

Spring Rights



Festival

21 books in 2021

little, brown
BOOK GROUP

We're delighted to tell you about 21 fantastic titles that we're publishing in 2021.

We handle world rights in each of these titles, so do get in touch for more information or a PDF.

THE ACT OF LIVING by Frank Tallis (January, Little, Brown) Agents: Korea – KCC / Japan - TMA

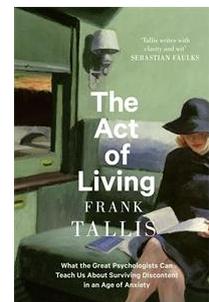
'Tallis has distilled a wide range of psychological writing ... [He] is an engaging writer and this is at heart a highly readable, often touching history of the talking cures and some of their most brilliant exponents' **Sebastian Faulks, Sunday Times**

'Psychology has its rogues and charlatans but this history reminds you it is a force for good' David Aaronovitch, the **Times**

'Few psychotherapists write with the clarity of Tallis . . . He also peppers the book with delightful nuggets from the psychological world . . . a gifted storyteller' **The Tablet**

Science, technology and western liberal democracy have all had a dramatic impact on our quality of life. Compared to previous generations, we have unprecedented access to information, increased personal freedom, more material comforts and more possessions. Yet, even before the shock of Covid-19, more people than ever before were reporting being depressed, anxious or unfulfilled. As our material circumstances become easier, life seems to get harder. Why should this be?

For over a hundred years, psychotherapists have been developing and refining models of the human mind. In this compelling and important book, the principle contributions of the outstanding figures associated with the practice of psychotherapy are explained: from Freud to Ellis, Jung to Laing, Adler to Hayes. Viewed as a single, cohesive intellectual tradition, Frank Tallis argues that psychotherapeutic thinking is an immensely valuable and under exploited resource.

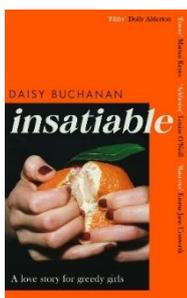


Rights sold: Bulgarian (CoLibri Publishers), Dutch (Atlas Contact), German (btb Verlag), Slovak (Inaque), US (Basic Books)

Tallis' previous book, THE INCURABLE ROMANTIC (Little, Brown 2018) was sold in fifteen languages. His next (Little, Brown 2023) will be MORTAL SECRETS: VIENNA, FREUD AND THE MAKING OF THE MODERN MIND.

 Click to listen to a sample of the audiobook!

INSATIABLE by Daisy Buchanan (February, Sphere) Agents: Korea – Danny Hong / Japan –



Introducing the first novel from award-winning journalist and writer Daisy Buchanan. Tender, funny, messy, frank and shocking, it is perfect for fans of *Fleabag*, *Queenie*, and *Adults*.

Stuck in a dead-end job, broken-hearted, broke and estranged from her best friend: Violet's life is nothing like she thought it would be. She wants more - better friends, better sex, a better job - and she wants it now.

So, when Lottie - who looks like the woman Violet wants to be when she grows up - offers Violet the chance to join her exciting start-up, she bites. But it soon becomes clear that Lottie and her husband are not only inviting Violet into their company, they are also inviting her into their lives.

Seduced by their townhouse, their expensive candles and their Friday-night sex parties, Violet cannot tear herself away from Lottie, Simon or their friends. But is this really the *more* Violet yearns for? Will it grant her the satisfaction she is so desperately seeking?

'A frank, funny account of 21st century lust' **Independent**

'Extremely funny, touching and wonderfully refreshing on women and sexual desire' **Marian Keyes**

'As filthy as it is funny, you won't be able to put it down' **Dolly Alderton**

INSATIABLE is on everyone's Books for 2021 list:

'It's funny, warm and bursting with desire.' **Red, Books for 2021**

'Few books out in the early half of the year are as flat-out entertaining as Buchanan's fizzy, filthy story of a young woman's sexual awakening.' **I news, Books for 2021**

'If you want an escapist romp (with plenty of actual romps to boot), pre-order this book, pronto.' **Cosmopolitan, Books for 2021**

'A piercing insight into the unreal demands modern women place on themselves and told with real humour and energy, we love this book so much' **Stylist, Books for 2021**

 Click to listen to a sample of the audiobook!

FRIENDS by Robin Dunbar (March, Little, Brown) Agents: Korea – Danny Hong / Japan –EAJ

Robin Dunbar famously discovered Dunbar's number: how our capacity for friendship is limited to around 150 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.

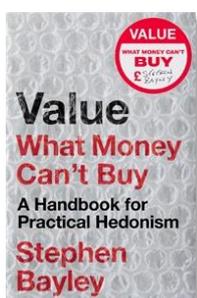
Robin Dunbar is an evolutionary psychologist and former director of the Institute of Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology in the Department of Experimental Psychology at Oxford University. His acclaimed books include *How Many Friends Does One Person Need?* and *Grooming, Gossip and the Evolution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



Rights sold: Italian (Einaudi), Japanese (Seido-sha), Korean (ACROSS), Polish (Copernicus Center Press), simplified Chinese (China Machine Press), traditional Chinese (Linking Publishing)

 Click to listen to a sample of the audiobook!

VALUE by Stephen Bayley (March, Constable) Agents: Korea – Danny Hong / Japan –



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 truly to 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 it's also an enthusiastic anticipation of what we can regain in a post-viral, more analogue and more thoughtful world.

There is no one better placed than Stephen Bayley to write VALUE. He was the founding director of London's Design Museum and is chairman of the Royal Fine Arts Commission Trust. He has written over ten books on design and art, and remains an authoritative and well-respected voice in the world of design and aesthetics.

AN ORDINARY WONDER by Buki Papillon (March, Dialogue) Agents: Korea – Danny Hong / Japan -

An extraordinary literary debut about a Nigerian boy's secret intersex identity and his desire to live as a girl. AN ORDINARY WONDER is a powerful coming-of-age story that explores complex desires as well as challenges of family, identity, gender and culture, and what it means to feel whole.

Buki Papillon was born in Nigeria. She studied law in England, and then creative writing at Lesley University in Massachusetts. She has received several fellowships and awards for her writing. Her work has been published in *Post Road Magazine* and the *Del Sol Review*. She has in the past been a travel adviser, events host and chef. She currently lives in Boston, USA.

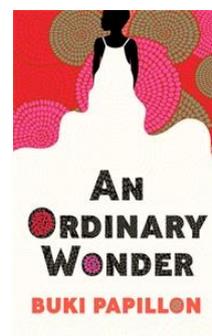
'Papillon draws on African mythology and art to create a rich, moving and uplifting story'
Stylist, chosen as one of their top books for 2021

Evening Standard picked it as one of their Debuts to Watch for 2021

'Tender and moving' **Cosmopolitan, chosen as one of their books for 2021**

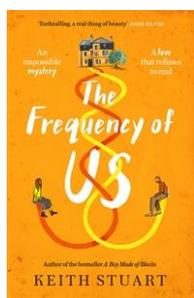
'Entirely unique' **Abigail Dean**

Rights sold: US to Pegasus



THE FREQUENCY OF US by Keith Stuart (March, Sphere) Agents: Korea - / Japan:

From Keith Stuart, author of the much-loved bestseller, A BOY MADE OF BLOCKS (which was sold in twenty-nine languages), comes a stunning, emotional novel about an impossible mystery and a true love that refuses to die.



The perfect uplifting, heart-warming, life-affirming read to follow the trials and tribulations of 2020. WWII Bath, young, naïve wireless engineer Will meets Australian refugee Elsa Klein. She is sophisticated, witty and worldly, and at last Will's life seems to make sense. Then the newly married couple's home is bombed, and Will is alone. What's more, no one has heard of Elsa Klein. Was he ever even married? Seventy years later, social worker Laura has a new case: it's a strange, isolated man whose house hasn't changed since the war; a man who insists his wife vanished many years before. Everyone thinks he is suffering from dementia. Laura begins to suspect otherwise.

'A fascinating, beautiful, heartwarming novel. It kept me gripped from the very first chapter, and I was rooting for Will and Elsa with all my heart' **Beth O'Leary**

'THE FREQUENCY OF US is a novel with a bit of everything: a sweeping love story, wonderfully complex characters, and a sprinkling of the supernatural. I loved it, and know it'll stay with me for some time' **Clare Pooley**

'A complete joy! An intelligent, intricate and emotive mystery' **Louise Jenson**

Rights sold: Vietnamese (Dinh Ti Trading and Culture)



Click here to listen to Keith Stuart talking about THE FREQUENCY OF US!

COLD SUN by Anita Sivakumaran (April, Dialogue)

Bangalore. Three high-profile women murdered, their bodies draped in identical red saris.

When the killer targets the British Foreign Minister's ex-wife, Scotland Yard sends the troubled, brilliant DI Vijay Patel to lend his expertise to the Indian police investigation.

Stranger in a strange land, ex-professional cricketer Patel must battle local resentment and his own ignorance of his ancestral country, while trying to save his failing relationship back home.

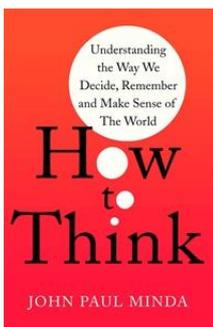


Soon, the killer's eyes will turn to Patel. And also to Chandra Subramaniam, the fierce female detective he is working with in Bangalore.

This breathless thriller will keep you guessing until the end.

DI Patel in COLD SUN is Bollywood noir - *The Killing* meets *The Indian Detective*.

Anita Sivakumaran was born in Madras and has lived in the UK since 2004. Her historical novel, *The Queen*, based on real events, has been made into a major television series. COLD SUN is her first novel in the DI Patel detective series.



HOW TO THINK by John Paul Minda (April, Robinson) Agents: Korea: Danny Hong / Japan: EAJ

A comprehensive and readable overview of how the brain works and how you think, learn, remember, make choices and experience the world.

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.

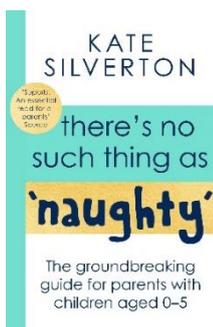
In order to understand how people behave, you need to understand how people think. And if you want to understand how people think, you need to have a basic understanding of cognitive psychology, cognitive science and cognitive neuroscience. This book explains cognition and the links between the brain, the mind and behaviour in a clear and straightforward way.

This book will get you thinking about thinking.

Dr 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 20 years and has written extensively on the topic of how people think. He is the author of the textbook *The Psychology of Thinking*.

Rights sold: simplified Chinese (Beijing Huaxia Winshare Books), Korean (Woongjin Thinkbig)

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS NAUGHTY by Kate Silverton (April, Piatkus)



An engaging, fun and warm guide for parents of babies to five-year-olds that will completely redefine how we see and raise our children. This unique book will explain why - for our under-fives - there is no such thing as 'naughty'.

Kate Silverton presents a ground-breaking – and charming – new way to understand child brain development, based on the animal kingdom (with a lizard, baboon and wise owl representing the different parts of the brain), that will completely change the way you see and raise your children.

'As a parenting support book, it is in a class of its own . . . perhaps the most helpful book for parents of children of any age' **Prof Peter Fonagy, Senior National Clinical Advisor on children**

and Young People's Mental Health for NHS England and CEO Anna Freud National Centre for Children & Families

'This book provides a fun, accessible introduction to developmental neuroscience that can help parents and carers support their child's brain development. Kate writes with humour and compassion, and without judgement, turning a potentially daunting subject into a personal one.' **Sir Peter Wanless, NSPCC Chief Executive**

'Kate has devoted much of her emotional as well as her academic mind to develop her approach to being a nurturing and loving parent. This book reflects Kate's genuine passion about children's mental well-being' **Dame Benny Refson DBE President Place2Be**

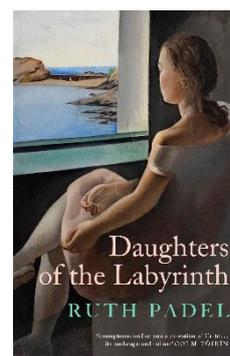
DAUGHTERS OF THE LABYRINTH by Ruth Padel (July, Corsair)

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, about love, loss and memory, parents and children, the fragility of life, and the forgotten Jews of Crete.

Ruth Padel is a British poet, novelist and non-fiction author. She lives in London and is Professor of Poetry at King's College, London University. Her novel, WHERE THE SERPENT LIVES (Little, Brown 2010) was described by the *Daily Mail* as 'an intensely readable parable of love and fear.'

'DAUGHTERS OF THE LABYRINTH is a novel about a daughter's passionate quest for the truth about what happened to her parents in Crete during the German occupation. It is also a sumptuous and sensuous evocation of Crete itself, its landscape and culture. Ruth Padel brings a poet's eye to this world of great physical beauty and gnarled legacy' **Colm Tóibín**

'The novel is precise and contemporary, offering a poet's sense of immersion — a very present Britain and an ever-present past in Crete, both transformed by a beautiful imagination. The book is sunlit and love-drenched, magical and historical, surprising, elegant, and beautifully written. Ruth Padel's latest novel replenishes the heart' **Andrew O'Hagan, author of *Mayflies***



RABBIT HOLE by Mark Billingham (July, Sphere) Agents: Korea: / Japan: EAJ

My name is Alice. I'm a police officer. I'm trying to solve a murder on a psychiatric ward.

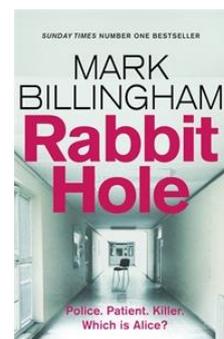
They were meant to be safe on Fleet Ward: psychiatric patients monitored, treated, cared for. But now one of their number is found murdered, and the accusations begin to fly. Was it one of his fellow patients? A member of staff? Or did someone come in from the outside?

Detective Alice Armitage is methodical, tireless, and she's quickly on the trail of the killer. The only problem is, Alice is a patient too.

A shocking, original and unpredictable rare standalone thriller to keep readers up at night, from *Sunday Times* bestselling author, Mark Billingham.

CRY BABY was Billingham's twentieth consecutive *Sunday Times* top five bestseller and THEIR LITTLE SECRET was a *Sunday Times* number one best seller. Rights in the TOM THORNE have sold in thirty languages, with global sales of six million.

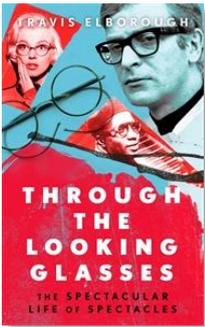
Rights sold: Norwegian (Cappelen Damm), US (Grove)



 Click to listen to an audio sample of CRY BABY!

 Click here to listen to Mark Billingham talking about RABBIT HOLE!

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASSES by Travis Elborough (July, Little, Brown) Agents: Korea: Danny Hong / Japan: Uni



A personal and insightful look at the extraordinary life and times of eyewear from the Ancient Greeks to Google Glass by the author of *The Bus We Loved* and *A Walk in the Park*.

With the broad appeal of books by the likes of Mark Kurlansky, Bill 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.

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?

'A cultural historian with a touch of the Betjemans and a lick of the Meades about him' **Monocle magazine**

'A fascinating, informative, revelatory book' **William Boyd, Guardian on A Walk in the Park**

'Travis Elborough is becoming a latter-day Alan Bennett. Let loose in an array of reference libraries, he summons many a curious fact ... from the shelves, which makes for a rich narrative ... Alluring detail fills every page' **Christopher Hawtree, Spectator on A Walk in the Park**

Rights sold: Korean (UU Press)



[Click here for more information about THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASSES!](#)

THE GIANT DARK by Sarvat Hasin (July, Dialogue)

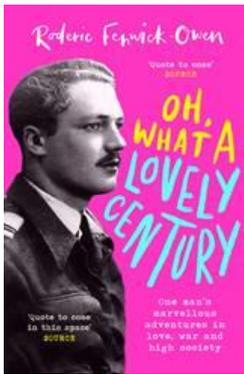
Aida is a rock star at her peak with a devoted cultish fanbase who follow her every move. When she disappears into a complicated love affair with an ex, they are determined to uncover her truths.

After a decade of silence, Aida and Ehsan reconnect, hoping to recreate the love they shared in their youth. When Ehsan's life unravels, he follows Aida on tour, but it becomes clear that their connection is strained by secrets and jealousies. The past blurs with their present as they follow in the footsteps of mythic lovers before them.



THE GIANT DARK is a loose retelling of the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice, exploring the consuming and devastating effects of using a lover as a muse. Readers of Daisy Johnson, Niven Govinden and Natalie Haynes will enjoy it.

Sarvat Hasin is a writer. She grew up in Pakistan and now lives in London and works at the Almeida Theatre. She studied politics and international relations at Royal Holloway and has a Masters in Creative Writing from the University of Oxford. Her first novel, *This Wide Night*, was published by Penguin India and longlisted for the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature. Her second book *You Can't Go Home Again* was published in 2018 and was featured in *Vogue India's* and the *Hindu's* end of year lists. She won the Moth Writer's Retreat Bursary in 2018 and the Mo Siewcharran Prize for THE GIANT DARK in 2019.



OH, WHAT A LOVELY CENTURY by Roderic Fenwick Owen (August, Sphere)

'I would be most unhappy to think that any part of this memoir should be cut on grounds of "decency", for those bits are essential...'

So begins the lively, exuberant, true story of aristocrat and travel writer Roderic Fenwick Owen. Born in 1920, Fenwick Owen had an extraordinary life, which careered between some of the biggest moments in history and took him to the ends of the earth, meeting (and even living with) some of the 20th century's most well-known people along the way.

On his adventures, he witnessed pre-war Germany first-hand when staying with a friend in 1939; as a beachcomber in Polynesia during the 1940s he married a Tahitian princess; he lived with Jackson Pollock in 1950s New York (enjoying his company, but not his paintings – he'd come to regret turning down the offer of one); his numerous and passionate love affairs with men and women included brushes with celebrities, including with... well, we can't specify here (only that it was an actor who played James Bond several times); and he was appointed court poet in Abu Dhabi. His was a quest to understand people and their beliefs the world over; hoping his own preferences when it came to sex and love would one day be understood – and decriminalised – in return.

Exciting (and titillating), OH WHAT A LOVELY CENTURY, is a marvellous obituary of an ever-changing and now lost world, that was frequently the best of times, and sometimes the worst.

EVE by Una (May, Virago)

In the near future, in a world that seems just like our own, Eve grows up in a loving family that is increasingly threatened by a society which seems to be sleepwalking into totalitarianism. After a catastrophe that changes everything, Eve must set off on her own to try to survive and find a new way to live.



EVE is a book of mothers, daughters, human relationships, trust and community, human weakness, conflict, hopeful futures and painful pasts. It is speculative fiction that feels incredibly timely: Una explores the rise of authoritarianism on both the political right and left and images where it might all lead.

A powerful novel of mothers and daughters, and how we imagine our future, from acclaimed author of *Becoming Unbecoming*.

Una is a comics artist and writer. Una's first graphic novel *Becoming Unbecoming* (Myriad Editions, 2015) has been widely translated - including editions in Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, French, Italian, and Turkish and a Canada/US edition - and was featured on BBC Radio 4 *Open Book* and *Woman's Hour*, Oprah.com and in *Newsweek* and *Elle* magazine.

HUMAN FRONTIERS: THE FUTURE OF BIG IDEAS IN A WORLD OF SMALL THINKING by Michael Bhaskar (September, The Bridge Street Press)

Agents: Korea: Danny Hong / Japan: Japan Uni

The history of humanity is the history of big ideas that expand our frontiers - from the wheel to space flight, cave painting to the massive multiplayer games, monotheistic religion to quantum theory. And yet for the past few decades, apart from a rush of new gadgets and the explosion of digital technology, world-changing ideas have been harder to come by. Since the 1970s, big ideas have happened incrementally - recycled, focused in narrow bands of



innovation. In this provocative book, Michael Bhaskar looks at why the flow of big, world-changing ideas has slowed, and what this means for the future.

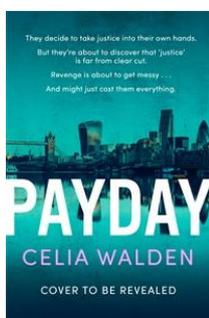
Michael Bhaskar is a writer, researcher and digital publisher. He has written and talked extensively about the future of media, the creative industries and the economics of technology for newspapers, magazines and blogs. He has been featured in and written for the *Guardian*, *Financial Times*, *Wired* and *Daily Telegraph*, and on BBC 2, BBC Radio 4, NPR and Bloomberg TV among others. He spent two years as a consultant Writer in Residence at DeepMind. He has been a British Council Young Creative Entrepreneur and a Frankfurt Book Fair Fellow. He is also author of *Curation*, *The Content Machine* and the *Oxford Handbook of Publishing*.

Rights sold: Korean (Publion), Spanish (Fondo de Cultura Económica), US (MIT Press)



[Click here to listen to Michael Bhaskar talking about HUMAN FRONTIERS!](#)

PAYDAY by Celia Walden (September, Sphere) Agents: Korea: EYA / Japan:



The Rumour meets *Appletree Yard* in this fierce, hugely gripping debut thriller by British journalist, Celia Walden. PAYDAY follows three women – very different, barely known to each other – who unite over a plan to take down the misogynistic partner of their property firm, Jamie. When the system is against you, they agree, you have to take justice into your own hands. But when their plan spirals out of control, and they find themselves at the centre of a police investigation, they begin to doubt themselves. And each other . . .

This is a fierce, fearless and hugely gripping debut thriller.

‘A satisfyingly nuanced take on the #MeToo novel . . . fearless, stylish, suspenseful and immensely entertaining’ **Louise Candlish**, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Our House*

THE RIVIERA HOUSE by Natasha Lester (September, Sphere) Agents: Korea: / Japan: Uni

Lush, absorbing and poignant, THE RIVIERA HOUSE is the new novel from New York Times bestselling Natasha Lester.

Set in two time frames, Paris under the WWII Occupation, and present day south of France.

Paris, 1939: Éliane Dufort works at the Louvre where she and Xavier, a talented painter, son of a gallery owner, fall in love. When the Nazis invade, Xavier leaves for England. Broken-hearted, Éliane immerses herself in a secret Resistance project: to catalogue the works of art, stolen from galleries and from private ownership, that are being collected by Goering and forwarded to Germany. She is playing a dangerous game. Then a trip to a house on the Riviera plunges her into even graver danger.

The Riviera, 2015: adopted Remy Lang arrives at a house she has mysteriously inherited: a stunning estate at Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat. While working on her vintage fashion business, she stumbles across a catalogue of artworks stolen during WWII, and is stunned to see a painting that still hangs in her childhood bedroom. Who was her family, really? And what secrets does the Riviera House hold?

Natasha Lester’s fiction has sold 600,000 copies in the English language, and has been translated into seventeen languages.

Rights sold: Czech (Grada), Danish (Alpha Forlag), German (Aufbau Verlag), Norwegian (Strawberry Publishing), US (Grand Central)



[Click to listen to an audio sample of THE PARIS SECRET!](#)



[Click here to listen to Natasha Lester talking about THE RIVIERA HOUSE!](#)

FAR FROM THE LIGHT OF HEAVEN by Tade Thompson (October, Orbit)

The colony ship Ragtime docks in the Lagos system, having travelled light years from home to bring one thousand sleeping souls to safety among the stars.

Some of the sleepers, however, will never wake - and a profound and sinister mystery unfolds aboard the gigantic vessel. Its skeleton crew are forced to make decisions that will have repercussions for all of humanity's settlements - from the scheming politicians of Lagos station, to the colony planet of Bloodroot, to other far flung systems and indeed Earth itself.

Arthur C. Clarke Award winner Tade Thompson makes a triumphant return to science fiction with this unforgettable vision of humanity's future in the chilling emptiness of space. Rights for MAKING WOLF and the WORMWOOD trilogy were sold into six languages.

'A magnificent tour de force' **Adrian Tchaikovsky** on ROSEWATER

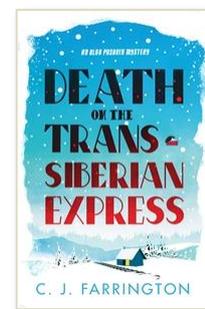
'Smart. Gripping. Fabulous!' **Ann Leckie** on ROSEWATER

DEATH ON THE TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS by C. J. Farrington (October, Constable) Agents: Korea: / Japan: EAJ

Welcome to Roslazny - a sleepy snow-clad Russian village where intrigue and murder combine to disturb the icy silence...

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 Roslazny.

But Roslazny doesn't stay sleepy for long. Poison-pen letters, a small-town crime wave, and persistent rumours of a Baba Yaga - 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 ten-rouble coins.



DEATH ON THE TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS is a highly original new crime fiction series set in Siberia which will be a lead title for Constable Crime in 2021.

Rights sold: French (Hugo), Polish (Prószyński)

THE HAUNTING SEASON: stories by eight novelists (October, Sphere)



Long before Dickens and James popularized the tradition, the shadowy nights of winter have been a time for people to gather together by the flicker of candlelight and experience the intoxicating thrill of a spooky tale:

Now eight bestselling, award-winning authors - all of them master storytellers of the sinister and the macabre - bring the tradition to vivid life in a spellbinding new collection of original spine-tingling tales.

THE HAUNTING SEASON features new and original tales from Bridget Collins, Imogen Hermes Gowar, Kiran Millwood Hargrave, Andrew Michael Hurley, Jess Kidd, Elizabeth Macneal, Natasha

Pulley, Laura Purcell.

Rights sold: Italian (Neri Pozza), US (Pegasus)