Parliament. He regularly writes for the Washing Post and his work has been featured in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, the BBC, the Economist, NPR and CNN. He hosts the popular 'Warfare' podcast, which has over 540,000 monthly listeners.

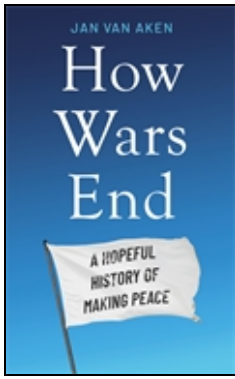
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How Wars End

A Hopeful History of Making Peace

Jan van Aken

Keynote

We are living through a new age of war. As conflicts escalate in Europe and the Middle East, the world faces the greatest threat to global peace for a generation. An international expert explains how we can meet this challenge.

Description

Do boycotts work? Should arms sales be stopped? What about supplying weapons to the good guys? In *How Wars End* an international expert explains how we can act to bring about peace in an age of escalating war.

In 2003 Jan van Aken almost helped stop a war. But as he was preparing to go to Baghdad to search for biological weapons, he got a message: the US was determined to avenge 9/11 and wouldn't wait for UN inspections to take place. The invasion went ahead, and only years later, the world discovered that Iraq had had no biological weapons at that time.

From this experience and the many others he has had as a weapons inspector, conflict analyst and activist, in *How Wars End* van Aken shows how conflict resolution really works. From disinformation and dodgy dossiers to chemical weapons and murderous drones, he identifies why wars start and spiral. And he looks at the alternatives, including civil initiatives, diplomacy, sanctions, and international interventions.

Interweaving the latest findings from peace research with stories and examples from Northern Ireland, Serbia, South Sudan, Afghanistan, Syria, Ukraine, Israel-Palestine and more, *How Wars End* lays out evidence-based strategies for moving from violent conflict to ceasefire, and from ceasefire to lasting peace.

Translated by Jo Heinrich.

Sales Points

- An incredibly timely and important subject - offers hope in a moment of international political crisis. Amongst other things it will address conversation which deals with the future of the Arab-Israeli conflict
- Expert author on the topic; for fans of Tim Marshall and Rutger Bregman
- From Northern Ireland to Serbia, South Sudan to Afghanistan, Vietnam to Syria, *How Wars End* will offer a truly global view of warfare and the history of conflict resolution

Biographies

Jan van Aken (Author)

Jan van Aken, who holds a PhD in biology, worked as a genetic engineering expert for Greenpeace and as a biological weapons inspector for the United Nations from 2004 to 2006. From 2009 to 2017, he was a member of Parliament in Germany for the Left Party. He then worked as a Policy Advisor in International Conflict Analysis at the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation in the Middle East. Since October 2024, he has served as co-chairman of the Left Party.

Jo Heinrich (Translator)

Jo Heinrich lives near Bristol with her family and translates from German and French. Her translations include Katja Oskamp's *Marzahn, Mon Amour*, which won the 2023 Dublin Literary Award and was shortlisted for the Warwick Prize for Women in Translation. She has also translated Oskamp's *Half Swimmer* and *The Invention of Good and Evil* by Hanno Sauer, and she was part of a team translating Angela Merkel's memoirs, *Freedom*.

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Take Me to the River

A selection of joyful, immersive and life-affirming writing about wild swimming

Vicky Allan

Keynote

A selection of joyful, immersive and life-affirming writing about wild swimming.

Description

Immerse yourself in an ocean of great literature. Gasp at the cold with **Amy Liptrot**. Be transfixed by **Iris Murdoch's** monster rising from the waves. Learn how to swim like the frogs with **John Muir**. **Come on, dive in.**

A selection of joyful, immersive and life-affirming writing about wild swimming.

From gentle dips in calm waters to fights for survival in stormy seas. From the erotic charge of a streamlined body to moments of revelation amidst the waves . . . *Take Me to the River* is an anthology not just of wild swimming writing, but of stories of how a jump into deep waters can change us.

Open water swimming plays a pivotal role in many great narratives, taking us on an immersive journey, from Homer's *Odyssey* to contemporary poetry and memoirs. There is adventure here and aquatic playfulness. Grief and anguish, too; heartbreaks displaced and healed by watery spaces. Love and desire spark between characters at the edge of the water, as does freedom from constraint and the glorious energy of possibility and hope.

Take Me to the River entices with a dip into the deep sea of words. Slide in.

Sales Points

- For fans of *Taking the Plunge* and *The Art of Wild Swimming*, this is the perfect gift to add to their collection as it details the landscape of literature alongside nature.
- Features legendary authors such as Homer, Iris Murdoch, Amy Liptrot, John Muir, Jane Austen and Mark Twain.

Reviews

- "**An exulting invitation to slip, dip, swim, splash and dive** into the politics, aesthetics and sensuousness of swimming, this collection of literary texts compiled across a wide range of time and places **makes you just want to grab a towel and make for the nearest pond or beach.**" - Dr. Sophie Berrebi, author of *The Sharing Economy*
- "Swimming and writing share a similar rhythm, both require us to give in, to notice and to feel. *Take Me to the River* **captures the pull of the water, the power of nature and the beauty of words.** This book **reminds you that great writing, like a good swim, leaves you changed somehow.**" - Ella Foote, author of *How to Wild Swim*
- "*Take Me to the River* is a wild swim in water filled with stories. **Both a delight and a literary immersion,** this book is for experienced swimmers and paddlers alike. It is a **treasure trove of watery tales and adventures** into which readers can dip their toes whenever they like, wherever they are." - Annie Worsley, author of *Windswept*

Biographies

Vicky Allan (Author)

Vicky Allan is an award-winning journalist and author. A staff writer for the *Herald on Sunday*, her work has also appeared in *The Times*, *Daily Express*, *Vogue*, *GQ*, *The Guardian* and *Scotland on Sunday*. She has won awards for her travel-writing, features writing and for her articles campaigning against violence against women. Her novel *Stray* is currently being adapted as a feature film.

Jackie Kemp (Author)

Jackie Kemp is a freelance writer, based in the Scottish Highlands where she lives with her husband Rob, a business consultant and keen photographer. Among other things, she writes political commentary on her Substack - 'Letter from Scotland' which is often illustrated with Rob's photos. Jackie lived in the US, in Boston's North End, for around three years until mid-2019. Before that, she and Rob brought up their three children in Leith, Edinburgh. During those years, she worked part-time as a freelance journalist, writing for the *Scotsman*, the *Herald*, the *National*, and the *Guardian* amongst other titles. She had a weekly column in the *Herald* for several years. In 2011, Jackie

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produced a selection of her father Arnold Kemp's journalism called 'Confusion to Our Enemies'.



Market

Will be a perfect gift for those who love wild swimming, literature, or both! A unique and appealing read for book clubs too.

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