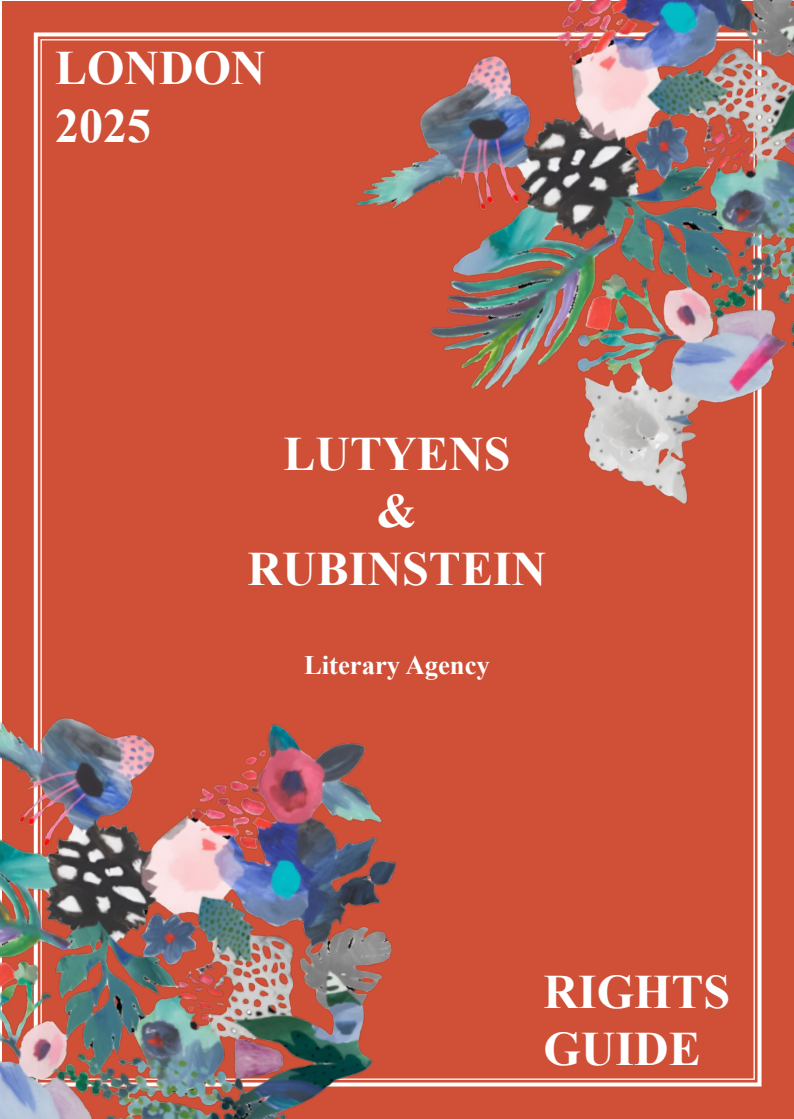


LONDON  
2025

LUTYENS  
&  
RUBINSTEIN

Literary Agency

RIGHTS  
GUIDE



Welcome to our London Book Fair 2025 Rights Guide

Enclosed are details of our forthcoming titles

Please direct all Rights enquiries to Prema Raj & Lily Evans

[prema@lutyensrubinstein.co.uk](mailto:prema@lutyensrubinstein.co.uk)

[lily@lutyensrubinstein.co.uk](mailto:lily@lutyensrubinstein.co.uk)



Please use the QR code to take you to our digital rights guide and visit [lutyensrubinstein.co.uk](http://lutyensrubinstein.co.uk) to see details about all individual clients and agents.

Thank you

# HIGHLIGHTS

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\*Bonnie Burke-Patel's modern twist on the country house thriller, **I DIED AT FALLOW HALL**, was a *Bookseller* paperback of the month and a LoveReading audiobook of the month in January this year.

\***THE SCAPEGOAT**, the glittering story of The Duke of Buckingham, has been shortlisted for the Duff Cooper Prize 2025, whilst its author, Lucy Hughes-Hallett won the Biographer's Club Contribution to Biography Award.

\*Coming out in paperback in March, **GOING HOME** by Tom Lamont was published to wonderful critical reviews and was a *People Magazine* pick in the U.S.

\* The latest addition to the Ottolenghi collection, **COMFORT**, was another instant best-seller in numerous territories. It won praise and accolades from all sides including the prestigious Gold Medal at the 2024 German Cookbook Awards.

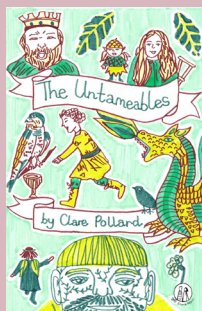
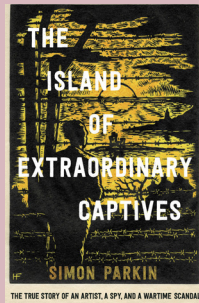
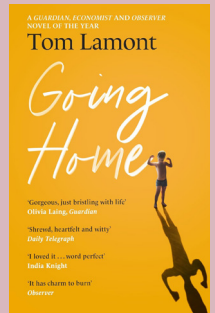
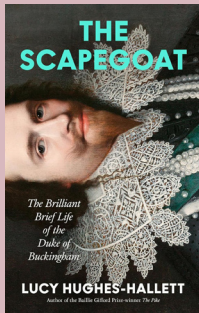
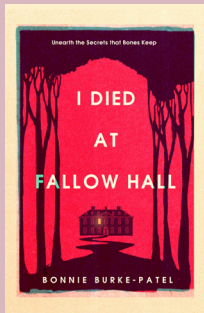
\*Wingate Prize-winning, **THE ISLAND OF EXTRAORDINARY CAPTIVES**, has now been optioned for film. This is a moving dive into the lives of those who lived within the Hutchinson Internment Camp during WWII.

\*Booker Prize longlisted **ENLIGHTENMENT** by Sarah Perry, has gone on to win the East Anglian Book Award and has sold in 10 territories.

\***PLAY**, by YA writer Luke Palmer, has been nominated for the 2025 Carnegie Medal for Writing. **PLAY** is the second in a soon to be trilogy by Palmer that sensitively explores the joys and complications of being a boy.

\*Clare Pollard's, **THE UNTAMEABLES**, which follows Elva and Roan as they search for the Holy Grail that will save Camelot, has been longlisted for the Branford Boase prize 2025.

\***DINNER**, Meera Sodha's fourth cookbook, has been shortlisted for the 2024 André Simon Award. Forget breakfast, **DINNER** is the essential companion for the most important meal of the day.



# FICTION

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WHAT THE NIGHT BRINGS | Mark Billingham

DEAD AS GOLD | Bonnie Burke-Patel

DARK LIKE UNDER | Alice Chadwick

THEORY & PRACTICE | Michelle de Kretser

EVERYONE IS LYING | Holly Down

FATHER FIGURE | Emma Forrest

HUNGER & THIRST | Claire Fuller

BELIEVE | S.M. Govett

MY HUSBAND & OTHER RATS | Shelley Klein

WORK-LOVE BALANCE | Sophie Loxton

THIRST TRAP | Gráinne O'Hare

NATURAL DISASTER | Lisa Owens

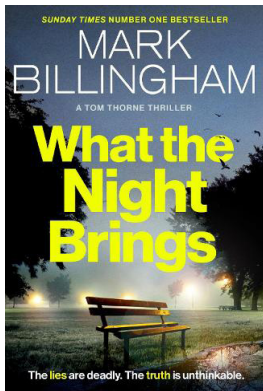
KILL CREATURES | Rory Power

HALF LIGHT | Mahesh Rao

ONE DARK NIGHT | Hannah Richell

CITY GIRLS FOREVER | Patricia Scanlan

THE INFAMOUS GILBERTS | Angela Tomaski



## WHAT THE NIGHT BRINGS

by **Mark Billingham**

Agent: Sarah Lutyens.

UK: Little Brown (Jack Butler) –  
June 2025. US: Grove Atlantic.

*Translation rights (excluding  
German) handled by Little Brown.*

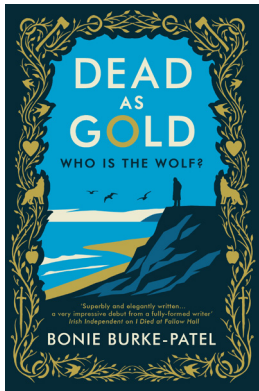
Billingham has been awarded every prize going for his Thorne series set in London and his stand-alones, all of which have been *Sunday Times* bestsellers. He has sold over 6.5 million copies of his books and has been published in 27 territories.

***‘WHAT THE NIGHT BRINGS might well be the best Tom Thorne novel yet. Billingham is in the form of his life.’***

***– Mick Herron, author of SLOW HORSES***

The *Sunday Times* best-selling author returns to the world of Tom Thorne in a new crime novel which will take your breath away.

The targeted murder of four officers is only the first in a series of attacks that leaves police scared, angry and, most disturbingly of all, with the possibility that this may be payback for an even worse crime. To uncover the truth, Thorne will be forced to question everything he stands for. He can trust nobody, and the shocking secrets revealed by one terrible night will fracture his entire world.



## **DEAD AS GOLD**

**by Bonnie Burke-Patel**

**Agent: Jane Finigan.**

**UK: Bedford Square (Carolyn Mays) – July 2025.**

*Manuscript available.*

Bonnie Burke-Patel studied at Oxford. After working for half a decade in politics and policy, she changed careers and became a preschool teacher, before beginning to write full time.

***‘Executed with skill, finesse and considerable compassion.’ – Irish Independent for I DIED AT FALLOW HALL***

Adam Conlon has made a new life for himself in Morrow-on-Sea. After a wild youth, the goldsmith has settled down, determined to be around for his young son. But now Ophelia Richards appears at his studio door, asking if he will buy her gold.

At the same time, faces begin appearing at the studio window, an unwelcome gift arrives in the post and gold goes missing.

Woven through with Morrow’s fairy tales, DEAD AS GOLD is a modern gothic crime novel veined with love, violence, family, and desire. Humans still use fairy tales to explore their deepest truths. So who is a wolf, and who is a sparrow?



## **DARK LIKE UNDER**

**by Alice Chadwick**

**Agent: Jenny Hewson.**

**UK: Daunt (Marigold Atkey) –  
February 2025. US: Biblioasis.**

*Manuscript available.*

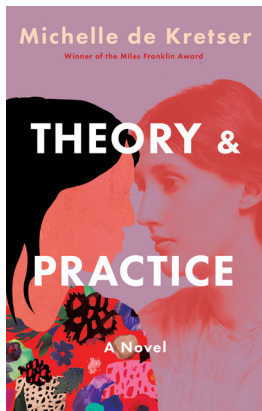
Alice Chadwick grew up in a small British town in the late 1980s, a place she returns to in her fiction. Her non-fiction has been included in an anthology of London writing by Indie Novella. This is her first novel.

***‘A haunting, hypnotically written debut.’ – Independent***

A day in an English school in the 1980s unfolds in the aftermath of the death of a beloved teacher. But while students and teachers grapple with this sudden loss, normal life continues. Lessons, flirtations, arguments. The clock ticks on. At the heart of it all is Tin. Burning bright with defiance – and potentially betrayed by best friend Robin and boyfriend Jonah. As the heat of the baking hot day intensifies, rivalries and hormones simmer, and old secrets surface.

Set against a backdrop of strikes and economic unrest, **DARK LIKE UNDER** is at the same time languorous with sun-soaked, rural beauty. This luminous debut captures the promises and risk of late adolescence and is a profound exploration of friendship, loneliness and grief.





## **THEORY & PRACTICE**

**by Michelle de Kretser**

**Agent: Sarah Lutyens.**

**ANZ: Text (Michael Heyward)**

**– November 2024. UK: Sort of**

**Books. US: Catapult.**

*Manuscript available.*

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

*'A lightning strike of a book.'* – **Ali Smith**

Set in the 1980s, a young woman arrives in Melbourne to write her thesis on Virginia Woolf. In bohemian St Kilda, she meets artists, activists, students – and Kit. While they become lovers, a dismaying discovery throws her work on 'the Woolfmother' into disarray.

This is a mesmerising account of desire and jealousy, truth and shame. It makes and unmakes fiction as we read, expanding our notion of what a novel can contain.



## EVERYONE IS LYING

by Holly Down

Agent: Daisy Parente.

UK: Bookouture (Lucy Frederick)

– February 2025.

*Manuscript available.*

Holly studied PPE at New College, Oxford, and later became a solicitor. She began writing as a hobby and in 2016, did a writing course at City University. Her first novel, THE COURIER, was published by Hodder & Stoughton in 2021. Her second novel THE OTHER WOMAN was published by Bookouture in 2024.

It's so peaceful here: a quiet house on a quiet street. The smiling woman waiting for me as I wake up says I'm lucky to be here – lucky to be alive. But the only thing I remember are the faces of my husband and baby. The husband and baby she insists don't exist...

I'm desperate to see them again.

My eyes fall on the woman sitting by my bed. She tells me she's my sister. But she also swears my husband and baby aren't real. That I'm confused after the accident.

I know she's lying.

But... if my husband is real, where is he? Why hasn't he come to get me?

Then I discover the anonymous note buried deep in a bunch of flowers beside me – with just two words on it: I'm sorry...



## FATHER FIGURE

by Emma Forrest

Agent: Felicity Rubinstein.

UK: W&N (Lettice Franklin) –  
July 2025.

*Manuscript available.*

Emma Forrest is the author of four novels and two memoirs, most recently *BUSY BEING FREE* which was longlisted for the Gordon Burn Prize.

*'No other writer is capable of such tenderness one moment and then such skewering the next' – Emma Jane Unsworth, author of ANIMALS*

Gail is in trouble at school. Saint Saviours, the exclusive private girls school she attends on a scholarship, cannot contain her. Impulsive and bored, she is at that dangerous age when you want to be picked up by men and then driven home by your mother.

Ezra is rich, powerful and at the top of his game. His comfortable middle age is tainted only by the knowledge that, in his heady youth, he loved new wave music and had people killed – and by his crushing anxieties about his daughter, Agata.

When Agata starts at Saint Saviours, Gail and Ezra's lives begin to intertwine with unstoppable momentum, and in ways more dangerous than either could ever predict.



## **HUNGER & THIRST**

**by Claire Fuller**

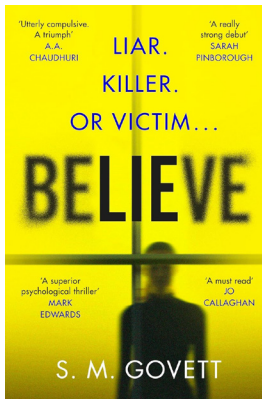
**Agent: Jane Finigan.**

**UK: Fig Tree (Helen Garnons-Williams) – May 2026. US: Tin House. Canada: Doubleday.**

*Manuscript available June 2025.*

Claire Fuller is the Costa Novel Award-winning and Women's Prize shortlisted writer of *UNSETTLED GROUND*. Her debut novel *OUR ENDLESS NUMBERED DAYS* won the Desmond Elliot Prize and her books have been shortlisted for many more. Her novels have been optioned for screen and have been translated into more than 20 languages.

Ursula, a renowned, reclusive sculptor finds the past she has been running from catching up with her when a documentary-maker begins to dig into the unsolved disappearance of someone Ursula knew back in the 1980s. Set in and around a local art school and steeped in the atmosphere of the horror films she is obsessed with, *HUNGER & THIRST* is a compelling and chilling story of loneliness and possession, of the dangerous line between wanting and needing, and how far a person will go to belong.



**BELIEVE** by S.M. Govett

**Agent: Jane Finigan.**

**UK: Michael Joseph (Rowland White) – June 2025. US: Crooked Lane. Danish & Swedish: Jentas.**

**German: Blanvalet.**

*Manuscript available.*

S.M. Govett has published award-winning YA fiction and screenplays. BELIEVE is her first novel for adults.

***‘Absolutely stunning. [...] an accomplished psychological thriller that maintains its emotional power [...] from first page to last.’ – Janice Hallett, author of THE APPEAL***

Natalie has spent ten years trying to get over the twin set of events which changed her life forever.

The first: the moment her boss assaulted her. The second: the moment the jury declared him innocent.

The memories continue to haunt Natalie, and in her attempts to block out the past, she often wakes up with no memory of where she’s been – or what she’s done.

So when her husband, Ryan, gets accused of the same crime, Natalie comes perilously close to the edge. When the body of the young woman who made the accusation is found in the woods near their house, Ryan becomes a prime suspect, and Natalie realises she can’t trust anyone – herself included...



## **MY HUSBAND & OTHER RATS**

**by Shelley Klein**

**Agent: Felicity Rubinstein.**

**UK: W&N (Juliet Annan) – Spring**

**2026. Italian: Bompiani.**

*Manuscript available.*

Shelley Klein is a writer and psychotherapist. Her first book **THE SEE-THROUGH HOUSE**, a memoir of growing up in a modernist masterpiece on the Scottish borders with Bernat Klein, her eccentric textile designer father, earned a raft of praise. **MY HUSBAND & OTHER RATS** is her debut novel.

When the full catalogue of miseries that can be visited on a middle-aged woman are happening all at once to Alison Solomon, everybody tells her she should talk to someone. But it's hard, really hard, to find the right therapist.

Meanwhile, her mother is torturing her with passive aggressive phone calls from all over the world, there is a ghostly woman hanging around outside her house and – is that a rat in the kitchen?



## **WORK-LOVE BALANCE**

**by Sophie Loxton**

**Agent: Jane Finigan & Daisy Parente.**

**UK: S&S (Clare Hey) – Spring 2026.**

*Manuscript available Summer 2025*

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

Lizzy Brinks is the ultimate professional. Smart, calm and ever so slightly scary, there's nothing she can't handle – when it comes to work, that is...

Deep down, Lizzy knows things aren't quite in balance. She might be triumphing as Director of Communications and Strategy for the famous artist and entrepreneur Esme Kaminska, but her meagre home life is divided between managing the care of her Dad and brother, and keeping tabs on her escape-artist cat Pebble.

When Lizzy's boss embarks on a whirlwind romance with influencer Ajax Banks, and the couple decide to merge their personal and professional lives, Lizzy is expected to collaborate with Ajax's right-hand man – the charming, sarcastic and too-handsome-for-his-own good Oliver MacLeod. As the tension rises in the workplace, and between Lizzy and Oli, Lizzy is determined to keep her professional cool.

Will Lizzy finally find her work-love balance?



## **THIRST TRAP**

**by Gráinne O'Hare**

**Agent: Jenny Hewson.**

**UK: Picador (Orla King) – June 2025. Lithuanian: Alma Littera.**

**Spanish: Urano. *Manuscript available.***

Gráinne O'Hare is originally from Belfast. In 2022, she won the Northern Debut Award for Fiction.

***'It's one of those novels that you can't believe is a debut. O'Hare is a writer to watch out for in 2025 and beyond.'***  
**– RTE**

*Sometimes friends hold you together.  
Sometimes they're why you're falling apart.*

Maggie, Harley and Róise are friends on the brink: of triumph, catastrophe, or maybe just finally growing up. Their crumbling Belfast houseshare has been witness to their roaring twenties, filled with questionable one-night stands and ruthless hangovers. But now fault-lines are beginning to show.

The three girls are still grieving the tragic death of their friend, Lydia, whose room remains untouched. Their last big fight hangs heavy over their heads, unspoken since the accident. And now they are all beginning to unravel.





## **NATURAL DISASTER**

**by Lisa Owens**

**Agent: Jane Finigan.**

**UK: Virago (Sarah Savitt) – July 2026. US: Little Brown.**

*Manuscript available.*

Lisa Owens is a novelist and screenwriter. Her debut novel **NOT WORKING** was published in 2016, and her short fiction has appeared in the Irish literary magazine, *The Stinging Fly*.

Unfolding across 24 hours, **NATURAL DISASTER** is a propulsive, darkly funny and sharply observed novel which charts one woman's increasingly desperate attempts to spend a last, special day with her children before returning to the 'real world' of her office job following parental leave.

For fans of Katherine Heiny, Jenny Offill, Miranda July and Anne Tyler.

The subject of a fierce auction, the novel is already a massive word-of-mouth hit within Virago and Little, Brown offices on both sides of the Atlantic. **NATURAL DISASTER** is the highly anticipated new novel from the author of **NOT WORKING**.



## **KILL CREATURES**

**by Rory Power**

**Agent: Daisy Parente.**

**US: Delacorte (Krista Marino)**

**– June 2025. UK: Scholastic. Italian:**

**Mondadori. Polish: Jaguar.**

**Russian: Popcorn Books. Ukrainian:**

**Vivat.**

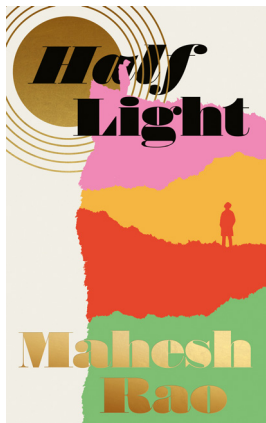
*Manuscript available.*

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

***‘A shuddery and gripping spectre of a book.’ – Ava Reid, New York Times bestselling author of A STUDY IN DROWNING***

Last summer, Nan’s three best friends disappeared in Saltcedar Canyon. She’s spent the year since grieving their loss and avoiding questions about what happened that night. Now, on the anniversary, she’s ready to say goodbye, and so are the girls’ families, who have reconvened to hold a memorial. But their vigil is interrupted by the shocking return of one of the missing girls alive. Everybody is overjoyed. Everybody, that is, except Nan, who was pretty sure they were dead.

After all, she’s the one who killed them.



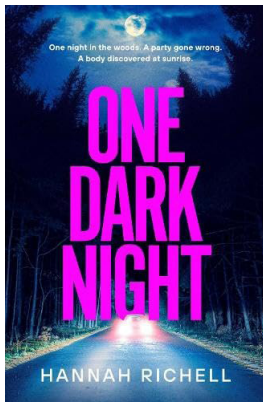
**HALF LIGHT** by Mahesh Rao  
Agent: Sarah Lutyens.  
UK: Pushkin (Laura Macaulay)  
– September 2025. India: PRH  
India.  
*Manuscript available.*

Mahesh Rao was born and grew up in Nairobi, Kenya. In the UK he has worked as a lawyer, academic researcher and bookseller. His short fiction has been shortlisted for various awards, including the Commonwealth Short Story Prize.

*Set on the brink of India's ruling to decriminalise homosexuality in 2018, this is a tender, richly atmospheric and elegantly wry story of outlawed desire and the hope of a life beyond concealment.*

In the misty mountains of Darjeeling, a landslide traps the guests and staff of a dilapidated hotel. Cooped up inside, two men embark on a chance affair. For Neville, this is one of many exhilarating encounters. But for quiet, cautious Pavan, whose job at the hotel is a lifeline, their entanglement is a bittersweet collision of shame and desire with unforgettable consequences.

Four years later, their paths cross again in Mumbai. When Neville glimpses Pavan working behind a hotel reception the secrets of their fateful time together threaten to emerge into the light.



## **ONE DARK NIGHT**

**by Hannah Richell**

**Agent: Sarah Lutyens.**

**UK: S&S (Clare Hey) – June**

**2025. US: Atria. German:**

**Rowohlt, Polaris.**

*Manuscript available.*

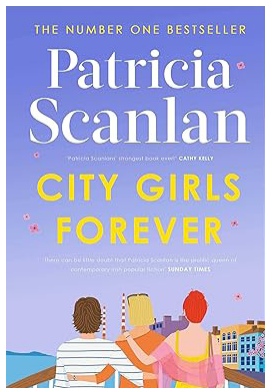
Hannah Richell is an internationally bestselling author whose books have been published in 24 territories and translated into 19 languages.

***From the author of THE SEARCH PARTY, a 2024 Richard and Judy Pick.***

Everybody in the small town of Thorncombe knows the tales of the haunted woods where the birds don't sing and a girl in a white dress roams, luring people to their deaths. But when a girl in a white dress is found dead the morning after Halloween, carefully posed at the bottom of an old stone folly, the community is thrown into turmoil.

Local police detective Ben Chase is assigned to the murder investigation, but when the victim is identified as a student from his daughter's school, tensions rise.

As the investigation unfolds and the noose tightens around Chase's own family, the only thing anyone can be sure of is that no one is safe until this violent killer is caught.



## **CITY GIRLS FOREVER**

**by Patricia Scanlan**

**Agent: Sarah Lutyens.**

**UK: S&S (Clare Hey) – March 2025.**

*Manuscript available.*

Patricia Scanlan is a bestselling author whose books have sold worldwide and been translated into many languages. Patricia is the series editor of the *Open Door* series.

***‘Warm, relatable and funny.’ – Marian Keyes***

As City Girl, Devlin Delaney’s iconic gym and spa, prepares to mark a big anniversary, her best friends, Caroline and Maggie are looking forward to a fabulous party where they can all put their problems behind them and celebrate.

Devlin’s past has returned to haunt her, with a shocking revelation.

Caroline is facing up to issues she’s long suppressed, with the help of a man who’s becoming more than a friend.

Maggie’s family is driving her mad. Her ex, Terry, and their daughters don’t get on, and she’s made an alarming discovery about her elderly mother’s financial affairs.

Once a City Girl, a City Girl forever. Nothing will stop their celebration... or will it?



## **THE INFAMOUS GILBERTS**

**by Angela Tomaski**

**Agent: Jane Finigan.**

**UK: Fig Tree (Helen  
Garnons-Williams) – Spring 2026.**

**US: S&S.**

*Manuscript available.*

Angela Tomaski has had a variety of different jobs, including as a waitress, cleaner, English teacher and activity coordinator in a care home. This is her debut novel.

A darkly funny, sometimes achingly sad tale of a once grand family brought to its knees. **THE INFAMOUS GILBERTS** takes us on a tour of Thornwalk, a fictional crumbling Gothic mansion and former home of the Gilbert family. Spanning from the eve of World War II to the early 2000s, this is a story of great loves and lofty ambitions entangled with financial ruin and societal prejudice. There's also axe-wielding, petty theft, illicit liaisons, grand and small betrayals and a lot of broken crockery.

Sold at auction in the UK and pre-empted in the US, this will be Fig Tree's lead debut for Spring 2026.

# NON-FICTION

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WE ALL COME HOME ALIVE | Anna Beecher

THE CIA BOOK CLUB | Charlie English

THE LAST KINGS OF HOLLYWOOD | Paul Fischer

SCORPIONS | Tuppence Middleton

FLAMBOYANCE | Jack Parlett

DEATH OF AN ORDINARY MAN | Sarah Perry

TO ENTERTAIN | Jago Rackham

THE SECRET PAINTER | Joe Tucker

**We All  
Come  
Home  
Alive**



**Anna  
Beecher**

**A Life in  
Shocks**

**WE ALL COME HOME ALIVE  
by Anna Beecher**

**Agent: Jenny Hewson.**

**UK: W&N (Lettice Franklin) –  
January 2025.**

*Manuscript available.*

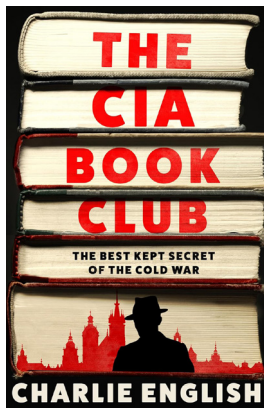
Anna Beecher is a graduate of the Fiction MFA at the University of Virginia and winner of the Henfield Prize for Fiction. Her debut novel **HERE COMES THE MIRACLE** was shortlisted for the *Sunday Times* Young Writer of the Year Award in 2021.

***‘Intelligent, poised and emotionally exacting.’ – Cal Flynn,  
author of ISLANDS OF ABANDONMENT***

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

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





## THE CIA BOOK CLUB

by Charlie English

Agent: Felicity Rubinstein.

UK: William Collins (Arabella Pike) – March 2025. US: Random House. French: Les Equateurs.

Japanese: Hayakawa Shobo.

Portuguese (Portugal): Leya.

Russian: Piter.

*Manuscript available.*

Charlie English is a non-fiction author and former head of international news at the *Guardian*. He has written for numerous publications including the *New York Times* and the *Independent*.

In the 1950s, the CIA began smuggling millions of books through the Iron Curtain via a network of publishers and booksellers in Paris and London, in a bid to break the draconian Soviet system of censorship and propaganda. In 1981, the Agency dramatically scaled up its operation to build an underground press. The risks were huge, but enough literature arrived to create the ‘second circulation’, which told the public the truth about the communists’ activities. In 1989, the Polish regime collapsed without a shot being fired, and a Solidarity government was elected in its place. The Cold War was won. THE CIA BOOK CLUB tells the little-known story of the Book Program, using the unpublished diaries of its director as well as hundreds of hours of interviews with Polish dissidents who worked with him.



**THE LAST KINGS OF  
HOLLYWOOD** by Paul Fischer

**Agent: Jenny Hewson.**

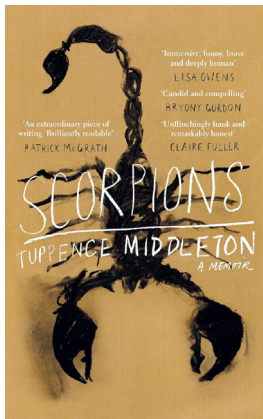
**US: Celadon (Ryan Doherty) –  
2026. UK: Faber.**

*Manuscript available July 2025.*

Paul Fischer is an author and film producer. His first book, *A KIM JONG-IL PRODUCTION*, has been translated into 16 languages. It was nominated for the CWA's Non-Fiction Book Award, and chosen as a best book of 2015 by NPR and the Library Journal.

The first intimate, comprehensive telling of how Francis Ford Coppola, George Lucas, and Steven Spielberg transformed the Hollywood studio system. In 1967 George Lucas walked onto the Warner Bros backlot for his first working day as an assistant for up-and-coming filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola. Across town on the Universal studio lot a twenty-year-old Steven Spielberg longed to break free and become a film director in his own right. Within a year, they would become close friends.

Based on extensive research and hundreds of original interviews, *THE LAST KINGS OF HOLLYWOOD* tells the thrilling story of how these three filmmakers reinvented popular American cinema and became the richest filmmakers in the world.



## SCORPIONS

by Tuppence Middleton

Agent: Jane Finigan.

UK: Ebury (Ru Merritt) –

February 2025. Turkish:

Kaplumbaa Kitap.

*Manuscript available.*

Tuppence Middleton is a British actor and writer working in film, television and theatre. She has lived with OCD since the age of 11.

***‘Unflinchingly frank, and remarkably honest.’ – Claire Fuller, author of UNSETTLED GROUND***

For as long as Tuppence Middleton can remember, she has struggled with obsessive thoughts and compulsions. She visualises her OCD as scorpions roaming her mind, latching onto her thoughts, like an itch that’s impossible to scratch. They ask: *Will this lettuce cause me to be severely ill?; When was the last time that person in front of me washed their hands?; Should I touch the outside of the airplane to save my loved ones from harm?*

Often used as a shorthand for tidiness or as a punchline of a joke, OCD is one of society’s most misunderstood disorders and it’s rarely spoken about with such honesty and openness.

Beautifully written, moving and often darkly funny.



**FLAMBOYANCE** by Jack Parlett

**Agent: Jane Finigan.**

**UK: Granta (Jason Arthur) –**

**Spring 2026. US: Hanover Square Press**

*Manuscript available July 2025.*

Jack Parlett is the author of *FIRE ISLAND* which was longlisted for the 2023 Polari Prize and named an Editor's Pick by the *New York Times*. His writing has appeared in the *New Yorker*, *Boston Review*, *Granta*, *Literary Hub*, *BBC Culture* and *Poetry London*.

Jack Parlett's new book argues for the value of flamboyance – a quality often underestimated or dismissed – in everybody's lives as an empowering and creative force, one that offers a way of being in the world. The book explores a universal perspective that illuminates the ways in which flamboyance is a fundamental aspect of human conduct that both marks and transcends difference.

*FLAMBOYANCE* takes in numerous examples, from the orange flowers of Dungeness to a Parisian gay bar, and will be populated by such figures as Oscar Wilde, James Baldwin, Amy Winehouse and Chappell Roan. Jack's personal relationship to flamboyance will also play a significant part. The book will conclude with a section that plays with the conventions of self-help to offer a guide to appreciating and practicing flamboyance, with clear takeaways for the reader.



**DEATH OF AN ORDINARY  
MAN by Sarah Perry**

**Agent: Jenny Hewson.**

**UK: Jonathan Cape (Hannah  
Westland) – Autumn 2025.**

*Manuscript available July 2025.*

Sarah Perry is the internationally best-selling author of four novels and the non-fiction book *ESSEX GIRLS*. She is the winner of the Waterstones and the British Book of the Year Awards and has been nominated for major literary prizes including the Booker Prize. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and has a PhD in Creative Writing.

*'Watching David come towards me I knew immediately, and with the cool and perfect certainty of arithmetic, that he was more or less a dead man. He has only weeks left, I thought, experiencing for the moment no fear or confusion – but no, not weeks, more likely it was days.'*

**DEATH OF AN ORDINARY MAN** is a powerful book about the death of Sarah's beloved father-in-law nine days in from a cancer diagnosis. Erudite and uplifting, it is a testament to the fact that no life is ordinary if you look closely enough and invites death back into its proper place in our lives: an ordinary facet of the extraordinary business of living.



## **TO ENTERTAIN**

**by Jago Rackham**

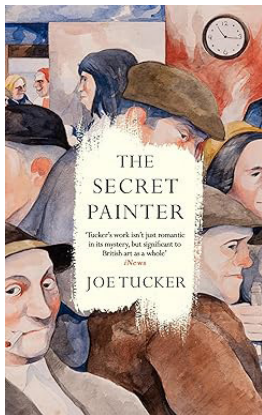
**Agent: Daisy Parente.**

**UK: Little Brown (Zoe Bohm) –  
2026.**

*Manuscript available September  
2025.*

Jago Rackham is a cook and food writer who lives in London and has a substack called *Greed*.

Jago Rackham's instructional book about entertaining, is about how to have people over and how to cook for them, interspersed with small vignettes from the writer's eating and cooking life. Calling to mind Patience Gray or MFK Fisher, but writing about a life of flat shares and having no money, **TO ENTERTAIN** is about how to be generous and make people welcome without riches. A small gem, and a wonderfully giftable book which will include illustrations from the artist Faye Wei Wei.



## **THE SECRET PAINTER**

**by Joe Tucker**

**Agent: Jane Finigan.**

**UK: Canongate (Jamie Byng) –  
January 2025.**

*Manuscript available.*

Joe Tucker is an award-winning script-writer and producer. **THE SECRET PAINTER** is his first book.

***‘An important reminder to all of us that the great stories in our lives are often closer than we think.’ – Lemn Sissay***

An extraordinary portrait of a seemingly ordinary man. Acclaimed scriptwriter Joe Tucker vividly pieces together the true story of his uncle – a working class, manual labourer who never moved out of his mother’s home – but who painted an extensive collection of secret paintings which are now, posthumously, recognised as part of the international oeuvre.

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