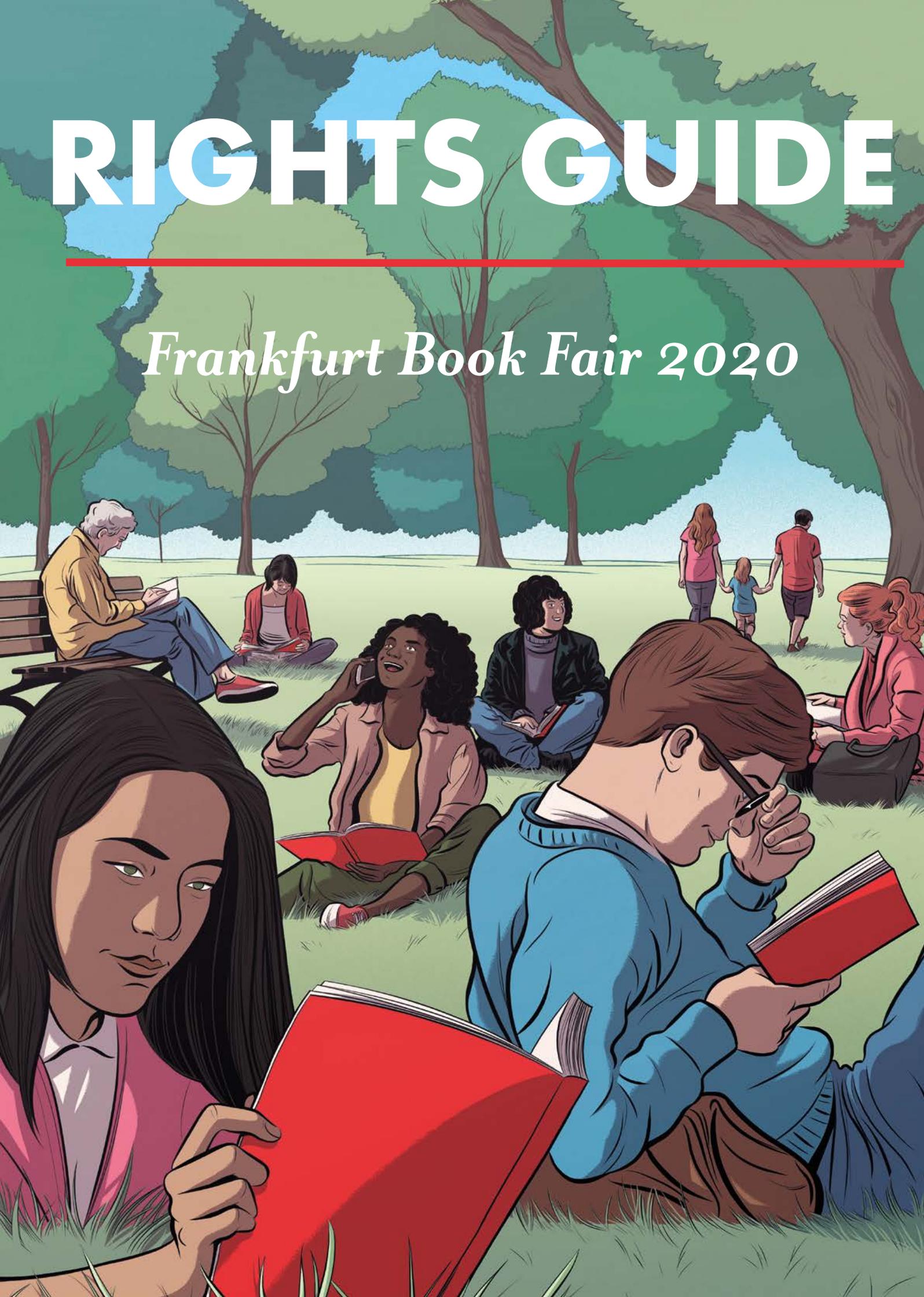


RIGHTS GUIDE

Frankfurt Book Fair 2020



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Along the way there have been landmarks of fiction – including Alasdair Gray's masterpiece *Lanark*, and Yann Martel's *Life of Pi*, the best-ever-selling Booker winner – and non-fiction too. We've published an American president and a Guantanamo detainee; we've campaigned for causes we believe in and fought court cases to get our authors heard. And twice we've won Publisher of the Year.

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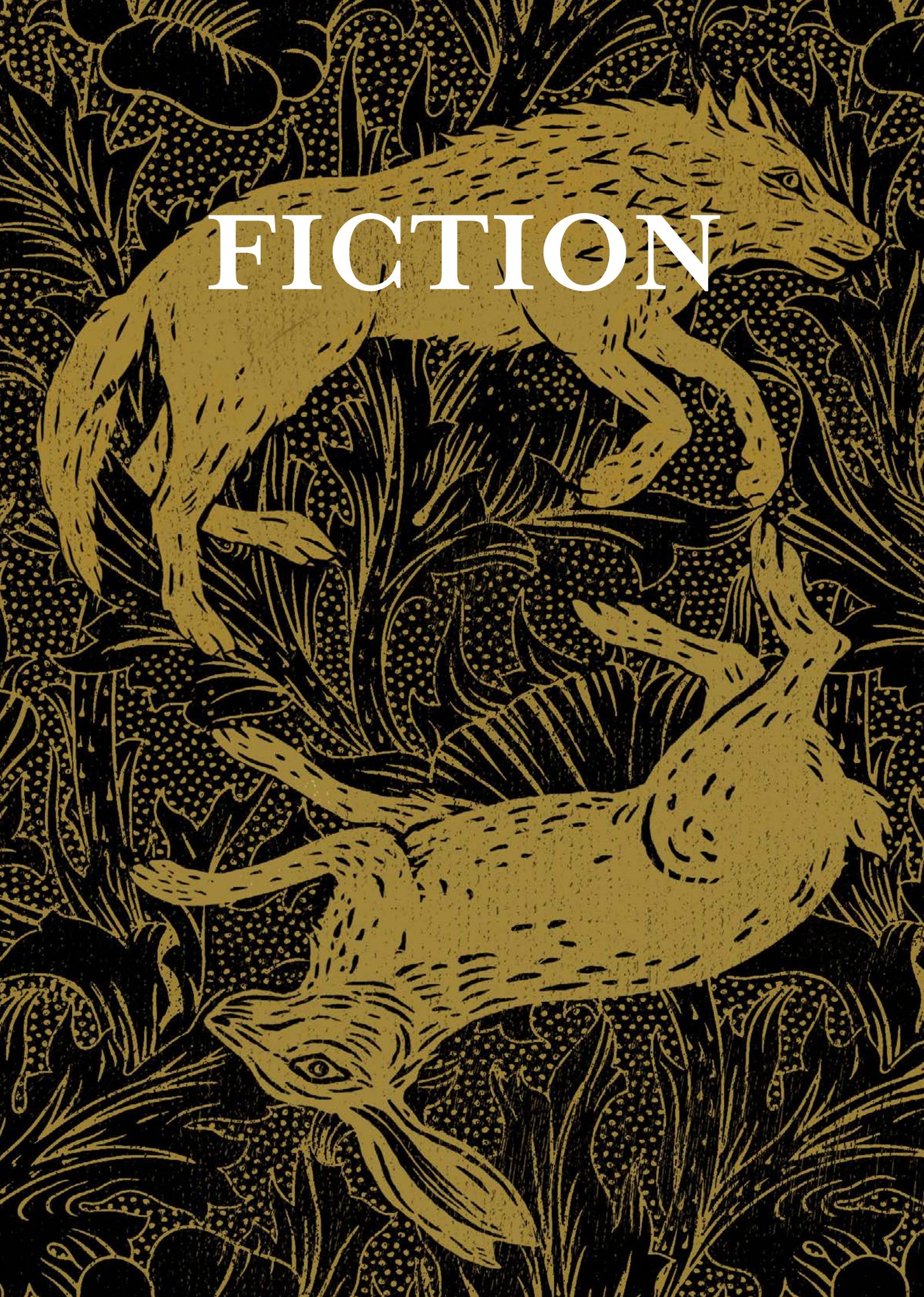
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FICTION



THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY

Matt Haig

The No.1 *Sunday Times*
Bestseller

The touching, funny and heartwarming new novel from the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *How to Stop Time* and *Reasons to Stay Alive*

Between life and death there is a library.

When Nora Seed finds herself in the Midnight Library, she has a chance to make things right. Up until now, her life has been full of misery and regret. She feels she has let everyone down, including herself. But things are about to change.

The books in the Midnight Library enable Nora to live as if she had done things differently. With the help of an old friend, she can now undo every one of her regrets as she tries to work out her perfect life. But things aren't always what she imagined they'd be, and soon her choices place the library and herself in extreme danger.

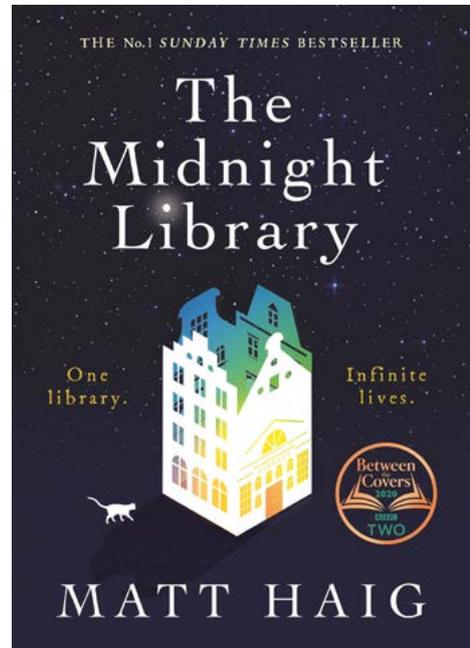
Before time runs out, she must answer the ultimate question: what is the best way to live?

'Haig is one of the most inspirational popular writers on mental health of our age and, in his latest novel, he has taken a clever, engaging concept and created a heart-warming story that offers wisdom in the same deceptively simple way as Mitch Albom's best tales' *Independent*

'A beguiling read, filled with warmth and humour, and a vibrant celebration of the power of books to change lives' *Sunday Times*



[Click here to watch Matt talk about *The Midnight Library*](#)



'A celebration of life's possibilities . . .
A beautiful concept . . . Charming'
Guardian

'[Nora is] a protagonist to root for, ably carrying this whimsical yet shrewd fable of the shrivelling effects of regret' *Observer*

'Fiction meets therapy in a life-affirming fable that's quintessential Haig'
Mail on Sunday

'An uplifting, poignant novel about regret, hope and second chances' David Nicholls

UK Publication: August 2020

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Arab States (Kalemat), Brazil (Record), Bulgaria (Intense / Locus), Canada (HarperCollins), China (Ginkgo), Finland (Aula), France (Fayard), Germany (Droemer Knauer), Hungary (Gabo Kado), Indonesia (PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama), Israel (Armchair Publishing House), Italy (Edizioni E/O), Korea (Influential), Mongolia (United Business Review Group), Netherlands (Lebowski), Poland (Zysk), Romania (Nemira), Russia (Gayatri), Spain (Alianza), Sweden (Polaris), Taiwan (Azoth Books), Ukraine (Zhorzh), US (Penguin)

Other Rights: Clare Conville, C&W

Extent: 304 pages



MATT HAIG is the number one bestselling author of *Reasons to Stay Alive* and *Notes on a Nervous Planet* and six highly acclaimed novels for adults, including *How to Stop Time*, *The Humans* and *The Radleys*. He has also written many books for children and he has won the **Blue Peter Book Award**, the **Smarties Book Prize** and been nominated three times for the **Carnegie Medal**. He has sold more than a million books in the UK and his work has been translated into over forty languages.

@matthaig1 | matthaig.com

Backlist: *How to Stop Time*, *The Humans*, *The Radleys*, *Reasons to Stay Alive*, *Notes on a Nervous Planet*

LEARWIFE

J.R. Thorp

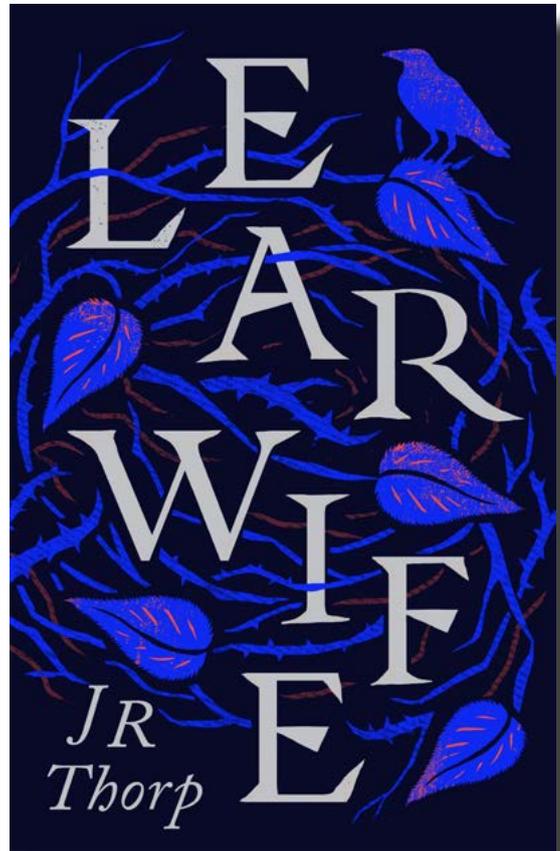
Inspired by Shakespeare's *King Lear*, this debut novel tells the story of the most famous woman ever written out of literary history.

"I am the queen of two crowns, banished fifteen years, the famed and gilded woman, bad-luck baleful girl, mother of three small animals, now gone. I am fifty-five years old. I am Lear's wife. I am here."

Word has come. Care-bent King Lear is dead, driven mad and betrayed. His three daughters too, broken in battle. But someone has survived: Lear's queen. Exiled to a nunnery years ago, written out of history, her name forgotten. Now she can tell her story.

Though her grief and rage may threaten to crack the earth open, she knows she must seek answers. Why was she sent away in shame and disgrace? What has happened to Kent, her oldest friend and ally? And what will become of her now, in this place of women? To find peace she must reckon with her past and make a terrible choice – one upon which her destiny, and that of the entire abbey, rests.

Giving unforgettable voice to a woman whose absence has been a tantalising mystery, *Learwife* is a breathtaking novel of loss, renewal and how history bleeds into the present.



In the vein of feminist alternative histories like Margaret Atwood's *The Penelopiad*, Pat Barker's *The Silence of the Girls* or *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys, but with the temporal layering and poetic lyricism of George Saunders' *Lincoln in the Bardo*, *Learwife* is a thrilling debut novel about a woman thwarted, a woman forgotten, a woman fighting back.



[Click here to watch J.R. Thorp talk about *Learwife*](#)

UK Publication: April 2021
Rights Held: World
Other Rights: Clare Conrad, Janklow & Nesbit
Extent: 304 pages



J.R. THORP is 31 years old and was born in Australia. She was a Clarendon Scholar at the University of Oxford, where she gained her PhD. She won the **London Short Story Award** in 2011, has had creative work published in the *Cambridge Literary Review*, *Manchester Review*, *antiTHESIS*, *Wave Composition* and elsewhere. She is also a lyricist and librettist whose works have been commissioned by the Arts Council, the Wellcome Trust and St Paul's Cathedral, and her scores have been published by OUP and Editions Peters. She wrote the libretto for the highly acclaimed recent modern opera, *Dear Marie Stopes*, about the life of the birth control advocate and sex-advice writer Dr Marie Carmichael Stopes (1880–1958). She lives in Cork, Ireland.

THE STARTUP WIFE

Tahmima Anam

A quirky, funny, deeply intelligent story of love, big dreams, starting up and feminist geekdom, from the award-winning author of *A Golden Age*

Halfway through her PhD and already dreaming of running her own lab, computer scientist Asha has her future all mapped out. But a chance meeting with an old classmate Cyrus and his best friend Jules inspires her with a life-changing idea: building a social networking app that could bring meaning to millions of lives.

Soon the inseparable trio are invited to join Utopia, a startup workspace run by intimidatingly confident women, offering limitless hemp shakes, Unbearably Hot Yoga, and ideas that range from genius to outright insane. As Asha networks with venture capitalists and builds empowering friendships amidst exposed brickwork, her app explodes into the next big thing. So why does she feel invisible at the boardroom tables of her own company? And why are decisions being made without her?

Gripping, witty and razor-sharp, *The Startup Wife* is a blistering novel about dreaming big, speaking up and fighting to be where you belong.

'*The Startup Wife* is an extremely enjoyable, feminist rom-com – gloriously readable, irresistibly funny and smarter than you realise until you turn the final, triumphant page. I loved this novel' [Gillian Anderson](#)

'Fresh, funny, brave, savage, smart – Tahmima Anam hits every note perfectly in this novel about our new reality and the age-old problems of men and women that no app can fix' [Kamila Shamsie](#)



[Click here to watch Tahmima talk about *The Startup Wife*](#)



Praise for *A Golden Age*:

'A stunning debut. Anam writes of torture, brutality, refugees and desperation, but she also writes of love and joy, food and song' [Observer](#)

'This is storytelling at its best . . . A beautiful story of hope, heroism and human survival amid cruelty' [Daily Express](#)

'In this striking debut novel . . . Anam deftly weaves the personal and the political, giving the terrors of war spare, powerful treatment' [New Yorker](#)

'Beautifully told, intimate and touching; Anam has a knack for making you care so desperately for her characters that you admire their failings as much as their strengths' [Daily Mail](#)

UK Publication: June 2021
Rights Held: World excluding India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal
Rights Sold: Italy (Garzanti), North America (Scribner)
Other Rights: Sarah Chalfant, Wylie Agency
Extent: 256 pages

TAHMIMA ANAM is the award-winning author of three novels including the **Commonwealth Writer's Prize**-winning *A Golden Age*. Her work has been published in *Granta*, the *New York Times* and the *Guardian*. In 2013 she was selected as one of *Granta* magazine's **Best of Young British Novelists**. Her short stories have been awarded an **O. Henry Award** and shortlisted for the **BBC National Short Story Award**. She is a Harvard-educated anthropologist and board director of music technology start-up ROLI. *The Startup Wife* is her fourth novel with her previous trilogy of novels *The Good Muslim*, *A Golden Age* and *The Bones of Grace* also published by Canongate.

THE COWARD

Jarred McGinnis

A startling and intimate novel which explores masculinity, family, disability and love

'When I woke up in the hospital, they told me my girlfriend had been killed. She wasn't my girlfriend, but I didn't correct them. The first weeks were a confusion of morphine and fluorescent strip lighting. A scrubs-clad stranger told me I wouldn't walk again. She said something about a wheelchair and I said I preferred crutches, still not understanding'

This is not the tale of redemption and hope one would expect. In this bold act of auto-fiction, Jarred McGinnis is a man whose life has been hedonistic, downright self-destructive, filled with reckless decisions and driven by anger at the world. Until a car accident one night. When he wakes up, it's to discover he will never walk again.

Discharged from the hospital ahead of time, he is forced to return home to a father he has not seen in ten years. Jarred struggles to reconcile memories of abuse and pain with the man helping him now, even as he struggles to adjust to life in a wheelchair. Resentful and feeling guilty, Jarred lashes out through a familiar pattern of self-destructive behaviour. The relationship between father and son is tense and filled with misunderstandings – but also, surprisingly, with jokes. As time passes the pair cautiously find a way forward and Jarred begins to see a future for himself.

The Coward is a compelling and darkly humorous exploration of what it means to come to terms with a broken body, rebuild a broken relationship and find love when it seems like there is no hope.



UK Publication: July 2021

Rights Held: World

Other Rights: Will Francis, Janklow & Nesbit

Extent: 304 pages

JARRED MCGINNIS is the co-founder of The Special Relationship, which was chosen for the British Council's International Literature Showcase. His short fiction has been commissioned for BBC Radio 4 and appeared in respected journals in the UK, Canada, USA and Ireland. He is an Associate Writer for Spread the Word, a fellow of the London Library's Emerging Writer Programme and a Writer-in-Residence for First Story. He also has a PhD in Artificial Intelligence, but mostly he inspires the able-bodied by using public transport and taking his daughters to the playground. *The Coward* is his first full-length book.

wickedtomocktheafflicted.com

MR CADMUS

Peter Ackroyd

A wickedly satirical novel, filled with mystery, revenge, outlandish killings, greed and jealousy, from the multi-award-winning author of *Hawksmoor*

Two apparently harmless women reside in cottages one building apart in the idyllic English village of Little Camborne. Miss Finch and Miss Swallow, cousins, have put their pasts behind them and settled into conventional country life. But when a mysterious foreigner, Theodore Cadmus – from Caldera, a Mediterranean island nobody has heard of – moves into the middle cottage, the safe monotony of their lives is shattered.

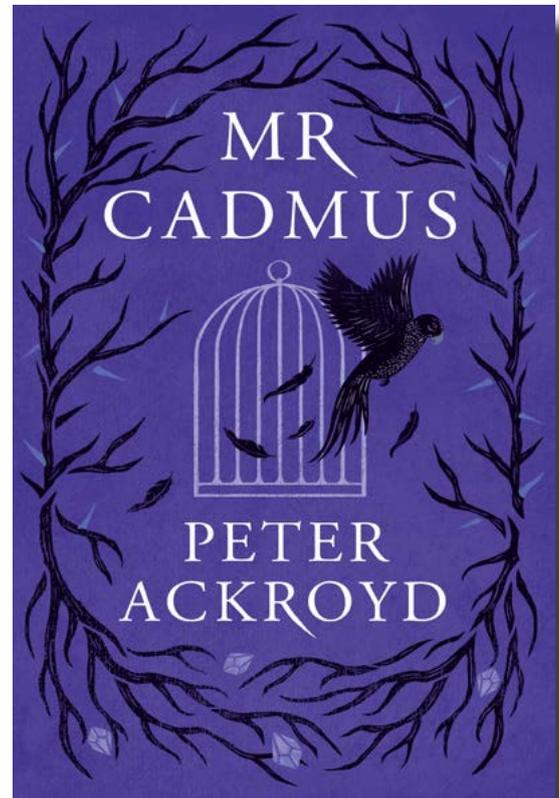
The fates of the two cousins and Mr Cadmus, and those of Little Camborne and Caldera, become inextricably enmeshed. Long-hidden secrets and long-held grudges threaten to surface, drawing all into a vortex of subterfuge, theft, violence, mayhem . . . and murder.

‘*Mr Cadmus* is a treat of a tale. To a “polite” English village add a sprinkling of sinister. The result? Cosy and twisted, comic and gothic, with a show-stealing parrot’
Jess Kidd

‘Follows the mysterious Mr Cadmus who hails from a Mediterranean island nobody has heard of and turns life in the idyllic English village of Little Camborne upside down’ *The Times*

Praise for *Hawksmoor*:

‘Chillingly brilliant . . . sinister and stunningly well executed’ *Independent on Sunday*



Praise for *Dan Leno and the Limehouse Golem*:

‘[A] cerebral, rollicking murder-mystery’
The Times

‘Mesmerising, macabre and totally brilliant’ *Daily Mail*

‘A flawlessly good read’ *Observer*

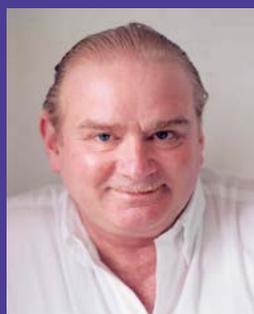
UK Publication: October 2020

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Turkey (Yapi Kredi)

Other Rights: Sonia Land, Sheil Land Associates Limited

Extent: 192 pages



PETER ACKROYD is an award-winning author of novels including *Hawksmoor*, *Chatterton* and *The Last Testament of Oscar Wilde*, biographies of Ezra Pound, Blake and Dickens among others, and acclaimed non-fiction bestsellers *London: The Biography* and *Thames: Sacred River*. He has won the Whitbread Biography Award, the Royal Society of Literature’s William Heinemann Award, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize, the *Guardian* Fiction Prize, the Somerset Maugham Award and the South Bank Prize for Literature. He holds a CBE for services to literature.

MRS DEATH MISSES DEATH

Salena Godden

Mrs Death tells her intoxicating story in this life-affirming fire-starter of a novel

Mrs Death has had enough. She is exhausted from spending eternity doing her job and now she seeks someone to unburden her conscience to. Wolf Willeford, a troubled young writer, is well acquainted with death, but until now hadn't met Death in person – a black, working-class woman who shape-shifts and does her work unseen.

Enthralled by her stories, Wolf becomes Mrs Death's scribe, and begins to write her memoirs. Using their desk as a vessel and conduit, Wolf travels across time and place with Mrs Death to witness deaths of past and present and discuss what the future holds for humanity. As the two reflect on the losses they have experienced – or, in the case of Mrs Death, facilitated – their friendship grows into a surprising affirmation of hope, resilience and love. All the while, despite her world-weariness, Death must continue to hold humans' fates in her hands, appearing in our lives when we least expect her . . .

'In this timely and exquisite meditation on breath and its best rhyme, we see a stunning performance poet crowding all the energy, wisdom, passion and laughs of her live work into the solid ingot of this astounding novel, as profound as Cohen, as playful as Brautigan. Salena Goddess, more like' **Alan Moore**

'Exquisite. A daring, poetic offering that establishes Godden as one of our most exciting voices. I loved it'
Irenosen Okojie



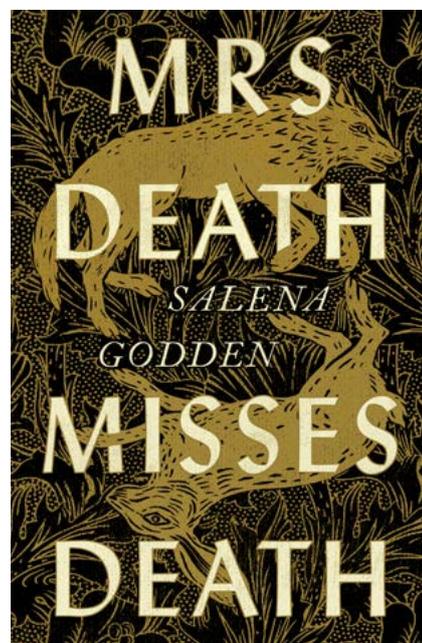
[Click here to watch Salena talk about Mrs Death Misses Death](#)

UK Publication: January 2021
Rights Held: World
Other Rights: Crystal Mahey-Morgan, Own It!
Extent: 304 pages



SALENA GODDEN is one of Britain's best loved poets and performers. She is also an activist, broadcaster, memoirist and essayist and is widely anthologised. Salena Godden has published several volumes of poetry, the latest of which was *Pessimism is for Lightweights* and a literary childhood memoir, *Springfield Road*. In 2017 Godden was shortlisted for the **Ted Hughes Award** for new work in poetry and her short fiction, *Blue Cornflowers*, was shortlisted for the 2016 **Guardian and 4th Estate BAME Short Story Prize**. *Mrs Death Misses Death* is her debut novel. A BBC Radio 4 documentary was broadcast in December 2018, following Godden's work-in-progress on the novel over twelve months.

@salenagodden | salenagodden.co.uk



'Salena Godden's debut novel is timeless, brave and beautiful. By her open-hearted embrace of Mrs Death, Godden shows that life always flowers among friendship and connections' **John Higgs**

'A life-affirming and unflinching treatise on death and its stark realities. Mrs Death's finale is some of the most powerful writing I've read in years. Here is necessary, beautiful work. Thank God for Godden'
Courtia Newland

'A rhythmic and powerful poetic meditation on death, life and love and the hidden mysteries of the universe; both playful and sombre, hilarious and human'
Nikesh Shukla

MAXWELL'S DEMON

Steven Hall

The absurdly brilliant and mind-twisting second novel from Steven Hall, author of the acclaimed *The Raw Shark Texts*

Thomas Quinn is having the strangest autumn . . .

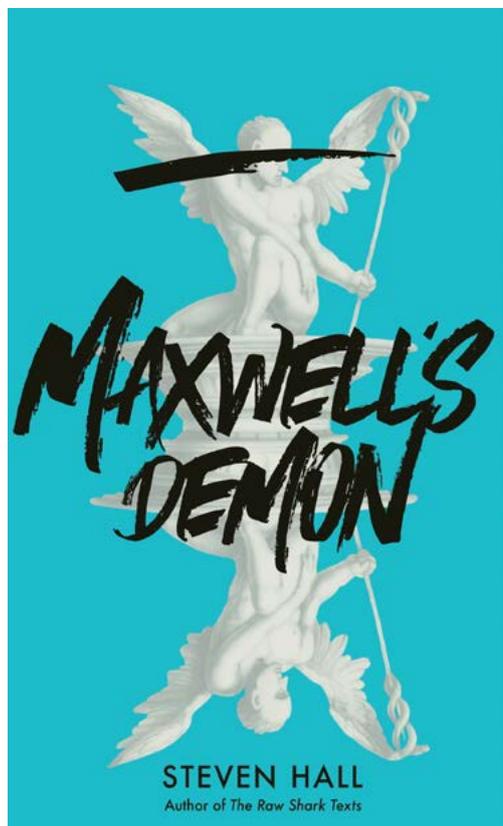
Nine years ago, his mentor Andrew Black wrote a million-copy-selling mystery novel – and then disappeared. Now could it be that Thomas is being stalked by the hero of Black's book? And that new answerphone message sounds a lot like his own father. His father who has been dead for years.

Thomas's wife Imogen usually has the answers but she's on the other side of the world. If he can just find Black, perhaps Thomas might start finding some answers . . .

With the same white-knuckle thrills as Hall's first novel, *The Raw Shark Texts*, *Maxwell's Demon* is a freewheeling investigation into the magic power locked inside the alphabet, love through the looking glass, the bond between parents and children, and, at its heart, the quest for meaning in a chaotic and untidy world.

'I enjoyed *Maxwell's Demon* a great deal. Anyone who enjoyed *The Raw Shark Texts* will be delighted by it'
Toby Litt

'Labyrinthine, mind-twisting and deliciously diabolical, yet also unexpectedly warm-hearted. *Maxwell's Demon* is fantastic'
Christopher Brookmyre



'A cracking detective story that seems to be investigating its own existence'
Jeff Noon

'Dazzlingly clever, wickedly playful, devastatingly poignant'
M.R. Carey



[Click here to watch Steven talk about *Maxwell's Demon*](#)

UK Publication: February 2021

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Australia (Text), Canada (HarperCollins), Germany (Berlin), Israel (Kinneret-Zmora), Italy (Il Saggiatore), US (Grove Atlantic)

Other Rights: Simon Trewin, Simon Trewin Ltd.

Extent: 352 pages



STEVEN HALL is the author of *The Raw Shark Texts* and was lead writer on the bestselling video game *Battlefield 1*, for which he received a **Writer's Guild** nomination. His 2007 debut novel, *The Raw Shark Texts*, won the **Somerset Maugham Award** and was shortlisted for the **Arthur C. Clarke Award**. It was an international bestseller and has been translated into over 30 languages. In 2013, Hall was named as one of *Granta's Best of Young British Novelists*. *Maxwell's Demon* is his long-anticipated second novel.

@stevanha11 | steven-hall.org

Backlist: *The Raw Shark Texts*

THE FUGITIVES

Jamal Mahjoub

Moving from Khartoum, Sudan to Washington D.C., and then across the US in a road trip unlike any other, this is a book about music, friendship and the desire for home

The Kamanga Kings, a Khartoum jazz band of yesteryear, is presented with the opportunity of a lifetime when a surprise letter arrives inviting them to perform in Washington, D.C. The only problem is . . . the band no longer exists.

Rushdy is a disaffected secondary school teacher and the son of an original Kamanga King. Determined to see a life beyond his own home, he sets out to revive the band. Aided by his unreliable best friend, all too soon an unlikely group are on their way, knowing the eyes of their country are on them.

As the group moves from the familiarity of Khartoum to the chaos of Donald Trump's America, Jamal Mahjoub weaves a gently humorous and ultimately universal tale of music, belonging and love.

Praise for *A Line in the River*:

'A most absorbing and rewarding book' **Michael Palin**

'I have been waiting more than fifty years for this book'
Jim Crace

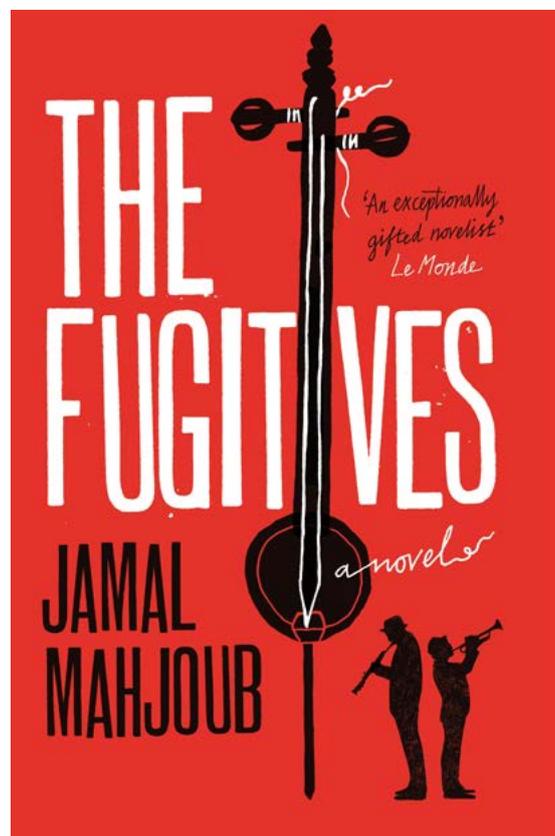


[Click here to watch the editor's summary of *The Fugitives*](#)

UK Publication: March 2021
Rights Held: World
Other Rights: Euan
Thorncroft, A.M. Heath
Extent: 336 pages



JAMAL MAHJOUB is a British-Sudanese writer. Born in London, he was raised in Khartoum where his family remained until 1990. He has lived in a number of places, including the UK, Denmark, Spain and, currently, the Netherlands. His novels include: *In the Hour of Signs*, *Travelling with Djinns*, *The Carrier* and *The Drift Latitudes*. Under the pseudonym Parker Bilal he is the author of the Inspector Makana crime series and, most recently, the Crane and Drake series. His latest non-fiction book, *A Line in the River*, was longlisted for the **Ondaatje Prize**.
jamalmahjoub.com



Praise for *The Drift Latitudes*:

'Impressive . . . Time, memory, music, architecture and identity are all played off one another, making the book a kind of echo chamber' **Guardian**

'There is a beautiful density and control to his writing – he jumps in and out of the heads of his characters with impressive confidence and ease' **The Times**

FEATHERWEIGHT

Mick Kitson

A story of overcoming all the odds, and a woman centuries ahead of her time, set on the canals of 19th century England

Annie Perry is born beside the coal-muddied canals of the Black Country, at the height of the industrial revolution. The youngest in a large Romani family who cannot afford to keep her, when she is eight years old Annie is sold as a servant to the famous and feared bare-knuckle boxer Bill Perry, The Tipton Slasher.

Bill is starting to lose his strength, but refuses to give up his crown. When it looks like a fight might become Bill's last, Annie steps into the ring, fists raised in his defence. From that moment she is determined to train and follow in Bill's footsteps, to learn to fight for herself. But Annie has been doing this all along.

A whole new world opens up for Annie, one of love, fortune, family and education, but also of danger. One wrong move, one misstep, and the course of her life will be changed forever.



Praise for *Sal*:

'Kitson writes clearly and concisely . . . The girls' capability, humanity and humour are inspiring and wonderful. *Sal* is an ambitious and skilled novel. Literature needs more stories like this' *Guardian*

'Atmospheric . . . Distinctive . . . A vivid, moving tale about the strength of sisterhood and the struggle to survive' *Observer*

'Kitson inhabits the girls' voices with credible authenticity . . . This short, impressive debut is an uplifting tale of survival, shot through with humour, compassion and humanity' *Mail on Sunday*



[Click here to watch the editor's summary of *Featherweight*](#)

UK Publication: May 2021

Rights Held: World

Option Publishers: Brazil (Intrinseca), China (Beijing White Horse Media), France (Métailié), Germany (Kiepenheuer & Witsch), Israel (Lesa Press), Italy (Giulio Einaudi), Netherlands (Cossee Uitgeverij), Russia (Arkadia/Arcadia), Spain (Duomo Ediciones), Spain Catalan (Angle Editorial), Turkey (Africano Kitap)

Other Rights: Cathryn Summerhayes, Curtis Brown

Extent: 304 pages

MICK KITSON was born in South Wales, and studied English at university before launching the prolific 80s pop band, The Senators, with his brother Jim. He worked as a journalist for several years, then went on to become an English teacher. His debut novel, *Sal*, was the winner of the Saltire First Book Award. Mick lives in Fife, Scotland.

A RIVER CALLED TIME

Courtia Newland

A monumental speculative fiction story of love, loyalty, politics and conscience set in parallel Londons

The Ark was built to save the lives of the many, but rapidly became a refuge for the elite, the entrance closed without warning.

Years after the Ark was cut off from the world, a final chance of survival within its confines is granted to a select few who can prove their worth. Among their number is Markriss Denny, whose path to future excellence is marred only by a closely guarded secret: without warning, his spirit leaves his body, allowing him to see and experience a world far beyond his physical limitations.

Once inside the Ark, Denny learns of another with the same power, whose existence could spell catastrophe for humanity. He is forced into a desperate race to understand his abilities, and in doing so uncovers the truth about the Ark, himself and the people he thought he once knew.

‘A masterful reimagining of the African diaspora’s influence on England, and on the world. It’s a grand tale and still an intimate portrait of loss and love. What glory and influence would Africa enjoy if colonialism had never occurred? Courtia Newland reshapes our vision of the past, present and future by taking this one question seriously. The result is something truly special’ Victor LaValle

‘A real gem of a book . . . an excellent, beautiful read that will make you think while taking your breath away’ Dorothy Koomson

‘A master storyteller returns with this piece of astonishing speculative fiction, interrogating social inequality, the complexities of truth and the very essence of what it is to be human, all in Newland’s precise and powerful prose’ Nikesh Shukla



‘Courtia Newland’s alternative, decolonised vision of London is a staggering feat of imagination. There’s so much to love here: an everyman hero who discovers he has abilities that are anything but ordinary, parallel cities across a multiverse, African cosmology belief systems, a keep-them-guessing ending . . . An amazing achievement’ Noel Clarke

‘A River Called Time is an incredible read. Perfectly plotted and layered with complex ideas, a heartbreaking love triangle and an astonishing ending’ Irfan Master

Courtia Newland’s new book of short stories, *Cosmogramma*, will be published in November 2021



[Click here to watch the editor’s summary of *A River Called Time*](#)

UK Publication: January 2021

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: North America and Caribbean (Akashic)

Other Rights: Crystal Mahey-Morgan, Own It!

Extent: 464 pages



COURTIA NEWLAND is the author of *The Scholar*, *Snakeskin* and *The Gospel According to Cane*. He co-edited *The Penguin Book of New Black Writing in Britain*, and his short stories have featured in various anthologies. Newland tours extensively for the British Council, and has been writer-in-residence for Trinity College, Dublin and Georgetown University, Washington D.C. He has taught creative writing workshops and performed readings globally. He was shortlisted for the 2007 CWA Dagger in the Library Award, the 2010 Alfred Fagon Award and longlisted for the 2011 Frank O’Conner Award. @courtianewland

BLACK SUNDAY

Tola Rotimi Abraham

Twin sisters Bibike and Ariyike are enjoying a relatively comfortable life in Lagos in 1996. Then their mother loses her job due to political strife and their father gambles away their home. As their parents' marriage collapses in the aftermath, the twins and their two younger siblings, Andrew and Peter, are thrust into the reluctant care of their traditional Yoruba grandmother. Inseparable while they had their parents to care for them, the twins' paths diverge once the household shatters.

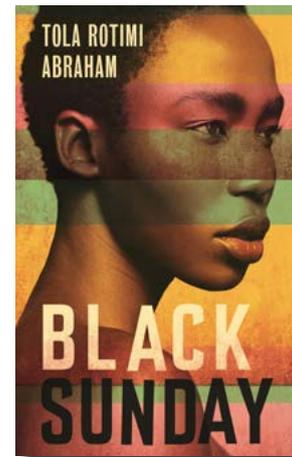
Written with astonishing intimacy and wry attention to the fickleness of fate, *Black Sunday* delves into the chaotic heart of family life. In the process, it tells a tale of grace in the midst of daily oppression, and of how two women carve their own distinct paths of resistance.

'Simultaneously unique and universal' *NPR*

'Abraham mightily captures a sense of the stresses of daily life in a family, city and culture that always seems on the edge of self-destruction' *Publishers Weekly*

TOLA ROTIMI ABRAHAM is a writer from Lagos, Nigeria. She lives in Iowa City and is currently pursuing a graduate degree in journalism. A graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, she has taught writing at the University of Iowa. Her fiction and non-fiction have appeared in *Catapult*, the *Des Moines Register*, the *Nigerian Literary Magazine* and other places. @thatTola

2020 Kirkus Prize
Finalist



UK Publication: August 2020

Rights Held: World excl. North America (Catapult)

Rights Sold: France (Autrement)

Other Rights: Meredith Kaffel Simonoff, DeFiore & Company

Extent: 288 pages

THE ISLAND CHILD

Molly Aitken

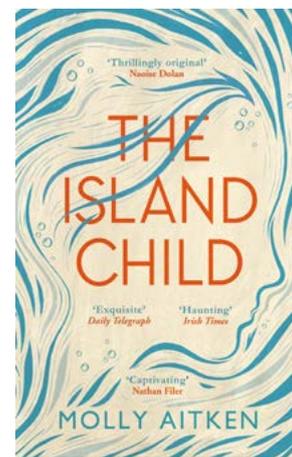
Twenty years ago, Oona left the island of Inis for the very first time. A wind-blasted rock of fishing boats and turf fires, where girls stayed in their homes until they became mothers themselves, the island was a gift for some, a prison for others. Oona was barely more than a girl, but promised herself she would leave the tall tales behind and never return.

The Island Child tells two stories: of the girl who grew up watching births and betrayals, storms and secrets, and of the adult Oona, desperate to find a second chance, only to discover she can never completely escape. As the strands of Oona's life come together, in blood and marriage and motherhood, she must accept the price we pay when we love what is never truly ours . . .

Rich, haunting and rooted in Irish folklore, *The Island Child* is a spellbinding debut novel about identity and motherhood, freedom and fate, and the healing power of stories.

'An exquisite debut' *Daily Telegraph*

MOLLY AITKEN was born in Scotland in 1991 and brought up in Ireland. She studied Literature and Classics at Galway University and has an MA in Creative Writing from Bath Spa. She was shortlisted for *Writing Magazine's* fairy tale retelling prize in 2016 and has a story in the Irish Imbas 2017 Short Story Collection. Currently, she works as an editor and ghostwriter and lives in Sheffield. *The Island Child* is her debut novel. @MollyAitken1



UK Publication: January 2020

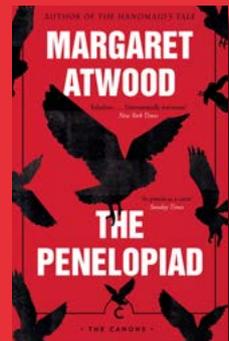
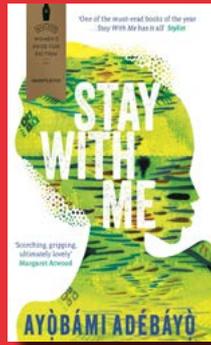
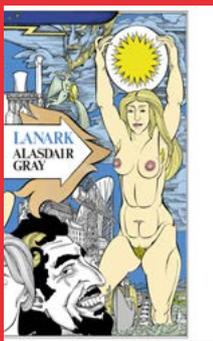
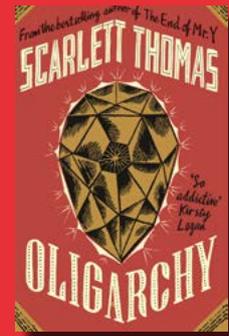
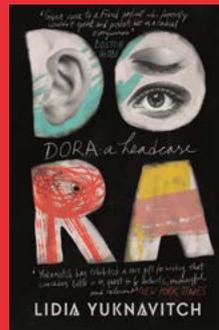
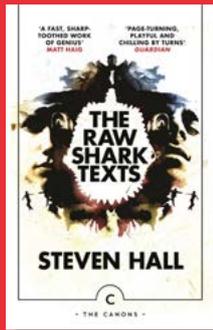
Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Italy (Garzanti), North America (Knopf)

Other Rights: Hellie Ogden, Janklow & Nesbit

Extent: 320 pages

RECENT FAVOURITES



THE RAW SHARK TEXTS by Steven Hall

The award-winning cult classic. Winner of the Somerset Maugham Award and shortlisted for the Arthur C. Clarke Award
Rights Sold: Australia (Text), Canada (HarperCollins), Italy (Il Saggiatore), US (Grove)

MURMUR by Will Eaves

Murmur evokes the extraordinary life of Alan Turing, the beauty and sorrows of love, and the nature of consciousness.
Winner of the Wellcome Prize and shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize
Rights Sold: Italy (Codice), Portugal (Quetzal), Spain (Alba), Vietnam (I Love Books)

DORA: A HEADCASE by Lidia Yuknavitch

A contemporary coming-of-age story based on Freud's famous case study from the internationally bestselling author of *The Book of Joan*. Introduced by Chuck Palahniuk.

OLIGARCHY by Scarlett Thomas

Power, privilege and peer pressure – the hilarious new novel from the bestselling author of *The End of Mr. Y*
Rights Sold: Czech Republic (Host), Italy (Newton Compton), Russia (AST), US (Counterpoint)

LANARK by Alasdair Gray

40th anniversary commemorative hardback edition of the modern classic, introduced by William Boyd
Rights Sold: China (Yilin Press), France (Métailié), Italy (Safarà), Netherlands (Koppertnik), Turkey (Metis)

STAY WITH ME by Ayòbámi Adébáyò

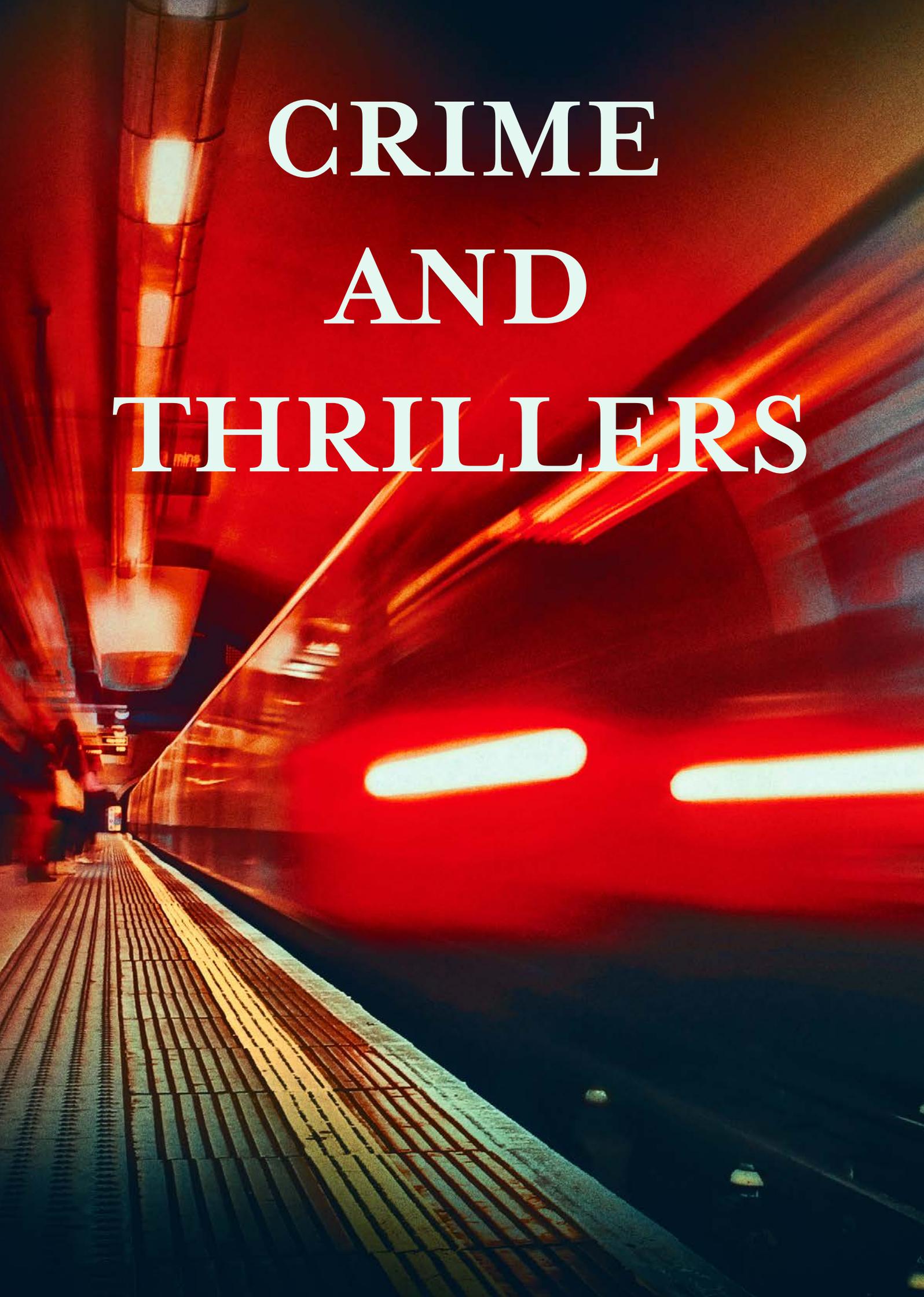
This Nigerian debut, shortlisted for the 2017 Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction, is the heart-breaking tale of what wanting a child can do to a person, a marriage and a family; a powerful and vivid story of what it means to love not wisely but too well
Rights Sold: Arabic Worldwide (Dar Al-Muna), Brazil (HarperCollins), Bulgaria (Orange International AD), China (Beijing White Horse Media), Czech Republic (Albatros), Finland (Atena), France (Editions Le Duc.s), Germany (Piper), Greece (Brainfood), Israel (Achuzat Bayit), Italy (La nave di Teseo), Netherlands (A.W. Bruna), Poland (Marginesy), Portugal (2020 Editora), Romania (Art Grup), Slovakia (ARthur/Inaque), Spain (Gatopardo), Spain Catalan (Angle), Sweden (Piratforlaget), Turkey (hep kitap)

A TALL HISTORY OF SUGAR by Curdella Forbes

A vivid epic following an unusual couple's mysterious love affair from childhood to adulthood, across rural Jamaica and England
Rights Sold: France (GLOBE)

THE PENELOPIAD by Margaret Atwood

Penelope's slyly brilliant side of the story, from the Booker Prize-winning author of *The Handmaid's Tale* and *The Testaments*
Rights Sold: Australia (Text), Belarus (Logvino), Brazil (Rocco), Canada (Knopf), French Canada (Boréal), China (Chongqing), France (Flammarion), Italy (Ponte Alle Grazie), Portugal (2020 Editora), Russia (Gayatri), Spain (Salamandra), Taiwan (Locus), Turkey (Alfa Yayinlari), US (Grove Atlantic)

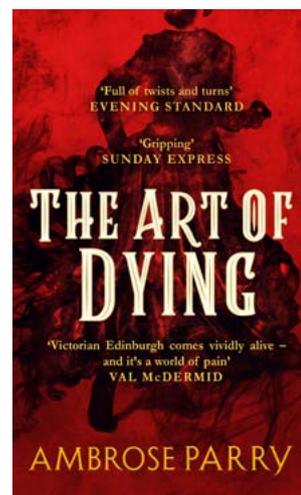
A blurred high-speed train in a tunnel, illuminated with a strong red light. The train is moving from left to right, creating a sense of motion. The tunnel walls are visible on the left, and the train's lights are blurred into streaks. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and intense.

CRIME AND THRILLERS

Ambrose Parry

THE ART OF DYING

Shortlisted for the
McIlvanney Prize



Edinburgh, 1849. Hordes of patients are dying all across the city, with doctors finding their remedies powerless. And a whispering campaign seeks to paint Dr James Simpson, pioneer of medical chloroform, as a murderer.

Determined to clear Simpson's name, his protégé Will Raven and former housemaid Sarah Fisher must plunge into Edinburgh's deadliest streets and find out who or what is behind the deaths. Soon they discover that the cause of the deaths has evaded detection purely because it is so unthinkable.

'Parry's Victorian Edinburgh comes vividly alive – and it's a world of pain' Val McDermid

UK Publication: August 2019

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Czech Republic (Dobrovsky), Denmark (Modtryk), France (Seuil), Germany (Piper), Greece (Pedio), Sweden (Southside)

Option Publishers: Hungary (Konyvmolykepzo), Italy (Rizzoli), Poland (Zysk), Russia (Eksmo), Spain (Salamandra)

Other Rights: Sophie Scard, United Agents

Extent: 416 pages

THE WAY OF ALL FLESH

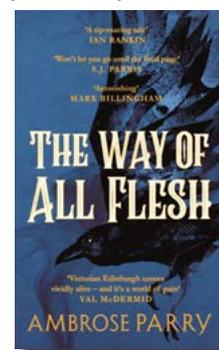
Edinburgh, 1847. Will Raven is a medical student, apprenticing for the brilliant and renowned Dr Simpson. Sarah Fisher is Simpson's housemaid, and has all of Raven's intelligence but none of his privileges.

As bodies begin to appear across the Old Town, Raven and Sarah find themselves propelled headlong into the darkest shadows of Edinburgh's underworld. And if either of them are to make it out alive, they will have to work together to find out who's responsible for the gruesome deaths.

'A rip-roaring tale of murder amid the medical experiments of 19th century Edinburgh. The book brings both city and period to colourful life and is a joy to read' Ian Rankin

'A thoroughly entertaining tale of murder and misadventure in 1840s Edinburgh' Sunday Times

Film and TV rights optioned
by SunnyMarch



UK Publication: August 2018

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Canada (HarperCollins), Czech Republic (Dobrovsky), Denmark (Modtryk), France (Seuil), Germany (Piper), Greece (Pedio), Hungary (Konyvmolykepzo), Italy (Rizzoli), Poland (Zysk), Russia (Eksmo), Spain (Salamandra), Sweden (Southside)

Other Rights: Sophie Scard, United Agents

Extent: 416 pages

The third book in the series,
A Corruption of Blood will be published in
August 2021

AMBROSE PARRY is a pseudonym for a collaboration between Chris Brookmyre and Marisa Haetzman. The couple are married and live in Scotland.

Chris Brookmyre is the international bestselling and multi-award-winning author of over 20 novels, including *Black Widow*, winner of both the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year and the McIlvanney Prize for Scottish Crime Novel of the Year.

Dr Marisa Haetzman is a consultant anaesthetist of 20 years' experience, whose research for her Master's degree in the History of Medicine uncovered the material upon which this series is based.

@ambroseparry



THE BEIJING CONSPIRACY

Shamini Flint

One man is caught up in a lethal global conspiracy in this explosive spy thriller

A long-lost daughter. An explosive secret. A lethal conspiracy.

Ex-Delta Force soldier Jack Ford is trying to put the past behind him. But when he receives a letter from someone he hasn't spoken to in thirty years, claiming he has a daughter, he can't resist investigating for himself.

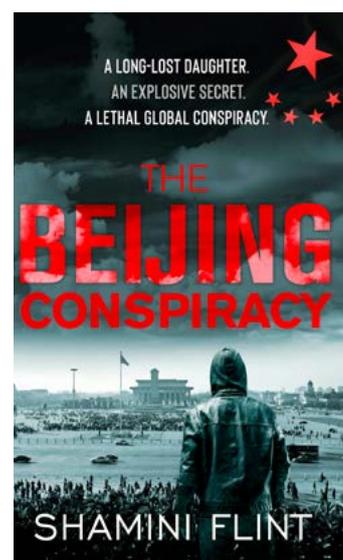
Soon he's on a plane to China, a country he hasn't returned to since witnessing the atrocities of the Tiananmen Square massacre. But on his search he stumbles upon explosive information which both the Chinese and American governments are desperately chasing. Now Jack is trapped in an impossible dilemma: save his daughter or prevent a war where thousands will lose their lives.

Praise for Shamini Flint:

'A fascinating plot and an unexpected ending' *Library Journal*

'An atmospheric whodunit that also provides insights into the historic traumas casting shadows upon a country's psyche' *Publishers Weekly*

SHAMINI FLINT was born and brought up in Malaysia. Having studied law at Cambridge University, she travelled extensively throughout Asia for her work as a corporate lawyer, before giving it up to become a writer, part-time lecturer and environmental activist. Shamini now lives in Singapore with her husband and two children. She is the author of the highly acclaimed Inspector Singh mystery series.



UK Publication: March 2021

Rights Held: World

Other Rights: Severn House

Extent: 288 pages

THE HEIGHTS

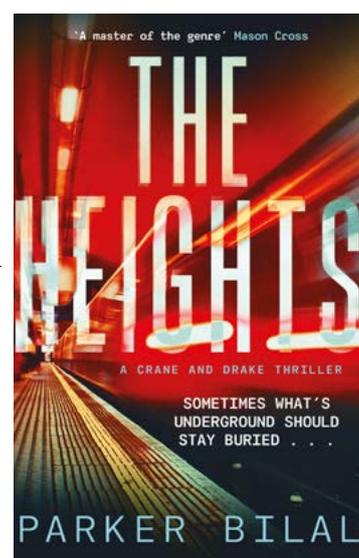
Parker Bilal

The gripping second book in the Crane and Drake series from crime writer Parker Bilal

What starts with the gruesome discovery of a severed head on the Tube soon becomes personal for former DI Cal Drake. After one betrayal too many, Drake has abandoned the police force to become a private detective. He's joined forces with enigmatic forensic pathologist Dr Rayhana Crane and it's not long before the case leads them to the darkest corners of the nation's capital and in dangerously close contact with an international crime circuit, a brutal local rivalry and a very personal quest for retribution. With the murder victim closely tied to Drake's past, his new future is about to come under threat.

'Inventive and original . . . *The Heights* is a complex and satisfying mystery involving finance, gangland, trafficking and prostitution. A layered, no nonsense thriller that is intriguing and exciting' *NB Magazine*

PARKER BILAL is the pseudonym of Jamal Mahjoub, the critically acclaimed literary novelist. *The Ghost Runner*, the third novel in the Makana Investigations series, was longlisted for the **Theakston's Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award**.



UK Publication: September 2020

Rights Held: World

Option Publishers: France (Gallimard), Germany (Rowohlt)

Other Rights: Euan Thornycroft, A.M. Heath

Extent: 320 pages

Caro Ramsay

THE CURSED GIRLS

Megan Melvick has returned home after a three-year absence to visit her dying sister, Melissa, for the last time. As she approaches the grand Scottish country estate where she grew up, the memories come flooding back. Just what did happen on the night of Melissa's wedding five years before? Where has Megan and Melissa's mother disappeared to? And why does Melissa whisper that solitary word before she finally slips away: Sorry.

In order to overcome her demons, Megan must confront her painful recollections of that terrible night, the night of Melissa's wedding. The night somebody died. But can she really trust her memories? And who is it who's determined that she should forget . . . ?

'A skilfully written thriller with a palpable sense of dread and disaster that will grab readers from the first page through to the shocking conclusion' *Booklist*, [starred review](#)

'A chilling psychological thriller told in two voices . . . A wild ride packed with mysterious questions and shocking answers' *Kirkus*

ABSOLUTION

Shortlisted for the CWA's New Blood Dagger for Best Debut of the Year

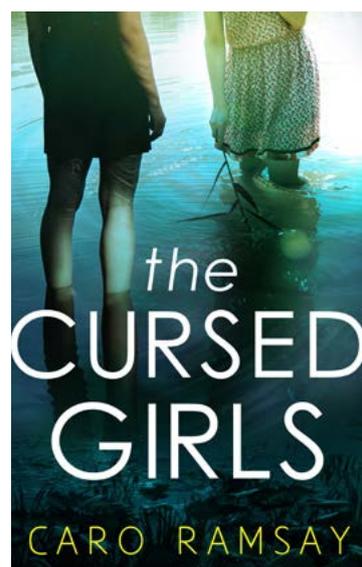
In their first case together, Glaswegian police team DI Anderson and DS Costello chase the Crucifixion Killer

The Crucifixion Killer is stalking Glasgow, leaving victims' mutilated bodies in a Christ-like pose. DCI Alan McAlpine is drafted in to lead the hunt, supported by local officers DI Anderson and DS Costello.

But the past holds horrific memories for McAlpine. He last worked this beat some twenty years earlier, when he was assigned to guard a woman – faceless after a sadistic acid attack – at a Glasgow hospital. An obsession was born at that hospital room that has never quite left McAlpine and now it seems to be resurfacing. As the chase to halt the gruesome murders intensifies, so Anderson and Costello find chilling cause for concern uncomfortably close to home . . .

'A cracker of a debut . . . Many shivers in store for readers followed by a shattering climax' *The Times*

'Absolution is among the year's best literary thrillers'
Washington Post



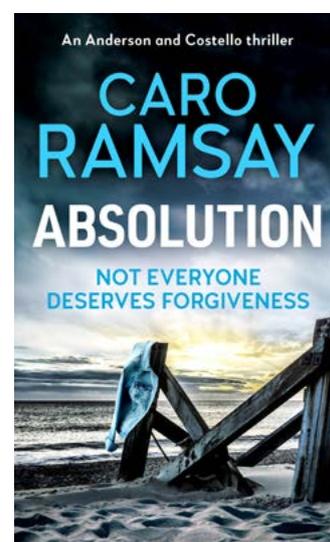
UK Publication: June 2021

Rights Held: World

Other Rights: Jane Gregory, David Higham Associates

Extent: 256 pages

The 11th book in the Anderson and Costello series, *The Red, Red Snow* was published in February 2020



UK Publication: April 2020

Rights Held: World excl. Germany (Blanvalet), Netherlands (Ambo|Anthos), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Russia (AST), Turkey (Artemis)

Other Rights: Jane Gregory, David Higham Associates

Extent: 416 pages



CARO RAMSAY is the Glaswegian author of the critically acclaimed DI Anderson and DS Costello series, the first of which – *Absolution* – was shortlisted for the CWA's New Blood Dagger for best debut of the year. The ninth book in the series, *The Suffering of Strangers*, was longlisted for the McIlvanney Prize 2018.
@CaroRamsayBooks | caroramsay.com

HEADLONG

Cynthia Harrod-Eagles

Bill Slider and his team investigate the death of a prominent literary agent in this intriguing contemporary mystery

When one of London's best-known literary agents is found dead in strange circumstances, having fallen headlong from his office window, DCI Slider is under pressure from the Borough Commander to confirm a case of accidental death. But when the evidence points to murder, Slider and his team find themselves uncovering some decidedly scandalous secrets in the suave and successful Ed Wiseman's past.

An embittered ex-wife. A discarded mistress. A frustrated would-be author. A disgruntled former employee. Many had reason to hold a grudge against the late lamented literary agent. But who would feel strongly enough to kill him? Any leads in the investigation seem only to result in more questions – not least of which is the identity of the elusive Calliope Hunt. Who is she – and what is her connection to the train of events?

'An immensely enjoyable ride . . . Readers will wish for Slider's career to continue for many years to come' *Publishers Weekly*, starred review

CYNTHIA HARROD-EAGLES is the author of over 90 books, including the internationally acclaimed Bill Slider mysteries and her Morland Dynasty series, which has sold over 100,000 copies. cynthiaharrodeagles.com

A BAD BAD THING

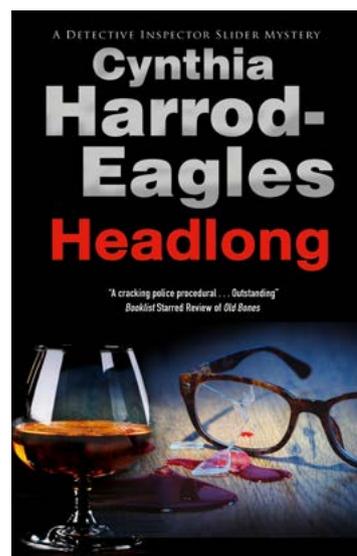
Elena Forbes

Eve West, a police officer with a hidden past, is drawn into a dark and complex case when she's asked to investigate a miscarriage of justice in this first in a new series

After a police operation ends in catastrophe, DCI Eve West is suspended. She faces expulsion from the force, until John Duran – a violent criminal Eve incarcerated herself and who is still serving his sentence – offers to help clear her name. But nothing comes for free. Duran wants Eve to help free a fellow prisoner, who he claims has been wrongly convicted of murder. But as her investigation grows darker, Eve finds that more than just her job is at stake, and Duran is a dangerous man to trust . . .

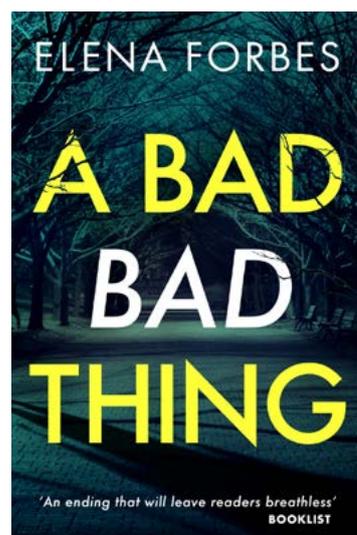
'A master at complex plots' *Globe and Mail*

ELENA FORBES worked for a number of international investment groups before becoming a full-time writer. She is the author of four previous thrillers in the Mark Tartaglia series, the first of which, *Die with Me*, was shortlisted for the CWA John Creasey (New Blood) Dagger Award. She lives in central London. @ElenaForbes5 | elenaforbes.com



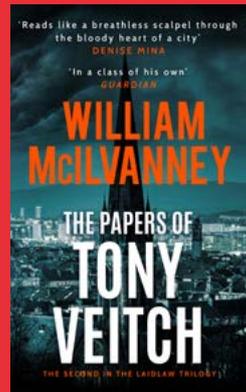
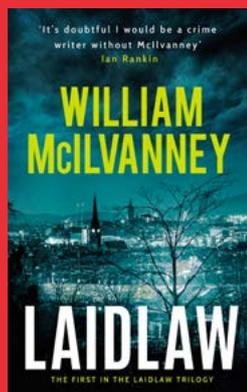
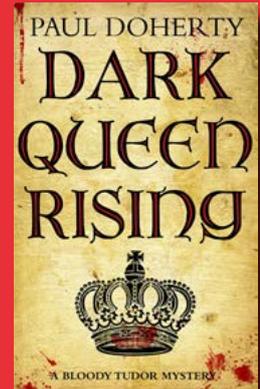
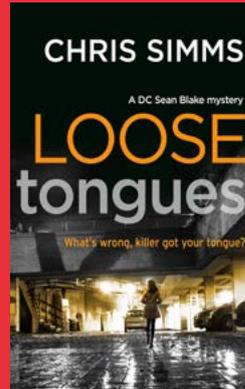
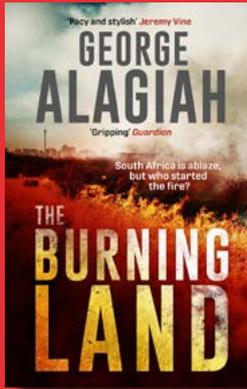
UK Publication: August 2021
Rights Held: World
Rights Sold: Italy (Golem)
Other Rights: Severn House
Extent: 224 pages

Books 1–10 in the series have been reissued by Little, Brown. Severn House holds rights in all further series



UK Publication: May 2021
Rights Held: World
Other Rights: Sarah Lutyens, Lutyens & Rubinstein
Extent: 448 pages

RECENT FAVOURITES



THE BURNING LAND by George Alagiah

The exhilarating debut political thriller from beloved BBC broadcaster

THE LAST NIGHT OUT by Catherine O'Connell

A heart-stopping thriller on female friendship, deadly secrets and a night out that goes horribly wrong

Rights Sold: Brazil (Editora Planeta), France (Albin Michel), Germany (Droemer Knauer), Italy (De Agostini), Portugal (Planeta), Spain and Spain Catalan (Grupo Planeta)

LOOSE TONGUES by Chris Simms

DC Sean Blake tackles a series of brutal killings in his first week on the Greater Manchester Police force

DARK QUEEN RISING by Paul Doherty

First in a new historical mystery series featuring Margaret Beaufort, mother of King Henry VII and matriarch of the Tudor dynasty

Rights Sold: France (Univers Poche)

LIDLAW by William McIlvanney

In the beginning there was Laidlaw. The CWA Silver Dagger-winning masterpiece that launched a genre, from the godfather of Scottish crime fiction

Rights Sold: Germany (Kunstmann), Italy (Feltrinelli), Turkey (Ayrinti), US (Europa)

THE PAPERS OF TONY VEITCH by William McIlvanney

The second instalment in the *Laidlaw* trilogy

Rights Sold: Germany (Kunstmann), Italy (Feltrinelli), Spain (Salamandra), Turkey (Ayrinti), US (Europa)

STRANGE LOYALTIES by William McIlvanney

The third book in the *Laidlaw* crime series

Rights Sold: Germany (Kunstmann), Italy (Feltrinelli), Turkey (Ayrinti), US (Europa)

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN



EVERYDAY MAGIC

The Adventures of Alfie Blackstack

Jess Kidd

Magical, mischievous and mysterious, *Everyday Magic* is an enchanting mix of *The Witches*, *Nevermoor* and *Lemony Snicket*

Welcome to Little Snoddington, where nothing is normal and every day is magic . . .

Nine-year-old Alfie Blackstack's parents have met a very unfortunate end. Now he's living in the dark and cobwebby Switherbroom Hall with his mad-haired Aunt Gertie and warty Aunt Zita, who would really like to pickle him. Before long, Alfie realises his aunts aren't just the weird local chemists, they're witches!

'This charming crazy story had me giggling all the way through – a magical story about the power of true friendship – I loved it!' **Jasbinder Bilan**

'Everything you'd expect from Jess Kidd, with an especially naughty twinkle in its eye! I loved it' **Emma Carroll**

'Featuring daring circus tricks, mischievous little sisters, the mysterious Switherbroom Hall, and so much enchantment that the pages practically crackle with it, *Everyday Magic* is action-packed and bursting with fun' **Sinéad O'Hart**



[Click here to watch Jess talk about *Everyday Magic*](#)

UK Publication: February 2021
Rights Held: World
Rights Sold: Russia (Eskmo)
Other Rights: Sue Armstrong, C&W
Extent: 304 pages



JESS KIDD was brought up in London as part of a large family from County Mayo. Her first novel, *Himself*, was shortlisted for the **Irish Book Awards** in 2016 and she was the winner of the **Costa Short Story Award** in the same year. In 2017, *Himself* was shortlisted for the **Authors' Club Best First Novel Award** and longlisted for the **CWA John Creasey (New Blood) Dagger**. Her second novel, *The Hoarder*, was shortlisted for the **Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year Award** in association with Listowel Writers' Week. Both books were BBC Radio 2 Book Club picks. Her third novel, *Things in Jars*, was published by Canongate in April 2019. *Everyday Magic* is her first book for children.

THE TIME-THIEF

Patience Agbabi

Elle is back! This time she's leaping almost three whole centuries back in time, to catch a thief, help her friend and save our future. The second book in *The Leap Cycle* series

It's mid-summer's day and thirteen-year-old Elle and her Leaping classmates are visiting The Museum of The Past, The Present and The Future. But on the day of the school trip, disaster strikes, and the most unique and valuable piece in the museum, The Infinity Glass, is stolen! And worse still, Elle's friend and fellow Infinite, MC² is arrested for the crime!

To prove his innocence Elle must leap back centuries in time, to a London very different from today. Along the way she will meet new friends, face dangers unlike any she has ever known, and face an old enemy who is determined to destroy her. Can Elle find the missing Infinity Glass and return it to its rightful home before it's too late?

Praise for *The Infinite*:

'*The Infinite* is vivid, funny, exciting and inventive. Patience Agbabi has created something fresh and original here' **Philip Pullman**

'A fascinating, original and smart adventure tale with a rhythmic prose style that leaps off the page into scintillating life. It has a magic all of its own' **Bernardine Evaristo**

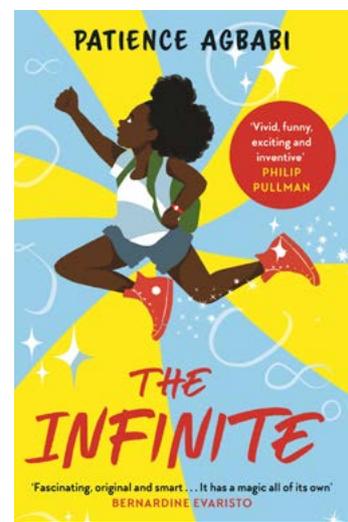
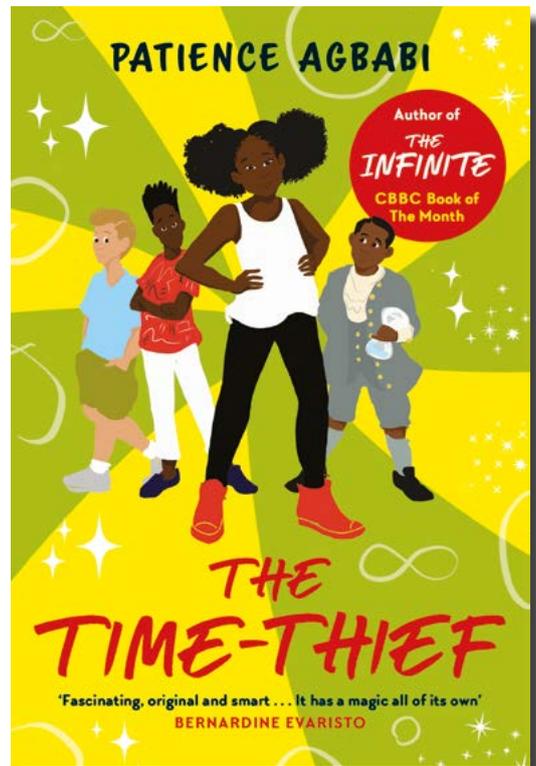
'What an inspiration. The future just got so much better' **Benjamin Zephaniah**

'Highly original . . . It's 2048 and kids have gone missing. It's up to Elle and a cadre of friends to unravel what's really going on across time' **Observer**

'Elle is an engaging, self-aware character . . . and the environmental theme will strike a chord with young readers' **Guardian**



[Click here to watch Patience talk about *The Time-Thief*](#)



UK Publication: April 2020
Rights Held: World
Other Rights: Simon Trewin,
Simon Trewin Ltd.
Extent: 256 pages

UK Publication: May 2021
Rights Held: World
Other Rights: Simon Trewin,
Simon Trewin Ltd.
Extent: 256 pages



PATIENCE AGBABI was born in London in 1965 to Nigerian parents, spent her teenage years living in North Wales and now lives in Kent with her husband and children. She has been writing poetry for over twenty years, *The Infinite* is her first novel. Like Elle, she loves sprinting, numbers and pepper soup, but, disappointingly, she was born in August.

A BOY CALLED CHRISTMAS

Matt Haig, illustrated by Chris Mould

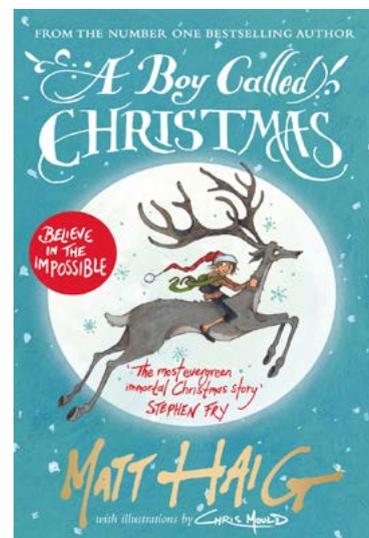
**Film adaptation for release in Christmas 2021
by StudioCanal, Netflix and Blueprint Pictures
Featuring an all-star cast including Sally
Hawkins, Jim Broadbent and Maggie Smith**

The first magical book in the festive series, from number one bestselling author Matt Haig, and featuring enchanting illustrations from Chris Mould

You are about to read the true story of Father Christmas.

It's a story that proves nothing is impossible.

A Boy Called Christmas is a tale of adventure, snow, kidnapping, elves, more snow and a boy called Nikolas, who isn't afraid to believe in magic.



UK Publication: November 2015

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Brazil (Ciranda Cultural), Bulgaria (Prozoretz), Canada (HarperCollins), China (Beijing Xiron Books), Croatia (Mozaik Knjiga), Estonia (Gallus), Finland (Aula), France (Helium), Germany (DTV), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Libri Könyvkiadó Kft), Italy (Salani), Japan (Nishimura), Korea (Mirae), Lithuania (Tyto Alba), Netherlands (Moon), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Poland (Zysk), Portugal (Booksmile), Romania (Nemira), Russia (AST), Serbia (Vulkan), Spain (Planeta), Spain Catalan (Planeta), Sweden (Alfabeta), Taiwan (Eastern), Ukraine (Zhorzh), US (Knopf)

Other Rights: Clare Conville, C&W

Extent: 272 pages

THE GIRL WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS

A journey to the edge of magic

If magic has a beginning, can it also have an end?

When Amelia wants a wish to come true she knows just the man to ask - Father Christmas.

But Amelia isn't just any ordinary girl. And - as Father Christmas is going to find out - if Christmas is going to be saved, he might not be able to do it alone . . .



UK Publication: November 2016

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Bulgaria (Prozoretz), Canada (HarperCollins), China (Beijing Xiron Books), Croatia (Mozaik Knjiga), Finland (Aula), France (Helium), Germany (DTV), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Libri Könyvkiadó Kft), Italy (Salani), Japan (Nishimura), Korea (Mirae), Lithuania (Tyto Alba), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Poland (Zysk), Portugal (Booksmile), Romania (Nemira), Russia (AST), Serbia (Vulkan), Spain (Planeta), Spain Catalan (Planeta), Sweden (Alfabeta), Ukraine (Zhorzh), US (Knopf)

Other Rights: Clare Conville, C&W

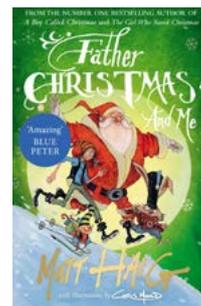
Extent: 336 pages

FATHER CHRISTMAS AND ME

Let the battle for Christmas begin . . .

It isn't always easy, growing up as a human in Elfhelm, even if your adoptive parents are the newly married Father Christmas and Mary Christmas.

For one thing, Elf School can be annoying. Also it can get very, very cold. But when the jealous Easter Bunny launches an attack to stop Christmas, it's up to Amelia, her new family and the elves to keep Christmas alive.



UK Publication: October 2017

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Bulgaria (Prozoretz), Canada (HarperCollins), Finland (Aula), France (Helium), Germany (DTV), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Libri Könyvkiadó Kft), Italy (Salani), Japan (Nishimura), Korea (Mirae), Lithuania (Tyto Alba), Poland (Zysk), Portugal (Booksmile), Romania (Nemira), Russia (AST), Spain (Planeta), Spain Catalan (Planeta), Sweden (Alfabeta), Ukraine (Zhorzh)

Other Rights: Clare Conville, C&W

Extent: 304 pages

A MOUSE CALLED MIIKA

Matt Haig, illustrated by Chris Mould

Miika emerged from preview screenings of *A Boy Called Christmas* as the audience's favourite character. Now, this little mouse has his very own story to tell . . .

When poor young Nicholas lost all his friends and family it was just one forest mouse, Miika, who kept him company, and it was Miika who accompanied him on his journey to the Far North, in search of his father. But this little mouse had lived a large life . . .

A Mouse Called Miika is an epic adventure story on a miniature scale. It is a tale of mice and men (and more mice).

It is about one independent mouse who gets fed up with other mice, sets out on a quest of his own to prove that cheese exists, and learns to appreciate other creatures. It is also a tale of great love (of cheese) and great danger. And learning the lesson that, with cheese as with life, what matters most is not how strongly you smell but how strong you are on the inside.

Funny, cheeky, wise and packed full of Matt Haig's signature warmth, this is set to become a new year-round children's favourite.



UK Publication: September 2021

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Canada (Harper Collins), Germany (DTV), US (Knopf)

Option Publishers: Brazil (Ciranda Cultural), Bulgaria (Prozoretz), China (Beijing Xiron Books), Croatia (Mozaik Knjiga), Estonia (Gallus), Finland (Aula), France (Helium), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Libri Könyvkiadó Kft), Italy (Salani), Japan (Nishimura), Korea (Mirae), Lithuania (Tyto Alba), Netherlands (Moon), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Poland (Zysk), Portugal (Booksmile), Romania (Nemira), Russia (AST), Serbia (Vulkan), Spain (Planeta), Spain Catalan (Planeta), Sweden (Alfabet), Taiwan (Eastern), Ukraine (Zhorzh)

Other Rights: Clare Conville, C&W

Extent: 208 pages

As well as being a number one bestselling writer for adults, MATT HAIG has won the **Blue Peter Book Award**, the **Smarties Book Prize** and been nominated three times for the **Carnegie Medal** for his stories for children and young adults.

CHRIS MOULD went to art school at the age of sixteen. He has won the **Nottingham Children's Book Award** and been commended by the **Sheffield Children's Book Award**. He loves his work and likes to write and draw the kind of books that he would have liked to have had on his shelf as a boy.

I GET LOUD

David Ouimet

The gorgeously illustrated sequel to the acclaimed *I Go Quiet*, which Neil Gaiman called ‘astonishingly beautiful’

I Get Loud, sees the introverted heroine go out into the world as she gains confidence in her voice and makes a friend for the first time. It is a tale of the emboldening nature of the imagination, the redemptive power of friendship and why we should all embrace our own beautiful, singular weirdness.

Praise for *I Go Quiet*:

‘Haunting . . . Enchanting’ *Psychologies*

‘Exquisite . . . The illustrations are gothic and haunting but beautiful . . . It’s the kind of book you wish you could send to your childhood self, and the kind that warms the heart as an adult. A simple but stunning story’ *The Skinny*

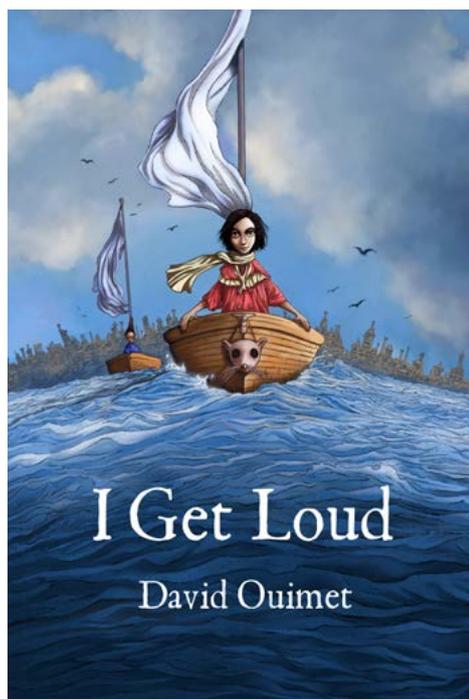
‘Beautiful and engaging, this book brought tears of joy to my eyes. I have no doubt that this book will inspire those who discover its magic to embrace and nurture their own voice in this noisy world’ **Coralie Bickford-Smith**

‘Astonishingly beautiful . . . I wish this book had been around when I was a child: I would not have felt quite as alone’ **Neil Gaiman**

‘Completely original. Unique, in fact’ **Philip Pullman**

‘A wonder’ **Matt Haig**

‘Stunning . . . David Ouimet understands that to comfort means to strengthen, not to coddle. I want to send it back in time to my seven-year-old-self’ **Stephen Fry**



‘*I Go Quiet* is poetical, magical and eerily creepy. It is bewildering and mysterious and a master at somehow finding the words to capture something so abstract – isolation, loneliness, solitude and sadness. But the book is not bleak – it offers light and shade, it is full of hope and comfort. It will become a solid silent friend to many readers’ **Laura Dockrill**

‘This is the kind of book the child I was would have stared at for days on end’ **Dave Eggers**



UK Publication: September 2019

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Brazil

(Companhia das Letras), Germany (mvg Verlag), North America (W. W. Norton), Spain (Planeta), Turkey (Cinar)

Other Rights: Canongate

Extent: 48 pages

UK Publication: July 2021

Rights Held: World

Option Publishers: Brazil (Companhia das Letras), Germany (mvg Verlag), Spain (Planeta), Turkey (Cinar)

Rights Sold: North America (W. W. Norton)

Other Rights: Canongate

Extent: 48 pages



DAVID OUIMET’s illustrations have featured on album covers and books, including Robert D. San Souci’s *Dare to be Scared* book series and Nancy Etchmندی’s *Cat in Glass* and other *Tales of the Unnatural*. Most recently he illustrated *Daydreams for Night* by musician John Southworth. Ouimet’s work was selected for the Society of Illustrators’ Annual 59 and was exhibited at the Museum of American Illustration in New York City in February 2017.

THE BIGGEST FOOTPRINT

Rob Sears, illustrated by Tom Sears

An illustrated, fact-filled book about climate change, by bestselling author of *The Beautiful Poetry of Donald Trump*

As climate change becomes more of a concern, this is a fresh way of addressing the subject in an accessible way for children and adults alike.

There are 7.7 billion of us.

All breathing, eating, drinking and thinking deep thoughts.

It's an unimaginably large number. Or is it?

Meet the megahuman: all the people in the world smooshed into one giant human being. Even though it's a big, lumbering creature, the megahuman is slowly beginning to understand the problems it has created for Planet Earth's future . . .

Drawing on brain-bending stats and the work of biomass boffins, *The Biggest Footprint* is a journey of self-discovery suitable for anyone and everyone identifying as human.

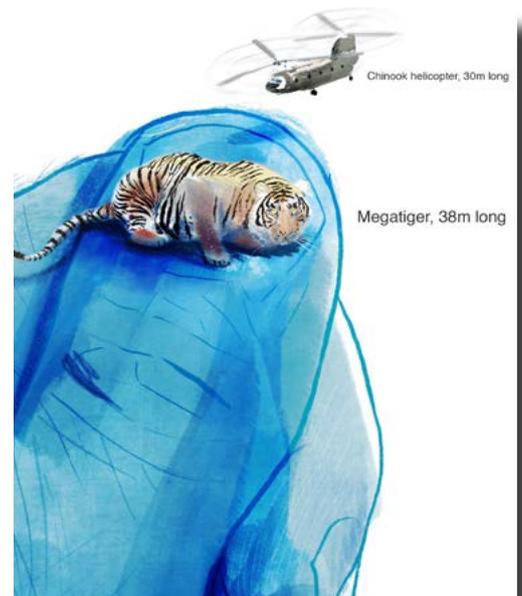
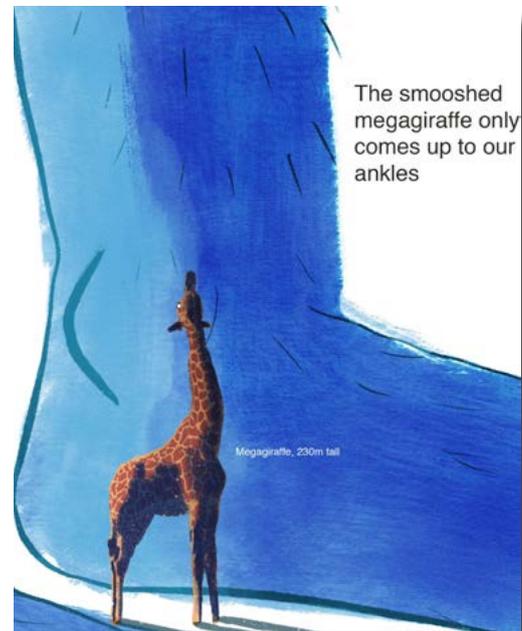
Praise for *The Beautiful Poetry of Donald Trump*:

'A triumph' *Telegraph*

'Hilarious' *Stewart Lee*



[Click here to watch Rob talk about *The Biggest Footprint*](#)



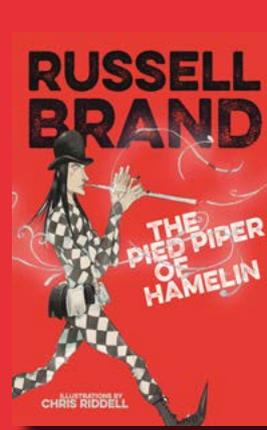
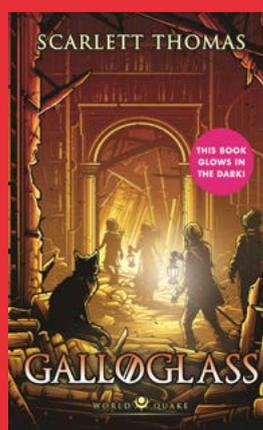
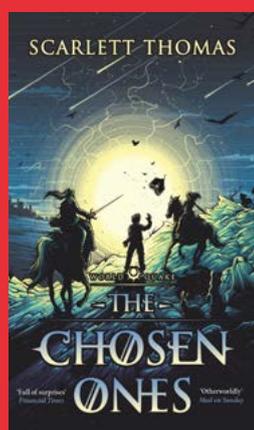
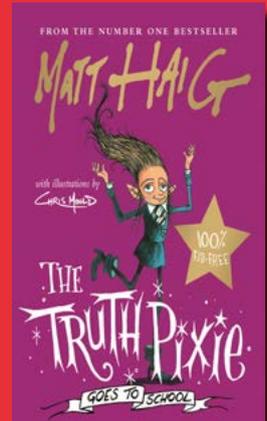
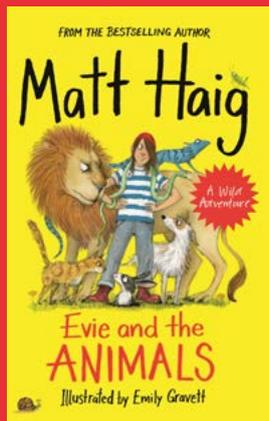
UK Publication: June 2021
Rights Held: World
Other Rights: Clare Conville,
C&W
Extent: 96 pages



ROB SEARS has written comedy and fiction for *McSweeney's* and is the author of the hit humour titles *The Beautiful Poetry of Donald Trump* and *Vladimir Putin: Life Coach*. He lives in Finsbury Park with his wife Grace.

TOM SEARS is a London-based illustrator whose work has appeared in the *Guardian*, *The Times*, two zoos and on an ice cream van.

RECENT FAVOURITES



EVIE AND THE ANIMALS by Matt Haig, illustrated by Emily Gravett

A brilliant chapter book for children, from number one bestselling author Matt Haig and featuring illustrations throughout by the award-winning Emily Gravett

Rights Sold: Arab States (Kalemat), Canada (HarperCollins), China (Beijing Publishing Group), Finland (Aula & Co), Germany (Hanser), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Libri), Italy (Edizioni E/O), Japan (Holp), Korea (Weneedabook), Lithuania (Tyto Alba), Netherlands (Moon), Portugal (Booksmile), Russia (AST), Spain and Spain Catalan (Planeta), Sweden (Alfabeta), Turkey (Yapi Kredi), Ukraine (Zhorzh), Vietnam (Thaihabooks JSC)

EVIE IN THE JUNGLE by Matt Haig, illustrated by Emily Gravett

A brilliant story created especially for World Book Day 2020

Rights Sold: Ukraine (Zhorzh)

THE TRUTH PIXIE by Matt Haig, illustrated by Chris Mould

A hilarious and heartwarming book for younger readers

Rights Sold: China (Beijing Publishing Group), Finland (Aula & Co), Germany (dtv), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Libri), Israel (Knafayim), Italy (Edizioni E/O), Japan (Nishimura), Korea (Mirae-N), Latvia (Zvaigzne), Poland (Zysk), Romania (Nemira), Russia (AST), Spain and Spain Catalan (Planeta), Sweden (Alfabeta), Turkey (Yapi Kredi), Ukraine (Zhorzh)

THE TRUTH PIXIE GOES TO SCHOOL by Matt Haig, illustrated by Chris Mould

The sequel to the *Sunday Times* bestseller *The Truth Pixie*; an uplifting, illustrated story about beating back-to-school nerves

Rights Sold: China (Beijing Publishing Group), Finland (Aula & Co), Hungary (Libri), Japan (Nishimura), Korea (Mirae-N), Spain and Spain Catalan (Planeta), Turkey (Yapi Kredi), Ukraine (Zhorzh)

THE WORLDQUAKE SERIES: Dragon's Green, The Chosen Ones and Galloglass by Scarlett Thomas

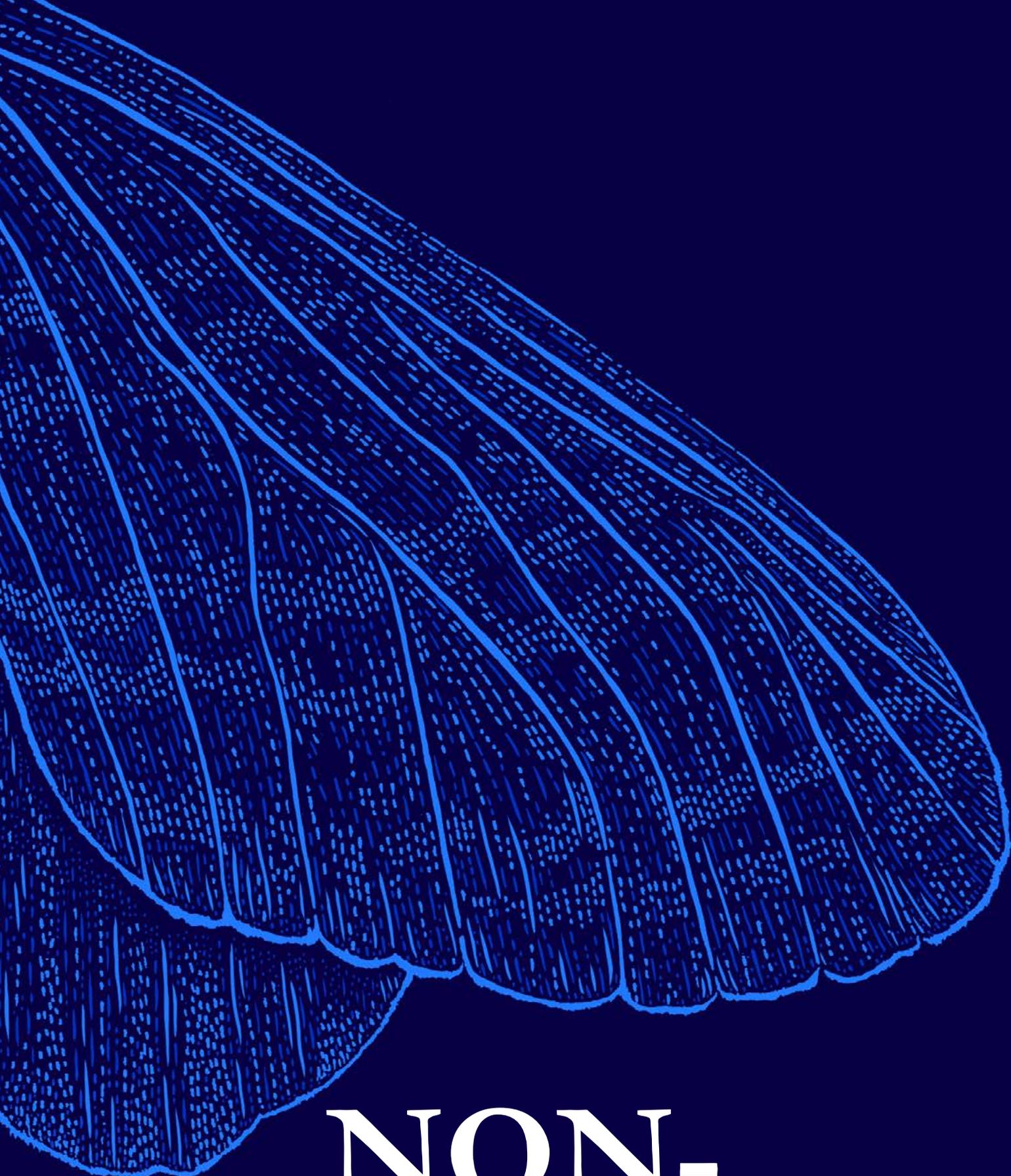
A thrilling children's series from Scarlett Thomas, author of the bestselling adult novel *The End of Mr Y*

Rights Sold: Bulgaria (Prozoretz), Greece (Psichogios), Iran (Porteghal), Italy (Newton Compton), Netherlands (De Fontein/De Kern), North America (Simon & Schuster), Romania (ART), Russia (AST), Spain (Salamandra)

THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN by Russell Brand, illustrated by Chris Riddell

The inimitable Russell Brand brings his trademark humour to the classic children's tale, in this beautiful edition fully illustrated by the award-winning Children's Laureate Chris Riddell

Rights Sold: Finland (Art House Group), Italy (Editrice Il Castoro), North America (Simon & Schuster), Russia (AST)



**NON-
FICTION**

WE ARE ELECTRIC

Inside the 200-Year Hunt for the Bioelectric Code

Sally Adee

A thrilling book that breaks open the field of bioelectricity: what it is, why it's so misunderstood and why it's so vital for our future, from the award-winning writer

Bioelectricity is the electricity that runs through every living thing. It is the reason why our brains can send signals to the rest of our bodies, but also why we develop in the womb and why our body knows to heal itself. It might also be the next big thing in science – if we can crack the bioelectric code, much like we did with the genetic code, it will have all sorts of implications for our intelligence and our health.

It is essential that we understand bioelectricity. And yet the field is still emerging from two centuries of scepticism and entanglement with medical quackery – all stemming from an eighteenth-century scientific war about the nature of electricity between Luigi Galvani (the father of bioelectricity, famous for shocking frogs) and Alessandro Volta (the inventor of the battery).

In *We Are Electric*, award-winning science writer Sally Adee takes us through the thrilling history of bioelectricity and into the future of this discipline: from Galvani versus Volta, to the medical charlatans claiming to use electricity to cure everything from infertility to cancer, to the advances in the field helped along by the axons of giant squids, and finally to the amazing brain implants and healing cuffs that await us in the future. It's engaging, well-written, and uses the history of bioelectricity to help us understand why we need to know about it now – and why it will be so important in the future.



UK Publication:

May 2022

Rights Held: World

Other Rights: Carrie Plitt, Felicity Bryan Associates

Extent: 320 pages

SALLY ADEE is an award-winning science and technology writer. Most recently, she was a features editor at the *New Scientist*, where she wrote some of its most lasting content, including a 2012 feature on transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS), that broke this bioelectricity technology to the general public and is still talked about, including most recently in Yuval Noah Harari's bestselling book *Homo Deus*. Since then, she has been completely obsessed with bioelectricity and has formed close relationships with many of the field's leading researchers. Now a freelance journalist, her writing has appeared in publications including the *New York Times*, *BBC Future*, the *Economist* and *Quartz*. She has also spoken on Radio 5, Canadian Broadcasting's *The Current*, *The Economist's* Intelligence podcast, and BBC Breakfast, and given talks at a number of festivals. She is currently the science consultant for the TV adaptation of Naomi Alderman's *The Power*, produced by Amazon Studios. Sally is a citizen of Germany and the US, and lives in London. This is her first book.

THIN PLACES

Kerri ní Dochartaigh

A breathtaking mix of memoir, nature writing and history, this is Kerri ní Dochartaigh's story of a wild Ireland, an invisible border, an old conflict and the healing power of the natural world

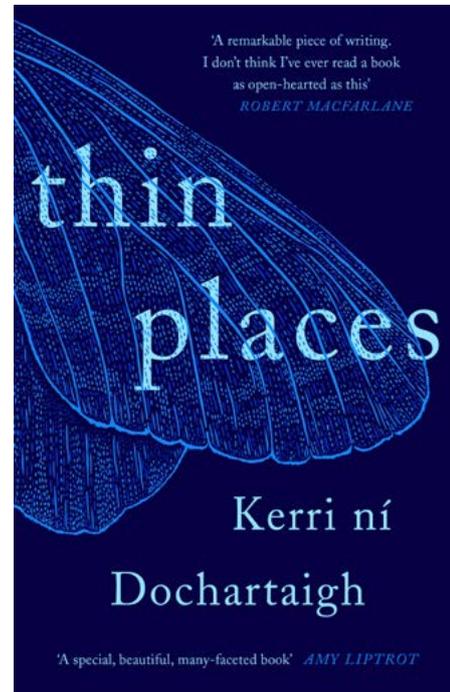
Kerri ní Dochartaigh was born in Derry, Northern Ireland, at the very height of the Troubles. She was brought up on a grey and impoverished council estate on the wrong side of town. But for her family, and many others, there was no right side. One parent was Catholic, the other was Protestant. In the space of one year they were forced out of two homes and when she was eleven a homemade petrol bomb was thrown through her bedroom window. Terror was in the very fabric of the city, and for families like Kerri's, the ones who fell between the cracks of identity, it seemed there was no escape.

In *Thin Places* Kerri explores how nature kept her sane and helped her heal, how violence and poverty are never more than a stone's throw from beauty and hope, and how we are, once again, allowing our borders to become hard, and terror to creep back in. Kerri asks us to reclaim our landscape through language and study, and remember that the land we fight over is much more than lines on a map. It will always be ours but, at the same time, it never really was.

'A special, beautiful, many-faceted book' Amy Liptrot

'A remarkable piece of writing . . . Luminous' Robert Macfarlane

'I'm so glad this book exists; I feel rather short of words to do it justice. Kerri's writing is so powerful, her ability to tell her story so deft, her innate understanding of the world around her such a beautiful thing' Alice Vincent



'A profound and moving work of art. This is a really special book – certainly, I've never read one quite like it' Christine Dwyer Hickey

'An eloquent, moving work of politics, geography and the self. Full of wisdom and deeply engaging' Sinéad Gleeson

'Thin Places is a book for our times, and a work of rare power and authenticity' Neil Hegarty

'A beautiful and harrowing book about trauma, the potential to heal and the subtle magic of the wild. Kerri ní Dochartaigh offers us a fragile kind of redemption, full of truth and solace' Katherine May



[Click here to watch Kerri talk about *Thin Places*](#)

UK Publication: January 2021

Rights Held: World excl. North America

Other Rights: Kirsty McLachlan, David Godwin Associates

Extent: 320 pages



KERRI NÍ DOCHARTAIGH was born in 1983, in Derry-Londonderry at the border between the North and South of Ireland. She read English Literature and Classical Civilisation at Trinity College Dublin and trained as a Waldorf teacher in Edinburgh. She taught in Edinburgh and Bristol, before returning to Ireland in her early thirties. She writes about nature, literature and place for the *Irish Times*, *Dublin Review of Books*, *Caught by the River* and others. She now lives in a railway cottage in the very heart of Ireland. *Thin Places* is her first book.

@kerri_ni

SICK MONEY

The Truth about the Global Pharmaceutical Industry

Billy Kenber

An urgent call to build a new model for the pharmaceutical industry, from the multi-award-winning *Times* journalist

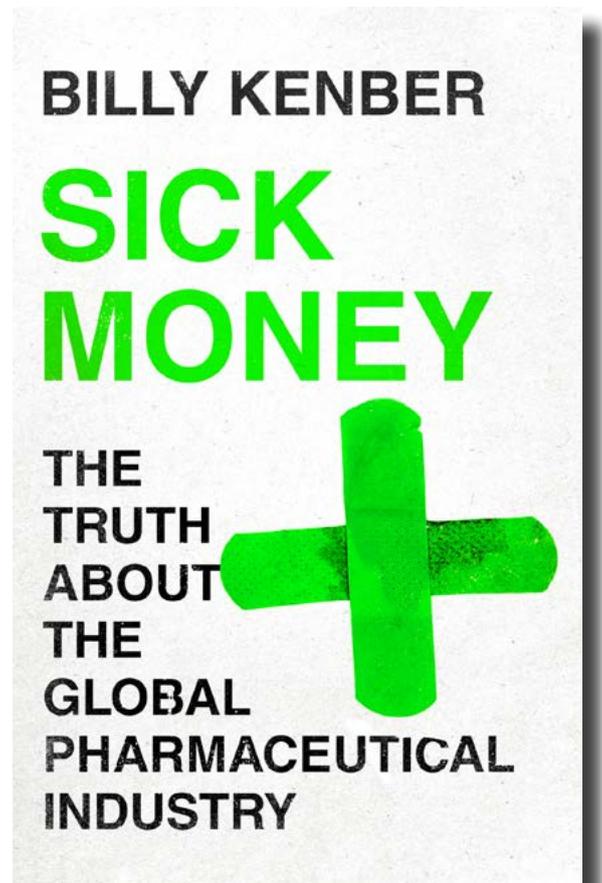
The pharmaceutical industry is broken. From the American hedge fund manager who put the price of an AIDS pill up from \$13.50 to \$750 overnight to the children's cancer drugs left intentionally to expire in a Spanish warehouse, the signs are all around. A system that was designed to drive innovation and patient care has been co-opted to drive profit.

What drugs are being researched, how medicines are priced, who has access to which medicines is now being dictated by share-holder value, not the good of the public – who enjoy ever-diminishing benefits for ever-higher prices. Drugs companies are being fined for bribing doctors in Eastern Europe while patients desperate for life-saving medicines are being driven to the black market in search of drugs the NHS can't afford.

Sick Money argues that the way we research medicines and pay for them is no longer working. Unless we take action we risk a dramatic decline in the pace of drug development and a future in which medicines are only available to the highest bidder. In this book Billy Kenber reports from the frontline of the Big Pharma battles, investigates how Covid-19 has changed the industry (for better or worse), and offers a diagnosis of an industry in crisis and a prescription for how we can fight back.



[Click here to watch Billy talk about *Sick Money*](#)



UK Publication: April 2021

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Poland (Proszynski Media), Taiwan (Heliopolis)

Other Rights: Heather Holden-Brown, HHB Agency

Extent: 320 pages



BILLY KENBER is an investigative journalist at *The Times* and has worked at the newspaper since 2010. He has won several accolades including prizes at the UK Press Awards, the British Journalism Awards and two prizes from the Medical Journalists' Association including the 2017 award for Outstanding Contribution to Health or Medical Journalism. In 2013 he won the Laurence Stern Fellowship and worked for the *Washington Post* for three months. He lives in London.
[@billykenber](#)

THE HUMAN COSMOS

A Secret History of the Stars

Jo Marchant

A journey through the history of science and man's relationship with the night sky and the cosmos beyond, from the author of the *New York Times* bestselling and Royal Society Prize-shortlisted *Cure*

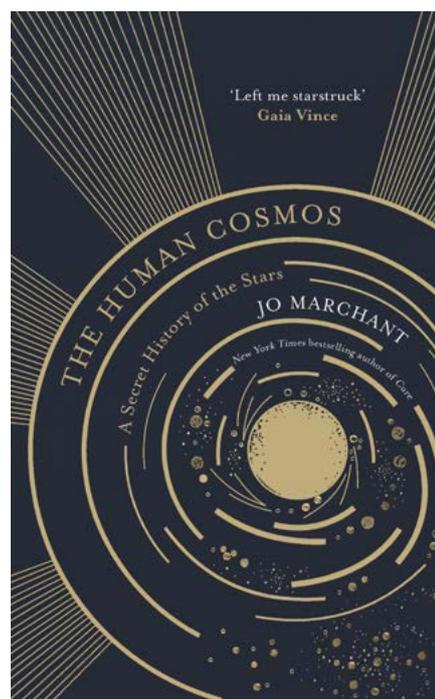
For most of human history, we have led not just an earthly existence but a cosmic one. Celestial cycles drove every aspect of our daily lives. Our innate relationship with the stars shaped who we are – our religious beliefs, power structures, scientific advances and even our biology. But over the last few centuries we have separated ourselves from the universe that surrounds us. And that disconnect comes at a cost.

In *The Human Cosmos*, Jo Marchant takes us on a tour through the history of humanity's relationship with the heavens. We travel to the Hall of the Bulls in Lascaux and witness the winter solstice at a 5,000-year-old tomb at Newgrange. We visit medieval monks grappling with the nature of time and Tahitian sailors navigating by the stars. We discover how light reveals the chemical composition of the sun, and we are with Einstein as he works out that space and time are one and the same. A four-billion-year-old meteor inspires a search for extra-terrestrial life, and we discover why star-gazing can be really, really good for us.

It is time for us to rediscover the full potential of the universe we inhabit, its wonder, its effect on our health and its potential for inspiration and revelation.

'Thought-provoking . . . The book's broad scope is made manageable by punchy storytelling . . . Integrating science, history, philosophy and religion, Marchant's epic account is one for readers to savour' *Publishers Weekly*, Starred Review

'This thematic, engaging overview of our stars and skies has something for all readers' *Library Journal*



'A tour of the heavens that centres not so much on outer space as what it does to our inner beings . . . Readers interested in the cognitive aspects of cosmology will enjoy Marchant's explorations' *Kirkus*

'Science journalist Marchant explores the relationship between humans and the celestial in this luminous and fascinating journey through science, religion, culture and everything in between' *Newsweek*

'Marchant charts the history of humanity's fascination with the night sky and explores the way the stars have shaped art, faith, science and society, and what our modern disconnect from the stars has cost us' *USA Today*

'A tour de force on par with *Sapiens* by Yuval Noah Harari' *Booklist*, Starred Review

UK Publication: September 2020

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: China (Citic Press), India Marathi (Mehta), North America (Dutton), Spain (Espasa), Thailand (Gypsy Group)

Other Rights: Will Francis, Janklow & Nesbit

Extent: 368 pages



DR JO MARCHANT is an award-winning science journalist. She has a PhD in genetics and medical microbiology from St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, London, and an MSc in Science Communication from Imperial College. She has worked as an editor at *New Scientist* and *Nature*, and her articles have appeared in the *Guardian*, *Wired*, *Observer*, *New Scientist* and *Nature*. She is the author of *Decoding the Heavens*, shortlisted for the **Royal Society Prize for Science Books**, and *Cure*, shortlisted for the **Royal Society Prize for Science Books** and longlisted for the **Wellcome Book Prize**.

@JoMarchant | jomarchant.com

Backlist: *Cure*

HOW TO BE ANIMAL

A New History of What it Means to Be Human

Melanie Challenger

Combining nature writing, history and moral philosophy, this is a wide-ranging and radical new take on the human story and what it means for us today

Humans are the most inquisitive, emotional, imaginative, aggressive and baffling animals on the planet. But how well do we really know ourselves?

How to Be Animal writes a remarkable story of what it means to be human and argues that at the heart of our psychology is a profound struggle with being animal. As well as piecing together the mystery of how this psychology evolved, the book examines the wide-reaching ways in which it affects our lives, from our politics to the ways we distance ourselves from other species. We travel from the origins of homo sapiens through the agrarian and industrial revolutions, the age of the internet, and on to futures of AI and human-machine interface. We examine how technology influences our sense of our own animal nature and our relationship with the other species with whom we share this fragile planet.

Drawing on new evidence from a wide range of disciplines, Challenger proposes that being an animal is a process, beautiful and unpredictable, and that we have a chance to tell ourselves a new story, to realise that if we matter, so does everything else.

‘Erudite, lyrical, delightfully troubling, and full of unexpected convergences. A wonderful exploration of the tensions that beset the human animal trying to find our way’ **David George Haskell**



[Click here to watch Melanie talk about *How To Be Animal*](#)

UK Publication: February 2021

Rights Held: World

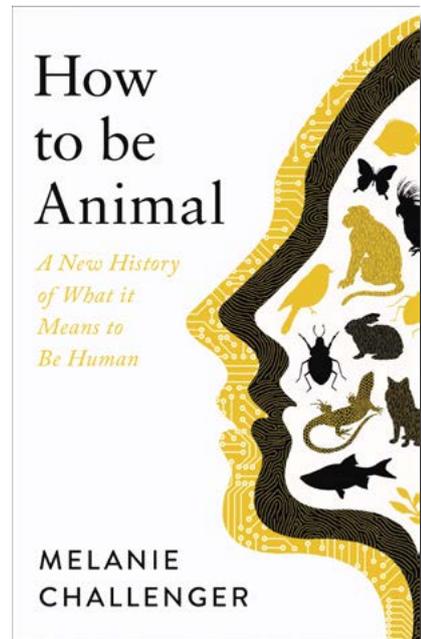
Rights Sold: Canada (Penguin Random House), Germany (Luchterhand), Netherlands (Ten Have), Portugal (Temas e Debates), Spain (Roca), Taiwan (Business Weekly), US (Viking/Penguin)

Other Rights: Jessica Woollard, David Higham Associates

Extent: 256 pages



MELANIE CHALLENGER works as a researcher on the history of humanity and the natural world, and environmental philosophy. Her first book, *On Extinction: How We Became Estranged From Nature*, was published in 2011 (Granta/Counterpoint). It was selected by *Publishers Weekly* as one of the best non-fiction books of 2012, longlisted for the **Dolman Travel Book of the Year** and received the **Santa Barbara Library’s Green Award** for environmental writing. She received a **Darwin Now Award** for her research among Canadian Inuit and the **Arts Council International Fellowship** with British Antarctic Survey for her work on the history of whaling.



‘Melanie Challenger’s wonderful book is a huge, complex and triumphant thing: challenging, but also celebratory, courageous, mournful and apprehensive. Her language is lovely: exact and lyrical and sparkingly full of suggestion and implication. I know it will be something I will return to again and again’ **Adam Nicolson**

‘How to be Animal is an utterly challenging, wholly essential book: it shows us how to be human’ **Philip Hoare**

‘A rare and important marvel’ **Lucy Jones**

NEWS: AND HOW TO USE IT

Alan Rusbridger

An A-Z guide on how we stay informed in the era of fake news, from former *Guardian* Editor-in-Chief Alan Rusbridger

Nothing in life works without facts.

A society that isn't sure what's true can't function. Without facts there can be no government or law. Science is ignored. Trust evaporates.

People everywhere feel ever more alienated from – and mistrustful of – news and those who make it. We no longer seem to know who or what to believe. We are living through a crisis of 'information chaos'.

News: And How to Use It is a glossary for this bewildering age. From Accuracy to Hypocrisy, from Invisible Mending to Lügenpresse, from Clickbait to Snacking (and more), here is the definitive user's guide for how to stay informed, tell truth from fiction, and hold those in power accountable in the modern age.

Praise for *Breaking News*:

'[Rusbridger] has written a book of breathtaking range . . . The brilliant *Breaking News* is essential – and entertaining reading' [Sir Harold Evans](#)

'Just when we were feeling lost in the dark labyrinth of fake news and journalism in crisis, Alan Rusbridger lights his torch and leads the way. Essential' [Steve Coogan](#)

'A fascinating book and an important one' [Scotsman](#)

'Engaging . . . We love a good newspaper yarn, and Rusbridger provides a dandy' [Financial Times](#)



'Eloquent in its argument for well-resourced journalism, and never better than in its central narrative of how an old profession struggled to cope with a new technology that threatened it with obsolescence' [Guardian](#)

'Alan Rusbridger is one of the most important journalists of his generation . . . this book needs to be read' [Independent](#)

UK Publication:

November 2020

Rights Held: World

Other Rights:

Rebecca Carter,

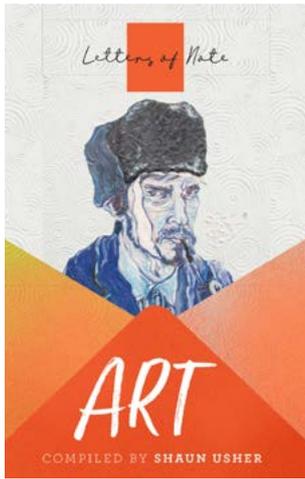
Janklow & Nesbit

Extent: 304 pages



ALAN RUSBRIDGER was Editor-in-Chief of *Guardian News & Media* from 1995 to 2015. He launched the *Guardian* in the US and Australia as well as building a website which today attracts more than 100 million unique browsers a month. The paper's coverage of phone-hacking led to the Leveson Inquiry into press standards and ethics. *Guardian US* won the 2014 **Pulitzer Prize** for public service for its leading global coverage of the Snowden revelations. He is the author of *Play It Again* and *Breaking News*. He lives in London and Oxford, where he is Principal of Lady Margaret Hall and chairs the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism.

@arusbridger | arusbridger.com



UK Publication: March 2020



UK Publication: March 2020



UK Publication: March 2020



UK Publication: March 2020



UK Publication: March 2020



UK Publication: March 2020



UK Publication: March 2021



UK Publication: March 2021



UK Publication: March 2021



UK Publication: March 2021



UK Publication: March 2021

LETTERS OF NOTE:

Art, Mothers, Cats, Love, Music, War, Fathers,
Sex, New York, Dogs, Space and Grief

compiled by **Shaun Usher**

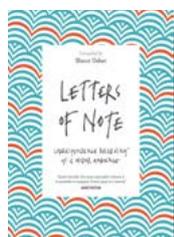
An irresistible new series of books from the creator of the world-renowned website and bestselling book *Letters of Note*

This is a collection to be coveted, with each beautiful, slim paperback bringing together letters on a different theme. Featuring Simone de Beauvoir, Ludwig van Beethoven, Napoléon Bonaparte, Salvador Dalí, Anne Frank, Mohandas Gandhi, Vincent van Gogh, Ichizō Hayashi, Milada Horáková, Zora Neale Hurston, Frida Kahlo, Helen Keller, Yo-Yo Ma, Nelson Mandela, Henri Matisse, Vladimir Nabokov, Rainer Maria Rilke, Elizabeth Taylor, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Nikola Tesla, Evelyn Waugh, and many more.

‘The literary equivalent of a box of chocolates – bite-sized and pure addictive pleasure’

Sunday Times

‘Addictive, like dipping into a bag of variously tempting assorted candies’ *New Yorker*



Updated edition
October 2021

‘Quite literally the most enjoyable volume it is possible to imagine. Every page is a marvel’ *Spectator*

UK Publication: Originally published October 2013, updated edition October 2021

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Brazil (Companhia das Letras), China (Shanghai Insight Media), Finland (Like), France (Sous-Sol), Germany (Wilhelm Heyne Verlag), Italy (Feltrinelli), Japan (Sogensha), Netherlands (Podium), Norway (Forlaget), Poland (Wydawnictwo Sine Qua Non), Russia (Gayatri), Serbia (Geopoetika), Spain (Salamandra), Taiwan (Faces), Turkey (Pegasus Yayinlari)

Extent: 384 pages

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold in the Series: Brazil (Companhia das Letras), Bulgaria (Prozoretz), Canada (McClelland & Stewart), China (Penguin Random House Asia), France (Seuil), Germany (Heyne), Greece (Brainfood), Italy (Feltrinelli), Netherlands (Podium), Russia (Gayatri), Spain (Salamandra), US (Penguin)

Other Rights: Caroline Michel, PFD

Extent: 144 pages



SHAUN USHER is a writer and sole custodian of the popular blogs lettersofnote.com and listsofnote.com. He has transformed both blogs into bestselling books. He lives in Wilmslow with his wife Karina and their two sons. He is the author of the bestselling *Letters of Note*, *More Letters of Note*, *Lists of Note* and *Speeches of Note*. Along with Simon Garfield’s *To the Letter*, *Letters of Note* inspired Letters Live, a series of live performances celebrating the enduring power of literary correspondence, with great performers reading remarkable letters to a live audience.
@LettersOfNote | lettersofnote.com | shaunusher.com

Backlist: *Letters of Note*, *Lists of Note*, *More Letters of Note*

MY ROCK 'n' ROLL FRIEND

Tracey Thorn

An exploration of female friendship and women in music, from the iconic singer-songwriter and bestselling author of *Another Planet* and *Bedsit Disco Queen*

In 1983, backstage at the Lyceum in London, Tracey Thorn and Lindy Morrison first met. Tracey's music career with the Marine Girls had just begun, while Lindy, drummer for The Go-Betweens, was ten years her senior. They became confidantes, comrades and best friends, a relationship cemented by activism and agitprop theatre, lesbian punk bands and rock 'n' roll love affairs.

Morrison came to be a kind of mentor to Thorn, a strong female role model in a male dominated industry. They both faced a chauvinist music media wanting them to behave to type.

In *My Rock 'n' Roll Friend* Thorn takes stock of thirty-seven years as friends, teasing out the particular challenges and commonalities of being women performers and performing women. This important book asks what people see, who does the looking, and ultimately who writes women out of – and back into – history.

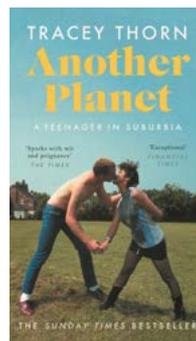
Praise for *Another Planet*:

'The book sparks with wit and poignancy' *The Times*

'Readers of Thorn's two previous memoirs will recognise the tone of this book, with its beautifully clean style, careful self-questioning and pervasive likability' *Guardian*

'When Thorn digs into her adolescence, the book sparks with wit and poignancy, helped by extracts from her teenage diaries that she smartly exploits for comedy and bathos' *Sunday Times*

'This tender-hearted, tough-minded book seems set to revivify a genre that can too often be self-deluding and thus pointless . . . She's a brilliant writer' *Spectator*



UK Publication: February 2019

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Germany (Heyne), Japan (P-Vine), Spain (Alpha Decay)

Other Rights: Kirsty McLachlan, David Godwin Associates

Extent: 224 pages

UK Publication:

April 2021

Rights Held: World

Option Publishers: Germany (Heyne), Japan (P-Vine), Spain (Alpha Decay)

Other Rights: Kirsty McLachlan, David Godwin Associates

Extent: 224 pages

TRACEY THORN is a singer-songwriter and author, best known for her 17 years in bestselling duo Everything But The Girl. She grew up as the youngest of three children in Brookmans Park, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, where she started her first band while still at school. Since then, she has released four solo albums, one movie soundtrack, a large handful of singles and two books, including the *Sunday Times* bestselling memoir, *Bedsit Disco Queen*, and currently writes a column for the *New Statesman*. She lives in London, with her husband Ben Watt and their three children.

@tracey_thorn | traceythorn.com

THE GO-BETWEEN

A Memoir of Growing Up Between Different Worlds

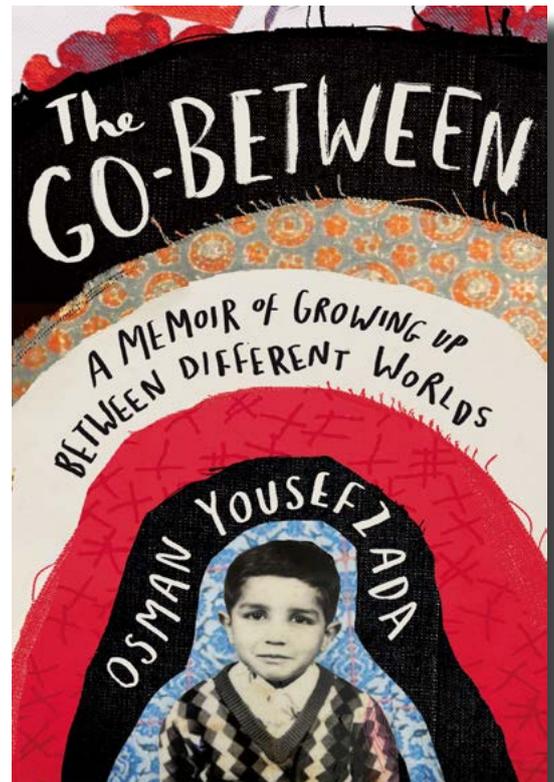
Osman Yousefzada

A heart-rending memoir of living between worlds and learning how to find one's own – from fashion designer Osman Yousefzada

The son of Afghan parents, Osman Yousefzada was raised in post-industrial Birmingham. Osman's father was a carpenter, and his mother, to help make ends meet, took up sewing and became a seamstress. Women from Indian-East African, Israeli, Shia and Afghan communities came together in the Yousefzada household to have clothes made and mended by his mother. Osman learned the craft at her knee and became enraptured by what was deemed a woman's job, and increasingly found himself at odds with the highly patriarchal culture he grew up in.

Whether secretly bringing his sister books and magazines from the local library, lusting after forbidden jelly in the local shop, or chatting to the area's prostitutes, Osman quietly weaved in and out of different spheres.

But no one can be a go-between forever, and Osman's is a story of finding your own way, even if it means turning your back on the world you know.



[Click here to watch the editor's summary of *The Go-Between*](#)

UK Publication: April 2021

Rights Held: World

Other Rights: Clare Conville, C&W

Extent: 256 pages



OSMAN YOUSEFZADA was born in Birmingham. He studied anthropology at SOAS and fashion at Central Saint Martins. He later went on to do a Masters at Cambridge. As well as being nominated for various fashion awards, including the prestigious **British Fashion Council NEWGEN award** for three consecutive seasons, Osman has been nominated for the **Annual Designs of the Year Award** at the Design Museum and for a **Frieze Art Award**. He curates an annual collaborative journal, *The Collective*, a cross-disciplinary publication featuring artists, writers and other creatives. The Osman clothing line is sold internationally, and is worn by celebrities including Beyoncé, Lupita Nyong'o, Thandie Newton, Gwen Stefani, Emma Watson, Freida Pinto and many more. *The Go-Between* is his first book.

SMALL BODIES OF WATER

Nina Mingya Powles

Winner of the Nan Shepherd Prize 2019

Home is many people and places and languages, some separated by oceans.

In experimental and lyrical prose that blends personal memories and dreams with nature writing, *Small Bodies of Water* examines a girlhood spent growing up between two cultures.

From the rainforest waterfalls of Borneo to the wild coastline of New Zealand and the Ladies' Pond on Hampstead Heath, these poetic essays explore migration, food, family and the bodies of water that separate and connect us.

In *Small Bodies of Water*, Nina Mingya Powles explores topics such as growing up mixed-race, diaspora, family recipes, fruit, endangered butterflies, poetry, rainforests, earthquake anxiety and music.

Nina says: "It was only in 2017 that I first read a full-length book of nature writing by someone with a similar background to mine: a multilingual, mixed-race young woman. That book was *Turning* by Jessica J. Lee, whose work with *The Willowherb Review* is an ongoing inspiration and encouragement to me. I realised that people like me could be visible in the landscape, too. I realised I could also write about my own life in relation to water, mountains, plants, insects."

Praise for *Magnolia*, 木蘭:

'This is a book bursting with food and flowers and colour' Rachel Long



'*Magnolia*, 木蘭 reads . . . like a gorgeous love letter to Shanghai. This collection pays homage to all that the five senses might evoke, with a particular attention to the myriad of memories our taste buds conjure up through food and ritual' Mary Jean Chan

'This is a book of the body and the senses, whether the million tiny nerve endings of young love; the hunger that turns "your bones soft in the heat"; the painterly, edible, physical colour of flowers and the fabric lantern in the pattern of Maggie Cheung's blue cheongsam; or 'the soft scratchings of dusk'. These are poems of 'warm blue longing' and understated beauty, poems to linger over, taste, and taste again' Alison Wong

UK Publication:

August 2021

Rights Held: World

Other Rights: Kirsty McLachlan, David Godwin

Extent: 224 pages

NINA MINGYA POWLES is a writer, editor and publisher of mixed Malaysian-Chinese heritage. She is the author of the poetry collections *field notes on a downpour*, *Luminescent* and *Magnolia*, 木蘭, and *Tiny Moons*, a collection of food writing. She was the winner of the inaugural Nan Shepherd Prize, joint winner of the 2019 Landfall Essay Competition and the 2018 Women Poets' Prize. She is the founding editor of Bitter Melon 苦瓜, a small press that publishes limited-edition poetry pamphlets by Asian diaspora writers. Powles was born in New Zealand, partly grew up in China and now lives in London.

@ninamingya | ninapowles.com

ISLAND DREAMS

Mapping an Obsession

Gavin Francis

An exploration of isolation and connectedness based on thirty years of travel, from the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Adventures in Human Being* and *Empire Antarctica*

In *Island Dreams*, Gavin Francis recounts stories of his own travels and blends the personal with those great journeys from literature and metaphysical exploration. He explores the concept of islands and their place in our collective consciousness.

Comparing the life of freedom of over twenty years of extraordinary travel – from the Faroe Islands to the Aegean, from the Galapagos to the Andaman Islands – with his life of responsibility in middle age, as a doctor, parent and member of the community, *Island Dreams* riffs on the twin poles we all swing between, of rest and motion, never more relevant than in today's perennially connected world.

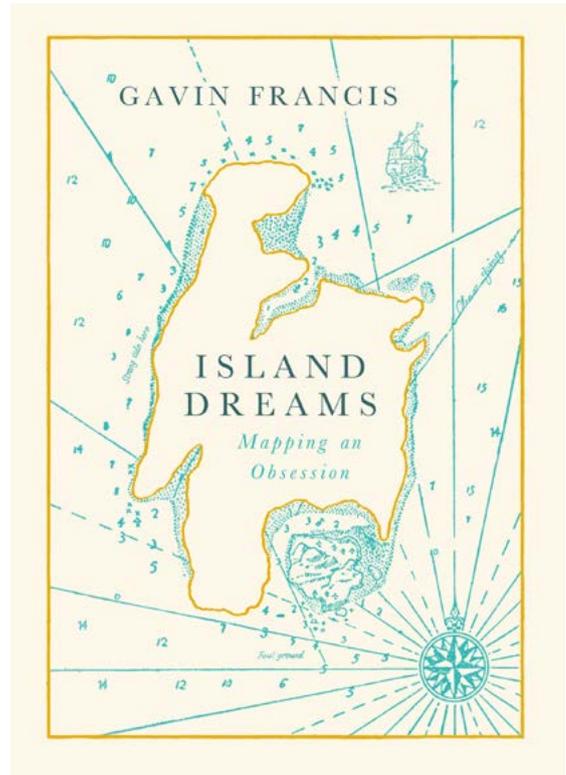
Illustrated with maps throughout, this is a celebration of human adventures in the world and within our minds.

'Gavin Francis is a wonderful writer – thoughtful, engaging, immensely knowledgeable and supremely human' *Bill Bryson*

'An intoxicating voyage during which maps become fictions and fictions verifiable facts. Myths of returning and older legends carry us out in a shared fugue of obsession and release. Here is a worthy companion to the dream labyrinths of Borges' *Iain Sinclair*

'Explores our fascination with islands' *Observer*

'Genre-defying' *Herald*



'Wonderful . . . Beautifully illustrated throughout, it's an enchanting meditation on rest and motion, independence and attachment, and what these mean in our hyper-connected world' *The Bookseller*

'[An] ode to navigation and adventure' *New Statesman*

'This gorgeous book from Gavin Francis looks at our collective fascination with islands by blending his own experiences with great voyages from literature as well as a splash of psychology and philosophy. It's at heart, an exploration of isolation and connectedness that's particularly timely' *The List*

UK Publication: October 2020

Rights Held: World
Rights Sold: Germany (DuMont), Italy (EDT)

Other Rights: Jenny Brown, Jenny Brown Associates

Extent: 256 pages



GAVIN FRANCIS is an award-winning writer and GP. He is the author of non-fiction titles *Adventures in Human Being* – which was a *Sunday Times* bestseller and won the Saltire Scottish Non-Fiction Book of the Year Award, *Shapeshifters*, *Empire Antarctica* – which won the Saltire Book of the Year Award and was shortlisted for the Ondaatje Prize and the Costa Prize, and *True North*. He has written for the *Guardian*, *The Times*, the *New York Review of Books* and the *London Review of Books*. He lives in Edinburgh.
gavinfranc.com | [gavinfrancis.com](https://twitter.com/gavinfrancis)

BORGES AND ME

An Encounter

Jay Parini

A memoir of a remarkable road trip through Scotland with Borges, from award-winning author Jay Parini

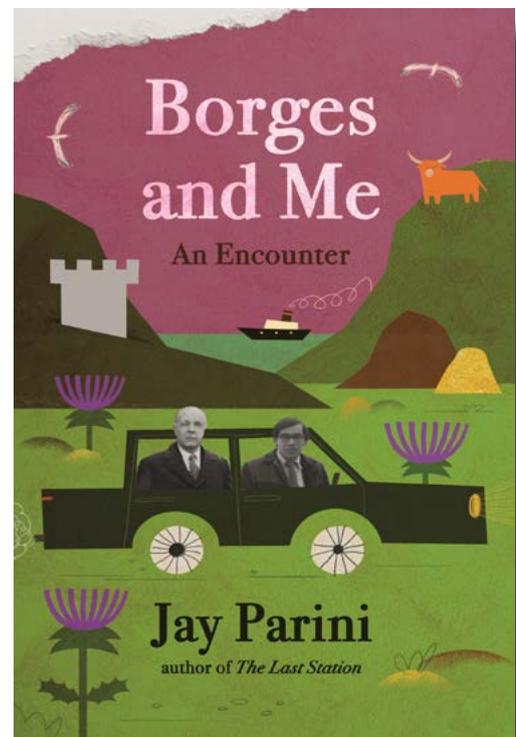
Fifty years ago, Jay Parini fled the United States for Scotland. He was in frantic flight from the Vietnam War and desperately in search of his adult life. There, through circumstance, he met Jorge Luis Borges.

Borges was blind, in his seventies and frail. Parini was asked to look after him while his translator was unexpectedly called away to a family emergency. When Borges heard that Parini owned a 1957 Morris Minor, he declared a long-held wish to see the Scottish Highlands and this unlikely couple soon set out. As they travelled among historic landmarks, the brilliantly chatty Borges took Parini on a grand tour of western literature and ideas while promising to teach him about love and poetry. Their escapades took a surreal turn on several occasions as Borges's world of labyrinths, mirrors and doubles shimmered into being.

Borges and Me is a classic road story, but also a magical tour of an era that mirrors our own, when uncertainties abound, and when – as ever – it's the young and the old who hear voices and dream dreams.

'A jewel of a book. Very funny, clever, moving, luminous with love of literature and landscape' *Ian McEwan*

'The memoir is an important contribution to the biography of a major writer . . . For readers who already admire Borges, this memoir will be a delicious treat. For those who have yet to read him, Parini provides the perfect entry point to a writer who altered the way many think of literature' *New York Times Book Review*



'A classic comic-philosophical road story, playfully conscious of its own traditions . . . A fun, tightly crafted, tender-hearted literary adventure, an improbable tale that, like many improbable tales, happens to be true' *Wall Street Journal*

'A tender bond forms between the eccentric sage and his caretaker . . . Fans of both Borges and Parini will delight in this touching coming-of-age memoir' *Times Literary Supplement*

'A captivating chronicle and homage' *Kirkus Reviews*

UK Publication: August 2021

Rights Held: World excl. North America (Doubleday)

Rights Sold: Argentina/Spain (Planeta Argentina), China (Yilin Press), Turkey (Sia Kitap)

Other Rights: Peggy Boulos Smith, Writers House

Extent: 320 pages



JAY PARINI is Axinn Professor of English at Middlebury College, Vermont. His six novels include *The Last Station* and *The Apprentice Lover*. In addition to biographies of John Steinbeck, Robert Frost and William Faulkner, he has written a volume of essays on literature and politics, as well as *The Art of Teaching*. He edited *The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Literature* and writes regularly for the *Guardian* and other publications. jayparini.com

Backlist: *The Last Station*, *The Passage of Herman Melville*.

EXPLORER

The Quest for Adventure

Benedict Allen

This enquiry into the explorer mindset is part meditation, part memoir, from one of the *Daily Telegraph's* greatest ever British explorers

What does it mean to be an explorer in the 21st century?

Explorer is the story of what first led Benedict Allen to head for the farthest reaches of our planet – at a time when there were still valleys and ranges known only to the remote communities who inhabited them. It is also the story of why, thirty years later, he is still exploring. It's the story of a journey back to a clouded mountain in New Guinea to find a man called Korsai who had once been a friend, and to fulfil a promise made as young men. It is also a story of what it is to be 'lost' and 'found'.

Honest, sensitive and packed with insight, in *Explorer* Allen considers the lessons he has learnt from his numerous expeditions – most importantly, from the communities he has encountered: there is a value in disconnecting from all that we are familiar with, particularly in today's crowded world. And there is a value in connecting with worlds unfamiliar to us, some of whom have lived in harmony, not competition, with nature for generations.

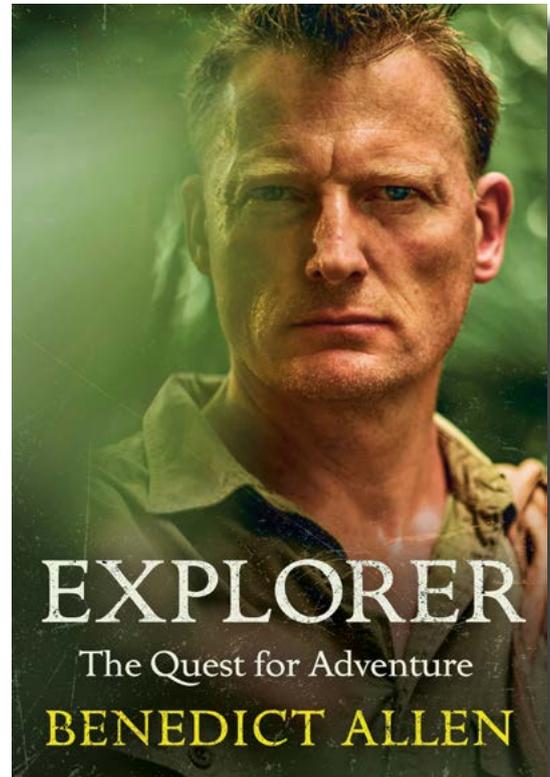
We explore not to plant a flag, or leave a mark, but to open up and allow the place and people to leave their mark on us.



[Click here to watch Benedict talk about Explorer](#)

UK Publication: March 2021
Rights Held: World
Other Rights: Victoria Hobbs, A M Heath
Extent: 288 pages

BENEDICT ALLEN is an explorer, and a former member of Council and Trustee of the Royal Geographical Society, Patron of the Environmental Justice Foundation, The Tony Foundation and Save the Rhino Trust. He is the editor of *The Faber Book of Exploration*.
@benedictallen | benedictallen.com



Praise for *The Faber Book of Exploration*:

'Immaculately edited and shrewdly considered . . . a hugely readable compendium' *Independent on Sunday*

'A monumental feat of compilation and editing, and will satisfy every armchair traveller' *Literary Review*

'A generous, handsome volume, that will provide hours upon hours of absorption and revelation' *The Times*

THE SECRET POLITICAL ADVISER

The Unredacted Files of The Man in the Room Next Door

Michael Spicer

This journal contains satirical advice to politicians ranging from Boris Johnson to Kim Jong-un, from *The Man in the Room Next Door*

Just who is the secret political adviser calling himself *The Man in the Room Next Door*? No one knows. We don't even know his name.

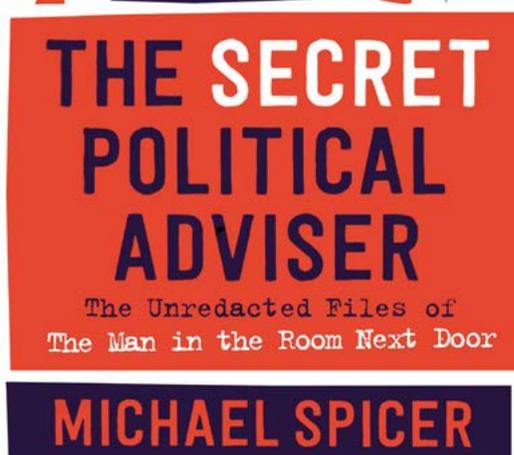
But now the lid is about to be blown clean off, because the secret files of the world's most influential* political media adviser are published in this book. Packed with letters, memos, texts, tweets, emails, journal entries, leaked documents and crude doodles, these pages will reveal who *The Man in the Room Next Door* is and, more importantly, his thoughts on those who employ his services, including Donald 'dangerous puffin' Trump, Boris 'posh motorboat' Johnson and some of their least competent colleagues.

This book is the evidence that anyone can be a world leader. Just as long as they're wearing the right earpiece.

*fictional

'Michael Spicer's hilarious trove of emails, texts and diary entries reveal more of the man in "the Room Next Door" and the perils and pratfalls of being a political adviser. I grinned throughout like a loon. The book that governments wouldn't want you to see. So see it!' **Sanjeev Bhaskar**

'This is the sort of book you might read on public transport and then spend the entire journey trying to stifle laughter. Spicer is a FUNNY MAN. This is going to be under a lot of Christmas Trees this year and rightly so. It is a Treat' **Diane Morgan**



Praise for Michael Spicer:

'Hilarious . . . turn[s] bumbling speeches into comedy gold' *Evening Standard*

UK Publication:

October 2020

Rights Held: World

Other Rights:

Kate Haldane, PBJ
Management

Extent: 192 pages



MICHAEL SPICER is a comedy writer, actor, director and the creator of the internet sensation *The Room Next Door*. His sketches and short films on YouTube and Twitter have resulted in international media attention, with his secret political adviser making appearances on *The Late Late Show* in the US. The story of Spicer's life before his overnight success is now a Radio 4 show, titled *Before Next Door*. He has written and performed in a variety of online comedy projects for Channel 4, Hat Trick and Comedy Central, and is a regular on *The Mash Report* on BBC Two.

@MrMichaelSpicer | michaelspicer.co.uk

Rob Sears

CHOOSE YOUR OWN APOCALYPSE, WITH KIM JONG-UN & FRIENDS

There are many ways civilisation could end, even with wise, benevolent leaders like Kim Jong-un, Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin watching over us. Now, in this fun interactive story of global doom, YOU decide how humanity perishes. Will we be turned to grey goo by Elon Musk's nanobots? Driven collectively insane by Russia's most potent memes? Or smashed to atoms by someone sitting on the wrong button in North Korea?

In this book, YOU will meet the leaders with the future of civilisation in their hands. And YOUR wits and judgement will decide how we all inevitably die. Or then again, maybe, just maybe, with a little positive thinking, YOU will find a way to keep us all safe long enough to expire of old age and global warming instead. Just don't get too hopeful. On every page of *Choose Your Own Apocalypse, with Kim Jong-un & Friends*, the end of your choice is most definitely nigh.

VLADIMIR PUTIN: LIFE COACH

What can the rise and reign of this century's most feared politician teach us about life, work and love? Rob Sears shows how the machinations that enabled Putin to dominate the Kremlin and undermine the United States of America could also help you take control of your mundane life.

Filled with stories from Putin's extraordinary time in power, and ideas and illustrations to help you emulate him on a small scale, *Vladimir Putin: Life Coach* is the ultimate guide to releasing the pseudo-elected, judo black belt, 5D chess-playing autocrat inside each and every one of us.

Praise for *The Beautiful Poetry of Donald Trump*:

'A triumph' *Telegraph*



UK Publication: October 2019

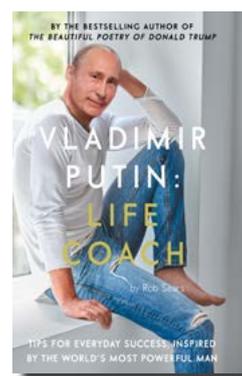
Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Finland (Aula), Italy (Il Saggiatore), Spain (Planeta)

Option Publishers: Estonia (Tanapaev), Germany (Goldmann), Netherlands (Het Spectrum)

Other Rights: Gordon Wise, Curtis Brown

Extent: 160 pages



UK Publication: September 2018

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Estonia (Tanapaev), Finland (Aula), Germany (Goldmann), Netherlands (Het Spectrum), Spain (Debate)

Other Rights: Gordon Wise, Curtis Brown

Extent: 160 pages



ROB SEARS has written comedy and fiction for McSweeney's and is the author of the hit humour titles *The Beautiful Poetry of Donald Trump* and *Vladimir Putin: Life Coach*. He lives in Finsbury Park with his wife Grace.

COMING UNDONE

A Memoir

Terri White

To everyone else, Terri White appeared to be living the dream, named one of Folio's Top Women in US Media and accruing further awards for the magazines she was editing. In reality, she was rapidly skidding towards a mental health crisis that would land her in a locked psychiatric ward as her past caught up with her.

Coming Undone is Terri's documentation of her unravelling, and her precarious navigation back from a life in pieces.

'Breathtaking' *Dolly Alderton*

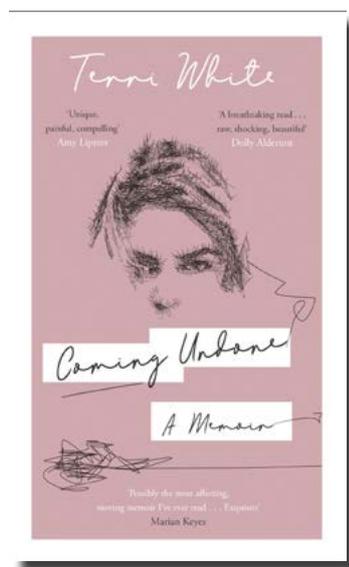
'Remarkable' *Marian Keyes*

'Some stories are so important they demand to be told'
Cosmopolitan

'Exceptionally brave and brilliant' *Good Housekeeping*

'Bitingly honest' *Independent*

TERRI WHITE is Editor-in-Chief of *Empire* magazine, having previously edited some of the most read titles in the UK and US, including *Time Out* New York and *Shortlist*, where she was named **Men's Magazine Editor of the Year**. She has also written for the *Guardian* and the *Pool*. @Terri_White



UK Publication: July 2020

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Germany (Bastei Luebbe)

Other Rights: Anna Pallai, AMP
Literary

Extent: 256 pages

THE ART OF REST

How to Find Respite in the Modern Age

Claudia Hammond

Much of value has been written about sleep, but rest is different; it is how we unwind, calm our minds and recharge our bodies.

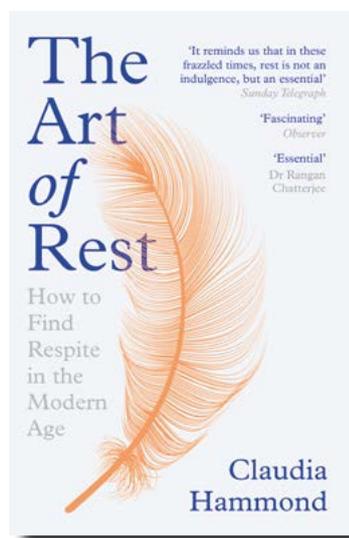
The Art of Rest draws on ground-breaking research Claudia Hammond collaborated on: 'The Rest Test', the largest global survey into rest ever undertaken, completed by 18,000 people across 135 different countries. The survey revealed how people get rest and how it is directly linked to your sense of wellbeing.

Counting down through the top ten activities which people find most restful, Hammond explains why rest matters, examines the science behind the results to establish what really works and offers a roadmap for a new, more restful and balanced life.

'Fascinating, entertaining and lucidly written' *Observer*

CLAUDIA HAMMOND is an award-winning writer and broadcaster and lectures in psychology at Boston University's base in London. As the presenter of *All in the Mind* she is BBC Radio 4's voice of psychology and mental health.
@claudiahammond | claudiahammond.com

Backlist: *Time Warped*, *Mind Over Money*



UK Publication: November 2019

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: China (Citic), Germany (DuMont), Greece (Brainfood), Italy (Il Saggiatore), Japan (Tac), Korea (Woongjin Think Big), Netherlands (Atlas-Contact), Poland (Czarna Owca), Romania (Baroque Books and Arts), Russia (Gayatri), Taiwan (Business Weekly), Thailand (B2S), Ukraine (Yakaboo), Vietnam (Stylory)

Other Rights: Will Francis, Janklow & Nesbit

Extent: 304 pages

STORIES WE TELL OURSELVES

Making Meaning in a Meaningless Universe

Richard Holloway

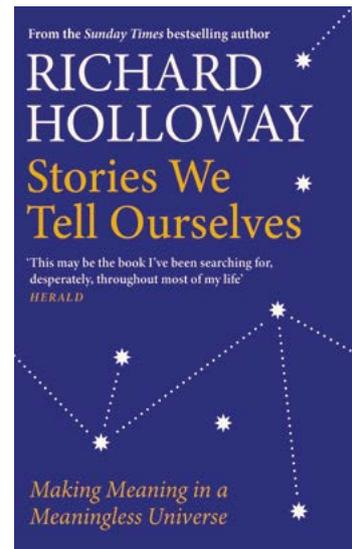
Throughout history we have told ourselves stories to try and make sense of what it all means: our place in a small corner of one of billions of galaxies, at the end of billions of years of existence. In this new book Richard Holloway takes us on a personal, scientific and philosophical journey to explore what he believes the answers to the biggest of questions are. He examines what we know about the universe into which – without any choice in the matter – we are propelled at birth and from which we are expelled at death, the stories we have told about where we come from, and the stories we tell to get through this muddling experience of life.

Thought-provoking, revelatory, compassionate and playful, *Stories We Tell Ourselves* is a personal reckoning with life's mysteries by one of the most important and beloved thinkers of our time.

'An engaging, erudite explanation of how he came to be where he now stands and is a warning against the cruel righteousness of many belief systems' *Sunday Times*

RICHARD HOLLOWAY was Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church. A former Gresham Professor of Divinity and Chairman of the Joint Board of the Scottish Arts Council and Scottish Screen, he is a fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. *Leaving Alexandria* won the **PEN/Ackerley Prize** and was shortlisted for the **Orwell Prize**. His most recent book, *Waiting for the Last Bus*, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller.

Backlist: *On Forgiveness, Doubts and Loves, Looking in the Distance, Leaving Alexandria, Waiting for the Last Bus*



UK Publication: July 2020

Rights Held: World

Options Publishers: Italy (Stile Libero), Korea (Bookie)

Other Rights: Caroline Dawnay, United Agents

Extent: 272 pages

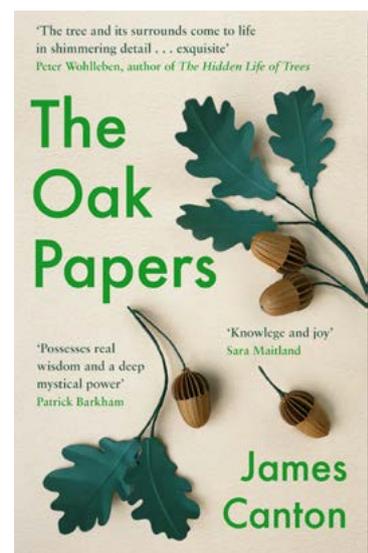
THE OAK PAPERS

James Canton

James Canton spent two years sitting with and studying the Honeywood Oak. A colossus of a tree, it would have been a sapling when the Magna Carta was signed. Inevitably he needs to slow down in order to appreciate it fully, to tune in to its slower time frame, to connect with the ecosystem that lives around it, inside it and beneath it. He examines our long-standing dependency on the oak, and how that has developed and morphed into myth and legend. *The Oak Papers* is a stunning, meditative and healing book about the lessons we can learn from the natural world, if only we slow down enough to listen.

'An enchanting piece of nature writing and a meditation on finding connection in a disconnected world' *Independent*

JAMES CANTON runs the Wild Writing MA at the University of Essex and has done since its inception in 2009. He is the author of *Ancient Wonderings* (2017) and *Out of Essex: Re-Imagining a Literary Landscape* (2013) which was inspired by his rural wandering in East Anglia. He was awarded his PhD by the University of Essex and reviews for the *TLS*, *Caught by the River* and *Earthlines*. Canton is a regular on television and radio, and lectures frequently. @jamescanton



UK Publication: July 2020

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Australia (Black Inc), Germany (DuMont), Korea (Hangilsa), North America (Harper One)

Other Rights: Jessica Woollard, David Higham Associates

Extent: 256 pages

STRANGER THAN KINDNESS

Nick Cave

This highly collectable book invites the reader into the innermost core of the creative process and paves the way for an entirely new and intimate meeting with the artist, presenting Cave's life, work and inspiration and exploring his many real and imagined universes. It features full colour reproductions of original artwork, handwritten lyrics, photographs and collected personal artefacts along with commentary and meditations from Nick Cave, Janine Bolland and Darcey Steinke.

Stranger Than Kindness asks what shapes our lives and makes us who we are, and celebrates the curiosity and power of the creative spirit.

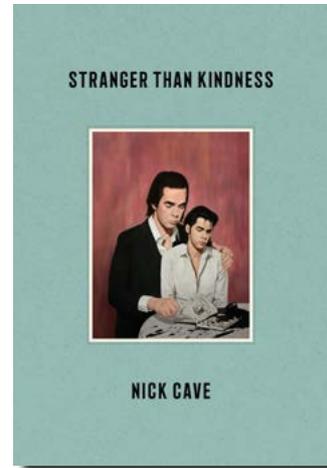
'Goes deep into Cave's creative process, via his artwork, lyrics and photographs, and his ever-succinct commentary' *Guardian*

'A fascinating read, doubly so when listening to Cave perform the songs his obsessive evidence-gathering informs' *The Times*

NICK CAVE has been performing music for more than thirty years and is best known as the songwriter and lead singer of *Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds*, whose latest album *Ghosteen* was widely received as their best work ever. Cave's body of work also covers a wider range of media and modes of expression including film score composition and writing of novels. His recent *Conversations* events and *Red Hand Files* website have seen Cave exploring deeper and more direct relationships with his fans.

Backlist: *The Sick Bag Song*, *The Death of Bunny Munro*

A Sunday Times
bestseller



UK Publication: March 2020

Rights Held: World

Rights Sold: Finland (Like), France (Michel Lafon), Germany (Kiepenheuer & Witsch), Italy (Il Saggiatore), Mexico/Spain (Sexto Piso), North America (HarperCollins)

Other Rights: Suzi Goodrich, ATC Management

Extent: 276 pages

A LONG STRIDE

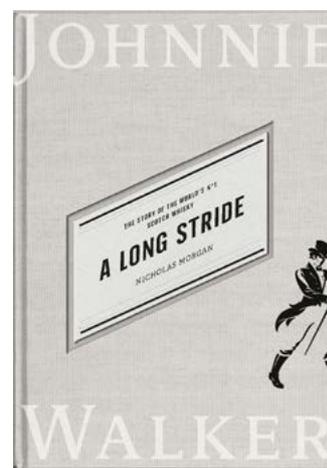
The Story of the World's No.1 Scotch Whisky

Nicholas Morgan

The history of Johnnie Walker, beginning in 1820, is also the history of Scotch whisky. But who was John Walker – the man who started the story? And how did his business grow from the shelves of a small grocery shop in Kilmarnock to become the world's No. 1 Scotch?

A Long Stride tells the story of how John Walker and a succession of ingenious and progressive business leaders embraced their Scottish roots to walk confidently on an international stage. Ultimately the story is a testament to how an obsession with quality and a relentless drive to always move forward created the most recognised Scotch whisky brand in the world.

NICHOLAS MORGAN is Head of Whisky Outreach, tasked with reinvigorating heritage blends, including Johnnie Walker. He is the winner of an Outstanding Achievement in **Scotch Whisky Award**. His work has earned him a place on the **Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trustee** board, further supporting excellence in British Craftsmanship. Nicholas was made the forty-eighth inductee into the Whisky Hall of Fame in March 2018. He lives in London.



UK Publication:

October 2020

Rights Held: World

Other Rights: Diageo

Extent: 336 pages

BE MY GUEST

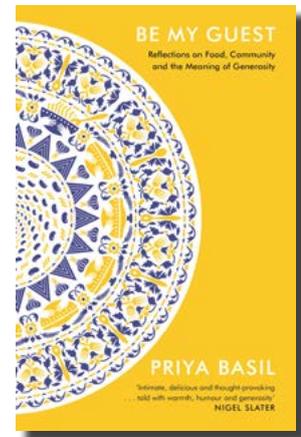
Reflections on Food, Community and the Meaning of Generosity

Priya Basil

The dinner table, among friends, is where the best conversations take place – talk about the world, religion, politics, culture, love and cooking. In the same way, *Be My Guest* is a conversation about all these things, mediated through the sharing of food. We live in a world where some have too much and others not enough, where migrants and refugees are both welcomed and vilified, and where most of us spend less and less time cooking and eating together. Priya Basil explores the meaning and limits of hospitality today, and in doing so she invites us to consider that how much we have in common may depend on what we are willing to share.

‘A powerful meditation on hospitality . . . Packed with such brilliance’
Observer, Best Food Book of the Year

PRIYA BASIL was born in London to a family with Indian roots and grew up in Kenya. She is a novelist and essay-writer whose work has been nominated for the **Commonwealth Writers’ Prize**, the **Dylan Thomas Prize** and the **International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award**. She is the co-founder of Authors for Peace, a political platform for writers and artists. She lives in Berlin.
priyabasil.com



UK Publication: October 2019
Rights Held: World excl. Germany (Suhrkamp)
Rights Sold: France (Delcourt), Italy (Il Saggiatore), Spain (Plataforma), US (Knopf)
Other Rights: Nora Mercurio, Suhrkamp
Extent: 128 pages

RADICAL ACTS OF LOVE

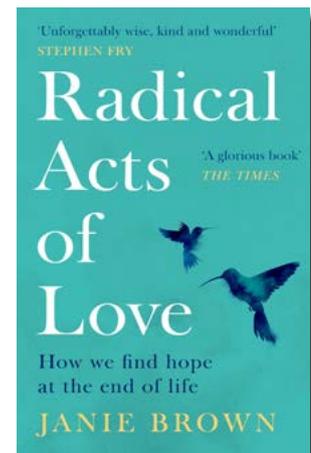
How We Find Hope at the End of Life

Janie Brown

In *Radical Acts of Love*, Janie Brown, oncology nurse of 30 years and counsellor of cancer patients with terminal diagnoses, recounts twenty conversations she has had with the dying, including those personally close to her. Each conversation uncovers a different perspective and experience of death, while at the same time exploring its universalities. As well as offering an extremely sensitive and wise insight into our final moments, Brown offers practical ways to facilitate the shift from feeling helpless about death to feeling hopeful; from fear to acceptance; from feeling disconnected and alone, to becoming part of the wider, collective story of all our mortality.

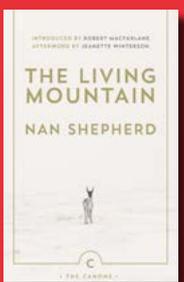
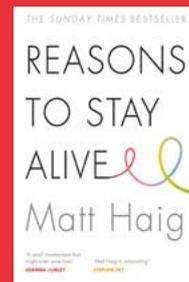
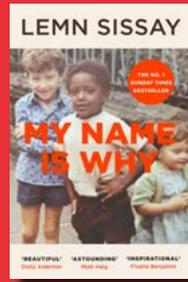
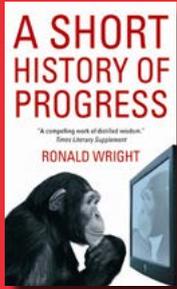
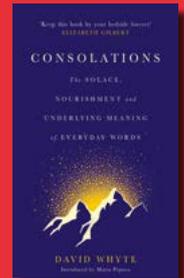
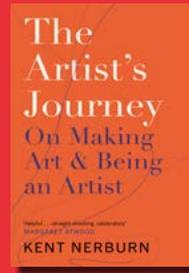
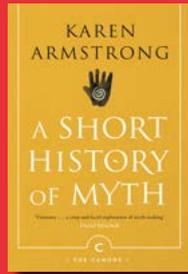
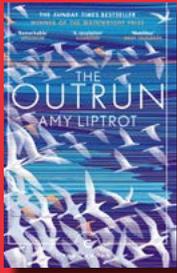
‘Insightful, wise and life-affirming, Brown’s book teaches us that sharing someone’s final weeks is perhaps the most radical act of love we can offer’ *Guardian*

JANIE BROWN was born in Epsom, England, and raised in Scotland from the age of four. She has worked for more than thirty years as an oncology nurse and counsellor, and in 1995 founded the Callanish Society, a grassroots non-profit organisation for people living with, and dying from, cancer, based in Vancouver (callanish.org). She presents nationally and internationally, has published in professional journals, and writes a widely-read blog.
janiebrown.com



UK Publication: March 2020
Rights Held: World
Rights Sold: Canada (Doubleday), China (Sichuan Literature and Art), Netherlands (Meulenhoff), Taiwan (Star Publishing)
Other Rights: Jason Bartholomew, The BKS Agency
Extent: 304 pages

RECENT FAVOURITES



THE OUTRUN by Amy Liptrot

The Sunday Times runaway bestseller – an exhilarating nature memoir about recovering from alcoholism in Orkney
Rights Sold: China (Beijing Land of Wisdom Books), Finland (Viisas Elämä Oy), France (GLOBE), Georgia (Klio), Germany (btb), Korea (KL Publishing Inc.), Netherlands (Ambo/Anthos), Poland (Marginesy), Romania (Black Button Books), Russia (Ad Marginem Press), Spain (Volcano Libros), Sweden (Albert Bonniers), Taiwan (Ecus), US (Norton)

A SHORT HISTORY OF MYTH by Karen Armstrong

A 'visionary . . . crisp and lucid exploration of myth-making' David Mitchell
Rights Sold: Australia (Text), Azerbaijan (European Azerbaijan Society), Canada (Knopf), French Canada (Boréal), China (Chongqing), France (Flammarion), Korea (Munhakdonge), Spain (Siruela), Taiwan (Business Weekly), US (Grove Atlantic)

THE ARTIST'S JOURNEY: ON MAKING ART AND BEING AN ARTIST by Kent Nerburn

Guidance and wisdom for young artists, from award-winning artist and writer Kent Nerburn

CONSOLATIONS: THE SOLACE, NOURISHMENT AND UNDERLYING MEANING OF EVERYDAY WORDS

David Whyte explores the underlying meaning of 52 ordinary words, with an introduction by Maria Popova
Rights Sold: China (Beijing Green Beans Book Co. Ltd.), Italy (TEA), Korea (Catholic Publishing House), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Spain (Koan Libros), Taiwan (ACME)

A SHORT HISTORY OF PROGRESS by Ronald Wright

Inspiring a documentary featuring Margaret Atwood, Stephen Hawking and Jane Goodall, *A Short History of Progress* examines the downside of human advancement

Rights Sold: China (Beijing Times), Taiwan (Ye-Ren)

MY NAME IS WHY by Lemn Sissay

The Number One Sunday Times Bestseller. A memoir with a message – about growing up in care and finding hope, determination and creativity – from British poet and national treasure Lemn Sissay

Rights Sold: Mozambique (Editora Trinta Zero Nove)

REASONS TO STAY ALIVE by Matt Haig

The Number One Bestseller – warm, witty, honest and human, a manifesto for staying alive, whatever your demons
Rights Sold: Arabic Worldwide (Kalamat), Argentina (Planeta), Azerbaijan (The European Azerbaijan Society), Brazil (Intrinseca), Bulgaria (Intense/Locus), Canada (HarperCollins), China (Post Wave Publishing Consulting), Croatia (Mozaik Knjiga), Czech Republic (Dobrovsky), Denmark (Tiderne Skifter), Estonia (Varrak), Finland (Viisas Elämä Oy), France (Philippe Rey), Germany (DTV), Greece (Patakis), Hungary (Libri Könyvkiadó), India (Manjul), Indonesia (PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama), Iran (Elmi-Farhangi), Israel (Matar), Italy (E/O), Japan (Hayakawa), Korea (KPI), Latvia (Zvaigzne ABC), Lithuania (Sofoklis), Netherlands (Lebowski), Norway (Libretto), Poland (Sonia Draga), Portugal (Porto), Romania (Nemira), Russia (Eksmo), Slovak Republic (Premedia), Slovenia (Učila), Spain Catalan (Empuries), Sweden (Massolit), Taiwan (CommonWealth), Ukraine (RANOK), US (Penguin), Vietnam (Bloom Books)

THE LIVING MOUNTAIN by Nan Shepherd

A masterpiece of nature writing introduced by Robert Macfarlane and with an afterword by Jeanette Winterson
Rights Sold: China (ThinKingDom), Denmark (A Mock Book), France (Christian Bourgois), Germany (Matthes & Seitz), Italy (Ponte alle Grazie), Korea (Tindrum), Netherlands (Arbeiderspers), Poland (Zysk), Slovenia (UMco), Spain (Errata Naturae), Spain Catalan (Sidilla), Taiwan (ThinKingDom), Turkey (Kolektif)

RECENT ACQUISITIONS & FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

FICTION

VINEGAR AND HONEY by Molly Aitken (World)

Other Rights: Hellie Ogden, Janklow & Nesbit / March 2022

THAT OLD COUNTRY MUSIC by Kevin Barry (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)

Other Rights: Lucy Luck, C&W / October 2020

MCGROTTY AND LUDMILLA and THE FALL OF KELVIN WALKER by Alasdair Gray (World)

Other Rights: Zoe Waldie, Rogers, Coleridge & White / both February 2021

EVEN PRETTY EYES by M. J. Hyland (World)

Other Rights: Canongate Books / February 2022

MISSIONARIES by Phil Klay (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)

Other Rights: Matilda Forbes Watson, WME / October 2020

HOW BEAUTIFUL WE WERE by Imbolo Mbue (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)

Other Rights: Peggy Boulos Smith, Writers House / March 2021

COSMOGRAMMA by Courttia Newland (World)

Other Rights: Crystal Mahey-Morgan, OWN IT! / November 2021

THE APRIL DEAD by Alan Parks (World English)

Other Rights: Tom Witcombe, Blake Friedmann / March 2021

WHO KNOWS? by Lemn Sissay, illustrated by Greg Stobbs (World)

Other Rights: Gordon Wise, Curtis Brown / March 2022

ORDESA by Manuel Vilas (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)

Other Rights: Sandra Pareja, Casanovas & Lynch / November 2020

THE CUTTING ROOM SEQUEL by Louise Welsh (World English)

Other Rights: Sam Copeland, Rogers, Coleridge & White / August 2021

WE by Yevgeny Zamyatin, translated by Bela Shayevich (World)

Other Rights: Canongate / November 2020

NON-FICTION

NONE OF THE ABOVE by Travis Alabanza (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)

Other Rights: Philippa Sitters, DGA / August 2022

LOUIS WAIN'S CATS by Chris Beetles (World)

Other Rights: N/A / October 2021

THE IMMORTAL SISTERHOOD by Gemma Cairney (World)

Other Rights: Becky Thomas, Johnson & Alcock / June 2022

TWO TRIBES by Keggie Carew (World)

Other Rights: Patrick Walsh, PEW Literary Agency / February 2022

THE SEA TRILOGY and LOST WOODS by Rachel Carson (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)

Other Rights: Ben Fowler, Abner Stein / October 2020 and April 2022

COWARD by Tim Clare (World)
Other Rights: Sophie Lambert, C&W / January 2022

THE EDGE OF THE PLAIN by James Crawford (World)
Other Rights: Maggie Hattersley, Maggie Pearlstine Associates / April 2022

THE NASHVILLE NOTEBOOK and SELECTED NOTEBOOKS and SELECTED LETTERS by Leonard Cohen (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: Andrew Wylie, The Wylie Agency / October 2022, October 2022 and October 2023

THE MAN WHO DREW CATS by Rodney Dale (World)
Other Rights: N/A / October 2021

WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN by Max Dickins (World)
Other Rights: Laura McNeill, Gleam Features / May 2022

ALL THE FREQUENT TROUBLE OF OUR DAYS by Rebecca Donner (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: James Gill, United Agents / July 2021

SEE/SAW by Geoff Dyer (UK & Commonwealth)
Other Rights: Sarah Chalfant, Wylie Agency (UK) / May 2021

TIME ON ROCK by Anna Fleming (World)
Other Rights: James Macdonald Lockhart, Antony Harwood Ltd. / February 2022

PARADISE by Alasdair Gray (World)
Other Rights: Jenny Brown, Jenny Brown Associates / November 2020

THE COMFORT BOOK by Matt Haig (World)
Other Rights: Clare Conville, C&W / July 2021

THE ART OF KINDNESS by Claudia Hammond (World)
Other Rights: Will Francis, Janklow & Nesbit / December 2022

HOW SOON IS NOW by Mark Hodgkinson (World)
Other Rights: Kevin Pocklington, The North Literary Agency / August 2021

TRUE BELIEVERS by Joshua Jelly-Schapiro (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: Zoe Pagnamenta, Zoe Pagnamenta Agency / August 2023

ALL FOURS by Miranda July (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: Sarah Chalfant, Wylie Agency / February 2023

STAY WOKE, KIDS! by Kazvare Knox (World)
Other Rights: N/A / September 2021

THE INSTANT by Amy Liptrot (World)
Other Rights: James Macdonald Lockhart, Antony Harwood Ltd. / January 2022

THE UNUSUAL SUSPECT by Ben Machell (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: Richard Pike, C&W / January 2021

PULLING THE CHARIOT OF THE SUN by Shane McCrae (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: Natasha Fairweather, Rogers, Coleridge & White / January 2023

THINGS I HAVE WITHHELD by Kei Miller (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: Harriet Moore, David Higham Associates / May 2021

I AM NISMAN by Denise Mina (World)
Other Rights: Peter Robinson, Rogers, Coleridge & White / August 2022

THE SECRET HISTORY OF HERE and THE LOST BOUNDS OF ENGLAND by Alistair Moffat (World)
Other Rights: David Godwin, David Godwin Associates / June 2021 and June 2022

SHE CARRIES MY NAME by N.S. Nuseibeh (World)
Other Rights: Clare Alexander, Aitken Alexander Associates / March 2022

THE GOLDEN TREASURY OF SCOTTISH VERSE edited by Don Paterson & Kathleen Jamie (World)
Other Rights: Don Paterson: Peter Straus, RCW; Kathleen Jamie: Jenny Brown, Jenny Brown Associates / September 2021

HOMELANDS by Chitra Ramaswamy (World)
Other Rights: Jenny Brown, Jenny Brown Associates / April 2022

BLOOD LEGACY by Alex Renton (World)
Other Rights: Jenny Brown, Jenny Brown Associates / May 2021

MAGICAL THINKING (FOR REALISTS) by David Robson (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: Carrie Plitt, Felicity Bryan Associates / December 2021

BI: THE SCIENCE OF THE SEXUALLY IN-BETWEEN by Julia Shaw (UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada)
Other Rights: Kirsty McLachlan, David Godwin Associates / June 2022

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‘We only need to be one person. We only need to feel one existence. We don’t have to do everything in order to be everything. We are already infinite. While we are alive we always contain possibility’

Matt Haig
The Midnight Library

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