

JULY–DECEMBER 2026

CANON GATE



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We believe books can create joy, excite curiosity, foster empathy and change lives, so we amplify voices that need to be heard, share stories that deserve to last and, in everything we do, strive to be fair, brave and socially responsible. In 2024 we became the first UK trade publisher to be certified as a B Corporation in recognition of our positive impact on our communities, our colleagues and the world at large.

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Corporation

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DAVE EGGERS

*'A book of profundity, humanity
and ravishing beauty'*

Andrew Sean Greer

Contrapposto



Dave Eggers is the author of many books, among them *The Every*, *The Circle*, *The Monk of Mokha*, *A Hologram for the King*, *What Is the What*, and *The Museum of Rain*. He is the cofounder of 826 National, a network of youth writing centers, and Voice of Witness, an oral history book series that illuminates the stories of those impacted by human rights crises. A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Eggers has been a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Award, and the National Book Critics Circle Award, and is the recipient of the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, the American Book Award and the Newbery Medal, for the most distinguished contribution to children's literature with *The Eyes and the Impossible*.

✉ daveeggers.net

Contrapposto

DAVE EGGERS

Twenty years in the making, a novel about art, life and the complicated beauty of both – from the author of *The Circle* and *A Hologram for the King*

'A book of profundity, humanity and ravishing beauty – the only kind of book I want to read'
Andrew Sean Greer, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Less*

'Heartbreaking, funny and effortlessly relatable – I loved *Contrapposto*. It spoke deeply to me about love and the artistic life, and the alchemy that skill and passion create in a young artist'
Benedict Cumberbatch

Cricket is just a shy kid who likes drawing when he first meets Olympia. She's older, more confident; she bullies him into some light vandalism and instantly he's in love. When they're together, they talk about their futures, how they're going to travel the world, the beauty and rapture of art.

Then those futures start to arrive in unexpected ways, the years and decades pile up between them, the art world seduces and disappoints and frustrates them. And they have to figure out, again and again, what it is to be an artist, and who and what to love.

This is a wild and beautiful novel about two friends who believe they can change the world, if only they can start their own movement, dodge charlatans, remain open-eyed and open-hearted, avoid going mad, avoid dying young of rare cancers, stay true to their ideals and never tire of beauty. Not easy, but not impossible, either.

2 July 2026

Hardback Fiction 432pp

Royal HB £20

9781837266807

Export TPB £16.99

9781837267378

Ebook £15.99

9781837266814

Audiobook £30

9781837266821

Rights:

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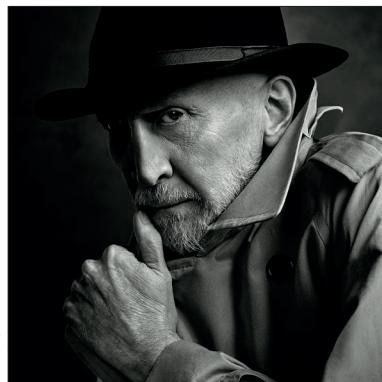
FRANK MILLER

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR OF *BATMAN: THE DARK KNIGHT RETURNS*



PUSH THE WALL

MY LIFE, WRITING, DRAWING, AND THE ART OF STORYTELLING



Frank Miller is an award-winning comic book writer, artist novelist, inker, screenwriter, film director and producer best known for *Daredevil*, *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns*, *Sin City* and *300*, among others. He also co-authored the YA novel, *Cursed* with Tom Wheeler, which was adapted to a Netflix show. His projects have been nominated for the Palme d'Or and have won the Harvey and Eisner Awards, including those for Best Writer/Artist, Best Graphic Novel Reprint, Best Cartoonist, Best Cover Artist, Best Limited Series, and Best Short Story. In 2015, Miller was inducted into the Will Eisner Award Hall of Fame for his lifetime contribution to the industry. Miller resides in New York City.

FrankMillerInk.com

Push the Wall

My Life, Writing, Drawing and the Art of Storytelling

FRANK MILLER

A masterclass in the art of storytelling from the creator of *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns* and *Sin City*, Frank Miller

'The Michelangelo of the modern age' George Lucas

In *Push the Wall*, Frank Miller chronicles the creation of his most iconic works such as *Sin City*, *300*, *Ronin*, *Daredevil*, *Wolverine* and notably, *Batman: The Dark Knight Returns*, which, alongside *Batman: Year One* served as the foundation for all Batman film and animated adaptations for the past forty years.

Miller reveals how he got his first breaks, how he poured his own life into his darkly realistic characters, how he fought against comic book censorship of the early 1980s, and how he introduced manga-style storytelling to US readers a decade before popular anime and manga began tiptoeing into pop culture. Miller transformed the way comics are told and this is how he did it.

Push the Wall is a masterclass in the art of storytelling and an intimate look inside the mind and life of a creative genius. With over a dozen illustrations, chosen from seminal moments from Miller's art, and organised by the sixteen lessons that meant most to Miller, this reveals the man behind some of the most exciting stories of our age.

16 July 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 224pp

Royal HB £26

9781837262144

Ebook £19.99

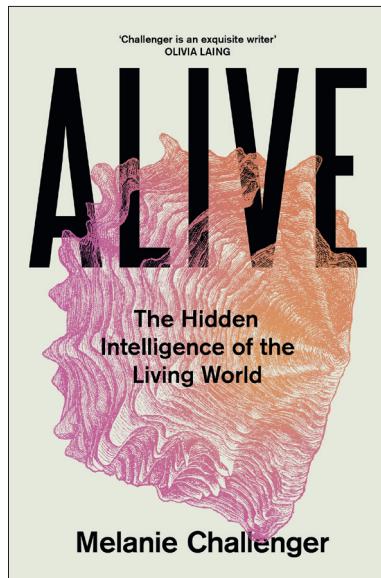
9781837262168

Audiobook £30.99

9781837262151

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

melaniechallenger.com



Also by Melanie Challenger
How to Be Animal £10.99 (9781786895752)

Alive

The Hidden Intelligence of the Living World

MELANIE CHALLENGER

A bold and beguiling journey into the unexpected interactions between organisms on our planet by award-winning researcher Melanie Challenger

What does it mean to be alive? The slow contortion of a plant toward light, the spear-flight of a hawk toward their quarry – these are purposeful actions. But where does that purpose come from, and what does it tell us about who we are?

In *Alive*, natural philosopher Melanie Challenger takes us through the latest discoveries in biology and physics to reveal a radical truth: to be alive is first and foremost a way of being a body. From Greenland sharks that can live for half a millennium, to birds that sense the Earth's magnetic field through their retinas, and even slime moulds that solve mazes, this book tells a new story of intelligence in the living world.

A scientifically grounded challenge to the idea that life is either a machine run by genes or an essence separable from the body, *Alive* restores agency, purpose and meaning to organisms in an age of artificial intelligence and biodiversity loss. By recognising that our bodies are both how and why we are alive, the book asks what it would mean to live – and to act – with that knowledge.

16 July 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 256pp

Royal HB £20

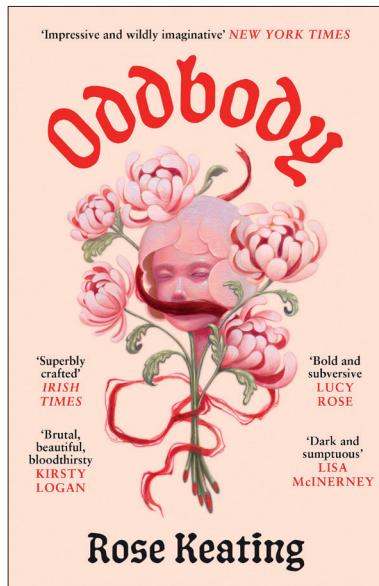
9781805300052

Ebook £15.99

9781837260232

Rights:

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Rose Keating is a writer from Waterford, Ireland. She studied on the Creative Writing Prose Fiction MA at UEA, where she was a recipient of the Malcolm Bradbury Scholarship and the Curtis Brown Prize. She is a winner of the Marian Keyes Young Writer Award, the Hot Press Write Here, Write Now prize and the Ted and Mary O'Regan Arts Bursary. She has been published in the *Stinging Fly*, *Apex Magazine*, *Banshee* and *Southword*. In 2022, she received an Agility Award from the Irish Arts Council.

Oddbody

ROSE KEATING

A collection of brilliantly strange and uniquely captivating literary horror stories from a thrilling new Irish talent

AN IRISH TIMES DEBUT AUTHOR
TO LOOK OUT FOR 2025

A VULTURE BEST BOOK OF 2025

A woman finds herself navigating a co-dependent relationship with a ghost. A waitress gives birth to an egg during her breakfast shift. A doctor puts his patient on a cleanse to 'purify' her mind, body and soul.

Through playful but provocative prose, Rose Keating's stories traverse a realm both dreamlike and nightmarish, exposing – to the bone – the absurdities and horrors of the feminine experience. *Oddbody* prods a finger at societal norms, gleefully turns familiar tropes on their head and announces Keating as an audacious new voice in Irish fiction.

'Joyously diabolic' Camilla Grudova

'Dark and sumptuous and unapologetically peculiar'
Lisa McInerney

'Marvellously unnerving' Eric LaRocca

16 July 2026

Paperback Fiction 160pp

B-fmt PB £9.99

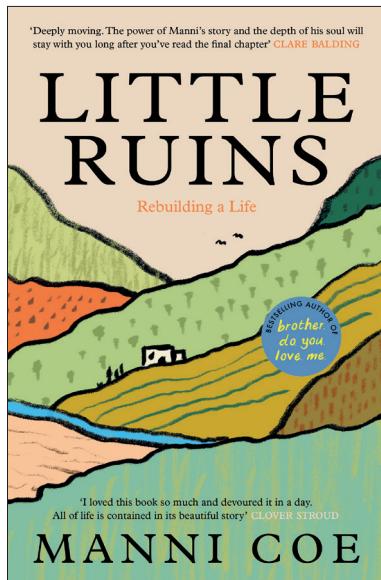
9781837261871

Ebook £7.99

9781837261888

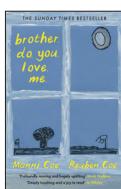
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Manni Coe grew up in Yorkshire and Berkshire and now lives between Andalusia and Dorset. He works as a private tour guide in both Spain and around the world, and is a registered olive oil farmer who produces extra virgin olive oil. He is the author of the *Sunday Times* bestselling memoir *brother. do. you. love. me.*

mannicoe.com



Also by Manni Coe (with Reuben Coe)

brother. do. you. love. me. £10.99 (9781805303060)

Little Ruins

Rebuilding a Life

MANNI COE

From the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *brother. do. you. love. me.* comes a memoir about the healing power of nature and community set against the wonder of the Andalusian landscape

A WATERSTONES 'BEST BIOGRAPHY OF 2025'

AN iPAPER BEST NEW BOOK OUT IN AUGUST 2025

'Beautifully written and deeply moving'
Clare Balding

'An important voice' Cathy Rentzenbrink

'I devoured it in a day . . . An open-hearted book'
Clover Stroud

Looking to begin a new chapter for their unconventional family of three, Jack, Manni and his youngest brother, Reuben, buy a crumbling but beautiful 150-year-old farmstead tucked into a remote valley in Andalusia, surrounded by olive trees.

While their secluded hilltop village offers community and fellowship, soon visitors arrive across the river: most are good, some bad, one tragic. Forced to confront his own hidden childhood scars, Manni finds that the foundations of their new life together are at risk of collapse. In *Little Ruins*, what begins as an ode to Southern Spain gradually transforms into a heart-mending exploration of human connection, nature's gifts and the power of love in all its forms.

13 August 2026

Paperback Non-fiction 352pp

B-fmt PB £10.99

9781837263233

Ebook £8.79

9781837263257

Rights:

W



Jess Kidd was brought up in London as part of a large family from County Mayo. She is the author of several acclaimed novels for adults including *Himself*, *The Hoarder*, *Things in Jars* and *The Night Ship*, and a book for children, *Everyday Magic*. In 2017, Kidd won the Costa Short Story Award and in 2020 she was picked by *The Times* as one of the best emerging Irish writers.

jesskidd.com

Little Spark

JESS KIDD

Richly imagined and marvellously unnerving, *Little Spark* is a full-bodied gothic Victorian-era tale of sublime invention

'Kidd has imagination to die for' *Guardian*

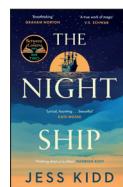
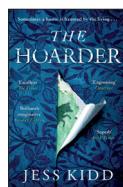
A secret cannot stay locked away forever

Bodkin Bell, orphan, pickpocket and survivor, doesn't know where she came from, but she knows she's different. Gaslights flare as she walks past. Cutlery spins. Shocks fly from her fingertips.

For years, she was 'Little Spark', the star of an electrifying sideshow – until the act went too far and she ended up in a London gaol.

Now she's been offered a way out. A chance to serve at Point Mote, a vast, desolate house marooned on the misty Kent marshes. There, she will assist a reclusive family of cunning inventors in the creation of automata: miraculous, lifelike machines for which gentlemen collectors will pay handsomely.

But this house of wonders hides mysteries too. As Bodkin starts to question why she is really there, she unearths secrets that have been buried bone-deep for years – and a truth beyond all imagining. One that was never meant to be found.



Also by Jess Kidd

Himself £8.99 (9781786899835)

The Hoarder £8.99 (9781786899842)

The Night Ship £9.99 (9781838856540)

Things in Jars £9.99 (9781786893772)

13 August 2026

Hardback Fiction 352pp

Demy HB £18.99

9781838856557

Ebook £15.19

9781838856571

Export TPB £15.99

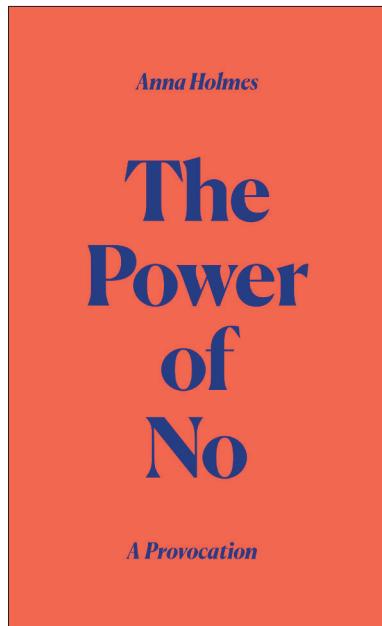
9781838856564

Audiobook £20.99

9781838856588

Rights:

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Anna Holmes is a writer and editor living in Los Angeles. She is the author of *Hell Hath No Fury* and *The Book of Jezebel*. In 2007 she founded online magazine *Jezebel*, which went on to become one of the most influential websites on the internet, spawning dozens of imitators and upending conversations about gender, race, culture and power in mainstream and traditional media. She has written essays, criticism and columns for such publications as the *New Yorker* and the *New York Times* and is currently a contributing writer for the *Atlantic*.

annaholmes.com

The Power of No

A Provocation

ANNA HOLMES

A powerful, patriarchy-defying manifesto that will transform your relationship to saying 'no' – from the award-winning writer, co-founder of *Jezebel* and former *New York Times* advice columnist

When was the last time you said 'no'? Not, *I don't think so*, or *maybe*, or *let me think about it* – but a full-throated 'NO'? How often do you agree to do things you don't want to do? Most of us – especially those who don't wield traditional modes of power or wield less of it – often find ourselves landing on *okay* or *sure* instead.

The Power of No releases us from our white-knuckled grip on agreeability. In this eclectic and empowering book, Anna Holmes explores why it's difficult to utter that two-letter word. Playfully tracing how 'no' shapes our lives, Holmes shows how, if exercised properly, it can radically change our world.

Equal parts heartfelt meditation and fiery manifesto, *The Power of No* is a call to embrace the invigorating truth that 'no' is a complete sentence.

13 August 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 160pp

B-fmt HB £15

9781838859176

Ebook £11.99

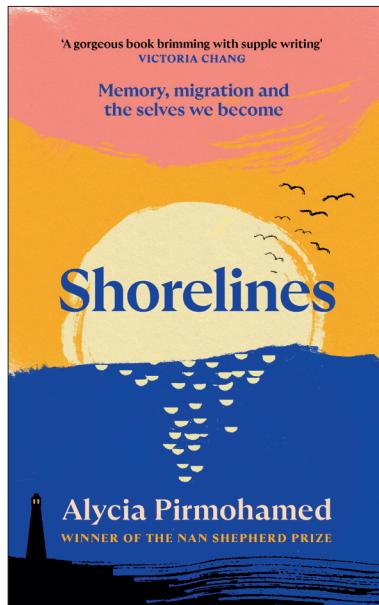
9781838859183

Audiobook £17.99

9781838859190

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Alycia Pirmohamed is a Canadian-born poet based in Scotland. She is the author of the pamphlets *Hinge* and *Faces that Fled the Wind*, as well as the collaborative pamphlets *Second Memory*, co-authored by Pratyusha and *this too is a glistening* with Jessica J. Lee, Nina Mingya Powles and Pratyusha. Her debut poetry collection, *Another Way to Split Water*, was published by Polygon (UK) and YesYes Books (US), and has been shortlisted for Scottish Poetry Book of the Year by the Saltire Society. She is the recipient of several awards, including the Nan Shephard Prize, a Pushcart Prize, the 2019 CBC Poetry Prize and the 2020 Edwin Morgan Poetry Award.

➲ alycia-pirmohamed.com
 ☎ [@alyciap_](https://www.instagram.com/@alyciap_)

Shorelines

Memory, migration and the selves we become

ALYCIA PIRMOHAMED

Thrumming with poetic vitality and questions about the legacies of migration, *Shorelines* is the winner of the Nan Shephard Prize for nature writing and the non-fiction debut by Alycia Pirmohamed

As a young Muslim woman Alycia Pirmohamed grew up with her body as racialised and her faith as seemingly dangerous. Her affinity to the natural world – the mountains, elk and pines of her childhood – conflicted with feelings that she was unwelcome in these landscapes. By contrast, the stories of her parents' homeland – the monsoon winds, red clay roads and abundant korosho trees – felt painfully distant.

Across interrelated pieces that move from Midwestern Canada to East Africa, the Pacific Northwest to the British Isles, the award-winning poet traces the legacies of migration and memory on her life, examining the idea of homeland and the mythmaking it demands. She creatively resists the expectations of nature writing and memoir, at times choosing to withhold as much as she reveals.

Shorelines moves from lavender skies to lighthouses, from surefooted ideas to liminal spaces. It asks what it means to carry hidden histories across borders and generations – and how losing family can mean losing the place they are from too. Above all, it explores how place and identity intertwine, and how our choices, our actions and the ways we build community shape us into who we become.

13 August 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 256pp

Demy HB £18.99

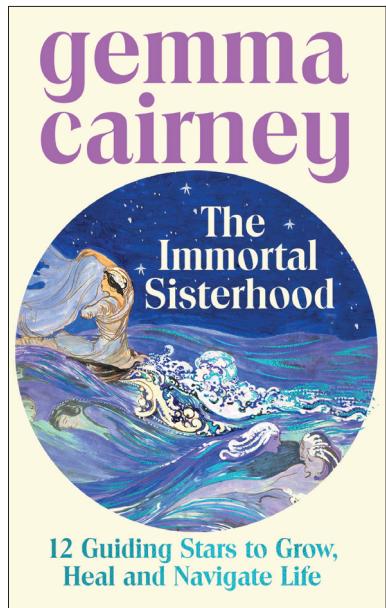
9781837262052

Ebook £15.19

9781837262076

Rights:

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Gemma Cairney is an award-winning broadcaster and writer, her career at the BBC having spanned over a decade. Her first book *Open: A Toolkit for How Magic and Messed Up Life Can Be* (Macmillan, 2017) was a young adult guide to life and saw her tour across the UK. She is a regular contributor to audio and written anthologies, has judged the Wellcome Prize and hosted the Booker shortlist readings as well as many other literary talks. *The Immortal Sisterhood* is her first book for adults.

© @gemagain

13 August 2026
Trade Paperback Non-fiction 256pp

The Immortal Sisterhood

12 Guiding Stars to Grow, Heal and Navigate Life

GEMMA CAIRNEY

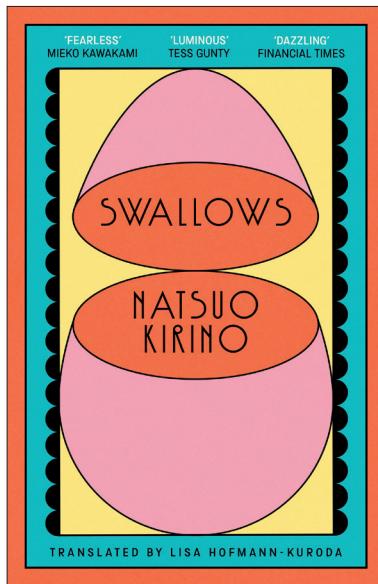
Award-winning broadcaster and writer Gemma Cairney explores the collective power and wisdom to be found in the lives of twelve remarkable women

For centuries, travellers would stare up at the stars to guide them. Constellations of shining lights would offer a path forward or a way through, delivering courage and hope on long, difficult voyages. Throughout her life, Gemma Cairney has pieced together her own constellation, one which is made up of inspirational women – artists, activists, musicians, writers, mathematicians, mystics – who guide her, fill her creative cup and provide a sense of solace and selfhood.

In *The Immortal Sisterhood* Gemma shares the twelve women who make up her spiritual sorority. From Grace Jones and Mary Wollstonecraft to Pharaoh Hatshepsut and Wang Zhenyi, these women span centuries and continents, they have experienced racism, sexism, illness, war, and they all offer something different to help Gemma navigate through life. In this genre-bending mix of biography, memoir, self-help, poetry and philosophy, Gemma seeks to introduce readers to her immortal sisterhood, to invite us to take strength from their stories and to challenge us to create our own. Who are your guiding stars?

Demy TPB £16.99
9781837267101
Ebook £13.59
9781838851309

Rights:
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Natsuo Kirino is one of Japan's most highly decorated authors – winner of both the Grand Prix for Crime Fiction for *Out* and the Naoki Prize for *Soft Cheeks*. In 2015 she was awarded the Medal with Purple Ribbon for her literary achievements. *Swallows* is her fifth novel to be translated into English, and a TV adaptation of aired in summer 2024 to great critical acclaim.

kirino-natsuo.com

Lisa Hofmann-Kuroda is a literary translator. Her work includes Ryunosuke Akutagawa's *Kappa* (New Directions, 2023), Yuko Tsushima's *Wildcat Dome* (FSG, 2025) and Yoko Tawada's *Exophony* (New Directions, 2025). Born in Tokyo, raised in Texas, she currently lives in New York City.

lhkuroda.com

Swallows

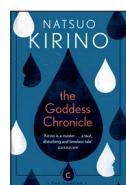
NATSUO KIRINO

Vibrating with the injustices of class and gender, tradition and power, *Swallows* is an acerbic, witty vision of contemporary Japan by Natsuo Kirino, acclaimed author of the smash hit *Out*

Twenty-nine-year-old Riki is sick of her dead-end job, of struggling to get by ever since she moved to Tokyo from the country. So when someone offers her the chance to become a surrogate in return for a life-changing amount of money, it's hard to turn down.

Retired ballet star Motoi and his wife, Yuko, have spent years trying to conceive. As Motoi grows increasingly desperate for a child, their last resort is surrogacy; a business transaction, plain and simple. But as they try to exert ever more control over Riki, their contract with her starts to slip through their fingers . . .

'Natsuo Kirino teases out the question "who does a child belong to?" while confronting the gender assumptions and economic and power imbalances of contemporary Japanese society . . . Kirino somersaults her way to a suspenseful conclusion in a dazzling and troubling feminist page turner'
Financial Times



Also by Natsuo Kirino

The Goddess Chronicle £9.99 (9781786899170)

13 August 2026

Paperback Fiction 352pp

B-fmt PB £9.99

9781837263028

Ebook £7.99

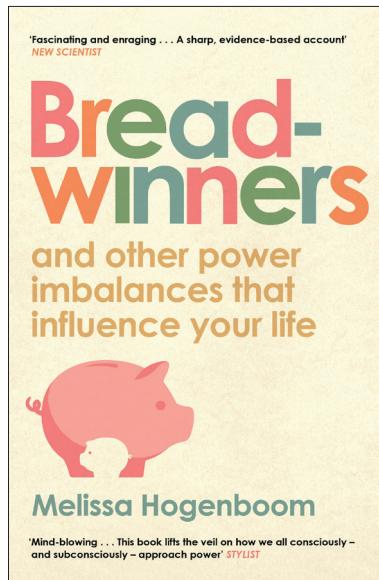
9781837263004

Audiobook £25

9781837263011

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Melissa Hogenboom is an award-winning science journalist, filmmaker and editor at the BBC. She makes and commissions films and writes articles on a range of topics including psychology, neuroscience, human evolution and health. She is currently a health correspondent and commissioning executive at BBC Studios. Her journalism has been recognised by multiple awards, including the Webby Awards, Drum Awards, AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Awards, Telly Awards and Association of British Science Writers Awards. She is a New America fellow and the author of two books, *The Motherhood Complex* and *Breadwinners*.

melissahogenboom.com

[@melissa_hogenboom](https://www.instagram.com/melissa_hogenboom)

Breadwinners and other power imbalances that influence your life

MELISSA HOGENBOOM

The must-read book on how to address the power dynamics in your work, life and love by award-winning science journalist **Melissa Hogenboom**

A NEW SCIENTIST BEST POPULAR SCIENCE BOOK OF 2025

Why do women who outearn their male partners still tend to do more housework and childcare? Why are unemployed men generally happier if their female partners are also unemployed? And why is unpaid labour still seen as a less important contribution than paid work within family units?

In *Breadwinners*, award-winning science journalist Melissa Hogenboom interviews female breadwinners, stay-at-home dads and same-sex couples, comparing their stories to the latest research to demonstrate the consequences of these changing dynamics. *Breadwinners* reveals the influence of power structures all around us and gives readers the tools to address imbalances and improve our relationships at home and at work.

13 August 2026

Paperback Non-fiction 256pp

B-fmt PB £10.99

9781837262267

Ebook £8.79

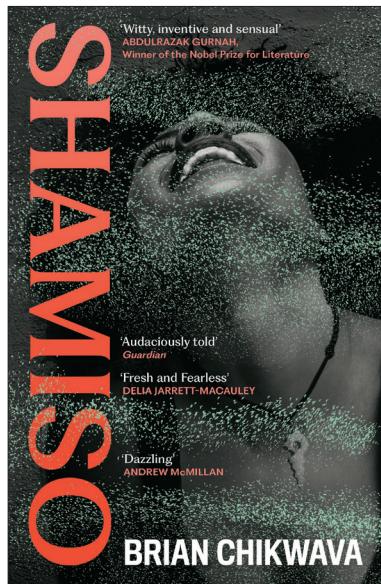
9781837262236

Audiobook £30

9781837262229

Rights:

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Brian Chikwava is a London-based writer and author of *Harare North*, longlisted for the 2010 Orwell Prize for political writing. His short fiction has appeared in anthologies published by Picador, Granta, Weaver Press, Jacana, Umuzi and has been aired on BBC Radios 3, 4 and the World Service. He has held fellowships at Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies (South Africa), the University of East Anglia (Charles Pick Fellowship, UK), the Santa Maddalena Foundation (Italy), Maison Dora Maar (France), Civitella Ranieri Foundation (Italy) and Marguerite Yourcenar Villa (France). Brian won the Caine Prize for African Writing in 2004 with his short story 'Seventh Street Alchemy'.

Shamiso

BRIAN CHIKWAVA

Zimbabwean girl meets gender-fluid Afro-Brit boy. They can't stand each other but fall hopelessly in love, before being traumatised into separate paths by their mutual prejudices

'Vaults beyond convention . . . captivating and utterly original' Tope Folarin

'A jewel of a novel that dazzles with ideas on migration, grief, love, time, language and meaning' Mendez

'Every sentence lands like a well-aimed arrow' Chika Unigwe

When she takes a leap to leave Zimbabwe behind for Brighton, England, young Shamiso must find a new family and a new way of living. It is there she falls for George, sometimes Georgie, whose gender fluidity mirrors Shamiso's own shapeshifting heart as a woman caught between her desire to belong and profound yearning to find herself.

Quirky, challenging and mischievous, this tender coming-of-age story brilliantly examines selfhood, love and the many shapes family can take. From first moments to final steps, *Shamiso* is a shimmering, blazing work of modern existence and all its contradictions.

27 August 2026

Paperback Fiction 176pp

B-fmt PB £9.99

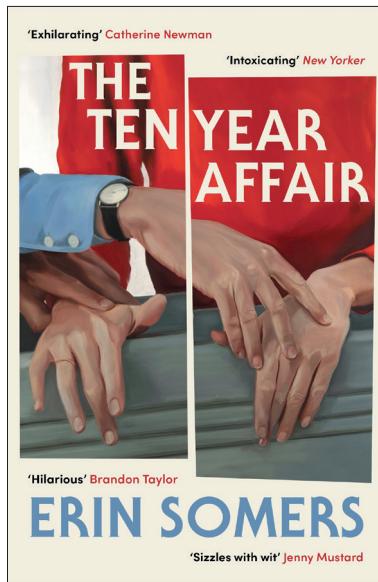
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Ebook £7.99

9781837260058

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Erin Somers is a reporter and news editor at *Publishers Lunch*. Her first novel, *Stay Up with Hugo Best* was a *Vogue* Best Book of the Year in 2019. Her writing has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *Paris Review*, *New York Times Book Review*, *New Republic*, *New York Magazine*, *Atlantic*, *Esquire*, *GQ*, *Best American Short Stories* and many other publications. She has been the recipient of an Emerging Writer Fellowship from the NYC Centre for Fiction, a fellowship from the Millay Colony, and was a 2020 finalist for a National Magazine Award. She lives in New York's Hudson Valley with her family.

[@erinsomers.com](http://erinsomers.com)

The Ten Year Affair

ERIN SOMERS

The Ten Year Affair is a witty, emotionally-charged exploration of marriage, family life and the roads not taken, that ultimately asks: do we really want our fantasies to come true?

MOST ANTICIPATED BOOK FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES, WASHINGTON POST, STYLIST, NEW STATESMAN, BUSTLE, LITHUB, W MAGAZINE AND OUR CULTURE

DAKOTA JOHNSON BOOK CLUB PICK

THE SHIFT BY SAM BAKER BOOK CLUB PICK

'Somers's wit is as cool, caustic and dry as liquid nitrogen' Tony Tulathimutte

'The midlife adultery story our entire generation deserves' Guardian

'Compulsively readable' Julia May Jonas

When Cora meets Sam at a baby group in their small town, the chemistry between them is instant and undeniable. But both are happily married, and neither is the type to cheat. So as their lives intertwine and the romantic tension between them heightens, Cora turns to her imagination: in her head, she and Sam pursue their feelings; in reality, they resist.

Yet as the fantasy affair grows ever more intoxicating, it can't help but cast Cora's everyday life – the mushroom problem in the bathroom, her daughter's new fascination with the afterlife, her husband's obsession with podcasts about the history of rope – in a new light. And when the boundaries grow increasingly blurred, she must decide what truly matters.

27 August 2026

Paperback Fiction 304pp

B-fmt PB £9.99

9781837264575

Ebook £7.99

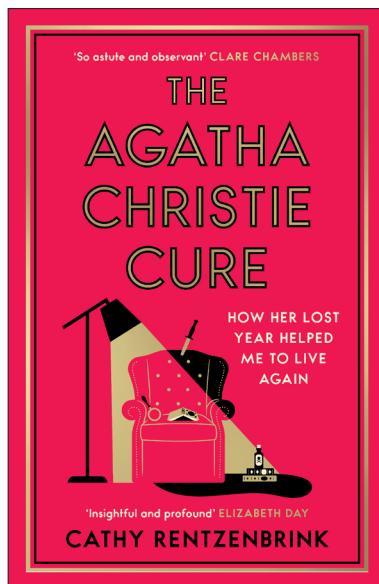
9781837264551

Audiobook £25

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Cathy Rentzenbrink is the *Sunday Times* top ten bestselling author of *The Last Act of Love*, *Dear Reader*, *How to Feel Better*, *Everyone Is Still Alive* and *Ordinary Time*. She is a renowned book reviewer and literary festival panellist and host. Prior to writing her own books, Cathy was a passionate bookseller at Waterstones, working in seven different branches before becoming Publisher Relations Manager for the group. After that she became Project Director at literacy charity Quick Reads, then Books Editor at the *Bookseller*. She runs the Curtis Brown memoir-writing course and the highly popular online 'Sunday Sessions'.

cathyreadsbooks.com

@CatRentzenbrink

The Agatha Christie Cure

How Her Lost Year Helped Me to Live Again

CATHY RENTZENBRINK

A moving memoir and thrilling journey about the mystery at the heart of the Queen of Crime's life

One winter, Cathy Rentzenbrink – one of the UK's most beloved writers and bookworms – finds herself too exhausted to open another novel. Drained by the upheavals of her life, and in need of comfort and escape, she turns to the books of her first literary love: Agatha Christie. She soon becomes obsessed by the central mystery of Agatha's life – how she disappeared following the death of her mother and the breakdown of her marriage.

The more Cathy delves into Agatha's struggles, the more she realises how much the two have in common and how much her heroine has to tell her about surviving the hard times and starting life on her own terms. Compelling, compassionate and insightful, *The Agatha Christie Cure* is the perfect read for lovers of Christie's books and any reader in search of life-affirming resilience.

10 September 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 256pp

Demy HB £20

9781837262885

Ebook £15.99

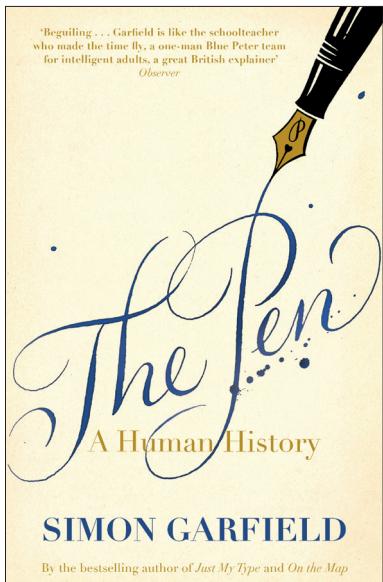
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Simon Garfield was born in London in 1960. He is the author of an appealingly diverse and unpredictable canon of non-fiction, including the bestsellers *Mauve*, *Just My Type* and *On the Map*. He is a trustee of Mass Observation, and is the editor of several books of diaries from the archive, including *Our Hidden Lives* and *A Notable Woman*. His recent books include *Timekeepers*, *In Miniature* and *All the Knowledge in the World*. He lives in London and Cornwall.

simongarfield.com

The Pen

A Human History

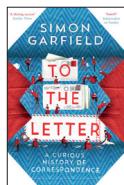
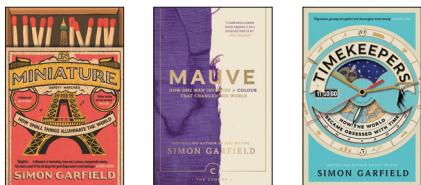
SIMON GARFIELD

An idiosyncratic and global history of the pen in the vein of Bill Bryson and Stephen Fry, by the bestselling author of *Just My Type*, *On the Map* and *To the Letter*

The pen is our oldest tangible connection between an individual mind and the world at large, enabling the grandest proclamations and our most intimate confessions. But the pen's own story is just as eventful as anything it has described. This is the illuminating story of how the simplest tool has shaped our lives.

Simon Garfield takes us from a reed on the Nile to the home of Montblanc and Bic, and from the wartime trenches to the desks of Jane Austen, Sigmund Freud and Margaret Atwood. He explains why fountain pens make such good gadgets for spies and tells the story of the bestselling pen that wouldn't actually write. He introduces us to the very highest echelons of pen artistry costing small fortunes – but also to generations of schoolchildren with ink stains on their hands.

This is a lively, kaleidoscopic compendium connecting us to the object that has defined communication for thousands of years – one which offers a respite to our relentlessly digital world. The pen is ingrained within us, and this book will show how far its ink reaches.



Also by Simon Garfield

In Miniature £10.99 (9781786890795)
Mauve £10.99 (9781786892782)
Timekeepers £10.99 (9781782113218)
To the Letter £9.99 (9780857868619)

10 September 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 272pp

Squat Royal HB £20

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Audiobook £25

9781837263226

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Ebook £15.99

9781837263202



Jo Baring is an art historian and curator. She is host of the popular podcast *Sculpting Lives* and in 2023 was elected as the Frankland Visitor to Brasenose College, Oxford. She is the Director of the Ingram Collection of Modern British and Contemporary Art and a former Director of Christie's UK.

jobaring.com
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[@sculptinglives](https://www.instagram.com/@sculptinglives)

Totem

The Untold Story of Sculpture

JO BARING

**Sculpture expert and art historian
 Jo Baring animates the human story
 of sculpture across the globe and
 throughout history, asking what it says
 about ourselves and our societies**

For forty thousand years, we have been carving and moulding, shaping and chiselling, feeling our way and sensing our place in the world through sculpture.

In this accessible, story-led journey into the heart of sculpture, renowned art historian and curator Jo Baring explores creativity, memory and why we have been driven to make art in this medium since the very beginning of humanity.

She examines sculptures from the pre-historic Lion Man figure found in a German cave to an ancient Mayan pyramid that conjures a serpent made of shadows and icons of the Italian Renaissance such as Michelangelo's devastating Pietà. Along the way we encounter in a fresh light the work of twentieth century and contemporary giants such as Alberto Giacometti, Barbara Hepworth, Henry Moore, Constantin Brâncuși, Louise Bourgeois, Yayoi Kusama and Antony Gormley, among others.

lyrical and beautifully illustrated, *Totem* is a celebration of art, those creating it and those it means something to.

10 September 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 320pp

Royal HB £25

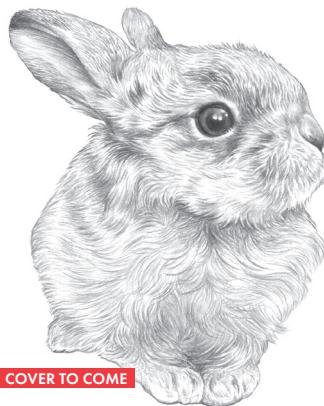
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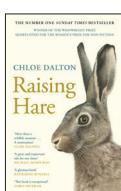
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COVER TO COME

Raising Hare is **Chloe Dalton**'s debut book and was an instant *Sunday Times* and *New York Times* bestseller. Chloe divides her time between working as a political adviser and foreign policy specialist in London and her home in the English countryside. *Raising Hare* was shortlisted for the Wainwright Prize and the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction, and was selected as a Waterstones Book of the Year and as the Hay Festival Book of the Year. It was a Critics' Best Books pick for *The Times*, *Financial Times*, *Guardian*, *Spectator* and *iNews* and was a Waterstones Non-Fiction Book of the Month.

chloedalton.uk
@chloedaltonuk



Also by Chloe Dalton
Raising Hare £10.99 (9781837260867)

Raising Hare

Children's Edition

CHLOE DALTON

A beautifully illustrated edition for children of the instant *Sunday Times* bestseller and Wainwright Prize-winning sensation, this is the wondrous true story of a woman and a baby hare who form an incredible bond

'A great and important tale for our times'
Michael Morpurgo

One winter's day, Chloe Dalton went for a countryside walk and discovered a newborn baby hare – no bigger than her hand – chased by a dog and separated from its mother.

Worried for its safety, Chloe took the tiny hare home and learned how to feed and care for it... and an extraordinary friendship began.

This is the fascinating true tale of how Chloe and the hare, with its drumming paws and distinctive charm, lived alongside each other until the time came for it to return to the wild.

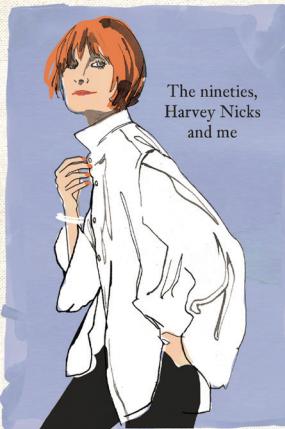
But when the hare is finally ready to jump over the garden wall, will Chloe ever see it again?

Featuring beautiful illustrations throughout by Denise Nestor.

10 September 2026
Hardback Non-fiction 288pp

Squat Royal HB £14.99 Rights:
9781837266951 W/E
Ebook £11.99
9781837266975

MARY PORTAS



I SHOP, THEREFORE I AM

Mary Portas is one of the UK's most high-profile and innovative businesswomen. After making her name transforming Harvey Nichols into a global fashion destination, Mary launched Portas, her own creative company, with the mission to transform businesses into brands, places and spaces people want in their lives. Today her team work with clients ranging from Mercedes to Sainsbury's. She has been a regular on our TV screens, advised the government on the future of high streets and developed a fashion label. Her proudest achievement to date is the creation of twenty-six Mary's Living & Giving shops for Save the Children. She is the author of *Shop Girl, Work Like a Woman* and *Rebuild*.

I Shop, Therefore I Am

The nineties, Harvey Nicks and me

MARY PORTAS

From legend of the high street Mary Portas comes a no-holds-barred account about her time as the window dresser and creative director for Harvey Nichols that is full of juicy anecdotes from the fashion world and nineties nostalgia

'A riot' *The Times*

'Absolutely irresistible' Joanna Lumley

'Entertaining and energetic' *Stylist*

'I couldn't put it down!' Michelle Ogundehin

I Shop, Therefore I Am is the story of how Mary Portas transformed Harvey Nichols from a dying department store to an era-defining fashion destination.

With her trademark wit and candour, Mary takes us behind the shop window – to the heady glamour and excess of the nineties, to the risks she took and the stunts she pulled, to the people who kept the show on the road and the tough lessons that have shaped her career. It is a story of grit, resilience and vision against all odds.

10 September 2026

Paperback Non-fiction 288pp

B-fmt PB £10.99

9781837264421

Ebook £8.79

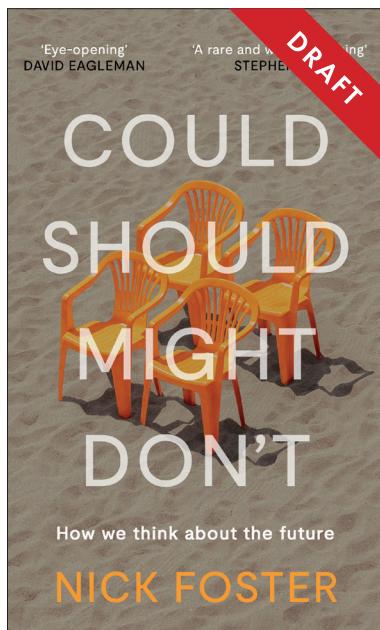
9781837264438

Audiobook £30

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Nick Foster is a designer and writer based in Oakland, California. He has spent his career exploring the future for globally renowned technology companies including Apple, Google, Nokia, Sony and Dyson. In 2021 he was awarded the title 'Royal Designer for Industry' in recognition of his significant contributions to the discipline, the highest professional accolade for a British designer. Nick was born in Derby – the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, and a city once synonymous with innovation, manufacturing and technology. He earned his Masters degree from the Royal College of Art, and in 2018 he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

✉ NickFosterRDI.com

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10 September 2026
Paperback Non-fiction 352pp

Could Should Might Don't

How we think about the future

NICK FOSTER

A stirring exploration of the ways we think about the future from pioneering creative leader **Nick Foster**

'A rare and wondrous thing' Stephen Fry

'Eye-opening' David Eagleman

'The book on the future we've been waiting for' Oliver Burkeman

As the tempo of change accelerates beyond anything our ancestors could have imagined, the ability to think clearly about what lies ahead has never been more important – yet we remain remarkably bad at it.

So how might we think about the future with greater rigour?

Nick Foster is one of very few people to have built a career considering this question, and in this book he's written an invaluable guide for the rest of us. From the *Could* of excitable, science fiction utopianism and the *Should* of data-driven, dogmatic certainty, to the *Might* of scenario planning and the *Don't* of fear-driven risk avoidance, Foster explores how humanity has grappled with the concept of the future throughout history, tracing the emergence of distinct schools of thought and exploring the virtues, blind spots, and inevitable shortcomings of each.

Could Should Might Don't resists making cocksure prophecies and bombastic predictions, instead encouraging us to create more balanced, detailed and truthful versions of the future, so that we might improve what we leave behind for those who might follow.

B-fmt PB £12.99

9781837263844

Ebook £10.39

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The Maclean brothers - Ewan, Jamie and Lachlan - first made global headlines in 2019 when they became the fastest trio to row across the Atlantic Ocean, covering 3,000 miles from the Canaries to Antigua in 35 days and breaking the previous record by nearly a week.

Determined to keep working together for causes they believed in, they founded The Maclean Foundation, with a mission to raise funds for clean water projects. Visits to Madagascar over the years to see projects that they helped fund convinced them to go further.

Their crossing under oar of the Pacific Ocean in 2025 set a new Fastest Known Time and raised over £1 million to bring safe clean water to more than 40,000 people.

✉ themacleanbrothers.com

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Three Brothers in a Boat

A True Story of Brotherhood, Endurance and Purpose on the Pacific Ocean

THE MACLEAN BROTHERS

An adrenaline-soaked account of how the Maclean brothers broke the world record for rowing non-stop across the Pacific Ocean – awash with lessons in grit, determination and resilience

Three brothers. The world's largest ocean. A record-breaking odyssey.

When The Maclean Brothers rowed non-stop and unsupported across the entire Pacific – the largest ocean on the planet – they made history. But there's miles more to the story than that.

Just a few years earlier, they were complete novices. What followed would test their resolve, their relationships, and their belief in one another.

Nail-biting and inspirational, this is a true story of endurance, brotherhood and the power of purpose.

24 September 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 320pp

Royal HB £22

9781837266999

Ebook £15.99

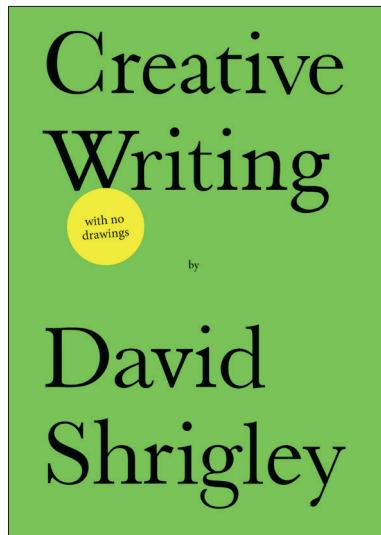
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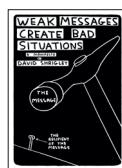
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David Shrigley was born in Macclesfield in 1968 and studied at Glasgow School of Art. His work has been exhibited at the Tate Modern in London, at the MoMA in New York, and in Paris, Berlin, Melbourne and beyond. He has published over twenty books, and has animated a music video for Blur and produced another for Bonnie 'Prince' Billy. His work has also been profiled in a documentary for Channel 4. He was nominated for the Turner Prize in 2013 and in 2016 his sculpture *Really Good* was installed on Trafalgar Square's Fourth Plinth. In 2018, he was the Guest Director of the Brighton Festival. He lives and works in Brighton.

davidshrigley.com

@davidshrigley



Also by David Shrigley

Fully Coherent Plan £16.99 (9781786893840)

Weak Messages Create Bad Situations £17.99 (9781782114055)

Creative Writing

DAVID SHRIGLEY

A big new book of writing from David Shrigley: master of the inexplicable and surreal, Turner Prize nominee, and Instagram phenomenon (with 1.2 million followers)

Featuring...

Creative Project

The shape of a banana
 Whatever you create
 it must be the shape of a banana
 and look like a banana
 That is the only constraint
 otherwise you are completely free
 to create whatever you want
 Let your imagination run wild

and others...

24 September 2026
 Hardback Non-fiction 256pp

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 9781837266364
Ebook £15.99
 9781837266388

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One day, when it's safe, when there's no personal downside to calling a thing what it is, when it's too late to hold anyone accountable, everyone will have always been against this

Omar El Akkad

Omar El Akkad is an author and journalist. He was born in Egypt, grew up in Qatar, moved to Canada as a teenager and now lives in the United States. He is a two-time winner of both the Pacific Northwest Booksellers' Award and the Oregon Book Award. His books have been translated into 13 languages. His debut novel, *American War*, was named by the BBC as one of 100 novels that shaped our world.

omarelakkad.com

One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This

OMAR EL AKKAD

Award-winning novelist and journalist Omar El Akkad unpicks the hypocrisy and injustices of the West at a volatile and shocking time

WINNER OF THE 2025 NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FOR NONFICTION

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One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This is an urgent and necessary reckoning about what it means to live in the West today.

This is a book for those that have tired of moral emptiness.

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'A lightning bolt – sets fire to our comforting lies and illuminates a way forwards' Riz Ahmed

'Exceptionally powerful, as a howl of rage and grief against the status quo must be' Financial Times

'Passionate, poetic and sickening . . . It is an important book, a must-read' Guardian

'A unique and urgently needed book' Naomi Klein

24 September 2026

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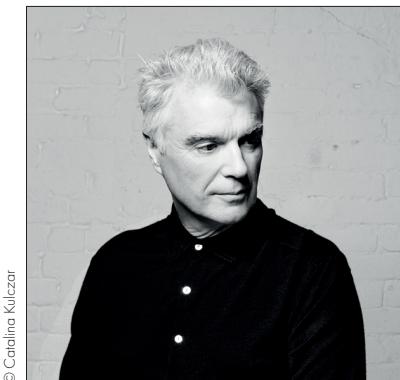
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Ebook £8.79

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David Byrne is a Scottish-born Rock and Roll Hall of Famer and co-founder of Talking Heads. He has been the recipient of many awards, including an Oscar, a GRAMMY and a Tony. The author of *Bicycle Diaries* and *The New Sins*, Byrne lives in New York City.

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Sleeping Beauties

Why Good Ideas Go Dormant and How They Wake Up

DAVID BYRNE

A book about creative genius from the Talking Heads co-founder and author of *How Music Works*

We love to believe in a meritocracy of ideas — that genius is always recognised, innovation always seized upon and rewarded. Yet so many of the people we now recognise as the world's great creators initially got little traction for their work. It faded out, and it was only later, often much later, that it somehow came roaring back to life and made a lasting impact.

Discoveries as diverse as dark matter to continental drift, technologies from solar panels to the steam engine; artists from Bach to Brueghel, Vermeer to Melville all were 'sleeping beauties'. Why did they fall asleep? How did they wake up? Ranging across many centuries and the full scope of human endeavor, Byrne arrives at some important conclusions which in sum give us a lens for bringing to light new seeds for our own future breakthroughs.

Humbling yet hopeful, these stories add up to a compass that leads us to the courage to try new things and the wisdom to embrace them. In a time that can seem all too dark, it's a powerful source of freely available light, delightful in itself and fit for all our human endeavours.



Also by David Byrne
How Music Works £18.99 (9780857862525)

8 October 2026

Hardback Non-fiction 272pp

Royal HB £25

9781805300540

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Liz Jensen is the author of eight acclaimed novels including *The Ninth Life of Louis Drax* and the climate thrillers *The Rapture* and *The Uninvited*. She is a founder of the ecological campaign group Writers Rebel and the creator of the Rebel Library. She lives in Copenhagen.

✉ lizjensen.com
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The Rapture

LIZ JENSEN

A cerebral climate-fiction thriller and a publishing sensation on its initial release, Liz Jensen's bestselling novel is a spectacular exploration of faith and devotion in a world on the brink of collapse

Soon to be adapted as a BBC Drama starring Ruth Madeley and India Amarteifio

Psychologist Gabrielle is recovering from a devastating car crash when she takes on a job at a maximum-security facility for juvenile patients.

Here she meets Bethany, a cruel teenager who insists she can predict natural disasters – a claim Gabrielle interprets as a symptom of her zealous, evangelical upbringing.

But when disasters begin happening as predicted, Gabrielle questions whether she is a fervent manipulator or a messenger of global catastrophe.

A haunting story of devotion, faith and fury, and Liz Jensen's bestselling novel, *The Rapture* is an engrossing thriller that explores the extremes of mankind's self-destruction in a world on the brink of collapse.



Also by Liz Jensen

Your Wild and Precious Life £10.99 (9781837260225)

8 October 2026

Paperback Fiction 352pp

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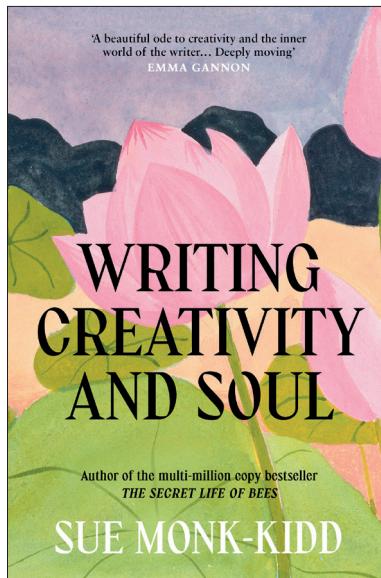
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Sue Monk Kidd is the beloved bestselling author of *The Secret Life of Bees*, *The Mermaid Chair*, *The Invention of Wings* and *The Book of Longings*. Her debut novel, *The Secret Life of Bees*, spent more than one hundred weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list, has sold over eight million copies worldwide, was turned into both an award-winning motion picture and a musical, and has been translated into thirty-six languages. She is the author of several acclaimed memoirs, including *The Dance of the Dissident Daughter*, her groundbreaking work on religion and feminism, as well as the *New York Times* bestseller *Travelling with Pomegranates*, written with her daughter, Ann Kidd Taylor. She lives in North Carolina.

Writing Creativity and Soul

SUE MONK KIDD

From the bestselling author of *The Secret Life of Bees* comes a future classic for new and experienced writers, for readers and for those who simply want to know how to train their creativity and listen to their soul

‘A beautiful, generous gift to aspiring writers’ Lily King

‘Deeply moving’ Emma Gannon

‘This is a magnificent book that will enrich your life whether you are a writer or not’ Dani Shapiro

In *Writing Creativity and Soul*, Sue Monk Kidd shares exactly how she has created unforgettable and beloved stories – from plunging her innermost depths, to voyaging to sacred spaces, to studying the greats. Laying her creative journey bare, Sue explores the moments in which she lost her voice and when she found it again, as well as the profound insights she gained along the way.

Part memoir, part philosophical investigation, part advice to aspiring writers, this is a guide to awakening the soul. Everything that readers loved about *The Secret Life of Bees* is to be found in the pages of *Writing Creativity and Soul* – the warmth, the fierce intelligence, the wit, the spiritual hunger, the search for beauty and meaning and, perhaps above all, the rebel heart.

8 October 2026

Paperback Non-fiction 240pp

B-fmt PB £10.99

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Ebook £8.79

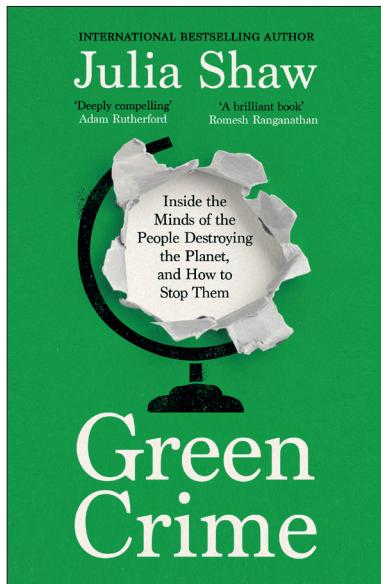
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Audiobook £25

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Julia Shaw is a criminal psychologist at University College London. Her academic work, teaching and role as an expert witness focus on different ways of understanding criminal behaviour. She is the author of three books: *The Memory Illusion*, *Making Evil* and *Bi*. Her books have appeared in more than twenty languages. She is also the co-host of the hit BBC podcast *Bad People* which combines true crime and science. She appears regularly in the popular press, including in TV true crime formats.

drjuliashaw.com
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Also by Julia Shaw
Bi £10.99 (9781786898791)
Making Evil £9.99 (9781786891327)

8 October 2026

Paperback Non-fiction 352pp

Green Crime

Inside the Minds of the People Destroying the Planet, and How to Stop Them

JULIA SHAW

A riveting investigation into 'green crime' as told through a series of real-world cases by criminal psychologist and bestselling author Julia Shaw, who asks how, why and by whom they are committed so that we can better protect the planet

Traffickers. Hit men. Outlaws. Thieves . . . Our planet is a crime scene – but can we catch the killers?

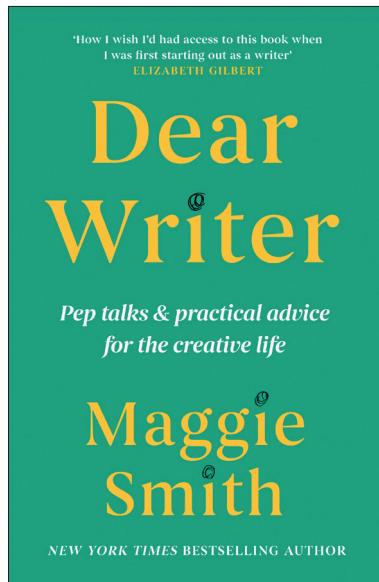
Enter a world where people are murdered, ecosystems are destroyed and organised criminals terrorise communities. Closely following their every move are teams of secret agents, vigilantes and scientists fighting for our planet's future.

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Maggie Smith is the *New York Times* bestselling author of seven books of poetry and prose, including *You Could Make This Place Beautiful*, *Good Bones*, *Goldenrod*, *Lamp of the Body*, *The Well Speaks of Its Own Poison* and *Keep Moving*. Her newest book is *My Thoughts Have Wings*, her debut picture book for children, illustrated by Leanne Hatch. Smith's poems and essays have appeared in the *New York Times*, *New Yorker*, *Paris Review*, *TIME*, *Nation*, *Atlantic* and *Best American Poetry*.

✉ maggiesmithpoet.com
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Also by Maggie Smith

You Could Make This Place Beautiful £10.99 (9781805302452)

Dear Writer

Pep talks & practical advice for the creative life

MAGGIE SMITH

A collection of meditations, essays and practical tips on creativity and the craft of writing, by the *New York Times* bestselling writer

'How I wish I'd had access to this book when I was first starting out as a writer!' Elizabeth Gilbert

'Tips for every writing eventuality, from revising drafts to silencing the inner critic' TLS

Drawing from her twenty years of teaching experience, bestselling writing career and popular newsletter, in *Dear Writer* Maggie Smith breaks down the craft of writing and creativity into ten essential elements: attention, wonder, vision, play, surprise, vulnerability, restlessness, tenacity, connection and hope.

Each element is explored through short, inspiring and focused essays on everything from writing habits to word choice, white space and redrafting. Throughout, Maggie offers practical writing prompts and generative activities that apply to the area of focus and sharpen creative skills. *Dear Writer* provides tools that artists of all experience levels can apply to their own creative practices and carry with them into all genres and all areas of life.

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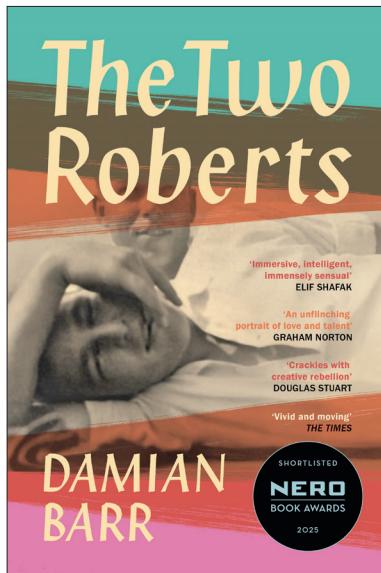
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Damian Barr is an award-winning writer, broadcaster and journalist. His memoir *Maggie & Me*, won the Stonewall Writer of the Year and *Sunday Times* Memoir of the Year. His debut novel, *You Will Be Safe Here*, was shortlisted for six major awards and named a Book of the Year in the *Observer*, *Guardian* and *Mail*. He has written columns for *The Times* and *Sunday Times* and hosted *Front Row* on BBC Radio 4 as well as his own series *Guide Books*. In 2019, Damian brought books back to television with the *Big Scottish Book Club*, now in its sixth series and syndicated internationally. Damian holds a PhD in Creative Writing from Lancaster University and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. His world-famous Literary Salon ran from 2008 to 2023, celebrating writers from around the world and widening the cultural conversation.

damianbarr.com
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8 October 2026

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The Two Roberts

DAMIAN BARR

Meet Robert MacBryde and Robert Colquhoun: artists, lovers, outsiders. From 1930s Glasgow to wartime London, *The Two Roberts* is a captivating novel inspired by their wild lives

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He will stay like this forever, Robert's arm draped round him. They will be forever twenty.

Scotland, 1933. Bobby MacBryde is off to the Glasgow School of Art, to his future. On his first day he will meet another Robert, a quiet man with loose dark curls – and never leave his side. With the world on the brink of war, their unrivalled talent takes them all over Europe, partying, loving, fighting, painting. In Soho, they become stars as the bombs fall.

Based on a true story, *The Two Roberts* is a stunningly imagined tale of devotion and obsession, art and class. It's a love letter to two almost-forgotten artists who fought to change the way the world sees – and paid a devastating price.

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Kawai Strong Washburn was born and raised on the Hamakua coast of the Big Island of Hawai'i. His work has appeared in *McSweeney's*, *Electric Literature* and *The Best American Nonrequired Reading*, among others. He has received scholarships from the Tin House and Bread Loaf writer's workshops and has worked in software and as a climate policy advocate. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife and daughters. *Sharks in the Time of Saviours* was his first novel. It won the 2021 PEN/Hemingway Award for a debut novel, was shortlisted for the Kitschies Gold Tentacle Award, was a Barack Obama Book of the Year, and a Best Book of the Year in the *New York Times*, *Guardian*, *Irish Times*, *Oprah Magazine* and *BBC Culture*.

✉ kawaistrongwashburn.com

The Names of the New World

KAWAI STRONG WASHBURN

The award-winning author of *Sharks in the Time of Saviours* explores themes of multicultural and multiracial identities and their intersection with migration, climate justice, and the socioeconomic and political failures of America

A superstorm ravages present-day Minneapolis, throwing Naomi Kaisha, thirty-year-old attorney from the Marshall Islands, together with two young Black men – one an investment banker, the other a diesel mechanic – as they struggle to survive the aftermath. Upon learning that the superstorm was induced by climate change – and recognizing similar damages emerging in the refuge of her island homelands – Naomi begins a legal fight against those she holds responsible.

As the case grows in stature and complexity, launching her into national prominence, Naomi's bond with her newfound companions is severely tested, as the case threatens the very foundations of their well-being and sense of self. When her push for change reaches a violent climax, Naomi is forced to make difficult choices between those she loves and the enemies that would doom not only their lives, but the very homeland she holds dear.



Also by Kawai Strong Washburn

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Rachid Benzine is a teacher and research associate at the Fonds Ricoeur. He is the author of numerous works acclaimed by both the public and critics alike, including *Lettres à Nour* (Letters to Nour), *Ainsi parlait ma mère* (So Spoke My Mother), *Des mille et une façons d'être juif ou musulman* (A Thousand and One Ways of Being Jewish or Muslim), and *Voyage au bout de l'enfance* (A Journey to the Land of Childhood). His latest novel *Les Silences des pères* (The Silences of Fathers) was awarded the Grand Prix du roman Métis.

Sam Taylor is an award-winning literary translator and novelist. He has translated over seventy books from French including works by authors such as Laurent Binet, Leïla Slimani, David Diop, Maylis de Kerangal and Marcel Proust. His translations have received recognition from the International Booker Prize, National Book Award, Dublin Literary Award, Scott-Moncrieff Prize, French-American Foundation Translation Prize and Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize. Born in England, Sam was a journalist at the *Observer* before moving to France. He now lives in Texas with his family and is working on his sixth novel.

5 November 2026

Hardback Fiction 160pp

The Man Who Read Books

RACHID BENZINE

A magnificent modern tale on the humanising power of books by prize-winning novelist Rachid Benzine, translated for the very first time into English by Sam Taylor

A young French photographer travels to Palestine to report on the bombings in Gaza. One morning, during a ceasefire, he wanders far from his hotel into the narrow alleys of the city. Roaming aimlessly, he stumbles across a bookseller sitting on the doorstep of his shop – an old man, surrounded by stacks of books. As the photographer raises his camera, the bookseller calls out to him and asks him to listen to his story, not simply take his picture.

The story that unfolds is one that encompasses exile and imprisonment, activism and political disillusionment, the joys of love and art and watching your children grow up and thrive, and the tragedies that tear your loved ones from you. Each event is tied to the book that helped him understand and, in some cases, survive it, from Milan Kundera to Frantz Fanon to Umberto Eco to Ernest Hemingway, among many others. There's a saying that when an old man dies a library burns, and it's this very library that the bookseller opens and describes.

Rachid Benzine gives us a magnificent modern tale that explores the power of words against barbarism, of books as the last bastions of resistance against the loss of empathy, of literature as a means of sustenance during our darkest hours.

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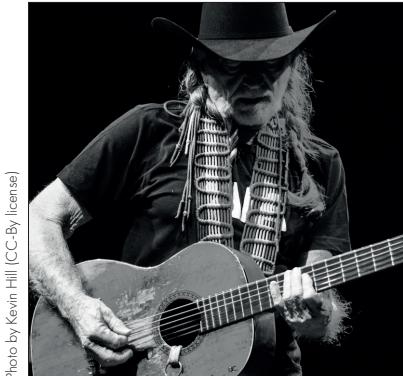


Photo by Kevin Hill (CC-By license)

Willie Nelson is an American musician. He lives in Austin, Texas.

'How can you make sense of him? How would you define the indefinable or the unfathomable? What is there to say? Ancient Viking Soul? Master Builder of the Impossible? Patron poet of people who never fit in and don't much care to? Moonshine Philosopher? Tumbleweed singer with a PhD? Red Bandana troubadour, braids like twin ropes lassoing eternity? What do you say about a guy who plays an old, battered guitar that he treats like it's the last loyal dog in the universe? Cowboy apparition, writes songs with holes that you can crawl through to escape from something. Voice like a warm porchlight left on for wanderers who kissed goodbye too soon or stayed too long. I guess you can say all that. But it really doesn't tell you a lot or explain anything about Willie. Personally speaking I've always known him to be kind, generous, tolerant and understanding of human feebleness, a benefactor, a father and a friend. He's like the invisible air. He's high and low. He's in harmony with nature. And that's what makes him Willie.' **Bob Dylan**

The Last Leaf

Reflections on Late-Life Creativity and My Longest Love Affair

WILLIE NELSON

Beloved American icon Willie Nelson shares his well-earned wisdom about reaching an astonishing creative flourishing and an even deeper union with the love of his life, Annie

Willie Nelson is 92, and he has not been slowing down. In the past 12 years, he has recorded 17 new studio albums, written 36 new songs and headlined over 400 live shows. What has been going on? With his trademark down-home wit, Nelson opens up and brings us in touch with the same inexhaustible, vital stream of energy he has learned how to stay tapped into.

'Looking to the future as I look to the past,' he writes, 'I stay in the present.' That captures the spirit of *The Last Leaf*: forging ahead. It also flashes back to life-altering moments, including facing almost certain death during Covid and what Nelson gained from that.

Woven into his recollections of his own life as an artist is his beautiful and often hilarious account of how the fiery spirit of Annie, his wife and best friend for four decades, has matched his own. Much has been written about the thrill of first falling in love. In *The Last Leaf* we get, beautifully, the other end of the story—the abiding of that love into the harmony of sustained partnership.

In every great book, at least ideally, the last chapter is the best chapter. *The Last Leaf* shows how true that can be.

13 November 2026

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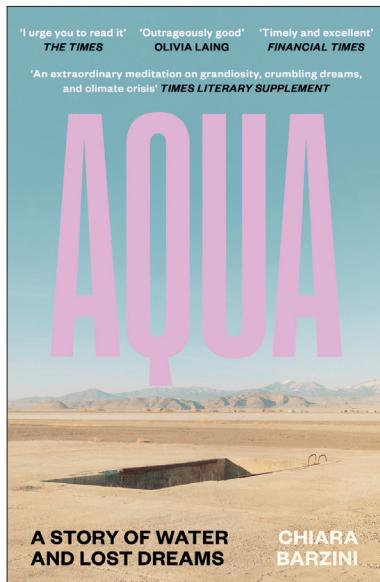
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Chiara Barzini is an award-winning Italian screen and fiction writer. She lived and studied in the United States where she covered lifestyle and culture stories for numerous American and Italian publications. She writes and translates both in English and Italian and is the author of the short story collection *Sister Stop Breathing* (Calamari Press, 2012) and the novel *Things That Happened Before the Earthquake* (Doubleday, 2017) which was a Best Book of the Year for *Vogue*, *Esquire*, *Elle*, *Bustle*, and the *Guardian*, and a best summer book for the *New York Times*, *Publishers Weekly*, the BBC, and *Oprah!* magazine. Her fiction has appeared in numerous anthologies and journals. She has a regular column in *D Repubblica* and is a Literature Advisor at the American Academy in Rome.

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Aqua

A Story of Water and Lost Dreams

CHIARA BARZINI

A hybrid of memoir, travel and cultural history that explores how water altered LA and the history of film

'Like going on a great adventure to unknown parts'
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In this beautiful and wide-ranging exploration of water, film and dreams versus reality, award-winning Italian author and filmmaker Chiara Barzini traces the geography of the Los Angeles aqueduct, from its source, across the desert, to the city that it helped into existence, all while reckoning with her personal history with the landscape. From the 'fake' waters of the Universal Studios Jaws attraction to Salton Sea – California's largest lake and 'the only man-made mistake visible from space' – *Aqua* explores how water, and its absence, shaped both a modern landscape and the history of film.

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Internationally acclaimed poet **David Whyte** makes his home in the Pacific Northwest, where rain and changeable skies remind him of the other, more distant homes from which he comes: Yorkshire, Wales and Ireland. He holds a degree in Marine Zoology and honorary degrees from Neumann University in Pennsylvania and Royal Roads University in Victoria, British Columbia. He is the author of nine volumes of poetry and four books of prose, as well as a collection of audio recordings.

davidwhyte.com
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The Three Marriages

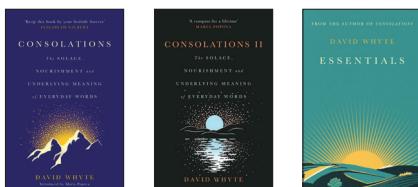
Reimagining Work, Self and Relationship

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For fifteen years, readers have been returning to the wisdom of David Whyte's *Three Marriages* - now in a beautiful new edition

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Over the course of the book he considers his own struggles and the lives of some of the world's greatest writers: Dante, Austen and Louis Stevenson among others. A fulfilled life, he demonstrates, is one in which our core commitments are connected and nourish each other.



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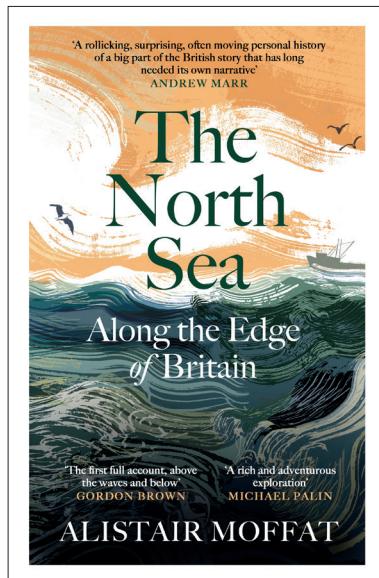
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Alistair Moffat MBE was born in Kelso, Scotland in 1950. He is an award-winning writer, historian and former Director of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and Director of Programmes at Scottish Television. He is the founder of the Borders Book Festival and was awarded the MBE for services to literature and culture in 2025.

alistairmoffat.co.uk

The North Sea

Along the Edge of Britain

ALISTAIR MOFFAT

Renowned historian Alistair Moffat traces the windswept story of the North Sea throughout British history and examines how it has shaped who we are and how we see ourselves

This is the epic, sweeping history of our shores and our relationship to the sea. It's a story of newcomers and the mark they left. It is a story of warring tribes, foreign invaders, lost civilisations and holidaymakers. But it is also a story of huge technological advancement and industry: of submarine engineering and weather forecasting, of whaling expeditions, fishing trawlers and offshore wind farms. From renowned historian, Alistair Moffat, this is the story of how the North Sea shaped us and will continue to do so; it is above all a story of insistent, inescapable change.



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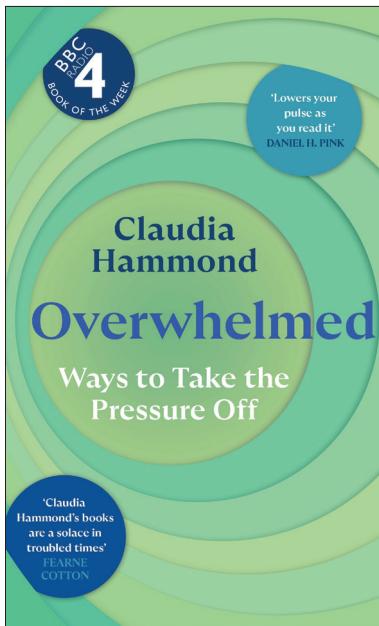
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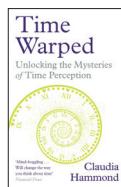
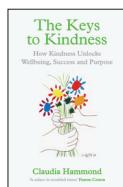
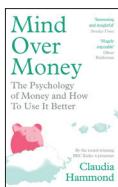
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Claudia Hammond is an award-winning writer and broadcaster. She is Visiting Professor of the Public Understanding of Psychology at the University of Sussex and is the presenter of BBC Radio 4's *All in the Mind*. She has been awarded the President's Medal from the British Academy, the British Psychological Society's Public Engagement and Media Award, Mind's Making a Difference Award and the British Neuroscience Association's Public Understanding of Neuroscience Award.

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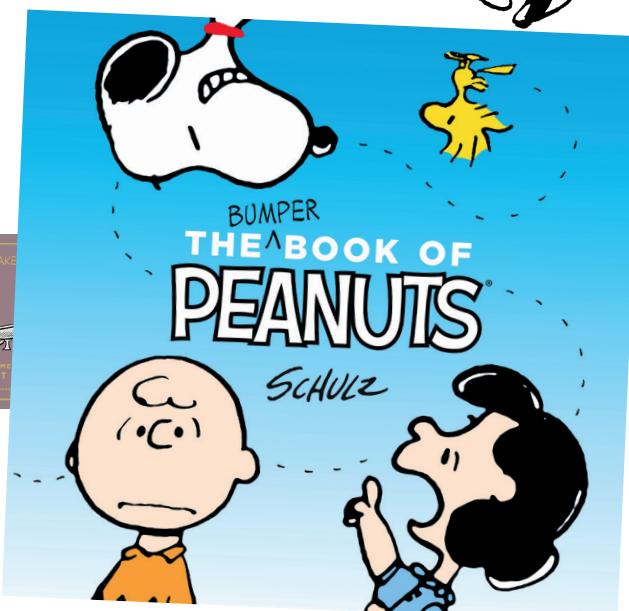
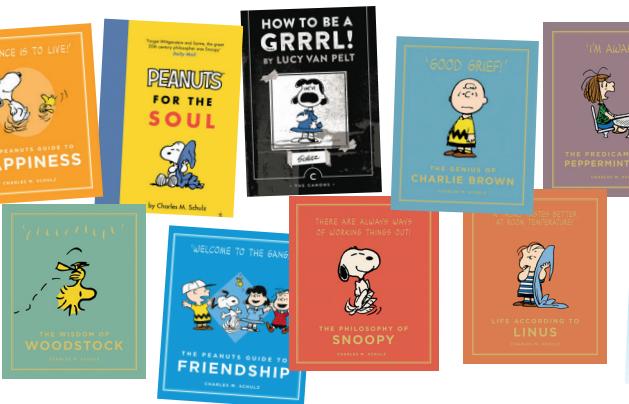
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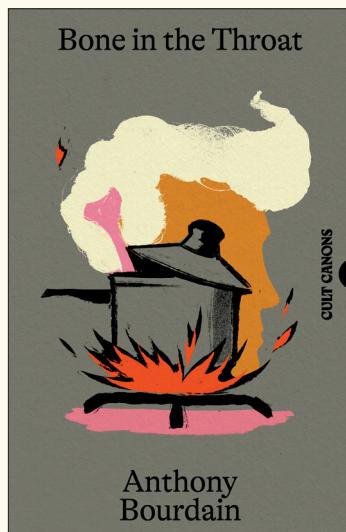
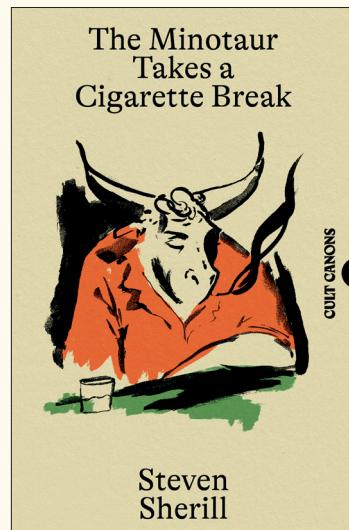
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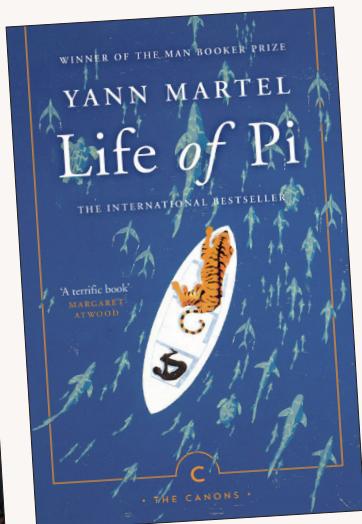
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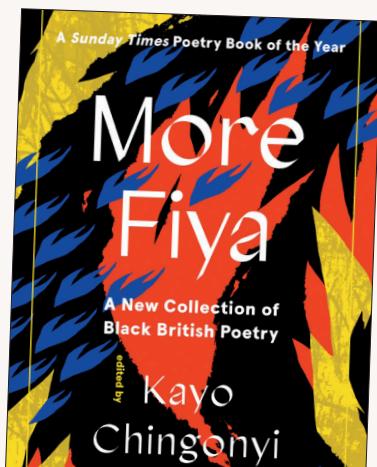
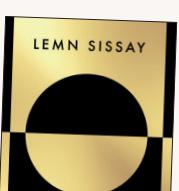
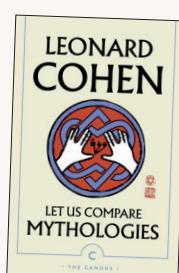
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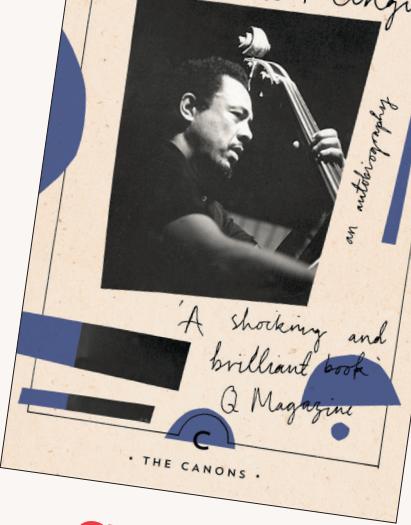
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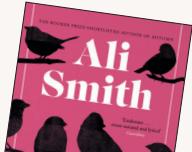
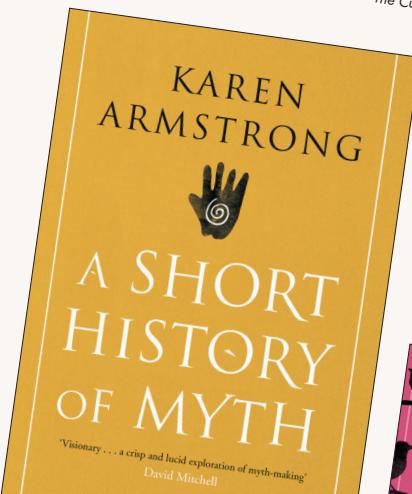
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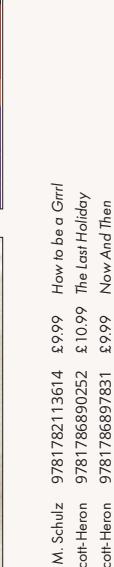
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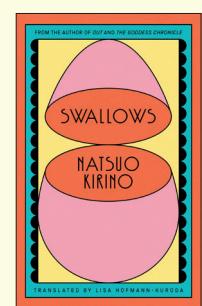
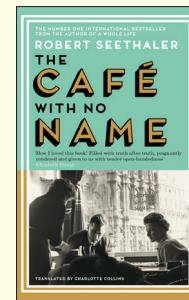
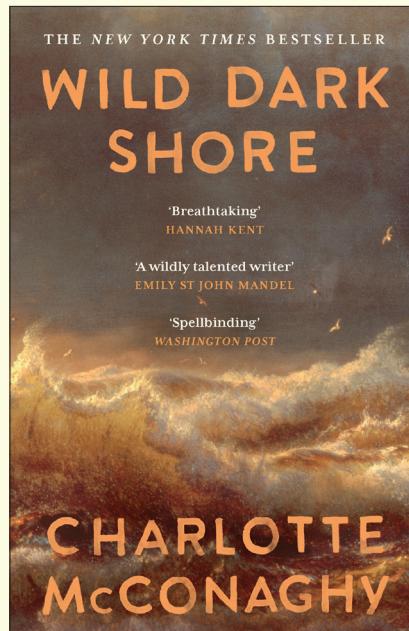
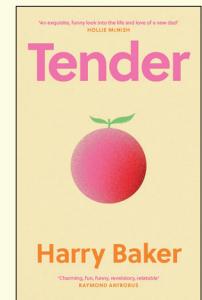
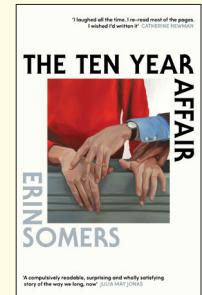
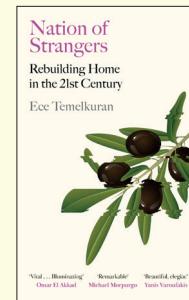
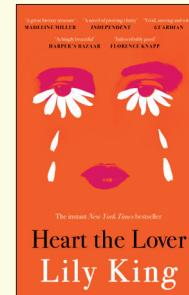
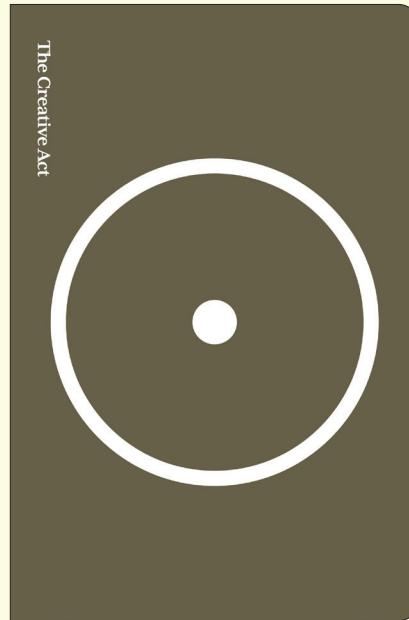
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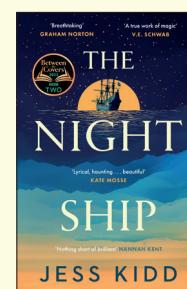
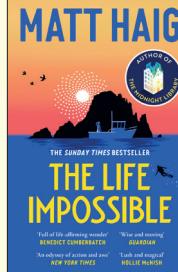
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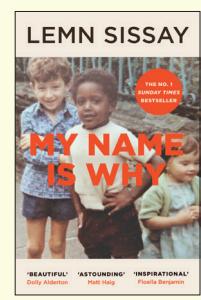
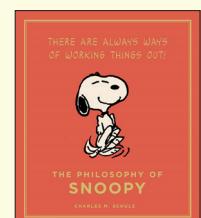
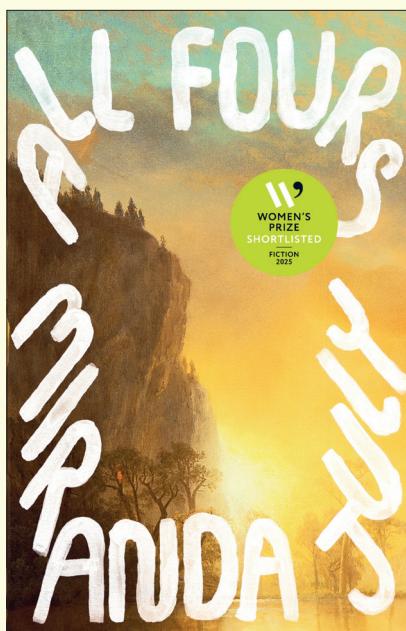
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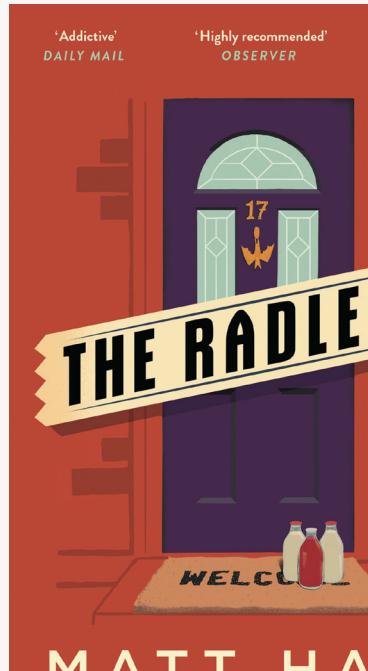
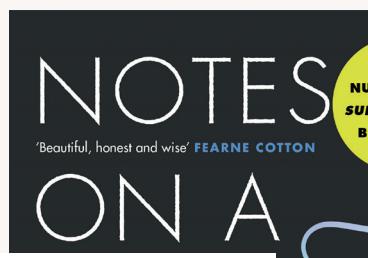
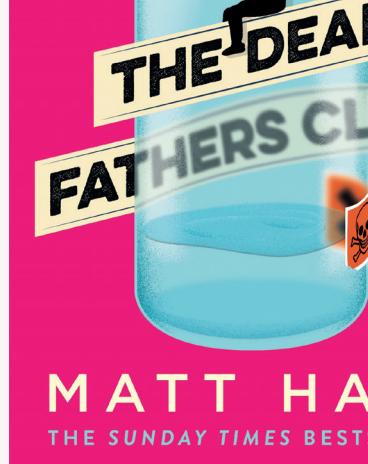
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