

little, brown

BOOK GROUP

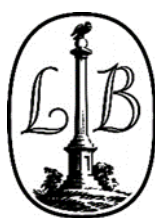
US RIGHTS LIST

FICTION
FRANKFURT 2020

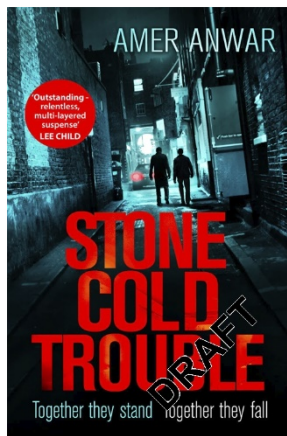
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STONE COLD TROUBLE

Amer Anwar

September 2020
Dialogue
Crime
464pp

Follow up to the hugely successful London crime debut **BROTHERS IN BLOOD**

Still trying to keep his head down and stay out of trouble, ex-con Zaq Khan agrees to help his best friend, Jags, recover a family heirloom in the possession of a wealthy businessman. But then Zaq's brother is viciously assaulted and he's left wondering if it could have been somebody from his own past looking for revenge.

Wanting answers and also retribution, Zaq and Jags set out to track down those responsible. Meanwhile, their dealings with the businessman take a turn for the worse and Zaq and Jags find themselves suspected of murder. It'll take both brains and brawn to get themselves out of the trouble they're in and, no matter what happens, the result will likely be deadly. The only question is, whether it will prove deadly for them - or someone else?

AMER ANWAR grew up in West London. He holds an MA in Creative Writing from Birkbeck, University of London and is a winner of the Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger Award. **BROTHERS IN BLOOD** is his debut novel and the first in the **ZAQ & JAGS** series.

Also available:



Praise for **BROTHERS IN BLOOD**

[A] Brilliant debut...reveal[s] what it can really be like to be a modern British Asian – **Sunday Times Crime Club**

A fine debut novel. With his engaging characters and skilful plotting, Anwar brings a fresh and exciting new voice to the genre – **Ann Cleeves**

Filled with breath-taking twists and turns. **BROTHERS IN BLOOD** is gritty, startlingly original and great fun. Amer Anwar is an exciting new voice in British crime fiction – **Robert Bryndza, author of the million+ selling ERIKA FOSTER series.**



THE HUNTING SEASON

Tom Benjamin

November 2020
Constable
Crime & Mystery
336pp

A gripping and atmospheric crime thriller set in the beautiful Italian city of Bologna, perfect for fans of Donna Leon, Michael Dibdin and Philip Gwynne Jones.

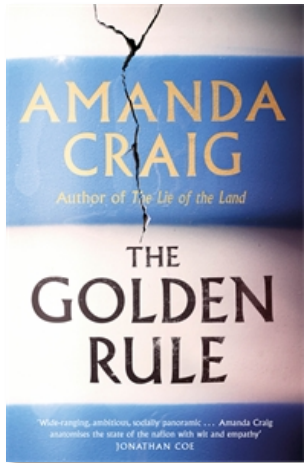
It's truffle season and in the hills around Bologna the hunt is on for the legendary Boscuri White, worth more than its weight in gold. But when an American truffle 'supertaster' goes missing, English detective Daniel Leicester discovers not all truffles are created equal. Did the missing supertaster bite off more than he could chew?

As he goes on the hunt for Ryan Lee, Daniel discovers the secrets behind 'Food City', from the immigrant kitchen staff to the full scale of a multi-million Euro business. After a key witness is found dead at the foot of one of Bologna's famous towers, the stakes could not be higher. Daniel teams up with a glamorous TV reporter, but the deeper he goes into the disappearance of the supertaster the darker things become. Murder is once again on the menu, but this time Daniel himself stands accused. And the only way he can clear his name is by finding Ryan Lee...

TOM BENJAMIN grew up in the suburbs of north London and began his working life as a journalist before becoming a spokesman for Scotland Yard. He later moved into public health, where he developed Britain's first national campaign against alcohol abuse, Know Your Limits, and led drugs awareness programme **FRANK**. He now lives in Bologna.

Also available:





THE GOLDEN RULE

Amanda Craig

July 2020
Little, Brown
Contemporary Fiction
400pp

Rights sold:
Italy (Astoria srl)

Praise for Amanda Craig:

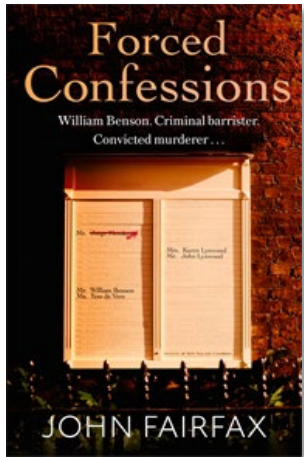
'If you like your novels wide-ranging, ambitious, socially panoramic, and engaged in the most important issues of the day, Amanda Craig is the writer for you. For more than twenty years now she has been anatomising the state of the British nation with wit and empathy' **Jonathan Coe**

'She's such a skilful storyteller who vividly dramatises our lives with wit, wisdom and compassion' **Bernardine Evaristo**

Amanda Craig's new novel turns on two women who meet by chance and discover that they are both victims of abusive husbands. Together, they plot their revenge.

When Hannah is invited into the First-Class carriage of the London to Penzance train by Jinni, she walks into a spider's web. Now a poor young single mother, Hannah once escaped Cornwall to go to university. But once she married Jake and had his child, her dreams were crushed into bitter disillusion. Her husband has left her for Eve, rich and childless, and Hannah has been surviving by becoming a cleaner in London. Jinni is equally angry and bitter, and in the course of their journey the two women agree to murder each other's husbands. After all, they are strangers on a train - who could possibly connect them? But when Hannah goes to Jinni's husband's home the next night, she finds Stan, a huge, hairy, ugly drunk who claims Jinni is a very different person to the one who has persuaded Hannah to commit a terrible crime. Who is telling the truth - and who is the real victim?

AMANDA CRAIG is a British novelist, short-story writer and critic. Born in South Africa in 1959, she grew up in Italy, where her parents worked for the UN, and was educated at Bedales School and Clare College Cambridge.



FORCED CONFESSIONS

John Fairfax

March 2020
Little, Brown
Contemporary Fiction
304pp

Praise for John Fairfax:

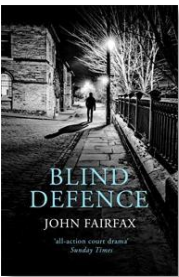
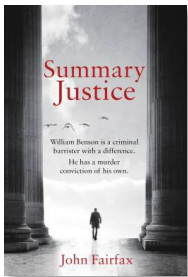
'Intriguing... Packed with accurate legal detail, the story never loses its grip' **the Daily Mail**

'An engaging legal thriller' **the Irish Independent**

Also available:

Summar Justice
(book one)

Blind Defence
(book two)



The third book in the William Benson series and an outstanding read which works as a standalone as well as for fans of the first two books.

Convicted of murder sixteen years ago, William Benson is ostracised by the establishment and his family. Supported by a close-knit group including solicitor Tess de Vere, he's defied them all and opened his own Chambers. Now he faces the case of his life - and the terminal illness of Helen Camberley who helped him leave his prison life behind.

Jorge Menderez, a doctor from Spain, has been found dead in a deserted warehouse in East London. A troubled man, he'd turned to counsellor Karen Lynwood seeking help. Now Karen's husband, John, is accused of his murder. Who is Menderez, and why did he come to London? Benson is defending the couple against seemingly impossible odds, while secrets from his own past threaten to overwhelm him...

JOHN FAIRFAX is a pseudonym for William Brodrick who was born in Bolton, Lancashire in 1960. He studied philosophy, theology and law, worked with homeless people in London, and then became a barrister, joining a set of chambers in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. He is the author of six Father Anselm novels, with which he won the CWA Gold Dagger 2009, the Granice Crime Fiction Award 2012, and was selected for the Richard and Judy Book Club. He is married with three children and lives in France.



DEATH ON THE TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS

C J Farrington

October 2021
Constable
Crime & Mystery
336pp

CONOR FARRINGTON is a writer and academic at the University of Cambridge and Hughes Hall, Cambridge, where his research focuses on the intersections of technology, science and politics. In addition to a collection of short stories (*A Countryman's Creel*, Merlin Unwin) and an academic book (*Quantified Lives and Vital Data*, Palgrave Macmillan), he has published features, essays and reviews in publications including the *Guardian*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Political Quarterly*, *Science*, and the *Lancet*. He has also written on classical music for publications including the *Times Literary Supplement* and *Pianist* magazine and writes CD booklets for Chandos Records and King's College Cambridge.

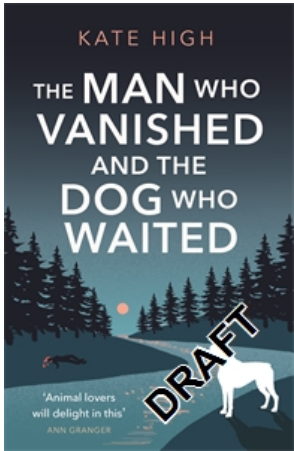
Heartbreaking, funny, poignant - and crime fiction, we are introducing a wonderful and memorable protagonist, Olga Pushkin, who is Eleanor Oliphant but re-imagined in Siberia.

Olga Pushkin, Railway Engineer (Third Class) and would-be bestselling author, spends her days in a little rail-side hut with only Dmitri the hedgehog for company. While tourists and travellers clatter by on the Trans-Siberian Express, Olga dreams of studying literature at Tomsk State University - the Oxford of West Siberia - and escaping the sleepy, snow-clad village of Roslazny.

But Roslazny doesn't stay sleepy for long. Poison-pen letters, a small-town crime wave, and persistent rumours of a Baba Yagar - a murderous witch hiding in the frozen depths of the Russian taiga - combine to disturb the icy silence. And one day Olga arrives at her hut only to be knocked unconscious by a man falling from the Trans-Siberian, an American tourist with his throat cut from ear to ear and his mouth stuffed with 10-ruble coins. Another death soon follows, and Sergeant Vassily Marushkin, the brooding, enigmatic policeman who takes on the case, finds himself falsely imprisoned by his Machiavellian superior, Chief-Inspector Babikov.

Olga resolves to help Vassily by proving his innocence. But with no leads to follow and time running out, has Olga bitten off more than she can chew?

Books two and three in the Olga Pushkin Mysteries to follow in March 2022 and March 2023.



THE MAN WHO VANISHED AND THE DOG WHO WAITED

Kate High

May 2021
Constable
Crime & Mystery
368pp

The second novel in the Clarice Beech mystery series, set in the Lincolnshire Wolds.

KATE HIGH is a graduate of the Faber Academy, as well as a contemporary artist, working in metals. She has exhibited internationally, with her work having been shown at the V&A, the Design Council, and also selling through outlets such as Liberty's and Chelsea Crafts Fair. Kate is a former voluntary branch administrator for the RSPCA and she co-founded a charity that aims to support older animals, Lincs-Ark.

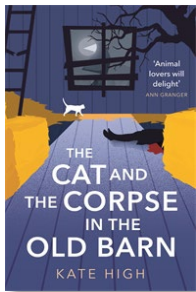
Praise for **THE CAT AND THE CORPSE IN THE OLD BARN**

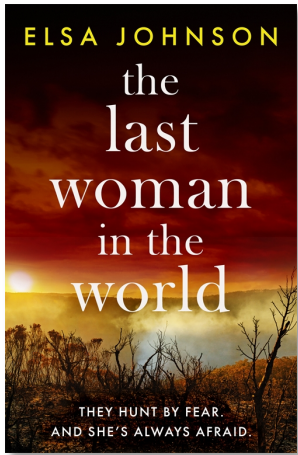
'Animal lovers will delight in this' **Ann Granger**

'A real treat . . . I loved it. Cats, dogs, murder and a credible and relatable heroine' **Barbara Nadel**

Book three (THE MISSING WIFE AND THE STONE FEN SIAMESE) coming in June 2022

Also available (book one):





THE LAST
WOMAN IN
THE WORLD

Elsa Johnson

January 2022

Sphere

Thriller

400pp

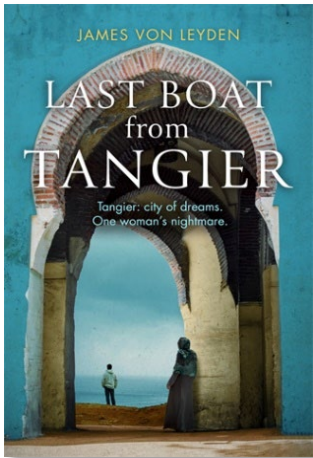
AFTER THE FIRES. AFTER THE VIRUS. THEY CAME.

It's night, and dust swirls against the walls of Rachel's home in the Australian bush. Her fear of other people has led her to a reclusive life as far from them as possible, her only occasional contact with her sister.

A hammering on the door. There stand a mother, Hannah, and her sick baby. They are running for their lives from a mysterious death sweeping the Australian countryside - so soon, too soon, after the fires.

Now Rachel must face her worst fears to help Hannah, search for her sister, and discover just what terror was born of us. . . and how to survive it.

For fans of BIRDBOX and A QUIET PLACE, this remarkable, terrifying literary horror novel comes from a multi-award-nominated writer who lived through the Australian fires.



THE LAST BOAT
FROM TANGIER

James von
Leyden

December 2020

Constable

Crime Fiction

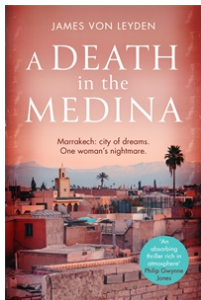
320pp

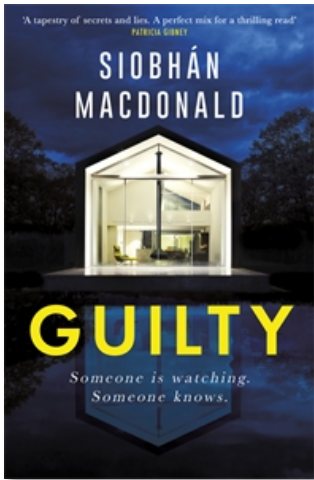
The second book in a thrilling new series set in Morocco, featuring 24-year-old detective Karim Belkacem

When Detective Karim Belkacem's best friend and colleague, Abdou, goes missing during an investigation into an illegal cartel, Karim is sent to Tangier look for him. But the Tangier police have another problem on their hands. Thousands of sub-Saharan migrants have collected in the region, desperate to get to the Promised Land of Europe. Unable to trust his contacts in the police, or anyone in Tangier's underworld of traffickers and informants, Karim turns to his adopted sister Ayesha for help. The truth behind Abdou's disappearance is more disturbing than either of them could imagine.

JAMES VON LEYDEN studied at Oxford University. He worked for thirty years as an advertising copywriter. He first visited Morocco in 1985, leading to a life-long and devoted interest with the country. He is married with two children and divides his time between East Sussex and Oualidia, Morocco.

Also available:





GUILTY

Siobhan
MacDonald

June 2020
Constable
Crime & Mystery
352pp

SIOBHAN MACDONALD was born in Cork in the Republic of Ireland. She studied engineering at University College Galway and pursued a successful career writing for the technology sector in Scotland for ten years, then in France before returning to Ireland. Growing up in a large Irish family, there was a premium attached to being able to tell a good story. Siobhan's mother taught speech and drama and was a proficient storyteller herself, a talent she encouraged in all her children. After many years writing short stories and articles, Siobhan published her first novel *TWISTED RIVER* in 2016. Siobhan followed this up with her second novel *THE BLUE POOL*.

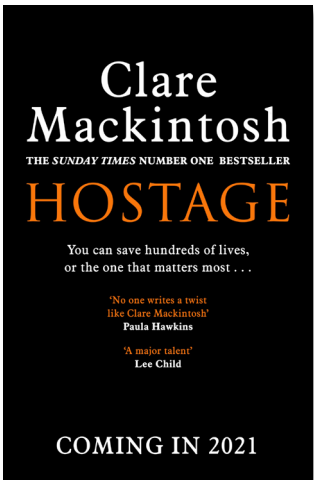
A twisty and compelling psychological suspense novel set in Ireland, from ebook-bestselling author Siobhan MacDonald. Perfect for fans of Dervla McTiernan and Andrea Carter.

Doctor Luke Forde has the perfect life. A respected cardiologist, he has a rewarding job, a successful wife, and a daughter, Nina. From their beautiful house overlooking Carberry Lough in County Clare, they present a portrait of family bliss. But over the course of a weekend, Luke's life spirals into chaos.

It begins with the word 'GUILTY' painted on his boathouse one morning. Then he notices a chilling notice in the local newspaper announcing a death. When this is followed by the delivery of a small coffin-shaped package with a decapitated, bloody effigy, Luke is terrified. Someone knows the dark secret he is hiding. And someone is out to get him.

Luke begins to be plagued by horrifying anonymous messages, and it transpires that it's not only him the sender is intending to harm - it's his daughter too. With strange things happening in the operating theatre, Alison's political ambitions straining their marriage, and Nina's behaviour sparking all sorts of trouble, Luke turns to therapist Terence Black. Is the therapist the only one that can save Luke and his family from the horrendous secrets of the past?

Coming in September 2021: **THE BRIDE COLLECTOR**



HOSTAGE

Clare
Mackintosh

Summer 2021
Sphere
Contemporary Fiction
400pp

The stunning new novel from the number one international bestselling author of *I Let You Go*, *I See You*, *Let Me Lie* and *After The End*, Clare Mackintosh.

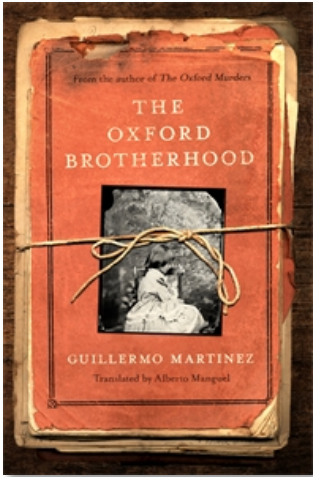
The atmosphere on-board the inaugural non-stop flight from London to Sydney is electric. Numerous celebrities are rumoured to be amongst the fifty-six passengers in business class and journalists will be waiting on the ground to greet the plane. Mina is one of a hand-picked team of flight attendants chosen for the landmark journey. She's trying to focus on the task in hand, and not worry about her troubled five-year-old daughter back at home with her husband. Or the cataclysmic problems in her marriage.

But the plane has barely taken off when Mina receives a chilling note from an anonymous passenger, someone intent on ensuring the plane never reaches its destination. Someone who needs Mina's assistance and who knows exactly how to make her comply.

It's twenty hours to landing.

A lot can happen in twenty hours . . .

With over 2 million copies of her books sold worldwide, number one bestseller **CLARE MACKINTOSH** is the multi-award-winning author of *I Let You Go*, which was a Sunday Times bestseller and the fastest-selling title by a new crime writer in 2015. It also won the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year in 2016. Both Clare's second and third novels, *I See You* and *Let Me Lie*, were number one Sunday Times bestsellers.



THE OXFORD BROTHERHOOD

Guillermo Martinez

January 2021
Little, Brown
Crime & Mystery
288pp

This award-winning novel (Premio Nadal 2019) takes place in Oxford in 1994, within the Lewis Carroll Brotherhood. A series of murders, whose nature seems to be linked to the literary universe of Alice in Wonderland, have been triggered. To unravel what is happening, the renowned Logic Professor Arthur Seldom, also a member of the Lewis Carroll Brotherhood, and a young Math student join forces in an investigation that combines intrigue with the bookish world. A fascinating work, both classic and strictly contemporary, that in the tradition of Borges and Umberto Eco brings this detective story to the literary field.

GUILLERMO MARTINEZ was born in Bahía Blanca, Argentina, in 1962. He is a Doctor of Mathematical Science and a writer. His novel **THE OXFORD MURDERS** was awarded the prestigious Planeta prize and has been made into a film starring Elijah Wood.



BLACK RAIN FALLING

Jacob Ross

March 2020
Sphere
Crime & Mystery
288pp

The stunning second novel by Jhalak Prize-winning novelist Jacob Ross delves deeply into issues of family, class, friendship and loyalty, asking just how far a person should go to protect those they love.

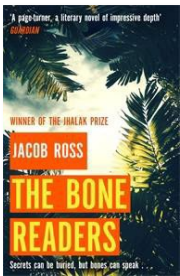
On the Caribbean island of Camaho, 'Digger' Digson is in deep trouble. Miss Stanislaus, his friend and fellow CID detective, kills a man who assaulted her as a child. As the only witness, Digger knows it was self-defence, but their superiors believe it was murder, and he's given just six weeks to prove otherwise. Six weeks in which Digger catches a shocking roadside murderer and the Justice Minister attempts to break up the unit, and with it both the pair and their unconventional boss, DS Chilman.

JACOB ROSS was born in Grenada and now lives in Britain. He is a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. His debut crime novel, **THE BONE READERS**, won the inaugural Jhalak Prize.

Praise for **BLACK RAIN FALLING**:

'Jacob Ross is a truly amazing writer. Black Rain Falling is an outstanding novel, it gripped me from the first page to the last' **Bernadine Evaristo**

Also available:



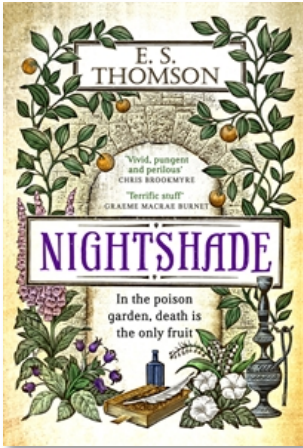


THE LAST SUPPER

Rosemary Shrager

February 2022
Constable
Crime & mystery
336pp

A brand new crime series for fans of M.C. Beaton and Agatha Christie, from TV celebrity chef Rosemary Shrager.



NIGHTSHADE

E. S. Thompson

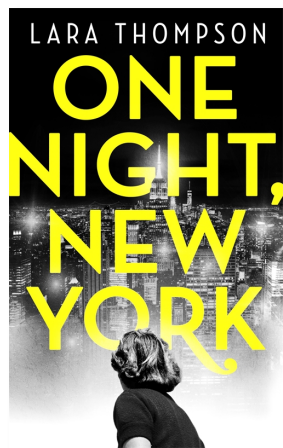
April 2021
Constable
Historical mystery
352pp

London, 1851. Restless and bored after a long hot summer, apothecary and poison expert Jem Flockhart decides to redesign her physic garden. But plans are thrown into confusion when a man's skeleton is unearthed from beneath the deadly nightshade, a smaller, child-like skeleton curled at its feet. The body bears evidence of knife wounds to its ribs and arms, and is accompanied by a collection of macabre objects: a brass bowl, a curious coin-like token, a set of tiny ivory skulls.

The police claim the victim is too long-buried for answers to be found, but for Jem, a corpse in her own garden is something that cannot be ignored. The plans to the garden, laid out some forty years earlier, reveal a list of five names.

When Jem and Will start asking questions, the murders begin. Each victim has a past connection with the physic garden; each corpse is found with its jaw broken wide and its mouth stuffed with deadly nightshade. As they move closer to uncovering the truth Jem Flockhart and Will Quartermain encounter a dark world of addiction, madness, power and death that strikes at the very heart of Jem's own history. This time, the poison is personal.

E. S. THOMSON's work has been longlisted for the CWA Endeavour Historical Dagger, and shortlisted for the Saltire Prize, the Scottish Arts Council First Book Award and the William McIlvanney Crime Book of the Year Award. She has a PhD in the social history of medicine, and tries to fit as much medical history into her books as possible. She works as a university lecturer by day and writes by night. Elaine lives in Edinburgh.



ONE NIGHT, NEW YORK

Lara Thompson

January 2021
Virago
Crime & Mystery
336pp

The Virago/The Pool New Crime Writer Award was set up to find an original and exciting new voice in crime fiction and received over two hundred entries in its first year. Thompson won a publishing contract with Virago as well as two hours of mentoring from Jill Dawson courtesy of Gold Dust mentoring. Val McDermid gave Thompson the award in person at the Bloody Scotland International Crime Writing Festival in Stirling.

A delicious detective story set in 1930s New York, and the winner of the inaugural Virago/The Pool New Crime Writer Award.

One winter night in 1932, at the top of the Empire State Building, Frances and Agnes, possible lovers and co-conspirators, are waiting for a man who has done something terrible to both of them. They plan to seek the ultimate revenge.

Set over the course of a single night, with flashbacks to the weeks leading up to the potential murder, *One Night, New York* is a detective story, a romance and a coming-of-age tale. It is also a story of old New York, of bohemian Greenwich Village between the wars, of floozies and artists and addicts, of a city that sucked in creatives and immigrants alike, lighting up the world, while all around America burned amidst the heat of the Great Depression.

LARA THOMPSON teaches film at Middlesex University, and is the author of *Film Light: Meaning and Emotion*. Born in Cornwall, she now lives in London. *ONE NIGHT, NEW YORK* is her first novel.



IN THE CRYPT WITH A CANDLESTICK

Daisy Waugh

February 2020
Piatkus
Contemporary fiction
304pp

DAISY WAUGH has written several historical novels, several contemporary, comic novels, a couple of non-fiction books, and many newspaper articles and columns. She lives with her family in South West London.

A country house murder mystery trilogy: PG Wodehouse meets Agatha Christie

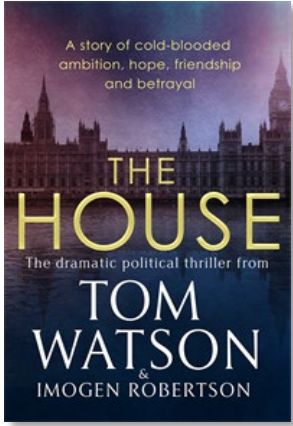
Sir Egbert Tode of Tode Hall has survived to a grand old age – much to the despair of his younger wife, Emma. But at ninety-three years old he has, at last, shuffled off the mortal coil.

Emma, Lady Tode, thoroughly fed up with being a dutiful Lady of the Manor, wants to leave the country to spend her remaining years in Capri. Unfortunately her three tiresome children are either unwilling or unable (too mad, too lefty or too happy in Australia) to take on management of their large and important home, so the mantle passes to a distant relative and his glamorous wife.

Not long after the new owners take over, Lady Tode is found dead in the mausoleum. Accident? Or is there more going on behind the scenes of Tode Hall than an outsider would ever guess?

In the traditions of two great but very different British writers, Agatha Christie and P.G. Wodehouse, Waugh's hilarious and entirely original twist on the country house murder mystery comes complete with stiff upper lips, even stiffer drinks, and any stiffs that might embarrass the family getting smartly brushed under the carpet.

PHONE FOR THE FISH KNIVES will be published in May 2021.



THE HOUSE

Tom Watson and
Imogen Robertson

October 2020
Sphere
Political Thriller
400pp

In their remarkable debut political thriller, Tom Watson, former Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, and Imogen Robertson open the doors to *The House*, a place of ambition, hope, friendship . . . and betrayal.

Once allies, Labour MP Owen McKenna and Conservative Minister Philip Bickford now face each other across the House of Commons as bitter enemies. Then the reappearance of a figure from their past forces them to confront the choices that led to the tragic downfall of their former housemate, Jay.

Late one night, Owen receives a visit from a lobbyist who promises to protect him from the consequences of his actions in exchange for one, small favour - or to have his reputation and career utterly destroyed if he refuses. But that favour will sell out everything Owen believes in.

As rivals gather and whispers of wrongdoing fill the corridors of Westminster, it's clear that someone knows the truth about Jay's Icarus-like fall from grace. Now, the former friends must face one terrible truth...

Someone is responsible, and a reckoning is overdue.

TOM WATSON is former Deputy Leader of the Labour Party and has been the MP for West Bromwich East since 2001. **IMOGEN ROBERTSON** is a writer of historical fiction. She is the author several novels, including the Crowther and Westerman series. Imogen has been shortlisted for the CWA Historical Dagger three times (2011, 2013 and 2014), as well as for the prestigious Dagger in the Library.



THE GIRL WHO...

Andreina Cordani

January 2021
Atom
Young Adult Fiction
256pp

A gripping psychological YA thriller from a debut author.

People can't bring themselves to say what happened to her. They just describe her as 'the girl who... you know...'.

Leah is the perfect survivor. She was seven years old when she saw her mother and sister killed by a troubled gang member. Her case hit the headlines and her bravery made her a national sweetheart: strong, courageous and forgiving. But Leah is hiding a secret about their deaths. And now, ten years later, all she can think of is revenge. When Leah's dad meets a new partner, stepsister Ellie moves in. Sensing Leah isn't quite the sweet girl she pretends to be, Ellie discovers that Leah has a plan, one she has been putting together ever since that fateful day. Now that the killer - and the only one who knows the truth - is being released from prison, time is running out for Ellie to discover how far Leah will go to silence her anger...

ANDREINA CORDANI has a background in journalism, working for women's magazines including *That's Life*, *Cosmopolitan* and *Good Housekeeping*. Specialising in 'real life' stories, she interviews seemingly ordinary people about their extraordinary lives. THE GIRL WHO... is Andreina's debut novel, drawing inspiration from those real life stories she's encountered.



CRAZY

Jane Feaver

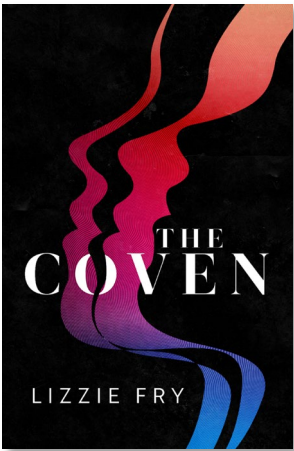
April 2021
Corsair
Contemporary Fiction
256pp

'I'm a woman on my own who has no idea what is wrong except that things are coming to a head, unattended things, habitual things, which have the additional weight of time attached, half a century's worth, tick-tock, tick-tock, the clapper jerking its head in readiness to strike: those footmen who'll be turned to mice, the carriage to a pumpkin.'

Crazy is an account of the origins and progress of an early, all-consuming relationship and the effect this relationship has had on the teller of the tale, Jane Feaver, who, in middle age, has become a teacher of creative writing. Assailed by physical symptoms she can't explain, she shuttles between her present predicament, which involves tussling with what it means to write fiction at all; and the story in hand, an ill-fated tale of obsession – constructing a narrative that is compelling in its rawness and emotional candour. With humour and a poetic sturdiness that is by now characteristic of her writing, Jane returns to scenes of childhood whose after-effects can be seen to permeate the emotional landscape of what unfolds – marriage, childbirth and the vagaries of working life.

Questions of love, ambition and identity are examined in a novel that is, above all, about story-making itself, about who gets to tell the tale and how, and about the ways in which those stories we absorb and accrue become the ones that make us, and (if anything can) might redeem us, too.

JANE FEAVER is a novelist and short story writer. *According to Ruth* (Harvill Secker, 2007), was shortlisted for the Author's Club Best First Novel Award and the Dimplex Prize; *Love Me Tender* (Harvill Secker, 2009) was shortlisted for the Edge Hill Short Story Prize. Jane is a senior lecturer in creative writing at the University of Exeter.



Not final cover

THE COVEN

Lizzie Fry

February 2021
Sphere
Contemporary Fiction
448pp

Fans of *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Vox* and *The Power* will love this breathtaking, pacy global race against the clock to defeat a shadowy organisation dedicated to destroying women's potential.

Imagine a world in which witchcraft is real. In which mothers hand down power to their daughters, power that is used harmlessly and peacefully.

Then imagine that the US President is a populist demagogue who decides that all witches must be interned for their own safety, and the safety of those around them - creating a world in which to be female is one step away from being criminal...

As witches across the world are rounded up, one girl begins to discover her power. It's a dangerous force and it brings her into contact with the Sentinel, a shadowy global organisation dedicated to the destruction of all witchcraft.

Will Chloe and her helpers survive a breathless chase across Europe and the USA to find and save the source of all women's power before the Sentinel can destroy it?

LIZZIE FRY is the pseudonym of an internationally acclaimed author and script editor. As well as working with numerous film production companies, she is a core member of the London Screenwriters' Festival board.



A SEASON IN THE SNOW

Isla Gordon

November 2020
Sphere
Contemporary Fiction
400pp

Escape to the mountains this Christmas...

Alice Bright loves her life. She has a job she adores, a devoted family, and friends she'd lay down her life for. So when tragedy strikes, bringing with it Bear - a rapidly-growing puppy in need of a home - it turns Alice's whole world upside down. She retreats inside her flat, and inside herself, with only her new companion for company.

But one-bedroom London flats aren't made for mountain dogs, and so Alice lets Bear push her out of her comfort zone to his homeland: the mountains of Switzerland. Could a change of scene in snowy serenity be just the thing to help Alice fall in love with life again? *A SEASON IN THE SNOW* is the perfect read this Christmas, promising snowy mountains, Christmas markets and heart-warming seasonal romance. Perfect for fans of Sarah Morgan and Heidi Swain.

ISLA GORDON has written five novels under the name Lisa Dickenson.



THE GIANT DARK

Sarvat Hasin

July 2021
Dialogue
Contemporary Fiction
272pp

A classic retelling of the Orpheus and Eurydice myth set in the modern world in which the Orpheus character, Aida, is a rockstar. It is narrated by both the characters but also by a chorus of Aida's fans, who serve as a Greek chorus.

The Giant Dark is a story about the destruction of love and about music. It is an interracial love story: Aida and Ehsan's different cultures influence everything about their love, relationship, friendship and families.

The Giant Dark is a classic retelling with echoes of *Swing Time* and it feels really relevant to contemporary life.

SARVAT HASIN is the winner of the Mo Siewcharan Prize for fiction 2019. All the judges, including Candice Carty-Williams, Guy Gunaratne and editor Sharmaine Lovegrove were unanimous in their decision.



UNDER THE SAME STARS

Alexandra Heminsley

July 2021
Sphere
Contemporary Fiction
400pp

The stunning, emotional debut novel from Sunday Times-bestselling author, journalist and broadcaster Alexandra Heminsley sees two half-sisters who have never met before battling to survive a winter on a remote, dangerous but beautiful Norwegian island.

This is beautiful, emotional writing for readers of fantastic, character-led book club fiction by authors like Jojo Moyes, Graham Norton, Ruth Jones and Victoria Hislop, as well as newer talent such as Emma Gannon (*Olive*) and Clare Pooley (*The Authenticity Project*)

ALEXANDRA HEMINSLEY is the author of *Leap In* and *Running Like a Girl*, both published by Windmill, and co-author of Judy Murray's *Knowing the Score*. She is a freelance journalist and broadcaster. *Running Like a Girl* was published in thirteen countries and was a *Sunday Times* bestseller. *UNDER THE SAME STARS* is her debut novel and a major publication for Sphere in 2021.



THE ITALIAN ESCAPE

Catherine Mangan

April 2021

Sphere

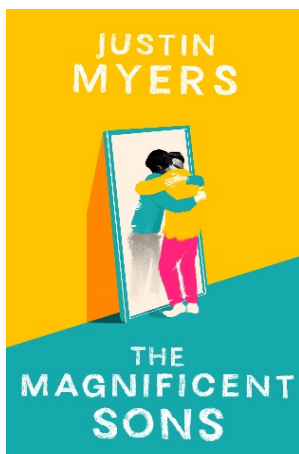
Contemporary romance

384pp

Sparkling sea and sun, delicious food and Aperol Spritz... dive into **THE ITALIAN ESCAPE**. Perfect for fans of Karen Swan, Rosanna Ley and Rachel Hore.

Niamh Kelly has made a right pig's ear of her life thus far. She's thirty-three, still living at home thanks to her mediocre job, which she can't bring herself to go back to following a failed relationship with a colleague. When her sister invites her to tag along on a work trip to Italy's Ligurian coast, impulsive Niamh jumps at the chance to leave Dublin, and discovers a world of wine, opportunity and friendship. Having fallen in love with the town of Camogli, she decides to stay and open a coffee shop (hurrah), even though she has no idea what she's doing (oops). After a sudden family tragedy and a tricky tourist season threaten her new business, Niamh comes close to throwing in the towel. But with help from her new-found community, can she make her new life a success?

CATHERINE MANGAN grew up in Ireland before embarking on her own Italian escape. She studied languages at University College Cork before moving to Italy (briefly) with friends, which was the start of a life-long love affair with the country. She now divides her time between Ireland and Silicon Valley. *The Italian Escape* is her first novel. Under another name, Catherine is an award-winning Irish entrepreneur and creator of a language-learning app, which has users in 175 countries



THE MAGNIFICENT SONS

Justin Myers

August 2020

Piatkus

Contemporary Fiction

352pp

Two brothers. Two different journeys. The same hope of a magnificent future.

Jake D'Arcy has spent most of his twenty-nine years trying to get his life just right. He's nearly there: great girlfriend, great friends, stable job. A distant relationship with his boisterous family - which is exactly the way he wants it. So why does everything feel so wrong? When his popular, irritatingly confident teenage brother Trick comes out as gay to a rapturous response, Jake realises he has questions about his own repressed bisexuality, and that he can't wait any longer to find his answers. As Trick begins to struggle with navigating the murky waters of adult relationships, Jake begins a journey that will destroy his relationship with girlfriend Amelia, challenge his closest friendships, and force him to face up to the distance between him and his family - but offers new friends, fewer inhibitions, and a glimpse of the magnificent life he never thought could be his.

JUSTIN MYERS is a writer and editor from Shipley, Yorkshire, who now lives in London. After years working in journalism, he began his popular, anonymous dating blog *The Guyliner* in 2010, spent five years as dating and advice columnist in *Gay Times* and is now a weekly columnist at *British GQ*. His work has appeared in a number of publications including the *Guardian*, *BuzzFeed* and the *Irish Times*, and his first novel *The Last Romeo* was published in 2018.

Cover
coming
soon

sphere

THE CHILDREN'S SECRET

Nina Monroe

April 2021
Sphere
Contemporary Fiction
400pp

The Slap meets *Big Little Lies* - a sharply suspenseful, beautifully told domestic page-turner about the ruptures in a tight-knit community following a life-shattering tragedy.

IT WAS ONLY A GAME. WE NEVER MEANT TO HURT ANYONE.

At a children's party . . .

Nothing ever happens in a sleepy American town like Middlebrook. Until the shocking events of one hot Saturday afternoon when, at a back-to-school party, nine children sneak off to a barn. And one child is shot by another.

In the media storm that sweeps the nation . . .

The press are asking questions. About the type of parents who let their children play unsupervised in a house with guns. About how damaged a child must be to commit this kind of atrocity.

In the ensuing police investigation . . .

Two questions are the most urgent, and the most baffling. Of the nine children who were present in that barn, which one actually pulled the trigger?

And why are the others staying silent?

NINA MONROE moved recently from England to New Hampshire with her husband and two daughters. *THE CHILDREN'S SECRET* is her first book writing as Nina Monroe. She has also written four adult and two young adult novels as Virginia Macgregor.

PRAISE FOR NINA MONROE (writing as Virginia Macgregor):

A future classic – **Clare Mackintosh** on *WHAT MILO SAW*

I couldn't put this insightful, compelling novel down – **Woman & Home** on *THE ASTONISHING RETURN OF NORAH WELLS*;

A touching look at the meaning of motherhood – **Good Housekeeping** on *THE ASTONISHING RETURN OF NORAH WELLS*.

Cover
coming
soon

corsair

DAUGHTERS OF THE LABYRINTH

Ruth Padel

July 2021
Corsair
Literary fiction
304pp

I keep thinking how to paint that glance you feel but do not see. The moment when one person is transformed by another. The gift of someone looking at you from the dark.

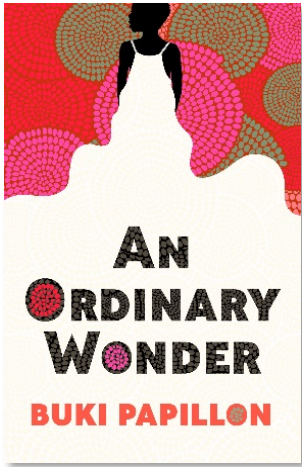
We have never thought we were immune. We have been invaded for millennia and know we need protection. Hand sanitizer or God's word at your door. A smoke cross at Easter, a sword of healing in the mosque.. Keep a goldfinch against the plague. Do what the doctor says.

An artist turns back to her roots and discovers they are not what she thought. *Daughters of the Labyrinth* is a contemporary story, for an era of instability and coronavirus, about love, loss and memory, parents and children, the fragility of life, and the forgotten Jews of Crete.

How well do you know your mother? Ri is an artist living between two cultures. Born on the Greek island of Crete, land of myth, ancient ruins and mass tourism, she has lived and worked in London most of her life. When her English husband dies in an accident, and their daughter goes away to New York, she turns to her Cretan roots only to discover they are filled with long-hidden secrets. Her parents were teenagers during the German occupation of Crete. Unearthing their stories, their layers of loss and changed identities, transforms her relationship to them and to herself.

Poignant, gripping and surprising, set in Crete and London in 2019-2020 against a backdrop of global uncertainty, with Brexit looming in the UK, the refugee crisis in Greece still groaning from austerity, and coronavirus about to explode on the world, *Daughters of the Labyrinth* explores the hold of the past on the present through three intertwining lives.

RUTH PADEL is an award-winning poet, journalist and broadcaster. She lives in North London with her daughter.



AN ORDINARY WONDER

Buki Papillon

March 2021
Dialogue
Contemporary Fiction
336pp

An extraordinary literary debut from a Nigerian-born author about a boy's secret intersex identity and his desire to live as a girl

My name is Otolorin. I've been called monster. Within dark valleys of flesh I defy the given - a snake curled in upon itself, two-in-one, mythical and shunned. Yet, in that magic place between worlds, in the realm where the great mother gives milk to her offspring, I become like a goddess.

Oto's wealthy and powerful family is ashamed of their identity and treats Oto cruelly to ensure silence. The love from Oto's twin sister wavers in a world of secrets and lies that seems determined to tear them apart, and Oto must make drastic choices that will alter the whole family's lives for ever.

Richly imagined with African mythology, art and folk tales, this moving and modern book follows Oto through life at home and at boarding school in Nigeria, and their ultimate dream of emigrating to a new life in the United States. It is a novel that explores complex desires as well as challenges of family, identity, gender and culture. An Ordinary Wonder takes us on a beautiful journey of what it means to feel whole.

BUKI PAPILLON was born in Nigeria. She studied law at Ibadan University and then moved to England for further law studies. She has since completed an MFA in Creative Writing at Lesley University in Massachusetts. She is an alumnus of the VONA Voices Workshops for writers of colour, and the recipient of several scholarships and award.



THE CENTRAL LINE

Saskia Sarginson

September 2021
Piatkus
Contemporary Fiction
368pp

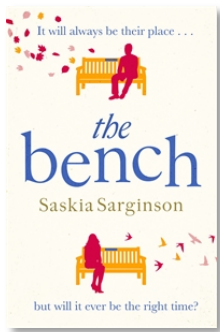
Four people. Two love stories. One city.

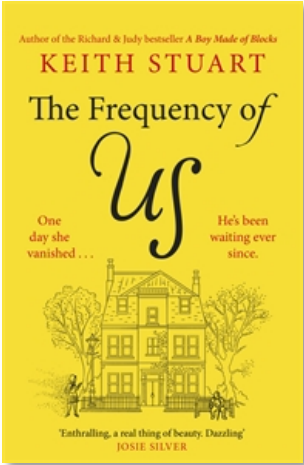
A novel about second chances, set in London.

Four characters separated by distance, age, and culture. Their unforeseen ticket to connection comes through the central line: an underground track, red on the map - colour of love and passion - running through the centre of the city.

SASKIA SARGINSON was awarded a distinction in her MA in Creative Writing at Royal Holloway after a BA in English Literature from Cambridge University and a BA in Fashion Design & Communications. Before becoming a full-time author, Saskia's writing experience included being a health and beauty editor on women's magazines, a ghost writer for the BBC and Harper Collins and copy-writing and script editing.

Also by Saskia Sarginson:





THE FREQUENCY OF US

Keith Stuart

March 2021
Sphere
Contemporary Fiction
416pp

The new novel from the bestselling author of *A BOY MADE OF BLOCKS* and *DAYS OF WONDER*

In Second World War Bath, young, naïve wireless engineer Will meets German refugee Elsa Klein: she is sophisticated, witty and wordy, and at last his life seems to make sense . . . until, soon after, the newly married couple's home is bombed, and Will awakes from the wreckage to find himself alone. Seventy years later, Laura is a social worker battling her way out of depression and off medication. Her new case is a strange: an isolated old man whose house hasn't changed since the war. A man who insists his wife vanished many, many years before. Everyone thinks he's suffering dementia. But Laura begins to suspect otherwise . . .

KEITH STUART is a journalist and author of two novels, *A BOY MADE OF BLOCKS* and *DAYS OF WONDER*. His heart-warming debut novel, *A BOY MADE OF BLOCKS*, inspired by Stuart's real-life relationship with his autistic son, was a Richard and Judy Book Club pick and sold in twenty-eight territories.

Praise for *DAYS OF WONDER*:

So powerful, yet incredibly gentle and poignant. Utterly and completely beautiful – **Joanna Cannon**, author of *The Trouble with Goats and Sheep*

Utterly enchanting . . . a truly beautiful story – **Ruth Hogan**, author of *The Keeper of Lost Things*

A story of life, love and hope - the perfect antidote to today's world. Phenomenal – **Clare Mackintosh**, author of *I LET YOU GO*.



UNTITLED

Hannah Tovey

July 2021
Piatkus
Contemporary Fiction
320pp

The second **IVY EDWARDS** novel.

What happens when you lose everything? You start all over again.

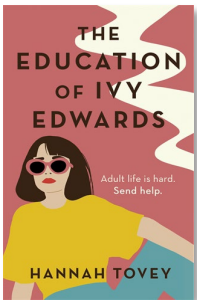
Ivy Edwards hasn't had the best year. She's about to turn thirty-three, she's unemployed, heartbroken and her mother won't leave her alone for five minutes. But at least she pays her rent on time.

Embarking on a new career, a new relationship, and new family drama, Ivy's about to realise that life is full of surprises.

This is a novel to remind us that life isn't a prescribed narrative; it is ever-evolving, and we can reinvent ourselves however many times we like. The magic often comes when we least expect it, and Ivy can pull rabbits out of her hat, too ...

HANNAH TOVEY is from South Wales, but grew up in Hong Kong. She worked in theatre before becoming a content producer, and she now works in live events. She graduated from Faber Academy in 2018, after completing the Writing a Novel course under tutor Richard Skinner, where she finished *THE EDUCATION OF IVY EDWARDS*. She lives in east London, and is working on her second novel.

Also available:





HAG:
FORGOTTEN
FOLKTALES
RETOLD

Various authors

October 2020
Virago
Folklore, myths & legends
288pp

Dark, potent and uncanny, hag bursts with the untold stories of our isles, captured in voices as varied as they are vivid.

Here are sisters fighting for the love of the same woman, a pregnant archaeologist unearthing impossible bones and lost children following you home. A panther runs through the forests of England and pixies prey upon violent men.

From the islands of Scotland to the coast of Cornwall, the mountains of Galway to the depths of the Fens, these forgotten folktales howl, cackle and sing their way into the 21st century, wildly reimagined by some of the most exciting women writing in Britain and Ireland today.

Includes short stories by **Daisy Johnson, Eimear McBride, Emma Glass, Kirsty Logan, Natasha Carthew, Mahsuda Snaith, Liv Little, Naomi Booth, Imogen Hermes Gowar, Irenosen Okojie.**

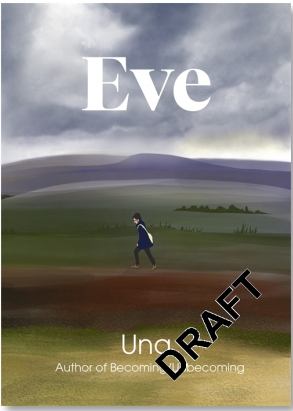


WINTRY GHOST
STORIES

Various authors

October 2021
Sphere
Short stories
336pp

A collection of short wintry ghost stories from authors including Sara Collins, Bridget Collins, Natasha Pulley, Kiran Millwood Hargrave, Elizabeth Macneal, Laura Purcell, Andrew Michael Hurley, Jess Kidd and Imogen Hermes Gowar.



EVE

Una

March 2021
Virago
Graphic Novel
256pp, fully illustrated,
full colour

Option publishers:
Brazil (Nemo)
Dutch (Soul Food Conics)
Italian (ADD Edizioni)
Spanish (Astiberri)
US (Arsenal Pulp)

Praise for UNA:

Unflinching, heart-breaking and utterly compelling. Una's story explores how the public silencing of women's voices too often creates a private hell - **Emma Jane Unsworth**

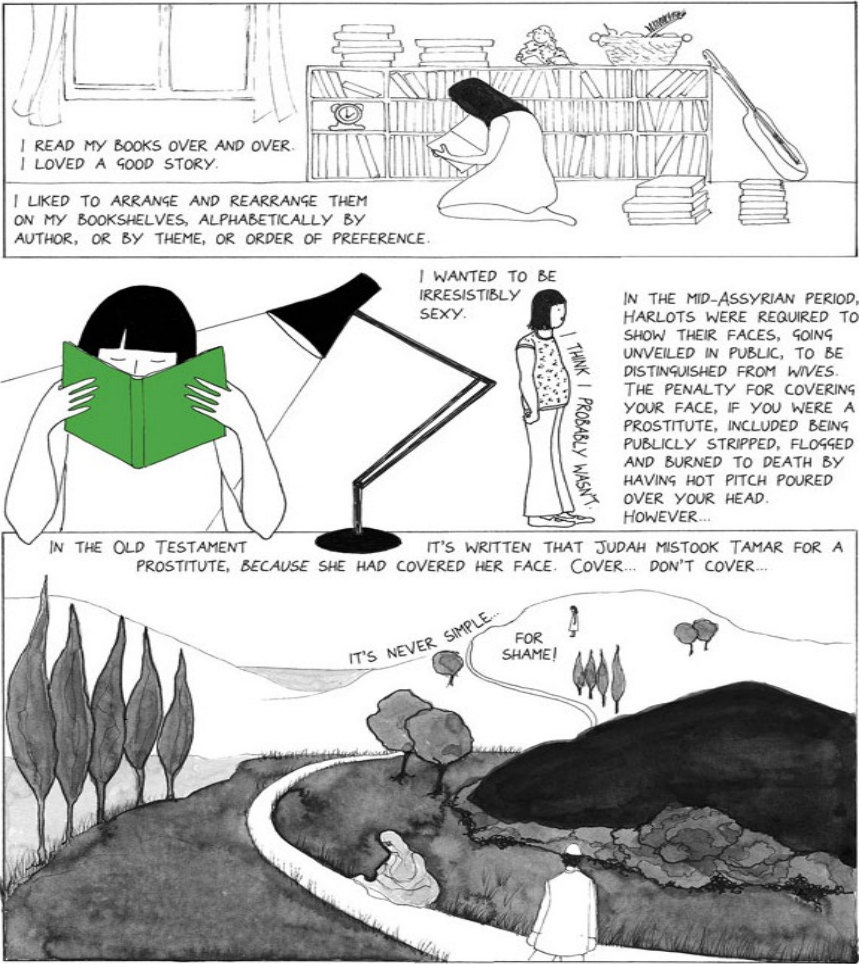
...the illustrations are beautiful, and the words are a powerful demand to listen to women's voices – **Elle**

Brilliant, brave and fiercely intelligent - **Kerry Hudson, Herald Scotland Books of the Year**

EVE is the first full-length graphic novel by acclaimed graphic memoirist Una, beautifully drawn by this award-winning artist and narrated by a mother and daughter

EVE is the story of a mother and daughter struggling to survive in a post-apocalyptic world which has provocative parallels with our current political reality, and explores themes of motherhood, community and survival. In a place which has been turned upside down by 'the event', and which grows more threatening by the day, Eve feels she has no choice but to run away and try to forge a new community – and her mother, who also narrates the story, feels she cannot stop her. But when Eve discovers that she is going to become a mother herself, the dangers she faces only multiply...

UNA is an artist and writer whose work includes comics, zines, graphic novels, projects and commissions that explore life, fact and fiction through visual means; her website is Unacomics.com. Her graphic memoir *Becoming Unbecoming* was published by Myriad Editions in the UK in 2015 and has been translated into Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, French, Italian, and Turkish and a Canada/US edition. *Becoming Unbecoming* has been featured on BBC Radio 4 Woman's Hour, Open Book, Newsweek, Elle, New York Times, Guardian, El Pais, and was chosen as one of Oprah.com's Best Memoirs of 2016, a Forbidden Planet Books of the Year 2015 and one of Elle's Great Feminist Books of All Time.



Cover
coming
Soon



VALUE

Stephen Bayley

March 2021
Constable
Philosophy
244pp

Since the industrial revolution, when everything ran by clockwork, people have understood how important it is to live in the moment. But over time our world has grown increasingly busy, and we've lost our ability to truly savour each unique experience and the simple pleasures the world has to offer.

Cultural commentator and critic Stephen Bayley seeks to explain what real value is: it's about taking the time and making the effort to appreciate things, of understanding the permanent charm of modest daily rituals performed with care and feeling. Of caring about appearances and meaning. Of being bold in matters of taste. Of fully understanding the source of lasting pleasure. Of making every encounter with an object or person meaningful.

Value is an elegiac account of what's recently been lost in the digital apocalypse. But also an enthusiastic anticipation of what we can regain in a post-viral, more analogue and more thoughtful world.

STEPHEN BAYLEY is an author, critic, columnist, consultant, broadcaster, debater and curator. Born in Cardiff and formally educated at Manchester University and Liverpool University School of Architecture. Informally, by the motorways, restaurants, cafes, bars, airports and museums of Europe and the United States.

Cover
coming
soon



TOO YOUNG, TOO LOUD, TOO DIFFERENT

Malika's Poetry
Kitchen

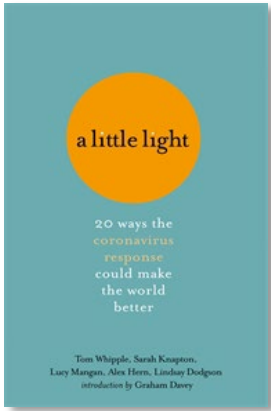
March 2021
Corsair
Poetry
144pp

In the early years of the new millennium, poets Malika Booker and Roger Robinson saw the need for a space for writers outside of the establishment to grow, improve, discuss and learn. One friday night, Malika offered her Brixton kitchen table as a meeting place. And so Malika's Poetry Kitchen was born.

'Kitchen', as it became known, has ushered in a new generation of voices, launching some of the most exciting writers, books and initiatives in British poetry in the past twenty years. Today, Kitchen is a thriving writers' collective, with a wealth of talented poets and branches in Chicago and India.

Too Young, Too Loud, Too Different is a celebration of Kitchen's legacy, an appreciation of its foundational spirit and a rallying cry for all writers to dream the future. The collection features breathtaking new poems by Warsan Shire, Inua Ellams, Kayo Chingonyi, Dean Atta, Roger Robinson, Malkia Booker among many others.

MALIKA'S POETRY KITCHEN is an influential writers' collective based in London. It was founded in 2001 by Malika Booker and Roger Robinson. Members and alumni have graced the shortlists of major poetry awards and are some of the most important poets writing today. The organisation has inspired Malika's Poetry Kitchen branches worldwide, from Chicago to Delhi.



A LITTLE LIGHT

Various

September 2020
Sphere
General
128pp

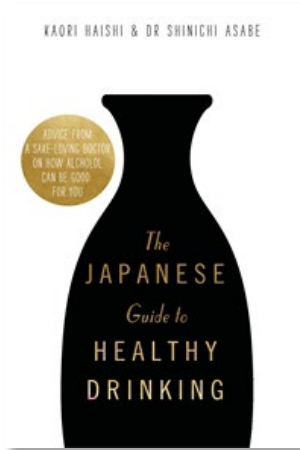
Twenty reasons for each of us to look for light in the darkness.

The coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic is a once-in-a-century event, a tragedy for thousands and a source of deep anxiety. But in darkness there is light; in tackling the most impossible challenges, human ingenuity forges new and positive paths forward.

In his introduction, Professor Graham Davey argues that context and perspective are the best ways to alleviate the personal anxiety created by the pandemic and lockdown - context offered by the pieces in this collection.

From leading science, society and culture writers and editors comes a look at twenty ways the human response to coronavirus could help to make the world a better place.

Contributors include: Tom Whipple, science editor of the *Times*, Lucy Mangan, columnist and author, Sarah Knapton, science editor of the *Telegraph*, Lindsay Dodgson, senior staff writer at *Business Insider*, Alex Hern, technology editor of the *Guardian*



THE JAPANESE
GUIDE TO
HEALTHY
DRINKING

Kaori Haishi and
Dr Shinichi Asabe

January 2021
Robinson
Food & Drink
288pp

Published originally in Japanese, this is an indispensable guide to avoiding or mitigating the damaging effects of drink. Sake journalist Kaori Haishi, with help from liver specialist Dr Shinichi Asabe, has interviewed twenty-five doctors on how to drink without harming your health – even, how to drink to enhance your health. She covers topics such as how the bitter taste of beer may help to prevent Alzheimer’s and how the best remedy for a hangover is natto (Japanese fermented soybeans).

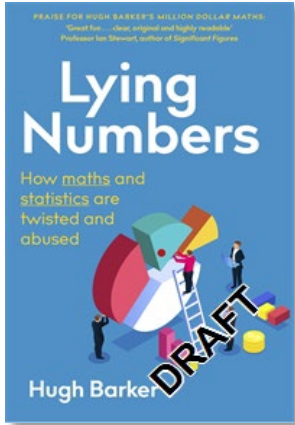
Drinking alcohol is good for your health if you can control how much you drink. But many of us know this is not easy. And as we grow older, the likelihood of suffering from hangovers, weight gain and diseases increases when we drink too much. This book is based on interviews with doctors who also like to drink. They tell us how we can drink while avoiding the side effects that may accompany drinking too much.

This is a book for anyone not looking to stop drinking altogether, but to drink more moderately, or sensibly, without suffering ill effects.

The book has sold over 95,000 copies in Japan and foreign rights have been sold to China, Korea, Taiwan and Thailand.

KAORI HAISHI is a sake journalist.

Dr SHINICHI ASABE is a liver specialist who lives and works in the USA.



LYING NUMBERS

Hugh Barker

November 2020
Robinson
Popular maths
256pp

Praise for Hugh Barker’s *Million Dollar Maths*:

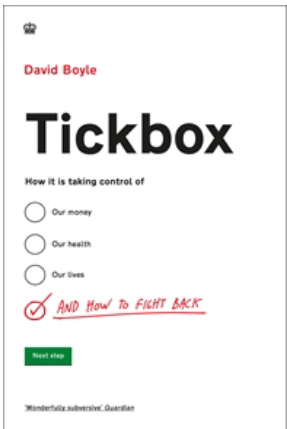
Great fun. A clear, original and highly readable account of the curious relationship between mathematics and money – **Professor Ian Stewart, author of *Significant Figures***,

A lively crash course in the mathematics of gambling, investing, and managing. Hugh Barker makes deep ideas fun and profitable – **William Poundstone, author of *How to Predict the Unpredictable***.

How figures are badly reported or deliberately misrepresented everywhere, from political arguments and business presentations to shopping offers.

Politicians, economists, scientists, journalists - all of them have been known to bend the truth and to twist the facts from time to time. But surely the numbers and statistics they rely on are cold, hard objective facts that tell the real story? Of course, the truth is much murkier than that. Figures can be misinterpreted, misunderstood, misconstrued and misused in hundreds of different ways. This book takes a look at the many ways that statistical information can be badly reported or deliberately abused in all walks of life, from political arguments, to business presentations, to more local concerns such as shopping offers and utility bills. LYING NUMBERS is a polemical guide to how numbers are used to mislead, which is intended to help the reader through the minefield of dubious stats and lying numbers.

HUGH BARKER is a non-fiction author and editor; as the latter he has edited several successful popular maths books, including *A Slice of Pi*. He is the author of *Million Dollar Maths* (Atlantic Books, October 2018) and *High-Tech Maths* (Atlantic, 2019–20). He was accepted to study maths at Cambridge aged sixteen.



TICKBOX

David Boyle

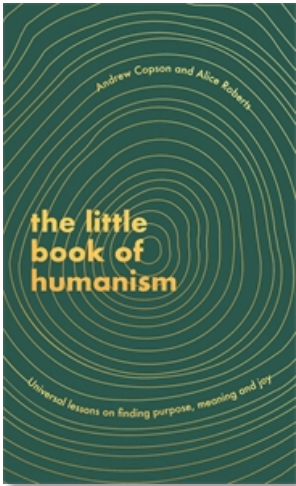
January 2020
Little, Brown
Economics & business
320pp

Tackling 21st century frustration and making things work again

Human beings have railed against the ‘iron cage’ of bureaucracy since bureaucracies began. We poke fun at boneheaded apps and IT systems which regard us as less than human, or – from the point of view of the organisations we do business with – awkward inconveniences. But increasingly we just accept it and put the tick in the box anyway. The only certainties of life are, these days, death, taxes and tickboxes. The practice started with the Babylonian Empire, was continued by the likes of management consultant James McKinsey, Robert McNamara (who tried to use it via his system of maximising the killing of Vietnamese soldiers and civilians), and was at the heart of the UK’s ‘hostile immigration’

But we need to fight back. Because tickbox is not just a modern irritant; there is also a compelling argument that it is a block on human progress which goes to the heart of our economic problems. It is not just a ubiquitous feature of modern life; it is also a peculiar disease of ineffectiveness that grips government, business, healthcare and most important organisations in our lives.

DAVID BOYLE tells the story of this scourge ,explains why it arose, how we need to resist and how we might organise progress in the world instead. Boyle wrote *The Tyranny of Numbers* (Harper Collins) . The Guardian has called him an ‘ingenious thinker.’ He writes about politics, money and business, and his work is devoted to one broad theme: the importance of human-scale institutions over centralised ones, human imagination over dull rationalism, and the human spirit over technocratic reduction.



THE LITTLE BOOK OF HUMANISM

Andrew Copson and Alice Roberts

August 2020
Piatkus
Popular philosophy
256pp

ANDREW COPSON is the Chief Executive of Humanists UK and President of Humanists International. He has provided a humanist voice on many television and radio programmes and written on humanism for publications including the *Economist*, *New Statesman*, *Guardian*, *Prospect*, the *Times* and *Buzzfeed*. With AC Grayling, he edited the *Wiley Blackwell Handbook of Humanism* and his most recent book is *Secularism: A Very Short Introduction*. He has been the humanist contributor to many compendiums and anthologies of quotations such as *Wisdom for Life* and numerous resources for schools.

A SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER!

We all want to lead a happy life. Traditionally, when in need of guidance, comfort or inspiration, many people turn to religion. But there has been another way to learn how to live well - the humanist way - and in today's more secular world, it is more relevant than ever.

In *THE LITTLE BOOK OF HUMANISM*, Alice Roberts and Andrew Copson share over two thousand years of humanist wisdom through an uplifting collection of stories, quotes and meditations on how to live an ethical and fulfilling life, grounded in reason and humanity.

With universal insights and beautiful original illustrations, *THE LITTLE BOOK OF HUMANISM* is a perfect introduction to and a timeless anthology of humanist thought from some of history and today's greatest thinkers.

PROFESSOR ALICE ROBERTS is a writer, broadcaster, and President of Humanists UK. She is the bestselling author of eight popular science books including *Evolution: The Human Story*, *the Incredible Unlikelihood of Being and Tamed: Ten Species that Changed Our World*. Making her television debut on *Time Team* in 2001, she has become one of Britain's best-known broadcasters and has written and presented a huge range of television series for BBC2, BBC4 and Channel 4, including *The Incredible Human Journey*, *Origins of Us* and *Ice Age Giants*, and several *Horizon* programmes. Her humanist 'mini-sermons' on Twitter have been liked and shared many thousands of times.



FRIENDS

Robin Dunbar

March 2021
Little, Brown
Psychology
352pp

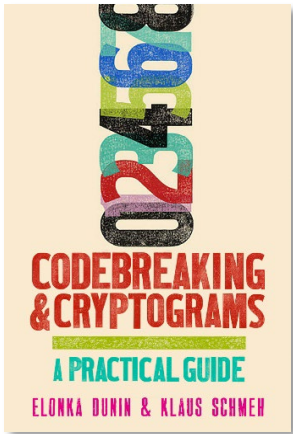
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ROBIN DUNBAR is an evolutionary psychologist and former director of the Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology in the Department of Experimental Psychology at Oxford University. His acclaimed books include *How Many Friends Does One Person Need?* and *Grooming, Gossip and the Evolution of Language*, described by Malcolm Gladwell as "a marvellous work of popular science."

THE book on friends, our social lives and the meaning of friendship

Friends matter to us, and they matter more than we think. The single most surprising fact to emerge out of the medical literature over the last decade or so has been that the number and quality of the friendships we have has a bigger influence on our happiness, health and even mortality risk than anything else except giving up smoking.

ROBIN DUNBAR is the world-renowned psychologist and author who famously discovered 'Dunbar's number': how our capacity for friendship is limited to around one hundred and fifty people. In *FRIENDS*, he looks at friendship in the round, at the way different types of friendship and family relationships intersect, or at the complex of psychological and behavioural mechanisms that underpin friendships and make them possible – and just how complicated the business of making and keeping friends actually is. Mixing insights from scientific research with first person experiences and culture, *FRIENDS* explores and integrates knowledge from disciplines ranging from psychology and anthropology to neuroscience and genetics in a single magical weave that allows us to peer into an incredible social world. Working at the coalface of the subject at both research and personal levels, Robin Dunbar has written the definitive book on how and why we are friends.



CODEBREAKING: A PRACTICAL GUIDE

Elonka Dunin and
Klaus SchmeH

December 2020
Robinson
Puzzles
448pp

This book describes the most common encryption techniques along with methods to detect and break them.

The Zodiac Killer sent four encrypted messages to the police – one was solved, three were not. Beatrix Potter’s diary and the Voynich Manuscript are two encrypted books, only one of which was deciphered. The breaking of the so-called Zimmerman Telegram in the First World War changed the course of history. Several encrypted telegrams sent by Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War are still unsolved. Tens of thousands of other encrypted messages – ranging from simple notes created by children to military messages from the Second World War – are known to exist. Breaking these cryptograms fascinates people all over the world. This book provides instruction on codebreaking techniques and is complemented with success stories and details of unsolved encryption mysteries.

ELONKA DUNIN is an American video game developer and cryptologist. Dan Brown named a character, Nola Kaye, in his novel *The Lost Symbol* after her. She is considered the leading Kryptos expert in the world and is a member of the NSA Cryptologic Museum Foundation’s Board.

KLAUS SCHMEH is one of the world’s leading experts on the history of encryption and the most published cryptology author in the world - twelve books about encryption technology (written in German), 150 articles, 20 scientific publications and 800 blog posts. He is a member of the editorial board of the scientific magazine, *Cryptologia*, and a frequent speaker at encryption conferences in Europe and the USA.



WRAPPED IN BEAUTY

Blanche Girouard

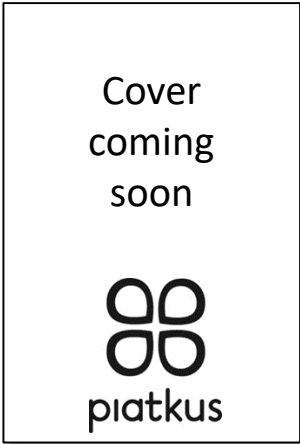
April 2022
Constable
Religion & Culture
288pp

WRAPPED IN BEAUTY provides readers with the religious framework they need to take pleasure in some of the greatest works of music, art and literature that Christianity has produced.

You don’t need an iota of faith to benefit from religious art and stories. Step inside the eighty-four-foot nave of Salisbury cathedral and you will feel your spirits soar. Attend a service of choral evensong in Magdalen College chapel and you will feel yourself transported. Read the biblical story of Peter’s denial, hear it transposed into music by J.S. Bach and Peter’s aria ‘Erbarme Dich’, and you will be as moved by it as you are moved by the most poignant scene in the best film or modern-day soap opera.

This is a heritage that belongs to, and can benefit, us all. Even the stories can help guide us. For Bible stories, writes Karen Armstrong, are to be counted among the world’s great myths, pointing ‘beyond history, to what is timeless in human existence’. That is why writers, artists and composers have drawn on them for centuries and still draw on them today. **WRAPPED IN BEAUTY** will reclaim Christian stories and culture for non-believers, providing readers with the knowledge to discover the great works Christianity has inspired, and seeing them as sources of pleasure and inspiration rather than curious relics of an ignorant past.

BLANCHE GIROUARD read Classics and Theology at Oxford. She has made features for BBC World Service and presented features on BBC Radio 4. She also interviews authors and writes occasional pieces for the *Times*, the *Guardian* and the *Financial Times*.



TEACH
YOURSELF TO
SLEEP

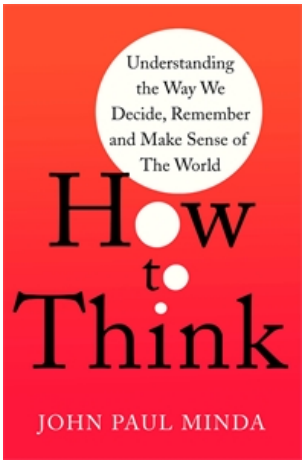
Kate Mikhail

June 2021
Piatkus
Sleep
272pp

A personal and practical book about getting more sleep by ex-insomniac Kate Mikhail. It will help readers upgrade their sleep, health and wellbeing, while taking a cutting-edge, 360 degree look at sleep, and everything in our life that influences it.

TEACH YOURSELF TO SLEEP will translate cutting-edge science, from the world of medicine, behavioural science and NASA, into proactive techniques that readers can use to transform the quality of their sleep and their lives. How can readers dismantle habits of thought, emotion and behaviour that are standing in their way? How is it possible that the tiniest self-talk can get dramatic physical, emotional and behavioural results? How can cultural suggestion make us succeed or fail? How can the reader rewire their mind, body, and behaviour so that it works for them?

TEACH YOURSELF TO SLEEP will do what no other sleep book is doing. It will show readers how they can tune in to their body and mind to shift their cellular make-up, bend reality in their favour, hack their habits, alter their chemicals and their emotions, tame their imagination and re-write sleep patterns.



HOW TO THINK

John Paul Minda

April 2021
Robinson
Psychology
336pp

This book will get you thinking about thinking. We understand more about the brain than ever before, and we also have more tools than ever before to help us think. This book will show you how your brain works, how your mind works, why we all make certain mistakes in thinking, and why that's not always a bad thing

In order to understand how people behave, you need to understand how people think. And if you want to understand how people think, you need to have a basic understanding of cognitive psychology, cognitive science and cognitive neuroscience. This book explains cognition and the links between the brain, the mind and behaviour in a clear and straightforward way. Through interesting case studies and research examples, Minda shows how the brain is involved in mental activity, how memory works, how language affects thought, how good (and bad) decisions are made, and why we make predictable errors in our thinking. With practical applications for everyday life, this a book that helps us become better thinkers, better learners and better problem-solvers. In the current era of big data, algorithms and AI, Minda argues that knowing about how humans think—how you think—is more important than ever before.

JOHN PAUL MINDA is a professor of psychology at the University of Western Ontario, Canada. He has been studying the mind and brain for over twenty years and has written extensively on the topic of how people think. He is the author of the textbook *The Psychology of Thinking*.

Cover
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soon



AGAINST THE GRAIN

Mark McDermott

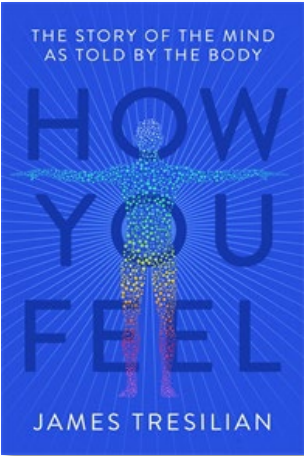
May 2022
Robinson
Popular Psychology
288pp

We are we built to oppose and rebel. Why?

In the past few years, we have seen the ‘protest vote’ leading to surprising results in elections, and we have also seen a great resurgence in organised marches, resisting a new administration or a referendum decision. But rebelliousness is not just about those high-profile acts of resistance - the psychology of rebelliousness is central to understanding everyday life. From moment to moment we choose to accept or oppose the requirements of those around us, whether those imperatives come from loved ones, colleagues, bosses, agents of authority or those we may serve. The feeling of wanting to oppose a perceived requirement pervades the human condition.

This book looks at the role of rebelliousness as it develops through childhood and adolescence, in relationships, within and between social groups, in the service of civil disobedience, protest and social change, in mental and physical health and across cultures.

Professor MARK MCDERMOTT is a lecturer in health psychology at the University of East London, teaching on mental health and leading the PhD programme. In the 1980s, he developed a questionnaire measure of rebelliousness, and has maintained a research interest in rebelliousness within the context of reversal theory, a theory of motivation, emotion, and personality. He was involved in the BBC’s recreation of the Stanford Prison Experiment and also co-wrote the bestselling European adaptation of Philip Zimbardo’s *Psychology* textbook.



HOW YOU FEEL

James Tresilian

November 2020
Robinson
Popular science
288pp

How do our bodies work? How do they make us and sense ourselves and the world?

A behavioural neuroscientist internationally renowned for his research in motor skills and body movement offers a whole new perspective on how our bodies work, revealing their absolutely fundamental role in defining how we experience the world, and what we feel, moment to moment. This book radically reorients our understanding of the role of the body in determining our thoughts and feelings and the experience of being alive. Part of that explanation involves the idea of interoception – an inner sixth sense that tells us when something internal is not quite right - but this is not just about exploding the five senses myth, it is about the broader question of how we feel, and showing how our feeling body works to bring all our senses together.

JAMES TRESILIAN is a professor and former chair of the department of psychology at the University of Warwick, UK and honorary professor at the University of Queensland, Australia. Author of nearly a hundred refereed scientific articles, he has held research and teaching appointments in universities in the UK, USA and Australia.

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LONDON: IMMIGRANT CITY

Nazneen
Khan-Østrem

May 2021
Robinson
Society & culture
320pp

A Norwegian bestseller.

Extensively researched with a view specifically to what has not been covered in the extensive array of existing books about London, Nazneen's book sheds light on the way the city emerged after the Second World War as a result of immigration from Britain's former colonies and the Commonwealth. London's development, as well as that of Britain as a whole, is directly linked with the successive waves of immigration that resulted from the British Nationality Act of 1948. This is a celebration of London's immigrant communities, and a pertinent reminder of how intrinsic immigrants are to the fabric of London – and British – life.

NAZNEEN KHAN-ØSTREM was born in Nairobi and is a Kenyan Asian of Pashtun descent. Raised in the UK and Norway, she has worked as a television presenter for NRK and an arts journalist for the Norwegian broadsheet Aftenposten. Nazneen graduated from the London School of Economics with a MSc in International Relations in 2000; her first book, *My Holy War*, about Islam and identity, was published in 2005; and in 2007 she was selected for the Edward R. Murrow Exchange Program in Journalism by the US State Department. Nazneen joined Norwegian publisher Aschehoug as a commissioning editor in 2011.

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soon



LION CITY

Jeevan
Vasagar

September 2021
Little, Brown
History & travel
240pp

Before the Second World War, Singapore was richer than any Asian metropolis except for Tokyo, and by far the most ethnically diverse. But in 1965, it had independence forced upon it in a sudden rupture with newly formed Malaysia and found itself facing catastrophe. It took the bloody-minded determination and vision of Lee Kuan Yew, its founding premier, to take a small island of diverse ethnic groups with a broken economy and meld it into Asia's first globalised city.

Lion City tells this extraordinary story, in doing so examining the different faces of Singaporean life – from food to culture to art and politics – and describing how the different ethnic groups of Singapore were forged by Lee into a distinctive Singaporean identity.

It also reveals the way that its combination of economic freedom, clean government and political authoritarianism has been studied as a model around world, but particularly in Asia, and how it compares it in particular to Hong Kong, at a time when fate of the latter hangs in the balance.

The book also looks at Singapore's – and east Asia's – future. Today, as Hong Kong struggles to resist assimilation into China, Singapore's value as a neutral base for business is rising again. Its strategic location between China and India is also more significant than ever at a time when these two economies are growing rapidly in importance. Although Singapore remains one of the most Westernized societies in Asia, with strong political, military and economic links to the US in particular, this is beginning to shift as China's influence in the region grows. Finally, as birth rates plummet to far below replacement levels, the book examines the demographic challenge faced by the city.

JEEVAN VASAGAR is a superb and evocative writer, and *LION CITY* is a compelling, illuminating and personal history that will be regarded as the definitive book on Singapore – and one of the great city chronicles.

Cover
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soon



A NEW WAY OF LOOKING

Sarah Knights

February 2022
Virago
Biography
320pp

This biography focuses on a closely-knit network of avant-garde artists, writers, designers and dancers who dominated the cultural landscape of twentieth-century Britain and beyond.

At its centre, was Barbara Ker-Seymer (1905-1993), a pioneering photographer whose iconic images define this talented forward-looking generation. She disdained lucrative 'society' portraits in favour of modern, abstract images, and her portraiture broke with convention, emphasising light, angles and planes to convey the essence of her subjects. Her work was not only famous but widely admired among her peers, among them Man Ray. Paul Nash, artist and influential critic championed her work in print. She was the photographer of choice for the leading actors, artists, dancers, writers and intellectuals of her generation, who flocked to her studio, above Aspreys the Bond Street jewellers. Her sitters include Cyril Connolly, Evelyn Waugh, Margot Fonteyn, Jean Cocteau and Vita Sackville-West.

SARAH KNIGHTS'S first book, *Bloomsbury's Outsider: A Life of David Garnett* was published by Bloomsbury in 2015 to considerable critical acclaim. It was short-listed for the Slightly Foxed Best First Biography Prize (2015) and for the James Tait Black Prize for Biography (2016).



SLUG

Hollie McNish

May 2021
Fleet
Poetry & prose
432pp

The new collection of poetry and prose from the Ted Hughes Award winning author of *Nobody Told Me*.

From Finnish mermaids and soppy otters to Kellogg's anti-masturbation pants and our cultural queasiness around the sound of the word 'vulva', *Slug* is a book which holds a mirror up to the world, past and present, through Hollie's driving, funny, beautiful poetry and prose. *Slug* is about the human condition: of birth and death and how we manage the tangle in-between.

HOLLIE MCNISH is an award-winning poet based between Cambridge and Glasgow. She won the Ted Hughes Award for *Nobody Told Me* and has published three other collections - *Plum*, *Cherry Pie* and *Papers*.



WHEN MARILYN MET THE QUEEN

Michelle Morgan

January 2022
Robinson
Biography
288pp

MICHELLE MORGAN is a full-time writer living in Northampton whose work has been featured in a number of magazines. Morgan has written nine books to date, including four on the topic of Marilyn Monroe which have sold tens of thousands of copies in countries all over the world.



FIGHTING FOR MY LIFE

Billy Moore

June 2021
Robinson
Autobiography
288pp

Billy Moore spent three years in Klong Prem prison in Thailand, popularly known as the 'Bangkok Hilton', where he witnessed acts of extreme violence and sexual assault. Eventually he found purpose through taking part in Muay Thai boxing tournaments in jail. Here, he found 'a wall of human community' amongst the elite boxers and regained his sobriety.

He was granted early release by the King of Thailand having excelled as a Muay Thai boxer in inter-prison tournaments. But back in the UK and a decade later - with his demons resurfacing - Billy's past caught up with him. He was caught and convicted of a bizarre burglary, carried out in his underpants while high, and was despatched to HMP Walton under then home secretary Theresa May's three-strikes rule. Billy has spent almost twenty-two years in various prisons, but since then, he has not only survived cancer, but also gone on to become a powerful advocate of boxing and anti-knife crime initiatives in the Liverpool area, training young boxers.

In this follow-up to Billy's first international bestseller, an autobiography set largely in Thailand's infamous prison system, Billy sets out to explore his experience of childhood abuse that would lead to a life of drug addiction and near-constant incarceration.

In this vividly told story, Liverpudlian Billy contrasts his first-hand experience of one of the cruellest prison systems in the world with his experience of UK prisons. Rich in detail, honesty and humour, his book is a fast-paced, unputdownable read which shows how the human spirit can endure and eventually thrive.

BILLY MOORE was born in Liverpool in 1973. He had a difficult upbringing and struggled with addiction. In 2005, wishing to make a fresh start, Billy relocated to Thailand and entered a period of sobriety. However, he eventually relapsed and was arrested and charged by Thai police and sent to Klong Prem prison, the infamous 'Bangkok Hilton'. Upon release, Billy wrote about his experiences in his book, *A Prayer Before Dawn* which was later adapted for the screen and premiered at the Cannes Film Festival in 2017. Since then, Billy has not only survived cancer, but also gone on to become a powerful advocate of boxing and anti-knife crime initiatives in the Liverpool area. He trains young boxers and appears regularly in the national media.



IN LOVE WITH HELL

William Palmer

March 2021
Robinson
Literary Biography
304pp

A work of non-fiction about writers and drink, including Dylan Thomas, Kingsley Amis, Patrick Hamilton, Jean Rhys and Elizabeth Bishop.

“‘I like it,’ he called to them, through the open window, from outside. Cervantes stood behind the bar, with scared eyes [...] ‘I love hell. I can’t wait to go back there. In fact I’m running. I’m almost back there already.’” Malcolm Lowry, *Under the Volcano*

In this book, subtitled *Eleven Writers and Drink in Their Lives and Work*, Palmer looks at Patrick Hamilton (‘the feverish magic that alcohol can work’); Jean Rhys (‘As soon as I sober up I start again’); Charles Jackson (‘Delirium is a disease of the night’); Malcolm Lowry (‘I love hell. I can’t wait to go back there’); Dylan Thomas (‘A womb with a view’); John Cheever (‘The singing of the bottles in the pantry’); Flann O’Brien (‘A pint of plain is your only man’); Anthony Burgess (‘Writing is an agony mitigated by drink’); Kingsley Amis (‘Beer makes you drunk’); Richard Yates (‘The road to Revolutionary Road’); and Elizabeth Bishop (‘The writer’s writer’s writer’).

WILLIAM PALMER was born in 1945 and was educated at schools in England and Wales. During the 1960s and 70s he lived in London and the Midlands and worked at a bewildering variety of jobs. He began writing at the age of fifteen but only became a full-time writer in the mid-80s: his first novel, *The Good Republic*, was published by Secker & Warburg in 1990 and since then he has had eight books published. His latest novel, *The Devil is White*, was published by Jonathan Cape in early 2013.

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soon



ESTHER SIMPSON

John Eidinow

March 2022
Robinson
History
304pp

The incredible true life-story of Esther ‘Tess’ Simpson, rescuer of scientists, musicians, thinkers

Esther Simpson – known as Tess – devoted her life to rescuing and resettling mostly Jewish, academic refugees, whom she called her ‘children’, in the late 1930s and early ‘40s. Each case had to be argued with the Home Office and Simpson prepared 560 applications. In the end – but how slow the process seemed – they succeeded. Simpson’s ‘family’ was described as ‘the most talented and distinguished in the world’. Among their ranks were sixteen Nobel Prize winners, eighteen Knights of the Realm, seventy-four Fellows of the Royal Society, thirty-four Fellows of the British Academy and two members of the Order of Merit. This is the story of a now largely forgotten woman, a woman whose relentless efforts and tireless bravery helped shape the face of modern world.

JOHN EIDINOW has published three books with David Edmonds, each describing clashes between men of titanic gifts: Wittgenstein's Poker (shortlisted for the Guardian First Book Award); Bobby Fischer Goes to War (long listed for the Samuel Johnson prize); and Rousseau's Dog. He has also presented and interviewed for BBC Radio 4 and World Service, working in news and current affairs, and making documentaries on historical and contemporary issues.

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THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASSES

Travis Elborough

June 2021
Little, Brown
History
256pp

‘Everything was made for a purpose; everything is necessary for the fulfilment of that purpose. Observe that noses have been made for spectacles; therefore we have spectacles’ from Voltaire’s *Candide*.

With the broad appeal of books by the likes of Mark Kurlansky, Billy Bryson and Simon Garfield Travis Elborough uses a single, life-changing object to tell a much bigger story. Using personal observation, memoir, reportage, science, social history and cultural criticism, the book moves chronologically through the story of spectacles. The historical scope is wide, ranging from early theories about how the eye worked and theological and philosophical arguments about the limits of perception by Greek thinkers and Arab scholars, through to the ingeniousness of Italian glassmakers in the Medieval and Renaissance periods. There are appearances by the great and the good bespectacled men and women of yesteryear, running the gamut from the fictional Clark Kent in *Superman* to the authors Aldous Huxley, James Joyce, and Angela Carter, and including such actors and musicians such as Buddy Holly, Michael Caine, Dizzy Gillespie and John Lennon, and their lorgnettes, monocles, pince-nez, horn-rims, tortoise-shell ‘Oxfords’ and Ray Ban aviator shades. *Through the Looking Glasses* is about vision and the need for humanity to see clearly and where the impulse to improve of our eyesight has led us. The society of the spectacle may finally be upon us . . . but how much of it do we really see?

Acclaimed by the *Guardian* as ‘one of the UK’s finest pop culture historians,’ **TRAVIS ELBOROUGH** has been a writer, author and broadcaster for twenty years.

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Soon



THE CRICHEL BOYS

Simon Fenwick

February 2021
Constable
History
368pp

SIMON FENWICK is an archivist, who has worked on the private papers of Patrick Leigh Fermor and Xan Fielding. He is the author of *Joan: Beauty, Revel, Muse: the Remarkable Life of Joan Leigh Fermor*. He lives in London.

During the interwar years, the future of the country house seemed precarious. After the horror of the First World War, resulting death duties brought about massive land sales - a quarter of England exchanged hands - and about four hundred houses were either sold or pulled down. A whole way of life was dying. After the Second World War, at a time when large houses were at a premium, there was a new series of architectural disasters: in 1955 a house was demolished every two and a half days. Crichel House and Long Crichel House were two neighbouring houses in a remote part of Dorset that survived the purge. In 1945 Eddy Sackville-West, Desmond Shawe-Taylor and Eardley Knolly - three writers for the *New Statesman* and a National Trust administrator - bought Long Crichel, and a new kind of experiment in living developed. The house became a place in which to work, write and entertain friends including cultural luminaries and members of the Bloomsbury set such as Benjamin Britten, Nancy Mitford, Graham Greene, Vita Sackville-West, Somerset Maugham and Paddy Leigh Fermor, who were attracted by its ambience of good food and drink, conversation, music and croquet. Long Crichel also weathered its fair share of scandal, after it found itself at the centre of what became known as 'The Crichel Down Affair' that dominated newspaper headlines during the 1950s.

The Crichel Boys gives a voice to the fascinating people who passed through the doors of the much-admired country house and explains how, during the second half of the twentieth century, it became a hub of creativity and social activity for its denizens and their guests. Through the lens of Long Crichel, author Simon Fenwick tells the broader story of an important period of English history, explores the evolution of the National Trust and allows us to understand the great cultural upheaval that has taken place since the Second World War.

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THE SELECTED LETTERS OF JANE CARLYLE

Claudia
FitzHerbert

June 2022
Virago
History
320pp

CLAUDIA FITZHERBERT is a renowned book reviewer. Her *SELECTED LETTERS OF JANE CARLYLE* has the potential to reach a much wider audience than the current academic editions. The most recent selection appeared in 2004, published by Ashgate, and the cover price was £50. Our book consists of 150 letters and is divided into six sections tracking Carlyle's development.

Jane Welsh Carlyle (1800-1866) was a writer like her husband, the historian Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881), but while he wrote volumes about the French Revolution, Oliver Cromwell and Frederick the Great she abjured big books in favour of letters and found her epics closer to home. In this selection of her letters she is revealed to be a hugely entertaining companion—wry, good on detail, and just as prone to the vagaries of mood and health, and full of the joys of an unexpectedly good literary party. It is clear that she didn't need to write books, because her energies went into these lively letters, and being married to Thomas Carlyle.

Says Claudia FitzHerbert: Jane Carlyle is a writer who has been rescued by the academy but who doesn't belong in the academy. In her compelling mixture of everywoman concerns and what she called her 'l-ety' she sheds light on what it was to keep house and stay married, fall ill, and stay sane, in a lightless nineteenth century world of smog and soot, and morphine over the counter. But she also, miraculously, closes the gap between now and then. Her distrust of organised religion and her ear for cant, her mockery of mansplainers, fondness for strays and madmen and refusal to recognise conventional boundaries in her relationships with her maids – these are just some of the strains in her correspondence which make her attractive to the modern reader. In recent decades, Jane Carlyle's autonomy as a life-writer has been recognised and with this has come the suggestion that the clever and frustrated doctor's daughter chose her tyrant Man of Genius husband with her eyes wide open.'

Home was a tall dark house in Cheyne Row, Chelsea, into which the Carlyles moved from Scotland in 1834 and stayed for the rest of their lives. Her letters rejoice in the everlasting sound 'of men, women, children, omnibuses, carriages glass coaches, streetcoaches, waggons, carts, dog-carts, steeple bells, doorbells, Gentlemen-raps, twopenny-post-raps, footmen-showers-of raps...This stirring life is more to my mind, and has besides a beneficial effect on my bowels.' Her letters read like a most intelligent and engrossing novel.

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UNTITLED

Rick Gekoski

July 2021
Constable
History
304pp

J K Rowling’s Beadle the Bard manuscript sold at Sotheby’s in 2007 for £1,950,000. If it was worth that, how much is a first edition of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*, extensively annotated and illustrated by JKR herself, going to fetch at the Sotheby’s 2011 auction “First Editions, Second Thoughts” in which authors annotated their own books in aid of English PEN? Rick tells the story...

RICK GEKOSKI came from his native America to do a Ph.D at Oxford, and went on to teach English at the University of Warwick. In 1982, sick of lecturing, he decided to become a full-time rare book dealer, specialising in important twentieth-century first editions and manuscripts. He lives in London and spends time each year in Paris and New Zealand.

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soon



ONE FINE DAY

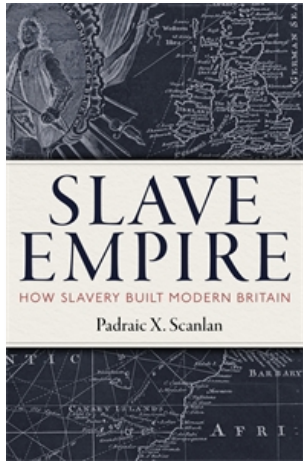
Matthew Parker

September 2022
Little, Brown
History
400pp

The story of the greatest empire in world history at its absolute, hubristic zenith.

29th September 1923. The British Empire was fourteen million square miles, just under a quarter of the globe’s land area. 460 million people, a fifth of the world’s population inhabited it. In *ONE FINE DAY* Matthew Parker examines this astonishing edifice in all its glory but with all of its ugly underbelly clearly visible, and with the seeds of its demise already sown. Readers will be able to inhabit the lives of people, rich and poor, male and female, coloniser and colonised, who are agents in this moment of apparent imperial super-glory. We learn what they ate, what they wore, their likes and dislikes, what they thought. This magisterial survey takes in trivial, personal events as well as momentous political and military ones. While there might be ground-breaking elections, military clashes and violent demonstrations, there are also marriages, suicides, strange disappearances, parties.

MATTHEW PARKER was born in El Salvador in 1970 to an expatriate family and while growing up lived in Britain, Norway and Barbados. He read English at Balliol College, Oxford and then worked in a number of roles in book publishing in London from salesman to commissioning editor.



SLAVE EMPIRE

Padraic X.
Scanlan

November 2020
Robinson
History
304pp

The British empire, in sentimental myth, was more free, more just and more fair than its rivals; if other empires left their old colonies backward basket cases when their power waned, the British empire left railways, print culture and democracy. The claim that the British empire was ‘free’ and that, for all of its flaws and missteps, it offered promised liberty to all its subjects has always been a lie – the British empire was built on slavery.

Slave Empire puts enslaved people at the centre of the global web of colonies, territories, outposts, commercial projects and institutions that made up the British empire. The book explores the world of British slavery in intimate, human detail. Each chapter takes readers to a particular moment and place important to the history of British slavery – from the Jamaican bivouac of Oliver Cromwell’s New Model Army in 1655, to the secret meetings of enslaved revolutionaries in Barbados in 1816 – and builds outward, showing how slavery and the work of enslaved labourers were the sinews of the empire. With vivid original research and careful synthesis of innovative historical scholarship, Slave Empire shows that British freedom and British slavery were made together.

Dr PADRAIC X. SCANLAN is an historian of Britain and its relationship to the wider world, with a particular focus on histories of slavery, capitalism and emancipation from the early seventeenth to the mid-nineteenth centuries. His research centres on the practices and material history of the abolition of slavery and the slave trade, and the effects of abolition on the governance of Britain and the British empire. He is also broadly interested in the social and administrative histories of bureaucrats and bureaucracies, and in the history of everyday economic life.



ANATOMY OF A NATION

Dominic
Selwood

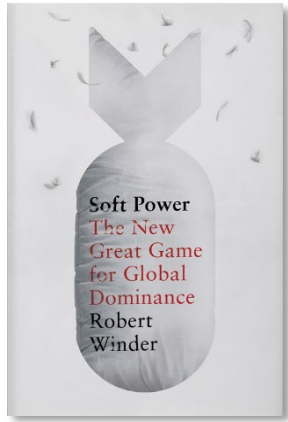
October 2021
Constable
History
416pp

ANATOMY OF A NATION explores over 800,000 years of British identity by examining fifty documents that tell the story of what makes Britain unique resulting in an anthology that offers a rich and unusual insight into the development of the British people and their sense of place in the world.

Britain is experiencing an acute trauma of identity, being pulled simultaneously towards its European, Atlantic, and wider heritages. One way to understand the dislocation and collapse in consensus is by looking to Britain’s rich history: its evolution, achievements, complexities, and tensions. In turning to the past for answers, **ANATOMY OF A NATION** puts the crisis into context and asks how we got here. Although history cannot dictate or even predict the future, its windings illuminate the paths leading to – and beyond – the current crossroads.

Kings, queens, parliaments, and battles form the hard skeleton of Britain’s history: they give it shape, but provide an often bony, dry account. In examining the fifty documents, **ANATOMY OF A NATION** focuses on what lies within: on the brain, guts, and heart that animate the skeleton with thoughts, emotion, and resolve. The book inevitably features plenty of important kings, queens, parliaments, and battles, but it weaves them into a deeper exploration of the underlying lives and experiences of Britain’s ordinary people.

DOMINIC SELWOOD FSA FHistS LLB DEA DPhil is a history columnist for the Daily Telegraph. He is a barrister, and lives and works in London.



SOFT POWER

Robert Winder

August 2020

Little, Brown

Politics & Culture

416pp

Prisoners of Geography meets The World is Flat in a ground-breaking new study.

There's a new Great Game afoot, and it involves soft power. As national movements resurface across the world, unsettling the international balance, the old-fashioned 'sphere of influence' is making a comeback. Nation states are once again competing to win friends and influence people by selling themselves as alluring brands. In BLOODY FOREIGNERS and THE LAST WOLF, Robert Winder explored the way Britain was shaped first by migration, and then by hidden geographical factors. Now, in SOFT POWER he explores the way modern states are asserting themselves not through traditional realpolitik but through alternative means: business, language, culture, ideas, sport, education, music, even food - the texture and values of history and daily life. Moving from West to East, from America to Japan, the book will estimate the weight of soft power by exploring the varied ways in which it operates – from an American sheriff in Poland to an English garden in Ravello, a French vineyard in Australia, an Asian restaurant in Spain, a Chinese Friendship Hall in the Sudan. Soft power used to be thought of as merely the surface gloss on hard power - the velvet glove on the iron fist. But in the modern world of high-speed data flow and energetic migration, it now packs a decisive punch in its own right.

ROBERT WINDER was literary editor of the Independent for 5 years and deputy editor of Granta magazine. He is the author of three novels and four previous non-fiction titles, including THE LAST WOLF and the bestselling BLOODY FOREIGNERS.



CHAISE
LONGUE

Baxter Dury

August 2021
Corsair
Memoirs
288pp

This memoir is a coming of age story like no other.

When punk rock star Ian Dury disappeared to make films in the late eighties, he left his twelve year old son in the care of his roadie in a damp run down flat in Chiswick. But this was no ordinary rock and roll tour roadie; this was the Sulphate Strangler. The Strangler having taken a lot of LSD in the 60s was prone to depression, anger and hallucinations. He'd then gone on to gain notoriety in the 70s by working with Led Zeppelin – he undoubtedly presented a complex personality for a boy of twelve to grasp. Baxter's story is of these formative years and the extraordinary relationship that developed between the two, in a bohemia and time that we can all but imagine now.

Told in the uncompromising tone found in Dury's lyrics and filled with a brutal starkness that will draw comparisons to Viv Albertine's *Clothes, Clothes, Clothes, Boys, Boys, Boys*, this book will be one the most talked about publications of 2020.

The *Guardian* said of Baxter Dury's last album, *Prince of Tears*, 'The songs are so good, the author's parentage scarcely seems to matter.' Dury said of the record himself, 'The man singing and speaking it all is unreliable; he can't see the world properly. Its massively delusional, but because of that it's also emotionally true.' The period described in this book was the genesis of the talent we witness today.



UNTITLED
AUTOBIOGRAPHY

John Grant

September 2022
Little, Brown
Autobiography
352pp

Grant's story is about family, alienation, masculinity, self-destruction, survival, the creative spirit – his voice on the page is just as unique and intimate as his music

In the past seven years John Grant has risen to become a hugely acclaimed singer-songwriter. His musical career started in the mid 90s when he and four other musicians formed the alternative, Denver- based rock band The Czars, and released six albums, while Grant struggled with drug and alcohol addictions. His last two LPs reached the Top Ten in the album charts and topped the end-of-year critics' lists in national newspapers and leading music magazines. He has been nominated for a Brit and a Q Award, won *Attitude's* Man of the Year award, and has sold out The Roundhouse, Hammersmith Apollo, Royal Albert Hall and Royal Festival Hall, some of them several times over. Mojo named his first album, *Queen of Denmark*, 'an Instant Classic' (only the second time they've ever done that) and it was their album of the year in 2010. He has followed up with two further critically acclaimed studio albums and a live album with the BBC Philharmonic. He was *Rough Trade's* top-selling artist.

Grant has collaborated with Elton John, Kylie Minogue, Sinéad O'Connor, Robbie Williams, Tracey Thorn, Allison Goldfrapp, Amanda Palmer, the BBC Philharmonic and the Northern Royal Sinfonia, and is a regular stand-in presenter on BBC6 Music. In 2016 he made a programme for Radio 4 about his adopted home of Reykjavik. The filmmaker Daisy Asquith is currently making a documentary about Grant, which is due to debut at the London Film Festival this autumn. His fourth album was released in 2018.



IS THAT YOUR CARD?

James Borg

February 2022
Robinson
Personal development
192pp

JAMES BORG is a bestselling author whose books have been translated into more than 35 languages. Persuasion spent 118 consecutive weeks at the top of WH Smith's Business chart and in 2013 was selected as one of Future's 50 best business books of all time.

We're all dealt certain 'cards' in life, the daily challenges we need to overcome in order to thrive. This book shows you how to develop your own personal 'operating system' to change your perceptions, minimise dysfunctional thinking and direct you towards more success in life.

Tackling the problems and challenges of everyday life begins with our thinking. Our thoughts and behaviours can propel us forward or sabotage our goals and relationships. This practical, eye-opening book draws on the philosophy of the ancient Stoics and the ground-breaking therapy of Dr Albert Ellis to help you achieve your goals.

With practical exercises throughout, Is That Your Card? will have you thinking about your mindset, until it's as easy as ABC - with 'ABC' itself being the cornerstone of the thinking model to adopt. You will learn simple techniques to right the ship when harmful, negative thoughts take over because it is our beliefs that decide how we look at a situation. You'll become more aware of your emotions and see how modern day 'emotional intelligence' was practised in the ancient world.

The act of thinking will never be the same as you gain more confidence, self-esteem, improve your relationships and look at anxiety and anger in a completely different way.

Most of the conversations we have in life are with our self - and many of them are critical. Our self-talk is a powerful tool that can help us develop our potential. Our mind can help us to reinterpret the stressors in life. Just remember: don't believe everything you think.



KOKORO

Beth Kempton

July 2021
Piatkus
Self-Help
256pp

An original and timely guide to slowing down and making the most of our precious lives, inspired by Japanese culture, wisdom and traditions.

As the pace of modern life reaches unsustainable speeds, this book will offer a much-needed calming antidote. Readers will journey with Beth Kempton through Japan, meeting a host of real people with thought-provoking life lessons to share. These lessons will be interpreted in a Western context, through insights into her own pursuit of a slower, richer life. Practical advice and exercises will help readers explore their own version of 'slow living', and make significant shifts towards a calmer, and happier life.

Praise for WABI SABI:

‘As summer comes to an end, there is no better idea than to curl up with a hot cuppa and this truly transformative read’
Sunday Times Style;

‘I am obsessed with this book’ *The Tokyo Chapter*

Cover
coming
soon



YOU: PART TWO

Campbell
Macpherson

July 2021
Robinson
Retirement & personal
finance
256pp

Those of us in the second halves of our lives are facing a dilemma: We are going through a period of multiple life-altering changes all at the same time - at work, at home and within.

More of us are being made redundant than ever before, just when we need it the least. More of us are becoming self-employed. More of us are experiencing losses of status and crises of self-confidence - and that was before COVID-19! Our relationships with our partners, our parents and our children are all entering new phases. Meanwhile, half of us are also going through the menopause. Yet we are healthier and more vibrant than previous generations - and we are living longer. Much longer. We are 50 years young, not 50 years old.

But more importantly, we don't know where or who to turn to for help. If the thought of consulting a 'life coach' makes you twitch involuntarily, but you know you could do with more than pure financial advice from an IFA - this book is for you. Award-winning author and change management specialist Campbell Macpherson and yoga therapist co-author Jane Macpherson will help you embrace these changes and come out on top.

From dealing with seemingly ubiquitous ageism and starting your own business to building resilience and learning from professional athletes who are forced to 'retire' in their early thirties, the Macphersons shows that it isn't about retirement or ageing. It's about change.

You: Part Two is the must-read guide to thriving in the second half of your life.

CAMPBELL MACPHERSON is an international business adviser, keynote speaker, Executive Fellow of Henley Business School and award-winning author of *The Change Catalyst* (2018 Business Book of the Year) and *The Power to Change*. He helps leaders worldwide to lead sustainable change and build cultures that embrace change. changeandstrategy.com
campbellmacphersonspeaker.com

Cover
coming
soon



IT SHOULDN'T BE THIS WAY

Janina Scarlet

October 2021
Robinson
Self-Help
160pp

JANINA SCARLET is a licensed clinical psychologist in San Diego, USA, and is the pioneering creator of 'superhero therapy', which embraces examples from geek culture and encourages you to find your inner superhero.

Cover
coming
soon



AUGMENTING YOUR CAREER

David L. Shrier

February 2021
Piatkus
Business
304pp

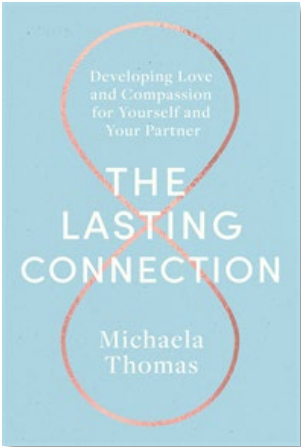
DAVID SHRIER is a top futurist, entrepreneur and lecturer at MIT (alongside his Associate Fellowship at the Said Business School, Oxford University). He spends most of his time in Boston and has a great reputation among American businesses, having helped to deliver, according to his bio, \$8.5 billion in growth opportunities as a consultant with firms including Ernst & Young, Disney and AOL Verizon.

Essential reading for anyone who wants to be relevant in the workforce of tomorrow.

Artificial intelligence is driving workforce disruption on a scale not seen since the Industrial Revolution. Automation was once associated with mass layoffs in heavy industry like auto and steel, but computers are getting smarter and are beginning to replace traditionally 'white collar' roles like law, consulting, banking and finance.

Yet some curious findings are emerging from the world's leading research labs. The combined intellect of people and machines working in harmony is able to achieve outcomes that are better than either can accomplish alone. Properly tuned AI systems can even help harness the power of the collective intelligence of an entire organisation or community to predict future events. This isn't science fiction; this is science fact the author personally helped discover. What are these new hybrid AI+people systems? What can specialised AI systems do to help you succeed in your career? How can you work most effectively with these machines?

Written by a practitioner who has worked with some of the largest companies in the world as well as some of the most innovative startups, *Augmenting Your Career* provides a rare window into a frontier area of computer science that will change everything about how you work and what your job will look like. Read this book and fast track your evolution to the knowledge worker of the future.



THE LASTING CONNECTION

Michaela
Thomas

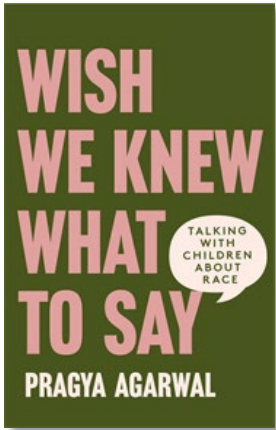
January 2021
Robinson
Self-Help
272pp

Have you ever said the words 'what is wrong with you?' to your partner? Do you struggle against feelings of anger, fear or upset, wishing it away? Do you beat yourself up or blame yourself or your partner when things go wrong? Are you scared of being left, rejected, criticised or all alone? Do you find it hard to tolerate the bad parts of your relationship, the 'worse' in 'for better, for worse'? Do you find that you miss the good bits you used to have?

You're not alone - we all struggle in our relationships, and in our lives. This book explains why we act in ways which we may regret in relationships, how we can make sense of them by developing compassion for ourselves and our partners, so we can connect on a deeper level. Using *Compassionate Mind Training*, we can become sensitive to our own suffering and that of our partner's, so we can help alleviate it.

The book will include information based on what we know about the science and art of love; neuroscience about connection and how our brains work; the physiology behind the mind and body connection relevant to couples (e.g. touch and closeness), and about changing behavioural habits sustainably. The *Lasting Connection* builds on the bestselling successes *The Compassionate Mind* (over 120,000 copies sold) and *The Compassionate Mind Workbook* (over 10,000 copies sold), which have sold rights in many territories.

MICHAELA THOMAS is a clinical psychologist and couples' therapist with many years' experience in the NHS and private practice.



WISH WE KNEW WHAT TO SAY

Dr Pragya Agarwal

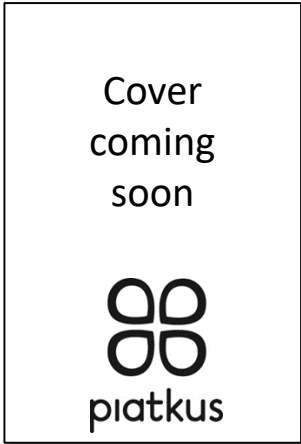
October 2020
Dialogue
Parenting
208pp

We want our children to thrive and flourish in a diverse, multi-cultural world and we owe it to them to help them make sense of the confusing and emotionally charged messages they receive about themselves and others. These early years are the most crucial when children are curious about the world around them, but are also quick to form stereotypes and biases that can become deeply ingrained as they grow older. These are the people who are going to inherit this world, and we owe it to them to lay a strong foundation for the next phases of their lives.

Wish We Knew What to Say is a timely and urgent book that gives scenarios, questions, thought starters, resources and advice in an accessible manner on how to tackle tricky conversations around race and racism with confidence and awareness. It brings in the science of how children perceive race and form racial identity, combining it with personal stories and experiences to create a handy guide that every parent would refer to again and again.

Written by behavioural and data scientist, Dr Pragya Agarwal, *Wish We Knew What to Say* will help all parents, carers and educators give children the tools and vocabulary to talk about people's differences and similarities in an open, non-judgemental, curious way, and help them address any unfairness they might see or encounter.

Dr Pragya Agarwal is a behavioural and data scientist, and a freelance journalist. As a Senior Academic in US and UK universities, she has held the prestigious Leverhulme Fellowship, following a PhD from the University of Nottingham. Pragya is the author of *SWAY: Unravelling Unconscious Bias*. As a freelance journalist, her writing has appeared in the Guardian, Independent, BMJ, Times Higher Education, Huffington Post, Prospect, Forbes, and many more.



BETWEEN

Sarah Ockwell-Smith

March 2021
Piatkus
Parenting
272pp

How to understand, support and guide your child through the tween years (8-13)

BETWEEN will be a modern look at parenting a child from 8-13 years of age - also known as 'tweenagers'. The book will consider all the issues faced by parents and tweens today, with a focus on the biology, neurology, psychology and sociology of adolescence as well as plenty of practical parenting advice for common everyday situations.

SARAH OCKWELL-SMITH is the mother of four children. She has a BSc in Psychology and worked for several years in Pharmaceutical Research and Development. Following the birth of her first child, Sarah re-trained as a Paediatric Homeopath, Antenatal Teacher and Birth and Postnatal Doula. She has also undertaken training in Baby Massage, Hypnotherapy and Psychotherapy. Sarah specialises in gentle parenting methods and is co-founder of the GentleParenting website (www.gentleparenting.co.uk). Sarah writes a parenting blog (www.sarahockwell-smith.com) which is read by 3 million parents per year.

Cover
coming
soon



THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS NAUGHTY

Kate Silverton

April 2021
Piatkus
Parenting
272pp

There has never been a more essential time for the definitive book on parenting our 0-5 year-olds. This practical guide, from BBC broadcaster, children's counsellor and mother of two Kate Silverton is rooted in the latest research into the science of child brain development. By understanding their child's developmental stages, parents will come to realise that there is no such thing as 'naughty' in the traditional sense and will be equipped to react in the best way to their child's behaviour.

Kate will show the reader:

- The secret to stopping a temper tantrum in seconds
- How parents can 'build' their children's brains
- How to rescue the relationship between time-poor parents and compromised kids
- Tips and tricks - from 'CODE REDs' to 'Stop S.N.O.T' - that will transform the way you parent

This engaging, authentic, authoritative and fun parenting guide puts children at the heart of every page and demystifies parenting for readers of any background or circumstance. There's No Such Thing as Naughty sets out to hold the hand of any parent who feels they may have lost their way, or any parent who is just starting out.

In twenty five years as a journalist for the BBC, **KATE SILVERTON** has become a much loved fixture of British television as a news broadcaster and journalist, currently presenting the One, Six and Ten o'clock national news bulletins as well as on BBC Radio 4.

For the past decade Kate has worked closely with leading children's mental health charities the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, The Maudsley Foundation Trust and Place2Be. It is with the charity Place2Be that she is training to become a children's counsellor and, in due course, will go on to qualify as a full child and adult psychotherapist.

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