



WOLF LITERARY SERVICES

Wolf Literary Services

London 2026

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FICTION

STRANGE ANIMALS

by Jarod K. Anderson

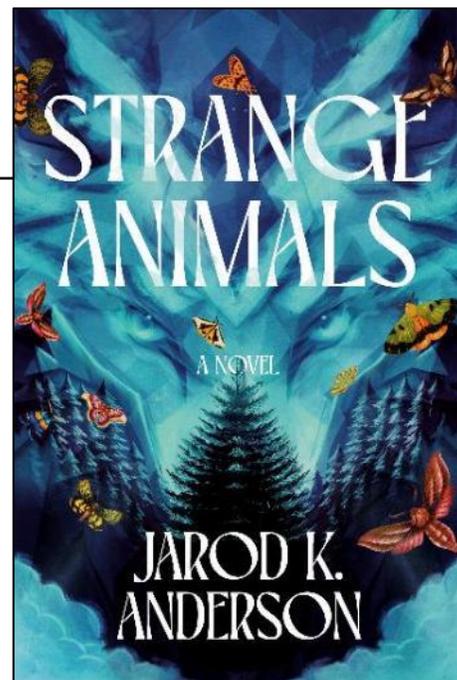
Publisher: Ballantine (N/Am) + **Editor:** Julian Pavia.
Pub date: February 10, 2025 + **Materials:** Finished pages.
Category: Fantasy + **Agent:** Rach Crawford.

Rights sold: UK/Comm: Solaris.

+ Sold in a six figure preempt.
+ 500,000 lifetime downloads of author's podcast,
280,000 followers across platforms.
+ For fans of Jeff VanderMeer and Robin Hobb.

An ordinary man discovers a hidden world of fantastical creatures—and an unexpected home—in this enchanting contemporary fantasy debut.

Green trips on the curb, falls flat into the street, and sees the city bus speeding towards him. And then...blink. He's back on the curb, miraculously still alive. Desperate for answers and beset by visions of impossible creatures, Green finds his way to a remote campsite in the Appalachian Mountains, where he meets a centuries-old teacher and begins an apprenticeship unlike anything he could imagine. Under his new mentor's grouchy tutelage, Green begins to see past hidden nature's terrors and glimpse its beauty—all while befriending fellow misfits, finding connection and community. But Green's new happiness promises to be short-lived, because alongside these marvels lurks a deadly threat to this place he's already come to love.



"Unique, haunting, riveting, and beautifully magical--this is the kind of strange and wonderful book that you carry around in your heart." — Sarah Beth Durst, *New York Times* bestselling author

"Anderson has conceived of such a rich world, and such a textured mythology. I can't remember a time when cryptids felt more . . . real." — Justin McElroy, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

"I cannot express how much this book scratched an itch I didn't know I had. The deep wonder and curiosity about nature coupled with the terror of our own insignificance strummed a familiar chord within me. I envy everyone who gets to read *Strange Animals* for the first time."
— Kevin Hearne, *New York Times* bestselling author

"I absolutely adore this book. Reading it is like ... listening to a master storyteller weave tales of cryptids and extradimensional gods. A delight from start to finish."
— Lucy A. Snyder, Bram Stoker Award-winning author

"Wildly inventive, fantastically fun. I absolutely loved it from the first page." — Peter Clines, *New York Times* bestselling author

"Jarod K. Anderson's *Strange Animals* is another sort of story about the porous membranes between human and other, and our right to judge things from the other side of those membranes." — *Reactor*

"Both creepy and comforting. Recommended for fans of Alisa Alering's *Smothermoss* and Kay Chronister's *The Bog Wife*." — *Booklist*

Jarod K. Anderson has written three best-selling collections of nature poetry. His memoir *Something in the Woods Loves You* (Timber Press/Hachette, 2024) explores his lifelong struggle with depression through a lens of love and gratitude for the natural world. Jarod created and voices *The CryptoNaturalist* podcast, a scripted show about real adoration for fictional wildlife. He lives in Ohio between a park and a cemetery. You can find him across platforms @cryptonaturalist.

FEW AND FAR BETWEEN

by Jan Carson

Publisher: Scribner (N/Am) + **Editor:** Emily Polson.

Pub date: August 4, 2026 + **Materials:** Final PDF.

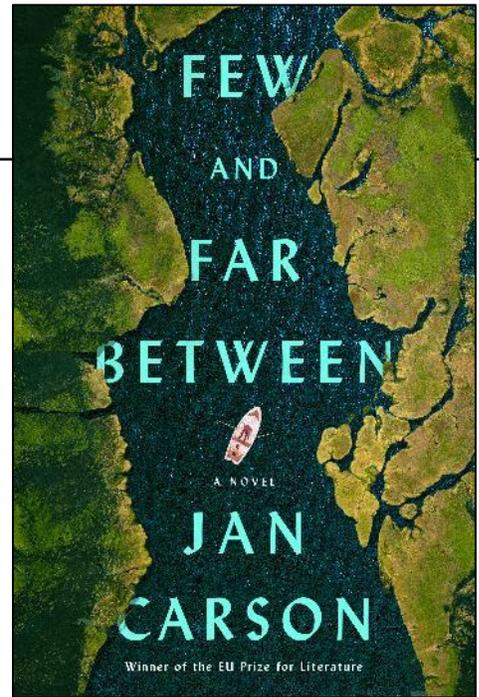
Category: Literary + **Agent:** Kate Johnson.

Rights sold: UK/Comm: Doubleday (pub date April 2026); **French:** Sabine Wespieser; **Greek:** Vakxikon

+ From the EU Prize for Literature-winning author of *The Fire Starters*.

+ Literature Ireland grants available for translation.

Sometimes a utopia is not all that it seems ... *Few and Far Between* imagines an alternative version of Northern Ireland's recent past. A prime minister with a mad plan to create a new county. An archipelago of haunted islands. A community seeking refuge from the Troubles. The perfect place to escape to - or so it appears. It's summer 2017 and the last few residents of the Lough Neagh Archipelago are facing imminent eviction. The flood planned to combat a devastating algae outbreak will submerge their homes, forcing them back to the Mainland for the first time in fifty years. How will they cope with modern life? Will the Ark give up its secrets before it sinks? Can they leave the past behind?



“A joy to read...No writer captures the absurdity and beauty of life quite like [Jan Carson] does, and with this novel she has created something especially prescient.”

— Sara Baume, author of *Spill Simmer Falter Wither*

“Warm, sharp and gloriously funny, Jan Carson writes exuberant prose about difficult people in interesting times.” — Sarah Moss, author of *Ripeness*

“Jan Carson's understanding of, and love for, complicated human people is unmatched in contemporary literature... her best book yet.” — Heather Parry, author of *Carrion Crowe*

“Carson is one of the most industrious writers on this island, and every one of her novels is a lesson in craft and imagination.” — *The Sunday Times* (Ireland)

Jan Carson is the author of several short story collections and novels including *Quickly, While They Still Have Horses*; *The Raptures*; and *The Fire Starters*, winner of the EU Prize for Literature. Her new novel *Few and Far Between* is forthcoming this year from Scribner US and Doubleday UK. She has won the Harper's Bazaar short story competition and been shortlisted for many awards, including the BBC National Short Story Award, the Seán Ó Faoláin Short Story Prize, and the Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year. Jan is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, and her writing has been translated into over a dozen languages, appeared in numerous journals, and been frequently broadcast on BBC Radio. She lives in Belfast.

Highlighted backlist:

***The Fire Starters* (Doubleday, 2019): Winner of the EU Prize for Literature:** Albanian: Toena; Arabic: Al Arabi; Bulgarian: Perseus; Croatian: HENA Com; French: Sabine Wespieser; Georgian: MTP; German: Liebeskind; Greek: Vakxikon; Hungarian: Metropolis; Italian: Giulio Perrone; Latvian: Janis Roze. Macedonian: TRI Publishing Centre; Spanish: Hoja de Lata; Turkish: Kitap Vadisi. // ***The Raptures* (Doubleday, 2022):** French: Sabine Wespieser; Italian: Giulio Perrone; Brazil: Incompleta; Arabic: Al Arabi; Greek: Vakxikon. // ***Quickly, While They Still Have Horses* (stories) (Scribner, 2024):** UK: Doubleday; French: Sabine Wespieser; Greek: Vakxikon.

THE WATER TAKES

by Sarah Walker

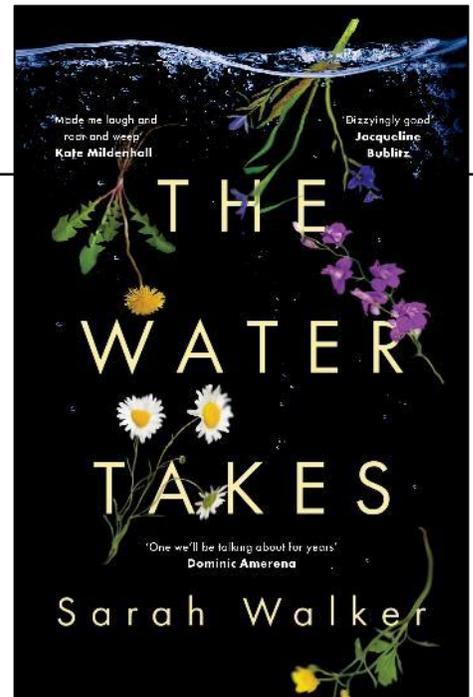
Publisher: Summit (ANZ) + **Editor:** Jane Palfreyman.

Pub date: April 2026 + **Materials:** Final pdf.

Category: Literary/upmarket + **Agent:** Rach Crawford.

- + Debut novel from an awarded essayist.
- + ANZ rights sold in a six figure pre-empt by Jane Palfreyman for Summit Australia.
- + For readers of Sophie Mackintosh.

Pam is in her mid-seventies, widowed and hiding from the world behind a caustic sense of humour. Her health is declining, but her most pressing concern is complaining to the local authorities about her waterlogged garden. When Pam's ten-year-old neighbour, Charlotte, is foisted upon her, a tentative friendship unfurls, cracking open Pam's hard exterior. But the puddles in the garden become pools, and then sinkholes. Nowhere seems safe. With no help coming, Pam and Charlotte can only shelter in place for so long – eventually, they know they must attempt to navigate a catastrophically altered world. *The Water Takes* is a work of astonishing literary imagination with the urgent page-turning propulsion of a thriller.



- "When legendary publisher Jane Palfreyman describes a novel as one of the best debuts she's read, you pay attention." — *The Age***
- "*The Water Takes* is a beautifully written blend of looming menace and sharp humour, along with a tender and timely reminder that connection is what saves us when catastrophe hits. A dizzily good debut." — Jacqueline Bublitz, author of *Before You Knew My Name***
- "*The Water Takes* is haunting, terrifying and still somehow hopeful. Seventy-something Pam is one of the most vivid characters I've ever encountered - she made me laugh and roar and weep. I am in awe of Sarah Walker and this book." — Kate Mildenhall, author of *The Hiding Place***
- "*The Water Takes* is an intimate epic; both a dazzling paean to hope and a staggering monument to loss. While Walker's prose pulls tighter than a garotte wire, her characters are drawn with unspeakable tenderness ... heartfelt, horrifying, and wholly original." — Jordan Prosser, author of *Big Time***
- "Atmospheric and utterly harrowing, Walker has written a disquieting account of grief and fortitude in a drowning world. This book devastated me." — Emily O'Grady, author of *Feast***

Sarah Walker is a Naarm/Melbourne-based writer and artist. Her first book, *The First Time I Thought I Was Dying*, a collection of non-fiction essays about the unruly body in late capitalism, won the 2021 Quentin Bryce Award. She was runner-up in the 2019 Calibre Essay Prize and received the 2020 ABR Victorian Rising Star award. Her work has been shortlisted for the Commonwealth Short Story Prize, the Walkley Awards, the Hammond House International Short Story Prize, the Nillumbik Prize, the Disquiet Literary Contest, the Alpine Fellowship Writing Prize and the Darebin Mayor's Writing Award. She has been published in *The Monthly*, *Overland*, *Meanjin*, *Island Magazine*, *Kill Your Darlings*, *the ABR*, *the AFR*, and *The Guardian*. She is also an award-winning photographer and fine artist, whose work has been commissioned across multiple countries. She is a PhD candidate at RMIT. Her work is online at sarahwalker.work

HOT FRUIT

by Erinrose Mager

Publisher: Fonograf Editions (N/Am) + **Editor:** Jeff Alessandrelli.

Pub date: November 2026 + **Materials:** First pass.

Category: Literary fiction/stories + **Agent:** Kate Johnson.

Strange and incantatory, Erinrose Mager's debut collection *Hot Fruit* investigates the longing for self, the longing for another, and the longing for connection between the self and another when the other is inherently unknowable, obscured, or out of reach.

A woman speaks to her celebrity father through the television screen. A mother and daughter approach each other on a dock by the ocean. A lonely king discovers his heir in a golden box. A new bride eats endless candy in the back of a limo. An adjunct professor falls into a vivid, frantic dream.

The pieces in this collection constellate sensations of familial loss and longing, financial precarity, cultural and racial hybridity, consumption, fractured memory, and the peculiarity of placelessness, all observed in proximity to the quotidian: a racoon in the road, a lemon, an unhurried meal, a scrap of fabric. Interspersed with a fable cycle that reimagines Korean myths, legends, and contemporary media through the lens of the adoptee experience, these stories confront the question: When all is borrowed or given or stolen or lost, can anything—can anyone—be known?

"The "here" of the stories in *Hot Fruit*, these bursts of "desperate, enigmatic poetry," is a fabulist space of possibility, a world of "sudden double exposure" where to think a thing is to make it so.

...Like some chimeric offspring of Diane Williams, Donald Barthelme, and Marguerite Duras, Erinrose Mager is dreamlike, frightening, tragic, very funny, and totally singular."

— Elisa Gabert, author of *Any Person is The Only Self*

Erinrose Mager was born in Korea. Her work appears in *Prelude*, The Poetry Project's *The Recluse*, *DIAGRAM*, *jubilat*, *Fence*, and elsewhere. She teaches at The Brooklyn Writer's Foundry MFA Program at St. Joseph's University in New York. *Hot Fruit* is her first book.



Cover art shown. Final cover to come.

NON-FICTION

THE DESERVING: What the Lives of the Condemned Reveal about American Justice

by Elizabeth Vartkessian

Publisher: Bloomsbury (N/Am) + **Editor:** Callie Garnett.

Pub date: January 20, 2026 + **Materials:** Final pages.

Category: Social justice/Politics + **Agent:** Kate Johnson.

Rights sold: UK/Comm: Footnote (Bonnier).

+ Sold at auction for mid-six figures.

+ Foreword by *Dead Man Walking* author Sister Helen Prejean.

A groundbreaking new take on the justice system from one of its unknown revolutionaries, offering a powerful new vision of responsibility, punishment, and repair, for readers of *No Visible Bruises* and *Just Mercy*. Elizabeth Vartkessian works with criminal defense teams as a mitigation specialist. She isn't part of an Innocence Project; her clients are often legally guilty, and often of terrible crimes. Rather, her job is to spend hundreds of hours per case talking to the parents, siblings, teachers, and neighbors of a defendant, situating their crimes in context. Her life's work has been to discover how her clients end up where they are and how their trajectories could have been different. In this book, she weaves powerful, gripping stories from her extraordinary career into an inspiring argument for dignity.

"There is hope in these pages. Through Vartkessian's work, we see the power of connection.

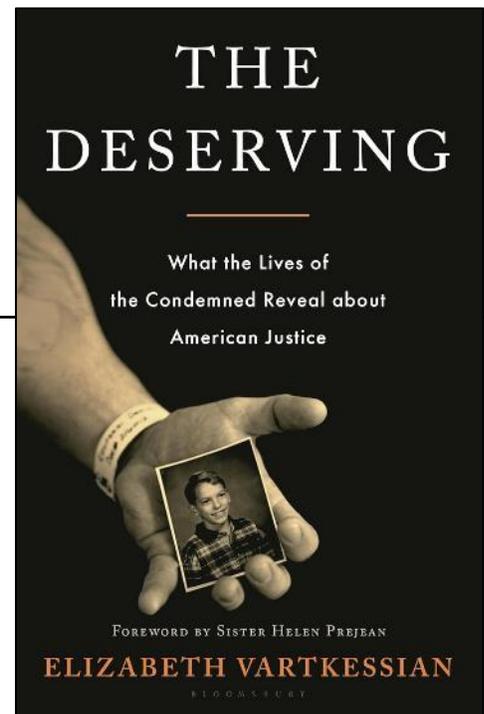
Like mercy, connection is harder to conjure than vengeance or detachment, but *The Deserving* makes it clear that a safe and functional society relies on people's ability to do that hard work." — *BookPage*, starred review

"Vartkessian has one of the most demanding jobs I've ever heard of: humanizing convicted murderers...their histories are wrenching to read about...Vartkessian renders them neither clinically nor sensationally—a fine line to walk." — *Harper's Magazine*

"Elizabeth Vartkessian writes about death row like a detective crossed with a philosopher, propelling us one revelation at a time into a richer understanding of how violence begets violence... Vartkessian offers a new, courageous vision for a society with less violence and more mercy, through an honest reckoning with how we fail the least among us."

— Maurice Chammah, author of *Let the Lord Sort Them*

Elizabeth Vartkessian has been investigating the life histories of those facing the most severe penalties possible in the United States since 2004. Vartkessian holds a Ph.D. in Law and an M.S. in Comparative Social Policy from the University of Oxford and B.A.s in Philosophy and Political Science from the George Washington University, where she was a Presidential Scholar. In 2015 she was awarded the J. M. K. Innovation Prize for her efforts to bring mitigation to all areas of the criminal justice process. Vartkessian is a founder of Advancing Real Change, Inc., a national non-profit dedicated to conducting life history investigations in criminal cases. She has spoken and written widely and written on the essentialness of anchoring human dignity in the criminal legal system.



DUTY TO WARN

by Charlotte Grieve

Publisher: Hachette Australia (W/Eng) + **Editor:** Vanessa Radnidge.

Pub date: January 31, 2026 + **Materials:** Final pages.

Category: Memoir/journalism + **Agent:** Rach Crawford.

+ #1 Amazon bestseller in multiple categories.

+ Sold in a pre-empt.

+ Author is a rising star of Australian journalism.

+ The doctor at the center of the story has patients all around the world.

It all started when a daughter asked her father 'Are there any risks?'

Investigative journalist Charlotte Grieve had a very personal reason to be interested in celebrated orthopaedic surgeon Dr. Munjed Al Muderis. Her father had lost his leg almost sixty years before a chance meeting with Dr. Al Muderis, who raised concerns about her father's ongoing mobility. The collision of the personal and professional would spark an investigation that led to a \$20 million defamation trial. Charlotte uncovered serious concerns about the doctor's surgical practice and evidence that he routinely failed to adequately inform patients of the risks involved in his signature procedure. Doctors have a duty of care, but they also legally have a duty to warn. It means that they *must* warn patients of any risks.

The doctor would go on to spend millions trying to prevent Charlotte from warning the public about his failures. Though pressured to drop her investigation, Charlotte stood firm. In the defamation trial, thirty-five of his patients, dozens of doctors, surgeons, and health professionals would take the stand, defending their stories, their lives, their truths.

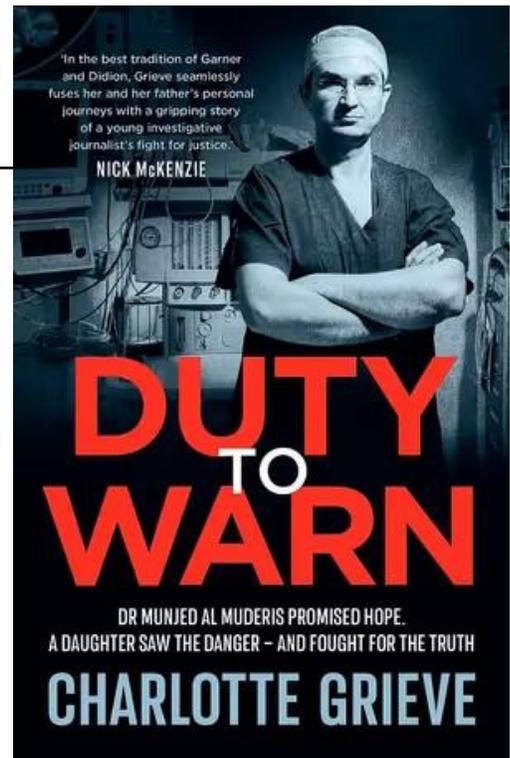
Compelling and masterfully written, *Duty to Warn* is the inside story of a young journalist fighting to uncover the facts whilst coming up against a powerful individual determined to stop her. It delivers a rare window into legal and ethical reckoning in medicine and in journalism. Ultimately, it is a story about the duty to warn, what it means, and the catastrophic outcomes that can ensue when a doctor fails to uphold their ethical responsibilities.

“In the best tradition of Garner and Didion, Grieve seamlessly fuses her and her father’s personal journeys with a gripping story of a young journalist’s fight for justice. Grieve is not only one of the finest reporters of her generation, she’s a fine writer too.” – Nick McKenzie

“Powerful.” – *The Guardian*

**“This is no dry courtroom drama. Grieve brings a personal touch to an important story.”
– *The Age***

Charlotte Grieve is an award-winning investigative journalist with *The Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald*. She was twice awarded Citi Young Business Journalist of the Year in 2022 and 2023, as well as two Quill Awards, highly commended for the Grant Hattam Quill for Investigative Journalism and nominated for a Walkley Mid-Year Prize for Environment Reporting. She has producer credits for five documentaries with *60 Minutes*. She currently works for the ABC.



THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF H. LAN THAO LAM

by Lana Lin

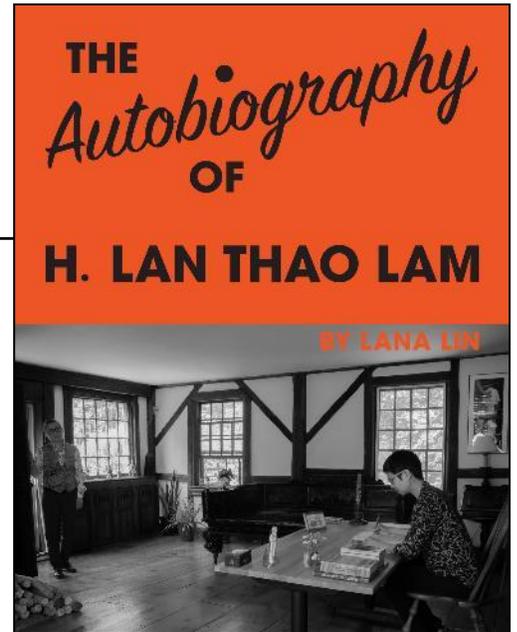
Publisher: The Dorothy Project (N/Am) + **Editor:** Danielle Dutton.

Pub date: September 30, 2025 + **Materials:** Final pages.

Category: Biography + **Agent:** Kate Johnson

+ Longlisted for the National Book Award in Nonfiction.
+ Innovative creative nonfiction for fans of Maggie Nelson.

In *The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas*, narrating her own story from the perspective of her partner, Gertrude Stein invented a literary form that was both intimate and uncanny, blurring lines of authority and identity. Almost a century later, experimental filmmaker and artist Lana Lin has resurrected Stein's project to tell another story of queer love, life, and artistic collaboration in a differently discordant age. At heart a candid chronicle of her partner Lan Thao's life journey from Việt Nam during the war, and her own troubled history as a gender-queer Taiwanese American, Lin draws in subjects as varied as photography, cancer, tropical fruit, 9/11, and Eve Sedgwick's eyeglasses, weaving an intimate landscape of living that is also a critical investigation of race and gender. Situated between memoir, social criticism, and conceptual art, *The Autobiography of H. Lan Thao Lam* is an incisive response to a modernist classic and an affecting exploration of the poetics and politics of our times.



"Lyrical prose, palpable love, and formal audacity coalesce to make this a must-read."

— *Publishers Weekly*, starred review

"A fresh take on a dual biography." — *Kirkus*

"[a] genre-defying portrait." — *The Millions*

"Lin's ingenious and absorbingly tender book meditates on dyadic identity while honoring the miracle and the mundaneness of bonded life." —Megan Milks, *4Columns*

"A love story, a litany, a catalog of observations, a guidebook of emotions, a ghost story, a map, a travelogue, a critique of authenticity, and a search for home ... plays with memory, grief, and solitude to reveal the rituals of intimacy that sustain a creative life."

— Mattilda Bernstein Sycamore, author of *Terry Dactyl*

"In her brilliant revision of the queer archive, Lana Lin not only brings the understory of the Asian diaspora to the surface but into luminous frame." — Julietta Singh, author of *The Breaks*

"It turns the standard recitation of events into a meditation on the nature of memory and the way our lives are so inextricably intertwined." — *Shondaland*

Lana Lin is a writer, artist, and filmmaker based in New York and Connecticut. She is the author of the book *Freud's Jaw and Other Lost Objects: Fractured Subjectivity in the Face of Cancer* and film and video works including *The Cancer Journals Revisited*. Her various works and collaborative projects (with Lan Thao Lam as "Lin + Lam") have exhibited at festivals and art and educational spaces throughout the world, including the Museum of Modern Art, Whitney Museum, and New Museum in New York, The National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., as well as in London, Taiwan, Seoul, and Busan.

BOATER: A Life on England's Waterways by Jo Bell

Publisher: HarperNorth (W/Eng) + **Editor:** Megan Jones.
Pub date: August 2025 + **Materials:** Final pdf.
Category: Memoir/nature. + **Agent:** Rach Crawford.

+ **Memoir from the former Poet Laureate of the UK canals.**
+ **For readers of Helen McDonald.**

Part travelogue, part alternate history, part nature writing, *Boater* is a mesmerising voyage along the tranquil waterways of England.

'It's not a lifestyle. It's a life.' For over twenty years, Jo Bell, archaeologist and poet, has travelled the waterways of England (and sometimes Wales) meeting extraordinary people in an extraordinary environment. It's a journey that's taught her about human nature, including her own; about rope and Brasso and bravery; about ducks and locks, and above all, about the necessity for a constant supply of biscuits.

In this smart, funny memoir she describes an alternative nation within a nation, a place of different maps and deep history, and home to people who live and work in a world quite separate from the land a few feet away on the banks. Always at home, always on the move, Jo's peaceful life is interrupted when a turbulent relationship takes her on a year-long odyssey through tranquil waters and on to the treacherous Bristol Channel. Join her as she navigates shallow waters and deep trouble, and welcomes readers onboard a remarkable voyage through the past, present and future of our remarkable canals and the communities they support.

"What a wonderful exploration of love and waterways – this evocative writing had populated the canals with so many more ghosts and stories – a truly enriching experience." — Robin Ince

"Jo Bell has an insider's knowledge and enthusiasm ... delving into the giddy history of the waterways, describing fellow boaters or chronicling her own joys and heartaches." — Jasper Winn

"Bell is a brilliant and often very funny writer." — Sally Coulthard

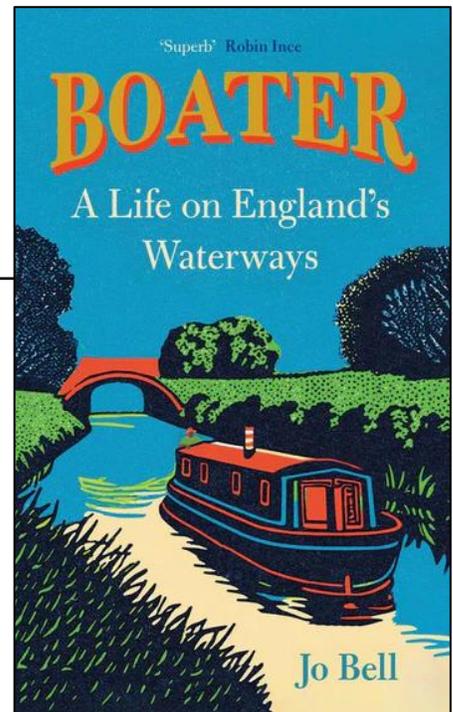
"A vivid, illuminating account of canal history." — Stuart Maconie

"Keen to [the canal network's] history and fragile beauty, its wildlife and cast of endlessly contrary characters, she peels back the layers with precision, empathy and unfettered joy." — Mike Parker

"*Boater* effortlessly threads a personal narrative through the history and culture of Britain's waterways, all of it told with the distinctive, compelling voice that has long established Bell as one of the UK's finest poets." — Adam Farrer

"She makes life on a boat sound a tremendous adventure." — *Mail on Sunday*

Jo Bell is best known as the inaugural Canal Laureate for the Canal & River Trust and as director of National Poetry Day. Originally from Sheffield and raised on the edges of the Derbyshire Peak District, her fascination with historic narrowboats ignited her passion for poetry, leading to a remarkable career that included managing a fleet of these vessels. Jo lives on her 67-foot narrowboat *Tinker*. *Boater* is Jo's first work of non-fiction.



Co-Agents

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France: Agence Eliane Benisti

Germany: Thomas Schlueck GmbH

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Italy: Berla & Griffini Rights Agency

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Korea: Duran Kim Agency

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