# BLAKE FRIEDMANN



# RIGHTS GUIDE



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Juliet Pickering juliet@blakefriedmann.co.uk

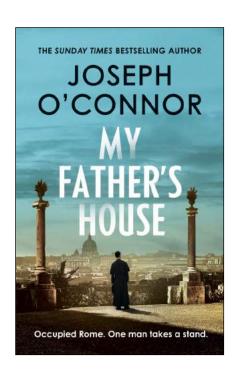
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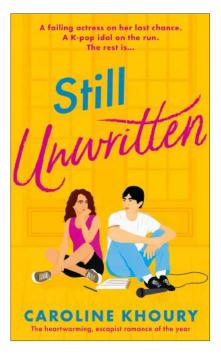
We are represented overseas by:

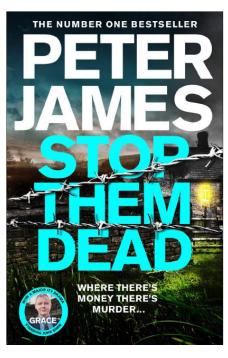
Bulgaria Mira Droumeva, Andrew Nurnberg Agency | Croatia, Bosnia,
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Jackie Huang, Andrew Nurnberg Agency | Czech Kristin Olson Literary Agency
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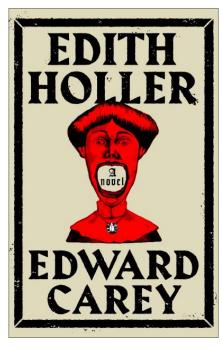
Full author backlist details are available on request.

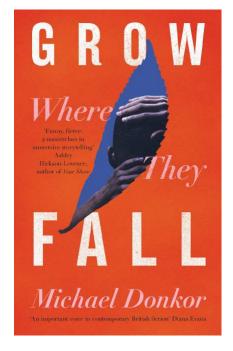
# NEW TITLES

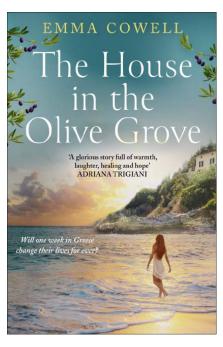












#### **CONTEMPORARY**

#### FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

#### Shani Akilah



**Agent** Sian Ellis-Martin

UkexCan Oneworld Jun 2024 (preempt) UKexCan audio WF Howes Jun 2024 US On submission US audio Under offer

TV Under offer

45,000 words

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

'Eloquent, accessible, and full of heart, these interconnected stories draw one into an unforgettable group of young Black-British friends. Funny, thought provoking and deeply moving. An astonishing debut.' — Taiye Selasi, author of GHANA MUST GO

In FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS, Shani Akilah deftly explores the connections that bind us; how we make them, maintain them, or even break them when they no longer serve us.

Gabby and Daniel cross paths at the wedding of a mutual friend. They both wonder if this could be the start of something, but fate has other ideas.

When Niah tries to call out her employer for their empty words about diversity and inclusion, she comes face to face with racism reaching right to the very top.

Sharna is holding onto her own secret when she sets out for Jamaica to visit her grandfather, on a trip that throws fresh light onto the family history she has always taken for granted.

Shani Akilah's stunning collection brings to life the stories of Black-British Londoners as they explore friendship and romance, community and independence, and navigate their way through the relationships that make them who they are.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Shani Akilah is a Black-British writer and screenwriter of Caribbean heritage. She has a Masters degree in African Studies from Oxford University, with research exploring counter-diasporic return and issues of home and belonging amongst second-generation British-Ghanaians. Shani is an avid reader and book influencer and is a literary judge for the Nota Bene Prize 2023.

Passionate about community, for six years Shani ran the Nyah Network, a book club for Black women and founded Bankra, a contributor-based platform, which explored the navigated identities of Black millennials. One of Shani's stories, 'Love in Crisis', was published in the first volume of *Untitled Voices*. She was born, raised and currently lives in South London.

#### **GOOD INTENTIONS**

#### Kasim Ali



**Agent** Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB 4th Estate 2022 (at auction)
UKexCan PB 4th Estate Apr 2023
UKexCan audio 4th Estate 2022
US+Can Henry Holt 2022 (pre-empt)
US+Can audio Henry Holt 2022

TV Red Productions

Russia Eksmo

352 pages

A dazzling and captivating debut deftly exploring millennial relationships and the obligations of love

A Sunday Times 'Paperback of the Week'

'A clever novel about vulnerability and victimhood that subtly subverts the reader's expectations' — Sunday Times

'A sensitive, smooth-toned and absorbingly honest novel that makes us question our inner worlds, at a time when this kind of self-examination might be the thing that saves us.' — Diana Evans

'This is a novel for anyone who has ever known what it is to be conflicted in falling in love, feeling the expectations of our families but also ourselves; it is for anyone who has ever felt their heart breaking under the weight of it all.' — Huma Qureshi, author of HOW WE MET

In the wake of first heartbreak, Nur somehow meets his perfect woman. Yasmina is bright, beautiful and, what's most remarkable, she's into him too. Before long, they are inseparable.

But no relationship is perfect. For Yasmina, the complexities of family and cultural expectation are something she wants to navigate with Nur by her side. For Nur, the pressures of being the 'good son' are suffocating, and soon threaten everything he wants for his future with Yasmina. Can he find a way to offer her everything she deserves?

Deftly exploring millennial relationships alongside the complexities of immigrant obligation and racial prejudice, **GOOD INTENTIONS** is a captivating and powerful modern love story that announces a thrilling new voice in British literature.

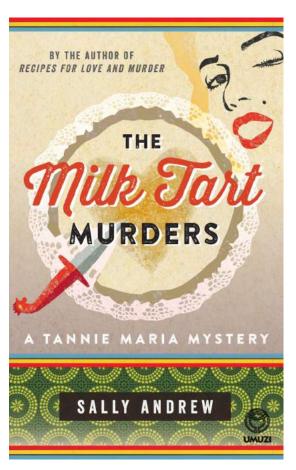
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Kasim works in editorial in the publishing industry. He was longlisted for the 4th Estate B4ME Short Story Prize and shortlisted for Hachette's Mo Siewcherran Prize. He has had a short story published in *The Good Journal*, and is currently writing his second novel.

#### THE MILK TART MURDERS

#### Tannie Maria Mystery #4

#### Sally Andrew



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

Southern Africa Umuzi (PRH) 2022

Tannie Maria #1 RECIPES FOR LOVE & **MURDER** 

Tannie Maria #2 THE SATANIC

**MECHANIC:** UKexCan exSA Canongate 2016 UKexCan audio WF Howes 2017 ANZ Text 2016

Southern Africa Umuzi (PRH) 2016 US Ecco Press 2017

Canada HarperCollins 2017

TV BothWorlds/M-Net/Acorn TV

408 pages

Beloved cook and crime-solver Tannie Maria is back, with more mystery - and cake!

Winner Nielsen SA Book Award for Fiction 2023

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

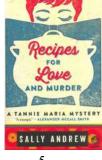
The residents of the country village of Ladismith are all watching a Marilyn Monroe movie in the town's local cinema when Frik du Toit, owner of the local antique shop, dies suddenly in their midst. So Tannie Maria, smalltown newspaper agony aunt and sometime amateur sleuth, finds herself in the middle of a murder investigation once again.

It seems like an impossible job to narrow down the growing list of suspects, especially as Maria helps to catalogue Frik's belongings — all the while nursing a broken heart, since she newly-estranged from her policeman sweetheart Detective Henk Kannemeyer. The investigation becomes even more urgent when Frik's nephew and heir, Tom, is also found dead. As Maria grapples with her complex feelings for Henk — and her growing reliance on food for comfort — she and her feisty reporter colleague Jessie also amp up their investigation in search of justice. But the women are about to find themselves in danger too...

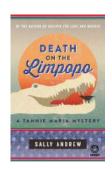
The hugely popular RECIPES FOR LOVE AND MURDER TV series, starring Outlander's Maria Doyle Kennedy as Tannie Maria, premiered on M-Net in South Africa in 2022. American streamer Acorn TV brought the 10-part series to the US, UK, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Latin America (viewable via Amazon Prime). In 2023, it was nominated for three SAFTAs.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Sally Andrew divides her time between Cape Town and her home in a nature reserve in the Klein Karoo, South Africa. She is now writing Tannie Maria #5 WHEN WILD THINGS DIE and completing the first Tannie Maria cookbook.







#### **BETTER THAN FLOWERS**

#### Romalyn Ante



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

**UK** on submission 52,000 words

#### ANTIEMETIC FOR HOMESICKNESS

WAL Chatto & Windus 2020

Shortlisted for the 2021 Jhalak Prize Longlisted for the 2021 Dylan Thomas Prize

*Irish Times* Best Poetry Book of 2020 *Observer* Poetry Book of the Month Poetry School Poetry Book of the Year 2020

National Poetry Day UK Recommended Read

Lyrical, moving accounts of family, immigration, divided worlds and the frontlines of healthcare, by a prize-winning British-Filipino poet and nurse

Romalyn is a writer from a family of healers. Her mother left the Philippines to work in England — leaving Romalyn as a 'left-behind child', like many in a country where mothers must seek a living caring for others elsewhere. Following in her footsteps later, Romalyn became a nurse too — and a ground-breaking and award-winning poet. She was the first East-Asian writer to win the Manchester Poetry Prize and the *Poetry London* Prize and is much in demand as a speaker and tutor and also for prose and poetry commissions for journals and anthologies. Versions of several of the essays in **BETTER THAN FLOWERS** have been published in anthologies.

Romalyn's interlinking essays in **BETTER THAN FLOWERS** span the medical and the mythical, the political and the personal, bringing long overdue attention to the lives of migrant nurses and their transnational families, and highlighting the price they pay for leaving their homeland to serve the British public.

BETTER THAN FLOWERS explores language and memory, migration and belonging, brokenness and wholeness, nursing and healing. As Romalyn vividly depicts her own childhood and family history, she also shines a light on the struggle many migrant nurses face to stay true to their culture and connected to their faraway families, as they care for others with steely resolve, while trying to achieve their own dreams in a foreign land.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

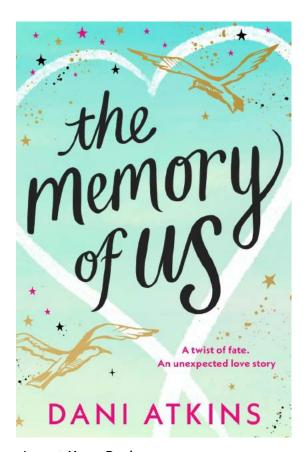
Romalyn Ante FRSL is a prize-winning British-Filipino poet, essayist, and editor. She grew up in the Philippines and migrated to her second home, Wolverhampton, in 2005. She was the first East-Asian to win the *Poetry London* and Manchester Poetry Prizes. She is co-founding editor of *harana poetry*, a magazine for poets who write in English as a second or parallel language, and the founder of *Tsaá with Roma*, an online interview series with poets and other creatives. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, was awarded the Jerwood Compton Poetry Fellowship and is an editorial board member for *Poetry London* magazine.

Romalyn's debut poetry collection **ANTIEMETIC FOR HOMESICKNESS** was published by Chatto & Windus. Romalyn is completing a new poetry collection, AGIMAT & OTHER POEMS, and working on further creative non-fiction and a prose memoir.

#### WOMEN'S FICTION

#### THE MEMORY OF US

#### Dani Atkins



**Agent** Kate Burke

UKexCan HB Head of Zeus Feb 2024 UKexCan PB Head of Zeus Aug 2024 UKexCan audio Head of Zeus Feb 2024

**Germany** Droemer

Option publishers

Croatia Stilus knjiga
Denmark Forlaget Zara
Holland De Fontein
Hungary Alomgyar
Portugal ASA Editores
Romania Publishing Solutions
Turkey Orman Kitap

A gripping, emotional story of sisters, family and the power of memories for fans of Colleen Hoover and JoJo Moyes

If she had been found moments later, Amelia's heart would have stopped and never recovered. Instead, she was taken from the desolate beach to the nearest hospital just in time to save her life. When her sister Lexi arrives from New York, Amelia's heart is beating, but the accident has implanted a series of false memories about a man named Sam, and a perfect love story that never existed.

Determined to help her sister, Lexi enlists the help of Nick, a local vet who bears a striking resemblance to Sam. Together, Lexi and Nick recreate and photograph Amelia's dream dates in the hopes of triggering her true memories. But as love starts to stir between Lexi and Nick, they must navigate a complex web of emotions. How can Lexi fall for Amelia's dream man without hurting her sister?

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

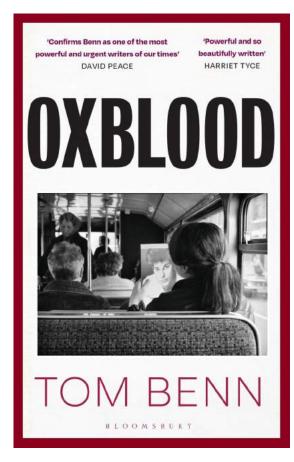
Dani has been writing for fun all her life but, following the 2013 publication of her novel **FRACTURED**, made writing her full-time career. **FRACTURED** has been published in sixteen languages and has sold more than half a million copies since first publication in the UK.

Dani is the author of many other bestselling novels (SIX DAYS, THE WEDDING DRESS, A SKY FULL OF STARS, A MILLION DREAMS, THE STORY OF US, OUR SONG, THIS LOVE and WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING) and PERFECT STRANGERS, a standalone eBook novella. In 2018, THIS LOVE won the Romantic Novel of the Year Award at the RNA awards in London and in 2022, A SKY FULL OF STARS won the Contemporary Award for Romantic Fiction. In 2023, SIX DAYS won the RNA Jackie Collins Award.

464 pages

#### LITERARY

#### **OXBLOOD**



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Bloomsbury 2022 UKexCan audio Bloomsbury 2022 UKexCan PB Bloomsbury Apr 2023

**Spain** Mapa

256 pages

#### Tom Benn

With echoes of BELOVED and SHUGGIE BAIN, a blistering portrait of three generations of women living under one roof, haunted by ghosts of the past

Winner of the Sunday Times Charlotte Aitken Young Writer of the Year Award

Longlisted for the Gordon Burn Prize 2022 Longlisted for CWA Gold Dagger Award

'A propulsive, bountiful, fearless work of art' - Oyinkan Braithwaite

'One of the most powerful and urgent writers of our times.' — David Peace

'OXBLOOD shows us that there are few places literature can't take us, if the writer is brave enough, and gifted enough.' — Francis Spufford

Wythenshawe, South Manchester, England. 1985.

The Dodds family once ruled Manchester's criminal underworld; now the men are dead, leaving three generations of women trapped in a house haunted by violence. A house that also harbours an unregistered baby, child of the house's youngest mother.

Matriarch Nedra presides over the household, which bustles with activity as she prepares the welcome feast for her grandson Kelly's return from prison.

Her grieving daughter-in-law Carol is visited by both the welcome, intimate ghost of her murdered lover, and by Mac, an ageing criminal enforcer, a man who may just offer her a real and possible future. And Jan, the teenage tearaway, is running as fast as she can from her mother, her grandmother, and her own unnamed baby.

Over the course of a few days, the Dodds women must each confront the true legacy of the men who have defined their lives; and seize the opportunity to break the cycle for good.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Tom Benn is an author, screenwriter and lecturer from Stockport, England. His first novel, THE DOLL PRINCESS, was shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize and the Portico Prize, longlisted for the CWA's John Creasey Dagger, and was *The Daily Mirror*'s Book of the Week. His other novels are CHAMBER MUSIC (Cape) and TROUBLE MAN (Cape). His creative nonfiction has appeared in *The Paris Review Daily* and he won the BFI's iWrite scheme for emerging screenwriters. His first film *Real Gods Require Blood* premiered in competition at the Cannes Film Festival, and was nominated for Best Short Film at the BFI London Film Festival. His short story THE CAT'S MOTHER will be included in Comma Press' THE BOOK OF MANCHESTER (2024).

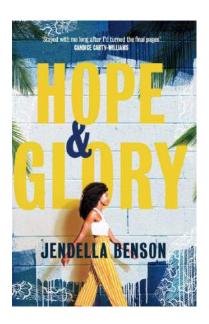
#### CONTEMPORARY

#### ALL THAT WE'VE GOT



**Agent** Juliet Pickering

**UKexCan HB** Trapeze July 2024 (at auction) **UKexCan audio** Trapeze July 2024



#### Jendella Benson

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

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

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

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

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

#### Praise for HOPE & GLORY

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

'Explores grief, love, friendship, dreams lost, life interrupted... intricate, beautiful and so very real. I held my breath, gasped out loud and devoured every gorgeous page. Just brilliant.' — Dorothy Koomson

'You don't initially realise how much there is to unpack in this family drama, thanks to Benson's easy-to-read, modern prose... a masterful look at how your history isn't always the one you've been told.' — Stylist

'Benson expertly portrays the anguish, friction, and love of a family under immense strain while providing insights on the difficulties faced by immigrants. The result is a sumptuous and satisfying meditation on family and the meaning of home.' — *Publishers Weekly* 

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

#### HISTORICAL

#### **COSTANZA**



**Agent** Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Dialogue Aug 2024 UKexCan audio Dialogue Aug 2024

Brazil Editora Tordesilhas Italy Newton Compton Spain Maeva (pre-empt)

112,000 words

#### Rachel Blackmore

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

History calls her a muse. Temptress. Fallen woman.

This is *her* story.

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

Their secret love burns with a passion that consumes them. But with every stolen kiss and illicit tryst, Costanza's reputation is at stake. Meanwhile, Bernini has a dangerous desire: he wants to make Costanza immortal. He vows to possess her not just in body and soul, but also in marble.

When Bernini unveils his sculpture of Costanza she is exposed as his lover, marking the undoing of their affair—and the beginning of a scandal which will rock Roman society. For Bernini would rather destroy Costanza than let her go.

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

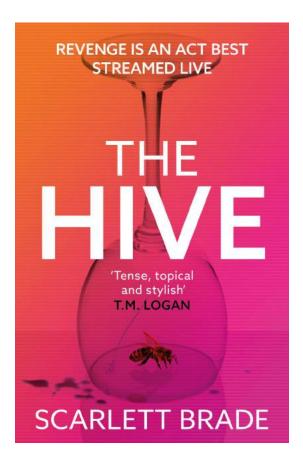
**COSTANZA** is a dizzying and sensual historical novel that brings to life a feminist icon who has been written out of history. This addictive tale of desire and betrayal is perfect for fans of THE GIRL WITH THE PEARL EARRING and THE MINIATURIST.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

#### THRILLER

#### THE HIVE



**Agent Kate Burke** 

WEL HB Bonnier 2022 (at auction)
WEL PB Bonnier May 2023
WEL audio Bonnier 2022

Poland Proszynski

336 pages

#### Scarlett Brade

A feminist thriller for anyone who's ever sworn revenge on an ex. Perfect for fans of HOW TO KILL YOUR FAMILY and YOU

'Social media and sisterhood — what's not to like? In this toxic tale of revenge it has to be #VoteDie all the way.' — Lizzie Fry

'Revenge is definitely a dish best served cold in this tense, topical and stylish thriller.' — TM Logan

Charlotte Goodwin looks directly at the camera and reveals a chilling truth to the thousands watching her Instagram Live broadcast. She has killed her ex-boyfriend's new partner in cold blood. But she is not finished yet. With bloodied hands she takes a calm sip of tea before continuing. The viewers must vote to decide whether he should live or die.

The public display sends shockwaves rippling through the online community and the number of viewers skyrockets. But as Lincoln's past is revealed, how will he be judged?

Bonded by mutual tragedy, Charlotte's three best friends have supported each other through the soaring highs and devastating lows of their lives. Now, in Charlotte's hour of need, her friends also face a choice: whether to help her get away with murder.

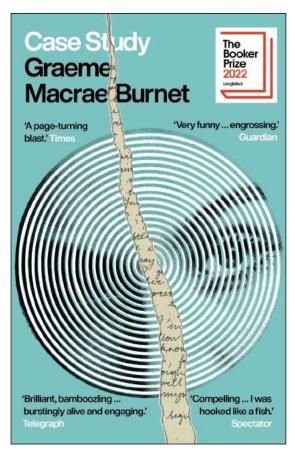
THE HIVE explores our darkest fears of the relationship between social media and mental health, but, most importantly, the strength of sisterhood against all the odds.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Scarlett Brade is the daughter of parents who migrated from the Caribbean to England in the early 1970s. She was born and educated in London, and is a keen theatre, music and Arsenal FC fan. As a child she spent her summers in Toronto, Canada which is where she developed her love affair with reading. She read her first Harry Potter book at the age of six and completed her own full-length novel by the age of twenty three.

When not writing, Scarlett spends most of her time cooking, drinking fine wines, and entertaining family and friends.

#### **CASE STUDY**



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan exANZ HB Saraband 2021 UKexCan exANZ PB Saraband 2022 ANZ PB Text 2021 US+Can Biblioasis 2022 US+Can audio Bolinda 2021

Film/TV New State Pictures/Good Chaos

Brazil Todavia | Denmark Superlux China Yilin Publishing | Estonia Varrak France Sonatine | Germany Kampa Verlag | Greece Metaixmio | Holland Arbeiderspers | Japan Hayakawa Korea Open Books | Lithuania Alma Littera | Poland Czarne | Romania Editura Art | Russia Eksmo | Spain Impedimenta | Sweden Modernista Taiwan Babel | Turkey Monokl

288 pages

#### Graeme Macrae Burnet

Brilliant and beguiling, inventive and moving - a literary triumph by an acclaimed Booker shortlister

Longlisted for the Booker Prize 2022 Shortlisted for the Gordon Burn Prize 2022 Shortlisted for the Ned Kelly Award 2022 Longlisted for Gold Crown Award 2022 Longlisted for the Dublin Literary Award 2023

'CASE STUDY has a lot in common with the novels of Vladimir Nabokov and Roberto Bolaño, in which invented characters pass through tumultuous episodes of literary history that never quite happened, though it seems as if they should have.' — New York Times

'A page-turning blast, funny, sinister and perfectly plotted.'

— James Walton, *The Times* 

'Enormous fun to read, a mystery and a psychological drama wrapped up in one. Magnificent... a triumph.' — Alex Preston, *Guardian*, 'Book of the Day'

I have decided to write down everything that happens, because I feel, I suppose, I may be putting myself in danger.

London, 1965. An unworldly young woman believes that a charismatic psychotherapist, Collins Braithwaite, has driven her sister to suicide. Intent on confirming her suspicions, she assumes a false identity and presents herself to him as a client, recording her experiences in a series of notebooks. But she soon finds herself drawn into a world in which she can no longer be certain of anything. Even her own character.

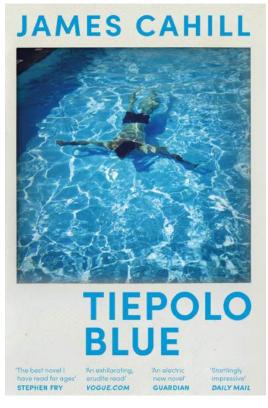
A dazzling — and often wickedly humorous — meditation on the nature of sanity, identity and truth itself, by one of the most inventive and 'extravagantly talented' (*Guardian*) novelists writing today.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Graeme Macrae Burnet was brought up in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire and now lives in Glasgow. He has also lived in the Czech Republic, France, Portugal and London and has appeared at festivals and events all over the world. Rights to CASE STUDY are sold in 21 countries.

His first novel, THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ADÈLE BEDEAU (Saraband, 2014), received a New Writer's Award from the Scottish Book Trust and was longlisted for the Waverton Good Read Award. A second Inspector Gorski novel, THE ACCIDENT ON THE A35, was published in 2017. He is now working on the third title in the trilogy. HIS BLOODY PROJECT (Saraband, 2015) won the Saltire Society Fiction Book of the Year Award, and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the *LA Times* Book Awards.

#### TIEPOLO BLUE



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Sceptre 2022 UKexCan PB Sceptre Apr 2023 UKexCan audio Sceptre 2022

**Spain** Urano

341 pages

#### James Cahill

A smart, sexy, page-turning literary debut for fans of Andre Aciman, Edward St Aubyn and Javier Marias

Shortlisted Authors' Club Best First Novel Award 2023 An Amazon Editor's Pick

'Wildly enjoyable... combines formal elegance with gripping storytelling' — Financial Times

'Imagine if Alan Hollinghurst and Iris Murdoch collaborated on a witty update of DEATH IN VENICE and you'll see the appeal of James Cahill's assured debut.' — Patrick Gale

'Exhilarating and erudite.' - Vogue.com

Cambridge, 1994. Professor Don Lamb is a revered art historian at the height of his powers, consumed by the book he is writing about the skies of the Venetian master Tiepolo. However, his academic brilliance belies a deep inexperience of life and love.

When an explosive piece of contemporary art is installed on the lawn of his college, it sets in motion Don's abrupt departure from Cambridge to take up a role at a south London museum. There he befriends Ben, a young artist who draws him into the anarchic 1990s British art scene and Soho's nightlife.

Over the long, hot summer, Don glimpses a liberating new existence. But it is also a moment of self-reckoning, as his oldest friendship and his unexamined past are revealed to him in a devastating new light. As Don's life unravels, he suffers a shattering fall from grace.

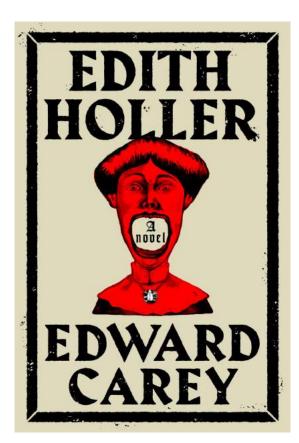
Described as 'BRIDESHEAD REVISITED written by Martin Amis', with 'shades of John Williams' STONER' and 'a smart, sexy read, an addictive page-turner' (*Evening Standard*), **TIEPOLO BLUE** marks the arrival of a major literary talent.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

James Cahill's career has combined academia with a role at a leading contemporary art gallery. He was a Fellow at King's College London, and now based in Los Angeles. **TIEPOLO BLUE** is his debut novel.

Cahill is currently finishing **THE VIOLET HOUR**, which will be published by Sceptre (UKexCan) in summer 2024. Set in New York, London and Switzerland, the novel reveals the secret history of a reclusive artist, a monomaniacal collector, and the art dealer caught between them. Manuscript available December 2023.

#### **EDITH HOLLER**



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

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

**Italy** La Nave di Teseo

#### **Option publishers**

Brazil Darkside Books | Bulgaria Lettera | Czech Republic Argo France Cherche-Midi | Germany Beck | Holland Ambo Anthos Hungary Europa | Iraq AlMada Japan Sogensha | Korea Arcade Publishing | Lithuania Alma Littera Poland Prószyński | Russia Eksmo Spain Blackie Books | Taiwan Delight press | Turkey Ithaki

400 pages

#### **Edward Carey**

A darkly enthralling novel of theatre and mystery, perfect for fans of Susanna Clarke, Neil Gaiman and Edward Gorey — and the many fans of Edward Carey!

'Witty and dark... A wonderfully strange and quirky tale about the power of penning and performing tales.' — *Kirkus Reviews* 

'All of Edward Carey's work is profound and delightful.' — Max Porter

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

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

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

Teeming with unforgettable characters — including the whole cast of the theatrical Holler family and the theatre bear — and illuminated by Edward's trademark fantastical illustrations, **EDITH HOLLER** is a surprisingly modern fable of one young woman's struggle to escape her family's control and in so doing to craft her own creative destiny.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

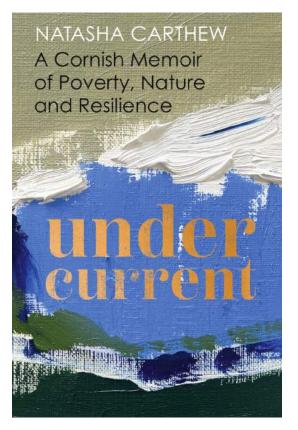
Edward's most recent work of fiction was the haunting and beautiful novella, **THE SWALLOWED MAN**, and before that his extraordinary novel, **LITTLE**, a tour de force of art, revolution, love and memory, has now sold over 100,000 copies in 20 languages.

Edward is currently writing a novel set in a children's hospital called A CHILD CALLED BED.

#### **NON-FICTION**

#### **UNDERCURRENT**

#### A Memoir of Poverty, Nature and Resilience Natasha Carthew



**Agent** Juliet Pickering

UKexCan PB Hodder/Coronet Apr 2024 (at auction) UKexCan audio Hodder/Coronet Apr 2023

264 pages

'At times roaring, visceral and exclusive, in turn gentle, embracing and inclusive, but always driven by hope and determination' — Raynor Winn, author of THE SALT PATH

'Haunting and powerful, a book about the sea and the power of belonging' — Kate Mosse

Natasha Carthew was born into a world that sat alongside picture-postcard Cornwall, one where second homes took the sea view of council properties, summer months shifted the course of people's lives, and wealth converged with poverty on sandy beaches.

In the rockpools and hedgerows of the natural world, Natasha found solace in the beauty of the landscape, and in the mobile library she found her means of escape. In **UNDERCURRENT** she returns to the cliff paths of her childhood, determined to make sense of an upbringing shaped by political neglect and a life defined by the beauty of nature.

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

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Natasha Carthew is a working class writer and poet. After publishing four novels and several books of poetry, she contributed to **HAG: Forgotten Folk Tales** (Virago Press, 2020) and **WOMEN ON NATURE** (Unbound, 2021).

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

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

#### THE ROYAL REBEL



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Sphere Spring 2025 WEL PB Sphere Spring 2026 UK+Can audio Sphere Spring 2025

#### **Option Publishers**

Bulgaria Kalpazanov | Croatia Znanje | Czech Republic Euromedia France Bragelonne | Hungary Könyvmolyképző | Germany Blanvalet | Italy TRE60 | Latvia Kontinent Poland Proszynski | Spain Planeta

135,000 words

#### Elizabeth Chadwick

'An author who makes historical fiction come gloriously alive' — The Times

'I rank Elizabeth Chadwick with such historical novelist stars as Dorothy Dunnett and Anya Seton.' — Sharon Kay Penman

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

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

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

Chadwick yet again casts fresh light on a historical character and readers will thrill to the story of Jeanette, known to history as Joan of Kent.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

New York Times bestseller Elizabeth Chadwick won the RNA Historical Novel of the Year Award in 2011. The Historical Novel Society chose THE SCARLET LION as one of 'Ten Landmark Historical Novels of the Last Decade' and THE FALCONS OF MONTABARD was named as Romance Reviews Today's Best Historical Fiction Book of the Year.

Little, Brown have sold more than 1 million copies of her work in their English editions and she has a passionately dedicated following in many countries like France, Italy, Germany, Poland and Spain - as well as the UK and US.

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

Sphere have just signed WEL rights to three new Elizabeth Chadwick titles in a major new deal.

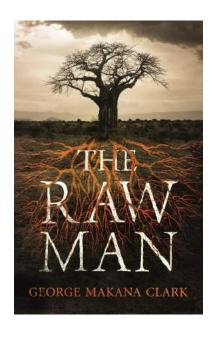
#### THE WRECKERS



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

Ms available Winter 2023

96,000 words



#### George Makana Clark

A sweeping, spellbinding novel with shades of Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Carlos Ruiz Zafón

Lisbon, 1954. In the Military History Archives a mysterious figure steals the Last Will and Testament of Garoto Bárbaro de Castro, a man born into slavery in Mozambique in 1800.

Through the many pages of the testament and the unfolding story of the objects Garoto has bequeathed, we learn about his remarkable and often brutal life, and the many other lives somehow connected to his — including that of his descendent Nuno Bárbaro de Castro, the archival thief. The violence of centuries of slavery and war does not stay buried, and the effects of the past echo in the lives of apparently disconnected people all over the world — in Angola, in Cuba and in Louisiana's Angola prison.

Spanning four hundred years in its gripping and colourful narrative, THE WRECKERS examines the consequences of prolonged civil war in Angola, and the long-term impact of slavery on both sides of the Atlantic.

An unforgettable interwoven narrative and a triumphant return, a decade on from Clark's acclaimed first novel **THE RAW MAN** (UK: Jonathan Cape, 2011).

#### Praise for THE RAW MAN:

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

'This dark, graceful novel challenges all the conventions. The result is mythic, dark and oracular.' — Adam Johnson

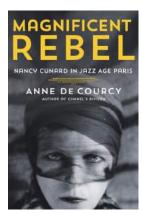
'The wonderful, poetic voice, at once fantastic and realistic, stands out from contemporary African literature.' — Alain Mabanckou

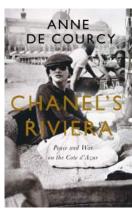
'Potent and strange.' — Jonathan Barnes, Literary Review

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

#### Anne de Courcy — Selected Works









#### **Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan Weidenfeld & Nicolson UKexCan audio Orion US+Can St Martin's Press US+Can audio Macmillan Audio

#### Option publishers

Bulgaria Ciela Germany Insel Hungary Európa Romania Litera

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Anne de Courcy is an acclaimed biographer and journalist. Her book THE FISHING FLEET spent 7 weeks in the *Sunday Times* bestseller list. 'De Courcy combines the perseverance of a social historian with a novelist's panache' — The Times

'De Courcy paints a rich canvas' — The Sunday Times

'A marvellous knack for choosing the less-trodden path to provide priceless sidelong looks into fascinating corners of history' - Washington Times

### FIVE LOVE AFFAIRS AND A FRIENDSHIP: The Turbulent Life and Times of Nancy Cunard (US: MAGNIFICENT REBEL) (2022)

Dazzlingly beautiful, highly intelligent and an extraordinary force of energy, Nancy Cunard was an icon of the Jazz Age. Born into a life of wealth and privilege, yet one in which she barely saw her parents, Nancy rebelled against expectations and pursued a life in the arts, seeking the company of artists, writers, poets and painters. This tempestuous tale of passion and intrigue is as much a portrait of twenties Paris as it is the story of an extraordinary woman who defined her age. 272 pages.

#### CHANEL'S RIVIERA (2019)

Far from worrying about the onset of war, in the spring of 1938 the burning question on the French Riviera was whether one should curtsey to the Duchess of Windsor. It was a golden, glamorous life, far removed from politics or conflict. Featuring a glittering cast of artists, writers and historical figures, with the enigmatic Coco Chanel at its heart, CHANEL'S RIVIERA is a captivating account of a period that saw some of the deepest extremes of luxury and terror in the whole of the twentieth century. 304 pages.

#### THE HUSBAND HUNTERS: Social Climbing in London and New York (2017)

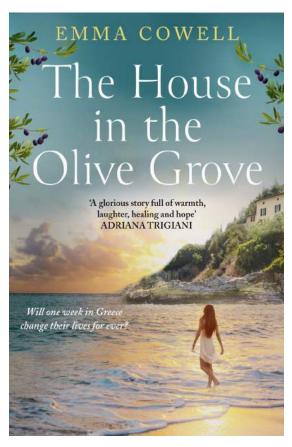
Towards the end of the nineteenth century and for the first few years of the twentieth, a strange invasion took place in Britain: dozens of young American heiresses married into the British peerage, bringing with them all the fabulous wealth, glamour and sophistication of the Gilded Age. Based on extensive first-hand research, drawing on diaries, memoirs and letters, this richly entertaining group biography reveals what they thought of their new lives in England — and what England thought of them. 291 pages.

#### THE FISHING FLEET (2012)

The late 19th century, when the Raj was at its height, many of Britain's bright young men went out to India to work as administrators, soldiers and businessmen. With the advent of steam travel and the opening of the Suez Canal, countless young women followed in their wake... They were known as 'The Fishing Fleet', and this book is their story. 335 pages.

#### **WOMEN'S FICTION**

# THE HOUSE IN THE OLIVE GROVE Emma Cowell



**Agent Kate Burke** 

WEL PB Avon May 2023 WEL audio Avon May 2023

Czech Republic Grada Denmark Zara Greece Pedio

**Option Publishers** 

Germany Insel Poland Muza Russia Eksmo

432 pages

A story of food and friendship, love and loss, set in Greece and perfect for fans of Victoria Hislop and Karen Swan

Over 25,000 copies sold in all formats

'I adored THE HOUSE IN THE OLIVE GROVE. It is a hymn to friendship and love, and is utterly perfect.' — Liz Fenwick

Chef Maria is running a successful cookery school in her home village of Petalidi, Greece — but she is also running from the secrets of her past.

Food journalist Kayla thought this was going to be just another work trip. But right before she leaves for Greece, she discovers that her whole life is built on a lie.

Jewellery-maker Alessandra has always lived according to her own rules — despite what it has cost her to do so. But she has just had some devastating news.

As these three very different women come together at the house in the olive grove, unlikely friendships blossom and a season of self-discovery begins. Will the sumptuous flavours, sapphire waters and golden sands of Greece give each of them the answers they so desperately seek?

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Emma lives in Cornwall with her husband, Tony, and their fur baby, a Russian Blue called Papoushka Gerald Cowell. A former actress and BBC presenter Emma has worked in the fundraising division of children's palliative care for the last decade and is currently Head of Philanthropy for national charity Together for Short Lives.

Segueing from being paid to talk for a living into writing was a natural progression, since story telling has been at the heart of her career to date.

Emma's previous book, **ONE LAST LETTER FROM GREECE**, has sold over 45,000 copies across all formats.

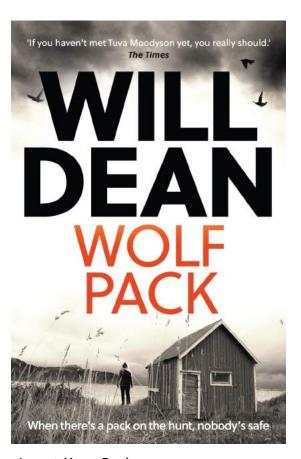
Emma is currently writing her third book for Avon. THE ISLAND LOVE SONG is a heart-wrenching story of sisterhood, sacrifices and secrets.

#### **CRIME**

#### **WOLF PACK**

#### A Tuva Moodyson Mystery

#### Will Dean



**Agent** Kate Burke

UK HB Oneworld 2022 UK PB Oneworld Jun 2023 UK ebook Oneworld 2022 UK audio Oneworld 2022

TV Under option

#### Option publishers

Croatia Znanje France Belfond Holland AW Bruna Italy Marsilio Spain Roca Russia Eksmo

320 pages

Chilling Scandi noir mystery, featuring deaf journalist, Tuva Moodyson, on the trail of a missing woman who has disappeared from an enclosed community compound

'Claustrophobically horrifying... Another great instalment in Tuva's story.' - Allison Flood, *The Observer* 

'I haven't been able to read for MONTHS — then I gave Will Dean's **WOLF PACK** a go and not only did I read it but I LOVED it... If you haven't read any yet, I IMPLORE you to start... I recommend SO highly.' — Marian Keyes

A closed community: Rose Farm is home to a group of survivalists, completely cut off from the outside world. Until now.

A missing person: A young woman goes missing within the perimeter of the farm compound. Can Tuva talk her way inside the tight-knit group to find her story?

A frantic search: As Tuva attempts to unmask the culprit, she gains unique access to the residents. But soon she finds herself in danger of the pack turning against her — will she make her way back to safety so she can expose the truth?

In WOLF PACK, Tuva is taken to her absolute limits in exposing a heinous crime, and in her own personal life. Can she, and will she, do the right thing?

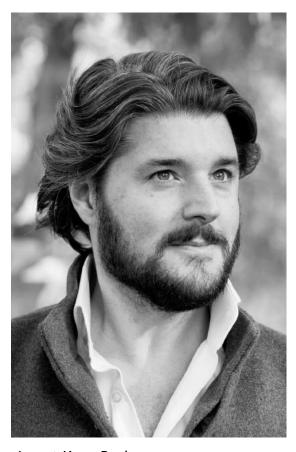
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

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

Hodder will publish **ICE TOWN**, the sixth book in the Tuva Moodyson series, in October 2024.

#### THE CHAMBER



**Agent** Kate Burke

**UKexCan HB** Hodder & Stoughton Jun 2024

**UKexCan PB** Hodder & Stoughton Feb 2025

**UKexCan audio** Hodder & Stoughton Jun 2024

**US+Can PB** Emily Bestler Books Aug 2024

**US+Can audio** Emily Bestler Books Aug 2024

#### Option publishers

China Translations Magazine (Yilin)
Croatia Znanje
France Belfond
Holland AW Bruna
Hungary Lettero
Italy Marsilio
Russia Eksmo

#### Will Dean

Locked-room mystery about a group of saturation divers trapped in a chamber with a dead body, and the seven days they must wait until they can come out

Brooke Adams has been a professional saturation diver for five years. After checking her dive helmet and suit, she climbs into a ship's saturation chamber through a steel hatch. She's the last of the six-person team to enter a space no larger than an average bathroom. When the hatch is closed and sealed, blow-down begins. Brooke pinches her nose to equalise her ears and the heat inside rises to tropical levels as divers breathe Heliox in order to survive the pressure of being 800 feet below the surface of the North Sea.

But when Brooke and her bellman ascend, they discover one of their colleagues on the cusp of death. As medics assist via the intercom, and the ship's captain watches impotently through a chamber porthole, the man succumbs to his injuries. Now, they must all live in close quarters with a corpse who died from an unknown cause...

It will take seven more days of decompression, locked away together, before the hatch can be opened. How do the remaining divers protect themselves from an unknown threat amongst them?

The beauty of an undersea world juxtaposed against bare steel, intrusive thoughts, and the constant struggle not to give way to panic. Mind games, exhaustion, suspicion, and most of all... pressure.

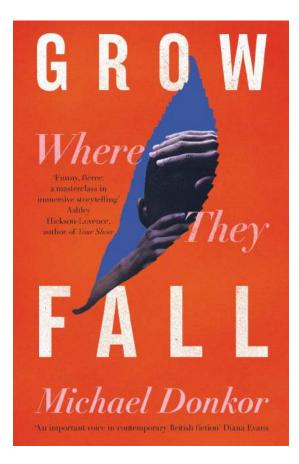
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Will is also the author of the sensational standalone thrillers THE LAST THING TO BURN, FIRST BORN and THE LAST PASSENGER and the Tuva Moodyson crime series.

#### **GROW WHERE THEY FALL**

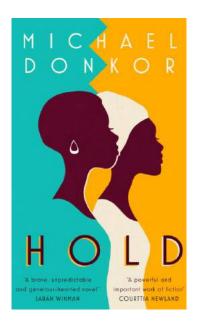
#### Michael Donkor



**Agent** Juliet Pickering

**UKexCan** Fig Tree (PRH) Mar 2024 (at auction) **UK audio** Penguin 2024

100,000 words



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

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

'Hugely enjoyable and very moving, Donkor's frank, cleareyed and funny prose is so refreshing.' — Diana Evans

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

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

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

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

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

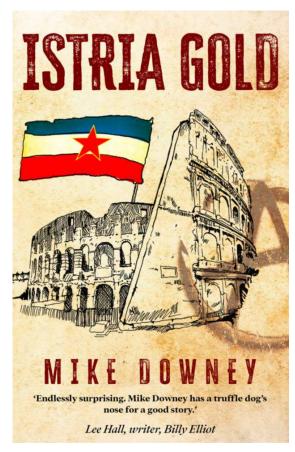
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Michael Donkor was born in London in 1985. He read English at Oxford, and later undertook a Masters in Creative Writing at Royal Holloway. After working in publishing for a number of years, he retrained as an English teacher in 2010.

In 2019, Jackie Kay selected Michael as one of 10 exciting writers for the International Literature Showcase.

#### HISTORICAL

#### **ISTRIA GOLD**



Blake Friedmann handling translation rights.

WEL: M-press Media 2022

Croatia Jesenski and Turk Bulgaria Colibri Macedonia Pro Art Russia Phantom Press Ukraine Folio

418 pages

#### Mike Downey

An ambitious and atmospheric historical thriller debut from acclaimed filmmaker

'Endlessly surprising. Mike Downey has a truffle dog's nose for a good story.' — Lee Hall, writer of *Billy Elliot* 

'Downey is a passionate tour guide as well as a nimble story -teller. He had me Googling maps of Istria and looking up plane ticket prices. Here is a classic adventure story, sparkling in the Istrian sun and best read with a glass of Istrian walnut brandy, goat's cheese with turmeric, and, of course, truffles.' — Melanie Finn, author of THE UNDERNEATH and THE HARE

**ISTRIA GOLD**, the first book in a trilogy set on the wild Croatian peninsula of Istria. The novel takes the reader on a journey through time, stopping at three distinct periods in the region's history, and wears its deep understanding of the region's customs, traditions, and, most crucially, its truffles, lightly.

LONDON, 2019: After undercover cop Marco Mihailić is drummed out of the Metropolitan Police he seeks refuge with his family in Croatian Istria. He finds a world utterly changed from his childhood, and one in which his beloved grandfather Nino's truffle-dealing escapades have got him into the kind of trouble that he can no longer handle.

ROMAN ISTRIA, AD 81: 18-year-old Lucia desperately needs to escape the gladiatorial games, and her beloved English mastiffs are her way out. Although trained to kill in the arena, her loyal companions Brutus and Britannica have a secret ability that is the key to Lucia's freedom: their ability to smell out beds of truffles. They will help make her fortune and take Lucia and her family away from the violence and horror of the games.

ISTRIA, 1943: Brothers Pino and Nino Mihailić have seen waves of invaders beat, kill and imprison their innocent neighbours in war-torn Istria. Driven by fear and revenge, they join Tito's Partisans. Within a year Pino's star is riding high after a series of guerrilla victories, but Nino sees another way out of this war: his dog and the lucrative truffles they find in the countryside.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Mike Downey is a filmmaker, activist and author. As a filmmaker, he has worked with the likes of James Ellroy, Colm Tóibín and David Grossman. He is currently Chairman of the European Film Academy and is a member of the BAFTA council. In 2021, he was awarded an OBE for his services to World Cinema and has served on boards and as artistic director for some of the most prestigious film festivals and organisations around the world.

#### QUEEN OF A DISTANT LAND

#### Barbara Erskine



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WEL HB HarperCollins Aug 2024 WEL PB HarperCollins 2025

#### Option publishers

Czech Republic Euromedia Germany Weltbild Hungary Alexandra

162,000 words (ms available Dec 2023)

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

'A first-rate storyteller.' - The Bookseller

'Will thrill, enchant and intrigue those who love history and the supernatural. Barbara Erskine's grasp of time, place and atmosphere is second to none, the storytelling a masterpiece.' — Alison Weir (about THE DREAM WEAVERS).

'Erskine never disappoints.' — Historical Novel Society

Much anticipated, **QUEEN OF A DISTANT LAND** is another engrossing, sure-fire bestseller from 'the acknowledged queen of the historical time-slip novel' (*Daily Mail*).

Why can Cadi hear the sound of Roman centurions despite the centuries that separate her from the Roman occupation? Is it connected to the mysterious meadow that borders her garden?

When the meadow is earmarked for a housing development, Cadi, along with the other inhabitants of the Welsh village where she lives, are determined to fight it. They soon discover that the meadow was the site of a Roman villa — could this explain the otherworldly sounds and visions Cadi's been experiencing?

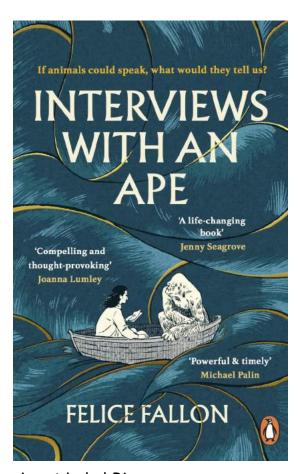
Cadi's search for answers will reveal a connection between her and one of the villa's previous inhabitants, Elen - a Welsh princess who is married off to an austere Roman general when she is only a girl. And in her own time, Elen has problems of her own - including the trials of her new position, doom-laden prophecies and a husband intent on ruling the entire Roman Empire...

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Barbara Erskine is the acclaimed author of many internationally best-selling novels beginning with the much loved classic, LADY OF HAY, which has been continuously in print for more than 37 years. In addition to her much-loved novels, Barbara has also written three bestselling volumes of short stories. Her books have been published around the world in English and also in more than 25 other languages. She lives in Hay-on-Wye.

#### INTERVIEWS WITH AN APE

#### Felice Fallon



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Arrow 2021 UKexCan PB Arrow Jan 2023 UKexCan audio Arrow 2021

Film/TV On the Edge Productions

385 pages

An extraordinary hero — a gorilla — tells unforgettable stories of the natural world

'Wonderful...leaves you asking questions, lots of questions. I cried at the end, tears running down my face, This story will stay with me forever.' — Netgalley, 5-star review

'Compelling and thought-provoking, it will break your heart and change your mind.' — Joanna Lumley

'Wise, subtly political and above all compassionate.' — Alice Hughes, *Buzz Magazine* 

'Will change how you see and feel about the world. Everyone should read it.' - Waterstones bookseller, 5-star review

'An unusually powerful novel - and a timely one too.' - Michael Palin

'Wow. There aren't the words to describe how important and eye-opening this book is.' — *Goodreads*, 5-star review

A young woman, Dr Graciela Saddiq, arrives to work at a zoo in a city soon to be at war. Of all the animals, she is particularly interested in a silverback mountain gorilla named Einstein. Quickly she finds what makes this gorilla unique: he can communicate with humans using sign language.

Each evening as darkness falls and the zoo empties of people, Einstein tells her his story as well as those of other animals he has known. But war is looming, and as the bombing of the city begins, Dr Saddiq realises that that both their lives are in terrible danger...

Fallon's debut is a work of imaginative daring, written with a direct simplicity, yet deep insight. The novel's many voices will linger long in the memory and the heart.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Felice Fallon was born in Los Angeles and moved to Hawaii at 18 before beginning a career in advertising, first in Frankfurt, then in New York. She then moved to London, where she wrote screenplays in collaboration with her husband, a film director and completed a degree in politics, history and philosophy at Birkbeck. This is her first novel.

#### **MEMOIR**

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

#### Kathryn Faulke

#### EVERY KIND OF PEOPLE

#### A Journey Into The Heart Of Carework

#### Kathryn Faulke

**Agent** Isobel Dixon

**UKexCan** Fig Tree (PRH) Jul 2024 (auction) **UKexCan audio** Penguin Jul 2024

81,000 words

An exceptional first-of-its-kind memoir about working as a home carer, won at auction by Fig Tree

**EVERY KIND OF PEOPLE** is a compassionate, warm-hearted and profound book that stands alongside works about medical care like Christie Watson's THE LANGUAGE OF KINDNESS, but with its beautiful writing it will also appeal to fans of memoirs like THE OUTRUN and THE SALT PATH.

Anxious and burnt out, Kate has left a senior role in the National Health Service and is looking for a new, less stressful job. Believing she's found this in care work, she signs with an agency and is soon plunged into a challenging and eye-opening new world.

Facing low pay, long journeys between homes and pressurised thirty-minute visits, all combined with the shocking onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, Kate soon realises the job is about far more than washing, feeding and dressing vulnerable, often lonely men and women. They are people who have much to teach her too.

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

Kate's story has a deep humanity at its heart, a crucial message shared with the sure touch of a natural writer. **EVERY KIND OF PEOPLE** is her first book and has already struck chords with many readers in the publishing community — and promises to be a striking title for 2024, published with a major campaign by Fig Tree.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

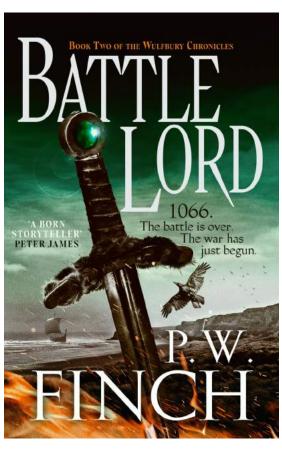
Kathryn Faulke is a pseudonym. The author was runner-up in the Wasafiri International New Writing Prize and won the Mslexia Memoir Prize for an earlier version of **EVERY KIND OF PEOPLE**.

She is now working on her next book, about working in nursing homes on the Norfolk coast, and rediscovering the natural world of her childhood.

#### HISTORICAL

#### **BATTLE LORD**

#### P.W. Finch



**Agent Kate Burke** 

WEL PB Canelo Jan 2024 WEL ebook Canelo Jan 2024 WEL audio Bolinda Feb 2024

368 pages

Book Two in a gripping historical adventure series for fans of Simon Scarrow and Ben

'Finch has written a blood-soaked historical epic to rank with the best' – Anthony Riches, author of STORM OF WAR

'USURPER propels the reader from the very first page through a dark and desperate age when Britons fought for their survival. Fearsome battles, believable characters, uncommon valour. USURPER is a relentless page turner.' – David Gilman

The battle for England is over. The fight for Wulfbury has just begun.

AD 1066. Cerdic is a prisoner of war. Captured after the Battle of Hastings, his fate is in the hands of the victorious Norman count Cynric, who is in no mood to feed and look after worthless Englishmen as the army moves inland. His survival depends on his ability to convince them of his value.

Cerdic's sole bargaining chip is his lordship of Wulfbury, a small stronghold in Northumberland, following the deaths of his father, its earl, and elder brother in the invasions. If he can entice them with the lure of this fiefdom, he may yet survive.

But the fortress is held by a ferocious band of Vikings, who will not give it up without a fight. Will Cerdic be able to convince the Norman knights to let him live, or will his fate be the same as so many other Englishmen lying on the battlefield of Senlac Ridge?

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

A former cop and journalist, Paul was a writer for British TV crime drama, *The Bill*.

Paul wrote two series for Avon (HarperCollins). The Mark Heckenburg series has so far reached combined sales of nearly half a million, and the Lucy Clayburn series shot him into the *Sunday Times* bestseller list.

Winner of the British Fantasy Award 2002 & 2007, and the International Horror Guild Award 2007, he has also written four *Doctor Who* audio dramas and his *Doctor Who* novel, **HUNTER'S MOON**, was published by Woodland Books in 2011.

#### A STEPNEY GIRL'S SECRET

#### Jean Fullerton



**Agent** Kate Burke

WEL PB Corvus May 2023 WEL ebook Corvus May 2023 WEL audio Bolinda May 2023

544 pages

Heart-warming, atmospheric saga series charting the loves, hopes and heartaches of three women who move into a rectory in Stepney, East London in WW2

'An enthralling page-turner' — Dilly Court

'A heart-warming WW2 love story' — Rosie Goodwin

East London, 1940. Prue Carmichael never dreamed that she'd end up working at a railway yard. But when her reverend father is called up to Stepney, she and her family are uprooted from their country home for a new life in the turbulent city.

Determined to help with the war effort, Prue signs up for work and soon becomes intrigued by handsome train engineer Jack Quinn. But as the spark between them grows apparent, so does his troubled past — a past that Prue's mother would certainly not approve of.

In between cleaning train carriages and helping to shelter Jewish refugees, Prue manages to stay busy. But she has more than one admirer, and when Jack is recruited into Churchill's secret army, a very different suitor begins to pursue her.

As air raid sirens sound overhead, Prue Carmichael is facing her own battle — the fight between her heart and her head...

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

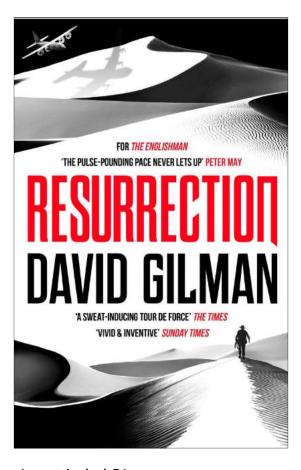
Jean was born and bred in the overcrowded streets surrounding London Docks where her family have lived since 1825. Being born within the sound of Bow Bells, she's a true cockney who grew up in what was then the working-class dockland community in Wapping and Stepney, East London. All her published books are set in the streets and alleyways she roamed as a child.

Jean worked for 30 years as a community nurse in East London, starting as a staff nurse and finishing as a university lecturer in Health Studies at London South Bank University.

Jean's Ration Book series is published by Corvus, whilst her East London Nurses series and Victorian East London Nolan series are published by Orion. Her first memoir, A CHILD OF THE EAST END, was published by Corvus in August 2022.

#### THE ENGLISHMAN SERIES

#### David Gilman



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

THE ENGLISHMAN III: RESURRECTION UKexCan HB Head of Zeus Jan 2023 UKexCan PB Head of Zeus Sep 2023 UKexCan audio WF Howes Jan 2023

Film rights AGC Studios

Romania Lebada Neagra

**Option publishers** 

Czech Republic Euromedia Japan Hayakawa Slovakia Ikar Spain Edhasa

432 pages

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

#### THE ENGLISHMAN III: RESURRECTION

'Gilman is at home with men of action, but it is Raglan's intelligence and integrity that render his adventures more than merely passing excitements.' - The Times, 'The Best New Thrillers for January 2023'

'The pulse-pounding pace never lets up.' — Peter May

'An intriguing opening in the Sahara and a murder on the London Underground pull the reader into an action-packed tale... a satisfying international adventure.' — Financial Times

A deadly secret in a desolate land. The Englishman is deep in the hot zone.

Deep in the Sahara, on the desolate border between Sudan and Chad, a P51 Mustang slowly emerges from the dunes. Inside are the skeletal remains of a man missing for three decades. His flying jacket bears no insignia, and a worn leather attaché case is held by a manacle around his left wrist. Inside it is a document men will kill for. Even die for.

The sands of time have shifted, and whoever finds that aircraft finds information that could expose the most valuable spy the UK intelligence service has ever known. The British, the French, and the Russians are on the trail. And so is Raglan.

THE ENGLISHMAN and THE ENGLISHMAN II: BETRAYAL have won admirers around the world, with cracking reviews and translation rights sold in six countries. The Englishman series is optioned for film by AGC Studios, with script complete and director attached.

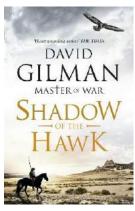
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

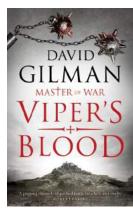
David Gilman was a soldier before becoming an award-winning screenwriter and bestselling novelist. He has also written fiction for young adults (THE DANGER ZONE trilogy and MONKEY & ME). In addition to the bestselling historical adventure Master of War series starring stonemason turned knight Thomas Blackstone, and the acclaimed contemporary series THE ENGLISHMAN, he is the author of the striking historical standalones THE LAST HORSEMAN, shortlisted for the Wilbur Smith Prize 2017, and NIGHT FLIGHT TO PARIS, an exciting World War II thriller. He is now completing the 8th Master of War title TO KILL A KING for Head of Zeus.

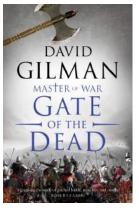
Head of Zeus have sold more than 700,000 copies of David Gilman's books.

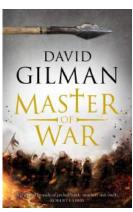
#### MASTER OF WAR series

#### David Gilman









**Agent** Isobel Dixon

TO KILL A KING
WEL HB Head of Zeus 2024
WEL PB Head of Zeus 2024
UKexCan audio WF Howes 2024
US audio Tantor Media 2024

**Germany** Rowohlt

**Option Publishers** 

**Czech** Brana **Spain** Edhasa

The Master of War historical fiction series has sold over 500,000 copies & made Der Spiegel's Top Ten

'Packed full of intrigue, adventure and excitement... A perfect read for fans of Bernard Cornwell.' — *Historical Novel Review* 

'The battle scenes are so realistic it is almost like time-travelling... Thomas is an incredibly appealing and sympathetic character. And the level of suspense is ratcheted up to a truly brutal level.' — Sharon Kay Penman

'Page-turning and gritty.' — Daily Mail

Starting in 1346 and travelling through the 1360s, the MASTER OF WAR series follows Thomas Blackstone, stonemason and forced conscript in the Hundred Years' War as he fights his way from humble longbowman to Knight of the Realm.

It is not a smooth journey: it will see Blackstone broken, betrayed and exiled; it will see his friends and family hunted and murdered; he'll find himself playing complicated games of love; he will clash with medieval Europe's most infamous rulers and earn their undying enmity. Only his skill at arms will keep him alive...

Moving between England, France, Spain and Italy, the series offers twists and turns, brilliant battle scenes and a richly nuanced cast of characters, with Blackstone's courageous band of brothers always firmly at the heart of it all.

Head of Zeus have published MASTER OF WAR, DEFIANT UNTO DEATH, GATE OF THE DEAD, VIPER'S BLOOD, SCOURGE OF WOLVES and CROSS OF FIRE with the latest, SHADOW OF THE HAWK, published in February 2021. David is currently writing TO KILL A KING, the eighth instalment of the Master of War series (Head of Zeus, 2024). Book 4, VIPER'S BLOOD reached #6 on Der Spiegel list.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

David Gilman was a soldier before becoming an award-winning screenwriter and bestselling novelist. He has also written fiction for young adults (THE DANGER ZONE trilogy and MONKEY & ME). In addition to the bestselling historical adventure Master of War series starring stonemason turned knight Thomas Blackstone, and the acclaimed contemporary series THE ENGLISHMAN, he is the author of the striking historical standalones THE LAST HORSEMAN, shortlisted for the Wilbur Smith Prize 2017, and NIGHT FLIGHT TO PARIS, an exciting World War II thriller. He is now completing the 8th Master of War title TO KILL A KING (Head of Zeus, 2024). Head of Zeus have sold more than 700,000 copies of David Gilman's books.

#### HISTORICAL FICTION

#### THE BERLIN TRILOGY

#### Jenny Glanfield







**Agent** Sian Ellis-Martin

WEL PB Sapere Books Sep 2023 WEL ebook Sapere Books Sep 2023 WEL audio Tantor Media 2023 An epic trilogy chronicling the lives of six generations of the Jochum family, owners of the luxurious Hotel Quadriga in Berlin

From its opening during the splendour of the imperial era, through the tragedy of the First World War, the wild abandon of the 1920s, to the dramatic rise of Hitler and the tearing down of the Berlin Wall, the Hotel Quadriga is the background to an epic tale charting the fate and fortunes of three families whose lives are irrevocably entwined.

#### Book 1: THE HOTEL QUADRIGA (first published 1988)

In 1871, the nation of Germany is born. Karl Jochum, the son of a sweet maker, rises from humble beginnings to become the creator of Berlin's most luxurious hotel, the Hotel Quadriga. Behind its façade, the lives and loves of Karl, his wife Ricarda and their daughters, Viktoria and Luise, are enacted, together with the wealthy Kraus, and aristocratic von Biederstein families.

#### Book 2: VIKTORIA (first published 1989)

January 1933. From the balcony of the Hotel Quadriga, Viktoria Jochum-Kraus watches Hitler's stormtroopers march beneath the Brandenburg Gate, heralding the beginning of the Third Reich. Strong minded Viktoria has run the Quadriga for many years. But in Hitler's Germany, women have no place in business. Slowly, control slips from Viktoria's grasp. But Viktoria is an indomitable spirit and even as war wreaks devastation on the city, her courage never falters...

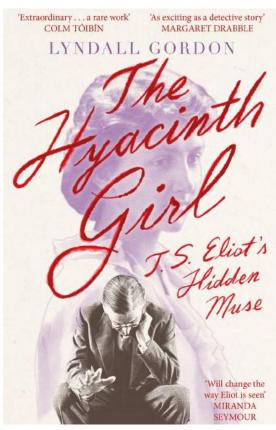
#### Book 3: CHILDREN OF THEIR TIME (first published 1994)

Stefan Jochum returns to Berlin in the Summer of 1945 to find Germany in ruins. Many of his family and friends are now dead, but his mother, Viktoria, has survived and is trying to rebuild her struggling business. As the Cold War accelerates, Stefan falls in love with a girl from East Berlin, an affair that will have far-reaching repercussions upon the lives of everyone connected with the couple.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jenny Glanfield studied German at school and college and her first job was in Germany, after which she lived and worked in Paris, Austria and Italy, before marrying and settling in England, where her jobs usually used her German language skills. Following an arduous work trip to Germany, she realised there was a book inside her that needed to be written. That book eventually turned into three, forming The Berlin Trilogy.

# THE HYACINTH GIRL: TS Eliot's Hidden Muse Lyndall Gordon



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Virago 2022 UKexCan PB Virago Aug 2023 UKexCan audio Virago 2022 US+Can HB Norton 2022 US+Can PB Norton Nov 2023 US+Can audio Norton 2022

#### Option publishers

Italy Fazi Spain Alba Turkey Alfa

432 pages

An intellectually stimulating, emotionally riveting and revelatory work of first-class literary biography

Longlisted for the 2023 PEN Award for Biography

'As exciting as a detective story' — Margaret Drabble

'A number of good books have marked the centenary of "The Waste Land"... but, for me, the most brilliant and incisive new book on Eliot is Lyndall Gordon's The Hyacinth Girl.' - Colm Tóibín, *Irish Times*, Best Books of the Year

Among the greatest of poets, T.S. Eliot protected his privacy while publicly associated with three women: two wives and a churchgoing companion. Yet he concealed a long-time love for an obscure American: Emily Hale, a drama teacher to whom he wrote (and later suppressed) over a thousand letters. Hale was the source of 'memory and desire' in 'The Waste Land': she is the Hyacinth Girl.

Drawing on the dramatic new material of the recently unsealed letters Eliot wrote to Hale, Lyndall Gordon discloses a hidden Eliot. Emily Hale is now revealed as the first and consistently important woman of life — and his art. Gordon also offers new insight into other spirited women in his life and work: Vivienne, his flamboyant and troubled wife; Mary Trevelyan, his companion in prayer; and Valerie Fletcher, his loyal secretary and long-term devotee, to whom he proposed when his relationship with Emily foundered. Though Eliot kept these women apart, they in their different ways spurred his transformations as poet, expatriate, convert, and, finally, in his latter years, with Valerie, a man 'made for love.'

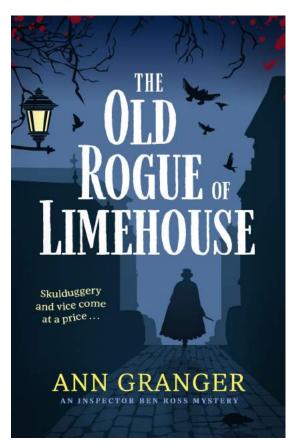
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Lyndall Gordon is one of the world's foremost Eliot scholars and a hugely acclaimed biographer, in particular of the lives of literary women.

She has won the Cheltenham Prize and the James Tait Black Prize and been longlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize. Her Emily Dickinson biography, LIVES LIKE LOADED GUNS, was shortlisted for the Duff Cooper Prize and the Comisso Prize in Italy. Fazi also publish her Charlotte Bronte biography A PASSIONATE LIFE and have recently bought her group biography OUTSIDERS. Her earlier biography, T.S. ELIOT: An Imperfect Life has been a tremendous commercial success in China.

Lyndall was one of the first scholars present for the unsealing of T.S. Eliot's trove of letters, the Emily Hale archives at Princeton. She plays a key part in a BBC Arena documentary, T.S. Eliot: Into The Waste Land, which was broadcast in 2022 for the centenary of Eliot's great poem.

# THE OLD ROGUE OF LIMEHOUSE Inspector Ben Ross Mystery #9 Ann Granger



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Headline Jul 2023 WEL PB Headline Dec 2023 UK+BC audio Headline Jul 2023

Czech Republic Moba France Univers Poche Germany Luebbe

Option publishers

Estonia Varrak

320 pages

Delicious skulduggery in Victorian London with appealing characters, gentle wit and classic intrigue

'You'll soon be addicted to the characters now familiar to and loved by many ... Ann is a careful observer of people and it's just that quality that makes her novels so readable.' — Woman and Home

'A gentle touch and a dash of wit.' — Northern Echo

'Deft plotting and elegant descriptive prose...a delicate comic touch and endearing eccentric characters.' — Publishers Weekly

'Skill with character...sprightly writing.' — Birmingham Post

It is the summer of 1871 when Scotland Yard's Inspector Ben Ross visits Jacob Jacobus: an infamous antiquarian, friend to villains and informer to the police. Ben is hoping to glean information about any burglaries that might take place during the London Season, but little does he know that a priceless family heirloom, the Roxby emerald necklace, has already been stolen and the widowed Mrs Roxby is demanding its immediate return.

Ben's day goes from bad to worse when he and his wife Lizzie hear that Jacobus has been found dead, his throat slit from ear to ear. Surely the two crimes cannot be connected? But with Ben's meticulous investigative skills and Lizzie's relentless curiosity, it is only a matter of time before the tragic truth is revealed...

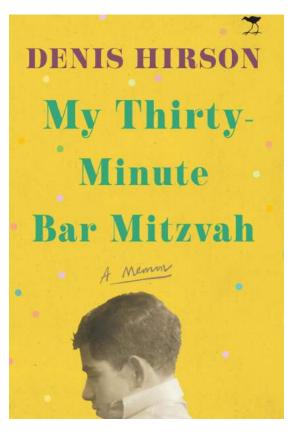
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Ann Granger is a bestselling British crime author often compared to Agatha Christie, with a range of series characters all featuring insightful characterisation and satisfying plotting. She has written over thirty murder mysteries, including the Mitchell & Markby Mysteries, the Fran Varady Mysteries, the Victorian Inspector Ben Ross and Lizzie Martin Mysteries and the Campbell and Carter Mysteries.

Published in 10 languages, she has had tremendous success in Germany with millions of copies sold and more than 30 appearances in the Top 5 bestseller lists. She has been published in the UK by Headline for more than 30 years. In 2021 they published Granger's short story collection MYSTERY IN THE MAKING, a real treasure featuring 18 murder and mystery stories spanning her writing career.

Headline have just signed two new Ann Granger titles — one contemporary Campbell & Carter and one Victorian Inspector Ben Ross. More information on the various series available on request.

## MY THIRTY-MINUTE BAR MITZVAH Denis Hirson



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WELexSA PB Pushkin Press 2024 SA PB Jacana 2022 WEL audio Tantor 2024

192 pages

Bittersweet exploration of identity and sacrifice, as an author confronts his — and his country's — past

A South African bestseller, longlisted for the Sunday Times (SA) Literary Awards 2023

'Beautifully written, funny and deeply moving...a perfect memoir.' — Finuala Dowling

'A sensitive, poignant and beautifully written account.' — Daily Maverick

A literary gem, to be published by Pushkin Press in the US in April 2024 and the UK in June 2024.

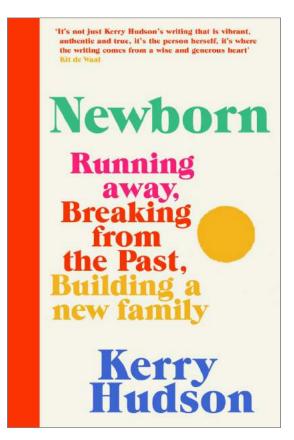
Witty and deeply poignant, MY THIRTY-MINUTE BAR MITZVAH is an account of one man being confronted by his past and, ultimately, how his daughter proved to be the key in understanding his own father.

Recreating 1960s Johannesburg through his adolescent eyes, bestselling South African author Denis Hirson gradually reveals the details of his extraordinary 13th birthday as he explores the familial and political divisions in Apartheid South Africa that weighed on him and his developing consciousness of his Jewish heritage.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Denis Hirson is a South African writer and lecturer now living in Paris. He is the author of seven books, almost all of them at the frontier between prose and poetry and concerned with the memory of South Africa at the time of apartheid. These include THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR TO AFRICA (David Philip), as well as, from Jacana: WE WALK STRAIGHT SO YOU BETTER GET OUT THE WAY, the best-selling I REMEMBER KING KONG (THE BOXER), the poetry collection GARDENING IN THE DARK; the novel THE DANCING AND THE DEATH ON LEMON STREET (shortlisted for the Commonwealth Book Prize, 2012) and WHITE SCARS, a lyrical meditation on reading and its significance in our lives, which was runner-up for the South African Sunday Times Alan Paton Non-Fiction Prize in 2007.

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



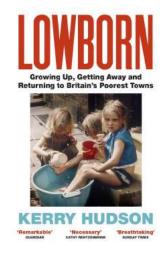
**Agent** Juliet Pickering

UKexCan HB Chatto Feb 2024 UKexCan audio Vintage Feb 2024

France Editions Philippe Rey

Option publishers

**Italy** Antonio Mandese Editore 80,000 words



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

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

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

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

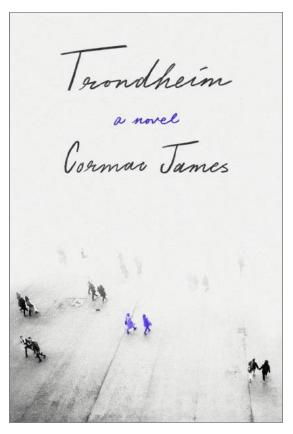
#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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

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

Kerry writes for publications including *The New York Times*, *Guardian*, *Big Issue* and *Press and Journal*, and is a columnist for *The Herald*. In 2022 she was nominated for Columnist of the Year in the Regional Press Awards.

## **TRONDHEIM**



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

**US+Can** Bellevue Literary Press Feb 2024

US+Can audio Recorded Books 2024

**UK** on submission

284 pages

## **Cormac James**

A spare yet haunting novel by a consummate stylist, probing the limits of love, hope, and forgiveness

For readers of Annie Ernaux, Gerbrand Bakker and Olga Tokarczuk.

'Cormac James's writing is very assured, with a harsh poetic edge.' — Rose Tremain

'James' delicate, incisive third novel captures with forensic accuracy the subtle tensions in the marriage... Pierre's medical situation is acute and dramatic, but the women's marital troubles, mundane and chronic, are the real subject of this extraordinary and meticulous little book. An X-ray picture of the subcutaneous breaks and sprains in a rocky relationship.' — Kirkus, Starred Review

In Norway, thousands of miles from home, a student drops dead on the street. A passerby revives his heart, but he remains in a coma from which he may never wake.

His mothers rush across the continent to his bedside where they endure the strain of helpless waiting. As the tense hospital vigil continues day after day and they vacillate between extremes of hope, fear, and psychic pain, their troubled relationship is pushed to the edge, as each tries to cope in their own distinctive way.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Cormac James (real name Cormac McCarthy) was born in Cork, Ireland. A graduate of the UEA Creative Writing MA, he has published short fiction in *Columbia*, *Phoenix Irish Short Stories*, and *The Dublin Review*. His first novel, **TRACK AND FIELD**, was published in 2000, and his second, **THE SURFACING**, in 2014 (US: Bellevue Literary Press; UK: Sandstone — *rights reverted*). He lives in Montpellier, France, with his wife and son.

#### Praise for THE SURFACING:

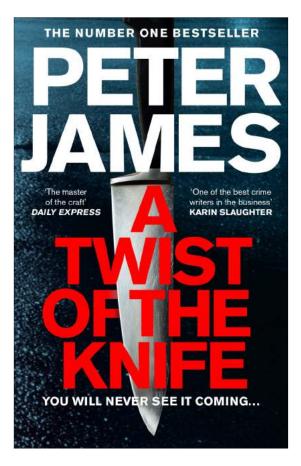
'An austere pleasure to read.' — Sarah Moss, *The Guardian* 

'Irish author James' hypnotic North American debut that's less a high-stakes adventure than a slow-burning psychological study... Meditative and spare, this is not a fast read but one worth the effort: underneath all the ice, there is real emotional depth.' - Kirkus Reviews

#### **SHORT STORIES**

## A TWIST OF THE KNIFE

## Peter James



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WEL PB Macmillan reissue Nov 2023 WEL audio Macmillan reissue Nov 2023

Finland Minerva

448 pages

A new, expanded edition of master plotter Peter James's full-length collection of short stories

With each twist of the knife, a chilling new journey begins... From a woman intent on bizarre revenge, to a restaurant critic with a morbid fear of the number thirteen; and from a man arranging a life-changing assignation, to a couple heading for a disaster-filled vacation...

In multi-million-copy bestselling author Peter James' collection of short stories we first come to meet Brighton's finest detective, Roy Grace, and read the tale that went on to inspire James' hugely successful novel, **DEAD SIMPLE**. James exposes the Achilles heel of each of his characters, and makes us question how well we can trust ourselves, and one another. Each tale carries a twist that will haunt readers for days after they turn the final page.

A TWIST OF THE KNIFE shows Peter James as the undisputed grand master of storytellers with this sometimes funny, often haunting, but always shocking collection.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Winner: Prix POLAR International (2006); Le Prix Coeur Noir (2007); ITV3 Crime Awards 'People's Bestseller Dagger' (2011); Dr. Lector Award for Scariest Villain at Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Festival (2015); 'Best Crime Writer of All Time' as voted by readers on W.H. Smiths' Blog. CWA Diamond Dagger 2016 for 'Sustained Excellence' and Specsavers Honorary Platinum Bestseller Award 2018.

Author of multiple #1 bestsellers, both **Roy Grace** titles and standalones (full list available), with 21 million copies sold worldwide and many books optioned for film/TV. Several Peter James novels have been adapted for the stage, with sell-out tours around the UK.

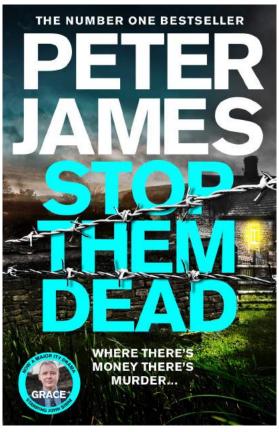
**DEAD SIMPLE**, the first title in the ITV *Grace* series, was broadcast in Spring 2021, starring John Simm as Roy Grace. It gained over 8.8 million viewers and was nominated for two National Television Awards. Four more episodes aired in 2022, 3 in 2023 and 4 more are being filmed for 2024. Feature-length episodes of each title are available on ITV Hub and Britbox internationally.

Peter James's novels are translated into 38 languages.

## STOP THEM DEAD

## Roy Grace #19

## Peter James



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Macmillan Sep 2023 WEL PB Macmillan May 2024 WEL audio Macmillan Sep 2023

TV (GRACE series) Second Act Productions for ITV Spring 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and streaming widely on Britbox.

Finland Minerva Israel Kor'im Sweden HarperCollins Nordic

#### Option publishers

Bulgaria Storytel | Croatia Opus Gradna | Czech Brana | Denmark Gyldendal | France Fleuve Noir Greece Hartini Poli | Holland De Fontein | Hungary General Press Italy Longanesi | Lithuania Jotema Norway Vigmostad | Russia Eksmo Turkey Koridor

448 pages

International bestseller Peter James returns with his 19th Roy Grace, tackling illegal puppy smuggling

'Once again, deep research, vile behaviour and muchneeded humour combine to produce ruthlessly efficient entertainment. Pedigree fun.' — *The Times* 

When a young farmer confronts intruders in the middle of the night he has no idea that minutes later he will be left dying in a pool of blood. What's more chilling is what the perpetrators were willing to kill for.

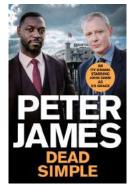
At the scene of the crime, Detective Superintendent Roy Grace soon realises this is no isolated robbery gone wrong but the tip of the iceberg of a nationwide crime wave, in which ruthless organised gangs are making more money from the illegal trade in popular dogs than from drugs. A trade which pits him up against some ruthless people who will kill anyone who gets in their way. Because where there is greed, there is murder.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Winner: Prix POLAR International (2006); Le Prix Coeur Noir (2007); ITV3 Crime Awards 'People's Bestseller Dagger' (2011); Dr. Lector Award for Scariest Villain at Theakstons Old Peculier Crime Festival (2015); 'Best Crime Writer of All Time' as voted by readers on W.H. Smiths' Blog. CWA Diamond Dagger 2016 for 'Sustained Excellence' and Specsavers Honorary Platinum Bestseller Award 2018.

Author of multiple #1 bestsellers, both **Roy Grace** titles and standalones (full list available), with 21 million copies sold worldwide and many books optioned for film/TV. Several Peter James novels have been adapted for the stage, with sell-out tours around the UK. **DEAD SIMPLE**, the first title in the ITV *Grace* series, was broadcast in Spring 2021, starring John Simm as Roy Grace. It gained over 8.8 million viewers and was nominated for two National Television Awards. Four more episodes aired in 2022, 3 in 2023 and 4 more are being filmed for 2024. *Feature-length episodes of each title are available on ITV Hub and Britbox internationally*.

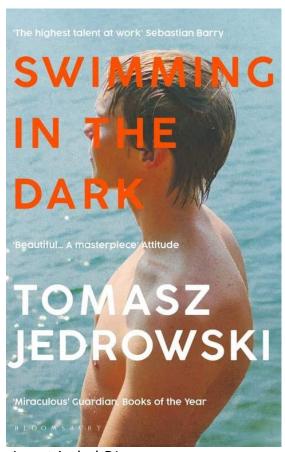
Peter James's novels are translated into 38 languages.





## SWIMMING IN THE DARK

## Tomasz Jedrowski



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Bloomsbury 2020 (at auction) UKexCan PB Bloomsbury 2021 UKexCan audio Audible 2020 US+Can HB Morrow 2020 (pre-empt) US+Can PB Morrow 2021 US+Can audio Blackstone 2020

Film/TV under option
Opera under option

Brazil Astral Cultural Editora |
Czech Odeon | France Delcourt
Germany Hoffmann und Campe
Holland Meulenhoff | Israel Modan
Italy Edizioni E/O | Korea Prunsoop
Lithuania Baltos Lankos | Poland
Osnova | Portugal Clube do Autor
Russia Eksmo | Spain Dos Bigotes
Swedish Prosak | Taiwan Crown |
Thailand Salmon Books | Turkey
Ithaki | Ukraine Laboratory

A tender, passionate literary debut, hailed as a masterpiece and sold in 19 countries

Miraculous' - Guardian Books of the Year

Shortlisted Polari First Book Prize 2021 Longlisted Historical Writers' Association Crown Award 2020 A *Guardian* Best Book of the Year 2020 Pick A NPR Best Book of The Year 2020 A Daily Express Best Book of The Year 2020 BBC Radio 4 Open Book Editor's Pick Amazon Editors' Pick

'Marvellous, precise, poignant writing. The highest talent at work.' — Sebastian Barry

'One of the most astonishing contemporary gay novels we have ever read... A masterpiece' — Attitude

'Jedrowski is an authentic new international star.'— Edmund White

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

Poland, 1980. Shy, anxious Ludwik has been sent along with the rest of his university class to an agricultural camp. Here he meets Janusz — and together they spend a dreamlike summer, bonding over an illicit copy of James Baldwin's Giovanni's Room, and falling in love. But with summer over, the two are sent back to Warsaw.

Confronted by the scrutiny, intolerance and corruption of life under the Party, Ludwik and Janusz must decide how they will survive; and in their different choices, find themselves torn apart. A life-changing novel.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

Sold in 19 countries, this striking debut has been optioned for film/TV, with plans for an opera also in development.

## THE LAST MAN IN PARIS

## Benjamin Johncock



**Agent** Juliet Pickering

UK/US on submission UK audio under offer

59,000 words



A profoundly affecting, intimate human story framed by the seismic sweep of history

1940: Frank Hawks is running a ramshackle bar in Puerto Rico when his mother-in-law, Marion, shows up out of the blue, demanding he comes back to New York — the city Frank fled to from Germany when his wife (and Marion's daughter, Rachel) was shot by Nazis as the three of them attempted to escape persecution.

Frank reluctantly returns with Marion, where they meet an old friend, Willard, who's beleaguered by his own loss: his 10-year-old nephew has disappeared in Paris, a city increasingly in danger of being invaded by the approaching German army.

Recognising something of his own plight as a young orphan — and desperate to escape New York once more — Frank takes it upon himself to go to Paris in search of the boy. But what he finds in France will be very different: a new chance at love, and a death-defying rescue he has not anticipated.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Benjamin Johncock was born in England in 1978. His award-winning short stories have been published by *The Fiction Desk*, *The Junket*, *Comma Press* and *Storgy*, and his journalism has appeared in the *Guardian*, *The Spectator* and many others. He's a creative writing mentor, teaches creative writing for the National Centre for Writing, and is on the editorial board of *The Letters Page*, a literary journal edited by Jon McGregor. He is the recipient of several Arts Council England grants and an American Literary Merit Award. He lives in Norwich with his wife, his daughter, and his son.

His debut novel, **THE LAST PILOT**, was published in 2015 by Picador (US) and Myriad (UK). It won the Authors' Club Best First Novel Award in 2016 and was shortlisted for the East Anglian Book of the Year. It was one of the *Observer's* Hidden Gems, *People* magazine's Best New Books, a Barnes & Noble Pick, an Amazon Pick, an Indie Next Pick and Ian Rankin's Book of the Year.

#### Praise for THE LAST PILOT

'Supercharged Hemingway at 70,000 feet' — The Washington Post

'This is a book that hooks the reader from the very first sentence... lit by the fire of 1960s adventure, and also by the blazing beauty of a new literary star' — Boston Globe

'A first-rate novel by a major new talent—reading Johncock one is reminded of Hemingway, Cormac McCarthy and James Salter' — *The Spectator* 

#### **WOMEN'S FICTION**

## STILL UNWRITTEN



**Agent** Kate Burke

UKexCan ebook Canelo Feb 2024 UKexCan PB Canelo Feb 2024 UKexCan audio Bolinda Feb 2024

Option publishers

**Germany** Insel **Russia** Eksmo

336 pages

## Caroline Khoury

Forty-eight hours to find her passion. Seven days to find his way back on stage. One chance to take a risk on love.

If Fran doesn't nail this audition for a major TV role, she's officially done as an actress. She needs to tap into her inner seductress... who doesn't seem to exist.

Enter stage right: Jae-Seung.

To Fran, he's just her landlord's ridiculously hot nephew. To the rest of the world, he's lead singer of global sensation, JYNKS — and he's missing in action. Together, they embark on an international journey of discovery: Fran, to track down her estranged mother and unlock her tightly guarded heart; Jae-Seung, to continue (reluctantly) with his tour rehearsals.

The chemistry between them is off the charts. But Jae-Seung's life is in South Korea, under constant scrutiny and strict contracts. Would a fling unleash Fran's passion, or break the heart she's learning to open?

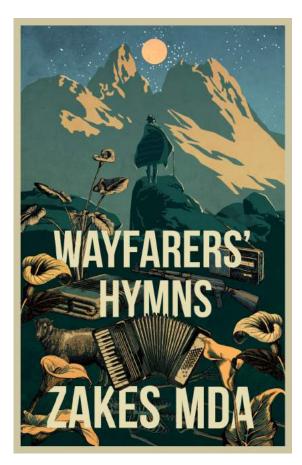
A fast-paced, forbidden romance for fans of Ruby Lang, Lindsey Kelk and Ali Hazelwood.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Caroline Khoury is half Lebanese, half Welsh, and moved to the UK as a baby to escape civil war in Lebanon. Having lived in Hong Kong, Tokyo and New Jersey, she recently moved back to the UK. Her hobbies include travelling, art, dancing, climbing mountains, collecting stationery, and watching Turkish soap operas. Her writing was shortlisted in the Trapeze/eHarmony love story competition 2018. Caroline's debut novel, IT MUST BE LOVE, was published by Arrow in 2022, with ALWAYS YOU following in 2023.

## WAYFARERS' HYMNS

## Zakes Mda

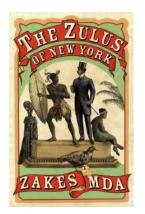


**Agent** Isobel Dixon

South Africa PRH SA 2021

Option publishers: Italy Incipit23 China Shenzhen

229 pages



A vibrant novel about music, love and outsiders from one of Africa's greatest storytellers

Brittle Paper '50 Notable African Books of 2021'

'The Wayfarers' Hymns are songs worth listening to.' - The Conversation

'Mda writes from the inside with a rare combination of passion and truth that will connect with readers everywhere.' — Booklist

'Lyricism, vividness and dark, tragic wit have earned the author recognition here and in his homeland.' - *Publishers Weekly* 

Master storyteller Zakes Mda takes us from Lesotho's Mountain Kingdom to Johannesburg, the City of Gold, through the fascinating history of Lesotho's vibrant famo music tradition and a cast of memorable characters.

Our mountain village minstrel is an innocent in a world of fierce musical rivalry. Still playing a humble concertina in The Time of the Accordion, the boy-child yearns to acquire his own accordion, and to win the attention of his musical heroes, and the admiration of all. But when he heads to the city he becomes entangled in a darker world of organised crime and vicious gangs, which coalesce — as they do in real life today — around the warring famo music groups. Focused with fierce ambition only on his art, he is blind to the truths of love right in front of him.

With the wanderer's story interwoven with the remarkable history of famo music, gang wars and the battle for control of illegal mines, WAYFARERS' HYMNS is a rich, resonant new work, a memorable meditation on questions of freedom, identity and artistry. Mda closes the novel with his classic grace note: *The end is always a journey...* And what a journey!

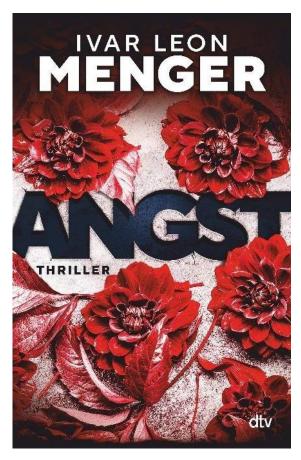
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Zakes Mda is an acclaimed novelist, playwright and painter. He divides his time between South Africa and his work as Professor of Creative Writing at Ohio University. He has been the recipient of major awards including the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award, the *Sunday Times* Fiction Prize, the Commonwealth Writer's Prize and South African Silver Order of Ikhamanga for Excellence in Arts and Culture.

THE HEART OF REDNESS and WAYS OF DYING are often cited as among South Africa's Top Ten classics and almost all of Mda's works are optioned for TV and film. THE ZULUS OF NEW YORK was longlisted for the 2021 Sunday Times Fiction Prize (SA). Recent deals in international markets for his novels include Italy and China.

#### THRILLER

## **FEAR**



Agent Isobel Dixon On behalf of Marc Koralnik (Liepman)

Germany DTV Aug 2023

#### Option publishers

Czech Republic Grada | France Editions Belfond | Greece Psichogios Romania TREI | United States Sourcebooks

## Rights available through Blake Friedmann:

United Kingdom
Holland
Israel
Italy
The Baltics
Scandinavia
All other territories through
Liepman.

448 pages

## Ivar Leon Menger

English translation by Jamie Bulloch

Tense and gripping psychological thriller from the bestselling author of WHAT MOTHER WON'T TELL ME

A young actress slips into the most dangerous role of her life...

Every night has its children. Creatures like him who creep around lit-up houses in search of prey. Using the telephoto lens from a safe distance. Once a month the shadow appropriated a new territory. An area he didn't know, a new street. He became seriously addicted. Until he saw Mia. And stayed forever.

Mia Richter, a young upcoming actress from Berlin, has had many romantic dates in the past. But this time it is different. The admirer from the museum, with whom she has only been out once, does not accept that she is not interested in him. He stalks her day and night. Until suddenly the corpse of a friend is found on the canal bank. Mia immediately suspects who the killer is. But the police do not believe her. So she starts to investigate on her own to prove his guilt. But to do so, she must slip into the most dangerous role of her life: the stalker's lover...

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Ivar Leon Menger is a prize-winning writer for radio and Audible. He has worked as a copywriter, designer, scriptwriter, director and guest lecturer. His radio play series *Monster 1983* and *Ghostbox* are among the most successful productions on Audible and he has received over 30 awards. His debut novel WHAT MOTHER WON'T TELL ME was the subject of a 10-publisher German auction and was acquired by DTV in a six-figure two-book deal. It sold 10,000 copies in the first month of publication and reached No. 23 in the Spiegel bestseller list. Sourcebooks will publish in the US in January 2023.

**FEAR** (original title: **ANGST**) is Ivar's second novel. An English sample translation by Jamie Bulloch is available.

## THE DARK FLOOD

Afrikaans title: DONKERDRIF



English translation by K. L. Seegers

A stunning, suspenseful return for Meyer's beloved detectives Benny and Vaughn as they uncover local and international corruption in a university town

An instant all-category #1 bestseller in South Africa Nominated for a Barry Award 2023 Longlisted CWA Dagger for Translated Crime Fiction 2023

'The best work yet from this gifted author.' — *Publishers Weekly* 

'A well-crafted blend of suspense, culture, and humor. Meyer is terrific.' — *Kirkus Reviews* 

'Fans of Jo Nesbø's similarly character-driven Harry Hole mysteries will find lots to like here.' — BookPage

'A gritty but surprisingly hopeful instalment in Meyer's immensely popular series.' — Booklist

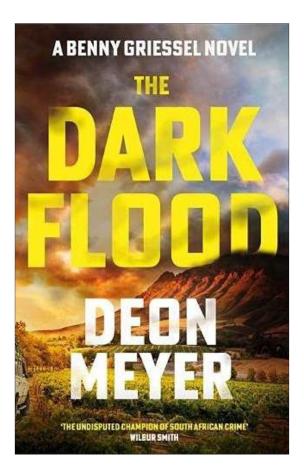
One last chance. Almost fired for insubordination, detectives Benny Griessel and Vaughn Cupido find themselves demoted, exiled from the elite Hawks unit and dispatched to the leafy streets of Stellenbosch. Working a missing persons report on student Callie de Bruin is not the level of work they are used to, but it's all they get. And soon, it takes a dangerous, deeply disturbing turn.

One last chance. Stellenbosch is beautiful, but its economy has been ruined by one man. Jasper Boonstra and his gigantic corporate fraud have crashed the local property market, just when estate agent Sandra Steenberg desperately needs a big sale. Bringing up twins and supporting her academic husband, she is facing disaster. Then she gets a call. From Jasper Boonstra, fraudster, sexual predator and owner of a superb property worth millions, even now.

For Sandra, the stakes are high and about to get way higher. For Benny Griessel, clinging to sobriety and the relationship that saved his life, the truth about Callie can only lead to more trouble.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Deon Meyer's books are sold in 23 countries, and have been awarded many prizes around the world: the Deutsche Krimi Prize in Germany, the ATKV Prize in South Africa, and Le Grand Prix de Littérature Policière and Le Prix Mystère de la Critique in France. COBRA was shortlisted for the 2015 CWA International Dagger, THIRTEEN HOURS was shortlisted for the 2010 CWA International Dagger, and HEART OF THE HUNTER was longlisted for the 2005 IMPAC Prize. His new Benny Griessel novel, LEO, is out in October 2023 in Afrikaans, (50,000 copy first print run). Sample English chapters available, full ms in January 2024 (UK: Hodder).



#### **Agent** Isobel Dixon

Afrikaans Human & Rousseau 2020 Afrikaans audio Human & Rousseau 2022

UKexCan HB Hodder 2022 UKexCan PB Hodder Feb 2023 UKexCan audio Hodder 2022 US+Can Grove Atlantic 2022 US+Can audio Grove Atlantic 2022 SA Jonathan Ball (for Hodder) 2021

Czech Republic Moba France Gallimard Germany Aufbau Holland AW Bruna Sweden Weyler Forlag

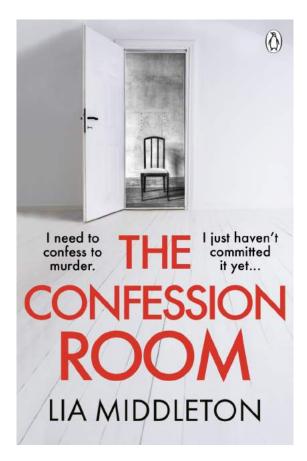
#### **Option Publishers**

Canada Anansi | Estonia Varrak Greece Stereoma

464 pages

## THE CONFESSION ROOM

## Lia Middleton



**Agent** Kate Burke

UKexCan PB Penguin Aug 2023 UKexCan eBook Penguin Aug 2023 UKexCan audio Penguin Aug 2023

**Lithuania** Tyto Alba **Germany** Piper

**Option publishers** 

Czech Republic Euromedia Hungary Álomgyár Poland Proszynski Slovakia Ikar Russia Eksmo

384 pages

Dark, high-concept thriller about a killer who's posting their crimes online before committing them, for fans of CJ Tudor and Karin Slaughter

'A high concept story from talented criminal barrister Middleton... The story bristles with dread and threat — it is not for a dark autumn night.' — Daily Mail

'Lia Middleton has crafted the most unsettling and unique of premises, utilising the anonymity of the Internet to build tension. Mixing serial killer crime and edge-of-your-seat mystery, it's a book that's absorbing and chilling in equal measure.' — Culturefly

'Gripping' — Lisa Howells, Heat Magazine, 4 star review

Emilia left the police force a year ago after the murder of her sister. She's now a private investigator, obsessed with online true crime forums, particularly The Confession Room, a place for anonymous atonement.

Some people confess to affairs, others to stealing. Some admit deep, dark wishes. But one day, a confession is posted that nobody expects: murder. And not just one named victim, but two.

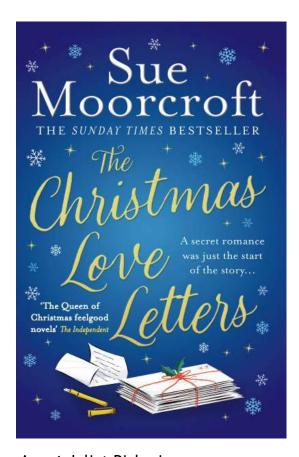
Emilia realises that the murder hasn't yet happened and she must race against time to stop a killer. When her own name is posted on the forum, she knows that they're coming for her next...

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Lia Middleton is a barrister who specialises in crime and prison law, and lives with her husband and two young children in Buckinghamshire.

Also available is Lia's first novel, WHEN THEY FIND HER, which was an Apple Books Number 1 bestseller, garnered high praise from reviewers and received over a thousand 4 and 5 star reviews on Amazon.

# THE CHRISTMAS LOVE LETTERS Sue Moorcroft



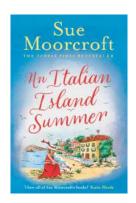
**Agent** Juliet Pickering

WEL PB Avon Oct 2023 WEL audio Avon Oct 2023

Option publishers:

Bulgaria Ciela & Hermes | Czech Republic Fortuna Libri | Denmark Bazar | Germany Fischer | Italy Newton Compton | Slovakia Fortuna Libri

384 pages



A new Christmas romance by the million-copy bestselling author

'The Queen of Christmas feelgood novels' — The Independent

A secret romance was only the start of the story...

Tucked into a crook of the Norfolk coast lies Nelson's Bar — an idyllic village where time seems to stand still. Maddy Cracey has called this beautiful spot home all her life, as had her husband Adey — until an epic row sent him storming out into a blizzard, with no sign of him since that fateful night.

Six years on, and Maddy's life in the village has settled into a gentle pattern with her young daughter and Great Aunt Ruthie. However, when handsome stranger Raff turns up with a handful of long-forgotten love letters, their quiet life is upended as family secrets from the past are unearthed.

As Raff and Maddy get to know each other, they grow closer and a love story of their own seems inevitable. But when Maddy receives a mysterious message, she can't help but wonder whether her own past is as distant as she'd thought it was...

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Winner: RNA Contemporary Novel of the Year Award 2020, for A SUMMER TO REMEMBER.

Shortlisted for RNA Popular Romantic Fiction Award 2021 for CHRISTMAS WISHES

Festival of Romance, Best Romantic Read Award 2011

Shortlisted: Festival of Romance, Fiction Novel of the Year 2014

Shortlisted: RNA Best Contemporary Novel 2018

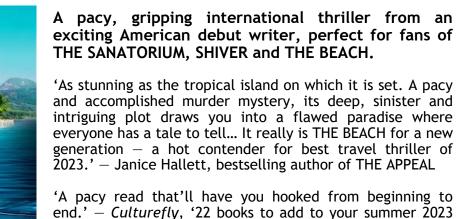
Sue Moorcroft is a *Sunday Times* bestselling author, an international bestselling author and has held the #1 spot in the UK Kindle chart. Her short stories, serials and columns have appeared around the world.

Also available: AN ITALIAN ISLAND SUMMER (UK: Avon, 2023). After her marriage falls apart, Ursula Quinn is offered the chance to spend the summer working at a hotel on a beautiful island off the coast of Sicily. She receives a warm welcome from everyone except Alfio, son of the Tringali family, who is frustrated with Ursula's interference — and she in turn is less than impressed with his attitude. As they spend more time together, though, they begin to see each other in a different light.

#### THRILLER

## THE DIVE

US title: THE RESORT



Sara Ochs

Breathe normally if something goes wrong.

Scuba diving instructor Cass leads her students out for their first dive off the beautiful coast of Koh Sang, Thailand's world-famous party island. It's supposed to be a lifechanging experience, but things quickly spiral out of control...

Always dive with someone you trust.

By the time she gets back to the shore, one of her students is dead, another critically injured, and she knows that her idyllic life is about to be smashed to pieces on the rocks.

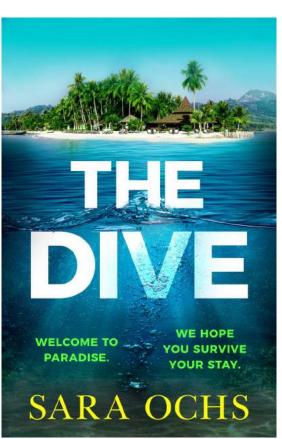
Don't panic if your oxygen is running out.

Someone has discovered Cass's secret, and on an island as remote as this, accidents happen. Plenty of backpackers choose to stay here forever — but some never make it home alive...

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

reading list'

Sara Ochs is an attorney, law professor, and author who splits her time between the United States and Sweden. When she's not writing psychological thrillers set in farflung destinations, Sara can usually be found on a flight with a glass of wine in one hand and a novel in the other. **THE DIVE** is her debut novel.



**Agent** Kate Burke

**UKexCan HB** Transworld Jul 2023 (pre-empt)

UKexCan PB Transworld July 2024 UKexCan audio Transworld Jul 2023 US+Can HB Sourcebooks Feb 2024 (at auction)

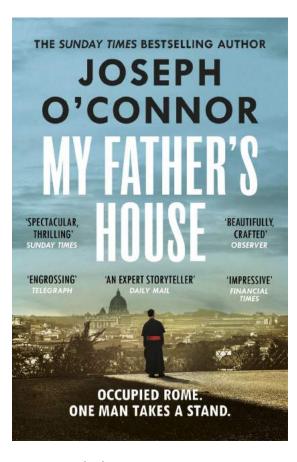
US+Can PB Sourcebooks Sep 2024 US+Can audio Sourcebooks Feb 2024

Finland Bazar
Germany Blanvalet (at auction)
Holland De Fontein
Russia Everbook

432 pages

## MY FATHER'S HOUSE

## Joseph O'Connor



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Harvill Secker Jan 2023 UKexCan PB Vintage Jan 2024 UKexCan audio Harvill Secker 2023 US+Can HB Europa Editions Jan 2023 US+Can PB Europa Editions 2024 US+Can audio Dreamscape 2023

Film Under option

**BBC Radio 4 Book at Bedtime** Jan 2023

Brazil Editora Tordesilhas France Payot & Rivages Germany C.H. Beck Italy Guanda Sweden Natur Och Kultur

Option publishers
China Shanghai Elegant People
Croatia Fraktura | Hungary Helikon
Japan Tokyo Sogen | Serbia Carobna
Knjiga | Spain Impedimenta
Turkey Sia Kitap

A gripping novel of near-miraculous beauty — Irish #1 Bestseller, more than 50,000 hardbacks sold.

'A gripping, compelling and utterly brilliant read.' — Liz Nugent  $\,$ 

'A spectacular, thrilling novel, offering much more than tensely plotted thrills. ... MY FATHER'S HOUSE celebrates triumphant against-the-odds camaraderie. It would require a present-day Puccini to do operatic justice to its tremendous tale.' — Peter Kemp, *The Sunday Times* 

September 1943: German forces occupy Rome. SS officer Paul Hauptmann rules with terror, while an Irish priest, Hugh O'Flaherty, dedicates himself to helping those escaping from the Nazis. His home is Vatican City, the world's smallest state, a neutral, independent country in Rome where the occupiers hold no sway. Here Hugh brings together an unlikely band of friends — 'the Choir' — to hide the vulnerable under the noses of the enemy.

But Hauptmann's net begins closing in on the Escape Line and the need for a terrifyingly audacious mission grows critical. By Christmastime, it's too late to turn back.

Joseph O'Connor has created an unforgettable novel of love, faith and sacrifice, and what it means to be truly human in the most extreme circumstances. Based on an extraordinary true story, MY FATHER'S HOUSE is 'a literary thriller of the highest order' (*The Observer*) from a master of historical fiction: one for those who love absorbing narratives like BIRDSONG and ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Joseph O'Connor is the author of many novels, short story collections and works of non-fiction, as well as film and radio scripts and stage-plays. International bestseller **STAR OF THE SEA** sold more than a million copies and was published in 38 languages.

SHADOWPLAY (2019) was a Richard and Judy Winter 2020 pick and was shortlisted for the Walter Scott Prize, the Dalkey and Costa Novel Prizes, among others. It won Novel of the Year at the An Post Irish Book Awards. The French edition was shortlisted for the Jean Monnet Prize and it is optioned for film.

Joseph O'Connor holds an honorary Doctorate in Literature from University College Dublin and received the Irish PEN Award for Outstanding Contribution to Irish Literature in 2012. He is the inaugural Frank McCourt Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Limerick. He is now writing the second novel in the Escape Line trilogy.

#### Historical & Speculative

## SPARKS OF BRIGHT MATTER

## Leeanne O'Donnell



**Agent** Sian Ellis-Martin

UK+BC inc. Ireland HB Eriu (Bonnier) Apr 2024 UK+BC inc. Ireland PB Eriu (Bonnier) 2025 UK+BC inc. Ireland audio Eriu (Bonnier) Apr 2024

**US** On submission

104,000 words

Filled with vivid, unforgettable characters, a spellbinding tale ideal for fans of Liz Hyder, Stacey Halls, Susanna Clarke and Imogen Hermes Gowar

Ambitious apprentice chemist Peter Woulfe has a secret interest in alchemy. When he is tasked with caring for a mysterious illustrated book, the Mutus Liber, he realises that the grimy underworld of Georgian London is even more dangerous than he believed.

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

Exploring the liminal spaces between magic and reality, spirit and matter, love and lust, SPARKS OF BRIGHT MATTER is filled with vivid, unforgettable characters. This spell-binding and unputdownable tale is perfect for fans of Liz Hyder, Stacey Halls, Susanna Clarke and Imogen Hermes Gowar.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

#### WOMEN'S FICTION

## THE HONEYMOON AFFAIR

## Sheila O'Flanagan

Life-affirming and relatable new novel from the international bestselling author of THE MISSING WIFE

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

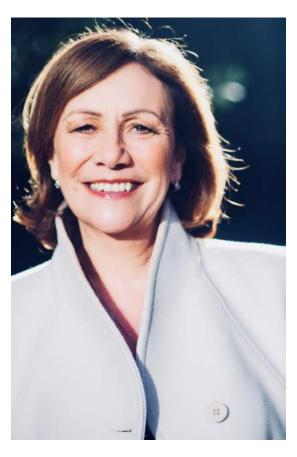
In Ireland, Charles's ex-wife and agent Ariel flits from party to party, glamorous and poised (on the outside, at least). She's always in touch with Charles. Though they're divorced, they're very close. Ariel wonders if they should get back together. She's a strong, independent woman, but she liked being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

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



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

Sheila's previous contemporary novel, **WHAT EDEN DID NEXT**, was an Irish Number One bestseller and spent a total of nine weeks in the Top Ten. It was also shortlisted for Popular Fiction Book of the Year at the Irish Book Awards 2022.



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Headline Apr 2024 WEL PB Headline Mar 2025 WEL audio Headline Apr 2024

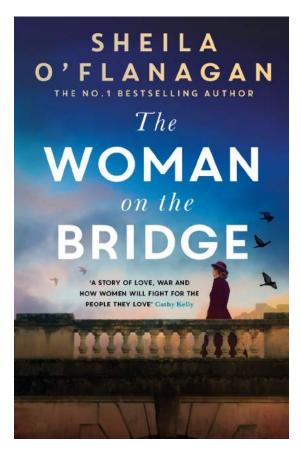
#### Option publishers

Bulgaria Ciela | Croatia VBZ Czech Republic Euromedia Denmark Zara | Estonia Varrak Finland Minerva | Germany Insel Hungary Alexandra | Italy Fanucci Sweden LB Forlag Turkey Epsilon

126,000 words

#### WOMEN'S FICTION

# THE WOMAN ON THE BRIDGE Sheila O'Flanagan



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WEL HB Headline Apr 2023 WEL PB Headline Oct 2023 WEL audio Headline Apr 2023

**Sweden** LB Forlag

#### Option publishers

Bulgaria Ciela | Croatia VBZ Czech Republic Euromedia Denmark Zara | Estonia Varrak Finland Minerva | Germany Insel Hungary Alexandra | Italy Fanucci Russia AST | Turkey Epsilon

384 pages

Inspired by the story of her grandmother, No. 1 bestseller Sheila O'Flanagan's first historical novel!

'O'Flanagan quickly establishes strong, credible characters and a clear sense of the city they live in... [She] puts into play all the contemporary differences of class and political opinion, some of which are as fundamental today as they were a century ago... O'Flanagan's legions of readers can look forward to yet another treat.' — *Irish Independent* 

'A great read... Winnie's a great character, a terrific guide. She brings us through big history but she has to feed the kids. She's always real — she's always human' — Roddy Doyle

'Utterly captivating, a novel that resonates as a piece of history and yet also as a modern story of love, war and how women will fight for the people they love.' — Cathy Kelly

Dublin. The 1920s. As war tears Ireland apart, two young people are caught up in events that will bring love, tragedy — and the hardest of choices.

In a country fighting for freedom, it's hard to live a normal life. Winnie O'Leary supports the cause, but she doesn't go looking for trouble. Then rebel Joseph Burke steps into her workplace. Winnie is furious with him about a broken window. She's not interested in romance. But love comes when you least expect it.

Joseph's family shelter fugitives and transport weapons. Joseph would never ask Winnie to join the fight; but his mother and sisters demand commitment. Will Winnie choose Joseph, and put her own loved ones in deadly danger? Or wait for a time of peace that may never come?

Ireland's tumultuous independence struggle is the backdrop for an unforgettable story of courage and heartbreak, in which heroes are made of ordinary people.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

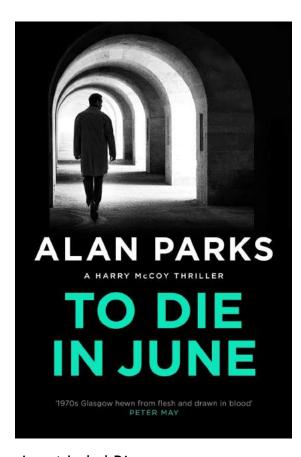
Sheila O'Flanagan is an international bestselling author, with more than 9 million copies sold. Numerous novels have been immediate and long-lasting No 1s in Ireland and UK Top 10 Sunday Times Bestsellers and she is widely published around the world. She is the recipient of the prestigious Irish Tatler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

In 2022 **WHAT EDEN DID NEXT** was an Irish Number One bestseller and spent a total of nine weeks in the Top Ten. It was also shortlisted for Popular Fiction Book of the Year at the Irish Book Awards 2022.

## TO DIE IN JUNE

## Harry McCoy Crime Thriller #6

## Alan Parks



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB Canongate May 2023 UKexCan audio Canongate May 2023 UKexCan PB Canongate 2024 UK Large Print WF Howes US+Can Europa June 2024

Film/TV under option

**Italy** Bompiani

#### **Option Publishers**

**Germany** Polar | **Japan** Hayakawa **Spain** Tusquets | **Spain** (Catalan) La Galera | **Sweden** Modernista **France** Editions Rivages

320 pages

Gripping storylines and emotional heft in gritty 1970s Glasgow from acclaimed Edgar Prize winner

MAY GOD FORGIVE won the Bloody Scotland McIlvanney Scottish Crime Book of the Year 2022

'A remarkable series — read them all.' — The Times

'Bloody and brilliant' — Louise Welsh (on **BLOODY JANUARY**)

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

'Manoeuvering through the mean streets of Glasgow, the morally ambiguous, deeply flawed McCoy makes an ideal antihero.' — *Publishers Weekly* (on **BOBBY MARCH WILL LIVE FOREVER**, Edgar Prize Winner 2022)

'Altogether one of the best police thrillers of the last few years.' — Morning Star (on THE APRIL DEAD)

A lost child. Two men dead, and counting... A midsummer nightmare.

A woman enters Glasgow's Possil Park police station to report her son missing, but no record can be found of the boy. When Detective Harry McCoy, seconded from across town, discovers the family is part of Glasgow's cultish Church of Christ's Suffering, he suspects there is more to Michael's disappearance than meets the eye.

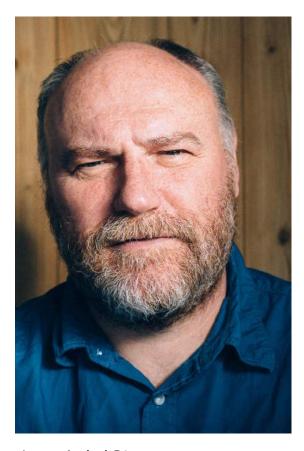
Meanwhile there are reports of a series of poisonings of homeless men. Men who few barely notice, let alone care about — but, as McCoy is painfully aware, among this desperate community is his own father. And even as McCoy searches for the missing boy, he must conceal from his colleagues the real reason for his presence at Possil — to investigate corruption in the station. Some folk pray for justice. Detective Harry McCoy hasn't got time to wait.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Alan Parks was born in Scotland, and worked in the music business before becoming a full-time writer.

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

## **GUNNER**



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

Ms available

67,000 words

#### **Option Publishers**

**Spain** Tusquets | **Spain** (Catalan) La Galera | **France** Editions Rivages **Italy** Bompiani

#### Alan Parks

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

'One of the great Scottish writers.' — The Times

'Alan Parks is in the same league as Ian Rankin and Louise Welsh.' — Sarah Pinborough

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

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

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

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

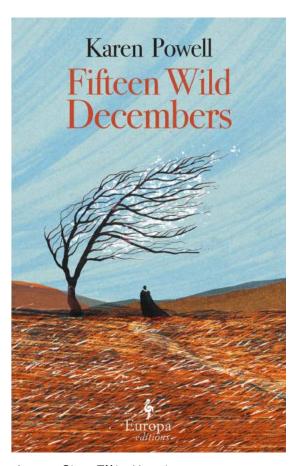
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## FIFTEEN WILD DECEMBERS

## Karen Powell



Agent Sian Ellis-Martin

UKexCan HB Europa Editions Sep 2023 UKexCan PB Europa Editions 2024 UKexCan audio WF Howes Sep 2023 US+Can On submission

285 pages

1842. Stubborn, free-spirited Emily Brontë would like to stay at home forever, but her sister Charlotte has other ideas

A 'Best Historical Fiction Book for 2023' in The Times

'The description of the final weeks of Emily's life is almost unbearably moving... For all this, the book's lasting impression is not of melancholy but unquenchable vitality... Powell has served her heroine loyally.' — Financial Times

'I was spellbound by this fictionalised portrait of Emily Brontë, brimming with the texture of the dank, wild hills of Yorkshire, the weight and power of grief, and the contentment to be found in daring to forge one's own path in the world. To read Karen Powell is to be constantly delighted and intrigued; each sentence is so sharp, so shining.'— Elizabeth Macneal

Isolated from society, Emily Brontë along with her brother and four sisters spend their days inventing elaborate fictional realms or roaming the wild moors above their family home in Yorkshire. When the time comes for them to venture out into the world to earn a living, each of them struggles to adapt, but for Emily the change is catastrophic. Torn from the landscape to which she has become so passionately bound, she is simply unable to function.

To the outside world, Emily Brontë appears taciturn and unexceptional, but beneath the surface her mind is in a creative ferment. A violent phenomenon is about to burst forth that will fuse her imaginary world with the landscape of her beloved Yorkshire and change the literary world forever.

FIFTEEN WILD DECEMBERS is an evocative and affecting novel that deftly explores the imagination, liberty — physical, sexual, spiritual, imaginative — sisterhood, the pull of home, and the power of nature. It will be sure to be loved by Brontë fans and readers of historical fiction, including the novels of Maggie O'Farrell, Kate Atkinson, and Sarah Winman.

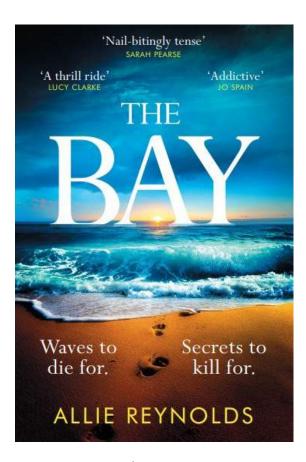
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Karen grew up in Rochester, Kent. She left school at sixteen but returned to education in her mid-twenties, reading English Literature at Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge. Karen lives with her family in York and works at York Minster Fund, a charity which raises money for the conservation and restoration of York Minster. Her debut novel, THE RIVER WITHIN, was published by Europa in the USA and UK (2020) and Edizioni E/O in Italy.

#### THRILLER

## THE BAY

US title: THE SWELL



#### **Agent** Kate Burke

UKexCan HB Headline 2022 UKexCan PB Headline May 2023 UKexCan audio Headline 2022 US+Can HB Putnam 2022 US + Can PB Putnam May 2023 US+Can audio Penguin Audio Jul 2022

France Calmann-Levy Germany HarperCollins (pre-empt) Holland Ambo /Anthos Poland Albatros Spain Atico de los Libros

#### Option publishers

Bulgaria Ciela | China New Star Press Croatia 24Sata | Czech Republic Metafora | Estonia Eesti Raamat | Finland Minerva | | Hungary Alexandra | Japan Hayawaka Norway Cappelen Damm Portugal ASA Editores | Russia Eksmo Serbia Vulkan | Slovakia Ikar | Turkey Ithaki

352 pages

## Allie Reynolds

The waves are to die for at The Bay. It's a paradise they would kill to keep. THE BEACH meets *Point Break* in the thriller of the summer by Allie Reynolds

'If you like your thrillers fast-paced, nail-bitingly tense and set in unnervingly isolated locations, then THE BAY by Allie Reynolds is the book for you!... Packed full of twists and turns, I found it unputdownable — loved it!' — Sarah Pearse

'This fast-paced, suspenseful thriller with undertones of 'Survivor' contrasts an idyllic landscape with its savage inhabitants. Recommend this to fans of Ruth Ware, Lucy Foley, and Sarah Goodwin.' — *Booklist* 

Kenna arrives in Sydney to surprise her best friend, shocked to hear she's going to marry a guy she's only just met. But Mikki and her fiancé Jack are about to head away on a trip, so Kenna finds herself tagging along for the ride.

Sorrow Bay is beautiful, wild and dangerous. A remote surfing spot with waves to die for, cut off from the rest of the world. Here Kenna meets the mysterious group of people who will do anything to keep their paradise a secret. Sky, Ryan, Clemente and Victor have come to ride the waves and disappear from life. How will they feel about Kenna turning up unannounced?

As Kenna gets drawn into their world, she sees the extremes they are prepared to go to for the next thrill. And everyone seems to be hiding something. What has her best friend got involved in and how can she get her away? But one thing is rapidly becoming clear about The Bay: nobody ever leaves.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Allie Reynolds was once a professional freestyle snowboarder in the UK top ten. She spent five winters in the mountains of France, Switzerland, Austria and Canada. In 2003, she swapped her snowboard for a surfboard and moved to the Gold Coast where she taught English as a foreign language for fifteen years. Allie's short fiction has been published in women's magazines in the UK, Australia, Sweden and South Africa.

Her debut novel, SHIVER, has sold in over 20 languages.

## **PASSIONTIDE**



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UK+BC HB Harvill Secker May 2024 UK+BC audio Vintage May 2024 UK+BC PB Vintage May 2025 USexCan HB Knopf August 2024 USexCan PB Knopf August 2025 USexCan audio Knopf August 2024

#### **Option Publishers:**

Brazil DarkSide Books | Croatia Fraktura | Estonia Rahva Raamat France Mémoire D'Encrier | Germany Tropen | Holland Orlando | Hungary Könyvmolyképző | Italy Marsilio Japan Sayusha | Poland Swiat | Romania Alice Books | Russia Arkadia Serbia Laguna | Turkey Can

90,000 words

## Monique Roffey

Timely and fiercely alive, an electrifying new novel by the author of THE MERMAID OF BLACK CONCH

Monique Roffey is back with a striking new work — wrenching, fierce, tender and with an unforgettable cast of characters. When a young steel pan musician — female and foreign — is found dead the morning after Carnival, the victim-shaming response of the city's mayor causes an outcry. An outcry that leads four very different women on the Caribbean island to spark an uprising, an unexpected revolution.

#### PRAISE FOR THE MERMAID OF BLACK CONCH

'A reading experience as captivating as a tropical storm. Full-throated and mesmerizing' — C. Pam Zhang

'A daring, mesmerising novel that continually unseats expectation.' — Maggie O'Farrell

'Monique Roffey is a unique talent, the most daring and versatile of writers.' — Bernardine Evaristo

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

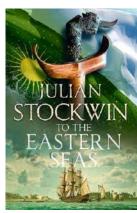
Monique Roffey is an award-winning Trinidadian-born writer. Her novel HOUSE OF ASHES (Scribner UK) was shortlisted for the COSTA Fiction Award, as well as the OCM BOCAS Award. ARCHIPELAGO won the OCM BOCAS Award for Caribbean Literature in 2013 and was shortlisted for the Orion Award 2014. In 2010, her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

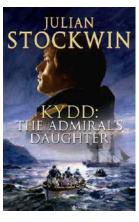


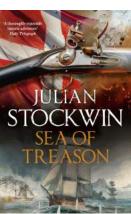
#### **HISTORICAL**

## **Kydd** series

# JULIAN STOCKWIN KYDD The discrete of lifetime in the Great Age of Telling Sal







**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UK+Can Hodder US McBooks (books 1 - 17); Hodder/ Mobius (books 18 - 29) WEL audio W F Howes (books 1 -14), Hodder (books 15 - 29)

Czech Republic Brana (books 1 - 2) Germany EB dotbooks (books 1 - 8)

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Julian Stockwin joined a tough seatraining school at 14, followed by the Royal Navy, transferring to the Royal Australian Navy when his family emigrated. He saw service in the Far East, the Antarctic, South Seas and Vietnam, and was on board Melbourne at the time of its disastrous peace-time collision with Voyager. He later worked for NATO on the strategic deployment of merchant shipping. Hodder have just signed four exciting new KYDD titles (WEL).

## Julian Stockwin

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

**'YANKEE MISSION** is a jewel in Julian Stockwin's crown as a master in naval fiction, with a ship-to-ship fight so vivid that the battle's sounds and scents fly off the pages like lethal wooden splinters' — *Quarterdeck* 

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

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

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

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

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

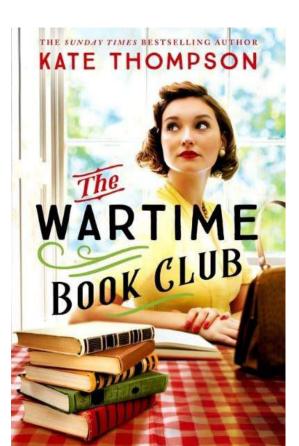
THE ADMIRAL'S DAUGHTER (8) sees Kydd, now Captain of the HMS *Teazer*, caught in escalating tensions between England and France. Meanwhile an unlikely rival is seeking his heart: the beautiful and determined admiral's daughter could be the key to realising all Kydd's hopes and ambitions. But high society, he finds, can be as treacherous as his first mistress — the sea. Shortlisted for the Mountbatten Maritime Literary Award 2008. 384 pages.

In the 26th titles in the series, **SEA OF TREASON** (Oct 2023), Kydd returns to England, after a savage wounding in America, to re-assume command of his ship-of-theline, *Thunderer*. Sent to the remote station of Bermuda, Kydd and his crew are drawn into the intrigue and warring from the young USA attempting to seize Spanish Florida. 384 pages.

#### HISTORICAL

## THE WARTIME BOOK CLUB

## Kate Thompson



Agent Kate Burke

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

#### Option publishers

Brazil Record
Finland Bazar
France City Editions
Germany Droemer
Hungary Libri
Italy Garzanti
Kuwait (Arabic) Jadal
Slovakia Ikar
Spain Maeva

496 pages

From enchanting cliff tops and white sandy bays to the pretty cobbled streets of St Helier, Jersey is known as the land of milk and honey. But for best friends Bea Rose (the local postwoman) and Grace Le Motte (who works in the

Love, courage and resistance in a heart-warming and

inspiring WWII novel set on the island of Jersey

land of milk and honey. But for best friends Bea Rose (the local postwoman) and Grace Le Motte (who works in the island's only library) it becomes the frontline to everyday resistance when their beloved island is occupied by German forces in 1940.

forces in 1940.

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

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

Over the past seven years, she has concentrated on writing ten fiction and non-fiction titles. **SECRETS OF THE LAVENDER GIRLS** was shortlisted for the Romantic Saga Award at the 2021 RNA Awards. Her debut novel, **SECRETS OF THE SINGER GIRLS**, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller in 2015, with first week sales of over 10,000. It has recently been optioned by Bandit Television.

Kate's first non-fiction book, which uncovers the lives of extraordinary women of wartime East End, THE STEPNEY DOORSTEP SOCIETY, was published by Penguin (Michael Joseph) in February 2019 and reached number one in the history categories on Amazon.

Her previous novel, **THE LITTLE WARTIME LIBRARY**, has sold in 10 languages.

#### WOMEN'S FICTION

## THE MEMORY HUNTER

## Hannah Treave



**Agent Kate Burke** 

WEL PB Canelo Oct 2024 WEL ebook Canelo Oct 2024 WEL audio Bolinda Oct 2024

#### **Option Publishers**

China Beijing Guangchen Culture Communication Co. Germany Piper Italy Newton Compton Editori Russia AST Spain Newton Compton Editores A stunning and heart-wrenching story of friendship and family, the perfect read for fans of Dani Atkins, Jojo Moyes and Marian Keyes

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

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

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

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

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

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

## HAPPY ENDING



**Agent** Kate Burke

**UK** On submission October 2023

92,000 words

## Anne-Marie Varga

BEACH READ meets EMILY IN PARIS in this fresh and poignant romantic comedy

Twenty-six-year-old one-hit wonder novelist Rosie Watkins wants to get one thing straight: she is not running away. Has she sub-let her apartment in New York City? Yes. Has she deleted her social media so that no one besides her family knows what she's doing? Yes. Has she booked a one-way ticket to London? Also, yes. But that does not mean she's running away. She just needs... something new.

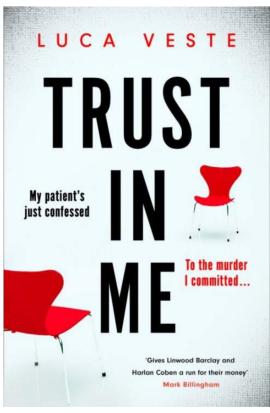
Hence, London. Maybe once she's there, she'll finally be able to get over everything the past year has thrown at her and move on with her life. Rosie quickly finds her footing with some new friends: magnetic Tara who might be secretly in love with her friend, Pat; Saoirse, a serial dater who doesn't believe in love and Deepti, who's navigating a career crisis that could change the course of her life. They all welcome Rosie with open arms — all except George: moody, arrogant, full-of-himself George, who just happens to think that Rosie is an "entitled, annoying, energetic American." He also just happens to be Tara's twin brother — tall, dark, tattooed, super hot and definitely off limits.

But the more settled Rosie becomes in London, the more her past continues to haunt her. So, what exactly is Rosie hiding? Just how bad was that break-up back in the city? And can don't-even-go-there George be that someone to help her move on?

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Anne-Marie Varga brings her Midwestern charm to the Big Apple. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and a Master's from New York University. Anne-Marie spent five years working in publishing at Penguin Random House USA and now spends her time writing romantic comedies. She works in fitness and is a contributing writer for Healthline.com.

## TRUST IN ME



**Agent** Kate Burke

WEL HB Hodder & Stoughton Sep 2023 WEL PB Hodder & Stoughton 2024 WEL audio Hodder & Stoughton Jul

352 pages

2023

#### Luca Veste

A gripping, edge-of-your-seat thriller, perfect for fans of Harlan Coben and Linwood Barclay

'A psychological thriller of superior style and plotting. At once compelling and intriguing, it is also entirely unpredictable. I loved this twisty head spinning thriller in which the pace never flags for a second. Riveting!' — Liz Nugent

'Absolutely loved it! Twisty, turny and super smart, it's everything you want in a compelling psychological thriller. I genuinely didn't want it to end.' — John Marrs

'A UK thriller writer that gives giants like Linwood Barclay and Harlan Coben a run for their money' - Mark Billingham

#### THE THERAPIST

Sara seems to have it all - a thriving practice as a counsellor, a beautiful home, a loving husband and two children. A world away from her troubled childhood and dark past. But she's the only one who knows that her entire life is built on a lie.

#### THE CLIENT

A new patient confesses to a crime that feels eerily familiar and Sara is thrown into a quest to hide the truth: from her family, her friends, her co-workers, and most importantly, the police.

#### THE CONFESSION

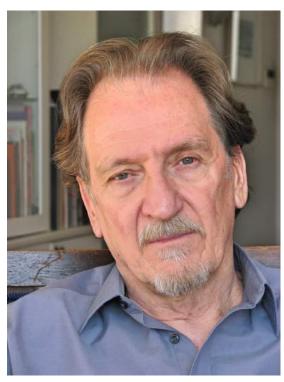
How can this client, Ella, possibly know about Sara's past? And how can Sara silence her before it's too late?

One thing is certain: Sara will do anything to keep her family safe. Even from herself.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Luca Veste is a writer of Italian and Liverpudlian heritage. He is the author of eight novels, including the Murphy & Rossi series, and standalone novels **THE BONE KEEPER** and **YOU NEVER SAID GOODBYE**. He is the co-organiser of the Locked Up Festival, which raised over £25,000 for the Trussell Trust, co-host of the Two Crime Writers and a Microphone podcast, and the bass player in the Fun Lovin' Crime Writers. He studied psychology and criminology at the University of Liverpool. He is married with two daughters and lives in Merseyside.

## THE NEAR NORTH



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

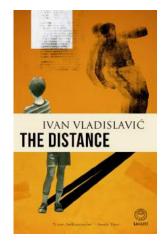
Southern Africa Picador Africa 2024

UK & US on submission

#### Option publishers

France Editions Zoe Italy Utopia Editore Spain Almuzara Libros Turkey Livera

68,000 words



## Ivan Vladislavić

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

'One of the best writers in the world... one of the great modern prose stylists.' — Teju Cole

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

'Vladislavić is among the top writers on the contemporary world stage and this luminously intelligent book on how memory becomes fiction, on the narratives we tell about ourselves and others, on contested stories is a perfectly-cut jewel.' — Neel Mukherjee (on **THE DISTANCE**)

THE NEAR NORTH carries echoes of Ivan's award-winning PORTRAIT WITH KEYS (US: Norton, UK: Granta), which Geoff Dyer described as 'one of the most ingenious love letters — full of violence, fear, humour and cunning — ever addressed to a city', but it is at the same time an entirely original and surprising work of quiet power.

THE NEAR NORTH is book about walking, cities, ghosts and trees, which also explores family, friendship and sudden loss. It feels like an intimate privilege to share the author's thoughts and observations — wryly playful at times, fiercely serious at others — as he navigates his deeply divided city, closely examining its peculiar and moving signs, its demolition sites, felled trees, guerrilla gardens and fresh scars. Auto-fiction, travelogue, psychogeography — however you choose to describe it, THE NEAR NORTH is a book that will delight readers and win Ivan new admirers.

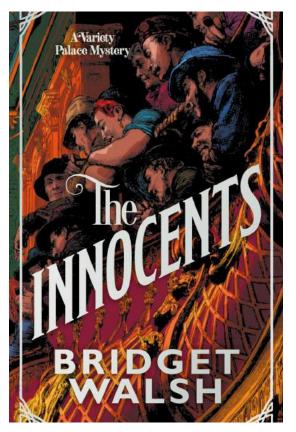
Tranan in Sweden re-issued THE EXPLODED VIEW ('a startling collection', New Yorker) and THE RESTLESS SUPERMARKET in September 2022. Utopia Editore have acquired Italian rights to THE DISTANCE and THE EXPLODED VIEW and there are recent deals for Ivan's work in Spain and Turkey. In South Africa, Ivan has moved to Picador Africa who will publish THE NEAR NORTH in April 2024.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

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

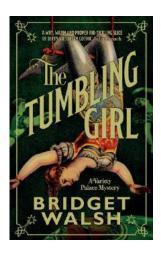
## THE INNOCENTS



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

WEL TPB Gallic Books Apr 2024 WEL audio Bolinda Apr 2024

296 pages



## Bridget Walsh

Minnie Ward and Albert Easterbrook, wonderful crime-fighting duo of THE TUMBLING GIRL, take on a new quest in Victorian London's theatre land

#### Praise for THE TUMBLING GIRL:

Starred *Publishers Weekly* Review & Book of the Week Pick Starred *Library Journal* review No. 1 New Historical Thriller in US Amazon Kindle Chart

'A sparkling novel and a complete delight to read. The characters and world are wild, vivid and enchanting. A wry, warm and proper rib-tickling slice of dirty Victorian gothic. I

can't wait to see what Minnie and Albert are up to next.' -

Julia Crouch

'Neatly weds historical detail and quiet wit.' — Nick Rennison, *The Sunday Times* 

'Ms Walsh does a splendid job depicting Minnie's flea-bitten yet appealing theatrical world and Albert's monied yet treacherous milieu.' — Tom Nolan, Wall Street Journal

#### THE INNOCENTS:

London, 1876. The Variety Palace Music Hall is in trouble, due in no small part to a gruesome spate of murders that unfolded around it a few months previously (see **THE TUMBLING GIRL** for more!).

Managing the music hall in crisis, Minnie Ward has her hands full, even without her complicated relationship with detective Albert Easterbrook — but when a performer's brother mysteriously goes missing, Minnie and Albert are thrown together once more. Then another body is found dead in a trunk, and a strange connection starts to emerge.

The crimes will propel the unlikely duo into the shady world of illegal gambling, dog fighting and monkey kidnappings as they trace things back to a tragedy that took place fourteen years ago, leaving 183 children dead. And given that the incident touched so many people's lives, the pool of suspects is very wide...

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

The manuscript of **THE TUMBLING GIRL** won the UEA Little, Brown Award for Crime Fiction 2019. Bridget is now writing SUMMERLAND, Book 3 in the Variety Palace series.

#### THRILLER

## WHITE ROAD



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

On UK and US submission

80,000 words

## Harry Whitehead

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

Featuring a fierce and complex female central character, WHITE ROAD is a gripping read — a spectacular account of maritime disaster, but also a beautifully written story of escape and survival in the wastes of an Arctic winter.

While its early sections contain some epic action (think CHERNOBYL or THE POSEIDON ADVENTURE), the novel also has the evocative beauty and sense of landscape of MISS SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW and ARCTIC DREAMS.

Carrie Essler is an ex-Navy rescue swimmer, now working for the Canadian Coast Guard. Transferred to a remote outpost after a bitter break-up, she finds herself in dire peril when an oil rig explodes in the Beaufort Sea. Carrie is presumed dead — but she is stranded on a small boat in a nightmarish landscape of oil-laced ice. With her is a dying man, a paralysed stranger she must try to save, and find a way back to civilisation for them both. An epic, heart-clenching struggle for survival ensues, written with great immediacy and often stark beauty.

But what caused the explosion? Accident or environmental terrorism? The injured man knows, but he's not talking. The rig's corporate director, Jim Ross, is Carrie's friend, but he is wrestling with both the catastrophic aftermath and his own guilty secrets. But it is only Ross who believes — against all evidence and odds — that Carrie is alive.

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

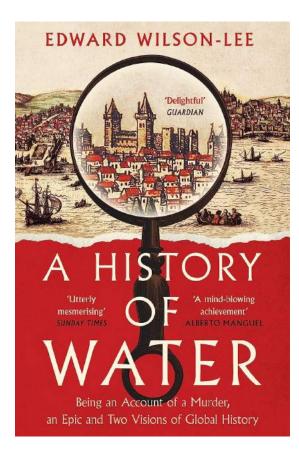
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

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

## A HISTORY OF WATER

## **Edward Wilson-Lee**



**Agent** Isobel Dixon

UKexCan HB William Collins 2022 UKexCan PB William Collins Aug 2023 UKexCan audio William Collins Aug 2022

Italy Bollati Boringhieri Korea Kachi Publishing Co. Portugal Bertrand (at auction) Spain Ariel Turkey Repar Ukraine Laboratory

Option publishers:
North America Scribner
Bulgaria Colibri
China Guangxi Normal University
Press
France Editions Paulsen
Japan Kashiwashobo
Romania ART
Saudi Arabia Madarek

Vivid narrative non-fiction with a flavour of THE NAME OF THE ROSE — poetry and history, murder and intrigue in 16<sup>th</sup> Century Portugal

Shortlisted for the James Tait Black Prize for Biography 2023

'A very few times in the course of a reader's life a book appears that shatters one's assumptions about how and why things came to pass. A HISTORY OF WATER is one such book. A mind-blowing achievement.' — Alberto Manguel

'A truly engrossing read. Wilson-Lee has the rare knack of re-visiting even the most familiar places as if they were being discovered for the first time. His prose is rich, fluent, absorbing, and free from any affectation. He guides his readers through a kaleidoscope of detail, interrelating various themes with consummate skill, each time shedding very bright light on the origins of global history while remaining firmly rooted in the most meticulous yet unobtrusive scholarship.' — Fernando Cervantes

A HISTORY OF WATER follows the interconnected lives of two men across the Renaissance globe. One of them — an aficionado of mermen and Ethiopian culture, an art collector, historian and expert on water-music — returns home from witnessing the birth of the modern age to die in a mysterious incident, apparently the victim of a grisly and curious murder.

The other - a ruffian, vagabond and braggart, chased across the globe from Mozambique to Japan - ends up as the national poet of Portugal.

The stories of Damião de Góis and Luís de Camões capture the extraordinary wonders that awaited Europeans on their arrival in India and China, the challenges these marvels presented to longstanding beliefs, and the vast conspiracy to silence the questions these posed about the nature of history and of human life.

#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

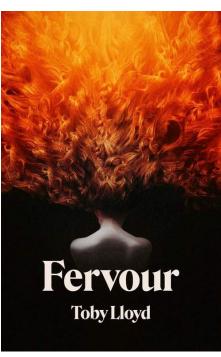
Edward Wilson-Lee is a Fellow in English at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he teaches medieval and Renaissance literature. After growing up in Kenya and Switzerland, he went to university in London, New York, Oxford and Cambridge, living briefly in Mexico and New Orleans in between.

His previous books **SHAKESPEARE IN SWAHILILAND** and **THE CATALOGUE OF SHIPWRECKED BOOKS** have been widely acclaimed, published in the UK and US, and translated into 11 languages. He is now writing THE GRAMMAR OF ANGELS (William Collins, 2025).

336 pages

# **ASSOCIATE AGENTS**







Laxfield Literary Associates

Lewinsohn Literary

# LOOKING AT WOMEN LOOKING AT WAR Victoria Amelina



**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

UK+BC HB William Collins 2024 (preempt) UK+ BC PB William Collins 2025

70,000 words

LOOKING AT WOMEN LOOKING AT WAR: A WAR AND JUSTICE DIARY tells a story of Ukraine's civil society's quest for justice

LOOKING AT WOMEN LOOKING AT WAR: A WAR AND JUSTICE DIARY is Amelina's deeply moving and highly anticipated posthumous gift to her country. It began as the war diary of a Ukrainian novelist turned war crimes researcher following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 and evolved into a story about a number of extraordinary women. It follows the paths of female journalists, human rights defenders, lawyers, and volunteers who document war crimes in Ukraine while the conflict is still ongoing.

Amelina described her book as 'detective story' in which she pursues not only the perpetrators but the quest for justice. The heroines of the book include Evgenia Zakrevska, a prominent lawyer turned soldier who helps to liberate towns in the Kharkiv region and participates in a historical trial online from the frontline, Oleksandra Matviychuk, who leads an initiative documenting tens of thousands of war crimes and wins a Nobel Peace Prize in 2022, and Yulia Kakulya-Danylyuk, the director of the Kharkiv Literary Museum who helps document the destruction of cultural heritage.

Every heroine has a connection to a prominent Ukrainian dissident or the so-called Executed Renaissance, a generation of Ukrainian writers killed by the Soviet regime in the 1930s. The stories of today's Ukrainians are thus interconnected with the dramatic history of the 20th century in the bloodlands.

**LOOKING AT WOMEN LOOKING AT WAR** combines elements of reportage, interviews and reflection, and is influenced by the work of Svetlana Alexievich and Ryszard Kapuscinski.

Victoria's reflections now carry an unbearable poignancy in the wake of her own death, killed by injuries sustained in a Russian missile strike as she dined in a pizza restaurant in Kramatorsk.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Victoria Amelina (1 January 1986 - 1 July 2023) was a Ukrainian novelist, essayist, poet, and human rights activist. She was a winner of the Joseph Conrad Literary Award (2021), and a finalist for the European Union Prize for Literature finalist (2019) and Lviv UNESCO City of Literature Prize (2018).

She was the author of two novels about contemporary Ukraine, DOM'S DREAM KINGDOM and FALL SYNDROME, as well as two children's books.

## DOM'S DREAM KINGDOM

## Victoria Amelina



**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

**UK+BC HB** William Collins 2024 (preempt) **UK+ BC PB** William Collins 2025

**Poland** Wrocławski Dom Literatury **Spain** Avizor Ediciones **Ukraine** Old Lion Publishing House

English translation sample available

384 pages

DOM'S DREAM KINGDOM tells the story of a city with a dramatic history, where the silences about past wars and mass murders are so unbearable that only an abandoned dog can trace the secrets and "speak" for the people who still cannot speak for themselves

Finalist for the European Prize for Literature Finalist for Lviv UNESCO City of Literature Prize

The story follows three generations of the family of an old Soviet military pilot — a Korean war veteran — who settle in a city once a cultural centre of Europe, a place variously called Lemberg, Lwów, Lvov, and Lviv. The apartment that this Soviet family has inhabited since the '70s is, by coincidence, the former childhood home of Stanislaw Lem. A Polish writer of Jewish origin, Lem is one of the few survivors of the Holocaust in Lviv, who leaves the city forever after World War II. Because it is hard, if not impossible, for the humans to talk about the city's complicated past and their own traumatic memories of Soviet and Nazi atrocities, it is a dog named Dom who accepts the challenge to pick up the pieces of the family story and Ukraine's history.

Through Dom's voice, Amelina presents a fresh perspective on critical issues such as the supposed east-west divide in Ukraine, themes of migration and displacement, Lviv's history as a major Polish and Jewish metropolis, its dark history with the Holocaust, and its multiple transformations over the tumultuous twentieth century.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Victoria Amelina (1 January 1986 - 1 July 2023) was a Ukrainian novelist, essayist, poet, and human rights activist. She was a winner of the Joseph Conrad Literary Award (2021), and a finalist for the European Union Prize for Literature finalist (2019) and Lviv UNESCO City of Literature Prize (2018).

She was the author of **FALL SYNDROME**, as well as two children's books. Victoria's prose and poems have been translated into Polish, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Hungarian, German, Croatian and English.

Victoria wrote both in Ukrainian and English. Her essays have appeared in *Irish Times*, *Dublin Review of Books*, and *Eurozine*. In 2021, she founded a literary festival in the Donetsk region, Ukraine.

Victoria died on 1 July 2023 as a result of injuries sustained in a Russian missile strike on a pizza restaurant in Kramatorsk. She was 37 years old.

## **WEATHERING**



**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

WEL HB Seven Stories Press 2024 WEL PB Seven Stories Press 2025

Ukraine Books XXI 2021

English sample translation available



## **Artem Chapeye**

English translation by Daisy Gibbons

A contemporary dystopian novel for fans of STATION ELEVEN by Emily St John Mandel and A RIVER CALLED TIME by Courttia Newland

With flourishing contemporary language and pop culture references, Artem Chapeye paints a picture of modern Ukraine in a narrative reminiscent of John Wyndham's THE DAY OF THE TRIFFIDS and Richard Matheson's I AM LEGEND. He synthesises the experience of the start of Russia's eight-year war in the Donbas to depict the breakdown in Ukrainian society and the hardship of the migrant experience, foreshadowing with great prescience some of the current social dynamics to follow less than a year after the novel's publication. Chapeye also draws from the Covid-19 pandemic to depict the sense of isolation, the breakdown in connection exacerbated by technology, and the psychological toll of global change, something that many of us can now relate to.

Also available: **THE UKRAINE** (Books XXI, Ukraine 2018; Seven Stories, WEL 2023)

**THE UKRAINE** is a collection of twenty-six essays and stories that deliberately blurs the lines between nonfiction and fiction, leaving the reader wondering which of its pieces are true and which fictionalized.

A Finalist for the BBC Book of the Year, **THE UKRAINE** conveys an aroma of Ukraine that is distinctly Ukrainian: at times unglorifying and irreverent, at times loving and tender, at times uncomfortable and inconvenient. **THE UKRAINE** is every Ukrainian's Ukraine and encompasses the country's good, bad, obnoxiously ugly, and achingly beautiful.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

Artem's short story 'The Ukraine', translated by Zenia Tompkins, was published in *The New Yorker* in March 2022, the first piece of prose by a Ukrainian writer to appear in the publication, and was read on BBC Radio 4's *Book at Bedtime* in October 2022.

Artem is currently serving in the Ukrainian army.

## WHITES CAN DANCE TOO

## Kalaf Epalanga

English translation by Daniel Hahn

It's the summer of 2008. Kalaf, an African musician, is arrested at the Norwegian border on suspicion of being an illegal immigrant

'This is undoubtedly a novel full of swag and swing, entertaining and courageous, by a great writer who reveals himself here. A great first novel.' — José Eduardo Agualusa

Kalaf is on a bus bound for Oslo where his band, Buraka Som Sistema, is due to perform at one of Europe's largest music festivals. But two border control agents become sceptical when he presents them with a Portuguese foreign residency card and an expired passport from an African country, Angola. As he sits in his cell waiting to be interrogated, Kalaf thinks about the events that have brought him there: why he was forced to travel by bus in the first place, and all the sacrifices he has had to make in the name of promoting Kuduro music — a dance music genre created in the streets of Luanda, Angola's chaotic capital.

Kalaf needs a European passport and Sofia helps him to get it by marrying him. Sofia is a white Portuguese anthropology student and a keen dancer. She was taught to dance by her stepfather, a black Angolan who fled to Lisbon after the fall of the Berlin Wall. Sofia's mother is a white returnee, forced to return to Lisbon along with 200,000 Portuguese-Angolans during the chaotic decolonisation process. Sofia inherited her passion for African music from her mother and stepfather and dreams of visiting Angola one day, a country she misses even though she's never been there.

Viking and Mari are the two Norwegian officers who arrested Kalaf. Having Kalaf's fate in his hands made Viking assess his own life: what if he leaves Europe to find Ava his first girlfriend, for whom he still has feelings, and who now lives in Beirut. Viking finds himself in the middle of the crowd at the Øya music festival. He looks up at the stage and sees the Angolan there, a free man. Viking wants to feel free too. He will fly to Beirut on the very next plane.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Kalaf Epalanga is an Angolan musician and writer. Best known internationally for fronting the MTV Europe award-winning Lisbon-based dance collective Buraka Som Sistema, he is a celebrated columnist in Angola and Portugal. WHITES CAN DANCE TOO is his acclaimed debut novel. Kalaf is currently based in Berlin.



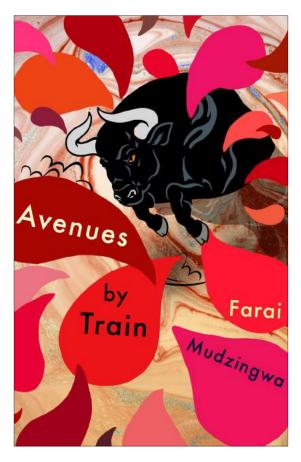
**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

WEL HB Faber Jul 2023 WEL PB Faber Jul 2024

**Portugal** Editorial Caminho **Spain** Temas de Hoy

304 pages

## **AVENUES BY TRAIN**



**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

WEL TPB Cassava Republic Sep 2023

269 pages

## Farai Mudzingwa

A dizzying, immersive debut from one of Zimbabwe's most exciting new writers

AVENUES BY TRAIN opens in 1974, with the news that yet another girl has been abducted by a water spirit in the small town of Miner's Drift. In the same incident another young girl, Natsai, is touched by the water spirit but manages to escape. The protagonist of the book, Jedza, is Natsai's younger brother, aged seven when we first encounter him in 1984. When Jedza later has a similar escape in a tragic incident involving a train and the death of his close boyhood friend, he is convinced that his life is haunted. He comes to believe that his life is stuck in a loop of hardship in Miner's Drift.

Jedza leaves for Harare in the hope that he will escape the darkness and superstitions of the small town. He instead discovers that the city has even deeper spiritual roots than Miner's Drift and the mysticism he encounters in the city leads him to come to terms with the spiritual forces in his bloodline and to eventually confront and resolve his traumatic past.

Inspired by the author's experience as a practising Catholic in his youth, the novel explores the conflict between Shona spiritualism and Christianity in urban contemporary Zimbabwe. With wry humour evident from its early chapters, this is a bildungsroman of sorts, where nostalgic childhood reminiscences are juxtaposed with scenes depicting the social and economic degeneration of the country, inspired by the author's experience living in The Avenues, a red-light district of Harare.

This eclectic, playful and experimental novel showcases a fresh new voice in contemporary African writing, recalling the fast-paced, riotous satire of Alain Mabanckou and Fiston Mwanza Mujila. Whilst paying homage to his literary heritage in this consciously intertextual novel, Mudzingwa pushes the boundaries of both content and form, with strands of magical realism running alongside hyper-realist immersion, shifts in perspective and time, and a multiplicity of different narrative voices and styles.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Farai Mudzingwa's short fiction has been published by Weaver Press, Kwani? and Enkare Review II and his longform articles and reporting have been featured in Chimurenga Chronic, The Mail & Guardian, The Johannesburg Review of Books, Africa Is A Country, This Is Africa, The Africa Report and New Humanitarian. Farai was shortlisted for the Miles Morland Writing Scholarship (2019), the Short Story Day Africa competition (2019) and the Yvonne Vera competition (2013). He was longlisted for the Writivism competition in 2016. He lives in Harare.

#### History & Cultural Commentary

# I WILL MIX YOUR BLOOD WITH COAL UNDERSTANDING THE UKRAINIAN EAST Oleksandr Mykhed



Ołeksandr Myched Zmieszam z węglem twoją krew Zrozumieć ukraiński wschód



**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

**WEL** Northwestern University Press 2024

Germany Ibidem
Poland Czarne (cover above)
Ukraine Nash Format

365 pages (Ukrainian edition)

#### An illuminating, timely work of reportage

In 2014, the Russian army, with support from local militants, occupied parts of Ukraine's two easternmost regions, Donetsk and Luhansk; regions that were the beating industrial heart of the socialist utopia in the Soviet era, and where coal extraction has exhausted both the human population and the natural resources. These regions have suffered from the post-Soviet chaos for decades.

In late 2016, the author set out on a research trip to the East to answer the common questions of those who've never been to the region. He takes his readers on a complicated, painful and hopeful trip across the Ukrainian East, guiding them through encounters with local citizens, archival research, and conversations with prominent cultural figures from the region, such as writer Serhij Zhadan and historian lhor Kozlovskyi, held hostage and released after 700 days of captivity. Readers will encounter the miners, the Belgian and British investors who founded the eastern cities, the priceless coal, events of the First and Second World War, the bloody Soviet history, the activists who are now working to improve the country, and sweet memories of a lost paradise.

Oleksandr writes that he had never been to Eastern Ukraine until 2016, and wanted to better understand the part of his country where war was breaking out, investigating and debunking many of the stereotypes and myths about the region. His encounters with its inhabitants are varied and revealing, always narrated with great nuance and empathy.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Oleksandr lives in Kyiv and is one of Ukraine's foremost contemporary writers. He is the author of seven books and selected essays and excerpts from his books have been translated into ten languages. He is a member of PEN Ukraine.

## THE LANGUAGE OF WAR

#### LETTERS FROM UKRAINE

## Oleksandr Mykhed



**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

**UK HB** Allen Lane 2024 (pre-empt) **UK PB** Allen Lane 2025

**Ukraine** Old Lion Publishing House Summer 2023

Word count: 57,000

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

The story of a 34-year-old writer who has lost his home. Whose parents now live far away in another part of the country. Whose close friend has been killed in action in Donbas. Whose wife is volunteering. He is having nightmares and is unable to think of his past. But he has stories for the world to hear.

Already heralded as a classic in the making, this highly anticipated book combines essays, non-fiction narrative, and interviews with military personnel, volunteers and refugees from different regions of Ukraine, detailing their stories and experiences of living through the war. The central symbol of the book is the "language of war". Oleksandr takes a close look at not only the changes taking place in the language during this full-scale invasion, but also its symbolic dimension. The way in which people express hatred for the occupier and how they show love for their country.

Essays included in the book have been published in the Financial Times, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, and in Ukrainian, French and Polish anthologies. Oleksandr's first essay for the FT Weekend, published barely a fortnight after the invasion, elicited a global response, culminating in appearances on CNN and NPR. In December 2022, Oleksandr's second essay 'We will rebuild everything: war, loss and faith in Ukraine' was the FT Weekend lead feature, and was described by FT Weekend Editor Alec Russell as 'a stunning personal essay'.

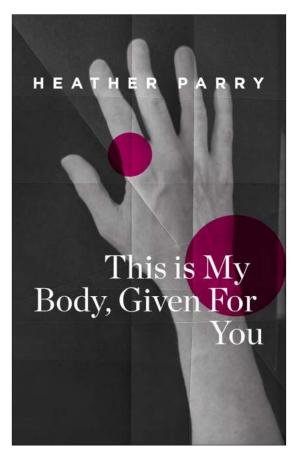
Oleksandr's work and personal story has been featured in the *New Yorker*, Dagbladet and BBC radio reports, and his words from the book became the epigraph for the *New Yorker*-produced documentary "The Liturgy of Anti-tank Obstacles" by Dmytro Sukholytkyy-Sobchuk (the film was screened at the Toronto International Film Festival and at the Sundance Film Festival). His theme of The Language of War and his powerful opening address to the Lviv International Book Forum in October 2022 was the inspiration for Michael Goldfarb's BBC Radio 4 documentary, Ukraine: War and Words.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Oleksandr lives in Kyiv and is one of Ukraine's foremost contemporary writers. He is the author of seven books and selected essays and excerpts from his books have been translated into ten languages. He is a member of PEN Ukraine.

## THIS IS MY BODY, GIVEN FOR YOU

## Heather Parry



**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

**UK+BC PB** Haunt Publishing May 2023

131 pages

A short story collection perfect for fans of Shirley Jackson, Carmen Maria Machado and Kelly Link

A girl suffering a bizarre menstrual aberration is exploited by those around her, including her father.

A boy expresses his love for a nonhuman man by making himself animalistic.

A girl abandoned by her community discovers the possibility of transmutation through cannibalism.

A man struggles with his wife's choices around her existence, and considers whether he should leave her alone in her semi-oblivion, or join her.

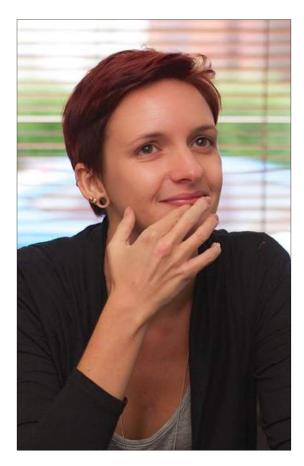
In THIS IS MY BODY, GIVEN FOR YOU, Heather Parry places in our hands fifteen stories in which the body is something that can be changed, altered, and escaped from. With dripping blood, bruised tentacles, and seamed skin, Heather Parry's debut short story collection will consume you.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Heather Parry is a short story writer, novelist and editor. Originally from Rotherham, Heather is now based in Glasgow and is a regular moderator at literary events, including the Edinburgh International Book Festival. Her work has been appeared in publications including *The Stinging Fly, New Gothic Review, The Best of British Fantasy* 2018 & 2019, and *New Writing Scotland 35*. Heather won the 2016 Bridge Award for an Emerging Writer, and was the recipient of the Cove Park 2017 Scottish Emerging Writer residency. She was a prize winner in the Mslexia Short Story Award 2018 and is a 2021 Hawthornden Fellow. Her debut novel **ORPHEUS BUILDS A GIRL** (Gallic Books) was published to great acclaim in 2022.

#### LITERARY

## **CARRION CROW**



Agent Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

**UK + BC** Under offer

## **Heather Parry**

A claustrophobic, surrealist, queer gothic novel set in Edwardian London, exploring mother-daughter relationships, sexuality, class, colonialism and the body

'Heather Parry is a literary star of the future.' — Kirsty Logan, author of THINGS WE SAY IN THE DARK

Marguerite Périgord is locked in the attic of her family home, a disintegrating Chelsea house, with a Singer sewing machine, a copy of Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management and a taxidermied bat with the feet of a duck. She has been confined by her mother, Cécile, who is concerned about her engagement to an older, near-penniless solicitor and wishes to educate her daughter on proper married conduct, lest she drag the family's good name into disrepute.

Marguerite's weeks are punctuated by small but highly decadent meals brought by her mother, by letters from her betrothed and by her attempts to memorise the writings of Mrs Beeton, who knows everything there is to know about mainstream femininity and how to be a woman. When a carrion crow begins to nest in a hole in the attic, Marguerite befriends the creature and becomes jealous of its freedom, leading her to reappraise her situation and reconsider her mother's intentions. How long has she been in the attic, why are her fiancé's letters becoming more distant, and is the Périgord name really something to be so proud of?

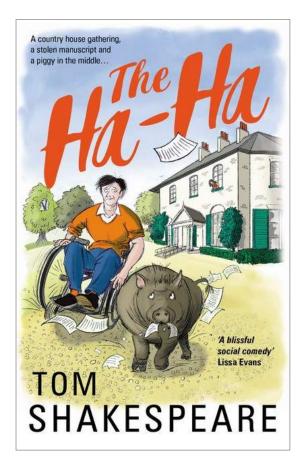
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

Her debut novel **ORPHEUS BUILDS A GIRL** (Gallic Books) was published to great acclaim in 2022.

#### LITERARY

#### THE HA-HA



**Agent** Emma Shercliff
Laxfield Literary Associates

WEL HB Farrago Mar 2024

75,000 words

## Tom Shakespeare

An entertaining romp through the English establishment, complete with crumpets & croquet

Our hero Fred Twistleton invites a group of friends to celebrate his fortieth birthday with him at Threepwood Hall, a rented stately home in Suffolk. Fred is a small-town solicitor, who has spent twenty years in a wheelchair after an accident on holiday after graduation. As a result, he has a sexual problem which means that he has never consummated a romantic relationship. The birthday party guests include Fred's brother and sister-in-law; his best friend from school, Hugh, who is now an outsider living in a van; the friend he flat-shared with after university together with his new Latino boyfriend; his agent friend Mary, who he wants to represent his memoir; and the celebrity foreign correspondent Heather, on whom Fred has had a crush for the last twenty years. And a dog.

In the finest tradition of P.G.Wodehouse, THE HA-HA incorporates a purloined manuscript, a stolen pig, a sinking, several falls, many misinterpretations and plenty of jokes. Fred's life is marked by a tragedy, but by the end of the novel he is on the brink of a new chapter in his life, thanks to his best friend, his sister-in-law and an unusual woman who looks after pigs.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

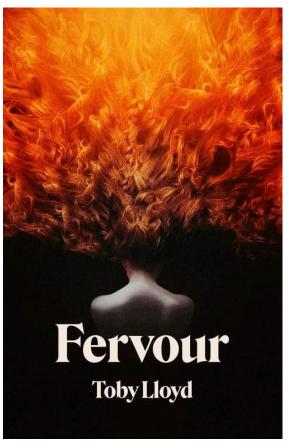
Tom Shakespeare CBE is a sociologist and ethicist who works at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, where he leads teams researching disability and mental health in Africa and Asia. Tom has presented programmes and documentaries on BBC Radio and has written for publications including *The Guardian* and *The Lancet*. Tom graduated with distinction from the MA in Creative Writing at Newcastle University. He has been a stand-up comedian, an actor, a dancer, and an artist. Tom has two grown-up children, a part-time dog, and a penchant for crumpets. He has lived in Cambridge, Newcastle, Geneva and Norwich. He currently resides in London.

#### LITERARY

## **FERVOUR**



Toby Lloyd



Agent Becky Thomas Lewinsohn Literary

**UK** Sceptre Feb 2024 **US** Avid Reader Press

Finland Kosmos
France Gallimard
Italy Neri Pozza (at auction)
Russia AST

245 pages

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

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

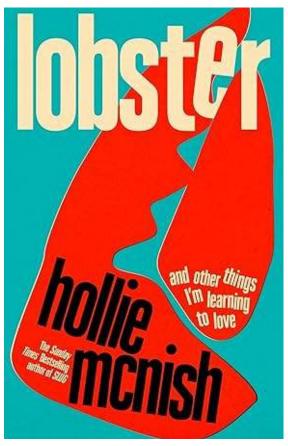
#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

He has published short stories and essays in various journals, including *Carve Magazine* and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and has been shortlisted for the VS Pritchett Prize and for the Jewish Book Week Emerging Writers Programme.

#### **POETRY**

## **LOBSTER**



Agent Becky Thomas Lewinsohn Literary

WEL HB Fleet Mar 2024

432 pages

## Hollie McNish

A brand-new collection from the award-winning poet, the companion piece to the *Sunday Times* bestselling SLUG

'Her rhymes have a driving quality, urgent words pinning down fleeting feelings' — Observer

'I love Hollie's poems. There is such raw honesty and warmth and often humour within them. She is one of the best poets we have' - Matt Haig

'I've loved her work for years' — Jo Brand

This book is written out of both hate and love for the world.

As people, we are capable of both love and hate; amazement and disgust; fun and misery.

So why do we live in a world that is constantly telling us to hate, both ourselves and others? We are told constantly to be repulsed by our own bodies, bodies that let us laugh and sweat and eat toast, amongst other activities; to be ashamed of pleasure; to be embarrassed by fun. In this brand-new collection, Hollie McNish brings her inimitable style to the question of what we have been taught to hate, and if we might learn to love again.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Hollie McNish is a published UK poet based between London, Cambridge and Glasgow. She has two poetry collections — CHERRY PIE and PAPERS — and an album, *Versus*, which made her the first poet to record at Abbey Road Studios, London.

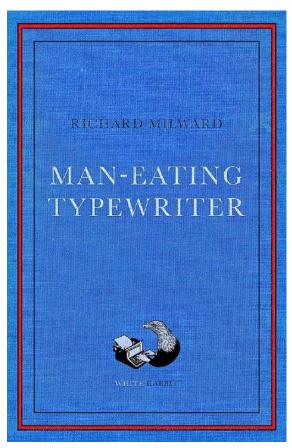
In 2016, Little Brown published her memoir of poetry and parenthood, NOBODY TOLD ME. It has been translated into 3 languages to date and won the Ted Hughes Prize for Poetry 2016. In June 2017, Picador published her third poetry collection, PLUM, to critical acclaim. PLUM was named in the Rough Trade Book of the Year list.

She has co-written the play **OFFSIDE** (Methuen), with Sabrina Mahfouz, and a new version of ANTIGONE for Storyhouse in 2021.

In 2021 SLUG & OTHER THINGS I'VE BEEN TOLD TO HATE was published by Fleet.

## MAN-EATING TYPEWRITER

## Richard Milward



Agent Becky Thomas Lewinsohn Literary

WEL PB White Rabbit 2023

544 pages

Wild, transgressive, erotic and resolutely uncompromising, this marks the return of a writer who is out there on an island of his own making; a book that will be talked about, celebrated and puzzled over for decades

Shortlisted for 2023 Goldsmiths Prize

'A daring, meandering, brilliant book.' — Literary Review

'Single-handedly proving the novel isn't dead, Milward breathes new life into the form in this erudite, witty yet immaculately crafted, romp of a book' — Ali Millar, author of THE LAST DAYS

**'MAN-EATING TYPE-WRITER** is truly extraordinary: as if Mervyn Peake and Kenneth Williams wrote a book with William Burroughs' — Michael Bracewell, author of UNFINISHED BUSINESS

'Remarkable, beautiful, magic. Like ULYSSES for those who can't cope with reading ULYSSES' — Paolo Hewitt

Set at the fag-end of the 1960s and framed as a novel within a novel published by a seedy London purveyor of pulp fiction, MAN-EATING TYPEWRITER is a homage to the avant-garde counterculture of the 20th century. Told in Polari, it is the story of an anarchist named Raymond Novak and his plan to commit a 'fantabulosa crime' in 276 days that will revolt the world. A surrealistic odyssey that stretches from occupied Paris to the cruise-liner SS Unmentionable to lawless Tangier before settling in Swinging London, the book casts Novak as an agitator and freedom fighter — but, as his memoirs become more and more threatening, his publishers find themselves far more involved in his violent personality cult than they ever intended.

Constructed like a hallucinogenic cocktail of A CLOCKWORK ORANGE, PALE FIRE and Jean Genet's jailbird fantasies, MAN -EATING TYPEWRITER is an act of seductive sedition by a writer with unfathomable literary talent and boldness.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Richard Milward was born in Middlesbrough in 1984. His cult debut APPLES was published in 2007 when Richard was twenty-two years old, and sold in seven territories. It was followed by TEN STOREY LOVE SONG in 2009 and KIMBERLEY'S CAPITAL PUNISHMENT in 2012. APPLES was shortlisted for The South Bank Show/Times Breakthrough Award 2008, TEN STOREY LOVE SONG was chosen as one of Waterstones New Voices 2009, and KIMBERLEY'S CAPITAL PUNISHMENT was picked as Time Out Book of the Week in 2012. Both APPLES and TEN STOREY LOVE SONG were adapted for the stage, winning awards at the Edinburgh Fringe.

#### CONTEMPORAY

## **LEADING MAN**



Agent Becky Thomas Lewinsohn Literary

UK+BC HB Sphere Apr 2024

89,000 words

## **Justin Myers**

A hilarious and relatable coming-of-age story from Justin Myers, king of the thoroughly modern comedy

Leo's content to be in the background, letting his best friends shine. It's always been safer that way.

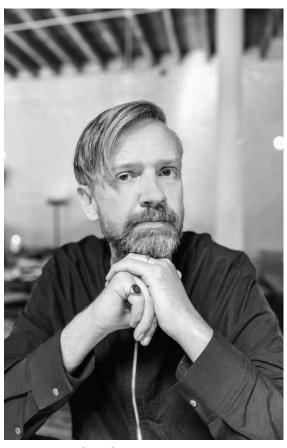
But recently something's happened that Leo can't explain. A gorgeous man wants to date him, he's been given a huge project at work and - strangest of all - he's started to develop a backbone.

For the first time ever, the spotlight is on Leo. But a spotlight reveals everything. And now all the things he has hidden away in darkness are in full focus. If he's to step into the role of leading man and get everything he's ever wanted, Leo will need to look at his life head on. And he might not like everything he sees.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

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

## **TEST KITCHEN**



Agent Becky Thomas Lewinsohn Literary

UK+BC HB Corsair Jul 2024

90,000 words

## **Neil Stewart**

A gripping, funny and often macabre story about the culture of food, of dining and eating, about feeding and nourishing, about mothers, mortality and magic

**TEST KITCHEN** is set during a single evening's service at the Michelin-starred restaurant everyone's talking about, Midgard.

As Midgard's newest waitress, Australian born Marley is glad to have found a kind of family among the 'brigade' there. Like any family, however, it is dysfunctional. And by the looks of things this evening, possibly even lethal...

A violent event — an event she is struggling to piece together — has befallen Marley. She can't move. She can't speak. All she can do is observe the restaurant tonight, seeing but unseen. As she strains to recall what might have happened to her, she can only witness the tragedy that is about to unfurl in this hallowed space normally so meticulously run by Joanna, Midgard's famed yet unknowable head chef...

Tense and moreish, **TEST KITCHEN** offers a deliciously dark insight into the goings-on behind the scenes in the kitchen, as well as eavesdropping in on the dramas of the diners who are lucky — or unlucky — enough to have booked a table at Midgard on this fateful night.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Neil Stewart was born in Glasgow in 1978. He was educated at the University of Glasgow and holds an MA in Creative Writing from the University of East Anglia. His first novel THE GLASGOW COMA SCALE (Corsair) was published in 2014 and was longlisted for the Green Carnation Prize; 'an assured, witty first novel' — The Times; 'an outstanding debut from an extraordinary talent' — Paul Murray.

He currently freelances as a proofreader and editorial assistant for galleries and museums, and is Arts Editor of the online magazine *Civilian*.