

**JOHN  
MURRAY  
PRESS**

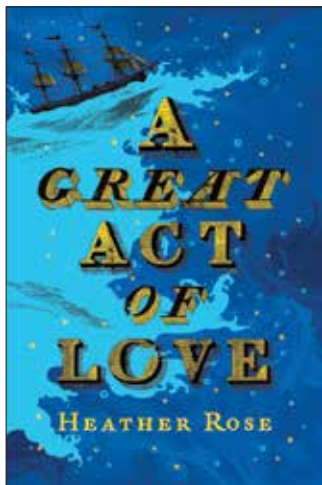
**2026 CATALOGUE**

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JOHN MURRAY  
FICTION



Fiction (FA)  
Hardback £20.00 9781399823821  
Royal 496 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399823838  
Ebook 9781399823852  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## A GREAT ACT OF LOVE

HEATHER ROSE

**An epic journey of love, hope and self-invention, travelling from pre-revolutionary Paris to a champagne vineyard in Tasmania.**

Caroline examines a stolen map. And there she finds it, at the edge of the Western Hemisphere, a black mark at the 30th latitude smaller than a flea: Norfolk Island. Her Aunt thinks she's a fool for wanting to follow her father to the other side of the world. He is no longer the man who taught Caroline about philosophy, apothecary and dreamt of returning to the France of his childhood. He is a convicted murderer, mad, deported, condemned. But, when she understands that Caroline is determined, her Aunt has one piece of advice: she must leave her past behind and invent a new story.

In 1839, Caroline lands in Van Dieman's Land, a young widow of means with a boy in her care. In this insular colony of exiles and opportunists, no-one talks too much about their past. Caroline leases a run-down cottage and abandoned vineyard and, on this island of extreme seasons and wild beauty, she embarks on a fearless enterprise to reclaim her father, create champagne, and rewrite her family's legacy.

Travelling from Paris to Edinburgh, London, New York and to Tasmania, *The Great Act of Love* is an epic story of hope and self-invention.

**Heather Rose's** novels have won numerous prizes including the Stella Prize, the Christina Stead Prize, the Margaret Scott Prize and the ABIA General Fiction Book of the Year. She lives in Tasmania.

**15 JANUARY 2026**



Modern & Contemporary Fiction (FA)  
Paperback £10.99 9781399834070  
B Format 288 pages  
Ebook 9781399834087  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## FROGS FOR WATCHDOGS

SEÁN FARRELL

**A wild child with a ferocious imagination will stop at nothing to protect his family.**

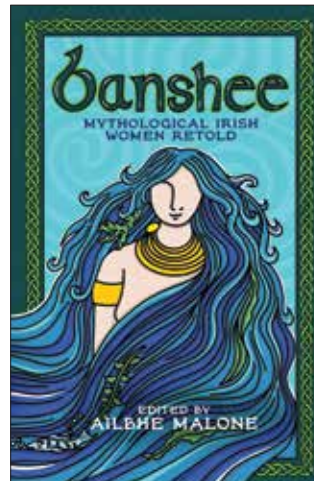
A family finds shelter in a house in the Irish countryside where a wild little boy gives voice to his experience.

Jerry Drain, a local famer, is stealing hay from the barn, someone is making nasty phone calls at night and darkness is gathering. With his ferocious imagination the boy will do everything to protect his family.

Dark, tender and raw, *Frogs for Watchdogs* thrums with the intensity of childhood.

**Seán Farrell** lives in Sligo. After graduating from Cambridge University, he spent fifteen years in France. As well as writing, he works as a freelance editor.

**12 FEBRUARY 2026**



FA  
Hardback £00.00 9781408749357  
Royal 320 pages  
Ebook 9781408749340  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## BANSHEE: MYTHOLOGICAL IRISH WOMEN RETOLD

EDITED BY AILBHE MALONE

**In this spellbinding anthology, Ireland's most electrifying female writers breathe new life into the women of Irish myth and legend.**

For centuries, the women of Irish myth have stood in the shadows of warriors and kings. Until now. In *Banshee* you'll find stories of savage queens and defiant mermaids, unruly mothers and women outrunning their destiny – stories pulsing with danger, desire and freedom.

Featuring stories by: Naoise Dolan, Megan Nolan, Jess Kidd, Wendy Erskine, Nikita Gill, Sarah Maria Griffin, Jane Casey, Anne Griffin, Sheila O'Flanagan, and Salma El-Wardany.

**Ailbhe Malone** is Senior Editor at the *Strategist* (New York Magazine). She has also worked for the *Guardian*, *Irish Times*, *Wired* and *Nylon* (US).

**26 FEBRUARY 2026**



Fiction (FA)  
Hardback £22.00 9781529370065  
Royal 336 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399813983  
Ebook 9781529370096  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## ROUSSEAU'S LOST CHILDREN

GAVIN McCREA

**A thrilling epistolary novel cast across centuries that investigates the boundaries of personal liberty and matters of morality, desire and loyalty.**

Paris, 1777. Jean-Jacques Rousseau receives a letter from a foreign visitor, Gavin Mulvany, inviting him on a walk. Rousseau agrees.

Paris, 2022. Gavin, a middle-aged academic, leaves his husband behind in Ireland to finish a long-delayed biography of Rousseau. In Paris, he avoids work on his book by instead taking walks with Rousseau himself.

Can talking and walking lead both Gavin and Rousseau to understand what love, family, and society really mean?

**Gavin McCrea** is the author of *Mrs Engels*, *The Sisters Mao* and *Cells*. His work has been shortlisted for the Desmond Elliot Prize and the Walter Scott Prize.

26 FEBRUARY 2026

## BLACK BAG

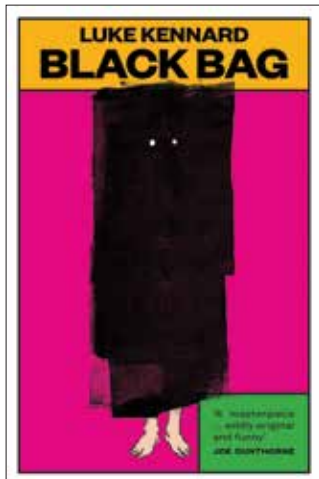
LUKE KENNARD

**A stunning novel about the crisis of masculinity: funny, profound and moving.**

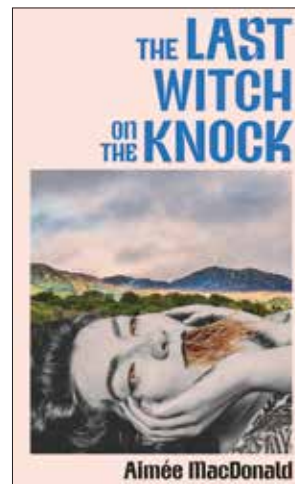
A penniless and out-of-work actor picks up a job working for Dr Blend, a university professor who is conducting a psychological experiment. How will Dr Blend's students react to someone zipped into an oversized bag, sitting at the back of the lecture hall? The role, eagerly accepted, soon has unexpected consequences. A professor of post-humanism develops research questions of her own, in particular – can you love someone secreted away inside a black bag?

**Luke Kennard** is an award-winning poet and novelist. *The Transition*, his first novel, was longlisted for the Desmond Elliot Prize. He teaches Creative Writing at the University of Birmingham.

12 MARCH 2026



Fiction (FA)  
Hardback £16.99 9781399826112  
Demy 400 pages  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399826129  
Ebook 9781399826136  
Not For Sale: US and Canada



Modern & contemporary fiction (post c. 1945)  
Horror & ghost stories  
Folklore, myths & legends  
Hardback £18.99 9781399821278  
Royal 304 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399827898  
Ebook 9781399821292

## THE LAST WITCH ON THE KNOCK

AIMÉE MacDONALD

**A fierce and subversive Scottish debut about two women bound together by a centuries-long curse, inspired by a local legend.**

**Wouldn't you rather be a witch than a victim? I didn't realise those were my only options.**

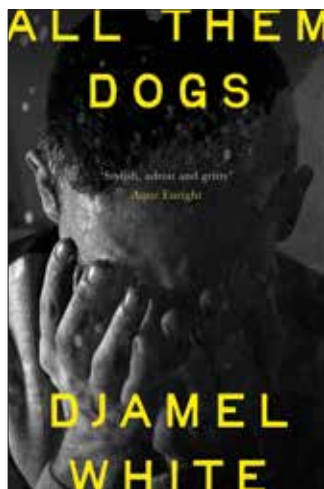
In need of a fresh start, **Thomasin** leaves her toxic boyfriend, absent father and empty friendships to spend the summer in the Scottish Highlands with her eccentric Aunt Agnes and stern little cousin, Nina. But amidst the sprawling fields and ragged hills thrums a secret that has cursed the land for generations.

Three hundred years earlier, **Kate McNiven** labours in The Big House by the Knock hill, wishing for a brighter future far away from the lecherous clutches of her master, the Laird. When she is exiled as a witch for refusing to succumb to his advances, Kate finds the escape she so desperately seeks in Thomasin, whose vulnerable body becomes her unwilling host.

**In the thin place between centuries, through a pulsing wound that bleeds out history, the truth of the past is finally ready to be revealed . . .**

**Aimée MacDonald** is an Edinburgh-based writer of novels, short stories and poetry, and a graduate of The Faber Academy. *The Last Witch on the Knock* is her first novel.

12 MARCH 2026



Modern & Contemporary Fiction (Post c 1945) (FA)  
Ireland (1DBR)  
Hardback £18.99 9781399824460  
Royal 240 pages  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399824477  
Ebook 9781399824484  
Not For Sale: US, Canada and non-exclusive in Europe

## ALL THEM DOGS

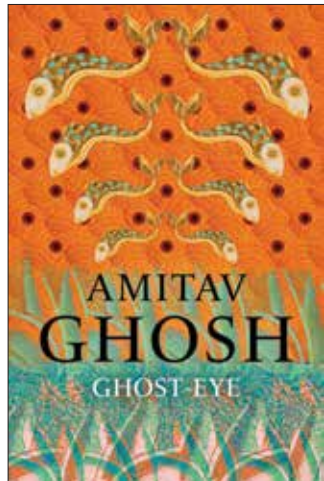
DJAMEL WHITE

**A brutally brilliant new voice on the Irish scene, this is a view of Dublin you won't have seen before.**

Things are different since Tony Ward landed back in town. After five years abroad, when the opportunity arises to work side by side with Darren 'Flute' Walsh, a top enforcer of notorious crime boss Angus Lavelle, it feels like a no brainer. With retribution from his past actions always close, the protection offered by Flute is crucial. But how safe is Tony when a mutual attraction starts to complicate matters?

**Djamel White** is a writer from Dublin. He holds an MFA from UCD and is the recipient of two Arts Council of Ireland awards.

**26 MARCH 2026**



Fiction (FA)  
Hardback £22.00 9781473686694  
Royal 336 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781473686700  
Ebook 9781473686717  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## GHOST EYE

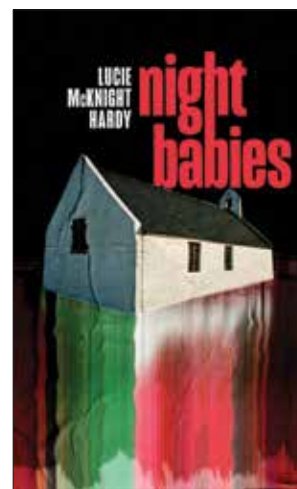
AMITAV GHOSH

**A moving and urgent novel by the bestselling author of the Ibis trilogy about past lives and saving our future.**

**Calcutta, September 1969.** Three-year-old Varsha Gupta is asking for fish for her dinner. Her family is shocked; the Guptas are strict vegetarians. But Varsha remembers another life, a mud house by a river where she caught and cooked fish with a different mother. Half a century later, a case file on the child catches the attention of a group of environmental activists, keen to draw her into their plans.

**Amitav Ghosh** is the author of the bestselling Ibis Trilogy. He has been shortlisted for the Booker Prize and was the first English-language writer to receive the Jnanpith Award.

**9 APRIL 2026**



Horror & ghost stories (FK)  
Modern & contemporary fiction (post c 1945) (FA)  
Hardback £18.99 9781399826365  
Royal 400 pages  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399826372  
Ebook 9781399826389  
Not For Sale: US, Canada, and non-exclusive in Europe

## NIGHT BABIES

LUCIE MCKNIGHT HARDY

**A menacing folk horror from Lucie McKnight Hardy where a troubled artist is haunted by her past in rural Wales.**

With her first art exhibition just weeks away, Astrid Aspdén's paintings are ruined when her house floods. She is thrown a lifeline by a friend who lets her stay in a run-down chapel she's renovating. Soon, Astrid learns the history behind the chapel and as the darkness of the Welsh valley closes in on Astrid, will she be able to run from the looming horror or be consumed by it?

**Lucie McKnight Hardy** is the author of *Water Shall Refuse Them*, shortlisted for the Mslexia Novel Competition, and the short story collection, *Dead Relatives*.

**23 APRIL 2026**



Modern & Contemporary Fiction (FA)  
Hardback £22.00 9781399826969  
Royal 320 pages  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399826976  
Ebook 9781399826990

## AWAKE AWAKE

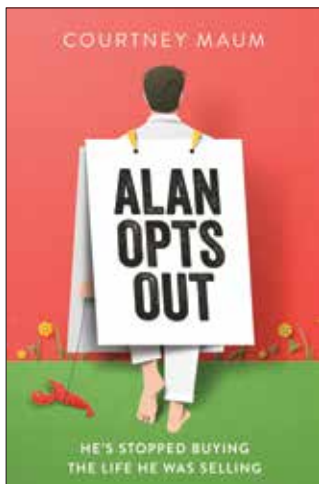
FIONA MOZLEY

**The new novel from the Booker-shortlisted author of *Elmet*.**

Mary is struggling with her memory. She does not have too few recollections but too many. Events from the past keep resurfacing, and she even has memories that don't relate to reality. All the while, Mary questions what she understands to be real, both in history and in her own life. What is she if not the sum of her memories? But what if she can no longer trust them?

**Fiona Mozley** grew up in York and lives in Edinburgh. Her first novel, *Elmet*, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize.

**4 JUNE 2026**



Fiction (FA)  
 Hardback £16.99 9781399829175  
 Royal 320 pages  
 Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399829182  
 Ebook 9781399829199  
 Not For Sale: US and Canada

## ALAN OPTS OUT

### COURTNEY MAUM

**He's stopped buying the life he was selling.**

Alan Anderson is a charismatic ad-exec. He's built a successful life and a thriving business by making people buy stuff they don't need. But after bombing the biggest pitch of his career, Alan has an epiphany. No longer will Alan exploit the insecurities of others in the service of capitalism. Alan is opting out.

This development is anathema to his wife, Vivian. She's just a few positive affirmations, a swimming pool, and an exacting series of tests away from becoming part of the elite neighbourhood club that is her own nirvana. As if contending with a daughter who wants to write plays and another who has an unnatural empathy with animals isn't enough to manage, Alan has stopped wearing shoes and is interested in spending time with the family.

And then, something strange starts to happen. Could everyone want what Alan's not selling?

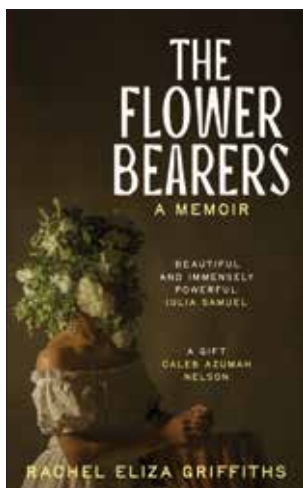
For anyone who has ever cared more about how life looked than how it felt, *Alan Opts Out* is a priceless take on ambition, consumerism and the promise of happiness.

**Courtney Maum** is a heralded author of fiction, nonfiction and screenplays that have debuted at Sundance and won awards at Cannes. Her bestselling Substack newsletter 'Before + After the Book Deal' teaches aspiring writers how to preserve the joy of art-making in a culture obsessed with turning artists into brands. A passionate literary citizen, Courtney sits on the board of the Author's Guild and runs the writing workshop, Turning Points.

**7 MAY 2026**



# JOHN MURRAY NON-FICTION



Memoir (BM)  
Hardback £22.00 9781399813952  
Royal 320 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399813983  
Ebook 9781399814003  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## THE FLOWER BEARERS

RACHEL ELIZA GRIFFITHS

**'A beautiful and immensely powerful book about love, grief and finding a way to be in a forever altered world'** Julia Samuel

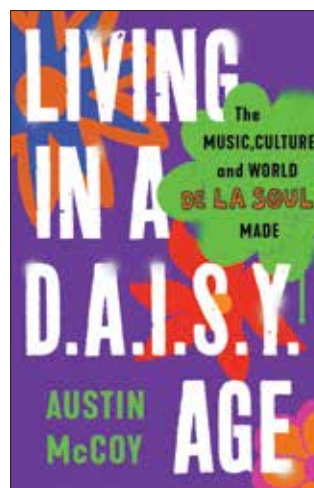
On September 24, 2021, Rachel Eliza Griffiths married her husband, the novelist Salman Rushdie. On the same day, her closest friend, Kamilah Aisha Moon, died suddenly. Eleven months later, a brutal attack nearly killed her husband. As trauma compounded trauma, Rachel Eliza realized that to survive her heartbreak, she would need to mourn not only her friend, but the woman she had been on her wedding day.

And so Rachel Eliza chronicles her seventeen years of friendship with Aisha. From the moment they met in a college library, she knew she had found a soul sister. Their life together was filled with music: they danced to records in their apartments and skipped from one sticky jazz bar to another. Sitting side-by-side at poetry circles, reading Toni Morrison and Alice Walker, marching through Harlem protesting lost Black lives, Rachel Eliza drew inspiration and strength from her friend. Together they learnt to embrace themselves, as writers, artists, and Black women.

Rachel Eliza interweaves this love story with another, that of her relationship with Rushdie. Celebrating the ways that these two extraordinary people have transformed her life, she reflects on the beauty and pain that come with opening oneself fully to love.

**Rachel Eliza Griffiths** is an award-winning artist, poet, and writer. Her debut novel, *Promise*, published in 2023. She lives in New York City.

**22 JANUARY 2026**



Music (AV)  
Rap & Hip-Hop (AGVR)  
Popular Culture (JFCA)  
Hardback £22.00 9781399814669  
Royal 304 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399814676  
Ebook 9781399814683  
Not For Sale: USA, Canada and non-exclusive Europe

## LIVING IN A D.A.I.S.Y. AGE: THE MUSIC, CULTURE AND WORLD DE LA SOUL MADE

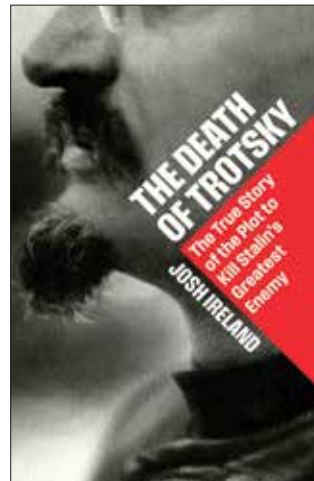
AUSTIN MCCOY

**A celebration of the groundbreaking De La Soul, and how they changed the look, sound, and feel of Black America.**

In 1988, three young men from Long Island formed De La Soul and their music was unlike anything else. Here, Austin McCoy explores how De La Soul defined a new era of hip-hop and also American and Black culture at the same time. Through his eyes, ears, and well-studied recall of '80s, '90s, and 2000s America, McCoy takes us on a journey through the world this pioneering musical act made.

**Austin McCoy** is an assistant professor of history at West Virginia University. His work has appeared in CNN, *The Washington Post*, *Black Perspectives*, and more.

**29 JANUARY 2026**



History | Politics & Espionage  
Hardback £25.00 9781399827294  
Royal 384 pages  
Trade Paperback £18.99 9781399827300  
Ebook 9781399827317

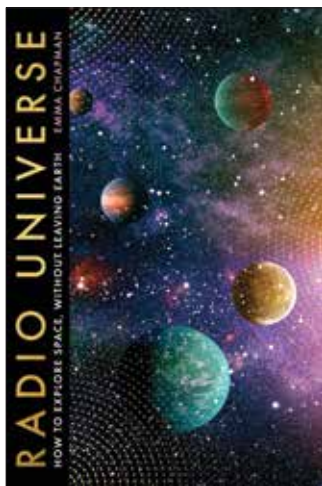
## THE DEATH OF TROTSKY

**A gripping true story of espionage, betrayal and murder – spanning continents and ending in a world-shaking assassination.**

In August 1940, Soviet agent Ramón Mercader murdered Leon Trotsky with an ice pick in Mexico City – on Stalin's orders. This was no simple assassination, but the climax of a decade-long global manhunt. Drawing on newly uncovered sources, *The Death of Trotsky* tells a gripping story of betrayal, espionage and ideology – from Paris salons to Spanish battlefields to a bloody study in Mexico. A true-life thriller of power and paranoia.

**Josh Ireland** is a London-based writer and editor. He studied history at York and worked in publishing before writing his first book, *The Traitors*.

**26 FEBRUARY 2026**



Popular Science (PDZ)  
Hardback £22.00 9781529398977  
Royal 336 pages  
Trade Paperback £18.99 9781529398991  
Ebook 9781529399004  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## RADIO UNIVERSE

How to Explore Space,  
Without Leaving Earth

EMMA CHAPMAN

**Dr Emma Chapman reveals how radio waves have helped us solve the mysteries of the Universe's darkest corners and deepest past.**

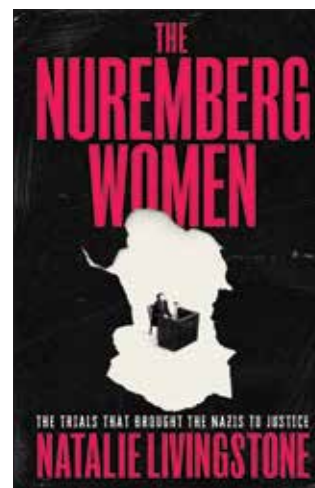
In *The Radio Universe*, award-winning astrophysicist Emma Chapman takes us on a dazzling journey through the cosmos using one of the most powerful, yet overlooked, tools in science: radio astronomy. With clarity and humour, Chapman reveals how these invisible messengers glide through space, bouncing off planets and slipping past galactic dust, carrying secrets of the universe that no other kind of light can uncover.

We follow a single radio wave as it escapes Earth and travels outward – ricocheting off the Moon, tunnelling through Venus's furnace-thick atmosphere, tracing ancient ice hidden in Mercury's shadows and diving deep into the swirling arms of the Milky Way. Along the way, we pass black holes that roar louder than stars, pulsars more precise than atomic clocks and galaxies lit by the very first starlight. We explore volcanic pancake planets, death-defying neutron stars, the eerie possibility of alien broadcasts, and the fragile question of our own future in the cosmos.

A celebration of human ingenuity and cosmic curiosity, *The Radio Universe* reveals that the true frontier of space isn't 'out there' – it's humming quietly all around us, waiting to be heard.

**Emma Chapman** is an award-winning radio astronomer based at the University of Nottingham, a Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin research fellow, and the author of the book *First Light*, based on her groundbreaking research into the era of the first stars.

**12 MARCH 2026**



European History (HBJD)  
Hardback £25.00 9781399813433  
Royal 400 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399813440  
Ebook 9781399813464  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## THE NUREMBERG WOMEN

The Trials that Brought the Nazis  
to Justice

NATALIE LIVINGSTONE

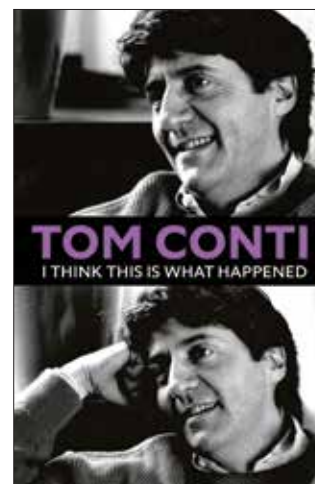
**The most famous trial of the twentieth century – told through the eyes of the women history forgot.**

In November 1945, the world turned its gaze to Nuremberg and a courtroom filled with Nazi leaders and Allied prosecutors – but in the shadows, women were recording, interpreting, testifying.

*The Nuremberg Women* follows eight extraordinary women, including a young Soviet interpreter, a British painter, a French resistance fighter, and a Hungarian countess.

**Natalie Livingstone** is the bestselling author of *The Mistresses of Cliveden* and *The Women of Rothschild*. She lives in London with her husband and three children.

**23 APRIL 2026**



BGFA  
Hardback £25.00 9781399825559  
Royal 320 page  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399825566  
Ebook 9781399825580

## I THINK THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED

TOM CONTI

**The Scottish legend of star and screen finally tells his life story – and it's well worth the wait.**

Opening with the story of how his mother rescued his father from a WWII prison camp, *I Think That's What Happened* is a rollicking tale of a remarkable life. From growing up in 40s Glasgow, to shooting with a hungover David Bowie, to becoming an overnight heartthrob in *Shirley Valentine* and Einstein in *Oppenheimer*, this memoir of a life lived in the spotlight for over fifty years is packed full of unforgettable stories.

Born in Glasgow in 1941, **Tom Conti** is a multi-award winning actor, starring in *Oppenheimer*, *Paddington 2*, *Shirley Valentine*, *Merry Christmas*, *Mr Lawrence*, *Friends* and much more.

**21 MAY 2026**



Social and Cultural History (HBTB)  
 Hardback £20.00 9781399806220  
 Royal 400 pages  
 Trade Paperback £18.99 9781399806237  
 Ebook 9781399806251  
 Not For Sale: US and Canada

## BURN THIS LETTER

SUSAN PEDERSEN

**The fascinating story of an Edwardian husband swap, from award-winning historian, Susan Pedersen.**

Frances and Betty – both political, passionate, and deeply intelligent – were not just sisters-in-law, but close friends. There was just one problem. Frances was in love with Betty's husband. Their unconventional solution: a ménage à quatre.

When Susan Pedersen discovered their cache of letters, she was spellbound. This is the untold story of two women who carved a path together through an elite male world, sharing their ideals, their heartbreaks, and most of all, their secrets.

**Professor Susan Pedersen** teaches British History at Columbia. She is the author of *The Guardians*, which won the Cundhill Prize in 2015.

**21 MAY 2026**



Politics and government (JP)  
 Hardback £22.00 9781399807715  
 Royal 320 pages  
 Trade Paperback £14.99 9781399807722  
 Ebook 9781399807746  
 Not For Sale: US and Canada

## THE NEXT FIX

The Winners and Losers in the Future of Drugs

KOJO KORAM

**How the legalisation of drugs is gearing up to become one of the great swindles of our times.**

**If we legalise drugs, who profits? Who gets exploited? And what gets fixed?**

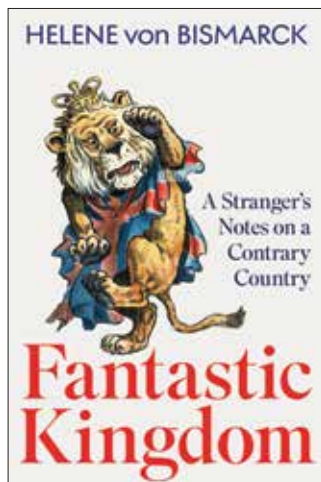
As countries around the world turn away from a century-long War on Drugs, issues of addiction, impoverishment and dangerous drug deaths continue to sky-rocket. Instead of advancing the course of social justice, drug law reform is helping hedge funds, tech companies, oil companies and tobacco companies investing in drugs to get even richer.

Award-winning author Kojo Koram enters the interconnected worlds of high finance and the cocaine trade, khat with narco-terrorism and the tobacco companies trying to use legal drugs to rebrand themselves as wellness companies, taking us behind the scenes of this new frontier of global capitalism. Chasing the next fix – whether chemical, economic or political – leaves us trapped in cycles of harm and dependency. Breaking free requires moving beyond temporary relief and confronting structural injustice, inequality, and the legacies of empire.

With sharp analysis and vivid storytelling, *The Next Fix* shows that what looks like a cure is often another dose of the same poison.

**Dr Kojo Koram** is a Professor of Law and History at Loughborough University. He is the editor of *The War on Drugs and the Global Color Line*. Prior to academia, Kojo worked in social welfare law, youth work and teaching.

**4 JUNE 2026**



Non-Fiction | Politics  
 Hardback £22.00 9781399824385  
 Royal 320 pages  
 Ebook 9781399824392

## FANTASTIC KINGDOM

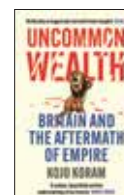
HELENE VON BISMARCK

**A leading historian bridges the gap between Britain's self-image and the often contradictory way it is seen abroad.**

The United Kingdom is full of paradoxes: wealthy yet unequal, pragmatic yet sentimental, proud of tradition yet evasive about empire. In *Kingdom of Contradiction*, historian Helene von Bismarck explores how Britain sees itself – and how it is perceived abroad. Revealing why debate at home and overseas so often misses the mark, this sharp, witty book invites readers to see Britain afresh: complex, contradictory and endlessly fascinating.

**Dr Helene von Bismarck** is a German historian of Britain, commentator for BBC and international media and RUSI Fellow.

**18 JUNE 2026**



Uncommon Wealth  
 Royal HB: 9781529338621  
 eBook: 9781529338652



# BASKERVILLE



Crime & Mystery (FF)  
Thriller/Suspense (FH)  
Hardback £22.00 9781399829748  
Royal 272 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399829755  
Ebook 9781399829762  
Not For Sale: US, Canada and non-exclusive in Europe

## A GIFT BEFORE DYING

MALCOLM KEMPT

**A haunting story of a disgraced police investigator discovers that his path to redemption is paved with ice-and blood.**

After a botched high-profile murder investigation, Sergeant Elderick Cole is exiled to the remote, rugged landscape of Nunavut, a vast territory in the Arctic Circle known for its untamed beauty, frigid temperatures, and endless winter nights.

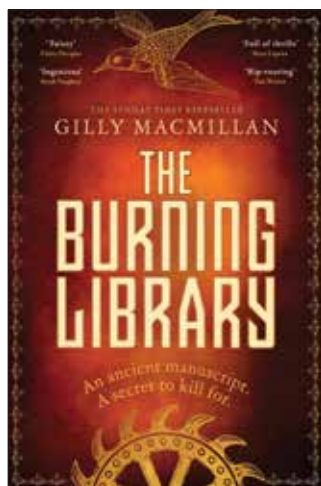
His bleak existence takes a sinister turn when he discovers the hanging body of Pitseolala, a troubled Inuit girl whom he had sworn to protect. Her death dredges up demons he thought he'd buried along with the scars of a fractured marriage and the aching divide between himself and his estranged daughter.

As Cole's life unravels – and with it, the fragile thread of his investigation – he turns Pitseolala's younger brother, Maliktu, a fellow outsider. It's then that Cole uncovers what binds them: a singular mission to find her killer.

Against fierce backlash, Cole's overriding desire to redeem just one aspect of his otherwise failed life becomes an obsession – and he's willing to break every rule in his unyielding pursuit of justice and the smallest shred of redemption.

**Malcolm Kempt** worked as a criminal lawyer in the remote Arctic for seventeen years before leaving to write full time. He now lives on the island of Newfoundland. *A Gift Before Dying* is his debut novel.

**22 JANUARY 2026**



Thriller/Suspense (FH)  
Crime & Mystery (FF)  
Adventure (FJ)  
Modern & Contemporary Fiction (post c. 1945) (FA)  
Hardback £18.99 9781399828437  
Royal 304 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399828444  
Ebook 9781399828468  
Not For Sale: US, Canada, and non-exclusive Europe

## THE BURNING LIBRARY

### GILLY MACMILLAN

**An escapist thriller about a centuries-old secret set to divide and consume those who try to unearth it.**

For over a century two rival organisations of women have gone to deadly lengths to secure a precious scrap of fraying embroidery in the hopes of finding the original medieval manuscript from which it was torn.

There's the Order of St Katherine: devoted to the belief that women must pull strings in the shadows in order to exercise covert control. And the Fellowship of the Larks: determined to amass as many overt positions of power for women as possible . . . while making sure their methods never come to light.

When trailblazing paleographer Dr Anya Brown is headhunted by the exclusive Institute of Manuscript Studies at St Andrews, she's unaware that she is in grave danger – her new employers, the Larks, will stop at nothing to achieve their mission.

As Dr Brown is drawn deeper into this ancient web, events spiral beyond her control. To uncover the truth, and escape with her life, she must summon all her expertise to decipher a series of messages that have lain hidden for centuries.

**A page-turning race against time, *The Burning Library* whisks you from the hallowed cloisters of Oxford, Cambridge and St Andrews to the stunning medieval Italian city of Verona.**

**Gilly Macmillan** is the internationally bestselling author of eight critically acclaimed thrillers including *What She Knew*, *The Perfect Girl* and *The Fall*. Her books have been shortlisted for the Edgar and ITW awards and translated into 26 languages.

**29 JANUARY 2026** (HB)  
**18 NOVEMBER 2025** (EBOOK, AUDIO AND TPB)



Espionage & Spy Thriller (FHD)  
Thriller/Suspense (FH)  
Crime & Mystery (FF)  
Hardback £20.00 9781399826310  
Royal 272 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399826327  
Ebook 9781399826334  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## SPIES AND OTHER GODS

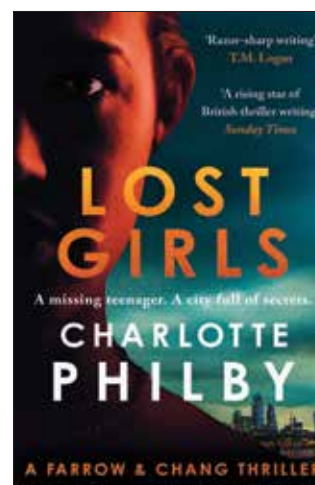
### JAMES WOLFF

**An electrifying novel from a former spy set in the mysterious world of British espionage.**

Sir William Rentoul, Head of British Intelligence is having a bad day. Parliament's Intelligence and Security Committee has received an anonymous complaint from one of his officers about a sensitive case, involving an Iranian assassin and a trail of dead bodies. When Aphra McQueen, a lowly researcher, investigates she seems to know more about the operation than she's letting on. What will she uncover? What is she *really* up to?

**James Wolff** grew up in Beirut and has lived in Damascus, Cairo and Istanbul. He worked as a British intelligence officer for over ten years.

**12 FEBRUARY 2026**



Crime & Mystery (FF)  
Thriller / Suspense (FH)  
Hardback £22.00 9781399812122  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399812139  
Royal 336 pages  
Ebook 9781399812153

## LOST GIRLS: A FARROW & CHANG THRILLER

CHARLOTTE PHILBY

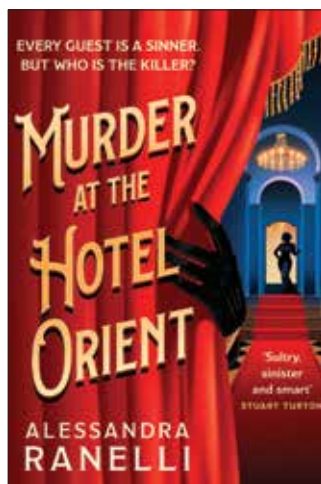
**A missing teenager. A city full of secrets.**

When thirteen-year-old Freya Sjöberg, disappears from her London school in broad daylight, the authorities are on high alert. There are no witnesses and no ransom demand – she has vanished into thin air.

Specialist agent DS Madeleine Farrow is called in to handle the case, and together with PI Ramona Chang, the unlikely pair find themselves plunged into a dangerous world of conspiracy and lies that could change everything.

**Charlotte Philby** is an author, a journalist and screenwriter. She has written for the *FT*, *ELLE* and *Inside Time*. *Lost Girls* is her seventh novel.

**12 MARCH 2026**



Crime & Mystery (FF)  
 Modern & Contemporary Fiction (Post c 1945) (FA)  
 Hardback £16.99 9781399823180  
 Royal 336 pages  
 Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399823197  
 Ebook 9781399823203  
 Not For Sale: US and Canada

## MURDER AT THE HOTEL ORIENT

ALESSANDRA RANELLI

**A spicy, contemporary mystery with Golden Age style, set in a timeless location inspired by a real Viennese love hotel.**

**'Sultry, sinister and smart. Sterling Lockwood is going to steal your heart – just don't trust her with it'**

Stuart Turton, author of *The Seven Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle*

In Vienna, city of spies, American Sterling Lockwood is the loyal concierge at the infamous Hotel Orient. After a double murder at the hotel, Sterling has to turn detective. But finding the truth will require breaking the Orient's sacred code of secrecy, while keeping a few secrets of her own.

The police struggle when modern investigative technology proves useless at the old-fashioned hotel. Because clients use aliases, pay cash, and stay mere hours, all suspects have vanished. Sterling agrees to assist alongside her best friend and colleague Fernando, if only to avoid arrest and the suspicion regarding her own movements that night. As enemies close in, she risks everything to solve a case haunted by the past in a city with a fetish for nostalgia.

**Alessandra Ranelli** is an American author living in Vienna. Her work focuses on love, lust, and loss and is influenced by her love of old Hollywood glamour and golden age crime. *Murder at the Hotel Orient* is her debut novel.

**7 MAY 2026**



Crime & Mystery (FF)  
 Modern & Contemporary Fiction (post c 1945) (FA)  
 Hardback £22.00 9781399821001  
 Royal 464 pages  
 Ebook 9781399821025

## THE DARKEST TIDE

PETER HANINGTON

**What happens when you can no longer keep a secret?**

When Arthur Cotton sees a body washed up on the beach, difficult memories come flooding back. He kept the books for the Brighton mob and got out on friendly terms . . . with conditions. Fifty years on, Arthur's dementia is taking hold and it's up to his daughter, Susan, to find out what her father knows, unearthing a dark side of Brighton and his past she barely knew existed.

**Peter Hanington** is a writer and journalist. He is the author of the critically acclaimed William Carver thrillers and the Susan Cotton crime series.

**07 MAY 2026 (HB)**  
**29 JANUARY 2026 (EBOOK)**



Crime & Mystery (FF)  
 Hardback £20.00 9781399814423  
 Royal 320 pages  
 Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399814430  
 Ebook 9781399814454  
 Not For Sale: US, Canada, and Non-Exclusive Europe

## MISS HORTENSE AND THE LAST RITES

MEL PENNANT

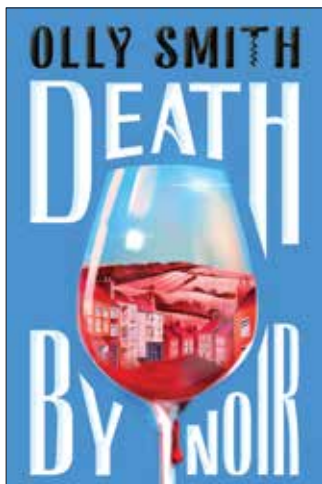
**A fresh and original murder mystery starring Miss Hortense and her close-knit Caribbean community.**

When Bigglesweigh's notorious gangster, Cuttah, uses up the last of his nine lives, and is found dead at his flat, there is only one person who can solve the mystery of who killed him: the inimitable Miss Hortense.

Cuttah left a letter with a list of suspects. There's just one problem: Miss Hortense's name is on the list and she only has nine days before his cronies seek retribution.

**Mel Pennant** is an award-winning playwright living in London. Mel was raised by her Jamaican grandparents who moved as part of the Windrush generation.

**21 MAY 2026**



Crime & Mystery (FF)  
 Hardback £22.00 9781399829847  
 Royal 320 pages  
 Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399829854  
 Ebook 9781399829861  
 Not For Sale: US, Canada and non-exclusive Europe

## DEATH BY NOIR

OLLY SMITH

**A charming new series for fans of wine and mystery novels, from the UK's best-loved wine expert Olly Smith.**

Barclay Flint is the eccentric proprietor of The Bottle Bank wine shop in Lewes, the small Sussex town renowned for its annual Bonfire Night festival. Barclay can taste a kaleidoscopic universe in a single glass of wine – and will delight in luring you to share in its charms.

Barclay passes his days happily matching his customers to the wines of their dreams, but when his friend, struggling regenerative vineyard owner Victor Crawshaw, goes missing, Barclay falls under suspicion and must deploy his wine detection skills to crack the case and clear his name. As the clock ticks down to Bonfire Night's epic festival of flames, the fireworks might not be all that start exploding...

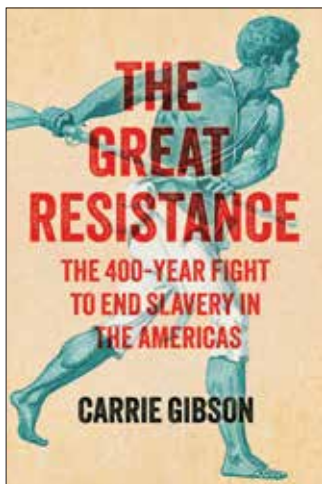
**Death by Noir is the first of The Bottle Bank Mysteries, a series of charming and warm-hearted crime novels by beloved UK wine expert, Olly Smith.**

**Olly Smith** is a wine expert, with 19 years' presenting wine on BBC One's *Saturday Kitchen*. With a background in screenwriting, Olly is also a wine columnist and has six award-winning Glass House wine bars across P&O Cruises fleet.

**18 JUNE 2026**



# BASIC BOOKS



General and World History: HBG  
 Slavery & Abolition of Slavery: HBTS  
 Hardback £30.00 9781529363647  
 Royal 640 pages  
 Trade Paperback £20.00 9781529363654  
 Ebook 9781529363661  
 Not For Sale: US and Canada

## THE GREAT RESISTANCE

The 400-Year Fight to End Slavery in the Americas

CARRIE GIBSON

**The history of the most diverse insurrection the world has ever known.**

For more than four centuries, enslaved people across the western hemisphere, from the United States and the Caribbean to Mexico and Brazil, fought any way they could to gain their freedom: from the first African revolt in 1521 on the island of Hispaniola to the eighteenth-century Maroon Wars on Jamaica, and the revolution that gave Haiti its independence. In *The Great Resistance*, acclaimed historian Carrie Gibson recovers their dramatic stories in one sweeping narrative. Focusing on the thousands of acts of defiance that kept the flame of freedom alive, Gibson vividly chronicles the resistance that eventually ended the slave trade and, with Brazil's abolition in 1888, the institution of slavery itself.

Intertwined with this quest for emancipation were the political revolutions that gave rise to the modern nation-state. At a time when all post-slavery societies face serious questions about social and racial inequality, Gibson provides a radical new interpretation of abolition set amid a sweeping global landscape.

With its deep scholarship and rich narrative, *The Great Resistance* is a tribute to the persistence of the human spirit to overcome even the darkest of circumstances.

**Carrie Gibson** is a historian and journalist. She received her PhD from Cambridge and is the author of *Empire's Crossroads* and *El Norte*, which was shortlisted for the Mark Lynton History Prize. Carrie was previously a journalist for *Guardian* and *Observer*.

12 FEBRUARY 2026



Economics (KC)  
 Hardback £25.00 9781399832250  
 Royal 320 pages  
 Trade Paperback £18.99 9781399832267  
 Ebook 9781399832274  
 Not For Sale: US and Canada

## RECESSION

The Real Reasons Economies Shrink and What to Do About It

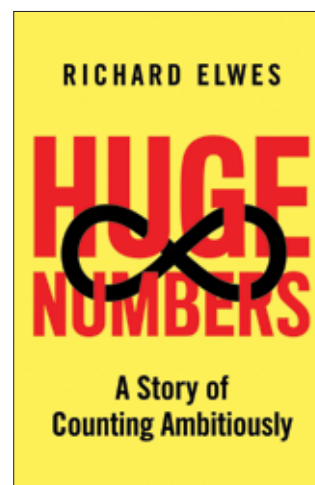
TYLER GOODSPEED

**The real explanation for why recessions start, how long they last, and how to avoid them in the first place.**

A groundbreaking analysis of economic contractions over the last four centuries. Contrary to popular perception, recessions are not the inevitable bust that follows an unsustainable boom. Recessions are caused by adverse shocks like war and energy price spikes, and far after a recession, economic growth typically resumes the same trend as before. Issuing an important corrective to economic thinking, *Recession* is essential reading.

**Tyler Goodspeed** is chief economist of ExxonMobil. Previously, he chaired the White House Council of Economic Advisers. With PhDs in economics and history from Cambridge and Harvard, he has held faculty appointments at Stanford and Oxford.

12 MARCH 2026



Maths (PB)  
 Hardback £25.00 9781399818827  
 Royal 400 pages  
 Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399818834  
 Ebook 9781399818841  
 Not For Sale: US and Canada

## HUGE NUMBERS

A Story of Counting Ambitiously

RICHARD ELWES

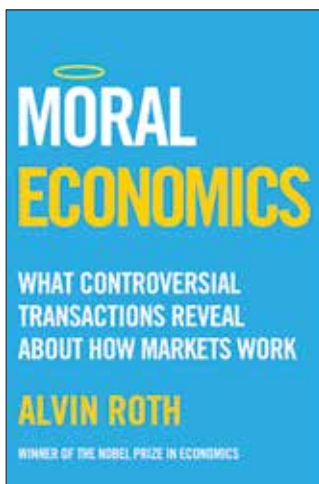
**How humanity's long pursuit of ever-larger numbers broke the boundaries of mathematics and propelled us into the Information Age.**

In *Huge Numbers*, Richard Elwes shows how counting larger and larger numbers has allowed us to test the limits of mathematics, breaking it down and putting it back together again.

Taking us on a tour that spans continents and millennia, from the Mayan calendar to today's chatbots, Richard Elwes reveals that huge numbers are everywhere, if you know where to look. Discover how they have expanded our horizons and powered our modern world.

**Richard Elwes** is a senior lecturer at the University of Leeds. He writes for *New Scientist* and recently joined the crew at Numberphile.

9 APRIL 2026



Economics (KC)  
 Hardback £25.00 9781399816625  
 Royal 288 pages  
 Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399816632  
 Ebook 9781399816656  
 Not For Sale: US and Canada;  
 Asia (ex Ind); Carib; Cent & S Am

## MORAL ECONOMICS

What Controversial Transactions  
 Reveal About How Markets Work

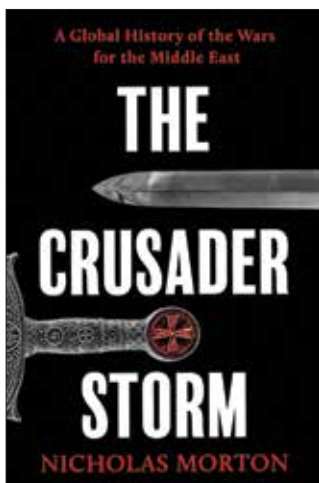
ALVIN ROTH

**A Nobel Prize-winning economist shows us why we have to deal in trade-offs when we can't agree on what's right and what's wrong.**

Some of the most intractable controversies in our divided society are about what actions and transactions should be banned. Alvin Roth asserts that we can make progress on these and other difficult topics if we view them as market-tools to help decide who gets what – and understand how those markets can be fine-tuned to be more functional. *Moral Economics* offers a powerful and innovative new framework for resolving today's hardest controversies.

**Alvin Roth** is the McCaw Professor of Economics at Stanford University. He was a corecipient of the 2012 Nobel Prize in Economics.

21 MAY 2026



History | Medieval  
 Hardback £22.00 9781399818728  
 Royal 320 pages  
 Trade Paperback £14.99  
 Ebook 9781399818735  
 Note For Sale: (Basic US)

## THE CRUSADER STORM

A Global History of the Wars  
 for the Middle East

NICHOLAS MORTON

**A spectacular new global history of the Crusades.**

*The Crusader Storm* traces the rise and fall of the Crusader States from the First Crusade to Saladin's conquest of Jerusalem, exploring how diverse cultures collided, coexisted, and reshaped the medieval Middle East. Through the eyes of rulers, rebels, and ordinary people, it reveals a world far more complex than a simple clash of faiths.

**Nicholas Morton**, award-winning historian of the Medieval Middle East, is Associate Professor at Nottingham Trent University and author of *The Mongol Storm* and *The Crusader States*.

4 JUNE 2026

JOHN MURRAY  
 ONE  
 JOHN MURRAY  
 ONE



Self Help & Personal Development (VS)  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399823685  
Demy 288 pages  
Ebook 9781399823692  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## THE PLACE THAT HAS NEVER BEEN WOUNDED

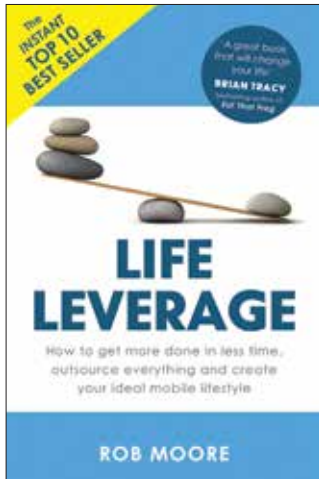
NIALL BRESLIN

**A mindful roadmap to finding your way to the peace at your core, this book will heal your soul.**

In a world of chaos and uncertainty, it's easy to feel unmoored. Like Polaris guiding travellers, this book offers a compass which will help you reconnect with your inner stillness and meet challenges with clarity. Not about fixing or perfection, it's about rediscovering the steady core within. With compassion and patience, it shows that everything you need to heal and move forward is already inside you.

**Niall Breslin** is a bestselling author, musician, and mental health advocate whose work blends mindfulness, compassion, and practical tools to support emotional resilience and healing.

**26 FEBRUARY 2026**



Self Help & Personal Development (VS)  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399832052  
Demy 288 pages  
Ebook 9781473640290

## LIFE LEVERAGE 10TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

ROB MOORE

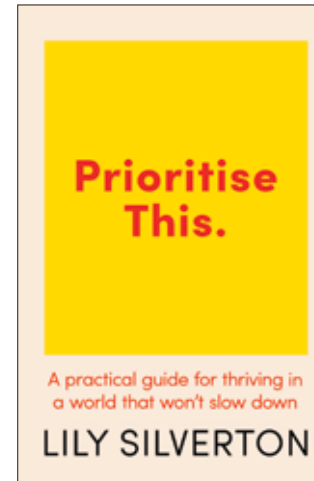
**This 10th Anniversary edition of Rob Moore's classic will show you how to live a time-rich, wealthy & meaningful life, RIGHT NOW.**

Life Leverage means taking control of your life, easily balancing your work and free time, making the most money with the minimum time input & wastage, and living a happier and more successful life.

Using Rob Moore's remarkable Life Leverage model, you'll quickly banish & outsource all your confusion, frustration and stress & live your ideal, globally mobile life, doing more of what you love on your own terms.

**Rob Moore** is a self made property investor, businessman, entrepreneur, best-selling author, world record holder, speaker, and pilot.

**18 JUNE 2026**



Self Help & Personal Development (VS)  
Hardback £20.00 9781399828635  
Demy HB 320 pages  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399829946  
Ebook 9781399828703  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## PRIORITISE THIS

A Practical Guide for Thriving in a World That Won't Slow

LILY SILVERTON

**A fresh, practical and straight-talking dose of self-care that meets you where you are.**

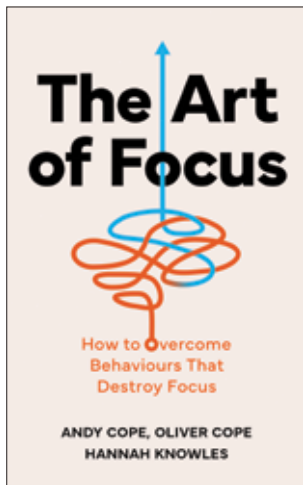
With burnout, stress, and competitive busyness at an all-time high, people are desperate for a new approach to productivity – one that doesn't sacrifice well-being in pursuit of output. *Prioritise This* offers just that: a mindset-driven method for navigating the chaos of modern life, helping readers declutter their minds, rewire their habits, and focus on what truly matters.

At the core of the book is *The Priorities Method™*, a neuroscience-backed framework combining mindfulness, positive psychology, neuroscience and practical productivity tools. You'll be guided through essential shifts in focus, energy, and habits so that productivity serves your well-being, rather than leading to burnout.

Unlike motivation books which lack practical strategies or time-management books that prescribe rigid schedules, *Prioritise This* adapts to real-life demands. It encourages a more sustainable, meaningful approach to success, making it the ideal companion if you're seeking balance, clarity, and motivation.

**Lily Silverton** is a globally recognised speaker, writer and self-development expert. Her commitment to helping individuals and organisations prioritise more helpful ways of thinking and behaving has made her a leading figure in the wellness world. With trainings in behavioural change, stress management, positive psychology, mindfulness, mindset and life coaching, and applied neuroscience, Lily brings a unique and evidence-based approach. Through her signature framework, *The Priorities Method*, she cuts through wellness clichés to empower people to navigate the chaos of modern life with more clarity, resilience and ease.

**26 MARCH 2026**



Self Help & Personal Development (VS)  
 Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399828543  
 Demy 288 pages  
 Ebook 9781399828703

## THE ART OF FOCUS

How to Overcome Behaviours  
 That Derail Concentration

ANDY COPE, OLIVER COPE AND  
 HANNAH KNOWLES

**Blending science, psychology and  
 anthropology, *The Art of Focus* shows  
 how to cut through distraction and  
 live with greater meaning.**

What would being less overwhelmed look like? Most of us already know: more time outside, less time on our phones, and a slower, calmer pace of life. Simple in theory, yet hard to achieve. But maybe we're not the problem.

*The Art of Focus* is a powerful exploration of how modern society and the relentless march of technology have fuelled distraction, anxiety, and the breakdown of attention. In a world of infinite noise, we risk losing more than focus – we risk losing the ability to live fully in the present.

Drawing on insights from psychology, neuroscience, and anthropology, this book offers practical, research-backed strategies to help you reclaim control. You'll uncover tools such as the 10/5 principle, nixen, keystone habits, and delayed gratification – approaches that reduce anxiety, restore clarity, and rebuild intention.

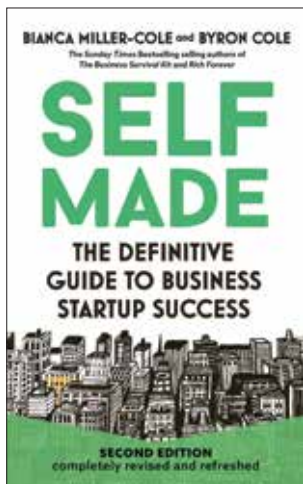
Grounded, hopeful, and deeply relevant, *The Art of Focus* equips you with the skills to manage anxiety, cut through distraction, and rediscover joy.

**Andy Cope** is a best-selling author, positive psychology expert, and Dr of Happiness. Oliver Cope is a writer and researcher with expertise in education, social media and neuroscience. Hannah Knowles is an expert in wellbeing and behavioural science.

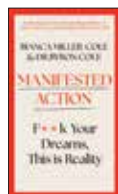
**20 AUGUST 2026**



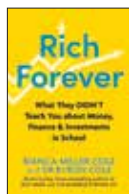
# JOHN MURRAY BUSINESS



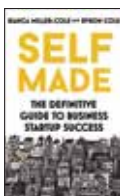
Entrepreneurship (KJH)  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9781399822350  
Demy TPB 288 pages  
Ebook 9781399822367



Manifested Action  
9781399809238  
9781399809245 (e)



Rich Forever  
9781399807593  
9781399807616 (e)



Self Made  
9781529382273  
9781473655300 (e)

## SELF MADE 2E

The definitive guide to business startup success

BIANCA MILLER-COLE AND  
DR. BYRON COLE

**Self-Made is a market leading and truly definitive guide; a 'go-to' book for all entrepreneurs at any stage of business.**

This authoritative, focused and bestselling guide by two of the UK's brightest young entrepreneurs – *The Apprentice* runner-up, Bianca Miller-Cole and serial entrepreneur, Dr Byron Cole – is a comprehensive toolkit for anyone who wants to make a success of running their own business. Featuring interviews with well known entrepreneurs, entertainers and industry experts, the book covers every tier of the business development process, from start-up to exit, offering practical, implementable and global advice on the start up process.

This fully updated new edition will de-code the jargon that is prevalent in business circles today, providing straightforward advice on converting an innovative business concept into a commercially viable proposition. It will help you to avoid the costly common mistakes of many who have gone before you, and create a sustainable enterprise that will flourish.

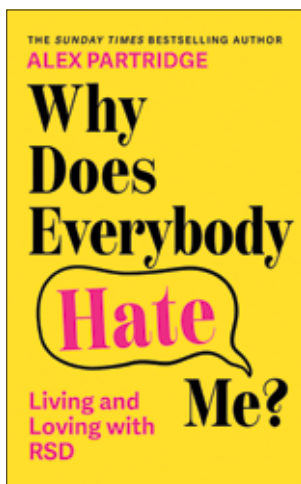
Fully updated and expanded to make it more timely, more international, more practical and more inspiring, it will be a vital tool for Entrepreneurs both inside and outside of the author's hugely motivated network.

**Bianca Miller-Cole** is an award-winning entrepreneur, workshop facilitator and internationally renowned professional speaker.

**Dr Byron Cole** is multi-award-winning entrepreneur, author and business start-up expert with a diverse portfolio of over 21 businesses spanning the UK and UAE.

30 JULY 2026

PRESS  
sheldon  
SHELDON  
PRESS



Popular psychology (VSP)  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781399827836  
Demy 400 pages  
Ebook 9781399827843

## WHY DOES EVERYBODY HATE ME?

Living and Loving with RSD

ALEX PARTRIDGE

**You are not 'too sensitive'. What you are feeling is Rejection Sensitivity Dysphoria, and you were always enough.**

Someone answered your message with a thumbs-up emoji and you just knew they hated you. So you stopped talking to them, they eventually stopped texting, and now you miss them like crazy.

That's RSD.

Research shows that children with ADHD receive 20,000 more negative comments during their childhood than their peers. Rejection Sensitivity Dysphoria is the consequence, with a devastating effect on the lives of adults with ADHD.

Social media genius, entrepreneur and host of the phenomenally successful podcast ADHD Chatter Alex Partridge knows how it feels to live with RSD. In *Why Does Everybody Hate Me?* he shares how RSD has coloured every aspect of his life, from his days as founder of the global social media content brands Unilad and LadBible, to his relationships, his mental health struggles and his terrible imposter syndrome.

In his trademark raw, relatable fashion, Alex guides you through the different manifestations of RSD – how it shows up in your own head and in your wider life, in ways you probably hadn't even noticed.

If you've ever been labelled 'over-sensitive', 'too much' or fought constantly against the desire to protect yourself from emotional harm, this book is for you.

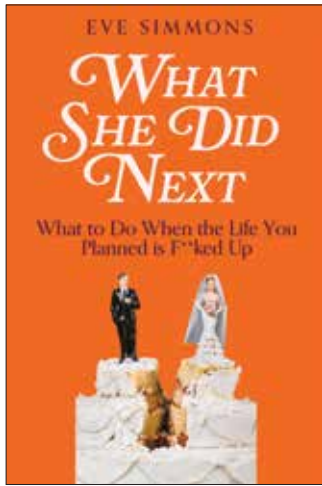
**Alex Partridge** is a pioneer of social media content as we know it today, and founded UNILAD and LADBible at the age of 21. Having uncoupled himself from both brands, Alex is now a neurodiversity and mental health advocate.

**24 MARCH 2026**



Now It All Makes Sense:  
How An ADHD Diagnosis  
Changed My Life  
Trade Paperback £16.99  
9781399817813  
EBook: 9781399817820

# DIALOGUE DIALOGUE



Separation & divorce (VFVS)  
Hardback £22.00 9780349705095  
Royal 304 pages  
Ebook 9780349705118  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## WHAT SHE DID NEXT

EVE SIMMONS

**A heartbreak memoir for the millennial age – sharp, devastating and unexpectedly empowering.**

**This is the real story of what happens when ‘happily ever after’ ends too soon.**

Eve Simmons thought she’d ticked every box: love, career, marriage. Then, six months in, her husband left-and she had no idea why.

In *What She Did Next*, the award-winning journalist blends personal memoir and investigative insight to uncover a quiet crisis affecting millennial women: the rise of the early, unexpected divorce.

With interviews, expert commentary and unforgettable storytelling, Simmons asks: why are so many young marriages ending so soon? What do we do after the life we built disappears overnight?

This is the heartbreak story for our generation. Honest, complicated and, ultimately, full of hope.

**Eve Simmons** is a journalist, author and health editor of *MailOnline*. She has dedicated her career to sharing personal difficulties in the hope of helping others feel less alone, whilst offering plenty of laughs along the way.

**8 JANUARY 2026**



Modern & Contemporary Fiction (FA)  
Hardback £20.00 9780349703367  
Royal 352 pages  
Trade Paperback £20.00 9780349703374  
Ebook 9780349703381  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## SUCKERFISH

ASHANI LEWIS

**A novel centred on a complicated, thoughtfully observed mother-daughter relationship for fans of *Burnt Sugar*, *Hot Milk* and *My Phantoms*.**

*There are women with higher callings than motherhood. And there are their daughters.*

Kolia is in her twenties, caring for other people’s children and looking for a way out of London’s dead-end days. She is not looking to be pulled back into the orbit of her passionate, fiery, vulnerable mother, but she may have no choice.

In Kolia’s childhood, her mother loomed large, both saint and celebrity. Now, she will go to any lengths to repair relations with her estranged daughter.

A painful love letter to childishness, innocence and imagination, *Suckerfish* scrutinizes what we really owe each other.

**Ashani Lewis** was a winner of the London Writers Awards 2021, and a recipient of the 2025 Somerset Maugham Award and the Betty Trask Prize for *Winter Animals*. Her short story collection, *Everest*, was shortlisted for the 2025 Jhalak Prize.

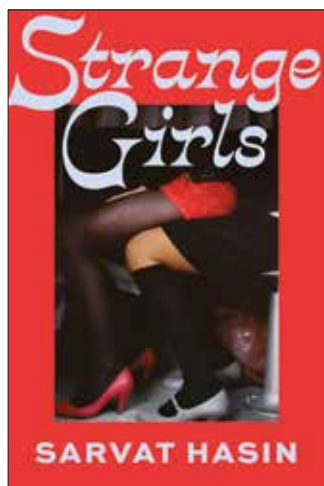
**26 FEBRUARY 2026**



Winter Animals  
Paperback £10.99  
9780349703312  
9780349703282



Everest  
Paperback £10.99  
9780349703343  
9780349703398



Modern & Contemporary Fiction (FA)  
Hardback £20.00 9780349703114  
Royal 352 pages  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9780349703121  
Ebook 9780349703107  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## STRANGE GIRLS

SARVAT HASIN

**A beautiful exploration of the ties that bind us and the scars they leave when they break.**

A decade has passed since Ava spoke to Aliya. Aliya has everything Ava wants – a room of her own and a publishing deal – and, worse, the thing Ava was certain neither of them had ever wanted: a sensible doctor husband. Arriving back in London for a mutual friend's hen party, Ava is desperate to unpack the truth of their shared history and what they meant to each other.

Aliya and Ava first met in the halls of their historic campus with dreams built upon Emily Brontë, *Brideshead Revisited* and Richard Curtis films. Their connection was electric. They created a world of their own through the stories they wrote, influencing and borrowing from each other's work. But when the end of university loomed, the real world began to pull them in opposite directions. Was their bond ever truly as strong as they thought? And what would become of the stories they told themselves about each other?

Weaving together their past and present, *Strange Girls* is an ingenious exploration of the ties forged in the intensity of youth, and the scars left when they break.

**Sarvat Hasin** is from Pakistan and holds a Creative Writing MA from the University of Oxford. Hasin has won the Mo Siewcharan Prize, been shortlisted for the RSL Encore Award and longlisted for the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature.

12 MARCH 2026



The Giant Dark  
Paperback £9.99  
9780349701738  
9780349701721



Sex and sexuality: advice, topics and issues (VFVC)  
Hardback £20.00 9780349703411  
Royal 288 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9780349703428  
Ebook 9780349703404  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## SEEKING SEXUAL FREEDOM

African Rites, Rituals and Sankofa in the Bedroom

NANA DARKOA SEKYIAMAH

**A bold foray into self-discovery, pleasure and African traditions from the author of *The Sex Lives of African Women*.**

Nana Darkoa Sekyiamah has heard the wildest dreams and spiciest realities of women around the world. But so often, something stops these women achieving unfettered freedom. Seeking to lead us on our own journeys to rediscover sexual freedom, Sekyiamah trains with gurus, witches and aunties from Senegal to Tanzania to apply Sankofa (learning from the past to inform the future) to age-old sexual practices and provide practical advice and prompts.

Preminent feminist **Nana Darkoa Sekyiamah** is the co-founder of the award-winning *Adventures from the Bedrooms of African Women* and a critically acclaimed author.

5 MARCH 2026



Society and culture (JB)  
Hardback £22.00 9780349702490  
Royal 320 pages  
Ebook 9780349702506  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## THE GOOD, THE BLACK AND THE BOJEE

The Story of Britain's New Black Middle Class

SYMEON BROWN

**The gospel of black ambition and a landmark portrait of black Britain now.**

*The Good, the Black and the Boujee* is a provocative reckoning with how class and gender shape modern black Britain. Whether examining the rise of black Conservative power brokers or tracing the assimilation of a black elite, Brown renders visible the psychological and material cost of class aspiration.

This is not simply a portrait of a class in motion, but a forensic study of how race, capital and identity entwine.

**Symeon Brown** is a reporter, journalist and recipient of a 2018 MJA Award. His work has been shortlisted for the British Journalism Award.

16 APRIL 2026

# RENEGADE



Fantasy (FM)  
hardback £16.99 9781408748688  
Demy 400 pages  
Ebook 9781408748664  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## THE SALT BIND

REBECCA FERRIER

**An unputdownable and hypnotising historical fantasy steeped in salt, superstition of the Cornish coast and the alchemy of the Old Ways.**

**Cornwall, 1779.** On a late August evening Kensa comes across a dying sea monster under the light of a full moon. The first of its kind to grace the storm-torn shore of Portscatho in centuries, it is an omen . . .

For scarlet-haired Kensa, daughter of the most feared smuggler to ever roam the Cornish coast, her destiny is sealed as apprentice to the local wise woman. Under the guidance of Isolde, Kensa learns secrets of the Old Ways, the ancient magic that binds the land and sea.

But when Isolde sickens, Kensa turns to the Bucka, the Father of Storms, a vengeful sea god chained to the ocean. Desperate to save her mentor, Kensa makes a deal with the deadly creature – a pact that risks everything she’s sworn to protect.

*‘An utterly mesmerising gothic fairytale and a love letter to all the women who are marked as witches simply for being different. Wild, darkly woven and overflowing with courage, this novel is an enchantment you cannot miss’* LUCY ROSE, author of *The Lamb*

**Rebecca Ferrier** lives in Scotland, where she writes about difficult women, sickness and the sea. She won the 2020 Bridge Award and was on the 2021 All Stories development programme. She is also part of the RSE-funded Death Writes network.

**22 JANUARY 2026**



Historical fiction (FV)  
Hardback £20.00 9781408749418  
Royal 464 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781408749425  
Ebook 9781408749432  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## KEEPER OF LOST CHILDREN

### SADEQA JOHNSON

**From the New York Times bestselling author of *The House of Eve* comes a sweeping, unforgettable novel about one woman's dream in post-World War II Germany – and the three lives it changes forever.**

Ethel Gathers, the proud wife of an American Officer, is living in Occupied Germany in the 1950s. After discovering a local orphanage filled with the abandoned mixed-race children of German women and Black American GI's, Ethel feels compelled to help find these children homes.

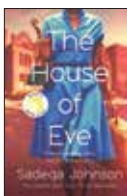
Ozzie Phillips volunteers for the recently desegregated army in 1948, eager to make his mark in the world. While serving in Manheim, Germany, he meets a local woman, Jelka, and the two embark on a relationship that will impact their lives forever.

In 1965 Maryland, Sophia Clark is given an opportunity to attend a prestigious boarding school and escape her heartless parents. While at the school, she discovers a secret that upends her world and sends her on a quest to unravel her own identity.

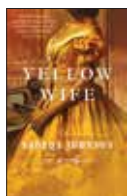
Toggling between the lives of these three individuals, *Keeper of Lost Children* explores how one woman's vision will change the course of countless lives – and demonstrates that love, in its myriad of forms, can be transcendent.

**Sadeqa Johnson** is the *New York Times* bestselling author of five novels including The Reese's Book club pick, *The House of Eve*. Originally from Philadelphia, she currently lives near Richmond, Virginia, with her husband and three teens.

**12 FEBRUARY 2026**



*The House of Eve*  
B Format £9.99  
9780349704128  
9780349130545



*Yellow Wife*  
B Format £9.99  
9780349130606  
9780349130583



Fantasy (FM)  
Hardback £20.00 9781408750582  
Royal 528 pages  
Trade Paperback £18.99 9781408750599  
Ebook 9781408750605  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## THE DEBTOR'S GAME

### ISABELLE MONGEAU

**The first book in a lush, gritty and subversive fantasy series, perfect for fans of Holly Black and Tasha Suri.**

Set in a world where faeries are born with tattoos of debt to the High Fae, *The Debtor's Game* follows a faerie servant Avery, who finds herself at the centre of vicious, sensual court politics between her mistress and the newly crowned king, all the while navigating the dangerous desires of the High Fae and uprooting long-buried secrets with earth-shattering implications.

**Isabelle Mongeau** is an author and content creator in Atlanta, Georgia, and her work has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize.

**3 MARCH 2026**



Modern & Contemporary Fiction (FA)  
Horror & Ghost Stories (FK)  
Hardback £20.00 9781408750629  
Royal 336 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781408750636  
Ebook 9781408750643  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## MAN, MUSE, MONSTER

### NAOMI GIBSON

**A devastatingly alluring dark academia horrormance perfect for fans of Ava Reid, M. L. Rio and Leigh Bardugo.**

When Harry Alexander, a failing art student, receives a key to a mysterious storage unit, he discovers the source of his family's greatness: a muse. This supernatural being trapped in oil and canvas steps into Harry's life in the form of a handsome young man and helps further his artistic success, only for Harry to learn the true cost of inspiration and his muse's dark and bloody origin.

**Naomi Gibson** is an art history graduate based near Glasgow. Her YA novels have been translated into eleven languages and have been optioned for screen.

**23 APRIL 2026**



Popular Culture (JFCA)  
Hardback £18.99 9781408748589  
Demy 352 pages  
Trade Paperback £18.99 9781408748572  
Ebook 9781408748541  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## DEKONSTRUCTING THE KARDASHIANS

MJ COREY

**A New Media manifesto for the TikTok age, blending theory and cultural analysis to explain the meteoric rise of the Kardashians and explore what their fame can teach us about the way media functions today.**

MJ Corey, creator of the viral social media presence Kardashian Kolloquium, brings us the definitive chronicle of the family that's captivated a nation. Part media theory, part cultural analysis, *Dekonstrukturing the Kardashians* interweaves history from the past 50 years of Western media to tell the story of how media has transformed in the internet age and how it continues to transform us and our culture at large.

**MJ Corey** is a Brooklyn-based writer and psychotherapist best known as Kardashian Kolloquium, where she applies media theory and postmodern frameworks to the Kardashian family.

5 MAY 2026



Fantasy (FM)  
Hardback £22.00 9781408749128  
Royal 368 pages  
Trade Paperback £16.99 9781408749111  
Ebook 9781408749104  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## A QUEEN CROWNED IN FLAMES

HAZEL McBRIDE

**The searing conclusion to the Celtic-inspired fantasy romance duology that began with the *Sunday Times* bestseller *A Fate Forged in Fire*.**

The rightful queen Aemyra Daercathian and her fire-breathing dragon must fight against corruption and overcome the betrayal of the man she loved. Even if that means making a new kind of alliance, one that could mean winning back her kingdom. At a cost to her heart . . . Will Aemyra rise as the dawn for her people or the fire that burns everything to the ground?

**Hazel McBride** is a *Sunday Times* bestselling Scottish author currently living in The Netherlands and fluent in four languages.

26 MAY 2026



Historical Fiction (FV, FA, 3JH, 1DDF)  
Hardback £16.99 9781408749791  
Royal 336 pages  
Trade Paperback £15.99 9781408749807  
Ebook 9781408749814  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

## FEAST

CATHERINE KURTZ

***Feast* is a sumptuous historical novel brimming with intrigue and sensory wonder – a dark fairytale for readers who love Jessie Burton, Elizabeth Macneal and Bridget Collins.**

In the soot-streaked alleys of 19th-century London, Minha is a girl unlike any other – born with an extraordinary gift: an overwhelming, all-consuming sense of taste. Desperate to escape a life of poverty, she crosses the sea to France, chasing the shimmer of a better future.

At Château de Bellefais, a grand estate with fairytale turrets perched above a sleepy village, Minha's talent is discovered when she detects poison in a dish about to be served to the château's master, Duc Nicolas. For the first time in her life, her strange ability becomes her salvation – and her curse. Appointed the Duc's personal poison-taster, she is confined to her tasting room and forced to live in the chateau's shadows. With each dish, she enters a world of glittering porcelain and gilded secrets, where danger simmers beneath every course –

But when she loses her miraculous gift and suspicion coils through the corridors, Minha must confront a terrifying truth: without her gift, who is she – and what remains of the life she's fought so hard to build?

**Catherine Kurtz** studied fine art at Chelsea School of Art. Upon graduating, Kurtz was made artist-in-residence at the Royal Ballet School. She is a painter represented by the Redfern Gallery, and a member of the Guild of Food Writers. Her journalism has been published in *Spectator's Scoff*, *Harvest*, *ckbk* and *Celebrated Living*.

4 JUNE 2026



Romance (FR)  
Paperback £9.99 9781408750162  
B Format 384 pages  
Ebook 9781408750148

## SECRETS OF THE ITALIAN GUESTHOUSE

The Italian Legacy Trilogy

SUE MOORCROFT

**Two sisters she's never met**

**A first love whose impossible to forget...**

The Three Sisters, a bustling and thriving guesthouse in the charming Lake Como, is Mairead Campbell's heart and soul – and her life's legacy. On her death, in a final wish to reconnect her scattered family, Mairead leaves the guesthouse to her three granddaughters, Jade, Erin and Rosalie.

The estranged sisters – daughters of Mairead's unreliable son Giovanni – have never met, and are shocked when they learn the contents of their grandmother's will. Despite their reservations, Erin and Rosalie are drawn to visit the property rather than correspond with Jade via Mairead's solicitors. When the three finally meet under the guesthouse's roof, it is all just as Mairead has planned.

But each sister has her own perspective on their entwined history and inheriting their grandmother's legacy is just the start of their journey . . .

***Secrets of the Italian Guesthouse* is the first novel in a new, perfectly escapist trilogy from the bestselling author Sue Moorcroft.**

**Sue Moorcroft** is a *Sunday Times* bestselling and internationally acclaimed author whose work has topped the Amazon Kindle UK charts and reached the Top 100 on Amazon Kindle US, Canada, Germany and Italy.

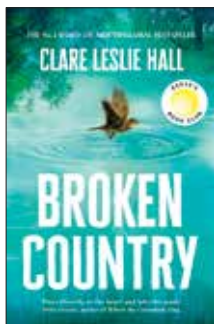
**2 JULY 2026**



# PAPERBACK HIGHLIGHTS

**MARCH**

FA, FH  
Paperback  
£10.99 9781399820431  
B Format 320 pages  
Ebook 9781399820448  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

**BROKEN COUNTRY****CLARE LESLIE HALL**

**A million-copy bestseller and instant global sensation.**

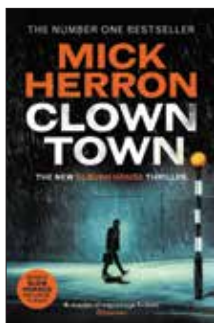
Beth was seventeen when she first met Gabriel. Over that heady, intense summer, she thought this was the start of her great love story.

It was Frank who picked up the pieces when he left, and over the years they built a life together.

But when Gabriel comes back a decade later, all Beth's certainty crumbles. Their connection is instant. How can she resist a second chance at first love?

**APRIL**

Espionage & Spy Thriller (FHD)  
Thriller/Suspense (FH)  
Crime & Mystery (FF)  
Paperback  
£10.99 9781399800440  
B Format 352 pages  
Ebook 9781399800464  
Not For Sale: US, Canada and non-exclusive Europe

**CLOWN TOWN****MICK HERRON**

**Spies lie. They betray. It's what they do.**

The slow horses return in this instant *Sunday Times* bestseller from Mick Herron. The slow horses should be at their desks. Instead, they get mixed up in the aftermath of a covert operation from the height of *The Troubles*.

**MAY**

Fiction (FA)  
Paperback  
£9.99 9781399819589  
B Format 304 pages  
Ebook 9781399819596

**THE ARTIST****LUCY STEEDS**

**WINNER OF THE WATERSTONES DEBUT PRIZE 2025**

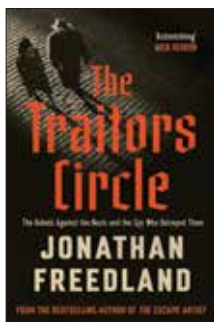
**Provence, 1920.** Ettie moves through the remote farmhouse, creating the conditions that make her uncle's artistic genius possible.

Joseph, an aspiring journalist, arrives to interview the reclusive painter, Edouard Tartuffe.

But everyone has their secrets. And over this sweltering summer, everyone's true colours will be revealed.

**JUNE**

History (NH)  
Paperback  
£11.99 9781399813693  
B Format 480 pages  
Ebook 9781399813709  
Not For Sale: US and Canada

**THE TRAITORS CIRCLE****JONATHAN FREEDLAND**

**When the whole world is lying, someone must tell the truth.**

**Berlin, 1943.** A group of high-society anti-Nazi dissenters meet for a tea party one late summer afternoon. They do not know that, sitting around the table, is someone poised to betray them all to the Gestapo – revealing their secret to the Nazis' most ruthless detective.

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