



RML

RACHELMILLSLITERARY



Rachel Mills Literary is a modern London-based literary agency representing a community of prize-winning and internationally bestselling authors.

As well as translation rights for our own clients, RML also handles translation rights for several other leading London literary and talent agencies: 42MP, YMU, Bergstrom Studio, The Plot Agency, Robert Caskie Ltd and Maven Literary.

FICTION

THE LIBRARY OF STARS

Jordan Rose



An enchanting and deeply romantic fantasy that masterfully explores the pull between legacy, duty and destiny and the enduring magic of stories, for readers of THE NIGHT CIRCUS and THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY

Archimedes is no ordinary library – its ceilings shimmer with stars, its books heal hearts and it travels the world at will, appearing where it's needed most before vanishing without a trace. For centuries, the Finch family have been its custodians, remembered by no one once the library moves on.

UK Publisher: Del Rey

UK Editor: Claire Simmonds

Publication: Summer 2027

Rights sold:

Brazil: Bertrand/Record

France: Olympe/Gallimard

Germany: dtv

Greece: Psychogios

Hungary: General Press/Lira

Italy: Newton Compton

Spain: Urano

Ukraine: Vivat

USA & Canada: Del Rey US

In 1959, the latest guardians, Maria and Edmund Finch, die under mysterious circumstances. Three days later, Archimedes relocates from France to London, taking their daughter Seraphine with it. Alone and grieving, Serrie must prove herself worthy of the library's power by completing three magical trials.

Convinced her parents' deaths weren't an accident – and with the arrival of the charming Sebastian Ellerbrook – Serrie begins to unravel a web of secrets that could destroy both her and the library she was born to protect.

JORDAN ROSE is a British content creator with over 500,000 followers across her platforms (@hellomissjordan) where she shares vintage-inspired fashion and enchanting travel destinations to an international audience. She holds a degree in English Literature and Language from the University of Sussex, and the novel was deeply shaped by her own journey with mental health and therapy.

THE THOUSAND DEATHS OF ROMEO & JULIET

Caroline Finch



UK Publisher: Harper
Voyager/Magpie

UK Editor: Elizabeth Vaziri

Publication: Spring 2027

Rights sold:

Brazil: HarperCollins Brazil
Italy: Newton Compton
Spain: Newton Compton
USA & Canada: Hanover
Square/HarperCollins

A sweeping, epic love story with a speculative edge for readers of THE INVISIBLE LIFE OF ADDIE LA RUE and LIFE AFTER LIFE.

Juliet has loved and lost Romeo a thousand times. Across universes and centuries, through war and ruin, their souls find each other—only to be torn apart again. Their love is inescapable, burning bright no matter the era, but so is the shadow that haunts them.

Mercutio, doomed to die because of their love has created a curse that has bound their fate, returning in every lifetime with Tybalt, another sacrifice fated to die, carrying the weight of old wounds, unfinished vengeance and the promise that the past they have inherited cannot be escaped.

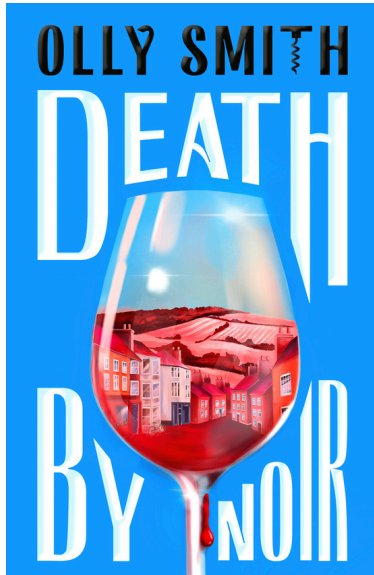
With every life and death, Juliet slowly begins to unravel the truth behind their endless cycle, and in doing so must face an impossible question: is love strong enough to break the patterns of this curse, or are they all doomed to repeat this brutal history forever?

A sweeping, time-bending reimagining of Shakespeare's greatest lovers, **THE THOUSAND DEATHS OF ROMEO & JULIET** is an epic love story of passion, destiny, and the ghosts that refuse to let us go.

CAROLINE FINCH is a pseudonym for for an established British historical fiction writer.

DEATH BY NOIR: BOOK 1 IN THE BOTTLE BANK MYSTERIES

Olly Smith



UK Publisher: Baskerville/John Murray

UK Editor: Jade Chandler

Publication: June 2026

Extent: 320 pages

Rights sold:
Film/TV: auction ongoing

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

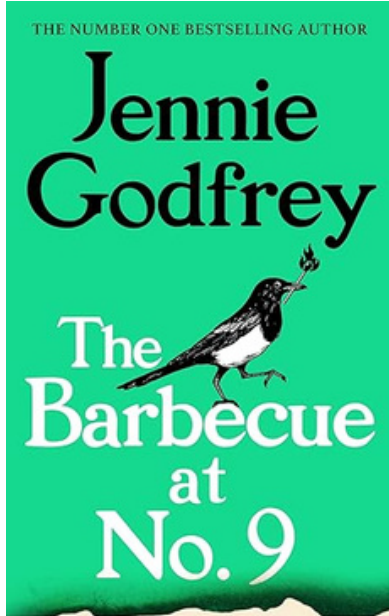
Barclay Flint is the eccentric proprietor of The Bottle Bank wine shop in Lewes, the small Sussex town renowned for its annual Bonfire Night festival. Barclay can taste a kaleidoscopic universe in a single glass of wine - and will delight in luring you to share in its charms.

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...

OLLY SMITH is the UK's best-loved wine expert, with 18 years' presenting wine on BBC1's Saturday Kitchen. He has written about wine for the Mail on Sunday and the Daily Mail for 17 years and has six award-winning Glass House wine bars across P&O Cruises fleet. He has hosted more than 80 episodes of his hit drinks podcast 'A Glass With' featuring a dazzling array of celebrity guests and is the author of several books on wine and cocktails, including *WINE* (Quadrille, 2025). *DEATH BY NOIR* is his debut novel and is the first in the cosy crime Bottle Bank Mystery series.

THE BARBECUE AT NUMBER 9

Jennie Godfrey



UK Publisher: Hutchinson
Heinemann

UK Editor: Ailah Ahmed

Publication: February 2026

Extent: 464 pages

Rights sold:

Germany: dtv

Italy: Bollati Boringhieri

USA & Canada: Sourcebooks

***FROM THE AUTHOR OF THE SMASH HIT NO.1 SUNDAY TIMES
BESTSELLER THE LIST OF SUSPICIOUS THINGS***

It's the summer of 1985 and the residents of Delmont Close are preparing a neighbourhood barbecue to watch the biggest music event in history: Live Aid. A day like no other that will end having reached millions and changed the lives of all who attend.

House-proud Lydia Gordon, whose idols are Princess Di and Delia Smith, is determined to put on a show that will impress everyone - with her posh garden and state-of-the-art television and her sweet husband and two children, Hanna and David.

But as the guests flood into number nine, so do all of the secrets that have been kept in the close.

Rita, a new neighbour from Australia, is hoping for a fresh start but harbours a shocking event in her past; Steve, a young Falklands veteran, battles his own demons; and Mr Wilson is surely too good-looking to ever be trusted.

But as the hours count down to the last performance of the night, it's Lydia who faces the heart-breaking truth that her immaculate home and flawless family might not be so perfect after all.

And if each of their neighbours is guilty of hiding something, so are the Gordons at number nine ...

'From the very first page I was in awe. I LOVED it.' **MARIAN KEYES**

'A delicious and irresistible story. An utter treat.' **RACHEL JOYCE**

JENNIE GODFREY was raised in West Yorkshire and her debut novel is inspired by her childhood there in the 1970s. Following the success of her debut *THE LIST OF SUSPICIOUS THINGS*, which has been translated into 20 languages and was shortlisted for Debut of the Year at the British Book Awards, she is now a full-time writer and part-time Waterstones bookseller and lives in the Somerset countryside.

LITTLE HANDS

Celia Walden



UK Publisher: HarperFiction

UK Editor: Charlotte Brabin

Publication: 2027

Rights sold:

US & Canada: Morrow

Ukraine: Vivat

Film/TV: Universal Studios &
Working Title

**On behalf of Eugenie Furniss
at 42**

RIVIERA meets OCEANS 11 - a smart, glossy summer thriller set against the dark underbelly of the French Riviera.

Sophie, a young British woman with a mysterious past, is scooped off the streets of Marseilles and into the world of the ruthless 'Les petites mains' in St Tropez. She meets a curious assortment of young women, unassuming and highly skilled at what they do. They train her up to spot the most auspicious marks of the ultra-wealthy along the French Riviera in order to pull off high-end burglaries.

Sophie's life becomes the wildest of jewel encrusted obstacle courses, leading to the greatest challenge of all - a daring heist to steal valuables from a billionaire's lavish yacht wedding, made all the more complicated by her growing feelings for the billionaire's son...

As the local authorities' investigation intensifies, she must face the complexities and interpersonal dynamics within the criminal enterprise while torn on whether to stay with this newfound 'family'; that is, so long as she can keep her hidden past from being exposed.

Why did the enigmatic Luc choose Sophie to join his gang of female thieves in the first place? And what does he know of the dark secret she carries?

CELIA WALDEN is a British journalist and the author of four previous novels, most recently PAYDAY and THE SQUARE. Her work has appeared in numerous publications and she is a regular contributor to the Daily Telegraph. Born and raised in Paris, Celia studied at the University of Cambridge. She and her husband now divide their time between London and L.A. The TV rights to LITTLE HANDS were won in a 10-way bidding war.



QUEENIE IS WORKING ON IT

Candice Carty-Williams



UK Publisher: Trapeze

UK Editor: Katie Espiner

Publication: July 2026

Extent: 416 pages

Rights sold:

Germany: Blumenbar/Aufbau

USA & Canada: Gallery

***QUEENIE RETURNS IN THE NEW HUGELY ANTICIPATED
NEW NOVEL FROM CRITICALLY ADORED, MULTI-PRIZE
SHORTLISTED, SMASH-HIT BESTSELLING AUTHOR
CANDICE CARTY-WILLIAMS***

How is it possible for one woman to hold it together when she's:

Confronted with a racing biological clock when she doesn't even know if she wants kids.

Trying to act normal when her heart is smashed into a million pieces.

Ten times smarter than the people she's working for.

Priced out of the housing market in the place she grew up.

Stuck in a situationship when all she wants is the love of her life back...

Bigger. Not better. Older. Not wiser. Queenie Jenkins is working on it. And failing.

Award-winning author Candice Carty-Williams returns with a scalpel-sharp, poignant and hilarious new book that shines a dazzling light on the realities of modern womanhood.

PRAISE FOR CANDICE CARTY-WILLIAMS

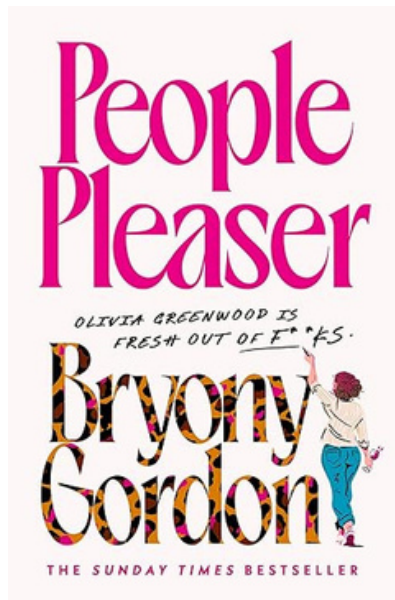
'Brilliant, timely, funny, heartbreaking.' **JOJO MOYES**

'[A] brazenly hilarious, tell-it-like-it-is first novel.' **O, The Oprah Magazine**

CANDICE CARTY-WILLIAMS is a journalist, screenwriter, and author of the Sunday Times bestselling *QUEENIE*, which was translated into 14 languages and was adapted into a hit TV series, and her second novel *PEOPLE PERSON*. Candice created and launched the Guardian and 4th Estate BAME Short Story Prize, the first inclusive initiative of its kind in book publishing.

PEOPLE PLEASER

Bryony Gordon



UK Publisher: Viking

UK Editor: Harriet Bourton

Publication: Spring 2026

Extent: 368 pages

Rights sold:

Lithuania: Lithuania Writers Union

Ukraine: Vivat

Film/TV: Imaginarium

From the Sunday Times bestselling author comes a fiercely funny, relatable, escapist read about finding the courage to please ourselves

"You're so desperate to make everybody else happy that you've forgotten what makes you happy. You've not just forgotten it, you've abandoned it, on a bonfire full of all your other hopes and dreams. A bonfire you're too scared to light in case the neighbours report you to the council."

Olivia Greenwood has been trying very hard to please people for a very long time.

But today is going to change her in a big way. A soul-crushing career disappointment, a fiery young woman with a chip on her shoulder and a cigarette in her hand, and one single blue hallucinogenic gummy all lead to a raucous night out and one hell of a hangover. And when Olivia wakes up the next morning, it seems she's unable to please anyone but HERSELF.

So who actually is Olivia Greenwood, when she's not trying to be what everyone else wants her to be?

PRAISE FOR BRYONY GORDON

'Darkly funny and deeply serious' **The Guardian**

'Bryony writes with such entertaining and brazen candour.' **MATT HAIG**

BRYONY GORDON is the no.1 Sunday Times bestselling author of 6 works of non-fiction, MAD GIRL and YOU GOT THIS. She was a columnist at the Telegraph for 2 decades, where she became one of the paper's best-loved writers, and is now a columnist at the Daily Mail. She is the presenter of the Mad World podcast and in 2016 she founded Mental Health Mates, now a global peer support network which encourages people with mental health issues to connect. In 2023 she was awarded the President's Medal by the Royal College of Psychiatry for her mental health campaigning. She lives in South London with her husband and daughter, and their two guinea pigs.

FACULTY OF LIARS

RL Heber

FACULTY OF LIARS by RL Heber

UK Publisher: Oneworld
(World English)

UK Editor: Wayne Brooks

Publication: August 2026

Rights sold:
WEL audio: Audible

Elizabeth Harker is the English wife of the next President of one of the most prestigious Universities in New England.

But the day her husband's new role is announced, she discovers the news in the bed of her unnamed lover, a man with whom she has had a torrid affair and who also works at the University, while keeping a careful distance from her husband. Now Elizabeth realises that as the wife of the incoming President, all eyes will be on her and the University system is quick to remind her that her behaviour reflects not only on her marriage but on the university itself. Then on the day of inauguration, she discovers while on camera, that her lover has been brutally murdered on campus. Immediately Elizabeth is plunged into despair. The stakes, if anyone discovers the affair, are too jeopardising to contemplate. But when she discovers her lover left a message on her voicemail in the moments before he is murdered, she is faced with two terrifying questions.

How can she escape this unscathed?

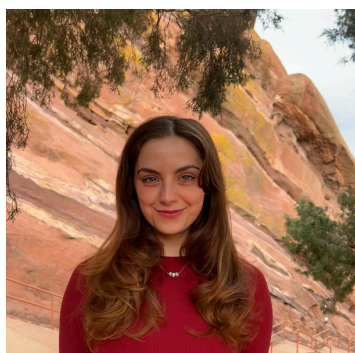
Who murdered her lover and why?

As events unfold, Elizabeth begins to realise she is at the centre of a very dangerous web where she can trust no one and worst of all, that in death, the man she betrayed her husband with, may cause the downfall of everything she so desperately wants.

RL HEBER is a pseudonym for a writer who has published several books in another genre and who is now moving in a new direction.

WICKED PURSUIT

Gemma Brazil



UK Publisher: Pan Macmillan

UK Editor: Maddie Thornam

Publication: Autumn 2027

Madigan Connors has been running for two years—from her violent outlaw husband Dallas Lancaster, the leader of the infamous Casual Rascals, and from the wreckage of the life he stole from her. When she's finally recaptured, Madigan expects death. Instead, Dallas offers her a deal: assassinate a persistent widow stirring up trouble in a nearby town, in order to draw attention away from an impending raid, and he'll give her freedom.

The target is Josie Prynne, a woman who has spent the last year demanding justice for her son—murdered in cold blood by Dallas himself. Horrified but cornered, Madigan agrees. Dallas knows exactly how to hurt her if she doesn't.

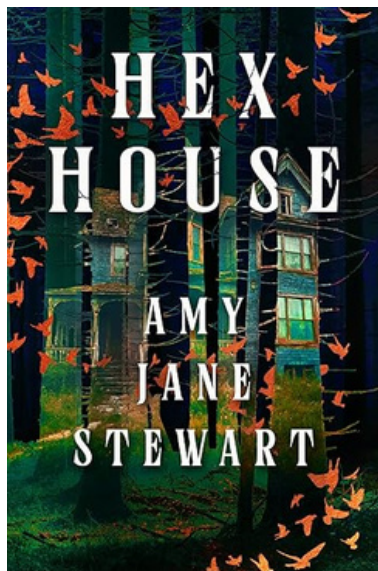
But when Madigan meets Josie, the mission begins to unravel. She sees in Josie not just a target, but a woman full of fire, grief, and quiet strength. And in her presence, Madigan begins to reclaim parts of herself long buried—her courage, her tenderness, her capacity to love. As the two women shift from hunted to hunters, they must face not only the men pursuing them, but the brutal, unforgiving landscape of the West itself.

WICKED PURSUIT explores what it means to be a woman in a world shaped by violence and lawlessness, where survival often comes at the cost of your soul. It examines forbidden love, revenge, and resilience, while also reaching for something more ambitious: a sweeping, character-driven story of women on the run—not just from the law, but from the lives they've been forced to live and the ghosts that haunt them. It expands both on the tropes of enemies to lovers, anti-heroines and a morally grey world which forces good people to make harsh choices in the name of survival.

GEMMA BRAZIL is a writer and recent graduate from Royal Holloway University. Although she was raised in North Yorkshire she has a penchant for the wide-open spaces of the American West. **WICKED PURSUIT** is her debut novel.

HEX HOUSE

Amy Jane Stewart



UK Publisher: Titan Books

UK Editor: Daniel Carpenter

Publication: April 2026

Extent: 304 pages

Rights sold:

France: Éditions Du Seuil

**On behalf of Marilia Savvides
at The Plot Agency**

—THE—
PLOT
AGENCY

**A woman in the woods alone is never the beginning of the story.
It's usually the end.**

ELLY

Elly is running. Pregnant and still in her wedding dress, she flees the cottage that her new husband, Ethan, has rented for their wedding night. He's not what people think he is, and she knows that one day he'll hurt her in a way she can't fix. Freezing and alone in the woods in the dead of night, she accepts that she's going to die. Just as she has given up all hope, a house appears out of nowhere, and a woman beckons her in. Welcome to Hex House. A place that can only be found by those who need it. A place that teaches broken women how to access a power more beautiful and more horrifying than anything they could have imagined.

SIOBHAN

Edinburgh, present day: Siobhan's life is in ruins. Once a promising documentary filmmaker, she has given up on her dream, and kept all the terrifying footage she has of Hex House hidden away. She tries to erase all the horrors she witnessed with drugs and alcohol, and spends her time toying with a man in increasingly feral and dangerous ways. Her brother won't speak to her, and she ignores the scar on her stomach that never fully heals

But despite everything, always, she feels the presence of that place. And she knows, deep down, that she has to return.

'There's a house in the woods where the lost girls go, more Suspiria than cosy fairytale: HEX HOUSE is a gloriously violent, candid, propulsive take on female anger and revenge. I tore through it.' **ALLY WILKES, Bram Stoker award-nominated author of All the White Spaces and Man Eater**

AMY JANE STEWART lives in the Scottish Borders. She was the winner of the New Writing North & Word Factory Northern Apprentice Award in 2021 and the Mairtín Crawford Prize for Short Story in 2022. She has been Highly Commended in the 2019 Bridport Prize and shortlisted for the 2023 Bristol Short Story Prize. She holds an MA in Creative Writing from York St John University and is studying for a Creative Writing PhD at the University of Sheffield.

THE TWILIGHT WITCH

Megan Scott



The first in a new spicy, contemporary fantasy trilogy, a modern-day retelling of the Irish myth, 'Deirdre of Sorrows', perfect for fans of PRACTICAL MAGIC and OUTLANDER.

When Ríona is summoned home to her matriarchal coven in Ireland, she immediately dreads the return. Not because she doesn't love her family, but because of the rite they have to perform. Every year Irish Twilight Witches use their liminal magic to restrain an ancient and terrible mist that would otherwise lure in innocents with their deepest desires, never to be seen again.

UK Publisher: HQ

UK Editor:

Publication: 2027

**On behalf of Amanda Harris at
Maven Literary**

Ríona has always strived to be as powerful and confident as her grandmother. Yet every year on this night, she falters. Because the mist tries to lure her with the image of a man, and every year, the temptation gets worse.

When Ríona's plan to counteract the mist's allure fails during the ceremony, the unthinkable happens. The warrior she's seen every year come out of the mist and with him released, her entire coven of witches takes their place.

But the infamous Irish warrior Naoise has no intention of being returned to the mist, nor his original time, thanks to a tragic prophecy that he would fall in love, ruin his family and doom his people. And what better way to spend his freedom and earn his name in history, than seducing Ríona, and destroying the mist for good?

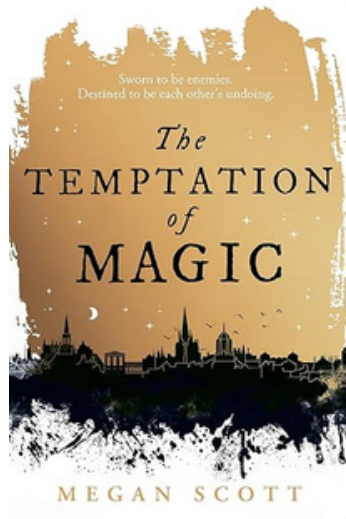


MEGAN SCOTT is the Sunday Times bestselling author of the YA crossover romantasy novel *THE TEMPTATION OF MAGIC* (Magpie, 2024), the first in the Empyrean series. Book 2 in the series, *A MASTERPIECE IN BLOOD* is published in 2026. *THE TWILIGHT WITCH* is her first romantasy novel for adults.

THE EMPYREAL SERIES

Megan Scott

Enter a world of immortal hunters and forbidden romance in this lush, darkly magical romantasy trilogy



UK Publisher: Magpie

UK Editor:

Publication: May 2024

Rights sold: Spain: Hidra, France: Hugo, Czechia: Albatros, Portugal: LeYa, USA & Canada: Inkyard

THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER

As an Empyrean, Nicole has the ability to kill any deadly supernatural. But if her power ever awakened, the Wake—the organisation that governs supernaturals – would force her to be their loyal huntress. Or kill her, like they did her mother.

To stay safe, Nicole hides in a small university town, convinced the mythological art collection at a local manor contains a final message from her mother. But before she can study it, Kyan McCarter, the Wake's most skilled Empyrean, arrives on his own hunt. When they discover his prey has stolen a painting for leverage, they're forced to work together.

As the creature threatens to expose Nicole's powers, her tenuous alliance with Kyan threatens her heart. If her true identity is revealed, Kyan will hunt her next. No one disobeys The Wake and survives. Especially when the art they're seeking unveils a conspiracy that would change the lives of creatures and humans forever. . .

But Nicole may only be able to resist one: her wicked impulses, or a love that could repaint their world. And after a life of hiding her true nature, who could resist the temptation of magic...

Nicole and Kyan are playing a dangerous game.

Nicole is on the run, hiding from The Wake as she attempts to track down her mother's last clue and the truth of her death.

Kyan is pretending to still be The Wake's loyal Empyrean assassin, even though his feelings for Nicole – and the mate bond that ties them together – have changed everything.

Separated, yet determined to be together, Nicole and Kyan must embark on a quest where they will encounter the most powerful vampire in England, ancient Celtic treasures, and lost Druid sites.

Meanwhile, the Wake sees all, and the Wild Hunt is stirring. As Nicole and Kyan get close to the dark secrets at the root of the organization, they court complete destruction – of themselves and all they hold dear.



Publication: April 2026

Rights sold: Spain: Hidra, France: Hugo, USA & Canada: Inkyard



MEGAN SCOTT is a romance and fantasy writer from the North West of England. She studied Art History and Classical Civilisation and earned a distinction on her Masters of Research expanding on depictions of myth in nineteenth century art.

The Melody Bittersweet Series

Josie Silver

A plucky medium, her fame-chasing ex, and an infuriatingly handsome skeptic reporter make for a complicated love triangle—and that's before the ghosts get involved. From the #1 New York Times and Sunday Times bestselling author of ONE DAY IN DECEMBER comes a new ghost-hunting series full of romance and humor.



UK Publisher: Evermore/ Cornerstone
UK Editor: Claire Simmonds
US Publisher: Crown
US Editor: Hilary Teeman Rubin
Publication: September 2025
Rights sold: France: Leduc, Germany: Rowohlt, Greece: Klidarithmos, Israel: Kinneret, Norway: Vigmostad & Bjorke, Russia: Azbooka, Spanish language: Trillas & Audible



Publication: October 2025

Rights sold: Germany: Rowohlt, Israel: Kinneret, Russia: Azbooka

Seeing ghosts has always been part of Melody Bittersweet's life - a quirky inconvenience at the best of times.

But on her 27th birthday, she decides to finally make a career out of it by setting up her very own ghostbusting business.

Her first case brings Melody to a house haunted by three brothers with a heap of unfinished business. To complicate matters, her fame-hungry ex, Leo Dark, and sceptical yet maddeningly gorgeous reporter, Fletcher Gunn, are also on the case.

As Melody tries to uncover the truth, the undeniable chemistry between herself and Fletcher becomes increasingly distracting - which is less than ideal considering he's her sworn enemy hell-bent on discrediting her.

Can Melody solve the mystery? Or will her feelings for Fletcher end up haunting her more than the ghosts?

When the new owners of Maplemead Castle need their ghostly inhabitants gone, they call Melody Bittersweet and her Ghostbusting Agency.

Melody quickly identifies the main troublemaker: Britannia Lovell, a stunning trapeze artist who plunged to her death a century ago. But was it a tragic accident, or something far more sinister?

To solve the mystery, Melody must team up with her charming yet roguish ex, Leo Dark, and the infuriating yet irresistible reporter, Fletcher Gunn. With a castle full of ghosts refusing to spill their secrets and her heart pulled in two directions, this is Melody's toughest case yet.

Can Melody help Britannia find peace and finally untangle her own love life, or will they both be haunted by past mistakes forever?

JOSIE SILVER is a writer of love stories. Her debut novel ONE DAY IN DECEMBER was a Sunday Times & NY Times bestseller and has been translated into more than twenty-five languages. Josie lives in the UK with her husband, their sons.

KILL BILLIONAIRE

Anders Lustgarten

**UK Publisher:** Chatto & Windus**UK Editor:** Kaiya Shang**Publication:** May 2026**Extent:** 336 pages**Rights sold:**

Film/TV: 42MP

France: Actes Sud

Spain: Malpaso

**On behalf of Eugenie Furniss at
42**

An electrifying, ultra-contemporary heist, a wild and hilarious story that is also dangerously prescient.

Perhaps one reason not enough people kill billionaires is it's actually quite tricky...

When her home is destroyed in wildfires, fourteen-year-old Australian outback genius Kayla Connolly decides to hunt down the culprits of climate change: billionaires.

She teams up with Mr P, a giant ex-soldier from Tuvalu whose home is being flooded by rising sea levels. Together, they find ingenious ways to kill a property developer building on protected wetlands and a mining company CEO poisoning the earth with toxic chemicals. They also find an unexpected ally in Nancy, a wealthy elderly woman with a shocking past.

The trio's mission soon develops a life of its own, taking them first to California to crack billionaire tech bros and then to London for superrich oil executives, spawning a global movement along the way. In pursuit are the FBI and Detective Sergeant Kate Anderson of Scotland Yard, but Kate is having doubts about whether Kayla is even in the wrong. Will Kayla be able to stay ahead of the game and pull off one final, remarkable hit?

PRAISE FOR ANDERS LUSTGARTEN

'Bursting with energy... extraordinary' **The Times**

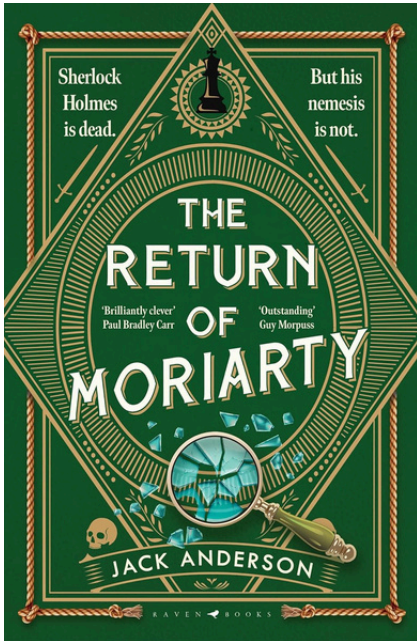
'A fierce writer whose activism blends intellectual curiosity and idealism' **Evening Standard**

'Brave and provocative' **Guardian**

ANDERS LUSTGARTEN is a playwright and novelist. He won the Catherine Johnson Award for *A Day at the Racists* and won the Harold Pinter Playwriting Award for *If You Don't Let Us Dream, We Won't Let You Sleep*. His play *Lampedusa* has been performed in forty countries. Prior to becoming a writer, Anders was an international 400m runner and a teacher of people on death row in California. His debut novel *THREE BURIALS* was published by Hamish Hamilton in 2024.

THE RETURN OF MORIARTY

Jack Anderson



UK Publisher: Raven/Bloomsbury

UK Editor: Alison Hennessey

Publication: November 2025

Extent: 368 pages

Rights sold:

Italy: Tre60/TEA
Spain: Planeta
Russia: Azbooka
Ukraine: Yakaboo
US & Canada: Crooked Lane Books

**On behalf of Marilia Savvides at
The Plot Agency**

—THE—
THE PLOT
AGENCY

Sherlock Holmes is dead. But his nemesis is not.

James Moriarty is severely wounded, his organisation has been dismantled and Sherlock Holmes is dead. Fleeing to recover, desperate to rebuild his empire, Moriarty must assume a new identity.

Months after Sherlock's death, aspiring doctor Clara Mendel returns to Schloss Alber after a six-year absence. The vast estate, which hangs high upon the cliffs of Bavaria, is home to the noble Alber family. A priceless sword, on which the family's wealth and reputation depends, has been stolen from the grave of the intended heir, Clara's step-father.

Lord Alber has placed his trust firmly in his esteemed new friend, a Mr Hugo Strahm, to find the sword and prevent the noble family's ruin. Once they have spent more time together, Clara becomes intrigued by Strahm's formidable intellect: finally she has an equal at Schloss Alber.

But Clara isn't naïve. She knows the secrets a great house like Schloss Alber can hide. And as she spends more time in Mr Strahm's company, she begins to suspect him of hiding his true identity. Can she really trust him to find the missing sword?

The start of a fiendishly inventive and enjoyable new historical mystery series. Jack Anderson's Moriarty Mystery books see Sherlock Holmes' iconic villain re-invented for a whole new generation of readers.

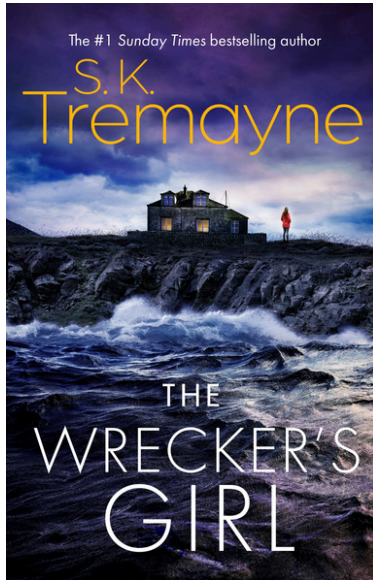
'Ingenious' **Sunday Times**

'Come for the title, stay for the domestic hijinks that'll give the archcriminal a run for his money' **Kirkus Reviews**

JACK ANDERSON lives with his wife in South London, but remains a Northerner at heart. His debut novel *THE GRIEF DOCTOR* was published by Raven in 2024 and the first in the Moriarty Mystery series, *THE RETURN OF MORIARTY*, was published in 2025. He is currently developing a number of TV ideas across the horror genre.

THE WRECKER'S GIRL

S.K. Tremayne



UK Publisher: HarperCollins

UK Editor: Jane Johnson

Publication: January 2026

Rights sold:

Germany: Droemer Knaur

Finland: Otava

Poland: Czarna Owca

Russia: Vimbo

Spain: RBA

**On behalf of Eugenie Furniss at
42**

***The gripping new Cornish crime thriller from the No.1
Sunday Times bestselling author of THE ICE TWINS***

An unexplained death

In stormy West Cornwall, a woman lies dead at the bottom of a waterfall. A year later, her children are possessed by strange visions.

A house full of secrets

Forensic psychologist Karenza Bray arrives to work with the family, but discovers a grand ancestral house full of details that don't make sense. The children sleepwalk into the sea and claim to speak with dark spectres. Their father wants solutions but keeps secrets of his own.

A family with everything to hide

Someone knows the truth about what happened to Natalie Tyack. But the more Karenza tries to help, the deeper she steps into a mystery. This house has a history that has not been put to rest. Will any of them escape it sane, and unscathed.

PRAISE FOR S.K. TREMAYNE

'Terrifyingly believable and utterly gripping' **LISA JEWELL**

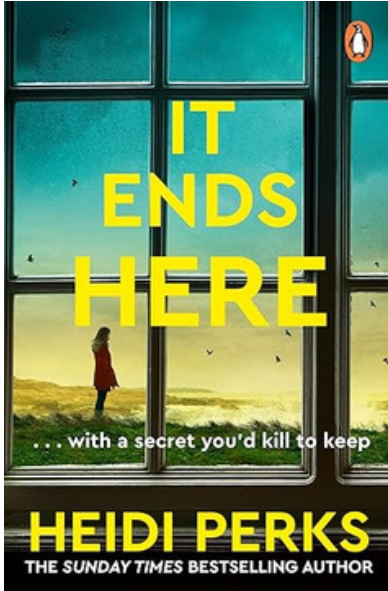
'Unbearably gripping and suspenseful' **SOPHIE HANNAH**



S.K. TREMAYNE is a bestselling novelist and award-winning travel writer, and a regular contributor to newspapers and magazines around the world. The author's previous novel THE ICE TWINS was a Sunday Times No.1 bestseller. Born in Devon, S. K. Tremayne now lives in London and has two daughters.

IT ENDS HERE

Heidi Perks



UK Publisher: Century

UK Editor: Emily Griffin

Publication: Spring 2026

Extent: 400 pages

Rights sold:

USA & Canada: Sourcebooks

You are one of five strangers whose day will start with the worst phone call imaginable.

Your loved one is in danger.

They are part of a group trapped in a café in a sleepy marina town.

The young barista on the early shift

The bestselling novelist looking for a writing spot

The husband on his way back from a work trip

The influencer mum whose picture-perfect life isn't the whole truth

The woman starting her birthday with a quiet coffee

As the hours tick by it will soon become clear that one of them has a secret they would kill to keep.

How well do you know the person closest to you?

PRAISE FOR HEIDI PERKS

'I flew through this book in three days, with my heart in my mouth. Seriously page turning.' **LISA JEWELL**

'A fun, compelling thriller - perfect to read beside the pool, or at home, dreaming of warmer times to come' **The Observer**

HEIDI PERKS is the Sunday Times bestselling author of 7 previous novels, including NOW YOU SEE HER, which was translated into 7 languages. Her books have sold 800,000 copies in the English language. She lives on the south coast of England with her family.

THE POOL PARTY

Rebecca Bainbridge



UK Publisher: Quercus

UK Editor: Florence Hare

Publication: July 2026

Extent: 352 pages

**On behalf of Amanda Harris at
Maven Literary**

For fans of Liane Moriarty, Lucy Foley and Lisa Jewell, THE POOL PARTY is an effortlessly gripping debut suspense novel of twisted friendships with deadly consequences.

One summer. Two families. Countless secrets . . .

Kate is new to the idyllic village of Fletching. She's determined this move will be a fresh start for her family, though she misses her old life.

Melody has it all: she's as beautiful as her house, with a wealthy husband and two beloved children. But she'd love a friend she can rely on.

From the year's first school run, Kate and Melody grow close - a friendship formed during playdates and shared glasses of wine.

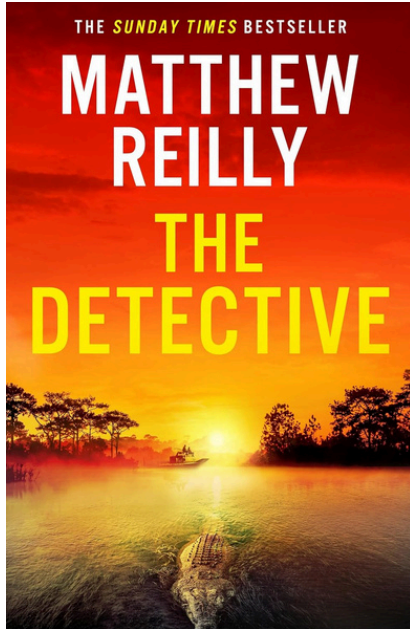
But when Melody's annual summer party turns into every parent's worst nightmare, a near-fatal accident threatens to expose secrets both women have kept beneath the surface.

Who is really to blame? And what have they been hiding?

REBECCA BAINBRIDGE is a debut author whose experience as a global brand and marketing professional provides her with an insight into gaining and retaining attention, and the very best storytelling. Rebecca has led projects for organisations including Procter & Gamble, Warner Brothers, the BBC and Unilever. Having lived in Switzerland, France and Italy, she is passionate about languages, travel and culture, and is settled in the UK.

THE DETECTIVE

Matthew Reilly



Aus/NZ Publisher:

PanMacmillan Australia

Aus/NZ Editor: Alex Lloyd

Aus/NZ Publication: October 2025

UK Publisher: Orion

UK Editor: Imad Aktar

UK Publication: Spring 2026

Rights sold:

Bulgaria: Bard

On behalf of Eugenie Furniss at 42



For 150 years, women have been going missing.

And all of the investigators who went in search of them - from 1877 to the present day - have disappeared, too.

Now Sam Speedman, a most unique private detective, is on the case. Brilliant, direct and disarming, Sam is... different. He's not your average private detective, but then again, this isn't your average case. For not even he will be prepared for what he will find...

Set in the darkest corners of the American South, tapping into hot-button issues that simmer beneath the surface of modern America, this is Matthew Reilly at his piciest, bringing you a detective thriller like you've never read before.

PRAISE FOR MATTHEW REILLY

'Thrilling, action-packed adventure from cover to cover'
Guardian

'Undeniably addictive' **Financial Times**

MATTHEW REILLY is the internationally bestselling author of the JACK WEST and SCARECROW series, as well as several standalone titles. His books have been published in over 20 languages and have sold over 7.5 million copies worldwide. His first film, INTERCEPTOR, was the no.1 streamed movie Netflix in Spring 2022, and he has several projects in development for TV.

RATRACE

Callum McSorley



UK Publisher: Pushkin Vertigo

UK Editor: Daniel Seton

Publication: May 2026

Extent: 320 pages

On behalf of Emily MacDonald at 42

THE NEW NOVEL FROM 2 TIME NOMINEE AND 1 TIME WINNER OF THE McILVANNEY PRIZE FOR SCOTTISH CRIME NOVEL OF THE YEAR

Francesco Forbes - teenage drug dealer turned marathon star - is on the run. A crypto payment to a Russian gang has gone awry. Now Fran's boss Callaghan is dead, the police are all over the crime scene, and Fran's knees are fucked.

Piecing together this mess: Glasgow's least popular detective DCI Alison McCoist. Deep into Glasgow's undercover police unit, 'the Pacino squad', the list of things McCoist doesn't want anyone to know has become very long indeed. And a mysterious text to her phone at the scene suggests her past may finally catch up with her... Can Ally untangle this mystery and rescue her reputation at the same time?

PRAISE FOR CALLUM MCSORLEY

'McSorley consolidates his status among crime fiction's rising stars. Paperboy is energetic, inventive and witty, laying on the tension as it builds to a nerve-shredding finale' **CHRIS BROOKMYRE**

'PAPERBOY is a brilliant black comedy that repeatedly makes you squirm. Fizzing with energy and full of heart, it's one of those books that you simply don't want to end.' **The Times, Best Crime Fiction of 2025**

'An outstanding new writer who is destined to become a very big name' **PETER JAMES**

CALLUM MCSORLEY is a writer based in Glasgow. His debut novel SQUEAKY CLEAN won the McIlvanney Prize for Scottish Crime Novel of the Year and was named as a Times Book of the Month in 2023, and his follow up PAPERBOY was also nominated for the prize.



VIPERS

Rosie Day



UK Publisher: Serpent's Tail

UK Editor: Miranda Jewess

Publication: Spring 2027

**On behalf of Anna Dixon at
YMU**

In a small, damp, dingy apartment, two seventeen-year-old girls sleep as they cling to each other on a fold away bed. The same way they've slept night after night, but this time, one of them has blood under her fingernails.

A bitterly cold February brought Cece to New York Fashion Week, just as a distracted alcoholic manager sent Angie to pilot season there. Sharing a run-down apartment on the Upper East Side, the girls navigate the cutthroat turmoil of the entertainment industry, always returning home to each other. Cece, a perfectly crafted human, walks through the world with ease. The biggest threat to her is the power she possesses but is unaware of. Angie is a shy, quick witted, slip of a girl, who never lost her baby teeth, which resemble little viper fangs. Her biggest threat to her wellbeing is herself.

This is female friendship at its most illuminated: obsessive love, seething jealousy, and the lengths you'll go to protect one another when you think you're a grown up, and the world agrees.

Growing up. Growing older. Growing apart, in one life changing season.

ROSIE DAY is an author, award-winning actress, Stem4 ambassador, and filmmaker, who has received major recognition for her brave, bold, and honest artistry. Rosie's one-woman show INSTRUCTIONS FOR A TEENAGE ARMAGEDDON gained rave reviews and nominations, inspiring her to pen her eponymous 2021 non-fiction and a soon-to-be TV adaptation. Rosie is set to star in the forthcoming film Midas Man and is currently writing a YA feature for BAFTA winning production company Salon Pictures. Her debut non-fiction book I THINK I LIKE GIRLS is publishing this spring with Piatkus. VIPERS is her debut novel.

YMU

THE SEA LIBRARY

Sarah Brooks



UK Publisher: Weidenfeld & Nicholson

UK Editor: Alexa von Hirschberg

Publication: 2027

Rights sold:

France: Sonatine

Germany: C Bertelsmann/Penguin

Poland: MAG

From the Sunday Times bestselling author of THE CAUTIOUS TRAVELLER'S GUIDE TO THE WASTELANDS

It is the end of an alternative eighteenth century. England is at war with the Dutch and unrest simmers throughout the country. Wrecking lights have begun to appear on the cliffs, whilst in the northern seas swim the devilfish, giant creatures hunted for the precious substance they contain, claimed to be the original colour of the sea itself.

In Greenwich, the Sea Library guards its knowledge jealously. William Godsolve, a Library Clerk, is sent to investigate the theft of a book written by a medieval saint, whose visions may hold the key to understanding the strange sickness that afflicts the country. It leads him to the North Yorkshire coast, where Agnes runs a secret school for seasick children, and where a drowned city lies beneath the waves.

William and Agnes must untangle the mysteries of the saint's visions and the sickness. But the Library has its own reasons for wanting the book, and is determined to protect its authority over the sea, whatever the cost.

PRAISE FOR SARAH BROOKS

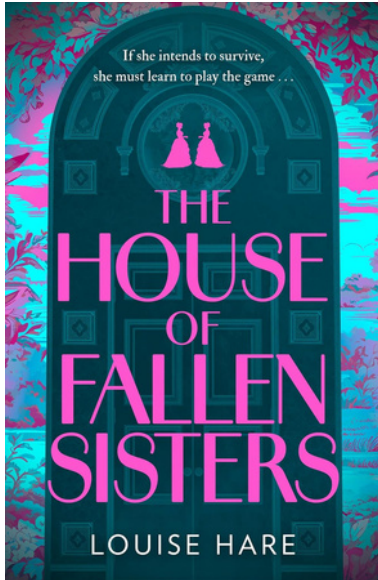
'[An] exciting, intelligent debut novel' **The Sunday Times**

'I was completely transported by this book... I loved every second I spent with it and urge everybody to pick up a copy. It's an astonishing journey.' **STUART TURTON, bestselling author of The Seven Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle**

SARAH BROOKS won the Lucy Cavendish Prize in 2019. She works in East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds. She is also co-editor of Samovar, a bilingual online magazine for translated speculative fiction. Her debut novel THE CAUTIOUS TRAVELLERS GUIDE TO THE WASTELANDS was published by W&N in 2024, was a Sunday Times bestseller and has been translated into 16 languages.

THE HOUSE OF FALLEN SISTERS

Louise Hare



UK Publisher: HQ

UK Publisher: Manpreet Grewal

Publication: February 2026

Extent: 384 pages

The exquisite new novel from bestselling author Louise Hare based in 18th century London.

December, 1765. In the early hours of the morning, Sukey Maynard flees her home – a brothel in Covent Garden. Her maidenhood is about to be auctioned off to the highest bidder, and she is too frightened to stay. But when she is captured and returned to the house of fallen sisters, she has a choice to make – should she stay, or should she run again?

As Sukey accepts her fate, she begins to learn how to navigate this strange new life of hers, and soon realises that there are those who wish her and her sisters harm. But this world that operates in the shadows has its own set of rules, and if Sukey is to survive then she must learn to play the game...

From the brothels of Covent Garden to the oppressive society of the eighteenth century, Louise Hare's enthralling historical masterpiece paints a vivid picture of London's underbelly and shows how, even in the darkest of times, there is always hope for a better future.

PRAISE FOR LOUISE HARE

'Poignant and authentic. . . it's [Hare's] steady, calm prose and the animating authenticity of her material that make it so hard to resist . . .' **Observer**

'Hare's enthralling novel pulls off the rare trick of being a clever murder mystery, an evocative portrayal of Windrush London and a genuinely touching love story' **The i**

LOUISE HARE is the author of three novels, including *THIS LOVELY CITY* which was shortlisted for the RSL Ondaatje Prize, and longlisted for the HWA Debut Crown Award. In 2020, Louise was selected for the Observer Top 10 Best Debut Novelists list.

THE PLEASURE PALACE

Emma Cowing



UK Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton

UK Editor: Jo Dickinson

Publication: July 2026

Extent: 320 pages

**On behalf of Amanda Harris
at Maven Literary**

On a remote island in the Scottish Hebrides sits a castle of gleaming red sandstone. By day, it is the picture of elegance. But when night falls, its secrets are revealed ...

A showgirl named Emerald, rising star of London's Gaiety Theatre, is invited to spend a country house weekend on this remote Scottish island by Lord Lyndon Gunn, a mysterious and wealthy Scottish bachelor. There she is dazzled by her lavish surroundings - gilt-panelled ballrooms, hothouses filled with hummingbirds and orchids, and meals featuring delicacies including French ortolan and quail, along with the finest Champagnes.

But it is not long before Emerald - who has secrets of her own - realises things are not quite as they seem. Why are the servants blindfolded when the sun goes down? Who is the mysterious older American woman who behaves like the lady of the castle? And are the rumours of a hushed-up scandal - that someone disappeared at the last party - true?

PRAISE FOR EMMA COWING

'This gorgeously written novel about four very different women is compulsive, heartbreaking and like nothing else... I loved it'

CLAIRE LESLIE HALL

'Beautifully written, engaging plot and thoroughly researched'
Stylist

EMMA COWING is an award-winning journalist and writer. She has written for The Sunday Times, The Guardian, The Spectator and The Scotsman, and currently works as Associate Editor at the Scottish Daily Mail. Emma is a former Feature Writer of the Year at the Scottish Press Awards, and two-time Interviewer of the Year. Emma was shortlisted for the 2023 Cheshire Novel Prize, and longlisted for the 2023 Bath Novel Award and Blue Pencil First Novel Award. Her debut novel THE SHOW WOMAN will be published by Hodder in May 2025.

NON-FICTION

THE BRAIN GAME

Dr Soumya Mukherjee



A mainstream, science-forward guide to upgrading brain health and performance, blending cutting-edge neuroscience from the operating room to the newest research straight from the laboratory, by one of the world's most renowned neurosurgeons and leading neuroscience researchers.

In a world where dementia, stroke, mental health struggles, and cognitive burnout are at record highs, **THE BRAIN GAME** is part playbook, part survival guide, part backstage pass into the universe's most complex organ – showing readers how to upgrade their brains and thrive. Like *Atomic Habits* for your brain, this book provides science you can use, stories you won't forget, and strategies that stick.

UK Publisher: Cornerstone

UK Editor: Kate Craigie

Publication: February 2027

Rights sold:

Brazil: Sextante
Germany: Fischer
Hungary: Agave
Italy: Vallardi
Netherlands: Spectrum Life
Poland: Galaktyka
Romania: Bookzone
Russia: under offer
Spain: Destino/Planeta
Turkey: under offer
US: Sourcebooks

Unlike books that isolate a single factor – sleep, diet, memory or habits – **THE BRAIN GAME** brings together the full ecosystem of brain health, decoding the hidden forces that shape our mind as a game that we can win, and offering groundbreaking new frameworks to take our brain to the next level. From how we walk, breathe, chew and hear, to the deeper roles of genes, lifestyle, and even our beauty regimes, **THE BRAIN GAME** takes readers from the operating theatre to the everyday choices that quietly rewire their brains. Each chapter distils cutting-edge neuroscience into vivid metaphors and practical takeaways, while weaving in moving patient stories and exclusive interviews with high-profile figures – from the first patient to receive Elon Musk's Neuralink implant, to the ex-CEO of Ferrari on brain-driven road safety, to tech pioneers blending human creativity with AI.

DR SOUMYA MUKHERJEE is a leading Consultant Neurosurgeon, with 20 years' experience operating on the brain and researching neuroscience (at Oxford, Harvard, Cambridge, Imperial, Emory). He also coaches on brain health and performance and has appeared in award-winning BBC and Channel 5 documentaries, including *An Hour To Save Your Life*, *Surgeons: At The Edge Of Life* and *A&E: Crash Scene Emergency* translating complex brain science for mass audiences. He is based in Cambridge but works in London twice a week, and regularly travels to the US and internationally.

WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?

Florence Given



Publisher: Hay House (World English)

Editor: Allison Adler

Publication: Spring 2027

Rights sold:
Germany: KiWi

**On behalf of Abigail Bergstrom
at Bergstrom Studio**

***FROM THE INTERNATIONALLY BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
WOMEN DON'T OWE YOU PRETTY AND GIRL CRUSH***

This next offering from internationally bestselling author Florence Given isn't just a book – it's a spell. A jolt to the nervous system that snaps you out of polite, humble smallness enforced by other women, and into unapologetic expansion.

WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS? names the unspoken pact women live by: Don't be too much. Don't be too loud or ambitious. Don't take up too much space. In these pages, that insult becomes a green light, flipped into fuel: What would you do if you actually wanted people to say "who does she think she is?"

Florence has already watched this framework ignite women around the world. Her viral videos on the subject have drawn nearly half a million new followers as she encourages women to embrace their audacity.

Unlike another 'reach your potential' pep talk, **WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?** doesn't hand out to-do lists, it hands back self-authority. It confronts the shadow side of feminism and the covert rivalries between women, offering a new code for solidarity and self-expression.

This isn't self-help. It's self-permission. Step over the line, shed your old limits, and discover how audacity – practiced in small daily moves – can change everything and free you from the cage of obedience and small living.

FLORENCE GIVEN is a record-breaking and Sunday Times bestselling author. Her first book, *WOMEN DON'T OWE YOU PRETTY* (Octopus, 2020) was an international bestseller and has been translated into 16 languages. She's won Cosmopolitan's 'Influencer of the Year' award and Pink News's 'Influencer of the Year' award. A social activist, her writing and art confront the oppressive attitudes towards women and their bodies. Her debut novel *GIRLCRUSH* was a No. 1 Sunday Times bestseller (Brazen, 2022) and her second work of non-fiction *WOMEN LIVING DELICIOUSLY* followed suit and hit the Sunday Times bestseller list (Brazen, 2024).



GOOD COMPANY: From Group Chat to Dream Team

Bruce Daisley



From the internationally bestselling author of THE JOY OF WORK

GOOD COMPANY is an urgent reimagining of teamwork and workplace culture. While most business books obsess about productivity, this one is all about chemistry. What makes teams click, connect and compete.

We've witnessed the 'enshittification' of work, engineering a working world that's busy, urgent, and unhappy. Now AI is poised to flatten it even further, with the same lifeless emails, endless clones of bland reports, the drain of never-ending meetings that no one dares cancel.

UK rights: under offer

On submission December 2025

We've lost sight of the fact that work can be enjoyable, that we can have some fun in our forty hour week.

GOOD COMPANY has the answer: a strong culture is collective in mindset, consequential in experience and codified in implementation.

The book answers:

- Do we need to worry about when the 'Anxious Generation' gets to work?
- Did we lose something when after-work drinks were lost?
- Can you build a culture with your cameras off?

GOOD COMPANY is a timely field guide for team members, team leaders, and a call to arms to care about finding connection at work again.

BRUCE DAISLEY is a writer, consultant and one of the UK's most influential voices on the intersection of life and work. His research into better working practices has featured in publications including the Guardian, the Telegraph, Wired UK, Washington Post, Harvard Business Review and the Wall Street Journal. His podcast Eat Sleep Work Repeat has been an Apple number one business podcast and has featured psychologists, neuroscientists and workplace experts including Daniel Pink, Scott Galloway, Noreena Hertz and Rutger Bregman. He was previously the European Vice-President for Twitter. His first book, THE JOY OF WORK, was a Sunday Times bestseller and has been translated into sixteen languages.

LITTLE ADDICTIONS: Freedom From Our Tiny But Mighty Compulsions

Catherine Gray



UK Publisher: Aster/Octopus
(World English)

UK Editor: Jo Morrell

Publication: February 2026

Extent: 352 pages

Rights sold:

Brazil: Globo

Germany: Heyne

Italy: De Agostini

Netherlands: Luitingh-Sijthoiff

Poland: Galaktyka

Portugal: Nascente/PRH

Taiwan: Apocalypse Press

From the Sunday Times bestselling author of THE UNEXPECTED JOY OF BEING SOBER

Overspending, sugar, doomscrolling, binge-TV, Whatsapp, people-pleasing, online ex-checking, caffeine, social media, bread, procrastinating, exercise-swerving, emotional infidelity, apologising, Youtube...

They're addictions so small, we don't need to say no.

They don't cost much, emotionally or financially, and they only have micro-consequences on our health, wealth, relationships or home... so what's the big deal?

Only, their sum total is huge. These tiny addictions, once they snowball, become massive in impact.

Enter this deeply necessary, illuminating book to dip into over a lifetime. Catherine Gray, the bestselling 'icon of quit lit', has helped thousands through big addictions and behaviours (alcohol, love, negativity).

Now she turns her gaze onto gaining greater mastery over our smaller compulsions, freeing up peace of mind, disposable income, time, wellbeing and happiness.

One tiny increment at a time, this catch-all book might just change your life.

CATHERINE GRAY is author of five books, including THE UNEXPECTED JOY OF BEING SOBER. She's sold over half a million books, which have been translated into 9 languages. Her work has been published in the likes of Stylist, Marie Claire, The Lancet Psychiatry and the Guardian. In 2018, Catherine founded charitable campaign Sober Spring, a three-month sabbatical from alcohol, and she now runs it with Alcohol Change UK. She's been sober since 2013.

THE PROTEIN MYTH

Dr Richard Mackenzie



UK Publisher: Penguin Life

UK Editor: Amy McWalters

Publication: Spring 2027

Rights sold:

Brazil: Ediouro
Germany: Heyne
Italy: De Agostini
Netherlands: Fontaine
Spain: Diana/Planeta
Sweden: Bonnier Fakta

We're currently living in a protein-obsessed world.

In our perennial quest for better health, protein is now the macronutrient hailed as the answer for everything from weight loss to building muscle to achieving optimal wellbeing. We're deluged with protein-focused meals, snacks and supplements in every supermarket and gym, and are constantly encouraged to boost our dietary intake. There is now a strongly-held belief that more protein can only be a good thing – especially in comparison to 'bad' carbohydrates. Right?

Wrong. More protein is not the magic health fix we've been told. In fact, so much of the narrative around protein's apparently limitless health benefits is a lie sold to us by the \$27 billion dollar protein supplement industry, with one priority in mind: profit. The truth is:

- Overconsuming protein is linked to a variety of serious health problems, including insulin resistance, diabetes and weight gain
- Restricting protein intake can actually help reduce cancerous tumour growth, and increase longevity
- Protein deficiency is virtually unheard of in the developed world

Written by the UK's leading metabolic health doctor, this book will flip the current received health wisdom on its head with the truth about protein. THE PROTEIN MYTH will once and for all explain what protein is, how it functions in our bodies and how we should use it, depending on our individual health and lifestyle factors.

The book will provide actionable, science-backed advice to help achieve health goals, including practical steps to:

- Lose weight
- Get stronger
- Age well
- Prevent diabetes
- Balance your hormones during peri/menopause
- Recover from illness or injury
- Thrive on a vegetarian or vegan diet

THE PROTEIN MYTH will free you from protein anxiety, and give you other easier, cheaper and more effective solutions to feeling your best and achieving life-long health.

DR RICHARD MACKENZIE is a researcher into insulin resistance and human metabolism at Roehampton University in London, and leads on metabolic disorders at a Harley Street clinic. He has published more than 40 journal articles and is a consultant to a company developing glucose-monitoring device. His first book, STRESS TESTED, written in collaboration with Peter Walker, was published by Bluebird in April 2025.

SAME TIME NEXT WEEK?: Anxiety Therapy in a Wired World

Joshua Fletcher



UK Publisher: Orion Spring

UK Editor: Jessica Duffy

Publication: Spring 2026

From the bestselling author of HOW DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL?

Feeling overwhelmed, disconnected, or constantly on edge? You're not alone, and it's not your fault.

Modern life gives anxiety the perfect conditions to thrive: endless stimulation, lack of connection, and no time to process our feelings.

In **SAME TIME NEXT WEEK?**, anxiety therapist Joshua Fletcher shares honest insights from his own life, and sessions with four brave clients, to show readers there is another way. Together, they uncover how modern anxieties take hold and how to break free for a life filled with presence and meaning.

PRAISE FOR JOSHUA FLETCHER

'Hilarious, honest and helpful' **DR ALEX GEORGE, Sunday Times bestselling author of The Mind Manual**

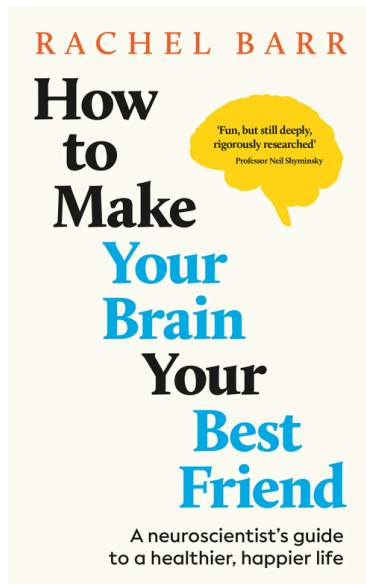
'An informative, funny and absorbing look behind the scenes of the therapy room. I've recommended this to everyone.'

RACHEL BARR, Neuroscientist and author of How to Make Your Brain Your Best Friend

JOSHUA FLETCHER MSc MBACP is a UK-based author and psychotherapist specialising in working with anxiety disorders. He has written several bestselling self-help books and his most recent publication AND HOW DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL? is an Amazon UK Top 100 selling book. Joshua regularly features in the media discussing mental health, with features in The Guardian, The Times and the Daily Mail. He co-hosts a podcast with Drew Linsalata called 'Disordered' which is a self-help podcast for people who struggle with anxiety.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR BRAIN YOUR BEST FRIEND: A Neuroscientist's Guide To A Healthier, Happier Life

Rachel Barr



UK Publisher: DK Life (World English)

UK Editor: Elizabeth Neep

Publication: August 2025

Extent: 288

Rights sold:

Arabic: Dar Madarek
Brazil: VR Editoras
Croatia: Stilus
Germany: Rowohlt
Japan: Toyokan
Korea: Hyeonamsa
Lithuania: Tyto Alba
Poland: Foksal
Spain: Urano
Taiwan: Business Weekly
Turkey: Kronik
Ukraine: Vivat
Vietnam: LP Books

On behalf of Abigail Bergstrom at Bergstrom Studio



AN INSTANT INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

Your brain is the most remarkable thing in the known universe.

Always trying to mend itself, and always trying to protect you, it's in a constant state of flux - adapting, reconfiguring, finding new pathways... And it has an astonishing capacity for recovery.

Only it doesn't always get it right.

Rachel Barr struggled through years of devastating loss, heartache, and uncertainty until neuroscience gave her the first spark of self-belief she had felt in her adult life - and proof that, because of the brain's near-infinite potential for neuroplastic change, it's never too late to carve out neural pathways to form new habits, new skills, and new ways of thinking.

Whether you want to nerd-out on Neuroscientific acronyms, finally understand what's going on in your head, or take refuge in a book that's like a warm hug for your mind, **HOW TO MAKE YOUR BRAIN YOUR BEST FRIEND** is a delight-filled, evidence-based guide to taking better care of your brain - so it, in turn, will take better care of you.

'Riveting and enlightening, this book should be handed out to all humans as mandatory reading' **Stylist**

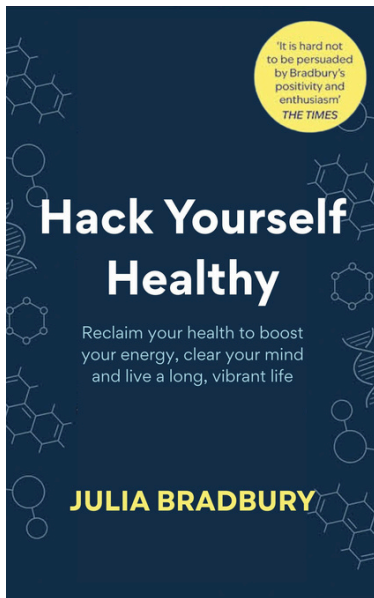
RACHEL BARR holds a master's degree in molecular neuroscience and wrote HOW TO MAKE YOUR BRAIN YOUR BEST FRIEND while completing her PhD in the electrophysiology of memory and sleep. Beyond the lab, her videos as 'Rachel the Neuroscientist' demystify the fundamental principles of brain science, empowering her million-plus followers to make informed decisions about their mental health. Born and raised in Fife, she studied in Leeds and Bristol and is now based in Quebec.

HACK YOURSELF HEALTHY: Reclaim your health to boost your energy, clear your mind and live a long, vibrant life

Julia Bradbury

The no.1 Sunday Times bestseller

A WATERSTONES' PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT BOOK OF 2025.



UK Publisher: Piatkus

Publication: September 2025

Rights sold:

Bulgaria: Hermes

**On behalf of Anna Dixon at
YMU**

Join Julia Bradbury as she travels the world to uncover the ultimate health and wellness hacks to help you take charge of your health for good.

The human body is a marvel of biological engineering that constantly renews itself, and we always seem to be on the hunt for ways to improve it, physically and emotionally. But with so many new health trends on the rise, how do we know what really works?

In **HACK YOURSELF HEALTHY**, presenter and author Julia Bradbury cuts through the noise to embark on a rigorous journey to reclaim her health following her own breast cancer diagnosis. Drawing from research, interviews with global thought leaders and personal experiments, Julia offers practical tips and accessible science-based strategies to optimise every aspect of your health and wellbeing.

You'll also discover how to hack your nutrition and hormonal health, utilise sleep science and why the future of medicine is an integrative whole-person approach. As a long time 'outdoor evangelist' Julia continues to explore the rejuvenating power of nature (and even how it can mimic science).

HACK YOURSELF HEALTHY will show you that true happiness isn't just about living longer - it's about living better.

"Full of practical, intuitive, life-changing tips to live a longer, healthier, more meaningful life. Julia tried everything so you don't need to." -- Satchin Panda, author of The Circadian Code

"A powerful wellness bible, solidly rooted in both science and nature. Julia walks us through how to elevate our health, one grounded step at a time." -- Donna Ashworth, author of Wild Hope

YMU

THE AGATHA CURE

Cathy Rentzinbrink



UK Publisher: Canongate

UK Editor: Helena Gonda

Publication: Autumn 2026

Rights sold:

Japan: Hayakawa

US & Canada: Viking

One winter, physically and mentally drained by the stresses of the year, committed bookworm Cathy Rentzenbrink found the thought of opening another novel was just too much. Would her lust for books, and her energy, ever return?

Lying on the sofa, she spies a well-loved copy of Hercule Poirot's Christmas, and the thought is immediately calming. Could Agatha Christie be her way back into reading and wellbeing?

Join Cathy as she reads every one of Christie's books in publication order, on a joyous, fascinating, moving journey through the Queen of Crime's cannon. Delight in Agatha's acute human observation and style, her passions and obsessions - and delve into our love of puzzles and formula, and why these books provide comfort for so many, and have sold over 2 billion copies worldwide.

Cathy ponders the more serious questions along the way; how can we read books which have such problematic elements today? What's behind the constant literary Christie-bashing? As the daughter of a man who couldn't read and write until his 30s, and the mother of a dyslexic son, she looks at literacy and literature in general - who books are for, and why we read and why we don't.

THE AGATHA CURE is a tonic for readers needing a rest, or for bibliophobes seeking a way in. Personal, warm, charming and reflective, this is the perfect soothing read for Christie lovers everywhere.

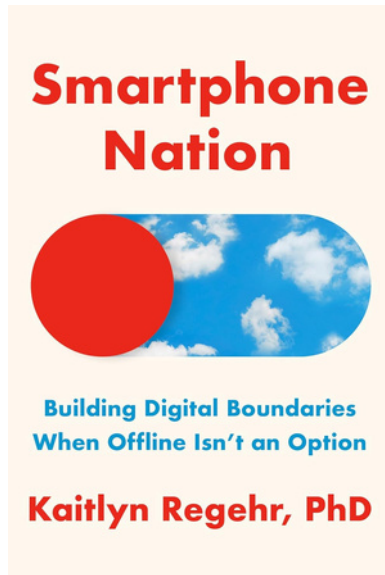
PRAISE FOR CATHY RENTINBRINK

'A warm, unpretentious manifesto for why books matter' **Sunday Express**

CATHY RENTZENBRINK grew up in Yorkshire, spent many years in London, and now lives in Cornwall. She is the Sunday Times bestselling author of *THE LAST ACT OF LOVE* (Picador, 2016), which was shortlisted for the Wellcome Prize, the acclaimed memoirs *A MANUAL FOR HEARTACHE* (Picador, 2017) and *DEAR READER* (September, 2020). She is also the author of two novels, and her debut novel *EVERYONE IS STILL ALIVE* (Phonenix, 2021) and *ORDINARY TIME* (Phoenix, 2024).

SMARTPHONE NATION: Building Digital Boundaries When Offline Isn't An Option

Dr Kaitlyn Regehr



UK Publisher: Bluebird

UK Editor: Jodie Lancet-Grant

Publication: May 2025

Rights sold:

Brazil: Vestigo
Canada: Knopf
Italy: Newton Compton
Portugal: Arena/PRH
Taiwan: Ecus
US: The Dial Press

AS FEATURED ON THE OPRAH PODCAST.

A WATERSTONES' PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT BOOK OF 2025.

The tools and understanding you need to protect yourself, and your family.

SMARTPHONE NATION will transform the way you – and your children – understand your devices and how they affect you. In this practical, agenda-setting book, Dr Kaitlyn Regehr – one of the UK's leading experts on digital literacy – sets out how you can keep the advantages of the internet whilst identifying often hidden dangers and stepping away when you're over-reliant.

This life-changing guide provides practical tips, clear takeaways and tested strategies to empower you to take back control of your digital life. Covering misogyny, pornography, body image, advertising, violence and more, Dr. Kaitlyn Regehr explains echo chambers, the attention economy, and why we are still so unprotected when it comes to digital media.

You'll learn how to game your algorithm, how to limit targeted advertising, how to catch misinformation and how to improve your digital nutrition. Essential reading for parents and anyone who has ever worried about how compulsively they check their phone, **SMARTPHONE NATION** will equip you not only to survive in the digital space, but to thrive.

PRAISE FOR KAITLYN REGEHR

'A candid, rigorous, and witty read on how to stop digital devices from wreaking havoc on our lives' **ADAM GRANT, #1 New York Times bestselling author of THINK AGAIN**

DR KAITLYN REGEHR is one of the leading experts on the cultural impacts of social media on children and youth. She's an Associate Professor at University College London lecturing on digital literacy; a prominent voice in the media, a key influence in policy circles, and a mum of two. Her first book **SMARTPHONE NATION** was published in 2025.

THE NEW AGE OF SEXISM: How the AI Revolution is Reinventing Misogyny

Laura Bates



UK Publisher: S&S

UK Editor: Assallah Tahir

Publication: April 2025

Extent: 320 pages

Rights sold:

Brazil: Manole

Denmark: Rebel With A Cause

Poland: Czarne

Spain: Peninsula

US & Canada: Sourcebooks

**On behalf of Abigail Bergstrom
at Bergstrom Studio**



**SHORTLISTED FOR THE GOODREADS READER'S CHOICE AWARDS
2025**

A WATERSTONES' POLITICS BOOK OF 2025.

An urgent and shocking new book from the Sunday Times and New York Times bestselling author and feminist activist Laura Bates

AI is here, bringing a seismic shift in the way our society operates. Might this mean a future reimagined on equitable terms for women and marginalised groups everywhere?

Not unless we fight for it. At present, power remains largely in the hands of a few rich, white men. New AI-driven technologies, with misogyny baked into their design, are putting women in danger, their rights and safety sacrificed at the altar of profitability and reckless speed.

In **THE NEW AGE OF SEXISM**, Sunday Times bestselling author and campaigner Laura Bates takes us deep into the heart of this rapidly evolving world. She explores the metaverse, confronts deepfake pornography, travels to cyber brothels, tests chatbots, and hears from schools in the grip of online sexual abuse, showing how our lives – from education to work, sex to entertainment – are being infiltrated by easily accessible technologies that are changing the way we live and love. What she finds is a wild west where existing forms of discrimination, inequality and harassment are being coded into the future we will all have little choice about living in – unless we seize this moment to demand change.

Gripping, courageous and eye-opening, **THE NEW AGE OF SEXISM** exposes a phenomenon we can't afford to ignore any longer. Our future is on the line. We need to act now, before it is too late.

LAURA BATES is an author and freelance journalist who has written for the Guardian, the Independent, the New Statesman, Red Magazine and Grazia and is the author of several books including the New York and Sunday Times bestselling **MEN WHO HATE WOMEN** (S&S, 2022). She is also contributor at Women Under Siege, a New-York based organisation working to combat the use of sexual violence as a tool of war in conflict zones worldwide. She is the founder of the Everyday Sexism Project.

FREE AGENTS: The Human Agency Crisis and How to Solve It

Alexandra Evans



Technologist, lawyer and former global tech executive, Alexandra Evans, sounds the alarm on the Human Agency Crisis. At the brink of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, Evans explains the power of choice and offers an alternative, more hopeful vision for humanity's future.

As AI becomes more and more embedded in our everyday lives, we humans obsess over the risk that robots might one day become human, but we have overlooked a far more important, far more terrifying question. What happens if we become robots?

On submission Autumn 2025

**On behalf of Amanda Harris
at Maven Literary**

This book tells the story of the most urgent challenge of our time, the Human Agency Crisis. It confronts the scariest question of all. Without agency, are we still human?

Drawing on a lifetime of personal and professional experience, Alexandra Evans seeks to define a crisis that has gone unnamed for decades. Agency over our thoughts, feelings and actions is already in decline, and if we do not take action now, it may be lost forever.

In **FREE AGENTS**, Evans explains the past, present and future of the Human Agency Crisis and its consequences for humanity. She describes the harm to individuals and society when our need for agency is compromised and reveals the remarkable and surprising benefits when this fundamental need is met.

She also offers hope. If agency can be lost, it can be found. It's not too late to make different choices. Evans sets out an alternative vision for what our future could be and what needs to happen to get there. She also explains how all of us can harness the power of choice to live happier, healthier and more fulfilling lives.

ALEXANDRA EVANS is an expert on the impact of technology on humanity as a lawyer, a law writer, a former regulator, a campaigner, a technologist, an optimistic futurist, an expert in behavioural technology and a change maker. She's partnered with politicians to create laws that hold tech companies to account, worked as a regulator to codify these laws, with academics to research risks and harms and with advocates to campaign for change. She has previously worked as a safety expert inside global tech TikTok.

YOUR SOCIAL SUPERPOWER: How to make anyone interesting, and everyone interested in you

Decca Aitkenhead



Multi-award-winning journalist and Sunday Times bestselling author Decca Aitkenhead, provides a step-by-step guide on how to become the most interesting and interested person in any room.

Over the course of her career, Sunday Times chief interviewer Decca Aitkenhead has interviewed anyone who's anyone so she knows a thing or two about how to connect with people. In **YOUR SOCIAL SUPERPOWER**, Decca shares insights from her interviews with Hollywood A-listers, politicians, and global icons and explains that the power of asking good questions is the key to winning over anyone, whether that's Oprah, Pamela Anderson, Arnie (and his pet pig), your boss or your new partner's parents.

UK Publisher: Bluebird

UK Editor: Lizzy Gray

Publication: Spring 2027

**On behalf of Amanda Harris at
Maven Literary**

The promise of this book is simple: never feel intimidated again, connect more deeply and enrich your life with the superpower of good conversation.

With her guidance, readers will learn to ask great questions, and free themselves from a sense of social dread, shyness, loneliness, social cold sweats, uncomfortable silences, terrible dates and shallow relationships.

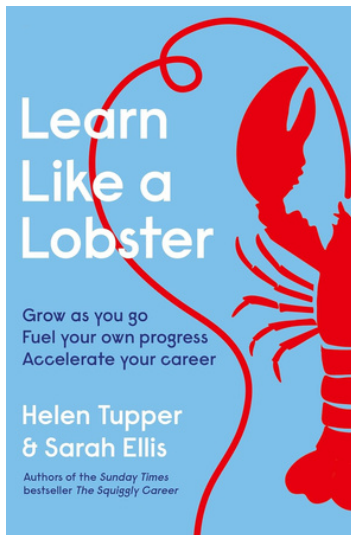
As IRL meetings become more significant than ever, bringing our best selves to any professional or social occasion can feel daunting, sometimes impossible and often overwhelming. Decca empowers readers to shed social ick and anxiety and step into their social superpower.

Reader, it's time to be remembered. It's time to succeed. It's time to shine. And here's how...

DECCA AITKENHEAD is the Chief Interviewer of the Sunday Times, where she interviews leading names in global public life. Her journalism has won multiple awards, including five British Press Awards for Broadsheet Interviewer of the Year. Her 2016 memoir, *ALL AT SEA* (Fourth Estate), was about her life with her late husband, and was a Sunday Times bestseller.

LEARN LIKE A LOBSTER: Grow as you go, Fuel your own progress, Accelerate your career

Helen Tupper and Sarah Ellis



UK Publisher: Penguin Life

UK Editor: Pippa Wright

Publication: February 2026

Extent: 320 pages

Rights sold:

Arabic: Arab Scientific

China: Phei

Germany: Goldmann

Taiwan: Ping Publications

USA & Canada: Tarcher Perigee

Vietnam: Rubik

***Sunday Times #1 Bestselling authors of The Squiggly Career ***

We used to go to work to learn to do the job. Now learning IS the job.

Whatever your career, staying relevant and adaptable is a modern workplace essential. And your unexpected role model for lifelong learning? A clawed crustacean.

In **LEARN LIKE A LOBSTER**, Sunday Times bestselling authors Helen Tupper and Sarah Ellis share the essential career lessons we can learn from the growth and resilience of the limitless lobster.

- Lobsters never stop growing (and neither should you)
- Lobsters grow through hard moments (use challenges to turbo-charge your career)
- Lobsters fuel their own learning (don't ask for permission to learn, lead your own way)

LEARN LIKE A LOBSTER shows how to make learning a playful and energising part of every working day, instead of something we have to find time for in an already packed schedule. It's a must-read for everyone who wants to progress in their career in a way that feels meaningful and motivating.

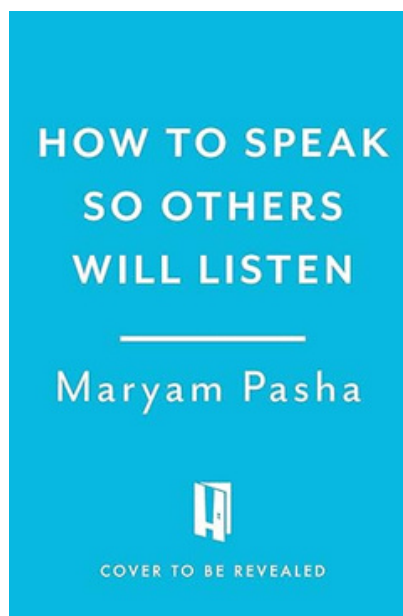
Whether you're someone who already wants to invest in themselves and their development, or whether you feel stuck and unsure of your direction, **LEARN LIKE A LOBSTER** offers the skills, tools and motivation you need for career progression and fulfilment.

HELEN TUPPER has held leadership roles at Microsoft, Virgin and BP and is now CEO of Amazing If. She has studied at Henley, Cranfield and Cass Business School, is a trustee for the Working Families charity, a Fellow of The RSA and lives in Buckinghamshire with her husband and two children.

SARAH ELLIS has led marketing and corporate responsibility teams for Barclays and Sainsbury's, before becoming Managing Director of a creative agency. She is now Chief Learning Officer at Amazing If. Sarah has studied at Warwick University, London and Harvard Business Schools and she is on the Mayor of London's workspace advisory board and lives in London with her partner and son.

HOW TO SPEAK SO OTHERS LISTEN

Maryam Pasha



UK Publisher: Headline Home

UK Editor: Anna Steadman

Publication: March 2026

Extent: 256 pages

Rights sold:

Vietnam: under offer

When most people think about public speaking a few narrow images come to mind - a guy in a suit giving a presentation to a boardroom or a video of someone giving a TED talk. But public speaking is more than that: it's going into a meeting with your boss to ask for a promotion, it's an author doing school or library visits, it's pitching to new clients, it's the speech at your best friend's wedding, it's describing a project to your colleagues, it's talking about issues you care about. Public speaking is any time you need to communicate to another person with purpose, to share your ideas, to influence and persuade.

Human connection starts with stories and being able to tell them. Being compelling, clear and impactful when you speak is a skill everyone needs to develop, to be relevant and effective in the workplace and beyond. It's something that many activists and people engaged in social change already know well: that you can have all the data and facts in the world, but it's stories that move the needle. Stories have the power to build empathy, help to shift mindsets and open up new possibilities.

HOW TO SPEAK SO OTHERS LISTEN provides a toolkit for storytelling and getting your message across. This book will teach you to believe that what you have to say is worth saying, and how your unique voice can be powerful, so you can make positive change in your own life and the world around you.

MARYAM PASHA is the Director and Curator for TEDxLondon and TEDxLondonWomen, and a curator for TED's Climate Countdown. She is the founder of X Equals - an impact storytelling coaching business, where clients include billionaire philanthropists, Nobel prize-winning academics, business leaders and students. She hosts Climate Curious podcast, which has recently passed 1.75 million downloads in just over 3 years, and the new Speechless podcast with Simon Bucknall, on all things communication.

MICRO-HABITS: Tiny Changes That Supercharge High Performance

Jake Humphreys & Damian Hughes



UK Publisher: Cornerstone Press

Publication: January 2026

Extent: 320 pages

Rights sold:
Serbia: Laguna

On behalf of Briony Gowlett
at YMU

***Sunday Times #1 Bestselling authors of High Performance ***

What if you could change your life in less than five minutes?

We assume that the highest-performing people are wired differently; that their success is down to nothing more than raw talent.

But in the course of 400 conversations with the world's most remarkable individuals, Jake Humphrey and Damian Hughes have found the opposite: real success comes from small, often imperceptible changes in behaviour. They call them micro-habits.

Drawing on exclusive interviews with leading high performers - from Olympic-medallists to billionaire entrepreneurs - MICRO-HABITS introduces the forty-eight simple tools that anyone can use to achieve excellence.

The best thing? They work right away.

"Greatness isn't about talent alone. In part it's about the small, repeatable actions that most people miss. MICRO-HABITS is accessible, effective and packed with wisdom from the world's highest achievers." — Sir Gareth Southgate

"Full of tough love and practical wisdom, MICRO-HABITS offers simple, transformative that you can stick with in the hard times as well as the easy ones." — Bear Grylls, OBE

JAKE HUMPHREY is one of Britain's best-respected sports presenters. Formerly lead Premier League presenter at BT Sport, Jake has covered events ranging from Formula 1 to the London Olympics and was the youngest-ever presenter of the BBC's Match of the Day.

DAMIAN HUGHES is an expert on high-performing cultures. A trusted advisor to businesses and sportspeople around the world, he has been praised by the likes of Richard Branson, Muhammad Ali, Roger Bannister and Alex Ferguson.

YMU

NEXT GEN CEO: Why Everything You Know About Leadership Is About To Expire

Mike Soutar



UK Publisher: Pan Mac

UK Editor: Mike Harpley & Kate Walsh

Publication: 2026

On behalf of Anna Dixon at YMU

The life of a business leadership principle used to be measured in decades. Today, it's measured in months.

When Mike Soutar started his career, his boss wore a tie and had a secretary. Now, he advises CEOs who wear hoodies and have an AI assistant. **NEXT GEN CEO** is a digestible business book that answers the attention deficit of the modern age, and the ways that business leaders actually learn and absorb information - on the go, between meetings, in usable bite-sized chunks. It's made to be referred to by would-be leaders of all levels, free from jargon and full of actionable tips and tricks to revolutionise your leadership skills and answer any workplace scenario as it comes up. This book is about the fundamental rewiring of business leadership for an age when:

- Your competition isn't another company, it's an algorithm.
- Your workforce might include more AIs than humans.
- Your next big decision could be your last (...and doing nothing is the riskiest move of all).

This isn't futurism, it's a practical guide to unprecedented changes already transforming business leadership. Whether you're currently a CEO or aspire to be one, this book helps its readers to spot the signals that mean their leadership style needs to evolve, to lead with confidence in an age of constant uncertainty, and to make decisions that will still look good in five years' time. The next generation of leaders won't just do things differently - they'll think differently, and this book shows you how to be one of them.

MIKE SOUTAR is an entrepreneur, broadcaster, and advisor on business transformation who has recently been appointed to the UK Government's Board of Trade. He founded the hugely successful Shortlist Media, growing the business in a recession before making a high value sale, and for the last 14 seasons he has appeared on BBC's The Apprentice interviewing aspiring candidates. He has led some of the UK's biggest media brands during periods of significant change, focusing on building better businesses, developing leadership talent, and establishing the optimal culture for success. Mike is also a Non Executive Director of Scottish Rugby, a Trustee of V&A Dundee, an ambassador for Big Issue, and a board advisor.

YMU

CHLORINE DREAMS: Why We Build To Bathe

Dr Tom Wilkinson



On submission Autumn 2025

Since the earliest civilisations, humans have come together around pools of water. The architecture of bathing has played a central role in many global cultures, from Aztec temazcales and Jewish mikvot to gay saunas and olympic pools.

In seven thematic chapters, **CHLORINE DREAMS** will explore how communal bathing fosters social bonds and will call readers back from the lure of the great outdoors, where the wild swimming craze has deposited hordes into water both chilly and polluted. The future of human life lies in cities, and so we must face up to what they are like, and if we don't like what we see there, we must demand better – including more and better pools.

In the face of these challenges, this book celebrates the pleasures of socializing in buildings designed for communal bathing, of ploughing down the lanes of Olympic pools, steaming in hammams, and romping in saunas. It also tells the inspiring stories of baths built against the odds: plunge pools in Spanish skips, lavish pools for the people provided by Brazilian unions, and the Swiss community who, faced with the closure of the local baths, installed a series of guerilla tubs heated by thermal springs. The architecture of bathing is at its best a tiled utopia, a zone of exception where people can mingle divested of their markers of status – and the way people have built such places through history and across cultures tells us a story of our struggle to be together, in social intimacy, with all the pleasures and pitfalls that entails.

PRAISE FOR TOM WILKINSON

Lively and quirky. It's hard to imagine a history of buildings design being such good fun... Fascinating' **The Times**

'A stunning assembly of ideas, thoughts and perspectives . It's rare to encounter an accessible book of this intellectual density' **Observer**

TOM WILKINSON is a keen swimmer and an historian of art and architecture. He currently teaches at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in Germany; he has previously been a lecturer at the Courtauld Institute and a fellow of the Warburg Institute and he received a PhD in the history of art from UCL in 2016. He was the History Editor of The Architectural Review from 2012 to 2017. His first book, BRICKS AND MORTALS was published by Bloomsbury in 2014. It was long-listed for the Guardian's first book award and has since been published in the USA, Spain, Russia, Taiwan and China. His second book, Emergency Money: Notgeld in the Image Economy of the German Inflation, 1914-1923 (MIT Press, 2024), was selected as one of the best art books of the year by the NYT, who called it 'unmissable'.

THE MADNESS THAT WAS IN HER: Wild Women Tamed at the Asylum

Anna Wharton



UK Publisher: Hutchinson
Heinemann

UK Editor: Vanessa Phan

Publication: Spring 2027

As late as 1972 an English psychiatric textbook recommended lobotomies for women suffering with depression due to a cruel husband. The thinking was, for the woman 'who may owe her illness to a psychopathic husband who cannot change', her life would be easier, with less of a brain.

Anna Wharton's Grandmother was a true gothic 'madwoman in the attic'. As a child visiting her grandparents Anna was terrified of this wild looking woman confined to a chair in one room, repeatedly muttering 'asparagus' to herself. To her grandfather, however, his wife was more of an inconvenience and a joke. As Anna grew up she learned a little of the story - her Grandmother had apparently put her head in an oven in her 40s, and as a result she was sent to an asylum. When she came back, she was a very different woman.

It takes Anna until her own middle-age to question the story of her grandmother. When she does, she is confronted by a terrifying hidden truth about how women were treated in asylums until extremely recently, still-sealed records preventing proper enquiry and recompense.

THE MADNESS THAT WAS IN HER is Anna's fascinating, emotional and beautifully written journey through history, culture and the media to look at how 'crazy' women are treated - often artistic, rebellious, visionary women - and to honour those whose minds were brutally taken from them.

ANNA WHARTON is a renowned author and journalist. She has written for the Daily Mail, The Times, Sunday Times and the Telegraph. She is also a much sought after ghostwriter, and is well known for her collaboration with Wendy Mitchell on her 3 bestselling books, including *SOMEBODY I USED TO KNOW* (Bloomsbury, 2018), which have been translated into 14 languages. She is also the author of one novel, *THE IMPOSTER*, which was published by Mantel in 2021.

PLEASURE: It's Yours to Own

Emma-Louise Boynton



An exploration of women's sexuality through unmet needs and unspoken thoughts which radically recalibrates our relationship to sex and intimacy.

PLEASURE explores the ways in which women have been systematically disconnected from their bodies throughout history and the transformative power of reclaiming that connection through pleasure. From the cultural mythology of sex as something women give and men take, to the historical demonization of female pleasure through witch trials and religious doctrine. **PLEASURE** traces the ways in which women's bodies have been turned into religious battlegrounds. Yet, it also reveals the radical, healing power of reclaiming pleasure as an act of resistance and joy.

UK Publisher: Leap/Bonnier

UK Editor: Carole Tonkinson

Publication: May 2026

Extent: 304 pages

**On behalf of Abigail Bergstrom
at Bergstrom Studio**

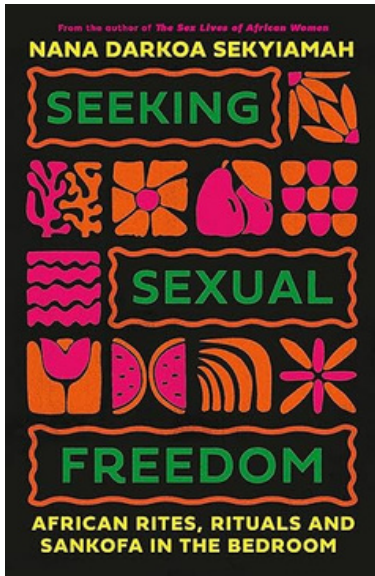
Drawing on personal experiences, cultural analysis and interviews with experts, **PLEASURE** unpacks the myths we've inherited - from the virginity ideal to the male-centric view of sex - and how they affect women's lives today. By weaving historical context with contemporary stories, it offers a radical yet hopeful roadmap for women to reconnect with their bodies, rewrite their sexual stories and, ultimately, cultivate more pleasure-filled lives.



EMMA LOUISE BOYTON runs the very successful and sell-out monthly event series Sex Talks, in which she interviews experts and celebrities about sex and intimacy. She has taken the series to Cheltenham Literary Festival, Wilderness Festival, Alma at Six Senses, the Intelligent Change Summit, Selfridges, Soho House and the WOW festival at the Southbank. **PLEASURE** is her first book.

SEEKING SEXUAL FREEDOM

Nana Darkoa Sekyiamah



UK Publisher: Dialogue

UK Editor: Sharmaine Lovegrove

Publication: Spring 2026

Extent: 288 pages

On behalf of Robert Caskie

A bold foray into African traditions around sexual pleasure and joy, with the personal goal of self-discovery and liberation by one of Africa's preeminent feminists, in the vein of books by Gillian Anderson and Tracy McMillan Cottom.

While working on her award-winning podcast and blog Adventures from the Bedrooms of African Women and researching her first book, THE SEX LIVES OF AFRICAN WOMEN, acclaimed African feminist and activist Nana Darkoa Sekyiamah had access to the wildest dreams and spiciest realities of women from around the world. But so often, something was holding these women back from achieving full liberation and unfettered joy. So she set out to apply sankofa, which means learning from the past to inform the future, to sex and pleasure, reclaiming African traditions in a quest to achieve sexual freedom.

The book is organized in three parts. In the first, Sekyiamah takes readers across the African continent, from Senegal to Tanzania and beyond, where she meets and trains with gurus, "witches" and aunties whose job it is to guide girls through puberty rites and later through "marital training." She discusses practices like beading and pulling, while highlighting the spiritual and gender-fluid nature of African traditional religions.

In asking how we lost our way, in the second part of the book, Sekyiamah looks at the incursion of colonialism and western patriarchal norms into sexuality. This led to our warped ideals of beauty and shame, internalized racism, as well as state and interpersonal violence that stand in the way of sexual liberation. In the third and concluding part, she shows that we can overcome these hurdles by returning to a more joyful and free sexual practice, using practical advice and prompts to chart our own journey.

Part travelogue, part manifesto, **SEEKING SEXUAL FREEDOM** is the bold call to joy and sexual freedom we need today.

ROBE
RTCA
SKIE

NANA DARKOA SEKYIAMAH is the author of THE SEX LIVES OF AFRICAN WOMEN. Her writing has appeared in The Guardian, open Democracy, and Essence, and her short stories have been published in It Wasn't Exactly Love and The Pot and Other Stories. Nana is the co-founder of the award-winning podcast and blog Adventures from the Bedrooms of African Women that publishes the stories of African women's experiences around sex, sexualities, and pleasure.

EAT BITTER: A Story About Guts, and Food

Lydia Pang



UK Publisher: Chatto & Windus

UK Editor: Kaiya Shang

Publication: May 2026

Extent: 304 pages

Rights sold:

US & Canada: HarperOne

**On behalf of Abigail Bergstrom
at Bergstrom Studio**

A beautiful, fearless, dynamic exploration of food and feelings from a distinctive new voice - for fans of CRYING IN H MART, BUTTER and MIDNIGHT CHICKEN.

Eat bitter is a Chinese proverb meaning 'endure hardship to taste sweetness'. For Lydia Pang, it embodies the struggles of her Hakka ancestors - a Chinese ethnic group subjected to forced migrations whose ingenuity produced a distinct food culture based around fermenting and foraging.

Pang develops the philosophy of eating bitter as a tool to reframe the most challenging moments of her life, from burning out and pushing her marriage to the brink to struggles with fertility and caring for a parent. As she plates up eight favourite recipes for us, we taste the char siu pork her Gunggung cooked on Sundays, the silly eggy noodles her father made when her sister was ill, the bone broth she boiled in New York while desperately homesick, and the courgettes grown in her new home in rural Wales as a means of marital reconnection.

'Touching, absorbing, unflinching... This book shows you how to stomach life's shit, celebrate the ugly, and keep going'
ANGELA HIU, author of Takeway

LYDIA PANG is the Co-Founder and Creative Director of MORNING, a global digital strategy and conscious storytelling studio. She has given talks at Instagram and NYTimes and has written articles on style, feminism and food for Refinery29, Riposte, Vogue, Elle, and Dazed. She spends her free time marinating meat, and recently self published a food zine about her Hakka Chinese heritage to support Welcome To Chinatown. She lives with her husband, who she met on Myspace 16 years ago, in Wales where they're rewilding land, and themselves



NO MEAT DISCO: Easy 7-Ingredient Plant-Based Recipes for Carnivores

Sam Jones



The debut cookbook from viral content creator Sam Jones aka @NoMeatDisco

After travelling and exploring other cultures through food, Sam Jones fell in love with plant-based cooking and experimenting with flavours. He wanted to help show people how easy and delicious it is for anyone to adopt a plant-based diet, and so in 2020 @NoMeatDisco was born, combining Sam's love of great music and irresistible food.

This is the 'meat-focussed' book plant based eaters have been waiting for, drawing from Sam's viral 7 Ingredient Vegan content series, which launched at the beginning of 2024. The series focussed on 20 simple plant based recipes with whole food ingredients, that didn't require an extensive shopping list to make. Each recipe will utilise seven core ingredients, in addition to your usual pantry staples of 'butter', oils, seasoning and stock.

Sam now has over 1 million fans of his easy to follow, moreish recipes on Instagram alone. This book will give readers more of those amazing seven ingredient recipes that they keep asking for, with 80 tasty dishes packing in heaps of flavour, with only seven items on the shopping list.

UK Publisher: Robinson/
Little, Brown

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**On behalf of Anna Dixon at
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SAM JONES is the online content creator @NoMeatDisco, who now has over 1 million followers across his social media platforms.

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