



LUTYENS & RUBINSTEIN

Literary Agency



London 2024

RIGHTS CATALOGUE



Welcome to our LBF 2024 Rights Catalogue

Enclosed are details of our recent and forthcoming titles

Unless otherwise specified, please direct all Rights enquiries to Prema Raj & Lily Evans

prema@lutyensrubinstein.co.uk
lily@lutyensrubinstein.co.uk



Please use the QR code to take you to our new website with all our recent news plus details about individual clients and agents.

Thank you

FICTION



THE CAPTIVE | E.B. Burgoyne
THE WRONG HANDS | Mark Billingham
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DARK LIKE UNDER | Alice Chadwick
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MURDER BALLAD | Lucy Ribchester
SALLY IN THE WOOD | Hannah Richell
SWEETNESS IN THE SKIN | Ishi Robinson
NEW CITY GIRLS NOVEL | Patricia Scanlan



THE CAPTIVE

by **E.B. Burgoyne**

UK: Titan – publication date tbc.
Manuscript available Summer 2024.

E.B. Burgoyne is the pseudonym of multi-award winning author Ned Beaman. This new venture will see Beaman writing in the supernatural horror/thriller genre with a focus on books with screen potential.

For months, Luke and his underground revolutionary group, *The Nail*, have been planning their biggest operation yet: kidnapping 23-year-old heiress Adeline Woolsaw. But they don't want a ransom – they just want to draw attention to the Woolsaw Group, the source of her parents' vast wealth. The Woolsaw Group is an outsourcing company that runs everything from military bases to prisons. But Luke gets a shock once they bundle Adeline Woolsaw into their van. She's about to give birth to a baby with devastating supernatural powers. And all this time the Woolsaw Group has been preparing the ground for their real aim: an infernal new kingdom that will rise with Adeline's son sitting on its throne.

This is a lean and pacy thriller which brilliantly weaves in the supernatural: killer hailstorms, toxic caterpillars and, of course, a door direct to the Underworld. For fans of Grady Hendrix and the early Joe Hill novels.



THE WRONG HANDS

by **Mark Billingham**

UK: Little, Brown – June 2024.
US: Grove Atlantic.
German: Kampa.
Manuscript available.

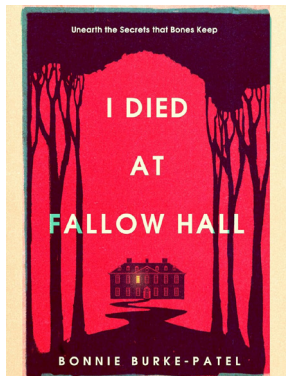
From the best-selling author of the Tom Thorne series comes the second unputdownable outing for the new detective everyone is talking about.

“Billingham blends caustic humor, raw emotion and rollercoaster thrills. His new series is bursting with wit, charm and intriguing, complex characters.”
- Janice Hallett

This is one case Miller won't want to open.

Unconventional detective Declan Miller has a problem. Still desperate to solve the murder of his wife, a young man has just appeared on his doorstep with a briefcase . . . containing a pair of severed hands.

Combine a Midsomer Murders-obsessed hitman, a psychotic welder, a woman driven over the edge by a wayward Creme Egg, and Miller is in a mess that even he might not be able to dance his way out of.



I DIED AT FALLOW HALL

by Bonnie Burke-Patel

WEL: Bedford Square – August 2024.

Manuscript available.

This is the debut novel from an exciting new voice in literary crime fiction melding the classic cosy crime Country House thriller with contemporary themes of race, gender and class.

Ex-ballerina Anna Deerin moves to a remote Cotswold cottage to become a gardener, craving the anonymity and privacy her new off-grid life provides. But when she clears the last vegetable bed and digs up not twigs but bones, the outside world is readmitted. With it comes Detective Inspector Hitesh Mistry, who has his own reasons for a new start in the village of Upper Magna.

Drawn, in spite of herself, to the bones of this unknown woman from another time, Anna is determined to uncover her identity and gain recognition for her, if not justice. As threats to Anna and her new life grow closer, she and DI Mistry will find that this murder is inextricably bound up with issues of gender, family, community, race and British identity itself – all as relevant in decades past as they are to Anna today.



DARK LIKE UNDER

by Alice Chadwick

UK: Daunt Books – Spring 2025.

Manuscript available May 2024.

Alice Chadwick studied English at Cambridge, and was a student on City Lit's selective fiction Masterclass. **DARK LIKE UNDER** is her first novel.

A single day, a small, divided town, the 1980s.

DARK LIKE UNDER follows the defiant, charismatic teenager Tin and her friends through a single school day. The night before, her best friend Robin and sometime boyfriend Jonah leave a party together. On their illicit night time walk they meet their beloved teacher Mr Ardennes. The next morning, the school is alive with the shock news of his sudden death. As the heat and intensity of the day builds, old secrets surface, and Tin realises that in confronting Mr Ardennes' seemingly senseless death, she must also take hold of her own, troubled life.

DARK LIKE UNDER is a luminous, unflinching account of all the beauty and risk of late adolescence, that precarious moment on the cusp of adulthood when the world crowds in.



SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS
by **Caroline Day**

UK: Bonnier – July 2024.
Manuscript available from publisher.

Caroline Day's debut novel, *HOPE NICELY'S LESSONS FOR LIFE*, was an instant *Sunday Times* bestseller. As a freelance journalist she wrote other people's stories: happy stories, sad stories, stories of the greatest tribulations and triumphs. *SMALL ACTS OF KINDNESS* is her second novel.

Kiki grew up in New Zealand, dreaming of one day going to Glastonbury Festival. Now, mourning the loss of her beloved Yaya - the woman who raised her - she travels to the UK to follow that dream. It is only when she leaves home that she realises just how sheltered her life has been.

Ned lives an active and exciting life. Well, he did until the accident. Now, he's woken from his coma and no one knows. He can hear everything happening around him, but can't make his body respond.

Still grieving for her best friend, Mrs Malley finds herself lonely and isolated with only her dog, Wordsworth, to keep her company.

Three strangers, all in need of a little kindness in their lives, this beautifully poignant and uplifting novel shows us the world through their eyes and highlights the power of human connection.



UNSPEAKABLE SHAKING PLEASURES by **Lucy Debussy**

UK: Trapeze – February 2024.
Manuscript available from publisher.

Lucy Debussy's work has been published in *Erotic Review*, *Best Women's Erotica*, and the *Mammoth Book of Best New Erotica*, and performed at London's legendary erotic soirée, Velvet Tongue. Lucy Debussy is a pseudonym.

A Spanish Inquisitor's daughter breaks out of piety to tap into her talents as a dominatrix. A woman inhabiting a male identity as a sailor explores a heady sexuality that dances across gender lines. An exacting auctioneer loves putting the bidding paddles to good use, and a journalist follows a travelling circus to discover a carnal awakening with the man who keeps the aerialists flying..

The erotic stories in this collection each feature women stepping into their sexual power in the most unexpected and delicious ways. Compellingly immersive, sensual and stunningly written, these tales will breathe life into your desires.



THEORY & PRATICE

by Michelle de Kretser

UK: Sort Of Books – Spring 2025.

US: Catapult.

ANZ: Text Publishing – Nov 2024.

Manuscript available March 2024.

Michelle de Kretser was born in Sri Lanka and lives in Sydney. Her novels have won the Miles Franklin award (twice) and the Prime-Minister's Literary Award for Fiction, and she has been longlisted for the Booker Prize. Her latest novel, *SCARY MONSTERS* won the Rathbones Folio Prize for Fiction, was shortlisted for the RSL Ondaatje Award and longlisted for the Gordon Burn Prize.

'One of the living masters of the art of fiction' - Max Porter

'A novel of luminous intelligence and profound depth, written with verve, humour and exceptional elegance' - Monica Ali on *SCARY MONSTERS*.

Set in the 1980s, a young woman newly arrived in Melbourne is writing her thesis on Virginia Woolf when she makes a discovery that throws her work into disarray. In this extraordinary novel, Michelle offers a spellbinding meditation on the moral complexities that arise in the gap between theory and practice.



THE OTHER WOMAN

by Holly Down

UK: Bookouture – July 2024.

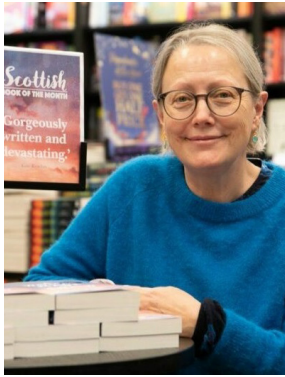
Manuscript available March 2024.

Holly Down studied PPE at New College, Oxford, and works as a solicitor in London. Her first book, *THE COURIER*, was published by Hodder in 2021.

Once, David and Kitty Okine were the golden couple at Oxford – talented, gorgeous, with a glittering future ahead of them. Now, David Okine is at the height of his career as a TV presenter, and his wife Kitty is falling apart.

As David's star rises and he starts to become close to his colleague, Nina, Kitty watches from the shadows, often overlooked, making plans of her own. Anonymous love letters appear for David, bringing with them an echo of a frightening past, and suddenly tragedy strikes, casting suspicion over David.

But who is stalking the Okines, and what do they want?



THE MISCHIEF MAKERS
by Elisabeth Gifford

UK: Corvus – September 2024.
Manuscript available from publisher.

Elisabeth Gifford is the author of five novels, including **SECRETS OF THE SEA HOUSE**, which was shortlisted for the Historical Writers' Association's Debut Crown

In post-war Cornwall, Daphne du Maurier dreams of her cousin Michael, who drowned years ago under mysterious circumstances. The lingering tragedy haunts Daphne amidst the unravelling of her marriage to Tommy, a British army major.

Daphne and Michael's family have had a long and troubled association with the author JM Barrie from which she is also struggling to break free. Seeking escape, Daphne becomes immersed in writing her Gothic masterpiece **REBECCA**. The novel consumes her; blurring fiction and reality. When she travels to New York to defend herself against claims she plagiarised the novel, Daphne is shocked to find her publisher's wife is the spitting image of Rebecca. As her sense of identity fractures, Daphne must confront what she has repressed about the past and what she truly wants for the future. A haunting and luscious tale, **THE MISCHIEF MAKERS** explores the complex forces shaping Daphne du Maurier.



BELIEVE by S. Govett

UK: Michael Joseph – June 2025.
US: Crooked Lane.
Danish: Jentas. German: Blanvalet.
Swedish: Jentas.
Manuscript available.

S. Govett has published award winning YA fiction and screenplays. **BELIEVE** is her first novel for adults and plans for the next DI Stratton novel are already underway.

Pre-empted by Michael Joseph and subject to a heated auction in Germany, **BELIEVE** marks the emergence of an exciting new contender in the upmarket thriller arena.

Weaving together the story of a damaged former lawyer, whose husband is the chief suspect in the murder of a young woman, with that of detective DI Stratton who, haunted by the disappearance of her own sister, is investigating the case, this propulsive thriller moves seamlessly between past and present as it races towards its thrilling conclusion.



GREATER SINS

by Gabrielle Griffiths

UK: Transworld – February 2025.
Manuscript available from publisher.

Gabrielle Griffiths is an alumnus of the Curtis Brown Creative novel writing course. Her short fiction has been shortlisted for the Bridport Prize. **GREATER SINS** is her first novel.

1915, the Cabrach, Aberdeenshire. An isolated Scottish community is disturbed by a strange discovery: a woman's body in a peat bog, somehow perfectly preserved. Two people haul the body from the ground: Lizzie, the wife of the local landowner, and Johnny, a nomadic singer and farm hand. At hearthside and inn, people whisper – what have they unearthed?

One unveiling brings others. Lizzie, tenacious but trapped, finds an opportunity to probe the past of her unknowable husband, who has left for the war. For Johnny, a reunion with a former friend threatens to reveal a history he's trying to outrun. As their stories begin to entwine, ill-fortune stalks the isolated community who begin to look for someone – or some thing – to blame...



BIRDEYE

by Judith Heneghan

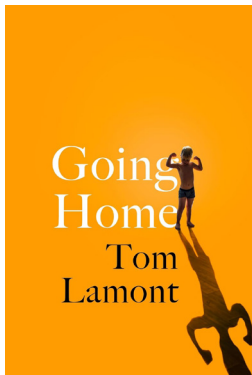
UK: Salt Publishing – May 2024.
Manuscript available from publisher.

Judith Heneghan has worked as a support worker in a community of people with learning differences and most recently as a lecturer in creative writing. Her debut novel for adults, **SNEGUROCHKA** was Shortlisted for the Edward Stanford Travel Writing Award.

“Evocative, haunting, masterful.” - Claire Fuller

One chilly April morning a stranger shows up at a commune in the Catskill Mountains, upstate New York. Conor is greeted by Liv, sixty-seven years old, mother, cancer survivor and founder of the once pilgrimage-worthy Birdeye Colony, now well past its heyday. Liv lets him stay, unaware that her two oldest friends are about to make a devastating announcement. Conor seems to offer a lifeline, but who is he really? As truths masked by free spirit push their way into the open, Liv must reassess what she asks of those she loves most.

BIRDEYE is a meditation on family - whether chosen or given - in all its fascinating complexity. It's about tolerance, the choices we make in good faith, and, ultimately, what they cost.



GOING HOME by Tom Lamont

UK: Sceptre – June 2024.

US & Canada: Knopf. German:

Rowohlt. Italian: NN Editore.

Manuscript available.

Tom Lamont is a freelance writer who has written for publications such as the *Guardian*, the *Observer*, and the *New Statesman*.

“A debut which skilfully and tenderly explores male relationships, belonging and what we leave behind. I adored every moment. The characters have stayed with me ever since.” - Bella Mackie

“Poignant, immersive and finely observed” - The Bookseller

Téo Erskine is visiting his father - stubborn, selfish, complicated Vic. Things have changed for Téo: he's grown up now. Except, underneath the surface, not much has changed. He's still the boy seeking his father's approval; the young man playing late-night poker with his best friend, unreliable, infuriating Ben Mossam; the one still desperately in love with the enigmatic Lia. Lia's life, on the other hand, has been transformed: now a single mum to two-year-old Joel, she doesn't have time for anyone - not even herself. When the unthinkable happens, Joel finds himself at the centre of a strange constellation of men - Téo, Vic, Ben - none of whom is fully equipped to look after him, but whose strange, tentative attempts at love might just be enough to offer him a new place to call home.



WILD ABOUT YOU

by Sophie Loxton

UK: Simon & Schuster – April 2025

Manuscript available.

Sophie Loxton lives in Kent with her husband and dog. She writes her novels on train journeys.

Anna Whitlock is done being nice. After a lifetime of saying yes to everything - work deadlines, sponsored runs, impromptu drinks and her fiancé Sean - everything Anna has worked so hard for falls apart in one terrible afternoon. Suddenly the future she had planned for is out of her grasp and she decides it's time to put herself first for a change. With a broken heart she heads to her best friend Fi and a new job in the countryside. The glorious Stonemore Estate holds more than enough distraction for a city girl. There's Callum, the gorgeous estate manager, and an enthusiastic beagle called Hugo. And then there's Jamie, Stonemore's sexy but emotionally unavailable owner, who seems to be hell-bent on making Anna's rewilding job as difficult as possible.

But why can't she stop thinking about Jamie? Can she really start to put herself first and let herself say yes to the thing which will make her happiest?



ENLIGHTENMENT

by Sarah Perry

UK: Jonathan Cape – May 2024.

US: Harper Collins.

Hungarian: XXI. Italian: Neri Pozza.

Portuguese: Almedina. Serbian:

Dereta. Spanish: Siruela.

Manuscript available.

Sarah Perry is the internationally best-selling author of four books including *THE ESSEX SERPENT*. She is a winner of the Waterstones Book of the Year Award and the British Book of the Year Award.

“A complete masterpiece, lit by sheer brilliance.” - Sarah Hall

Thomas Hart and Grace Macauley are fellow worshippers at the Bethesda Baptist chapel in the small Essex town of Aldleigh. Though separated in age by three decades, they share a commitment to religion and their desire for more. But their friendship is threatened by the arrival of love. Thomas falls for James Bower, who runs the local museum. Together they develop an obsession with the vanished nineteenth-century female astronomer Maria Veduva. Meanwhile Grace meets Nathan, who represents a wilder kind of life. In time, the mysteries of Aldleigh are revealed, bringing Thomas and Grace back to each other and to a richer understanding of love, of the nature of the world, and the sheer miracle of being alive.



THE MODERN FAIRIES

by Clare Pollard

UK: Fig Tree – June 2024.

US: Avid Reader. German: Aufbau.

Manuscript available.

Clare Pollard is an award-winning poet and playwright based in London. She is the author of five poetry collections and the former Editor of the *Modern Poetry in Translation* magazine. Her first novel, *DELPHI*, was published by Fig Tree in 2022. *THE MODERN FAIRIES* is her second novel.

Versailles, 1682: a city of the rich, a living fairy-tale, Louis XIV's fever dream. It's a place of opulence, beauty, and power. But strip back the lavish exterior of polite society, and you'll find a dark undercurrent of sexual intrigue and vicious gossip. Nobody is safe here - no matter how highly born they are.

No one knows this better than Madame Marie d'Aulnoy. Each week, a rogue group of intellectuals gather at her Parisian home to debate, flirt and perform *Contes de Fées* - fairy tales - that challenge the status quo.

But while they weave tales of glass slippers, enchanted beasts and long-haired princesses, a wolf is lurking, who threatens to destroy the members of the salon one by one.



KILL CREATURES

by Rory Power

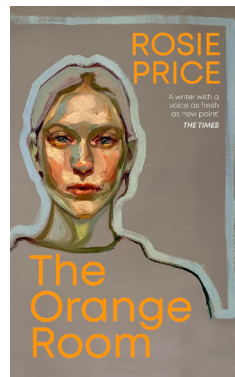
US: Delacorte – April 2025.

Manuscript available April 2024.

Rory Power is the *New York Times* bestselling author of YA books **WILDER GIRLS** and **BURN OUR BODIES DOWN**. Her Fantasy series for adults is published by Titan in the UK and Del Rey in the US.

One hot summer day in the desert town of Saltcedar four girls – Luce, Jane, Edie and Nan - drive their boat down the canyon to the Devil’s Eye swimming hole for an afternoon of hanging out. Only Nan returns from the trip, and she can’t tell the police what happened to her friends. Exactly a year later Saltcedar is holding a vigil for the three missing girls when someone spies a shadow in the water. Luce Allard, Nan’s missing best friend, is floating in the mouth of the Canyon. At first Nan thinks this is Luce’s body, emerging at last from the strange eddies of the water. Then someone shouts from a nearby boat: Luce is alive. But she can’t be. Nan knows Luce can’t be alive, because last year Nan killed her. And now she’s back.

Rory Power’s hotly anticipated third YA novel is her most brilliant and unsettling book yet. Atmospheric, fast-paced and vividly realised, **KILL CREATURES** is an unforgettable book about secrets, jealousy, violence and revenge.



THE ORANGE ROOM

by Rosie Price

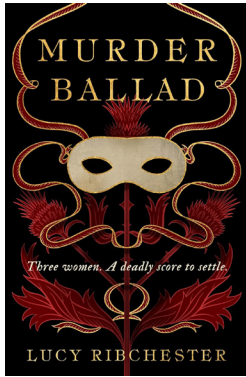
UK: Harvill Secker – July 2024.

Manuscript available.

Rosie Price grew up in Gloucestershire and then read English at Cambridge. She is the author of the critically acclaimed, **WHAT RED WAS**. She lives in London.

“A writer with a voice as fresh as new paint...” - The Times
Rhianne expresses her inner world through line and colour. This summer, though, back home in the west country, she is seeking distraction in heat and noise. Art school in London has ripped away her confidence and sense of safety: better for now to be swept along by the hotel kitchen where she’s working, where the pressure is high and the dangers are more obvious. Sharp knives. Hot plates. Little time to think. Her dad, Dominic, is concerned for Rhianne but relieved to have her close. Her step-mum, Melissa, is on alert, though trying to tread carefully. But then there’s Callum, just across the chef’s pass, with his controlled manner and intent gaze. There’s attraction. There’s everything that comes next.

For fans of *Coco Mellors* and *The Bear*, Price’s stunning second novel is about what happens when we are too afraid to see the people we love clearly, and too afraid to be seen. It’s the story of a tenacious young woman who – through her art, her courage, her determination – finds her way back to herself.



MURDER BALLAD

by Lucy Ribchester

UK: Black & White – June 2024.
Manuscript available from publisher.

Lucy Ribchester is the author of two novels, *THE HOURGLASS FACTORY* and *THE AMBER SHADOWS*. In 2013 she won a Scottish Book Trust New Writers Award and in 2015 was shortlisted for the Costa Short Story Award.

Edinburgh, 1791. Isobel Duguid and her friend Clessidro are the stars of the Edinburgh Musical Society. One night a note arrives from the mysterious Cecilia Abercorn, asking if Isobel's most notorious ballad, *The Fiddler's Wrath*, might be included in a book.

The Fiddler's Wrath is the tale of a prima donna who died of heartbreak after her husband committed murder and was sent to the gallows. Isobel is intrigued. But Mrs. Abercorn's curiosity about the ballad is far more than a fickle interest. When Clessidro goes missing, Isobel is forced to confront her past and the truth about *The Fiddler's Wrath* begins to emerge.



SALLY IN THE WOOD

by Hannah Richell

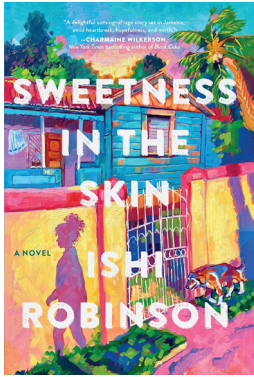
UK: Simon & Schuster – Spring 2025.
German: Rowohlt.
Manuscript available April 2024.

Hannah Richell is an internationally bestselling author whose books have been published in twenty-four territories and translated into nineteen languages.

“Richell surprises readers at every turn. Readers who devour psychological suspense from authors like Lucy Foley and Ruth Ware will be eager to add this one to their reading lists” - Jane Harper on *THE SEARCH PARTY*

From the author of *THE SEARCH PARTY* an unputdownable new thriller.

By the folly in the woods near an exclusive private school a body is found. Investigating detective Ben and the school psychologist Rachel are newly divorced and struggling to remake their lives. And for them and their daughter Ellie who attends the school on a scholarship, the nightmare is only beginning...



SWEETNESS IN THE SKIN

by Ishi Robinson

UK: Michael Joseph – April 2024.

US & Canada: Harper Collins.

Italian: Garzanti.

Manuscript available.

Ishi Robinson was born and raised in Kingston, Jamaica and now lives in Berlin. *SWEETNESS IN THE SKIN* is her first novel.

“Tender and humorous...I found myself rooting for clever, vulnerable Pumkin as she reached for her dreams” - Charmaine Wilkerson

“A mouth-watering delight of a novel...utter joy” - Sarah Haywood

Pumkin Patterson lives in a tiny two-room house in Kingston, Jamaica, with her grandmother, who wants to improve the family’s social standing; her Aunt Sophie, who wants to take Pumkin with her to a new life in Paris; and her mother, Paulette, who wants to keep her at home out of spite. When Aunt Sophie decides to move to France for work, she promises to send for her niece in one year’s time. All Pumkin has to do is pass her French entrance exam so she can attend school there. Somehow, Pumkin must find a way to raise the money to take her French exam. In a moment of ingenuity, she decides to turn her passion for baking into a true business. But when her mother finds out that Pumkin wants to leave, she does all she can to sabotage her daughter’s plans.



NEW CITY GIRLS NOVEL

by Patricia Scanlan

UK: Simon & Schuster - Spring 2025.

Manuscript available May 2024.

Patricia Scanlan lives in Dublin. Her books have sold worldwide and been translated into many languages. Patricia is the series editor and a contributing author to the Open Door series. She also teaches creative writing to second-level students and is involved in Adult Literary.

It’s hard to believe that it’s been 35 years since *CITY GIRL*, the novel which created a whole new genre, was published.

Now Maggie, Devlin and Caroline are in their fifties, with children of their own, ageing parents and a long list of problems which only friendship can solve.

From the #1 best-selling author, a new masterpiece of story-telling for all ages.

NON-FICTION



WE ALL COME HOME ALIVE | Anna Beecher

BREASTS | Jean Edelstein

LETTERS FROM WONDERLAND | Josie George

HOMECOMING | Melissa Harrison

THE SCAPEGOAT | Lucy Hughes-Hallett

THE LIVERBIRDS | Mary McGlory & Sylvia Saunders

SCORPIONS | Tuppence Middleton

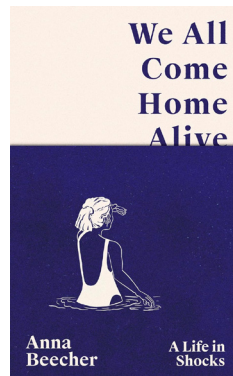
SCATTERED | Aamna Mohdin

THE FORBIDDEN GARDEN | Simon Parkin

ON GIVING UP | Adam Phillips

THE SECRET PAINTER | Joe Tucker

IDA AT MY TABLE | Simonetta Wenkert



WE COME HOME ALIVE
by Anna Beecher

UK: W&N – January 2025.

Manuscript available March 2024.

Anna Beecher is a graduate of the Fiction MFA at the University of Virginia and a winner of the Henfield Prize for Fiction. Her debut novel **HERE COMES THE MIRACLE** was shortlisted for the Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year Award in 2021.

My life has shocked me. One of the shocks has been sadness; death and other instances of impossibility. But the greater shock has been joy. I feel the hard flint of joy within my chest, the strength of it. It has stunned me with its refusal to be repressed.

A life is made up of many shocks – the shock of birth, of death; the shock of love, of happiness; the shock of car crashes and finding yourself in a teenage body; the shock of surviving each of these shocks, and of what might bloom in their wake.

In this incredibly beautiful book, Anna Beecher tells the story of her life through the shocks she has experienced. For fans of Maggie O'Farrell's **I AM, I AM, I AM**.



BREASTS

by Jean Hannah Edelstein

UK: Phoenix – Spring 2025.

Manuscript available from publisher.

Jean Hannah Edelstein is a British-American writer. Her memoir, *THIS REALLY ISN'T ABOUT YOU*, was published by Picador in 2018. Her journalism has been published in numerous UK and US outlets, including the *Guardian*, *Elle* and *New York Magazine*. She has contributed to radio programmes including *This American Life*.

In this powerful memoir-in-miniature, Edelstein charts the course of her unexpectedly brief relationship with breasts. She writes about developing breasts and discovering them as a source of both shame and power. She writes about becoming a mother and her breasts becoming a source of food, her body someone else's now. And then she writes about being diagnosed with early-stage breast cancer - anticipated but no less devastating - and what it means to lose and rebuild an essential part of herself.

At once courageous and humane, confessional and incisive, elegant, angry and full of heart, *BREASTS* is both an intimate memoir about one woman's relationship with her own body and a universally relatable story for anyone who has ever had - or lost - breasts.



LETTERS FROM

WONDERLAND by Josie George

UK: Faber & Faber – June 2024.

Manuscript available from publisher.

Josie George is a writer and artist living in the West Midlands. She is the author of the highly acclaimed *A STILL LIFE*, a memoir about life as a chronically ill mother with a big heart and wide-open eyes. She's also a regular columnist for *The Guardian Country Diary*.

LETTERS FROM WONDERLAND is a beautiful, illustrated guide to encourage children to engage with the natural world around them wherever they live.

Full of kindness, gentleness and wisdom, it invites the reader to find their own adventure in their own experience and environment.

For fans of Dara McAnulty.



HOMECOMING
by **Melissa Harrison**
UK: W&N.

Manuscript available from publisher.

Melissa Harrison is a celebrated novelist and nature writer. She contributes a monthly Nature Notebook column to *The Times* and her most recent novel won the European Union Prize for Literature.

A year-long course in noticing designed to plug you back into the rhythm of the seasons. Begin in any month and continue round to the start. Follow the stories, small and large, unfolding all around you – whether you live in the heart of a city or deepest countryside. Connect to nature, boost your wellbeing and find your way in the living world. Establish your own rituals, high points and habits to carry you through the year.

HOMECOMING includes rewarding and inspiring activities from meteor spotting to marking each equinox, citizen science to caring for your nearby wild.

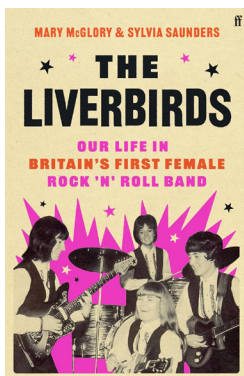


THE SCAPEGOAT
by **Lucy Hughes-Hallett**

UK: Fourth Estate – October 2024.
US: HaperCollins.
Manuscript available.

Lucy Hughes-Hallett's groundbreaking biography of Gabriele d'Annunzio, **THE PIKE**, won the Samuel Johnson Prize, the Duff Cooper Prize and the Costa Biography Award in 2013. It was named *The Sunday Times* Biography of the Decade.

THE SCAPEGOAT is the story of the meteoric rise and fall of James I's favourite, the Duke of Buckingham. With a novelist's touch, the author transports us into a courtly world of masques and dancing, gorgeous clothes, the art of Rubens and Van Dyck, gender-fluidity and sex and appallingly rudimentary medicine. She writes about witchcraft and hunting and the beginnings of the enlightenment, about print-media and public opinion as a political force. She brings alive tempestuous scenes in Parliament, when the Commons chamber was full of men weeping as they struggled to defend citizens' legal rights. The vivid personalities of Buckingham, canny James I and poor, stubborn, doomed Charles I leap from every page.



THE LIVERBIRDS by Mary McGlory & Sylvia Saunders

UK: Faber & Faber – March 2024.

US: Grand Central.

Manuscript available from publisher.

Sylvia Saunders and Mary McGlory are two founding members of the The Liverbirds. After the Liverbirds, Sylvia ran a successful nightclub in Benidorm and now lives in the North West. Mary runs the music publishing company Ja/Nein and lives in Hamburg.

In the early '60s, four friends from Liverpool formed a band. But this is not the 'fab four' story we know . . .

Mary, Sylvia, Valerie and Pamela - also known as The Liverbirds - were one of the world's first all-female rock'n'roll bands. At an early gig, backstage at the Cavern Club, a young John Lennon told them that "girls don't play guitars. But they took that as a challenge. Despite the early scepticism, they won over tough crowds, toured stadiums, recorded two hit albums, and played with the Kinks, Rolling Stones and Chuck Berry - all in the space of just five years.

Now, the two surviving members of the band tell their incredible story in full for the first time - capturing a lost era of liberation and rock'n'roll, as they thrived in the vibrant Merseybeat music scene and formed a friendship that has endured a lifetime.



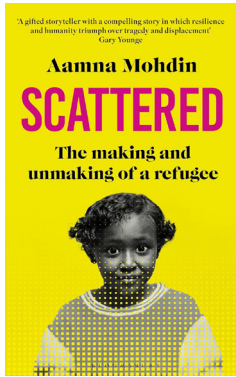
SCORPIONS by Tuppence Middleton

UK: Ebury – September 2024.

Manuscript available.

Tuppence Middleton is a British actor. She has had starring roles in *The Imitation Game*, *Downton Abbey* and *War & Peace*. She's worked with David Fincher, Danny Boyle, David Cronenberg and currently stars in Sam Mendes' production of *The Motive & the Cue* in the West End.

Tuppence has been living with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder since the age of 11. For as long as she can remember, she has struggled with obsessive thoughts, checking compulsions, a preoccupation with illness and death and Emetophobia – an extreme fear of vomiting. In 2021 she hosted a series of interviews on OCD for BBC Radio 4's *One to One*. The response was electric and she was inundated with messages on all platforms telling her how much it meant to hear someone talk with such openness and honesty. **SCORPIONS** is her response to that outpouring. An honest and moving account of what it feels like to share your mind with a nest of scorpions – Tuppence's metaphor for her OCD. It's a beautifully written deep dive into the mind of a public figure living with a very private condition.



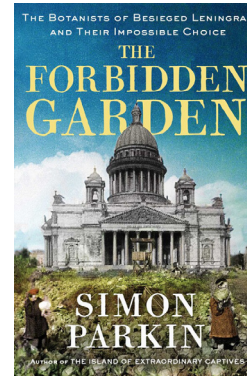
SCATTERED by Aamna Mohdin

UK: Bloomsbury – June 2024.
Manuscript available.

Aamna Mohdin is the Guardian's first community affairs correspondent focussing on black, Asian and minority ethnic communities. SCATTERED is her first book.

“A gifted storyteller with a compelling story in which resilience and humanity triumph over tragedy and displacement” - Gary Younge

In 2015, at 23 years old, fledging journalist Aamna Mohdin went to Calais to report from a camp at the height of the refugee crisis. It was an unsettling experience, but it didn't account for the intense feelings of déjà vu it triggered in her. Until then Aamna's childhood memories began at seven, when she arrived in London to live with her extended Somali family. She had repressed everything that preceded this: living undocumented in hostile countries, the fact that a Kenyan refugee camp was the first place she called home, being separated from her parents when she was smuggled from Germany to the Netherlands and eventually into the UK. But memories from her early years started resurfacing and Aamna began to talk to her parents for the first time about what came before. SCATTERED is an extraordinary and inspiring story which aims to give life, depth and heart to the word 'refugee'.



THE FORBIDDEN GARDEN by Simon Parkin

UK: Sceptre – April 2024.
US: Simon & Schuster.
Manuscript available.

The third book from the award winning author of A GAME OF BIRDS & WOLVES and THE ISLAND OF EXTRAORDINARY CAPTIVES.

THE FORBIDDEN GARDEN tells the riveting, untold true story of the botanists at the world's first seed bank who were faced with an impossible choice during the Second World War's Siege of Leningrad: eat the seeds to stave off starvation, or protect their life's work to potentially end world hunger?

Drawing from previously unseen primary sources, Parkin documents for the first time the story of the botanists who remained at the Plant Institute during the darkest days of the blockade, many of whom sacrificed their lives in service to their mission. As climate change, wars, and supply chain issues impact food security in today's times, this fascinating story remains as relevant and urgent as ever.

Parkin's books have won the Wingate Literary Prize and been shortlisted for the Mountbatten Prize and have been selected as *New York Times* Editor's Choice and a *New Yorker* Book of the Year.

Adam Phillips On Giving Up



ON GIVING UP by Adam Phillips

UK: Hamish Hamilton – January 2024.

US: FSG.

Portuguese (Brazil): Ubu Editora

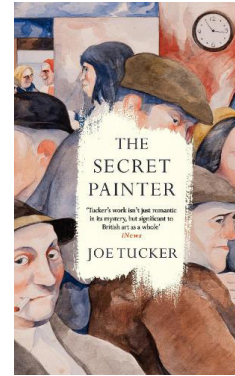
Turkish: Ayrinti Yayinlari.

Manuscript available.

Adam Phillips has been called the ‘psychotherapist of the floating world’ and ‘the closest thing we have to a philosopher of happiness’. He is the author of numerous works of philosophy and literary criticism.

To give up or not to give up? The question can feel inescapable but the answer is never simple. Giving up our supposed vices is one thing; giving up on life itself is quite another. One form of self-sacrifice feels positive, something to admire and aspire to, while the other is profoundly unsettling, if not actively undesirable. There are always, it turns out, both good and bad sacrifices, but it is not always clear beforehand which is which. We give something up because we believe we can no longer go on as we are. In this sense, giving up is a critical moment – an attempt to make a different future.

In *ON GIVING UP*, acclaimed psychoanalyst Adam Phillips illuminates both the gaps and the connections between the many ways of giving up, and helps us to address the central questions: what must we give up in order to feel more alive?



THE SECRET PAINTER by Joe Tucker

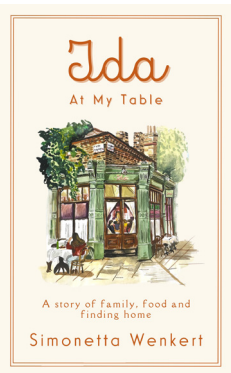
UK: Canongate – August 2024.

Manuscript available.

Joe Tucker is an acclaimed scriptwriter and producer. *THE SECRET PAINTER* is his first book.

Joe Tucker’s Uncle Eric was a beloved yet unconventional figure. An “unskilled labourer” who lived with his mother for almost eighty years - and yet had also amassed over five hundred of his own remarkable paintings without anyone ever realising his achievements. As Joe and his family sorted through hundreds of paintings after Eric’s death, they began to ask more questions about his life: why had this fanatically sociable man never left his mother’s home? Had Eric ever experienced love when he painted it so beautifully? And what had driven him to create so much, yet share it so rarely?

In this funny and thoughtful investigation of the nature of expression, the ownership of art and the secret lives of those nearest to us, Joe Tucker brings us into his uncle’s extraordinary and compelling world, and perhaps more importantly, brings Eric Tucker’s life’s work into ours.



**IDA AT MY TABLE by
Simonetta Wenkert**

UK: Bedford Square – August 2024.
Manuscript available.

Simonetta Wenkert is a novelist and translator, and a mother of three grown-up children. Together with her husband, she runs an Italian restaurant in Queens Park called *Ida*.

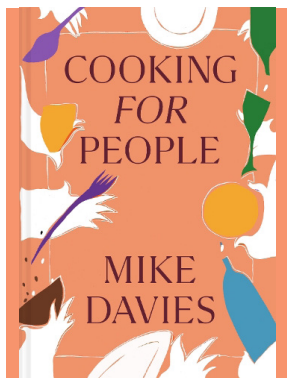
I would see the restaurant that was meant to be there: our restaurant, the one that had existed in my head for all those years. Starched linen curtains, white tablecloths, with wood panelling, a jumble of paintings and posters on the walls.

From novelist Simonetta Wenkert, an autobiographical story of her tiny Italian restaurant perched on an unremarkable London thoroughfare started alongside her husband with no restaurant experience between them, but a rich cultural culinary heritage. It's about the food that has been passed down to them by ancestors from Eastern Europe and Italy and it's about raising their children in a small neighbourhood that contains the world within it. And it's about how that community supported them through all the vicissitudes of the last two decades as the restaurant survived to become an internationally renowned haven of Italian home cooking. This is a book for anyone who has ever fantasised about painting a name over a door, and for those who see the beauty in serving the food you've prepared with love for the people you love.

COOKERY



COOKING FOR PEOPLE | Mike Davies
SERVICE | Anna Hedworth
COMFORT | Yotam Ottolenghi
DINNER | Meera Sodha



COOKING FOR PEOPLE by Mike Davies

UK: Pavilion – July 2024.
Manuscript available from publisher.

Mike Davies is the owner and chef at *The Camberwell Arms* and *Frank's Café*.

Mike Davies is the UK's answer to Alison Roman and Gen Zs answer to James Martin. He's done the hard work so you don't have to and now anyone can replicate his cult-status menus (as seen at *The Camberwell Arms*, *Frank's Café* and *Mike's Peckham*) for entertaining at home. This book is for cooks who love the idea of having people round for dinner whilst finding the reality of it a challenge.

Containing beautiful seasonal menus for home cooks **COOKING FOR PEOPLE** takes out the often prohibitive stress that accompanies hosting. With various recipes planned out from early prep (some items you can tick off in 5 minutes or even a few days in advance) through to the execution on the day, this cookbook is the perfect accompaniment for any household that loves to host.



SERVICE by Anna Hedworth

UK: Quadrille – 2025.
Manuscript available from publisher.

Anna's first book, **RECIPES & STORIES FROM COOK HOUSE**, was named a Food Book of the Year by *The Sunday Times*, *The Financial Times*, *The Telegraph* & *The Week*.

Anna Hedworth's second cookbook, **SERVICE** is a love letter to the ebb and flow of a restaurant, to a day of cooking; and to the value and excitement of cooking for other people, whether in a restaurant or at home.

Anna is the chef and proprietor of the restaurants *Cook House* and *Long Friday* in Newcastle, where she runs a northern local food empire, including a test kitchen, food courses and a brilliant deli. Anna's recipes take you from Breakfast to Dinner service, taking in Staff Meal along the way. She shows you how to preserve and brighten everything you make from what is around you: a bright mint yoghurt, a sweet pickled sultana, a salty cube of preserved blood orange, peppery nasturtium oil, the crunch of roast hazelnut dukkah, a tangy peach hot sauce.



COMFORT by Yotam Ottolenghi

UK: Ebury – September 2024.

US: Ten Speed.

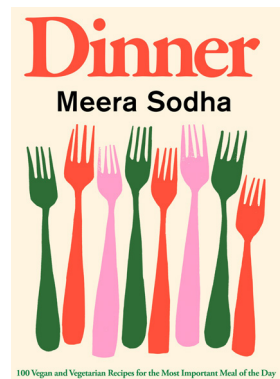
Manuscript available from publisher.

Yotam Ottolenghi is the restaurateur and chef-patron of the six London-based Ottolenghi delis, as well as the *NOPI* and *ROVI* restaurants. He is the author of ten multi-award-winning cookery books which have sold close to 11 million books worldwide.

This is comfort food, Ottolenghi-style.

In his much anticipated new book, Yotam Ottolenghi brings his inspiring, flavour-forward approach to comfort cooking, delivering new classics that taste of home.

A bowl of pasta becomes Caramelised Onion Orecchiette with Hazelnuts & Crispy Sage, a warming soup is Cheesy Bread Soup with Savoy Cabbage & Cavolo Nero, and a plate of mash is transformed into Garlicky Aligot Potato with Leeks and Thyme. Weaving memories of childhood and travel with over 100 irresistible recipes, *Ottolenghi Comfort*, is a celebration of food and home – of the connections we make as we cook, and pass on from generation to generation.



DINNER by Meera Sodha

UK: Fig Tree – August 2024.

US: Flatiron.

Manuscript available from publisher.

Meera Sodha is an award-winning food columnist and the internationally bestselling author of *MADE IN INDIA*, *FRESH INDIA* and *EAST*.

The ability to put a good dinner on the table has become my superpower and I want it to be yours too...

DINNER is a fresh and joyful celebration of the power of a good meal. Drawing from Meera's *NEW VEGAN Guardian* column and from a wide range of Asian cuisines, *DINNER* also includes many brand-new recipes, all created to answer the question: *What's for dinner?* in an exciting and delicious way.

With 100 vibrant, easy-to-make, vegetarian and vegan main dishes bursting with flavour, such as baked butter paneer, kimchi and tomato spaghetti and aubergines roasted in satay sauce. From quick-cook recipes to one-pan wonders and delectable dishes you can just bung in the oven and leave to look after themselves, *DINNER* is the essential companion for the most important meal of the day.

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