

The background of the entire page is a stylized illustration of a library or study. It features several green shelves filled with books of various colors (blue, orange, yellow, green). There are also several potted plants with green leaves. On the left, a person is standing in a doorway, reading a red book. In the foreground, there is a red armchair with a blue and white striped pillow, a small wooden table with a green lamp and a yellow mug, and a brown cat sitting on the chair. The overall style is flat and colorful.

Blake

Friedmann

Rights Guide

SPRING -

SUMMER 2025

FICTION

NON-FICTION

For all translation enquiries please contact:

James Pusey at james@blakefriedmann.co.uk
Nicole Etherington at nicole@blakefriedmann.co.uk

For film and television enquiries please contact

Alex Falkenberg at alexander@blakefriedmann.co.uk

English Language markets and audio are handled by each author's primary agent:

Kate Burke
kate@blakefriedmann.co.uk

Isobel Dixon
isobel@blakefriedmann.co.uk

Sian Ellis-Martin
sian@blakefriedmann.co.uk

Juliet Pickering
juliet@blakefriedmann.co.uk

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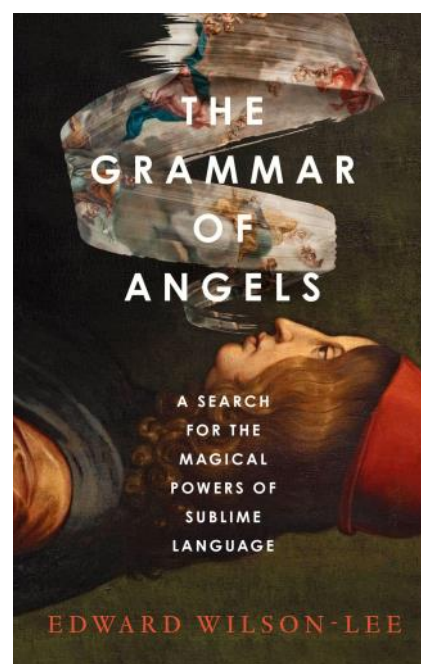
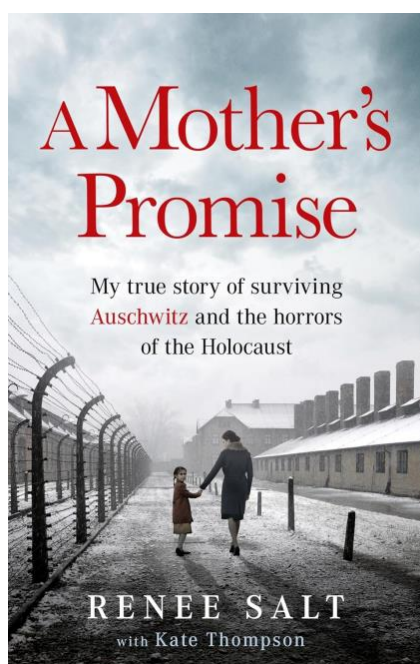
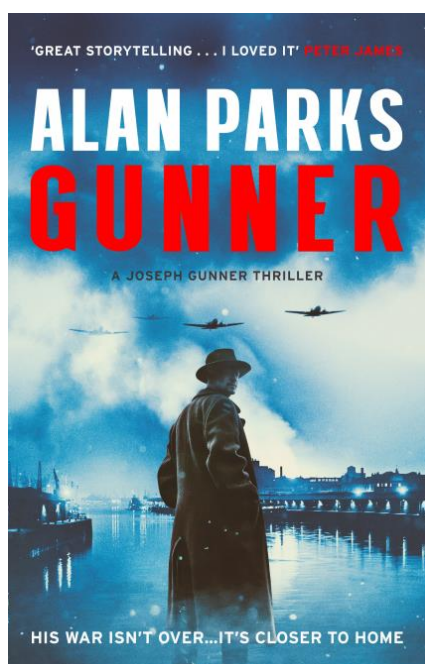
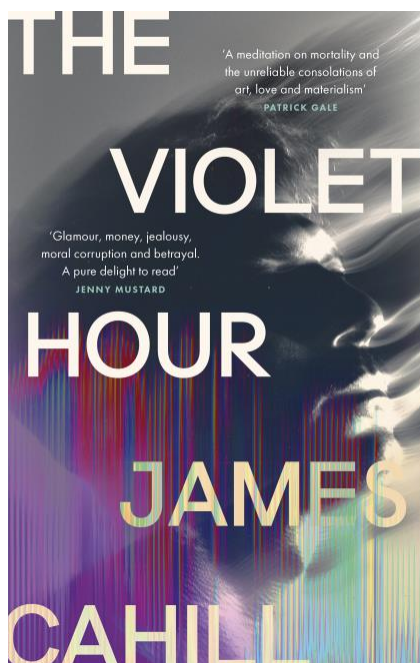
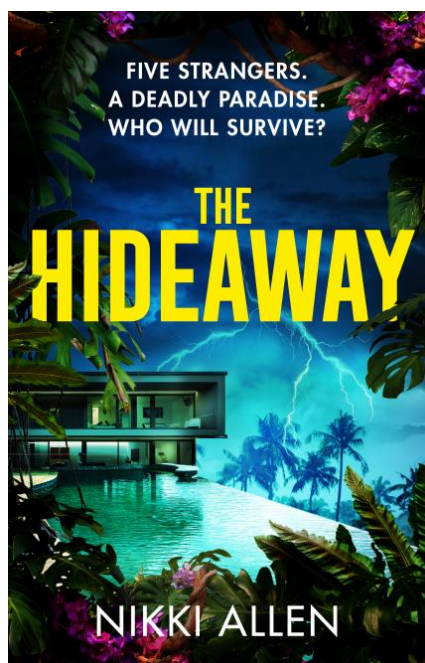
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Full author backlist details are available on request.

This version updated: 25 February 2025

*Cover illustration from **BOOKISH** by Lucy Mangan (Square Peg, March 2025).
Design: Sam Combes. Illustration: Abbey Lossing.*

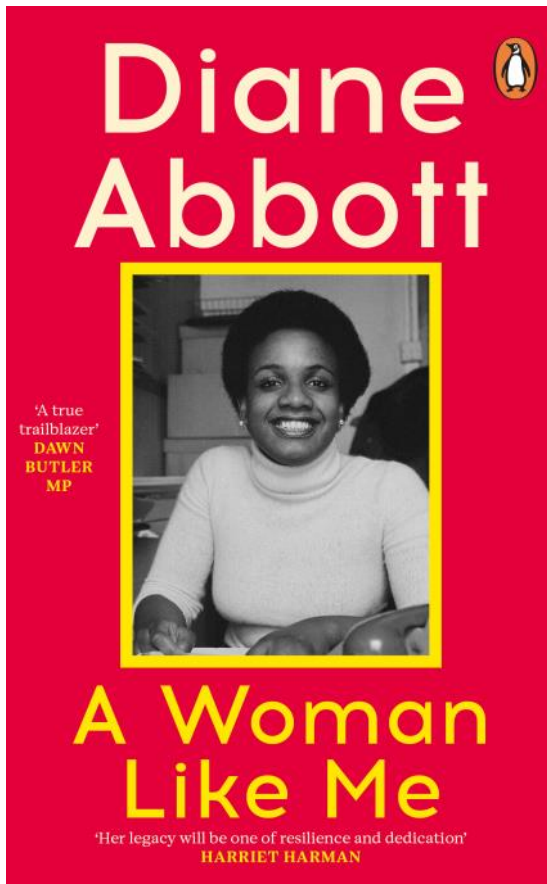
NEW TITLES



MEMOIR

A WOMAN LIKE ME

Diane Abbott



Britain's first ever female Black MP tells her astonishing and candid story of groundbreaking achievement, and the personal, political and social challenges she has faced

'This superb account of a trailblazing life reveals how her intelligence, politics, compassion & willpower have shaped her resilience and pioneering spirit.' – Bernardine Evaristo

'From growing up in 60s London to working-class Jamaican parents, to becoming the UK's first elected Black female MP, Diane Abbott has quite the personal story to tell... as warm and humorous as it is eye-opening.' – *iNews*

'Diane is a true trailblazer. To think of what she has put up with throughout her political career, yet still carries herself with such grace and dignity, is phenomenal and it shows her immense resilience.' – Dawn Butler MP

From challenging expectations as a bright and restless child of the Windrush generation to making history as the UK's first elected Black female MP, Diane Abbott has seen it all.

In this honest and moving memoir, Diane takes the reader through her incredible journey. She paints a vivid picture of growing up in 1960s North London with her working-class Jamaican parents, before entering the hallowed halls of Cambridge University to study history. Ever since the day she first walked through the House of Commons as the first Black woman MP, she has been a fearless and vocal champion for the causes that have made Britain what it is today. From increasing access to education for Black children and speaking out against the Iraq war to advocating tirelessly for refugees and immigrants, Diane has long been at the forefront of political change in Britain.

Written with frankness and wry humour, **A WOMAN LIKE ME** is an inspirational account celebrating how one woman succeeded against massive odds and built an extraordinary legacy.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in London in 1953, Diane attended grammar school and went on to Newnham College Cambridge where she obtained a Masters degree in history.

After working in media, in 1987, Diane made history by becoming the first black woman ever elected to the British Parliament. She has since built a distinguished career as a parliamentarian, broadcaster and commentator.

In 2008, Diane was awarded the *Spectator*/Threadneedle Speech of the Year Award and a Human Rights Award from Liberty. Diane is founder of the London Schools and the Black Child initiative, which aims to raise educational achievement levels amongst black children.

Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Viking Sep 2024 (at auction)

UKexCan PB Viking Mar 2025

UKexCan audio Viking Sep 2024

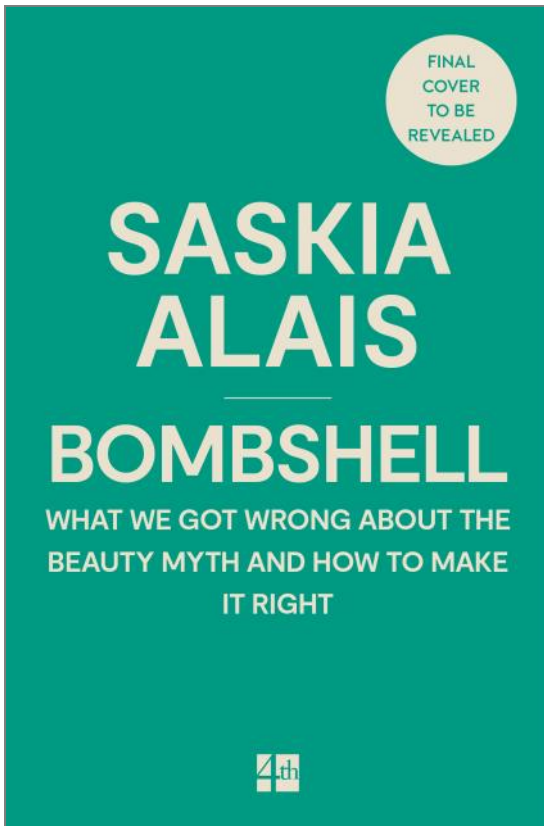
UK serial *Guardian* Sept 2024

Film/TV At auction

312 pages

BOMBSHELL: What We Got Wrong About the Beauty Myth and How To Make It Right

Saskia Alais



A seminal, vital book which challenges our attitude to beauty and proposes a new freedom

BOMBSHELL will dismantle the pervasive beauty myth that continues to afflict, oppress and profit from women, whilst focussing a clear eye on the intersecting issues of race, class and age.

Blending pop culture references and case studies with historical and cultural analysis, **BOMBSHELL** envisions a more liberated future for everyone by confronting our complex relationship with beauty and exploring how it infiltrates every aspect of our existence; the jobs we do, the faces we see across our screens, how we internalize feelings of insecurity and inferiority, how we spend our money – the debt we accrue, who can afford to be ‘pretty’, and how the pervasive beauty ideal sometimes impacts our physical safety.

Featuring contributions from notable figures across the beauty industry, film, TV, and music, as well as key activists and campaigners, from around the world, **BOMBSHELL** not only sheds light on the magnitude of the issue but also offers solutions for those looking to fight back against a system that keeps women unhappy, self-conscious, and divided.

Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB 4th Estate Spring 2026
(auction)

UKexCan audio 4th Estate Spring
2026

US Beacon Press

Proposal available; ms due March
2025

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Saskia is a gender historian and BBC-trained TV researcher who works across specialist factual production and development. Her recent TV credits have included BBC/PBS *Agatha Christie* and *Disco Inferno*.

Saskia holds a BA in War Studies from King’s College London and a Masters degree in History from the University of Edinburgh where her research explored the relationship between beauty and cultural citizenship-making in the American female suffrage movement. Saskia has received several prizes for her writing including The Desmond Tutu Scholarship, The Mary Lyon Scholarship and The Leathersellers’ Company Student Scholarship.

WHO WILL REMAIN

Kasim Ali



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Fourth Estate Jul 2025

(At Auction)

UKexCan PB Fourth Estate 2026

UKexCan Audio Fourth Estate Jul 2025

320 pages



A challenging and powerful exploration of growing up in a community where you're asked to succeed but expected to fail

Amir has grown up in Alum Rock, Birmingham, under the care of his sensible older brother, Bilal, and his cousin Saqib, born just a few days before Amir. Alum Rock can be a troubled place, but Amir has managed to keep his head down, worked hard and stayed out of trouble... until now.

When Saqib is killed in a gang fight and Bilal announces his engagement, Amir suddenly loses the two men who keep him grounded. Amir's university grades are collapsing, he's running out of money, and pressure mounts from every direction. As tensions flare, the friends left around him start to draw Amir into their more dangerous pursuits, and the family ties that have bound him so completely begin to unravel. Amir decides he only has himself to rely on and must take his future into his own hands.

This is a blistering story of social expectations and social condemnation, of dead ends and divided loyalties, and of what's left behind when you have nothing left to lose

GOOD INTENTIONS (UKexCan: Fourth Estate; US: Henry Holt; Russia: Eskmo; Film/TV under option). An unforgettable debut novel about first love, family obligation and finding your way. In the wake of first heartbreak, Nur somehow meets his perfect woman. Yasmina is bright, beautiful and, what's most remarkable, she's into him too. Before long, they are inseparable. But no relationship is perfect. For Yasmina, the complexities of family and cultural expectation are something she wants to navigate with Nur by her side. For Nur, the pressures of being the 'good son' are suffocating, and soon threaten everything he wants for his future with Yasmina. Can he find a way to offer her everything she deserves? (368 pages)

Praise for GOOD INTENTIONS:

'A clever novel about vulnerability and victimhood that subtly subverts the reader's expectations.' – *The Times*

'The sensitive story of a failing romance offers a clever vehicle for an unflinching depiction of South Asian anti-black prejudice and the conflicting pressures of family and culture.' – *The Independent*

ABOUT KASIM ALI

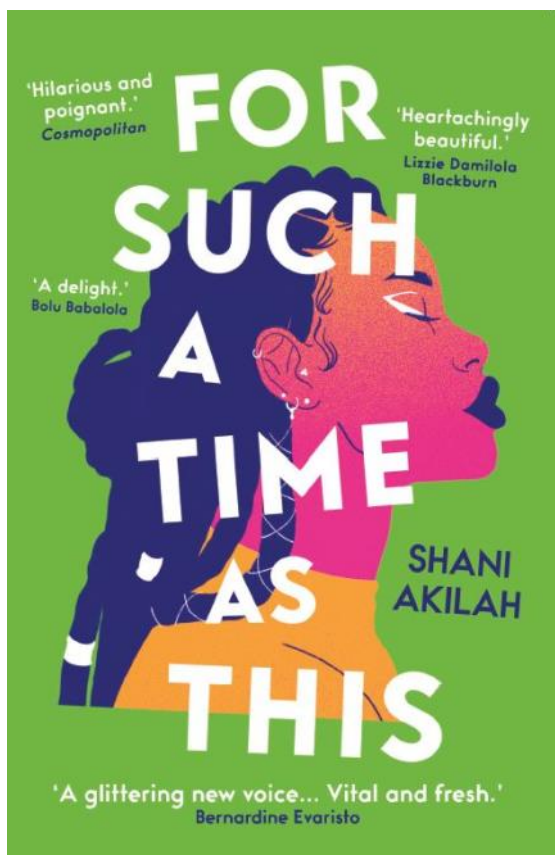
Kasim Ali was longlisted for the 4th Estate B4ME Short Story Prize and shortlisted for Hachette's Mo Siewcherran Prize. He has also had a short story published in *The Good Journal*.

His first novel, **GOOD INTENTIONS**, was published in March 2022 by 4th Estate and Henry Holt (US).

CONTEMPORARY

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

Shani Akilah



Agent Sian Ellis-Martin

UKexCan HB Oneworld Jun 2024
(pre-empt)
UKexCan audio WF Howes Aug 2024
UKexCan PB Oneworld May 2025

TV 5 Acts

224 pages

Bold and immersive debut short story collection for fans of OPEN WATER and SUCH A FUN AGE

A 2024 Superlead title for Oneworld
An Amazon Editor's Choice pick
One of Bad Form's 'Best POC Debuts of 2024'
Best Short Story Collection, *Cosmopolitan* Book Awards 2024

'A glittering new voice in the literary firmament. With insight and compassion she gets under the skin and inside the messy relationships of millennials in a way that feels vital and fresh.' – Bernardine Evaristo

'Akilah's voice is intimate, and each story is approached with care and compassion for her characters and their experiences. It's the perfect book for a warm summer's day.' – Caleb Azumah Nelson, *The Observer*

'Prepare to be transported from London's Woolwich to Jamaica.' – Mischa Anouk Smith, *Marie Claire*

Shani Akilah deftly explores the connections that bind us; how we make them, maintain them, or even break them when they no longer serve us.

These are the people who sustain us through good times and bad.

Meet Niah and her friends. They're young, they're smart, they're part of a tight friendship group determined to make the most of every day. And their lives are about to change forever.

From the tingling excitement of a new relationship to the challenges of online dating, from the shadow of racism in the workplace to the isolation of Covid-19, the stories in **FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS** burst with romance and friendship. This stunning new collection is a powerful snapshot of the relationships – and moments – that make us who we are.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

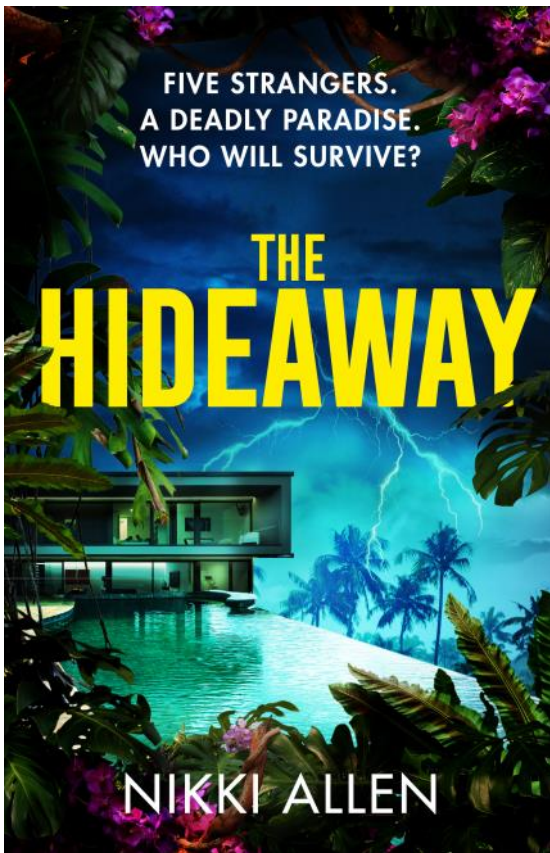
Shani Akilah is a Black British Caribbean writer and screenwriter from South London. She is a book influencer, served as a literary judge for the Nota Bene Prize in 2023 and holds a Master's degree in African Studies from the University of Oxford.

Shani is also the co-founder and cultural producer of the Orange Room Collective which celebrates Black British creatives in London. In recognition of her contribution to literature in her community, The Shani Akilah Library opened in October 2024 in Woolwich.

THRILLER

THE HIDEAWAY

Nikki Allen



Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Pan Macmillan Jul 2025
WEL audio Pan Macmillan Jul 2025

Romania Editura Niculescu

336 pages

Set in the exotic rainforest of Costa Rica, **THE HIDEAWAY** is a fast-paced thriller for fans of **NINE PERFECT STRANGERS** and **THE WHITE LOTUS**

When five strangers are chosen for an all-expenses-paid trip of a lifetime to an exclusive retreat, they leap at the chance to rest and get away from it all amidst the lush Costa Rican rainforest.

Their famous host is nowhere to be seen when they arrive. Confused, but eager to immerse themselves in this once-in-a-lifetime experience, they head into the wilderness in search of a rejuvenating waterfall – but when calamity strikes, panic sets in and they are plunged into a battle for survival.

Lost under the dense canopies with darkness closing in, they soon realise they cannot trust the beauty of their surroundings – or each other...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

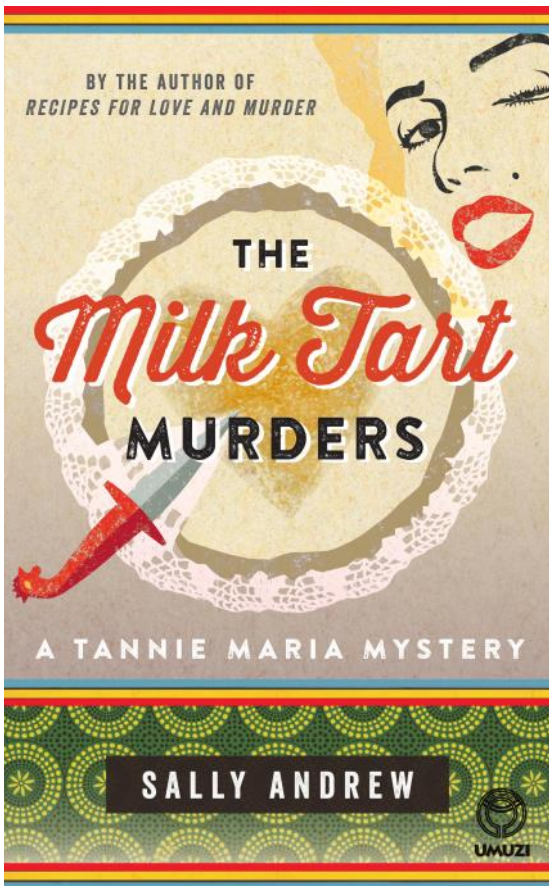
Nikki is a former journalist and copywriter, and a qualified therapist. A voracious reader, Nikki was inspired to write **THE HIDEAWAY** after reading true stories of people disappearing in the Costa Rican rainforest.

Nikki was born in Holland, grew up the only Jewish kid in her Worcestershire village, and now lives in North London with her family.

THE MILK TART MURDERS

Tannie Maria Mystery #4

Sally Andrew



Agent Isobel Dixon

Southern Africa Umuzi (PRH) 2022

Tannie Maria #1 RECIPES FOR LOVE & MURDER

&

Tannie Maria #2 THE SATANIC MECHANIC:

UKexCan exSA Canongate 2016

UKexCan audio WF Howes 2017

ANZ Text 2016

Southern Africa Umuzi (PRH) 2016

US Ecco Press 2017

Canada HarperCollins 2017

TV BothWorlds/M-Net/Acorn TV

Acorn TV DVD box-set for sale
Recently broadcast/free-streaming in
the UK on UKTV's U&Drama channel

408 pages

For fans of Bonnie Garmus, Richard Osman and Japanese 'healing fiction' – with an African twist. Beloved cook and crime-solver Tannie Maria is back, with more mystery, sage advice and amazing cake!

'The perfect recipe for a murder mystery series... With an average of 4/5 stars on Goodreads, you can bet that these funny and charming books are well worth adding to your TBR.' – *Woman & Home*

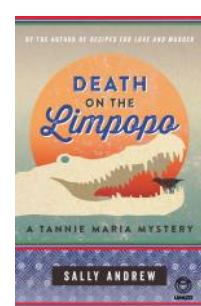
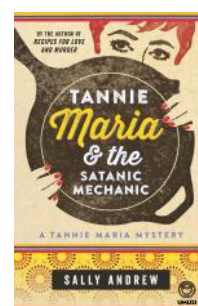
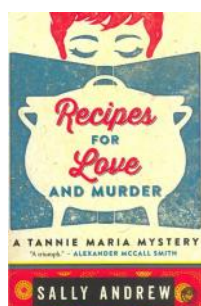
The four Tannie Maria mysteries were all Number 1 or Top 5 bestsellers in South Africa and the spin-off cookbook is a recent hit too. Sally is a festival favourite, receiving a constant stream of global fan mail – often asking after the next delicious instalment! THE MILK TART MURDERS was the winner Nielsen SA Book Award for Fiction 2023 and Sally is currently completing Book 5, **WILD THINGS NEVER DIE** (outline/chapters available).

The RECIPES FOR LOVE AND MURDER TV series stars *Outlander's* Maria Doyle Kennedy. A hit on M-Net in South Africa, Acorn TV brought it to the US, UK, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Latin America and it was recently broadcast on UKTV's U&Drama channel. Nominated for several awards, Season 2 is just out in SA and on Acorn.

Book 1: RECIPES FOR LOVE & MURDER: a *Kirkus* Best Book of 2015; a *Wall Street Journal* Best Mystery Book 2015; *Bookseller* Fiction Editor's Choice 2015; *Good Housekeeping* Book of the Month 2015; Oprah's Bookclub '16 Books for 2016'; Longlisted *Sunday Times* Fiction Prize 2016.

TANNIE MARIA & THE SATANIC MECHANIC and **DEATH ON THE LIMPOPO** followed to acclaim and readers' joy.

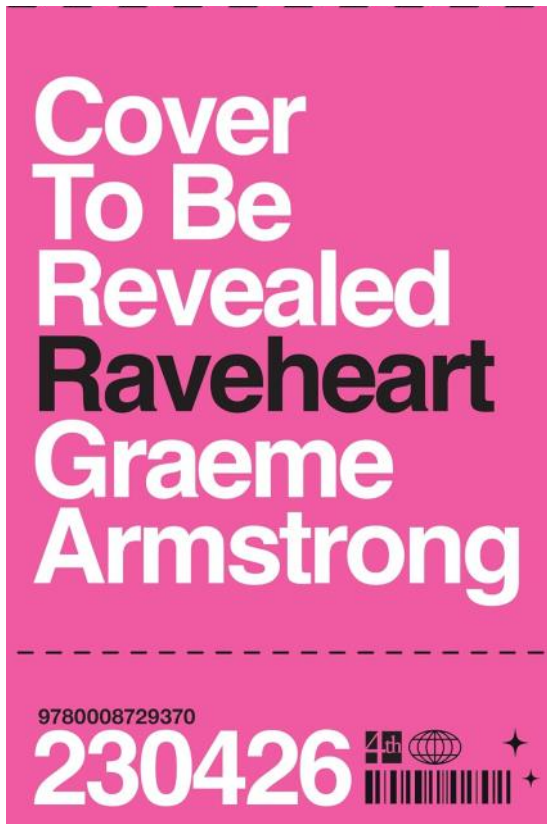
THE MILK TART MURDERS: the residents of Ladismith are watching a Marilyn Monroe movie when the local antique shop owner drops dead, so Tannie Maria, newspaper agony aunt and sometime amateur sleuth, finds herself drawn into of a murder investigation once again, along with her feisty reporter colleague, Jessie – all the while nursing a broken heart, since she is estranged from her police detective sweetheart, Detective Henk Kannemeyer. But the women are about to find themselves in danger too...



LITERARY

RAVEHEART

Graeme Armstrong



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB 4th Estate Apr 2026

UKexCan PB 4th Estate 2027

UKexCan audio 4th Estate Apr 2026
(pre-empt)

Film/TV Warp Films

368 pages

THE YOUNG TEAM

UK HB Picador 2020

UK PB Picador 2021

UK Audio Picador 2020

Film/TV Synchronicity

Italy Guanda 2021

Spain Automática 2022

400 pages

Cult rave comedy meets satirical political parable: an entertaining, whip-smart look at the state of Britain through the eyes of a disparate band of rebel ravers from *Granta's* 'Best Young British Novelists' honoree

'Graeme Armstrong is the real deal.' – Douglas Stuart

'One of the most admired young voices in British fiction' – *The Times*

'A swaggering, incendiary debut... Sharp yet tender and mischievously funny, **THE YOUNG TEAM** pitches Armstrong into the first division of Scottish writers.' – *The Guardian*

Our narrator, William Patterson – better known as Turbo – is going through the motions of a soulless existence after finishing his glory days as a DJ at local Coatbridge ice rink, *The Time Capsule*. The UK is leaning ever harder to the right, as the new government cracks down on immigration, drugs, and – the final straw – electronica. Incensed by the ban, Turbo, his brother and their band of friends/'rave pirates' form a rebel group that starts out with peaceful protest and covert highs at illicit raves, as small acts of resistance. But, as the political situation escalates and secret police look for trouble in every corner of society, Turbo and his troops fly ever closer to the sun, mixing with those who will help and those who will betray them, until events come to a head and the future of the whole nation is on the line... Can Turbo be the hero not just of his own life, but also of Scotland?

Hilarious, tragic, incredibly clever and all-too-possible, **RAVEHEART** is a blistering ride of a novel and a love letter to rave, written in Graeme's inimitable and energetic voice.

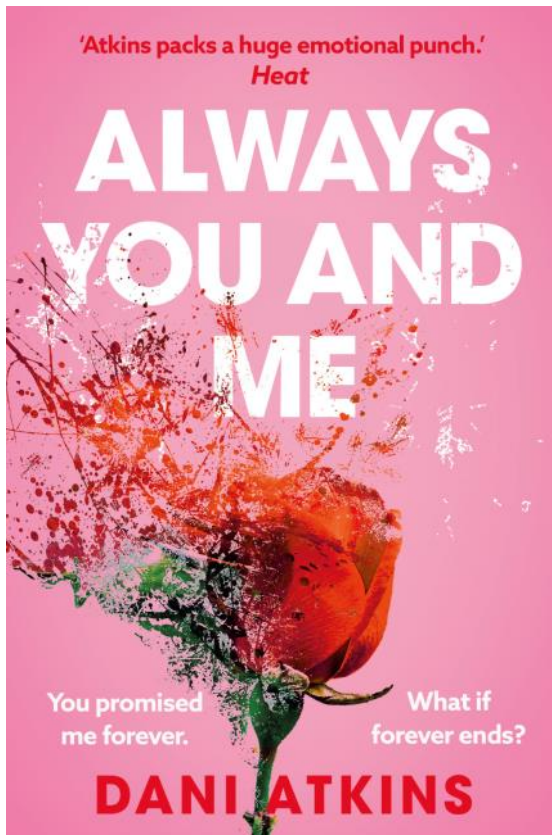
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Graeme Armstrong is a Scottish writer from Airdrie. His teenage years were spent within gang culture. Alongside overcoming his own struggles with drug addiction, alcohol abuse and violence, he defied expectation to read English as an undergraduate at the University of Stirling; where, after graduating with honours, he then achieved a Masters in Creative Writing. He is currently undertaking a PhD at the University of Strathclyde.

His bestselling debut novel, **THE YOUNG TEAM** (Picador, 2020), is inspired by his experiences. It won a Betty Trask Award, a Somerset Maugham Award, and the Scots Book of the Year 2021. In 2023, Graeme was chosen as one of *Granta's Best of Young British Novelists*, an accolade that is awarded once a decade.

ALWAYS YOU AND ME

Dani Atkins



Perfect for fans of Colleen Hoover and Jojo Moyes, **ALWAYS YOU AND ME** asks: do you choose love? Or does love choose you?

'Dani Atkins is the undisputed queen of fiction that packs a huge emotional punch' – *Heat*

On the eve of her wedding to Adam, Lily's best friend Josh unexpectedly walked out of her life, and she hasn't seen him since.

Lily and Adam are blissfully happy, until he falls ill. As she cares for him in his final hours, Adam asks her to make a mysterious promise: to find Josh – and forgive them both.

Tracking Josh down isn't easy, but fate seems determined to bring them together. Cut off in his remote Scottish cabin by a fierce snowstorm, Lily and Josh explore their tangled feelings for each other, stretching back over the decades. But when she discovers the shocking reason behind Adam's unexpected last wish, she'll need to trust her heart completely...

Can Lily and Josh choose love – and find forgiveness and lasting happiness together?

Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Lake Union Apr 2025
WEL audio Lake Union Apr 2025

Germany Droemer
Holland De Fontein

Option publishers

Brazil (exPortugal, Angola & Mozambique) HarperCollins Brazil
Denmark Forlaget Zara
Russia Azbooka-Atticus
Turkey Orman Kitap

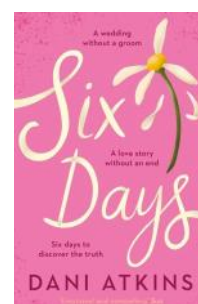
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dani Atkins was born in London, and grew up in Cockfosters, Hertfordshire. She now lives in a 350-year-old cottage with her husband, one Siamese cat and a very sappy Border Collie.

Dani has been writing for fun all her life but made writing her full-time career after the 2013 publication of her novel **FRACTURED**. **FRACTURED** has been published in sixteen languages and has sold more than half a million copies since first publication in the UK.

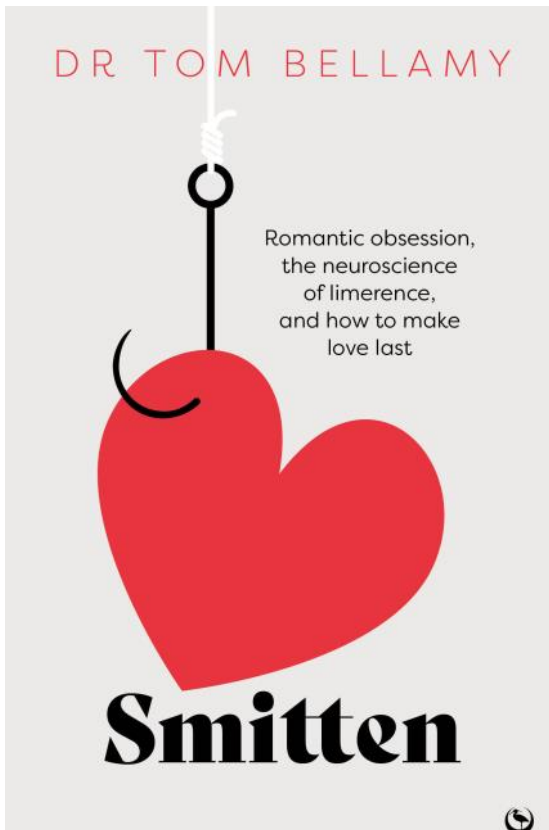
Dani is the author of many other bestselling novels. In 2018, **THIS LOVE** won the Romantic Novel of the Year Award at the RNA awards in London and in 2022, **A SKY FULL OF STARS** won the Contemporary Award for Romantic Fiction. In 2023, **SIX DAYS** won the RNA Jackie Collins Award.

397 pages



SMITTEN: Romantic Obsession, The Neuroscience of Limerence, and How to Make Love Last

Dr Tom Bellamy



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Watkins Press Apr 2025

UKexCan audio Bolinda Apr 2025

US+Can HB St Martins Press Nov 2025 (pre-empt)

US+Can audio St Martins Press Nov 2025

Spain Editorial Sirio

288 pages

A fresh and neuroscientific look at romantic obsession and relationships for fans of **8 RULES OF LOVE**, **ATTACHED** and **WIRED FOR LOVE**

‘A wise and generous life raft for anyone lost in a crush.’ – Natasha Lunn, author of **CONVERSATIONS ON LOVE**, *Red Magazine*

“Butterflies” in the stomach, intrusive thoughts, fantasies about imaginary scenarios, mood swings from euphoria to despair... aren’t these all the familiar hallmarks of new love? Not quite. These are characteristics of the psychological state of “limerence”, also known as obsessive, passionate or addictive love that can become unhealthy.

Millions of people will experience limerence at some point in their life, and in this book, neuroscientist Dr Tom Bellamy explores scientific advances in understanding romance and obsession since the term was first coined in the 1970s, and sheds light on this little-understood element of the human experience. Discover:

- what drives limerence;

- how to recognise limerence in yourself and others;

- how to manage the phases of addiction to another person;

- and how to move past it to sustain longer, more fulfilling relationships.

With supportive advice about next steps, this book will help readers struggling with unwanted feelings to find emotional equilibrium.

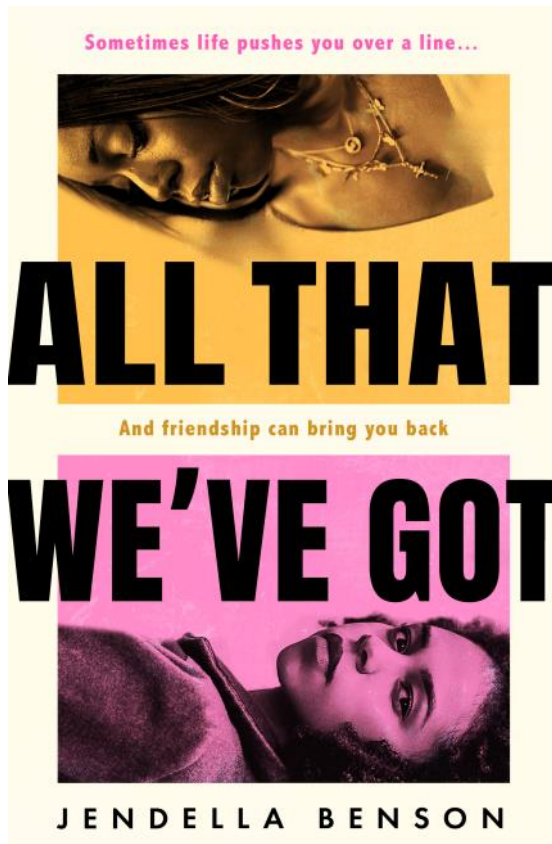
SMITTEN is a brilliant and much-needed exploration of the psychology of infatuation, and how to recognise and move beyond it toward a healthier experience of love.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Tom Bellamy is an academic neuroscientist and Associate Professor of Pharmacology at the University of Nottingham. He was awarded a PhD in Neuroscience from University College London in 2001, and held a personal fellowship at the Babraham Institute in Cambridge from 2004 to 2010. He has published over forty scientific papers, abstracts and book chapters on esoteric aspects of neurophysiology. He writes about how the mechanisms of neurophysiology can help us understand human behaviour.

ALL THAT WE'VE GOT

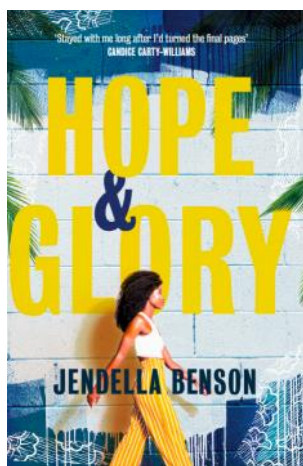
Jendella Benson



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Trapeze Jul 2024 (at auction)
 UKexCan PB Trapeze Jun 2025
 UKexCan audio Trapeze Jul 2024

432 pages



During one relentlessly hot summer, two young women's lives are about to collide in the most unexpected ways

'Simply brilliant. This book had my heart in my throat at so many points, simultaneously pulling at my heartstrings... I enjoyed every single page.' – Dorothy Koomson

'A timely tale, deftly told, a beautiful exploration of the strength, complexity and necessity of friendship... thought-provoking, heartrending and uplifting, this is not one you want to miss.' – Onyi Nwabinele

'I held onto every single one of Jendella's words as I grew to care so deeply about these characters – they will stay with me.' – Taylor-Dior Rumble

Mimi is a young single mother looking to break free from her mother's judgements and her church's oppressive, hypocritical gossip to establish who she is on her own. But a dangerous new romance could lead her into trouble...

Meanwhile, fifteen-year-old Abi lives her life vicariously through social media – and is eager to help her mother with the bills. When she's offered the chance to make money fast by helping a group of local boys, she and her friends jump at it. But soon they're running drugs for the gang, and Abi finds she's in over her head.

Could Mimi and Abi forge a bond that will free them both, at the heart of a community they've taken for granted?

A dramatic, refreshing perspective on a side of city life that we don't always see, this is the stunning new novel from the author of the acclaimed **HOPE & GLORY**.

Praise for HOPE & GLORY

'As authentic and heart-warming as it is heart wrenching, a glorious ode to family life, love and loss.' – Yomi Adegoke

'A masterful look at how your history isn't always the one you've been told.' – *Stylist*

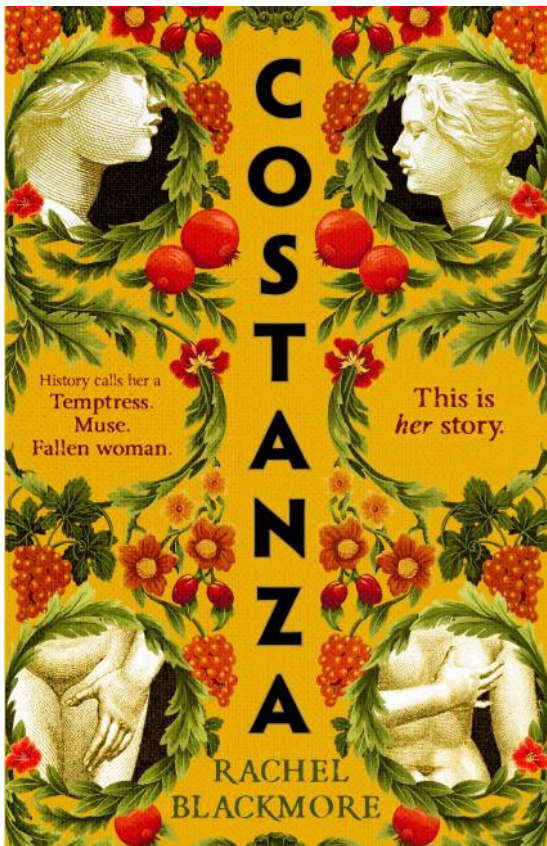
'A sumptuous and satisfying meditation on family and the meaning of home.' – *Publishers Weekly*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jendella is a popular writer and editor for *Black Ballad*, and her work has appeared in the *Guardian*, *BuzzFeed*, *MTV News UK*, *The Metro*, *The Huffington Post*, and on *MumsNet*, among many others. She contributed to **LOUD BLACK GIRLS** (4th Estate) and **THE BOOK OF BIRMINGHAM** (Comma Press). Jendella published a book of photography and interviews, **YOUNG MOTHERHOOD**, in 2016. She is a TEDx speaker and has also appeared on *Woman's Hour*, *BBC World Service*, *London Live* and *OH TV*.

COSTANZA

Rachel Blackmore



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Dialogue Aug 2024

UKexCan PB Dialogue Jun 2025

UKexCan audio Dialogue Aug 2024

US+Can eBook & audio Dialogue Oct 2024

US+Can PB Dialogue Sep 2025

Brazil (only) Editora Tordesilhas

Bulgaria Orange Books

Croatia Znanje

Italy Newton Compton

Lithuania Alma Littera

Russia Eksmo

Serbia Laguna

Spain Maeva (pre-empt)

432 pages

Love, art & desire in 1636 Rome, based on a real woman and Bernini's muse: a 2024 super-lead debut

'A shocking story... It is most persuasively written, deeply felt and the detail is excellent.' — Elizabeth Buchan

'In this beguiling, ornately wrought tale, Rachel Blackmore rescues Costanza, wronged and defiant, from the shadows of history.' — Karen Powell

'This novel took over my life for the time I was buried in it. Powerful and deeply affecting storytelling bringing us a new perspective on a famous story' — Paterson Joseph

History calls her a muse. Temptress. Fallen woman. This is *her* story.

In the scorched city of Rome, the cobbled streets hum with gossip and sin. Costanza Piccolomini is a respectable young wife — until she meets Gianlorenzo Bernini, the famed sculptor and star of Roman society, whose jet-black gaze matches his dark temper. From the second they set eyes upon each other, a fatal attraction is born.

With every stolen kiss and illicit tryst, Costanza's reputation is at stake. But Bernini has a more dangerous desire: he wants to make Costanza immortal. He vows to possess her not just in body and soul, but also in marble. And when Bernini unveils his sculpture of Costanza she is publicly exposed as his lover, marking the undoing of their affair and the beginning of a scandal which will rock Roman society. For Bernini would rather destroy Costanza than let her go.

Betrayed. Abandoned. Banished. This was meant to be the end of Costanza's story. But Costanza is no ordinary woman: from the ashes, she will rise...

COSTANZA is a dizzying and sensual historical novel that brings to life a feminist icon who has been written out of history. An addictive tale of desire and betrayal, perfect for fans of *THE GIRL WITH THE PEARL EARRING* and *THE MINIATURIST*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rachel is a speechwriter and communications expert who was a winner at the Irish Novel Fair 2022, a runner-up in the *Harper's Bazaar* short story competition, and has also been highly commended by the Historical Writers' Association.

Rachel is currently working on her second novel **ELEANOR**, a tale of spies and secrets set in 1590s Deptford, about Eleanor Bull and her involvement in the mysterious circumstances surrounding the death of Kit Marlowe.

HISTORICAL CRIME

BENBECULA

Graeme Macrae Burnet



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Polygon Nov 2025
UKexCan PB Polygon 2026
US & Canada Biblioasis Nov 2025
ANZ Text Nov 2025
Audio Under Offer

Option Publishers

Brazil (exPortugal, Angola, Mozambique) Todavia | China Yilin Publishing | Denmark Superlux
Estonia Varrak | Greece Metaixmio
Iran Kenar | Japan Hayakawa
Korea Open Books | Lithuania Alma Littera | Poland Czarne | Romania Editura Art | Russia Eksmo | Sweden Modernista | Spain Impedimenta
Taiwan Babel | Turkey Monokl

Outline available. Ms (30,000 words)
available April 2025

Brand new, dark and compelling novella about a real-life 19th century murder in the Outer Hebrides

‘Gripping, blackly playful and intelligent ... it may set the heather – and imagination – ablaze.’ – *The Times* (on Booker-shortlisted HIS BLOODY PROJECT)

‘A writer of great skill and authority.’ – *Financial Times*

‘Maddeningly brilliant.’ – Hannah Kent, *Sydney Morning Herald*

Benbecula, 1867: My name is Malcolm MacPhee. If you are wondering why it falls to me to tell this tale, it is for no other reason than this: I am the only one left...

On 9th July 1857, Angus MacPhee, a 25-year-old labourer from Lincilate on the island of Benbecula, murdered his father, mother and aunt. At trial in Inverness he was found to be criminally insane and confined in the Criminal Lunatic Department in Perth until 1899. He was then transferred to Inverness prison where he died at the age of 68. **BENBECULA** tells the story of the events leading up to these murders through the eyes, some years later, of Angus’s elder brother Malcolm, this narrative interspersed with scenes from Malcolm’s current life on the croft – though as we read Malcolm’s account, we begin to suspect that Angus might not have been the only member of the MacPhee family to be touched by madness...

BENBECULA has been commissioned by Polygon as the latest standalone entry in their *Darkland Tales* series – where Scotland’s best writers (including Val McDermid, Denise Mina, Alan Warner and others) re-imagine true stories from the country’s past, each bringing the tales up to date with their own unique voice and identity.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Graeme Macrae Burnet was brought up in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire and now lives in Glasgow. He has also lived in the Czech Republic, France, Portugal and London and has appeared at festivals and events all over the world.

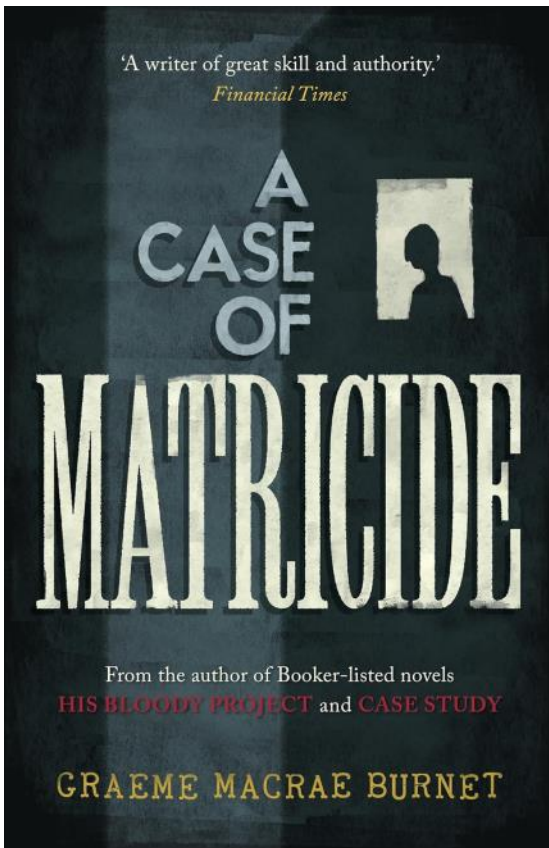
His first novel, **THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ADELÈ BEDEAU** was published by Saraband, and received a New Writer’s Award from the Scottish Book Trust as well as being longlisted for the Waverton Good Read Award. **HIS BLOODY PROJECT** (2015) won the Saltire Society Fiction Book of the Year Award, and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the *LA Times* Book Awards. A second Inspector Gorski novel, **THE ACCIDENT ON THE A35**, was published in 2017, and the trilogy was completed with **A CASE OF MATRICIDE** in 2024. His most recent standalone novel, **CASE STUDY** (2021), was longlisted for the Booker Prize and rights have been sold in 22 countries.

LITERARY CRIME

A CASE OF MATRICIDE

Inspector Gorski #3

Graeme Macrae Burnet



Booker shortlister Graeme Macrae Burnet concludes the Inspector Gorski trilogy in this profound and haunting masterpiece – which can also be read solo

‘Deeply imagined and perfectly realised... a dizzyingly immersive experience. The Gorski novels were already a significant achievement, but the concluding part is breathtaking – tragic, cinematic, propulsive.’ – Martin MacInnes, author of *IN ASCENSION*

‘A wickedly funny novel that owes as much of a debt to Albert Camus as it does to Georges Simenon.’ – Declan Burke, *Irish Times*

‘Both a classy detective story and a stylish meditation on agency and existence. If Roland Barthes had written a detective novel, then this would be it.’ – *Literary Review*

In the unremarkable French town of Saint-Louis, a mysterious stranger stalks the streets; an elderly woman believes her son is planning to do away with her; a prominent manufacturer drops dead. Between visits to the town’s hostelrys, Chief Inspector Georges Gorski ponders the links, if any, between these events, while all the time grappling with his own domestic and existential demons.

Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Saraband Oct 2024
UKexCan PB Saraband 2025
US+Can TPB Biblioasis Nov 2024
ANZ PB Text Publishing Oct 2024
WEL audio Bolinda Oct 2024

Graeme Macrae Burnet once again pierces the respectable façade of small-town life, with remarkable insight into questions of connection, loneliness and the puzzle of humanity. In this gem of a novel, suffused with wry humour and studded with memorable detail, he delves into the darkest recesses of his characters’ minds – but above all crafts an entertaining, profound and haunting read.

Spain Impedimenta

Option Publishers

Denmark Superlux | Poland Czarne
Russia Eksmo | Sweden Modernista
Turkey Monokl

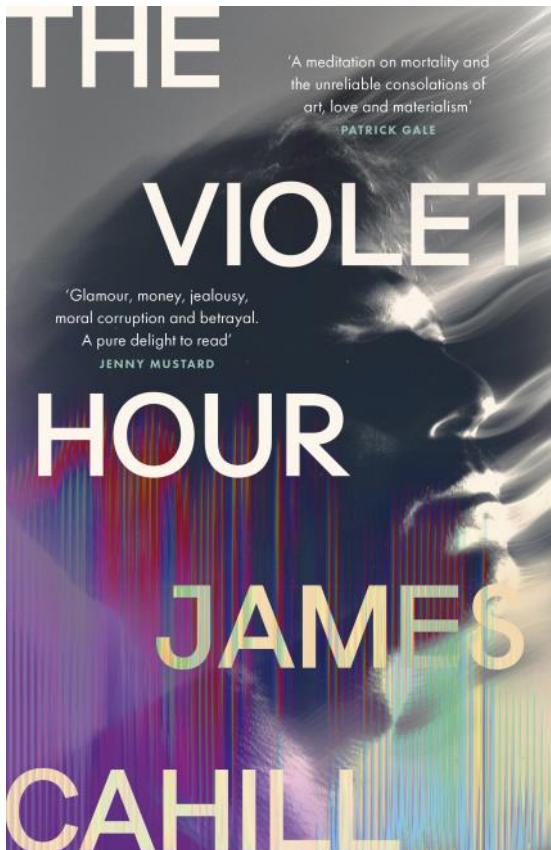
256 pages

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Graeme Macrae Burnet was brought up in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire and now lives in Glasgow. He has also lived in the Czech Republic, France, Portugal and London and has appeared at festivals and events all over the world. His first novel, **THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ADELE BEDEAU** was published by Saraband, who have published all his novels in the UK. It received a New Writer’s Award from the Scottish Book Trust and was longlisted for the Waverton Good Read Award. **HIS BLOODY PROJECT** (2015) won the Saltire Society Fiction Book of the Year Award, and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the *LA Times* Book Awards. A second Inspector Gorski novel, **THE ACCIDENT ON THE A35**, was published in 2017. His most recent standalone novel, **CASE STUDY** (2021), was longlisted for the Booker Prize and rights have been sold in 22 countries. Now writing a novel **BENBECULA** for Polygon’s Darkland Tales series (Nov 2025).

THE VIOLET HOUR

James Cahill



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Sceptre Feb 2025

UKexCan PB Sceptre 2026

UKexCan audio Sceptre Feb 2025

Spain Urano

368 pages

TIEPOLO BLUE

UKexCan HB Sceptre 2022

UKexCan PB Sceptre Apr 2023

UKexCan audio Sceptre 2022

Germany Albino Verlag

Spain Urano

341 pages

Exhilarating, intoxicating story of deception and desire in the international art world

‘An enthrallingly intricate novel, with a large cast of characters whose stories and psychological hinterlands are successfully interlinked through the mesh of art, money and desire.’ – Lucasta Miller, *Book of the Day*, *The Guardian*

‘There’s something of F. Scott Fitzgerald about the way Cahill writes about the very rich... with an artist’s attention to colour and detail, but also with an acute awareness of surface glitter, be it the gleaming facades of 21st-century London or the confected personas we present to each other and ourselves.’ – Claire Alfree, *Daily Mail*

‘A biting satire of the art world’s glamour, pomp and greed...lucid and evocative.’ – Gabrielle Schwartz, *Daily Telegraph*

International cities, coveted artworks, glittering and conflicted lives – following his dazzling debut **TIEPOLO BLUE**, James Cahill’s second novel has been heralded as ‘thrilling’, ‘bewitching’, ‘seductive’ and ‘hypnotic’ by critics, and ‘a highbrow whodunnit’ (Patrick Gale).

Thomas Haller has achieved the level of fame most artists only dream of: glamorous global shows, paintings sold for a fortune. The vision he presents is that of an elusive genius at the top of his game. But is it all a mirage?

Who is the real Thomas Haller? His oldest friend and former dealer, Lorna, might once have known – before Thomas traded their intimacy for the promises of fame and fortune he has achieved via Claude Berlins, his ruthless new dealer.

Artworld luminaries gather at Claude’s London gallery on the eve of the first Thomas Haller show in six years. In New York, property mogul and obsessive art collector Leo J. Goffman is at first delighted to read in *Artforum* of Haller’s return – then incensed to find that the painting he so fiercely desires is already sold. And the sudden death of a young man – falling from a London tower block – shakes everyone, setting off a chain of events that will lead these characters back into the past, to confront who they were, all they have lost and what they have become.

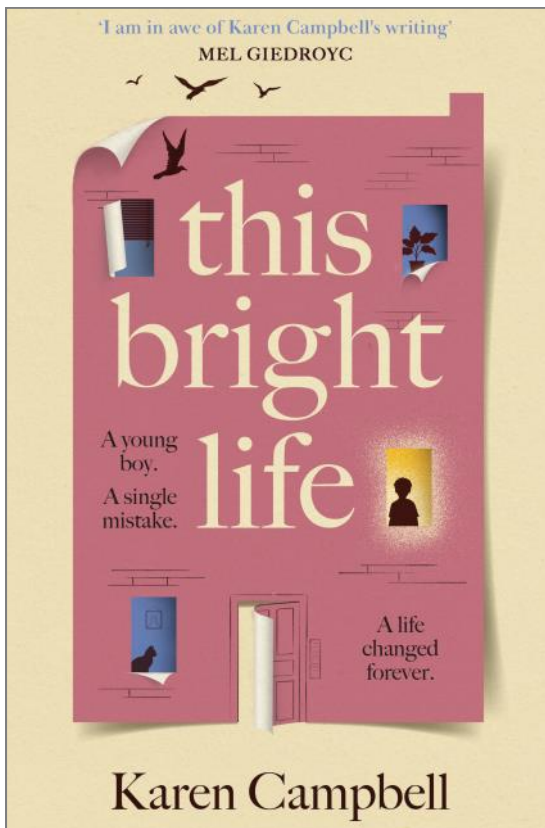
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

James Cahill is a writer, critic and art historian. He studied Classics and English at Oxford, has an MA in contemporary art from the Courtauld Institute and a PhD in Classics from Cambridge. His debut **TIEPOLO BLUE** (Sceptre, 2022) was shortlisted for the Authors’ Club Best First Novel Award and a featured title for The Queen’s Reading Room. His writing on art has appeared in publications including *TLS*, *LA Review of Books*, and the *LRB*. He has written books and essays on contemporary artists including Maggi Hambling, Damien Hirst and Juan Muñoz and is in regular demand for exhibition and anthology commissions. He is currently writing a book on a David Hockney painting for Thames & Hudson (2026). He divides his time between London and Los Angeles.

CONTEMPORARY

THIS BRIGHT LIFE

Karen Campbell



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Canongate Mar 2025

UKexCan PB Canongate 2026

UKexCan audio Bolinda Mar 2025

Turkey Nemesis

298 pages

Written with great heart and empathy, **THIS BRIGHT LIFE** is a profound, urgent novel about the huge ripples that small actions create

'Her words paint pictures with the touch of an old master. Ultimately life-affirming, this gritty novel will take you to dark places, but it's one beautiful, uplifting journey.' – Janice Hallett

'Karen writes with such a rare and deep understanding of people and every word of her stories earns its keep. **THIS BRIGHT LIFE** is dark, moving and compassionate and... filled with hope... I adore it' – Joanna Cannon

'Karen Campbell finds lives that can fall between the cracks, and holds them up to the light of her clear, compassionate writing.' – Kirstin Innes

A young boy. A single mistake. Many lives changed forever.

Gerard is twelve. He loves flying round the streets of Glasgow on his bike, or mucking about with his gang, the Broncos. He's a bright kid, but trouble seems to follow him. No one knows what it's like at home for Gerard; he's used to carrying a lot on his small shoulders.

Gerard doesn't always make good decisions. And on one April morning, he makes a very bad one – one that will upend his whole world – and the worlds of two women he encounters in a moment that changes all their lives. For Margaret, the shocking incident brings her back from the edge of grief; for Clare it's the start of a new friendship that she desperately needs to propel her forward. Gerard faces a bewildering stream of concerned adults clutching files, unfamiliar streets to navigate, a strange bed to sleep in, and the very real chance he won't see his wee brother and sister again. But is there, finally, a more hopeful future ahead for all three of them?

Heartbreaking, and yet brimful of humour, compassion and hope, **THIS BRIGHT LIFE** is a story about messy lives, second chances and the many hands it takes to build a good life.

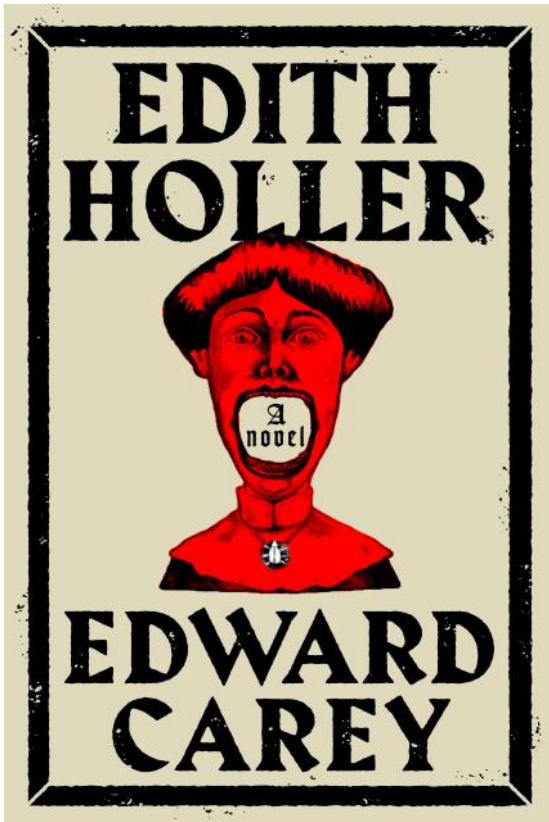
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Karen Campbell is originally from Glasgow, and now lives in south-west Scotland. She graduated from Glasgow University's Creative Writing Masters, and won an SAC New Writers Award and a Creative Scotland Bursary. Before turning to writing, she was a police officer in Glasgow, then press officer with Glasgow City Council. Her eighth novel, **PAPER CUP** (Canongate 2022) was a Waterstones Scotland Book of the Month and won the 2023 Blairgowrie Bookmark Prize.

Karen has appeared on Radio 4 *Women's Hour*, Radio 3's *The Verb*, Radio Scotland and BBC television's *Big Scottish Book Club*.

EDITH HOLLER

Edward Carey



Agent Isobel Dixon

UK HB Gallic Books Oct 2024
 UK PB Pushkin Press Oct 2025
 UK audio WF Howes Oct 2024
 US+Can HB Riverhead Oct 2023
 US+Can audio Riverhead Oct 2023

Germany Beck
 Italy La Nave di Teseo
 Japan Sogensha

Option publishers

Brazil (only) Darkside Books
 Bulgaria Lettera | Czech Republic
 Argo | France Cherche-Midi
 Holland Ambo Anthos | Hungary
 Europa | Iraq AlMada | Lithuania
 Alma Littera | Poland Prószyński
 Russia Eksmo | Spain Blackie Books
 Taiwan Delight press | Turkey
 Ithaki | Ukraine Laboratory

400 pages

A darkly enthralling novel of theatre and mystery, perfect for fans of Susanna Clarke and Edward Gorey

‘I’ve been taking delight in Edward Carey’s glorious new novel **EDITH HOLLER**. Filled with the author’s witty, curious observations and alive with his own illustrations, it’s a novel like no other.’ – Eimear McBride

‘Carey draws on fairy tales and Shakespeare for a dazzling bildungsroman... Affirms the author’s standing as a major literary talent.’ – *Publishers Weekly*, starred review

‘An eccentric atmosphere, a macabre sense of humour, we experience this story with a sense of youthful joy.’ – Olga Tokarczuk, on **LITTLE**

Teeming with unforgettable characters and illuminated by Edward’s original illustrations, **EDITH HOLLER** is an intriguing modern fable of one young woman’s struggle to escape her family’s control and in so doing to craft her own creative destiny.

Norfolk, 1901. England’s queen has died, and her aging son has finally taken the throne. In Norwich, bright young Edith Holler spends her days among the eccentric denizens of the crumbling Holler Theatre. In fact, she has never left the building, warned by her domineering father that the playhouse will tumble down if she ever leaves its confines.

Fascinated by tales of the city she knows only from afar, she decides to write a play of her own: an adaptation of the legend of Mawther Meg, a vicious figure said to have used the blood of children in a local delicacy known as Beetle Spread. But when her father suddenly announces his engagement to forbidding Margaret Unthank, heir to the Beetle Spread fortune, Edith scrambles to protect her father, the theatre, and her play – one thing that’s truly hers – from the newcomer’s sinister designs.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

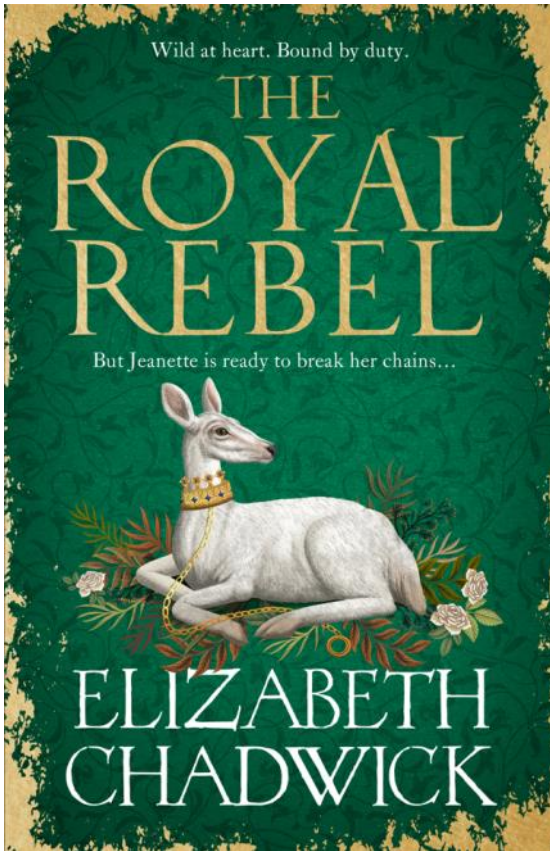
Edward Carey is an acclaimed artist-novelist whose debut **OBSERVATORY MANSIONS** has sold in 15 languages and was described by John Fowles as ‘proving the potential brilliance of the novel form’. Born in England, he teaches at the University of Austin, Texas.

Edward’s previous work of fiction was the haunting and beautiful novella, **THE SWALLOWED MAN**. His extraordinary novel, **LITTLE**, a tour de force of art, revolution, love and memory, has now sold over 100,000 copies in 20 languages and been optioned for film. He is also the author of the YA **Iremonger Trilogy: HEAP HOUSE, FOULSHAM** and **LUNGDON**, also optioned for television.

HISTORICAL

THE ROYAL REBEL

Elizabeth Chadwick



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Sphere Sep 2024
WEL PB Sphere Sep 2025
WEL audio Sphere Sep 2024

Czech Republic Euromedia
Spain Planeta Mexico

Option Publishers

Croatia Znanje | France Bragelonne
Hungary Könyvmolyképző | Italy
TRE60 | Poland Proszynski

480 pages

‘An author who makes historical fiction come gloriously alive’ – *The Times*

‘I rank Elizabeth Chadwick with such historical novelist stars as Dorothy Dunnett and Anya Seton.’ – Sharon Kay Penman

‘Chadwick’s depiction of the Middle Ages is sure and subtle, and her skill in imagining the private conversations that lead to the great decisions of their time is enjoyable.’ – *Publisher’s Weekly*

THE ROYAL REBEL is the first of two novels about a real woman of history, known in the records as Joan of Kent – now brought to vivid life here by Elizabeth Chadwick as Jeanette.

In 1338, Jeanette, young cousin to King Edward III, travels to Antwerp with the royal court and falls for Thomas Holland, a young knight hoping to restore his family’s sullied reputation. Driven by passion and necessity, Thomas and Jeanette secretly marry but are almost immediately forced apart by war and circumstance.

Led to believe Thomas is dead, Jeanette is persuaded by her mother into marrying Lord William Montagu, heir to the Earldom of Salisbury. When Thomas returns and demands Jeanette back, Montagu refuses, and the fight begins. Against a tumultuous backdrop of high chivalry, deadly warfare, devastating plague and savage rivalry, Jeanette must stand her own ground and make her choice.

Jeanette’s tumultuous story continues in a second book (delivery mid-2025) to be published by Sphere in April 2026.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Little, Brown have sold more than 1.4 million copies of Elizabeth Chadwick’s work in their English editions and she has a passionately dedicated following in many countries like France, Italy, Germany, Poland and Spain – as well as the UK and US.

Elizabeth won the RNA Historical Novel of the Year Award in 2011 with **TO DEFY A KING**. The Historical Novel Society chose **THE SCARLET LION** as one of ‘Ten Landmark Historical Novels of the Last Decade’ and **THE FALCONS OF MONTABARD** was named as *Romance Reviews Today’s* Best Historical Fiction Book of the Year.

THE COMING OF THE WOLF, the prequel to Elizabeth Chadwick’s beloved and bestselling debut **THE WILD HUNT**, was published in 2020 to celebrate 30 years of Elizabeth Chadwick books. It was shortlisted for The Goldsboro Books Historical Novel Award at the RNA Awards 2021.

DOVECOMBE

Alex Clark



Agent Sian Ellis-Martin

US HB Norton 2026
 UK On submission
 UK audio Under offer

87,000 words

A contemporary gothic thriller about obsession and dysfunction for readers who love Daphne du Maurier, Sarah Waters and K. Patrick

Intense, repressed Dorrie is secretly in love with her vivid, self-assured friend Alys. When Dorrie's controlling marriage implodes, the two women flee to Alys' remote family home in the Somerset countryside.

But Dovecombe Manor is not the haven that Dorrie was hoping to find. It is a ruin sunk deep in an eerie valley, haunted by a history of violence and held in limbo by a decade-old unsolved arson.

Alys' return is waking something dark in her, sending her sleepwalking to the sinister medieval Mort Door, the entrance to the burned-out wing. When suspicions about the fire focus on Alys, and Alys' sanity begins to crumble, Dorrie sets out to defend the woman she loves and restore Dovecombe by solving the crime.

But Dorrie herself may not be as sane as she believes - and to save Alys, she'll have to go further than she could ever have imagined...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

While writing **DOVECOMBE**, Alex drew on her previous career in stonemasonry, building conservation and architectural history, as well as her enduring devotion to the gothic. She now works for groundbreaking pay-as-you-can restaurant The Long Table, growing and sourcing local produce. She describes herself as 'an undercover Northerner living in Cheltenham'.

Her short stories and poems have appeared in *The Mechanics' Institute Review Online*, *Shooter Literary Magazine*, *Prole*, *Litro Online*, *Lighthouse Journal*, *The North*, and anthologies by The Fiction Desk. She's read at the Cheltenham Literature Festival and received a mention in Salt Publishing's Best British Short Stories 2019.

THE WRECKERS

George Makana Clark



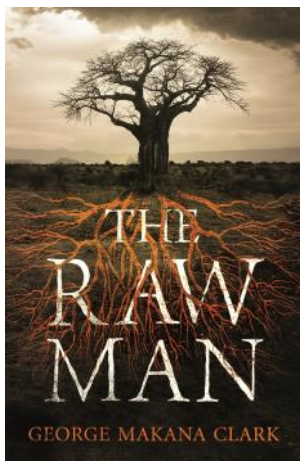
Agent Isobel Dixon

UK On submission

US On submission

Ms available

96,000 words



A spellbinding novel of strange potency – 100 YEARS OF SOLITUDE meets THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO

Lisbon, 1954. In the Military History Archives a mysterious figure steals the Last Will and Testament of Garoto Bárbaro de Castro – Garoto’s remarkable life story and a list of 13 bequests, and also a glimpse of many interconnected lives – including that of his descendent, Nuno, the archival thief.

Born in 1800, the child of a Portuguese slave dealer, Garoto is raised as a prize fighter, but comes to sail the slave route with his father. Tracking Garoto’s legacy, Nuno winds his ingenious way through the novel – thieving and revealing as he goes. Through Nuno’s tomb-raiding in Lisbon’s ‘Cemetery of Pleasures’ we discover the confession of Veríssimo de Castro, a Portuguese priest who once baptized indigenous Angolans into slavery and his and other voices echo down the centuries, from former Portuguese colony Angola, to Havana, Cuba and Louisiana’s ‘Angola’ prison.

Spanning four hundred years in its gripping narrative, *THE WRECKERS* examines the consequences of war and slavery, but it is anything but a heavy reading experience: the reader is buoyed up by the novel’s vivid characterisation, lyrical language and flashes of lively humour. A novel hard to define, but a true reading delight – and a triumphant return, a decade on from Clark’s acclaimed first novel *THE RAW MAN* (UK: Jonathan Cape, 2011).

Praise for THE RAW MAN:

‘An extraordinary novel, and a work of rare conception, bringing together, within one individual, the painfully conflicted history of southern Africa.’ – Brian Chikwava

‘This dark, graceful novel challenges all the conventions. The result is mythic, dark and oracular.’ – Adam Johnson

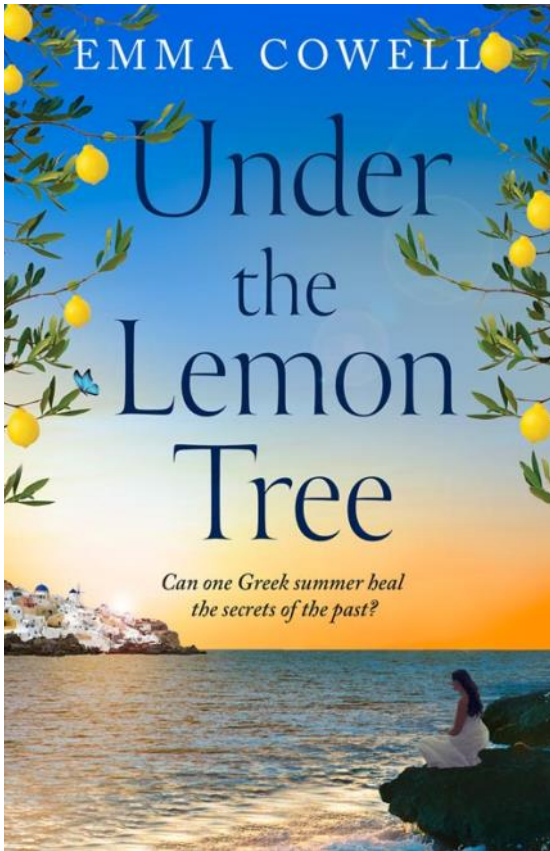
‘The wonderful, poetic voice, at once fantastic and realistic, stands out from contemporary African literature.’ – Alain Mabanckou

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

George Makana Clark grew up in Zimbabwe. Having lived in Germany, Cuba, the Caribbean, South America and the US, he now lives in Portugal. He taught Creative Writing and African and Post-Colonial Literature at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for many years. He is a winner of an O. Henry Award and was short-listed for the Caine Prize. His short stories are widely published in journals like *Zoetrope* and *Tin House*. His collection *THE SMALL BEES’ HONEY* was published in the US by White Pine Press and his work is included in *The New Granta Book of the African Short Story*.

UNDER THE LEMON TREE

Emma Cowell



Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Avon May 2025
WEL audio Avon May 2025

Greece Pedio

Option Publishers

Arabic Jalsa Publishing
Bulgaria Kragozor
Czech Republic Grada
Denmark Zara
Germany Insel
Poland Muza
Russia Eksmo

384 pages

This uplifting and romantic novel, for fans of Victoria Hislop, Carol Kirkwood and Karen Swan, offers an unforgettable journey of healing, heritage, and the hope that blooms under the Grecian sun

‘Emma Cowell writes with warm assurance and brings the Greek setting to life.’ – Sue Moorcroft

‘Beautiful, emotional and uplifting escapism with an exquisitely vivid Greek island setting. Utter bliss.’ – Alex Brown

Shattered by the sudden loss of her beloved twin, Nik, Kat is struggling to find meaning in a life turned upside down. The comfort of family is both smothering and soothing, but when an unexpected inheritance surfaces – a house on the breathtaking Greek island of Agistri from a mysterious uncle she’s only just heard of – she dares to dream of a new beginning.

Arriving on Agistri, with its crystalline waters and endless blue skies, Kat finds herself surrounded by lush pine forests, secluded coves, and the scent of citrus in the air. Among white-washed houses, the warmth of the island’s people begins to heal the emptiness in her heart. And in their company, she finds both the courage to face her grief – and maybe even the spark of unexpected love...

But as she slowly unearths her family’s buried past, Kat must confront her own fears about belonging, forgiveness, and the possibility of rediscovering happiness in the unlikeliest of places.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emma lives in Cornwall with her husband, Tony. A former actress and BBC presenter, Emma has been a fundraiser for children’s palliative care for the last decade.

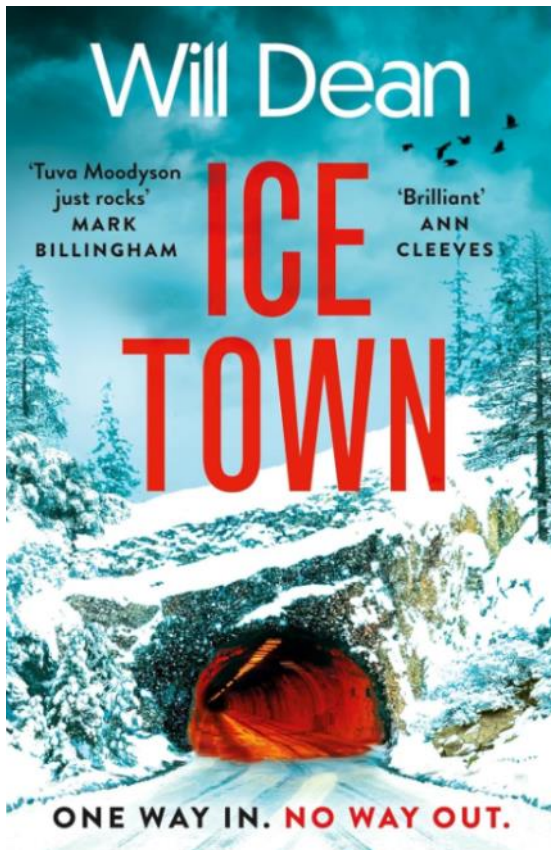
Outside of work, Emma is a keen angler and held a Cornish record for over 10 years until her crown was toppled. She is yet to get over it but tries to keep calm by practising yoga. Also a keen linguist, Emma has learnt Greek to maintain her love affair with the country where she has set her novels. She is yet to achieve a level of proficiency outside of tavernas and bakeries.

Emma’s first three books, **ONE LAST LETTER FROM GREECE**, **THE HOUSE IN THE OLIVE GROVE** and **THE ISLAND LOVE SONG**, have sold nearly 100,000 copies in the UK alone.

ICE TOWN

A Tuva Moodyson Mystery

Will Dean



Agent Kate Burke

WEL HB Hodder & Stoughton Nov 2024

WEL PB Hodder & Stoughton Oct 2025

WEL audio Hodder & Stoughton Nov 2024

TV Red Planet

Option publishers

France Belfond
Russia Eksmo

392 pages

Chilling small-town mystery, featuring deaf journalist, Tuva Moodyson, on the trail of a missing teenager

‘Another fabulously atmospheric investigation from Will Dean’s singular heroine.’ – *Heat* magazine

‘Dean’s mastery of setting and suspense remain unassailable.’ – *Financial Times*, Best New Crime Books

‘The latest novel in Will Dean’s much-praised series... Dean delivers another gripping and masterfully plotted tale, the suspense expertly elevated in the isolated, snowy setting. Perfect winter reading.’ – *Irish Independent*

Deaf teenager goes missing in Esseberg. Mountain rescue are launching a search party but conditions hinder their efforts. The tunnel is being kept open all night as an exception.

When journalist Tuva Moodyson reads this news alert she knows she must join the search. If this teenager is found, she will be able to communicate with him in a way no one else can.

Esseberg lies on the other side of a mountain tunnel: there is only one way in and one way out. When the tunnel closes at night, the residents are left to fend for themselves. And as more people go missing, it becomes clear that there is a killer among them...

ICE TOWN is the unputdownable new Tuva novel, which will delight existing fans of the series and bring many new readers to it.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Will Dean grew up in the East Midlands, living in nine different villages before the age of eighteen. After studying law at the LSE, and working many varied jobs in London, he settled in rural Sweden with his wife. He built a wooden house in a boggy forest clearing and it's from this base that he compulsively reads and writes.

The second instalment in the Tuva Moodyson series, **RED SNOW**, won ‘Best Independent Voice’ in the Amazon Publishing Readers’ Awards 2019. **BLACK RIVER**, the third title, was longlisted for the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel Award 2020. Will is also the author of the sensational standalone thrillers **THE LAST THING TO BURN**, **FIRST BORN**, **THE LAST PASSENGER** and **THE CHAMBER**.

Will is currently writing **ADRIFT**, a tense thriller set on a narrowboat, about a family’s descent into darkness.

THRILLER

ONE AT A TIME

Will Dean



Agent Kate Burke

UKexCan HB Hodder & Stoughton
Jun 2024

UKexCan PB Hodder & Stoughton
Aug 2025

UKexCan audio Hodder & Stoughton
Jun 2024

US+Can PB Emily Bestler Books Aug
2024

US+Can audio Emily Bestler Books
Aug 2024

Germany Hoffmann & Campe
Poland Rebis

Option publishers

Croatia Znanje

France Belfond

Russia Eksmo

Turkey Yediveren

320 pages

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE meets **THE LAST BREATH** in this tense and suspenseful locked-room thriller

Featured in the *New York Times*' and *Guardian*'s summer fiction reading lists

'A first-class suspense thriller that robbed me of both sleep and fingernails' – *The Telegraph*

'A masterclass in suspense – I absolutely loved it!' – Shari Lapena

'Dean shrewdly reimagines the closed-circle murder mystery in this tense and claustrophobic nail-biter... Dean maintains unyielding strain on his characters, brilliantly riffing on a classic setup while flexing his gifts for style and characterization. The results are gripping.' – *Publishers Weekly*

On a boat heading out into the North Sea, Ellen Brooke steels herself to spend almost a month locked inside a hyperbaric chamber with five other divers. They are all being paid handsomely for this work – to be lowered each day inside a diving bell to the sea bed, taking it in turns to dive down and repair oil pipes that lie in the dark waters. It is a close knit team and it has to be: any error or loss of trust could be catastrophic.

All is going to plan until one of the divers is found unresponsive in his bunk. He hadn't left the chamber. It will take four more days of decompression, locked away together, before the hatch can be opened. Four more days of bare steel, intrusive thoughts, and the constant struggle not to give way to panic. Mind games, exhaustion, suspicion, and, most of all, pressure. And if someone does unlock the door, everyone dies...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

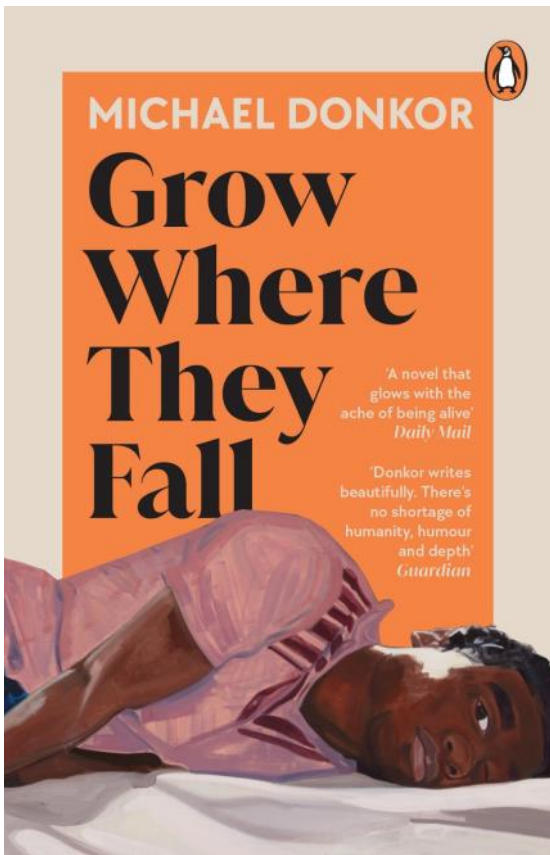
Will Dean grew up in the East Midlands, living in nine different villages before the age of eighteen. After studying law at the LSE, and working many varied jobs in London, he settled in rural Sweden with his wife. He built a wooden house in a boggy forest clearing and it's from this base that he compulsively reads and writes.

Will is also the author of the sensational standalone thrillers **THE LAST THING TO BURN**, **FIRST BORN** and **THE LAST PASSENGER** and the **Tuva Moodyson** crime series.

Emily Bestler Books have acquired rights in two new standalone thrillers. Will's currently writing **ADRIFT**, a tense thriller set on a narrowboat, about a family's descent into darkness.

GROW WHERE THEY FALL

Michael Donkor



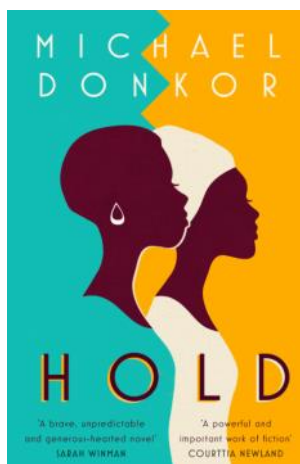
Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Fig Tree (PRH) Mar 2024 (at auction)

UKexCan PB Penguin Mar 2025

UK audio Penguin Mar 2024

432 pages



A richly-layered, insightful exploration of masculinity, both funny and devastating

'In this radiant, deeply felt novel, Donkor offers us the complexities of modern life... with all the grace and fluent clarity of a singular, open-hearted storyteller.' – Guy Gunaratne

'Throughout, he proves an author confident of his storytelling skills, and rightly so.' – Nick Duerden, *i*

'A novel that glows with the ache of being alive.' – Claire Allfree, *Daily Mail*

Bright and precocious ten-year-old Kwame Akromah knows how to behave. He knows the importance of good manners, how to stay at the top of the class and out of the way when his parents are angry with each other. But when his charismatic cousin Yaw arrives from Ghana to live with the family while he looks for work, the rules Kwame has learned about the world can no longer guide him.

Twenty years later, Kwame is a secondary-school teacher, popular with his students and depended on by his friends. His is a life spent elegantly weaving between the classroom, the labyrinth of Grindr politics and increasingly intermittent visits to his parents' home. Behind the confident façade, however, he is as driven by caution as he was as a boy.

But when electrifying Marcus Felix is appointed as headteacher, Kwame must reckon with himself as he never has before. Can he face the ghosts of his childhood? How will he learn to move through the world without losing who he is? And where does existing stop and living begin?

GROW WHERE THEY FALL is a beautifully written, spirited and deeply moving novel about a young man finding the courage to expand the limits of who he might become.

HOLD (UK: 4th Estate, US: Picador [as **HOUSEGIRL**], Germany: Nautilus), Michael's debut novel, was shortlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize 2019 and longlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize 2019. Moving between Ghana and London, **HOLD** is an intimate coming-of-age novel. It's a story of friendship and family, shame and forgiveness; of learning what we should cling to, and when to let go. 320 pages.

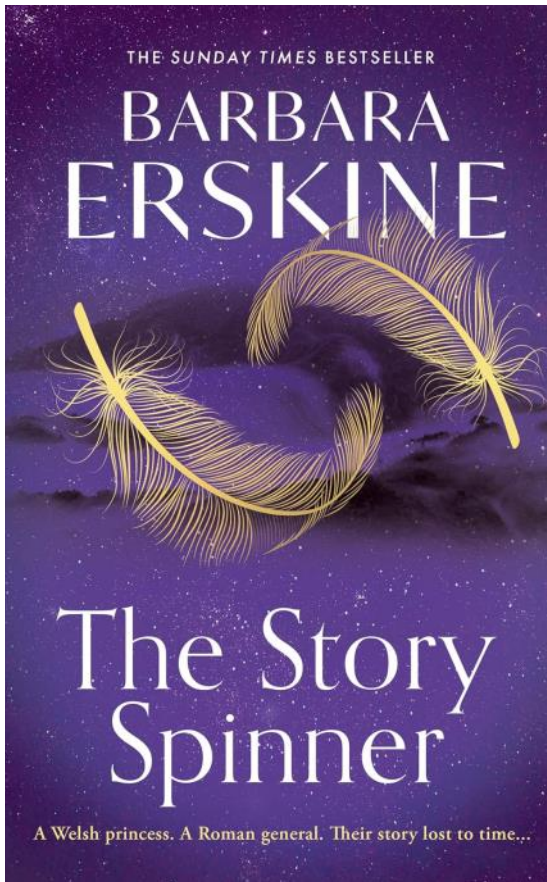
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Michael Donkor was born in London in 1985. He read English at Oxford, and has a Masters in Creative Writing from Royal Holloway. After working in publishing for a number of years, he retrained as an English teacher in 2010. He now lives in Lisbon, and reviews books for various UK newspapers.

HISTORICAL

THE STORY SPINNER

Barbara Erskine



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB HarperCollins Aug 2024
WEL PB HarperCollins May 2025
WEL audio HarperCollins Aug 2024

Czech Republic Euromedia

Option publishers

Hungary Alexandra

512 pages

A Welsh writer is drawn into a mystery dating back to the Roman era in another captivating novel from the mega-bestselling author of *LADY OF HAY*

An instant No.1 *Sunday Times* bestseller on first publication.

One of Waterstones' 'Best New Historical Fiction Hardbacks'

'Barbara Erskine is one of my favourite writers. I devour her books with unbridled pleasure and wonder: she takes me to places in the past I never knew existed and brings them to life so deftly. *THE STORY SPINNER* is another delicious feast of love, drama, suspense, mystery, history, and a ghostly magic that is Barbara's alone. She's simply unputdownable!' – Santa Montefiore

A marriage of power.

It's 382 AD and Elen, a princess of the Welsh hills, is promised to a ruthless Roman general. Despite warnings that her marriage is destined for heartache, Elen is determined to honour her vows, if only to protect her people...

A secret lost to time.

From her cottage window, author Cadi can see the lush green meadow where Elen once walked a thousand years ago. But someone is desperate to destroy this ancient land and keep the past buried.

Can Cadi tell Elen's story before it disappears forever?

Much anticipated, this is another engrossing hit from 'the acknowledged queen of the historical time-slip novel' (*Daily Mail*), now also winning over a new generation of fans.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

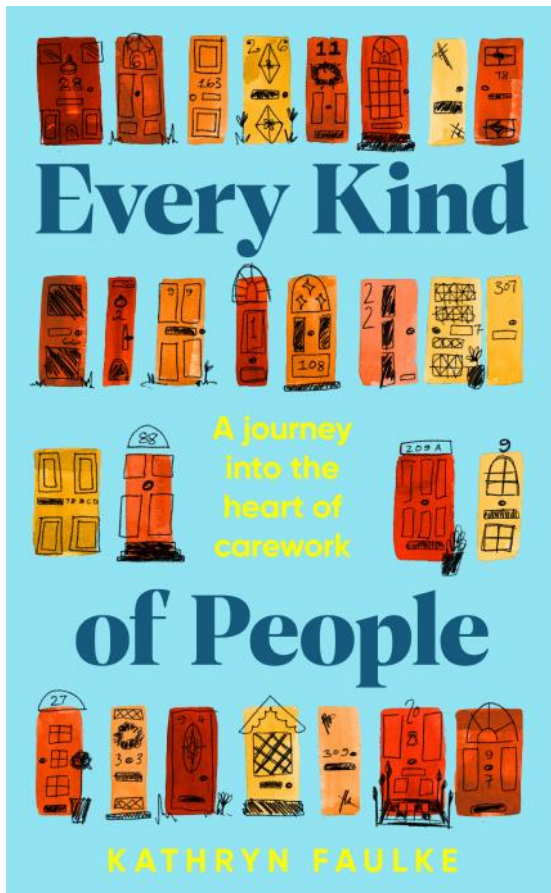
Barbara Erskine is the acclaimed author of many internationally best-selling novels beginning with the much-loved classic, *LADY OF HAY*, which has been continuously in print for almost 40 years. Barbara has also written three bestselling volumes of short stories. Her books have been published around the world in English and also in more than 25 other languages. She lives in Hay-on-Wye in Wales.

Barbara is currently writing her next novel for HarperCollins, *THE VALLEY OF RAVENS*, also set in Wales.

MEMOIR

EVERY KIND OF PEOPLE: A Journey Into The Heart Of Carework

Kathryn Faulke



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Fig Tree (PRH) Oct 2024 (at auction)
UKexCan PB Penguin Aug 2025
UKexCan audio Penguin Oct 2024
UK Radio BBC Radio *Book of the Week* Oct 2024
UK Serial *Daily Mail* Oct 2024

352 pages

Compassionate, warm-hearted, profound, a life-affirming memoir about being a home carer – for fans of books like *THE OUTFRAN* and *THE SALT PATH*.

‘The work of a natural storyteller, and a book full of empathy, humour, and – yes – care. All kinds of brilliant.’
– Jon McGregor, author of *RESERVOIR 13*

‘Marvellously life-affirming and utterly humbling.’ – Caroline Sanderson, *The Bookseller*, ‘Editor’s Choice’

‘A deeply compelling story of one of the most unsung professions, brimming with anecdotes to make you both laugh and cry. A vital book.’ – Anna Bonet, *i*

This striking debut, won at auction by Fig Tree, got off to a cracking start on publication: BBC Radio 4’s prestigious *Book of the Week*, *Daily Mail* serial, and the author appearing on Radio 4’s influential *Start the Week* programme.

Anxious and burnt out, Kate has left a senior medical role and is looking for a new, less stressful job. Believing she’s found this in one-to-one care work, she signs with an agency for home carers and is soon plunged into a challenging yet eye-opening new world.

Facing low pay, long journeys between homes and pressurised thirty-minute visits, Kate soon realises the job is about far more than washing, feeding and dressing vulnerable, often lonely men and women. They are people who have much to teach her too and the stories they share are a vivid kaleidoscopic view of the world.

At the same time Kate is also caring for Greg, a seriously ill friend living on the fringes of society. Sometimes stretched to the limit, she comes to realise that in the midst of it all, she has found her vocation, that care work can be joyful too, and that to care for another person is the most important thing of all.

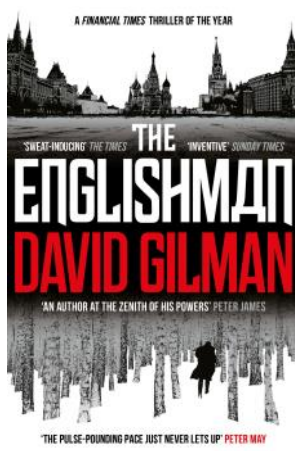
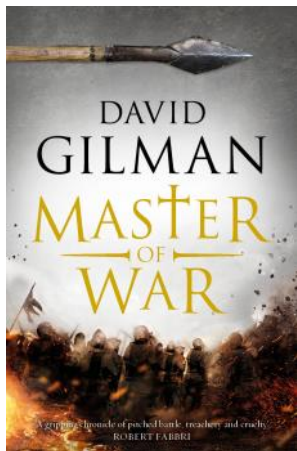
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kathryn Faulke is a pseudonym. The author was runner-up in the Wasafiri International New Writing Prize and won the Mslexia Memoir Prize for an earlier version of **EVERY KIND OF PEOPLE**. She is now working on her next book, about working in nursing homes on the Norfolk coast, and rediscovering the natural world of her childhood.

ACTION THRILLER

DAVID GILMAN SERIES

David Gilman



THE MASTER OF WAR SERIES

The Master of War historical fiction series follows English stonemason turned archer Thomas Blackstone from humble beginnings to knighthood and bloody battle throughout the Hundred Years' War. The series has sold over 500,000 copies & made *Der Spiegel's* Top Ten.

Book 9 RAGE OF SWORDS

1368. Prince Lionel of Antwerp, Duke of Clarence, makes his way across France to Milan where he will marry the young daughter of Galeazzo Visconti: an alliance in the making.

Thomas Blackstone and his men travel ahead, not knowing two assassins lie in wait for Lionel in Italy – but who sent them? Could it be Blackstone's sworn enemy, Bernabò Visconti, the brother of Galeazzo, or Bernabò's adversary in the papal wars, Consignorio della Scala, Lord of Verona?

Assassins and gold are not Thomas's only problems as the conflict between him and his son Henry reaches boiling point. Henry's wild goose chase in search of a woman *illuminare* – an artist of rare gifts who illuminates religious manuscripts – unveils a twisting tale of treachery and disappointment... But it brings to light details that might be key to his father's survival.

From the streets of Milan to Alba, Piacenza and Verona, Blackstone finds himself in a battle that even the Master of War and his men are unlikely to survive...

THE ENGLISHMAN SERIES

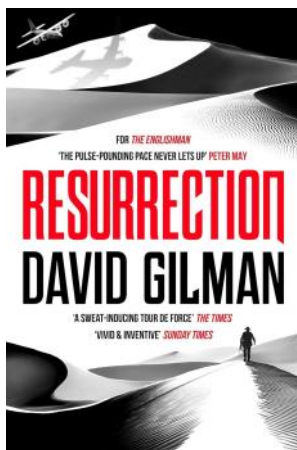
Dan Raglan – a rogue Englishman who served in the French Foreign Legion. Skilled, experienced, but unaccountable – and sometimes unpredictable.

THE ENGLISHMAN series is 'electrifying proof that high-tension international thrillers are back – and with an absolute vengeance.' – William Shaw

In **RESURRECTION**, somewhere in the Sahara, on the desolate border between Sudan and Chad, a P51 Mustang slowly emerges from the dunes. Inside, the skeletal remains of a man missing for three decades. His flying jacket bears no insignia, a worn leather attaché case lies by his side, held securely by a manacle around his left wrist. Inside a document men will kill for. Die for. The British, the French, and the Russians are on the trail. And so is Raglan.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David Gilman lives in Devon. He was a firefighter, soldier, photographer, then award-winning screenwriter before turning to writing full-time. Head of Zeus have sold more than 700,000 copies of David Gilman's novels in English, and his work is translated into more than a dozen languages. Head of Zeus have also signed up a new historical standalone to be published in 2026.



Agent Isobel Dixon

MASTER OF WAR: RAGE OF SWORDS

WEL HB Head of Zeus Nov 2025

WEL PB Head of Zeus Nov 2026

WEL audio Head of Zeus Nov 2025

Germany Rowohlt

480 pages

THE ENGLISHMAN: RESURRECTION

UKexCan HB Head of Zeus Jan 2023

UKexCan PB Head of Zeus Sep 2023

UKexCan audio WF Howes Jan 2023

Film rights AGC Studios

Romania Lebada Neagra

Option publishers

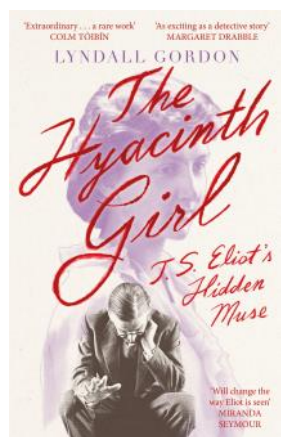
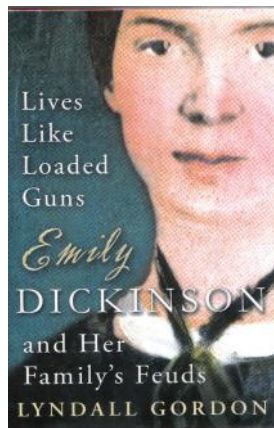
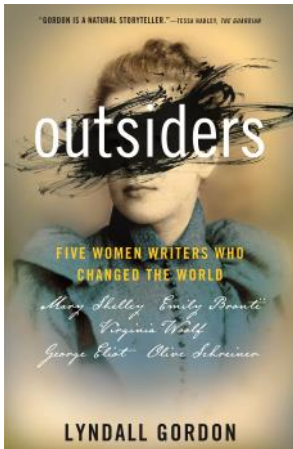
Czech Republic Euromedia

Japan Hayakawa

Slovakia Ikar

432 pages

LYNDALL GORDON



One of the world's foremost literary scholars and a widely acclaimed biographer, in particular of the lives of women writers

'Literary bloodhound and superbly eloquent chronicler.' – *Booklist*

'A biographer with soul, she reaches into the hearts of those she brings alive for us. She makes the meaning of their lives sing and sweat as she invites us into their experiences, their longings, their struggles and their disappointments.' – Susie Orbach, *The Observer*

See more here on a selection of Lyndall Gordon's key works:

OUTSIDERS: Five Women Writers Who Changed the World: Gordon tells the dramatic stories of 5 novelists of great power and originality – Mary Shelley, Emily Brontë, George Eliot, Olive Schreiner, Virginia Woolf – and how their creativity was linked to their lives as outsiders. 481 pages.

LIVES LIKE LOADED GUNS: Emily Dickinson and Her Family's Feuds: an exploration of the scandalous and explosive fissures in Emily Dickinson's family, the bitter feud that ensued, and the reasons for her legendary reclusiveness. Shortlisted for the Duff Cooper Prize 2010 and the Comisso Prize, Italy in 2013. 512 pages.

CHARLOTTE BRONTË: A Passionate Life: Cheltenham Prize Winner, *Sunday Independent* bestseller. Lyndall dismantles the commonplace image of Charlotte Brontë as a modest Victorian lady, revealing instead a strong, fiery woman who shaped her life and transformed it into unforgettable, influential art. 496 pages.

THE HYACINTH GIRL (432 pages) is a ground-breaking, revelatory work on T.S. Eliot and the women in his life, longlisted for the PEN/Jacqueline Bograd Weld Award for Biography in 2023. Lyndall's previous biography, **THE IMPERFECT LIFE OF T.S. ELIOT** (672 pages), won the British Academy's Rose Mary Crawshay Prize and Southern Arts prize. Virago published an updated edition in early 2025.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lyndall Gordon lives in Oxford. As well as the prizes above, she has been longlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction for **VINDICATION: A Life of Mary Wollstonecraft**, a *New York Times* bestseller. **VIRGINIA WOOLF: A Writer's Life** won the James Tait Black Prize for Biography. Lyndall is also the author of **THE PRIVATE LIFE OF HENRY JAMES: Two Women & His Art** and two works of memoir. *A full, detailed brochure on all Lyndall Gordon's titles is available.*

Agent Isobel Dixon

UK Virago

US Norton/John Hopkins University/
HarperCollins

Turkey Alfa

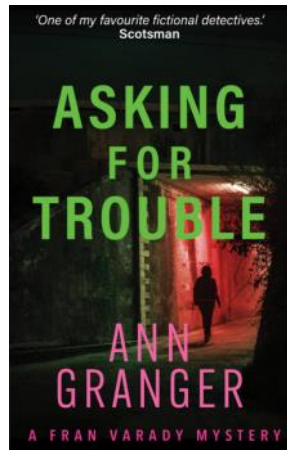
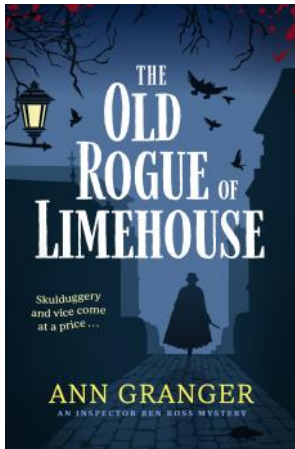
Option publishers

Italy Fazi

Spain Alba

ANN GRANGER SERIES

Ann Granger



A beloved, evergreen British crime author, with a backlist treasury of female detectives, pleasing twists and characters full of humour and colour

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ann Granger lives near Oxford. Over decades she has created a wonderful range of series characters, all featuring insightful characterisation and satisfying plotting. Ann has written over thirty murder mysteries, including the **Mitchell & Markby Mysteries**, the **Fran Varady Mysteries**, the **Victorian Inspector Ben Ross** and **Lizzie Martin Mysteries** and the **Campbell and Carter Mysteries**. Published in 10 languages, her German editions have sold nearly two million copies and have made more than 30 appearances in the Top 5 bestseller lists.

About Ann's latest series publications:**DEATH ON THE PROWL (Campbell & Carter Contemporary Mysteries #8)**

Jerry Harrison receives an unwelcome visitor at his remote Cotswold cottage one winter's night – and next morning, the cleaner finds him fatally stabbed...

At first, Inspector Jess Campbell and Superintendent Ian Carter aren't sure of the victim's identity, but it's not long before a neighbour comes forward with her opinions on the deceased. Harrison was not popular in the village of Weston St Ambrose; his aunt's tragic death led to him inheriting her cottage and many of the locals still see him as an outsider.

With no witnesses and little evidence to go on, Jess and Ian must dig deep to find the answers to this baffling case. But not before another villager is attacked and left for dead...

THE OLD ROGUE OF LIMEHOUSE (Inspector Ben Ross Victorian Mysteries #9)

Summer 1871: Scotland Yard's Inspector Ben Ross visits Jacob Jacobus, infamous antiquarian, friend to villains, informer to the police. Ben hopes to glean leads on burglaries that might be planned for the London Season – but little does he know that a priceless family heirloom, the Roxby emerald necklace, has already been stolen, and widowed Mrs Roxby is demanding its immediate return.

Then Ben and his wife Lizzie hear that Jacobus has been found dead, his throat slit from ear to ear. Could the two crimes be connected? With Ben's meticulous investigative skills and Lizzie's relentless curiosity, it's only a matter of time before the tragic truth is revealed...

A full, detailed brochure on all Ann Granger's titles is available.

Agent Isobel Dixon

DEATH ON THE PROWL

WEL HB Headline Dec 2024

WEL PB Headline May 2025

UK+BC audio Headline Dec 2024

US+Can audio Tantor 2024

Germany Luebbe

272 pages

THE OLD ROGUE OF LIMEHOUSE

WEL HB Headline Jul 2023

WEL PB Headline Dec 2023

UK+BC audio Headline Jul 2023

US+Can audio Tantor 2023

Czech Republic Moba

France Univers Poche

Germany Luebbe

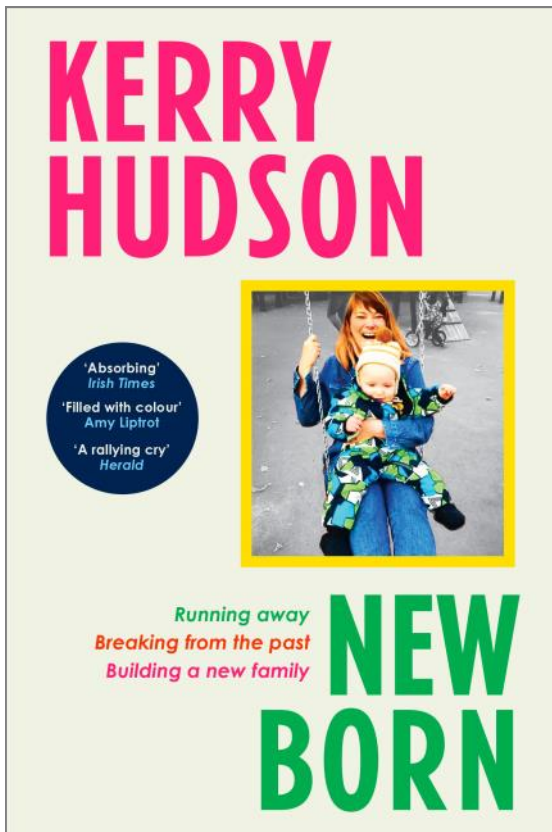
Option publishers

Estonia Varrak

320 pages

MEMOIR

NEWBORN: Running Away, Breaking with the Past, Building a New Family Kerry Hudson



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Chatto Feb 2024

UKexCan PB Chatto Feb 2025

UKexCan audio Vintage Feb 2024

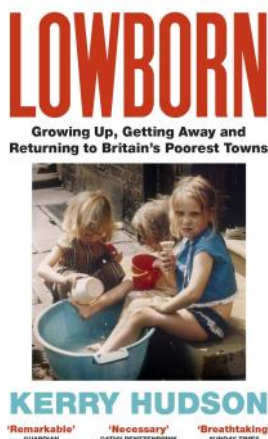
France Editions Philippe Rey

Option publishers

China Golden Rose Books

Italy Antonio Mandese Editore

272 pages



A beautiful, empowering memoir about creating a family in the midst of chaos, and learning new ways to find happiness

'It was always going to be difficult to follow **LOWBORN**, but Kerry Hudson is Kerry Hudson and she has done it – cleverly, honestly, brilliantly' – Roddy Doyle

Celebrated for her emotionally and politically powerful writing about growing up in poverty, in **NEWBORN** Kerry asks: what next, after a childhood like hers? What hope is there of creating a different life for herself, let alone future generations?

In this exquisitely written, moving and inspiring memoir, we see how Kerry found love, what it took to decide to start a family of her own and how fragile every step of the journey towards parenthood was. Along the way, she faces obstacles that would test the strongest foundations, from struggles with fertility to being locked down in a Prague maternity hospital, to a marriage in crisis. But over and over again, her love, hope, fight – and determination to break patterns and give her son a different life – win through.

LOWBORN: Growing Up, Getting Away and Returning to Britain's Poorest Towns (UK: Chatto & Windus). Kerry Hudson is proudly working class but she was never proudly poor. The poverty she grew up in was all-encompassing, grinding and often dehumanising. Twenty years later, Kerry's life is unrecognisable, but she often finds herself looking over her shoulder, caught somehow between two worlds. **LOWBORN** is Kerry's exploration of where she came from, revisiting the towns she grew up in to try to discover what being poor really means in Britain today and whether anything has changed.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kerry Hudson was born in Aberdeen. Growing up in a succession of council estates, B&Bs and caravan parks provided her with a keen eye for idiosyncratic behaviour, material for life, and a love of travel.

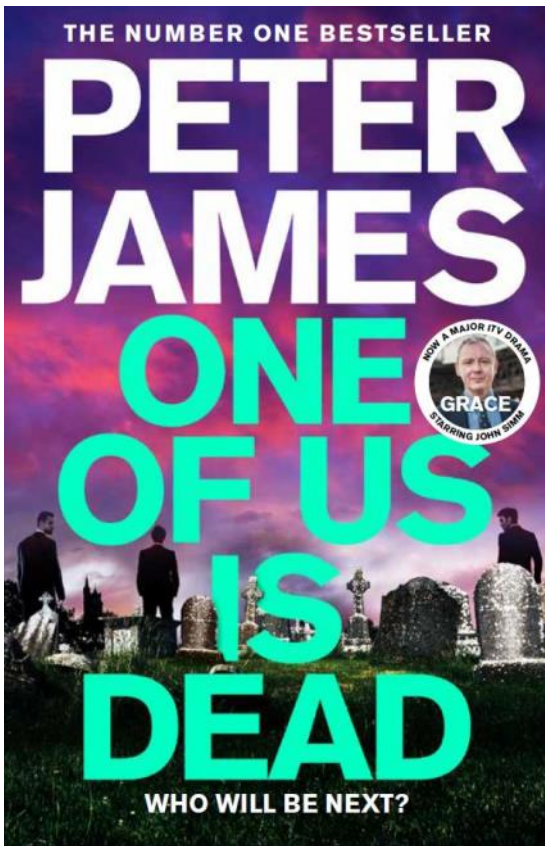
Her novel **TONY HOGAN BOUGHT ME AN ICE-CREAM FLOAT BEFORE HE STOLE MY MA** (Chatto & Windus), was shortlisted for eight literary prizes, and won Scottish First Book of the Year. Kerry's second novel, **THIRST**, was shortlisted for the Green Carnation Prize and won the Prix Femina Etranger in France. **LOWBORN** (2019) became a *Times* bestseller and was hailed as 'One of the most important books of the year' by the *Guardian*.

Kerry has written for publications including *The New York Times*, *Guardian*, *Big Issue*, *The Herald* and *Press and Journal*.

ONE OF US IS DEAD

Roy Grace #20

Peter James



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Macmillan Sep 2024
WEL PB Macmillan Apr 2025
WEL audio Macmillan Sep 2024

TV (*Grace series*) Second Act
Productions for ITV 2021, 2022,
2023, 2024, 5th series set for 2025
and streaming widely on Britbox

Finland Minerva
Israel Kor'im
Sweden HarperCollins Nordic

Option publishers

Bulgaria Storytel | Czech Brana
Denmark Gyldendal | Estonia
Tanapaev | France Fleuve Noir
Greece Hartini Poli | Holland De
Fontein | Lithuania Jotema
Norway Vigmostad | Russia Azbooka
Spain Jentas

464 pages

Roy Grace is about to find out just how dangerous a dead man can be...

Instant Top 5 *Sunday Times* bestseller

'First the smash-hit TV series, now the 20th novel – Detective Superintendent Roy Grace is going flat out, sirens and all... a twisty page-turner.' – *The Sun*

'Peter James is one of the best British crime writers and therefore one of the best in the world' – Lee Child

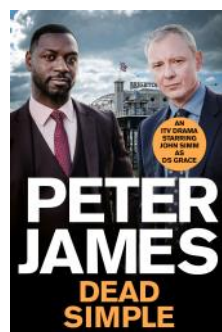
When James Taylor arrives late for a funeral, he has to stand at the back of the small church. But, during the service Taylor notices a man six rows in front of him. At first he thinks he must be mistaken, but the more he looks at the man, the more convinced Taylor becomes that this is his old schoolfriend Rufus Rorke. Except it couldn't be him, could it? Because two years ago Taylor attended Rufus Rorke's funeral. He even delivered the eulogy.

At Police HQ across Brighton, Detective Superintendent Roy Grace has been alerted to a number of suspicious deaths that he can't get out of his mind. But how are they linked? And how could they possibly be connected to Rufus Rorke?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

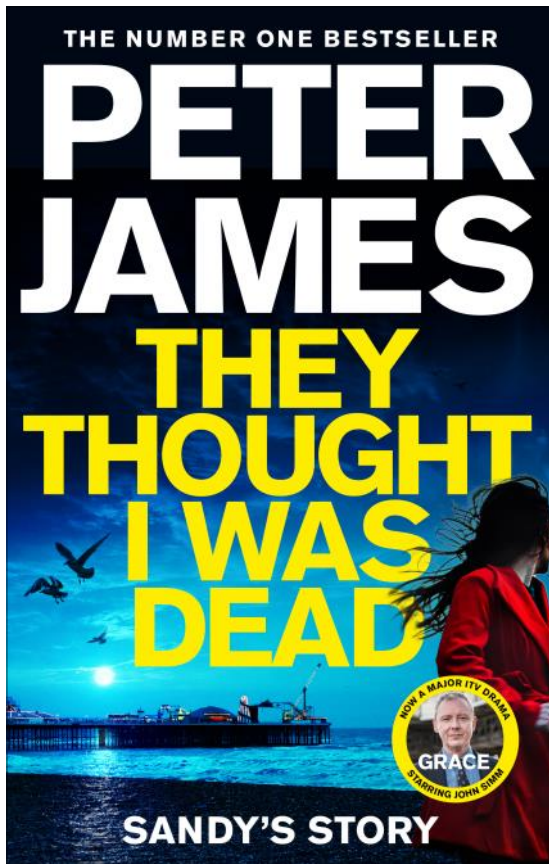
Winner of numerous international awards including the Prix POLAR International (2006); Le Prix Coeur Noir (2007); 'Best Crime Writer of All Time' (voted by W.H. Smiths' readers). CWA Diamond Dagger 2016 for 'Sustained Excellence' and Specsavers Honorary Platinum Bestseller Award 2018.

Author of multiple #1 bestsellers with 23 million copies sold worldwide and many books optioned for film/TV. Several novels have been adapted for the stage, with sell-out UK tours. **DEAD SIMPLE**, the first title in the ITV *Grace* series, was broadcast in Spring 2021, starring John Simm as Roy Grace. It had over 8.8 million viewers and was nominated for two National Television Awards. Series 4 led the field on 7-day viewing figures in 2024 and Series 5 will be broadcast in 2025. Peter James's novels are translated into 38 languages. Watch this space for more news on the 21st Roy Grace to come this year!



THEY THOUGHT I WAS DEAD

Peter James



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Macmillan May 2024

WEL PB Macmillan Nov 2024

WEL audio Macmillan May 2024

Finland Minerva

France Fleuve

Italy Fanucci

464 pages

Peter James reveals the truth behind Sandy Grace's disappearance at last – a thrill for fans and new readers alike!

An instant *Sunday Times* No.1 hardback bestseller

'A brilliantly fast-paced thriller with more twists and turns than a Tour de France descent.' – *Daily Express*

Some will know how it begins...

Her name is Sandy. You might know her as the loving wife of Detective Superintendent Roy Grace.

But there's more to her than meets the eye. A woman with a dubious past, a complicated present and an uncertain future. Then she was gone.

Some will think they know how it ends...

Her disappearance caused a nationwide search. Even the best detective on the force couldn't find her. They thought she was dead.

But nobody knows this...

Where did she go? Why did she run? What would cause a woman to leave her whole life behind and simply vanish?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Winner of numerous international awards including the Prix POLAR International (2006); Le Prix Coeur Noir (2007); 'Best Crime Writer of All Time' (voted by W.H. Smiths' readers). CWA Diamond Dagger 2016 for 'Sustained Excellence' and Specsavers Honorary Platinum Bestseller Award 2018.

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Peter James's novels are translated into 38 languages.

THE WOMAN IN THE CHINESE COLLAR

Hannah Lowe



Photo credit: Hannah Pope

Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Scribner 2027
UKexCan PB Scribner 2028
UKexCan audio Scribner 2027
(at auction)
US On submission
US audio Under Offer

Ms available late 2025

THE KIDS (Poetry)
WAL PB Bloodaxe Books 2021

80 pages

LONG TIME NO SEE (Memoir)
WEL PB Periscope 2015

328 pages

The Costa Book of the Year winner returns with an astounding lyrical memoir, interweaving the personal and historic, the investigative and poetic

Scribner won UK rights in an intense auction, for publication in 2027.

In this rich, lyrical hybrid memoir, Hannah Lowe goes in search of her Afro-Chinese aunt Nelsa, a herbalist and healer, brothel madam and renowned restaurant/nightclub hostess in 1950s/60s Kingston, Jamaica. **THE WOMAN IN THE CHINESE COLLAR** is at once a fascinating archival detective story, a poetic evocation of Jamaica and a haunting glimpse of an extraordinary woman's life.

A single portrait photograph of Nelsa galvanised Hannah's search to recover the lost story of a woman making her way in a man's world. Politics, poverty, disability, sex work and crime combine in this narrative of diaspora and home, interrogating the multiple ways in which photographs hold meaning; the role of writing and research in tracing routes and roots and how to excavate the life of a marginalised woman when the archives are empty.

Hannah won the prestigious Eccles Centre Hay Festival Prize for her work on **THE WOMAN IN THE CHINESE COLLAR**.

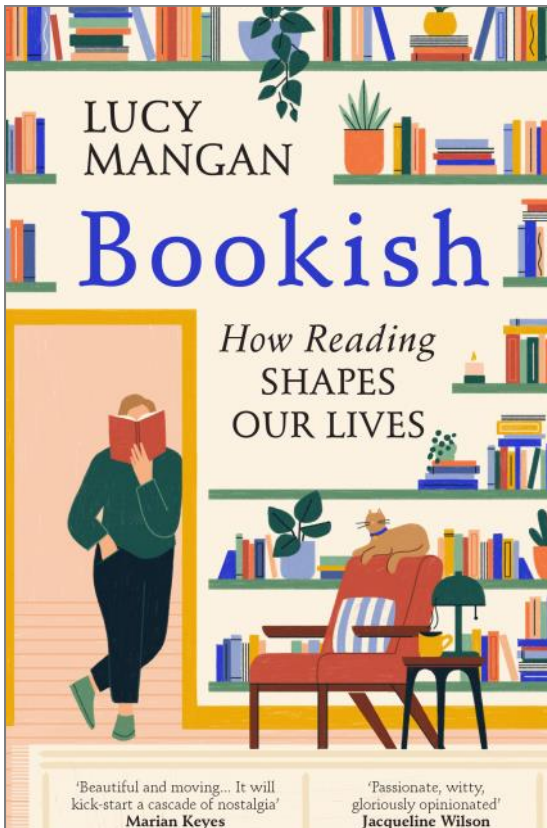
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hannah Lowe was born in Ilford to an English mother and Jamaican-Chinese father. Her poetry collection, **THE KIDS**, won the Costa Poetry Award and then the Book of the Year Award 2021. It was a Poetry Book Society Choice for Autumn 2021 and was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize, and was also an *Irish Times* and *Guardian* poetry book of the year.

Her prose memoir, **LONG TIME NO SEE**, exploring her relationship with her half-Chinese, half-Jamaican immigrant father, was published by Periscope in 2014. Her first book-length collection, **CHICK**, won the 2015 Michael Murphy Memorial Prize and was selected for the Poetry Book Society's Next Generation Poets 2014 promotion. Her second full-length collection, **CHAN**, was published by Bloodaxe Books in 2016.

BOOKISH: The Life-Changing Power of Reading

Lucy Mangan



Agent Juliet Pickering

WEL HB Square Peg Mar 2025

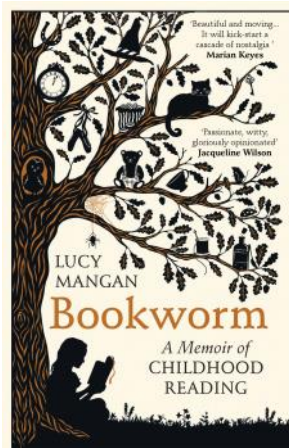
WEL PB Vintage 2026

WEL audio Vintage Mar 2025

US HB Pegasus Books Jan 2026

US audio Pegasus Books Jan 2026

304 pages



A love letter to all those who come alive when they pull a new treasure off the shelf, who stay up late reading just one more page, who pack their suitcases with clothes wedged between books instead of the other way around

'A bookworm's delight... I devoured this book.' – Sara Collins

'Comforting, funny and moving.' – Sali Hughes

'A gorgeous hug of a book - funny, warm and charming' – Marian Keyes

'Lucy Mangan on books is like butter on toast: perfect' – Caitlin Moran

BOOKISH is the story of a life spent falling in love with reading. From exploring the stacks as a student, to finding her feet as a bookseller turned journalist, falling for a fellow bookworm in an independent bookshop, escaping the doldrums of new motherhood with Jack Reacher and finally building a (book) room of her own, **BOOKWORM** author Lucy Mangan chronicles her years of buying, borrowing and hoarding everything from well-worn literary classics to steamy bonkbusters, gripping thrillers, young adult novels, and other not-so-guilty pleasures.

Brimming with literary insights, wry observations and stellar recommendations, this book is an ode to the bookish places – from local libraries to bookstores big and small – and the stories that make us who we are.

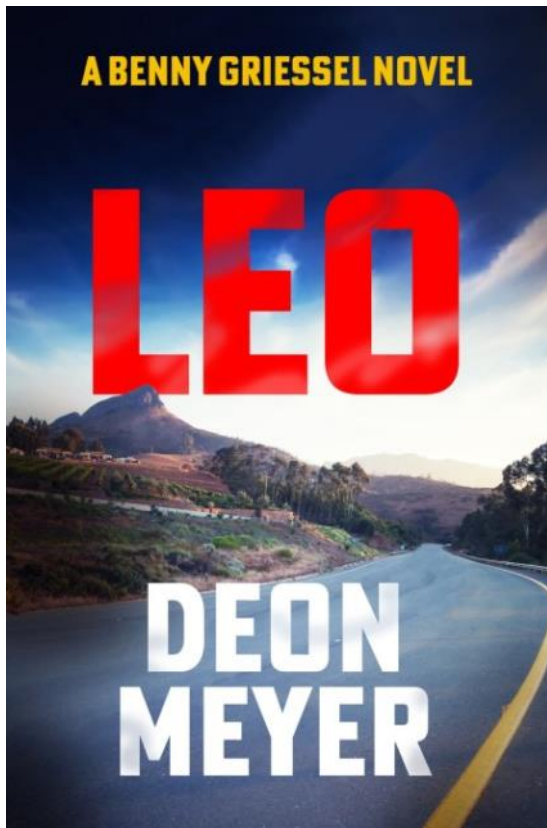
BOOKWORM (UKexCan: Vintage, 2018). When Lucy Mangan was little, stories were everything. They opened up new worlds and cast light on all the complexities she encountered in this one. In **BOOKWORM**, Lucy revisits her childhood reading with wit, love and gratitude. She relives our best-loved books, their extraordinary creators, and looks at the thousand subtle ways they shape our lives – and brilliantly uses them to tell her own story, that of a born, and unrepentant, bookworm. (336 pages)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lucy Mangan is a journalist and columnist: a TV critic at the *Guardian*, and a columnist for *The i* newspaper. She has written for most of the major women's magazines, including *Grazia*, *Cosmopolitan*, and *Stylist*.

In 2009, a collection of her columns from the *Guardian* was published as **MY FAMILY AND OTHER DISASTERS**. Her other works include **HOPSCOTCH AND HANDBAGS: The Essential Guide to Being a Girl** and **THE RELUCTANT BRIDE**, the lightly-fictionalised story of her wedding. Her debut novel **ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?** was published by Profile Books in October 2021.

LEO



Agent Isobel Dixon

Afrikaans Human & Rousseau 2023
 Afrikaans audio Human & Rousseau 2023

UKexCan HB Hodder Sep 2024

UKexCan PB Hodder 2025

UKexCan audio Hodder Sep 2024

US+Can HB Grove Atlantic 2025

US+Can audio Grove Atlantic 2024

Film/TV Lookout Point

France Gallimard
 Holland AW Bruna
 Germany Aufbau

Option Publishers

Czech Republic Moba

496 pages

Deon Meyer

English translation by K. L. Seegers

A dead cyclist and a missing accomplice to a daring heist gone wrong: another gripping investigation for Meyer's iconic duo Benny and Vaughn

Winner of the SA Book Awards' Book of the Year

Winner of the 2024 ATKV-Woordveertjies Prize (Thriller)

10 Weeks at #1 on the South African Bestseller List

'I love Deon Meyer novels – global storytelling at its best, with the undeniable hallmarks of gritty realism and deep character building.' – Michael Connelly

'Not just South Africa's greatest crime writer, he's up there with the best in the world.' – Marcel Berlins, *The Times*

'A well-crafted blend of suspense, culture, and humor. Meyer is terrific.' – *Kirkus Reviews* on **THE DARK FLOOD**

Detectives Benny Griessel and Vaughn Cupido are doing their duty in beautiful Stellenbosch, but humdrum police work in a university town is a far cry from their life in Cape Town fighting crime at the highest level. For now, Benny has more pressing things to worry about than their demotion – it's the countdown to his wedding day. But the peace is about to be shattered...

When a student is found dead on a mountain trail, and the key suspect is found murdered in what looks like a professional hit. On the other side of the country, a beautiful wildlife guide is recruited by a group of special forces soldiers to act as a honeytrap, part of a dangerous multi-million-dollar heist that goes tragically wrong. A single link connects the murdered businessman to the special forces, making Benny and Vaughn's case all the more mysterious.

To untangle this web of deceit under incessant pressure Benny needs to stay calm, focused – and sober. And it all needs to be wrapped up by his wedding day...

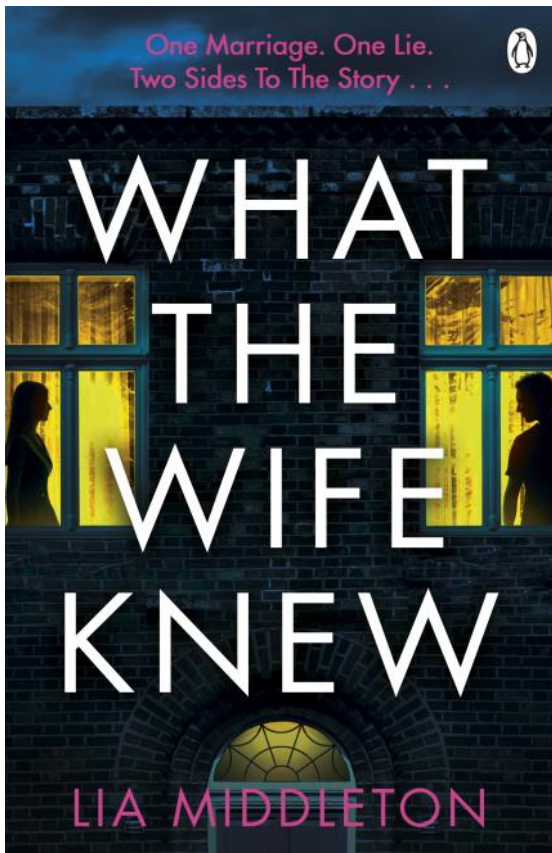
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Deon Meyer is a sure-fire No. 1 bestseller in South Africa, topping the charts in all languages and genres. Selling over 3 million copies, his books are sold in 30 countries and 28 different languages, and have been awarded many prizes including the Deutsche Krimi Prize in Germany, Le Grand Prix de Littérature Policière and Le Prix Mystère de la Critique in France. **COBRA** and **THIRTEEN HOURS** were both shortlisted for the CWA International Dagger. **HEART OF THE HUNTER** was a Number 1 hit Netflix Original film in 2024. **DEVIL'S PEAK**, featuring Benny Griessel, was produced by Lookout Point and broadcast on M-Net to acclaim in 2023. Deon is writing the next Benny Griessel novel **SCORPIO**.

THRILLER

WHAT THE WIFE KNEW

Lia Middleton



The new twist-a-minute thriller from Lia Middleton that asks how well you really know the person you're married to...

'A thrilling, chilling, heart-stopping read. With a killer premise and twists that leave you shaken, **THE CONFESSION ROOM** is impossible to put down.' – Chris Whitaker, on **THE CONFESSION ROOM**

'A thriller so full of twists it left me with whiplash' – *Daily Express*, on **YOUR WORD OR MINE**

'Truly the stuff of nightmares. Couldn't put it down.' – Catherine Cooper, on **WHEN THEY FIND HER**

Frank has been found not guilty of a terrible crime. But, moments after arriving home from the trial, he is killed.

Harry was Frank's defence lawyer. He knew everything about his client. Or at least, he thought he did. So how did he react when he found out the truth?

Anna is Harry's wife. Harry doesn't know about her connection to Frank. But could it have driven her to murder?

One marriage. One Lie. Two sides to the story...

Agent Kate Burke

UKexCan PB Penguin Sep 2025
UKexCan eBook Penguin Sep 2025
UKexCan audio Penguin Sep 2025

Germany Piper

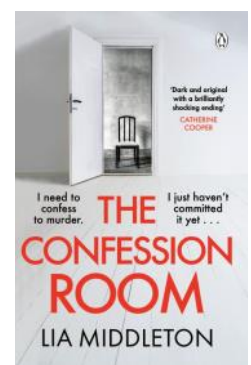
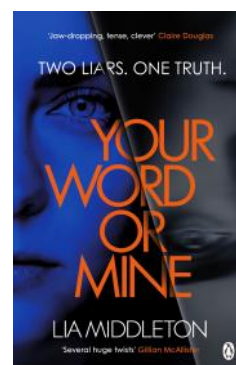
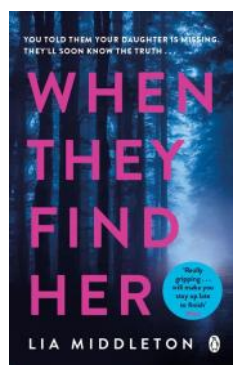
Option publishers

Czech Republic Euromedia
Hungary Álomgyár | Lithuania Tyto
Alba | Slovakia Ikar | Russia Eksmo
Turkey Epsilon

384 pages

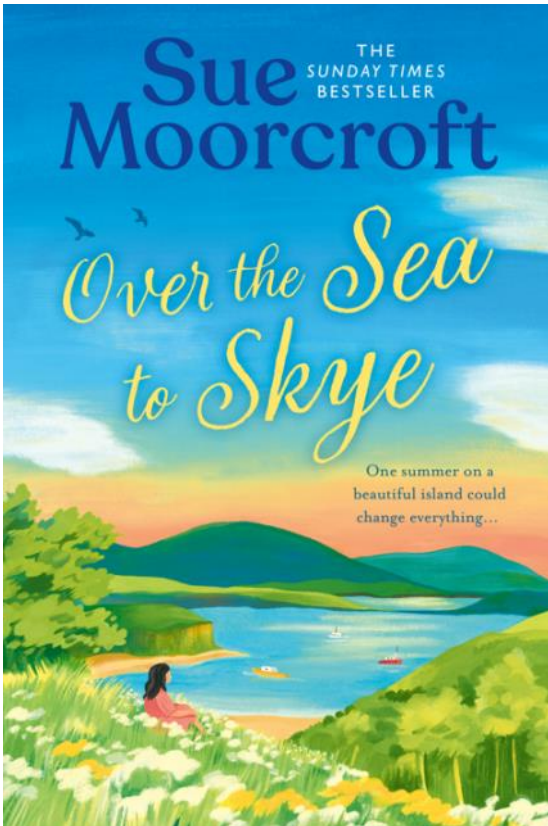
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lia Middleton is a barrister who specialises in crime and prison law. Her debut novel, **WHEN THEY FIND HER** was published by Michael Joseph in 2021. It was an Apple Books Number 1 bestseller, garnered high praise from reviewers and received over a thousand 4 and 5 star reviews on Amazon. It was followed by a pacy courtroom thriller, **YOUR WORD OR MINE**, in September 2022 and **THE CONFESSION ROOM** in August 2023.



THE SKYE SISTERS TRILOGY

Sue Moorcroft



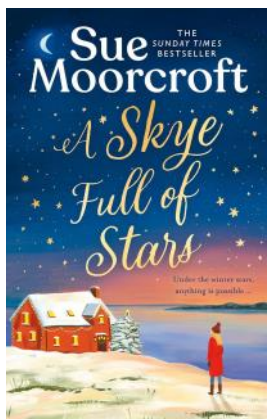
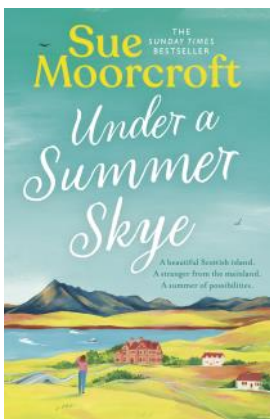
Agent Juliet Pickering

OVER THE SEA TO SKYE
WEL PB Avon June 2025
WEL audio Avon June 2025

Option publishers

Czech Republic Fortuna Libri
Denmark Zara | Slovakia Fortuna Libri | Ukraine Old Lion Publishing House

384 pages



Escape to the Isle of Skye with the million-copy bestselling author, and lose yourself in the moving Skye Sisters Trilogy

‘The perfect escapist read that will take you away from the real world... Delightful.’ – Veronica Henry

‘An intriguing and uplifting story with a beautiful setting.’ – Katie Fforde

‘A delightful summer read with all Sue’s trademark family secrets and intrigue.’ – Phillipa Ashley

Full of heart and romance, The Skye Sisters Trilogy follows the three Wynter sisters – Thea, Ezz and Valentina – as they each search for love, family and happiness on Scotland’s idyllic Isle of Skye. Packed with Sue’s signature emotional richness and intrigue, these are perfect books for all seasons.

Join Valentina Wynter in the final book of The Skye Sisters Trilogy as she embarks on a summer journey that will change her life forever... **OVER THE SEA TO SKYE** is a moving tale of resilience, self-discovery, and the bonds that tie us together, set against the breathtaking backdrop of the Isle of Skye.

Book One – UNDER A SUMMER SKYE (UK: Avon, May 2024): The moment she arrived on the Isle of Skye, life changed for Thea Wynter. Running from a succession of wrong turns, here, she feels at peace. But an encounter with a stranger from the mainland brings with it an unexpected turn - and only time will tell if he is friend or foe. 384 pages.

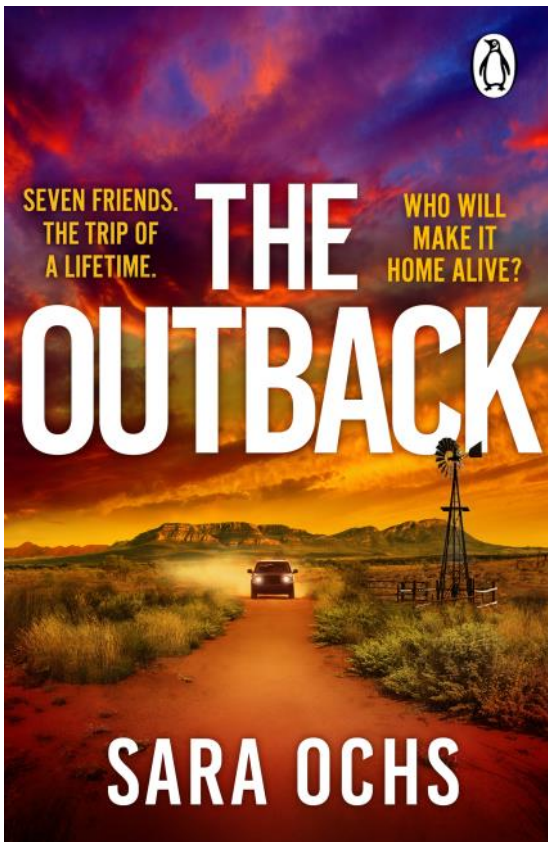
Book Two – A SKYE FULL OF STARS (UK: Avon, Nov 2024): Return to the snow-covered mountains of the Isle of Skye, in book two, featuring Ezz Wynter. As Ezz goes in search of her birth parents, new love is just waiting to be found – and closer to home than expected in the form of Rothach Hall’s enigmatic Swedish owner, Mats... 384 pages.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sue Moorcroft is the author of 25 novels, which have been translated into thirteen languages. She has won the Goldsboro Books Contemporary Novel of the Year, Readers Best Romantic Novel award, a HOLT Medallion and the Katie Fforde Bursary. In 2023 Sue became president of the Romantic Novelist’s Association (RNA).

THRILLER

THE OUTBACK (US title: THIS STAYS BETWEEN US) Sara Ochs



Agent Kate Burke

UKexCan PB Transworld Jun 2025

(pre-empt)

UKexCan audio Transworld Jun 2025

US+Can PB Sourcebooks Jul 2025 (at auction)

US+Can audio Sourcebooks Jul 2025

Germany Blanvalet (at auction)

Holland De Fontein

Option publishers

Finland Bazar

Russia Everbook

400 pages

You can never escape a summer abroad... A pacy, gripping thriller set in the Australian outback, perfect for fans of **THE SANATORIUM** and **THE DRY**

'Plot twist after plot twist, a richly drawn setting, and steeped in nail-biting tension... An absolute ride – I devoured it in one breathless sitting.' – Ashley Tate, author of **TWENTY-SEVEN MINUTES**

'A ripper of a thriller... It's atmospheric, emotional, and twisty, and destined to be one of the best thrillers of the year. Ace!' – Alex Finlay, author of **PARENTS WEEKEND**

Ten years ago, six college students meet in an Australian summer study abroad, ready to enjoy the break from their studies and travel the country. Their programme is meant to introduce them to the beauty of Australia and immerse them in an unforgettable cultural experience. In reality, it's a thrill-fuelled summer of outdoor excursions, adrenaline rushes, alcohol, lust, and friendship turned wrong.

When Phoebe, a troubled girl, disappears, and with jealousies and fractures spreading like wildfire among the group, they decide to pack up and leave the past behind. All their secrets hidden for good. Or at least, that's what they tell themselves...

Ten years later, they each receive a call. A body has been found. And now it's time to return.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sara Ochs is an attorney, law professor, and author who lives in the United States.

Sara's first book, **THE RESORT** (published in hardback as **THE DIVE** in the UK), is also available.

Praise for **THE DIVE**:

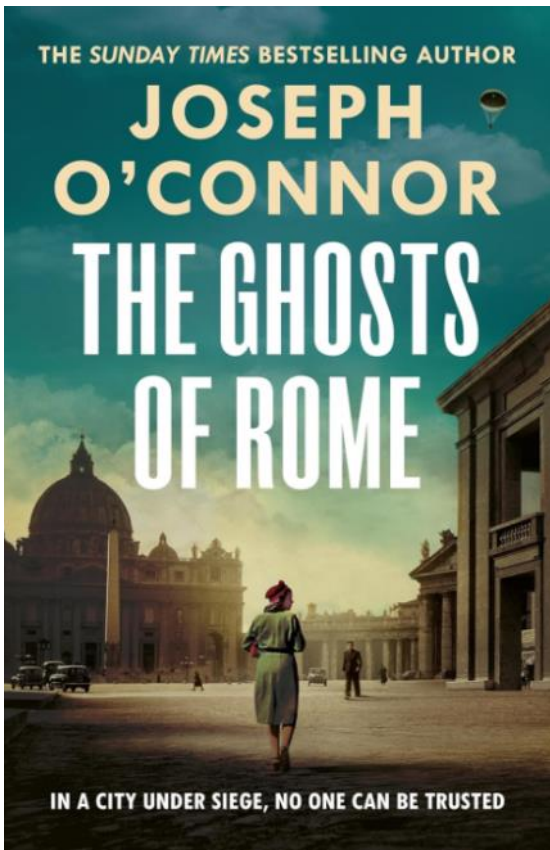
'A compelling and accomplished debut, perfect for fans of Ruth Ware and Lucy Foley.' – Steve Cavanagh, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of **THIRTEEN**

'A deadly, dangerous, beautiful nightmare. **THE DIVE** will leave you breathless yet gasping for more.' – Chris Whitaker

'As stunning as the tropical island on which it is set. It really is **THE BEACH** for a new generation – a hot contender for best travel thriller of 2023.' – Janice Hallett

THE GHOSTS OF ROME

Joseph O'Connor



Riveting, evocative trilogy set in WWII Rome, featuring an unforgettable band of unlikely heroes

Book One, *MY FATHER'S HOUSE*, was an Irish #1 Bestseller for 4 weeks in a row, selling over 100,000 copies. Book Two, *THE GHOSTS OF ROME* was also an instant Irish No.1 bestseller on publication, with *MY FATHER'S HOUSE* returning to the Top Ten too.

'O'Connor has often been likened to the great Irish modernists for the lyricism of his voice-driven novels. But *THE GHOSTS OF ROME* also situates him within a broader European tradition of memory and moral reckoning, one that returns again and again to World War II. O'Connor embraces this legacy while transcending its clichés. What emerges is not just a wartime thriller, though it is that, but a meditation on how we remember, how we resist and how, even in the darkest times, humanity endures.' – *The New York Times*

February 1944. Six months since Nazi forces occupied Rome. Inside the beleaguered city, the Contessa Giovanna Landini is a member of the band of Escape Line activists known as 'The Choir'. Their mission is to smuggle refugees to safety and help Allied soldiers, all under the nose of Gestapo boss Paul Hauptmann.

Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Harvill Secker Jan 2025

UKexCan PB Vintage Jan 2026

UKexCan audio Harvill Secker Jan 2025

US+Can HB Europa Editions Feb 2025

US+Can PB Europa Editions Feb 2026

US+Can audio Dreamscape Feb 2025

France Payot & Rivages

Holland Meulenhoff Boekerij

Spain Almuzara Libros

Film rights optioned

Option publishers

Brazil (only) Editora Tordesilhas

Germany C.H. Beck | **Italy** Guanda

Japan Tokyo Sogen | **Poland**

Wydawnictwo Filia

During a fierce air raid a mysterious parachutist lands in Rome, then disappears. Ally or an imposter? His fate will come to put the whole Escape Line at risk.

Meanwhile, Hauptmann's eye has fallen on the Contessa. He commandeers her villa and as his fascination grows, she is pulled into a dangerous game with him – one where the consequences could be lethal.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

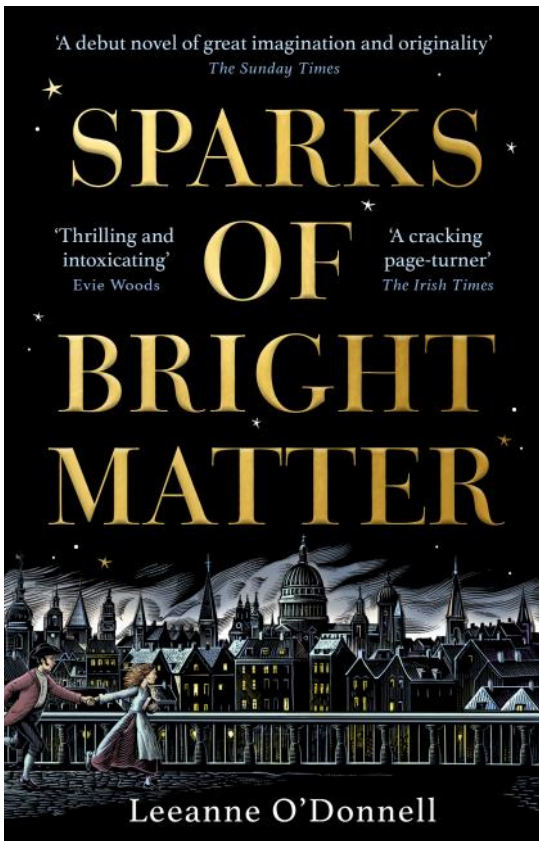
Joseph O'Connor is the author of many novels, short story collections, non-fiction, film and radio scripts and stage plays. *STAR OF THE SEA* sold more than a million copies in the UK and was published in 38 languages. He received the Irish PEN Award for Outstanding Contribution to Irish Literature in 2012.

MY FATHER'S HOUSE was shortlisted for the Irish Novel Award 2023 and the Walter Scott Prize for Fiction 2024. It was longlisted for the Dublin Literary Award 2024 and was a top pick in the *Irish Times* and *Washington Post*. It was also featured on BBC2's *Between the Covers* on TV and in its touring show.

256 pages

SPARKS OF BRIGHT MATTER

Leeanne O'Donnell



Filled with vivid, unforgettable characters, ideal for fans of Liz Hyder, Stacey Halls and Susanna Clarke

An *Irish Times* 'Fiction to look out for in 2024' pick

One of *The Journal's* 'Most-anticipated Irish novels and short story collections due in 2024'

'Compelling... a debut novel of great imagination and originality.' – Nick Rennison, *The Sunday Times*

'Offers a gift to lovers of literary historical fiction suffused by the powers of the unseen... Think Hilary Mantel, Neil Gaiman and Susanna Clarke crossed with Liam O'Flaherty, Lady Gregory, WB Yeats and the Celtic revival – all expertly blended into a cracking page-turner that's as exquisitely deep, beautiful and metaphysical as it is fast-paced and brilliantly plotted.' – Adrienne Murphy, *The Irish Times*

When ambitious apprentice chemist and secret alchemist Peter Woulfe is tasked with caring for a mysterious illustrated book, the *Mutus Liber*, he quickly realises that the grimy underworld of Georgian London is even more dangerous than he first believed.

Agent Sian Ellis-Martin

UK+BC inc. Ireland HB Eriu
(Bonnier) Apr 2024

UK+BC inc. Ireland PB Eriu
(Bonnier) Feb 2025

UK+BC inc. Ireland audio Eriu
(Bonnier) Apr 2024

Soon the book is stolen by the light-fingered Sukie and Peter finds himself being pursued by threatening men who are willing to do anything to get the book back. Where in teeming London might Sukie be found? Why is Peter so enthralled by her? And what is it about the *Mutus Liber* that is so enticing? As the search for the book becomes an urgent game of cat and mouse, it seems that the key to Peter's present dilemma might only be found in half-remembered events from his childhood, and then further back still, in the mists of Irish myth.

A spell-binding and unputdownable tale about spirit and matter, love and lust, and reality and magic.

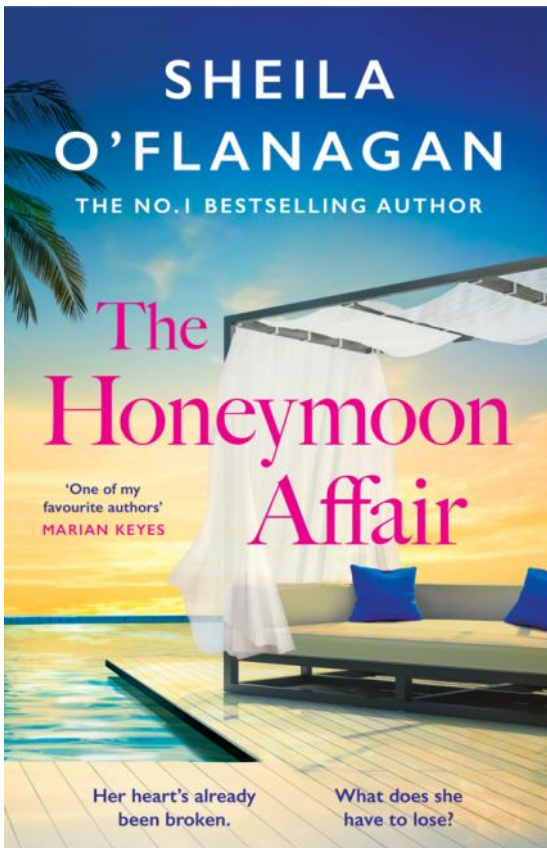
304 pages

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Leeanne O'Donnell was born in Dublin and now lives in an old farmhouse on the foothills of a mountain in the remote south west of Ireland. **SPARKS OF BRIGHT MATTER** was inspired by the magic of the mountain where she lives and the whispers of the ancient stories buried in the surrounding landscape. Leeanne started her storytelling career working in radio with RTE and BBC – and has made a number of award winning documentaries for RTE's Doc on One series.

THE HONEYMOON AFFAIR

Sheila O'Flanagan



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Headline May 2024

WEL PB Headline Mar 2025

WEL audio Headline May 2024

Sweden LB Forlag

Option publishers

Bulgaria Ciela | Czech Republic
Euromedia | Estonia Varrak
Finland Minerva | Germany Insel
Hungary Alexandra

448 pages

Two strong women, one complicated man – and an irresistible, utterly satisfying novel from international bestseller, Sheila O'Flanagan

A Number One bestseller

An *Irish Times* 'Fiction to look out for in 2024' pick

A *Belfast Telegraph* 2024 pick

An *Irish Examiner* Summer Reads 2024 pick

An *i* newspaper 'Best new books to read in May 2024' pick

A *My Weekly* Best New Books pick

'A glitzy, glamorous rollercoaster of a romance – hugely entertaining escapism and so satisfying. Sheila O'Flanagan at her sparkling best' – Veronica Henry

'Compelling in its intricacy, and the main characters, Izzy and Ariel, will get under your skin.' – *The Sunday Times*

Izzy is in the Caribbean on the honeymoon-that-isn't after her fiancé broke her heart. She's not looking for someone new. But when she meets Charles Miller, a successful writer holidaying alone, the electricity is undeniable. And what does she have to lose? Soon she'll be home in Dublin, rebuilding her life.

In Ireland, Charles's ex-wife and agent Ariel flits from party to party, glamorous and poised (on the outside, at least). She's always in touch with Charles. Though they're divorced, they're very close. Ariel wonders if they should get back together. She's a strong, independent woman, but she liked being part of a power couple. Surely she only has to say, and they'll pick up where they left off?

No matter how in control of life you think you are, it can shock and surprise you. As Izzy, Ariel and Charles are about to find out...

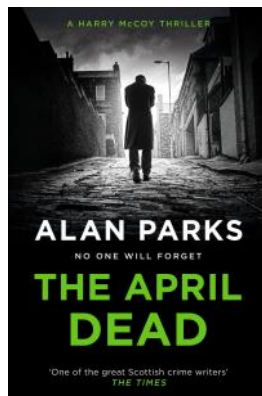
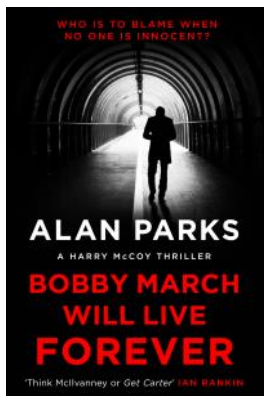
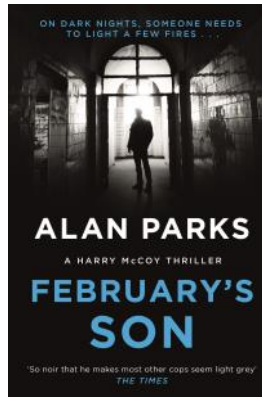
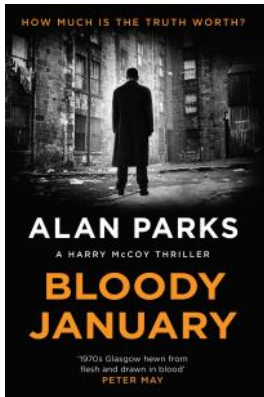
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sheila O'Flanagan is an international bestselling author, with more than 9 million copies sold. Numerous novels have been immediate and long-lasting No 1s in Ireland and UK Top 10 *Sunday Times* Bestsellers and she is widely published around the world. She is the recipient of the prestigious *Irish Tatler* Literary Woman of the Year Award and was shortlisted for the 2024 Library Association of Ireland Author of the Year Award.

Sheila's previous contemporary novel, **WHAT EDEN DID NEXT**, was an Irish Number One bestseller and spent a total of nine weeks in the Top Ten. It was also shortlisted for Popular Fiction Book of the Year at the Irish Book Awards 2022. Sheila O'Flanagan's first historical novel, **THE WOMAN ON THE BRIDGE**, was a No. 1 bestseller in Ireland.

HARRY MCCOY SERIES

Alan Parks



Gripping storylines and emotional heft in crime-thriller series set in gritty 1970s Glasgow, from internationally acclaimed Edgar Prize winner

‘A remarkable series – read them all.’ – *The Times*

‘Bloody & brilliant’ – Louise Welsh (on **BLOODY JANUARY**)

‘Pitch-black Tartan noir: bleak, but with an emotional heart that’s hard to ignore.’ – *Daily Mail* (on **FEBRUARY’S SON**)

‘Even better than its predecessors.’ – *The Times* (on **BOBBY MARCH WILL LIVE FOREVER**)

‘Altogether one of the best police thrillers of the last few years.’ – *Morning Star* (on **THE APRIL DEAD**)

‘The Harry McCoy books by the bold Alan Parks just get better and better... If you’re not already reading these books, get onto them now.’ – Liam McIlvanney (on **MAY GOD FORGIVE**)

‘Beautifully crafted tartan noir, pin-point precision of characterization with storytelling par excellence.’ – Caro Ramsay (on **TO DIE IN JUNE**)

Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Canongate

UKexCan PB Canongate

UKexCan audio WF Howes (books 1 – 2), Canongate (books 3 – 6)

UK Large Print WF Howes (books 1 – 2), Canongate (books 3 – 6)

US+Can PB Europa Editions

US+Can audio Recorded Books (books 1 – 2), Canongate (books 3 – 6)

Film/TV under option

France Editions Rivages

Germany Polar/btb

Italy Bompiani

Japan Hayakawa (books 1 – 3)

Slovakia Ikar (book 1)

Spain Tusquets

Spain (Catalan) La Galera (books 1 – 4)

Sweden Modernista (books 1 – 2)

Turkey Nemesis (book 1)

BLOODY JANUARY was shortlisted for the Grand Prix de Littérature Policière; **FEBRUARY’S SON** was nominated for an Edgar Award; **BOBBY MARCH WILL LIVE FOREVER** won the 2022 Edgar Award for Paperback Original, the 2023 Prix Mystère de la critique and was shortlisted for the Macavity Award for Best Mystery Novel as well as being a *Times* Best Book of the Year pick; **THE APRIL DEAD** was shortlisted for the McIlvanney Prize for Scottish Crime Book of the Year in 2021, which **MAY GOD FORGIVE** won in 2022. **MAY GOD FORGIVE** was also shortlisted for the 2023 CWA Ian Fleming Steel Dagger Award and longlisted for the 2023 Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

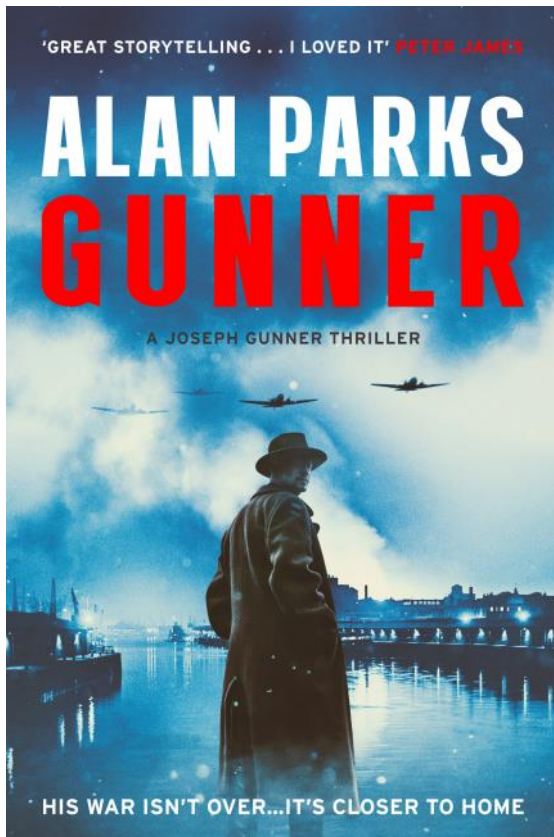
Alan Parks was born in Scotland, and worked in the music business before becoming a full-time writer. His debut novel **BLOODY JANUARY** propelled him onto the international literary crime fiction scene immediately and his work has been hailed by contemporary writers and critics alike.

He is now writing a new crime-and-espionage series which begins with **GUNNER**, set in WWII Glasgow (but moving on to New York and Copenhagen subsequently), starring war-wounded half-Danish ex-cop Joseph Gunner (John Murray/Baskerville, July 2025). See next page.

THRILLER

GUNNER

Alan Parks



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB John Murray Jul 2025
UKexCan PB John Murray 2026
UKexCan audio John Murray Jul 2025

France Editions Rivages
Italy Bompiani
Spain Tusquets

Option Publishers

Spain (Catalan) La Galera

288 pages

Engrossing WWII thriller featuring a war-wounded ex-cop, by the author of the acclaimed McCoy series

‘One of the great Scottish writers.’ – *The Times*

‘Alan Parks is in the same league as Ian Rankin and Louise Welsh.’ – Sarah Pinborough

‘Alan Parks, like the best writers, makes you keenly aware of all the pain out there and then (almost) alleviates it.’ – Mark Sanderson, *The Times*

March 1941. Joseph Gunner, an ex-cop, arrives back in Glasgow, nursing a painful war wound and a painkiller addiction. His city is in chaos, suffering heavy bombing, and his old boss Drummond persuades him to help investigate a body found in the wreckage of a destroyed building. When the body turns out to be of a German, mutilated to disguise his identity, things get more complicated.

As Gunner investigates, another body appears and he discovers he’s not the only one with an interest in the dead men. Two undercover secret service men are also in Glasgow. When he helps one of them, the eccentric Nickerson, out of a jam, he tells Gunner there is a reason the men look so similar. They have been chosen because they look like Rudolf Hess. They are spare lookalikes.

With Nickerson’s help, Gunner uncovers a plot by a section of the British Establishment to end the war by appeasement via a meeting with Hess – a meeting so important that Hess is prepared to fly into Scotland. Gunner has to stop the meeting happening: Britain’s future is at stake. But the attempt might well cost him his life...

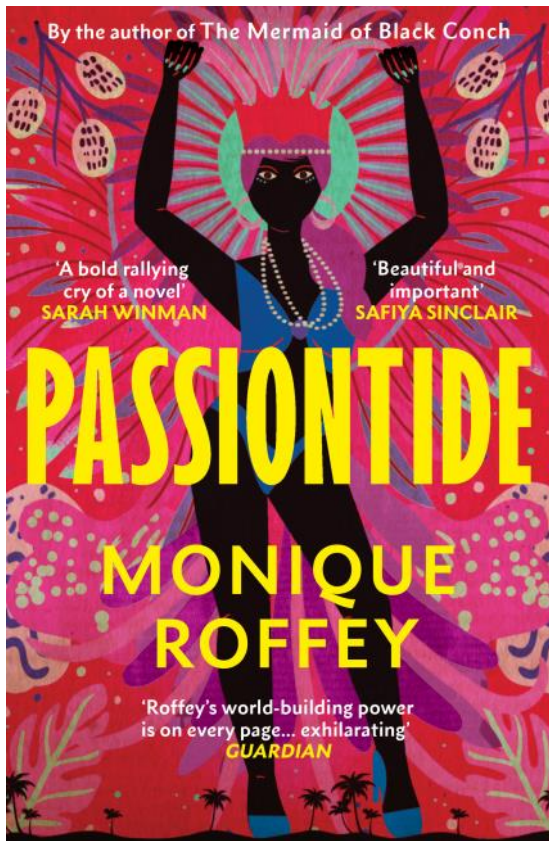
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alan Parks was born in Scotland. He attended the University of Glasgow where he was awarded an M.A. in Moral Philosophy, then worked in the music business before becoming a full-time writer.

MAY GOD FORGIVE won the McIlvanney Prize for Scottish Crime Book of the Year, which **THE APRIL DEAD** was previously shortlisted for. **MAY GOD FORGIVE** was longlisted for the Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year and shortlisted for the CWA Ian Fleming Steel Dagger Award 2023. **BOBBY MARCH WILL LIVE FOREVER** won an Edgar for Best Original Paperback in 2022 and France’s Prix Mystère De La Critique in 2023, and has been shortlisted for the Macavity Award for Best Mystery Novel. Rights to the series have been sold in more than ten countries.

PASSIONTIDE

Monique Roffey



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Harvill Secker Jun 2024
 UKexCan PB Vintage May 2025
 UKexCan audio Vintage Jun 2024
 USexCan HB Knopf Sep 2024
 USexCan PB Knopf 2025
 USexCan audio Knopf Sep 2024

France Mémoire D'Encrier

Option Publishers

Brazil (only) DarkSide Books
 Estonia Rahva Raamat | Holland
 Orlando | Hungary Könyvmolyképző
 Italy Marsilio | Japan Sayusha
 Poland Swiat | Romania Alice Books
 Russia Arkadia | Serbia Laguna
 Turkey Can

368 pages

Searing and timely, an electrifying novel by the author of **THE MERMAID OF BLACK CONCH**

'Beautiful and important... **PASSIONTIDE** is a resounding testament to the rebellious spirit and bravery of Caribbean women... By the end of this book, I was ready to join the revolution.' – Safiya Sinclair

'Exhilarating... narrative authenticity, particularity and lyrical energy' – Lindsey Hilsum, *Times Literary Supplement*

'The spirit of carnival itself is in the writing. A powerful and electrifying novel' – Jason Allen-Paisant

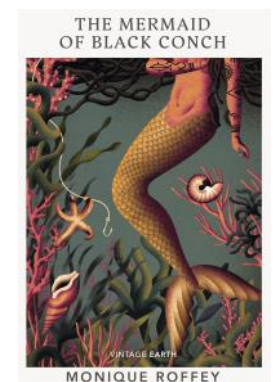
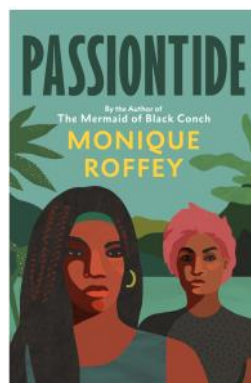
'Roffey's world-building power is evident on every page... a devastating critique of the interrelationship between religion, sexism and colonialism.' – Kit Fan, *The Guardian*

Early one morning, at the close of St Colibri's carnival, a young female steel pan player is found dead beneath a cannonball tree. It is a discovery that will transform the lives of everyone on this small island.

PASSIONTIDE is a novel of women daring to imagine a different world, confirming Roffey as one of our most spellbinding storytellers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

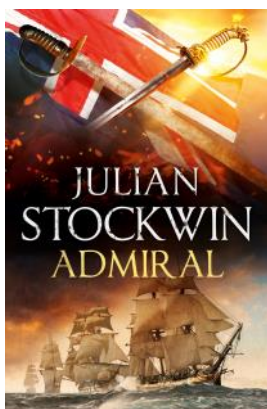
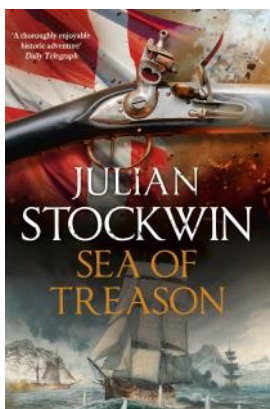
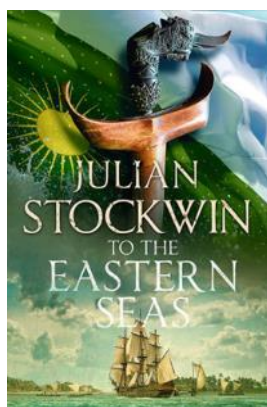
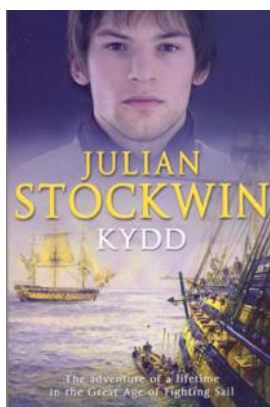
Monique Roffey is an award-winning Trinidadian-born novelist. **HOUSE OF ASHES** (Scribner UK) was shortlisted for the Costa Novel Prize and the OCM BOCAS Award. **ARCHIPELAGO** won the OCM BOCAS Award for Caribbean Literature in 2013 and was shortlisted for the Orion Award 2014. **THE WHITE WOMAN ON THE GREEN BICYCLE** was shortlisted for the Orange Prize and the Encore Award 2010. **THE MERMAID OF BLACK CONCH** was shortlisted for the 2020 Goldsmiths Prize and the 2021 Rathbones Folio Prize and won both the Costa Novel Prize and the Costa Book of the Year Award 2020. Film/TV rights were won (at auction) by Dorothy Street Pictures. She is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at Manchester Metropolitan University.



Kydd Series: KYDD to ADMIRAL

27 titles

Julian Stockwin



This action-packed series, set in the great age of fighting sail, stars a young wigmaker's son, Thomas Kydd, who is press-ganged to sea. In time he learns to love life on the ocean wave and rises through the decks as his adventures take him around the world

'Stockwin, a career navy man, writes of the nautical life with vivid authority.' – *Kirkus Review*

'In his hands the sea story will continue to entrance readers across the world.' – *The Guardian*

'A very readable and enjoyable story... I can only recommend that you go out, beg, borrow or buy, and enjoy' – Bernard Cornwell

'Stockwin really knows early British navy lore, with masts, spars, rigging, sails, cannons, frigates, and ships of the line. In Thomas Kydd, the author has created a wonderful daring-do British commander. Exciting stuff!' – Mel Brooks

In **KYDD** (1), Thomas Kydd is seized by the press gang to be a part of the crew of the 98-gun line-of-battle ship *Royal William*. The ship sails immediately and Kydd has to learn the harsh realities of shipboard life fast. Despite all the danger of tempest and battle he goes through, he comes to admire the skills and courage of the seamen – taking up the challenge himself to become a true sailor. 252 pages.

In **ARTEMIS** (2), Kydd, now a true Jack Tar, sails back to a hero's welcome in England after a ferocious battle against the French, when a family matter forces his return to Guildford. But the sea beckons irresistibly and Kydd manages to ship out again in his beloved *Artemis* – a voyage that will take him to the fabled East and present him with fierce new challenges. 380 pages.

THE ADMIRAL'S DAUGHTER (8) sees Kydd, now Captain of the *HMS Teazer*, caught in escalating tensions between England and France. Meanwhile an unlikely rival is seeking his heart: the beautiful and determined admiral's daughter could be the key to realising all Kydd's hopes and ambitions. But high society, he finds, can be as treacherous as his first mistress – the sea. 384 pages.

ADMIRAL is the 27th and last of the adventures of Captain Sir Thomas Kydd, whose story began in the year 1793 and tells for the first time in fiction how a pressed man through his bravery and ingenuity progresses to the quarterdeck of his own ship, and here, in the final book of the series, the command of a fleet with an admiral's pennant. 400 pages.

Agent Isobel Dixon

UK+Can Hodder

US McBooks (books 1 – 17); Hodder/Mobius (books 18 - 27)

WEL audio W F Howes (books 1 – 14), Hodder (books 15 – 27)

Czech Republic Brana (books 1 – 2)

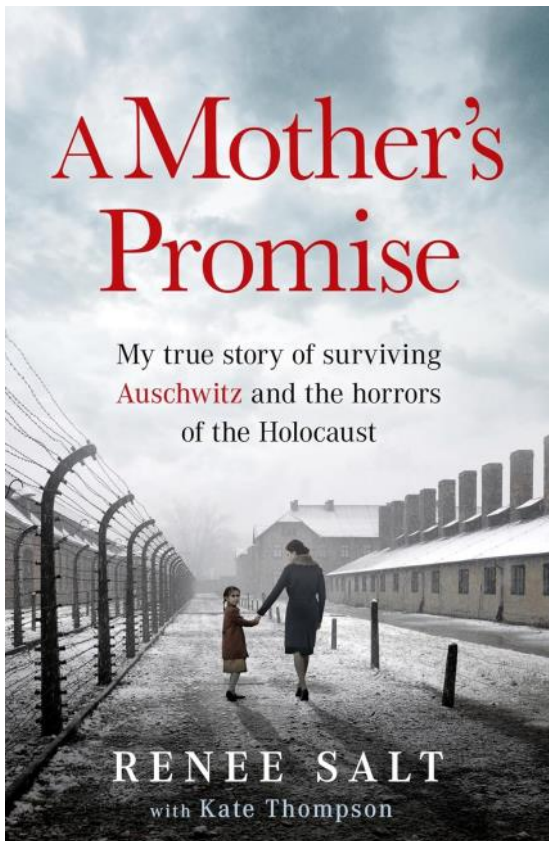
Germany EB dotbooks (books 1 – 8)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Julian Stockwin joined a tough sea-training school at 14, followed by the Royal Navy, transferring to the Royal Australian Navy when his family emigrated. He saw service in the Far East, the Antarctic, South Seas and Vietnam, and was on board *Melbourne* at the time of its disastrous peace-time collision with *Voyager*. He later worked for NATO on the strategic deployment of merchant shipping.

A MOTHER'S PROMISE

Renee Salt with Kate Thompson



Agent Kate Burke

UK+BC HB Orion Feb 2025 (pre-empt)

UK+BC PB Orion 2025

UK+BC audio Orion Feb 2025

US HB Alcove Press Mar 2025

US PB Alcove Press 2026

Canada HB Simon & Schuster Mar 2025 (at auction)

Canada PB Simon & Schuster 2026

Finland Bazar

Italy Newton Compton Editori (pre-empt)

Romania Omnium Publishing

Spain Newton Compton Editores

336 pages

Sunday Times bestselling memoir of Renee Salt, a concentration camp survivor who, now aged ninety-four, tells her story of love, loss, courage and hope

Instant *Sunday Times* bestseller and Amazon No. 1 bestseller

‘An unforgettable story about the power of love, a story that reminds us how important hope is, a story that proves to us that human beings are remarkable and endlessly inspiring’ – Natasha Lester, author of *THE PARIS SECRET*

‘A powerful testament to a mother’s love during unbelievable hardship... Renee’s story of resilience and survival is powerful, poignant, and deeply important. A must-read.’ – Elizabeth Bellak, co-author of *RENIA’S DIARY*

From invasion to liberation, September 1939 to April 1945, as Renee was marched, herded and shoved from ghetto to camp, there was one constant. One hand which clutched hers – her mother’s. Every day for six years, mother and daughter were tangled together in hell. From ghettos to slave labour, from Auschwitz to Bergen-Belsen, they were a powerful source of solace and hope to one another.

Renee knows that she is only alive today because of her mother, that it was the sheer force and power of her love that gave them both something fragile but beautiful to cling to in an ugly, depraved world. It was her mother who hid her, lied to the SS, went right when she was directed left – whose small actions had lifesaving consequences. Now, for Renee, the need to share has finally overcome the desire to forget.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

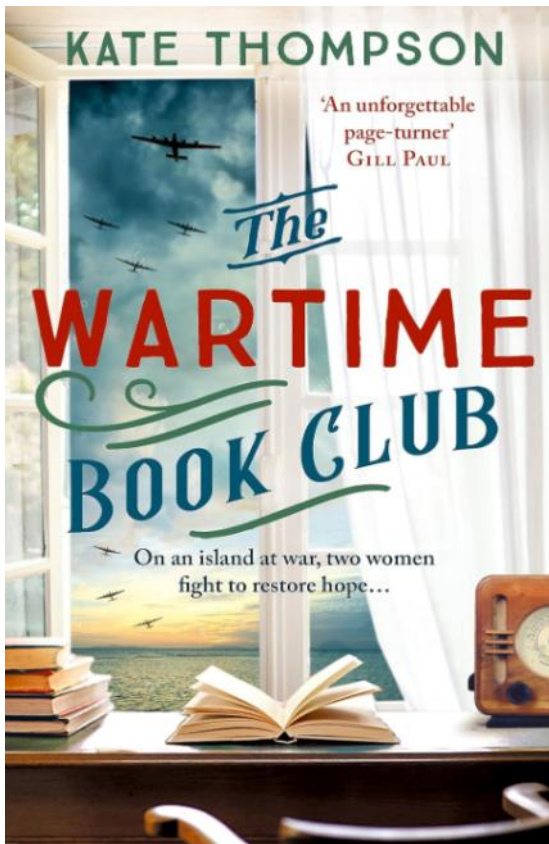
Kate Thompson is a journalist and bestselling writer who lives with her family in London. Her most recent novels focus on two remarkable libraries in wartime.

Renee Salt MBE was born Rywka Ruchla Berkowitz in Zduńska Wola, Poland in 1929 and is a Holocaust survivor and educator. Renee lives in northwest London and regularly speaks to schools, organisations and the government about her experiences.

Renee’s story was also featured in BBC documentary ‘What Happened at Auschwitz’ in January 2025 and Renee has appeared on Sky News, ITV’s *Lorraine* and in *Prima Magazine*. She also met the Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer at Number 10 Downing Street at a reception for Holocaust survivors.

THE WARTIME BOOK CLUB

Kate Thompson



Agent Kate Burke

WEL HB Hodder Feb 2024
 WEL PB Hodder Sep 2024
 WEL audio Hodder Feb 2024

Finland Bazar
 France City Editions
 Poland Wydawnictwo Literackie
 Portugal Porto Editora
 Spain Maeva

Option publishers

Brazil (only) Record
 Germany Droemer
 Greece Minoas
 Hungary Libri
 Italy Garzanti
 Kuwait (Arabic) Jadal
 Slovakia Ikar

496 pages

Love, courage and resistance in a heart-warming and inspiring WWII novel set on the island of Jersey

‘One of the very best books I’ve read in a long time. A gripping, emotional rollercoaster and a true hymn to the power and spirit of novels.’ – Peter James

‘Piercing... This book takes its rightful place on the shelves dedicated to Jersey’s war, and reminds us only too powerfully of the essential comfort of literature in despairing times.’ – *The Lady*

‘A must-read for librarians and library lovers. It speaks to the power of books, public gathering spaces, and shared interests in times of tumult. Readers who enjoyed Thompson’s *THE LITTLE WARTIME LIBRARY* will enjoy this one even more.’ – Emily Borsa, *Booklist*

From enchanting cliff tops and white sandy bays to the pretty cobbled streets of St Helier, Jersey is known as the land of milk and honey. But for best friends Bea Rose (the local postwoman) and Grace Le Motte (who works in the island’s only library) it becomes the frontline to everyday resistance when their beloved island is occupied by German forces in 1940.

Inspired by astonishing true events, **THE WARTIME BOOK CLUB** is an unforgettable story of everyday bravery and resistance, full of romance, drama and camaraderie and a tribute to the joy of reading and the power of books in our darkest hour.

THE LITTLE WARTIME BOOK CLUB reached No. 2 in the New Zealand charts and No. 18 in the Australian charts after its first full week on sale and has sold in 10 languages.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

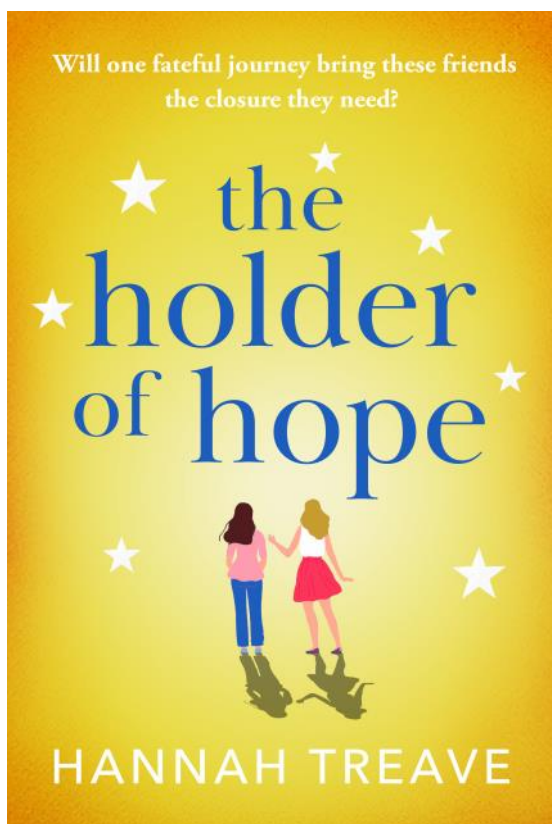
Kate is an award-winning journalist, ghost-writer and novelist. She spent five years’ working on national newspapers such as the *Daily Express* and *Daily Mail*, and also on all the major national women’s magazine titles.

SECRETS OF THE LAVENDER GIRLS was shortlisted for the Romantic Saga Award at the 2021 RNA Awards. Her debut novel, **SECRETS OF THE SINGER GIRLS**, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller in 2015, with first week sales of over 10,000. Her first non-fiction book, **THE STEPNEY DOORSTEP SOCIETY**, reached number one in the history categories on Amazon.

Kate Thompson is also the co-author of **A MOTHER’S PROMISE** by Renee Salt—an instant Amazon No 1 bestseller.

THE HOLDER OF HOPE

Hannah Treave



Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Canelo Jul 2025

WEL ebook Canelo Jul 2025

WEL audio Bolinda Jul 2025

Option Publishers

Germany Piper

Italy Newton Compton Editori

Russia AST

Spain Newton Compton Editores

400 pages

A stunning and heart-wrenching story of friendship and family, the perfect read for fans of Dani Atkins, Jojo Moyes and Marian Keyes

Ava is a firefighter. She finds comfort in reuniting salvaged items with their rightful owners from the blazes she and her colleagues attend.

Cassie's home has burned to the ground. She and her young daughter have no family to turn to, until Ava and her husband offer up their spare room.

Thrown together but kindred souls, the two women learn they both have roots in Ireland – it's where Ava's unknown birth mother gave her up for adoption, and where Cassie's estranged family live. Embarking on a journey to Ireland, they will discover that sometimes the family that matters most is the one they've found.

Through heartbreak, destruction, hope and love, Ava and Cassie's lives will be changed forever.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hannah Treave is a freelance journalist with fifteen years' experience working on women's weekly and monthly magazines. She is also the author of four historical novels (set during WW2), published by Penguin Random House, and three contemporary ones (HQ and Head of Zeus).

Her previous novel, **THE NOTEKEEPER**, has sold in 6 languages.

HOW TO STEAL THE MILKY WAY

Etienne van Heerden

Afrikaans title: GEBEENTE



Agent Isobel Dixon

SA (Afrikaans) Tafelberg Sep 2023

408 pages

A rich and compelling novel – think Thomas Mann and Gabriel Garcia Marquez in an African landscape

‘Van Heerden’s words blast the reader’s mind through a clear, blue African sky.’ – *The Telegraph*

‘Monumental, overwhelming, resounding confirmation of Van Heerden’s exceptional powers.’ – *Rapport*

‘The full extent of Etienne van Heerden’s talent is exhibited in this work: his unbridled imagination... a sharp analysis of society; a fine sense of humour and irony; a master storyteller... nothing short of a tour de force.’ – *LitNet*

Just outside the remote semi-desert village of Gebeente (‘Skeleton’), near Sutherland’s great astronomical observatory, a woman, the Observatory’s cleaner, lives alone. Once a young single mother, shunned by her family and the community, she had come to live here with her flame-haired child, her own ‘moon-and-star child of the Immaculate Conception’. But one day Social Services took her boy away from her. Thirty years later, he returns from the city, a Second Coming, but he is again rejected, accused of a brutal murder – and also, strangely, of having stolen the Milky Way.

The case, to be tried in a local court, brings outsiders to town. The Magistrate arrives by train on a line not used for many years. His old legal rival, the Prosecutor, arrives by car – and the City and The Law come face to face with a village rife with secrets, rich in rumour and myth-making, astronomy and mystery. In a layered and resonant narrative peopled with memorable characters, Van Heerden examines guilt, revenge and forgiveness, faith and imagination, and the truth, lies and legacies of a complex land.

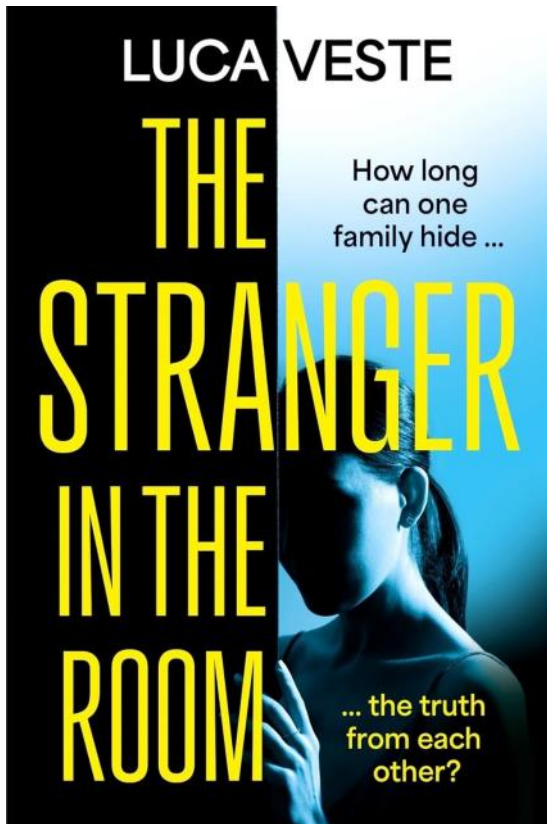
As with his earlier classic, **THE LONG SILENCE OF MARIO SALVIATI**, Van Heerden tells an extraordinary, compelling story ‘weaving magic realism and history... capturing the stark beauty of the Karoo region and its people’ – his own ‘landscape of the mind’.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Etienne’s debut novel **TOORBERG** (1986) was internationally acclaimed and awarded many of South Africa’s major prizes. Among an impressive body of work, notable novels on the global stage include **THE LONG SILENCE OF MARIO SALVIATI** (2000), **IN LOVE’S PLACE** (2005) and **30 NIGHTS IN AMSTERDAM** (2008). He has taught literature at the University of Cape Town, where he is Professor Emeritus, for many years. His work has been translated into twelve languages.

THE STRANGER IN THE ROOM

Luca Veste



Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Hodder & Stoughton Jan 2025

WEL audio Hodder & Stoughton Jan 2025

Option publishers

Russia AST
Turkey Yediveren

368 pages

An electrifying, edge of your seat thriller for fans of Harlan Coben, Linwood Barclay and Peter James

‘A writer who just gets better and better.’ – Mark Billingham

Alison Lennon receives the worst news a parent can expect – her son, Ben, has been killed, in what looks at first like a random attack on a dark street in the middle of the night.

Only, she knows that he isn’t the first victim.

Mia Johnstone has just turned eighteen. Ready for the next phase of her life, she should be looking forward to university, studying, partying. Instead, she’s thinking about how her boyfriend Ben is the third person close to her who has died.

Alison believes that Mia killed her son.

Mia needs people to stop calling her a killer.

And someone is desperate for the truth to never come out...

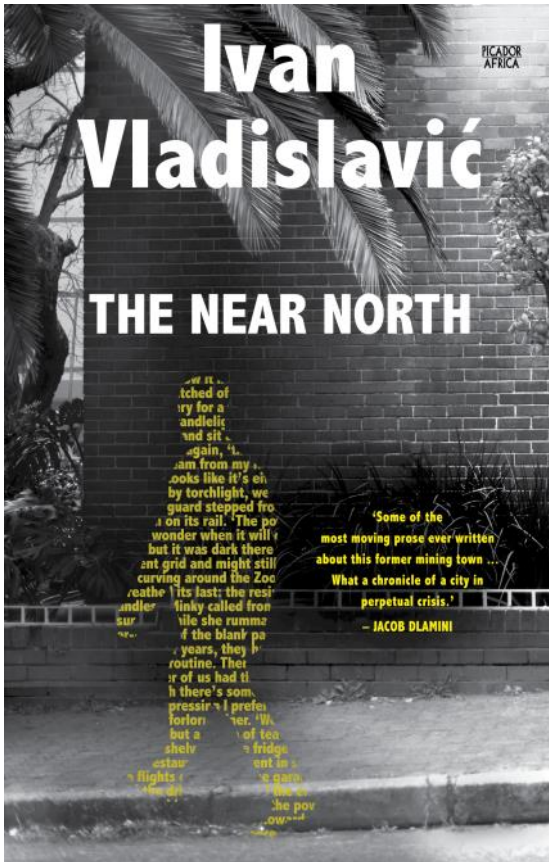
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Luca Veste is a writer of Italian and Liverpoolian heritage. He is the author of eight novels, including the Murphy & Rossi series, and standalone novels **THE BONE KEEPER** and **YOU NEVER SAID GOODBYE**.

He is the co-organiser of the Locked Up Festival, which raised over £25,000 for the Trussell Trust, co-host of the Two Crime Writers and a Microphone podcast, and the bass player in the Fun Lovin’ Crime Writers. He studied psychology and criminology at the University of Liverpool. He is married with two daughters and lives in Merseyside.

THE NEAR NORTH

Ivan Vladislavić



Haunting work about being a writer and a walker, the knowing and unknowing of a complex city

‘One of the best writers in the world... one of the great modern prose stylists.’ – Teju Cole

‘Vladislavić is among the top writers on the contemporary world stage.’ – Neel Mukherjee

‘Mysterious, lyrical and wickedly funny... Ivan Vladislavić is one of the most significant writers working in English today. Everyone should read him.’ – Katie Kitamura

‘An elegant, gentle, bitter-sweet ramble through the streets of Johannesburg with the incomparable Vladislavić.’ – Jonny Steinberg, author of WINNIE AND NELSON

‘Ivan Vladislavić’s hand, not unlike that of Marlene Dumas, is unshaking as it paints silent, slow and highly vivid, almost cinematic, lines on the canvas of our shared Johannesburg.’ – Bongani Madondo

THE NEAR NORTH is work of autofiction, travelogue, psychogeography – an ode to walking, cities, ghosts and trees, which also explores family, friendship and devastating loss. It carries echoes of Ivan’s award-winning **PORTRAIT WITH KEYS** (US: Norton, UK: Granta), which Geoff Dyer described as ‘one of the most ingenious love letters – full of violence, fear, humour and cunning – ever addressed to a city’, but it is at the same time an entirely original and surprising work of quiet power.

Tran in Sweden recently re-issued **THE EXPLODED VIEW** (‘a startling collection’, *New Yorker*) and **THE RESTLESS SUPERMARKET**. Utopia Editore acquired Italian rights to **THE DISTANCE** and **THE EXPLODED VIEW** and there are recent deals for Ivan’s work in Spain and Turkey.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Award-winning, critically-acclaimed author of a prestigious body of literary work. Ivan lives in Johannesburg, where he is a Distinguished Professor in Creative Writing at the University of the Witwatersrand. He has won South Africa’s most prestigious prizes and was awarded the Windham Campbell Prize 2015.

Ivan Vladislavić’s books have been translated into eight languages.

Agent Isobel Dixon

Southern Africa TPB Picador Africa
Mar 2024

UK & US on submission

Option publishers

France Editions Zoe
Italy Utopia Editore
Spain Almuzara Libros
Turkey Livera

264 pages

THE SPIRIT GUIDE

Bridget Walsh



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL PB Pushkin Press Apr 2026
WEL audio Bolinda Apr 2026

288 pages

A mesmerising third mystery in the Variety Palace Mystery series leads Minnie and Albert from London to the dark and perilous heart of the English countryside...

Book 1: **THE TUMBLING GIRL** was shortlisted for the 2024 ILP John Creasey (New Blood) Dagger and won the 2024 HWA Debut Crown Award. Pushkin Vertigo are reissuing the first two titles and publishing **THE SPIRIT GUIDE** in 2026.

‘Triumphant... Vivid period detail, clever plotting, and thoughtful characterizations. This series merits a long run’ – *Publishers Weekly*, Starred Review

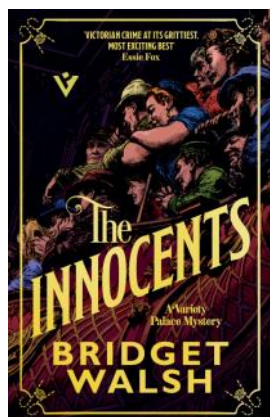
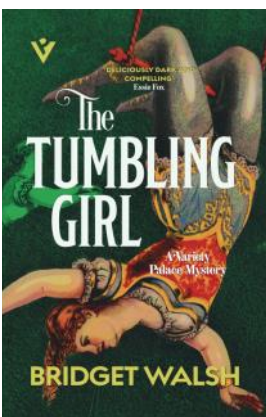
‘Walsh, who clearly knows her Victorians, writes with gusto ... time past is so vividly evoked that one can almost smell it. Highly recommended.’ – Laura Wilson, *The Guardian*, ‘The Best Recent Crime and Thrillers’

‘Historical crime fiction at its most beguiling.’ – Barry Forshaw, *The Financial Times*, ‘Best New Crime Books’

Fiery scriptwriter Minnie Ward and dapper ex-police officer Albert Easterbrook are drawn into a world of celebrities, ghosts and questionable cults in the mesmerising latest instalment of the Variety Palace series.

1879, Victorian London. Will-they-won’t-they detective duo Minnie Ward and Albert Easterbrook are looking into two mysterious deaths. This leads them to the doors of the Spirit Sisterhood, a spiritualist group with a suspicious focus on young women.

Minnie smells a rat. Going undercover on her own at the organisation’s countryside house, she discovers a strangely compelling world of spirits and ghosts. But, without Albert or anyone she loves nearby, Minnie quickly finds herself in very hot water...



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bridget Walsh lives in Norwich. She has a PhD in ‘Murder in the Victorian Domestic Sphere’ and an MA in Creative Writing from the University of East Anglia.

THE TUMBLING GIRL won the UEA Little, Brown Award for Crime Fiction 2019 and the published novel was shortlisted for the 2024 ILP John Creasey (New Blood) Dagger and won the HWA Debut Crown 2024. It was published by Gallic Books in May 2023, with **THE INNOCENTS** following in 2024. Pushkin Press are issuing new Pushkin Vertigo editions of Walsh’s first two titles in the Variety Palace Mystery Series, before publishing **THE SPIRIT GUIDE** in 2026.

LOVE AND MALICE

Jemma Wayne



Photo: A P Wilding

Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan On submission
UKexCan Audio Under Offer

135,000 words

A century-spanning family epic about fortune, love, and memory: think MIDDLESEX meets A TREE GROWS IN BROOKLYN, with a touch of THE MIDDLESTEINS

Katie Schwartzinger grows up in 1920s Brooklyn in the middle of a boisterous Polish-Jewish family. She and her sisters – Ruth, Jean, Rachel, Betty and Pauline, ‘each more beautiful than the last’ – share adventure and heartbreak, loving and fighting each other in equal measure, while their parents try to keep them safe.

The family withstands ups, downs, and devastating loss, her sisters leaving one-by-one as Katie waits impatiently for her turn at independence, romance and recognition. When Bobby comes along, a jobbing singer who immediately adores her, Katie grabs hold of love and freedom, flying from Remsen towards the big time, and reinventing herself as all-American Cathy Clark. But she cannot shake the ghosts of her sisters or the fierce, unyielding bond of her family, even as she creates her own. As Bobby, Cathy and their young son move to London, Hollywood and home again, she lives a double life as the dazzling, supportive wife in public and an unhappy, jealous woman in private, and she begins to mix love and malice in ever-increasing bouts of confusion that finally implode the happiness she has so carefully tried to build.

Decades later, in London, 14-year-old Laura is confronting her feelings for her grandmother, who regales her with fantastic stories of legendary sisters, Polish dybbuks, New York good times, and never giving up her search for the sister who ran away. But Grandma is also unpredictable, raging and spiteful. Laura feels conflicted as she, too, navigates love and malice, and witnesses her grandmother, the great Cathy Schwartzinger, arrive at the end of her life...

LOVE AND MALICE is a beautifully-written exploration of confronting the American dream as an immigrant family; of joy and despair; of fortune and fall; of the power of storytelling to change lives – and of how, at the end of those lives, the people who matter most are there with us.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jemma Wayne is a Women’s Prize longlisted author. Her novels include **AFTER BEFORE**, **CHAINS OF SAND**, **TO DARE**, and **WHEN I CLOSE MY EYES**.

As a journalist, Jemma’s writing has appeared in *The Spectator*, *The Telegraph*, *National Geographic*, *The Huffington Post*, *The Evening Standard*, *The Independent on Sunday*, *Red Magazine*, *The Jewish Chronicle*, *Arab Weekly*, and *The Jewish Quarterly*, among others.

THRILLER

WHITE ROAD

Harry Whitehead



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan PB Claret Press Sep 2025
UKexCan audio Under Offer
US+Can On Submission
US+Can audio Under Offer

288 pages

Timely literary thriller – a high-stakes battle for survival in the superbly-evoked High Arctic

Featuring a fierce and complex female central character, **WHITE ROAD** is a compelling account of maritime disaster and survival in the wastes of an Arctic winter. There's epic action, but also an evocative sense of landscape as in *MISS SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW*.

Carrie Essler, a Scottish rescue swimmer, finds herself out of her depth in the High Arctic. Her friend Jim Ross, director of an oil rig, is a man with a guilty conscience. Amaruq, an Inuvialuit oil-rig worker is a man caught between two worlds.

After a spectacular explosion on the rig, Carrie is stranded on the Arctic ice with a dying stranger she must try to save. A starving polar bear stalks the horizon: everywhere she turns there are only perilous choices. Ross and Amaruq too face their own crossroads. Lives hang on every decision.

As the oil spill spreads, Ross battles to mount a rescue mission to find Carrie. But is his obsession merely a way to try to assuage his own culpability? And what real hope is there that she could have survived?

From the cruel Arctic to the corporate backrooms of shady Big Oil, **WHITE ROAD** is a powerful eco-thriller, written with great immediacy and often stark beauty.

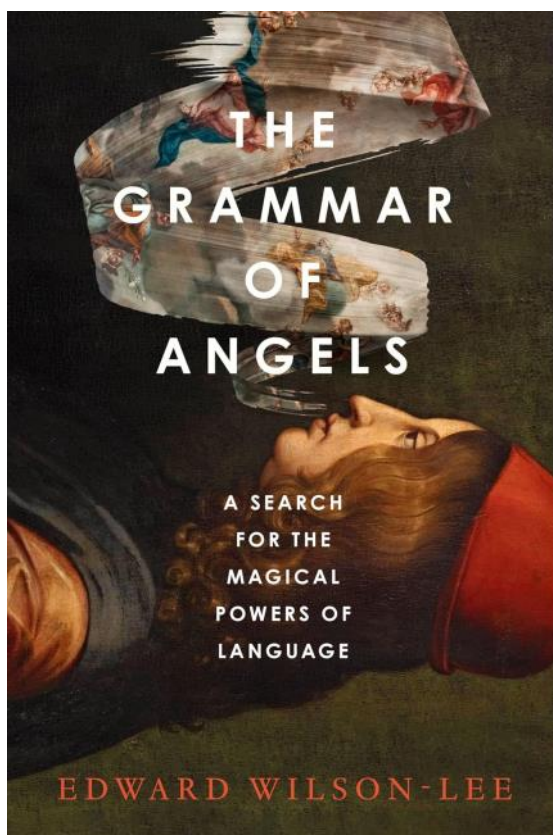
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Harry Whitehead is a novelist and Associate Professor in Creative Writing at the University of Leicester, where he is Co-Director of the Centre for New Writing. He has been a Wingate Scholar and was a 2016-7 Eccles Centre Fellow in North American Studies at the British Library, while researching **WHITE ROAD**. He has a degree in Anthropology, an MSc in Medical Anthropology and a PhD in Creative Writing. He worked for many years in the film industry.

His literary historical debut **THE CANNIBAL SPIRIT** (Penguin Canada), was described as 'powerful, brave, ambitious' (*The Globe and Mail*), 'a thriller with a Joseph Conradian plot' (*The Walrus*), 'a unique work, compelling, complex, thought-provoking and impressive' (*Quill and Quire*).

THE GRAMMAR OF ANGELS

Edward Wilson-Lee



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB William Collins Jan 2025

UKexCan PB William Collins 2026

UKexCan audio William Collins Jan 2025

Korea Kachi Publishing Co.
Romania ART

Option publishers

Italy Bollati Boringhieri | Japan
Kashiwashobo | Portugal (exBrazil)
Bertrand | Russia Azbooka-Atticus
Spain Ariel | Turkey Repar | Ukraine
Laboratory

336 pages

Acclaimed historian with a gift for narrative opens up the life of another extraordinary Renaissance character for today's readers

'In Wilson-Lee's hands, the most abstruse subjects become not so much transparent as feverishly exciting... such range and ambition is, after all, very Renaissance. It's very Pico. It is also a joy to read.' – *The Sunday Times*

'Wilson-Lee paints a glorious portrait of the great 15th century prince of learning [and] performs without fail the sympathetic, translucent ventriloquism that sets apart the most absorbing biographies.' – *Daily Telegraph*

After his magnificent **THE CATALOGUE OF SHIPWRECKED BOOKS** and the thrilling mysteries of **THE HISTORY OF WATER**, **THE GRAMMAR OF ANGELS** completes Edward Wilson-Lee's loose trilogy tracing an intriguing path through the world of Renaissance Knowledge and its relation to our times. He won a Guggenheim fellowship for this work.

THE GRAMMAR OF ANGELS: A Search for the Magical Powers of Language tells the story of Renaissance prodigy and polymath Giovanni Pico della Mirandola, who dedicated his life to a quest to find the sublime, showing how man could transcend mortal limitations.

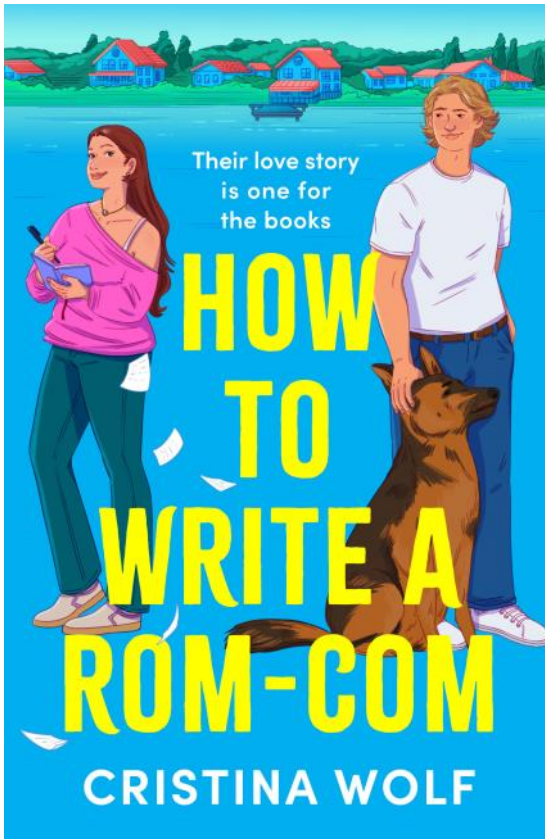
At the heart of Pico's ideas were questions that he traced through the depth and breadth of human thought, from the ancient Greeks and Egyptians to the medieval Arabs and Jews. He drew on everything at his disposal from Europe's broadening horizons and asked primal questions of himself and the world. In Catholic Italy, such ideas were dangerous and his quest provoked violent reactions, suggesting that the notion of the individual might be as much of an illusion as a flat earth or a geocentric universe – that the divine might be other than the Christian God. During a tempestuous time at the heart of the Italian Renaissance, Pico's life is a testament to intellectual daring, to a human dignity founded in the willingness to think the unthinkable and to peer over the edge of the abyss in search of answers.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Edward Wilson-Lee is a Fellow in English at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he teaches medieval and Renaissance literature. After growing up in Kenya and Switzerland, he went to university in London, New York, Oxford and Cambridge, living briefly in Mexico and New Orleans in between. His previous books **SHAKESPEARE IN SWAHILILAND** and **THE CATALOGUE OF SHIPWRECKED BOOKS** are widely acclaimed, published in the UK and US, and translated into 11 languages. The latest, **A HISTORY OF WATER**, was shortlisted for the James Tait Black Prize for Biography 2023. He is writing a new book on a fascinating Renaissance subject.

HOW TO WRITE A ROM-COM

Cristina Wolf



Agent Sian Ellis-Martin

WEL PB Head of Zeus May 2025

UK+BC audio Head of Zeus May 2025

US audio Tantor Media May 2025

Turkey Epsilon

384 pages

A swoonworthy and bookish rom-com set in the small lakeside town of Hudson Hollow. A must-read for fans of Emily Henry and Ali Hazelwood

‘Cristina Wolf weaves a heartwarming romance filled with humor, charm, and sizzling chemistry.’ – Stacey Kennedy

‘I devoured this story and fell in love with every character – even Blue the dog! I am now a firm believer in the happily ever now!’ – Emma Cowell

Lucy Bowen has sworn off love.

After too many failed relationships, she’s over the fairytale-but working at NYC’s biggest romance publisher, Heartwarming, means she can’t escape it. When the company’s bestselling author, Ruby Jones, threatens to leave due to dwindling sales (and a complete lack of inspiration), Lucy’s boss takes drastic action.

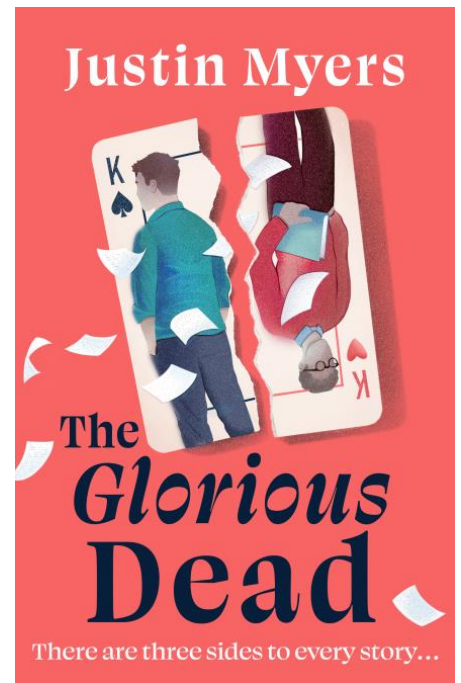
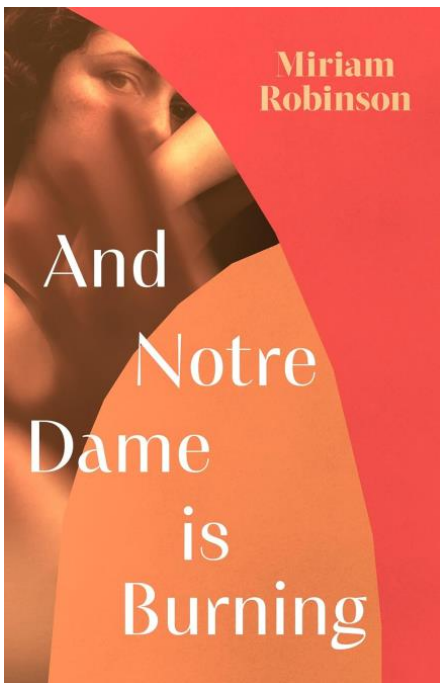
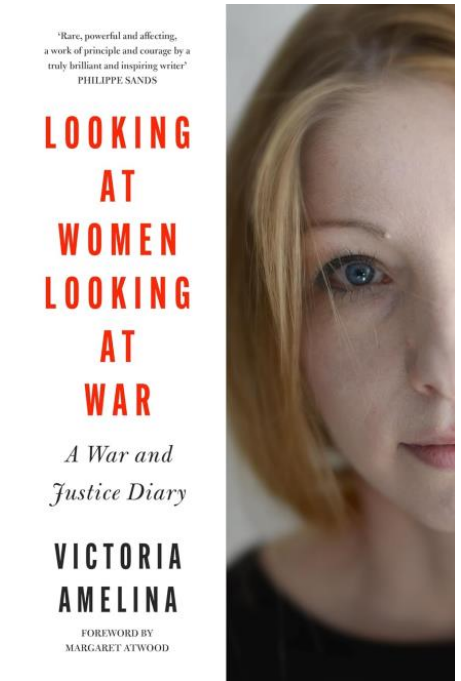
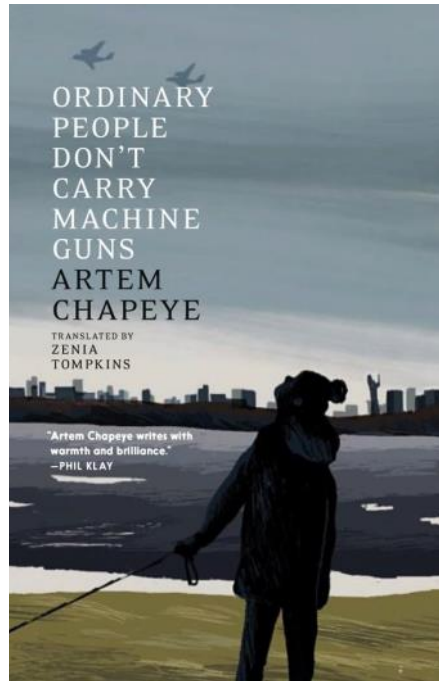
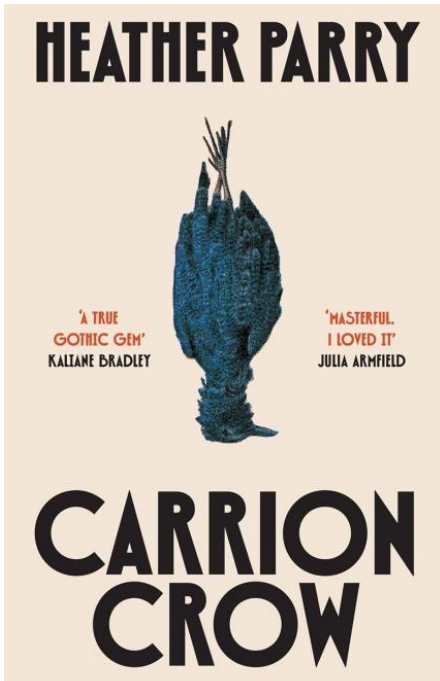
Her new assignment? Go to a small lakeside town and find the spark for Ruby’s next big love story.

Lucy expects picture-perfect charm, but the town-and its grumpy yet extremely attractive restaurant owner, Liam-have other ideas. He’s sceptical of city folk, and she has zero interest in falling for a small-town cliché. But rom-com rule number one? Love finds you when you least expect it...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

After graduating from Marist College with a double major in Business and English, Cristina pursued a career in the publishing industry while earning her Master of Science in Publishing from New York University. Cristina has worked at literary agencies and as an editorial assistant at a publishing house. Cristina found life in NYC a bit different than she expected and returned to her native New Jersey where she earned her Master in Teaching from Monmouth University. She now shares her love of books with her students as a middle school English teacher.

ASSOCIATE AGENTS



Laxfield Literary Associates

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LOOKING AT WOMEN LOOKING AT WAR

Victoria Amelina

'Rare, powerful and affecting,
a work of principle and courage by a
truly brilliant and inspiring writer'
PHILIPPE SANDS

LOOKING
AT
WOMEN
LOOKING
AT
WAR

*A War and
Justice Diary*

VICTORIA
AMELINA

FOREWORD BY
MARGARET ATWOOD



Destined to be a classic, a poet's powerful look at the courage of resistance

With a foreword by Margaret Atwood.

'Rare, powerful and affecting, a work of principle and courage by a truly brilliant and inspiring writer' – Philippe Sands

When Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Victoria Amelina was busy writing a novel, taking part in the country's literary scene, and parenting her son. Then she became someone new: a war crimes researcher and the chronicler of extraordinary women like herself who joined the resistance. These heroines include Evgenia, a prominent lawyer turned soldier, Oleksandra, who documented tens of thousands of war crimes and won a Nobel Peace Prize in 2022, and Yulia, a librarian who helped uncover the abduction and murder of a children's book author.

Everyone in Ukraine knew that Amelina was documenting the war. She photographed the ruins of schools and cultural centers; she recorded the testimonies of survivors and eyewitnesses to atrocities. And she slowly turned back into a storyteller, writing what would become this book.

On the evening of June 27th, 2023, Amelina and three international writers stopped for dinner in the embattled Donetsk region. When a Russian cruise missile hit the restaurant, Amelina suffered grievous head injuries, and lost consciousness. She died on July 1st. She was thirty-seven. She left behind an incredible account of the ravages of war and the cost of resistance. Honest, intimate, and wry, this book will be celebrated as a classic.

Also available: **TESTIMONIES** (Ukraine: Old Lion Publishing; Croatia: PEN Croatia; Poland: Borderlands) is a poetry collection written in the aftermath of the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine and the last poem was completed just days before Victoria's death in 2023. **DOM'S DREAM KINGDOM** (a novel) tells the story of a city with a dramatic history, where the silences about past wars and mass murders are so unbearable that only an abandoned dog can trace the secrets and "speak" for the people who still cannot speak for themselves. A finalist for the European Prize for Literature as well as the Lviv UNESCO City of Literature Prize.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Victoria Amelina (1 January 1986 – 1 July 2023) was a Ukrainian novelist, essayist, poet, and human rights activist. She was a winner of the Joseph Conrad Literary Award (2021), and a finalist for the European Union Prize for Literature (2019) and Lviv UNESCO City of Literature Prize (2018). In 2021, she founded a literary festival in the Donetsk region, Ukraine.

Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

UK+BC HB William Collins Feb 2025
(pre-empt)
UK+ BC PB William Collins 2026
US + Can HB St Martin's Feb 2025
US + Can PB St Martin's 2026

France Flammarion | **Germany**
edition.fotoTAPETA | **Italy** Guanda
(pre-empt) | **Korea** Pacho
Netherlands ISVW Uitgevers | **Sweden**
Ersatz | **Taiwan** Acropolis | **Ukraine**
Old Lion Publishing House

320 pages

DOM'S DREAM KINGDOM

UK+BC HB William Collins 2026 (pre-empt)
UK+ BC PB William Collins 2027

Georgia Siesta Publishing | **Germany**
Mauke | **Italy** Guanda (pre-empt)
Poland Wrocławski Dom Literatary
Slovakia Dajama | **Spain** Avizor
Ediciones | **Sweden** Ersatz | **Ukraine**
Old Lion Publishing House

384 pages

ORDINARY PEOPLE DON'T CARRY MACHINE GUNS

Artem Chapeye

English translation by Zenia Tompkins

A writer turned soldier in the Ukrainian army reconsiders his pacifism and the choices one makes when war is waged against you

'Chapeye represents a modern-day Ukrainian counterpart to classic American writers like Mark Twain or O. Henry, capturing the dignity and respect his characters might not get but nonetheless long for and deserve...' — Kate Tsurkan, *Los Angeles Review of Books*

In **ORDINARY PEOPLE DON'T CARRY MACHINE GUNS**, Artem Chapeye reveals his war, intimate and senseless, withholding nothing about his motivations, his nightmares, his new relationship with the world. Here one man, a pacifist turned fighter, a story writer turned soldier considers the reasons for and reactions to war on a very personal level.

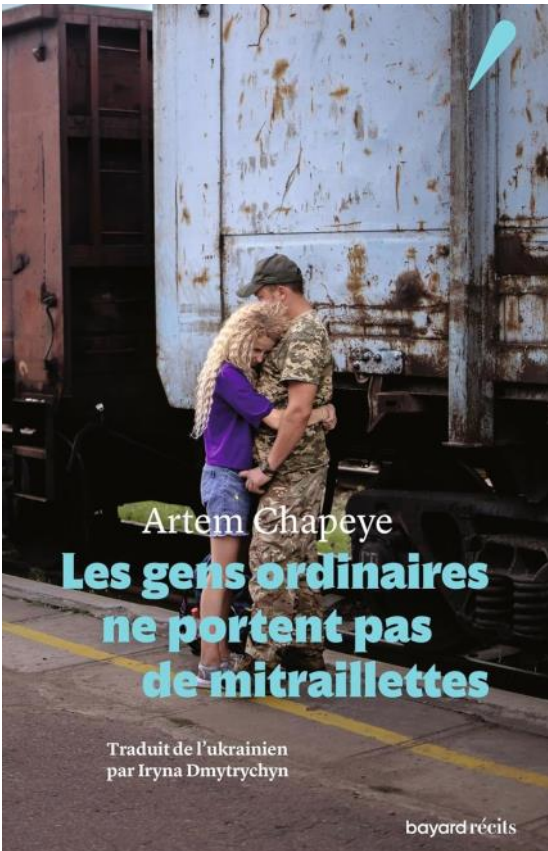
Chapeye explores his role in the Ukrainian people's defense against the Russian army and his responsibilities as a father, a writer, a soldier, and a man of conviction. An avowed pacifist until 2022, Chapeye joined the Ukrainian army in the first days of the invasion. He tries to understand the large-scale decision-making that has a defining impact on both individual citizens and society at large: many of his fellow soldiers never considered enlisting before finding themselves at war; others fled the country. He wonders what his young children at home are doing and what they're feeling.

Deeply thought-provoking, intelligent, and heartbreaking, this is an essential book for anyone who wants to understand the ways that war can change everything.

Also available: **THE UKRAINE** (Seven Stories Press, WEL 2023; Editions Bleu et Jaune, France; btb, Germany; N-Press, Slovakia; Books XXI, Ukraine), a stunning debut collection of fiction and creative nonfiction that conjures the essence of a beloved country; and **WEATHERING** (Books XXI, Ukraine 2021; Seven Stories, WEL 2025), a dystopian novel set in contemporary Ukraine and told in a style reminiscent of Emily St. John Mandel's *STATION ELEVEN*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Artem was born in the Western Ukrainian city of Kolomyia and now lives in Kyiv. He is a four-time finalist of the BBC Book of the Year Award and his collection **THE UKRAINE** was also a Finalist for the Lviv UNESCO City of Literature Prize (2018). His work has been translated into seven languages, and has appeared in English in the Best European Fiction anthology and in publications such as the *Refugees Worldwide* anthology, commissioned by the International Literature Festival Berlin. His novel **MIGRANT** was published in French in November 2021.

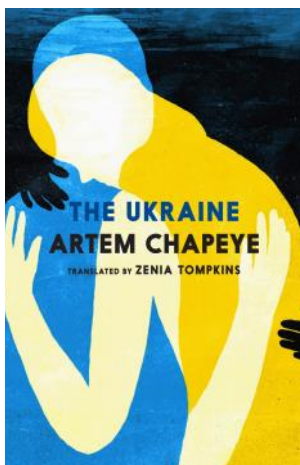


Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

WEL PB Seven Stories Press 2025

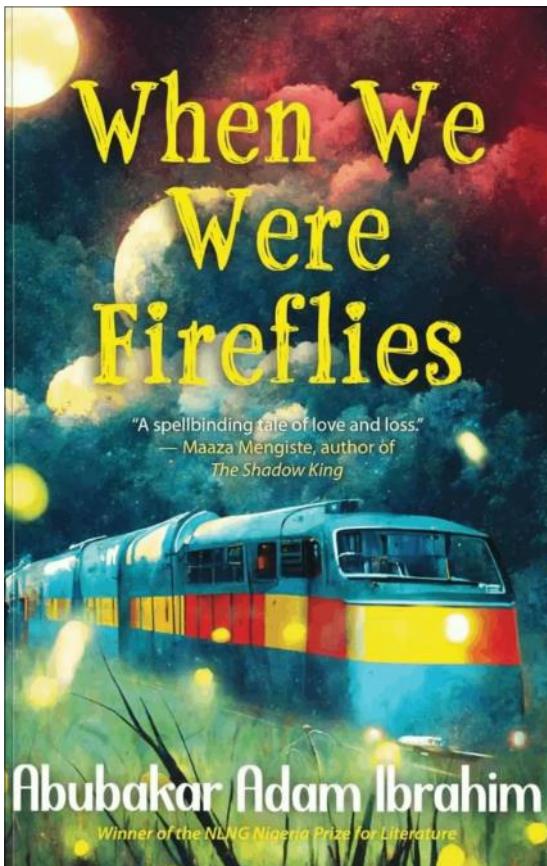
France Bayard 2024

128 pages



WHEN WE WERE FIREFLIES

Abubakar Adam Ibrahim



Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

Nigeria Masobe Books Jan 2023
France Julliard
Germany Residenz Verlag

420 pages

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SOLITUDE meets THE FAMISHED ROAD in this extraordinary novel about life and death from the winner of the NLNG Nigeria Prize for Literature

Longlisted for the 2024 Dublin Literary Award
Shortlisted for the 2024 Canex Prize for African Publishing

‘WHEN WE WERE FIREFLIES reconfirms Abubakar Adam Ibrahim as one of this generation’s best storytellers... A spellbinding tale of love and loss.’ – Maaza Mengiste, author of THE SHADOW KING

‘A gripping, layered, passionate and haunting novel with tones of otherworldliness. Abubakar’s prose sparkles with poetry, wisdom and compassion. This is a complex and unforgettable story that will keep you up at night.’ – Bisi Adjapon

When brooding artist, Yarima Lalo, encounters a moving train for the first time, two serendipitous events occur. First, it triggers memories of past lives in which he was twice murdered – once on a train. He also meets Aziza, a woman with a complicated past of her own, who becomes key to helping him understand what he is experiencing. With a third death in his current life imminent, together they go hunting for remnants of his past lives. Will they find evidence that he is losing his mind or the people who once loved or loathed him?

This is not only a love story, but a story of Nigeria’s checkered history of violence and how religious and ethnic differences have shaped Nigeria as a people and as a nation. As Yarima Lalo travels to places where significant acts of violence have taken place over the past six decades, Ibrahim chronicles its effect and impact on the lives of people living there. Yarima Lalo is an embodiment of his nation’s history of this violence, but also its deep capacity for love that has kept hope, kindness, and compassion alive.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Abubakar Adam Ibrahim is an award-winning Nigerian writer and journalist. He has published two critically acclaimed novels and two short story collections. His debut novel, **SEASON OF CRIMSON BLOSSOMS**, won the 2016 NLNG Nigeria Prize for Literature, Africa’s largest literary prize. The French translation was shortlisted for the prestigious Prix Femina Etranger, and the novel was also translated into German and Tamil. His debut short story collection, **THE WHISPERING TREES**, was longlisted for the Etisalat Prize for Literature; its title story was shortlisted for the 2013 Caine Prize for African Writing. Abubakar’s second short story collection **DREAMS AND ASSORTED NIGHTMARES** was published by Masobe Books in 2022.

THE LANGUAGE OF WAR

LETTERS FROM UKRAINE

Oleksandr Mykhed



Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

UK+BC ex Can HB Allen Lane Jun
2024 (pre-empt)

UK+BC ex Can PB Allen Lane Jun
2025

Holland Walburg Pers
Poland Czarne
Slovakia Absynt
Taiwan Acropolis
Ukraine Old Lion Publishing House

304 pages

A powerful collection of personal essays chronicling a year of the war in Ukraine

‘A stunning account of life in a time of war. If this doesn’t make you look up from your screen to reflect on Ukraine, then nothing will.’ – Alec Russell, *Financial Times*

‘What role for the artist in times of catastrophe? An important book and a painful piece of history... brilliant.’ – Luke Harding, *Observer*

‘A detailed, on-the-ground account, reminding us of the atrocities that are changing life in Ukraine forever... **THE LANGUAGE OF WAR** eats into the mind like phosphorus.’ – *The Spectator*

A 33-year-old writer lives in a quiet European suburb with his wife and his dog. His parents have bought an apartment nearby. On weekends they go out for brunch, cook and see friends. Life is good; it is normal. Then the invaders come.

THE LANGUAGE OF WAR details what happens when your world changes overnight. When you wake up to the sound of helicopters and the smell of gunpowder. When your home is hit by shells or broken into by gunmen, and you spend another night in a bomb-shelter. When, even though you’ve never held a weapon before, you realise the only choice is to fight back. It is about things one can never forget, or forgive.

Heralded as a classic in the making, this book is both a record, and a reckoning. Mykhed’s vivid day-by-day chronicles of the invasion of Ukraine are interspersed with a chorus of other voices – his family, friends in exile, those who have fought and have witnessed unimaginable atrocities. Haunting and timeless, it asks how it is possible to find the words to describe a new reality; how you can still make sense of the world when the only language you can speak is the language of war.

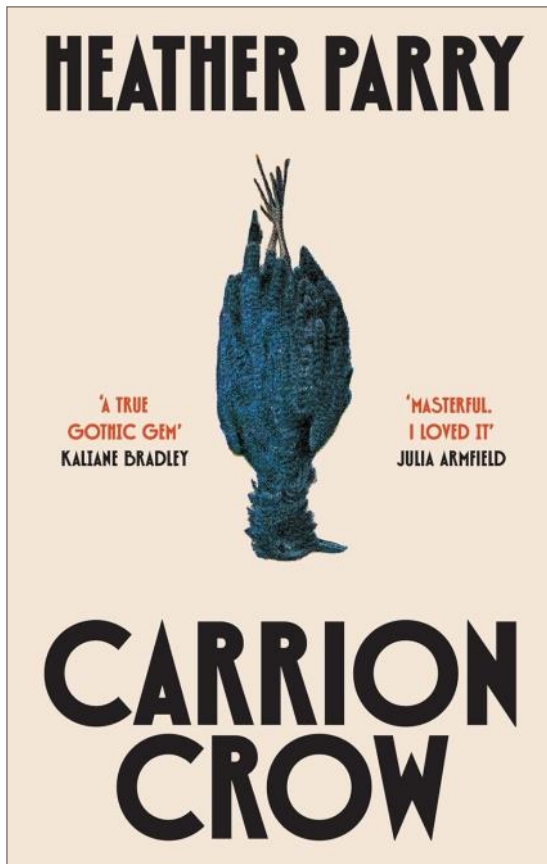
Essays included in the book have been published in outlets including the *Financial Times*, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* and *Le Monde*. Mykhed’s first essay for the FT Weekend, published barely a fortnight after the invasion, elicited a global response, culminating in appearances on CNN and NPR. His opening address to the Lviv International Book Forum in 2022 inspired Michael Goldfarb’s BBC Radio 4 documentary, *Ukraine: War and Words*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Oleksandr lives in Kyiv and is one of Ukraine’s foremost contemporary writers. He is the author of seven books, including the acclaimed **I WILL MIX YOUR BLOOD WITH COAL: UNDERSTANDING THE UKRAINIAN EAST** (Ukraine: Old Lion; Poland: Czarne, WEL: Northwestern University Press; Slovak: Absynt). He is a member of PEN Ukraine.

CARRION CROW

Heather Parry



Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

UK + BC HB Doubleday Feb 2025
UK + BC PB Doubleday Feb 2026

256 pages

A gloriously gothic unfurling of one family's festering secrets

'A true gothic gem.' – Kaliane Bradley

'Parry is a literary star of the future.' – Kirsty Logan

'Masterful. I loved it.' – Julia Armfield

'One of the most important new voices in fiction, with **CARRION CROW** Parry deduces an unutterable Gothic horror of class and gender from the pages of MRS BEETON'S BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT. A festering Edwardian nightmare dressed in exquisitely tailored language, Parry's vision is magnificent and devastating.' – Alan Moore

'Both mouthwatering and revolting, a heady poisonous pudding of a book.' – Camilla Grudova

Newly-betrothed Marguerite has been locked in the attic of her family home, a disintegrating Chelsea house overlooking the fetid Thames. For company she has: a sewing machine, a copy of MRS BEETON'S BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD MANAGEMENT and trays of congealing food carried up to her with little regularity. Marguerite has been confined by her mother, Cécile, who is concerned about her engagement to an older, near-penniless solicitor, Mr Lewis, and wishes to educate her daughter on 'proper' married conduct – lest she drag the family's good name into disrepute. But why is Marguerite pursuing the aged Mr Lewis in the first place? Why are her mother's visits seemingly becoming less frequent? And just how much time has passed since the lock closed on the attic's hatch?

Inspired by the true story of Blanche Monnier, **CARRION CROW** is a transportive and gloriously gothic commentary on the constraints of polite society – and the even greater danger of conformity.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Heather Parry is a short story writer, novelist and editor. Her work has appeared in publications including *The Stinging Fly*, *New Gothic Review*, *The Best of British Fantasy 2018 & 2019*, and *New Writing Scotland 35*. Heather won the 2016 Bridge Award for an Emerging Writer, and was the recipient of the Cove Park 2017 Scottish Emerging Writer residency. She was a prize winner in the Mslexia Short Story Award 2018 and is a 2021 Hawthornden Fellow. She lives in Glasgow and is a regular moderator at literary events, including the Edinburgh International Book Festival.

Her debut novel **ORPHEUS BUILDS A GIRL** (Gallic Books) was published to great acclaim in 2022, and was followed by a short story collection **THIS IS MY BODY, GIVEN FOR YOU** (Haunt Publishing) in 2023.

USE THE WORDS YOU HAVE

Kimberly Campanello



Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

WEL HB Somesuch Jul 2025

202 pages

A strikingly elegant and powerful novella from debut author Kimberly Campanello

Sixteen-year-old K from the American Midwest experiences the sensual intersection of sex, landscape, identity and language during a summer abroad in Brittany in 1997. K is participating in a prestigious six-week language immersion programme organised by her home state's university. She lives with a host family and attends daily classes with other Americans after signing the programme contract requiring her to speak only French for the duration of the summer. There are a series of other 'Pillars' that govern the philosophy of the programme and therefore her behaviour. Against these rules, K has a love affair – her first grand amour – with the twenty-four-year-old host family 'brother' in the house on the cliff overlooking the sea in Saint-Brieuc.

USE THE WORDS YOU HAVE weaves narration and recollection of K's conservative Italian American family life in Midwestern America, her fascination and struggle with Catholicism, the host family's Breton nationalism, and K's obsession with Arthur Rimbaud and the eternal trinity – sex, the sea and the sun. It culminates in K's return decades later to the same cliffside in Saint-Brieuc. There she discovers that the sea is closed – fenced off with concrete and steel barriers and skull and crossbones signs – due to a deadly green tide caused by climate change and intensive farming, which now returns to the coast every year. The sea, the site of her awakening into sex, language and the self, is closed.

With echoes of André Aciman's *CALL ME BY YOUR NAME*, Olivia Laing's *CRUDO*, and told in a style and mood resonant with Deborah Levy's *HOT MILK*, **USE THE WORDS YOU HAVE** is an atmospheric, sensuous and electric work of autofiction that heralds a bright new talent.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kimberly Campanello was born in Indiana, and is a dual Irish and American citizen living in York. Her most recent poetry project is **MOTHERBABYHOME**, a collection of 796 conceptual and visual poems on the St. Mary's Mother and Baby Home in Tuam, Co. Galway, was published by zimZalla Avant Objects in April 2019.

Kimberly's poems have appeared most recently in *The White Review* and *Granta*, a short story on *Somesuch*. Kimberly won a 2019 Markievicz Award from Ireland's Arts Council and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht for (S)worn State(s), a poetry collaboration with Dimitra Xidou and Annemarie Ní Churreáin. Her poetry collection **AN INTERESTING DETAIL** has just been bought by Kayo Chingonyi at Bloomsbury.

LACK

Cecilia Knapp



Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

UK+BC HB Borough Press Jan 2026
UK+BC PB Borough Press Jan 2027

87,000 words



From the award-winning poet comes an extraordinary novel about grief and motherhood

‘Cecilia Knapp is a rare, rare talent. The sort of writer you get excited to have found and then look forward to devouring more of their work.’ – Kerry Hudson

In the quiet, lonely hours of the middle of the night, a woman scrolls social media on her phone. Babies are everywhere. All her friends seem to have one. Her sweet partner Dan is desperate to start a family. The algorithm ladles out conception tips. The mummy bloggers are organised – but she is full of doubt. Besides, there’s something going wrong in her body. She can feel it. A pain. A constant dull ache she is too frightened to investigate.

Her days pass unremarkably. She cycles to her job performing nullifying admin tasks at a start-up. She budgets her meagre salary and siphons most of it off to a faceless private landlord. She gets home and scrolls again. The news is bad and getting worse, pouring like slurry. And there is something darker, pulsing beneath the surface of her days, threatening to catch up with her – her past.

Sitting alongside modern classics such as Lara Williams’ *SUPPER CLUB*, Megan Nolan’s *ACTS OF DESPERATION* and Ottesa Moshfegh’s *MY YEAR OF REST AND RELAXATION*, *LACK* showcases a maturity in Knapp’s poetic prose as her narrator inhabits her female body, and social media and society’s expectations of it; exploring confounding truths about motherhood, motherlessness, class, consumable womanhood, self-worth and the lack thereof in intimate relationships.

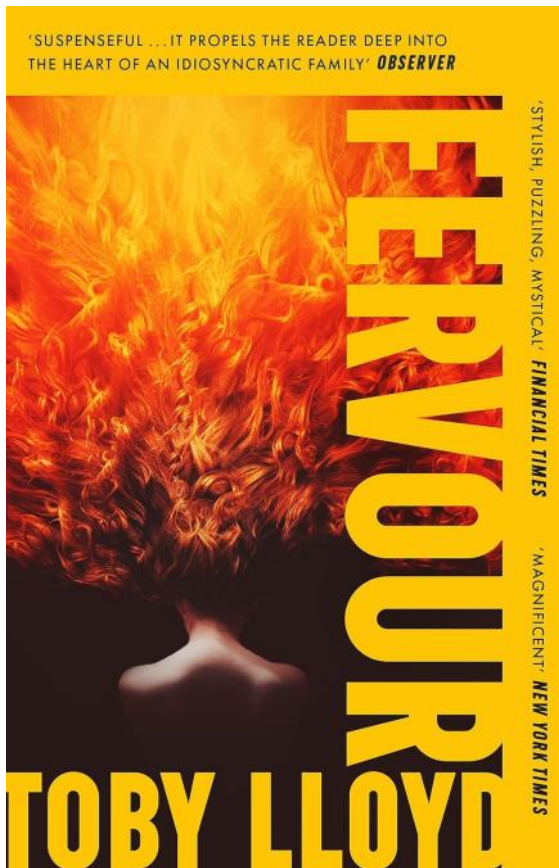
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Cecilia Knapp is a poet and novelist and the Young People’s Laureate for London 2020/2021. She was shortlisted for the 2022 Forward prize for best single poem. She is the winner of the 2021 Ruth Rendell award and has been shortlisted for both the Rebecca Swift Women’s prize and the Outspoken poetry prize. Her debut poetry collection *PEACH PIG* was published by Corsair in 2022 and was *The Observer’s* poetry book of the month for October. Her poems have appeared in *Vogue*, *The Financial Times*, *Granta*, *The White Review*, and are widely anthologised. Her debut novel *LITTLE BOXES* was published by The Borough Press in 2022 and was longlisted for the 2023 Authors Club Best First Novel Award.

She is the current poet in residence for City Bridge Foundation, was resident poet at Great Ormond Street Hospital for two years and is lead tutor for the Roundhouse’s prestigious poetry collective. She is an ambassador for the mental health charity CALM.

FERVOUR

Toby Lloyd

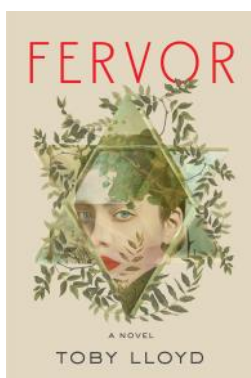


Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

UK+BC ex Can HB Sceptre Feb 2024
UK+BC ex Can PB Sceptre Feb 2025
US HB Avid Reader Press/S&S Mar 2024
US PB Avid Reader Press/S&S Mar 2025

Croatia Oceanmore
Finland Kosmos
France Gallimard
Italy Neri Pozza (at auction)
Russia Corpus

245 pages



A contemporary Jewish story that will appeal to readers of Francine Prose and Philip Roth

‘Magnificent, indelible... That a young British novelist, on his first try, should have so effectively taken up a gauntlet laid down by the greatest American novelist of an era [Toni Morrison] might seem surprising. But maybe not... Enriching his story with detail and above all heart, Lloyd has crafted a lasting allegory of our dark historical times.’ – *The New York Times*

‘Intriguing, propulsive and profoundly disturbing, this is a fearless look into the dark heart of family politics from a naturally gifted storyteller’ – Jonathan Coe

‘Stylish, puzzling, mystical... **FERVOUR** marks the arrival of an intriguing and intelligent new voice’ – *The Financial Times*

Hannah and Eric are a successful couple living in North London with their three children, and Eric’s father Yosef, a survivor of the camps. They are devout Jews who believe in the literal truth of the Old Testament, all except for their youngest son Tovyah. The death of Yosef – the family’s link to pre-war Europe – throws the family into disarray. Elsie, the model daughter, disappears for four days, plunging the family into a living nightmare. When she returns, just as mysteriously as she left, she is strangely altered. Witnessing the complete transformation of their daughter’s personality and some increasingly hard-to-explain events, Hannah and Eric begin to suspect Elsie is under the influence of black magic. Tovyah, a brilliant university student, believes his sister is suffering a mental collapse caused by his parents’ antiquated beliefs. But who is right? And can the family be reconciled before tearing itself apart?

At the heart of the novel are two questions. What does it mean to be bound to an ethical and metaphysical system thousands of years old? And if you reject that system, what is left of your Jewish identity? Through revolving points of view, any certainty in the face of these questions is undermined, and we witness a family trying to reckon with both historical and personal tragedy. The result is a fast-paced literary novel, with elements of horror.

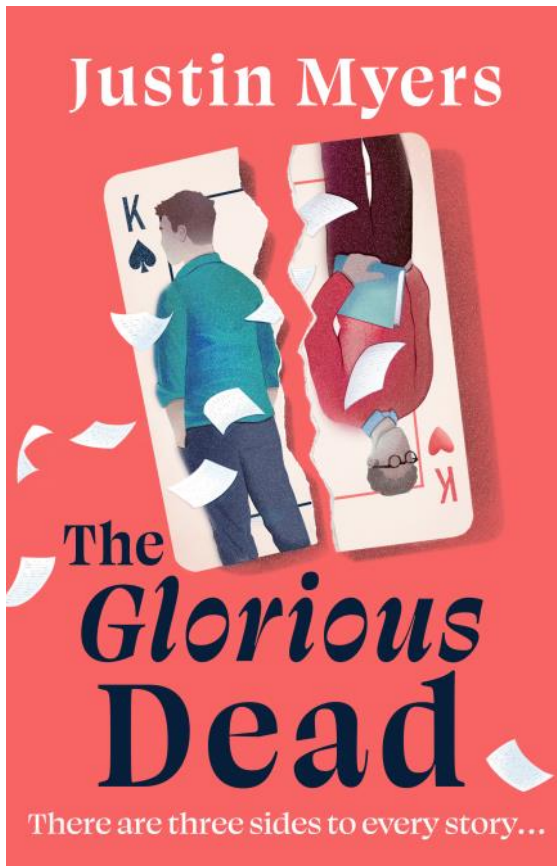
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Toby was born in London to a secular father and a Jewish mother. He studied English at Oxford University, before moving to America to pursue an MFA in Creative Writing at NYU where he was taught by E.L. Doctorow and Jonathan Safran Foer. Now thirty-three, he’s returned to London where he works as a freelance tutor and writer.

He has published short stories and essays in various journals, including *Carve Magazine* and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*.

THE GLORIOUS DEAD

Justin Myers



Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

UK+BC HB Renegade Sep 2025
UK+BC PB Renegade Sep 2026

368 pages

A dark, dazzling novel that explores grief, loss, truth, tragedy – and the lies we tell ourselves about the ones we love

‘One of our smartest, most perspicacious writers’ – Veronica Henry

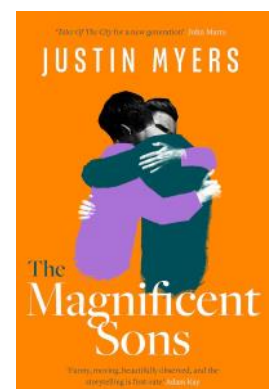
Laurie Blount, the ‘enfant terrible’ of the West End, the voice of a generation, a shining star. Also: dead. Very, very dead.

Reeling at being left behind, his husband Jo, best friend Vivi, and goddaughter Rosy must step out from the shadows and begin a new life, at their own pace. But scattered chapters of Laurie’s unpublished memoirs ensure that while he may be dead, he’ll never leave them. Waspish, wicked, and witty, they reveal a side to Laurie nobody really knew – or would admit to knowing. But who’s already had their eyes on them, and is it all really true? Who should his grieving loved ones believe to be the real Laurie – the lovable, arch comedian they knew, or the adulterous, somewhat tragic figure who comes alive on the page?

Jo is about to discover he has more in common with his dear departed husband than he ever imagined, and that comedy and tragedy are just the same mistakes, made under different lighting. Those we adore let us down, halos can dim, and pedestals are there to be toppled. If Jo is ever to find peace in the future, he must confront Laurie’s past.

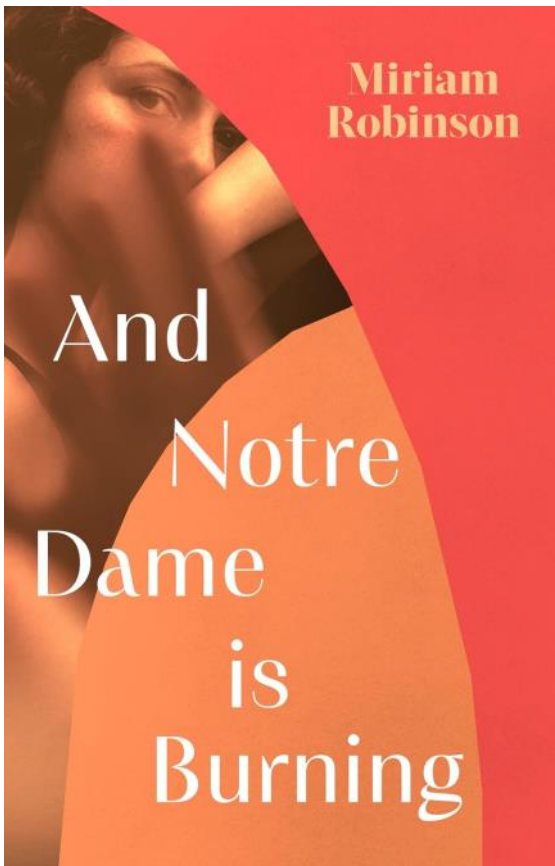
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Justin Myers is a writer and editor from Shipley, Yorkshire, who now lives in London. After years working in journalism, he began his popular, anonymous dating blog *The Guyliner* in 2010, spent five years as dating and advice columnist in *Gay Times* and is now a weekly columnist at *British GQ*. His work has appeared in a number of publications including the *Guardian*, *BuzzFeed* and the *Irish Times*. His first novel **THE LAST ROMEO** (Piatkus) was published in 2018, and has been optioned for TV. His second novel, **THE MAGNIFICENT SONS** (Piatkus) was published in 2020 to much acclaim. Sphere published **THE FAKE-UP** in 2022 then **LEADING MAN** in 2024.



AND NOTRE DAME IS BURNING

Miriam Robinson



An astonishing debut novel for fans of Jenny Offill, Maggie Nelson, and Rachel Cusk

I find myself wondering what would have happened if I had been more clear. If our relationship had not begun with this one tiny untruth.

Time has flattened for Esther.

Her storybook marriage begins, and ends, in the shadow of Notre Dame cathedral. Sifting through the ashes of their years together, a time now collapsed by grief, she finds a mismatched litany: mountain lions, a Paris bookshop, bad dancing, bad faith, marshland, prairieland, miscarriage, motherhood, bagels, Eve.

In order to understand this new story, Esther seeks help — from generations of women, from a book about evolution, from a friendly philosopher/scientist with a solid grasp of the space-time continuum.

Mostly, though, she writes — fragments, notes, letters — tracing a fine line between a story that soothes and one that suffocates; confronting the impossibility of communicating anything in the right way, at the right moment, to her daughter. Esther writes, and rewrites, until time slowly takes shape again.

This extraordinary debut is an excavation of betrayal, of motherhood, of time and timelessness, of guilt and consequence, of love coming to an end. Told with dry wit and a startling ferocity, **AND NOTRE DAME IS BURNING** heralds an urgent new voice in literary fiction.

Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

UK+BC HB Corsair Aug 2025
UK+BC PB Corsair Aug 2026

236 pages

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Miriam Robinson is a creative consultant for the publishing industry and beyond, and the host of new podcast *My Unlived Life*. She holds an MA in Creative Writing from Goldsmiths, University of London and her short fiction has been shortlisted for a Pushcart Prize, the inaugural Pindrop/RA Short Story Prize and the Pat Kavanagh Prize. She has also been a Bookseller Rising Star, and has won the Kim Scott Walwyn Award for young women in publishing. Originally from Colorado, Miriam lives in East London with her daughter Maya and their six-toed cat Astrid.

BIRDING

Rose Ruane

BIRDING



ROSE RUANE

Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

UK+BC HB Corsair May 2024
UK+BC PB Corsair Apr 2025

288 pages

A powerful story about duty, consent, contrition and complicity; about the difference between love and obligation, and the boundary between unhealthy relationships and abusive ones

‘A sharp analysis of societal, gender and relationship expectations and the unnecessary harm they can inflict... While the subject matter could be depressing, Ruane’s playful sense of humour adds plenty of levity resulting in a surprisingly moving and uplifting book that asks what it means to fully become ourselves’ – *The Irish Times*

‘**BIRDING** gave me everything I want in a novel, including a massive, cathartic cry at the end. Achingly poignant, yet ultimately hopeful, with a worn out seaside town I can see so clearly.’ – Jennie Godfrey

‘Dark, poetic, elegiac, thought-provoking and desperately sad – a masterclass in hauntology’ – Stu Hennigan

In a small seaside town, autumn is edging into winter, gulls ride winds over the waves, and two women pass each other on the promenade, as yet unaware of each other’s existence.

In the nineties Lydia was a teen pop star, letting the world happen to her. Three decades later, the news cycle runs hot with #MeToo stories, and a famous former lover has emerged with a self-serving apology, asking her to forgive him. Suddenly, the past is full of trapdoors she is desperately trying not to fall through.

Joyce, in middle age, still lives with her mother Betty. With their matching dresses, identical hairdos and makeup, they are the local oddballs. Theirs is a life of unerring routine. One misstep from Joyce can ruin Betty’s day; so Joyce treads carefully, never thinking about a different kind of life. But recently, along with the hot flushes, something like anger is asserting itself, like a caged thing realising it should probably try and escape.

In a gentrifying run-down seaside resort, these two women might never meet. But as they both try to untangle the damaging details of their past in the hope of a better future, their lives are set on an unlikely collision course.

With mordant wit and lyrical prose, **BIRDING** asks if we can ever see ourselves clearly or if we are always the unreliable narrators of our own experiences. It is a story about third acts and last chances, and two women trying to take flight on clipped wings.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rose Ruane is an author and artist who lives in Glasgow with her ever-expanding collection of Twentieth Century kitsch.

