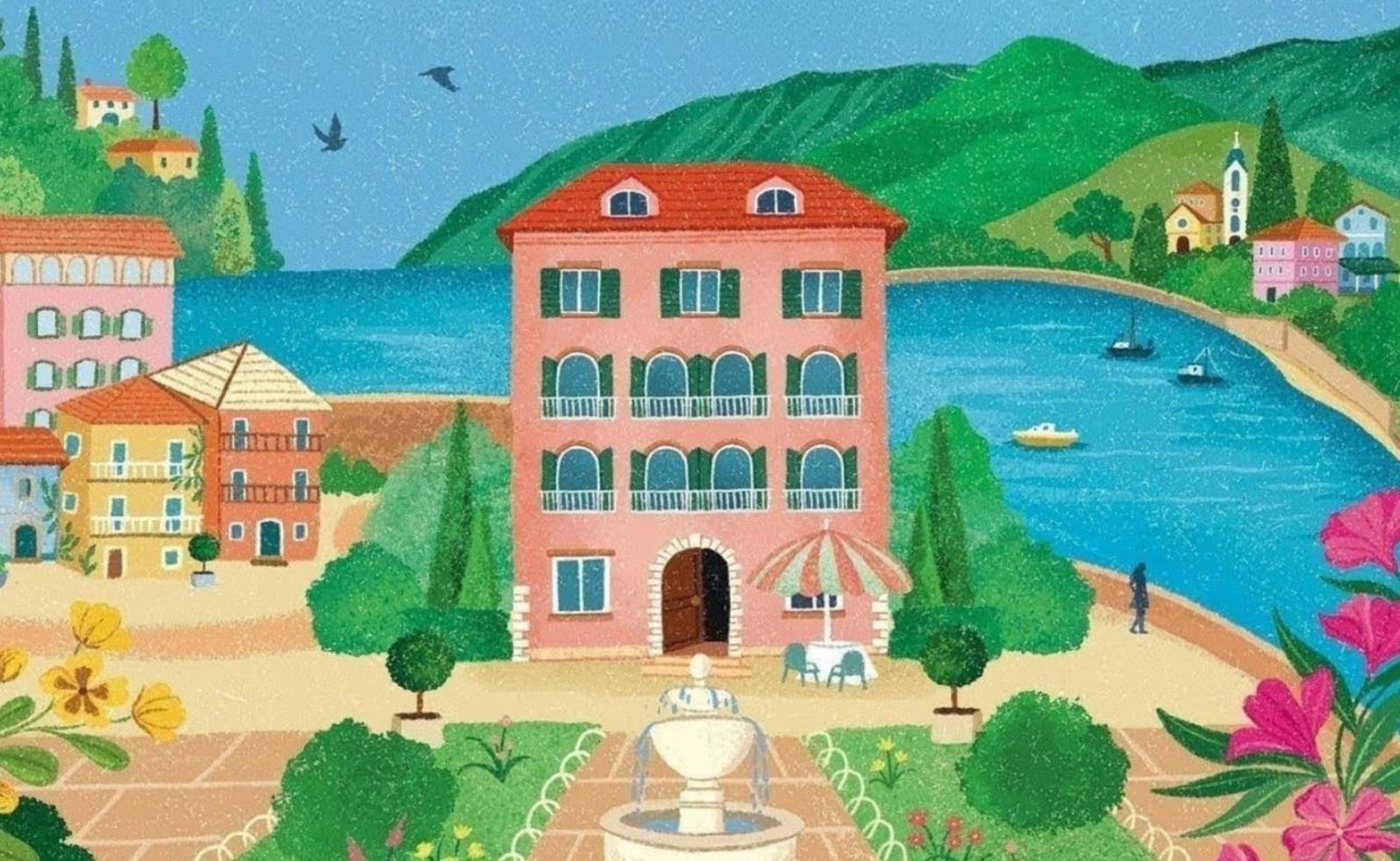


Blake Friedmann

Rights
Guide

Spring - Summer 2026





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:

Leyla Hattabi at leyla@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

Siân Ellis-Martin

sian@blakefriedmann.co.uk

Juliet Pickering

juliet@blakefriedmann.co.uk

We work direct in the following markets:

Brazil, the Baltics, Germany, Greece, Holland, Italy, Israel, the Nordics

We are represented overseas by:

Bulgaria Mira Droumeva, Andrew Nurnberg Agency | **Croatia, Bosnia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia** Antonija Radić, Corto Literary Agency | **China** Jackie Huang, Andrew Nurnberg Agency | **Czechia** Kristin Olson Literary Agency | **France** Vanessa Kling & Michèle Kanonidis, La Nouvelle Agence | **Hungary** Orsi Mészáros, Katai & Bolza | **Japan** Hamish Macaskill & Shreya De Sousa, The English Agency | **Korea** Rockyong Lee & Bokyoung Park, KCC | **Poland** Dominika Bojanowska, Andrew Nurnberg Agency | **Romania** Andreea Focșăneanu, Simona Kessler Agency | **Russia** Anastasia Falcón Arjarova, Andrew Nurnberg Agency | **South Asia** Weerawat 'Big' Techakijjathorn, Andrew Nurnberg Agency | **Spain & Portugal** Teresa Vilarrubla & Júlia Garrigós, The Foreign Office | **Taiwan** Whitney Hsu, Andrew Nurnberg Agency | **Turkey** Hasret Parlak Torun, AnatoliaLit Agency | **Vietnam** Van Hoang, Andrew Nurnberg Agency

Full author backlist details are available on request.

This version updated: 26 February 2026

Cover illustration from SECRETS OF THE ITALIAN GUESTHOUSE by Sue Moorcroft (Renegade Books, July 2026). Illustration by Dawn Cooper.

2026 London Book Fair Hotlist Titles

Fiction

BELOW THE DECK by Nikki Allen

Thriller. On a superyacht in French Polynesia, the trip of a lifetime for three colleagues, their partners and their boss, soon turns deadly. Pulse-pounding thriller perfect for fans of Ruth Ware and Lucy Clarke. *Page 5.*

RAVEHEART by Graeme Armstrong

Literary. Cult rave comedy meets satirical political parable in a riotous state of the nation novel from one of *Granta's* Best Young British novelists. *Page 7.*

BENEATH THE ORANGE BLOSSOM by Emma Cowell

Women's Fiction. Gloriously emotional and escapist search for lost love in the rugged Mani mountains in Greece. *Page 18.*

SMALL CHANGE by Sarah Franklin

Contemporary. A British take on AMAZING GRACE ADAMS meets SANDWICH, in this frank, funny love story about discovering new joy in the chaos of midlife. *Page 22.*

THE KNIFE MAKER OF VENICE by David Gilman

Historical. A thrilling standalone: a young English blacksmith captured by pirates, must survive the snakepit of seventeenth-century Venice. *Page 23.*

THE MEANING OF FIRE by Tomasz Jedrowski

Literary. From the author of internationally acclaimed debut SWIMMING IN THE DARK, a haunting, beguiling love story, set in a time of discovery, division and fierce conflict. One for fans of William Golding's THE INHERITORS. *Page 26.*

MEANT TO BE by Jessica Merry

Romance. A sexy, life-changing romance between a social worker and a police officer, exploring found family and second chances, in a beautiful Scottish lochside town. *Page 30.*

SKORPIO by Deon Meyer

Crime. Another No. 1 hit from international star Meyer. Benny Griessel and Vaughn Cupido's minor local investigations escalate to reveal international threats, ahead of a gathering of global leaders. *Page 31.*

DEAD SOLDIERS by Alan Parks & Liam McIlvanney

Crime. Two cops collide in 1970s Glasgow as award-winning Scottish crime writers Parks and McIlvanney bring together their lead detectives. *Page 35.*

Non-Fiction

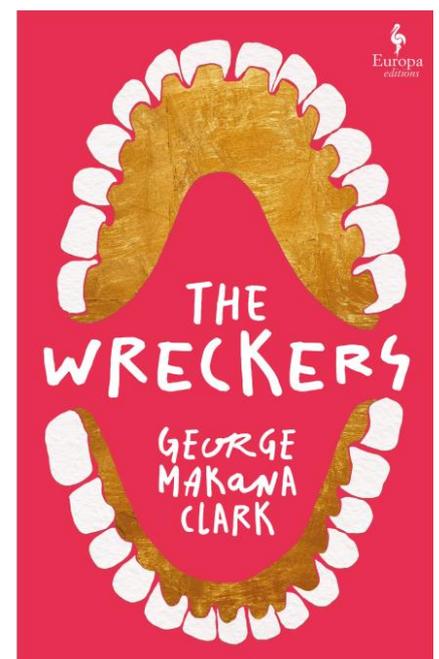
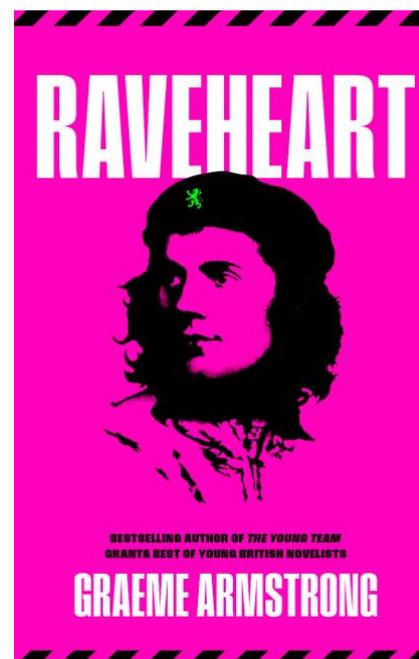
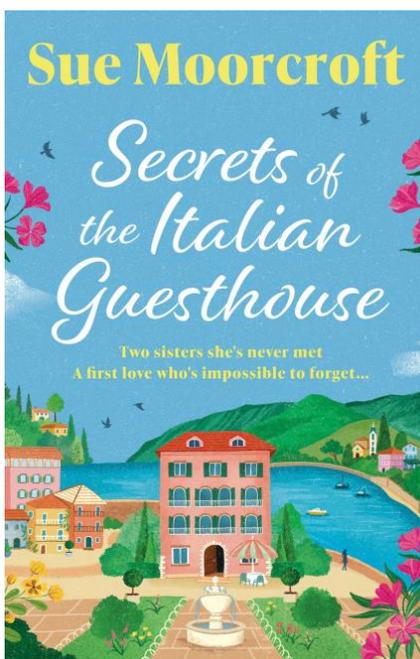
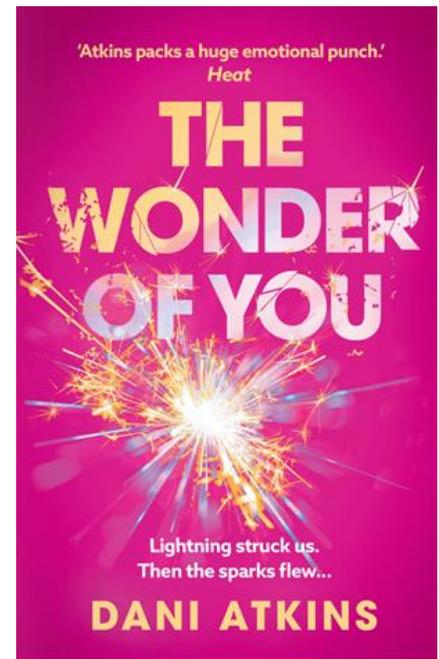
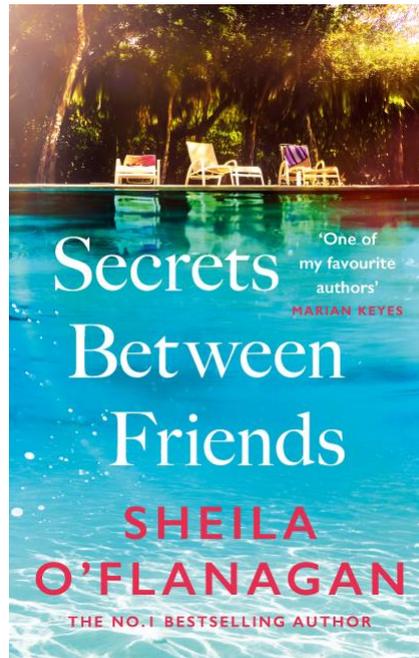
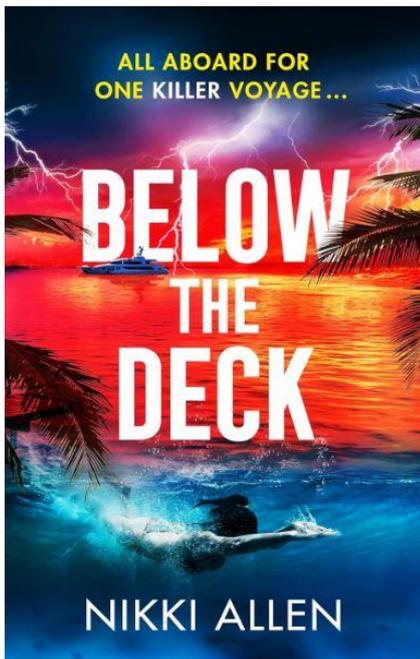
INTO THE STREETS by Emily Chudy

Queer Women and the Fight for Liberation in Britain. A comprehensive and inclusive celebration of lesbian culture, history and activism from the 1900s to the present day. *Page 47.*

CHILDREN OF THE WAR by Kate Thompson

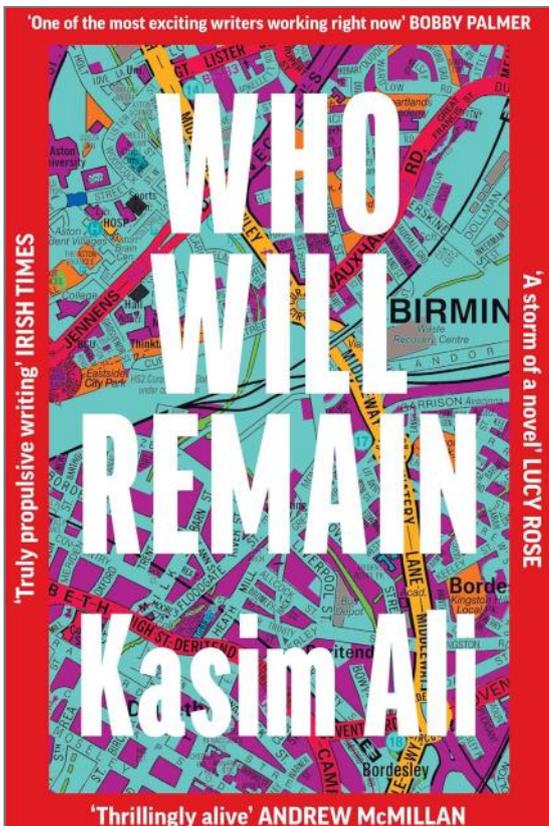
The Last Survivors of the Kindertransport. December 2028 will mark 90 years since the founding of a unique humanitarian rescue operation to save children from Nazi-controlled territory. This book will tell the story of the last living survivors. *Page 52.*

FICTION



WHO WILL REMAIN

Kasim Ali



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB 4th Estate Jul 2025 (at auction)

UKexCan PB 4th Estate Jun 2026

UKexCan Audio 4th 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

'A storm of a novel – intimate in its portrayal of identity, community, and masculinity. Though richly layered, it's tender and deeply human.' – Lucy Rose, *THE LAMB*

'A novel that feels thrillingly alive; bursting with the complicated beauty of real life, life that is turned into literature by the deft and easy skill of Ali's writing.' – Andrew McMillan, *PITY*

'A devastating snarl of ambition, power and mimetic desire... Kasim Ali once again wields his enthralling, singular voice.' – Gaar Adams, *GUEST PRIVILEGES*

'An unflinching meditation on fractured loyalties and survival when the anchors of self begin to slip... a quietly seething novel – beautiful in its clarity – about how the sediment of our choices hardens into the terrain of our lives.' – Zain Khalid, *BROTHER ALIVE*

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.

ABOUT KASIM ALI

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

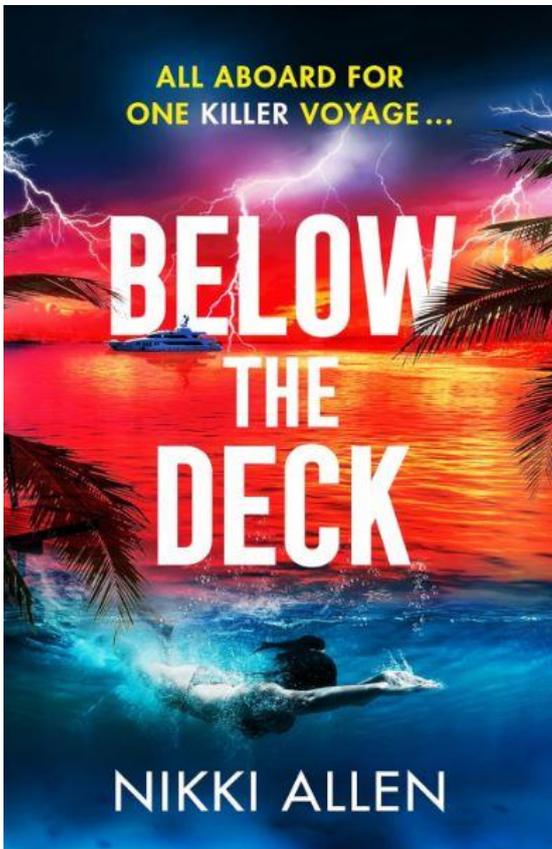
His first novel, **GOOD INTENTIONS**, was published in March 2022 by 4th Estate and Henry Holt (US), with film/TV rights under option.



THRILLER

BELOW THE DECK

Nikki Allen



Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Pan Macmillan Jul 2026
WEL audio Pan Macmillan Jul 2026

Option publishers
Romania Editura Niculescu

384 pages



A pulse-pounding destination thriller perfect for fans of Ruth Ware and Lucy Clarke

‘Nikki Allen is one to watch.’ – Sarah Goodwin

On a sun-soaked voyage around enchanting French Polynesia, three rising stars, their CEO and their partners are living the dream: cocktails, coral reefs, and the promise of reward after a year of hard work.

But as the tight quarters of their luxury superyacht close in, tensions emerge – not just between the guests, but the jaded crew serving them. Soon, secrets surface, marriages crack, and danger stalks guests below the deck. And when a passenger is found dead, it’s clear the glossy facade has shattered forever.

Because here on the high seas, everyone’s hiding something – and no one can escape what they’ve done...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nikki is a former journalist and copywriter, and a qualified therapist. Nikki was born in Holland, grew up the only Jewish kid in her Worcestershire village, and now lives in North London with her family.

Her previous thriller, **THE HIDEAWAY**, set in a Costa Rican rainforest, was published by Pan Macmillan in 2025.

Praise for **THE HIDEAWAY**:

‘An absolute must-read for your summer – Nikki Allen is one to watch!’ – Sarah Goodwin, author of **THE YACHT**

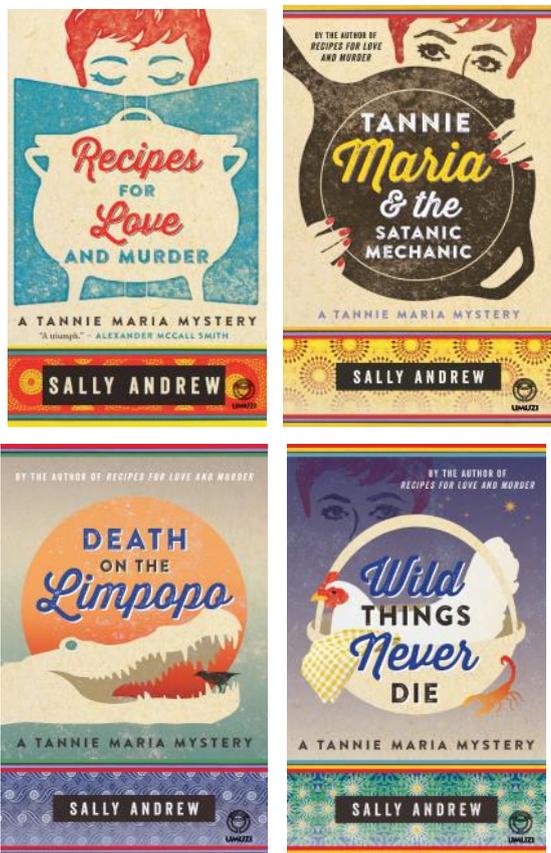
‘An accomplished white-knuckle ride from start to finish’ – Kate Riordan, author of **THE HEATWAVE**

‘A twisty debut’ – Amanda Reynolds, author of **CLOSE TO ME**

‘Dangers and secrets lurk in the shadows in this unputdownable destination thriller’ – Allie Reynolds, author of **SHIVER**

WILD THINGS NEVER DIE

Tannie Maria Mystery #5 by Sally Andrew



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 first 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 of the Nielsen SA Book Award for Fiction 2023 and **WILD THINGS NEVER DIE** will be published in 2026.

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 now 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, DEATH ON THE LIMPOPO and **THE MILK TART MURDERS** followed to acclaim and readers’ joy.

WILD THINGS NEVER DIE: After the trauma of her last investigation, food-loving agony aunt Tannie Maria is wrestling her fear of the dark. But that won’t stop her from going undercover at a luxury game lodge with her policeman fiancé, Detective Henk Kannemeyer. Their mission: to save rare wildflowers from mysterious thieves. But when Maria and her trusted journalist companion Jessie arrive, they’re faced with an entirely different crime altogether – murder.

Maria mingles with a motley crew of guests to winkle out their secrets, working with the Anti-Poaching Unit in a battle against the criminals. But as events unfold, Maria edges closer to danger than she’d ever intended...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sally Andrew divides her time between the Cape Town coast and a nature reserve near the small town of Ladismith in the Klein Karoo, South Africa. She lives with her renowned wildlife artist partner, among various wild creatures (including, as she says, ‘a giant eland and a secretive leopard’).

Agent Isobel Dixon

Southern Africa Umuzi (PRH) 2026

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

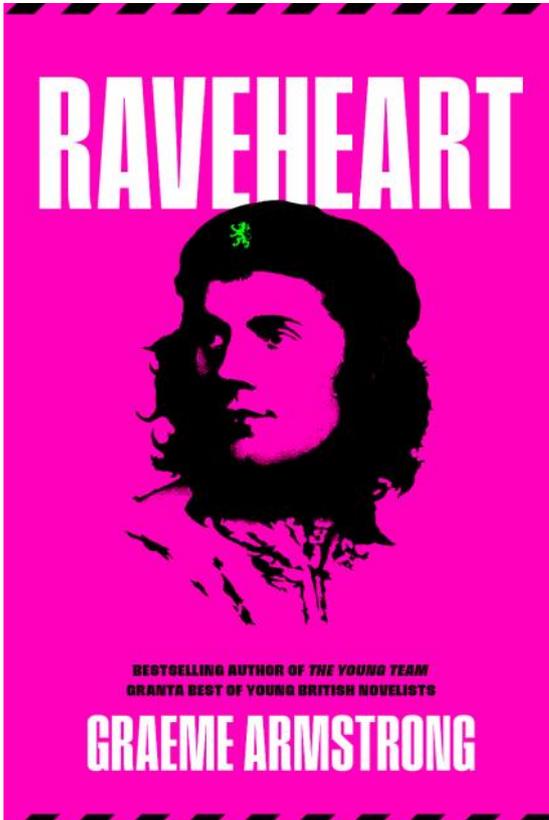
Canada HarperCollins 2017

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

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

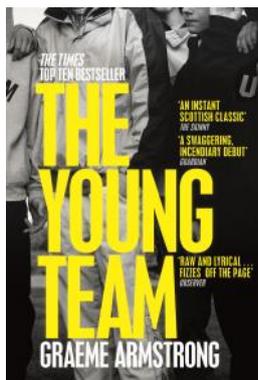
368 pages

THE YOUNG TEAM

UK HB Picador 2020
 UK PB Picador 2021
 UK Audio Picador 2020
 Film/TV Synchronicity/BBC

Italy Guanda
 Spain Automática

400 pages



Cult rave comedy meets satirical political parable: an entertaining, whip-smart look at the state of Britain through the eyes of disparate rebel ravers

One of *Granta's* 'Best Young British Novelists' 2023

'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 voice.

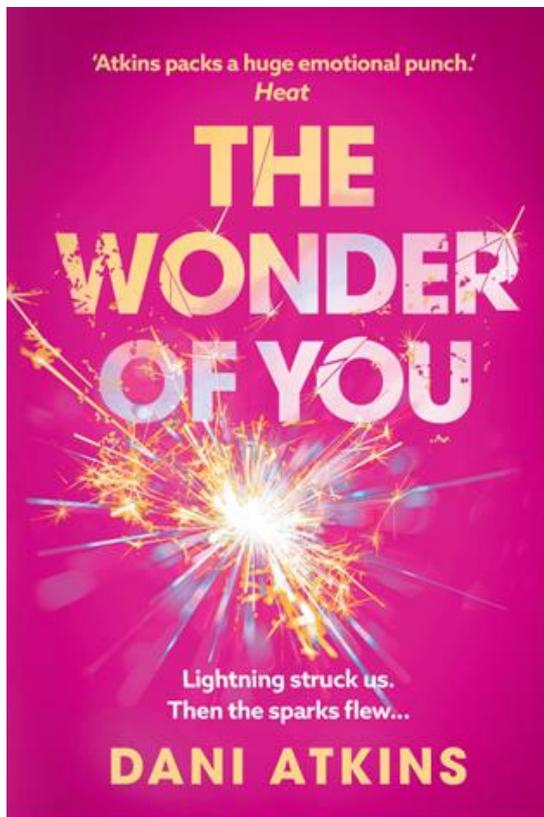
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Graeme Armstrong is a Scottish writer from Airdrie. His teenage years were spent within gang culture. Alongside overcoming drug addiction, alcohol abuse and violence, he defied expectation to read English as an undergraduate at the University of Stirling; after graduating with honours, he then achieved a Masters in Creative Writing. He is currently undertaking a PhD at the University of Strathclyde. In 2023, Graeme was chosen as one of *Granta's Best of Young British Novelists*, an accolade that is awarded once a decade.

His bestselling debut novel, **THE YOUNG TEAM** (Picador, 2020) won a Betty Trask Award, a Somerset Maugham Award, and the Scots Book of the Year 2021. The BBC series is in development for broadcast in 2027.

THE WONDER OF YOU

Dani Atkins



From the bestselling author of **ALWAYS YOU AND ME** comes a heart-stirring story of connection, courage and the kind of love that lasts forever

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

One summer storm. One split second. Two lives changed forever.

Ellie Harker doesn't believe in fate, only hard work and keeping her heart safe. Rhys Davies used to believe in love, until heartbreak left him focused on his little girl. When lightning strikes them both, an unexplainable connection sparks between two strangers.

THE WONDER OF YOU is a tender, emotional story of second chances, unexpected connections and the kind of love that arrives when you least expect it.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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.

ALWAYS YOU AND ME has sold over 100,000 copies and has over 25,000 reviews on Amazon.

Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Amazon/Lake Union Apr 2026

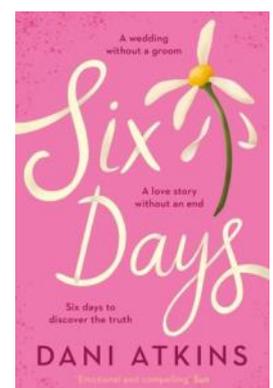
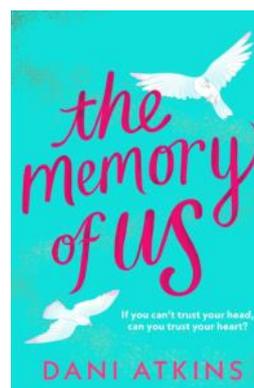
WEL audio Amazon/Lake Union Apr 2026

Germany Droemer
Holland De Fontein

Option publishers

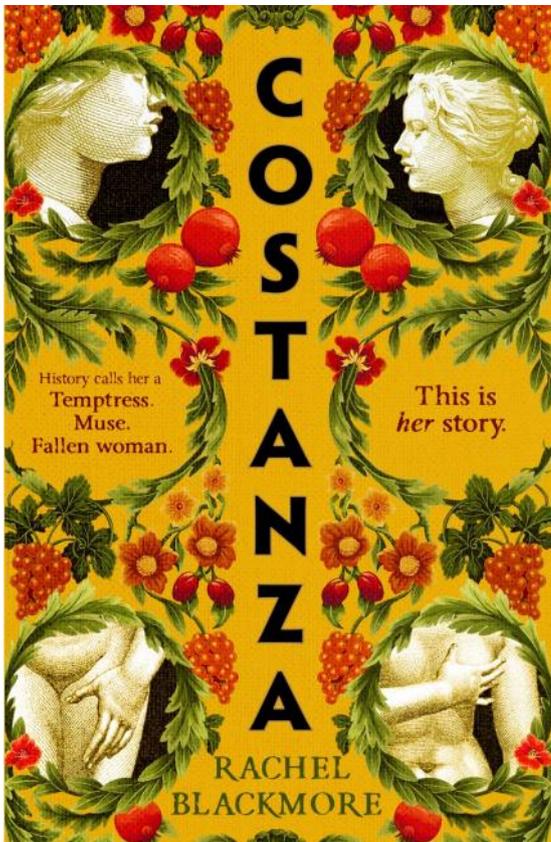
Brazil (exPortugal, Angola & Mozambique) HarperCollins Brazil
Czechia Jota
Denmark Forlaget Zara
Italy Giunti
Poland Harde
Russia Azbooka-Atticus

413 pages



COSTANZA

Rachel Blackmore



Love, art & desire in 1636 Rome, based on a real woman and Bernini's muse, longlisted for the 2025 HWA Debut Crown award

'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, author of FIFTEEN WILD DECEMBERS

'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, author of THE SECRET DIARIES OF CHARLES IGNATIUS SANCHO

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.

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)
 Turkey Eksik Parça

432 pages

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. She 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.

THE BURNING MOOR

The Undercrofter Trilogy #1 by Kenny Boyle



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Hodder & Stoughton
Jul 2027 (at auction)
UKexCan PB Hodder & Stoughton Feb
2028
US On submission

73,000 words

‘Like Stephen King on magic mushrooms in *The Outer Hebrides...*’

First in a darkly intoxicating trilogy sold at auction in the UK – a folk horror thriller, laced with fantasy, by an exciting young Scottish writer.

Connor and his wife Morgan are starting a new life. Connor’s uncle has died, and they’ve inherited his croft home on an island in the Outer Hebrides. So they are leaving Edinburgh, along with their dog Rumour, excited about their fresh start as crofters.

But it soon becomes clear that there are people in the village who don’t want them there, people who think they deserve the old house and land much more than this outsider couple do. People who will go to great lengths to make them leave.

When a wildfire erupts on the moors the simmering tensions in the village ignite as well, and Connor and Morgan find themselves harried by nightly visitors. But are these attackers human, or is something more sinister and supernatural at work?

Stranger Things in Stornaway springs to mind, but Kenny’s work is bold and unique.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

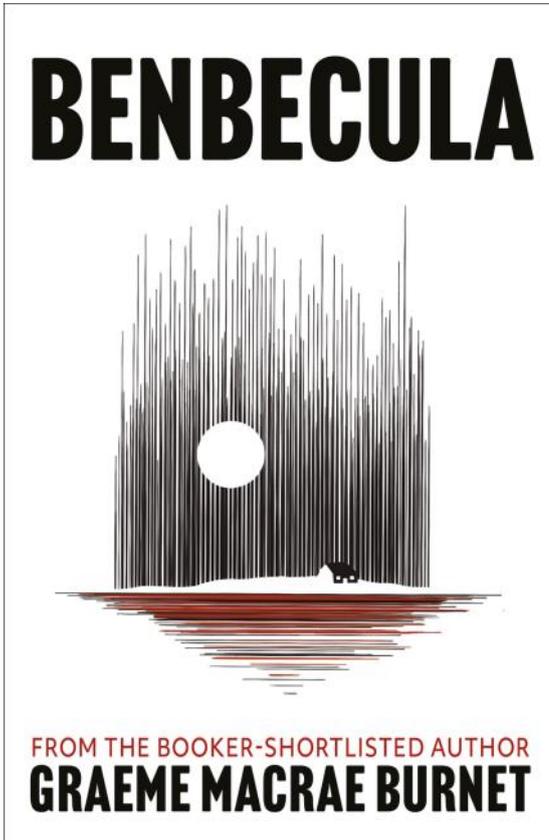
Kenny Boyle was born in Stornoway on the Isle of Lewis, son of a Hebridean mother and Irish father. He now divides his time between his home in Falkirk and the Isle of Lewis. He was named Most Influential Scot on TikTok by Spey Agency in 2025, is the winner of Scotland’s New Playwrights’ Award 2021 and was a finalist for the Imison Prize for Radio Drama in 2023. He turned one of his plays into a debut novel, **THE TICK AND THE TOCK OF THE CROCODILE CLOCK** (Eye Books).

A dedicated gamer, reader, film and comic-book fan, Kenny is also an ardent advocate for Scotland’s Gaelic language and culture, enthusiastically sharing intriguing details of little-known folklore with a huge social media audience: over 364,000 across TikTok, Instagram and Facebook around the world.

As an actor, Kenny starred in feature film *Lost at Christmas*, and appeared in the BBC Scotland sitcom *Scot Squad*, and BBC Alba’s *An t-Eilean*. He is artistic director of a small theatre company which regularly tours around Scotland performing murder mysteries in castles and stately homes: through this he has performed for many famous names.

BENBECULA

Graeme Macrae Burnet



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

Longlisted for the Highland Book Prize 2025 and the Walter Scott Prize for Historical Fiction 2026

'A literary trickster writing at the peak of his powers' - Waterstones

'An elegant, eerie volume.' – Stuart Kelly, *The Scotsman*

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

On 9th July 1857, Angus MacPhee, a 25-year-old labourer from Liniclate 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 till his death at 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, 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 was commissioned by Polygon for 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 uniquely updating the tales.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Graeme Macrae Burnet was brought up in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire and now lives in Glasgow. He has also lived in Czechia, 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, 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, which won the Best International Crime Fiction prize at the 2025 Ned Kelly Awards. His standalone novel, **CASE STUDY** (2021), was longlisted for the Booker Prize and rights have been sold in 22 countries.

Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Polygon Oct 2025

UKexCan PB Polygon 2026

US & Canada Biblioasis Nov 2025

ANZ TPB Text Nov 2025

UKexCan Audio WF Howes Oct 2025
(at auction)

US & Canada Audio Recorded Books
Nov 2025 (at auction)

Spain Impedimenta

Spain (Catalan) Crims.cat

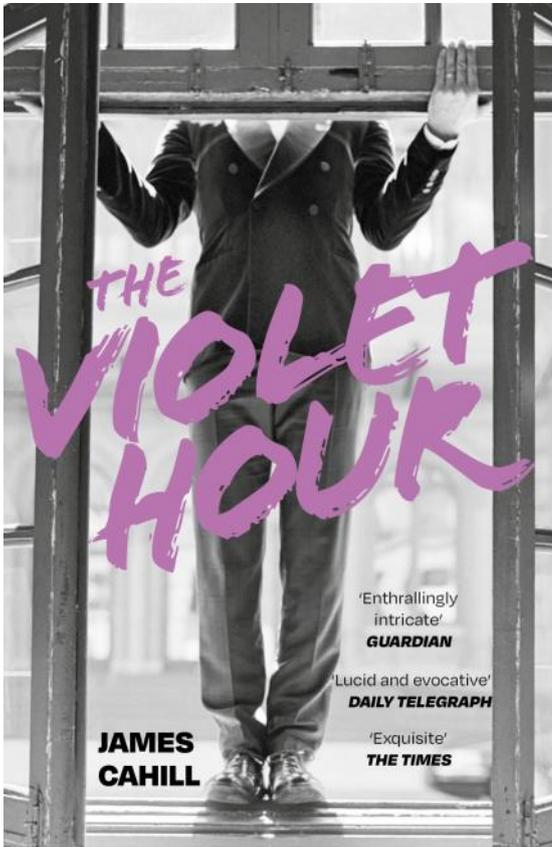
Option Publishers

Brazil (exPortugal, Angola, Mozambique) Todavia | Estonia Varrak | Greece Metaixmio | Japan Hayakawa | Korea Open Books Lithuania Alma Littera | Poland Czarne | Romania Editura Art Russia Eksmo | Taiwan Babel Turkey Monokl

176 pages

THE VIOLET HOUR

James Cahill



Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Sceptre Feb 2025
 UKexCan PB Sceptre Feb 2026
 UKexCan audio Sceptre Feb 2025
 US&Can HB Pegasus Books Mar 2026
 US&Can Audio Dreamscape Mar 2026

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

‘Lucid and evocative.’ – *Daily Telegraph*

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

‘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.’ – Claire Alfree, *Daily Mail*

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.

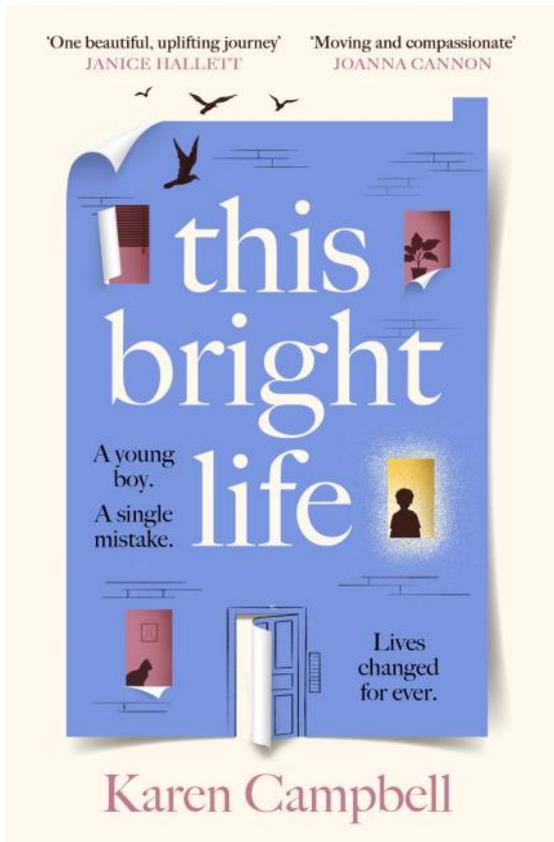
Artworld luminaries gather at Claude’s London gallery on the eve of the first Thomas Haller show in six years. In New York, property mogul and obsessive art collector Leo J. Goffman is at first delighted to read in *Artforum* of Haller’s return – then incensed to find that the painting he so fiercely 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. His non-fiction work on a David Hockney **BEVERLY HILLS HOUSEWIFE** will be published by Thames & Hudson in 2027. He divides his time between London and Los Angeles.

THIS BRIGHT LIFE

Karen Campbell



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Canongate Mar 2025

UKexCan PB Canongate Mar 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

Shortlisted for Best Fiction at the National Book Awards Scotland (Saltire Society) 2025

'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, author of **THE TROUBLE WITH GOATS AND SHEEP**

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

Three strangers, one moment – and nothing is ever the same again.

Margaret – an elderly widow who just wants to be left with her memories and her quiet, contained life.

Claire – newly divorced, downsizing into the neighbourhood and way too busy to mend a broken heart.

Gerard – a tearaway twelve-year-old who hates his name but loves his little brother and sister. Gerard is a bright kid, but trouble always follows him. No one really knows what it's like at home; he's used to carrying a lot on his small shoulders.

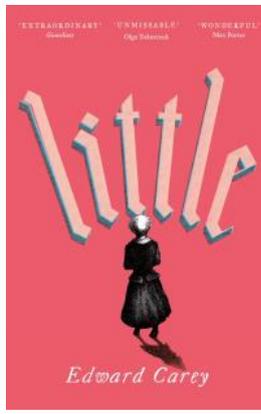
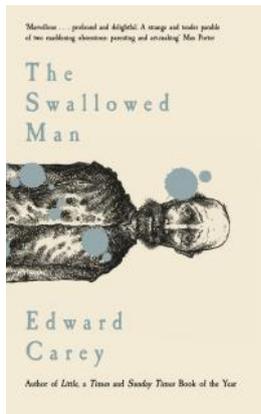
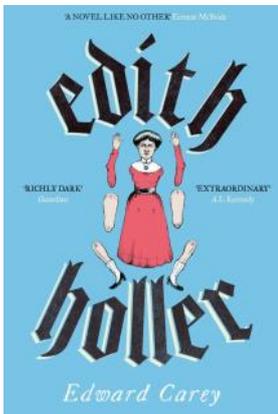
Gerard doesn't always make good decisions. One morning, he makes a very bad one, upending not just his world, but the lives of Margaret and Claire too. Both heart-breaking and life-affirming, **THIS BRIGHT LIFE** is a story of messy lives, second chances and the many hands it takes to build a boy.

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*.

EDWARD CAREY



‘All of Edward Carey’s work is profound and delightful.’ – Max Porter

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

‘There is so much sharp grace and so much generosity in Carey’s art.’ – Katherine Rundell

Teeming with unforgettable characters and illuminated by Edward’s own illustrations, Edward Carey’s books ‘prove the potential brilliance of the novel form’ – John Fowles

Edward’s most recent novel, **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. Set in Norfolk in 1901, Edith lives among the eccentric denizens of the Holler Theatre, warned by her father that the playhouse will tumble down if she leaves. Fascinated by tales of the city she knows only from afar, young Edith decides to write a play of her own. But when her father suddenly announces his engagement to a peculiar woman named Margaret Unthank, Edith scrambles to protect her father, the theatre, and her play – the one thing that’s truly hers – from the newcomer’s sinister designs...

Agent Isobel Dixon

EDITH HOLLER

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

Czechia Argo
 Germany Beck
 Italy La Nave di Teseo
 Japan Sogensha

Option publishers

Brazil (only) Darkside Books
 Bulgaria Lettera | France Cherche-Midi | Holland Ambo Anthos
 Hungary Europa | Iraq AlMada
 Poland Prószyński | Russia Eksmo
 Spain Blackie Books | Taiwan Delight Press | Ukraine Laboratory

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.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

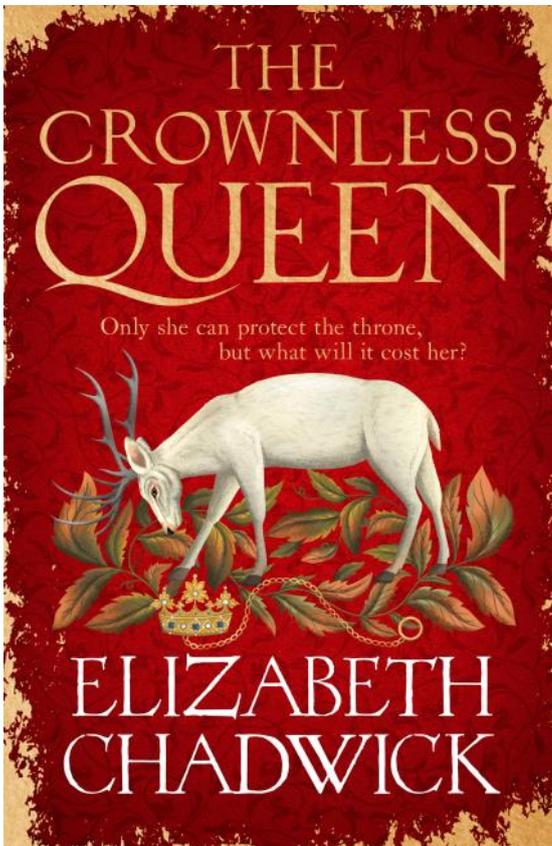
Edward Carey is a writer and illustrator who was born in North Walsham, Norfolk, England, during an April snowstorm. Like his father and his grandfather, both officers in the Royal Navy, he attended Pangbourne Nautical College, where the closest he came to following his family calling was playing Captain Andy in the school’s production of Showboat.

He has written plays for the National Theatre of Romania and the Vilnius Small State Theatre, Lithuania. In England his plays and adaptations have been performed at the Young Vic Studio, the Battersea Arts Centre, and the Royal Opera House Studio. He has collaborated on a shadow puppet production of Macbeth in Malaysia, and with the Faulty Optic Theatre of Puppets. He is working on new fiction and non-fiction and always drawing.

HISTORICAL

THE CROWNLESS QUEEN

Elizabeth Chadwick



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Sphere Apr 2026

WEL PB Sphere Apr 2027

WEL audio Sphere Apr 2026

Czechia Euromedia

Spain Planeta Mexico

Option Publishers

Croatia Znanje

France Bragelonne

Hungary Könyvmolyképző

Italy TRE60

Poland Proszynski

528 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*

1360: Having left her days of rebellion behind (see *THE ROYAL REBEL* for the start of her story), Jeanette of Kent has finally found contentment as a wife and mother. Then, she is delivered a new blow: her beloved husband, Thomas Holland, has died on duty overseas.

Though broken, Jeanette readies herself once more to fight to protect what is hers. When Prince Edward, heir to the throne and her longtime friend, unexpectedly steps forward and offers marriage, she accepts for the sake of her family.

As their relationship deepens, love blossoms again for Jeanette, but it comes at a price. With great power comes great responsibility – not least bearing a future king – and, as the wheel of fortune climbs higher, it becomes harder and harder to hold on.

In the second book in the Jeanette of Kent duology, Jeanette has more to lose than ever before. But with the wolves gathering beneath her, can she survive the fall?

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 and Poland.

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 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. She is now writing a new novel for Sphere, about another powerful figure in the history of English royalty, Katherine Swynford.

DOVECOMBE

Alex Clark



Agent Siân Ellis-Martin

WEL HB Norton Jan 2027

WEL PB Norton 2028

WEL audio Norton Jan 2027

87,000 words

A contemporary gothic mystery about obsession, unrequited love, and the way in which the past reaches out to ensnare the present

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...

For fans of Daphne du Maurier, Sarah Waters and K. Patrick.

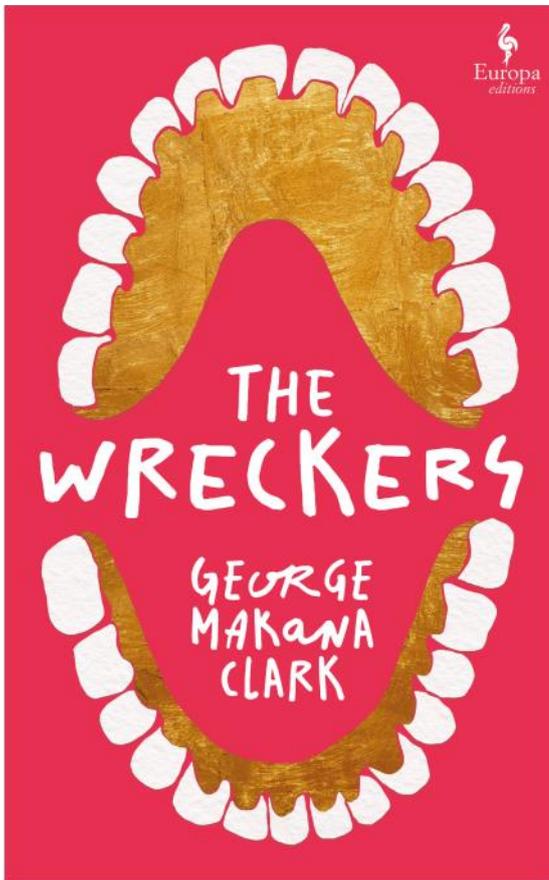
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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

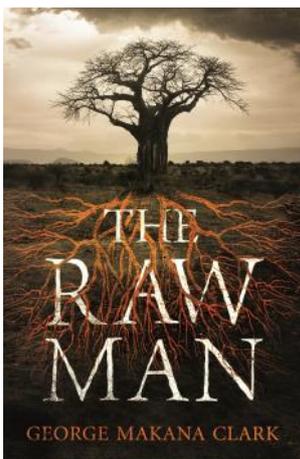
UKexCan TPB Europa Editions Sep 2026

US & Can HB Europa Editions Aug 2026

UKexCan Audio WF Howes 2026

US & Can Audio Recorded Books 2026

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

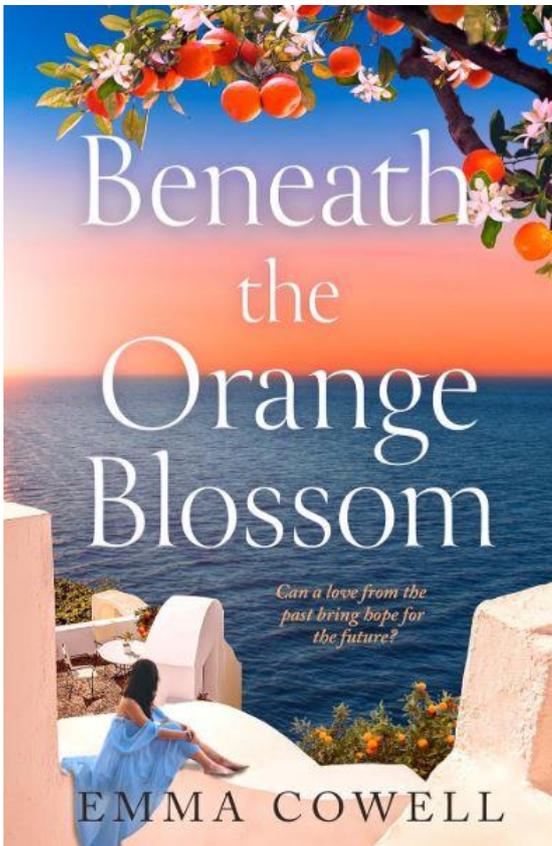
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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*.

WOMEN'S

BENEATH THE ORANGE BLOSSOM

Emma Cowell



Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Avon May 2026

WEL audio Avon May 2026

Option Publishers

Bulgaria Kragozor

Czechia Grada

China Wuhan SurgeMinds Book Co.

Denmark Zara

Finland Docendo

Germany Insel

Greece Pedio

Hungary IPC

Norway Cappelen Damm AS

Poland Muza

Russia Eksmo

A gloriously escapist and emotional read set under the Grecian sun, for fans of Victoria Hislop, Carol Kirkwood and Karen Swan

‘Another evocative, romantic and deeply sensuous read. Wonderful escapism... I felt I was right there in Greece, among the orange trees.’ – Santa Montefiore

‘Fragrant and fabulous, brimming with tender romance and hope. The perfect book for summer.’ – Milly Johnson

‘A sublime summer read filled with romance, emotion and hope - it will fill your heart to the brim with every turn of the page.’ – Holly Martin

Two years on from her husband’s death, dressmaker Ellen is learning how to live again and put memories of a difficult marriage behind her.

However, never far from her mind is another memory: Alexandros, her first love from the summer she turned eighteen.

The moment she’d arrived in his hometown of Kardamyli in Greece, Ellen had been intoxicated by the scent of orange blossom in the air, the days of endless sunshine and sparkling azure waters – but most of all by Alexandros himself. They were meant to be, until a devastating secret forced Ellen to leave and never look back...

But now, when her best friend suggests they recreate their teenage summer in Greece, Ellen knows it’s time to confront her past. Will Greece give her the freedom – and happiness – she desperately craves? And there, amidst the lush olive groves, could she rediscover the love she thought she’d lost forever?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

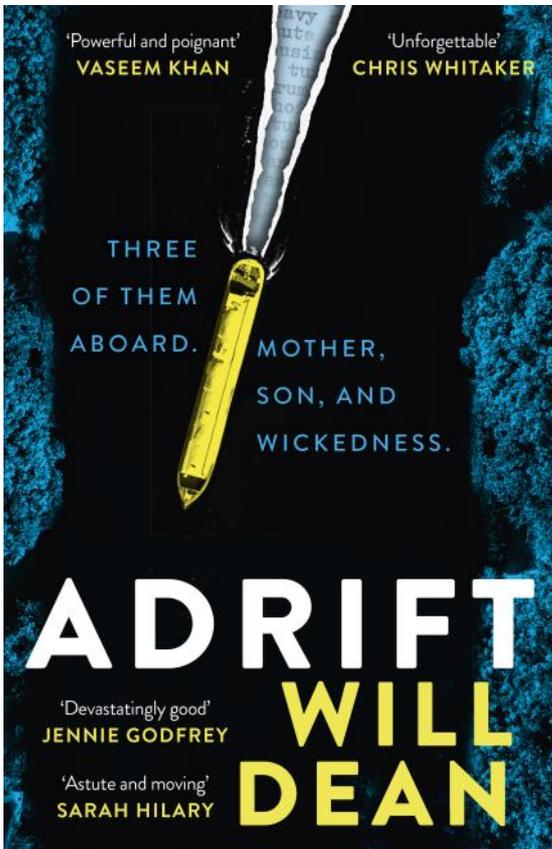
Emma is a former actress and BBC presenter, and has worked as a fundraiser for children’s palliative care for the last decade. She and her husband have always loved Greece: so much so that they just sold their Cornwall home and are moving there for two years.

Emma’s first three books, **ONE LAST LETTER FROM GREECE**, **THE HOUSE IN THE OLIVE GROVE** and **THE ISLAND LOVE SONG**, have sold over 100,000 copies in the UK alone and her fourth, **UNDER THE LEMON TREE**, has sold more than 50,000 copies.

352 pages

ADRIFT

Will Dean



A high-tension thriller about a family’s descent into darkness for fans of Dennis Lehane and Tana French

An instant *USA Today* bestseller

February Spotify Editors’ Pick
Apple Must-Listen in February
A Bookbub Best Mystery and Thriller 2026

‘Haunting, heartbreaking, quietly terrifying. Unforgettable’ – Chris Whitaker

‘This is a masterclass in suspense.’ – *Good Housekeeping*

‘Well-drawn characters and excellent prose.’ – Sarah Pearse

Three of them adrift on the narrowboat. Mother, son, and wickedness.

Peggy Jenkins and her teenage son, Samson, live on a remote stretch of canal in the Midlands. She is a writer and he is a schoolboy. Together, they battle against the hardness and manipulation of the man they live with. To the outside world he is a husband and father. To them, he is a captor.

Agent Kate Burke

UKexCan HB Hodder & Stoughton
 Feb 2026

UKexCan PB Hodder & Stoughton
 Feb 2027

UKexCan audio Hodder & Stoughton
 Feb 2026

US+Can HB Emily Bestler Books Feb
 2026

US+Can PB Emily Bestler Books Feb
 2027

US+Can audio Emily Bestler Books
 Feb 2026

Option publishers

Croatia Znanje

Poland Rebis

Russia Eksmo

Turkey Yediveren

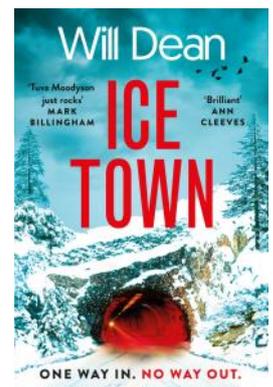
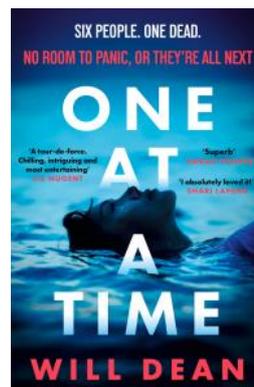
400 pages

Their lives are tightly controlled; if any perceived threat appears, their mooring is moved further down the canal, further away from civilisation. Until the day when the power suddenly shifts, and nothing can be the same again.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Will Dean grew up in the East Midlands. After studying law at the London School of Economics and working in London, he settled in rural Sweden where he built a wooden house in a vast forest, and it’s from this base that he compulsively reads and writes.

His debut novel, **DARK PINES**, was selected for Zoe Ball’s book club on ITV, shortlisted for the National Book Award, *The Guardian’s* Not the Booker prize, and was named a *Telegraph* book of the year. **THE LAST THING TO**



MARTHA

Finuala Dowling



Agent Isobel Dixon

UK & US On Submission

96,000 words

Behind-the-scenes at the Austens: as told by Jane Austen's best friend, Martha Lloyd, on the eve of her late-life wedding to Jane Austen's widower brother

I wish I could spend my last night as a spinster tucked in bed with Jane, talking till late as we sometimes used to...

Scarred by smallpox, with no fortune, Martha Lloyd knows she cannot expect to marry. She vows to live a life filled with work and warmth, her keen intelligence, culinary and healing skills forming deep bonds with others – including her dear friend, Jane Austen.

Through the women's intertwined lives we see scenes of love, food, friendship and family spring to memorable life. Through Martha's eyes we trace Jane's writing journey, her battle for publication and recognition in a male-dominated world. Quietly, Martha deals with her own struggles and the painful stirrings of unrequited love. Along the way, we glimpse worlds omitted from Jane's fiction: the plight of the poor, childbirth, birth control, menopause, the impact of the Napoleonic wars on soldiers' and sailors' families, and the spread of ideas of liberty for enslaved people.

MARTHA illuminates the love and tenderness in an 'ordinary life' and the kinships that go beyond blood. For fans of Carol Shields, Anne Tyler, Jane Gardam, Elizabeth Strout.

Praise for Finuala Dowling:

'Witty and wise.' – Jackie Kay, *Guardian*

'Deeply absorbing, funny as well as touching, humane and true, and zinging with insight.' – Lyndall Gordon (on **HOMEMAKING FOR THE DOWN-AT-HEART**)

'Dowling navigates the path of darkness with a light touch. It's a moving, profoundly sad story, but one that celebrates family, love – and writing – too.' – Anne Taylor, *Goodreads* (on **THE MAN WHO LOVED CROCODILE TAMERS**)

'Brilliantly funny. In years to come Dowling will be recognised for the home-grown Austen that she is.' – *Sunday Times* (SA)

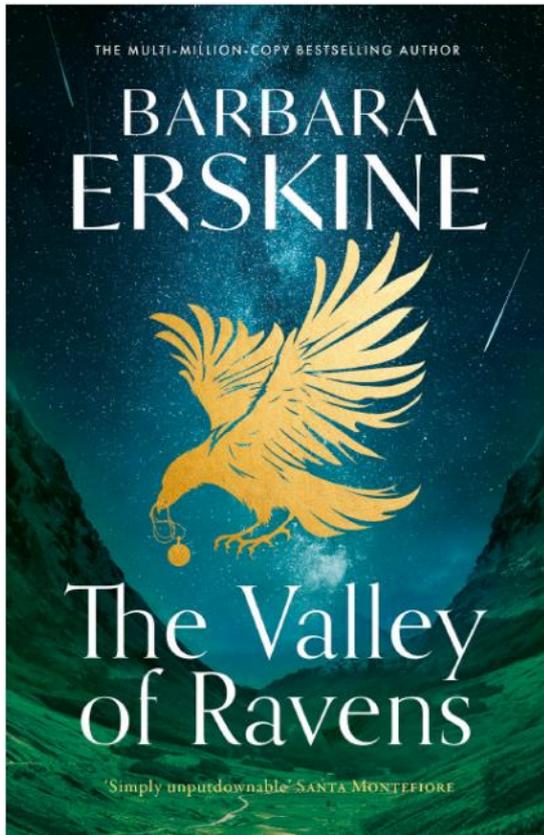
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Finuala Dowling is a prize-winning poet, novelist, and sought-after creative writing tutor. She has won the prestigious Ingrid Jonker and Olive Schreiner prizes for her poetry and the M-Net and Herman Charles Bosman prizes for her novels. Her work has appeared in many anthologies and Bloodaxe published **PRETEND YOU DON'T KNOW ME: New and Selected Poems** in 2018. She lives in Kalk Bay, Cape Town, a city much explored in her five poetry collections and six novels to date. **MARTHA** is her first historical work.

HISTORICAL

THE VALLEY OF RAVENS

Barbara Erskine



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB HarperCollins Jul 2026

WEL PB HarperCollins 2027

WEL audio HarperCollins Jul 2026

Option publishers

Czechia Euromedia

Hungary Alexandra

Russia Azbooka-Atticus

Gripping new historical mystery from a bestseller who continues to enthral readers 40 years on from her bewitching debut, *LADY OF HAY*

‘One of my favourite writers. I devour Barbara’s 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... She’s simply unputdownable!’ – Santa Montefiore

Present day: Eve, desperate for a fresh start, arrives in the Valley of Ravens to restore a long-abandoned cottage. Everyone knows the place is cursed. Why else would it be called The Witch’s House?

As Eve begins her renovations it becomes clear the place has a secret waiting to be uncovered, if only she can make the connection with the past.

Wales, 1260: Alys, a healer living in the depths of the valley, discovers Llewelyn - last true Prince of Wales - lying wounded on the battlefield. She tends to him and her fate is forever bound to his.

Her vow to keep his final secret will echo through the centuries...

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 in 26 other languages. She lives in Hay-on-Wye in Wales.

Barbara’s eighteenth novel, *THE STORY SPINNER*, shot straight to No. 1 on the UK *Sunday Times* hardback charts in its first week of sale in 2024.

SMALL CHANGE

Sarah Franklin



AMAZING GRACE ADAMS meets **SANDWICH**, in this frank and funny midlife love story

Sam Johnson is completely unprepared when one blow after another lands into her carefully-managed life: her son wants to go and live with his dad, her job is under threat, and her family decide that now is the moment to reignite old feuds.

When Joe and his film-star dog mistakenly pop up in her emails, she can be forgiven for rolling her eyes at the sheer ludicrousness of it all. But Joe is dealing with his own curveball, and finds a fun and lively correspondent in Sam.

As the two of them exchange news, gossip and secrets, their feelings for each other start to grow just as Sam's carefully-constructed life falls apart. She's going to have to learn to let go, but of whom?

Charming and uplifting, **SMALL CHANGE** celebrates discovering new joy in the midst of losing your sanity.

Agent Juliet Pickering

UK On Submission

97,000 words

Praise for Sarah Franklin

'Thoughtful, and fresh... a pleasure to read!' – Lucy Atkins on **HOW TO BELONG**

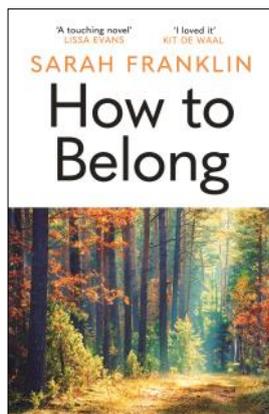
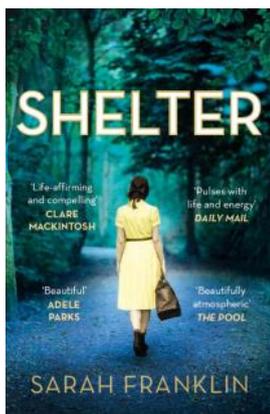
'A tender story about finding your place in the world, about ordinary lives, belonging and being brave. The kind of book that gives you hope and courage. I loved it.' – Kit de Waal on **HOW TO BELONG**

'Life affirming and compelling... Sarah Franklin is a breath of fresh air' – Clare Mackintosh on **SHELTER**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sarah Franklin grew up in rural Gloucestershire and has lived in Austria, Germany, the USA and Ireland. She lectures in publishing at Oxford Brookes University and has written for *the Guardian*, *Psychologies magazine*, *The Pool*, *Sunday Express* and *Seattle Times*. Sarah is the founder and host of Short Stories Aloud, and was a judge for the Costa Short Story Award.

Sarah lives between London and Oxford with her family. She is the author of the novels **SHELTER** (2017) and **HOW TO BELONG** (2020).



THE KNIFE MAKER OF VENICE

David Gilman



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Head of Zeus Aug 2026

WEL PB Head of Zeus 2027

WEL audio Head of Zeus Aug 2026

Option publishers

Denmark North Audio Publishing

Germany Rowohlt | Czechia Euromedia

Slovakia Ikar | Sweden North Audio

Publishing | The Netherlands North

Audio Publishing

512 pages

A powerful historical adventure perfect for fans of Ken Follett and Robert Harris

1604. Pirate raiders terrorise the coasts of Europe, seeking slaves to sell in the markets of North Africa.

When headstrong Richard Sheriff and his beloved sister Elizabeth are torn from their Devonshire home by slavers, he is cast into a living nightmare.

With Richard being a talented blacksmith, the pirate captain intends to sell him for a high price. He has other plans for Elizabeth... and once they are separated, Richard has no idea of his sister's fate.

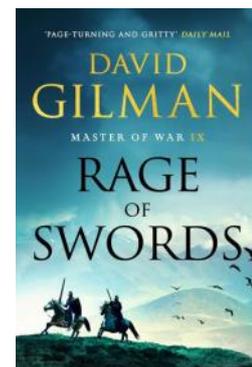
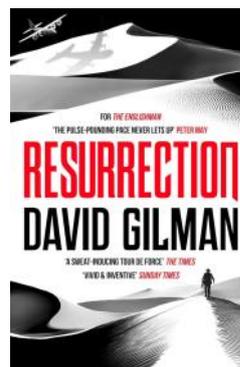
He is eventually sold into servitude in Venice: glittering, vicious city of secrets, where his talents find him apprenticed to a knife maker. He vows he will never stop looking for his sister - but first he must survive that city of ghosts, where life is cheap, profit is all and escape nigh-on impossible.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

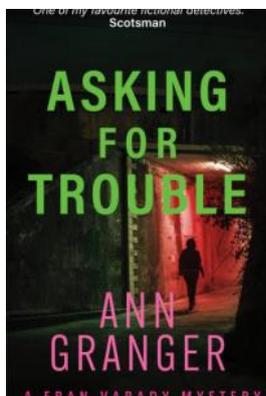
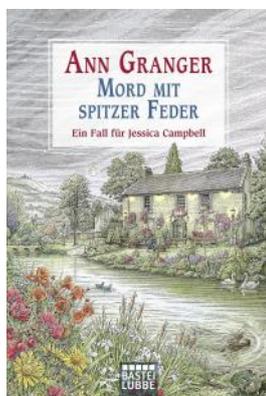
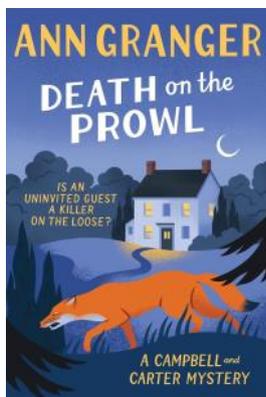
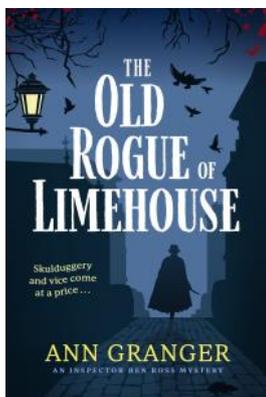
David Gilman lives in Devon. He was a firefighter, soldier, photographer and award-winning screenwriter before turning to writing full-time. Head of Zeus have sold 800,000 copies of David Gilman's novels in English, and his work is translated into more than a dozen languages.

David is also the author of the **MASTER OF WAR** series featuring Thomas Blackstone and set during the Hundred Years War, widely reviewed as a must-read for Bernard Cornwell fans. 600,000 copies of the series have been sold in English and titles have featured several times on the Der Spiegel bestseller lists in Germany, where sales are over 300,000.

THE ENGLISHMAN series (including **BETRAYAL** and **RESURRECTION**) has sold more than 100,000 copies in English and is translated into several other languages. Featuring Foreign Legion veteran Dan Raglan, the series is made up of pulse-pounding spy thrillers with international scope.



ANN GRANGER



A much-loved British author of evergreen crime fiction, who sadly died in September 2025. Ann Granger’s works are a treasure house, featuring male and female investigators, pleasing twists and lively characters, both contemporary and historical

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Over decades, Ann Granger created a wonderful range of series characters, all featuring insightful characterisation and satisfying plotting. Ann wrote over thirty murder mysteries, including the **Mitchell and 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

Czechia Moba

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

Czechia Moba

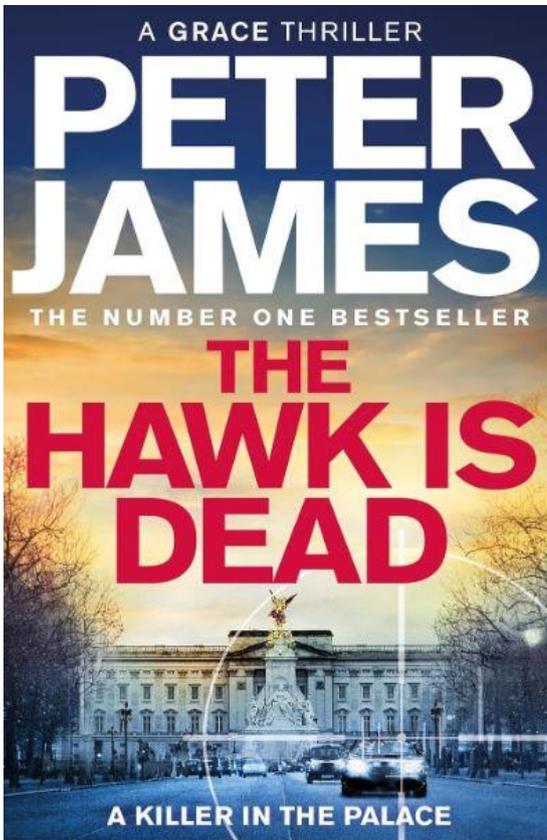
France Univers Poche

Germany Luebbe

320 pages

THE HAWK IS DEAD

Roy Grace Book #21 by Peter James



Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Macmillan Oct 2025
WEL PB Macmillan Apr 2026
WEL audio Macmillan Oct 2025

TV (*Grace* series) Second Act
Productions for ITV 2021, 2022,
2023, 2024, 2025, 6th series set for
2026 and streaming widely on Brit-
box

Finland Docendo | France Fleuve
Germany Hoffmann & Campe
Holland De Fontein | Sweden
HarperCollins Nordic

Option publishers

Bulgaria Storytel | Czechia
Euromedia | Denmark Gyldendal
Estonia Tanapaev | Israel Kor'im
Lithuania Jotema | Norway
Vigmstad | Russia | Azbooka-
Atticus | Spain Jentas

464 pages

Roy Grace never dreamed a murder investigation would take him deep into Buckingham Palace...

A Top 5 *Sunday Times* bestseller

'What a fool I've been not to have read Peter James until **THE HAWK IS DEAD**... It's most definitely a great story.' – James Patterson

'Classic Peter James, combining the trademark intricate plotting of his acclaimed Roy Grace series with a fascinating, behind-the-scenes exploration of life within the royal household.' – Rachel Abbott

'Fast-paced and gripping, I couldn't put it down!' – Alexandra Potter, *Stylist*

Her Majesty, Queen Camilla, is aboard the Royal Train heading to a charity event in Sussex when disaster strikes - the train is derailed.

A tragic accident or a planned attack?

When, minutes later, a trusted aide is shot dead by a sniper, the police have their answer.

Despite all the evidence, Roy Grace is not convinced The Queen was the intended target. But he finds himself alone in his suspicions.

Fighting against the scepticism of his colleagues and the Palace itself, Grace pursues his own investigation. But when there is a second murder, the stakes rise even higher, and Grace is at risk of being embroiled in a very public catastrophe – and in mortal danger.

Failure at this level is not an option. But time is running out before a killer in the Palace will strike again...

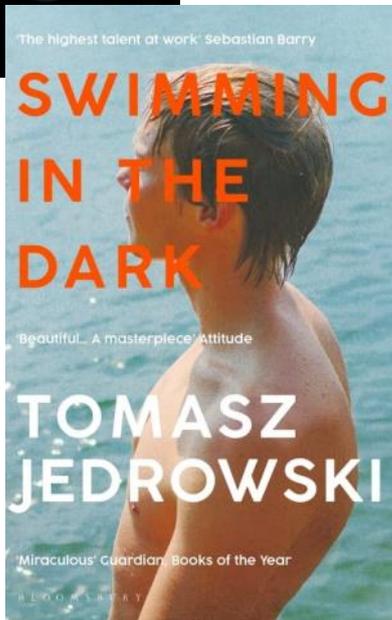
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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 5 led the field on 7-day viewing figures in 2025. Peter James's novels are translated into 38 languages.

THE MEANING OF FIRE

Tomasz Jedrowski



A shimmering and timeless queer love story set against the meeting of two bands of early *homo sapiens*, from the author of international bestseller **SWIMMING IN THE DARK**

‘Jedrowski is an authentic new international star.’ – Edmund White

‘The highest talent at work.’ – Sebastian Barry

When Abi’s village is raided and destroyed in a time of famine, the survivors must move to pastures new; crossing the mountains and attempting to rebuild by the riverside. On the other side of the river resides another band of people; seen as wild ones by Abi’s kin. But Abi – wedded and expected to get pregnant any day – becomes drawn to Kiki, one of the strangers on the other side...

A story of love, survival, nature, communication and curiosity, **THE MEANING OF FIRE** takes elements of fables and folklore to reflect on division, humanity’s recurring destructive patterns, and how we can – and must – learn to accept, and to heal.

Praise for **SWIMMING IN THE DARK**

‘Reading **SWIMMING IN THE DARK** is a bit like peering into someone’s most intimate moments of self-discovery. It’s poetic and tender, burning with a quiet rage.’ – Dua Lipa

‘A remarkable, beautiful tale, utterly new and entirely credible... This book radiates sensuality, humour, and human truths.’ – *Literary Review*

‘In this glorious book, Jedrowski exquisitely captures the pleasure and pain of young love, while reminding us of what it means to hunger: for freedom - and for another.’ – *The Independent*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tomasz was born in West Germany to Polish parents, but has lived in several countries, speaks five languages and is a graduate of Cambridge University and Université de Paris. He currently lives in France. **SWIMMING IN THE DARK** is his first novel.

Agent Isobel Dixon

UK & US On Submission

51,000 words

SWIMMING IN THE DARK

UKexCan HB Bloomsbury 2020

(at auction)

UKexCan PB Bloomsbury 2021

UKexCan audio Audible 2020

US+Can HB Morrow 2020 (pre-empt)

US+Can PB Morrow 2021

US+Can audio Blackstone 2020

Nineteen translations sold

Film/TV under option

Opera under option

256 pages

SHE'S ON FIRE

Anneliese Mackintosh



Agent Juliet Pickering

UK & US On Submission

Option publishers

France Bragelonne

63,500 words

ALL FOURS meets **NIGHTBITCH** meets *The Substance*: an incendiary story of menopausal desire, power, and no longer giving a f*ck

Scarlet is burning – with heat, with hunger, with something she can't yet name. The doctors call it perimenopause. Her husband calls it an overreaction. But the night sweats are relentless, her body thrums with a desire she hasn't felt in years, and in the dark, wakeful early hours of morning, something whispers her name – something that wants her. Following one spectacularly bad evening with her family, that night she answers the call...

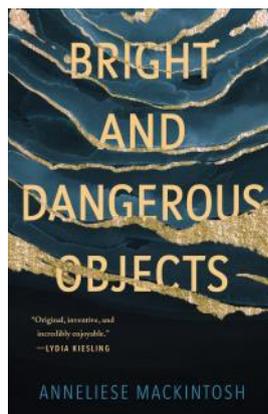
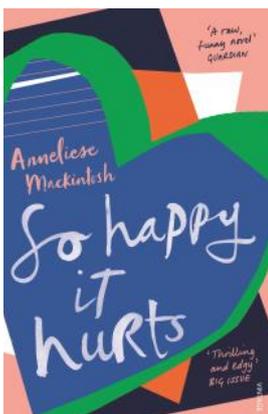
The next day her husband, Will, is different. Smoother. Stronger. Making breakfast... A fantasy made flesh. Whatever Scarlet conceded to, this is the result – and it's incredible. She and the new Will begin a wild sexual awakening, but for every incendiary, raging orgasm she enjoys, something is being taken from her. She begins to age rapidly, her daughters are increasingly unsettled by this new version of their father, and Scarlet starts to glimpse the horrifying truth of what she's allowed into her home and her body. The heat inside her is rising, and the flames could consume everything.

A feverish, fearless novel about lust, rage, and the power of the female body – and what happens when she finally steps into the fire.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

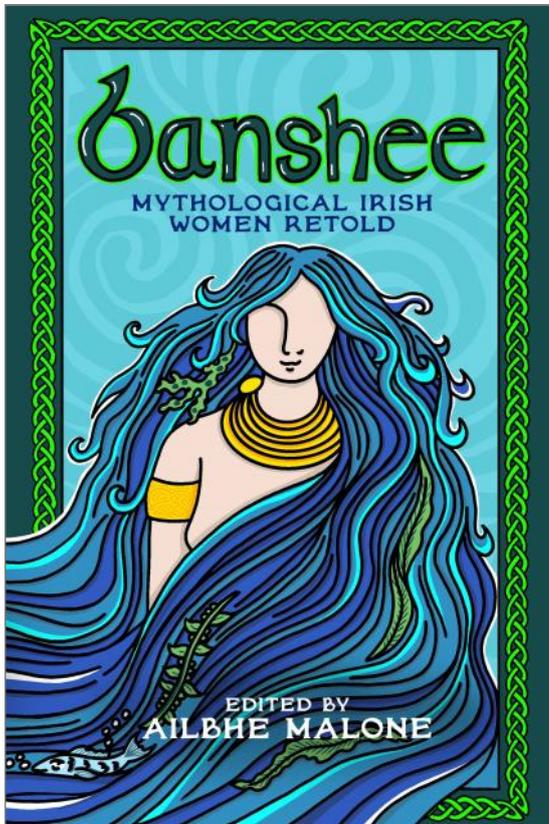
Anneliese Mackintosh's fiction has been broadcast on BBC Radio 4 and BBC Radio Scotland, and published in UK newspapers, magazines and anthologies. Her debut short story collection, **ANY OTHER MOUTH**, was published by Freight Books in June 2014, winning the Green Carnation Prize, and being shortlisted for the Saltire Society's First Book Award, the 2015 Saboteur Awards' Best Short Story Collection prize, the Edge Hill Short Story Prize, and longlisted for the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award.

Anneliese's debut novel, **SO HAPPY IT HURTS**, was published by Jonathan Cape in July 2017, and shortlisted for a DIVA Rising Star Award. Her second novel, **BRIGHT AND DANGEROUS OBJECTS**, was published in the US by Tin House.



BANSHEE: Mythological Irish Women Retold

Edited by Ailbhe Malone



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB John Murray Press Feb 2026 (at auction)

UKexCan PB John Murray Press 2027

UKexCan Audio John Murray Press Feb 2026

UK Radio Serial BBC Radio 4 *Book at Bedtime*

US & Can Under Offer

320 pages

In this spellbinding anthology, Ireland's most electrifying female writers breathe new life into ancient Irish myths, reclaiming the stories of women who have too long stood in the shadows of warriors and kings

'I can't tell you how much I enjoyed it... A mystical, magical, empowering modern re-imagining of the Irish Goddesses.' – Patricia Scanlan

'Sharply-written and urgent, **BANSHEE** conjures a dazzlingly modern mythology of our oldest stories... I loved every page.' – Doireann Ní Ghríofa

'These brilliantly innovative reimaginings of Irish myths crackle with magic.' – Anna Carey, author of *OUR SONG*

'Dark, lyrical and exhilarating, these stories feel both timeless and urgently modern.' – Louise O'Neill, author of *ASKING FOR IT*

Editor and journalist Ailbhe Malone was raised on these legends – but the women, always cast as mothers, warriors or witches, were never given the lead. And so, **BANSHEE** was born: not just a retelling but a radical reclamation.

BANSHEE transports you to treacherous landscapes and crashing seas, generational curses and mystical islands. Here you'll find unruly mothers, rule-breaking queens, and women outrunning their destiny – their stories pulsing with desire, danger and defiance.

With contributions from every corner of Irish literature, **BANSHEE** features luminous re-tellings by Naoise Dolan, Megan Nolan, Jess Kidd, Wendy Erskine, Nikita Gill, Sarah Maria Griffin, Jane Casey, Anne Griffin, Sheila O'Flanagan, and Salma El-Wardany. This is a celebration of womanhood – and an homage to the ancient stories that still shape us.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ailbhe Malone is a Senior Editor at *The Strategist*. She was previously Lifestyle Editor at BuzzFeed UK and was a founding member of the UK team. She has also worked for *Nylon* (US), the *Guardian*, *Irish Times* and *Wired*. Ailbhe has featured as an industry expert on BBC's *The Apprentice* and *Digital Human*, and in Phaidon's **WHERE TO EAT PIZZA** (2016).

Ailbhe has written two non-fiction books: **101 TINY CHANGES TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY** (UK: Icon Books) and **101 TINY CHANGES TO BRIGHTEN YOUR WORLD** (UK: Icon Books) was published in 2019.

WHERE THE MOUNTAIN MEETS THE SEA

Gemma Marren



Agent Juliet Pickering

UK On Submission
UK audio At auction

73,500 words

A beautifully-woven debut about family, love and shame – **SMALL THINGS LIKE THESE** meets Maggie O’Farrell – exposing the repercussions of heart-breaking secrets in small communities

In the west of Ireland, the Ryans gather to discuss their dying mother, and whether to track down their long-lost sibling; Bernadette was their rebellious, vivacious youngest sister, thrown out by their mother when she was sixteen, and never seen or spoken of again. Conor, her twin brother, has not forgiven himself for the part he played in his sister’s disappearance, keeping himself small and safe ever since.

In the Southern Outback, Sister Mary Peregrine – silent for fifty years – receives an urgent summons home. But can she face the long journey and the family she no longer knows at the end of it, or is the possibility of rediscovering true love enough to lure her back?

And in Brisbane, we meet Candice: a brilliant young woman dealing with suddenly being utterly alone in the world. When the rituals of laying her mum to rest throw up questions around their family, Candice starts to unravel the tangled web of deceit that will lead her to Ireland, too. But who is she to the Ryans, and what will they make of her revealing the biggest secret of all?

Set between the present and the heady, devastating summer of 1969, **WHERE THE MOUNTAIN MEETS THE SEA** is an engaging and deeply-felt story of loss, of sibling bonds and complicated family dynamics, of finding love in unexpected places and discovering it is never too late to start living your life again.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gemma Marren is an Irish writer based in County Mayo. She worked for many years as a copy-editor, and now works in a special school assisting children with additional needs.

Gemma has been shortlisted for the Cuirt New Writers Showcase and longlisted for the Fish Short Story competition, and was a finalist at the Irish Writers’ Centre Novel Fair. Her writing has been generously supported by literary awards including the Tyrone Guthrie Regional Bursary from Mayo Arts Office, the Arts Council/Irish Writers’ Centre National Mentoring Programme, The John Hewitt International Summer School and, most recently, an Arts Council Agility Award.

MEANT TO BE

Jess Merry



Agent Juliet Pickering

UK On Submission

86,700 words

A sweet, sexy and life-changing romance, and an escapist colleagues-to-lovers and found family delight, set in a beautiful Scottish lochside town

Bee and Chris have long harboured a secret crush on each other, but have never acknowledged their feelings. When social worker Bee's favourite teenage case, Jamie, does a runner, police officer Chris spontaneously steps in to offer his help. So begins their love story: chasing up to Scotland while learning each other's Spotify playlists, and surviving a storm in a wonky hotel before arriving in beautiful Gilliker, the small community populated by Chris's friends and family. Then there's *that* night by the loch...

Burnt out Bee sees a chance not just to fall in love but to reset her life choices, and Chris may finally be able to let go of the past. But when that past suddenly catches up with him, he must make a choice: choose love, or choose marriage?

Told from their dual POV, full of deliciously sexy moments, satisfying tropes and the heady joy of new romance, **MEANT TO BE** is Beth O'Leary meets Sue Moorcroft: real people, real lives, real love.

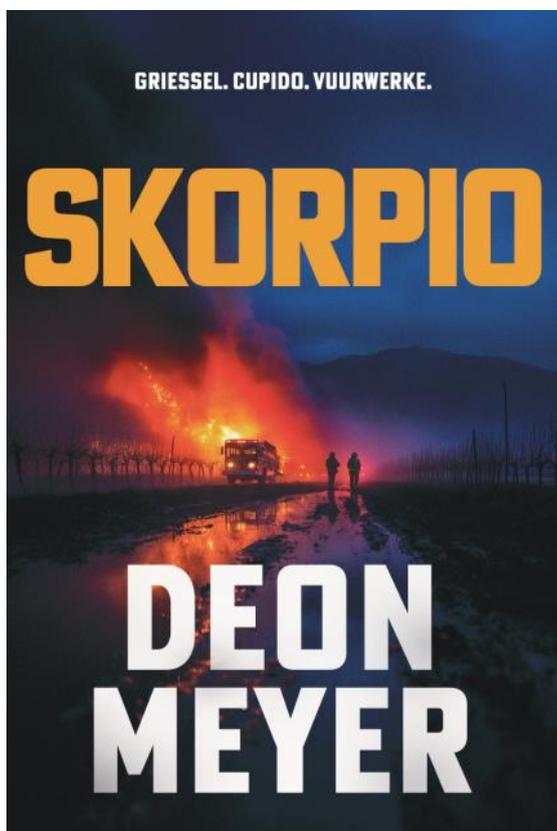
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jessica Merry trained in Art and Design at college, and made pots for a living until the need to pay the rent led to an admin job with a mental health service. She went on to qualify as a social worker and has spent more than twenty years in the profession. She lives on the South coast with her family.

As well as writing, she plays the piano, enjoys foraging for bargains in charity shops, and loves nothing better than a UK road-trip. She is an active member of the RNA New Writers Scheme.

SKORPIO

A Griessel and Cupido Book by Deon Meyer



English translation by K. L. Seegers

Benny and Vaughn return for their latest investigation, in which local and international threats become perilously entwined...

9 weeks at #1 in South Africa

‘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*

‘This intelligent page-turner confirms Meyer’s reputation as a master of the police procedural.’ – *Publishers Weekly* on LEO

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

As an international security forum convenes in the picturesque town of Stellenbosch, detectives Benny Griessel and Vaughn Cupido race against time to uncover a plot that could shake international foundations. With the threat of a sinister plot looming over the prestigious gathering of global leaders, the stakes couldn’t be higher.

Agent Isobel Dixon

Afrikaans Human & Rousseau Oct 2025

UKexCan HB Pan Macmillan Mar 2027

UKexCan PB Pan Macmillan 2028

UKexCan audio Pan Macmillan Mar 2027

US+Can HB Grove Atlantic 2027

US+Can audio Grove Atlantic 2028

Film/TV Lookout Point

France Gallimard

Germany Aufbau

Holland AW Bruna

Option Publishers

Albania Dituria

Czechia Moba

Afrikaans ms available, English translation available May 2026

408 pages

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Deon Meyer is a sure-fire No. 1 bestseller in South Africa, topping all relevant charts. Selling over 3 million copies, his books are sold in 30 countries and 28 different languages. Deon has also won 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 global 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.

When published in Afrikaans in October 2023, LEO was Number One across all languages and genres, selling thousands more copies than the next title on the list. It stayed at the top of the overall charts for ten weeks; leading all fiction titles for fifteen weeks, and for much longer still on the exclusively South African and Afrikaans lists. LEO also won Deon the ATKV-Woordveertjies Prize for exceptional literary achievement in the Afrikaans language, in the thriller category, plus the 2024 SA Book of the Year award.

SECRETS OF THE ITALIAN GUESTHOUSE

Legacy Trilogy #1 by Sue Moorcroft



Relax on the sunny shores of Lake Como and meet the estranged Beretta sisters, in the first of bestseller Sue Moorcroft's new *Italian Legacy Trilogy*

'A sun drenched tale of family secrets and surprises set in the glorious Italian lakes. With all Sue's trademark intrigue and surprises - plus a gorgeous hero!' – Philipa Ashley

For Jade, life in Lake Como is *la dolce vita*. Until her beloved grandmother passes, leaving Jade not only the family's bustling guesthouse, *The Three Sisters*, to run, but two life-changing secrets to confront...

The *pensione* hasn't just been left to Jade, it's also been inherited by her sisters – who she had no idea existed. As Erin and Rosalie arrive in Italy, Jade is forced to face the heart-wrenching prospect of sharing her last remaining tie to the woman who raised her.

Jade is desperately trying to hold on to the past, but there's one person she would prefer to leave firmly behind: her first love, Leo. He's back in the city that is filled with the memories they once made together. But as Jade fights to take control of her future *and* her heart, why do all cobbled roads lead back to Leo?

Rich with gorgeous escapism and full of emotion, **SECRETS OF THE ITALIAN GUESTHOUSE** will sweep you up in Jade's love story and leave you wanting more from the Berettas.

Also don't miss **THE SKYE SISTERS TRILOGY**:

Book 1: UNDER A SUMMER SKYE (UK: Avon, May 2024): The moment she arrived on the Isle of Skye, life changed for Thea Wynter – 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.

Book 2: A SKYE FULL OF STARS (UK: Avon, Nov 2024): As Ezz Wynter goes in search of her birth parents, new love is waiting to be found – and closer to home than expected in the form of Rothach Hall's enigmatic Swedish owner, Mats...

Book 3: OVER THE SEA TO SKYE (UK: Avon, June 2025): the life of Valentina Taylor – née Wynter – has been upended. With her marriage over, she heads to Skye. When bad news from home throws her into turmoil, can she let go of the past and embrace the future she deserves?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sue Moorcroft is the author of 25 novels, which have been translated into thirteen languages and sold more than 1.5 million copies in the UK alone. 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).

Agent Juliet Pickering

WEL PB Renegade Books Jul 2026 (at auction)

WEL audio Renegade Books Jul 2026

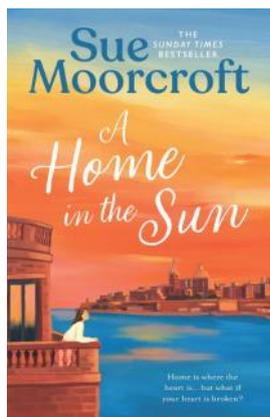
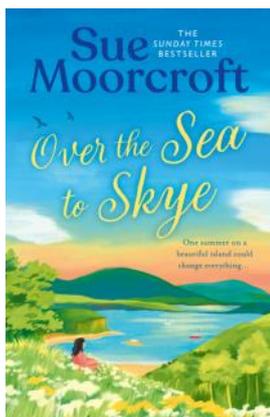
Option publishers

Czechia Fortuna Libri

Denmark Zara | Slovakia Fortuna

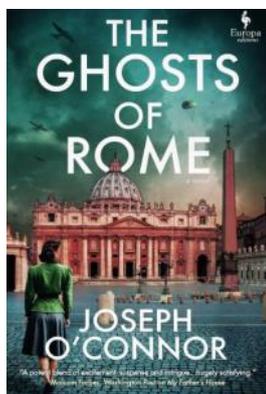
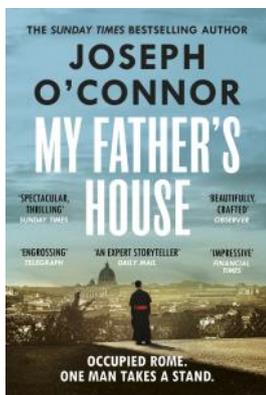
Libri | Ukraine Old Lion Publishing House

101,000 words



ROME ESCAPE LINE TRILOGY

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. Book 3 will be published in Spring 2027.

'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*

MY FATHER'S HOUSE: September 1943. German forces occupy Rome. SS officer Paul Hauptmann rules with terror. An Irish priest, Hugh O'Flaherty, dedicates himself to helping those escaping the Nazis. His home is Vatican City, a neutral, independent country within Rome where the occupiers hold no sway. He gathers a team to set up an Escape Line. But Hauptmann's net begins closing in and the need for a terrifyingly audacious mission grows critical. By Christmas, it's too late to turn back. 276 pages.

THE GHOSTS OF ROME: February 1944. Six months since Nazi forces occupied Rome. Inside the beleaguered city, the Contessa Giovanna Landini helps to smuggle refugees to safety, all under the nose of Gestapo boss Paul Hauptmann. 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... 256 pages.

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* and featured on BBC2's *Between the Covers* on TV and in its touring show. **THE GHOSTS OF ROME** was shortlisted for the 2025 Kerry Group Novel of The Year award and won the overall An Post Irish Book of the Year Award 2025.

Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan Harvill Secker
US+Can Europa Editions

France Payot & Rivages
Holland Meulenhoff Boekerij
Italy Guanda
Spain Almuzara Libros

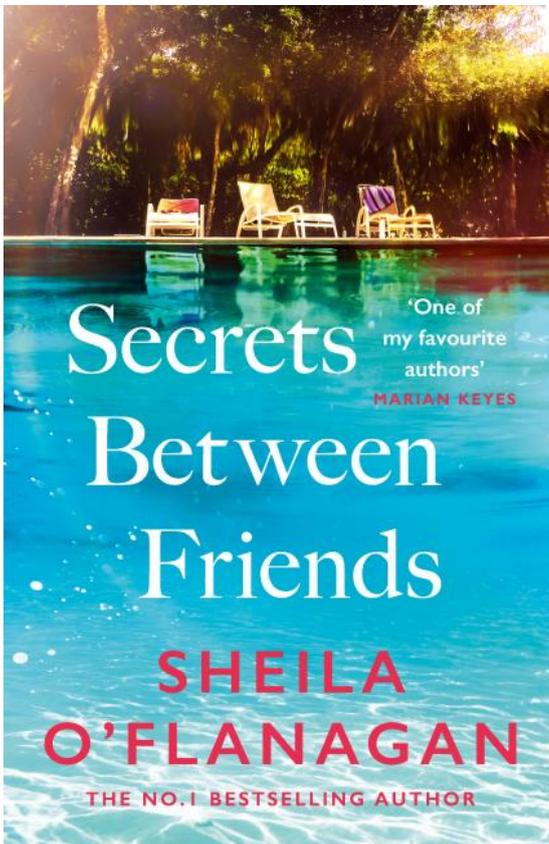
Film rights optioned

Option publishers

Albania OMBRA GVG Publishing House
Germany C.H. Beck
Poland Wydawnictwo Folia

SECRETS BETWEEN FRIENDS

Sheila O'Flanagan



When three women form an unexpected friendship, they discover new perspectives on old problems. But can they navigate love and loss to find true happiness?

'Another engrossing Sheila O'Flanagan bestseller that will entertain and delight her fans.' – Patricia Scanlan

'A warm, sensitive story about the power of female friendship, finding hope amidst the toughest times and the joy of second chances.' – Lucie Diamond

'Such a heartfelt, well-paced story, full of love and hope and wisdom. I hope it finds its way to old and new readers alike.' – Norie Clarke

Ailie has lost her beloved husband after twenty tempestuous years. Her toxic in-laws are no comfort. Yet her teenage daughter wants to know her Italian family better. She plans to spend the summer working in their luxury hotel. Should Ailie follow, and confront the family who can't forgive her?

Sybil is alone but definitely not lonely. There's just one problem: her younger sister, Tansy, thinks Sybil needs to find a man before it's too late. And she has the perfect candidate. Can Sybil cope with Tansy interfering in her life again?

Rua knows it's a dangerous world for young women. Twice she's faced the worst, and twice she's started over. All she cares about is protecting her daughter. Yet she's kept the full story from her. Is it time to trust Brontë with the truth?

Agent Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Headline Mar 2026
WEL PB Headline Mar 2027
WEL audio Headline Mar 2026

Sweden LB Forlag

Option publishers

Czechia Euromedia
Finland Docendo
Germany Insel
Hungary Alexandra

432 pages

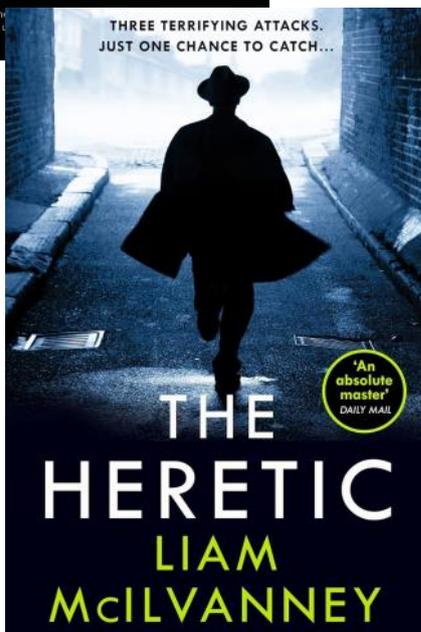
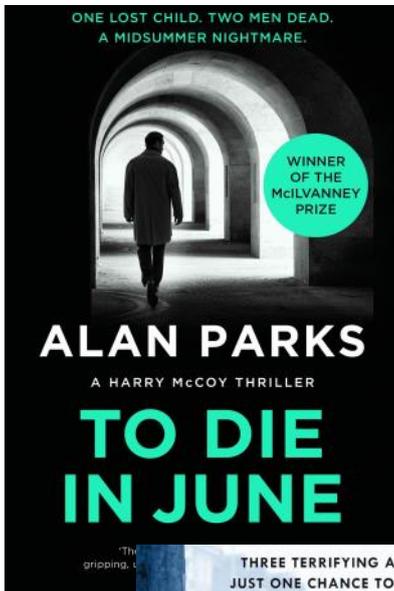
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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 was an Ambassador in Bookselling Ireland's Irish Book Week campaign in 2025.

Sheila's previous contemporary novel, **THE HONEYMOON AFFAIR**, was an Irish Number One bestseller and spent a total of thirteen weeks in the Top Ten. Sheila O'Flanagan's first historical novel, **THE WOMAN ON THE BRIDGE**, was a No. 1 bestseller in Ireland.

DEAD SOLDIERS

Alan Parks & Liam McIlvanney



Agent Isobel Dixon
Liam McIlvanney represented by
 James Gill, Felicity Bryan Associates

UK & US On Submission

Option Publishers
 Finland Bouq | France Editions
 Rivages | Holland House of Books
 Italy Bompiani | Spain Tusquets

70,000 words

Two cops collide in 1970s Glasgow as award-winning Scottish crime writers Parks and McIlvanney bring together their lead detectives in the first book of The Broken Windows Quartet

Praise for Alan Parks' Harry McCoy series:
 'A remarkable series – read them all.' – *The Times*

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

'Pin-point precision of characterization with storytelling par excellence.' – Caro Ramsay (on **TO DIE IN JUNE**)

Praise for Liam McIlvanney's Duncan McCormack series:
 'McIlvanney tells the story with clarity, terrific dialogue and convincing characters' – *The Times* (on **THE QUAKER**)

'**THE HERETIC** cements Liam's position as a crime writer at the top of his game.' – Stuart MacBride

'His writing brims with compassion, lyricism and good old-fashioned thrills.' – Adrian McKinty

Glasgow 1977. When D.I. Duncan McCormack attends the scene of a grisly murder in the hills above Loch Lomond, he finds himself treading on the toes of the unit on the ground, led by D.I. Harry McCoy.

What looks like a straightforward sex murder is complicated by one thing: the killing betrays the 'signature' of a killer who has already been convicted and due to be sentenced that very day. Someone is sending the police a particular message...

As the unlikely partners work the case, it becomes clear that someone – possibly someone very close to the investigation – will do all they can to keep the facts hidden. To solve this case at all, McCoy and McCormack will need to take risks. And maybe the biggest risk of all is to trust one another...

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

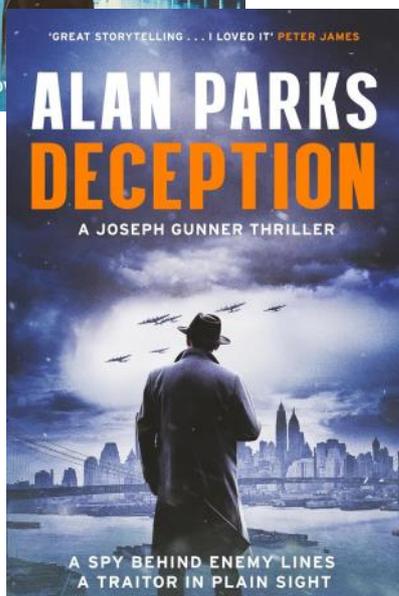
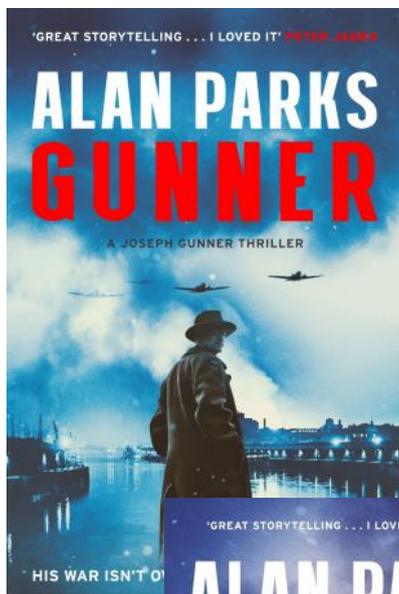
Alan Parks was born in Scotland, and worked in the music business before becoming a full-time writer. His debut novel **BLOODY JANUARY** propelled him onto the international literary crime fiction scene immediately and his work has been hailed by contemporary writers and critics alike.

Liam McIlvanney was born in Scotland and studied at the universities of Glasgow and Oxford. He has written for publications including the *London Review of Books* and the *Times Literary Supplement*, and has five prize-winning crime novels to his name. He is Stuart Professor of Scottish Studies at the University of Otago, New Zealand.

THRILLER

The GUNNER Trilogy

Alan Parks



Agent Isobel Dixon

Book 2: DECEPTION

UKexCan HB John Murray Jul 2026

UKexCan PB John Murray Jan 2027

UKexCan audio John Murray Jul 2026

US+Can HB Pegasus Books Aug 2027

US+Can audio Recorded Books Aug 2027

Holland The House of Books
Spain Tusquets

Option Publishers
France Editions Rivages
Italy Bompiani

320 pages

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

‘Great stuff... a vivid sense of place and time and what a main character!’ – Ian Rankin

‘A lean, mean and ruthlessly readable thriller.’ – Vaseem Khan, author of the *Baby Ganesh Detective Agency* novels

‘A brilliant milieu, fantastic characters, an exciting story... another typically great Alan Parks novel.’ – Adrian McKinty

Book 1: GUNNER

Glasgow, March 1941. Joseph Gunner is back on his home turf after being wounded on the front lines in France. Keeping the pain in his leg at bay with the help of morphine, Gunner, a former detective, is hoping to lie low as the bombs begin to fall. But when he runs into his old boss Drummond, he is persuaded to help examine a body found in the wreckage. When it turns out to be that of a German, mutilated to disguise his identity, Gunner reluctantly agrees to investigate.

As he begins to hunt for the truth Gunner runs into old flames and bitter enemies, before finding himself embroiled in a high-level conspiracy that reaches far beyond his hometown of Glasgow...

Book 2: DECEPTION

New York, December 1941. A city preparing for war. When the head of the Japanese intelligence section is murdered and his flat ransacked, Gunner – a newly minted operative of the British Secret Service – tries to find out why. Who needed to silence the victim? It becomes quickly clear that there’s a traitor in their midst. A traitor prepared to kill.

As the clock ticks down towards the 7th of December, Gunner races to solve the mystery before he becomes the next victim...

Book 3 will be published by John Murray and Pegasus Books in Summer 2027 – more details to come.

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.

His Harry McCoy series has won, among other prizes, the McIlvanney Prize for Scottish Crime Book of the Year, the Edgar Allan Poe Award for Best Original Paperback, and France’s Prix Mystère De La Critique. Rights to the series have been sold in more than ten countries.

DRAGONFLY

Monique Roffey



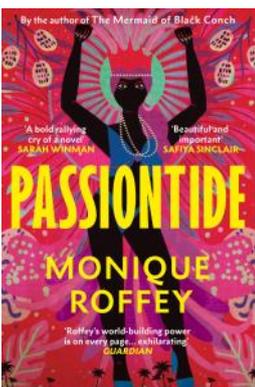
Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Jonathan Cape 2027
UKexCan PB Vintage 2028
UKexCan audio Vintage 2027

Option Publishers

France Mémoire D'Encrier
Hungary Könyvmolyképző | Poland
Swiat | Romania Alice Books
Russia Arkadia | Turkey Can

65,000 words



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

‘A unique talent and most daring and versatile of writers.’
– Bernardine Evaristo

‘A writer of verve, vibrancy and compassion; her work is always a joy to read.’ – Sarah Hall

‘Roffey’s world-building power is evident on every page.’ – Kit Fan, *The Guardian*

July, 2054, the dawn of a New Age: conventional banking systems have collapsed, politicians have fled, deserting their duties, unable to cope with the politics of extreme heat. The 1% have scattered and are no longer in power. The ecologists, scientists, shamans and activists have inherited what’s left of the earth.

Dr Mimi Fern – a former herald of this new Symbioscene – is dying. A tower for a ‘sky burial’ is being prepared at a nearby hillside and a funeral party of twenty-five people are slowly making its way to the hospice.

Told through the voices of over twenty narrators—some human, others not – **DRAGONFLY** is both an elegy and a celebration: of activism, of life, of change. It is a story of active hope, and of how humanity gets through what is coming – temperatures of over 1.7°C/35°F warming, extreme weather events as the new normal, a planet where crops can no longer be reliably mass cultivated, a world which is forever too hot. It is the story of a woman, a force of profound good in the world and who was loved and respected, and a story of a community who have rallied, the vanguard of that New Age.

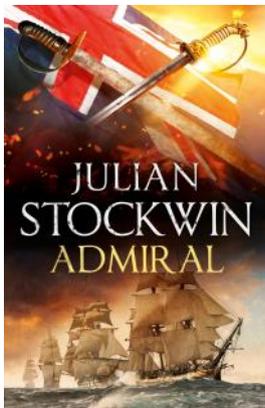
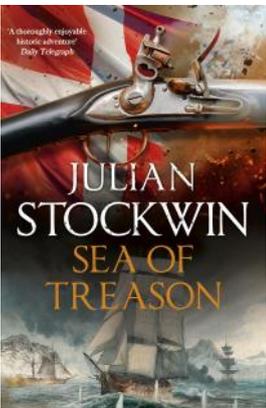
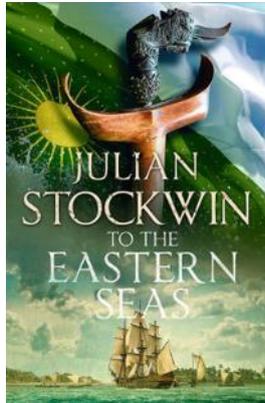
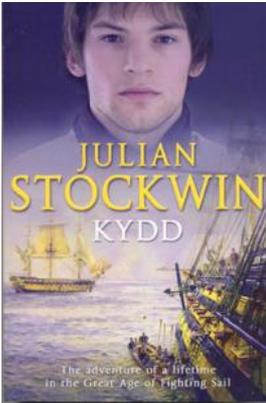
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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. Her latest novel, **PASSIONTIDE**, was published by Harvill Secker (UK) and AA Knopf (US) in 2024. She is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at Manchester Metropolitan University.

THE KYDD SERIES

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)

Czechia Brana (books 1 – 2)

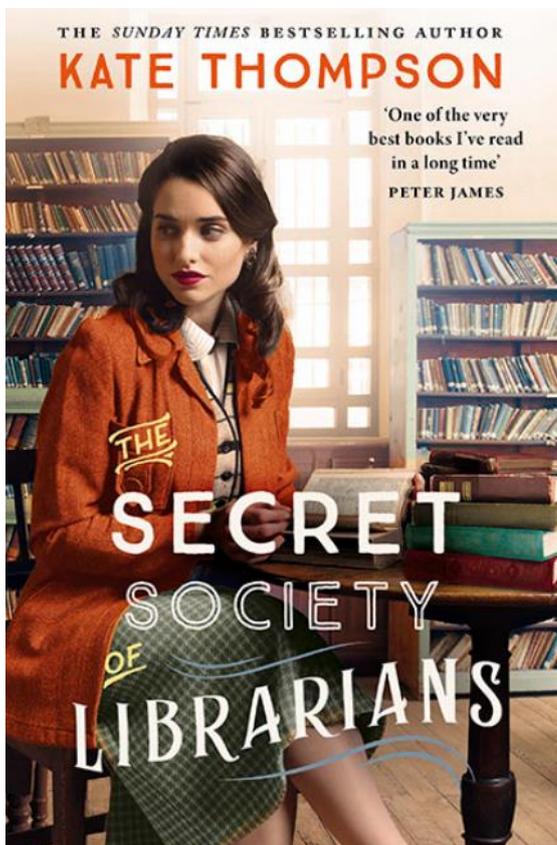
Germany EB dotbooks (books 1 – 8)

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.

THE SECRET SOCIETY OF LIBRARIANS

Kate Thompson



Agent Kate Burke

WEL HB Hodder Mar 2026

WEL PB Hodder Aug 2026

WEL audio Hodder Mar 2026

Option publishers

Finland Bazar | France City Editions

Greece Minoas | Italy Garzanti

Poland Wydawnictwo Literackie

Portugal Porto Editora | Slovakia

Ikar | Spain Maeva

464 pages

A story of two brave women, separated by war, but united by their love of books

London, 1939. When war breaks out on librarian Joyce Kindred's doorstep and a call for help rings out across the libraries of London, she's determined to act. Joyce knows only the world of books can offer safety and comfort to her neighbourhood – and she will make sure no one is left behind.

Joyce sets up a mobile library scheme, but soon her acts of resistance go beyond sharing books. She shelters a young Jewish refugee, Adela – and it's not long before she discovers Adela has a secret that could turn their world upside down again...

Occupied Poland, 1942. Dorotha knows any chance of escaping the barbed wire fences and cruelty of the Łódź ghetto dwindles by the day. Reading isn't just an act of defiance: it's the only thing left in her life over which she has any control. So she shares books under the cover of darkness, creating a secret library away from her captors – that is, until even that last ray of hope is taken from her...

Joyce and Dorotha were once librarians, ordinary women, and best friends. The war has forced them into acts of unimaginable bravery – but will they ever find each other again?

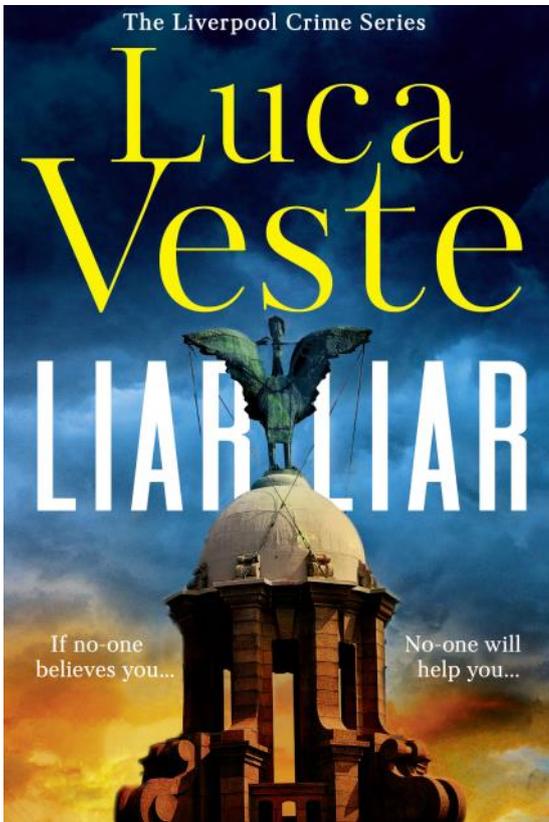
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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. Kate is also the author of the *Sunday Times* bestselling non-fiction book **A MOTHER'S PROMISE**.

THE WARTIME BOOK CLUB reached No. 2 in the New Zealand charts, No. 18 in the Australian charts, No. 16 in the SA charts and has sold in 7 languages. **THE LITTLE WARTIME LIBRARY** reached the Top Ten in Canada and Australia and has sold in 13 languages. **SECRETS OF THE LAVENDER GIRLS** was shortlisted for the Romantic Saga Award at the 2021 RNA Awards. Kate's debut novel, **SECRETS OF THE SINGER GIRLS**, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller in 2015.

LIAR LIAR

Luca Veste



Agent Kate Burke

WEL PB Avon Jun 2026
WEL audio Avon Jun 2026

Option publishers

Russia AST
Turkey Yediveren

416 pages

The first in a brilliant series set on Luca’s home ground of Liverpool. A new publisher, new series and new chapter in his publishing career

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

‘Superior style and plotting.’ – Liz Nugent

‘Luca Veste has talent for exposing the ugliness of the criminal mind... For readers in search of disturbing and dark, you have come to the right place.’ – Crime Review

Once hailed as Liverpool’s finest detective, Mark Fletcher brought a serial killer to justice and earned the city’s admiration. But when it’s revealed he falsified evidence in past cases, his legacy is shattered - and so is his life.

Now disgraced and spiralling, Fletcher wakes up in a hotel room with no memory of the last 24 hours... and a dead body beside him.

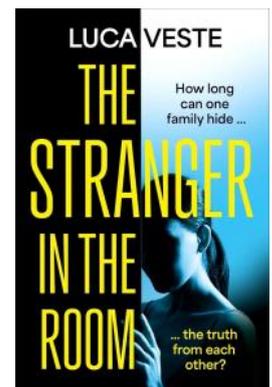
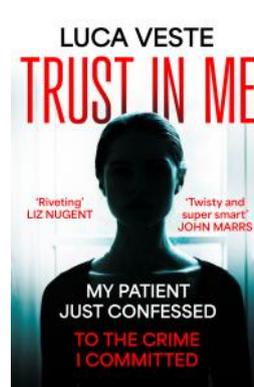
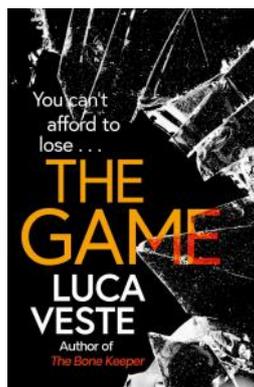
The evidence says he did it. His instincts say otherwise. Hunted by the force he once served, Fletcher must uncover the truth - not just to clear his name, but to survive. Because someone wants him silenced, and they’ll stop at nothing to finish what they started...

LIAR LIAR is the first in a four-book deal with Avon (HarperCollins).

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.

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.



QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Helen Walmsley-Johnson



Agent Juliet Pickering

UK On Submission

97,500 words

A young ivory carver finds his feet in 1696 Edinburgh, in this rich and sprightly novel, akin to Francis Spufford's **GOLDEN HILL** and **PURE** by Andrew Miller

David Le Marchand has fled mass persecution in France and arrived in bustling Edinburgh. He has lost everything on the journey, including his beloved family, and has just two small pieces of ivory in his pocket, from which to build a new life.

As he befriends the men that will transform his fortunes but expect political compliance in turn, David learns to navigate bewildering social and business encounters with the help of his keen young apprentice, Will, and city clerk Aeneas. His career starts to ascend as a carver of beautiful ivory keepsakes and life gradually improves, until David's emotions catch up with him and he swiftly unravels. Will his new friends be able to save him? And has he created a life worth living for?

A lushly-written debut on exile, grief and friendship, **QUEEN OF HEAVEN** is a coruscating account of an afflicted life, and new hope, based on a real story.

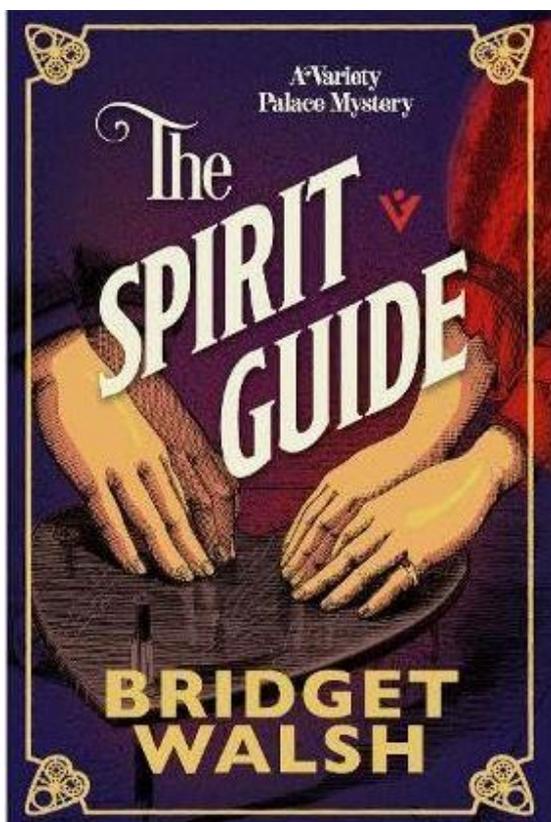
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Helen is a freelance writer and was author of the popular fashion column [The Vintage Years](#), for the *Guardian*, which inspired her first nonfiction book **THE INVISIBLE WOMAN**. She has spoken out against ageism on *Woman's Hour* and BBC radio, and filmed and edited several short films both independently and for the *Guardian*.

In 2019, Helen published **LOOK WHAT YOU MADE ME DO** (Picador), a memoir of being in two coercively-controlling relationships, and her survival. Such was its honesty and power that police and legal advisers all over the country have since used the book to educate their forces.

THE SPIRIT GUIDE

Variety Palace Mystery #3 by 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...

‘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.

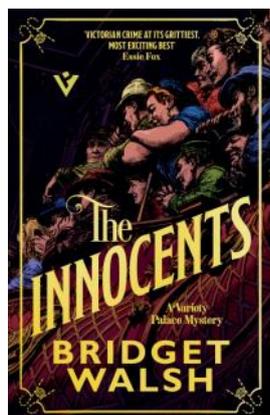
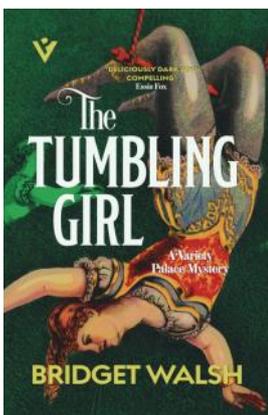
Minnie smells a rat. Going undercover on her own at the organisation’s countryside house, she discovers a strangely compelling world of spirits and ghosts. But, without Albert or anyone she loves nearby, Minnie quickly finds herself in very hot water...

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.

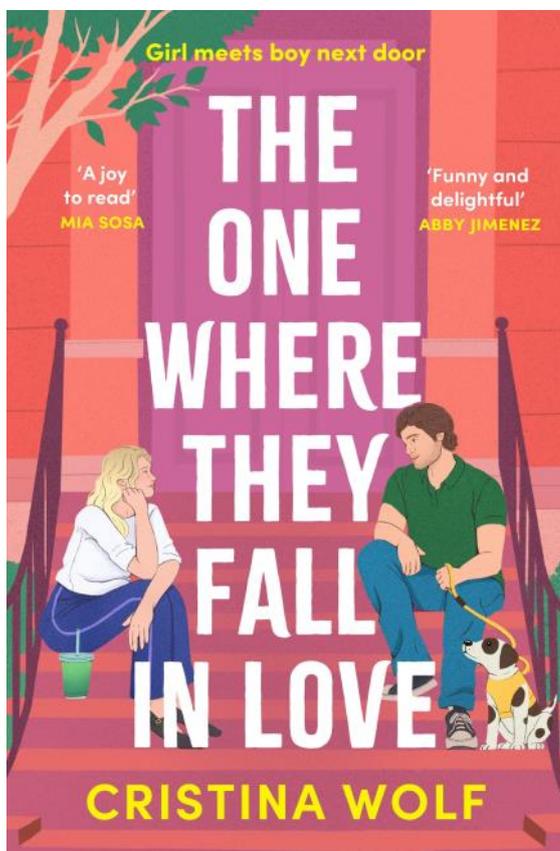
THE TUMBLING GIRL won the UEA Little Brown Award for Crime Fiction 2019 and the published novel was shortlisted for the 2024 ILP John Creasey (New Blood) Dagger and won the HWA Debut Crown 2024. It was published by Gallic Books in May 2023, with **THE INNOCENTS** following in 2024. Pushkin Press issued new Pushkin Vertigo editions of Walsh’s first two titles in the Variety Palace Mystery Series. The fourth book in the Variety Palace Mysteries will be published by Pushkin Vertigo in 2027.

Bridget is currently writing her first non-fiction book, **A STRANGE ATTACHMENT**, about a fascinating Victorian murder case so bizarre that it defies fictionalisation.



THE ONE WHERE THEY FALL IN LOVE

Cristina Wolf



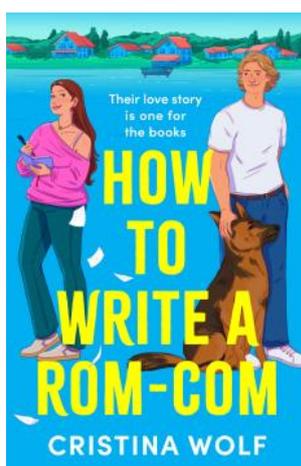
Agent Siân Ellis-Martin

WEL PB Head of Zeus Aug 2026
 UK+BC audio Head of Zeus Aug 2026
 US audio Tantor Media Aug 2026

Option publishers

Czechia Albatros
 Turkey Epsilon

288 pages



You never know when love will come knocking... An enemies to lovers rom-com set in the publishing world for fans of Emily Henry and Ali Hazelwood

‘Cristina Wolf paints a tender portrait of New York and the imperfect people who call it home... A book for the romantics who demand their happy endings.’ – Ali Rosen

‘Cristina Wolf writes romantic comedies for anyone who has ever side-eyed a grand gesture, but secretly hoped for one anyway. Her stories blend heartfelt humor with messy, modern love, where the meet-cutes are awkward, the banter is razor-sharp, and the happily-ever-afters are hard-earned (but worth it).’ – Charish Reid

Hopeless romantic and romance editor Elle Thompson lives for happy endings – but real-life love? Not so much. But that doesn’t mean she isn’t thrilled when her best friend gets engaged. Really. Not jealous at all.

Meanwhile, Oliver Cole likes things a certain way. Schedules and routines and order. So when his move back to New York is disrupted with the unwelcome addition of Thor – the dog his sister adopted for him – he’s less than enthused. Even less enthused than Oliver? Elle.

When Elle can’t bear to hear Thor howling all night, the two agree to strike a deal: she’ll dog-sit while he’s on shift.

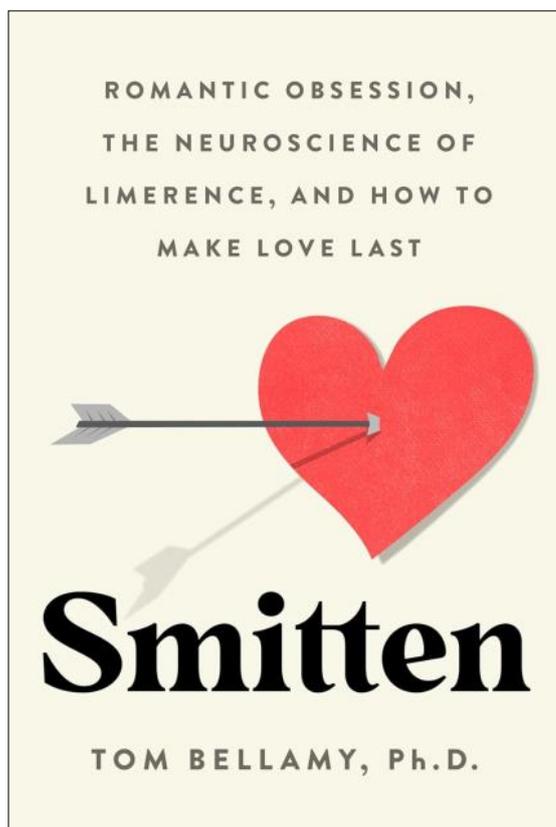
But what starts as a reluctant arrangement soon turns into late-night chats, sizzling chemistry, and two lonely hearts daring to let each other in.

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.

SMITTEN

Dr Tom Bellamy



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Watkins Press Apr 2025

UKexCan audio Bolinda Apr 2025

US+Can HB St Martins Press Feb 2026 (pre-empt)

US+Can audio St Martins Press Feb 2026

Russia AST

Spain Editorial Sirio

Vietnam Saigon Books

288 pages

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

Featured in *The Observer*, *The New Statesman*, *New York Times* and *Service95*

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

‘A masterful exploration of limerence... His unique integration of neuroscientific expertise with deep empathy for the limerent experience creates an invaluable resource for both professionals and those seeking to understand their own overwhelming romantic feelings.’ – Dr Liat Yakir

“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 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.

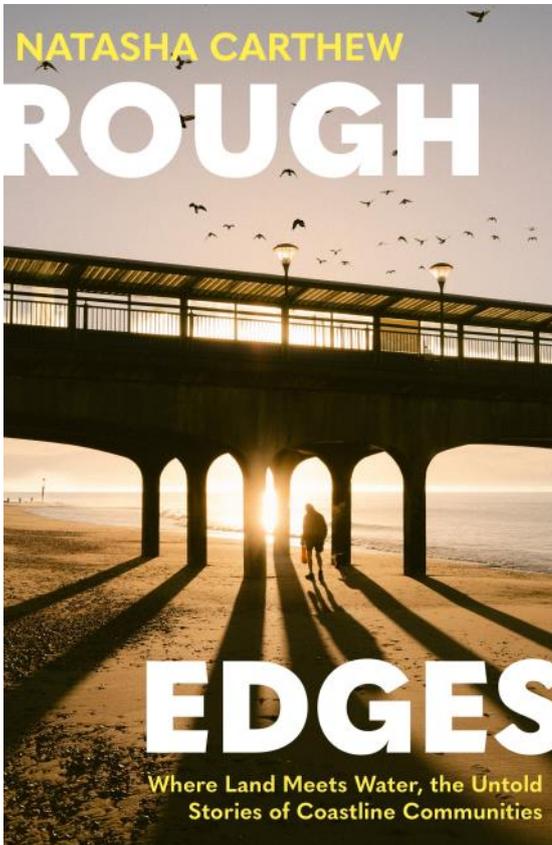
SMITTEN is a brilliant and much-needed exploration of the psychology of infatuation, and how to recognise and move beyond it toward a healthier experience of love.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Tom Bellamy is an academic neuroscientist and Honourary 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 writes about how the mechanisms of neurophysiology can help us understand human behaviour.

ROUGH EDGES

Natasha Carthew



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Sceptre Jun 2026

UKexCan PB Sceptre 2027

UKexCan audio Sceptre Jun 2026

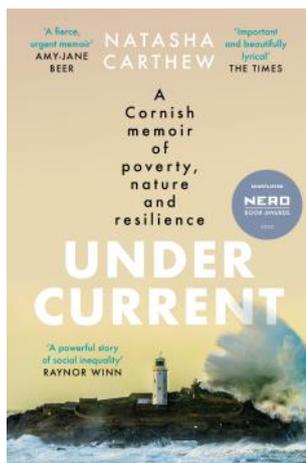
278 pages

UNDERCURRENT

UKexCan PB Hodder/Coronet Apr 2024 (at auction)

UKexCan audio Hodder/Coronet Apr 2023

264 pages



An insightful, defiant manifesto for forgotten coastal communities, from the Nero Book Awards-shortlisted author of **UNDERCURRENT**

Beyond the picture postcards, Britain’s coastal communities are suffering.

Crowds flood the beaches during summer heatwaves but they quickly vanish again, leaving behind drifts of rubbish and unstable seasonal jobs. Seaside property is in high demand but affordable only for landlords and gentrifiers.

The cost-of-living crisis and the ongoing pains of austerity trap those at the vulnerable edges of our nation in poverty. Having grown up in rural Cornwall, Natasha Carthew leaves the county in search of a new home. Travelling the country and exploring the villages, towns and cities of our coast, she meets the people fighting to keep these places alive. With fierce compassion, she shares their voices and their stories.

ROUGH EDGES is a rallying cry for the beauty and importance of our coast and its people.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Natasha Carthew is a working class writer and poet. After publishing four novels and several books of poetry, she contributed to **HAG: Forgotten Folk Tales** (Virago Press, 2020) and **WOMEN ON NATURE** (Unbound, 2021). Natasha’s most recent book, **UNDERCURRENT**, was shortlisted for the Nero Book Awards in 2023.

Natasha has written extensively on nature and socio-economics, and how authentic working class writing is represented, including for *The Guardian*, *The Big Issue* and *The Economist*, and presenting on BBC Radio 3 and Radio 4.

Natasha is the founder of the Nature Writing Prize for Working Class Writers, and Artistic Director of the Working Class Writers’ Festival.

UNDERCURRENT (UKexCan: Hodder, 2023)

‘Haunting and powerful, a book about the sea and the power of belonging’ – Kate Mosse

Natasha Carthew was born into a world that sat alongside picture-postcard Cornwall, one where second homes took the sea view of council properties, and wealth converged with poverty on sandy beaches. In the rockpools and hedgerows of the natural world, Natasha found solace in the beauty of the landscape, and in the mobile library she found her means of escape.

UNDERCURRENT is a journey through place, and a vivid story of hope, beauty and fierce resilience.

INTO THE STREETS: Queer Women and the Fight for Liberation in Britain

Emily Chudy



Agent Siân Ellis-Martin

UK On Submission

Proposal available

An inspiring and inclusive celebration of lesbian culture, history and activism from journalist Emily Chudy

While being a lesbian has never been illegal in the United Kingdom, queer women have campaigned for the right to be who they are for decades. But despite this long-established history of political engagement and sustained pushback against discrimination, the role of women in the LGBTQIA+ activism movement is often forgotten.

INTO THE STREETS shines a light on the untold stories of the women who paved the way from the mid-1900s to the present day, ensuring that queer women are able to exist, socialise, get married, and create families today.

Emily combines investigative journalism together with interviews with key queer activists such as Lisa Power (founder of Stonewall), Phyll Opoku-Gyimah (Lady Phyll, political activist known for her work on LGBTQIA+, race and gender equality) and Jayne Ozanne (conversion therapy survivor and campaigner) to create a comprehensive tapestry of activism and resistance; from the beginnings of lesbian activism, which intertwined with the suffragette movement, to the UK's first Pride marches in the 1960s and '70s with their defining slogan 'Out of the closet, into the streets', to the abolition of Section 28 and beyond.

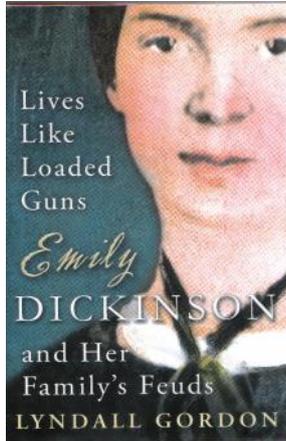
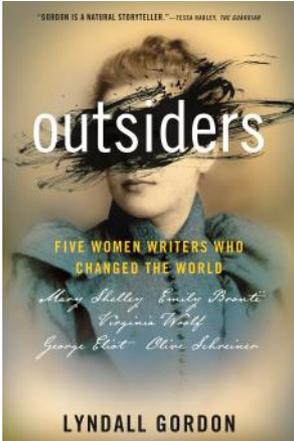
INTO THE STREETS delves into how and when queer women achieved civil liberties in the UK, how this activism continues today, and what we need to do next.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emily Chudy is a freelance journalist and writer from London. Her specialism in journalism is the LGBTQIA+ community, and she has written for a variety of outlets, including *Slate*, *Glamour*, *The Big Issue*, *PinkNews*, *Byline Times*, *LGBTQ Nation*, *Stylist* and more.

She currently lives in east London with her wife and rescue dog.

LYNDALL GORDON

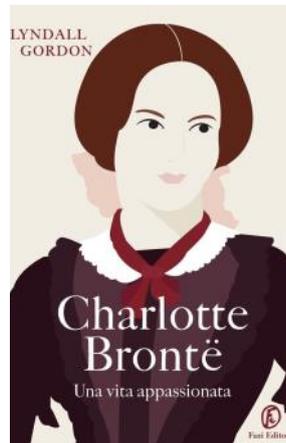
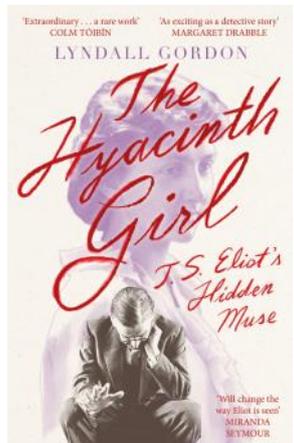


One of the world's foremost literary scholars and a widely acclaimed biographer, in particular of the lives of women writers

'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 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. 432 pages.

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

Publishers

China Shanghai Literature & Art

Italy Fazi

Spain Alba

Turkey Alfa

FRAGILE BODIES

Kat Lister



Agent Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Weidenfeld & Nicolson
Apr 2027

UKexCan PB Weidenfeld & Nicolson
2028

UKexCan audio Weidenfeld & Nicolson
Apr 2027

US & Can TPB Catapult Apr 2027

Full ms available Jun 2026

THE ELEMENTS

WEL HB Icon Books 2021

WEL PB Icon Books 2022

WEL Audio WF Howes 2021

UK serial *Sunday Times* 2021

China Good Publishing

256 pages

A beautifully reflective conversation about how illness transformed the work of some of our best-known visual artists, and the impact it has on creativity

In **FRAGILE BODIES**, Kat uses her own experience with serious illness to look for solace and empathy in art. As she lay in hospital a few months ago, Kat turned her gaze toward the impact bodily trauma has had on some of her favourite artists – Frida Kahlo, Dorothea Lange, Eva Hesse, Tracey Emin – searching for the difference that sickness or injury made to their incredible creative minds, and investigating how they each turned their suffering into art itself, or transformed their art when forced to adapt to an altered physicality.

Told through a selection of notable artists of the twentieth century, **FRAGILE BODIES** blends memoir, criticism and biography in order to bring their stories vibrantly to life. What connects these artists? The warring elements of struggle and resilience that coloured their lives. Challenging our notions of activity and passivity in times of grief and adversity, each of these narratives will reveal their work as pieces of themselves. How did Frida Kahlo's sick bed, after a tram accident rendered her immobile at the age of eighteen, help her reimagine her fractured body with brushes and paint? What impact did Dorothea Lange's childhood polio have on her gaze in Depression-afflicted America, photographing with empathy?

From Henri Matisse's cut-outs, created when he was no longer able to hold a paintbrush or stand at his easel, to the fragmentary hope of Derek Jarman's garden in the years he spent living with HIV, via the ephemerality of Eva Hesse's tragically curtailed sculptural life in 1960s New York, the racialised art of Donald Rodney and the visceral paintings of Tracy Emin, these stories illuminate the fragile interplay between the body's betrayals and the soul's resilience.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kat Lister is a writer and editor based in London. Beginning her career as a music journalist at the *NME*, she has gone on to write widely for publications including *Vice*, *Guardian*, *Marie Claire*, *Vogue*, *the Independent* and *The Feminist Times*, where she was appointed Contributing Editor.

In 2017, she joined the editorial team at *The Pool*, becoming a features and news editor until its demise in 2019. Since her husband's death in 2018, she has focused on investigating her experience of grief, writing widely circulated essays and features for *The Sunday Times Magazine*, *Sunday Times Style* and *The Observer*. Her first book, **THE ELEMENTS: A WIDOWHOOD**, was published in September 2021 with Icon Books.

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

236 pages

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**.

A skilful, memorable work, ideal for fans of Olivia Laing, Jung Chang and Janet Malcolm.

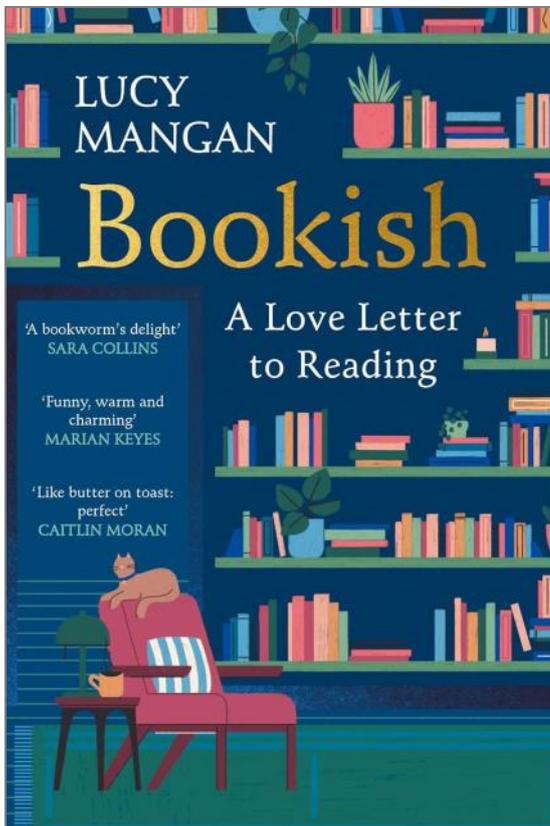
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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

Lucy Mangan



Agent Juliet Pickering

WEL HB Square Peg Mar 2025

WEL PB Vintage Mar 2026

WEL audio Vintage Mar 2025

UK Serial [The Guardian](#) Mar 2025

US HB Pegasus Books Jan 2026

US audio Pegasus Books Jan 2026

Russia Azbooka-Atticus

Option publishers

India (Telugu) Kathaaprapancham Books

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 gorgeous hug of a book – funny, warm and charming.’ – Marian Keyes

‘A bookworm’s delight... I devoured this book.’ – Sara Collins (THE CONFESSIONS OF FRANNIE LANGTON)

‘Comforting, funny and moving.’ – Sali Hughes (EVERYTHING IS WASHABLE)

‘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.

CHILDREN OF WAR: The Last Survivors of the Kindertransport

Kate Thompson



Agent Kate Burke

UK+BC Under offer
US On submission
Canada On submission

Option publishers
Finland Bazar
Italy Newton Compton Editori (pre-empt)
Portugal Alma dos Livros
Romania Omnium Publishing
Spain Newton Compton Editores

Sunday Times bestselling author Kate Thompson tells the extraordinary stories of three women evacuated as young children from war-torn Europe to England on the Kindertransport

December 2028 will mark 90 years since the founding of the Kindertransport, a unique humanitarian rescue operation to save children from Nazi-controlled territory. In all, the Kindertransport rescue operation brought around 10,000 children from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland to Great Britain. The vast majority of these children were Jewish.

In **CHILDREN OF WAR**, Kate weaves together the stories of three women – Gabriele, Ruth and Marianne – with the broader historical context of the Kindertransport initiative and the treatment of Jews in Europe. She asks: how far would you go to save your child? Could you send them to another country, into the arms of strangers, to keep them safe, knowing you might never see them again?

In some of the last living testimony from the time, Kate tells a tale of hardship, courage, unwavering parental love and the sacrifices people make in the face of conflict. This book will be dedicated to the thousands of parents who loved their children enough to let them go.

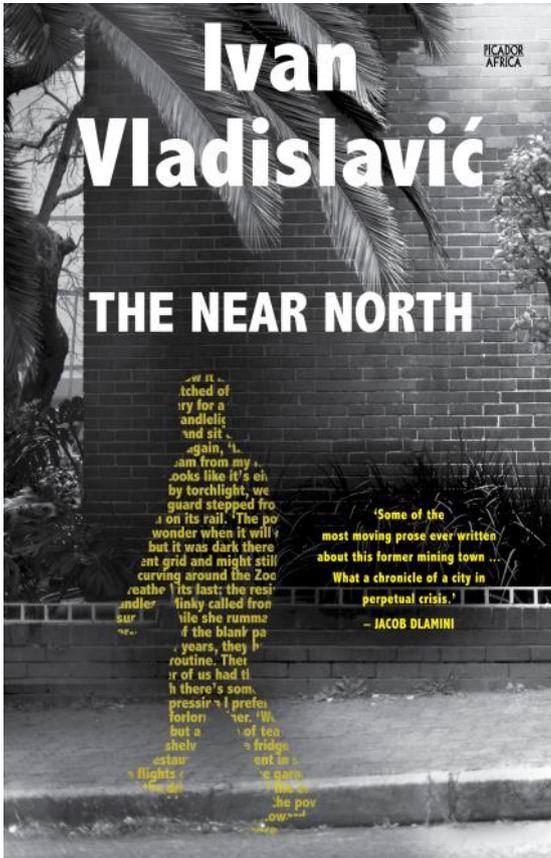
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kate Thompson is a journalist and bestselling writer who lives with her family in London. Her most recent novels focus on remarkable libraries in wartime: **THE SECRET SOCIETY OF LIBRARIANS** will be published in March 2026 by Hodder & Stoughton.

Kate's previous work of non-fiction, **A MOTHER'S PROMISE**, the memoir of Holocaust survivor Renee Salt, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller in hardback and paperback.

THE NEAR NORTH

Ivan Vladislavić



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

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

‘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

‘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.

Tranan 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 & ROI TPB Batis Books 2026

US On Submission

Option publishers

France Editions Zoe
Italy Utopia Editore
Spain Almuzara Libros
Turkey Livera

264 pages

SPURNED

Meg Walters



Agent Juliet Pickering

UK&US On Submission

Proposal available

A witty and engaging exploration of love's most famous literary losers, for fans of Anna Bogutskaya's **UNLIKEABLE FEMALE CHARACTERS**

Bridget Jones, Elizabeth Bennett, Daisy Jones... we all know the women who win at love. But what about the women who lose? Who are too clever, too ambitious, too ugly or too silly to deserve romance? And what can they tell us about not just our greatest love stories but also ourselves?

In **SPURNED**, Meg Walters tackles these tropes with energy and humour, sketching a picture of the women we were and the women we've become – and not letting men off the hook either. Main character energy? Nah, it's much more interesting to be spurned!

A clever and incisive look at womanhood, love and romance – and how you can do better.

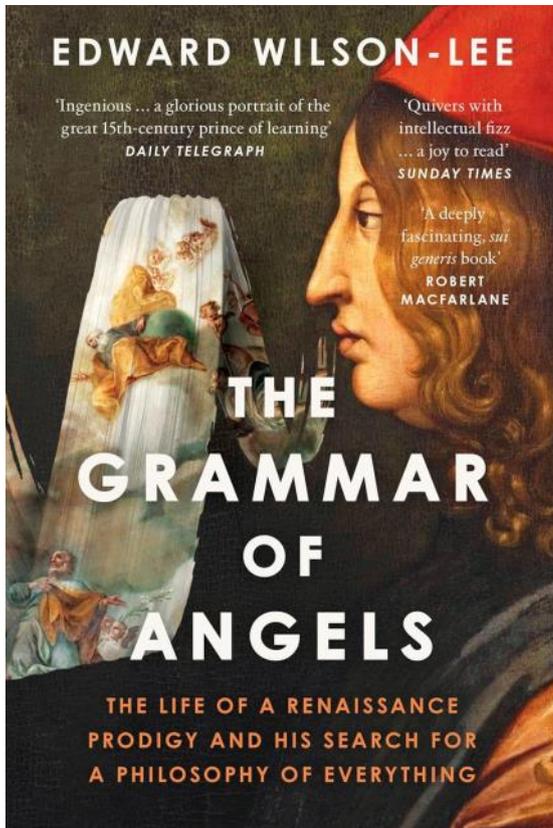
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Meg is a culture writer based in London. She studied English literature and drama at the University of Toronto before training in acting at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

Since 2019, Meg has been working as a freelance features writer and critic. She has written for publications that include *Glamour*, *Stylist*, *InStyle*, *The Guardian*, *Vulture*, *Daily Beast*, *i-D*, *Little White Lies*, *the i*, and *Marie Claire*. She has also appeared as a guest on a number of podcasts including *Truth & Movies: a Little White Lies Podcast* and *Flixwatcher*. Last year, her work was included in the essay anthology **ISN'T SHE GREAT**.

THE GRAMMAR OF ANGELS

Edward Wilson-Lee



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: The Life of a Renaissance Prodigy, and His Search For A Philosophy of Everything 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.

Agent Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB William Collins Jan 2025

UKexCan PB William Collins 2026

UKexCan audio William Collins Jan 2025

Italy Bollati Boringhieri

Korea Kachi Publishing Co.

Romania ART

Option publishers

Japan Kashiwashobo

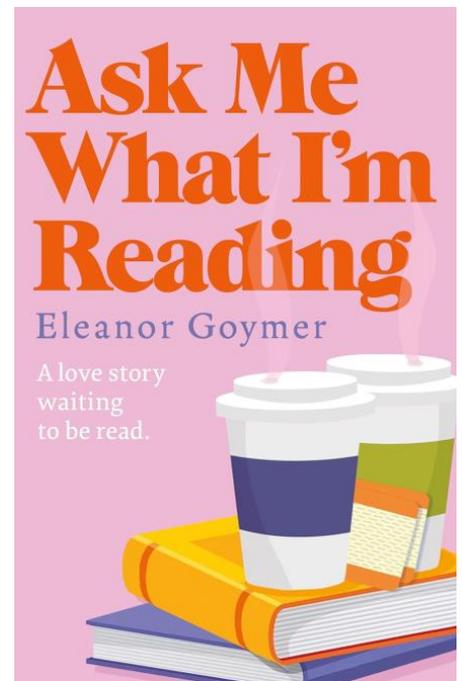
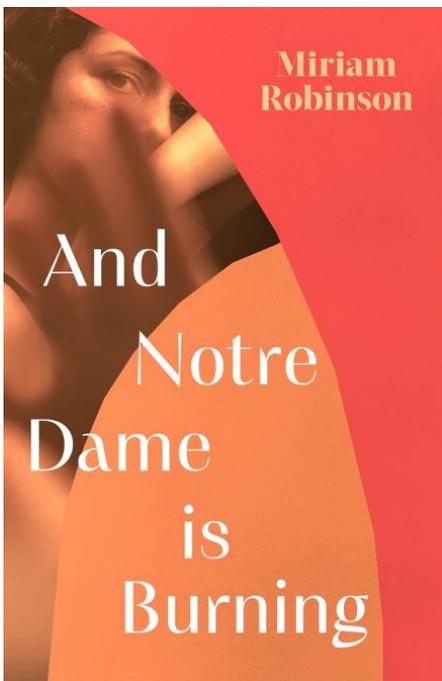
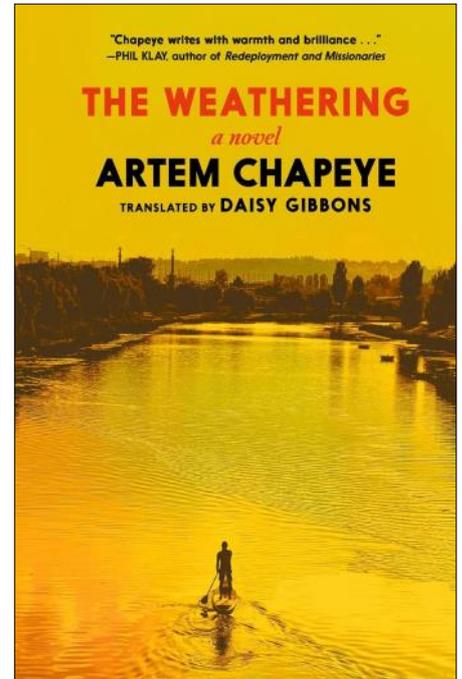
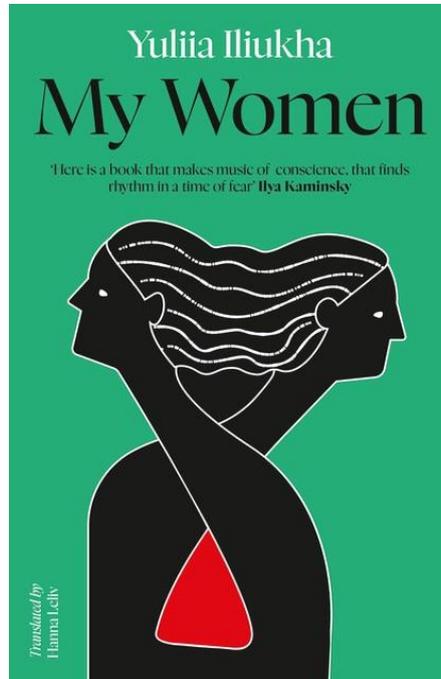
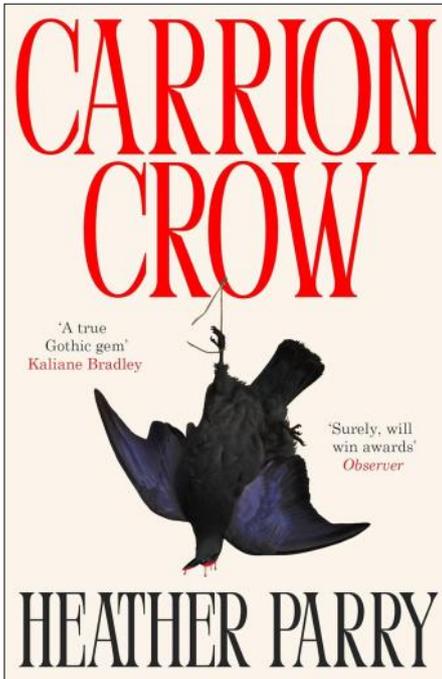
Russia Azbooka-Atticus

Spain Ariel

Ukraine Laboratory

336 pages

ASSOCIATE AGENTS

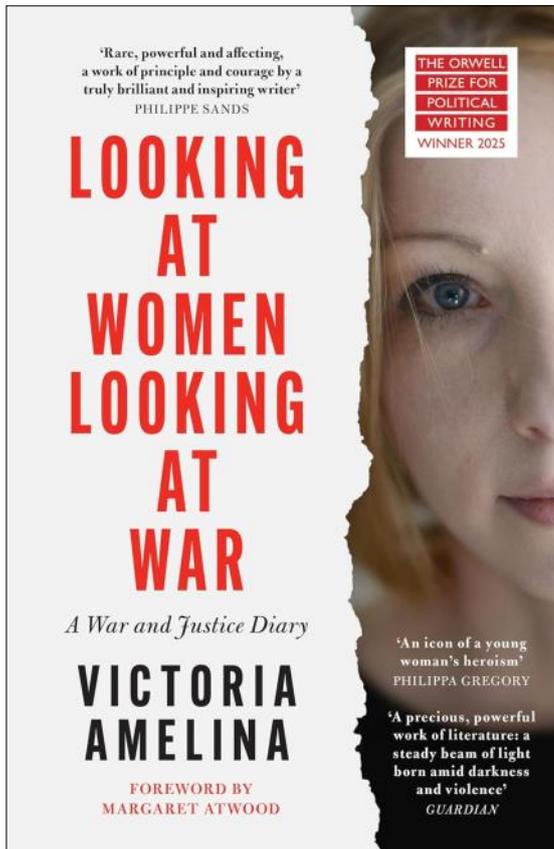


Laxfield Literary Associates

Lewinsohn Literary

LOOKING AT WOMEN LOOKING AT WAR

Victoria Amelina



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

Czechia Nakladatelství Paseka
Denmark Forlaget Palomar | France
Flammarion | Georgia Intelekti
Germany edition.fotoTAPETA | Italy
Guanda (pre-empt) | Japan Hakusuisha
Korea Pacho | Lithuania Baltos Lankos
Netherlands ISVW Uitgevers | Poland
Krytyka Polityczna | Romania Polirom
Sweden Ersatz | Taiwan Acropolis
Ukraine Old Lion Publishing House

320 pages

Destined to be a classic, a novelist's powerful look at the courage of resistance. With a foreword by Margaret Atwood

Winner of the 2025 Orwell Prize for Political Writing and the Moore Prize for Human Rights Writing 2025

'Rare, powerful and affecting.' – 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; Germany: Mauke; 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. **A HOME FOR DOM** (a novel, sold in eight markets) 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 and 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. In 2021 she founded a literary festival in the Donetsk region, Ukraine. Her honours include the Joseph Conrad Literary Award (2021) and the IPA Prix Voltaire Special Award (2024).

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.

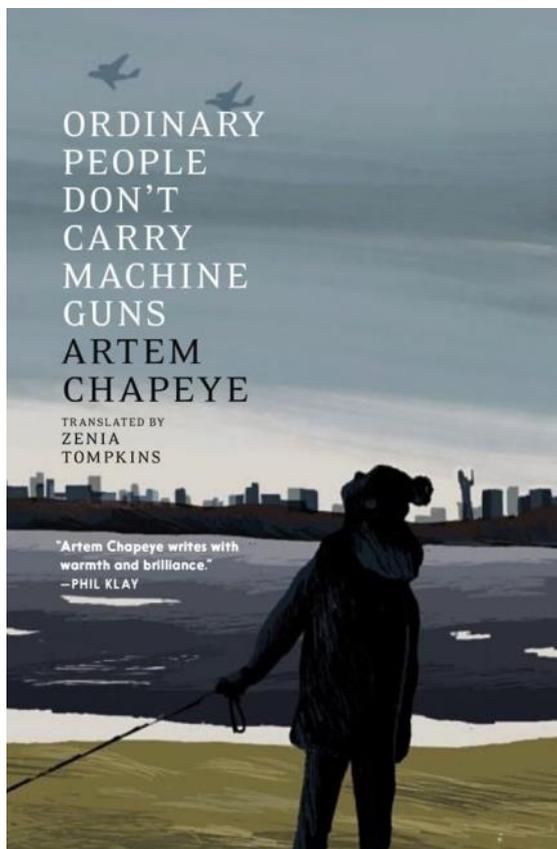
Chapeye explores his role in the Ukrainian people’s defense against the Russian army and his responsibilities as a father, a writer, a soldier, and a man of conviction. An avowed pacifist until 2022, Chapeye joined the Ukrainian army in the first days of the invasion. He tries to understand the large-scale 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 **THE WEATHERING** (Books XXI, Ukraine 2021; Seven Stories, WEL 2026), 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 five-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) and made the 2025 shortlist for the EBRD Literature Prize. 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.

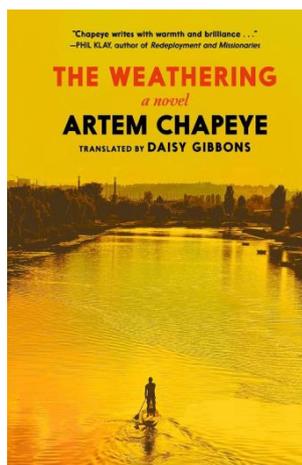


Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

WEL PB Seven Stories Press 2025

Denmark Jensen & Dalgaard
Germany btb
Holland Bezige Bij
Italy Iperborea

128 pages



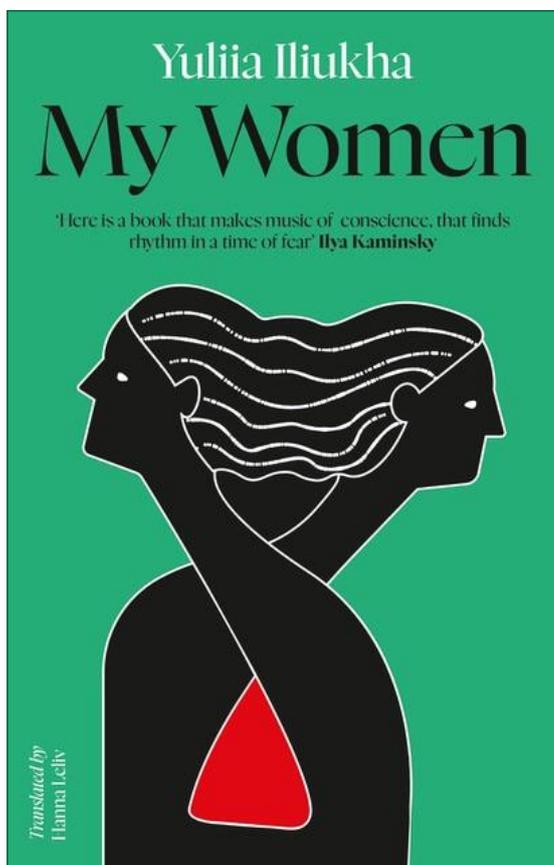
MY WOMEN

Yuliia Iliukha

English translation by Hanna Leliv

Urgent and poignant stories of women confronted by the countless brutalities of war

Winner of the 2024 BBC Book of the Year (Ukraine)



‘Here is a book that makes music of conscience, that finds rhythm in a time of fear, that offers language in a silence after air raids and builds a raft of words to try to sail out of the bombed-out city.’ – Ilya Kaminsky

‘A beautiful and necessary read.’ – Jacques Fux

‘Through poetic vignettes narrated by anonymous women, Yuliia Iliukha creates a strikingly multi-faceted and intimate portrait of the experience of the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine... painfully rich in visceral and immediate detail’ – Ainsley Morse

MY WOMEN locates the voices and devastating experiences of those who have been silenced, those who have lost loved ones, those who have fought and persevered, and those who have broken down. Through poetic repetition, the nameless protagonists of **MY WOMEN** bring succinct and emotionally charged stories that evoke life during war in Ukraine with an intensity that is at times excruciatingly difficult yet deeply moving.

Also available: **LESSONS OF LOVE AND HATE**, a collection of 60 poems about the feelings that the war forced Ukrainian women to live and rethink. Each poem represents an emotion experienced by a Ukrainian woman, told in a series of lessons – lessons of hope, fury, empathy, disobedience, powerlessness, reconciliation, escape, happiness – conveying life in war in all its manifestations as familiar emotions are experienced in a new way.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Yuliia Iliukha is also the author of two novels, **THE EASTERN SYNDROME** and **ZERO** and a short story collections **THE SKY CATCHERS** and **TEACH ME TO DREAM**, poetry collections and several books for children. Her poetry and prose have been translated into English, German, Italian, Polish, Swedish, Portuguese, French, Slovak, Lithvanian, Catalan and other languages. Iliukha is a recipient of numerous awards, including the International Ukrainian-German Oles Honchar Prize for Literature, the award from the International Literary Contest ‘Word Coronation 2018’, the 128 LIT International Chapbook Prize 2023 (USA), Rotahorn-Literaturpreis 2024 (Austria) and BBC Book of the Year 2024 (Ukraine).

Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

UK+BC PB Indigo Press Mar 2026
US PB 128 Lit Oct 2024

Austria Edition Thanhäuser
Finland Aula & Co | **France** Edition
Des Femmes | **Greece** Vaxikon
Publications | **Holland** Atlas Contact
Italy Le Mezzelane | **Latvia** Valters
un Rapa | **Lithuania** Slinktys
Poland KEW | **Slovakia**
Vydavateľstvo Motýl’ | **Sweden**
Romanus & Selling | **Spain** La
Tortuga Búlgara | **Ukraine** Bilka
Books

94 pages

THE LANGUAGE OF WAR

Oleksandr Mykhed



Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

UK+BC ex Can HB Allen Lane Jun 2024 (pre-empt)
WEL PB Allen Lane Apr 2026

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.

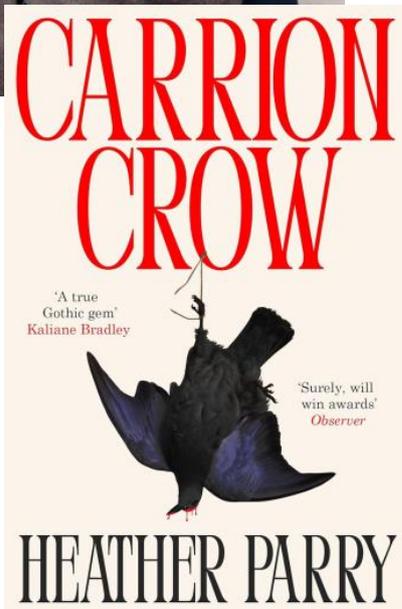
Essays included in the book have been published in outlets including the *Financial Times*, *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* and *Le Monde*. Mykhed’s first essay for the FT Weekend, published barely a fortnight after the invasion, elicited a global response, culminating in appearances on CNN and NPR. 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.

THIS MACHINE FEEDS

Heather Parry



Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

UK + BC HB Doubleday 2027
UK + BC PB Doubleday 2028

Option publishers
Italy La Bottega dell'Invisibile

70,000 words

Heather explores the dangers of capitalist culture and the modern world in this utterly unique cautionary tale

Heather, a young performance artist with middling talent but flawless instincts for self-promotion, becomes an emblem of our times. As she prepares a work that promises ultimate revelation, her sense of the real begins to disintegrate.

By smashing apart the circuit board of late-capitalist life, we can now, at last, witness our ecosystem of surveillance and exploitation. In the sparking cables and blinking lights, we see clearly the humming madness beneath the surface of every image. And the violence of a world that insists on value in constant visibility.

Taking its reader on a cultural hell-ride – from reenactments of JFK's assassination to cherished friends that turn into pillars of salt – **THIS MACHINE FEEDS** answers the question that howls in all of our chests: how can I be sane in insane times?

Praise for **CARRION CROW**:

'A true gothic gem.' – Kaliane Bradley

'Masterful. I loved it.' – Julia Armfield

'One of the most important new voices in fiction... 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

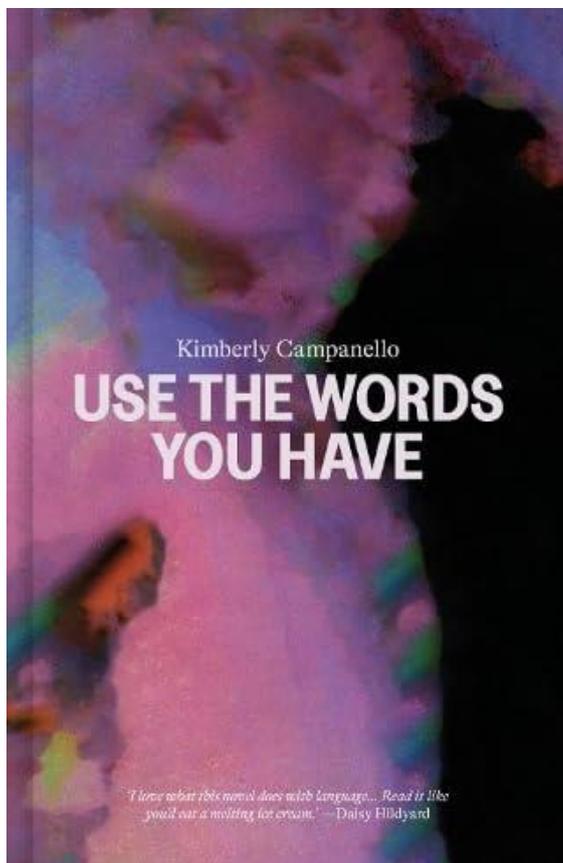
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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** (Pushkin) 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. Her latest novel, **CARRION CROW** (Doubleday) was inspired by the true story of Blanche Monnier.

USE THE WORDS YOU HAVE

Kimberly Campanello



Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

WEL PB 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.

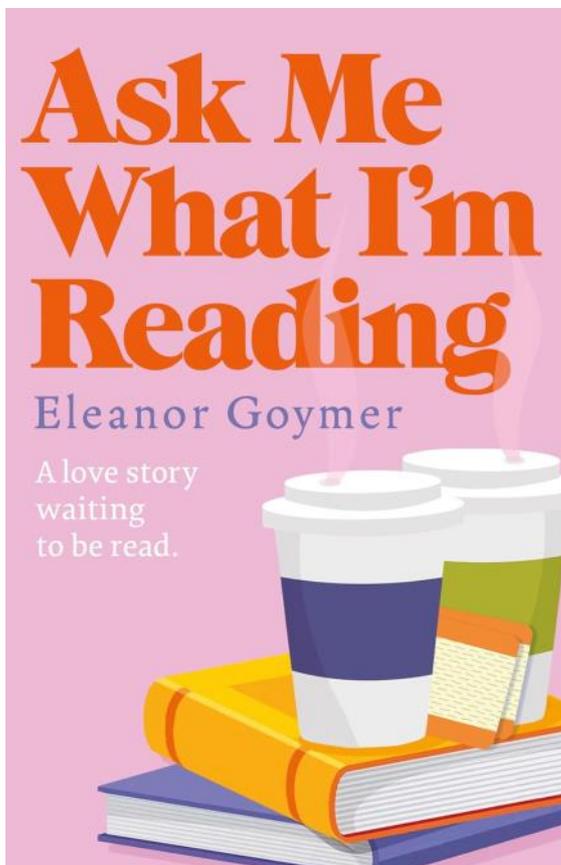
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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.

ASK ME WHAT I'M READING

Eleanor Goymer



A slow-burn romance about chance encounters, the love of books and the quiet thrill of meeting someone who just gets it...

Every morning, Sophie boards the same train.

Every morning, she spots him – tall, unreadable, always with a novel in hand... often the same one she is reading.

Soon, their commute becomes a silent exchange of titles, a game only they seem to be playing. But how long can a love story stay between the lines before someone dares to take it off the page...

ASK ME WHAT I'M READING is perfect for fans of **ONE DAY** and **TALKING AT NIGHT**.

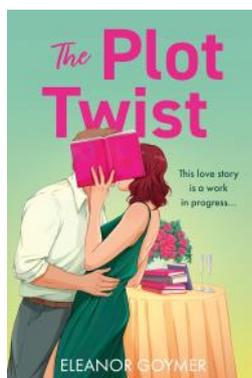
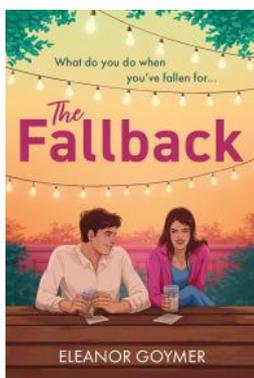
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eleanor Goymer is the author of **THE FALLBACK** and the romcom **THE PLOT TWIST**. Born and raised in the UK, Eleanor now lives in the USA.

Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

WEL PB HarperCollins Jun 2026

384 pages



LACK

Cecilia Knapp



Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

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

384 pages

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.

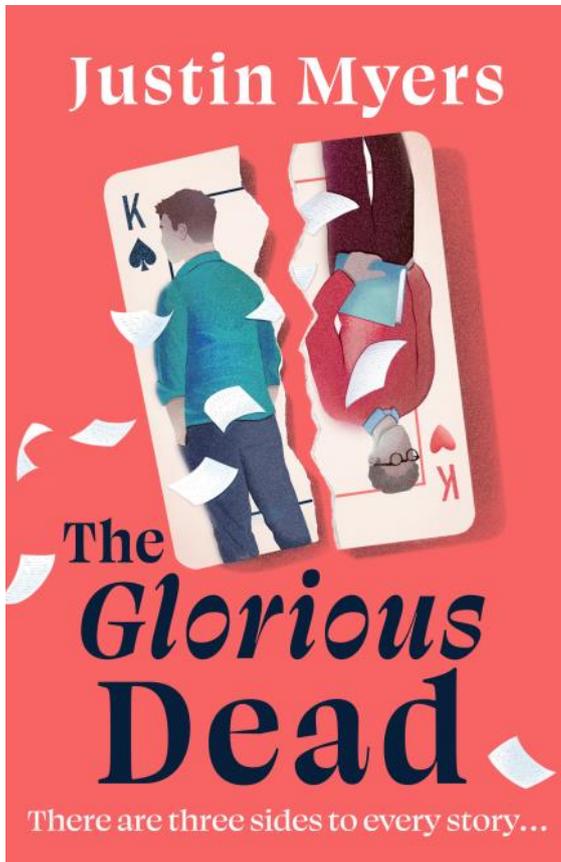
Her debut poetry collection *PEACH PIG* was published by Corsair in 2022 and was *The Observer’s* poetry book of the month for October. Her poems have appeared in *Vogue*, *The Financial Times*, *Granta*, *The White Review*, and are widely anthologised. Her debut novel *LITTLE BOXES* was published by The Borough Press in 2022 and was longlisted for the 2023 Authors Club Best First Novel Award. She is an ambassador for the mental health charity CALM.



CONTEMPORARY

THE GLORIOUS DEAD

Justin Myers



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.

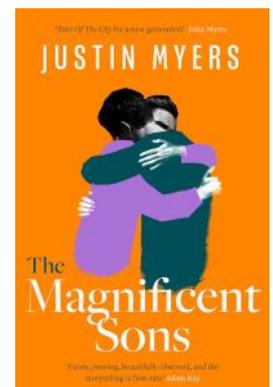
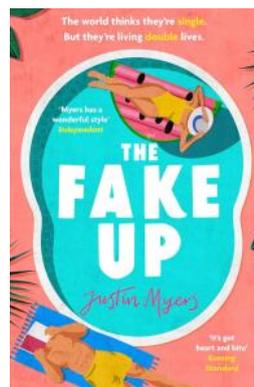
Agent Becky Thomas
Lewinsohn Literary

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

368 pages

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

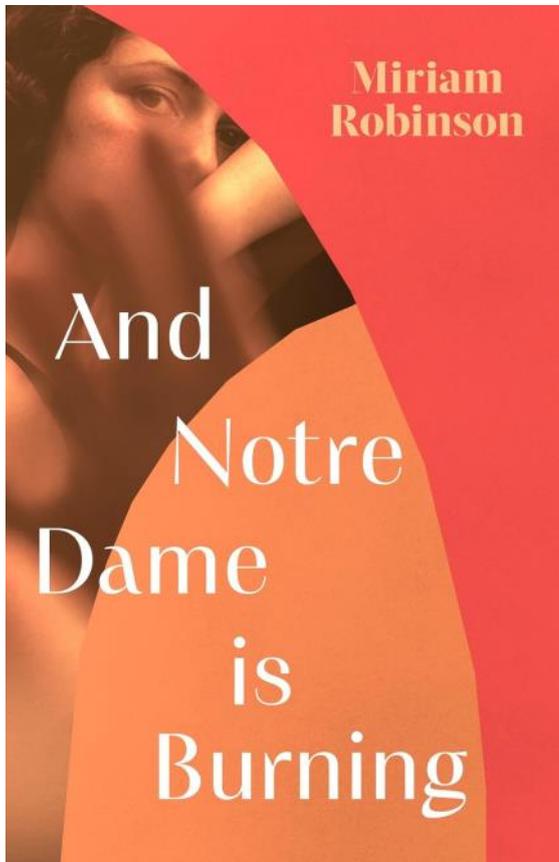
Justin Myers is a writer and editor from Shipley, Yorkshire, who now lives in London. After years working in journalism, he began his popular, anonymous dating blog *The Guyliner* in 2010, spent five years as dating and advice columnist in *Gay Times* and is now a weekly columnist at *British GQ*. His 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.



LITERARY

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.

