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Lisa - j26 Laura - i26

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LISA BAKER

France, Germany, the Netherlands and Italy

Email: lisa@aitkenalexander.co.uk

LAURA OTAL

Brazil, China, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Norway, Portugal, Poland, Spain & Latin America, Sweden, and Taiwan

Email: laura@aitkenalexander.co.uk

ANNA HALL

Arabic, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, Turkey, Vietnam, and Ukraine

Email: annah@aitkenalexander.co.uk

For Film and Television Rights enquiries, please contact:

JAZZ ADAMSON

Email: jazz@aitkenalexander.co.uk

Aitken Alexander Associates Ltd. 291 Gray's Inn Road London WC1X 8QJ

Telephone (020) 7373 8672

www.aitkenalexander.co.uk





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FICTION



Milk Teeth by Jessica Andrews

From the author of the award-winning *Saltwater* comes a beautifully told love story set across England, France and Spain.

A girl grows up in the north of England amid scarcity, precarity and the toxic culture of heroin chic, believing that she needs to make herself smaller to claim presence in the world.

Years later, as a young woman with unattainable ideals, she meets someone who calls everything into question, and is forced to confront episodes from her past. Their relationship takes her from London to Barcelona and to the precipice of a new life, full of sensuality. Yet she still feels an uneasiness. In the sticky Mediterranean heat, among

tropical plants and secluded beaches, she must decide what form her adult life should take and learn how to feel deserving of love and care.

JESSICA ANDREWS grew up in Sunderland and has spent time living in Santa Cruz, Paris, Donegal, Barcelona and London. She has been published by the *Independent, Somesuch Stories, AnOther, Caught by the River, Shabby Doll House* and *Papaya Press,* among others. She teaches Literature and Creative Writing classes and co-runs literary magazine *The Grapevine*, which aims to give a platform to under-represented writers.

Publication date: Sceptre – 21st July 2022

Praise for Milk Teeth:

'A sharp and beguiling love story... Milk Teeth is a transporting, gorgeous novel.' - Independent

'Milk Teeth spills over with care, truth and desire. Andrews makes the case for a life lived abundantly and ardently, full of sensation and pleasure, risk and safety.' – Yara Rodrigues Fowler, author of There are more things

'In lyric dispatches, with the condensed cadences of poetry, Andrews' novel brilliantly explores the ways we grow into and beyond the limits of ourselves, and what happens in the gaps in between who we are and who we're expected to be.' – Andrew McMillan, award-winning poet and author of *Pity*

'Across its blissfully sprawling passages detailing scenes from different cities, what anchors the novel is its exploration of how hunger, class, desire and gender are interlaced . . . In *Saltwater* Andrews sought a voice that is her own, something she has truly settled into in *Milk Teeth*. Addressed in second person to the narrator's lover, the writing is gilded with a vulnerable immediacy, blisteringly honest and visceral. Andrews, already lauded, has come into her own.' – *Irish Times*

Rights sales for Milk Teeth: UK (Sceptre), Korea (Influential); Japanese co-agent: Japan Uni.

Rights sales for previous title, *Saltwater:* UK (Sceptre), US (Farrar, Straus & Giroux), France (Les Escales), Germany (Hoffmann & Campe), Greece (Patakis), Italy (NN Editore), Spain (Seix Barral); Film/TV rights: Holliday Grainger.



The Midnight News by Jo Baker

A brilliantly imagined novel of nail-biting suspense – with the sweetest love story running through it.

It is 1940 and twenty-year-old Charlotte Richmond watches from her attic window as enemy planes fly over London. Still grieving her brother who never returned from France, she is working hard to keep her life ticking over: holding down a dull typist job at the Ministry of Information, sharing gin and confidences with her best friend, Elena, and dodging her difficult father. She has good reason to keep her head down and stay out of trouble. She knows what happens when she makes a nuisance of herself.

On her way to work she often sees the boy who feeds the birds – a source of unexpected joy amidst the rubble of the Blitz. But every day brings new scenes of devastation and heart-breaking loss, and while everyone else believes these deaths are random accidents of war, Charlotte begins to fear that there is someone stalking the darkness, picking off her friends. And now he is following her.

She no longer knows who to trust. She can't even trust herself. She knows this; her family have told so her often enough. As she begins to hear the voices of her lost friends, her nerves become increasingly frayed. Soon Charlotte finds herself taken back to Summer Fields, a place in which she has a painful history and no clear means of escape . . .

JO BAKER is the acclaimed author of seven previous novels, including the *Sunday Times* bestseller *Longbourn*, which was selected for the Richard & Judy Book Club. A major film adaptation is currently in development, directed by Sharon Maguire.

Publication date: Phoenix – 20th April 2023

Praise for Jo Baker:

'A novelist with a gift for intimate and atmospheric storytelling.' - Financial Times

'Baker's spare, visual prose is a treat to read.' - Daily Mail

'Some writers let you know you're in safe hands from the start and Jo Baker is one of them.' - Independent

Rights sales for *The Midnight News:* UK (Phoenix), US (Knopf), France (Laffont).

Rights sales for previous title, *The Body Lies:* UK (Doubleday), US (Knopf), Germany (Knaus/Penguin Verlag), Netherlands (Borgerhoff & Lamberigts).



*Kit*By Megan Barker

I owe you a book
Will you write with me
Shall we hold hands?
I know I am only high noon like this for a limited time
We can jump together
One two thr...

Megan and Kit met in their early twenties. Their friendship was fast, intense, platonic and wild; their love fast, intense, long-lasting and true.

Years later Kit and Megan meet up again: Kit is desperately unwell and needs her help.

Over the next six months Megan tries to pull her friend back from the precipice, navigating the difficulties of revisiting a relationship conceived in the great freedom of youth, whilst attempting to remain fully present in the messy beauty of her family life.

Kit is a story of the sumptuous complication – and precariousness - of life and relationships. It describes a call to intimacy in a state of emergency. It is a story of one life disrupted as another moves toward its end.

Told in a spare, winding prose-poem, with a voice reminiscent of Max Porter, Kae Tempest and Rebecca Watson, *Kit* is a splintered, powerful work of empathy, friendship and unconditional love.

MEGAN BARKER lives in South Wales. She has a background in theatre, and her plays have been produced at theatres such as Soho Theatre, Sherman Cymru, The Arches, The Traverse and The Tron. She also writes song lyrics, most recently for Quiet River of Dust by Richard Reed Parry. *Kit* is her first novel.

Publication date: Cheerio – Summer 2023

Praise for Kit:

'Very few things I've read recently have stopped me in my tracks quite as unexpectedly as *Kit.* It's unlike anything else – unashamedly refutes category. Is defiantly original in the way it hybridises form. It's right on the edge, but instinctive, tender and searing. There were times I had to stop and take a breath, not only after some of the emotional body hits (sometimes tiny moments), but often at the honest, simple, day-to-day impossibly complicated love that is at the absolute heart of the piece. It's a cry, and a demand, and its brashly beautiful.' – Cynan Jones

It's glorious. Held me throughout (one sitting). An admirable tendency to make left-hand turns, if that makes sense (especially where language is concerned). Terrific images. Indelible moments. A powerful astringency. It left me with a poignant afterglow of defiance / love in the face of helplessness. There was no cop-out sense that things could have been another way, only a close tracking of the emotional consequences of the inevitable. Tragedy, in other words (though I laughed at times too).' – James Scudamore

Rights sales for Kit: UK (Cheerio).

Agent: Lisa Baker



The Sharing Economy by Sophie Berrebi

Sexual infidelity is unavoidable, for whatever reasons, in long monogamous relationships, so why not give the other sexual freedom, as a gesture of love, of communication maybe?

Amsterdam in 2014 is an historic city situated at the heart of the future. One of the biggest hubs for internet traffic in the world, it has become a favourite testing-ground for the new internet platforms that form the vanguard of what has been coined 'the sharing economy'.

Gabrielle Bloom is a woman in her mid-40s, working as an exhibition curator. She is happily married to Anton and loves her son Victor. They have a circle of sophisticated friends and enjoy the life of two successful and respectable professionals living in one of the world's

most beautiful and culturally rich cities.

There is, though, one crucial difference between their relationship and those of their friends. Gabrielle and Anton enjoy an open marriage.

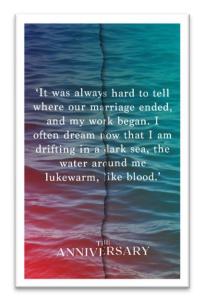
When Gabrielle is introduced, during a visit to a feminist art collective, to a new dating app that has recently launched in the city, fresh horizons open up. With an almost unlimited number of potential partners suddenly available to her, she quickly develops a taste for the thrill of a brief sexual encounter. Moving from one assignation to the next, things at first seem exhilarating and uncomplicated. But the human heart has not evolved at the same rate as the silicon chip and when attachments start to form things rapidly become less simple.

Set during one intense and transformative year, and suffused with art, sex and philosophy, *The Sharing Economy* is at once a uniquely radical reappraisal of the way we view relationships and a tender and moving depiction of the many ways in which the human heart is capable of love.

SOPHIE BERREBI is an author, exhibitions curator and art historian born in Paris and currently based in Brussels. She is an associate professor in the history of art at the University of Amsterdam where she teaches and researches photography, fashion, and contemporary art. Her 2018 book *Dubuffet and the City: People, Place and Urban Space* (H&W Publishers), received the 2019 Richard Schlagman award for best book of art history. *The Sharing Economy* is her first novel.

UK publication date: Scribner – 2nd March 2023

Rights sales for *The Sharing Economy:* UK (Scribner), Netherlands (Het Spectrum).



The Anniversary by Stephanie Bishop

For fans of Lisa Halliday and Patricia Highsmith, *The Anniversary* is a feat of literary psychological suspense about an ascendant writer, the sudden death of her husband, and what it takes to emerge on her own.

Novelist J.B. Blackwood is on a cruise with her husband, Patrick to celebrate their wedding anniversary. Her former professor, Patrick, is much older than J.B.. But when they met, he seemed somehow ageless, as all new gods appear in the eyes of those who worship them. He is a film director. A cult figure. But now his success is starting to wane and J.B. is on the cusp of winning a major literary prize. Her art has been forever overseen by him, now it may overshadow his. For days they sail in the sun. They lie about drinking, reading, sleeping, having sex. There

is nothing but dark water all around them.

Then a storm hits and Patrick falls off the ship. J.B. is left alone, as the search for what happened to Patrick — and the truth about their marriage — begins.

STEPHANIE BISHOP was recently appointed professor in Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia. In 2016 she was a Visiting Scholar at Oxford University's Centre for Life Writing. Her criticism and fiction have appeared in the London Review of Books, the TLS, and the Sydney Review of Books. Her second novel, *The Other Side of the World* was named Literary Fiction Book of the Year in the Australian Book Industry Awards 2016 and winner of The Readings Prize for New Australian Writing 2015. It was also shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards, the Indie Book Awards and the NSW Premier's Literary Awards as well as being longlisted for the 2016 Stella Prize. Her next novel, *Man Out of Time* was also longlisted for the Stella Prize, and shortlisted for the Christina Stead Prize for fiction.

UK publication date: W&N – 30th March 2023

Praise for The Anniversary:

'The Anniversary is a haunting mystery, sophisticated, subtle and subversive, in which Bishop considers the discipline, scrupulous and otherwise, required to make a marriage, as well as to make art, capturing the longing and the disappointment inherent in the attempt to make one's self known to others.'

- Susanna Moore, author of In the Cut

'In *The Anniversary* Stephanie Bishop expertly and mercilessly builds an atmosphere of intense uncertainty and threat. You won't want to put it down.' – Chris Power, author of *A Lonely Man*

'The dread that slowly creeps into your bones while reading *The Anniversary* is difficult to shake off, yet you cannot look away. I revelled in every bit of this astute, compelling, psychological novel.' – Virginia Feito, author of *Mrs March*

Rights sales for *The Anniversary:* UK (W&N), US (Grove), Australia (Hachette), Germany (DTV), Italy (Marsilio), Romania (Trei).

Agent: Emma Paterson



Bellies by Nicola Dinan

★ Currently being developed as a TV series by Element Pictures with Nicola Dinan attached to write the script ★

I wore a dress on the night I first met Ming.'

It begins as your typical boy meets boy. At a party in a university town, Tom meets Ming. Confident, witty and a talented young playwright, Ming is the perfect antidote to Tom's awkward energy. They fall hard for each other; an instant connection. But upon moving to London to start the next chapter of their lives, Ming announces her decision to transition. At once, Tom and Ming are each propelled into an unknowable future.

From London to Kuala Lumpur, New York to Cologne, we follow Tom and Ming in the years after graduation, through glass offices and artistic endeavours, friendships and heartbreak. But just as they learn what it means to move through life without the other, an unexpected tragedy strikes, throwing them together once more. Tom and Ming must at last confront the vastly different shapes their lives have taken, and face an essential question: is it worth losing a part of yourself to become who you are?

NICOLA DINAN grew up in Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur, and now calls London home. She trained and practised as a lawyer before leaving the law to focus on writing. *Bellies* is her first novel, for which she was shortlisted for the Mo Siewcharran Prize. She is a graduate of the Faber Academy Writing-a-Novel course. Her work has appeared in *Huck Magazine*, *i-D*, *Paper Magazine*, *Necessary Fiction* and elsewhere.

UK publication date: Doubleday – 6th July 2023

Praise for Bellies:

★ Shortlisted for the Mo Siewcharran Prize ★

'Bellies is an engrossing, perceptive novel of the now, charged with the nail-biting hesitancy and giddy exuberance of youth, transition and myriad kinds of love. Bellies announces Nicola Dinan as a genuine literary talent, a gimlet-eyed cartographer of the human heart. I'm a huge fan and I'll read anything she writes.' – Sharlene Teo, author of *Ponti*

'Bellies is both incisive and propulsive, exploring the fragility of the membrane between our public and private selves. With intimacy and intelligence, this excellent debut asks important questions about how we try, and fail, to transmute our ideology into empathy, about the responsibilities we owe to one another, and about the role art can play in trauma and healing.' – Susannah Dickey, author of Tennis Lessons and Common Decency

Rights sales for *Bellies:* UK (Doubleday), US (Hanover Square Press), Spain (Urano); **Japanese coagent:** Tuttle Mori; Film/TV rights: Element Pictures.

Agent: Monica MacSwan



A House for Alice by Diana Evans

Acute, deft and delicate: a stunning new novel from the author of acclaimed bestseller, *Ordinary People*

Alice wants to go home, but her three daughters are divided over whether she should realise her dream of ending her days in a house in Nigeria. Old wounds resurface and conflicts stir. Meanwhile their father wanders the flames of purgatory, unable to pass into the light.

Will Alice get back home and complete the circle of her life, or will

London be her final refuge?

Melissa, to her mother's regret, is long separated from Michael who has moved on to new love. Yet he still wonders if he will ever know anyone the way he knew Melissa, and she in turn is nostalgic for their once safe haven. Held together by their two children, it becomes clear that their own circle isn't quite broken.

Set amidst the shadows of Grenfell and a country in crisis, these ordinary people are faced with fundamental questions about who they are, what they want and where, and with whom, they want to be.

DIANA EVANS has received nominations for the Whitbread First Novel, the Guardian First Book and the Commonwealth Best First Book awards and was the inaugural winner of the Orange Award for New Writers. *Ordinary People* won the 2019 South Bank Sky Arts Award for Literature and was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction, the Rathbones Folio Prize and the Orwell Prize for Political Fiction, and also received a nomination for the Andrew Carnegie Medals for Excellence in Fiction. She lives in London.

UK publication date: Chatto – 6th April 2023

Praise for previous title, Ordinary People:

- ★ Winner of the 2019 South Banks Sky Arts Award for Fiction ★
 - ★ Shortlisted for the 2019 Women's Prize for Fiction ★
 - ★ Shortlisted for The Rathbones Folio Prize 2019 ★
 - ★ Shortlisted for The Orwell Prize 2019 ★

'Exceptionally sensitive writing... The book achieves a moody, velvety atmosphere, as though events were unfolding under amber-tinted bulbs.' – *The New Yorker*

'A rewarding and ruthlessly funny novel.' - The Times

'Thoughtful and intelligently observed... Evans's delicate prose weaves issues of racial identity and politics into the narrative so that they never feel heavy-handed...a deftly observed, elegiac portrayal of modern marriage, and the private – often painful – quest for identity and fulfilment in all its various guises.' – Observer

Rights sales for A House for Alice: UK (Chatto).

Rights sales for previous title, *Ordinary People:* UK (Chatto), US (Liveright), Canada (Doubleday), France (Globe), Germany (Hoffman & Campe), Italy (Einaudi), Portugal (Quetzal), Romania (Curtea Veche), Russia (Sindbad); **TV rights:** House Productions.



Mrs Harris Goes to Paris by Paul Gallico

★ Now a major film, starring Leslie Manville, Isabelle Huppert, Jason Isaacs and Lucas Bravo ★

Mrs Harris is a salt-of-the-earth London charlady who cheerfully cleans the houses of the rich. One day, when tidying Lady Dant's wardrobe, she comes across the most beautiful thing she has ever seen in her life – a Dior dress. In all the years of her drab and humble existence, she's never seen anything as magical as the dress before her and she's never wanted anything as much before. Determined to make her dream come true, Mrs Harris scrimps, saves and slaves away until one day, after three long, uncomplaining years, she finally has enough money to go to Paris.

When she arrives at the House of Dior, Mrs Harris has little idea of how her life is about to be turned upside down and how many other lives she will transform forever. Always kind, always cheery and always winsome, the indomitable Mrs Harris takes Paris by storm and learns one of life's greatest lessons along the way.

PAUL GALLICO was born in New York City in 1897. From 1922 to 1936 he worked on the New York Daily News as sports editor, columnist, and assistant managing editor. In 1936 he bought a house on top of a hill at Salcombe in South Devon and settled down with a Great Dane and twenty-three assorted cats. It was in 1941 that he made his name with *The Snow Goose*, a classic story of Dunkirk which became a worldwide best-seller. Having served as a gunner's mate in the U.S. Navy in 1918, he was again active as a war correspondent with the American Expeditionary Force in 1944. Gallico, who later lived in Monaco, was a first-class fencer and a keen sea-fisherman. He wrote over forty books, four of which were the adventures of *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris* (1958), *Mrs Harris Goes to New York* (1959), *Mrs. Harris, M.P.* (1965) and *Mrs Harris Goes to Moscow* (1974). He died in July 1976.

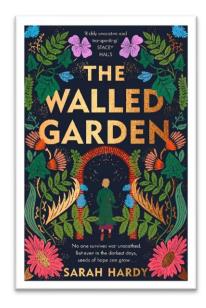
Praise for Paul Gallico:

'Mrs. Harris is one of the great creations of fiction-so real that you feel you know her, yet truly magical as well. I can never have enough of her.' — *Justine Picardie*

'It is almost impossible not to succumb to Gallico's spell.' — Times Literary Supplement

'A heartwarming, engaging novelette.' — Bookmark

Rights sales for *Mrs Harris Goes to Paris:* UK (Bloomsbury), Catalan (Viena), Germany (Aufbau), Israel (Modan), Italy (Sperling), Japan (Kadokawa), Romania (Meteor), Spain (Alba Editorial), Thailand (Library House).



The Walled Garden by Sarah Hardy

No one survives war unscathed. But even in the darkest days, seeds of hope can grow.

It is 1946 and in the village of Oakbourne the men are home from the war. Their bodies are healing but their psychological wounds run deep. Everyone is scarred – not just those who fought but wives and families who waited, only for men to return whose experiences have made them strangers.

Alice Rayne is married to Stephen, heir to crumbling Oakbourne Hall. Once a sweet, gentle man, he's now bitter and haunted by what he's seen. And what he's done. He shuts himself away, destroyed by a secret Alice can only guess at.

Lonely, increasingly afraid of the man her husband has become, Alice must try to pick up the pieces of her marriage and save Oakbourne Hall from total collapse. She begins with the walled garden and, as it starts to bear fruit, she finds herself drawn into a forbidden love.

Set in the Suffolk countryside as it moves from winter to spring, *The Walled Garden* is both a moving exploration of trauma – how individuals and a society re-build shattered lives and a broken world – and a heart-rending love story.

Beguiling and beautifully written, *The Walled Garden* is perfect for readers of Anna Hope, Sadie Jones and Elizabeth Jane Howard, and heralds the arrival of a major new voice in fiction.

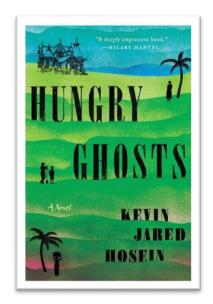
SARAH HARDY has lived for the last ten years in rural Suffolk, which is where her novel is set. Before that she lived in London and worked on national magazines and newspapers.

UK publication date: Manilla Press – 16th March 2023

Praise for The Walled Garden:

'Richly evocative and transporting.' - Stacey Halls, bestselling author of The Familiars

Rights sales for *The Walled Garden:* UK (Manilla Press), Germany (Heyne), Russia (Exmo).



Hungry Ghosts by Kevin Jared Hosein

From an unforgettable new voice in Caribbean literature, a sweeping story of two families colliding in 1940s Trinidad—and a chilling mystery that shows how interconnected their lives truly are.

Trinidad in the 1940s, nearing the end of American occupation and British colonialism. On a hill overlooking Bell Village sits the Changoor farm, where Dalton and Marlee Changoor live in luxury unrecognizable to those who reside in the farm's shadow. Down below is the Barrack, a ramshackle building of wood and tin, divided into rooms occupied by whole families. Among these families are the Saroops—Hans, Shweta, and their son, Krishna, all three born of the barracks. Theirs are hard lives of backbreaking work, grinding

poverty, devotion to faith, and a battle against nature and a social structure designed to keep them where they are.

But when Dalton goes missing and Marlee's safety is compromised, farmhand Hans is lured by the promise of a handsome stipend to move to the farm as a watchman. As the mystery of Dalton's disappearance unfolds, the lives of the wealthy couple and those who live in the barracks below become insidiously entwined, their community changed forever and in shocking ways.

A searing and singular novel of religion, class, family, and historical violence, and rooted in Trinidad's wild pastoral landscape and inspired by oral storytelling traditions, *Hungry Ghosts* is deeply resonant of its time and place while evoking the roots and ripple effects of generational trauma and linked histories; the lingering resentments, sacrifices, and longings that alter destinies; and the consequences of powerlessness. Lyrically told and rendered with harrowing beauty, *Hungry Ghosts* is a stunning piece of storytelling and an affecting mystery, from a blazingly talented writer.

KEVIN JARED HOSEIN is a 34 year-old science teacher from Chaguanas in Trinidad. His story 'Passage' was the winner of the overall Commonwealth Short Story Prize in 2018. Of the story judge Sarah Hall said: "It balances between formal language and demotic, ideas of civility and ferality, is tightly woven and suspenseful, beautifully and eerily atmospheric, and finally surprising." He is the author of three books published in the Caribbean – an adult novel, and two books for children. He also won the Caribbean regional prize in the 2015 Commonwealth Short Story Prize.

UK publication date: Bloomsbury – 16th February 2023

Praise for *Hungry Ghosts:*

'This is a deeply impressive book, and I think an important one. Its intensity, its narrative attack, the fascinations of its era and setting, make it impossible to tear the attention away. Energy and inventiveness distinguish every page.' – Hilary Mantel

Hungry Ghosts is beautiful, biblical, vast in scope and power, ringing with an energy that blasts from the intricate language. Hosein is a new giant of fiction.' – Daisy Johnson, author of Sisters and Everything Under

'The biggest, most frightening, beautiful and alive novel I've read in as long as I can remember.' – Evie Wyld, author of *The Bass Rock*

Rights sales for *Hungry Ghosts:* UK (Bloomsbury), US (Ecco), Czech (Leda).



Pity by Andrew McMillan

The debut novel from the winner of the Polari Prize and the Guardian First Book Award

The town was once a hub of industry. A place where men toiled underground in darkness, picking and shovelling in the dust and the sleck. It was dangerous and back-breaking work but it meant something. Once, the town provided, it was important, but now the town and the people in it are seen mostly in statistics and news stories; objectified, abstracted and surveilled by those in power, their realities boiled down to fit easily within political narratives.

In *Pity*, we meet some of the men from the town. Alex and Brian used to work down the mines, their father and grandfather before them. After the mines closed, Brian moved out, to one of the villages on the outskirts, and Alex stayed, but both men are haunted by what happened - beset by guilt, repressed, afraid to admit the truth of who they now are. But when a group of academics arrive to do some ethnographic work on post-industrial narratives Brian begins to open up.

Alex's son Simon is too young to have seen the pits. He's come of age amid a new type of precarity, working in a call centre, as a drag queen, doing a bit of sex work on the side to top up his earnings. People in the town know he's gay, but he's always held something back, wary of breaking what feels like a fragile acceptance. The time had never felt right to show them all of himself, but he's now been asked to perform at the local club and he sees an opportunity. He might not have been there, but he knows enough about it, from his dad and his uncle and the men at the club. They've been hiding from it for too long, and maybe this one night, Simon as Puttana Short Dress as Margaret Thatcher, is the chance to bring it all out into the open.

Andrew McMillan's debut novel is an unforgettable portrait of modern Britain. It is about community, masculinity, post-industrialisation, identity and stories - what they're for, and who gets to tell them. Its formal innovation, interrogation of language and political clarity call to mind Natasha Brown's *Assembly*, and it would also appeal to readers of Ross Raisin and Edouard Louis.

ANDREW MCMILLAN's first collection, *physical*, was the only ever poetry collection to win the Guardian First Book Award; it also won a Somerset Maugham Award, an Eric Gregory Award, a Northern Writers' Award and the Aldeburgh First Collection Prize. In 2019 it was voted as one of the top 25 poetry books of the past 25 years by the Booksellers Association. His second collection, *playtime*, won the inaugural Polari Prize. His latest collection, *pandemonium*, was published by Jonathan Cape in 2021. He is a senior lecturer at the Manchester Writing School at Manchester Metropolitan University and is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. Andrew has appeared on numerous BBC radio shows, and last year presented the three-part Radio 4 series, ON FORM.

Publication date: Canongate – 2024

Rights sales for *Pity:* UK (Canongate), France (Grasset), Germany (Ullstein), Norway (Aschehoug), Sweden (Norstedts).



Someday, Maybe by Onyi Nwabineli

Stunningly honest and bursting with wit, *Someday Maybe* is the story of grief and resilience that you won't be able to stop talking about.

Here are three things you should know about my husband:

- 1. He was the great love of my life despite his penchant for going incommunicado
- 2. He was, as far as I and everyone else could tell, perfectly happy.
- 3. On New Year's Eve, he killed himself

And here is one thing you should know about me:

1. I found him.

Bonus fact: No. I am not okay.

Eve is left heartbroken by her husband's unexpected death, but everyone around her – her friends, her boisterous British-Nigerian family, her toxic mother-in-law – seems to be pushing her to move on. Unable to face the future, Eve begins looking back, delving through the history of her marriage in an attempt to understand where it went wrong. So begins an unconventional love story about loss, resilience, and a heroine bursting with rage and unexpected joy.

ONYI NWABINELI is a Nigerian-British headwrap afficionado. An English and Creative Writing graduate, she is the co-founder of Surviving Out Loud, a fund that provides fiscal support for survivors of sexual assault. Born in Nigeria, Onyi currently lives in London. *Someday, Maybe* is her debut novel.

UK publication date: Oneworld – 6th October 2022

Praise for Someday, Maybe:

'Nwabineli credibly portrays Eve's gut-deep grief and her reckoning with the fact that she'll never know what darkness lay within her partner's thoughts. The author also skillfully sets up a series of surprising turns. The genuine displays of emotion and sharp narrative will keep readers turning the pages.'

— Publisher's Weekly

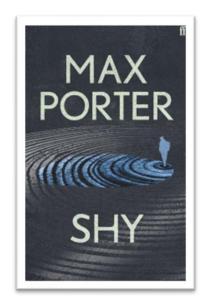
'Touching, funny, insightful and, well, beautiful.' – Dorothy Koomson, bestselling author of My Best Friend's Girl

'A masterfully woven exposition on love and loss, of the undoing of us, of what it takes to heal. Nwabineli is magic with words, and manages to be at turns bitingly funny and heart-breakingly gutting. A book that acknowledges despair whilst encouraging hope.' – Bolu Babalola, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Love in Colour*

'A beautiful and heartbreaking meditation on the layers of grief and love, the complicated expressions of human suffering and the courage it takes to let go the past. There is hope in these pages, and the promise of rebirth after losing so much.' – Derek Owusu, author of *That Reminds Me*

Rights sales for Someday, Maybe: UK (Oneworld), US (Graydon House).

Agent: Amy St Johnston



Shy by Max Porter

The rucksack is shockingly heavy.
The floorboards complain.

He checks again, the spliff is diagonal-snug in the empty
Embassy box.
The daytime check is a half-dream away.
The room is molten soft. Tempting.
Jumpy.
The rucksack is shockingly heavy.
It's 3.13 am.

Shy. A troubled teen, a 'dangerous young man', a reject from the social structures that no longer wish to nurture him. Shy knows that society has not failed him, he has failed it – parents, schooling, friends and

sometime girlfriends. Judged and found wanting, he now lives at *Last Chance*, a boarding school for boys like him. In this dilapidated mansion, at 3.13 am, Shy is considering what could be his final decision in this world.

Set over a few hours of a single night, *Shy* exists between the stillness and beauty of a nocturne and the exhilarating shout of simultaneous youthful joy and anguish.

MAX PORTER is the author of *The Death of Francis Bacon, Lanny*, longlisted for the Booker Prize, and *Grief Is the Thing with Feathers*, winner of the International Dylan Thomas Prize and shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award and the Goldsmiths Prize. He is the recipient of the Sunday Times/Peter, Fraser + Dunlop Young Writer of the Year award.

Publication date: Faber - Spring 2023

Praise for Shy:

'Max Porter is one of my favorite writers in the world. Why? Because he's always asking the most important questions and then finding ways – through innovative structures and that inimitable voice –of answering those questions soulfully, with his full attention, in ways that make the world seem stranger and more dear (or more dear because stranger). He gives his readers, in other words, bursts of new vision.' – George Saunders

Praise for Max Porter:

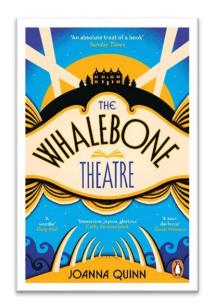
'One of the most daring writers of his generation.' - Sydney Morning Herald

'A magically beguiling work, a triumph of artistic vision.' - Financial Times

'A remarkable feat of literary virtuosity.' - Sunday Times

Rights sales for *Shy:* UK (Faber), US (Graywolf), Canada (Strange Light), Catalan (Enciclopedia), Finland (WSOY), France (Le Seuil), Germany (Kein und Aber), Italy (Sellerio), Netherlands (De Bezige Bij), Norway (Gyldendal), Poland (Zysk), Portugal (Elsinore, PRH), Spain (Literatura Random House), Sweden (Sekwa), Turkey (Monokl); Japanese co-agent: Japan Uni.

Agent: Lisa Baker



The Whalebone Theatre by Joanna Quinn

★ The instant Sunday Times bestseller ★

Cristabel Seagrave has always wanted her life to be a story, but there are no girls in the books in her dusty family library. For an unwanted orphan who grows into an unmarriageable young woman, there seems to be no place at all for her in Chilcombe, her family's crumbling Dorset estate. But from the day that a whale washes up on the beach, and twelve-year-old Cristabel plants her flag, claiming it as her own, she is determined to do things differently.

With her step-parents blithely distracted by their endless party guests, Cristabel and her siblings, Flossie and Digby, scratch together an education from the plays they read in their freezing attic bedroom,

drunken conversations eavesdropped through oak-panelled doors, and the esoteric lessons of Maudie their maid.

But as the children grow to adulthood and war approaches, it becomes clear that the roles they are expected to play are no longer those they would choose for themselves. And as they are drawn into the conflict, they must each find a way to write their own story...

JOANNA QUINN is based in Dorset, where her debut novel, *The Whalebone Theatre*, takes place. She has previously had short stories published by *The White Review, Comma Press, New Welsh Review* and the Bridport Prize. She is currently working towards a PhD in Creative Writing at Goldsmiths.

UK publication date: Fig Tree – 9th June 2022

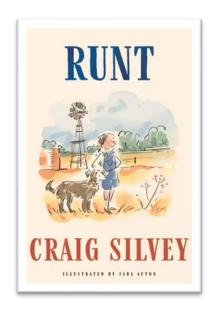
Praise for The Whalebone Theatre:

Pure heaven from first word to last. It's a debut novel, incredibly for something so assured and fully realised... [It] is one of those books that has you hooting with laughter one minute (although the laughter is never unkind, which is a whole other skill; you never snigger) and feeling absolutely floored the next, not just because of the meanderings of the plot or Quinn's acute emotional intelligence, but because she is one of those writers who has her finger on humanity's pulse. An absolute treat of a book, to be read and reread.' — India Knight, *Sunday Times*

'[D]azzling and imaginative... Peacetime whimsy gracefully segues into scenes of unbearable tension and heart-wrenching suspense. Combining elements of *I Capture the Castle*, *Brideshead Revisited*, and *Charlotte Gray*, this is a reading experience to be long cherished.' – *Publishers Weekly* starred review

'It is a beautifully written, completely immersive read, that I can't quite believe is a debut. Very highly recommended.' – *Bookseller*, Book of the Month

Rights sales for *The Whalebone Theatre:* UK (Fig Tree), US (Knopf), Czech Republic (Host), Denmark (Gyldendal), Estonia (Postimees), France (Laffont), Germany (C Bertelsmann), Hungary (21. Szazad), Italy (Sperling), Netherlands (Boekerij), Russia (Exmo), Spain (Enciclopedia), Sweden (Bonnier); Film/TV rights: Hera Pictures; Japanese co-agent: Japan Uni.



Runt by Craig Silvey

'You don't have to carry the weight of the world in your tool belt.'

Annie Shearer likes to fix things. She lives in the country town of Upson Downs with her best friend, an adopted stray dog called Runt. The two share a very special bond.

After years evading capture, Runt is remarkably fast and agile, perfect for herding runaway sheep. But when greedy local landowner Earl Robert-Barren puts her family's home at risk, Annie directs Runt's extraordinary talents towards a different pursuit - winning the Agility Course Grand Championship at the lucrative Krumpets Dog Show in London.

However, two things stand in her way. There is Fergus Fink, a vain and villainous dog handler determined to prevent Annie from upstaging him. And a curious predicament: Runt will only obey Annie's commands if nobody else is watching.

Though she's used to fixing problems on her own, Annie enlists the help of her quirky family. There's Susie, her vibrantly fashionable mother, who is the worst baker in the nation. Her father, Bryan, who inherited the family farm and has a hidden passion for flower cultivation. Her teenage brother Max, an aspiring daredevil. And her grandmother Dolly, a one-time champion sportswoman who, years after the death of her husband Wally, is now looking for love. Each make sacrifices and employ their own unique skills to get Annie and Runt to London. With all eyes on them, Annie and Runt must beat the odds and the fastest dogs in the world to save her farm.

Runt is a heartwarming and hilarious tale of kindness, friendship, hurdles, hoops, tunnels, see-saws, and, above all, being yourself and bringing out the best in others.

CRAIG SILVEY is a novelist and screenwriter from Fremantle, Western Australia. His second novel, *Jasper Jones* (2009) sold almost 700,000 copies and is considered a modern Australian classic. It was shortlisted for an International Dublin Literary Award, a Miles Franklin Literary Award, and won a prestigious Michael J. Printz Award Honor. Craig's work has also been successfully adapted for stage and screen, including *Jasper Jones*, for which Craig co-wrote the screenplay. It was directed by Rachel Perkins and starred Toni Collette and Hugo Weaving. Craig's most recent novel *Honeybee* has sold over 150,000 copies since publication in Australia and is being developed for television by Craig and producers Brouhaha after a hotly contested auction. *Runt* is also in development as a family feature film.

Publication date: Australia (Allen & Unwin) – 5th October 2022; US (Knopf) – Spring 2024

Rights sales for Runt: Australia (Allen & Unwin), US (Knopf Children's).

Rights sales for *Honeybee:* Australia (Allen & Unwin), Turkey (Marti Yayin Grubu); Film/TV rights: Brouhaha Entertainment.

Rights sales for Jasper Jones: Australia (Allen and Unwin); US (Knopf YA); UK (Windmill, Penguin Random House); Brazil (Intrinseca), China (Thinkingdom), France (Calmann-Levy), Germany (Rowohlt), Israel (Modan), Italy (Neri Pozza), Korea (Tin Drum), Netherlands (De Bezige Bij), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Poland (Rebis), Spain (Seix Barral), Taiwan (Solo Press), Turkey (Marti Yayin Grubu).

Agent: Lesley Thorne



Cahokia Jazz by Francis Spufford

A lovingly recreated, richly entertaining homage to the Golden Age of Noir, from the author of the bestselling, award-winning *Golden Hill.*

In a city that never was, in an America that never was, on a snowy night at the end of winter, two detectives find a mutilated body on the roof of a skyscraper.

It's 1922, and Americans are drinking in speakeasies, dancing to jazz, stepping quickly to the tempo of modern times. But in this 1922, where European diseases never ravaged the New World, and the ancient indigenous city of Cahokia has

lived on beside the Mississippi to become an industrial metropolis, a different peace has been struck between the peoples of the United States. Different, and fragile.

The murder on the roof of the Land Trust sparks off a week of ever-expanding crisis that will spill the secrets of this altered world, and bring it, against a soundtrack of cornets and wailing clarinets, either to destruction or rebirth. That will carry it all the bloody way to spring.

Cahokia Jazz is the third novel from the author of the award-winning Golden Hill, offering up a heady noir-soaked mixture of virtuoso writing and propulsive plot.

FRANCIS SPUFFORD is the Booker-longlisted author of *Light Perpetual, Golden Hill* and *Red Plenty*. He teaches at Goldsmiths College.

UK publication date: Faber – Autumn 2023

Praise for previous title, Light Perpetual:

'Dazzlingly imagined... Whereas in real life we tend to experience time as a messy blur, with one thing melting into another too quickly to be properly understood, Spufford knows that a novel can hold up individual moments until they catch the light and then permanently fix them in writing... one of the finest prose stylists of his generation. If his stories grip, his sentences practically glow.' – Sunday Times

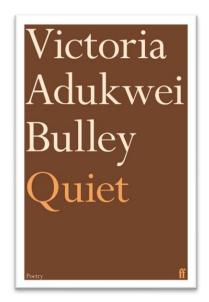
Light Perpetual's brilliance lies in the emotion and drama it wrings from the ordinary — but profoundly meaningful — experiences of its protagonists. Spufford's prose, which is never showy, but always beautifully accurate, confers an extraordinary dignity on the lives of these imagined children, recovered from the rubble of a fictional bomb site.' – Financial Times

'A brilliant, attention-grabbing, capacious experiment with fiction... Spufford is so comprehensively convincing that you keep unreasonably suspecting him of having experienced everything he describes... *Light Perpetual* is an exercise in gratitude, enhancing the sense that it is a fluke that we're here at all.' – *Observer*

Rights sales for Cahokia Jazz: UK (Faber), US (Scribner).

Rights sales for previous title, *Light Perpetual:* UK (Faber), US (Scribner), Arabic (Dar Athar), Bulgaria (Kryg), Catalan (Enciclopedia), Denmark (Politiken), Estonia (Gallus Kirjastus), Germany (Rowohlt), Italy (Bollati Boringhieri), Lithuania (Vaga), Netherlands (Nieuw Amsterdam), Russia (Exmo), Spain (Enciclopedia); Japanese co-agent: Tuttle Mori.

POETRY



*Quiet*by Victoria Adukwei Bulley

Victoria Adukwei Bulley's debut collection, *Quiet*, circles around ideas of black interiority, intimacy and selfhood, playing at the tensions between the impulse to guard one's 'inner life' and the knowledge that, as Audre Lorde writes, 'your silence will not protect you'. The poems teem with grace and dignity, are artful in their shapes, sharp in their intelligence, and possessing of a good ear, finely attuned to the sonics that fascinate and motivate the writing 'at the lower end of sound'.

VICTORIA ADUKWEI BULLEY is a poet, writer and artist. An alumna of the Barbican Young Poets, she is the recipient of an Eric Gregory Award, and has held residencies in the US, Brazil, and the V&A Museum in London. She is currently a doctoral student at Royal

Holloway, University of London, supported by a Techne award for practice-based research in Creative Writing.

UK publication date: Faber – June 2022

Praise for Quiet:

T've been waiting for this book for years and Victoria Adukwei Bulley's *Quiet* does not disappoint. There is so much to celebrate, so much to live for. Adukwei Bulley's poems find new ways to look outwards by looking inwards in a range of lyric modes and volumes. They are quietly articulated prayers of the searching, missing and surviving as well as poems full of loud joyful living. These highly complex and accomplished poems keep moving themselves (and us, the readers), towards a feeling of aliveness in that rare way that feels earned and fought for.' – Raymond Antrobus

'Victoria Adukwei Bulley's stunning poems draw you in with their melodious versatility, intellect and dexterity; perfectly embody the political through the personal; and are freedom-loving shapeshifters constantly changing form and animating ideas and language to surprising effect. This is her debut collection, but she arrives fully formed.' – Bernardine Evaristo

In *Quiet*, Victoria Adukwei Bulley advances a poetics of balance. The poems collected in these pages mix a technically assured, sonically resonant, surface with a profoundly evocative, scrupulously integrated core. This book is a seismic event; its vibrations will be felt for a long time to come.' – Kayo Chingonyi

Rights sold for *Quiet:* UK (Faber), US (Knopf).

Agent: Emma Paterson



Flèche by Mary Jean Chan

- **♦**Winner of the 2019 Costa Poetry Prize**♦**
 - **♦**Lambda Literary Award Finalist**♦**
- **♦**Shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize**♦**
 - **♦**A *Guardian* Book of the Year**♦**

Flèche (the French word for 'arrow') is an offensive technique commonly used in fencing, a sport of Mary Jean Chan's young adult years, when she competed locally and internationally for her home city, Hong Kong. This cross-linguistic pun presents the queer, non-white body as both vulnerable ('flesh') and weaponised ('flèche'), and evokes the difficulties of reconciling one's need for safety alongside the desire to shed one's protective armour in order to fully embrace the world.

Central to the collection is the figure of the poet's mother, whose fragmented memories of political turmoil in twentieth-century China are sensitively threaded through the book in an eight-part poetic sequence, combined with recollections from Chan's childhood. As complex themes of multilingualism, queerness, psychoanalysis and cultural history emerge, so too does a richly imagined personal, maternal and national biography. The result is a series of poems that feel urgent and true, dazzling and devastating by turns.

MARY JEAN CHAN is the author of *Flèche*, published by Faber & Faber (2019) and Faber USA (2020). *Flèche* won the 2019 Costa Book Award for Poetry and was shortlisted in 2020 for the International Dylan Thomas Prize, the John Pollard Foundation International Poetry Prize, the Jhalak Prize and the Seamus Heaney Centre First Collection Poetry Prize. In 2021, *Flèche* was a Lambda Literary Award Finalist. Chan won the 2018 Geoffrey Dearmer Prize and was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best Single Poem twice, receiving an Eric Gregory Award in 2019. In Spring 2020, Chan was guest co-editor alongside Will Harris at *The Poetry Review*. Chan is Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing (Poetry) at Oxford Brookes University. Born and raised in Hong Kong, they currently live in Oxford.

UK publication date: Faber – July 2019

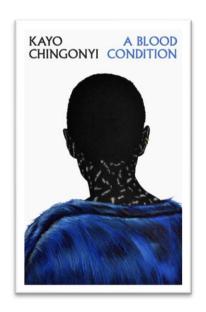
Praise for Flèche:

'Sparkling and vulnerable . . . the arrival of an essential new voice.' - Sarah Howe

'Heartbreaking and breathtaking poems . . . beautifully composed on every page.' - Diva Magazine

'Flèche is an extraordinary, brilliant and searing collection, its smouldering ardour beautifully governed by formal rigour and literary excellence.' – Bidisha

Agent: Emma Paterson



A Blood Condition by Kayo Chingonyi

♦Shortlisted for the Costa Poetry Award
♦Shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot Prize
♦Shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best Collection
♦Longlisted for the Jhalak Prize

The moving, expansive, and dazzling second collection from award-winning poet Kayo Chingonyi

Kayo Chingonyi's remarkable second collection follows the course of a 'blood condition' as it finds its way to deeply personal grounds. From the banks of the Zambezi river to London and Leeds, these poems speak to how distance and time, nations and history, can collapse

within a body.

With astonishing lyricism and musicality, this is a story of multiple inheritances -- of grief and survival, renewal and the painful process of letting go -- and a hymn to the people and places that run in our blood.

KAYO CHINGONYI was born in Zambia in 1987, and moved to the UK at the age of six. He is the author of two pamphlets, and a fellow of the Complete Works programme for diversity and quality in British Poetry. In 2012, he was awarded a Geoffrey Dearmer Prize, and was Associate Poet at the Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) in 2015. His first full-length collection, Kumukanda, won the Dylan Thomas Prize and a Somerset Maugham Award and was shortlisted for the Costa Poetry Prize. It was also shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Centre First Poetry Collection Prize, the Ted Hughes Award for New Work in Poetry, the Roehampton Poetry Prize and the Jhalak Prize. Kayo was a Burgess Fellow at the Centre for New Writing, University of Manchester, and an Associate Poet at The Institute of Contemporary Arts, London. He has performed his work at festivals and events around the world, is Poetry Editor for The White Review, and an Assistant Professor of Creative Writing at Durham University.

Publication date: Chatto & Windus - April 2021

Praise for A Blood Condition:

'One of the most arresting and beautiful set of poems of this or any year. His ability to blend music, grief and yearning is unmatched.' — *Guardian*

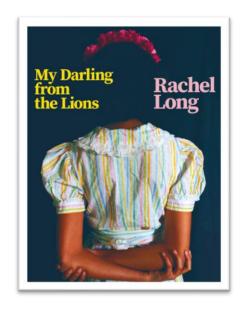
'A thing of beauty. It's a pleasure to read such a sure and strident second outing from one of our most celebrated young poets.' – Diana Evans

'An elegantly spare, cathartic and poignant but never indulgent collection that invites repeated reading.'

— Telegraph

"The musicality and the hard reason is just so fresh, you feel altered by it." - Andrew O'Hagan

'Chingonyi seems to have hit upon the telling image, the poem-as-snapshot, as a means of making his writing at once more exposed and more sharply defined... This new version of Chingonyi's voice, whittled down to its essentials and built on the seen, is behind almost all the best poems here... A Blood Condition...[is] a significant development in his work.' — Times Literary Supplement



My Darling from the Lions by Rachel Long

- **♦**Shortlisted for the Rathbones Folio Prize**♦**
- ♦Shortlisted for the 2020 Costa Poetry Award♦
- **♦**Shortlisted for the 2020 Forward Prize for Best First Collection**♦**
- **♦** Shortlisted for The Sunday Times Charlotte Aitken Young Writer of the Year Award**♦**

Each poem has a vivid story to tell – of family quirks, the perils of dating, the grip of religion or sexual awakening – stories that are, by turn, emotionally insightful, politically conscious, wise, funny and outrageous.

Long reveals herself as a razor-sharp and original voice on the issues of sexual politics and cultural inheritance that polarize our current moment. But it's her refreshing commitment to the power of the individual poem that will leave the reader turning each page in eager anticipation: here is an immediate, wide-awake poetry that entertains royally, without sacrificing a note of its urgency or remarkable skill.

RACHEL LONG is a poet and the founder of Octavia, a poetry collective for womxn of colour which is housed at The Southbank Centre in London. Long's poetry and prose have been published widely, most recently in *Filigree, Mal, The White Review, The Poetry Review* and *Granta*.

UK publication date: Picador – August 2020

Praise for My Darling from the Lions:

'A delight. It takes melancholic, surprising turns every couple of pages, with poems centred around combating body shame, sex and faith.' – Roger Robinson, *The Week*

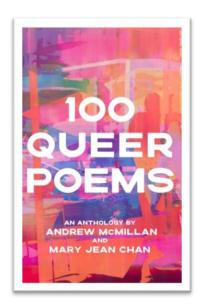
'An enchanting and heartwarming new voice in poetry.' - Bernardine Evaristo

'In My Darling from the Lions, Long embodies through verse at once sensual and breathless the tempo of desire. Here is life as sacred and profane, rendered by a voice so clear it cuts through everything and rings like a bell.' – Mary Jean Chan, author of Fleche

'Rachel Long's poems have a sculpted quality, voluptuous and sharp, as if carved in velvet and ice, not one word wasted. My Darling from the Lions is daring yet tactful, explosive yet reined in, as irrepressible as a lion squeezed into a matchbox – an extraordinary debut.' – Pascale Petit, author of Mama Amazonica

'This debut collection is the modern poetry we need to read right now.' – Stylist

Agent: Emma Paterson



100 Queer Poems Edited by Andrew McMillan and Mary Jean Chan

Andrew McMillan and Mary Jean Chan's luminous anthology, 100 Queer Poems, is a celebration of thrilling contemporary voices and visionary poets of the past.

Encompassing both the flowering of queer poetry over the past few decades and the poets who came before and broke new ground, 100 Queer Poems presents an electrifying range of writing from the twentieth century to the present day.

Questioning and redefining what we mean by a 'queer' poem, you'll find inside classics by Elizabeth Bishop, Langston Hughes, Wilfred Owen, Charlotte Mew and June Jordan, central contemporary figures

such as Mark Doty, Jericho Brown, Carol Ann Duffy, Kei Miller, Kae Tempest, Natalie Diaz and Ocean Vuong, alongside thrilling new voices including Chen Chen, Richard Scott, Harry Josephine Giles, Verity Spott and Jay Bernard.

Curated by two widely acclaimed poets, Andrew McMillan and Mary Jean Chan, 100 Queer Poems moves from childhood and adolescence to forging new homes and relationships with our chosen families, from urban life to the natural world, from explorations of the past to how we find and create our future selves. It deserves a place on the shelf of every reader keen to discover and rediscover how queer poets speak to one another across the generations.

Publication date: Vintage – 2nd June 2022

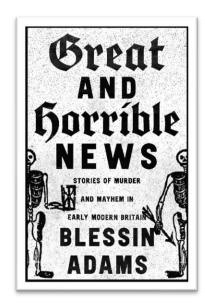
Praise for 100 Queer Poems:

'A diverse and gratifying new anthology of LGBTQ+ verse... this is an abundantly rich and rewarding collection, capturing how queer poets and their work speak to one another across generations.'— attitude

'100 Queer Poems is more than a landmark volume; it offers a golden opportunity for readers and writers to check in, refresh, reconnect. Old favourites sit alongside emerging stars and some surprises, gifting us with an anthology that marks the present moment and ushers in a new one.' — Okechukwu Nzelu, author of Here Again Now

Rights sales for *100 Queer Poems:* Aitken Alexander is handling rights in the introduction only; rights to the individual poems must be cleared separately.

NON-FICTION



Great and Horrible News

Murder and Mayhem in Early Modern Britain by Blessin Adams

In early modern England, murder truly was most foul. Trials were gossipy events packed to the rafters with noisome spectators. Executions were public proceedings which promised not only gore, but desperate confessions and the grandest, most righteous human drama. Bookshops saw grisly stories of crime and death sell like hot cakes.

This history unfolds the true stories of murder, criminal investigation, early forensic techniques, high court trials and so much more.

In thrilling narrative, we follow a fugitive killer through the streets of London, citizen detectives clamouring to help officials close the net.

We untangle the mystery of a suspected staged suicide through the newly emerging science of forensic pathology. We see a mother trying to clear her dead daughter's name while other women faced the accusations – sometimes true and sometimes not – of murdering their own children.

These stories are pieced together from original research using coroner's inquests, court records, parish archives, letters, diaries and the cheap street pamphlets that proliferated to satisfy a voracious public.

These intensely personal stories portray the lives of real people as they confronted the extraordinary crises of murder, infanticide, miscarriage and suicide. Many historical laws and attitudes concerning death and murder may strike us as exceptionally cruel, and yet many still remind us that some things never change: we are still fascinated by narratives of murder and true crime, murder trials today continue to be grand public spectacles, female killers are frequently cast as aberrant objects of public hatred and sexual desire, and suicide remains a sin within many religious organisations and was a crime in England until the 1960s.

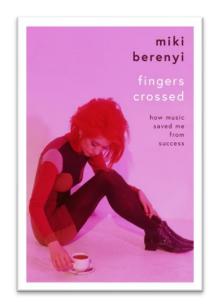
Great and Horrible News explores the strange history of death and murder in early modern Britain, yet the stories within may appear shockingly familiar.

BLESSIN ADAMS' fascination with historical true crime was largely formed by her previous career as a police officer. During this time, she was often the first on the scene for sudden and violent deaths and was privileged to participate in a wide range of investigations alongside other professionals in the varied fields of law enforcement and forensics. After several years of gruelling shift work, she left the force and found her calling as a researcher in early modern English law and literature at the University of East Anglia, where she received her doctorate. Much of her time over the past few years has been spent working in law libraries and archives throughout England, where she uncovered many compelling stories of early modern murder and mayhem. Blessin lives in Norfolk with her husband and two dogs, and enjoys beekeeping in her spare time.

UK publication date: HarperCollins – 30th March 2023

Rights sales for *Great and Horrible News:* World English (HarperCollins).

On behalf of Jane Turnbull



Fingers Crossed How Music Saved Me from Success by Miki Berenyi

Formed in 1988, Lush were part of the London gig scene during one of the most vibrant and creative periods in UK music. Now, Miki Berenyi tells all.

The book begins with her childhood of extremes. From the bohemian lifestyle of her father's social circle to the privileged glamour of her mother's acting career, Miki's young life was a blur of travel, celebrities and private schooling. But frequent relocation, parental neglect and the dark presence of her abusive grandmother resulted in crippling shyness, mental health issues and a vulnerability to exploitation. The route out of this hole was music – a passion shared by schoolmate Emma Anderson. The teenagers began attending gigs together and would eventually go on to form Lush.

Peppered with anecdotes involving a cast of hundreds (including Blur, Sean Connery, Tracey Emin, Pearl Jam and the Red Hot Chili Peppers), this uncompromising autobiography documents Lush's thrilling rise, dispiriting fall and subsequent bounceback, reliving the tours, recording sessions and problematic managers they experienced along the way. But at the heart of the book are Miki's own battles: the conflict between her mouthy public persona and her thin-skinned private identity; the trials of being a woman in an infuriatingly male world; the struggle to find a middle ground between safe indie obscurity and sellout international success. The memoir also explores Miki's complex relationship with Emma – one that has fluctuated between camaraderie and rivalry over the years – and addresses the most devastating tragedy of all: the suicide of her soulmate, Lush drummer Chris Acland.

Told through frank confession, wry humour and emotional honesty, this is the incredible tale of a trailblazing woman and a seminal band.

MIKI BERENYI is an English singer, songwriter and guitarist best known as a member of the alternative-rock band Lush. She is currently a member of Piroshka, who released their second album in July 2021.

UK publication date: Nine Eight Books (Bonnier) – 29th September

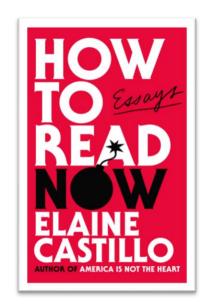
Praise for *Fingers Crossed:*

'Brave and forthright. It instils in you the thing most necessary from a musician's memoir: the urgent need to play the records again.' – John Niven

I felt like I was on the rollercoaster with Miki, from making mixtapes with her school friends to the wild dream of making it as a pop star. It's a gripping and delightful read even as, without an ounce of self-pity the bright energy of Miki's star is always tailed by darkness - the neglect and worse of an abusive childhood and the misogyny and exploitation that hangs like a pall over the Britpop years. A thrilling, moving and essential book for anyone who grew up in love with pop music.' – Samira Ahmed

'This is extraordinarily good. A memoir that reads like a novel, full of vivid characters, wild highs and lows and brutal honesty. And it's the single best thing I've read on the sexism and toxicity at the heart of Britpop.' – Matt Osman, Suede

Agent: Jane Turnbull



How to Read Now by Elaine Castillo

★Roxane Gay's September selection for Audacious Book Club**★**

How many times have we heard that reading builds our empathy? That we can travel through books? How often have we heard about the importance of diversifying our bookshelves? Or claimed that books saved our life? Of course, these familiar words—beautiful, aspirational—are sometimes even true. But reading is—and can be—more powerful, more relevant, and more vital than we currently let it be.

How to Read Now explores the politics and ethics of reading, and insists that we are all capable of something better: a more engaged relationship not just with our fiction and our art, but with our buried

and entangled histories. Smart, funny, galvanizing, and sometimes profane, Castillo attacks the stale questions and less-than-critical proclamations that masquerade as vital discussion: reimagining the cartography of the classics, building a moral case against the settler colonialism of lauded writers like Joan Didion, taking aim at Nobel Prize winners and toppling indie film makers, and celebrating glorious moments in everything from popular TV like The Watchmen to the films of Wong Kar-Wai and the work of contemporary poets like Tommy Pico.

At once a deeply personal and searching history of one woman's reading life, and a wide-ranging and vital intervention into our globalized conversations about why reading matters today, *How To Read Now* empowers us to embrace a more complicated, embodied form of reading, and invites us to acknowledge complicated truths, ignite surprising connections, imagine a more daring solidarity, and create space for a riskier intimacy--within ourselves, and with each other.

ELAINE CASTILLO was named one of "30 of the Planet's Most Exciting Young People" by the Financial Times, and was born and raised in the Bay Area. Her debut novel *America is Not the Heart* was finalist for numerous prizes including the Elle Award, the Center for Fiction Prize, and the Aspen Words Prize and was named a best book of 2018 by NPR, Real Simple, Lit Hub, The Boston Globe, San Francisco Chronicle, The New York Post, Kirkus Reviews, and The New York Public Library.

UK publication date: UK (Atlantic) – 4th August 2022; US (Viking) – 26th July 2022

Praise for *How to Read Now:*

'Masterly...An engaging and provocative conversation with a playful interlocutor who wanted me, her reader, to talk back... *How to Read Now* is a book that doesn't seek to shut down the current literary discourse so much as shake it up.' – *New York Times Book Review*

Each of the book's eight essays burns bright and hot from start to finish... *How to Read Now* offers its audience the opportunity to look past the simplicity we're all too often spoon-fed into order to restore ourselves to chaos and complexity — a way of seeing and reading that demands so much more of us but offers even more in return.' – *Los Angeles Times*

Rights sales for *How to Read Now:* UK (Atlantic), US (Viking), Romania (Black Button).

Rights sales for *America Is Not the Heart:* UK (Atlantic), US (Viking), Denmark (Gyldendal), France (Delcourt), Israel (Sendik), Italy (Solferino), Poland (Foksal), Romania (Black Button).

Agent: Emma Paterson



Story of a Heart by Rachel Clarke

Every so often in the world of medicine, you come across a story so haunting, so extraordinary, it simply demands to be told. In 2017, the palliative care doctor and author Rachel Clarke read about Max Johnson who lay, slowly dying despite the strenuous efforts of his doctors to keep him alive. Max had been a cheeky, hyperactive, obsessed with football nine-year old. Then, from nowhere, a virus ravaged his heart, causing it to fail. Max had not left hospital since. Without a transplant, he was doomed.

On July 2017, eight-year-old Keira Ball suffered a catastrophic brain injury when the car her mother was driving careered into oncoming traffic. When she was declared brain, Keira's father didn't hesitate to offer her organs for donation. Her heart, lungs, liver and kidneys saved the lives of six children, one of whom was Max. When Keira's heart resumed its rhythm inside Max's body, it was a medical miracle.

Shortly after Max received his life-saving surgery, his story appeared in a newspaper. Keira's mother, Loanna, realised that the little boy was almost certainly the same whose parents had recently sent her an anonymous letter, overflowing with gratitude for the gift of her daughter's heart. The two mothers began to message. Though transplant services go to great lengths to ensure donor and recipient families never meet, Max's family welcomed Keira's into their home to meet the boy whose life she had saved. During the encounter, someone had thought to bring a stethoscope. And there, Loanna heard the beat of her own dead daughter's heart as it pumped warmth and life through Max's body.

With the full support of everyone involved, Rachel Clarke will be breaking new ground, using her deep humanity and empathy both to explain the practice, science and medicine of heart transplants while chronologically unfolding the story of two families who were to become united by one human heart.

RACHEL CLARKE is a palliative care doctor, newspaper journalists and author of three bestselling books, *Your Life in my Hands, Dear Life* and *Breathtaking*, which she is currently adapting for TV with Jed Mercurio. She is a major influencer concerning health, doctors and politics and her twitter account as @doctor.oxford has over quarter of a million followers.

UK publication date: Little, Brown – Spring 2025

Praise for previous title, Dear Life:

♦ Sunday Times bestseller ♦

♦ Shortlisted for the Costa Biography Prize ♦

'A truly beautiful book about death and life and the price of love. Told by a doctor, with compassion and wisdom. I cried, but they were warm, comforting tears. It made me think about stuff I fear in a new and better way.' – Matt Haig

'This is a wonderful book. Rachel takes the worst life can throw at us and shows us the beauty in it, and the very best of human nature.' – Adam Kay

Rights sales for previous title, *Dear Life:* UK (Little Brown), US (Thomas Dunne), Brazil (Companhia Editora Nacional), China (United Sky), Czech (Euromedia), Korea (Maven), Russia (AST), Ukraine (Old Lion), Vietnam (AZ Communications); **Japanese co-agent:** The English Agency.

Material available: Proposal; Delivery: February 2024 (70-80k words)



The Perfection Trap

The Power of Good Enough in a World that Always Wants More by Thomas Curran

When did 'good enough' become the same as 'perfect'? Why does society increasingly promote ideals that are completely unrealistic? And what does it mean for all of us that perfectionism is on the rise?

In *The Perfection Trap*, you'll discover what's really driving the rise in perfectionism, its impact on how we learn, work, parent and relate to ourselves and each other. From the personal to the impact on the economy, grounded in over a decade of research and filled with real stories, this timely book reveals how our quest for perfection impacts our health and mental well-being and promises practical techniques

and policy proposals to help us break free of the perfection trap.

THOMAS CURRAN is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychological and Behavioural Science at the London School of Economics. His TED talk, 'Our Dangerous Obsession with Perfectionism is Getting Worse', has been viewed more than 2.7 million times. He has written for the *Harvard Business Review*, and his research has been covered by the *New Scientist*, *Goop*, *Guardian*, *Telegraph*, Ariana Huffington's *Thrive Global* and many others.

UK publication date: Cornerstone – 1st June 2023

Rights sales for *The Perfection Trap:* UK (Cornerstone), US (Scribner), Brazil (Companhia das Letras), China (Beijing Qianqiu Zhiye), Czech (Dokoran), Germany (Rowohlt), Greece (Metaichmio), Italy (Einaudi), Japan (Kobunsha), Korea (Business Books), Lithuania (Baltos Lankos), Netherlands (Het Spectrum), Poland (Zysk), Romania (Trei), Russia (Exmo), Sweden (Mondial), Turkey (Kronik).

Material available: Uncopyedited manuscript (70k words)



Metropolis Now by Des Fitzgerald

We are living in one of the greatest periods of urbanization in human history. There are more cities in the world today than there have ever been, and larger and larger proportions of us are living in those cities – up to two-thirds of the world's population a few decades from now. As this change takes place a set of shared anxieties have started to bubble to the surface of the collective consciousness: is all this definitely positive? Are we certain we should all be living in cities? What did we lose when we left behind our rural, pastoral modes of life? And perhaps most importantly, are cities actually *good* for us – not only in terms of our physical health but also psychologically, even emotionally?

In universities, architecture firms, urban planning offices and neuroscience labs there are people working away on these questions, thinking about how we will live in the future and how urban spaces can contribute to our wellbeing. The ideas range from the commonplace – planting trees and building parks, forest therapy – to the more unusual – encouraging people to email trees, forest cities, buildings whose designs follow those of termite mounds – but almost always assume that what cities need is to be less like cities and more like the countryside.

In *Metropolis Now* social scientist Des Fitzgerald asks what all this will mean for those living in cities, and what the work being done on how our urban spaces will look in the future reveals about our relationship with cities and, inversely, with the rural. He will visit the people working on the city of the future at the Academy of Neuroscience for Architecture in San Diego and the Jonas Salk Laboratory in La Jolla, California; take us to congresses like the World Congress on Forests for Public Health, and visit researchers in London and Japan to learn about work on the ecological brain. And he'll set all of this in a historical context that takes in the urban park movement of the 19th century, Le Corbusier, the Bauhaus (and penguins), Stalin and others, asking whether these really are new developments, or new manifestations of a long-held unease around urban spaces in the industrial age.

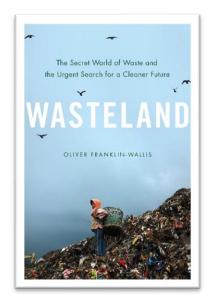
Based on original research for which Des received a Philip Leverhulme Prize, a £100,000 award for researchers whose work has had international impact and whose future research career is exceptionally promising, *Metropolis Now* is a book about how we've lived and will live. It is partly the story of a new scientific and medical discipline, not focused on the body or mind but on the physical spaces we live and work in, but it's also a familiar story about our relationship with nature and our shared anxieties about urban civilisation.

DES FITZGERALD is a social scientist at Cardiff University whose work crosses sociology, psychology and neuroscience. He was a 2018 BBC New Generation Thinker and his research has been supported by the Leverhulme Trust, the Wellcome Trust and the Economic and Social Research Council among others.

UK publication date: Faber – 2023

Rights sales for *Metropolis Now:* UK (Faber), US (Basic Books); **Japanese co-agent:** The English Agency.

Material available: proposal – Delivery: October 2022



Wasteland

The Secret World of Waste and the Urgent Search for a Cleaner Future by Oliver Franklin-Wallis

We are living in a waste crisis – the world is overflowing with our trash. Straws and bottles, packages in every imaginable form, billions of toys and trinkets made out of fossil fuel. We are more wasteful than ever before, and wasting more each year: in 2016 humans produced 2.01 billion tonnes of solid waste; by 2050 that number is expected to rise to 3.4 billion. The UK produces 223 million tonnes per year, or 1.1kg per person per day. In the US, the world's most wasteful nation, the average person produces 2kg of rubbish per day.

These truths are inconvenient, and when it comes to our waste most of us want it out of sight and out of mind. Such thinking is what has enabled the emergence of the waste industry, a \$300 billion global enterprise determined to profit from what we leave behind. It's an industry hidden from view – trucks moving at night, dumps hidden behind corrugated iron fences their smell hidden by purpose-built deodorising machines – with a history that includes the New York mafia and the Italian 'Ndrangheta, which in the 1980s and 90s illegally smuggled nuclear waste and dumped it off the coast of Africa. For a long time the waste industry's biggest customer was China, which allowed many wealthy nations to offshore its waste, but on New Year's Day 2018 China closed its doors and the dirty truth started to emerge. Much of our waste has never been recycled but is in landfill in Thailand, India, Malaysia and Vietnam, countries with among the highest rates of waste mismanagement in the world. The costs, both human and ecological, are catastrophic.

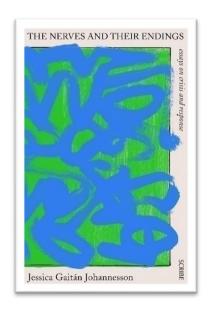
Oliver Franklin-Wallis will take us on a journey through our waste. We'll go to South-East Asia and Africa, examining where our plastic and our electronic waste goes. We will go back in time, to see how our attempts to control human sewage – the original waste – reshaped cities, redirected rivers, and enabled the growth of the modern world. We will see how our burial of nuclear waste means developing post-human architecture and grappling with deep time. And we will travel in search of innovative solutions, meeting the characters pioneering ground-breaking recycling techniques, developing advanced sorting robots, and embracing age-old business models and brand new ones. Oliver will force us to face the realities of what we throw away, and encourage us to ask what is the mark we leave on the world? And is there a better way to live?

OLIVER FRANKLIN-WALLIS is an award-winning magazine journalist. His writing has appeared in British GQ (where he is Features Editor), WIRED the Guardian, the New York Times, the Economist, The Times Magazine, The Sunday Times Magazine, Men's Health and many other publications. In 2017, he was named 'Print Writer Of The Year' by the British Society Of Magazine Editors. Wasteland will be his first book.

UK publication date: Simon & Schuster – 22nd June 2023

Rights sold: UK (Simon & Schuster), US (Hachette), Italy (Mondadori); Japanese co-agent: Japan Uni.

Material available: Manuscript (90k words)



The Nerves and their Endings

Essays on Crisis and Response by Jessica Gaitán Johannesson

The body as a measuring tool for planetary harm. A nervous system under increasing stress.

In this urgent collection that moves from the personal to the political and back again, writer, activist, and migrant Jessica Gaitán Johannesson explores how we respond to crises.

She draws parallels between an eating disorder and environmental neurosis, examines the perils of an activist movement built on nonparenthood, dissects the privilege of how we talk about hope, and more

The synapses that spark between these essays connect essential narratives of response and responsibility, community and choice, belonging and bodies. They carry vital signals.

JESSICA GAITÁN JOHANNESSON grew up between Sweden, Colombia, and Ecuador. She's a bookseller and an activist working for climate justice, and lives in Edinburgh. Her first novel, *How We Are Translated*, was longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize.

Publication date: Scribe – 11th August 2022

Praise for The Nerves and their Endings:

'The Nerves and Their Endings is a beautifully written, original collection of essays that explores identity, place, home, and hope. These essays ask how we might not only live in a time of climate collapse, but how we might work towards a better future also — one of community, shared understanding, and tenderness, even in the face of such terrible inequality, cruelty, loss, and disaster. This is a book that's truly necessary for our moment.' — Rebecca Tamás, author of *Strangers*

'The Nerves and Their Endings is a beautiful book full of solidarity, grief, and love. Jessica writes with a soft, ardent touch about the climate crisis, the climate movement, and living across borders. I felt I was being spoken to by a friend and also by a poet.' – Yara Rodrigues Fowler, author of there are more things

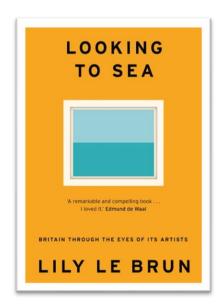
'The Nerves and Their Endings is both important and beautiful. Jessica Gaitán Johannesson writes compellingly about the need to view the climate crisis in a wider context. We should all be listening to her.' – Jessie Greengrass, author of *The High House*

'Through these remarkable personal essays and poetry on crisis and climate, crystal clear and unflinching, Jessica Gaitán Johannesson allows us the space to absorb and respond to our own intimate histories while considering the ways we connect (and can be of use to) to the world around us. Truly a talent, this a powerful, generous, community-minded book, and I feel wiser and more empowered for having read it.' – Niven Govinden, author of *Diary of a Film*

'A pained, dedicated book, which thinks with care about how planetary, personal, and political are inseparable. It seeks out what matters, and where there is most at stake. I found its stories of ecological crisis and intimate experience absorbing, Gaitán Johannessen has a clear analytical voice and a gently deprecating sense of humour.' – Daisy Hildyard, author of *Emergency*

Rights sales for The Nerves and their Endings: UK (Scribe); Japanese co-agent: Japan Uni.

Agent: Lisa Baker



Looking To Sea Britain Through the Eyes of its Artists by Lily Le Brun

★A Bookseller Editor's Pick★

An alternative history of modern Britain, *Looking to Sea* is an exquisite work of cultural, artistic and philosophical storytelling.

Looking to Sea considers ten pivotal artworks, from Vanessa Bell's Studland Beach, one of the first modernist paintings in Britain, to Paul Nash's work bearing the scars of his experience in the trenches and Martin Parr's photographs of seaside resorts in the 1980s, which raised controversial questions of class. Each of the startlingly different pieces, created between 1912 and 2015, opens a window onto big

ideas, from modernism and the sublime, the impact of the world wars and colonialism, to issues crucial to our world today like the environment and nationhood.

In this astonishingly perceptive portrait of the twentieth century, art critic Lily Le Brun brings a fresh eye to a vast idea, offering readers an imaginative new way of seeing our island nation.

LILY LE BRUN is an arts writer based in London. She has worked for Sotheby's and Christie's auction houses, and written for publications such as *Art Quarterly, the Financial Times* and *The Economist*. In 2018 Lily won a RSL Giles St Aubyn Award for the early chapters of *Looking to Sea*.

UK publication date: Sceptre – 3rd November 2022

Praise for Looking To Sea:

'This enthralling work of cultural, artistic and philosophical history views Britain in the 20th century through the prism of 10 celebrated artworks of the sea, one for each decade; from "Studland Beach" by Vanessa Bell, to Paul Nash's work which bears the scars of his experiences in the trenches, and Martin Parr's photos of seaside resorts in the 80's.' – *The Bookseller's* Editor's Choice

'Looking to Sea is a remarkable and compelling book... I loved it.' - Edmund de Waal

'Le Brun's writing is at once bold and delicate, far-reaching and fine-tuned. Her book explores the inexhaustible variety of human perception.' – Alexandra Harris

'A smart and clear-eyed set of meditations on marine gaze, made with a painterly touch worthy of the chosen artists. Empathy and intelligence lift memoir into cultural history.' – Iain Sinclair

Rights sales for Looking To Sea: UK (Sceptre).

Agent: Emma Paterson



Edda Mussolini

The Most Dangerous Woman in Europe by Caroline Moorehead

The bestselling author of A Train in Winter and A House in the Mountains returns with the incredible story of Mussolini's daughter, Edda, one of the most influential women in 1930s Italy, whose life had more twists and turns than a spy novel.

Edda Mussolini was Benito's favourite daughter: spoiled and venal, uneducated but clever, faithless but flamboyant, a brilliant diplomat, wild but brave, and ultimately strong and loyal.

She was her father's confidante during the twenty years of Fascist rule—acting as envoy to both Germany and Britain, she played a part in steering Italy to join forces with Hitler. In 1930, at the age of

nineteen, she married Count Galeazzo Ciano, who would become the youngest Foreign Secretary in Italian history. The Cianos became the most celebrated and glamorous couple in elegant, vulgar Roman fascist society.

Their fortunes turned in 1943, when Ciano voted against Mussolini in a plot to bring him down, and his father-in-law did not forgive him. In a dramatic story that includes hidden diaries, Edda's father's fall and her husband's execution, an escape into Switzerland and a period in exile, we come to know a complicated, bold and determined woman—one who emerges not just as a witness but as a key player in some of the twentieth century's defining moments. And we see Fascist Italy with all its glamour, decadence and political intrigue, and the turbulence before its violent end.

CAROLINE MOOREHEAD is the author of the international bestsellers A House in the Mountains, A Train in Winter, A Bold and Dangerous Family and Village of Secrets, nominated for the Samuel Johnson Prize for Non-Fiction. Caroline Moorehead is also the biographer of Bertrand Russell, Freya Stark, Iris Origo and Martha Gellhorn. She lives in London and Italy.

Publication date: Chatto – 27th October 2022

Praise for previous title, A House in the Mountains:

'Moorehead paints a wonderfully vivid and moving portrait of the women of the Italian Resistance...an excellent book... She depicts a tragic fate that is timeless, of dreams forged in adversity, shattered by collisions with practical politics.' – Max Hastings, *Sunday Times*

'A brilliant overview of the war in Italy from the perspective of the female partisans.' - Clare Mulley, Spectator, Books of 2019

Brilliantly and subtly told... The narrative is told with such verve that I frequently had goosebumps: the men and women known from much drier history books come alive... a riveting read.' – Tobias Jones, Guardian

Rights sales for Edda: UK (Chatto), US (HarperCollins), Canada (Knopf), Romania (Cetatea de Scaun).

Rights sales for previous title, *A House in the Mountains:* UK (Chatto), US (HarperCollins), Canada (Knopf), Arabic (Dar Al Saqi), China (Social Sciences Academic Press), Italy (Bollati Boringhieri).

On behalf of Jane Turnbull



Lead Sister The Story of Karen Carpenter by Lucy O'Brien

Formed in 1969, sibling duo Richard and Karen Carpenter created lush soundscapes of melodic pop, and the Carpenters became one of the biggest selling acts of the 1970s and early 1980s, with global hits like 'We've Only Just Begun', 'Rainy Days And Mondays', 'Only Yesterday' and 'Superstar'. Before Karen's tragic death from anorexia in 1983, the duo recorded eight classic albums, and had three number one and five number two singles on the Billboard Hot 100. They have sold more than 100 million records worldwide, making them one of the best-selling music acts of all time.

With this book, music author Lucy O'Brien captures what was special about Karen, the Lead Sister. She was self-effacing about her talent, and disinclined to talk about it, and this, coupled with the sexism of the 1960s and 70s, meant that her words and her contribution were downplayed, almost buried. In order to tease out who Karen was as an artist and musician, there is detective work – not just with interviewing friends and musicians who worked with her, but digging through radio and media archives to find her words – what she said about herself and the process, what she communicated in song, and how she saw the world.

Now, forty years after her death, we can still hear in her voice a deep understanding of the power and pain of love. Paul McCartney once described it as the 'best female voice in the world: melodic, tuneful, distinctive'. Karen is now recognised – along with Frank Sinatra, Aretha Franklin and Dusty Springfield - as one of the greatest singers in popular music. This is her story.

LUCY O'BRIEN is an academic with a PhD is on women's agency and power in popular music. As an author, she has written several books, such as *She Bop: The Definitive History of Women in Popular Music, It Takes Blood And Guts*, a memoir co-authored with Skin, *Dusty: The Classic Biography, and Madonna: Like An Icon*, which was translated into 13 languages. Lucy has contributed to numerous publications including Q, *Mojo, NME, The Sunday Times, Guardian, Cosmopolitan,* and *Marie Claire*, and she is also a TV/radio broadcaster.

UK publication date: Nine Eight Books (Bonnier) – February 2023

Praise for Lucy O'Brien:

'O'Brien enthuses about music so elegantly that one immediately has to seek out the records she describes, and she forces you to reassess the exploitative images of female songwriters and musicians that were, and still are, being used every day.' – Caitlin Moran

Rights sales for Lead Sister: UK (Nine Eight Books); Japanese co-agent: Tuttle Mori.

Material available: Unedited manuscript (75k words)

Agent: Jane Turnbull



Witness Trial of the Century by Lucia Osborne-Crowley

The explosive, behind-the-scenes account of the criminal trial of the century.

In November 2021, Ghislaine Maxwell was convicted of five counts of sex-trafficking of minors, and now faces 55 years in prison for the role she played in Jeffrey Epstein's abuse of four girls. The trial was meticulously covered by journalist and legal reporter Lucia Osborne-Crowley, one of only four reporters allowed into the courtroom every day.

Witness: The Trial of the Century is her account of that trial, a gripping true crime drama and a blistering critique of a criminal justice system ill-equipped to deliver justice for abuse survivors, no matter the outcome.

Centering the stories of four women and their testimonies, and supplemented by extra material to which Osborne-Crowley has exclusive access, *Witness* brings this incendiary trial to life, questions our age-old appetite for crime and punishment and offers a new blueprint for meaningful reparative justice.

LUCIA OSBORNE-CROWLEY is a trained lawyer, legal reporter and journalist and the author of two books, *I Choose Elena* (2019) and *My Body Keeps Your Secrets* (2021). Her forensic but accessible reporting of the Maxwell trial was described as some of the best and most trauma-informed coverage of the case, and saw her social media following grow by over 35,000 followers. She has appeared as an expert journalist on the Maxwell and Prince Andrew cases on BBC News, Sky News, LBC News and BBC Radio among others. Her analysis appeared in print in *The Independent* and *ABC news*. Elsewhere, her news reporting has appeared in the *Guardian, The Sunday Times* and *GQ Magazine* and her literary writing has been published in *Granta* and *Meanjin*.

UK publication date: Fourth Estate – Summer 2023

Praise for previous title, My Body Keeps Your Secrets:

'Essential reading ... throughout this absorbing, intelligent and harrowing memoir, she shows that trauma takes one beyond language.' – Times Literary Supplement

'This book is a burning manifesto for the revolutionary act of articulating shame and trauma. It is a testament to the feminist praxis of listening to each other's stories in collective solidarity as a refusal of erasure and a way to claim presence and power in the world.' – Jessica Andrews, author of *Milk Teeth*

Lucia Osborne-Crowley writes through and beyond shame with clarity and lyricism in this timely book.'

– Sinéad Gleeson, author of Constellations: Essays on Bodies, Art, Illness

Rights sales for Witness: UK (Fourth Estate), ANZ (Allen & Unwin).

Material available: proposal; Delivery: December 2022

Agent: Emma Paterson



Fear An Alternative History of the World by Robert Peckham

A ground-breaking examination of the societal impact of fear that gives us a thrilling new insight on world history.

It's been said that, after 9/11, the 2008 financial crash and the Covid-19 pandemic, we're a more fearful society than ever before. Yet fear, and the panic it produces, have long been driving forces – perhaps *the* driving forces – of world history: fear of God, of famine, war, disease, poverty, and other people. In *Fear: An Alternative History of the World*, Robert Peckham considers the impact of fear in history, as both a coercive tool

of power and a catalyst for social change.

Beginning with the Black Death in the fourteenth century, Peckham traces a shadow history of fear. He takes us through the French Revolution and the social movements of the nineteenth century to modern market crashes, Cold War paranoia and the AIDS pandemic, into a digital culture marked increasingly by uniquely twenty-first-century fears.

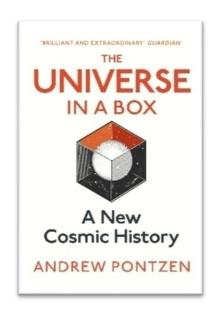
What did fear mean to us in the past, and how can a better understanding of it equip us to face the future? As Peckham demonstrates, fear can challenge as well as cement authority: some crises have destroyed societies; others have been the making of them. Through the stories of the people and the moments that changed history, Fear: An Alternative History of the World reveals how fear and panic made us who we are.

ROBERT PECKHAM is a cultural historian and founder of Open Cube, an organization that promotes the integration of the arts, science, and technology for health. He was previously Professor of History and MB Lee Endowed Professor in the Humanities and Medicine at the University of Hong Kong. He has held fellowships at Cambridge, Oxford, LSE, and King's College London, and been a visiting scholar at NYU. A fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he has published in Foreign Affairs, New Statesman, Prospect, The Guardian, The Independent, and The Times Literary Supplement. He lives in New York.

UK publication date: Profile – September 2023

Rights sales for *Fear:* UK & Translation (Profile); **Translation Rights handled by Aitken Alexander**; **Japanese co-agent:** Tuttle Mori.

Material available: Uncopyedited manuscript (110k words)



The Universe In A Box

A New Cosmic History by Andrew Pontzen

How was our universe built? What happened at its beginning? And where do humans fit in?

We are a minuscule part of an incredible continuum: a chain of events spanning 13.8 billion years, with an infinite future. But what does that future hold? And will we ever truly understand our cosmic home?

The Universe In a Box is Andrew Pontzen's tribute to simulation – the remarkable fusion of technology and science that, over the last century, has allowed us to understand the distant past and far future

of the universe. It challenges everything we think we know about galaxies, black holes and matter itself. And it reveals the pioneer scientists who unlocked mysteries of space, from redshift to improbable dark materials that pass, ghost-like, through solid rock.

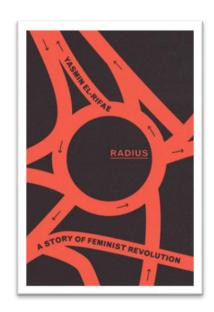
Illuminating, provocative and bold, this is the story of the computer codes that allow us to look up, to learn, and to discover our place in the cosmos.

ANDREW PONTZEN is Professor of Cosmology at University College London, and a Royal Society University Research Fellow. His research, which has won national and international awards, uses galaxies and other structures observed by telescopes today to shed light on fundamental physics such as the nature of dark matter, dark energy, and the very early Universe. He worked with Stephen Hawking to write new updates for A Brief History of Time, and has written for the New Scientist, BBC Sky at Night and BBC Focus. He is also a regular contributor to BBC Radio 4's Inside Science and Curious Cases of Rutherford and Fry, and a series of videos for TED-ED on Einstein's relativity, written and presented with Tom Whyntie, has been viewed more than 2.2 million times. In 2020 he was awarded the Royal Astronomical Society's Gerald Withrow Prize for bringing cosmology to wide audiences.

UK publication date: Jonathan Cape – 15th June 2023

Rights sales for *The Universe in a Box:* UK (Jonathan Cape), US (Riverhead), Italy (Adelphi), Japan (Diamond), Korea (RH), Netherlands (Atlas Contact), Poland (Zysk), Russia (AST), Spain (Debate).

Material available: Uncopyedited manuscript (70k words)



Radius

A Story of Feminist Revolution by Yasmin El-Rifae

A haunting, intimate account of the women and men who built a feminist revolution in the middle of the Arab Spring.

In 2012, the joyful hopes of the democratic Egyptian Revolution were tempered by revelations of mass sexual assault in Tahrir Square in Cairo, the revolution's symbolic birthplace.

This is the story of the women and men who formed Opantish – Operation Anti-Sexual Harassment – who deployed hundreds of volunteers, scouts rescue teams, and getaway drivers to intervene in the spiralling cases of sexual violence against women protesters in the square. Organized and led by women during 2012–2013 – the

final, chaotic months of Egypt's revolution – teams of volunteers fought their way into circles of men to pull the woman at the center to safety. Often, they risked assault themselves.

Journalist Yasmin El-Rifae was one of Opantish's organizers, and this is her evocative, aching account of their work, as they raced to develop new tactics, struggled with a revolution bleeding into counter-revolution, and dealt with the long aftermath of assault and devastation. Told in a daring, hybrid narrative style drawn from years of interviews and her own, intimate experience, it is a story of overlapping circles: the circles of male attackers activists had to break through, the ways sexual violence can be circled off as "irrelevant" to political struggle, and the endless repetitive loops of living with trauma.

Introducing a powerful new voice, a writer whose searchingly beautiful, spare prose cuts to the core of a story ever more urgent and relevant: of women's resistance when all else has failed.

YASMIN EL-RIFAE is a writer and editor. She works with *Mada Masr* in Cairo, a progressive Egyptian newsmagazine, and is a co-producer of the Palestine Festival of Literature. Her writing has appeared in the *Guardian, Nation, Lux, LitHub,* and *Guernica.* This is her first book.

Publication date: Verso – 18th October 2022

Praise for Radius:

'I devoured this book in one sitting. A must-read.' - New York Times

'Powerful testimony of the Egyptian revolution destroying itself and the courageous people who hoped to save it.' – *Kirkus*

'Readers won't soon forget El-Rifae's captivating book; essential reading for feminists and historians.'

– Library Journal

'This book is one of the most powerful reports on rescue work done in a revolutionary war zone that I have ever read; and the fact that it is work done by women on behalf of other women who've been sexually harassed (to put it mildly) not by the enemy but by their fellow revolutionaries makes it all the more gripping.' – Vivian Gornick, author of *Taking a Long Look*

Rights sales for *Radius:* World English (Verso).

Agent: Lisa Baker



The Women's Orchestra of Auschwitz by Anne Sebba

In 1943, a women's orchestra was formed at one of the most brutal death camps ever created on the order of German SS officers. Some 47 or so young girls, not all Jewish, and who had been sent to Auschwitz-Birkenau from various countries, played in this hotchpotch band of hurriedly assembled instruments including guitar, mandolin, accordion, drums and violin. Although several other concentration camps boasted male orchestras, the female orchestra at Auschwitz was unique as there was no other female-only band in any of the camps, prisons or ghettos created by the Nazis. For almost all of women, it saved their lives.

In addition to playing daily when the prisoners went out and came back into the camp, they also performed concerts on Sundays. Occasionally they were summoned by Nazi officers to give individual performances. Here is one of the fundamental conundrums at the heart of this story; how was it possible that these most barbaric killers could display genuine emotion on hearing such beautiful music? The cellist Anita Lasker-Wallfish recalled being requested to play Schumann's Träumerei, and seeing tears in the eyes of Dr Joseph Mengele, while the pianist and singer, Fania Fénelon insisted that the favourite tune of the sadistic female superintendent, Maria Mandel, was Puccini's aria from Madam Butterfly, Un Bel Di Vedremo.

The orchestra lasted only until October 1944 when the surviving Jewish members were moved to Belsen, non-Jewish to Ravensbrück. Two women died at this point. There is just one member of the orchestra who is still alive, Anita Lasker-Wallfisch, the orchestra's only cellist, who began talking about her experiences only in the 1980s.

The women in the orchestra of Auschwitz had to suffer the accusation from their fellow prisoners that they were subverting their art in order to aid and comfort their torturers. If they survived, they had to learn to live with that torment for the rest of their lives. Merely surviving was a form of resistance to Nazi ideology, but in 1943 there was no time for philosophizing. Survival had to be its own reward.

ANNE SEBBA is one of Britain's most distinguished biographers. Formerly a Reuters correspondent based in London and Rome, she has written ten works of non-fiction, mostly about iconic women, and presented BBC radio documentaries. She is the author of the international bestsellers including *That Woman*, an acclaimed biography of Wallis Simpson, Duchess of Windsor, and *Ethel Rosenberg*.

UK publication date: W&N – Autumn 2025

Praise for previous title, Ethel Rosenberg:

'In Anne Sebba, Ethel Rosenberg has found the ideal biographer, sympathetic without being blind to her faults and a sure understanding of the period. Her portrayal is compelling . . . it is impossible to read her account of Ethel's last days without being moved.' – *Literary Review*

Rights sales for *Ethel Rosenberg:* UK (Weidenfeld & Nicolson), US (St. Martin's Press), France (Le Duc); **Film/TV rights:** Michael Edelstein for Miramax TV.

Material available: Proposal; Delivery: September 2024



The Trading Game by Gary Stevenson

In 2011, 25-year-old Gary Stevenson became Citibank's most profitable trader in the world. In 2014, he gave it all up. Why would a millionaire trader give up a job he's dreamed of since being a kid? Why does nobody else seem to see what he sees? And for how many years does he have to be right before people start to listen?

Gary Stevenson grew up in Ilford on the outskirts of East London, in a little terraced house sandwiched between an abandoned factory and a recycling centre. His was an upbringing dominated by poverty – the threat of it hanging over his family and the families of the

friends on his street he used to play football with. But then the skyscrapers of Canary Wharf started to emerge on the horizon, offering the possibility of something bigger.

The path to those towers starts at the London School of Economics. While there he hears about a competition run by Citigroup: The Trading Game, a maths-based card game open to students at the UK's top universities. He wins. The prize: one internship on the trading floor, which turns into a job offer on an unfashionable desk trading interest rates.

In 2008, at 21, he has a front-row seat as colleagues on other desks explode the world economy. But while friends at Lehman Brothers are losing their jobs, Gary and his immediate colleagues are thriving. At the end of his first year he is handed an enormous bonus – more money than he'd ever imagined – but something about it doesn't make sense. Traders and economists keep on predicting things will get better, but he's seen what's happening to ordinary people back home in Ilford. They're losing their homes, their jobs and their savings, while the rich keep getting richer.

By 2011 he understood why: inequality was the problem. Wealth flowed from governments and ordinary families to an increasingly super-rich elite, draining the spending power of the middle and working classes. That could only mean one thing: that there would never be an economic recovery. House prices would rise, real wages would fall, broad living standards would collapse. He went back to his desk and put a huge bet on the death of the global economy. By the end of the year he was Citibank's most profitable trader globally. He was also a millionaire.

But for how long is it possible to make money by betting on the immiseration of those closest to you? Not long, it turns out. Within a couple of years, depressed and disillusioned, Gary quit. And then all hell broke loose...

GARY STEVENSON left trading in 2014, convinced that solving inequality was the only way to repair the world economy. Since then he has studied for an MSc at Oxford, volunteered at economic think tanks and founded a YouTube channel, GarysEconomics, which explains real-life economic problems to ordinary people. He has written for the *Guardian*, *New Statesman*, *Mirror*, *OpenDemocracy* and others, been profiled by the *Observer* and the *New Statesman*, and appears regularly on television and radio.

UK publication date: Allen Lane – spring 2024

Rights sales for *The Trading Game:* UK (Allen Lane), US (Crown), Germany (Ariston, Heyne), Japan (Hayakawa), Netherlands (Ambo Anthos).

Material available: Proposal; Delivery: September 2023 (80-90k words)