



BRYONY WOODS
LITERARY AGENCY

Spring Rights Guide 2026

Bryony Woods Literary Agency
Salisbury House, 29 Finsbury Circus,
London EC2M 5QQ

Tel: +44 (0)203 514 6544

bryony@bryonywoods.co.uk

rights@bryonywoods.co.uk



Media rights represented by:
Andrew Mills, Revolution Talent
andrew@revolutiontalent.co.uk



Translation rights represented by:

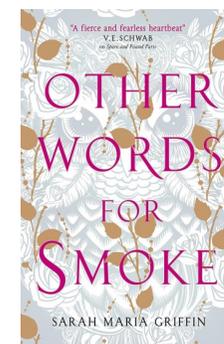
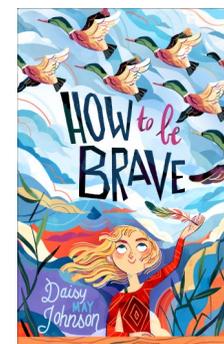
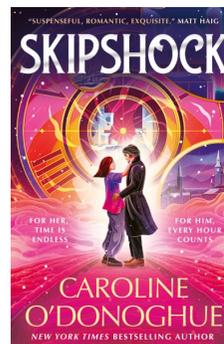
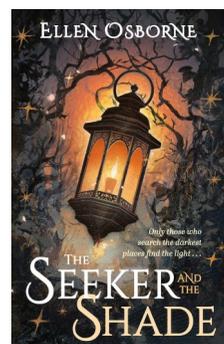
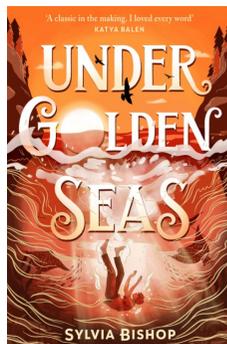
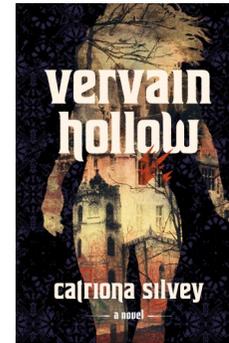
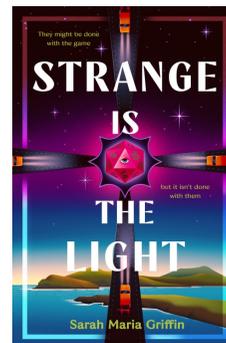
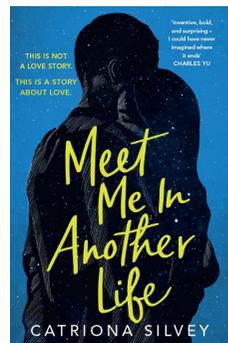
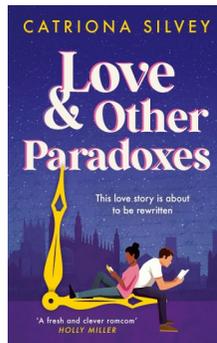
Marotte et Compagnie (French) | Sebes & Bisseling (Dutch, Scandinavian and Nordic languages) | The Fritz Agency (German) | Berla & Griffini (Italian)
The Foreign Office (Spanish, Portuguese and Catalan) | Macadamia (Polish) | Andrew Nurnberg Associates Budapest (Hungarian and Croatian)
Eastern European and Asian Rights Agency (Baltic States, Ukraine) | The Van Lear Agency (Russian) | AnatoliaLit (Turkish) | Japan Uni (Japanese)
The Grayhawk Agency (Complex and Simple Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian) | The Deborah Harris Agency (Hebrew)
Prava i prevodi (Czech, Slovak, Romanian, Bulgarian, Serbian, Slovene, and Greek), EYA (Korean, non-exclusive)

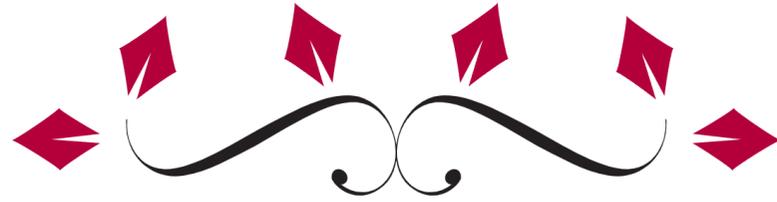


 **CONTENTS** 

ADULT FICTION P.3

CHILDREN'S & YOUNG ADULT FICTION P.13





BRYONY WOODS

LITERARY AGENCY

◆ ADULT FICTION ◆





JEN COWNIE

Jen Cownie is an author, podcaster, brand strategist, and one half of the tarot reading duo Litwitchure.

She's the co-author of *Wild Card: Let the Tarot Tell Your Story* (Bluebird, Pan Macmillan, 2022). Jen appears as a regular guest (and resident Taylor Swift expert) on *Sentimental Garbage* with Caroline O'Donoghue, and co-hosts the popular spin-off *Continental Garbage*, with approximately 1.5 million downloads to date. She is based in London. NEVER GO HOME is her debut novel.

NEVER GO HOME

Status: On UK submission from March 2026

Genre: Contemporary Fiction

Rights Available: All

Six friends enter the forest. Only five will come out.

Em, Rose, Charlie, Sora, Adam and Nick. They have a lot of catching up to do. The past decade has seen them drifting apart, while the tensions and secrets they've all been harbouring have been left to sink deep into the past.

Perhaps a weekend away is what they need, to reconnect and heal old wounds. But things go wrong almost straight away, and they find themselves in search of a new place to stay. That's when Em receives a message. None of them have spoken to Wyn in over a decade, but now she is offering them a place in her home, deep in the nearby forest.

Wyn isn't what she seems, and neither is the forest. Em knows she should be cautious. But as her friends are learning to fear the trees, Em is beginning to realise that the bigger threat has been closer to home all along...

Compelling and tenderly written, with a rich twist of dark magic at its heart, this is a powerful story of platonic love, toxic romance and the courage it takes to see the people around us for who and what they truly are. Perfect for fans of Holly Bourne, Caroline O'Donoghue and Shirley Jackson.

Extract:

Wyn looked at Em again, expression unreadable. "Do you know how people really drown?"

"No," she answered.

"They do it silently. If you're drowning, you shut down. Your mind knows what's happening, it knows that you're in mortal danger, but your body freezes up. It can't move at all: certainly not to splash or to call for aid, or to wave a hand." Wyn's large eyes fixed on Em, unblinking, green and depthless, no light reflecting in them. "People who are drowning are motionless, just bobbing there, mouth and nose dipping in and out of the water. They stare, though, if there's anyone close enough by to see them. Often enough, people end up looking on the ones they love drown right in front of them, sometimes making eye contact the whole way."

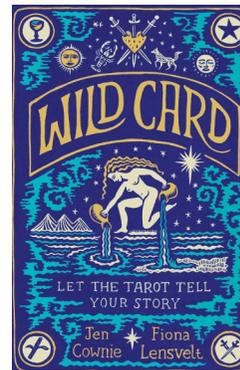
Em swallowed. Her breath was shallow in her chest. She didn't know if she could speak, but she found her voice: dry and quiet as a whisper.

"So how do you know? What do you do?"

"You've got to watch carefully," Wyn replied. "If you notice someone going still and quiet, you ask if they're alright. And if they don't answer you, it's not because they're fine - it's because they can't answer. That's when you have to help them. Otherwise, they just can just go under, silent as anything."

Wyn's eyes stayed locked on Em's, huge and serious. It felt like a searchlight on a dark night, almost blinding in its intensity. She couldn't look away, couldn't say anything, could only shiver as the words lodged somewhere in her chest, somewhere near her bruised, secretive heart.

Also by Jen Cownie:



"A beautiful, playful, intriguing book."

- Nina Stibbe."

"A tarot reading guide for people who aren't wholly sure that they are witchy enough to be into tarot. **It's just the right balance of cosmic mystery and straight talking sense.**"

- Caroline O'Donoghue





SARAH MARIA GRIFFIN

Shortlisted for Author of the Year at the Irish Book Awards 2025 and recently announced as the new Writer Fellow at Trinity College Dublin, Sarah Maria Griffin is the author of the bestselling lyrical horror novel *EAT THE ONES YOU LOVE* (Tor US/Titan UK 2025), the forthcoming horror novel *STRANGE IS THE LIGHT* (Tor/Titan 2026) and the Irish Book

Award winning YA novel *OTHER WORDS FOR SMOKE*. Sarah writes about videogames for *The Guardian*, and her nonfiction has appeared in *The Irish Times*, *The Winter Papers*, and *The Stinging Fly*, amongst other places.

EVERYTHING NOT SAVED

UK Publisher: W&N (UK & translation), Spring 2028

Genre: Literary Fiction

Rights Available: US, Film/TV, Translation via Publisher

Orla Birch is devastated to hear of the death of her favourite game designer, Sly Reed. Still reeling from the recent loss of her job and facing financial ruin, she attends a memorial exhibition for Sly, where she receives an intriguing offer. Among Sly's body of work is a lost game: one he designed but mysteriously destroyed before it could be released. Only one copy is known to still exist, but it was lost years ago.

If Orla can track it down, all of her financial problems might be solved. And her former flame Georgie, whose fame as a popular YouTuber has skyrocketed in the years since they last met, is willing to help her find it.

But finding this game means more to Orla than just the financial security it promises. There are many layers to the mystery of why the game was written, and why it was never released. And it soon becomes obvious that Orla and Georgie aren't the only ones looking for it.

From the acclaimed author of *Eat The Ones You Love* and *Other Words for Smoke*, *Everything Not Saved* is a beautiful contemporary novel about grief, desire, fandom, and the way that stories in all forms can connect us to the things we love, and those we've lost.

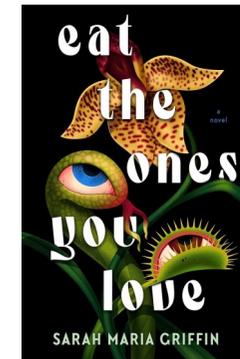
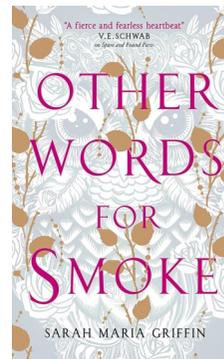
Extract:

She migrated towards an empty glass case, lit by a single fallen spotlight, with a set of pictures on the wall and a short abstract hanging beside it. She walked to it, drawn, knowing that what she really wanted wasn't there, but curious to see what they'd meant by including the empty space where it belonged.

Project Murmur. Well. The lack thereof. Sly Reed's missing masterpiece.

*Orla had watched every video available on Murmur, lurked the forums dedicated to – unsuccessfully – tracking down any copies that existed. It didn't really exist, she knew that. Not in the way she wanted it to. It had been the project that Sly had worked on between *Might Ridge* and *Legend Eater* – he'd abandoned it for *Legend Eater*, technically. It had been announced, though no release date was ever published, let alone met. It was even shown at E3 – that's where the photographs on the wall were from. Images on a screen, beyond a crowd. Black and white lettering bold and blocky, the word *Murmur*. It would have been one of the last Nintendo 64 games, so any copies of it that had existed lived on fickle, now ancient cartridges. It was testament to the mystery behind the game that even *MODAM* couldn't source a copy. The original surviving founders of *Red Blue* were in the museum themselves, and there was no *Murmur*. There might have been ten copies, once. Now there were none, and Orla stood in front of the none as though it were a weeping *Virgin Mary*, a piece of the moon.*

Also by Sarah Maria Griffin:



"Fierce and fearless."

-
V.E. Schwab





SARAH MARIA GRIFFIN

Sarah Maria Griffin is from Dublin, Ireland. She is the author of the novels *Spare & Found Parts* and *Other Words For Smoke*, which won an Irish Book Award in 2019. Her first novel for adults, *Eat The Ones You Love*, was published as a lead title by Tor (US) and Titan (UK) in 2025.

She writes about video games for *The Guardian*, and her nonfiction has appeared in *The Irish Times*, *The Winter Papers*, and *The Stinging Fly*, amongst other places. She also makes zines.

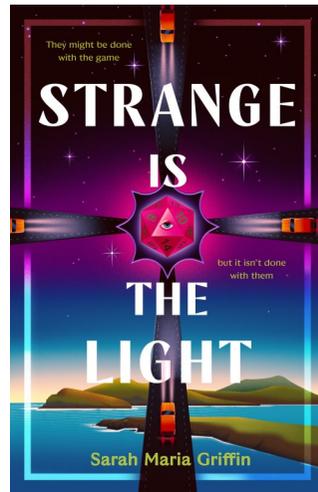
STRANGE IS THE LIGHT

US Publisher: Tor (NA), September 2026

Genre: Horror

Rights Sold: UK/Ireland (Titan)

A childhood game of wild imagination takes a frightening turn in this dark, strange, moving tale of intense friendship, tangled secrets and betrayal from the acclaimed author of *Eat the Ones You Love*, one of the Sunday Times's Top Ten Irish Books of 2025.



For Daphne McSharry, Valentia Island was a place of joyful childhood holidays: independence, adventure and playing with her beloved friends, Ronan, Leonie and Finn. They returned to one game of their own making year after year, and let their imaginations roam free. But when the game is stolen from them by an outsider, it becomes something dark and strange, forcing Daphne to make a choice with a terrible cost. When tragedy brings her back to the island years later, she and her friends finally have to face the consequences of what she did.

Daphne never took her final turn... And there is a debt that must be paid.

Extract:

Ronan Quaid was almost forty and running out of skin.

He lay on his back on a long, black table, arm outstretched onto a metal and leather support designed very specifically for holding up any appendage that might want tattooing. There was cling film everywhere, and the chemical reek of disinfectant was distinctly reassuring to Ronan's best friend, Daphne McSharry, who sat waiting in a state of forced calm, staring into her phone.

They had to get on the road in the next hour if they wanted to hit the island before nightfall.

It was a hard day, and was going to be a worse day tomorrow, which was why Daphne hadn't protested Ronan's choice of moment to acquire a new tattoo, something small in one of the rare remaining archipelagos of unillustrated skin he had left. Once he was done, they were going to get into her car and drive for four hours, through the Ring of Kerry and eventually over the long wooden bridge, back to the island of their youth.

They'd get up first thing for the funeral, and go hand in hand through the whole day, staring down the barrel of the past.

Daphne thought about what waited at the end—two eyes, vast in a dark sky, winking like opals.

Praise for Sarah Maria Griffin:

"This poignant and original examination of desire and decay is **a stunner.**"
- *Publisher's Weekly*, starred review

"The ultimate complex relationship story, this horrific tale is infused with humor and wit via Griffin's prose." - *Library Journal* (starred review)

"Eat the Ones You Love is a must-read. Both literary and accessible, dark and darkly humorous, **Griffin has struck gold here.**" - *The Michigan Daily*

"Deliciously strange, delightfully wicked." - *V. E. Schwab*

"I devoured it." - *Olivie Blake, NYT bestselling author of The Atlas Six*

"A masterpiece. Griffin's voice is absolutely singular; scalpel-sharp and deeply lyrical, **every word unexpected and yet precise.**"

- *Laura Steven*





CATRIONA SILVEY

Catriona Silvey grew up in Scotland, and now lives in Edinburgh. Her short stories have been performed at the Edinburgh International Book Festival and shortlisted for the Bridport Prize. Her debut novel, *Meet Me In Another Life*, was published to rave reviews in 2021. Her second novel, *Love and Other Paradoxes*, followed in 2025.

Vervain Hollow, her third novel, marks an exciting new direction: a darkly magical thriller in the vein of V. E. Schwab and Silvia Moreno-Garcia.

VERVAIN HOLLOW

US Publisher: Union Square, Hachette (North America), June 2026

Genre: Gothic Thriller

Rights Available: UK, Translation, Dramatisation

Ever since Vervain Hollow burned to the ground, Laura's life has turned to ash.

All the neighbours think she's crazy. She was in a cult, after all. And even after the fire, after they all – all except Vervain, of course – escaped with their lives, Laura still insists that everything she'd been led to believe is real. That magic exists. That Vervain, their strikingly handsome and magnetic leader, was more than simply human.

Now, three years later, Laura is trying to move on from that strange, fantastical, terrifying year, struggling to move through her trauma and the mysterious hold that Vervain had over her (that he still, somehow, has over her). But then Laura's now estranged friend Aliyah calls with news: former acolyte Daniel has gone back to the Hollow, claiming to have received a message from Vervain. Daniel's last communication consisted of three frantic words:

He's still here.

As Laura and Aliyah venture back to the Hollow to find the truth, Laura finds herself reliving that first year. Can everything she remembers possibly be true?

And can she extricate herself from Vervain's influence, or will she finally claim the wonderful and terrifying power he promised her - at any cost?

Extract:

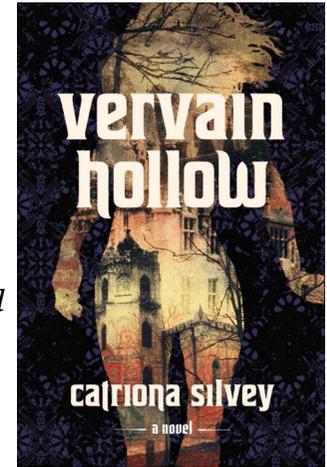
We drew past the trees, into the open where the house came clear as it had in my nightmares since I left. Vervain Hollow, where part of me had died. The wooden half was a charred skeleton, beams standing out like uneven ribs. The stone half survived, turret still rising high above the roof of the main hall: absurd, in this flat land with its infinite horizon. I had seen it last in summer. Now, in fall, the Virginia creeper burned bright as the flames that had consumed it.

Aliyah and Joseph gasped. I stared between them through the windshield, trying to look as shocked as they did. I wasn't supposed to have seen the Hollow since the fire.

I was afraid they would see through me. But they didn't even look. They were too caught up in the final death of a dream that had once belonged to all of us.

Aliyah stopped the car. She said something to Joseph, and Joseph replied, but the words might as well have been the sounds of birds. In my mind, I was already searching the house for any trace of you.

The house had never been yours. You had settled into its abandoned body like a hermit crab into a scavenged shell: as Jedediah Drake had settled on the land of the Miami, building his mansion here, dragging his daughter Genevieve with him so she could become a ghost. Just as we, now, had become your ghosts: your relics, broken and scattered, marked forever by your touch.



"A dark and mind-bending tale ... a brilliantly-paced gothic cult horror."
- Marianne Gordon

"Profoundly unsettling."
- Sunyi Dean

**"Sinister and all-consuming, Vervain Hollow swallows you whole.
A cult horror classic in the making."**
- Kat Dunn





CATRIONA SILVEY

Catriona Silvey's debut novel, *Meet Me In Another Life*, was published to rave reviews in 2021 and has been translated into a further 13 languages. Her second novel, *Love and Other Paradoxes*, was published in 2025.

LOVE AND OTHER PARADOXES

UK Publisher: HarperCollins (UK & Comm, ex. Canada), April 2025

Genre: Speculative Romantic Comedy

Rights Sold: US (William Morrow), Russian (Atticus), Ukrainian (Laboratory), Film/TV (Under Option)

Joe's a poet destined for greatness.

Diana's the muse who will inspire his words.

Esi's the time traveller who just messed up their meet cute.

And if she can't get this love story back on track, everyone's future is at stake.

Cambridge University student Joe Greene dreams of a future where his words will echo through the ages.

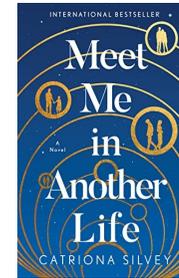
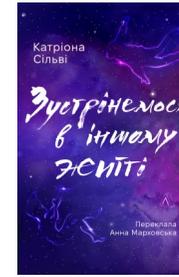
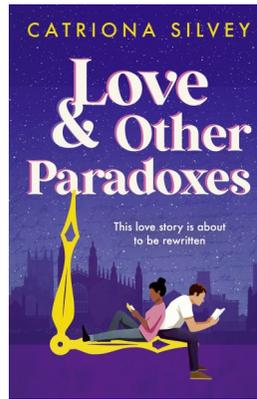
Esi already knows his future. She's on a time-traveling tour to witness history's greatest moments. In Esi's era, Joe is as renowned as Shakespeare, and he's about to meet Diana, the subject of his famous love poems.

But Esi is harbouring a secret. This year, something will happen at Cambridge that will wreck her life, and she's hellbent on changing it. When she bumps into Joe, she sends his destiny into a tailspin. To save both their futures, Esi becomes Joe's dating coach, helping him win over Diana. But when Joe starts falling for Esi instead – they both face a crucial question:

Is the future set in stone, or can we rewrite our fates?

“This **fresh, fascinating** take on love in the time of time travel would be a **hit in any timeline.**”

— *Kirkus (starred review)*

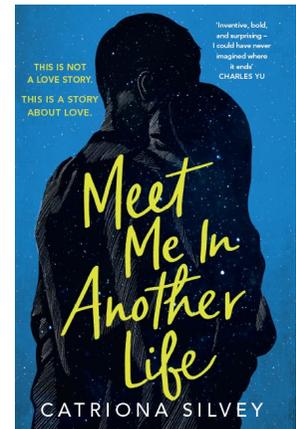


MEET ME IN ANOTHER LIFE

UK Publisher: HarperCollins (UK & Comm, ex. Canada), July 2021

Genre: Literary/Speculative Fiction

Rights Sold: US (William Morrow), Brazil (Buzz Editora), Complex Chinese (Infotress), Czech (Bourdon), French (Bragelonne), Hebrew (Aryeh Nir), Hungarian (Konyvmolykepzo), Italian (Mondadori), Korean (Moonhaksoochup), Polish (Poradnia K), Russian (Atticus), Turkish (Eksik Parca), Ukrainian (Laboratory), Vietnamese (Nhan Van), Film (Atlas/Pilot Wave)



****No. 2 WATERSTONES BESTSELLER****

****SUNDAY TIMES TOP 20 BESTSELLER****

****INDY NEXT PICK SUMMER 2022****

“**Inventive, bold and surprising...** Cleverly constructed and highly entertaining.” - *Charles Yu*

“**A remarkable debut,** haunting, genre-transcending.” - *Stephen Baxter*





CAROLINE O'DONOGHUE

Caroline O'Donoghue is a *New York Times* bestselling author, screenwriter and host of the hugely popular and award-winning podcast *Sentimental Garbage*. She has written three novels for adults: *Promising Young Women*, which was shortlisted for the AN Post Irish Book Awards, *Scenes of a Graphic Nature*, which was longlisted for the Ondaatje Prize, and the international bestseller

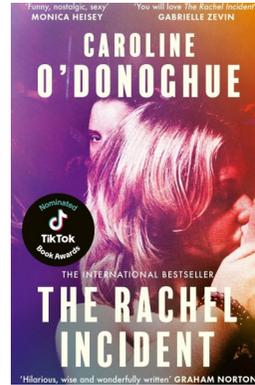
The Rachel Incident. She is also the author of the *New York Times* bestselling YA series, *All Our Hidden Gifts*. She was named one of Ireland's '30 under 30' most exciting artists by the *Sunday Times*. Her novels have received rave reviews and have been published in 26 languages to date.

THE RACHEL INCIDENT

UK Publisher: Virago (UK & Comm, ex. Canada), June 2023

Genre: Literary/Commercial Fiction

Rights Sold: US/Canada (Knopf), Brazil (Buzz Editora), Catalan (Ara Llibres), Czech (Grada), Dutch (Ambo Anthos), French (Mercure de France), German (KiWi), Hungarian (Athenaeum), Italian (NN Editore), Lithuanian (Alma Littera), Polish (Poznańskie), Portuguese (PRH), Romanian (Librex Media), Russian (Eksmo), Serbian (Vulkan), Spanish (Libros del Asteroide), Swedish (Historiska Media), Taiwan (Delight Press), Ukrainian (Vivat), UK Audio (W F Howes), Film/TV (Universal / Page Boy / Element / Channel 4)



The Rachel Incident is an all-consuming love story. But it's not the one you're expecting. It's unconventional and messy. It's young and foolish. It's about losing and finding yourself. But it is always about love.

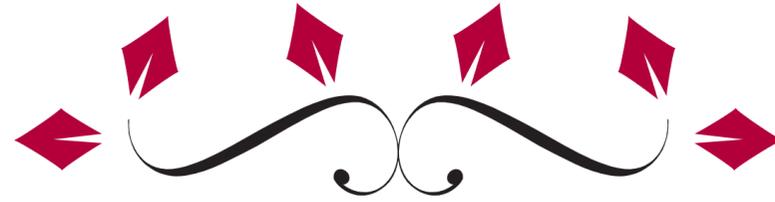
When Rachel falls in love with her married professor, Dr Byrne, her best friend James helps her devise a plan to seduce him. But what begins as a harmless crush soon pushes their friendship to its limits. Over the course of a year they will find their lives ever more entwined with the Byrnes' and be faced with impossible choices and a lie that can't be taken back...



“Astute and funny as hell...
A gratifying, accomplished novel.”
- *New York Times*

Also by Caroline O'Donoghue:





BRYONY WOODS

LITERARY AGENCY

◆ CHILDREN'S AND YA FICTION ◆





CAROLINE O'DONOGHUE

Caroline O'Donoghue is a *New York Times* bestselling author, screenwriter, journalist and award-winning podcaster.

Her novels have so far been published in 26 languages. *Skipshock* is her groundbreaking new YA novel.

SKIPSHOCK

UK Publisher: Walker (WAL), June 2025
Age Group: 13+
Rights Sold: US (Candlewick), Brazil (VR Editoras), Bulgarian (Pro Book), French (Auzou), German (Fischer), Italian (Salani), Japanese (Tokyo Sogensha), Spanish (Duomo), Turkish (Timas), Ukrainian (The Old Lion), UK Audio (W F Howes), US Audio (Listening Library), Film/TV (Under Option)

Margo and Moon were on two different trains, in two different worlds. They never should have met – but they did. And now they are out of time.

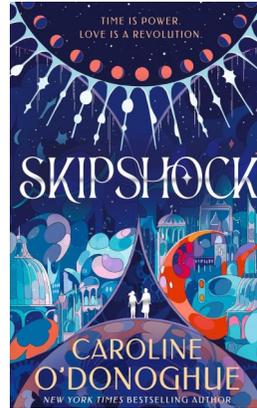
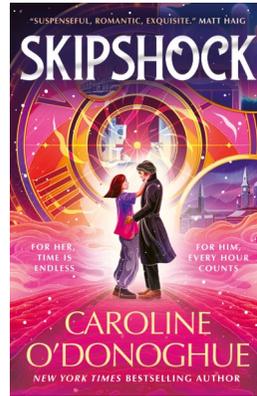
Shortlisted for the Books Are My Bag Awards
Shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards
Shortlisted for the Children's Books Ireland Awards

Margo is on a train when she slips into another dimension, from a 24-hour day to one that begins and ends in just six hours. From a stranger – a travelling salesman named Moon – she learns that New Davia is part of a vast series of connected worlds, all scarred by uprisings, travel bans and world sealings. Power is determined by time: who has it, who doesn't.

Can Margo find a way to get back home – or will she choose to stay in a world where her youth is slipping away faster than ever before, but where she may have found the only person with whom she would choose to spend eternity?

“Caroline O'Donoghue is one of our very best writers; wildly inventive, shockingly smart, with characters so fresh and achingly human you'll follow them anywhere”

– Laura Steven



THE GIFTS SERIES

UK Publisher: Walker (WAL), May 2021

Age Group: 13+

Rights Sold: US (Walker), Czech (Euromedia), Danish (Carlsen), French (Seuil), German (Carlsen), Greek (Patakis), Italian (Garzanti), Polish (Wydawnictwo Jaguar), Romanian (Epica), Russian (Eksmo), Sinhalese (Dedunna), Slovak (IKAR), Spanish (RBA Libros), Ukrainian (The Old Lion), Audio (W F Howes)

Rights Available: Dramatisation (Translation via Publisher)

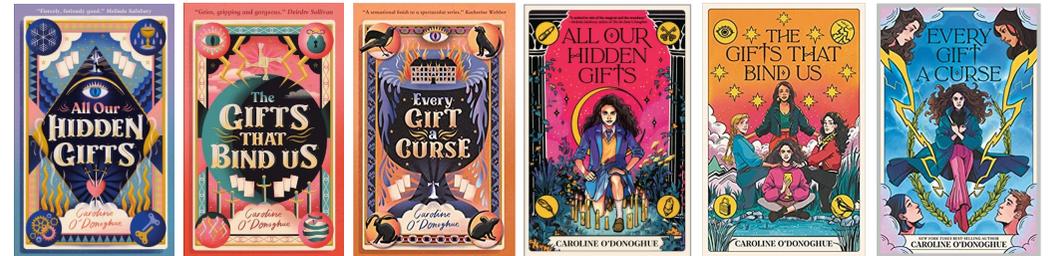
"Fiercely, furiously good."

– Melinda Salisbury

"This YA debut knocked me sideways...[it] feels like a book that should always have existed."

– Kiran Millwood Hargrave

****New York Times Bestseller****





KATHARINE ORTON

Katharine Orton is a writer of magical middle-grade fiction who became a client at BWLA after meeting Bryony Woods as part of the WoMentoring Project.

Nevertell, her first novel, was published by Walker Books in 2019 to overwhelmingly positive reviews.

Her second novel, *Glassheart*, followed in 2020, and a third, *Mountainfell*, in November 2022. Her fourth novel, *The Traitor Moth*, will be published by Simon & Schuster in 2025.

THE TRAITOR MOTH

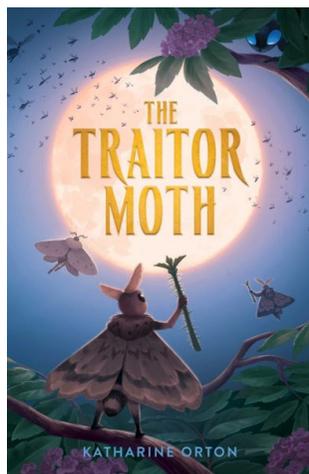
US Publisher: Simon & Schuster (North America), April 2026

Age Group: 9+

Rights Available: UK, Translation, Dramatisation

Trust your dreams, and follow the stars...

Catclaw, a young moth prone to mishaps and flights of fancy, dreams that one day he will have the gift of prophecy, just like his Dreamkin ancestors.



But many moons ago the Dreamkin were exiled from the other noble moth clans, their gifts of prophecy stripped from them as punishment for a crime too awful to even speak of. No Dreamkin has received a prophecy in generations. So when Catclaw receives a vision telling him that all the moth clans are in terrible danger, he's branded a liar and a traitor.

Facing exile from the only clan he's ever known, he sets out alone on the long and treacherous journey back to Deia's Kingdom, the home of the other clans, to warn them. But there is more to the clans' history than Catclaw ever knew, and the closer he gets to them, the more the danger grows. His visions can only tell him part of the story.

And who would ever believe the word of a traitor?

"A heroic epic that's sure to thrill" - Kirkus

Extract:

"Master Saturna!" No. No.

Catclaw rushed over, and then froze. It was clear that the old moth wasn't breathing. His ghost-green wings were faded. Catclaw could tell that he was gone.

Catclaw didn't move. He breathed in the silence, and gazed into the wise old eyes of his clan's leader that still, somehow, seemed to be star-gazing. It was too much. All Catclaw could feel right now was numb.

Now that he took in his old friend's surroundings, he could see that a scruffy book lay next to him, open in the middle and face down. Catclaw reached for the it. It was not one he'd ever seen Master Saturna reading. That was strange. Now that he looked closer, he could see that it was a diary of some kind. He turned it over.

The page was covered in scrawls, a chaos of words and sentences all overlapping and intermingling. But written on the page it had been lying open on, in Master Saturna's own handwriting, were two words that stood out, underlined several times.

They were the words: CATCLAW, and, TRAITOR.

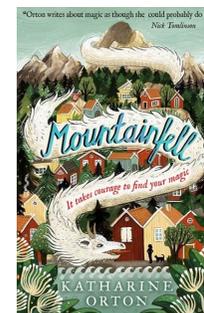
Coming in 2027:

THE LOST CLAN

Book 2 in the Moon Realm series



Also by Katharine Orton:



"This is fantasy at its glutinous best."
- *The Daily Telegraph*,
Books of the Year



ROSIE FLETCHER

Rosie Fletcher is a writer, broadcaster and yarn shop owner. In her former life as a commentator, she was a regular writer for the *New Statesman*, and appeared on BBC Radio 4's *Front Row* and *The Film Programme*. She wrote several episodes for the podcast sitcom *Wooden Overcoats*.

Rosie has an MA in Children's Literature from Goldsmiths, University of London but accidentally opened a yarn shop instead of doing anything with it straight away. *You Will Be Able to Knit By the End of This Book*, her beginners' knitting book, was published by Ilex in 2020.

THE FRIENDS FOREVER KNITTING CLUB

Status: Submission due Spring 2026

Age Group: Upper MG/Tween

Rights Available: All

Len is nervous to be starting school again, having missed a year due to illness. Her former friends have all moved on, and the idea of making new friends is daunting.

So Len resolves to find others who share her passion for knitting, and the Friends Forever Knitting Club is born. There she meets stubborn Daisy, fearless Inna and Dylan, who is arty and kind. Len thinks she may have found somewhere she belongs at last. And Len has begun her most challenging knitting project yet—a jumper that she knows will give her the confidence she needs, if she can finish it in time to wear to the end of term party.

But things quickly become overwhelming. Still recovering from her illness and dealing with unkind comments from other girls, it all becomes too daunting and Len stops coming to school, her unfinished jumper abandoned. Can the Friends Forever Knitting Club come together to help?

A gorgeous new series for fans of *The Babysitter's Club* or *The Sisterhood of the Travelling Pants*, which comes complete with knitting patterns so that readers can knit along with the club!

Extract:

Eleanor, Len to a chosen few, had done two months at Spring Hill High School before she got ill. While everyone else in her year had been making friends, joining clubs, and learning maths that they would never apply to their adult lives, she had been at home. She had been in bed at the start, and then moved to the sofa, and eventually the cluttered garden. Mum had worked from home and Dad had called in every day from the States - he had his morning coffee while she drank an afternoon cup of tea. Len was pretty sure she had watched all the television ever produced and a good chunk of the movies too. She had slept. When she didn't need to sleep, she rested. When she didn't need to rest, she knitted.

The knitting had been by accident. There are only so many ways to occupy your days when getting to the front gate seemed like a marathon.

"I guess that's it," said Mum. "We've exhausted the human experience. It's only knitting or watching paint dry left."

"Sounds like the same thing," said Len. "Anyway, can you even knit? I've never seen you knit."

"You've never seen me bake a wedding cake, I did that."

"Mum. You're divorced."

"Not over the quality of the cake." Len's mum's eyebrow raised in the way that said that Len was very close to crossing a line. "I used to knit when I was a student. I made several quite ugly scarves."

"Is it really that or the paint?"

It turned out that Claire didn't actually really know how to knit or at least not how to teach Len, but with a combination of helpful videos, a beginners' book, and calls to Len's grandma, Len learnt to knit.

And Len loved to knit.

Also by Rosie Fletcher:



From your first stitch to your own complete clothing & homeware projects, this book will guide you from novice to pro.





ELLEN OSBORNE

Ellen grew up in Sheffield on the border of the Peak District and still misses the moors. As a child, she spent a lot of time writing long, rambling stories, which somehow over the years have evolved into proper books. These days she lives in Bristol with her young family and you can find her writing around the edges of life.

In 2024, Ellen was the winner of the Guppy Prize for YA with her debut novel *The Seeker and The Shade*, which Guppy will publish in 2026.

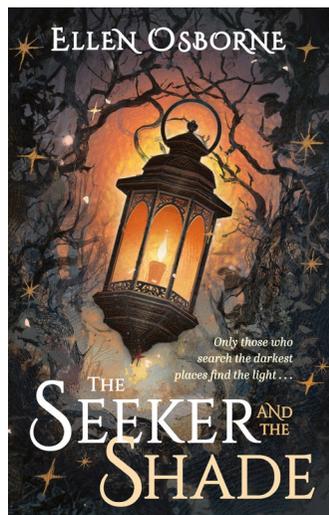
THE SEEKER AND THE SHADE

**UK Publisher: Guppy Books (WAL),
May 2026**

Age Group: 13+

**Rights Sold: Slovak (Fortuna Libri),
Russian (Azbooka)**

**Rights Available: Dramatisation, Audio
(Translation via Publisher)**



Inexperienced but determined, Connie is desperate to become a caster to save her village from the deadly Shade.

Arrogant and privileged, Jasper is everything she detests, and he has no time for a no-hoper like her.

At Blackwood, the fortress in the heart of the Shade where all would-be casters go to train, Connie and Jasper must put aside their mutual dislike and learn together to light the oath lamps that hold back the deadly darkness. Could the undeniable connection that flickers between them become an unbreakable bond? Their lives depend on it, for the vows are failing, the Shade is advancing and only those with the strongest conviction will survive.

Extract:

The lights held the darkness back.

Never had Connie felt more grateful for them. She huddled on the bench of the jolting truck with a dozen others, and each time they came to another of those blazing oath lanterns, their tight, anxious faces gleamed with gold and relief shuddered through them.

The space between the lanterns was the unbearable part. That moment where the glow fell away – not quite full darkness, but on the shadowy edges, right before the next one – that was what made Connie’s stomach flip cold. Like falling, every single time.

At one point, she made the mistake of turning to look through the greasy glass at the passing forest. The trees were spidery outlines, twisted and fossilised, and beyond them gaped deep, obsidian black. She jerked her head back, panic scalding her.

Best not to think too much about what they were driving through. Connie knew all too well the exact moment that natural shadows turned more sinister.

‘You OK?’ said the boy on her left.

‘Yeah, I’ve just-,’ she broke off. I’ve just never been this far inside the shade before.

Without warning, the truck swerved. Flung from her seat, Connie collided hard with a tangle of elbows and flailing knees as the truck screeched to a halt. She pulled herself upright in the dazed, sudden stillness, tasting blood on her teeth.

The boy panted next her, clutching his keepsake. He opened his mouth, but never had the chance to speak, because the gold light folded away.

Away, as in, darkness descended, swift as a blanket thrown over them.

Connie felt her chest constrict. Panicked shouts broke out as everybody made the same frantic assessment. The oath lantern had gone out. The truck was stopped, and the oath lantern had gone out.

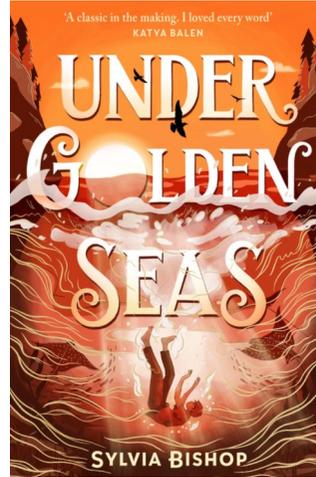




SYLVIA BISHOP

Sylvia Bishop is the acclaimed author of nine novels for young and middle-grade readers, as well as *On Silver Tides* and *Under Golden Seas*, her first novels for a YA readership.

Her books have so far been published in 18 languages.



UNDER GOLDEN SEAS

UK Publisher: Andersen (WAL), May 2025

Age Group: 12+

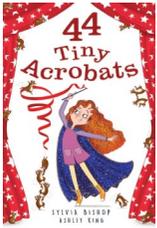
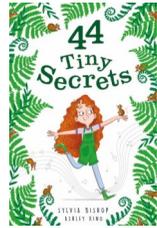
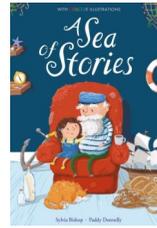
Rights Available: Dramatisation (Translation/Audio via Publisher)

The beautiful, immersive sequel to the acclaimed fantasy, *On Silver Tides*.

Dylan was born with two spirits: human and monster. When he and his family dive underwater, they become wyrms, monstrous creatures of myth and legend, the secretive guardians of the seas. Yet Dylan hates his second spirit, and fears he will hurt innocent people.

With his family away on a mission to quell a rising danger in a distant ocean, Dylan takes his chance to rid himself of his monstrous side for good. But things go awry, and Dylan is left half-changed, and pursued by an even greater threat. Worse, his family need his help. Dylan must set sail to save them, deciding as he goes who he can trust – and ultimately choose what he truly wishes to be.

ON SILVER TIDES and UNDER GOLDEN SEAS are stunning and beautifully written fantasy novels, perfect for fans of Frances Hardinge, Melinda Salisbury, or Diana Wynne Jones.



Praise for *ON SILVER TIDES*:

****Longlisted for the Carnegie Medal****

"[ON SILVER TIDES] has the **timeless power and craftsmanship of a classic.**" - Nicolette Jones, *The Sunday Times, Book of the Week*

"A shimmering, stark, original novel, **richly characterised and unforgettably atmospheric.**" – *Guardian*

"A timely environmental message underpins this beautifully written adventure... **Broodingly atmospheric, this is a richly imagined world.**" – *Daily Mail*

"A haunting, lyrical fable ... **Beautiful and thought-provoking.**" – *Irish Times*

"This book is a gift of rare imagination and luminous writing. I haven't read something so original and immersive in a long time. **On Silver Tides is a classic in the making and I loved every word.**" - *Katya Balen*

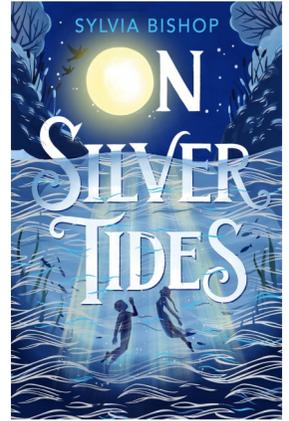
"**I loved this book so much.** It feels like a contemporary classic." - *Alice Winn*

"**A brilliant fantasy** with old folklore and mythological monsters woven into the narrative. Fans of Frances Hardinge and Katherine Rundell's *Impossible Creatures* will adore *On Silver Tides*... this **future classic** will appeal to fantasy fans from upper middle-grade readers right through to adults." - *Charlotte Eyre, The Bookseller. Selected as February's Book of the Month*

Praise for Sylvia Bishop:

"This **captivating and enchanting** tale filled me with joy." - *TES*

"An **absolute gem of a book**, perfectly pitched for the MG reader. **Highly recommended.** And then some." - *The Bookbag*



"**A delight** from start to finish." - *Booktrust*





DAISY MAY JOHNSON

Daisy is the author of the gorgeous *How To Be...* series of boarding school adventures. In her spare time she blogs about children's literature at *Did You Ever Stop To Think And Forget To Start Again*, about her research at *Big Boots and Adventures*, and sends the occasional Tiny Letter. She is the former

host of Book Riot's *Novel Gazing* podcast.

Where The Light Falls is her stunning new novel for older middle grade readers.

WHERE THE LIGHT FALLS

Status: Submission due March 2026

Age Group: 8+

Rights Available: All

Alice lives a quiet life with her father Albert, a railway engineer. Things aren't easy, but so long as they have each other, they are content.

But then war is declared, and their quiet world is shattered.

Albert is called up to fight, and Alice is left in the care of her elderly neighbour, Mrs Montgomery. Together with her new found friends Mary and Thomas, the little makeshift family do their best to get by, growing up and dealing with love and loss in the shadow of the most terrible war the world has ever seen. When tragedy strikes, Alice needs her friends to help her survive.

But then Thomas is also called up to fight, and is declared missing in action. Alice turns to her father's former railway colleagues for help, and resolves to do whatever she can to find him and bring him home.

***Where The Light Falls* is a devastating and uplifting new novel for older middle grade readers, perfect for fans of Michelle Magorian and Hilary McKay.**

Extract:

Alice rolled over onto her elbows after a few minutes and began to plait Mary's hair back into order and when she was done, she collapsed onto her back and stared up at the sky and wondered if this was what it was like to have a sister.

"I'm so glad we found each other," she said. "On the train. And at the hospital."

"We'd always find each other," said Mary.

"I don't know. A thousand things could have happened."

Mary twisted around so that she was looking at Alice. Her eyes were dark and serious. "A thousand things did happen," she said. "A war began, Alice, and the world turned upside down, and we didn't get evacuated and I thought I could stop my father from drinking too much and then found out that I couldn't and then he hit me and he got sicker and he told me to leave him alone." She took a deep breath. "And in the middle of that, there was you. Just standing there as if you'd been waiting for me."

"Your father hit you?"

Alice had known it, in a way, all along, but having Mary say it so calmly in front of her was quite a different thing.

It was an awful, world-ending kind of thing.

And she hated him, this man she'd never met, for it.

She had never hated anybody before. She was not even sure that she had ever hated anything before. The sensation was so unfamiliar to her that she almost felt it physically. Like a hollow heat, deep inside her stomach, burning. She said, "You don't have to talk to me about this. If you don't want to."

"But I do," said Mary.

Also by Daisy May Johnson:



"Finishing this stunner of a book has left me bereft...Accomplished, clever, witty and full of fun, it is a **quirky treat from start to finish.**"

– Carmen H, Bookseller

