



WOLF LITERARY SERVICES

Wolf Literary Services

Frankfurt 2025

Contact:

Rach Crawford (rachel@wolflit.com / rights@wolflit.com)

135 West 29th Street, Suite 603, New York, NY 10001 | wolflit.com

NEW FICTION

FEW AND FAR BETWEEN

by Jan Carson

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

Pub date: August 4, 2026 + **Materials:** Copyedited ms available September 30 + **Category:** Literary + **Agent:** Kate Johnson.

Rights sold: UK/Comm: Doubleday (pub date April 2026).

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

+ For fans of Miriam Toews and Mariana Enríquez.

+ 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?

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS WORK:

'Captivating, intelligent and courageous.' —*The Irish Times*

'A born storyteller, [Carson's] narratives are uncontainable, fizzing up out of her pages like soda and vinegar in a bottle.' —*The Guardian*

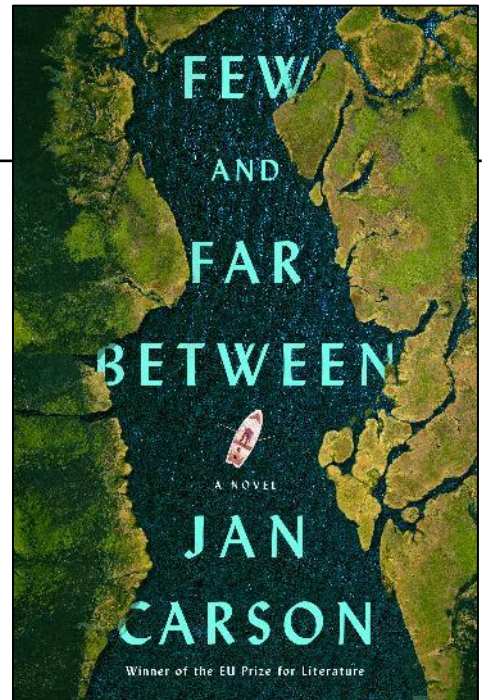
Jan Carson is a writer based in Belfast. Her first novel, *Malcolm Orange Disappears*, was published in 2014 to critical acclaim, followed by a short-story collection, *Children's Children* (2016, reissued 2025), and two flash fiction anthologies, *Postcard Stories* (2017) and *Postcard Stories 2* (2020). Her second novel, *The Fire Starters* (2019), won the EU Prize for Literature and was shortlisted for the Dalkey Novel of the Year Award and her third novel, *The Raptures* (2022) was shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year and the Kerry Group Novel of the Year. Her most recent short story collection, *Quickly, While They Still Have Horses*, was published in 2024. Her work has appeared in numerous journals and on BBC Radio 3 and 4. She has won the Harper's Bazaar short-story competition and has been shortlisted for the BBC National Short Story Award, the An Post Irish Short Story of the Year, and the Seán Ó Faoláin Short Story Prize.

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.

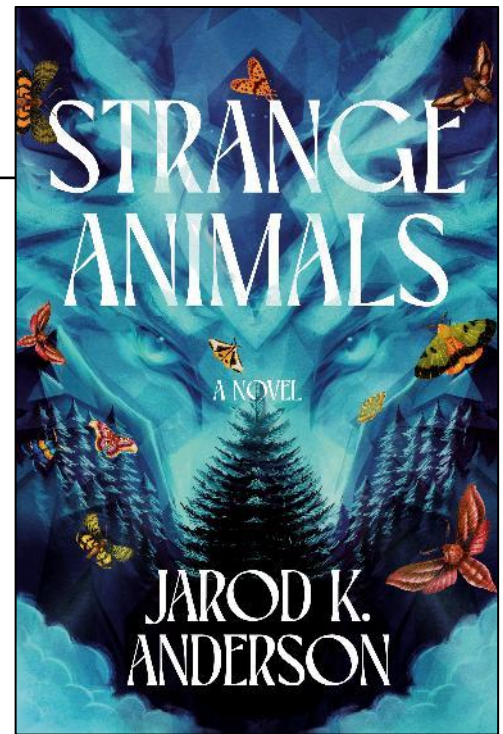


STRANGE ANIMALS

by Jarod K. Anderson

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

- + Sold in a six figure preempt, after significant publisher interest.
- + Author is the creator behind The CryptoNaturalist podcast and social media channels
- + 500,000 lifetime downloads of podcast, 280,000 followers across platforms.
- + Debut novel from bestselling author of three poetry collections and a memoir.
- + For fans of Jeff VanderMeer, Matt Haig, and Travis Baldree.



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. A five-foot-tall crow watches him from atop a nearby sign, somehow unseen by the rushing crowd of morning commuters.

Desperate for answers and beset by more 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 studies the time-bending rag moth, the glass fawn, and the menacing horned wolf. He 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.

Creepy, cozy, and beautiful, *Strange Animals* is a fantasy about home, belonging, and nature.

"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

"A wildly inventive, fantastically fun story about a man who goes to find himself and finds so, so much more. I absolutely loved it from the first page."

—Peter Clines, *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

Jarod K. Anderson has written three best-selling collections of nature poetry, *Field Guide to the Haunted Forest*, *Love Notes from the Hollow Tree*, and *Leaf Litter*. 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.

THE WATER TAKES

by Sarah Walker

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

Pub date: May 2026 + **Materials:** Manuscript.

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

+ Debut novel from an awarded essayist and photographer.

+ ANZ rights sold in a six figure pre-empt by Jane Palfreyman for Summit Australia.

+ For readers of Lydia Millet and Sophie Mackintosh.

Pam is in her mid-seventies, widowed, afraid of the world, and hiding behind a caustic sense of humour. The certainty of her existence is under threat: her health is declining, her garden is becoming waterlogged, and she is fearful of ageing in solitude. When Pam's ten-year-old neighbour Charlotte is foisted upon her by Charlotte's well-meaning parents, a tentative friendship begins to unfurl.

But a surreal apocalypse arrives in the form of vast sinkholes opening in the earth, and when Charlotte's house is swallowed, Pam and Charlotte are left together to navigate a slowly drowning world. Tension between them grows as Charlotte's desire to act, driven by her strange ability to read the water, clashes with Pam's deep suspicion of people and her determination to shelter in place—at any cost.

THE WATER TAKES is about climate change, generational divides, legacy, and what it means to exist within an ageing body. It wonderfully eschews expected tropes of apocalyptic fiction, replacing the certainty of the quest with the confusion of staying put; man-vs-nature narratives with concepts of the communal; and strong, young, able bodies with the complexities of age and ill-health.

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS WORK:

"Breathtakingly good. Darkly funny and deeply true." — Virginia Gay

"*The First Time I Thought I Was Dying* blew me away ... engrossing, unflinching, vitalising and wise." — Rebecca Giggs, author of *Fathoms*

"An unafraid and thrilling book." — Maria Tumarkin, author of *Axiomatic*

"Didionesque and subtly shaded with detail ..." — *The Age*

"... formidable and intimate." — *Books+Publishing*

"both literary and immensely relatable." — *Readings*

Sarah Walker is a Naarm/Melbourne-based writer and artist. She writes about anxiety, intimacy and absurdity, in both fiction and nonfiction. She has a particular interest in the body, and the ways in which it escapes our control, as well as how apprehension of disaster impacts our sense of the present. 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

LETTER TO A FORTUNATE EX

by Ronnie Scott

Publisher: Hamish Hamilton (ANZ) + **Editor:** Nikki Christer.

Pub date: February 2026 + **Materials:** Unedited ms.

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

+ New novel from an awarded Australian author.

West Hollywood, 1999: Sam Ellis, seventeen years old and freshly arrived from Brisbane, Australia, is thrown unexpectedly into the lives of the Mars siblings, Lizzy and Monty, who are starring in the pilot for a campy network TV show, *Secret Vampire*. The Mars' world is artistic and cosmopolitan, their adolescent awkwardness colliding, sometimes uncomfortably, with the ambition of the adults around them.

Lizzy and Monty cement their intimacy with the strange Australian girl by letting her in on the secret family history--erotic letters penned by their uncle, a fledgling auteur director whose life was cut short by AIDs. The letters ache with the pain of unrequited love, and for Sam they carry an added resonance--at a time when homophobia is as casual as a handshake, she is hopelessly in love with Lizzy.

When Monty is nearly caught in flagrante with an older, male, co-star, Sam makes a split-second decision that saves him from being outed, but in doing so propels Lizzy abruptly into adulthood, and a fame culture that is deeply unkind to young women.

Sam's intervention fractures their friendship, and its consequences for all three will reverberate across decades.

Meanwhile, the object of their uncle's erotic obsession--and the letters--is closer to hand than the three realize, and in seeking atonement for his own sins, he may just save them all.

Set across decades and continents, Ronnie Scott's *LETTER TO A FORTUNATE EX* is a queer, kaleidoscopic literary novel about grief, family, power, 90s and early-oughts' pop culture, and what we really owe the people who love us.

PRAISE FOR PREVIOUS WORK:

"a tremendously gifted social portraitist" — Michelle de Kretser

"Scott writes with the narrative intimacy of someone like Helen Garner, inviting you deeply into a life . . ." —*The Guardian*

Ronnie Scott is the author [*The Adversary*](#) (Hamish Hamilton, 2020) and [*Shirley*](#) (Hamish Hamilton, 2023). *The Adversary* was an Age Book of the Year, and was shortlisted for a Queensland Literary Award and the Australian Literature Society Gold Medal. It was listed as an 'essential pride read' in *Vogue*. *Shirley* was a book of the year in the *Guardian* and *Meanjin* and shortlisted for the Christina Stead Prize for Fiction at the NSW Premier's Literary Awards and the Voss Prize. Ronnie is Associate Professor of Creative Writing at RMIT University. He's written for the *Believer*, the *Monthly*, the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Good Weekend* and ABC Radio National, and is formerly a critic for the *Good Food Guide*. Ronnie is a Montserrat Roig grantee from the Barcelona Institute of Culture, a fellow of Hong Kong Baptist University's International Writers Workshop, and a two-time MacDowell Fellow.

NEW 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:** First pass.

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

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

+ Sold at auction for mid-six figures.

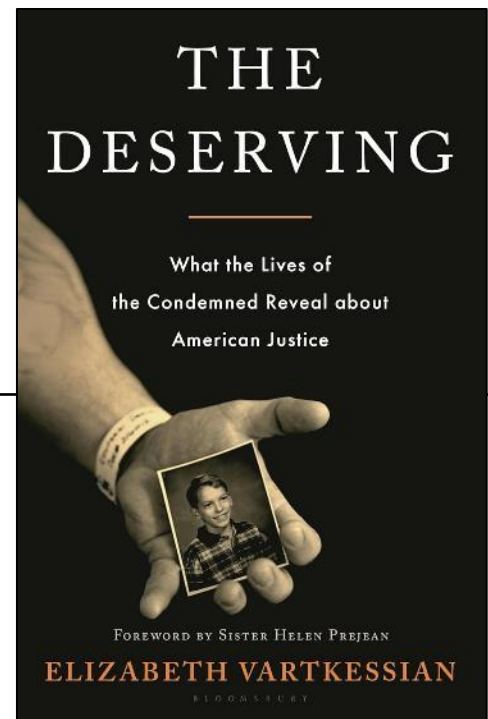
A groundbreaking new take on the justice system from one of its unknown revolutionaries, offering a powerful new vision of responsibility, punishment, and repair, for readers of *No Visible Bruises* and *Just Mercy*.

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 unique experience has taught her that when personal or generational trauma enters the body, it finds its way out eventually, sometimes through violence. She contends that we cannot hold her clients solely responsible for their actions, nor can we continue to stomach harsh penalties that deny real justice to perpetrators and victims alike.

As founder and director of nonprofit mitigation team Advancing Real Change Inc., Vartkessian's 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.

Vartkessian offers a compelling, hope-filled vision of how true rehabilitation, instead of retribution, would benefit us all.

Elizabeth Vartkessian has been investigating the life histories of those facing the most severe penalties possible in the United States since 2004. She started working as a mitigation specialist in Houston, Texas at a time when it was the epicenter of capital punishment. Vartkessian holds a Ph.D. in Law from the University of Oxford, an M.S. in Comparative Social Policy from 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. In 2018, the City Council of Baltimore passed a resolution praising Vartkessian's efforts to bring human dignity into the justice system. After launching a successful private practice, Vartkessian and several colleagues created Advancing Real Change, Inc., a national non-profit dedicated to conducting life history investigations in criminal cases. She has spoken widely and written on the essentialness of anchoring human dignity in the criminal legal system, in the *Baltimore Sun*, *Vice News*, and numerous peer-reviewed journals and law reviews, and was quoted recently in the Marshall Project.



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

"As a poet, archaeologist and boat dweller, Jo Bell has an insider's knowledge and enthusiasm whether she's 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

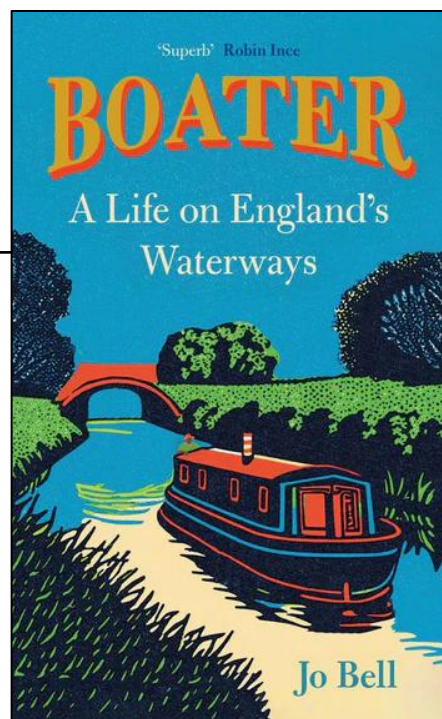
"A vivid, illuminating account of canal history" — Stuart Maconie

"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.



NEW WILD ORDER:

How Answering the Call of the Wild Might
Just Save Your Life (and Sanity)

by **Andy Hamilton**

Publisher: Scribe (UK/Comm) + **Editor:** Molly Slight.

Pub date: Spring 2025 + **Materials:** Final pages.

Category: Nature/self-help. + **Agent:** Kate Johnson.

+ **Approachable handbook from an expert author.**

+ ***The Happiness Project* for back-to-nature living.**

To be well, be wild...

We live in a world that is overfed but malnourished, sunlight deficient, overly competitive, sedentary, and sleep deprived. Our blood pressure and stress levels are at record highs, our mental health at record lows. Our eyes are strained from looking at screens all the time, and our backs are killing us.

Yet step outside, maybe walk a few minutes down the road, and you will inevitably see plants bursting with nourishment, hear calming birdsong, breath in fresh air, move your stiff body. Perhaps we have the answer to all our modern malaises right here, outside our own homes. Perhaps it is time for a New Wild Order.

New Wild Order is embedded with current scientific thinking using an evidence-based approach. *New Wild Order* is practical, frugal, and intuitive. It's not only a book with solutions for everyday problems, but a book about being truly, essentially, human.

"What makes *New Wild Order* such an essential read is the refreshingly enthusiastic way Andy Hamilton throws himself into his many experiments to 'New Wild' his life – and the candid way he reports back to us. I learned a huge amount by reading this book, which is intensely honest, thoughtful, curious and often funny." — Alex Roddie, editor of *Sidetracked* magazine

"This book, and Andy's passion, provide the perfect inspiration." — Chris Banes, broadcaster, campaigner and wildlife champion

"Andy Hamilton offers something rare these days – hope ... I can honestly say, having interviewed many 100s of writers, no one matches the sheer inspirational zeal of Andy Hamilton." — Steve Yabsley, BBC Radio Bristol

"*New Wild Order* is a breath of fresh air. This book will shake you out of your doldrums and help you find your peace of mind again with a simple but powerful solution: getting outside." — Dr. Lauren Cook, Licensed Clinical Psychologist and author of *Generation Anxiety*

'Andy Hamilton is a forager and philosopher of wild living. Please read his wise words.' — Matthew Seal, forager and co-author of *Eat your Weeds!* and *Hedgerow Medicine*

Andy Hamilton is the author of six books, including *The First Time Forager*, *The Selfsufficient-ish Bible*, and *Booze for Free*. Andy originated the UK's Association of Foragers to help protect natural land use and to form a tightknit community of those working the wild food. It has seen off attempts to impose foraging bans by the Forest Commission and has spawned many projects across the globe. His books have won various awards including the Golden Pint Award, Horticultural Channel Book of the Year and a Gourmand International Cookbook award. Hamilton has contributed to the *Telegraph*, *BBC Countryfile* magazine, *BBC Food*, *The Ecologist*, and writes regularly for *Green Parent* magazine. He leads foraging walking tours and lecture at various food festivals throughout the UK. Andy has a family of four who forage, tree climb, and eat as many meals as possible together under the cover of their walnut tree.

