

LITERARY, TV & FILM AGENCY

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FRANKFURT CATALOGUE 2019

Emma Stonex THE LAMPLIGHTERS Jodie Chapman ANOTHER LIFE Ashley Audrain THE PUSH Katherine Faulkner GREENWICH PARK Sareena Robinson THE READING LIST Ben Creed THE REFRAIN Holly Bourne IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT? Abigail Mann THE LONELY FAJITA Helly Acton THE SHELF Caroline Bishop THE OTHER DAUGHTER Fiona Valpy THE DRESSMAKER'S GIFT Michelle Adams LITTLE WISHES Beth Morrey SAVING MISSY Clare Pooley THE AUTHENTICITY PROJECT Abbie Greaves THE SILENT TREATMENT T.A. Willberg MARION LANE AND THE INQUIRERS C.L. Taylor STRANGERS Robin Morgan-Bentley THE WRECKAGE Will Shindler THE BURNING MEN Elizabeth Kay SEVEN LIES Stephanie Wrobel THE RECOVERY OF ROSE GOLD	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25
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THE TEAM

Madeleine Milburn, Director & Agent —mm@madeleinemilburn.com Giles Milburn, Managing Director & Agent — giles@madeleinemilburn.com Hayley Steed, Agent and Film, TV & Digital Coordinator— hayley@madeleinemilburn.con Liane-Louise Smith, Rights Director— liane-louise@madeleinemilburn.com Georgina Simmonds, Junior Rights Agent—georgina@madeleinemilburn.com



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Emma Stonex THE LAMPLIGHTERS

Literary Fiction

From the author of nine bestselling women's fiction novels written under a pseudonym, this is Emma's debut literary novel exploring themes of isolation and obsession, of claustrophobia and savagery, of reality and illusion, and of keeping the light burning when all else is swallowed by dark.



I rowed out to the candle when the light was burning bright. But all I found behind its doors was the darkness of the night.

Cornwall, 1972

Three lighthouse keepers go missing from a remote rock miles from the English coast. The entrance door is locked from the inside. The clocks have stopped in the living room and kitchen. A table is laid for a meal not eaten. The Principal Keeper's weather log describes a storm raging round the tower – but the skies have been clear

all week.

What strange fate befell these doomed men? The heavy sea whispers their names. Black rocks roll beneath the surface, drowning ghosts. And out of the swell like a finger of light, the salt-scratched tower stands lonely and magnificent.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Snapped up at auction by Francesca Main at Picador/ Macmillan to be published as their breakout book of 2021 in same slot as *The Miniaturist, Burial Rights* and *The Doll Factory*
- US rights won at auction by Viking/PRH, who will publish *The Lamplighters* as their exciting new literary suspense novel alongside Tana French
- Two Italian pre-empts, one German pre-empt and a Lithuanian offer within four hours of submission

THE AUTHOR

Emma Stonex worked as an editor at a major publishing house before she left to write full time. She is the author of nine bestselling women's fiction novels under several different pseudonyms, but literary fiction is where her heart is. *The Lamplighters* is her first novel as Emma Stonex.

Rights Sold

THE LAMPLIGHTERS

UK & Commonwealth:

Picador/Macmillan (Francesca Main) US: Viking/PRH (Andrea Schulz) Canadian: HarperCollins Canada (Iris Tupholme) Arabic: Under Offer Dutch: Nieuw Amsterdam French: Editions Stocks German: Fischer Greek: Under Offer Italian: Mondadori Lithuanian: Baltos Lankos Portuguese (SA): Intrinseca

Jodie Chapman ANOTHER LIFE

Book Club Novel

A coming-of-age novel about two young people, desperately in love, who are driven apart by the constraints of religion.



Can you ever forget the one who got away?

22 year old Nick falls in love over the course of one hot summer. The object of his affections? 19 year old Anna: beautiful, fiery and passionate. She's also a member of a strict religious faith.

The summer is filled with discoveries: discovering one another; discovering first love; discovering what it means to be free. They know it cannot last.

One day, driven apart by the constraints of Anna's religion, they must

part. It's many years until they see one another again....

Woven into this love story is also Nick's tender, tragic relationship with his impulsive younger brother, Sal. We witness their coming-of -age through Nick's eyes, as they navigate love, grief, and a tense relationship with their ex-army dad from the mid-1980s to the present day.

This is a story that comments on what it means to love and lose, and ultimately, how to live a courageous life on your own terms.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Exploring themes of grief, love and what it means to be a man
- Seven offers of representation and an exhilarating global response
- For fans of David Nicholls, Sally Rooney and Clare Macintosh

THE AUTHOR

Jodie is a 35 year-old photographer living in Kent. Having been raised a Jehovah's Witness, she has had direct experience of being in the bubble of a fairly secretive doomsday religion, and this has informed the character of Anna. In 2016, she was accepted onto the Curtis Brown Creative novel writing course. It has always been her dream to be a writer.

Rights Sold

ANOTHER LIFE (TBC)

UK & Commonwealth: TBC US: TBC German: Under Offer Italian: Under Offer Spanish: Under Offer

Ashley Audrain THE PUSH

Literary Suspense

An extraordinary debut novel about the making and breaking of a family, told through the eyes of a woman whose experiences of motherhood is nothing at all what she hoped for. In fact, it's everything she always feared. A modern *We Need To Talk About Kevin* by Lionel Shriver.



Blythe Connor comes from a family of broken mother-daughter relationships, spurred by the ravages of mental illness. But Blythe is determined that she and her new baby girl, Violet, will be different.

But in the thick of motherhood's early days, Blythe doesn't find the connection with her daughter she expected. She convinces herself that something is wrong with Violet – she's distant, rejects affection, and starts to behave maliciously towards Blythe and the children at preschool. Or is it all in Blythe's head? Blythe begins to question if she's right about Violet's malevolence, or if it's simply a manifestation of her anxiety about her

family's maternal past.

The birth of her second child, Sam, offers a new opportunity for Blythe to experience the blissful side of motherhood she longs for. But her worst fears are realized when her infant son dies in a tragic accident, and Blythe is convinced Violet is responsible. Blythe and her husband's marriage is pushed to the limits in the aftermath of Sam's death. The devastating fall-out forces Blythe to face the truth about herself, her past, and her daughter.

HIGHLIGHTS

- US, Canadian and UK & Commonwealth rights snapped up in separate major deals by Penguin Random House
- An international sensation, *The Push* has been sold in 32 territories in record-breaking deals
- Film & TV rights optioned by Hayday Films

"What a voice...It's spectacular. I felt almost hypnotised by it... The Push has all the hallmarks of a classic, a book to set the agenda and provoke much discussion and one that publishers will be saying in years to come: we're looking for the next Push." Maxine Hitchcock publisher at Michael Joseph/PRH

THE AUTHOR

Ashley Audrain wrote *The Push* after leaving her job as publicity director at Penguin Books Canada to raise her two young children. Prior to Penguin, she lived and worked in Los Angeles, and at a global public relations agency in Toronto, where she now lives.

Rights Sold

THE PUSH (Early 2021)

UK & Commonwealth:

Michael Joseph/PRH (Maxine Hitchcock) US: Pam Dorman Books/PRH (Pamela Dorman) Canadian: Penguin Canada (Nichole Winstanlev) Film/TV: Heyday Films Arabic: Dar Altanweer Bulgarian: Millenium Publishina Catalan: Grup 62 Chinese (Simplified): PRH China Croatian: Profile Knjiga Czech: Euromedia Danish: Politikens Dutch: Prometheus Estonian: Helios Finnish: Otava French: Lattes German: Penguin/PRH Hebrew: Tchelet Hungarian: Libri Italian: Rizzoli Japanese: Hayakawa Korean: Influential Inc Lithuanian: Alma Littera Norwegian: Gyldendal Polish: Proszynski Media Portuguese (EU): PRH Portuguese (SA): Companhia das Letras Romanian: Litera Russian: AST Serbian: Vulkan Slovenian: UCILA Spanish: Alfaguara Swedish: Bonniers Ukrainian: Family Leisure Club

Katherine Faulkner GREENWICH PARK

Upmarket Suspense

A debut novel exploring the terrible consequences of guilt, the complexity of female friendship and the fallibility of the memories we cherish.



Helen lives a seemingly picturesque life in Greenwich Park with her husband. She has a beautiful Victorian home, a tight-knit circle of friends, and a baby on the way.

This all changes the day that Helen accidentally befriends single mother Rachel at an antenatal class. Helen is as neurotic and emotionally fragile as Rachel is extroverted and brash. As their unlikely friendship intensifies, Helen becomes increasingly unsettled by Rachel's odd behaviour. And she's not the only one.

Those closest to Helen in Greenwich Park begin to realise that Rachel is linked to their shared history in unexpected ways, threatening to expose a past crime which could destroy all of their lives.

What secrets lie beneath the foliage and warm streetlamps of this neighbourhood?

HIGHLIGHTS

- For fans of *He Said/She Said* by Erin Kelly, *Our House* by Louise Candlish and *Apple Tree Yard* by Louise Doughty
- Sixteen agents in competition for representation
- UK & Commonwealth rights snapped up by Bloomsbury in a heated auction
- Wrote the majority of the novel on the Faber Academy Writing a Novel Course

THE AUTHOR

Katherine Faulkner is a 32 year old journalist from London. She studied History at Cambridge then completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Newspaper Journalism. Since then she has been working as an investigative reporter and latterly an editor. She is now working at The Times, where she is the joint Head of News.

Rights Sold

GREENWICH PARK (2021)

UK & Commonwealth: Raven Books/Bloomsbury (Alison Hennessey) US: Gallery Books/Simon & Schuster (Jackie Cantor) Serbian: Vulkan

Sareena Robinson THE READING LIST

Contemporary Fiction/Up Lit

A powerful story of friendship in the face of loneliness, resilience in the face of vulnerability, and the power of books and what it means to find family in the most unexpected of places.



Mukesh lives a quiet life after the loss of his wife. He shops every Wednesday and cares for his granddaughter, Priya, who reads whilst he watches TV.

Aleisha is working at her local library whilst her friends send her photos from their holidays. She needs to support her mother, who rarely leaves the house.

When clearing out the library, Aleisha finds some paper in the back of a novel. Realising it's a reading list, she tucks it into her phone case and forgets it.

Mukesh is desperate to bond with

Priya, so he decides to visit Harrow Road library to find books to read with her. Aleisha, frustrated to be working, turns him away. Her boss warns her to do her job, or lose it, which she can't afford. Then she remembers the list - could a stranger's scribblings save Aleisha's job? Could it save Mukesh's relationship with Priya?

Could it be responsible for bringing two desperately lonely people together in their time of need?

HIGHLIGHTS

- Perfect for fans of *The Lido* by Libby Page and *The Authenticity Project* by Clare Pooley
- An uplifting, heart-warming book club novel
- Overnight pre-empt in Italy one day after submission

THE AUTHOR

Sara Nisha Adams is a 26-year-old writer and Commissioning Editor at Vintage/PRH. She was born in Hertfordshire to Indian and English parents, and spent much of her childhood in Wembley, where her grandparents live. Her debut novel *The Reading List* is partly inspired by her grandfather, who immediately found a connection with his granddaughter through books. Sara now lives in north London with her partner and her cat.

Rights Sold

THE READING LIST (TBC)

UK & Commonwealth:

HarperFiction/HarperCollins (Charlotte Brabbin) US: TBC Italian: Garzanti

Ben Creed THE REFRAIN

Historical Crime/Thriller

A dark and original debut set in the midst of a bleak Leningrad winter. *The Refrain* is about the will to survive – first in wartime, and then in a country where a denunciation, an arrest and a death sentence could come at any moment.



October, 1951. The citizens of Leningrad are all too familiar with the fragility of life. As survivors of the most brutal siege in World War Two they mourn family members lost to starvation and fighting. And on the outskirts of the city, flowers grow from those killed by Stalin's own apparatus terror: the MGB.

But when five mutilated corpses are found arranged between three parallel railway lines, even Revol Rossel – once a Conservatoire-trained violinist, now a humble state militia-cop – is sickened by the gruesome scene.

Whether victims of the MGB or a crazed yet methodical killer, these bodies soon lead Rossel back into the dark and ruthless heart of the Soviet classical music establishment, a place where his dreams were shattered and his ghosts barely laid to rest.

And as anyone in Leningrad will say, it's best to forget the past... despite some people's best efforts to drag you back with one final, haunting refrain.

HIGHLIGHTS

- First in a planned series
- One of the MM Agency's lead titles for Frankfurt Book Fair 2019
- For fans of William Ryan, Tom Rob Smith and Martin Cruz
- Hotly contested German auction with rights sold to
 Droemer

THE AUTHOR

Ben Creed is the pseudonym for Chris Rickaby and Barney Thompson. Chris, from Newcastle upon Tyne, found his way into advertising as a copywriter and, after working for various agencies, started his own called Everything Different. Barney is a classically trained musician who studied under the legendary conducting professor Ilya Musin at the St Petersburg Conservatory for two years. He is fluent in Russian and is now an editor.

Rights Sold

THE REFRAIN (TBC)

UK & Commonwealth: TBC US: TBC Estonian: Under Offer German: Droemer Japanese: Under Offer Polish: Under Offer

Holly Bourne IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT?

Contemporary Fiction

A quirky female-lead comedy from bestselling adult and YA author, Holly Bourne about #MeToo, *Is This What You Want?* is a darkly funny exploration of the trauma women hide in their quest for love.



He said he was looking for a 'partner in crime' which everyone knows is shorthand for 'a woman who isn't real'.

April is kind, pretty, and relatively normal - yet she can't seem to get past date five. Every time she thinks she's found someone to trust, they reveal themselves to be awful, leaving her heartbroken. And angry.

If only April could be more like Gretel. Gretel is exactly what men want - she's a Regular Everyday Manic Pixie Dream Girl Next Door With No Problems. The

problem is, Gretel isn't real. And April is now claiming to be her.

As soon as April starts 'being' Gretel, dating becomes much more fun - especially once she reels in the unsuspecting Joshua.

Finally, April is the one in control, but can she control her own feelings? And as she and Joshua grow closer, how long will she be able to keep pretending?

HIGHLIGHTS

- How Do You Like Me Now? was a No. 11 Sunday Times bestseller, and optioned for Film & TV by Ecosse Films
- Named by Elle magazine's weekly podcast as one of "Six Female Authors Changing the Conversation in 2019"

"This book is so good, and so honest about being a woman" Marian Keyes on *How Do You Like Me Now?*

"Mordantly funny, flinchingly well-observed" Sunday Times on How Do You Like Me Now?

THE AUTHOR

Holly Bourne is the bestselling author of multiple YA novels about mental health and growing up including the bestselling novel *Am I Normal Yet?* A former journalist for TheSite.org and the Surrey Mirror, she was shortlisted for Print Journalist of the Year and is now an ambassador for Women's Aid with a keen interest in tackling mental health problems.

Rights Sold

IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT? (April 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Hodder/Hachette (Kimberley Atkins) Finnish: Gummerus German: DTV Hebrew: Kinneret Polish: Zysk

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

Czech: Host Brno French: Fleuve Italian: Piemme Russian: AST

HOW DO YOU LIKE ME NOW?

(June 2018)

Abigail Mann THE LONELY FAJITA

Contemporary Fiction/Up Lit

A commercial, contemporary women's fiction novel which sees Tinder and geriatric love collide with hilarious results.



Elissa Evans is about to turn 26 – she's interning for free at an East London dating app called Lovr and living with her boyfriend in a squalid houseshare in Stockwell. Most of all, she's lonely. When the app's investment goes under, she has no option but to sign up to ElderCare – a rent-free programme which places young millennials in homes with solitary pensioners.

But Annie is not your classic pensioner – she's cheeky, rude and got a heart of steel. She's turned down everyone ElderCare has suggested until meeting Elissa.

After a strained start, the two women develop an unlikely friendship and teach each other how to find a less isolated way to live life. Elissa's newfound community inspires her to save Lovr from bankruptcy, and when she finds crinkled hidden love letters from a mysterious man signing off as 'H', and Annie mentions an estranged son in Australia, Elissa sets about her own plan to reunite them.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Runner up for Comedy Women in Print Prize 2019
- Described by judges as "gloriously exceeding the expectations of the traditional romantic setting to embrace intergenerational relationships with warmth and humour"
- For fans of Lucy Vine, Laura Jane Williams and Holly Bourne

THE AUTHOR

Abigail Mann has worked with words in many different guises, from studying English and Creative Writing at the University of Kent, to teaching literature at secondary level in London and Sheffield. Inspired by the experience of interning in the app industry and living in London in her early twenties, Abigail left teaching to write her first novel. Abigail lives in London, but frequently returns to her homeland of Norfolk.

Rights Sold

THE LONELY FAJITA (July 2020)

World English: Avon/ HarperCollins (Matilda McDonald)

Helly Acton THE SHELF

Contemporary debut

Edgy, commercial and contemporary debut novel that satirically places the expectations modern society puts on women under the microscope. It will appeal to fans of Holly Bourne's *How Do You*



Amy Wright thinks her boyfriend is surprising her with a dream holiday to pop the question after two years together. But the dream turns into a nightmare when she removes her blindfold and finds herself on the set of The Shelf, a 'Big Brother'-style reality TV show.

The Shelf broadcasts the humiliating plight of six women who've been dumped by their partners in the studio house in front of a live studio audience and millions of viewers.

On The Shelf, Amy must prove to the

public she's The Keeper by completing and winning a range of tasks, such as remaining calm and polite with men, dressing the part for occasions, and preparing herself for motherhood.

Whilst she initially stays on The Shelf with the million pound prize in mind, as Amy comes to know the other housemates, and is given a month to think about what she actually wants, she might just come away with a much bigger reward.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Sold to Bonnier Zaffre at auction as a lead title for 2020
- To be published in the same slot as *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* by Heather Morris and *The Familiars* by Stacey Halls

"The Shelf *is funny, moving, compulsive, compelling and fabulously feminist"* Kate Parkin, Managing Director, Bonnier Zaffre

"Brilliant, provocative, outrageous, clever, funny, heartwarming, page-turning and inspiring" Margaret Stead, Bonnier

THE AUTHOR

Helly Acton is a copywriter from London. She studied Law at King's College London before going into advertising. In her twenties, Helly escaped the rat race and took a career break. After a life-affirming break-up she returned home to find herself the last of her single friends. Helly threw herself into online dating and uses her experience as a single woman in her thirties as inspiration for her stories.

Rights Sold

THE SHELF (July 2020)

UK & Commonwealth: Bonnier Zaffre (Sarah Bauer) Chinese (Complex): Global French: HarperCollins Hungarian: Maxim Romanian: RAO

Caroline Bishop THE OTHER DAUGHTER

Commercial Women's Fiction

Exploring themes of motherhood and feminism, and questioning if it's possible to find a balance between the two, this novel moves between a sexist Fleet Street newsroom in 1976 to rural Switzerland in 2016.



British teacher Jessica, 39, thought she had life sorted – until the sudden death of her mother and a subsequent revelation turned everything on its head. Caught in a tailspin of grief and confusion she is desperate to get her life back on track. She takes a post as a nanny in Switzerland, the place where she knows she might find the one person who can tell her who she really is. But can she summon the courage to face the truth, or will her quest only hurt herself and her family even more?

In 1976, ambitious young journalist Sylvia gets her big break when her

editor agrees to send her to Świtzerland to write about women's rights in a country that only granted them the vote five years previously. But this career is threatened when she discovers that she is pregnant. Battling against a sexist Fleet Street newsroom, she strives to keep her career on track. When she hears the story of Swiss foster child Anna, she thinks she might have found the scoop to secure her career. But she isn't to know that her time with Anna will change her life – and that of her unborn child – forever.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Perfect for fans of Maggie O'Farrell, Rowan Coleman and Hannah Beckerman
- Exploring themes of motherhood and feminism
- UK & Commonwealth rights snapped up in a pre-empt by Simon & Schuster

THE AUTHOR

Caroline Bishop began her journalism career at a small arts magazine in London, after a brief spell in educational publishing. She soon moved to work for a leading London theatre website. Caroline turned freelance in 2012 and a year later moved to Switzerland, where her writing veered towards travel. She co-wrote the 2019 edition of the DK Eyewitness Guide to Switzerland.

Rights Sold

THE OTHER DAUGHTER (July 2020)

UK & Commonwealth: Simon & Schuster

Fiona Valpy THE DRESSMAKER'S GIFT

Women's Fiction

A beautiful journey about discovering who you really are against the romantic backdrop of Paris, from the bestselling author of *Sea of Memories*.



Paris, 1940. With the city occupied by the Nazis, three young seamstresses go about their normal lives as best they can. But all three are hiding secrets. War -scarred Mireille is fighting with the Resistance; Claire has been seduced by a German officer; and Vivienne's involvement is something she can't reveal to either of them.

Two generations later, Claire's English granddaughter Harriet arrives in Paris, rootless and adrift, desperate to find a connection with her past. Living and working in the same building on the Rue Cardinale, she learns the truth about her

grandmother – and herself – and unravels a family history that is darker and more painful than she ever imagined.

In wartime, the three seamstresses face impossible choices when their secret activities put them in grave danger. Brought together by loyalty, threatened by betrayal, can they survive history's darkest era without being torn apart?

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Dressmaker's Gift was on Amazon's Top 20 Most Sold pre-publication, and a Washington Post bestseller
- Sea of Memories and The Beekeeper's Promise have both sold over 250,000 copies. The Beekeeper's Promise was a No. 1 Australian Kindle bestseller
- *The Beekeeper's Promise was* shortlisted for The Goldsboro Books Historical Romantic Novel Award at the Romantic Novelists' Association

THE AUTHOR

Fiona Valpy spent seven years living in France, having moved there from the UK in 2007. Her love for the place, the people and their history, have found their way into the books she's written. Fiona now lives in Scotland, but enjoys regular visits to France in search of the sun.

Rights Sold

THE DRESSMAKER'S GIFT (October 2019)

World English: Lake Union/ Amazon Publishing (Sammia Hamer) Danish: Cicero Dutch: Meulenhoff Boekerij Hebrew: Kinneret Italian: Newton Compton

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

Czech: Baronet French: City Editions German: Aufbau Lithuanian: Alma Littera Norwegian: Cappelen Damm Portuguese (EU): Topseller Romanian: RAO

THE BEEKEEPER'S PROMISE

(July 2018)

SEA OF MEMORIES

(March 2018)

Michelle Adams

Epic love story

A heart-warming love story about an enduring romance that has stood the test of time.



It's never too late to chase a love you lost...

When Elizabeth and Tom were young, they fell deeply in love. But the times dictated that they were not destined to be together. Tom, the son of a drunken father; Elizabeth, the engaged daughter of a respected local doctor.

Though unforeseen circumstances rip them apart, the sort of love that Elizabeth and Tom share cannot die. Every year, on the anniversary that they met. Tom leaves a blue crocus and a promise on Elizabeth's doorstep – a symbol of his unwavering devotion.

But when, 49 years later, the blue crocus fails to appear, Elizabeth knows something is wrong. For the first time in almost half a century, she endeavours to find out what has happened to Tom; to find out whether the love they once shared can possibly be rekindled.

Will Elizabeth and Tom manage to navigate the modern world together?

HIGHLIGHTS

- A heartfelt tale about the power of enduring love and two elderly people navigating the modern world together.
- *Little Wishes* marks a new direction for Michelle, who previously published two suspense thrillers, which were translated into 15 different languages.
- For fans of Julie Cohen's *Together* and Hannah Beckerman's *If Only I Could Tell You*

THE AUTHOR

Michelle Adams grew up in the UK and now lives in Cyprus, where she works as a part-time scientist. She is the author of two suspense thrillers, *My Sister* and *Between the Lies*, which were translated into fifteen languages.

Rights Sold

LITTLE WISHES (Spring 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Trapeze/Orion/Hachette (Phoebe Morgan) **German:** Heyne **Italian:** Giunti

Beth Morrey SAVING MISSY

Book Club debut

2020's most astonishing debut. An uplifting, deeply moving 'coming-of-old' story, sold in a 10-way UK auction to the team behind the global success *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine.*



Prickly. Stubborn. Terribly lonely. But everyone deserves a second chance.

Missy Carmichael's life has become small. Grieving for a family she has lost or lost touch with, she's haunted by the echoes of her footsteps in her empty home; the sound of the radio in the dark; the tick-tick-tick of the watching clock.

Spiky and defensive, Missy knows that her loneliness is all her own fault. She deserves no more than this; not after what she's done. But a chance

encounter in the park with two very different women opens the door to something different.

A new life beckons for Missy, if only she can be brave enough to grasp the opportunity. But seventy-nine is too late for a second chance. Isn't it?

HIGHLIGHTS

- UK & Commonwealth rights won by HarperFiction/ HarperCollins in a mighty 10-way auction
- Hotly contested multi-way auction in the US with rights going to Putnam/PRH
- For fans of Emma Healey, Rachel Joyce, and our very own Gail Honeyman

"For everyone with an Eleanor Oliphant-shaped hole in their heart, this is the book to fill it. Gorgeous characters, heartfelt storytelling and the sort of book that lifts your heart." Eithne Shortall, author of *Grace After Henry*

THE AUTHOR

Beth Morrey was inspired to write her debut novel, *Saving Missy*, while pushing a pram around her local park during maternity leave. Getting to know the community of dog owners, joggers, neighbours and families, she began to sow the seeds of a novel about a woman saved by the people around her, strangers who became friends.

Rights Sold

SAVING MISSY (April 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

HarperFiction/HarperCollins (Martha Ashby) North American: Putnam/ PRH (Tara Singh Carlson) Czech: Euromedia Finnish: Bazar Kustannus Ov German: Droemer Knaur Hungarian: Publish & More Italian: Garzanti Lithuanian: Baltos Lankos Norwegian: Bazar Polish: Zvsk Portuguese (SA): Intrinseca Romanian: Grup Media Litera Russian: Sinbad Serbian: Laguna Spanish: Duomo Ediciones Swedish: Lind & Co

Clare Pooley THE AUTHENTICITY PROJECT

Contemporary Fiction/Up Lit

The Keeper of Lost Things meets 'Love Actually' in this uplifting novel about one notebook, and the six people who become friends though its pages. Sold to thirteen territories within one week, including a six-way UK auction, and major US auction.



One green notebook. Six strangers. The chance to start being honest...

Six strangers with one universal thing in common: their lives aren't always what they make them out to be.

But what would happen if they told the truth instead?

Julian begins *The Authenticity Project* – a small green notebook containing his 'truth' – to pass on and encourage others to share their own.

Little does he know that this small act

of honesty will impact all those who come into contact with the book, and lead to a life-changing world of friendship and forgiveness...

HIGHLIGHTS

- UK & Commonwealth rights won by Sally Williamson, in her first acquisition for Transworld after a six-way auction
- US rights snapped up at auction by Penguin Random House / Pam Dorman for a major six-figure sum at auction
- Thirteen territories sold within one week of submission

"A rich roast of great characters, even better relationships, wonderful entanglements and a few surprises along the way" Laurie Frankel, New York Times bestselling author

THE AUTHOR

Clare Pooley is the author of the memoir, *The Sober Diaries*. Published in hardback last December and already optioned for TV. Clare's blog, *Mummy was a Secret Drinker* has had two million hits and she recently gave a <u>TEDx talk</u> titled 'Making Sober Less Shameful'. Clare also once sang in ABBA's backing group. *The Authenticity Project* is her debut novel.

Rights Sold

THE AUTHENTICITY PROJECT (March 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Transworld/PRH (Sallv Williamson) North American: Pam Dorman/ PRH (Pamela Dorman) Bulgarian: Iztok-Zapad Chinese (Complex): Spring International Chinese (Simplified): United Sky Croatian: Znanje Czech: Fortuna Libri Dutch: Cargo/De Bezige Bii Estonian: Varrak Finnish W/SOY French: Fleuve German: Goldmann Greek: Metaichmio Hebrew: Keter Hungarian: General Press Icelandic: Bjartur Italian: Mondadori Korean: Munhakdongne Lithuanian: Baltos Llankos Norwegian: H. Aschehoug Polish: Zvsk Portuguese (EU): Planeta Portuguese (SA): Verus Romanian: Editura Trei Russian: Azbooka-Atticus Serbian: Laguna Slovak: Fortuna Libri Spanish: PRH / Grijalbo Swedish: Printz Publishing

Abbie Greaves THE SILENT TREATMENT

Book Club debut

A debut novel that tells the story of Frank and Margot, a couple who have been married for forty years, but who haven't spoken for the last six months. Acquired in significant UK & US auctions.



A lifetime together. Six months of silence. One last chance.

Frank hasn't spoken to his wife Maggie for six months.

For weeks they have lived under the same roof, slept in the same bed and eaten at the same table – all without words.

Maggie has plenty of ideas as to why her husband has gone quiet.

But it will take another heartbreaking turn of events before Frank finally

starts to unravel the secrets that have silenced him.

Is this where their story ends? Or is it where it begins?

With characters that will capture your heart, *The Silent Treatment* celebrates the phenomenal power of love and the importance of leaving nothing unsaid.

HIGHLIGHTS

- UK & Commonwealth rights won by Century/PRH in a closely fought six-way auction
- US rights snapped up at best bids by William Morrow/ HarperCollins for simultaneous publication
- Film & TV rights optioned by Fremantle, whose recent projects include 'My Brilliant Friend', 'Picnic at Hanging Rock' and 'The Young Pope'.

"This accomplished novel from a fresh new talent fully deserves to be a bestseller" Rachel Hore

THE AUTHOR

Abbie Greaves graduated with a Double First Class Honours degree from Cambridge University in 2014, and then proceeded to work as an intern in the Curtis Brown Books Department before becoming an assistant. Her lifelong ambition, however, is to write.

Rights Sold

THE SILENT TREATMENT (April 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Century/PRH (Emily Griffin) US: William Morrow/ HarperCollins (Emily Krump) Canadian: HarperCollins Film/TV: Fremantle German: S. Fischer Hebrew: Tchelet Hungarian: Alexandra Italian: Garzanti Lithuanian: Baltos Lankos Norwegian: Kagge Polish: Muza Portuguese (EU): Planeta Russian: Eksmo Serbian: Vulkan

T.A. Willberg MARION LANE AND THE INQUIRERS

Speculative Crime Fiction

Late 1950s London: Marion Lane, a young woman living with her aunt following the death of her mother, has recently been recruited into an exclusive, literally "underground" detective agency.



1958: concealed beneath the streets of London, lies the elusive world of Miss Brickett's Investigations & Inquiries—a confounding maze of tunnels and halls, home to a myriad of curious gadgets.

Twenty three-year-old apprentice detective Marion Lane arrives at Miss Brickett's for a day of training after another dreary weekend with her aunt, and learns that Michelle White, a filing assistant, has been murdered in the corridor outside the library.

With the agency elaborately disguised and protected

from the outside world, it becomes chillingly clear —the killer is one of their own.

Marion's closest confidant and fellow detective becomes the prime suspect in White's murder, and she is determined to clear her friend's name and uncover the truth. Marion embarks on a perilous journey to find out who really killed Michelle White, and why...

HIGHLIGHTS

- For fans of Natasha Pulley's *The Watchmaker of Filigree Street* and Stuart Turton's *The Seven Deaths of Evelyn* Hardcastle
- Written with a magical, quirky tone, and features gadgets worthy of *Kingsman* and *James Bond*
- US rights snapped up at auction by Laura Brown at Park Row

THE AUTHOR

Willberg was home-schooled until she was 16, then spent the next 2 years in competitive horse riding, and represented South Africa in mounted skill-at-arms. At 18 she began a chiropractic degree at the Durban University of Technology, where she qualified with a masters, focusing on spinal deformities. She moved to Malta with her partner and divides her time between chiropractic and writing.

Rights Sold

MARION LANE AND THE INQUIRERS

(Spring 2021)

UK & Commonwealth:

Trapeze/Orion/Hachette (Katie Brown) **US:** Park Row/Harlequin (Laura Brown)

C.L. Taylor STRANGERS

Psychological Suspense/Thriller

New psychological thriller from the Number 5 Sunday Times and Richard and Judy Book Club bestselling author.



First there's Ursula. Unable to face up to the tragedy that consumes her, her world has shrunk to an almost unrecognisable state. But a string of missing people - and her housemate's permanently locked basement door set off a chain of events that she soon has no control over.

Then there's Alice, who's in the first flush of her relationship with Simon. A man she met by chance, and who seems perfectly normal - except that he flinches at the slightest touch.

And then there's Gareth, who lives a

humdrum life as he struggles to cope with his mum's increasing dementia. She can't remember much about her days - not even when a postcard from his long-dead father comes through the door.

None of these three strangers have ever met, but their worlds will soon collide in the most dramatic way possible, as the lie that has been told is finally answered for...

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over 12,000 copies of *Sleep* sold in hardback and 70,000 sold in ebook
- Combined UK sales of over one million copies
- *Sleep* shot straight into the Top 5 of the hardback bestseller list
- Film & TV rights in *Sleep* optioned by Bill Kenwright Films
- Author of five Sunday Times bestsellers and winner of two Bestseller awards in fiction

THE AUTHOR

C.L. Taylor is a Sunday Times bestselling author. Her psychological thrillers have sold over a million copies in the UK alone, been translated into over twenty languages and optioned for television.

She lives in Bristol with her partner and son.

Rights Sold

STRANGERS

(2020) UK & Commonwealth: Avon/ HarperCollins (Helen Huthwaite) Czech: Domino

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

Danish: Jentas Dutch: Ambo Anthos French: Marabout Hachette German: Piper Hebrew: Dani Books Hindi:/Malayalam/Tamil: Kottayam Pushpanath Publications Icelandic: Drapa Forlag Italian: Longanesi Latvian: Kontinents Polish: Albatros Portuguese (EU): Topseller Swedish: Jentas

SLEEP

(March 2019)

THE FEAR

(March 2018)

THE ESCAPE (April 2017)

THE MISSING (April 2016)

Robin Morgan-Bentley **THE WRECKAGE**

Psychological thriller

Debut thriller with an anxious man at its centre exploring how one traumatic accident, anyone could have, leads him into the depths of obsession and delusion. Anticipated to be a major brand name in the vein of M.J. Arlidge, Clare Mackintosh and Fiona Barton.



One fatal crash. Two colliding worlds. Three wrecked lives.

Ben is driving on the motorway, on his usual commute to the school where he works.

A day like any other...

Except for one man who, in a final despairing act, jumps in front of Ben's car, turning the teacher's world upside down in a single horrifying instant.

Wracked with guilt and desperate to clear his conscience, he develops a

friendship with Alice, the dead man's wife, and her 7-year-old son, Max.

But as he tries to escape the trauma of the wreckage, could he go too far in trying to make amends?

How would you cope, knowing you'd caused someone's death?

- Dark thriller that will appeal to fans of Zoe Heller's Notes on a Scandal, Sabine Durrant's Lie With Me and Caroline Kepnes You
- The Wreckage explores themes of male mental health and turns gender dynamics on their head

"I thought The Wreckage was great - it's a terrific debut exploring the vulnerabilities and co-dependency of damaged individuals... Clever and Compelling!" Fiona Barton

THE AUTHOR

After graduating from Cambridge with a degree in Modern and Medieval Languages, Robin Morgan-Bentley worked for Google. Since 2014, he has worked at Audible, and now manages an editorial team responsible for deciding which audiobooks to promote to customers and how. He runs a podcast called Audible Sessions, where he meets many of the authors who inspired him to write.

Rights Sold

THE WRECKAGE

(February 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Trapeze/Hachette (Phoebe Morgan) Lithuanian: UAB Balto Spanish: Debolsillo

Will Shindler THE BURNING MEN

Crime/Thriller

First in a crime series from Will Shindler, former scriptwriter on 'The Bill', 'Born and Bred', and 'Doctors'.



When a development in South London catches fire mid-construction, a closeknit team of fire fighters runs in to save a man spotted at the window.

They come out without a body. They quit the service. They plan never to speak to each other again.

Five years later one of them is set alight at his own wedding. Soon after, a second is found, nothing but a smoking corpse. It appears that someone knows what they did that night. What they chose over their duty. And there are still three men left to

burn...

DI Alex Finn and his new partner DC Mattie Paulsen are an unlikely pairing, but they need to discover who is behind these killings before the next man faces the fire. This is first in Will Shindler's Finn and Paulsen series: a British detective series that ranks with Mark Billingham, M.J. Arlidge, Staurt Macbride.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Layered plot in the style of Mark Billingham, with the character development of Susie Steiner
- Will Shindler spent a decade working in television drama as a scriptwriter on 'Born and Bred', 'The Bill' and 'Doctors'.

"The premise of The Burning Men made me put it straight to the top of my reading pile. Will's accomplished writing, twisty plotting and unique protagonists sealed the deal" Eve Hall, Hodder

THE AUTHOR

Will Shindler has been a Broadcast Journalist for the BBC for over twenty-five years. He currently combines co-producing the 'Vanessa Feltz Breakfast Show' on BBC Radio London with writing crime novels in the afternoon, and has previously worked as a television presenter for HTV, a sports reporter for BBC Radio Five Live, and one of the stadium presenters at the London Olympics.

Rights Sold

THE BURNING MEN (February 2020)

UK & Commonwealth: Hodder & Stoughton/ Hachette (Eve Hall)

Elizabeth Kay SEVEN LIES

Psychological thriller

An upmarket and arresting page-turner where seven lies result in a death, with echoes of J.P. Delaney's *The Girl Before*, Sabine Durant's *Lie With Me* and Erin Kelly's *He Said/She Said*.



Jane and Marnie have been inseparable since they were eleven years old.

In their early twenties they fell in love with and married handsome young men. But Jane never much liked Marnie's husband. He was always so loud and obnoxious, so much larger than life. Which is rather ironic. Because if Jane had been honest – if she hadn't told those lies – then perhaps her best friend's husband might still be alive.

This is Jane's opportunity to tell the truth and, as she narrates their shared

history and unpicks each of her seven lies, she reveals the pockets of darkness that have infiltrated their friendship and the toxic secrets still bubbling beneath.

If lies are dangerous then the truth can be catastrophic.

HIGHLIGHTS

- US rights snapped up in a major six-way auction for a seven figure sum
- Translation rights snapped up in seventeen territories within two weeks
- Film & TV rights optioned by Drama Republic

"Very, very rarely, as an editor you come across a manuscript that delivers everything you love about reading: from the sharp, incisive and hypnotic voice, to the killer hook" Lucy Malagoni, Publisher at Sphere

THE AUTHOR

Elizabeth Kay has a first-class degree in English Literature. Following university, she started her career as an assistant at Penguin Random House. She is now a commissioning editor and is simultaneously pursuing her passion for writing. She lives in London with her husband.

Rights Sold

SEVEN LIES (Spring/Summer 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Sphere/Hachette (Lucy Malagoni) North American: Pamela Dorman Books/Viking/PRH (Pam Dorman) Film/TV: Drama Republic Arabic: Dar Altanweer Catalan[,] Planeta Chinese (Complex): Spring International Chinese (Simplified): Changiiang Lit & Art Croatian: VBZ d.o.o. Czech: Euromedia Dutch: Ambo Anthos Estonian: Pegasus Finnish: Otava French: Robert Laffont German: Bastei Luebbe Greek: Minoas Hungarian: General Press Icelandic: Drapa (N29) Italian: Longanesi Korean: Munhakdongne Norwegian: Goliat Polish: Swiat Ksiazki Portuguese (EU): Planeta Portuguese (SA): Companhia das Letras Romanian: Editura Trei Russian: Azbooka-Atticus Serbian: Laguna Spanish: Planeta Swedish: Norstedts Ukrainian: FLC

Stephanie Wrobel THE RECOVERY OF ROSE GOLD/DARLING ROSE GOLD

Upmarket Suspense

The story of a young woman who, despite being poisoned by her mother for 18 years, makes a calculated decision to take her in after her prison sentence. Original exploration of the little understood illness, Munchausen by Proxy.



Rose Gold Watts believed she was sick for eighteen years.

She thought she needed the feeding tube, the surgeries, the wheelchair.

Turns out her mother, Patty, is a really good liar.

After five years in prison, Patty gets out. Mother and daughter agree to move in together and let go of old grievances. Patty says all she wants is to reconcile with Rose Gold and care for her infant

grandson.

But Rose Gold knows her mother. She won't rest until she has Rose Gold back under her thumb. Which is a smidge inconvenient, because Rose Gold wants to be free of Patty forever.

Only one Watts can get her way...

HIGHLIGHTS

- For fans of Lullaby by Leïla Slimani, Ali Land's Good Me, Bad Me, and Gillian Flynn's Sharp Objects
- No.1 "Most Requested Title" on NetGalley

"Dazzling, dark and utterly delicious." JP Delaney

"Sensationally good - two complex characters power the story like a nuclear reaction, and won't let you forget them. Wrobel is one to watch." Lee Child

THE AUTHOR

Stephanie Wrobel grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and later moved to London, where she's lived for almost 3 years. Before turning to fiction, she worked as a copywriter at various advertising agencies. She has written and helped produce Capital One TV spots with Jimmy Fallon.

Rights Sold

THE RECOVERY OF ROSE GOLD

(March 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Michael Joseph/PRH (Maxine Hitchcock) US: Berklev/PRH (Amanda Bergeron) Canadian: Simon & Schuster (Nita Pronovost) Chinese (Simplified): People's Oriental Czech: Host Dutch: Prometheus French: Pygmalion German: Ullstein Hungarian: Alexandra Italian: DeA Planeta Korean: Rok Media Polish: Otwarte Portuguese (EU): Planeta Portuguese (SA): Record Serbian: Vulkan

Teresa Driscoll I WILL MAKE YOU PAY

Psychological Thriller

The chilling new psychological thriller from the digital No.1 UK, US and Australia bestselling author of *I Am Watching You, The Friend* and *The Promise*.



Every Wednesday, like clockwork, the terror returns.

It seems like an ordinary Wednesday, until the phone rings. A mysterious caller with a chilling threat. Journalist Alice Henderson hangs up, dismissing it as a hoax against the newspaper. But the next Wednesday, the stalker makes another move—and it becomes clear that this is all about Alice.

Someone wants her to suffer, but for what? Her articles have made her a popular local champion—could it be her past rather than her work that's put her

life in danger? Alice is determined not to give in to fear, but with the police investigation at a dead end, her boyfriend insists on hiring private investigator Matthew Hill.

With every passing Wednesday the warnings escalate, until it's not only Alice but also her family in the stalker's sights. As her tormentor closes in, can Alice uncover what she's being punished for before the terrifying threats become an unthinkable reality?

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over one million copies sold in the English language
- *I Am Watching You* hit Kindle No.1 in the UK, USA and Australia, selling more than half a million copies in its first year. Over 650,000 copies sold to date.
- Her second thriller *The Friend* is also a Kindle No.1 bestseller, and has sold over 250,000 copies
- Teresa Driscoll shortlisted for two *Dead Good* awards, for *I* Am Watching You and The Friend

THE AUTHOR

For more than 25 years as a journalist – including 15 years as a BBC TV news presenter – Teresa Driscoll followed stories into the darker shadows of life. Covering crime for so long, she watched and was deeply moved by all the ripples – the haunting impact on the relatives, the friends and the witnesses and it is those ripples which she explores now in her darker fiction.

Rights Sold

I WILL MAKE YOU PAY (October 2019)

World English: Thomas & Mercer / Amazon Publishing (Jane Snelgrove)

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

Chinese (Simplified): Modern Press Chinese (Complex): Spring International Croatian: Mozaik Knjiga Czech: Furomedia French: City Editions Greek: Dioptra Hebrew: Adel Publishing Hungarian: XXI Szazad Iranian: Koolehposhti Italian: Newton Compton Lithuanian: Balto UAB Polish: Wvdawnictwo SQN Romania: Hergbenet Russian: Exmo Slovak: Don Bosco Spanish: Principal de los Libros Swedish: Printz Publishing Turkish: Kanes Yayinlari

THE PROMISE

(February 2019)

THE FRIEND

(March 2018)

I AM WATCHING YOU (October 2017)

Janelle Peacock UNDER LYING

Psychological thriller

A twisty psychological thriller from digital bestselling author of *No Kiss Goodbye* set at the heart of the family home.



Susan and Paul Warner are the pictureperfect couple. Good looking and high achieving professionals. Their angelic, soon-to-be three-year-old daughter Amelia, is the cherry on an envious cake of domestic bliss.

But Susan knows if it seems too good to be true, that's because it is. Nothing is ever truly perfect. Least of all her athletic, handsome husband. A beautiful face can hide an evil heart.

When Amelia goes missing from their cottage, as they toast new friendships at

a summer barbeque, the house full of guests suddenly becomes a house full of suspects.

Susan knows the police have no idea where her daughter is. And that's exactly what she was hoping.

Because Susan knows exactly where Amelia is...

HIGHLIGHTS

- Debut psychological thriller *No Kiss Goodbye* sold over 150,000 digital copies
- An international Top 100 digital bestseller
- Thrillers published by Amazon, as well as two women's fiction novels written under the pseudonym Brooke Harris

"Wow! What a roller-coaster of a book. Can't wait for more from this author" Tracy Fenton, CompulsiveReaders.com on No Kiss Goodbye

THE AUTHOR

Janelle Peacock studied Psychology at university, which gave her a keen interest in behaviour and emotion. She has previously published women's fiction under Brooke Harris. She lives in Kildare, Ireland with her husband and five young children.

Rights Sold

UNDER LYING (October 2019)

World English: Amazon Publishing (Sammia Hamer)

OPTION PUBLISHERS: Audio: WF Howes Czech: Euromedia German: Goldmann

THE FOREVER GIFT (August 2019)

WHEN YOU'RE GONE (March 2019)

C.J. Tudor THE OTHER PEOPLE

Thriller/Mystery

New chilling thriller from Top 5 Sunday Times bestselling author of *The Chalk Man*. Winner of a Dead Good Award, shortlisted for the best Crime & Thriller Award at the National Book Awards.



Gabe saw his daughter taken. In the back of a rusty old car, covered in bumper stickers.

Most people believe that his daughter, and wife, are dead. For a while, people believed that Gabe was responsible.

Three years later and Gabe cannot give up hope. He spends his days and nights travelling up and down the motorway, searching.

But Gabe has found some who understand. Online, in a group called 'The Other People', who have also lost

loved ones. Who have also suffered.

Then, the car that Gabe saw driving away that night is found, with a body inside. As Gabe finds himself under suspicion again, he is forced to confront events, not just from that night, but from deeper in his past. He turns to The Other People for help. The problem is, they want other people to understand pain and death, too.

HIGHLIGHTS

- *The Other People* optioned for screen by Bad Robot and ranked in the Top 20 in Amazon's Horror/Suspense category
- The Taking of Annie Thorne was at No. 8 on the Sunday Times bestseller list
- The Chalk Man spent three weeks in the Sunday Times top 10 bestseller list. Shortlisted for best Crime & Thriller novel at the National Book Awards, a CWA Dagger and winner of a Dead Good award. Winner of Best Debut Novel at Strand Critics Awards. Optioned for TV by EUE / Sokolow

THE AUTHOR

C. J. Tudor lives with her husband and young daughter in Sussex.

Over the years she has worked as a copywriter, television presenter, voiceover artist and dog-walker.

Rights Sold

THE OTHER PEOPLE (January 2020)

UK & Commonwealth: Michael Joseph/PRH (Maxine Hitchcock) US: Ballantine/PRH (Anne Speyer) Film/TV: Bad Robot Czech: Euromedia Dutch: AW Bruna French: Pygmalion German: Goldmann Greek: Klidarithmos Korean: Dasan Books Norwegian: Cappelen Damm Polish: Czarna Owca Portuguese: (EU) Planeta Portuguese (SA): Intrinseca Russian: FLC

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

Arabic: Arab Scientific Publishers Bulgarian: Colibri Catalan: Penguin Random House Chinese (Simplex): Shanghai 99 Chinese (Complex): Crown Croatian: Znanje Danish: Gyldendal Estonian: Varrak Finnish: W/SOY Hebrew: Books in the Attic Hungarian: Muvelt Nep Icelandic: Biartur Indonesian: PT Elexmedia Komputindo Italian: Rizzoli Japanese: Bungei Shunju Latvian: Zvaigzne Lithuanian: Alma Littera Macadonian: TPI Romanian: Namira Serbian: Laguna Slovak: Ikar Spanish: Suma/PRH Swedish: Wahlström & Widstrand Turkish: Pegasus Thai: Wel earn Ukrainian: FLC

THE TAKING OF ANNIE THORNE

(February 2019) **THE CHALK MAN** (January 2018)

Fiona Barton THE SUSPECT

Psychological Suspense/Crime

New novel by the author of the global bestsellers, and Richard & Judy bookclub picks, *The Widow, The Child,* and *The Suspect*. Over a million copies sold worldwide.



The police belonged to a different world—the world they saw on the television or in the papers. Not theirs.

When two eighteen-year-old girls go missing on their gap year in Thailand, their families are thrust into the international spotlight: desperate, bereft and frantic with worry.

Journalist Kate Waters always does everything she can to be first to the story, first with the exclusive, first to discover the truth—and this time is no exception. But she can't help but think of her own son, whom she hasn't seen

in two years, since he left home to go travelling. This time it's personal.

And as the case of the missing girls unfolds, it will become clear that even this far away, danger can lie closer to home than you might think.

HIGHLIGHTS

- *The Suspect* was No. 3 in the Canadian charts a week after publication. Starred review from Library Journal
- No. 2 Sunday Times & No. 5 New York Times bestseller
- TV rights in *The Widow* optioned by Lionsgate UK, who are behind hit TV shows such as 'Orange is the New Black', 'Mad Men', 'Dear White People', and 'Grace and Frankie'.
- *The Child* was NPR's Best Book of the Year and Bustle's Best Thriller Novel of the Year. *The Widow* was also NPR's Best Book of the Year, one of The Wall Street Journal's "Killer Books" of the Year, and Publishers Weekly Best Book of the Year

THE AUTHOR

Fiona Barton was a senior writer at the Daily Mail, news editor at the Daily Telegraph, and chief reporter at the Mail On Sunday, where she won Reporter of the Year at the British Press Awards. Fiona reported on many high-profile criminal cases. She interviewed people from the guilty to their families, and found it was those just outside the spotlight who interested her most.

Rights Sold

THE SUSPECT (January 2019)

UK & Commonwealth:

Transworld/PRH US: Berkley/PRH Canadian: Penguin Canada Bulgarian: Enthusiast Catalan: Planeta French: Fleuve German: Rowohlt Hebrew: Penn Publishing Hungarian: XXI.Század Italian: Einaudi Norwegian: Cappelen Damm Polish: Czarna Owca Portuguese (EU): Planeta Spanish: Planeta Turkish: Pegasus

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

Chinese (Complex): Spring International Chinese (Simplified): Sunshine Media Croat: Leo-Commerce Czech: Domino Estonian: Tanapaev Finnish: Bazar Greek: Klidartithmos Icelandic: Biartur Japanese: Oakla Publishing Lithuanian: Alma Littera Macedonian: Kultura Portuguese (SA): Intrinseca Romanian: Grup Media Litera Russian: Exmo Serbian: Laguna Slovakian: Slovart Slovenian: Ucila Swedish: Massolit Ukrainian: Vivat

THE CHILD

(June 2017)

THE WIDOW (February 2016)

Jane Healey THE ANIMALS AT LOCKWOOD MANOR

Historical Fiction

A debut historical novel from the shortlisted Costa Short Story Award writer, Jane Healey, snapped up in a seven-way UK auction and significant six-figure US pre-empt.



Some secrets are unspoken. Others are unspeakable...

August 1939: thirty-year-old Hetty Cartwright is tasked with the evacuation and safekeeping of the natural history museum's collection of mammals. Once she and her exhibits arrive at Lockwood Manor, however, where they are to stay for the duration of the war, Hetty soon realizes that she's taken on more than she'd bargained for.

Protecting her charges from the irascible Lord Lockwood and resentful servants is work enough, but when some of the animals go missing, and worse, Hetty begins to suspect someone – or something – is stalking her

through the darkened corridors of the house.

As the disasters mount, Hetty finds herself falling under the spell of Lucy, Lord Lockwood's beautiful but clearly haunted daughter. But why *is* Lucy so traumatized? Does she know something she's not telling? And is there any truth to local rumours of ghosts and curses?

Part love story, part mystery, *The Animals at Lockwood Manor* by Jane Healey is a gripping and atmospheric tale of family madness, long-buried secrets and hidden desires.

HIGHLIGHTS

- UK rights acquired in a seven-way auction a week after submission by Macmillan/Mantle
- US rights snapped up in a significant six-figure pre-empt by Helen Atsma at HMH
- Debut novel from Costa Short Story Award shortlistee
- Chosen by American Booksellers Association as an Indies Introduce best debut pick for Winter/Spring 2020

THE AUTHOR

Jane Healey studied on the MFA Fiction programme at CUNY Brooklyn College. Her short stories have been published in The Kenyon Review Online, The Normal School, and Banshee among others. She has also been shortlisted for the Bristol Short Story Prize 2013, the Costa Short Story Award 2014, the Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2016 and the Penguin Random House WriteNow mentoring programme 2017.

Rights Sold

THE ANIMALS AT LOCKWOOD MANOR (March 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Mantle/Pan Macmillan (Sam Humphreys) US: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (Helen Atsma) Dutch: Cargo/De Bezige Bij German: Hanser

Miranda Malins THE PURITAN PRINCESS

Debut historical fiction

Born on a farm but raised in palaces, Oliver Cromwell's daughters become Puritan Princesses, whose search for love assumes diplomatic and dynastic importance when their father is offered the crown. For fans of Philippa Gregory and Anne O'Brien.



Amid the grandeur of London's royal palaces, a young woman tries to navigate her way through the turbulent politics of the 17th Century, while reconciling what her heart is saying with what her duty is demanding.

Following her father's unprecedented ascent to become de facto ruler of Great Britain, Frances Cromwell moves from her rural childhood home to the sumptuous surroundings of Hampton Court and Whitehall. But these are uncertain times, and an assassination attempt makes Frances determined not to die without first finding love.

When Oliver is officially offered the crown, Frances's romantic quest suddenly assumes diplomatic and dynastic importance. Will she be forced to marry a foreign prince, or will the love she feels closer to home be allowed to prevail?

Through the extraordinary lives of Frances and her family, we follow the triumphs and failures of a fragile new regime, and a family pulled out of obscurity to become one of the most controversial and least well understood ruling dynasties in British history.

HIGHLIGHTS

- *The Puritan Princess* is based on Miranda's extensive research of the Cromwellian era, exposing little known details about the lives of Cromwell's daughters
- The Puritan Princess is the first in a trilogy of novels set around Cromwell's court
- Miranda is currently working as a consultant on a new TV drama set during the Protectorate

THE AUTHOR

Miranda is a novelist and historian specialising in the history of Oliver Cromwell, his family and the Interregnum. She studied at Cambridge University, leaving with a PhD in 2010, and continues to speak at conferences and to publish journal articles and book reviews. She is a Trustee of the Cromwell Association.

Rights Sold

THE PURITAN PRINCESS (April 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Hachette/ Orion (Victoria Oundjan)

LEONORA NATTRASS MY MOST GRIEVOUS FAULT

Historical Fiction

An intelligent historical thriller for fans of Andrew Miller, John le Carré and Francis Spufford. Set during the tumultuous final years of the eighteenth century, this is a story of ambition, allegiances and the futile attempt to escape the clutches of conspiracy once its tentacles have you in their grasp.



July 1794. Rumours of revolution, intrigue and espionage mix with the dust on London's baking streets.

Following a potentially calamitous leak to the press that puts thousands of British lives in danger, Laurence Chenhall - clerk to the British Foreign Office – finds himself wrongly accused of being the source. Though innocent, he cannot reveal the true culprit without also incriminating himself.

For Laurence has his own secrets, and though his life hangs in the balance, they are serious enough to compel him

to find other ways to bring the mole to justice.

But he is playing a dangerous game; one in which the truth could be more deadly than the deception, but confession might be the only way to stop more innocent lives being lost.

If there is any innocence in this dance of diplomacy and death.

HIGHLIGHTS

- UK and Commonwealth rights snapped up by Viper (Profile Books) in a 2-book deal
- A lead title for the launch of Viper, Serpent's Tail new crime imprint.
- 1st in a planned series, with Book 2 being set en-route to the newly-formed United States
- US submission set for winter 2019

THE AUTHOR

This atmospheric and evocative novel is Leonora Nattrass' first book. She ventures into the twenty-first century only rarely - living in a seventeenth-century house with seventeenth-century draughts, and spins the fleeces of her traditional Ryeland sheep into yarn which she then dyes, weaves and knits. She is in good company. Queen Elizabeth I insisted on Ryeland wool for her stockings.

Rights Sold

MY MOST GRIEVOUS FAULT (2021)

UK & Commonwealth: Viper/ Serpent's Tail (Miranda Jewess)

Elizabeth Macneal THE DOLL FACTORY

Historical Fiction

The highly anticipated, Sunday Times bestselling debut, published by Picador in UK and Emily Bestler Books in the US.



Iris will never be free.

The Great Exhibition is being built in Hyde Park. Among the crowd watching the spectacle two people meet.

For Iris, an aspiring artist, it is the encounter of a moment—forgotten seconds later, but for Silas, a collector entranced by the strange and beautiful, the meeting marks a new beginning.

When Iris is asked to model for pre-Raphaelite artist Louis Frost, she agrees on the condition that he will also teach her to paint. Suddenly her world begins

to expand, to become a place of art and love. But Silas has only thought of one thing since their meeting, and his obsession is darkening.

The Doll Factory brings to life the squalor, ambition and sweeping vision of 1851 London, a radical year of art and ambition that would change Britain and the lives within it forever.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The Times No. 1 bestseller and No. 5 Sunday Times bestseller
- Top Ten bestseller in South Africa
- Optioned for TV by Buccaneer Media for global release

"I've missed subway stops to finish a book, but this is the first time I almost missed a plane. The final chapters of Elizabeth Macneal's delightfully creepy novel kept me screwed to my office chair as my wife sent irritated texts from the airport. What more could one want from a Victorian thriller? "Washington Post

THE AUTHOR

Born in Scotland, Elizabeth Macneal is a potter based in Limehouse, East London, working from a small studio at the bottom of her garden. She read English Literature at Oxford University, before working in the City for several years. In 2017, she completed the Creative Writing MA at UEA where she was awarded the Malcolm Bradbury scholarship.

Rights Sold

THE DOLL FACTORY (May 2019 / August 2019)

UK & Commonwealth:

Picador/Macmillan (Sophie Jonathan) US: Emily Bestler Books/ Simon & Schuster (Emily Bestler) Canadian: Simon & Schuster Film/TV: Buccaneer Media Bulgarian: Colibri Catalan: Ara Llibres Chinese (Complex): Marco Polo Croatian: Stilus Czech: Albatros Danish: Lindhardt og Ringhoff Dutch: The House of Books Estonian: Pegasus French: Presses de la Cite German: Eichborn/Luebbe Greek: Psichoaios Hebrew: Kinneret Hungarian: Geopen Italian: Einaudi Korean: B612 Books Latvian: Zvaigzne Lithuanian: Alma Littera Polish: GW Foksal Portuguese (EU): Topseller Romanian: Art Russian: Eksmo Serbian: Laguna Slovak: Albatros Slovenian: Ucila Spanish: Ediciones B Swedish: Forum Turkish: Pena Publications Ukrainian: Hemiro/ FLC

Helen Scarlett THE DECEPTION OF HARRIET FLEET

Historical Fiction

A tense, atmospheric debut novel for fans of Laura Purcell, Susan Hill and Sarah Waters that explores mental Illness in a time when there was little understanding or treatment for it.



1871. For the Wainwright family, residents of the remote Teesbank Hall, the past continues to cast shadow over their lives.

Harriet Fleet is the new governess to the resentful Eleanor, a fiercely bright eighteen year old, tortured by demons and feared by relations and staff alike. But it becomes apparent that Harriet is not there to teach Eleanor, but to monitor her erratic and dangerous behavior.

Worn down by Eleanor, Harriet immerses herself in the Wainwright's

history – one mired in a murder twenty years ago. As family secrets are unearthed, Harriet becomes convinced these ghosts are determined to reveal her own shameful past. For Harriet, like Eleanor, is plagued by deception and untruths.

But hers are much more recent, and soon past and present threaten to merge... with devastating consequences for both her and Eleanor.

HIGHLIGHTS

- UK and Commonwealth rights snapped up by Quercus in a two-book deal
- A fascinating look at how mental illness was perceived in a time when both diagnosis and treatment was rare, and often brutal
- US submission late Fall 2019 / Early 2020

"Helen is a wonderful writer and a natural storyteller. I love the way she has used contemporary themes in an uncontrived way. I love this novel!" Jane Wood editor at Quercus/Hachette

THE AUTHOR

Helen has a BA (hons) degree from London University and has taught secondary English for over twenty years. She lives and works in the North East of England, a region which holds endless fascination for her and whose influence can be felt throughout the book.

Rights Sold

THE DECEPTION OF HARRIET FLEET (January 2021)

UK & Commonwealth: Quercus/Hachette (Jane Wood)

Jennifer Bayliss-Jennings THE TWELVE DATES OF CHRISTMAS

Romantic Comedy

Debut women's fiction and a festive romantic romance novel for fans of Josie Silver and Cecelia Ahern.



When Kate Turner moved back home to Blexford to help out her Dad, she didn't expect to stay. But here she still is, four years later, baking for her friend Matt's local café and designing fabric from her home in the village.

But then her friend Laura signs her up to the local Twelve Dates of Christmas campaign and it amounts to a sort of dating bootcamp – a quest the entire village of Blexford seems prepared to help her with, from the local pub landlord, to the postman.

Over twelve dates she encounters the

best and the worst traits of the male sex, with her childhood friends (and the whole village) keeping tabs.

Kate's sure she doesn't need a man.

But maybe she'd quite like one.

HIGHLIGHTS

- UK & Commonwealth rights snapped up by Macmillan at auction
- US rights bought at auction by PRH / Putnam

"A slice of Christmas perfection. As soon as I opened the manuscript I could see how this would appeal to readers; a picture-bookperfect setting and a wonderfully romantic journey as Kate finds her path back to her one true love. All you need for the holidays!" Vicki Mellor, Publishing Director, Pan Fiction

THE AUTHOR

Jennifer Bayliss-Jennings lives in a small seaside town in the UK with her husband; their children having left home for big adventures. She went to university aged 39 to study part-time for a degree in Creative and Professional Writing, and for the last 7 years, Jennifer has been baking cakes for a coffee shop where she lives. She doesn't believe in saving things for best and shamelessly wears party dresses to the supermarket.

Rights Sold

THE TWELVE DATES OF CHRISTMAS

(November 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Macmillan (Jayne Osborne) US: Putnam/PRH (Margo Lipschultz) Czech: Baronet Dutch: Luitingh-Sijthoff German: Goldmann Italian: Newton Compton Polish: Burda Media

Katherine May WINTERING: How I Learned to Flourish When Life Became Frozen

Non-Fiction

A starkly beautiful memoir about ways of surviving when life becomes frozen.



How do you survive the 'wintering' phase of your life?

Wintering, the dormant periods in our lives, the dark moments we endure which can be brought about through myriad of ways; from the death of a loved one to a sudden change in circumstances or mental health issues – can be lonely, damaging and catch us off guard.

Katherine May recounts her own yearlong journey through winter, and how she found strength and inspiration

when life felt frozen. Part memoir, part exploration of a human condition, *Wintering* explores the healing nature of the great outdoors to help us overcome and embrace our own wintering experiences, and how, much like nature, we can learn to appreciate these low periods, and what they have to teach us, before the ushering in of a new season.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Second memoir from the author of *The Electricity of Every Living Thing*, being published by Rider/Ebury in 2020
- For fans of Alex Soojung-Kim Pang's *Rest*, Susan Cain's *Quiet*, Olivia Laing's *The Lonely City*, as well as trends towards mindfulness, hygge and forest bathing
- Encouraging readers to change the way we approach dormant periods in their lives

THE AUTHOR

Katherine May writes both fiction and non-fiction, including *The Electricity of Every Living Thing*, a memoir about walking and Asperger Syndrome (Trapeze, 2018). She was a resident writer for Tate Britain's education programme, and until 2017 ran the Creative Writing MA at Canterbury Christ Church University. She has written for The Times, Good Housekeeping and Psychologies, and has been a regular pundit on BBC Radio London.

Rights Sold

WINTERING (Spring 2020)

UK & Commonwealth:

Rider/Ebury/PRH (Olivia Morris) **US**: Riverhead/Viking/PRH (Jynne Dilling Martin)

THE ELECTRICITY OF EVERY LIVING THING (May 2019)

UK & Commonwealth: Orion / Trapeze (Grace Paul)

Audio: Audible

Leah Hazard PLANET BIRTH

Non-Fiction

Part travelogue, part memoir, part investigative deep-dive into global maternity and meditation on the contemporary female experience, *Planet Birth* is a narrative about so much more than midwifery.



Through the prism of birth, we see how women survive and thrive in the harshest environments, how they stay strong amidst sacrifice, and how they retain their power in the face of those who would render them powerless.

Leah has already had confirmation from all locations/parties included in the proposal, who she plans to visit over the next few months. From New York City, where doctors, doulas and public health crusaders are trying to halt the rising trend of black mothers dying in childbirth, to the refugee camps of Greece, where women fleeing war bear

their babies in the grimmest surroundings; from Sweden, site of the world's first baby born from a transplanted womb, to the backwoods of Tennessee, where homespun spirituality guides the ageing hippie midwives who catch babies in lean-to log cabins. She'll be spending time in each location, and sharing her journey with wit, compassion and an unsurpassed understanding of the power (and problems) of birthing women.

HIGHLIGHTS

• New proposal from Top 10 Sunday Times bestselling author of *Hard Pushed*, Leah Hazard

Praise for Leah Hazard:

"The stories in Hard Pushed highlight the bravery of our midwives, and the women they care for" Christie Watson author of *The Language of Kindness*

"Hard Pushed is a beautifully written, intimate portrait of the extraordinary work that midwives carry out each and every day" Caroline Elton, author of *Also Human*

THE AUTHOR

Leah Hazard earnt a degree from Harvard before relocating to the UK in 1999. She delivered 76 babies before qualifying as a registered midwife in 2010. Since then, she has worked in a variety of clinical areas within the maternity services, catching hundreds more babies and handling obstetric emergencies. Leah remains an actively serving midwife and writes in between shifts at a hospital that sees over 7,500 deliveries a year.

Rights Sold

PLANET BIRTH (TBC)

OPTION PUBLISHERS:

UK & Commonwealth:

Cornerstone/PRH (Sarah Rigby) Dutch: Unieboek Spectrum Estonian: Pegasus Korean: Hyeonamsa Polish: GW Foksal Russian: AST Swedish: Nona Publishing

PREVIOUS TITLES:

HARD PUSHED (May, 2019)

Ipsita Ararwal WITH A WHISTLE IN THE DARK

Non-Fiction

In the vein of *Hidden Figures* this is the story of the female Indian scientists who sent a rocket to Mars for less than it cost to make the film 'The Martian'.



India is a country of contradictions – a place that encourages its girls to become rocket scientists, whilst not being able to ensure their right to safety and education.

With stories which have never been on public record until now, this book is an insight into the smartest minds of the Eastern world and their world-record mission.

In 2014, a team of Indian scientists made history when their spaceship, Mangalyaan, entered Mars' atmosphere, making India the first

country to successfully land their rocket first time on the planet. The mission cost less than the budget of the film 'The Martian'.

Equally remarkable is that this team was led by a determined and highly-skilled group of women, who watched this momentous breakthrough dressed in traditional saris. *With a Whistle in the Dark* tells the story of these women - the hidden figures of India.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Inspired by Ipsita's journalistic piece about these women for Wired, which saw over 200,000 hits in one day
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has not given permission for anyone to write about their missions in nearly 50 years - until now. Ipsita Agarwal has unprecedented access to the team, with the ISRO agreeing to as many on-the-record interviews with the Mangalyaan scientists as required

THE AUTHOR

Ipsita Agarwal is a journalist and scientist born in Kolkata and raised in towns across India and Indonesia. After finding herself second highest in the country for physics, she joined Loughborough University in 2011. The focus of her research was on autonomous systems that have applications in aviation and space. Since 2017, Ipsita has written journalistic pieces that have some bearing in STEM and her work has appeared in US publications like Wired.

Rights Sold

WITH A WHISTLE IN THE DARK (November 2020)

UK & Commonwealth: Orion/ Hachette (Amanda Harris)

Elegnor Oliphant is Completely Fine

***** The New York Times Bestseller for 67 Weeks!

We are completely thrilled by the phenomenal success of *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine!*

It has sold over **3 million copies in the UK** and the US, and been translated into **41 languages**. It has also appeared on the New York Times Bestseller List for **67 weeks**, and is set to be adapted into a film by Reese Witherspoon's production company, Hello Sunshine.

Here are some other recent milestones:

FILM NEWS

MGM has teamed with Reese Witherspoon's Hello Sunshine on the film adaptation. Set to write the script is Liz Hannah, who wrote the Steven Spielberg directed *The Post*.

BESTSELLER

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GALL

Eleanor

liphant

Completely

No. 1 New York Times Bestseller No. 1 Sunday Times Bestseller Bestseller in Ireland and Australia International Bestseller in a number of territories 2018's overall bestselling book in the UK

AWARDS

Winner of the 2017 Costa First Novel Award Winner of three prizes at the British Book Awards 2018 Top 10 of the Library Reads Favourite of the Favourites WHS Fiction Book of the Year Winner of the Earphones Award Popular Fiction Winner at the National Book Awards Winner of the Readers' Choice Award at 2018 Books Are My Bag Winner of the Waverton Good Read Award 2018 Winner of the Audio Production Awards 2018 Winner of Authors' Club Best First Novel