



# Headline

## US Rights Guide

SPRING 2022

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## HEADLINE

Headline was founded in 1986 with a single promise at its heart: to publish the books people want to read. Sometimes, the simplest ideas are best. Headline has spent over three decades creating books people want to read and our passion for the commercial means we are home to some of the UK's biggest-selling authors and continue to invest in new talent with bestseller potential.

## HACHETTE IRELAND

Founded in 2002 Hachette Ireland has quickly become a major force in Irish publishing, with a string of bestsellers. Hachette Ireland has established a strong reputation for working closely with authors to establish their vision and then working tirelessly with them in helping them to achieve it. We are passionate about what we read, and what we publish.

## IMPRINTS

**Headline Fiction** - where bestsellers are made, with authors both genre defining and genre defying

**Headline Review** - quality books for the lover of reading-group fiction

**Eternal** - our romance list, specialising in digital bestsellers, quick to spot trends in what readers want

**Tinder Press** - our literary imprint, a space where classy, intelligent writing can thrive

**Headline Accent** - brand new, irresistible and feisty books that you cannot wait to read, with an added independent spirit.

**Wildfire** - a nimble start-up seeking out the best modern writing, from edgier literary fiction to narrative memoir and state-of-the-nation non-fiction

**Headline Non-Fiction** - publishing books that make us laugh, teach us something new, surprise us, or take us on rollercoaster ride through someone else's life

**Headline Home** - publishing authors that will help us all to live the best possible lives we can in this fastpaced, modern world

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Brazil – Riff Agency — joapaulo@agenciariiff.com.br

China & Taiwan – Peony Literary Agency — marysia@peonyliteraryagency.com

Czech Republic & Slovakia – Kristin Olson Agency — kristin.olson@litag.cz

Greece – OA Literary Agency — amichael@otenet.gr

Hungary, Croatia, Serbia & Slovenia – Katai and Bolza Literary Agency -  
orsi@kataibolza.hu (Hungary) petra@kataibolza.hu (Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia)

Indonesia – Maxima Creative Agency — santo.maxima@gmail.com

Japan – The English Agency — hamish@ej.co.jp

Korea – Eric Yang Agency — jackieyang@eyagency.com

Romania – Simona Kessler International — office@kessler-agency.ro

Thailand & Vietnam – Grayhawk Agency — itzel@grayhawk-agency.com

Turkey – AnatoliaLit Agency — amy@anatolialit.com

# Mother's Day

The compulsive and page-turning thriller

Abigail Burdess

MOTHER'S DAY

Abigail Burdess



COVER TO BE REVEALED

Wildfire

March 2023

Editor: Jack Butler

Extent: 384

She gave you life. What if she wants it back?

The last thing Anna needs is a baby. Abandoned, adopted and living hand to mouth, she never dreamt of having a real family.

But when she meets her birth mother, everything changes - because the same day, she learns she's going to be a mother too.

Marlene is eccentric, generous with her considerable fortune and overjoyed to become a grandmother. Anna's living the dream. But is it her dream, or someone else's?

Now she will have to decide what she's willing to sacrifice for a real family - her future, her freedom, even her unborn child.

"Superbly written and darkly funny, *Mother's Day* is an epic psychological thriller that revels in the visceral horror of family relationships. So brilliantly and horrifyingly executed I simply couldn't look away. Abigail Burdess is a refreshing and original writer - don't take your eyes off her."

*Janice Hallett, author of The Appeal and The Twyford Code*

## About the author:

Abigail Burdess has written for and acted in various comedy shows for the television, radio and stage. She also sometimes writes TV for kids, as well as plays and musicals. She lives in London with her husband, Robert Webb and their two children.

*Mother's Day* is her first novel.



Wildfire

March 2023

Editor: Serena Arthur

Extent: 368

# The Book of Eve

**Meg Clothier**

A book whispers. A woman hears its power. A man will stop at nothing to silence them both.

‘It is wonderful - beautiful. It is dangerous - sinful. It is the best thing that could have come to me. It is the worst.’

Beatrice is the convent's librarian. For years, she has shunned the company of her sisters, finding solace only with her manuscripts. But she longs for knowledge of the outside world - a world ruled by men in which women can play no part. One carnival night, it seems her prayers are answered: two women, badly injured and desperate for help, are abandoned at the convent's gate.

Moments from death, one of them presses something into Beatrice's hands: a bewitching book whose pages have a dangerous life of their own. But the men of the city, bent on the book's destruction, are closing in. Beatrice must do all she can to protect it - no matter what the cost.

## About the author:

Meg Clothier studied Classics at Cambridge, sailed from England to Alaska, and worked as a journalist in London and Moscow. She now lives and writes in Somerset. The Book of Eve is her third novel.

We've got a story to tell ...

THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
YOU SHOULD  
KNOW ABOUT  
TED

Matt Cain



COVER TO BE REVEALED

## There's Something You Should Know About Ted

The joyful, uplifting and intriguing new novel from the author who brought us [#AlbertEntwistle](#)

### Matt Cain

A charming, heart-warming and surprising story about love, friendship and learning to be true to yourself, by journalist and LGBTQ+ activist Matt Cain. 41 year-old Ted Ainsworth has worked in his family's ice-cream business, in the quiet Lancashire town of St Luke's-on-Sea, for his whole life. But the truth is, Ted has never wanted to work for the family firm - he doesn't even like ice cream, although he's never dared tell his domineering parents.

When Ted's husband abruptly leaves him, Ted realises he's got nothing. He doesn't know how he can go on. But Ted isn't alone. His best friend, the flamboyant Andrea, is determined to help Ted - she hasn't forgotten that he once helped her through her worst time. She knows that Ted has a secret dream, and she's going to help him on his way. Despite his parents, the disapproval of locals - and a series of mysterious letters that may threaten the happiness of Ted's nearest and dearest ...

### Headline Review

February 2023

Editor: Jennifer Doyle

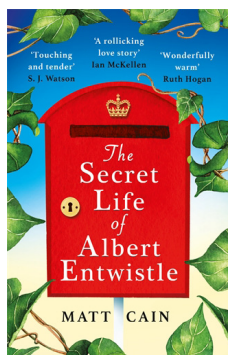
Extent: 400

Previous Rights Sold for *The Secret Life of Albert Entwistle*:  
Germany (Ullstein)  
Italy (Mondadori)  
Netherlands (De Fontein)  
US (Kensington)

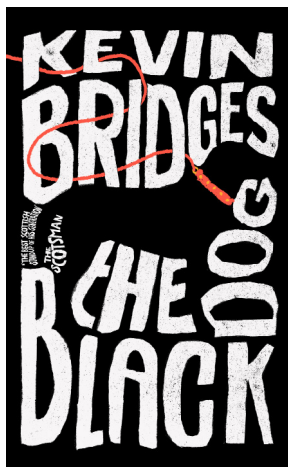
### About the author:

Matt Cain is an author, a leading commentator on LGBT+ issues, and a former journalist. He is currently a presenter for Virgin Radio Pride UK, was Channel 4's first Culture Editor, Editor-In-Chief of Attitude magazine, and has judged the Costa Prize, the Polari Prize and the South Bank Sky Arts Awards.

He won Diversity in Media's Journalist Of the Year award in 2017 and is an ambassador for Manchester Pride and the Albert Kennedy Trust, plus a patron of LGBT+ History Month. Born in Bury and brought up in Bolton, he now lives in London.







## The Black Dog

Kevin Bridges

*The Black Dog* is the exciting debut novel from one of Britain's most-loved comedians, Kevin Bridges. Declan dreams of becoming a writer. It's a dream that helps him escape the realities of his life - going through the motions at college and stacking supermarket shelves part-time, whilst fighting a battle with the ever-darkening thoughts in his head. He has his pet Labrador for companionship and his best friend-turned-mentor, a pseudo-intellectual who works as a greenskeeper at the local municipal golf course, both of which help keep the worst of his anxieties at bay.

But following a drunken row with local gangsters, Declan's worries threaten to spiral out of control. James Cavani - Declan's idol and his hometown's claim to fame - is a renowned writer, director and actor. But despite his success, his past hasn't relinquished its hold of him, and through his younger sister's battle with drug addiction, he finds himself returning to a world he thought he had escaped.

At face value, their lives couldn't be more different, but perhaps fate has a way of bringing kindred spirits together - and perhaps each holds the other's redemption in their hands.

### About the author:

Having started performing stand up in 2004 shortly after his seventeenth birthday, Kevin Bridges has ascended the ranks and is regarded as one of the UK's top comedians. He has made numerous television appearances on shows including Live at the Apollo, The Jonathon Ross Show, Graham Norton Show and fronted his own BBC One series Kevin Bridges - What's the Story.

He has won multiple awards and performed four critically acclaimed, box office record-breaking tours. His most recent tour included a staggering nineteen night run in his hometown of Glasgow's twelve-thousand capacity Hydro arena. He has released four chart-topping DVD's and his 2014 autobiography was a Sunday Times bestseller. In 2022 Kevin will return to the stage with his latest stand-up show coinciding with the release of his debut novel.

Wildfire

August 2022

Editor: Alex Clarke

Extent: 400





# The Book Pharmacy

**Stephanie Butland**

Famously, Loveday Cardew loves books more than she loves people. But the Lost for Words bookshop needs people to survive . . . Loveday thinks she has everything she needs at last: Nathan, her mother, and her beloved bookshop in the heart of old York. But when the world comes crashing to a halt, Loveday realises just how much she - and everyone in the city around her - needs companionship to survive. Rosemary and George have been married for 50 years.

But as their time together is running out, they decide to set out on their last journey together - an enchanting one of bookish rediscovery - without ever leaving the bench at the bottom of their garden in Whitby. When Loveday receives a letter from Rosemary asking for help, Loveday has an idea. She's always found friendship in books. What if she could find a way to help her bookshop weather this crisis - and, in turn, help others survive?

## Headline Review

February 2023

Editor: Marion Donaldson

Extent: 400

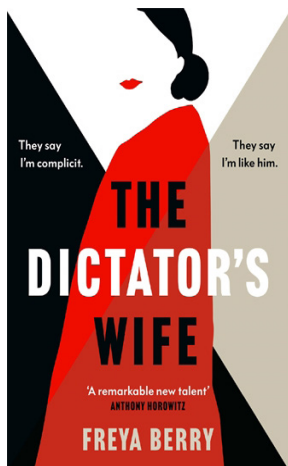
## About the author:

Stephanie Butland is the author of the beloved bookshop tale *Lost for Words*, as well as *The Woman in the Photograph* and *The Curious Heart* of Ailsa Rae.

Stephanie lives in Northumberland, close to the place where she grew up. She writes in a studio at the bottom of her garden, and loves being close to the sea.

Twitter: @under\_blue\_sky/ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com>

Stephanie-Butland-Author-282828548412029/  
[www.stephaniebutland.com](http://www.stephaniebutland.com)



## Headline Review

February 2022

Editor: Sherise Hobbs

Extent: 416

Rights sold:

Portugal (Presença)

Russia ( StorySide AB)

*'Demands to be devoured in one sitting. Sumptuously written... One of the most compelling literary debuts of the year'* GLAMOUR, Top 30 Books Coming in 2022  
CHARLOTTE PHILBY

*'One of the most original debuts I have read'* -Daisy Goodwin.

# The Dictator's Wife

The darkly gripping debut novel EVERYONE is talking about in 2022

Freya Berry

'I am not my husband. I am innocent. Do you believe me?'

The beautiful, enigmatic wife of a feared dictator stands trial for her late husband's crimes against the people. The world will finally know the truth.

But whose?

WOMAN

I learned early in life how to survive. A skill that became vital in my position.

WIFE

I was given no power, yet I was expected to hold my own with the most powerful man in the country.

MOTHER OF THE NATION

My people were my children. I stood between him and them.

I am not the person they say I am.  
I am not my husband.  
I am innocent.

Do you believe me?

About the author:

Freya Berry was born in 1991, studied English Literature at Trinity College, Cambridge, and worked for several years as a financial and political journalist at Reuters and then the Daily Mail.

Freya splits her time between London and the Welsh coast. The Dictator's Wife is her debut novel, inspired by the close observation of the wives of some of the world's most powerful leaders.



## The Midnight House

A spellbinding and gripping mystery of a beautiful house in Ireland and a heartwrenching family secret

**Amanda Geard**

People disappear. Secrets remain...

My Dearest T, Whatever you hear, do not believe it for a moment...

1940: In south-west Ireland, the young and beautiful Lady Charlotte Rathmore is pronounced dead after she mysteriously disappears by the lake of Blackwater Hall. In London, on the brink of the Blitz, Nancy Rathmore is grieving Charlotte's death when a letter arrives containing a secret that she is sworn to keep - one that will change her life for ever.

2019: Decades later, Ellie Fitzgerald is forced to leave Dublin disgraced and heartbroken. Abandoning journalism, she returns to rural Kerry to weather out the storm. But, when she discovers a faded letter, tucked inside the pages of an old book, she finds herself drawn in by a long-buried secret. And as Ellie begins to unravel the mystery, it becomes clear that the letter might hold the key to more than just Charlotte's disappearance.

### Headline Review

May 2022

**Editor:** Sherise Hobbs

**Extent:** 432

**Rights sold:**  
Czech Republic (Alpress)

### About the author:

Born in Australia, Amanda Geard has lived all over the world, from a houseboat in London to a Norwegian Island, before settling in County Kerry in Ireland.

Her writing has appeared in The Irish Times, The Journal, writing.ie, Nordic Reach and Vertical Magazine. Her short story *Not Yet Recycled* won the New Irish Writing Award in October 2019.



## The Movement

Ayisha Malik

It's time to take your power back But first you're going to have to pick a side . . .

Every time Sara Javed switches on her laptop, checks her phone or goes outside, people are shouting. Everyone seems to be angry about something and she just wishes that they would all shut up. Until she realises that perhaps she should take her own advice . . .

Her voluntary silence is first met with polite, if somewhat disconcerted, alarm. But as her silence inspires others, what Sara doesn't anticipate is inadvertently becoming the figurehead for what becomes a global phenomenon: 'The Silent Movement'.

Headline Review

July 2022

Editor: Eleanor Dryden

Extent: 448

As outrage grows over the protest, and global structures start to shift, the lives of strangers and those closest to Sara start to unravel. Sara and two women inspired by her actions, Grace and Zainab, must reconsider what it means to them to have a voice - or face grave repercussions.

\*\* The anticipation is already building for Ayisha Malik's fiercely original and bold new book, *THE MOVEMENT*, coming spring 2022 \*\*

### About the author:

Ayisha Malik's novels *Sofia Khan is Not Obligated*, *The Other Half of Happiness*, and *This Green and Pleasant Land* were met with great critical acclaim, and have been optioned for television.

Ayisha was a WHSmith Fresh Talent Pick and *Sofia Khan* was the CityReads London Festival book, 2019. She is winner of The 2020 Diversity Book Awards and has been shortlisted for The Asian Woman of Achievement Award, Marie Claire's Future Shapers' Awards and the Hospital Club h100 Awards.

Her children's books include a re-telling of Jane Austen's *Mansfield Park* and *The Seven Sisters*. *Sofia Khan is Not Obligated* and *This Green and Pleasant* are optioned for television. She lives in South London.



## 12 Hours To Say I Love You

Read the most romantic and heartwrenching book of 2022

**Olivia Poulet and Laurence Dobiesz**

Pippa Gallagher is rushed in to hospital following a traffic accident.

As Pippa lies unconscious, fragments of the past flash through her mind. The day she met Steve Gallagher, the man who would become the love of her life. The heartbreak she felt tonight as she got into her car, her eyes blurry from tears.

Meanwhile Steve sits at her bedside, his eyes fixed on her pale, still face. He has no idea where his wife was going when she crashed. No clue as to why she became distracted behind the wheel. All he knows is that she is his world. And that he wasn't there when she needed him most.

For the next twelve hours, Steve tells Pippa all the reasons he loves her.

But is it too late? Can Pippa find her way back to him?

**Headline Review**

February 2022

**Editor:** Sherise Hobbs

**Extent:** 400

**Rights sold:**

Germany (S. Fischer)

Portugal (Presença)

Romania (Nemira)

**About the author:**

Olivia Poulet and Laurence Dobiesz are writers and actors based in London. Married for five years, they have written together for radio and screen. #blessed, a comedy drama love story, was written by them for radio, and broadcast on BBC Radio 4.



## Just For Today

The party has to end sometime...

Nell Hudson

The party has to end sometime It all starts on New Year's Eve. A night that has to be a success, whatever the cost. For Joni and her friends, it'll be a party that promises all the high stakes and glamour of any other, but by sunrise they'll be dealing with something darker than the usual post-party comedown.

Not that they let this stand in their way. For this is their year to revel in all that the playground of London has to offer: sneaking into places they shouldn't, breaking every rule, falling in love with the wrong people. All the while avoiding one undeniable truth: it's not if the party ends, it's how.

*Just for Today* is a bittersweet evocation of the end of innocence, and an exhilarating celebration of having nothing to lose - until suddenly, you do.

Tinder Press

June 2022

Editor: Amy Perkins

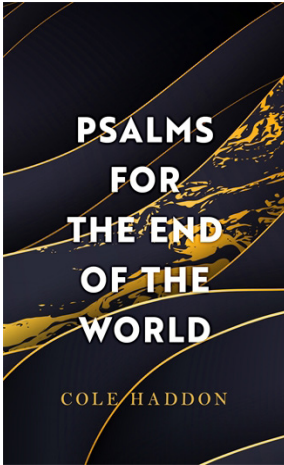
Extent: 304

Rights sold:

Russia (Exem Licence Ltd)

### About the author:

Nell Hudson grew up on a farm in Worcestershire. She graduated from the Oxford School of Drama in 2012 and has been working as a professional actor ever since. *Just For Today* is her first novel.



Headline

September 2022

Editor: Toby Jones

Extent: 528

## Psalms For The End Of The World

Cole Haddon

It's 1962 and physics student Grace Pulansky believes she has met the man of her dreams, Robert Jones, while serving up slices of pecan pie at the local diner. But then the FBI shows up, with their fedoras and off-the-rack business suits, and accuses him of being a bomb-planting mass-murderer. Finding herself on the run with Jones across America's Southwest, the discoveries awaiting Gracie will undermine everything she knows about the universe.

Her story will reveal how scores of lives - an identity-swapping rock star, a mourning lover in ancient China, Nazi hunters in pursuit of a terrible secret, a crazed artist in pre-revolutionary France, an astronaut struggling with a turbulent interplanetary future, and many more - are interconnected across space and time by love, grief, and quantum entanglement.

Spanning continents, centuries, and dimensions, this exquisitely crafted and madly inventive novel - a triple-disk, concept-album of a book - is a profound yet propulsive enquiry into the nature of reality - the perfect immersive read for fans of David Mitchell, Emily St. John Mandel, Neil Gaiman and Margaret Atwood.

### About the author:

Cole Haddon is an Australian-American film, television, and graphic novel writer. His first screenplay was commissioned by Warner Bros., and he has gone on to receive 25 more commissions from studios, networks, and production entities in the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, and across Europe. *Dracula*, his first TV commission, was produced by NBC and Sky Living starring Jonathan Rhys Meyers.



# A Year In Space

Dr Becky Smethurst



Wildfire

September 2022

Full colour,  
annual format,  
128pp.

Brought to you by the infectiously enthusiastic team behind the Royal Astronomical Society's Supermassive podcast, *The Year in Space 2023* highlights the most exciting space news from the past 12 months and looks forward to the year ahead.

Packed with features, interviews, in-depth explainers and stunning photography, it covers everything from the launch of the James Webb telescope to the latest news from Mars and the efforts to get astronauts back to Moon.

The book includes practical tips on how to get the best results when stargazing and what you should look out for in the night sky in 2023.

Fun, engaging and accessible, this is essential reading for every space geek.

### About the author:

Dr Becky Smethurst is an astrophysicist at the University of Oxford and star of the astronomy-themed YouTube channel, 'Dr Becky', which has 394,000 subscribers and 24 million total views. Her co-host on the Supermassive podcast, Izzie Clarke, has a Masters degree in Physics and is an experienced science journalist and podcast producer.

Richard Hollingham is an award-winning space journalist and broadcaster, writer for BBC Future and commentator for the European Space Agency. And finally, BBC radio presenter, producer and podcaster Sue Nelson is the award-winning author of Wally Funk's Race for Space.



## A History of the World in 74 Borders

Jonn Elledge

People have been drawing lines on maps for as long as there have been maps to draw on. Sometimes rooted in physical geography, sometimes entirely arbitrary, these lines might often have looked very different if a war or treaty or the decisions of a handful of tired Europeans had gone a different way. By telling the stories of these borders, we can learn a lot about how political identities are shaped – and about human folly.

From the Roman attempts to mark the bounds between civilisation and barbarians, to the secret Sykes-Picot agreement, to the reason why landlocked Bolivia still maintains a navy, this is a fascinating, witty and surprising look at the history of the world told through its borders.

Wildfire

May 2024

Editor: Alex Clarke

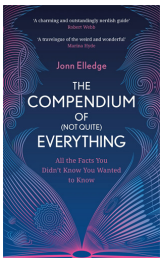
Extent: 352

Rights sold for  
*The Compendium of (Not Quite) Everything:*  
 China (Ginkgo)  
 Germany (Goldmann)  
 Poland (Insignis)

### About the author:

Jonn Elledge is a regular contributor to the Big Issue and the New Statesman, a less regular contributor to other titles such as the Guardian and Wired, and an almost constant contributor to the weekly Newsletter of (Not Quite) Everything.

His previous book, *The Compendium of (Not Quite) Everything*, was published by Wildfire in 2021, and he is the co-author with Tom Phillips of the forthcoming *Conspiracy: A History of B\*lllocks Theories, and How Not to Fall for Them*, which is being published in July 2022.





# High Caucasus

## A Mountain Quest in Russia's Haunted Hinterland

**Tom Parfitt**

*High Caucasus* is Tom Parfitt's wonderfully atmospheric memoir-cum-travel narrative about the 1,000-mile walk he made to lay to rest a ghost. On the 1 September 2004, at the Beslan siege in Russia when Chechen terrorists took more than 1,000 people captive at celebrations held to mark the first day of the school year. Lasting three days, the siege reached a bloody climax when two bombs exploded inside the school and Russian troops stormed the building, sparking a fire in the gymnasium where the captives were held. In the chaos, 334 hostages, more than half of them children (the youngest two years old), died.

Never a war correspondent, Tom was emotionally pulverised, and his solution was to turn back to his lifelong love of walking, to a nature cure of sorts. Having long loved the Caucasus, he also wanted to understand why the mountain peoples there, people like the Chechens, were so angry at Russia.

That was how Tom came to walk 1,000 miles across the North Caucasus, starting in Sochi in the Black Sea and walking the mountain ranges to Derbent, the ancient fortress city on the Caspian. His route took him through the homelands of proud, little-known peoples – the Abkhazians, the Karachays, the Balkars, the Ingush, the few surviving Circassians – through bear-haunted forests, across high altitude pastures and over the shoulder of Elbrus, Europe's highest mountain. That meant crossing the political and tribal fault-lines of seven Russian republics: Adygea, Karachayevo-Cherkesiya, Kabardino-Balkariya, North Ossetia, Ingushetia, Chechnya and Dagestan.

### About the author:

A new exciting writer, very much in the style of Robert McFarlane and Nicolas Crane, Tom Parfitt is the Times' correspondent in Moscow. He moved to Moscow as a young man, having learnt fluent Russian at university, and quickly became a correspondent for the Guardian, the Telegraph and the Times. He is also a fellow of the Royal Geographic Society.

**Headline**

**July 2023**

**Editor:** Iain MacGregor

**Extent:** 352



# Max Verstappen Biography

Mark Hughes

*A definitive and intriguing biography of Max Verstappen, Formula 1's hottest new superstar, Lewis Hamilton's great rival, and the winner of the 2021 World Drivers' Championship.*

No Hollywood scriptwriter could possibly have envisioned the breathless, adrenaline-pumping climax to the 2021 Formula 1 season. On the very last lap of the final race of an unbelievably arduous and controversial season, Red Bull's Max Verstappen nervelessly overtook the seven-time World Champion Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes to clinch the first place that thrust the young prodigy to the narrowest of victories and to his first World Drivers' title. It surely won't be his last.

Verstappen may only be 24 years of age, but the Dutch motorsport sensation has now completed his seventh season in the high-octane world of F1: 141 race starts, 60 podium finishes and 20 Grand Prix victories barely tell the story - this young man has already left an indelible mark on the sport [...] And the phenomenal success of Netflix's Drive to Survive documentary series has elevated his worldwide popularity still further.

Widely respected motorsport writer and F1 insider Mark Hughes is perfectly placed to write the most authoritative narrative on Verstappen's incredible rise through the ranks to F1 glory. Hughes' immaculate credentials and first-rate access enable him to generate fresh and fascinating insights, and to paint a fully-rounded and richly-textured portrait of one of the most exciting young sportsmen on the planet.

## About the author:

Mark Hughes is the Grand Prix editor for Motor Sport magazine, an F1 correspondent for The Sunday Times and technical editor for the renowned motor racing annual Autocourse.

He also provides analysis for TV coverage of F1, currently working in the role of technical analyst for Sky Sports. He has 32k followers on Twitter.

Hughes has written a number of F1-related books: Speed Addicts (HarperCollins) won Best Illustrated Book at the 2006 British Sports Book Awards; Lewis Hamilton, The Full Story (Icon Books) was released in 2008; and he co-authored Crashed And Byrned (Icon Books), which won the 2008 William Hill Irish Sports Book of the Year.

Headline

September 2023

Editor: Jonathan Taylor

Extent: 288



### Mini Big Ideas

From the internationally acclaimed author of *Mini Philosophy*, here are 150 big ideas in bite-sized chunks.

#### Jonny Thomson

Every so often, a new idea comes along that changes everything. Vaccinations. Relativity. Fascism.

Can we imagine a world before the invention of writing? What would Christianity have looked like without with a concept of hell?

Sometimes these ideas come along suddenly: Copernicus suggesting the earth revolves around the sun; Gutenberg's printing press, Darwin's theory of evolution. Sometimes they evolve over generations: the institution of marriage; the development of animal husbandry; the understanding of genetics. Either way, once the idea gains a foothold, nothing is the same again.

This fascinating little book tells the stories behind 150 revolutionary concepts and explains why they are important. Taken from the realms of science, politics, society, religion and technology, these are the big ideas that have changed the world - in a nutshell.

#### About the author:

Jonny Thomson teaches philosophy in Oxford. He runs a popular Instagram account and website called *Mini Philosophy*, the result of his conversations with students and a somewhat masochistic obsession with reading dense philosophical works.

Wildfire

August 2023

Extent: 304

Rights sold for

*Mini Philosophy*:

China (Booky)

Germany (Diogenes)

Greece ( Dioptra)

Israel (Tchelet Books/Steimatzky)

Italy (Garzanti )

Japan (Hayakawa)

Korea (Will Books)

Lebanon (Arab Scientific)

Netherlands (Orlando)

Poland (Insignis)

Portugal (Edições Almedina)

Spain (Plataforma)

Taiwan (Rye Field)



Wildfire

Spring 2024

Editor: Alex Clarke

Extent: 256

## The Art of Explanation

Ros Atkins

Explanation – conveying meaning – is an art. And the BBC presenter and journalist Ros Atkins, creator of the viral ‘Ros Atkins on...’ explainer videos, is something of a master of the form. In this book, Ros shares the secrets he has learned from years of working in high-pressure newsrooms, identifying the six elements of a good explanation and the ten steps you need to take to express yourself as persuasively and accurately as possible.

A practical and accessible guide to getting across complex information clearly – whether for business, educational or social purposes – The Art of Explanation is a must-read for anyone who wants to improve their communication skills.

### About the author:

Ros is an award-winning BBC News anchor who created and presents Outside Source on the BBC News Channel and BBC World News – one of the top-rating UK news programmes with a global audience of millions. His ‘Ros Atkins on...’ explainer videos have become a phenomenon, garnering millions of views across multiple BBC platforms, making Ros one of the BBC’s most-watched journalists.

Ros is also the creator of the multi-award-winning 50:50 Project, which now works across over 100 organisations in over 25 countries to diversify representation in media content.

In November 2021, Radio 4 announced that Ros would be the new co-presenter on the Media Show in the coming months.



Wildfire

May 2023

Editor: Alex Clarke

Extent: 352

# The Limits of Genius

How Some of the World's Greatest Minds Were Surprisingly Stupid

Katie Spalding

The more you delve into the stories behind history's greatest names, the more you realise they have something in common: a mystifying lack of common sense. Take Marie Curie, famous for both discovering radioactivity and having absolutely zero lab safety protocols. Or Lord Byron, who literally took a bear with him to university. Or James Glaisher, a hot-air balloon pioneer who nearly ended up as the world's first human satellite...

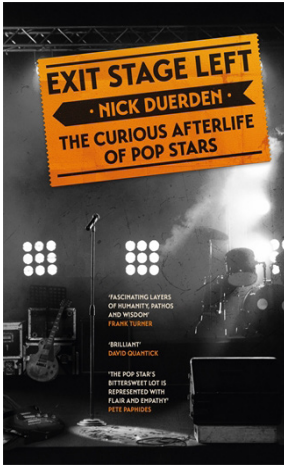
From Nikola Tesla falling in love with a pigeon to non-swimmer Albert Einstein's near-fatal love of sailing holidays, *The Limits of Genius* is filled with examples of the so-called brightest and best of humanity doing, to put it bluntly, some really dumb shit. These are the stories that deserve to be told but never are: the hilarious, regrettable and downright baffling lesser-known achievements of the men and women who somehow managed to bungle their way into our history books.

## About the author:

Katie Spalding spent ten years of her life studying maths, which is just about the upper limit on how much maths you can do before people start actively avoiding you at parties. Ironically, the high point of her academic career was appearing on University Challenge twice, during which times she answered zero questions on maths or science but performed surprisingly well on the 'historical cross-dressers' and 'New World monkeys' round.

Katie now writes for the science news website IFLScience, and has supplied research for the TV show *QI* and its sister podcast *No Such Thing as a Fish*.





Headline

April 2022

Editor: Richard Roper

Extent: 384

## Exit Stage Left

The curious afterlife of pop stars

Nick Duerden

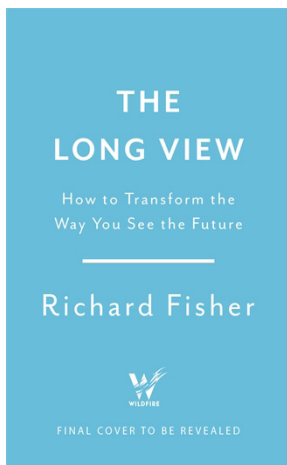
The desire for adulation is a light that never goes out. We live in a culture obsessed by the notion of fame - the heedless pursuit of it; the almost obligatory subsequent fallout. But what's it like to actually achieve it, and what happens when fame abruptly passes, and shifts, as it does, onto someone else?

This is the world the pop star is required to inhabit. It's invariably eventful. We know all about them when they're at the top of their game, of course, but they tend to reveal far more of their true selves once they've peaked, and are on their way down. This is the point at which they are at their most heroic, because they don't give up. They keep on striving, keep making music, and refuse simply to ebb away. Some sustain themselves on the nostalgia circuit, others continue to beaver away in the studio, no longer Abbey Road, perhaps, so much as the garden shed. But all of them, in their own individual ways, still dare to dream.

*Exit Stage Left* features tales of drug addiction, bankruptcy, depression and divorce, but also of optimism, a genuine love of the craft, humility and hope. This is a candid, laugh-out-loud and occasionally shocking look at what happens when the brightest stars fall back down to earth. Featuring brand new interviews with the likes of: Bob Geldof, Shaun Ryder, Robbie Williams, Roisin Murphy, Stewart Copeland, Billy Bragg, Wendy James, Alex Kapranos, Joan Armatrading, Leo Sayer, Gary Lightbody, Lisa Maffia,

### About the author:

Nick Duerden is a writer and freelance broadsheet journalist. He has written widely on the arts, family and health, and is the author of two novels, a memoir on fatherhood, and other non-fiction works.



Wildfire

March 2023

Editor: Alex Clarke

Extent: 352

# The Long View

How to Escape the Age of Short-termism

Richard Fisher

Human beings have a unique view of time, able to comprehend the past and future like no other species. Yet modern-day pressures have supercharged our short-termist tendencies and trapped us in the present, at the mercy of reactive politics, quarterly business targets and 24-hour news cycles. It wasn't always so.

In medieval times, craftsmen worked on cathedrals that would be unfinished in their lifetime. Indigenous leaders fostered intergenerational reciprocity. And in the early twentieth century, writers and intellectuals dreamed of worlds thousands of years hence. Now, as we face unprecedented long-term challenges, how do we rediscover that sense of far-sightedness?

Richard Fisher charts the path to a longer-term perspective, taking in centuries-old businesses in Japan, the world's longest-running scientific projects in Europe, and global languages that reframe the concept of time itself.

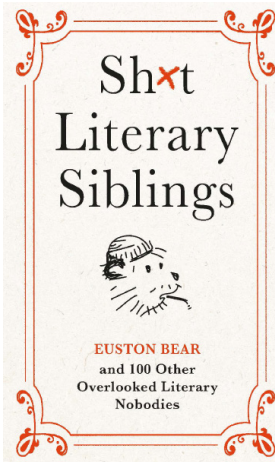
He examines the psychological biases and cultural pressures that discourage the long view, and talks to the growing number of people from the worlds of philosophy, technology, science and the arts who are exploring smart ways to overcome them.

If we can only look up and see the long view that lies ahead, humanity stands

## About the author:

Richard Fisher is a senior journalist with BBC Global News in London, where he writes, commissions and edits stories for BBC Future and bbc.com, specialising in science, technology and health journalism.

From 2019-20, Richard was a Knight Science Journalism fellow at MIT, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



## Sh\*t Literary Siblings

### The Fence

The imagined worlds of books are populated by some of the most loved and recognisable characters we know. But for every famous detective, Victorian heroine and beloved children's character there often exists an overlooked, often rubbish, and frequently downright sh\*t sibling. These unfortunate nobodies have never had the spotlight turned upon them. Until now.

Meet the likes of...

Euston Bear - currently living off Burger King wrapper sandwiches after ending up at the wrong station/Walter Wonka - a Kettering dentist with a phobia of dwarves/Gandalf the Greggs - beardy, pastry-covered piss wizard who spends long periods of time in the high/street bakery chain

Headline

September 2022

Editor: Richard Roper

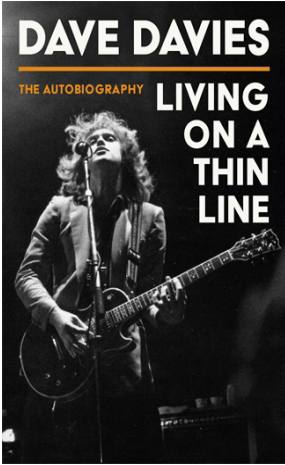
Extent: 128

The Honourable Jeremy Dracula - younger brother of the Count. Vegetarian. And many more.

With illustrations to help you spot these oddballs hanging around on the streets, *Sh\*t Literary Siblings* is a must have slice of humour for the book lover in your life.

### About the author:

The Fence is an independent, print and online satirical magazine founded in London in 2019. The magazine publishes a range of content, from essays to fiction, discussing politics and culture in the UK and Ireland.



## Living on a Thin Line

Dave Davies

The all new, must-read memoir by legendary Kinks guitarist Dave Davies.

Dave Davies is the co-founder and lead guitarist of epoch-defining band the Kinks, a group with fifty million record sales to their name.

In his autobiography, Davies revisits the glory days of the band that spawned so much extraordinary music, and which had such a profound influence on bands from The Clash and Van Halen to Oasis and Blur.

Full of tales of the tumultuous times and the ups-and-downs of his relationship with his brother Ray, along with encounters with the likes of John Lennon and Jimi Hendrix, this will be a glorious read for Kinks fans and anyone who wants to read about the heyday of rock 'n' roll.

Headline

July 2022

Editor: Richard Roper

Extent: 352

### About the author:

Dave Davies is the lead guitarist and occasional vocalist for legendary rock band The Kinks. As a solo musician, he has recorded several albums and toured the world. In 2003 he was named as one of the 100 greatest guitarists of all time by Rolling Stone magazine.

