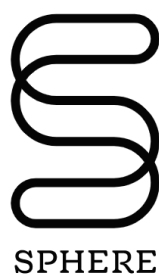


# little, brown

## BOOK GROUP

### TRANSLATION RIGHTS LIST

FICTION  
MAY 2022





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**Rights Director**

Worldwide Spanish and Catalan, Portugal, Far East, the Netherlands, Flemish Belgium, the Indian Subcontinent, and all of Eastern Europe except Poland and Hungary.

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**Andy Hine**

**Rights Director**

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**Jessica Callaghan**

**Rights Assistant**

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THE LAST PARTY (page 25)

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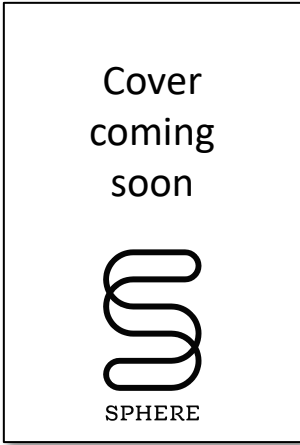
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Titles in CAPITALS are published by Little, Brown, titles in *Italics* are not.



LIMELIGHT

Daisy Buchanan

March 2023  
Sphere  
Contemporary Fiction  
352pp

Everyone thinks they know Frankie. Men treat her like a bimbo. Friends don't stick around for long. And her mother simply wants to show her off. She's either 'stuck up' or she 'loves herself' or she 'doesn't really have problems'. Why? Because Frankie is beautiful. But Frankie is lost. Deafened by the noise of everyone else's opinions, she has made it to adulthood with no idea who she is or what she stands for.

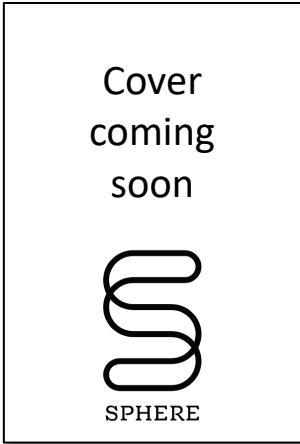
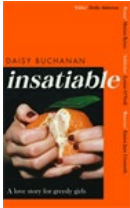
When a topless photo of her goes viral, the opinions multiply and the noise reaches a fever pitch. Somehow, she is cancelled by both the feminists and the misogynists. But help comes from an unlikely source - celebrity campaigner, Maz Clarke, is looking for her next project and Frankie is it. Being invited into Maz's world feels like a golden ticket. But in a world of filters and fake opinion, can Frankie find a way to stop trying to prove who she isn't - and learn to discover who she really is?

**DAISY BUCHANAN** is an award-winning journalist and author and her fans include Marian Keyes, Nina Stibbe and Dolly Alderton. She has written features and opinion pieces for every major national newspaper and magazine in the UK - she was *Grazia's* Agony Aunt, *Dear Daisy*, and a columnist for the beloved smart women's website *The Pool*. Daisy is a TEDx speaker and the host of the chart topping literary interview podcast *You're Booked*.

**Previous publishers:**  
North American (Penguin Random House Canada)

**Praise for CAREERING:**  
'CAREERING is, quite simply, the funniest novel I've read all year... CAREERING should be essential reading for anyone who's ever sat in a badly-lit media office and wondered what the hell they're doing with their life.' **Nell Frizzell**  
'There is no writer out there who can make you laugh and cry quite like Daisy Buchanan... I cannot recommend it highly enough.' **Lucy Vine**  
'Hilarious, acutely observant and completely engrossing' **Issy Suttie**

Also available:



DEAR NEIGHBOUR

Jane Claire Bradley

June 2023  
Sphere  
Contemporary Fiction  
320pp

Alice is a working hard to provide for her daughter, Mollie. But it's a challenge juggling her job alongside her duties as a single Mum in Leeds: a city she barely knows. Her neighbours keep to themselves and as much as she longs for a friend to rely on, she knows that things don't work out that way.

Bill has lived on Leodis Street for eighty years. It's where he was born, began his married life and eventually cared for his wife in her final days. Since Sally's death, Bill's home is a place of solitude, his talisman against an unrecognisable world.

When the residents of Leodis Street are threatened with eviction, Alice knows that she needs to make a stand. As she reaches out to her neighbours and learns about their lives, she is surprised to discover that she might already live next door to the friends she has been yearning for. Perhaps together they can build a community to be proud of and discover the true meaning of home.



MONOCHROME

Jamie Costello

October 2022  
Atom  
Young Adult Fiction  
400pp

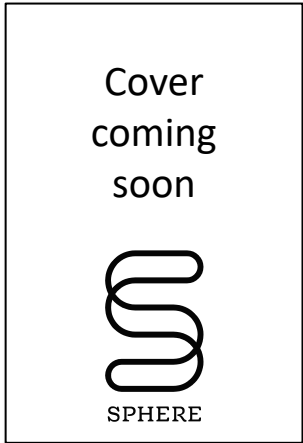
**JAMIE COSTELLO** lives in London. Under her own name, Laura Wilson, she is the author of six educational books on historical subjects for eight-to-twelve-year-olds, and thirteen critically acclaimed psychological thrillers, including the DI Stratton series. Her books have been shortlisted for many awards, including the Crime Writers' Association Gold Dagger, and she has won both the CWA Historical Mystery Award and the French Prix du Polar Européen. She was the Programming Chair for the Harrogate Crime Writing Festival in 2009, and co-programmes the Killer Women Crime Writing Festival. She is also the *Guardian's* crime fiction reviewer.

A gripping and prescient debut YA thriller set in a world drained of its colour, in which a group of young people must fight against the forces that threaten the natural world, and their very lives.

16-year-old Grace awakes one morning to find the sky leaden, the sun huge ball of ash, the clouds like threatening rubble, and reports of unexplained accidents occurring on roads and rail. These are the hallmarks of an apocalyptic movie, but it quickly becomes apparent that everything, to the rest of her family, seems normal; Grace is one of only a handful of people in the country who are seeing the world in shades of grey.

Soon, however, the whole of society is in the grip of the Monochrome Effect, or 'greyout', which eliminates the ability of humans and animals to see colour. The greyout moves from person to person, but it isn't a transmissible disease: the effect on the optic nerve can be traced from microplastics in the ocean, the result of unchecked pollution, now in all water systems.

When Grace starts to experience intermittent 'colour episodes', she is asked to join a government-run study with other teens who have seen flashes of colour since the Monochrome Effect began. She is told that she will be helping find a cure; be part of something that could save the world. But the reality is much more sinister, complex and dangerous than she could ever have imagined - colour vision is now currency, and to those in power, worth the ultimate price...



THE GINGERBREAD CAFE

Anita Faulkner

October 2022  
Sphere  
Contemporary Romance  
368pp

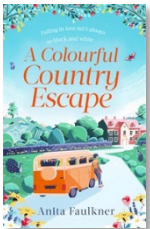
What if your life could be like Christmas every day?

The Gingerbread Café is always full of Christmas magic. Come rain or shine (or even a July heatwave), there's always a hot chocolate bursting with cinnamon and marshmallows. For Gretel Rosenhart it's been the perfect escape. The owner, Nell, is Gretel's last link to her late mum and hiding out there feels so much safer than making new friends.

So when Nell suddenly passes, Gretel is heartbroken - and shocked. Nell has left the café to Gretel and her nephew Lukas. Lukas, head chef at the local fancy restaurant, makes it clear he has no time for the café, Gretel or even Christmas itself. Gretel's too busy struggling to save the biscuits from burning to figure out why.

Gretel is determined to make the café a success before Lukas hands the keys over to the developers. But she can't do it alone; besides an over friendly ferret and a waitress with a secret, the only person she has now is Lukas. What if they never get along?

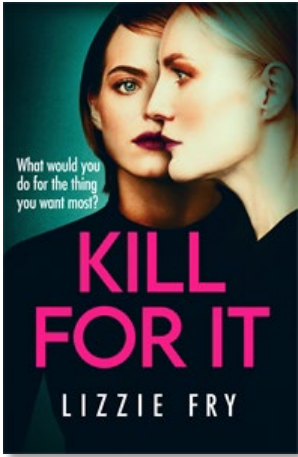
**ANITA FAULKNER** writes warm and fuzzy romcoms from her upcycled bureau in the south west of England. She grew up sniffing books and devouring stories. And she insists it was perfectly normal to squirrel boxes of pretty stationery that felt far too magical to actually use. She's also accumulated a brave and patient husband and a strong-willed little boy who brighten up her world.



Also available:

**Praise for A COLOURFUL COUNTRY ESCAPE:**  
'A lovely debut, full of fun and colour' **Bella Osborne**  
'A heart-warming and uplifting romance - the perfect summer read!' **Holly Martin**  
'Such a fun ride! Faulkner brings colour and humour to every line in this hoot of a debut. If you're looking for a big splash of bright sunshine in your life, this is it' **Pernille Hughes**  
'I absolutely adored this book. Fresh, funny and upbeat, A Colourful Country Escape is rom-com perfection!' **Kitty Wilson**  
'A debut triumph! Endlessly joy-lit. Bursting with character and warmth' **Christie Barlow**





**Rights sold:**  
US (Mobius)

**Previous publishers:**  
Czech (Argo spol. S.r.o)  
German (Heyne Verlag)  
Hungarian (Cartaphilus)  
Spanish (Planeta)  
Turkish (Epsilon)

## KILL FOR IT

Lizzie Fry

August 2022  
Sphere  
Contemporary thriller  
368pp

How far would you go for the thing you want most? Would you... kill for it?

Erin Goodman is a very good reporter. Up until recently, in fact, she was the best.

Cat Sullivan suddenly seems to have the inside scoop, she's always in the right place at the right time for the juiciest news reports.

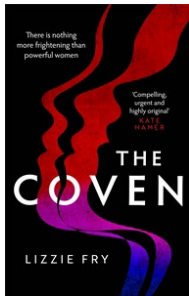
When Cat just happens to be in the area when a murder is called in, Erin can no longer ignore the long run of coincidences giving Cat's career a boost.


But Cat knows Erin is onto her. And Cat is more than happy to toy with her colleague, especially if it gets her an even bigger story to report on.

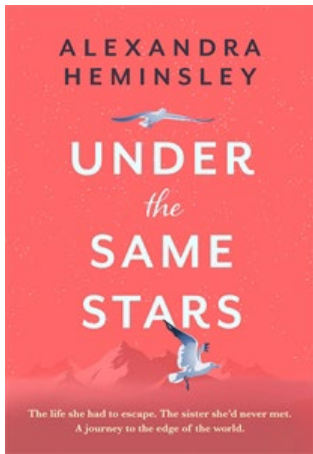
In the game of cat and mouse, there can be only one winner.

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

Also available:



 Click to listen to an audio sample of THE COVEN!



## UNDER THE SAME STARS

Alexandra Heminsley

July 2022  
Sphere  
Contemporary Fiction  
320pp

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

Clara Seymour is trying to find her feet in London, living away from home for the first time. Brought up by her domineering mother, treasuring time any time with her adoring father, Clara's world is brought to a standstill when her dad abruptly dies.

Then, a mystery comes to light in a letter from him.

*I am sure you are aware that before I met your mother I had a previous marriage. But what we never discussed is that we had a daughter.*

So begins a journey of discovery that takes Clara to remote Norway and a landscape as brutal as it is bewitching, a voyage fraught with personal and emotional danger to reveal who her father really was - and find the sister she's never met.

**ALEXANDRA HEMINSLEY** is author of three books about women, bodies and sport, including bestselling memoir *Running Like a Girl*, which has now been published in thirteen countries, and the forthcoming *Some Body to Love*. She also co-wrote Judy Murray's bestselling and William Hill Sports Book of the Year nominated *Knowing the Score*.

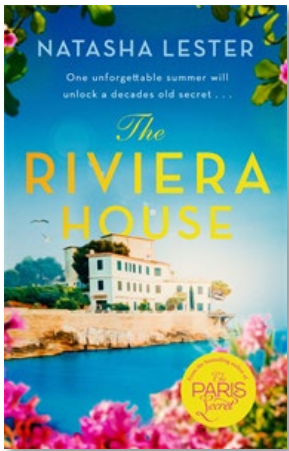
### Praise for UNDER THE SAME STARS

'An engrossing, inspiring emotional rollercoaster' **Keith Stuart**

'A moving story of hope and adventure' **Daisy Buchanan**

'It's beautifully written, with such heart, and yet also with such incredible elegance. Not only did it make me cry, it made me see the world in a different way' **Joanna Cannon**

'I was gripped from the first page, and crying by the last. Beautiful and bittersweet' **Lauren Bravo**



# THE RIVIERA HOUSE

Natasha Lester

Sphere  
Historical Fiction  
August 2021 (eBook)  
August 2022 (paperback)  
464pp

- Rights Sold:**  
Bulgarian (CIELA Norma AD)  
Czech (Grada)  
Danish (ALPHA)  
Finnish (Gummerus)  
German (Aufbau)  
Italian (Newton Compton)  
Norwegian (Bonnier Norsk)  
Poland (Burda Media)  
Romanian (Nemira Publishing House)  
Swedish (Bazar Forlag)  
US (Grand Central)
- Previous Publishers:**  
Albanian (Ombra GVG)  
Dutch (De Fontein)  
Greek (Dioptra)  
Lithuanian (Alma Littera)  
Portuguese (Grupo Porto Editora)  
Russian (Eksmo)  
Serbian (Laguna)



Click to listen to an audio sample of THE RIVIERA HOUSE!

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, present day:** 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?

# THE THREE LIVES OF ALIX ST PIERRE

September 2022 (eBook) May 2023 (paperback)

- Rights Sold:**  
Danish (ALPHA)  
Dutch (De Fontein)  
Norwegian (Bonnier Norsk Forlag)

Discover a breathtaking story of love, danger, courage and betrayal, from the internationally bestselling author of THE FRENCH PHOTOGRAPHER.

**1943.** When Alix St-Pierre's propaganda campaign to recruit women into the workforce gets her noticed, she soon finds herself recruited into America's fledgling intelligence organization, the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). Enlisted as a spy, Alix is sent to Switzerland, only just making it through Vichy France before the Nazis close all borders. Alix and a fellow OSS recruit are tasked with getting close to a Nazi, who may be willing to help the US or could be a double agent about to betray them. And then something goes terribly wrong. **1946.** Following the war, Alix is invited to move to Paris as a publicist for the yet-to-be-launched House of Christian Dior. She has mixed feelings about taking on the job, she has some unfinished business to attend to in Paris, but to her surprise she quickly discovers that her boss, Christian Dior, is a true and honest genius, someone she genuinely wants to help. But when a figure from the war reappears and threatens to jeopardize not only her future but the future of the House of Dior, Alix realizes that she'll need to do something drastic to right the wrongs of the past.

**NATASHA LESTER'S** fiction has sold 600,000 copies in the English language and has been translated into seventeen languages. She is the author of six novels, including the bestselling THE PARIS SEAMSTRESS and THE FRENCH PHOTOGRAPHER.

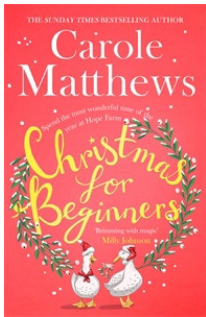
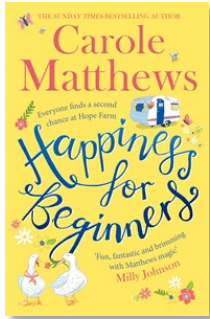
## Praise for Natasha Lester:

- 'THE PARIS SECRET is a tearjerker, so stock up on tissues, sit in a quiet corner and don't move until you've finished this extraordinary book.' **Marie Claire**
- 'LESTER is a master storyteller and with her latest offering she cements her place as one of Australia's best' **Daily Telegraph**
- 'Beautifully written and intimately researched [...] Lester adds rich layers and real depth to her characters. Magnifique!' – **Hazel Gaynor**
- 'Beautiful prose and immeasurable heart' **Erika Robuck**

Also available:







VARIOUS TITLES

Carole Matthews

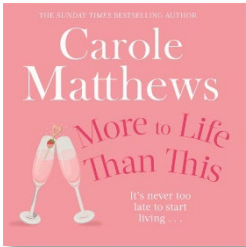
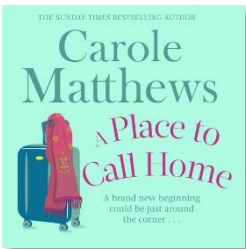
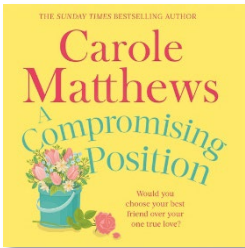
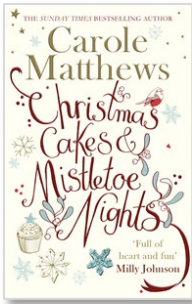
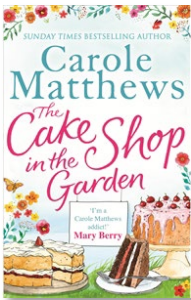
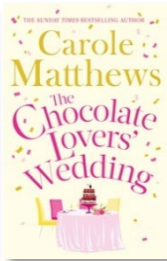
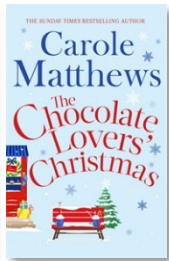
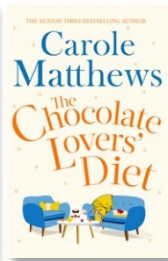
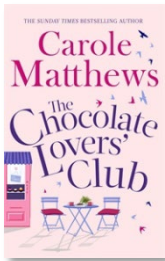
Various  
Sphere  
Modern and contemporary fiction  
400pp

Why do readers love Carole Matthews?

'So warm' **Jenny Colgan**  
'The perfect escape' **Woman**  
'Gorgeous' **Katie Fforde**  
'I laughed and cried and marvelled'  
**Cathy Bramley**  
'Witty, funny and incredibly touching'  
**Heat**

Winner of the **Romantic Novelists' Association Outstanding Achievement Award**, the **RNA Novel of the Year Award** and the **Festival of Romance's Hall of Fame Award**

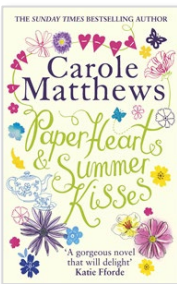
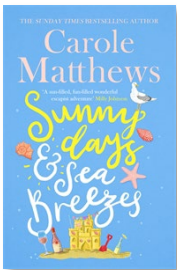
Rights sold in **thirty-one** territories to date



Over **six million** copies sold of all Carole Matthews titles (print and eBook)

**Titles available:**

WELCOME TO THE REAL WORLD  
THE CHOCOLATE LOVERS' CLUB  
THE CHOCOLATE LOVERS' DIET  
IT'S A KIND OF MAGIC  
ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE  
THE DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES  
TAHAT LOVING FEELING  
IT'S NOW OR NEVER  
THE ONLY WAY IS UP  
WRAPPED UP IN YOU  
SUMMER DAYDREAMS  
WITH LOVE AT CHRISTMAS  
A COTTAGE BY THE SEA  
CALLING MRS CHRISTMAS  
A PLACE TO CALL HOME  
THE CHRISTMAS PARTY  
THE CAKE SHOP IN THE GARDEN  
THE CHOCOLATE LOVERS' CHRISTMAS  
THE CHOCOLATE LOVERS' WEDDING  
PAPER HEARTS AND SUMMER KISSES  
CHRISTMAS CAKES AND MISTLETOE NIGHTS  
MILLION LOVE SONGS  
HAPPINESS FOR BEGINNERS



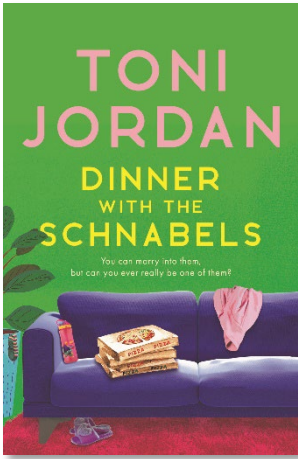
**CAROLE MATTHEWS** is the *Sunday Times* And *USA Today* bestselling author of over thirty novels, including the top ten bestsellers **THE CAKE SHOP IN THE GARDEN**, **A COTTAGE BY THE SEA**, **PAPER HEARTS AND SUMMER KISSES**, **CHRISTMAS CAKES AND MISTLETOE NIGHTS**, **MILLION LOVE SONGS** and **HAPPINESS FOR BEGINNERS**. In 2015, Carole was awarded the **RNA Outstanding Achievement Award**. Her novels dazzle and delight readers all over the world and she is published in more than thirty countries.

**Rights sold**

Croatian (Mozaik Knjiga)  
Czech (Grada)  
Danish (People's Press)  
Finnish (Minerva)  
Hungarian (Cartaphilus)  
Italian (Newton Compton)  
Norwegian (Cappelen Damm)  
Slovene (HKZ)  
Swedish (Printz Publishing)



Click to listen to an audio sample  
of **SUNNY DAYS AND SEA BREEZES**



Hachette Australia cover

## DINNER WITH THE SCHNABELS

Toni Jordan

September 2022

Piatkus

Contemporary fiction

400pp

A novel about marriage, love and family.

Things haven't gone well for Simon Larsen lately. He adores his wife, Tansy, and his children, but since his business failed and he lost the family home, he can't seem to get off the couch. Simon is permanently unemployed and permanently unshaven.

His larger-than-life in-laws, the Schnabels - Tansy's mother, sister and brother - won't get off his case. To keep everyone happy, Simon needs to do one little job: he has a week to landscape a friend's backyard for an important Schnabel family event.

But as the week progresses, Simon is derailed by the arrival of an unexpected house guest. Then he discovers Tansy is harbouring a secret. As his world spins out of control, who can Simon really count on when the chips are down?

Life with the Schnabel family is messy, chaotic and joyful, and Dinner with the Schnabels is as heartwarming as it is outrageously funny.

**Rights sold**

German (Thiele Verlag)

**TONI JORDAN** has worked as a molecular biologist, quality control chemist, TAB operator and door-to-door aluminium siding salesperson. She is the author of six novels including the international bestseller *Addition*, which was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Award, *Nine Days*, which was awarded Best Fiction at the 2012 Indie Awards and was named in Kirkus Review's top 10 Historical Novels of 2013, and *Our Tiny, Useless Hearts*, which was longlisted for the International Dublin Literary Award. Toni has been published widely in newspapers and magazines. She holds a Bachelor of Science in physiology and a PhD in Creative Arts.

**Praise for Toni Jordan:**

'A wonderful, witty treat of a novel - a new Toni Jordan is always a special pleasure' **Liane Moriarty**

'Laugh-out-loud funny' **The Australian Women's Weekly**

'Crisp and clever' **Saturday Paper**

'An emotionally rich domestic drama' **The Australian**

'Pitch-perfect blend of intelligence, compassion and humour' **The Guardian**

Cover  
coming  
soon



## THE SECRET OF ANGEL COVE

Sheila Norton

December 2022

Piatkus

Romance

320pp

A cosy, heartwarming Christmas read about the blossoming friendship between a young, lonely journalist, and an old woman who lives in a house teetering on the edge of the Devon cliffs, by the bestselling author of *The Vets of Hope Green* and *The Petshop on Pennycombe Bay*

**SHEILA NORTON** has written avidly since childhood and has won prizes for her short stories that have been published, mainly in women's magazines. She is married with three grown-up daughters who provide plenty of inspiration for her books! Visit her at [www.sheilanorton.co.uk](http://www.sheilanorton.co.uk)

*WINTER AT CLIFF'S END COTTAGE* won the RNA (Romance Novelists' Association) Award for The Christmas/Festive Holiday Romantic Novel!

**Praise for Sheila Norton:**

'Thoroughly enjoyable' **Katie Fforde**

'A truly lovely read with delightful characters' **Phillipa Ashley**

'A charming read. Made me want to move to the country and buy a cottage with roses around the door' **Sarah Morgan**

Also available:



Cover  
coming  
soon



**Option publishers:**  
Czech (Fortuna Libri)  
French (Marabout)  
German (Droemer)  
Romanian (Editura Libris)  
Slovak (Libri Fortuna)

## SEVEN MONTHS OF SUMMER

Saskia Sarginson

January 2023  
Piatkus  
Contemporary Romance  
368pp

1993. When Kit meets Summer on the backpacking trip of lifetime, he falls head over heels in love. He is sure what they have is much more than just a holiday romance.

On returning home, Kit is certain he'll be able to find the magical girl he met. But when he follows the clues of what Summer told him about her life, the girl he thought he knew doesn't seem to exist.

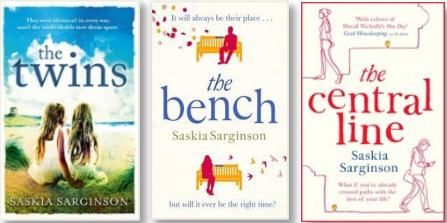
Heartbroken that she lied to him, Kit moves to the Suffolk coast for a fresh start. Little does he know, Summer is living just a few miles away - and is incapable of forgetting Kit too.

But as the months pass, Kit and Summer's paths never collide. Their lives move on and a hazy, sun-drenched summer begins.

By the time they meet, will it be too late to start again?

**SASKIA SARGINSON** was awarded a distinction in her MA in Creative Writing at Royal Holloway after a BA in English Literature from Cambridge University and a BA in Fashion Design & Communications. Before becoming a full-time author, Sarginson's writing experience included being a health and beauty editor on women's magazines, a ghost writer for the BBC and HarperCollins and copy-writing and script editing. Her novel *THE TWINS* sold into fifteen territories.

Also by Saskia Sarginson



## THE PATRON SAINT OF SECOND CHANCES

Christine Simon

March 2022  
Sphere  
Contemporary Fiction  
352pp

**Rights sold:**  
Italian (Newton Compton)  
Japanese (Hayakawa)  
US (Simon & Schuster)



Click to listen to an audio  
sample of the book!

**CHRISTINE SIMON** grew up in a very large and very loud Italian family, where it was considered a major milestone amongst her countless siblings and cousins to surpass their nonna's towering height of four-foot, ten inches. She lives with her husband and four children, who are also extremely loud, and the crowning achievements of her life are learning to read knitting patterns and teaching her otherwise-unscrupulous miniature schnauzer to ring a bell when he wants to go out.  
A new title by Christine Simon coming in February 2023.

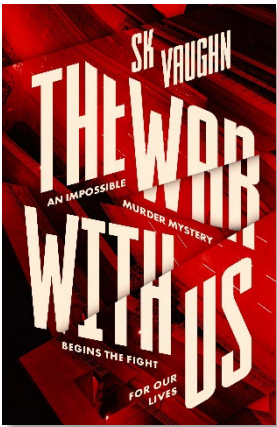
The Patron Saint of Plumbing is not answering Nino Speranza's prayers. Without expensive repairs to the pipes, the water board will cut off Speranza's crumbling Italian village. All 212 inhabitants will be forced to leave.

In a desperate bid to find the money to save his hometown, he starts a rumour that Italian heart-throb Dante Rinaldi is coming to town to film his next movie.

Soon, the place is teeming with fans and everyone wants to be involved: Speranza's assistant has a screenplay and the butcher will invest - if Speranza can find roles for each of his fifteen enormous sons. Even the priest is on board.

It seems the only way to give their beloved town a second chance is to actually make a movie. What could possibly go wrong?

**Praise for THE PATRON SAINT OF SECOND CHANCES:**  
'A rare treasure: both hilariously funny and beautifully written.'  
**Julia Claiborne Johnson, author of *Better Luck Next Time***  
'The most charming, original and hilarious novel I have read in ages. This novel is something special. Everyone with a sense of humour must pick this up immediately.'  
**Elyssa Friedland, author of *Last Summer at The Golden Hotel***  
'A glorious romp of a book with a cast of characters to fall in love with. Gorgeous, hilarious and brimming with joy. Christine Simon's writing is just a delight.'  
**Helen Paris, author of *Lost Property***



Cover not final

# THE WAR WITH US

Shane Kuhn

January 2023  
Sphere  
Thriller  
512pp

Option publishers:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Czech (Host)                            | Russian (AST Publishers)                     |
| Dutch (Netherlands)                     | Spanish (Plaza y Janes)                      |
| French (Bragelonne)                     | Turkish (Egitim Yayinevi Basim Yaim Dagitim) |
| German (Goldmann)                       | US (Skybound)                                |
| Hungarian (Libri)                       |  |
| Italian (Rizzoli)                       |  |
| Korean (Chaek-Se-Sang)                  |  |
| Polish (Dressler Dublin)                |  |
| Portuguese in Brazil (Editora Schwarcz) |  |

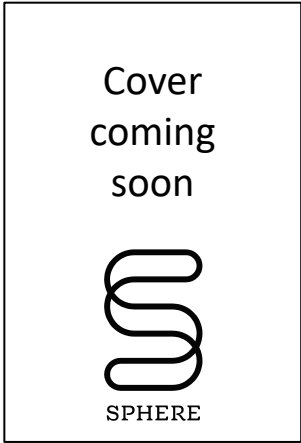
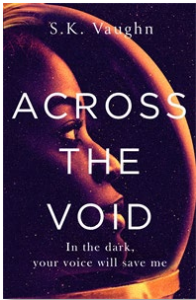
It is an impossible case: a scientist, Rosalind Teller, is found murdered in her apartment, doors and windows locked from the inside. Then, the body vanishes from the morgue.

Detective Lio Dos Santos is at rock bottom, but something about this case gets under his skin. He begins to seek the truth – and that’s when Rosalind reappears.

She was murdered for her scientific discovery – an incredible, dangerous way to be instantly transported from one location to another. Many are willing to kill to steal it, just as many to destroy it . . . and turn world against itself in the process.

**S.K. VAUGHN** is the pseudonym for a screenwriter and author of three internationally bestselling thrillers. Vaughn's first science-fiction novel, **ACROSS THE VOID**, was released in multiple languages and territories worldwide. S.K. Vaughn lives and works in North Beach, San Francisco.

Also available:



# THE SQUARE

Celia Walden

April 2023  
Sphere  
Thriller  
400pp

Option publishers:

- Portuguese in Brazil (Nova Fronteira)  
Spanish (Trini Vergara)

Known for her wide-ranging articles, opinions and commentaries on everything from current affairs to health, fashion and motoring, Daily Telegraph columnist **CELIA WALDEN** has written for *Glamour*, *GQ*, *Elle*, *Porter Magazine*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Net-a-Porter's The Edit*, *Grazia*, *Stylist*, *Standpoint*, *The Spectator* and *Russian Vogue*. **PAYDAY** (Sphere, 2021) was her first thriller.

For years Colette Burton has tended to the tech-needs of the inhabitants of Addison Square: an exclusive, leafy enclave set back from the busy West London high-streets. When you've deleted five years' worth of family memories - two sets of ultrasounds included - when you've accidentally overwritten that crucial work report, when your smart TV, smart doorbell or your iPhone's on the fritz, it's Colette that you call.

She's inside your computer, your phone, your home and your life, but your secrets are safe with her - aren't they? Like every IT consultant Colette has been turning a blind eye to her clients' dubious activities for decades. "Think of me like a doctor or therapist. I'm a judgement-free zone." As with doctors and therapists, this is a lie. But those judgements remain dormant until one of her most obnoxious Square clients commits a despicable act in front of her and Colette decides, just this once, to ditch the ethical and moral scruples her job is dependent on, and make that man pay. Only as she gets drawn into the tangled personal lives of these middle-class Londoners, Colette uncovers a succession of secrets and lies that are impossible to ignore.

Because when a man is so blatantly cheating on his wife, and so overtly flirting with the Square's newest arrival - a gorgeous Parisian influencer named Leila - what's the harm in using her stealth power to puppeteer that wife into an affair with her handsome neighbour? Doesn't she deserve to have some fun?

As the night of the all-important 150th Anniversary of Addison Square party draws near and Colette's puppeteering reaches fever pitch, secrets are revealed, worlds collide - and Leila is found dead.

Everyone had a reason to kill her. But who did? And with all that string-pulling, did Colette somehow set this catastrophic act in motion?



Cover  
coming  
soon



## THE VENETIAN INHERITANCE

Charlotte Betts

February 2023  
Piatkus  
Historical Fiction  
400pp



Click to listen to an audio sample of **LETTING IN THE LIGHT**!

**CHARLOTTE BETTS** began her working life as a fashion designer in London. A career followed in interior design, property management and lettings. Always a bookworm, Betts discovered her passion for writing after her three children and two step-children had grown up. **THE APOTHECARY'S DAUGHTER** is her debut novel and won the YouWriteOn Book of the Year in 2010, the Romantic Novelists' Association Joan Hessayon Award for New Writers in 2011 and the RoNA's Historical Category award for 2013. The sequel, **THE PAINTER'S APPRENTICE** was published in 2012 and shortlisted for the Festival of Romance's Best Historical Read Award in 2012. **THE SPICE MERCHANT'S WIFE** was published in 2013 and won the Festival of Romance's Best Historical Read Award in 2013.

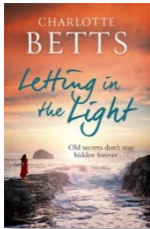
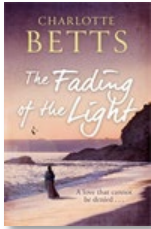
Venice, 1911. Seventeen years ago, the grand Venetian Palazzo degli Angeli was Phoebe Wyndham's home; now, the neglected walls of the palazzo are just a haunting reminder of all she has lost.

When tragedy strikes and her aunt unexpectedly dies, the recently widowed Phoebe is forced to return to Italy – only to discover she has inherited the palazzo she grew up in.

All she wants to do is sell the property and return home. However, when Aunt Ada's diary exposes a dark family secret, the shocking deception rocks Phoebe to her very core, and she vows to not leave The Floating City without first unravelling the truth from the lies.

As Phoebe searches for answers, she finds herself growing closer to two very different men, despite her promise to never risk her heart again. But, when her camera catches something more sinister than the faded grandeur of Venice, Phoebe begins to question who she can really trust and whether her aunt's death was an accident after all...

Also available:



Cover  
coming  
soon



## THE BONE HUNTERS

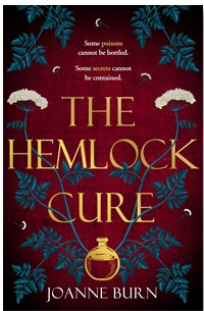
Joanne Burn

February 2024  
Sphere  
Historical Fiction  
352pp

Option publishers:

Portuguese in Portugal (Bertrand Editora, Lda)  
US (Pegasus Books)

Also available:



A haunting, suspenseful tale of ambition, oppression and one woman's struggle for acceptance in the male-dominated world of nineteenth-century palaeontology.

It is 1824, and the seaside resort of Lyme Regis is teeming with visitors seeking fun and pleasure for the summer. When 22-year-old Harriet unearths the fossilised bones of a giant sea monster, her incredible discovery brings her scientific ambitions tantalisingly within reach.

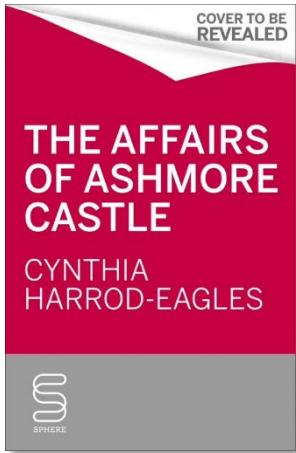
But as a working-class woman, she is invisible to the geological community to which she longs to belong. After she witnesses a violent crime, and a devastating disaster befalls her, she realises that all around her, monsters lurk.

Against all the advice of those who care for her, with revenge and justice in mind, she steps into a world as cold and dark as the ocean, as treacherous as the storm that is on its way.

**JOANNE BURN** was born in Northampton in 1973, and now lives in the Peak District where she works as a writing coach. Her first novel, **Petals and Stones**, was published in 2018, and her second novel **THE HEMLOCK CURE** published in February 2022.



Click to listen to an audio sample of **THE HEMLOCK CURE**!



## THE AFFAIRS OF ASHMORE CASTLE

Cynthia Harrod-Eagles

August 2022  
Sphere  
Historical Fiction  
448pp

**Option publishers**  
Czech (Euromedia)  
Slovak (Ikar)  
Norwegian (H. Aschehoug & Co)

**CYNTHIA HARROD-EAGLES** is the author of the hugely popular MORLAND DYNASTY novels, which have captivated and enthralled readers for decades. She is also the author of the contemporary BILL SLIDER mystery series, as well as her new series, WAR AT HOME, which is an epic family drama set against the backdrop of World War I

The second novel in the Ashmore Castle series, perfect for fans of *Downton Abbey*.

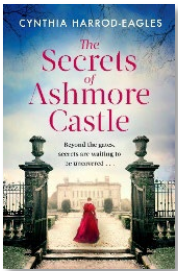
Behind the doors of the magnificent Ashmore Castle, secrets are waiting to be uncovered . . .

The new Earl of Stainton, struggling to bring his family's estate back to order after the death of his father, has little time to spare for his young pregnant wife Kitty. She lives in fear of her mother-in-law, who won't give up the reins of the household. Will she ever truly be mistress of Ashmore Castle? Perhaps if her coming child is a boy, that will change the balance of power...

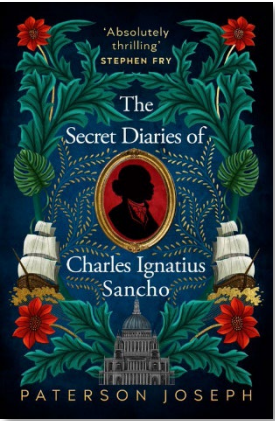
Meanwhile, the Earl's younger sisters are having their first taste of romance, but not necessarily with the right people. Richard is pursuing his forbidden relationship with Molly, while Nina makes a lively new friend who leads her straight into trouble and pushes her relationship with her husband to the limit.

And below stairs, ambition, jealousy and revenge stalk the corridors, while a tragic suicide, a tender romance, and finally a mysterious disappearance challenge the Castle's residents, both high and low . . .

Also available:



Click to listen to an audio sample of THE SECRETS OF ASHMORE CASTLE!



## THE SECRET DIARIES OF CHARLES IGNATIUS SANCHO

Paterson Joseph

October 2022  
Dialogue  
Historical Fiction  
432pp

Cover not final

**Rights sold:**  
US (Henry Holt)

**Praise for THE SECRET DIARIES OF CHARLES IGNATIUS SANCHO:**  
"An absolutely thrilling, throat-catching wonder of a historical novel. I read with alternating fascination, dread, hilarity, admiration, sorrow and triumph for a full life rendered with such animation, brilliance and understanding. Told in wonderful prose and with dazzling energy and brilliant panache. Hugely recommended" - **Stephen Fry**

**Meet Charles Ignatius Sancho: his extraordinary story, hidden for three hundred years, is about to be told.**

*I had little right to live, born on a slave ship where my parents both died. But I survived, and indeed, you might say I did more...*

It's 1746 and Georgian London is not a safe place for a young Black man, especially one who has escaped slavery. After the twinkling lights in the Fleet Street coffee shops are blown out and the great houses have closed their doors for the night, Sancho must dodge slave catchers and worse. The man he hoped would help - a kindly duke who taught him to write - is dying. Sancho is desperate and utterly alone.

So how does Charles Ignatius Sancho meet the King, become the first Black person to vote in Britain and lead the fight to end slavery?

It's time for him to tell his story, one that begins on a tempestuous Atlantic Ocean, and ends at the very centre of London life. And through it all, he must ask: born amongst death, how much can you achieve in one short life?

**PATERSON JOSEPH** is a beloved British actor and writer. Recently seen on Vigil and Noughts and Crosses, he has also starred in Peep Show and Law & Order UK. THE SECRET DIARIES OF CHARLES IGNATIUS SANCHO is his debut novel.



Cover  
coming  
soon



West Virginia, 1897

After the sudden death of young Zona Shue only a few months after her impromptu wedding, her mother Mary Jane has a vision – she was killed. And by none other than her new husband, Trout, the handsome blacksmith beloved in their small Southern town.

Mary Jane, known for casting off her corsets, following famous mediums and for criticising Zona when she was alive, is shattered by her conviction. Yet no-one believes her. Her only ally is the eccentric Lucy Frye – an unmarried woman who always suspected Trout’s power over her friend.

As the trial raises to fever pitch and the men of Greenbrier County stand aligned against them, Mary Jane and Lucy must decide whether to play with fire and reveal Zona’s greatest secret. But it’s Zona herself, from beyond the grave, who still has one last revelation to make.

Based on a real trial and masterfully playing with the tropes of the Southern Gothic, Aoife Fitzpatrick delivers a searing feminist history like no other. It is a first novel of rare and dazzling brilliance to be read with your heart in your mouth and chills down your spine to the final, haunting page.

THE RED BIRD  
SINGS

Aoife Fitzpatrick

April 2023

Virago

Historical Fiction

400pp

Rightssold:

Lithuanian (UAB Alma Littera)

Dear friends,

I can’t remember a meeting quite like it. I presented THE RED BIRD SINGS hoping that a couple of people may have had time to read a little of the 97,000-word manuscript over the weekend. I loved it, but would anyone else fall for the clever Gothic tricks, the menacing tension, the bravura ghostly climax?

I was blown away. After my breathless pitch, there was a moment’s pause, and then everyone began speaking. They loved it. They compared it to huge bestsellers. They had stayed up all night. They talked of their favourite characters, the most exciting moments, pressed their hands to their ears if they hadn’t yet reached the end.

In the afternoon, I spoke with Aoife Fitzpatrick, and for the second time I was knocked off my feet, by her intelligence, the fire she had for her subject, the stories behind her research. Not only that – the idea for her next book was deliciously compelling, one that I cannot wait to read.

I’m thrilled that Virago is selling World rights in THE RED BIRD SINGS. A heart stopping Gothic suspense, it nods back to our favourites like Sarah Waters’ *Fingersmith* and Margaret Atwood’s *Alias Grace* and looks to a future star of historical fiction with a powerful feminist vision. It tells an important story with page-turning tension; it portrays historic women with no two-dimensional feistiness but with tenderness and profound insight. We’ll be publishing in Spring 2023 as our major debut lead.

And the story behind the novel is just as fascinating. Taking a real court case from 1897 West Virginia as its starting point, it dramatises the first time the testimony of a ghost was admitted as evidence in an American murder trial. Aoife Fitzpatrick brings it to life in the voices of two women close to the victim with a haunting power and desperate tension.

I wish you goosebumps. I wish that tears come to your eyes as you read *that* moment with the letter, and *that* moment in the courtroom. And I wish you the same breathless rush as you pitch THE RED BIRD SINGS to your teams and feel with all your heart, like I did, that this book has to be yours.

Best wishes,

Rose Tomaszewska, Editorial Director, Virago

**‘The greatest power we woman can own, is that we take in secret . . . ’**

Seventeen years ago, king Odysseus sailed to war with Troy, taking with him every man of fighting age from the island of Ithaca. None of them have returned, and the women have been left behind to run the kingdom. Penelope was barely into womanhood when she wed Odysseus. Whilst he lived, her position was secure. But now, years on, speculation is mounting that husband is dead, and suitors are starting to knock at her door . . .

But no one man is strong enough to claim Odysseus’ empty throne - not yet. Between Penelope’s many suitors, a cold war of dubious alliances and hidden knives reigns, as everyone waits for the balance of power to tip one way or another. If Penelope chooses one from amongst them, it will plunge Ithaca into bloody civil war. Only through cunning and her spy network of maids can she maintain the delicate balance of power needed for the kingdom to survive.

On Ithaca, everyone watches everyone else, and there is no corner of the palace where intrigue does not reign . . .

**CLAIRE NORTH** is a pseudonym for Catherine Webb, a Carnegie Medal-nominated author whose debut novel was written when she was just fourteen years old. She has fast established herself as one of the most powerful and imaginative voices in modern fiction. Her first book published under the Claire North pen name was THE FIRST FIFTEEN LIVES OF HARRY AUGUST, which became a word-of-mouth bestseller and won the John W. Campbell Memorial Award.

‘Like Penelope at her loom North both weaves and unweaves, teasing out the threads of Homeric myth to recombine them into something unique, wonderful and urgently contemporary.’ **M.R Carey**<sup>15</sup>

ITHACA

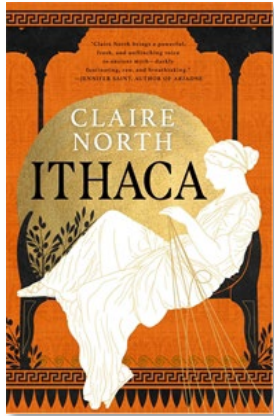
Claire North

September 2022

Orbit

Historical

400pp



Rightssold:

French (Bragelonne)

Hungarian (Alomgyar)

Italian (Newton Compton)

Lithuanian (Baltos Lankos)

Portuguese in Brazil (Universo dos Livros)

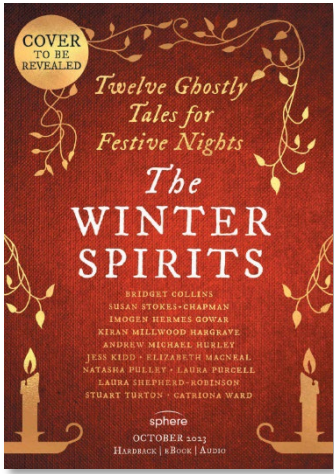
Russian (Mann, Ivanov & Ferber)

Turkish (Ithaki Yayinlari)

US (Orbit)

Praise for ITHACA:

‘In this dazzlingly complex, twisting tale, Claire North breathes life into a cast of mythical characters from goddesses to queens to slave-women in a richly nuanced portrayal of human life. The novel is poised on a knife-edge of suspense throughout; the strength, wit and determination of the women shining through the murky politics and barely-restrained savagery of the war-torn world ruled by brutal kings and merciless men. Claire North brings a powerful, fresh and unflinching voice to ancient myth - darkly fascinating, raw and breathtaking.’ **Jennifer Saint, author of *Ariadne***



## THE WINTER SPIRITS

Various authors

October 2023  
Orbit  
Historical  
400pp

From Dickens's A Christmas Carol to the ghost stories of M.R. James, the tradition of a haunted tale at Christmas has flourished across the centuries. The twelve stories of The Winter Spirits are all centred around Christmas or Advent, boldly and playfully re-imagining a beloved tradition for a modern audience. Taking you from a haunted Tuscan villa to a remote Scottish island with a dark secret, and drawing inspiration from festive traditions from all around the globe, these vibrant haunted stories are your ultimate companion for frosty nights.

The collection includes stories from Bridget Collins, Susan Stokes-Chapman, Imogen Hermes Gowar, Kiran Millwood Hargrave, Andrew Michael Hurley, Jess Kidd, Elizabeth Macneal, Natasha Pulley, Laura Purcell, Laura Shepherd-Robinson, Stuart Turton and Catriona Ward.

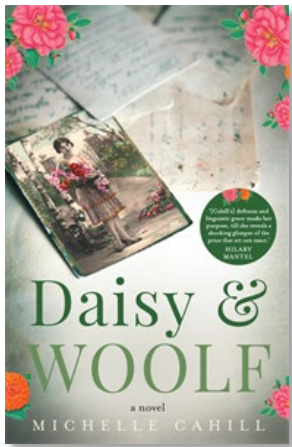
Between them, the authors of THE WINTER SPIRITS have sold more than 1.6 million copies TCM and collectively they have published: 10 Sunday Times bestsellers, 2 Costa First Novel Award Winners, 2 British Books of the Year, 8 Waterstones Books of the Month, 8 BBC Radio 2 book club picks, 2 Richard and Judy Book Club Picks, 5 Times Books of the Year . . . in addition to a plethora of other prizes!

**Rights sold:**  
Italian (Neri Pozza)

**Previous publishers:**  
German (DuMont)  
Polish (Zysk)  
Portuguese in Brazil (Editora Intrínseca Ltda)  
Russian (Mann, Ivanov and Ferber)  
Spanish (Ediciones Urano)  
US (Pegasus)

Also available:





## DAISY & WOOLF

Michelle Cahill

May 2022  
Hachette Australia  
Literary Fiction  
304pp

*'Property. Territory. Dominion. Dreadnought. Empire. A room of one's own, for Englishwomen exclusively . . . I wanted some clue to Peter Walsh and Daisy Simmons: how they meet; why it so happens that she falls perilously in love with him; what eventuates after he leaves India. Does she leave her husband and elope with him?'*

Daisy Simmons, a minor character in Virginia Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway*, is the Eurasian woman whom Anglo-Indian Peter Walsh plans to marry. But what happens to her?

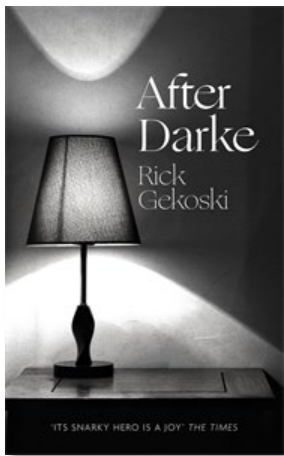
She disappears from the pages, her story unfinished – she does not warrant a voice in the novel, nor a footnote in any of the admiring Woolf scholarship that follows.

Australian author Mina, herself of mixed ancestry, decides to write Daisy's story. Travelling to England, India and even China, freelancing and researching, she has to navigate cultural and race barriers, at great personal cost. Like Woolf, her writing both sustains and overwhelms her. But in releasing the character Daisy from her fictional destiny, Mina finds the stubbornness and strength to also break free.

**Praise for WOOLF:**

*'Her deftness and linguistic grace masks her purpose, until she reveals a shocking glimpse of the price that art can exact' – Hilary Mantel*

**MICHELLE CAHILL** is the author of fiction, essays and three collections of poetry, notably *Letter to Pessoa*, a short story collection that won the NSW Premier's Literary Awards (UTS Glenda Adams Award) and was shortlisted for the Steele Rudd Queensland Literary Award; and *Vishvarupa* which was shortlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Awards. Born in Kenya, she attended primary school in London before migrating to Australia. She lives in Sydney, where she graduated in Medicine and Arts. She is editor of the online literary magazine *Mascara* and co-editor of the anthology *Contemporary Asian Australian Poets*. Michelle was awarded the 2020 Red Room Poetry Fellowship.



## AFTER DARKE

Rick Gekoski

July 2022  
Constable  
Contemporary Fiction  
288pp

**The final instalment in the Darke trilogy.**

Released from prison after serving his sentence for the assisted death of his wife, his health failing and his chronic impatience exacerbated, Dr James Darke self-isolates. But on his return he understands that he is now a displaced person, lost in a new world for which his education and inclinations have not prepared him.

Irascible, misanthropic, intensely bookish, fastidious in his tastes and rich enough to indulge them, Darke is a happy shut-in, busily writing oppositional pamphlets and composing a literary hoax. But his daughter and the Bulgarian housekeeper she hired to look after him have other ideas.

*After Darke* is a moving, witty reflection on grief, ageing and love in all its forms, and James Darke is one of the most memorable, exasperating yet loveable characters of contemporary fiction.

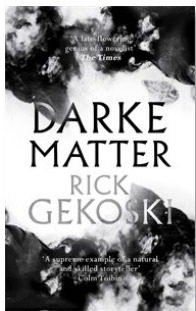
**Option publisher:**  
Italy (Bompiani)

**RICK GEKOSKI** is a novelist and writer of non-fiction, a rare bookseller and former academic, publisher, bibliographer, literary journalist and broadcaster. A Booker Prize Judge in 2005, Chair of Judges for the 2011 Man Booker International Prize, a life-time Vice President of English PEN and former board member of the Arvon Foundation, he has some fifty years of experience of the English literary scene.

Also available:

**Praise for *Darke*:**

- 'Gekoski puts words together with a sure touch and deep craftsmanship' **Philip Pullman**
- 'Wondrous' **Sebastian Barry**
- 'I have never laughed as much at a book that made me weep so copiously' **The Scotsman**
- 'A moving meditation on loss and redemption' **Mail on Sunday**
- 'An original and bleakly funny portrait of grief' **Economist**
- 'Dark, thrilling' **Spectator**





# HERE AGAIN NOW

Okechukwu Nzelu

March 2022  
Dialogue  
Contemporary Fiction  
304pp

**Praise for OKECHUKWU NZELU:**

‘A beautiful exploration of grief and family. Through exquisite prose, Okechukwu Nzelu delves into the lives of the complicated men at the centre of this story with compassion and tenderness. A lyrical and insightful novel’ **Brit Bennett**, author of *The Vanishing Half*, on **HERE AGAIN NOW**

‘Witty confidence... Smart, serious and entertaining.’ **Bernardine Evaristo** on **THE PRIVATE JOYS OF NNENNA MALONEY**

Also available:



**How do you move forward when the past keeps pulling you back?**

Achike Okoro feels like his life is coming together at last. His top-floor flat in Peckham is as close to home as he can imagine and after years of hard work, he's about to get his break as an actor. He's even persuaded his father, Chibuiké, to move in with him, grateful to offer the man who raised him as a single parent a home of his own.

Between filming trips, Achike is snatching a few days in London with Ekene, his best friend of twenty years, the person who makes him feel whole. Achike can put the terrible things that happened behind him at last; everything is going to be alright. Maybe even better.

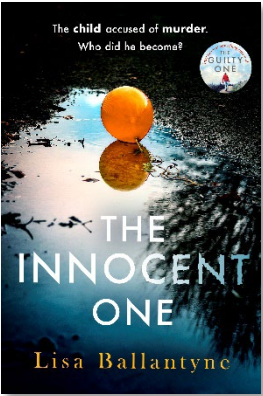
But after a magical night, when Achike and Ekene come within a hair's breadth of admitting their feelings for each other, a devastating event rips all three men apart. In the aftermath, it is Ekene and Chibuiké who must try to rebuild. And although they have never truly understood each other, grief may bring them both the peace and happiness they've been searching for...

**OKECHUKWU NZELU** is a writer and teacher. In 2015 he was the recipient of a New Writing North Award. In 2020 his debut novel, **THE PRIVATE JOYS OF NNENNA MALONEY**, won a Betty Trask Award and was shortlisted for the Betty Trask Prize, the Desmond Elliott Prize, and the Polari First Book Prize. He lives in Manchester and is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Lancaster.



**Click to listen to an audio sample of HERE AGAIN NOW!**





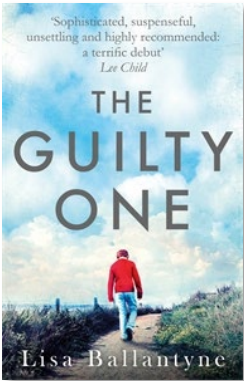
# THE INNOCENT ONE

Lisa Ballantyne

August 2022  
Piatkus  
Thriller  
352pp

**Rights sold:**  
Finnish (Minerva)  
US (Pegasus)

Also by Lisa Ballantyne:



**Praise for THE INNOCENT ONE:**  
'An emotionally charged, nerve-jangling thriller . . . I couldn't put it down' **Saskia Sarginson**  
'Had me turning the pages late into the night' **C. J. Cooper**

*Innocent*

Ten years ago, Sebastian Croll was found not guilty of murdering his playmate.

Criminal solicitor Daniel Hunter defended the eleven-year-old in a trial that gripped the nation, but the past is unearthed when Daniel gets a call from his old client.

*Or guilty?*

Sebastian's university professor has been murdered and everyone who knew her is in the frame.

As Daniel steps in to represent Sebastian for the second time, rumour of his client's identity spreads like wildfire.

The media swarm. Threats begin to arrive. And the question on everyone's lips:

**Could the child once accused of murder really be innocent?**

**LISA BALLANTYNE** is the internationally bestselling author of four novels. Her debut, **THE GUILTY ONE**, was a Richard and Judy Book Club bestseller, Edgar-Award nominated and translated into nearly thirty languages. Her second novel, **GOOD BAD LOVE** (previously **REDEMPTION ROAD**), was a USA Today bestseller. She lives in Glasgow, Scotland.



**Click here to listen to Lisa Ballantyne talking about THE INNOCENT ONE!**

Cover coming Soon

  
CONSTABLE

# ITALIAN RULES

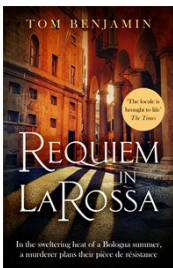
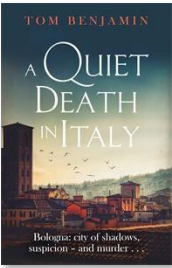
Tom Benjamin

November 2022  
Constable  
Crime & Mystery  
320pp



**Click to listen to an audio sample of REQUIEM IN LA ROSSA!**

Also available:



**The next book in the Daniel Leicester crime series.**

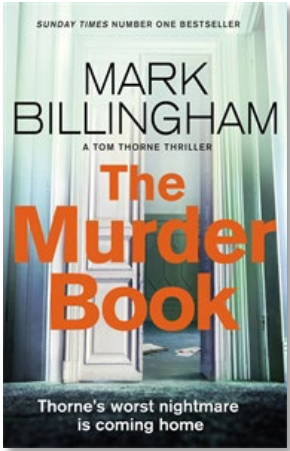
When a canister containing an old movie goes missing from Bologna's Cineteca - one of Europe's leading centres of film restoration - Daniel Leicester is called in to investigate. He finds out that the film in question had been considered lost until recently.

As he looks deeper into the mystery, he begins to suspect the outtakes from the missing film might expose the culprit of an unsolved murder from the past. As part of his investigation, he joins an exclusive Buraco club where they play the traditional card game to 'Italian rules' and he suspects the murderer may be among the membership.

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

**Praise for TOM BENJAMIN:**

'Atmospheric and immersive' **M W Craven**  
'An insider's view of life in the heart of Bologna - I felt transported there. Gripping plot and immersive description.' **Harriet Tyce, author of Blood Orange**  
'Loved it - an engaging hero, sharp dialogue and an ingenious plot that grips from the start. It'll make you want to visit.' **Philip Gwynne Jones**



# THE MURDER BOOK

Mark Billingham

June 2022  
Sphere  
Crime & Mystery  
416pp

Rights sold:  
US (Grove)



Click to listen to an audio sample of RABBIT HOLE!

Option publishers:  
Norwegian (Cappelen Damm)  
Russian (Eksmo)

**MARK BILLINGHAM** has twice won the Theakston's Old Peculier Award for Crime Novel of the Year, and has also won a Sherlock Award for the Best Detective created by a British writer. Each of the novels featuring Detective Inspector Tom Thorne has been a *Sunday Times* bestseller. *SLEEPYHEAD* and *SCAREDY CAT* were made into a hit TV series on Sky 1 starring David Morrissey as Thorne, and a series based on the novels *IN THE DARK* and *TIME OF DEATH* was broadcast on BBC1.

## TOM THORNE IS BACK . . . AND SO IS HIS WORST NIGHTMARE

Tom Thorne has it all. In Nicola Tanner and Phil Hendricks, Thorne has good friends by his side. He finally has a love life worth a damn and is happy in the job to which he has devoted his life...

Hunting the woman responsible for a series of grisly murders, Thorne has no way of knowing that he will be plunged into a nightmare from which he may never wake. A nightmare that has a name.

Finally, Thorne's past has caught up with him and a ruinous secret is about to be revealed. If he wants to save himself and his friends, he must do the unthinkable. Tom Thorne has it all.... to lose.

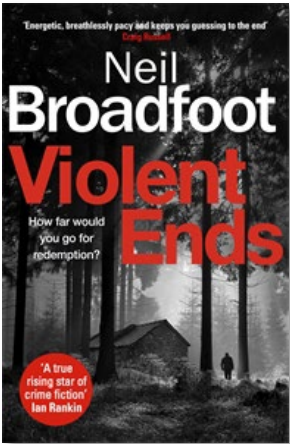
### Praise for Mark Billingham:

A gripping, twisting murder mystery and a blackly comic indictment of the way we treat psychological illness today. At the very least it should reach the shortlist of this year's Booker prize - *The Times* on RABBIT HOLE

A gripping murder mystery with a streak of black humour - *Sunday Times* on RABBIT HOLE (Books of the Year 2021)

When the solution comes it's perfectly satisfying. My guess, though, is that what most readers will remember more intensely is . . . Alice's voice: by turns funny, broken, chatty, defiant, bewildered-but always utterly convincing and compelling - *Readers Digest* on RABBIT HOLE

Unusual and ambitious - written with immense sympathy, but also glorious jet-black humour - *Daily Express* on RABBIT HOLE



# VIOLENT ENDS

Neil Broadfoot

October 2022  
Constable  
Crime & Mystery  
320pp

### Praise for Neil Broadfoot:

'Tense, fast-moving and bloody. Broadfoot's best yet' **Mason Cross**

'A true rising star of crime fiction' **Ian Rankin**

'Beautifully crafted . . . There's no filler, no exposition, just action, dialogue and layering of tension that'll hold you breathless until the very end' **Helen Fields**

'Wonderfully grisly and grim, and a cracking pace' **James Oswald**

'A frantic, pacy read with a compelling hero' **Steve Cavanagh**

## Having the wrong client can be murder...

The voice was smooth, cultured, almost tender as it oozed from the phone into Connor Fraser's ear. "I've heard about you, Mr Fraser, and I'm very impressed by your work. So I've decided to employ you. I am going to kill Father John Donnelly sometime in the next seven days. And you are going to stop me - or die trying. If you check your account, you'll see I've deposited £70,000. And, just to be fair, I'll give you an hour, starting now, to find Father Donnelly before the games begin. Refuse my offer, and someone you love will die. Good hunting, to both of us."

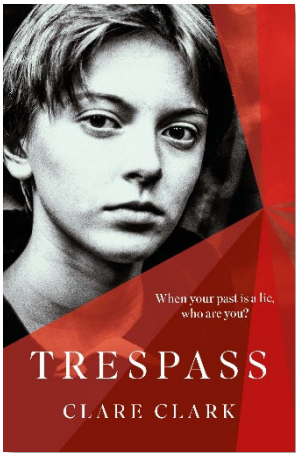
The thought it's a sick joke lasts for as long as it takes Connor to find that £70,000 has been deposited into his PayPal account, and for him to receive an email with a picture of his grandmother. With no choice but to make a deal with the devil, Connor races to unmask a killer before he strikes and uncovers a mystery that stretches back decades, threatening the people closest to him.

**NEIL BROADFOOT** worked as a journalist for 15 years at both national and local newspapers, including *The Scotsman*, *Scotland on Sunday* and the *Evening News*, covering some of the biggest stories of the day.



Click to listen to an audio sample of NO QUARTER GIVEN!





Cover not final

Rights sold:  
Dutch (De Fontein)

# TRESPASS

Clare Clark

August 2022  
Virago  
Crime & Mystery  
320pp

When Tess is in her late teens she falls into environmental activism - and the arms of an older charismatic protester. Passionate and politically engaged the two of them are happy until Tess's unexpected pregnancy causes increasingly explosive rows.

A week before their baby, Mia, is born he vanishes. He never comes back. Tess and Mia believe they are all each other needs until, aged twelve, Mia starts asking questions about her father. Tess has questions of her own. As the facts slowly emerge, it becomes clear that he is not the man they both thought he was. They must face the horrible truth: he was never an activist. He was an undercover cop.

Dramatic, multi-plotted, page-turning, this brilliant psychological suspense explores what happens when every certainty is taken away.

**CLARE CLARK** is the author of five highly acclaimed historical novels, including *THE GREAT STINK*, *Savage Lands* (both longlisted for the Orange Prize) *The Nature of Monsters* and *IN THE FULL LIGHT OF THE SUN* (Virago). Born in 1967, she graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge with a double first in History, and now lives in London with her husband and two children.



# I KNOW WHO YOU WERE

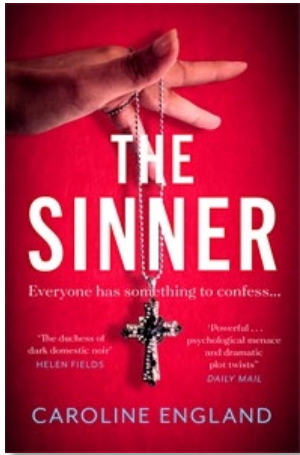
N K CURRAN

April 2023  
Constable  
Thriller  
304pp

**Gripping psychological thriller: everyone has a past, but not everyone has a past which justifies disappearing without telling your husband...**

Alex and Morven have been happily married for 10 years and have one daughter, Poppy. A very normal life, until one day Morven never reaches her corporate retreat, and her car is found abandoned. Concern mounts, the police are called in... and then Morven's mobile is found with the message 'I know who you were' left on it. And it becomes apparent that Morven's disappearance was planned by Morven herself, to prevent those closest from finding out the real truth about her...

**N K CURRAN** won the International Media Association of Tie-In Writers award for his novel, *Shadow Of The Jaguar*, and the inaugural Lifeboat to the Stars award for *Tau Ceti* (co-authored with International Bestselling novelist Kevin J. Anderson), and has been nominated for the British Fantasy Award on multiple occasions. Writing as Matt Langley his young adult novel *Black Flag* was a finalist for the People's Book Prize 2015. His novel *Silver* was one of the Top 30 bestselling books of 2011 (Bookseller) and he's published a number of original novels with St Martins.



# THE SINNER

Caroline England

June 2022  
Piatkus  
Thriller  
304pp

The next unputdownable dark domestic suspense from ebook bestselling author Caroline England

## EVERY SAINT HAS A PAST

To the unsuspecting eye Dee Stephens has a perfect life as the vicar's wife: a devoted marriage to her charismatic husband Reverend Vincent, an adoring congregation and a beautiful daughter.

## EVERY SINNER HAS A FUTURE

But beneath the surface, Dee is suffocating. Vincent is in control, and he knows her every sin. Desperate, Dee escapes into a heady affair with Cal, an old schoolmate.

## EVERY CONFESSION HAS A PRICE

But is Cal the saviour she thinks he is? What dark secrets does he harbour? And to what lengths will Vincent go to when he uncovers the truth?

**CAROLINE ENGLAND** was born and brought up in Yorkshire and studied Law at the University of Manchester. She was a divorce and professional indemnity lawyer before leaving the law to bring up her three daughters and turning her hand to writing. Caroline is the author of *The Wife's Secret*, previously called *Beneath the Skin*, and the top-ten eBook bestseller *My Husband's Lies*.

### Praise for Caroline England

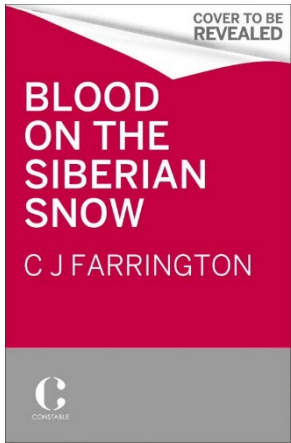
'Stunning . . . dark undercurrents and sinister twists' **Amanda Robson**

'In the very top tier of psychological thrillers' **M W Craven**

'The duchess of dark domestic noir strikes again' **Helen Fields**

'Powerful . . . psychological menace and dramatic plot twists' *Daily Mail*

'Truly terrific!' **Martina Cole**



# BLOOD ON THE SIBERIAN SNOW

C J Farrington

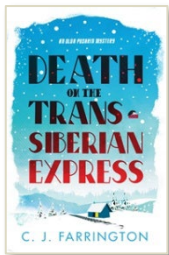
November 2022  
Constable  
Crime & Mystery  
352pp

Winter has come early to the tiny Siberian village of Roslazny, but for Olga Pushkin, aspiring writer and Railway Engineer (Second Class), it only makes leaving the harder. Olga is being forced overseas by her jealous superior, and now faces two years in exile from her beloved rail-side hut, her white-breasted hedgehog Dmitri, and Vassily Marushkin, sergeant-in-charge at the tiny Roslazny police station.

Fate seems to intervene when Olga's train crashes outside Roslazny, shutting the line and killing two on board - local celebrity Danyl Petrovich and his wife, Anoushka. But Vassily Marushkin soon discovers that the Trans-Siberian locomotive was derailed on purpose. As the weather closes in, trapping the villagers - and the suspects - inside, Vassily begins a murder investigation in which Olga and her long-lost friend, Nevena Komarov, soon become closely involved.

But murder and extreme weather isn't all Olga has to deal with. Recalcitrant publishers, haunted police stations, and embarrassing online exposés combine to make this early winter a particularly challenging one - with the threat of a forced departure still looming as soon as the weather lifts. Can Olga find out who killed the Petroviches, secure the release of her book, exorcise the ghost, and save her job, all at the same time?

Also available: Book one (DEATH ON THE TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS, and book three coming November 2023.



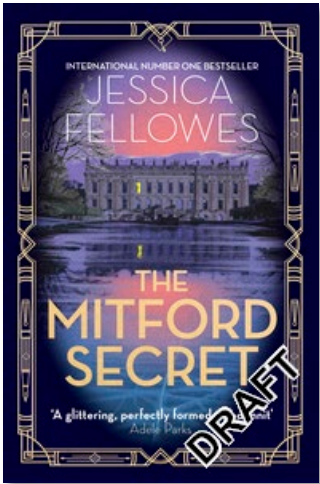
### Previous publishers:

French (Hugo et Cie)  
Polish (Proszynski Media)

**CONOR FARRINGTON** is a writer and academic at the University of Cambridge and Hughes Hall, Cambridge, where his research focuses on the intersections of technology, science and politics. In addition to a collection of short stories (*A Countryman's Creel*, *Merlin Unwin*) and an academic book (*Quantified Lives and Vital Data*, Palgrave Macmillan), he has published features, essays and reviews in publications including the *Guardian*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Political Quarterly*, *Science*, and the *Lancet*.



Click to listen to an audio sample of DEATH ON THE TRANS-SIBERIAN EXPRESS



# THE MITFORD SECRET

Jessica Fellowes

November 2022  
Sphere  
Historical Fiction  
400pp

## THE MITFORDS AT WAR

It's 1941, and the Mitford household is splintered by the vicissitudes of war. To bring the clan together - maybe for one last time - Deborah invites them to Chatsworth for Christmas, along with a selection of society's most impressive and glamorous guests, as well as old family friend Louisa Cannon, a private detective.

One night, a psychic arrives, and to liven things up Deborah agrees she may host a séance. But entertainment turns to dark mystery as the psychic reveals that a maid was murdered in this very same house - and she can prove it.

Louisa steps forward to try to solve the cold case. But with a house full of people who want nothing more than to bury their secrets, will she be able to unmask the murderer? And how deep does the truth lie?

### Praise for Jessica Fellowes

A lively, well-written, entertaining whodunit - **the Times** on **THE MITFORD MURDERS**

A gripping, glamorous whodunnit - **Prima** on **THE MITFORD AFFAIR**

Exactly the sort of book you might enjoy with the fire blazing, the snow falling etc. The solution is neat and the writing always enjoyable - **Anthony Horowitz** on **THE MITFORD MURDERS**

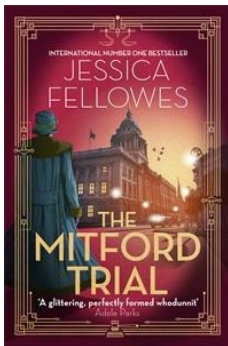
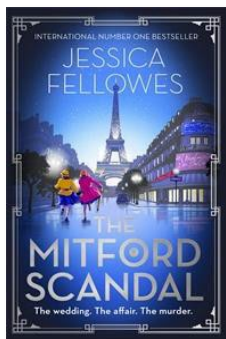
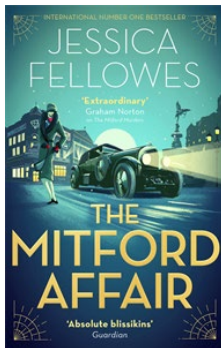
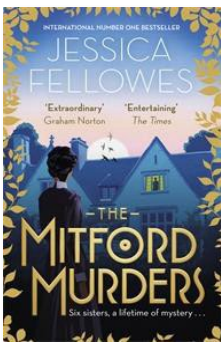
This accomplished, frothy, clever, historically sound and believable story with its timely reminders of the inequalities of 1920s life is huge fun to read - **Crime Review** on **THE MITFORD AFFAIR**

Fellowes has plausibly transformed Louisa from amateur to professional sleuth. Maisie Dobbs fans will be pleased.

**Publishers Weekly** on **THE MITFORD VANISHING**

**JESSICA FELLOWES** is an author, journalist and public speaker. **THE MITFORD MURDERS** is her debut series as a novelist and has been nominated for awards in Britain, France, Germany and Italy, and sold into eighteen territories. Fellowes is also the author of five official companion books to *Downton Abbey*, various of which hit the *New York Times* and *Sunday Times* bestseller lists. She has written short stories for *Vogue Italia* and *L'Uomo Vogue*, and made numerous appearances on radio, podcasts and television. She lives in Oxfordshire with her family.

The previous novels in this series are:



### Rights sold:

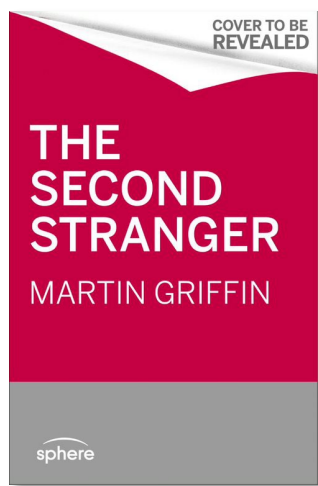
Dutch (Uitgeverij Volt)  
US (St Martin's Press)

### Option publishers:

Czech (Euromedia)  
Danish (Politikens)  
Estonian (Varrak)  
Finnish (Otava)  
French (Éditions J C Lattès)  
German (Piper)  
Greek (Dioptra)  
Italian (Neri Pozza)  
Norwegian (Gyldendal)  
Polish (HarperCollins)  
Portuguese in Brazil (Record)  
Russian (Eksmo)  
Spanish (Roca)  
Swedish (Polaris)  
Ukraine (Family Leisure Club)



Click to listen to an audio sample of **THE MITFORD VANISHING!**



# THE SECOND STRANGER

Martin Griffin

January 2023

Sphere

Thriller

304pp

**Rights sold:**

Czech (Euromedia Group a.s.)

German (Bastei Luebbe)

Italian (Giunti)

A pulse-racing locked-room thriller set in the remote Scottish Highlands, where icy temperatures and a terrible blizzard prevent any escape, from a brilliant new name in crime fiction

Remie Yorke has one shift left at the remote Mackinnon Hotel before she leaves for good. Then Storm Ezra hits.

As temperatures plummet and phone lines go down, an injured man stumbles inside. PC Don Gaines was in a terrible accident on the mountain road. The only other survivor: the prisoner his team was transporting.

When a second stranger arrives, Remie reluctantly lets him in from the blizzard. He, too, is hurt. He claims to be a police officer. His name is also Don Gaines.

Someone is lying and, with no means of escape, Remie must work out who. If the cold doesn't kill her, one of these men will get there first .

**MARTIN GRIFFIN** is an exciting new voice in the crime genre. Before turning his hand to writing, he was a deputy headteacher and a doomed singer who was once asked to support The Fall on tour, a gig he had to decline having only composed two good songs. Griffin lives in Manchester with his wife and daughter.



# THE ANGELS OF VENICE

Philip Gwynne Jones

July 2022

Constable

Crime & Mystery

384pp

**Option publishers**

Bulgarian (Era Media EOOD)

Estonian (Varrak)

German (Rowohlt)

**PHILIP GWYNNE JONES** works as a teacher, writer and translator, and lives in Venice. He enjoys cooking, art, classical music and opera; and can occasionally be seen and heard singing bass with Cantori Veneziani and the Ensemble Vocale di Venezia.

**Praise for Philip Gwynne Jones:**

'The Venetian setting is vividly described... good, fluid writing makes for easy reading' *Literary Review*

'The lively, colourful narrative scuds along as briskly as a water taxi...you'll enjoy the ride' *Italia Magazine*

It's the night of 12 November 2019. The worst flooding in 50 years hits the city of Venice. 85% of La Serenissima is underwater. Gale force winds roar across the lagoon and along the narrow streets. And the body of Dr Jennifer Whiteread - a young British art historian, specialising in the depiction of angels in Venetian painting - is found floating in a flooded antique bookshop on the Street of the Assassins.

As the local police struggle to restore order to a city on its knees, Nathan Sutherland - under pressure from the British Ambassador and distraught relatives - sets out into the dark and rain-swept streets in an attempt to discover the truth behind Whiteread's death.

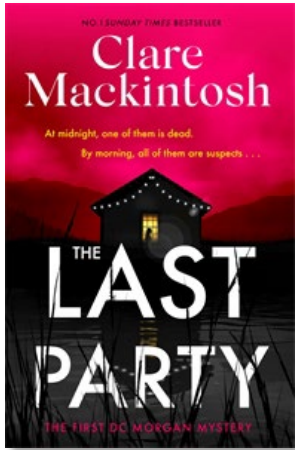
The trail leads to the "Markham Foundation", a recent and welcome addition to the list of charities working to preserve the ancient city. Charming, handsome and very, very rich, Giles Markham is a well-known and popular figure in the highest Venetian social circles, and has the ear of both the Mayor and the Patriarch.

But a man with powerful friends may also have powerful enemies. And Nathan is about to learn that, in Venice at least, angels come in many forms - merciful, fallen and vengeful...



Click to listen to an audio sample of VENETIAN LEGACY!





## THE LAST PARTY

Clare Mackintosh

August 2022  
Sphere  
Crime & Mystery  
400pp

**Rights sold:**  
Bulgarian (Ciela Norma)  
Danish (Forlaget Aronsen)  
Dutch (De Fontein)  
Estonian (Pegasus)  
Finnish (Gummerus)  
French (Marabout)  
German (Droemer)  
Greek (Metaixmio)  
Hungarian (Alomgyar)  
Norwegian (Cappelen Damm)  
Portuguese in Portugal (Particular)  
Spanish (Grijalbo)  
US (Sourcebooks Inc)

**On New Year's Eve, Rhys Lloyd has a house full of guests.**

His holiday homes on Mirror Lake are a success, and he's generously invited the village to drink champagne with their wealthy new neighbours. This will be the party to end all parties.

But not everyone is there to celebrate. By midnight, Rhys will be floating dead in the freezing waters of the lake.

**On New Year's Day, DC Ffion Morgan has a village full of suspects.**

The tiny community is her home, so the suspects are her neighbours, friends and family - and Ffion has her own secrets to protect.

With a lie uncovered at every turn, soon the question isn't who wanted Rhys dead . . . but who finally killed him.

**In a village with this many secrets, a murder is just the beginning.**

**Praise for THE LAST PARTY:**

'The writing is superb. Wicked fun, devilishly clever, with echoes of Agatha Christie. This is a party you won't want to miss . . .' **Patricia Cornwell**

'I fell in love with the courageous, complicated DC Ffion Morgan and I think readers will too' **Ruth Ware**

'I absolutely inhaled this insanely gripping and atmospheric thriller. DC Ffion Morgan and her English counterpart Leo Brady are up there with the greats' **Erin Kelly**

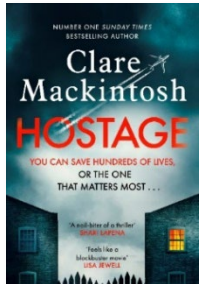
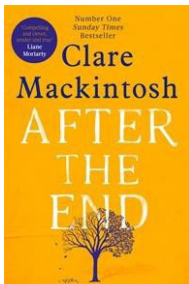
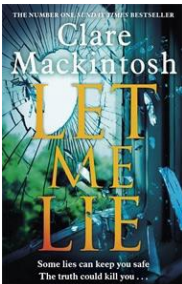
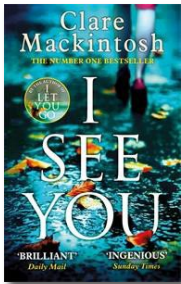
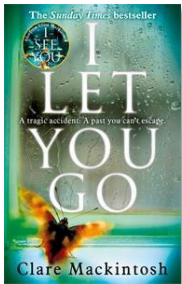
'I loved everything about The Last Party. Taut, pacey and so atmospheric with brilliantly-executed twists and wonderfully-written characters. DC Ffion Morgan is my new favourite detective. An absolute triumph' **Claire Douglas**

'Expertly plotted and relentlessly gripping, a perfectly executed murder mystery. The whip-sharp and deeply likeable Ffion leads the investigation, introducing us to a cast of brilliantly realised suspects. I loved every page' **Lucy Clarke**

'Terrific. The Last Party has twists that blindside you all the way' **Mari Hannah**

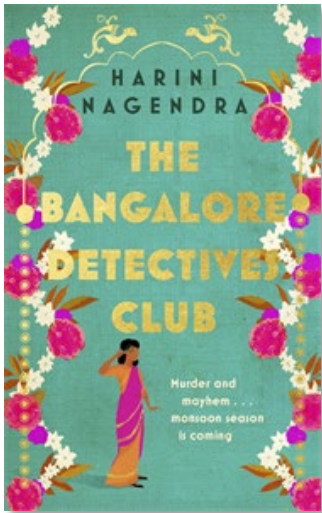
'The Last Party has everything – a great story, evocative setting, brilliant characters and shocking twists' **Claire McGowan**

**Option publishers:**  
Albanian (Living)  
Arabic (Arabic Cultural Center)  
Catalan (La Campana)  
Chinese Complex (Emily Publishing Company)  
Chinese Simplified (Sichuan People's Publishing)  
Croatian (Mozaik Knjiga)  
Czech (Vikend)  
Hebrew (Yedioth)  
Icelandic (Forlagid)  
Italian (Societa Editrice Milanese)  
Korean (Tornado Media)  
Latvian (Zvaigzne)  
Lithuanian (Alma Littera)  
Macedonian (Feniks)  
Polish (Proszynski Media)  
Romanian (Editura Trei)  
Russian (AST)  
Serbian (Vulkan)  
Slovak (Albatros)  
Swedish (Lind & Co.)  
Thai (WeLearn)  
Turkish (Altin Kitaplar)  
Vietnamese (Phuc Minh)  
Ukraine (Vivat)



▶ [Click here to listen to Clare Mackintosh talking about HOSTAGE!](#)

▶ [Click to listen to an audio sample of HOSTAGE!](#)



## THE BANGALORE DETECTIVES CLUB

Harini Nagendra

April 2022  
Constable  
Crime and Mystery  
304pp

Rights sold:  
US (Pegasus)

**HARINI NAGENDRA** is a Professor of Sustainability at Azim Premji University, Bangalore, India, and the author of *Nature in the City: Bengaluru in the Past, Present and Future*. She received a 2013 Elinor Ostrom Senior Scholar award for her research and practice on issues of the urban commons, and a 2007 Cozzarelli Prize with Elinor Ostrom from the Proceedings of the US National Academy of Sciences for research on sustainability. *The Bangalore Detectives Club*, the first book in the Detective Kaveri mysteries, is her first fiction novel.

Book one in the Bangalore Detectives Club series.

Solving crimes isn't easy. Add a jealous mother-in-law and having to wear a flowing sari into the mix, and you've got a problem.

When clever, headstrong Kaveri moves to Bangalore to marry doctor Ramu, she's resigned herself to a quiet life.

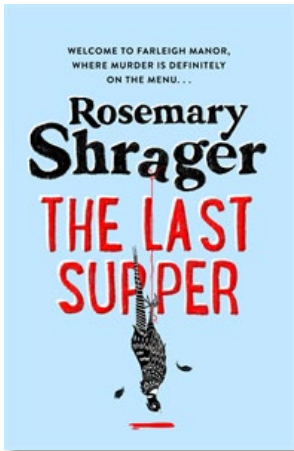
But that all changes the night of the party at the Century Club, where she escapes to the garden for some peace - and instead spots an uninvited guest in the shadows. Half an hour later, the party turns into a murder scene.

When a vulnerable woman is connected to the crime, Kaveri becomes determined to save her and launches a private investigation to find the killer, tracing his steps from an illustrious brothel to an Englishman's mansion. She soon finds that sleuthing in a sari isn't as hard as it seems when you have a talent for maths, a head for logic and a doctor for a husband.

And she's going to need them all as the case leads her deeper into a hotbed of danger, sedition and intrigue in Bangalore's darkest alleyways . . .

### Praise for THE BANGALORE DETECTIVES CLUB:

'Riveting. [Nagendra's] use of colonial history is thoroughly fascinating, with devastating depictions of the airy condescension of the British. A fine start to a promising series.' **Booklist**




## THE LAST SUPPER

Rosemary Shrager

February 2022  
Constable  
Contemporary mystery  
288pp

Rights sold:  
Danish (Gyldendal)

 Click to listen to an audio sample of THE LAST SUPPER!

Book two (*THE PROOF IN THE PUDDING*) will be published in 2023 and book three (*TWO MANY COOKS*) will be published in 2024.

**Prudence Bulstrode, once doyenne of the celebrity chef circuit, has left London behind for a peaceful retirement in the country. . and walks straight into a murder case.**

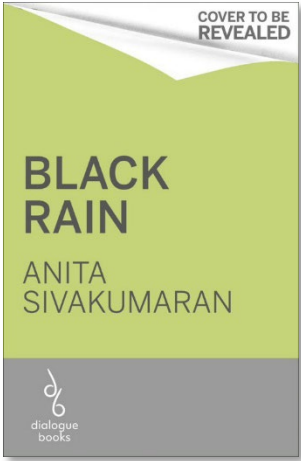
When an old television rival, Deirdre Shaw, is found dead at the Cotswolds manor house where she was catering for a prestigious shooting weekend, Prudence is asked to step into the breach. Prudence is only too happy to take up the position and soon she is working in the kitchens of Farleigh Manor.

But Farleigh Manor is the home to secrets, both old and new. The site of a famous unsolved murder from the nineteenth century, Farleigh Manor has never quite shaken off its sensationalist past. It's about to get a sensational present too. Because, the more she scratches beneath the surface of this manor and its guests, the more Prudence becomes certain that Deirdre Shaw's death was no accident. She's staring in the face of a very modern murder. . .

Cosy crime and cookery collide in this brilliant debut novel.

**ROSEMARY SHRAGER** is one of Britain and America's national treasures. She began her cookery career working for Pierre Koffmann at Chelsea's La Tante Claire and Jean-Christophe Novelli, gradually discovering her passion and talent for teaching. Thus her cookery school at Amhuinnsuidhe Castle off the Scottish coast was born, and in 2003 she moved to Swinton Park, a beautiful castle hotel in North Yorkshire, where for nearly a decade her courses for home cooks were a sellout.





BLACK RAIN

Anita  
Sivakumaran

November 2022  
Dialogue  
Crime and Mystery  
352pp

Option publishers:  
Russian (Eksmo)

**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.

When actor Majid Rahman's body is found in a neighbourhood allotment in Leicester, Detective Vijay Patel is one of the first on the scene, but is unable to save the man. Although his mother's house backs onto the gardens, he resolves to let the local police do their work.

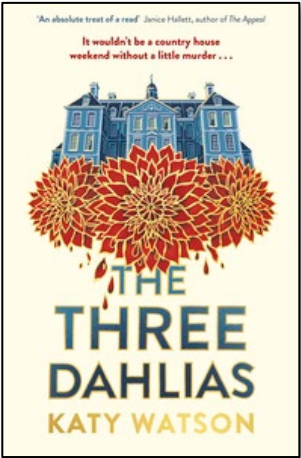
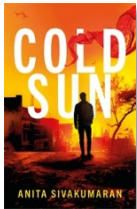
But after a neighbour is kidnapped and the detective in charge doesn't want to know, Patel vows to find the killer.

When Patel uncovers a leather bag stuffed with money and a gold necklace near to where Majid's body was found, he realises this case may be a lot bigger than he'd imagined. Just as he starts to get close to the truth, the witness he was hoping to speak to is shot in front of him, and Patel must flee for his life.

Just when Patel is finally on the killer's trail, he finds a clue that shocks him to his very core: this case may be closer to home than he ever could have imagined. Could stopping this twisted killer from stealing more lives mean paying the ultimate price for Patel?

A totally gripping crime thriller, packed with suspense and twists you'll never see coming. Fans of Ian Rankin, Abir Mukherjee and Val McDermid will be utterly addicted.

Also available:



THE THREE  
DAHLIAS

Katy Watson

July 2022  
Constable  
Crime and Mystery  
384pp

Rights sold:  
Russian (AST)  
US (Mobius)

Growing up in a family of murder mystery addicts, **KATY WATSON** learned early to look for means, motive and opportunity. After studying English Literature - with a sideline in crime fiction - at Lancaster University, she set about teaching herself to write her own stories, while also experiencing enough of the world to have things to write about. Two careers, a lot of airmiles, one husband, two children, three houses and forty five published books for children and adults later, lockdown finally gave her the means, motive and opportunity to create her own murder mystery - with the aid of her scientist husband's knowledge of poisons. *THE THREE DAHLIAS* is the result.

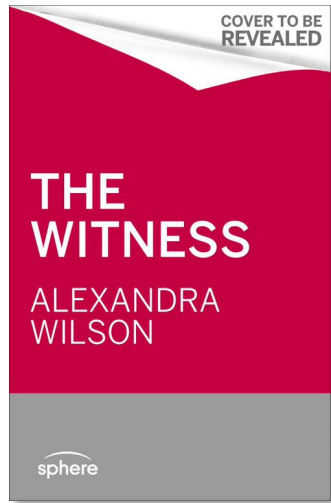
Three rival actresses team up to solve a murder at the stately home of the author who made them famous - only to discover the solution lies in the stories themselves. A contemporary mystery with a Golden Age feel, perfect for fans of Agatha Christie and Jessica Fellowes.

In attendance: the VIP fans, staying at Aldermere; the fan club president turned convention organiser; the team behind the newest movie adaptation of Davenport's books; the Davenport family themselves - and the three actresses famous for portraying Lettice's 1930s detective, Dahlia Lively.

National treasure Rosalind King, from the original movies. TV Dahlia for thirteen seasons, Caro Hooper. And ex-child star Posy Starling, fresh out of the fame wilderness (and rehab) to take on the Dahlia mantle for the new movie.

Each actress has her own interpretation of the character - but this English summer weekend they will have to put aside their differences, as the crimes at Aldermere turns anything but cosy.

When fictional death turns into real bodies, can the three Dahlias find the answers to the murders among the fans, the film crew, the family - or even in Lettice's books themselves?



## THE WITNESS

Alexandra  
Wilson

June 2023  
Sphere  
Thriller  
368pp

The remarkable debut thriller by prominent young mixed-race British barrister Alexandra Wilson is a unique and shocking novel for the 21st century.

SHE SAW IT ALL  
BUT SHE CAN NEVER TELL

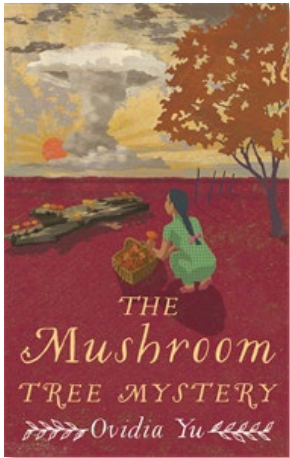
A young black man is arrested for murder. The case against him is strong - a mum and a businessman work saw him standing over a body in a park, a knife still in hand.

But his up-and-coming barrister Rosa - a black woman who is herself fighting prejudice - knows how people prejudge, but most of all, she knows the accused: he's a friend of her younger brother, and this kid... he's a good boy, wouldn't ever have done this. So she begins to dig...

As Rosa discovers secret upon terrible secret, she moves closer to finding a testimony that could win the case - or bring the whole establishment down on her.

THE WITNESS is a frightening thriller about how we judge guilt, about the strength of a young woman, and is the start of a groundbreaking new series.

**ALEXANDRA WILSON** is a junior barrister. She grew up in Essex and is the eldest of four children. She studied at the University of Oxford and was awarded two prestigious scholarships, enabling her to research the impact of police shootings in the US on young people's attitudes to the police. She went on to study for a Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) and her Master of Laws at BPP University in London. Wilson was awarded the first Queen's scholarship by the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, a scholarship awarded to students showing exceptional promise in a career at the Bar. She is the author of the critically acclaimed *Black and White* (Octopus).



## THE MUSHROOM TREE MYSTERY

Ovidia Yu

June 2022  
Constable  
Crime and Mystery  
320pp

The Allies have defeated Germany in Europe, but Japan refuses to surrender the East.

In Singapore, amid rumours the Japanese occupiers are preparing to wipe out the population of the island rather than surrender, a young aide is found murdered beneath the termite mushroom tree in Hideki Tagawa's garden and his plans for a massive poison gas bomb are missing. To prevent any more destruction it falls to Su Lin to track down the real killer with the help of Hideki Tagawa's old nemesis, the charismatic shinto priest Yoshio Yoshimo.

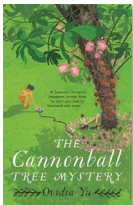
**OVIDIA YU** is one of Singapore's best-known and most acclaimed writers. She has had over thirty plays produced and is the author of a number of comic mysteries published in Singapore, India, Japan and America.

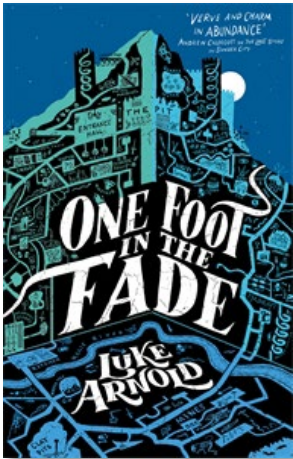
Option publishers:  
Russian (Arkadia)



Click to listen to an audio sample of THE MIMOSA  
TREE MYSTERY!

Other titles in the series:





# ONE FOOT IN THE FADE

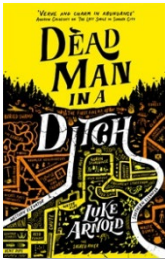
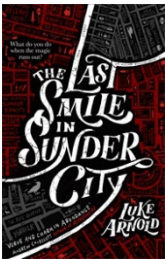
Luke Arnold

April 2022  
Orbit  
Fantasy  
464pp

**Rights sold:**  
US (Orbit)

**Option publishers**  
German (Droemer)  
Italian (Triskell Edizioni S.A.S.)  
Portuguese in Brazil (Editora Nova Fronteira Ediouro)  
Spanish (Trini Casa Editora)

Also available:



 Click to listen to an audio sample of DEAD MAN IN A DITCH!

The third title in the **FETCH PHILLIPS** series.

AN ANGEL FALLS IN SUNDER CITY...

In a city that lost its magic, an angel falls in a downtown street. His wings are feathered, whole - undeniably magical - the man clearly flew, for all that he plummeted to his downfall moments after.

The mystery will set Fetch - in his quest to bring magic back to his beloved city - on a journey involving necromancers, genies and shadowy secret societies. Fetch will search Sunder's wildest forests and dingiest dive bars for the answer, and when he finds it, nothing will ever be the same again.

A world recovers from losing its magic in this brilliantly-voiced contemporary fantasy series by Luke Arnold - perfect for fans of Ben Aaronovitch, Rotherweird or Terry Pratchett's Discworld

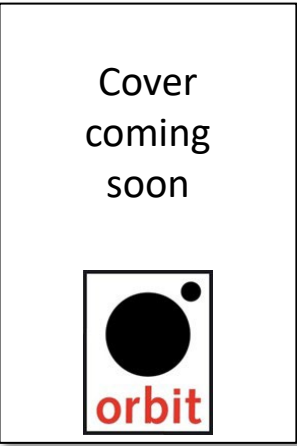
Fetch Phillips: Man for Hire  
Bringing the magic back!  
Enquire at Georgio's café . . .

**LUKE ARNOLD** was born in Australia and has spent the last decade acting his way around the world, playing iconic roles such as Long John Silver in the Emmy-winning Black Sails and his award-winning turn as Michael Hutchence in the INXS mini-series Never Tear Us Apart.

# INFINITY GATE

M. R. Carey

February 2023  
Orbit  
Science Fiction  
512pp



**Rights sold:**  
US (Orbit)

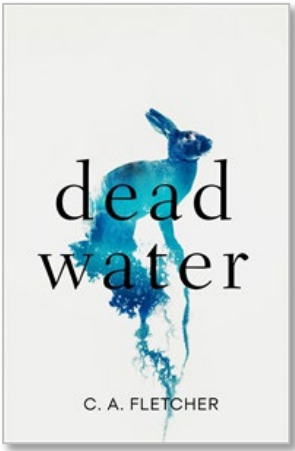
**Previous publishers:**  
Bulgarian (Studio of A)  
French (L'Atalante)  
German (Festa Verlag)  
Polish (Virtualo)

Discover this thrillingly original, mind-bending new science fiction novel from **M. R. Carey** about the multiverse that is perfect for fans of *Children of Time*, *The Space Between Worlds* and *The Long Earth*.

When scientist Hadiz happens to stumble across the existence of alternate universes, she realises that there might be a way to save everyone on her own dying planet. But the multiverse is a dangerous place - and she'll find herself in the middle of a war between two opposing alliances of different versions of Earth . . .

The Pandominion is a political and trading alliance consisting of roughly a million worlds. But they're really all the same world - Earth - in many different dimensions. And when an AI threat arises that could destroy everything the Pandominion has built, they'll eradicate it by whatever means necessary - no matter the cost to human life.

**M. R. CAREY** has been making up stories for most of his life. His novel THE GIRL WITH ALL THE GIFTS has sold over a million copies and became a major motion picture, based on his own BAFTA Award-nominated screenplay. Under the name Mike Carey he has written for both DC and Marvel, including critically acclaimed runs on Lucifer, Hellblazer and X-Men. His creator-owned books regularly appear in the New York Times bestseller list. He also has several previous novels including the Felix Castor series (written as Mike Carey), two radio plays and a number of TV and movie screenplays to his credit.



DEAD WATER

C. A. Fletcher

July 2022  
Orbit  
Sci-Fi  
512pp

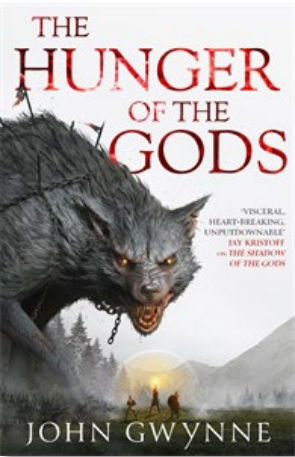
**Rights sold**  
US (Orbit)

**Previous publishers**  
Chinese (simplified) (Guomai Culture and Media)  
Czech (Mlada Fronta)  
Estonian (Tanapaev)  
French (Editions J'ai Lu)  
German (Blanvalet)  
Russian (AST)  
Spanish (Planeta)

A haunting, suspenseful tale of isolation and dread within a small island community -from the author of A BOY AND HIS DOG AT THE END OF THE WORLD, perfect for fans of *The Loney* and *Station Eleven*.

A water-borne blight hits a remote community on a small island on the edge of the Northern Atlantic. The islanders are a strange mix, some island-born, some seeking a slower life away from the modern world. All have their own secrets, some much darker than others. Rumour says the illness may be a water-borne neural infection from the shellfish farm, a case of mass hysteria - or even a long-buried curse - but when ferry service fails, inconvenience grows into nightmarish ordeal as the outwardly harmonious fabric of the community is unnervingly torn apart.

**C. A. FLETCHER** lives in Scotland and writes for a living. He is the author of A BOY AND HIS DOG AT THE END OF THE WORLD (Orbit, 2019)



THE HUNGER OF THE GODS

John Gwynne

April 2022  
Orbit  
Science Fiction  
656pp

**Rights sold:**  
Czech (Host)  
French (Leha)  
German (Blanvalet)  
Hungarian (Fumax)  
Spanish (Planeta)  
US (Orbit)

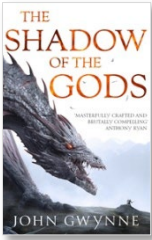
**Option publishers:**  
Italian (Fanucci)  
Portuguese (Grupo LeYa)  
Russian (Mann Ivanov & Ferber)

The second book in the BLOODSWORN series.

Lik-Rifa, the dragon god of legend, has been freed from her eternal prison. Now she plots a new age of blood and conquest. As Orka continues the hunt for her missing son, the Bloodsworn sweep south in a desperate race to save one of their own - and Varg takes the first steps on the path of vengeance. Elvar has sworn to fulfil her blood oath and rescue a prisoner from the clutches of Lik-Rifa and her dragonborn followers, but first she must persuade the Battle-Grim to follow her. Yet even the might of the Bloodsworn and Battle-Grim cannot stand alone against a dragon god. Their hope lies within the mad writings of a chained god. A book of forbidden magic with the power to raise the wolf god Ulfirir from the dead . . .and bring about a battle that will shake the foundations of the earth.

**JOHN GWYNNE** lives in East Sussex with his wife, four children and three dogs. His debut novel *Malice* won the David Gemmell Morningstar Award in 2012.

Also available:



**Praise for THE SHADOW OF THE GODS**  
A masterfully crafted, brutally compelling Norse-inspired epic - **Anthony Ryan**  
A duly exciting start to the series - **Publishers Weekly**  
A masterclass in storytelling. - **FanFiAddict**



Click to listen to an audio sample of THE HUNGER OF THE GODS!



Cover  
coming  
soon



# THE SWORD DEFIANT

Gareth Hanrahan

January 2023  
Orbit  
Fantasy  
512pp

**Option publishers:**

Portuguese in Brazil (Nova Fronteira)  
Russian (Eksmo)  
Spanish (Trini Casa Editora)  
Turkish (Egitim Yayınevi Basım Yayım Dagitim)

**Praise for Gareth Hanrahan:**

'Hanrahan is now one of my favourite authors' **Booknest**  
'I will buy any novel that Gareth Hanrahan ever writes' **The Fantasy Inn**  
'A ground breaking and extraordinary novel . . . Hanrahan has an astonishing imagination' Peter McLean, author of Priest of Bones  
'Mind-blowingly stellar in every respect . . . Fantasy readers, be wise and buy this book, because there's simply nothing like it' **Novel Notions on THE GUTTER PRAYER**  
'A gripping tale that meshes beautifully with its fascinating, darkly inventive setting' **James Islington on THE GUTTER PRAYER**

The start of a thrilling new epic fantasy trilogy from the author of *The Gutter Prayer*

Twenty years ago, Sir Aelfric and his companions saved the world, seizing the Dark Lord's mythic weapons, along with the dread city of Necrad. The weapons were dispersed amongst the Nine, and Necrad left in the care of the strongest of them.

That was the easy part.

Now, when Aelfric – keeper of the cursed sword Spellbreaker – learns of a new and terrifying threat, he seeks to gather the Nine Heroes once again. But they're not wandering adventurers anymore. Yesterday's eager heroes are today's weary leaders – but some have turned to the darkness, becoming monsters. And if there's one thing Aelfric knows, it's slaying monsters. Even if they used to be his allies.

Set in a world of dark myth and dangerous prophecy, *The Sword Defiant* launches an epic tale of deceit, intrigue and bloodthirsty vengeance.

**GARETH HANRAHAN'S** three-month break from computer programming to concentrate on writing has now lasted fifteen years and counting. He's written more gaming books than he can readily recall, by virtue of the alchemical transmutation of tea and guilt into words. He lives in Ireland with his wife and three children. Follow him on Twitter at @mytholder.

Also available:



Cover  
coming  
soon



# BEYOND THE REACH OF EARTH

Ken MacLeod

March 2023  
Orbit  
Science Fiction  
320pp

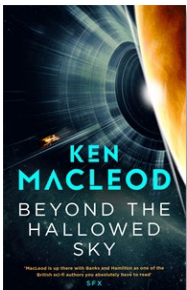
The second book in science fiction legend Ken MacLeod's Lightspeed trilogy, imagining humankind on the precipice of discovery - the invention of faster-than-light travel.

Discover this ground-breaking new space opera trilogy from multi-award winning author Ken MacLeod

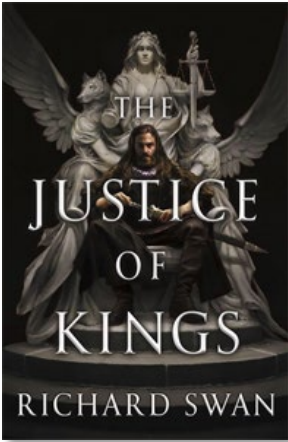
**KEN MACLEOD** was born on the Isle of Lewis and now lives in Gourrock, Scotland. He has a postgraduate degree in biomechanics and worked for some years in IT. Since 1997 he has been a full-time writer. He is the author of seventeen novels, from *The Star Fraction* (1995) to *The Corporation Wars* (2018), and many articles and short stories. He has won three BSFA awards and three Prometheus Awards, and been short-listed for the Clarke and Hugo Awards.

He was a Writer in Residence at the ESRC Genomics Policy and Research Forum at Edinburgh University, and Writer in Residence for the MA Creative Writing course at Edinburgh Napier University.

Also available:



Click to listen to an audio sample of *BEYOND THE HALLOWED SKY!*



# THE JUSTICE OF KINGS

Richard Swan

February 2022  
Orbit  
Fantasy  
432pp

**Rights sold:**

- Czech (Host vydavatelstvi s.r.o.) (Book 1)
- German (Piper Verlag GmbH) (Books 1-3)
- Polish (MAG)
- Russian (Eksmo)
- Spanish (Trini Casa)
- US (Orbit) (Books 1-3)



Click to listen to an audio sample of THE JUSTICE OF KINGS!

**RICHARD SWAN** was born in North Yorkshire and spent most of his early life on Royal Air Force bases in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. After studying law at the University of Manchester, Swan was Called to the Bar in 2011. He subsequently retrained as a solicitor specialising in commercial litigation. When he is not working, Swan can be found in London with his wonderful wife Sophie, where they attempt to raise, with mixed results, their two very loud sons.

**SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER!**

The Empire of the Wolf simmers with unrest. Rebels, heretics and powerful patricians all challenge the power of the imperial throne. Only the Order of Justices stands in the way of chaos. Sir Konrad Vonvalt is the most feared Justice of all, upholding the law by way of his sharp mind, arcane powers and skill as a swordsman. In this he is aided by Helena Sedanka, his clerk and protégé, orphaned by the wars that forged the empire. When the pair investigate the murder of a provincial aristocrat, they unearth a conspiracy that stretches to the very top of imperial society. As the stakes rise and become ever more personal, Vonvalt must make a choice: will he abandon the laws he's sworn to uphold in order to protect the empire?

Introducing an unforgettable protagonist destined to become a fantasy icon, THE JUSTICE OF KINGS is an unmissable debut where action, intrigue and magic collide.

**Praise for THE JUSTICE OF KINGS:**

- 'Riveting . . . Swan crafts a strong, dynamic character in Vonvalt, and the twists will keep readers turning the pages' **Publishers Weekly**
- 'A stunning piece of modern fantasy writing' **RJ Barker**
- 'A marvellously detailed world with an engrossing adventure from a unique perspective' **K. S. Villoso**
- 'Swan has built a dark and gritty world, filled it with beautifully written characters and lays out a master-crafted story to create an incredible book that you can't put down' **FanfiAddict**



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