



FICTION CATALOGUE JULY - DECEMBER 2022



The Partisan

The explosive debut thriller for fans of Robert Harris and Charles Cumming

Patrick Worrall

IN THE SPY GAME, EVERY MOVE MATTERS...

Compelling and epic, *The Partisan* is a fast-paced espionage thriller introducing a bold new voice. 'Incredibly impressive, up there with the best in the genre' LEE CHILD

It is the summer of 1961 and the brutal Cold War between East and West is becoming ever more perilous.

Two young prodigies from either side of the Iron Curtain, Yulia and Michael, meet at a chess tournament in London. They don't know it, but they are about to compete in the deadliest game ever played.

Shadowing them is Greta, a ruthless resistance fighter who grew up the hard way in the forests of Lithuania, but who is now hunting down some of the most dangerous men in the world.

Men who are also on the radar of Vassily, perhaps the Soviet Union's greatest spymaster. A man of cunning and influence, Vassily was Yulia's minder during her visit to the West, but even he could not foresee the consequences of her meeting Michael.

When the world is accelerating towards an inevitable and catastrophic conflict, what can just four people do to prevent it?

Epic in scope, *The Partisan* is a thrill ride like no other, taking you from the hallowed halls of Cambridge to the grimy depths of the Moscow underworld, from 1960s London to the Eastern Front in the Second World War.

Patrick Worrall was educated in Worcestershire and King's College, Cambridge. He has worked as a teacher in eastern Europe and Asia, a newspaper journalist, a court reporter at the Old Bailey and the head of Channel 4 News's FactCheck blog. ***The Partisan*** is his first novel.



THE PARTISAN

In the spy game, every move matters

★ **PATRICK WORRALL** ★

'Immersive, intriguing, and intelligent – incredibly impressive, up there with the best in the genre'
LEE CHILD

July 2022
9781787635784
Royal Octavo
£16.99 : Hardback
384 pages

Listen To Me

The eagerly anticipated new Rizzoli & Isles thriller from the No.1 bestselling author

Tess Gerritsen

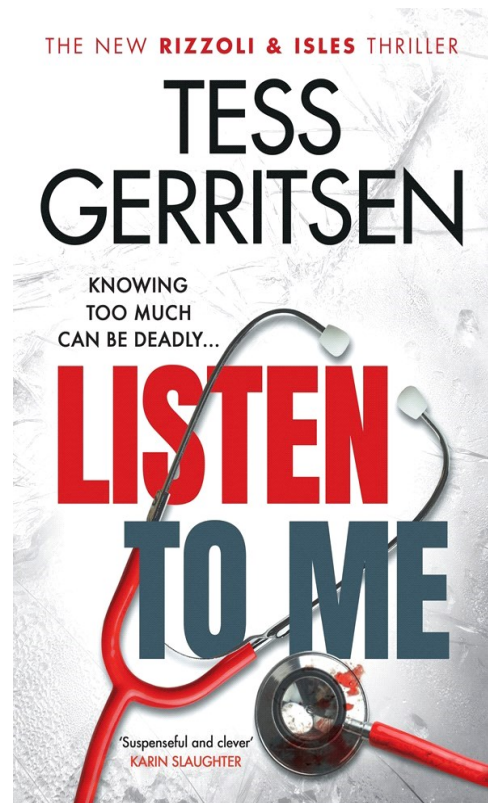
Rizzoli & Isles return, in the nail-biting new thriller from *Sunday Times* bestselling author Tess Gerritsen.

The murder of Sofia Suarez is both gruesome and seemingly senseless. Why would anyone target a respected nurse who was well-liked by her friends and her neighbours? As **Detective Jane Rizzoli** and **Forensic Pathologist Maura Isles** investigate the baffling case, they discover that Sofia was guarding a dangerous secret -- a secret that may have led the killer straight to her door.

Meanwhile, Jane's watchful mother Angela Rizzoli is conducting an investigation of her own. She may be a grandmother, not a police detective, but she's savvy enough to know there's something very strange, perhaps even dangerous, about the new neighbours across the street. The problem is, no one believes her, not even her own daughter.

Immersed in the hunt for Sofia's killer, Jane and Maura are too busy to pay attention to Angela's fears. With no one listening to her, and danger mounting in her neighbourhood, Angela just may be forced to take action on her own...

Bestselling author **Tess Gerritsen** is also a physician, and she brings to her novels her first-hand knowledge of emergency and autopsy rooms. Her thrillers starring homicide detective Jane Rizzoli and medical examiner Maura Isles inspired the hit TV series *Rizzoli & Isles*. But Tess's interests span far more than medicine and crime. As an anthropology student at Stanford University, she catalogued centuries-old human remains, and she continues to travel the world, driven by her fascination with ancient cultures and bizarre natural phenomena.



July 2022
9781787635661
Royal Octavo
£20.00 : Hardback
336 pages

Square One

A brilliantly bold and sharply funny debut for 2022 from the author of *The Panic Years*

Nell Frizzell

The eagerly anticipated debut novel from the influential author of *The Panic Years*, about a woman whose life has gone back to...square one.

'Electrifyingly good...sharply comic and perfectly poignant' Daisy Buchanan, author of *Insatiable*

Everyone is moving on... and then, there's Hanna

By thirty, Hanna expected to have it all (or at least some of it)

- A fulfilling and successful career
- A healthy, long-term relationship, maybe even an engagement ring
- A house (or at least a flat) of her own

But in reality, she's back at square one...

- Single after breaking up with someone she's not sure ever loved her
- Flooded with wedding invitations and pregnancy scan pictures from friends
- Unable to afford to live on her own and forced to move in with her father who is also single and dating

Everyone moves at different paces, but Hanna's life is in reverse. With the pressure to keep up and her dad's insufferable musings on Tinder, will she be able to figure out what she really wants?

Nell Frizzell is a journalist, writer and *Vogue* columnist. She has written and worked for the *Guardian*, *VICE*, the *Telegraph*, *Elle*, the *Observer*, *Grazia* and the BBC among many others. Her first book, *The Panic Years*, is an exploration of bodies, babies and the big questions facing modern life. *Square One* is her first novel. She lives in Oxford, in a very small house full of pasta and bedding and bikes.



July 2022

9781787634312

£14.99

Demy Octavo : Hardback
352 pages

Berlin

The dazzling, darkly funny debut that surprises at every turn

Bea Setton

A debut that shimmers with intrigue and humour, about a young woman who moves to Berlin to escape her demons - and what she finds there. For fans of *My Year of Rest and Relaxation* and *Exciting Times*.

When Daphne Ferber arrives in Berlin for a fresh start in a thrilling new city, the last thing she expects is to run into more drama than she left behind.

Of course, she knew she'd need to do the usual: make friends, acquire lovers, grapple with German and a whole new way of life. She even expected the long nights gorging alone on family-sized jars of Nutella, and the pitfalls of online dating in another language. The paranoia, the second-guessing of her every choice, the covert behaviours? Probably come with the territory.

But one night, something strange, dangerous and entirely unexpected intervenes, and life in bohemian Kreuzberg suddenly doesn't seem so cool.

Just how much trouble is Daphne in, and who - or what - is out to get her?

Channelling the modern female experience with razor-sharp observation and witty flair, *Berlin* announces Bea Setton as an electrifying literary voice for her generation.

Bea Setton was born in France and spent her early years in the Parisian suburbs before moving to the USA to study Philosophy. Upon graduating, she relocated to Berlin, and the city became the inspiration for this novel.

She currently divides her time between London and Cambridge, where she is studying for a PhD in the Anthropology of Religion, and working on plans for her second book.



July 2022
9780857527974
Demy Octavo
£14.99 : Hardback
256 pages

Hawk Mountain

A highly suspenseful and unsettling literary thriller

Conner Habib

At once unsettling and emotionally riveting, *Hawk Mountain* vividly depicts the turbulence of coming of age and the violence of repressed attraction. It offers a compelling look at how love and hate can be intertwined until the last breath.

'Habib's debut novel is a bleak, dark adrenaline rush' Clive Barker

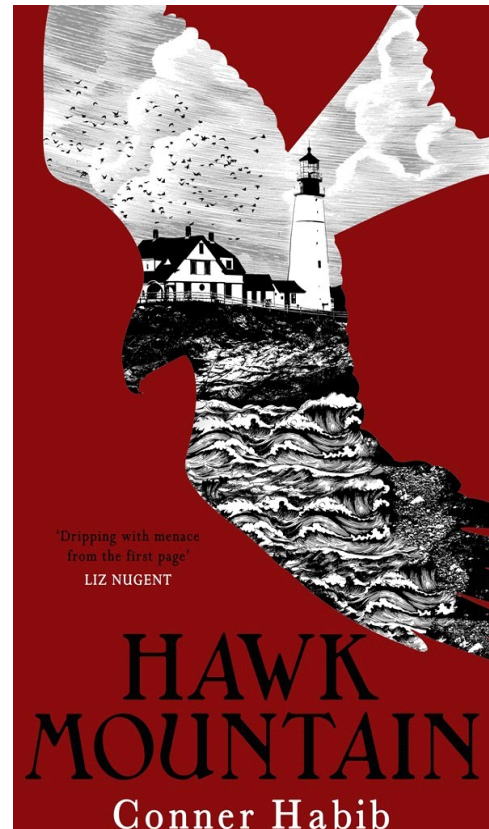
Thirty-three-year-old Todd is playing at the beach with his son, Anthony, when he catches sight of an approaching figure. Instantly, he recognizes Jack, his high school tormentor.

Todd hasn't seen Jack since school, and yet here he is - radiant, repentant, and overjoyed to have run into Todd. Jack suggests a meal to catch up. And could he spend the night? He's in an unfamiliar town after all.

Caught off guard by this chance interaction, Todd finds himself unable to escape Jack's charismatic and insistent presence in his life. But then Todd's past starts to catch up with him and Jack isn't going anywhere.

What follows is a fast-paced story of obsession and suspense as Jack pushes Todd to the brink...

Conner Habib is host of the popular podcast *Against Everyone with Conner Habib* which covers topics as broad as sexuality, spirituality, punk rock, occultism, and poetry. His nonfiction has appeared in dozens of print and online publications. This is his first novel. He lives in Dublin, Ireland.



July 2022
9781781620601
Demy Octavo
£13.99 : Trade Paperback
320 pages

The Air Raid Girls: Wartime Brides

An uplifting and joyful WWII saga romance (The Air Raid Girls Book 3)

Jenny Holmes

A heart-warming new story of friendship, love and duty in wartime by the author of *The Air Raid Girls* and *Wedding Bells for the Land Girls* - perfect for fans of Nancy Revell and Donna Douglas.

Spring, 1942. Lizzie is making plans for her wedding with fiancé Bill. But preparations during wartime aren't easy, and attacks on the Yorkshire port of Kelthorpe are only getting worse.

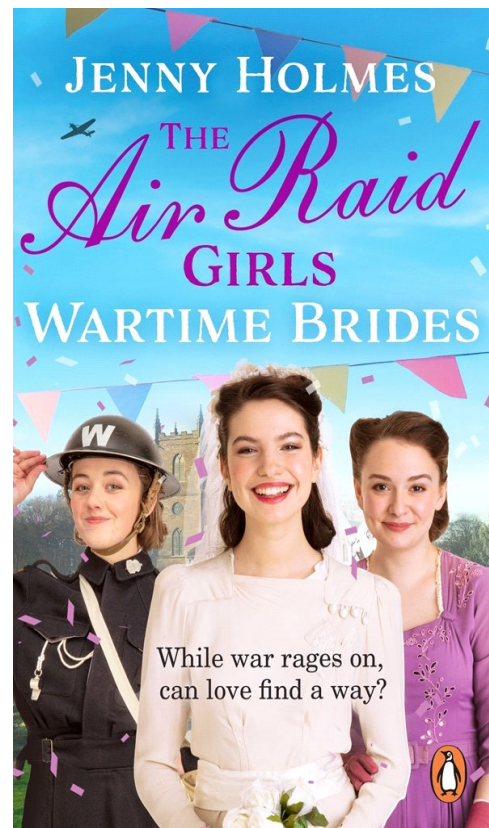
Connie wants to be there for her sister, but she has troubles of her own - a secret that is driving a wedge between herself and those who love her.

Meanwhile, Pamela faces new complications in her romance with Fred, and the arrival of two new RAF servicemen stirs up trouble.

As bombs fall and friendships are tested, will the air raid girls keep their fighting spirit and find their happy endings?

Jenny Holmes lives in a beautiful part of Yorkshire and sets her sagas in the industrial heartland nearby. She enjoys horse riding, gardening and walking her dog in the dales. She also writes children's books as Jenny Oldfield.

Find her on Facebook at [Facebook.com/JennyHolmesAuthor](https://www.facebook.com/JennyHolmesAuthor)



July 2022
9781529176520
B Format (TW)
£7.99 : Paperback
416 pages

Waiting for Sunshine

The beautiful and thought-provoking new novel from the bestselling author of *Mix Tape*

Jane Sanderson

An unputdownable, thought-provoking novel about a little girl with a mysterious past and the couple desperate to give her a home.

Chrissie has always wanted to be a mother. After months of trying to adopt, she and her husband Stuart finally get the news that a little girl named Sunshine is waiting for them.

Abandoned at a young age, the child comes to them without a family history, and it feels like a fresh start for all of them. But when fragments from Sunshine's previous life start to intrude on her new one, the little girl's mysterious past quickly becomes Chrissie's greatest fear ...

JANE SANDERSON is a writer and journalist. She worked as a producer for BBC Radio 4 on *The World at One* and *Woman's Hour* before becoming a novelist. She lives with her husband in Herefordshire, and they also have a houseboat in London.



July 2022
9781787631946
Demy Octavo
£14.99 : Hardback
448 pages

Common Decency

A dark, intimate novel of love, grief and obsession

Susannah Dickey

From the author of the critically acclaimed *Tennis Lessons* comes a dark, intimate story of grief, obsession, and how we can never truly know what happens behind closed doors.

FROM THE CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED AUTHOR OF *TENNIS LESSONS*

'Sharp as tacks, extremely funny and deeply moving. This novel is very good company.' JAN CARSON

In an apartment building in Belfast, two women wrestle with the sorrows and spectres of love and loss.

Since her mother's death, Lily has withdrawn from the world, trapped between grief and anger. She has to break out of this damaging cycle - but how?

Upstairs, Siobhán is consumed by her affair with a married man. Her days revolve around his sporadic texts and rare visits. She barely notices the strange girl who lives below and dawdles in the foyer.

But Lily is keeping a close eye on her neighbour, whose life seems so much better and more fulfilling than her own. When resentment evolves into something darker and more urgent, she decides to teach Siobhán a lesson...

From the critically acclaimed author of *Tennis Lessons* comes a darkly powerful novel about two lives running closely in parallel but divided by gulfs of misunderstanding. With boundless wisdom and deep empathy, Dickey charts the anonymity and hidden intimacies of modern existence, and our profound human need to connect.

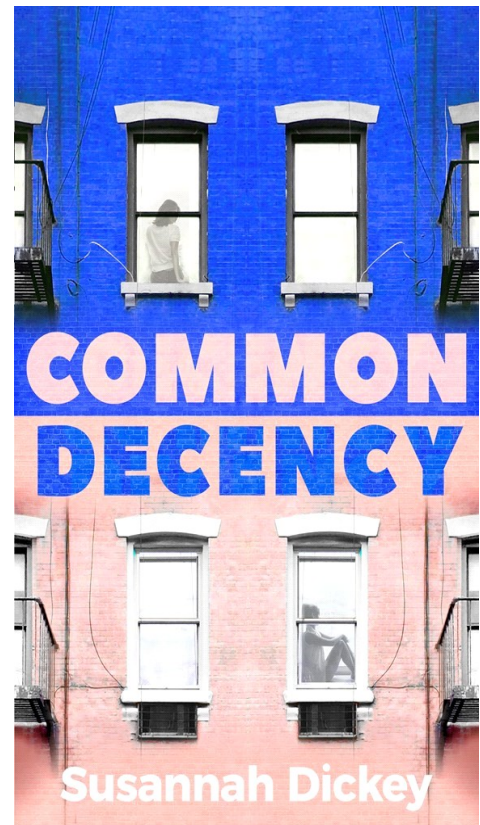
PRAISE FOR SUSANNAH DICKEY

'I loved *Tennis Lessons* so much. Susannah is a phenomenally talented writer' ELIZABETH DAY

'A raw, fierce, shockingly honest coming-of-age story' LOUISE O'NEILL

'Incredibly funny . . . by turns charming and disgusting and I loved it' NELL FRIZZELL

Susannah Dickey grew up in Derry and now lives in London. She is the author of two poetry pamphlets, *I had some very slight concerns* (2017) and *genuine human values* (2018). Her poetry has been published in *Ambit*, *The White Review*, *Poetry Ireland Review* and *Magma*, amongst others. In 2018 she was shortlisted for *The White Review* short story prize, and in 2017 she was the winner of the inaugural Verve Poetry Festival competition. Her debut novel, *Tennis Lessons*, was published in July 2020.



July 2022

9780857526885

£14.99

Demy Octavo : Hardback

320 pages

The Retreat

The addictive new thriller from the No.1 Sunday Times bestselling author of *The Sanatorium*
Sarah Pearse

**Most are here to recharge and refresh.
But someone's here for revenge . . .**

The new atmospheric locked-room thriller from the author of *The Sanatorium*, the bestselling crime thriller debut of 2021.

This is a warning for all our guests at the wellness retreat.

A woman's body has been found at the bottom of the cliff beneath the yoga pavilion.

We believe her death was a tragic accident, though DS Elin Warner has arrived on the island to investigate.

A storm has been forecast, but do not panic. Stick together and please ignore any rumours you might have heard about the island and its history.

As soon as the weather clears, we will arrange boats to take you back to the mainland.

In the meantime, we hope you enjoy your stay.

'Pearse goes from strength to strength in *The Retreat*. The suspense inexorably builds to a stunning climax. An added treat is the return of Elin Warner, who is a fascinating character one can only root for.'

David Baldacci, No.1 Sunday Times bestselling author of *Mercy*

'A world-class thriller writer. Superb. Pre-order it now.' **Steve Cavanagh, Sunday Times bestselling author of *Thirteen***

'This spine-tingling, atmospheric thriller has it all . . . A must-read.'
Richard Osman, bestselling author of *The Thursday Murder Club*

'An addictive, creepy and twisting read.' *Stylist*

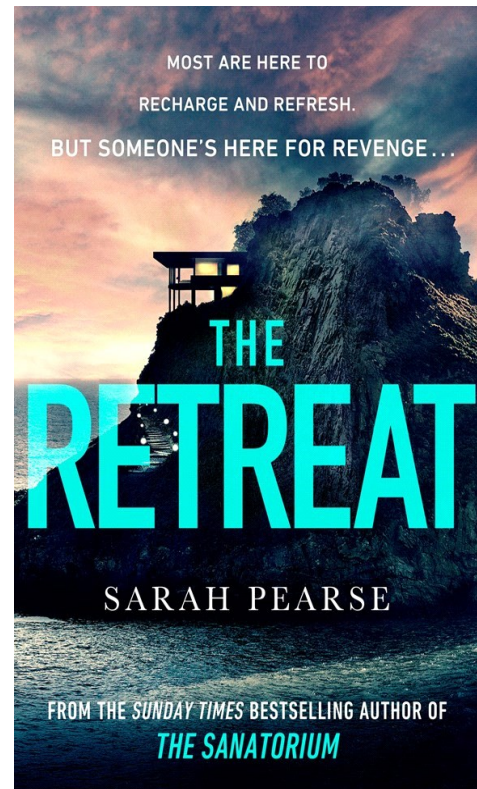
'A mix of whodunnit and psychological thriller with hints of horror, this fine debut [...] is smartly structured and often powerful.' *Sunday Times*

'An eerie atmospheric novel that had me completely on the edge of my seat.' Reese Witherspoon, for Reese's Book Club

Sarah Pearse lives by the sea in South Devon with her husband and two daughters. She studied English and Creative Writing at the University of Warwick and worked in Brand PR for a variety of households brands before following her passion for writing.

Her experiences living in the Swiss Alps in her early twenties inspired her acclaimed debut novel, *The Sanatorium*, which was an instant No.1 Sunday Times and New York Times Top Ten bestseller in hardback, and a Reese Witherspoon Book Club pick.

Her eagerly anticipated next thriller, *The Retreat*, will be published in Spring 2022.



July 2022

9781787633339

£14.99

Royal Octavo : Hardback
368 pages

Last Time We Met

A heart-warming and emotional will-they-won't-they friends-to-lovers romance for 2022

Emily Houghton

This Time Next Year meets *When Harry Met Sally* in this epic and emotional friends-to-lovers romance perfect for fans of Mhairi McFarlane and Colleen Hoover.

ONE PROMISE

Aged thirteen, best friends Eleanor and Fin are inseparable. Convinced it will always be this way they make a pact - to go to university together, always live near each other, and if they're both single at 35 they'll get married.

TWO DECADES

Eleanor and Fin haven't spoken in fifteen years. Life has run away from them and they're both far from where they'd dreamt of being all those years ago.

CAN THEY STILL KEEP THEIR WORD?

It takes tragic circumstances for Fin to come back into Eleanor's life, but everything has changed since the last time they met. Is it too late to mend their friendship? Or is there a chance they can keep some of the promises they made?

Emily Houghton was a digital specialist, but is now a full-time creative writer. She originally comes from Essex but now lives in London. Emily is a trained yoga and spin teacher, completely obsessed with dogs and has dreamt of being an author ever since she could hold a pen.



August 2022
9781529176704
B Format (TW)
£7.99 : Paperback
416 pages

Hide and Seek

The unmissable new crime thriller for 2022
from the top ten Sunday Times bestselling
author of *All Her Fault*

Andrea Mara

Close your eyes. Count to ten. And when you open them, your child is gone... A twisty and compelling thriller about a little girl who goes missing during a game of hide and seek.

CLOSE YOUR EYES

The game of hide and seek is over, everyone has gone home, but little Lily Murphy hasn't been found. Her parents search the woods and tell themselves that the worst hasn't happened - but deep down they know this peaceful Dublin suburb will never be the same again.

COUNT TO TEN

Years later, Joanna moves into a new house. It seems perfect in every way, until she learns that this was once Lily Murphy's home. From that moment onwards, a sense of dread seems to follow her from room to room.

AND WHEN YOU OPEN THEM, YOUR CHILD IS GONE

As Joanna unravels the secrets at the heart of this close-knit community, her own dark past begins to resurface. Because she thinks she knows what really happened to Lily - and if the truth gets out, it might be her undoing...

'Grips from the first page and keeps upping the stakes . . . I didn't predict any of the twists and turns.' **Sarah Pearse, No.1 Sunday Times bestselling author of *The Sanatorium***

'Sharp, sophisticated, and full of suspense.' **Cara Hunter**

'Andrea Mara's tight plotting and convincing characterisation make her books both compelling and intriguing.' **Liz Nugent**

Andrea Mara is a *Sunday Times* and *Irish Times* top ten bestselling author, and has been shortlisted for a number of awards, including Irish Crime Novel of the Year. She lives in Dublin, Ireland, with her husband and three young children, and also runs multi-award-winning parent and lifestyle blog, *OfficeMum.ie*. *All Her Fault* is her first thriller to be published in the UK and internationally.



August 2022

9781787634510

£14.99

Royal Octavo : Hardback

368 pages

The Will

The gripping, addictive new crime thriller novel for summer 2022

Rebecca Reid

One of them will get what they deserve . . . *Succession* meets *Knives Out*, the twisty new domestic suspense novel from Rebecca Reid, perfect for fans of Claire Douglas and Liane Moriarty

The Mordaunts aren't like most families . . .

For one, their family home is Roxborough Hall - a magnificent, centuries-old mansion in the Norfolk countryside. For another, the house isn't passed down from parent to child - but rather to the family member deemed most worthy.

Cecily Mordaunt is dead. On the evening of her funeral, her family will gather for dinner and each will be given a letter, revealing who is the next custodian of Roxborough Hall.

The house is a burden, a millstone, a full-time job . . . but they all want it. And some are willing to do anything to get it.

One family. Eight letters. Who will get what they deserve?

'*The Will* is that rare kind of book that draws you so deeply into its world, that you start believing the characters are your real life acquaintances, and wondering what they're up to. Perhaps that's why I raced through to find out. Rebecca's protagonists are complex, deliciously flawed, and utterly addictive.' **Jemma Wayne**

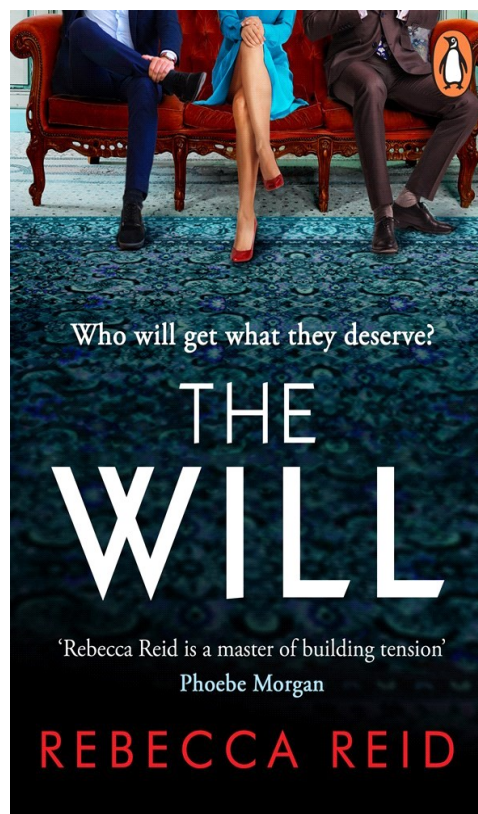
Praise for Rebecca Reid:

'A perfectly paced and beautifully observed story' **Emma Curtis**

'Compulsively readable' **Emma Rowley**

'Will haunt you long after you've finished' **Jane Corry**

Rebecca is the author of the novels *Perfect Liars*, *Truth Hurts* and *Two Wrongs*, and the nonfiction book *The Power of Rude*. She is a freelance journalist and columnist for the *Telegraph's* women's section and a regular contributor to *Telegraph culture*.



August 2022
9780552177399
B Format (TW)
£7.99 : Paperback
384 pages

From the Ashes

The new heart-stopping, page-turning Scottish crime thriller novel for 2022

Deborah Masson

In the third instalment of this award-winning series, a fire destroys a home for underprivileged children in Aberdeen, and DI Eve Hunter and her team investigate. Perfect for fans of Stuart MacBride and Val McDermid.

As the house burns, the hunt for a killer begins...

DI Eve Hunter and her team are called to the scene of a fire that has destroyed a home for underprivileged children in Aberdeen. No-one knows how the blaze started; all they know is that one person didn't make it out in time.

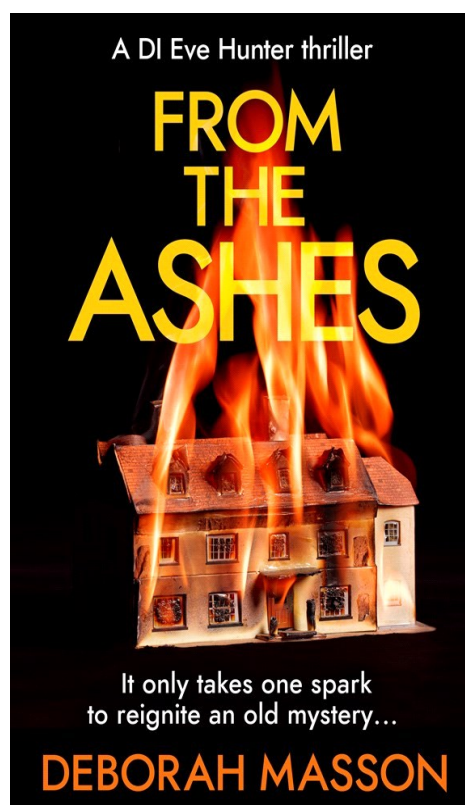
Her team have dealt with their fair share of tragedies but this case affects them each deeply - particularly when they start to suspect that everyone at the home, from the residents to the staff, has something to hide. And when a horrific discovery is unearthed in the ruins of the property, the team must ask themselves - did someone have a secret worth killing for?

'Pacy, intelligent and so so satisfying. Another brilliant outing for Eve Hunter who is fast becoming my favourite detective. I can't get enough of Deborah Masson's writing.' **Marion Todd**

'*From The Ashes* is a tense and intriguing mystery, expertly delving into the darker side of the Granite City, hooked from from the first page and kept me guessing to the very end!' **G. R. Halliday, author of *From The Shadows***

Deborah Masson was born and bred in Aberdeen, Scotland. Always restless and fighting against being a responsible adult, she worked in several jobs including secretarial, marketing, reporting for the city's freebie newspaper and a stint as a postie - to name but a few.

Through it all, she always read crime fiction and, when motherhood finally settled her into being an adult (maybe even a responsible one) she turned her hand to writing what she loved. Deborah started with short stories and flash fiction whilst her daughter napped and, when she later welcomed her son into the world, she decided to challenge her writing further through online courses with Professional Writing Academy and Faber Academy, where she wrote her award-winning debut novel *Hold Your Tongue*, the first in the DI Eve Hunter series. Since then she has published two more books in the series, *Out For Blood* and *From the Ashes*.



August 2022

9780552178259

£7.99

B Format (TW) : Paperback
368 pages

The Queen of Dirt Island

From the Booker-longlisted number 1 bestselling author of *Strange Flowers*

Donal Ryan

From the prize-winning author of the number one bestseller *Strange Flowers*, a soaring novel about four generations of strong women and fierce love.

'I think you have to truly love people to write like this' RACHEL JOYCE

The Aylward women are mad about each other, but you wouldn't always think it. You'd have to know them to know - in spite of what the neighbours might say about raised voices and dramatic scenes - that their house is a place of peace, filled with love, a refuge from the sadness and cruelty of the world.

Their story begins at an end and ends at a beginning. It's a story of terrible betrayals and fierce loyalties, of isolation and togetherness, of transgression, forgiveness, desire, and love. About all the things family can be and all the things it sometimes isn't. More than anything, it is uplifting celebration of fierce, loyal love and the powerful stories that last generations.

'A true artist' KIT DE WAAL

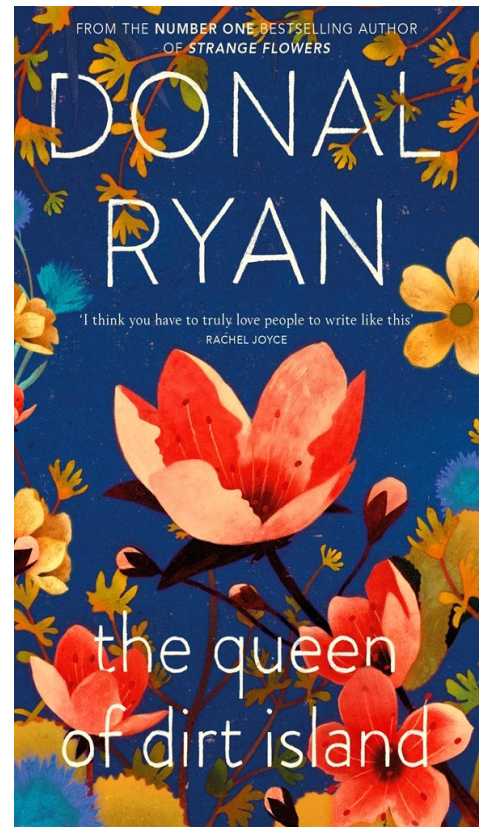
'His paragraphs are unnoticeably beautiful, his heart always on show' ANNE ENRIGHT

'Endlessly surprising and incredibly moving' DAVID NICHOLLS

'A life-enhancing talent' SEBASTIAN BARRY

'I would struggle to think of any other Irish author working today who writes with as much compassion as Donal Ryan' LOUISE O'NEILL

Donal Ryan is an award-winning author from Nenagh, County Tipperary, whose work has been published in over twenty languages to major critical acclaim. *The Spinning Heart* won the Guardian First Book Award, the EU Prize for Literature (Ireland), and Book of the Year at the Irish Book Awards; it was shortlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, longlisted for the Man Booker Prize and the Desmond Elliott Prize, and was voted 'Irish Book of the Decade'. His fourth novel, *From a Low and Quiet Sea*, was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, shortlisted for the Costa Novel Award 2018, and won the Jean Monnet Prize for European Literature. His most recent novel, *Strange Flowers*, was voted Novel of the Year at the Irish Book Awards, and was a number one bestseller. Donal lectures in Creative Writing at the University of Limerick. He lives with his wife Anne Marie and their two children just outside Limerick City.



August 2022

9780857525215

£14.99

Demy Octavo : Hardback
256 pages

Tick Tock

Simon Mayo

The stunning new thriller from the Sunday Times bestselling author of *Knife Edge*. Exciting, urgently contemporary and piercingly insightful, it more than confirms the promise of Mayo's bestselling and acclaimed first thriller.

For no apparent reason, there's a ticking noise in your ear. No pain yet, and no other symptoms. And before you know it, it spreads.

Elsewhere across the globe, it emerges, small outbreaks at first, contained groups of people, young and old, and suddenly it's a plague - and ten days later it's killing people. The hospitals are overflowing and there is no cure. There is a paranoid panic which sets friend against friend, neighbour against neighbour. Where does the world go from here?

In the north London school where it is first discovered, head of English, Kit Chaplin is struggling to understand what he is witnessing. Even eminent bacteriologist and his partner Lilly Slater can't help him. But as the virus rips through the school and into the outside world, the world starts to take notice. Kit is more concerned about his students - and his young daughter, Rose - but little by little he gets sucked into where this mystery illness might have come from. And how it's going to threaten his world.

Simon Mayo MBE is a writer and broadcaster. His previous books include the *Sunday Times* bestseller *Knife Edge*, *Mad Blood Stirring*, *Blame* and the *Itch* trilogy, filmed for TV by the ABC. He hosts *Drivetime* on Greatest Hits Radio and hosts the 'The Take' film-review podcast with Professor Mark Kermode.



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

August 2022
9780857526618
Royal Octavo
£14.99 : Hardback
368 pages

Undercurrent

The heartbreaking and ultimately hopeful novel about finding yourself, from the Times bestselling author of Five Rivers Met on a Wooded Plain

Barney Norris

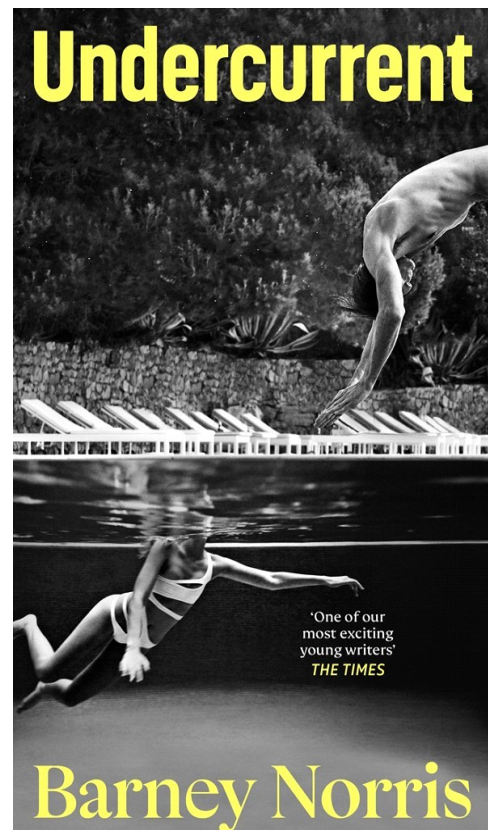
Written in the key of Anna Hope's *Expectation*, this is an affecting novel about the difficult route to happiness, by the award-winning author of *Five Rivers Met on a Wooded Plain*.

'The beginning of summer. Perhaps it crosses my mind even now while I wait for news of Amy that something is coming towards us. Like sighting the first slow swell of a wave.'

Years ago, in an almost accidental moment of heroism, Ed saved Amy from drowning. Now, in his thirties, he finds himself adrift. He's been living in London for years - some of them good - but he's stuck in a relationship he can't move forward, has a job that just pays the bills, and can't shake the sense that life should mean more than this. Perhaps all Ed needs is a moment to pause. To exhale and start anew. And when he meets Amy again by chance, it seems that happiness might not be so far out of reach. But then tragedy overtakes him, and Ed must decide whether to let history and duty define his life, or whether he should push against the tide and write his own story.

Filled with hope and characteristic warmth, *Undercurrent* is a moving and intimate portrait of love, of life and why we choose to share ours with the people we do.

Barney Norris has been the recipient of the International Theatre Institute's Award for Excellence, the Critics' Circle Award for Most Promising Playwright, a South Bank Sky Arts Times Breakthrough Award, an Evening Standard Progress 1000 Award, a Betty Trask Award and the Northern Ireland One Book Award. His work has been translated into eight languages. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, teaches Creative Writing at the University of Oxford where he is the Martin Esslin Playwright in Residence at Keble College, Oxford, and regularly reviews fiction for the Guardian.



August 2022
9780857525734
Demy Octavo
£16.99 : Hardback
272 pages

All the Wicked Games

Lauren North

A tense, emotionally-driven psychological thriller about friendship, guilt and revenge, from the ebook bestselling author of *The Perfect Betrayal*, Lauren North.

If your best friend was in danger, you'd try to save her...wouldn't you?

Are you ready to play?

Best friends Cleo and Rachel spend their evenings pretending to be people they're not, inventing elaborate stories to escape the monotony of their real lives. It's all harmless fun - until they play the game on the wrong person...

It's your move now.

Five years later, Cleo is still struggling to come to terms with the night that destroyed her friendship with Rachel and almost cost them their lives. And then she receives a text: *Rachel is missing. Have you seen her?*

There's only one person to blame.

Wracked with guilt for failing Rachel the last time they were in danger, Cleo races to find her friend. But could the past be repeating itself? Only this time, they're caught up in a far darker game.

The rules don't matter when the goal is revenge.

Praise for Lauren North:

'A wonderfully **dark, addictive, intriguing** and **twisty** read' Karen Hamilton, author of *The Perfect Girlfriend*

'A **chilling** thriller, perfect for a long weekend.' *Daily Express*

'A deliciously **gripping** thriller; the **twists blew my mind!**' Emma Curtis, author of *Invite Me In*

Lauren North writes psychological suspense novels that delve into the darker side of relationships and families. She has a lifelong passion for writing, reading, and all things books. Lauren's love of psychological suspense has grown since childhood and from her dark imagination of always wondering what's the worst thing that could happen in every situation.

Lauren studied psychology before moving to London where she lived and worked for many years. She now lives with her family in the Suffolk countryside. Readers can follow Lauren on Twitter @Lauren_C_North and Facebook @LaurenNorthAuthor



September 2022

9780552177962

£7.99

B Format (TW) : Paperback

368 pages

Last Day of School

Jack Sheffield

The delightful new novel from Jack Sheffield, and the final book in his much-loved Teacher series. 'Wry observation and heartwarming humour in equal measure' - Alan Titchmarsh

Change is in the air for Jack Sheffield and the Ragley village school.

It's 1987, and after a decade as head teacher at Ragley-on-the-Forest School, Jack Sheffield is looking to the future. He and his wife are expecting a new baby, the school is preparing for the introduction of the new National Curriculum, and the coming year promises a whole host of other surprises. Whether it's combing the church for an escaped pet mouse or dealing with the obnoxious new school governor, life in the village is always entertaining.

So when Jack is offered an opportunity that could change everything, he knows he has a difficult decision to make. Endings are never easy, but perhaps the thrill of a new beginning is exactly what Jack needs...

Hilarious, nostalgic and heart-warming in equal measure, *Last Day of School* is the final novel in the much-loved *Teacher* series.

Praise for Jack Sheffield:

'Wry observation and heartwarming humour in equal measure.' **Alan Titchmarsh**

'Overflowing with amusing anecdotes.' **Daily Express**

'Amusing adventures at the North Yorkshire village school.' **Choice**

'Jack Sheffield's in a class of his own.' **York Press**

Jack Sheffield grew up in the tough environment of Gipton Estate, in North East Leeds. After a job as a 'pitch boy', repairing roofs, he became a Corona Pop man before going to St John's College, York, and training to be a teacher. In the late seventies and eighties, he was a headteacher of two schools in North Yorkshire before becoming Senior Lecturer in Primary Education at Bretton Hall College of the University of Leeds. It was at this time he began to record his many amusing stories of village life as portrayed in *Teacher, Teacher!*, *Mister Teacher*, *Dear Teacher*, *Village Teacher*, *Please Sir!*, *Educating Jack*, *School's Out!*, *Silent Night*, *Star Teacher*, *Happiest Days*, *Starting Over*, *Changing Times*, *Back to School* and *School Days*. He lives in Hampshire.



September 2022

9781787635531

£12.99

Demy Octavo : Trade Paperback
352 pages

The Witch in the Well

Camilla Bruce

The unnerving, skin-pricklingly disconcerting yet irresistibly readable new novel - a story of obsession, possession and a rivalry to the death - from the acclaimed author of *You Let Me In* and *Triflers Need Not Apply*.

Over a hundred years ago, the citizens of F- did something rather bad. And local school teacher Catherine Evans has made writing the definitive account of what happened when Ilsbeth Clark drowned in the well her life's work.

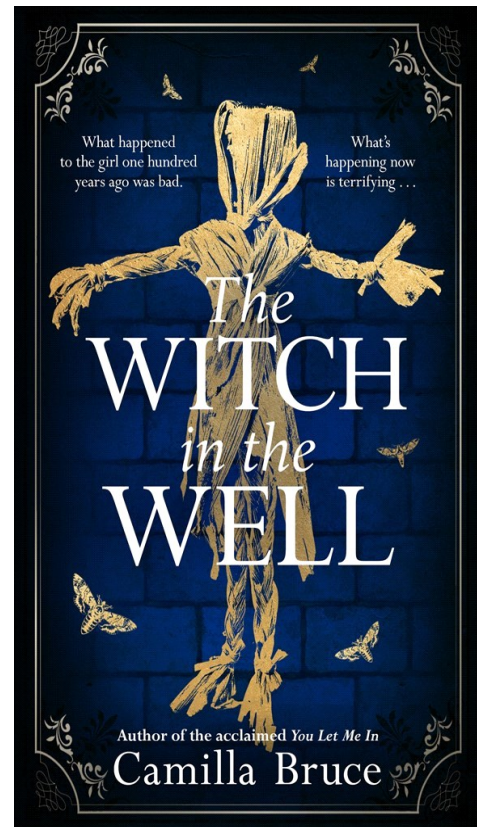
The town's people may not want their past raked up, but Catherine is determined to shine a light upon that shameful event. For Ilsbeth was an innocent, after all. She was shunned and ostracised by rumour-mongers and ill-wishers and someone has to speak up for her. And who better than Catherine, who has herself felt the sting and hurt of such whisperings?

But then a childhood friend returns to F-. Elena is a successful author whose book, *The Whispers Inside: A Reawakening of the Soul*, has earned her a certain celebrity. In search of a new subject, she takes an interest in the story of Ilsbeth Clark and announces her intention to write a book about the long-dead woman, focusing on the natural magic she believes she possessed.

And Elena has everything Catherine has not, like a platform and connections and no one seems to care that Elena's book will be pure speculation, tainting Ilsbeth's memory rather than preserving it. Catherine is determined that something must be done and plots to blunt her rival's pen. However she had not allowed for the fact that the past might not be so dead after all - that something is reaching out from the well, disturbing her reality.

Before summer's over, one woman will be dead, the other accused of murder . . . but is she really guilty, or are there other forces at work? And who was Ilsbeth Clark, really? An innocent? A witch? Or something else entirely?

CAMILLA BRUCE was born central Norway and grew up in an old forest, next to an Iron Age burial mound. She has a master's degree in comparative literature and has co-run a small press that published dark fairy tales. Her first novel was the acclaimed work of folk horror, *You Let Me In*; her second the historical crime novel, *Triflers Need Not Apply*. Camilla currently lives in Trondheim with her son and cat.



September 2022

9781787633414

£16.99

Demy Octavo : Hardback

288 pages

All The Broken Places

from the author of the global bestseller, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*

John Boyne

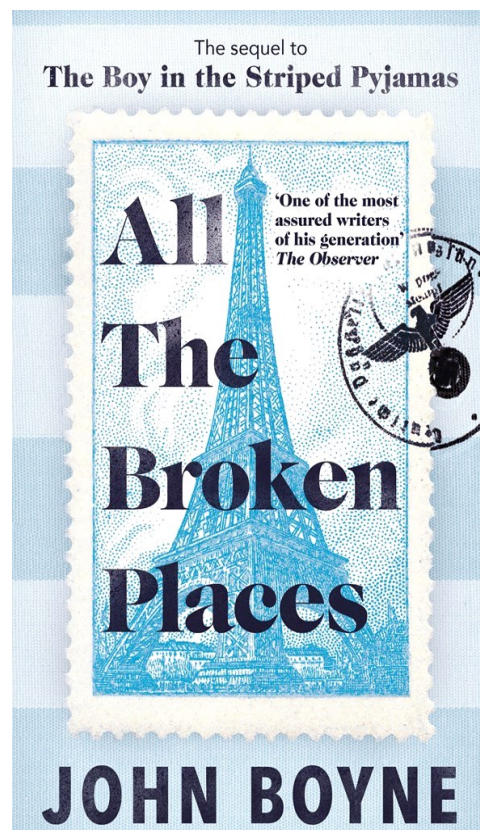
From the author of the globally bestselling, multi-million-copy classic, *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, and *The Heart's Invisible Furies*.

Ninety-one-year-old Gretel Fernsby has lived in the same mansion block in London for decades. She leads a comfortable, quiet life, despite her dark and disturbing past. She doesn't talk about her escape from Germany over seventy years before. She doesn't talk about the post-war years in France with her mother. Most of all, she doesn't talk about her father, the commandant of one of the most notorious Nazi concentration camps.

Then, a young family moves into the apartment below her. In spite of herself, Gretel can't help but begin a friendship with the little boy, Henry, though his presence brings back memories she would rather forget. One night, she witnesses a violent argument between Henry's mother and his domineering father, one that threatens Gretel's hard-won, self-contained existence.

Gretel is faced with a chance to expiate her guilt, grief and remorse and act to save a young boy - for the second time in her life. But to do so, she will be forced to reveal her true identity to the world. Will she make a different choice this time, whatever the cost to herself?

John Boyne is the author of thirteen novels for adults, six for younger readers and a collection of short stories. His 2006 novel *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* has sold more than 11 million copies worldwide and has been adapted for cinema, theatre, ballet and opera. His many international bestsellers include *The Heart's Invisible Furies* and *A Ladder to the Sky*. He has won three Irish Book Awards, along with a host of other international literary prizes. His novels are published in over fifty languages.



September 2022
9780857528858
Royal Octavo
£20.00 : Hardback
416 pages

A Daughter's War

A powerful and romantic WWII saga from the bestselling author (Worktown Girls at War Book 2)

Emma Hornby

A brand-new page-turning WWII saga from the bestselling author of *A Shilling for a Wife*, perfect for fans of Dilly Court and Rosie Goodwin

At seventeen, **Renee Rushmore** lives at home with her father **Ivan** - a cruel man who rules the house with an iron fist and keeps Renee isolated and alone. She is desperate to escape him, but with no friends to help her, what hope does she have?

Then war breaks out. With factories and farms looking to take on female workers, Renee dares to hope that her freedom might be within grasp. And when she hears through a kindly local farmhand named Jimmy that Oak Valley Farm is in need of help, she might just have found her chance.

But her father's eyes are on her day and night. With the help of Jimmy, will Renee be able to escape Ivan's cruelty and find happiness at last?

Readers love Emma Hornby:

'Similar to Rosie Goodwin and Dilly Court, Emma Hornby tells a brilliant story'

'Emma Hornby's books just keep getting better and better'

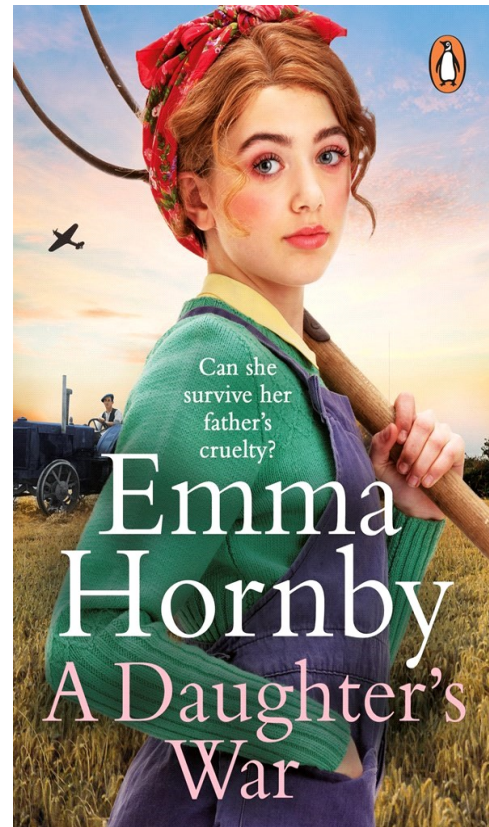
'Keep writing Emma, you are very talented and can't wait for your next book'

'Emma is a wonderful storyteller and I can't wait for the next one!'

'Thank you again Emma Hornby for a captivating read'

'Another beautifully written story by Emma Hornby'

Emma Hornby lives on a tight-knit working-class estate in Bolton and has read sagas all her life. Before pursuing a career as a novelist, she had a variety of jobs, from care assistant for the elderly, to working in a Blackpool rock factory. She was inspired to write after researching her family history; like the characters in her books, many generations of her family eked out life amidst the squalor and poverty of Lancashire's slums.



September 2022
9780552178112
B Format (TW)
£7.99 : Paperback
400 pages

Shrines of Gaiety

From the global Number 1 bestselling author of *Life After Life*

Kate Atkinson

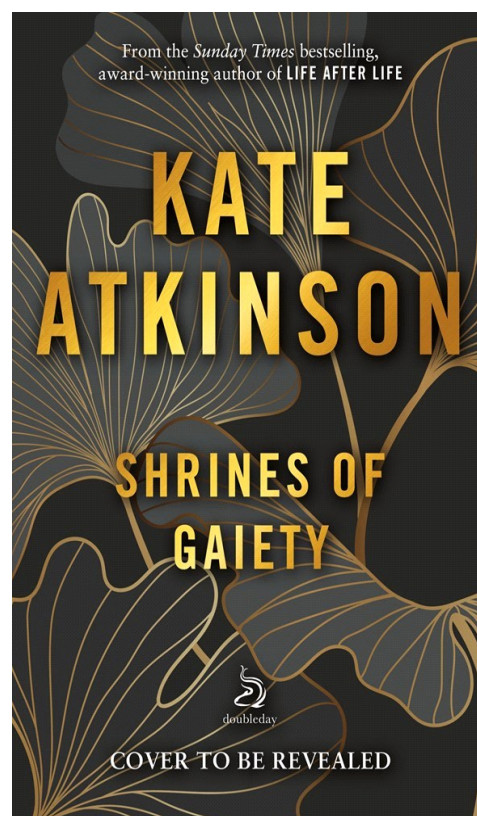
From the inimitable bestselling author, Kate Atkinson, a mesmerising novel set in the glittering world - and darker underbelly - of Soho's nightlife in the 1920s.

1926, and in a country still recovering from the Great War, London has become the focus for a delirious new nightlife. In the clubs of Soho, peers of the realm rub shoulders with starlets, foreign dignitaries with gangsters, and girls sell dances for a shilling a time.

The notorious queen of this glittering world is Nellie Coker, ruthless but also ambitious to advance her six children, including the enigmatic eldest, Niven whose character has been forged in the crucible of the Somme. But success breeds enemies, and Nellie's empire faces threats from without and within. For beneath the dazzle of Soho's gaiety, there is a dark underbelly, a world in which it is all too easy to become lost.

With her unique Dickensian flair, Kate Atkinson brings together a glittering cast of characters in a truly mesmeric novel that captures the uncertainty and mutability of life; of a world in which nothing is quite as it seems.

Kate Atkinson is one of the world's foremost novelists. She won the Costa Book of the Year prize with her first novel, *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*. Her three critically lauded and prize-winning novels set around the Second World War are *Life After Life*, *A God in Ruins* (both winners of the Costa Novel Award) and *Transcription*. *Life After Life* is now a major BBC television series starring Thomasin McKenzie, Sian Clifford, James McArdle, Jessica Brown Findlay and Jessica Hynes. Her bestselling literary crime novels featuring former detective Jackson Brodie, *Case Histories*, *One Good Turn*, *When Will There Be Good News?* and *Started Early, Took My Dog*, became a BBC television series starring Jason Isaacs. Jackson Brodie later returned in the novel *Big Sky*.



September 2022
9780857526557
Royal Octavo
£20.00 : Hardback
448 pages

Love Untold

Ruth Jones

The funny, moving and uplifting new novel from Ruth Jones, co-creator of *Gavin & Stacey* and author of the *Sunday Times* bestsellers *Never Greener* and *Us Three*.

Four generations of one family. Four women: Grace, Alys, Elin and Beca.

Each of them has a secret. Each has been misunderstood. And each of them longs for just one thing... to feel loved.

Thirty-two years ago, Alys's destructive relationship with both her mother Grace and daughter Elin reached a new low and she left under a cloud of anger. The family's not spoken to her since.

Now Grace is about to turn ninety and she secretly longs to see Alys again. Even though she knows Elin will be furious after vowing never to forgive her mother for how she behaved.

And in amongst all this is young Beca, who's never even met Alys - in fact she's always believed her grandmother to be dead. But then again, Beca is busy with her own life, navigating the highs and lows of first love.

No family is without its problems. Can the Meredith women find their way back together and tell each other how they truly feel?

Love Untold explores the complex yet indestructible bond between mothers and daughters, and the heartache that miscommunication can bring. It's a joy-filled, heart-rending, life-affirming and sob-inducing story, peopled with characters you'll feel you know personally.

Ruth Jones is best known for her outstanding and award-winning television writing, most notably BBC One's *Gavin and Stacey*, which she co-wrote with James Corden and in which she played the incorrigible Nessa Jenkins. The most recent Christmas Day special of *Gavin and Stacey* gained national critical acclaim, drawing an audience of over 18 million, winning a BAFTA for TV moment of the year and a National Television Award for Impact, and gaining an RTS nomination for Ruth's performance. Ruth also created and co-wrote Sky One's *Stella*, which ran for six series. As well as being Bafta-nominated for her role as the eponymous Stella, Ruth has starred in several other television comedies and dramas.

Her debut novel *Never Greener* has now sold over a quarter of a million copies. It was chosen as WHSmith Fiction Book of the Year 2018, was a Zoe Ball Book Club pick, and was a *Sunday Times* bestseller for fifteen weeks, three weeks at number one. Ruth's second novel, *Us Three*, was an instant *Sunday Times* bestseller in hardback and paperback. Her third novel, *Love Untold*, will be published in September 2022.



September 2022

9781787633872

£20.00

Royal Octavo : Hardback
512 pages

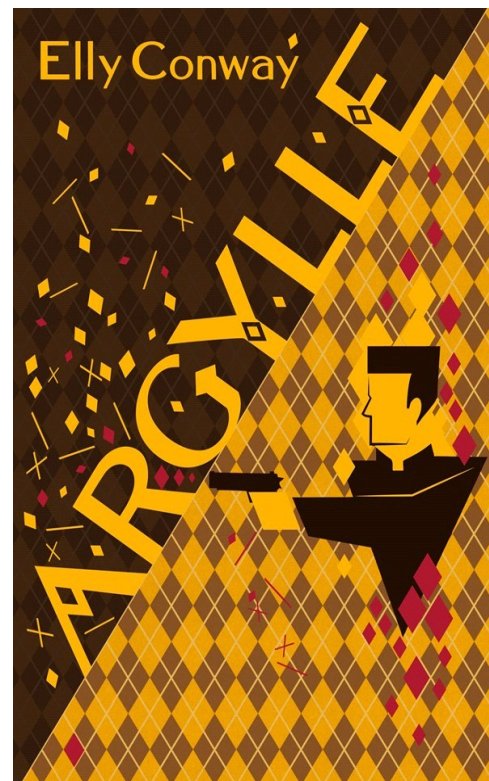
Argylle

Elly Conway

The stunning debut from a major new talent. A luxury train speeding towards Moscow and a date with destiny. A CIA plane downed in the jungles of the Golden Triangle. A Nazi hoard entombed in the remote mountains of South-West Poland. A missing treasure, the eighth wonder of the world, lost for seven decades.

One Russian magnate's dream of restoring a nation to greatness has set in motion a chain of events which will take the world to the brink of chaos. Only Frances Coffey, the CIA's most legendary spymaster, can prevent it. But to do so, she needs someone special. Enter Argylle, a troubled agent with a tarnished past who may just have the skills to take on one of the most powerful men in the world. If only he can save himself first...

Elly Conway is the author of the heavily anticipated debut thriller, Argylle. She lives in the United States and is currently working on the next instalment in the series.



September 2022
9781787635913
Royal Octavo
£16.99 : Hardback
352 pages

The six who came to dinner stories

Anne Youngson

Six short stories in a single dazzling collection launches prize-winning seventy-five year old Anne Youngson as a new Agatha Christie of our times - perfect for lovers of puzzling mysteries set in the English countryside

The village cleaning lady who holds everyone's house-keys opens a boot to find some unexpected baggage; a vengeful dinner party host serves more than just a roast to her six guests; hairdresser chat is not just idle gossip as an old man with a history gets a trim; driven to distraction by his new wife, a man resorts to two grisly acts, in a gripping re-imagining of a famous Irish ballad of murder.

These stories of love, lies, murder and revenge tear back the façade of small communities to reveal the roiling emotions and frustration that can lead us to do bad things to others. Rich in compassion, pathos and humour, Anne Youngson offers us her roving imagination and gift for storytelling in this collection of unputdownable human mysteries.

ANNE YOUNGSON lives in Oxfordshire and is married with two children and four grandchildren to date. MEET ME AT THE MUSEUM, her debut novel, was shortlisted for the Costa Best First Novel Award and won the inaugural Paul Torday prize for debut fiction by writers over sixty. Her second novel, THREE WOMEN AND A BOAT was a BBC Radio 2 Book Club pick. THE SIX WHO CAME TO DINNER is her first collection of short stories, echoing Agatha Christie with their dark edge and sardonic humour as they showcase human foibles and misdemeanours in all their glory.



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

October 2022
9780857528254
B Format (TW)
£14.99 : Hardback
266 pages

She and her Cat

Makoto Shinkai and Naruki Nagakawa

CONVENIENCE STORE WOMAN meets TRAVELLING CAT CHRONICLES: Heart-stopping, tender Japanese bestselling debut novel about four women and the cats in their lives, as they lurch towards self-discovery in modern-day Japan by a hugely acclaimed Japanese anime filmmaker

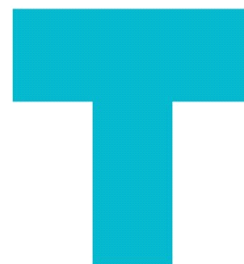
On the outskirts of Tokyo, in a neighbourhood overlooked by an elevated commuter railway, local cats weave their way through the lives and homes of their owners as they navigate difficult times.

A cat named Chobi sends silent messages of courage to a young woman who cannot end a faltering relationship; a gifted artist fatally misunderstands her boss's enthusiasm for her paintings; a manga fan shuts herself away after the traumatic death of her friend, while her cat Cookie hatches a plan to persuade her outside; a woman who has dedicated her life to a distant husband learns a lesson in independence from her cat.

Against the urban backdrop of humming trains and traffic, SHE AND HER CAT explores the gentle magic of the everyday. Populated by both the friendly and the feral, it reveals - with heartstopping clarity and warmth - how even in our darkest moments, community and connection may lead us to a happier place.

Makoto Shinkai (Author)

MAKOTO SHINKAI is the hugely popular anime filmmaker of YOUR NAME. His debut novel SHE AND HER CAT was a bestseller in Japan. It is inspired by his highly praised five-minute anime and will be published in thirteen languages around the world. **GINNY TAKEMORI** is the award-winning translator of CONVENIENCE STORE WOMAN and other acclaimed Japanese fiction. She lives in rural Japan.



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

October 2022
9780857528223
B Format (TW)
£12.99 : Hardback
120 pages

House of Hunger

Alexis Henderson

Loosely inspired by the true story of the infamous Elizabeth Bathory, a compelling Gothic tale of blood and dark desire from the author of the acclaimed 'Good Reads' Awards-shortlisted debut, *The Year of the Witching*...

WANTED: A bloodmaid of exceptional taste. Must have a keen proclivity for life's finer pleasures. Girls of weak will need not apply.

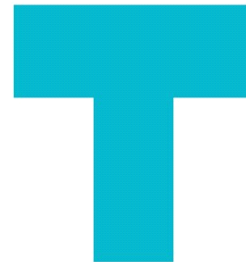
A young woman is drawn into the upper echelons of a society where blood is power, in this dark and enthralling Gothic novel from the author of *The Year of the Witching*.

Marion Shaw has been raised in the slums, where want and deprivation are all she knows. Despite longing to leave the city and its miseries, she has no real hope of escape until the day she spots a strange advertisement in the newspaper, seeking a 'bloodmaid'.

Though she knows little about the far north - where wealthy nobles live in luxury and drink the blood of those in their service - Marion applies to the position. In a matter of days, she finds herself at the notorious House of Hunger. There, Marion is swept into a world of dark debauchery - and there, at the centre of it all is *her*.

Her name is Countess Lisavet. Loved and feared in equal measure, she presides over this hedonistic court. And she takes a special interest in Marion. Lisavet is magnetic, charismatic, *seductive* - and Marion is eager to please her new mistress. But when her fellow bloodmaids begin to go missing in the night, Marion is thrust into a vicious game of cat and mouse. She'll need to learn the rules of her new home - and fast - or its halls will soon become her grave.

Alexis Henderson is a speculative fiction writer with a penchant for dark fantasy, witchcraft, and cosmic horror. She grew up in one of America's most haunted cities, Savannah, Georgia, which instilled in her a life-long love of ghost stories. When she doesn't have her nose buried in a book, you can find her painting or watching horror movies with her feline familiar. Currently, Alexis resides in the sun-soaked marshland of Charleston, South Carolina.



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

October 2022
9781787632509
Royal Octavo
£18.99 : Hardback
320 pages

The Year of the Locust

Terry Hayes

The hotly anticipated second novel from Terry Hayes, author of the internationally bestselling *I am Pilgrim*. The world stands at a crossroads. One way lies a future. The other, annihilation. It will take the journey of a lifetime to save it. There are no second chances . . .

THE AMAZING NEW THRILLER FROM TERRY HAYES.

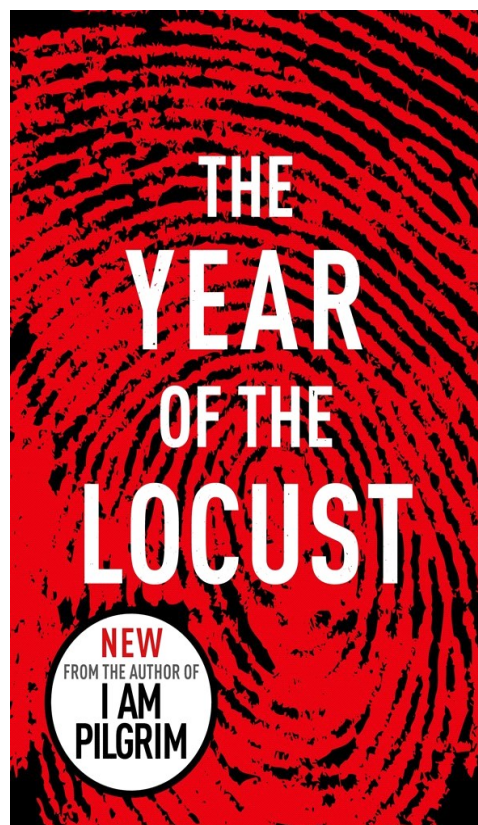
IF YOU THOUGHT *I AM PILGRIM* WAS GOOD...

Terry Hayes is a former journalist and screen-writer. Born in Sussex, England, he migrated to Australia as a child and trained as a journalist at the country's leading broadsheet. At twenty-one he was appointed North American correspondent, based in New York, and after two years returned to Sydney to become an investigative reporter, political correspondent and columnist.

He resigned to produce a prominent current affairs radio program and a short time later, with George Miller, wrote the screenplay for *Road Warrior/Mad Max 2*. He also co-produced and wrote *Dead Calm*, the film which launched Nicole Kidman's international movie career, *Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome* and a large number of TV movies and mini-series – including *Bodyline* and *Bangkok Hilton* – two of which received international *Emmy* nominations. In all, he has won over twenty film or television awards.

After moving to Los Angeles he worked as a screen-writer on major studio productions. His credits include *Payback* with Mel Gibson, *From Hell*, starring Johnny Depp, and *Vertical Limit* with Chris O'Donnell. He has also done un-credited writing on a host of other movies including *Reign of Fire*, *Cliffhanger* and *Flightplan*, starring Jodie Foster.

The Year of the Locust is Terry Hayes' second novel. His first, *I Am Pilgrim* was an international bestseller. He and his American wife – Kristen – have four children and live in Switzerland.



October 2022
9780593064962
Royal Octavo
£20.00 : Hardback
400 pages

Christmas at the Keep

Marcia Willett

A charming, moving and ultimately uplifting festive novella set in Devon, perfect for fans of Katie Fforde and Fern Britton.

Nestled in the Devon countryside, the Keep has always been a refuge for the Chadwick family: forever warm and welcoming through the challenges life has thrown at them. And the current occupants have certainly seen their share of challenges...

Lulu and her small son, **Oliver**, are staying at the Keep while they find their feet. **Freddie's** commission as a naval chaplain has just ended and he too is grateful to have been welcomed at the Keep whilst he decides where to go next. And now **Ed**, the black sheep of the family, is finally coming home after ten years living in the USA.

Ed's strange, secretive behaviour means that he often clashes with his family. But as the autumn draws to a close and a sprinkling of snow dusts the moors, could the promise of a family Christmas at the Keep be enough to ease tensions and soothe the sting of a long-buried secret?

The Chadwicks all know one thing for certain - no matter the circumstances, the Keep will always be there to welcome them home.

Praise for Marcia Willett:

'A warm and engaging read.' **Trisha Ashley**

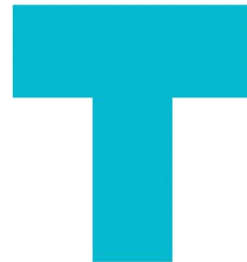
'A beautifully woven tale of families and their secrets...' **Liz Fenwick, bestselling author of *The Cornish House***

'Riveting, moving and utterly feel-good.' **Daily Mail**

'Sweeping powers of description transport her readers to another time and place.' **Rosanna Ley**

Marcia Willett was born in Somerset and lives in deepest Devon.

A former ballet dancer and teacher, she is the author of many bestselling novels.



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

October 2022
9781787633230
B Format (TW)
£7.99 : Hardback
144 pages

Maureen

Rachel Joyce

The final piece of the Harold Fry trilogy, revisiting the characters ten years on to tell a story about loss and love and forgiveness.

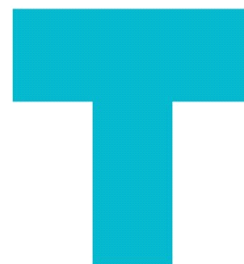
Ten years after her husband, Harold Fry made his extraordinary walk across England to try and save a dying friend, Maureen Fry makes her own pilgrimage, and although she packs a proper bag and takes the car, her trip will be equally transformative. Unlike her husband, Maureen does not make friends easily, and she is not entirely sure what she hopes to find at the end of the road, but this is a journey she knows she must make, whatever obstacles present themselves on the way. This is a novel about finding your place in the world, and discovering how we connect to each other; about loss, and love and learning to forgive others, and most of all ourselves.

Rachel Joyce is the author of the *Sunday Times* and international bestsellers *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*, *Perfect*, *The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy*, *The Music Shop* and a collection of interlinked short stories, *A Snow Garden & Other Stories*. Her new novel, *Miss Benson's Beetle*, is out now.

Rachel's books have been translated into thirty-six languages and two are in development for film. *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Book prize and longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Rachel was awarded the Specsavers National Book Awards 'New Writer of the Year' in December 2012 and shortlisted for the 'UK Author of the Year' 2014.

Rachel has also written over twenty original afternoon plays and adaptations of the classics for BBC Radio 4, including all the Bronte novels. She moved to writing after a long career as an actor, performing leading roles for the RSC, the National Theatre and Cheek by Jowl.

She lives with her family in Gloucestershire.



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

October 2022
9780857529008
Demy Octavo
£14.99 : Hardback
192 pages
chapter heads with line drawings

Keeping a Christmas Promise

Jo Thomas

Transworld have brought fresh energy to Jo Thomas, a growing brand and bestselling author of *Escape to the French Farmhouse*. This is her brilliantly festive and escapist new Christmas book.

One Icelandic holiday. One snowstorm. The adventure of a lifetime.

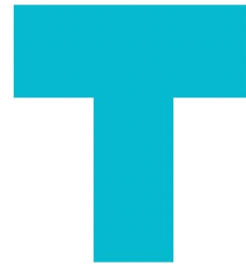
Freya has one wish this Christmas... to visit Iceland and track down the illusive Northern Lights in memory of her beloved friend. Nothing - not even a snowstorm - is going to stop her.

But when an avalanche leaves her stranded in a remote village with no way to contact the outside world, handsome and enigmatic Petur comes to her rescue, giving her a place to stay in his farmhouse. In this harsh yet beautiful landscape, Petur and his community must come together in order to survive.

Stepping up to help Petur with the Christmas celebrations, chef Freya is determined to make this most of her time here, cooking delicious fresh food and delivering it to the friendly locals. But as her feelings for Petur and love for the village begin to grow, she is about to discover that the greatest adventures are the ones you don't expect...

Jo Thomas worked for many years as a reporter and producer, including time at Radio 4's *Woman's Hour* and Radio 2's *The Steve Wright Show*.

Jo's debut novel, *The Oyster Catcher*, was a runaway bestseller and won both the RNA Joan Hessayon Award and the Festival of Romance Best eBook Award. Her recent book *Escape to the French Farmhouse* was a #1 bestselling eBook and in every one of her novels Jo loves to explore new countries and discover the food produced there, both of which she thoroughly enjoys researching. Jo lives in Pembrokeshire with her husband and three children, where cooking and gathering around the kitchen table are a hugely important and fun part of their family life.



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

October 2022
9780552178679
B Format (TW)
£7.99 : Paperback
400 pages

No Plan B

Lee Child and Andrew Child

Jack Reacher, "the coolest continuing series character" (*Stephen King*), returns in a brand new, pulse-pounding read from Lee and Andrew Child.

Gerrardsville, Colorado. One tragic event. Two witnesses. Two conflicting accounts. One witness sees a woman throw herself in front of a bus - clearly suicide. The other witness is Jack Reacher. And he sees what really happened - a man in grey hoodie and jeans, swift and silent as a shadow, pushed the victim to her death, before grabbing her bag and sauntering away.

Reacher follows the killer on foot, not knowing that this was no random act of violence. It is part of something much bigger...a sinister, secret conspiracy, with powerful people on the take, enmeshed in an elaborate plot that leaves no room for error. If any step is compromised, the threat will have to be quickly and permanently removed.

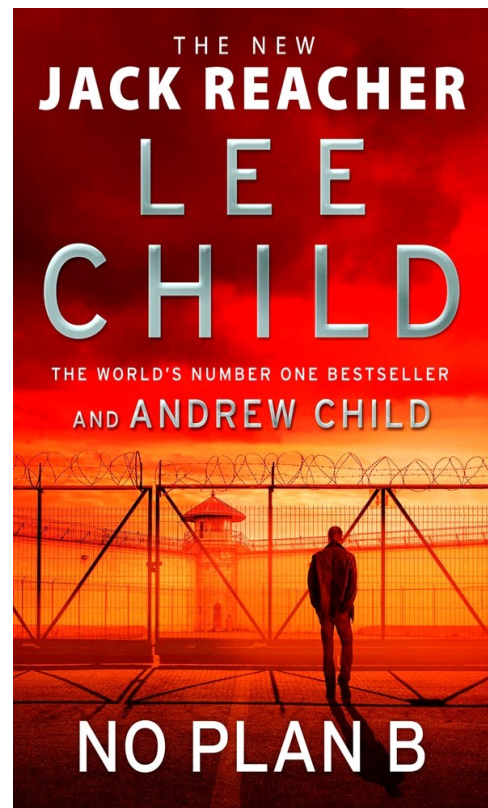
But when the threat is Reacher, there is No Plan B...

Lee Child (Author)

Lee Child is one of the world's leading thriller writers. He was born in Coventry, raised in Birmingham, and now lives in New York. It is said one of his novels featuring his hero Jack Reacher is sold somewhere in the world every nine seconds. His books consistently achieve the number-one slot on bestseller lists around the world and have sold over one hundred million copies. Lee is the recipient of many awards, most recently Author of the Year at the 2019 British Book Awards. He was appointed CBE in the 2019 Queen's Birthday Honours.

Andrew Child (Author)

Andrew Child is the author of nine thrillers written under the name Andrew Grant. He is the younger brother of Lee Child. Born in Birmingham, he lives in Wyoming with his wife, the novelist Tasha Alexander.



October 2022
9781787633759
Royal Octavo
£22.00 : Hardback
352 pages

Winter's Daughter

Val Wood

A stunning new saga from the *Sunday Times* bestseller, about a child separated from her mother, and the family who bring her in from the cold.

Hull, 1856. The wealthy Ripley family have always looked out for the poor of Hull - particularly those who have no roof over their heads, save for a cellar below ground where they shelter from the elements.

One dark winter's night, during a torrential storm, the cellar floods and the Ripleys rush to help. Among those rescued is a dark-haired little girl who speaks a language no one can understand. Some claim to have seen her mother - an English woman, fair-haired and beautiful in silken clothes - but no one knows where she is now, and the only person who could have told them died the previous night.

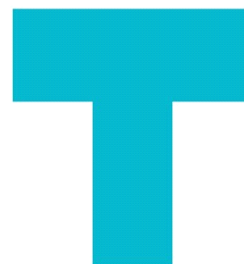
Who is this mysterious child? And can the Ripleys protect her from the storm?

Since winning the Catherine Cookson Prize for Fiction for her first novel, *The Hungry Tide*, **Val Wood** has become one of the most popular authors in the UK.

Born in the mining town of Castleford, Val came to East Yorkshire as a child and has lived in Hull and rural Holderness where many of her novels are set. She now lives in the market town of Beverley.

When she is not writing, Val is busy promoting libraries and supporting many charities. In 2017 she was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Hull for service and dedication to literature.

Find out more about Val Wood's novels by visiting her website: www.valwood.co.uk



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

November 2022
9781787635616
B Format (TW)
£20.00 : Hardback
400 pages

The Fall Guy

Leona Deakin

If he takes the blame, the real killer walks free... Dr Bloom is faced with her most challenging case yet as she races to catch a highly unpredictable serial killer.

No one sees him coming.

A stock market trader is pushed from a high-rise balcony and falls to his death on the street below. The only clue the police can find is a box of matches.

No one survives for long.

The decomposing body of a wealthy member of the Saudi Royal Family is discovered in a car. Evidence suggests the killer took the man's life, then took his identity, wore his clothes, lived in his hotel room - before vanishing into the air like smoke.

Nothing but matchsticks are left behind.

Dr Bloom realises the only thing linking this series of murders is a trail of burnt matches and broken lives. Time is running out and if she isn't careful, she might be the next to burn...

Leona Deakin started her career as a psychologist with the West Yorkshire Police. She is now an occupational psychologist and lives with her family in Leeds. She has written three novels in the acclaimed Dr Augusta Bloom series: *Gone*, *Lost* and *Hunt*.



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

November 2022
9781529176971
B Format
£7.99 : Paperback
384 pages

The Wartime Bookshop

The first in a heart-warming WWII saga series about community and friendship, from the RNA award-winning author

Lesley Eames

The first in a series of nostalgic and heart-warming WWII saga novels about a community-run bookshop in a small Hertfordshire village, perfect for fans of Donna Douglas and Elaine Everest.

Alice is nursing an injured hand and a broken heart when she moves to the village of Churchwood at the start of WWII. She is desperate to be independent but worries that her injuries will make that impossible.

Kate lives with her family on Brimbles Farm, where her father and brothers treat her no better than a servant. With no mother or sisters, and shunned by the locals, Kate longs for a friend of her own.

Naomi is looked up to for owning the best house in the village. But privately, she carries the hurts of childlessness, a husband who has little time for her and some deep-rooted insecurities.

With war raging overseas, and difficulties to overcome at home, friendship is needed now more than ever. Can the war effort and a shared love of books bring these women - and the community of Churchwood - together?

Lesley has always loved books and writing. She read voraciously as a child and has read voraciously ever since. She also wrote stories as a child although busy careers in law, event organization and then charity fundraising and marketing made finding writing time in adulthood tricky. When she took maternity leave to have her two lovely daughters, she hoped she might find more writing time. Unfortunately, no one told her children, so once again time constraints continued to be a struggle. Now she has the luxury of writing full-time although she mixes this with creative writing tutoring, mentoring and occasional editing.

Lesley has 90 published short stories to her credit alongside four historical sagas set around the time of WW1 and into the Roaring 20s. *The Wartime Bookshop* is her fifth book and her first venture into the WW2 period. Originally from the north west of England (Manchester), Lesley's home is now Hertfordshire where *The Wartime Bookshop*'s fictional village of Churchwood is set.

Along her journey as a writer, Lesley has been thrilled to have enjoyed success in competitions as varied as crime writing to writing for children. She is particularly honoured to have won the Festival of Romance New Talent Award, the Romantic Novelists' Association's Elizabeth Goudge Cup and to have been twice shortlisted in the UK Romantic Novel Awards (RONAs).



**COVER
COMING
SOON**

November 2022

9781529177350

£7.99

B Format (TW) : Paperback
400 pages

Zero Day

Andy McNab

The long awaited return of Nick Stone.

Tasked with rescuing the daughter of one of America's richest families from the grips of a sinister cult, Nick Stone expects his latest mission to be quick and straightforward.

Travelling to the frozen depths of the Norway/Russia border, the dividing line between NATO and the Kremlin's armed forces, it seems all he and his team need do is abduct the woman and deliver her home alive.

But there are deadly complications - not least that Nick soon discovers himself at the heart of a chilling cyber conspiracy that threatens war with Russia and the very existence of the Western alliance . . . and that following a shocking diagnosis his body is failing him fast, and any day now he will have to ask himself the ultimate question . . .

From the day he was found in a carrier bag on the steps of Guy's Hospital in London, Andy McNab has led an extraordinary life.

As a teenage delinquent, Andy McNab kicked against society. As a young soldier he waged war against the IRA in the streets and fields of South Armagh. As a member of 22 SAS he was at the centre of covert operations for nine years - on five continents. During the Gulf War he commanded Bravo Two Zero, a patrol that, in the words of his commanding officer, 'will remain in regimental history for ever'. Awarded both the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) and Military Medal (MM) during his military career, McNab was the British Army's most highly decorated serving soldier when he finally left the SAS.

Since then Andy McNab has become one of the world's best-selling writers, drawing on his insider knowledge and experience. As well as several non-fiction bestsellers including *Bravo Two Zero*, the biggest selling British work of military history, he is the author of the best-selling Nick Stone and Tom Buckingham thrillers. He has also written a number of books for children.

Besides his writing work, he lectures to security and intelligence agencies in both the USA and UK, works in the film industry advising Hollywood on everything from covert procedure to training civilian actors to act like soldiers. He continues to be a spokesperson and fundraiser for both military and literacy charities.



**COVER
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November 2022

9781787632431

£20.00

Royal Octavo : Hardback
416 pages

The Simple Truth

The gripping and twisty new thriller that you won't be able to put down

James Buckler

The eagerly anticipated new thriller from James Buckler, acclaimed author of LAST STOP TOKYO

A young woman is dead. Her wealthy boss says it was suicide. Who do you believe?

A super rich client needs a favour. You're newly qualified as a lawyer and this could be your big break, so you jump at the chance.

All you have to do is talk to a family, ask them to sign some papers. How difficult could it be? Their daughter was found dead at a beauty spot on the outskirts of London in what you're told was a tragic suicide.

But the truth is never that simple. And this case could cost you your life...

James Buckler lives in London. He has worked in film and TV for many years, most notably for MTV and BBC Films. His first thriller, *Last Stop Tokyo*, was published to critical acclaim in 2017. His second novel, *The Marshes*, will be published in 2022.



**COVER
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