

RIGHTS GUIDE

JOHN MURRAY GROUP

Spring 2026



CONTENTS

Baskerville	6
JM Originals	16
John Murray	18
Basic Books	32
Dialogue Books	38
John Murray One	41
Quercus Non-Fiction	46
Quercus Fiction	54
Maclehose Press	59
Arcadia	63
Riverrun	66
Renegade	69
Co-agents	74
Rights Contacts	75

HIGHLIGHTS

Fiction



Hot Young Things
Charlotte Philby
page 7



Untitled Gilly
Macmillan
Gilly Macmillan
page 8



Bright Comets
Lucy Steeds
page 16

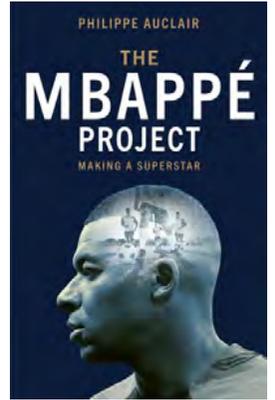
Non-Fiction



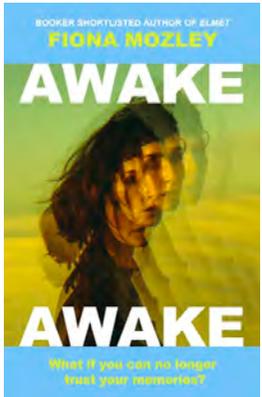
Funereal
Guy Middleton
page 30



The Feel Good Factory
Greg Foot
page 42



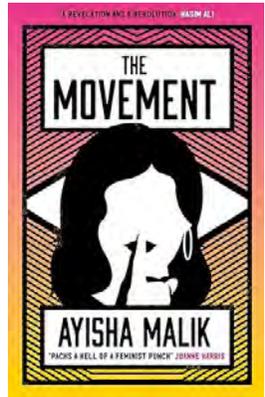
The Mbappé Project
Philippe Auclair
page 47



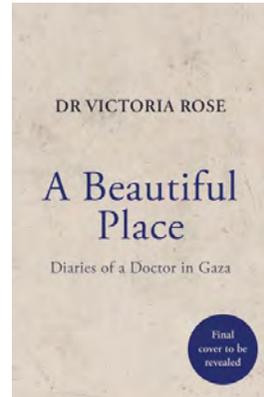
Awake
Fiona Mozley
page 21



The Nine Lives of
a Bookshop Cat
Kentaro Utsugi
page 61



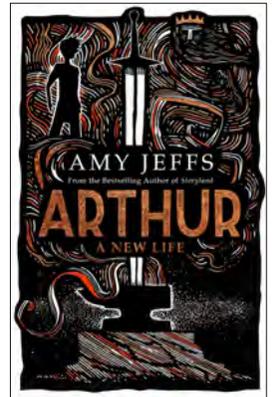
The Movement
Ayisha Malik
page 71



A Beautiful Place
Dr Victoria Rose
page 48



Cleaning With Love
Energy
Maki Kamoya
page 49



Arthur
Amy Jeffs
page 68

Charlotte Philby

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Charlotte Philby is a critically acclaimed author and journalist. She worked for eight years as a newspaper reporter, editor and columnist at the Independent, where she was shortlisted for the Cudlipp Prize for investigative reporting. She is a former contributing editor and features writer at *Marie Claire*, and has written for publications including the *Sunday Times*, *ELLE* and *Inside Time*. After living most of her life in London she is now based in Bristol with her family.

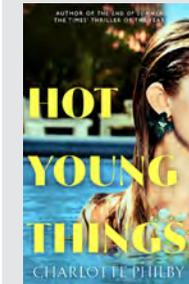
Hot Young Things

A dazzling literary thriller that sweeps readers into the glittering yet sinister world of international art.

When lauded writer Helen Van Noten is offered the exclusive story that could save her hard-won career, she must travel from London to sun-drenched Menorca to cover the opening of an exhibition by the mysterious Sophia Bamford. Sophia hasn't been seen in public since her New York socialite parents died in a helicopter crash years earlier. Now, the eyes of the world are on her.

As Helena finds herself drawn into the spotlight, what began as a lifeline quickly becomes dangerous. The deeper she digs, the more she uncovers a web of lies, imaginary fortunes, and false identities constructed as carefully as the art she writes about. Long buried secrets are stirring, and someone will go to any length to keep them hidden.

From the author of *The End of Summer* comes a brand new sun-soaked, page turning literary beach read exploring the sinister world of international art. From Art Basel to Frieze London, via the mega-yachts of the global elite, this is a story of deception, ambition, and a secret worth dying for.

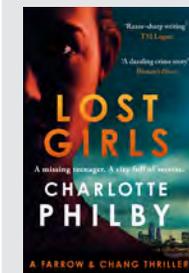


Baskerville
June 2027
Editor
Jade Chandler
Extent
320pp
Rights available
World

Lost Girls

The second Farrow & Chang thriller featuring a tenacious female detective duo and gripping mystery, set against the grit and gloss of contemporary London.

When the daughter of the Swedish Ambassador disappears from her prestigious London school in broad daylight, the authorities are on high alert. There are no witnesses and no ransom demand: thirteen-year-old Freya Sjoberg has vanished into thin air. With the Metropolitan Police out of their depth, specialist agent DS Madeleine Farrow is called in to handle the case. As a former pupil at Wimpole Girls, she knows the school's well-heeled corridors only too well. But even she can't anticipate the dark secrets held within its walls. With the clock ticking since Freya's disappearance, Madeleine must return to a place that holds painful memories to find a girl who has left no trace. For help, she calls on dogged - and occasionally maverick - young private investigator Ramona Chang. Together the unlikely pair find themselves plunged into a world of extreme wealth and dangerous secrets. The deeper they dig, the more they uncover - exposing a tangled web of conspiracy and lies that could change everything they thought they knew about the case, and each other.



Baskerville
March 2026
Editor
Jade Chandler
Extent
336pp
Rights available
World

Series
optioned for
Film/TV



Baskerville
January 2027
Editor
Jade Chandler
Extent
320pp
Rights available
Translation
Option publishers
Portuguese (Saida)
French (Hachette Livre)
Dutch (Meulenhoff Boekeriej)
Italian (Newton Compton)
Spanish (Urano World)
Ukrainian (Yakaboo)

Untitled Gilly Macmillan

Gilly Macmillan

A twist, page-turning new thriller set in the cloistered and mysterious world of art from the internationally bestselling author Gilly Macmillan.

Eight years ago, acclaimed artist Kate Kevlin vanished from her blood-soaked studio in Ireland. A body was never found. The clues left behind were as dark and mysterious as her paintings.

In Paris, disgraced film director Tony Morant once formed half of a power couple with his wife Kate, but her disappearance led to his murder trial and the implosion of his career. Tony is trying to move on with his life, but when an unexpected visitor from the past arrives at his apartment his life will be turned upside down.

In Geneva, art dealer Luke Shone, who built a career around his obsession with Kate's work, is invited to view a previously unseen - and thus priceless - Kate Kevlin painting. Luke has no idea that this is the first step on a dangerous journey that will risk his life.

In wild West Cork, Ireland, journalist Audrey Walsh is also trying to rebuild her life. Little does she know that investigating the unexplained death of a local eccentric, 'Bird Lady' Mary, will send Audrey crashing into a race to uncover the truth about Kate's disappearance.

As the stakes rise, all three will enter the crosshairs of an organisation whose devotion to arts and culture hides a dark heart and a dangerous mastery of ancient rites and rituals. By the time they realise a game has started they'll have no choice but to play it to the end. And it's a game where the loser dies...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gilly Macmillan is the internationally bestselling author of eight critically acclaimed thrillers including *The Nanny*, *What She Knew*, *The Perfect Girl* and *The Fall* (published as *The Manor House* in the US). Her books have graced the bestseller lists of the *Sunday Times*, *New York Times*, *Globe & Mail* and *Der Spiegel*, been shortlisted for the Edgar and ITW awards and translated into 26 languages. Gilly lives in Bristol with her family and writes full time.

Praise for *The Burning Library*:

'This is The Da Vinci Codeterritory - and Macmillan is every bit as thrilling a writer as Dan Brown'
Daily Mail

'Echoes of Dan Brown but Macmillan skilfully weaves the plotline together in this highly readable twisty tale'
Financial Times

'Wildly entertaining. Raiders of the Lost Ark but with a smart woman at the centre. I really loved it.'
Liz Nugent, author of *Strange Sally*

'Ingenious, inventive, highly imaginative. Crying out to be a Netflix series, with its telegenic locations and a plot which hurtles from one twist to another even faster than Anya and Sid.'
Sarah Vaughan, author of *Anatomy of a Scandal*

Cherry

Rose Wilding

A dark and compulsive thriller of lust, obsession and murder from the author of *Speak of the Devil*, perfect for readers of Eliza Clark, Rachel Yoder and Leila Slimani.

1999

Gifty is a woman adrift in the wake of her wife's death. She's living in stasis, unable to bring herself to enter the bedroom where Helen died after a long illness. Her therapist tells her to confront her grief, but instead she wanders the streets looking for someone from her past.

Fallen nineties pop star Isobel has done everything she can to reinvent herself. Gone is the girlish make-up and provocative manner. When she lands a job working for a middle-class family, she decides to embody the perfect nanny.

Ally has always prided herself on running a successful business and being a good parent to her two children. But when her husband announces that he is leaving them to work in Indonesia for six months, and hires Isobel without consulting her, she is left angry and struggling with her chronic illness.

The women soon become tangled in a dangerous web of obsession and infatuation. Someone is going to die, the question is: who?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rose Wilding is a crime writer from Newcastle upon Tyne. She studied Creative Writing at the University of Manchester. When not murdering fictional people, she can usually be found drinking coffee, reading feminist sci-fi, or posting more pictures than anyone needs of her two chihuahuas on Instagram.

Early praise for *Cherry*:

'Rose Wilding writes with a rare and unsettling honesty. A feverish spiral of grief, desire and betrayal, laced with unease and menace. Cherry is the sort of aching book that smoulders to the very last page. A lethal and seductive thriller'
Lucy Rose, author of *The Lamb*

Praise for *Speak of the Devil*:

'A devilishly immersive read - Rose Wilding is a wonderful new talent'
Kamila Shamsie, author of *Home Fire*

'Rose Wilding has written a powerful, feminist thriller about a group of women who not only bond over their ties to the same toxic man, but find power in that shared experience. Crafted with unflinching empathy, Speak of the Devil is twisted in the best way'
Clémence Michallon, author of *The Quiet Tenant*

Previous novel
Speak of the Devil sold in 9 territories!



Baskerville
November 2026
Editor
Jade Chandler
Extent
336pp
Rights available
Translation
Rights sold
Italian (Marsilio Editori S.P.A)
German (Droemer)
US (Macmillan)
Option publishers
Dutch (De Fontein)
Lithuanian (Alma Littera)
Portuguese - Brazil (Best Seller)
Portuguese - Portugal (Bertrand)
Serbian (Vulkan)
Spanish (Santillana Ediciones)



Baskerville
 March 2027
Editor
 Jade Chandler
Extent
 320pp
Rights available
 Translation
Rights sold
 US (Pegasus)

The Book of Martyrs

Nick Beckett

The first in a page-turning and vividly realised new Elizabethan historical crime series.

1595. Theft. Persecution. Murder. Welcome to England's Golden Age.

An aging Sir Francis Drake has just sailed from Plymouth, heading south on a doomed mission of plunder. It will end with his burial at sea off the coast of Panama - at least he'll be warm.

Back in England, semi-reformed thief Kate Mayfield and her uncle, the notorious astrological physician Simon Mayfield, are stuck in rain-lashed Devon. They're on the run from the law as a dismal summer turns into a turbulent autumn.

Caught in a violent storm, they seek refuge at Dartwater Hall, a decaying manor house set in bleak moorlands. But death has followed them there. When the master of the house dies in gruesome circumstances, they learn that a murderer is hiding in the shadows.

Trapped and hunted, the two fugitives must solve a mystery with its roots deep in Tudor England's bloody past before they, too, become martyrs to their own, ignoble cause.

Combining a twisty plot full of misdirection, with flashes of dark humour, *The Book of Martyrs* is a beautifully written and compelling historical crime novel that will appeal to fans of C.J. Sansom, S.J. Parris and Andrew Taylor.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nick Beckett is the pen name of Niall Boyce. Niall has worked as a psychiatrist, medical journal editor, and research funder, and has a PhD in English Renaissance literature and culture. *The Book of Martyrs* is his first crime novel, and was largely written on the train between his home in Hertfordshire and his work in London.



Baskerville
 May 2026
Editor
 Jade Chandler
Extent
 464pp
Rights available
 World

The Darkest Tide

Peter Hanington

A thrilling and gripping new crime series set in Brighton that daws on the city's dark past.

When Arthur Cotton sees a body washed up on the beach, difficult memories come flooding back. He kept the books for the Brighton mob back in the day and got out on friendly terms. But retirement came with conditions - mainly to keep his mouth shut. Fifty years on, it's trickier. Dementia is taking hold and he's getting leaky. His former bosses are worried. Arthur didn't just keep their accounts, he also kept their secrets. Now there's going to be a reckoning.

It's up to Arthur's daughter, Susan, a carer for the elderly, to turn detective and find out what her father knows.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Peter Hanington is a writer and journalist. His critically acclaimed William Carver thrillers begin with *A Dying Breed* and star the eponymous old-school radio journalist against a backdrop of high-stakes international espionage. He is also the author of the Susan Cotton series of crime novels.

The Owl Carver

Andrew Cotter

The compulsive and atmospheric debut novel by an award-winning Scottish broadcaster.

A remote fishing village in the far reaches of the Scottish Highlands is the last place Cal Hannah wants to be. People come from Fasker, they rarely go back. But, returning for his twin brother's funeral, Cal has little choice.

Finding his childhood community altered in subtle but significant ways, Cal retraces a climb from his youth up the mountain behind the village. There, he discovers more than memories when he spots a woman's body part-buried in the snow, her loyal dog Maddie shivering by her side. Coaxing the frightened dog to safety, little does Cal know that he's about to be drawn into the village's web of dark secrets. This time, Fasker won't let him leave without a fight.

Channeling the eerie sense of unease and drama found onscreen in *Fargo*, *The Owl Carver* will also appeal to fans of the Scottish-set novels of Peter May and Ann Cleeves.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrew Cotter is an award-winning broadcaster and bestselling writer. Over a 25-year career, primarily with the BBC, he has led their coverage on rugby, golf, athletics and tennis, and memorably described the opening and closing ceremonies of the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, to glowing reviews.

In 2020, after his dogs became viral sensations over lockdown, he published the bestselling memoir *Olive, Mabel and Me*, and in 2021 was followed up with a second memoir *Dog Days*. *The Owl Carver* is Andrew's first novel.



Baskerville
 February 2027
Editor
 Jade Chandler
Extent
 320pp
Rights available
 World

Mick Herron

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mick Herron is the #1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of the Slough House thrillers, which have been published in over twenty-five languages and are the basis of the award-winning TV series *Slow Horses*, starring Gary Oldman as Jackson Lamb. Among his other novels are the Zoë Boehm series, also now adapted for TV starring Emma Thompson and Ruth Wilson, and the standalone novels *The Secret Hours* and *Nobody Walks*. Mick's awards include the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year and the CWA Gold, Steel and Diamond Daggers. A fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, he was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, and now lives in Oxford.

Baskerville Editor Yassine Belkacemi Rights acquired Translation



The Slough Houseseries



Slough House series: over 2,500,000 copies sold

Rights sold

Bulgarian (Ciela Norma)
Chinese Simplified (New Star)
Croat (Edicije Božicevic)
Czech (Albatros)
Danish (Olga)
Dutch (House of Books)
Estonian (Varrak)
Finnish (Docendo)
French (Actes de Sud)
Georgian (Palitra L)
German (Diogenes)
Greek (Aiolos)
Hebrew (Lesa)
Hungarian (General Press)
Italian (Feltrinelli)
Japanese (Hayakawa)
Korean (Gimm-Young)
Lithuanian (Jotema)
Norwegian (Aschehoug)
Polish (Insignis)
Portuguese - Brazil (Intrinseca)
Portuguese - Portugal (Presença)
Romanian (Alice Books)
Russian (Azbooka-Atticus)
Slovene (Učila)
Spanish (Salamandra)
Swedish (Modernista)
Turkish (Dogan)
Ukrainian (Fabula)



Pure class. Ian Rankin
Pitch-perfect. Lee Child

Death Comes as a Shadow

Natalie Marlow

A gripping new historical crime novel starring Private Enquiry Agent William Garrett.

It's May 1935, and while the rest of Birmingham is decked in red, white and blue for the silver jubilee, the detective agency in Needless Alley remains unpatriotically down-at-heel.

Into the office walks respectable spinster, Myfanwy Davies. She is dying, has cash to spare, and her last wish is to be reconciled with her estranged little sister. Miss Davies believes detectives William Garrett and Phyll Hall can help.

With the bailiffs at their door, William and Phyll are relieved to take on what appears to be a straightforward and lucrative case. However, their search for the missing woman leads to a complex web of murder and intrigue, as they journey through the glamorous world of Britain's burgeoning film industry, the sinisterly genteel headquarters of an apocalyptic cult, and the murder of the heir to England's most revered acting dynasty. Who is Myfanwy Davies? Where is her little sister? And why has death cast its long shadow over their investigations?

PRAISE FOR NATALIE MARLOW:

'Creates an atmosphere of mounting menace'
The Times

'Superbly researched, spine-tingling, magnificently atmospheric'
Abir Mukherjee, author of *The Shadows of Men*

'A truly splendid, wicked gem of a book. I loved it'
Tom Mead, author of *Death and the Conjuror*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Natalie Marlow is a historical crime novelist with a fascination for the people and landscapes of the Midlands. Born into a family of storytellers, she takes inspiration from the colourful stories her grandparents told. Her debut novel, *Needless Alley*, starring private detective William Garrett, received glowing reviews from press and readers alike. Natalie holds an MA in Creative Writing from the University of East Anglia and is currently working on the next book in the William Garrett series.



Baskerville
November 2026
Editor
Jade Chandler
Extent
320pp
Rights available
World



Baskerville
 April 2027
Editor
 Yassine Belkacemi
Extent
 288pp
Rights available
 World
Rights sold
 Italian (Di Felice Edizioni)

A Death in the Old City

Ahmed Masoud

A page-turning and atmospheric murder mystery by a Palestinian author set a decade ago in the Gaza strip.

How do you solve a murder in the middle of a war zone?

In 2014, when Ammar Bseiso's dead body is found, his death is written off as one of the two thousand or so casualties of war that year in Gaza. However, Zahra, his wife, is convinced that he was murdered by a fellow Palestinian and not an Israeli airstrike. Zahra spends two years looking for a detective who will agree to take on her case as her family and friends dismiss her suspicions.

When Detective Nouman El Taweel agrees to investigate the crime, Zahra begins to regret it almost immediately as the policeman uncovers the truth behind the murder, along with a network of deception, lies and corruption.

A Death in the Old City is a simultaneously warm and deeply poignant mystery novel about love, betrayal and class, set in Gaza. It will appeal to readers of *The Kite Runner*, *Mornings in Jenin* and *The Little Coffee Shop of Kabul*, whilst simultaneously appealing to fans of crime fiction that has a strong hook and accessible tone.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ahmed Masoud is a writer and director who grew up in Gaza and moved to the UK in 2002. He has written and directed numerous theatre and radio dramas and founded and ran the Al Zaytouna Dance Theatre (2005-13), for whom he wrote and directed many productions that toured in the UK and Europe. Most recently, Ahmed launched his new artistic initiative called PalArt Collective. For more information visit www.ahmedmasoud.co.uk

Ahmed Masoud: *'I wrote this book in order to zoom in on the society in Gaza, a place often associated with conflict and destruction. I wanted to bring to the readers real pictures and images of the place and the sense of how people live in the face of so many injustices, including military occupation as well as social issues. The book challenges people's understanding of Gaza and its people, presenting a tapestry of characters that could be anywhere and who are driven by universal themes such as love, loyalty, greed. The book takes the readers to Gaza and leaves them there, wandering through its beautiful alleys, coffee shops and restaurants.'*

Untitled James Wolff

A stylish and gripping new spy thriller series for fans of Mick Herron, Robert Harris and David McCloskey.

Ezra Brown - known to all as 'Slug' - is a 20-year veteran of British intelligence operations. He's also the Service's new Press Officer - a role he doesn't want and doesn't believe in, since he's of the view that spies and journalists mix as well as oil and water. But an act of insubordination abroad - one that resulted in his 13-year-old daughter receiving a life-changing injury - has led to Ezra being benched by the Director of European Operations, a moderniser named Charlie Pomfret who wants to drag the Service into the 21st century.

Charlie spells out Ezra's new role: to educate and inform journalists about the realities of modern intelligence work in a spirit of a cooperation and transparency. But Ezra has other ideas. Ruthless to his core and notorious among colleagues as the last person you should trust with anything, Ezra has decided that he will treat the press corps like any other hostile entity and do everything within his power to bend it to his will.

But things change when a journalist named Agnes Dahl announces that she has evidence of a British bugging operation against the Danes, just days ahead of a crucial UK-EU summit. When Ezra pressures Agnes to kill the story, she drops a bombshell, revealing that she knows the truth behind what happened to his daughter. She'll tell him - in return for Ezra working as her mole inside the Service.

Ezra agrees, somehow walking an impossible tightrope as he discovers the truth about his daughter while keeping his bosses in the dark. As all the strands come together, Ezra realises that the Service he works for has been complicit in some extremely dubious trade-offs, and his mind turns to revenge.

Set in the shadowy no-mans-land occupied by spies and journalists, this is the first in a quartet of novels centred on the character of Ezra Brown and the realities of modern espionage.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

James Wolff grew up in Beirut and has lived in Damascus, Cairo and Istanbul. He worked as a British intelligence officer for over ten years. He lives in England.



Baskerville
 March 2027
Editor
 Yassine Belkacemi
Extent
 320pp
Rights available
 Translation
Rights sold
 US (Grove Atlantic)

Also available



Rights available
 Translation
Rights sold
 US (Grove Atlantic)

Underdogs

Louise Powell

An edge-of-your-seat, voice-driven debut set in the world of underground greyhound racing by the winner of the New Writing North Sid Chaplin Award.

These hands, he said, and spread the paira them out wide so we could see the callouses and the little lines of coal dust underneath his skin; these hands were made to pick out summat precious from somewhere that doesn't wanna give it up.

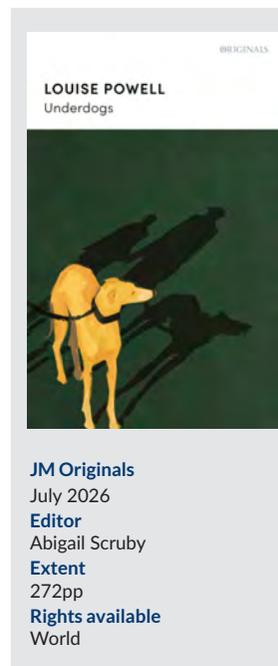
County Durham, 1998. The pits have closed and jobs are hard to come by, but charismatic ex-miner Bertie has a plan. He runs an underground gambling business at the local dog track which offers down-on-their-luck local blokes the opportunity to turn their life around. And if anyone needs this chance, it's Reg. Reg's ten-year-old son George knows his Dad hasn't been the same since Mam died, and the letters with scary red type that keep coming through the door can't be good news.

So when Bertie offers Reg and George the chance to race Goldie, a beautiful fawn greyhound, they jump at the opportunity. To succeed they'll need to learn how to navigate the larger-than-life world of the flapping track. It's a world full of grown-ups and secrets, and a bookmaker intent on getting revenge on Bertie for the events of fifteen months ago. Do Reg and George have what it takes to pull off the gamble of a lifetime?

A beautifully written novel capturing a lost slice of working-class history *Underdogs* will appeal to readers of *Shuggie Bain* and *Kick the Latch*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Louise Powell is an award-winning working-class writer from Middlesbrough. She won the Sid Chaplin Northern Writers' Award 2023, and was the joint recipient of the Peter Lathan Prize for New Playwriting 2022. Louise's plays have been broadcast on BBC Radio 4 Extra and performed at nine theatres. She has written three commissioned short art films, as well as two Arts Council funded audio documentary series, and was published in Kit de Waal's acclaimed *Common People* anthology. She is the author of the Coal Face poetry and creative non-fiction collections. She has a PhD in English from Sheffield Hallam University. She has also held a Professional Greyhound Trainer's Licence. *Underdogs* is her first novel.



JM Originals
 July 2026
Editor
 Abigail Scruby
Extent
 272pp
Rights available
 World

Bright Comets

Lucy Steeds

The Artist:
Over 127,000
copies sold

Two dancers, separated by the outbreak of war, meet again in Cairo in 1917. A brand new epic love story from the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *The Artist*.

Cairo, 1917: Ava is looking for someone on the edge of the desert, in the middle of a war. She does not know where he is, but she would recognise him by the flicker of his shadow. By his footprint in the dust. She would know him by a dismembered fragment of his body. She will know him when she finds him.

Antwerp, 1900: Ava and Ivan are ten years old. They live in the attic of an old hotel and spend their days thieving, sneaking and filling their shared world with secrets. Their lives are intertwined; their movements inseparable. When Ivan is accepted into a ballet school and Ava is not, he spends his evenings teaching her everything he learns by day, in the courtyard of their ramshackle hotel home. Her body learns to mimic his. In these grey evening hours, so begins their lifetime of their bodies mirroring one another.

As the years unspool and the century sprawls outwards, Ava and Ivan's dancing takes them to the bright lights of Paris and Budapest. Their grubby lives are alchemised into ones of cosmopolitan bohemianism. They spend their days in pursuit of pleasure, ballet turning their bodies into instruments of perfection and beauty.

But in 1914, war cracks their idyll apart. Bodies which once were used for beauty are now trained for violence. Lives which pursued art and aesthetics must now confront a world of brutality. As war separates them, Ava and Ivan are scattered across continents, and it is here that they must test the strength of the bond which has always tied them together; the gravitational pull which has bound them to each other.

Bright Comets is about two people fated to lose and find one another, dancing in and out of each other's lives across the years.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lucy Steed's debut novel, *The Artist*, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller, was longlisted for the Women's Prize and won the Waterstones Debut Fiction Award and the Waterstones Book of the Year Award. Lucy herself has synaesthesia and uses this to play with ways of translating images into words. She has a BA in English Literature, a Masters in World Literatures from the University of Oxford, and is a graduate of both the Faber Academy and the London Library Emerging Writers Programme. She currently splits her time between London and Amsterdam.



John Murray

September 2027

Editor

Jocasta Hamilton

Extent

320pp

Rights available

Translation

Rights sold

German (DTV)

US (Union Square)

Option publishers

Swedish (Albert Bonniers)

Portuguese (Alma)

Romanian (Bookzone)

Bulgarian (CoLibri)

Korean (Dasan)

Finnish (Docendo)

German (DTV)

Hungarian (General Press)

French (Hachette Livre)

Czech (Host)

Turkish (Ithaki)

Dutch (Meulenhoff Boeklerij)

Italian (Mondadori)

Croat (Mozaik)

Polish (Muza)

Estonian (Rahva Raamat)

Lithuanian (UAB Alma Littera)

Spanish (Urano World)



John Murray
 July 2026
Editor
 Becky Walsh
Extent
 256pp
Rights available
 Translation

Clara and Christina

Andrew Cuning

In this elegant literary debut, a young academic becomes entwined with the life—and fictions—of a brilliant, prickly, ageing novelist, leading to a profound re-evaluation of authorship, truth, and love.

Can we only know each other through the fictions that we tell about ourselves?

Two women meet in an unassuming coffee shop in Belfast; they seem an unlikely pair. Clara is young, inquisitive, optimistic for what the meeting holds. Christina is older, in her seventies, still glamorous, still quick. She is working on her fifth novel but no one yet knows of its existence. Clara is there to interview Christina, for her own book, anticipating some major scoop on this reclusive novelist. She wants to unearth the truth behind the fiction. But Christina has a different lesson in store for Clara.

Over a few months, a relationship forms between these two women who live their lives in books. Clara, writing her first, embraces this opportunity to learn from a writer finishing her last. During this time, Clara, face to face with her hero, begins to question her own convictions ultimately asking herself: what if there is nothing but fiction?

'Like spending time with an old, and infinitely wiser, friend'
JAN CARSON

'An absolute delight, full of warmth and human surprise'
 Louise Nealon, author of *Snowflake*

'An exquisitely written novel . . . full of big ideas, quietly and carefully explored'
 Jan Carson, author of *The Firestarters*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrew Cuning was born on the North coast of Ireland and now lives in North Belfast. He taught literature and theology at various universities, and now teaches English in an all-ability secondary school. *Clara and Christina* is his first novel.

Awake Awake

Fiona Mozley

The ambitious and dazzling third novel from the Booker shortlisted author of *Elmet*.

Mary is struggling with her memory. She does not have too few recollections but too many, including some that are downright absurd. She has many memories of her childhood: going to parties and on school trips, walks with her father and family dinners. She remembers world events too: the falling of the Twin Towers and the Iraq War. But the most concerning memories she has are about her Jewish grandfather and his role in the death of Adolf Hitler. She feels sure - almost completely sure - that what she has been told can't be true, that she must have imagined the whole thing. But there is a doubt.

To decipher fact from fiction, Mary goes back over her life, sorting through her childhood and adolescence with her three friends in York, through an adulthood accustomed to tragedy. Guided by her family and friends, Mary attempts to figure out what is real, both in history and her own life, all the while wondering if her mind has conjured everything.

Benjamin Myers's *The Offing* meets Tessa Hadley's *The Past* in this perceptive exploration of the mutable landscape of our memories and the fragility of the trust we afford them.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Fiona Mozley grew up in York and lives in Edinburgh. Her first novel, *Elmet*, won a Somerset Maugham Award and the Polari Prize. It was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the Royal Society of Literature Ondaatje Prize, and longlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction, the Dublin Literary Award and the International Dylan Thomas Prize. Her second novel, *Hot Stew*, was longlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize. In 2018 Fiona Mozley was shortlisted for the Sunday Times/PFD Young Writer of the Year Award.

Praise for Fiona Mozley:

'An incredible achievement, a story of friendship, memory, loss, and moral duty unlike any I've read before... every character and storyline could be its own novel and yet they come together so thunderously and convincingly... It blew me away!'
 Dina Nayeri, author of *The Ungrateful Refugee*

'A unique, visionary novel about the toll of memory and the power and fragility of the human heart and mind. Fiona Mozley gives a masterclass in the novel form, showing just how much room for invention we still have. I couldn't put it down'
 Kim Sherwood, author of *Testament*

'A warm, kindly and beautifully written novel about growing up in a family and in history, about inconvenient memory and haunted repression.'
 Sarah Moss, author of *Ghost Wall*



John Murray
 June 2026
Editor
 Becky Walsh
Extent
 320pp
Rights available
 Translation
Rights sold
 US (Algonquin)
 Polish (Pauza)

THE LAST WITCH ON THE KNOCK



Aimée MacDonald

John Murray
 March 2026
Editor
 Charlotte Robathan
Extent
 304pp
Rights available
 World

The Last Witch on the Knock

Aimée MacDonald

A fierce and subversive Scottish debut about two women bound together by a centuries-long curse, inspired by a local legend about one of the last women killed for witchcraft.

The Knock hill is a carcass unintelligible as any dream. Wouldn't you rather be a witch than a victim? I didn't realise those were my only options.

In need of a fresh start, Thomasin leaves her toxic boyfriend, absent father and empty friendships to spend the summer in the Scottish Highlands with her eccentric Aunt Agnes and stern little cousin, Nina. But amidst the sprawling fields and ragged hills thrums a secret that has cursed the land for generations.

300 years earlier, Kate McNiven labours in The Big House by the Knock hill, wishing for a brighter future far away from the lecherous clutches of her master, the Laird. When she is exiled as a witch for refusing to succumb to his advances, Kate finds the escape she so desperately seeks in Thomasin, whose vulnerable body becomes her unwilling host. In the thin place between centuries, through a pulsing wound that bleeds out history, the truth of the past is finally ready to be revealed ...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Aimée MacDonald is an Edinburgh-based writer of novels, short stories and poetry and a graduate of The Faber Academy. *The Last Witch on the Knock* is her first novel.

'The Last Witch on the Knock had me spellbound from the first page. Aimée's story is feral and compulsive, a cautionary tale about our obsession with 'the witch' set against the sticky suffocation of a Scottish heatwave, with all the gore and body horror of The Substance; for, some wounds were never made to heal. It is at once haunting, resonant, and utterly transportive, with characters so deeply realised as to linger constantly in the fringes of your mind, far beyond the turning of the last page. Based on local legend, this redemptive reimagining of Kate McNiven rescues her from the tragedy of her buried past and both reminds us of the power of sisterhood and celebrates female resilience in the face of those who fear our strength'
 Acquiring Editor, Charlotte Robathan

Ocean

Earth's Last Wilderness

Sir David Attenborough
 and Colin Butfield

An instant
 Sunday Times
 bestseller!

A landmark publication by the greatest natural history broadcaster of our times on how to save the ocean - and consequently our planet.

From the icy seas of our poles to remote coral islands, David Attenborough has filmed in every ocean habitat on planet earth. Now, with long-term collaborator Colin Butfield, he shares the story of our last great wilderness - the one which shapes the land we live on, regulates our climate and creates the air we breathe. Dive into eight unique saltwater habitats, swim through kelp forests, mangroves and coral reefs and down almost 11,000 feet to the deepest corners of the most unexplored ecosystem on our planet.

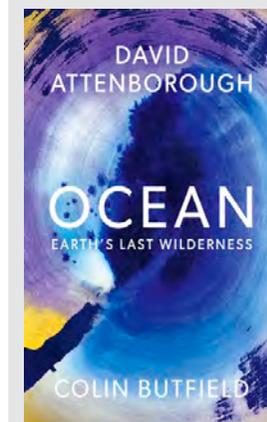
Experience a journey of wonder and discovery, populated by green turtles and blue whales; clownfish and bioluminescent jellyfish; the vampire squid and the 'head-less chicken monster' - a strange form of sea cucumber that lives at the very bottom of the ocean. With the warmth, intelligence and awe that characterises all of David Attenborough's landmark series, *Ocean* shows us a world which is both desperately fragile yet astonishingly resilient, with an extraordinary capacity to repair itself. It's not too late to restore our most vital habitat. If we treat it with respect, our marine world will be even richer and more spectacular than we can imagine.

A book almost a century in the making, but one that has never been more urgently needed.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Sir David Attenborough is a broadcaster and naturalist whose television career is now in its seventh decade. Over that time he has established himself as the world's leading natural history programme maker with multiple landmark television series to his name. His recent book, *A Life on Our Planet*, co-authored with Jonnie Hughes, was an international bestseller.

Colin Butfield is the co-founder and Director of Open Planet Studios. He has worked on numerous documentaries and short films including the BBC series *Earthshot*, Netflix features *A Life on Our Planet* and *Breaking Boundaries*, and the National Geographic feature documentary *Ocean*, also with David Attenborough. He is the co-author of *Earthshot: How to Save Our Planet*.



John Murray

May 2025

Editor

Nick Davies

Extent

400pp

Rights available

Translation

Rights sold

Bulgarian (Ciela Norma)

Chinese Simplified (CITIC)

Czech (Práh)

Danish (Klim)

Dutch (Luitingh-Sijthoff)

Estonian (Rahva Raamat)

Finnish (Werner Söderström)

German (DTV)

Hebrew (Radical Publishing House)

Hungarian (Park Publishing)

Icelandic (Ugla utgafa)

Italian (Newton Compton)

Japanese (Kagaku-Dojin)

Norwegian (Cappelen Damm)

Polish (Poznanski)

Portuguese (Bertrand)

Romanian (Humanitas)

Serbian (Laguna)

Slovene (Učila)

Spanish (Crítica)

Swedish (Natur och Kultur)

US (Grand Central)



John Murray
 December 2025
 Editor
 Nick Davies
 Extent
 96pp
 Rights available
 World

Our Story

Colin Butfield and Jonnie Hughes

A visually stunning, awe-inspiring celebration of the natural world and our unique place within it. Accompanying the landmark cinematic experience at the world-famous Natural Museum produced by Open Planet Studios and presented by David Attenborough.

It's easy to question our significance...

What is our place in all of this?

What is our purpose?

What is our story?

Our Story is both an awe-inspiring celebration of the natural world, and a journey through the extraordinary story of our own species.

There are billions of planets in the universe. The vast majority are lifeless worlds. Once upon a time Earth was just another among them - unstable, hostile. But unlike all the other planets of which we have knowledge, Earth's story has other chapters, and those chapters were written by life...

For millennia the human story was just another amongst many plotlines in the great narrative of life on Earth. We were the cleverest species to have ever lived, yet the restlessness of the world around us kept our numbers small. Until something remarkable happened.

With stunning imagery and poetic script, *Our Story* immerses readers in the most important story of them all and provides a totally new way of looking at our species at just the moment it is urgently needed.

As Sir David Attenborough says in the show

'It's tempting to focus on the faults of humankind, to think of ourselves as a parasite on this beautiful planet. But after a long life exploring our world, that is not the way I see our story. Instead, I see us as the ultimate problem solvers; smart enough to achieve anything we put our dazzling minds to. That, indeed, is our superpower. So let us use it for good!'

For in the vastness of space, the unimaginable extents of time, only you can help write the next chapter of Earth's story.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Colin Butfield is the co-founder and Director of Open Planet Studios. He has worked on numerous documentaries and short films including the BBC series *Earthshot*, Netflix features *A Life on Our Planet* and *Breaking Boundaries*, and the National Geographic feature documentary *Ocean*, also with David Attenborough. He is the co-author of *Earthshot: How to Save Our Planet*.

Jonnie Hughes is an award-winning natural history TV producer, co-founder of Studio Silverback, and bestselling author and co-writer of Sir David Attenborough's *A Life on Our Planet*.

Ways to Say Goodbye

Journeys into a World in Flux

Nick Hunt

In a world undergoing extreme climate-induced change, *Ways to Say Goodbye* is an eye-opening journey that shows us not only the landscapes we're losing, but the new ones that are appearing.

This is not a book about the end of the world - it's about the start of a new one.

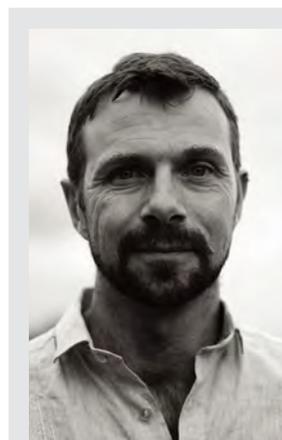
Melting glaciers. Crumbling coasts. Vanishing seas. The feeling that our world is coming to an end has led to a rise in 'ecological grief' and prompted a wave of last-chance tourists and environmental mourners. From funeral cairns built for a dying glacier in the Swiss Alps, to selfies taken at the disappearing Aral Sea, pilgrims, both religious and secular, are making journeys to find meaningful ways to say goodbye.

But as one world ends, another begins. In *Ways to Say Goodbye*, Nick Hunt asks what first chances lay ahead? In the Siberian Arctic, the collapsing permafrost is revealing prehistoric remains that haven't seen daylight for millennia; off the coast of Iceland, a new island is emerging.

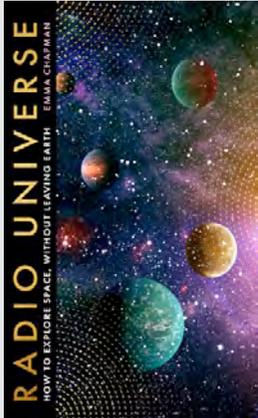
Travelling across continents, through mountains, forests, deserts, coasts and cities, Nick Hunt captures our landscapes in flux. He explores what it means to live in a world that is undergoing vertiginous change, and offers a way we can keep our balance as the ground shifts beneath our feet.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nick Hunt has walked and written across much of Europe. His articles have appeared in the *Economist*, the *Guardian* and other publications, and he also works as a storyteller and co-editor for the Dark Mountain Project. He has been a finalist for the Stanford Dolman Travel Book of the Year twice, for his books, *Walking the Woods and the Water* and *Where the Wild Winds Are*. He currently lives in Bristol.



John Murray
 March 2027
 Editor
 Abigail Scruby
 Extent
 320pp
 Rights available
 World
 Previous publishers
 Chinese simplified
 (The Commercial Press)
 Dutch (De Bezige)
 French (Editions Hoebeke)
 German (PRH)
 Italian (Neri Pozza)
 Italian (Mimesis Edizioni)



John Murray
 March 2026
 Editor
 Georgina Laycock
 Extent
 352pp
 Rights available
 Translation
 Rights sold
 US (Perseus Books)
 Previous publishers
 Estonian (Julius Press)
 Polish (Muza)
 Ukrainian (Tamarin Books)

The Radio Universe

How to Explore Outer Space Without Leaving Earth

Emma Chapman

Take a dazzling trip into outer space as Dr Emma Chapman reveals how radio waves have helped us solve the mysteries of the Universe's darkest corners and deepest past.

How do you explore distant stars, buried water on Mars or the first moments after the Big Bang - without leaving your back garden?

In *The Radio Universe*, award-winning astrophysicist Emma Chapman takes us on an electrifying voyage through the cosmos using one of the most powerful, yet overlooked, tools in science: the radio wave. With dazzling clarity and humour, Chapman reveals how these invisible messengers glide through space, bounce off planets, tunnel through clouds and slip past galactic dust - carrying secrets of the universe that no other kind of light can uncover. We follow a single radio wave as it escapes Earth and travels outward - ricocheting off the Moon, tunnelling through Venus's furnace-thick atmosphere, tracing ancient ice hidden in Mercury's shadows and diving deep into the swirling arms of the Milky Way.

Along the way, we meet black holes that roar louder than stars, pulsars more precise than atomic clocks and galaxies lit by the very first starlight. We explore volcanic pancake planets, death-defying neutron stars, the eerie possibility of alien broadcasts - and the fragile question of our own future in the cosmos.

A celebration of human ingenuity and cosmic curiosity, *The Radio Universe* reveals that the true frontier of space isn't 'out there' - it's humming quietly all around us, waiting to be heard.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emma Chapman is an award-winning radio astronomer based at the University of Nottingham, and a Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin research fellow. Her first book, *First Light*, was based on her groundbreaking research into the era of the first stars. She won the 2018 Royal Society Athena Prize for her work to end staff-student sexual harassment in academia.

Street Philosophy

Everyday Explorations of How to Live

Nigel Warburton

An accessible and practical guide to thinking about how philosophical ideas underlie every aspect of our lives.

What is philosophy and how can it help us think about questions that matter?

In fifth-century Athens, Socrates discussed ideas with ordinary people in the marketplace. He wanted to get a clear sense of the most important questions people ask about the topics that matter to them, and in particular how we should live. That questioning and debating spirit is still alive in twenty-first century philosophy, though sometimes a little submerged.

Philosophy involves a search for truth. Its key method is argument and debate, using evidence and reasoning to arrive at conclusions. It helps people clarify what they believe and why, as well as addressing questions about the limits of what we can meaningfully say and know.

Warburton uses a walk along a city street as a way of framing a series of philosophical explorations and discussions, from questions about the limits of individual responsibility in relation to careless driving, to the question of what makes a stencil-painted mural by Banksy a work of art. Most of these are questions about what we should do, whether in the realm of ethics or political philosophy. The experiences he describes are more or less universal, and the questions that arise from thinking about this sort of public space very quickly get into some of the most interesting and important philosophical questions about how we should live and what we value in life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nigel Warburton is a freelance philosopher, writer, and podcaster. Best known as the co-founder and main interviewer for the *Philosophy Bites* podcast (which has had over 42 million downloads worldwide), he is the author and editor of many books, including the bestseller *A Little History of Philosophy*, *Philosophy: The Basics*, *Philosophy: The Classics*, *Thinking from A to Z*, *The Basics of Essay Writing*, *Philosophy: The Essential Study Skills*, *Free Speech: A Very Short Introduction*, and *The Art Question*. He is also a consultant Senior Editor for the online magazine *Aeon.co.* and has written numerous articles for newspapers and magazines such as *Guardian*, *Independent*, *The New European*, *Prospect*, *The Economist*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *Standpoint*, *The Spectator*, *New Philosopher*, and *Aeon*. He was also the scriptwriter for the 48-part series of BBC animations *History of Ideas*.



John Murray
 February 2027
 Editor
 Georgina Laycock
 Extent
 320pp
 Rights available
 World
 Rights sold
 Italian (Einaudi)



John Murray
January 2027
Editor
Joe Zigmond
Extent
352pp
Rights available
World

The Pilgrims' Castle

A Poet, A War, A Family's Secrets

Jon Day

An investigation to uncover the truth about a dark hidden episode in Jon Day's family after the War, and the conflict between national identities in the post-War years.

'I love Jon Day's writing'
Olivia Laing

In the 1950s, Jon Day's mother and her German-Dutch siblings came into contact with a secretive circle of writers, artists and intellectuals known as 'Castrum Peregrini'. Led by the exiled German writer Wolfgang Frommel, the group was founded during World War II, when Frommel gave shelter to some of his young Jewish followers in a house in Amsterdam. The group followed the teachings of Stefan George, a renowned but controversial German poet who in the 1910s had led an elite coterie of young men to whom he preached a message of what he called 'pedagogical eros' - the belief that educational encounters were inherently sexual.

Growing up, Day heard stories of Wolfgang's wartime heroism, of literature and poetry, of the power of friendship and camaraderie. But thirty years later he begins to hear different versions of the past. Interviewing his mother, other living members of 'Castrum Peregrini' and whistle-blowers, darker truths emerge - of psychological grooming and sexual abuse, shrouded in stories of resistance, bravery and spirituality.

From the complex, contradictory and elusive mind of Wolfgang Frommel, to the wartime Castrum group - who lived as onderduikers in a grand but dilapidated canal house in Amsterdam - and the post-war years of ritualised poetry readings and recruitment to what some have called a cult, Day investigates the history that shaped the lives of many of his family members and their friends.

The Pilgrims' Castle is a jaw-dropping, tender memoir about the silencing of abuse and the unravelling of one family's history to expose the truths and mistruths we tell ourselves about the past.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jon Day is a writer, critic and academic. He is the author of *Cyclogeography* (Notting Hill Editions, 2015) and *Homing* (John Murray, 2019), which was a book of the year in the *Guardian*, *The Spectator*, *Daily Telegraph* and *Observer*, and was longlisted for the William Hill Sports Book of the Year award. He is a regular contributor to the *London Review of Books*, and his essays and reviews have also appeared in the *Financial Times*, *New York Review of Books*, *Bookforum*, *n+1*, *Guardian*, *The Spectator* and many others. He teaches English and creative writing at King's College London.

The Undersea War

The International Battle for Supremacy at the Bottom of the World

Elisabeth Braw

A deep-dive into the geopolitical battle for supremacy raging undersea, for readers of *Chip Wars*, *The Future of Geography* and *Material World*.

The bottom of the ocean is filled with cables that transport digital communications and pipelines that fuel economies by transporting enormous amounts of oil and gas from offshore drilling rigs to land. In today's digitally based economies, this 'spaghetti bowl' is indispensable to everything from entertainment to banking and transportation.

Without undersea cables, modern economies would not exist, and without submarine pipelines they would quickly grind to a halt. No international agency is in charge of keeping order on the seabed. These are the new Badlands.

The Undersea War will tell the story of the spaghetti-bowl kingdom from its humble beginnings to the extraordinary growth of offshore pipelines, telecommunications cables and internet cables, globalisation's Siamese twin. We follow executives, politicians and ordinary citizens as pipelines and cables are laid; crews on the world's cable-repair ships as they sail around the oceans painstakingly attending to damage caused to cables by careless fishermen and container ships; owners of pipelines and internet cables as they realise that their globe-spanning spaghetti bowl is suddenly at risk of intentional harm; Matsu Islanders as they're disconnected from modern life; residents of the Norwegian Arctic archipelago of Svalbard; and Irish officials as they try to decide what to do about the mysterious Russian visitors on top of globe-connecting cables.

The Kremlin is preparing for an undersea battle. What should the West do if we come under attack?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in Germany, **Elisabeth Braw** is a senior fellow with the Atlantic Council's Transatlantic Security Initiative in the Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security. Before joining AEI, Elisabeth was a Senior Research Fellow at RUSI. Prior to that, she worked at Control Risks, a global risk consultancy. Elisabeth is a member of the steering committee of the Aurora Forum, a member of the National Preparedness Commission (UK) and an Associate Fellow at the European Leadership Network. She is often published in a wide range of publications, including *Politico*, *The Times* and *Wall Street Journal*. She's also a columnist with *Foreign Policy* and *Politico Europe* and the author of the award-winning *Goodbye, Globalization: The Return of a Divided World* (Yale University Press: 2024), a gold medalist in the 2024 Axiom Business Book Awards. She leads the Transatlantic Security Initiative's "Threats to the global maritime order" project. Elisabeth attended university in Germany, graduating with a Magister Artium in political science and German literature.



John Murray
October 2026
Editor
Joe Zigmond
Extent
320pp
Rights available
Translation
Rights sold
Chinese - Traditional
(Atome Culture)
German (Eichborn Verlag)
Korean (Sejong Books)
US (Public Affairs)



John Murray
 April 2027
 Editor
 Joe Zigmond
 Extent
 320pp
 Rights available
 World
 Rights sold
 Italian (Bollati)

Funereal

How We Die, Why We Bury and What That Tells Us About Ourselves

Guy Middleton

A globe-trotting and illuminating history of burials and funerary practices, from ancient to modern times, from rulers, kings and queens to everyday people.

Throughout history humans have buried their dead in a variety of ways. We have placed them in caskets, laid them out in the wild so they might return to nature through the work of animals and the environment, we have sailed them down rivers on burning boats, or buried them in elaborate tombs surrounded by all their earthly possessions. And when people die we sing over their bodies, recite prayers hoping they will be conveyed safely to the afterlife, and spread their ashes in their favourite places. Why do we do this? What purpose do funeral rites serve, both for the individual and their mourners? What has changed in the many thousands of years we have been practicing them? What do they tell us about ancient societies, and how they organised themselves? And once our loved ones, our kings and queens, and our fallen heroes were put to rest how do we remember them?

Historian Guy D. Middleton takes us on a journey across time to explore ancient and not-so-ancient burial rites. Traversing the globe, visiting sites like the Great Pyramid of Giza, the Mausoleum of Augustus, and the Tomb at Palenque in modern-day Mexico, we explore how ancient people buried their leaders and elites. To find out how ordinary folk were buried, we dig into circular pits found at the centre of villages in Jomon era Japan, and the mass graves of Incas in modern Peru. We explore how our ancestors buried their young, and warriors who died on the field of battle - people taken before their time. We even look at the role execution and human sacrifice played in ancient funeral rituals and see how societies dealt with outsiders. *Funereal* is an illuminating historical odyssey unearthing the ways we mourn, that asks the question: why do we bury our dead and what does that tell us about ourselves?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Guy D. Middleton is an historian of the Ancient World. He is a Visiting Fellow at Newcastle University, an Honorary Fellow at Durham University, a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and a Teaching Fellow at Northumbria University. He has written articles for *Aeon*, *Ancient History*, *Ancient Warfare* and *The Conversation* and been interviewed for podcasts including *The Tides of History* and BBC *Civilisations*. His academic books include *Women of the Ancient Mediterranean World* (Cambridge University Press, 2023) and *Understanding Collapse: Ancient History and Modern Myths* (CUP, 2017). He has published articles and reviews in numerous journals including *American Journal of Archaeology*, *Journal of Eastern Mediterranean Archaeology and Heritage Studies*, *Oxford Journal of Archaeology*, *Urban History*, and *Science*.

Fantastic Kingdom

A Stranger's Notes on a Contrary Country

Helene von Bismarck

A respected historian of the British Empire closes the chasm between how the British see themselves and how they are actually seen abroad.

The United Kingdom is a country that evokes strong opinions but frequently escapes rigorous definition. Seen from the outside, it is a wildly contradictory place. One of the world's strongest economies, where inequality is rampant. Famous for its pageantry and traditions, but selective about remembering its imperial past. Proud of its pragmatism, yet profoundly sentimental about its history and constitution.

By diving into its many paradoxes, Helene von Bismarck reveals why the political debate in - and, internationally, about - the United Kingdom has for years been driven by people who talk past, rather than with, each other. Have the underlying dividing lines really gone away? What can be expected from the United Kingdom in the future? *Fantastic Kingdom* explores and challenges the way the British see themselves, their political and constitutional system and their role in the world - encouraging readers to leave our echo chambers and look through new eyes at this complex and sometimes bewildering country.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Helene von Bismarck is a German historian and author specialized in British history and politics. Her articles have appeared in a large number of British and international publications. She regularly works as a commentator for the BBC World Service and is frequently interviewed on British (BBC Radio Four, LBC) and German (Deutschlandfunk) radio and television (BBC World, Channel Four). She has also recorded a number of podcasts with British hosts, such as the Chatham House *Undercurrent* series and Arthur Snell's *Behind the Lines*. Helene has a PhD in contemporary history from Humboldt-University in Berlin and is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. From 2021-23, she was a Visiting Research Fellow at the Centre for British Politics and Government at King's College. She was recently appointed a Senior Associate Fellow at the Royal United Services Institute. She lives in Hamburg, Germany.

HELENE von BISMARCK



Fantastic Kingdom

John Murray
 June 2026
 Editor
 Joe Zigmond
 Extent
 256pp
 Rights available
 World

Precedented

A New History of Trans Family

Kit Heyam

A groundbreaking new history of trans families.

Precedented writes against the prevailing narrative by showing how family has never been the unchanging, biologically essentialist tradition it's often presented as. Trans and queer people aren't threatening to destroy an ancient, natural institution: they've been complicating it from the very beginning. Greek and Christian myths of birthing fathers, adopted sons of gender-nonconforming Roman emperors, clandestine eighteenth-century trans marriages, sisterhoods forged in the pages of twentieth-century newsletters - all of them show us that while the idea of family has been leveraged against trans people, trans people have never stopped building families of our own. It shows trans and gender-nonconforming people today that, if we want family, it is possible for us; that we have a point of connection, solidarity and inspiration in history.

Drawing on stories ranging from that of the sixteenth-century Swiss philosopher who wanted to grow his own baby, the trans children of East and Southeast Asia, and the drag mothers of the US black ballroom scene, *Precedented* shows that trans families have always existed and that presenting them as unprecedented prevents trans people from being fully recognised or their experiences and needs being taken into account. Kit Heyam frames this narrative within the story of their own pregnancy providing a unique combination of history, social analysis and memoir.

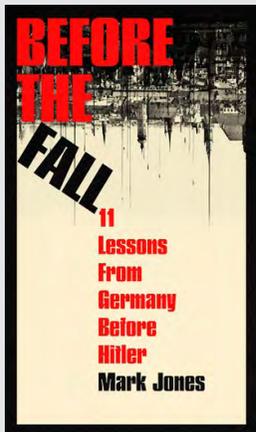
Precedented shows us different, better ways of thinking about the relationship between gender, biology and family. Combatting contemporary political narratives, Kit Heyam explores how feminist struggles are entangled with struggles for trans liberation, and that women stand to gain the most from thinking about family differently. Western culture today has much to learn not just from our own past, but from the glorious variety of many-gendered families across the world.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kit Heyam is a university lecturer, a queer history activist, and a trans awareness trainer who has worked with organisations across the UK. They have been committed to queer history since their teens, when they found the sense of community they were lacking by identifying with queer figures from the past, and their first book, *The Reputation of Edward II, 1305-1697: A Literary Transformation of History*, was the first account of how fourteenth-century English king Edward II acquired his queer reputation. They live in Leeds with their partner, Alex.



Basic Books
 February 2027
 Editor
 Siam Hatzaw
 Extent
 320pp
 Rights available
 Translation
 Rights sold
 US (Perseus Books)
 Option publishers
 Japanese (Akashi Shoten)



Basic Books
March 2027
Editor
Joe Zigmund
Extent
320pp
Rights available
US

Before the Fall

Eleven Lessons from Germany Before Hitler

Mark Jones

An accessible approach to an eternally gripping subject: lessons we can learn from Weimar - the last time democracy chose to end itself

The constitution of the Weimar Republic was a watershed moment in politics, an attempt to create a modern political system that secured compromise between rich and poor, and a society that offered equal rights to men and women. The start of the Republic was the first time that German women could vote and become parliamentarians, as well as the first time that a state anywhere in the world provided funding for an organization that would campaign for gay and transsexual rights. Despite overcoming its turbulent beginnings, including violent attempts to overthrow the new order led by extremists of the political left and right, the Weimar Republic's best years began in 1924 but did not last. By 1930 the Republic's end was already in sight.

Today, we are all liberal subjects in crisis. Just like people living in Germany one hundred years ago, we live in a time of accelerated technological change. We find it hard to cope with new and growing challenges, and we wonder about what has happened to our cultures, identities and our ability to control events taking place on a global scale.

Taking eleven lessons from the downfall of the Weimar Republic, historian Mark Jones helps us see more clearly what is genuinely unique about our current moment, and what strategies are needed to bring an end to our own moment of liberal despair.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mark William Jones is Assistant Professor in History at University College Dublin. He is among the leading English language historians of modern Germany and a recognized authority on the history of the Weimar Republic. He has appeared on BBC Radio 4's *In Our Time* and Irish radio's *Talking History*. Mark was educated at Trinity College Dublin, the University of Tübingen, and Cambridge University. He holds a PhD from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy and has held visiting fellowships at the Free University of Berlin and Bielefeld University. *1923* was his first English language trade book.

Reviews for 1923:

'Jones's fascinating book gives us a timely lesson in the fragility of democracy'
BBC History Magazine, Books of the Year

'A vivid, crisp, impressively sustained narrative'
Financial Times

On the Brink

The Last Jews of the Aab Lands

Kathy Marks

A moving snapshot of the final days of the ancient Jewish communities that once flourished across the Arabic-speaking world.

Clinging on in hostile and often perilous circumstances, the last surviving Jews of the Middle East and North Africa - living embodiments of an Arab-Jewish identity now regarded as an impossible contradiction - will soon vanish entirely, their histories extinguished, their millennia-old cultures erased. With 99% of Jews forced to depart following the establishment of the state of Israel and subsequent Arab-Israeli wars, in one of the biggest yet least-known mass migrations of the twentieth century, just a few thousand remain in the region.

Kathy Marks captures the extraordinary lives, stories and precarious futures of the Jews of the Arab lands, encapsulating a critical moment in time. Remembering a Golden Age of Eastern Jewry, the words of the men and women recorded in these pages evoke a time when Cairo, Baghdad, Beirut and Casablanca were vibrant cosmopolitan cities where Jews and Arabs lived side by side, most of the time in peace. These Jews spoke Arabic and often wore Arabic clothes, embraced Arabic food and culture. Many of them were passionately anti-Zionist and in her conversations with those who stayed behind, Marks explores questions of identity - what does it mean to be a Jew in an Arab country? What is a Jew? As well as the impact that the founding of the state of Israel had not only on the Jews who were already there, but on the future of the whole region.

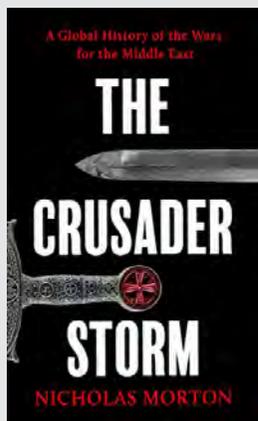
On the Brink tells the intimate stories of individual lives, loves and loss, and through them the extraordinary hidden history of a people and of a world on the brink of extinction.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kathy Marks is a highly accomplished journalist, with 38 years of experience, including 17 years as a foreign correspondent (based in Sydney, covering the Asia-Pacific region for *The Independent*). Her previous book *Pitcairn: Paradise Lost* won Australia's premier true crime-writing award, the Ned Kelly, and was shortlisted for the highly-regarded Mark & Evette Moran Nib Literary Award. She has won two prestigious awards for her long-form journalism, including a Walkley Award.



Basic Books
August 2027
Editor
Joe Zigmund
Extent
320pp
Rights available
World



Basic Books
 June 2026
 Editor
 Joe Zigmond
 Extent
 448pp
 Rights available
 Translation
 Rights sold
 French (Passes Composes)
 Polish (Astra)
 US (Pegasus)

The Crusader Storm

A Global History of the Wars for the Middle East

Nicholas Morton

A spectacular new global history of the Crusades from an award-winning author specialising in the history of the Medieval Middle East.

The Middle East at the time of the Crusades was more than simply religious warfare - it was extraordinarily complex region, home to many cultures, religions and seismic changes. Information, stories, technologies, intellectual ideas, weapons, and architectural techniques - they all changed hands with astonishing rapidity as these societies fought, traded, conducted diplomacy, married, vented hatred and established friendships.

Nicholas Morton's pathbreaking new account explores the territories established by the crusaders from their foundation in 1097 to the fall of Jerusalem in 1187, showing how they both disrupted and integrated into this dynamic landscape. Rather than framing events from just one or two perspectives, the narrative unfolds through a kaleidoscope of viewpoints: a Byzantine renegade, a crusader princess, a Turkish matriarch, a young Arab nobleman, a Syriac archbishop, Saladin's leading commander, and the vizier of Egypt. Their lives reveal both the entangled nature of this era's conflict and the sheer force with which these colliding cultures influenced one another, and the world to come.

By telling the story through multiple cultural perspectives and vivid personal narratives, *The Crusader Storm* transforms our understanding of the Crusades, revealing a dynamic era of conflict, cooperation and exchange that defies simplistic 'holy war' tropes.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nicholas Morton is an award-winning author specialising in the history of the Medieval Middle East. An associate professor at Nottingham Trent University, he writes extensively on topics including the Crusades, the Mongol Empire and the Seljuk Turks. His recent books include: *The Mongol Storm* (Basic Books, 2022) and *The Crusader States & their Neighbours: A Military History* (Oxford University Press, 2020).

Reviews for *The Mongol Storm*:

'Brain-stretching... pulsating... irresistible'
 The Sunday Times

'Deeply researched and elegantly written - essential reading'
 Dan Jones

'Erudite, often thrilling and much-needed'
 Daily Telegraph

The Bonapartes

The Century-Long Dynasty That Defined Europe

Katherine Bayford

The brilliant first family biography of The Bonapartes examining the rise, decline and fall of a dynasty which shaped European politics for over a century, from a new and exciting future star in narrative history.

Napoleon Bonaparte did not merely dominate Europe as an individual, but attempted - briefly and violently - to construct a ruling lineage that reshaped European politics for a century. *The Bonapartes* functioned as a dynastic project: bound by blood, sustained by political myth, and repeatedly mobilised as an alternative source of legitimacy in post-revolutionary Europe. *The Bonapartes* will be the first book to examine how - in its shaping of European politics - this wildly dysfunctional family is comparable to the Bourbons, Habsburgs, Romanovs or Caesars.

While Napoleon is the lodestar, the book belongs to lesser-known figures - such as Pauline Bonaparte (fond of bathing in milk), Joachim Murat, and the insufferable 'Plon-Plon', all deliciously brought to life in their feckless spurning of his imperial project.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Katherine Bayford is a Postdoctoral Fellow in military history at the Pharos Foundation and a Research Fellow at the Centre for the Study of Subversion, Unconventional Interventions and Terrorism at the University of Nottingham. She has written for publications such as *The Times*, *The Spectator*, *The New Statesman*, *Engelsberg Ideas*, and *UnHerd*.



Basic Books
 May 2028
 Editor
 Joe Zigmond
 Extent
 400pp
 Rights available
 Translation
 Rights sold
 US (Basic Books)

Black Radical

Edited by Kadija Sesay and Benjamin Zephaniah

A hopeful and expansive anthology of historical and contemporary Black British poetry brought together by Kadija George Sesay and Benjamin Zephaniah

Black Radical brings the history of Black people in Britain to life through a breadth of poetry to demonstrate that one thing is for certain: though we have struggled, we have survived.

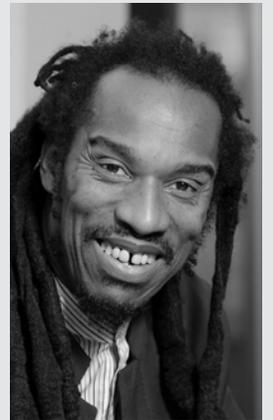
Politics have been the constant backdrop for the poetry of Black Britain. Even Black poets who may not consider themselves political have written political poetry or poetry that comes from struggle. Some of these poets migrated to Britain, some were born here and others still were just passing through. *Black Radical* brings both pivotal moments and the everyday lived experience of Black people in Britain within one volume.

This anthology brings together poetry from poet laureates such as Jackie Kay, prize-winning poets such as Fred D'Aguiar, internationally renowned poets such as Linton Kwesi Johnson, leaders and activists such as Marcus Garvey, John La Rose and Una Marson; there are also a significant number of poets in the community whose stories of everyday struggle have until now remained unpublished and unheard.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Dr Kadija George Sesay FRSA, Hon FRSL, is a Sierra Leonean/British scholar and literary activist. She is the Publications Manager for Inscribe/Peepal Tree Press, where she commissions anthologies, such as *Glimpse*, a Black British speculative fiction anthology. She is the editor of several other anthologies and the founder/publisher of *SABLE LitMag*. She has published poetry, short stories and essays, the latest is in *New Daughters of Africa*. Her poetry collection is *Irki*; her forthcoming collection, *The Modern Pan-Africanist's Journey*. She is co-founder of Mboka Festival of Arts Culture and Sport in The Gambia, founder of the 'AfriPoeTree' app and founder of the first International Black Speculative Fiction Festival. She is on the board of African Studies Association (UK) and chair of Yaram Arts and she has judged several writing competitions. She has received awards and fellowships for her work, including an honorary doctorate from Goldsmiths University.

Benjamin Zephaniah was a performer, musician, actor, and is one of the UK's best-known poets. He has written more than 30 books for adults and children and is known all over the world for his powerful writing and performances. Benjamin was a founding member of Artists Against Apartheid, and in 1996 he hosted the President's Two Nations Concerts at the Royal Albert Hall in London, at the request of Nelson Mandela. On August 29th 2007 he was the Master of Ceremonies at the unveiling of the statue of Nelson Mandela, again at his request, in Parliament Square. Benjamin was also a musician and was the first person to record with the Wailers after the death of Bob Marley. As well as writing poetry, novels, screenplays and stage plays, Benjamin has also written and presented documentaries for television and radio. His poetry show *Life & Rhymes* won a BAFTA for 'best entertainment programme' in 2021. He has been awarded 13 honorary doctorates in recognition of his work and a wing at The Ealing Hospital in West London has been named after him. He passed away in December 2023.



Dialogue Books
 October 2026
Editor
 Adriano Noble
Extent
 752pp
Rights available
 US



Dialogue Books
January 2027
Editor
Hannah Chukwu
Extent
288pp
Rights available
World

The Night Run

Louis Bailey

A shape-shifting book on darkness, fear and the joys of the nocturnal realm.

Louis Bailey started running at night a decade ago, when long work hours and heavy commutes left little time for exercise. What emerged out of practical necessity would quickly become an obsession and would grow into a new way of life. To run at night is to be vulnerable and exposed, is to forgo the ego and enter the non-human world. But to run in the moors at night also makes you feel invincible and uninhibited, unleashed from societal convention and constraints.

The Night Run crosses the many plateaus and fissures of the Dark Peak - a foreboding, lunar-like expanse in the Northern Peak District. Running here allows Louis (and the reader) to revel in the gaps where imagination unfolds and where mythology takes on new meaning.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Louis Bailey is a sociologist by training. His academic work explores experiences of trauma, marginalisation and resistance. His first book, *The Night Run*, started as *Din*, a cycle of poetry and prose published by Skear Zines in 2020. *The Night Run* was shortlisted for the Nan Shepherd Prize, and an extract, 'The Nightjar', won the Creative Future Writers' Platinum Award. His visual artwork has been showcased in the Out in the Shires LGBT Arts Festival in Worcester (2018) and in the exhibition *Continuum: Framing Trans Lives* at the People's History Museum, Manchester (2018). His poetry has appeared in several anthologies by Beautiful Dragons Press, the TransBareAll anthology *Ten Years, Still Here* and his first poem-film cycle *We Rare Things* was performed at Salford Transgender Day of Remembrance in 2020.

JOHN MURRAY ONE



John Murray One
March 2027
Editor
Jonathan Shipley
Extent
288pp
Rights available
Translation

The Feel Good Factory

The Truth About the Promises Selling You a Better Life

Greg Foot

A sharp, witty and myth-busting investigation into the global wellness industry by an award-winning science presenter and producer, for readers of *Ultra Processed People* and *This Book May Save Your Life*.

We're told that we can hack our sleep, optimise our diets, boost our focus and sculpt our best selves, if only we buy the right things. From smart rings and cold plunges to supplements, mindfulness apps and "biohacking," the wellness world promises transformation at every turn.

In *The Feel Good Factory*, Greg Foot investigates the billion-pound industry selling us those promises, from the supplements and sleep trackers cluttering our bedside tables to the productivity hacks and mindfulness apps shaping how we think, eat, rest and work. Drawing on his trademark blend of humour, curiosity and evidence-based investigation, he unpacks how science is simplified, language is weaponised, and aspiration is cleverly repackaged as self-care. With a scientist's scepticism and a storyteller's wit, Greg Foot reveals how marketing turns hope into habit, and how the pursuit of "better" has quietly become one of the most profitable - and persuasive - industries of our time.

The Feel Good Factory builds directly on the success of *Sliced Bread*, widening the lens from individual "wonder products" to the cultural forces shaping our obsession with optimisation. It's smart, funny and perfectly timed for readers of *Ultra Processed People*, in its shared mission to challenge accepted wisdom, dissect myths and apply science to everyday claims.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Greg Foot is an award-winning science presenter and producer whose work spans TV, radio, podcasts and live shows. He hosts the hit BBC Radio 4 series and podcast *Sliced Bread* - one of the BBC's most popular podcasts, with over 30 million downloads - where he puts consumer products and health claims to the test. Greg is a regular on *BBC Morning Live* and, as a former *Blue Peter* and BBC Three presenter, combines solid scientific knowledge with an easy-going and approaching style. A Cambridge-trained scientist (Natural Sciences, First Class), he's also Creative Director of *sciencemedia.studio*, an Emeritus Public Engagement Fellow at The Wellcome Trust, and a sought-after trainer in science communication.

The Art of Focus

How to Overcome Behaviours That Derail Concentration

Andy Cope, Oliver Cope and Hannah Knowles

An actionable manifesto for reclaiming your clarity and attention in a fast-paced, tech-driven world.

What would being less overwhelmed look like? We all know the answer - we'd spend more time outside, away from our phones, living at a slower and less frantic pace. It's not complicated - and yet accessing that feeling really is. But maybe we're not the problem?

This powerful exploration of how modern society and the relentless march of technology have contributed to the epidemic of anxiety, mental health struggles, and the breakdown of our ability to focus, is an eye-opening read. It argues that in a world of infinite distractions, we're losing more than just our attention - we're losing our ability to live fully in the present moment.

Peppered with cutting-edge insights from positive psychology, neuroscience, and anthropology, *The Art of Focus* is a radical guide to reclaiming control, with a host of practical, research-backed strategies that will help you break free from the constant barrage of distractions and reconnect with what really matters in life.

It will equip you with tools that go far beyond the surface-level advice of "break up with your phone." Instead, you'll discover concepts like the spotlight effect, popcorn brain, and zoochosis, and you'll learn how to apply a host of actionable methods, such as the 10/5 principle and nixen to reduce anxiety, rediscover joy, and learn to live with focus and intention. Strategies like mastering keystone habits (Eat, Move, Sleep) and embracing delayed gratification will soon be essential tools for your long-term mental and emotional well-being.

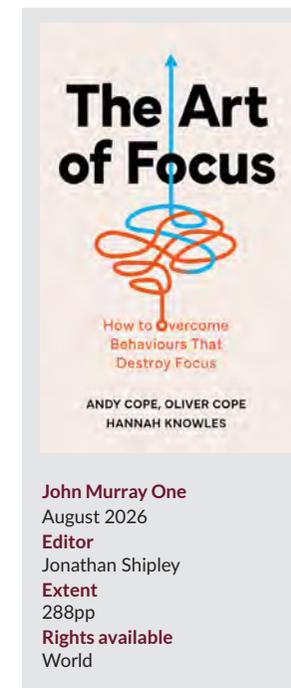
Whether it's managing anxiety, improving focus, or simply learning to slow down in an overwhelming world, *The Art of Focus* gives a compelling, hopeful alternative to the chaos. Its advice is rock solid and backed by science, making it a book that will not only resonate but inspire real, lasting change in your life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

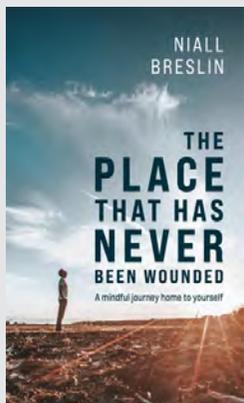
Andy Cope describes himself as an author, happiness expert, qualified teacher and learning junkie. He has spent 10 years researching 'positive psychology' culminating in a 'PhD in Happiness' from Loughborough University.

He has developed a series of keynotes and courses centring on themes of happiness and flourishing, which he delivers in businesses and schools across the world.

Andy has written several best-selling personal development books, including *The Art of Being Brilliant*, and is also a best-selling children's author. His *Spy Dog* series has enjoyed huge global success.



John Murray One
August 2026
Editor
Jonathan Shipley
Extent
288pp
Rights available
World



John Murray One
 February 2026
Editor
 Jonathan Shipley
Extent
 256pp
Rights available
 Translation

The Place That Has Never Been Wounded

A Mindful Journey Home To Yourself

Niall Breslin

This book will show you, in times of uncertainty and overwhelm, how to access a place of stillness and strength within your self which is your anchor and sanctuary – the place that remains steady when the world shakes.

In a world often marked by chaos and uncertainty, it's easy to feel unmoored, as if the ground beneath you is always shifting. This book is here to serve as your compass: a steady reminder that even when the way forward seems unclear, a path always exists.

Drawing on the principles of mindfulness and written with deep empathy and honesty, this book offers practical ways to reconnect with your inner stillness and meet life's challenges with patience and clarity. Accompanied by deeply beautiful meditations, this book will anchor you in turbulent times, guide you back when you drift, and help you make sense of life's heaviest moments.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Niall Breslin is a retired professional athlete, musician-producer, author, TV personality, campaigner, and multi-award-winning social entrepreneur and podcaster, currently completing a PhD in Sociology and Psychology at Trinity College Dublin; his acclaimed mental health podcast *Where's My Mind?* has featured global wellness leaders and led to further work with Spotify, the BBC, and Audible, all reflecting his deep commitment to improving mental health in the modern world.

Timeless Wisdom Distilled

Timeless literary masterpieces condensed to essential lessons

Each book in the series features the 100 most important passages and quotes that you need to take away and put to use. Carefully compiled to provide a concise compilation of the book's essential wisdom, each edition is augmented by beautifully written and very contemporary explanations and ideas by bestselling author Gill Hasson.

Meditations

Marcus Aurelius

(extent: 256pp)

Find clarity, resilience, and purpose in Marcus Aurelius' intimate reflections on what it means to live a virtuous and meaningful life.

The Prophet

Kahlil Gibran

(extent: 240pp)

Experience the beauty of life's great truths through Kahlil Gibran's poetic meditations on love, freedom, and the human spirit.

Think and Grow Rich

Napoleon Hill

(extent: 208pp)

Discover the power of your thoughts to shape your destiny in Napoleon Hill's timeless blueprint for personal and financial success.

The Art of War

Sun Tzu

(extent: 192pp)

Master the art of strategy and achieve victory in life's battles with Sun Tzu's enduring guide to wisdom, foresight, and adaptability.

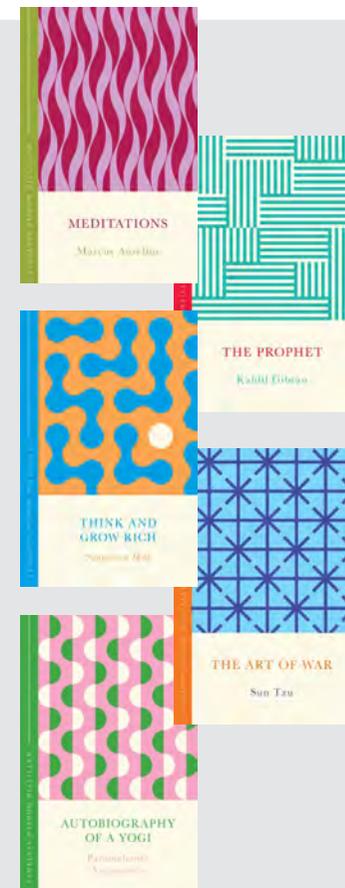
Autobiography of a Yogi

Paramahansa Yogananda

(extent: 256pp)

Embark on a transformative journey into the spiritual and the sublime with Paramahansa Yogananda's visionary memoir of self-realization.

Gill Hasson has 20 years' experience teaching and writing on a range of issues to do with personal and professional development, mental health and wellbeing. She is the author of more than 22 books; the bestselling *Mindfulness*, *Mindfulness Pocketbook*, *Emotional Intelligence*, *Positive Thinking*, the *Sunday Times* bestseller *How to Deal with Difficult People*, plus other books on the subjects of resilience, communication skills and assertiveness.



John Murray One
 August 2025
Editor
 Jonathan Shipley

Rights available
 Translation
Rights sold
 German (Verlag Franz Vahlen)
 Japanese (Discover21)

The Mbappé Project

Making a Superstar

Philippe Auclair

The inside story of Kylian Mbappé.

As the two dominant talents of 21st century football, Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, near the end of their careers, one man is set to take their place at the very top of the game. This man is the captain of France's national team, Kylian Mbappé. A world champion at the age of nineteen in Russia, the World Cup's Golden Boot four years later in Qatar, the first player to score a hat-trick in a World Cup final since Geoff Hurst in 1966, the winner of twelve major honours with Paris Saint-Germain. Mbappé is still only 26 and he wears the shirt of Real Madrid.

At its core this book tells the ascent of a child of immigrants who rose to become the world's best player. But Mbappé's story is far more - his ascent was planned from the beginning, in a way no other sports career had been orchestrated before.

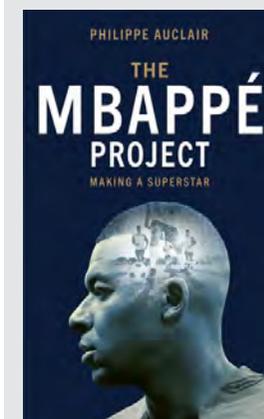
Kylian Mbappé's trajectory was mapped out from a very early age by his family, with the player's full consent. For Ronaldo and Messi, the brand was developed as a consequence of their exceptional achievements on the field of play. For Mbappé, the plan was in place before he'd played a minute of football with his first professional club, AS Monaco.

He was only six years old when Nike knocked on his parents' door and gave him his first sponsorship contract. He was sent to private school and given one-to-one tuition in Spanish so that he could interact with the local media as and when he signed for Real Madrid. His name was trademarked worldwide before he'd won his first cap for France. Every move, every decision was calculated from the outset.

Yes, Mbappé is a generational talent, and an exceptionally smart individual who looks as much at ease at the Elysée palace as on the pitch. But what truly sets him apart is that he is not just a sportsman: he is a project. This book tells the story of that project for the first time.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Philippe Auclair is a London-based French football writer, broadcaster and investigative journalist.



Quercus

March 2026

Editor

Richard Milner

Extent

304pp

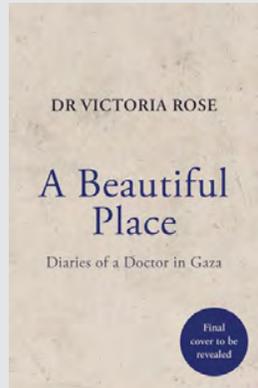
Rights available

Translation

Rights Sold

Greek (Dixty)

Romanian (Pilot Books)



Quercus
October 2026
Editor
Kate Hewson
Extent
320pp
Rights available
Translation

A Beautiful Place

A doctor's diaries from Gaza

Dr. Victoria Rose

The first front-line medical story out of Gaza.

23 May, 2025. I've just stepped out onto the balcony, and there are kites, which always come out when there's a bit of wind. They're basically made out of bin bags, but it's a really lovely sight, especially on a day when I've been operating on loads of small children, just to know that there are some children left here who are flying kites...

Since 7 October 2023, both local and international doctors have risked their lives to deliver medical aid to Gaza's population. Dr Victoria Rose, a senior plastic surgeon at Guy's & St Thomas', is one of them, completing three tours over the last two years. Keeping diaries as she works in an increasingly devastated city, she reveals the pressures and demands of saving lives in a war zone, and the human stories at the heart of a humanitarian disaster.

Amidst media blackouts, *A Beautiful Place* shares a rare front-line view of the emotional impact on local healthcare teams, as well as the devastation experienced by her patients - and the hope that, despite it all, still remains. Unflinching, gripping and beautifully written, it is a story that cannot be ignored.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Victoria Rose is a British-trained fully accredited Consultant Plastic Surgeon working at St Thomas' Hospital and King's College Hospital London. She is on the General Medical Council's specialist register for Plastic Surgery and is a member of The British Association of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons.

Since 2023 she has been on three tours of Gaza, performing emergency surgery and medical care out of Nasser hospital, the only hospital remaining in Gaza. *A Beautiful Place* is her first book.

Cleaning with Love Energy

The Japanese Art of Housework with Heart

Maki Kamoya

A gentle, optimistic way to reframe your attitude to housework, treat your yourself, your things and your home with tenderness and infuse your home with calm and love.

Maki Kamoya is a Japanese housewife who believes that housework is an act of love. Rather than bringing more pressure for everything to be perfect, she advocates doing what you want, when you want - this is housework without the resentment.

There are chores to be done today, tomorrow and the day after. Sometimes it feels like a never-ending duty. But what if we change our way of thinking? What if we see the true purpose of housework as filling our homes with bright and robust energy? Kamoya explores how housework can be made into an act of love. Everything you do with your heart and love brightens your home. You can give your love to your family, yourself and also to those who do not have words; plants, animals and objects with which you share your home.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Maki Kamoya was born into a family that manages a linen shop for 80 years in Tokyo. She successfully balances work, childcare and housework. When she turned 40, she started feeling the energy of persons and objects through her right hand. A vegetarian café in Tokyo discovered her, and she has been doing free readings for twice a month from 2013. Her readings are popular and are always booked out. Her husband is a climber. They have a daughter who lives in Europe.

A Japanese
bestseller!



Quercus
September 2026
Editor
Kate Hewson
Extent
288pp
Rights available
Translation (exc.
Vietnamese)
Rights sold
French (Mama Editions)



Quercus
September 2026
Editor
Kate Hewson
Extent
368pp
Rights available
Translation

A Good Funeral

Speaking Well of the Dead Famous

Daniel Scott

The most striking, interesting, witty, moving, maddening and inspiring funeral send-offs of incredible people.

The definitive compendium of the most striking, most sonorous and most memorable funeral addresses for notable public figures of recent times. *A Good Funeral* will give the reader a chance to revisit the achievements and sense the essence of some of the most storied figures of contemporary culture – designers like Vivienne Westwood and Alexander McQueen, musicians such as Lee Scratch Perry and Dusty Springfield, comedians Kenneth Williams and Tony Hancock, politicians such as Margaret Thatcher and Tom Driberg. And many more luminaries.

It gathers some of the most fascinating, witty, loving, appalling, ambiguous, maddening, moving and inspiring addresses ever given as a send-off to whatever comes next.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Daniel Scott has worked in publishing for over thirty years, with publishers such as Phaidon, Atlantic, Tate and Allison and Busby.

In recent years, he has worked on projects such as Jeremy Deller's *Art is Magic*, a book about courtroom art and Caroline Coon's memoir.

Seemingly unable to shake off a youthful obsession with pop and counterculture, the inclusion of eulogies to Rosa Parks and Lemmy in the present volume give a good indication of who he sees as his cultural wayfinders.

You Don't Know What You're Missing

The science of what's lost, and how to find it

Kit Yates

A fascinating exploration of the science of our blind spots - and how we can turn them into our biggest win.

We all like to think we're making decisions based on reality, but in fact, we're almost always working from incomplete information. And when 'you don't know what you don't know', it can be impossible to navigate successfully.

In *You Don't Know What You're Missing* mathematician Kit Yates explores the blind spots, gaps in our knowledge and how we make sense of the world given we usually have an unfinished picture. From avoiding common traps and pitfalls to filling in the gaps without guessing, it shows us how to turn our misses into hits.

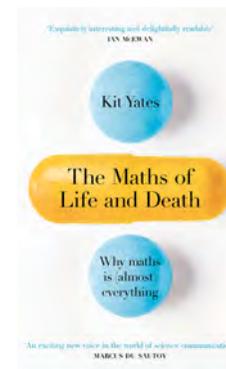
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kit Yates is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Mathematical Sciences and co-director of the Centre for Mathematical Biology at the University of Bath. He completed his PhD in mathematics at the University of Oxford in 2011.

His research demonstrates that mathematics can be used to describe all sorts of real-world phenomena: from embryo formation to locust swarming and from sleeping sickness to egg-shell patterning. He is particularly interested in the role that randomness plays in biology. His research into mathematical biology has been covered by the BBC, the *Guardian*, the *Telegraph*, the *Daily Mail*, RTE, Scientific American and Reuters amongst others.

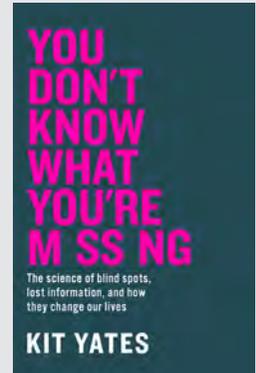
Alongside his academic position, Kit is also an author and science communicator.

Also available



Rights sold for *The Maths of Life and Death*

Arabic (Arab Scientific)
Czech (Albatros)
Hungarian (Athenaeum 2000)
Slovak (Albatros)
Brazil (Grupo Editorial Record)
Bulgarian (Iztok-Zapad)
Chinese Traditional (Commonwealth Publishing)
Croatian (Telegram Media)
Czech (Albatros)
Dutch (De Bezige Bij)
German (Piper)
Hebrew (Tchelet Books)
Hungarian (Athenaeum 2000)
Italian (RCS MediaGroup)
Japanese (Soshisha)



Quercus
June 2026
Editor
Kate Hewson
Extent
400pp
Rights available
Translation
Option publishers
Bulgarian (Iztok-Zapad)
Chinese - Simplified (CITIC Press)
German (Piper)
Hebrew (Tchelet)
Korean (Woongjin Think Big Co. Ltd.)

Korean (Woongjin)
Lebanese (Arab Scientific)
Norwegian (Cappelen Damm AS)
Polish (Insignis)
Portuguese, Portugal (Edicoes Saida de Emergencia)
Turkish (Can Sanat Yayinlari Yapim)
Romanian (Grup Media Litera)
Russian (Exem Licence)
Serbian (Laguna)
Slovakian (Albatros)
Slovenian (Učila International)
Spanish (Blackie Books)
Swedish (Pafina Forlags)
US (Simon & Schuster)

The Optimized Human

A beginner's guide to biohacking

Olli Sovijärvi, M.D, Teemu Arina and Jaakko Halmetoja

Quercus
April 2026
Editor
Kate Hewson
Extent
496pp
Rights available
Translation

The Optimized Human

A beginner's guide to biohacking

Olli Sovijärvi, M.D, Teemu Arina and Jaakko Halmetoja

The ultimate, accessible guide to hacking your sleep, nutrition, exercise, work and mental performance.

If you want to improve your life, health and happiness you need to upgrade the fundamentals: sleep, nutrition, exercise, work and the mind. And the best way to do this is through applying science, nutrition and even technology to these areas of our lives - the art known as 'biohacking'.

But targeting all of these areas individually can feel overwhelming - and that's where this book comes in. While there is an almost endless array of research into what may, or may not, help your health, *The Optimized Human* harnesses the most cutting-edge information on science, diet and technology and turns them into a practical, manageable and customizable plan that will revolutionize every area of your wellbeing. It is the missing manual of the human body, and an essential addition to the library, work desk, kitchen, gym, suitcase or bedroom of anyone who wants to get the best out of their life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Teemu Arina has a professional career of two decades as a technology entrepreneur, author and professional speaker. He is considered as one of the forefront thinkers on the digital transformation of humanity. His work focuses on studying the intersection of man and the machine in order to improve productivity, health and wellbeing. He received the Leonardo Award (under the patronage of European Parliament and UNESCO) in 2015 with the theme "Humanity in Digitization". He was selected as Top 100 Most Influential People in IT in 2016 by TIVI and Speaker of the Year in 2017 by Speakersforum Finland. He has delivered popular keynote presentations in countries such as US, UK, China, Japan, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Russia and Germany.

Dr Olli Sovijärvi is one of the pioneers of holistic medicine in Finland. At the beginning of his career Dr Sovijärvi worked as a medical duty officer at the Finnish Red Cross Blood Service. In 2006 he graduated from the University of Helsinki with a Licentiate degree in Medicine and has completed an Integral Theory degree at the John F. Kennedy University, focusing on psychology and philosophy. His numerous media appearances, social media articles and Finland's first health podcast have expanded the general public's awareness of what health care can be. Dr Sovijärvi has also acted as consultant to various companies and service providers operating in the fields of wellness and health technology.

Jaakko Halmetoja is a nutrition expert, non-fiction writer and active lecturer. Known as a pioneer of the superfood phenomenon, popularizer of the chaga mushroom and other medicinal fungi and "chocolate alchemist", Mr Halmetoja has introduced the general public of Finland to the health benefits and unique uses of various foods and medicinal plants through TV and radio appearances and more than 600 public lectures.

Mindful Soldier

Building resilience to overcome life's challenges

Ash Alexander-Cooper

An ex-soldier's personal journey through how to survive and thrive after trauma. Written with a world-renowned trauma specialist.

'An essential and inspirational guide to surviving and thriving, whatever life throws at you.'

Bear Grylls

'A remarkable book - wise, painfully open, honest and very thoughtful'

Rory Stewart

'A powerful reminder that resilience and vulnerability aren't opposites, but companions, shedding light on what it truly means to endure, heal and lead by positive example.'

Levison Wood

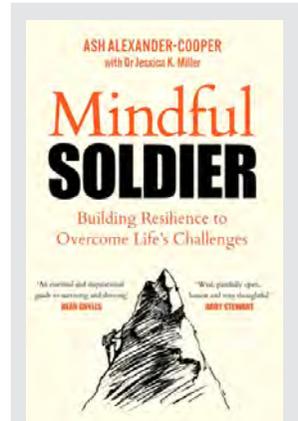
Written by former soldier Ash Alexander-Cooper OBE and world-renowned trauma specialist Dr Jessica K. Miller, this dynamic book offers practical skills and techniques to help readers tackle trauma, build resilience and overcome life's toughest obstacles - personal and professional - with confidence.

Overcoming childhood trauma, embracing uncertainty, relationship breakdowns, self-doubt, recovering from failure - these topics and more are covered with real insight, plus practical exercises to help build resilience.

Drawing on first-hand experiences and cutting-edge research, *Mindful Soldier* is a must-read for anyone seeking to adapt, learn and thrive in the face of adversity.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ash Alexander-Cooper OBE is a former soldier, world-championship athlete, and international musician. During a three-decade career, Ash spent seven years deployed in some of the world's most challenging environments. Wounded multiple times, Ash proudly supports several veterans' charities. Since retirement, Ash has focussed on leadership and resilience, after recognising how many organisations experience similar challenges to those he faced in combat. Now a sought-after international keynote speaker and strategic advisor, Ash supports those seeking to overcome adversity, to adapt and win in today's increasingly complex world. *Mindful Soldier* is his first book. He lives in London.



Quercus
January 2026
Editor
Kate Hewson
Extent
272pp
Rights available
Translation

Anything for Love

Joanna Bolouri

A hilarious and heartfelt rom-com for anyone who's lost their faith in love.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO FIND THE ONE?

Sophie Smalls is happy with her life. She has a fabulous flat in London, a high-flying career in advertising, wonderful friends and a family she adores. But recently, something has been playing on her mind.

Sophie is in her mid-forties and has never been in love. And when she sees on Instagram that the only man she's ever properly fancied is engaged, a thought that was nagging at her becomes a full-blown crisis.

Panicked google searches follow, but luckily the internet is full of articles on how to fall in love and where to find it. One in particular catches her eye: '365 days of Yes' by Alex Stewart. Sophie decides to use this article as a guide - to say yes to everything and to put herself out there at all costs . . . to do anything for love. What could go wrong?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Joanna Bolouri worked in sales before she began writing professionally at the age of thirty. Winning a BBC comedy script competition allowed her to work and write with stand-up comedians, comedy scriptwriters and actors from across the UK. She's had articles and reviews published in *The Skinny*, the *Scottish Sun*, the *Huffington Post* and *HecklerSpray*. She lives in Glasgow with her daughter.



Quercus

June 2026

Editor

Hannah Rossiter

Extent

384pp

Rights available

Translation

Rights sold

Bulgarian (Ciela Norma)

Swedish (Printz)

Rights sold for *Driving Home for Christmas*

Bulgarian (Ciela Norma)

Danish (Palatium)

Finnish (WSOY)

French (Bragelonne)

Greek (Psychogios)

Swedish (Norstedts)

Also available





Quercus
June 2027
Editor
Stefanie Bierwerth
Extent
448pp
Rights available
Translation

The Brightwater Sisters - Book 1

Tracy Rees

From the bestselling author of *Amy Snow*, comes a dazzling new historical romance trilogy, with a stunning European travel element.

England 1856. Bookish Amelia-Jane Brightwater has never wanted to leave home but, following a mysterious betrayal, her family's fate hangs in the balance. The eldest of three, Amelia-Jane is determined to save her two younger sisters from the terrible fate of having to leave their happy home.

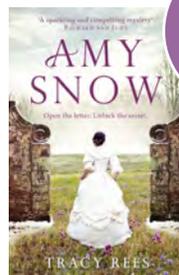
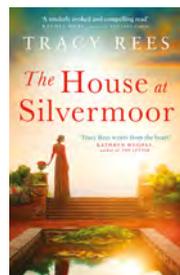
She secures a lucrative position, but is dismayed to learn that it is based in Ragusa, across the Adriatic Sea. Amelia-Jane embarks on the long journey across the continent to spend the summer as companion to Cecelia Bancroft, a spoiled young Englishwoman far less interested in cultural enrichment than she is in handsome men.

Desperately homesick and confounded by her dazzling new surroundings, Amelia-Jane must adjust to life under a hot sun in a medieval city by the sea. Her friendship with an older local woman finally allows her to connect with her new home, but will it be through her friend's rakish grandson, the scandal of a missing Ragusan heiress, or an irritating English travel writer that Amelia-Jane finally finds her real purpose?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tracy Rees was born in South Wales. A Cambridge graduate, she had a successful eight-year career in nonfiction publishing and a second career practising and teaching humanistic counselling. She was the winner of the Richard and Judy Search for a Bestseller Competition and the 2015 LoveStories 'Best Historical Read' award.

Also available



Amy Snow
sold in 15
languages

Pippa Nixon

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Pippa Nixon lives in Guildford with her husband and four teenage boys where she has a reputation for watching horror films from behind cushions and never failing to burn garlic bread. Always a fan of words and with a career in PR and Marketing, she is an alumnus of the Faber Academy.



All Change

He falls first in this small-town, spicy romance - perfect for fans of Lucy Score, Laurie Gilmore and Bonnie Woods.

Stuntwoman Gabi hates being tied down. But after an accident at work, she moves to the small riverside town of Honeybridge to recover.

Local hero Walker is the town's favourite firefighter. He could have any woman he wants. He just can't stop thinking about Gabi.

He's fire, she's ice, and sparks fly between them. Gabi doesn't want to settle down, wasn't looking for her happy ever after. But could Walker be someone worth staying for?



Quercus
March 2026
Editor
Katherine Burdon
Extent
368pp
Rights available
Translation
Rights sold
Brazilian
Portuguese
(Editora Rocco)
Dutch
(Park Uitgevers)

All Yours

A spicy second chance festive romance between a single dad and an old flame - perfect for fans of Elsie Silver, Laurie Gilmore and Lucy Score.

The last time games designer Fox saw Robyn was the morning after their amazing night together. He didn't even get her last name.

So when flame-haired Robyn shows up on his doorstep as his new live-in nanny, Fox is stunned. The connection burns just as bright, but they agree to keep it professional.

The longer they live under one roof, the harder it is to keep their promise. And where Robyn's concerned, Fox is playing for keeps...



Quercus
October 2026
Editor
Katherine Burdon
Extent
384pp
Rights available
Translation
Rights sold
Brazilian
Portuguese
(Editora Rocco)
Dutch
(Park Uitgevers)

Also available

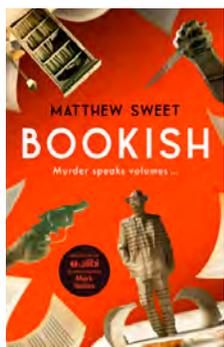


Rights sold for *All Mine*
Brazilian
(Editora Rocco)
Dutch (Park Uitgevers)
German (Bastei Lubbe)
Polish (Poznanski)



Quercus
 August 2026
 Editor
 Katherine Burdon
 Extent
 352pp
 Rights available
 Translation

Also available



Bookish Volume 2

Matthew Sweet

Based on Mark Gatiss's brand new TV series set in post-war London, *Bookish* follows an enigmatic independent bookshop owner who helps the local police solve crimes.

Adapted from the major television series created by and starring Mark Gatiss

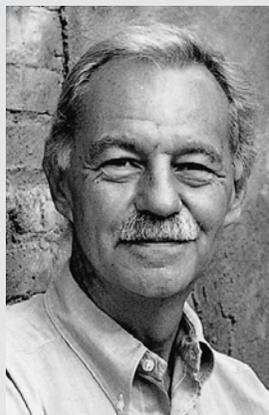
In post-war London, Gabriel Book – an erudite and unconventional London bookseller and amateur sleuth – uses the chaotic riches of his stock to crack the puzzling cases that come his way.

He does not work alone. Book's shop is a magnet for waifs and strays - some of whom bring mysteries of their own to his door. There's his wife and closest comrade, Trottie; Nora, sometime bookseller and true crime enthusiast; Dog, connoisseur of ginger biscuits and Jack, whose own past binds him closely to Book.

Clever, endearing and entertaining, *Bookish Volume 2* is a warm-hearted and unexpected mystery, about books, murder and the secrets we all keep.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Matthew Sweet is co-writer, with Mark Gatiss, of *Bookish*. He presents *Free Thinking* on BBC Radio 4 and *Sound of Cinema* on BBC Radio 3. He is the author of *Inventing the Victorians*, *Shepperton Babylon*, *The West End Front* and *Operation Chaos*. His 25 years of television and radio programmes include *The Culture Show*, *Checking into History*, five series of *The Philosopher's Arms* and *1922: The Birth of Now*, a ten-part history of modernism. He has been film critic of the *Independent on Sunday*, photography critic of *Newsweek* and fashion columnist for *1843/The Economist*. His film *Liberation Radio* screened in the 2021 London Film Festival and at the Manzi gallery in Hanoi. In 2017 he and the baker Frances Quinn achieved a chocolate-related Guinness World record that held good until 2022, when it was broken by Ant and Dec. His crime novel *The New Forest Murders* and his biography *The Great Dictator: The Life of Barbara Cartland* are forthcoming.



MacLehose Press
January 2027
Editor
Paul Engles
Extent
384pp
Rights available
US

Three Mysteries for the Organisation

Eduardo Mendoza

A Catalan answer to Mick Herron's *Slough House* novels, with a twist of Eduardo Mendoza's signature black humour.

Barcelona, Spring 2022. The morning new recruit Vicente Misfit reports for his first day at "The Organisation", a meeting is called to discuss three mysteries:

- 1) A man has been found hanged in a room in a hotel on the Rambla San José.
- 2) An Englishman by the name of Jenkins has disappeared from his luxury yacht in the port.
- 3) The canning company Conservas Fernández is the only firm in these times of high inflation not to have increased its prices at all.

But what is The Organisation? A secret department created in 1944 that through bureaucratic inertia has never quite ceased to exist, nor ever quite had the funds to achieve anything of consequence. But now its hour may have finally arrived.

Convinced that the mysteries are linked, the Boss dispatches his operatives into the field to find the connection, the missing Englishman, the hotel murderer and the reason behind Conservas Fernández's reasonable prices. What they discover will surprise everyone - the reader included.

A wonderfully knowing screwball comedy and a nod to certain other secret agents gone to seed, this is vintage Mendoza, a ripping read from the author of *An Englishman in Madrid* one of the true greats of Spanish letters.

Translated from the Spanish by Nick Caistor.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eduardo Mendoza was born in Barcelona in 1943. He studied Law and worked as an UN interpreter in the United States for nine years. He has won many awards for his fiction, including the Planeta Prize and the European Book Prize for his novel *An Englishman in Madrid*, and the Cervantes Prize and the Princess of Asturias Award for Literature for his whole body of work.

The Nine Lives of a Bookshop Cat

Kentaro Utsugi

Winner of the Japan Fantasy Award 2024. A cat in his ninth life goes to live in a bookshop with four other cats who also once belonged to famous writers.

In his third life, Kinnosuke belonged to a famous author. Now, in his ninth, he goes to live in the Big Dipper Bookshop, owned by a woman called Erika Kitahoshi, which is already home to brood of fellow cats - Lulu, Kinu, Kaa, and Chibi - who all once belonged to writers too. Soon Kinnosuke begins to notice some of the bookshop's more curious quirks: there are few customers, but it never goes out of business. No stock is ordered, but it never seems to run out of books. But if he wants to know more of its secrets he will have to exchange some of his own - about the life he shared with the author.

Meanwhile, once so disinterested in the lives of humans, Kinnosuke becomes close to a young customer with ambitions of becoming a writer herself. When misfortune befalls her and imperils her dream, Kinnosuke must confront the secret history behind the bookshop and fight to keep her hopes alive.

Translated from the Japanese by Sylvia Gallagher

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Kentaro Utsugi is from Koshigaya, Saitama Prefecture. He grew up in a house surrounded by books, and before he knew it, he started writing novels. His first novel, *The Forest Calls*, was published in 2021. *The Nine Lives of a Bookshop Cat* won the Japan Fantasy Novel Grand Prize 2024, judged, among others, by the author Tomihiko Morimi.



MacLehose Press

August 2026

Editor

Paul Engles

Extent

224pp

Rights available

Translation

Rights sold

Hungarian (Alexandra)

Romanian (BOOKZONE)

French (Bragebonne)

Spanish (Salamandra)

Italian (Garzanti)

Greek (PEDIO)

Estonian (Tanapaev)

Turkish (Indigo)

Ukrainian rights under offer

Polish rights under offer

Portuguese rights under offer

Czech rights under offer



MacLehose Press
 January 2027
Editor
 Jon Riley
Extent
 624pp
Rights available
 US

The Navigators

Erika Fatland

A monumental work of travel writing charting the influence of the Portuguese seafarers who established the world's first colonial empire.

With her previous books – *Sovietistan*, *The Border* and *High* – Erika Fatland has established herself as an icon of international travel writing. Now she takes on a new challenge: tracing the legacy of the Portuguese seafarers whose voyages changed the course of history.

In the 15th century, Portuguese sailors sailed ever further south, driven on by their king, Henry the Navigator, and a new type of ship, known for its agility, speed and capacity for sailing against the wind: the caravel. And in 1498, Vasco da Gama found the sea route to India - and the world was never the same again.

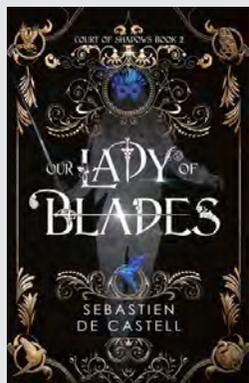
The Portuguese empire was the first global colonial empire - and the last. It stretched from Cape Verde to Goa, from Nagasaki to the Amazon, until it unravelled in the late 20th century. Following in the wake of the caravels, Erika Fatland takes us on an adventurous journey around the world to learn what traces the Portuguese left behind - architecture, language, culture and government.

A phenomenal number one bestseller in Norway, where it kept Knaussgaard himself off the top spot, *The Navigators* is a travelogue that spans centuries as readily as miles, and allows to a whole swathe of disparate lands through a fresh new lense.

Translated from the Norwegian by Kari Dickson.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Erika Fatland was born in 1983 and studied Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo. Her 2011 book, *The Village of Angels*, was an in situ report on the Beslan terror attacks of 2004 and she is also the author of *The Year Without Summer*, describing the harrowing year that followed the massacre on Utøya in 2011. For *Sovietistan* (2019) she was shortlisted for the Edward Stanford/Lonely Planet Debut Travel Writer of the Year, and *The Border* (2020) was shortlisted for the Stanfords Dolman Travel Book of the Year 2020. She speaks eight languages and lives in Oslo with her husband.



Arcadia
 May 2026
 Editor
 Anne Perry
 Extent
 592pp
 Rights available
 Translation

Our Lady of Blades

Sebastien de Castell

A stand-alone novel of siblings, betrayal and swordplay in the swashbuckling fantasy series by the bestselling author of *The Greatcoats*.

Blood Week may have been banned in Rijou, but the streets still run red - and now murder is being sanctioned by the courts. Only a reckless fool would believe they can beat the system. But then, the Greatcoats have always been more than a little reckless...

Rijou's notorious Court of Blades is as corrupt as it is cutthroat, destroying lives with impunity. Now the city's all-powerful Ascendant Houses have started buying and selling verdicts to enslave and even execute those who oppose them. Into this depraved world of licensed death comes a mysterious duellist who dares to foil the intrigues of the city's elite. They call her Lady Consequence, but years ago she had a different name, until her family was slaughtered and she was consigned to the hellish prison known as the House of Tears. Lady Consequence means to rescue her idealistic younger brother, restore their House and wreak vengeance upon those who betrayed them. But a far more dangerous game is unfolding in the shadows, one which threatens the freedom of the entire nation.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Sebastien de Castell had just finished a degree in Archaeology when he started work on his first dig. Four hours later he realised how much he actually hated archaeology and left to pursue a very focused career as a musician, ombudsman, interaction designer, fight choreographer, teacher, project manager, actor and product strategist. His only defense against the charge of unbridled dilettantism is that he genuinely likes doing these things and that, in one way or another, each of these fields plays a role in his writing. He sternly resists the accusation of being a Renaissance Man in the hopes that more people will label him that way.

Also available



The Blackfire Blade

James Logan

The hotly anticipated sequel to *The Silverblood Promise*, the incredible new epic fantasy series perfect for fans of Scott Lynch.

Winter has come early to Korslakov, City of Spires, and Lukan Gardova has arrived with it. Most visitors to this famous city of artifice seek technological marvels, or alchemical ingenuity. Lukan only desires the unknown legacy his father has left for him, in the vaults of the Blackfire Bank. But when Lukan's past catches up with him, his key to the vault ends up in the hands of a mysterious thief known only as the Rook. As Lukan and his companions race to recover the key, they soon find themselves trapped in a web of murder and deceit. In desperation, Lukan requests the help of Lady Marni Volkova, scion to Korslakov's most powerful family. Yet Lady Marni has secrets of her own. Worse, she has plans for Lukan and his friends. Plans that involve a journey into Korslakov's dark past, in search of a long-lost alchemical formula that could prove to be the city's greatest discovery... or its destruction.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

James Logan was born in the southeast of England and grew up on a steady diet of classic 80s cartoons and Commodore 64 computer games. The impulse purchase of a Fighting Fantasy gamebook forged a love of all things fantastical, which later led to a career in genre publishing. James lives and works in London.

Also available



Rights sold for *The Silverblood Promise*:
 Arabic (Darmolhimon)
 Czech (Host)
 US (Tor)



Arcadia
 November 2025
 Editor
 Anne Perry
 Extent
 608pp
 Rights available
 Translation
 Rights sold
 Czech (Host)
 US (Tor Books)

The Tale of Genji

Murasaki Shikibu

The classic translation of what is considered the first novel in human history, now with an all-new Introduction and prefaces by Ian Buruma.

'One of the most extraordinary works of literature I have ever read'
Tom Holland (via *The Rest is History*)

'There are no heroes in the Genji. They are complicated, contradictory, generous, cruel, sad, perverse, and entirely recognizable'
Ian Buruma, from his Introduction to *The Tale of Genji*

The Tale of Genji is widely considered the first ever novel. Written by Japanese noblewoman Murasaki Shikibu, it tells the story of Genji, the son of an emperor in the Heian court of 10th century Japan. The tale takes us through Genji's childhood and maturity, through to his death and beyond.

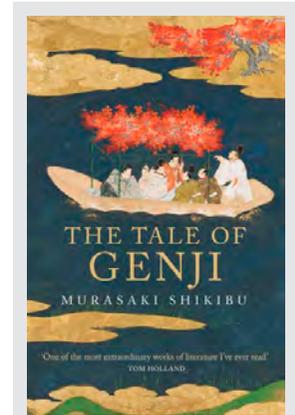
It tells of his early sexual escapades, his reckless and often intensely inappropriate relationships with a vast array of women, the court politicking of his middle age and, later on, his grapplings with his own mortality. Above all, Murasaki draws us deep into the human psyche, into themes which transcend the millennium since she wrote it; sexual jealousies, emotional dependencies, the disastrous effects of unbridled desire and, most notably, the realisation of life's extreme transience.

The richness of Murasaki's original story is brought out in this celebrated translation by Arthur Waley, widely considered to be one of the greatest in the English language. By altering elements relating to the Heian court into terms that modern European audiences could understand, Waley takes an already elegiac work of fiction and transforms it into a literary masterpiece.

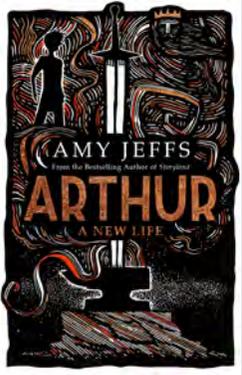
In this riverrun edition, Ian Buruma has written a new Introduction for Waley's classic translation, as well as three new prefaces for the three sections of the story.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Murasaki Shikibu was a Japanese novelist, poet and noblewoman in the Heian court of 11th century Japan. She is most famous for writing *The Tale of Genji*, widely considered the first ever novel, between the years 1000 and 1012. Murasaki is thought to have written the novel while she was married, or else shortly after her husband died. Because of her reputation as a writer, she was invited to serve Emperor Shoshi as a lady-in-waiting, which she did until her death, estimated between 1014 and 1025.



riverrun
September 2026
Editor
Jon Riley
Extent
1200pp
Rights available
US



riverrun
 September 2026
Editor
 Jon Riley
Extent
 400pp
Rights available
 Translation

Arthur

Amy Jeffs

A vivid retelling of Arthurian legend, from the critically acclaimed and bestselling author of *Storyland* and *Saints*.

It is said that a monument now stands before the high church of Caerleon: an anvil pierced through with a sword. It is said that the sword can only be taken by the Briton's rightful king...

In her latest work, the critically acclaimed author of *Storyland* Amy Jeffs reinvents the tale we all think we know: the legend of King Arthur.

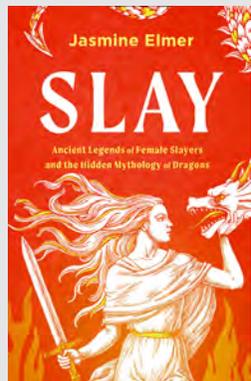
Told from the perspectives of Merlin, Gawain, Guinevere and finally the king himself, *Arthur* traces the epic story, from the diabolical circumstances of Merlin's conception and the building of the Round Table, to the abduction of Guinevere and King Arthur's ambitious quest for Empire.

Drawing out the dark and beautiful stories from the original medieval and early-modern texts, Amy guides the reader from citadels through forests, into volcanoes, caves and riverbanks and beyond, even as far as Hell and the Otherworld. Going further than merely the stories, she provides incisive commentary about each tale, emphasising the legends' crafted nature and their symbiotic relationship with the political cultures of contemporary medieval Europe.

Accompanied by dynamic illustrations by Amy herself, this work is a glimmering reimagination of Arthurian legend for the modern reader.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Amy Jeffs is an author, artist and medievalist. During her PhD in Art History at the University of Cambridge, she co-convened a project researching medieval badges and pilgrim souvenirs at the British Museum. She then worked in the British Library's department of Ancient, Medieval and Early Modern manuscripts. Now a Somerset-based author, she illustrates her books with print and paper cutout. *Storyland: A New Mythology of Britain* was published in 2021. It was a *Sunday Times* bestseller and a Waterstones Book of the Month, as well as being shortlisted for Waterstones Book of the Year. *Wild: Tales from Early Medieval Britain* was published in 2022. Its audiobook, illustrated with 7 original songs, was named Audiobook of the Week by the *Guardian* and the *Times*.



Renegade Books
July 2026
Editor
Kate Hewson
Extent
304pp
Rights available
World

Slay: Ancient legends of female slayers and the hidden mythology of dragons

Jasmine Elmer

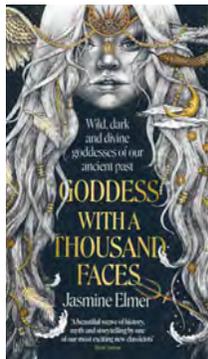
From the ancient world expert and author of *Goddess with a Thousand Faces*, comes a distinctive and revelatory historical and mythological exploration of dragons, the stories and cultures around them, and the fierce women who slayed them.

The dragon is a monster with a rich history of symbolism in almost every culture. In the stories that have been passed down through time, dragons lurk in the great wild, in dark, unknown and mysterious lands that exist on the periphery of human civilisation. Only the bravest of souls dare venture into the darkness to vanquish the dragon - and so often the tales have only shone light on the men. But what if there is so much more to this narrative?

Jasmine Elmer shifts the spotlight to the daring and victorious female dragon slayers that have been written out of history. Combining historical research with mythological retelling, *Slay* is a celebration of the dragon - and the woman that conquered the monsters - that has never been done before.

Slay is a distinctive and revelatory historical and mythological exploration of dragons, the stories and cultures around them, and the fierce women who slayed them.

Also available



Rights sold for *Goddess With a Thousand Faces*
Dutch (Ambo Anthos)
Spanish (Editorial Trillas)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jasmine Elmer is a straight-talking ancient world expert. Deciding her subject needed a 'glow up', she began her mission in 2020 to make the subject relatable and representative. Outside of writing, she spends her time bringing that energy to television screens, appearing on broadcast channels such as Channel 4, Channel 5 and National Geographic, as well as hosting and featuring on many podcasts. You can also find Jasmine on Instagram @history_with_soul. Her debut book *Goddess with a Thousand Faces* is a bold exploration of world goddesses, blending storytelling with historical fact. It follows from years of research as a student at universities like UCL, Cambridge and Exeter and a career as a secondary school teacher of Classics. She is of dual heritage, Pakistani and white, and her mother was born in Canada. She grew up in East London but now lives in Exeter, Devon with her husband and son. She has five cats and is absolutely not ashamed of that fact! When she has some downtime, she loves spending time in nature, curling up with a good book and a hot choc, and having a laugh with her friends. She flits between meditation and being frazzled. Such is life.

Ayisha Malik

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ayisha Malik is the author of the critically acclaimed novels, *The Movement*, *Sofia Khan is Not Obligated*, *The Other Half of Happiness*, and *This Green and Pleasant Land*. She was a WHSmith Fresh Talent Pick and *Sofia Khan* was a London CityReads choice in May 2019. Her contributions have included, *A Change is Gonna Come*, *A Matchmade in Heaven* and *The Sunday Times* bestselling *Conversations in Love*. She has written a re-telling of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park* - part of Hachette's *Awesomely Austen* children's series - and the children's book, *Seven Sisters*. Ayisha is winner of The Diversity Book Awards and has been shortlisted for the Asian Women of Achievement Award, *Marie Claire's* Future Shapers Awards and h100's Awards for Publishing and Writing. With a career in PR and Marketing, she is an alumna of the Faber Academy.



The Movement

Perfect for fans of Naomi Alderman. A sharply observed novel, charged with compassion and dark wit, that will spark important conversations about how we live, relate and communicate now.

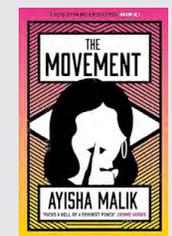
With words come power. But do you speak out or shut up?

Everywhere Sara Javed goes - online or outside - everyone is shouting about something. Couldn't they all just shut up? One day she takes her own advice.

At first people don't understand her silence and are politely confused at best. But the last thing Sara could anticipate is becoming the figurehead of a global movement that splits society in two.

The Silent Movement sparks outrage in its opposers. Global structures start to shift. And the lives of those closest to Sara - as well as strangers inspired by her act - begin to unravel.

It's time for the world to reconsider what it means to have a voice.



Renegade Books
March 2027
Editor
Katherine Burdon
Extent
448pp
Rights available
World

The Settlers

In a world where men have failed humanity, success now lies in the hands of women. Perfect for fans of *The Power* and *Vox*.

Men had been a failure. So success now lies in the hands of women.

BEFORE THE FALL

Political campaigner and activist Jade fears she's losing the fight against a world where everyone pretends women can have it all, even while their rights and their freedoms are stripped from them. Surely, there must be something more - something better.

And when Jade meets Nyla, the two women forge an unlikely friendship that could change the way women live forever. But can their vision of a new world for women, run by women, survive in a hostile world?

AFTER THE FALL

Decades later, producer Kiran tracks down Jade and Nyla for her documentary. Her aim? Finally breaking the silence on what went wrong, all those years ago. The truth, though, might be darker than Kiran could ever have imagined...



Renegade Books
February 2027
Editor
Katherine Burdon
Extent
336pp
Rights available
World



Renegade Books

June 2026

Editor

Sara Jafari

Extent

336pp

Rights available

Translation

Feast

Catherine Kurtz

A young woman gifted with a remarkable sense of taste is appointed as a French chateau master's official poison-taster - at grave personal risk. Inspired by Suskind's *Perfume* and perfect for fans of *The Miniaturist* and *The Binding*.

I can taste anything. Everything. Every ingredient in a recipe. The earth in which the potatoes were grown. The tree on which the fruits were ripened. I can taste it all.

In the soot-streaked alleys of 19th-century London, Minha is a girl unlike any other - born with an extraordinary gift: an overwhelming, all-consuming sense of taste. Desperate to escape a life of poverty, she crosses the sea to France, chasing the shimmer of a better future.

At Château de Bellefalaïse, a grand estate with fairytale turrets perched above a sleepy village, Minha's talent is discovered when she detects poison in a dish about to be served to the chateau's master, Duc Nicolas. For the first time in her life, her strange ability becomes her salvation - and her curse. Appointed the Duc's personal poison-taster, she is confined to her tasting room and forced to live in the chateau's shadows. With each dish, she enters a world of glittering porcelain and gilded secrets, where danger simmers beneath every course...

But when she loses her miraculous gift and suspicion coils through the corridors, Minha must confront a terrifying truth: without her gift, who is she - and what remains of the life she's fought so hard to build?

***Feast* is a sumptuous historical novel brimming with intrigue and sensory wonder - a dark fairytale for readers who love Jessie Burton, Elizabeth Macneal and Bridget Collins.**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Catherine Kurtz was born in Cambridge in 1969, was brought up in London and now lives in Kent. She completed an art foundation at Wimbledon School of Art, before studying Fine Art at Chelsea School of Art. Upon graduating, Kurtz was made artist-in-residence at the Royal Ballet School. She is a painter represented by The Redfern Gallery, a member of The Guild of Food Writers, and Grand Jury Member of The International Chocolate Awards. Her journalism has been published in a variety of publications including *The Spectator's Scoff*, *Harvest*, *ckbk* and *Celebrated Living*. In her fiction she explores the female experience, her mixed-race heritage, and the power of creativity. She has an MA in Creative Writing from West Dean College and is currently working on her second novel.

Co-agents

ALBANIA, BULGARIA
and MACEDONIA
Anthea Agency
katalina@antheaagency.com

CHINA and TAIWAN
For John Murray:
Peony Literary Agency
marysia@peonyliteraryagency.com
For Quercus:
The Grayhawk Agency
grayhawk@grayhawk-agency.com

CZECH REPUBLIC and SLOVAKIA
Kristin Olson Agency
kristin.olson@litag.cz

HUNGARY, CROATIA,
SERBIA and SLOVENIA
Katai and Bolza Literary Agency
orsi@kataibolza.hu (Hungary)
see.rights@kataibolza.hu
(Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia)

INDONESIA
Maxima Creative Agency
santo.maxima@gmail.com

JAPAN
For John Murray:
Tuttle-Mori Agency
manami@tuttlemori.com

For Quercus:
The English Agency
hamish@eaj.co.jp

KOREA
Eric Yang Agency
jackieyang@eyagency.com

ROMANIA
Simon Kessler International
office@kessler-agency.ro

THAILAND and VIETNAM
The Grayhawk Agency
grayhawk@grayhawk-agency.com

TURKEY
AnatoliaLit Agency
amy@anatolialit.com



Rights Contacts



Rebecca Folland,
Group Rights Director
US for JMG (excluding
the Quercus list)
rebecca.folland
@hachette.co.uk



Emma Thawley
Rights Director
US for the Quercus list
emma.thawley@hachette.co.uk



Ben Fowler,
JMG Trade Rights Lead
France, Germany, Spain,
Netherlands, Nordics
ben.fowler@hachette.co.uk



Catherine de Mello
Rights Manager
Eastern Europe, Balkans, Turkey,
Greece, Israel, Arab World, ROW
catherine.demello
@hachette.co.uk



Louise Henderson-Clark,
Rights Manager
Baltics, Poland, Ukraine,
Italy, Portugal & Brazil,
China & Taiwan, Japan,
Korea, SE Asia
louise.henderson
@hachette.co.uk



Alexis Alderton,
Rights Assistant
Material sales
alexis.alderton
@hachette.co.uk



Natalie Christopher,
Head of Media Development
natalie.christopher
@hachette.co.uk



JOHN

MURRAY

PUBLISHING GROUP