

**John Murray Press**  
**Frankfurt Book Fair 2021**  
**US Rights Guide**

## JOHN MURRAY PRESS

For nearly a quarter of a millennium, John Murray has been unashamedly populist, publishing the absorbing, provocative, commercial and exciting.

Seven generations of John Murray fostered genius and found readers in vast numbers, until in 2002 the firm became a division of Hachette, under the umbrella of Hodder & Stoughton.

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Classic authors of today who were mavericks of their time – Austen, Darwin, Byron – were first published and championed by John Murray. And that sensibility continues today.



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**Nicholas Brealey** - International in outlook, NB publishes enduring, forward thinking non-fiction books featuring big ideas and practical wisdom.



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**Jessica Kingsley Publishers** are well known for our long established lists on the autism spectrum, social work, and arts therapies and is committed to publishing books that make a difference.

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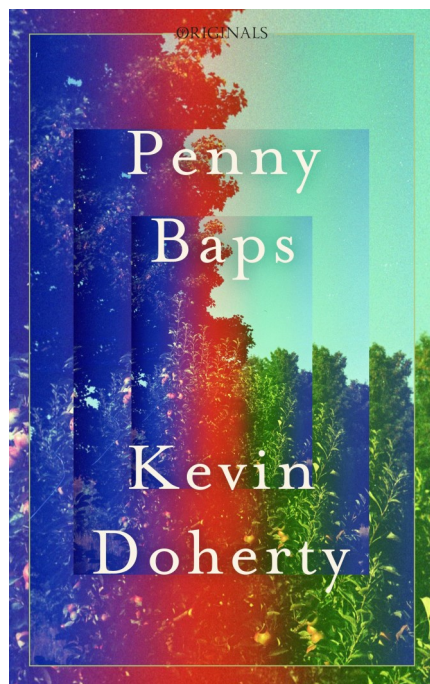
## RIGHTS TEAM

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# PENNY BAPS

KEVIN DOHERTY



**JM Originals**

**Publication: June 2021**

**Editor: Becky Walsh**

**Length: 288**

'He won't tell Dan about the trees yet. In the spring maybe, when he knows if they're living or dead. Cahir is the right man for a secret. The great secrets of the world are best kept by fat boys and girls. Fat boys like Cahir with no shortage of capacity or cover or practice, the ones who've been hoarding for years, building heft in the quiet when backs were turned.'

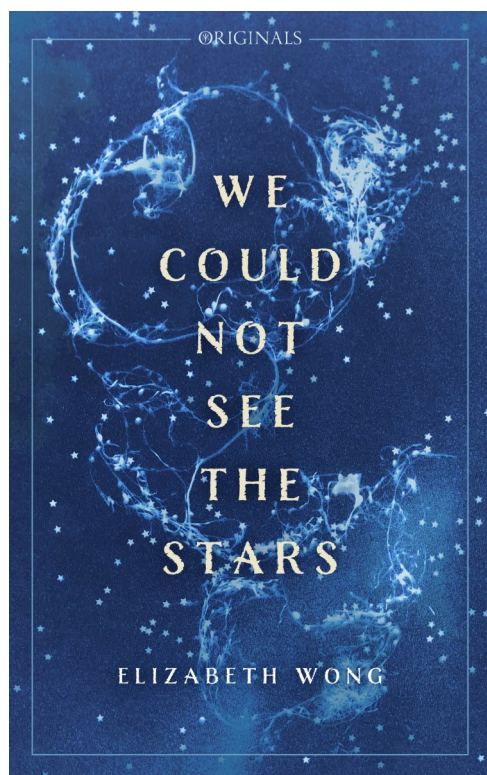
Cahir and Dan grew up on Inishowen, in north Donegal. It is their last year at home together. When his brother leaves, Cahir will be left behind, but he has plans too. Cahir plants trees outside the town, on a scrap of ground belonging to their mother. In a world full of badness, he wants to do something good. It is a secret, even from Dan.

Dan works full time at the supermarket, content where he is. He has taken a year out before university and is messaging Lydia. If it works out with her, he might stay longer. But the land doesn't belong to Cahir or to Dan. It has been sold to Lydia's brother and when Lydia finds Cahir tending the trees, on ground that isn't his, things spiral out of Cahir's control, threatening everything he has worked for.

Kevin Doherty lives in Donegal. He grew up on the Inishowen Peninsula and runs a shop there with his brother. Before that he studied Medicine in Belfast. Penny Baps is his first novel.

# WE COULD NOT SEE THE STARS

ELIZABETH WONG



**JM Originals**

**Publication: July 2021**

**Editor: Becky Walsh**

**Length: 336**

Han was contemplative. Nothing that he had seen so far answered his questions about where his mama and he came from. Who they were. He was sad for his mama, and for himself, for not only did he not know her, he didn't even know the person whom she had become. And then, what of the people that led to him? His mama's father, his mama's mother, his mama's father's father, his mama's father's mother - the list went on and on, the people he did not know, the stories they had not told him, the names that they had lost. 'No people, only ghosts here,' he whispered.

Han's uneventful life in a sleepy fishing village is disturbed when a strange man arrives, asking questions about Han's mother. Han doesn't trust Mr Ng, but his cousin Chong Meng is impressed with the stories of his travels and tales of a golden tower. Together they steal the only thing Han has left to remember his mother by, before disappearing.

On a faraway island, across the great Peninsula and across the seas, the forest of Suriyang is cursed. Wander in and you will return without your memories. Professor Toh has been researching the forest of Suriyang for years. He believes that the forest hides something that does not wish to be discovered. An ancient civilization. A mysterious golden tower.

Chong Meng is tangled up in the professor's plans to discover the truth about Suriyang. Han travels the breadth of the Peninsula to find his cousin before it is too late. How much will Han sacrifice to discover who he really is?

Elizabeth Wong grew up in the quiet suburbs of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and currently works as a geologist in London. She is interested in stories of Malaysia and also of this large world we live in - its deserts, rocks and seas. She has degrees in Geology and English from Yale University and Imperial College London. *We Could Not See the Stars* is her first novel.

# CATCHLIGHTS

NIAMH PRIOR



**JM Originals**

**Publication: June 2022**

**Editor: Becky Walsh**

**Length: 320**

A young Irish vagrant with a strange talent wanders Kew Gardens. She knows that the weather won't be dry tomorrow, and the impending rain casts her mind back to a riverbank, where a leery fisherman once asked her to turn and grab his net for him.

The same fisherman, years later, runs into a shy childhood friend and becomes smitten with his new wife. She is drawn to his boldness and his confidence - but is it enough for him? She will leave home for a walk one day and never return - and her husband's reveries will come crashing down.

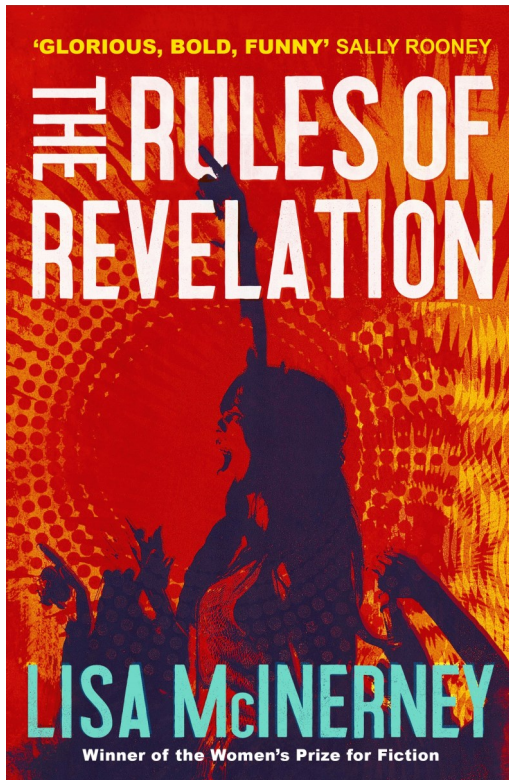
In another time, in another place, a photographer notices two ghostly latent figures on pictures developed from his vintage reflex lens - a cheerful woman and a grizzled, intimidating man. The images become clearer with each expensive roll of film, but his dogged investigation of this mystery could cost him his livelihood and his love.

So spool out the lives in *Catchlights*: the past contains the present and future; shallow and deep acts of cruelty, love, selfishness and kindness reverberate for years, across continents. *Catchlights* sets the innocence of childhood against the violence of adulthood, the joys of a passion against the horrors of an obsession, and the reality of death against the magic of life.

Niamh Prior studied English with Film and TV Studies at Brunel University London, and later Creative Writing at University College Cork where her PhD was funded by the Irish Research Council. Her poetry and fiction have been published in journals including *Penny Dreadful*, *Southword* and the *Stinging Fly*. She lives near the sea in County Cork.

# THE RULES OF REVELATION

LISA MCINERNEY



John Murray

Publication: May 2021

Editor: Jocasta Hamilton

Length: 352

'THE RULES OF REVELATION is not only a glorious, bold, funny state-of-the-nation novel, but a beautiful and painful love story too' SALLY ROONEY

'One of the great achievements of modern Irish fiction' SUNDAY TIMES

REUNIONS. RECRIMINATIONS. RECKONINGS. Ireland. Great nationalists, bad mothers and a whole lot of secrets. Ryan Cusack is ready to deliver its soundtrack. Former sex-worker Georgie wants the truth about Ryan's past out there but the journalist has her own agenda.

Mel returns from Brexit Britain, ill-equipped to deal with the resurgence of a family scandal. Karine has always been sure of herself, till a terrible secret tugs the rug from under her. Maureen has got wind that things are changing, and if anyone's telling the story she wants to make sure it's her.

A riotous blast of sex, scandal, obsession, love, feminism, gender, music, class and transgression from an author with tremendous, singular talent.

Lisa McInerney's work has featured in *Winter Papers*, *Stinging Fly*, *Granta* and on BBC Radio 4, and in the anthologies *Beyond The Centre*, *The Long Gaze Back and Town and Country*. Her debut novel, *The Glorious Heresies*, won the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction 2016 and the Desmond Elliott Prize. Her second novel, *The Blood Miracles*, won the Encore Award.



# THE QUIET WHISPERS NEVER STOP

OLIVIA FITZSIMONS



**John Murray**

**Publication: April 2022**

**Editor: Becky Walsh**

**Length: 320**

There's a whole fucking generation washed with this trauma from the moment they were born, by a fault of geography, a misstep that colours our whole lives ... how can we ever mend ourselves? Men get fixed first. Or they are allowed not to be fixed. To make mistakes. Women mend. Support. Accept. Men tell us all the stories about ourselves. Even the good ones. Especially the bad ones. Create tight circles of need.

What is it like to step outside all of that? To escape?

In 1982, Nuala Malin struggles to stay connected, to her husband, to motherhood, to the smallness of her life in the belly of a place that is built on hate and stagnation. Her daughter Sam and baby son PJ keep her tethered to this life she doesn't want. She finds unexpected refuge with a seventeen-year-old boy, but this relationship is only temporary, a sticking plaster on a festering wound. It cannot last and when her chance to leave comes, Nuala takes it.

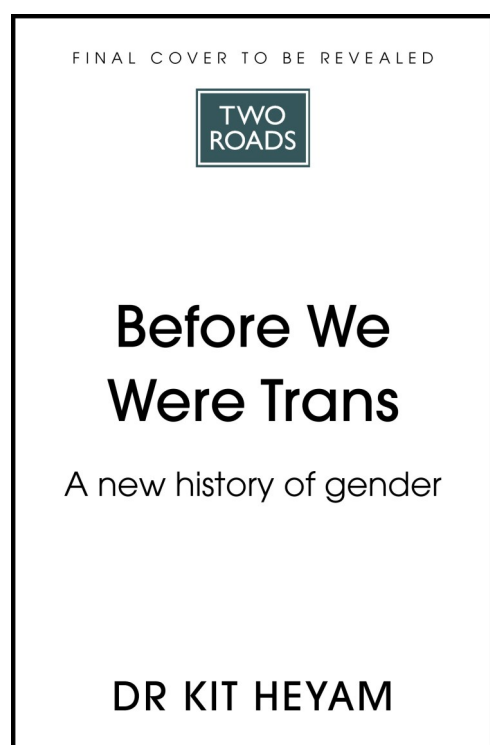
In 1994, Sam Malin plans escape. She longs for a life outside her dysfunctional family, far away from rural Northern Ireland and all its troubles, free from her quiet brooding father Patsy, who never talks about her mother, Nuala; a woman Sam barely knew, who abandoned them twelve years ago. She finds solace in music, drugs and her best friend Becca, but most of all in an illicit relationship with a jagged, magnetic older man. She is drawn to him, and he to her, in a way she can't yet comprehend. Sam is more like her mother than she knows.

Olivia Fitzsimons is from County Down, Northern Ireland and now lives in Wicklow, but never lost her accent. She is the recipient of a literary bursary from The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon and a SIAP Award from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. Her debut, *The Quiet Whispers Never Stop*, was an Irish Writers Centre Novel Fair Winner for 2020. She works as a screenwriter and in film development.



# BEFORE WE WERE TRANS

KIT HEYAM



**Basic Books**

**Publication: June 2022**

**Editor: Kate Craigie**

**Length: 320**

Across the world today, people of all ages are doing fascinating, creative, messy things with gender. These people have a rich history - but one that is often left behind by narratives of trans lives that focus on people with stable, binary, uncomplicated gender identities. As a result, these stories tend to be recent, binary, stereotyped, medicalised and white.

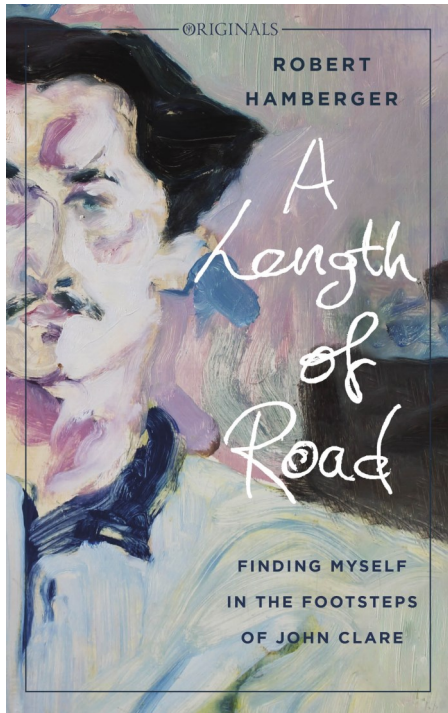
*Before We Were Trans* is a new and different story of gender, that seeks not to be comprehensive or definitive, but - by blending culture, feminism and politics, and drawing on the author's own experience of transition and gender non-binarism - to widen the scope of what we think of as trans history by telling the stories of people across the globe whose experience of gender has been transgressive, or not characterised by stability or binary categories.

Transporting us from Renaissance Venice to seventeenth-century Angola, from Edo Japan to North America, the stories this book tells leave questions and resist conclusions. They are fraught with ambiguity, and defy modern Western terminology and categories - not least the category of 'trans' itself. But telling them provides a history that reflects the richness of modern trans reality more closely than any previously written.

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

# A LENGTH OF ROAD

ROBERT HAMBERGER



**JM Originals**

**Publication: June 2021**

**Editor: Kate Craigie**

**Length: 336**

**A memoir about love and loss, fatherhood and masculinity, class and belonging.**

In 1841 the 'peasant poet' John Clare escaped from an asylum in Epping Forest, where he had been kept for four years, and walked over eighty miles home to Northamptonshire. Suffering from poor mental health, Clare was attempting to return to his idealized first love, Mary, unaware that she had died three years earlier.

In 1995, with his life in crisis and his own mental health fragile, Robert decides to retrace Clare's route along the Great North Road over a punishing four-day walk. As he walks he reflects on the changing landscape and on the evolving shape of his own family, on fatherhood and masculinity, and on the meaning of home.

Part memoir, part travel-writing, part literary criticism, *A Length of Road* is a deeply profound and poetic exploration of class, gender, grief and sexuality through the author's own experiences and through the autobiographical writing of poet John Clare.

Robert Hamberger is a published poet of six pamphlets and three collections, whose works have been broadcast on Radio 4 and published in the *Observer*, *New Statesman*, *The Spectator*, *Poetry Review* and *Gay Times*. This is his first non-fiction book.

## CREDIBLE

AMANDA GOODALL



Credible is a powerfully argued response to the backlash against expertise which swept like a tsunami through much of the western world post-2016. Based on over 10 years of painstaking research in hospitals and football changing rooms, in universities and legal firms it demonstrates categorically that expertise does matter, that we need experts and in particular, we need our leaders to be experts. The most successful leaders have credibility because of a deep understanding of their organisations derived from many years spent learning the business and working their way up the corporate ladder. The people who work for them are happier because they feel better understood and the businesses they lead are more successful than those led by general managers. Goodall identifies the key characteristics of expert leaders and proposes a new model for career development which can be summed up as "go deep into a business, work hard, pay attention, and know your stuff." It may not be glamorous, but it's the real-and grossly underappreciated-recipe for success.

Basic Books

Publication: September/  
October 2022

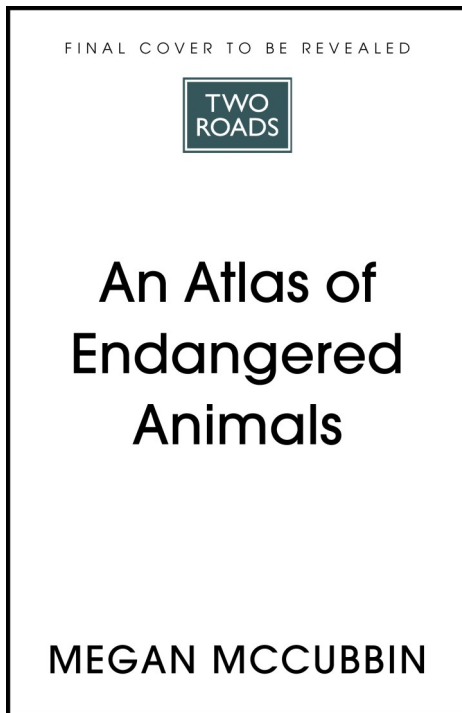
Editor: Sarah Caro

Length: 272

**Amanda Goodall** is an Associate Professor at Cass Business school and has been researching, publishing and communicating on this topic for 10 years. She is an experienced media performer and has extensive international media contacts. Her first book *Socrates in the Boardroom* (PUP, 2009) was widely praised.

# AN ATLAS OF ENDANGERED ANIMALS

MEGAN MCCUBBIN



There are currently 41,415 listed endangered species, and over 16,000 of them are threatened with extinction. Some are well known, while others are at risk of being forgotten before they're gone.

This book takes just 20 of these amazing creatures, from the 'celebrities' of the red list - the tigers, the northern white rhino, the kakapo - to the lesser-known, and sometimes lesser loved ones, and paints a portrait of them, their world, and the people trying to protect them.

An Atlas of Endangered Animals is a beautifully illustrated, fascinating and important document of an incredible world at risk, and, just maybe, a handbook for restoring it.

**Two Roads**

**Publication: March 2022**

**Editor: Kate Hewson**

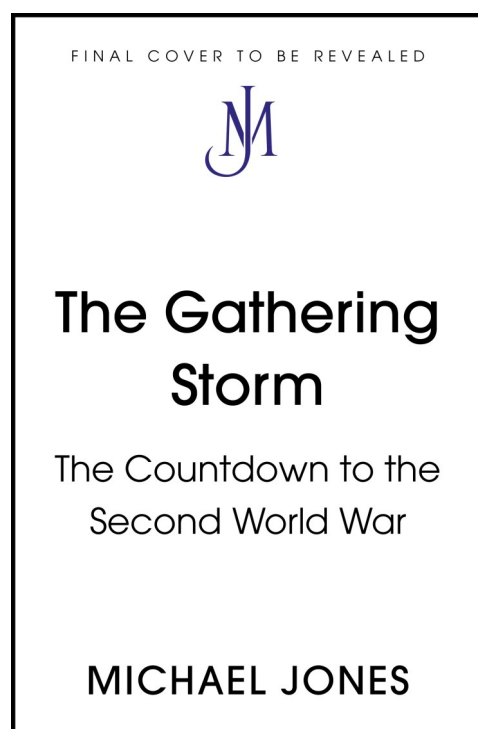
**Length: 304**

Megan McCubbin is a zoologist, wildlife TV presenter, conservationist and photographer. Her interest stems from a childhood growing up in and around the Isle of Wight Zoo, which specialises in the rescue and rehabilitation of ex-circus and pet trade animals. She most recently presented Winterwatch alongside Chris Packham, and is the founder of The Self-Isolating Bird Club on twitter, and co-founder of Wildlife Rebellion.

A keen photographer, in 2019 she was appointed as the coordinator and judge of Young Bird Photographer of the Year.

# THE GATHERING STORM

MICHAEL JONES



**John Murray**

**Publication: January 2023**

**Editor: Joe Zigmond**

**Length: 352**

**Previous Rights Sold for Total War:**

**Poland (Wydawnictwo Literackie)**

**Portugal (Editorial Bizâncio)**

**Spain (Editorial Crítica Grupo Planeta)**

Summer, 1939.

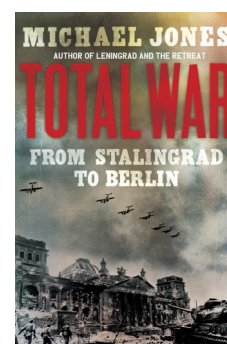
The remarkable events that occurred between the Nazi-Soviet pact and the German army's eventual invasion of Poland on 1 September were neither foreseeable nor inevitable. *Gathering Storm* is the riveting new account of this most precarious and fraught race against time.

In a countdown covering the ten days from the aftermath of the Nazi-Soviet pact on 24 August 1939 to the outbreak of war on 3 September, Mike Jones' gripping narrative uses a wide range of source material - many completely new - to provide a fresh, global retelling of events, anchored by the deteriorating relations between Britain and Germany.

Penetrating the halls of power during the slide towards catastrophe, *The Gathering Storm* is a stunning new depiction of Prime Minister Chamberlain's Downing Street in this moment of crisis, the manoeuvrings of the Foreign Secretary Viscount Halifax, President Franklin Roosevelt, King Leopold of Belgium, King Emmanuel of Italy, as well as the opposing machinations of Hitler, Ribbentrop, Hess, Göring and Mussolini - and of course the stark voices of Chamberlain and Churchill.

Michael Jones was awarded a history PhD by Bristol University, and subsequently taught at Glasgow University and Winchester College. He is a fellow of the Royal Historical Society and a member of the British Commission for Military History, and works now as a writer, media consultant and presenter. He has written books on the battles of Bosworth, Agincourt and Stalingrad, the siege of Leningrad and the battle for Moscow, as well as *Total War: From Stalingrad to Berlin*. Most recently he has co-authored *The King's Grave: The Search for Richard III*.

**Also Available:**



# NATIONAL TREASURES

CAROLINE SHENTON



John Murray

Publication: November 2021

Editor: Joe Zigmond and Jocasta Hamilton

Length: 336

'Geeks triumph over the forces of darkness: nothing could have given me greater pleasure. Combining an exciting story with scrupulous research, Caroline Shenton has done her unlikely heroes proud' - Lucy Worsley

As Hitler prepared to invade Poland during the sweltering summer of 1939, men and women from across London's museums, galleries and archives formulated ingenious plans to send the nation's highest prized objects to safety. Using stately homes, tube tunnels, slate mines, castles, prisons, stone quarries and even their own homes, a dedicated bunch of unlikely misfits packed up the nation's greatest treasures and, in a race against time, dispatched them throughout the country on a series of top-secret wartime adventures.

National Treasures highlights a moment from our history when an unlikely coalition of mild-mannered civil servants, social oddballs and metropolitan aesthetes became the front line in the heritage war against Hitler. Caroline Shenton shares the interwoven lives of ordinary people who kept calm and carried on in the most extraordinary of circumstances in their efforts to save the Nation's historic identity.

Dr Caroline Shenton was Director of the Parliamentary Archives at Westminster, where she worked for eighteen years. Prior to this she was a senior archivist at the National Archives, and she is currently a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and the Royal Historical Society. Caroline has written for the Guardian, The London Review of Books, and reviewed books for The Spectator.



# STRONGER THAN DEATH

FRANCESCA BRATTON



**JM Originals**

**Publication: July 2023**

**Editor: Kate Craigie**

**Length: 320**

In April 1931, modernist poet Hart Crane arrived in Mexico City. Between mood swings, dire financial struggles, and a rotating series of personal estrangements, Hart was struggling to make the parts of a fragmentary world cohere. This move to Mexico was one in long list of attempts to find security. In just over a year he would be dead.

In July 1932, Grace Crane picks up the morning paper. Scanning the headlines, she is halted on page five. Her son's eyes stare back at her, tinted pink by the thin paper: 'POET LOST AT SEA FROM SHIP'.

Hart Crane's last year has accrued a morbid mythology, seen as a period of self-destructive creative drought. In *Stronger than Death* Francesca Bratton tracks Hart's year among the vibrant artistic and political communities of Mexico City. His story is interwoven with that of his mother, exploring Grace's lifelong frustrated creativity and, after his death, debilitating grief. Finally the book explores Hart's legacy as a queer man and as a poet, informed by Francesca's responses to his work during her own periods of struggling with mental illness.

Part-memoir, part-biography, *Stronger than Death* is a profound and lyrical meditation on grief, mental health, enduring love and the power of poetry.

Francesca Bratton is a writer, critic, poet and researcher at the Department of English at the University of Maynooth. Her academic monograph, *Visionary Company: Hart Crane and Modernist Magazines* was published by Edinburgh University Press (June 2021). She has previously taught at Durham University, where she studied for a doctorate on Hart Crane, and she is a graduate of St John's College, Oxford and UCL. Francesca has lived in Paris, worked as a bookseller and as a librarian.



# THE RACE TO THE FUTURE

KASSIA ST CLAIR



*Peking to Paris: The Race to the Future in 1907* will tell the grandest adventure caper nobody has ever heard of: an endurance rally halfway across the world at the dawn of the twentieth century, when cars were still in their infancy.

Following a route with very few actual roads, through countries riven with political strife, the story of the Peking-to-Paris race captures the essence of an era of profound social, cultural and technological upheaval.

Featuring an eccentric Italian prince, his chauffeur, a con-man, petrol-bearing camels and cars whose engines had to be wound up like mechanical toys, this is an unforgettable tale of ill-advised bravado under adversity.

**John Murray**

**Publication: July 2023**

**Editor: Georgina Laycock**

**Length: 320**

KASSIA ST CLAIR's first book, *The Secret Lives of Colour*, was a *Sunday Times* bestseller, a Radio 4 Book of the Week and has been translated into over a dozen languages; her second, *The Golden Thread*, was a *Sunday Times* Book of the Year and was shortlisted for the Somerset Maugham Award. She lives in London.

[www.kassiaclair.com](http://www.kassiaclair.com)

# ESCAPE FROM MODEL LAND

ERICA THOMPSON



**Basic Books**

**Publication: November 2022**

**Editor: Sarah Caro**

**Length: 256**

**Rights Sold:**

**US (Basic Books)**

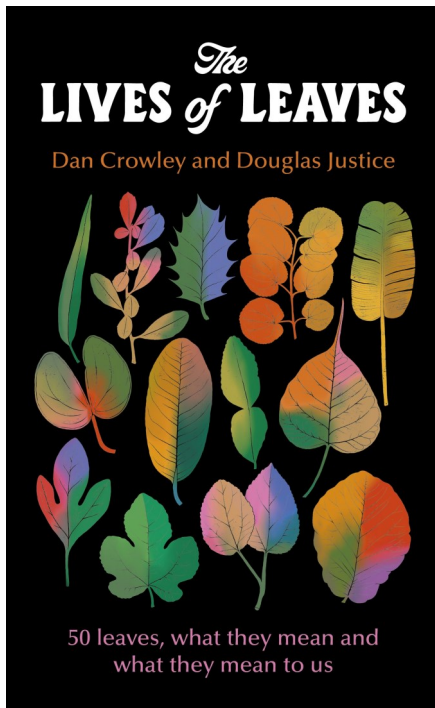
**Explores the dangers of models when they are misunderstood and what we need to do to understand and use them correctly**

Models have been very much in the news recently - usually at the centre of heated debates about their validity and with a renewed awareness of the disastrous consequences when the makers and interpreters of models get things wrong: think herd immunity; the financial crisis. But models are also vital to economics and all areas of modern science, they are like metaphors that help scientists simplify and codify the elements of a problem in order to properly understand it. Without models, however flawed they are often are, we would not be able to tackle the three major challenges facing modern society - the regulation of the economy, the control of COVID 19 and tackling climate change. Drawing on well publicised contemporary examples from all three areas, the author seeks to explain what models are, why we need them, how they work and what happens when they go wrong. This is not a book that argues we should do away with models but rather that we need to properly understand how they are constructed and in particular how some of the assumptions that underlie the models we use can have significant unintended consequences.

Erica Thompson is a Senior Policy Fellow at the LSE Data Institute. She has a particular interest in real-world applications of modelling methods, having worked with humanitarian NGOs, insurance practitioners, UK government departments and other partners. This will be her first book.

# THE LIVES OF LEAVES

DAN CROWLEY AND DOUGLAS JUSTICE



A beautifully illustrated and curated compendium of leaves from around the world. Organised by leaf shape, it tells the stories, science and history of that leaf, from sugar maple and how leaves turn red, to ginkgo and how leaves are used as medicine.

Full of fascinating science and very accessible - *The Lives of Leaves* is the perfect companion for readers who appreciate, or are waking up to, the wonder of nature, and who want to get to know it better.

**Two Roads**

**Publication: September 2021**

**Editor: Kate Hewson**

**Length: 336**

## **Dan Crowley (Author)**

Dan Crowley is a dendrologist and biological consultant who has worked for the Forestry Commission and Westonbirt Arboretum. He is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

## **Douglas Justice (Author)**

Douglas Justice is associate director and curator of collections at UBC Botanical Garden. He is an advocate for trees and the conservation of natural ecosystems.