



# NON-FICTION CATALOGUE JULY - DECEMBER 2022



## Stitched Up

Stories of life and death from a prison doctor

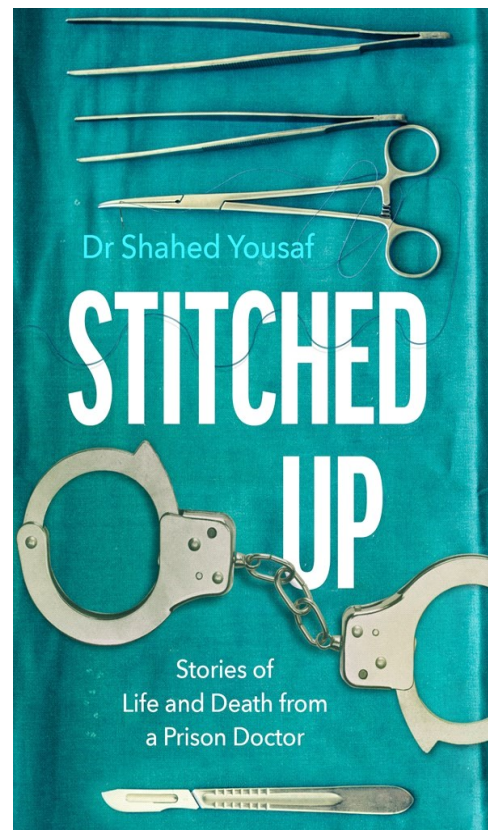
**Dr Shahed Yousaf**

**Told from the inside out, this is a by turns harrowing, humorous and hard-hitting tale of life behind bars as a prison doctor who has *literally* seen it all.**

Dr Shahed Yousaf spends his time running between emergencies - from overdoses to assaults, from cell fires to suicides - with one hand perpetually hovering over the panic button. Being a prison doctor is not for the faint-hearted. An outsider on the inside, in *Stitched Up* he introduces us to a cast of unforgettable characters, including killers, con men and auto-cannibals. To Dr Yousaf, they are patients first and prisoners second - because any one of us could end up on the wrong side of the law.

Dedicated to caring for people on the margins of society, he tells us honestly and compassionately what it's like to be their doctor in a system that's chronically overcrowded, drastically under-resourced and all too easy to ignore. But while the system is failing, he and his colleagues are doing their very best to prop it up. In stories that are frequently harrowing, sometimes humorous and always hard-hitting, we discover how difficult it is to be locked up - but that there is still hope for all those who dare to care.

Dr Shahed Yousaf is a GP who works in prisons, substance misuse and with the homeless community. He was shortlisted for the Bath Flash Fiction Prize 2016 and commended for the Faber & Faber FAB Prize 2017. Shahed won a place on to the Writing West Midlands Room 204 Mentoring scheme and the Middle Way Mentoring Project in 2019.



July 2022  
9781787635951  
Demy Octavo  
£16.99 : Hardback  
304 pages

## Illuminated By Water

Nature, Memory and the Delights of a Fishing Life

**Malachy Tallack**

**Acclaimed travel-writer, novelist and singer-songwriter Malachy Tallack's beautifully written exploration of and meditation on fishing, and why this uniquely solitary pastime is a passion for so many . . .**

Malachy Tallack has been passionate about fishing since he was young.

Growing up in Shetland, with its myriad lochs, he and his brother would roam the island in search of trout, and in so doing discovered a sense of freedom, of wonder, and an abiding passion.

But why is it that catching a fish - or simply *contemplating* catching a fish - can be so thrilling, so captivating?

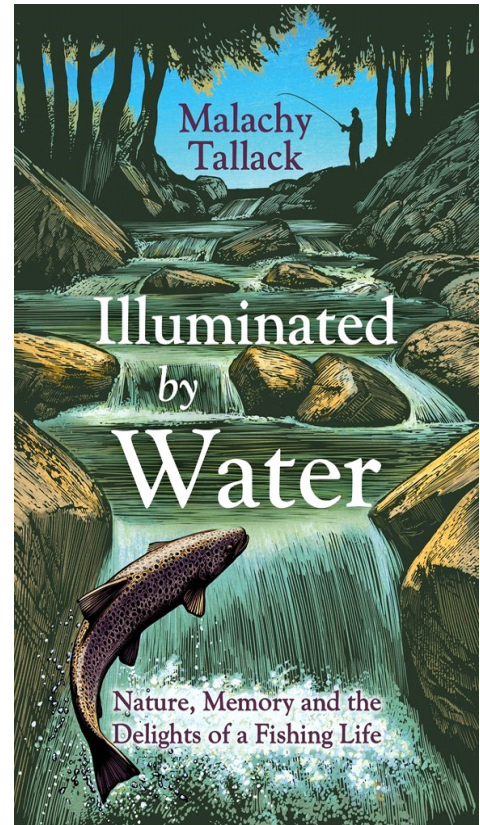
Why is it that time spent beside water can be imprinted so sharply in the memory?

Why is it that what seems such a simple act - that of casting a line and hoping - can feel so rich in mystery?

*Illuminated by Water* is Malachy's personal attempt to understand that freedom, and to trace the origins and sources of that sense of wonder. He shares the appeal of fishing, its intense joys and frustrations, the steadying effect it has both at water's edge and in the memory, and the contemplation of nature and landscape that comes with being an angler. He writes about fishing expeditions, from English canals and Scottish lochs to lakes in Canada and New Zealand, and he reflects on other aspects of angling, from its cultural significance and the emerging moral complexities to the intricacies of tying a fly.

Beautifully written and hugely engaging, this book both articulates the inexplicable lure of the river and the endless desire to return to it, and illuminates a passion that has shaped the way so many see and think about the natural world.

**Malachy Tallack** is the award-winning author of three books. His first, *Sixty Degree North* (2015) was a BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week and short-listed for the Saltire First Book Award. His second, *The Undiscovered Islands* (2016), was Stanford Travel Writing Awards' Illustrated Book of the Year, while his debut novel, *The Valley at the Centre of the World*, was shortlisted for the Highland Book Prize and longlisted for the Royal Society of Literature Ondaatje Prize. He received a New Writers Award from the Scottish Book Trust in 2014, and the Robert Louis Stevenson Fellowship in 2015. He is a founding editor of online magazine *The Island Review* and, as a singer-songwriter, he has released four albums and an EP, and performed across the UK. Malachy Tallack grew up in Shetland and currently lives in central Scotland.



**July 2022**

9780857528827

£16.99

Demy Octavo : Hardback

320 pages

Line drawn chapter illustrations

# I Don't Want to Talk About Home

A migrant's search for belonging

**Suad Aldarra**

**A powerful debut memoir which offers an moving and refreshing portrayal of the Syrian migrant experience and what it takes to rebuild your life out of the rubble.**

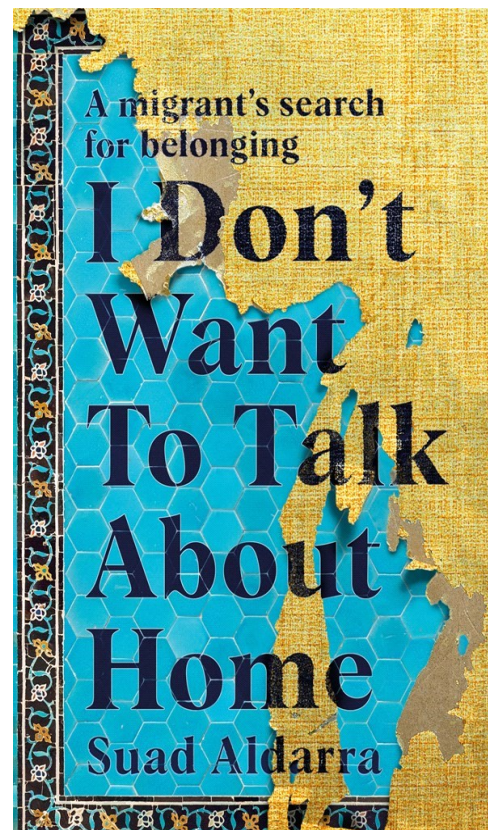
**'I carry my troubled homeland within me; I hide it like a crime.'**

Growing up in deeply conservative Saudi Arabia, Suad Aldarra felt stifled. The daughter of Syrian parents, she railed against the extreme strictures placed on women in Saudi society at the time and the rising prejudice her family faced as migrants. When the opportunity arose to study software engineering at Damascus University, she jumped at the chance to move to the city she loved for a degree of freedom she'd never known.

But when the war started, everything changed. Suddenly Suad and her new husband Housam were thrown into a world of relentless pressure, desperately looking for a way out. Suad's degree in engineering was the saving grace that allowed her to travel to Ireland on a working visa. Yet reaching safety came at a price...

*I Don't Want to Talk About Home* is not a memoir about war and destruction. It's not about camps or boats. It's about the enduring love for a home that ceased to exist and how to build a life out of the rubble. With great warmth and insight, Suad writes about those left behind paper borders, the sacrifices made, and the parts of yourself you lose and find when integrating into a new world.

**Suad Aldarra** is a writer and data scientist based in Dublin. She was born in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia to Syrian parents. In 2003 she moved back to her family home in Syria to study software engineering. After fleeing the war in 2012 she lived in Egypt and the US, before eventually settling in Ireland. In 2021, Suad was awarded the Art Councils of Ireland English Literature bursary. *I Don't Want to Talk About Home* is her debut memoir.



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Demy Octavo  
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320 pages



# Bryant & May's Peculiar London

Christopher Fowler

**The nation's longest-serving detectives, Arthur Bryant and John May, guide readers around the extraordinary city that's been at the heart of their 20 book career. Here is London (and some of its citizens) in all their eccentric, elusive, fascinating and often peculiar glory as they've never been seen before . . .**

As the nation's oldest serving detectives, we know more about London than almost anyone. After all, we've been walking its streets and impulsively arresting its citizens for decades. Who better to take you through its less savoury side?

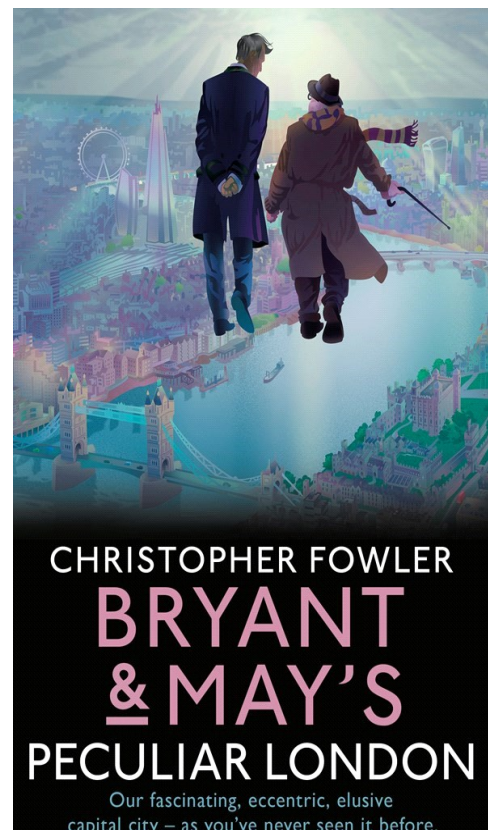
We'll be chatting about odd buildings, odder characters, lost venues, forgotten disasters, confusing routes, dubious gossip, illicit pleasures and hidden pubs. We'll be making all sorts of odd connections and showing you why it's almost impossible to separate fact from fiction in London.

With the help of some of our more disreputable friends, each an argumentative and unreliable expert in his or her own dodgy field, we'll explain why some streets have genders, why only two Londoners got to meet Dracula, how a department store and a prison played tricks on your mind, when a theatre got stranded in the past, how a building vanished in plain sight, what excited Charlotte Brontë about the city and where the devils hide in London.

We hope to capture something of the city's restless spirit by shamelessly and wilfully wandering off course. It goes without saying that we'll bluff and bamboozle you along the way but that's all part of the fun. History is what you remember.

London is what you forget (and we've forgotten a lot). So please do join us on this magical mystery tour of our city. Who knows where we'll end up?

**Christopher Fowler** is the multiple award-winning author of almost fifty novels and short story collections, including the Bryant & May mysteries. His other novels include *Roofworld*, *Spanky*, *The Sand Men* and *Hot Water*. He has also written two acclaimed memoirs, *Paperboy* (winner of the Green Carnation Prize) and *Film Freak*, plus *The Book of Forgotten Authors*. In 2015 he won the CWA 'Dagger in the Library' for his body of work. He lives in London and Barcelona, and blogs at [www.christopherfowler.co.uk](http://www.christopherfowler.co.uk). Twitter: @Peculiar



July 2022  
9780857527844  
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£18.99 : Hardback  
400 pages

# In My Grandfather's Shadow

A story of war, trauma and the legacy of silence

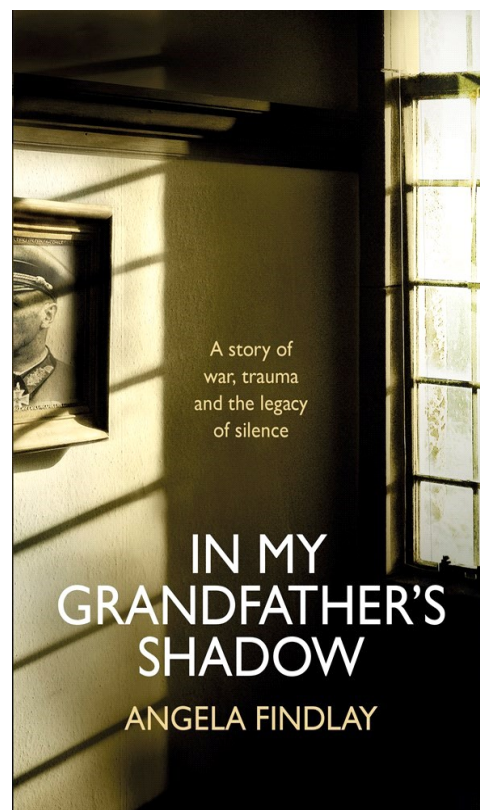
Angela Findlay

**The true story of three generations of one family which examines the guilt and trauma of being part of Germany's Nazi past, and follows the author's journey to find a reckoning with her inheritance.**

In 1987, Angela Findlay walked into a prison and instantly but inexplicably felt at home. For years she had wrestled with a sense of 'badness' within her. But working with prisoners was just the beginning of her search for answers that took her to Nazi Germany and the life of her dead grandfather, who, it emerged, was a decorated general on the Eastern front. In a rare confluence of memoir, psychology and historical detective story, this is Findlay's account of her unflinching quest for the truth about her German family, one that breaks through the silence surrounding many of the Second World War's perpetrators.

*In My Grandfather's Shadow* explores the heritability of unresolved experiences, questions deeply held perceptions of good and bad, and uncovers the lesser-known history of the war's losers, a post-war culture of apology and atonement, and the lingering legacy of shame. Using her own family story to explore an episode in history that continues to appal and fascinate, Findlay reveals that it is possible not only for the scars of trauma to be handed down through generations, but also for them to be healed.

Angela Findlay is an Anglo-German artist and public speaker who has spent much of her career teaching art in prisons. Her time 'behind bars' in Germany and later as Arts Co-ordinator for the London-based Koestler Arts charity informed her research into the intergenerational consequences of unresolved trauma, guilt and shame. For over a decade, she has been lecturing and writing on the topic as well as on post-war remembrance, resolution and reconciliation. *In My Grandfather's Shadow* is her first book.



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9781787634060  
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448 pages

# Future Stories

A user's guide to the future

**David Christian**

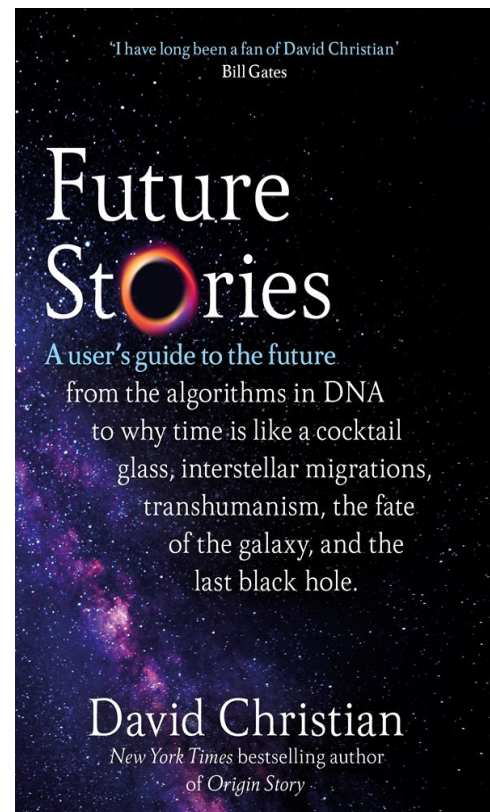
**Big History professor and bestselling author of *Origin Story* tells you everything you need to know about the future in this ambitious, interdisciplinary book, taking in history, philosophy, theology, physics, biology, chemistry and, of course, futurology...**

Every second of our lives - whether we're looking both ways before crossing the street, celebrating the birth of a baby, or moving to a new city - we must cope with an unknowable future. How do we do this? And how do we, like most living organisms, manage this impossible challenge quite well... at least most of the time?

David Christian, historian and bestselling author of *Origin Story*, is renowned for pioneering the emerging discipline of Big History, which surveys the whole of the past. But with *Future Stories*, he casts his sharp analytical eye forward, offering an introduction to the strange world of the future, and a guide to what we think we know about it at all scales, from the predictive mechanisms of single-celled organisms and tomato plants to the merging of colossal galaxies billions of years from now.

Drawing together science and history, philosophy and theology from a huge range of places and times, Christian explores how we prepare for uncertain futures, including the future of human evolution, artificial intelligence, interstellar travel, and more. By linking the study of the past much more closely to the study of the future, we can begin to imagine what the world will look like in the next hundred years and consider solutions to the biggest challenges facing us all.

**David Christian** is a Professor Emeritus at Macquarie University, where he was formerly a Distinguished Professor of History and the director of the Big History Institute. He has delivered keynotes at conferences around the world, including the Davos World Economic Forum, and his TED Talk has been viewed more than 19 million times. He is the author of numerous books including the *New York Times* bestseller *Origin Story*.



August 2022  
9781787636460  
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304 pages

# The Sands of Dunkirk

Richard Collier

The second book in the *Second World War Voices* series. The most authentic account of the miracle that was Dunkirk, the most successful evacuation in history, told in the words of the men and women who were there, on both sides of the conflict

Part of the **SECOND WORLD WAR VOICES** series in partnership with the podcast *We Have Ways of Making You Talk*, presented by comedian Al Murray and bestselling historian James Holland.

***With a new introduction by James Holland***

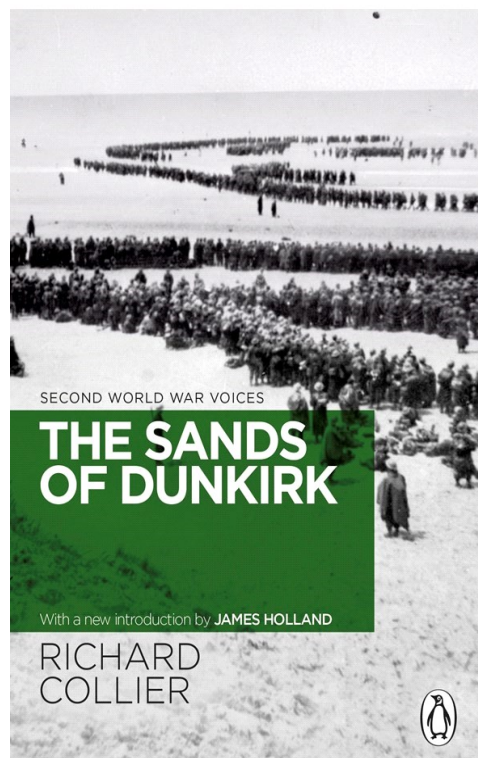
May 1940: In the face of a lightning German advance, the British Army found themselves, stunned, broken, beaten, their backs truly against the wall on the sands of the north French coast.

And yet it was on the beaches of Dunkirk that the seeds of a remarkable victory were sown. The evacuation of over three hundred thousand men in ships of all sizes was a logistical feat which has never been seen, before or since.

This vivid, visceral story takes you inside the making of a miracle: the story of eight frantic days, as the net tightened around the beleaguered troops, told from all sides, as the enemy draws closer and the bombardment intensifies, in the words of those who were there. It is impossible to get closer to experiencing this legendary action.

Richard Collier was a British historian, born in London in 1924. He was eighteen when he joined the Royal Air Force in 1942, and later travelled throughout the Far East as a war correspondent.

He worked on numerous British and American magazines and wrote fifteen major works of military history. He died in 1996.



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# We Don't Need Permission

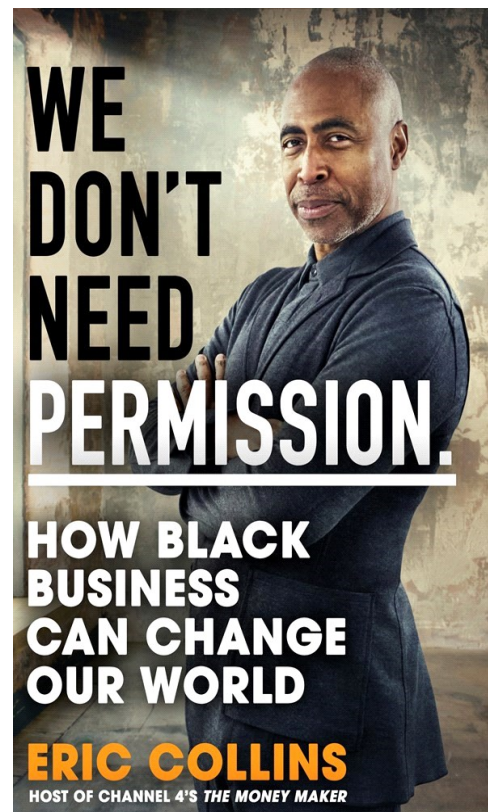
How black business can change our world

**Eric Collins**

**A powerful guide to successful, transformative entrepreneurship for the under-represented.**

At a time when half of Black households in the UK live in persistent poverty - over twice as many as their white counterparts - *We Don't Need Permission* argues that investing in under-represented entrepreneurs in order to create successful businesses is the surest socio-economic game-changer. Durable empowerment - from education to health outcomes - is key to solving the multiple problems resulting from systemic racism and sexism. It is the best way to close the inequality gaps that continue to hinder Black people and all women too. Addressing this problem head on, Eric Collins co-founded venture capital firm Impact X Capital to invest in under-represented entrepreneurs in the UK and Europe. In *We Don't Need Permission*, Collins identifies ten key principles of successful entrepreneurship, and reveals how it's possible to change a system that helps some, while holding others back. The book not only aims to inspire and motivate under-represented people to take their future and economic destiny into their own hands, but demands of current business leaders and organizations that they do business better. Stop waiting for someone else to give permission, Collins tells us, and start boldly making the world we want to see.

Eric Collins is a technology executive and serial entrepreneur. In 2011 President Obama appointed him to the Small Business Administration's Council on Underserved Communities. In 2018, Eric became part of a prominent group of Black European and US founders of Impact X Capital Partners. The *FT* named him among the UK's top 100 BAME leaders in technology. Since 2019 he has been voted one of the most influential Black people in Britain on *The Power List*. Eric has appeared on Radio 4 and Sky News, and has been featured in the *FT*, *Guardian*, *Times* and *Sunday Times*. Eric hosts Channel 4's award-winning business reality series *The Money Maker*.



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320 pages

# The Power of Unwavering Focus

Practical Tools to Take Charge of Your Mind, Find Joy  
and Manifest Your Goals

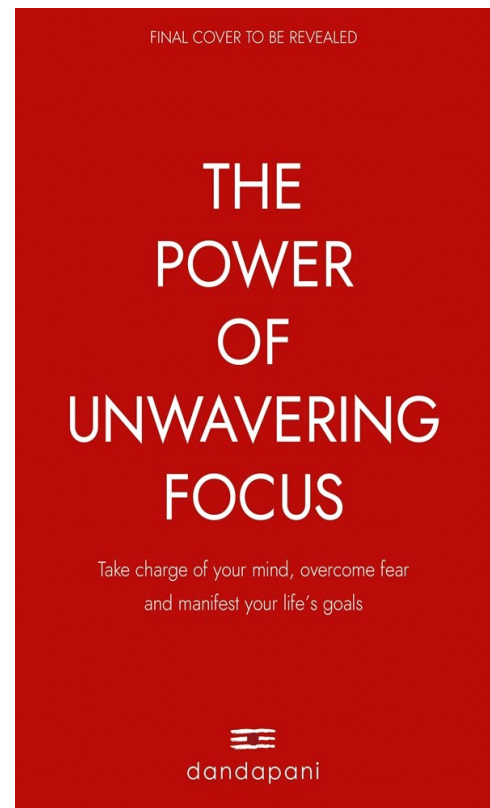
**Dandapani**

**Drawing on over two thousand years of Hindu monastic wisdom, this is a book for anyone who struggles to focus on one task at a time.**

**Does your mind wander? Do you find it hard to focus? Would you like to learn how to take control of your attention?**

Focus, or concentration, lies at the core of all human success. But never before have so many of us experienced the inability to focus. Distraction is a silent epidemic in our modern world. It is damaging relationships, our working lives and, ultimately, our happiness. We've become masters of distraction because that's what we practice all day, every day. As our fast-paced lifestyles compete with a relentless bombardment of information, we switch focus from one thing to another all the time. And it's making us unhappy. *The Power of Unwavering Focus* is a practical, step-by-step guide to understanding and harnessing the human mind. Drawing on ancient Hindu monastic tradition, Dandapani, a former monk, provides a toolkit for learning, practicing and mastering concentration. Empowered by these new skills, the end result will be your ability to achieve your dreams and goals, and live a happy life full of purpose and joy.

Dandapani is a Hindu priest, entrepreneur, international speaker and former monk of ten years. After graduating with a degree in Electrical Engineering he left it all behind to live and train under the guidance of one of Hinduism's foremost spiritual leaders. Venturing into the world, he now works with entrepreneurs and top athletes helping them to understand and leverage their mind so that they can be the best at what they do. Among his clients are companies such as Bloomberg, McKinsey, Nike, Trivago and AMEX.



September 2022  
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304 pages

## She's In CTRL

How women can take back tech

**Anne-Marie Imafidon**

**A call to arms for women everywhere to claim their seat at the table, lab or keyboard and ensure a tech-led future that benefits us all. The next book for readers of Invisible Women.**

The tech world might feel beyond reach, particularly if you're a woman. With increasingly frank admission women are woefully under-represented in tech - roughly a mere quarter of the UK STEM workforce - the dangerous fact is clear our technology is the product of a series of big decisions made by a small number of people, mainly men. Our lives have gone digital, but our technology risks being tailored to a section of society whose lived experience may be far from our own.

In *She's In CTRL*, computer scientist Dr Anne-Marie Imafidon, a dynamic advocate for women in STEM, calls time on women being cut out of the tech story. Technology is not an unchangeable force, nor the preserve of the elite, she argues. It is in our homes and in our hands. In her powerful book about women, tech and daring to dream, Dr Imafidon shows we have more agency than we think, drawing on her own experience and the stories of other pioneers and innovators who have, against the odds, transformed technology.

The world needs more women in tech and, in her inspiring narrative, Dr Imafidon shows not only why this is but how we can all play our part in ensuring a future that's evenly distributed.

**Dr Anne-Marie Imafidon** is a keynote speaker, presenter and creator of the award-winning social enterprise, Stemettes, which inspires the next generation of females into science, technology, engineering and maths. A recognized and respected thought-leader in the tech space, in 2017 she was awarded an MBE for services to young women and STEM sectors. In 2020 she was voted the most influential woman in tech in the UK by *Computer Weekly*.



September 2022  
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304 pages

# Abbey Road Studios at 90

David Hepworth

**The authorised biography of the world's most famous music recording studio, written by bestselling author and music journalist David Hepworth. It will tell the story of the infamous studios through the eyes of all those who have walked through its doors, and include much unpublished material.**

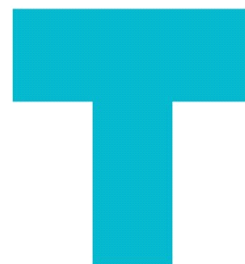
Abbey Road studios has partnered with music journalist David Hepworth to write the story of Abbey Road as never told before. Featuring interviews with artists, producers and sound engineers, transcripts, photographs, and much more, this is the story of how the first purpose built recording studio would become a phenomenon.

David Hepworth has been writing, broadcasting and speaking about music and media since the seventies. He was involved in the launch and editing of magazines such as *Smash Hits*, *Q*, *Mojo* and *The Word*, among many others.

He was one of the presenters of the BBC rock music programme *The Old Grey Whistle Test* and one of the anchors of the corporation's coverage of Live Aid in 1985. He has won the Editor of the Year and Writer of the Year awards from the Professional Publishers Association and the Mark Boxer award from the British Society of Magazine Editors.

He lives in London, dividing his time between writing for a variety of newspaper and magazines, speaking at events, broadcasting work, podcasting at [www.wordpodcast.co.uk](http://www.wordpodcast.co.uk) and blogging at [www.whatsheonaboutnow.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.whatsheonaboutnow.blogspot.co.uk).

He says Chuck Berry's 'You Never Can Tell' is the best record ever made. 'This is not an opinion,' he says. 'It's a matter of fact.'



**COVER  
COMING  
SOON**

September 2022  
9781787636101  
Royal Octavo  
£25.00 : Hardback  
416 pages



# Higher Expectations

Ten Steps to Becoming a Champion

**Sir Mo Farah**

**Britain's most successful athlete, Sir Mo Farah, shares stories from his remarkable career and shows what it takes to build the mindset of a champion, with motivational advice for achieving your goals and maximising your potential.**

Britain's most successful athlete, Sir Mo Farah, shares stories from his remarkable career and shows what it takes to build the mindset of a champion, with motivational advice for achieving your goals and maximising your potential. Mo Farah knows what it takes to win. From gold medals to world records, the multiple Olympic, World and European champion is one of the world's greatest athletes.

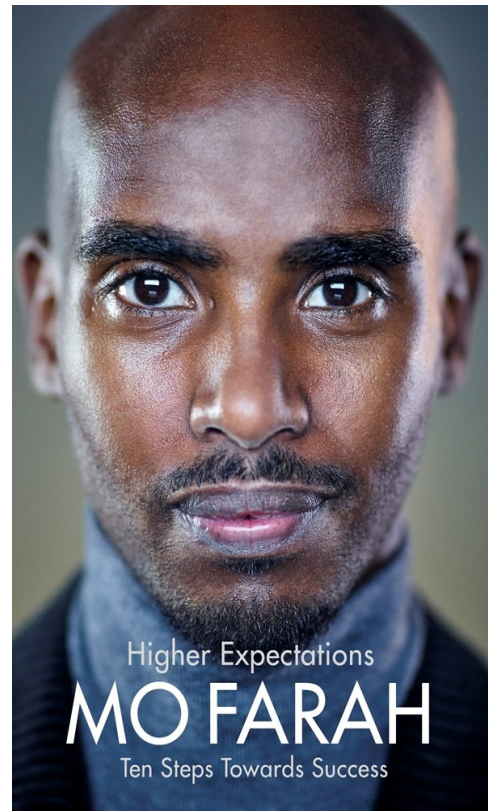
In a sport of fine margins, Mo knows better than anyone the grit and determination it takes to succeed. And the resilience required to bounce back from the crushing disappointment of failure. His extraordinary career is the result of years of dedication and discipline.

In *Higher Expectations*, Mo shares for the first time the secrets of his winning mindset. From preparation and motivation to the sacrifices required to be the best, to the importance of belonging and the value of failing, Mo coaches readers through the techniques he uses to push his body and mind to the limit. With insights and revelations from his life and career, Mo shows you what it takes to find your motivation, improve your performance and adopt a champion's mindset.

Sir Mo Farah, CBE, is a multiple Olympic, World and European champion - the UK's greatest ever athlete. He is a Somali born and is the most successful British track athlete in modern Olympic Games history, having won the 2012 and 2016 gold medal in both the 5000m and 10,000m.

Sir Mo holds ten Gold Medals and was the first athlete to win three long-distance doubles at successive World Championships and Olympic Games.

Mo is a dedicated family man who lives and trains in South West London with his wife and their four children. He famously dedicated each of his four Olympic medals to his four children.



October 2022  
9781787635289  
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304 pages

## THE BODY - ILLUSTRATED

A guide for occupants

**Bill Bryson**

**A beautifully illustrated edition of the Number One Bestseller and *Sunday Times* Science Book of the Year, this head-to-toe tour of the marvel that is the human body is as compulsively readable as it is comprehensive. Bryson at his very best, it is a must-read owner's manual for everybody.**

#1 Bestseller in both hardback and paperback  
*The Sunday Times* Book of the Year

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'A directory of wonders.' *Guardian*

'Jaw-dropping.' *The Times*

'Classic, wry, gleeful Bryson...an entertaining and absolutely fact-rammed book.' *The Sunday Times*

'It is a feat of narrative skill to bake so many facts into an entertaining and nutritious book.' *Daily Telegraph*

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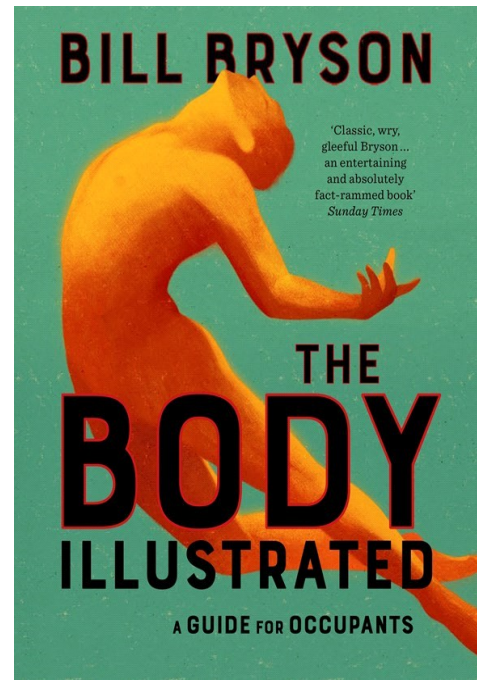
'We spend our whole lives in one body and yet most of us have practically no idea how it works and what goes on inside it. The idea of the book is simply to try to understand the extraordinary contraption that is us.'

Bill Bryson sets off to explore the human body, how it functions and its remarkable ability to heal itself. Full of extraordinary facts, astonishing stories and now fully illustrated for the first time, *The Body: A Guide for Occupants* is a brilliant, often very funny attempt to understand the miracle of our physical and neurological make up.

A wonderful successor to *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, this new book is an instant classic. It will have you marvelling at the form you occupy, and celebrating the genius of your existence, time and time again. The ideal gift for readers of every age who wish to discover more about themselves.

'What I learned is that we are infinitely more complex and wondrous, and often more mysterious, than I had ever suspected. There really is no story more amazing than the story of us.' Bill Bryson

Bill Bryson was born in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1951. His bestselling books include *The Road to Little Dribbling*, *Notes from a Small Island*, *A Walk in the Woods*, *One Summer* and *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid*. In a national poll, *Notes from a Small Island* was voted the book that best represents Britain. His acclaimed work of popular science, *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, won the Aventis Prize and the Descartes Prize, and was the biggest selling non-fiction book of its decade in the UK. His new book *The Body: A Guide for Occupants* is an extraordinary exploration of the human body which will have you marvelling at the form you occupy. Bill Bryson was Chancellor of Durham University 2005–2011. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society. He lives in England.



**September 2022**

9780857527691

£30.00

246x189 : Hardback

560 pages

more than 450 integrated photos and illustrations

# Terry Pratchett: A Life With Footnotes

The Official Biography

**Rob Wilkins**

**The official biography of the award-winning and bestselling author Sir Terry Pratchett, written by Rob Wilkins, his former assistant, friend and now head of the author's literary estate.**

**'PEOPLE THINK THAT STORIES ARE SHAPED BY PEOPLE. IN FACT, IT'S THE OTHER WAY AROUND.'**

**At the time of his death in 2015, award-winning and bestselling author Sir Terry Pratchett was working on his finest story yet - his own.**

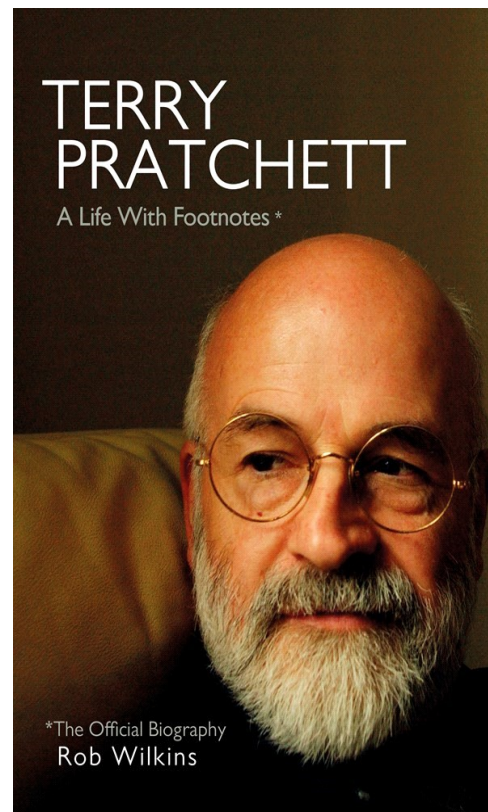
At six years old, Terry was told by his headteacher that he would never amount to anything. He spent the rest of his life proving that teacher wrong. At sixty-six, Terry had lived a life full of achievements: becoming one of the UK's bestselling writers, winning the Carnegie Medal and being awarded a knighthood for services to literature.

Following his untimely death from Alzheimer's disease, the mantle of completing Terry's memoir was passed to Rob Wilkins, his former assistant, friend and now head of the author's literary estate.

Drawing on his own extensive memories, along with those of Terry's family, friends, fans and colleagues, Rob recounts Terry's extraordinary story - from his early childhood to the literary phenomenon that his Discworld series became; and how he met and coped with the challenges that 'The Embuggerance' of Alzheimer's brought with it.

**'Of all the dead authors in the world, Terry Pratchett is the most alive.' - John Lloyd**

Rob Wilkins worked with Terry Pratchett for over twenty years, first as his assistant, and later business manager. He now manages the Pratchett estate and Terry's production company, Narrativa.



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9780857526632  
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£25.00 : Hardback  
352 pages

# Once Upon a Tome

The misadventures of a rare bookseller

**Oliver Darkshire**

**What's it like to work at the oldest, most bonkers bookshop in the country? Think *Diary of a Bookseller* but with quite a lot more Bernard Black.**

Some years ago, Oliver Darkshire stepped into the hushed interior of Henry Sotheran Ltd on Sackville Street (est. 1761) to interview for their bookselling apprenticeship, a decision which has bedevilled him ever since. He'd intended to stay for a year before launching into some less dusty, better remunerated career. Unfortunately for him, the alluring smell of old books and the temptation of a management-approved afternoon nap proved irresistible. Soon he was balancing teetering stacks of first editions, fending off nonagenarian widows with a ten-foot pole and trying not to upset the store's resident ghost (the late Mr Sotheran had unfinished business when he was hit by that tram).

For while Sotheran's might be a treasure trove of literary delights, it sings a siren song to eccentrics. There are not only colleagues whose tastes in rare items range from the inspired to the mildly dangerous, but also zealous collectors seeking knowledge, curios, or simply someone with whom to hold a four hour conversation about books bound in human skin. By turns unhinged and earnestly dog-eared, *Once Upon a Tome* is the rather colourful story of life in one of the world's oldest bookshops and a love letter to the benign, unruly world of antiquarian bookselling, where to be uncommon or strange is the best possible compliment.

Oliver Darkshire is 28, and his life as a struggling bookseller and writer is exactly what his careers instructor warned him would happen if he didn't pay attention. He lives in Manchester with his husband and a house full of books he actively tried not to collect.



**COVER  
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## The State of Us

What I've learned about politics, humanity and our world

**Jon Snow**

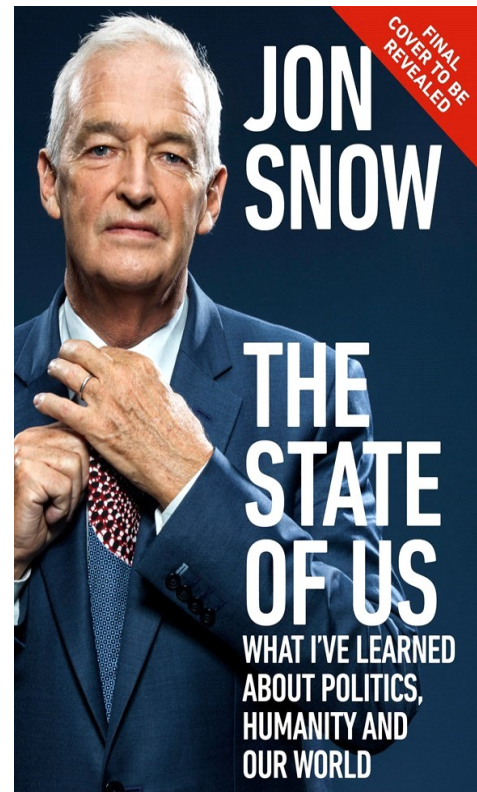
**Jon Snow, the last of the 'big beasts' of TV news, finally gives vent to his feelings on the state of the nation, from inequality and out of touch elites to the vital work of journalism in the social media age.**

We are living through a time of tremendous upheaval. Society is growing ever more unequal, and elites increasingly detached, with the Honourable Members ensconced in their Upper and Lower Houses. Jon Snow's own wake up call was the Grenfell Tower fire when, gazing up at the smoke still pouring from the building in the early hours, he felt the weight of the obligation as a journalist to understand what had happened.

Tracing key moments in his incredible career, from getting thrown out of university for protesting apartheid to his reporting on major global developments everywhere from America to Iran, Snow argues that the greatest problems at home and abroad so often come down to inequality and an unwillingness to confront it. One of the few ways that we can challenge unfairness is by getting the news out, but traditional media have been facing their own battles recently, with local news collapsing and big tech companies decimating revenues.

We can do better: the time in which we live is undeniably full of challenges, but it is also full of potential. If we begin by telling the truth about our situation and then do something about it, the coming years have the potential to be a new golden age.

One of the nation's pre-eminent broadcasters, Jon Snow was the face of Channel 4 News from 1989 to 2021. In that time, he has reported in dozens of countries, from the fall of the Berlin Wall to Barack Obama's inauguration, interviewing countless world leaders including Ronald Reagan, Idi Amin, Tony Blair, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and Nelson Mandela, as well as cultural icons from Malala Yousafzai to Marcus Rashford. His many awards include a BAFTA fellowship, the Richard Dimbleby BAFTA award for Best Factual Contribution to Television (2005), and Royal Television Society awards for Journalist of the Year (2005 & 2006) and Presenter of the Year (2009 & 2010 and 2012). He collected the BAFTA award for news coverage for the 2011 Channel 4 News' coverage of the Japanese tsunami, and delivered the prestigious MacTaggart Lecture at Edinburgh's International Television Festival in 2017. He is the author of two books, *Shooting History* and *The State of Us*.



**October 2022**

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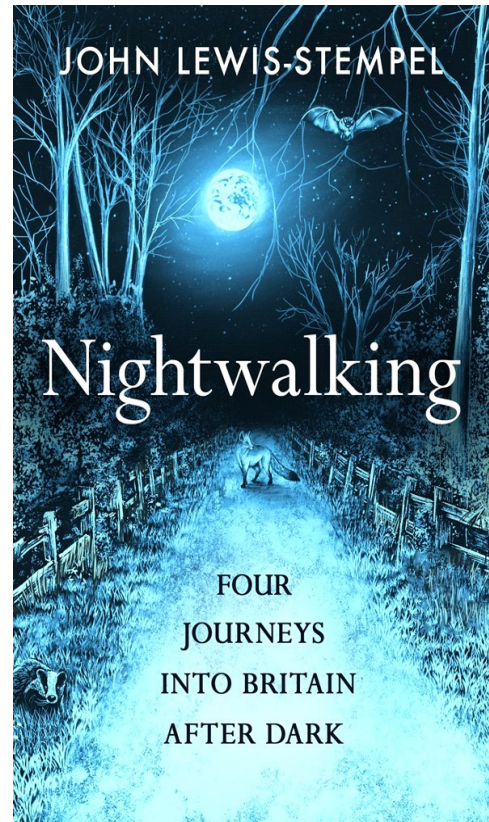
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**John Lewis-Stempel** is a farmer and 'Britain's finest living nature writer' (*The Times*). His books include the *Sunday Times* bestsellers *Woodston*, *The Running Hare* and *The Wood*. He is the only person to have won the Wainwright Prize for Nature Writing twice, with *Meadowland* and *Where Poppies Blow*. In 2016 he was named Magazine Columnist of the Year for his column in *Country Life*. He farms cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry. Traditionally.



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# Rejected Books

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Enjoy the worst book pitches of all time and rest assured that anyone can have a future in publishing ... even if your ideas are totally horrible.

## **Rob Hibbert (Author)**

**Rob Hibbert** is a successful copywriter by day. By night, he's a failed comedy writer. Some of his fails include: badly writing a book (*Images You Should Not Masturbate To*), poorly writing a web series ("How to Talk Australians") and inadequately writing a TV pilot ("I Can't Believe It's Not Better"). He's also failed at stand-up comedy.

## **Graham Johnson (Author)**

**Graham Johnson**, after being rudely interrupted by a thirty-year career in advertising, is now back to creating ideas for books that will be intentionally rejected, as well as products that should have been rejected (like invisible action figures and timetables for time travel machines). Graham has reassessed his priorities and has realized that figurines made of air and a timetable for a means of travel that doesn't exist yet are a far more useful contribution to society.



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# Lost to the World

Shahbaz Taseer

**An astonishing and moving true story of captivity, endurance and survival against all the odds at the hands of Islamic extremists.**

In late August of 2011, Shahbaz Taseer was driving to his office in Lahore, Pakistan when he was dragged from his car at gunpoint and kidnapped by members of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), a Taliban-affiliated terrorist group.

Just seven months earlier, his father, Salman Taseer, the governor of Punjab Province, had been shot dead by his guard for speaking out against Pakistan's blasphemy laws.

For almost five years Shahbaz was held captive, moved ever-deeper into the lawless Hindu Kush, frequently tortured and forced to endure extreme cruelty, his fate resting on his kidnappers' impossible demands and the uneasy alliances between his captors and the Taliban and ISIS.

*Lost to the World* is the remarkable true story of Taseer's time in captivity, and of his astonishing escape. It is a story of extraordinary faith, bravery and sorrow, with moments of kindness and humour offering a hopeful light in the dark years of his imprisonment.

By turns immensely personal and surprisingly universal, Shahbaz Taseer's story is a testament to the enduring power of the human spirit.

Shahbaz Taseer is a Pakistani businessman, and the son of the former Governor of Punjab, Salman Taseer. In August 2011, following his father's assassination, he was kidnapped and held in captivity for four and a half years.



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# Eclipse

Alan Moorehead

**An eye-witness account of the allied invasion of Fortress Europe in World War II.**

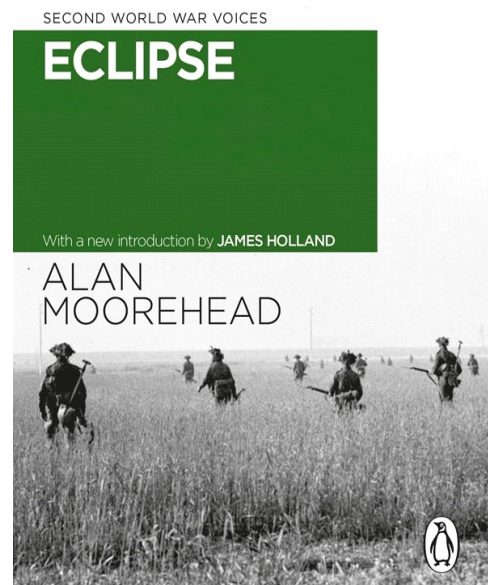
**Part of the SECOND WORLD WAR VOICES series in partnership with the podcast *We Have Ways of Making You Talk*, presented by comedian Al Murray and bestselling historian James Holland.**

***With a new introduction by James Holland***

*Eclipse* was the code name given by the Allies to the occupation of Germany. Moorehead's book describes his experiences in Sicily and southern Italy in 1943, which culminated in the capture of Rome. He tells the electrifying story of D-Day, the liberation of Paris, and the Allied advance through northern France and Belgium, the crossing of the Rhine.

The author reconstructs, in terrifying detail, the collapse of Germany, the wholesale destruction, mass surrenders, and the unimaginable horrors of the concentration camps.

Alan Moorehead was born in Melbourne, Australia. He travelled to England in 1937 and became a renowned foreign correspondent for the London *Daily Express*. Writer, world traveller, biographer, essayist, journalist, Moorehead was one of the most successful writers in English of his day. During World War II he won an international reputation for his coverage of campaigns in the Middle East and Asia, the Mediterranean and Northwest Europe. He died in 1983.



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